

Main results from the Quarterly Labour Force Survey 2012-2013

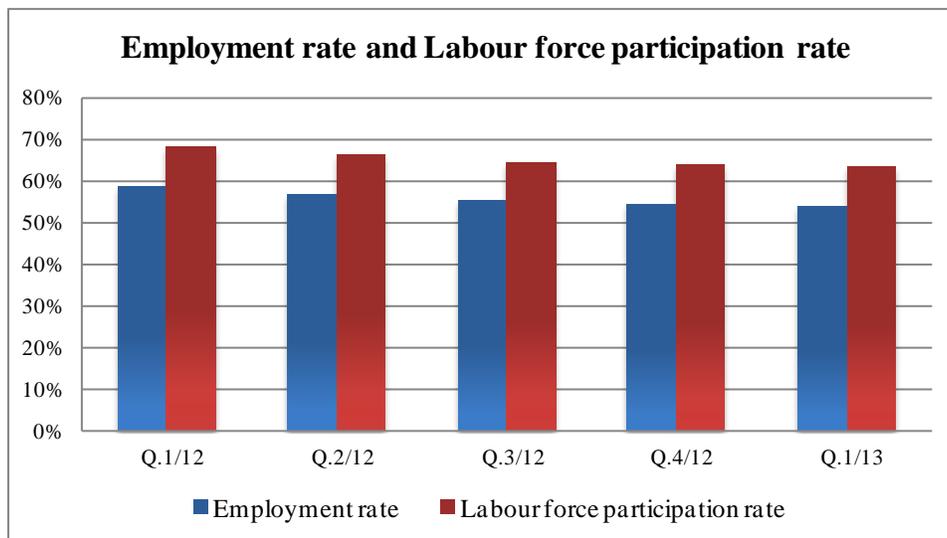
The quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household based survey. During the years 2007-2011 Labour Force Survey was conducted by INSTAT with annual periodicity. In 2012, Labour Force Survey was designed as a pilot survey to obtain quarterly estimates on employment and unemployment at a national level. Starting from the first quarter of 2013 onwards, QLFS will be used to derive indicators on Albanian labour market quarterly.

The main objective of QLFS is to provide information on the situation of the labour market in Albania, which then will be used to develop labour market policies and assess their effectiveness and also to satisfy statistical needs for updated data on labour market dynamics.

EMPLOYMENT

During the first quarter of 2013, 63.2 percent of the working age population in Albania was active in the labour market, meaning employed or in active searching of a job.

The labour force participation rate for females was 55.3 percent, whereas for males 71.8 percent. Compared to the fourth quarter of 2012, the female participation in labour market has increased with about 1 percent while male participation has decreased with 1.2 percent (see Table 1).



During the first quarter 2013, the youth labour force participation rate (15-29 years old) was 41.2 percent and for the population aged 30-64, this indicator was 75.3 percent.

In the working age population (15-64 years old) there is a noticeable decrease in the employment rate from 58.8 percent in the first quarter of 2012 to 54 percent in the first quarter of 2013 (see Table 1). This decrease was as a result of the decrease in the construction sector. Male employment rate was higher than female employment rate in an average difference of 12 percent.

During the first quarter of 2013, youth employment rate was 31 percent, while for the age-group 30-64 years old, this indicator was 66.8 percent.

Table 1: Employment rates and labour force participation rates by age-groups and sex

	Employment rate			Labour force participation rate		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
15-64 years old						
Tr.1/12	58.8	65.1	52.6	67.9	76.0	59.9
Tr.2/12	56.9	63.7	50.1	66.1	75.1	57.2
Tr.3/12	55.2	62.2	48.2	64.2	73.2	55.2
Tr.4/12	54.5	61.6	47.3	63.6	73.0	54.3
Tr.1/13	54.1	60.4	48.2	63.2	71.8	55.3
15-29 years old						
Tr.1/12	39.4	44.9	76.9	51.1	58.8	42.9
Tr.2/12	37.7	42.8	76.1	49.6	58.2	40.4
Tr.3/12	33.2	37.5	77.2	45.7	53.7	37.1
Tr.4/12	32.8	36.5	76.9	44.3	51.8	36.3
Tr.1/13	31.0	36.2	74.5	41.2	49.2	33.5
30-64 years old						
Tr.1/12	69.4	33.5	62.2	77.1	86.1	68.6
Tr.2/12	67.6	32.2	59.4	75.3	85.0	65.9
Tr.3/12	67.8	28.7	58.9	74.8	85.1	65.0
Tr.4/12	66.9	28.8	57.4	74.7	85.9	64.1
Tr.1/13	66.8	25.9	60.0	75.3	84.9	66.9

Source of information: LFS 2012-13

Employment structure by status in employment

In the first quarter of 2013, employees represent 38.4 percent of the total employment. Compared to the first quarter of 2012, the number of employees has increased by 0.5 percent, while compared to the last quarter of 2012, there is an increase by 1.6 percent.

Male employees, in the first quarter of 2013 represent 41.8 percent of the total male employment, while female employees represent 34.5 percent of total female employment. Meanwhile, it is noticeable that male self-employed without employees and male unpaid family workers represent respectively 30.8 percent and 25 percent of the total male employment. The opposite happened with employed females, where 47 percent are unpaid family workers and 17 percent are self-employed without employees.

Table 2: Employment structure by status in employment and sex
(column percentage)

	Q.1/12	Q.2/12	Q.3/12	Q.4/12	Q.1/13
15-64 years old	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employees	37.9	36.7	36.7	36.8	38.4
Self-employed with employees	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.4	2.0
Self-employed without employees	27.0	25.2	24.0	24.7	24.4
Unpaid family worker	33.7	36.5	37.5	37.1	35.2
Male (aged 15-64)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employees	42.2	40.8	41.4	41.9	41.8
Self-employed with employees	1.9	2.3	2.2	1.6	2.4
Self-employed without employees	33.7	32.4	30.1	31.0	30.8
Unpaid family worker	22.2	24.5	26.4	25.5	24.9
Female (aged 15-64)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employees	32.5	31.4	30.7	30.3	34.5
Self-employed with employees	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.0	1.6
Self-employed without employees	18.7	16.0	16.2	16.6	17.0
Unpaid family worker	47.9	51.8	51.7	52.1	47.0
15-29 years old	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employees	34.1	36.8	36.9	36.2	41.7
Self-employed with employees	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.5
Self-employed without employees	14.1	12.9	16.0	13.9	12.0
Unpaid family worker	51.0	49.9	46.9	49.7	44.7
30-64 years old	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employees	39.0	36.6	36.7	37.0	37.5
Self-employed with employees	1.7	2.0	2.3	1.7	2.2
Self-employed without employees	30.9	29.0	26.2	27.8	27.6
Unpaid family worker	28.4	32.4	34.9	33.6	32.8

Source of information: LFS 2012-13

Among employed youth (15-29 years old), 41.7 percent were employees, 1.5 percent were self-employed with employees, 44.7 percent were unpaid family workers and the remaining part were self-employed without employees.

Structure of employment by economic sector

According to the QLFS data, in the first quarter of 2013, about 35 percent of employed population (employees and self-employed) worked in the service sector. Employment in this sector remains more or less the same from the second quarter of 2012 with little variation. Employment in the market services sector such as trade, transport, financial activities, etc., represented 19.3 percent of the total employment, while in non-market services sector employment represented about 16 percent of the total employment and in agriculture sector employment represented 48.7 percent of the total employment.

Table 3: Employment structure by economic activity and sex
(column percentage)

	Q.1/12	Q.2/12	Q.3/12	Q.4/12	Q.1/13
MF					
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	45.6	47.2	48.3	48.7	48.7
Industry	17.3	17.0	16.2	15.5	16.0
Market services	21.6	20.4	20.5	20.5	19.3
Non-market services	15.5	15.4	15.0	15.2	16.0
Male					
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	37.5	38.6	39.3	39.6	40.9
Industry	23.3	23.6	22.1	21.4	22.3
Market services	25.0	23.6	24.6	24.9	22.5
Non-market services	14.1	14.2	14.0	14.1	14.3
Female					
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	55.5	58.1	59.9	60.6	57.9
Industry	9.8	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.6
Market services	17.3	16.3	15.3	14.8	15.6
Non-market services	17.3	17.0	16.2	16.7	17.9

Source of information: LFS 2012-13

In the first quarter of 2013, 58 percent of employed females were engaged in agricultural and farming activities, 15.6 percent in activities like wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants, financial intermediation and monetary, etc.

Among employed males in the first quarter of 2013, 41 percent worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing (see Table 3). If analysing the structure of employment by sectors and sex, it is evident that industrial activities such as construction and mining industry were dominated by male employees, while manufacturing industry remains dominated by female employees. So, in the market service sector, 75 percent of employees were male and in the non-market service sector 52 percent of employees were female.

UNEMPLOYMENT

According to the QLFS data, during the first quarter of 2013, unemployment rate for the working age population in Albania was 14.5 percent (see Table 4). Long term unemployment rate was 11 percent.

Compared to the first quarter of 2012, unemployment rate increased with 1.1 percent. Male unemployment rate was higher than female unemployment rate, reflecting a higher level of job searching by males and a higher inactivity level in female labour market. Male unemployment rate was 15.8 percent and female unemployment rate was 12.9 percent.

Table 4: Unemployment rates and long term unemployment rates by age-group and sex

	Unemployment rate			Long term unemployment rate		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
15-64 years old						
Q.1/12	13.4	14.3	12.2	10.0	10.1	9.7
Q.2/12	13.9	15.1	12.4	10.7	11.2	9.9
Q.3/12	14.0	15.1	12.6	10.7	11.2	10.1
Q.4/12	14.4	15.6	12.8	11.7	12.7	10.5
Q.1/13	14.5	15.8	12.9	11.0	11.5	10.5
15-29 years old						
Q.1/12	22.9	23.6	21.8	14.5	14.8	14.0
Q.2/12	24.1	26.4	20.4	16.7	18.2	14.3
Q.3/12	27.3	30.2	22.8	19.0	20.5	16.7
Q.4/12	26.0	29.5	20.7	19.3	22.7	14.1
Q.1/13	24.9	26.5	22.7	17.4	18.0	16.5
30-64 years old						
Q.1/12	10.0	10.6	9.2	8.3	8.3	8.4
Q.2/12	10.2	10.5	9.9	8.4	8.4	8.5
Q.3/12	9.3	9.3	9.4	7.9	7.7	8.1
Q.4/12	10.5	10.5	10.4	9.2	9.0	9.4
Q.1/13	11.3	12.3	10.2	9.1	9.3	8.9

Source of information: LFS 2012-13

Unemployment rate for the age-group 15-29 years old, in the first quarter of 2013, was 24 percent. Compared to the last quarter of 2012, youth unemployment rate decreased with 1 percent. The ratio of unemployed of the age-group 15-29 years old to the same age-group population, in the first quarter of 2013 was 10.3 percent.

For population in the age-group 30-64 years old, unemployment rate was 11.3 percent and long term unemployment rate was 9.1 percent.

The majority of unemployed had asked friends and relatives to find a job. This method of job search is combined also with direct application to an employer as well as with the placement of advertisements in newspapers, study of announcements for job vacancies in newspapers etc.

NON - ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION

During the first quarter of 2013, working age population (15-64 years old) classified as non-economically active represented 36.8 percent of total working age population. Youth of the age-group 15-29 years old who declared that they were pupils/students or in training represented 39 percent of non-economically active population (see Table 5). While, among the group of inactive youth population 68 percent were pupils/students or in training.

In the first three months of 2013, 16 percent of non-economically active of the age-group 15-64 years old were fulfilling household duties.

Among females classified as non-economically active, 24.9 percent declared that they were inactive in labour market because they were fulfilling household duties. While among males, only 0.9 percent of them have this status.

In the first quarter of 2013, according to QLFS, 14.2 percent of non-economically active population (in the age-group 15-64 years old) declared that they were not looking for work because they believed that there are no jobs available.

Among young people of the age-group 15-29 years old, 11 percent are classified as discouraged unemployed while in the adult population of the age-group 30-64 years old, this group constituted 18.3 percent of the respective economically inactive population.

11 percent of non-economically active population in the age-group 15-64 years old were retired, while slightly more than 5.7 percent were permanently disabled.

Table 5: Structure of non-economically active population (aged 15-64), 2012-2013

	Q.1/12	Q.2/12	Q.3/12	Q.4/12	Q.1/13
<i>Population aged 15-64</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In education or training	35.7	34.9	35.9	37.6	39.0
Retired	11.7	10.6	9.8	9.5	11.0
Believe that there are no jobs available	3.4	4.4	17.3	19.4	14.2
In permanent disability	5.9	5.6	5.5	4.9	5.7
Fulfilling household duties	14.7	18.2	16.5	17.1	16.1
Other	28.7	26.4	15.0	11.6	14.0
Male	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In education or training	48.1	46.8	46.6	50.4	46.8
Retired	11.2	9.0	8.1	6.8	8.8
Believe that there are no jobs available	2.7	5.4	17.3	20.3	17.4
In permanent disability	10.1	9.7	10.8	8.7	8.6
Fulfilling household duties	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.9
Other	27.7	29.0	17.2	13.6	17.6
Female	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In education or training	28.3	27.9	29.5	30.0	34.5
Retired	12.0	11.5	10.8	11.0	12.3
Believe that there are no jobs available	3.7	3.8	17.3	18.8	12.4
In permanent disability	3.4	3.2	2.4	2.7	4.0
Fulfilling household duties	23.3	28.7	26.3	27.0	24.9
Other	29.2	24.9	13.7	10.5	11.9
<i>Population aged 15-29</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In education or training	66.1	63.8	64.7	67.2	68.5
Retired	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1
Believe that there are no jobs available	2.1	3.2	10.1	11.0	11.1
In permanent disability	1.9	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.8
Fulfilling household duties	8.9	10.9	8.4	8.3	8.4
Other	20.8	20.6	15.0	11.9	10.1
<i>Population aged 30-64</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In education or training	0.3	2.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Retired	25.1	22.5	21.7	21.4	25.3
Believe that there are no jobs available	4.8	5.7	26.2	29.9	18.3
In permanent disability	10.5	10.3	10.4	9.2	10.8
Fulfilling household duties	21.4	26.6	26.5	28.2	26.3
Other	37.8	32.9	15.1	11.3	19.1

Source of information: LFS 2012-13

METHODOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household based survey. The shift from an annual periodicity survey to a quarterly survey was aimed to provide quarterly estimates for the main indicators of the labour market. This information updated on quarterly basis, offers the possibility of conducting analysis on the labour market dynamics.

The QLFS uses a rotational sampling design, whereby a household once initially selected for interview, is retained in the sample for a total of five consecutive quarters. The same household is scheduled to be interviewed, exactly after 13 weeks apart, so that the fifth interview takes place one year on after the first. According to the rotational sampling design, each quarter one fifth of the selected households are new and 80 percent of them are in common. So, in each quarter, in the selected sample, 1008 new households are added and the same number of households that has been interviewed for five consecutive quarters is dropped out from the sample.

The sample size for QLFS is 5040 households for each calendar quarter. The sample is based in a two-stage sampling procedure. In the first stage are selected the geographical areas with a proportional probability to the size of the enumeration area. In the second stage within each of the geographical areas (once selected in the first stage) are selected a fix number of 8 households by equal probability systematic sampling method.

Data collection in the fieldwork was spread during all months of the year 2012 and in the first three months of 2013. In the selected households, were surveyed by face to face interview, all household members aged 15 years and above. Data collection is made by using PDA (Personal Digital Assistant), which is a handheld computer.

The QLFS questionnaire was drafted with the technical assistance from EUROSTAT and in complete compliance with its recommendations and regulations*. The methodological part fulfils all EUROSTAT standards linked with the representation of the sample, coefficient of the variation of the main indicators, the questionnaire design, and data weighting procedures.

For the classification of persons 15 years and older in relevant categories related to their participation in the labour market, were implemented ILO (International Labour Organization) and EUROSTAT definitions.

Employed are considered all the persons who have worked even for one hour with a respective salary or profit during the reference week. As employed are considered also all persons who were receiving a salary or wage while they were in training during their work.

Employed are also considered persons temporarily not at work during the reference week for some reasons: (1) maternity leave, illness, injury or temporary disability and expect to return to work, education / training directly related to the actual work; (2) salaried employees absent from work

for some reasons other than the above that (a) lack of the duration is three months or less, and the person is not a seasonal worker or (b) the person takes 50% or more salary; (3) the self-employed who intend to return to the business / farm / or professional practice; (4) workers not being paid who expect to return to work in three months or less.

People who work on their small farm, who do not sell their products, but produce only for self-consumption, are considered as employed.

Unemployed comprise persons who during the reference week were:

- a) *Without work during the reference week*, i.e. neither had a job nor were at work (for one hour or more) in paid employment or self-employment;
- b) *Currently available for work*, (were available before the end of the two weeks following the reference week;
- c) *Actively seeking work*, (had taken specific steps in the four week period ending with the reference week to seek paid employment or self-employment) *or who found a job to start later*, (within a period of at most three months)

The following are considered as specific steps:

- Having been in contact with a public employment office to find work.
- Having been in contact with a private employment agency to find work,
- Applying to employers directly,
- Asking friends, relatives, unions, etc., to find work,
- Placing or answering job advertisements,
- Studying job advertisements,
- Taking a recruitment test or examination or being interviewed,
- Looking for land, premises or equipment,
- Applying for permits, licences or financial resources.

Working age population is the population between 15-64 years old.

Labour Force includes employed and unemployed persons.

Non-economically active population comprises all persons who are not classified as employed or unemployed (pupils/students, housekeepers, in a compulsory military service, retired, disabled, discouraged unemployed).

The employment rate is the proportion of employed 15-64 years compared to the working age population.

The unemployment rate is the ratio of the unemployed to the labour force.

Labour force participation rate is the proportion of the labour force compared to the working age population.

Aggregation of NACE Rev1 sections in Table 3:

- **Industry sector** consists of sections C-F (mining industry; manufacturing industry; electricity and gas supply; construction).
- **Market services sector** consists of sections G-K (wholesale and retail trades, repair of automobile; hotels and restaurants; transport, storage and communication; monetary and financial intermediation; real estate).
- **Non-market services sector** consists of sections L-Q (public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; health and other social activities; other services of collective activities, social and individual; services at home; activities of international organisms).

* European Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98 and related versions