

# News Release



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## Labour Market

### Young and old people at work

This news release provides comparative labour statistics on the basis of the age factor. The source of this data is the Labour Force Survey.

The given official survey indicates that many youths, under 30 years of age, are employed in manufacturing (25.3 per cent), wholesale and retail trade (16.6 per cent), and hotels and restaurants (11.9 per cent). They tend to be mostly service and salespeople (19.6 per cent), clerks (17.1 per cent), and machine operators (14.3 per cent).

Similarly, many older working people aged over 55 years of age, are employed in manufacturing (15.7 per cent), and, wholesale and retail trade (15.2 per cent).

Age appears to be a distinguishing factor that shapes the occupational structure. Actually, older workers tend to be more likely to hold senior posts at work than their younger counterparts. Accordingly, only 4.1 per cent of working people aged under 30 are found to be employed as legislators, senior officials and managers, whereas the rate of those working people aged over 55 that are found in these occupations goes up to 17.2 per cent.

A comparison of the employment patterns of young and old workers indicates that younger workers are less likely to be employed within the public administration. Accordingly, only 6.7 per cent of working people aged under 30 are found to be employed in public administration, whereas the rate of those working people aged over 55 that are found in public administration goes up to 12.1 per cent.

Age tends to affect the wages and salaries of employees. Actually, in 2004, the average gross annual salary of older employees (excluding self-employed) was estimated to be Lm 5,386, whereas younger employees (excluding self-employed) earned an estimated average gross annual salary of Lm 4,456 ■

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Table 1. Labour Status

	2003		2004	
	No	%	No	%
Employed	148,764	37.2	148,618	36.9
Unemployed	12,093	3.0	11,518	2.9
Inactive	160,239	40.1	163,327	40.6
Children less than 14years	78,898	19.7	79,074	19.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>399,994</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>402,537</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 2. Age structure of Employed Persons

Age	2003						2004					
	Males		Females		Total		Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Under 30	27,876	27.0	21,073	46.3	48,949	32.9	27,812	26.8	19,814	44.2	47,626	32.0
30 - 55	65,978	63.9	22,110	48.6	88,088	59.2	66,329	63.9	22,779	50.8	89,108	60.0
Over 55	9,392	9.1	2,335	5.1	11,727	7.9	9,667	9.3	2,217	4.9	11,884	8.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,246</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45,518</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>148,764</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>103,808</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>44,810</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>148,618</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 3. Educational Attainment of Employed Persons classified by age categories

	Under 30				30 to 55 years				Over 55			
	2003		2004		2003		2004		2003		2004	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Primary or Less	776	1.6	669	1.4	18,703	21.2	17,261	19.4	6,189	52.8	5,522	46.5
Secondary	28,848	58.9	21,378	44.9	45,617	51.8	34,696	38.9	3,172	27.0	3,208	27.0
Post-secondary and over	19,325	39.5	25,579	53.7	23,768	27.0	37,151	41.7	2,366	20.2	3,154	26.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,949</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>47,626</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>88,088</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>89,108</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,727</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,884</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 4. Employed Persons Less than 30 years of age by economic activity**

Economic Activity	2003		2004	
	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	388 <sup>u</sup>	0.8	392 <sup>u</sup>	0.8
Fishing	69 <sup>u</sup>	0.1	93 <sup>u</sup>	0.2
Mining and Quarrying	250 <sup>u</sup>	0.5	180 <sup>u</sup>	0.4
Manufacturing	12,131	24.8	12,030	25.3
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	402 <sup>u</sup>	0.8	266 <sup>u</sup>	0.6
Construction	2,915	6.0	2,690	5.6
Wholesale and retail trade	8,289	16.9	7,904	16.6
Hotels and restaurants	5,343	10.9	5,673	11.9
Transport, storage and communications	3,678	7.5	3,207	6.7
Financial Intermediation	1,994	4.1	1,821	3.8
Real Estate, renting and business activities	3,081	6.3	3,190	6.7
Public admin. and defence; compulsory social security	2,864	5.9	3,195	6.7
Education	3,432	7.0	3,384	7.1
Health and Social Work	2,320	4.7	1,769	3.7
Other community, social and personal service activities	1,772	3.6	1,737	3.6
Private households with employed persons	-	-	44 <sup>u</sup>	0.1
Extra-territorial organisations and bodies	21 <sup>u</sup>	0.0	51 <sup>u</sup>	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,949</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>46,600</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> - under-represented

**Table 5. Employed Persons Less than 30 years of age by occupation**

Economic Activity	2003		2004	
	No	%	No	%
Armed Forces	502 <sup>u</sup>	1.0	375 <sup>u</sup>	0.8
Legislators, senior officials and managers	1,868	3.8	1,945	4.1
Professionals	5,324	10.9	5,146	10.8
Technicians and associate professionals	6,244	12.8	5,694	12.0
Clerks	8,461	17.3	8,156	17.1
Service workers and shop and sales workers	8,977	18.3	9,345	19.6
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	293 <sup>u</sup>	0.6	354 <sup>u</sup>	0.7
Craft and related trades workers	5,054	10.3	4,805	10.1
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	7,323	15.0	6,811	14.3
Elementary Occupations	4,903	10.0	4,995	10.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,949</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>47,626</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> - under-represented

**Table 6. Employed Persons Aged between 30 to 55 years by economic activity**

Economic Activity	2003		2004	
	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	1,788	2.0	1,950	2.2
Fishing	430 <sup>u</sup>	0.5	444 <sup>u</sup>	0.5
Mining and Quarrying	677	0.8	459 <sup>u</sup>	0.5
Manufacturing	14,831	16.8	15,191	17.0
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	2,910	3.3	2,606	2.9
Construction	7,435	8.4	6,874	7.7
Wholesale and retail trade	11,539	13.1	12,455	14.0
Hotels and restaurants	6,471	7.3	6,038	6.8
Transport, storage and communications	7,916	9.0	7,161	8.0
Financial Intermediation	3,450	3.9	2,538	2.8
Real Estate, renting and business activities	4,237	4.8	4,181	4.7
Public admin. and defence; compulsory social security	9,124	10.4	9,505	10.7
Education	6,772	7.7	7,778	8.7
Health and Social Work	6,714	7.6	8,553	9.6
Other community, social and personal service activities	3,482	4.0	3,109	3.5
Private households with employed persons	212 <sup>u</sup>	0.2	86 <sup>u</sup>	0.1
Extra-territorial organisations and bodies	100 <sup>u</sup>	0.1	180 <sup>u</sup>	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>88,088</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>89,108</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> - under-represented

**Table 7. Employed Persons Aged between 30 to 55 years by occupation**

Economic Activity	2003		2004	
	No	%	No	%
Armed Forces	901	1.0	1,417	1.6
Legislators, senior officials and managers	10,581	12.0	9,370	10.5
Professionals	8,099	9.2	9,264	10.4
Technicians and associate professionals	12,962	14.7	13,745	15.4
Clerks	7,661	8.7	7,587	8.5
Service workers and shop and sales workers	12,294	14.0	12,372	13.9
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	1,804	2.0	2,027	2.3
Craft and related trades workers	13,924	15.8	14,523	16.3
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	8,235	9.3	7,807	8.8
Elementary Occupations	11,627	13.2	10,996	12.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>88,088</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>89,108</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 8. Employed Persons Over 55 years of age by economic activity**

Economic Activity	2003		2004	
	No	%	No	%
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	479	4.1	296 <sup>u</sup>	2.5
Fishing	-	-	10 <sup>u</sup>	0.1
Mining and Quarrying	52 <sup>u</sup>	0.4	39 <sup>u</sup>	0.3
Manufacturing	1,801	15.4	1,870	15.7
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	370 <sup>u</sup>	3.2	338 <sup>u</sup>	2.8
Construction	876	7.5	1,090	9.2
Wholesale and retail trade	1,697	14.5	1,809	15.2
Hotels and restaurants	636	5.4	552	4.6
Transport, storage and communications	767	6.5	900	7.6
Financial Intermediation	204 <sup>u</sup>	1.7	58 <sup>u</sup>	0.5
Real Estate, renting and business activities	463	3.9	550	4.6
Public admin. and defence; compulsory social security	1,297	11.1	1,441	12.1
Education	1,275	10.9	1,404	11.8
Health and Social Work	939	8.0	818	6.9
Other community, social and personal service activities	720	6.1	622	5.2
Private households with employed persons	136 <sup>u</sup>	1.2	-	-
Extra-territorial organisations and bodies	15 <sup>u</sup>	0.1	87 <sup>u</sup>	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,727</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,884</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> - under-represented

**Table 9. Employed Persons Over 55 years of age by occupation**

Economic Activity	2003		2004	
	No	%	No	%
Armed Forces	28 <sup>u</sup>	0.2	18 <sup>u</sup>	0.2
Legislators, senior officials and managers	1,602	13.7	2,047	17.2
Professionals	1,249	10.7	1,369	11.5
Technicians and associate professionals	1,677	14.3	1,374	11.6
Clerks	547	4.7	1,036	8.7
Service workers and shop and sales workers	1,086	9.3	938	7.9
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	420	3.6	195 <sup>u</sup>	1.6
Craft and related trades workers	1,816	15.5	1,513	12.7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	693	5.9	1,038	8.7
Elementary Occupations	2,609	22.2	2,356	19.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,727</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,884</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> - under-represented

**Table 10. Average Annual Wage of Employees**

	(Lm)	
	2003	2004
Under 30	4,405	4,456
30 - 55	5,444	5,372
Over 55	5,254	5,386
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,057</b>	<b>5,052</b>

## **Methodological Note**

Absolute changes between one survey and another must be treated with caution since minor changes (ie, less than 1,800 persons) might be the result of sampling error.

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is designed to satisfy the concepts and definitions as outlined by Eurostat, which the EU Statistical Agency. This allows the comparability of the results with other EU member states and country following ILO definitions of employment and unemployment. Occupations are classified according to the ISCO classification (International Standard Classification of Occupations) whilst the economic activity is classified according to the NACE classification (Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les Communauté Européennes).