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LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS, FEBRUARY 2024

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- The number of **employed persons** remained increasing in February 2024, with a month-on-month rise of **0.2 per cent (+24.9 thousand persons)** to **16.51 million persons** (January 2024: 16.48 million persons). The **employment-to-population ratio**, which implies the economy's ability to create employment, stood at **67.9 per cent** as of January 2024.
- In terms of the economic sector, the Services sector continued to register an increase in the number of employed persons, particularly in the Wholesale & retail trade; Food & beverage services; and Transportation & storage activities. The Manufacturing, Construction, Mining & quarrying and Agriculture sectors also saw a rise in the number of employed persons in February 2024.
- Out of the total employed persons in February 2024, **75.2 per cent** were in the **employees'** category, which recorded a slight increase of **0.1 per cent (+13.4 thousand persons)** to **12.41 million persons** (January 2024: 12.39 million persons). Likewise, the **own-account workers** category was on an upward trend, rose by **0.3 per cent (+9.3 thousand persons)** to register **3.02 million persons** from 3.01 million persons in January 2024.
- The number of **unemployed persons** during the month continued to be on a downtrend, with a marginal decrease of **0.1 per cent (-0.3 thousand persons)** to **567.0 thousand persons** (January 2024: 567.3 thousand persons), registering a **3.3 per cent unemployment rate** as in the prior month.
- The number of **labour force** during the month continued to record a month-on-month increase, with an addition of **0.1 per cent (+24.6 thousand persons)** to **17.07 million persons** (January 2024: 17.05 million persons). February's **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** stood at **70.2 per cent** as recorded in the preceding month.
- There was a slight decrease of **0.01 per cent (-0.7 thousand persons)** recorded in the number of persons **outside the labour force** in February 2024, totalling **7.23 million persons** (January 2024: 7.23 million persons). The main reason for being outside the labour force was due to **housework/ family responsibilities**, comprising **42.5 per cent**, followed by **schooling/ training** reasons at **41.0 per cent**.

The full publication of the Labour Force Report, February 2024 can be downloaded through eStatistik Portal

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