



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS



STATISTICAL SERVICE
1444 NICOSIA

August 27, 2026

PRESS RELEASE

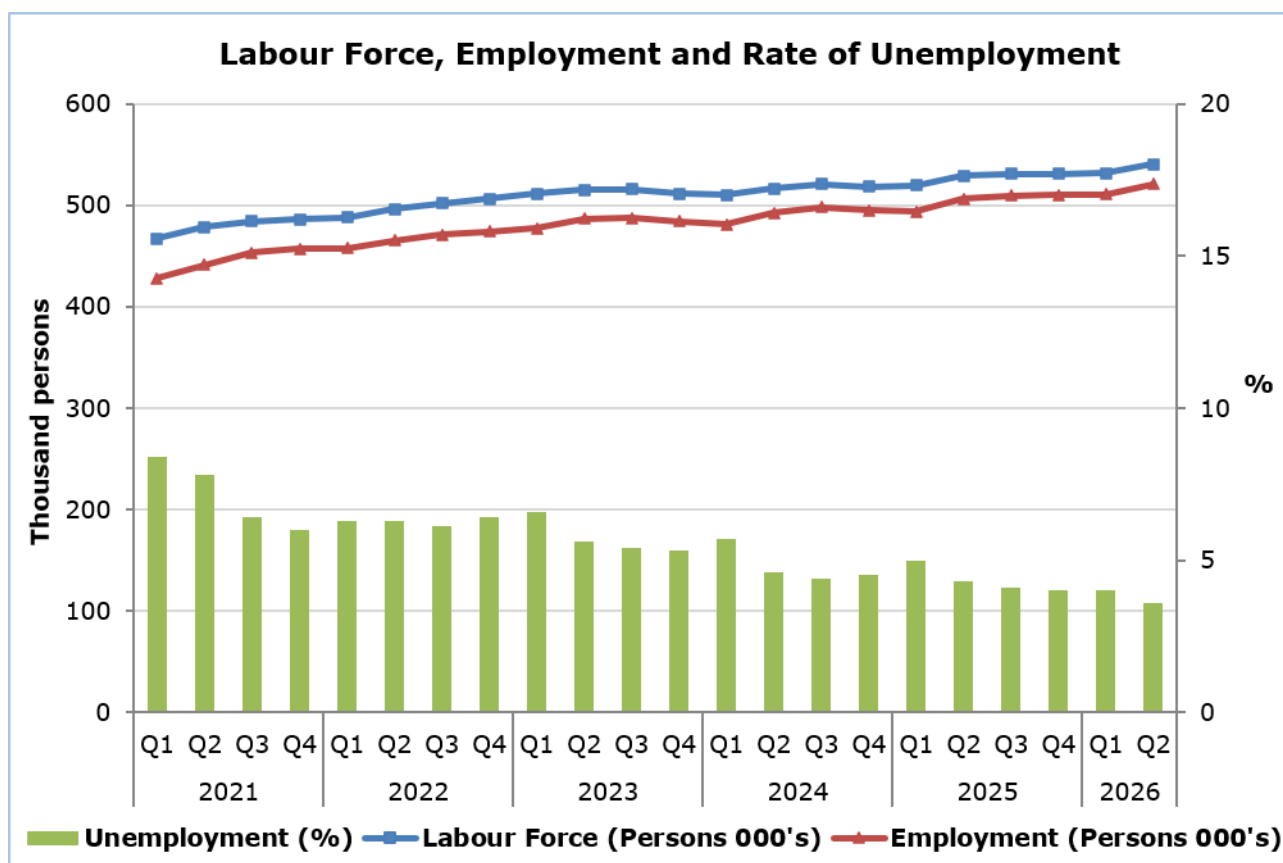
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (LFS): 2nd QUARTER 2026

Unemployment 3,6%

According to the results of the Labour Force Survey, the labour force in the 2nd quarter of 2026 amounted to 540.130 persons or 65,6% of the population (males 70,9%, females 60,5%) in comparison to 528.981 persons (65,4%) in the corresponding quarter of 2025 (Table 1).

The number of employed persons was 520.763 and the employment rate 63,2% (males 68,5%, females 58,3%) in comparison to 506.318 persons (62,6%) in the corresponding quarter of 2025.

The number of unemployed persons amounted to 19.367 and the unemployment rate to 3,6% of the labour force (males 3,5%, females 3,7%) in comparison to 22.663 persons (4,3%) in the corresponding quarter of 2025.



Employment (Table 2)

For the age group 20-64, the employment rate was 82,8%. The rate for males was 87,8% and for females 78,1%. In the corresponding quarter of 2025, the rate was 81,7% (males 87,0%, females 76,5%). For the age group 55-64 the employment rate was 72,6% in comparison to 71,5% in the corresponding quarter of 2025.

According to the distribution of employment by sector, the biggest percentage of employed persons was in Services (81,8%), followed by Manufacturing (16,2%) and Agriculture (2,0%). For the 2nd quarter of 2025, the corresponding percentages were: Services 81,2%, Manufacturing 16,6% and Agriculture 2,2%.

The share of part-time employment to total employment was 8,7% or 45.178 persons (males 7,6%, females 9,9%). The corresponding rate for the 2nd quarter of 2025 was 9,4% (males 7,1%, females 12,0%).

89,8% or 467.712 of the total employed persons were employees, of which 15,7% (73.306 persons) had a temporary job. In the corresponding quarter of 2025 employees accounted for 90,0% of total employment of which 14,3% had a temporary job.

Unemployment (Table 3)

For young persons aged 15-24 years old, the unemployment rate was 12,2% of the labour force of the same age group (males 12,0%, females 12,4%) in comparison to 14,9% (males 15,8%, females 13,9%) in the corresponding quarter of last year.

As far as the duration of unemployment is concerned, 62,4% of the total unemployed persons searched for a job for a period of less than 6 months, 16,5% for a period of 6-11 months, whereas a percentage of 21,1% were long-term unemployed. The corresponding rates for the 2nd quarter of 2025 were 55,9%, 23,0% and 21,1%.

Table 1

	Number		Percentage (%)	
	Q2 2026	Q2 2025	Q2 2026	Q2 2025
<u>Labour Force</u>				
Total	540.130	528.981	65,6	65,4
Males	283.680	280.815	70,9	71,1
Females	256.450	248.166	60,5	60,0
<u>Employment</u>				
Total	520.763	506.318	63,2	62,6
Males	273.868	269.796	68,5	68,3
Females	246.895	236.522	58,3	57,2
<u>Unemployment</u>				
Total	19.367	22.663	3,6	4,3
Males	9.812	11.019	3,5	3,9
Females	9.555	11.644	3,7	4,7

Table 2

Employment	Number						Percentage (%)					
	Q2 2026			Q2 2025			Q2 2026			Q2 2025		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
<u>Age</u>												
15+	520.763	273.868	246.895	506.318	269.796	236.522	63,2	68,5	58,3	62,6	68,3	57,2
20–64	493.680	254.490	239.190	482.570	252.778	229.791	82,8	87,8	78,1	81,7	87,0	76,5
55–64	87.065	46.503	40.562	85.252	46.749	38.503	72,6	81,3	64,7	71,5	82,5	61,6
<u>Sector</u>												
Agriculture	10.397	7.925	2.472	11.306	9.048	2.258	2,0	2,9	1,0	2,2	3,3	1,0
Industry	84.135	68.664	15.471	83.808	69.572	14.237	16,2	25,1	6,3	16,6	25,8	6,0
Services	426.231	197.279	228.952	411.204	191.176	220.028	81,8	72,0	92,7	81,2	70,9	93,0
Full-time	475.586	253.071	222.514	458.893	250.644	208.249	91,3	92,4	90,1	90,6	92,9	88,0
Part-time	45.178	20.797	24.381	47.425	19.152	28.274	8,7	7,6	9,9	9,4	7,1	12,0
<u>Prof. Status</u>												
Self-employed	53.051	32.982	20.069	50.590	30.912	19.678	10,2	12,0	8,1	10,0	11,5	8,3
<u>Employees</u>												
Total	467.712	240.886	226.826	455.728	238.884	216.845	89,8	88,0	91,9	90,0	88,5	91,7
Permanent	394.406	212.579	181.828	390.360	217.455	172.906	84,3	88,2	80,2	85,7	91,0	79,7
Temporary	73.306	28.307	44.998	65.368	21.429	43.939	15,7	11,8	19,8	14,3	9,0	20,3

Table 3

Unemployment	Number						Percentage (%)					
	Q2 2026			Q2 2025			Q2 2026			Q2 2025		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
<u>Age</u>												
15+	19.367	9.812	9.555	22.663	11.019	11.644	3,6	3,5	3,7	4,3	3,9	4,7
15–24	3.594	1.894	1.700	4.529	2.556	1.973	12,2	12,0	12,4	14,9	15,8	13,9
25–64	15.416	7.662	7.754	17.505	8.187	9.319	3,2	3,1	3,3	3,7	3,3	4,1
<u>Duration</u>												
< 6 months	12.086	6.588	5.499	12.668	5.743	6.926	62,4	67,1	57,6	55,9	52,1	59,5
6–11 months	3.197	1.374	1.823	5.203	2.611	2.592	16,5	14,0	19,1	23,0	23,7	22,3
12+ months	4.084	1.851	2.233	4.792	2.666	2.126	21,1	18,9	23,4	21,1	24,2	18,2

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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