

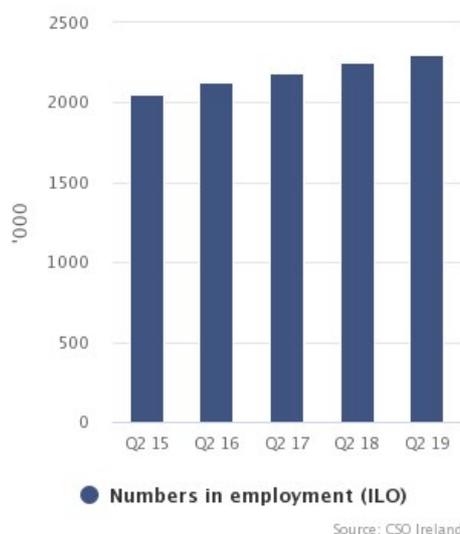
## Labour Force Survey

### Quarter 2 2019

Indicator	Quarter 2 2019	Annual change
Employed	2,300,000	+45,000
Unemployed	130,800	-13,600
In labour force	2,430,800	+31,400
Not in labour force	1,481,800	+32,900

### Employment increases by 2.0% in year to Q2 2019

Figure 1 Numbers in employment (ILO), in the second quarters 2015 to 2019



There was an annual increase in employment of 2.0% or 45,000 in the year to the second quarter of 2019, bringing total employment to 2,300,000. This compares with an annual increase of 3.7% or 81,200 in employment in the previous quarter and an increase of 3.4% or 74,100 in the year to Q2 2018.

#### Summary points for Q2 2019

- The increase in total employment of 45,000 in the year to Q2 2019 was represented by an increase in full-time employment of 39,300 (+2.2%) and an increase in part-time employment of 5,700 (+1.3%). See *table 1 and figure 1*.
- On a seasonally adjusted basis, employment decreased by 20,900 (-0.9%) over the previous quarter. This follows on from a seasonally adjusted increase in employment of 48,500 (+2.1%) in Q1 2019, an increase of 7,900 (+0.3%) in Q4 2018, an increase of 9,600 (+0.4%) in Q3 2018 and an increase of 15,000 (+0.7%) in Q2 2018. See *table 3*.
- Unemployment decreased by 13,600 (-9.4%) in the year to Q2 2019 bringing the total number of persons unemployed to 130,800. This is the twenty eighth quarter in succession where unemployment has declined on an annual basis. See *table 1*.
- The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased from 5.1% in Q1 2019 to 5.2% in Q2 2019, while the seasonally adjusted number of persons unemployed increased by 3,700 to 126,100. See *table 3*.
- The long-term unemployment rate decreased from 2.0% in Q2 2018 to 1.7% in Q2 2019. Long-term unemployment accounted for 31.2% of total unemployment in Q2 2019. See *table 6*.
- The total number of persons in the labour force in the second quarter of 2019 was 2,430,800, representing an increase of 31,400 (+1.3%) over the year. This compares with an annual labour force increase of 57,900 (+2.5%) in Q2 2018. The number of persons not in the labour force in Q2 2019 was 1,481,800, an increase of 32,900 (+2.3%) over the year. See *table 1*.

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) replaced the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) in Q3 2017. The LFS release for Q3 2017 also incorporated revisions to population estimates based on the 2016 Census of Population. Adjustments were made to the historic data in Q3 2017 and Q1 2018 to allow comparability with the new LFS for a range of indicators. For other indicators, the series

#### Labour Force Survey Quarter 2 2019 (summary)



before and after Q3 2017 may not be directly comparable and users should remember this when examining all changes, both quarterly and annual.

Further information is available in the background notes and in the information notes which accompanied the Q3 2017 and Q1 2018 LFS releases.

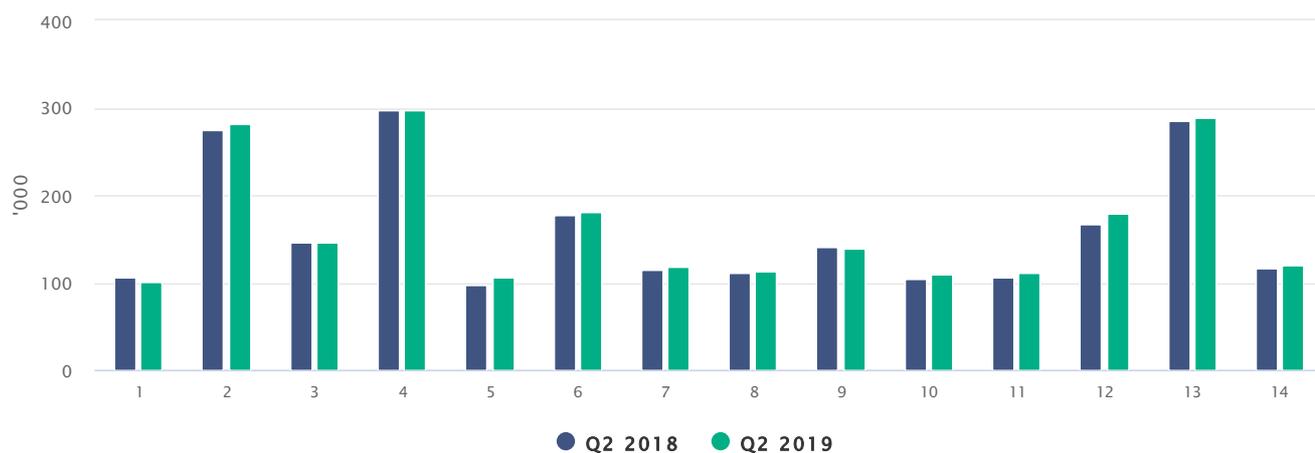
See: [Information Note Q3 2017](#) and [Information Note Q1 2018](#)

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## Employment

- The annual increase of 45,000 (+2.0%) in employment was represented by an increase of 26,400 (+2.2%) in male employment and an increase of 18,600 (+1.8%) in female employment over the year. See tables 1, 7 and figure 1.
- Employment increased in 11 of the 14 economic sectors over the year (excluding *Not stated*). The largest rates of increase were recorded in the *Transportation and storage* (+8.6% or +8,400) and in *Education* (+7.8% or 13,000) sectors. See table 2 and figure 2.
- The overall employment rate among persons aged 15-64 was 69.1% in Q2 2019 compared to 68.5% in Q2 2018. See table 8.
- The number of employees in Q2 2019 was 1,969,400, up 56,300 (+2.9%) over the year. The number of self-employed persons decreased by 12,400 (-3.8%) over the year to 317,800. See table 5.

Figure 2 Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by NACE Rev.2 Economic Sector, Quarter 2 2018 and Quarter 2 2019



Source: CSO Ireland

### KEY

- 1- Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- 2- Industry
- 3- Construction
- 4- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- 5- Transportation and storage
- 6- Accommodation and food storage activities
- 7- Information and communication
- 8- Financial, insurance and real estate activities
- 9- Professional, scientific and technical activities
- 10- Administrative and support service activities
- 11- Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
- 12- Education
- 13- Human health and social work activities
- 14- Other NACE activities

## Public Sector Employment

### Labour Force Survey Quarter 2 2019 (summary)



- Based on the higher response levels and lower levels of subjectivity associated with the Earnings, Hours and Employment Costs Survey (EHECS) the CSO believes it offers a more reliable source for public sector employment estimates over time. In particular, employment data coded to Sectors P (Education) and Q (Human health and social work activities) of the NACE Rev. 2 Industrial Classification which is presented in Tables 2 and 3 are not exclusively public sector employment.
- Table A2 in the annex shows the most recently available estimates of public sector employment from the EHECS survey at the time of this release being finalised.

## Unemployment

- Male unemployment decreased by 7,200 (-9.0%) to 73,000 over the year to Q2 2019, while female unemployment decreased by 6,400 (-9.9%) to 57,800 over the same period. *See tables 1 and 7.*
- The overall unadjusted unemployment rate decreased from 6.0% to 5.4% over the year to Q2 2019. *See tables 1 and 8.*
- In the year to Q2 2019, the number of persons classified as long-term unemployed decreased by 8,100 (-16.5%), bringing total long-term unemployment to 40,800. Short-term unemployment decreased by 2,800 (-3.1%) over the year to 87,100. *See table 6 and figure 3.*

Figure 3 Number of persons unemployed by sex and duration of unemployment, Quarter 2 2016 and Quarter 2 2019



Source: CSO Ireland

- The unemployment rate for 15-24 year olds (youth unemployment rate) increased from 15.4% to 15.7% over the year to Q2 2019. *See table 8.*
- A series of Monthly Unemployment statistics was first issued by the CSO in 2015. The most recent publication was issued on 30th July 2019 for reference month July 2019. The Monthly Unemployment release contains a series of monthly unemployment rates and volumes. These series are based primarily on the LFS and are compiled in accordance with agreed international practice. Data for more recent periods for which no LFS benchmark is available is adjusted for trends in the Live Register. These statistics are the definitive measure of Monthly Unemployment and replaced the SUR (which has been discontinued).
- The previously published seasonally adjusted monthly unemployment figures are now revised with the availability of new LFS benchmark unemployment estimates for Q2 2019. The seasonally adjusted monthly unemployment rate for June 2019 is now revised from 4.5% to 5.3%, while the seasonally adjusted number of persons unemployed is revised from 110,200 to 127,800.
- The provisional estimate for July 2019 has also been revised with the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July 2019 revised from 4.6% to 5.3%, while the seasonally adjusted number of persons unemployed is revised from 111,400 to 129,200. The full series of revised monthly unemployment rates and volumes are included in Tables A3, A4 and A5.

## Labour force

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- As with employment, the number of persons in the labour force is also influenced by changes in the size of the working age population (demographic effect). Up to the start of 2008 this demographic effect had been adding at least 30,000 to the labour force on an annual basis, primarily driven by net inward migration. This demographic effect peaked at over 90,500 in the second quarter of 2007. *See tables 1 and 7.*
- With the decline in inward migration the positive demographic effect started to fall in the second half of 2007 and continued to decline throughout 2008 and 2009 before becoming negative in Q3 2009. The negative demographic effect continued for each quarter until Q1 2014. The demographic effect has been positive since Q2 2014 and in Q2 2019 a positive demographic effect contributed an increase of 30,800 to the overall change in the labour force.
- In addition to the demographic effect, the change in the size of the labour force is influenced by changes in participation. While the overall participation rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 62.1% over the year, the net result of changes in individual age groups for the same period was a positive participation effect of 600. *See tables 1 and 8.*
- Of those persons not in the labour force, the number classified as being in the potential additional labour force was 127,100 in the second quarter of 2019. *See Table 1.*

## International Comparisons

- The employment rate in Ireland increased by 1.4 percentage points to 69.3% over the year to Q1 2019. The employment rate in the EU-28 in Q1 2019 was 68.6%. *See table 11.*
- The unadjusted unemployment rate among the EU-28 countries in the first quarter of 2019 was 6.8%, while the comparable rate in Ireland was 4.8%. The highest unemployment rates among the EU-28 countries in Q1 2019 were recorded in Greece and Spain (19.2% and 14.7% respectively), while the lowest rates of 2.0% and 3.4% were recorded in the Czech Republic and Germany respectively. *See table 11.*
- The latest figures available at the time of finalising this release indicate that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the EU-28 for June 2019 was 6.3% compared to the revised seasonally adjusted monthly unemployment rate of 5.3% for Ireland for the same period.

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