

During the fourth quarter of 2019, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 5.4 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2018.

Labour Force Survey: Q4/2019

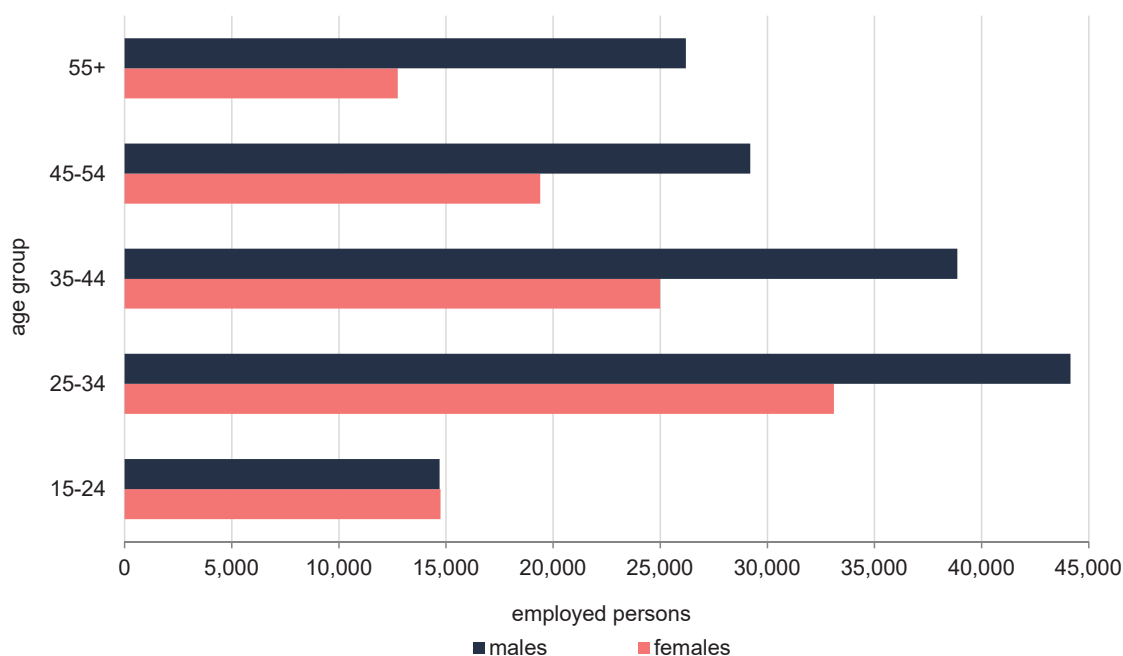
Labour Status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the fourth quarter, total employment stood at 258,064 accounting to 60 per cent of the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 8,541 (2.0 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 163,577 (38.0 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 76.6 per cent with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25 to 54 (87.7 per cent) (Table 2).

The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 to 64 years, 74 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 83.4 per cent while that for females stood at 63.7 per cent (Table 4). The largest share of employed persons was recorded among persons aged between 25 and 34 years, for both males and females (Chart 1).

Chart 1. Employment by age group and sex



Self-employed persons accounted for 15.5 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis totalling 222,079 and 35,985 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). Results show that, on average, full-timers work 42.0 hours while part-timers work 21.7 hours per week (Table 7).

The average annual basic salary of employees for the fourth quarter of 2019 was estimated at €19,488. The highest basic salary was recorded in the Financial and insurance activities sector (Table 10). Average annual salaries varied from €33,562 among managers to €12,500 among persons employed in elementary occupations (Table 14).

The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the fourth quarter of 2019, stood at 3.2 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 to 74 years (Table 16). Females accounted for 61.5 per cent of total inactive persons. In addition, those over 65 years made up the highest share of the inactive (Table 19). In fact, over 40 per cent were inactive because they had reached retirement age or were taking up early retirement (Table 20).

Education Attainment

According to the Labour Force Survey just over a half of those over 15 years had attained a low level of education (Table 21). By contrast 30.9 per cent of those employed had a tertiary level education (Table 22).

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

Labour status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	October-December 2019					
Employed	153,088	69.3	104,976	50.2	258,064	60.0
Unemployed	4,834 ^u	2.2 ^u	3,707 ^u	1.8 ^u	8,541	2.0
Inactive	63,058	28.5	100,519	48.0	163,577	38.0
Total	220,980	100.0	209,202	100.0	430,182	100.0
	October-December 2018 (Revised)					
Employed	145,973	68.4	98,961	48.5	244,934	58.7
Unemployed	5,566 ^u	2.6 ^u	3,442 ^u	1.7 ^u	9,008	2.2
Inactive	62,005	29.0	101,638	49.8	163,643	39.2
Total	213,544	100.0	204,041	100.0	417,585	100.0

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

Table 2. Activity rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	October-December 2019					
15-24	56.4		59.8		58.0	
25-54	97.6		76.5		87.7	
55-64	70.8		35.9		53.6	
Total (15-64)	86.1		66.0		76.6	
	October-December 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	56.1		56.9		56.5	
25-54	97.2		74.0		86.2	
55-64	70.7		38.0		54.5	
Total (15-64)	85.7		64.3		75.5	

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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	October-December 2019					
15-24	14,695	9.6	14,738	14.0	29,433	11.4
25-34	44,142	28.8	33,102	31.5	77,244	29.9
35-44	38,863	25.4	24,987	23.8	63,850	24.7
45-54	29,198	19.1	19,400	18.5	48,598	18.8
55-64	22,321	14.6	10,801	10.3	33,122	12.8
65+	3,869	2.5	1,948 ^u	1.9 ^u	5,817	2.3
Total	153,088	100.0	104,976	100.0	258,064	100.0
	October-December 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	13,956	9.6	13,504	13.6	27,460	11.2
25-34	42,515	29.1	31,744	32.1	74,259	30.3
35-44	37,105	25.4	24,583	24.8	61,688	25.2
45-54	27,975	19.2	17,314	17.5	45,289	18.5
55-64	21,103	14.5	10,889	11.0	31,992	13.1
65+	3,319	2.3	:	:	4,246	1.7
Total	145,973	100.0	98,961	100.0	244,934	100.0

^u Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	October-December 2019					
15-24	50.4		56.1		53.1	
25-54	95.2		74.2		85.3	
55-64	70.0		34.9		52.7	
Total (15-64)	83.4		63.7		74.1	
	October-December 2018 (Revised)					
15-24	49.8		52.7		51.2	
25-54	94.6		72.3		84.1	
55-64	68.0		35.9		52.2	
Total (15-64)	82.5		62.2		72.8	

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

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	October-December 2019					
Self-employed without employees	20,389	13.3	7,213	6.9	27,602	10.7
Self-employed with employees	8,736	5.7	3,624 ^u	3.5 ^u	12,360	4.8
Employee	123,963	81.0	93,977	89.5	217,940	84.5
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	153,088	100.0	104,976	100.0	258,064	100.0
	October-December 2018 (Revised)					
Self-employed without employees	17,645	12.1	6,741	6.8	24,386	10.0
Self-employed with employees	7,981	5.5	2,627 ^u	2.7 ^u	10,608	4.3
Employee	120,347	82.4	89,535	90.5	209,882	85.7
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	145,973	100.0	98,961	100.0	244,934	100.0

^u Unreliable - less than 20 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.	%
	October-December 2019					
Full-time job	140,637	91.9	81,442	77.6	222,079	86.1
Part-time job	12,451	8.1	23,534	22.4	35,985	13.9
Total	153,088	100.0	104,976	100.0	258,064	100.0
	October-December 2018 (Revised)					
Full-time job	132,902	91.0	76,833	77.6	209,735	85.6
Part-time job	13,071	9.0	22,128	22.4	35,199	14.4
Total	145,973	100.0	98,961	100.0	244,934	100.0

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

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average Hours					
	October-December 2019					
Full-time job	42.9		40.6		42.0	
Part-time job	19.6		22.9		21.7	
Total	41.1		36.6		39.2	
	October-December 2018 (Revised)					
Full-time job	42.5		40.3		41.7	
Part-time job	19.4		21.0		20.4	
Total	40.5		36.0		38.7	

**Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity
in the main occupation: October-December 2019**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,412 ^u	1.6 ^u	:	:	2,479 ^u	1.0 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	22,248	14.5	7,703	7.3	29,951	11.6
Construction	16,897	11.0	:	:	18,268	7.1
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	44,199	28.9	24,934	23.8	69,133	26.8
Information and communication	6,958	4.5	2,461 ^u	2.3 ^u	9,419	3.6
Financial and insurance activities	5,765 ^u	3.8 ^u	7,846	7.5	13,611	5.3
Real estate activities	2,039 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	2,567 ^u	1.0 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	13,343	8.7	10,797	10.3	24,140	9.4
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	26,718	17.5	40,610	38.7	67,328	26.1
Other services	12,509	8.2	8,659	8.2	21,168	8.2
Total	153,088	100.0	104,976	100.0	258,064	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

**Table 9. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity
in the main occupation: October-December 2018 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,875 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	1,954 ^u	0.8 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	22,006	15.1	7,786	7.9	29,792	12.2
Construction	14,777	10.1	:	:	15,661	6.4
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	39,866	27.3	25,524	25.8	65,390	26.7
Information and communication	6,679	4.6	2,757 ^u	2.8 ^u	9,436	3.9
Financial and insurance activities	6,652	4.6	4,907	5.0	11,559	4.7
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,989 ^u	0.8 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	15,485	10.6	8,525	8.6	24,010	9.8
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,168	17.2	37,639	38.0	62,807	25.6
Other services	12,050	8.3	10,286	10.4	22,336	9.1
Total	145,973	100.0	98,961	100.0	244,934	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 10. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity in the main occupation: October-December 2019

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average ^p (€)	No. of employees	Average ^p (€)	No. of employees	Average ^p (€)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	18,754	20,787	7,488	15,215	26,242	19,197
Construction	9,657	17,012	:	:	10,598	17,018
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	35,820	16,633	21,987	13,493	57,807	15,439
Information and communication	5,946 ^u	25,974 ^u	2,235 ^u	19,520 ^u	8,181	24,211
Financial and insurance activities	5,069 ^u	26,414 ^u	7,470	28,798	12,539	27,834
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,393	23,420	8,928	18,542	19,321	21,166
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	26,329	21,730	38,723	19,303	65,052	20,285
Other services	10,171	25,250	5,761 ^u	15,712 ^u	15,932	21,801
Total	123,963	20,597	93,977	18,026	217,940	19,488

ⁱ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

^p Provisional

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 11. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity in the main occupation: October-December 2018 (Revised)

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average ^p (€)	No. of employees	Average ^p (€)	No. of employees	Average ^p (€)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	18,994	19,731	7,162	14,800	26,156	18,381
Construction	9,729	17,607	:	:	10,613	17,521
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	31,400	17,528	23,213	13,506	54,613	15,819
Information and communication	5,456	22,708	2,208 ^u	20,669 ^u	7,664	22,120
Financial and insurance activities	5,968	28,381	4,907	26,020	10,875	27,316
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	12,567	20,435	6,523	16,998	19,090	19,261
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	24,935	21,466	36,796	18,152	61,731	19,491
Other services	9,903	26,985	7,409	16,508	17,312	22,501
Total	120,347	20,562	89,535	16,931	209,882	19,013

ⁱ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

^p Provisional

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: October-December 2019

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	2,225 ^u	1.5 ^u	:	:	2,363 ^u	0.9 ^u
Managers	19,700	12.9	8,623	8.2	28,323	11.0
Professionals	25,120	16.4	24,037	22.9	49,157	19.0
Technicians and associate professionals	23,054	15.1	13,613	13.0	36,667	14.2
Clerical support workers	11,269	7.4	16,642	15.9	27,911	10.8
Service and sales workers	21,335	13.9	29,347	28.0	50,682	19.6
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,267 ^u	1.5 ^u	:	:	2,334 ^u	0.9 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	23,609	15.4	:	:	25,075	9.7
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	11,002	7.2	3,041 ^u	2.9 ^u	14,043	5.4
Elementary occupations	13,507	8.8	8,002	7.6	21,509	8.3
Total	153,088	100.0	104,976	100.0	258,064	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: October-December 2018 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	19,392	13.3	6,361	6.4	25,753	10.5
Professionals	22,728	15.6	22,824	23.1	45,552	18.6
Technicians and associate professionals	24,527	16.8	13,364	13.5	37,891	15.5
Clerical support workers	11,875	8.1	15,256	15.4	27,131	11.1
Service and sales workers	20,311	13.9	29,892	30.2	50,203	20.5
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,426 ^u	1.7 ^u	:	:	2,426 ^u	1.0 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	20,303	13.9	:	:	22,077	9.0
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,147	6.3	3,314 ^u	3.3 ^u	12,461	5.1
Elementary occupations	13,669	9.4	6,176	6.2	19,845	8.1
Total	145,973	100.0	98,961	100.0	244,934	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: October-December 2019

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average ^P (€)	No. of employees	Average ^P (€)	No. of employees	Average ^P (€)
Armed Forces	2,225 ^u	18,937 ^u	:	:	2,363 ^u	18,712 ^u
Managers	14,411	32,409	8,273	35,569	22,684	33,562
Professionals	21,691	28,274	21,768	22,715	43,459	25,490
Technicians and associate professionals	20,032	21,988	11,348	19,014	31,380	20,913
Clerical support workers	11,059	15,691	16,309	15,375	27,368	15,503
Service and sales workers	16,701	14,389	24,920	12,570	41,621	13,300
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	15,394	16,266	:	:	16,167	16,111
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,360	15,603	2,950 ^u	12,122 ^u	12,310	14,769
Elementary occupations	12,415	13,800	7,498	10,346	19,913	12,500
Total	123,963	20,597	93,977	18,026	217,940	19,488

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

^P Provisional

Table 15. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and main occupation: October-December 2018 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average ^P (€)	No. of employees	Average ^P (€)	No. of employees	Average ^P (€)
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	15,195	33,305	6,092 ^u	30,217 ^u	21,287	32,421
Professionals	20,442	26,186	20,871	22,555	41,313	24,351
Technicians and associate professionals	21,314	21,538	11,926	18,849	33,240	20,574
Clerical support workers	10,944	18,152	14,915	14,475	25,859	16,031
Service and sales workers	15,572	14,683	25,317	12,075	40,889	13,069
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	13,545	15,884	:	:	14,747	15,806
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,107	14,991	3,212 ^u	12,040 ^u	11,319	14,154
Elementary occupations	12,889	13,279	6,000	9,683	18,889	12,137
Total	120,347	20,562	89,535	16,931	209,882	19,013

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

^P Provisional

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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	October-December 2019					
15-24	:	:	:	:	2,723 ^u	31.9 ^u
25-74	3,080 ^u	63.7 ^u	2,738 ^u	73.9 ^u	5,818 ^u	68.1 ^u
Total (15-74)	4,834^u	100.0^u	3,707^u	100.0^u	8,541	100.0
October-December 2018 (Revised)						
15-24	:	:	:	:	2,834 ^u	31.5 ^u
25-74	3,797 ^u	68.2 ^u	2,377 ^u	69.1 ^u	6,174	68.5
Total (15-74)	5,566^u	100.0^u	3,442^u	100.0^u	9,008	100.0

ⁱ 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	
	%					
	October-December 2019					
15-24	:	:	:	:	8.5 ^u	
25-74	2.2 ^u		2.9 ^u		2.5 ^u	
Total (15-74)	3.1^u		3.4^u		3.2	
October-December 2018 (Revised)						
15-24	:	:	:	:	9.4 ^u	
25-74	2.8 ^u		2.7 ^u		2.8	
Total (15-74)	3.7^u		3.4^u		3.6	

ⁱ 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.	%
	October-December 2019					
Less than 12 months	2,202 ^u	45.6 ^u	2,595 ^u	70.0 ^u	4,797 ^u	56.2 ^u
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	3,744 ^u	43.8 ^u
Total	4,834^u	100.0^u	3,707^u	100.0^u	8,541	100.0
October-December 2018 (Revised)						
Less than 12 months	2,414 ^u	43.4 ^u	2,254 ^u	65.5 ^u	4,668	51.8
12 months or more	3152 ^u	56.6 ^u	:	:	4,340 ^u	48.2 ^u
Total	5,566^u	100.0^u	3,442^u	100.0^u	9,008	100.0

ⁱ 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.	%
	October-December 2019					
15-24	12,716	20.2	10,557	10.5	23,273	14.2
25-34	:	:	6,818 ^u	6.8 ^u	7,756	4.7
35-44	:	:	9,428	9.4	10,185	6.2
45-54	:	:	8,279	8.2	9,390	5.7
55-64	9,305	14.8	19,856	19.8	29,161	17.8
65+	38,231	60.6	45,581	45.3	83,812	51.2
Total	63,058	100.0	100,519	100.0	163,577	100.0

October-December 2018 (Revised)						
15-24	12,309	19.9	11,036	10.9	23,345	14.3
25-34	:	:	6,541 ^u	6.4 ^u	7,713	4.7
35-44	:	:	9,805	9.6	10,898	6.7
45-54	:	:	10,087	9.9	11,048	6.8
55-64	9,099	14.7	18,774	18.5	27,873	17.0
65+	37,371	60.3	45,395	44.7	82,766	50.6
Total	62,005	100.0	101,638	100.0	163,643	100.0

^z 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 for inactivity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	October-December 2019					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	29,729	29.6	31,365	19.2
Education or training	11,224	17.8	9,651	9.6	20,875	12.8
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	44,687	70.9	23,751	23.6	68,438	41.8
Other reasons	5,511	8.7	37,388	37.2	42,899	26.2
Total	63,058	100.0	100,519	100.0	163,577	100.0

October-December 2018 (Revised)						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	31,775	31.3	32,575	19.9
Education or training	11,877	19.2	10,554	10.4	22,431	13.7
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	44,111	71.1	24,419	24.0	68,530	41.9
Other reasons	5,217	8.4	34,890	34.3	40,107	24.5
Total	62,005	100.0	101,638	100.0	163,643	100.0

^z Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Education level	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	October-December 2019					
Secondary level education or less	109,902	49.7	106,111	50.7	216,013	50.2
Post-Secondary level education	63,393	28.7	53,398	25.5	116,791	27.1
Tertiary level education	47,685	21.6	49,693	23.8	97,378	22.6
Total	220,980	100.0	209,202	100.0	430,182	100.0
October-December 2018 (Revised)						
Secondary level education or less	103,666	48.5	106,410	52.2	210,076	50.3
Post-Secondary level education	63,053	29.5	55,645	27.3	118,698	28.4
Tertiary level education	46,825	21.9	41,986	20.6	88,811	21.3
Total	213,544	100.0	204,041	100.0	417,585	100.0

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

Education level	Employed		Unemployed		Inactive		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	October-December 2019							
Secondary level education or less	95,841	37.1	4,805 ^u	56.3 ^u	115,367	70.5	216,013	50.2
Post-Secondary level education	82,548	32.0	:	:	32,309	19.8	116,791	27.1
Tertiary level education	79,675	30.9	:	:	15,901	9.7	97,378	22.6
Total	258,064	100.0	8,541	100.0	163,577	100.0	430,182	100.0
October-December 2018 (Revised)								
Secondary level education or less	89,919	36.7	4,965 ^u	55.1 ^u	115,192	70.4	210,076	50.3
Post-Secondary level education	81,490	33.3	:	:	34,856	21.3	118,698	28.4
Tertiary level education	73,525	30.0	:	:	13,595	8.3	88,811	21.3
Total	244,934	100.0	9,008	100.0	163,643	100.0	417,585	100.0

[·] 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 (International Standard Classification of Education).

3. Definitions:

- **Activity rate:** labour force (15-64 years) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64 years).
- **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. Data for this variable is provisional and subject to revisions.
- **Education Attainment:**
 - **secondary or less level of education:** comprising persons with no schooling, primary education, schools for children with special needs 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.
 - **post-secondary level of education:** 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.
 - **tertiary level of education:** 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 years) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64 years).
- **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 Jobspus, 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	258,064	4,231	258,064 ± 4,231
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	74.07	1.24	74.07 ± 1.24
<i>Males</i>	83.42	1.29	83.42 ± 1.29
<i>Females</i>	63.73	1.80	63.73 ± 1.80
15-24	53.10	3.69	53.10 ± 3.69
25-54	85.35	1.49	85.35 ± 1.49
55-64	52.69	3.83	52.69 ± 3.83
Unemployment	8,541	2,117	8,541 ± 2,117
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	3.21	0.78	3.21 ± 0.78
<i>Males</i>	3.07	1.03	3.07 ± 1.03
<i>Females</i>	3.42	1.28	3.42 ± 1.28
15-24	8.47	3.30	8.47 ± 3.30
25-74	2.49	0.77	2.49 ± 0.77
Inactivity	163,577	4,326	163,577 ± 4,326
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	76.58	1.24	76.58 ± 1.24
<i>Males</i>	86.12	1.16	86.12 ± 1.16
<i>Females</i>	66.02	1.82	66.02 ± 1.82
15-24	58.01	3.65	58.01 ± 3.65
25-54	87.70	1.43	87.70 ± 1.43
55-64	53.61	3.82	53.61 ± 3.82

The table on page 14 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 258,064 and the margin of error is 4,231. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 253,833 and 262,295 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 2,100 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

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

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

Classification: https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE_Rev._2

https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO_2008

<https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCED%202011>

9. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
10. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx