

SOCIAL

**LABOUR FORCE
IN ROMANIA**
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

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LABOUR FORCE IN ROMANIA EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

2020

Information presented in this paper was obtained from “**Household Labour Force Survey**” (**AMIGO**), carried out in 2020.

The survey assures the collection of informatin necessary for the evaluation of economically active population and for pointing out the seasonal phenomena taking place on the labour market.

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I

The methodology and organization of survey (AMIGO)

1. Survey objectives

The situation existent on the labour market in Romania, the evolution of phenomena of employment, unemployment and economically inactivity represent the objectives of "The Households Labour Force Survey (AMIGO)".

Conceived as important source of intercensus information on labour force, the survey provides, in a coherent manner, essential data about all the population segments, with several possibilities of correlation and structuring by various demographic, social and economic characteristics, under the conditions of international comparability.

Starting with 1996, the household labour force survey is quarterly carried out, as a continuous research, thus allowing to get short-term data on the size and structure of labour force supply and to point out seasonal phenomena taking place on the labour market.

The statistical survey is carried out according to the Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 of 9 March 1998 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community, with the further amendments and providing comparable data at European Union level.

2. Basic concepts - definitions

- **Resident population** include all persons (Romanian citizenship, foreign or without citizenship), who have their usual residence in Romania, for a period of at least 12 months.

- **Usual residence** represents the place where one person normally spends the daily rest period, without having in view temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holidays, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimages. There are considered as having their usual residence in a specific geographical zone only persons who lived at that usual residence for 12 months continuous period at least before the reference moment. Usual residence can be the same with the permanent residence or can be different, in the case of persons who choose to settle their usual residence in

another locality than that of the permanent residence in the country or abroad.

- **Working age population**, according to this survey, includes all the persons aged 15-64 years. In order to assure the comparability, the definition of this population category has used the age limits used at international level.

- **Ratio of economic dependence** represents the number of persons not in employment (non-economically active persons or unemployed) per 1000 employed persons.

- **Economically active population** comprises all the persons providing the available labour force for the production of goods and services in the reference period, including **employment and unemployment**.

The population categories, by labour status, are broken down by the priority principle of employment as against unemployment and unemployment as against non-economically activity.

- **Activity rate** represents the weight of active persons in the age group x in total population of the same age group x.

- **Employment** comprise all the persons aged 15 years and over who have carried out an economic activity producing goods or services **of at least one hour¹⁾** in the reference period (one week), in order to get income as salary, payment in kind or other benefits. It was adopted the standard criteria of "at least one hour" recommended by the International Labour Office (ILO) to define the employment in order to ensure the data comparability at international level, as well as from the following considerations:

- including part-time programme, occasional or seasonal activities;
- providing the correlation between the worked time and the production volume;
- defining the unemployment as total lack of work;
- evaluating the underemployment dimensions.

Beginning with 2002, according to European standards and recommendations, there are also included in employment:

- persons with status in employment of employer, self-employed, contributing family worker or member of an

¹⁾ At least 15 hours for self-employed and contributing family workers from agriculture - previously 2011.

agricultural holding or of a co-operative, temporarily absent from work during the reference week, who are sure to return to their job within a period of at most three months, their absence reasons being the following: leave, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave (in the limit of a period stipulated by the law), parental leave, without pay leave, study leave, labour conflict or strike, disease, temporary disability, training or vocational courses, work temporary ceasing because of meteorological conditions, unfavourable economic conjuncture, shortage of raw materials or energy, technical incidents;

- employees temporarily absent from work who carry on receiving at least 50% of their salary from the employer or who are sure to return to their job within a period of at most three months.

Beginning with 2011, the self-employed and contributing family workers in agriculture are considered employed persons only if they are the owners of the agricultural production (but not necessary the owners of the land) obtained and fulfil one of the following conditions:

- a) the agricultural production is, even in part, for sale or for change in kind (barter);
- b) the agricultural production is exclusively for own consumption, if this represents a substantial²⁾ part of the total household consumption.

Besides persons who have a job or have worked during the reference week, no matter of their status in employment, the following persons are also considered employed:

- persons who during the reference week have carried out a certain work, paid or entailing income, **even if they were attending the compulsory school training, were pensioners or received a pension, were registered at the National Agency for Employment, receiving or not the unemployment benefit;**
- paid apprentices and trainees, who work with full-time or part-time working programme;
- members of armed forces.

- **Employment rate** represents the weight of employed persons of age group x in total population of the same age group x.

- **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 that programme of full-time work, as it is stipulated by the collective labour contract (normal duration) and the "part-time" program whose duration stipulated by the individual labour contract is significantly lower than normal duration.

- **Underemployed persons** are employed persons who are working part-time and who wish and are available to work more hours than at present.

- **Usual duration** of the working week is considered the duration of a typical working week, not the duration stipulated by the collective labour contract or other conventions or agreements. This duration also comprises the overtime, if these hours are systematically carried out.

- **ILO³⁾ unemployed** are persons aged 15-74 years old who in the reference period fulfill the following conditions:

- have no job and do not carry out an activity in order to get income;
- are looking for a job, in the last 4 weeks (including the reference week) using various *active methods* to find it: having been in contact with the public employment office or with a private agency to find work, applying to the employers directly, taking recruitment test or examination, or being interviewed, taking steps to start an activity on own account, placing or answering job advertisements, studying job advertisements, asking among friends, relatives, colleagues, trade unions to find work, other methods besides those mentioned above;
- are available to start work in the next two weeks (including the week when the interview is carried out), if they find a job at once.

Also, among the ILO unemployed, there are included:

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

³⁾ According with *International Labour Office*.

- persons who usually belong to the non-economically active population (pupils, students, pensioners), but who stated that they have looked for a job by means of active methods and are available to start work.

Beginning with 2002, the following persons are also considered unemployed:

- persons with status in employment of employer, self-employed, contributing family worker or member of an agricultural holding or of a co-operative, temporarily absent from work during the reference week who are not sure to return to their job within a period of at most three months, available to start work and who have actively looked for a job;
- employees absent from work, who did not receive at least 50% of their salary from the employer and are not sure to return to their job in a period of at most three months, available to start work and who have actively looked for a job;
- jobless persons, available to work, who did not look for a job in the last 4 weeks because they have already found it or because they have previously taken steps for an activity on their own account and are to start work in less than 3 months.

• **ILO unemployment rate** represents the ratio of ILO unemployed of age group x in economically active population of age group x.

• **Long-term unemployment rate** represents the weight of ILO unemployed under unemployment for *12 months* and over in economically active population.

• **Long-term unemployment rate for young people** (aged 15-24 years) represents the weight of ILO young people unemployed under unemployment for *6 months* and over in economically active population aged 15-24 years.

• **Incidence of long-term unemployment** represents the weight of long-term unemployed (*12 months and over*) in total unemployed.

• **Incidence of long-term unemployment for young people** (aged 15-24 years) represents the weight of long-term unemployed (*6 months and over*) in total young people unemployed.

• **Weight of young unemployed in total young people** is determined by the ratio of unemployed aged 15-24 years in total population aged 15-24 years.

• **Registered unemployed** are persons who stated that in the reference period were registered at the agencies for employment, no matter if they received or not unemployment benefit.

Employed population has been broken down by **economic activity, status in employment** and **occupation** in the (main or secondary) job.

• **The economic activity** has been set up considering the following:

- activity of the economic and social unit (autonomous body, commercial company, institution, organisation, association etc.), if the unit has no subunits;
- activity of the subunit (of plant-type, factory, section, computing office, transport base, platform, canteen, enterprise shop etc.), if the interviewees stated such a job;
- main activity of the economic and social unit for senior officials or persons carrying out auxiliary activities (administrative, marketing, consulting, supply - sale, accounting etc.);
- activity determined by the occupation, for persons working on their own account;
- activity of the job for the supported person, for contributing family workers.

The population has been broken down by groups of activities, using the **Classification of the Activities in the National Economy** (NACE Rev.2).

• **Status in employment** represents the situation of a person when getting income in the activity carried out, namely:

- **Employee⁴⁾** - 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.

Employees have been broken down by the **working regime**, being considered as **permanent** employee that person with labour contract on an indefinite period of time and **temporary** employee that person with labour contract on a definite (limited) period.

- **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. This category also includes employers, who are also employees of their own enterprise, as well as holders of management agreements or franchise that use 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. This status also includes independent entrepreneurs (peddlers, coaches, women taking care of children, carters, private taxi-drivers etc.), free-lancers (strolling musicians, fine artists, lawyers), occasional day-workers, holders of management or franchise contracts who do not use employees, individual farmers or those who work in agricultural associations.

- **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. Such a unit is considered peasant's (agricultural) household. If several persons of a household work in their own agricultural household, one of them - generally the household head - is considered self-employed, while the others are considered contributing family workers.

- **Member of an agricultural holding or of a non agricultural co-operative** - is considered that person who has worked either as owner of agricultural land within an agricultural holding constituted according to the Law 36/1991, or as member of a craftsmen, consumer or credit co-operative.

• The population breakdown by **occupation** has taken into account the function or trade of economically active persons effectively carried out, the occupation meaning the useful activity, getting income (in cash or in kind) carried out by one person, generally within an economic and social unit. The employment was broken down by groups of occupations using the **Classification of Occupations in Romania according to International Standard Classification of Occupations ISCO-08 (COR 2008)**.

• **Atypical work** refers to the main activity carried out *in the evening* (starting with 18⁰⁰hrs), *in the night* (starting with 22⁰⁰hrs), *on Saturday, on Sunday*, as well as the *shift work*.

⁴⁾ Including persons on military service until 2007.

• **Economically inactive population** comprises, according to this survey, all the persons who have worked no hour and who were not unemployed in the reference period, being in one of the following situations:

- pupils or students;
- pensioners (of all the categories);
- housekeepers (who carry out only housing activities in the household);
- persons supported by other persons or by the state or support themselves from other income (rents, interests, etc.).

Beginning with 2002, there are also considered economically inactive persons:

- persons who have declared that in the reference week had a job where they were absent, are not sure they return their job in three months period at most and who do not receive at least 50% of salary from the employer, are not available to start work and who have not actively looked for a job.

• **Economically inactive persons who are seeking for a job, but are not immediately available to start working** are persons aged 15-74 years, neither employed nor in unemployment, who looked for a job during the 4 weeks previous to the interview, but are not available to start work in the next 2 weeks. This category includes:

- persons who found a job and will start the activity in less than 3 months, but are not available to start work in the next 2 weeks;
- persons who found a job and will start their activity after 3 months or more;
- 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.

• **Economically inactive persons who are not seeking for a job, but are immediately available to start working** are 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.

• **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”.

• **Discouraged persons** are economically inactive persons available to work in the next two weeks (including the week when the interview is carried out), who have declared that in the last 4 weeks (including the reference week) they looked for a job using *passive methods* or do not look for a job, from the following reasons:

- believed there were no vacant jobs or did not know where to look for them;
- are not professionally prepared;
- believe that they will not find a job because of their age;
- looked for a job another time and found nothing.

• **Educational process** includes all learning activities in order to improve knowledge, qualification and competence, for personal, civic or social purpose and/or related to the career and supposes to take before the decision to learn, for improving knowledge, information, competence, understanding, qualification, behaviour. It is, developed:

- within the national education system (formal education);
- outside the national education system taking part in courses, seminars, conferences, etc. (non-formal education).

- The grouping of data by the **level of education graduated** has been done having in view:

- the level of education graduated, certificated by a diploma or another document which certifies the studies completion;
- the correspondence between the levels of education (according to the national legislation) and the levels of education defined according to **International Standard Classification of Education ISCED 2011**.

In this publication, the data referring to the level of education were grouped in this way:

- low (ISCED levels 0-2): no school graduated, primary, gymnasium. In gymnasium level were also included the graduates of short vocational, complementary or apprentices programmes (at most 2 years), if the total number of years of studies (from the beginning of primary education until to the graduation of vocational education) was of at most 10 years;

- medium (ISCED levels 3-4): high school education (inferior or superior cycle), vocational, complementary or apprentices education (longer than 2 years), speciality post-high school or technical foremens education;

- superior (ISCED levels 5-8): short-term university (university colleges, sections of sub-engineers / conductor architects of superior education institutions), long-term university (long-term university education, bachelor and master programmes), post-university, doctoral (Ph.D.) and post-doctoral programmes.

- **The highest level of education completed by adult persons (25-64 years)** points out structure of population aged 25-64 years by level of education graduated: low, medium, high; it is calculated as ratio between population aged 25-64 years of each category, according to level of education and total population of the same age group.

- **Long-life learning (adult participation in education and training)** is determined by ratio between population aged 25-64 years attending a type of education or training in the last four weeks before the interview, for population aged 25-64 years.

- **Youth education attainment level** represents the weight of young people aged 20-24 years, graduates of a type of education or training at educational level at least medium, in total young people aged 20-24 years.

- **Early school leavers** represents ratio of population aged 18-24 with elementary (low) level of education, who do not attend any type of education (formal or non-formal) in the last four weeks before the interview, in total population aged 18-24 years.

- **The rate young people neither in employment nor in education or training** represents the proportion of young people who neither were in any education or training (formal and non-formal) nor worked, in the total number of young people in the same age group.

• Population was broken down **at territorial level** according to the criteria of the Regulation 1059/2003 regarding the setting up of a common classification of territorial statistical units and European regulations issued by EUROSTAT corresponding with the **Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS)**.

The presented data are for the next levels:

- ✓ national (NUTS0);
- ✓ macroregion (NUTS1);
- ✓ region of development (NUTS2).

The composition of the development macroregions (NUTS1) and the regions (NUTS2) in Romania is the following:

MACROREGIONS / DEVELOPMENT REGIONS / COUNTIES	
1. MACROREGION ONE	
1.1. REGION NORTH-WEST	1.2. REGION CENTER
Bihor	Alba
Bistrița-Năsăud	Brașov
Cluj	Covasna
Maramureș	Harghita
Satu Mare	Mureș
Sălaj	Sibiu
2. MACROREGION TWO	
2.1. REGION NORTH-EAST	2.2. REGION SOUTH-EAST
Bacău	Brăila
Botoșani	Buzău
Iași	Constanța
Neamț	Galați
Suceava	Tulcea
Vaslui	Vrancea
3. MACROREGION THREE	
3.1. REGION SOUTH MUNTENIA	3.2. REGION BUCHAREST-ILFOV
Argeș	Bucharest
Călărași	Ilfov
Dâmbovița	
Giurgiu	
Ialomița	
Prahova	
Teleorman	
4. MACROREGION FOUR	
4.1. REGION SOUTH-WEST OLTENIA	4.2. REGION WEST
Dolj	Arad
Gorj	Caraș-Severin
Mehedinți	Hunedoara
Olt	Timiș
Vâlcea	

3. Survey coverage

The survey covered persons with usual residence in Romania, for a period of at least 12 months, members of the households from the selected dwellings.

- **Household** means the group of two or several persons who usually live together, being generally relatives and managing the house in common, entirely or partly taking part in the income getting and spending. The person who does not belong to a household and who declares to live alone and manages the house by himself is considered as a single person household.

There are also considered as members of the household those persons absent from home for a longer period of time (even longer than 6 months), living, at the survey time, somewhere else in the country or abroad⁵⁾ if they keep ties with their household, namely: pupils and students left for study, persons left to work, convicts and prisoners, hospitalised persons or those temporarily found in the sanatoria for treatment or recovery.

Persons permanently living in collective units (elderly, handicapped, workers hostels, sanatoria etc.) have not been included in this survey.

4. Registration method

Data were collected by means of the face-to-face interview. The information has been registered in the questionnaires of the survey, interviewing the persons aged 15 years and over, at the domicile of the households from the surveyed dwellings.

5. Reference and registration period

The interviews have been uniformly spread over the quarter, the survey being a continuous one.

Reference period (for most of the questions) was the week, from Monday to Sunday, before the registration. For certain questions, there are also other reference periods: the last four weeks, the last year, the next two

⁵⁾ Persons living abroad are considered to be members of the household only if the duration of stay abroad is shorter than 12 months.

weeks, the last three months of the current year or of the similar period of the previous year.

6. Sampling plan

The survey has been carried out on a random sample of dwellings, representative at national level, using a **two-level** sampling plan.

The representativeness refers both to the household's structure, and to the population distribution by areas, sex and age groups.

The structure differences, occurring because of the situation in the field at the moment of the survey carrying out, are cancelled applying some adjustment proceedings according to the non-response rate by residence areas and depending on the population distribution by areas, sex and age groups, these distributions being obtained from exhaustive sources of demographic research.

The sampling plan relied on the building up, **in the first level**, of the Multifunctional Sample of Territorial Areas ("master" EMZOT sample) comprising 792 research centres (primary sampling units), broken down in all the counties and sectors of Bucharest municipality. EMZOT was carried out based on the data from the Population and Housing Census of March 2011 and will be periodically updated.

In order to size the sample **in the second level** (28512 dwellings/quarter with all the component households), it has been taken into account to get some estimations of the main surveyed characteristics affected by errors in the 3% limit and guaranteed with a 97% probability.

The sample is built up based on the dwellings rotation proceeding ("rotational scheme 2-2-2"), having as basic principle the following technique: a dwelling is surveyed for two successive quarters, it is temporarily taken out from the survey in the next two quarters, it is introduced again in the survey in the next two quarters, then it is taken out for good from the survey. Therefore, a dwelling is administered for 6 quarters, being interviewed 4 times. According to the applied scheme, each quarter, there are kept in the sample 50% of the dwellings of previous quarter, 25% of the dwellings surveyed two quarters ago, while the other 25% are totally

new dwellings. Thus, it is kept a 50% cover of the samples from one quarter of one year to the same quarter of previous year.

Implementing this scheme has aimed at the following:

- reducing the non-response rate and the errors resulting from recurrent surveys (both of the respondents, and of the interviewers);
- avoiding the burden on the same groups of dwellings, keeping them in the survey for longer periods of time;
- balancing the quality requirements for the estimators of the surveyed characteristics at a given moment and in time;
- improving the estimations for the evaluation of the changes in time (from one quarter to another and from one year to another);
- reducing the discontinuities in the time series.

7. Weighting method

For each of the four quarters of 2020 expansion of the survey results at national level was based on the weighting coefficients computed for the persons in the sample who responded to the interview.

In order to compute these coefficients quarterly non-response rate was taken into account as well as the distribution of the resident population on gender, age group, urban/rural area and regions at the 1st of January (for quarters I and II) and at the 1st of July (for quarters III and IV).

Response rates in year 2020 were: 85,54% in the 1st quarter, 82,08% in the 2nd quarter, 85,51% in the 3rd quarter, 85,80% in the 4th quarter.

Weighted annual results were computed as an average of the weighted quarterly results.

In order to determine the weighting coefficients, the following stages have been passed:

- calculation of basic weights:
 - basic weight for a dwelling represents the reverse of general probability to include the dwelling in the sample survey;
 - all households of a dwelling “borrow” basic weight of that dwelling;
- treatment of total non-response:
 - is carried out by means of homogeneous response groups method, using as explanatory variables the county and the residence area;
 - in this stage, basic weights of respondent households are adjusted with the reverse of the response rate;
- adjustment method the sample and calculation of final weights:
 - the adjustment is carried out in order to improve the estimations quality by a final adjustment of the weights in the previous stage;
 - the adjustment method used is called calibration. It is performed at level of development region using as variables the population by sex and age group, residence area and total households. Using this method determines the increase of the estimations accuracy.

* * *

The National Institute of Statistics has carried out, by means of the county statistical offices, the practical organisation of this survey and has conducted it in the field.

II

The results of survey (AMIGO)

Synthesis

The information presented in this paper was obtained from the household labour force survey (AMIGO) carried out during the year 2020.

Yearly data were computed as average of the weighted quarterly results.

The detailed results are presented in the tables of the paper.

In order to have an accurate interpretation of various indicators, the methodological concepts and definitions from the first part of the paper should be taken into account.

In 2020, the **economically active population** was of 8973 thousand persons, of which 8521 thousand were employed persons and 452 thousand unemployed^{*)}.

The employment rate of working age population (15-64 years) was 65.6%, having higher values for men (74.4%, as against 56.5% for women) and close values for the two residence areas (67.1% in urban area and 63.8% in rural area).

24.6% of young people (aged 15-24 years) and 48.5% of elderly people (aged 55-64 years) were employed.

The highest level of employment rate for working age persons was registered among graduates of superior level of education (88.8%). As the level of education decreases, the employment rate also decreases. Thus, 68.1% of persons with medium level of education and only 43.4% of those with low level of education were employed.

The employment rate for the population aged 20-64 years was 70.8%, 0.8 percentage points over the national target of 70% set in the Context of Europe 2020. Employment rate had higher values for men (80.3% as against 61.0% for women) and for persons in urban area (71.8% as against 69.4% for persons in rural area).

The unemployment rate was 5.0%. By gender, the gap between the two rates was 0.6 percentage points (5.3% for men as against 4.7% for women), while by residential area it was 1.4 percentage points (5.8% for rural area as compared to 4.4% for urban area).

The unemployment rate had the highest level (17.3%) among young people (aged 15-24 years).

The unemployment affects to a greater extent the graduates of medium and low level of education, for which the unemployment rate was 5.1%, respectively 8.1% higher as compared with the rate registered for unemployed with superior level of education (2.2%).

The long-term unemployment rate (unemployed for one year and over) was of 1.5%.

The share of persons being under unemployment for one year and over in total unemployment was 29.9%. The long-term unemployment rate registered close values both by gender (33.0% for men as compared to 25.1% for women) and by area (28.6% for persons living in urban and 31.1% for rural area).

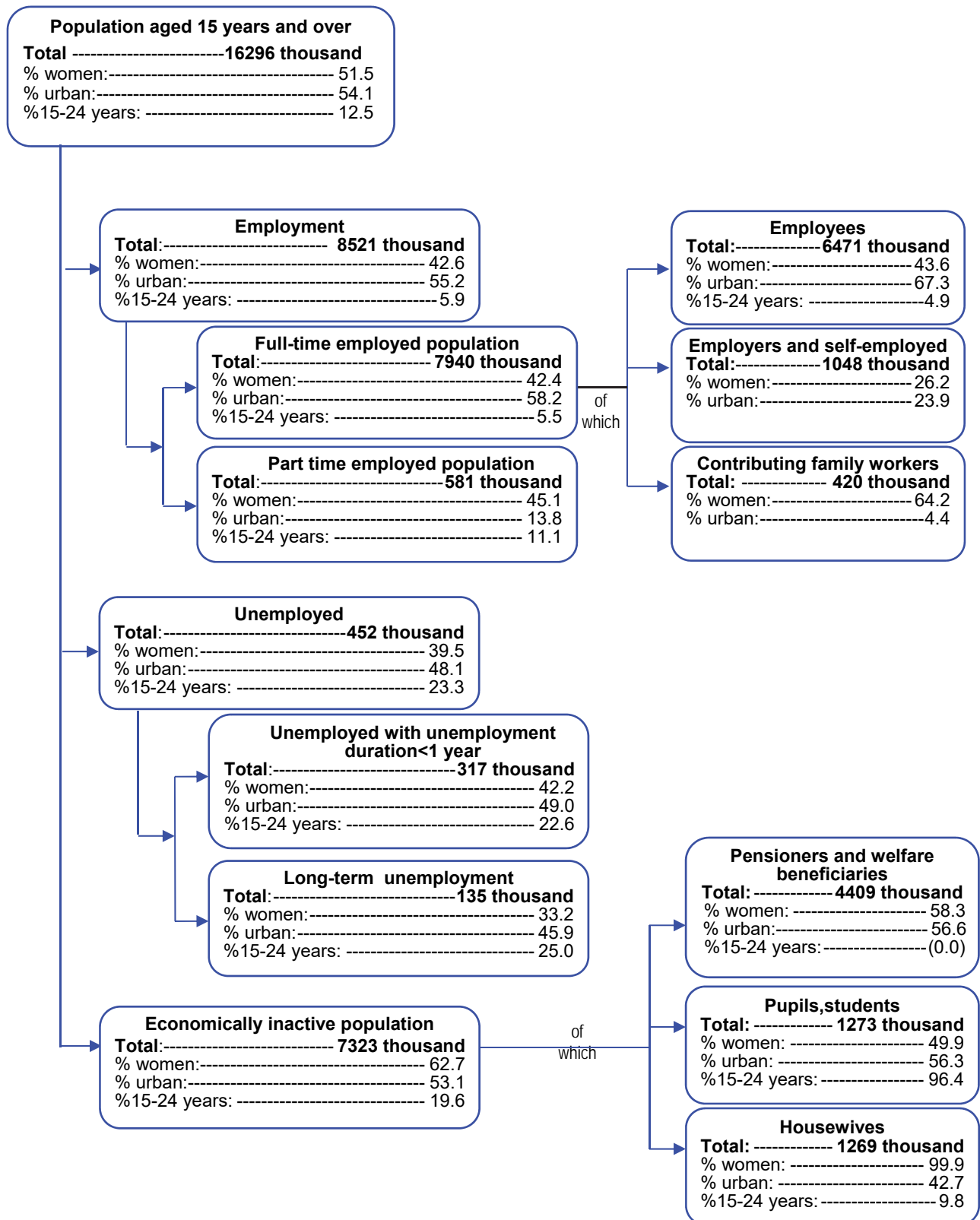
The long-term unemployment rate for young people (aged 15-24 years) - under unemployment for six months and over - was 8.2% and the incidence of long-term unemployment among youth was 47.2%.

^{*)} Defined according to the International Labour Office criteria.

1. General characteristics

In 2020, the main categories of the population by participation in economic activity were as follows:

Figure 1 - Categories of population in 2020



In 2020, out of the total population: 53.9% lived in urban areas, 46.5% were economically active persons and 44.1% were employed persons.

The ratio of economic dependency expressed by the number of the persons not in employment (inactive or unemployed) per 1000 employed persons was in 2020 of 1267‰ increasing from the previous year (1236‰).

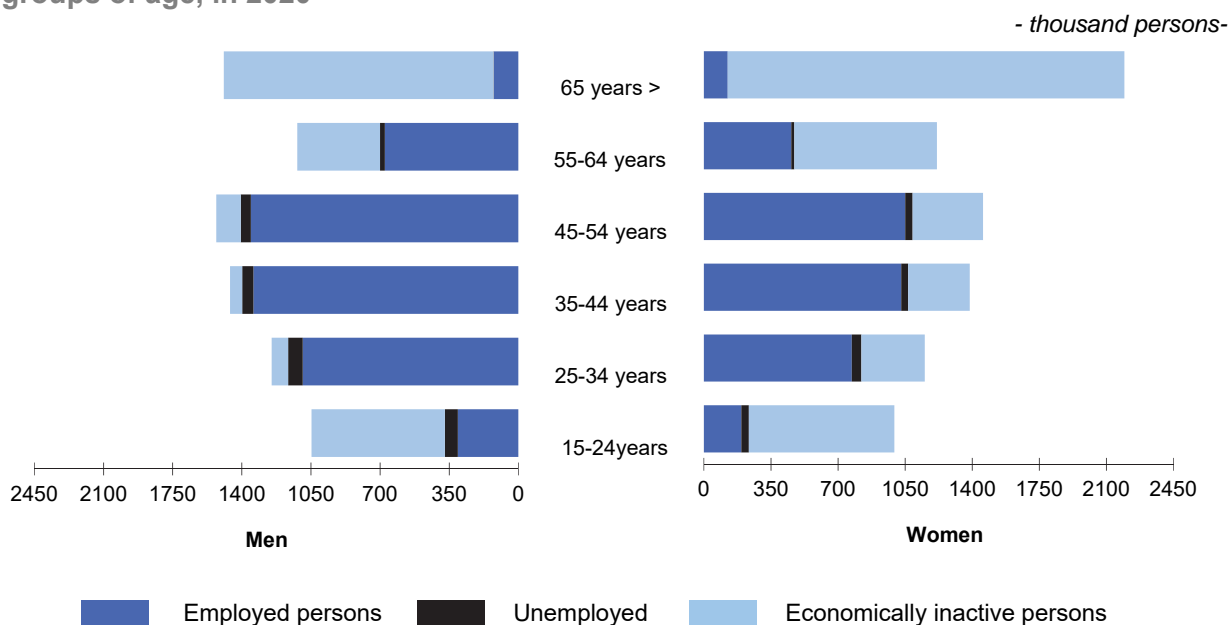
The value of this indicator was higher for women (1719‰, as against 931‰ for men), and for persons living in rural area (1334‰ as compared to 1212‰ for urban area).

Working age population (12611 thousand persons) represented 65.3% of the total population. Out of them, 65.6% were in employment, 3.6% were unemployed and 30.8% were economically inactive persons.

Out of the total population of the country, 84.4% were **persons aged 15 years and over** and 54.1% of them were living in urban area. Gender structure of the population aged 15 years and over is characterized by a slight predominance of women (1064 women per 1000 men).

Figure 2 represents the age structure of the population of 15 years and over for the main categories of the population: employed persons, unemployed and economically inactive persons.

Figure 2 - Distribution of population aged 15 years and over by labour status, gender and groups of age, in 2020



Population level of education

The distribution of population aged 15 years and over by **level of education** points out that, a little over half (55.0%) had *medium* level of education.

Persons with *low* level of education represented 31.0% of the population aged 15 years and over and those with *superior* level of education held a weight of 14.0%.

Women represented the majority of superior education graduates (52.6%) and also those living in urban area (85.3%).

The majority of graduates of medium level of education lived in urban area (58.7%) but, regarding gender distribution the largest share was held by men (52.6%).

The population aged 30-34 years with higher education represented 26.4% of the population in the same age group. By gender, the values of this indicator were relatively close (30.2% for women and 22.9% for men), but by residence area the difference was significant (38.3% in urban area compared to 8.5% in rural area).

Distribution of population aged 25-64 years by the highest level of education graduated points out that in 2020 most of the persons in this age group (61.7%) had *medium* level of education.

Persons with *superior* level of education held a weight of 18.7%; by gender, the weights were close (17.4% for men and 20.0% for women). By residence area, significant differences were registered: 28.2% for persons with residence in urban area, as against only 6.1% for persons living in rural area.

Table 1 - Structure of population aged 25-64 years by level of education, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
Total persons aged 25-64 years (thousand persons)	10569	5357	5212	6014	4555
Level of the graduated school	- in % as against total -				
Superior (short-term and long-term university including master, Ph.D., post-Ph.D. and post-university studies)	18.7	17.4	20.0	28.2	6.1
Medium (post high-school of speciality, high-school and vocational, complementary or of apprentices)	61.7	64.5	58.9	62.1	61.2
Low (gymnasium, primary and without education)	19.6	18.1	21.1	9.7	32.7

Young people aged 20-24 years having graduated at least medium education level represented 83.0% of total young people belonging to this age group. By gender, this ratio had close values: 84.3%

in the case of men and 81.7% in the case of women. By residence area, the difference was of 15.5 percentage points in favor of urban area (91.3% compared to 75.8% in rural area).

Participation of population aged 15 years and over in education or training

Out of the population aged 15 years and over, in the month before the interview, 8.5% attended a type of education or training within the national education system (formal education) or outside of it (non-formal education).

By gender the proportion was differential: 8.8% for men and 8.2% for women.

By residence areas the values were 8.8% for persons with residence in urban area, as against 8.1% for persons with residence in rural area.

The participation degree in at least one type of education or training was 1.1% for employed persons, 2.9% for unemployed and 17.4% for economically inactive persons aged 15 years and over.

In 2020, **the long-life learning** (the percentage of the population aged 25-64

years participating in education or training) was of 1.0%.

Early school leavers (the ratio of population aged 18-24 years with low level of education, who did not attend any type of formal or non-formal education or training in the last four weeks before the interview, in total population aged 18-24 years) was of 15.6% in 2020.

This rate had, in 2020, close values by gender (14.7% for men and 16.6% for women), but registered a significant difference by residential area (22.6% in rural area to 7.5% in urban area).

The rate of young people (15-24 years) neither in employment nor in education or training was 14.8% in 2020, higher for women (18.1% as against 11.6% for men) and for persons residing in rural area (18.3% as against 10.7% for young people living in urban area).

Table 2 - The rate of young people neither in employment nor in education or training, by groups of age, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020

%

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL PERSONS AGED 15-34 YEARS	17.8	11.1	25.0	14.0	22.1
15-24 years	14.8	11.6	18.1	10.7	18.3
15-19 years	10.1	9.1	11.3	7.3	12.6
20-24 years	19.4	14.1	25.0	14.1	24.1
25-29 years	20.2	11.0	30.2	16.4	24.8
30-34 years	20.6	10.5	31.5	16.1	27.4

Education and training in the national education system

In 2020, 1328 thousand persons attended an educational programme within the national education system (formal education); among them, the majority shares were held by persons living in urban area (56.1%) and youth (95.5%). By gender, the shares had equal values (50.0% for both genders).

Out of the total persons who attended a type of education or training within the national education system, employed persons represented 3.3% and unemployed only 0.8%.

Over half (56.2%) of the persons who attended an educational programme within medium level of education (post high-school of speciality, high-school, vocational, complementary or apprentices) the orientation of the programme was a **general** one (high-school having one of the following specialization: languages, social science, natural science, math and informatics).

Education and training outside national education system

Outside the national education system various types of taught learning activities (non-formal education, including: training courses, seminars, conference, etc.) were organized, which were attended in 2020 (in the reference period of 4 weeks preceding the interview) by 94 thousand persons aged 15 years and over. Out of the total number of participants in non-formal education, 64.8% lived in urban areas, 46.7% were young (15-24 years), 56.5% were men and 55.3% were employed persons.

Among the persons participating in non-formal education, 41.5% attended at the same time an educational programme within

the national education system. Among this category of persons, 71.7% lived in urban area and 57.9% were men.

For 44.5% of the persons who participated in learning activities outside the national education system, the purpose for participating in the most recent learning activity outside the national education system was related to the personal accomplishment. For 80.2% of the employed persons who participated in non-formal education, learning activities took place exclusively or mostly during working hours.

2. Economically active population

In 2020, the **economically active population** was of 8973 thousand persons, decreasing (-60 thousand persons) compared to 2019.

The largest shares in the total economically active population were held by those with medium level of education (61.6%), by men (57.6%) and by those with residence in urban area (54.8%).

97.2% of the economically active persons were of working age (15-64 years).

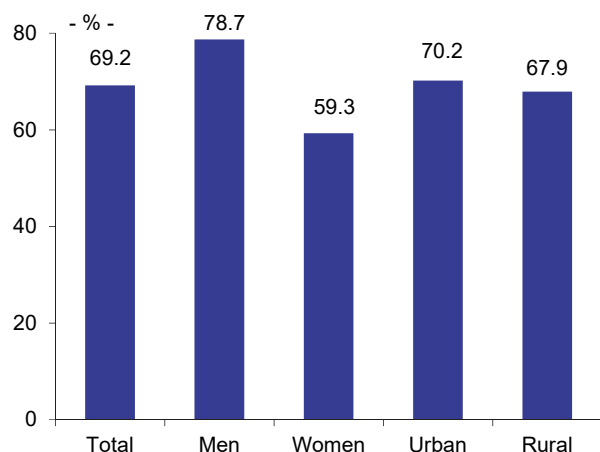
Young people represented 6.8% of the active population, two-thirds of them (67.4%) living in rural area.

The activity rate of population aged 20-64 years was 74.4%.

The indicator had higher values for men (84.6% as against 63.9% for women).

By residence area the indicator has recorded near values (75.0% in urban and 73.6% in rural).

Figure 3 - The activity rate of the working age population by gender and urban/rural area, in 2020



The activity rate for adults (25-54 years) of 84.3% was much higher as compared to other age groups (6.8% for people aged 65 years and over, 29.7% for youth aged 15-24 years and 50.2% for those aged 55-64 years).

For men aged 35-44 years the activity rate reached the highest level (95.8%).

The activity rate of the working age population (15-64 years), measured as the weight of the active population of working age in the total population of working age, was 69.2% in 2020 and registered higher levels for men (78.7% compared to 59.3% for women) and in urban area (70.2% compared to 67.9% in rural area).

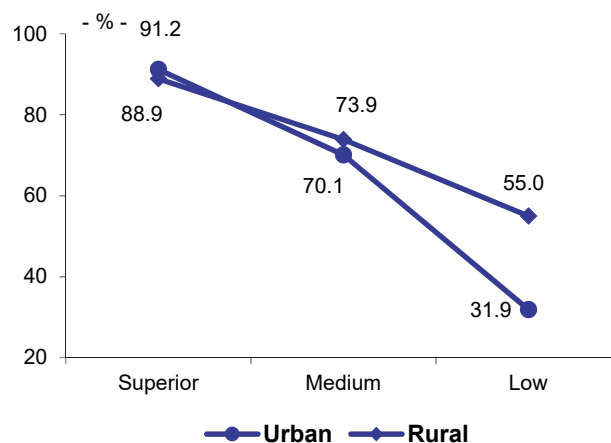
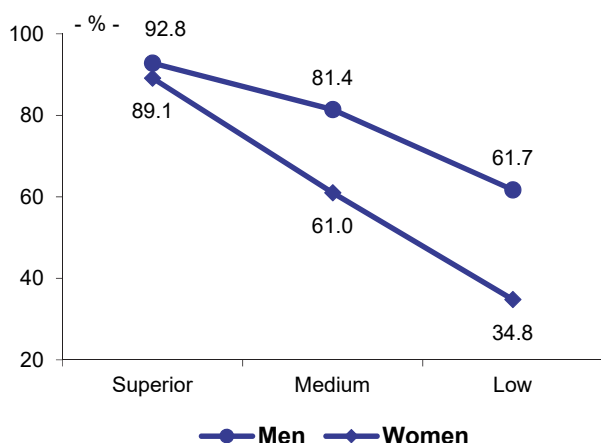
Depending on the **level of education**, the highest activity rate (90.9%) was registered for persons aged 15-64 years with *higher education level* (university of short and long term, including master's, doctoral, postdoctoral and postgraduate).

Persons with *medium level* of education (post high-school, high school - including the first cycle and vocational, complementary or apprentice) had an activity rate of 71.8%.

Participation in the economic activity of persons with *low education level* (gymnasium, primary and with no school graduated) was only 47.7%.

For working age population, as the level of education decreases discrepancies by gender and urban/ rural area deepen.

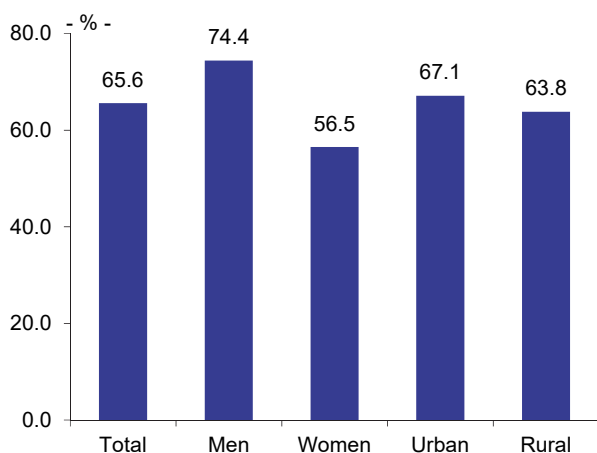
Figure 4 - The activity rate of the working age population by education, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020



3. Employment

In 2020, the number of **employed persons** was 8521 thousand, 97.1% of them being of working age (15-64 years).

Figure 5 - The employment rate of the population of working age, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020



The employment rate of the working age population (weight of employed persons of working age in the total population of working age) was 65.6%, with higher values for men (74.4% compared to only 56.5% for women) and having close values by area of residence (67.1% in urban area compared to 63.8% in rural area).

The employment rate of population aged 20-64 years was 70.8%, registering higher values for men (80.3% as compared to 61.0% for women).

By residence area, the employment rate in urban area was 71.8% compared to 69.4% in rural area.

The highest employment rate was registered for men in the age group 35-44 years (91.9%).

The employment rate of persons belonging to the age group 55-64 years was 48.5%, having had higher values for men (60.4% compared to 37.5% for women) and for persons living in rural area (54.3% compared to 44.3% in urban area).

The employment rate of the population aged 65 years and over was 6.8% (8.3% for men and 5.7% for women).

For this age group there were significant discrepancies between the two areas of residence: employment rate in rural area was 11.7%, compared to only 1.8% in urban area.

Youth employment rate (15-24 years) was 24.6% and registered a higher value for those in rural area (31.4%).

Analysis by **educational level** shows that the employment rate for working age persons (15-64 years) with *higher* education was 88.8%.

For higher education graduates, employment rate of men exceeded by 3.9 percentage points that of women's while by area of residence employment rate of persons in urban area was higher with 4.3 percentage points than for persons living in rural area.

68.1% of persons with *medium* level of education were employed. In this case

important differences were recorded by gender (19.2 percentage points in favor of men) and by residence areas (2.9 percentage points more for persons in rural area compared to urban area).

Among persons with *low* education level only 43.4% were employed. For them, the largest discrepancy (24.0 percentage points) was recorded by gender: for men the employment rate was 55.9%, compared to 31.9% for women.

Table 3 - Employment rate of the working age population by level of education, gender and urban/ rural area, in 2020

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL	65.6	74.4	56.5	67.1	63.8
Superior (short-term and long-term university including master, Ph.D., post-Ph.D. and post-university studies)	88.8	90.9	87.0	89.5	85.2
Medium (post high-school of specialty, high-school and vocational, complementary or of apprentices)	68.1	77.1	57.9	66.8	69.7
Low (gymnasium, primary and without education)	43.4	55.9	31.9	27.3	50.9

The analysis of the distribution by **groups of age** of employed persons pointed out that the higher weights were held by persons in adult age groups: 28.2% of employed persons were aged between 45-54 years, 27.8% were aged 35-44 years and 21.9% were aged 25-34 years.

Young people represented only 5.9% of employment, having a higher percentage in rural area (68.5%).

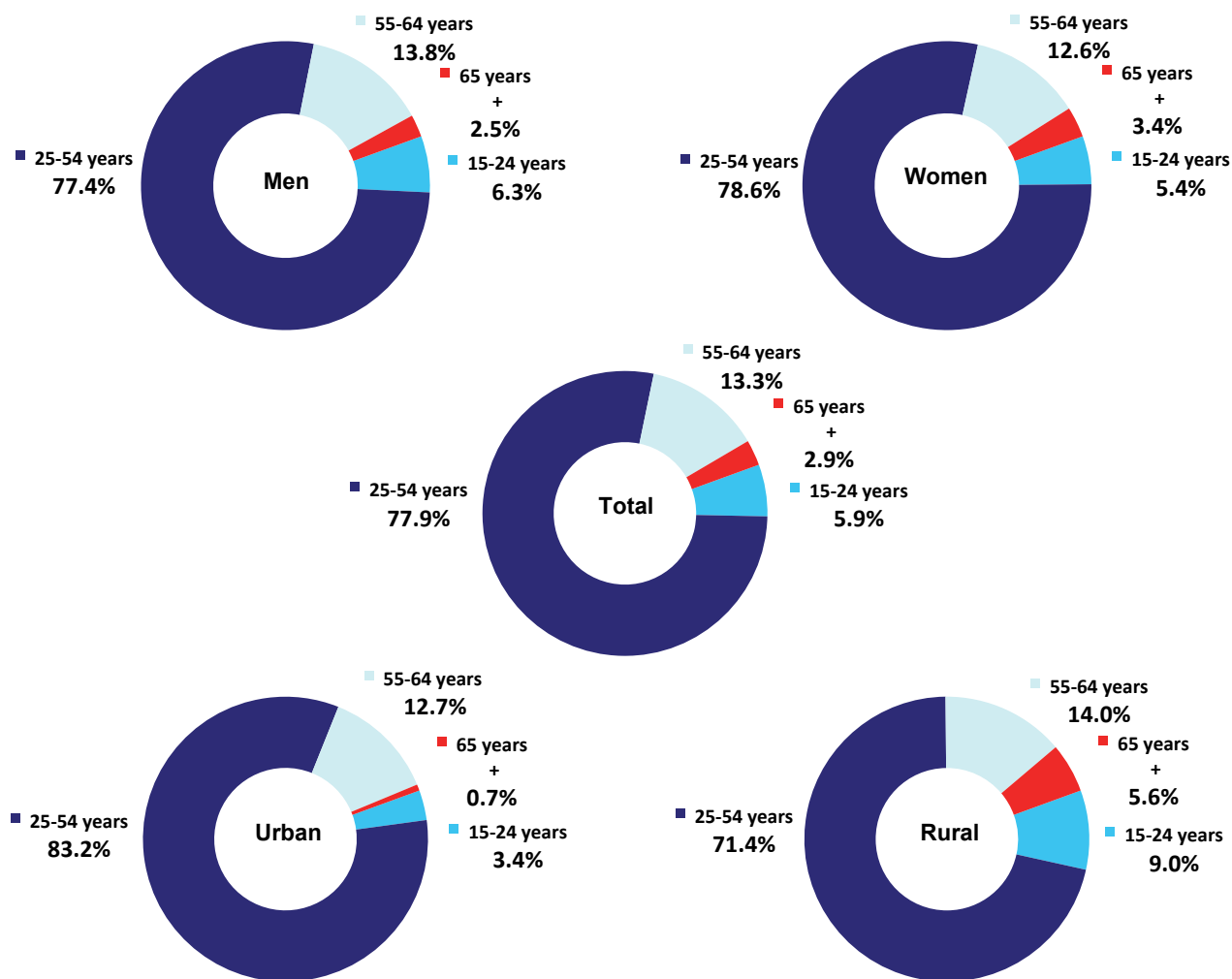
Employed persons in the adult age group (25-54 years) were concentrated (58.9%) in

urban area, while 54.1% of employed persons aged 55 years and over lived in rural area.

The structure by age groups of employed women did not significantly differ from that of employed men.

However, it can be noticed that there are significant differences between the two areas of residence: employed persons aged 25-54 years represented 83.2% of total employment in urban area and 71.4% of the number of employed persons in rural area.

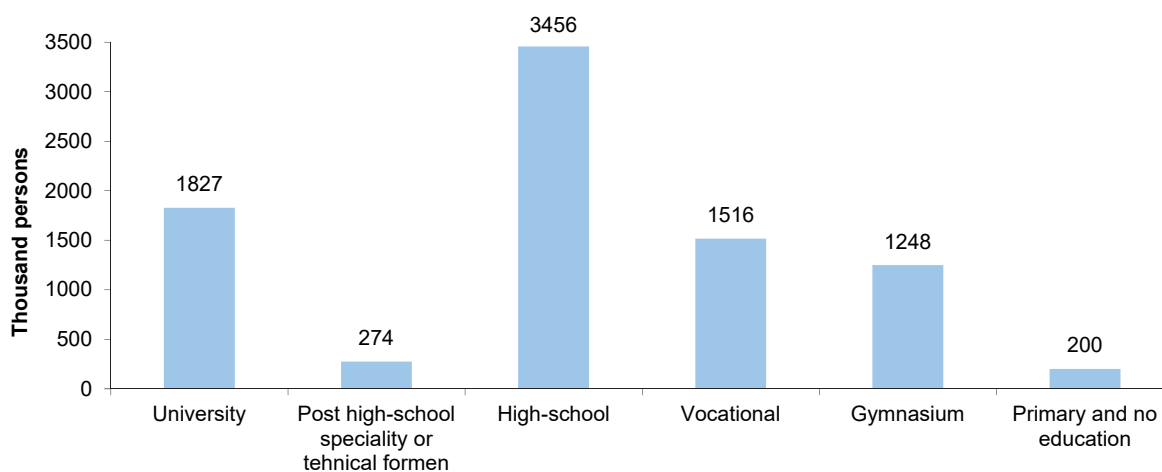
Figure 6 - Employment distribution by gender, urban/rural area and age groups, in 2020



The distribution of employment by **educational level** shows that the largest shares were held by high school graduates (40.6%). The share of persons with higher

education was 21.4% (of which 51.9% were women) and the share of persons with primary education or no education was 2.3% (63.2% of the persons in this category being men).

Figure 7 - Employed population by level of education in 2020



Employment distribution by **status in employment** shows that the share of employees (76.2%) was the highest in total employment.

In 2020, self-employed and contributing family workers represented 22.6% of the total employment, 85.9% of them living in rural area.

Table 4 - Employment distribution by gender and urban/rural area, by status in employment, in 2020

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT (thousand persons)	8521	4892	3629	4703	3818
	- in % as against total -				
Employee	76.2	74.8	78.2	92.8	55.8
Employer	1.2	1.5	0.6	1.4	0.9
Self-employed	15.4	19.4	10.1	5.1	28.1
Contributing family worker	7.2	4.3	11.1	0.7	15.2

Women accounted for most of the contributing family workers (65.4%), held a weight of 43.7% in the category of employees and 27.9% in that of the self-employed.

The highest discrepancy by gender is noticed among *employers*, the number of women in this category being 3.2 times lower than the number of men.

Young employed persons (aged 15-24 years) worked mainly as employees (63.1%) and as contributing family workers (26.6%).

In 2020, 61.5% of employees worked in services, 35.5% in industry and constructions and 3.0% in agricultural activities.

The breakdown of employees by **working regime** shows that that most of them (98.8%) were *permanent employees*.

Of the 81 thousand employees with *temporary* working regime, 84.4% indicated as the main reason for temporary employment that they have not found a permanent job, 79.5% were employed for a period of 4-12 months, 70.5% were men and 69.7% lived in rural area.

More than four-fifths (92.3%) have worked in the private sector, 31.3% worked in constructions and 37.6% were unskilled workers.

For 46.1% of employees with temporary work regime, the actual duration of the working week was 40 hours.

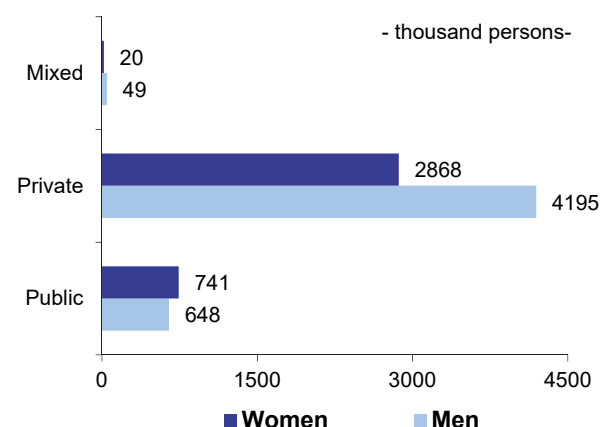
In 2020, the number of employers was 97 thousand, of which 70.3% worked in small enterprises with one to five employees.

The employer's predominant activity was trade (42.9%).

Of the total number of employers, 10.6% worked in manufacturing, 8.9% in agriculture, 8.0% in construction, 7.4% in transport and storage, 5.2% in hotels and restaurants and 5.1% in professional, scientific and technical activities.

Distribution of employed population by **ownership type** shows that *the private sector* absorbed 82.9% of the employed persons; out of these persons, 59.4% were men and 51.5% lived in urban area.

Figure 8 - Employment by ownership type and gender, in 2020



The public sector concentrated 16.3% of the employment, the majority (73.1%) of persons employed in the public sector lived in urban area and 53.4% were women.

0.8% of employed persons worked in the mixed sector, mostly men (70.3%) and persons living in urban area (67.1%).

The distribution of employment by **groups of occupations** reveals that in 2020, higher shares were held by skilled workers in agriculture, forestry and fishing (17.6%) - of which 32.6% were aged 55 years and over - and by crafts and related workers (15.8%).

In the group of managers, the number of men was 1.9 times higher than women.

Women predominated in the groups of services and sales workers (63.9%), clerical support workers (61.1%), professionals (57.2%) and technicians and associate professionals (52.2%).

Men held the majority in the groups of craft and related workers (80.4%), among managers (65.0%), unskilled workers (62.1%) and in the group of skilled workers in agriculture, forestry and fishing (56.7%).

27.9% of young people (15-24 years) and 35.4% of elderly (55 and over) worked as skilled workers in agriculture forestry and fisheries.

Table 5 - Employment population by gender, urban/rural area and groups of occupation, in 2020

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT (thousand persons)	8521	4892	3629	4703	3818
	- in % as against total -				
Managers	2.2	2.5	1.8	3.0	1.2
Professionals	15.5	11.6	20.9	23.9	5.2
Technicians and associate professionals	6.5	5.4	8.0	9.5	2.8
Clerical support workers	4.5	3.1	6.4	6.4	2.1
Services and sales workers	15.7	9.8	23.5	19.0	11.6
Skilled workers in agriculture, forestry and fishing	17.6	17.4	17.9	2.1	36.7
Craft and related workers	15.8	22.1	7.3	16.0	15.6
Other categories of occupations	22.2	28.1	14.2	20.1	24.8

By **activities of national economy**, it is noted that, 20.5% of employed persons worked in agriculture.

Among persons employed in *non-agricultural* sectors, 22.7% worked in manufacturing, 19.3% in trade and 10.9% in construction.

Among the activities in which most of employed persons were women, most significant are: health and social assistance

(82.1%), education (74.9%), financial intermediation and insurances (68.0%), hotels and restaurants (61.9%), professional scientific and technical activities (59.4%) and trade (55.9%).

The distribution of working age employed persons (15-64 years) by activity sectors reveals that 51.0% of them worked in services, 30.5% in industry and construction and 18.5% in the agricultural sector.

Table 6 - Distribution of employment in non-agricultural activities by gender, in 2020

Economic activities	Total	Men	Women
TOTAL (thousand persons)	6774	3868	2906
	- in % as against total -		
Mining and quarrying	0.8	1.3	0.2
Manufacturing	22.7	23.0	22.4
Production and supply of electric and thermal energy, gas, hot water and air conditioning	1.3	1.8	0.5
Water distribution; sanitation, waste administration, decontamination activities	1.7	2.3	0.9
Constructions	10.9	18.1	1.2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motors vehicles and motorcycles	19.3	15.0	25.2
Transport and storage	7.6	11.8	2.1
Hotels and restaurants	3.1	2.0	4.4
Information and communications	2.8	3.1	2.5
Financial intermediation and insurance	1.6	0.9	2.5
Real estate transactions	0.3	0.3	0.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.1	2.2	4.4
Activities of administrative services and activities of support services	3.3	3.9	2.4
Public administration and defense; social insurance of public system	6.4	7.3	5.1
Education	5.2	2.3	9.2
Health and social assistance	6.3	2.0	12.0
Showbiz, cultural and recreation activities	1.1	1.0	1.1
Other activities of the national economy	2.5	1.7	3.6

Usual average duration of the working week in the main job for employed persons was, in 2020, 39.8 hours per week, with variations from 35.8 hours per week in agriculture, forestry and fishing to 41.1 hours per week in constructions.

Actual average duration of the working week in the main job was 38.5 hours, higher for employers and employees (40.9, respectively 40.1 hours per week).

821 thousand persons, representing 9.6% of the total employment worked **less than usual duration of the working week**; of these, 51.0% were living in urban area and 50.6% were men.

Among the main reasons for working less most important were: technical unemployment, strike or labor dispute (21.6%), bad weather (18.2%), days off (17.5%), annual and public holidays (11.3%), maternity, paternity or parental leave (childcare leave of up to 2 years) (8.4%) and variable hours (8.1%).

A total of 179 thousand persons, representing 2.1% of the total employment worked **more than usual duration of the working week**, mainly due to: variable hours (44.5%) and overtime (52.6%).

The majority of them (68.5%) were men, 57.8% were living in rural area and 55.6% were employees.

4.1% contributing family workers, 3.9% of self-employed 3.1% employers and only 1.5% of employees worked more weekly hours than the usual duration of the working week.

Employed persons with **full-time working program** represented 93.2% of the total employment; for 90.2% of them **the usual duration** of the working week in the main job was at least 40 hours.

10.1% of employed persons *could not state the usual duration of the working week*; this category of employed persons represented 6.4% of the persons having a full-time job and 60.4% of those having a part-time job.

Of the 581 thousand employed persons having a **part-time job**, 86.2% lived in rural area and 54.9% were men. Self-employed workers and contributing family workers accounted for 95.4% of this population.

Employment distribution by **working program and actual duration of the working week** in the main activity reveals that persons working part-time and those who, although they had a

full time job, worked less than 40 hours per week accounted for 18.9% of the employment;

this share was higher for women (21.9%) and for persons in rural area (28.2%).

Table 7 - Employment distribution by working program and actual duration of working week, by gender and urban/rural area, in 2020

- % -

	Total employment	Part-time working program	Full-time working program			
			Total	Actual duration of working week		
				under 40 hours	40 hours	over 40 hours
TOTAL	100.0	6.8	93.2	12.1	71.9	9.2
Men	100.0	6.5	93.5	10.1	72.3	11.1
Women	100.0	7.2	92.8	14.7	71.4	6.7
Urban	100.0	1.7	98.3	9.6	81.7	7.0
Rural	100.0	13.1	86.9	15.1	59.9	11.9

The analysis of employment distribution by **status in employment, working program and actual duration of the working week** highlights significant differences between different categories of population.

The share of persons who worked **full-time** was 99.6% for employees, 98.0% for employers and 72.6% and 68.3% for

self-employed and contributing family workers.

The actual duration of the working week for employed persons working full-time was more than 40 hours for 22.3% of self-employed, 17.5% of employers, 14.5% of contributing family workers and only for 7.6% of employees.

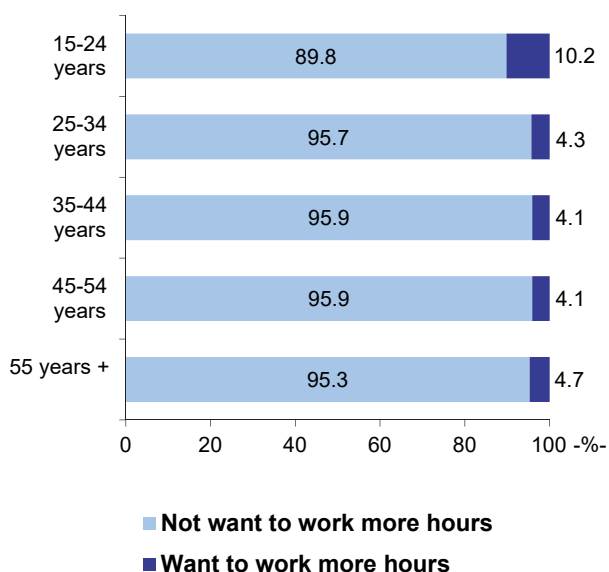
Table 8 - Distribution of persons with full-time working program by actual duration of working week and status in employment, in 2020

Actual duration of working week	Total	of which, by status in employment:			
		Employee	Employer	Self-employed	Contributing family worker
TOTAL PERSONS WITH FULL-TIME WORKING PROGRAMME (thousand persons)	7940	6471	95	953	420
		- in % as against total -			
under 40 hours	13.0	8.5	6.8	30.5	43.5
40 hours	77.1	83.9	75.7	47.2	42.0
over 40 hours	9.9	7.6	17.5	22.3	14.5

In 2020, a total of 392 thousand persons, representing 4.6% of the total employment, **wanted to work more hours than at present**, at the same job or at a different (or additional) job; 85.4% of these persons lived in rural area, 62.8% were men and 25.1% belonged to the age group 45-54 years.

Out of the persons who wanted to work more hours, only 7.5% looked for another job; of these, 78.3% were men, 78.4% lived in rural area and 47.6% were aged 25-44 years.

Figure 9 - Employed population wishing to work more hours by age group in 2020



Only 0.6% of total employment (48 thousand persons) sought for **another job**.

Almost three quarters (73.0%) were living in rural area, 73.0% were men and 46.9% belonged to the age group 25-44 years.

Atypical work

In 2020, 4489 thousand persons worked, frequently or only occasionally, during **atypical** periods of the day or work week (evening, night, Saturday or Sunday) accounting for 52.7% of the total employed population. Among them, 75.4% belonged to the age group 25-54 years, 58.8% were male, 51.7% were living in the rural area and 28.7% worked in the agricultural sector.

The most common forms of atypical work were in the evening (starting with 18⁰⁰hrs) and on Saturdays (57.5% and respectively, 90.1% of all atypical workers). People who worked during the night (starting with 22⁰⁰hrs) accounted for 22.9% of the total employed population who had atypical work and those who worked on Sundays 47.4%.

Underemployment

In 2020, almost **171 thousand persons** worked part-time and in the same time wanted and were available to work more hours than currently. These persons are considered being **underemployed**.

The majority (95.2%) sought to work as employees and among them, 59.7% looked for a job with full-time working programme.

Regarding *the education level* of this category of employed persons, they were mainly graduates of high school - including the first cycle - (40.7%), followed by persons with gymnasium education (34.1%) and by those who graduated vocational, complementary or apprentices level of education (14.0%).

Analysis by the *employment status* shows that 56.5% of these persons were self-employed, 25.9% were contributing family workers and 17.6% were employees.

Among the total employed persons seeking for another job, for 43.4% the main reason was a better pay than they have in their current job, while 32.8% of them declared that the main reason was that the current job was provisional or occasional.

In the non-agricultural sector, 47.2% of the employed persons carried out atypical work, the corresponding percentage being 73.9% for those employed in agriculture.

Over a quarter of the **employees** (28.9%) **worked in shifts**; among them, 68.8% were living in the urban area, 51.6% were male, 30.4% belonged to the age group 45-54 years, and 5.6% were young (15-24 years old).

Employees working in shifts held significant shares in the total number of employees in the following activities of the national economy: health and social assistance (51.4%), hotels and restaurants (47.8%) and activities of administrative services (47.7%).

This category of persons represented 1.9% of the economically active population, 2.0% of the total employment and 29.4% of the total number of persons who worked part time.

Of the total number of underemployed persons, 88.4% were living in rural area,

63.8% were men, and 51.6% were aged between 35-54 years.

Half (50.5%) of the underemployed persons had low level of education and other 48.0% had medium level of education.

The incidence of underemployment (the share of underemployed persons in total employment in the same category) had higher values in activities of private households as

employer of domestic personnel or producing goods and services for own consumption (10.5%), in agriculture, forestry and fishing (7.8%), in water distribution and sanitation (4.2%) and constructions (2.2%).

In 2020, were underemployed 8.7% of unpaid family workers, 8.6% of self-employed and only 0.1% of employees.

Secondary activity

In 2020, the number of persons who, in addition to the main job, also carried out secondary activity was 130 thousand persons, decreasing as compared to 2019 (-12.5%) and represented only 1.5% of the total employment.

Higher weights were recorded for men (1.8% compared to only 1.2% for women) for the persons aged 15-24 and 45-54 years (both with 1.7%), among those with medium level of education (1.9%), as well as for those living in rural area (2.9% compared to only 0.4% in urban area), where in 96.6% of cases, the second activity took place in the agricultural sector.

Among those who also had a second job, 85.2% lived in rural area, 79.5% were adults (25-54 years) and 66.8% were men.

Among the total persons with secondary activities: 93.9% were *self-employed or contributing family workers in their second job*; among these, 87.8% lived in rural area; 88.9% of the total persons with secondary activity were employees in the main job.

Employed persons who were *employees* in both, the main and the secondary job, accounted for only 3.6% of those with multiple activities.

The average duration of the working week in the second job was 13.8 hours per week.

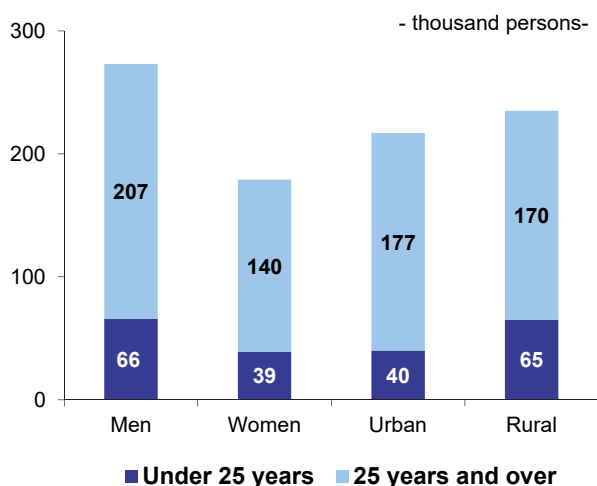
Table 9 - Distribution of persons who had a secondary activity by gender, urban/rural area, age groups and level of education, in 2020

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE A SECONDARY ACTIVITY (thousand persons)	130	87	43	19	111
	- in % as against total -				
Age groups					
15-24 years	6.7	5.8	8.4	0.0	7.8
25-34 years	17.9	18.7	16.5	19.4	17.7
35-44 years	30.0	28.3	33.3	35.9	29.0
45-54 years	31.6	31.1	32.6	29.3	32.0
55 years and over	13.8	16.1	9.2	15.4	13.5
Education level					
Higher (short-term and long-term university including master, Ph.D., post-Ph.D. and post-university studies)	9.7	6.7	15.8	25.5	7.0
Medium (post high-school of specialty, high-school and vocational, complementary or of apprentices)	77.4	80.7	70.9	62.1	80.1
Low (gymnasium, primary and without education)	12.9	12.6	13.3	12.4	12.9

4. Unemployment

In 2020, the number of **unemployed** persons was of 452 thousand persons, increasing as against 2019 with 99 thousand persons.

Figure 10 - Number of unemployed by gender, urban/rural area and groups of age, in 2020



The distribution by **gender** and **urban/rural area** of the unemployed reveals that in 2020, in the total number of unemployed prevailed men (60.5%) and persons who lived in rural area (51.9%).

From the distribution of unemployed by **age groups** it is noticed that, like in the previous

years, young people (15-24 years) held a significant weight (23.3%) of the total unemployment, along those aged 25-34 years (27.4%).

Young people represented 27.9% of the total unemployment in rural area and 18.3% in urban area.

Among young unemployed 63.2% were men, and 62.2% lived in rural area.

The weight of young unemployed in total young persons was 5.2%.

The level of this indicator was higher for men (6.3% as against 3.9% in the case of women) and for those living in rural area (6.0% as against 4.2% in urban area).

The unemployment rate (ratio of unemployed in active population) was, at the national level, 5.0%.

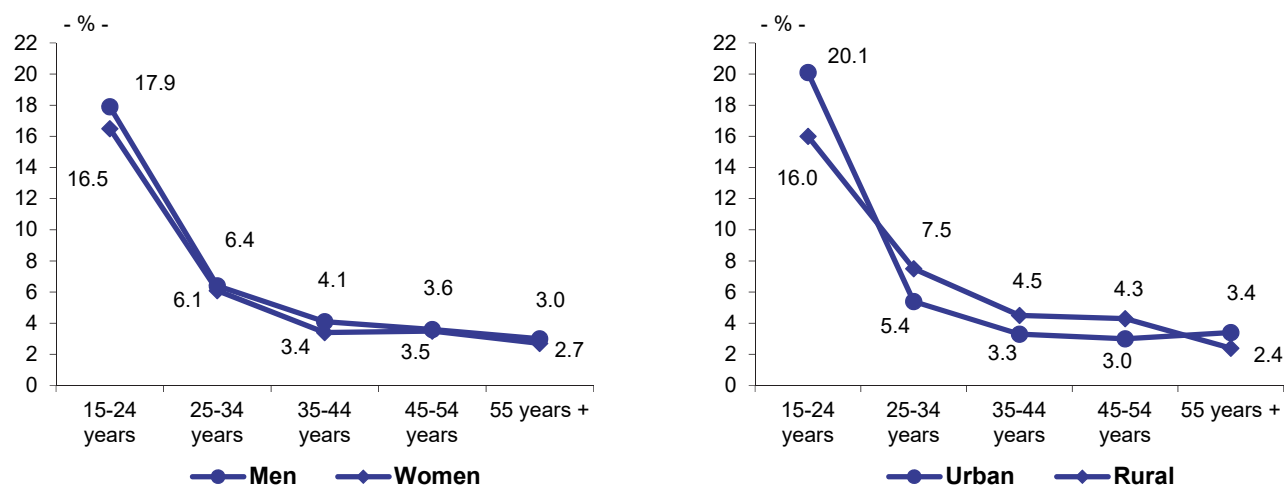
Unemployment rate for *women* (4.7%) was lower than for *men* (5.3%).

Unemployment rate in *rural area* (5.8%) exceeded the rate registered in *urban area* (4.4%).

By *age groups*, the unemployment rate reached its highest level (17.3%) among youth (15-24 years), with significant differences by area of residence: 20.1% in urban area, compared to 16.0% in rural area.

The value of this indicator was 4.1% for unemployed persons aged 25 years and over.

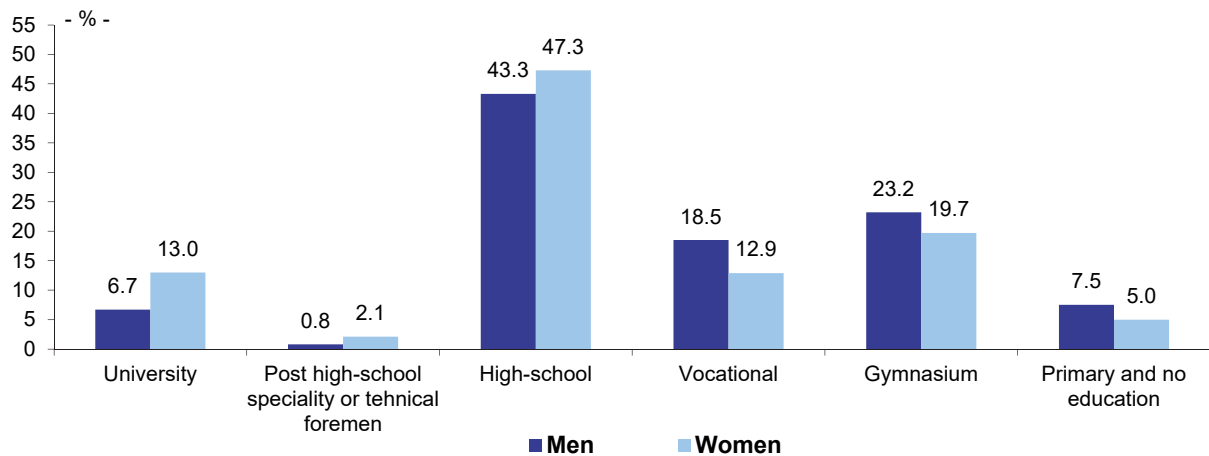
Figure 11 - Unemployment rate by groups of age, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020



From the distribution by **level of education** it can be noticed that the highest shares in the total unemployment were held by high-school graduates (44.9%); 21.8% had lower secondary education (gymnasium), and

16.3% were graduates of vocational, complementary or apprentices schools. In total number of unemployed, university graduates accounted for 9.2%, and among them 56.0% were women.

Figure 12 - Unemployed distribution by level of education and gender, in 2020



Unemployment affected to a greater extent *low* and *medium* level of education graduates, for which the unemployment rate was 8.1%, respectively 5.1%. For persons with *higher* education, the unemployment rate was 2.2%.

The highest unemployment rate (14.1%) was recorded for persons with low education level in urban areas, while the lowest unemployment rate (1.9%) was recorded for persons with high level of education from urban area.

Table 10 - Unemployment rate by level of education, by gender and urban/rural area, in 2020

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL	5.0	5.3	4.7	4.4	5.8
Superior (short-term and long-term university including master, Ph.D., post-Ph.D. and post-university studies)	2.2	2.0	2.4	1.9	4.1
Medium (post high-school of specialty, high-school and vocational, complementary or of apprentices)	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.7	5.5
Low (gymnasium, primary and without education)	8.1	8.9	7.0	14.1	6.7

In 2020 unemployed **with work experience** (those who worked before entering into unemployment) represented 62.2% of total unemployed.

Among the unemployed with work experience 60.3% were *men*, 54.0% lived in *urban* area, 41.8% had *high-school* education, and 7.5% were *young* (15-24 years).

The main reason why almost half of the unemployed in this category ceased work was dismissal or staff reduction (35.4%).

Important shares also held those who ended a temporary activity (26.1%), those whose unit went bankrupt (9.8%). Persons who ceased work at the last job due to resignation represented only 5.9%.

Out of the 228 thousand unemployed who ceased work in the last 8 years, 95.4% worked in establishments belonging to the *private* sector, 76.9% were *employees* in their last job, 29.8% worked in *elementary occupations* and 23.1% worked in *manufacturing*.

Among the unemployed **who never worked** 61.7% lived in rural areas, 60.8% were men, 60.6% were medium level of education graduates and 49.3% were young (15-24 years).

The average unemployment duration in 2020 was 10.1 months, close to the value registered for the previous year (13.3 months). The lowest average duration of unemployment was recorded for young (15-24 years) unemployed from the urban area (7.2 months) and the highest (13.0 months) for the male unemployed belonging to the age group 45 years and over.

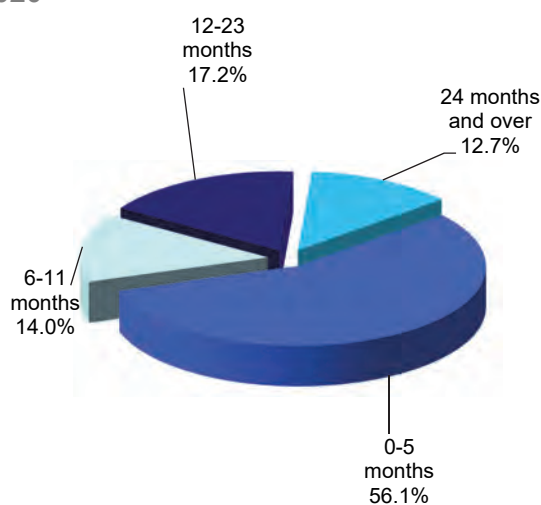
Long-term unemployed (in unemployment for 12 months and over) represented 29.9% of total unemployed.

Among the long-term unemployed 66.8% were men. By residence area, 54.1% were living in rural area.

Long-term unemployment was significant among graduates of primary level or without any education (42.3%), for gymnasium (34.4%) and post high-schools graduates (31.6%).

In 2020, they were unemployed for 12 months or more 31.0% among those aged 45 years and over, 26.2% among those aged 35-44 years, 29.7% among those aged 25-34 years, and 32.0% among young persons (15-24 years).

Figure 13 - Distribution of unemployed persons by unemployment duration, in 2020



The **incidence of long-term unemployment among young people** (weight of unemployed aged 15-24 years for 6 months and over, in total unemployed in the same age group) was of 47.2%.

Higher values of this indicator were recorded for men (49.3%) and for people in rural area (52.5%).

The **long-term unemployment rate** (weight of unemployed for 12 months and over in active population) was 1.5%.

By gender, this indicator registered values of 1.7% for men and 1.2% for women, and by residence area, 1.8% in rural area compared to 1.3% in urban area.

Table 11 - Long-term unemployment in 2020

	- % -				
	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
Long-term unemployment rate					
TOTAL	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.3	1.8
<i>of which:</i>					
15-24 years	8.2	8.8	7.2	7.7	8.4
25 years and over	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.1	1.4
Incidence of long-term unemployment					
TOTAL	29.9	33.0	25.1	28.6	31.1
<i>of which:</i>					
15-24 years	47.2	49.3	43.7	38.5	52.5
25 years and over	29.3	32.9	23.8	29.0	29.6

The **very long-term unemployment rate** (weight of unemployed for two years and over in active population) was of 0.6%.

Of the total number of unemployed, more than one fifth (29.1%) would accept a job under any circumstances (not indicating any reason to refuse a job in the eventuality they would find one).

Among the unemployed who indicated one or more reasons which would make them to a refuse a job (320 thousand persons), only 23.2% declared a single reason to do so.

Among the persons in this last category of unemployed (74 thousand persons), the main reasons to refuse a job were: change of residence (26.3%), the lack of a formal employment contract (25.1%) or the distance from home (15.4%).

5. Economically inactive population

Economically inactive population was 10341 thousand persons in 2020, representing 53.5% of total population.

Economically inactive persons living in urban area held the majority (53.0%) and women had a superior weight (58.6%) as against men.

Economically inactive population aged 15 years and over was 7323 thousand persons, of which 53.1% were aged between 15-64 years.

Of the total number of economically inactive persons aged 15 years and over, 19.6% were young (15-24 years).

The distribution of economically inactive persons aged 15 years and over by category of inactivity shows that **pensioners and welfare recipients** represented more than half (60.2%) of total.

Pupils and students aged 15 years and over held a weight of 17.4% in the inactive population in the same age group.

Table 12 - Distribution of economically inactive population aged 15 years and over by inactivity categories, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (thousand persons)	7323	2731	4592	3889	3434
	- in % as against total -				
Pupils and students	17.4	23.3	13.9	18.4	16.2
Pensioners	60.2	67.4	55.9	64.2	55.7
Housewives	17.3	0.1	27.6	13.9	21.2
Other situation	5.1	9.2	2.6	3.5	6.9

Among the inactive population aged 15-74 years (5760 thousand persons), **118 thousand persons** were part of the **potential additional labor force**.

Among these, **117 thousand persons were available to start work but did not seek a job**. In 2020, the percentage ratio of this category of persons and the active population was of 1.3%.

Only an insignificant number of persons who were part of the potential labour force were **seeking a job but were not available to start work**.

Among these, 58.1% lived in rural area, 59.0% were women and 39.5% were aged between 25-44 years.

47.8% of the people in the potential additional labor force had *low* level of education and another 3.2% had *superior* level of education.

Table 13 - Potential additional labour force by groups of age, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL LABOUR FORCE - TOTAL (thousand persons)	118	48	70	49	69
	- in % as against total -				
15-24 years	27.5	32.7	23.8	25.6	28.8
25-34 years	20.2	17.1	22.3	21.0	19.5
35-44 years	19.3	16.5	21.2	19.2	19.4
45-54 years	21.7	19.2	23.5	21.2	22.1
55 years and over	11.3	14.5	9.2	13.0	10.2

6. Labour status at regional level

The breakdown of population aged 15 years and over by labour status, by regions of

development is presented in the following table.

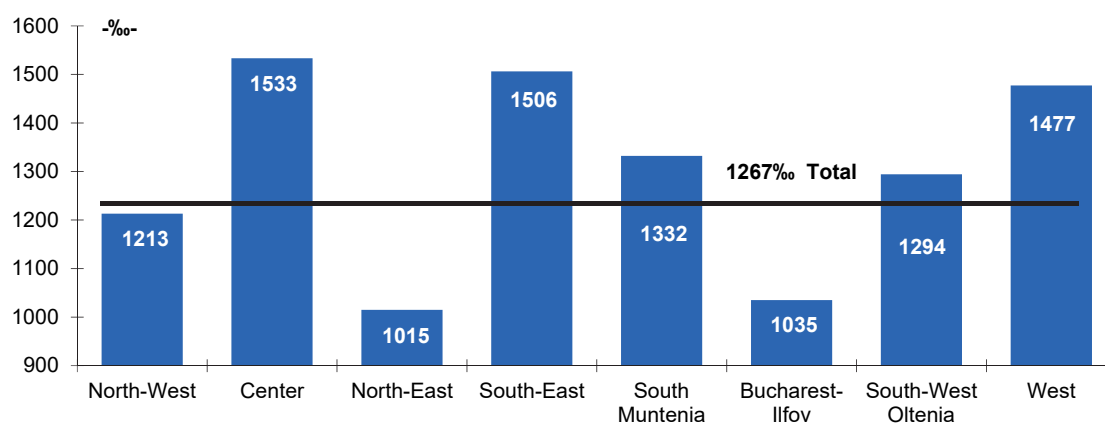
Table 14 - Structure of population aged 15 years and over by labour status, by macroregions and regions, in 2020

Macroregions Regions	Population aged 15 years and over (thousand persons)	of which:		
		Employed persons	Unemployed	Economically inactive persons
		(percentages)		
TOTAL	16296	52.3	2.8	44.9
MACROREGION ONE	4074	50.7	2.8	46.5
North-West	2142	53.7	2.2	44.1
Center	1932	47.2	3.6	49.2
MACROREGION TWO	4622	54.6	2.7	42.7
North-East	2615	60.4	1.8	37.8
South-East	2007	47.2	3.8	49.0
MACROREGION THREE	4441	53.7	3.0	43.3
South Muntenia	2473	50.2	3.1	46.7
Bucharest-Ilfov	1968	58.1	2.9	39.0
MACROREGION FOUR	3159	48.9	2.5	48.6
South-West Oltenia	1647	50.5	2.6	46.9
West	1512	47.3	2.2	50.5

The ratio of economic dependency (number of economically inactive persons and unemployed per 1000 employed persons)

reached the highest value (1533‰) in the region Center and the lowest value in the region North-East (1015‰).

Figure 14 - The ratio of economic dependency by regions in 2020



The activity rate of working age population (15-64 years) registered the lowest values in the regions West (63.1%), Center (65.0%) and South-East (65.4%) and the highest ones in

the regions Bucharest-Ilfov (75.7%), North-East (74.9%) and North-West (69.3%). *Men* held higher activity rates than *women* in all the regions of the country, the biggest

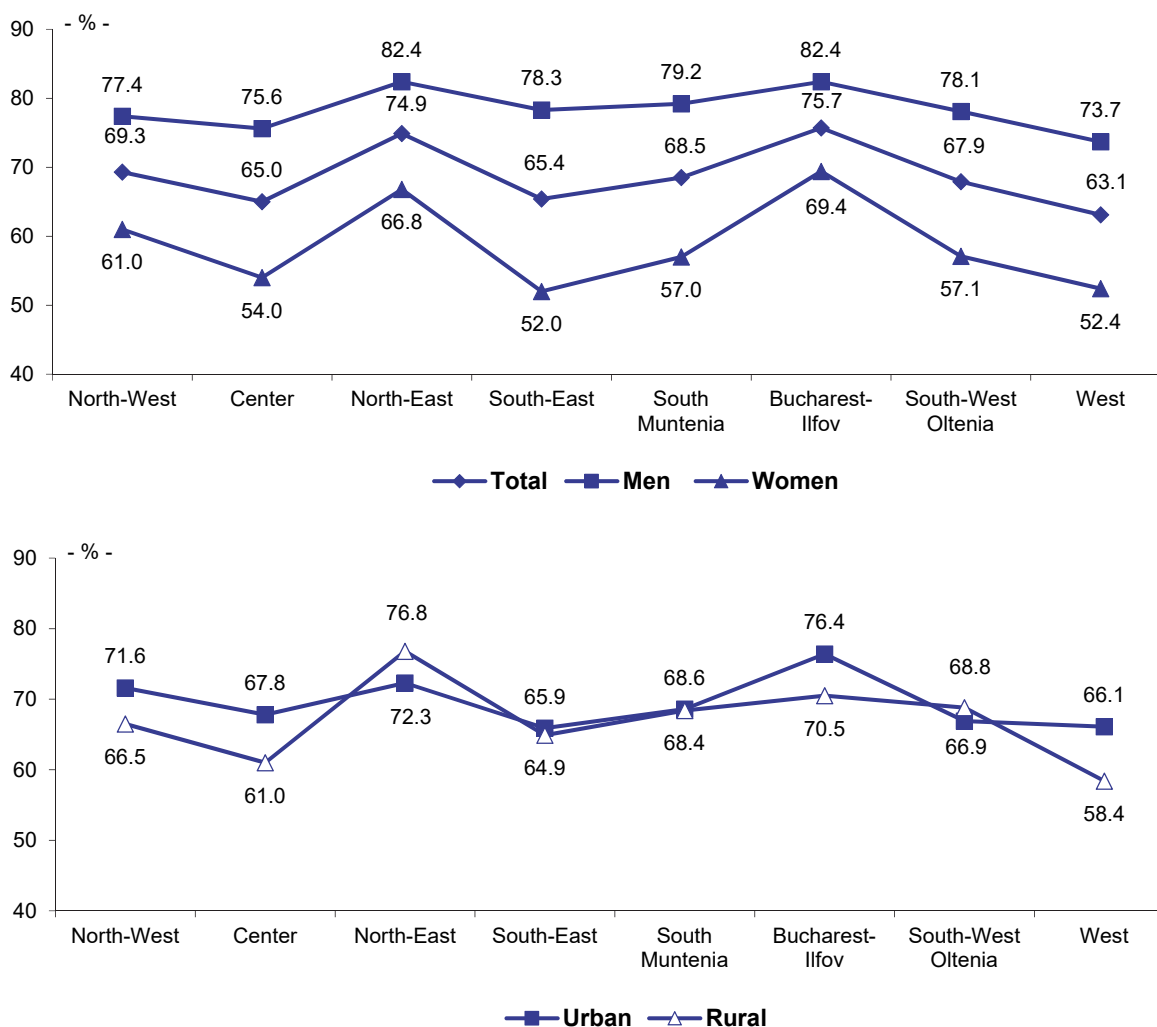
difference being registered in the South-East region (26.3 percentage points).

By residence area, it is noticed that only in 2 of the 8 regions, the activity rates for working age population in *rural* area were higher than in *urban* area: North-East (4.5 percentage

points) and South-West Oltenia (1.9 percentage points).

At the opposite pole there are the other 6 regions, where the activity rate in *rural* area is outrun by the one registered in *urban* area; the highest difference being noticed in the region West (7.7 percentage points).

Figure 15 - Activity rate of working age population (15-64 years) by regions, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020



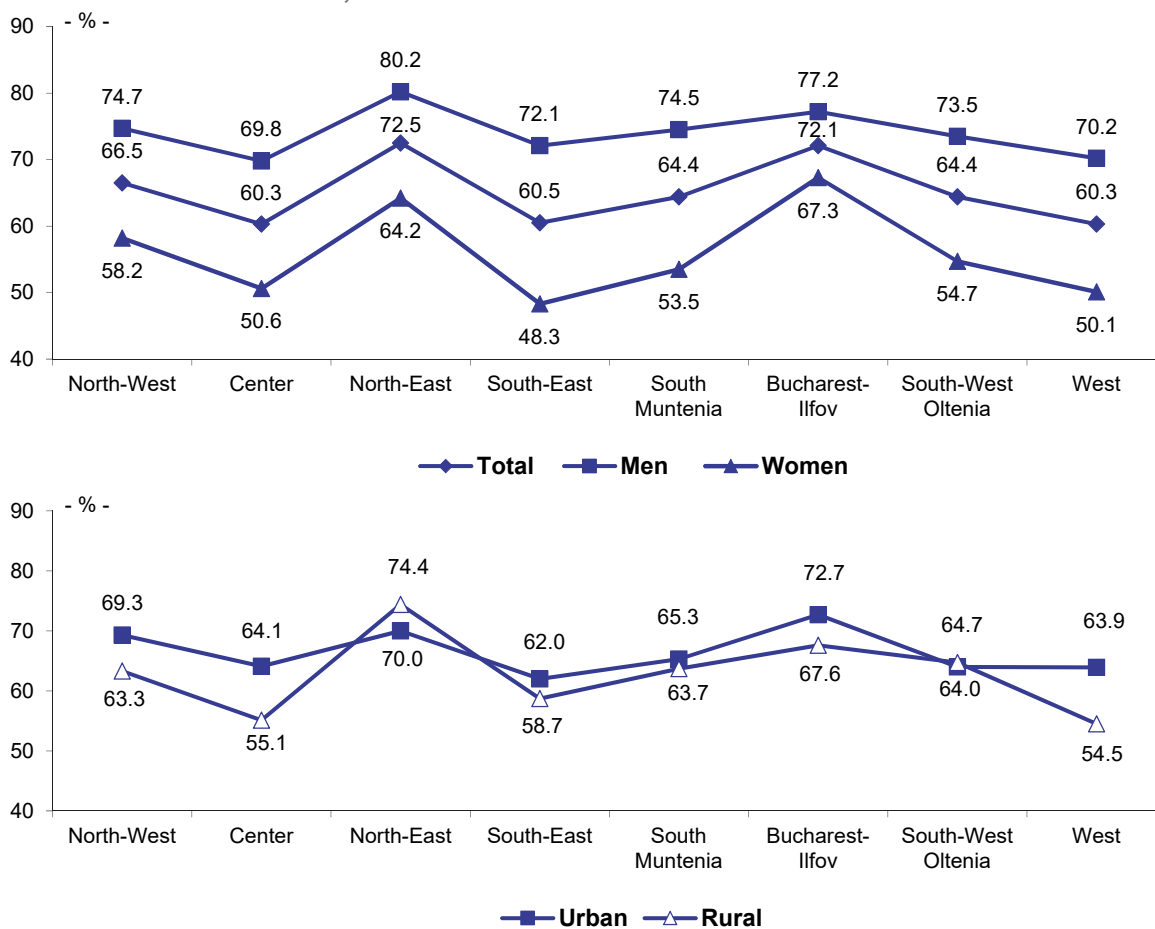
The employment rate of working age population (15-64 years) reached the highest values in the regions Bucharest-Ilfov (72.1%) and North-East (72.5%) and the lowest in the regions Center and West (both with 60.3%) and South-East (60.5%)

No matter the region, the employment rate of working age population was higher for *men* than for *women*; the gap between the two rates had values from 9.9 percentage points in the region Bucharest-Ilfov to 23.8 percentage points in the region South-East.

The employment rate of the working age population in *rural* areas surpassed that of *urban* areas in two of the eight regions, the differences being of 4.4 percentage points in the region North-East and 0.7 percentage points in the region South-West.

In the other regions, the employment rate was higher in *urban* areas than in *rural* areas, the biggest differences occurring in the region Center with 9.0 percentage points and the region West with 9.4 percentage points.

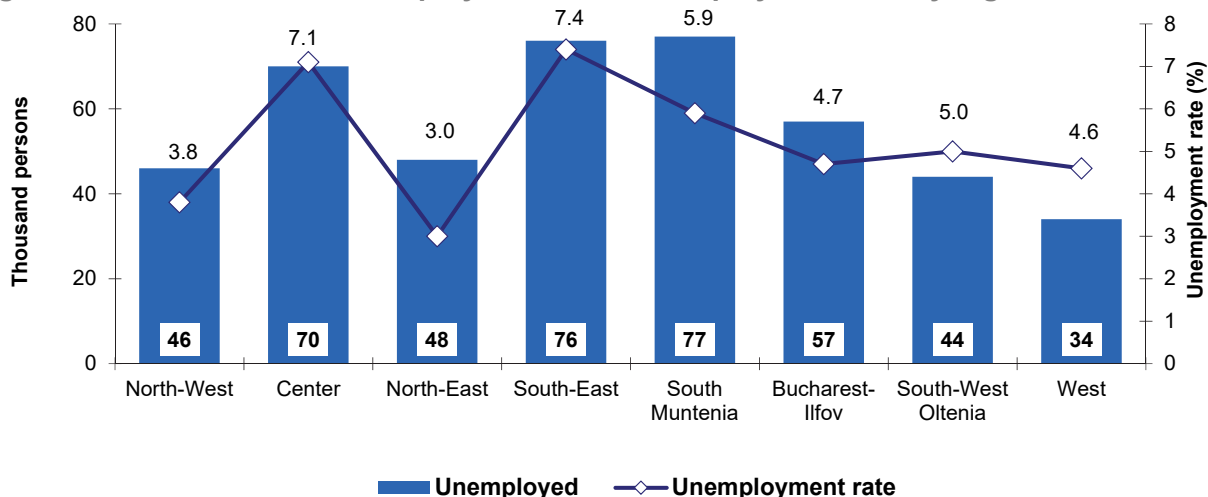
Figure 16 - Employment rate of working age population (15-64 years), by regions, gender and urban/rural area, in 2020



In 2020, the region South Muntenia concentrated 17.1% of the total **unemployment**, followed by South-East (16.7%) and Center (15.4%). The lowest share in total unemployment was held by region West (7.6%), with only 34 thousand unemployed.

The **unemployment rate** reached the highest values in regions: South-East (7.4%), Center (7.1%) and South-Multenia (5.9%) and the lowest ones in the regions: North-East (3.0%), North-West (3.8%), West (4.6%) and Bucharest-Ilfov (4.7%).

Figure 17 - The number of unemployed and the unemployment rate by regions, in 2020

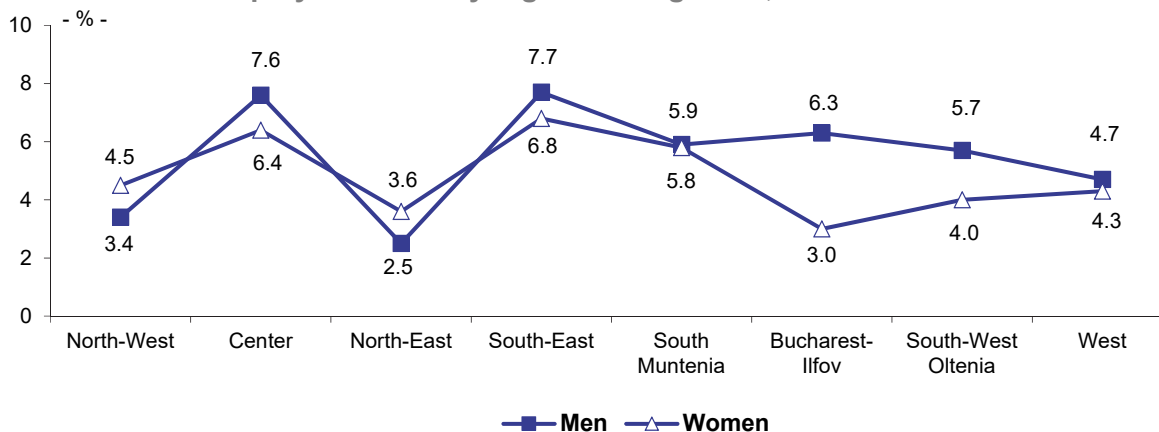


The *gender* gap in the unemployment rate (expressed as the difference between the unemployment rate for *men* and the unemployment rate for *women*) shows that the unemployment rate was higher for men than for women in 5 from 8 regions.

The highest difference between the two rates (men compared to women) was recorded in Bucharest-Ilfov (3.3 percentage points) and

the lowest in the region West (0.4 percentage points). In the regions North-East and North-West, the unemployment rate among women exceeded that of men by 1.1 percentage points in both cases, and in the region South-Muntenia the exceeded was only 0.1% percentage.

Figure 18 - The unemployment rate by regions and gender, in 2020



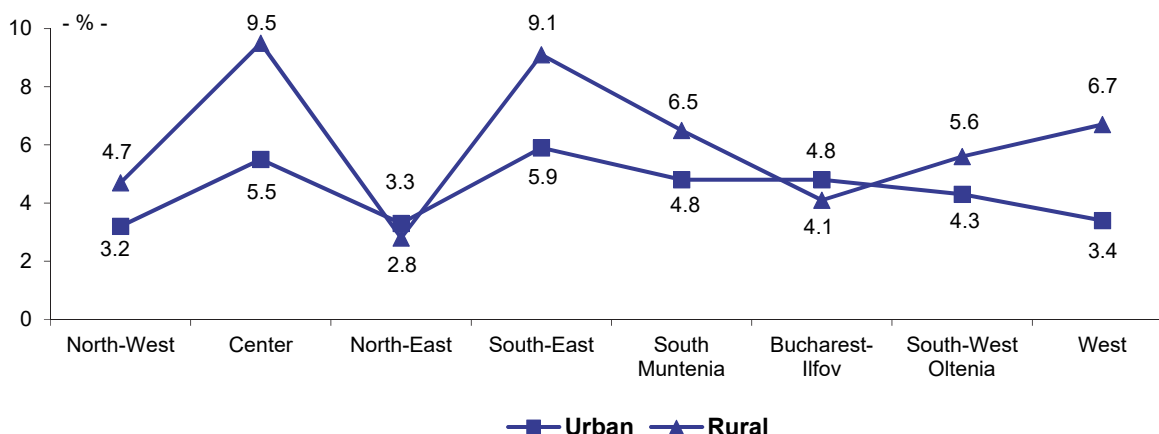
The *rural* area is characterized by higher unemployment rates than *urban* area in six of the regions, the highest difference being registered in the region Center (4.0 percentage points).

The highest unemployment rate was recorded in the *urban* area of the region South-East (5.9%) and Center (5.5%), the lowest one in the regions North-West (3.2%) and North-East (3.3%).

In comparison, the highest rate of unemployment in *rural* area was recorded in South-East (9.1%) and Center (9.5%), the lowest one was noticed in the region North-East (2.8%).

In regions North-East and Bucharest-Ilfov the unemployment rate was slightly higher in urban area than in rural area (0.5 and 0.7 percentage points).

Figure 19 - The unemployment rate by regions and urban/rural area, in 2020



* * *

Data presented in the annexed tables provide a detailed image over the multitude of aspects characterizing the labour market in Romania.

III

Tables

1. Annual evolutions 1996-2020

2. Year 2020



- tables included only on the CD-ROM

*Statistical data presented in this paper were obtained based on the information collected through **“Households Labour Force Survey” (AMIGO)**.*

In order to have an accurate interpretation of various indicators, the methodological concepts and definitions from the first part of this paper should be taken into account.

Extended annual data for each year were obtained as the average of quarterly extended data.

Due to the revision of the definitions applied starting with 2002, in 1996-2020 data series, the indicators corresponding to 1996-2001 period, on the main categories of population (economically active, employment, unemployment and economically inactive) are not fully comparable with those corresponding to the next years series.

Annual data on labor force in Romania (active population, the employed and unemployed), for the period 1996-2001 have been recalculated taking into account population estimate Population and Housing Census of March 2002.

2004-2013 data series was revised taking into account the criterion of usual residence, in accordance with the results of the Population and Housing Census 2011.

- Notes:
1. Owing to the rounding of the final decimal part of the extension coefficients to 5 decimals, there are seldom small differences between some estimated totals at level of various types of tables and what results from the total.
 2. In the tables, the headings marked with * as well as values published between brackets means that weighted data are not reliable due to the low number of observed cases.
 3. The data which have values between 6500-11499 interval (persons) have a low degree of reliability; the variation coefficients (VC) are between 0.20 – 0.30.
 4. In the tables, in the headings marked with - means “no existing data”.