

27 June 2019 | 1100 hrs | 101/2019

During the first quarter of 2019, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 6.6 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2018.

Labour Force Survey: Q1/2019

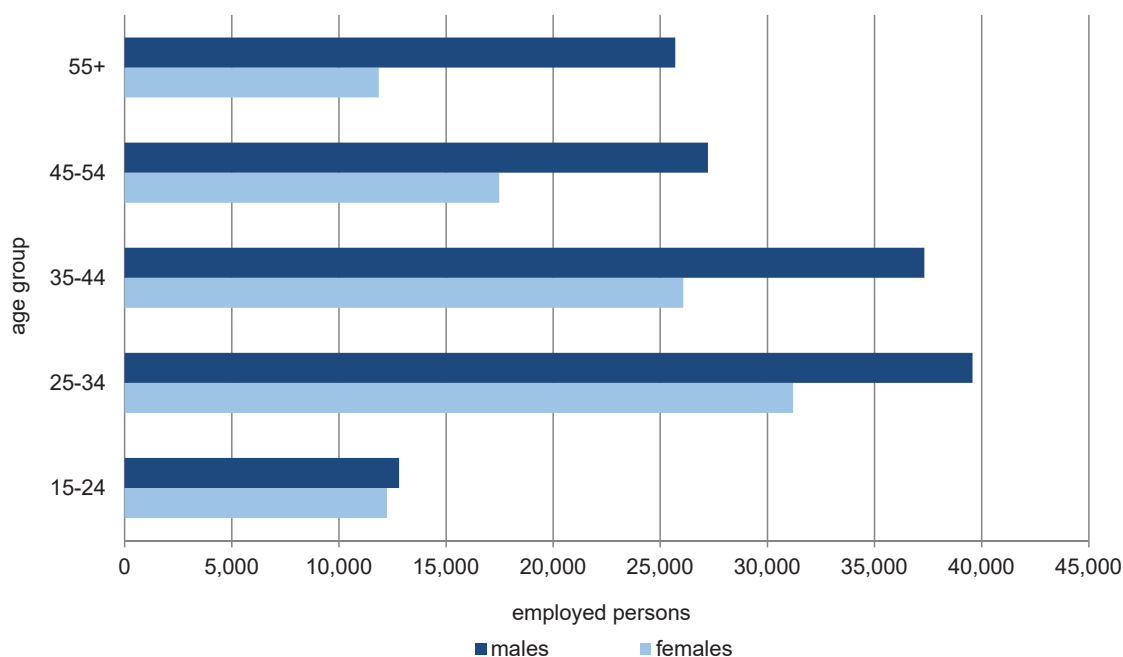
Labour Status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the first quarter, total employment stood at 241,468 accounting to more than half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 8,853 (2.1 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 165,235 (39.8 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 74.9 per cent with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25 to 54 (86.7 per cent) (Table 2).

The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 to 64 years, 72 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 81.6 per cent while that for females stood at 62.1 per cent (Table 4). The largest share of employed persons was recorded among persons aged between 25 and 34 years, for both males and females (Chart 1).

Chart 1. Employment by age group and sex



Self-employed persons accounted for 15.1 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis totalling 207,705 and 33,763 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). Results show that, on average, full-timers work 41.9 hours while part-timers work 22.2 hours per week (Table 7).

The average annual basic salary of employees for the first quarter of 2019 was estimated at €19,390. The highest basic salary was recorded in the Financial and insurance activities sector (Table 10). Average annual salaries varied from €35,584 among managers to €12,441 among persons employed in elementary occupations (Table 14).

The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2019, stood at 3.5 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 to 74 years (Table 16). Among the unemployed, 76.2 per cent stated that they had been seeking work for less than 12 months (Table 18). The main reason for inactivity relates to persons reaching retirement age or taking up early retirement (40.3 per cent) (Table 20).

Education Attainment

According to the Labour Force Survey 51.5 per cent of the 15 plus population had attained a secondary or less level of education (Table 21). This comprises persons with less than 5 ordinary level or equivalent qualifications. Among the employed population 30.9 per cent had a tertiary level education (Table 22) ■

Table 1. Persons aged 15 and over by sex and labour status

Labour status	Males		Females		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
	January-March 2019						
Employed	142,631	67.6	98,837	48.3	241,468	58.1	
Unemployed	4,959 ^u	2.4 ^u	3,894 ^u	1.9 ^u	8,853	2.1	
Inactive	63,391	30.0	101,844	49.8	165,235	39.8	
Total	210,981	100.0	204,575	100.0	415,556	100.0	
	January-March 2018 (Revised)						
	Employed	136,319	66.4	90,232	45.2	226,551	55.9
	Unemployed	5,558	2.7	3,653 ^u	1.8 ^u	9,211	2.3
	Inactive	63,459	30.9	105,767	53.0	169,226	41.8
	Total	205,336	100.0	199,652	100.0	404,988	100.0

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 2. Activity rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total		
	%						
	January-March 2019						
15-24	52.3		52.9		52.6		
25-54	96.3		76.2		86.7		
55-64	71.0		35.7		53.4		
Total (15-64)	84.6		64.6		74.9		
	January-March 2018 (Revised)						
	15-24	53.1		54.5		53.8	
	25-54	95.6		70.9		83.8	
	55-64	69.6		33.0		51.4	
	Total (15-64)	83.7		60.7		72.6	

Table 3. Distribution of employed persons with a main job by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2019					
15-24	12,813	9.0	12,236	12.4	25,049	10.4
25-34	39,574	27.7	31,190	31.6	70,764	29.3
35-44	37,325	26.2	26,072	26.4	63,397	26.3
45-54	27,218	19.1	17,480	17.7	44,698	18.5
55-64	21,611	15.2	10,908	11.0	32,519	13.5
65+	4,090	2.9	:	:	5,041	2.1
Total	142,631	100.0	98,837	100.0	241,468	100.0
Age group	January-March 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	13,258	9.7	13,110	14.5	26,368	11.6
25-34	38,833	28.5	29,099	32.2	67,932	30.0
35-44	33,556	24.6	23,362	25.9	56,918	25.1
45-54	26,236	19.2	14,862	16.5	41,098	18.1
55-64	20,913	15.3	9,511	10.5	30,424	13.4
65+	3,523	2.6	:	:	3,811	1.7
Total	136,319	100.0	90,232	100.0	226,551	100.0

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	January-March 2019					
15-24	46.7		48.1		47.4	
25-54	93.6		73.6		84.1	
55-64	69.7		35.7		52.8	
Total (15-64)	81.6		62.1		72.2	
Age group	January-March 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	47.9		51.3		49.5	
25-54	92.1		68.5		80.8	
55-64	68.3		31.4		49.9	
Total (15-64)	80.3		58.4		69.7	

Table 5. Distribution of employed persons by sex and professional status of main occupation

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2019					
Self-employed without employees	17,220	12.1	7,050	7.1	24,270	10.1
Self-employed with employees	10,473	7.3	:	:	11,999	5.0
Employee	114,871	80.5	89,944	91.0	204,815	84.8
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	142,631	100.0	98,837	100.0	241,468	100.0
	January-March 2018 (Revised)					
Self-employed without employees	18,360	13.5	4,833 ^u	5.4 ^u	23,193	10.2
Self-employed with employees	7,690	5.6	:	:	9,534	4.2
Employee	110,269	80.9	83,491	92.5	193,760	85.5
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	136,319	100.0	90,232	100.0	226,551	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 6. Distribution of employed persons by sex and type of employment in main occupation

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2019					
Full-time job	131,237	92.0	76,468	77.4	207,705	86.0
Part-time job	11,394	8.0	22,369	22.6	33,763	14.0
Total	142,631	100.0	98,837	100.0	241,468	100.0
	January-March 2018 (Revised)					
Full-time job	125,296	91.9	69,446	77.0	194,742	86.0
Part-time job	11,023	8.1	20,786	23.0	31,809	14.0
Total	136,319	100.0	90,232	100.0	226,551	100.0

Table 7. Normal hours worked by sex and type of employment in main occupation

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average Hours					
	January-March 2019					
Full-time job	42.7		40.7		41.9	
Part-time job	22.2		22.1		22.2	
Total	41.1		36.6		39.2	
	January-March 2018 (Revised)					
Full-time job	42.4		39.9		41.5	
Part-time job	23.0		23.5		23.3	
Total	40.9		36.2		39.0	

Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: January-March 2019

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,667 ^u	1.2 ^u	:	:	2,168 ^u	0.9 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	23,822	16.7	6,424	6.5	30,246	12.5
Construction	13,339	9.4	:	:	14,307	5.9
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	44,053	30.9	22,595	22.9	66,648	27.6
Information and communication	6,260	4.4	2,884 ^u	2.9 ^u	9,144	3.8
Financial and insurance activities	4,001 ^u	2.8 ^u	6,465	6.5	10,466	4.3
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	12,468	8.7	10,642	10.8	23,110	9.6
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	26,228	18.4	36,876	37.3	63,104	26.1
Other services	9,889	6.9	10,481	10.6	20,370	8.4
Total	142,631	100.0	98,837	100.0	241,468	100.0

^z Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 9. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: January-March 2018 (Revised)

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,606 ^u	1.2 ^u	:	:	2,090 ^u	0.9 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	21,568	15.8	6,838	7.6	28,406	12.5
Construction	13,463	9.9	:	:	14,814	6.5
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	39,776	29.2	19,380	21.5	59,156	26.1
Information and communication	5,857	4.3	2,860 ^u	3.2 ^u	8,717	3.8
Financial and insurance activities	5,973	4.4	5,277	5.8	11,250	5.0
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,706 ^u	1.2 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	13,052	9.6	12,253	13.6	25,305	11.2
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,637	18.8	33,492	37.1	59,129	26.1
Other services	7,808	5.7	7,170	7.9	14,978	6.6
Total	136,319	100.0	90,232	100.0	226,551	100.0

^z Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 10. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: January-March 2019

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,418	18,502	6,070	14,420	26,488	17,567
Construction	9,104	19,219	:	:	10,072	19,488
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	32,486	18,525	19,836	12,863	52,322	16,379
Information and communication	4,452 ^u	2,3887 ^u	2,431 ^u	19,908 ^u	6,883	22,482
Financial and insurance activities	3,643 ^u	26,774 ^u	6,465	25,225	10,108	25,783
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,000	20,739	9,204	18,133	19,204	19,490
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,472	21,192	36,102	19,186	61,574	20,016
Other services	8,278	32,119	7,839	15,938	16,117	24,248
Total	114,871	20,839	89,944	17,540	204,815	19,390

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

^p Provisional

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 11. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: January-March 2018 (Revised)

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	18,250	18,222	6,774	14,085	25,024	17,102
Construction	8,408	17,309	:	:	9,759	16,914
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	30,311	18,162	17,865	12,396	48,176	16,024
Information and communication	5,017	23,155	2,789 ^u	21,124 ^u	7,806	22,430
Financial and insurance activities	5,711	28,573	5,277	24,483	10,988	26,609
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,672	18,218	10,101	17,147	20,773	17,697
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	24,877	20,822	33,096	18,047	57,973	19,238
Other services	6,156	29,648	4,971 ^u	21,478 ^u	11,127	25,998
Total	110,269	20,150	83,491	17,021	193,760	18,802

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

^p Provisional

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: January-March 2019

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	1,693 ^u	0.7 ^u
Managers	17,141	12.0	8,488	8.6	25,629	10.6
Professionals	22,681	15.9	21,622	21.9	44,303	18.3
Technicians and associate professionals	22,023	15.4	14,336	14.5	36,359	15.1
Clerical support workers	10,937	7.7	16,718	16.9	27,655	11.5
Service and sales workers	20,888	14.6	26,982	27.3	47,870	19.8
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,639 ^u	1.1 ^u	:	:	1,696 ^u	0.7 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	22,008	15.4	:	:	22,618	9.4
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	10,232	7.2	3,152 ^u	3.2 ^u	13,384	5.5
Elementary occupations	13,653	9.6	6,608	6.7	20,261	8.4
Total	142,631	100.0	98,837	100.0	241,468	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 13. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: January-March 2018 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	2,131 ^u	1.6 ^u	:	:	2,206 ^u	1.0 ^u
Managers	15,487	11.4	7,189	8.0	22,676	10.0
Professionals	20,896	15.3	18,960	21.0	39,856	17.6
Technicians and associate professionals	20,267	14.9	12,729	14.1	32,996	14.6
Clerical support workers	10,313	7.6	16,331	18.1	26,644	11.8
Service and sales workers	20,675	15.2	24,790	27.5	45,465	20.1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,981 ^u	1.5 ^u	:	:	2,104 ^u	0.9 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	22,290	16.4	:	:	23,209	10.2
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,454	6.9	3,077 ^u	3.4 ^u	12,531	5.5
Elementary occupations	12,825	9.4	6,039	6.7	18,864	8.3
Total	136,319	100.0	90,232	100.0	226,551	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 14. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and main occupation: January-March 2019

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	1,693 ^u	18,423 ^u
Managers	12,916	37,523	7,782	32,365	20,698	35,584
Professionals	19,118	26,084	20,026	23,201	39,144	24,609
Technicians and associate professionals	18,884	20,655	12,889	18,222	31,773	19,668
Clerical support workers	10,762	16,908	16,268	14,472	27,030	15,442
Service and sales workers	14,744	15,738	23,116	12,257	37,860	13,612
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	15,036	17,070	:	:	15,492	17,082
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,617	16,150	2,828 ^u	11,608 ^u	11,445	15,028
Elementary occupations	12,679	13,698	6,258	9,895	18,937	12,441
Total	114,871	20,839	89,944	17,540	204,815	19,390

[∴] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

^p Provisional

Table 15. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and main occupation: January-March 2018 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p	No. of employees	Average (€) ^p
Armed Forces	2,131 ^u	17,518 ^u	:	:	2,206 ^u	17,492 ^u
Managers	11,041	36,230	6,143	33,553	17,184	35,273
Professionals	18,213	26,072	17,977	22,663	36,190	24,379
Technicians and associate professionals	17,778	20,268	11,678	18,013	29,456	19,374
Clerical support workers	9,527	17,090	15,956	14,247	25,483	15,310
Service and sales workers	15,545	14,958	21,959	11,888	37,504	13,160
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	14,442	16,207	:	:	15,116	16,034
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,707	15,677	3,077 ^u	12,593 ^u	11,784	14,872
Elementary occupations	12,188	14,312	5,884	10,098	18,072	12,940
Total	110,269	20,150	83,491	17,021	193,760	18,802

[∴] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

^p Provisional

Table 16. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
January-March 2019						
15-24	1,556 ^u	31.4 ^u	:	:	2,758 ^u	31.2 ^u
25-74	3,403 ^u	68.6 ^u	:	:	6,095 ^u	68.8 ^u
Total (15-74)	4,959^u	100.0^u	3,894^u	100.0^u	8,853	100.0
January-March 2018 (Revised)						
15-24	1,445 ^u	26.0 ^u	:	:	2,281 ^u	24.8 ^u
25-74	4,113 ^u	74.0 ^u	2,817 ^u	77.1 ^u	6,930	75.2
Total (15-74)	5,558	100.0	3,653^u	100.0^u	9,211	100.0

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 17. Unemployment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
January-March 2019						
15-24	10.8 ^u		:		9.9 ^u	
25-74	2.6 ^u		:		2.7 ^u	
Total (15-74)	3.4^u		3.8^u		3.5	
January-March 2018 (Revised)						
15-24	9.8 ^u		:		8.0 ^u	
25-74	3.2 ^u		3.5 ^u		3.3	
Total (15-74)	3.9		3.9^u		3.9	

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 18. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and duration of job search

Duration	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
January-March 2019						
Less than 12 months	3,091 ^u	62.3 ^u	3,657 ^u	93.9 ^u	6,748	76.2
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	4,959^u	100.0^u	3,894^u	100.0^u	8,853	100.0
January-March 2018 (Revised)						
Less than 12 months	3,783 ^u	68.1 ^u	3,020 ^u	82.7 ^u	6,803	73.9
12 months or more	1,775 ^u	31.9 ^u	:	:	2,408 ^u	26.1 ^u
Total	5,558	100.0	3,653^u	100.0^u	9,211	100.0

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 19. Distribution of inactive persons by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2019					
15-24	13,094	20.7	11,984	11.8	25,078	15.2
25-34	:	:	6,138 ^u	6.0 ^u	7,620	4.6
35-44	:	:	8,163	8.0	8,742	5.3
45-54	2,026 ^u	3.2 ^u	9,836	9.7	11,862	7.2
55-64	9,000	14.2	19,689	19.3	28,689	17.4
65+	37,210	58.7	46,034	45.2	83,244	50.4
Total	63,391	100.0	101,844	100.0	165,235	100.0
January-March 2018 (Revised)						
15-24	12,961	20.4	11,620	11.0	24,581	14.5
25-34	:	:	7,298	6.9	8,946	5.3
35-44	:	:	9,679	9.2	11,169	6.6
45-54	1,591 ^u	2.5 ^u	11,607	11.0	13,198	7.8
55-64	9,314	14.7	20,293	19.2	29,607	17.5
65+	36,455	57.4	45,270	42.8	81,725	48.3
Total	63,459	100.0	105,767	100.0	169,226	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 20. Main reasons for being inactive by sex

Reason for inactivity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2019					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	27,891	27.4	28,849	17.5
Education or training	13,780	21.7	12,291	12.1	26,071	15.8
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	43,887	69.2	22,701	22.3	66,588	40.3
Other reasons	4,766	7.5	38,961	38.3	43,727	26.5
Total	63,391	100.0	101,844	100.0	165,235	100.0
January-March 2018 (Revised)						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	29,872	28.2	29,872	17.7
Education or training	12,769	20.1	11,991	11.3	24,760	14.6
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	43,731	68.9	31,021	29.3	74,752	44.2
Other reasons	6,959	11.0	32,883	31.1	39,842	23.5
Total	63,459	100.0	105,767	100.0	169,226	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Table 21. Persons aged 15 years and over by sex and highest educational attainment

Education level	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2019					
Secondary level education or less	108,108	51.2	106,039	51.8	214,147	51.5
Post-Secondary level education	59,442	28.2	51,047	25.0	110,489	26.6
Tertiary level education	43,431	20.6	47,489	23.2	90,920	21.9
Total	210,981	100.0	204,575	100.0	415,556	100.0
January-March 2018 (Revised)						
Secondary level education or less	104,453	50.9	108,514	54.4	212,967	52.6
Post-Secondary level education	57,906	28.2	48,720	24.4	106,626	26.3
Tertiary level education	42,977	20.9	42,418	21.2	85,395	21.1
Total	205,336	100.0	199,652	100.0	404,988	100.0

Table 22. Persons aged 15 years and over by labour status and highest educational attainment

Education level	Employed		Unemployed		Inactive		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2019							
Secondary level education or less	91,785	38.0	5,242 ^u	59.2 ^u	117,120	70.9	214,147	51.5
Post-Secondary level education	74,966	31.0	:	:	33,216	20.1	110,489	26.6
Tertiary level education	74,717	30.9	:	:	14,899	9.0	90,920	21.9
Total	241,468	100.0	8,853	100.0	165,235	100.0	415,556	100.0
January-March 2018 (Revised)								
Secondary level education or less	82,535	36.4	4,668	50.7	125,764	74.3	212,967	52.6
Post-Secondary level education	74,079	32.7	2,816 ^u	30.6 ^u	29,731	17.6	106,626	26.3
Tertiary level education	69,937	30.9	:	:	13,731	8.1	85,395	21.1
Total	226,551	100.0	9,211	100.0	169,226	100.0	404,988	100.0

[∴] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Methodological Notes

1. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is carried out on an ongoing basis using a quarterly gross sample of 3,200 private households. The objective is to have a continuous assessment of labour market trends given that the reference weeks are evenly spread throughout the 13 weeks of the quarter. One-fourth of the sample is made up of households who have been selected to participate in the LFS for the first time. Three-fourths of the quarterly sample is made up of households who were selected to participate in the survey in previous instances, either one quarter before, or one year before, or one year and a quarter before (2-(2)-2). Unless otherwise indicated, figures provided in this release refer to persons aged 15 and over and living in private households during the reference period. All criteria used for this survey match international methodologies used by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

2. The LFS is designed to satisfy the concepts and definitions as outlined by Eurostat, which is the EU Statistical Agency. This allows the comparability of results with other EU member states and countries following ILO definitions of employment and unemployment. Occupations are classified according to the ISCO - 08 classification (International Standard Classification of Occupations), whereas the economic activity is classified according to NACE Rev. 2 (Nomenclature générale des Activités économiques dans les Communautés Européennes). Education attainment is classified according to ISCED 2011.

3. Definitions:

- **Activity rate:** labour force (15-64 years) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64 years).
- **Annual basic salary:** refers to the annual basic salary received by employees before any social contributions and tax deductions. This amount excludes payments for overtime, allowances and bonuses. Data for this variable is provisional and subject to revisions.
- **Education Attainment:**
 - **secondary or less level of education:** comprising persons with no schooling, primary education, schools for children with special needs, and persons who attained a secondary level education and have less than 5 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent. In the context of the ISCED classification, 'low' includes ISCED 0 to 2.
 - **post-secondary level of education:** comprising persons with a secondary level education and having 5 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent or more, persons with a post-secondary level attainment who have at least obtained 1 intermediate or advanced level qualification or equivalent. In the context of the ISCED classification, 'medium' refers to ISCED 3 and 4.
 - **tertiary level of education:** comprising persons with a tertiary level education and with qualifications ranging from diploma to doctorate level. In the context of the ISCED classification, 'high' refers to ISCED 5 to 8.
- **Employees:** are defined as persons who work for a public or private employer and who receive compensation in the form of wages, salaries, fees, gratuities, payment by results or payment in kind.
- **Employed persons:** all persons aged 15 and over who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:
 - **paid employment:** includes those who during the reference week worked for at least one hour for a wage or salary, in cash or in kind.
 - **were employed but absent from work:** due to sick leave, bad weather, were undergoing training or education, did not work due to a labour dispute, were on maternity or parental leave, did not work due to slack work for technical or economic reasons, were absent from work for a period of less than 3 months, or were not working because on layoff and receiving at least 50 per cent of the salary/wage.
 - **self-employed:** covers persons who run a trade or business, rather than working as an employee for someone else. A person is self-employed if s/he is a sole proprietor or a partner working in a business.
 - **unpaid family workers:** refers to people who worked without pay in a family business or farm. Excluded from this definition are housewives.
- **Employment rate:** persons in employment (15-64 years) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64 years).
- **Inactive persons:** all persons who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as inactive.

- **Labour force:** all persons in employment and unemployed persons.
- **Normal hours worked:** refers to the number of usual hours worked per week in the main job over a long reference period, excluding weeks when an absence from work occurs (e.g. holidays, vacation leave or sick leave).
- **Part time employment:** a part-time worker is an employed person whose normal hours are less than those of comparable full-time workers. Persons employed on a full-time with reduced hours basis are included in this category.
- **Reference week:** the week to which the collected data relate.
- **Unemployed persons:** all persons above 15 years of age who, during the reference week, satisfied the following criteria:
 - **without work**
 - **actively seeking work during the previous 4 weeks:** example of active job search include contacting Jobsplus, applying directly with an employer, contacting a private employment agency, inserting or answering to an advert in a newspaper.
 - **currently available for work:** available to start work within 2 weeks of the reference week.
- **Unemployment rate:** unemployed persons (15 to 74 years) as a percentage of the labour force (15-74 years).

4. Sampling variability

Data included in this release are based on sample data and are therefore subject to sampling error. Sampling error is measured by a quantity known as the margin of error, which in turn, expresses the variability between the true population parameters and their corresponding sample estimates. In the table below, the margin of error is used to construct a set of 95 per cent confidence intervals for specific variables, which give an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of LFS figures

	Estimate	Margin of error	95% confidence interval
Employment	241,468	4,703	241,468 ± 4,703
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	72.24	1.39	72.24 ± 1.39
<i>Males</i>	81.64	1.36	81.64 ± 1.36
<i>Females</i>	62.11	1.86	62.11 ± 1.86
15-24	47.37	3.45	47.37 ± 3.45
25-54	84.06	1.76	84.06 ± 1.76
55-64	52.78	3.33	52.78 ± 3.33
Unemployment	8,853	2,216	8,853 ± 2,216
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	3.55	0.89	3.55 ± 0.89
<i>Males</i>	3.37	1.17	3.37 ± 1.17
<i>Females</i>	3.80	1.33	3.80 ± 1.33
15-24	9.92	3.45	9.92 ± 3.45
25-74	2.75	0.93	2.75 ± 0.93
Inactivity	165,235	4,336	165,235 ± 4,336
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	74.94	1.28	74.94 ± 1.28
<i>Males</i>	84.57	1.16	84.57 ± 1.16
<i>Females</i>	64.59	1.78	64.59 ± 1.78
15-24	52.58	3.33	52.58 ± 3.33
25-54	86.74	1.52	86.74 ± 1.52
55-64	53.44	3.30	53.44 ± 3.30

The table above provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 241,468 and the margin of error is 4,703. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 236,765 and 246,171 persons.

Key

- : Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.
- ^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

5. Percentage totals may not add up due to rounding.
6. Absolute changes between one survey estimate and another must be treated with caution since minor changes (i.e. less than 2,100 persons) might be the result of sampling error.
7. More information is available from the NSO upon written request.
8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and Methods:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C2/Labour_Market_Statistics/Pages/Labour-Force-Survey.aspx

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=33>

Classification: [https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE Rev. 2](https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE_Rev._2)

[https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO 2008](https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO_2008)

<https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCED%202011>

9. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
10. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx