

Area: Employment and unemployment

In the third quarter of 2021, the employment rate for the working age population (15-64 years) was 62.3%, decreasing as against the one recorded during the previous quarter

- In the third quarter of 2021, the employment rate¹ for the population aged 20-64 years was 67.6%.
- In the third quarter of 2021, the economically active population of Romania was 8227 thousand persons, out of which 7791 thousand were employed persons and 436 thousand unemployed persons.

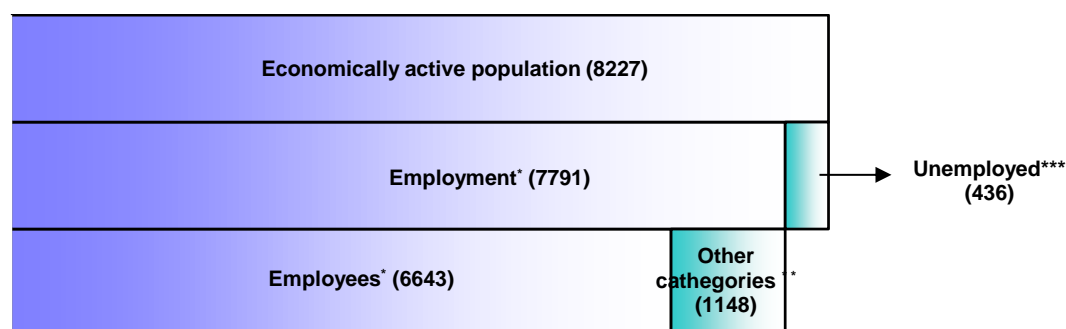
Starting with 2021, the methodology of the Household Labor Force Survey (the source of data in this press release) has been revised to meet the requirements of the new European regulations that entered into force on 1 January 2021 (see also the methodological note). The most important change concerns the exclusion from employment of persons producing agricultural goods intended exclusively or mainly for self-consumption. This has a significant impact on the survey estimates, in particular in terms of:

- lower number of employment and active population (as well as lower employment and activity rates)
- higher unemployment rate (especially due to the decrease of the active population which is the denominator of the indicator).

For this reason, the data published for the first, the second and the third quarter of 2021 are not comparable with those published for the quarters prior to 2021.

Population categories in the third quarter of 2021

- thou. persons -



* Including military staff and assimilated and the persons working in underground economy.

** Other categories: employers, self-employed persons, contributing family worker, members of agricultural holdings or non agricultural co-operatives.

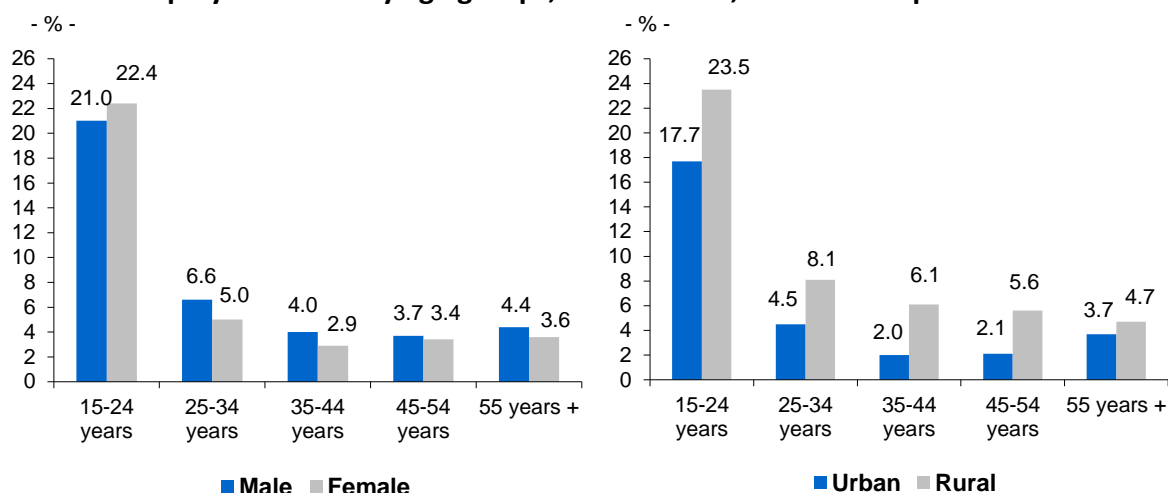
*** According to the standards of International Labour Office (ILO).

In the third quarter of 2021, the employment rate for the working age population (15-64 years) was 62.3%, decreasing as against the one recorded during the previous quarter by 0.1 percentage points. The employment rate was higher for men (71.2% as against 53.1% for women) and for residents in the urban area (67.2% as against 56.3% in rural area).

The employment rate for youth (15-24 years) was 20.6%.

Unemployment rate² in the third quarter of 2021 was 5.3%, increasing with 0.2 percentage points as compared with the one recorded for the previous quarter.

Unemployment rate by age groups, sex and area, in the third quarter of 2021



[Chart data \(xls\)](#)

By sex, the gap between the two unemployment rates was 1.0 percentage point (5.7% for men as against 4.7% for women), while by residential areas it was 4.5 percentage points (7.9% for rural area, as against 3.4% for urban area).

By age groups, the unemployment rate reached the highest level (21.5%) among young persons (15-24 years).

Apart from the 7791 thousand employed persons, another 837 thousand persons worked in their own agricultural household, in order to produce agricultural goods intended exclusively or mainly for self-consumption, being in one of the following situations:

- only a small part of the agricultural production obtained is intended for sale,
- or the agricultural production obtained is intended exclusively for own consumption but represents a substantial part of the total consumption of the household.

These persons, included in the employed population according to the survey methodology used until 2020 (inclusive) are, starting with the first quarter of 2021, considered inactive or unemployed (depending on whether or not they meet the 3 criteria used in the definition of ILO unemployment).

Together with the employed persons, they make up the “productive population” whose number was 8628 thousand persons in the third quarter of 2021. This indicator is defined only in a national context and corresponds to the employed population calculated according to the definition used before 2021.

The rate of productive population³ - calculated for the age group 15-64 years was 66.6% in the third quarter of 2021, and 72.0% for the age group 20-64 years.

Additional information:

¹ **The employment rate** represents the weight of employment from the age group x in total population belonging to the same age group x.

² **The unemployment rate** represents the weight of unemployed persons in total economically active population.

³ **The rate of the productive population** represents the share of the productive population from age group x in the total population from the same age group x. This indicator corresponds to the employment rate calculated according to the standards applied before 2021.

For an accurate interpretation of the indicators, please see the [Methodological explanations](#).

The main indicators of labor force participation of the population are shown in [Annex](#).

The next press release about the data for the Q IV 2021 is to be issued on Friday, the 18th of March, 2022.

Press release archive: <http://www.insse.ro/cms/en/comunicate-de-presa-view>.

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