

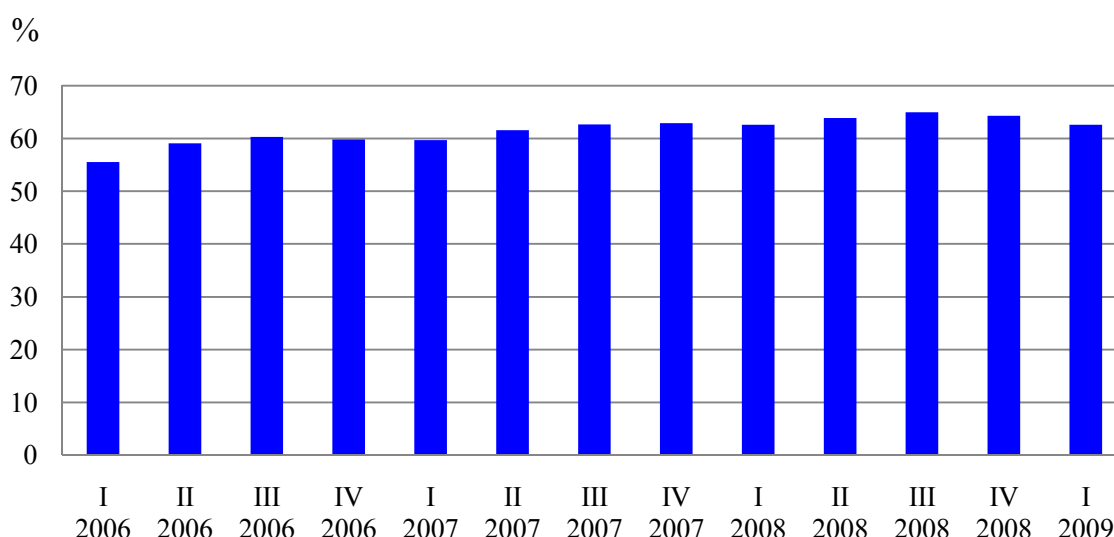
MAIN RESULTS FROM THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2009

According to the Labour Force Survey, carried out by the National Statistical Institute, data about the economic activity of the population for the first quarter of 2009 did not disagree considerably in comparison with data for the first quarter of 2008.

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

The economically active population aged 15 - 64 had a relative share of 66.9% of the total population of the same age group. Disaggregated by gender, the activity rate for males was 71.8%, and for females - 62.2%. The activity rate of the population remained almost at the same level as for the first quarter of 2008, registering a minimum increase for males and decrease for females. (Table 1)

In the first quarter of 2009 the employment rate of population aged 15 - 64 had the same value as in the corresponding quarter of 2008 - 62.6%. The employment rate by gender also showed no significant changes and stood respectively at 67.1% for males and 58.3% for females.



Employment rate (15 – 64 years of age)

The employment rate for older workers (aged 55 - 64) reached 45.3%, or by 1.2 percentage points above the first quarter of 2008 and this growth was entirely due to the increased employment of females at this age group - by 2.6 percentage points. In employment were 53.5% of males aged 55 - 64 and 38.5% of females of the same age. The total number of the economically inactive population aged 15 - 64 was 1 696.0 thousand and had a relative share of 33.1% of the population of the same age group.

The number of the discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 was 160.0 thousand which is 9.4% of the economically inactive population of the same age group.

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

In the first quarter of 2009 the total number of the employed persons aged 15 and over was 3 262.8 thousand and had a relative share of 49.5% of population of the same age. From the total number of the employed persons 1 738.7 thousand (53.3%) were males and 1 524.1 thousand (46.7%) - females.

From the total number of working population 380.2 thousand (11.7%) were self-employed (with or without employees) or unpaid family workers, and 2 882.6 thousand (88.3%) - employees. From all employees 2 099.9 thousand (72.8%) were working in the private sector, and 782.7 thousand (27.2%) - in public sector. The relative share of the females of all employees in the private sector was 44.6 %, and of the employees in the public sector - 58.0%.

More than a half of the total number of the employed persons - 1 862.4 thousand (57.1%) were engaged in the Service sector, 1 184.4 thousand (36.3%) - in the Industry, and 216.0 thousand (6.6%) in the Agriculture and forestry sector.

3. Unemployment

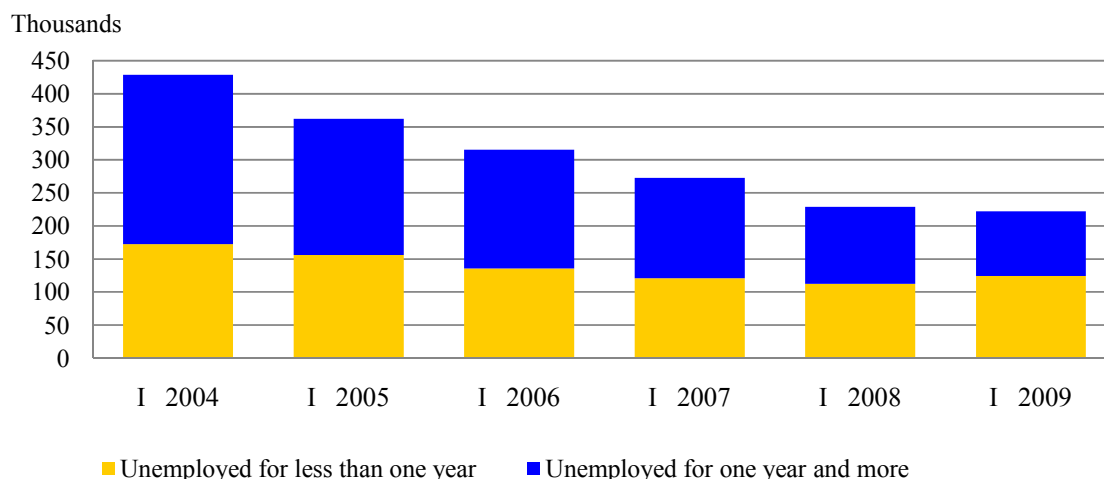
In the first quarter of 2009 the number of the unemployed persons was 222.2 thousand, 121.8 thousand of which were males and 100.4 thousand - females. The unemployment rate was 6.4% and compared to the first quarter of 2008 was not significantly changed.

The unemployment rates by gender did not disagree considerably and stood at 6.5% for males and 6.2% - for females. In the examined period unemployment for males rose insignificantly - by 0.1 percentage point and for females went down by 0.5 percentage points. The difference between the unemployment rates by place of residence remained significant - in the rural areas unemployment (10.3%) was twice higher than in the urban areas (5.2%).

The number of the unemployed aged 15 - 24 was 41.4 thousand. The youth unemployment rate (aged 15 - 24) was 14.2% and respectively 16.8% for males and 10.5% for females.

The number of the long-term unemployed (i.e. unemployed for duration of 12 months or over) was 97.7 thousand, or 43.9% of all unemployed. The long-term unemployment rate was 2.8% and did not differ considerably by gender - 2.7% for males and 2.9 % for females respectively. In the rural areas the long-term unemployment rate reached 5.2% while 2.1% in the urban areas. Lower secondary or lower education has attained 44.5% of the long-term unemployed.

From the total number of unemployed persons 32.7 thousand (14.7%) were looking for their first job.



Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The Labour force survey is a continuous sample survey providing quarterly and annual average results about 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.

Economically 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.

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

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.

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

For the assessment of the results the current demographic data as of 31 December 2008 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 first quarter of 2009 are as follows:

- total number of employed - 1.2%;
- total number of unemployed -5.0%;
- unemployment rate - 4.7%.

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

APPENDIX

Table 1

**MAIN LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS
FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2008 AND 2009**

	First quarter 2008	First quarter 2009	Change (first quarter 2009 toward first quarter 2008)
Total			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	67.0	66.9	-0.1
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	3289.9	3 262.8	-27.1
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	3238.6	3 214.0	-24.6
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	249.0	249.7	0.7
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	437.2	447.9	10.7
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	49.7	49.5	-0.2
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	62.6	62.6	0.0
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	24.9	25.8	0.9
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	44.1	45.3	1.2
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	228.8	222.2	-6.6
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	227.3	220.3	-7.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	41.8	41.4	-0.4
Unemployment rate - %	6.5	6.4	-0.1
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	6.6	6.4	-0.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	14.4	14.2	-0.2
Long-term unemployment rate - %	3.3	2.8	-0.5
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	155.9	162.5	6.6
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	153.2	160.0	6.8

**MAIN LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS
FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2008 AND 2009**

(Continued)

	First quarter 2008	First quarter 2009	Change (first quarter 2009 toward first quarter 2008)
Male			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	71.5	71.8	0.3
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1749.1	1 738.7	-10.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1713.1	1 703.9	-9.2
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	141.7	141.4	-0.3
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	244.6	241.3	-3.3
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	55.1	55.1	0.0
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	66.9	67.1	0.2
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	27.7	28.5	0.8
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	53.9	53.5	-0.4
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	119.0	121.8	2.8
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	117.7	120.4	2.7
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	25.7	28.6	2.9
Unemployment rate - %	6.4	6.5	0.1
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	6.4	6.6	0.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	15.3	16.8	1.5
Long-term unemployment rate - %	3.0	2.7	-0.3
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	77.6	84.0	6.4
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	75.6	82.2	6.6

**MAIN LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS
FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2008 AND 2009**

(Continued and end)

	First quarter 2008	First quarter 2009	Change (first quarter 2009 toward first quarter 2008)
Female			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	62.6	62.2	-0.4
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1540.7	1 524.1	-16.6
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1525.5	1 510.1	-15.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	107.2	108.3	1.1
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	192.6	206.6	14.0
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	44.8	44.5	-0.3
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	58.4	58.3	-0.1
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	22.0	22.9	0.9
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	35.9	38.5	2.6
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	109.9	100.4	-9.5
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	109.5	99.9	-9.6
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	16.2	12.8	-3.4
Unemployment rate - %	6.7	6.2	-0.5
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	6.7	6.2	-0.5
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	13.1	10.5	-2.6
Long-term unemployment rate - %	3.6	2.9	-0.7
Discouraged persons - total - thousands	78.3	78.5	0.2
Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	77.6	77.7	0.1