

Quarterly Labour Force Survey

Fourth quarter, 2014

Tirana, March 11, 2015: Over the fourth quarter 2014, according to the quarterly Labour Force Survey, the number of employed people of age 15-64 is 1,039,336 persons. The number of unemployed aged 15-64 years old is 227,407 persons.

Over the fourth quarter 2014 in Albania:

- Unemployment rate for the population of age 15-64 is 18.0 %.
- Youth (aged 15-29 yrs. old) unemployment rate is 33.9 %.
- 63.6 % of the population 15-64 years old was active in the labour market, either employed or actively looking for a job.
- Employment rate for the population aged 15-64 years is 52.1 %.
- The male employment rate is 13.8 percentage points higher than that of females.

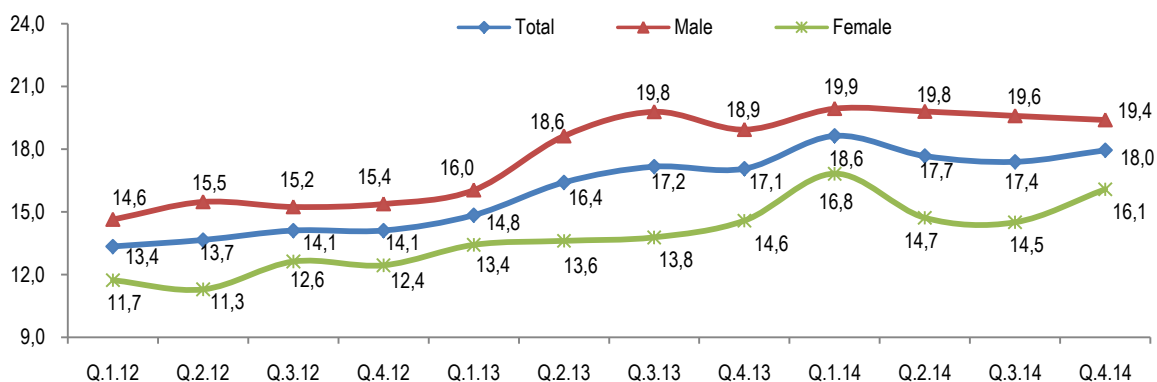
Compared to the fourth quarter of 2013, for the population 15-64 years old:

- The number of employed is increased with 82,629 persons.
- The number of unemployed is increased with 30,459.
- The number of persons at age 15-64 years old out of the labour market has decreased with 105,113.
- The female unemployment rate is increased with 1.5 percentage points, whereas for males is decreased by 0.5 percentage points.

Compared to the third quarter of 2014, for population 15-64 years old:

- The number of employed is decreased with 3,722.
- The number of unemployed is increased with 7,821.
- The number of persons at age 15-64 years old out of the labour market is decreased with 3,903.
- The unemployment rate decreased with 0.2 percentage points for males and increased with 1.6 percentage points for females.

Fig. 1 Unemployment rate for the population 15-64 years old, Q.1/12 - Q.4/14



Tab.1 Summary of the labour market indicators (estimated by QLFS)

	Q.4. 2014		Annual change		Quarterly change	
	Number	%	Q.4.2014-Q.4.2013		Q.4.2014-Q.3.2014	
			Number	%	Number	%
Employed 15 years old and over	1,067,613	100.0	84,078	8.5	-4,418	-0.4
of which:						
15-64 years	1,039,336	97.4	82,629	8.6	-3,722	-0.4
15-29 years	203,563	19.1	5,975	3.0	-9,223	-4.3
30-64 years	835,773	78.3	76,653	10.1	5,501	0.7
Unemployed 15 years old and over	227,786	100.0	29,739	15.0	8,200	3.7
of which:						
15-64 years	227,407	99.8	30,459	15.5	7,821	3.6
15-29 years	104,256	45.8	26,203	33.6	2,427	2.4
30-64 years	123,151	54.1	4,256	3.6	5,394	4.6
Inactive 15 years old and over	1,045,894	100.0	-94,799	-8.3	-3,544	-0.3
of which:						
15-64 years	726,231	69.4	-105,113	-12.6	-3,906	-0.5
15-29 years	389,284	37.2	-45,590	-10.5	6,945	1.8
30-64 years	336,947	32.2	-59,523	-15.0	-10,850	-3.1
Labour force 15 years old and over	1,295,399	100.0	113,816	9.6	3,782	0.3
of which:						
15-64 years	1,266,743	97.8	113,087	9.8	4,099	0.3
15-29 years	307,819	23.8	32,178	11.7	-6,796	-2.2
30-64 years	958,924	74.0	80,909	9.2	10,895	1.1

Employment

Over the fourth quarter 2014, the labour force participation rate for the population aged 15-64 years old is 63.6 %. Female labour force participation rate is 54.1 % and male labour force participation rate is 73.5 %. Compared to the previous quarter the labour force participation rate has slightly increased with 0.2 percentage points. This indicator is increased for females with 1.1 percentage points and has decreased for males with 0.7 percentage points.

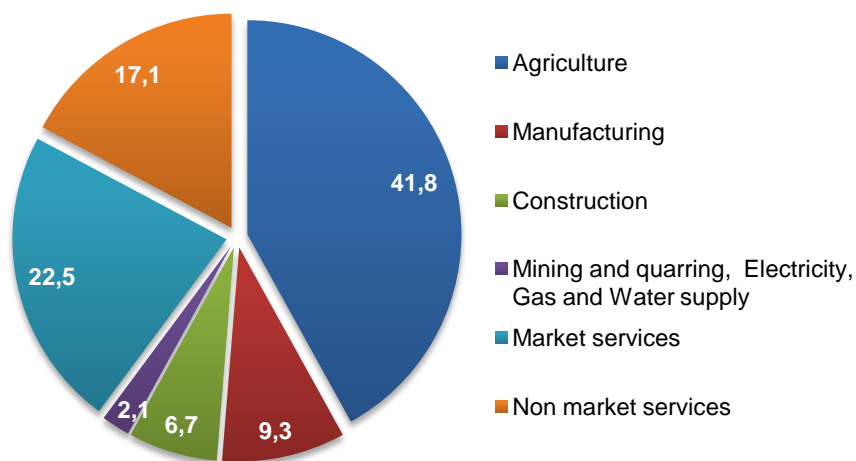
Over the fourth quarter 2014, youth (aged 15-29) labour force participation rate is 44.2 %. Youth employment rate is 29.2 %.

Adult (aged 30-64) labour force participation rate is 74.0 %. Adult employment rate is 64.5 %.

Over the fourth quarter 2014, according to QLFS data, 41.8 % of the employed are engaged in the agricultural sector and 22.5 % of employed work in the market services sector (wholesale and retail trades, repair of automobile, hotels and restaurants, transport, storage and communication, monetary and financial intermediation, real estate).

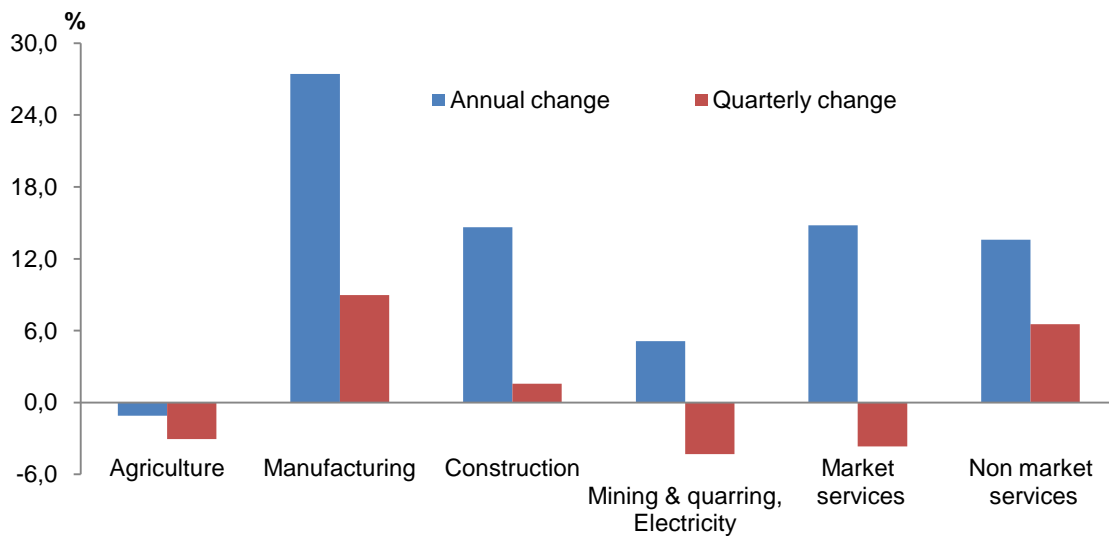
Employment share in the non market services sector (public administration and defence, compulsory social security, education, health and other social activities, other services of collective activities, social and individual, services at home, activities of international organisms) is 17.1 % of the total employment. Employment in manufacturing constitutes 9.3 % of the total employment.

Fig. 2 Employment structure by economic activity, Q4/2014



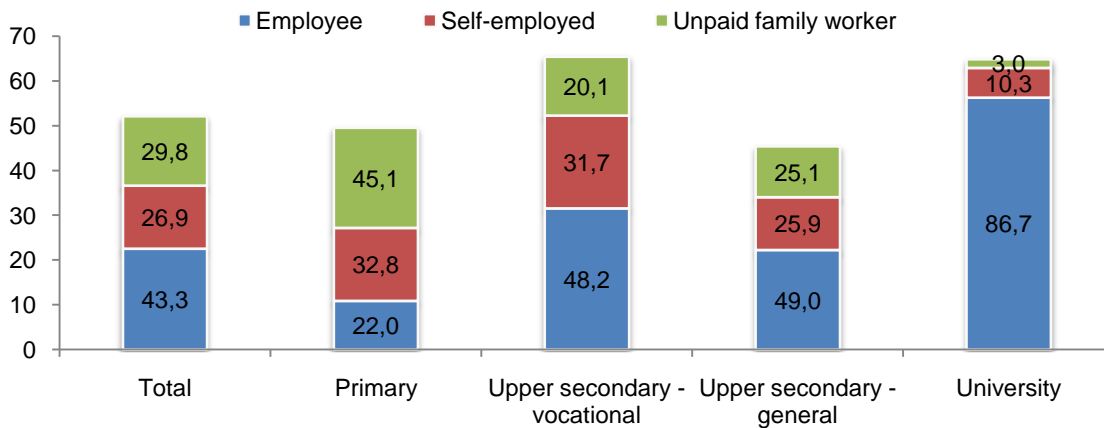
The growth rate of employment by sectors from the third quarter to the fourth quarter 2014 is: 9% in manufacturing; 1.6 percent in construction. There was a decrease in the number of employed in agriculture activities by 3.1 % and in mining and quarrying, energy and water supply by 4.3%.

Fig. 3 Employment growth rate by economic activity



In yearly terms, the employment increased with 8.5% (compared to the fourth quarter 2013). Manufacturing industry, activities of market services and construction had the major increase in employment respectively with 27.4%, 14.8% and 14.6%.

Fig. 4 Employment rate by status in employment and level of education, Q.4/14



Over the fourth quarter 2014, the share of employees in total employment is 42.3 %. The self employed (employers or self employed without employees) account for 27.5 % of the total employment, while unpaid family workers represent 30.2 % of the total employment.

Employment rate (age group 15-64 yrs.) is higher for employed with vocational upper secondary education (65.5 %), followed by those with higher education (64.9 %). Data show that the percentage of employees is higher among persons with higher education and the opposite is seen among employed with 8/9 years school where the major share is of unpaid family workers.

When analysing employed with secondary education, the employment rate is higher for persons with vocational upper secondary education compared to persons with general upper secondary education, respectively 65.5 % and 45.5 %.

One in five employed of the age-group 15-64 years old with 8/9 years school are employees, about half are unpaid family workers and one third of them are self employed. The share of employees increases with the increase of the education level. Among employed with high education, 86.7 % are employees and only 3 % are employed as unpaid family workers. The shares of employees among employed with vocational and general upper secondary education are respectively 48.2 and 49 percent.

Unemployment

The number of persons at age 15-64 years actively looking for work over the fourth quarter of 2014 in Albania is 227,407. The unemployment rate for the population aged 15-64 years old is 18 %. The male unemployment rate is higher than female unemployment rate for this age-group with respectively 19.4 % and 16.1 %.

Over the fourth quarter 2014 can be noted an increase in the unemployment rate by 0.6 percentage points compared to the third quarter 2014. The unemployment rate for males has slightly decreased by 0.2 percentage points, whereas for females there is an increase by 1.6 percentage points.

The unemployment rate for persons with general secondary school is 24.3 % or 6.3 percentage points higher than the national average. The unemployment rate for persons with university is 19.8 % while for those with vocational upper secondary school and those with 8/9 years school is respectively 13.9 and 14.5 %.

Youth (aged 15-29 years) unemployment rate is 33.9 % in the fourth quarter 2014. Compared to the previous quarter, the youth unemployment rate has increased by 1.5 percentage points.

The unemployment rate for the population aged 30-64 years old is 12.8 % in the fourth quarter 2014.

Regarding to the job search methods, 87.5 % of unemployed people ask their relative, friends and families to find a job. This job search method is combined with the direct application to an employer (47.1 %) and with the placement of advertisements in newspapers, studying of announcements for job vacancies in newspapers, etc.

Over the fourth quarter 2014, unemployed persons looking for their first job account for 59.9 % of the unemployed jobseekers.

Non-economically active population

Over the fourth quarter of 2014, the population aged 15-64 years old, out of the labour market and not seeking job nor available for a job (the non-economically active population) account 726,231 persons.

Compared to the third quarter 2014 the number of persons non-economically active has decreased by 0.5 %. For the age-group 30-64 years old the number of persons non-economically active has decreased by 3.1 %.

Compared to the fourth quarter 2014, the non-economically active population of the age-group 15-64 years old has decreased with 12.6%.

The population of the age 15-64 years old classified as economically non-active constitutes 36.4% of the working age population. Over the fourth quarter of 2014, 20.2 % of the non-economically active population aged 15-64 years old were fulfilling household duties.

According to the QLFS data, 11.9 % of the non-economically active population aged 15-64 years is in retirement and 9.6 % are permanently disabled.

11.5 % of non-economically active population aged 15-64 years old are discouraged workers.

64.8% of the non-economically youth population aged 15-29 years old declared that they are pupils/students or in training.

Among the non-economically active youth population (aged 15-29) 9.1% are classified as discouraged workers, whereas the adult (aged 30-64) discouraged workers account for 14.3% of the non-economically active adult population.

Tab 2: Unemployment rate, Q1 2012-Q4 2014

Age	Sex	Q.1.2012	Q.2.2012	Q.3.2012	Q.4.2012	Q.1.2013	Q.2.2013	Q.3.2013	Q.4.2013	Q.1.2014	Q.2.2014	Q.3.2014	Q.4.2014
15 years old and over	Total	12.9	13.3	13.6	13.6	14.3	16.0	16.8	16.8	18.2	17.2	17.0	17.6
	Male	14.2	15.0	14.6	14.7	15.4	18.0	19.3	18.6	19.4	19.3	19.1	18.9
	Female	11.4	11.0	12.2	12.1	13.1	13.3	13.5	14.3	16.4	14.4	14.2	15.8
15-64 years	Total	13.4	13.7	14.1	14.1	14.8	16.4	17.2	17.1	18.6	17.7	17.4	18.0
	Male	14.6	15.5	15.2	15.4	16.0	18.6	19.8	18.9	19.9	19.8	19.6	19.4
	Female	11.7	11.3	12.6	12.4	13.4	13.6	13.8	14.6	16.8	14.7	14.5	16.1
15-29 years	Total	23.6	24.6	29.6	26.6	25.4	27.9	27.3	28.3	30.2	33.5	32.4	33.9
	Male	24.8	27.7	31.8	29.6	26.4	32.1	31.4	28.9	33.0	37.1	35.7	36.5
	Female	21.7	19.4	25.9	21.4	24.0	21.6	21.2	27.4	25.4	27.1	26.9	29.7
30-64 years	Total	10.1	10.2	9.3	10.4	11.7	13.0	14.2	13.5	15.1	12.8	12.4	12.8
	Male	10.9	11.1	9.3	10.4	12.7	14.2	16.1	15.5	15.5	13.8	13.6	13.3
	Female	9.2	9.2	9.3	10.3	10.6	11.5	11.8	11.0	14.6	11.5	11.0	12.3

Tab 3: Employment rate, Q1 2012-Q4 2014

Age	Sex	Q.1.2012	Q.2.2012	Q.3.2012	Q.4.2012	Q.1.2013	Q.2.2013	Q.3.2013	Q.4.2013	Q.1.2014	Q.2.2014	Q.3.2014	Q.4.2014
15 years old and over	Total	51.1	50.2	48.6	48.7	47.0	44.1	42.9	42.4	41.5	44.4	45.8	45.6
	Male	56.7	56.2	55.3	55.4	53.0	50.7	49.2	49.8	48.3	52.2	52.7	52.3
	Female	45.6	44.3	41.9	42.0	41.5	38.1	37.1	35.5	34.9	37.1	39.2	39.3
15-64 years	Total	58.2	56.8	54.2	54.4	52.8	49.9	48.6	48.2	47.1	50.5	52.3	52.1
	Male	63.9	62.9	61.0	61.1	59.5	57.2	55.8	56.7	54.4	58.7	59.7	59.2
	Female	52.4	50.8	47.5	47.8	46.7	43.3	42.1	40.5	39.9	42.7	45.4	45.4
15-29 years	Total	38.0	36.7	31.5	32.0	30.1	27.6	27.3	27.8	25.8	27.5	30.5	29.2
	Male	42.9	40.8	35.7	35.9	35.6	32.3	32.0	34.8	30.2	32.8	35.4	33.7
	Female	32.2	31.9	26.6	27.3	24.8	23.1	22.8	21.3	21.1	22.1	25.5	24.5
30-64 years	Total	67.9	66.5	65.6	65.8	65.1	62.4	60.2	59.6	59.4	62.9	64.1	64.5
	Male	75.6	74.9	75.4	75.6	73.0	71.7	69.1	69.3	69.4	73.5	73.7	74.0
	Female	61.0	58.7	56.6	56.8	58.2	54.2	52.3	50.9	50.0	53.2	55.3	55.9

Tab 4: Labour force participation rate, Q1 2012-Q4 2014

Age	Sex	Q.1.2012	Q.2.2012	Q.3.2012	Q.4.2012	Q.1.2013	Q.2.2013	Q.3.2013	Q.4.2013	Q.1.2014	Q.2.2014	Q.3.2014	Q.4.2014
15 years old and over	Total	58.7	57.9	56.2	56.4	54.9	52.5	51.5	50.9	50.8	53.6	55.2	55.3
	Male	66.1	66.1	64.8	65.0	62.6	61.9	60.9	61.2	59.9	64.7	65.1	64.5
	Female	51.5	49.8	47.7	47.8	47.7	43.9	42.9	41.4	41.8	43.3	45.8	46.7
15-64 years	Total	67.1	65.8	63.1	63.4	62.0	59.7	58.6	58.1	57.9	61.3	63.4	63.6
	Male	74.9	74.5	72.0	72.2	70.9	70.3	69.6	70.0	68.0	73.2	74.2	73.5
	Female	59.4	57.2	54.3	54.6	53.9	50.2	48.8	47.4	47.9	50.1	53.0	54.1
15-29 years	Total	49.8	48.6	44.8	43.6	40.3	38.3	37.5	38.8	36.9	41.4	45.1	44.2
	Male	57.0	56.4	52.3	51.0	48.5	47.6	46.6	49.0	45.1	52.2	55.0	53.0
	Female	41.1	39.5	35.9	34.7	32.6	29.5	29.0	29.3	28.2	30.3	34.9	34.9
30-64 years	Total	75.6	74.1	72.3	73.4	73.8	71.7	70.2	68.9	69.9	72.1	73.2	74.0
	Male	84.8	84.3	83.2	84.4	83.6	83.5	82.4	82.0	82.1	85.3	85.3	85.3
	Female	67.1	64.7	62.4	63.3	65.1	61.3	59.3	57.2	58.6	60.1	62.2	63.7

Methodology

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey is a household based survey. Its main objective is to provide information on the labour market situation in Albania which serves policymakers to design labour market policies and to assess their effectiveness, and to meet user needs for updated information on the labour market dynamics.

The sample frame used for the QLFS is based on data of Enumeration Areas according to the Housing and Population Census of 2011. The sample size for QLFS is 5,040 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.

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 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, 1,008 new households are added and the same number of households that has been interviewed for five consecutive quarters is dropped out from the sample.

Data collection in the fieldwork is spread during all months of the year. In the selected households, were surveyed by face to face interview, all household members aged 15 years and above. 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.

Employed are considered all the persons who have worked even for one hour with a respective salary or profit during the reference week. The **reference week** is the calendar week from Monday to Sunday before the date of interview.

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, 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.