

PRESS RELEASE
No 90 of April 19, 2012

Employment and unemployment in 2011

- underemployment and potential additional labour force -

Households labour force survey (AMIGO)

For the correct interpretation of the results, please see the Methodological Notes on page 3 of this Press Release

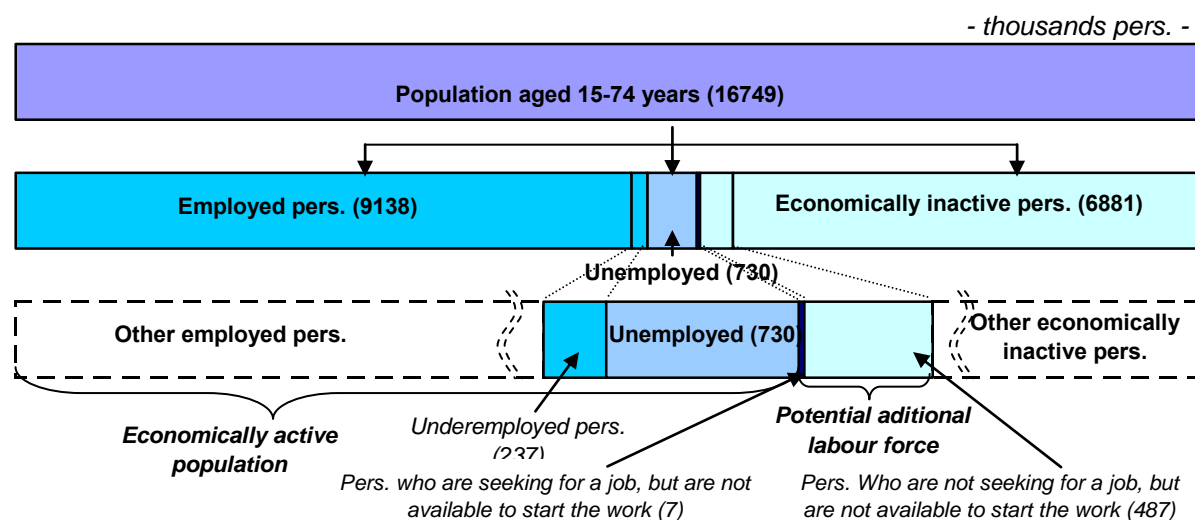
The unemployment rate is the most visible indicator resulted from the Households Labour Force Survey, used to characterize many of the economic and social aspects. But this indicator cannot describe by itself the variety of the situations generated by the fragmentation and the diversification of the labour market. To offer an enhanced and richer picture of the labour market situation and evolution, NIS will publish, beginning with this year, with an annual periodicity, a set of **3 additional indicators**, representing categories of employed or economically inactive persons, having some similarities with unemployed persons and different degrees of attachment to the labour market (comparative with the standard situation of the category they are part of), namely:

- **underemployed persons;**
- **economically inactive persons who are seeking for a job, but are not immediately available to start working;**
- **economically inactive persons who are not seeking for a job, but are immediately available to start working.**

The last 2 indicators ("economically inactive persons who are seeking for a job, but are not immediately available to start working" and "economically inactive persons who are not seeking for a job, but are immediately available to start working") constitute together **"the potential additional labour force"**.

Those 3 additional indicators of unemployment rate, constitute the overlap „areas” between employment and under unemployment, on one side, and between unemployed and economically inactive, on the other side, as one can see in the diagram below.

Population by labour status and those 3 additional indicators of unemployment rate



In 2011, **237 thousand persons** were employed with part-time working programme wishing to work more hours than in present and available to do so, being considered **underemployed persons**. This category of persons represented 2.4% of economically active population, 2.6% of employment and almost a quarter (24.8%) of the total number of persons who worked part-time. At the level of EU27, 3.6% of the economically active persons were underemployed in 2011. The highest weights of underemployed persons among the economically active population were registered in Ireland (6.3%), United Kingdom (5.6%) and Germany (4.7%), while the lowest weights were registered in Czech Republic (0.5%), Belgium and Bulgaria (0.8% - both).

Underemployed persons, in 2011

Underemployed persons				
	- thousands persons -	- % in economically active population -	- % in employment -	- % in part-time employment -
Total	237	2.4	2.6	24.8
Male	159	2.9	3.2	32.8
Female	79	1.8	1.9	16.6
Urban	47	0.9	0.9	38.6
Rural	190	4.4	4.7	22.8

Source: National Institute of Statistics – Households Labour Force Survey (AMIGO).

Among the economically inactive population (11516 thousand persons), **487 thousand persons**, aged 15-74 years, were available to start working but did not look for a job, while **7 thousand persons** looked for a job but were not available to start working. These two categories of economically inactive persons constitute together **the potential additional labour force** which was of **494 thousand persons** in 2011, representing the equivalent of 5.0% of the economically active population. At the level of EU27, the potential additional labour force represented 4.6% of the economically active population, in the Member States the value of this indicator varying between 1.4% in Czech Republic and 12.1% in Italy.

Potential additional labour force, in 2011

Potential additional labour force			
Total			of which: persons available to start working but who do not look for a job
	- thousands persons -	- % in economically active population -	- thousands persons -
Total	494	5.0	487
Male	230	4.2	226
Female	264	6.0	261
Urban	188	3.4	184
Rural	306	7.1	303

Source: National Institute of Statistics – Households Labour Force Survey (AMIGO).

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

1. The data source is the Household Labour Force Survey (AMIGO) carried out on quarterly basis, according to the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council no. 577/1998 on the organization of a labour force sample survey in the European Community.
2. **The economically active population** comprises all persons providing the available labour force for the production of goods and services during the reference period, including employed and unemployed persons
3. **Employment** comprises all persons aged 15 years and over who carried out an economic activity producing goods or services of **at least one hour**¹ during the reference period (one week), in order to get income as salary, payment in kind or other benefits.

Beginning with 2011, self-employed and contributing family workers from agriculture are considered as **employed persons** only if they are the owners of the agricultural production (not necessarily of the lands) achieved and they meet one of the following conditions:

- a) The agricultural production is intended, even partially, to sale or to barter agreements;
- b) The agricultural production is exclusively intended for self-consumption if it accounts for a significant part² of the total consumption of the household.

The active population does not include the persons who:

- Carry out minor agricultural activities³, for recreation, hobby or in view to obtain additional food goods which do not represent a significant part of the total consumption of the household;
- Carry out agricultural activities (whose duration exceeds 10 hours/week), the agricultural production being exclusively intended for self-consumption but not representing a significant part of the total consumption of the household.

Besides the persons who have a job and have worked during the reference week, irrespective of their professional status, the persons belonging to the following categories are also considered employed persons:

- the persons who, during the reference week, have carried out a certain work, paid or bringing in income and who, **although attending school, being retired or benefiting of pensions, were registered with the National Agency for Employment (ANOFM) and received unemployment allowances or not;**
- the remunerated apprentices and trainees, with fulltime or part-time working programme;
- members of military staff.

4. **Usual working programme** of employed persons has been defined as **full-time** or **part-time** according to their statement. Generally, for the employees it is considered the "full-time" programme the programme of full-time work, as it is stipulated by the collective labour contract (normal duration) and the "part-time" program that whose duration stipulated by the individual labour contract is significantly lower than the normal duration.
5. **Underemployed persons** are the persons who are working part-time and who wish and are available to work more hours than at present.
6. **The unemployed, according to the international definition (ILO*)**, are the persons aged 15-74 years who simultaneously meet the following 3 conditions: (i) they do not have a job; (ii) they are available to start working during the next two weeks; (iii) they were actively seeking for a job, at any time during the last four weeks.
7. **Economically inactive population** comprises, according to this survey, all the persons who have not worked even one hour and who were not unemployed in the reference period, being in one of the following situations:
 - pupils or students;
 - pensioners (of all categories);
 - housekeepers (who carry out only housing activities in the household);
 - persons supported by other persons or by the state or self-supported from other income (rents, interests etc.).
8. **Persons who looked for a job, but were not available to start working** are the persons aged 15-74 years, neither employed nor in unemployment (economically inactive persons), who looked for a job,

¹ At least 15 hours for self-employed and contributing family workers from agriculture – previous to 2011

² At least 50% of the total consumption of the household

³ Whose duration does not exceed 10 hours in the reference week

^{*)} **International Labour Office.**

during the 4 weeks previous to the interview, but are not available to start working in the next 2 weeks. This category also includes:

- a. persons who found a job and will start their activity in at least 3 months, but are not available to start working in the next 2 weeks;
 - b. persons who found a job and will start their activity after 3 months or more;
 - c. persons who looked for job, using exclusively passive methods, during the 4 weeks previous to the interview, even if they are available to start working.
9. **Persons, who were available to start working but did not search for a job**, are the persons aged 15-74 years, neither employed nor in unemployment (economically inactive persons), who wish to work, and are available to start working in the next 2 weeks, but did not look for a job during the 4 weeks previous to the interview.
10. **Potential additional labour force** represents the sum of the two categories: „economically inactive persons who are searching for a job, but are not available to start working” and „economically inactive persons who are not searching for a job, but are available to start working”.

For additional information, kindly see the statistical publication „Labour Force in Romania. Employment and Unemployment”, 2011, date of issue June 29, 2012.

The next press release, on data for the first quarter of 2012, will be issued in June 26, 2012.

Underemployed persons in 2011, in Romania and Europe

	- thousands persons -	- % in economically active population -	- % in employment -	- % in total population -
EU27	8596	3.6	4.0	2.3
Belgium	38	0.8	0.8	0.5
Bulgaria	26	0.8	0.9	0.4
Czech Republic	26	0.5	0.5	0.3
Denmark	92	3.1	3.4	2.2
Germany	1963	4.7	5.0	3.1
Estonia	12	1.8	2.0	1.2
Ireland	133	6.3	7.4	4.1
Greece	159	3.2	3.9	1.9
Spain	1230	5.3	6.8	3.5
France	1136	4.0	4.4	2.5
Italy	451	1.8	2.0	1.0
Cyprus	15	3.7	4.0	2.5
Latvia	51	4.4	5.2	2.9
Lithuania	41	2.5	3.0	1.6
Luxembourg	4	1.6	1.7	1.0
Hungary	69	1.6	1.8	0.9
Malta	4	2.3	2.5	1.3
Netherlands	114	1.3	1.4	0.9
Austria	135	3.1	3.3	2.1
Poland	320	1.8	2.0	1.1
Portugal	220	4.0	4.6	2.7
Romania	237	2.4	2.6	1.4
Slovenia	19	1.9	2.1	1.2
Slovakia	37	1.4	1.6	0.9
Finland	77	2.9	3.1	1.9
Sweden	218	4.3	4.7	3.1
United Kingdom	1773	5.6	6.1	3.8
Norway	82	3.1	3.2	2.2
Switzerland	243	5.4	5.6	4.0

Source: EUROSTAT – Labour Force Survey (AMIGO for Romania).

Potential additional labour force in Romania and Europe in 2011

	Persons available to start working who are not searching for a job - thousands persons -	Persons not available to start working who are searching for a job - thousands persons -	Potential additional labour force - % in economically active population -
EU27	8566	2383	4.6
Belgium	109	70	3.6
Bulgaria	286	28	9.5
Czech Republic	55	18	1.4
Denmark	75	26	3.5
Germany	591	578	2.8
Estonia	44	2	7.8
Ireland	42	13	2.6
Greece	64	22	1.7
Spain	961	243	5.3
France	306	469	2.8
Italy	2897	121	12.1
Cyprus	14	2	3.7
Latvia	85	9	8.2
Lithuania	19	9	1.7
Luxembourg	12	2	5.5
Hungary	218	11	5.4
Malta	4	:	2.2
Netherlands	286	79	4.2
Austria	141	35	4.1
Poland	644	106	4.2
Portugal	172	33	3.8
Romania	487	7	5.0
Slovenia	18	5	2.3
Slovakia	43	13	2.1
Finland	100	66	6.1
Sweden	121	99	4.4
United Kingdom	772	320	3.4
Norway	59	21	3.1
Switzerland	152	48	4.4

Source: EUROSTAT – Labour Force Survey (AMIGO for Romania).

Note: ":" means no data or not reliable.