Labour Market 2018

**Tirana, May 03, 2019:** Over the year 2018, according to Labour Force Survey estimates, labour force is 1 million and 404 thousand persons. Females account for 43.7 % of the labour force and males 56.3 %. Employed are 1 million and 230 thousand persons, from which females account for 43.9 % and males 56.1 %. The number of unemployed is estimated 173 thousand persons, of which 42.3 % are females and 57.7 % are males.

The labour force participation rate for the population aged 15-64 years old is 68.3 %. For male population aged 15-64, the labour force participation rate is 17.2 percentage points higher than females.

The employment rate for the population aged 15-64 years old is 59.5 %. Employment rate for females is 52.4 % and for males 66.7 %. The gender gap in employment for this age-group is 14.3 percentage points.

The agricultural and services sectors have the highest share of employed with respectively 37.4 % and 42.9 % of the total employment. According to the 2018 survey estimates, it results that 44.5 % of employed are employees, 34.0 % are self-employed (with employees or without employees) and 21.6 % are contributing family workers.

**Fig.1 Unemployment rate by age-groups**
The official unemployment rate, for the population 15 years old and over, is 12.3 % and decreases by 1.4 percentage points compared to 2017. For males, the unemployment rate is 0.8 percentage points higher than females.

Youth (15-24 years old) unemployment rate is 28.3 %, (29.6 % for males and 26.0 % for females). Compared to the previous year, youth unemployment rate has decreased by 3.6 percentage points.

Over the year 2018, youth aged 15-29 years old neither in employment nor in education or training account for 28.6 % of all youth population.

Fig.2 Youth (15-29 years old) neither in employment nor in education or training by labour market status, 2018

In the group of youth aged 15-29 years old neither in employment nor in education or training, 36.6 % are classified as unemployed. The other part is outside the labour force because they are discouraged workers (11.7 %) or fulfilling domestic and family responsibilities (22.0 %) or for other reasons (29.6 %).

Regions

An analyses by regions, indicate that in 2018, prefectures with the highest (15-64 years) employment rate are: Elbasan (61.5 %) and Korçë (59.5 %), whereas that with the lowest employment rate is Lezhë (45.6 %). The prefecture with the highest unemployment rate is prefecture of Vlora with 21.9 % and Lezha with 19.2 %.

In 2018, in the prefecture of Tirana, employment in agriculture constitute a very small percentage of the total employment (7 %). Further, the major part of employed seems to be engaged in the services sector (66 %). Industry constitute an important part as well (27 %).
Fig. 3 Employment structure by prefectures and economic sectors, 2018

Wages

In 2018, in Albania, the average monthly gross wage1 per employee is 50,589 ALL. The average monthly gross wage is above the average for economic activities such as: Financial and Insurance Activities; Public administration and defense; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities. While economic activities below the average level are: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transport and storage; accommodation and food service activities; and Agriculture, forestry and fishing.

The gender pay gap is 10.7%. The gender pay gap is higher among employees who are employed in economic enterprises belonging to the economic activity group “Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities”. For this group-activity, the gender pay gap is 35.1%. Compared with the previous year, the gender pay gap for this group of activities has decreased by 0.5 percentage points.

During 2018, 26.6% of employee receives average monthly gross wage higher than official minimum wage. For the year 2018, the official minimum wage is 24,000 ALL.

1The gross average monthly wage per employee is calculated based on the data of payrolls declared by economic enterprises to the General Directorate of Taxation
In 2018, the most paid professions are: Lawmakers, senior civil servants and executive directors; Specialists with higher education (professionals); and technicians and specialists in implementation. Professions below the average level are: Qualified employees of forestry and fishing agriculture; workers of professional professions; and craftsmen, artisans and related professions.

**Fig. 4 Distribution of employee contributors by average monthly gross wage intervals**

![Graph showing wage distribution](image-url)
Methodological note

Employment rate: Number of employed persons 15-64 years divided by the population 15 to 64 years old.

Official unemployment rate: Number of unemployed persons 15 years old and over divided by the number of persons in the labour force (employed and unemployed) 15 years old and over.

Labour force participation rate: number of persons 15 to 64 years old in the labour force divided by the number of population 15 to 64 years old.

Labour force participation rate and employment rate are calculated for the population 15-64 years old. While unemployment rate is calculated for the economically active population (labour force) 15 years old and over. Employment rates and labour force participation rates calculated for the population 15 years old and over are affected by the inclusion of persons in retirement in denominator and for this reason are less meaningful than rates calculated for the population 15-64 years old. Whereas in the calculation of the unemployment rate for the population 15 years old and over, in the denominator we have the economically active population, which include employed persons or persons actively looking and available for a job and as a consequence this indicator is not affected by the population above the retirement age.

Gross average monthly wage is calculated for employees and includes: the basic wage, additional payment for – (a) managerial duties; (b) years at work; (c) difficult working conditions; and (d) other regular additional payments. Personal social security contributions and taxation on income are not deducted from the gross average monthly wage.

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