



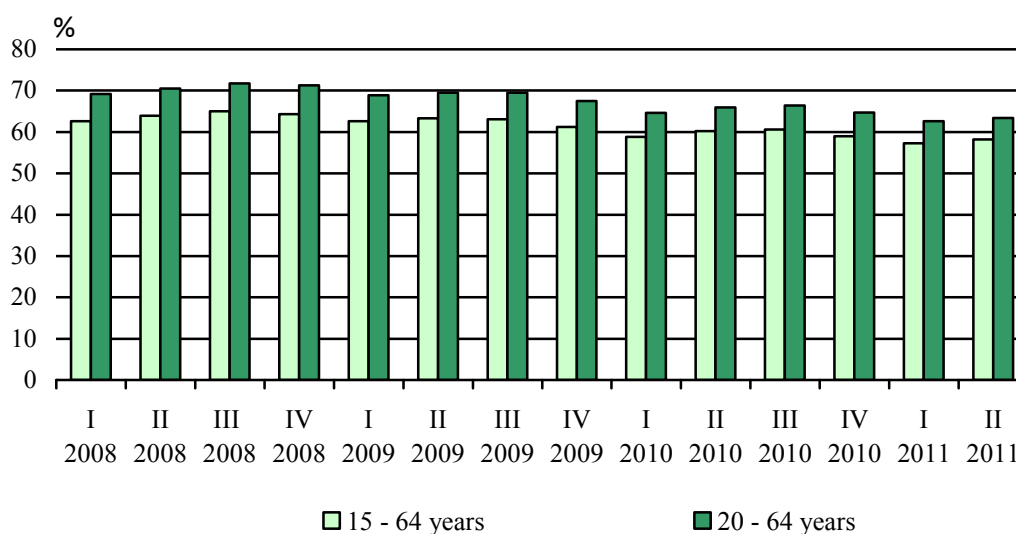
MAIN LABOUR FORCE SURVEY RESULTS SECOND QUARTER 2011

1. Main labour market indicators for the population aged 15 – 64

According to the results from the Labour Force Survey, carried out by the National Statistical Institute in the second quarter of 2011 **the economically active population aged 15 - 64** was 3 263.8 thousand. The total activity rate was 65.6% and in comparison with the second quarter of 2010 went down by 1.3 percentage points. The activity rate reduced by 2.1 percentage points for men and by 0.6 percentage points for women, reaching 69.3% and 62.0% respectively.

In the second quarter of 2011 **the employment rate for population aged 15 - 64** was 58.2%, by 2.0 percentage points lower compared to the same period of 2010. The employment rate fell by 3.1 percentage points for men and by 0.8 percentage points for women reaching 60.7% and 55.8% respectively.

Figure 1. Employment rate by age group and by quarter



Between the second quarters of 2010 and 2011 **the employment rate for population aged 20 - 64 years (an Europe 2020 indicator)** dropped by 2.5 percentage points to 63.4%, 66.3% for men and 60.6% for women respectively.

In the second quarter of 2011 **the employment rate for the age group 55 - 64 years** was 44.2% and kept its level from the second quarter of 2010. By sex the value of this indicator decreased by 0.3 percentage points for men to 51.5%, and it increased by 0.2 percentage points for women to 38.1%.



In the second quarter of 2011 **inactive population aged 15 - 64** was 1 710.4 thousand, 33.4% of the population in the same age group. Among all inactive population of this age group 760.0 thousand were men and 950.4 thousand were women. By sex the inactivity rate was 30.7% for men and 38.0% for women.

Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 were 231.2 thousand, which was by 13.8 thousand up compared to the second quarter of 2010.

2. Main characteristics of employed persons aged 15 years and over

In the second quarter of 2011 the total number of **employed persons aged 15 years and over** stood at 2 934.1 thousand, representing 45.3% of population of the same age. In comparison with a year ago the number of employed persons decreased by 4.5% and their relative share decreased by 1.7 percentage points. The drop in employment was higher among men, where the number of employed went down by 5.7% to 1 529.4 thousand. Women in employment were 1 404.7 thousand, by 3.1% lower compared to the second quarter of 2010.

Between second quarters of 2010 and 2011 the number of employed having attained at most lower secondary education registered the highest drop – by 14.4%, while the number of employed with tertiary education fell by 0.5%.

By professional status the employed persons were distributed as follows: employers - 109.3 thousand (3.7%), own account workers (without employees) - 220.8 thousand (7.5%), employees - 2 571.5 thousand (87.6%) and unpaid family workers - 32.5 thousand (1.1%). As compared to the second quarter of 2010 the employed of all these categories declined (in percentages it was higher for own account workers (without employees) with a drop of 11.7%). The employees in private sector declined by 4.2% (to 1 858.6 thousand) and those in public sector - by 2.4% (to 713.0 thousand).

The employment in Industry sector went down by 11.3% between the second quarters of 2010 and 2011, while in the other sectors - Agriculture and forestry and Services, the employment registered a decrease of 4.4% and 0.6% respectively. In the second quarter of 2011 the employed persons in Services accounted 61.5% of total employment, in Industry their share was 31.2%, and in Agriculture and forestry - 7.3%.

3. Unemployment

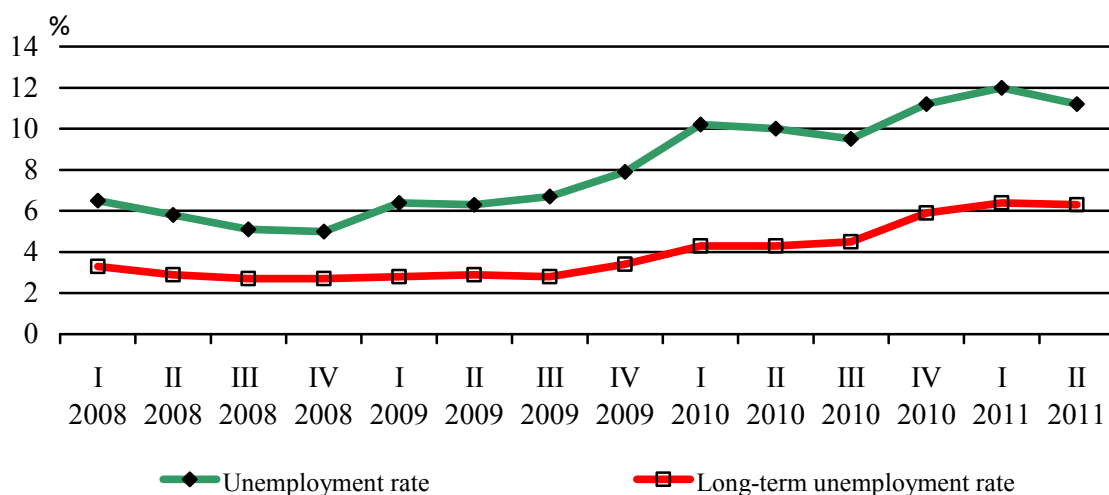
In the second quarter of 2011, 369.8 thousand persons were **unemployed** and the **unemployment rate** was 11.2%. Compared with a year ago the number of unemployed went up by 27.6 thousand (8.1%), and the unemployment rate - by 1.2 percentage points. Over the period concerned the unemployment rate increased by 1.7 percentage points for men and by 0.6 percentage points for women and in the second quarter of 2011 the male unemployment rate reached 12.2%, and the female unemployment rate - 10.0%.

In the second quarter of 2011 the number of unemployed aged 15 - 24 was 60.0 thousand (58.0 thousand in the second quarter of 2010). The youth unemployment rate was 25.3% - 26.1% for men and 24.3% for women.

Between the second quarters of 2010 and 2011 the number of long-term unemployed rose (by 41.4%) reaching 209.7 thousand, in contrast of the persons unemployed less than a year, whose number fell. The long-term unemployment rate increased by 2.0 percentage points (by 2.4 percentage points for men and 1.5 percentage points for women) and achieved 6.3% in the second quarter of 2011 (7.0% for men and 5.6% for women).

In the second quarter of 2011, 306.6 thousand (82.9%) of all unemployed had previous employment experience and 63.2 thousand (17.1%) were seeking first job.

Figure 2. Unemployment rate and long-term unemployment rate by quarter



METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a continuous sample survey providing quarterly and annual data on the economic activity of the population aged 15 and over. The survey covers non-institutional households.

Reference period - the characteristics of each interviewee refer to his/her status during a defined calendar week.

Economically active population (labour force) comprises of all employed and unemployed persons.

Employed are persons aged 15 and over who during the reference period:

- performed some work for at least one hour for pay in cash or in kind or other income;
- did not work but had a job or an enterprise, a business from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, annual leave, full-paid maternity leave, parental leave, strike or another labour dispute, etc.

Unemployed are persons aged 15 to 74 who:

- did not work at all during the reference period;
- were actively seeking work within the preceding four weeks, including the reference one or have found a new job or business that is expected to start within 3 months following the reference period;
- were available to start working within two weeks following the reference period.

Long-term unemployed are persons who have been unemployed for one or more years.

Inactive population (persons not in the labour force) includes persons aged 15 and over who were neither employed, nor unemployed during the reference period.

Discouraged persons are persons not in the labour force who want to work but they do not actively look for a job, because they do not believe they will find one.

Activity rate - ratio between the economically active population and the total population of the same age group.

Employment rate - ratio between the employed population and the total population of the same age group.

Unemployment rate - ratio between the unemployed persons and the economically active population.

Long-term unemployment rate - ratio between the long-term unemployed persons and the economically active population.

Inactivity rate - ratio between the economically inactive population and the total population of the same age group.



The distribution of the employed persons by economic sector is done in accordance with the Classification of Economic Activities - 2008.

The distribution of the employed persons by occupations is done in accordance with the National Classification of Occupations - 2011 (1st digit - occupational class), in force since 1 January 2011, comparable to the International Standard Classification of Occupations – ISCO '08.

For the weighting of the results of the survey the current demographic data as of 31 December 2010 for the total population are used.

As in all sample surveys data from the labour force survey are subject of errors due to the sample (stochastic errors). The calculated relative standard errors for the main LFS indicators for the second quarter of 2011 are as follows:

- total number of employed - 1.4%;
- total number of unemployed - 3.8%;
- unemployment rate - 3.5%.

Because of the rounding of the figures some of the totals (rows and columns) are not equal to the sum of the components.

More detailed data from the Labour Force Survey could be found on the NSI website www.nsi.bg, section “Labor Market”, Labour Force Survey.

APPENDIX

Table 1

**MAIN LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS,
SECOND QUARTER OF 2010 AND 2011**

	Second quarter 2010	Second quarter 2011	Change (second quarter 2011 minus second quarter 2010)
Total			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	66.9	65.6	-1.3
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	3072.1	2934.1	-138.0
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	3032.2	2895.5	-136.7
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	215.3	176.8	-38.5
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	3011.6	2884.6	-127.0
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	425.9	422.8	-3.1
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	47.0	45.3	-1.7
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	60.2	58.2	-2.0
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	23.1	19.8	-3.3
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	65.9	63.4	-2.5
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	44.2	44.2	0.0
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	342.2	369.8	27.6
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	339.8	368.3	28.5
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	58.0	60.0	2.0
Unemployment rate - %	10.0	11.2	1.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	10.1	11.3	1.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	21.2	25.3	4.1
Long-term unemployment rate - %	4.3	6.3	2.0
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	219.4	232.7	13.3
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	217.4	231.2	13.8



Table 1

**MAIN LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS,
SECOND QUARTER OF 2010 AND 2011**

(Continued)

	Second quarter 2010	Second quarter 2011	Change (second quarter 2011 minus second quarter 2010)
Male			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	71.4	69.3	-2.1
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1621.7	1529.4	-92.3
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1595.0	1501.9	-93.1
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	126.8	102.5	-24.3
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	1582.4	1495.1	-87.3
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	227.9	225.2	-2.7
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	51.8	49.3	-2.5
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	63.8	60.7	-3.1
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	26.5	22.4	-4.1
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	70.0	66.3	-3.7
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	51.8	51.5	-0.3
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	191.1	213.2	22.1
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	189.9	212.6	22.7
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	35.7	36.1	0.4
Unemployment rate - %	10.5	12.2	1.7
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	10.6	12.4	1.8
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	22.0	26.1	4.1
Long-term unemployment rate - %	4.6	7.0	2.4
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	114.7	129.1	14.4
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	113.5	128.1	14.6



Table 1

**MAIN LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS,
SECOND QUARTER OF 2010 AND 2011**

(Continued and end)

	Second quarter 2010	Second quarter 2011	Change (second quarter 2011 minus second quarter 2010)
Female			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	62.6	62.0	-0.6
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1 450.3	1 404.7	-45.6
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1 437.2	1 393.6	-43.6
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	88.5	74.2	-14.3
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	1429.2	1389.6	-39.6
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	198.0	197.6	-0.4
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	42.6	41.6	-1.0
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	56.6	55.8	-0.8
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	19.5	17.1	-2.4
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	61.9	60.6	-1.3
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	37.9	38.1	0.2
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	151.1	156.6	5.5
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	150.0	155.7	5.7
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	22.3	23.8	1.5
Unemployment rate - %	9.4	10.0	0.6
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	9.4	10.0	0.6
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	20.1	24.3	4.2
Long-term unemployment rate - %	4.1	5.6	1.5
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	104.7	103.6	-1.1
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	103.9	103.0	-0.9