

29 June 2022 MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES May 2022

IN MAY, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STOOD AT 6.1% AND THE LABOUR UNDERUTILISATION RATE AT 11.5%

April 2022:

- The active population (5,186.9 thousand) decreased by 0.1% from March, remained practically unchanged from January and increased by 2.2% from April 2021.
- Similarly, also the employed population (4,879.2 thousand) decreased from the previous month (0.2%), remained practically unchanged from three months before and increased from one year before (3.4%).
- The unemployed population (307.7 thousand) increased by 0.3% from March of 2022, remained practically unchanged from January of that year and decreased 13.8% from April 2021.
- The unemployment rate stood at 5.9%, the same value as in the previous month and as in three months before, down 1.1 percentage points(pp) from a year earlier.
- The inactive population (2,473.7 thousand) increased by 0.2% from the previous month and decreased by 0.1% and 4.9%, respectively, from January 2022 and April 2021.
- The labour underutilisation rate was estimated at 11.4%, the same value as in the previous month, down 0.1 pp from three months before and down 1.7 pp from the same month of 2021.

May 2022¹:

- The active population (5,160.6 thousand) decreased by 0.5% both from April and February 2022, having increased by 0.3% from May 2021.
- The employed population (4,846.5 thousand) decreased by 0.7% from the previous month and by 0.8% from three months before, having increased by 1.3% from a year earlier.
- The unemployed population (314.1 thousand) increased by 2.1% from the previous month and by 4.3% from February 2022, having decreased from May 2021 (12.0%).
- The unemployment rate stood at 6.1%, up 0.2 pp from the previous month, up 0.3 pp from three months before, but down 0.8 pp from a year before.
- The inactive population (2,499.8 thousand) increased both from the previous month (1.1%) and from three months before (1.0%) and decreased from a year earlier (1.4%).
- The labour underutilisation rate stood at 11.5%, up 0.1 pp from the previous month, up 0.2 pp from three months before and down 1.2 pp from May 2021.

¹ The estimates for the last reference month (in this case, the quarter centred in May 2022: from April to June 2022) were calculated with incomplete information for the last month of the quarter (June 2022). These estimates will be revised next month (as described in the methodological note).



The table below presents the main indicators of the Monthly Employment and Unemployment Estimates.

		Seasonally adjusted data										
	Unit	Apr 2021	May 2021	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)				
Active population	1	5,074.9	5,142.7	5,187.3	5,188.4	5,193.8	5,186.9	5,160.6				
Employed population		4,718.0	4,785.7	4,879.7	4,887.2	4,887.0	4,879.2	4,846.5				
Unemployed population	Thousands	356.9	357.0	307.6	301.2	306.7	307.7	314.1				
Inactive population		2,601.4	2,534.9	2,476.4	2,474.4	2,468.0	2,473.7	2,499.8				
Labour underutilisation		691.7	675.3	616.7	605.4	610.8	610.8	609.7				
Activity rate		66.1	67.0	67.7	67.7	67.8	67.7	67.4				
Employment rate		61.5	62.3	63.7	63.8	63.8	63.7	63.3				
Unemployment rate	%	7.0	6.9	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.1				
Inactivity rate		33.9	33.0	32.3	32.3	32.2	32.3	32.6				
Labour underutilisation rate		13.1	12.7	11.5	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.5				

Monthly Employment and Unemployment Estimates (16 to 74) Main Indicators

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) - Provisional estimates.

In **April 2022**, from the previous month, the active population decreased by 6.9 thousand people and the inactive population increased by 5.7 thousand people². The evolution of the active population was due to the decrease of the employed population (7.8 thousand; 0.2%) having compensated the decrease in the unemployed population (1.0 thousand; 0.3%). The change in the inactive population was explained, mainly, by the increase in the number of inactive persons who have not looked for a job nor were not available to work (7.8 thousand; 0.3%).

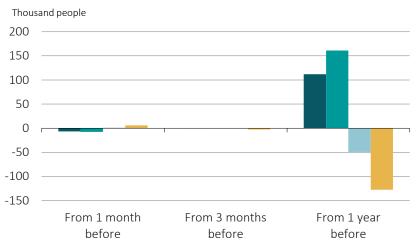
The active population remained practically unchanged from three months before since both the employed and the unemployed population have also remained practically unchanged from January 2022. The inactive population decreased from this month (2.7 thousand; 0.1%) mainly due to the decrease in the number of inactive persons available but not seeking a job (7.1 thousand; 5.1%).

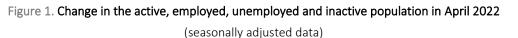
The increase of the active population (112.0 thousand; 2.2%) from April 2021 was followed by an increase of the employed population (161.2 thousand; 3.4%) that largely surpassed the decrease of the unemployed population (49.2 thousand; 13.8%). The inactive population decreased by 127.7 thousand people (4.9%) mainly due to the decrease in the number of inactive persons who have not looked for a job nor were not available to work (93.9 thousand; 3.9%).

² The changes in the active population and in the inactive population are not necessarily symmetrical. They are also influenced by the total population change that result from the natural balance and the net migration.



These results determined the following changes in the unemployment rate – that stood at 5.9% in April 2022: unchanged from the previous month and from three months before and down 1.1 pp from the same month of 2021.





Also in April 2022, the labour underutilisation covered 610.8 thousand people, the same value as in the previous month but lower than the one observed three months before (5.9 thousand; 1.0%) and one year earlier (80.9 thousand; 11.7%). The labour underutilisation rate was estimated at 11.4%, remained unchanged from the previous month, having decreased from three months before and a year earlier (0.1 pp and 1.7 pp, respectively).

In **May 2022**, the estimated active population decreased from the previous month by 26.3 thousand people (0.5%) and the estimated inactive population increased by 26.1 thousand (1.1%). The decrease of the active population resulted from the reduction of the employed population by 32.7 thousand (0.7%), having the unemployed population increased by 6.4 thousand (2.1%). On the other hand, the inactive population increase was explained, essentially, by the increase in the number of inactive persons who have not looked for a job nor were not available to work (31.0 thousand; 1.3%).

The decrease of the active population from three months before (27.8 thousand; 0.5%) came from the decrease of the employed population (40.7 thousand; 0.8%) which overcome the increase of the unemployed population (12.9 thousand; 4.3%). The inactive population increased by 25.4 thousand (1.0%) due to, mainly, the increase in the number of inactive persons available but not seeking a job (33.3 thousand; 1.4%).

Finally, the active population increase (17.9 thousand; 0.3%) from May 2021 was followed by an increase of the employed population (60.8 thousand; 1.3%) that offset the decrease of the unemployed population (42.9 thousand; 12.0%). The inactive population decreased by 35.1 thousand people (1.4%) due to the decrease

Active population Employed population Unemployed population Inactive Population



in the number of inactive persons available but not seeking a job (22.3 thousand; 14.9%) and in the number of inactive persons who have not looked for a job nor were not available to work (15.2 thousand; 0.6%).

These results determined the following changes in the unemployment rate which stood at 6.1%: up from April and February 2022 (0.2 pp and 0.3 pp, respectively) and down from May 2021 (0.8 pp).

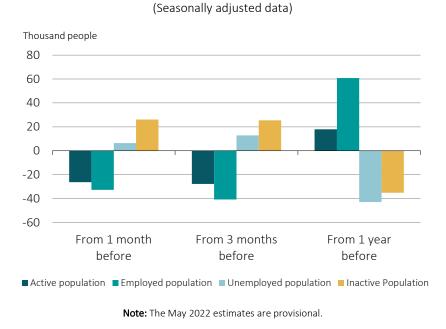


Figure 2. Change in the active, employed, unemployed and inactive population in May 2022

Also in May 2022, the labour underutilisation covered 609.7 thousand people, a lower number than in the previous month (1.1 thousand; 0.2%) and than in the same month of 2021 (65.6 thousand; 9.7%), but higher than in three months before (4.3 thousand; 0.7%). The labour underutilisation rate was estimated at 11.5%, having increased from the previous month (0.1 pp) and from the three months before (0.2 pp), and decreased from the same month of the year before (1.2 pp).



The following figures present the evolution in the last 10 years of the main indicators analysed in this Press Release.

Despite the decrease observed in May 2022, the active population remained near the maximum of the past 10 years, recorded in December 2021 (5,193.9 thousand). The employment rate reached its highest value since February 1998 in March 2022 (63.8%).

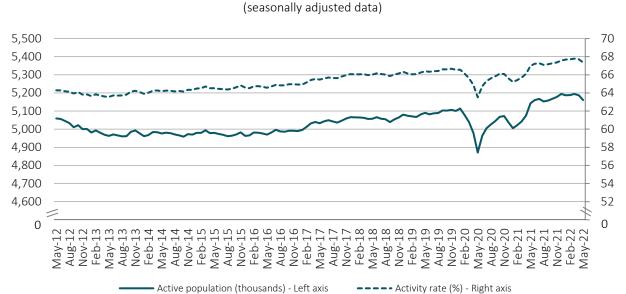


Figure 3. Active population and activity rate





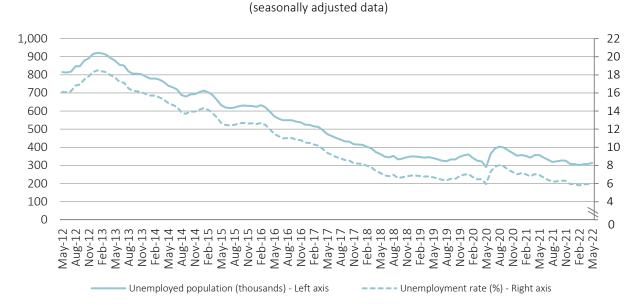
(seasonally adjusted data)

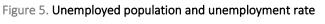


Note: The May 2022 estimates are provisional.

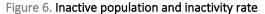


In February 2022, the unemployment rate stood at 5.8%, corresponding to its lowest value in the last 10 years. In the following month (March 2022), the inactive population recorded its lowest value since February 1998 (2,468.0 thousand people).

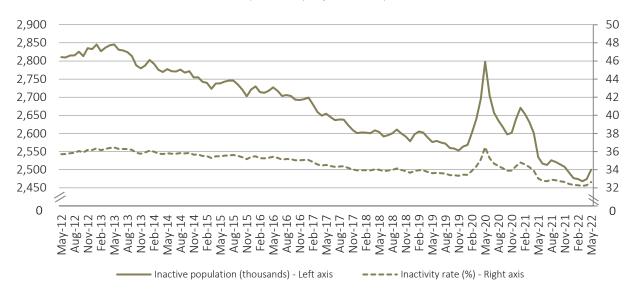




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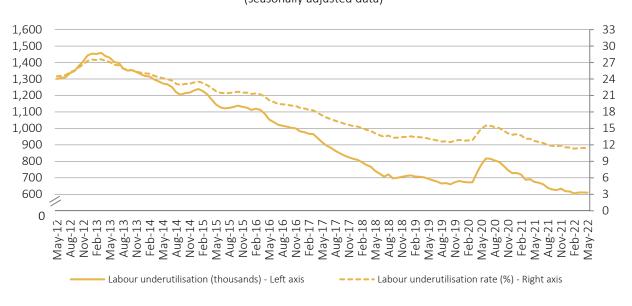
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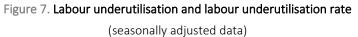


Note: The May 2022 estimates are provisional.



The labour underutilisation continued its downward trend, having reached in February 2022 its lowest value (605.4 thousand) since the beginning of the data series started in 2011, which was reflected in the underutilisation rate, which registered its lowest value also in that month (11.3%).

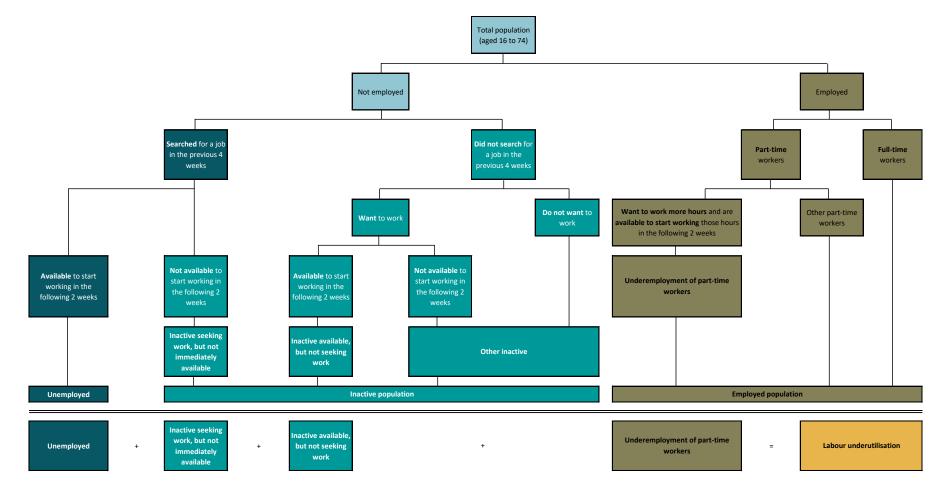




Note: The May 2022 estimates are provisional.



Criteria used when classifing the population aged 16 to 74 by labour status



MONTLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES - May 2022

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Table 1: Active population and active rate by sex and age group (16 to 74)

		Season	ally adjuste	d data			Not sease	onally adjus	ted data	
	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)
					Thous	ands				
Active population	5,142.7	5,188.4	5,193.8	5,186.9	5,160.6	5,129.3	5,180.9	5,184.3	5,174.0	5,147.1
Men	2,570.5	2,601.2	2,601.1	2,594.6	2,577.0	2,566.4	2,589.9	2,590.4	2,584.5	2,572.9
Women	2,572.3	2,587.2	2,592.7	2,592.3	2,583.6	2,563.0	2,591.1	2,593.9	2,589.5	2,574.2
Youth (aged 15 to 24)	342.3	322.8	325.8	331.2	327.9	333.1	319.1	320.5	322.9	318.7
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	4,800.4	4,865.6	4,868.0	4,855.7	4,832.7	4,796.2	4,861.8	4,863.8	4,851.1	4,828.4
	%									
Activity rate	67.0	67.7	67.8	67.7	67.4	66.8	67.6	67.7	67.5	67.2
Men	70.1	71.2	71.2	71.1	70.6	70.0	70.9	70.9	70.8	70.5
Women	64.1	64.5	64.7	64.6	64.4	63.9	64.6	64.7	64.6	64.2
Youth (aged 15 to 24)	34.5	32.7	33.0	33.6	33.3	33.6	32.3	32.5	32.7	32.3
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	71.8	72.9	72.9	72.8	72.4	71.7	72.8	72.9	72.7	72.3

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

Table 2: Employed population and employment rate by sex and age group (16 to 74)

	Seasonally adjusted data				Not seasonally adjusted data					
	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)
					Thous	sands				
Employed population	4,785.7	4,887.2	4,887.0	4,879.2	4,846.5	4,783.6	4,872.5	4,876.4	4,869.7	4,844.3
Men	2,400.6	2,460.9	2,462.8	2,451.8	2,426.6	2,399.5	2,449.2	2,452.9	2,443.2	2,425.4
Women	2,385.1	2,426.3	2,424.2	2,427.4	2,419.9	2,384.2	2,423.2	2,423.5	2,426.4	2,418.9
Youth (aged 15 to 24)	256.6	258.3	259.5	263.0	263.1	254.2	253.3	255.8	259.1	260.6
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	4,529.1	4,628.9	4,627.5	4,616.2	4,583.4	4,529.4	4,619.2	4,620.6	4,610.6	4,583.7
	%									
Employment rate	62.3	63.8	63.8	63.7	63.3	62.3	63.6	63.6	63.6	63.2
Men	65.5	67.4	67.4	67.2	66.5	65.4	67.1	67.2	66.9	66.4
Women	59.5	60.5	60.5	60.5	60.4	59.4	60.4	60.4	60.5	60.3
Youth (aged 15 to 24)	25.9	26.2	26.3	26.7	26.7	25.6	25.7	25.9	26.3	26.4
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	67.7	69.3	69.3	69.2	68.7	67.8	69.2	69.2	69.1	68.7

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.



Table 3: Unemployed population and unemployment rate by sex and age group (16 to 74)

	Seasonally adjusted data				Not seasonally adjusted data					
	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)
					Thous	sands				
Unemployed population	357.0	301.2	306.7	307.7	314.1	345.7	308.4	308.0	304.4	302.8
Men	169.9	140.3	138.3	142.8	150.5	166.9	140.6	137.5	141.3	147.5
Women	187.2	160.9	168.5	164.8	163.7	178.8	167.8	170.4	163.1	155.3
Youth (aged 15 to 24)	85.7	64.5	66.3	68.1	64.8	78.9	65.8	64.8	63.8	58.1
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	271.3	236.7	240.5	239.5	249.3	266.8	242.6	243.2	240.6	244.8
	%									
Unemployment rate	6.9	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.7	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9
Men	6.6	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.8	6.5	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.7
Women	7.3	6.2	6.5	6.4	6.3	7.0	6.5	6.6	6.3	6.0
Youth (aged 15 to 24)	25.0	20.0	20.3	20.6	19.8	23.7	20.6	20.2	19.8	18.2
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	5.7	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.2	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) - Provisional estimates.

Table 4: Inactive population and inactivity rate by sex and age group (16 to 74)

	Seasonally adjusted data				Not seasonally adjusted data					
	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)
					Thous	ands				
Inactive population	2,534.9	2,474.4	2,468.0	2,473.7	2,499.8	2,548.3	2,481.9	2,477.4	2,486.6	2,513.3
Men	1,096.5	1,051.0	1,050.5	1,056.3	1,073.7	1,100.5	1,062.3	1,061.1	1,066.4	1,077.9
Women	1,438.4	1,423.4	1,417.4	1,417.4	1,426.1	1,447.8	1,419.6	1,416.3	1,420.2	1,435.4
Youth (aged 15 to 24)	650.2	664.7	661.0	655.0	657.7	659.4	668.4	666.3	663.3	666.9
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	1,884.7	1,809.7	1,806.9	1,818.7	1,842.1	1,888.9	1,813.5	1,811.1	1,823.3	1,846.4
	%									
Inactivity rate	33.0	32.3	32.2	32.3	32.6	33.2	32.4	32.3	32.5	32.8
Men	29.9	28.8	28.8	28.9	29.4	30.0	29.1	29.1	29.2	29.5
Women	35.9	35.5	35.3	35.4	35.6	36.1	35.4	35.3	35.4	35.8
Youth (aged 15 to 24)	65.5	67.3	67.0	66.4	66.7	66.4	67.7	67.5	67.3	67.7
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	28.2	27.1	27.1	27.2	27.6	28.3	27.2	27.1	27.3	27.7

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) - Provisional estimates.



Table 5: Labour underutilisation and labour underutilisation rate (16 to 74)

	Seasonally adjusted data				Not seasonally adjusted data					
	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)	May 2021	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022 (p)
					Thous	sands				
Labour underutilisation	675.3	605.4	610.8	610.8	609.7	654.2	618.2	614.0	606.4	599.2
Unemployed population	357.0	301.2	306.7	307.7	314.1	345.7	308.4	308.0	304.4	302.8
Underemployed part- time workers	144.2	142.0	142.7	144.0	141.2	135.8	144.0	146.0	143.9	139.2
Persons seeking work but not immediately available	24.2	28.3	29.4	28.2	26.8	24.2	28.3	29.4	28.2	26.8
Persons available to work but not seeking	149.9	133.9	131.9	131.0	127.6	148.4	137.4	130.6	130.0	130.4
					9	6				
Labour underutilisation rate	12.7	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.5	12.3	11.6	11.5	11.4	11.3

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.



METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

The main purpose of the Labour Force Survey is to characterise the population in terms of the labour market. It is a quarterly sample survey, addressed to families occupying the same dwelling in the national territory, which makes available quarterly and annual data.

Most of the characteristics observed in this survey report to the situation in one pre-defined week (from Monday to Sunday), known as reference week. The reference weeks are uniformly distributed throughout the quarters and years. The interviews usually take place in the week following the reference week.

The information is obtained directly, through computer-assisted interview. Until the first fortnight of March 2020, the data were collected by using a mixed data collection mode: the initial interview is done face-to-face by an interviewer visiting the household and the other five interviews are done by telephone if certain requirements are met. Following the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures adopted by the competent authorities, Statistics Portugal has decided, as of that date and until further notice, to suspend the face-to-face collection mode, replacing it exclusively with the telephone interview one.

Published data were calibrated by using the population estimates calculated from the final results of Census 2011.

MONTLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

In 2014, Statistics Portugal initiated a monthly release of Labour Force Survey estimates for the main labour market indicators in addition to the usual quarterly estimates' releases.

With this initiative, Statistics Portugal intends to provide to users monthly updated information on labour market recent developments, allowing, at the same time, a more complete reading picture than that provided so far by Eurostat in its monthly releases of the unemployed population and unemployment rate estimates for Portugal. With this dissemination, Statistics Portugal also satisfies a specific requirement from the PEEIs (Principal European Economic Indicators).

Taking advantage of the continuous nature of the Labour Force Survey collection process, it is possible to monthly obtain estimates related to successive sets of three months (moving quarters), assuring consistency with the quarterly released estimates.

The monthly estimates refer to centred moving quarters, where the reference month (m) corresponds to the central month of each moving quarter. In fact, the reference month of each Press Release corresponds to the central month of the quarter composed by m-1, m and m+1 months. Therefore, the monthly changes are calculated on values that contain common months. Therefore, the comparison of moving quarters without common months should be done in relation to reference months three months earlier.



The option for disseminating centred moving quarters series aimed at avoiding delays in the detection of turning points in the economic cycle that arise from the use of simple moving averages, but it implies that the estimates for the latest released moving quarter are provisional (see "Revisions" section below).

As estimates of centred moving quarters, the values (not seasonally adjusted) of the reference months February, May, August and November of each year correspond to the estimates of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th natural quarters, respectively, whose results are published and analysed with greater detail in the quarterly releases of the Labour Force Survey estimates.

The estimates for the last reference month are always provisional, as they correspond to a moving quarter where for the third month the data collection is not completed yet. In fact, for the first two months (m-1 and m) the data collection from the Labour Force Survey is already completed, while for the third month (m+1) only partially collected data are available.

In this context, in each monthly Press Release the provisional estimates for the reference month and the revised estimates for the previous months are published, due the availability of complete information for the last moving quarter.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE

The data series selected for monthly releases refer to both employed and unemployed population, by sex and age group, and to the corresponding rates. In relation to these data series, it should be noted the following:

- Unless otherwise stated, the data series analysed in this Press Release are seasonally adjusted. For this reason, the analysis focuses on the comparison with the most recent periods. As agreed, Eurostat started using these estimates in its unemployment monthly releases. The original data series (not seasonally adjusted; as in the Statistics Portugal quarterly releases), are available in Tables of the annex.
- The indicators analysed in this Press Release were calculated for the age subgroup of those aged 16 to 74 (as in the Eurostat News Release), which differs from the criterion adopted at the Statistics Portugal quarterly releases (people aged 16 to 89, in line with the concepts in force of the International Labour Organization).

The back series for all the released and analysed indicators in this Press Release, since February 1998 (quarter from January to March 1998), are available at the Statistics Portugal website and the links to them can be found in the Excel file released together with this Press Release.

Due to rounding, totals may not correspond exactly to the sum of the parts.

REVISIONS

The monthly released data are subject to regular revisions, as previously mentioned. The revisions come from obtaining the final estimates for the previous reference month (moving quarter) due to the conclusion of its last month collection process. Therefore, in each Press Release the not seasonally adjusted final estimates for the previous reference month are published. In addition, are also presented the final estimates resulting from updating of the seasonally adjusted data series whenever a new observation is added.



Revision of April 2022 estimates (16 to 74) - main indicators -										
	Unit	Seasonally adjusted data	Not seasonally adjusted data							
Active population		3.7	2.2							
Employed population		- 3.5	- 1.5							
Unemployed population	Thousands	7.3	3.7							
Inactive population		- 3.7	- 2.2							
Labour underutilisation		12.4	8.2							
Employment rate		0.0	0.0							
Unemployment rate		0.1	0.1							
Men's unemployment rate		0.4	0.3							
Women's unemployment rate	рр	- 0.1	- 0.1							
Youth unemployment rate (16 to 24)		0.7	0.9							
Adults' unemployment rate (25 to 74)		0.1	0.1							
Labour underutilisation rate		0.2	0.2							

SOME CONCEPTS

Unemployed: person aged 16 and 74 who during the reference period met simultaneously the following conditions:

- neither had a job nor was at work;
- had actively sought work, i.e., had actively searched for a paid or unpaid job during the specified period (reference period or the three previous weeks); and
- was available for a paid or unpaid job.

Employed: person aged 16 to 89 who, during the reference period, was in one of the following situations:

- worked for at least one hour for a wage or salary, in cash or in kind (including unpaid family work);
- had a formal attachment to his/her job but was not at work temporarily;
- was in early retirement but working in the reference week.

Working age resident population: Resident population aged 16 to 89.

Active: person aged 16 to 89 who, during the reference period, furnish the supply of labour force for the production of economic goods and services (was employed or unemployed).

Labour force: population formed by all active persons.

Extended labour force: corresponds to the labour force enlarged by the inactive seeking work but not immediately available and the inactive available but not seeking work.



Labour underutilisation: indicator that aggregates the unemployed population, the underemployment of part-time workers, the inactive seeking work but not immediately available, and the inactive available but not seeking work.

Unemployment rate: rate that defines the relation between the unemployed population and the labour force.

U.R. (%) = (Unemployed population / Labour force) x 100

Employment rate: rate that defines the relation between the employed population and the working age population.

E.R. (%) = (Employed population / Working age population) x 100

Activity rate of the working age population: rate that defines the relation between the labour force and the working age population.

A.R. (%) = (Labour force / Working age population) x 100

Inactivity rate of the working age population: rate that defines the relation between the working age inactive population and the working age population.

I.R. (%) = (Working age inactive population / Working age population) x 100

Labour underutilisation rate: rate that defines the relation between the labour underutilisation and the extended labour force.

L.U.R. (%) = (Labour underutilisation / Extended labour force) x 100

For the indicators selected for monthly dissemination, it was considered the age subgroup of those aged 16 to 74.

Para For a more detailed definition of the concepts and methodological features of this statistical operation, consult the <u>Labour Force Survey</u> or the <u>Monthly Employment and Unemployment Estimates</u> methodological documents (both only in Portuguese) available at the Statistics Portugal website.

Next Press Release

29 July 2022: "Monthly Employment and Unemployment Statistics - June 2022".

01 August 2022: Eurostat News Release.