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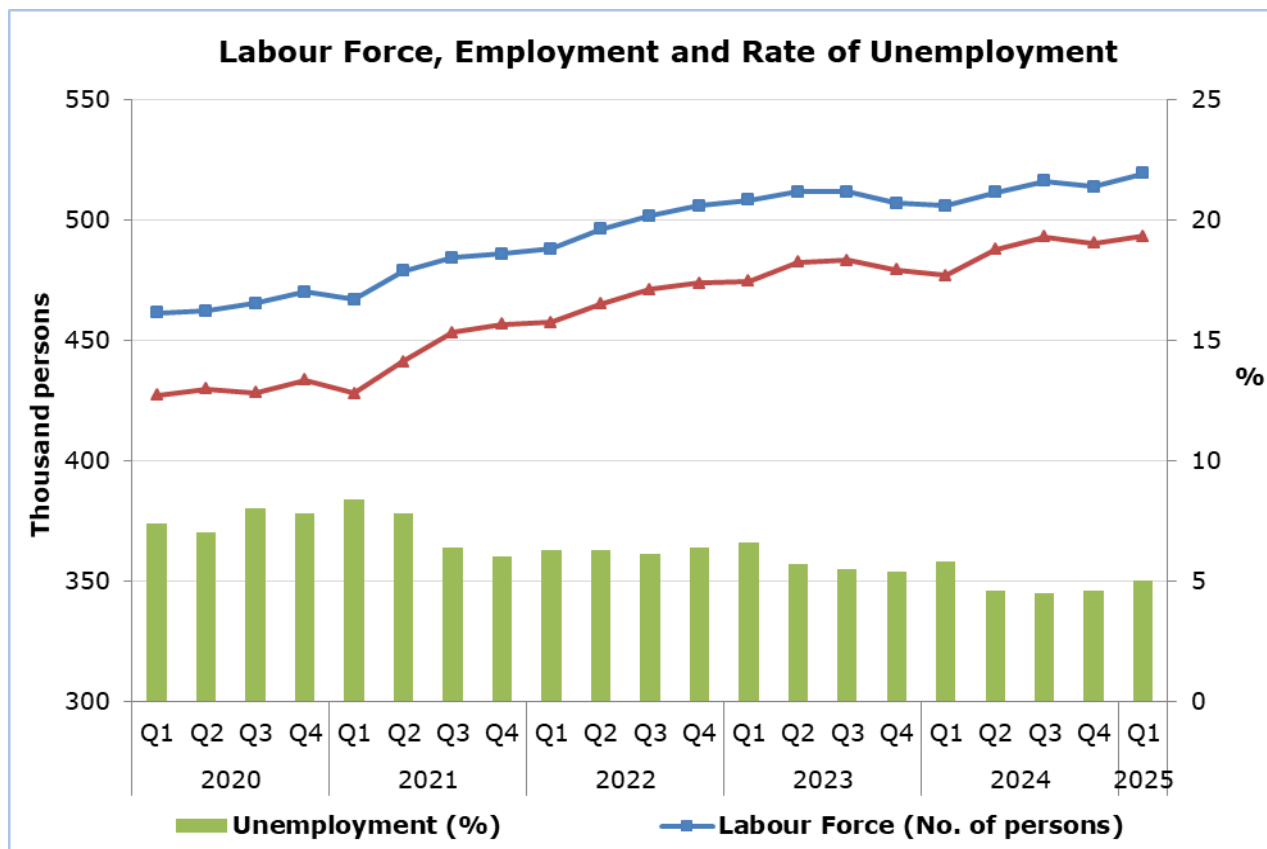
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (LFS): 1st QUARTER 2025

Unemployment 5,0%

According to the results of the Labour Force Survey, the labour force in the 1st quarter of 2025 amounted to 519.433 persons or 64,4% of the population (males 69,8%, females 59,3%) in comparison to 505.963 persons (64,6%) in the corresponding quarter of 2024 (Table 1).

The number of employed persons was 493.272 and the employment rate 61,2% (males 66,6%, females 55,9%) in comparison to 476.860 persons (60,8%) in the corresponding quarter of 2024.

The number of unemployed persons amounted to 26.161 and the unemployment rate to 5,0% of the labour force (males 4,5%, females 5,7%) in comparison to 29.102 persons (5,8%) in the corresponding quarter of 2024.



Employment (Table 2)

For the age group 20-64, the employment rate was 80,0%. The rate for males was 85,5% and for females 74,6%. In the corresponding quarter of 2024, the rate was 78,5% (males 82,6%, females 74,8%). For the age group 55-64 the employment rate was 69,9% in comparison to 69,1% in the corresponding quarter of 2024.

According to the distribution of employment by sector, the biggest percentage of employed persons was in Services (81,1%), followed by Manufacturing (16,8%) and Agriculture (2,1%). For the 1st quarter of 2024, the corresponding percentages were: Services 81,1%, Manufacturing 16,5% and Agriculture 2,4%.

The share of part-time employment to total employment was 8,8% or 43.529 persons (males 6,4%, females 11,6%). The corresponding rate for the 1st quarter of 2024 was 9,2% (males 7,0%, females 11,4%).

90,3% or 445.598 of the total employed persons were employees, of which 12,9% (57.550 persons) had a temporary job. In the corresponding quarter of 2024 employees accounted for 89,6% of total employment of which 12,8% had a temporary job.

Unemployment (Table 3)

For young persons aged 15-24 years old, the unemployment rate was 11,2% of the labour force of the same age group (males 13,0%, females 9,2%) in comparison to 16,0% (males 17,5%, females 14,6%) in the corresponding quarter of last year.

As far as the duration of unemployment is concerned, 61,3% of the total unemployed persons searched for a job for a period of less than 6 months, 15,2% for a period of 6-11 months, whereas a percentage of 23,5% were long-term unemployed. The corresponding rates for the 1st quarter of 2024 were 59,5%, 13,8% and 26,7%.

Table 1

	Number		Percentage (%)	
	Q1 2025	Q1 2024	Q1 2025	Q1 2024
<u>Labour Force</u>				
Total	519.433	505.963	64,4	64,6
Males	275.358	259.196	69,8	68,9
Females	244.075	246.767	59,3	60,6
<u>Employment</u>				
Total	493.272	476.860	61,2	60,8
Males	263.020	244.270	66,6	64,9
Females	230.252	232.591	55,9	57,1
<u>Unemployment</u>				
Total	26.161	29.102	5,0	5,8
Males	12.338	14.926	4,5	5,8
Females	13.823	14.176	5,7	5,7

Table 2

Employment	Number						Percentage (%)					
	Q1 2025			Q1 2024			Q1 2025			Q1 2024		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
<u>Age</u>												
15+	493.272	263.020	230.252	476.860	244.270	232.591	61,2	66,6	55,9	60,8	64,9	57,1
20-64	471.272	248.226	223.046	459.779	230.898	225.880	80,0	85,5	74,6	78,5	82,6	74,8
55-64	83.101	46.212	36.889	80.379	42.796	37.582	69,9	81,7	59,3	69,1	75,7	62,9
<u>Sector</u>												
Agriculture	10.538	8.292	2.247	11.421	9.283	2.138	2,1	3,1	1,0	2,3	3,8	0,9
Industry	82.932	68.342	14.590	78.723	63.078	15.645	16,8	26,0	6,3	16,2	25,8	6,7
Services	399.802	186.387	213.415	386.716	171.909	214.807	81,1	70,9	92,7	81,5	70,4	92,4
Full-time	449.744	246.221	203.522	433.108	227.056	206.052	91,2	93,6	88,4	90,8	93,0	88,6
Part-time	43.529	16.799	26.729	43.752	17.213	26.539	8,8	6,4	11,6	9,2	7,0	11,4
<u>Prof. Status</u>												
Self-employed	47.675	29.593	18.082	49.724	29.561	20.164	9,7	11,3	7,9	10,4	12,1	8,7
<u>Employees</u>												
Total	445.598	233.428	212.170	427.136	214.709	212.427	90,3	88,7	92,1	89,6	87,9	91,3
Permanent	388.047	214.714	173.333	372.381	192.252	180.129	87,1	92,0	81,7	87,2	89,5	84,8
Temporary	57.550	18.714	38.836	54.755	22.457	32.298	12,9	8,0	18,3	12,8	10,5	15,2

Table 3

Unemployment	Number						Percentage (%)					
	Q1 2025			Q1 2024			Q1 2025			Q1 2024		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
<u>Age</u>												
15+	26.161	12.338	13.823	29.102	14.926	14.176	5,0	4,5	5,7	5,8	5,8	5,7
15-24	3.196	1.949	1.248	5.221	2.856	2.365	11,2	13,0	9,2	16,0	17,5	14,6
25-64	22.203	10.028	12.176	23.611	11.887	11.723	4,7	4,1	5,4	5,2	5,1	5,2
<u>Duration</u>												
< 6 months	16.050	7.082	8.969	17.304	8.750	8.554	61,3	57,4	64,9	59,5	58,6	60,3
6-11 months	3.973	2.092	1.881	4.031	2.180	1.851	15,2	17,0	13,6	13,8	14,6	13,1
12+ months	6.139	3.163	2.975	7.768	3.995	3.772	23,5	25,6	21,5	26,7	26,8	26,6

M: Males F: Females

Note: The figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.

METHODOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Survey Identity

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is conducted in all European Union Member States every quarter in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which entered into force on 1.1.2021. Until 2020, the LFS was conducted in accordance with Regulation 577/98 of the Council of the European Union. In Cyprus the survey was carried out in 1999 for the first time and until 2003 it was conducted in the second quarter of every year. As from the second quarter of 2004 onwards, the LFS is conducted every quarter, on a continuous basis.

The main objective of the LFS is to distribute the population aged 15 years and over into three main categories, regarding their labour status, the employed, the unemployed and the persons outside the labour force (inactive). In addition, the survey collects data related to the main job, the occupation, the working hours, the highest level of education, the search of a job, as well as other useful information that is used in policy formulation on labour matters and for pursuing and evaluating programmes that are applied both by the Government and by the European Union.

Coverage and Collection of Data

The LFS covers a sample of 3.800 households in all districts of Cyprus, which are allocated according to the number of households that reside in urban and rural areas.

For comparability of the results, in all Member States, the survey covers the population of private households only. It does not cover persons residing in collective households (i.e. institutions, homes for the aged, hospitals, monasteries etc.), conscripts on compulsory military service as well as students who study abroad and Cypriots who work abroad.

The collection of the data from the Statistical Service is done with personal interviews and the use of portable computers as well as with telephone interviews.

Methodological Changes

With the adoption of the new European Regulation on Social Statistics (2019/1700), the LFS is conducted with significant changes in the design and implementation of the questionnaire, so that it is fully harmonized with this new regulation. The most important changes in the context of the adoption of the new regulation are:

Employed - up to 2020 (persons 15 years and over)

(a) Persons who during the reference week worked for at least 1 hour for pay or profit. Unpaid family workers are also included.

(b) Persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent during the reference week:

- due to sick leave or maternity or paternity leave,
- due to other reasons with duration of absence 3 months or less,
- due to other reasons with duration of absence longer than 3 months and receiving at least 50% of their salary.

Employed - as from 2021 onwards (persons 15 - 89 years old)

(a) Persons who during the reference week worked for at least 1 hour for pay or profit. Unpaid family workers are also included.

(b) Persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent during the reference week:

- due to holidays or leave, working time arrangements, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave or job related training,
- due to other reasons with duration of absence 3 months or less,
- seasonal workers who continue to perform regular duties for their job during the off-season.

The above changes in the regulations have not affected the comparability of the results of the LFS, from 2021 onwards. A special study conducted to check the above changes in the regulations shows that the implementation of the new regulation from 2021 onwards had no impact on the results of the LFS.

It is noted that, the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) had affected both employment and unemployment, as the measures taken by the government for the restraint of the pandemic had affected businesses of various economic activities, (e.g. total or partial suspension of their operation). As a result, persons employed in these businesses did not work for a significant period of time (more than 3 months) and therefore were not considered as employed. Additionally, persons who were not employed were not actively seeking for work (since there were no jobs) although they were available to work within 2 weeks following the reference week and hence were not considered as unemployed.

Definitions

Labour Force / Economically Active Population – The total number of the employed and unemployed persons aged 15 years and over.

Employed - Persons aged 15 – 89 years old who during the reference week worked for at least one hour, as well as persons who had a job but were temporarily absent from work.

Unemployed – Persons aged 15 – 74 years old who comply to the following standards:

- Neither worked nor had a job from which they were temporarily absent during the reference week.
- They had actively sought for work, i.e. had taken specific steps during the previous 4 weeks to find work or found a job which will start within a period of at most 3 months.
- They were available to start work within the 2 weeks following the reference week.

Long-term unemployed – Persons aged 15 – 74 years old who searched for work for a period of 12 months or more.

Inactive – Persons aged 15 years and over who are neither employed nor unemployed.

Labour Force participation rate – The number of persons in the Labour Force for any group expressed as a percentage of the total population in the same group.

Employment rate - The number of employed persons for any group expressed as a percentage of the total population in the same group.

Unemployment rate – The number of unemployed persons of any group expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

Employment Estimation LFS Vs National Accounts

National Accounts employment estimates differ from the results of other statistics and surveys, especially from those obtained from the LFS. In particular, there are differences due to both integration of sources and conceptual reasons.

The differences are presented in the file: [Differences in employment estimates](#)

For more information:

CYSTAT Portal, subtheme [Labour Market](#)

[CYSTAT-DB](#) (Online Database)

[Methodological Information](#)

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