

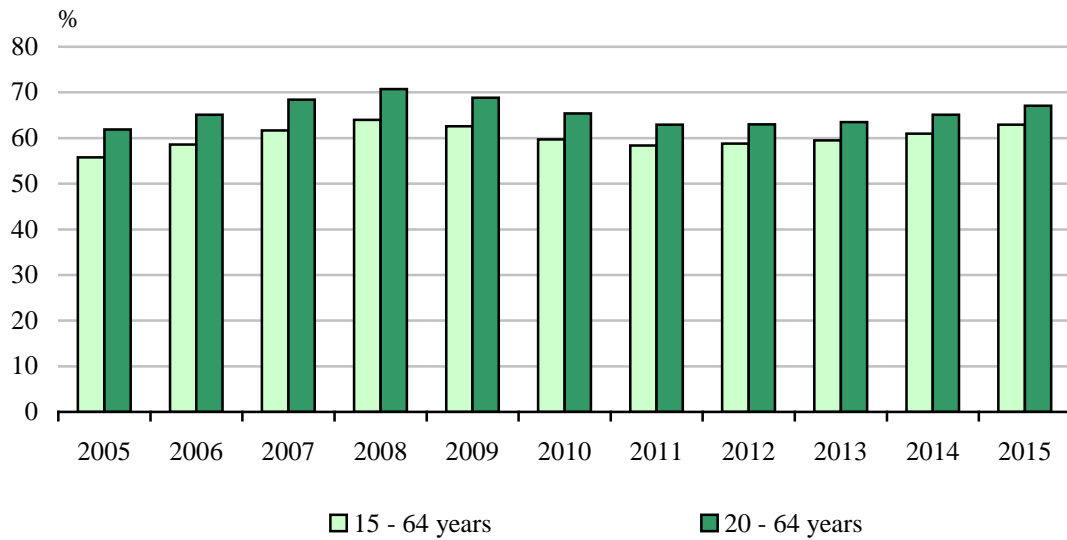


## LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2015 MAIN RESULTS

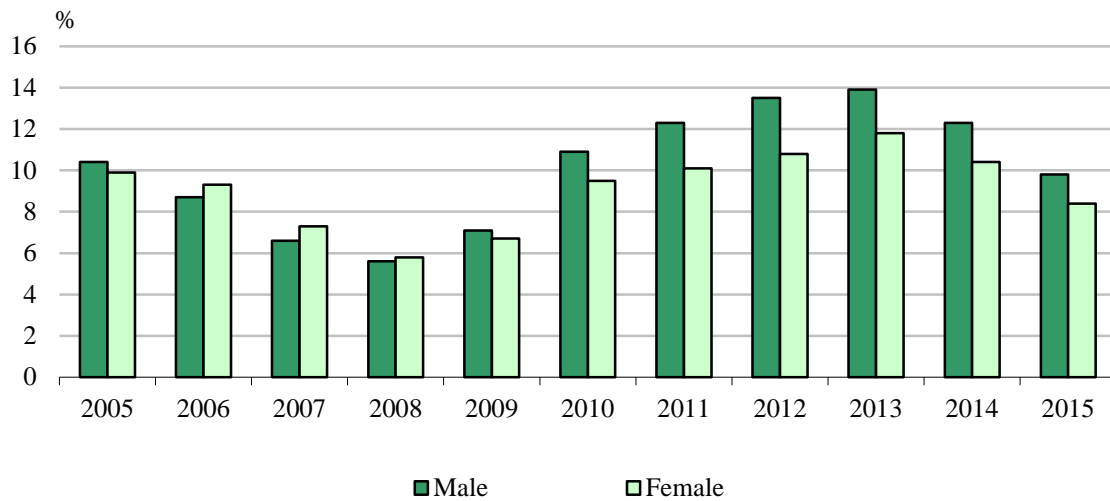
- In 2015 the number of **economically active population aged 15 - 64** was 3 276.0 thousand and represented 69.3% of population in the same age group. The activity rate (15 - 64 years) went up by 0.3 percentage points compared to 2014.
- The **total number of employed persons** stood at 3 031.9 thousand, representing 49.1% of population aged 15 and over.
- There were 2 973.5 thousand **employed persons aged 15 - 64**. **The employment rate for the same age group** was 62.9% (65.9% for men and 59.8% for women).
- **The employment rate for the age group 20 - 64 years** was 67.1%, by 2.0 percentage points higher compared to 2014. The employment rate (20 - 64 years) increased by 2.3 percentage points for men and by 1.8 percentage points for women, achieving 70.4 and 63.8% respectively.
- **The employment rate for people aged 55 - 64** was 53.0%, which was by 3.0 percentage points higher than in 2014 (by 2.3 percentage points for men and 3.5 percentage points for women).
- There were 305.1 thousand **unemployed persons**, of whom 174.2 thousand were men and 130.9 thousand were women.
- **The unemployment rate** went down by 2.3 percentage points in comparison with 2014 and reached 9.1%. The unemployment rate decreased by 2.5 percentage points for men and by 2.0 percentage points for women, achieving 9.8 and 8.4% respectively.
- **The unemployment rate for the age group 15 - 24 years** was 21.6%, and for the **age group 15 - 29 years** - 14.4%. The unemployment rates for these age groups declined by 2.2 and 3.3 percentage points respectively, compared to 2014.
- The number of **long-term unemployed persons** (unemployed one year and over) was 187.0 thousand, representing 61.3% of all unemployed. **The long-term unemployment rate** was 5.6% (6.1% for men and 5.0% for women).
- The number of **economically inactive persons aged 15 - 64** was 1 450.6 thousand, of whom 639.5 thousand men and 811.1 thousand women. **The inactivity rate (15 - 64 years)** was 30.7% (26.8% for men and 34.6% for women).
- The number of **discouraged persons aged 15 - 64** was 170.0 thousand.
- The share of **early leavers from education and training** of population aged 18 - 24 was 13.4%.
- The share of population **aged 30 - 34, having completed tertiary education** was 32.1%.



**Figure 1. Employment rates by age group**



**Figure 2. Unemployment rates by sex**





## 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 work 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 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 leavers from education and training** - 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. The levels of education correspond to the International Standard Classification of Education, revision 2011 (ISCED 2011) in force from 2014.

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



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/en](http://www.nsi.bg/en), section 'Labour Market', Labour Force Survey.



Annex

Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2014 and 2015

	2014	2015	Change (2015 minus 2014)
<b>Total</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	69.0	69.3	0.3
Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands	2981.4	3031.9	50.5
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	2927.4	2973.5	46.1
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	152.7	143.2	-9.5
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	464.9	465.9	1.0
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands	2916.4	2963.2	46.8
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands	511.2	530.1	18.9
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	48.0	49.1	1.1
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	61.0	62.9	1.9
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	20.7	20.3	-0.4
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	38.0	39.2	1.2
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	65.1	67.1	2.0
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	50.0	53.0	3.0
Unemployed persons - total - in thousands	384.5	305.1	-79.4
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	381.3	302.5	-78.8
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	47.6	39.6	-8.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	100.1	78.4	-21.7
Unemployment rate - %	11.4	9.1	-2.3
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	11.5	9.2	-2.3
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	23.8	21.6	-2.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	17.7	14.4	-3.3
Long-term unemployment rate - %	6.9	5.6	-1.3
Discouraged persons - in thousands	192.1	172.9	-19.2
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands	188.7	170.0	-18.7



Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2014 and 2015

(Continued)

	2014	2015	Change (2015 minus 2014)
<b>Male</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	72.9	73.2	0.3
Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands	1577.1	1607.5	30.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	1543.3	1571.7	28.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	90.8	86.9	-3.9
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	264.7	265.0	0.3
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands	1536.7	1565.6	28.9
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands	263.4	269.5	6.1
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	52.7	54.1	1.4
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	63.9	65.9	2.0
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	24.0	24.0	0.0
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	42.1	43.4	1.3
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	68.1	70.4	2.3
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	54.5	56.8	2.3
Unemployed persons - total - in thousands	221.4	174.2	-47.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	219.8	172.6	-47.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	28.4	23.4	-5.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	58.3	46.4	-11.9
Unemployment rate - %	12.3	9.8	-2.5
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	12.5	9.9	-2.6
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	23.8	21.2	-2.6
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	18.1	14.9	-3.2
Long-term unemployment rate - %	7.7	6.1	-1.6
Discouraged persons - in thousands	107.8	93.7	-14.1
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands	105.8	92.2	-13.6



Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2014 and 2015

(Continued and end)

	2014	2015	Change (2015 minus 2014)
<b>Female</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	65.0	65.4	0.4
Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands	1404.3	1424.3	20.0
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	1384.1	1401.8	17.7
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	61.9	56.4	-5.5
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	200.2	200.9	0.7
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands	1379.6	1397.5	17.9
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands	247.8	260.6	12.8
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	43.6	44.5	0.9
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	58.2	59.8	1.6
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	17.3	16.5	-0.8
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	33.7	34.8	1.1
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	62.0	63.8	1.8
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	46.0	49.5	3.5
Unemployed persons - total - in thousands	163.1	130.9	-32.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	161.5	129.9	-31.6
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	19.3	16.1	-3.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	41.8	32.0	-9.8
Unemployment rate - %	10.4	8.4	-2.0
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	10.4	8.5	-1.9
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	23.7	22.3	-1.4
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	17.3	13.8	-3.5
Long-term unemployment rate - %	6.0	5.0	-1.0
Discouraged persons - in thousands	84.3	79.1	-5.2
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands	82.9	77.8	-5.1