

THE YEAR

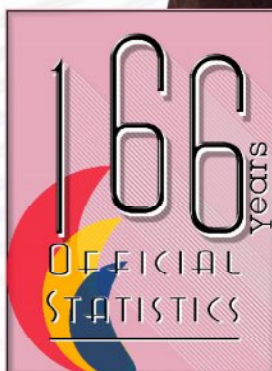
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LABOUR FORCE IN ROMANIA

employment and
unemployment



the year 2024



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LABOUR FORCE IN ROMANIA EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

2024

Information presented in this paper was obtained from “**Household Labour Force Survey**” (**AMIGO**), carried out in 2024.

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 inter-census 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 European Parliament and the Council Regulation (EU) No 2019/1700 of the 10th of October 2019 on establishing a common framework for European statistics referring at persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples and the Implementation Regulation (EU) 2019/2240 of the Commission from the 16th of December on specification of technical aspects of the data set, of establishing the technical aspects for the information transmission and for specification of detailed modalities and for the content of quality reports regarding the organization of a survey in the labour field¹⁾.

2. Basic concepts - definitions

- **Resident population** include all persons (with 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.

- **The economic dependency ratio** represents the number of non-employed persons (inactive 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 population**.

The classification of the population by economic activity status is carried out according to the priority principle: employment takes precedence over unemployment, and unemployment takes precedence over economic inactivity.

¹⁾ The Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council is in force beginning with 2021. This one, together with the delegated and implementation regulations issued in its application represents the new legal basis for Households Labour Force Survey – AMIGO (HLFS).

This legislative changes bring a series of important methodological changes wich aimed to improve the comparability of results between member states of EU (a new definition of employment, the modification of data collection method, standardized questionnaire used for data collection) with a noticeable impact on the survey estimates.

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

- **Employment** comprise all the persons aged between 15 years and 89 years (in completed years, at the end of the reference week) over who, during the reference week, fill in one of the following categories:

- (a) persons who, during the reference week they worked at least one hour in order to get income (in cash or in kind) or making a profit, including the unpaid family workers who collaborate to the family business²⁾.

- (b) persons who have a job or a business and who were temporarily absent from work during the reference week, but they had a formal connection with the workplace, in the conditions the following groups have a formal connection with the workplace:

- persons absent from work because of the rest leave, the organization of working time, the medical leave, the maternity or paternity leave;
- persons being in professional training courses for the workplace;
- persons on parental leave, which receive and/or have the right to an income or legal benefits at workplace or whose parental leave should last at most 3 months;
- seasonal workers in off-season, if they continue to meet regularly tasks and duties for the workplace or for enterprise, excluding the fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations;
- persons temporarily absent from work from other reasons, if the expected duration of the absence is of maximum 3 months.

- (c) persons who produce agricultural goods intended mostly for sale or exchange in kind.

Persons who work in the field of own production, volunteers workers, unpaid trainees and persons involved in other forms of work are not included in the category of employed persons based on this activities.

- **Employment rate** represents the share 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. In general, for employees, a "full-time" work schedule corresponds to the standard working time as defined in the collective labour agreement, while a "part-time" schedule refers to a working time which, as specified in the individual employment contract, is significantly shorter than the normal duration.

- **Underemployed persons** are employed persons who are working part-time, 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 agreement 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 (in completed years, at the end of the reference week) who fulfill in the same time the following conditions:

- (a) during the reference week they were not employed according to the definition of employment;
- (b) they were available to work, means they were available to have a job for an income or to carry out an independent activity in two weeks after the reference week;
- (c) they were active looking for a job, means either they took concrete steps in the period of four weeks which was ended with the reference week for looking for a paid job or for carry out an independent activity, either they found a job where they going to to start the activity in the most 3 months from the end of reference week.

²⁾ Unpaid family workers who collaborate to the own family enterprise, persons who work in the field of own production, volunteers workers, unpaid trainees and persons involved in other forms of work are defined in the Resolution regarding the statistics on work,

employment and insufficient use of labour force, adopted at the 19th International Conference of Statisticians in the Work field (ICSW).

³⁾ According with the International Labour Office.

To identify the steps of active searching of a job, this are:

- the study of jobs offers;
- the publishing announcement and answers for jobs offers;
- the online publication and updating of CVs;
- the direct contact of employers;
- contact friends, relatives or acquaintances;
- contact of a public service for employment;
- contact of a private service for employment;
- taking a test, an interview or an examination for a recruiting process;
- making preparation for setting up an enterprise.

The seasonal workers which don't work during the reference week (out of the season), but they expect to come back to their seasonal job are included in the category of those who found a job.

• **ILO unemployment rate** represents the share of ILO unemployed persons in economically active population.

• **Long-term unemployment rate** represents the share of ILO unemployed who have been unemployed for *12 months* and over in economically active population.

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

• **Incidence of long-term unemployment** represents the share 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 share of long-term unemployed (*6 months and over*) in total young people unemployed.

• **Share 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** of the job, **status in employment** and **occupation**.

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

- activity of the socio-economic 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 persons in managed positions 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 unpaid 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.

⁴⁾ Including persons on military service until 2007.

Employees have been broken down by the **working time 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 unpaid 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 etc.), occasional day-workers, holders of management or franchise contracts who do not use employees, individual farmers or those who work in agricultural associations. 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.
- **Unpaid family worker** - is that person who carries out his activity within an economic family unit managed by a family member or relative, not receiving remuneration as salary or pay in kind. Such a unit is considered peasant's (agricultural) household.

- 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*.

- **Economically inactive population** comprises, according to this survey, persons included in one of the following categories:

- a) aged below 15 (in completed years at the end of the reference week);
- b) aged above 89 (in completed years at the end of the reference week); or
- c) aged 15 to 89 (in completed years at the end of the reference week) and neither employed nor unemployed during the reference week according to the definitions of employment and unemployment.

- **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 seeking a job, but are not available to start working” and „economically inactive persons who are not seeking a job, but are available to start working”.

- **Labour market slack** was determined as percentage ratio between the sum of underemployed persons, ILO unemployed and potential additional labour force – as numerator and extended labour force (which include economically active population and potential additional labour force) - as denominator.

- **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, because they believe there are not suitable jobs.

- **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 and population aged 25-64 years.

- **Youth education attainment level** represents the share 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 the share 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 share 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 included in *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 target population for the survey was the population residing in private households. Thus, 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.

A **household** is defined as a group of two or more persons who usually live together and jointly manage their household, contributing fully or partially to the household's income and sharing in its expenditures. A person who does not belong to a household and declares that they live and manage on their own is considered a single-person household.

Persons living for a period of 12 months or more in collective units (such as homes for the elderly, institutions for persons with disabilities, workers' hostels, sanatoriums etc.) are not included in the survey.

4. Registration method

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

Proxy interviews were allowed, the proxy rate being 32.2%.

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 a reference week (predetermined), from Monday to Sunday. The data was usually recorded in the week following the reference week.

For certain questions, there are also other reference periods: the last four weeks, the last year, the next two weeks, the last three months of the current year or of the similar period of the previous year.

6. Sample design

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

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

Structural differences that occur due to field situations at the time of the survey are corrected by applying adjustment procedures based on the non-response rate by area and depending on the population distribution by area, sex and age group, these distributions being obtained from exhaustive sources of demographic research.

The first stage of the sample design consists of constructing the Multifunctional Sample of Territorial Areas ("master" EMZOT sample) comprising 792 research centres (primary sampling units), distributed across 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.

In the second level, 28512 dwellings/quarter with all the component households were selected.

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 re-introduced in the survey in the next two quarters, then it is permanently removed 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.

The implementation of this scheme aimed to achieve 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 quarter of 2024, national-level estimates were produced by applying weighting coefficients to the individuals in responding sampled households.

In order to compute these coefficients quarterly non-response rate was taken into account as well as resident population in private households and its distribution by sex, 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 2024 were: 88.22% in the 1st quarter, 88.92% in the 2nd quarter, 88.48% in the 3rd quarter, 88.30% in the 4th quarter. In 2024, the non-response rate was 11.52%, the refusal rate was 2.56% and the non-contact rate was 6.28%.

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 performed:

- calculation of design weights:
 - the design weight assigned to a dwelling represents the inverse of its overall probability of selection into the survey sample;
 - all households of a dwelling “borrow” design 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, design weights of respondent households are adjusted with the reverse of the response rate.
- adjustment method of the sample and calculation of final weights:
 - the adjustment is carried out in order to improve the estimations’ quality by applying a final adjustment of the weights produced in the previous stage;
 - the adjustment method used is called calibration. It is performed at region level using as variables the resident population by sex and age group, residence area and total households. Using this method determines the increase of the estimations accuracy.

Weighting of the results and the calculation of the indicators that measure the estimations accuracy was made using the R package - ReGenesees⁵⁾.

⁵⁾ Zardetto D (2015). “ReGenesees: an Advanced R System for Calibration, Estimation and Sampling Error Assessment in Complex Sample Surveys.” *Journal of Official Statistics*, 31(2), 177 – 203

Zardetto D (2024). “ReGenesees: R Evolved Generalized Software for Sampling Estimates and Errors in Surveys.” R package version 2.4.

The values and confidence intervals of the main indicators for 2024 are presented in the following tables:

Employment rate (15-74 years)		Unemployment-to-population ratio 15-74 years		Youth unemployment rate 15-24 years	
Value	Confidence interval	Value	Confidence interval	Value	Confidence interval
54.4%	53.20 - 55.51	3.1%	2.59 - 3.66	23.9%	19.80 - 28.06

Unemployment-to-population ratio 15-74 years (NUTS 2 regions)		
	Value	Confidence interval
REGION NORTH-WEST	2.1	1.48 - 3.94
REGION CENTER	1.8	1.50 - 3.28
REGION NORTH-EAST	2.1	1.88 - 3.66
REGION SOUTH-EAST	4.0	1.87 - 8.66
REGION SOUTH-MUNTENIA	3.2	3.15 - 5.27
REGION BUCHAREST-ILFOV	1.2	1.06 - 1.91
REGION SOUTH-WEST OLTENIA	3.2	2.67 - 5.66
REGION WEST	1.4	1.01 - 2.54

* *

*

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 2024.

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

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

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 2024, the **economically active population** was of 8304.3 thousand persons, of which 94.6% were employed persons and 5.4% unemployed^{*)}.*

***The employment rate of working age population** (15-64 years) was 63.8%. This indicator had higher values for men (72.0%, as against 55.3% for women) and urban area (69.8%, as against 57.0% in rural area).*

19.2% of young people (aged 15-24 years) and 53.4% of elderly people (aged 55-64 years) were employed.

The employment rate for persons aged 15-64 was higher for those with superior level of education (90.0%), than for those with medium level (66.5%) and those with low education (36.9%).

The employment rate for the population aged 20-64 years was 69.5%. Employment rate had higher values for men (78.4% as against only 60.3% for women) and for persons in urban area (75.6% as against 62.4% for persons in rural area).

***The unemployment rate** was 5.4%. By sex, the gap between the two rates was 0.7 percentage point (5.7% for men as against 5.0% for women), while by residence area it was 5.4 percentage points (8.5% for rural area as compared to 3.1% for urban area).*

The unemployment rate had the highest level (23.9%) 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 4.4%, respectively 15.2% higher as compared with the rate registered for unemployed with superior level of education (1.9%).

***The long-term unemployment rate** (unemployed for one year and over) was of 1.8%. The share of unemployed persons for one year or more in the total unemployed persons was 33.4%, both in total and by sex, and, by area of residence, the values were 41.3% in urban area and 29.8% in rural area).*

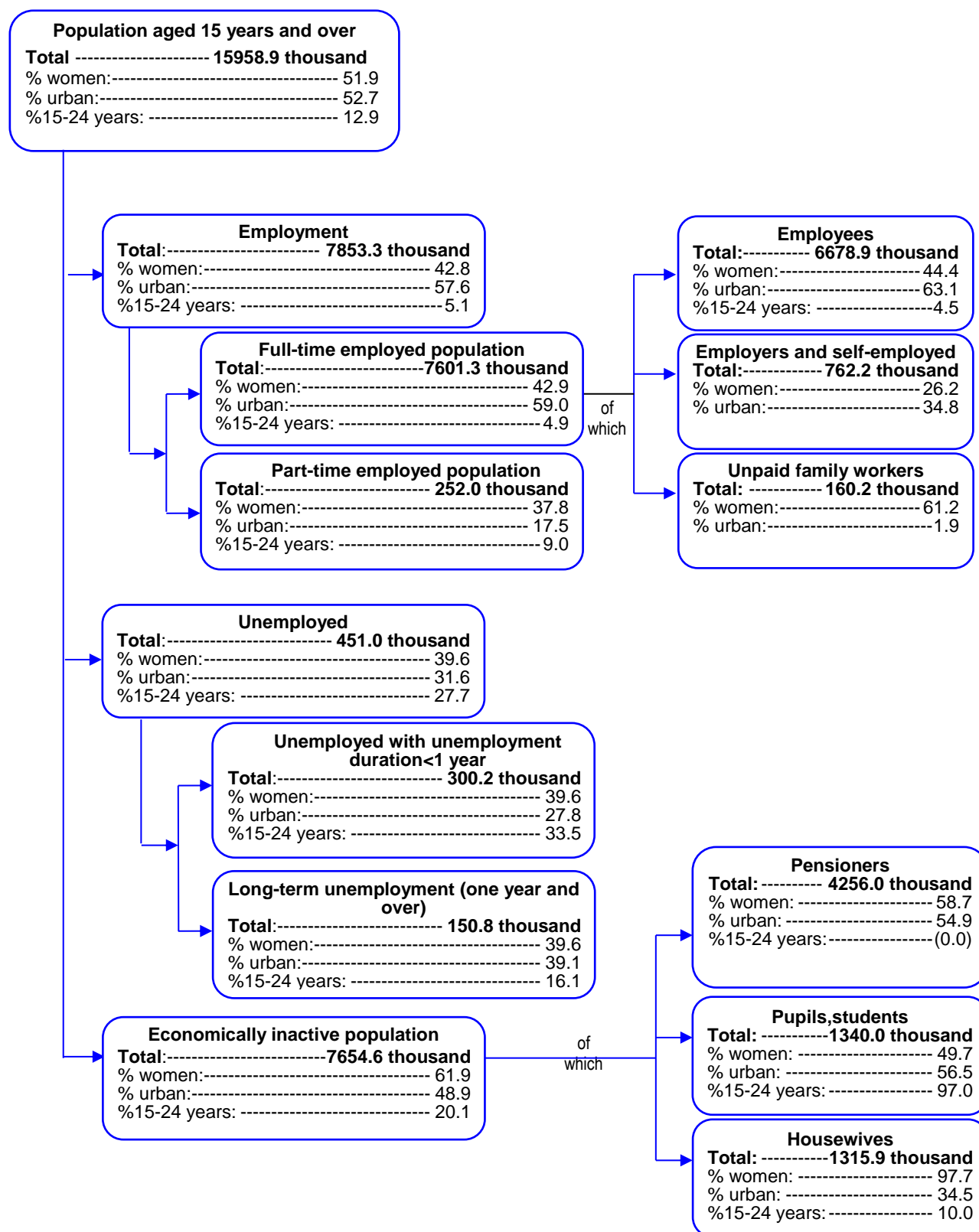
For young people (aged 15-24 years), the long-term unemployment rate (unemployed for six months and over) was 10.0%, the incidence of long-term unemployment among them being 41.9%.

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

1. General characteristics

In 2024, the main categories of the population by participation in economic activity were as follows:

Figure 1 - Categories of population in 2024



In 2024, out of the total population: 52.5% lived in urban areas, 43.8% were economically active persons and 41.4% were employed persons.

The economic dependency ratio expressed by the number of non-employed persons (inactive or unemployed) per 1000 employed persons was in 2024 of 1413‰ decreasing from the previous year (1452‰).

The value of this indicator was higher for women (1898‰, as against 1051‰ for men), and for persons living in rural area (1704‰ as compared to 1199‰ for urban area).

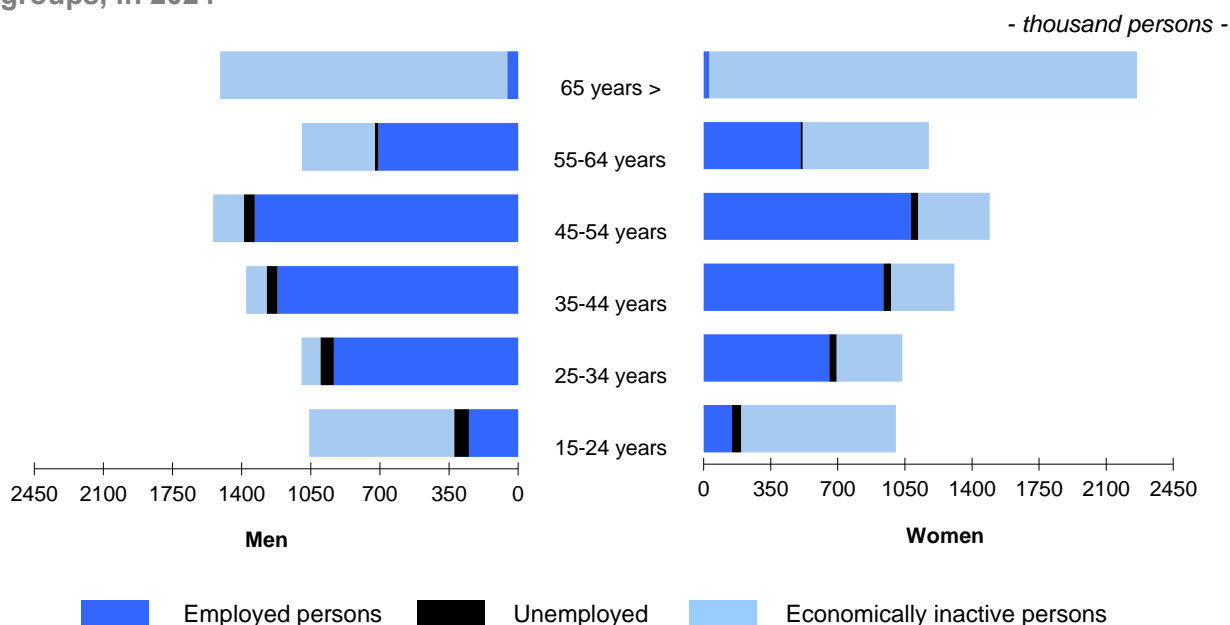
Working age population (12189.0 thousand persons) represented 64.3% of the total

population. Out of them, 63.7% were in employment, 3.7% were unemployed and 32.6% were economically inactive persons.

Out of the total population of the country, 84.2% were **persons aged 15 years and over**; 52.7% of them were living in urban area. The sex structure of the population aged 15 years and over is characterized by a slight predominance of women (1078 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, sex and age groups, in 2024



Population level of education

The distribution of population aged 15 years and over by **level of education** points out that, over half (57.6%) had *medium* level of education.

Persons with *low* level of education represented 28.2% of the population aged 15 years and over and those with *superior* level of education held a share of 14.2%. The majority of superior education graduates had their usual residence in urban area (82.8%) and also were women (54.6%).

The majority of graduates of medium level of

education lived in urban area (56.9%) but, regarding sex distribution the largest share was held by men (52.3%).

The population aged 30-34 years with higher education represented 23.6% of the population in the same age group. By sex, the values of this indicator were 27.1% for women and 20.3% for men, by residence areas the difference being significant (34.4% in urban area compared to 9.9% in rural area).

Distribution of population aged 25-64 years by the highest level of education graduated points out that, in 2024, most of the persons in this age group (61.0%) had *medium* level of education.

Persons with *superior* level of education held a weight of 19.2%; by sex, the share was relatively close (17.1% for men and 21.4% for women). By residence area, significant differences were registered: 29.5% for persons with usual residence in urban area, as against only 7.1% for persons living in rural area.

Table 1 - Structure of population aged 25-64 years by education level, sex and residence area, in 2024

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
Total persons aged 25-64 years (thousand persons)	10126.5	5113.7	5012.8	5470.9	4655.6
Level of the graduated school	<i>- in % of the total -</i>				
Superior (short-term and long-term university including master, Ph.D., post-Ph.D. and post-university studies)	19.2	17.1	21.4	29.5	7.1
Medium (post high-school of speciality, high-school and vocational, complementary or of apprentices)	61.0	64.1	57.8	61.8	60.0
Low (gymnasium, primary and without education)	19.8	18.8	20.8	8.7	32.9

Young people aged 20-24 years having graduated at least medium education level represented 81.0% of total young people belonging to this age group.

By sex, this ratio had close values: 82.3% in the case of men and 79.7% in the case of women.

By residence area, the difference was of 18.7 percentage points in favor of urban area (91.1% compared to 72.4% 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, 14.3% attended a type of education or training within the national education system (formal education) or outside of it (non-formal education).

By sex, the proportion was differential: 15.4% for men and 13.3% for women.

By residence areas the values were 17.4% for persons with usual residence in urban area, as against 11.0% for persons with residence in rural area.

The participation degree in at least one type of education or training was 11.6% for employed persons, 4.5% for unemployed persons and 17.7% for economically inactive persons aged 15 years and over.

In 2024, **the long-life learning** (the percentage of the population aged 25-64 years participating in education or training in total population) was of 8.9%.

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 16.8% in 2024. This rate had close values by sex (15.4% for men and 18.3% for women), but registered a significant difference by residential area (25.0% in rural area, compared to 7.7% in urban area).

The rate of young people (15-24 years) neither in employment nor in education or training was 17.0% in 2024, higher for women (20.7% as against 13.5% for men) and for

persons residing in rural area (23.4% as against 9.9% for young people living in urban area).

Table 2 - The rate of young people neither in employment nor in education or training, by age groups, sex and residence area, in 2024

- % -

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL PERSONS AGED 15-34 YEARS	20.3	13.4	27.6	12.4	28.3
15-24 years	17.0	13.5	20.7	9.9	23.4
15-19 years	11.4	10.1	12.8	5.6	16.9
20-24 years	23.1	17.2	29.4	14.9	30.2
25-29 years	24.5	14.9	34.6	16.6	32.3
30-34 years	22.6	12.0	33.8	13.0	34.7

Education and training in the national education system

In 2024, 1402.3 thousand persons attended an educational programme within the national education system (formal education); among them, the majority shares were held by persons with usual residence in urban area (57.2%) and young people aged 15-24 (94.9%). By sex, the shares had close values (49.6% for women and 50.4% for men).

Out of the total persons who attended a type of education or training within the national education system, employed persons represented 3.7% and unemployed only 0.7%. Approximately half (49.8%) of the persons who attended a form of education have deepened high school level knowledge.

Education and training outside national education system

Outside the national education system various forms of training (non-formal education, including: training courses, seminars, conference, etc.) were organized, which were attended in 2024 (in the reference period of 4 weeks preceding the interview) by 1071.9 thousand persons aged 15 years and over. Out of the total number of participants in non-formal education, 73.5% had their usual residence in urban areas, 20.7% were young (15-24 years), 53.1% were men and 81.7% were employed persons.

Among the persons participating in non-formal education, 17.5% attended at the same time an educational programme within the national education system. Among this category of persons, 69.2% had their usual residence in urban area and 51.2% were women.

For the most recent form of training followed, in 88.9% of cases, the goal pursued by continuing the study outside the national education system was aimed at the professional side.

2. Economically active population

In 2024, the **economically active population** was of 8304.3 thousand persons, increasing by 152.3 persons compared to 2023.

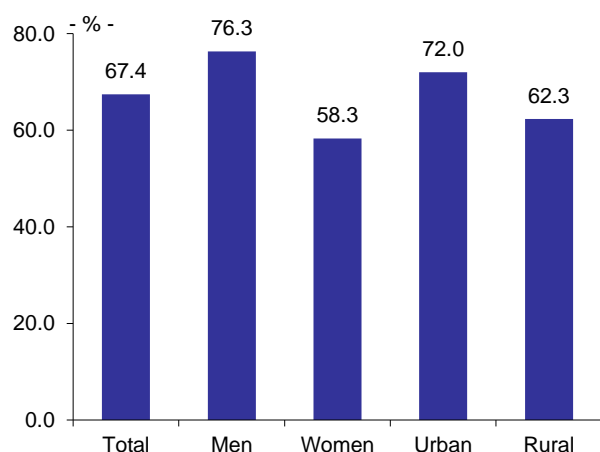
The largest shares in the total economically active population were held by persons with medium level of education (62.9%), by men (57.4%) and by those with usual residence in urban area (56.2%).

99.0% of the economically active persons were of working age (15-64 years).

Young people (15-24 years) represented 6.3% of the active population, almost two-thirds of them (65.5%) had usual residence in rural area.

The activity rate of the working age population (15-64 years), measured as the share of the active population of working age in the total population of working age, was 67.4% in 2024 and registered higher levels for men (76.3% compared to 58.3% for women) and in urban area (72.0% compared to 62.3% in rural area).

Figure 3 - The activity rate of the working age population (15-64 years), by sex and residence area, in 2024



The activity rate of population aged 20-64 years was 73.1%.

The indicator had higher values for men (82.8% as against 63.1% for women).

By residence area, the indicator has recorded values of 77.8% in urban and 67.6% in rural).

The activity rate for adults (25-54 years) of 82.2% was much higher as compared to other age groups (2.3% for people aged 65 years and over, 25.3% for youth aged 15-24 years and 54.7% for those aged 55-64 years).

For men aged 35-44 years the activity rate reached the highest level (92.4%).

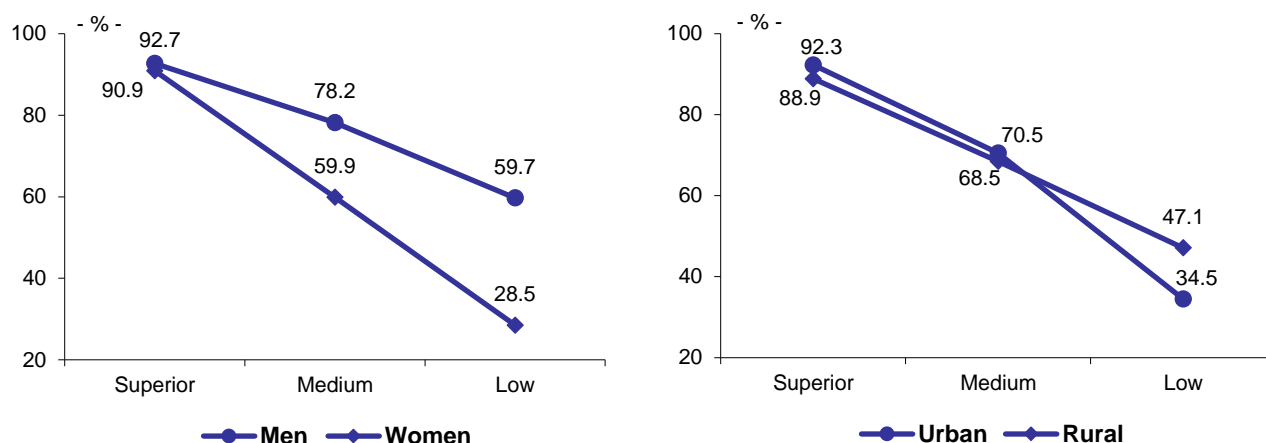
Depending on the **level of education**, the most economically active were persons aged 15-64 with a *high level* of education (tertiary education – short and long cycle, including master's, doctoral, postdoctoral, and postgraduate studies), with an activity rate of 91.7%.

Persons with a *medium level* of education (post-secondary non-tertiary, upper secondary – including lower and upper cycles – and vocational or apprenticeship programmes) were active on the labour market at a rate of 69.6%.

The labour market participation of persons with a *low level* of education (lower secondary, primary or no formal education) was only 43.6%.

As the level of education decreases among the working age population, gender and area related disparities become more pronounced.

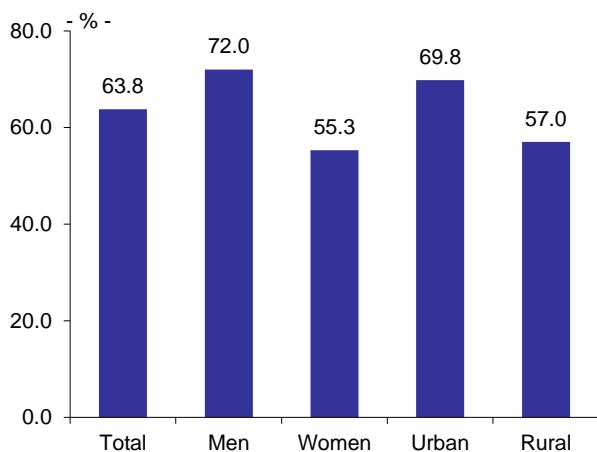
Figure 4 - The activity rate of the working age population by education level, sex and residence area, in 2024



3. Employment

In 2024, the number of **employed persons** was 7853.3 thousand, increasing with 156.9 thousand persons compared to 2023; out of these 99.0% were persons of working age (15-64 years).

Figure 5 - The employment rate of the working age population by sex and residence area, in 2024



The employment rate of the working age population (share of employed persons of working age in the total population of working age) was 63.8%, with higher values for men (72.0% compared to only 55.3% for women) and persons from urban area (69.8%, compared to 57.0% in rural area).

The employment rate of population aged 20-64 years was 69.5%, registering higher values for men (78.4% as compared to only 60.3% for women). By residence area, the employment rate in urban area was 75.6% compared to 62.4% in rural area.

The highest employment rate was registered for men in the age group 35-44 years (88.5%).

The employment rate of persons belonging to the age group 55-64 years was 53.4%, having higher values for men (64.6% compared to 43.0% for women) and for persons living in urban area (56.9%, compared to 49.2% in rural area).

The employment rate of the population aged 65 years and over was 2.2% (3.5% for men and 1.3% for women).

For this age group there were significant discrepancies between the two areas of residence: employment rate in rural area was 3.0%, compared to only 1.4% in urban area.

Youth employment rate (15-24 years) was 19.2% and registered a higher value for men (23.5%) than for women (14.7%).

Analysis by **educational level** shows that the employment rate for working age persons (15-64 years) with *higher* education was 90.0%.

For higher education graduates, employment rate of men exceeded by 2.2 percentage points that of women with the same level of education, 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.

66.5% of persons aged 15-64 with *medium* level of education were employed. In this case important differences were recorded especially by sex (18.0 percentage points in favor of men), but also by residence areas (4.8 percentage points more for persons in urban area compared to rural area).

Among persons aged 15-64 with *low* education level, only 36.9% were employed. For them, the largest discrepancy (25.4 percentage points) was recorded by sex: for men the employment rate was 50.0%, compared to 24.6% for women.

Table 3 - Employment rate of the working age population by education level, sex and residence area, in 2024

	- % -				
	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL	63.8	72.0	55.3	69.8	57.0
Superior (short-term and long-term university including master, Ph.D., post-Ph.D. and post-university studies)	90.0	91.2	89.0	90.7	86.4
Medium (post high-school of specialty, high-school and vocational, complementary or of apprentices)	66.5	75.0	57.0	68.7	63.9
Low (gymnasium, primary and without education)	36.9	50.0	24.6	28.6	40.0

The analysis of the distribution by **groups of age** of employed persons pointed out that the higher shares were held by persons in adult age groups: 30.8% of employed persons were aged between 45-54 years, 27.5% were aged 35-44 years and 20.2% were aged 25-34 years.

Young people (15-24 years) represented only 5.1% of employment, having a higher percentage in rural area (63.4% of employed persons aged 15-24).

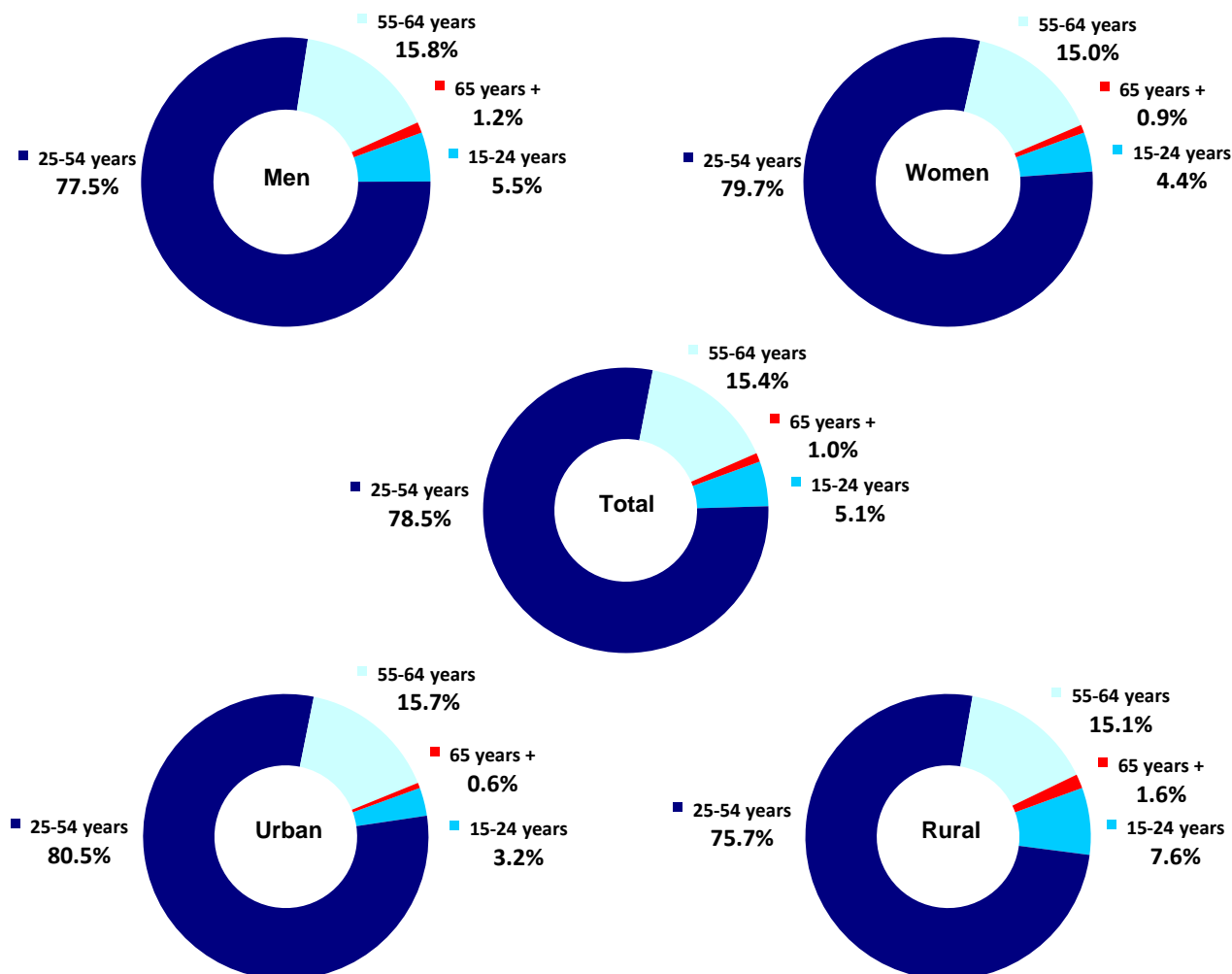
Employed persons in the adult age group (25-54 years) were concentrated (59.1%) in

urban area. Also, among employed persons aged 55 years and over, most of them (57.1%) lived in urban area.

Of the total number of employed male persons, 77.5% belonged to the 25-54 age group. In the case of the employed female population, the share of those aged 25-54 was higher, at 79.7%.

In urban area, 80.5% of the employed population was aged 25-54, while in rural area this age group recorded a share of 75.7%.

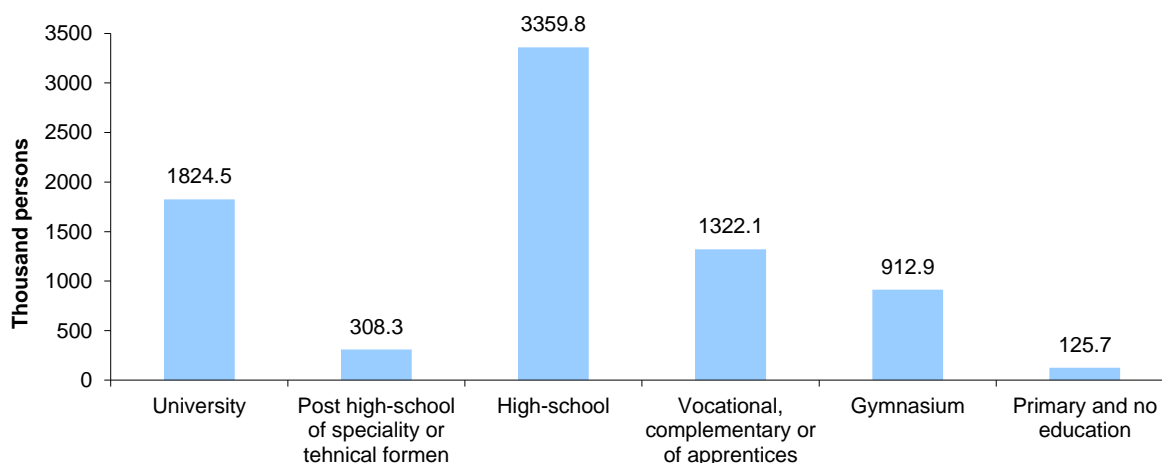
Figure 6 - Employment distribution by sex, residence area and age groups, in 2024



The distribution of employment by **educational level** shows that the largest shares were held by high school graduates (42.8%).

The share of persons with higher education was 23.3% (of which 54.3% were women) and the share of persons with primary education or no education was 1.6%, the share of men in this category of people being 74.0%.

Figure 7 - Employed population by education level in 2024



The distribution of the employed population by **status in employment** shows that employees (85.3%) had the highest share in the total employed population.

In 2024, self-employed and unpaid family workers represented 13.3% of the total employed population, 77.7% of them with usual residence in rural area.

Table 4 - The distribution of employed population by sex and residence area, by status in employment, in 2024

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT (thousand persons)	7853.3	4495.5	3357.8	4527.3	3326.0
	- in % of the total -				
Employee	85.3	82.9	88.7	93.4	74.4
Employer	1.4	1.9	0.7	1.5	1.3
Self-employed	10.6	13.5	6.7	5.0	18.2
Unpaid family worker	2.7	1.7	3.9	0.1	6.1

Women accounted for most of the unpaid family workers (63.3%), held a share of 44.4% in the category of employees, and 26.9% in that of the self-employed.

Among *employers*, the number of women in this category being 3.6 times lower than the number of men.

The young employed persons (aged 15-24 years) worked mainly as employees (77.4%).
A share of 13.0% of them worked as unpaid family workers, and 9.5% as self-employed.

In 2024, 61.7% of employees worked in services, 35.4% in industry and constructions and 2.9% in agricultural activities.

The breakdown of employees by **working regime** shows that most of them (98.2%) were *permanent employees*.

Of the 120.1 thousand employees with *temporary* working regime, 59.0% indicated that the main reason for temporary employment was that they had not found a permanent job, 86.8% were employed for a maximum period of 11 months, 73.0% were men, and 77.9% had their usual residence in rural area.

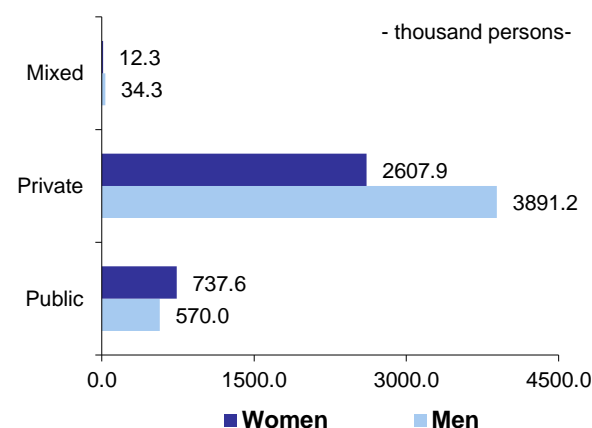
More than four-fifths of temporary employees (88.8%) worked in the private sector, 40.0% worked in industry and constructions, and 30.3% were unskilled workers.

For 56.5% of employees with temporary work regime, the actual duration of the working week was 40 hours.

In 2024, the number of employers was 110.8 thousand, of which 72.7% worked in small enterprises with one to ten employees. The employer's predominant activity was trade (33.4%). Of the total number of employers, 15.9% worked in construction, 9.6% in transport and storage, 7.7% in manufacturing, 7.5% in agriculture, 6.4% in hotels and restaurants, and 6.0% in professional, scientific and technical activities.

The distribution of employed population by **ownership type** shows that *the private sector* absorbed 82.8% of the employed persons; out of these persons, 59.9% were men and 55.2% had their usual residence in the urban area.

Figure 8 - The employed population by ownership type and by sex, in 2024



The *public sector* accounted for 16.6% of the employment, the majority (69.7%) of persons employed in the public sector had their usual residence in urban area and 56.4% were women.

0.6% of employed persons worked in the *mixed* sector, mostly men (73.6%) and persons living in urban area (64.0%).

The distribution of employment by **occupational groups** reveals that in 2024, the highest shares were held by professionals and services and sales workers (17.9% each). Craft and related workers also had significant shares in the total employed population (17.3%).

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 (67.0%), clerical support workers (65.8%), professionals (59.7%), and technicians and associate professionals (53.4%).

Men held the majority in the groups of craft and related workers (82.5%), in the group of skilled workers in agriculture, forestry and fishing (66.9%) managers (66.1%), and unskilled workers (60.4%).

From the persons working as skilled workers in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, 31.1% belonged to the age group 45-54 and 26.5% were aged 55 and over.

Table 5 - The distribution of employed population by sex, residence area and occupational groups, in 2024

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL EMPLOYED POPULATION (thousand persons)	7853.3	4495.5	3357.8	4527.3	3326.0
	- in % of the total -				
Managers	2.6	3.1	2.1	3.4	1.6
Professionals	17.9	12.6	25.0	25.2	7.9
Technicians and associate professionals	7.2	5.8	8.9	9.6	3.9
Clerical support workers	4.8	2.9	7.4	6.2	3.0
Services and sales workers	17.9	10.3	28.0	19.6	15.5
Skilled workers in agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.9	9.2	6.1	0.8	17.5
Craft and related workers	17.3	24.9	7.1	15.8	19.4
Other categories of occupations	24.4	31.2	15.4	19.4	31.2

By **activities of national economy**, it is noted that, 11.3% of employed persons worked in the agricultural sector.

Among persons employed in *non-agricultural* sectors, 21.2% worked in manufacturing, 19.8% in trade, and 12.1% in construction. Among the activities in which most of employed persons were women, most significant are: health and social assistance

(79.6%), education (79.1%), financial intermediation and insurances (70.1%), hotels and restaurants (65.6%).

The distribution of working age employed persons (15-64 years) by activity sectors reveals that 56.3% of them worked in services, 32.8% in industry and construction and 10.9% in the agricultural sector.

Table 6 - The distribution of employed population in non-agricultural activities by sex, in 2024

Economic activities	Total	Men	Women
TOTAL (thousand persons)	6968.8	3903.5	3065.3
	<i>- in % of the total -</i>		
Mining and quarrying	0.8	1.2	0.3
Manufacturing	21.2	21.4	21.0
Production and supply of electric and thermal energy, gas, hot water and air conditioning	1.2	1.6	0.6
Water distribution; sanitation, waste administration, decontamination activities	1.5	2.0	1.0
Constructions	12.1	20.2	1.6
Wholesale and retail; repair of motors vehicles and motorcycles	19.8	14.7	26.2
Transport and storage	8.7	13.5	2.6
Hotels and restaurants	3.0	1.9	4.5
Information and communications	3.0	3.4	2.4
Financial intermediation and insurance	1.4	0.8	2.2
Real estate transactions	0.4	0.3	0.4
Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.5	2.4	4.8
Activities of administrative services and activities of support services	3.2	3.9	2.4
Public administration and defense; social insurance of public system	5.9	6.5	5.2
Education	5.0	1.9	9.1
Health and social assistance	6.3	2.3	11.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.0	0.9	1.2
Other activities of the national economy	2.0	1.1	3.1

The usual average duration of the working week in the main job for employed persons was, in 2024, 40.0 hours per week, with ranging from 38.2 hours per week in agriculture, forestry and fishing to 40.7 hours per week in constructions.

The actual average duration of the working week in the main job was 38.7 hours, higher for employers and employees (40.5, respectively 39.0 hours per week).

Employed persons with **full-time working program** represented 96.8% of the total employment; for 96.2% of them **the usual duration** of the working week in the main job was at least 40 hours.

3.3% of employed persons *could not state the usual duration of the working week*; this category of employed persons represented

2.6% of the persons having a full-time job and 24.4% of those having a part-time job.

Of the 252.0 thousand employed persons having a **part-time job**, 82.5% had their usual residence in rural area and 62.2% were men. Self-employed workers and unpaid family workers accounted for 90.2% of this population.

The distribution of employed population by **working program and actual duration of the working week** in the main activity reveals that persons working part-time as well as those who, although they had a full-time job, worked less than 40 hours per week accounted for 16.2% of the employed population; this share was higher for women (18.0%) and for persons in rural area (18.6%).

Table 7 - The distribution of employed population by working program and actual duration of working week, by sex and residence area, in 2024

- % -

	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	3.2	96.8	13.0	76.9	6.9
Men	100.0	3.5	96.5	11.4	76.4	8.7
Women	100.0	2.8	97.2	15.2	77.4	4.6
Urban	100.0	1.0	99.0	13.5	81.1	4.4
Rural	100.0	6.2	93.8	12.4	71.1	10.3

The analysis of the distribution of employed persons by **status in employment, working program and actual duration of the working week** highlights significant differences between various categories of population. The share of persons who worked **full-time** was 99.7% for employees, 98.8% for employers, and 78.5% respectively 76.6%

for self-employed and unpaid family workers.

The actual duration of the working week for employed persons working full-time was more than 40 hours for 21.2% of self-employed, 19.0% of employers, 18.3% of unpaid family workers, and only for 5.3% of employees.

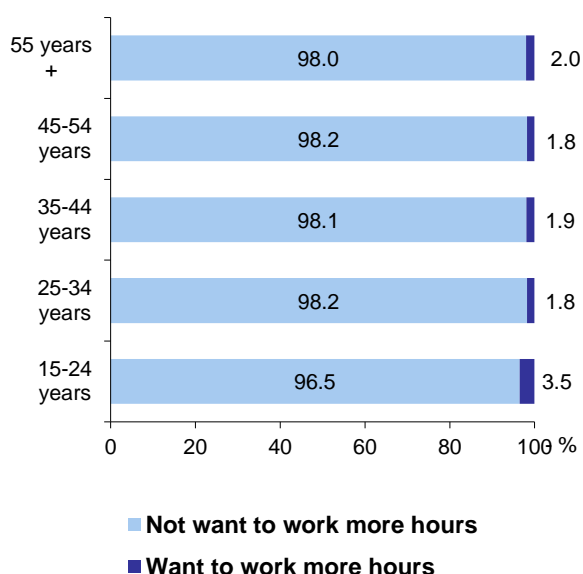
Table 8 - Distribution of persons with full-time working program by actual duration of working week and status in employment, in 2024

Actual duration of working week	Total	of which, by status in employment:			
		Employee	Employer	Self-employed	Unpaid family worker
TOTAL PERSONS WITH FULL-TIME WORKING PROGRAMME (thousand persons)	7601.3	6678.9	109.5	652.7	160.2
<i>- in % of the total -</i>					
under 40 hours	13.4	13.0	10.2	15.3	25.6
40 hours	79.4	81.7	70.8	63.5	56.1
over 40 hours	7.2	5.3	19.0	21.2	18.3

In 2024, a total of 154.1 thousand persons, representing 2.0% of the total employment, **wanted to work more hours than at present**, at the same job or at a different (or additional) job; 74.2% of these persons had their usual residence in rural area, 72.0% were men, and 73.9% belonged to the age group 25-54 years.

Out of the persons who wanted to work more hours, 29.8% looked for another job; of these, 75.7% were men, 69.9% had their usual residence in rural area, and 75.8% were aged 25-54 years.

Figure 9 - Employed population wishing to work more hours by age groups, in 2024



Only 1.7% of total employment (133.7 thousand persons) sought for **another job**.

Approximately two-thirds (65.7%) were men, 55.8% had their usual residence in rural area and 50.9% belonged to the age group 35-54 years.

Regarding *the education level* of this category of employed persons, they were mainly graduates of high school - including the first cycle - (36.3%), followed by persons with gymnasium education (23.2%) and by those who graduated vocational, complementary or apprentices education level (16.2%).

Analysis by the *employment status* shows that 54.8% of these persons were employees, 33.1% were self-employed and 11.6% were unpaid family workers.

Atypical work

In 2024, 4654.8 thousand persons worked, frequently or only occasionally, during **atypical** periods of the day or work week (evening, night, Saturday or Sunday) accounting for 59.3% of the total employed population. Among them, 77.5% belonged to the age group 25-54 years, 58.9% were male, 53.0% had their usual residence in the urban area and 21.2% worked in trade.

The most common forms of atypical work were in the evening (starting with 18⁰⁰hrs) and on Saturdays (75.3% and, 90.1% of all atypical workers respectively). People who worked during the night (starting with 22⁰⁰hrs) accounted for 30.5% of the total employed population who had atypical work and those who worked on Sundays 49.4%.

In the non-agricultural sector, 56.6% of the employed persons carried out atypical work, the corresponding percentage being 80.4% for those employed in agriculture.

A third of the **employees** (34.7%) **worked in shifts**; among them, 63.6% were living in the urban area, 50.8% were female, 31.9% belonged to the age group 45-54 years, and 5.4% 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: hotels and restaurants (59.9%), health and social assistance (58.2%) and activities of administrative services and support services activities (55.1%).

Underemployment

In 2024, **87.5 thousand persons** (15-74 years) *worked part-time and in the same time wanted and were available to work more hours than currently*. These persons are considered being **underemployed**.

This category of persons represented 1.1% of the economically active population, 1.1% of the total employment, and 35.3% of the total number of persons who worked part-time.

Of the total number of underemployed persons, 81.2% had their usual residence in

rural area, 74.0% were men, and 59.6% were aged between 35-54 years.

More than half (53.7%) of the underemployed persons had low education level, while another 43.2% had medium level of education. The incidence of underemployment (the share of underemployed persons in total employed population of the same category) had higher values in activities of private households as employer of domestic personnel or producing goods and services for own consumption

(23.3%), in agriculture, forestry and fishing (6.6%). For the other activities of the national economy, the values were below 2.5%.

Secondary activity

In 2024, the number of persons who carried out a secondary activity in addition to their main job was 44.2 thousand persons, representing 0.6% of the employed population.

Higher shares were recorded among persons with medium education level (0.7%), as well as for those in rural area (1.1% compared to only 0.2% in urban area), where in 92.0% of cases, the second activity was carried out in the agricultural sector.

Among those who had a second job, 84.5% had their usual residence in rural area, 82.8% were adults (25-54 years) and 58.9% were men.

In 2024, were underemployed 8.2% of self-employed, 5.3% of unpaid family worker and only 0.1% of employees.

Among the total persons with multiple activities: 84.0% were *self-employed or unpaid family workers in their second job*; among these, 93.9% had their usual residence in rural area. 90.5% of the total persons with secondary activity were employees in the main job.

Employed persons who were *employees* in both, their main and secondary job, accounted for only 10.7% of those with multiple activities. *The average duration* of the working week in the second job was 10.8 hours per week.

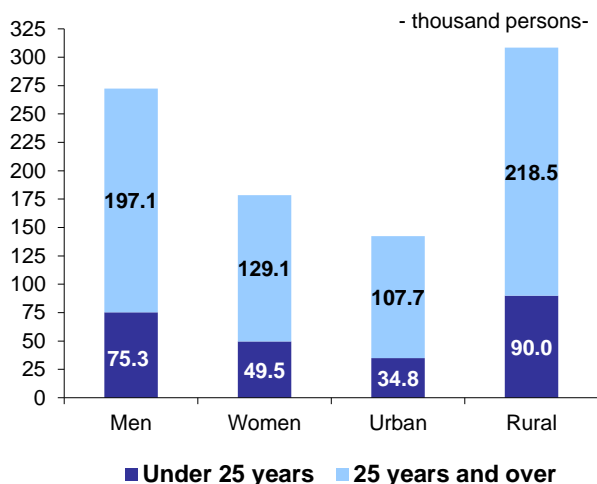
Table 9 - Distribution of persons who had a secondary activity by sex, residence area, age groups and education level, in 2024

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE A SECONDARY ACTIVITY (<i>thousand persons</i>)	44.2	26.0	18.2	6.9	37.3
	<i>- in % of the total -</i>				
<u>Age groups</u>					
15-24 years	2.2	1.9	2.6	-	2.6
25-34 years	18.4	17.2	20.2	15.7	18.9
35-44 years	27.0	25.7	28.9	27.1	27.0
45-54 years	37.4	38.8	35.4	30.9	38.6
55 years and over	15.0	16.4	12.9	26.3	12.9
<u>Education level</u>					
Higher (short-term and long-term university including master, Ph.D., post-Ph.D. and post-university studies)	17.5	16.7	18.6	77.5	6.4
Medium (post high-school of specialty, high-school and vocational, complementary or of apprentices)	74.2	72.6	76.5	22.5	83.7
Low (gymnasium, primary and without education)	8.3	10.7	4.9	-	9.9

4. Unemployment

In 2024, the number of **unemployed** persons was 451.0 thousand persons, decreasing with 4.6 thousand persons compared to the previous year.

Figure 10 - Number of unemployed by sex, residence area and age groups, in 2024



The distribution by **sex** and **residence area** of the unemployed reveals that in the year under review, the majority of the unemployed were men (60.4%) and persons who had their usual residence in rural area (68.4%).

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 share (27.7%) of the total unemployment, along those aged 25-34 years (23.3%).

Young people represented 29.2% of the total unemployment in rural area and 24.4% in urban area.

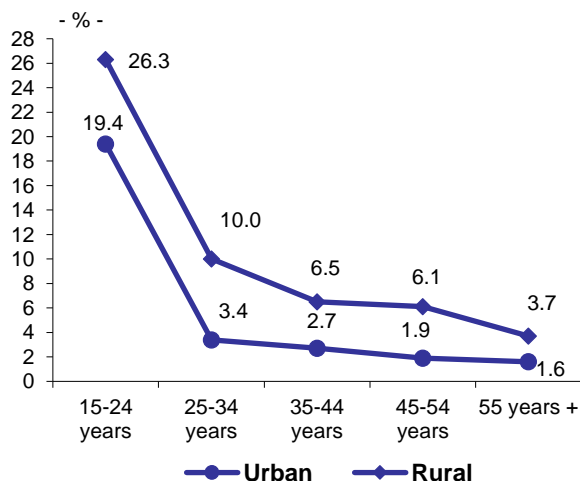
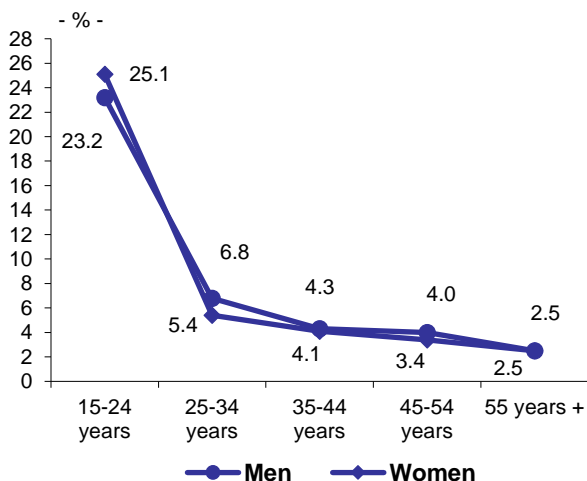
Among young unemployed 60.4% were men, and 72.1% had their usual residence in rural area.

The share of young unemployed in total young persons was 6.1%. The level of this indicator was higher for men (7.1% as against 4.9% in the case of women) and for those living in rural area (8.3% as against 3.6% in urban area).

The unemployment rate (ratio of unemployed in active population) was, at the national level, 5.4%. Unemployment rate for *women* (5.0%) was lower than for *men* (5.7%). Unemployment rate in *rural* area (8.5%) exceeded the rate registered in *urban* area (3.1%).

By *age groups*, the unemployment rate reached its highest level (23.9%) among youth (15-24 years), with significant differences by area of residence: 19.4% in urban area, compared to 26.3% in rural area. The value of this indicator was 4.2% for unemployed persons aged 25 years and over.

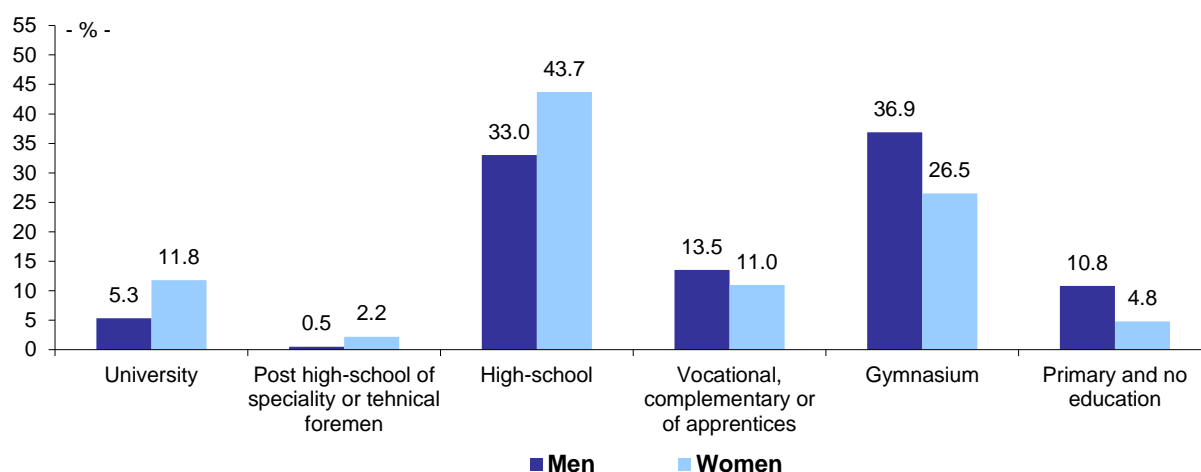
Figure 11 - Unemployment rate by age groups, sex and residence area, in 2024



From the distribution by **education level** it can be noticed that the highest shares in the total unemployment were held by those high-school graduates (37.2%), 32.8% had lower secondary education (gymnasium), and

12.5% were graduates of vocational, complementary or of apprentices schools. In total number of unemployed, university graduates accounted for 7.9%, and among them 59.6% were women.

Figure 12 - Unemployed distribution by education level and sex, in 2024



Unemployment affected to a greater extent persons with *low* and *medium* level of education graduates, for which the unemployment rate was 15.2%, respectively 4.4%. For persons with *higher* education, the unemployment rate was 1.9%.

The highest unemployment rate (17.0%) was recorded for unemployed with low education level in urban area, while the lowest unemployment rate (1.7%) was recorded for unemployed with high level of education in urban area.

Table 10 - Unemployment rate by education level, by sex and residence area, in 2024

	- % -				
	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL	5.4	5.7	5.0	3.1	8.5
Superior (short-term and long-term university including master, Ph.D., post-Ph.D. and post-university studies)	1.9	1.7	2.1	1.7	2.8
Medium (post high-school of specialty, high-school and vocational, complementary or of apprentices)	4.4	4.1	4.8	2.5	6.7
Low (gymnasium, primary and without education)	15.2	16.1	13.4	17.0	14.7

In 2024 unemployed **with work experience** (those who worked before entering into unemployment) represented 46.2% of total unemployed.

Among the unemployed with work experience 61.2% were *men*, 63.5% had their usual residence in *rural* area, 37.0% had *high-school* education, and 5.8% were *young* (15-24 years).

The main reason why over one third of the unemployed in this category ceased work in last 8 years was who ended a temporary activity (34.1%).

Significant shares also held those with dismissal or closing down the business for economic reasons (24.0%). Persons who ceased work at the last job because of family and care responsibilities represented 8.7% of the total.

Out of the 127.4 thousand unemployed who ceased work in the last 8 years, 92.4% worked in establishments belonging to the *private* sector, 83.6% were *employees* in their last job, 32.0% worked in *elementary occupations* and 18.8% worked in *manufacturing*.

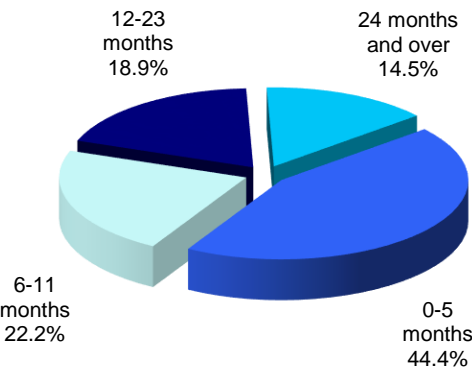
Among the unemployed **who had never worked** 72.6% had their usual residence in rural areas, 59.7% were men, 48.6% were low level of education graduates and 46.5% were young people (15-24 years).

The average unemployment duration in 2024 was 13.6 months. The lowest average duration of unemployment was recorded among young women aged 15-24 years (8.2 months) while the highest (18.7 months) was recorded among women aged 45 years and over.

The long-term unemployed (those unemployed for 12 months and over) represented 33.4% of the total unemployed. Among the long-term unemployed 60.4% were men. By residence area, 60.9% had their usual residence in rural area.

Long-term unemployment was significant among graduates of vocational, complementary or of apprentices (42.1%), post high-school of specialty or technical foremen (37.6%), gymnasium (36.9%) and primary school (36.6%). In 2024, 41.0% of the unemployed aged 45 years and over had been unemployed for 12 months or more, 40.6% of those aged 35-44 years, 34.4% of those aged 25-34 years and 19.5% of young persons aged 15-24 years.

Figure 13 - Distribution of unemployed persons by unemployment duration, in 2024



The incidence of long-term unemployment among young people (the share of unemployed aged 15-24 years who have been unemployed for 6 months and over, in total unemployed in the same age group) was of 41.9%. Higher values of this indicator were recorded for men (43.3%) and for those had usual residence in rural area (42.3%).

The long-term unemployment rate (the share of unemployed for 12 months and over in active population) was 1.8%. By sex, this indicator registered values of 1.9% for men and 1.7% for women and by residence area, 1.3% in urban area compared to 2.5% in rural area.

Table 11 - Long-term unemployment in 2024

	- % -				
	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
Long-term unemployment rate					
TOTAL	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.3	2.5
<i>of which:</i>					
15-24 years	10.0	10.1	10.0	7.9	11.1
25 years and over	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.1	2.3
Incidence of long-term unemployment					
TOTAL	33.4	33.4	33.4	41.3	29.8
<i>of which:</i>					
15-24 years	41.9	43.3	39.8	40.9	42.3
25 years and over	38.8	38.5	39.1	47.3	34.5

The very long-term unemployment rate (the share of unemployed persons who have been unemployed for two years and over in active population) was of 0.8%.

5. Economically inactive population

In 2024, economically inactive population was 10646.6 thousand persons, representing 56.2% of total population.

Among the total inactive persons, the majority (50.3%) had their usual residence in rural area, and women accounted for a higher share (58.2%) compared to men.

The economically inactive population aged 15 years and over was 7654.6 thousand persons, of which 51.9% were between 15-64 years old.

Of the total number of economically inactive persons aged 15 years and over, 20.1% were young people (15-24 years).

The distribution of economically inactive persons aged 15 years and over by categories of inactivity shows that **pensioners** represented more than half (55.6%) of the total.

Pupils and students aged 15 years and over held a share of 17.5% in the inactive population in the same age group.

Table 12 - Distribution of economically inactive population aged 15 years and over by inactivity categories, sex and residence area, in 2024

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
TOTAL ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (thousand persons)	7654.6	2913.7	4740.9	3741.4	3913.2
	- in % of the total -				
Pupils and students	17.5	23.2	14.1	20.3	14.9
Pensioners	55.6	60.3	52.7	62.5	49.0
Housewives	17.2	1.0	27.1	12.1	22.0
Other situation	9.7	15.5	6.1	5.1	14.1

Among the inactive population aged 15-74 years (6139.6 thousand persons), **223.7 thousand persons** were part of the **potential additional labor force**.

Among these, **214.3 thousand people were available to start working but were not seeking a job**. In 2024, the share of this category of people and the active population was of 2.6%.

9.4 thousand people who were part of the potential additional labor force were **seeking a job but were not available to start working**. Among these, 73.0% had their usual residence in rural area, 62.5% were women and 64.1% were aged between 25-54 years. 48.5% of the people in the potential additional labor force had *low* education level and another 3.6% had *superior* education level.

Table 13 - Potential additional labour force by age groups, sex and residence area, in 2024

	Total	Men	Women	Urban	Rural
POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL LABOUR FORCE - TOTAL (thousand persons)	223.7	83.8	139.9	60.3	163.4
	- in % of the total -				
15-24 years	20.4	26.8	16.7	25.7	18.5
25-34 years	14.7	14.3	14.8	14.2	14.8
35-44 years	24.8	22.5	26.3	19.4	26.9
45-54 years	24.6	20.4	27.1	23.5	25.0
55-74 years	15.5	16.0	15.1	17.2	14.8

6. Labour status at regional level

The distribution of the population aged 15 years and over by labour status, by

development regions is presented in the following table.

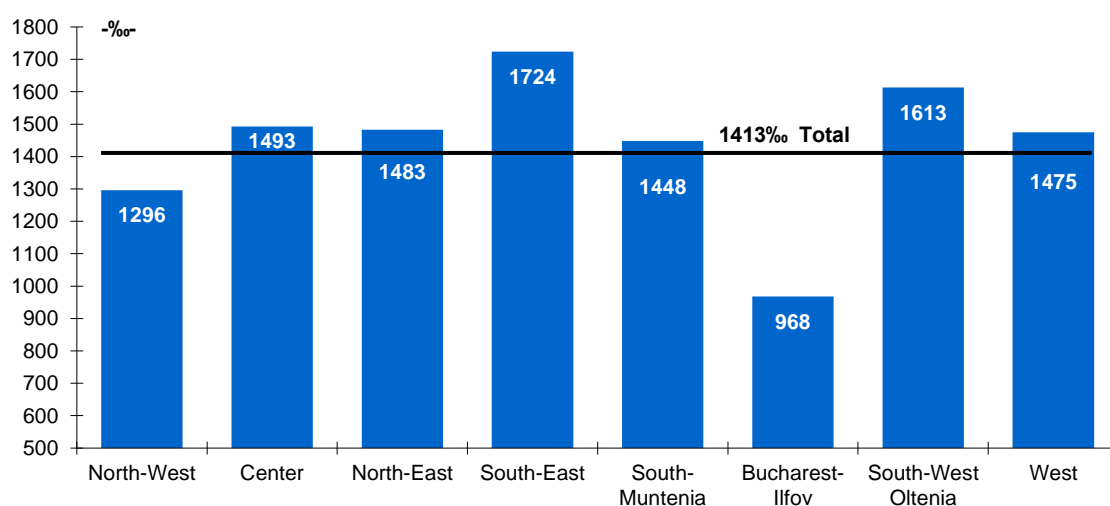
Table 14 - Structure of population aged 15 years and over by labour status, by macroregions and development regions, in 2024

Macroregions Regions	Population aged 15 years and over (thousand persons)	of which:		
		Employed persons	Unemployed	Economically inactive persons
		(percentages)		
TOTAL	15958.9	49.2	2.8	48.0
MACROREGION ONE	4014.6	50.1	2.3	47.6
North-West	2112.6	51.9	2.5	45.6
Center	1902.0	48.0	2.2	49.8
MACROREGION TWO	4557.0	46.6	3.5	49.9
North-East	2594.2	49.2	2.5	48.3
South-East	1962.8	43.4	4.7	51.9
MACROREGION THREE	4349.4	53.4	2.7	43.9
South-Muntenia	2400.3	47.9	3.7	48.4
Bucharest-Ilfov	1949.1	60.2	1.4	38.4
MACROREGION FOUR	3037.9	45.9	2.7	51.4
South-West Oltenia	1592.7	44.4	3.7	51.9
West	1445.2	47.5	1.6	50.9

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

the highest value (1724‰) in the South-East region and the lowest value in the Bucharest-Ilfov region (968‰).

Figure 14 - The economic dependency ratio by development regions in 2024



The activity rate of working age population (15-64 years) registered the lowest values in the South-West Oltenia and South-East (63.6% each) regions, and the highest ones in

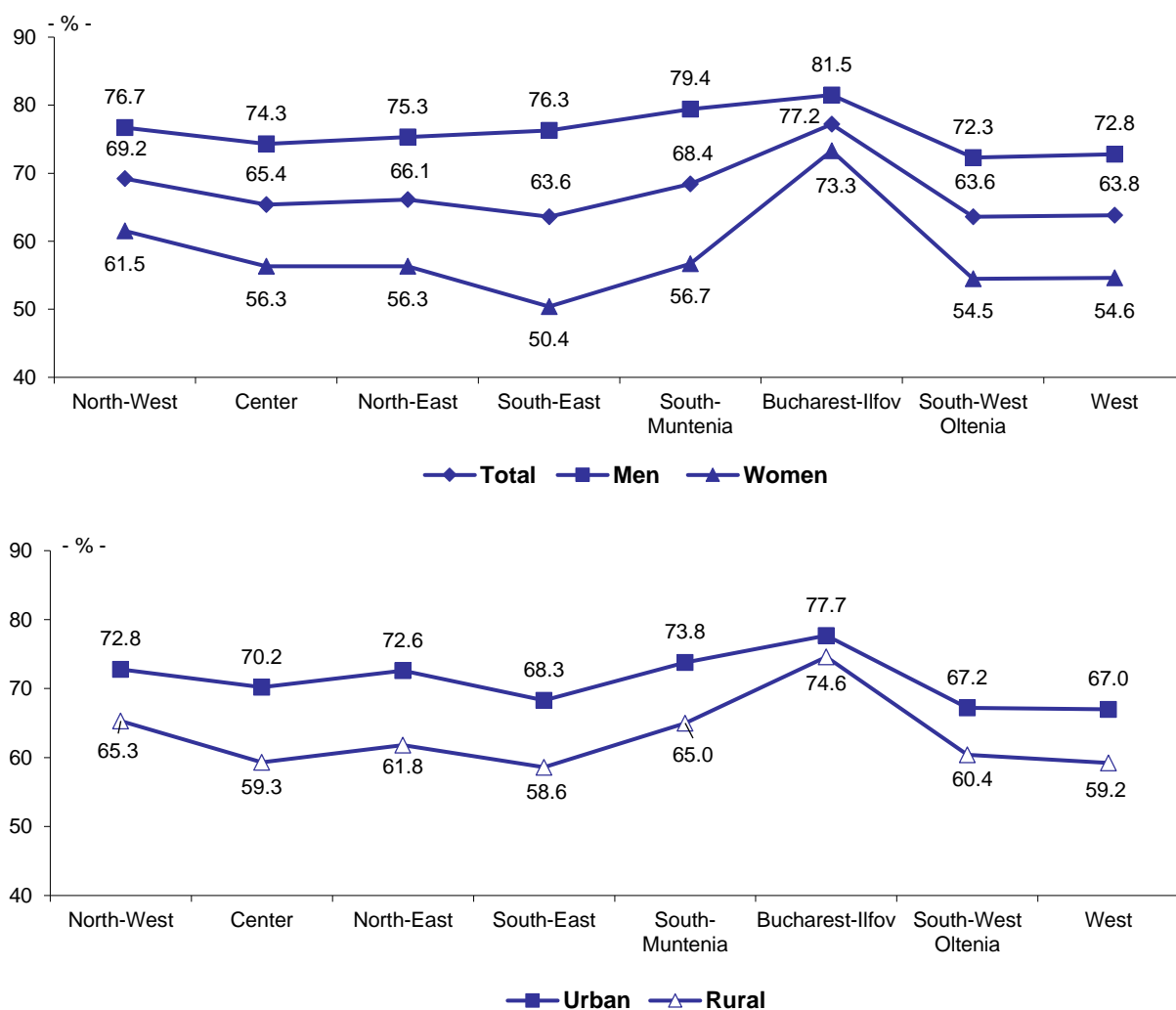
the Bucharest-Ilfov (77.2%) and North-West (69.2%) regions.

Men held higher activity rates than women in all the regions of the country, the biggest differences being registered in the South-East region (25.9 percentage points) and South-Muntenia region (22.7 percentage points).

By residence area, it is noticed that in all 8 regions, the activity rates for working age

population in *urban* area were higher than in *rural* area. The biggest differences were registered in Center and North-East (10.9 and respectively 10.8 percentage points), South-East (9.7 percentage points) and South-Muntenia (8.8 percentage points).

Figure 15 - Activity rate of working age population (15-64 years) by development regions, sex and residence area, in 2024



The employment rate of working age population (15-64 years) reached the highest values in the Bucharest-Ilfov (75.5%) and North-West (66.0%) regions and the lowest in the South-East (57.3%) and South-West Oltenia (58.6%) regions.

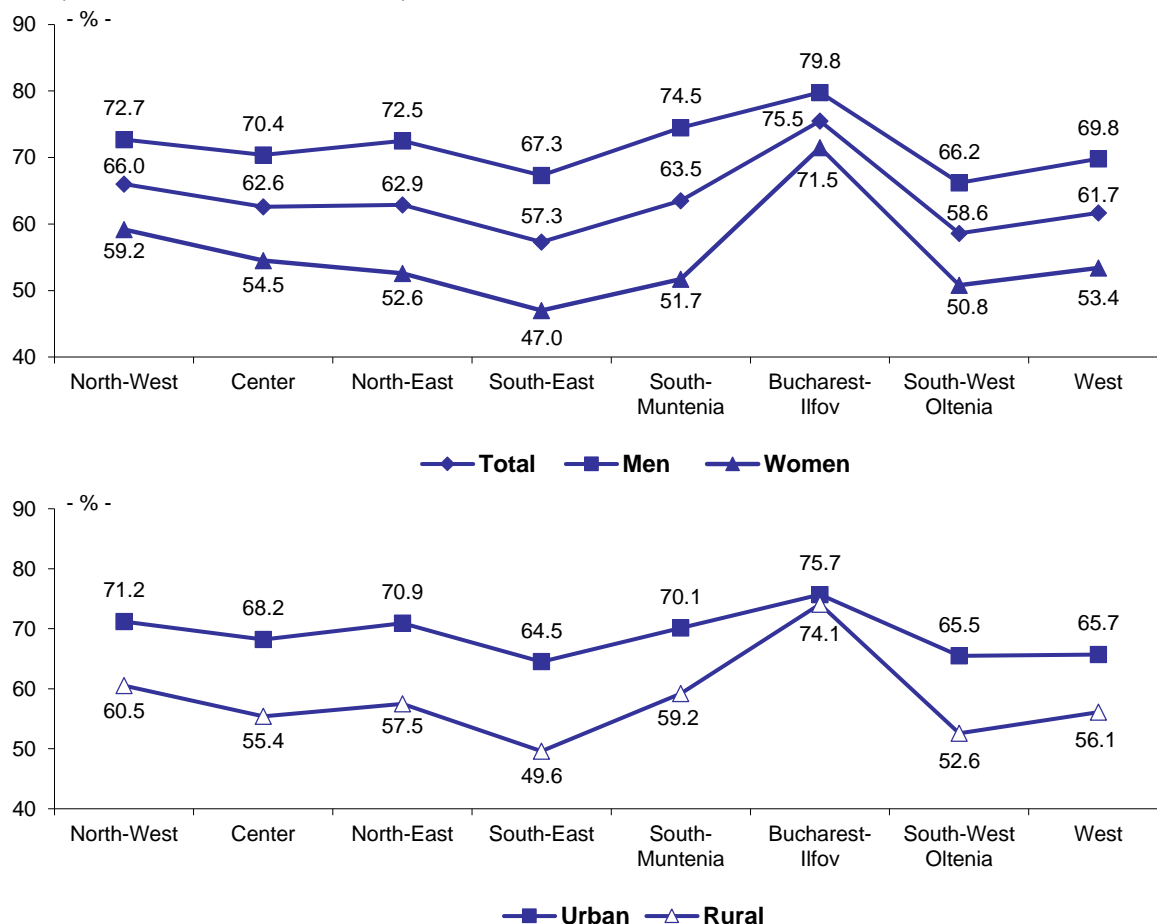
Regardless of the region, the employment rate of the working age population was higher for *men* than for *women*; the gender gap ranging from 8.3 percentage points in the Bucharest-Ilfov region to 22.8 percentage

points in the South-Muntenia region.

The employment rate of the working age population was higher in urban area compared to rural area.

The largest differences were registered in South-East (14.9 percentage points) and North-East (13.4 percentage points). The smallest differences were registered in Bucharest-Ilfov (1.6 percentage points) and West (9.6 percentage points).

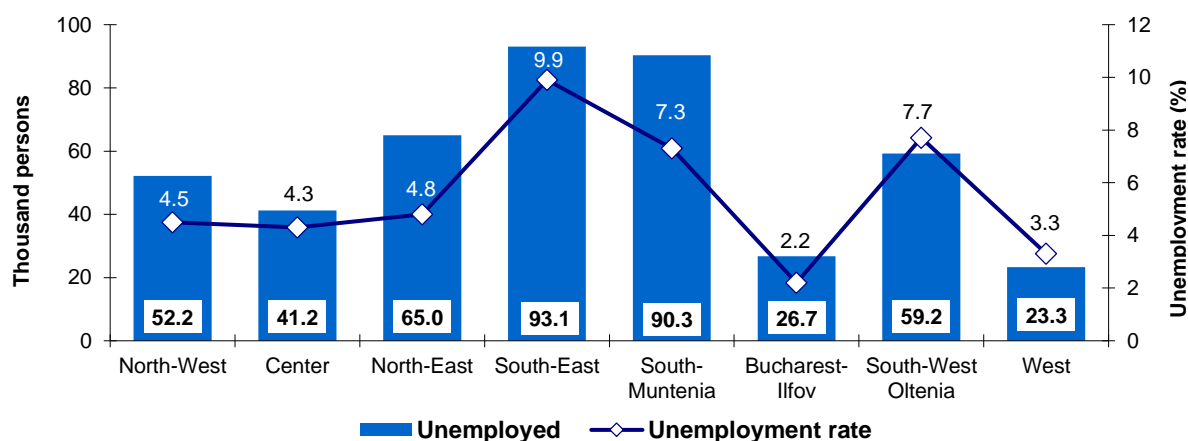
Figure 16 - Employment rate of working age population (15-64 years), by development regions, sex and residence area, in 2024



In 2024, the South-East region concentrated 20.7% of the **unemployed** persons, followed by South-Muntenia region (20.0%). The lowest share in total unemployment (5.2%) was held by West region, with only 23.3 thousand unemployed persons.

The **unemployment rate** reached the highest values in the South-East (9.9%), South-West Oltenia (7.7%), and South-Muntenia (7.3%) regions and the lowest ones were in the Bucharest-Ilfov (2.2%), West (3.3%), and Center (4.3%) regions.

Figure 17 - The number of unemployed and the unemployment rate by development regions, in 2024



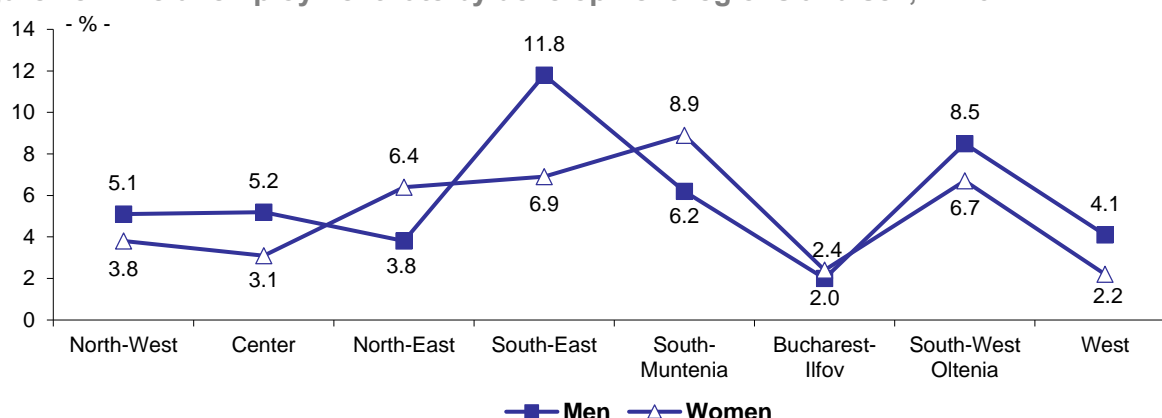
The *gender* gap in the unemployment rate (expressed as the difference between the unemployment rate for *men* and the unemployment rate for *women*) shows that the unemployment rate for men was higher than that for women in 5 from 8 development regions.

The highest difference between the two rates (men compared to women) was recorded in

South-East (4.9 percentage points) and the lowest in the North-West region (1.3 percentage points).

In the Bucharest-Ilfov, North-East and South-Muntenia development regions, the unemployment rate among women exceeded that of men (by 0.4 percentage points, 2.6 percentage points and 2.7 percentage points respectively).

Figure 18 - The unemployment rate by development regions and sex, in 2024



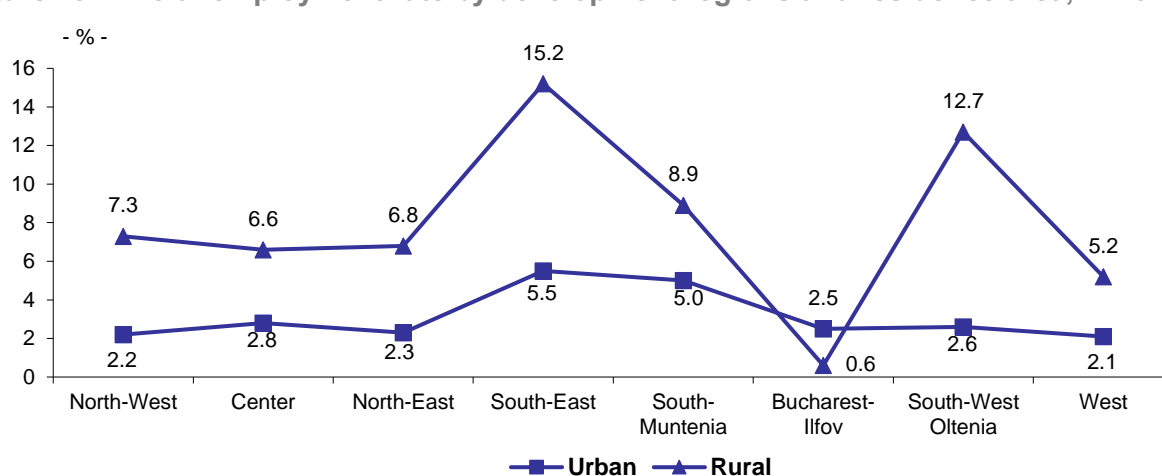
The *rural* area is characterized by higher unemployment rates compared to *urban* area in seven of the 8 regions, the highest difference being registered in the South-West Oltenia region (10.1 percentage points).

The highest unemployment rates were recorded in the *urban* area of the South-East (5.5%) and South-Muntenia (5.0%) regions, and the lowest ones in the West (2.1%) and North-West (2.2%) regions.

In comparison, the highest rates of unemployment in *rural* area were recorded in South-East (15.2%) and South-West Oltenia (12.7%) regions, and the lowest ones were noticed in Bucharest-Ilfov (0.6%) and West (5.2%) regions.

The only region where the unemployment rate was higher in urban area than in rural area was Bucharest-Ilfov, having an atypical specificity compared to the other development regions (1.9 percentage points).

Figure 19 - The unemployment rate by development regions and residence area, in 2024



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 2009-2024
2. Year 2024



- 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.

Annual data on labor force in Romania (economically active population, employment, unemployment and economically inactive population), for the period 2009-2020 have been recalculated, adjusted to reflect the definitions in force since 2021.

- 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”.