

During the third quarter of 2019, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 4.5 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2018.

## Labour Force Survey: Q3/2019

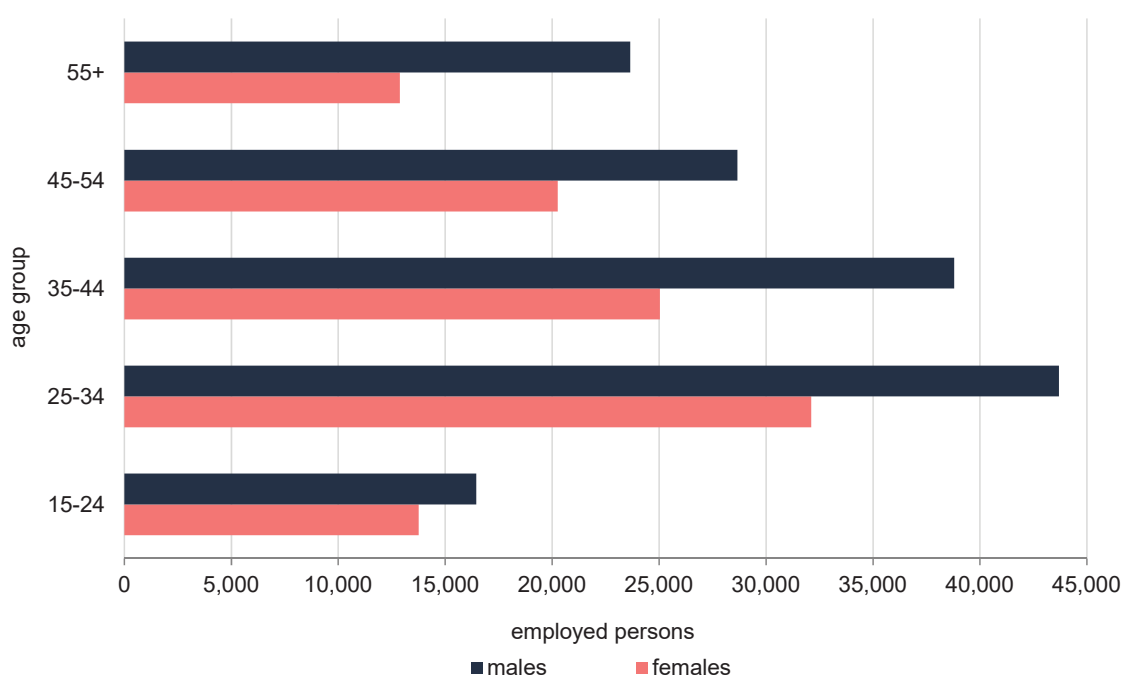
### Labour Status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the third quarter, total employment stood at 255,297 accounting to 60 per cent of the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 8,879 (2.1 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 163,547 (38.2 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 76.4 per cent with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25 to 54 (87.6 per cent) (Table 2).

### The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 to 64 years, 74 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 83.2 per cent while that for females stood at 63.4 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 15.9 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis and amounted to 220,871 while 34,426 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). Results show that, on average, full-timers work 42.3 hours while part-timers work 22.4 hours per week (Table 7).

The average annual basic salary of employees for the third quarter of 2019 was estimated at €20,033. The highest basic salary was recorded in the Financial and insurance activities sector (Table 10). Average annual salaries varied from €34,302 among managers to €12,118 among persons employed in elementary occupations (Table 14).

### **The Unemployed and Inactive Population**

The unemployment rate for the third quarter of 2019, stood at 3.4 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 to 74 years (Table 16). Among the unemployed, 76.8 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 (41.7 per cent) (Table 20).

### **Education Attainment**

According to the Labour Force Survey 50.4 per cent of the population aged 15 and over have attained a low 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.	%
	July-September 2019					
Employed	151,252	68.9	104,045	49.9	255,297	59.7
Unemployed	4,953 <sup>u</sup>	2.3 <sup>u</sup>	3,926 <sup>u</sup>	1.9 <sup>u</sup>	8,879	2.1
Inactive	63,215	28.8	100,332	48.2	163,547	38.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>219,420</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>208,303</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>427,723</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
Employed	143,767	68.0	100,575	49.5	244,342	59.0
Unemployed	5,614	2.7	3,481 <sup>u</sup>	1.7 <sup>u</sup>	9,095	2.2
Inactive	61,952	29.3	99,003	48.8	160,955	38.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,333</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>203,059</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>414,392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 2. Activity rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	July-September 2019					
15-24	64.2		56.8		60.7	
25-54	97.2		76.7		87.6	
55-64	64.0		36.6		50.5	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>85.9</b>		<b>65.8</b>		<b>76.4</b>	
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	57.5		59.9		58.7	
25-54	96.7		77.5		87.6	
55-64	69.6		32.4		51.2	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>85.4</b>		<b>65.9</b>		<b>76.1</b>	

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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	July-September 2019					
15-24	16,446	10.9	13,758	13.2	30,204	11.8
25-34	43,693	28.9	32,109	30.9	75,802	29.7
35-44	38,793	25.6	25,031	24.1	63,824	25.0
45-54	28,668	19.0	20,267	19.5	48,935	19.2
55-64	20,011	13.2	10,846	10.4	30,857	12.1
65+	3,641	2.4	:	:	5,675	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>151,252</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>104,045</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>255,297</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	13,995	9.7	14,216	14.1	28,211	11.5
25-34	41,165	28.6	31,296	31.1	72,461	29.7
35-44	36,694	25.5	26,933	26.8	63,627	26.0
45-54	27,700	19.3	18,060	18.0	45,760	18.7
55-64	20,751	14.4	9,395	9.3	30,146	12.3
65+	3,462	2.4	:	:	4,137	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,767</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100,575</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>244,342</b>	<b>100.0</b>

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

**Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	July-September 2019					
15-24	57.4		52.6		55.1	
25-54	94.9		74.4		85.3	
55-64	63.2		35.2		49.4	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>83.2</b>		<b>63.4</b>		<b>73.7</b>	
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	49.9		55.4		52.6	
25-54	94.3		75.6		85.4	
55-64	67.2		31.1		49.3	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>82.1</b>		<b>63.7</b>		<b>73.3</b>	

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

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	July-September 2019					
Self-employed without employees	21,812	14.4	7,018	6.7	28,830	11.3
Self-employed with employees	8,346	5.5	3,289 <sup>u</sup>	3.2 <sup>u</sup>	11,635	4.6
Employee	120,974	80.0	93,538	89.9	214,512	84.0
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>151,252</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>104,045</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>255,297</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
Self-employed without employees	18,260	12.7	5,465	5.4	23,725	9.7
Self-employed with employees	8,267	5.8	2,141	2.1	10,408	4.3
Employee	117,139	81.5	92,796	92.3	209,935	85.9
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,767</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100,575</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>244,342</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 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.	%
	July-September 2019					
Full-time job	139,447	92.2	81,424	78.3	220,871	86.5
Part-time job	11,805	7.8	22,621	21.7	34,426	13.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>151,252</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>104,045</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>255,297</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
Full-time job	131,944	91.8	77,179	76.7	209,123	85.6
Part-time job	11,823	8.2	23,396	23.3	35,219	14.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,767</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100,575</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>244,342</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average Hours					
	July-September 2019					
Full-time job	43.4		40.4		42.3	
Part-time job	21.9		22.7		22.4	
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.8</b>		<b>36.6</b>		<b>39.7</b>	
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
Full-time job	42.7		39.8		41.6	
Part-time job	23.9		22.3		22.8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.2</b>		<b>35.7</b>		<b>38.9</b>	

**Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity in the main occupation: July-September 2019**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,973 <sup>u</sup>	1.3 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,503 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	22,067	14.6	9,409	9.0	31,476	12.3
Construction	16,957	11.2	:	:	18,087	7.1
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	42,721	28.2	23,765	22.8	66,486	26.0
Information and communication	7,074	4.7	3,614 <sup>u</sup>	3.5 <sup>u</sup>	10,688	4.2
Financial and insurance activities	6,391	4.2	5,347	5.1	11,738	4.6
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	3,146 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	13,826	9.1	12,143	11.7	25,969	10.2
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,937	17.1	38,153	36.7	64,090	25.1
Other services	12,304	8.1	8,810	8.5	21,114	8.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>151,252</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>104,045</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>255,297</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>z</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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 in the main occupation: July-September 2018 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,365 <sup>u</sup>	1.6 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,647 <sup>u</sup>	1.1 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	22,089	15.4	7,152	7.1	29,241	12.0
Construction	14,795	10.3	:	:	16,062	6.6
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	37,295	25.9	24,143	24.0	61,438	25.1
Information and communication	7,528	5.2	2,183 <sup>u</sup>	2.2 <sup>u</sup>	9,711	4.0
Financial and insurance activities	6,164	4.3	5,649	5.6	11,813	4.8
Real estate activities	1,909 <sup>u</sup>	1.3 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,883 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	14,982	10.4	10,461	10.4	25,443	10.4
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,211	17.5	36,989	36.8	62,200	25.5
Other services	11,429	7.9	11,475	11.4	22,904	9.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,767</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100,575</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>244,342</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>z</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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 in the main occupation: July-September 2019**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>p</sup>	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>p</sup>	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>p</sup>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	18,771	21,519	8,989	15,157	27,760	19,459
Construction	11,312	19,262	:	:	12,282	19,106
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	33,372	18,591	21,207	13,707	54,579	16,693
Information and communication	5,488	26,710	3,090 <sup>u</sup>	16,995 <sup>u</sup>	8,578	23,210
Financial and insurance activities	5,688	29,677	5,250	21,503	10,938	25,754
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	9,693	23,633	10,715	19,025	20,408	21,213
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,213	21,889	36,678	20,223	61,891	20,902
Other services	10,341	26,368	5,808 <sup>u</sup>	16,921 <sup>u</sup>	16,149	22,970
<b>Total</b>	<b>120,974</b>	<b>21,747</b>	<b>93,538</b>	<b>17,815</b>	<b>214,512</b>	<b>20,033</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

<sup>p</sup> Provisional

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

**Table 11. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity in the main occupation: July-September 2018 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>p</sup>	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>p</sup>	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>p</sup>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	18,634	20,072	6,491	13,219	25,125	18,301
Construction	9,366	17,506	:	:	10,633	17,237
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	29,342	18,673	22,582	14,093	51,924	16,681
Information and communication	5,901	25,163	:	:	7,582	24,733
Financial and insurance activities	5,404	29,668	5,649	19,638	11,053	24,542
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,868 <sup>u</sup>	18,341 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	12,551	21,533	9,375	18,430	21,926	20,206
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	24,497	21,866	36,218	17,850	60,715	19,470
Other services	9,669	22,929	8,738	17,217	18,407	20,217
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,139</b>	<b>20,983</b>	<b>92,796</b>	<b>16,751</b>	<b>209,935</b>	<b>19,112</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

<sup>p</sup> Provisional

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

**Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: July-September 2019**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	20,303	13.4	7,992	7.7	28,295	11.1
Professionals	26,169	17.3	23,375	22.5	49,544	19.4
Technicians and associate professionals	24,271	16.0	12,977	12.5	37,248	14.6
Clerical support workers	10,551	7.0	17,477	16.8	28,028	11.0
Service and sales workers	20,004	13.2	28,879	27.8	48,883	19.1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,561 <sup>u</sup>	1.7 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,797 <sup>u</sup>	1.1 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	22,940	15.2	:	:	24,420	9.6
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,537	6.3	3,932 <sup>u</sup>	3.8 <sup>u</sup>	13,469	5.3
Elementary occupations	13,195	8.7	7,697	7.4	20,892	8.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>151,252</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>104,045</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>255,297</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>:</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 13. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: July-September 2018 (Revised)**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	18,932	13.2	7,752	7.7	26,684	10.9
Professionals	22,540	15.7	22,431	22.3	44,971	18.4
Technicians and associate professionals	23,889	16.6	13,672	13.6	37,561	15.4
Clerical support workers	11,247	7.8	14,792	14.7	26,039	10.7
Service and sales workers	19,425	13.5	28,741	28.6	48,166	19.7
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	3,321 <sup>u</sup>	2.3 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,528 <sup>u</sup>	1.4 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	21,594	15.0	:	:	22,972	9.4
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,633	6.0	3,985 <sup>u</sup>	4.0 <sup>u</sup>	12,618	5.2
Elementary occupations	12,340	8.6	7,617	7.6	19,957	8.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,767</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100,575</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>244,342</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>:</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.



**Table 14. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and main occupation: July-September 2019**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>P</sup>	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>P</sup>	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>P</sup>
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	14,341	37,610	7,309	27,810	21,650	34,302
Professionals	22,089	29,597	21,336	24,595	43,425	27,139
Technicians and associate professionals	20,447	21,601	10,707	19,887	31,154	21,012
Clerical support workers	10,129	17,210	17,192	14,722	27,321	15,644
Service and sales workers	16,716	15,366	24,739	13,229	41,455	14,091
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	15,292	15,975	:	:	16,457	15,829
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	7,754	16,092	3,835 <sup>u</sup>	14,096 <sup>u</sup>	11,589	15,432
Elementary occupations	11,502	13,260	7,255	10,308	18,757	12,118
<b>Total</b>	<b>120,974</b>	<b>21,747</b>	<b>93,538</b>	<b>17,815</b>	<b>214,512</b>	<b>20,033</b>

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>P</sup>	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>P</sup>	No. of employees	Average (€) <sup>P</sup>
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	14,298	34,690	7,004	29,923	21,302	33,122
Professionals	19,148	26,270	20,454	22,736	39,602	24,445
Technicians and associate professionals	21,217	21,971	12,384	19,241	33,601	20,965
Clerical support workers	10,924	18,354	14,731	14,039	25,655	15,876
Service and sales workers	16,353	15,736	26,257	11,700	42,610	13,249
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	13,829	16,265	:	:	14,594	16,160
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	7,693	15,623	3,856 <sup>u</sup>	12,765 <sup>u</sup>	11,549	14,669
Elementary occupations	10,764	13,376	7,345	9,166	18,109	11,669
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,139</b>	<b>20,983</b>	<b>92,796</b>	<b>16,751</b>	<b>209,935</b>	<b>19,112</b>

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	July-September 2019					
15-24	:	:	:	:	3,063 <sup>u</sup>	34.5 <sup>u</sup>
25-74	2,987 <sup>u</sup>	60.3 <sup>u</sup>	2,829 <sup>u</sup>	72.1 <sup>u</sup>	5,816 <sup>u</sup>	65.5 <sup>u</sup>
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>4,953<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>3,926<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>8,879</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	2,122 <sup>u</sup>	37.8 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,278 <sup>u</sup>	36.0 <sup>u</sup>
25-74	3,492 <sup>u</sup>	62.2 <sup>u</sup>	2,325 <sup>u</sup>	66.8 <sup>u</sup>	5,817	64.0
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>5,614</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,481<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>9,095</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 17. Unemployment rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	July-September 2019					
15-24	:	:	:	:	9.2 <sup>u</sup>	
25-74	2.2 <sup>u</sup>		3.0 <sup>u</sup>		2.5 <sup>u</sup>	
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>3.2<sup>u</sup></b>		<b>3.6<sup>u</sup></b>		<b>3.4</b>	
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	13.2 <sup>u</sup>		:		10.4 <sup>u</sup>	
25-74	2.6 <sup>u</sup>		2.6 <sup>u</sup>		2.6	
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>3.8</b>		<b>3.3<sup>u</sup></b>		<b>3.6</b>	

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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.	%
	July-September 2019					
Less than 12 months	3,516 <sup>u</sup>	71.0 <sup>u</sup>	3,306 <sup>u</sup>	84.2 <sup>u</sup>	6,822	76.8
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,953<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>3,926<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>8,879</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
Less than 12 months	3,613 <sup>u</sup>	64.4 <sup>u</sup>	2,406 <sup>u</sup>	69.1 <sup>u</sup>	6,019	66.2
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	3,076 <sup>u</sup>	33.8 <sup>u</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,614</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,481<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>9,095</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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.	%
	July-September 2019					
15-24	10,249	16.2	11,283	11.2	21,532	13.2
25-34	:	:	7,565	7.5	9,042	5.5
35-44	:	:	9,014	9.0	9,708	5.9
45-54	:	:	7,622	7.6	8,740	5.3
55-64	11,410	18.0	19,540	19.5	30,950	18.9
65+	38,267	60.5	45,308	45.2	83,575	51.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,215</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100,332</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,547</b>	<b>100.0</b>

July-September 2018 (Revised)						
15-24	11,902	19.2	10,273	10.4	22,175	13.8
25-34	:	:	6,778	6.8	7,913	4.9
35-44	:	:	7,006	7.1	8,386	5.2
45-54	:	:	8,951	9.0	10,076	6.3
55-64	9,378	15.1	20,428	20.6	29,806	18.5
65+	37,032	59.8	45,567	46.0	82,599	51.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>61,952</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99,003</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>160,955</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>†</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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.	%
	July-September 2019					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	27,377	27.3	27,806	17.0
Education or training	9,714	15.4	10,706	10.7	20,420	12.5
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	46,008	72.8	22,264	22.2	68,272	41.7
Other reasons	7,064	11.2	39,985	39.9	47,049	28.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,215</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100,332</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,547</b>	<b>100.0</b>

July-September 2018 (Revised)						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	29,407	29.7	29,856	18.5
Education or training	11,609	18.7	9,912	10.0	21,521	13.4
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	44,131	71.2	22,202	22.4	66,333	41.2
Other reasons	5,763	9.3	37,482	37.9	43,245	26.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>61,952</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99,003</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>160,955</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>†</sup> 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.	%
	July-September 2019					
Secondary level education or less	106,500	48.5	109,062	52.4	215,562	50.4
Post-Secondary level education	65,892	30.0	50,123	24.1	116,015	27.1
Tertiary level education	47,028	21.4	49,118	23.6	96,146	22.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>219,420</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>208,303</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>427,723</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2018 (Revised)					
Secondary level education or less	103,931	49.2	106,256	52.3	210,187	50.7
Post-Secondary level education	64,688	30.6	51,559	25.4	116,247	28.1
Tertiary level education	42,714	20.2	45,244	22.3	87,958	21.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,333</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>203,059</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>414,392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**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.	%
	July-September 2019							
Secondary level education or less	92,136	36.1	3,572 <sup>u</sup>	40.2 <sup>u</sup>	119,854	73.3	215,562	50.4
Post-Secondary level education	84,195	33.0	3,221 <sup>u</sup>	36.3 <sup>u</sup>	28,599	17.5	116,015	27.1
Tertiary level education	78,966	30.9	:	:	15,094	9.2	96,146	22.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>255,297</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,879</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,547</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>427,723</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2018 (Revised)							
Secondary level education or less	86,769	35.5	5,724	62.9	117,694	73.1	210,187	50.7
Post-Secondary level education	81,557	33.4	2,879 <sup>u</sup>	31.7 <sup>u</sup>	31,811	19.8	116,247	28.1
Tertiary level education	76,016	31.1	:	:	11,450	7.1	87,958	21.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>244,342</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,095</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>160,955</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>414,392</b>	<b>100.0</b>

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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 (International Standard Classification of Education).

### 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	255,297	4,178	255,297 ± 4,178
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	73.75	1.22	73.75 ± 1.22
<i>Males</i>	83.16	1.31	83.16 ± 1.31
<i>Females</i>	63.38	1.71	63.38 ± 1.71
15-24	55.12	4.01	55.12 ± 4.01
25-54	85.25	1.43	85.25 ± 1.43
55-64	49.37	3.52	49.37 ± 3.52
Unemployment	8,879	2,141	8,879 ± 2,141
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	3.37	0.80	3.37 ± 0.80
<i>Males</i>	3.18	1.01	3.18 ± 1.01
<i>Females</i>	3.64	1.36	3.64 ± 1.36
15-24	9.21	3.53	9.21 ± 3.53
25-74	2.53	0.77	2.53 ± 0.77
Inactivity	163,547	4,208	163,547 ± 4,208
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	76.37	1.21	76.37 ± 1.21
<i>Males</i>	85.95	1.19	85.95 ± 1.19
<i>Females</i>	65.82	1.73	65.82 ± 1.73
15-24	60.71	3.73	60.71 ± 3.73
25-54	87.57	1.39	87.57 ± 1.39
55-64	50.48	3.53	50.48 ± 3.53

The table on page 14 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 255,297 and the margin of error is 4,178. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 251,119 and 259,475 persons.

Key

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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](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](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)