



Supply side of the Labour Market Curaçao Results Labour Force Survey 2017

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Results of the labour force survey 2017

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Preface

The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) has been conducting the Labour Force Survey annually for the last thirty years. The Labour Force Survey provides statistical data on the supply side of the labour market, which is used in labour policies, national economy statistics and social research.

Recording and analyzing changes in the labour market should be used as an indicator on the influence on the economy. Macro-economic models use the data as an input to show how all indicators are inter-related. These relationships can thus be looked at to highlight areas where interventions can be used to improve current situations.

This publication shows the result of the Labour Force Survey conducted in September-October 2017. The results are compared to the results from the LFS 2014 to 2016. One will see that the results are a direct reflection of the current economic situation on Curaçao and the fragile state of the labour market.

CBS hopes that the results can be used by all to further improve our island. Used in combination with the national macro-economic model, it sheds light to all the influences and consequences of movements on the labour market.

A sincere word of thanks goes to the population of Curaçao for their continuous support and cooperation of the LFS. Furthermore, to fieldwork and statistical staff of CBS.

The director

Drs. Sean de Boer

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Preface

The last couple of years have seen major changes in the labour market. With closing of hotels and downsizing of major companies, the labour market has gone through dramatic changes. These changes have manifested themselves in an increased unemployment rate. The unemployment rate has increased in 2017 to 14.1%, which is 0.8% change from 13.3% in 2016.

The group that has been affected the most are the 35-44 year olds. The unemployment under this group has increased with 4.4 percentage points.

Due to the high economic need, people tend to find more creative ways to make ends meet. This can be noted in the increase in self-employed people and decrease in casual workers.

Youth unemployment has improved. However, this group of 15-24 year olds are the most susceptible to the influences of the labour market. A welcoming labour market, with low unemployment and a good demand for labour entices the youth to enter the labour market. When the labour market is tougher with high unemployment, the youth is more inclined or forced into furthering their studies or becoming economically inactive.

Major changes in unemployment have direct effect on other aspects of the economy. An increase in unemployment population causes a decrease in household disposable income. When a household has less disposable income, they will make less investments. House repairs and personal items will be purchased less. This means that government will collect less taxes. As taxes are a governments major income, the debt crisis will increase and the need for more tax revenue will increase. More unemployed population also means that there will be more request for welfare benefits and thus an increase of government expenses. With less income in the government coffers and a higher demand for government benefits, the economy will find itself in a cycle that is not easily broken.

The director

Drs. Sean de Boer

Resúmen

Algun kambio grandi a tuma lugá den nos merkado laboral durante e último añanan. Seramentu di hotèl i redukshon di personal serka algun kompania grandi a trese kambio dramátiko pa merkado. Por mira efekto di e kambionan akí den e oumento di e porsentahe di desempleo te 14,1% na 2017, loke ta representá un kambio di 0,8% kompará ku e nivel di 13,3% kaminda e tabata na 2016.

E grupo di edat mas afektá ta esun di 35-44 aña. Serka e grupo akí, desempleo a subi ku 4,4 punto porsentual.

Nesesidat ekonómiko fuerte ta pone hende buska manera mas kreativo pa kubri nan gastunan. Por ripará esaki den e oumento di e kantidat di persona ku ta traha riba nan mes i e bahada di e kantidat ku ta lora man ku trabou informal.

E nivel di empleo bou di hóben a mehorá. Sinembargo, e grupo di 15-24 aña ta esun mas vulnerabel pa influensia di merkado laboral. Ora merkado laboral ta faborabel, ku poko desempleo i bon demanda pa trabou, esei ta atraé e hóbennan pa drenta merkado laboral. Ora merkado laboral ta ménos faborabel, ku desempleo haltu, e hóbennan ta mas inkliná òf asta fòrsá pa sea sigui studia òf bira inaktivo ekonómikamente.

Ora desempleo kambia drástikamente, esei tin un efekto direkto riba otro aspekto di ekonomia. Ora e kantidat di persona desempleá oumentá, esei ta pone ku e entrada disponibel di e kasnan di famia ta bira ménos. Un kas di famia ku tin ménos entrada disponibel ta hasi ménos invershon, nan ta saka ménos sèn na reparashon di kas i ta kumpra ménos artíkulo personal. Esei ta nifiká ku gobièrnu lo kobra ménos impuesto. Komo ku impuesto ta e fuente di entrada prinsipal di gobièrnu, esei lo empeorá e krisis di debe i pone gobièrnu su nesesisidat di entrada di impuesto oumentá. Tambe, mas desempleo ta nifiká mas demanda pa benefisio sosial (manera ònderstant), loke na su turno ta pone gastu di gobièrnu subi mas. Ku ménos entrada den kaha di gobièrnu i mas demanda pa benefisio di gobièrnu, ekonomia ta kai den un sírkulo visioso difísil pa sali afó.

Samenvatting

De laatste jaren hebben zich grote veranderingen op de arbeidsmarkt voorgedaan. Het sluiten van hotels en de inkrimping van grote bedrijven heeft voor de werkgelegenheid dramatische gevolgen. Deze gevolgen hebben zich gemanifesteerd in een toegenomen werkloosheidscijfer. Het werkloosheidspercentage is in 2017 toegenomen tot 14,1%, een toename van 0,8% ten opzichte van 2016 (13,3%).

De groep die het meest getroffen is, is de groep van 35-44 jarigen. De werkloosheid onder deze groep is gestegen met 4,4 %.

Vanwege de krapte op de arbeidsmarkt vertonen veel mensen creatievere manieren om rond te komen. Dit is te merken aan de toename van het aantal zelfstandigen en de afname van werknemers in tijdelijke dienst.

De jeugdwerkloosheid is gedaald. Deze groep van 15-24-jarigen is echter het meest vatbaar voor invloeden op de arbeidsmarkt. Een verwelkomende arbeidsmarkt, met lage werkloosheid en een hoge vraag naar arbeid, stimuleert de jeugd om toe te treden tot de arbeidsmarkt. Bij hoge werkloosheid, is de jeugd meer geneigd om te blijven studeren of gedwongen om economisch inactief te worden.

Grote veranderingen op de arbeidsmarkt hebben directe gevolgen voor andere aspecten van de economie. Een toename van de werkloosheid leidt tot een daling van het beschikbaar inkomen van de getroffen huishoudens. Wanneer een huishouden minder besteedbaar inkomen heeft, zullen ze minder investeren. Reparaties aan de huisvesting zullen worden uitgesteld en huisraad of 'luxe' artikelen worden minder gekocht. Dit betekent dat de overheid minder belastingen zal innen. Omdat belastingen de belangrijkste inkomstenbron van de overheid zijn, zullen de schulden toenemen en zal de behoefte aan meer belastinginkomsten toenemen. Een groter aantal werklozen betekent ook dat er meer mensen afhankelijk zullen zijn van onderstandsuitkeringen, wat weer een stijging van de overheidsuitgaven met zich mee brengt. Met minder inkomsten in de schatkist van de overheid en een hogere vraag naar overheidsbaten, zal de economie zich in een neerwaartse spiraal bevinden die niet makkelijk te doorbreken is.

1. Objective of the Labour Force Survey (LFS)

A labour market is the structure that allocates labour to its most productive use and functions through the interaction of those who supply labour services (workers) and those who demand labour services (employers). Statistics on the labour market are critical to understand the market whether one applies the microeconomic (economics at an individual, group or company level) or macroeconomic (national economy) approach. Labour statistics, also known as labour market information, involves the systematic collection and analysis of data that describes the demand and supply of labour. Without labour market information, it is impossible for a country to understand the dynamics of its labour market.

Since 1987, the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) of Curaçao, formerly the CBS of the Netherlands Antilles, has been conducting Labour Force Surveys (LFS, in Dutch: Arbeidskrachtenonderzoek, AKO) annually in the months September–October to monitor the most important developments on the supply side of the labour market in Curaçao (Lake, 2013). This report is based on the data from the LFS held in the months September–October 2017 (LFS 2017-2).

Statistics on the supply side of the Curaçao's labour market are compiled in accordance with the Key Indicators of the Labour Market (KILM) recommended by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and are therefore internationally comparable. Consequently, Curaçao's data on the supply side of the labour market are available in the ILO databases (ILO, 2017).

Information provided by the LFS makes it possible to produce statistics on the economically active population, also known as the labour force. The economically active population includes both the employed and unemployed population. From an economic point of view, one of the main objectives of collecting data on the economically active population is to provide basic information on the size and structure of a country's labour force. Data collected at different points in time provide a basis for monitoring current trends and changes in the (un)employment situation. In addition to the economically active and unemployed population, the LFS also provides statistics on the economically not active population such as students and pensioners.

One of the most important labour-market indicators is the unemployment rate. The unemployment rate reflects the percentage of the labour force that does not have a job, but is actively looking for one and is available to start working within two weeks. The unemployment rate is widely used, in particular as an overall indicator of the current

performance of a country's economy (Husmanns, 2007). Other important indicators are the labour force participation rate, the employment-to-population ratio, and the level of education and occupation of the employed population. The unemployment rate in 2017 has increased to 14.1 percent from 13.3 percent in 2016. The group that has been more affected are those aged 25-34.

The labour force participation rate is the percentage of the population that actively engages in the labour market, by either working or looking for work, while the employment-to-population ratio is the proportion of the country's working-age population that is employed. All the aforementioned indicators, together with others described in this report, give a general overview of the supply side of the labour market in Curaçao.

2. Survey set-up

2.1 Study design and study population

The LFS is a sample survey conducted among households in Curaçao. For determining an appropriate sample size, research on the sample estimates and variances were made. This was done by taking into account the last available LFS unemployment rate, a 1.5 percent one-sided margin of error, and a non-response rate of 20.0 percent. The sampling frame for the LFS was taken from the population registry database of the Registry Office ('Kranshi') and encompasses all inhabited unique private addresses. The sample was selected using a simple random sampling design without replacement. By using this procedure, each household in the registry had a known and equal chance of participating in the survey.

A total of N = 2,628 households were selected to participate in the LFS 2017-2, which is approximately 5 percent of all households in Curaçao. National media (including newspaper, radio, and television) and social platforms were used to inform the community of the upcoming survey. Furthermore, to ensure that the selected households would be fully informed, a letter was sent to them containing background information of the survey and request for cooperation and participation.

Due to a high non-response, 100 additional addresses were selected during the fieldwork. There are different reasons an address can be considered as a non-response. These reasons fall into two categories; non-household and incommunicable addresses. A non-household non-response is an address which is not considered a household because they are either a businesses or uninhabited. An incommunicable non-response is household who have refused to participate or where the household could not be contacted. The top three reasons in the 2017 LFS for a non-response were no contact (10.6%), refusal (9.6%), and unfindable (6.2%).

The target group of the LFS included non-institutionalized men and women residing for three months or more in Curaçao or planning to stay for three months or longer on the island. By defining the target population in this manner, tourists and persons with short stays (e.g. attending short-term training activities), who do not contribute to the labour market, were not included. The LFS makes statements about the population aged 15 years and older (also known as the working population).

2.2 Definitions

The definitions used in the LFS are based on the KILM and the local labour market situation. Accordingly, individuals 15 years and older were classified in one of the three categories of the labour market (labour status): employed, unemployed, or economically not active. The definitions are given in this paragraph.

Employed

All persons of 15 years and older who during the research period:

- a. had a job or have their own business; or
- b. who during the week preceding the research period performed any work for pay in cash or in kind, for 4 hours or more.

Unemployed

All persons of 15 years and older who during the research period:

- a. did not have a job or a business of their own; and
- b. had actively been seeking work in the preceding month of the research period; and
- c. who were available to start working or start a business within two weeks.

Economically not active

All persons of 15 years and older who during the research period:

- a. did not have a job or own a business; and
- b. who were not actively seeking work.

Labour force

The total number of persons who are employed added to the total number of persons who are unemployed.

Unemployment rate

The number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force.

Youth unemployment rate

The unemployment rate in the age category of 15–24 years.

Participation rate

The number of persons in the labour force as a percentage of the total population.

Labour Force participation rate

The number of persons in the labour force as a percentage of the working age population.

Underemployment

The percentage of employed people who are employed and are seeking or are available for additional work during the reference period.

Figure 1 gives a schematic overview of the three labour statuses (employed, unemployed and economically not active) and the route to be classified into one of them.

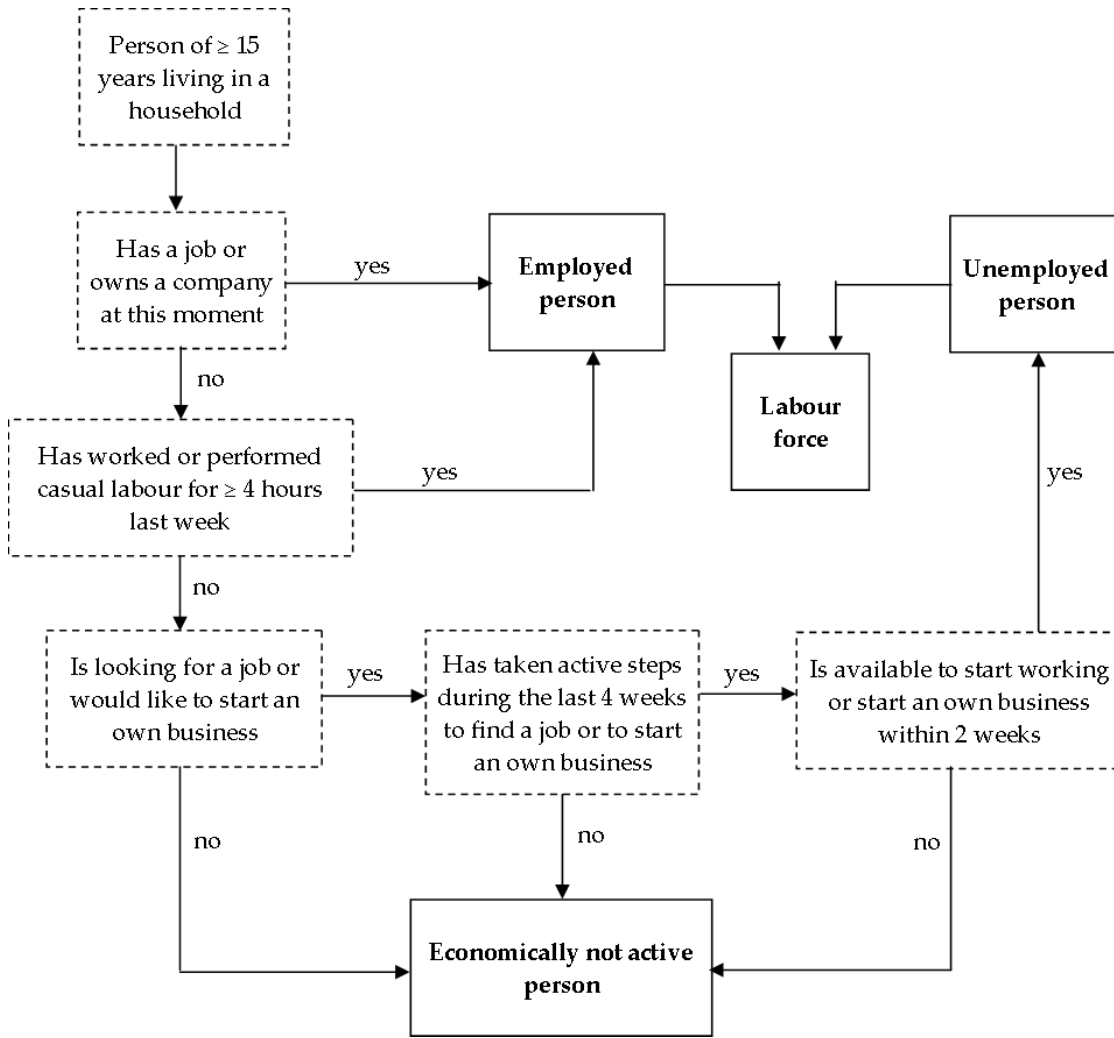


Figure 1 Schematic overview of labour market

2.3 Questionnaire

A standardized questionnaire, mostly with multiple answer options, is used to collect the data during the LFS. The questionnaire used in 2017 was similar to the questionnaire used in 2016 except there were additional questions only asked of the reference person in the household. These questions will be used to calculate the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) for the island. The questionnaire is available in the four languages: Papiamentu, Dutch, English and Spanish. Since the LFS is an anonymous survey, no personal identifiers were asked on the questionnaire, this in order to maintain the anonymity of the respondents. The subjects included in the questionnaires are:

1. Demographics
 - a. Age
 - b. Gender
 - c. Country of Birth
 - d. Nationality
 - e. Disability
2. Education
 - a. Education trajectory
 - b. Highest education attained
3. Labour market
 - a. History of work in the past 12months
 - b. Current job or own company/business
4. Persons with work
 - a. Economic position in current work
 - b. Economic activity of company/business
 - c. Occupation in current work
 - d. Average working hours per week
5. Persons looking for work
 - a. Amount of time looking for work
 - b. Reason for looking for work
 - c. Methods of looking for work
 - d. Reasons why it is difficult to find work
 - e. Desired type of work
 - f. Desired working hours per week
 - g. Willingness to accept other type of work

6. Economically not active persons
 - a. Reasons for not working or looking for a job
7. Income
 - a. Amount of highest income last month
 - b. Source of highest income
 - c. Amount of second highest income last month
 - d. Source of second highest income
8. History
 - a. Economic position on labour market six months before survey
 - b. Economic position on labour market one year before survey
9. Lifestyle questions
 - a. Facilities
 - b. House composition
 - c. Availability of water and electricity

2.4 Data collection and data management

The Fieldwork department carried out the fieldwork for the study. Data collection for the LFS 2017-2 took place in the period of September 2–October 11. As in previous years, Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) was used to collect the data. CAPI refers to survey data collection by a survey administrator (interviewer) using a computer (tablet) to administer the questionnaire to the respondents and to capture the answers (Baker, Bradburn, & Johnson, 1995). A total of 40 experienced interviewers were trained in the methodology of the study and the use of tablets, to assure consistency in the data collection.

Within the selected households, basic demographic information was collected on all household members, while labour force information was collected for household members aged 15 years and older. Lifestyle questions were then asked from the reference person. A reference person is the person identified as the person able to speak on behalf of the household.

The use of tablets eliminates a lot of interviewer errors such as questions routing or omission of questions. It also allows for in-field editing where interviewers were guided into following a certain path or from choosing answers inconsistent to previous replies.

As part of quality assurance, field and telephone checks were performed. As the fieldwork started, samples were pulled out of the response and non-response addresses. This resulted into 163 addresses that were checked on (non)response. During these checks, respondents are asked to verify their responses to certain key questions and the professionalism of the interviewers.

After the fieldwork period of the study, the individual datasets of the interviewers were merged into two datasets in order to start the process of data coding. Answers regarding education, industry (sector), and occupation were coded by two trained coders using international classification systems, while taking into account local situation. The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-1997), the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC-rev. 4), and the International Standard Classification of Occupation (ISCO-2008) were used (Appendix 1). After data coding, the two datasets were merged into a final dataset.

As a movement to changing towards a more digital process, occupation questions were asked in two different ways. First the interviewee was asked to describe their daily activities and then the interviewer was tasked with selecting their occupation using the ISCO codes. Professional coders then coded the description. This way of shadowing a question is used when one wants to compare accuracy of responses.

As a sample survey, the LFS results were weighted to present absolute figures for this population. Post-stratification weighting procedures were applied by the methodologist using CBS population estimates based on the 2011 Census and the population registry database of the Registry Office ('Kranshi'). Nevertheless, as the LFS is a sample survey, the absolute numbers for the total population must be seen as estimates that can be subjected to sampling errors.

3. Labour Results

3.1 Labour Force

The labour force consists of people 15 years and over who are legally entitled to employment. Economically, the labour force are active contributors to the economy and help support the social benefit mechanism.

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 - 2017										
					Abs. muta-tions	% muta-tions	Abs. muta-tions	% muta-tions	Abs. muta-tions	% muta-tions
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017	
Employed population	59,295	61,823	65,118	62,834	2,528	4.3	3,295	5.3	-2,284	-3.5
Unemployed population	8,555	8,198	9,953	10,313	-357	-4.2	1,755	21.4	360	3.6
Labour force	67,850	70,021	75,071	73,147	2,171	3.2	5,050	7.2	-1,924	-2.6
Economically not active population	55,871	55,670	52,268	54,870	-201	-0.4	-3,402	-6.1	2,602	5
Population 0-14 years	29,513	29,612	29,382	28,539	99	0.3	-230	-0.7	-843	-2.9
Population 15+ years	123,721	125,690	127,339	128,058	1,969	1.6	1,649	1.3	719	0.6
Total population	153,234	155,302	156,721	156,597	2,068	1.3	1,419	0.9	-124	-0.1
Participation rate (%)	44.3	45.1	47.9	46.7	0.8*		2.8*		-1.2*	
Labour force participation rate (%)	54.8	55.7	59	57.1	0.9*		3.3*		-1.9*	
Unemployment rate (%)	12.6	11.7	13.3	14.1	-0.9*		1.6*		0.8*	
Employment/total population (%)	38.7	39.8	41.6	40.1	1.1*		1.8*		-1.5*	
Employment/population 15+ (%)	47.9	49.2	51.1	49.1	1.3*		1.9*		-2*	

Table 1 Labour Force 2014-2017

* Percentage points

Figure 2 shows that until 2016, the labour force has been increasing at a higher rate than the 15 and over population. This is a positive development. However, the unemployment has also been increasing (Table 1). This thus means that even though more people are entering the labour force, the chance of obtaining successful employment is not in equal proportion.

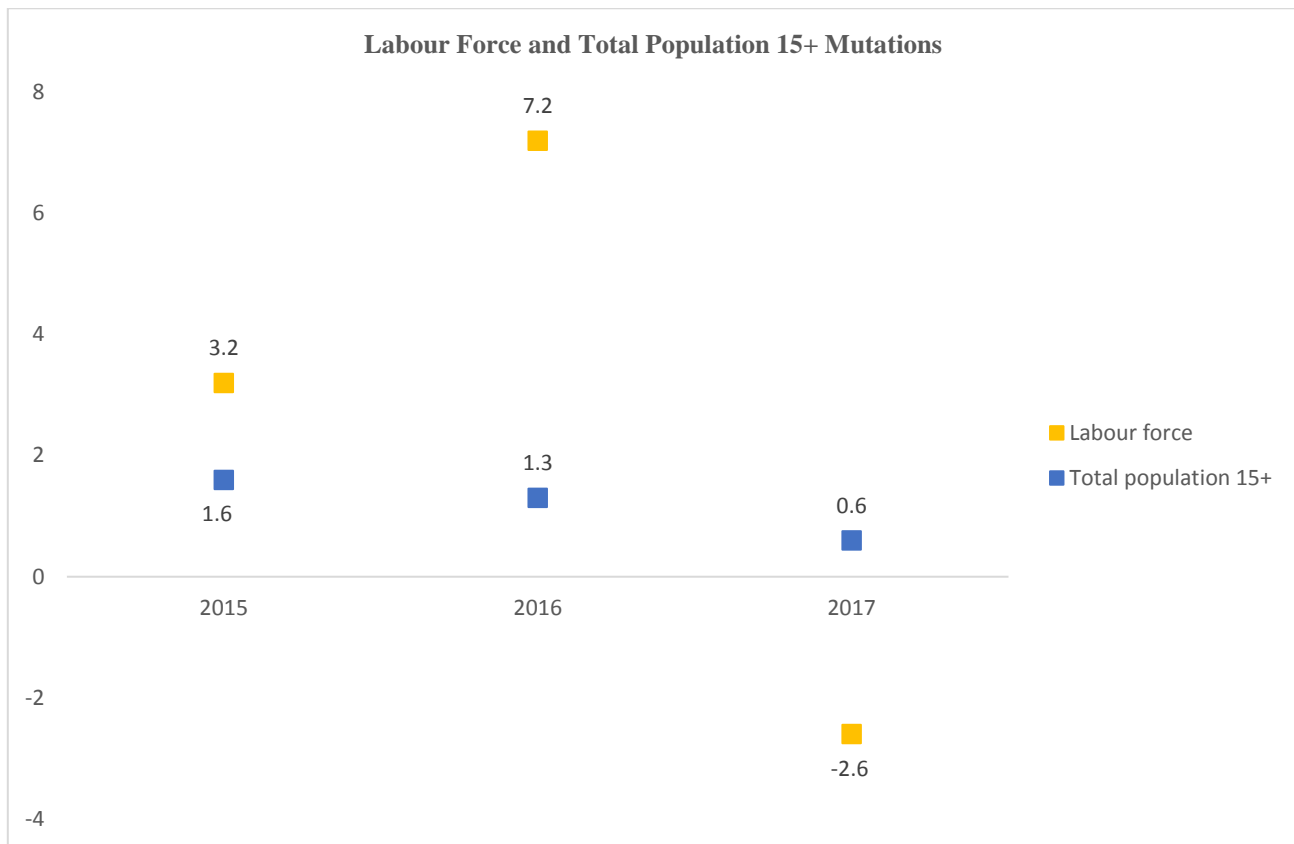


Figure 2 Labour Force and total population mutations 2014-2017

The labour force participation rate indicates the percentage of 15 and over population who are part of the labour force. In 2017, the labour force participation rate (57.1%) decreased from 2016 (59.0%). Despite this decrease, the rate did not drop below the 2014 labour force participation rate.

In 2016 and 2017, there were quite a few events that had a direct impact on the labour force. This can be seen in the consequential increase of the unemployment rate since 2016. The unemployment rate increased nearly three percentage points from 11.7 percent in 2015 to 14.1 percent in 2017. This sharp increase can be mostly attributed to big lay-offs in 2016 and 2017.

The CBS Macro Economic Model indicates that an impact on the labour force, has an effect on each economic factor. A decrease of the labour force thus can be felt not only on the unemployment rate, but also on domestic and national spending and the Gross Domestic Product.

On a gender level (Table 2 + 3), the male labour force in 2017 (34,206) decreased relatively faster than the female labour force (38,941). The male labour force decreased by 4.7 percent while the female labour force decreased by 0.6 percentage points.

The same trend is seen with the economically inactive. The share of economically inactive males increased more than the share of female economically inactive persons. The increase on the male side is 9.8 percent as opposed to 1.9 percent for the females.

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 – 2017											
Male											
					Abs. muta-tions	% muta-tions	Abs. muta-tions	% muta-tions	Abs. muta-tions	% muta-tions	
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014–2015		2015–2016		2016-2017		
Employed population	28,623	29,846	31,684	29,810	1,223	4.3	1,838	6.2	-1,874	-5.9	
Unemployed population	3,658	3,507	4,222	4,396	-151	-4.1	715	20.4	174	4.1	
Labour force	32,281	33,353	35,906	34,206	1,072	3.3	2,553	7.7	-1,700	-4.7	
Economically not active population	22,112	22,004	20,308	22,298	-108	-0.5	-1,696	-7.7	1,990	9.8	
Population 0-14 years	15,116	15,108	14,989	14,616	-8	-0.05	-119	-0.8	-373	-2.5	
Population 15+ years	54,393	55,357	56,215	56,504	964	1.8	858	1.5	289	0.5	
Total population	69,509	70,465	71,204	71,120	956	1.4	739	1	-84	-0.1	
Participation rate (%)	46.4	47.3	50.4	48.1	0.9*		3.1*		-2.3*		
Labour force participation rate (%)	59.3	60.3	63.9	60.5	1.0*		3.6*		-3.4*		
Unemployment rate (%)	11.3	10.5	11.8	12.9	-0.8*		1.3*		1.1*		
Employment/total population (%)	41.2	42.4	44.5	41.9	1.2*		2.1*		-2.6*		
Employment/population 15+ (%)	52.6	53.9	56.4	52.8	1.3*		2.5*		-3.6*		

Table 2 Labour Force 2014-2017 Male

On the unemployment level, whilst male unemployment has been changing less drastically between 2014 and 2016, this is not the case in 2017. The male unemployment rate is at its highest since 2014 with an increase from 11.3 percent in 2014 to 12.9 percent in 2017. The female unemployment also increased from 14.6 percent in 2016 and 15.2 percent in 2017 (Table 3). This increase is about half (0.6 percentage points) of the increase in the male unemployment of 1.1 percentage points.

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 – 2017										
Female										
					Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014–2015		2015–2016		2016-2017	
Employed population	30,672	31,976	33,434	33,024	1,304	4.3	1,458	4.6	-410	-1.2
Unemployed population	4,897	4,691	5,731	5,917	-206	-4.2	1,040	22.2	186	3.2
Labour force	35,569	36,667	39,165	38,941	1,098	3.1	2,498	6.8	-224	-0.6
Economically not active population	33,759	33,666	31,960	32,572	-93	-0.3	-1,706	-5.1	612	1.9
Population 0-14 years	14,397	14,504	14,393	13,923	107	0.7	-111	-0.8	-470	-3.3
Population 15+ years	69,328	70,333	71,125	71,554	1,005	1.4	792	1.1	429	0.6
Total population	83,725	84,837	85,518	85,477	1,112	1.3	681	0.8	-41	0
Participation rate (%)	42.5	43.2	45.8	45.6	0.7*		2.6*		-0.2*	
Labour force participation rate (%)	51.3	52.1	55.1	54.4	0.8*		3.0*		-0.7*	
Unemployment rate (%)	13.8	12.8	14.6	15.2	-1.0*		1.8*		0.6*	
Employment/total population (%)	36.6	37.7	39.1	38.6	1.1*		1.4*		-0.5*	
Employment/population 15+ (%)	44.2	45.5	47	46.2	1.3*		1.5*		-0.8*	

Table 3 Labour Force 2014-2017 Female

Youth unemployment is an important indicator of the labour market as it indicates the gap between education and employment. The premise is that a seamless fit between education and labour happens when the two are synchronized. A cause for youth unemployment can be educational skills gap, lack of entrepreneurship and lifeskills education; lack of access to capital (peacechild.org, 2015).

Please note that students are not counted in the unemployment rate if they have not stated that they are actively looking for employment and can start within two weeks.

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 – 2017 Age 15-24										
					Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014– 2015	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2016– 2017
Employed population	3,181	3,880	4,450	3,815	699	22	570	14.7	-635	-14.3
Unemployed population	1,578	1,641	2,593	1,858	63	4	952	58	-735	-28.3
Labour force	4,759	5,521	7,043	5,673	762	16	1,522	27.6	-1,370	-19.5
Economically not active population	14,290	13,698	12,171	13,093	-592	-4.1	-1,527	-11.1	922	7.6
Population 15–24 years	19,049	19,219	19,215	18,807	170	0.9	-4	-0.02	-408	-2.1
Participation rate (%)	25	28.7	36.7	30.2	3.7*		8.0*		-6.5*	
Youth unemployment rate (%)	33.2	29.7	36.8	32.8	-3.5*		7.1*		-4*	
Employment / population 15–24 years (%)	16.7	20.2	23.2	20.3	3.5*		3.0*		-2.9*	
Youth unemployment / total unemployment	2.6	2.5	2.8	2.3	0.1*		0.3*		-0.5*	

Table 4 Labour Force 2014-2017 Age 15-24

Even though unemployment rate increased overall, the youth unemployment rate actually improved from 36.8 percent in 2016 to 32.8 percent in 2017. The absolute number of unemployed youths decreased and this combined with a slight decrease in total population 15-24 year olds, resulted in the improvement in unemployment. However, the ratio of youths who are employed has decreased with 2.9 percentage point.

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 - 2017 Age 25-34										
					Abs. mutations	% mutations	Abs. mutations	% mutations	Abs. mutations	% mutations
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014 – 2015	2014 – 2015	2015 – 2016	2015 – 2016	2016-2017	2016-2017
Employed population	12,166	13,082	13,298	12,894	916	7.5	216	1.7	-404	-3
Unemployed population	2,215	2,095	2,298	2,976	-120	-5.4	203	9.7	678	29.5
Labour force	14,381	15,177	15,596	15,870	796	5.5	419	2.8	274	1.8
Economically not active population	2,468	2,369	2,439	2,464	-99	-4	70	3	25	1
Population 25–34 years	16,849	17,546	18,035	18,334	697	4.1	489	2.8	299	1.7
Participation rate (%)	85.4	86.5	86.5	86.6	1.1*		0*		0.1*	
Unemployment rate (%)	15.4	13.8	14.7	18.8	-1.6*		0.9*		4.1*	
Employment / population 25–34 years (%)	72.2	74.6	73.7	70.3	2.4*		-0.9*		-3.4*	

Table 5 Labour force 2014-2014 Age 25-34

The 25-34 year old population experienced the highest increase in unemployment rate in all the age groups (Table 5). Unemployment increased with 4.1 percentage points from 14.7% in 2016 to 18.8% in 2017. This increase comes from a jump in the unemployed 25-34 year olds of 29.5%.

The labour participation rate for this age group has not changed but we can see that the ratio that are actually employed has decreased to 70.3 in 2017 from 73.7 in 2016.

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 - 2017										
Age 35-44										
	2014	2015	2016	2017	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014- 2015	2014- 2015	2015- 2016	2015- 2016	2016- 2017	2016- 2017
Employed population	14,966	14,636	14,871	14,703	-330	-2.2	235	1.6	-168	-1.1
Unemployed population	2,260	1,619	1,837	1,906	-641	-28.4	218	13.5	69	3.8
Labour force	17,226	16,255	16,708	16,609	-971	-5.6	453	2.8	-99	-0.6
Economically not active population	2,513	3,336	2,601	2,502	823	32.7	-735	-22	-99	-3.8
Population 35-44 years	19,739	19,592	19,309	19,111	-147	-0.7	-283	-1.4	-198	-1
Participation rate (%)	87.3	83	86.5	86.9	-4.3*		3.5*		0.4	
Unemployment rate (%)	13.1	10	11	11.5	-3.1*		1.0*		0.5	
Employment / population 35-44 years (%)	75.8	74.7	77	76.9	-1.1*		2.3*		-0.1	

Table 6 Labour Force 2014-2017 Age 35-44

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 - 2017										
Age 45-54										
	2014	2015	2016	2017	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions	Abs. muta- tions	% muta- tions
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014- 2015	2014- 2015	2015- 2016	2015- 2016	2016- 2017	2016- 2017
Employed population	17,618	17,938	18,690	17,952	320	1.8	752	4.2	-738	-3.9
Unemployed population	1,718	1,931	2,179	2,332	213	12.4	248	12.8	153	7
Labour force	19,336	19,869	20,869	20,284	533	2.8	1,000	5	-585	-2.8
Economically not active population	5,088	4,447	3,413	3,858	-641	-12.6	-1,034	-23.3	445	13
Population 45-54 years	24,424	24,316	24,282	24,142	-108	-0.4	-34	-0.1	-140	-0.6
Participation rate (%)	79.2	81.7	85.9	84	2.5*		4.2*		-1.9	
Unemployment rate (%)	8.9	9.7	10.4	11.5	0.8*		0.7*		1.1	
Employment / population 45-54 years (%)	72.1	73.8	77	74.4	1.7*		3.2*		-2.6	

Table 7 Labour Force 2014-2017 Age 45-54

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 - 2017 Age 55-64										
	2014	2015	2016	2017	Abs. mutations 2014–2015	% mutations 2014–2015	Abs. mutations 2015–2016	% mutations 2015–2016	Abs. mutations 2016–2017	% mutations 2016–2017
Employed population	9,630	10,507	11,422	11,070	877	9.1	915	8.7	-352	-3.1
Unemployed population	744	760	866	1116	16	2.2	106	13.9	250	28.9
Labour force	10,374	11,267	12,288	12,186	893	8.6	1,021	9.1	-102	-0.8
Economically not active population	10,522	10,220	9,802	10,528	-302	-2.9	-418	-4.1	726	7.4
Population 55–64 years	20,896	21,487	22,090	22,714	591	2.8	603	2.8	624	2.8
Participation rate (%)	49.6	52.4	55.6	53.6	2.8*		3.2*		-2	
Unemployment rate (%)	7.2	6.7	7	9.2	-0.5*		0.3*		2.2	
Employment/population 55–64 years (%)	46.1	48.9	51.7	48.7	2.8*		2.8*		-3	

Table 8 Labour Force 2014-2017 Age 55-64

Labour force of Curaçao 2014 - 2017 Age 65+										
	2014	2015	2016	2017	Abs. mutations 2014–2015	% mutations 2014–2015	Abs. mutations 2015–2016	% mutations 2015–2016	Abs. mutations 2016–2017	% mutations 2016–2017
Employed population	1,734	1,780	2,386	2,400	46	2.7	606	34	14	0.6
Unemployed population	39	152	179	125	113	>100	27	17.8	-54	-30.2
Labour force	1,773	1,932	2,565	2,525	159	9	633	32.8	-40	-1.6
Economically not active population	20,991	21,598	21,843	22,425	607	2.9	245	1.1	582	2.7
Population 65+ years	22,764	23,530	24,408	24,950	766	3.4	878	3.7	542	2.2
Participation rate (%)	7.8	8.2	10.5	10.1	0.4*		2.3*		-0.4	
Unemployment rate (%)	2.2	7.9	7	5	5.7*		-0.9*		-2	
Employment/population 65+ years (%)	8.3	7.6	9.8	9.6	-0.7*		2.2*		-0.2	

Table 9 Labour Force 2014-2014 Age 65+

Participation rate reflects the level to which those involved actively participate to the employed population. The figure below (figure 3) shows that certain age groups tend to be more volatile than others. The age group of 25-34 has stayed stable for the past 4 years, whereas the age group of 45-64 shows more volatility. Interestingly, those 65 and older have been participating more. Some reasons could be the increased pension age or an increased financial need which forces people to work longer.

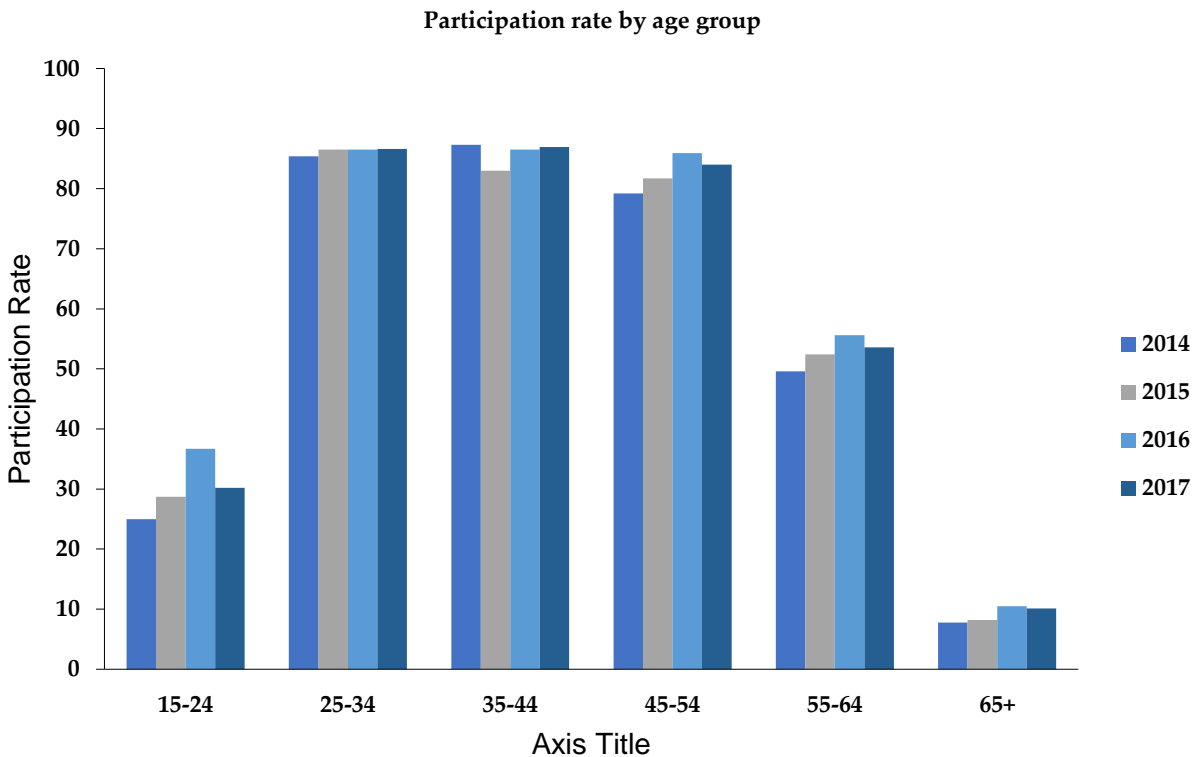


Figure 3 Participation Rate by Age 2014-2017

3.2 Employed population

An employed person is someone who is older than 14 years old, has a job or their own business or who during the week before the research period has performed any work for pay or in kind for 4 hours or more. Payment in kind means that instead of money, other goods or services are exchanged. In practical terms, this includes all those who were interns and unpaid family workers.

In 2017, the employed population was 62,834 people divided into 29,810 male and 33,024 female employed people. Figure 4 shows that the increasing trend that was emerging

since 2014 in employed population has stopped. Both groups have decreased in absolute numbers.

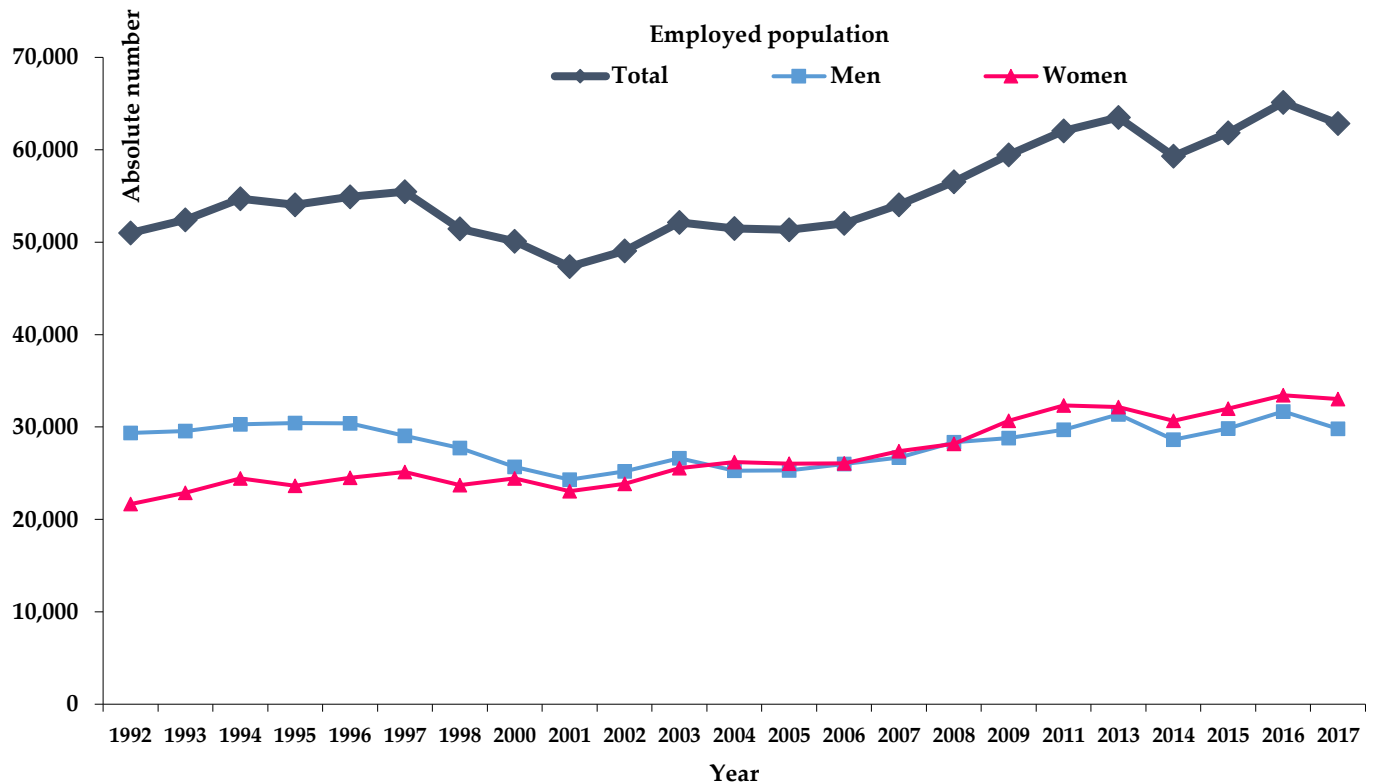


Figure 4 Employed Population 1992-2017

The employment rate is an indicator of how much of the country's potential is being utilized. The employment rate has been increasing until 2017 when it dropped with 2 percentage points (Table 10). This decrease comes mostly from the male who decreased by nearly 4 percentage points from 56.4 percent in 2016 to 52.8 percent in 2017. The most likely reason for this decline is the group layoffs in 2016 and 2017.

Employment Rate 2014-2017 by gender							
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Employment Rate - Total	47.9	49.2	51.1	49.1	1.3	1.9	-2
Employment Rate - Men	52.6	53.9	56.4	52.8	1.3	2.5	-3.6
Employment Rate - Women	44.2	45.5	47	46.2	1.3	1.5	-0.8

Table 10 Employment Rate 201-2017 by gender

3.2.1 Economic position

Looking at the economic position of the employed population from 2014, it shows that the biggest loss overall was in the category of those employed as casual workers or freelancer and employees working for an employment agency. The only categories that increased were self-employed and employees in permanent service.

Economic Position 2014-2017											
	Absolute				Percentage				% mutations		
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014 - 2015	2015 - 2016	2016 - 2017
Employer	1,875	1,104	1,404	1,327	3.2	1.8	2.2	2.1	-41.1	27.2	-5.5
Self-employed	4,681	5,264	5,372	5,893	7.9	8.5	8.3	9.4	12.5	2.1	9.7
Employee in permanent service	37,063	38,393	38,361	39,675	62.5	62.1	58.9	63.1	3.6	-0.1	3.4
Employee in temporary service	7,496	9,220	9,645	9,343	12.6	14.9	14.8	14.9	23	4.6	-3.1
Casual worker/freelancer	6,092	6,511	8,684	5,816	10.3	10.5	13.3	9.3	6.9	33.4	-33
Other¹	766	958	1,617	598	1.3	1.5	2.5	0.9	25.1	68.8	-63
Unknown/not reported	1,322	373	34	182	2.2	0.6	0.1	0.3	-71.8	-90.9	435.3

Table 11 Economic Position 2014-2017

1 Other included e.g. trainee, employee working for an employment agency ('uitzendkracht')

Comparing the employment status of males (Table 12) and females (Table 13), once again it shows that male lost relatively more than the females in all categories except the increase of the employees in permanent service. Employment in permanent service increased stronger in absolute terms for the male population than for the female population.

Economic Position 2014-2017											
Male											
	Absolute				Percentage				% mutations		
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014 - 2015	2015 - 2016	2016 - 2017
Employer	1,269	907	1,122	914	4.4	3	3.5	3.1	-28.5	23.7	-18.5
Self-employed	3,169	3,362	3,605	3,418	11.1	11.3	11.4	11.5	6.1	7.2	-5.2
Employee in permanent service	16,492	17,233	17,126	17,984	57.6	57.7	54.1	60.3	4.5	-0.6	5
Employee in temporary service	3,480	4,366	4,251	4,074	12.2	14.6	13.4	13.7	25.5	-2.6	-4.2
Casual worker / freelancer	3,316	3,432	4,714	3,083	11.6	11.5	14.9	10.3	3.5	37.4	-34.6
Other¹	175	396	832	233	0.6	1.3	2.6	0.7	126.3	110.1	-72
Unknown/not reported	722	151	34	104	2.5	0.5	0.1	0.4	-79.1	-77.5	205.9

Table 12 Economic Position 2014-2017 Male

¹ Other included e.g. trainee, employee working for an employment agency ('uitzendkracht')

Economic Position 2014-2017											
Female											
	Absolute				Percentage				% mutations		
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Employer	606	197	282	413	2	0.6	0.8	1.3	-67.5	43.1	46.5
Self-employed	1,512	1,903	1,767	2,475	4.9	6	5.3	7.5	25.9	-7.1	40.1
Employee in permanent service	20,570	21,160	21,235	21,691	67.1	66.2	63.5	65.8	2.9	0.4	2.1
Employee in temporary service	4,015	4,854	5,394	5,269	13.1	15.2	16.1	16	20.9	11.1	-2.3
Casual worker/freelancer	2,775	3,079	3,970	2,733	9	9.6	11.9	8.3	11	28.9	-31.2
Other¹	591	562	786	365	1.9	1.8	2.4	1	-4.9	39.9	-53.6
Unknown/not reported	603	221	0	78	2	0.7	0	0.1	-63.3	-100	-

Table 13 Economic Position 2014-2017 Female

¹ Other included e.g. trainee, employee working for an employment agency ('uitzendkracht')

Female employers and self-employed experienced a huge increase in 2017. These categories increased with 46.5 percent and 40.1 percent respectively. This increase came at the expense of the casual workers / freelancers. When labour opportunities decrease, people tend to either get disillusioned with the market and the economically inactive increases or people find other ways to get an income. This can manifest itself in an increase in self-employed as we can see in this instance. “Threat of extended unemployment may very well force an explosion of self-employed and independent small businesses by disillusioned unemployed who will seek to go out on their own, not as a dream but a necessity.” (https://www.huffingtonpost.com/grant-cardone/unemployment-makes-self-e_b_614648.html)

3.2.2 Occupation

Occupations in 2017 saw an increase in managerial occupations of nearly 2 percentage points (1.9%) and the biggest decrease was in elementary occupations. The increase coincides with the increase in self-employed economic positions shown in table 11.

Occupation of employed population, September – October 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 by sex												
	Men (%)				Women (%)				Total (%)			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Armed forces	0.7	0.1	0.2	1	0.2	0	0	0	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.5
Managers	14.3	11.9	11.5	12.9	8.8	7.1	7.2	9.5	11.5	9.4	9.3	11.2
Professionals	9	7.4	6.9	6.8	12.2	12.4	12.6	13.8	10.7	10	9.8	10.5
Technicians and associate professionals	16.1	15.8	16.7	18.5	14.6	16.2	18.6	17.3	15.3	16	17.6	17.8
Clerical support workers	4.7	6.4	5.9	4.6	19.5	19.9	19.3	17.2	12.4	13.4	12.8	11.3
Service and sales workers	14.1	13.2	14.5	13.8	23.9	23.9	21.7	23.1	19.1	18.8	18.2	18.7
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.7	0	0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.4
Craft and related trades workers	19.7	18.7	19.8	20.3	2.1	0.7	2.2	1	10.6	9.4	10.8	10.2
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9.3	9.4	8.7	8.6	1.4	1.6	1.2	1.2	5.2	5.4	4.9	4.7
Elementary occupations	9.8	12.5	13	11.5	16.1	14.5	16.1	15.9	13	13.5	14.6	13.8
Unknown/not reported	2.1	3.9	2.4	1.3	1.4	3.7	0.9	0.8	1.7	3.7	1.6	1

Table 14 Occupation of employed population by gender 2014-2017

3.2.3 Sectors

The sector employing more people was the wholesale and retail trade industry (Table 15). In 2017, the biggest movements happened in the construction sector with a decrease of 2 percentage points followed by the manufacturing sector with an increase of 1.7 percentage points. Human health and social work sector and the accommodation and food services sector also saw movements with an increase of 0.9 and a decrease of 0.6 percentage points respectively.

Economic activity of employed population 2014 - 2017				
	Percentage			
	2014	2015	2016	2017
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining, and quarrying	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.4
Manufacturing	7.2	6.1	5.7	7.4
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	0.7	1.2	0.7	1.3
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.9
Construction	6.6	6.5	7.9	5.9
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	16.8	17.4	16.8	16.1
Transportation and storage	5.3	5.3	4.9	4.9
Accommodation and food service activities	8.9	8.4	9.1	8.5
Information and communication	3.2	2.8	2.9	3
Financial and insurance activities	7.1	7.5	7.2	7.6
Real estate activities	0.7	0.6	1.4	0.9
Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.7	3.4	4.1	3.9
Administrative and support service activities	5.6	6.5	6.7	6.5
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	8.4	6.6	7.1	7.7
Education	4.9	4.3	4.7	4.8
Human health and social work activities	9.7	9.7	8.8	9.7
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2.5	2.5	3.4	3.5
Other service activities	2.3	2.7	2	2.4
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services producing activities of households for own use	2.9	3.3	3.7	3.3
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3

Table 15 Economic activity 2014-2017

The decrease in the accommodation and food service sector corresponds with recent economic developments in this industry with the closing of a major hotel in 2016.

3.2.4 Underemployment

In 2017, 65.6 percent of employed people worked 40 hours (Table 16). This is an increase over 2016 when 59.7 percent indicated that they worked 40 hours. Comparing men and women, one can see that men are more likely to work more than 40 hours. In 2017, 13.9 percent worked more than 40 hours compared to 6.8 percent of women.

Total hours worked of employed population by gender 2014-2017												
	Men (%)				Women (%)				Total (%)			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
4 – 20 hours	8.9	8.4	8.8	8.2	13.1	12.8	14.7	13.5	11.1	10.8	11.9	11
21 – 39 hours	6.7	7	10.5	9.2	12.4	10.8	16.3	13.5	9.6	9	13.5	11.5
40 hours	65.6	66.1	61.6	67.2	63.6	64.5	57.9	64.2	64.3	65.3	59.7	65.6
41 – 60 hours	15.7	14.3	15	12.9	9.8	9.1	9.4	6.3	15	11.7	12.2	9.4
> 60 hours	2.2	1.8	1.8	1	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	1.4	1.1	1.2	0.8
Unknown/not reported	1	2.3	2.3	1.5	0.9	2.4	1	2	0.9	2.4	1.6	1.7

Table 16 Total hours worked by gender 2014-2017

One of the definitions of underemployment states that a person is considered to be underemployed when they are not being used to the full extent of their abilities. This can be measured by looking at the share of people who are employed but are looking for more hours of work. Recession is one of the main reasons of underemployment as it indicates that people are taking on any employment while looking for a more fulfilling job.

In 2017, from the employed, 10.6 percent indicated that they were looking for more hours of work. This group are most likely feeling the economic strain and are thus not using and/or not finding a job utilizing their complete potential. This is a decrease from 2016, when 15.3 percent was looking for more hours of work.

3.2.5 Highest Education

In 2017 most employed people have second level secondary and third level education; an education of HAVO and higher. This has stayed constant for the last four years.

Highest level of education of employed population, 2014-2017 by sex												
	Men (%)				Women (%)				Total (%)			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Current daytime education¹	1.8	3	3.9	2.9	2.6	3	3.2	2.4	2.2	3	3.6	2.6
No education	--	1.5	1	1.6	--	1.4	1	1	--	1.4	1	1.3
Elementary¹	5.7	5.8	5.1	7.7	5.9	4.9	7	6.6	5.8	5.3	6.1	7.1
Second level, first stage¹	35.3	32.8	33	33.3	30.1	29.8	26.9	28	32.6	31.3	29.9	30.5
Second level, second stage¹	29.6	32.5	33.2	32.3	34.1	31.8	34.1	31.9	31.9	32.1	33.7	32.1
Third level¹	24.7	22.3	22.3	25.1	25	27.4	27.3	32.3	24.8	25	24.7	28.9
Unknown/not reported	--	2	1.4	0.1	--	1.7	0.8	0.2	--	1.9	1.1	0.1

Table 17 Highest education 2014-2017 by sex

¹ Current daytime education = currently attending a daytime education

Elementary education = e.g. 'funderend onderwijs, basisschool'

Second level, first stage = VSBO, HAVO years 1+2, VWO years 1+2 or equivalent

Second level, second stage = HAVO years 3+4+5, VWO years 3+4+5+6, SBO, MBO or equivalent

Third level = HBO, WO, and postdoctoral or equivalent

-- A distinction between the 'No education' and 'Unknown/not reported' categories was not possible in 2014. These percentages are therefore not presented.

3.3 Unemployed Population

A person is identified as being unemployed if they are 15 years or older, not employed or having worked more than 4 hours the week before, actively seeking employment and able to start within two weeks. These three criteria must be met otherwise a person is classified as being economically not active.

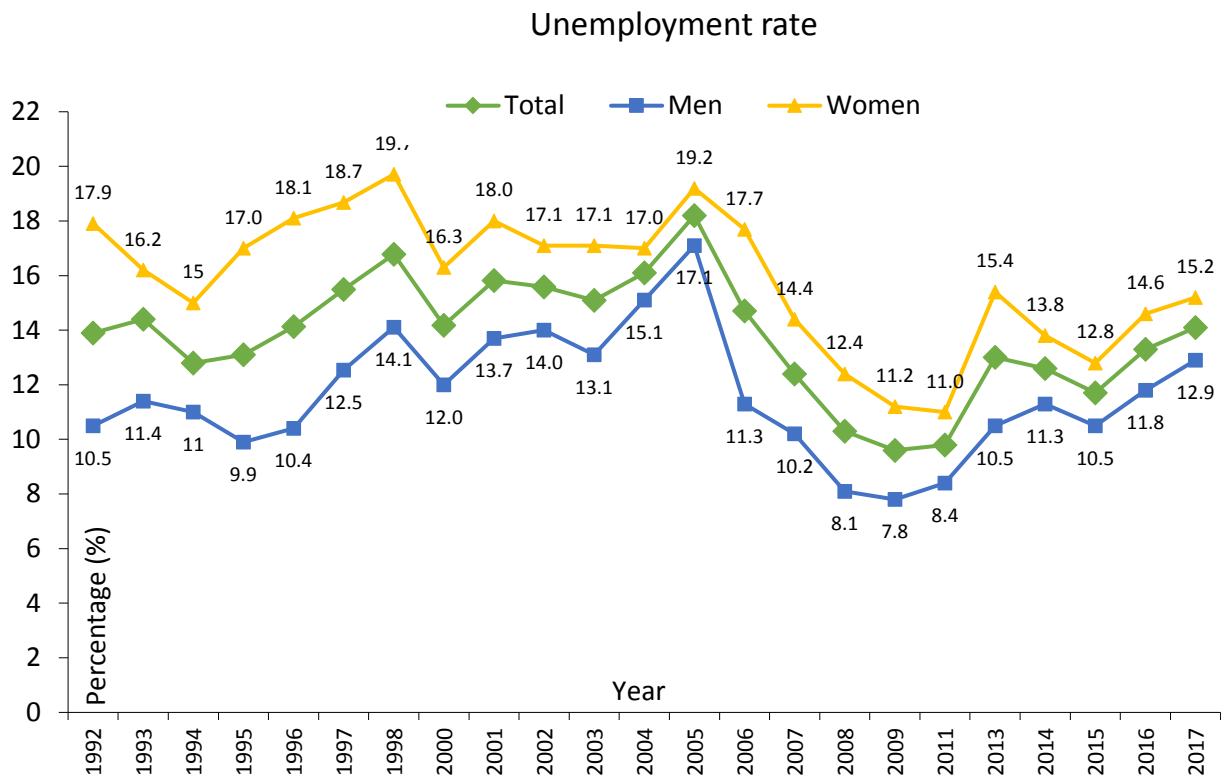


Figure 5 Unemployment Rate 1992-2017

Even though the unemployment has increased in the last three years, it has not reached its maximum. From the figure above (Figure 5), we can see some cyclical behavior as the unemployment rate increases and decreases every five to six years.

3.3.1 Reasons and time looking for work - unemployed

When asked the reason for unemployment, the top reason in 2017 was 'Wants to work, but cannot find any' (Table 17). In fact, this reason has been increasing over the last 3 years along with 'Fired / end of contract / end of job / closed down business'. Half of the unemployed (50.6%) wants to work but cannot find work or have been fired (28.6%).

Reasons looking for work 2015-2017			
	2015	2016	2017
Fired / end of contract / end of job / closed own business	22.6	21.6	28.6
Finished school	9.4	7.2	6.9
Wants to work, but cannot find any	45.2	48.2	50.6
Other	13.3	15.1	13.9

Table 18 Reason unemployed 2015-2017

Most unemployed people have been looking for work longer than 12 months (45.6%). Since 2014 this has increased significantly. The same results can be seen by gender in table 18. In 2014, most women had been looking for work between 1 and 12 months, but in 2017, the period increased to longer than 12 months. The men are having a little bit more success in finding work than women. In 2014 the majority (43.7%) had been looking for less than 12 months and 36.7 percent longer than 12 months. Since 2015, the distribution changed with more people looking for longer than 12 months.

Time looking for work 2014-2017 by sex												
	Men (%)				Women (%)				Total (%)			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Less than 1 month	7.6	6	7.7	0	6.7	3.4	8.6	4.4	7.1	4.5	8.2	2.5
1 – 3 months		19	12.7	8.5		18	13.6	12.5		18.5	13.2	10.8
3 – 6 months		13.8	15.9	14.3		7.6	13.3	9.3		10.3	14.4	11.4
6 – 12 months		20.2	22.4	26.7		22.3	14.1	18.4		21.4	17.6	21.9
Between 1 – 12 months	43.7	53	51	49.5	43.9	47.9	41	40.2	43.8	50.2	45.2	44.1
12 months or longer	36.7	39	41.3	44.3	39.9	48.7	49.9	46.6	38.5	44.5	46.3	45.6
Unknown/not reported	12	1.9	0	6.2	9.5	0	0.5	8.8	10.6	0.8	0.3	7.7

Table 19 Time looking for work by sex 2014-2017

3.3.2 Ways looking for work

The method which people use to look for work indicates the level of commitment to finding employment. Someone who visits companies personally or writes open solicitation letters, shows a different commitment from those who only respond to published applications.

Of those who are actively looking for work, more than a third constantly through the years visit companies personally (Table 20). The share has not changed a lot over the years. In 2014, 40.9 percent made personal visits compared to 42.9 percent in 2017.

The largest change can be seen in those who use private agencies or the SOAW ministry. This share decreased from 10.3 in 2016 to 5.8 in 2017.

Methods of looking for work by unemployed population by gender 2014 - 2017												
	Men (%)				Women (%)				Total (%)			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Visited companies personally	42.6	45	51	47.4	39.7	36.3	41.5	39.5	40.9	40	45.4	42.9
Wrote application letter	20.5	23.7	16.2	13.6	29.3	27	29.9	21.3	25.6	25.6	24.2	18
Responded to advertisements non-online	--	2	3.8	7.8	--	4.4	5.2	4	--	3.4	4.6	5.6
Responded to advertisements online	--	6.8	5.2	7.1	--	8.7	7.7	8.3	--	7.9	6.7	7.8
Responded to advertisements	2.8	8.8	9		6.4	13.1	12.9		4.8	11.3	11.3	
Through private agencies	--	4.9	3.6	3.8	-	7.4	2.4	3.1	--	6.3	2.9	3.4
Through the SOAW Ministry		1.7	1.8			5.8	3.8			4	2.9	
Through private agencies or the SOAW Ministry	5.2	6.6	5.4	7.6	2.2	13.2	6.2	4.5	3.5	10.3	5.8	5.8
Through friends or family	13.5	13.6	13.2	6.5	8.3	10.5	7.9	10.5	10.5	11.9	10.1	8.8
Other	14.4	2.2	5.2	0	13.5	0	1.6	1.3	13.9	1	3.1	0.7

Table 20 Methods looking for work by gender 2014-2017

3.3.3 Sector looking for work

Markets work on supply and demand. When these two do not meet, a gap is created causing invisible underemployment and unemployment. In 2017, the sectors where people were looking for employment the most were the accommodation and food service sector, the wholesale and retail trade and the construction sector (Table 21).

Industries where people are looking for work by gender			
	Male	Female	Total
Accommodation and food service activities	10.80%	18.90%	15.40%
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	15.50%	13.00%	14.10%
Construction	25.10%	1.40%	11.60%
Human health and social work activities	0.00%	15.30%	8.70%
Manufacturing	9.10%	1.40%	4.70%
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services- producing activities of households for own use	1.00%	7.30%	4.60%
Financial and insurance activities	3.10%	5.00%	4.10%
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	5.90%	2.80%	4.10%
Administrative and support service activities	1.00%	5.50%	3.60%
Professional, scientific and technical activities	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
Information and communication	2.20%	0.70%	1.30%
Transportation and storage	2.10%	0.70%	1.30%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	2.00%	0.70%	1.30%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining and quarrying	1.70%	0.70%	1.10%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.90%	0.70%	0.80%
Education	1.00%	0.70%	0.80%
Real estate activities	0.00%	0.70%	0.40%
Other service activities	0.0%	1.4%	0.8%
Unknown/not reported	16.7%	21.3%	19.3%

Table 21 Sectors looking for work by gender 2017

There are also those who want to start their own companies and are ready (if all finances are in place) to start within two weeks. The sectors where these start-up companies are located are mostly accommodation and food service activities, wholesale and retail trade and human health and social work activities (Figure 6).

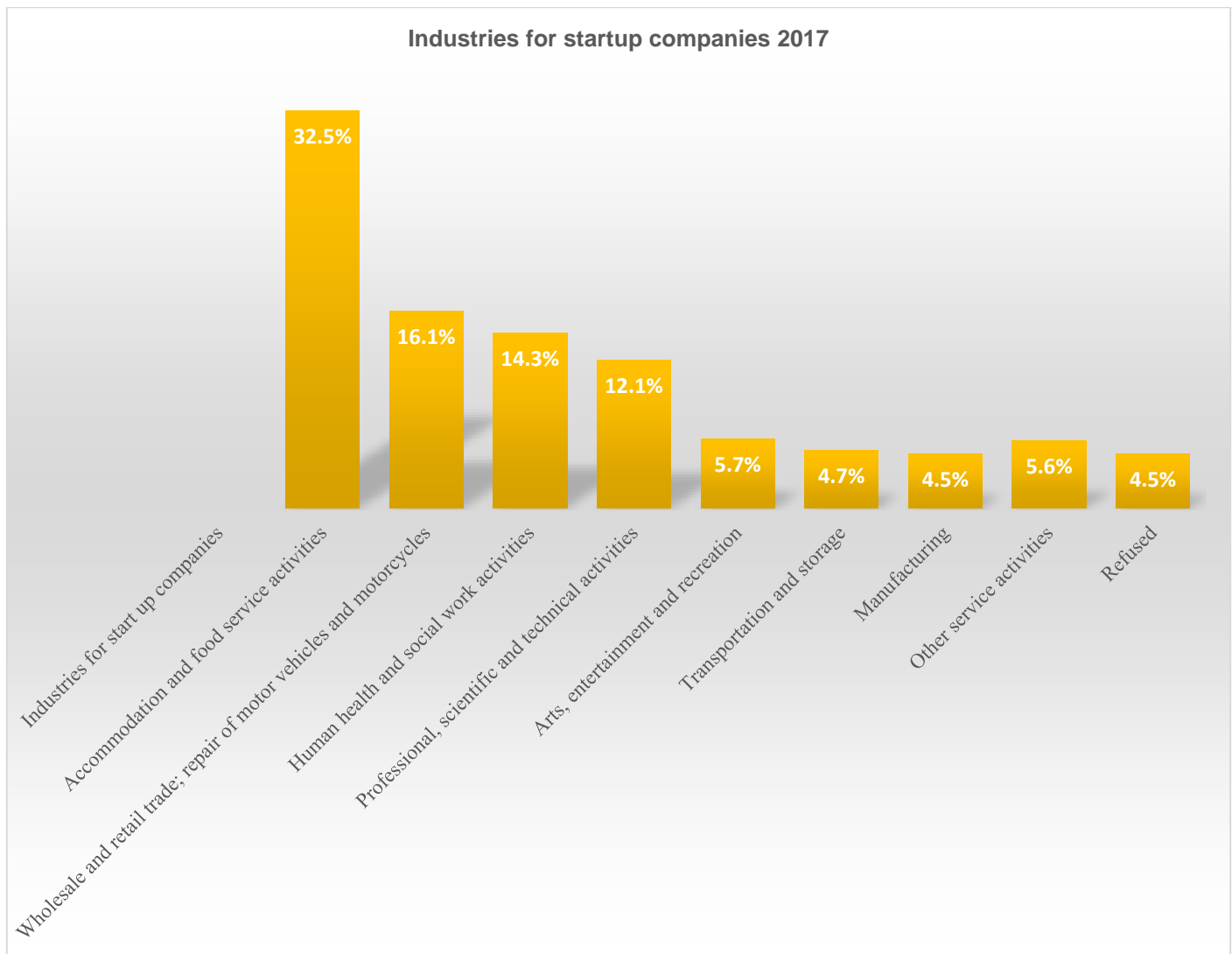


Figure 6 Industries startup 2017

3.4 Economically Inactive Population

Economically inactive people are those who are not currently employed and are also not actively looking for a job. They are classified as inactive because they are not actively contributing or looking to contribute to the economy. When a country experiences a spell of bad economy people who are not able to find work tend to give up and become inactive. So the reasons why people are inactive should be taken into account as an indicator of dissatisfaction.

3.4.1 Reasons not looking for work

The most important reason in 2017 was pensioners and students which is logical. Noteworthy is the increase in the reason that ‘there is no work to be found’. This reason was quoted 1.5 percent in 2016 but increased more than twice to 3.4 percent. This is an indication of a growing dissatisfaction with the market (Figure 7).

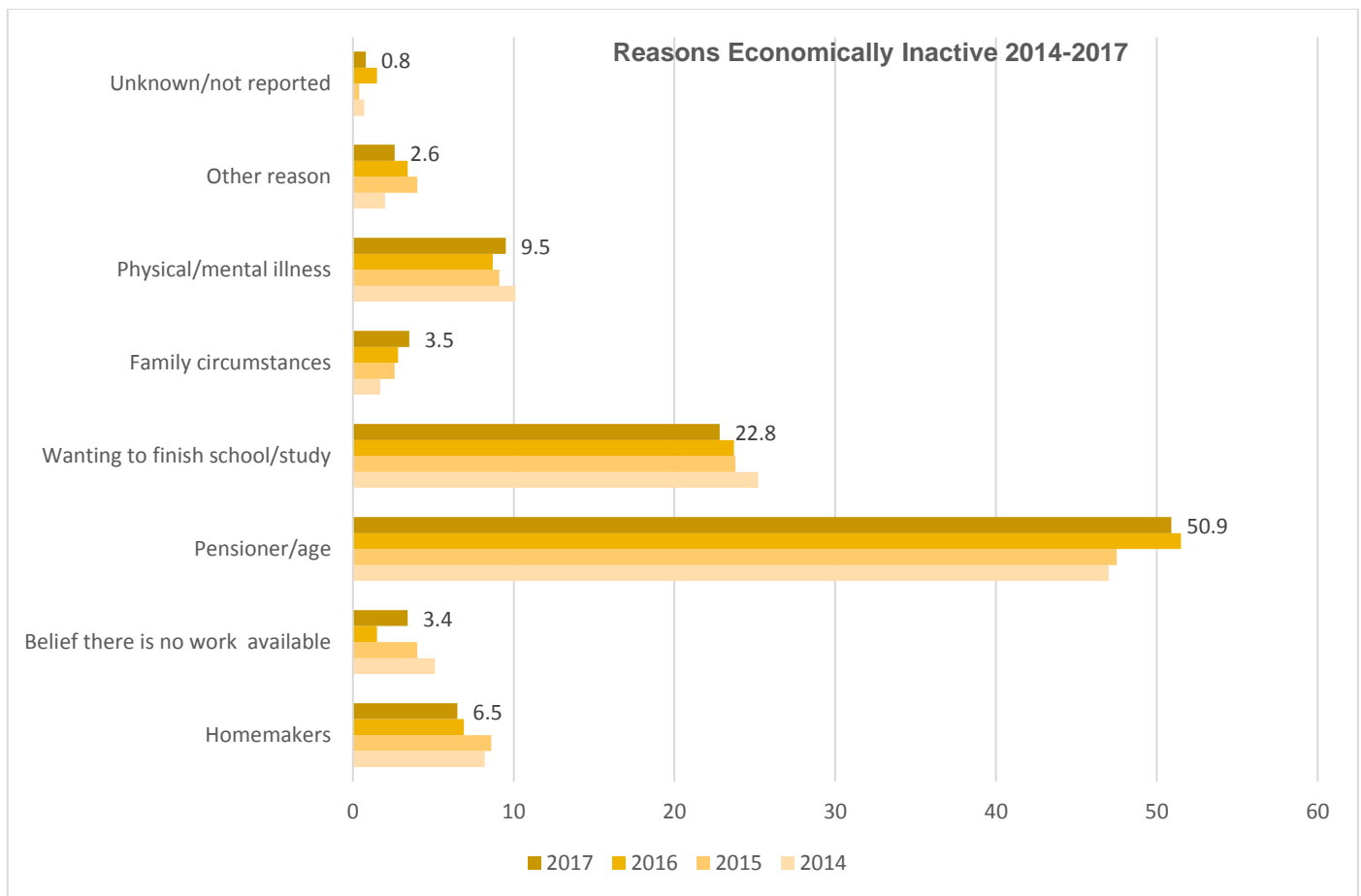


Figure 7 Reasons economically inactive 2014-2017

Table 22 shows the differences by gender. The belief that there is no work has also significantly increased between 2016 (0.9%) and 2017 (4.2%) amongst the men. Physical and mental illness is also a reason that has increased among men. It is in fact the highest it has been in the last 4 years.

Reasons for not looking for work by economically not active population by gender 2014-2017												
	Men (%)				Women (%)				Total (%)			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Homemakers	0	0	0.3	0.5	13.6	14.2	11.1	10.7	8.2	8.6	6.9	6.5
Belief there is no work available	6.1	5.2	0.9	4.2	4.5	3.3	1.8	2.8	5.1	4	1.5	3.4
Pensioner/age	49.3	49.2	53.1	50.1	45.5	46.4	50.4	51.4	47	47.5	51.5	50.9
Wanting to finish school/study	29.2	28.3	28.7	27.6	22.7	21	20.5	19.4	25.2	23.8	23.7	22.8
Family circumstances	1.7	2	2.1	1.5	1.7	2.9	3.3	4.8	1.7	2.6	2.8	3.5
Physical/mental illness	10.7	9.1	9	12.2	9.7	8.9	8.6	7.7	10.1	9.1	8.7	9.5
Other reason	2.6	5.7	3.4	2.7	1.5	3	3.4	2.6	2	4	3.4	2.6
Unknown/not reported	0.4	0.5	2.3	1.1	0.9	0.3	1	0.6	0.7	0.4	1.5	0.8

Table 22 Reasons for looking for work by gender 2014-2017

4. Income Results

4.1 Main income

The gross monthly income distribution for 2017 shows that most people earn between 1,001 and 2,000 guilders. Dividing by gender changes the distribution as most males earn more than 3,000 guilders a month compared to most women earning between 1,000 and 2,000 guilders a month (Table 23).

Gross monthly income of employed population 2017			
	Men (%)	Women (%)	Total (%)
Naf. 0 - 500	4.4	5.1	4.8
Naf. 501 - 1000	6.1	9.2	7.7
Naf. 1001 - 2000	26.5	31.5	29.1
Naf. 2001 - 3000	20.6	17.5	18.9
Naf. 3001 +	28.9	24.7	26.8
Unknown/not reported	13.5	12	12.7

Table 23 Gross monthly income by gender 2017

The average net income by gender shows a slight advantage for men. Men earned on the average 2,493.02 ANG a month compared to women's earnings of 1,944.29 (Table 24).

Average monthly income by main source of income by gender			
	Male	Female	Total
Labour/business	2,934.19	2,506.92	2,705.89
Old Age pension (AOV)	1,058.82	946.34	983.33
Pension (APNA, private pension, company pension etc.)	3,315.93	2,562.14	2,975.58
Widow- and orphanage pension	615.91	1,689.96	1,556.65
Welfare	364.63	379.96	373.70
Own capital/property	4,679.08	5,195.00	4,765.51
Scholarship	783.53	1,228.90	1,074.70
Retaining pay/severance pay arrangement	-	1,057.53	1,057.53
Child support/alimony	-	677.80	677.80
Other	1,749.10	1,666.22	1,722.23
Unknown	1,762.53	2,764.48	2,334.51
Total	2,493.02	1,944.29	2,187.60

Table 24 Average monthly income by main source of income 2017

The categories where the difference is more pronounced are labour/business, and private pension (Figure 8). The average monthly income for labour/business is lower for women. They earn on the average 2,506 guilders monthly compared to the average for men which is 2,934 guilders. There is also a difference in private pension which could be explained by the lower earnings of women.

Women earn significantly more than men in widow and orphanage pension. Table 25 shows that women are 7 times more likely to receive widow and orphanage pension. A person is entitled to widow and orphan pension if a parent passes away leaving behind dependents of twenty-one years of age or younger.

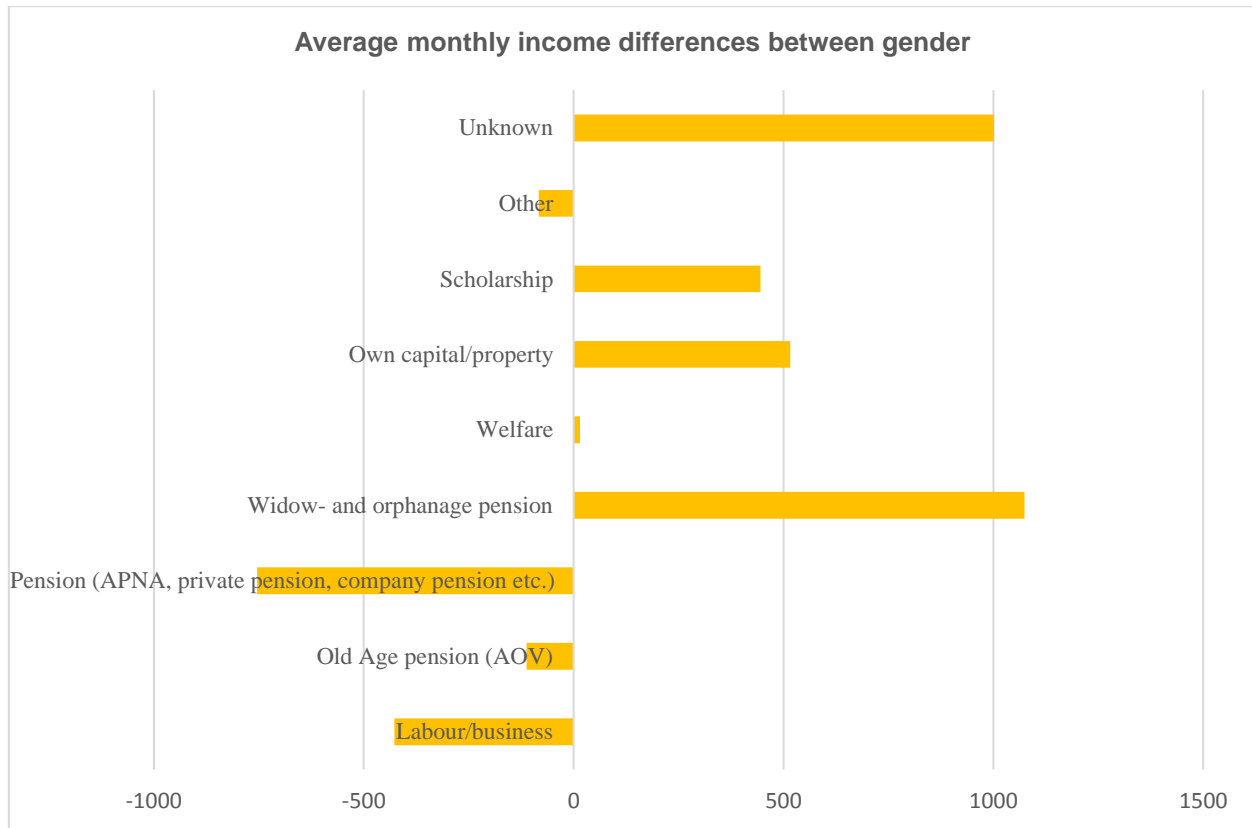


Figure 8 Average monthly income differences

Source of Income	Male	Female	Ratio
Labour/business	24,942	28,619	1.1
Old Age pension (AOV)	6,085	12,420	2.0
Pension (APNA, private pension, company pension etc.)	5,148	4,238	0.8
Widow- and orphanage pension	88	621	7.1
Welfare	2,506	3,631	1.4
Own capital/property	159	32	0.2
Scholarship	152	287	1.9
Retaining pay/severance pay arrangement		32	-
Child support/alimony		232	-
Other	1,374	659	0.5
Unknown	109	145	1.3

Table 25 Income Source 2018 by gender

4.2 Second source of income

The most frequent second source of income is old age pension (AOV). Of the 15 and older population, 82.7 percent do not have a second income (Table 25).

Main and second source of income		
	Main source	Second source
Labour/business	46.3%	2.1%
Old Age pension (AOV)	14.7%	10.0%
Pension (APNA, private pension, company pension etc.)	7.7%	2.5%
Widow- and orphanage pension	0.6%	0.5%
Welfare	4.9%	0.2%
Own capital/property	0.1%	0.2%
Scholarship	0.4%	0.1%
Retaining pay/severance pay arrangement	0.03%	0.0%
Child support/alimentation	0.2%	0.3%
Other	1.8%	0.9%
No income	22.7%	82.7%
Unknown / Refused	0.6%	0.4%

Table 26 Main and second source of income

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Unemployment Makes Self-Employed a Necessity, Not a Dream

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/grant-cardone/unemployment-makes-self-e_b_614648.html

6. Classifications in the LFS

6.1 Education

Education is classified according to the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-1997). In this report a compact version of the ISCED was used, with the following categories:

1. No education
2. Elementary education
 - 'Peuterschool/Speelschool/Creche'
 - 'Kleuterschool'
 - 'Funderend onderwijs groep 3 t/m 8'
 - 'Basischool klas 1 t/m 6'
 - 'Speciaal onderwijs (e.g. ZMLK, MLK, LOM, ZMOK)'
3. Second level education, first stage
 - 'Voortgezet lager onderwijs'
 - 'Voortgezet speciaal onderwijs'
 - 'Voortbereidend secundaire beroepsonderwijs'
 - 'Hoger algemeen voortgezet onderwijs klas 1 en 2'
 - 'Voorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs klas 1 en 2'
4. Second level education, first stage
 - 'Hoger algemeen voortgezet onderwijs klas 3 t/m 5'
 - 'Voorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs klas 3 t/m 6'
 - 'Secundaire beroepsonderwijs'
5. Third level education
 - 'Hoger beroepsonderwijs'
 - 'Wetenschappelijk onderwijs'
 - Postdoctoral courses

6.2 Industry (sector)

Industry is classified according to the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC-rev. 4). The following main categories were used in this report:

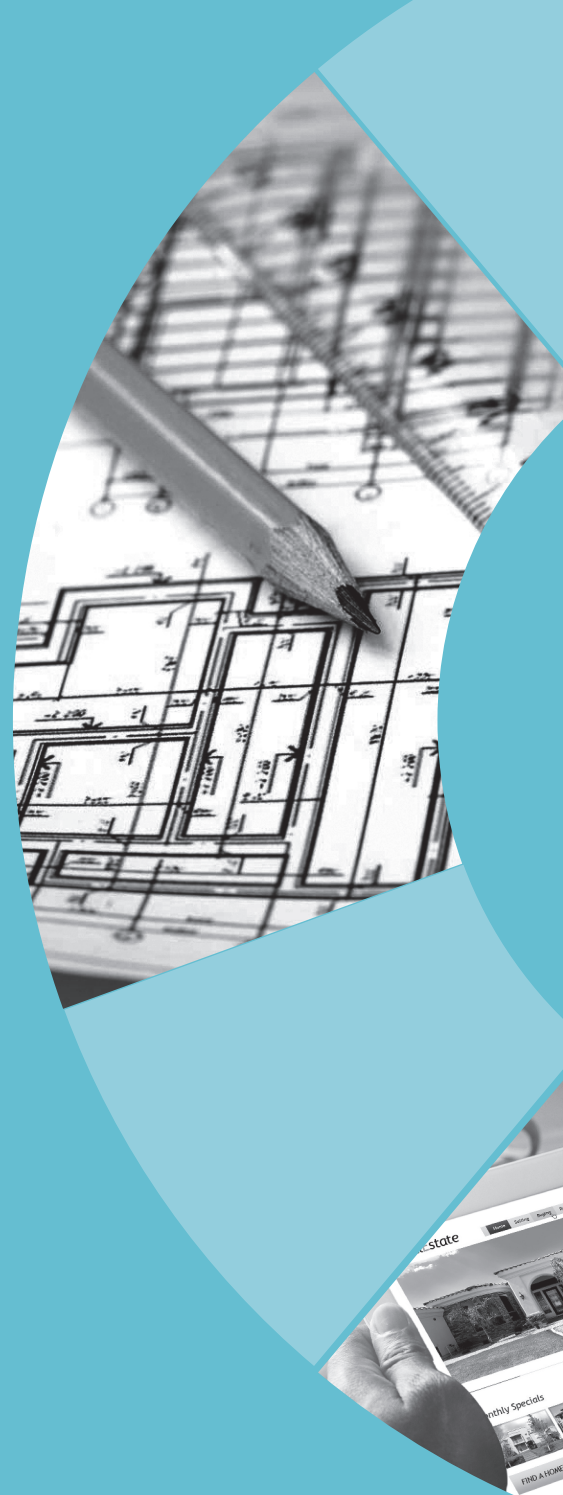
1. Agriculture, forestry and fishing
2. Mining and quarrying
3. Manufacturing
4. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply

5. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
6. Construction
7. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
8. Transportation and storage
9. Accommodation and food service activities
10. Information and communication
11. Financial and insurance activities
12. Real estate activities
13. Professional, scientific and technical activities
14. Administrative and support service activities
15. Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
16. Education
17. Human health and social work activities
18. Arts, entertainment and recreation
19. Other service activities
20. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services- producing activities of households for own use
21. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies

6.3 Occupation

Occupation is classified according to the International Standard Classification of Occupation (ISCO-08). The following main categories were used in this report:

1. Armed forces
2. Managers
3. Professionals
4. Technicians and associate professionals
5. Clerical support workers
6. Service and sales workers
7. Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers
8. Craft and related trades workers
9. Plant and machine operators and assemblers
10. Elementary occupations



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