



PRELIMINARY LABOUR FORCE SURVEY RESULTS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2011

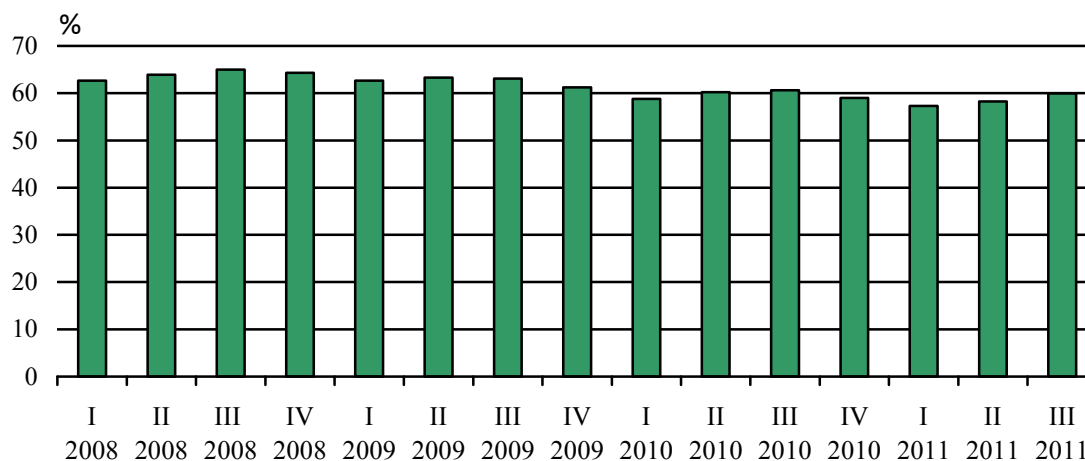
1. Main labour market indicators for the population aged 15 - 64

According to the preliminary results from the Labour Force Survey, carried out by the National Statistical Institute in the third quarter of 2011 **the economically active population aged 15 - 64** was 3 317.1 thousand, representing 66.7% of the population in the same age group. In comparison with the third quarter of 2010 the number of economically active population went down by 69.1 thousand and the activity rate was by 0.4 percentage points lower.

In the third quarter of 2011 the number of employed persons aged 15 - 64 was 2 975.3 thousand. As compared to the same quarter of 2010 the **employment rate for the population** of the same age group decreased by 0.7 percentage points to 59.9%.

In comparison with the second quarter of 2011 the number of employed persons aged 15 - 64 increased by 79.8 thousand and the employment rate for the population of the same age group by 1.7 percentage points respectively.

Figure 1. Employment rate (15 - 64 years) by quarter



In the third quarter of 2011 33.3% (1 652.4 thousand) of population aged 15 - 64 were **not economically active (not in the labour force)**.



2. Employment of population aged 15 and over

In the third quarter of 2011 the total number of **employed persons aged 15 and over** was 3 018.3 thousand and had a relative share of 46.6% of population of the same age.

Compared with the same quarter of 2010 their number decreased by 85.9 thousand (by 2.8%) and their relative share - by 0.9 percentage points.

In comparison with the second quarter of 2011 the number of employed persons aged 15 and over was by 84.2 thousand higher and their relative share rose by 1.3 percentage points.

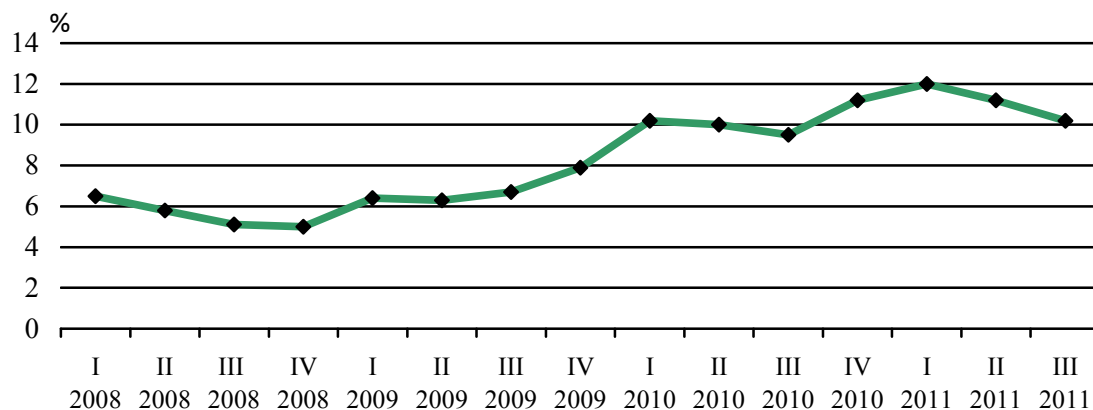
3. Unemployment

In the third quarter of 2011, 342.8 thousand persons were **unemployed** and the **unemployment rate was 10.2%**.

In comparison with the same quarter of 2010 the number of unemployed went up by 16.2 thousand and the unemployment rate - by 0.7 percentage points.

In comparison with the previous quarter of 2011 the number of unemployed decreased by 27.0 thousand and the unemployment rate - by 1.0 percentage point.

Figure 2. 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 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.

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

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.

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

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

Final data for the third quarter of 2011 from the Labour Force Survey will be presented on 21st of November 2011 (according to the Calendar presenting the results of the statistical surveys) on the NSI website www.nsi.bg, section "Labor Market", Labour Force Survey.



APPENDIX

Table 1

MAIN LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS,
THIRD QUARTER OF 2010 AND 2011

	Third quarter 2010	Third quarter 2011*	Change (third quarter 2011 minus third quarter 2010)
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	67.1	66.7	-0.4
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	3104.2	3018.3	-85.9
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	3061.6	2975.3	-86.3
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	47.5	46.6	-0.9
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	60.6	59.9	-0.7
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	326.6	342.8	16.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	324.6	341.8	17.2
Unemployment rate - %	9.5	10.2	0.7
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	9.6	10.3	0.7

*Preliminary data