



**27,1% OF THOSE UNEMPLOYED IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER OF 2021 MOVED INTO EMPLOYMENT IN THE 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER OF 2021. BETWEEN 2020 AND 2021 THIS PROPORTION WAS 48,8%.**

In this Press Release, Statistics Portugal starts the autonomous release of quarterly labour market flow statistics and begins to disseminate statistics on annual flows.

**In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021**

Out of all those persons who were unemployed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, 52.8% (168.2 thousand) remained in that state in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021, 27.1% (86.5 thousand) moved into employment and 20.1% (64.0 thousand) moved into inactivity.

Approximately one in three short-term unemployed (32.7%; 54.0 thousand) and one in six persons belonging to the “potential workforce” (17.4%; 31.2 thousand) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2021 moved into employment in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

In the same period, 9.9% (72.9 thousand) of all those persons who were self-employed in the previous quarter became employee. On the other hand, 1.9% (77.7 thousand) of all employees changed to self-employment.

One in five employees who, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, had a temporary work contract or other contractual arrangement moved into a permanent work contract in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021 (20.3%; 143.2 thousand).

Considering the number of persons who remained employed between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021, 3.6% (168.4 thousand) changed job.

**In 2021**

Of all unemployed throughout 2020, 31.3% (109.6 thousand) remained in that state one year later (in 2021), while 48.8% (171.3 thousand) moved into employment and 19.9% (69.9 thousand) changed to inactivity.

Among the short-term unemployed in 2020, 57.2% (133.8 thousand) moved into employment within a year (in 2021). At the same time, 32.1% (37.5 thousand) of those unemployed for 12 or more months changed to employment.

From 2020 to 2021, the percentage of persons who were self-employed and became employee was 10.5% (69.4 thousand).

In the same period, 35.6% (253.8 thousand) of employees who had a temporary work contract or other contractual arrangement moved to a permanent work contract.



Out of all those workers who, in 2020, had a part-time work, 27.6% (103.8 thousand) moved to full-time work in 2021.

## 1. Introduction

Statistics Portugal starts to publish in this Press Release the statistics on quarterly flows between labour market states (employment, unemployment, and inactivity) of the population aged 16 to 89, which, up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, were published in the (quarterly) Press Release “Employment Statistics”. These statistics are calculated based on a methodology in line with the conceptual changes introduced at the beginning of 2021 (as described in the note attached to the [Press Release](#) of 12 May 2021) and cover the period from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2011 to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

In addition, Statistics Portugal begins the dissemination of annual flows series for the period from 2011 to 2021. This is a new statistical product that aims to quantify the transitions that took place in the interval of one year between employment, unemployment, and inactivity, for the population aged 16 to 89.

The underlying methodology of quarterly and annual flows (see Technical Note) allows the dissemination of gross flows (total of movements between states) and net flows (difference between the total of persons entering and leaving each state), as well as the transitions between states as a percentage of the initial state.

It should be noted that, while the quarterly flow results from the comparison of the reference quarter with the previous one, the annual flow corresponds to the average of the four flows that result from the comparison of each quarter of the reference year with the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

This Press Release also disseminates quarterly and annual flows of the employed population by professional status (employee and self-employed), permanency of the job (permanent and temporary or other contractual arrangement) and full-time and part-time workers and employees. It also includes quarterly and annual flows to employment from the subgroups of duration of unemployment (short-term and long-term unemployment, *i.e.*, 12 months or over), as well as the flows between employment and type of inactivity (“potential workforce” and “other inactivity”). Statistics Portugal also provides information on job-to-job transitions.

This Press Release is divided into two sections: in the first, the quarterly flows corresponding to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021 are presented (transitions between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021) in line with what was published in the Press Release “Employment Statistics” between the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2006 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021; in the second, the flows of 2021 are presented (transitions between 2020 and 2021), as well as some analyzes since 2011. The retrospective information, compatible with the 2011 series, is presented in tables attached to the Press Release and on the Statistics Portugal website.

## 2. Quarterly flows

Out of all those persons who were employed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, 96.0% (4,684.1 thousand, as in Table 1 in the annex) remained in that state in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021, while 1.3% (62.7 thousand) moved into unemployment and 2.7% (131.3 thousand) changed into inactivity.

At the same time, 52.8% (168.2 thousand) of all unemployed remained unemployed, while 27.1% (86.5 thousand) moved to employment and 20.1% (64.0 thousand) to inactivity. As a result, the net flow of employment (that is, total inflows minus total outflows) was less than 1,000 persons, meaning that the employed population remained practically unchanged from the previous quarter.

On the other hand, the net flow of unemployment was positive and estimated at 11.9 thousand persons (as the quarterly variation of the unemployed population), which results from the total of persons who moved into unemployment (162.4 thousand) having been higher than the total number of those who left that state (150.5 thousand).

Diagram 1. Quarterly labour market flows  
(thousand persons)

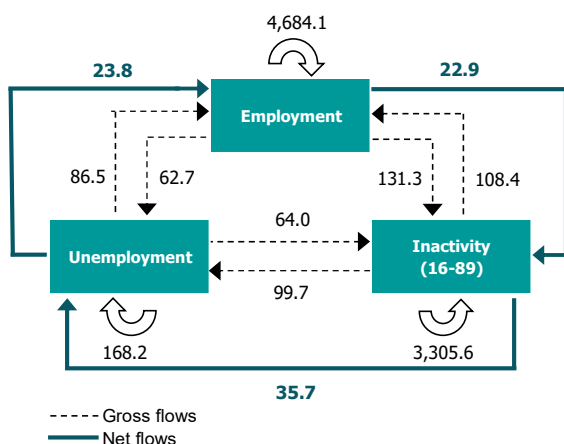
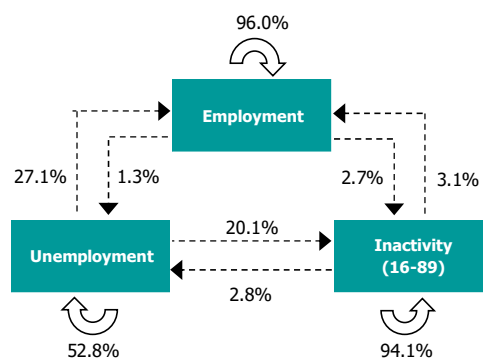


Diagram 2. Quarterly labour market flows  
(in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

In order to quantify the transitions from unemployment and inactivity to employment, the unemployed and inactive population were divided, each, into two groups: short-term unemployment (less than 12 months) and long-term unemployment (12 or more months); inactivity in “potential work force”, composed by the two types of inactive persons that are closer to the labour market because they fulfill one of the two criteria necessary for inclusion in the unemployed population (active job search or availability to start working) and “other inactivity”, which aggregates the remaining inactive persons.

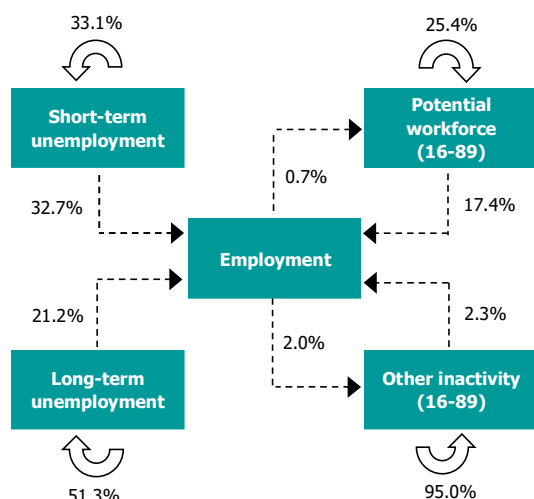
Diagram 3 shows that approximately one in three short-term unemployed (32.7%) and one in six persons belonging to the “potential workforce” (17.4%) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021 changed into employment in the 4<sup>th</sup>



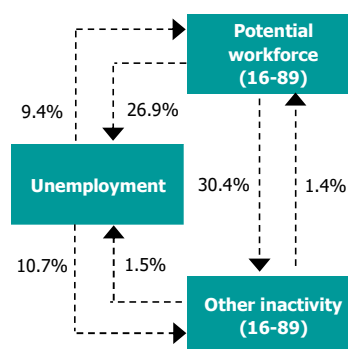
quarter of 2021. In the same period, 21.2% of the long-term unemployed and 2.3% of other inactive also moved into employment.

According to Diagram 4, 26.9% of all those in the “potential workforce” in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021 moved into unemployment in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021. Those are persons who, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, did not actively search for a job or did not show availability to start working in the reference week or in the following two weeks if they had found a job and who, in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021, began to fulfil both criteria (active search and availability to start working), thus integrating the unemployed population.

**Diagram 3. Quarterly flows between employment, duration of unemployment and type of inactivity (in % of initial status)**



**Diagram 4. Quarterly flows between unemployment and type of inactivity (in % of initial status)**



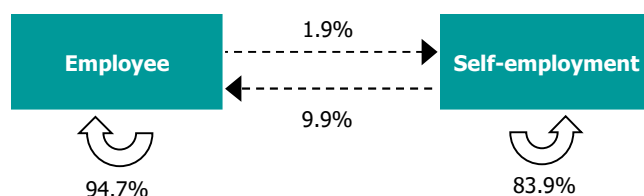
Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

It should also be noted that 30.4% of those who were in the “potential workforce” in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021 moved to the “other inactivity” in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the same year, which means that they no longer actively search for a job or are available to start working in the reference period, thus staying further away from the labour market.

Diagram 5 shows that, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021, 9.9% (72.9 thousand) of those self-employed became employee.

In the same period, 1.9% (77.7 thousand) of those who were employee moved to self-employment.

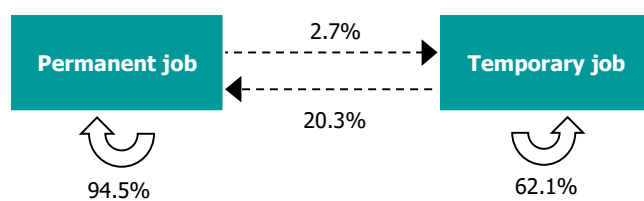
Diagram 5. Quarterly flows by professional status (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

Of all employees that had a temporary job or other contractual arrangement in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, 20.3% moved to a permanent work contract in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

Diagram 6. Quarterly flows by permanency of the job (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

**Notes:**

Permanent job - employees with a permanent job or work contract of unlimited duration.

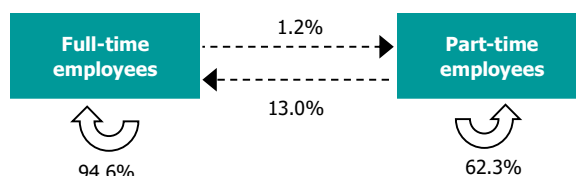
Temporary job - employees with a temporary job or other contractual arrangement of limited duration.

From the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021, 19.0% (71.9 thousand) of all workers with a part-time job moved to a full-time job. At the same time, 13.0% (31.5 thousand) of all employees with a part-time job changed to a full-time job.

Diagram 7. Quarterly flows between full-time and part-time workers (in % of initial status)



Diagram 8. Quarterly flows between full-time and part-time employees (in % of initial status)

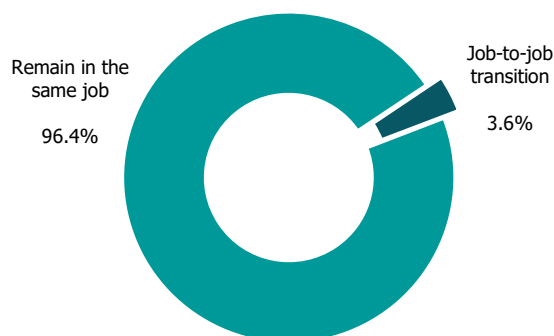


Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.



Considering the total of persons who remained in employment between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021, 3.6% (168.4 thousand) changed job<sup>1</sup>, 1.0 percentage points (pp) higher from the previous quarter and from a year earlier.

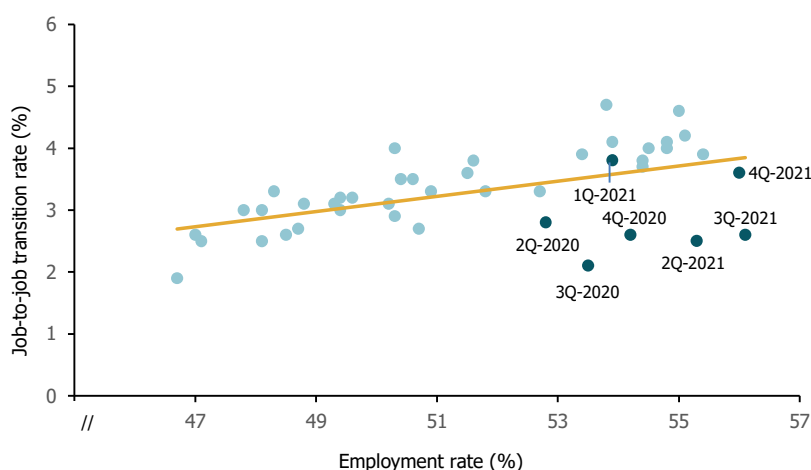
Figure 1. Quarterly job-to-job transition rate (in % of transition employment - employment)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

When comparing the employment rate with job-to-job transition rate, it can be seen that there is a strong positive correlation between both. This result suggests that job-to-job transition occurs more frequently when the employment rate increases, except for the COVID-19 pandemic period (from the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020 onwards) when there is a decrease in job-to-job transition.

Figure 2. Employment rate vs. job-to-job transition rate



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

<sup>1</sup> This indicator includes persons who, not having moved directly from one job to another, may have been, within a quarter, temporarily unemployed or inactive before moving to a new job. It excludes, however, persons whose work contracts were renewed with the companies where they worked or with temporary work companies, as they do not constitute a change of employer. The quarterly job-to-job transition rate allows defining the relationship between the employed population moving from one job to another within a quarter and the quarterly flow from employment to employment.

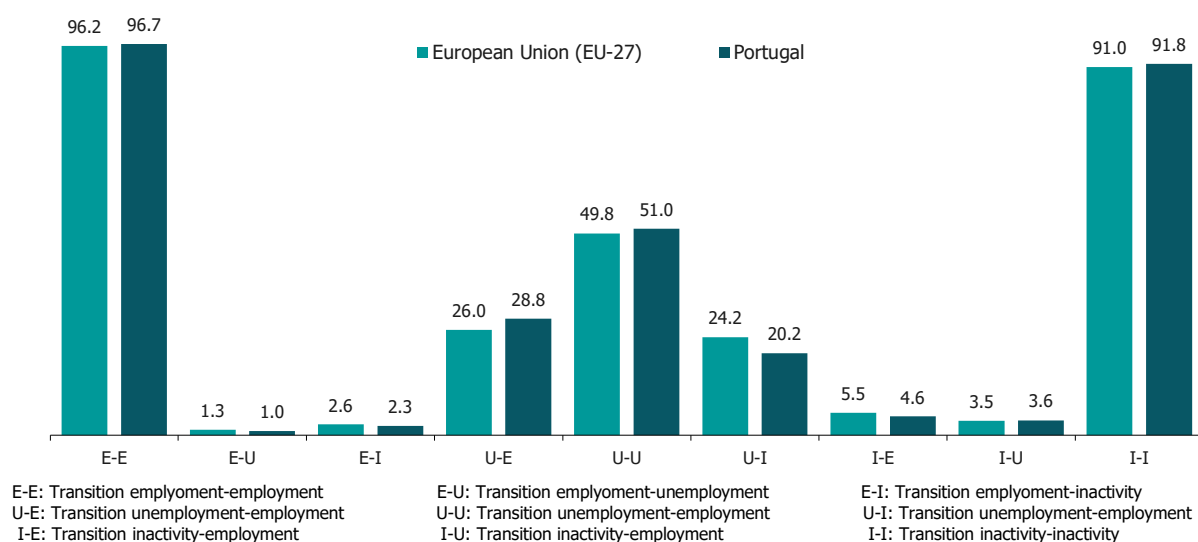


Taking into account the results of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, released by Eurostat on 13 January 2022 concerning the labour market flows of the population aged between 15 and 74 for comparison between Portugal and the European Union purposes<sup>2</sup>, it can be seen that in Portugal 28.8% of those unemployed moved into employment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of the same year, a value 2.8 pp higher than that of the European Union.

In the same period, around one in four persons in unemployment in Portugal changed to inactivity, while in the European Union this flow was around one in five.

Except for the two previous flows, the differences between Portugal and the European Union do not exceed, in absolute terms, 1.0 pp.

**Figure 3. Labour market flows in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021 in the European Union (EU-27) and Portugal (population aged 15 to 74; in % of initial status)**



**Source:** Eurostat, Transitions in labour market status in the EU, 2021Q2-2021Q3 (population aged 15-74; in % of initial status) [LFSI\_LONG\_Q].

### 3. Annual flows

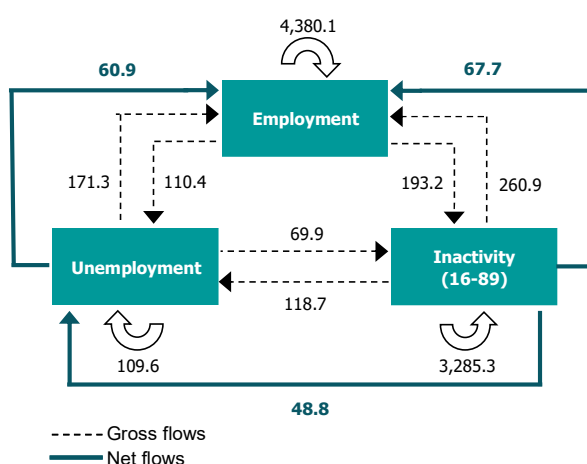
Out of those who were in employment in 2020, 93.5% (4,380.1 thousand, as in Table 2 in the annex) remained in that state in 2021, while 2.4% (110.4 thousand) moved into unemployment and 4.1% (193.2 thousand) changed into inactivity.

<sup>2</sup> The estimates published at the European Union level from the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021 will be released on April 13<sup>th</sup> 2022. For Portugal, those aged 15 are included in the inactivity into inactivity flow (remain in inactivity).

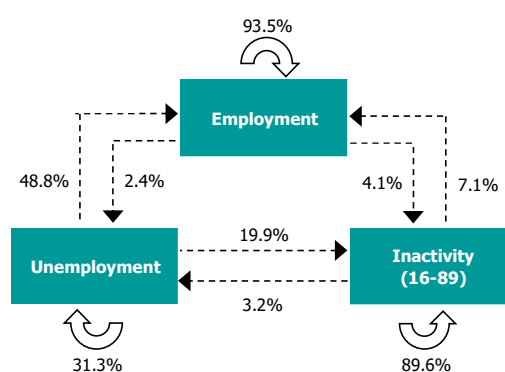
At the same time, 31.3% (109.6 thousand) of all unemployed remained unemployed, while 48.8% (171.3 thousand) moved to employment and 19.9% (69.9 thousand) to inactivity.

In this period, the net flow of employment (that is, total inflows minus total outflows) was positive and estimated at 128.6 thousand persons (as the annual variation of the employed population), while unemployment was negative and estimated at 12.1 thousand persons.

**Diagram 9. Annual labour market flows  
(thousand persons)**



**Diagram 10. Annual labour market flows  
(in % of initial status)**



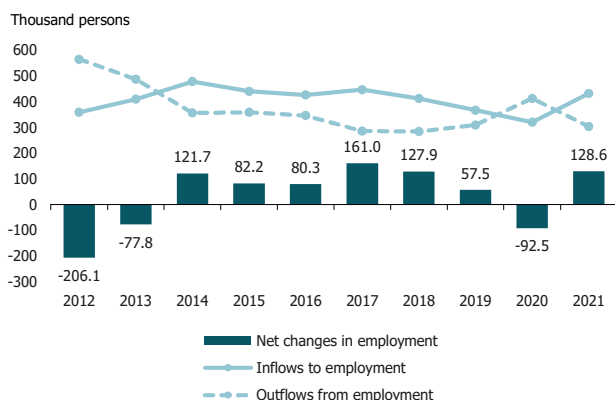
Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

In the following figures, referring to the period from 2012 to 2021, the net flows of employment and unemployment are presented, as well as their decomposition into inflows and outflows of each state.

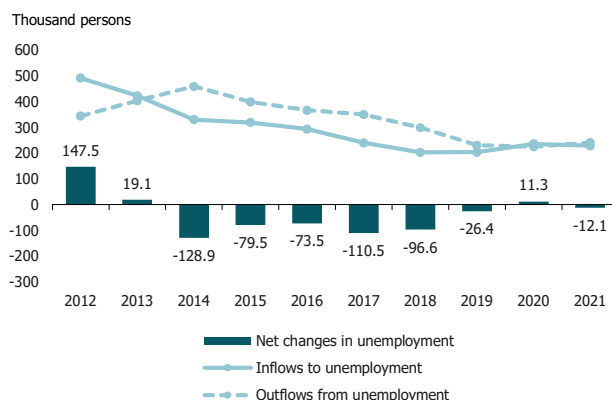
In the case of employment, it can be seen that in 2012, 2013 and 2020 the net flow was negative, which resulted from the fact that the outflows from employment to unemployment or inactivity were higher than the inflows from those states. These years correspond to the 2012 financial crisis, whose maximum impact on unemployment in Portugal was felt in 2013, and to the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic (2020). On the other hand, the net flow of unemployment was positive in these periods, having reached its maximum value in 2012 (147.5 thousand people).



**Figure 4. Annual net changes in employment  
(thousand persons)**



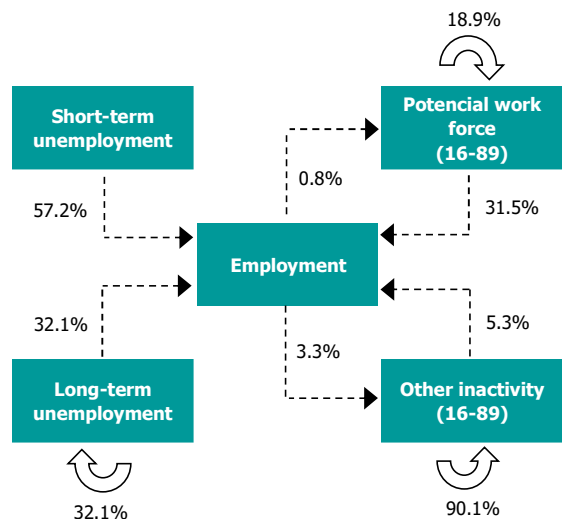
**Figure 5. Annual net changes in unemployment  
(thousand persons)**



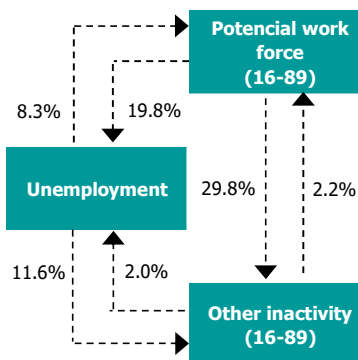
Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

Of all short-term unemployed in 2020, 57.2% moved into employment in 2021. At the same time, 32.1% of those who were unemployed for 12 months or more moved into employment.

**Diagram 11. Annual flows between employment, duration  
of unemployment and type of inactivity, 2021  
(in % of initial status)**



**Diagram 12. Annual flows between unemployment and  
type of inactivity, 2021 (in % of initial status)**



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

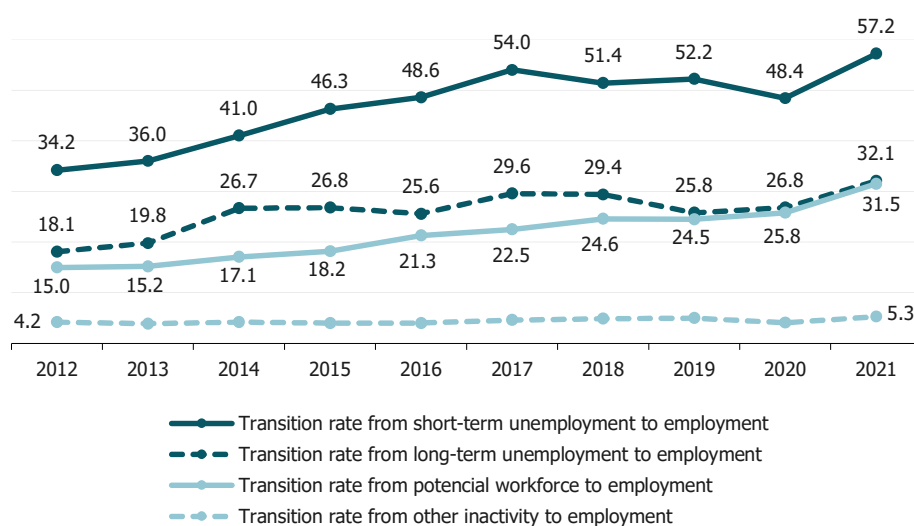
In the same period, approximately one in five inactive persons (19.8%) in the “potential workforce” subgroup moved into unemployment, while only one in fifty (2.0%) in the “other inactivity” subgroup moved into unemployment.



Figure 6 shows the estimates of flows to employment (in % of the initial state) according to the subgroups of unemployment and inactivity in the period from 2012 to 2021. The results show an increase in the transition rate of the “potential workforce” into employment throughout the series, reaching its maximum value in 2021 (31.5%).

In the case of the transition from short-term unemployment to employment, there is a growing trend until 2017, with a decrease of 3.8 pp between 2019 and 2020, due to the fact that many unemployed people in this subgroup were unable to actively seek a job due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

**Figure 6. Annual flows between employment, duration of unemployment and type of inactivity (in % of initial status)**



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

In Figure 7, in the period from 2012 to 2021, the percentage of self-employed workers becoming employees reached its highest value in 2014 (12.8%) and its lowest value in 2012 and 2013 (9,0% in both).

From 2020 to 2021, the share of self-employed workers becoming employees decreased from 12.5% to 10.5%, which corresponds to the highest annual change in the series started in 2011.

In Figure 8, from 2020 to 2021, 35.6% of all employees who had a temporary job or other contractual arrangement moved moved to a permanent work contract.

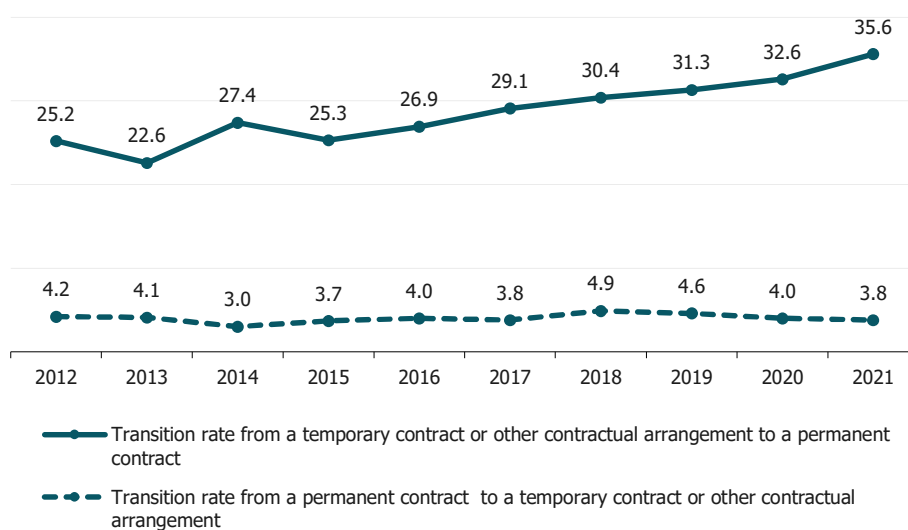
In the period from 2012 to 2021, this transition reached its highest value in 2021 and its lowest value in 2013 (22.6%).

Figure 7. Annual flows by professional status (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

Figure 8. Annual flows by permanency of the job (in % of initial status)

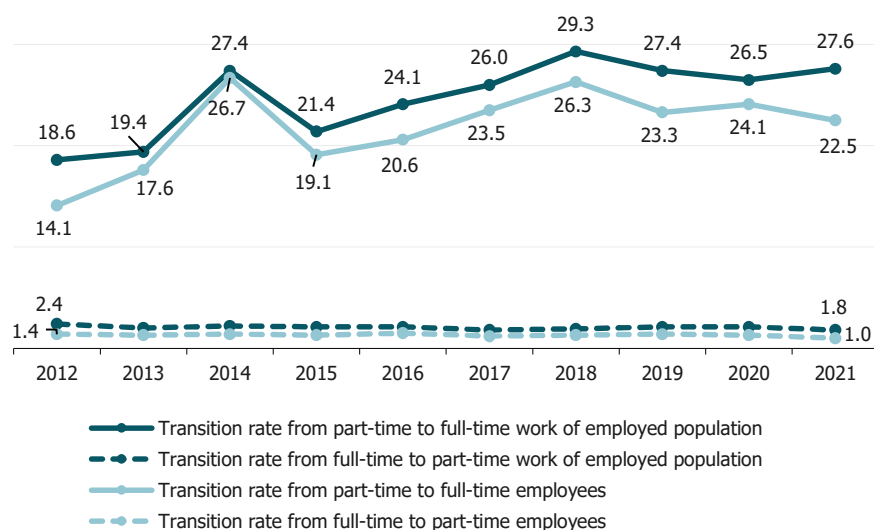


Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

Out of all those workers who had, in 2020, a part-time work, 27.6% moved to full-time work in 2021. In the case of employees, that share was 22.5%.

It is also observed that the transition from part-time to full-time work reached its highest value in 2018 (29.3%) and its lowest value in 2012 (18.6%). Focusing on the employees, this flow had its highest value in 2014 (26.7%) and its lowest value in 2012 (14.1%).

Figure 9. Annual flows between full-time and part-time of employed population and employees (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

In Figure 10, except for 2013 (year marked by the peak of unemployment) and the period from 2020 to 2021 (COVID-19 pandemic), there is an increase in the proportion of persons who, being employed, changed job within a period of one year<sup>3</sup> having reached the highest value in 2019 (10.8%).

It is relevant to mention the decrease of 2.1 pp in the job-to-job transition rate from 2019 to 2020, which represents more than double of the difference observed between 2012 and 2013 (minus 0.8 pp).

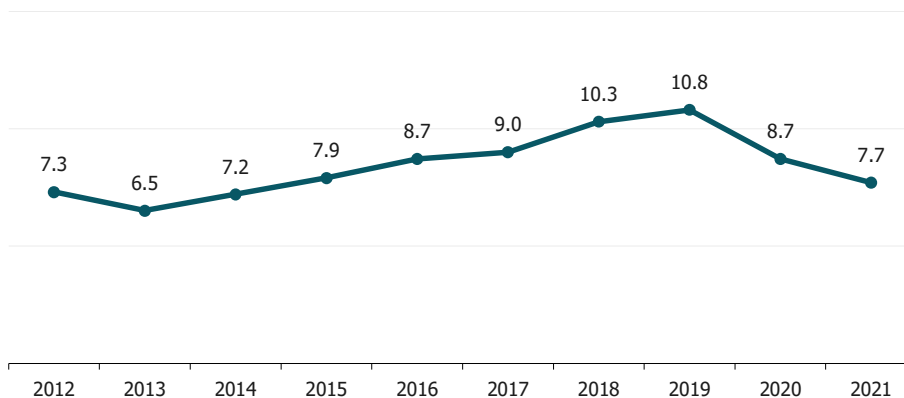
The odds ratio between annual flows and average quarterly flows between labour market states makes it possible to measure the relationship between the possibility of a person moving from one state to another within a year to the possibility of this transition occurring, on average, within a quarter.

For example, Figure 11 shows that, in 2021, an unemployed was 2.5 times more likely to move to employment within a year than within a quarter. In 2020, this value was 1.9, the lowest in the series referring to the flow from unemployment to employment.

The data also show that, in 2012, 2013 and 2020, remaining in employment within a year was half of the possibility of remaining in that state within a quarter.

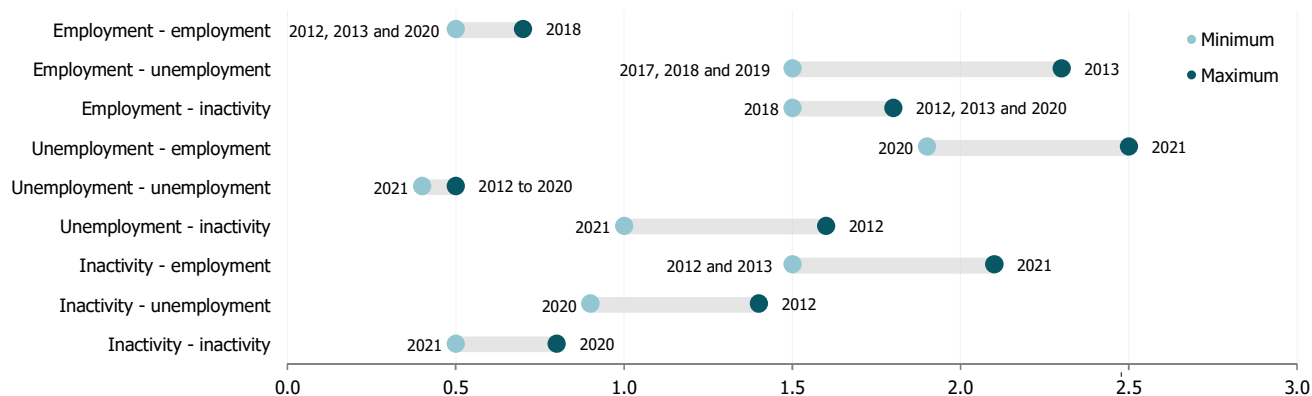
<sup>3</sup> This indicator includes persons who, not having moved directly from one job to another, may have been, within a year, temporarily unemployed or inactive before moving to a new job. It excludes, however, persons whose work contracts were renewed with the companies where they worked in or with temporary work companies, as they do not constitute a change of employer. The annual job-to-job transition rate allows defining the relationship between the employed population moving from one job to another within a year and the annual flow from employment to employment.

Figure 10. Annual job-to-job transition rate (in % of transition employment - employment)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

Figure 11. Odds ratio between annual flows and average quarterly flows



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.





Table 1. Quarterly labour market flows

Portugal	Quarterly value									
	3Q-2019	4Q-2019	1Q-2020	2Q-2020	3Q-2020	4Q-2020	1Q-2021	2Q-2021	3Q-2021	4Q-2021
Flows	Thousand people									
Transition employment - employment	4,576.3	4,588.4	4,562.4	4,443.1	4,419.0	4,486.3	4,483.1	4,539.8	4,655.6	4,684.1
Transition employment - unemployment	72.2	76.9	83.8	86.3	73.1	59.3	91.9	58.1	50.3	62.7
Transition employment - inactivity	125.8	141.3	139.7	214.8	109.5	112.8	155.6	83.8	104.7	131.3
Transition unemployment - employment	84.2	79.4	86.5	61.9	77.9	123.7	88.9	117.9	96.0	86.5
Transition unemployment - unemployment	172.8	175.8	183.4	139.1	154.0	202.0	200.1	185.7	176.1	168.2
Transition unemployment - inactivity	71.5	68.2	82.5	147.0	46.5	77.7	84.1	56.5	73.6	64.0
Transition inactivity - employment	146.1	118.0	95.2	96.6	161.5	120.5	109.6	152.8	126.5	108.4
Transition inactivity - unemployment	78.5	99.7	80.9	53.0	176.3	111.9	68.1	101.9	92.3	99.7
Transition inactivity - inactivity	3,352.7	3,340.4	3,398.5	3,465.4	3,486.4	3,428.8	3,409.7	3,399.1	3,325.4	3,305.6
Flows	In % of initial status									
Transition employment - employment	95.9	95.5	95.3	93.7	96.0	96.3	94.8	97.0	96.8	96.0
Transition employment - unemployment	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.3	1.9	1.2	1.0	1.3
Transition employment - inactivity	2.6	2.9	2.9	4.5	2.4	2.4	3.3	1.8	2.2	2.7
Transition unemployment - employment	25.6	24.6	24.6	17.8	28.0	30.7	23.8	32.7	27.8	27.1
Transition unemployment - unemployment	52.6	54.4	52.0	40.0	55.3	50.1	53.6	51.6	51.0	52.8
Transition unemployment - inactivity	21.8	21.1	23.4	42.2	16.7	19.3	22.5	15.7	21.3	20.1
Transition inactivity - employment	4.1	3.3	2.7	2.7	4.2	3.3	3.1	4.2	3.6	3.1
Transition inactivity - unemployment	2.2	2.8	2.3	1.5	4.6	3.1	1.9	2.8	2.6	2.8
Transition inactivity - inactivity	93.7	93.9	95.1	95.9	91.2	93.7	95.0	93.0	93.8	94.1

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021.

**Note:** All estimates for the 2011 data series (in force from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2011 to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2020) in this table have been revised in the light of the reconciliation exercise with the 2021 series, thus allowing direct comparison with the estimates of this series.



Table 2. Annual labour market flows

Portugal	Annual value									
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Flows	Thousand people									
Transition employment - employment	3,864.7	3,736.2	3,789.3	3,908.7	4,003.5	4,144.3	4,306.6	4,409.2	4,363.7	4,380.1
Transition employment - unemployment	299.4	256.1	167.2	166.6	151.4	118.9	107.4	109.8	147.5	110.4
Transition employment - inactivity	265.6	231.3	189.2	192.1	194.7	166.7	176.8	199.7	265.0	193.2
Transition unemployment - employment	181.6	234.6	281.4	251.5	228.7	232.0	187.0	148.7	133.2	171.3
Transition unemployment - unemployment	343.8	431.4	395.1	326.7	279.4	222.4	163.1	135.3	114.5	109.6
Transition unemployment - inactivity	162.7	169.6	178.2	147.6	138.3	118.5	112.4	81.9	91.8	69.9
Transition inactivity - employment	177.3	175.0	196.7	189.4	197.7	214.6	225.1	218.3	186.8	260.9
Transition inactivity - unemployment	192.4	167.2	163.5	153.0	142.1	121.1	95.4	94.4	88.8	118.7
Transition inactivity - inactivity	3,290.0	3,339.3	3,349.1	3,341.3	3,337.4	3,333.4	3,287.4	3,287.2	3,320.6	3,285.3
Flows	In % of initial status									
Transition employment - employment	87.2	88.5	91.4	91.6	92.0	93.6	93.8	93.4	91.4	93.5
Transition employment - unemployment	6.8	6.1	4.0	3.9	3.5	2.7	2.3	2.3	3.1	2.4
Transition employment - inactivity	6.0	5.5	4.6	4.5	4.5	3.8	3.9	4.2	5.5	4.1
Transition unemployment - employment	26.4	28.1	32.9	34.6	35.4	40.5	40.4	40.6	39.2	48.8
Transition unemployment - unemployment	50.0	51.6	46.2	45.0	43.2	38.8	35.3	37.0	33.7	31.3
Transition unemployment - inactivity	23.6	20.3	20.8	20.3	21.4	20.7	24.3	22.4	27.1	19.9
Transition inactivity - employment	4.8	4.8	5.3	5.1	5.4	5.8	6.2	6.1	5.2	7.1
Transition inactivity - unemployment	5.3	4.5	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.5	3.2
Transition inactivity - inactivity	89.9	90.7	90.3	90.7	90.8	90.8	91.1	91.3	92.3	89.6

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2021.

**Note:** All estimates for the 2011 data series (in force from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2011 to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2020) in this table have been revised in the light of the reconciliation exercise with the 2021 series, thus allowing direct comparison with the estimates of this series.



## TECHNICAL NOTE

The main purpose of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) 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.

The LFS sample is divided into six subsamples (rotations), and in each quarter a subsample is replaced by a new one (selected under the same design) after being observed for six consecutive quarters. This rotation design introduces a longitudinal component, thus allowing the follow-up of persons who remain in the sample for a maximum period of one and a half year.

Estimates of **quarterly flows** between labour market states are calculated taking into account the subsample of persons who responded simultaneously to the reference quarter and the previous quarter, which represents about 5/6 of the quarterly sample size. Considering that the scope of the flows refers to persons aged between 16 and 89 years old in the reference quarter, persons aged 15 years old in the previous quarter are included in the subsample and are classified as inactive. Persons aged 89 years old in the previous quarter and that have turned 90 years old in the reference quarter are excluded from the subsample. For this reason, the quarterly change in the employed population may not exactly match the net flow of employment published in this press release. However, this fact does not affect the analyzes carried out

Estimates of **annual flows** between labour market states are derived from the average of the four flows that result from the comparison of each quarter of the reference year with the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The respective subsamples are made up of persons aged between 16 and 89 who responded in the first and fifth wave plus those who responded in the second and sixth wave, which represent, in total, about 1/3 of the quarterly sample size. As in the quarterly flows, persons aged 15 years old in the previous year are included in the subsample and classified as inactive. Those who turned 90 years old in the reference year are excluded from the subsample.

The weighting factors of persons in the subsample of quarterly flows and in the four subsamples of annual flows are calculated, in a first step, from the cross-sectional weights of the reference quarter and the cross-sectional weights of the four quarters of the reference year, respectively. These weights are adjusted according to the estimates of the resident population by NUTS III region in the reference quarter or in the four quarters of the reference year to compensate the sample size reduction. In a second step, these weights are calibrated according to the estimates of the resident population by NUTS II region, sex and ten-year age groups in the reference quarter (quarterly flows) or in the four quarters of the reference year



(annual flows). In order to ensure the consistency of the estimates of quarterly flows with the quarterly estimates (reference and previous quarter), as well as the consistency of the estimates of annual flows with the estimates of the annual averages (reference year and previous), the weights are also calibrated according to:

- i) estimates of the employed, unemployed and inactive population by sex and ten-year age groups in the reference quarter or in the four quarters of the reference year;
- ii) estimates of the employed, unemployed and inactive population by sex in the previous quarter or in the four quarters of the previous year;
- iii) estimates of the resident population by NUTS II region, sex and ten-year age groups in the reference quarter or in the four quarters of the reference year;
- iv) estimates of the employed population by professional status in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter, as well as in the four quarters of the reference year and the previous year;
- v) estimates of employees by type of work contract in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter, as well as in the four quarters of the reference year and the previous year;
- vi) estimates of the total employed population and employees by full-time or part-time job in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter, as well as in the four quarters of the reference year and the previous year;
- vii) estimates of the unemployed population by duration of unemployment in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter, as well as in the four quarters of the reference year and the previous year;
- viii) estimates of the inactive population by type of inactivity in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter, as well as in the four quarters of the reference year and the previous year.

The estimates for the 2011 series are comparable with the series started in 2021, as described in the note attached to the [Press Release](#) of 12 May 2021, and the resident population estimates are calculated from the final results of the 2011 Census.

For reasons of consistency, quarterly or annual changes in the total population (movements in and out of scope: natural balance and the net migration) are reflected in the inactive population of the previous quarter or the four quarters of the previous year, respectively. For this reason, the estimates of flows referring to the inactive population aged 16 to 89 may not exactly match with those published in the Statistics Portugal website.

Due to rounding, the totals in tables and diagrams do not always match the sum of parts.

For more detailed information consult the Labour Force Survey [methodological document](#) (only in Portuguese) available at the Statistics Portugal website.

Mais se informa que as séries completas dos fluxos trimestrais e anuais desde 2011 se encontram nos ficheiros Excel anexos ao Destaque e que estes são atualizados trimestralmente e anualmente no Portal das Estatísticas Oficiais, respetivamente.

The complete series of quarterly and annual flows since 2011 can be found in the Excel files attached to the Press Release and that these are updated quarterly and annually on the Statistics Portugal website, respectively.



## SOME CONCEPTS

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

- 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 and 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.

**Inactive:** person aged below 16, above 89, 16 to 89 who, during the reference period, could not be considered active, *i.e.*, was neither employed nor unemployed.

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Next Press Release - 18 May 2022

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