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During the fourth quarter of 2013, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 2.8 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding period in 2012.

Labour Force Survey: Q4/2013

Labour Status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the fourth quarter of 2013, total employment stood at 178,241, accounting for almost half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons numbered 12,131 (3.4 per cent), while inactive persons totalled 170,556 (47.3 per cent) (Table 1).

The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 65.3 per cent (Table 3). When compared to the previous year, the activity rates among men and women increased by 2.3 and 1.1 percentage points respectively. The highest activity rate was recorded among persons aged 25-54 (79.3 per cent).

The Employed Population

Out of every 100 persons aged 15-64, 61 were employed. The employment rate increased by 1.6 percentage points compared to the corresponding quarter in 2012. The highest employment rate was recorded among persons aged 25-54, at 75.0 per cent (Table 4).

Employed men were mostly engaged in wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities (30.3 per cent). On the other hand, at 38.2 per cent, employed women were mostly engaged in public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities (Table 7).

Self-employed persons accounted for 13.1 per cent of the total employed population (Table 15). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis and totalled 152,296. An estimated 21,504 (12.1 per cent) had a part-time job as their primary employment. A further 4,441 were working full-time with reduced hours (Table 16).

The average gross annual salary of employees for the fourth quarter was estimated at €16,022. 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 €26,656 for managers to €10,747 for elementary staff (Table 13).

The Unemployed Population

Survey results estimate that the unemployment rate for the fourth quarter stood at 6.4 per cent (Table 5). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 and over (Table 17). Among unemployed persons, 45.4 per cent stated that 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.	%
October-December 2013						
Employed	111,739	62.6	66,502	36.5	178,241	49.4
Unemployed	7,564	4.2	4,567	2.5	12,131	3.4
Inactive	59,223	33.2	111,333	61.0	170,556	47.3
Total	178,526	100.0	182,402	100.0	360,928	100.0
October-December 2012						
Employed	109,021	61.5	64,435	35.5	173,456	48.3
Unemployed	6,834	3.9	5,136	2.8	11,970	3.3
Inactive	61,530	34.7	111,829	61.6	173,359	48.3
Total	177,385	100.0	181,400	100.0	358,785	100.0

Table 2. Labour force distribution

Labour Status	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
October-December 2013						
Employed	111,739	93.7	66,502	93.6	178,241	93.6
Unemployed	7,564	6.3	4,567	6.4	12,131	6.4
Total	119,303	100.0	71,069	100.0	190,372	100.0
October-December 2012						
Employed	109,021	94.1	64,435	92.6	173,456	93.5
Unemployed	6,834	5.9	5,136	7.4	11,970	6.5
Total	115,855	100.0	69,571	100.0	185,426	100.0

Table 3. Activity rates by age

Age group	Sex		Total
	Males	Females	
	%	%	%
October-December 2013			
15-24	55.4	43.4	49.6
25-54	94.7	63.2	79.3
55-64	59.2	18.4	38.6
Total	80.0	50.1	65.3
October-December 2012			
15-24	50.6	48.4	49.6
25-54	93.9	59.5	77.1
55-64	55.6	19.4	37.3
Total	77.7	49.0	63.6

Table 4. Employment rates by age

Age group	Sex		Total
	Males	Females	
	%	%	%
October-December 2013			
15-24	48.2	38.8	43.7
25-54	90.0	59.4	75.0
55-64	54.6	17.8	36.0
Total	74.8	46.9	61.1
October-December 2012			
15-24	43.9	42.5	43.2
25-54	89.4	55.5	72.8
55-64	53.0	18.9	35.8
Total	73.1	45.4	59.5

Table 5. Unemployment rates by age

Age group	Sex		Total
	Males	Females	
	%	%	%
October-December 2013			
15-24	13.0	10.6	12.0
25+	5.3	5.6	5.4
Total	6.3	6.4	6.4
October-December 2012			
15-24	13.2	12.3	12.8
25+	4.8	6.2	5.3
Total	5.9	7.4	6.5

Table 6. Distribution of employed persons by age

Age group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
October-December 2013						
15-24	13,774	12.3	10,241	15.4	24,015	13.5
25-34	30,443	27.2	21,910	32.9	52,353	29.4
35-44	25,960	23.2	16,323	24.5	42,283	23.7
45-54	23,208	20.8	12,214	18.4	35,422	19.9
55-64	15,777	14.1	5,237	7.9	21,014	11.8
65+	2577 ^u	2.3 ^u	:	:	3,154	1.8
Total	111,739	100.0	66,502	100.0	178,241	100.0
October-December 2012						
15-24	12,843	11.8	11,485	17.8	24,328	14.0
25-34	29,989	27.5	21,386	33.2	51,375	29.6
35-44	24,904	22.8	15,393	23.9	40,297	23.2
45-54	23,957	22.0	10,326	16.0	34,283	19.8
55-64	15,401	14.1	5,583	8.7	20,984	12.1
65+	1,927 ^u	1.8 ^u	:	:	2,189 ^u	1.3 ^u
Total	109,021	100.0	64,435	100.0	173,456	100.0

ⁱ unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

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

Table 7. Distribution of employed persons by economic activity: October-December 2013

Economic Activity	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,895 ^u	1.7 ^u	:	:	2,496 ^u	1.4 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	21,836	19.5	6,977	10.5	28,813	16.2
Construction	9,878	8.8	:	:	10,627	6.0
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	33,854	30.3	15,952	24.0	49,806	27.9
Information and communication	5,033	4.5	2,311 ^u	3.5 ^u	7,344	4.1
Financial and insurance activities	4,213	3.8	4,637	7.0	8,850	5.0
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,296 ^u	0.7 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	7,830	7.0	5,216	7.8	13,046	7.3
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	21,628	19.4	25,427	38.2	47,055	26.4
Other services	4,779	4.3	4,129	6.2	8,908	5.0
Total	111,739	100.0	66,502	100.0	178,241	100.0

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

Economic Activity	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,409 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	1,594 ^u	0.9 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	23,071	21.2	5,934	9.2	29,005	16.7
Construction	9,287	8.5	:	:	9,732	5.6
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	32,137	29.5	16,681	25.9	48,818	28.1
Information and communication	6,109	5.6	2,353 ^u	3.7 ^u	8,462	4.9
Financial and insurance activities	4,676	4.3	4,468	6.9	9,144	5.3
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	7,501	6.9	5,011	7.8	12,512	7.2
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	20,205	18.5	25,241	39.2	45,446	26.2
Other services	3,903	3.6	3,851	6.0	7,754	4.5
Total	109,021	100.0	64,435	100.0	173,456	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: October-December 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	19,652	17,314	6,977	13,661	26,629	16,357
Construction	6,298	14,067	:	:	7,047	14,025
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	25,934	14,300	14,511	11,159	40,445	13,173
Information and communication	4,823	20,558	1,936 ^u	15,406 ^u	6,759	19,082
Financial and insurance activities	4,024	23,709	4,637	18,190	8,661	20,754
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	6,038	18,205	4,810	12,830	10,848	15,822
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	21,029	18,242	25,052	16,214	46,081	17,139
Other services	3,938 ^u	17,441 ^u	2,825 ^u	17,043 ^u	6,763	17,275
Total	92,838	16,978	62,177	14,593	155,015	16,022

Table 10. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by economic activity: October-December 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	21,157	15,596	5,876	13,109	27,033	15,056
Construction	6,082	13,250	:	:	6,527	13,035
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	24,489	14,771	15,403	10,566	39,892	13,148
Information and communication	5,224	21,494	2,296 ^u	16,844 ^u	7,520	20,074
Financial and insurance activities	4,488	24,332	4,419	18,651	8,907	21,513
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	5,709	15,901	4,406	12,740	10,115	14,524
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	19,362	17,706	24,651	15,463	44,013	16,450
Other services	3,520	16,019	2,509 ^u	13,429 ^u	6,029	14,941
Total	90,810	16,503	60,281	13,917	151,091	15,471

[:] unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

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

Table 11. Main occupation of total employed persons: October-December 2013

Occupational Group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Armed Forces	1,676 ^u	1.5 ^u	:	:	1,676 ^u	0.9 ^u
Managers	12,313	11.0	5,402	8.1	17,715	9.9
Professionals	15,260	13.7	13,837	20.8	29,097	16.3
Technicians and associate professionals	17,343	15.5	9,283	14.0	26,626	14.9
Clerical support workers	8,360	7.5	11,685	17.6	20,045	11.2
Service and sales workers	17,058	15.3	18,476	27.8	35,534	19.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,465 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	1,731 ^u	1.0 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	17,577	15.7	:	:	18,308	10.3
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,435	7.5	2,680 ^u	4.0 ^u	11,115	6.2
Elementary occupations	12,252	11.0	4,142	6.2	16,394	9.2
Total	111,739	100.0	66,502	100.0	178,241	100.0

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons: October-December 2012 (Revised)

Occupational Group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Armed Forces	1,879 ^u	1.7 ^u	:	:	1,963 ^u	1.1 ^u
Managers	12,220	11.2	4,188	6.5	16,408	9.5
Professionals	12,590	11.5	14,136	21.9	26,726	15.4
Technicians and associate professionals	16,330	15.0	8,022	12.4	24,352	14.0
Clerical support workers	7,985	7.3	11,575	18.0	19,560	11.3
Service and sales workers	16,595	15.2	18,231	28.3	34,826	20.1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,415 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	1,649 ^u	1.0 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	18,621	17.1	:	:	19,481	11.2
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,196	8.4	2,389 ^u	3.7 ^u	11,585	6.7
Elementary occupations	12,190	11.2	4,716	7.3	16,906	9.7
Total	109,021	100.0	64,435	100.0	173,456	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: October-December 2013

Occupational Group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	Average Euro
	No.	Average Euro	No.	Average Euro		
Armed Forces	1,676 ^u	15,735 ^u	:	:	1,676 ^u	15,735 ^u
Managers	9,978	27,054	5,088	25,877	15,066	26,656
Professionals	13,547	22,778	13,263	19,738	26,810	21,274
Technicians and associate professionals	15,421	17,710	8,665	15,968	24,086	17,083
Clerical support workers	8,164	14,094	11,541	12,635	19,705	13,240
Service and sales workers	13,368	13,679	16,094	10,027	29,462	11,684
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	11,121	14,094	:	:	11,775	13,910
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,007	13,504	2,620 ^u	10,317 ^u	10,627	12,719
Elementary occupations	11,323	11,740	4,092	7,998	15,415	10,747
Total	92,838	16,978	62,177	14,593	155,015	16,022

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

Occupational Group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	Average Euro
	No.	Average Euro	No.	Average Euro		
Armed Forces	1,879 ^u	15,246 ^u	:	:	1,963 ^u	15,185 ^u
Managers	9,661	25,631	4,050	23,074	13,711	24,875
Professionals	10,343	23,195	13,511	18,421	23,854	20,491
Technicians and associate professionals	14,970	17,294	7,600	15,346	22,570	16,638
Clerical support workers	7,809	15,007	11,303	12,818	19,112	13,713
Service and sales workers	13,530	12,986	15,676	10,007	29,206	11,387
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	12,396	13,209	:	:	13,198	13,196
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,517	13,753	2,389 ^u	11,625 ^u	10,906	13,287
Elementary occupations	11,336	12,821	4,674	7,900	16,010	11,384
Total	90,810	16,503	60,281	13,917	151,091	15,471

: 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.	%
October-December 2013						
Self-employed without employees	12,445	11.1	3,376 ^u	5.1 ^u	15,821	8.9
Self-employed with employees	6,456	5.8	:	:	7,405	4.2
Employee	92,838	83.1	62,177	93.5	155,015	87.0
Family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	111,739	100.0	66,502	100.0	178,241	100.0
October-December 2012						
Self-employed without employees	12,665	11.6	3,091 ^u	4.8 ^u	15,756	9.1
Self-employed with employees	5,546	5.1	:	:	6,609	3.8
Employee	90,810	83.3	60,281	93.6	151,091	87.1
Family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	109,021	100.0	64,435	100.0	173,456	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.	%
October-December 2013						
Full-time job	103,167	92.3	49,129	73.9	152,296	85.4
Full-time with reduced hours	:	:	4,171	6.3	4,441	2.5
Part-time job	8,302	7.4	13,202	19.9	21,504	12.1
Total	111,739	100.0	66,502	100.0	178,241	100.0
October-December 2012						
Full-time job	100,801	92.5	48,160	74.7	148,961	85.9
Full-time with reduced hours	:	:	3,967	6.2	4,125	2.4
Part-time job	8,062	7.4	12,308	19.1	20,370	11.7
Total	109,021	100.0	64,435	100.0	173,456	100.0

ⁱ 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.	%
October-December 2013						
15-24	2,056 ^u	27.2 ^u	1,218 ^u	26.7 ^u	3,274 ^u	27.0 ^u
25+	5,508	72.8	3,349 ^u	73.3 ^u	8,857	73.0
Total	7,564	100.0	4,567	100.0	12,131	100.0
October-December 2012						
15-24	1,957 ^u	28.6 ^u	1,617 ^u	31.5 ^u	3,574	29.9
25+	4,877	71.4	3,519 ^u	68.5 ^u	8,396	70.1
Total	6,834	100.0	5,136	100.0	11,970	100.0

Table 18. Duration of job search of unemployed persons

Duration	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
October-December 2013						
Less than 5 months	2,690 ^u	35.6 ^u	1,910 ^u	41.8 ^u	4,600	37.9
6-11 months	1,485 ^u	19.6 ^u	:	:	2,021 ^u	16.7 ^u
12+ months	3,389	44.8	2,121 ^u	46.4 ^u	5,510	45.4
Total	7,564	100.0	4,567	100.0	12,131	100.0
October-December 2012						
Less than 5 months	2,006 ^u	29.4 ^u	2,331 ^u	45.4 ^u	4,337	36.2
6-11 months	:	:	:	:	2,399 ^u	20.0 ^u
12+ months	3,590	52.5	1,644 ^u	32.0 ^u	5,234	43.7
Total	6,834	100.0	5,136	100.0	11,970	100.0

[·] unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

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

Methodological Notes

1. 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 that 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 that 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). The criteria used for this survey match international methodologies used by ILO as outlined below.
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 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.

3. 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.

4. Definitions

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-

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 all 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.

5. 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 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	178,241	1.57	± 5,473
Employment Rate (%)	61.08	1.29	± 1.55
Unemployment	12,131	7.78	± 1,850
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.37	7.77	± 0.97
Inactive	170,556	1.52	± 5,076
Activity Rate (%)	65.31	1.18	± 1.52

The above table gives indications on the sampling variability. For example, with regard to employment the LFS estimate is 178,241 and the coefficient of variation is 1.57 per cent. Hence, the figure lies between 172,768 and 183,714 persons.

6. Information

More information is available from the NSO upon written request.