

## Labour Force Survey

*1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2020 <sup>(p)</sup>*

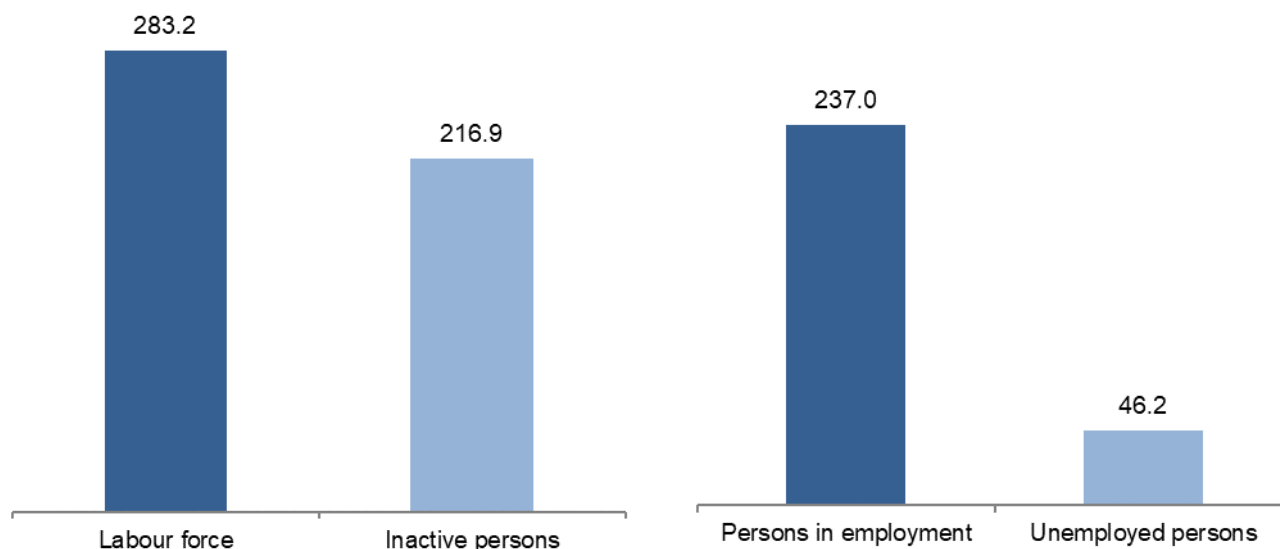
Due to the temporary measures introduced to prevent the entry into the country, control and preventing the transfer of the new coronavirus (COVID -19), and due to disabled access to households, the release presents preliminary data obtained via the Labour Force Survey carried out in the first quarter of 2020, while the final data are to be timely released.

According to the data for the first quarter of 2020, there were 283.2 thousands of active populations in Montenegro, out of which there were 237.0 thousands of employed persons or 83.7% and 46.2 thousands of unemployed or 16.3%. The number of persons in employment in comparison with the previous quarter has decreased by 0.5% and in comparison with the same quarter of previous year has increased by 0.8%. The number of unemployed in comparison with the previous quarter has increased by 2.7% and in comparison with the same quarter of previous year has increased by 11.3%.

There were 216.9 thousands of inactive populations. The number of inactive in comparison with the previous quarter has increased by 0.1% and in comparison with the same quarter of previous year has decreased by 3.4%.

The activity rate for the first quarter 2020 is 56.6%, the employment rate is 47.4%, unemployment rate is 16.3% and the inactivity rate is 43.4%.

**Chart 1 Working age population by status in activity**  
*(in thousands)*



**Table 1 Principal characteristics of the population by activity and sex**

Montenegro	Total	Men	Women
	<i>in thousands</i>		
Total population	619.8	307.0	312.8
<b>Labour Force</b>	283.2	156.0	127.2
Persons in employment	237.0	132.0	105.1
Unemployed persons	46.2	24.0	22.1
<b>Inactive persons</b>	216.9	88.8	128.1
Working age population	500.1	244.8	255.3
Persons old less than 15 years	119.7	62.2	57.4
	<b>%</b>		
Activity rate	56.6	63.7	49.8
Employment rate	47.4	53.9	41.2
Unemployment rate	16.3	15.4	17.4
Inactivity rate	43.4	36.3	50.2

**Table 2 Population by activity and quarters**

Montenegro	IQ 2020	IVQ 2019	IQ 2019	<u>IQ 2020</u> <u>IVQ 2019</u>	<u>IQ 2020</u> <u>IQ 2019</u>
	<i>In thousands</i>				
Persons in employment	237.0	238.1	235.1	99.5	100.8
Unemployed persons	46.2	45.0	41.5	102.7	111.3
Inactive persons	216.9	216.6	224.5	100.1	96.6

## 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 European legislative acts of the Council and Parliament, and with EUROSTAT's requirements in relation to a methodology, survey organisation, sample procedure, design of questionnaires and definition of employment and unemployment.

Labour Force Survey provides the data on population aged 15 years and over by activity in the reference quarter, not by formal status of interviewed persons.

Working age population comprises all persons aged 15 years and over.

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 had a job or business from which he/she was absent during the reference week is considered as employed.

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

- A 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;
- A 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);
- A 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;
- A person who works on its own agriculture farm should be considered as employed if worked during the reference week. A person who works on its own small agriculture farm, and sell their products are also considered as employed.

A 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.

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).

Persons who had found a job to start later are also included among unemployed persons.

**Active population (labour force)** include persons in employment (employed persons) and unemployed persons aged 15 years and over.

**Inactive population** are all persons aged 15 years and over, who are neither employed nor unemployed.

**Activity rate** represents the percentage of active population in the total population aged 15 years and over.

**Employment rate** represents the percentage of persons in employment in the total population aged 15 years and over.

**Unemployment rate** represents the percentage of unemployed persons in the total active population.

**Inactivity rate** represents the percentage of inactive population in total population aged 15 years and over.

COVID-19 and measures that affected labour market statistics

Pursuant to the Law on Protection of the Population from Infectious Diseases, according to the proposal of the Institute of Public Health of Montenegro, the Ministry of Health adopted the Order on temporary measures for the prevention of entry into the country, control and preventing the transfer of the new coronavirus which refer to the compulsory adherence to measures of physical distance of 2 meters at least, as well as to the ban on gatherings in the housing facilities that are not members of common family household, what disables the access to households.

---

**Published by the Statistical Office of Montenegro (MONSTAT)**  
**81000 Podgorica, IV Proleterske 2, Phone: (+382) 20 230-81, Fax: (+382) 20 230-814**

*The release prepared by:*

**Danijela VUKOVIC i Ivana TANJEVIC**

[contact@monstat.org](mailto:contact@monstat.org)

---