According to the survey results, the population 16 years and above continued its increasing trend from 6.7 million in February 2017 to 6.9 million in February 2018.

During the same period, the employed population grew by around 78 thousand persons while the labour force grew by around 62 thousand persons.

Over the year, the unemployment rate in Rwanda slightly decreased by 0.7 percentage point from 16.7 in February 2017 to 16.0 percent in February 2018.

The number of unemployed persons has declined by around 15 thousand persons between February 2017 and February 2018.

Compared to the estimate of the previous round, it has decreased by 1.1 percentage point from 17.8 percent obtained in August 2017. The employment to population ratio stood at 44.8 percent in February 2018 as compared to 43.4 percent in August 2017 and to 45 percent in February 2017.

The labour force participation rate observed in February 2018 was 52.4 percent and it has slightly increased compared to 51.9 percent observed in the previous round and slightly decreased by 0.6 percentage point as compared to the one of February 2017.

The proportion of the working age population out of the labour force in February 2018 was 46.6 percent, slightly higher than the estimate for February 2017 (46 percent).

More than a half of the population outside the labour force, representing 25.7 percent of working age population, was exclusively involved in subsistence agriculture in February 2018; slightly lower than 26.3 percent of February 2017.

The remaining population outside labour force were mainly enrolled in schools, or engaged in housework or family commitment.

Reference document (PDF & Excel)

- LFS Trends-Feb-2018_Final Report.pdf (pdf, 8.96 MB)
  LAST UPDATED: 19 Jul 2025

Data source

Labour Force Survey 2018

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