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Employment in tourism

Almost 6 out of 10 persons employed in core tourism activities are women

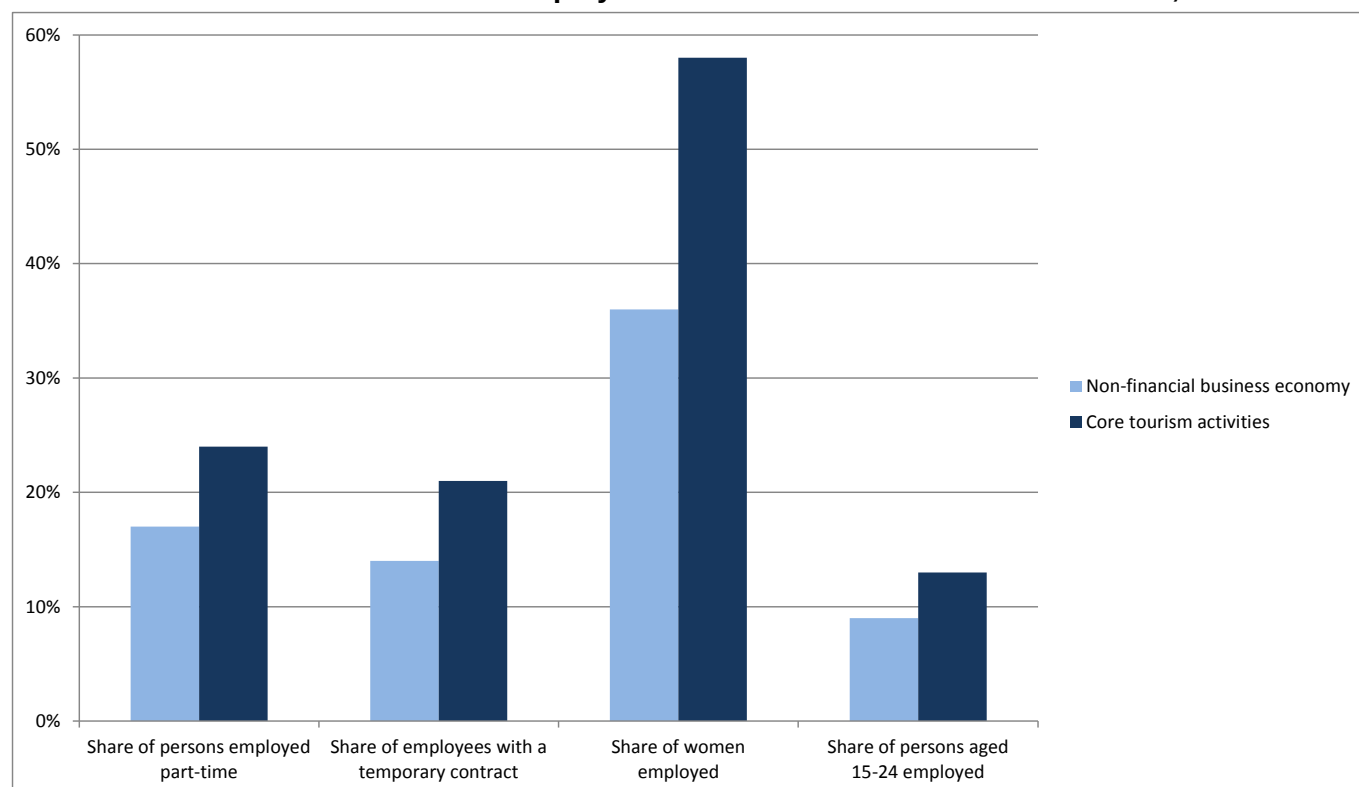
More part-time and more temporary jobs

In the **European Union** (EU), tourism industries (economic activities related to tourism, but not necessarily relying on tourism only) employed just over 12 million persons, equivalent to 9% of total employment in the EU non-financial business economy in 2013. Among them, the three industries that rely almost entirely on tourism (accommodation, travel agencies / tour operators and air transport) employed 3.3 million persons. The analysis in this News Release focuses on these "core" tourism activities.

Compared with the non-financial business economy, in 2014 core tourism activities in the **EU** provided more part-time contracts (24% of employment in core tourism activities vs. 17% in the non-financial business economy) and less stable jobs (21% of temporary jobs vs. 14%). They also employed a more female (58% of persons employed in core tourism activities were women vs. 36%) and younger workforce (13% of persons employed were aged 15 to 24 vs. 9%).

This information comes from a [report](#) issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, in which further characteristics of employment in tourism activities are analysed.

Selected characteristics of employment in core tourism activities in the EU, 2014



More than 1 in 5 tourism jobs in the EU is on a part-time and/or temporary basis

In the **EU** in 2014, 24% of persons employed in core tourism activities worked part-time. Across Member States, part-time jobs accounted for more than half of employment in core tourism activities in the **Netherlands** (56%, compared with 42% in the non-financial business economy), and for at least a third in **Denmark** (39% vs. 22%), **Sweden** (38% vs. 20%), **Germany** (34% vs. 23%), **Ireland** (33% vs. 23%) and the **United Kingdom** (33% vs. 24%). At **EU** level, the share of part-time employment in the core tourism activities (24%) was also significantly higher than in the total non-financial business economy (17%). This was the case in a large majority of Member States for which data are available.

Similarly, the proportion of temporary jobs is significantly higher in core tourism activities (21%) than in the non-financial business economy (14%). This situation is found in every EU Member State for which data are available. In **Bulgaria**, **Greece**, **Italy**, **Cyprus** and **Austria**, the share of temporary workers is even around three to four times higher in core tourism activities.

Employment in core tourism activities by type of contract, 2014

	Share of part-time jobs (%)		Share of temporary jobs (%)	
	Core tourism activities	Non-financial business economy	Core tourism activities	Non-financial business economy
EU*	24	17	21	14
Belgium	29	19	14	8
Bulgaria	:	2	21	5
Czech Republic	10	5	13	10
Denmark	39	22	(9)	7
Germany	34	23	17	12
Estonia	:	8	:	4
Ireland	33	23	13	9
Greece	6	10	40	12
Spain	14	15	31	24
France	19	13	18	13
Croatia	(7)	3	32	19
Italy	26	17	38	14
Cyprus	(6)	15	44	11
Latvia	:	6	:	3
Lithuania	:	6	:	3
Luxembourg	(14)	14	(13)	7
Hungary	(7)	7	11	8
Malta	26	16	15	7
Netherlands	56	42	30	23
Austria	30	24	22	8
Poland	(8)	6	40	33
Portugal	7	8	30	22
Romania	:	2	:	1
Slovenia	(14)	9	(24)	17
Slovakia	:	4	12	9
Finland	24	14	(14)	11
Sweden	38	20	30	15
United Kingdom	33	24	8	5
Iceland	12	17	22	11
Norway	28	21	10	6
Switzerland	31	28	20	11
FYR of Macedonia	:	4	28	17
Turkey	3	6	21	13

* Data are estimated

: Data missing or not published due to small sample size.

The reliability of data shown in brackets may be affected by small sample sizes.

Tourism activities employ more women and young workers

Tourism is a major employer of women in the **EU**. While women represented in 2014 just over a third (36%) of persons employed in the non-financial business economy, core tourism activities employed predominantly female workers (58%). Women accounted for at least two-thirds of employment in core tourism activities in **Latvia** (72%, compared with 42% in the non-financial business economy), **Lithuania** (68% vs. 43%), **Poland** (67% vs. 36%), **Slovakia** (67% vs. 36%) and **Estonia** (66% vs. 40%). It should also be noted that women made up the largest share of employment in core tourism activities in all EU Member States, except **Luxembourg** (where women represented 32% of employment), **Malta** (41%) and **Belgium** (49%).

With 13% of persons employed aged 15 to 24, core tourism activities in the **EU** employed proportionally more young workers than the non-financial business economy (where people aged 15-24 represented 9% of employment). This pattern can be observed in nearly all Member States for which data are available. The share of young people in core tourism employment was notably high in **Denmark** (24%), **Malta** and the **Netherlands** (21%) and the **United Kingdom** (20%) where at least 1 tourism worker out of 5 was aged 15 to 24.

Employment in core tourism activities by gender and selected age group, 2014

	Share of women (%)		Share of persons employed aged 15-24 (%)	
	Core tourism activities	Non-financial business economy	Core tourism activities	Non-financial business economy
EU*	58	36	13	9
Belgium	49	33	(10)	8
Bulgaria	64	42	(8)	6
Czech Republic	62	35	8	7
Denmark	54	34	24	18
Germany	63	37	15	10
Estonia	66	40	:	9
Ireland	52	36	16	10
Greece	51	35	5	5
Spain	57	38	6	5
France	58	35	10	9
Croatia	62	38	(7)	6
Italy	54	33	7	5
Cyprus	56	41	(8)	9
Latvia	72	42	:	9
Lithuania	68	43	:	10
Luxembourg	32	34	:	6
Hungary	61	38	12	7
Malta	41	30	21	15
Netherlands	54	34	21	18
Austria	63	39	19	14
Poland	67	36	(9)	9
Portugal	55	40	11	7
Romania	63	37	:	5
Slovenia	60	37	(9)	7
Slovakia	67	36	15	7
Finland	64	35	(12)	12
Sweden	61	33	18	12
United Kingdom	56	35	20	14
Iceland	48	34	18	20
Norway	55	32	19	15
Switzerland	58	36	17	14
FYR of Macedonia	57	34	(7)	7
Turkey	29	20	17	17

* Data are estimated

: Data missing or not published due to small sample size.

The reliability of data shown in brackets may be affected by small sample sizes.

Methods and definitions

Data on the characteristics of employment in tourism presented in this News Release refer to core tourism activities only (see below). They are based on the European Labour Force Survey (LFS). It is a large sample survey among private households. LFS data refer to the resident population and therefore LFS results relate to the persons resident in the country irrespective of the country where those persons work.

The **non-financial business economy** includes the sectors of industry, construction and distributive trades and services. It refers to economic activities covered by Sections B to J and L to N including S95 of the statistical classification of economic activities NACE Rev. 2.

Core tourism activities on which this News Release focuses include air transport (NACE Rev. 2 section H51), accommodation (NACE Rev. 2 section I55) and travel agency, tour operator reservation service and related activities (NACE Rev. 2 section N79). In a broader sense, tourism industries include economic activities related to tourism (but not necessarily relying on tourism only) such as rail passenger transport or food and beverage serving.

Part-time employment: the distinction between full-time and part-time work is generally based on a spontaneous response by the respondent.

Temporary employment refers to work under a fixed-term contract, as against permanent work where there is no end-date. A job may be considered temporary employment if both employer and employee agree that its end is decided by objective rules (usually written down in a work contract of limited life). These rules can be a specific date, the end of a task, or the return of another employee who has been temporarily replaced.

For more information

Eurostat, Statistics Explained article on employment in tourism industries.

Eurostat website section dedicated to tourism statistics.

Eurostat database on tourism.

Eurostat database containing LFS employment statistics.

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