

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

1. The **data source** is the Household Labour Force Survey that is conducted on a quarterly basis, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 October 2019 establishing a common framework for European statistics relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240 of 16 December 2019 specifying the technical items of the data set, establishing the technical formats for transmission of information and specifying the detailed arrangements and content of the quality reports on the organisation of a sample survey in the labour force domain.
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 employment and unemployed persons.
3. **The activity rate** represents the weight of economically active population from the age group x in total population of the same age group x .
4. **The activity rate of working age population** represents the weight of economically active population aged 15-64 years in total population aged 15-64 years.
5. **Employed population** comprise persons aged 15 to 89 (in completed years at the end of the reference week) who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:
 - persons who during the reference week worked for at least 1 hour for pay or profit, including contributing family workers;
 - persons with a job or business who were temporarily not at work during the reference week but had an attachment to their job, where the following groups have a job attachment:
 - persons not at work due to holidays, working time arrangements, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave;
 - persons in job-related training;
 - persons on parental leave, either receiving and/or being entitled to job-related income or benefits, or whose parental leave is expected to be 3 months or less;
 - seasonal workers during the off-season, where they continue to regularly perform tasks and duties for the job or business, excluding fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations;
 - persons temporarily not at work for other reasons where the expected duration of the absence is 3 months or less;
 - persons that produce agricultural goods whose main part is intended for sale or barter.

Starting with 2021, persons that produce agricultural goods mainly or exclusively for self-consumption are no longer part of the employment.

Employment can be classified in:

- **Employee** - is considered that person who carries out his activity based on a labour contract within an economic or social unit - irrespectively of its ownership type - or for private persons, getting a remuneration as salary, in cash or in kind, as commission etc. The "labour contract" comprise also any other kind of labour agreement (in write or verbal form), another than the labour contract / status (job) agreement.
 - **Employer** - is that person who carries out his occupation (trade) in his own unit (enterprise, agency, workshop, shop, office, farm etc.), for whose activity he has employed one or several employees.
 - **Self-employed** - is that person who carries out his activity in his own unit or in individual business, hiring no employee, being helped or not by contributing family members. Members of agricultural holdings or non-agricultural co-operatives who has worked either as owners of agricultural land within an agricultural holding constituted according to the Law no 36/1991, or as member of a craftsmen, consumer or credit co-operative are also included.
 - **Contributing family worker** - is that person who carries out his activity within an economic family unit run by a family member or relative, not receiving remuneration as salary or pay in kind.
6. **The employment rate** represents the weight of employment from the age group x in total population belonging to the same age group x .
 7. **The employment rate for working age population** represents the weight of employed persons aged 15-64 years in total population aged 15-64 years.

8. The **unemployed, according to international definition (ILO*)**, are persons aged 15 to 74 (in completed years at the end of the reference week) who were:
 - during the reference week not employed according to the definition of employment; and
 - currently available for work, i.e. were available for paid employment or self-employment before the end of the 2 weeks following the reference week; and
 - actively seeking work, i.e. had either carried out activities in the four-week period ending with the reference week to seek paid employment or self-employment or found a job to start within a period of at most 3 months from the end of the reference week.
9. **The unemployment rate** represents the weight of unemployed persons in total economically active population.
10. The data were extended with the usually resident population in private households, on January 1, 2024. In the first quarter of 2024, the response rate was 88.2%.
11. **A new framework regulation for European statistics relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples (Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 October 2019) entered into force in 2021. Together with the delegated and implementing regulations issued in its application, it provides the new legal basis for the Labor Force Survey (AMIGO).**

These legislative changes provide several important methodological changes aimed at improving the comparability of results between EU Member States (a new definition of employment, changing the data collection method, standardized questionnaire used for data collection, etc.).