

Media Release

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[A previous media release on this subject appeared on December 23, 2019](#)

Jerusalem
January 30, 2020
028/2020

Labour Force Survey Data, December, 4th Quarter and Annual data of 2019

Seasonally Adjusted Data¹

In December 2019 (compared with November 2019): ([For monthly data 12/2019](#))

- Unemployment rate among persons aged 15 and over from the labour force - 3.4% (3.9% in the previous month).
- Participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 15 and over - 62.9% (63.6% in the previous month).
- Employment rate (the percentage of employed persons out of the total population) among persons aged 15 and over - 60.7% (61.2% in the previous month).

In the 4th quarter of 2019 - October-December (compared with 3rd Quarter of 2019 - July-September): ([For quarterly data 4/2019](#))

- Unemployment rate among persons aged 15 and over from the labour force - 3.6% (3.7% in the previous quarter).
- Participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 15 and over - 63.1% (63.3% in the previous quarter).
- Employment rate among persons aged 15 and over - 60.9% (same as in the previous quarter).

¹ It should be noted that the data in the seasonally adjusted series are partially based on past data from the quarterly labour force survey, so these series may change in the future after they are fully replaced by series based on the monthly labour force survey.

- Unemployment rate among persons aged 25-64 from the labour force - 3.1% (3.3% in the previous quarter).
- Participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 25-64 - 80.5% (80.3% in the previous quarter).
- Employment rate among persons aged 25-64 - 78.0% (77.6% in the previous quarter).
- The share of employed persons usually working full time out of total employed persons - 78.4% (78.1% in the previous quarter).

In 2019 (original data, compared with 2018):

Total population

- Unemployment rate among persons aged 15 and over from the labour force - 3.8% (4.0% in previous year).
- Participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 15 and over - 63.5% (63.9% in the previous year).
- Employment rate (the percentage of employed persons out of the total population) among persons aged 15 and over - 61.1% (61.4% in the previous year).
- Unemployment rate among persons aged 25-64 from the labour force - 3.4% (3.5% in the previous year).
- Participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 25-64 - 80.4% (80.3% in the previous year).
- Employment rate among persons aged 25-64 - 77.7% (77.5% in the previous year).
- The share of employees in high-tech sector of all employees - 10.0% (9.4% in the previous year).
- The number of employees who received their salary through an employment agency - 22,200 (21,200 in the previous year).
- Of all districts, the lowest unemployment rate was in the Central district - 3.3%.
- Among localities with 100,000 residents and over, the lowest unemployment rate was in Petah Tiqva and in Kfar Saba - 2.6%.

Jews and Arabs

- Unemployment rate among Jews aged 25-64 from the labour force - 3.5% (same as in the previous year).
- Participation rate in the labour force among Jews aged 25-64 - 86.0% (85.5% in the previous year).
- Employment rate among Jews aged 25-64 - 83.0% (82.5% in the previous year).
- Unemployment rate among Arabs aged 25-64 from the labour force - 2.8% (3.6% in the previous year).
- Participation rate in the labour force among Arabs aged 25-64 - 56.9% (57.7% in the previous year).
- Employment rate among Arabs aged 25-64 - 55.3% (55.6% in the previous year).

Economic characteristics of households

- Share of households with employed persons - 79.4% (79.8% in the previous year).
- Share of Jewish households with employed persons - 79.4% (79.7% in the previous year).
- Share of Arab households with employed persons - 78.2% (78.9% in the previous year).
- Of all districts, the share of households with employed persons was highest in the Judea and Samaria Area - 88.8%.
- Of all districts, the share of households with employed persons was lowest in the Haifa district - 75.1%.
- Among localities with 100,000 residents and over, the share of households with employed persons was highest in Bene Beraq - 82.6%.
- Among localities with 100,000 residents and over, the share of households with employed persons was lowest in Bat Yam - 70.3%.

Definitions and Explanations

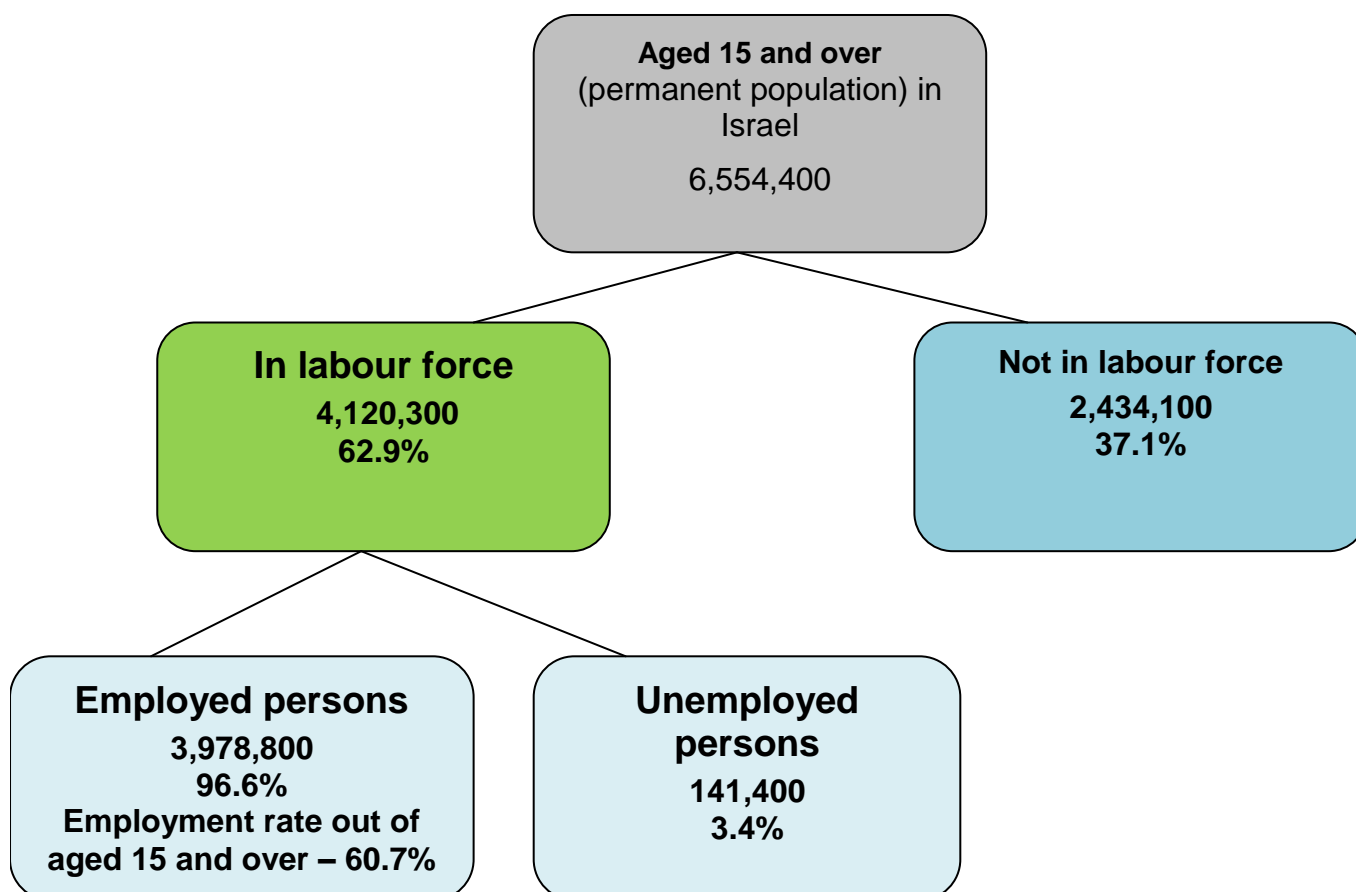
The Labour Force Survey is the main source of information regarding the labour force in Israel, and is conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics on an ongoing basis. Starting from the beginning of 2019, an average of 19,400 persons aged 15 and over a month have been interviewed on an ongoing basis. The survey population includes the permanent population of Israel, as well as tourists and temporary residents living in Israel continuously for more than one

year. The survey follows the development of the labour force in Israel, its size and characteristics, the extent of unemployment, etc.

December 2019 - (compared with November 2019) - Seasonally Adjusted Data Persons aged 15 and over

Labour Force Characteristics

December 2019

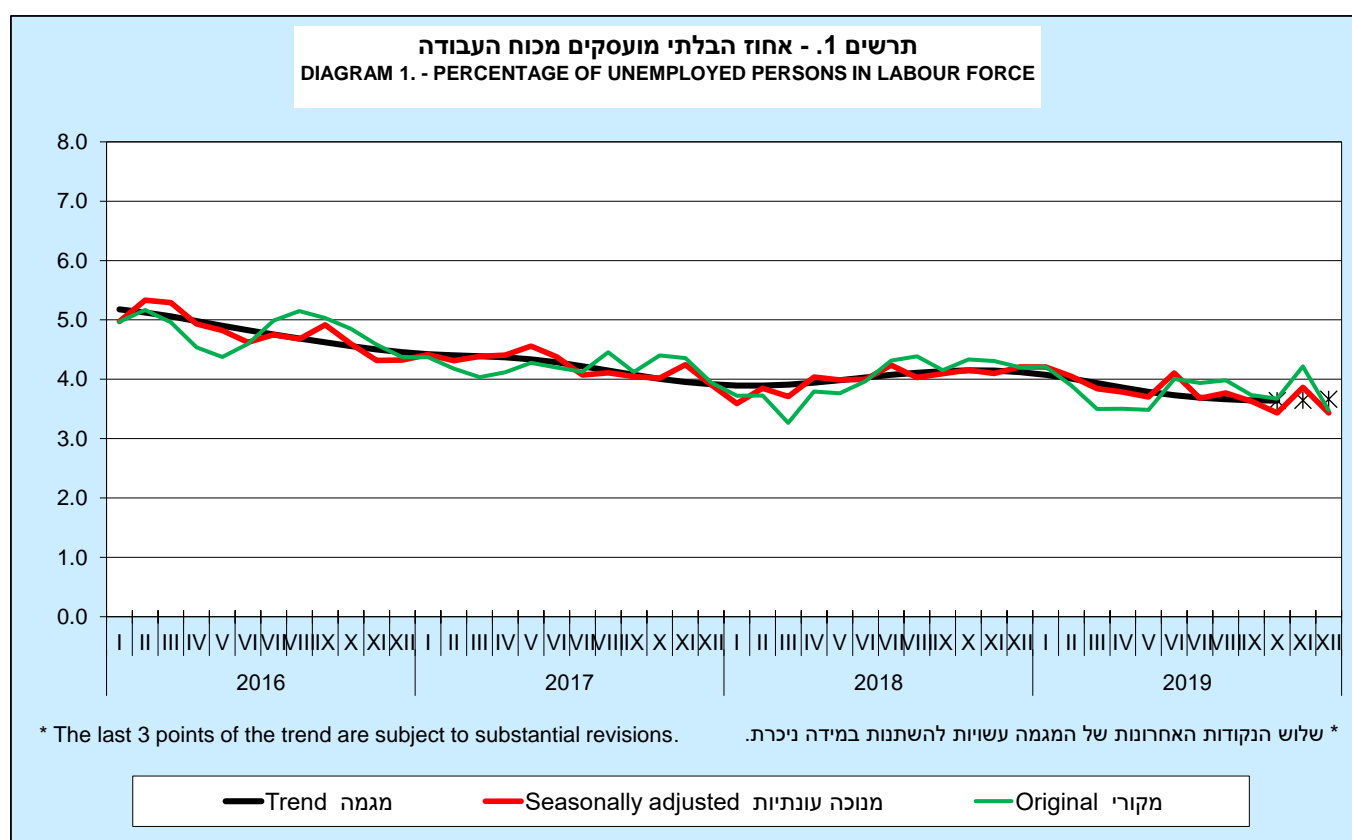


In December 2019, **the number of persons in the labour force** among persons aged 15 and over was 4.120 million. Of these, 3.979 million were **employed** and approximately 141,000 were **unemployed**. Among employed persons, 2.068 million were **men** (2.076 in the previous month) and 1.911 million were **women** (1.928 million in the previous month).

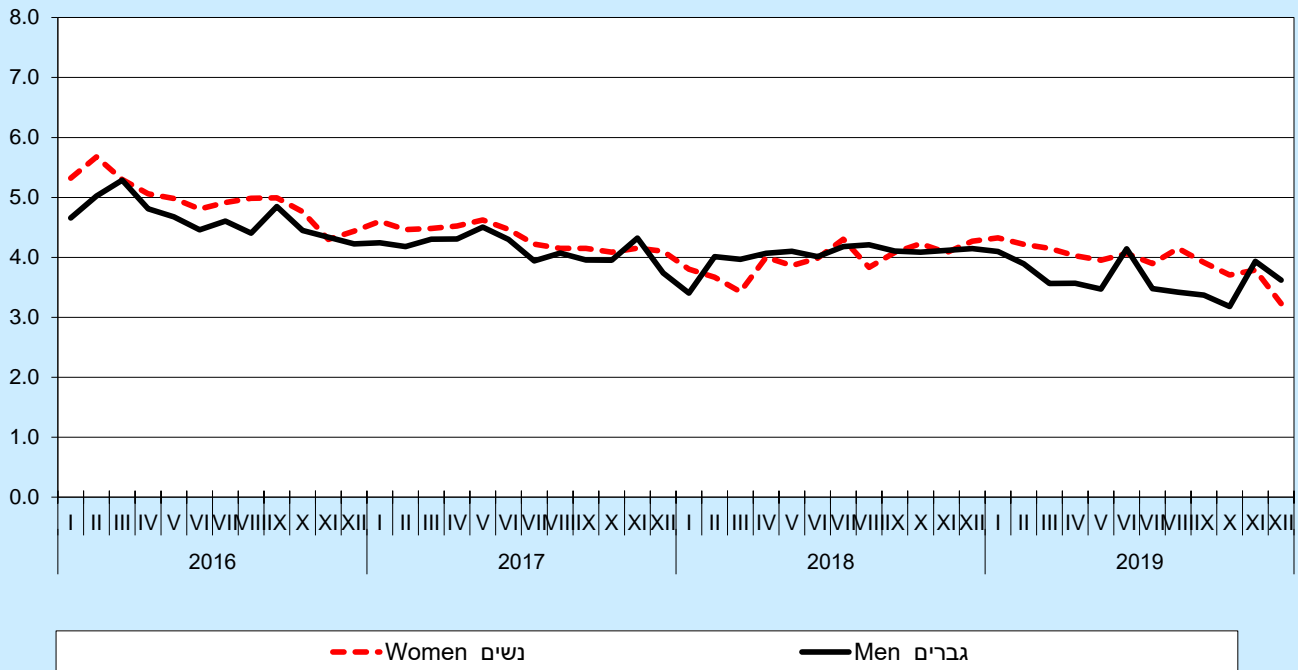
The participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 15 and over in December 2019 declined to 62.9% (63.6% in the previous month). Among **men** (see Diagram 3), that rate declined to 66.9% (67.4% in the previous month), and among **women** it declined to 59.0% (60.0% in the previous month).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among persons aged 15 and over, declined to 3.4% in December 2019 (3.9% in the previous month, see Diagram 1). The unemployment rate of **men** (see Diagram 2) declined to 3.6% (3.9% in the previous month), and among **women** it declined to 3.2% (3.8% in the previous month).

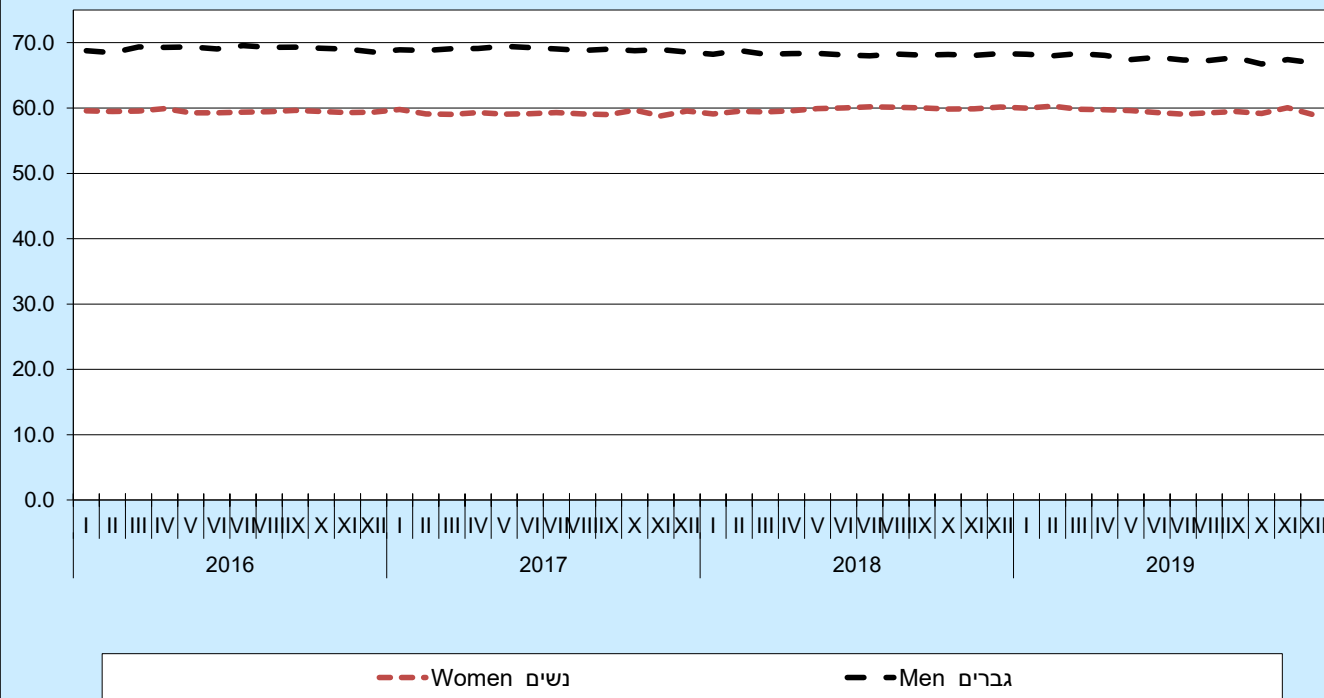
The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among persons aged 15 and over declined to 60.7% in December 2019 (61.2% in the previous month). The employment rate among **men** (see Diagram 4) declined to 64.5% (64.8% in the previous month), and that of **women** declined to 57.1% (57.8% in the previous month).



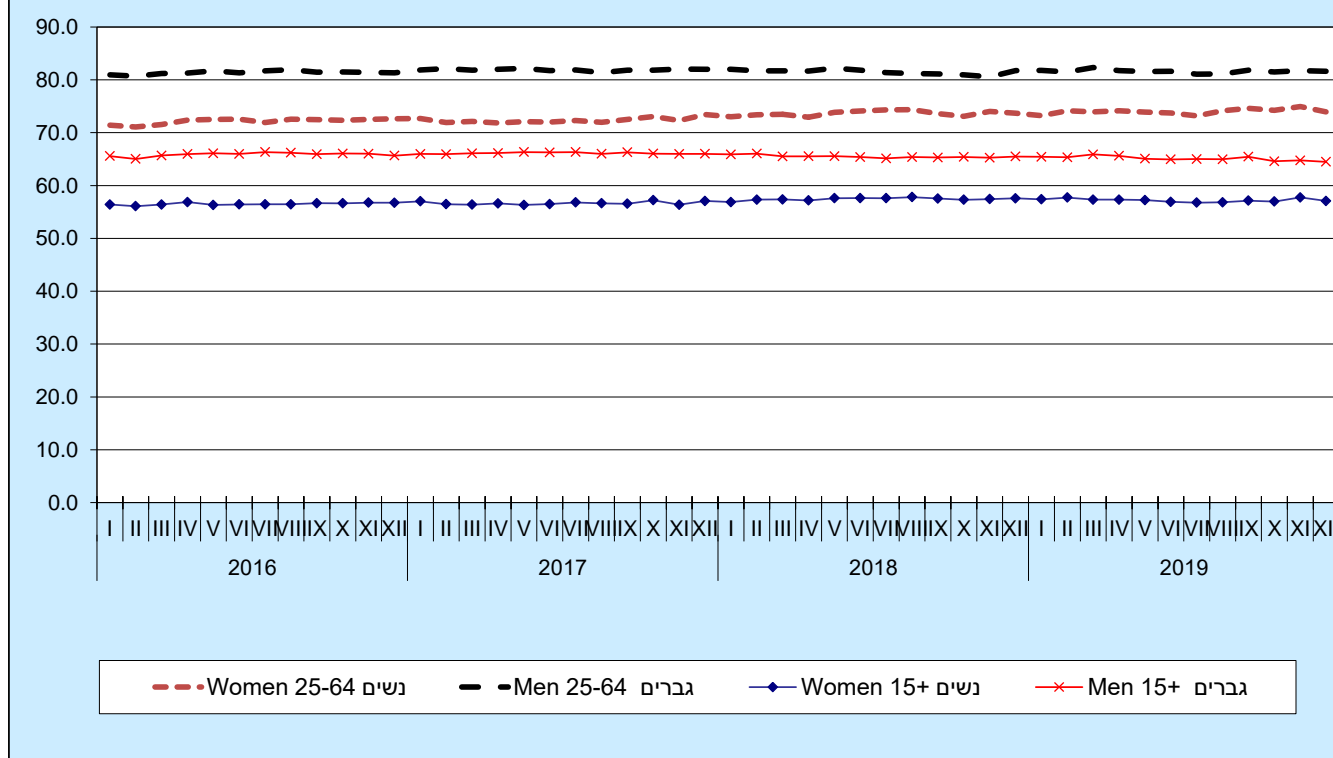
תרשים 2. - אחוז הבלתי מועסקים מכוח העבודה, לפי מין (נתונים מנוכי עונתיות)
 DIAGRAM 2. - PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN LABOUR FORCE, BY SEX
 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



תרשים 3. - אחוז המשתתפים בכוח העבודה, לפי מין (נתונים מנוכי עונתיות)
 DIAGRAM 3. - PERCENTAGE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LABOUR FORCE, BY SEX
 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



תרשים 4 - שיעורי תעסוקה בקרב בני 15 ומעלה ובקרב בני 25-64, לפי מין (נתונים מנוכי עונתיות)
 DIAGRAM 4. - EMPLOYMENT RATES OF PERSONS AGED 15 AND OVER AND AGED 25-64, BY SEX
 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



4th Quarter of 2019 Average - October-December (compared with 3rd quarter of 2019 - July-September) - Seasonally Adjusted Data

Persons aged 15 and over

In the 4th quarter of 2019, **the number of persons in the labour force** among persons aged **15 and over** was 4.130 million. Of these, 3.983 million were **employed** and approximately 148,000 were **unemployed**. Among the employed persons, 2.069 million were **men** (2.076 million in the previous quarter) and 1.913 million were **women** (1.891 million in the previous quarter).

The participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 15 and over in the 4th quarter of 2019 declined to 63.1% (63.3% in the previous quarter). Among **men** the rate declined to 67.0% (67.5% in the previous quarter), whereas among **women** the rate rose to 59.4% (59.3% in the previous quarter).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among persons aged 15 and over in the 4th quarter of 2019 declined to 3.6% (3.7% in the previous quarter). The unemployment rate of **men** rose to 3.6% (3.4% in the previous quarter), whereas that of **women** declined to 3.6% (4.0% in the previous quarter).

The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among persons aged 15 and over reached 60.9% in the 4th quarter of 2019 (same as in the previous quarter). The employment rate among **men** declined to 64.6% (65.1% in the previous quarter), whereas the employment rate among **women** rose to 57.3% (56.9% in the previous quarter).

The number of employed persons in the 4th quarter of 2019 reached 3.983 million (3.967 million in the previous quarter). The number of **employed persons who usually worked full time (35 hours and over per week)** increased by 1.0% compared with the previous quarter (an increase of approximately 30,000 employed persons), whereas the number of **employed persons who usually worked part time (less than 35 hours per week)** decreased by 0.7% compared with the previous quarter (a decrease of approximately 7,000 employed persons). The share of those **usually employed full time** of all employed persons rose to 78.4% (78.1% in the previous quarter). Among **men** that share reached 86.9% (same as in previous quarter), whereas among **women** it rose to 69.2% (68.5% in the previous quarter). (Detailed figures can be found in Tables 1.24-1.26 in the "[Labour Force Survey Quarterly Data](#)" on the website).

The number of **persons who worked full time (35 hours and over) in the determinant week** decreased by 1.5%, compared with the previous quarter (a decrease of approximately 40,000 employed persons), and the number of **persons who worked part time (less than 35 hours) in the determinant week** decreased by 2.6%, compared with the previous quarter (a decrease of approximately 29,000 employed persons). The number of **persons temporarily absent from work** in the determinant week increased by 18.1%, compared with the previous quarter (an increase of approximately 49,000 employed persons). (Detailed figures can be found in Tables 1.4-1.6 in the "[Labour Force Survey Quarterly Data](#)" on the website).

The average weekly number of work hours per employed person declined to 35.4 in the 4th quarter of 2019 (35.7 hours in the previous quarter). **The average weekly number of work hours per employee** declined to 35.4 (35.7 hours in the previous quarter).

Employees working part time involuntarily - original data. As of 2018, the definition of employees working part time involuntarily² was changed following the transition to a new and expanded questionnaire. The number of **employees working part time involuntarily**

² Until 2017: those usually working less than 35 hours per week, because they sought but did not find full-time or additional work.

As of 2018: those usually working less than 35 hours per week, who are interested in working more than 35 hours and actively sought to work more hours in the last four weeks.

declined to 50,100 in the 4th quarter of 2019 (59,500 in the previous quarter), and their share out of all employed persons declined to 1.3% (1.5% in the previous quarter). The share of **men** working part time involuntarily, out of all employed men, declined to 0.7% (0.9% in the previous quarter), and the share of **women** working part time involuntarily, out of all employed women, declined to 1.9% (2.1% in the previous quarter). (Detailed figures can be found in Table 2.9 in the "[Labour Force Survey Quarterly Data](#)" on the website).

Labour Force Characteristics by District of Residence

(Detailed figures can be found in Tables 1.11-1.16 in the "[Labour Force Survey Quarterly Data](#)" on the website).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among persons aged 15 and over declined in the 4th quarter of 2019 in most of the districts compared with the previous quarter and reached 4.5% in the **Jerusalem District** (compared with 3.5%), 3.5% in the **Northern District** (compared with 4.1%), 3.5% in the **Haifa District** (compared with 4.1%), 3.0% in the **Central District** (compared with 3.3%), 3.4% in the **Tel Aviv District** (compared with 3.3%), 3.8% in the **Southern District** (compared with 4.1%).

The participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 15 and over rose in half of the districts in the 4th quarter of 2019 compared with the previous quarter. The participation rate reached 52.8% in the **Jerusalem District** (compared with 51.4%), 58.3% in the **Northern District** (compared with 57.9%), 62.0% in the **Haifa District** (compared with 62.4%), 68.9% in the **Central District** (compared with 69.9%), 68.7% in the **Tel Aviv District** (same as in the previous quarter), and 60.6% in the **Southern District** (compared with 60.5%).

The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among persons aged 15 and over declined in half of the districts in the 4th quarter of 2019 compared with the previous quarter. The employment rate reached 50.4% in the **Jerusalem District** (compared with 49.5%), 56.2% in the **Northern District** (compared with 55.5%), 59.8% in the **Haifa District** (compared with 59.9%), 66.9% in the **Central District** (compared with 67.6%), 66.3% in the **Tel Aviv District** (compared with 66.4%), and 58.3% in the **Southern District** (compared with 58.0%).

Employed Persons by Industry (By the new classification of All Economic Activities (Updated edition), Technical Publication no. 80)

(Detailed figures can be found in Tables 2.1 and 2.5 in the "[Labour Force Survey Quarterly Data](#)" on the website).

In the 4th quarter of 2019 the number of **employed persons** increased by approximately 16,000 compared with the previous quarter. The number of **employees** in the 4th quarter of 2019 reached 3.506 million (3.478 million in the previous quarter). Table 1 below presents the number of employed persons and employees by industry in the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2019.

Among **employed persons**, the greatest **increases** were in **Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles** (approximately 35,000 employed persons), in **Information and communication** (approximately 10,000 employed persons), in **Accommodation and food service activities** and in **Local, public and defence administration and social security** (approximately 5,000 employed persons in each industry).

The greatest **decreases** were in **Manufacturing; Mining and quarrying** (approximately 19,000 employed persons), in **Human health and social work activities** (approximately 17,000 employed persons), in **Construction** and in **Professional, scientific and technical activities** (approximately 5,000 employed persons in each industry).

Among **employees**, the greatest **increases** were in **Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles** (approximately 34,000 employees), in **Information and communication** (approximately 11,000 employees), in **Accommodation and food service activities** (approximately 7,000 employees), in **Transportation and storage, postal and courier activities** (approximately 5,000 employees).

The greatest **decreases** were in **Manufacturing; Mining and quarrying** (approximately 15,000 employees), in **Human health and social work activities** (approximately 11,000 employees), in **Construction** (approximately 6,000 employees).

TABLE 1.- EMPLOYED PERSONS AND EMPLOYEES, BY INDUSTRY (2011 CLASSIFICATION), 3rd AND 4th QUARTER OF 2019, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA, THOUSANDS

Section	Description	Employed persons Quarter 3/2019	Employed persons Quarter 4/2019	Employees Quarter 3/2019	Employees Quarter 4/2019
-	Total (1)	3,966.8	3,982.6	3,478.2	3,505.9
A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	38.4	36.0	28.7	25.5
B+C	Manufacturing; Mining and quarrying	402.4	384.0	376.3	361.1
D	Electricity supply	13.9	16.0	13.8	16.0
E	Water supply, sewerage and waste management	12.0	15.5	11.9	15.2
F	Construction	208.0	202.8	164.8	159.2
G	Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles	419.4	453.9	364.9	398.7
H	Transportation and storage, postal and courier activities	173.8	177.4	149.3	154.4
I	Accommodation and food service activities	169.9	175.3	154.6	161.2
J	Information and communication	220.6	230.6	205.7	217.1
K	Financial and insurance activities	124.1	125.2	113.8	115.6
L	Real estate activities	34.3	37.3	20.7	22.5
M	Professional, scientific and technical activities	303.1	298.3	204.5	207.9
N	Administrative and support service activities	161.3	163.1	147.0	147.6
O	Local, public and defence administration and social security	396.1	400.9	393.2	396.1
P	Education	496.0	497.6	474.3	474.7
Q	Human health and social work activities	442.2	425.6	387.5	376.6
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation	82.8	85.4	50.0	52.5
S	Other service activities	111.3	111.2	69.5	67.2
T	Households as employers	61.0	59.0	57.5	54.1

(1) Incl. employed persons or employees in the industry "Extra-Territorial Organizations and Bodies" (Category U), and persons whose industry is not known.

Employed Persons by Occupation ([By the new classification of Occupations,](#)

[Technical Publication no. 81](#)) (Detailed figures can be found in Tables 2.10 and 2.14 in the "[Labour Force Survey Quarterly Data](#)" on the website).

Table 2 below presents the number of **employed persons** and **employees** by occupation in the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2019.

Among **employed persons**, the greatest **increases** were among **Practical engineers, technicians, agents and associate professionals** (approximately 10,000 employed persons), **Professionals** (approximately 8,000 employed persons), **Clerical support workers** (7,000 employed persons), **Service and sales workers** (approximately 6,000 employed persons).

The greatest **decreases** were among **Managers** and **Skilled workers in manufacturing and construction, and other skilled workers** (approximately 6,000 employed persons in each occupation), **Elementary occupations** (approximately 5,000 employed persons).

Among **employees**, the greatest **increases** were among **Professionals** (approximately 17,000 employees), **Practical engineers, technicians, agents and associate professionals** (approximately 10,000 employees), **Clerical support workers** (approximately 8,000 employees).

The greatest **decreases** were among **Elementary occupations** (approximately 4,000 employees), **Managers** (approximately 3,000 employees).

TABLE 2.- EMPLOYED PERSONS AND EMPLOYEES, BY OCCUPATIONS (2011 CLASSIFICATION), 3rd AND 4th QUARTER OF 2019, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA, THOUSANDS

Major group	Description	Employed persons Quarter 3/2019	Employed persons Quarter 4/2019	Employees Quarter 3/2019	Employees Quarter 4/2019
-	Total (1)	3,966.8	3,982.6	3,478.2	3,505.9
1	Managers	311.5	305.9	276.1	273.4
2	Professionals	1,108.8	1,116.9	949.0	966.4
3	Practical engineers, technicians, agents and associate professionals	560.6	570.8	474.5	484.1
4	Clerical support workers	274.5	281.5	267.1	275.0
5	Service and sales workers	736.4	742.3	646.9	647.8
6	Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	28.6	28.0	16.9	16.4
7-8	Skilled workers in manufacturing and construction, and other skilled workers	494.5	488.2	403.2	400.9
9	Elementary occupations	207.6	203.0	199.8	195.5

(1) Incl. employed persons or employees whose occupation is not known.

Persons aged 25-64

The participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 25-64 rose to 80.5% in the 4th quarter of 2019 (80.3% in the previous quarter). Among **men** the rate rose to 84.3% (84.0% in the previous quarter), and among **women** the rate rose to 76.7% (compared with 76.6% in the previous quarter).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among persons aged 25-64 declined to 3.1% in the 4th quarter of 2019 (3.3% in the previous quarter). Among **men** the unemployment rate declined to 3.1% (3.2% in the previous quarter), and among **women** the unemployment rate declined to 3.0% (3.5% in the previous quarter).

The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among persons aged 25-64 rose to 78.0% (77.6% in the previous quarter). Among **men** the employment rate rose to 81.6% (81.3% in the previous quarter), and among **women** the employment rate rose to 74.4% (74.0% in the previous quarter).

2019 Average (compared to 2018) - original data

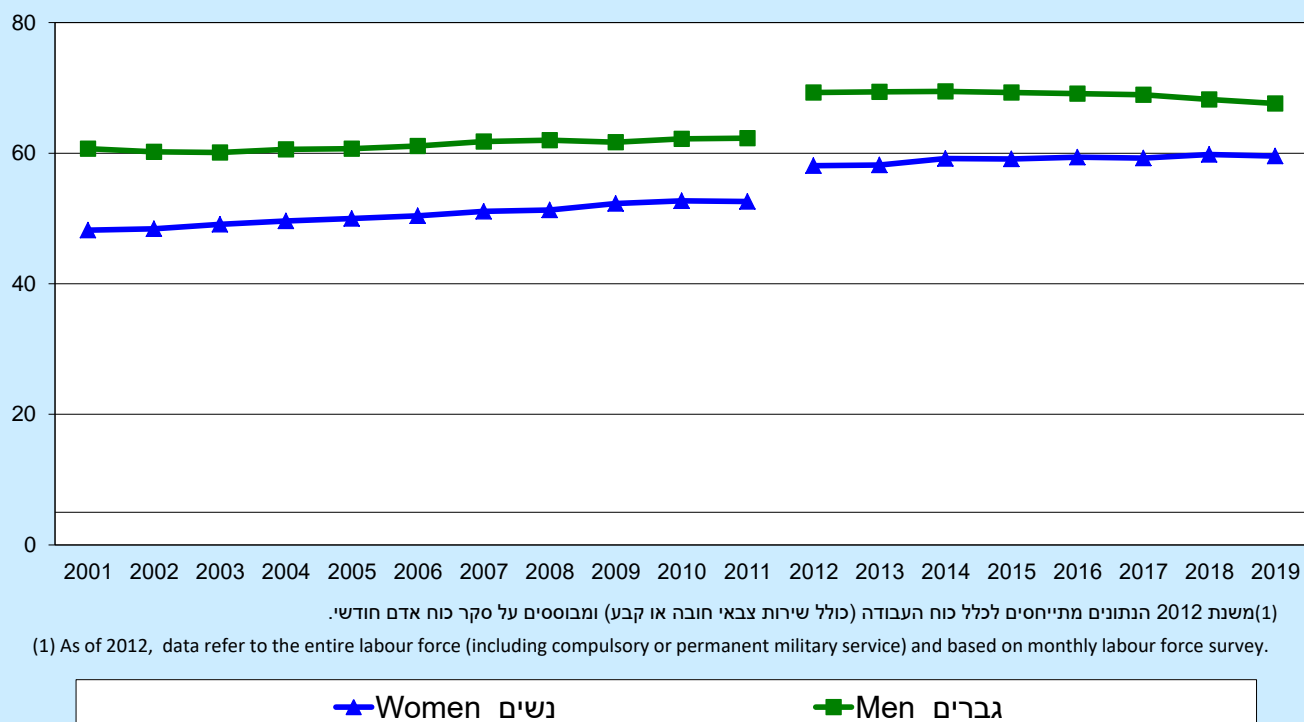
Persons aged 15 and over

In 2019 **the number of persons in the labour force** among persons **aged 15 and over** was 4.124 million. Of these, 3.967 million were **employed** and approximately 157,000 were **unemployed**. Among the employed persons, 2.070 million were **men** (2.039 million in the previous year) and 1.897 million were **women** (1.867 million in the previous year). Among the unemployed persons, approximately 79,000 were **men** (approximately 86,000 in the previous year) and approximately 78,000 were **women** (approximately 77,000 in the previous year).

The participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 15 and over in 2019 declined to 63.5% (63.9% in the previous year). Among **men** (see Diagram 5), the rate declined to 67.6% (68.2% in the previous year) and among **women** the rate declined to 59.6% (59.8% in the previous year).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among persons aged 15 and over, declined to 3.8% in 2019 (4.0% in the previous year). The unemployment rate of **men** declined to 3.7% (4.0% in the previous year), and the unemployment rate of **women** declined to 3.9% (4.0% in the previous year).

תרשים 5. - אחוז המשתתפים בכוח העבודה (1), לפי מין
 DIAGRAM 5.- PERCENTAGE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LABOUR FORCE (1), BY SEX



The **employment rate** (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among persons aged 15 and over declined to 61.1% in 2019 (61.4% in the previous year). The employment rate among **men** declined to 65.1% (65.5% in the previous year), and among **women** it declined to 57.2% (57.4% in the previous year).

The number of **employed persons** in 2019 reached 3.967 million, out of them 3.479 million were **employees** (3.421 million in the previous year). **The average weekly number of work hours per employed person** declined to 35.8 in 2019 (36.1 in the previous year). It should be noted that, the share of employed persons who **worked 50 hours and over in the determinant week** of all employed persons declined to 14.4% in 2019 (15.2% in the previous year). Among **men**, that share declined to 21.8% (22.9% in the previous year), and among **women** that share declined to 6.3% (6.8% in the previous year). In addition it should be noted that, most of employed persons who **worked 50 hours and over in the determinant week** (approximately 88%) usually work the same. (Detailed figures can be found in table 2.16 in the annual publication of "[Labour Force Survey](#)" on the website.)

Persons aged 25-64

The participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 25-64 rose to 80.4% in 2019 (80.3% in the previous year). Among **men** the rate declined to 84.4% (84.5% in the previous year), whereas among **women** the rate rose to 76.5% (76.2% in the previous year).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among persons aged 25-64 declined to 3.4% in 2019 (3.5% in the previous year). Among **men** the rate declined to 3.3% (3.6% in the previous year) whereas among **women** the rate reached 3.4% (same as in the previous year).

The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among persons aged 25-64 rose to 77.7% (77.5% in the previous year). Among **men** the employment rate rose to 81.6% (81.5% in the previous year) and among **women** the employment rate rose to 73.9% (73.6% in the previous year).

Labour Force Characteristics by Population Groups

Jews aged 15 and over

In 2019 **the number of persons in the labour force** among Jews aged 15 and over was 3.388 million. Of these, 3.258 million were **employed** and approximately 130,000 were **unemployed**. Among the **employed Jews**, 1.627 million were **men** (1.600 million in the previous year) and 1.631 million were **women** (1.603 million in the previous year). Among the **unemployed Jews**, approximately 65,000 were **men** (approximately 69,000 in the previous year) and approximately 65,000 were **women** (approximately 63,000 in the previous year).

The participation rate in the labour force among Jews aged 15 and over in 2019 declined to 67.6% (67.8% in the previous year). Among **men** the rate declined to 69.1% (69.6% in the previous year) and among **women** the rate declined to 66.1% (66.2% in the previous year).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among Jews aged 15 and over, declined to 3.8% in 2019 (4.0% in the previous year). The unemployment rate of **men** declined to 3.8% (4.1% in the previous year), whereas the unemployment rate of **women** reached 3.8% (same as in the previous year).

The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among Jews aged 15 and over declined to 65.0% in 2019 (65.2% in the previous year). The employment rate among **men** declined to 66.4% (66.7% in the previous year), and among **women** it declined to 63.6% (63.7% in the previous year).

Jews aged 25-64

The participation rate in the labour force among Jews aged 25-64 rose to 86.0% in 2019 (85.5% in the previous year). Among **men** the rate rose to 86.3% (86.2% in the previous year), and among **women** the rate rose to 85.6% (84.9% in the previous year).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among Jews aged 25-64 reached 3.5% in 2019 (same as in the previous year). Among **men** the rate declined to 3.6% (3.7% in the previous year) whereas among **women** the rate rose to 3.4% (3.3% in the previous year).

The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among Jews aged 25-64 rose to 83.0% (82.5% in the previous year). Among **men** the employment rate rose to 83.2% (83.0% in the previous year) and among **women** the employment rate rose to 82.7% (82.1% in the previous year).

Arabs aged 15 and over

In 2019 **the number of persons in the labour force** among Arabs aged 15 and over was approximately 573,000. Of these, approximately 551,000 were **employed** and approximately 22,000 were **unemployed**. Among the **employed Arabs**, approximately 373,000 were **men** (approximately 368,000 in the previous year) and approximately 179,000 were **women** (approximately 176,000 in the previous year). Among the **unemployed Arabs**, approximately 11,000 were **men** (approximately 14,000 in the previous year) and approximately 10,000 were **women** (approximately 11,000 in the previous year).

The participation rate in the labour force among Arabs aged 15 and over in 2019 declined to 45.0% (45.9% in the previous year). Among **men** the rate declined to 60.1% (61.3% in the previous year) and among **women** the rate declined to 29.8% (30.4% in the previous year).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among Arabs aged 15 and over, declined to 3.8% in 2019 (4.5% in the previous year). The unemployment rate of **men** declined to 3.0% (3.8% in the previous year), and the unemployment rate of **women** declined to 5.4% (6.0% in the previous year).

The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among Arabs aged 15 and over declined to 43.4% in 2019 (43.8% in the previous year). The employment rate among **men** declined to 58.3% (59.0% in the previous year), and among **women** it declined to 28.2% (28.5% in the previous year).

Arabs aged 25-64

The participation rate in the labour force among Arabs aged 25-64 declined to 56.9% in 2019 (57.7% in the previous year). Among **men** the rate declined to 75.8% (76.7% in the previous year), and among **women** the rate declined to 38.1% (38.9% in the previous year).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among Arabs aged 25-64 declined to 2.8% in 2019 (3.6% in the previous year). Among **men** the rate declined to 2.0% (3.1% in the previous year) and among **women** the rate declined to 4.3% (4.6% in the previous year).

The employment rate (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among Arabs aged 25-64 declined to 55.3% (55.6% in the previous year). Among **men** the employment rate declined to 74.3% (74.4% in the previous year) and among **women** the employment rate declined to 36.4% (37.1% in the previous year).

Labour Force Characteristics by District of Residence

(Detailed figures can be found in Tables 1.11-1.16 in the "[Labour Force Survey Quarterly Data](#)" on the website).

The unemployment rate from the labour force among persons aged 15 and over declined in half of the districts in 2019 compared with the previous year, and reached 4.0% in the **Jerusalem District** (compared with 4.7%), 4.1% in the **Northern District** (compared with 4.3%), 4.1% in the **Haifa District** (compared with 4.0%), 3.3% in the **Central District** (same as in the previous year), 3.7% in the **Tel Aviv District** (compared with 3.5%), 4.0% in the **Southern District** (compared with 5.3%). Among **localities with 100,000 residents and over**, the **lowest** unemployment rate in 2019 was in Petah Tiqva and Kfar Saba - 2.6%, Bat Yam and Ramat Gan - 3.4%. The **highest** unemployment rate was in Bene Beraq - 4.9%, Bet Shemesh - 4.8%, Haifa - 4.5%.

The participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 15 and over declined in most of the districts in 2019 compared with the previous year, and reached 52.1% in the **Jerusalem District** (compared with 54.4%), 59.0% in the **Northern District** (compared with 58.7%), 62.0% in the **Haifa District** (compared with 62.6%), 69.4% in the **Central District** (same as in the previous year), 68.8% in the **Tel Aviv District** (compared with 69.3%), and 61.0% in the **Southern District** (compared with 61.4%). Among **localities with 100,000 residents and over**, the **highest** participation rate was in Tel Aviv - 73.9%, Ramat Gan - 72.1%, Kfar Saba - 71.6%. The **lowest** participation rate was in Bene Beraq - 49.3%, Jerusalem - 50.3%, Bet Shemesh - 57.7%.

The employment rate among persons aged 15 and over rose in half of the districts in 2019 compared with the previous year, and reached 50.1% in **Jerusalem District** (compared with 51.9%), 56.6% in the **Northern District** (compared with 56.2%), 59.4% in the **Haifa District** (compared with 60.1%), 67.2% in the **Central District** (compared with 67.1%), 66.2% in the **Tel Aviv District** (compared with 66.9%) and 58.5% in the **Southern District** (compared with 58.2%). Among **localities with 100,000 residents and over**, the **highest** employment rate was in Tel Aviv - 71.3%, Kfar Saba - 69.8%, Ramat Gan - 69.6%. The **lowest** employment rate was in Bene Beraq - 46.9%, Jerusalem - 48.4%, Bet Shemesh - 54.9%.

Employees in the High-Tech Industries

(Detailed figures can be found in Tables 2.52-2.53 in the annual publication of "[Labour Force Survey](#)" on the website.)

Definition:

High technology sector: The definition of high technology sector is based on the "[Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities 2011, Technical Publication 80, The Central Bureau of Statistics](#)", as well as on the definitions of OECD and Eurostat (See additional information in publication: "[Development of High-Tech Sector in Israel, 1995-2014](#)").

The following are defined as high technology industries in Israel.

Manufacturing in the High-Tech Sector:

21 Manufacture of pharmaceutical products and homeopathic pharmaceutical preparations

26 Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products

303 Manufacture of air and spacecraft and related machinery

Knowledge-Intensive Services in the High-Tech Sector:

61 Telecommunications

62 Computer programming, consultancy and related activities

631 Data processing, hosting and related activities; web portals

720 Research and development centers

721 Research and development in engineering and natural sciences

The number of employees in the **high-tech sector** reached approximately 347,000 in 2019 (approximately 321,000 in the previous year). In **Manufacturing in the High-Tech Sector**, the number of employees reached approximately 111,000. In **Services in the High-Tech Sector**, the number of employees reached approximately 236,000. The share of employees in the high-tech sector of all employees rose to 10.0% in 2019 (9.4% in the previous year). The

number of **men** employees in high-tech sector was approximately 225,000. The number of **women** employees in the high-tech sector was approximately 122,000. The share of **men** employees in the high-tech sector of all men employees reached 12.8% in 2019, and the share of **women** employees in the high-tech sector of all women employees reached 7.1% in 2019.

Employees who receive their salary through an Employment Agency

(Detailed figures can be found in Tables 2.48-2.51 in the annual publication of "[Labour Force Survey](#)" on the website.)

Definition:

Recipients of wages from employment agencies or employment contractors - employees placed in jobs and receiving their wages from the employment agency or employment contractor, while the place of work they were referred to is responsible for implementation of the work.

The following are not included in this definition:

- Employees on the staff of the employment agency;
- Employees hired through a subcontractor. In these cases, the subcontractor bears responsibility for the implementation and quality of the work. These employees work mainly in the following industries (according to the 2011 Classification): Security Activities (Group 8010), Combined facilities support activities (Group 811), Cleaning activities (Group 812), and Home-care services (Group 882).

The number of employees who receive their salary through an **employment agency** reached 22,200 in 2019. It should be noted that, the number of employees who work through a **sub-contractor** in Security Activities (Group 8010), Combined facilities support activities (Group 811), Cleaning activities (Group 812), and Home-care services (Group 882) reached approximately 143,000 in 2019.

Commuting

The proportion of employed persons who work outside their locality of residence declined to 54.2% in 2019 (54.4% in the previous year). The proportion of men working outside their locality of residence was higher than that of women: 60.7% of employed men worked outside their locality of residence in 2019, compared with 47.2% of employed women (in the previous year, the ratios were 61.3% and 46.9% for men and women, respectively).

The rate of commuting was particularly high among residents of the Judea and Samaria Area - 68.1% (68.3% in the previous year), where most of the commuters (85.7%) worked outside of

their district of residence (86.2% in the previous year). In the Central District, 64.6% of all employed persons worked outside their locality of residence (63.9% in the previous year), and 56.0% worked outside their district of residence (56.8% in the previous year). In the Jerusalem District, the rate of commuting was the lowest - only 21.2% of employed persons worked outside their locality of residence (21.9% in the previous year). Of those commuters, 38.8% worked within their sub-district of residence (39.4% in the previous year).

Employment of single mothers

In 2019, there were 106,200 single mothers in Israel (107,200 in the previous year). 83.4% of all single mothers participated in the labour force in 2019 (83.6% in the previous year), compared with 78.6% of all mothers (78.2% in the previous year), and compared with 90.1% of all Jewish mothers (89.3% in the previous year). It should be noted that most of the single mothers were Jewish.

Of the single mothers, 50.7% had one child (50.9% in the previous year), and the highest rate of participation in the labour force was among single mothers with one or two children - 85.6% in 2019 (86.7% in the previous year).

The employment rate of single mothers was also higher than that of all mothers - 78.7% compared with 75.8%, respectively (78.6% and 75.5%, respectively, in the previous year), but lower than that of all Jewish mothers - 87.0% (86.3% in the previous year).

The percentage of single mothers who usually work full-time (35 hours or more) of all employed women was 70.8% in 2019, same as among all mothers (69.2% and 70.1%, respectively, in the previous year), and 71.0% among all Jewish mothers (70.0% in the previous year).

Overtime

In 2019, the number of employed persons who worked overtime in the determinant week reached 108,400 (123,600 in the previous year). The percentage of employed persons who worked overtime of all employed persons declined to 2.7% in 2019 (3.2% in the previous year). The average weekly number of overtime hours in 2019 rose to 6.8 (6.6 hours in the previous year).

Discouraged workers

In 2019, there were 10,900 “discouraged workers” in Israel (12,000 in the previous year): of them 53.2% were men (53.8% in the previous year), and 46.8% women (46.2% in the previous year). The share of Jews of all discouraged workers was 73.4% in 2019 (66.2% in the previous year).

Of the discouraged workers, 37.6% claimed there was “no suitable job in the profession” (37.8% in the previous year). Other common reasons were “no suitable work for wages, working hours, satisfactory job” (21.8% compared with 19.4% in the previous year), “no suitable work in the area of residence” (18.6% compared with 17.2% in the previous year) and “age: too young or too old” (15.0% compared with 19.7% in the previous year).

Economic Characteristics of Households

Households with employed persons

In 2019, there were 2.668 million households in Israel (2.587 million in the previous year). Of these households, 79.4% - 2.117 million - were **households with employed persons** (79.8% in the previous year - 2.065 million).

There was **at least one person of working age** (age 15-66 for men and 15-61 for women) in 2.186 million households (2.129 million in the previous year). In 91.2% of these households, there was **at least one employed person** (91.5% in the previous year). In approximately 482,000 households, there was **no one of working age**, i.e., there were only people retirement age and older (men aged 67 and over, women aged 62 and over) and children up to age 14 (approximately 458,000 in the previous year).

There were 2.179 million **Jewish households** in 2019 (2.114 million in the previous year), of which 21.9% had **one person** and 27.3% had **two persons** (20.9% and 26.9% in the previous year, respectively) and 4.4% had 7 or more persons (4.5% in the previous year). The percentage of Jewish **households with employed persons** in 2019 was 79.4% (79.7% in the previous year). In 1.737 million households, there was **at least one person of working age** (1.693 million in the previous year) and 92.7% of these households were **households with employed persons** (92.9% in the previous year).

There were approximately 404,000 **Arab households** in 2019 (approximately 392,000 in the previous year), of which 7.5% had **one person** and 12.2% had **two persons** (7.9% and 12.3% in the previous year, respectively) and 14.4% had 7 or more persons (15.4% in the previous

year). The percentage of Arab **households with employed persons** in 2019 was 78.2% (78.9% in the previous year). In approximately 375,000 households, there was **at least one person of working age** (approximately 364,000 in the previous year) and 83.8% of these households were **households with employed persons** (84.7% in the previous year).

In 2019, the **Judea and Samaria Area** had the **highest** percentage of **households with employed persons** - 88.8% (89.6% in the previous year). This percentage in **Central District** was 81.9% (85.4% in the **Ramla Sub-District**) (82.7% and 85.6% in the previous year, respectively). In the **Haifa District** there was **lowest** percentage of households with employed persons - 75.1% (72.0% in the **Haifa Sub-District**) (75.8% and 73.3% in the previous year, respectively). In the **Southern District** also was a relatively low percentage of households with employed persons - 77.2% (76.9% in the previous year).

In 2019, among **localities with 100,000 residents and over**, the **highest** percentage of **households with employed persons** was in Bene Beraq - 82.6%, Bet Shemesh - 82.4%, Tel Aviv - 82.0%. The **lowest** percentage of **households with employed persons** was in Bat Yam - 70.3% and Haifa - 71.8%.

* Additional figures on this subject published in the "[Labour Force Survey Quarterly Data](https://www.cbs.gov.il/en/Pages/default.aspx)" on the Central Bureau of Statistics Website: <https://www.cbs.gov.il/en/Pages/default.aspx>