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During the first quarter, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 1.9 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2013.

## Labour Force Survey: Q1/2014

### Labour Status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the first quarter, total employment stood at 175,630, accounting for almost half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 11,255 (3.2 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 167,151 (47.2 per cent) (Table 1).

The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 64.8 per cent (Table 3). When compared to the previous year, the activity rates among men and women increased by 0.8 and 1.3 percentage points respectively. The highest activity rate was recorded among persons aged 25-54 (78.8 per cent).

### The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged 15 to 64, 61 were employed. This rate increased by 0.9 percentage points when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2013. The highest employment rate was recorded among persons aged between 25 and 54, at 75.1 per cent (Table 4).

Employed men were mostly engaged in wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities (29.2 per cent). On the other hand, at 37.0 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 13.6 per cent of the total employed population (Table 15). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis and totalled 149,691 (85.2 per cent). An estimated 21,088 (12.0 per cent) had a part-time job as their primary employment. A further 4,851 were working on a full-time with reduced hours basis (Table 16).

Compiled by:

**Unit C2: Labour Market  
Statistics**

**Directorate C: Social  
Statistics**

Further information on data:

**Ms Joslyn MAGRO  
CUSCHIERI**  
T. +356 2599 7662  
E. joslyn.magro@gov.mt

The average gross annual salary of employees for the first quarter was estimated at €16,036. 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. Average annual salaries varied from €27,561 among managers to €11,312 among elementary staff (Table 13).

### The Unemployed Population

Survey results estimate that the unemployment rate for the first quarter, stood at 6.0 per cent (Table 5). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 and over (Table 17). Among unemployed persons, 48.2 per cent stated that they had been seeking work for at least 12 months (Table 18) ■

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Issued by: **External Cooperation and Communication Unit, National Statistics Office, Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.**  
T. +356 2599 7219 F. +356 2599 7205 E. [nso@gov.mt](mailto:nso@gov.mt)

Table 1. Persons aged 15 and over by labour status

Labour Status	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>						
Employed	109,119	62.0	66,511	37.3	175,630	49.6
Unemployed	7,427	4.2	3,828	2.2	11,255	3.2
Inactive	59,406	33.8	107,745	60.5	167,151	47.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>175,952</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>178,084</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>354,036</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>						
Employed	107,898	61.7	64,411	36.4	172,309	49.0
Unemployed	7,150	4.1	3,856	2.2	11,006	3.1
Inactive	59,777	34.2	108,683	61.4	168,460	47.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>174,825</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>176,950</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>351,775</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 2. Labour force distribution

Labour Status	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>						
Employed	109,119	93.6	66,511	94.6	175,630	94.0
Unemployed	7,427	6.4	3,828	5.4	11,255	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>116,546</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>70,339</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>186,885</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>						
Employed	107,898	93.8	64,411	94.4	172,309	94.0
Unemployed	7,150	6.2	3,856	5.6	11,006	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>115,048</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>68,267</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>183,315</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 3. Activity rates by age

Age group	Sex		Total
	Males	Females	
	%	%	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>			
15-24	49.4	47.9	48.7
25-54	95.3	61.6	78.8
55-64	60.2	17.8	38.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>64.8</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>			
15-24	53.6	45.0	49.4
25-54	94.7	59.9	77.6
55-64	54.9	19.5	37.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>63.7</b>

Table 4. Employment rates by age

Age group	Sex		Total
	Males	Females	
	%	%	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>			
15-24	41.3	42.2	41.7
25-54	90.5	59.1	75.1
55-64	56.9	17.2	37.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>74.2</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>60.8</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>			
15-24	45.2	41.9	43.6
25-54	89.8	56.7	73.5
55-64	53.0	18.3	35.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>45.8</b>	<b>59.9</b>

Table 5. Unemployment rates by age

Age group	Sex		Total
	Males	Females	
	%	%	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>			
15-24	16.5 <sup>u</sup>	11.8 <sup>u</sup>	14.3
25+	5.0	4.1	4.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>			
15-24	15.6 <sup>u</sup>	:	11.8
25+	4.8	5.4	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>6.0</b>

Table 6. Distribution of employed persons by age

Age group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
<b>January-March 2014</b>						
15-24	11,435	10.5	11,047	16.6	22,482	12.8
25-34	28,287	25.9	21,602	32.5	49,889	28.4
35-44	26,332	24.1	16,011	24.1	42,343	24.1
45-54	23,931	21.9	12,056	18.1	35,987	20.5
55-64	16,647	15.3	5,063	7.6	21,710	12.4
65+	2,487 <sup>u</sup>	2.3 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,219	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,119</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>66,511</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>175,630</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>						
15-24	12,777	11.9	11,187	17.4	23,964	13.9
25-34	27,655	25.6	20,725	32.2	48,380	28.1
35-44	25,840	23.9	15,825	24.6	41,665	24.2
45-54	24,275	22.5	10,957	17.0	35,232	20.4
55-64	15,616	14.5	5,398	8.4	21,014	12.2
65+	1,735 <sup>u</sup>	1.6 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,054 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,898</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64,411</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>172,309</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

<sup>u</sup> under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

**Table 7. Distribution of employed persons by economic activity: January-March 2014**

Economic Activity	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,009 <sup>u</sup>	1.8 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,286 <sup>u</sup>	1.3 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,861	19.1	6,529	9.8	27,390	15.6
Construction	12,097	11.1	:	:	12,513	7.1
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	31,840	29.2	17,532	26.4	49,372	28.0
Information and communication	4,496	4.1	1,728 <sup>u</sup>	2.6 <sup>u</sup>	6,224	3.5
Financial and insurance activities	3,548 <sup>u</sup>	3.3 <sup>u</sup>	4,704	7.1	8,252	4.7
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,352 <sup>u</sup>	0.8 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	7,387	6.8	6,415	9.6	13,802	7.9
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	20,652	18.9	24,562	37.0	45,214	25.8
Other services	5,527	5.1	3,698	5.6	9,225	5.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,119</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>66,511</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>175,630</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by economic activity: January-March 2013 (Revised)**

Economic Activity	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1553 <sup>u</sup>	1.4 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,692 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	19,566	18.1	6,617	10.3	26,183	15.2
Construction	10,524	9.8	:	:	11,498	6.7
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	33,758	31.3	15,441	24.0	49,199	28.6
Information and communication	5,409	5.0	2250 <sup>u</sup>	3.5 <sup>u</sup>	7,659	4.4
Financial and insurance activities	3,821	3.5	4,942	7.7	8,763	5.1
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	7,037	6.5	4,256	6.6	11,293	6.6
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	21,122	19.6	25,628	39.8	46,750	27.1
Other services	4,589	4.3	3,883	6.0	8,472	4.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,898</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64,411</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>172,309</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>r</sup> unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

<sup>u</sup> under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

**Table 9. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by economic activity: January-March 2014**

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	18,805	17,102	6,470	12,939	25,275	16,037
Construction	8,029	15,494	:	:	8,445	15,300
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	24,332	15,497	16,048	11,713	40,380	13,993
Information and communication	3,988	22,167	1,665 <sup>u</sup>	15,213 <sup>u</sup>	5,653	20,119
Financial and insurance activities	3,223 <sup>u</sup>	20,298 <sup>u</sup>	4,704	17,235	7,927	18,480
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	5,716	20,858	5,837	12,711	11,553	16,742
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	19,893	18,376	24,387	15,516	44,280	16,801
Other services	4,481	18,792	2,323 <sup>u</sup>	12,762 <sup>u</sup>	6,804	16,733
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,612</b>	<b>17,453</b>	<b>62,251</b>	<b>13,995</b>	<b>151,863</b>	<b>16,036</b>

**Table 10. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by economic activity: January-March 2013 (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	17,352	17,117	6,571	12,089	23,923	15,736
Construction	7,190	14,121	:	:	8,055	14,056
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	24,594	14,935	14,386	10,393	38,980	13,259
Information and communication	4,466	20,007	2,181 <sup>u</sup>	16,196 <sup>u</sup>	6,647	18,757
Financial and insurance activities	3,698	23,547	4,942	18,837	8,640	20,853
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	5,227	18,148	3,549	14,079	8,776	16,502
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	20,318	18,759	25,124	15,422	45,442	16,914
Other services	3,838	21,543	2,763 <sup>u</sup>	12,800 <sup>u</sup>	6,601	17,884
<b>Total</b>	<b>87,489</b>	<b>17,335</b>	<b>60,609</b>	<b>13,925</b>	<b>148,098</b>	<b>15,940</b>

<sup>:</sup> unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

<sup>u</sup> under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

Table 11. Main occupation of total employed persons: January-March 2014

Occupational Group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Armed Forces	1,624 <sup>u</sup>	1.5 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,624 <sup>u</sup>	0.9 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	12,053	11.0	4,335	6.5	16,388	9.3
Professionals	14,477	13.3	13,761	20.7	28,238	16.1
Technicians and associate professionals	15,515	14.2	9,400	14.1	24,915	14.2
Clerical support workers	7,464	6.8	11,604	17.4	19,068	10.9
Service and sales workers	16,446	15.1	18,494	27.8	34,940	19.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,979 <sup>u</sup>	1.8 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,176 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	18,968	17.4	:	:	19,716	11.2
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,564	8.8	3,015	4.5	12,579	7.2
Elementary occupations	11,029	10.1	4,957	7.5	15,986	9.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,119</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>66,511</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>175,630</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons: January-March 2013 (Revised)

Occupational Group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Armed Forces	1,453 <sup>u</sup>	1.3 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,519 <sup>u</sup>	0.9 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	12,396	11.5	4,225	6.6	16,621	9.7
Professionals	13,621	12.6	14,537	22.6	28,158	16.3
Technicians and associate professionals	16,844	15.6	7,868	12.2	24,712	14.3
Clerical support workers	7,397	6.9	13,060	20.3	20,457	11.9
Service and sales workers	17,200	15.9	16,338	25.4	33,538	19.5
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,547 <sup>u</sup>	1.4 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,686 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	18,120	16.8	:	:	19,006	11.0
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,149	7.6	2,590 <sup>u</sup>	4.0 <sup>u</sup>	10,739	6.2
Elementary occupations	11,171	10.4	4,702	7.3	15,873	9.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,898</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64,411</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>172,309</b>	<b>100.0</b>

: unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

<sup>u</sup> under-represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations

**Table 13. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by main occupation: January-March 2014**

Occupational Group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	Average Euro
	No.	Average Euro	No.	Average Euro		
Armed Forces	1,624 <sup>u</sup>	15,900 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,624 <sup>u</sup>	15,900 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	8,882	28,643	4,009	25,165	12,891	27,561
Professionals	12,482	23,563	12,901	17,931	25,383	20,701
Technicians and associate professionals	13,728	17,869	8,754	15,208	22,482	16,833
Clerical support workers	7,315	13,910	11,490	12,746	18,805	13,199
Service and sales workers	12,754	14,000	16,385	10,587	29,139	12,081
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	12,748	14,855	:	:	13,496	14,597
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,939	14,875	2,952	12,345	11,891	14,247
Elementary occupations	10,437	12,716	4,957	8,356	15,394	11,312
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,612</b>	<b>17,453</b>	<b>62,251</b>	<b>13,995</b>	<b>151,863</b>	<b>16,036</b>

**Table 14. Average gross annual basic salary for employees by main occupation: January-March 2013 (Revised)**

Occupational Group	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females		No.	Average Euro
	No.	Average Euro	No.	Average Euro		
Armed Forces	1,453 <sup>u</sup>	15,028 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,519 <sup>u</sup>	14,985 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	9,198	28,132	3,967	23,998	13,165	26,887
Professionals	11,236	24,118	13,747	18,089	24,983	20,800
Technicians and associate professionals	14,814	17,811	7,360	14,609	22,174	16,748
Clerical support workers	7,310	15,472	12,895	13,428	20,205	14,168
Service and sales workers	13,600	13,265	14,409	9,842	28,009	11,504
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	12,192	14,433	:	:	12,976	14,276
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	7,173	14,228	2,590 <sup>u</sup>	11,684 <sup>u</sup>	9,763	13,553
Elementary occupations	10,128	12,317	4,702	7,741	14,830	10,866
<b>Total</b>	<b>87,489</b>	<b>17,335</b>	<b>60,609</b>	<b>13,925</b>	<b>148,098</b>	<b>15,940</b>

: unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

<sup>u</sup> 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.	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>						
Self-employed without employees	13,005	11.9	3,424 <sup>u</sup>	5.1 <sup>u</sup>	16,429	9.4
Self-employed with employees	6,502	6.0	:	:	7,338	4.2
Employee	89,612	82.1	62,251	93.6	151,863	86.5
Family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,119</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>66,511</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>175,630</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>						
Self-employed without employees	13,408	12.4	2,792 <sup>u</sup>	4.3 <sup>u</sup>	16,200	9.4
Self-employed with employees	7,001	6.5	:	:	8,011	4.6
Employee	87,489	81.1	60,609	94.1	148,098	85.9
Family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,898</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64,411</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>172,309</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Type of employment	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>						
Full-time	101,396	92.9	48,295	72.6	149,691	85.2
Full-time with reduced hours	:	:	4,162	6.3	4,851	2.8
Part-time	7,034	6.4	14,054	21.1	21,088	12.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,119</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>66,511</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>175,630</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>						
Full-time	100,183	92.8	47,372	73.5	147,555	85.6
Full-time with reduced hours	:	:	3,827	5.9	4,111	2.4
Part-time	7,431	6.9	13,212	20.5	20,643	12.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,898</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64,411</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>172,309</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>i</sup> - not available.

<sup>u</sup> - 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.	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>						
15-24	2,263 <sup>u</sup>	30.5 <sup>u</sup>	1,481 <sup>u</sup>	38.7 <sup>u</sup>	3,744	33.3
25+	5,164	69.5	2,347 <sup>u</sup>	61.3 <sup>u</sup>	7,511	66.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,427</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,828</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,255</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>						
15-24	2,364 <sup>u</sup>	33.1 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,200 <sup>u</sup>	29.1 <sup>u</sup>
25+	4,786	66.9	3,020 <sup>u</sup>	78.3 <sup>u</sup>	7,806	70.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,150</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,006</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 18. Duration of job search of unemployed persons

Duration	Sex				Total	
	Males		Females			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>January-March 2014</b>						
Less than 5 months	2,608 <sup>u</sup>	35.1 <sup>u</sup>	1,546 <sup>u</sup>	40.4 <sup>u</sup>	4,154	36.9
6-11 months	:	:	:	:	1,679 <sup>u</sup>	14.9 <sup>u</sup>
12+ months	3,806	51.2	1,616 <sup>u</sup>	42.2 <sup>u</sup>	5,422	48.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,427</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,828</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,255</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2013 (Revised)</b>						
Less than 5 months	2,061 <sup>u</sup>	28.8 <sup>u</sup>	1,375 <sup>u</sup>	35.7 <sup>u</sup>	3,436	31.2
6-11 months	:	:	:	:	1,832 <sup>u</sup>	16.6 <sup>u</sup>
12+ months	4,129	57.7	1,609 <sup>u</sup>	41.7 <sup>u</sup>	5,738	52.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,150</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11,006</b>	<b>100.0</b>

⋮ unreliable - less than 20 sample observations

<sup>u</sup> 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 - 08 classification (International Standard Classification of Occupations) whereas the economic activity is classified according to NACE Rev. 2 (Nomenclature générale des Activités économiques dans les Communautés Européennes).

Figures provided in this release refer to persons living in private households. Data from 2005 onwards is being revised to align LFS estimates with demographic updates following the publication of results of the Census of Population and Housing 2011.

### 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 margin of error. The margin of error expresses the maximum expected difference between the true population parameter and a sample estimate of that parameter. The margin of error also known as the sampling variability gives an indication of the confidence limits. The 95% confidence limits are obtained based on the assumption that the data follows a normal distribution.

### Sampling Variability of LFS figures

	Estimate	Margin of error	95% Confidence Interval
Employment	175,630	5240	175,630 ± 5,240
Employment Rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	60.84	1.56	60.84 ± 1.56
<i>Males</i>	74.17	2.11	74.17 ± 2.11
<i>Females</i>	47.11	2.29	47.11 ± 2.29
15-24	41.75	3.62	41.75 ± 3.62
25-54	75.08	1.88	75.08 ± 1.88
55-64	36.96	3.00	36.96 ± 3.00
Unemployment	11,255	1684	11,255 ± 1,684
Unemployment Rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	6.02	0.92	6.02 ± 0.92
<i>Males</i>	6.37	1.21	6.37 ± 1.21
<i>Females</i>	5.44	1.43	5.44 ± 1.43
15-24	14.28	3.61	14.28 ± 3.61
25+	4.68	0.88	4.68 ± 0.88
Inactive	167,151	4673	167,151 ± 4,673
Activity Rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	64.79	1.51	64.79 ± 1.51
<i>Males</i>	79.34	2.01	79.34 ± 2.01
<i>Females</i>	49.81	2.30	49.81 ± 2.30
15-24	48.70	3.64	48.70 ± 3.64
25-54	78.75	1.81	78.75 ± 1.81
55-64	38.95	3.04	38.95 ± 3.04

The above table give indications on the sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 175,630 and the margin of error is 5,240. Hence, the figure lies between 170,390 and 180,870 persons.

### Information

More information is available from the NSO upon written request.