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During the third quarter last year, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 3 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2012.

Labour Force Survey: Q3/2013

Labour Status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that during the third quarter last year total employment stood at 179,476, accounting for almost half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 12,827 (4 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 168,429 (47 per cent) (Table 1).

The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 66 per cent (Table 3). When compared to the previous year, the activity rate among women increased by 3 percentage points, while the male activity rate rose by 1 percentage point. The highest activity rate was recorded among persons aged 25-54 (78 per cent).

The Employed Population

Out of every 100 persons aged 15 to 64, 61 were employed. The rate increased by 2 percentage points compared to the corresponding quarter in 2012. The highest employment rate was recorded among persons aged between 25 and 54, at 74 per cent (Table 4).

Employed men were mostly engaged in wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities (32 per cent). On the other hand, employed women were mostly engaged (38 per cent) in Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities (Table 7).

Self-employed persons accounted for 14 per cent of the total employed population (Table 15). The majority of the employed worked on a full-time basis and totalled 151,526. An estimated 23,065 (13 per cent) had a part-time job as their primary employment. A further 4,885 were working on a full-time with reduced hours basis (Table 16).

The average gross annual salary of employees for the third quarter last year was estimated at €15,772. This amount refers to the gross annual basic salary and excludes extra payments such as overtime, bonuses and allowances, as explained in the methodological notes. The highest average gross annual salary for employees was recorded in financial and insurance activities (Table 9). Average annual salaries varied from €25,302 among managers to €10,923 among elementary staff.

The Unemployed Population

Survey results estimate that the unemployment rate for the third quarter of 2013 stood at 6.7 per cent (Table 5). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 and over (Table 17). Among the unemployed, 45 per cent stated they had been seeking work for at least 12 months (Table 18) ■

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Table 1. Persons aged 15 and over by labour status

| Labour Status | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Males | | Females | | | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | | | | |
| Employed | 112,401 | 63.0 | 67,075 | 36.8 | 179,476 | 49.8 |
| Unemployed | 7,898 | 4.4 | 4,929 | 2.7 | 12,827 | 3.6 |
| Inactive | 58,025 | 32.5 | 110,404 | 60.5 | 168,429 | 46.7 |
| Total | 178,324 | 100.0 | 182,408 | 100.0 | 360,732 | 100.0 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | | | | |
| Employed | 111,644 | 63.0 | 62,482 | 34.5 | 174,126 | 48.6 |
| Unemployed | 6,421 | 3.6 | 5,862 | 3.2 | 12,283 | 3.4 |
| Inactive | 59,084 | 33.4 | 112,644 | 62.2 | 171,728 | 48.0 |
| Total | 177,149 | 100.0 | 180,988 | 100.0 | 358,137 | 100.0 |

Table 2. Labour force distribution

| Labour Status | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Males | | Females | | | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | | | | |
| Employed | 112,401 | 93.4 | 67,075 | 93.2 | 179,476 | 93.3 |
| Unemployed | 7,898 | 6.6 | 4,929 | 6.8 | 12,827 | 6.7 |
| Total | 120,299 | 100.0 | 72,004 | 100.0 | 192,303 | 100.0 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | | | | |
| Employed | 111,644 | 94.6 | 62,482 | 91.4 | 174,126 | 93.4 |
| Unemployed | 6,421 | 5.4 | 5,862 | 8.6 | 12,283 | 6.6 |
| Total | 118,065 | 100.0 | 68,344 | 100.0 | 186,409 | 100.0 |

Table 3. Activity rates by age

| Age group | Sex | | Total |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Males | Females | |
| | % | % | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | |
| 15-24 | 60.3 | 51.2 | 56.0 |
| 25-54 | 93.7 | 61.2 | 77.8 |
| 55-64 | 58.6 | 20.6 | 39.4 |
| Total | 80.2 | 50.8 | 65.8 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | |
| 15-24 | 57.2 | 53.7 | 55.5 |
| 25-54 | 94.7 | 57.1 | 76.3 |
| 55-64 | 54.0 | 17.3 | 35.4 |
| Total | 79.1 | 48.1 | 63.9 |

Table 4. Employment rates by age

| Age group | Sex | | Total |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Males | Females | |
| | % | % | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | |
| 15-24 | 51.7 | 44.2 | 48.1 |
| 25-54 | 88.9 | 57.9 | 73.8 |
| 55-64 | 54.4 | 19.6 | 36.8 |
| Total | 74.8 | 47.3 | 61.3 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | |
| 15-24 | 50.3 | 44.2 | 47.4 |
| 25-54 | 90.2 | 53.7 | 72.4 |
| 55-64 | 52.4 | 15.9 | 34.0 |
| Total | 74.7 | 44.0 | 59.6 |

Table 5. Unemployment rates by age

| Age group | Sex | | Total |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Males | Females | |
| | % | % | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | |
| 15-24 | 14.3 | 13.6 | 14.0 |
| 25+ | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.3 |
| Total | 6.6 | 6.8 | 6.7 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | |
| 15-24 | 12.1 | 17.7 | 14.7 |
| 25+ | 4.3 | 6.1 | 4.9 |
| Total | 5.4 | 8.6 | 6.6 |

Table 6. Distribution of employed persons by age

| Age group | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Males | | Females | | No. | % |
| | No. | % | No. | % | | |
| July-September 2013 | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 14,918 | 13.3 | 11,777 | 17.6 | 26,695 | 14.9 |
| 25-34 | 29,635 | 26.4 | 21,982 | 32.8 | 51,617 | 28.8 |
| 35-44 | 25,346 | 22.5 | 15,740 | 23.5 | 41,086 | 22.9 |
| 45-54 | 23,750 | 21.1 | 11,431 | 17.0 | 35,181 | 19.6 |
| 55-64 | 15,737 | 14.0 | 5,801 | 8.6 | 21,538 | 12.0 |
| 65+ | 3,015 | 2.7 | : | : | 3,359 | 1.9 |
| Total | 112,401 | 100.0 | 67,075 | 100.0 | 179,476 | 100.0 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 14,782 | 13.2 | 12,026 | 19.2 | 26,808 | 15.4 |
| 25-34 | 29,746 | 26.6 | 21,060 | 33.7 | 50,806 | 29.2 |
| 35-44 | 25,052 | 22.4 | 14,684 | 23.5 | 39,736 | 22.8 |
| 45-54 | 24,803 | 22.2 | 9,754 | 15.6 | 34,557 | 19.8 |
| 55-64 | 15,239 | 13.6 | 4,714 | 7.5 | 19,953 | 11.5 |
| 65+ | 2,022 ^u | 1.8 ^u | : | : | 2,266 ^u | 1.3 ^u |
| Total | 111,644 | 100.0 | 62,482 | 100.0 | 174,126 | 100.0 |

: unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

^u under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

Table 7. Distribution of employed persons by economic activity: July-September 2013

| Economic Activity | Sex | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Males | | Females | | | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 1,872 ^u | 1.7 ^u | : | : | 2,148 ^u | 1.2 ^u |
| Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry | 21,131 | 18.8 | 7,349 | 11.0 | 28,480 | 15.9 |
| Construction | 10,186 | 9.1 | : | 1.0 | 10,883 | 6.1 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities | 36,115 | 32.1 | 15,920 | 23.7 | 52,035 | 29.0 |
| Information and communication | 4,868 | 4.3 | 2,327 ^u | 3.5 ^u | 7,195 | 4.0 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 3,525 | 3.1 | 4,440 | 6.6 | 7,965 | 4.4 |
| Real estate activities | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities | 7,808 | 6.9 | 5,384 | 8.0 | 13,192 | 7.4 |
| Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities | 22,401 | 19.9 | 25,599 | 38.2 | 48,000 | 26.7 |
| Other services | 3,705 ^u | 3.3 ^u | 4,776 | 7.1 | 8,481 | 4.7 |
| Total | 112,401 | 100.0 | 67,075 | 100.0 | 179,476 | 100.0 |

Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by economic activity: July-September 2012 (Revised)

| Economic Activity | Sex | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Males | | Females | | | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 1,831 ^u | 1.6 ^u | : | : | 2,171 ^u | 1.2 ^u |
| Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry | 21,877 | 19.6 | 6,658 | 10.7 | 28,535 | 16.4 |
| Construction | 10,307 | 9.2 | : | : | 10,710 | 6.2 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities | 33,182 | 29.7 | 15,691 | 25.1 | 48,873 | 28.1 |
| Information and communication | 6,574 | 5.9 | 2,238 ^u | 3.6 ^u | 8,812 | 5.1 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 2,896 ^u | 2.6 ^u | 4,120 | 6.6 | 7,016 | 4.0 |
| Real estate activities | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities | 6,804 | 6.1 | 4,706 | 7.5 | 11,510 | 6.6 |
| Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities | 22,683 | 20.3 | 23,838 | 38.2 | 46,521 | 26.7 |
| Other services | 4,671 | 4.2 | 4,384 | 7.0 | 9,055 | 5.2 |
| Total | 111,644 | 100.0 | 62,482 | 100.0 | 174,126 | 100.0 |

[:] unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

^u under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

Table 9. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by economic activity: July-September 2013

| Economic Activity | Sex | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Males | | Females | | No. | Average Euro |
| | No. | Average Euro | No. | Average Euro | | |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry | 19,421 | 16,512 | 7,349 | 14,039 | 26,770 | 15,833 |
| Construction | 5,920 | 14,651 | : | : | 6,617 | 14,588 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities | 27,709 | 14,376 | 14,678 | 11,021 | 42,387 | 13,215 |
| Information and communication | 4,497 | 20,145 | 2,099 ^u | 15,730 ^u | 6,596 | 18,740 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 3,438 ^u | 25,650 ^u | 4,440 | 19,642 | 7,878 | 22,264 |
| Real estate activities | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities | 5,503 | 18,825 | 4,823 | 13,513 | 10,326 | 16,344 |
| Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities | 21,765 | 18,044 | 25,255 | 15,417 | 47,020 | 16,633 |
| Other services | 2,804 ^u | 19,982 ^u | 3,315 ^u | 12,556 ^u | 6,119 | 15,959 |
| Total | 92,030 | 16,843 | 63,074 | 14,210 | 155,104 | 15,772 |

Table 10. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by economic activity: July-September 2012 (Revised)

| Economic Activity | Sex | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Males | | Females | | No. | Average Euro |
| | No. | Average Euro | No. | Average Euro | | |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry | 20,281 | 15,446 | 6,597 | 14,090 | 26,878 | 15,113 |
| Construction | 6,477 | 13,582 | : | : | 6,775 | 13,674 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities | 26,246 | 15,062 | 14,910 | 9,785 | 41,156 | 13,150 |
| Information and communication | 5,983 | 22,254 | 2,138 ^u | 18,423 ^u | 8,121 | 21,245 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 2,784 ^u | 25,662 ^u | 4,120 | 19,165 | 6,904 | 21,785 |
| Real estate activities | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities | 4,717 | 17,781 | 3,937 | 15,058 | 8,654 | 16,542 |
| Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities | 22,293 | 17,195 | 23,380 | 15,712 | 45,673 | 16,436 |
| Other services | 3,895 | 16,234 | 2,669 ^u | 10,061 ^u | 6,564 | 13,724 |
| Total | 93,649 | 16,516 | 58,334 | 14,028 | 151,983 | 15,561 |

^r unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

^u under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

Table 11. Main occupation of total employed persons: July-September 2013

| Occupational Group | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Males | | Females | | No. | % |
| | No. | % | No. | % | | |
| Armed Forces | 2,021 ^u | 1.8 ^u | : | : | 2,086 ^u | 1.2 ^u |
| Managers | 12,526 | 11.1 | 4,544 | 6.8 | 17,070 | 9.5 |
| Professionals | 15,014 | 13.4 | 13,091 | 19.5 | 28,105 | 15.7 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 16,181 | 14.4 | 10,262 | 15.3 | 26,443 | 14.7 |
| Clerical support workers | 6,847 | 6.1 | 12,707 | 18.9 | 19,554 | 10.9 |
| Service and sales workers | 18,011 | 16.0 | 18,300 | 27.3 | 36,311 | 20.2 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | 1,522 ^u | 1.4 | : | : | 1,686 ^u | 0.9 ^u |
| Craft and related trades workers | 18,026 | 16.0 | : | : | 19,095 | 10.6 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 10,089 | 9.0 | 2,364 ^u | 3.5 ^u | 12,453 | 6.9 |
| Elementary occupations | 12,164 | 10.8 | 4,509 | 6.7 | 16,673 | 9.3 |
| Total | 112,401 | 100.0 | 67,075 | 100.0 | 179,476 | 100.0 |

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons: July-September 2012 (Revised)

| Occupational Group | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Males | | Females | | No. | % |
| | No. | % | No. | % | | |
| Armed Forces | 2,415 ^u | 2.2 ^u | : | : | 2,462 ^u | 1.4 ^u |
| Managers | 11,739 | 10.5 | 4,617 | 7.4 | 16,356 | 9.4 |
| Professionals | 14,060 | 12.6 | 12,888 | 20.6 | 26,948 | 15.5 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 17,661 | 15.8 | 7,937 | 12.7 | 25,598 | 14.7 |
| Clerical support workers | 8,464 | 7.6 | 11,597 | 18.6 | 20,061 | 11.5 |
| Service and sales workers | 16,858 | 15.1 | 16,969 | 27.2 | 33,827 | 19.4 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | 1,861 ^u | 1.7 ^u | : | : | 2,020 ^u | 1.2 ^u |
| Craft and related trades workers | 17,587 | 15.8 | : | : | 18,494 | 10.6 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 9,596 | 8.6 | 2,523 ^u | 4.0 ^u | 12,119 | 7.0 |
| Elementary occupations | 11,403 | 10.2 | 4,838 | 7.7 | 16,241 | 9.3 |
| Total | 111,644 | 100.0 | 62,482 | 100.0 | 174,126 | 100.0 |

: unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

^u under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

Table 13. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by main occupation: July-September 2013

| Occupational Group | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | Males | | Females | | No. | Average Euro |
| | No. | Average Euro | No. | Average Euro | | |
| Armed Forces | 1,956 ^u | 17,117 ^u | : | : | 2,021 ^u | 17,063 ^u |
| Managers | 9,689 | 26,339 | 4,300 | 22,966 | 13,989 | 25,302 |
| Professionals | 12,688 | 22,130 | 12,578 | 18,647 | 25,266 | 20,396 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 14,710 | 18,121 | 10,001 | 15,776 | 24,711 | 17,172 |
| Clerical support workers | 6,607 | 13,691 | 12,648 | 12,408 | 19,255 | 12,848 |
| Service and sales workers | 13,843 | 13,341 | 15,917 | 10,836 | 29,760 | 12,001 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Craft and related trades workers | 11,993 | 15,159 | : | : | 12,846 | 15,073 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 8,882 | 13,253 | 2,364 ^u | 11,536 ^u | 11,246 | 12,892 |
| Elementary occupations | 11,165 | 11,997 | 4,226 | 8,085 | 15,391 | 10,923 |
| Total | 92,030 | 16,843 | 63,074 | 14,210 | 155,104 | 15,772 |

Table 14. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by main occupation: July-September 2012 (Revised)

| Occupational Group | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | Males | | Females | | No. | Average Euro |
| | No. | Average Euro | No. | Average Euro | | |
| Armed Forces | 2,415 ^u | 16,346 ^u | : | : | 2,462 ^u | 16,331 ^u |
| Managers | 9,357 | 24,333 | 4,204 | 23,225 | 13,561 | 23,990 |
| Professionals | 12,095 | 22,729 | 12,578 | 18,580 | 24,673 | 20,614 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 16,271 | 18,134 | 7,704 | 15,926 | 23,975 | 17,424 |
| Clerical support workers | 8,221 | 13,995 | 11,276 | 12,792 | 19,497 | 13,300 |
| Service and sales workers | 13,182 | 13,790 | 14,986 | 9,696 | 28,168 | 11,612 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Craft and related trades workers | 11,816 | 13,778 | : | : | 12,556 | 13,853 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 8,860 | 12,625 | 2,376 ^u | 12,472 ^u | 11,236 | 12,592 |
| Elementary occupations | 10,885 | 12,025 | 4,423 | 7,508 | 15,308 | 10,720 |
| Total | 93,649 | 16,516 | 58,334 | 14,028 | 151,983 | 15,561 |

⋮ unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

^u under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

Table 15. Distribution of employed persons by professional status of main occupation

| Professional status | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Males | | Females | | | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | | | | |
| Self-employed without employees | 13,243 | 11.8 | 3,129 ^u | 4.7 ^u | 16,372 | 9.1 |
| Self-employed with employees | 7,128 | 6.3 | : | : | 8,000 | 4.5 |
| Employee | 92,030 | 81.9 | 63,074 | 94.0 | 155,104 | 86.4 |
| Family worker | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Total | 112,401 | 100.0 | 63,074 | 100.0 | 179,476 | 100.0 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | | | | |
| Self-employed without employees | 11,808 | 10.6 | 3,132 ^u | 5.0 ^u | 14,940 | 8.6 |
| Self-employed with employees | 6,187 | 5.5 | : | : | 7,203 | 4.1 |
| Employee | 93,649 | 83.9 | 58,334 | 93.4 | 151,983 | 87.3 |
| Family worker | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Total | 111,644 | 100.0 | 62,482 | 100.0 | 174,126 | 100.0 |

Table 16. Distribution of employed persons by type of employment in main occupation

| Type of Employment | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Males | | Females | | | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | | | | |
| Full-time job | 101,904 | 90.7 | 49,622 | 74.0 | 151,526 | 84.4 |
| Full-time with reduced hours job | : | : | 4,520 | 6.7 | 4,885 | 2.7 |
| Part-time job | 10,132 | 9.0 | 12,933 | 19.3 | 23,065 | 12.9 |
| Total | 112,401 | 100.0 | 67,075 | 100.0 | 179,476 | 100.0 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | | | | |
| Full-time job | 103,523 | 92.7 | 45,310 | 72.5 | 148,833 | 85.5 |
| Full-time with reduced hours job | : | : | 3,873 | 6.2 | 4,232 | 2.4 |
| Part-time job | 7,762 | 7.0 | 13,299 | 21.3 | 21,061 | 12.1 |
| Total | 111,644 | 100.0 | 62,482 | 100.0 | 174,126 | 100.0 |

: - not available.

^u - under-represented due to small sample size. Please note that these data must be interpreted with caution.

Table 17. Distribution of unemployed persons by age

| Age group | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Males | | Females | | | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 2,483 ^u | 31.4 ^u | 1,855 ^u | 37.6 ^u | 4,338 | 33.8 |
| 25+ | 5,415 | 68.6 | 3,074 ^u | 62.4 ^u | 8,489 | 66.2 |
| Total | 7,898 | 100.0 | 4,929 | 100.0 | 12,827 | 100.0 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 2,032 ^u | 31.6 | 2,582 ^u | 44.0 ^u | 4,614 | 37.6 |
| 25+ | 4,389 | 68.4 | 3,280 ^u | 56.0 ^u | 7,669 | 62.4 |
| Total | 6,421 | 100.0 | 5,862 | 100.0 | 12,283 | 100.0 |

Table 18. Duration of job search of unemployed persons

| Duration | Sex | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | Males | | Females | | | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| July-September 2013 | | | | | | |
| Less than 5 months | 2,688 ^u | 34.0 ^u | 2,329 ^u | 47.3 ^u | 5,017 | 39.1 |
| 6-11 months | 1,254 ^u | 15.9 ^u | : | : | 2,052 ^u | 16.0 ^u |
| 12+ months | 3,956 | 50.1 | 1,802 ^u | 36.6 ^u | 5,758 | 44.9 |
| Total | 7,898 | 100.0 | 4,929 | 100.0 | 12,827 | 100.0 |
| July-September 2012 (revised) | | | | | | |
| Less than 5 months | 1,710 ^u | 26.6 ^u | 2,576 ^u | 43.9 ^u | 4,286 | 34.9 |
| 6-11 months | : | : | : | : | 1,790 ^u | 14.6 ^u |
| 12+ months | 3,950 | 61.5 | 2,257 ^u | 38.5 ^u | 6,207 | 50.5 |
| Total | 6,421 | 100.0 | 5,862 | 100.0 | 12,283 | 100.0 |

: unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

^u under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

Methodological Notes

The Labour Force Survey is carried out on an ongoing basis using a quarterly 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 Labour Force Survey 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 (2-(2)-2). The criteria used for this survey match international methodologies used by ILO as outlined below.

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 the results with other EU member states and countries following ILO definitions of employment and unemployment. Occupations are classified according to the ISCO classification (International Standard Classification of Occupations). From 2011, ISCO classification updated to ISCO 08 in line with Eurostat requirements. The economic activity is classified according to the NACE classification (Nomenclature générale des Activités économiques dans les Communautés Européennes). Classifications also have been revised and updated to NACE Rev 2.0.

Revision to Population Estimates

All data contained in this release refer to persons aged 15 and over.

Under-represented figures are indicated for each table and should be treated with caution .

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

ACTIVITY RATE: Labour force (15-64) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64).

EMPLOYEE: The distinction between employees and self-employed is based on the respondent's own judgement as stated during the interview.

EMPLOYMENT: This comprises 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 employees:** but were not at work and were on paid or sick leave, did not work due to 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) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64).

GROSS ANNUAL BASIC SALARY: Refers to the gross annual basic salary received by employees, i.e. excludes payments for overtime, allowances and bonuses.

INACTIVE PERSONS: All persons who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as inactive.

LABOUR FORCE: This comprises persons in employment and unemployed persons.

REFERENCE WEEK: The week to which the collected data relate.

UNEMPLOYMENT: This comprises 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, e.g. includes contacting the ETC, applied 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 as a percentage of the labour force.

Sampling Variability

The data in this release are based on statistical samples, and as such, estimates carry a sampling error. A measure of the sampling error is the standard error. The standard error as a percentage of the estimate is referred to as the coefficient of variation (CV). The CV is generally computed and expressed as a percentage, which is the quantified by the sampling variability. The coefficient of variation and the sampling variabilities give indication of the confidence limits. The confidence limits are obtained based on the assumption that the data follows a normal distribution.

Sampling Variability of LFS figures

| | Estimate | Coefficient of Variation | Confidence Interval |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Employment | 179,476 | 1.59 | ±5,584 |
| Employment Rate (%) | 61.29 | 1.38 | ±1.66 |
| Unemployment | 12,827 | 7.45 | ±1,872 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 6.67 | 7.19 | ±0.94 |
| Inactive | 168,429 | 1.50 | ±4,958 |
| Activity Rate (%) | 65.75 | 1.23 | ±1.58 |

The above table give indications on the sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 179,476 and the coefficient of variation is 1.59 per cent. Hence, the figure lies between 173,892 and 185,060 persons.

Information

More information is available from the NSO upon written request.