



LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2012

MAIN RESULTS

- In 2012 **the economically active population aged 15 - 64** was 3 303.9 thousand and represented 67.1% of population in the same age group. Compared to 2011 the activity rate (15 - 64 years) went up by 1.2 percentage points.
- **The total number of employed persons** stood at 2 934.0 thousand representing 46.6% of population aged 15 and over.
- **Employed persons aged 15 - 64** were 2 894.9 thousand. **The employment rate for the same age group** was 58.8% (61.3% for men and 56.3% for women).
- **The employment rate for the age group 20 - 64 years** was 63.0% and remained almost the same compared to 2011. The employment rate was 65.8% for men and 60.2% for women.
- **The employment rate of older people** (aged 55 - 64) reached 45.7% which was by 1.1 percentage points higher than in 2011, and it was mainly due to increase of female employment.
- **Unemployed** were 410.3 thousand persons of whom 241.1 were men and 169.3 were women.
- As compared to 2011 **the unemployment rate** rose by 1.0 percentage point to 12.3%. The unemployment rate went up by 1.2 percentage points for men and by 0.7 percentage points for women achieving 13.5 and 10.8% respectively.
- **The unemployment rate for the age group 15 - 24 years** was 28.1%, and for the **age group 15 - 29 years** - 20.8%.
- The number of **long-term unemployed persons** (unemployed one year and over) was 226.6 thousand, representing 55.2% of all unemployed. **The long-term unemployment rate** was 6.8% (7.7% for men and 5.7% for women).
- **The economically inactive persons** aged 15 - 64 were 1 619.7 thousand, of whom 718.3 thousand men and 901.4 women. **The inactivity rate** was 32.9% (29.0% for men and 36.8% for women).
- The number of **discouraged persons** aged 15 - 64 was 225.6 thousand.
- The relative share of **early school leavers** of population in the age group 18 - 24 years was 12.5%.
- Out of the total population **aged 30 - 34 years** 26.9% were **with tertiary education**.



Figure 1. Employment rates by age group

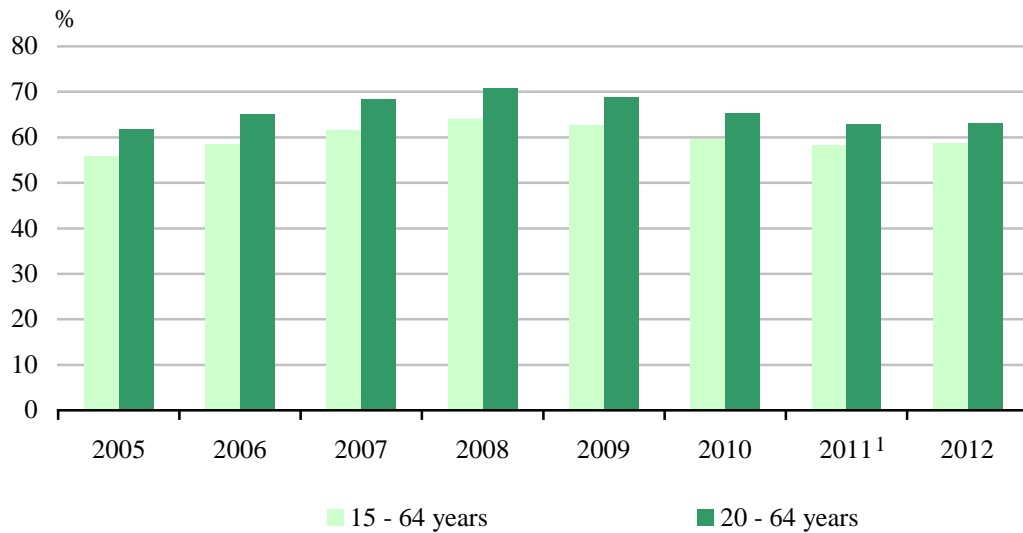
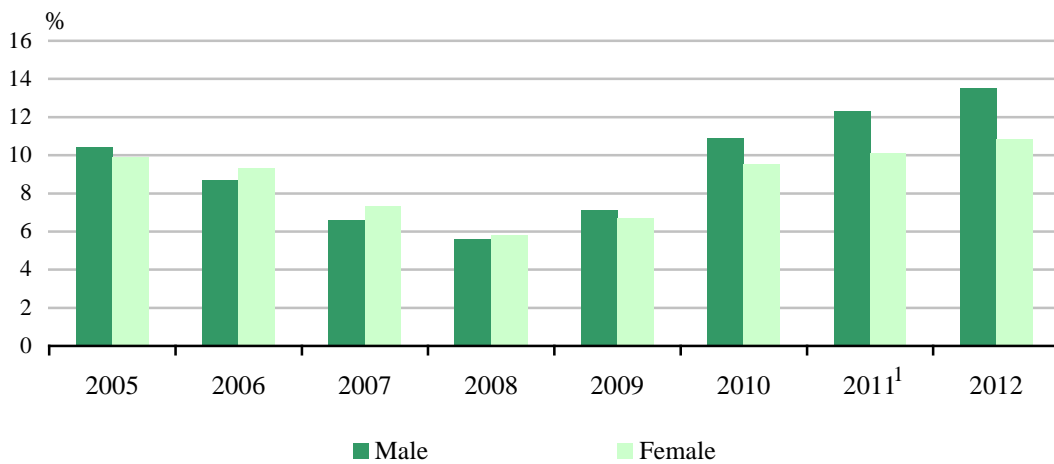


Figure 2. Unemployment rates by sex



¹ Revised data.



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.

Early school leavers - persons aged 18 to 24 having attained lower secondary education as a highest and not received any education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey.

Average annual data are calculated as average of the fourth quarters of the respective year.

Presented data for 2011 are revised in accordance weighting procedure which has been implemented since the beginning of 2012 and with 2011 Population Census data.

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 "Labour Market", Labour Force Survey.



Annex

Table 1

Main labour market indicators,
2011 and 2012

	2011 ¹	2012	Change (2012 minus 2011)
Total			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	65.9	67.1	1.2
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	2965.2	2934	-31.2
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	2927.5	2894.9	-32.6
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	190.2	178.3	-11.9
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	502.2	488.6	-13.6
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	2917.6	2882.2	-35.4
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	474.1	479.2	5.1
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	46.6	46.6	0.0
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	58.4	58.8	0.4
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	22.1	21.9	-0.2
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	37.2	37.5	0.3
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	62.9	63.0	0.1
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	44.6	45.7	1.1
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	376.2	410.3	34.1
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	374.8	409.0	34.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	63.5	69.7	6.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	118.5	128.5	10.0
Unemployment rate - %	11.3	12.3	1.0
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	11.4	12.4	1.0
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	25.0	28.1	3.1
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	19.1	20.8	1.7
Long-term unemployment rate - %	6.3	6.8	0.5
Discouraged persons - thousands	235.2	227.7	-7.5
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - thousands	233.5	225.6	-7.9

¹ Revised data.



Table 1

**Main labour market indicators,
2011 and 2012**

(Continued)

	2011 ¹	2012	Change (2012 minus 2011)
Male			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	69.9	71.0	1.1
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1567.1	1541.7	-25.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1541.1	1517.2	-23.9
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	110.7	104.0	-6.7
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	283.9	276.8	-7.1
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	1535.2	1511.0	-24.2
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	252.1	250.1	-2.0
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	51.1	50.8	-0.3
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	61.2	61.3	0.1
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	25.1	24.9	-0.2
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	40.8	41.3	0.5
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	66.0	65.8	-0.2
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	50.5	50.8	0.3
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	219.0	241.1	22.1
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	218.5	240.5	22.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	38.9	43.5	4.6
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	70.3	78.3	8.0
Unemployment rate - %	12.3	13.5	1.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	12.4	13.7	1.3
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	26.0	29.5	3.5
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	19.8	22.1	2.3
Long-term unemployment rate - %	7.0	7.7	0.7
Discouraged persons - thousands	131.8	125.4	-6.4
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - thousands	130.7	124.3	-6.4

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¹ Revised data.



Table 1

**Main labour market indicators,
2011 and 2012**

(Continued and end)

	2011 ¹	2012	Change (2012 minus 2011)
Female			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	61.9	63.2	1.3
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1398.1	1392.3	-5.8
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1386.4	1377.7	-8.7
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	79.5	74.3	-5.2
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	218.3	211.8	-6.5
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	1382.4	1371.2	-11.2
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	222.0	229.1	7.1
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	42.4	42.6	0.2
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	55.6	56.3	0.7
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	19.0	18.7	-0.3
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	33.4	33.5	0.1
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	59.8	60.2	0.4
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	39.4	41.3	1.9
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	157.2	169.3	12.1
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	156.3	168.5	12.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	24.6	26.1	1.5
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	48.3	50.2	1.9
Unemployment rate - %	10.1	10.8	0.7
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	10.1	10.9	0.8
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	23.6	26.0	2.4
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	18.1	19.1	1.0
Long-term unemployment rate - %	5.5	5.7	0.2
Discouraged persons - thousands	103.3	102.3	-1.0
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - thousands	102.8	101.3	-1.5

¹ Revised data.