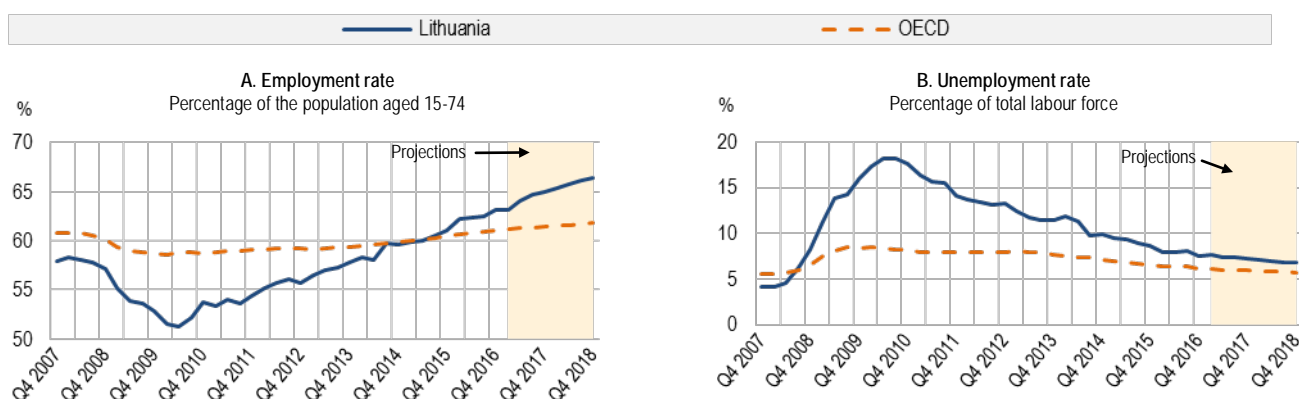


The 2017 edition of the OECD Employment Outlook provides an international assessment of recent labour market trends and short-term prospects. It also contains chapters on: benchmarking labour market performance based on the new OECD Jobs Strategy scoreboard; labour market resilience in the wake of the global crisis; the role of technological change and globalisation in transforming labour markets; and key country differences in collective bargaining arrangements.

[DOI: 10.1787/empl\\_outlook-2017-en](https://doi.org/10.1787/empl_outlook-2017-en)

### Labour market developments in Lithuania



Note: OECD weighted average.

Source: OECD calculations based on OECD Economic Outlook Database (No. 101), June 2017.

### RECENT LABOUR MARKET TRENDS AND PROSPECTS

Labour market conditions continue to improve and the OECD average employment rate finally returned to its pre-crisis rate in the first quarter of 2017, nearly ten years after the global financial crisis erupted. The OECD-average unemployment rate continues its slow descent, but remains slightly above its pre-crisis level because employment has not increased enough to fully offset a rising trend in participation rates. The unemployment rate is projected to fall back to its pre-crisis level in late 2018 or early 2019. The recovery remains very uneven across countries and different groups within the workforce.

- Employment in Lithuania, as a share of the population aged 15-74, has risen 5.3 percentage points above its pre-crisis value in 2007. This reflects both the continuous rise in the participation rate since 2007 and strong emigration among unemployed workers.
- Unemployment has fallen much faster since its recessionary peak in Lithuania than on

average across OECD countries. However, at 7.5% in April, it remains 3.4 percentage points above its pre-crisis level in December 2007.

- OECD projections suggest that Lithuanian employment rates will continue to rise more rapidly than participation rates through the end of 2018, further decreasing the unemployment rate to 2.5 percentage points above its pre-crisis level.
- Regarding digitalisation, the fact that only 19% of the population aged 25-64 has adequate levels of ICT reduces the capacity of Lithuania to reap the benefits of future technological progress. While ICT skills are relatively low among older workers in all countries, youth in Lithuania also have relatively low ICT competencies compared with most OECD countries.

## Scoreboard of labour market performance for Lithuania



Note: An upward ↗ (downward ↘) pointing arrow for an indicator means that higher (lower) values reflect better performance.

*Very long hours of work*: Percentage of workers of workers usually working 60 or more hours in their main job. *Low income rate*: Share of working-age persons living with less than 50% of median equivalised household disposable income. *Gender labour income gap*: Difference between average per capita annual earnings of men and women divided by average per capita earnings of men. *Employment gap for disadvantaged groups*: Average difference in the employment rate for prime-age men and the rates for five disadvantaged groups (mothers with children, youth who are not in full-time education or training, workers aged 55-64, non-natives, and persons with disabilities) as a percentage of the employment rate for prime-age men.

Source and definitions: OECD calculations using data for 2015 or latest year available from multiple sources. See [OECD Employment Outlook 2017](#), Table 1.2. for further details

### NEW OECD SCOREBOARD SHOWS RELATIVE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE LITHUANIAN LABOUR MARKET

The 2017 issue of the *OECD Employment Outlook* presents a comparative scoreboard of labour market performance that provides a rich overview of the strengths and weaknesses of different national labour markets, going well beyond the standard measures of employment and unemployment rates. These include measures of job quality (pay, labour market security, working environment) and labour market inclusiveness (income equality, gender equality, employment access for potentially disadvantaged groups). Some countries score well on most or all indicators, implying that there are no hard trade-offs that prevent countries from performing well in all areas.

- Except for the employment rate, where the Lithuanian labour market scores in the middle, Lithuanian performance indicators somewhat depart from the OECD average, but more on the strength than on the weakness side.

- Two Lithuanian strengths are a share of workers working very long hours that is lower than in any OECD country and a relatively low gender income gap. The employment gap for disadvantaged groups is also below average, partly due to a low employment rate of prime-age men, but also to a relatively high employment rate of mothers with children and youth, as well as to some extent of older workers.
- The Lithuanian labour market also shows some weaknesses. The share of working age persons living on low income, that is with less than half the median equivalised household income, and the unemployment rate are higher than on average in the OECD.
- The evolution of performance over the past decade on employment quantity is contrasted, as Lithuania experienced an increase both in the employment rate and unemployment rate. As in many OECD countries, inclusiveness, as measured by the share of working age population living with low income, deteriorated.

**Contacts: Ann Vourc'h** (+33 1 45 24 17 27; [ann.vourch@oecd.org](mailto:ann.vourch@oecd.org)) or **Paul Swaim** (+33 1 45 24 19 77; [paul.swaim@oecd.org](mailto:paul.swaim@oecd.org)),  
Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs.