



## MAIN LABOUR FORCE SURVEY RESULTS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2013

### Main labour market data for the third quarter of 2013

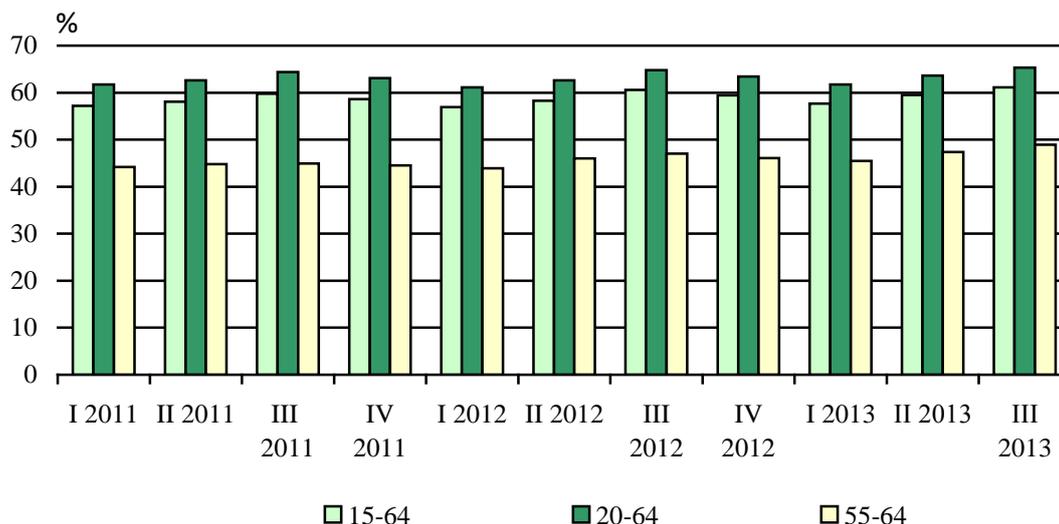
**The activity rate of population aged 15 - 64** was 69.6%, by 1.0 percentage point higher in comparison with the third quarter of 2012.

**The employment rate of population aged 15 - 64** was 61.1%, by 0.5 percentage points above its value for the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

**The unemployment rate** was 12.0%, by 0.5 percentage points higher compared to the same quarter of 2012.

**Discouraged persons aged 15 - 64** were 189.6 thousand, representing 12.8% of the total number of inactive persons in the same age group (1 475.8 thousand).

**Figure 1. Employment rate by age group and by quarter**



### Employment

In the third quarter of 2013 the total number of **employed persons aged 15 years and over** was 3 012.9 thousand, representing 48.2% of population in the same age group. In comparison with the same quarter of 2012 the number of employed was lower by 4.2 thousand, but their relative share was by 0.3 percentage points higher. From all persons in employment in the third quarter of 2013, 1 592.3 thousand (52.8%) were men and 1 420.7 thousand (47.2%) were women.

Employed who had attained tertiary education were 891.8 thousand, representing 29.6% of all in employment, 1 791.6 thousand (59.5%) had completed upper secondary education and 329.6 thousand (10.9%) had lower secondary education or less, and compared with the third quarter of 2012 the structure of employed by education remained almost the same.

Of total number of working population 3.8% (115.9 thousand) were employers, 8.0% (241.2 thousand) were own account workers (without employees), 87.4% (2 634.4 thousand) were employees and 0.7% (21.5 thousand) were unpaid family workers. In the private sector



worked 1 928.6 thousand (73.2%) of all employees and 705.8 thousand (26.8%) employees were in public sector.

For 6.8% of employees (for 6.5% of those in private sector and for 7.6% of those in public sector) the job was temporary. As compared with the third quarter of 2012 the share of employees having temporary employment increased by 0.7 percentage points.

In services worked 1 894.6 thousand (62.9%) of all employed persons, in industry worked 894.6 thousand (29.7%), and 223.7 thousand (7.4%) were engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing.

In the third quarter of 2013 the employment in particular age groups was as follows:

**Employed persons aged 15 - 64 years** were 2 965.0 thousand. The employment rate for this age group was 61.1%, 63.9 and 58.3% for men and women respectively.

**The employment rate for age group 15 - 29** was 38.7%, 42.7% for men and 34.5% for women.

**The employment rate for age group 20 - 64** was 65.3%, by 0.5 percentage point higher than in the same quarter of 2012. This rate went up by 0.7 percentage points for men and by 0.3 percentage points for women, standing at 68.3 and 62.2% respectively.

**Employed aged 55 - 64 years** were 506.2 thousand, representing 48.9% of population in the same age group. In comparison with the third quarter of 2012 the employment rate (55 - 64 years) rose by 1.9 percentage points, by 1.4 percentage points for men and by 2.3 percentage points for women.

## Unemployment

In the third quarter of 2013 there were 411.6 thousand **unemployed persons**, and the **unemployment rate** was 12.0%. In comparison with the third quarter of 2012 the number of unemployed increased by 4.7%, and the unemployment rate rose by 0.5 percentage points.

The increase of unemployment in the period concerned affected only women. The female unemployment rate went up from 10.1 to 11.3%, but remained still lower than the male unemployment rate (12.6%). Of the total number of unemployed in the third quarter of 2013, 230.3 thousand (56.0%) were men and 181.3 thousand (44.0%) were women.

Among all unemployed 15.1% had completed tertiary education, 55.8% had upper secondary education and 29.1% were with lower secondary education or less.

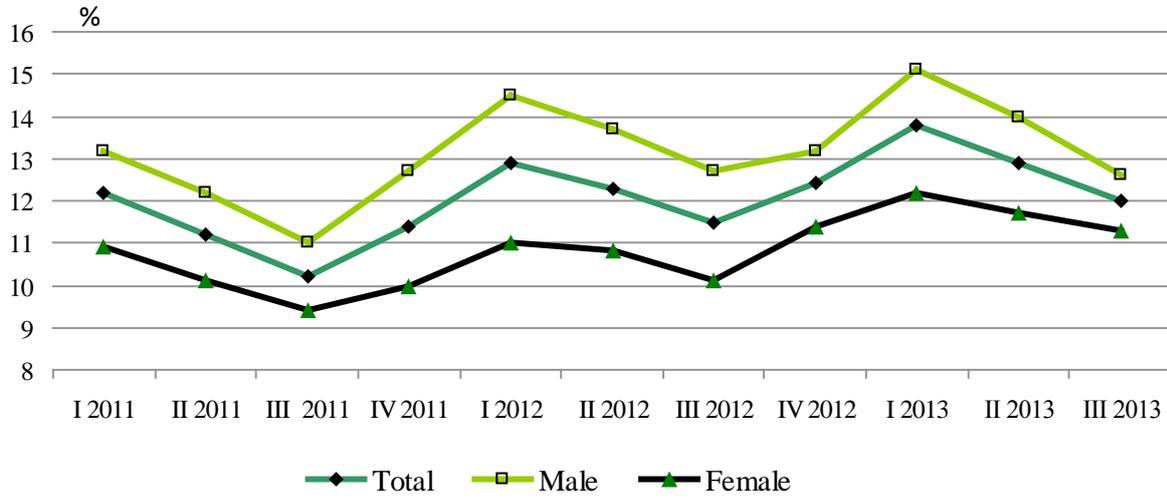
**Long-term unemployed (one year and over)** were 243.0 thousand persons, representing 59.0% of all unemployed. The share of long-term unemployed increased by 2.6 percentage points as compared with same quarter of previous year. **The long-term unemployment rate** rose by 0.6 percentage points and stood at 7.1%, 7.5% for men and 6.6% for women.

The number and the proportion of unemployed with previous employment experience increased from 323.3 thousand (82.2%) in the third quarter of 2012 to 345.5 thousand (83.9%) in the third quarter of 2013, while the number of unemployed looking for a first job declined to 66.1 thousand (16.1%).

In the third quarter of 2013 **the unemployment rate for the age group 15 - 29** was 19.9%, 20.5% and 19.0% for men and women respectively. In comparison with the same quarter of 2012 r. it was by 1.0 percentage point higher, and the increase referred mainly to women.



**Figure 2. Unemployment rate by sex and by quarter**





## Methodological notes

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a continuous sample survey providing quarterly and annual data on the economic activity of the population aged 15 and over. The survey covers non-institutional households.

**Reference period** - the characteristics of each interviewee refer to his/her status during a defined calendar week.

**Economically active population** (labour force) comprises all employed and unemployed persons.

**Employed** are persons aged 15 and over who during the reference period:

- performed some work for at least one hour for pay in cash or in kind or other income;
- did not work but had a job or an enterprise, a business from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, annual leave, full-paid maternity leave, parental leave, strike or another labour dispute, etc.

**Unemployed** are persons aged 15 to 74 who:

- did not work at all during the reference period;
- were actively seeking work within the preceding four weeks, including the reference one or have found a new job or business that is expected to start within 3 months following the reference period;
- were available to start working within two weeks following the reference period.

**Long-term unemployed** are persons who have been unemployed for one or more years.

**Inactive population** (persons not in the labour force) includes persons aged 15 and over who were neither employed, nor unemployed during the reference period.

**Discouraged persons** are persons not in the labour force who want to work but they do not actively look for a job, because they do not believe they will find one.

**Activity rate** - ratio between the economically active population and the total population of the same age group.

**Employment rate** - ratio between the employed population and the total population of the same age group.

**Unemployment rate** - ratio between the unemployed persons and the economically active population.

**Long-term unemployment rate** - ratio between the long-term unemployed persons and the economically active population.

The distribution of the employed persons by economic sector is done in accordance with the Classification of Economic Activities - 2008.

**For the weighting of the results of the survey for the third quarter of 2013 the current population estimates as of 30 June 2013 for the population living in non-institutional households were used.**



Like all sample surveys data from the Labour Force Survey are subject of errors due to the sample (stochastic errors). The calculated relative standard errors for the main LFS indicators for the third quarter of 2013 are as follows:

- total number of employed - 1.5%;
- total number of unemployed - 3.3%;
- unemployment rate - 3.0%.

Because of the rounding of the figures some of the totals (rows and columns) are not equal to the sum of the components.

More detailed data from the Labour Force Survey could be found on the NSI website [www.nsi.bg](http://www.nsi.bg), section “Labour Market”, Labour Force Survey.



Appendix

Table 1

Main labour market indicators, third quarter of 2012 and 2013

	Third quarter 2012	Third quarter 2013	Change (Third quarter 2013 minus Third quarter 2012)
<b>Total</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	68.6	69.6	1.0
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	3017.1	3012.9	-4.2
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	2978.4	2965.0	-13.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	200.6	176.7	-23.9
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	521.8	486.0	-35.8
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	2961.1	2953.8	-7.3
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	492.5	506.2	13.7
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	47.9	48.2	0.3
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	60.6	61.1	0.5
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	24.8	23.0	-1.8
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	40.3	38.7	-1.6
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	64.8	65.3	0.5
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	47.0	48.9	1.9
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	393.2	411.6	18.4
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	392.3	409.0	16.7
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	65.3	64.7	-0.6
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	121.6	120.6	-1.0
Unemployment rate - %	11.5	12.0	0.5
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	11.6	12.1	0.5
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	24.6	26.8	2.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	18.9	19.9	1.0
Long-term unemployment rate - %	6.5	7.1	0.6
Discouraged persons - thousands	212.1	192.2	-19.9
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - thousands	210.0	189.6	-20.4

**Main labour market indicators, third quarter of 2012 and 2013**

(Continued)

	<b>Third quarter 2012</b>	<b>Third quarter 2013</b>	<b>Change (Third quarter 2013 minus Third quarter 2012)</b>
<b>Male</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	72.5	73.3	0.8
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1584.6	1592.3	7.7
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1560.3	1560.7	0.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	117.7	98.6	-19.1
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	294.4	275.7	-18.7
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	1551.8	1553.4	1.6
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	256.2	261.0	4.8
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	52.3	52.9	0.6
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	63.1	63.9	0.8
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	28.3	25.0	-3.3
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	44.1	42.7	-1.4
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	67.6	68.3	0.7
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	52.0	53.4	1.4
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	231.5	230.3	-1.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	231.1	229.1	-2.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	42.3	42.4	0.1
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	75.3	71.2	-4.1
Unemployment rate - %	12.7	12.6	-0.1
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	12.9	12.8	-0.1
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	26.4	30.1	3.7
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	20.4	20.5	0.1
Long-term unemployment rate - %	7.2	7.5	0.3
Discouraged persons - thousands	116.5	109.7	-6.8
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - thousands	115.3	108.8	-6.5



## Main labour market indicators, third quarter of 2012 and 2013

(Continued and end)

	Third quarter 2012	Third quarter 2013	Change (Third quarter 2013 minus Third quarter 2012)
<b>Female</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	64.6	49.5	-15.1
Employed persons aged 15 and over - thousands	1432.5	1420.7	-11.8
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	1418.0	1404.3	-13.7
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	82.9	78.1	-4.8
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	227.4	210.3	-17.1
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - thousands	1409.3	1400.5	-8.8
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - thousands	236.3	245.3	9.0
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	43.9	43.9	0.0
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	58.0	58.3	0.3
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	21.0	20.9	-0.1
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	36.1	34.5	-1.6
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	61.9	62.2	0.3
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	42.6	44.9	2.3
Unemployed persons - total - thousands	161.8	181.3	19.5
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - thousands	161.2	179.9	18.7
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - thousands	23.0	22.3	-0.7
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - thousands	46.3	49.5	3.2
Unemployment rate - %	10.1	11.3	1.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	10.2	11.4	1.2
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	21.7	22.2	0.5
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	16.9	19.0	2.1
Long-term unemployment rate - %	5.7	6.6	0.9
Discouraged persons - thousands	95.6	82.4	-13.2
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - thousands	94.7	80.8	-13.9