

28 September 2016 | 1100 hrs | 156/2016

During the second quarter of 2016, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 3.5 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2015.

Labour Force Survey: Q2/2016

Labour status

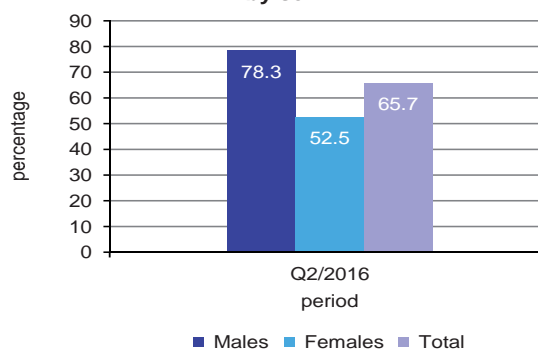
Private households estimates from the Labour Force Survey indicate that during the second quarter, total employment stood at 191,384 accounting for more than half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 9,822 (2.7 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 163,750 (44.9 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate was estimated at 69.1 per cent with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25-54 (82.7 per cent) (Table 2).

The employed population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 to 64 years, 66 were employed (Chart 1). The male employment rate for this age bracket was 78.3 per cent while that for females stood at 52.5 per cent (Table 4).

Self-employed persons accounted for 13.5 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). Among all the employed, the majority worked on a full-time basis totalling 162,641, while 28,743 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6).

Chart 1. Employment rate (15-64 years) by sex



Results show that, on average, full-timers work 41.6 hours while part-timers work 22.4 hours per week (Table 7).

The average annual basic salary of employees for the second quarter of 2016 was estimated at €17,109. The highest basic salary was recorded in the information and communication sector (Table 10). Average annual salaries varied from €28,858 among managers to €11,864 among persons employed in elementary occupations (Table 14).

The unemployed and inactive population

The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2016, stood at 4.9 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 years and over (Table 16). Among the unemployed, 42.1 per cent stated that they had been seeking work for at least 12 months (Table 18). The number of inactive persons stood at 163,750, with 41.5 per cent attributing their inactivity to retirement or the uptake of early retirement (Table 20).

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Education attainment

According to the Labour Force Survey, 58.2 per cent of the 15 plus population had attained a low level of education (Table 21). This comprises persons with less than 5 ordinary level or equivalent qualifications. Among the employed population 24.6 per cent had a tertiary level education (Table 22) ■

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Table 1. Persons aged 15 and over by sex and labour status

Labour status	Males		Females		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
	April-June 2016						
Employed	117,113	63.9	74,271	40.9	191,384	52.4	
Unemployed	5,445	3.0	4,377	2.4	9,822	2.7	
Inactive	60,610	33.1	103,140	56.7	163,750	44.9	
Total	183,168	100.0	181,788	100.0	364,956	100.0	
	April-June 2015						
	Employed	112,340	62.4	72,531	40.2	184,871	51.3
	Unemployed	6,598	3.7	3,996	2.2	10,594	2.9
Inactive	60,991	33.9	103,864	57.6	164,855	45.8	
Total	179,929	100.0	180,391	100.0	360,320	100.0	

Table 2. Activity rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	April-June 2016					
15-24	53.0		48.3		50.7	
25-54	96.2		68.5		82.7	
55-64	64.5		24.5		44.5	
Total (15-64)	81.9		55.6		69.1	
	April-June 2015					
	15-24	51.6		47.7		49.7
	25-54	95.0		66.8		81.2
55-64	62.5		24.6		43.5	
Total (15-64)	80.2		54.4		67.6	

Table 3. Distribution of employed persons with a main job by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016					
15-24	13,008	11.1	10,418	14.0	23,426	12.2
25-34	30,748	26.3	24,391	32.8	55,139	28.8
35-44	28,627	24.4	18,220	24.5	46,847	24.5
45-54	23,893	20.4	13,397	18.0	37,290	19.5
55-64	18,466	15.8	7,132	9.6	25,598	13.4
65+	2,371 ^u	2.0 ^u	:	:	3,084	1.6
Total	117,113	100.0	74,271	100.0	191,384	100.0
Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2015					
15-24	12,119	10.8	10,718	14.8	22,837	12.4
25-34	28,952	25.8	23,070	31.8	52,022	28.1
35-44	27,640	24.6	17,709	24.4	45,349	24.5
45-54	23,813	21.2	13,570	18.7	37,383	20.2
55-64	17,579	15.6	6,984	9.6	24,563	13.3
65+	2,237 ^u	2.0 ^u	:	:	2,717 ^u	1.5 ^u
Total	112,340	100.0	72,531	100.0	184,871	100.0

[·] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%		%		%	
	April-June 2016					
15-24	48.5		41.7		45.2	
25-54	92.2		65.4		79.1	
55-64	62.9		24.2		43.5	
Total (15-64)	78.3		52.5		65.7	
Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%		%		%	
	April-June 2015					
15-24	44.1		42.0		43.1	
25-54	90.8		64.1		77.7	
55-64	59.9		23.7		41.8	
Total (15-64)	75.7		51.5		63.9	

Table 5. Distribution of employed persons by sex and professional status of main occupation

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016					
Self-employed without employees	13,872	11.8	3,249	4.4	17,121	8.9
Self-employed with employees	7,669	6.5	:	:	8,758	4.6
Employee	95,572	81.6	69,779	94.0	165,351	86.4
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	117,113	100.0	74,271	100.0	191,384	100.0
	April-June 2015					
	April-June 2015					
Self-employed without employees	13,671	12.2	3,797	5.2	17,468	9.4
Self-employed with employees	6,741	6.0	1,290 ^u	1.8 ^u	8,031	4.3
Employee	91,928	81.8	67,444	93.0	159,372	86.2
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	112,340	100.0	72,531	100.0	184,871	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 6. Distribution of employed persons by sex and type of employment in main occupation

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016					
Full-time job	108,594	92.7	54,047	72.8	162,641	85.0
Part-time job	8,519	7.3	20,224	27.2	28,743	15.0
Total	117,113	100.0	74,271	100.0	191,384	100.0
	April-June 2015					
	April-June 2015					
Full-time job	103,860	92.5	52,743	72.7	156,603	84.7
Part-time job	8,480	7.5	19,788	27.3	28,268	15.3
Total	112,340	100.0	72,531	100.0	184,871	100.0

Table 7. Normal hours worked by sex and type of employment in main occupation

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average (Hours)					
	April-June 2016					
Full-time job	42.4		39.8		41.6	
Part-time job	22.3		22.4		22.4	
Total	41.0		35.1		38.7	
	April-June 2015					
	April-June 2015					
Full-time job	42.4		39.5		41.3	
Part-time job	22.1		21.6		21.7	
Total	40.9		34.7		38.5	

Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 2016

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,957 ^u	1.7 ^u	:	:	2,262 ^u	1.2 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,585	17.6	6,369	8.6	26,954	14.1
Construction	11,259	9.6	:	:	11,914	6.2
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	36,154	30.9	19,780	26.6	55,934	29.2
Information and communication	5,527	4.7	:	:	6,919	3.6
Financial and insurance activities	4,151	3.5	4,738	6.4	8,889	4.6
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	11,336	9.7	6,136	8.3	17,472	9.1
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	20,860	17.8	30,011	40.4	50,871	26.6
Other services	4,662	4.0	4,444	6.0	9,106	4.8
Total	117,113	100.0	74,271	100.0	191,384	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 9. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 2015

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,466 ^u	2.2 ^u	:	:	2,874 ^u	1.6 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,707	18.4	5,490	7.6	26,197	14.2
Construction	11,027	9.8	:	:	11,701	6.3
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	33,189	29.5	17,683	24.4	50,872	27.5
Information and communication	4,755	4.2	2,060 ^u	2.8 ^u	6,815	3.7
Financial and insurance activities	3,554	3.2	5,265	7.3	8,819	4.8
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,387 ^u	0.8 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	9,606	8.6	6,299	8.7	15,905	8.6
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	21,196	18.9	29,450	40.6	50,646	27.4
Other services	4,932	4.4	4,723	6.5	9,655	5.2
Total	112,340	100.0	72,531	100.0	184,871	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 10. Average annual basic salary* for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 2016

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	17,756	16,930	5,939	15,492	23,695	16,570
Construction	7,900	14,920	:	:	8,499	14,932
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	26,806	15,562	17,955	12,068	44,761	14,160
Information and communication	5,228	24,970	:	:	6,620	23,522
Financial and insurance activities	3,965	25,337	4,738	21,264	8,703	23,119
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	8,996	21,198	5,676	15,728	14,672	19,082
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	19,984	19,039	29,480	17,258	49,464	17,977
Other services	3,719	20,314	3,628	13,248	7,347	16,825
Total	95,572	18,147	69,779	15,688	165,351	17,109

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 11. Average annual basic salary* for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 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	18,623	15,795	5,215	12,876	23,838	15,156
Construction	7,532	14,161	:	:	8,139	14,108
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	24,826	15,110	15,848	11,193	40,674	13,584
Information and communication	4,148	25,752	1,999 ^u	15,842 ^u	6,147	22,529
Financial and insurance activities	3,325 ^u	25,369	5,185	19,970	8,510	22,079
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	7,931	21,737	5,920	14,261	13,851	18,542
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	20,552	19,026	29,247	16,408	49,799	17,488
Other services	3,773	18,471	3,127 ^u	13,197 ^u	6,900	16,081
Total	91,928	17,619	67,444	14,751	159,372	16,406

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: April-June 2016

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,841 ^u	1.6 ^u	:	:	1,898 ^u	1.0 ^u
Managers	12,679	10.8	5,556	7.5	18,235	9.5
Professionals	15,385	13.1	16,941	22.8	32,326	16.9
Technicians and associate professionals	17,700	15.1	8,687	11.7	26,387	13.8
Clerical support workers	8,884	7.6	11,385	15.3	20,269	10.6
Service and sales workers	19,376	16.5	22,755	30.6	42,131	22.0
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,052 ^u	1.8 ^u	:	:	2,260 ^u	1.2 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	17,452	14.9	:	:	18,761	9.8
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,828	8.4	2,426 ^u	3.3 ^u	12,254	6.4
Elementary occupations	11,916	10.2	4,947	6.7	16,863	8.8
Total	117,113	100.0	74,271	100.0	191,384	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 13. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: April-June 2015

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	2,536 ^u	2.3 ^u	:	:	2,700 ^u	1.5 ^u
Managers	11,783	10.5	4,954	6.8	16,737	9.1
Professionals	14,390	12.8	15,522	21.4	29,912	16.2
Technicians and associate professionals	15,360	13.7	10,050	13.9	25,410	13.7
Clerical support workers	9,478	8.4	11,063	15.3	20,541	11.1
Service and sales workers	17,081	15.2	21,861	30.1	38,942	21.1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,083 ^u	1.9 ^u	:	:	2,214 ^u	1.2 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	18,538	16.5	:	:	19,453	10.5
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,185	8.2	2,632 ^u	3.6 ^u	11,817	6.4
Elementary occupations	11,906	10.6	5,239	7.2	17,145	9.3
Total	112,340	100.0	72,531	100.0	184,871	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 14. Average annual basic salary* for employees by sex and main occupation: April-June 2016

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)
Armed Forces	1,841 ^u	16,896 ^u	:	:	1,898 ^u	16,897 ^u
Managers	9,453	31,026	5,104	24,842	14,557	28,858
Professionals	13,442	25,268	16,407	21,000	29,849	22,922
Technicians and associate professionals	15,655	18,433	8,386	19,110	24,041	18,669
Clerical support workers	8,830	15,005	11,195	12,997	20,025	13,882
Service and sales workers	13,300	14,390	20,597	10,911	33,897	12,276
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	11,986	14,710	:	:	12,996	14,604
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,039	14,320	2,312 ^u	13,176 ^u	11,351	14,087
Elementary occupations	11,206	12,573	4,711	10,177	15,917	11,864
Total	95,572	18,147	69,779	15,688	165,351	17,109

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 15. Average annual basic salary* for employees by sex and main occupation: April-June 2015

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)
Armed Forces	2,536 ^u	15,718 ^u	:	:	2,700 ^u	15,621 ^u
Managers	8,794	29,787	4,181	24,471	12,975	28,074
Professionals	12,286	24,757	14,966	19,630	27,252	21,941
Technicians and associate professionals	13,469	17,838	9,444	17,010	22,913	17,497
Clerical support workers	9,418	15,040	11,063	13,222	20,481	14,058
Service and sales workers	12,216	14,630	18,985	10,784	31,201	12,290
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	13,052	14,252	:	:	13,822	14,160
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,255	14,256	2,632 ^u	11,081 ^u	10,887	13,488
Elementary occupations	11,400	12,547	5,239	8,772	16,639	11,359
Total	91,928	17,619	67,444	14,751	159,372	16,406

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 16. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016					
15-24	1,214 ^u	22.3 ^u	1,651 ^u	37.7 ^u	2,865 ^u	29.2 ^u
25-74	4,231	77.7	2,726 ^u	62.3 ^u	6,957	70.8
Total (15-74)	5,445	100.0	4,377	100.0	9,822	100.0
	April-June 2015					
15-24	2,061 ^u	31.2	1,459 ^u	36.5 ^u	3,520	33.2
25-74	4,537	68.8	2,537 ^u	63.5 ^u	7,074	66.8
Total (15-74)	6,598	100.0	3,996	100.0	10,594	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 17. Unemployment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	April-June 2016					
15-24	8.5 ^u		13.7 ^u		10.9 ^u	
25-74	3.9		4.1 ^u		4.0	
Total (15-74)	4.4		5.6		4.9	
	April-June 2015					
15-24	14.5 ^u		12.0 ^u		13.4	
25-74	4.3		3.9 ^u		4.2	
Total (15-74)	5.6		5.2		5.4	

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

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

Duration	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016					
Less than 12 months	2,902 ^u	53.3 ^u	2,788 ^u	63.7 ^u	5,690	57.9
12 months or more	2,543 ^u	46.7 ^u	1,589 ^u	36.3 ^u	4,132	42.1
Total	5,445	100.0	4,377	100.0	9,822	100.0
	April-June 2015					
Less than 12 months	2,701 ^u	40.9 ^u	3,050 ^u	76.3 ^u	5,751	54.3
12 months or more	3,897	59.1	:	:	4,843	45.7
Total	6,598	100.0	3,996	100.0	10,594	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 19. Distribution of inactive persons by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016					
15-24	12,624	20.8	12,903	12.5	25,527	15.6
25-34	:	:	5,776	5.6	6,318	3.9
35-44	:	:	9,501	9.2	10,411	6.4
45-54	1,970 ^u	3.3 ^u	11,732	11.4	13,702	8.4
55-64	10,435	17.2	22,265	21.6	32,700	20.0
65+	34,129	56.3	40,963	39.7	75,092	45.9
Total	60,610	100.0	103,140	100.0	163,750	100.0
April-June 2015						
15-24	13,276	21.8	13,368	12.9	26,644	16.2
25-34	:	:	6,056	5.8	7,540	4.6
35-44	:	:	9,712	9.4	10,716	6.5
45-54	1,952 ^u	3.2 ^u	12,397	11.9	14,349	8.7
55-64	11,007	18.0	22,236	21.4	33,243	20.2
65+	32,268	52.9	40,095	38.6	72,363	43.9
Total	60,991	100.0	103,864	100.0	164,855	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 20. Main reasons for being inactive by sex

Reason	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	24,705	24.0	25,466	15.6
Education or training	12,177	20.1	12,507	12.1	24,684	15.1
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	40,251	66.4	27,739	26.9	67,990	41.5
Other reasons	7,421	12.2	38,189	37.0	45,610	27.9
Total	60,610	100.0	103,140	100.0	163,750	100.0
April-June 2015						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	25,943	25.0	26,757	16.2
Education or training	12,840	21.1	12,733	12.3	25,573	15.5
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	38,731	63.5	25,238	24.3	63,969	38.8
Other reasons	8,606	14.1	39,950	38.5	48,556	29.5
Total	60,991	100.0	103,864	100.0	164,855	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 21. Persons aged 15 years and over by sex and highest educational attainment

	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016					
Low	106,681	58.2	105,652	58.1	212,333	58.2
Medium	48,359	26.4	45,967	25.3	94,326	25.8
High	28,128	15.4	30,169	16.6	58,297	16.0
Total	183,168	100.0	181,788	100.0	364,956	100.0
	April-June 2015					
Low	105,195	58.5	106,502	59.0	211,697	58.8
Medium	47,751	26.5	43,817	24.3	91,568	25.4
High	26,983	15.0	30,072	16.7	57,055	15.8
Total	179,929	100.0	180,391	100.0	360,320	100.0

Table 22. Persons aged 15 years and over by labour status and highest educational attainment

	Employed		Unemployed		Inactive		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016							
Low	83,987	43.9	6,437	65.5	121,909	74.4	212,333	58.2
Medium	60,406	31.6	2,549 ^u	26.0 ^u	31,371	19.2	94,326	25.8
High	46,991	24.6	:	:	10,470	6.4	58,297	16.0
Total	191,384	100.0	9,822	100.0	163,750	100.0	364,956	100.0
	April-June 2015							
Low	80,561	43.6	7,170	67.7	123,966	75.2	211,697	58.8
Medium	57,402	31.0	2,608 ^u	24.6 ^u	31,558	19.1	91,568	25.4
High	46,908	25.4	:	:	9,331	5.7	57,055	15.8
Total	184,871	100.0	10,594	100.0	164,855	100.0	360,320	100.0

ⁱ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

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). Unless otherwise indicated, 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). Education attainment is classified according to ISCED 2011.

3. Definitions:

- **Activity rate:** Labour force (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.
- **Education Attainment:**
 - **low:** comprising persons with no schooling, primary education, special schools from disabled, and persons who attained a secondary level education and have less than 5 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent. In the context of the ISCED classification, low includes ISCED 0 to 2.
 - **medium:** comprising persons with a secondary level education and having 5 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent or more, persons with a post secondary level attainment who have at least obtained 1 intermediate or advanced level qualification or equivalent. In the context of the ISCED classification, medium refers to ISCED 3 and 4.
 - **high** - comprising persons with a tertiary level education and with qualifications ranging from diploma to doctorate level. In the context of the ISCED classification, high refers to ISCED 5 to 8.
- **Employees:** are defined as persons who work for a public or private employer and who receive compensation in the form of wages, salaries, fees, gratuities, payment by results or payment in kind.
- **Employed persons:** 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-
- **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.

- **Normal hours worked:** Refers to the number of usual hours worked per week in the main job over a long reference period, excluding weeks when an absence from work occurs (e.g. holidays, vacation leave or sick leave).
- **Part time employment:** A part-time worker is an employed person whose normal hours are less than those of comparable full-time workers. Persons employed on a full-time with reduced hours basis are included in this category.
- **Reference week:** The week to which the collected data relate.
- **Unemployed persons:** 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 Jobsplus, 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	191,384	6,040	191,384 ± 6,040
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	65.68	1.82	65.68 ± 1.82
<i>Males</i>	78.28	3.36	78.28 ± 3.36
<i>Females</i>	52.50	3.10	52.50 ± 3.10
15-24	45.21	5.24	45.21 ± 5.24
25-54	79.14	3.00	79.14 ± 3.00
55-64	43.47	4.22	43.47 ± 4.22
Unemployment	9,822	1,731	9,822 ± 1,731
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	4.89	0.84	4.89 ± 0.84
<i>Males</i>	4.45	1.04	4.45 ± 1.04
<i>Females</i>	5.57	1.43	5.57 ± 1.43
15-24	10.90	3.30	10.90 ± 3.30
25+	4.00	0.80	4.00 ± 0.80
Inactivity	163,750	5,325	163,750 ± 5,325
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	69.08	1.79	69.08 ± 1.79
<i>Males</i>	81.93	3.38	81.93 ± 3.38
<i>Females</i>	55.62	3.17	55.62 ± 3.17
15-24	50.74	5.53	50.74 ± 5.53
25-54	82.71	3.03	82.71 ± 3.03
55-64	44.46	4.27	44.46 ± 4.27

The table gives indications on the sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 191,384 and the margin of error is 6,040. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 185,344 and 197,424 persons.

Key

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

5. Percentage Totals may not add up due to rounding.
6. Absolute changes between one survey estimate 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=NACE_Rev._2)
[http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO 2008](http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO_2008)
<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCED%202011>