

Labour market

3 quarter 2015

An integrated picture

Istat issues a quarterly release on labour market, integrating information previously presented in the quarterly press releases "Employment and unemployment" and "Labour indicators in enterprises". Moreover, starting from this release, data on labour supply will include estimates on year-on-year individual transitions from/to employment and non-employment. The methodological note reports the confidence intervals of the main seasonally unadjusted indicators on labour supply.

In the third quarter of 2015, the Gdp quarter-on-quarter growth, initiated at the beginning of 2015 continued, although at a slower pace (+0.2%). However the quarter was marked by a further increase in the year-on-year growth rate which reached +0.8% from +0.1% in the first quarter and +0.6% in the second one.

This result was accompanied by a continuing, slow improvement of all labour market indicators, which showed quarter-on-quarter increases both for labour input and employment, and a drop in unemployment.

The seasonally adjusted recovery of employment seemed to stand still in the last months. The slight growth recorded during August-October term (+0.1%, 32 thousand units) was actually the result of the large increase registered in August and the subsequent similarly marked declines of September and October (-0.2%).

As for year-on-year changes, employment increased by 247 thousand units, and geographical gaps shrank for the second consecutive quarter; over half of employment growth was indeed in the South and Islands area (+136 thousands). A high educational level was confirmed as an advantage in the labour market. The year-on-year decrease in unemployment mainly involved people with previous working experiences, especially in the South and Islands area, and people seeking first employment, mainly women and young people.

Flow data show that young people still accounted for more than half of the new entrants into employment after twelve months, and the trend is still growing. Discouraged people decreased, as they more frequently entered employment. Permanence in employment of temporary employees increased both for persons continuing with fix-term contracts and for those who shift to permanent contracts.

As for sectors, in the third quarter, the quarter-on-quarter growth was particularly significant for wage employment in the private services more reliant on domestic demand. For the economy as a whole, employment growth affected only temporary employees, Central and Southern regions and mainly young people aged 15-34. The year-on-year growth of permanent employment involved men and the over-50.

In enterprises, the year-on-year growth of labour input showed up both in the number of jobs and hours worked, also as a result of the robust reduction in the use of the short-time working allowance. Growth was concentrated in services. Temporary employment agency jobs were still increasing, as well as job vacancy rate, although at a slower pace, both on a quarterly and annual basis. Year-on-year gross wages growth was higher than inflation and purchasing power kept increasing.

NEXT RELEASE 10 March 2016





TABLE 1. LABOUR INDICATORS (a) 3 quarter 2015, absolute values, percentage values and index numbers, percentage points changes

LABOUR INPUT (a) (b) National Accounts Hours worked (thousands) Agriculture Industry excluding construction Construction Services	10,608,064 607,012 1,850,614 680,234 7,470,204	Percentage change (3 2015/2 2015) 0.1 0.2 0.5 -2.0	Percentage change (3 2015/3 2014) 1.2 2.6 0.5
National Accounts Hours worked (thousands) Agriculture Industry excluding construction Construction	607,012 1,850,614 680,234	0.2 0.5 -2.0	2.6
Agriculture Industry excluding construction Construction	607,012 1,850,614 680,234	0.2 0.5 -2.0	2.6
Industry excluding construction Construction	1,850,614 680,234	0.5 -2.0	
Construction	680,234	-2.0	٨٤
	•		0.5
Services	7,470,204		-2.4
		0.2	1.6
LABOUR SUPPLY Labour Force Survey			
Employed (thousands)	22,494	0.2	1.1
Employees	17,007	0.3	1.4
Self-employed	5,487	-0.2	0.1
Employment rate (aged 15-64) (percent and percentage points changes)	56.4%	0.1	0.8
15-34 years	39.5%	0.7	1.1
35-49 years	71.9%	0.0	-0.8
50-64 years	56.2%	-0.2	3.8
Unemployed (thousands)	2,973	-5.2	-10.0
Unemployment rate (percent and percentage points changes)	11.7%	-0.6	-1.2
Inactive population (aged 15-64) (thousands)	14,072	0.7	-0.3
Inactivity rate (aged 15-64) (percent and percentage points changes)	36.1%	0.3	0.0
LABOUR DEMAND (a) (c) Oros, GI and Vela Surveys			
Number of jobs (index 2010=100)	98.0	0.5	1.3
Temporary employment agency jobs (d) (index 2010=100)	139.6	3.0	19.2
Hours worked (e) (f) (index 2010=100)	98.0	0.6	2.3
Per capita hours worked (c) (e) (index 2010=100)	99.4	-0.1	0.9
Short-time working allowance hours per 1,000 hours worked (e) (percentage and absolute changes of percentage)	nd	nd	-11.8
Job vacancy rate (e) (percent and percentage points changes)	0.7%	0.1	0.1
LABOUR COST Oros, GI and Vela, Contractual Wages and Salaries Survey			
Gross wages (a) (c) (index 2010=100)	109.0	0.3	1.1
Social security contributions (a) (c) (index 2010=100)	107.3	-0.4	-1.2
Labour cost (a) (c) (index 2010=100)	108.5	0.1	0.5
Cash wages according to collective labour agreements (monthly average in euros; base 2010=100) (g)	1,922	-	1.3

⁽a) Provisional data.

⁽b) For the hours worked (National Account) the change over the same period of the previous year is computed on seasonal adjusted data. (c) Section from B to S (excluding O)of the Nace Rev 2 classification of economic activities. (d) Number of jobs relating to hires by employment agencies

⁽e) Enterprises with at least 10 employees.

(f) The change over the same period of the previous year is computed on adjusted data by working days.

(g) Not seasonally adjusted data.



Main Results (Third quarter 2015)

In the third quarter of 2015 all labour market indicators showed an improvement. Labour input in the total economy (measured in hours worked in the National Accounts) grew by 0.1% on a quarterly basis and by 1.2% on an annual basis. Employed persons, as estimated by the Labour Force Survey, net of seasonal effects, were 22,494 thousand, +0.2% over the previous quarter (+42 thousand units). This growth was associated with an increase by 0.1 percentage points (to 56.4%) in the employment rate among 15-64 year old people, entirely due to the positive trend in the 15-34 age group (+0,7 points).

The growth of employment over the previous quarter involved only men, and among different types of workers, only employees (+0.3%, 51,000 persons), as a result of the increase in fixed-term contracts (+4.5%, 107,000 units) and the reduction in permanent employees (-0.4%, 55,000 units).

The unemployment rate went down significantly, falling from 12.3% to 11.7% over the previous quarter and further decreasing to 11.5% in October. These results were also affected by the trend in the inactivity rate, on the increase both in the third quarter and in October.

Permanent job positions in industrial and services enterprises rose by 0.5% on a short-term basis and by 1.3% on an annual basis, along with the number of hours worked (+0.6% and +2.3%, respectively). The hours worked per capita, although decreased by 0.1% in quarterly terms, grew by 0.9% year-over-year, thanks also to the significant reduction of short-time working allowances: from 27.3 to 15.5 per thousand hours worked. Temporary employment agency jobs continued to increase significantly (+3.0% over the previous quarter and +19.2% y-o-y).

The vacancy rate in enterprises with 10 or more employees increased by 0.1 percentage points both over the previous quarter and on an annual basis.

The seasonally adjusted labour cost index per full time equivalent (FTE) rose by 0.1% on a quarterly basis, as a result of an increase in wages (+0.3%) and a reduction in social security contributions (-0.4%). Labour costs increased by 0.5% also on an annual basis (+1.1% for wages and -1.2% for social security contributions). The negative trend in social security contributions, despite a slight increase in wages is essentially the result of the significant reduction in employer's contributions for new permanent jobs created during 2015, as provided for by the 2015 Stability Law.

The increase in gross wages per FTE exceeded by 0.9 percentage points the inflation rate in the same quarter of 2014 (0.2% change of the Italian consumer price index for the whole nation).



FIGURE 1. HOURS WORKED – TOTAL ECONOMY 1 quarter 2010 - 3 quarter 2015, seasonally adjusted data, percentage change over the same quarter of the previous year



FIGURE 3. EMPLOYEES (PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY) AND SELF-EMPLOYED 1 quarter 2010 - 3 quarter 2015, seasonally adjusted data (left scale), absolute change over previous period (right scale)

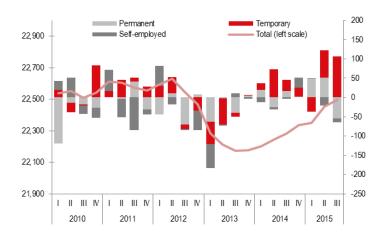


FIGURE 5. PER CAPITA HOURS WORKED (left scale) AND PERCENTAGE OF SHORT-TIME WORKING ALLOWANCE HOURS (right scale) FOR ENTERPRISES WITH AT LEAST 10 EMPLOYEES IN INDUSTRY AND SERVICES (B-S) 1 quarter 2010 – 3 quarter 2015, seasonally adjusted indices (2010=100) and percentage on 1,000 hours worked



FIGURE 2. EMPLOYED (left scale) AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (right scale) 1 quarter 2010 - 3 quarter 2015, seasonally adjusted data, thousands and percent rates



FIGURE 4. NUMBER OF JOBS IN INDUSTRY AND MARKET SERVICES 1 quarter 2010 - 3 quarter 2015, not seasonally adjusted data, percentage change over the same quarter of the previous year (2010=100)

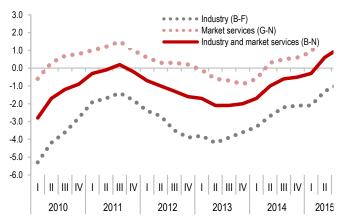
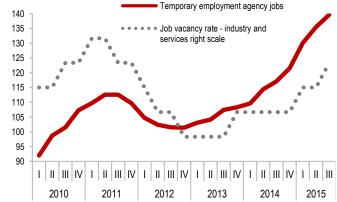


FIGURE 6. TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT AGENCY JOBS (left scale) AND JOB VACANCY RATE FOR ENTERPRISES WITH AT LEAST 10 EMPLOYEES (right scale) IN INDUSTRY AND SERVICES (B-S) 1 quarter 2010 – 3 quarter 2015, indices (2010=100) and seasonally adjusted percentage values

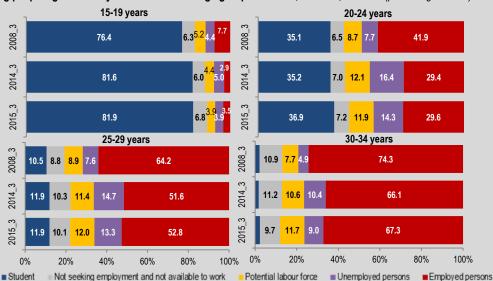




A focus on

Youth participation in the labour market

In the third quarter of 2015 young people aged 15-34 were 12,772 million, 21% of the resident population. Over the past seven years, due to the progressive reduction in birth rate, the number of young people shrank by about a million, nearly 2.4 percentage points. Compared to the beginning of the crisis (third quarter of 2008), in 2015 young people showed lower levels of participation in the labour market and employment, although to varying degrees and for different reasons in each age group. Among the 15-19-year olds, in particular, the share of the inactive for study reasons increased from 76.4% to nearly 82% of the total, more than offsetting the already very modest decrease in the share of the employed. Participation in the educational system grew to a lesser extent also in the central age group: among the 20-29-year olds, there was a substantial decline in employment, which caused an increase by ten percentage points in the cumulative incidence of unemployed and people available for work but not seeking work, the so-called "potential labor force" (up to 26.2% among the 20-24-year olds and 25.3% among 25-29-year olds in the third quarter of 2015). Among 30-34-year olds, of which 40.8% are parents, the decline in the share of the employed was relatively minor, and the increase in the unemployed was associated with a significant increase in the incidence of potential labour force. In the third quarter of 2015, for the first time, the percentage of the employed increased over the same period of 2014, while that of the unemployed of all young age groups declined (+0.7 and -1.5 points among people aged 15-34). The main employment growth took place among employees with fixed-term contracts and, to a large extent, with medium-low skill jobs.



Young people aged 15-34 by labour status and age group - Q3 2008, Q3 2014, Q3 2015 (percentage values)

Source: Labour force survey

Also young people mirrored the typical gaps of our labour market. In the third quarter of 2015 employment rate of women aged 15-34 was 12.5 percentage points lower than men; this difference increased together with age, and was over 20 points for women aged 30-34. This was due also to the fact that more than half of women in this age group were parents (29.2% of men) and had more difficulties than men in combining work and family. Geographical gaps were still wide with an over 20-point difference between employment rates in the North (49.5%) and in the South and Islands (27.9%) for 15-34-year olds. The gap was higher for 25-29-year olds (67% vs. 36%). Generally speaking, in the southern regions the major incidence of students went together with an almost double share of the unemployed, and with a more than triple share of potential labour force in comparison with the North. The share of employed people increased together with higher educational qualifications, however this was not enough to balance geographical gaps. Even though for 30-34-year olds the student share was similar (3.5% in southern regions and 1.6% in the North), in the South and Islands area the share of graduates was lower in this age group (19.7% vs. 31% in the Centre and 27.8% in the North). Moreover, in the South and Islands area just 51 out of 100 graduates aged 30-34 were employed, while in the North they were 83 and women had even more difficulties in accessing the labour market. Among graduate women aged 30-34 the incidence of people seeking employment and/or available for work was close to 40% in the South and Islands area, and was just 9.4% in the North.



Glossary

Active persons: persons aged 15 years and over who during the reference week (the week the information refers to) had at least one of the following characteristics:

- worked for pay or profit in a job or business for at least one hour;
- worked unpaid in the family enterprise where they usually work;
- did not work as they were temporarily away from their jobs (for holidays or sickness). Out of service-employees are considered employed if the absence from work is no longer than three months, or if they keep on perceiving half of the wage at least. The self-employed persons out of service, except for family workers, are considered employed if they continue their activity during their absence. Family workers are considered employed if the absence from work is no longer than three months.

The previous conditions are independent of the signing of an employment contract and therefore the employed estimated through the sample Labour Force survey include also forms of irregular work.

Business surveys: OROS (Employment, wages and salaries and social charges), GI (Large Enterprises) and Vela (Job vacancies and hours worked): the Oros survey produces quarterly information on employment trends (Full-Time Equivalent - FTE), wages, salaries and social charges for employees of all size enterprises and private institutions. Oros indicators are estimated by integrating administrative data from INPS (the Italian National Institute for Social Security) and data from the monthly survey on Large Enterprises (GI). The Vela survey is a quarterly data collection on job vacancies and hours worked that measures - together with the monthly survey on employment, working hours, wages and salaries and labour cost in large enterprises - job vacancies, hours worked and hours paid in enterprises of the private sector with at least 10 employees, excluding agriculture.

Contractual wages and salaries in cash value: includes all compensation items used to calculate the monthly index of contractual wages and salaries plus any arrears and one-time bonuses. The amounts related to each compensation item (wage or salary) are allocated to the months of actual payment. Wages and salaries in cash value are calculated for all grades envisaged when defining the base (which is the same as that of the index of contractual wages and salaries). The aggregates are then determined according to a constant structure of employment, which allows for monitoring the pay trend, net of the effects due to changes in the structure of employment by professional status and grade.

Data adjusted for calendar reasons: working day adjusted data, Easter holidays and leap year.

Employment rate: Ratio between employed people of a given age group (usually aged 15-64) and the overall resident population of that given age group.

Full-time equivalent (FTE): a unit to measure the volume of work performed in all jobs. It is obtained by reducing to full-time equivalent (the unit value of) part-time jobs and temporary agency jobs. In the OROS survey FTEs include middle managers, employees, workers, salespersons, apprentices and home workers. Managers are excluded. Unlike the number of employed people, the calculation of FTEs excludes workers benefiting from the short time Working Allowance.

Within the framework of national accounts, FTEs measure the number of jobs reduced to standard full-time measures. The total number of FTEs is obtained by adding to full-time jobs the part-time jobs reduced to full-time equivalents. Part-time jobs are turned into FTEs by using coefficients obtained by the ratio between the hours actually worked on average by a part-time worker (either as a second job, or part-time) and the hours worked on average by a full-time worker for the same activity. The jobs of workers temporarily benefiting from short time working allowances are reduced to full time equivalents by excluding from the total number of FTEs, the full-time equivalents corresponding to the hours of short time working allowance granted by the production system.

Hours of Short-time Working Allowance: total amount of ordinary, extraordinary hours and exceptional hours of Short time working allowance, worked for enterprises in the reference quarter.



Hours worked: total number of ordinary hours and overtime, worked by employees with an employment contract, excluding managers. Within the framework of national accounts, the hours actually worked - both paid and unpaid in any occupation (employed and self-employed) - provided they produce income. The calculation of hours worked includes the hours worked during ordinary working hours, the hours worked in addition to the ordinary working hours (overtime), the time needed for activities such as preparation of the workplace and the time corresponding to short breaks at work. The calculation excludes: hours paid but not actually worked (annual leaves, holidays and sick leaves, etc.), meal breaks and the way to and from work.

Hours worked per employee: average number of ordinary and extraordinary working hours of employees under contract, except for managers.

Inactive persons: All persons not classified as employed or job seekers (unemployed).

Inactivity rate: Ratio between people that are not part of the labour force in a given age group (usually aged 15-64) and the **overall** resident population of that given age group.

Involuntary part-time work: individuals working part-time who accepted to work part-time because a full – time job could not be found.

Payroll job: employment contract between a single natural person and a production unit (enterprise), the object of which is the performance of work in return for compensation (pay). Payroll jobs, therefore, are the number of jobs occupied by employees (both full- and part-time) regardless of the amount of hours worked on a given reference day. Just like the number of employees, payroll jobs are a stock variable at a certain moment in time. Workers, under regular contract by a production unit, are included even if they are not working due to holidays, parental leaves, short time working allowances, etc.

Job vacancies are the posts, either newly created or already existing, unoccupied or about to become vacant, which the employer actively seeks to fill with - and is prepared to make further efforts to find - a suitable candidate from outside the enterprise. The data presented here refers to job vacancies for employees, excluding managers, unoccupied as of the last day of the reference quarter. Therefore, they measure the staff search which at that date has already started and not yet completed (because a suitable candidate has not been already hired and the company has not decided to stop the search). The number of job vacancies refers to the last day of the reference quarter.

Job vacancy rate: ration between the number of vacant posts and the sum of vacant and occupied posts. The data presented here refers only to employees, excluding managers. Therefore, the job vacancy rate measures the part of occupied and vacant jobs for non-managerial posts for which staff search is ongoing. The data used to calculate the job vacancy rate refers to the last day of the reference quarter.

Labour cost: total expenditure borne by employers for employing staff (including wages, salaries in cash and in kind, employers' social security contributions, and vocational training costs).

Labour force: People in employment and unemployment.

NACE Rev.2: classification of economic activities published in the Official Journal on 20 December 2006 (Regulation EC of the Council and the European Parliament No 1893/2006) and adopted by Istat on 1 January 2008.

Ordinary hours: all the hours worked, included at night and during holidays and excluding overtime, hours of Short time working allowance and hours not worked due to holidays, days-off and in general, hours not worked even if a compensation for them was received.

Overtime: time worked in addition to hours worked during normal periods of work, net of compensation of stored overtime credit systems, Working hours on Sundays, nights or public holidays are considered as overtime only if they are not included in the working time under contract or stored overtime credit systems.

Permanent employees: workers under permanent contract where there is no end-date.

Reference week: in the Labour Force Survey, the week the information collected refers to (usually it is the week preceding the interview).

Seasonally adjusted data: data that have been adjusted for seasonal variations, including trading-day (working-day) effects and other regular calendar variations if present (including changes in weather, harvests, major holidays, and school schedules). These seasonal adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical, underlying trend of a short term indicator.



Self-employed persons (workers): People working in an economic unit without subordination. The following are considered self-employed workers: holders, partners and managing directors of enterprises; or institutions respecting the following conditions: actually work in enterprises or institution, are not in the payroll, are not paid with invoice, do not have contracts as casual workers; members of producers' cooperatives who work in the enterprises but are not in the payroll; contributing family workers of the holder who work neither with pay nor with social contributions.

Short-time Working Allowance: State instrument that provides support when businesses are forced to downsize or suspend their activities as a result of legally-acknowledged crises or difficulties. The instrument consists in the provision by INPS (the Italian Social Security Institute) of compensation to substitute for the salaries of employees who have been laid off or whose working hours have been reduced.

There are three different forms of Short time working allowances:

- ordinary, which applies to enterprises in the industrial sector during lay-offs and contractions in productive
 activity due to temporary market situations or to temporary circumstances that do not depend on the
 employer, the employees;
- exceptional, which is a form of economic support for workers, employees and middle managers who have been laid off from work and have no access (or no longer have) to the ordinary or extraordinary short time working allowance. It also provides economic support for apprentices, temporary workers and homeworkers for enterprises using ordinary and extraordinary short-time working allowances;
- extraordinary, which applies to enterprises facing difficulties due to restructuring, reorganization, conversion, company crisis or for recruiting procedures.

Social security contributions: the amount of the social charges incurred by the employer to the social security funds as well as the amount set aside for severance pay.

Survey on contractual wages and salaries: statistics derived from the survey on contractual wages and salaries are based on the concept of "price of work." Thus they refer to a constant number of workers, characterized by a fixed structure of professional status (workers, employees, managers) and grade (base). The base currently in force is December 2010 = 100. They satisfy the need to assess the dynamic of earnings, net of the effects due to changes in the structure of employment by professional status, grade, working hours (full-time/part-time), seniority, overtime, decentralized bargaining, absences, conflicts etc.

Temporary (employment) agency jobs: workers under temporary contract, hired by a temporary employment agency that supply temporary work (supplier). The agency puts these persons at disposal of another legal-economic unit (enterprises or institution requiring) in order to cover a temporary productive need. In NACE Rev.2 this kind of contract falls in the category "Temporary employment agency activities" (group 78.2) included in section N "Administrative and support service activities".

Temporary workers: workers under a fixed-term contract where there is an end-date.

Unemployed (job seekers): unemployed people aged between 15 and 75 who: have looked for a job at least once in the 30 days before the survey and are willing to start work (or to start their own business) in the next two weeks; Will start work within three months since the interview and are willing to work within the two weeks following the interview (or to start their own business), in case it is possible to start work.

Unemployment rate: ratio between unemployed people of a given age group (usually aged 15 and over) and the total number of the employed and unemployed (the labour force) of the same age group.

Wages and salaries: They are defined as the total "de facto" remuneration in cash, payable to all persons counted on the payroll in return for work done during the accounting period. Wages in kind are excluded. They include the values of any social contributions, income taxes, payable by the employee even if they are actually withheld by the employer and paid directly to social insurance schemes and tax authorities on behalf of the employee. "De facto" wages differ from national contractual (agreed) wages because the last ones include only the components related to national labour agreements.



Istat sources on employment

	National accounts	Istat Labour Force Survey	Business indicators (Oros and Large Enterprises Surveys)
Type of source	Estimates of labour input are the result of integration and comparison of different statistical sources and indirect methods of estimation.	Estimates of the number of persons employed, unemployed and inactive are provided by a sample survey of households. The sample is composed of more than 250,000 households residing in Italy (a total of approximately 600,000 individuals) distributed in about 1,200 municipalities.	Census-type survey carried out by integrating: • Administrative data for small and medium-size enterprises from the National Social Security Institute; • Data from the monthly survey on large enterprises with 500 employees and over (GI).
Target universe	The total regular and non- regular labour input, employed in the production units residing in the economic territory of the country. Permanent members of cohabitation are included.	Members of households residing in Italy. People living permanently in institutions (religious institutions, barracks, etc.) are excluded.	Active small, medium and large enterprises and private institutions with employees residing in Italy.
Unit of analysis	Aggregate estimates of domestic employed, jobs, hours worked and full time equivalents.	Persons aged 15 and over residing in private households. Since the first quarter of 2007, data on persons aged 15 have not contained information on employment and unemployment because the age of compulsory education has been raised by Law No 296/2006. The number of 15 years old employed or seeking employment is however traditionally negligible. Therefore, the change in the legislation did not imply any break in time series for the 15-64 age group.	Functional unit for large enterprises, enterprises/private institutions with employees for the other enterprises
Coverage	Input from employment and self-employment in all sectors of economic activity.	Employees and self-employed (with or without contract) in all sectors of economic activity.	Enterprises/private institutions with employees that in the reference quarter paid taxable wages and salaries for social security purposes, in the sectors of industry and services (NACE rev. 2 sections B-S, excluding O).
Frequency of data dissemination and geographical breakdown	 on a yearly and quarterly basis: estimates of labour input at the national level; yearly basis only: estimates of labour input at regional and provincial levels. 	 monthly and quarterly: estimates of indicators at national level; quarterly: estimates of indicators at regional level; yearly: estimates of indicators at local level 	Quarterly estimates of the indicators only at the national level
Reference period for the measurement of employment	Average employment of the period (quarter and year).	Week the information refers to (usually the one preceding the interview). Information gathered through a uniform distribution of the sample of households in every week of the year.	Monthly survey on employment. In particular, all payroll jobs under employment contracts are surveyed even if under a one-day contract in the reference month.



Definition of employment

The labour input that contributes to the product produced by the system during the reference period is measured using three different definitions of employment:

- domestic employees (residents and nonresidents employed in domestic production units)
- jobs (jobs held by domestic employees)
- · Full time equivalent (FTE) (jobs reduced to standard full time equivalents). Furthermore, hours actually worked by all workers (total hours worked)

Employed and jobs include workers temporarily absent from work since benefiting from short time working allowance (CIG). The FTEs are calculated net of the CIG. The hours actually worked include overtime and exclude the hours of CIG, holidays, sickness and leaves.

Employed: people aged 15 and over who during the reference week have, at least, one of the following characteristics:

- · did at least one hour of work in any business (with or without a contract) that provides in return for remuneration in cash or in kind;
- did at least one hour of unpaid work in the family business in which they work regularly;
- are absent from work (for example, on leave, sickness or short time working allowance);
- if absent from work for less than three months, or if during the absence they continue to receive at least 50% of wages or

Self-employed persons absent from work, excluding family workers, are considered employed if, during the period of absence, they continue to keep the business. Family workers are considered employed if their absence does not exceed three months. People without a contract (forms of illegal work) are also included.

The labour force survey does not disseminate data on illegal work. Estimates on the basis of these data are disseminated within the framework of the National Accounts

Payroll jobs are the number of jobs occupied by employees (both full- or parttime) with an employment contract regardless of the amount of hours worked. Workers under regular contract by a production unit are included even if they are not temporarily working due to holidays, parental leaves, short-time working allowances, etc.

Main indicators

Domestic employees, jobs, hours worked and full time equivalents (FTE).

Employed (employees and self-employed), unemployed, inactive persons and related rates with social-demographic and geographical breakdown.

Index of average monthly payroll jobs, of wages and salaries, of labour cost