

# Quarterly Labour Force Survey

## First Quarter 2015

**Tiranë, June 10, 2015:** According to Labour Force Survey, during the first quarter of 2015, the number of employed aged 15-64 is 1,039,545 persons. The number of unemployed aged 15-64 is 217,647 persons.

During the first quarter of 2015 in Albania:

- The unemployment rate for persons aged 15-64 is 17.3 %.
- The unemployment rate for persons aged 15-29 is 34.1 %.
- 63 % of population aged 15-64 is active in labour market, either employed or actively looking for a job.
- The employment rate for population aged 15-64 is 52.1 %.
- Male employment rate is 14.3 percentage points higher than female employment rate.

Compared to the *first quarter of 2014*, for the population aged 15-64:

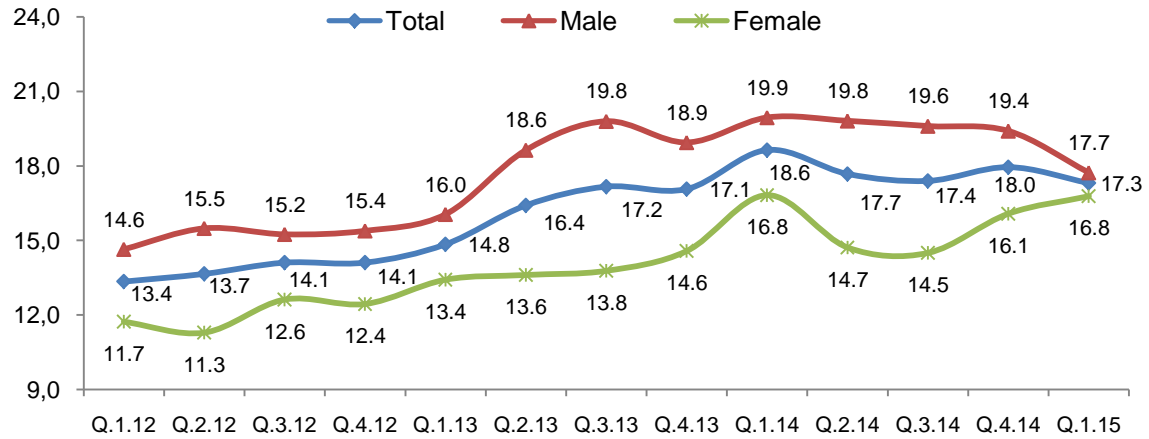
- The number of employed increased with 103,945 persons.
- The number of unemployed increased with 3,279 persons.
- The number of persons out of the labour market (inactive) decreased with 99,544 persons.
- Female unemployment rate remains at the same level 16.8 %, while male unemployment rate decreased with 2.2 percentage points.

Compared to the *fourth quarter of 2014* for persons aged 15-64:

- The number of employed increased with 210 persons.
- The number of unemployed decreased with 9,760 persons.
- The number of persons out of the labour market (inactive) increased with 11,442 persons.
- Female unemployment rate increased with 0.7 percentage points and male unemployment rate decreased with 1.7 percentage points.

**For Release 10/06/2015**

Fig.1 Unemployment Rate for the population aged 15-64, Q.1/12 - Q.1/15



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

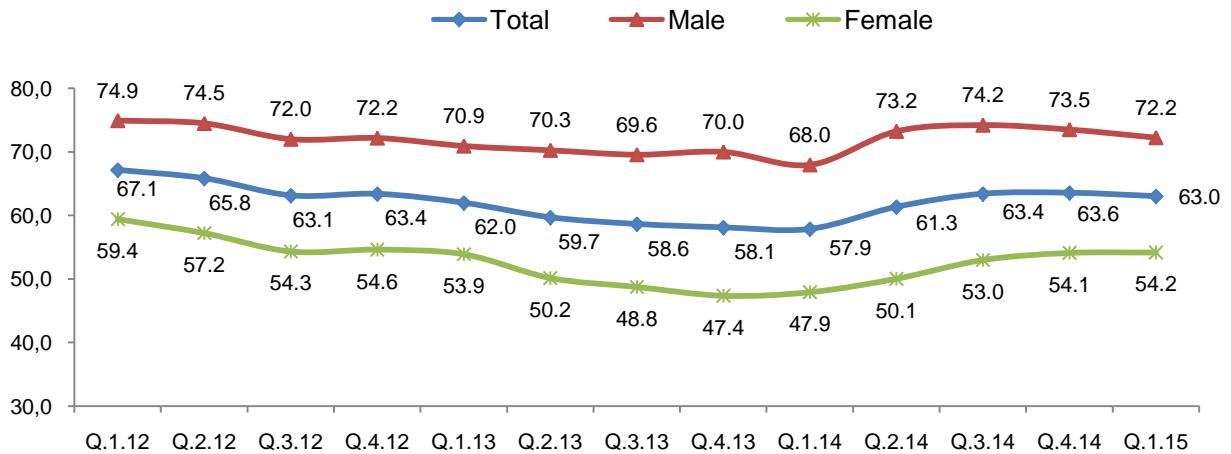
	Q.1. 2015		Annual change Q.1.2015-Q.1.2014		Quarterly change Q.1.2015- Q.4.2014	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Employed 15 years old and over</b>	<b>1,073,079</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>103,201</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>5,465</b>	<b>0.5</b>
from which:						
15-64 years	1,039,545	96.9	103,945	11.1	210	0.0
15-29 years	199,562	18.6	12,039	6.4	-4,001	-2.0
30-64 years	839,984	78.3	91,906	12.3	4,211	0.5
<b>Unemployed 15 years old and over</b>	<b>217,918</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,592</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>-9,867</b>	<b>-4.3</b>
from which:						
15-64 years	217,647	99.9	3,279	1.5	-9,760	-4.3
15-29 years	103,298	47.4	22,199	27.4	-957	-0.9
30-64 years	114,348	52.5	-18,920	-14.2	-8,803	-7.1
<b>Inactive 15 years old and over</b>	<b>1,064,088</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-85,724</b>	<b>-7.5</b>	<b>18,194</b>	<b>1.7</b>
from which:						
15-64 years	737,673	69.3	-99,544	-11.9	11,442	1.6
15-29 years	387,609	36.4	-70,796	-15.4	-1,675	-0.4
30-64 years	350,064	32.9	-28,748	-7.6	13,117	3.9
<b>Labour force 15 years old and over</b>	<b>1,290,997</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>105,793</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>-4,402</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
from which:						
15-64 years	1,257,192	97.4	107,224	9.3	-9,551	-0.8
15-29 years	302,860	23.5	34,238	12.7	-4,959	-1.6
30-64 years	954,332	73.9	72,985	8.3	-4,592	-0.5

For more information visit INSTAT website: <http://www.instat.gov.al/>

## Employment

In the first quarter of 2015, labour force participation rate for the population aged 15-64, is 63 %. Female labour force participation rate is 54.2 % and male labour force participation rate is 72.2 %. Male labour force participation rate is 18 percentage points higher than female labour force participation rate.

**Fig.2 Labour Force Participation Rate for the population aged 15-64, Q.1/12 - Q.1/15**



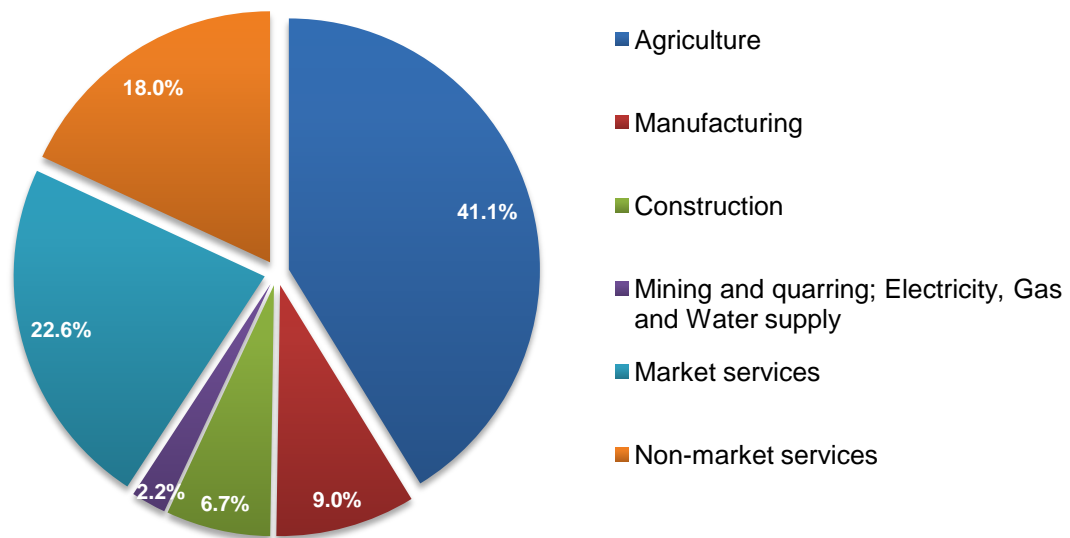
During the first quarter of 2015, youth (aged 15-29) labour force participation rate is 43.9 %. Youth employment rate is 28.9 %.

Adult (aged 30-64) labour force participation rate is 73.2 %. Adult employment rate is 64.4 %.

Over the first quarter 2015, according to QLFS data, 41.1 % of the employed aged 15-64 are engaged in the agricultural sector and 22.6 % 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).

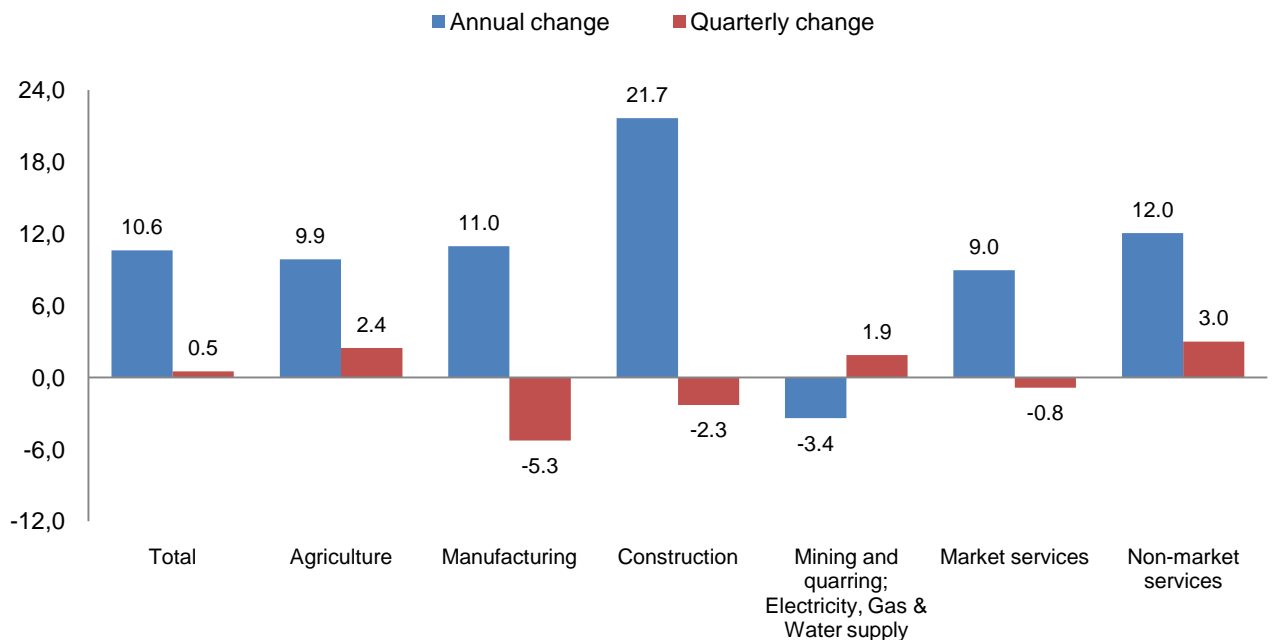
Employment share in the non market services sector (public administration and defence, compulsory social security, education, health and other social activities, other services of collective activities, social and individual, services at home, activities of international organisms) is 18 % of the total employment. Employment in manufacturing constitutes 9 % of the total employment.

Fig.3 Employment structure by economic activity, Q.1/2015



The growth rate of employment by sectors from the fourth quarter 2014 to the first quarter 2015 is: 3 % in the non market services sector; 1.9 % in mining and quarrying, energy and water supply; 2.4 % in agriculture. There was a decrease in the number of employed in construction with 2.3 %; in manufacturing with 5.3 %; and in market services with 0.8 %.

Fig.4 Employment growth rate by economic activity

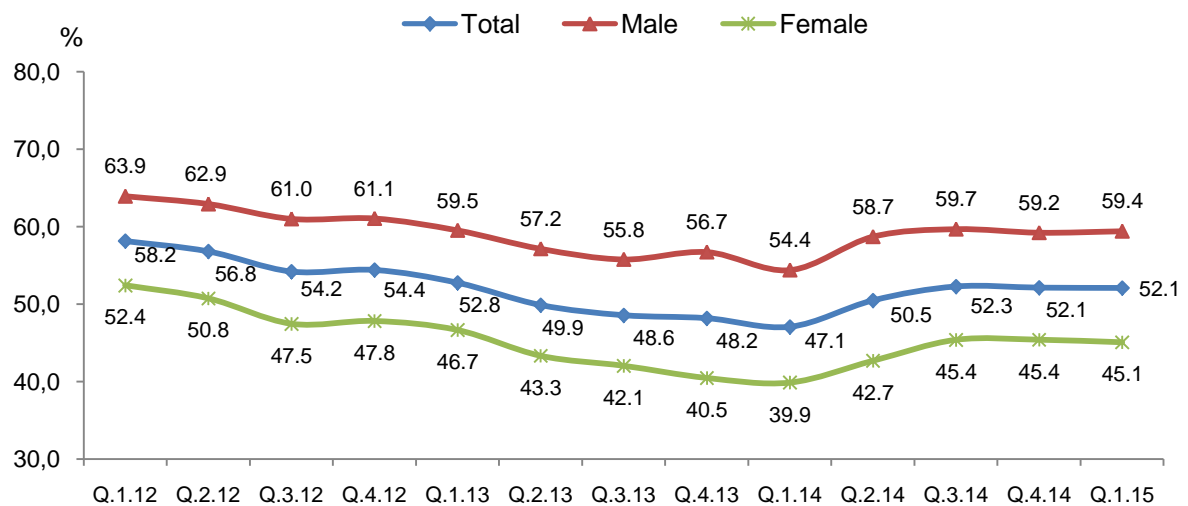


In yearly terms, the employment increased with 10.6 % (compared to the first quarter 2014). Construction, non market services, market services, manufacturing and agriculture had the major increase in employment respectively with 21.7 %, 12 %, 9 %, 11 % and 9.9 %. In yearly terms there was a decrease in employment with 3.4 % only in mining and quarrying, energy and water supply.

During the first quarter of 2015, the share of employees in total employment is 42.2 %. The self employed (employers or self employed without employees) account for 26.3 % of the total employment, while unpaid family workers represent 31.5 % of the total employment.

Employment rate (population aged 15-64) is higher for employed with higher education (65.5 %) followed by those with vocational upper secondary education (65.3 %). 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.

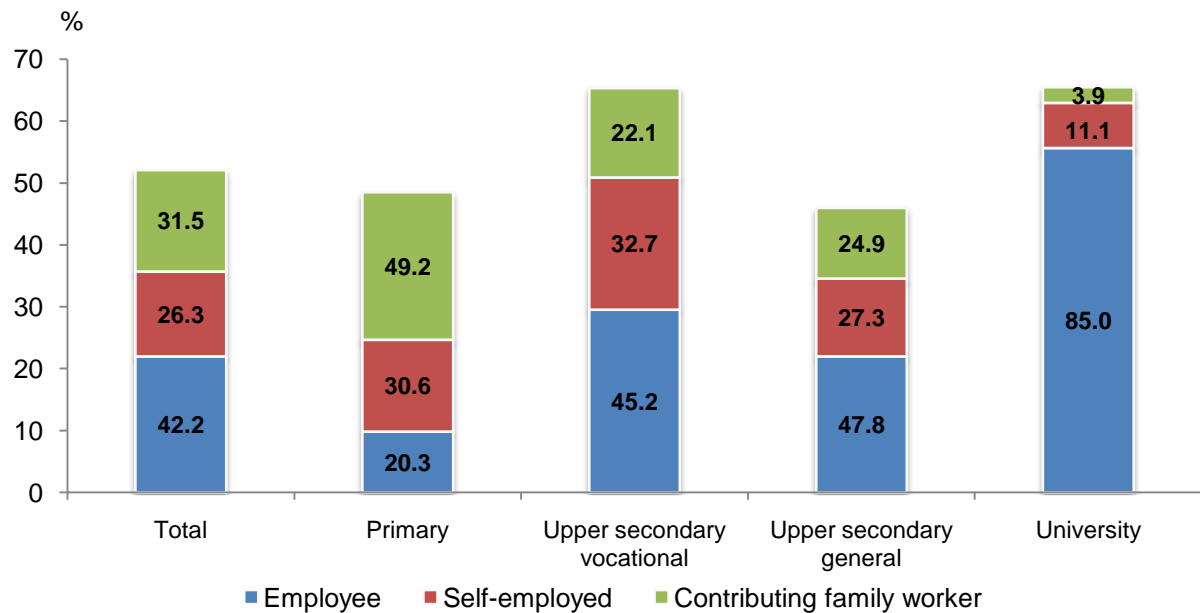
**Fig.5 Employment Rate for the population aged 15-64, Q.1/12 - Q.1/15**



When analysing employed with upper secondary education, the employment rate is higher for persons with vocational upper secondary education compared to persons with general upper secondary education, respectively 65.3 and 46 %.

The share of employees increases with the increase of the education level. Among employed with high education, 85 % are employees and only 3.9 % are employed as unpaid family workers. The shares of employees among employed with vocational and general upper secondary education are respectively 45.2 and 47.8 %.

Fig.6 Employment rate by status in employment and level of education, Q.1/15



### Unemployment

The number of persons aged 15-64, actively looking for work over the first quarter of 2015 in Albania is 217,647 persons. The unemployment rate for the population aged 15-64 years old is 17.3 %. The male unemployment rate is higher than female unemployment rate for this age-group with respectively 17.7 % and 16.8 %.

Compared to the previous quarter, a decrease with 0.7 percentage points in the unemployment rate is noted. Male unemployment rate decreased with 1.7 percentage points, while female unemployment rate increased with 0.7 percentage points.

The unemployment rate for persons with general secondary school is 23 % or 5.7 percentage points higher than the national average. The unemployment rate for persons with university is 18.6 %, while for those with vocational upper secondary school and those with 8/9 years school is respectively 13.3 and 14.5 %.

Youth (aged 15-29 years) unemployment rate is 34.1 %. Compared to the previous quarter, the youth unemployment rate has increased by 0.2 percentage points.

The unemployment rate for the population aged 30-64 years old is 12 %.

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 (45.4 %) and with the placement of advertisements in newspapers, studying of announcements for job vacancies in newspapers, etc.

Over the first quarter of 2015, unemployed persons aged 15-64 looking for their first job account for 55.8 % of the unemployed jobseekers.

### **Non-economically active population**

Over the first quarter of 2015, 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 737,673.

Compared to the fourth quarter 2014, the number of persons non-economically active has increased by 1.6 %. For persons aged 30-64 the number of persons non-economically active has increased by 3.9 %.

Compared to the first quarter 2014, the non-economically active population aged 15-64 has decreased with 11.9 %.

The population aged 15-64 classified as economically non-active constitutes 37 % of the working age population. Over the first quarter of 2015, 17.4 % of the non-economically active population aged 15-64 were fulfilling household duties.

According to the QLFS data, 13.2 % of the non-economically active population aged 15-64 years is in retirement and 8.8 % are permanently disabled.

12.8 % of non-economically active population aged 15-64 are discouraged workers.

70.1 % of the non-economically youth population aged 15-29 declared that they are pupils/students or in training. Among the non-economically active youth population (aged 15-29), 10.2 % are classified as discouraged workers, whereas the adult (aged 30-64) discouraged workers account for 15.7 % of the non-economically active adult population.

Tab. 2 Unemployment Rate, Q.1/12-Q.1/15

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	Q.1.2015
15 years 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	16.9
	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	17.2
	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	16.5
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	17.3
	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	17.7
	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	16.8
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	34.1
	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	33.5
	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	35.1
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	12.0
	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	12.3
	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	11.6

Tab. 3 Employment Rate, Q.1/12 - Q.1/15

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	Q.1.2015
15 years 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	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	52.5
	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	39.0
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	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	59.4
	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	45.1
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	28.9
	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	33.6
	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	23.9
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	64.4
	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	74.4
	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	55.4



Tab. 4 Labour Force Participation Rate, Q.1/12 - Q.1/15

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	Q.1.2015
15 years 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	54.8
	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	63.4
	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	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	63.0
	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	72.2
	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	54.2
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	43.9
	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	50.5
	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	36.7
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	73.2
	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	84.8
	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	62.6

# 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 the first quarter of 2015 is 5.612 households. 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 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. In the first quarter of 2015, the household response rate is 87.9 %.

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.

As for the weighting procedure of LFS data, it is used the estimated annual population, based on last census data and vital statistics provided from the General Directory of Civil Status.

**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 the 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.