

During the third quarter of 2017, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 3.1 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2016.

## Labour Force Survey: Q3/2017

### Labour Status

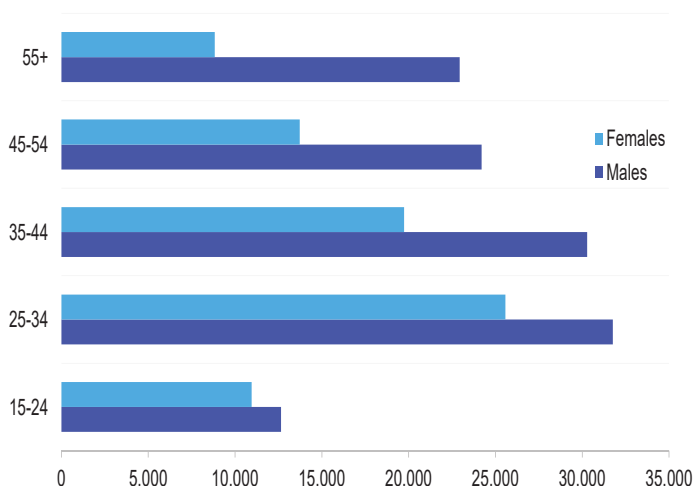
Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the third quarter of 2017, total employment numbered 200,636 accounting to more than half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 8,377 (2.3 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 161,164 (43.5 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 71.1 per cent with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25-54 (83.6 per cent) (Table 2).

### The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 to 64 years, 68 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 80.1 per cent while that for females stood at 55.6 per cent (Table 4).

Self-employed persons accounted for 14.0 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority worked on a full-time basis totalling 172,555 and 28,081 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). Results show that, on average, full-timers work 41.3 hours while part-timers work 22.9 hours per week (Table 7).

Employment by age groups and sex



The average annual basic salary (refer to methodological note 3) of employees for the third quarter of 2017 was estimated at €17,858. The highest basic salary was recorded in the Financial and Insurance Service sector (Table 10). Across all occupations, average annual salaries varied from €29,111 among managers to €12,178 among persons employed in elementary occupations (Table 14).

### The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the third quarter of 2017, stood at 4.0 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 and over (Table 16). Among the unemployed, 57.9 per cent stated that they had been seeking work for less than 12 months (Table 18). The main reason for inactivity relates to persons reaching retirement age or taking up early retirement (40.3 per cent) (Table 20).

## Education Attainment

According to the Labour Force Survey 56.6 per cent of the 15 year and over have attained a low level of education (Table 21). Among the employed population 25.6 per cent had a tertiary level education (Table 22) (Refer to methodological note 3).

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

Labour status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	July-September 2017					
Employed	121,823	65.6	78,813	42.7	200,636	54.2
Unemployed	4,914	2.6	3,463 <sup>u</sup>	1.9 <sup>u</sup>	8,377	2.3
Inactive	58,909	31.7	102,255	55.4	161,164	43.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>185,646</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>184,531</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>370,177</b>	<b>100.0</b>
July-September 2016 (Revised)						
Employed	118,284	64.8	76,239	41.5	194,523	53.1
Unemployed	5,743	3.1	4,122	2.2	9,865	2.7
Inactive	58,503	32.1	103,256	56.2	161,759	44.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>182,530</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>183,617</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>366,147</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

**Table 2. Activity rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total
	%				
	July-September 2017				
15-24	53.8		51.2		52.6
25-54	96.9		69.6		83.6
55-64	68.0		29.4		48.7
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>83.4</b>		<b>58.1</b>		<b>71.1</b>
July-September 2016 (Revised)					
15-24	57.5		51.7		54.6
25-54	95.6		67.8		82.1
55-64	66.2		28.4		47.3
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>82.9</b>		<b>56.6</b>		<b>70.0</b>

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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	July-September 2017					
15-24	12,648	10.4	10,952	13.9	23,600	11.8
25-34	31,760	26.1	25,572	32.4	57,332	28.6
35-44	30,279	24.9	19,733	25.0	50,012	24.9
45-54	24,199	19.9	13,728	17.4	37,927	18.9
55-64	19,659	16.1	8,428	10.7	28,087	14.0
65+	3,278	2.7	:	:	3,678	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,823</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>78,813</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>200,636</b>	<b>100.0</b>
July-September 2016 (Revised)						
15-24	12,923	10.9	11,782	15.5	24,705	12.7
25-34	31,128	26.3	23,427	30.7	54,555	28.0
35-44	29,394	24.9	18,335	24.0	47,729	24.5
45-54	23,659	20.0	14,032	18.4	37,691	19.4
55-64	18,560	15.7	8,261	10.8	26,821	13.8
65+	2,620 <sup>u</sup>	2.2 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,022	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>118,284</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,239</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>194,523</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 4. Employment rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%		%		%	
	July-September 2017					
15-24	48.0		46.1		47.1	
25-54	93.6		67.4		80.8	
55-64	66.5		28.5		47.5	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>80.1</b>		<b>55.6</b>		<b>68.2</b>	
July-September 2016 (Revised)						
15-24	49.6		46.2		47.9	
25-54	92.6		64.7		79.0	
55-64	63.1		28.0		45.5	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>79.0</b>		<b>53.7</b>		<b>66.6</b>	

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

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	July-September 2017					
Self-employed without employees	13,997	11.5	4,853	6.2	18,850	9.4
Self-employed with employees	7,777	6.4	:	:	9,280	4.6
Employee	99,997	82.1	72,396	91.9	172,393	85.9
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,823</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>78,813</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>200,636</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2016 (Revised)					
	July-September 2016 (Revised)					
Self-employed without employees	13,669	11.6	3,733	4.9	17,402	8.9
Self-employed with employees	7,680	6.5	:	:	8,726	4.5
Employee	96,935	82.0	71,460	93.7	168,395	86.6
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>118,284</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,239</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>194,523</b>	<b>100.0</b>

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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.	%
	July-September 2017					
Full-time job	114,260	93.8	58,295	74.0	172,555	86.0
Part-time job	7,563	6.2	20,518	26.0	28,081	14.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,823</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>78,813</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>200,636</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	July-September 2016 (Revised)					
	July-September 2016 (Revised)					
Full-time job	109,567	92.6	55,911	73.3	165,478	85.1
Part-time job	8,717	7.4	20,328	26.7	29,045	14.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>118,284</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,239</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>194,523</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average (Hours)					
	July-September 2017					
Full-time job	42.2		39.5		41.3	
Part-time job	21.8		23.3		22.9	
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.0</b>		<b>35.3</b>		<b>38.8</b>	
	July-September 2016 (Revised)					
	July-September 2016 (Revised)					
Full-time job	42.4		39.7		41.5	
Part-time job	21.9		22.8		22.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>40.9</b>		<b>35.2</b>		<b>38.7</b>	

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: July-September 2017**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,681 <sup>u</sup>	2.2 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,773 <sup>u</sup>	1.4 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,610	16.9	7,066	9.0	27,676	13.8
Construction	12,021	9.9	:	:	12,643	6.3
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	35,827	29.4	19,879	25.2	55,706	27.8
Information and communication	4,303	3.5	2,301 <sup>u</sup>	2.9 <sup>u</sup>	6,604	3.3
Financial and insurance activities	4,801	3.9	4,161	5.3	8,962	4.5
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,247 <sup>u</sup>	1.1 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,860	8.9	7,946	10.1	18,806	9.4
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	23,912	19.6	31,132	39.5	55,044	27.4
Other services	5,582	4.6	4,593	5.8	10,175	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,823</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>78,813</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>200,636</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 9. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: July-September 2016 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,062 <sup>u</sup>	1.7 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,180 <sup>u</sup>	1.1 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,850	17.6	5,992	7.9	26,842	13.8
Construction	11,422	9.7	:	:	11,915	6.1
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	37,247	31.5	20,041	26.3	57,288	29.5
Information and communication	4,217	3.6	1,893 <sup>u</sup>	2.5 <sup>u</sup>	6,110	3.1
Financial and insurance activities	3,970	3.4	4,710	6.2	8,680	4.5
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,818	9.1	8,671	11.4	19,489	10.0
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	22,575	19.1	30,045	39.4	52,620	27.1
Other services	4,086	3.5	4,094	5.4	8,180	4.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>118,284</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,239</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>194,523</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 10. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: July-September 2017**

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	17,832	17,738	6,414	12,757	24,246	16,421
Construction	8,485	15,557	:	:	9,107	15,551
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	27,767	17,947	17,712	12,765	45,479	15,929
Information and communication	3,315 <sup>u</sup>	21,769 <sup>u</sup>	2,219 <sup>u</sup>	19,532 <sup>u</sup>	5,534	20,872
Financial and insurance activities	4,307	27,886	4,161	20,506	8,468	24,259
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,399 <sup>u</sup>	15,222 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	8,376	19,102	6,747	15,449	15,123	17,472
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	23,454	19,825	30,583	18,516	54,037	19,084
Other services	4,665	24,698	3,318 <sup>u</sup>	13,159 <sup>u</sup>	7,983	19,902
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,997</b>	<b>19,083</b>	<b>72,396</b>	<b>16,166</b>	<b>172,393</b>	<b>17,858</b>

<sup>i</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 11. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: July-September 2016 (Revised) (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	18,245	16,427	5,671	13,495	23,916	15,732
Construction	8,024	14,849	:	:	8,517	15,050
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	28,378	16,544	17,977	12,049	46,355	14,801
Information and communication	3,747 <sup>u</sup>	24,161 <sup>u</sup>	1,835 <sup>u</sup>	17,643 <sup>u</sup>	5,582	22,018
Financial and insurance activities	3,697	24,782	4,710	21,751	8,407	23,084
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	8,358	22,010	7,985	14,829	16,343	18,501
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	21,808	19,711	29,677	17,355	51,485	18,353
Other services	3,168 <sup>u</sup>	25,786 <sup>u</sup>	3,025 <sup>u</sup>	14,470 <sup>u</sup>	6,193	20,259
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,935</b>	<b>18,440</b>	<b>71,460</b>	<b>15,615</b>	<b>168,395</b>	<b>17,241</b>

<sup>i</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: July-September 2017**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,988 <sup>u</sup>	1.6 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,988 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	13,771	11.3	5,129	6.5	18,900	9.4
Professionals	16,637	13.7	17,179	21.8	33,816	16.9
Technicians and associate professionals	19,345	15.9	10,484	13.3	29,829	14.9
Clerical support workers	8,396	6.9	12,794	16.2	21,190	10.6
Service and sales workers	19,224	15.8	22,816	28.9	42,040	21.0
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,463 <sup>u</sup>	2.0 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,555 <sup>u</sup>	1.3 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	18,156	14.9	:	:	19,253	9.6
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,664	7.9	3,522 <sup>u</sup>	4.5 <sup>u</sup>	13,186	6.6
Elementary occupations	12,179	10.0	5,700	7.2	17,879	8.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,823</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>78,813</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>200,636</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 13. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: July-September 2016 (Revised)**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,885 <sup>u</sup>	1.6 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,948 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	12,601	10.7	5,169	6.8	17,770	9.1
Professionals	15,181	12.8	16,860	22.1	32,041	16.5
Technicians and associate professionals	18,184	15.4	10,710	14.0	28,894	14.9
Clerical support workers	9,175	7.8	11,339	14.9	20,514	10.5
Service and sales workers	19,300	16.3	23,061	30.2	42,361	21.8
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,205 <sup>u</sup>	1.9 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,323 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	17,364	14.7	1,316 <sup>u</sup>	1.7 <sup>u</sup>	18,680	9.6
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,928	8.4	2,684 <sup>u</sup>	3.5 <sup>u</sup>	12,612	6.5
Elementary occupations	12,461	10.5	4,919	6.5	17,380	8.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>118,284</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>76,239</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>194,523</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 14. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and main occupation: July-September 2017**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)
Armed Forces	1,988 <sup>u</sup>	15,347 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,988 <sup>u</sup>	15,347 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	10,105	31,232	4,495	24,343	14,600	29,111
Professionals	14,188	25,945	15,661	22,487	29,849	24,131
Technicians and associate professionals	17,305	19,888	9,921	18,561	27,226	19,404
Clerical support workers	8,231	16,171	12,794	13,366	21,025	14,464
Service and sales workers	15,546	15,694	19,590	12,431	35,136	13,875
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	12,720	15,100	:	:	13,597	14,883
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,060	15,419	3,433 <sup>u</sup>	12,682 <sup>u</sup>	11,493	14,602
Elementary occupations	11,253	13,264	5,625	10,004	16,878	12,178
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,997</b>	<b>19,083</b>	<b>72,396</b>	<b>16,166</b>	<b>172,393</b>	<b>17,858</b>

<sup>:</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 15. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and main occupation: July-September 2016 (Revised) (Revised)**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)
Armed Forces	1,885 <sup>u</sup>	15,673 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,948 <sup>u</sup>	15,662 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	8,901	30,911	4,715	25,534	13,616	29,049
Professionals	12,771	26,687	15,930	20,885	28,701	23,467
Technicians and associate professionals	16,953	18,762	10,558	17,972	27,511	18,459
Clerical support workers	9,002	15,235	11,270	12,772	20,272	13,865
Service and sales workers	14,521	14,788	20,165	11,273	34,686	12,744
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	11,382	15,166	:	:	12,597	15,091
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,933	15,216	2,684 <sup>u</sup>	12,432 <sup>u</sup>	11,617	14,573
Elementary occupations	11,670	12,833	4,860	10,276	16,530	12,081
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,935</b>	<b>18,440</b>	<b>71,460</b>	<b>15,615</b>	<b>168,395</b>	<b>17,241</b>

<sup>:</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.



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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	July-September 2017					
15-24	:	:	:	:	2,729 <sup>u</sup>	32.6 <sup>u</sup>
25-74	3,405 <sup>u</sup>	69.3 <sup>u</sup>	2,243 <sup>u</sup>	64.8 <sup>u</sup>	5,648	67.4
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>4,914</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,463</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,377</b>	<b>100.0</b>
July-September 2016 (Revised)						
15-24	2,061 <sup>u</sup>	35.9 <sup>u</sup>	1,399 <sup>u</sup>	33.9 <sup>u</sup>	3,460 <sup>u</sup>	35.1 <sup>u</sup>
25-74	3,682	64.1	2,723 <sup>u</sup>	66.1 <sup>u</sup>	6,405	64.9
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>5,743</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,122</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,865</b>	<b>100.0</b>

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

**Table 17. Unemployment rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	July-September 2017					
15-24	:	:	:	:	10.4 <sup>u</sup>	
25-74	3.0 <sup>u</sup>		3.2 <sup>u</sup>		3.1	
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>3.9</b>		<b>4.2<sup>u</sup></b>		<b>4.0</b>	
July-September 2016 (Revised)						
15-24	13.8 <sup>u</sup>		10.6 <sup>u</sup>		12.3 <sup>u</sup>	
25-74	3.4		4.1 <sup>u</sup>		3.6	
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>4.6</b>		<b>5.1</b>		<b>4.8</b>	

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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.	%
	July-September 2017					
Less than 12 months	2,545 <sup>u</sup>	51.8 <sup>u</sup>	2,304 <sup>u</sup>	66.5 <sup>u</sup>	4,849	57.9
12 months or more	2,369 <sup>u</sup>	48.2 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,528 <sup>u</sup>	42.1 <sup>u</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,914</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,463<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,377</b>	<b>100.0</b>
July-September 2016 (Revised)						
Less than 12 months	2,704 <sup>u</sup>	47.1 <sup>u</sup>	2,871 <sup>u</sup>	69.7 <sup>u</sup>	5,575	56.5
12 months or more	3,039 <sup>u</sup>	52.9 <sup>u</sup>	1,251 <sup>u</sup>	30.3 <sup>u</sup>	4,290	43.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,743</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,122</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,865</b>	<b>100.0</b>

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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.	%
<b>July-September 2017</b>						
15-24	12,167	20.7	11,605	11.3	23,772	14.8
25-34	:	:	5,289	5.2	5,518	3.4
35-44	:	:	9,445	9.2	10,345	6.4
45-54	1,761 <sup>u</sup>	3.0 <sup>u</sup>	11,867	11.6	13,628	8.5
55-64	9,460	16.1	20,841	20.4	30,301	18.8
65+	34,392	58.4	43,208	42.3	77,600	48.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,909</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>102,255</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>161,164</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>July-September 2016 (Revised)</b>						
15-24	11,091	19.0	12,307	11.9	23,398	14.5
25-34	:	:	6,962	6.7	8,145	5.0
35-44	:	:	9,595	9.3	10,615	6.6
45-54	1,805 <sup>u</sup>	3.1 <sup>u</sup>	11,219	10.9	13,024	8.1
55-64	9,922	17.0	21,124	20.5	31,046	19.2
65+	33,482	57.2	42,049	40.7	75,531	46.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,503</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>103,256</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>161,759</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 20. Main reasons for being inactive by sex

Reason	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>July-September 2017</b>						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	24,333	23.8	25,038	15.5
Education or training	11,258	19.1	11,023	10.8	22,281	13.8
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	40,824	69.3	24,096	23.6	64,920	40.3
Other reasons	6,122	10.4	42,803	41.9	48,925	30.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,909</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>102,255</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>161,164</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>July-September 2016 (Revised)</b>						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	25,454	24.7	26,148	16.2
Education or training	10,802	18.5	12,026	11.6	22,828	14.1
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	40,250	68.8	27,695	26.8	67,945	42.0
Other reasons	6,757	11.5	38,081	36.9	44,838	27.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,503</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>103,256</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>161,759</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>†</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>July-September 2017</b>						
Low	102,956	55.5	106,635	57.8	209,591	56.6
Medium	53,070	28.6	45,620	24.7	98,690	26.7
High	29,620	16.0	32,276	17.5	61,896	16.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>185,646</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>184,531</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>370,177</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>July-September 2016 (Revised)</b>						
Low	103,759	56.8	106,465	58.0	210,224	57.4
Medium	50,517	27.7	46,045	25.1	96,562	26.4
High	28,254	15.5	31,107	16.9	59,361	16.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>182,530</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>183,617</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>366,147</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

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

	Employed		Unemployed		Inactive		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>July-September 2017</b>								
Low	82,061	40.9	5,160	61.6	122,370	75.9	209,591	56.6
Medium	67,309	33.5	2,371 <sup>u</sup>	28.3 <sup>u</sup>	29,010	18.0	98,690	26.7
High	51,266	25.6	:	:	9,784	6.1	61,896	16.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>200,636</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,377</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>161,164</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>370,177</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>July-September 2016</b>								
Low	82,665	42.5	6,657	67.5	120,902	74.7	210,224	57.4
Medium	63,686	32.7	2,405 <sup>u</sup>	24.4 <sup>u</sup>	30,471	18.8	96,562	26.4
High	48,172	24.8	:	:	10,386	6.4	59,361	16.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>194,523</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,865</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>161,759</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>366,147</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>·</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

## 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 for 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 (15-64).
- **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 Jobplus, 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	200,636	3,718	200,636 ± 3,718
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	68.18	1.25	68.18 ± 1.25
<i>Males</i>	80.11	1.24	80.11 ± 1.24
<i>Females</i>	55.64	1.62	55.64 ± 1.62
15-24	47.10	3.55	47.10 ± 3.55
25-54	80.84	1.54	80.84 ± 1.54
55-64	47.53	2.65	47.53 ± 2.65
Unemployment	8,377	1,648	8,377 ± 1,648
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	4.02	0.80	4.02 ± 0.80
<i>Males</i>	3.89	1.01	3.89 ± 1.01
<i>Females</i>	4.21	1.30	4.21 ± 1.30
15-24	10.36	3.61	10.36 ± 3.61
25+	3.10	0.73	3.10 ± 0.73
Inactivity	161,164	3,517	161,164 ± 3,517
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	71.08	1.18	71.08 ± 1.18
<i>Males</i>	83.43	1.10	83.43 ± 1.10
<i>Females</i>	58.10	1.59	58.10 ± 1.59
15-24	52.55	3.42	52.55 ± 3.42
25-54	83.59	1.42	83.59 ± 1.42
55-64	48.72	2.64	48.72 ± 2.64

Note: Prior to 2017, the margin of error was calculated using the Bootstrap method. From Quarter 1 2017 the Ultimate Cluster Method was used for the margin of error calculations. This method is in line with current Eurostat's recommendations for best practice.

The table above provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 200,636 and the margin of error is 3,718. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 196,918 and 204,354 persons.

Key

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> 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:  
Sources and Methods: [https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources\\_and\\_Methods/Unit\\_C2/Labour\\_Market\\_Statistics/Pages/Labour-Force-Survey.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C2/Labour_Market_Statistics/Pages/Labour-Force-Survey.aspx)  
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>
9. Any quotations from this news release are to be cited and/or referenced.
10. A detailed news release calendar is available on [https://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/Release\\_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)
11. 2016 data has been revised due to demographic revisions.