

Labour Force Survey: Q2/2026

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Labour Market

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NewsDataMethodology



Salient Points

- During the second quarter of 2026, the Labour Force Survey estimates that total number of persons in employment was 339,935, 3.4 per cent higher when compared to the same quarter of the previous year.
- Across all occupations, the average monthly basic salaries of employees varied from €3,657 among managers to €1,412 among persons employed in elementary occupations.
- Among the employed population, 41.1 per cent had a tertiary level of education.
- The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2026 stood at 3.3 per cent.
- The main reason for inactivity was reaching retirement age or taking up early retirement (41.7 per cent).

Commentary

During the second quarter of 2026, the Labour Force Survey estimates that the total number of persons in employment was 339,935, 3.4 per cent higher when compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

Labour Status

The Labour Force Survey estimates indicated that, during the second quarter of 2026, total employment stood at 339,935, accounting for 65.9 per cent of the population aged 15 and over. The number of unemployed persons stood at 11,431 (2.2 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 164,136 (31.8 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 82.8 per cent with the highest rate being recorded among persons aged 25 to 54 (92.1 per cent) (Table 2).

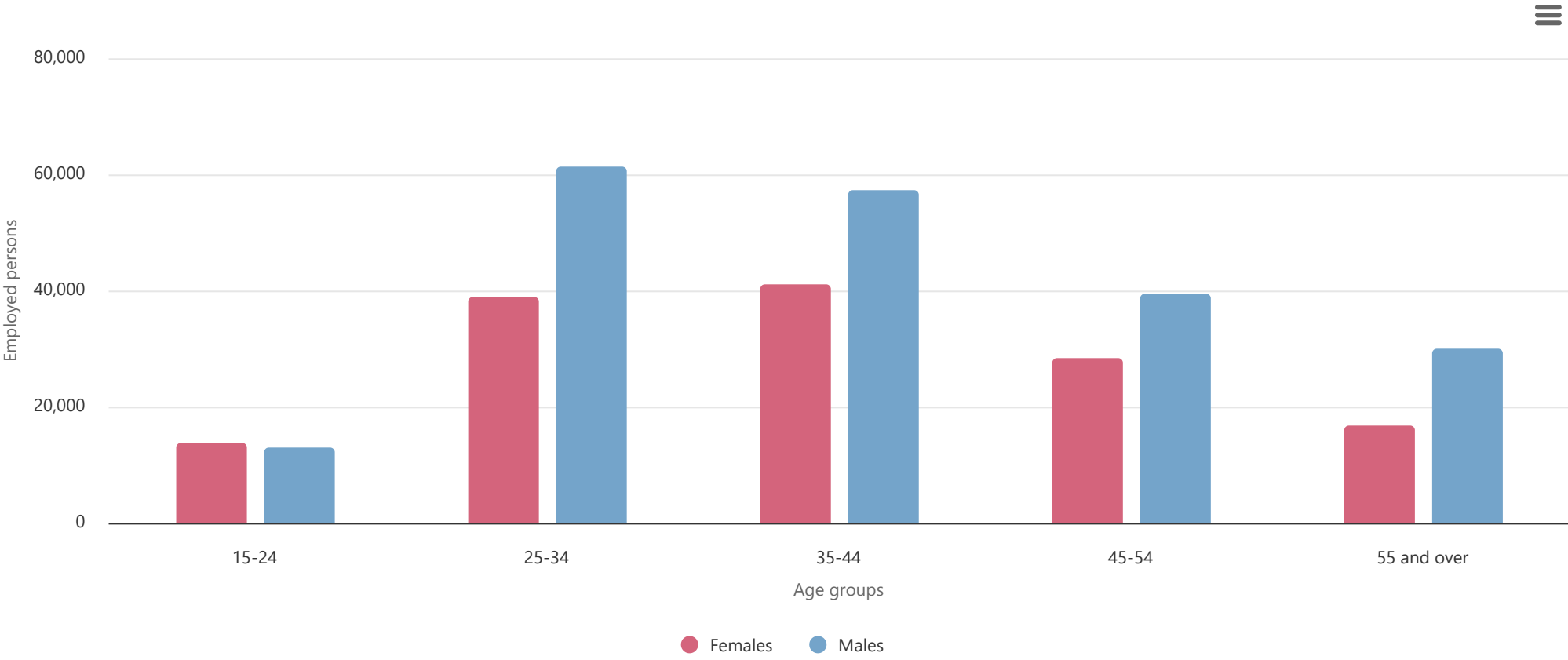
The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 and 64 years, 80 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 85.1 per cent while that for females stood at 73.9 per cent (Table 4). The largest share of employed persons was recorded among those aged 25–34 years, closely followed by those aged 35–44 years (Table 3, Chart 1).

Self-employed persons accounted for 13.5 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis, amounting to 299,994 persons. A further 39,941 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). In the second quarter of 2026, employed persons worked an average of 35.3 hours per week, 0.2 hours more than in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Results show that, on average, full-timers worked 37.3 hours while part-timers worked 20.5 hours per week. (Table 7).

The average monthly basic salary for employees for the second quarter of 2026 was estimated at €2,282. The highest basic salary by sector was recorded in the Financial and insurance activities sector (€3,021) (Table 9). Average monthly salaries varied by occupation, from €1,412 among persons employed in elementary occupations to €3,657 among managers (Table 11).

Chart 1. Employment by age group and sex



The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2026 stood at 3.3 per cent (Table 13). Females accounted for 57.9 per cent of total inactive persons and those over 65 years made up the highest share of the inactive (Table 15). The main reason for inactivity was reaching retirement age or taking up early retirement (41.7 per cent) (Table 16).

Education Attainment

Among the total population aged 15 years and over, 36.9 per cent had attained a secondary level of education or less (Table 17). By contrast, 41.1 per cent of employed persons within the same age group had attained a tertiary level of education (Table 18).

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

Labour status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Employed	201,126	72.4	138,809	58.4	339,935	65.9
Unemployed	7,589 ^u	2.7 ^u	3,842 ^u	1.6 ^u	11,431	2.2
Inactive	69,053	24.9	95,083	40.0	164,136	31.8
Total	277,768	100.0	237,734	100.0	515,502	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Employed	192,514	71.9	136,223	58.2	328,737	65.5
Unemployed	4,723 ^u	1.8 ^u	4,550 ^u	1.9 ^u	9,273	1.8
Inactive	70,348	26.3	93,410	39.9	163,758	32.6
Total	267,585	100.0	234,183	100.0	501,768	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
	%		
	April-June 2026		
15-24	51.3	55.5	53.3
25-54	96.4	86.5	92.1
55-64	77.4	48.3	63.1
Total (15-64)	88.3	76.0	82.8
	April-June 2025 (Revised)		
15-24	47.2	56.0	51.6
25-54	95.8	86.5	91.7
55-64	76.3	49.1	62.7
Total (15-64)	87.0	75.9	82.0

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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
15-24	12,992	6.5	13,709	9.9	26,701	7.9
25-34	61,446	30.6	38,962	28.1	100,408	29.5
35-44	57,189	28.4	41,131	29.6	98,320	28.9
45-54	39,584	19.7	28,246	20.3	67,830	20.0
55-64	23,438	11.7	14,248	10.3	37,686	11.1
65+	6,477	3.2	2,513 ^u	1.8 ^u	8,990	2.6
Total	201,126	100.0	138,809	100.0	339,935	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15-24	11,649	6.1	13,591	10.0	25,240	7.7
25-34	59,476	30.9	39,969	29.3	99,445	30.3
35-44	55,204	28.7	38,495	28.3	93,699	28.5
45-54	37,756	19.6	27,239	20.0	64,995	19.8
55-64	21,953	11.4	14,430	10.6	36,383	11.1
65+	6,476	3.4	2,499 ^u	1.8 ^u	8,975	2.7
Total	192,514	100.0	136,223	100.0	328,737	100.0

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

Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males	Females	Total
	%		
	April-June 2026		
15-24	46.5	52.7	49.5
25-54	93.1	84.2	89.2
55-64	75.9	47.9	62.1
Total (15-64)	85.1	73.9	80.1
	April-June 2025 (Revised)		
15-24	42.4	50.4	46.4
25-54	94.2	84.2	89.8
55-64	73.4	48.7	61.1
Total (15-64)	84.9	73.4	79.7

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

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Self-employed without employees	22,645	11.3	9,872	7.1	32,517	9.6
Self-employed with employees	10,320	5.1	2,902 ^u	2.1 ^u	13,222	3.9
Employee	168,089	83.6	125,937	90.7	294,026	86.5
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	201,126	100.0	138,809	100.0	339,935	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Self-employed without employees	21,809	11.3	11,468	8.4	33,277	10.1
Self-employed with employees	11,351	5.9	:	:	13,334	4.1
Employee	159,290	82.7	122,687	90.1	281,977	85.8
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	192,514	100.0	136,223	100.0	328,737	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 the main occupation

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Full-time job	187,458	93.2	112,536	81.1	299,994	88.3
Part-time job	13,668	6.8	26,273	18.9	39,941	11.7
Total	201,126	100.0	138,809	100.0	339,935	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Full-time job	180,715	93.9	108,216	79.4	288,931	87.9
Part-time job	11,799	6.1	28,007	20.6	39,806	12.1
Total	192,514	100.0	136,223	100.0	328,737	100.0

Table 7. Hours worked per week by sex and type of employment in the main occupation

Type of employment	Males	Females	Total	Total
	Average Normal Hours ¹			Average Actual Hours ²
	April-June 2026			
Full-time job	41.8	40.3	41.3	37.3
Part-time job	19.8	23.5	22.3	20.5
Total	40.4	37.2	39.1	35.3
	April-June 2025 (Revised)			
Full-time job	42.0	40.1	41.3	37.1
Part-time job	21.0	23.0	22.4	20.6
Total	40.8	36.6	39.0	35.1

¹ Normal hours worked: refer 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).

² Actual hours worked: refer to the number of hours actually spent at the place of work during the reference week for the main job. A person may work extra hours (e.g. overtime, variable hours) or work less hours than usual (e.g. vacation leave, education, sick leave or slack work) due to various reasons. Owing to increased flexibility at work places coupled with technology, the place of work may also include one's home. In this regard, actual hours worked also include the hours of work carried out by persons who telework.

Table 8a. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity (NACE Rev 2) in the main occupation

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	2,479 ^u	0.7 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	26,304	13.1	11,111	8.0	37,415	11.0
Construction	22,056	11.0	:	:	23,852	7.0
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	60,057	29.9	26,700	19.2	86,757	25.5
Information and communication	10,844	5.4	5,582 ^u	4.0 ^u	16,426	4.8
Financial and insurance activities	9,182	4.6	9,151	6.6	18,333	5.4
Real estate activities	3,555 ^u	1.8 ^u	:	:	4,645 ^u	1.4 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	18,145	9.0	17,151	12.4	35,296	10.4
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	33,014	16.4	48,916	35.2	81,930	24.1
Other services	15,810	7.9	16,992	12.2	32,802	9.6
Total	201,126	100.0	138,809	100.0	339,935	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,324 ^u	1.2 ^u	:	:	2,585 ^u	0.8 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	26,477	13.8	8,298	6.1	34,775	10.6
Construction	21,652	11.2	:	:	23,141	7.0
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	56,640	29.4	30,792	22.6	87,432	26.6
Information and communication	9,671	5.0	4,767 ^u	3.5 ^u	14,438	4.4
Financial and insurance activities	9,460	4.9	8,086	5.9	17,546	5.3
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	16,490	8.6	15,094	11.1	31,584	9.6
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	34,215	17.8	53,003	38.9	87,218	26.5
Other services	14,244	7.4	13,693	10.1	27,937	8.5
Total	192,514	100.0	136,223	100.0	328,737	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 8b. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity (NACE Rev 2.1) in the main occupation

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	2,479 ^u	0.7 ^u
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	25,965	12.9	11,111	8.0	37,076	10.9
Construction	21,626	10.8	:	:	23,309	6.9
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	58,512	29.1	26,594	19.2	85,106	25.0
Information and communication	11,076	5.5	5,902 ^u	4.3 ^u	16,978	5.0
Financial and insurance activities	9,283	4.6	8,905	6.4	18,188	5.4
Real estate activities	3,358 ^u	1.7 ^u	:	:	4,448 ^u	1.3 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	17,913	8.9	17,019	12.3	34,932	10.3
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	32,816	16.3	48,784	35.1	81,600	24.0
Other services	18,418	9.2	17,401	12.5	35,819	10.5
Total	201,126	100.0	138,809	100.0	339,935	100.0
Economic activity	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,221 ^u	1.2 ^u	:	:	2,482 ^u	0.8 ^u
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	26,239	13.6	8,298	6.1	34,537	10.5
Construction	19,810	10.3	:	:	21,186	6.4
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	52,700	27.4	30,202	22.2	82,902	25.2
Information and communication	10,572	5.5	4,852 ^u	3.6 ^u	15,424	4.7
Financial and insurance activities	10,329	5.4	8,138	6.0	18,467	5.6
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	4,482 ^u	1.4 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	16,791	8.7	15,575	11.4	32,366	9.8
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	34,783	18.1	50,901	37.4	85,684	26.1
Other services	17,139	8.9	14,068	10.3	31,207	9.5
Total	192,514	100.0	136,223	100.0	328,737	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Notes:

1. Estimates include both public and private sectors.

2. From Q1 2026 economic activities are being classified using NACE Rev 2.1. Further information on these changes is provided in Methodological Note 5 of this report.

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Table 9a. Average monthly basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity (NACE Rev 2) in the main occupation

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
	April-June 2026					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	22,839	2,032	10,723	1,854	33,562	1,975
Construction	16,136	2,114	:	:	17,437	2,095
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	50,258	1,880	24,116	1,644	74,374	1,803
Information and communication	9,137	2,914	4,808 ^u	2,873 ^u	13,945	2,900
Financial and insurance activities	8,567	3,237	9,014	2,815	17,581	3,021
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,371 ^u	2,513 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	13,789	2,179	14,461	2,197	28,250	2,188
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	31,877	2,613	46,655	2,472	78,532	2,529
Other services	12,978	2,995	13,993	2,352	26,971	2,661
Total	168,089	2,308	125,937	2,247	294,026	2,282
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	22,957	2,054	7,425	1,647	30,382	1,955
Construction	15,128	1,858	:	:	16,617	1,835
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	46,760	2,024	28,487	1,515	75,247	1,831
Information and communication	8,831	2,812	4,389 ^u	2,612 ^u	13,220	2,745
Financial and insurance activities	8,463	2,965	7,969	2,541	16,432	2,759
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	11,846	2,169	12,781	2,070	24,627	2,118
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	31,638	2,439	50,570	2,145	82,208	2,258
Other services	12,130	2,861	9,204	2,143	21,334	2,551
Total	159,290	2,266	122,687	1,994	281,977	2,148

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Notes:

1. Estimates include both public and private sectors.
2. Data is provisional and subject to revisions.

Table 9b. Average monthly basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity (NACE Rev 2.1) in the main occupation

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
	April-June 2026					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	22,500	2,047	10,723	1,854	33,223	1,985
Construction	15,706	2,101	:	:	16,894	2,086
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	50,179	1,888	24,242	1,662	74,421	1,814
Information and communication	9,260	2,930	5,128 ^u	2,893 ^u	14,388	2,917
Financial and insurance activities	8,668	3,282	8,768	2,790	17,436	3,035
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,174 ^u	2,259 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	13,728	2,193	14,329	2,205	28,057	2,199
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	31,679	2,608	46,523	2,467	78,202	2,524
Other services	14,058	2,882	14,170	2,333	28,228	2,606
Total	168,089	2,308	125,937	2,247	294,026	2,282
Economic activity	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	22,882	2,045	7,425	1,647	30,307	1,948
Construction	13,276	1,888	:	:	14,652	1,857
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	44,100	2,056	27,969	1,528	72,069	1,851
Information and communication	9,732	2,728	4,474 ^u	2,585 ^u	14,206	2,683
Financial and insurance activities	9,332	2,812	8,021	2,530	17,353	2,681
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	3,092 ^u	2,467 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	12,147	2,161	13,281	2,024	25,428	2,090
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	32,032	2,410	48,573	2,148	80,605	2,252
Other services	13,756	2,708	9,488	2,090	23,244	2,456
Total	159,290	2,266	122,687	1,994	281,977	2,148

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Notes:

1. Estimates include both public and private sectors.
2. Data is provisional and subject to revisions.
3. From Q1 2026 economic activities are being classified using NACE Rev 2.1. Further information on these changes is provided in Methodological Note 5 of this

Table 10. Distribution of total employed persons by sex and occupational group

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Armed Forces	2,582 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	2,582 ^u	0.8 ^u
Managers	24,154	12.0	16,205	11.7	40,359	11.9
Professionals	33,964	16.9	37,371	26.9	71,335	21.0
Technicians and associate professionals	28,714	14.3	16,907	12.2	45,621	13.4
Clerical support workers	15,379	7.6	17,754	12.8	33,133	9.7
Service and sales workers	28,021	13.9	33,480	24.1	61,501	18.1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,536 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	2,536 ^u	0.7 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	32,839	16.3	:	:	34,471	10.1
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	15,969	7.9	4,076 ^u	2.9 ^u	20,045	5.9
Elementary occupations	16,968	8.4	11,384	8.2	28,352	8.3
Total	201,126	100.0	138,809	100.0	339,935	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
Armed Forces	2,531 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	2,636 ^u	0.8 ^u
Managers	24,577	12.8	14,208	10.4	38,785	11.8
Professionals	35,135	18.3	37,601	27.6	72,736	22.1
Technicians and associate professionals	26,040	13.5	16,589	12.2	42,629	13.0
Clerical support workers	14,060	7.3	16,579	12.2	30,639	9.3
Service and sales workers	23,674	12.3	36,964	27.1	60,638	18.4
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,422 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	2,839 ^u	0.9 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	32,208	16.7	:	:	33,555	10.2
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	15,826	8.2	2,321 ^u	1.7 ^u	18,147	5.5
Elementary occupations	16,041	8.3	10,092	7.4	26,133	7.9
Total	192,514	100.0	136,223	100.0	328,737	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 11. Average monthly basic salary for employees by sex and occupational group

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
	April-June 2026					
Armed Forces	2,582 ^u	2,292 ^u	:	:	2,582 ^u	2,292 ^u
Managers	20,173	3,767	14,630	3,504	34,803	3,657
Professionals	27,521	3,258	34,037	2,854	61,558	3,035
Technicians and associate professionals	23,778	2,251	15,159	2,458	38,937	2,332
Clerical support workers	15,154	2,001	16,976	1,732	32,130	1,859
Service and sales workers	25,215	1,671	29,471	1,600	54,686	1,632
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	24,525	1,833	:	:	25,731	1,819
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	11,840	1,611	3,614 ^u	1,516 ^u	15,454	1,589
Elementary occupations	16,241	1,526	10,844	1,241	27,085	1,412
Total	168,089	2,308	125,937	2,247	294,026	2,282
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
Armed Forces	2,531 ^u	2,238 ^u	:	:	2,636 ^u	2,235 ^u
Managers	19,122	3,908	12,715	3,107	31,837	3,588
Professionals	29,783	2,931	33,641	2,570	63,424	2,740
Technicians and associate professionals	22,796	2,314	14,448	2,019	37,244	2,200
Clerical support workers	13,833	1,812	16,414	1,584	30,247	1,688
Service and sales workers	20,527	1,715	32,342	1,442	52,869	1,548
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	22,817	1,696	:	:	23,724	1,685
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	11,702	1,538	:	:	13,799	1,518
Elementary occupations	15,166	1,450	9,756	1,243	24,922	1,369
Total	159,290	2,266	122,687	1,994	281,977	2,148

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Note: Data is provisional and subject to revisions.

Table 12. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
15-24	:	:	:	:	2,040 ^u	17.8 ^u
25-74	6,262 ^u	82.5 ^u	3,129 ^u	81.4 ^u	9,391	82.2
Total (15-74)	7,589^u	100.0^u	3,842^u	100.0^u	11,431	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15-24	:	:	:	:	2,824 ^u	30.5 ^u
25-74	3,421 ^u	72.4 ^u	3,028 ^u	66.5 ^u	6,449 ^u	69.5 ^u
Total (15-74)	4,723^u	100.0^u	4,550^u	100.0^u	9,273	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 13. Unemployment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males	Females	Total
	%		
	April-June 2026		
15-24	:	:	7.1 ^u
25-74	3.2 ^u	2.4 ^u	2.9
Total (15-74)	3.7^u	2.7^u	3.3
	April-June 2025 (Revised)		
15-24	:	:	10.1 ^u
25-74	1.9 ^u	2.4 ^u	2.1 ^u
Total (15-74)	2.4^u	3.2^u	2.8

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 14. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and duration of job search

Duration	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Less than 12 months	6,100 ^u	80.4 ^u	3,414 ^u	88.9 ^u	9,514	83.2
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	7,589^u	100.0^u	3,842^u	100.0^u	11,431	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 12 months	3,631 ^u	76.9 ^u	4,195 ^u	92.2 ^u	7,826	84.4
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	4,723^u	100.0^u	4,550^u	100.0^u	9,273	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 15. Distribution of inactive persons by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
15-24	13,619	19.7	11,574	12.2	25,193	15.3
25-34	:	:	4,364 ^u	4.6 ^u	6,189 ^u	3.8 ^u
35-44	:	:	6,360 ^u	6.7 ^u	9,173	5.6
45-54	:	:	6,658	7.0	8,122	4.9
55-64	6,974	10.1	15,390	16.2	22,364	13.6
65+	42,358	61.3	50,737	53.4	93,095	56.7
Total	69,053	100.0	95,083	100.0	164,136	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
15-24	14,496	20.6	11,875	12.7	26,371	16.1
25-34	:	:	3,632 ^u	3.9 ^u	5,714 ^u	3.5 ^u
35-44	:	:	6,153	6.6	8,300	5.1
45-54	2,573 ^u	3.7 ^u	7,123	7.6	9,696	5.9
55-64	7,095	10.1	15,085	16.1	22,180	13.5
65+	41,955	59.6	49,542	53.0	91,497	55.9
Total	70,348	100.0	93,410	100.0	163,758	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 16. Main reasons for being inactive by sex

Reason for inactivity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Care or family responsibilities	:	:	31,992	33.9	33,193	20.4
Education or training	13,368	19.5	11,470	12.2	24,838	15.3
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	47,038	68.8	20,757	22.0	67,795	41.7
Other reasons	6,790	9.9	30,051	31.9	36,841	22.6
Total	68,397	100.0	94,270	100.0	162,667	100.0
April-June 2025 (Revised)						
Care or family responsibilities	:	:	28,104	30.5	30,568	18.8
Education or training	13,171	18.8	9,707	10.5	22,878	14.1
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	46,910	66.9	22,739	24.6	69,649	42.9
Other reasons	7,531	10.7	31,728	34.4	39,259	24.2
Total	70,076	100.0	92,278	100.0	162,354	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Note: Figures in this table refer to persons between the age of 15 and 90 years

Table 17. Persons aged 15 years and over by sex and highest educational attainment

Education level	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026					
Secondary level education or less	100,887	36.3	89,146	37.5	190,033	36.9
Post-Secondary level education	95,220	34.3	69,652	29.3	164,872	32.0
Tertiary level education	81,661	29.4	78,936	33.2	160,597	31.2
Total	277,768	100.0	237,734	100.0	515,502	100.0
	April-June 2025 (Revised)					
Secondary level education or less	101,128	37.8	91,982	39.3	193,110	38.5
Post-Secondary level education	93,567	35.0	67,463	28.8	161,030	32.1
Tertiary level education	72,890	27.2	74,738	31.9	147,628	29.4
Total	267,585	100.0	234,183	100.0	501,768	100.0

Table 18. Persons aged 15 years and over by labour status and highest educational attainment

Secondary level education or less	Employed		Unemployed		Inactive		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2026							
Secondary level education or less	83,984	24.7	3,497 ^u	30.6 ^u	102,552	62.5	190,033	36.9
Post-Secondary level education	116,338	34.2	4,227 ^u	37.0 ^u	44,307	27.0	164,872	32.0
Tertiary level education	139,613	41.1	:	:	17,277	10.5	160,597	31.2
Total	339,935	100.0	11,431	100.0	164,136	100.0	515,502	100.0
April-June 2025 (Revised)								
Secondary level education or less	80,427	24.5	3,157 ^u	34.0 ^u	109,526	66.9	193,110	38.5
Post-Secondary level education	121,741	37.0	2,767 ^u	29.8 ^u	36,522	22.3	161,030	32.1
Tertiary level education	126,569	38.5	3,349 ^u	36.1 ^u	17,710	10.8	147,628	29.4
Total	328,737	100.0	9,273	100.0	163,758	100.0	501,768	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 statistique des Activités économiques dans la Communauté Européenne). Educational attainment is classified according to ISCED 2011 (International Standard Classification of Education).

3. As from January 2021, [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1700](#) establishing a common framework for European statistics relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples and [Commission Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2020/257](#) of 16th December 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council by specifying the number and the title of the variables for the labour force domain, came into force.

4. This legislation has mainly led to changes in the LFS questionnaire and mode of data collection. An analysis of the impact of this change on LFS estimates was conducted in order to assess the divergence of LFS results from pre-IESS (Integrated European Social Statistics) to post-IESS levels. Technical notes on these divergences are found [here](#).

5. The data is classified by economic activity according to the NACE classification of economic activities in the European Union. The data is presented in accordance with NACE Revision 2 Update 1 (NACE Rev. 2.1), reflecting the latest updates to the classification system. To support continuity and facilitate comparison with previous releases, data tables compiled according to NACE Rev. 2 are also provided. Dual coding of economic activity classifications, covering both NACE Rev. 2 and NACE Rev. 2.1 has been implemented in the Labour Force Survey from 2025 onwards.

The main changes in the classification at NACE section level introduced by NACE Rev. 2.1, compared with NACE Rev. 2, include:

- a. Section J of NACE Rev. 2 has been split into two sections: Section J, ‘Publishing, broadcasting, and content production and distribution activities’ and Section K ‘Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities’. As a result, all the subsequent sections in NACE Rev. 2.1 shifted up one letter.
- b. Group 41.1 ‘Development of building projects’ has been removed from section F. Its sole class, 41.10, has been reclassified under class 68.12 within section M (formerly section L).
- c. Division 45 ‘Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles’ has been discontinued from section G. The wholesale and retail activities of motor vehicles and motorcycles have been allocated to division 46 and 47 respectively, while the activities of maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles were moved to section T (formerly section S).
- d. The classification of real estate rental activities has been refined: rentals of own or leased real estate for periods of less than one year are now classified under Division 55 (Section I), whereas rentals for one year or longer remain under Division 68 (Section M – formerly section L).

More information on the reclassification can be found in the relevant [Press Information Notice](#) and in the News article by Eurostat.

6. The National Statistics Office is currently reviewing the grossing-up methodology used for the Labour Force Survey (LFS). As a result, estimates covering the period from Q1 2021 to Q1 2026 are expected to be revised by the end of 2026. While initial work on the revised methodology has already been undertaken at national level, the fully revised time series is not yet available. Furthermore, the revised figures for the period 2021 to 2025 have not yet been incorporated into Eurostat’s Eurobase. Users are therefore advised to use the national estimates for the updated results.

7. Definitions:

- **Activity rate:** labour force (15-64 years) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64 years).
- **Actual hours worked:** refers to the number of hours actually spent at the place of work during the reference week for the main job. A person may work extra hours (e.g. overtime, variable hours) or work less hours than usual (e.g. vacation leave, education, sick leave or slack work) due to various reasons. Owing to increased flexibility at workplaces coupled with technology, the place of work may also include one’s home. In this regard, actual hours worked also includes the hours of work carried out by persons who telework.
- **Average monthly basic salary:** refers to the average monthly 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.
- **Educational Attainment:**
 - secondary level of education or less: 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 2 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 2 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent or more, and persons with a post-secondary level attainment who have obtained at least 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:** comprises of persons aged 15 to 89 who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:
 - worked for at least 1 hour for pay or profit, including contributing family workers and paid casual work
 - persons with a job or business who were temporarily not at work during the reference week but had an attachment to their job, including:
 - (a) persons not at work due to holidays, working time arrangements, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave;
 - (b) persons in job-related training or formal education;
 - (c) persons on parental leave, either receiving and/or being entitled to job-related income or benefits, or whose parental leave is expected to be 3 months or less;
 - (d) seasonal workers during the off-season, where they continue to regularly perform tasks and duties for the job or business, excluding fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations;
 - (e) persons temporarily not at work for other reasons where the expected duration of the absence is 3 months or less.
- **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: i.e. had either carried out activities in the four-week period ending with the reference week to seek paid employment or self-employment or found a job to start within a period of at most 3 months from the end of the reference week. Examples of active job search include contacting Jobsplus, studying job advertisements or placing or updating CVs online.
 - currently available for work: i.e. available for paid employment or self-employment before the end of the 2 weeks following the reference week.
- **Unemployment rate:** unemployed persons (15-74 years) as a percentage of the labour force (15-74 years).

8. Sampling variability

Data included in this release is based on sample data and is 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 gives an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of LFS figures

	Estimate	Margin of error	95% confidence interval
Employment	339,935	4,109	339,935 ± 4,109
Employment rate (%)			
Total	80.07	0.94	80.07 ± 0.94
Males	85.06	1.42	85.06 ± 1.42
Females	73.88	1.94	73.88 ± 1.94
15-24	49.51	3.94	49.51 ± 3.94
25-54	89.23	1.13	89.23 ± 1.13
55-64	62.14	3.99	62.14 ± 3.99
Unemployment	11,431	2,793	11,431 ± 2,793
Unemployment rate (%)			
Total	3.27	0.78	3.27 ± 0.78
Males	3.66	1.18	3.66 ± 1.18
Females	2.70	1.00	2.70 ± 1.00
15-24	7.10	3.17	7.10 ± 3.17
25-74	2.93	0.81	2.93 ± 0.81
Inactivity	164,136	4,460	164,136 ± 4,460
Activity rate (%)			
Total	82.81	1.01	82.81 ± 1.01
Males	88.33	1.32	88.33 ± 1.32
Females	75.96	1.89	75.96 ± 1.89
15-24	53.29	3.91	53.29 ± 3.91
25-54	92.14	1.13	92.14 ± 1.13
55-64	63.13	3.87	63.13 ± 3.87

The table above provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 339,935 and the margin of error is 4,109. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 335,826 and 344,044 persons.

9. The following keys indicate the reliability of each data point:

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

10. Percentage totals may not add up due to rounding.

11. 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.

12. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

- [Sources and Methods](#)
- [Statistical Concepts](#)
- [Metadata](#)
- [ISCO Classification](#)
- [NACE \(Rev. 2\) Classification](#)
- [NACE \(Rev. 2.1\) Classification](#)
- [ISCED Classification](#)

13. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately. For guidance on access and re-use of data please visit our [dedicated webpage](#).

14. A detailed news release calendar is available [online](#).

15. For more information please submit a request for information through the [online form](#).