THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE INCREASED TO 6.7%
AND THE LABOUR UNDERUTILISATION RATE TO 11.9%

September 2023 (definitive estimates):

- The active population (5,287.8 thousand people) decreased from August (0.2%) and from June 2023 (2.1 thousand, which corresponds to a nearly null relative change), having increased from September 2022 (1.9%).

- The employed population (4,939.1 thousand) decreased from the previous month (0.5%) and from three months before (0.3%) and increased from the same month of the previous year (1.5%).

- The unemployed population (348.7 thousand) increased from the three periods under comparison: 3.9%, 4.4% and 8.1%, respectively.

- Similarly, also the unemployment rate, which stood at 6.6%, has increased from the previous month (0.3 percentage points (pp)), from three months before (0.3 pp) and from a year earlier (0.4 pp).

- The inactive population (2,402.0 thousand) increased by 0.5% from August and by 0.2% from June 2023 and decreased by 2.7% from September 2022.

- The labour underutilisation rate was estimated at 11.8%, up from the three periods under comparison (0.2 pp, 0.1 pp and 0.3 pp, respectively).

October 2023 (provisional estimates)[1]:

- The active population (5,283.3 thousand) decreased by 0.1% from September and by 0.3% from July 2023, having increased by 1.7% from October 2022.

- Similarly, the employed population (4,930.0 thousand) has also decreased from the previous month (0.2%) and from three months before (0.7%), having increased from a year earlier (1.1%).

- The unemployed population (353.4 thousand) increased from the three periods under comparison: 1.4%, 5.1% and 11.1%, respectively.

- Similarly, the unemployment rate, that stood at 6.7%, has also registered an increase from September 2023 (0.1 pp), from July of the same year (0.4 pp) and from October 2022 (0.6 pp).

- The inactive population (2,408.1 thousand) increased by 0.3% from the previous month and by 0.7% from three months before, having decreased by 2.2% from one year earlier.

- The labour underutilisation rate stood at 11.9%, up 0.1 pp from the previous month, up 0.4 pp from three months before and up 0.4 pp from October 2022.

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[1] The estimates for the last reference month (in this case, the quarter centred in October 2023: from September to November 2023) were calculated with incomplete information for the last month of the quarter (November 2023). These estimates will be revised next month (as described in the methodological note).

Preliminary Note

In line with the revision of estimates produced from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), as explained in the "Methodological note on the revision of the Labour Force Survey data: the context of the COVID-19 pandemic", released on 8 November 2023[2], the monthly employment and unemployment estimates from March 2020 to September 2023 were also revised[3].

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

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

	Unit	Seasonally adjusted data						
		Sep 2022	Oct 2022	Jun 2023	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)
Active population	Thousands	5,189.5	5,196.5	5,289.9	5,298.4	5,299.4	5,287.8	5,283.3
Employed population		4,867.0	4,878.3	4,955.8	4,962.4	4,963.8	4,939.1	4,930.0
Unemployed population		322.6	318.2	334.0	336.1	335.6	348.7	353.4
Inactive population		2,468.4	2,461.7	2,398.3	2,391.4	2,390.0	2,402.0	2,408.1
Labour underutilisation		616.5	617.8	634.3	626.5	633.1	638.7	645.0
Activity rate	%	67.8	67.9	68.8	68.9	68.9	68.8	68.7
Employment rate		63.6	63.7	64.5	64.5	64.6	64.2	64.1
Unemployment rate		6.2	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.7
Inactivity rate		32.2	32.1	31.2	31.1	31.1	31.2	31.3
Labour underutilisation rate		11.5	11.5	11.7	11.5	11.6	11.8	11.9

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

In **September 2023**, compared to the previous month, the active population decreased by 11.6 thousand (0.2%), while the inactive population increased by 12.0 thousand; (0.5%)[4]. The evolution of the active population was due to the decrease of the employed population (24.7 thousand; 0.5%) having more than compensated the increase of the unemployed population (13.1 thousand; 3.9%). The change in the inactive population was mainly due to the increase in the number of other inactive persons, those not looking for a job nor available to work (16.2 thousand; 0.7%).

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[2] Available at http://www.ine.pt/xurl/dest/593942640.

[3] The monthly estimates of the employed population were revised between -0.9%, in March 2022, and +0.4%, in June 2023, while the monthly estimates of the unemployed population were revised between -0.5%, in November 2020, and +2.3%, in May 2023, which lead to a maximum revision of +0.2 pp of the unemployment rate, in April 2021.

[4] The changes in the active population and in the inactive population are not necessarily identical. They are also influenced by the total population change that result from the natural increase and the net migration.

The decrease observed in the active population compared to three months before (2.1 thousand; which corresponds to a nearly null relative change) resulted from the decrease of the employed population (16.7 thousand; 0.3%) being higher than the increase of the unemployed population (14.7 thousand; 4.4%). The inactive population increased (3.7 thousand; 0.2%) due to the number of other inactive persons (11.7 thousand; 0.5%), which compensated for the decreases observed in the remaining groups of inactive persons.

The active population increased by 98.3 thousand (1.9%) compared to September 2022 and was followed by an increase in the employed population (72.1 thousand; 1.5%) and in the unemployed population (26.1 thousand; 8.1%). The inactive population decreased by 66.4 thousand people (2.7%) due, essentially, to the decrease in the number of other inactive persons (54.0 thousand; 2.3%).

These results determined the following changes in the unemployment rate, which stood at 6.6% in September 2023: increase of 0.3 pp from both June and August 2023 and increase of 0.4 pp from September 2022.

Figure 1. **Change in the active, employed, unemployed and inactive population in September 2023**

(seasonally adjusted data)
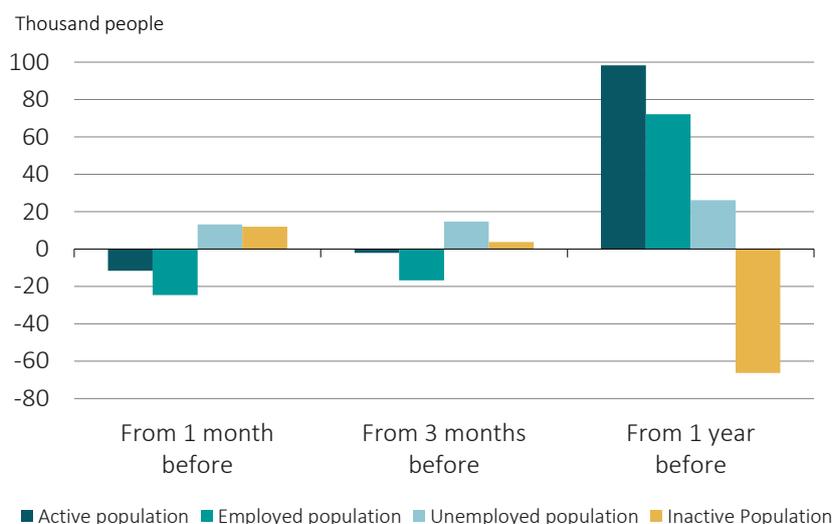
Also in September 2023, labour underutilisation covered 638.7 thousand people, up from the previous month (5.6 thousand; 0.9%), from three months before (4.4 thousand; 0.7%) and from one year earlier (22.2 thousand; 3.6%). The labour underutilisation rate was estimated at 11.8%, also up from the three months under comparison: 0.2 pp, 0.1 pp and 0.3 pp, respectively.

In **October 2023**, the active population decreased from the previous month by 4.5 thousand people (0.1%), while the inactive population increased by 6.1 thousand (0.3%). The change in the active population resulted from the decrease of the employed population (9.1 thousand; 0.2%) that surpassed the increase of the unemployed population (4.7 thousand; 1.4%). The change in the inactive population was explained essentially by the increase in the number of other inactive persons (8.1 thousand; 0.4%).

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

The decrease of 15.1 thousand people (0.3%) observed in the active population from three months before resulted from the decrease of 32.4 thousand (0.7%) in the employed population, which more than compensated the increase of 17.3 thousand (5.1%) in the unemployed population. The increase of 16.7 thousand (0.7%) in the inactive population was due to the increase in the number of other inactive persons (21.5 thousand; 1.0%).

Finally, the increase in the active population (86.8 thousand; 1.7%) from October 2022 resulted from the increase both in the employed population (51.7 thousand; 1.1%) and in the unemployed population (35.2 thousand; 11.1%). The inactive population decreased by 53.6 thousand people (2.2%), mostly due to the decrease in the number of other inactive persons (34.8 thousand; 1.5%).

These results determined the following changes in the unemployment rate, which stood at 6.7%: up from the previous month (0.1 pp), from three months before (0.4 pp) and up from the same month of 2022 (0.6 pp).

Figure 2. **Change in the active, employed, unemployed and inactive population in October 2023**

(seasonally adjusted data)
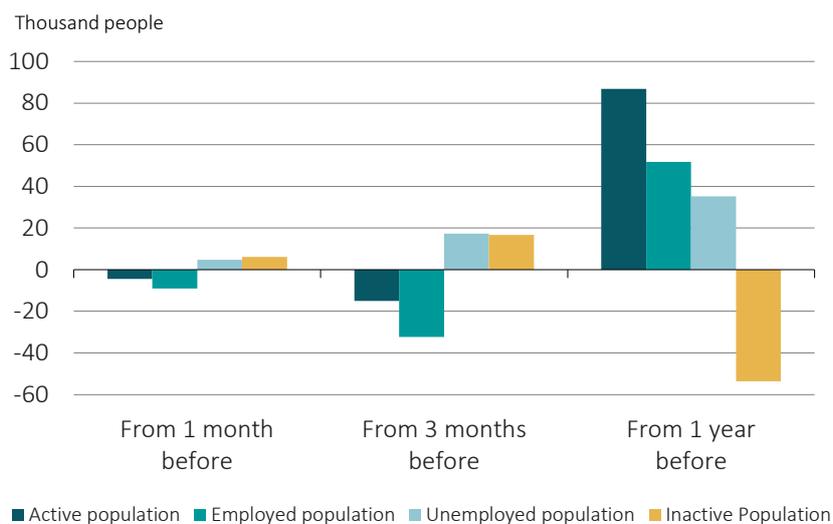
Note: The October 2023 estimates are provisional.

Also in October 2023, labour underutilisation covered 645.0 thousand people, increasing from the previous month (6.3 thousand; 1.0%), from three months before (18.5 thousand; 2.9%) and from a year earlier (27.2 thousand; 4.4%). The labour underutilisation rate – estimated at 11.9% – increased by 0.1 pp from the previous month, by 0.4 pp from three months before and by 0.4 pp from a year earlier.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

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

In October 2023, the activity rate (68.7%) stood slightly below the highest value since the beginning of the time series in 1998 (68.9% in August 2023). In that month, the employed population (4,930.0 thousand) and the employed rate (64.1%) kept their downwards trend started in the previous month.

Figure 3. **Active population and activity rate**

(seasonally adjusted data)
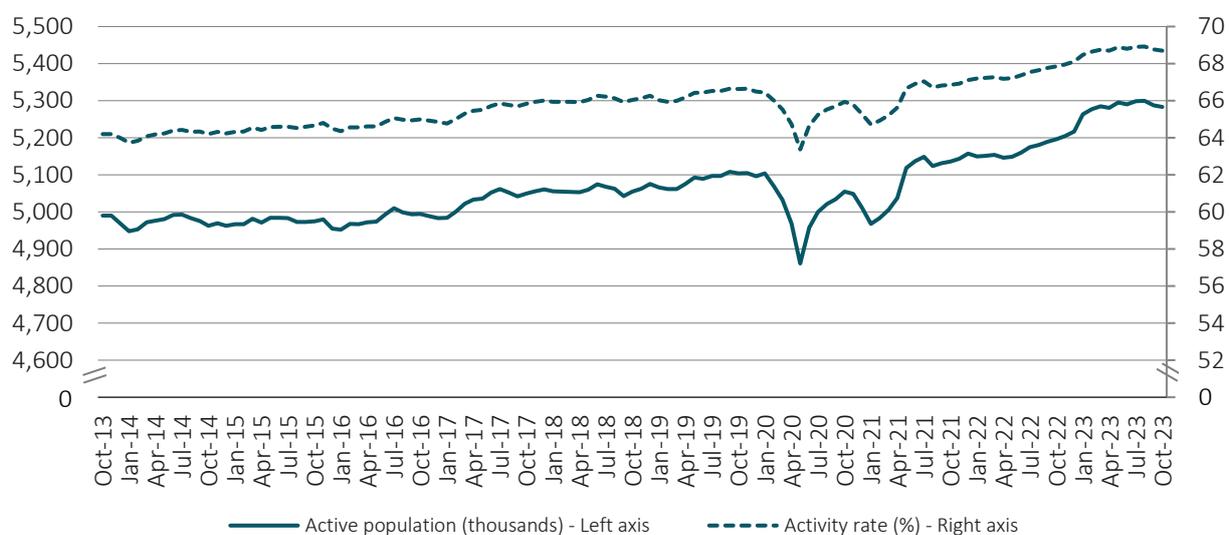
Note: The October 2023 estimates are provisional.

Figure 4. **Employed population and employment rate**

(seasonally adjusted data)

Note: The October 2023 estimates are provisional.
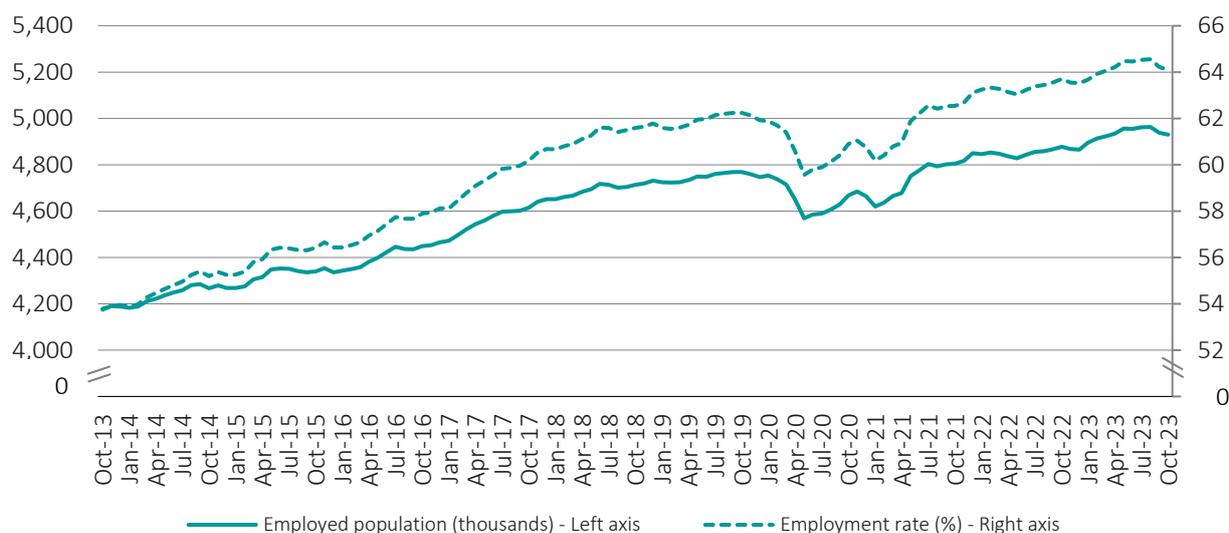
MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

In October 2023, the unemployment rate stood at 6.7%, which corresponds to the highest value since March 2023 (6.8%), while the inactivity rate (31.3%) stood just a decimal above the previous month value (31.2% in September 2023).

Figure 5. **Unemployed population and unemployment rate**

(seasonally adjusted data)
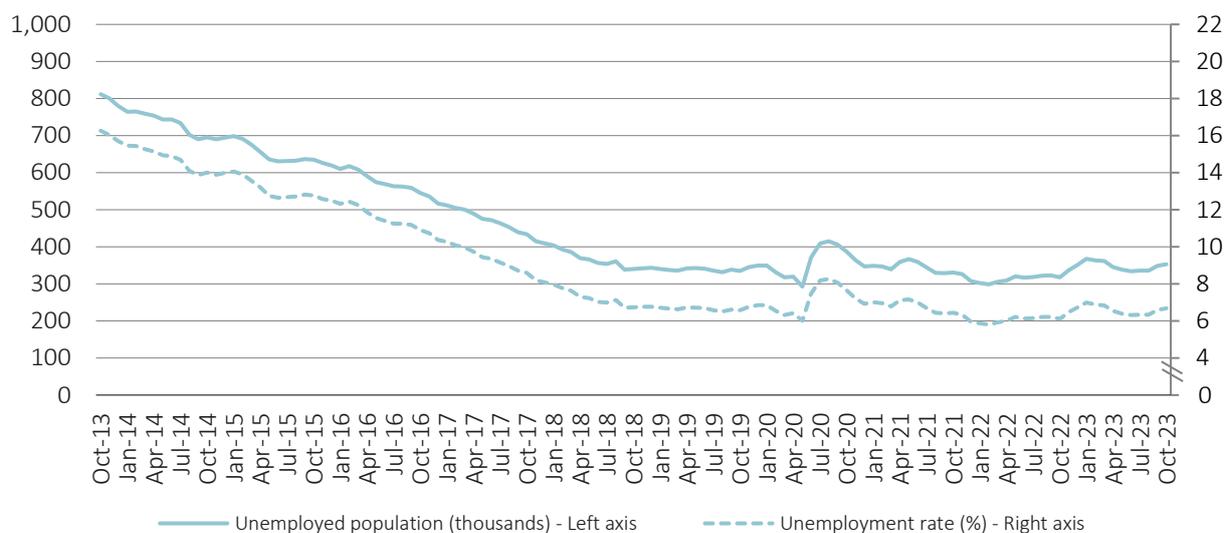
Note: The October 2023 estimates are provisional.

Figure 6. **Inactive population and inactivity rate**

(seasonally adjusted data)

Note: The October 2023 estimates are provisional.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023
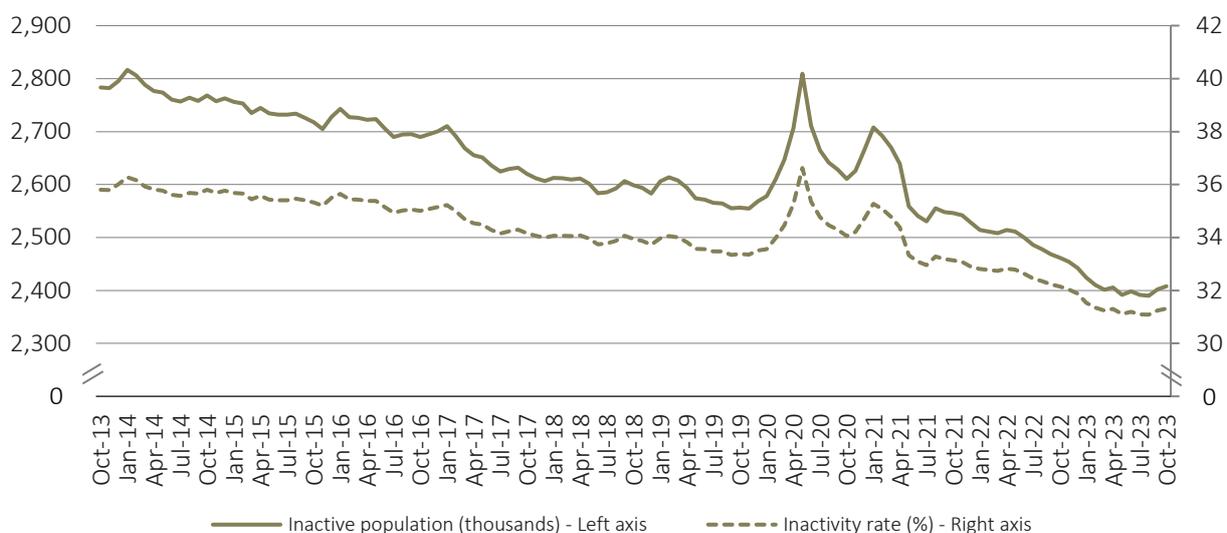
The labour underutilisation has increased in October 2023 (645.0 thousand) to its highest value since April 2023 (650.0 thousand), similarly to the labour underutilisation rate (11.9%), which also stood close to the value observed in April 2023 (12.0%).

Figure 7. **Labour underutilisation and labour underutilisation rate**

(seasonally adjusted data)

Note: The October 2023 estimates are provisional.

Criteria used when classifing the population aged 16 to 74 by labour status
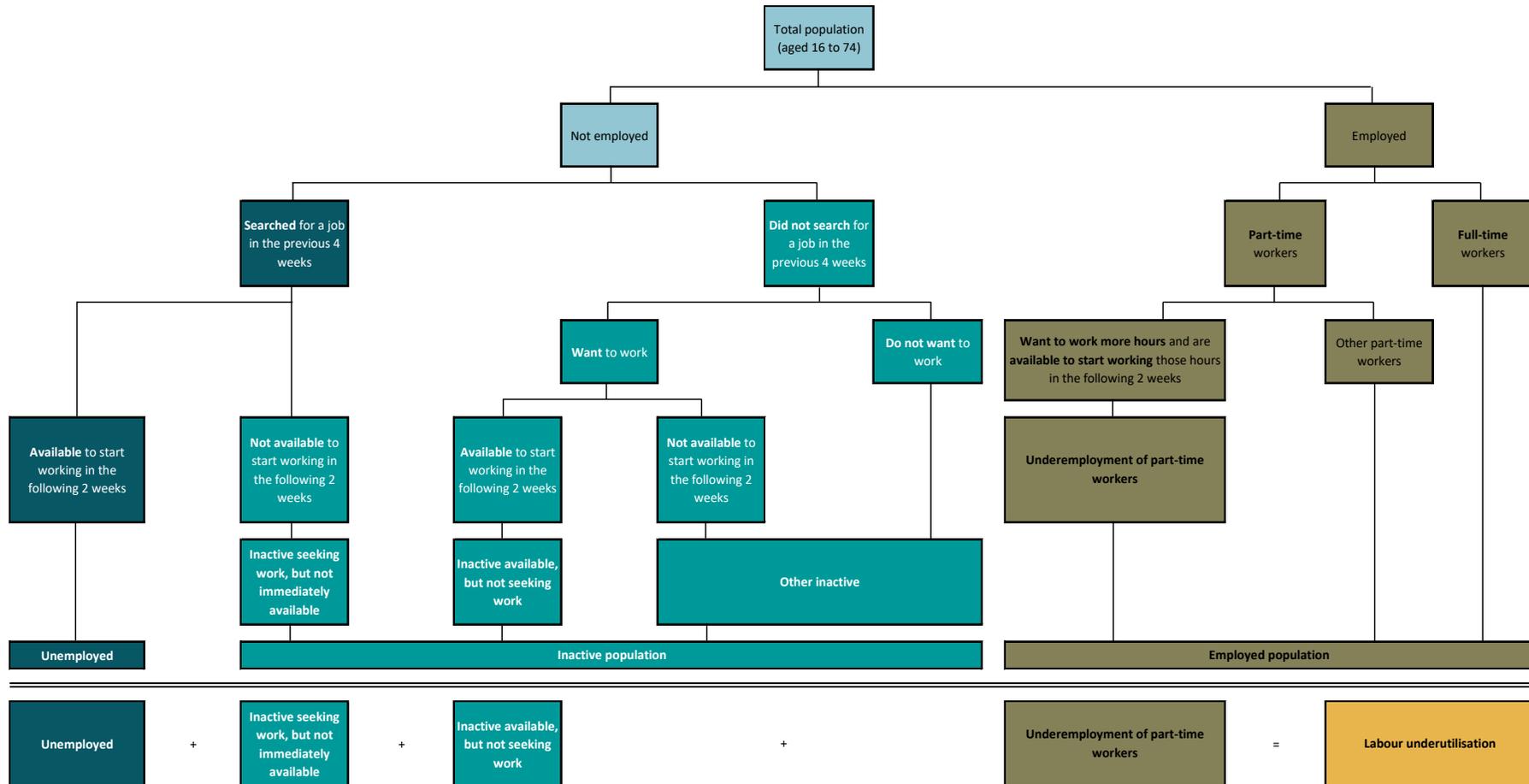
Table 1: **Active population and activity rate by sex and age group (16 to 74)**

	Seasonally adjusted data					Not seasonally adjusted data				
	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)
	Thousands									
Active population	**5,196.5**	**5,298.4**	**5,299.4**	**5,287.8**	**5,283.3**	**5,208.3**	**5,295.0**	**5,307.4**	**5,299.3**	**5,295.1**
Men	2,601.9	2,652.7	2,653.1	2,645.9	2,640.0	2,608.4	2,655.2	2,658.4	2,652.7	2,646.4
Women	2,594.5	2,645.7	2,646.3	2,641.9	2,643.3	2,599.9	2,639.7	2,649.0	2,646.6	2,648.7
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	354.6	393.4	385.9	387.8	386.0	362.3	396.3	397.2	397.6	393.7
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	4,841.9	4,905.0	4,913.5	4,900.0	4,897.3	4,846.0	4,898.7	4,910.1	4,901.7	4,901.4
	%									
Activity rate	**67.9**	**68.9**	**68.9**	**68.8**	**68.7**	**68.0**	**68.9**	**69.0**	**68.9**	**68.8**
Men	71.3	72.2	72.2	72.0	71.8	71.5	72.2	72.3	72.1	72.0
Women	64.7	65.9	66.0	65.8	65.9	64.9	65.8	66.0	66.0	66.0
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	36.1	39.9	39.1	39.3	39.2	36.9	40.2	40.3	40.3	40.0
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	72.5	73.2	73.3	73.1	73.0	72.6	73.1	73.3	73.1	73.1

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				
	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)
	Thousands									
Employed population	**4,878.3**	**4,962.4**	**4,963.8**	**4,939.1**	**4,930.0**	**4,884.4**	**4,979.9**	**4,981.2**	**4,949.6**	**4,936.1**
Men	2,451.6	2,491.3	2,496.2	2,482.0	2,476.5	2,457.7	2,505.5	2,509.6	2,491.6	2,482.5
Women	2,426.7	2,471.1	2,467.5	2,457.1	2,453.5	2,426.7	2,474.5	2,471.6	2,458.1	2,453.5
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	291.2	313.8	307.4	305.7	305.9	292.4	321.4	316.6	309.9	307.1
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	4,587.1	4,648.6	4,656.4	4,633.4	4,624.1	4,592.0	4,658.6	4,664.6	4,639.7	4,629.0
	%									
Employment rate	**63.7**	**64.5**	**64.6**	**64.2**	**64.1**	**63.8**	**64.8**	**64.8**	**64.4**	**64.2**
Men	67.2	67.8	67.9	67.5	67.3	67.3	68.1	68.3	67.8	67.5
Women	60.5	61.6	61.5	61.2	61.1	60.5	61.7	61.6	61.3	61.1
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	29.7	31.8	31.2	31.0	31.0	29.8	32.6	32.1	31.4	31.2
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	68.7	69.4	69.5	69.1	69.0	68.8	69.5	69.6	69.2	69.0

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

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

	Seasonally adjusted data					Not seasonally adjusted data				
	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)
	Thousands									
Unemployed population	**318.2**	**336.1**	**335.6**	**348.7**	**353.4**	**323.9**	**315.1**	**326.1**	**349.7**	**359.0**
Men	150.3	161.4	156.9	163.9	163.6	150.7	149.8	148.8	161.2	163.9
Women	167.9	174.7	178.7	184.7	189.8	173.2	165.3	177.4	188.5	195.1
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	63.4	79.6	78.5	82.0	80.1	69.9	74.9	80.6	87.7	86.6
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	254.8	256.5	257.2	266.6	273.2	254.0	240.1	245.6	262.0	272.4
	%									
Unemployment rate	**6.1**	**6.3**	**6.3**	**6.6**	**6.7**	**6.2**	**6.0**	**6.1**	**6.6**	**6.8**
Men	5.8	6.1	5.9	6.2	6.2	5.8	5.6	5.6	6.1	6.2
Women	6.5	6.6	6.8	7.0	7.2	6.7	6.3	6.7	7.1	7.4
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	17.9	20.2	20.3	21.2	20.8	19.3	18.9	20.3	22.1	22.0
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.2	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.6

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				
	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)
	Thousands									
Inactive population	**2,461.7**	**2,391.4**	**2,390.0**	**2,402.0**	**2,408.1**	**2,449.8**	**2,394.9**	**2,382.0**	**2,390.5**	**2,396.4**
Men	1,047.7	1,023.7	1,023.7	1,031.5	1,037.9	1,041.3	1,021.2	1,018.5	1,024.7	1,031.5
Women	1,413.9	1,367.8	1,366.3	1,370.6	1,370.2	1,408.5	1,373.7	1,363.6	1,365.8	1,364.8
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	627.4	593.7	600.4	597.8	599.3	619.7	590.8	589.0	587.9	591.6
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	1,834.3	1,797.8	1,789.6	1,804.2	1,808.9	1,830.1	1,804.1	1,793.0	1,802.5	1,804.8
	%									
Inactivity rate	**32.1**	**31.1**	**31.1**	**31.2**	**31.3**	**32.0**	**31.1**	**31.0**	**31.1**	**31.2**
Men	28.7	27.8	27.8	28.0	28.2	28.5	27.8	27.7	27.9	28.0
Women	35.3	34.1	34.0	34.2	34.1	35.1	34.2	34.0	34.0	34.0
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	63.9	60.1	60.9	60.7	60.8	63.1	59.8	59.7	59.7	60.0
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	27.5	26.8	26.7	26.9	27.0	27.4	26.9	26.7	26.9	26.9

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

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

	Seasonally adjusted data					Not seasonally adjusted data				
	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)	Oct 2022	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023 (p)
	Thousands									
Labour underutilisation	**617.8**	**626.5**	**633.1**	**638.7**	**645.0**	**609.1**	**604.5**	**620.9**	**632.0**	**643.8**
Unemployed population	318.2	336.1	335.6	348.7	353.4	323.9	315.1	326.1	349.7	359.0
Underemployed part-time workers	142.3	146.9	152.5	149.2	152.9	134.8	141.5	147.2	143.4	152.5
Persons seeking work but not immediately available	31.3	31.2	31.7	30.2	29.9	27.5	35.7	31.6	27.7	26.2
Persons available to work but not seeking	126.1	112.3	113.2	110.6	108.8	122.9	112.2	116.0	111.2	106.0
	%									
Labour underutilisation rate	11.5	11.5	11.6	11.8	11.9	11.4	11.1	11.4	11.6	11.9

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

The main purpose of the Labour Force Survey is to classify the population in terms of their participation in the labour market. It is a quarterly sample survey, addressed to all persons living in the national territory.

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 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. It should be noticed that, following the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures adopted by the competent authorities, Statistics Portugal has decided, between the first fortnight of March 2020 and the end of the collection of the 2nd quarter of 2022, to suspend the face-to-face collection mode, replacing it exclusively with telephone interviews. After analysing the impact of adopting an exclusively telephone data collection mode, in November 2023 Statistics Portugal revised the estimates for the 2nd quarter of 2020 to the 2nd quarter of 2023 by incorporating the variable "completed level of education" into the process of calibrating the individual weights, in addition to the information usually used (monthly estimates of the resident population by sex, age group and region). The estimation of the results for the 3rd quarter of 2023 was carried out in a similar way and the monthly employment and unemployment estimates released on the 29th of November 2023 reflect this revision.[5]

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).

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[5] For more information on the context, methodology and impacts of this revision, see the "Methodological note on the revision of the Labour Force Survey data: the context of the COVID-19 pandemic", published together with the Press Release "Employment Statistics – 3rd quarter of 2023".

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

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 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.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

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 September 2023 estimates (16 to 74) - main indicators -			
	Unit	Seasonally adjusted data	Not seasonally adjusted data
Active population		0.5	3.9
Employed population		- 4.6	- 1.7
Unemployed population	Thousands	5.1	5.6
Inactive population		- 0.5	- 3.9
Labour underutilisation		4.4	3.4
Employment rate		- 0.1	0.0
Unemployment rate		0.1	0.1
Men's unemployment rate		0.1	0.2
Women's unemployment rate	pp	0.1	0.0
Youth unemployment rate (16 to 24)		1.5	1.5
Adults' unemployment rate (25 to 74)		- 0.1	- 0.1
Labour underutilisation rate		0.1	0.0

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.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – October 2023

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.

$$U.R. (\%) = (\text{Unemployed population} / \text{Labour force}) \times 100$$

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

$$E.R. (\%) = (\text{Employed population} / \text{Working age population}) \times 100$$

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

$$A.R. (\%) = (\text{Labour force} / \text{Working age population}) \times 100$$

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

$$I.R. (\%) = (\text{Working age inactive population} / \text{Working age population}) \times 100$$

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

$$L.U.R. (\%) = (\text{Labour underutilisation} / \text{Extended labour force}) \times 100$$

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

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

Next Press Release

8 January 2024: "Monthly Employment and Unemployment Statistics – November 2023".

9 January 2024: Eurostat News Release.