

During the second quarter of 2021, the Labour Force Survey estimates that total number of persons in employment was 266,553, 3.2 per cent higher when compared to the previous year.

Labour Force Survey: Q2/2021

Labour Status

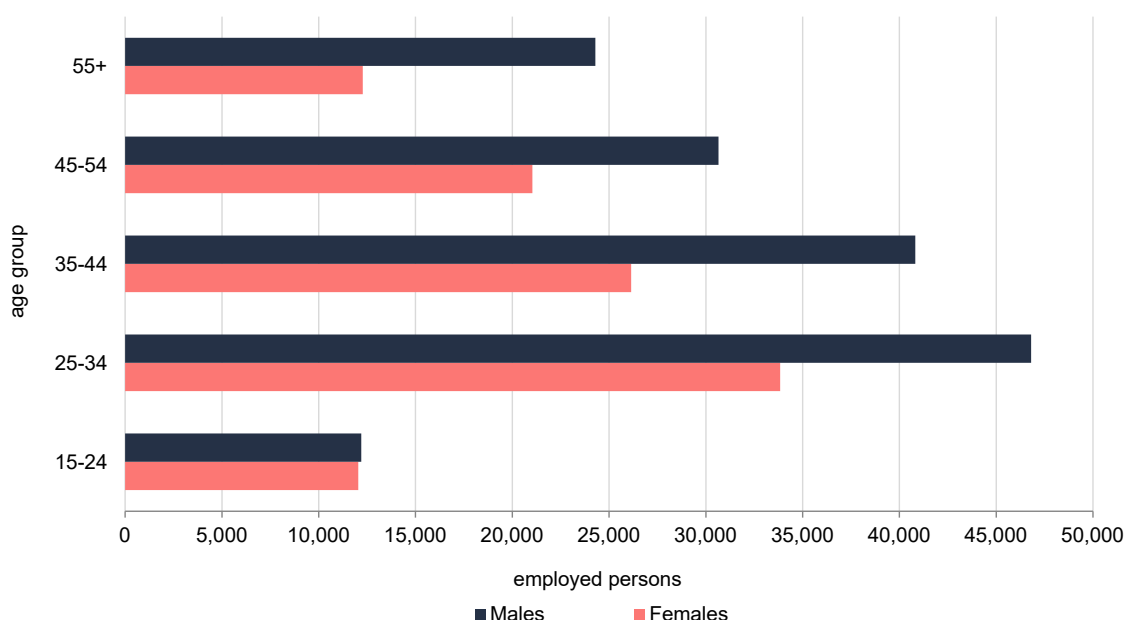
Labour Force Survey estimates indicated that, during the second quarter, total employment stood at 266,553 accounting for 60.3 per cent of the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 9,676 (2.2 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 165,531 (37.5 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 77.2 per cent with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25 to 54 (88.0 per cent) (Table 2).

The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 and 64 years, 74 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 81.9 per cent while that for females stood at 65.9 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



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

Self-employed persons accounted for 15.1 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 237,365. A further 29,188 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). Results show that, on average, full-timers usually worked 41.2 hours while part-timers worked 22.9 hours per week. In the second quarter of 2021, employed persons actually worked 34.9 hours per week, 3.3 hours more when compared to the previous year (Table 7).

The average monthly basic salary of employees for the second quarter of 2021 was estimated at €1,608. The highest basic salary was recorded in the Financial and insurance activities sector (Table 10). Average monthly salaries varied from €962 among persons employed in elementary occupations to €2,455 among managers (Table 14).

The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2021, stood at 3.5 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 to 74 years (Table 16). Females accounted for 60.1 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, 35.6 per cent of the 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.	%	
	April-June 2021						
Employed	156,961	68.4	109,592	51.6	266,553	60.3	
Unemployed	6,497	2.8	3,179 ^u	1.5 ^u	9,676	2.2	
Inactive	66,064	28.8	99,467	46.9	165,531	37.5	
Total	229,522	100.0	212,238	100.0	441,760	100.0	
	April-June 2020 (Revised)						
	Employed	152,893	67.3	105,343	49.9	258,236	58.9
	Unemployed	6,875	3.0	5,546 ^u	2.6 ^u	12,421	2.8
	Inactive	67,388	29.7	100,027	47.4	167,415	38.2
	Total	227,156	100.0	210,916	100.0	438,072	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 2021						
15-24	51.1		52.2		51.6		
25-54	96.6		78.0		88.0		
55-64	68.2		41.8		55.5		
Total (15-64)	85.4		67.9		77.2		
	April-June 2020 (Revised)						
	15-24	56.8		49.6		53.3	
	25-54	94.5		78.2		87.0	
	55-64	69.7		39.9		55.0	
	Total (15-64)	84.7		66.7		76.2	

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 2021					
15-24	11,362	7.2	11,878	10.8	23,240	8.7
25-34	45,934	29.3	34,731	31.7	80,665	30.3
35-44	43,330	27.6	27,016	24.7	70,346	26.4
45-54	30,712	19.6	21,887	20.0	52,599	19.7
55-64	20,470	13.0	11,882	10.8	32,352	12.1
65+	5,153	3.3	2,198 ^u	2.0 ^u	7,351	2.8
Total	156,961	100.0	109,592	100.0	266,553	100.0
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
15-24	13,536	8.9	11,488	10.9	25,024	9.7
25-34	46,378	30.3	32,818	31.2	79,196	30.7
35-44	38,972	25.5	27,145	25.8	66,117	25.6
45-54	29,222	19.1	20,299	19.3	49,521	19.2
55-64	20,998	13.7	11,206	10.6	32,204	12.5
65+	3,787	2.5	:	:	6,174	2.4
Total	152,893	100.0	105,343	100.0	258,236	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	April-June 2021					
15-24	43.0		49.6		46.1	
25-54	93.6		75.7		85.3	
55-64	66.6		41.8		54.7	
Total (15-64)	81.9		65.9		74.4	
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
15-24	48.8		45.9		47.4	
25-54	91.3		74.6		83.6	
55-64	67.6		37.3		52.7	
Total (15-64)	80.9		63.3		72.7	

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

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2021					
Self-employed without employees	22,550	14.4	6,279	5.7	28,829	10.8
Self-employed with employees	9,278	5.9	2,296 ^u	2.1 ^u	11,574	4.3
Employee	125,133	79.7	100,723	91.9	225,856	84.7
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	156,961	100.0	109,592	100.0	266,553	100.0
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
Self-employed without employees	22,010	14.4	6,568	6.2	28,578	11.1
Self-employed with employees	9,838	6.4	:	:	12,205	4.7
Employee	121,001	79.1	96,306	91.4	217,307	84.2
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	152,893	100.0	105,343	100.0	258,236	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

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

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2021					
Full-time job	147,281	93.8	90,084	82.2	237,365	89.0
Part-time job	9,680	6.2	19,508	17.8	29,188	11.0
Total	156,961	100.0	109,592	100.0	266,553	100.0
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
Full-time job	145,635	95.3	80,938	76.8	226,573	87.7
Part-time job	7,258	4.7	24,405	23.2	31,663	12.3
Total	152,893	100.0	105,343	100.0	258,236	100.0

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

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average Normal Hours ¹				Average Actual Hours ²	
	April-June 2021					
Full-time job	41.6	40.6	41.2	36.8		
Part-time job	21.6	23.5	22.9	19.5		
Total	40.4	37.6	39.2	34.9		
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
Full-time job	42.7	41.0	42.1	34.2		
Part-time job	20.8	23.2	22.6	13.0		
Total	41.7	36.9	39.7	31.6		

¹ Normal hours worked: refer 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 worked: refer 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 include 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 2021**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,758 ^u	1.1 ^u	:	:	2,160 ^u	0.8 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	23,318	14.9	8,132	7.4	31,450	11.8
Construction	17,302	11.0	:	:	17,973	6.7
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	39,808	25.4	21,827	19.9	61,635	23.1
Information and communication	8,254	5.3	2,432 ^u	2.2 ^u	10,686	4.0
Financial and insurance activities	7,003	4.5	9,350	8.5	16,353	6.1
Real estate activities	2,390 ^u	1.5 ^u	:	:	4,940 ^u	1.9 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	15,229	9.7	13,892	12.7	29,121	10.9
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	27,740	17.7	40,178	36.7	67,918	25.5
Other services	14,159	9.0	10,158	9.3	24,317	9.1
Total	156,961	100.0	109,592	100.0	266,553	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 2020 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,353 ^u	1.5 ^u	:	:	2,844 ^u	1.1 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	25,186	16.5	6,926	6.6	32,112	12.4
Construction	13,235	8.7	:	:	14,345	5.6
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	44,338	29.0	24,549	23.3	68,887	26.7
Information and communication	6,588	4.3	2,859 ^u	2.7 ^u	9,447	3.7
Financial and insurance activities	8,133	5.3	7,821	7.4	15,954	6.2
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,230 ^u	0.9 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	13,680	8.9	13,909	13.2	27,589	10.7
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,859	16.9	36,780	34.9	62,639	24.3
Other services	12,364	8.1	9,825	9.3	22,189	8.6
Total	152,893	100.0	105,343	100.0	258,236	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 2021

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	20,779	1,351	7,747	1,077	28,526	1,276
Construction	9,952	1,307	:	:	10,623	1,304
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	29,367	1,187	19,548	997	48,915	1,111
Information and communication	6,843	2,375	2,256 ^u	1,626 ^u	9,099	2,192
Financial and insurance activities	6,692	2,882	9,284	1,991	15,976	2,364
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,774	1,740	12,927	1,370	23,701	1,538
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	26,695	1,872	38,377	1,801	65,072	1,830
Other services	11,979 ^u	2,158 ^u	8,287 ^u	1,597 ^u	20,266 ^u	1,928 ^u
Total	125,133	1,676	100,723	1,525	225,856	1,608

¹ The average monthly basic salary takes into account the COVID-19 wage supplement scheme but not the COVID-19 Social Security benefits (parent, medical and benefit to persons with disability) since the latter do 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 2020 (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	22,464	1,312	6,822	904	29,286	1,217
Construction	8,870	1,753	:	:	9,980	1,733
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	30,732	1,041	21,248	824	51,980	952
Information and communication	5,963	2,074	2,859 ^u	1,507 ^u	8,822	1,890
Financial and insurance activities	7,849	2,667	7,344	2,012	15,193	2,351
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	9,486	1,696	12,671	1,294	22,157	1,466
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,006	1,849	35,795	1,658	60,801	1,736
Other services	9,496	2,317	7,431	1,249	16,927	1,848
Total	121,001	1,624	96,306	1,358	217,307	1,506

: 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. Distribution of total employed persons by sex and occupational group: April-June 2021

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,853 ^u	1.2 ^u	:	:	1,853 ^u	0.7 ^u
Managers	22,191	14.1	8,681	7.9	30,872	11.6
Professionals	29,195	18.6	29,311	26.7	58,506	21.9
Technicians and associate professionals	22,739	14.5	13,617	12.4	36,356	13.6
Clerical support workers	11,293	7.2	18,128	16.5	29,421	11.0
Service and sales workers	19,710	12.6	27,308	24.9	47,018	17.6
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,502 ^u	1.0 ^u	:	:	1,722 ^u	0.6 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	24,719	15.7	1,222 ^u	1.1 ^u	25,941	9.7
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	10,447	6.7	3,490 ^u	3.2 ^u	13,937	5.2
Elementary occupations	13,312	8.5	7,615	6.9	20,927	7.9
Total	156,961	100.0	109,592	100.0	266,553	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Table 13. Distribution of total employed persons by sex and occupational group: April-June 2020 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	20,589	13.5	9,561	9.1	30,150	11.7
Professionals	28,086	18.4	26,095	24.8	54,181	21.0
Technicians and associate professionals	23,375	15.3	12,603	12.0	35,978	13.9
Clerical support workers	13,270	8.7	15,970	15.2	29,240	11.3
Service and sales workers	21,141	13.8	30,305	28.8	51,446	19.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,914 ^u	1.3 ^u	:	:	2,029 ^u	0.8 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	20,669	13.5	1,360 ^u	1.3 ^u	22,029	8.5
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	11,867	7.8	1,735 ^u	1.6 ^u	13,602	5.3
Elementary occupations	10,656	7.0	7,518	7.1	18,174	7.0
Total	152,893	100.0	105,343	100.0	258,236	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 occupational group: April-June 2021

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)	No. of employees	Average ¹ (€)
Armed Forces	1,853 ^u	1,589 ^u	:	:	1,853 ^u	1,589 ^u
Managers	18,427	2,578	8,264	2,181	26,691	2,455
Professionals	25,230	2,417	28,108	2,135	53,338	2,269
Technicians and associate professionals	19,266	1,414	12,069	1,472	31,335	1,436
Clerical support workers	10,897	1,363	17,901	1,247	28,798	1,291
Service and sales workers	14,181	1,199	22,557	1,111	36,738	1,145
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	14,720	1,152	:	:	15,636	1,143
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,441	1,119	3,490 ^u	967 ^u	11,931	1,075
Elementary occupations	11,710	1,052	7,418	820	19,128	962
Total	125,133	1,676	100,723	1,525	225,856	1,608

¹ The average monthly basic salary takes into account the COVID-19 wage supplement scheme but not the COVID-19 Social Security benefits (parent, medical and benefit to persons with disability) since the latter do 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 occupational group: April-June 2020 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	16,759	2,685	8,910	2,004	25,669	2,449
Professionals	23,069	2,136	24,066	1,985	47,135	2,059
Technicians and associate professionals	20,112	1,664	11,316	1,304	31,428	1,534
Clerical support workers	12,628	1,236	15,774	1,115	28,402	1,169
Service and sales workers	14,629	1,174	26,065	920	40,694	1,012
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	13,514	1,103	:	:	14,648	1,087
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,131	1,021	1,507 ^u	840 ^u	10,638	995
Elementary occupations	9,410	952	7,453	864	16,863	913
Total	121,001	1,624	96,306	1,358	217,307	1,506

: 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 2021					
15-24	2,144 ^u	33.0 ^u	:	:	2,767 ^u	28.6 ^u
25-74	4,353 ^u	67.0 ^u	:	:	6,909	71.4
Total (15-74)	6,497	100.0	3,179^u	100.0^u	9,676	100.0
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
	%					
15-24	2,211 ^u	32.2 ^u	:	:	3,135 ^u	25.2 ^u
25-74	4,664 ^u	67.8 ^u	4,622 ^u	83.3 ^u	9,286	74.8
Total (15-74)	6,875	100.0	5,546^u	100.0^u	12,421	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 2021					
15-24	15.9 ^u		:		10.6 ^u	
25-74	2.9 ^u		:		2.8	
Total (15-74)	4.0		2.8^u		3.5	
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
	%					
15-24	14.0 ^u		:		11.1 ^u	
25-74	3.3 ^u		4.7 ^u		3.8	
Total (15-74)	4.3		5.0^u		4.6	

: 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 2021					
Less than 12 months	3,649 ^u	56.2 ^u	:	:	6,206	64.1
12 months or more	2,848 ^u	43.8 ^u	:	:	3,470 ^u	35.9 ^u
Total	6,497	100.0	3,179^u	100.0^u	9,676	100.0
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
	%					
Less than 12 months	4,953 ^u	72.0 ^u	4,459 ^u	80.4 ^u	9,412	75.8
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	3,009 ^u	24.2 ^u
Total	6,875	100.0	5,546^u	100.0^u	12,421	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 2021					
15-24	12,942	19.6	11,462	11.5	24,404	14.7
25-34	:	:	6,277 ^u	6.3 ^u	7,996	4.8
35-44	:	:	9,961	10.0	10,697	6.5
45-54	1,933 ^u	2.9 ^u	8,048	8.1	9,981	6.0
55-64	9,773	14.8	16,561	16.6	26,334	15.9
65+	38,961	59.0	47,158	47.4	86,119	52.0
Total	66,064	100.0	99,467	100.0	165,531	100.0
April-June 2020 (Revised)						
15-24	11,997	17.8	12,630	12.6	24,627	14.7
25-34	:	:	7,766	7.8	9,220	5.5
35-44	:	:	8,535	8.5	11,849	7.1
45-54	2,090 ^u	3.1 ^u	7,132	7.1	9,222	5.5
55-64	9,418	14.0	18,053	18.0	27,471	16.4
65+	39,115	58.0	45,911	45.9	85,026	50.8
Total	67,388	100.0	100,027	100.0	167,415	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 2021					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	42,242	42.9	42,615	26.0
Education or training	12,151	18.6	11,379	11.5	23,530	14.3
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	45,305	69.2	23,133	23.5	68,438	41.7
Other reasons	7,650	11.7	21,813	22.1	29,463	18.0
Total	65,479	100.0	98,567	100.0	164,046	100.0
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	28,897	28.9	30,645	18.3
Education or training	11,383	16.9	12,787	12.8	24,170	14.4
Reached retirement age or uptake of early retirement	44,658	66.3	22,667	22.7	67,325	40.2
Other reasons	9,599	14.2	35,676	35.7	45,275	27.0
Total	67,388	100.0	100,027	100.0	167,415	100.0

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

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

Note: Q2 2021 covers persons between the age of 15 and 90 years while Q2 2020 covers persons from the age of 15+.

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

Education level	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2021					
Secondary level education or less	101,520	44.2	100,123	47.2	201,643	45.6
Post-Secondary level education	72,665	31.7	56,693	26.7	129,358	29.3
Tertiary level education	55,337	24.1	55,422	26.1	110,759	25.1
Total	229,522	100.0	212,238	100.0	441,760	100.0
	April-June 2020 (Revised)					
Secondary level education or less	102,836	45.3	101,417	48.1	204,253	46.6
Post-Secondary level education	70,251	30.9	59,532	28.2	129,783	29.6
Tertiary level education	54,069	23.8	49,967	23.7	104,036	23.7
Total	227,156	100.0	210,916	100.0	438,072	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 2021								
Secondary level education or less	80,647	30.3	4,000 ^u	41.3 ^u	116,996	70.7	201,643	45.6	
Post-Secondary level education	90,944	34.1	3,692 ^u	38.2 ^u	34,722	21.0	129,358	29.3	
Tertiary level education	94,962	35.6	:	:	13,813	8.3	110,759	25.1	
Total	266,553	100.0	9,676	100.0	165,531	100.0	441,760	100.0	
	April-June 2020 (Revised)								
Secondary level education or less	81,443	31.5	5,496	44.2	117,314	70.1	204,253	46.6	
Post-Secondary level education	89,188	34.5	5,042 ^u	40.6 ^u	35,553	21.2	129,783	29.6	
Tertiary level education	87,605	33.9	:	:	14,548	8.7	104,036	23.7	
Total	258,236	100.0	12,421	100.0	167,415	100.0	438,072	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). Educational attainment is classified according to ISCED 2011 (International Standard Classification of Education).
3. As from January 2021, Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 establishing a common framework for European statistics relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/257 of 16th December 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council by specifying the number and the title of the variables for the labour force domain, came into force.

This legislation has mainly led to changes in the LFS questionnaire and mode of data collection. Currently the NSO is undertaking an analysis of the impact of this change on LFS estimates in order to assess the divergence of LFS results from pre-IESS to post-IESS levels.

4. 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 first quarter of 2021 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.
- **Educational 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 2 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 2 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:** comprise persons aged 15 to 89 who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:
 - **worked for at least 1 hour for pay or profit**, including contributing family workers and paid casual work
 - **persons with a job or business who were temporarily not at work** during the reference week but had an attachment to their job, including:
 - (a) persons not at work due to holidays, working time arrangements, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave;
 - (b) persons in job-related training or formal education;
 - (c) persons on parental leave, either receiving and/or being entitled to job-related income or benefits, or whose parental leave is expected to be 3 months or less;
 - (d) seasonal workers during the off-season, where they continue to regularly perform tasks and duties for the job or business, excluding fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations;
 - (e) persons temporarily not at work for other reasons where the expected duration of the absence is 3 months or less.

- **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:** i.e. had either carried out activities in the four-week period ending with the reference week to seek paid employment or self-employment or found a job to start within a period of at most 3 months from the end of the reference week. Examples of active job search include contacting Jobsplus, studying job advertisement or placing or updating CVs online.
 - **currently available for work:** i.e. available for paid employment or self-employment before the end of the 2 weeks following the reference week.
- **Unemployment rate:** unemployed persons (15 to 74 years) as a percentage of the labour force (15-74 years).

5. 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	266,553	4,064	266,553 ± 4,064
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	74.42	1.20	74.42 ± 1.20
<i>Males</i>	81.88	1.39	81.88 ± 1.39
<i>Females</i>	65.93	1.81	65.93 ± 1.81
15-24	46.10	3.92	46.10 ± 3.92
25-54	85.30	1.53	85.30 ± 1.53
55-64	54.67	3.83	54.67 ± 3.83
Unemployment	9,676	2,711	9,676 ± 2,711
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	3.51	0.96	3.51 ± 0.96
<i>Males</i>	3.99	1.30	3.99 ± 1.30
<i>Females</i>	2.82	1.57	2.82 ± 1.57
15-24	10.64	4.42	10.64 ± 4.42
25-74	2.77	0.96	2.77 ± 0.96
Inactivity	165,531	4,316	165,531 ± 4,316
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	77.20	1.24	77.20 ± 1.24
<i>Males</i>	85.38	1.24	85.38 ± 1.24
<i>Females</i>	67.89	1.84	67.89 ± 1.84
15-24	51.59	4.12	51.59 ± 4.12
25-54	87.99	1.52	87.99 ± 1.52
55-64	55.50	3.79	55.50 ± 3.79

The table above provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 266,553 and the margin of error is 4,064. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 262,489 and 270,617 persons.

Key

- : Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.
- u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

6. 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 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).
7. Percentage totals may not add up due to rounding.
8. 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.
9. More information is available from the NSO upon written request.
10. 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: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/concepts.aspx>
 - Metadata: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=33>
 - Classification: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO%202008>
<https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE%20Rev.%2020>
<https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCED%202011>
11. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
12. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx