

Informations *Rapides*

15 février 2018 - n° 38

Main indicators



■ ILO unemployment rate and labour market indicators: results of the Labour Force Survey in Q4 2017

The unemployment rate decreased by 0.7 points in Q4 2017

The unemployment rate in France decreased by 0.7 points at 8.9% of active population in Q4 2017

On average in Q4 2017, the average ILO unemployment rate in metropolitan France and the overseas departments (excluding Mayotte) stood at 8.9% of the labour force, its lowest level since early 2009. It decreased by 0.7 percentage points quarter-on-quarter, after having increased by 0.2 points in Q3 2017. Over a year, the unemployment rate fell by 1.1 points, its largest decreased since Q1 2008.

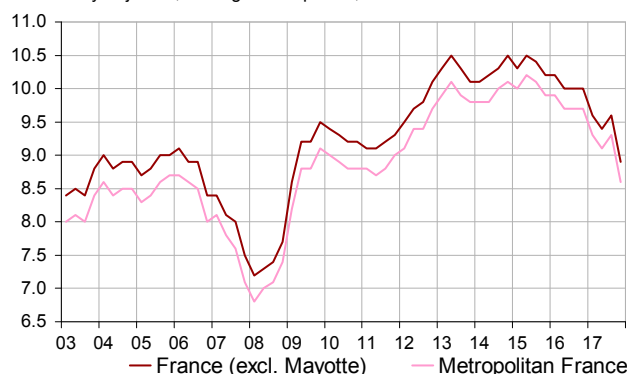
In metropolitan France, the number of unemployed decreased by 205,000 to 2.5 million people; thus, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.7 percentage points compared to Q3 2017, standing at 8.6% of the labour force. The employment rate increased by 0.6 points and the activity rate was almost stable. The unemployment rate decreased across all age groups, particularly among youths and persons aged 25 to 49.

Long-term unemployment fell sharply

Among the unemployed, 1.1 million declared that they had been seeking a job for at least one year. The long-term unemployment rate stood at 3.6% of the labour force in Q4 2017. It decreased by 0.6 percentage points q-o-q and by 0.7 percentage points over a year.

ILO-unemployment rate

Seasonally adjusted, average over quarter, %



Estimation within +/-0.3 point of the level of unemployment rate and of its quarterly variations

Scope: population of people living in households, people aged 15 years or more

Source: INSEE, Labour Force Survey

ILO-unemployment rate in metropolitan France

Seasonally adjusted, average over quarter

	ILO-unemployment rate (%)		Variation in points		Thousands
	2017Q 3	2017Q 4 (p)	over quarter	over year	
Unemployed persons	9.3	8.6	-0.7	-1.1	2,502
15-24 years	21.7	20.7	-1.0	-2.8	567
25-49 years	8.9	8.0	-0.9	-1.1	1,407
50 years and more	6.4	6.1	-0.3	-0.5	529
Men	9.4	8.8	-0.6	-1.1	1,332
15-24 years	22.9	21.4	-1.5	-2.9	323
25-49 years	8.4	7.8	-0.6	-1.1	721
50 years and more	6.9	6.6	-0.3	-0.5	288
Women	9.2	8.4	-0.8	-1.1	1,170
15-24 years	20.2	19.7	-0.5	-2.8	244
25-49 years	9.4	8.1	-1.3	-1.2	686
50 years and more	5.8	5.7	-0.1	-0.4	240
Long-term unemployed persons	4.2	3.6	-0.6	-0.7	1,056

(p) = provisional results

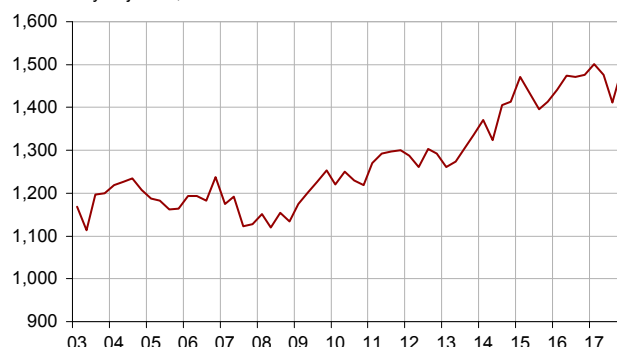
Scope: population of people living in households, people aged 15 years or more in metropolitan France

Source: INSEE, Labour Force Survey

In metropolitan France, among inactive people as defined by the ILO, 1.5 million persons wished to work without being considered as unemployed according to the ILO definition: they made up the **halo of unemployment**. After a fall of 65 000 in Q3 2017, their number rose by 77,000 in Q4 2017 and was almost steady year-on-year (+12,000).

People in the halo of unemployment

Seasonally adjusted, thousands



Scope: population of people living in households in metropolitan France, people aged 15 years or over

Source: INSEE, Labour Force Survey

The employment rate increased by 0.6 percentage points compared to Q3 2017

The **employment rate** of the population aged 15-64 years stood at 65.7%, its highest level since the early 1980s. It increased by 0.6 percentage points compared to Q3 2017, and by 1.0 percentage points y-o-y. It increased across all age groups, particularly among youths and persons aged 50 to 64.

The **full-time equivalent employment rate** stood at 60.9% in Q4 2017. It rose by 0.6 percentage points q-o-q, and by 1.1 percentage points over a year.

Full-time employment rate stood at 53.9% in Q4 2017. It increased by 0.7 percentage points compared to Q3 2017, and by 1.0 percentage points over a year. **Part-time employment rate** stood at 11.8%, a ratio close to its Q3 2017 (-0.1 points) and Q4 2016 level (+0.1 points).

Permanent employment rate for people aged 15 to 64 increased by 0.2 percentage points to 49.1% in Q4 2017. It rose by 0.5 percentage points over a year. **Fixed-term and temporary employment rate** stood at 8.1%. It rose by 0.3 percentage points quarter-on-quarter and by 0.6 percentage points compared to Q4 2016.

Underemployment decreased

In Q4 2017, 5.6% of the employed persons were **underemployed**, which mainly concerns people who have a part-time job and wish to work more. This ratio decreased by 0.5 percentage points compared to Q3 2017, and by 0.6 percentage points year on year.

The activity rate was almost steady in Q4 2017

The **activity rate** of people aged 15-64 stood at 72.0% in Q4 2017, slightly above its Q3 2017 level (+0.1 percentage points). It increased by 0.3 percentage points compared to Q4 2016.

Revisions

The ILO unemployment rate in Q2 and Q3 2017 has been downgraded by 0.1 percentage points compared to the provisional estimate published on 16 November 2017. From next release, results of the Labour Force Survey will not include those of the survey of non-respondents (see Abbreviated Methodology).

ILO employment rate in the population aged 15-64 years

Seasonally adjusted, average over quarter

	% of people in the age group		Variation in points over	
	2017Q3	2017Q4 (p)	quarter	year
Employed people	65.1	65.7	0.6	1.0
Men	68.8	69.3	0.5	1.2
Women	61.5	62.3	0.8	1.0
15-24 years	29.1	29.8	0.7	1.4
25-49 years	80.6	81.0	0.4	0.9
50-64 years	61.3	62.2	0.9	1.4
Included : 55-64 years	51.1	52.2	1.1	1.9
Permanent employment	48.9	49.1	0.2	0.5
Fixed-term and temporary employment	7.8	8.1	0.3	0.6
Full-time employment	53.2	53.9	0.7	1.0
Part-time employment	11.9	11.8	-0.1	0.1
Full-time equivalent employment rate	60.3	60.9	0.6	1.1

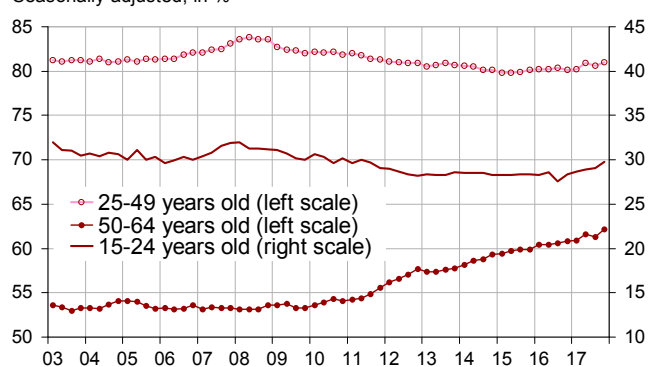
(p) = provisional results

Scope: population of people living in households in metropolitan France, people aged 15-64 years

Source: INSEE, Labour Force Survey

Employment rate by age group

Seasonally adjusted, in %



Scope: population of people living in households in metropolitan France, people aged 15-64 years

Source: INSEE, Labour Force Survey

ILO activity rate in the population aged 15-64 years

Seasonally adjusted, average over quarter

	% of people in the age group		Variation in points over	
	2017Q3	2017Q4 (p)	quarter	year
Active people	71.9	72.0	0.1	0.3
Men	76.1	76.1	0.0	0.4
Women	67.8	68.0	0.2	0.2
15-24 years	37.1	37.6	0.5	0.5
25-49 years	88.4	88.0	-0.4	-0.1
50-64 years	65.6	66.4	0.8	1.2
Included : 55-64 years	54.6	55.7	1.1	1.6

(p) = provisional results

Scope: population of people living in households in metropolitan France, people aged 15-64 years

Source: INSEE, Labour Force Survey

For more information

An **unemployed person for the International Labour Office** (ILO) is someone of working age (15 years or more) who did not work, even one hour, during the reference week, who is available to work within two weeks and who looked actively for a job in the previous month (or has found a job which begins in three months).

- Complementary data (long series, monthly data) and metadata (methodology, linked internet pages, etc.) are available on the web page of this indicator: <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques?debut=0&theme=23&collection=5>
- Historical data are available on the BDM: <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/series/103167923> ; <https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/series/102412458>
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