



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS



STATISTICAL SERVICE
1444 NICOSIA

November 26, 2025

PRESS RELEASE

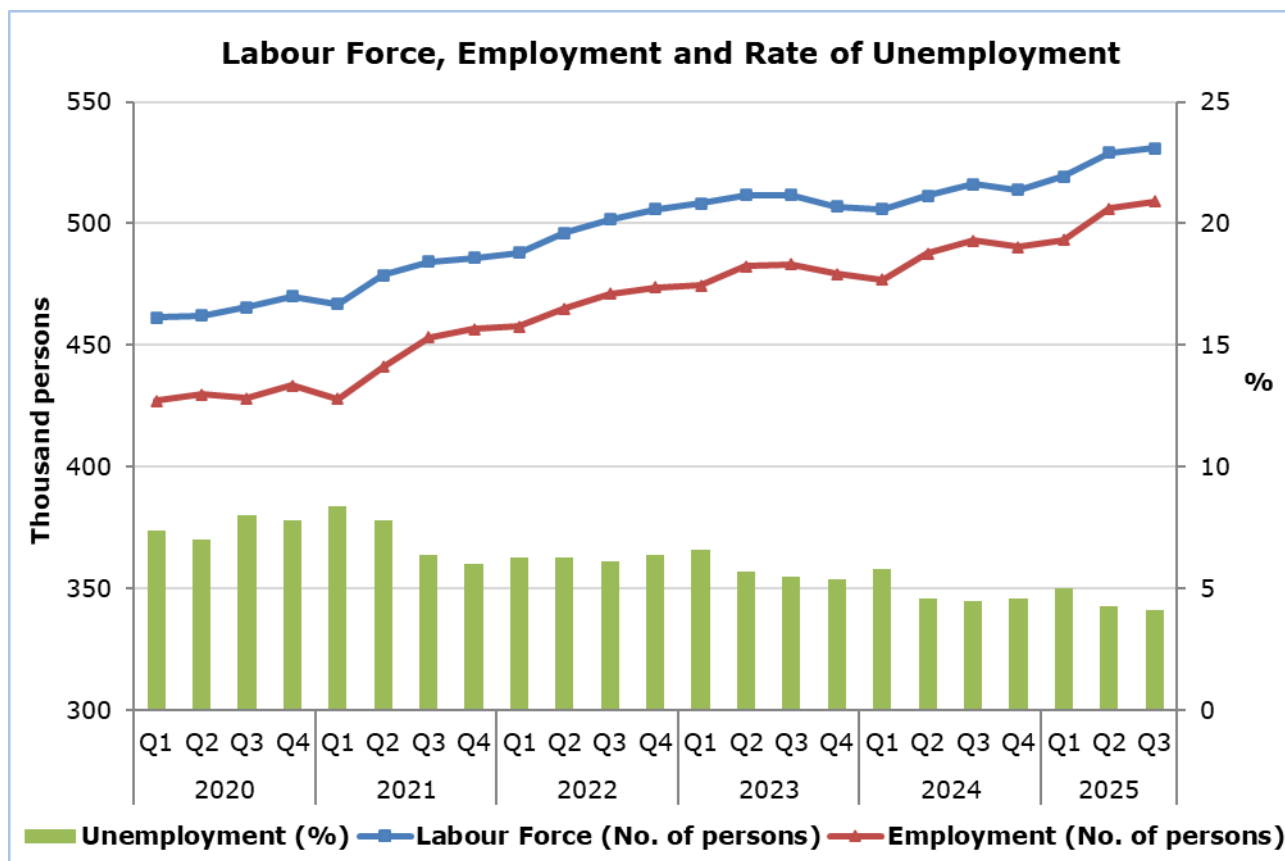
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (LFS): 3rd QUARTER 2025

Unemployment 4,1%

According to the results of the Labour Force Survey, the labour force in the 3rd quarter of 2025 amounted to 530.992 persons or 65,6% of the population (males 71,1%, females 60,4%) in comparison to 516.127 persons (65,7%) in the corresponding quarter of 2024 (Table 1).

The number of employed persons was 509.211 and the employment rate 62,9% (males 68,5%, females 57,6%) in comparison to 493.054 persons (62,7%) in the corresponding quarter of 2024.

The number of unemployed persons amounted to 21.781 and the unemployment rate to 4,1% of the labour force (males 3,7%, females 4,6%) in comparison to 23.073 persons (4,5%) in the corresponding quarter of 2024.



Employment (Table 2)

For the age group 20-64, the employment rate was 81,6%. The rate for males was 86,6% and for females 76,8%. In the corresponding quarter of 2024, the rate was 80,7% (males 86,3%, females 75,5%). For the age group 55-64 the employment rate was 70,9% in comparison to 71,0% in the corresponding quarter of 2024.

According to the distribution of employment by sector, the biggest percentage of employed persons was in Services (81,4%), followed by Manufacturing (16,3%) and Agriculture (2,3%). For the 3rd quarter of 2024, the corresponding percentages were: Services 81,9%, Manufacturing 16,2% and Agriculture 1,9%.

The share of part-time employment to total employment was 8,8% or 44.607 persons (males 6,8%, females 10,9%). The corresponding rate for the 3rd quarter of 2024 was 8,7% (males 6,5%, females 11,1%).

90,2% or 459.272 of the total employed persons were employees, of which 15,5% (71.008 persons) had a temporary job. In the corresponding quarter of 2024 employees accounted for 90,2% of total employment of which 14,5% had a temporary job.

Unemployment (Table 3)

For young persons aged 15-24 years old, the unemployment rate was 13,1% of the labour force of the same age group (males 14,1%, females 12,1%) in comparison to 12,1% (males 10,9%, females 13,4%) in the corresponding quarter of last year.

As far as the duration of unemployment is concerned, 63,8% of the total unemployed persons searched for a job for a period of less than 6 months, 16,8% for a period of 6-11 months, whereas a percentage of 19,4% were long-term unemployed. The corresponding rates for the 3rd quarter of 2024 were 56,3%, 20,2% and 23,5%.

Table 1

	Number		Percentage (%)	
	Q3 2025	Q3 2024	Q3 2025	Q3 2024
<u>Labour Force</u>				
Total	530.992	516.127	65,6	65,7
Males	279.861	267.287	71,1	71,0
Females	251.132	248.840	60,4	60,7
<u>Employment</u>				
Total	509.211	493.054	62,9	62,7
Males	269.513	256.068	68,5	68,0
Females	239.698	236.986	57,6	57,8
<u>Unemployment</u>				
Total	21.781	23.073	4,1	4,5
Males	10.348	11.219	3,7	4,2
Females	11.434	11.853	4,6	4,8

Table 2

Employment	Number						Percentage (%)					
	Q3 2025			Q3 2024			Q3 2025			Q3 2024		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Age												
15+	509.211	269.513	239.698	493.054	256.068	236.986	62,9	68,5	57,6	62,7	68,0	57,8
20–64	483.722	252.023	231.698	472.215	242.696	229.518	81,6	86,6	76,8	80,7	86,3	75,5
55–64	84.758	46.322	38.436	82.986	45.506	37.480	70,9	81,7	61,2	71,0	80,0	62,4
Sector												
Agriculture	11.654	9.244	2.410	9.223	7.395	1.828	2,3	3,4	1,0	1,9	2,9	0,8
Industry	83.279	69.230	14.049	79.892	66.572	13.320	16,3	25,7	5,9	16,2	26,0	5,6
Services	414.278	191.039	223.238	403.939	182.100	221.838	81,4	70,9	93,1	81,9	71,1	93,6
Full-time	464.604	251.089	213.515	450.218	239.509	210.709	91,2	93,2	89,1	91,3	93,5	88,9
Part-time	44.607	18.424	26.182	42.839	16.559	26.277	8,8	6,8	10,9	8,7	6,5	11,1
Prof. Status												
Self-employed	49.938	30.173	19.765	48.161	29.618	18.543	9,8	11,2	8,2	9,8	11,6	7,8
Employees												
Total	459.272	239.340	219.932	444.893	226.450	218.443	90,2	88,8	91,8	90,2	88,4	92,2
Permanent	388.265	215.062	173.202	380.327	203.506	176.821	84,5	89,9	78,8	85,5	89,9	80,9
Temporary	71.008	24.278	46.730	64.566	22.944	41.622	15,5	10,1	21,2	14,5	10,1	19,1

Table 3

Unemployment	Number						Percentage (%)					
	Q3 2025			Q3 2024			Q3 2025			Q3 2024		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Age												
15+	21.781	10.348	11.434	23.073	11.219	11.853	4,1	3,7	4,6	4,5	4,2	4,8
15–24	4.048	2.150	1.899	4.215	1.992	2.223	13,1	14,1	12,1	12,1	10,9	13,4
25–64	17.277	8.000	9.276	18.444	8.958	9.485	3,6	3,2	4,0	4,0	3,8	4,2
Duration												
< 6 months	13.891	6.235	7.657	12.986	5.674	7.311	63,8	60,2	67,0	56,3	50,6	61,7
6–11 months	3.655	1.921	1.734	4.660	2.205	2.456	16,8	18,6	15,1	20,2	19,6	20,7
12+ months	4.235	2.191	2.043	5.427	3.339	2.087	19,4	21,2	17,9	23,5	29,8	17,6

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](#)

Contact

Maria Hadjiprokopi: Tel: +35722602146, Email: mhadjiprokopi@cystat.mof.gov.cy

Christophoros Michaelides: Tel: +35722602154, Email: cmichaelides@cystat.mof.gov.cy