Job Vacancy Survey: Q2/2026

NR 162/2026 | Labour Market | Release Date: 15/09/2026

Salient Points

- In the second quarter of 2026, there were a total of 9,619 vacancies.
- The wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food services activities along with the professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities, generated more than half of all vacancies during the second quarter of 2026.
- Small enterprises with 1–49 employees accounted for 60.4 per cent of all vacancies, while those employing 250 or more persons generated 13.8 per cent.
- The private sector dominated the job vacancy market, representing 96.0 per cent of all vacant positions, with the public sector accounting for the remaining 4.0 per cent.

Commentary

The NACE classification system, the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community, has been updated to NACE Rev. 2.1. Further information on this reclassification is available in the press information notice published on 28 April 2026. More information is available in methodological note 6.

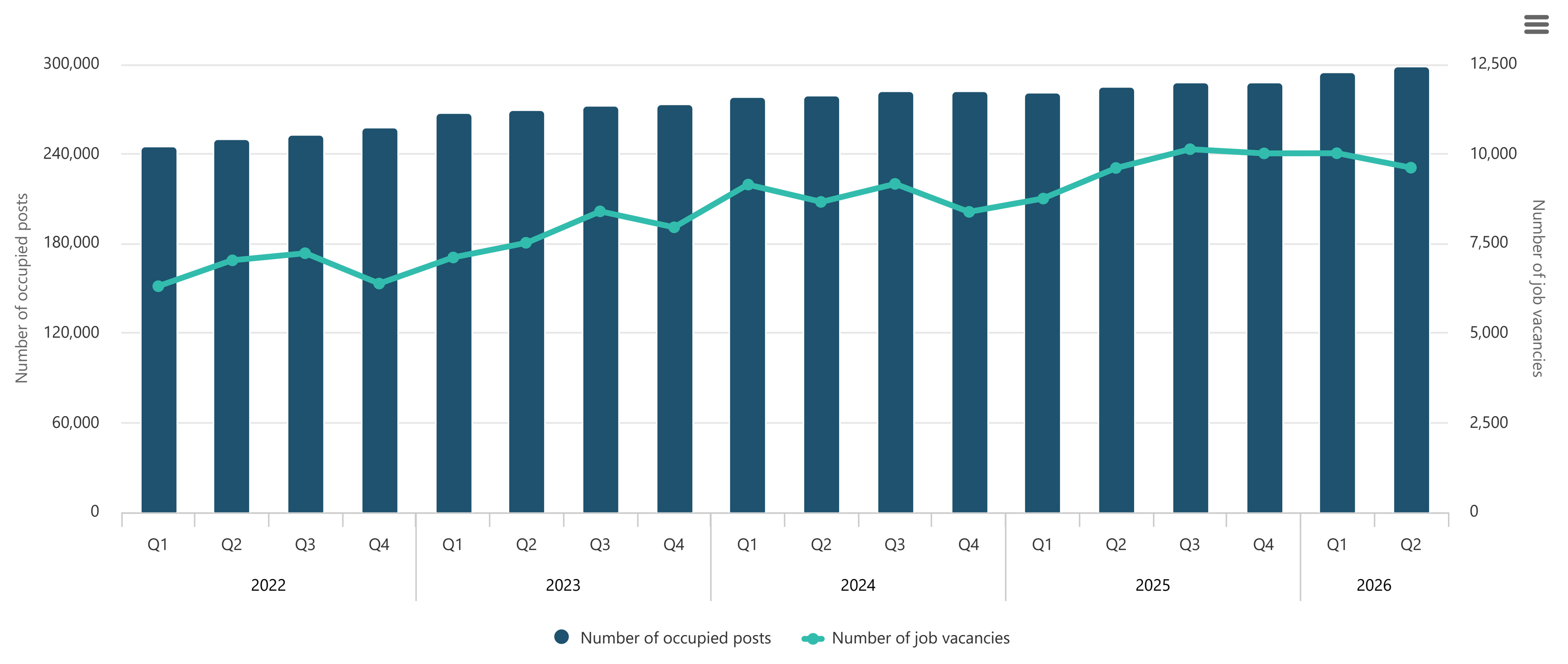
In the second quarter of 2026, the number of job vacancies stood at 9,619, an increase of 0.1 per cent over the same period in 2025.

This news release presents the findings of the Job Vacancy Survey (JVS), a quarterly enterprise-based enquiry that provides insights into the demand for labour by measuring the number of vacancies and occupied posts.

Job Vacancies

In the second quarter of 2026, there were a total of 9,619 vacancies within enterprises employing one or more persons, registering an increase of 0.1 per cent over the same period in 2025 (Chart 1, Table 1).

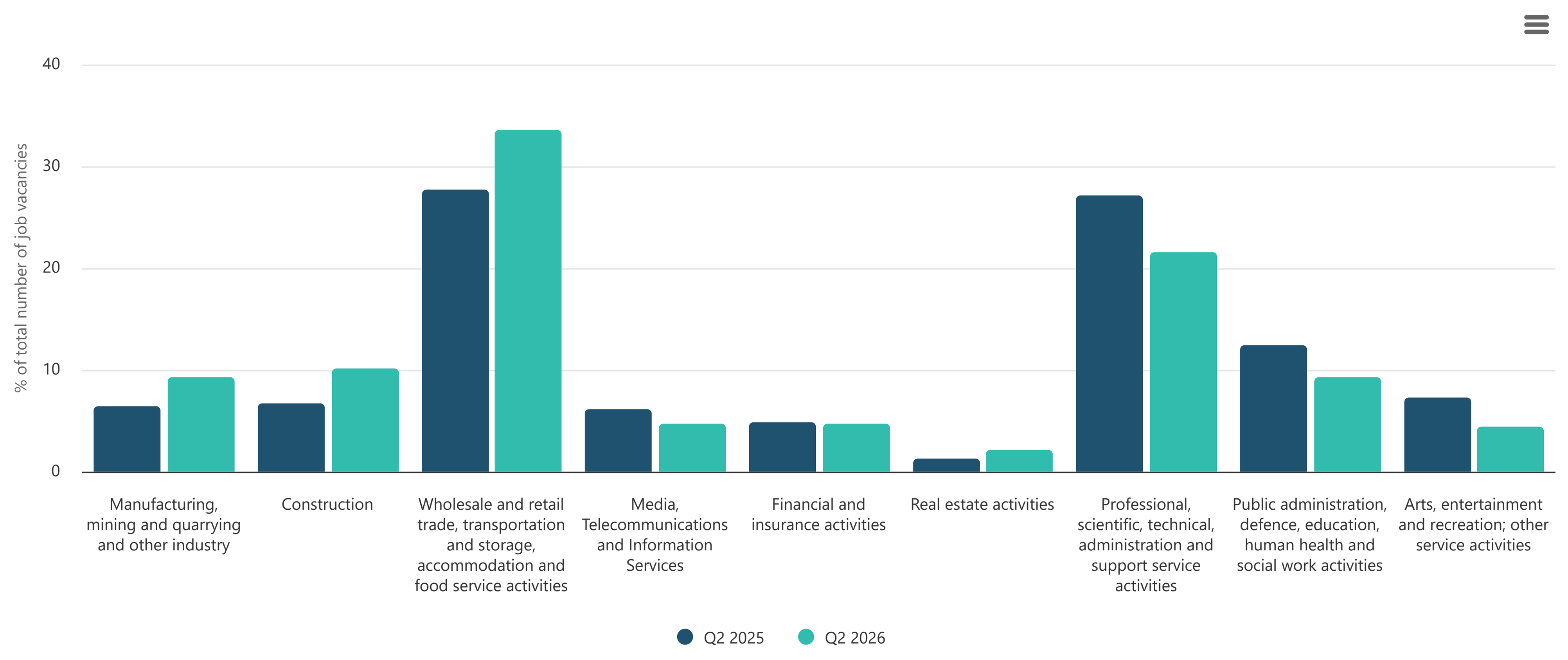
Chart 1. Number of job vacancies and occupied posts



The wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food services activities along with the professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities, generated more than half of all vacancies during the second quarter of 2026. On the other hand, the real estate activities recorded the lowest number of job vacancies, standing at 2.2 per cent of the total number of calls for application in Q2 2026 (Chart 2, Table 1).

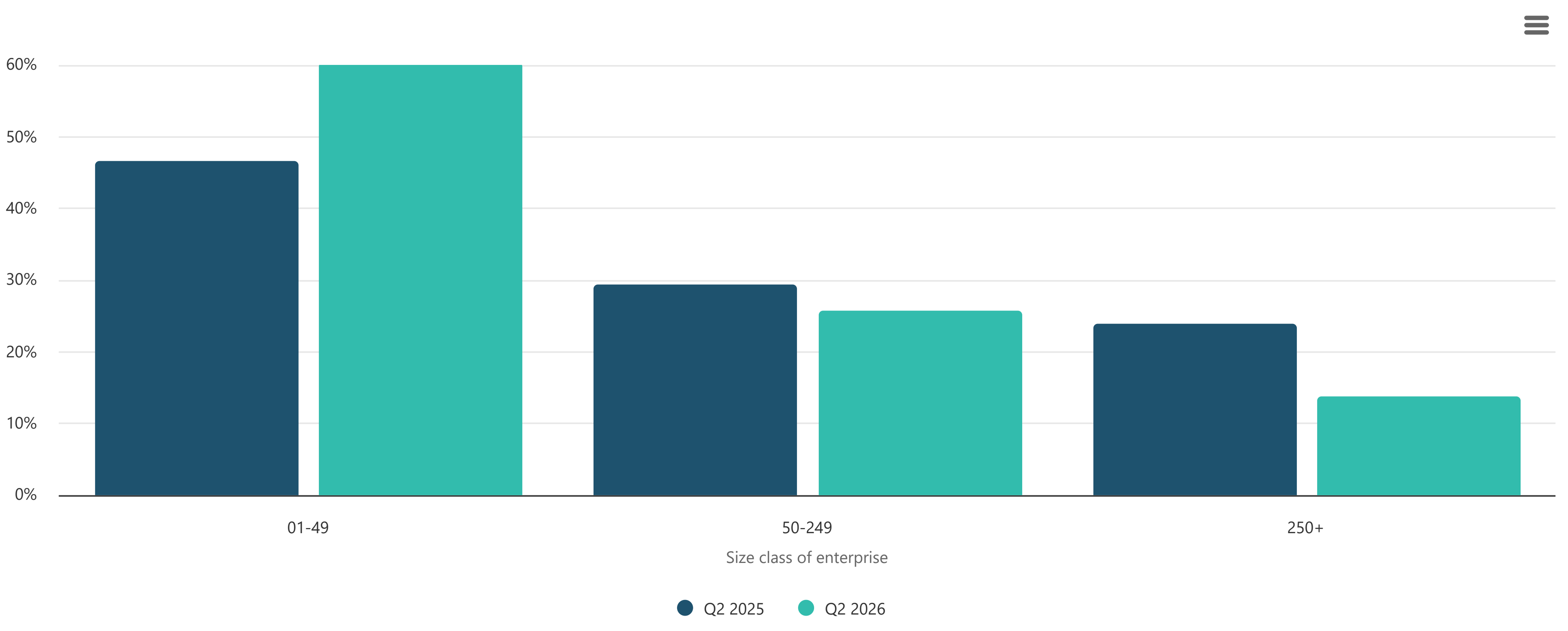
The highest year-on-year increase in the number of job vacancies was recorded within the wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food services activities, with an addition of 571 vacancies totalling to 3,236 vacancies. This was followed by the construction sector, which saw an increase of 342 vacancies. On the contrary, professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities, experienced the largest drop when compared to the second quarter of 2025, with a reduction of 541 vacancies (Table 1).

Chart 2. Job vacancies by economic activity of enterprise



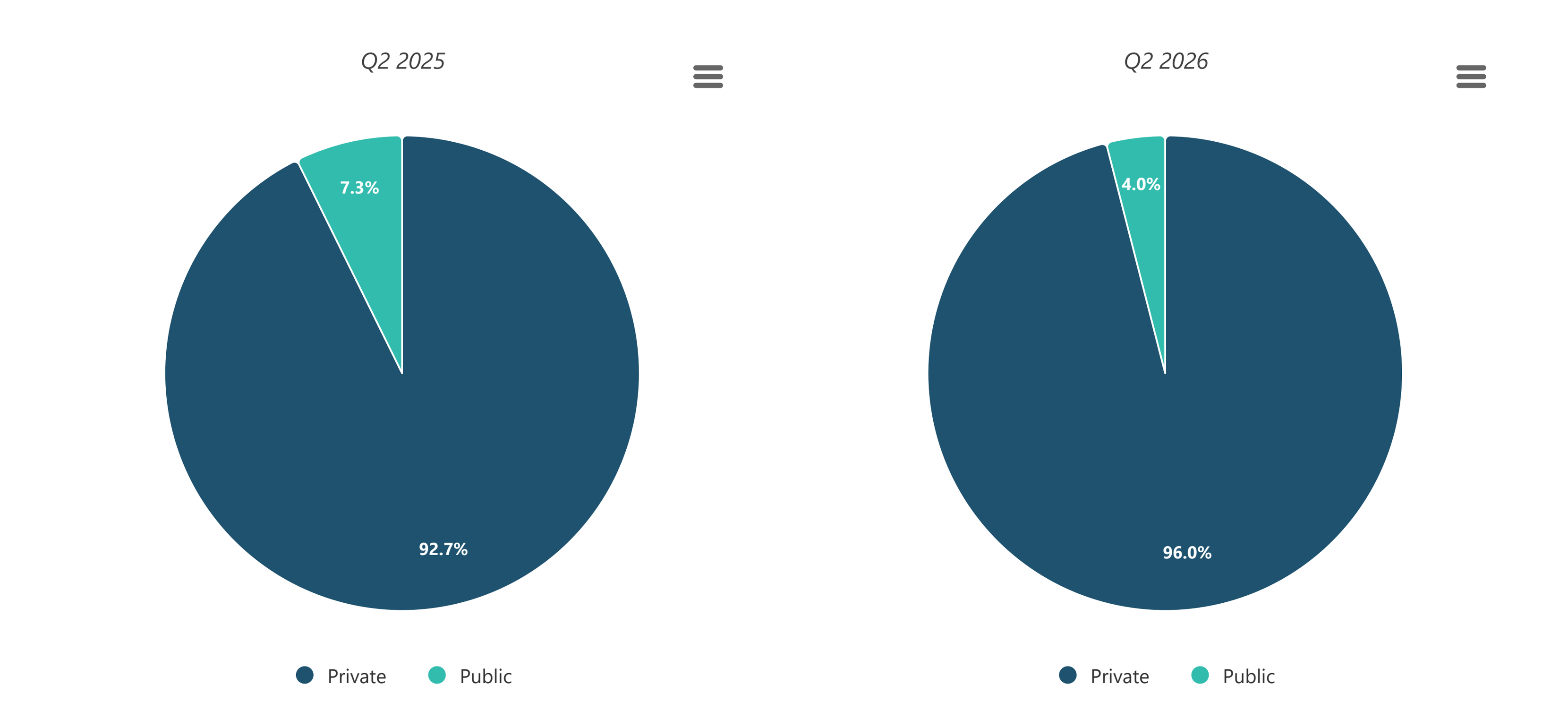
Data also shows an inverse relationship between enterprise size and the number of job vacancies. In this regard, small enterprises (1 to 49 employees) contributed to 60.4 per cent of the vacancies whereas companies with 250 employees or more generated 13.8 per cent of all vacancies of the second quarter of 2026 (Chart 3, Table 2).

Chart 3. Job vacancies by size class of enterprise



In the private sector, job vacancies increased by 329 between the second quarter of 2025 and the second quarter of 2026, totalling to 9,239, whereas within the public sector, the total for the same period stood at 380 (Table 3). As Chart 4 illustrates, the private sector continues to dominate the job vacancy market, representing 96.0 per cent of all vacancies, leaving the public sector with a 4.0 per cent share (Chart 4).

Chart 4. Job vacancies by economic sector



Occupied Posts

During the second quarter of 2026, the total number of occupied posts within enterprises employing one or more employees stood at 298,303 (Chart 1, Table 4). Over one half of these posts were recorded in wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food services activities and in public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities. Over a period of one year, public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities followed by the arts, entertainment and recreation; other service activities sector, registered a growth of 12.3 and 6.6 per cent respectively, (Table 4). During the second quarter of 2026, 39.4 per cent of occupied posts were estimated to be in enterprises employing 250 employees or more. Units with 50 to 249 employees made up slightly more than one fourth of all occupied posts (Table 5).

Occupied posts within the private sector stood at 238,531 garnering 80.0 per cent of the total amount of jobs. The public sector totalled 59,772, making up the remaining 20.0 per cent (Table 6).

Job Vacancy Rate

In the second quarter of 2026, 3.1 per cent of jobs in Malta were vacant, a drop of 0.2 percentage points when compared to both the preceding quarter and to the second quarter of 2025 (Chart 5, Table 7). The job vacancy rate was highest within the construction sector (6.2 per cent) whilst the public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities registered the lowest rate of job vacancies (1.2 per cent) (Table 7).

Small enterprises, with 1 to 49 employees, showed a higher job vacancy rate of 5.3 per cent, suggesting a greater demand for labour in this segment. Large enterprises, comprising 250 or more employees, exhibited a lower rate of job vacancies at 1.1 per cent (Table 8).

The private sector registered a job vacancy rate of 3.7 per cent in the second quarter of 2026 whereas 0.6 per cent of total jobs in the public sector were vacant during the same period (Table 9).

Chart 5. Job vacancy rate

in relation to unemployment rate

Note: The unemployment rate refers to the number of unemployed persons (15-74 years) as a percentage of the total labour force (15-74 years). Unemployment rates were obtained from the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Table 1. Number of job vacancies by economic activity of enterprise and period

Year	Quarter	Economic activity									
		B-E	F	G-I	J-K	L	M	N-O	P-R	S-T	B-T
		Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	Construction	Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	Media, Telecommunications and Information Services*	Financial and insurance activities	Real estate activities	Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	Arts, entertainment and recreation; other service activities	Total economy
2021 (revised)	Q1	309	120	466	301	251	37	935	544	443	**3,403**
	Q2	632	216	1,942	381	222	87	970	701	580	**5,732**
	Q3	608	190	1,677	373	311	38	1,433	783	888	**6,300**
	Q4	562	232	1,651	379	230	71	1,091	460	740	**5,415**
2022 (revised)	Q1	629	195	1,580	552	298	91	1,533	664	770	**6,311**
	Q2	749	440	1,911	638	366	27	1,392	605	904	**7,033**
	Q3	658	473	2,141	633	576	59	1,272	858	563	**7,232**
	Q4	527	390	2,105	679	476	119	1,156	380	553	**6,385**
2023 (revised)	Q1	574	363	2,363	657	470	60	1,449	597	579	**7,113**
	Q2	666	396	2,213	414	507	77	1,581	812	857	**7,523**
	Q3	869	506	1,959	681	327	71	2,136	1,092	758	**8,400**
	Q4	755	491	2,248	655	399	130	1,925	769	581	**7,955**
2024 (revised)	Q1	588	531	2,245	779	380	96	2,219	1,662	647	**9,147**
	Q2	665	569	2,659	789	396	48	2,327	651	562	**8,664**
	Q3	754	698	2,440	738	448	82	2,390	771	846	**9,167**
	Q4	652	588	2,115	710	421	127	2,425	685	663	**8,386**
2025 (revised)	Q1	602	620	2,313	627	422	125	2,599	931	518	**8,757**
	Q2	622	643	2,665	597	457	124	2,614	1,189	701	**9,611**
	Q3	696	632	2,961	684	387	139	2,776	1,231	629	**10,135**
	Q4	677	699	3,040	643	428	131	3,038	839	524	**10,018**
2026	Q1 (revised)	775	774	3,143	582	471	162	3,011	666	437	**10,022**
	Q2	899	985	3,236	452	449	210	2,073	891	424	**9,619**

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

* Media, Telecommunications and Information Services refers to NACE Rev. 2.1 Sections J ("Publishing, broadcasting, and content production and distribution activities") and K ("Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities").

Table 2. Number of job vacancies by size of enterprise and period

Year	Quarter	Size class			
		1-49	**50-249**	**250+**	**Total**
2021 (revised)	Q1	1,660	896	848	**3,403**
	Q2	3,836	1,247	649	**5,732**
	Q3	3,661	1,570	1,069	**6,300**
	Q4	3,730	1,131	554	**5,415**
2022 (revised)	Q1	3,956	1,332	1,024	**6,311**
	Q2	4,227	1,477	1,329	**7,033**
	Q3	4,402	1,746	1,085	**7,232**
	Q4	4,108	1,380	897	**6,385**
2023 (revised)	Q1	4,238	1,555	1,320	**7,113**
	Q2	4,698	2,080	746	**7,523**
	Q3	4,969	2,481	950	**8,400**
	Q4	4,240	2,025	1,689	**7,955**
2024 (revised)	Q1	3,921	3,408	1,818	**9,147**
	Q2	3,930	2,348	2,386	**8,664**
	Q3	5,213	2,599	1,354	**9,167**
	Q4	4,399	2,650	1,337	**8,386**
2025 (revised)	Q1	5,030	2,472	1,254	**8,757**
	Q2	4,490	2,820	2,301	**9,611**
	Q3	5,027	3,051	2,057	**10,135**
	Q4	4,868	2,701	2,449	**10,018**
2026	Q1 (revised)	5,355	2,986	1,681	**10,022**
	Q2	5,805	2,486	1,328	**9,619**

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Number of job vacancies by economic sector and period

Year	Quarter	Economic sector		
		Private	Public	Total
2021 (revised)	Q1	3,108	295	**3,403**
	Q2	5,267	465	**5,732**
	Q3	5,797	503	**6,300**
	Q4	5,082	333	**5,415**
2022 (revised)	Q1	5,970	341	**6,311**
	Q2	6,686	347	**7,033**
	Q3	6,833	399	**7,232**
	Q4	6,138	247	**6,385**
2023 (revised)	Q1	6,689	424	**7,113**
	Q2	7,144	379	**7,523**
	Q3	7,598	802	**8,400**
	Q4	7,602	353	**7,955**
2024 (revised)	Q1	7,826	1,321	**9,147**
	Q2	8,283	381	**8,664**
	Q3	8,771	396	**9,167**
	Q4	8,105	281	**8,386**
2025 (revised)	Q1	8,311	446	**8,757**
	Q2	8,909	702	**9,611**
	Q3	9,386	749	**10,135**
	Q4	9,555	463	**10,018**
2026	Q1 (revised)	9,676	346	**10,022**
	Q2	9,239	380	**9,619**

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Number of occupied posts by economic activity of enterprise and period

Year	Quarter	Economic activity									
		B-E	F	G-I	J-K	L	M	N-O	P-R	S-T	B-T
		Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	Construction	Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	Media, Telecommunications and Information Services*	Financial and insurance activities	Real estate activities	Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	Arts, entertainment and recreation; other service activities	Total economy
2021 (revised)	Q1	24,369	11,693	57,445	11,201	11,862	2,853	42,677	61,415	13,112	**236,627**
	Q2	24,168	12,141	57,580	10,600	10,887	2,987	43,719	61,397	13,310	**236,789**
	Q3	23,990	11,610	56,237	10,479	10,815	2,336	45,015	62,633	13,155	**236,271**
	Q4	23,824	11,780	56,772	10,715	11,164	2,312	45,820	63,403	13,373	**239,164**
2022 (revised)	Q1	24,566	12,332	59,816	11,414	11,940	2,610	45,634	62,858	13,965	**245,135**
	Q2	24,520	12,350	61,303	11,351	11,902	2,767	48,489	63,551	13,488	**249,721**
	Q3	24,760	12,741	62,659	11,663	12,062	2,937	48,221	64,289	13,817[u]	**253,150**
	Q4	25,086	12,323	63,089	11,617	12,111	3,141	51,100	65,400	13,798	**257,666**
2023 (revised)	Q1	25,723	13,041	66,350	12,302	12,300	4,043	57,166	61,797	14,662	**267,385**
	Q2	25,625	13,322	66,845	12,513	12,411	3,462	54,248	65,808	15,137[u]	**269,372**
	Q3	25,659	13,648	68,104	12,976	12,285	3,894	54,726	65,251	15,455	**271,998**
	Q4	25,903	13,620	69,009	13,288	12,830	4,716	54,994	64,255	14,743[u]	**273,358**
2024 (revised)	Q1	26,259	14,609	71,563	12,355	12,928	3,620	59,877	61,931	15,157	**278,298**
	Q2	26,235	14,361	72,704	12,363	12,732	3,675	59,582	62,502	15,235	**279,389**
	Q3	26,527	14,600	72,793	12,703	13,094	3,774	59,093	63,974	15,365	**281,922**
	Q4	26,664	14,689	72,044	12,828	13,265	3,222	59,731	64,692	15,329	**282,464**
2025 (revised)	Q1	25,699	13,106	71,472	13,411	13,643	3,584	59,863	65,169	14,615[u]	**280,562**
	Q2	25,862	13,953	72,841	13,858	13,658	3,992	60,367	65,769	14,156	**284,459**
	Q3	25,821	14,117	73,877	13,666	13,738	4,118	61,006	67,958	13,796	**288,097**
	Q4	25,878	13,955	73,650	13,704	13,549	4,140	57,571	71,196	13,901	**287,543**
2026	Q1 (revised)	25,774	13,932	76,191	13,686	14,222	3,964	59,545	72,601	14,979	**294,895**
	Q2	26,153	14,859	77,374	13,681	14,374	3,888	59,029	73,854	15,092	**298,303**

[u] unreliable: relative margin of error of 30% or more.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

* Media, Telecommunications and Information Services refers to NACE Rev. 2.1 Sections J (“Publishing, broadcasting, and content production and distribution activities”) and K (“Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities”).

Table 5. Number of occupied posts by size of enterprise and period

Year	Quarter	Size class			
		1-49	**50-249**	**250+**	**Total**
2021 (revised)	Q1	87,435	59,027	90,166	**236,627**
	Q2	87,336	58,451	91,003	**236,789**
	Q3	86,237	58,955	91,079	**236,271**
	Q4	85,318	60,059	93,787	**239,164**
2022 (revised)	Q1	89,345	61,182	94,608	**245,135**
	Q2	91,205	62,721	95,794	**249,721**
	Q3	92,819	64,361	95,970	**253,150**
	Q4	92,799	66,179	98,688	**257,666**
2023 (revised)	Q1	98,404	67,233	101,748	**267,385**
	Q2	99,516	67,635	102,222	**269,372**
	Q3	99,851	69,524	102,624	**271,998**
	Q4	99,129	69,146	105,083	**273,358**
2024 (revised)	Q1	101,645	72,946	103,707	**278,298**
	Q2	101,155	74,620	103,614	**279,389**
	Q3	100,841	76,109	104,972	**281,922**
	Q4	100,727	74,690	107,047	**282,464**
2025 (revised)	Q1	98,786	73,181	108,596	**280,562**
	Q2	101,003	74,169	109,287	**284,459**
	Q3	101,036	74,477	112,584	**288,097**
	Q4	100,554	75,030	111,959	**287,543**
2026	Q1 (revised)	98,972	78,340	117,583	**294,895**
	Q2	104,346	76,474	117,483	**298,303**

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 6. Number of occupied posts by economic sector and period

Year	Quarter	Economic sector		
		Private	Public	Total
2021 (revised)	Q1	183,049	53,578	**236,627**
	Q2	182,947	53,842	**236,789**
	Q3	181,479	54,792	**236,271**
	Q4	184,117	55,047	**239,164**
2022 (revised)	Q1	190,295	54,840	**245,135**
	Q2	194,863	54,858	**249,721**
	Q3	199,085	54,065	**253,150**
	Q4	202,567	55,099	**257,666**
2023 (revised)	Q1	212,230	55,155	**267,385**
	Q2	214,510	54,862	**269,372**
	Q3	217,086	54,912	**271,998**
	Q4	218,268	55,090	**273,358**
2024 (revised)	Q1	223,347	54,951	**278,298**
	Q2	223,894	55,495	**279,389**
	Q3	226,003	55,919	**281,922**
	Q4	225,573	56,891	**282,464**
2025 (revised)	Q1	223,107	57,455	**280,562**
	Q2	227,136	57,323	**284,459**
	Q3	228,615	59,482	**288,097**
	Q4	227,674	59,869	**287,543**
2026	Q1 (revised)	235,244	59,651	**294,895**
	Q2	238,531	59,772	**298,303**

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 7. Job vacancy rate by economic activity of enterprise and period

Year	Quarter	Economic activity									
		B-E	F	G-I	J-K	L	M	N-O	P-R	S-T	B-T
		Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	Construction	Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	Media, Telecommunications and Information Services	Financial and insurance activities	Real estate activities	Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	Arts, entertainment and recreation; other service activities	Total economy
2021 (revised)	Q1	1.3	1.0	0.8	2.6	2.1	1.3	2.1	0.9	3.3	**1.4**
	Q2	2.5	1.7	3.3	3.5	2.0	2.8	2.2	1.1	4.2	**2.4**
	Q3	2.5	1.6	2.9	3.4	2.8	1.6	3.1	1.2	6.3	**2.6**
	Q4	2.3	1.9	2.8	3.4	2.0	3.0	2.3	0.7	5.2	**2.2**
2022 (revised)	Q1	2.5	1.6	2.6	4.6	2.4	3.4	3.2	1.0	5.2	**2.5**
	Q2	3.0	3.4	3.0	5.3	3.0	1.0	2.8	0.9	6.3	**2.7**
	Q3	2.6	3.6	3.3	5.1	4.6	2.0	2.6	1.3	3.9	**2.8**
	Q4	2.1	3.1	3.2	5.5	3.8	3.6	2.2	0.6	3.9	**2.4**
2023 (revised)	Q1	2.2	2.7	3.4	5.1	3.7	1.5	2.5	1.0	3.8	**2.6**
	Q2	2.5	2.9	3.2	3.2	3.9	2.2	2.8	1.2	5.4	**2.7**
	Q3	3.3	3.6	2.8	5.0	2.6	1.8	3.8	1.6	4.7	**3.0**
	Q4	2.8	3.5	3.2	4.7	3.0	2.7	3.4	1.2	3.8	**2.8**
2024 (revised)	Q1	2.2	3.5	3.0	5.9	2.9	2.6	3.6	2.6	4.1	**3.2**
	Q2	2.5	3.8	3.5	6.0	3.0	1.3	3.8	1.0	3.6	**3.0**
	Q3	2.8	4.6	3.2	5.5	3.3	2.1	3.9	1.2	5.2	**3.1**
	Q4	2.4	3.8	2.9	5.2	3.1	3.8	3.9	1.0	4.1	**2.9**
2025 (revised)	Q1	2.3	4.5	3.1	4.5	3.0	3.4	4.2	1.4	3.4	**3.0**
	Q2	2.4	4.4	3.5	4.1	3.2	3.0	4.2	1.8	4.7	**3.3**
	Q3	2.6	4.3	3.9	4.8	2.7	3.3	4.4	1.8	4.4	**3.4**
	Q4	2.5	4.8	4.0	4.5	3.1	3.1	5.0	1.2	3.6	**3.4**
2026	Q1 (revised)	2.9	5.3	4.0	4.1	3.2	3.9	4.8	0.9	2.8	**3.3**
	Q2	3.3	6.2	4.0	3.2	3.0	5.1	3.4	1.2	2.7	**3.1**

* Media, Telecommunications and Information Services refers to NACE Rev. 2.1 Sections J ("Publishing, broadcasting, and content production and distribution activities") and K ("Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities").

Table 8. Job vacancy rate by size of enterprise and period

Year	Quarter	Size class			
		1-49	50-249	250+	Total
2021 (revised)	Q1	1.9	1.5	0.9	**1.4**
	Q2	4.2	2.1	0.7	**2.4**
	Q3	4.1	2.6	1.2	**2.6**
	Q4	4.2	1.8	0.6	**2.2**
2022 (revised)	Q1	4.2	2.1	1.1	**2.5**
	Q2	4.4	2.3	1.4	**2.7**
	Q3	4.5	2.6	1.1	**2.8**
	Q4	4.2	2.0	0.9	**2.4**
2023 (revised)	Q1	4.1	2.3	1.3	**2.6**
	Q2	4.5	3.0	0.7	**2.7**
	Q3	4.7	3.4	0.9	**3.0**
	Q4	4.1	2.8	1.6	**2.8**
2024 (revised)	Q1	3.7	4.5	1.7	**3.2**
	Q2	3.7	3.1	2.3	**3.0**
	Q3	4.9	3.3	1.3	**3.1**
	Q4	4.2	3.4	1.2	**2.9**
2025 (revised)	Q1	4.8	3.3	1.1	**3.0**
	Q2	4.3	3.7	2.1	**3.3**
	Q3	4.7	3.9	1.8	**3.4**
	Q4	4.6	3.5	2.1	**3.4**
2026	Q1 (revised)	5.1	3.7	1.4	**3.3**
	Q2	5.3	3.1	1.1	**3.1**

Table 9. Job vacancy rate by economic sector and period

Year	Quarter	Economic sector		
		Private	**Public**	**Total**
2021 (revised)	Q1	1.7	0.5	**1.4**
	Q2	2.8	0.9	**2.4**
	Q3	3.1	0.9	**2.6**
	Q4	2.7	0.6	**2.2**
2022 (revised)	Q1	3.0	0.6	**2.5**
	Q2	3.3	0.6	**2.7**
	Q3	3.3	0.7	**2.8**
	Q4	2.9	0.4	**2.4**
2023 (revised)	Q1	3.1	0.8	**2.6**
	Q2	3.2	0.7	**2.7**
	Q3	3.4	1.4	**3.0**
	Q4	3.4	0.6	**2.8**
2024 (revised)	Q1	3.4	2.3	**3.2**
	Q2	3.6	0.7	**3.0**
	Q3	3.7	0.7	**3.1**
	Q4	3.5	0.5	**2.9**
2025 (revised)	Q1	3.6	0.8	**3.0**
	Q2	3.8	1.2	**3.3**
	Q3	3.9	1.2	**3.4**
	Q4	4.0	0.8	**3.4**
2026	Q1 (revised)	4.0	0.6	**3.3**
	Q2	3.7	0.6	**3.1**

Methodological Notes

1. The Job Vacancy Survey (JVS) is a quarterly enterprise survey carried out with over 3,200 entities employing one or more employees. Administrative sources are used to compile information relating to the public sector.

2. The objective of this survey, as laid down in the regulation (EC) No. 453/2008, is to provide information on the demand for labour at a reference date across units employing 1 or more employees and engaged in NACE sections B-T. The economic activity is classified according to NACE Rev. 2.1 (Nomenclature Statistique des Activités Économiques dans la Communauté Européenne).

3. Definitions:

- A **job vacancy** is defined as a paid post that is newly created, unoccupied, or about to become vacant, for which the employer is taking **active steps** and is prepared to take further steps to find a suitable candidate from outside the enterprise concerned, and which the employer intends to fill either immediately or **within a specific period of time**.

- **Active steps** to find a suitable candidate include:

  notifying the job vacancy to the public employment services;
  contacting a private employment agency;
  advertising the vacancy in the media, for example, internet, newspapers and magazines;
  advertising the vacancy on a public notice board;
  approaching, interviewing or selecting possible candidates/potential recruits directly;
  approaching employees and/or personal contacts;
  using internships.

- The term '**within a specific period of time**' refers to the maximum time the vacancy is open and intended to be filled. When the period is unlimited, all vacancies for which active steps are ongoing after the reference date shall be reported.

- An **occupied post** means a paid post within the organisation to which an employee has been assigned. This value excludes all board members, self-employed owners, directors, partners and managers who are solely paid by way of profits, persons on unpaid leave, posts unoccupied due to long-term absences (e.g., parental leave or long-term sickness) together with employees of temporary employment agencies, outside contractors or consultants, and voluntary workers.

- The **Job Vacancy Rate (JVR)** is calculated using this formula:

$$JVR = \frac{\text{number of job vacancies}}{\text{number of job vacancies + number of occupied posts}} \times 100$$

- The Job Vacancy Survey takes a snapshot of the number of job vacancies and occupied posts on a specific day, known as the reference date. For 2017, the reference date was the 30th day of the end-of-quarter month (i.e., March, June, September, and December). As from 2018, the reference date was the 15th day of the end-of-quarter month (i.e., March, June, September, and December). Starting from the first quarter of 2024, the reference date has been changed to the 28th day of the middle quarter month (i.e., February, May, August, and November).

- The **unemployment rate** refers to the number of unemployed persons (15-74 years) as a percentage of the total labour force (15-74 years). Unemployment rates were obtained from the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

4. The NACE classification system, the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community, has been updated to NACE Rev. 2.1. Further information on this reclassification is available through this link: NACE Rev 2.1.

This revision includes the reclassification of economic activities from NACE Rev 2 to NACE Rev 2.1, together with an update of the weights used to gross up the survey results based on the most recent target population estimates. Users are advised not to compare the figures presented in this release with those published in previous releases, as these methodological changes may affect comparability. The data presented in this release are subject to change.

Job vacancy statistics for Malta are also published by Eurostat in table jvs_q_r21 of its online database. At the time of publication, although this table is labelled according to NACE Rev. 2.1, it does not yet contain the fully revised series for Malta. Until Member States provide their revised time series, Eurostat have reclassified the data of each country using the figures they had been provided in NACE Rev 2. In view of this, users should exercise caution when using job vacancy statistics from this source, as the data may not fully reflect the new classification structure.

5. The data is classified by economic activity according to the NACE (Nomenclature Statistique des Activités Économiques dans la Communauté Européenne) 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.

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. Revisions have been carried out for the period 2017 to 2025 to improve the coherence of the Job Vacancy Survey (JVS) data with employment levels derived from the Business Register (BR). As part of this revision process, employment estimates were adjusted where necessary to better reflect the information available in the Business Register. In addtion, the data was re-classified in accordance with the updated NACE classification. This resulted in the reallocation of units were necessary and improved the consistency, comparability and accuracy of the statistics across the entire time series.

7. Figures that have a relative margin of error of 30 percent or more should be interpreted with caution. Such data may not be statistically representative due to the high potential for error.

8. Data in this news release is provisional and therefore subject to revisions. These revisions generally occur annually to align the estimates with the latest population figures. Additionally, quarterly revisions may be necessary to ensure the consistency of the data series. Also, totals may not add up due to rounding.

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

Sources and Methods
Statistical Concepts
Metadata
NACE Rev. 2.1 Classification

10. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately. For guidance on access and re-use of data please visit our dedicated webpage.

11. Further information on the regulation (EC) No. 453/2008 can be accessed here.

12. A detailed news release calendar is available online.

13. For further assistance send your request through our online request form.