



# Quarterly Multi-Topic Survey:

## Quarter 3: 2023

### Summary Headline Labour Force Indicators

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**Quarterly Multi-Topic Survey, Q3 2023**  
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## Quarterly Multi-Topic Survey, Q3 2023 - Summary Headline Labour Force Indicators

**T**his summary report is based on the results of the 2023 Third Quarter Multi-Topic Survey (QMTS) whose full results will be published before the end of February 2024.

Although the QMTS covers a number of modules, this summary presents highlights of the Labour Force Module while other modules will be analysed separately and published in the comprehensive Stats Brief to be released later as stated above. The labour force module includes several sections of interest that provide useful indicators which will be tracked from time to time to monitor changes in the labour force market, particularly on the supply side. It is hoped this set of indicators will inform policy formulation, targeted programming and interventions and monitoring of the labour market by stakeholders and government.

Results informing on the trend of QMTS labour force module indicators covering the fourth quarter of 2021, the fourth quarter of 2022 and the third quarter of 2023 is presented in the summary **Table 1.0**. It is worth noting that when comparison/change is being made between the two quarters, indicators could be affected by seasonality.

**Table 1.0: National Headline Labour Force Indicators –QMTS Quarter 4 of 2022 and Quarter 3, 2023**

	Indicator/Statistics	Totals			QMTS Q3 2023		% Changes (Q4 2021 TO Q3 2023)	% Changes (Q4 2022 TO Q3 2023)
		Q4 2021	Q4 2022	Total	Male	Female		
1	Population (15 years and above)	1,637,822	1,611,892	1,673,626	792,176	881,450	2.2	3.8
2	Population Outside Labour Force (15 years and above)	668,088	649,574	609,848	259,890	349,958	(8.7)	(6.1)
3	Labour Force (15 years and above)	969,734	962,319	1,063,776	532,288	531,488	9.7	10.5
4	Employed Population	717,418	717,725	788,616	403,718	384,898	9.9	9.9
5	Unemployed Population	252,316	244,594	275,160	128,570	146,590	9.1	12.5
6	Population (18 years and above)	1,504,263	1,484,278	1,533,512	720,339	813,173	1.9	3.3
7	Labour Force (18 years and above)	965,680	956,124	1,054,067	526,789	527,278	9.2	10.2
8	Employed Population (18 years and above)	716,510	716,120	787,204	402,807	384,397	9.9	9.9
9	Unemployed Population (18 years and above)	249,171	240,004	266,863	123,982	142,881	7.1	11.2
10	Time Related Under Employed Population	46,988	57,320	53,648	10,819	42,829	14.2	(6.4)
11	Formal Sector employment	494,457	486,376	490,625	237,095	253,530	(0.8)	0.9
12	Formal Employment	394,446	390,413	386,621	197,050	189,571	(2.2)	(1.1)
13	Average Cash Earnings (in Pula)	5,320	5,701	6,029	6,290	5,741	13.3	5.8
14	Estimated Population of Youth (15 – 35 years)	851,545	805,228	837,003	409,984	427,019	(1.7)	3.9
15	Youth Labour Force	486,706	471,139	520,582	265,313	255,269	7.0	10.5
Change (Percentage points)								
16	Employment to Population Ratio (EPR)	43.8	44.5	47.1	51.0	43.7	3.3	2.6
17	Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)	59.2	59.7	63.6	67.2	60.3	4.4	3.9
18	Unemployment Rate % (15 year and above)	26.0	25.4	25.9	24.2	27.6	(0.1)	0.5
19	Unemployment Rate % (18 years and above)	25.8	25.1	25.3	23.5	27.1	(0.5)	0.2
20	Extended Unemployment Rate % (15 years and above)	31.1	31.4	31.2	29.4	33.0	0.1	(0.2)
21	Youth Unemployment Rate (15-35 years)	34.4	33.5	34.4	31.2	37.6	-	0.9
22	Youth not in Education, not in Employment or Training (NEET Rate %)	39.4	39.9	38.5	34.9	41.9	(0.9)	(1.4)

The Employed population (15 years and above) recorded an increase of 0.5 percent between the fourth quarter of 2022 and the third quarter of 2023, from 717,725 to 788,616 persons. This was accompanied by an increase of 12.5 percent for unemployed persons, from 244,594 to 275,160 persons over the same period. Formal sector employment increased slightly from 486,376 in the fourth quarter of 2022 to 490,625 in the third quarter of 2023, which was an increase of 0.9 percent.

The survey estimated a 3.9 percent increase in Youth (15-35) population from 805,228 to 837,003 between the fourth quarter of 2022 and third quarter of 2023. The above increase was accompanied by a 10.5 percent increase in youth labour force. On the other hand, Youth unemployment rate went up by 0.9 percentage points from 33.5 to 34.4 percent over the same period. Unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above increased by 0.5 percentage points from 25.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2022, to 25.9 percent in the third quarter of 2023. The proportion of Youth not in Education, not in Employment or Training (NEET Rate %) declined from 39.9 to 38.5 percent between the two periods, a decrease of 1.4 percentage points.



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