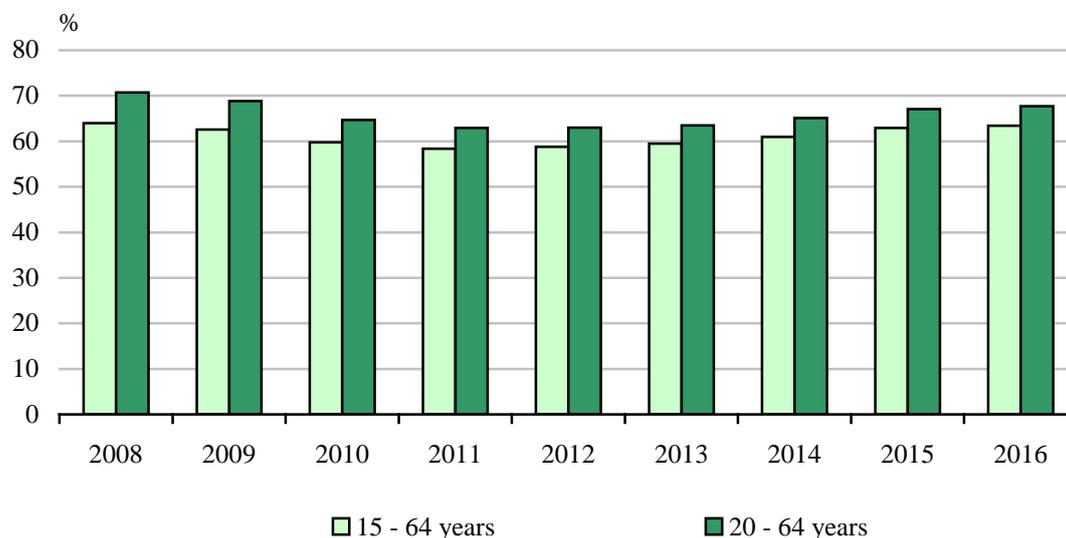




LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2016 MAIN RESULTS

- In 2016 the number of **economically active population aged 15 - 64** was 3 199.6 thousand and represented 68.7% of population in the same age group. The activity rate (15 - 64 years) went down by 0.6 percentage points compared to 2015.
- The **total number of employed persons** was 3 016.8 thousand, representing 49.3% of population aged 15 and over.
- There were 2 954.3 thousand **employed persons aged 15 - 64**. The **employment rate for the same age group** was 63.4% (66.7% for men and 60.0% for women).
- The **employment rate for the age group 20 - 64 years** was 67.7%, by 0.6 percentage points higher compared to 2015. The employment rate (20 - 64 years) increased by 0.9 percentage points for men and by 0.2 percentage points for women, achieving 71.3% and 64.0% respectively.

Figure 1. Employment rates by age group

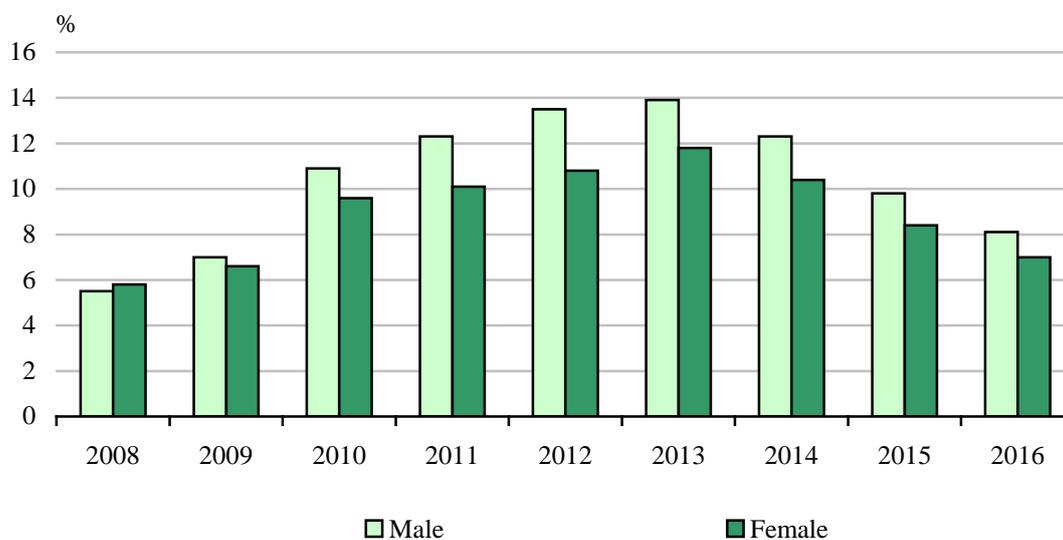


- The **employment rate for people aged 55 - 64** was 54.5%. In comparison with 2015 it registered an increase of 1.5 percentage points, the same for men and for women.
- There were 247.2 thousand **unemployed persons**, of whom 141.7 thousand were men and 105.6 thousand were women. From 2015 the number of unemployed persons has declined by 19.0%.



- **The unemployment rate** went down by 1.5 percentage points in comparison with 2015 and stood at 7.6%. Over the same period the unemployment rate decreased by 1.7 percentage points for men and by 1.4 percentage points for women, achieving 8.1% and 7.0% respectively.

Figure 2. Unemployment rates by sex



- **The unemployment rate for the age group 15 - 24 years** was 17.2%, and for the **age group 15 - 29 years** - 12.2%. Compared to 2015 the unemployment rates for these age groups declined by 4.4 percentage points and 2.2 percentage points respectively,
- The number of **long-term unemployed persons** was 146.1 thousand, representing 59.1% of all unemployed. **The long-term unemployment rate** was 4.5% (4.8% for men and 4.1% for women).
- The number of **economically inactive persons aged 15 - 64** was 1 459.2 thousand, of whom 641.5 thousand men and 817.7 thousand women. **The inactivity rate (15 - 64 years)** was 31.3% (27.3% for men and 35.4% for women).
- The number of **discouraged persons aged 15 - 64** was 163.4 thousand.
- The share of **early leavers from education and training** of population aged 18 - 24 was 13.8%.
- The share of population **aged 30 - 34, having completed tertiary education** was 33.8%.



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 of 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 work within two weeks following the reference period.

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

Economically 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 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.

Inactivity rate - ratio between the economically inactive population and the total population of the same age group.

Early leavers from education and training - persons aged 18 to 24 having attained lower secondary education as a highest and not received any education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey.



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Average annual data are calculated as average of the four quarters of the respective year.

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/en, section 'Labour Market', Labour Force Survey.



Annex

Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2015 and 2016

| | 2015 | 2016 | Change (2016 minus 2015) |
|--|--------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Total | | | |
| Activity rate (15 - 64) - % | 69.3 | 68.7 | -0.6 |
| Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands | 3031.9 | 3016.8 | -15.1 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands | 2973.5 | 2954.3 | -19.2 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands | 143.2 | 133.4 | -9.8 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands | 465.9 | 440.3 | -25.6 |
| Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands | 2963.2 | 2943.0 | -20.2 |
| Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands | 530.1 | 536.5 | 6.4 |
| Employment rate (15 and over) - % | 49.1 | 49.3 | 0.2 |
| Employment rate (15 - 64) - % | 62.9 | 63.4 | 0.5 |
| Employment rate (15 - 24) - % | 20.3 | 19.8 | -0.5 |
| Employment rate (15 - 29) - % | 39.2 | 38.3 | -0.9 |
| Employment rate (20 - 64) - % | 67.1 | 67.7 | 0.6 |
| Employment rate (55 - 64) - % | 53.0 | 54.5 | 1.5 |
| Unemployed persons - total - in thousands | 305.1 | 247.2 | -57.9 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands | 302.5 | 245.3 | -57.2 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands | 39.6 | 27.7 | -11.9 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands | 78.4 | 61.4 | -17.0 |
| Unemployment rate - % | 9.1 | 7.6 | -1.5 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - % | 9.2 | 7.7 | -1.5 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - % | 21.6 | 17.2 | -4.4 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - % | 14.4 | 12.2 | -2.2 |
| Long-term unemployment rate - % | 5.6 | 4.5 | -1.1 |
| Discouraged persons - in thousands | 172.9 | 165.8 | -7.1 |
| Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands | 170.0 | 163.4 | -6.6 |



Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2015 and 2016

(Continued)

| | 2015 | 2016 | Change (2016 minus 2015) |
|--|--------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Male | | | |
| Activity rate (15 - 64) - % | 73.2 | 72.7 | -0.5 |
| Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands | 1607.5 | 1607.6 | 0.1 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands | 1571.7 | 1569.3 | -2.4 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands | 86.9 | 80.1 | -6.8 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands | 265.0 | 254.9 | -10.1 |
| Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands | 1565.6 | 1562.5 | -3.1 |
| Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands | 269.5 | 273.1 | 3.6 |
| Employment rate (15 and over) - % | 54.1 | 54.6 | 0.5 |
| Employment rate (15 - 64) - % | 65.9 | 66.7 | 0.8 |
| Employment rate (15 - 24) - % | 24.0 | 23.1 | -0.9 |
| Employment rate (15 - 29) - % | 43.4 | 43.2 | -0.2 |
| Employment rate (20 - 64) - % | 70.4 | 71.3 | 0.9 |
| Employment rate (55 - 64) - % | 56.8 | 58.3 | 1.5 |
| Unemployed persons - total - in thousands | 174.2 | 141.7 | -32.5 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands | 172.6 | 140.5 | -32.1 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands | 23.4 | 16.9 | -6.5 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands | 46.4 | 39.1 | -7.3 |
| Unemployment rate - % | 9.8 | 8.1 | -1.7 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - % | 9.9 | 8.2 | -1.7 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - % | 21.2 | 17.4 | -3.8 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - % | 14.9 | 13.3 | -1.6 |
| Long-term unemployment rate - % | 6.1 | 4.8 | -1.3 |
| Discouraged persons - in thousands | 93.7 | 91.5 | -2.2 |
| Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands | 92.2 | 90.2 | -2.0 |



Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2015 and 2016

(Continued and end)

| | 2015 | 2016 | Change (2016 minus 2015) |
|--|--------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Female | | | |
| Activity rate (15 - 64) - % | 65.4 | 64.6 | -0.8 |
| Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands | 1424.3 | 1409.2 | -15.1 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands | 1401.8 | 1385.0 | -16.8 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands | 56.4 | 53.3 | -3.1 |
| Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands | 200.9 | 185.4 | -15.5 |
| Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands | 1397.5 | 1380.5 | -17.0 |
| Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands | 260.6 | 263.4 | 2.8 |
| Employment rate (15 and over) - % | 44.5 | 44.3 | -0.2 |
| Employment rate (15 - 64) - % | 59.8 | 60.0 | 0.2 |
| Employment rate (15 - 24) - % | 16.5 | 16.3 | -0.2 |
| Employment rate (15 - 29) - % | 34.8 | 33.2 | -1.6 |
| Employment rate (20 - 64) - % | 63.8 | 64.0 | 0.2 |
| Employment rate (55 - 64) - % | 49.5 | 51.0 | 1.5 |
| Unemployed persons - total - in thousands | 130.9 | 105.6 | -25.3 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands | 129.9 | 104.7 | -25.2 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands | 16.1 | 10.9 | -5.2 |
| Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands | 32.0 | 22.3 | -9.7 |
| Unemployment rate - % | 8.4 | 7.0 | -1.4 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - % | 8.5 | 7.0 | -1.5 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - % | 22.3 | 16.9 | -5.4 |
| Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - % | 13.8 | 10.8 | -3.0 |
| Long-term unemployment rate - % | 5.0 | 4.1 | -0.9 |
| Discouraged persons - in thousands | 79.1 | 74.3 | -4.8 |
| Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands | 77.8 | 73.2 | -4.6 |