



# STATISTICS IN FOCUS Population and social conditions

1997 8

ISSN 1024-4352

#### LABOUR FORCE SURVEY Principal results1996

In spring 1996 the population of the European Union was measured at 367 million people, taking into account only private households.

- 149 million had a job during the survey reference week, giving an employment rate of 49.4% for the whole EU, with the lowest rate in Spain at 38% and the highest in Denmark at 61%

- 16% of people with jobs said that they worked part-time, 81% of these part-time workers being women

- 14% of employees had a work-contract of limited duration (34% of employees in Spain)

- the employees working full-time, work in average 40.3 hours per week (41.1 hours per week for males - 38.9 for females)

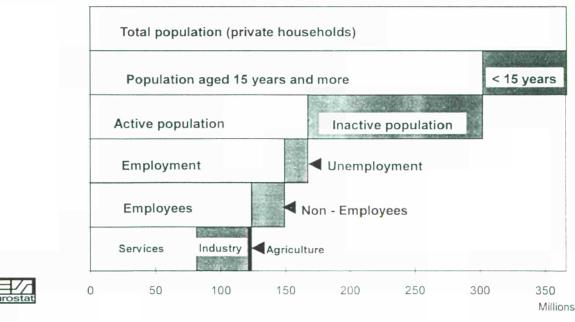
- 18 million people had no job but were available for work and looking for work, giving an unemployment rate of 10.7% for the whole EU, reaching 15.6% in Finland and 22.2% in Spain

- 48% of unemployed persons had been looking for work for over a year,

- 50% of unemployed persons had not completed upper-secondary level education

- 21% of unemployed persons were looking for their first job (the figure for Italy being over 50%).

Data refers to Spring 1995 for Germany and Spring 1996 for all the other EU member States.



#### Population, activity and inactivity - EUR 15 - 1996

Manuscript completed on = 10.06.1997

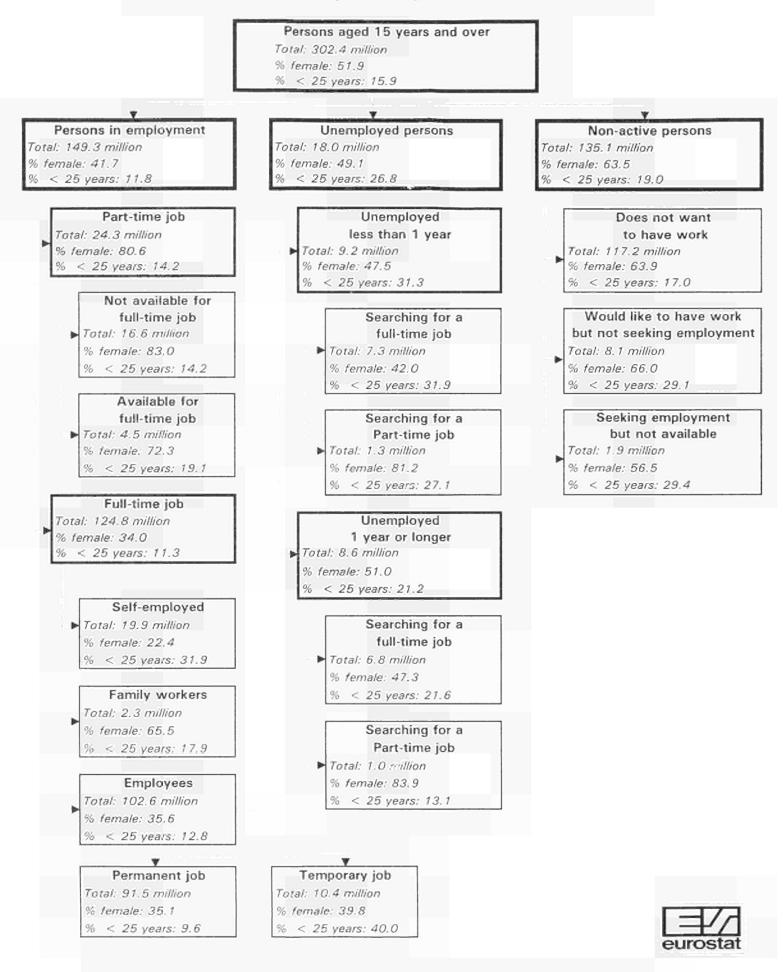
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Price (excl. VAT) in Luxembourg:Subscription 'Statistics in focus' of all themes: ECU 310 Subscription 'Statistics in focus' of Theme 2 'Population and social conditions': ECU 85 Single copy: ECU 6

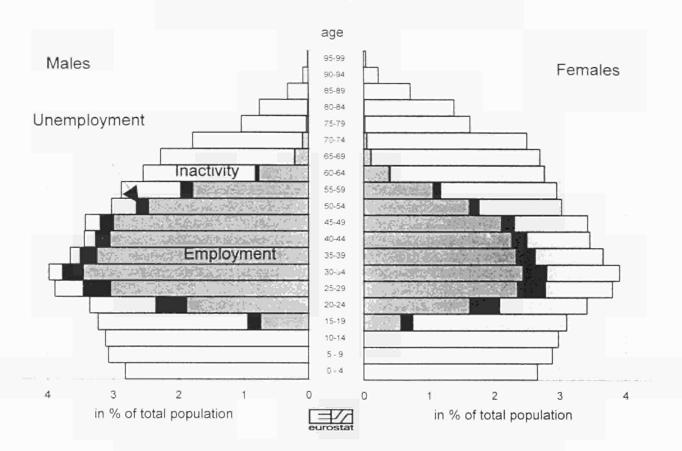
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#### Work status of persons aged of 15 years and more, EUR15 - 1996

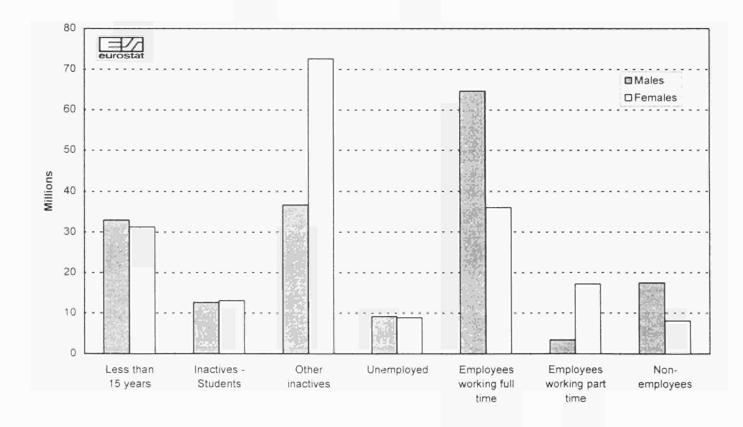


In certain cases, because of non-response, the sum of sub-categories does not equal the total for that category.









## Table 1 - Labour force survey 1996 - Males and females <sup>(1)</sup>

	EUR 15	в	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL
Total population	1						• <b>-</b>	
-1000	366658	10124	5213	80570	10254	38848	56574	3561
Population older than 15 years	202268	0007	4240	07500	0000	22552	45445	2700
-1000 -% of total population	302368 82.5	8307 82.1	4318 82.8	67503 83.8	8622 84.1	32552 83.8	45445 80.3	2700 75.8
Active population								
-1000	167275	4188	2815	38961	4282	15872	25342	1481
-Activity rate -%	55.3	50.4	65.2	57.7	49.7	48.8	55.8	54.9
Total employment								
-1000	149295	3791	2623	35782	3868	12342	22195	1308
-Employment rate-%	49.4	45.6	60.7	53.0	44.9	37.9	48.8	48.4
- Full-time - % - Part-time - %	83.7 16.3	86.0 14.0	78.5 21.5	83.7 16.3	94.7 5.3	92.0 8.0	84.0 16.0	88.4 11.6
-In the agriculture - % -In the industry - %	5.1 30.0	2.7 27.6	3.9 26.4	3.2 36.0	20.3 22.9	8.6 29.4	4.8 26.5	11.2 27.3
-In the services - %	64.9	69.6	69.7	60.8	56.8	62.0	68.6	61.4
Employees								
-1000	123703	3109	2378	31946	2100	9228	19269	1035
-% of total employment	82.9	82.0	90.7	89.3	54.3	74.8	86.8	79.1
-Contract of limited duration - %	14.1	5.9	11.2	10.3	11.0	33.6	12.5	9.2
-Contract of unlimited duration - %	85.9	94.1	88.8	89.7	89.0	66.4	87.5	90.8
Usual hours worked per week			~~ -					
<ul> <li>employees working full time</li> <li>employees working part-time</li> </ul>	40.3 19.9	38.3 21.5	38.7 19.1	39.7 19.5	40.4 25.2	40.6 18.0	39.8 22.7	40. <b>4</b> 19.0
Unemployment								······
- 1000	17979	397	193	3179	413	3530	3148	174
- Unemployment rate - %	10.7	9.5	6.8	8.2	9.7	22.2	12.4	11.7
Unemployment by duration (%):								
-less than 6 months -6 to 11 months	33.1 18.6	22.7 16.1	55.6 17.9	34.1 17.2	25.3 18.0	28.0 19.1	41.3 20.5	24.3 16.2
-12 months and more	48.3	61.3	26.5	48.7	56.7	52.9	38.2	59.5
Unemployed (%):								
-seeking a first job	20.5	19.6	3.9	4.9	49.8	21.9	11.2	17.9
-seeking a part-time job	12.7	9.4	15.3	14.3	4.4	4.5	13.4	15.8
-with an attained educational						~~~~	47.0	<u> </u>
level < than upper secondary <sup>(2)</sup>	49.6	53.3	30.3	23.1	44.3	66.6	47.0	68.3
Total of non-actives								
- 1000	135094	4120	1503	28542	4340	16679	20102	1218
- In education - %	19.1	20.9	13.7	15.7	18.2	23.3	23.2	28.3

<sup>(1)</sup> Germany - 1995
 <sup>(2)</sup> Only for unemployed aged 25 to 59

## Table 1 - Labour force survey 1996 - Males and females (1)

I	L	NL	A	Р	FIN	S	UK	
56499	410	15248	7897	9831	5088	8841	57700	Total population -1000
47806 84.6	335 81.6	12406 81.4	6492 82.2	8281 84.2	4118 80.9	7191 81.3	46294 80.2	Population older than 15 years -1000 -% of total population
22788 47.7	171 51.0	7407 59.7	3819 58.8	4780 57.7	2445 59.4	4409 61.3	28515 61.6	Active population -1000 -Activity rate -%
								Total employment
20014 41.9	165 49.3	6932 55.9	3617 55.7	4431 53.5	2064 50.1	3988 55.5	26177 56.5	-1000 -Employment rate-%
93.4 6.6	92.3 7.7	61.9 38.1	85.1 14.9	91.3 8.7	88.4 11.6	76.3 23.7	75.4 24.6	- Full-time - % - Part-time - %
6.7 32.2 61.1	2.6 22.9 74.4	3.8 23.2 73.1	7.4 30.3 62.3	12.2 31.3 56.5	7.9 27.1 65.0	3.3 25.9 70.9	2.0 27.4 70.6	-In the agriculture - % -In the industry - % -In the services - %
								Employees
14242 71.2	149 90.3	6081 87.7	3095 85.6	3172 71.6	1720 83.4	3501 87.8	22678 86.6	-1000 -% of total employment
7.5	2.6	12.0	8.0	10.4	17.3	11.7	6.9	-Contract of limited duration - % -Contract of unlimited duration -
92.5	97.4	88.0	92.0	89.6	82.7	88.3	93.1	%
38.6 24.5	39.5 20.8	39.4 18.7	40.0 22.1	41.2 23.0	38.7 20.7	40.0 23.9	43.9 17.8	Usual hours worked per week - employees working full time - employees working part-time
							-	Unemployment
2774 12.2	6 3.3	476 6.4	202 5.3	349 7.3	381 15.6	421 9.5	2338 8.2	- 1000 -Unemployment rate - %
19.2 15.1 65.6	55.4 16.9 27.6	18.6 32.4 49.0	57.5 16.8 25.6	33.3 13.6 53.1		53.4 27.5 19.1	41.9 18.3 39.8	Unemployment by duration (%): -less than 6 months -6 to 11 months -12 months and more
53.7	25.1	24.6	5.2	19.8	29.0	4.8	11.5	Unemployed (%): -seeking a first job
12.3	15.5	51.2	19.3	1.2	6.7	10.1	18.6	-seeking a part-time job -with an attained educational
59.8	68.9	42.4	33.8	80.2	35.3	26.6	56.6	level < than upper secondary <sup>(2)</sup>
		·						Total of non-actives
25018 20.6	164 17.6	4998 15.4		3501 25.4		2782 23.4		

## Table 2 - Labour force survey 1996 - Males <sup>(1)</sup>

	EUR 15	В	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL
Total population -1000	178597	4953	2584	39167	4933	18900	27369	1775
Population older than 15 years -1000 -% of total population	145583 81.5	4023 81.2	2126 82.3	32428 82.8	4091 82.9	15659 82.9	21678 79.2	1333 75.1
Active population -1000 -Activity rate -%	96241 66.1	2450 60.9	1528 71.9	22237 68.6	2625 64.2	9756 62.3	13799 63.7	913 68.5
Total employment								
-1000 -Employment rate-%	87095 59.8	2268 56.4	1444 67.9	20668 63.7	2467 60.3	8027 51.3	12330 56.9	807 60.5
- Full-time - % - Part-time - %	94.6 5.4	97.0 3.0	89.2 10.8	96.4 3.6	96.7 3.3	96.9 3.1	94.8 5.2	95.0 5.0
-In the agriculture - % -In the industry - % -In the services - %	5.7 39.6 54.7	3.1 37.3 59.6	5.3 35.6 59.1	3.3 47.5 49.2	18.2 28.1 53.7	9.8 37.9 52.3	5.9 36.2 57.9	15.9 34.3 49.9
Employees								
-1000 -% of total employment	69639 80.0	1828 80.6	1270 88.0	18116 87.7	1311 53.1	5900 73.5	10391 84.3	582 72.1
-Contract of limited duration - % -Contract of unlimited duration -	13.5	4.5	10.7	9.8	10.5	31.9	11.4	7.1
% Usual hours worked per week	86.5	95.5	89.3	90.2	89.5	68.1	88.6	92.9
<ul> <li>employees working full time</li> <li>employees working part-time</li> </ul>	41.1 19.5	38.8 21.5	39.4 13.5	39.9 18.1	41.4 28.6	41.0 19.4	40.5 22.5	42.0 20.4
Unemployment	·				•			
- 1000 -Unemployment rate - %	9146 9.5	181 7.4	85 5.5	1568 7.1	158 6.0	1729 17.7	1469 10.6	107 11.7
Unemployment by duration (%): -less than 6 months -6 to 11 months -12 months and more	34.9 18.5 46.6	24.8 16.3 58.9	55.8 16.1 28.1	36.7 17.4 45.9	33.3 19.4 47.3	33.8 20.4 45.9	43.2 20.3 36.4	20.8 14.6 64.6
Unemployed (%): -seeking a first job	17.9	18.4	2.9	5.0	40.8	16.9	9.7	16.2
-seeking a part-time job -with an attained educational	4.5	1.9	10.8	4.0	2.5	1.9	3.6	3.4
level < than upper secondary <sup>(2)</sup>	51.9	58.3	29.2	22.9	45.4	73.0	47.0	75.8
Total of non-actives								
- 1000 - In education - %	49342 25.7	1573 27.2	598 14.1	10191 23.3	1466 25.9	5904 31.4	7878 28.3	419 40.0

<sup>(1)</sup> Germany - 1995 <sup>(2)</sup> Only for unemployed aged 25 to 59

# Table 2 - Labour force survey 1996 - Males <sup>(1)</sup>

1	L	NL	Α	Р	FIN	S	UK	
27396	203	7574	3815	4711	2468	4369	28381	Total population -1000
22921 83.7	165 81.1	6121 80.8	3095 81.1	3905 82.9	1979 80.2	3522 80.6	22537 79.4	Population older than 15 years -1000 -% of total population
14183 61.9	108 65.4	4310 70.4	2161 69.8	2621 67.1	1276 64.5	2304 65.4	15969 70.9	Active population -1000 -Activity rate -%
								Total employment
12829 56.0	105 63.8	4086 66.7	2045 66.1	2455 62.9	1077 54.4	2064 58.6	14423 64.0	-1000 -Employment rate-%
96.9 3.1	98.5 1.5	83.0 17.0	95.8 4.2	94.9 5.1	92.1 7.9	91.2 8.8	91.9 8.1	- Full-time - % - Part-time - %
6.8 38.1 55.1	3.2 32.2 64.5	4.8 32.2 63.1	6.5 41.6 51.9	11.2 38.7 50.1	9.9 39.1 51.0	4.7 38.8 56.5	2.6 38.5 58.9	-In the agriculture - % -In the industry - % -In the services - %
								Employees
8746 68.2	94 89.2	3528 86.4	1748 85.4	1715 69.9	844 78.4	1706 82.7	11860 82.2	-1000 -% of total employment
6.6	2.4	9.1	8.1	9.9	14.0	9. <b>9</b>	5.9	-Contract of limited duration - % -Contract of unlimited duration -
93.4	97.6	90.9	91.9	90.1	86.0	90.1	94.1	%
39.8 29.8	40.4 30.9	39.5 19.3	40.2 22.3	42.7 32.3	39.4 19.0	40.1 18.7	45.7 16.3	Usual hours worked per week - employees working full time - employees working part-time
<u> </u>								Unemployment
1355 9.6	3 2.5	224 5.2	115 5.3	167 6. <b>4</b>	199 15.6	240 10.4	1546 9.7	- 1000 -Unemployment rate - %
21.3 14.6 64.1	51.1 18.8 30.1	18.8 27.7 53.5	61.8 15.0 23.2	35.9 12.4 51.7	41.5 18.0 40.5	49.6 28.9 21.5	36.5 17.6 45.9	
50.6	30.3	27.7	3.3	17.9	27.4	4.7	10.3	Unemployed (%): -seeking a first job
3.1	4.9	27.9	4.6	1.2	3.8	4.3	7.4	-seeking a part-time job -with an attained educational
65.5	64.6	42.9	30.3	80.2	37.6	28.3	55.1	level < than upper secondary <sup>(2)</sup>
- <u> </u>					<u> </u>			Total of non-actives
8737 28.7	57 26.4	1812 20.7	934 21.9	1284 33.3	702 22.3	1218 26.9	6568 17.4	- 1000 - In education - %



# Table 3 - Labour force survey 1996 - Females <sup>(1)</sup>

	EUR 15	В	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL
Total population -1000	188061	5171	2630	41403	5321	19948	29204	1786
Population older than 15 years -1000 -% of total population	156786 83.4	4285 82.9	2192 83.3	35075 84.7	4531 85.1	16892 84.7	23767 81.4	1367 76.5
Active population -1000 -Activity rate -%	71034 45.3	1738 40.6	1287 58.7	16724 47.7	1656 36.6	6117 36.2	11543 48.6	568 41.6
Total employment								
-1000 -Employment rate-%	62200 39.7	1522 35.5	1179 53.8	15114 43.1	1401 30.9	4315 25.5	9865 41.5	501 36.7
- Full-time - % - Part-time - %	68.5 31.5	69.5 30.5	65.5 34.5	66.2 33.8	91.0 9.0	83.0 17.0	70.5 29.5	77.9 22.1
-In the agriculture - % -In the industry - % -In the services - %	4.3 16.5 79.3	2.2 13.3 84.6	2.1 15.1 82.8	3.0 20.2 76.7	23.9 13.7 62.4	6.4 13.6 79.9	3.5 14.4 82.0	3.7 16.2 <b>8</b> 0.1
Employees								
-1000 -% of total employment	54064 86.9	1281 84.2	1108 93.9	13829 91.5	789 56.3	3328 77.1	8878 90.0	453 90.3
-Contract of limited duration - % -Contract of unlimited duration - %	14.7 85.3	8.0 92.0	11.8 88.2	11.0 89.0	11.9 88.1	36.7 63.3	13. <b>8</b> 86.2	11.8 88.2
Usual hours worked per week - employees working full time - employees working part-time	38.9 20.0	37.1 21.5	<b>3</b> 7.6 21.2	39.1 19.7	38.9 22.5	39.6 17.6	38.8 22.7	38.0 18.5
Unemployment								
- 1000 -Unemployment rate - %	8834 12.4	216 12.4	108 8.4	1610 9.6	255 15.4	1802 29.5	1679 14.5	67 11.8
Unemployment by duration (%): -less than 6 months -6 to 11 months -12 months and more	31.2 18.7 50.1	20.9 15.8 63.2	19.3	31.6 17.0 51.3	17.2	22.5 17.8 59.6	20.6	29.9 18.9 51.2
Unemployed (%): -seeking a first job	23.2	20.6	4.7	4.8	55.4	26.7	12.4	20.7
-seeking a part-time job -with an attained educational	21.2	15.7	18.9	24.4	5.6	7.1		35.5
level < than upper secondary <sup>(2)</sup>	47.3	49.1	31.1	23.2	43.6	60.5	46.9	55.7
Total of non-actives								
- 1000 - In education - %	85752 15.2	2547 17.0		18351 11.5	2874 14.3	10776 18.9		799 22.1

<sup>(1)</sup> Germany - 1995
 <sup>(2)</sup> Only for unemployed aged 25 to 59

#### NL Ρ FIN UK L A Ş 1 Total population 29104 207 7674 4082 5120 2621 4472 29319 -1000 Population older than 15 years 23756 24885 3396 2140 3669 -1000 170 6284 4375 85.5 82.1 81.9 83.2 85.5 81.7 82.1 81.0 -% of total population Active population 2105 12546 8604 63 3098 1658 2159 1168 -1000 34.6 37.0 49.3 48.8 49.3 54.6 57.4 52.8 -Activity rate -% Total employment 7185 60 2846 1572 1977 987 1924 11754 -1000 35.3 28.9 45.3 46.3 45.2 46.1 52.4 49.5 -Employment rate-% 87.3 81.6 31.7 71.2 87.0 84.4 60.3 55.2 - Full-time - % 39.7 44.8 12.7 18.4 68.3 28.8 13.0 15.6 - Part-time - % 6.4 1.6 2.3 8.6 13.5 5.7 1.7 1.2 -In the agriculture - % 21.7 13.9 12.0 13.9 6.7 9.6 15.6 22.0 -In the industry - % 72.0 91.6 88.1 75.8 64.5 80.4 86.2 85.0 -In the services - % Employees 5496 55 2553 1347 1457 876 1795 10818 -1000 76.5 92.1 89.7 85.7 73.7 88.8 93.3 92.0 -% of total employment 20.5 8.0 8.9 3.1 15.9 7.9 10.9 13.3 -Contract of limited duration - % -Contract of unlimited duration -91.1 96.9 89.1 79.5 86.7 92.0 84.1 92.1 % Usual hours worked per week 39.9 36.4 37.7 39.0 39.8 39.3 38.0 40.6 - employees working full time 22.6 19.6 18.5 22.0 20.9 21.3 24.9 18.0 - employees working part-time Unemployment 1419 3 251 86 182 182 181 792 - 1000 4.7 8.1 5.2 8.4 15.6 8.6 6.3 16.5 -Unemployment rate - % Unemployment by duration (%): 48.0 58.3 52.3 17.2 59.5 18.5 51.9 30.8 -less than 6 months 15.7 15.3 36.6 19.3 14.8 20.9 25.7 19.7 -6 to 11 months 67.1 25.2 45.0 28.8 54.4 31.0 15.9 28.0 -12 months and more Unemployed (%): 56.6 20.4 21.8 7.7 21.5 30.8 5.0 13.8 -seeking a first job 21.2 25.2 72.1 39.0 1.1 10.0 17.9 40.4 -seeking a part-time job -with an attained educational level < than upper secondary (2) 54.5 72.0 42.0 38.5 80.3 32.9 24.2 59.5 Total of non-actives 16281 107 3187 1738 2217 971 1565 11210 - 1000 16.3 12.9 12.4 12.3 20.9 17.5 20.6 10.1 - In education - %

#### Table 3 - Labour force survey 1996 - Females <sup>(1)</sup>

Table 4 - Labour fo	orce survey 1996 - I	Population aged	under 25 ye	ars <sup>(1)</sup>
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		<b>D</b> 1		<u> </u>				
	EUR 15	В	DK	D	GR	E	<b>F</b>	IRL
Total population -1000	112410	3099	1575	21798	3010	12834	18468	1492
Population older than 15 years -1000 -% of total population	48120 42.8	1282 41.4	680 43.2	8731 40.1	1377 45.8	6538 50.9	7339 39.7	631 42.3
Active population -1000 -Activity rate -%	22447 46.6	420 32.8	502 73.8	4581 52.5	509 36.9	2633 40.3	2585 35.2	274 43.5
Total employment			······································					
-1000 -Employment rate-%	17631 36.6	334 26.1	449 66.0	4193 48.0	350 25.4	1531 23.4	1873 25.5	224 35.6
- Full-time - % - Part-time - %	80.4 19.6	84.3 15.7	56.0 44.0	93.3 6.7	90.9 9.1	87.1 12.9	75.8 24.2	86.5 13.5
-In the agriculture - % -In the industry - % -In the services - %	4.0 32.4 63.6	2.8 31.8 65.4	5.1 23.6 71.3	2.3 36.9 60.8	17.1 25.0 57.9	7.1 33.5 59.4	4.0 29.2 66.8	5.9 33.2 60.9
Employees								
-1000 -% of total employment	16373 92.9	301 90.0	444 98.9	4108 98.0	227 64.8	1299 84.8	1823 97.3	214 95.5
-Contract of limited duration - % -Contract of unlimited duration - %	35.1 64.9	21.2 78.8	30.7 69.3	38.5 61.5	25.1 74.9	75.4 24.6	47.1 52.9	17.3 82.7
Usual hours worked per week - employees working full time - employees working part-time	40.2 16.2	38.3 21.8	37. <b>9</b> 11.3	39.0 15.8	42.5 25.6	41.2 18.2	39.7 22.4	40.5 18.3
Unemployment								
- 1000 -Unemplo <b>yment rate -</b> %	4816 21.5	86 20.5	53 10.6	388 8.5	159 31.2	1102 41.9	712 27.6	50 18.1
Unemployment by duration (%): -less than 6 months -6 to 11 months -12 months and more	38.1 23.3 38.6	30.1 31.7 38.2	76.0 13.5 10.5	52.1 21.2 26.8	26.0 20.5 53.5	31.9 24.8 43.3	50.6 28.4 21.0	33.1 20.0 46.9
Unemployed (%): -seeking a first job -seeking a part-time job	47.9 10.4	56.2 5.4	10.4 28.6	21.2 6.2	79.5 4.2	45.4 4.3	33.1 8.0	45.1 7.2
Total of non-actives	<b>•</b>						·,	
- 1000 - In education - %	25672 88.8	862 95.5	<b>178</b> 73.0	4 <b>15</b> 0 89.7	869 87.4	3904 92.7	4754 93.6	357 92.6

<sup>(1)</sup> Germany - 1995

								ion aged under 25 years
I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	
16877	124	4807	2364	3159	1576	2731	18497	Total population -1000
8184	48	1965	958	1609	606	1081	7090	Population older than 15 years
48.5	39.1	40.9	40.5	50.9	38.4	39.6	38.3	-% of total population
3148	20	1201	571	681	288	466	4570	Active population -1000
38.5	40.7	61.1	59.6	42.3	47.5	43.1	64.5	-Activity rate -%
								Total employment
2076	18	1064	532	565	168	366	3889	-1000
25.4	36.9	54.1	55.5	35.1	27.7	33.8	54.9	-Employment rate-%
91.8	92.6	43.0	91.7	93.7	57.5	61.2	70.9	- Full-time - %
8.2	7.4	57.0	8.3	6.3	42.5	38.8	29.1	- Part-time - %
6.7	3.0	4.2	3.0	5.2	6.7	2.7	1.7	-In the agriculture - %
46.3 47.0	25.3 71.8	21.3 74.5	36.1 60.9	47.8 47.1	23.5 69.8	26.1 71.2	24.4 73.9	-In the industry - % -In the services - %
47.0	71.0	14.0	00.0	47.1	00.0	11.4	10.0	Employees
1717	18	1027	514	502	153	348	3679	-1000
82.7	98.7	96.5	96.5	88.8	90.9	95.2	94.6	-% of total employment
18.7	10.9	30.3	27.9	27.4	49.3	37.0	12.2	-Contract of limited duration -
81.3	89.1	69.7	72.1	72.6	50.7	63.0	87.8	-Contract of unlimited duration
01.5	09.1	09.7	12.1	72.0	50.7	05.0	07.0	
40.5	39.8	39.5	39.6	43.0	38.1	40.0	41.7	<ul> <li>Usual hours worked per week</li> <li>employees working full time</li> </ul>
25.1	28.3	13.4	23.0	24.5	16.2	16.0	13.8	- employees working part-time
								Unemployment
1072	2	137	39	116	119	100	681	- 1000
34.1	9.2	11.4	6.9	17.0	41.6	21.5	14.9	-Unemployment rate - %
								Unemployment by duration (%
17.0	44.3	14.7	65.0	44.9	74.0	61.1	53.8	-less than 6 months
18.8 64.2	22.4 33.3	50.5 34.8	17.6 17.4	14.3 40.7	15.6 10.4	29.4 9.5	21.2 25.1	-6 to 11 months -12 months and more
04.2	00.0	04.0	17.4	40.1	10.4	0.0	20.1	
76.7	49.5	52.5	20.6	45.3	73.4	11.2	33.9	Unemployed (%): -seeking a first job
7.4	7.7	62.9	13.0	2.5	13.7	12.5	20.9	-seeking a part-time job
								Total of non-actives
5036	29	764	387	928	318	615	2520	- 1000
87.0	93.4	75.4	91.3	90.7	85.6	85.0	78.8	- In education - %

#### Table 4 - Labour force survey 1996 - Population aged under 25 years (1)

# Explanatory notes

The European Labour Force Survey was conducted in spring 1996 in the 15 Member States of the European Union in accordance with Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3711/91 of 16 December 1991. For Germany the published results are for the second quarter of 1995.

A detailed description of the sampling methods, the adjustment procedures, the definitions and the common Community coding currently used in the labour force survey is presented in the publication Labour Force Survey – Methods and definitions, 1992 series.

#### Basic concepts and definitions

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

The survey does not cover persons living in collective households such as hostels, halls of residence, medical care establishments, religious institutions, collective workers' accommodation, etc. About 4 million people are estimated to live in such institutions.

Persons in employment are those who during the reference week did any work for pay or profit for at least one hour, or were not working but had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Family workers are also included.

Unemployed persons are those who, during the reference week :

(a) had no employment, and

(b) were available to start work within the next two weeks, and

(c) had actively sought employment at some time during the previous four weeks. In addition, unemployed persons include those who had no employment and had already found a job to start later.

Duration of unemployment is defined as:

(a) the duration of search for a job, or

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

The active population is defined as the sum of persons in employment and unemployed persons.

Inactive persons are those who are not classified as persons in employment nor as unemployed persons.

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

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

Activity rates represent the labour force as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over and living in private households.

Employment rates represent persons in employment as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over and living in private households.

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

