



Statistics in focus

POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

THEME 3 – 15/2003

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Labour Force Survey Principal results 2002 EU and EFTA countries

Ana Franco – Sylvain Jouhette

The spring 2002 Labour Force Survey provides the following estimates for the 374.8 million people living in private households in the EU:

- 163.0 million had a job during the reference week of the survey:
 - 64.2% of the population aged 15-64 was employed. The employment rate was as high as 70% or more in Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom, and also in the three EFTA countries. It was less than 60% in Belgium, Greece Spain and Italy. The employment rate was on average 17.4 percentage points higher for males (72.9% at EU level against 55.5% for females). In Finland and Sweden, the difference did not reach 4 percentage points compared to 24 percentage points or more in Greece, Spain, Italy and Luxembourg.
 - 18.2% of employed persons worked part-time. Part-time employment represented 33.5% of total female employment (from 8.1% in Greece to 72.8% in the Netherlands).
 - 137.5 million workers were employees (84.4% of total employment) and 13.1% of them had a contract with limited duration (less than 6% in Iceland, Ireland and Luxembourg, 21.8% in Portugal, 31.2% in Spain).
 - The average usual working hours were 40.0 hours a week for full-time employees and 19.7 hours for part-time employees (from 37.7 hours for full-time employees in France to 43.3 hours in the United Kingdom, 47.3 hours in Iceland).
- 13.5 million people were unemployed, which represented 7.6% of the overall EU labour force (8.6% for women).
 - Long term unemployment (one year and more) represented 40.2% of unemployment as a whole, more than 50% in Greece and Italy, less than 25% in Denmark, Austria, Finland, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Norway and Switzerland.
 - 14.6% of the labour force aged 15-24 years old was unemployed (against 6.7% for the age class 25-64) which represented 6.9% of the total population of the same age.
- 136.2 million people aged 15 years and more were inactive.

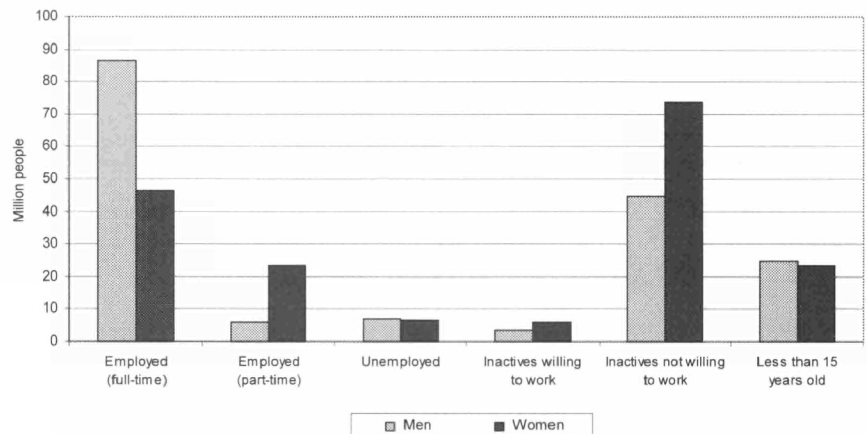
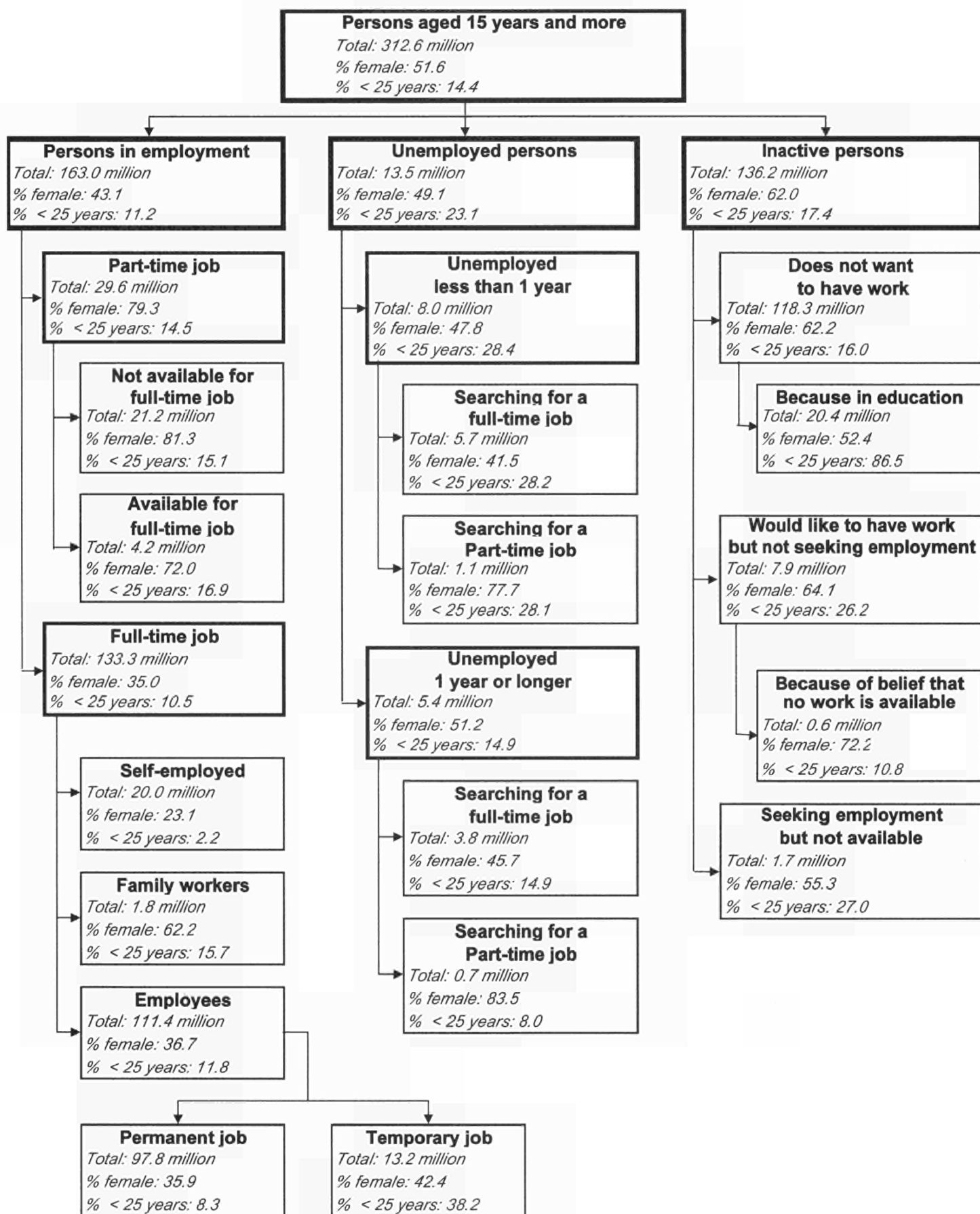


Figure 1: Population by sex and activity status, EU-15, 2002



Work status of persons aged 15 years and more, EU-15, 2002 ⁽¹⁾



(1) Due to non-response, certain sub-totals may not exactly sum up to the corresponding aggregate

➤ EXPLANATORY NOTES

The European Labour Force Survey was conducted in spring 2002 in the 15 Member States of the European Union and 3 countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in accordance with Council Regulation (EEC) No. 577/98 of 9 March 1998.

A detailed description of the sampling methods, the adjustment procedures, the definitions and the common EU coding currently used in the labour force survey is presented in the publication *Labour Force Survey – Methods and definitions, 2001*.

Basic concepts and definitions

All these definitions apply to persons aged 15 years and over, living in private households. The concepts and definitions used in the survey follow the guidelines of the International Labour Organisation. Persons carrying out obligatory military service are not included.

Employed persons were those aged 15 years and over (16 years and over in Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and Iceland) who during the reference week did any work for pay or profit for at least one hour, or were not working but had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Family workers are included.

Unemployed persons comprise persons aged 15 to 74 who were without work during the reference week, were currently available for work and were actively seeking work or who found a job to start later.

Duration of unemployment is defined as:

- (a) the duration of search for a job, or
- (b) the length of the period since the last job was held (if this period is shorter than the duration of search for a job).

The **active population** (labour force) is defined as the sum of employed and unemployed persons.

Inactive persons are those who are neither classified as employed nor as unemployed.

Employees are defined as persons who work for a public or private employer and who receive compensation in the form of wages, salaries, payment by results or payment in kind; non-conscript members of the armed forces are also included

The **number of usual hours worked per week** corresponds to the number of hours the person normally work including extra hours, either paid or unpaid, which the person normally works, but excludes the travel time between the home and the place of work as well as the main meal breaks.

Employment rates represent employed persons as a percentage of the same age population.

Unemployment rates represent unemployed persons as a percentage of the active population.

Youth unemployment ratio represents unemployed aged less than 25 years as a percentage of the population of this age group.

Population in education includes persons who had followed any kind of education during the 4 weeks preceding the week of reference. Students who were on holidays in this period are not included.

Early school leavers includes all the persons aged 18 to 24 who are not in education/training and with at most lower secondary education (ISCED 0-2).

All rates and ratios are calculated excluding non responses.

Country codes applied in this publication: B (Belgium), DK (Denmark), D (Germany), EL (Greece), E (Spain), F (France), IRL (Ireland), I (Italy), L (Luxembourg), NL (Netherlands), P (Portugal), A (Austria), FIN (Finland), S (Sweden), UK (United Kingdom), IS (Iceland), NO (Norway), CH (Switzerland), EU-15 (European Union), EUR12 (Eurozone), EEA (European Economic Area, including all EU-15 countries, Iceland and Norway, excluding Liechtenstein).

Table 1 - Labour force survey 2002 - Males and females

		EU-15	EUR12	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L
Population (1000)	(1)											
-Total		374 849	301 576	10 310	5 344	81 535	10 371	40 258	57 908	3 897	57 397	435
-aged 15-64		250 434	202 174	6 758	3 532	54 870	6 760	27 622	37 787	2 640	38 690	295
-aged >64		62 214	50 962	1 746	830	14 337	2 217	6 786	9 169	435	10 436	58
Highest level of education completed (25-64 years) - %	(2)											
-At most lower secondary level		35,4	39,0	39,7	20,0	17,0	47,3	58,4	35,9	39,7	55,7	38,4
-Upper secondary level		42,9	40,7	32,4	52,5	60,7	35,1	17,2	40,6	34,9	34,0	43,0
-Third level		21,8	20,3	27,9	27,4	22,3	17,6	24,4	23,5	25,4	10,4	18,6
Participation in education	(3)											
-In education or training (25-64 years) - %		8,5	5,5	6,5	18,4	5,8	1,2	5,0	2,7	7,7	4,6	7,7
-Early school leavers (18-24 years) - %	(4)	18,8	19,1	12,4	15,4	12,6	16,1	29,0	13,4	14,7	24,3	17,0
Total employment												
-1000		162 974	127 547	4 052	2 741	36 275	3 949	16 241	23 885	1 750	21 757	188
-Employment rate (%)												
15-24 years		40,5	37,0	28,5	64,0	45,4	27,0	33,1	29,9	45,3	25,7	32,3
25-54 years		77,2	76,2	76,6	84,7	78,8	71,5	70,2	79,4	76,6	69,9	79,1
55-64 years		39,8	36,1	25,8	57,3	38,4	39,2	39,8	33,8	48,0	28,6	27,9
15-64 years		64,2	62,3	59,7	76,4	65,4	56,9	58,4	62,9	65,0	55,4	63,6
-Part-time - %		18,2	16,5	19,4	20,6	20,8	4,5	8,0	16,2	16,5	8,6	11,7
-In the agriculture - %		4,0	4,7	1,8	3,2	2,5	15,8	5,9	4,1	6,9	4,9	2,0
-In the industry - %		28,2	29,4	25,8	23,5	32,4	22,5	31,3	25,4	27,8	31,6	20,1
-In the services - %		67,8	65,9	72,4	73,3	65,1	61,7	62,7	70,5	65,2	63,5	77,9
Employees												
-1000		137 501	106 144	3 427	2 497	32 252	2 377	13 095	21 312	1 440	15 785	173
-% of total employment		84,4	83,2	84,6	91,1	88,9	60,2	80,6	89,2	82,3	72,6	92,1
Contract of limited duration - %		13,1	14,7	7,6	8,9	12,0	11,3	31,2	14,1	5,3	9,9	4,3
Usual hours worked per week												
- employees working full time		40,0	39,3	39,3	39,1	39,9	41,0	40,4	37,7	39,5	38,5	39,5
- employees working part-time		19,7	19,9	22,7	18,5	17,7	20,7	18,3	23,0	18,7	23,8	20,9
Unemployment												
-1000		13 453	11 605	301	122	3 362	420	2 026	2 276	78	2 206	5
-Unemployment rate - %												
15-24 years		14,6	15,8	15,7	7,1	9,3	25,7	21,5	18,9	7,8	27,1	(8,1)
25-64 years		6,7	7,5	6,0	3,9	8,5	7,9	9,7	7,5	3,6	7,4	2,2
15+ years		7,6	8,3	6,9	4,3	8,5	9,6	11,1	8,7	4,3	9,2	2,6
-Youth unemployment ratio (15-24 years) - %		6,9	7,0	5,3	4,9	4,6	9,3	9,1	7,0	3,8	9,6	(2,4)
Unemployment by duration (%):												
-less than 6 months		42,2	39,1	32,7	66,7	35,2	27,4	44,7	49,5	49,7	24,3	53,2
-6 to 11 months		17,6	17,9	17,7	13,6	17,0	20,2	21,0	17,8	21,0	16,5	(19,4)
-12 months and more		40,2	43,0	49,6	19,7	47,9	52,4	34,3	32,7	29,3	59,2	(27,4)
Unemployed (%):												
-seeking a first job		18,5	19,2	22,3	11,6	4,9	40,2	16,2	9,6	42,2	50,9	(17,2)
-seeking a part-time job		13,6	12,5	10,3	16,5	10,9	3,7	6,3	16,1	14,6	15,2	(26,5)
Total of non-actives (1000)	(1)	198 423	162 424	5 956	2 481	41 898	6 002	21 991	31 746	2 069	33 434	242

Notes: data in brackets may lack reliability due to the small sample size. The symbol "-" is used when data is either not available or extremely unreliable

(1) Estimates cover only the population aged 15-74 in NO, 16-74 in IS and 15+ in CH

(2) UK: GCSE levels are included under ISCED 3 (educational attainment level "upper secondary")

Table 1 - Labour force survey 2002 - Males and females

NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS (1)	NO (1)	EEA (1)	CH (1)		
										Population (1000)	(1)
15 948	7 980	10 359	5 178	8 925	59 004	195	3 224	378 268	6 018	-Total	
10 862	5 428	7 003	3 459	5 770	38 958	177	2 920	253 530	4 893	-aged 15-64	
2 071	1 221	1 695	790	1 531	8 891	18	304	62 537	1 124	-aged >64	
										Highest level of education completed (25-64 years) - %	(2)
32,4	21,8	79,4	25,3	18,6	18,3	34,9	14,3	35,1	13,1	-At most lower secondary level	
42,7	61,3	11,3	42,2	55,0	52,4	39,5	51,5	43,0	61,6	-Upper secondary level	
24,9	16,9	9,4	32,4	26,4	29,4	25,6	34,2	21,9	25,2	-Third level	
										Participation in education	(3)
16,4	7,5	2,9	18,9	18,4	22,3	24,0	13,3	8,6	34,4	-In education or training (25-64 years) - %	
15,0	9,5	45,5	9,9	10,4	-	27,3	-	-	5,4	-Early school leavers (18-24 years) - %	
										Total employment	(4)
8 176	3 734	5 133	2 406	4 348	28 338	156	2 293	165 423	3 959	-1000	
										-Employment rate (%)	
70,5	51,7	42,1	44,8	44,0	55,7	66,8	57,0	40,7	65,3	15-24 years	
82,9	82,7	82,0	81,9	84,4	80,6	90,2	85,2	77,3	86,0	25-54 years	
42,0	28,1	51,4	47,8	68,3	53,3	87,1	67,0	40,1	64,8	55-64 years	
74,5	68,2	68,6	69,1	74,0	71,5	85,0	77,3	64,4	78,9	15-64 years	
43,8	18,9	11,3	12,4	21,4	25,0	27,8	26,3	18,3	31,7	-Part-time - %	
2,9	5,7	12,5	5,5	2,5	1,4	7,4	3,9	4,0	4,4	-In the agriculture - %	
21,0	28,9	33,6	27,1	23,0	24,1	22,5	21,7	28,1	24,1	-In the industry - %	
76,1	65,4	53,9	67,3	74,5	74,5	70,1	74,4	67,9	71,5	-In the services - %	
										Employees	
7 220	3 232	3 733	2 097	3 883	24 978	130	2 119	139 749	3 289	-1000	
88,3	86,5	72,7	87,1	89,3	88,1	82,8	92,4	84,5	83,1	-% of total employment	
14,3	7,4	21,8	17,3	15,7	6,1	5,4	10,3	13,0	12,3	Contract of limited duration - %	
										Usual hours worked per week	
38,9	40,0	40,3	39,2	39,9	43,3	47,3	38,5	40,0	40,9	- employees working full time	
19,2	21,8	20,6	20,6	22,5	18,8	22,0	22,0	19,7	19,7	- employees working part-time	
										Unemployment	
214	193	243	280	227	1 499	5	96	13 554	120	-1000	
										-Unemployment rate - %	
4,6	7,2	10,4	28,2	12,9	10,9	6,4	13,0	14,6	5,7	15-24 years	
2,2	4,6	3,9	7,4	4,0	4,0	2,3	2,6	6,7	2,6	25-64 years	
2,6	4,9	4,5	10,4	5,0	5,0	3,0	4,0	7,6	2,9	15+ years	
										-Youth unemployment ratio (15-24 years) - %	
3,4	4,0	4,9	17,6	6,5	6,8	4,5	8,6	6,9	3,9		
										Unemployment by duration (%):	
56,8	63,0	45,6	62,2	63,1	61,2	100,0	75,5	42,5	63,3	-less than 6 months	
16,5	16,7	18,9	16,5	16,7	15,7	-	11,8	17,6	15,1	-6 to 11 months	
26,7	20,3	35,5	21,2	20,1	23,1	-	12,6	39,9	21,6	-12 months and more	
										Unemployed (%):	
19,9	5,3	12,8	13,3	11,1	15,2	-	16,8	18,5	15,8	-seeking a first job	
52,9	16,4	-	14,4	16,6	21,6	-	20,3	13,6	32,7	-seeking a part-time job	
7 558	4 053	4 983	2 492	4 350	29 167	34	835	199 291	1 938	Total of non-actives (1000)	

(3) F: information on training is collected if this is under way on the date of the survey (instead of the 4 weeks preceding the survey in the other countries, 12 months in CH for non formal education courses). NO: only job related training is covered.

(4) EU15 and EEA: results estimated on the basis of the available data. UK: comparable data not yet available.

Table 2 - Labour force survey 2002 - Females

	EU-15	EUR12	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L
Population (1000) (1)											
-Total	191 499	154 493	5 267	2 702	41 677	5 350	20 527	29 801	1 962	29 529	220
-aged 15-64	124 993	101 123	3 355	1 751	27 215	3 460	13 763	19 108	1 315	19 386	146
-aged >64	36 218	29 794	1 030	474	8 465	1 219	3 930	5 344	246	6 129	34
Total employment											
-1000	70 165	54 033	1 721	1 282	16 166	1 506	6 091	10 822	733	8 199	75
-Employment rate (%)											
15-64 years	55,5	52,9	51,1	72,6	58,8	42,7	44,0	56,4	55,2	41,9	51,5
55-64 years	30,2	26,1	16,7	49,9	29,8	24,4	22,3	29,6	30,7	16,9	18,1
-Part-time - %	33,5	31,0	37,7	31,4	39,5	8,1	17,0	29,7	30,5	16,7	26,4
-In the agriculture - %	3,1	3,8	1,1	1,6	2,0	17,9	4,0	2,8	1,7	3,9	(1,0)
-In the industry - %	14,7	15,8	12,5	12,3	17,6	11,2	14,7	13,4	13,5	20,1	6,7
-In the services - %	82,2	80,4	86,4	86,1	80,4	71,0	81,3	83,8	84,8	76,0	94,3
Employees											
-% of total employment	88,6	87,2	86,5	94,8	91,7	63,5	84,5	92,3	92,5	78,9	94,6
Contract of limited duration - %	14,3	16,1	10,3	10,5	12,2	13,4	34,2	16,0	6,3	12,1	4,7
Usual hours worked per week											
- employees working full time	38,6	38,2	38,3	37,7	39,2	39,7	39,5	36,9	37,7	36,4	37,9
- employees working part-time	19,9	19,9	22,7	20,4	18,1	20,1	18,1	23,1	18,7	22,6	20,6
Unemployment											
-1000	6 610	5 872	146	58	1 447	258	1 183	1 176	29	1 183	3
-Unemployment rate - %											
15+ years	8,6	9,8	7,8	4,3	8,2	14,6	16,3	9,8	3,8	12,6	3,6
15-24 years	15,0	17,1	15,2	5,2	7,2	33,7	27,7	20,8	6,7	31,5	(10,9)
Unemployment by duration (%):											
-12 months and more	41,8	44,9	53,6	22,4	50,3	55,7	37,6	34,4	18,0	60,1	(26,5)

Table 3 - Labour force survey 2002 – Males

	EU-15	EUR12	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L
Population (1000) (1)											
-Total	183 350	147 083	5 042	2 642	39 858	5 020	19 731	28 106	1 935	27 869	215
-aged 15-64	125 441	101 051	3 403	1 781	27 655	3 300	13 859	18 679	1 325	19 304	149
-aged >64	25 996	21 168	716	355	5 871	998	2 857	3 826	189	4 308	24
Total employment											
-1000	92 809	73 514	2 331	1 458	20 109	2 442	10 149	13 063	1 017	13 558	113
-Employment rate (%)											
15-64 years	72,9	71,7	68,1	80,2	71,8	71,7	72,8	69,6	74,7	68,9	75,5
55-64 years	49,8	46,5	35,1	64,2	47,1	55,1	58,4	38,1	65,1	41,1	37,6
-Part-time - %	6,6	5,8	5,9	11,0	5,8	2,3	2,6	5,0	6,5	3,7	1,8
-In the agriculture - %	4,7	5,4	2,3	4,6	2,9	14,5	7,1	5,2	10,7	5,5	2,6
-In the industry - %	38,4	39,3	35,6	33,3	44,2	29,4	41,3	35,4	38,1	38,5	29,1
-In the services - %	56,8	55,3	62,1	62,1	52,9	56,0	51,6	59,4	51,2	55,9	68,3
Employees											
-% of total employment	81,2	80,3	83,1	87,9	86,7	58,2	78,3	86,7	74,9	68,7	90,4
Contract of limited duration - %	12,1	13,6	5,5	7,4	11,8	9,8	29,2	12,5	4,5	8,3	4,0
Usual hours worked per week											
- employees working full time	40,8	39,9	39,7	40,1	40,3	41,9	41,0	38,2	40,7	39,8	40,3
- employees working part-time	19,0	19,8	22,8	13,6	15,5	22,1	18,9	22,7	18,6	28,0	24,8
Unemployment											
-1000	6 843	5 733	155	64	1 915	162	843	1 101	49	1 023	2
-Unemployment rate - %											
15+ years	6,9	7,2	6,2	4,2	8,7	6,2	7,7	7,8	4,6	7,0	1,9
15-24 years	14,3	14,8	16,0	8,8	11,1	18,7	16,9	17,5	8,7	23,7	(6,0)
Unemployment by duration (%):											
-12 months and more	38,5	41,0	45,9	17,2	46,0	47,1	29,7	31,0	35,9	58,2	(32,1)

Notes: data in brackets may lack reliability due to the small sample size. The symbol "-" is used when data is either not available or extremely unreliable.

(1) Estimates cover only the population aged 15-74 in NO, 16-74 in IS and 15+ in CH

Table 2 - Labour force survey 2002 - Females

NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS (1)	NO (1)	EEA (1)	CH (1)	
										Population (1000) (1)
8 027	4 117	5 359	2 657	4 507	29 797	95	1 593	192 309	3 079	-Total
5 364	2 725	3 567	1 720	2 839	19 280	86	1 428	126 067	2 420	-aged 15-64
1 190	743	983	483	878	5 072	10	165	35 836	658	-aged >64
										Total employment
3 556	1 679	2 323	1 162	2 082	12 768	73	1 067	70 105	1 748	-1000
										-Employment rate (%)
65,9	61,1	61,2	67,3	72,5	65,3	82,9	73,8	55,0	70,6	15-64 years
29,0	18,6	41,8	47,5	65,6	44,7	78,7	60,9	29,0	53,5	55-64 years
72,8	35,7	16,4	17,1	32,9	44,0	45,4	42,7	33,9	57,2	-Part-time - %
2,0	6,0	13,8	3,7	1,2	0,7	3,4	2,2	3,2	3,5	-In the agriculture - %
8,9	13,1	21,4	13,7	10,3	10,8	10,9	9,3	15,0	12,6	-In the industry - %
89,1	80,9	64,8	82,6	88,4	88,5	85,7	88,6	81,8	83,9	-In the services - %
										Employees
90,5	88,0	74,6	91,0	94,3	92,8	90,3	94,6	88,5	85,6	-% of total employment
17,0	7,4	23,4	20,5	17,9	6,8	5,8	11,6	14,5	12,6	Contract of limited duration - %
										Usual hours worked per week
38,1	39,9	39,2	38,2	39,6	40,6	43,4	37,6	38,7	40,2	- employees working full time
19,2	21,8	20,2	21,0	23,6	19,1	22,8	22,4	20,0	20,0	- employees working part-time
										Unemployment
106	80	131	132	101	580	2	40	6 446	62	-1000
										-Unemployment rate - %
2,9	4,5	5,3	10,2	4,6	4,3	2,2	3,6	8,4	3,4	15+ years
4,8	6,5	12,2	27,8	12,4	8,8	-	12,0	14,8	5,5	15-24 years
										Unemployment by duration (%):
26,4	24,4	36,2	18,8	17,7	17,1	-	(5,7)	41,6	34,8	-12 months and more

Table 3 - Labour force survey 2002 - Males

NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS (1)	NO (1)	EEA (1)	CH (1)	
										Population (1000) (1)
7 921	3 864	5 000	2 521	4 418	29 207	98	1 621	185 070	2 909	-Total
5 498	2 703	3 436	1 740	2 931	19 678	90	1 481	127 012	2 450	-aged 15-64
882	479	713	307	653	3 819	9	140	26 145	459	-aged >64
										Total employment
4 620	2 056	2 810	1 245	2 266	15 571	83	1 210	94 102	2 169	-1000
										-Employment rate (%)
82,9	75,3	76,3	70,9	75,5	77,7	88,0	80,3	73,0	86,2	15-64 years
54,9	38,1	62,4	48,1	70,8	62,1	90,2	70,8	50,0	77,4	55-64 years
21,5	5,1	7,1	8,0	11,2	9,4	12,7	11,0	6,7	10,9	-Part-time - %
3,6	5,4	11,4	7,2	3,7	2,0	10,9	5,7	4,8	5,2	-In the agriculture - %
30,2	41,8	43,8	39,7	34,6	35,1	32,9	33,1	38,3	34,0	-In the industry - %
66,2	52,8	44,9	53,1	61,7	62,9	56,3	61,1	56,9	60,9	-In the services - %
										Employees
86,6	85,4	71,2	83,5	84,7	84,3	76,0	89,7	81,3	80,8	-% of total employment
12,2	7,3	20,5	13,9	13,3	5,5	5,3	8,0	12,0	11,9	Contract of limited duration - %
										Usual hours worked per week
39,1	40,1	41,1	40,0	40,1	44,9	50,4	39,0	40,8	41,1	- employees working full time
19,2	22,0	22,2	19,7	19,0	17,3	18,7	19,8	19,0	21,2	- employees working part-time
										Unemployment
109	113	112	148	126	919	3	50	6 895	63	-1000
										-Unemployment rate - %
2,3	5,2	3,8	10,7	5,3	5,6	3,3	4,0	6,8	2,8	15+ years
4,3	7,8	9,0	28,6	13,4	12,8	9,5	13,8	14,3	7,3	15-24 years
										Unemployment by duration (%):
26,9	17,4	34,8	23,4	22,1	26,9	-	14,2	38,4	18,7	-12 months and more

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➤ Databases

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