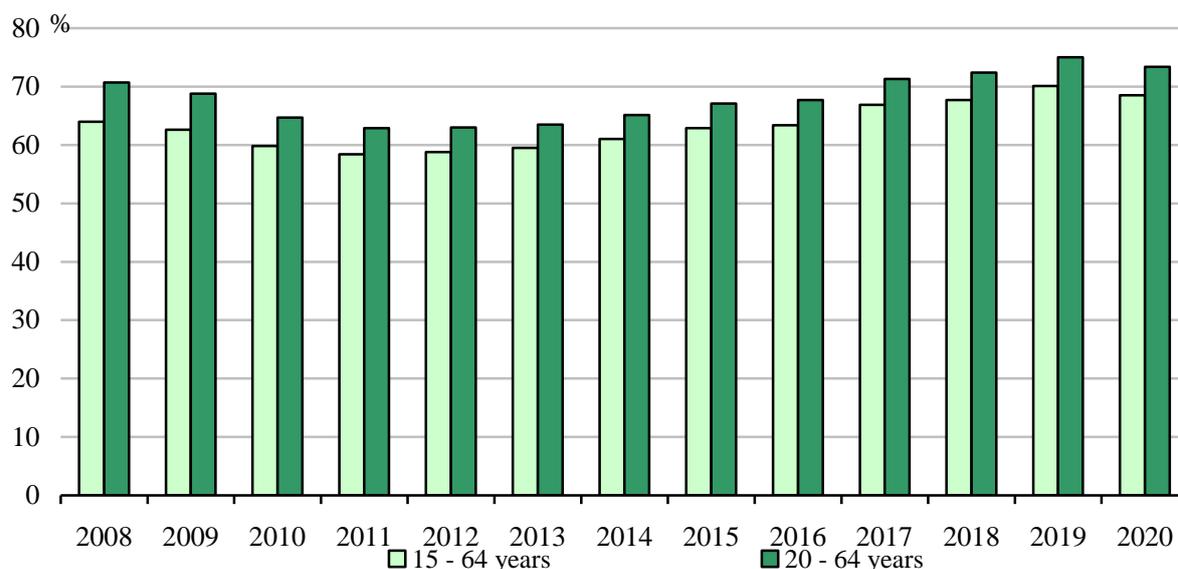


## LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2020 MAIN RESULTS

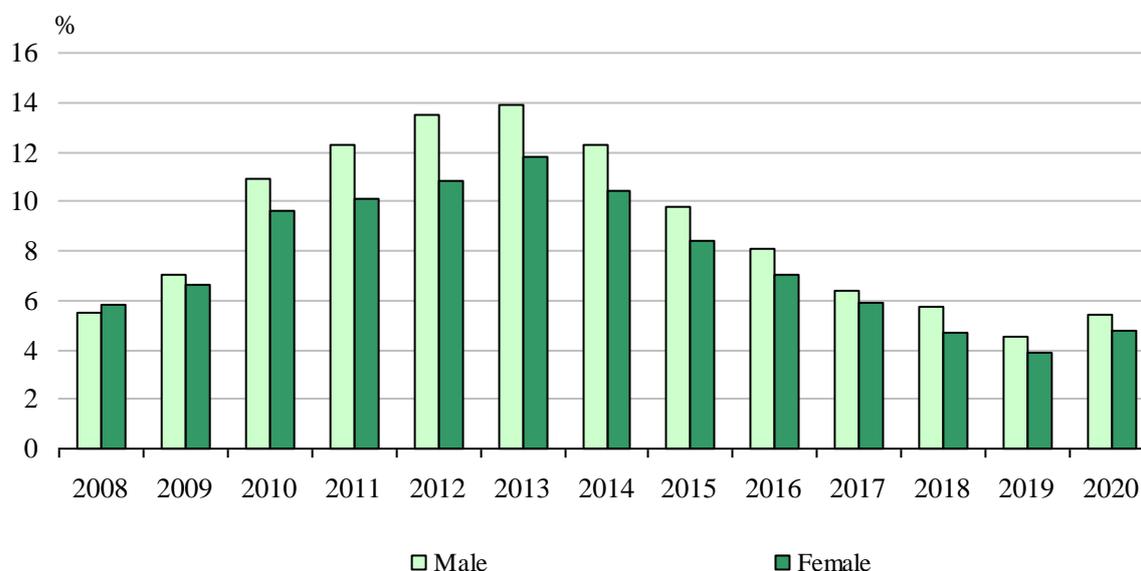
- In 2020 the number of **economically active population aged 15 - 64** was 3 190.4 thousand and represented 72.2% of population in the same age group.
- The **total number of employed persons** was 3 121.7 thousand, representing 52.7% of population aged 15 and over. Of them 1 676.1 thousand (53.7%) were men and 1 445.6 thousand (46.3%) were women.
- There were 3 024.3 thousand **employed persons aged 15 - 64**. The **employment rate for the same age group** was 68.5% (72.5% for men and 64.3% for women).
- **The employment rate for the age group 20 - 64 years** was 73.4%, by 1.6 percentage points lower compared to 2019. The employment rate (20 - 64 years) decreased by 1.5 percentage points for men and by 1.8 percentage points for women, achieving 77.8% and 68.9% respectively.

**Figure 1. Employment rates by age group**



- **The employment rate for people aged 55 - 64** achieved 64.2% (69.4% for men and 59.4% for women). In comparison with 2019 it decreased by 0.2 percentage points. The employment rate for this age group increased by 0.2 percentage points for men and decreased by 0.5 percentage points for women.
- There were 168.6 thousand **unemployed persons**, of whom 96.3 thousand men and 72.3 thousand women. Compared to 2019 the number of unemployed persons has increased by 18.1%.
- **The unemployment rate** went up by 0.9 percentage points in comparison with 2019 and stood at 5.1% (5.4% for men and 4.8% for women).

Figure 2. Unemployment rates by sex



- **The unemployment rate for the age group 15 - 29 years** was 8.8%. Compared to 2019 the unemployment rate for this age group increased by 1.9 percentage points.
- The number of **unemployed persons, being unemployed for less than one year** has increased by 30.9 thousand (representing a 50.0% increase) compared to 2019, reaching 92.7 thousand. The number of **long-term unemployed** (unemployed for one or more years) registered a decrease by 5.1 thousand and stood at 75.9 thousand. The long-term unemployed represented 45.0% out of all unemployed persons. **The long-term unemployment rate** was 2.3% (2.6% for men and 2.0% for women).
- There were 1 226.7 thousand **economically inactive persons aged 15 - 64**, of whom 519.1 thousand men and 707.6 thousand women. **The inactivity rate (15 - 64 years)** was 27.8% (23.2% for men and 32.4% for women).
- The number of **discouraged persons aged 15 - 64** was 61.7 thousand representing 5.0% of the economically inactive population in this age group.
- The proportion of **early leavers from education and training** of population aged 18 - 24 was 12.8% (compared to 13.9% in 2019).
- The proportion of **population aged 30 - 34, having completed tertiary education** was 33.3%, by 0.8 percentage points higher than in 2019.
- The proportion of **young people aged 15 - 29 neither in employment nor in education and training** was 18.1% (compared to 16.7% in 2019).

## 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 from 18 to 24 having attained lower secondary education as a highest and not received any (formal or non-formal) education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey.

**People neither in employment nor in education or training (NEET)** are those who were not employed during the reference period (i.e. were unemployed or economically inactive) and in the same time did not receive any (formal or non-formal) education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey.

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](http://www.nsi.bg/en), section 'Labour Market', Labour Force Survey.

Annex

Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2019 and 2020

	2019	2020	Change (2020 minus 2019)
<b>Total</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	73.2	72.2	-1.0
Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands	3233.1	3121.7	-111.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	3136.3	3024.3	-112.0
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	134.6	115.0	-19.6
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	432.5	381.2	-51.3
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands	3121.2	3014.7	-106.5
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands	613.9	605.1	-8.8
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	54.2	52.7	-1.5
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	70.1	68.5	-1.6
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	21.8	18.8	-3.0
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	42.1	38.5	-3.6
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	75.0	73.4	-1.6
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	64.4	64.2	-0.2
Unemployed persons - total - in thousands	142.8	168.6	25.8
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	140.1	166.1	26.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	13.1	19.1	6.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	31.9	36.7	4.8
Unemployment rate - %	4.2	5.1	0.9
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	4.3	5.2	0.9
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	8.9	14.2	5.3
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	6.9	8.8	1.9
Long-term unemployment rate - %	2.4	2.3	-0.1
Discouraged persons - in thousands	63.8	63.9	0.1
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands	61.7	61.7	0.0

Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2019 and 2020

(Continued)

	2019	2020	Change (2020 minus 2019)
<b>Male</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	77.6	76.8	-0.8
Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands	1732.1	1676.1	-56.0
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	1674.8	1619.2	-55.6
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	79.3	68.1	-11.2
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	248.7	219.8	-28.9
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands	1664.8	1613.0	-51.8
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands	316.7	314.7	-2.0
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	60.5	59.1	-1.4
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	74.1	72.5	-1.6
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	25.0	21.7	-3.3
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	47.2	43.3	-3.9
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	79.3	77.8	-1.5
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	69.2	69.4	0.2
Unemployed persons - total - in thousands	82.3	96.3	14.0
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	80.5	94.7	14.2
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	8.1	11.6	3.5
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	20.1	22.2	2.1
Unemployment rate - %	4.5	5.4	0.9
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	4.6	5.5	0.9
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	9.3	14.6	5.3
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	7.5	9.2	1.7
Long-term unemployment rate - %	2.6	2.6	0.0
Discouraged persons - in thousands	33.1	33.9	0.8
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands	31.6	32.7	1.1

Table 1

Main labour market indicators, 2019 and 2020

(Continued and end)

	2019	2020	Change (2020 minus 2019)
<b>Female</b>			
Activity rate (15 - 64) - %	68.7	67.6	-1.1
Employed persons aged 15 and over - in thousands	1501.1	1445.6	-55.5
Employed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	1461.5	1405.1	-56.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	55.3	46.9	-8.4
Employed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	183.8	161.4	-22.4
Employed persons aged 20 - 64 - in thousands	1456.5	1401.8	-54.7
Employed persons aged 55 - 64 - in thousands	297.2	290.4	-6.8
Employment rate (15 and over) - %	48.3	46.9	-1.4
Employment rate (15 - 64) - %	66.0	64.3	-1.7
Employment rate (15 - 24) - %	18.4	15.7	-2.7
Employment rate (15 - 29) - %	36.7	33.4	-3.3
Employment rate (20 - 64) - %	70.7	68.9	-1.8
Employment rate (55 - 64) - %	59.9	59.4	-0.5
Unemployed persons - total - in thousands	60.5	72.3	11.8
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 64 - in thousands	59.6	71.4	11.8
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 24 - in thousands	5.0	7.4	2.4
Unemployed persons aged 15 - 29 - in thousands	11.8	14.5	2.7
Unemployment rate - %	3.9	4.8	0.9
Unemployment rate (15 - 64) - %	3.9	4.8	0.9
Unemployment rate (15 - 24) - %	8.3	13.7	5.4
Unemployment rate (15 - 29) - %	6.0	8.3	2.3
Long-term unemployment rate - %	2.2	2.0	-0.2
Discouraged persons - in thousands	30.7	30.0	-0.7
Discouraged persons (15 - 64) - in thousands	30.1	29.0	-1.1