

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

The Labour Force Survey Results First Quarter (January - March, 2017) Round

Main Results

The labour force participation rate of individuals aged 15 years and above was 45.8%

The number of individuals participating in the labour force in Palestine was 1,368,900 in the 1st quarter 2017; 865,400 in the West Bank and 503,500 in Gaza Strip.

The labour force participation rate in the West Bank was 45.8% and 45.7% in Gaza Strip, the gap in the participation rate between males and females in Palestine still very big where it reached 71.6% for males compared with 19.4% for females.

27.0% the unemployment rate among labour force participants

Using ILO standards, the number of unemployed was 369,800 in the 1st quarter 2017; distributed as 206,800 in Gaza Strip and 163,000 in the West Bank.

The unemployment rate in Gaza Strip was 41.1% compared with 18.8% in the West Bank in the 1st quarter 2017, And the unemployment rate for males in Palestine was 21.9% compared with 46.6% for females.

The highest unemployment rate in the 1st quarter 2017 was 44.3% among youth aged 20-24 years. For years of schooling, the highest unemployment rate among females with 13 years of schooling and more was 51.5%.

The number of the employment in the local market decreased between the 4th quarter 2016 and 1st quarter 2017

The number of employed in the local market decreased from 869,700 in the 4th quarter 2016 to 857,300 in the 1st quarter 2017. The number of employed individuals in the West Bank decreased by 12,400 employed, while the number of employed individuals in Gaza Strip remain at the same level.

The services sector was the biggest employer in the local market with 33.9% in the West Bank and 53.4% in Gaza Strip.

The public sector employed 21.5% of those in employment; 35.8% in Gaza Strip and 15.4% in the West Bank.

The average daily wage for wage employees in the West Bank was 101.5 NIS compared with 58.7 NIS in Gaza Strip.

The average weekly hours worked by wage employees in the West Bank was 44.4 hour in the 1st quarter 2017 and 44.2 hour in the 4th quarter 2016. The average number of days worked per month

was 22.4 and 22.6 day in the 1st quarter 2017 and 4th quarter 2016. The average number of hours worked per week in Gaza Strip was 37.8 and 38.4 hours per week in the 1st quarter 2017 and 4th quarter 2016, and the average number of days worked per month was 21.9 and 22.7 working day in 1st quarter 2017 and 4th quarter 2016 respectively.

Number of employed in Israel and Israeli settlements was 139,600 in the 1st quarter 2017

The number of employed individuals employed in Israel and Israeli settlements was 139,600 in the 1st quarter 2017 compared with 128,800 in the 4th quarter 2016. Of these; 68,500 had a permit, 48,700 worked without any permit and 22,400 employed individuals have an Israeli identity card or foreign passport.

The number of employees in the Israeli settlements decreased to 24,000 in the 1st quarter 2017 from 24,200 in the 4th quarter 2016.

58.8% of employed in Israel and the Israeli settlements worked in the construction sector.

The average daily wage for the wage employees in Israel and the Israeli settlements reached 219.5 NIS in the 1st quarter 2017 compared with 215.7 NIS in the 4th quarter 2016.

The average number of hours worked per week in Israel and the Israeli settlements reached 42.2 in the 1st quarter 2017 compared with 38.9 in the 4th quarter 2016. The average number of days worked per month reached 20.1 working day in the 1st quarter 2017 compared with 19.0 in the 4th quarter 2016.

Employment Status in the 1st quarter 2017

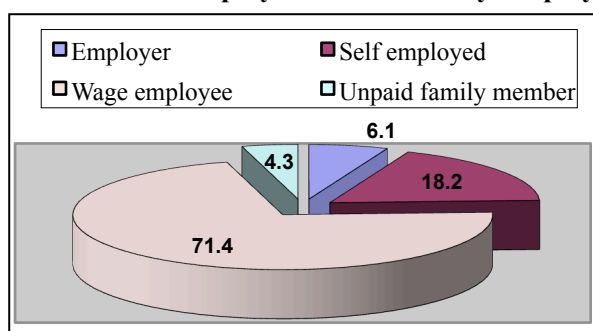
71.4% of employed individuals are wage employees; 67.8% in the West Bank and 80.0% in Gaza Strip.

18.2% of employed individuals are self- employed; 20.0% in the West Bank and 14.0% in Gaza Strip.

4.3% of employed individuals are unpaid family members; 4.9% in the West Bank and 2.8% in Gaza Strip.

6.1% of employed individuals are employers; 7.3% in the West Bank and 3.2% in Gaza Strip.

Percentage Distribution of Employed Individuals by Employment Status, Q1-2017



Working benefits for wage employees in the private sector

27.5% of wage employees are hired by contract (9.6% of them with limited period and 17.9% with unlimited period), compared with 50.3% hired without any contract, and 22.2% of wage employees are hired by verbal agreement.

21.9% of wage employees contribute to a pension fund, 21.9% have annual paid leave and 36.7% of wage employees women have paid maternity leave.

16.5% of employed individuals in Palestine are affiliated to a workers vocational union; 11.3% in the West Bank and 28.9% in Gaza Strip.

40.0% of wage employees in the private sector received less than the minimum wage (1,450 NIS) in Palestine.

In the West Bank 17.7% of wage employees in the private sector received less than minimum monthly wage, about 38,700 wage employees with average monthly wage 1,058 NIS.

In Gaza Strip the percentage of wage employees in the private sector who received less than the minimum monthly wage was 79.0% about 96,400 wage employees with average monthly wage 747 NIS.

Child Labour

3.4% of children aged 10-17 years in Palestine are employed; 4.5% in the West Bank and 1.7% in Gaza Strip.

Data collection of labour force survey was funded by the European Union.