

25 June 2015 | 1100 hrs | 120/2015

During the first quarter of 2015, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 1.3 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2014.

Labour Force Survey: Q1/2015

Labour status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the first quarter, total employment stood at 181,537 accounting for more than half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 11,012 (3.1 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 166,360 (46.3 per cent) (Table 1).

The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 66.1 per cent. The highest activity rate was recorded among persons aged 25-54 (79.6 per cent). When compared to the previous year, the total activity rate increased by 0.4 percentage points (Table 3).

The employed population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged 15 to 64, 62 were employed. The highest employment rate was recorded among persons aged between 25 and 54 and stood at 75.7 per cent. The males' employment rate for this age bracket was 89.8 per cent compared to 60.9 per cent for their female counterparts (Table 4).

Employed men were mostly engaged in wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities (30.7 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 14.0 per cent of the total employed population (Table 15). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis and totalled 153,419. An estimated 23,702 (13.1 per cent) had a part-time job as their primary employment. A further 4,416 were working on a full-time with reduced hours basis (Table 16).

The average annual basic salary of employees for the first quarter of 2015 was estimated at €16,329. This amount refers to the annual basic salary and excludes extra payments such as overtime, bonuses and allowances, as explained in the methodological notes. The highest average annual basic salary for employees was recorded in the information and communication activities sector (Table 9). Average annual salaries by occupation varied from €27,572 among managers to €10,872 among elementary staff (Table 13).

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The unemployed population

Survey results estimate that the unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2015, stood at 5.7 per cent (Table 5). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 and over (Table 17). Among the unemployed, 48.3 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 sex and labour status

| Labour status | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | | | | |
| Employed | 112,626 | 62.9 | 68,911 | 38.3 | 181,537 | 50.6 |
| Unemployed | 7,058 | 3.9 | 3,954 | 2.2 | 11,012 | 3.1 |
| Inactive | 59,479 | 33.2 | 106,881 | 59.5 | 166,360 | 46.3 |
| Total | 179,163 | 100.0 | 179,746 | 100.0 | 358,909 | 100.0 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | | | | |
| Employed | 110,262 | 62.2 | 68,993 | 38.7 | 179,255 | 50.4 |
| Unemployed | 7,492 | 4.2 | 3,832 | 2.1 | 11,324 | 3.2 |
| Inactive | 59,453 | 33.6 | 105,473 | 59.2 | 164,926 | 46.4 |
| Total | 177,207 | 100.0 | 178,298 | 100.0 | 355,505 | 100.0 |

Table 2. Labour force distribution by sex

| Labour status | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | | | | |
| Employed | 112,626 | 94.1 | 68,911 | 94.6 | 181,537 | 94.3 |
| Unemployed | 7,058 | 5.9 | 3,954 | 5.4 | 11,012 | 5.7 |
| Total | 119,684 | 100.0 | 72,865 | 100.0 | 192,549 | 100.0 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | | | | |
| Employed | 110,262 | 93.6 | 68,993 | 94.7 | 179,255 | 94.1 |
| Unemployed | 7,492 | 6.4 | 3,832 | 5.3 | 11,324 | 5.9 |
| Total | 117,754 | 100.0 | 72,825 | 100.0 | 190,579 | 100.0 |

Table 3. Activity rates by sex and age group

| Age group | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|--|-------------|--|
| | % | | % | | % | |
| January-March 2015 | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 54.9 | | 48.1 | | 51.6 | |
| 25-54 | 94.6 | | 64.0 | | 79.6 | |
| 55-64 | 61.0 | | 18.3 | | 39.6 | |
| Total | 80.3 | | 51.4 | | 66.1 | |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 49.6 | | 52.0 | | 50.8 | |
| 25-54 | 95.4 | | 62.9 | | 79.5 | |
| 55-64 | 60.2 | | 18.5 | | 39.3 | |
| Total | 79.5 | | 51.5 | | 65.7 | |

Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group

| Age group | Males | Females | Total |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | % | % | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | |
| 15-24 | 48.7 | 44.2 | 46.6 |
| 25-54 | 89.8 | 60.9 | 75.7 |
| 55-64 | 57.1 | 17.5 | 37.2 |
| Total | 75.5 | 48.6 | 62.3 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | |
| 15-24 | 41.4 | 46.3 | 43.8 |
| 25-54 | 90.6 | 60.4 | 75.8 |
| 55-64 | 56.9 | 17.9 | 37.3 |
| Total | 74.3 | 48.8 | 61.7 |

Table 5. Unemployment rates by sex and age group

| Age group | Males | Females | Total |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | % | % | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | |
| 15-24 | 11.2 ^u | : | 9.8 ^u |
| 25+ | 5.1 | 4.9 ^u | 5.1 |
| Total | 5.9 | 5.4 | 5.7 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | |
| 15-24 | 16.5 ^u | 10.9 ^u | 13.7 |
| 25+ | 5.0 | 4.0 ^u | 4.6 |
| Total | 6.4 | 5.3 | 6.0 |

[‡] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

Table 6. Distribution of employed persons by sex and age group

| Age group | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 13,372 | 11.9 | 11,334 | 16.4 | 24,706 | 13.6 |
| 25-34 | 28,193 | 25.0 | 22,930 | 33.3 | 51,123 | 28.2 |
| 35-44 | 27,293 | 24.2 | 17,027 | 24.7 | 44,320 | 24.4 |
| 45-54 | 23,905 | 21.2 | 11,507 | 16.7 | 35,412 | 19.5 |
| 55-64 | 16,721 | 14.9 | 5,145 | 7.5 | 21,866 | 12.0 |
| 65+ | 3,142 | 2.8 | : | : | 4,110 | 2.3 |
| Total | 112,626 | 100.0 | 68,911 | 100.0 | 181,537 | 100.0 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 11,587 | 10.5 | 12,201 | 17.7 | 23,788 | 13.3 |
| 25-34 | 28,715 | 26.0 | 21,917 | 31.8 | 50,632 | 28.2 |
| 35-44 | 26,526 | 24.1 | 16,333 | 23.7 | 42,859 | 23.9 |
| 45-54 | 24,086 | 21.8 | 12,444 | 18.0 | 36,530 | 20.4 |
| 55-64 | 16,683 | 15.1 | 5,260 | 7.6 | 21,943 | 12.2 |
| 65+ | 2,665 ^u | 2.4 ^u | : | : | 3,503 | 2.0 |
| Total | 110,262 | 100.0 | 68,993 | 100.0 | 179,255 | 100.0 |

[‡] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

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Table 7. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity: January-March 2015

| Economic activity | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 2,655 ^u | 2.4 ^u | : | : | 2,939 ^u | 1.6 ^u |
| Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry | 21,868 | 19.4 | 6,566 | 9.5 | 28,434 | 15.7 |
| Construction | 10,588 | 9.4 | : | : | 10,993 | 6.1 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities | 34,624 | 30.7 | 17,002 | 24.7 | 51,626 | 28.4 |
| Information and communication | 5,352 | 4.8 | 1,843 ^u | 2.7 ^u | 7,195 | 4.0 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 3,230 ^u | 2.9 ^u | 4,524 | 6.6 | 7,754 | 4.3 |
| Real estate activities | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities | 8,283 | 7.4 | 6,937 | 10.1 | 15,220 | 8.4 |
| Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities | 19,799 | 17.6 | 26,314 | 38.2 | 46,113 | 25.4 |
| Other services | 5,590 | 5.0 | 4,479 | 6.5 | 10,069 | 5.5 |
| Total | 112,626 | 100.0 | 68,911 | 100.0 | 181,537 | 100.0 |

[†] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity: January-March 2014 (Revised)

| Economic activity | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 2,020 ^u | 1.8 ^u | : | : | 2,336 ^u | 1.3 ^u |
| Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry | 20,954 | 19.0 | 6,764 | 9.8 | 27,718 | 15.5 |
| Construction | 12,221 | 11.1 | : | : | 12,637 | 7.0 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities | 32,390 | 29.4 | 18,724 | 27.1 | 51,114 | 28.5 |
| Information and communication | 4,538 | 4.1 | 1,788 ^u | 2.6 ^u | 6,326 | 3.5 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 3,573 ^u | 3.2 ^u | 4,710 | 6.8 | 8,283 | 4.6 |
| Real estate activities | : | : | : | : | 1,357 ^u | 0.8 ^u |
| Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities | 7,444 | 6.8 | 6,698 | 9.7 | 14,142 | 7.9 |
| Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities | 20,840 | 18.9 | 24,863 | 36.0 | 45,703 | 25.5 |
| Other services | 5,576 | 5.1 | 4,063 | 5.9 | 9,639 | 5.4 |
| Total | 110,262 | 100.0 | 68,993 | 100.0 | 179,255 | 100.0 |

[†] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

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Table 9. Average annual basic salary* for employees by sex and economic activity: January-March 2015

| Economic activity | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|---|------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | No. of employees | Average (€) | No. of employees | Average (€) | No. of employees | Average (€) |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry | 19,829 | 17,646 | 6,313 | 13,489 | 26,142 | 16,642 |
| Construction | 6,407 | 15,141 | : | : | 6,812 | 14,982 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities | 27,142 | 15,503 | 15,751 | 10,736 | 42,893 | 13,752 |
| Information and communication | 4,728 | 22,899 | 1,843 ^u | 17,225 ^u | 6,571 | 21,308 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 3,115 | 24,691 | 4,524 | 17,517 | 7,639 | 20,442 |
| Real estate activities | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities | 6,266 | 18,635 | 6,330 | 13,817 | 12,596 | 16,213 |
| Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities | 19,243 | 19,083 | 26,103 | 16,568 | 45,346 | 17,635 |
| Other services | 3,800 | 17,807 | 2,734 ^u | 12,137 ^u | 6,534 | 15,435 |
| Total | 91,571 | 17,668 | 64,494 | 14,427 | 156,065 | 16,329 |

* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

[∴] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

Table 10. Average annual basic salary* for employees by sex and economic activity: January-March 2014 (Revised)

| Economic activity | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | No. of employees | Average (€) | No. of employees | Average (€) | No. of employees | Average (€) |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry | 18,891 | 17,082 | 6,705 | 12,867 | 25,596 | 15,978 |
| Construction | 8,080 | 15,489 | : | : | 8,496 | 15,297 |
| Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities | 24,703 | 15,446 | 17,187 | 11,370 | 41,890 | 13,774 |
| Information and communication | 4,028 | 22,159 | 1,725 ^u | 14,899 ^u | 5,753 | 19,982 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 3,248 ^u | 20,290 ^u | 4,710 | 17,228 | 7,958 | 18,478 |
| Real estate activities | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities | 5,761 | 20,835 | 6,119 | 12,421 | 11,880 | 16,501 |
| Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities | 20,077 | 18,344 | 24,688 | 15,527 | 44,765 | 16,790 |
| Other services | 4,520 | 18,800 | 2,561 ^u | 12,219 ^u | 7,081 | 16,420 |
| Total | 90,458 | 17,423 | 64,512 | 13,797 | 154,970 | 15,914 |

* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

[∴] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

Table 11. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: January-March 2015

| Occupational group | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|--|--------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Armed Forces | 1,636 ^u | 1.5 ^u | : | : | 1,860 ^u | 1.0 ^u |
| Managers | 12,058 | 10.7 | 4,656 | 6.8 | 16,714 | 9.2 |
| Professionals | 14,397 | 12.8 | 14,257 | 20.7 | 28,654 | 15.8 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 15,795 | 14.0 | 9,437 | 13.7 | 25,232 | 13.9 |
| Clerical support workers | 8,793 | 7.8 | 11,342 | 16.5 | 20,135 | 11.1 |
| Service and sales workers | 18,753 | 16.7 | 20,145 | 29.2 | 38,898 | 21.4 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | 2,577 ^u | 2.3 ^u | : | : | 2,631 ^u | 1.5 ^u |
| Craft and related trades workers | 18,824 | 16.7 | : | : | 19,578 | 10.8 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 8,596 | 7.6 | 3,381 | 4.9 | 11,977 | 6.6 |
| Elementary occupations | 11,197 | 9.9 | 4,661 | 6.8 | 15,858 | 8.7 |
| Total | 112,626 | 100.0 | 68,911 | 100.0 | 181,537 | 100.0 |

ⁱ Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: January-March 2014 (Revised)

| Occupational group | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Armed Forces | 1,640 ^u | 1.5 ^u | : | : | 1,694 ^u | 0.9 ^u |
| Managers | 12,132 | 11.0 | 4,336 | 6.3 | 16,468 | 9.2 |
| Professionals | 14,509 | 13.2 | 13,980 | 20.3 | 28,489 | 15.9 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 15,637 | 14.2 | 9,489 | 13.8 | 25,126 | 14.0 |
| Clerical support workers | 7,611 | 6.9 | 11,803 | 17.1 | 19,414 | 10.8 |
| Service and sales workers | 16,765 | 15.2 | 20,208 | 29.3 | 36,973 | 20.6 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | 1,993 ^u | 1.8 ^u | : | : | 2,190 ^u | 1.2 ^u |
| Craft and related trades workers | 19,098 | 17.3 | : | : | 19,846 | 11.1 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 9,638 | 8.7 | 3,021 ^u | 4.4 ^u | 12,659 | 7.1 |
| Elementary occupations | 11,239 | 10.2 | 5,157 | 7.5 | 16,396 | 9.1 |
| Total | 110,262 | 100.0 | 68,993 | 100.0 | 179,255 | 100.0 |

ⁱ Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

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Table 13. Average annual basic salary* for employees by sex and main occupation: January-March 2015

| Occupational group | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | No. | Average (€) | No. | Average (€) | No. | Average (€) |
| Armed Forces | 1,636 ^u | 15,400 ^u | : | : | 1,860 ^u | 15,188 ^u |
| Managers | 9,382 | 29,722 | 4,219 | 22,790 | 13,601 | 27,572 |
| Professionals | 12,067 | 23,070 | 13,498 | 19,190 | 25,565 | 21,022 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 13,802 | 19,217 | 8,905 | 17,507 | 22,707 | 18,546 |
| Clerical support workers | 8,703 | 15,533 | 11,175 | 13,293 | 19,878 | 14,274 |
| Service and sales workers | 13,652 | 13,424 | 17,936 | 10,236 | 31,588 | 11,614 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Craft and related trades workers | 12,956 | 15,270 | : | : | 13,525 | 15,076 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 7,821 | 14,585 | 3,307 ^u | 11,821 ^u | 11,128 | 13,764 |
| Elementary occupations | 10,757 | 11,954 | 4,661 | 8,374 | 15,418 | 10,872 |
| Total | 91,571 | 17,668 | 64,494 | 14,427 | 156,065 | 16,329 |

* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

⋮ Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

Table 14. Average annual basic salary* for employees by sex and main occupation: January-March 2014 (Revised)

| Occupational group | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | No. | Average (€) | No. | Average (€) | No. | Average (€) |
| Armed Forces | 1,640 ^u | 15,900 ^u | : | : | 1,694 ^u | 15,819 ^u |
| Managers | 8,939 | 28,657 | 4,010 | 25,158 | 12,949 | 27,573 |
| Professionals | 12,503 | 23,557 | 13,119 | 18,029 | 25,622 | 20,726 |
| Technicians and associate professionals | 13,840 | 17,873 | 8,842 | 15,135 | 22,682 | 16,806 |
| Clerical support workers | 7,461 | 13,890 | 11,689 | 12,666 | 19,150 | 13,143 |
| Service and sales workers | 12,995 | 13,918 | 17,919 | 10,221 | 30,914 | 11,775 |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Craft and related trades workers | 12,839 | 14,849 | : | : | 13,587 | 14,594 |
| Plant and machine operators, and assemblers | 9,012 | 14,874 | 2,958 ^u | 12,342 ^u | 11,970 | 14,248 |
| Elementary occupations | 10,521 | 12,710 | 5,118 | 8,271 | 15,639 | 11,257 |
| Total | 90,458 | 17,423 | 64,512 | 13,797 | 154,970 | 15,914 |

* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

⋮ Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

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

| Professional status | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | | | | |
| Self-employed without employees | 14,155 | 12.6 | 3,310 ^u | 4.8 ^u | 17,465 | 9.6 |
| Self-employed with employees | 6,900 | 6.1 | : | : | 8,007 | 4.4 |
| Employee | 91,571 | 81.3 | 64,494 | 93.6 | 156,065 | 86.0 |
| Family worker | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Total | 112,626 | 100.0 | 68,911 | 100.0 | 181,537 | 100.0 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | | | | |
| Self-employed without employees | 13,165 | 11.9 | 3,593 | 5.2 | 16,758 | 9.3 |
| Self-employed with employees | 6,639 | 6.0 | : | : | 7,527 | 4.2 |
| Employee | 90,458 | 82.1 | 64,512 | 93.5 | 154,970 | 86.5 |
| Family worker | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Total | 110,262 | 100.0 | 68,993 | 100.0 | 179,255 | 100.0 |

[‡] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

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

| Type of employment | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | | | | |
| Full-time job | 103,885 | 92.2 | 49,534 | 71.9 | 153,419 | 84.5 |
| Full-time with reduced hours job | : | : | 3,760 | 5.4 | 4,416 | 2.4 |
| Part-time job | 8,085 | 7.2 | 15,617 | 22.7 | 23,702 | 13.1 |
| Total | 112,626 | 100.0 | 68,911 | 100.0 | 181,537 | 100.0 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | | | | |
| Full-time job | 102,160 | 92.7 | 48,742 | 70.7 | 150,902 | 84.2 |
| Full-time with reduced hours job | : | : | 4,228 | 6.1 | 4,920 | 2.7 |
| Part-time job | 7,410 | 6.7 | 16,023 | 23.2 | 23,433 | 13.1 |
| Total | 110,262 | 100.0 | 68,993 | 100.0 | 179,255 | 100.0 |

[‡] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

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Table 17. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and age group

| Age group | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 1,693 ^u | 24.0 ^u | : | : | 2,682 ^u | 24.4 ^u |
| 25+ | 5,365 | 76.0 | 2,965 ^u | 75.0 ^u | 8,330 | 75.6 |
| Total | 7,058 | 100.0 | 3,954 | 100.0 | 11,012 | 100.0 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | | | | |
| 15-24 | 2,290 ^u | 30.6 ^u | 1,485 ^u | 38.8 ^u | 3,775 | 33.3 |
| 25+ | 5,202 | 69.4 | 2,347 ^u | 61.2 ^u | 7,549 | 66.7 |
| Total | 7,492 | 100.0 | 3,832 | 100.0 | 11,324 | 100.0 |

[‡] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

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Table 18. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and duration of job search

| Duration | Males | | Females | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| January-March 2015 | | | | | | |
| Less than 5 months | 2,303 ^u | 32.6 ^u | 1,765 ^u | 44.6 ^u | 4,068 | 36.9 |
| 6-11 months | : | : | : | : | 1,625 ^u | 14.8 ^u |
| 12 months or more | 4,132 | 58.5 | : | : | 5,319 | 48.3 |
| Total | 7,058 | 100.0 | 3,954 | 100.0 | 11,012 | 100.0 |
| January-March 2014 (Revised) | | | | | | |
| Less than 5 months | 2,631 ^u | 35.1 ^u | 1,548 ^u | 40.4 ^u | 4,179 | 36.9 |
| 6-11 months | : | : | : | : | 1,691 ^u | 14.9 ^u |
| 12 months or more | 3,836 | 51.2 | 1,618 ^u | 42.2 ^u | 5,454 | 48.2 |
| Total | 7,492 | 100.0 | 3,832 | 100.0 | 11,324 | 100.0 |

[‡] Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

Methodological Notes

1. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is carried out on an ongoing basis using a quarterly gross 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 LFS 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 before (2-(2)-2). Figures provided in this release refer to persons aged 15 and over and living in private households during the reference period. All criteria used for this survey match international methodologies used by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

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 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).

3. 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:** 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 employed but absent from work:** due to sick leave, 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).
- **Annual basic salary:** Refers to the annual basic salary received by employees before any social contributions and tax deductions. This amount 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:** All persons in employment and unemployed persons.
- **Reference week:** The week to which the collected data relate.
- **Unemployment:** 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:** example of active job search include contacting the ETC, applying 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 (15 to 74 years) as a percentage of the labour force (15-74 years).

4. Sampling variability

Data included in this release are based on sample data and are therefore subject to sampling error. Sampling error is measured by a quantity known as the margin of error, which in turn, expresses the variability between the true population parameters and their corresponding sample estimates. In the table below, the margin of error is used to construct a set of 95 per cent confidence intervals for specific variables, which give an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of LFS figures

| | Estimate | Margin of error | 95% confidence interval |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Employment | 181,537 | 5,229 | 181,537 ± 5,229 |
| Employment rate (%) | | | |
| <i>Total</i> | 62.31 | 1.52 | 62.31 ± 1.52 |
| <i>Males</i> | 75.47 | 2.12 | 75.47 ± 2.12 |
| <i>Females</i> | 48.65 | 2.24 | 48.65 ± 2.24 |
| 15-24 | 46.55 | 4.05 | 46.55 ± 4.05 |
| 25-54 | 75.68 | 1.99 | 75.68 ± 1.99 |
| 55-64 | 37.22 | 2.92 | 37.22 ± 2.92 |
| Unemployment | 11,012 | 1,751 | 11,012 ± 1,751 |
| Unemployment rate (%) | | | |
| <i>Total</i> | 5.73 | 0.92 | 5.73 ± 0.92 |
| <i>Males</i> | 5.91 | 1.14 | 5.91 ± 1.14 |
| <i>Females</i> | 5.43 | 1.47 | 5.43 ± 1.47 |
| 15-24 | 9.79 | 2.86 | 9.79 ± 2.86 |
| 25+ | 5.05 | 0.90 | 5.05 ± 0.90 |
| Inactivity | 166,360 | 4,630 | 166,360 ± 4,630 |
| Activity rate (%) | | | |
| <i>Total</i> | 66.14 | 1.52 | 66.14 ± 1.52 |
| <i>Males</i> | 80.29 | 2.06 | 80.29 ± 2.06 |
| <i>Females</i> | 51.44 | 2.25 | 51.44 ± 2.25 |
| 15-24 | 51.60 | 3.30 | 51.60 ± 3.30 |
| 25-54 | 79.63 | 1.90 | 79.63 ± 1.90 |
| 55-64 | 39.56 | 2.89 | 39.56 ± 2.89 |

The table gives indications on the sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 181,537 and the margin of error is 5,229. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 176,308 and 186,766 persons.

5. Key

: Data not published due to unreliable survey estimates as a result of less than 20 reporting units

^u Figures to be used with caution since they are derived from a number of readings ranging between 20 and 49

6. 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.

7. More information is available from the NSO upon written request.

8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=33>

Classification: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE Rev. 2>
<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO 2008>