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In the period 2005-2013, the total activity rate in the labour market increased steadily, mostly on account of higher female participation rates.

Key Indicators on the Labour Market: 2005-2013

Labour Force

An increasing trend has been observed in the activity rates over the past nine years. This is mainly due to an increase in activity rates among women, from 36.4 per cent in 2005 to 50.2 per cent in 2013. These rates with regard to men remained relatively stable. The increase in activity rates among women was also reflected in a reduction of the activity gender gap (Table 1).

Education Indicators

Table 2 provides information on early school leavers (ESL), defined as 18 to 24-year-old persons who have achieved a lower secondary level or less and who are not in education or training, as a proportion of the total population in this age bracket. The ESL rate went down from 33.0 per cent in 2005 to 20.5 per cent in 2013. Overall throughout these years, youth educational attainment was on the rise (Table 3).

In addition, the share of 30 to 34-year-old persons who achieved a tertiary educational level grew from 17.6 per cent in 2005 to 26.0 per cent in 2013 (Table 5).

Employment Characteristics

Table 6 shows the employment rates for different age groups. Over 2005-2013 there was a steady increase, notably among women. The employment rate (15-64 years) for men remained practically unchanged in this period with an average of 73.3 per cent.

The share of self employment remained relatively stable between 2005 and 2013, with an average of 13.9 per cent (Table 8). By contrast, the share of part-time employment (part-time work as main job) increased from 9.4 per cent in 2005 to 15.1 per cent in 2013 (Table 9).

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The proportion of employees who work on a fixed-term contract basis went up from 4.4 per cent at the start of the time series to 7.5 per cent at its end (Table 10).

Unemployment Characteristics

For the nine years featured in this release, an average 6.6 persons out of every 100 in the labour force were unemployed (unemployment rate). The highest unemployment rates were recorded among the 15-24 age group (Table 13). The long-term unemployment rate stood at an average of 3.0 per cent over the whole period (Table 15) ■

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Section A: Labour Force

Table 1. Activity rates (15-64) by sex and age group: 2005-2013

Year	Total			
	Males	Females	Total	Activity gender gap
	%			
2005	78.5	36.4	57.6	42.1
2006	78.5	36.8	57.9	41.7
2007	78.0	39.1	58.8	38.9
2008	77.3	40.4	59.1	36.8
2009	77.0	41.2	59.4	35.8
2010	77.8	42.5	60.4	35.3
2011	78.6	44.7	61.9	33.9
2012	78.3	47.5	63.1	30.8
2013	79.4	50.2	65.0	29.2
Year	15-24			
	Males	Females	Total	Activity gender gap
	%			
2005	55.8	51.3	53.6	4.5
2006	56.8	49.1	53.1	7.7
2007	57.5	50.4	54.0	7.1
2008	55.4	50.0	52.7	5.4
2009	54.6	48.3	51.6	6.3
2010	53.6	48.0	50.9	5.6
2011	55.7	48.0	51.9	7.7
2012	54.0	47.7	50.9	6.3
2013	56.0	49.5	52.8	6.5
Year	25-54			
	Males	Females	Total	Activity gender gap
	%			
2005	93.4	38.7	66.4	54.7
2006	94.1	40.8	67.9	53.2
2007	94.4	44.3	69.8	50.2
2008	93.9	46.7	70.7	47.1
2009	94.1	48.8	71.9	45.2
2010	94.5	50.6	73.0	43.9
2011	94.9	54.0	74.7	40.9
2012	94.3	58.1	76.5	36.2
2013	94.4	61.1	78.1	33.3
Year	55-64			
	Males	Females	Total	Activity gender gap
	%			
2005	54.2	12.7	33.0	41.6
2006	51.9	11.5	31.4	40.4
2007	48.7	12.8	30.5	35.8
2008	49.5	13.7	31.4	35.9
2009	48.8	13.2	30.9	35.6
2010	52.3	14.6	33.3	37.7
2011	53.0	15.6	34.2	37.5
2012	54.8	17.3	36.0	37.5
2013	57.2	19.7	38.4	37.5

Section B: Education

Table 2. Early school leavers (18-24) rates by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	%		
2005	37.5	28.4	33.0
2006	37.0	28.4	32.8
2007	35.1	25.3	30.4
2008	31.3	23.3	27.4
2009	30.3	21.3	25.9
2010	29.9	17.4	23.8
2011	28.8	16.3	22.7
2012	25.3	16.8	21.1
2013	23.2	17.7	20.5

Note: Refer to methodological notes.

Table 3. Youth educational attainment (20-24) rates by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	%		
2005	56.0	64.0	59.9
2006	55.7	63.0	59.3
2007	61.8	72.1	66.8
2008	63.5	71.7	67.5
2009	65.6	75.5	70.4
2010	66.1	80.7	73.2
2011	67.2	81.5	74.2
2012	70.6	80.9	75.6
2013	72.6	80.5	76.5

Table 4. Lifelong learning (25-64) rates by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	%		
2005	5.7	4.5	5.1
2006	5.5	5.4	5.5
2007	6.2	5.5	5.9
2008	6.3	6.1	6.2
2009	6.0	6.2	6.1
2010	5.8	6.2	6.0
2011	6.0	6.8	6.4
2012	6.5	7.3	6.9
2013	7.4	7.7	7.5

Table 5. Tertiary educational attainment (30-34) rates by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	%		
2005	17.9	17.3	17.6
2006	19.3	22.0	20.7
2007	19.1	22.5	20.8
2008	21.0	21.0	21.0
2009	20.2	23.7	21.9
2010	20.3	23.8	22.0
2011	22.7	24.2	23.4
2012	23.4	26.5	24.9
2013	22.6	29.5	26.0

Section C: Employment

Table 6. Employment rates by sex and age group: 2005-2013

Year	15-64			
	Males	Females	Total	Employment gender gap
	%			
2005	73.5	33.4	53.6	40.2
2006	73.6	33.7	53.9	39.9
2007	73.5	36.0	55.0	37.5
2008	72.9	37.7	55.5	35.2
2009	72.0	38.0	55.3	34.0
2010	72.5	39.4	56.2	33.1
2011	73.9	41.5	57.9	32.4
2012	73.8	44.0	59.1	29.8
2013	74.1	47.0	60.8	27.1
Year	20-64			
	Males	Females	Total	Employment gender gap
	%			
2005	79.7	34.8	57.4	44.9
2006	79.6	35.7	57.9	43.9
2007	79.0	37.7	58.6	41.3
2008	78.5	39.5	59.2	39.1
2009	77.5	40.0	59.0	37.6
2010	78.2	41.6	60.1	36.7
2011	79.0	43.9	61.6	35.2
2012	79.2	46.6	63.0	32.6
2013	79.4	49.8	64.8	29.6
Year	15-24			
	Males	Females	Total	Employment gender gap
	%			
2005	46.8	43.1	45.0	3.7
2006	47.5	42.1	44.8	5.4
2007	48.8	44.4	46.7	4.4
2008	48.1	45.0	46.6	3.1
2009	45.8	42.2	44.1	3.5
2010	45.9	42.3	44.2	3.5
2011	48.1	41.8	45.0	6.3
2012	46.7	40.7	43.8	6.0
2013	47.5	44.4	46.0	3.1
Year	25-54			
	Males	Females	Total	Employment gender gap
	%			
2005	89.1	36.4	63.1	52.7
2006	89.7	38.2	64.4	51.5
2007	90.3	41.3	66.3	48.9
2008	89.6	44.1	67.2	45.5
2009	89.5	45.8	68.1	43.7
2010	89.1	47.5	68.6	41.6
2011	90.0	50.8	70.7	39.2
2012	89.7	54.9	72.5	34.8
2013	89.6	57.8	74.0	31.8
Year	55-64			
	Males	Females	Total	Employment gender gap
	%			
2005	51.9	12.7	31.9	39.3
2006	50.6	11.2	30.6	39.4
2007	47.3	12.1	29.5	35.1
2008	48.0	12.7	30.1	35.3
2009	46.2	12.3	29.1	33.9
2010	50.0	14.2	31.9	35.8
2011	51.5	15.1	33.2	36.4
2012	53.1	16.3	34.6	36.9
2013	53.8	18.7	36.2	35.2

Table 7. Employment rates in services by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	%		
2005	45.2	27.5	36.5
2006	46.3	28.5	37.5
2007	47.6	31.0	39.4
2008	46.8	33.4	40.2
2009	47.6	33.3	40.6
2010	47.8	34.1	41.0
2011	49.6	36.1	42.9
2012	51.3	39.1	45.3
2013	51.9	41.3	46.7

Table 8. Self-employment rates by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	% employment		
2005	17.2	6.1	13.8
2006	17.4	5.8	13.8
2007	17.6	7.1	14.3
2008	17.5	6.3	13.8
2009	17.5	6.7	13.8
2010	18.7	6.1	14.4
2011	17.5	6.0	13.5
2012	17.6	6.2	13.5
2013	18.5	6.2	13.9

Table 9. Rates of part-time work as a main job by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	% employees		
2005	4.2	19.9	9.4
2006	4.5	21.2	10.1
2007	4.1	24.0	11.0
2008	3.8	24.9	11.5
2009	4.5	22.7	11.2
2010	5.4	23.9	12.4
2011	6.0	25.3	13.3
2012	5.9	25.2	13.5
2013	7.7	25.7	15.1

Table 10. Proportion of employees on a fixed-term contract basis by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	% employees		
2005	3.6	5.9	4.4
2006	2.7	5.8	3.8
2007	3.7	7.7	5.1
2008	3.4	5.8	4.3
2009	3.9	6.8	4.9
2010	4.3	7.1	5.4
2011	5.7	8.1	6.6
2012	6.1	7.9	6.8
2013	6.9	8.4	7.5

Table 11. Average weekly number of hours usually worked per week (full-time) by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	hours		
2005	40.6	38.6	40.0
2006	40.0	38.4	39.5
2007	40.3	38.1	39.6
2008	40.4	38.4	39.8
2009	40.7	38.9	40.1
2010	40.9	38.9	40.3
2011	41.4	39.1	40.7
2012	41.4	39.2	40.7
2013	41.2	39.0	40.4

Table 12. Time-related underemployment by type of employment: 2005-2013

Year	Full-time	Part-time	Total
	%		
2005	12.6	31.8	14.4
2006	11.0	26.0	12.5
2007	9.9	23.8	11.4
2008	8.8	22.3	10.3
2009	9.2	21.8	10.7
2010	13.0	26.1	14.7
2011	13.4	22.5	14.6
2012	13.5	24.3	15.0
2013	11.9	22.0	13.4

Section D: Unemployment

Table 13. Unemployment rates by sex and age group: 2005-2013

Year	15+		
	Males	Females	Total
	% active population		
2005	6.3	8.4	6.9
2006	6.1	8.3	6.8
2007	5.8	7.9	6.5
2008	5.6	6.8	6.0
2009	6.5	7.7	6.9
2010	6.7	7.1	6.8
2011	6.0	7.1	6.4
2012	5.7	7.3	6.3
2013	6.5	6.3	6.4
Year	15-24		
	Males	Females	Total
	% active population		
2005	16.2	16.0	16.1
2006	16.4	14.3	15.5
2007	15.0	11.8	13.6
2008	13.1	9.9	11.6
2009	16.2	12.5	14.5
2010	14.4	11.8	13.3
2011	13.7	12.8	13.3
2012	13.5	14.8	14.1
2013	15.2	10.4	13.0
Year	25+		
	Males	Females	Total
	% active population		
2005	4.5	5.2	4.7
2006	4.3	6.1	4.8
2007	4.2	6.5	4.9
2008	4.3	5.7	4.8
2009	4.9	6.3	5.3
2010	5.5	5.8	5.6
2011	4.7	5.6	5.0
2012	4.5	5.6	4.9
2013	5.1	5.3	5.2

Table 14. Youth unemployment ratios by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	% active population		
2005	9.0	8.2	8.6
2006	9.3	7.0	8.2
2007	8.6	6.0	7.3
2008	7.2	5.0	6.1
2009	8.9	6.1	7.5
2010	7.7	5.7	6.7
2011	7.6	6.2	6.9
2012	7.3	7.0	7.2
2013	8.5	5.2	6.9

Table 15. Long-term unemployment rates by sex: 2005-2013

Year	Males	Females	Total
	% active population		
2005	3.5	3.3	3.5
2006	2.9	2.3	2.8
2007	2.9	2.6	2.8
2008	2.8	2.4	2.7
2009	3.2	2.6	3.0
2010	3.5	2.6	3.2
2011	3.6	2.6	3.2
2012	3.4	2.7	3.1
2013	3.3	2.3	2.9

Methodological Notes

The indicators presented in this release have been revised further to the provision of new population figures from the Census of Population and Housing 2011. For further information regarding these revisions, users are kindly advised to refer to news release number 219/2014 which was published on 19 November 2014.

Concepts and Definitions

Labour Force

Activity rate is defined as the number of persons in the labour force falling within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the working population in the same age bracket (15-24, 25-54 and 55-64).

Activity gender gap is the difference in activity rates between women and men for different age groups (15-24, 25-54 and 55-64).

Education Indicators

The early school leavers rate is the percentage of persons aged between 18 and 24 years who achieved secondary education or less (ISCED ≤ 2) and are not pursuing further education or training.

A change in definition is being identified for figures prior to 2010. For the period 2006 to 2009 students on holiday are considered to be early school leavers whereas 2005 and from 2010 onwards, these persons are not considered to form part of the early school leavers population.

Life long learning is defined as the percentage of persons aged 25 to 64 participating in regular education, or in non-formal training such as courses, seminars and conferences. Students on holiday are not considered to be part of the population in life-long learning.

Tertiary educational attainment is the percentage of persons aged between 30 to 34 years having achieved at least tertiary level of education (ISCED ≥ 5).

Youth educational attainment is the percentage of persons aged 20 to 24 years having achieved at least upper secondary education (ISCED ≥ 3).

Employment Characteristics

Employment rate is defined as the number of employed persons falling within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the working population in the same age bracket (15-24, 25-54 and 55-64).

Employment gender gap is the difference in employment rates between women and men for different age groups (15-24, 25-54 and 55-64).

Employment rate in services is defined as the number of employed persons (15-64 years) working in the services sector as a percentage of the working population in the same age group. For the years 2005-2008, the economic activity was classified using Nace Rev. 1.1. (G-Q). For the period 2009-2013, Nace Rev. 2.0 (G-U) was applied.

Average weekly number of hours usually worked per week: defined as the sum of hours usually worked by full-time employees divided by the number of full-time employees.

Self-employed component is made up of persons who are self employed without employees and self employed with employees. The rate is worked out as a percentage of the total employment.

Type of employment is grouped into full-time employment and part-time employment. For the purpose of this release part-time employment is made up of full-time with reduced hours jobs and part-time jobs.

Fixed-term contracts refers to all those persons working with a definite contract or on a temporary basis.

Time related underemployment refers to the number of persons having a main job but willing/wishing to work more than the number of hours currently worked in their job.

Unemployment Characteristics

Unemployment rate is defined as the number of unemployed persons aged within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the labour force in the same age bracket (15-24, 25+ and 15+).

Youth unemployment ratio refers to the number of unemployed persons aged between 15 to 24 as a percentage of the total population falling within the same age bracket.

Long-term unemployment rate is defined as the number of long term unemployed (12 months or more) as a proportion of the labour force.