



المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

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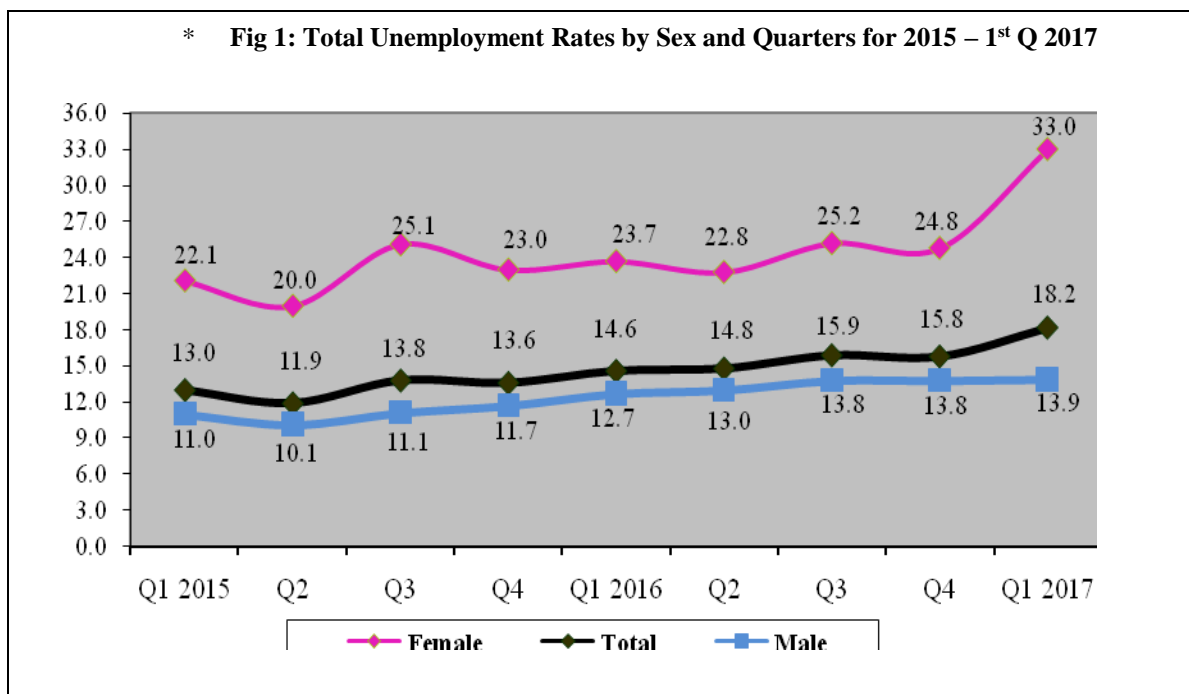
The new methodology of the ILO and the increase in the survey sample size based on the new framework provided by the Population Census of 2015, the *Unemployment Rate* during the First Quarter of 2017 reached 13.9% for males, against 33.0% for females and the general unemployment rate was 18.2%.

The Department of Statistics issued its quarterly report on the Unemployment Rate during the first quarter of 2017 on the basis of a new improved methodology and questionnaire for the labor force survey starting from the first round of 2017 to cope with the new international recommendations of the ILO in view of the importance of the labor market indicators in the planning and development process. Most important of these recommendation is “narrowing down” the concept of employed persons by excluding the un paid workers from the “employed persons” definition, noting that they used to be considered in the previous methodology (2016 and before) as employed. In addition to that, more questions were added to the questionnaire and the sample size has been enlarged to 16 thousand instead of 13 thousand households as in the previous methodology based on the new framework provided by the Population Census-2015 which contributed to increasing the accuracy of the labor market indicators.

The following are the main results of this survey:

Unemployment:

- ❖ The results show that the Unemployment Rate has reached 18.2% during the first quarter of 2017; the Unemployment Rate for males has reached 13.9% while it was 33.0 % for females for the same quarter.
- ❖ The Unemployment Rate has increased in this round by 3.6 percent points compared with the first quarter of 2016 and around 2.4 points compared to the fourth quarter 2016.
- ❖ Taking gender into consideration, it becomes clear that the Unemployment Rate has increased for males by 1.2 percentage points and females by 9.3 percentage points compared with the first quarter of 2016.



- * For the purposes of comparison with any quarter of the previous years, the new methodology of the ILO should be taken in to consideration , most importantly narrowing down the concept of “employed persons” by excluding the un paid workers from the “employed persons” definition and increasing the sample size depending on the new framework provided by the Population Census-2015 , which

contributed to increasing the accuracy of the estimates and increasing the unemployment rate especially among females by excluding the un paid workers according to ILO statements.

The Unemployed:

- ❖ The Survey results show that the Unemployment Rate is high among the university degree holders (Bachelor degree and higher divided by labor force for the same educational level) by 21.4% compared with the other educational levels.
- ❖ The results also show that 53.8% of the Unemployed are secondary certificate holders and higher, and that 46.2% have less than secondary school qualifications.
- ❖ Male Unemployed percentage of bachelor holders and higher was 20.8% against 53.9% for females which is varied according to educational level and sex.
- ❖ The highest rate of Unemployment was recorded in the age group 15-19 and 20-24 years by 39.5% and 35.4% respectively.
- ❖ The highest Rate of Unemployment was recorded in Ma'an at 26.2% and the lowest rate was recorded in Jerash Governorate at 15.5%.

The Employed:

- ❖ The Employed rate among the age group (15 and above) is 33.1%.
- ❖ The results show that about 58.4% of the employed males and 64.6% of the employed females are concentrated in the age group 20-39 years.
- ❖ About half of the employed have less than secondary qualifications, 11.1% of the secondary level and 37.6% are higher than secondary level.
- ❖ The results also show that about 82.6% of the employed are paid employees (80.1% for males against 93.5% for females).

The Labor Force: (Employed & Unemployed):

- ❖ The results show a clear variation in the labor force distribution with regard to educational level and sex. It was found that about 59.4% of the total male labor force has less than secondary educational qualifications compared to 19.6% for females. The results indicate also that 55.4% of the total labor force among females has bachelor level or higher, compared with 21.6% for males.
- ❖ The Crude Economic Activity Rate (i.e. labor force attributed to the total population) reached 27.0%.
- ❖ The Refined Economic Participation Rate (the labor force attributed to the population 15 years and over) is 40.5% for the whole Kingdom (63.0% for males against 18.3% for females) for the first quarter of 2017 compared with 35.7% for the whole Kingdom (58.5% for males and 12.5 % for females) for the first quarter of 2016.

It should be noted that the Survey included a total sample size of about 16 thousand households distributed all over the governorates of the Kingdom, and is representative of the Urban, Rural, and Regions. It is worthy to mention here that the Employment and Unemployment Surveys are carried out at the middle of every quarter and provide data reflecting the situation of the complete quarter (Jan, Feb and Mar). The individual is asked whether he/she has searched for a job during the last four weeks before the interview according to the international recommendations applied in Jordan.

- * For the purposes of comparison with any quarter of the previous years, the new methodology of the ILO should be taken in to consideration , most importantly “narrowing down” the concept of employed by excluding the un paid workers of the “employed persons “definition and increasing the sample size depending on the new framework provided by the Population Census-2015 , which contributed to

increasing the accuracy of the estimates and increasing the unemployment rate especially among females by excluding the un paid workers according to ILO statements.

* Annual Un-Employment Rate for the years (2005-2017) and the 1st Quarter of 2017

