

RELEASE

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Labour Force Survey

Revision of Quarterly and Annual Data for the Period 2021–2025

Through this release, the Statistical Office publishes revised quarterly and annual data from the Labour Force Survey for the period from the first quarter of 2021 to the fourth quarter of 2025.

The revision was carried out with the aim of improving data quality and aligning the data with the requirements of Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/2240, thereby ensuring methodological comparability with data from European Union countries. At the same time, the revision ensures the coherence of Labour Force Survey results with demographic statistics and the results of the 2023 Census of Population, Households and Dwellings.

Since 2021, the Statistical Office has been applying a redesigned Labour Force Survey methodology, in accordance with the new Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which entered into force on 1 January 2021.

The further adjustments covered by the revision concern:

- Aligning the results of the Labour Force Survey with demographic statistics and the results of the 2023 Census of Population, Households and Dwellings, excluding the population living in collective households;
- Applying the new weighting scheme provided for by Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/2240, under which a common weight is applied to all members of the same household.

The revised data replace the previously published Labour Force Survey data for the specified period and should be used in all future analyses and comparisons.

The revised quarterly and annual data are available in the accompanying Excel document. Data for the period prior to 2021 will be revised and published successively.

Table 1. Working-age population by activity, quarterly data 2021-2025

Year	Quarter	Labour Force	Persons in employment	Unemployed persons	Persons outside the labour force
		<i>in thousands</i>			
2021	1	233.0	189.5	43.5	277.7
	2	229.9	191.9	38.0	280.7
	3	267.5	228.8	38.7	243.2
	4	265.8	225.8	40.0	244.8
2022	1	273.3	228.8	44.4	235.2
	2	288.4	247.7	40.6	220.1
	3	291.9	255.4	36.5	216.6
	4	291.4	250.6	40.8	217.1
2023	1	299.3	254.2	45.1	209.2
	2	313.7	274.1	39.6	194.8
	3	326.5	288.6	37.9	182.0
	4	312.2	275.0	37.2	196.3
2024	1	312.4	276.1	36.3	196.1
	2	313.4	278.4	35.0	195.1
	3	317.6	283.4	34.2	190.9
	4	309.8	274.7	35.1	198.7
2025	1	298.9	266.8	32.1	209.6
	2	305.6	275.6	30.0	202.9
	3	311.3	281.7	29.6	197.2
	4	303.4	273.3	30.1	205.1

Tabela 2. Measures of the activity of the population, quarterly data 2021-2025

Year	Quarter	Activity rate	Employment rate	Unemployment rate
		%		
2021	1	45.6	37.1	18.7
	2	45.0	37.6	16.5
	3	52.4	44.8	14.5
	4	52.1	44.2	15.0
2022	1	53.7	45.0	16.2
	2	56.7	48.7	14.1
	3	57.4	50.2	12.5
	4	57.3	49.3	14.0
2023	1	58.9	50.0	15.1
	2	61.7	53.9	12.6
	3	64.2	56.8	11.6
	4	61.4	54.1	11.9
2024	1	61.4	54.3	11.6
	2	61.6	54.7	11.2
	3	62.5	55.7	10.8
	4	60.9	54.0	11.3
2025	1	58.8	52.5	10.7
	2	60.1	54.2	9.8
	3	61.2	55.4	9.5
	4	59.7	53.7	9.9

Tabela 3. Working-age population by activity, 2021-2025

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total					
Working age population	510.6	508.5	508.5	508.5	508.5
Labour force	249.0	286.2	312.9	313.3	304.8
Persons in employment	209.0	245.6	273.0	278.2	274.3
Unemployed persons	40.0	40.6	40.0	35.2	30.4
Persons outside the labour force	261.6	222.2	195.6	195.2	203.7
%					
Activity rate	48.8	56.3	61.5	61.6	59.9
Employment rate	40.9	48.3	53.7	54.7	53.9
Unemployment rate	16.1	14.2	12.8	11.2	10.0
Men					
Working age population	247.8	246.8	246.8	246.8	246.8
Labour force	140.6	158.6	170.8	170.9	164.1
Persons in employment	117.3	133.2	150.1	153.5	145.6
Unemployed persons	23.2	25.5	20.8	17.5	18.5
Persons outside the labour force	107.3	88.1	75.9	75.8	82.7
%					
Activity rate	56.7	64.3	69.2	69.2	66.5
Employment rate	47.3	54.0	60.8	62.2	59.0
Unemployment rate	16.5	16.1	12.2	10.2	11.3
Women					
Working age population	262.8	261.7	261.7	261.7	261.7
Labour force	108.5	127.6	142.1	142.4	140.7
Persons in employment	91.7	112.5	122.9	124.7	128.7
Unemployed persons	16.8	15.1	19.2	17.7	12.0
Persons outside the labour force	154.3	134.1	119.6	119.3	121.0
%					
Activity rate	41.3	48.8	54.3	54.4	53.8
Employment rate	34.9	43.0	47.0	47.6	49.2
Unemployment rate	15.5	11.8	13.5	12.4	8.5

METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS

The Labour Force Survey is carried out in compliance with standards and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) guidelines for labour force statistics, as well as in compliance with the new Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European parliament and of the Council applied from 1 January 2021, and with others delegated and implementing acts in relation to methodology, survey organisation, sample procedure, design of questionnaires, and definition of employment and unemployment.

Labour Force Survey provides the data on working age population by activity in the reference quarter, not by formal status of interviewed persons.

Working age population comprises active population (labour force) and population outside of labour force. **Active population (labour force)** include employed persons and unemployed persons.

The term employed in the survey refer to persons who:

- Performed any work for wage or profit (in cash, goods or services) during the reference week, even for one hour. Persons who receive wages for on-the-job training (apprentices or trainees) are also considered as employed.
- Did not work (due to illness, annual leave or state holidays, education or training, maternity/paternity leave, reduced production and other temporary inability to work), but have a job or business to return to.

Self-employed persons with a business or farm are also considered to be working if one of the following applies:

- Person works in his own business or farm for the purpose of earning a profit, even if the enterprise is failing to make a profit;
- Person spends time on the operation of a business or farm even if no sales were made, no professional services were rendered, or nothing was actually produced (for example, a farmer who engages in farm maintenance activities; an architect who spends time waiting for clients in his/her office; a fisherman who repairs his boat or nets for future operations; a person who attends a convention or seminar);
- Person is in process of setting up a business or farm, such as the buying or installing of equipment, renting the office or ordering of supplies in preparation for opening a new business;
- Person who works on its own agriculture farm to produce agricultural goods and if the main part of the agricultural output is intended to be sold or bartered are also considered as employed.

Unpaid family worker is a person who assisted the other member of the household in running family business or agricultural holding, without receiving any formal pay and providing that they not considered themselves as employed. Unpaid family workers includes e. g.:

- Son or daughter working in the parents' business or on the parents' farm without pay (living inside or outside the parents' household),
- Wife who assists her husband in his business (in trade, agriculture) without receiving any formal pay.

Persons in own-use production work, voluntary workers, unpaid trainees are not included in employment on the basis of those activities.

The term unemployed refers to persons who:

- In the reference week did not work (not in paid employment or self-employment and did not do any paid work),
- In the past four weeks were actively seeking work (specific steps were taken to seek paid employment or self-employment),
- Were currently available for work (within two weeks).

Person who has already found a job which will start within a period of at most 3 months and they are available for work in the two weeks after the reference week are also included among unemployed persons.

Active population (labour force) include employed persons, and unemployed persons aged 15 to 89 years.

Population outside of labour force comprises persons who were aged 15 to 89, and neither employed nor unemployed, as well persons who were aged above 89.

Activity rate represents the percentage of active population in the total population of the same age group.

Employment rate represents the percentage of employed persons in the total population of the same age group.

Unemployment rate represents the percentage of unemployed persons in the total active population of the same age group.

Population outside of labour force rate represents the percentage of persons outside of labour force in total population of the same age group.

In the tables in the Release, it is possible that the sums of subcategories do not match due to the rounding of numbers to one decimal place.

When using the data, state:

"Data source: Statistical Office - MONSTAT"

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