



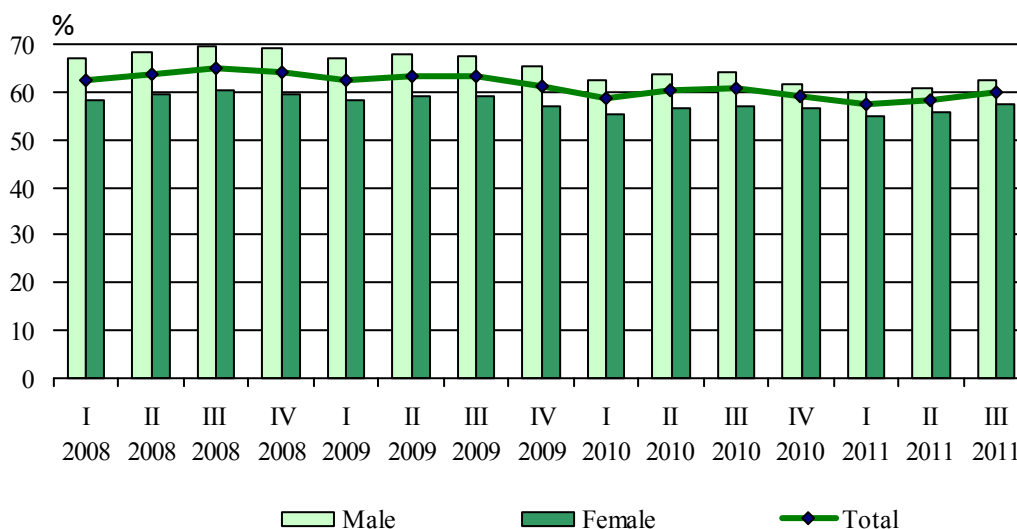
MAIN LABOUR FORCE SURVEY RESULTS THIRD QUARTER 2011

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 third quarter of 2011 **the economically active population aged 15 - 64** was 3317.3 thousand. The total activity rate was 66.8% and in comparison with the third quarter of 2010 went down by 0.3 percentage points. The activity rate decreased by 1.1 percentage points for men and increased by 0.4 percentage points for women, reaching 70.3% and 63.2% respectively.

In the third quarter of 2011 **the employment rate for population aged 15 - 64** was 59.9%, 62.4% for men and 57.3% for women respectively. Compared to the same period of 2010 the employment rate (15-64 years) fell by 0.7 percentage points, as a decrease was observed only for men - by 1.7 percentage points.

Figure 1. Employment rate (15 – 64 years) by sex and by quarter



Between the third quarters of 2010 and 2011 **the employment rate for population aged 20 - 64 years (an Europe 2020 indicator)** dropped by 1.0 percentage point to 65.4%, 68.3% for men and 62.6% for women respectively, but for the women the value of this indicator was the same as in the corresponding quarter of 2010.

In the third quarter of 2011 **the employment rate for the age group 55 - 64 years** was 44.2% and in comparison with the third quarter of 2010 went up by 1.2 percentage points. An increase was observed by 0.6 percentage points for men and by 1.6 percentage points for

women, and the employment rates for this age group reached 50.2% for men and 38.9% for women respectively.

In the third quarter of 2011 **inactive population aged 15 - 64** was 1 652.2 thousand, 33.2% of the population in the same age group. Among all inactive population 736.8 thousand were men and 915.4 thousand were women, and the inactivity rates by sex were 29.7% and 36.8% respectively.

Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 were 229.9 thousand (131.2 thousand men and 98.7 thousand women). Compared to the same quarter of 2010 their number was by 10.4 thousand higher, but the increase was entirely due to men.

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

In the third quarter of 2011 the total number of **employed persons aged 15 years and over** was 3 018.3 thousand and had a relative share of 46.6% of the population in the same age. Compared to the same period of 2010 their number decreased by 85.9 thousand (by 2.8%) and their relative share - by 0.9 percentage points. The number of employed men dropped by 3.7%, reaching 1 577.8 thousand. Women in employment were 1 440.5 thousand, by 1.7% lower than those in the third quarter of 2010.

According to their level of education employed persons were: having attained higher level of education - 820.3 thousand (27.2%), upper secondary level of education - 1 846.8 thousand (61.2%) and lower secondary or lower level of education - 351.2 thousand (11.6%). Between third quarters of 2010 and 2011 the number of employed with low level of education (lower secondary or less) marked the highest drop (by 11.4%).

Of the total number of working population aged 15 and over 3.6% were employers, 7.8% - self-employed, 87.6% - employees and 1.0% - unpaid family workers. Compared to the third quarter of 2010 the employed of all these categories declined (in percentages it was higher for employers with a drop of 12.2%). Of all employees 1 936.4 thousand (73.2%) were working in the private sector and 707.2 thousand (26.8%) - in the public sector. The share of women of all employees in the private sector was 46.0%, and of the employees in the public sector - 58.1%.

As regards economic sectors in the third quarter of 2011, 1 841.9 thousand (61.0% of total employed) worked in Services, 957.9 thousand (31.7%) - in Industry and 218.5 thousand (7.2%) - in Agriculture. Compared to the third quarter of 2010 the biggest drop in the number of employed persons was in the Industry - by 5.6%.

3. Unemployment

In the third quarter of 2011 unemployed were 343.0 thousand persons and the **unemployment rate** was 10.2%. In comparison with the same quarter of 2010 the number of unemployed went up by 16.4 thousand (5.0%), and the unemployment rate - by 0.7 percentage points. Over the period concerned the unemployment rate rose by 1.0 percentage point for men and by 0.4

percentage points for women, as in the third quarter of 2011 male unemployment (11.1%) was about 2.0 percentage points higher than female unemployment (9.2%).

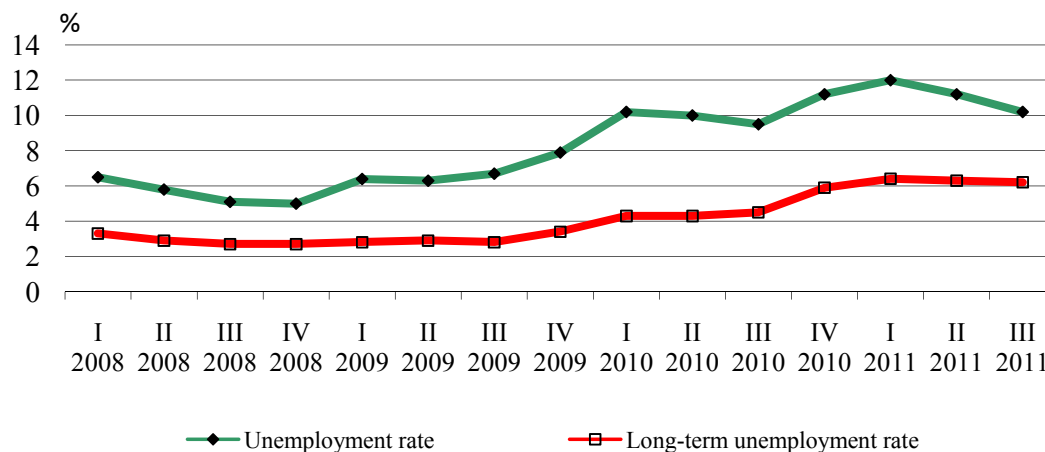
In the third quarter of 2011 the number of unemployed aged 15 - 24 was 59.6 thousand compared to 61.5 thousand in the same quarter of 2010.

The youth unemployment rate was 23.3%, respectively 22.9% for men and 23.9% for women.

Between the third quarters of 2010 and 2011 the number of long-term unemployed increased by one third and reached 207.0 thousand, while the number of persons unemployed less than a year (136.0 thousand) fell by 20.3%. The long-term unemployment rate went up by 1.7 percentage points and stood at 6.2% in the third quarter of 2011. Broken down by gender, the increase of the long-term unemployment rate was 1.9 percentage points for men and 1.2 percentage points for women, and reached 6.9% for men and 5.3% for women respectively.

In the third quarter of 2011 of all unemployed 280.4 thousand (81.8%) had a previous employment experience and 62.6 thousand (18.2%) were looking for their 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 third 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,
THIRD QUARTER OF 2010 AND 2011**

	Third quarter 2010	Third quarter 2011	Change (third quarter 2011 minus third quarter 2010)
Total			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	67.1	66.8	-0.3
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	3104.2	3 018.3	-85.9
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	3061.6	2 975.3	-86.3
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	225.7	196.4	-29.3
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	3042.7	2961.0	-81.7
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	417.7	420.6	2.9
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	47.5	46.6	-0.9
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	60.6	59.9	-0.7
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	24.2	22.0	-2.2
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	66.4	65.4	-1.0
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	43.0	44.2	1.2
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	326.6	343.0	16.4
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	324.6	342.0	17.4
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	61.5	59.6	-0.4
Unemployment rate - %	9.5	10.2	0.7
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	9.6	10.3	0.7
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	21.4	23.3	1.9
Long-term unemployment rate - %	4.5	6.2	1.7
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	221.5	232.5	11.0
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	219.5	229.9	10.4



Table 1

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

(Continued)

	Third quarter 2010	Third quarter 2011	Change (third quarter 2011 minus third quarter 2010)
Male			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	71.4	70.3	-1.1
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1638.7	1 577.8	-60.9
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1610.2	1 549.1	-61.1
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	132.6	117.7	-14.9
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	1597.9	1540.2	-57.7
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	222.9	223.4	0.5
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	52.3	50.9	-1.4
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	64.1	62.4	-1.7
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	27.7	25.8	-1.9
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	70.2	68.3	-1.9
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	49.6	50.2	0.6
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	184.9	196.4	11.5
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	183.5	195.8	12.3
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	34.8	34.9	0.1
Unemployment rate - %	10.1	11.1	1.0
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	10.2	11.2	1.0
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	20.8	22.9	2.1
Long-term unemployment rate - %	5.0	6.9	1.9
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	119.1	133.2	14.1
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	117.9	131.2	13.3



Table 1

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

(Continued and end)

	Third quarter 2010	Third quarter 2011	Change (third quarter 2011 minus third quarter 2010)
Female			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	62.8	63.2	0.4
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1465.5	1 440.5	-25.0
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1451.4	1 426.2	-25.2
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	93.1	78.7	-14.4
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	1444.8	1420.8	-24.0
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	194.8	197.2	2.4
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	43.0	42.7	-0.3
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	57.2	57.3	0.1
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	20.5	18.1	-2.4
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	62.6	62.6	0.0
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	37.3	38.9	1.6
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	141.7	146.7	5.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	141.0	146.2	5.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	26.7	24.7	-2.0
Unemployment rate - %	8.8	9.2	0.4
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	8.9	9.3	0.4
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	22.3	23.9	1.6
Long-term unemployment rate - %	4.1	5.3	1.2
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	102.5	99.3	-3.2
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	101.6	98.7	-2.9