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Despite a rise of 2.8 per cent in employment over one year, the unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2020 increased from 3.6 per cent to 4.4 per cent when compared to the same period in 2019.

Labour Force Survey: Q2/2020

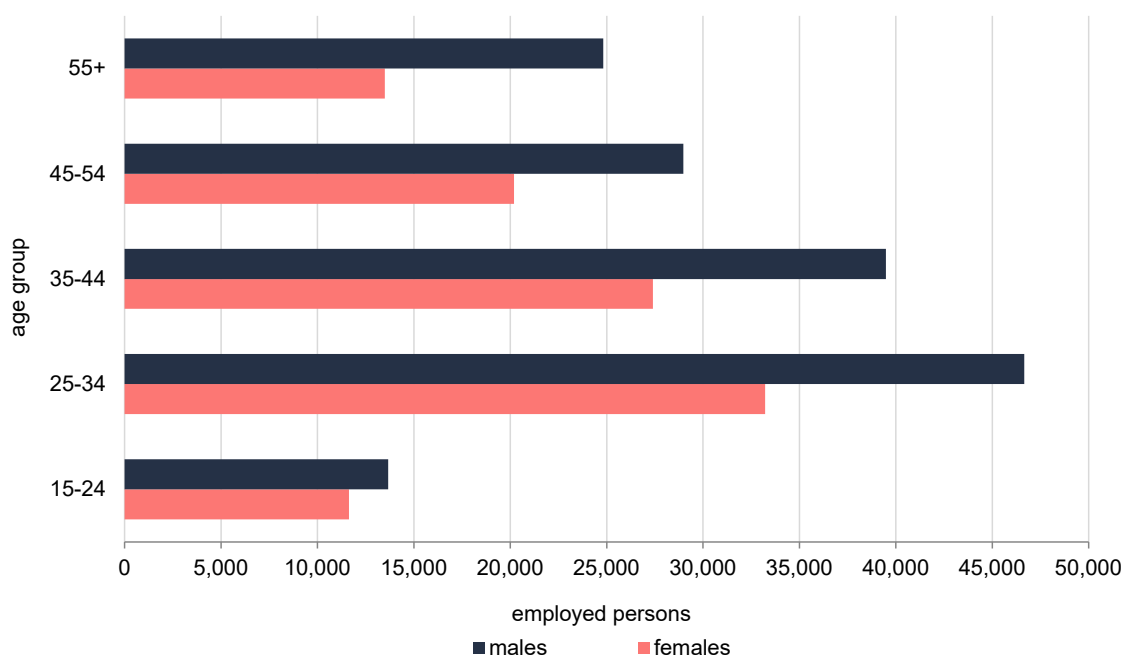
Labour Status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the second quarter, total employment stood at 259,523 accounting for 59.2 per cent of the population aged 15 and over. This accounts for an increase of 2.8 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2019 and a drop of 2.5 per cent when compared to the previous quarter. Unemployed persons stood at 12,031 (2.7 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 166,861 (38.1 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 76.4 per cent with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25 to 54 (87.2 per cent) (Table 2).

The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 and 64 years, 73 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 81.2 per cent while that for females stood at 63.6 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 15.8 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis and amounted to 228,192. A further 31,331 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). Results show that, on average, full-timers usually worked 42.1 hours while part-timers worked 22.6 hours per week. During the second quarter of 2020 the Labour Force Survey registered a drop in the number of actual hours worked when compared to the same period in 2019. In this regard, the number of weekly actual hours clocked by full-time workers was estimated to be 34.1 hours whereas part-timers actually worked 13.2 hours per week (Table 7).

The average monthly basic salary of employees for the second quarter of 2020 was estimated at €1,491, indicating a drop of 8.6 per cent when compared to the previous year. The highest basic salary was recorded in the Financial and insurance activities sector (Table 10). Average monthly salaries varied from €857 among persons employed in elementary occupations to €2,551 among managers (Table 14).

The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2020, stood at 4.4 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 to 74 years (Table 16). Females accounted for 59.9 per cent of total inactive persons and those over 65 years made up the highest share of the inactive (Table 19). Over 40 per cent were inactive because they had reached retirement age or were taking up early retirement (Table 20).

Education Attainment

Almost half of the persons aged 15 years and over had attained a low level of education (Table 21). By contrast, 34.0 per cent of the employed had a tertiary level education (Table 22).

Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation.

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

Labour status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2020					
Employed	153,595	67.6	105,928	50.2	259,523	59.2
Unemployed	6,673	2.9	5,358 ^u	2.5 ^u	12,031	2.7
Inactive	66,926	29.5	99,935	47.3	166,861	38.1
Total	227,194	100.0	211,221	100.0	438,415	100.0
	January-March 2020 (Revised)					
Employed	157,699	69.2	108,550	51.3	266,249	60.6
Unemployed	6,217 ^u	2.7 ^u	3,774 ^u	1.8 ^u	9,991	2.3
Inactive	63,849	28.0	99,423	47.0	163,272	37.1
Total	227,765	100.0	211,747	100.0	439,512	100.0
	April-June 2019 (Revised)					
Employed	149,576	67.9	102,930	49.7	252,506	59.1
Unemployed	5,009 ^u	2.3 ^u	4,258 ^u	2.1 ^u	9,267	2.2
Inactive	65,827	29.9	99,820	48.2	165,647	38.8
Total	220,412	100.0	207,008	100.0	427,420	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	
	%					
	April-June 2020					
15-24	56.9		49.6		53.4	
25-54	94.7		78.5		87.2	
55-64	70.0		40.3		55.4	
Total (15-64)	84.9		66.9		76.4	
	April-June 2019 (Revised)					
15-24	53.5		49.9		51.8	
25-54	95.7		79.2		88.0	
55-64	64.7		36.5		50.8	
Total (15-64)	83.7		66.4		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.	%
	April-June 2020					
15-24	13,663	8.9	11,630	11.0	25,293	9.7
25-34	46,661	30.4	33,218	31.4	79,879	30.8
35-44	39,475	25.7	27,401	25.9	66,876	25.8
45-54	28,978	18.9	20,186	19.1	49,164	18.9
55-64	21,174	13.8	11,386	10.7	32,560	12.5
65+	3,644	2.4	:	:	5,751	2.2
Total	153,595	100.0	105,928	100.0	259,523	100.0
	April-June 2019 (Revised)					
15-24	13,659	9.1	11,647	11.3	25,306	10.0
25-34	44,238	29.6	33,428	32.5	77,666	30.8
35-44	39,758	26.6	26,043	25.3	65,801	26.1
45-54	27,029	18.1	19,990	19.4	47,019	18.6
55-64	20,027	13.4	10,820	10.5	30,847	12.2
65+	4,865	3.3	:	:	5,867	2.3
Total	149,576	100.0	102,930	100.0	252,506	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	April-June 2020					
15-24	49.1		46.0		47.7	
25-54	91.7		75.1		84.0	
55-64	67.8		37.7		53.0	
Total (15-64)	81.2		63.6		73.0	
	April-June 2019 (Revised)					
15-24	48.5		45.5		47.1	
25-54	92.8		76.4		85.1	
55-64	64.5		35.8		50.3	
Total (15-64)	80.9		63.7		72.8	

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

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2020					
Self-employed without employees	22,107	14.4	6,664	6.3	28,771	11.1
Self-employed with employees	9,786	6.4	:	:	12,124	4.7
Employee	121,656	79.2	96,833	91.4	218,489	84.2
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	153,595	100.0	105,928	100.0	259,523	100.0
	April-June 2019 (Revised)					
Self-employed without employees	20,798	13.9	7,087	6.9	27,885	11.0
Self-employed with employees	9,721	6.5	:	:	12,083	4.8
Employee	118,954	79.5	93,374	90.7	212,328	84.1
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	149,576	100.0	102,930	100.0	252,506	100.0

: 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.	%
	April-June 2020					
Full-time job	146,413	95.3	81,779	77.2	228,192	87.9
Part-time job	7,182	4.7	24,149	22.8	31,331	12.1
Total	153,595	100.0	105,928	100.0	259,523	100.0
	April-June 2019 (Revised)					
Full-time job	139,099	93.0	80,385	78.1	219,484	86.9
Part-time job	10,477	7.0	22,545	21.9	33,022	13.1
Total	149,576	100.0	102,930	100.0	252,506	100.0

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

Type of employment	Males	Females	Total	Total
	Average Normal Hours ¹			Average Actual Hours ²
	April-June 2020			
Full-time job	42.7	41.0	42.1	34.1
Part-time job	20.8	23.2	22.6	13.2
Total	41.7	36.9	39.7	31.6
	April-June 2019 (Revised)			
Full-time job	43.1	40.9	42.3	39.6
Part-time job	21.5	22.1	21.9	20.1
Total	41.6	36.8	39.6	37.0

¹ 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).

² Actual hours: refers to the number of hours actually spent at the place of work during the reference week for the main job. A person may work extra hours (e.g. overtime, variable hours) or work less hours than usual (e.g. vacation leave, education, sick leave or slack work) due to various reasons. Owing to increased flexibility at work places coupled with technology, the place of work may also include one's home. In this regard, actual hours worked also includes the hours of work carried out by persons who telework.

**Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity
in the main occupation: April-June 2020**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,408 ^u	1.6 ^u	:	:	2,906 ^u	1.1 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	24,819	16.2	6,985	6.6	31,804	12.3
Construction	13,267	8.6	:	:	14,275	5.5
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	46,454	30.2	25,381	24.0	71,835	27.7
Information and communication	6,695	4.4	2,897 ^u	2.7 ^u	9,592	3.7
Financial and insurance activities	8,325	5.4	8,128	7.7	16,453	6.3
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,275 ^u	0.9 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	14,700	9.6	14,489	13.7	29,189	11.2
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	23,661	15.4	34,185	32.3	57,846	22.3
Other services	12,056	7.8	11,292	10.7	23,348	9.0
Total	153,595	100.0	105,928	100.0	259,523	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: April-June 2019 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,361 ^u	1.6 ^u	:	:	3,128 ^u	1.2 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	25,165	16.8	6,999	6.8	32,164	12.7
Construction	14,658	9.8	:	:	16,075	6.4
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	45,130	30.2	26,246	25.5	71,376	28.3
Information and communication	7,017	4.7	3,212 ^u	3.1 ^u	10,229	4.1
Financial and insurance activities	5,867 ^u	3.9 ^u	5,543	5.4	11,410	4.5
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,884 ^u	1.1 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	12,021	8.0	13,371	13.0	25,392	10.1
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,286	16.9	34,633	33.6	59,919	23.7
Other services	10,117	6.8	9,812	9.5	19,929	7.9
Total	149,576	100.0	102,930	100.0	252,506	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 monthly basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity in the main occupation: April-June 2020

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	22,374	1,402	6,836	867	29,210	1,276
Construction	9,089	1,776	:	:	10,097	1,782
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	32,466	1,135	22,113	803	54,579	1,000
Information and communication	6,074	1,874	2,897 ^u	1,448 ^u	8,971	1,737
Financial and insurance activities	8,030 ^u	2,440 ^u	7,649	1,868	15,679	2,161
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,440	1,607	13,253	1,303	23,693	1,437
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	22,817	1,973	33,213	1,679	56,030	1,799
Other services	9,192	2,114	8,809	1,014	18,001	1,576
Total	121,656	1,630	96,833	1,315	218,489	1,491

¹ The average monthly basic salary takes into account the COVID wage supplement scheme but not the COVID-19 Social Security benefits (parent, medical and benefit to persons with disability) since the latter does not qualify as a form of employment income. As a result employees whose income was entirely dependent on Social Security benefits had their salary set to 0 (zero). This approach is in line with LFS guidelines.

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 11. Average monthly basic salary for employees by sex and economic activity in the main occupation: April-June 2019 (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	21,671	1,852	6,651	1,158	28,322	1,689
Construction	8,720	1,577	:	:	10,137	1,612
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	33,826	1,565	22,814	1,053	56,640	1,359
Information and communication	6,012	2,167	3,212 ^u	1,588 ^u	9,224	1,966
Financial and insurance activities	5,599	2,389	5,512	1,768	11,111	2,081
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	8,460	1,495	11,918	1,626	20,378	1,572
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	24,404	1,766	34,093	1,659	58,497	1,704
Other services	8,284	2,215	6,487 ^u	1,416 ^u	14,771	1,864
Total	118,954	1,771	93,374	1,456	212,328	1,632

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: April-June 2020

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	20,562	13.4	9,523	9.0	30,085	11.6
Professionals	28,354	18.5	26,413	24.9	54,767	21.1
Technicians and associate professionals	23,506	15.3	12,434	11.7	35,940	13.8
Clerical support workers	13,252	8.6	16,190	15.3	29,442	11.3
Service and sales workers	21,215	13.8	30,442	28.7	51,657	19.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,918 ^u	1.2 ^u	:	:	2,022 ^u	0.8 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	21,018	13.7	1,348 ^u	1.3 ^u	22,366	8.6
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	11,839	7.7	1,745 ^u	1.6 ^u	13,584	5.2
Elementary occupations	10,592	6.9	7,642	7.2	18,234	7.0
Total	153,595	100.0	105,928	100.0	259,523	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 2019 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	18,495	12.4	8,354	8.1	26,849	10.6
Professionals	22,748	15.2	25,983	25.2	48,731	19.3
Technicians and associate professionals	25,782	17.2	12,472	12.1	38,254	15.1
Clerical support workers	11,917	8.0	16,563	16.1	28,480	11.3
Service and sales workers	21,231	14.2	28,663	27.8	49,894	19.8
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,810 ^u	1.2 ^u	:	:	1,904 ^u	0.8 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	24,036	16.1	:	:	24,736	9.8
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,707	5.8	3,635 ^u	3.5 ^u	12,342	4.9
Elementary occupations	13,324	8.9	6,337	6.2	19,661	7.8
Total	149,576	100.0	102,930	100.0	252,506	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 14. Average monthly basic salary for employees by sex and main occupation: April-June 2020

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	16,715	2,805	8,891	2,071	25,606	2,551
Professionals	23,360	2,187	24,324	1,849	47,684	2,015
Technicians and associate professionals	20,262	1,519	11,132	1,347	31,394	1,458
Clerical support workers	12,619	1,236	15,994	1,052	28,613	1,133
Service and sales workers	14,585	1,058	26,204	914	40,789	966
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	13,825	1,265	:	:	14,959	1,230
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,165	1,100	1,496 ^u	730 ^u	10,661	1,048
Elementary occupations	9,366	899	7,571	805	16,937	857
Total	121,656	1,630	96,833	1,315	218,489	1,491

¹ The average monthly basic salary takes into account the COVID wage supplement scheme but not the COVID-19 Social Security benefits (parent, medical and benefit to persons with disability) since the latter does not qualify as a form of employment income. As a result employees whose income was entirely dependent on Social Security benefits had their salary set to 0 (zero). This approach is in line with LFS guidelines.

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 15. Average monthly basic salary for employees by sex and main occupation: April-June 2019 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	13,542	3,143	7,705	2,307	21,247	2,840
Professionals	19,662	2,334	23,319	2,016	42,981	2,161
Technicians and associate professionals	21,777	1,756	11,172	1,595	32,949	1,701
Clerical support workers	11,609	1,515	16,201	1,172	27,810	1,315
Service and sales workers	16,643	1,277	24,806	1,002	41,449	1,113
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	15,294	1,345	:	:	15,829	1,335
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	7,110	1,284	3,379 ^u	1,023 ^u	10,489	1,200
Elementary occupations	11,399	1,103	6,128	874	17,527	1,023
Total	118,954	1,771	93,374	1,456	212,328	1,632

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
April-June 2020						
15-24	2,168 ^u	32.5 ^u	:	:	3,070 ^u	25.5 ^u
25-74	4,505 ^u	67.5 ^u	4,456 ^u	83.2 ^u	8961	74.5
Total (15-74)	6,673	100.0	5,358^u	100.0^u	12,031	100.0
April-June 2019 (Revised)						
15-24	:	:	:	:	2,546 ^u	27.5 ^u
25-74	3,602 ^u	71.9 ^u	:	:	6,721 ^u	72.5 ^u
Total (15-74)	5,009^u	100.0^u	4,258^u	100.0^u	9,267	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 2020						
15-24	13.7 ^u		:		10.8 ^u	
25-74	3.1 ^u		4.5 ^u		3.7	
Total (15-74)	4.2		4.8^u		4.4	
April-June 2019 (Revised)						
15-24	:		:		9.1 ^u	
25-74	2.6 ^u		:		2.9 ^u	
Total (15-74)	3.3^u		4.0^u		3.6	

: 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 2020						
Less than 12 months	4,717 ^u	70.7 ^u	4,338 ^u	81.0 ^u	9,055	75.3
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	2,976 ^u	24.7 ^u
Total	6,673	100.0	5,358^u	100.0^u	12,031	100.0
April-June 2019 (Revised)						
Less than 12 months	2,935 ^u	58.6 ^u	3,473 ^u	81.6 ^u	6,408 ^u	69.1 ^u
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	2,859 ^u	30.9 ^u
Total	5,009^u	100.0^u	4,258^u	100.0^u	9,267	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 2020					
15-24	11,975	17.9	12,740	12.7	24,715	14.8
25-34	:	:	7,536	7.5	8,985	5.4
35-44	:	:	8,428	8.4	11,338	6.8
45-54	2,237 ^u	3.3 ^u	7,231	7.2	9,468	5.7
55-64	9,381	14.0	18,032	18.0	27,413	16.4
65+	38,974	58.2	45,968	46.0	84,942	50.9
Total	66,926	100.0	99,935	100.0	166,861	100.0

April-June 2019 (Revised)						
15-24	13,084	19.9	12,824	12.8	25,908	15.6
25-34	:	:	5,608 ^u	5.6 ^u	7,259 ^u	4.4 ^u
35-44	:	:	8,278	8.3	9,149	5.5
45-54	2,671 ^u	4.1 ^u	7,799	7.8	10,470	6.3
55-64	10,947	16.6	19,221	19.3	30,168	18.2
65+	36,603	55.6	46,090	46.2	82,693	49.9
Total	65,827	100.0	99,820	100.0	165,647	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 for inactivity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2020					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	28,595	28.6	30,148	18.1
Education or training	11,324	16.9	12,787	12.8	24,111	14.4
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	44,528	66.5	23,068	23.1	67,596	40.5
Other reasons	9,521	14.2	35,485	35.5	45,006	27.0
Total	66,926	100.0	99,935	100.0	166,861	100.0

April-June 2019 (Revised)						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	26,932	27.0	27,529	16.6
Education or training	13,566	20.6	12,547	12.6	26,113	15.8
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	44,189	67.1	22,431	22.5	66,620	40.2
Other reasons	7,475	11.4	37,910	38.0	45,385	27.4
Total	65,827	100.0	99,820	100.0	165,647	100.0

: 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.	%
	April-June 2020					
Secondary level education or less	108,248	47.6	106,369	50.4	214,617	49.0
Post-Secondary level education	64,356	28.3	54,466	25.8	118,822	27.1
Tertiary level education	54,590	24.0	50,386	23.9	104,976	23.9
Total	227,194	100.0	211,221	100.0	438,415	100.0
	April-June 2019 (Revised)					
Secondary level education or less	107,242	48.7	104,071	50.3	211,313	49.4
Post-Secondary level education	65,124	29.5	52,261	25.2	117,385	27.5
Tertiary level education	48,046	21.8	50,676	24.5	98,722	23.1
Total	220,412	100.0	207,008	100.0	427,420	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.	%
	April-June 2020							
Secondary level education or less	86,812	33.5	6,194	51.5	121,611	72.9	214,617	49.0
Post-Secondary level education	84,478	32.6	4,066 ^u	33.8 ^u	30,278	18.1	118,822	27.1
Tertiary level education	88,233	34.0	:	:	14,972	9.0	104,976	23.9
Total	259,523	100.0	12,031	100.0	166,861	100.0	438,415	100.0
	April-June 2019 (Revised)							
Secondary level education or less	89,461	35.4	4,085 ^u	44.1 ^u	117,767	71.1	211,313	49.4
Post-Secondary level education	80,804	32.0	2,930 ^u	31.6 ^u	33,651	20.3	117,385	27.5
Tertiary level education	82,241	32.6	:	:	14,229	8.6	98,722	23.1
Total	252,506	100.0	9,267	100.0	165,647	100.0	427,420	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).
 - **Actual hours worked:** refers to the number of hours actually spent at the place of work during the reference week for the main job. A person may work extra hours (e.g. overtime, variable hours) or work less hours than usual (e.g. vacation leave, education, sick leave or slack work) due to various reasons. Owing to increased flexibility at work places coupled with technology, the place of work may also include one's home. In this regard, actual hours worked also includes the hours of work carried out by persons who telework.
 - **Average monthly basic salary:** refers to the average monthly basic salary received by employees before any social contributions and tax deductions. This amount excludes payments for overtime, allowances and bonuses. The monthly basic salary takes into account the wage supplement scheme. As a result persons who stated that they were receiving this supplement during the second quarter of 2020 had their monthly salary modified to account for this change in their income. COVID-19 Social Security Benefits (parent, medical and benefit to persons with disability) do not feature in the monthly salary figures provided since they do not qualify as a form of employment income. However persons receiving these benefits were considered to be employed if they fulfilled the ILO employment criteria. 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 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 gives an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of LFS figures

	Estimate	Margin of error	95% confidence interval
Employment	259,523	4,027	259,523 ± 4,027
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	72.98	1.17	72.98 ± 1.17
<i>Males</i>	81.24	1.48	81.24 ± 1.48
<i>Females</i>	63.64	1.75	63.64 ± 1.75
15-24	47.65	3.77	47.65 ± 3.77
25-54	84.01	1.49	84.01 ± 1.49
55-64	52.99	3.81	52.99 ± 3.81
Unemployment	12,031	2,643	12,031 ± 2,643
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	4.44	0.95	4.44 ± 0.95
<i>Males</i>	4.18	1.23	4.18 ± 1.23
<i>Females</i>	4.82	1.67	4.82 ± 1.67
15-24	10.82	3.74	10.82 ± 3.74
25-74	3.70	0.99	3.70 ± 0.99
Inactivity	166,861	4,218	166,861 ± 4,218
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	76.44	1.20	76.44 ± 1.20
<i>Males</i>	84.86	1.35	84.86 ± 1.35
<i>Females</i>	66.92	1.74	66.92 ± 1.74
15-24	53.44	3.60	53.44 ± 3.60
25-54	87.23	1.46	87.23 ± 1.46
55-64	55.39	3.73	55.39 ± 3.73

The table above provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 259,523 and the margin of error is 4,027. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 255,496 and 263,550 persons.

Key

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

5. Amendments were carried out in this news release to allow for more accurate interpretations of the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labour market.

- In Table 1 'Persons aged 15 and over by sex and labour status' figures for Q1 2020 are also included to compare the situation of the labour market before and during the COVID-19 scenario.
- In Table 7 'Hours worked by sex and type of employment in main occupation' more information is given with regards to the actual number of hours worked.
- The annual basic salary has been replaced by the monthly basic salary in order to better reflect the changes in salary levels which are being experienced by employees as a result of the impact of COVID-19 (Tables 10-11 and Tables 14-15).

6. Percentage totals may not add up due to rounding.

7. 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.

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

9. 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>

10. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

11. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx