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Labour Force Survey

Quarter 3 2020 Results

17 November 2020





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Section 1:

Introduction

COVID-19 and the Labour Force Survey (LFS)

- The methodology in the Information Note published alongside the Q2 2020 LFS results on 24 August 2020 still applies, please see link <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/in/lfs/informationnote-implicationsofcovid-19onthelabourforcesurvey-quarter22020update/>
- COVID-19 continues to have a very significant impact on the data collection for the LFS – all LFS interviews for Q3 2020 were carried out by telephone
- The Q3 2020 LFS results today adhere to the standard International Labour Organisation (ILO) criteria for calculating labour market estimates



COVID-19 Adjusted Unemployment Estimates

- COVID-19 Adjusted Unemployment rates and volumes have been published as part of the Monthly Unemployment Estimates release since March 2020
- Should be considered as the upper bound for Unemployment
- The latest COVID-19 Adjusted Estimates of Unemployment (March 2020 to October 2020 inclusive) were published on 04 November 2020



COVID-19 Adjusted Employment Estimates

- COVID-19 Adjusted Employment Estimates were first published in the LFS in Q1 2020
- Should be considered as the lower bound for Employment
- COVID-19 Adjusted Estimates of Employment volumes for persons 15 years and over and corresponding Employment Rates for persons aged 15-64 are included in the LFS today for the end of September 2020 and the end of October 2020



Labour Market Insight Series

- The third in the Labour Market Insight Series of bulletin style releases is being published today – see <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/br/b-lfs/labourmarketinsightseries3q32020/>
- Designed to provide high-level supplementary labour market analysis to users alongside the current outputs and metrics
- Data is sourced from the LFS and administrative datasets
- Today's bulletin is specifically designed to give some additional context to the standard LFS results for Q3 2020



ILO classification in the LFS

- **Employment**
 - Persons who worked in the week before the survey for one hour or more for payment or profit, including work on the family farm or business and all persons who were away from work during the reference week but had a job to which they could return to.



ILO classification in the LFS

- **Unemployment**

- Persons who in the week before the survey, were
 - without work
 - available to start work within the next two weeks
 - had taken specific steps, in the preceding four weeks to find work



ILO classification and LFS

- **Inactive**
 - All other persons



Persons away from work due to temporary lay-off

- Specific rules apply, depending on degree of attachment to job
- **Employed if**
 - Period of absence not expected to be more than 3 months
 - If period of absence expected to be more than 3 months and continues to receive at least 50% of wage/salary from employer



Persons away from work due to temporary lay-off

- **Unemployed if**
 - Expected period of absence is more than 3 months or unknown and continues to receive less than half of wage/salary from employer
 - Active steps were taken in previous four weeks to find work and is available to start work within the next 2 weeks
- **Otherwise Inactive**





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Section 2:

Headline Statistics



LFS Q3 2020 headline estimates

Indicator	Standard LFS Methodology (ILO) Q3 2020	COVID-19 Adjusted Estimates September 2020 (end of Q3 2020)
Employed persons aged 15 years and over	2,295,200	2,078,058
Employment rate for those aged 15-64 years	67.7%	61.0%



LFS Q3 2020 headline estimates

Indicator	Standard LFS	COVID-19 Adjusted
	Methodology (ILO) Q3 2020	Estimates September 2020 (end of Q3 2020)
Unemployed persons aged 15-74 years	174,700	394,538
Unemployment rate for those aged 15-74 years	7.1%	15.9%



LFS Q3 2020 headline estimates

Indicator	Standard LFS Methodology (ILO) Q3 2020	COVID-19 Adjusted Estimates September 2020 (end of Q3 2020)
In labour force	2,469,800	
Participation rate	62.0%	-
Not in labour force	1,514,300	-



Labour Market Estimates – ILO criteria

- Many of those who were away from work during the reference week or permanently laid-off were either still classified as employed or failed to meet the criteria for being classified as unemployed and would have defaulted to being classified as inactive.

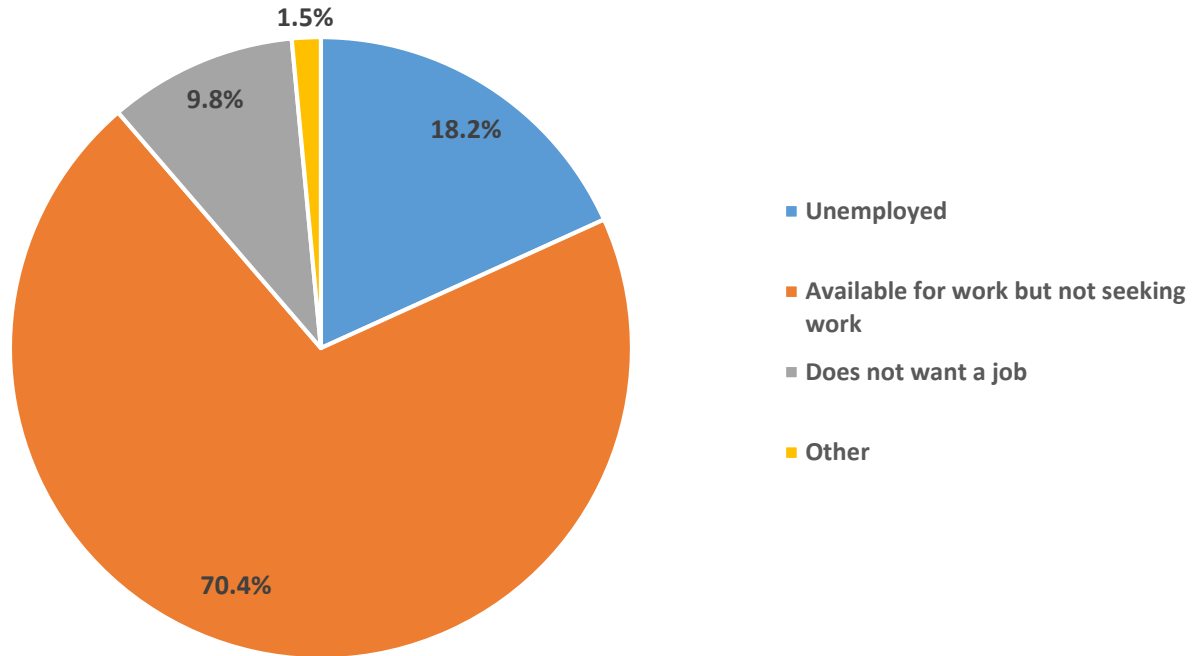


Persons away from work during reference week in Q3 2020 but had job to return to

- Expected to return to work within three months or were paid at least half their wage/salary
- Classified as EMPLOYED



Profile of persons who have been laid-off work since end March 2020



ILO Status of PUP/TWSS Recipients

Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over and in receipt of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) or the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme (TWSS) and all persons in Q3 2020 classified by ILO status, LFS Q3 2020

	PUP recipients in Q3 2020	TWSS recipients in Q3 2020	All persons aged 15 years and over
	%	%	%
Employed	58.8	95.7	57.6
Unemployed	15.3	0.4	4.4
Inactive	25.8	3.8	38.0





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Section 3: Employment



Employment and hours worked

Number of persons in employment (ILO), number of persons 'Away' from work and Actual Hours worked per week (in millions) in Q3 2019 and Q3 2020

	Q3 2019	Q3 2020	Annual Change
Employment	2,326,900	2,295,200	-31,700 (-1.4%)
'Away' from work (not working)	220,500	298,900	+78,400 (+35.6%)
Actual Hours Worked (millions)	74.5	70.5	-4.0 (-5.4%)

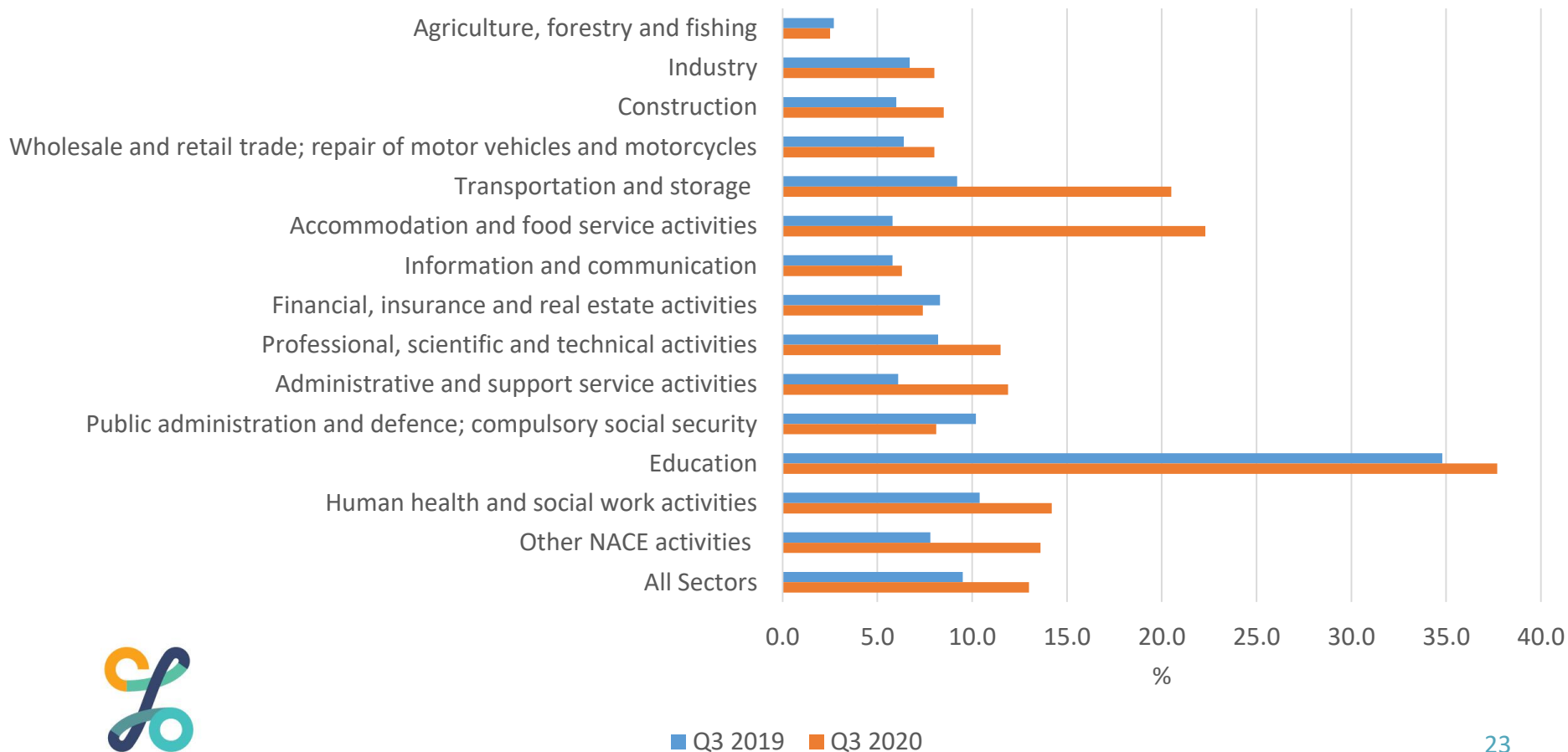


**Absences during reference week as a percentage of employment for each
Economic Sector Q2 2019 - Q3 2020 and Q2 2020 - Q3 2020**

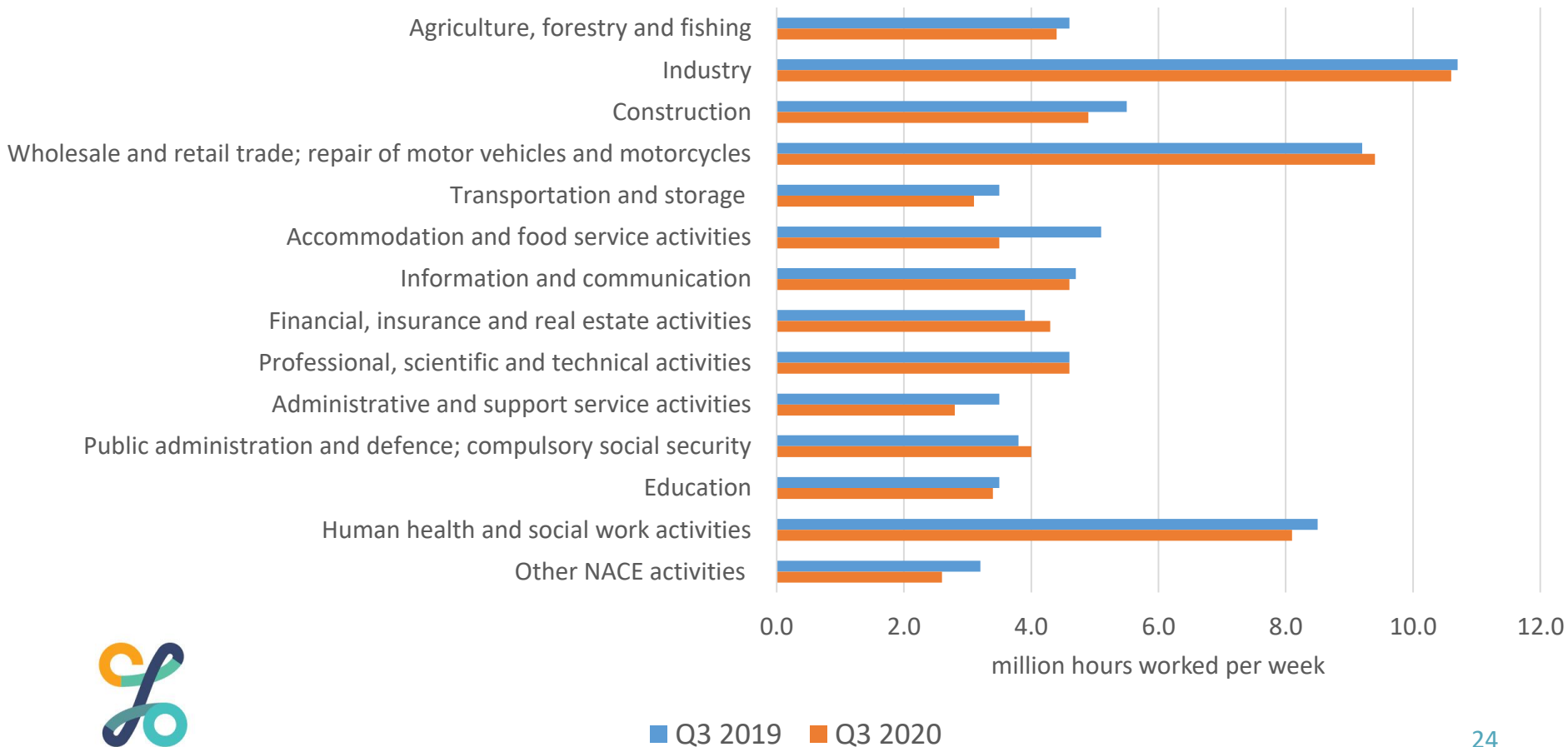
Economic Sector	Q2 2019	Q3 2019	Q2 2020	Q3 2020
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1.4%	2.7%	4.7%	2.5%
Industry	5.0%	6.7%	15.5%	8.0%
Construction	5.3%	6.0%	45.3%	8.5%
Wholesale & Retail trade; Repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	5.1%	6.4%	27.0%	8.0%
Transportation & Storage	4.3%	9.2%	28.8%	20.5%
Accommodation & Food service Activities	6.7%	5.8%	68.5%	22.3%
Information & Communication	4.2%	5.8%	6.9%	6.3%
Financial, insurance and real estate activities	6.2%	8.3%	8.3%	7.4%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	6.1%	8.2%	15.2%	11.5%
Administrative & Support Service Activities	4.3%	6.1%	27.5%	11.9%
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	6.3%	10.2%	7.6%	8.1%
Education	17.0%	34.8%	30.5%	37.7%
Human Health and Social Work Activities	7.2%	10.4%	22.1%	14.2%
Other NACE Activities	6.3%	7.8%	56.0%	13.6%



Absences from work during the reference week as a percentage of the numbers employed by Economic Sector, LFS Q3 2019 and Q3 2020



Total actual hours worked (millions) in the reference week by Economic Sector (where stated), Q3 2019 and Q3 2020



Employment by sector

- Decreases in 7 sectors
- Largest rates of annual decrease:
 - *Accommodation and Food Services sector (-16.1% or -28,600)*
 - *Administration and Support Services sector (-13.4% or -14,600)*
 - *Other NACE Activities sector (-10.7% or -12,800)*
 - *Construction sector (-8.8% or -13,300)*
- Largest rates of annual increase:
 - *Financial, Insurance & Real Estate Activities sector (+8.2% or +9,400)*
 - *Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities sector (+7.0% or +9,300)*



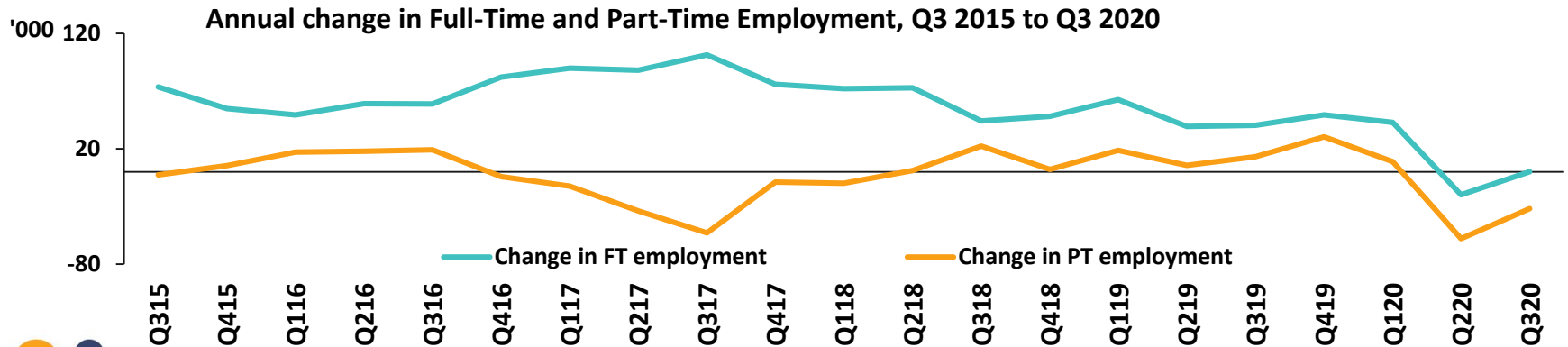
Unadjusted Employment by gender

	Q3 2020	Annual change
Males	1,246,300	-13,700 (-1.1%)
Females	1,048,800	-18,000 (-1.7%)

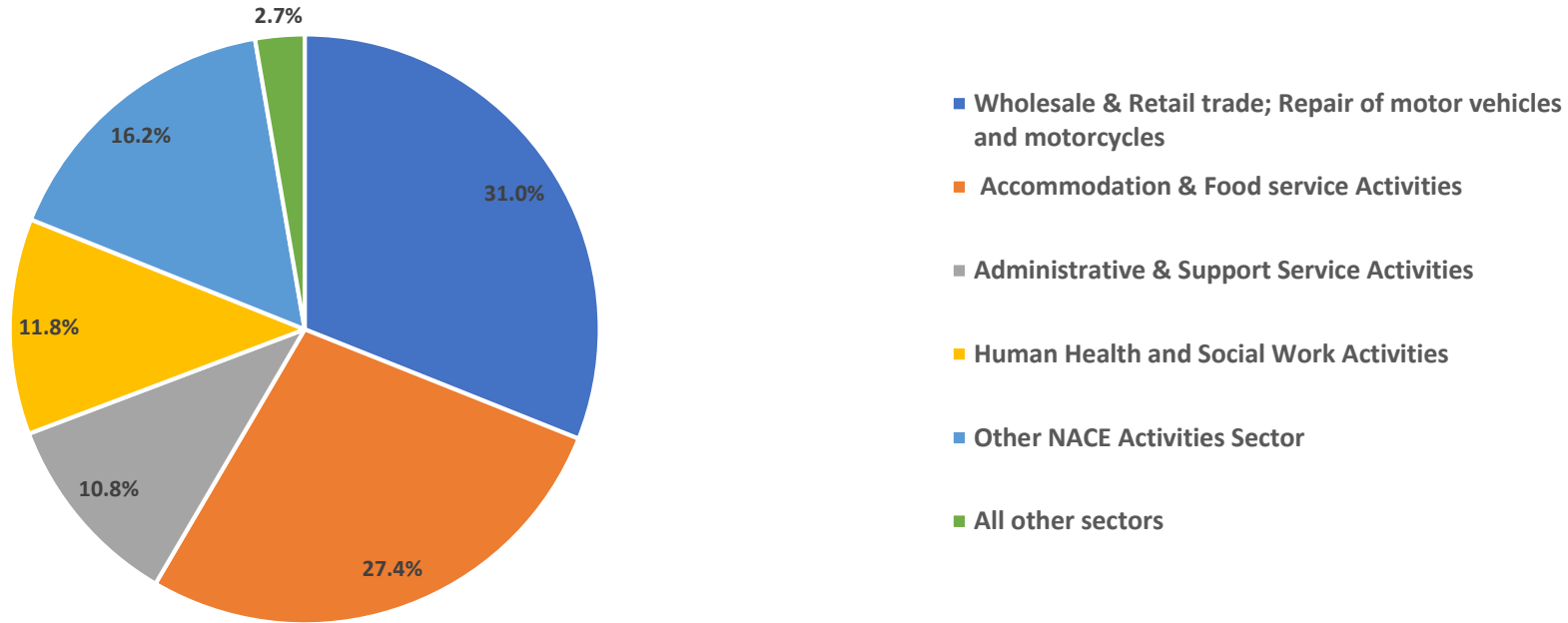


Annual change in full-time/part-time employment

- In Q3 2020:
 - Full-time : virtually unchanged at 1,853,600
 - Part-time: -31,900 (-6.7%) to 441,600
- Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) employment in main job down 15,600 (-0.7%) between Q3 2019 and Q3 2020



Percentage breakdown by Economic Sector of the annual change in female part-time employment in Q3 2020



Part-time underemployment

Indicator	Q3 2020	Annual change
Part-time underemployment	117,700	+5,900 (+5.3%)

- Part-time underemployment accounted for 26.7% of part-time employment in Q3 2020.



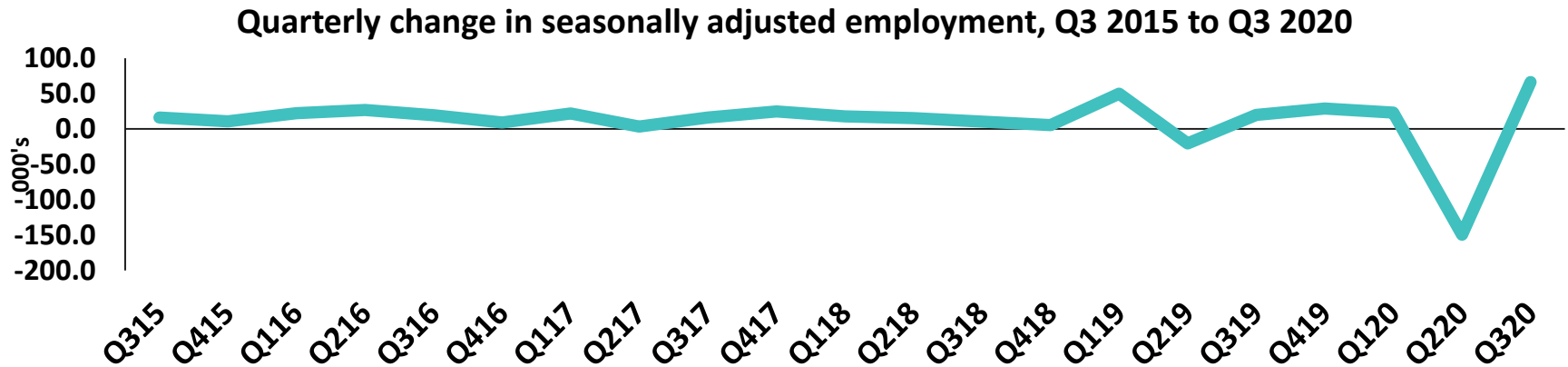
Employment status

Indicator	Q3 2020	Annual change
Self employed	312,500	-6,200 (-2.0%)
Employees	1,968,900	-28,700 (-1.4%)



Employment – Seasonally adjusted

- Seasonally adjusted employment was 2,289,000 in Q3 2020, up +3.0% or +66,300 from previous quarter





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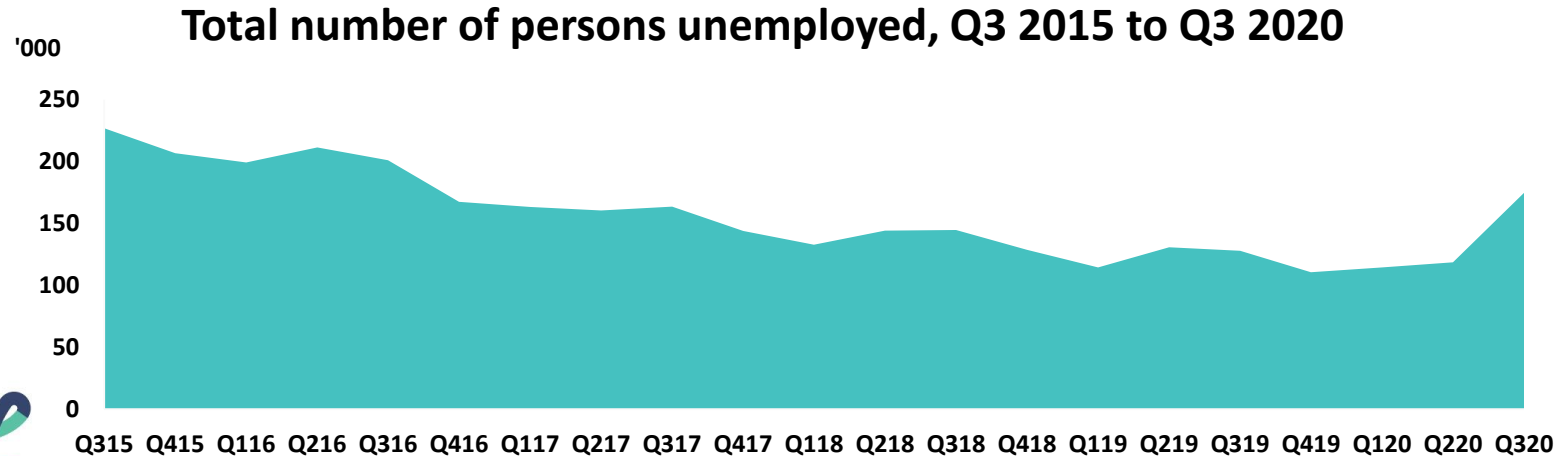
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Section 4: Unemployment



Unemployment - unadjusted

- 174,700 persons unemployed in Q3 2020
- Unemployment up +36.4% or +46,600 over the year
- Unemployment rate up from 5.2% to 7.1% over the year



Unemployment by gender

Gender	Indicator	Q3 2020	Annual change
Males	Unemployed	89,100	+16,700 (+23.0%)
	Rate	6.7%	+1.3 percentage points
Females	Unemployed	85,600	+30,000 (+53.8%)
	Rate	7.6%	+2.6 percentage points



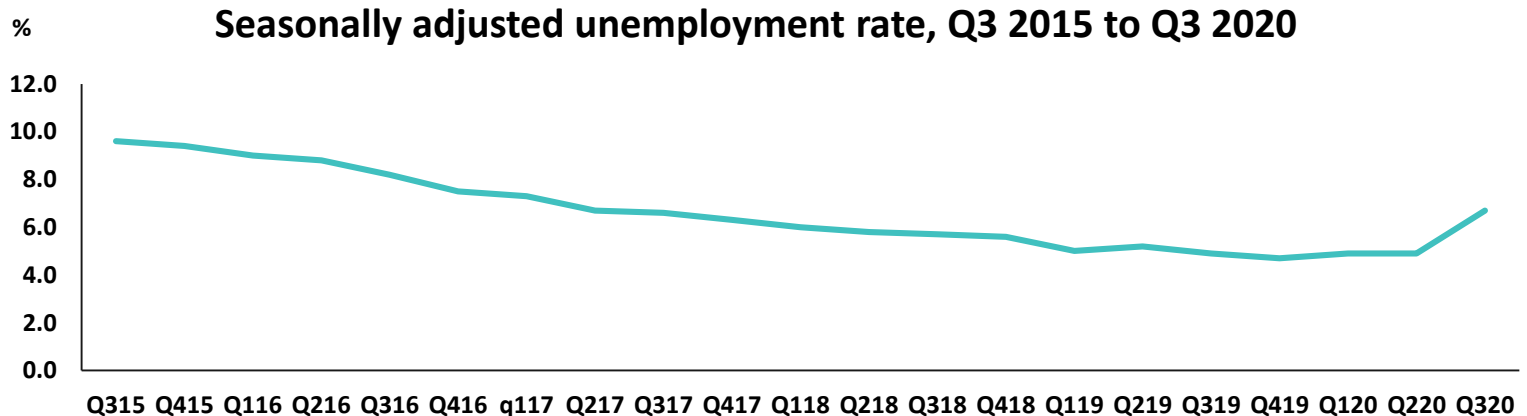
Unemployment - duration

- Long-term unemployment rate unchanged from 1.4% over the year
- Total number of persons classified as long-term unemployed is now 34,600 – down 400 (-1.0%) from Q3 2019
- Long-term unemployment as proportion of all unemployed now 19.8%.



Unemployment - seasonally adjusted

- Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate up from 4.9% to 6.7% over the quarter
- The seasonally adjusted number of persons unemployed is up by 51,000 (+45.1%) from 113,300 to 164,300.





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Section 5: Labour Force



Labour Force

- **Unadjusted**

- Slight increase over the year to nearly 2,470,000 in Q3 2020
- Participation decreased over the year from 62.5% to 62.0%
- Demographic effect +27,900
- Participation effect -13,000

- **Seasonally Adjusted**

- Increase of 117,600 or 5.0% over the quarter to 2,462,600 in Q3 2020.





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Section 6:

Forthcoming releases, IESS regulation and Summary of Q3 2020 LFS results

Forthcoming releases

- Industrial Disputes Q3 2020 – 24 November 2020
- Earnings and Labour Costs Q3 2020 – 25 November 2020
- Labour Market Insight Series 4 Bulletin – 25 November 2020
- Monthly Unemployment Estimates (November 2020) – 2 December 2020
- Live Register (November 2020) – 4 December 2020
- LFS Q4 2020 – 23 February 2021
- Insights Series – further topics and release dates to be confirmed



Integration of European Social Statistics (IESS) Regulation

- European wide regulation coming into force in Q1 2021
- Covers various social statistics themes including the Labour Market
- Includes changes to LFS questionnaire
 - New variables added
 - Some variables removed
 - Other variables have changed or will only be available on annual or biennial basis



Integration of European Social Statistics (IESS) Regulation

- Possible break in series for LFS in countries across Europe in 2021
- The IESS Regulation only mandates for:
 - The elimination of breaks for 14 series back to 2009.
 - Series include Employment and unemployment levels in thousands broken down by sex and age groups 15-24, 25-64, 65+ and, for employment only, age group 20-64
 - The transmission of these break-free series is to provided to Eurostat by 31 December 2021



Integration of European Social Statistics (IESS) Regulation

Actions by Ireland

- The changes required to the LFS under IESS are much less substantial than for some other member states
- CSO plan on back-casting these series to Q1 1998. A pilot parallel survey of the existing LFS questionnaire and new IESS compliant LFS questionnaire is currently underway and will inform this process
- The back-casting exercise will be carried out prior to the publication of the Q1 2021 LFS results – likely delay in publication of Q1 2021 results as a result
- Where possible, the back-casting exercise will include additional series that are not mandated for under IESS. Caution – limited scope.



In summary....

- Results for Q3 2020, like previous quarters, have been compiled according to ILO definitions and concepts
- The effects of COVID-19 are apparent from the results. Over the year, employment was down 31,700 while unemployment was up by 46,600.
- The effect of easing of public health restrictions in the 3rd quarter was also evident. Over the quarter, employment grew by 66,300 while unemployment was up by 51,000.
- The number of hours worked per week has recovered from the low of 59.2 million hours observed in Q2 2020. Today's results show total hours worked per week to be 70.5 million in Q3 2020 which is down 5.4% from a year earlier.
- Absences from work during the reference week were nearly 300,000 compared to just over 550,000 in Q2 2020.



- **Any questions?**





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Thank You.