THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STOOD AT 6.7% AND THE LABOUR UNDERUTILISATION RATE AT 11.5%

January 2024 (definitive estimates):

- The active population (5,355.5 thousand people) increased from the previous month (1.1%), from three months before (1.0%) and from the same month of last year (1.8%).
- The employed population (5,003.4 thousand) increase from the three periods under comparison: 1.0%; 1.1% and 2.3%, respectively.
- The unemployed population (352.2 thousand) increased from December 2023 (1,6%), having remained practically unchanged compared to October and decreased from a year earlier (4.7%).
- The unemployment rate, which stood at 6.6%, increased by 0.1 percentage points (pp) from the previous month, decreased by 0.1 pp from three months before and by 0.4 pp from a year earlier.
- The inactive population (2,433.4 thousand) increased by 1.6% from December and by 1.9% and from October 2023 and by 0.2% from a year earlier.
- The labour underutilisation rate was estimated at 11.6%, the same value as the previous month, but decreasing by 0.2 pp from three months before and by 0.6 pp from a year earlier.

February 2024 (provisional estimates)[1]:

- The active population (5,359.6 thousand) increased from the three periods under comparison: 0.1%, 1.1% and 1.7%, respectively.
- The employed population (5,000.2 thousand) decreased from the previous month (0.1%), having increased from three months before (1.0%) and from the same month of 2023 (1.9%).
- The unemployed population (359.4 thousand) increased by 2.1% from December 2023 and by 3.2% from three months before, having decreased by 1.1% from a year earlier.
- The unemployment rate remained at 6.7%, up 0.1 pp both from the previous month and from three months before, but down 0.2 pp from a year earlier.
- The inactive population (2,434.9 thousand) increased from the month before (0.1%), from three months before (1.7%) and from a year earlier (0.8%).
- The labour underutilisation rate stood at 11.5%, down from January 2024 (0.1 pp), from November 2023 (0.2 pp) and from February of the same year (0.6 pp).

---

[1] The estimates for the last reference month (in this case, the quarter centred in February 2024: from January to March 2024) were calculated with incomplete information for the last month of the quarter (March 2024). These estimates will be revised next month (as described in the methodological note).

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						
		Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)
Active population	Thousands	5,259.8	5,272.2	5,303.4	5,299.6	5,298.9	5,355.5	5,359.6
Employed population		4,890.2	4,908.6	4,950.6	4,951.3	4,952.3	5,003.4	5,000.2
Unemployed population		369.6	363.6	352.7	348.3	346.6	352.2	359.4
Inactive population		2,428.1	2,415.2	2,388.1	2,394.5	2,395.6	2,433.4	2,434.9
Labour underutilisation		656.9	654.1	639.6	636.2	628.8	635.6	633.2
Activity rate	%	68.4	68.6	69.0	68.9	68.9	68.8	68.8
Employment rate		63.6	63.9	64.4	64.4	64.4	64.2	64.2
Unemployment rate		7.0	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.7
Inactivity rate		31.6	31.4	31.0	31.1	31.1	31.2	31.2
Labour underutilisation rate		12.2	12.1	11.8	11.7	11.6	11.6	11.5

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

In **January 2024**, compared to the previous month, the active population increased by 56.6 thousand (1.1%), due to the increase in the employed population (51.1 thousand; 1.0%) and in the unemployed population (5.6 thousand; 1.6%). The inactive population increased by 37.8 thousand (1.6%) as a result of the increase of 37.7 thousand (1.7%) observed in the number of other inactive persons, those that do not search for a job nor are available to work (37.7 thousand;1.7%).
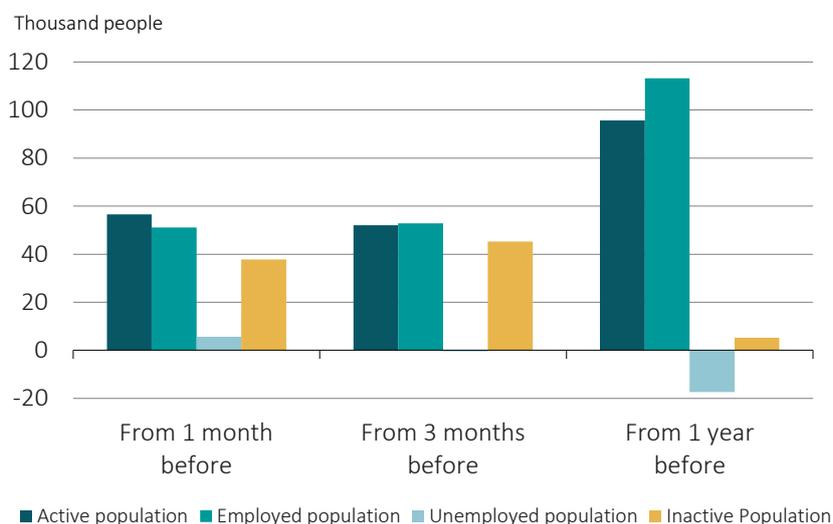
From three months before, the active population increased by 52.1 thousand (1.0%) due to the increase of the employed population (52.8 thousand; 1.1%) and the maintenance of the unemployed population remained. The inactive population increased by 45.3 thousand (1.9%) following the increase in the number of other inactive persons, those that do not search for a job nor are available to work (44.4 thousand, 2.0%).

The active population increased by 95.7 thousand (1.8%) compared to January 2023 because of the increase observed in the employed population (113.2 thousand; 2.3%) that surpassed the decrease of the unemployed population (17.4 thousand; 4.7%). The inactive population increased by 5.3 thousand people (0.2%), mainly due to the decrease in the number of other inactive persons (9.2 thousand; 0.4%).

These results determined the following changes in the unemployment rate, which stood at 6.6% in January 2024: a positive change of 0.1 pp from December 2023, a negative change from October 2023 and of 0.4 pp from January 2023.

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

(seasonally adjusted data)

Also in January 2024, labour underutilisation covered 635.6 thousand people, up from the previous month (6.8 thousand; 1.1%), down from three months before (4.0 thousand; 0.6%) and from a year earlier (21.3 thousand, 3.2%). The labour underutilisation rate was estimated at 11.6%, remaining unchanged from December 2023, decreasing by 0.2 pp from October 2023 and by 0.6 pp from January 2023.

In **February 2024**, compared to the previous month, the active population increased by 4.1 thousand (0.1%) and the inactive population increased by 1.5 thousand (0.1%). The change of the active population resulted from the increase of 7.2 thousand (2.1%) in the unemployed population, which exceed the decrease of the employed population (3.2 thousand; 0.1%). The change of the inactive population was mainly explained by the increase in the number of other inactive persons (9.3 thousand; 0.4%), which surpassed the decrease in the remaining components of that population.

The increase of 60.0 thousand people (1.1%) observed in the active population from three months before resulted from the increase of 48.9 thousand (1.0%) in the employed population and of 11.1n the unemployed population. The increase of the inactive population (40.4 thousand; 1.7%) was due to the increase in the number of other inactive persons (51.7%; 2.3%), which surpassed the decreased in the remain inactive groups.

The active population increased by 87.4 thousand (1.7%) from February 2023 following the increase in the employed population (91.6 thousand; 1.9%) that exceeded the decrease of the unemployed population (4.2 thousand; 1.1%). The inactive population increased by 19.7 thousand people (0.8%), mostly due to the increase in the number of other inactive persons (31.3 thousand; 1.4%).

These results determined the following changes in the unemployment rate, which stood at 6.7% in February 2024, up from the previous month and from three months before (0.1 pp in both) and down from the same month of 2023 (0.2 pp).

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – February 2024

Figure 2. Change in the active, employed, unemployed and inactive population in February 2024

(seasonally adjusted data)
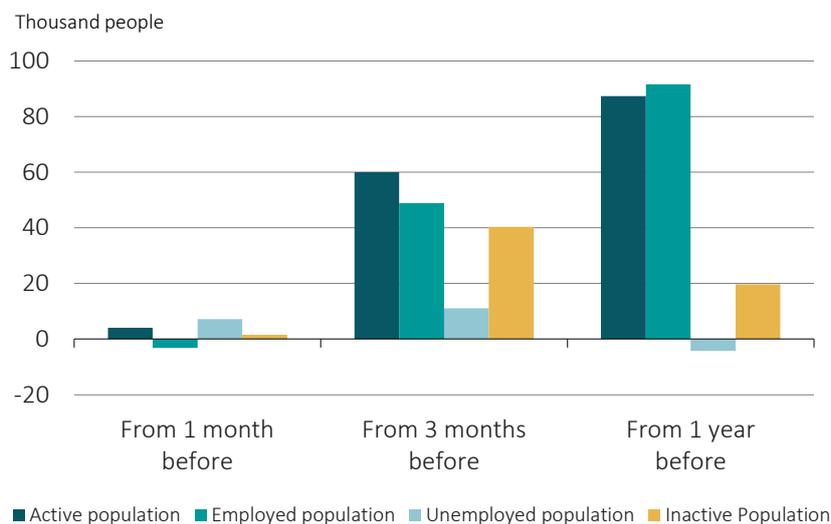
Note: The February 2024 estimates are provisional.

Also in February 2024, labour underutilisation covered 633.2 thousand people, down from the previous month (2.4 thousand; 0.4%), from three months before (3.0 thousand; 0.5%) and from the same month of 2023 (20.9 thousand; 3.2%). The labour underutilisation rate – estimated at 11.5% – decreased in the three periods under comparison: 0.1 pp, 0.2 pp and 0.6 pp., respectively.

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

In February 2024, the active population (5,359.6 thousand) recorded the highest value since the beginning of the time series in 1998, having the employed population (5,000.2 thousand), in that month, standing slightly below the maximum of January (5,0003.4 thousand).

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

(seasonally adjusted data)
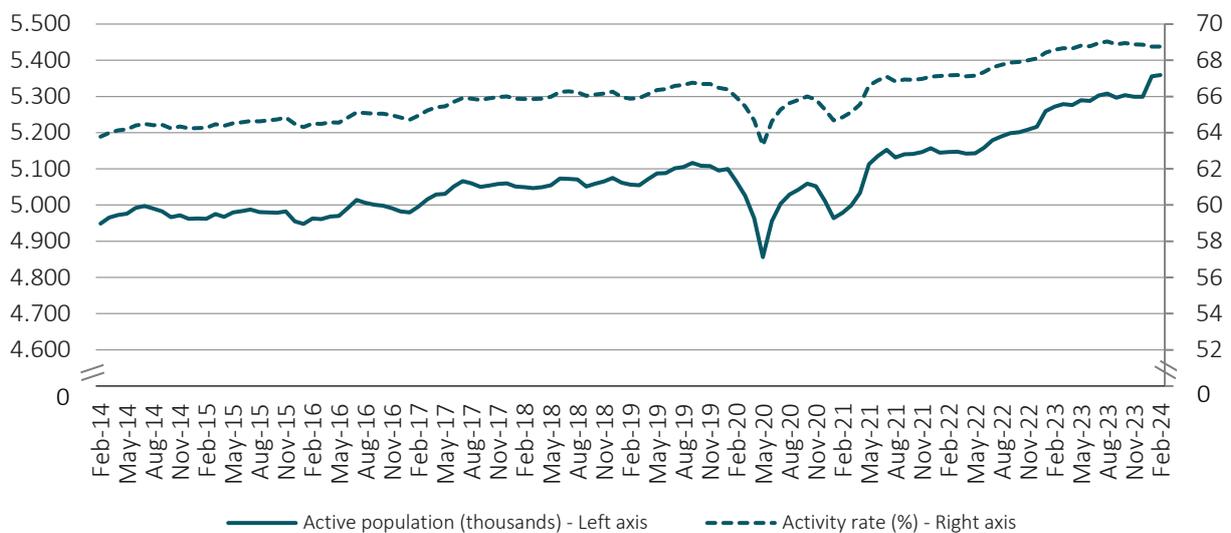
Note: The February 2024 estimates are provisional.

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

(seasonally adjusted data)

Note: The February 2024 estimates are provisional.
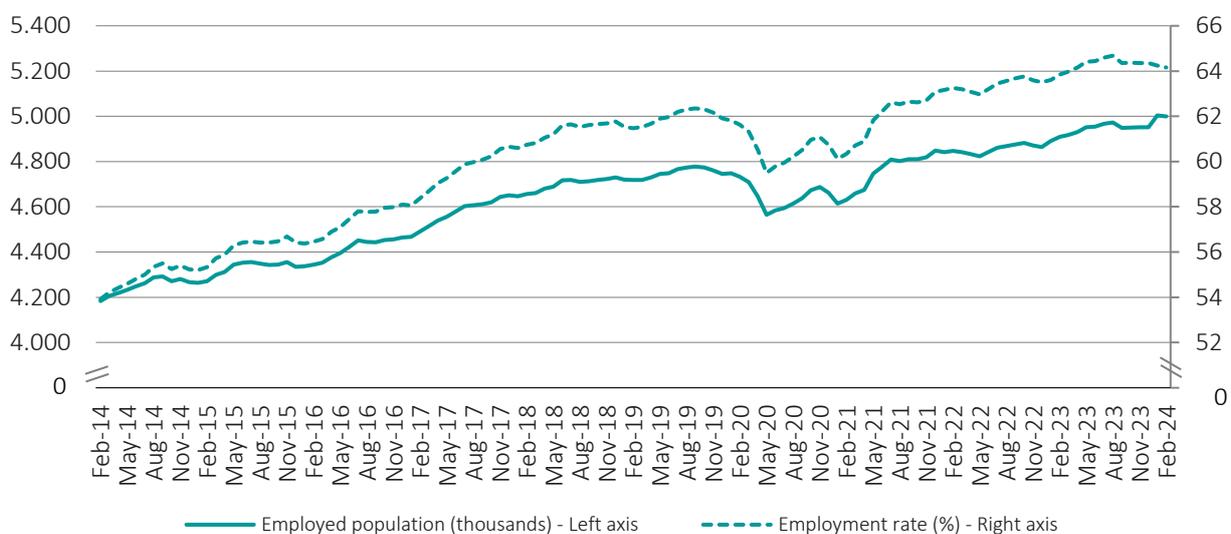
MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – February 2024

In February 2024, the unemployment rate stood at 6.7%, above the previous month (6.6%), while the inactivity rate (31.2%) remained unchanged from the previous month, the highest value since June 2023 (31.2%).

Figure 5. Unemployed population and unemployment rate

(seasonally adjusted data)
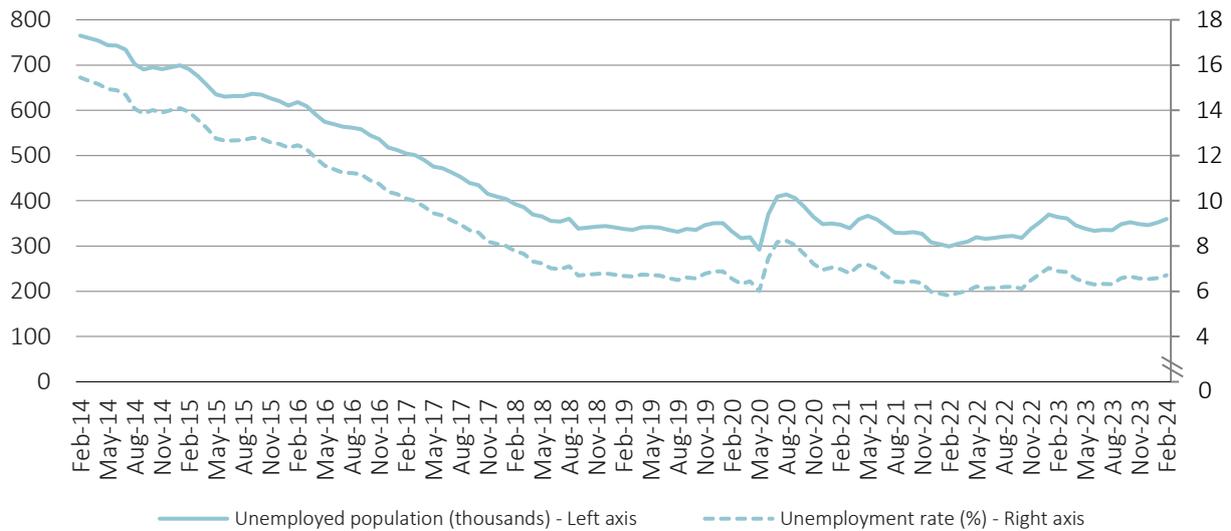
Note: The February 2024 estimates are provisional.

Figure 6. Inactive population and inactivity rate

(seasonally adjusted data)

Note: The February 2024 estimates are provisional.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – February 2024
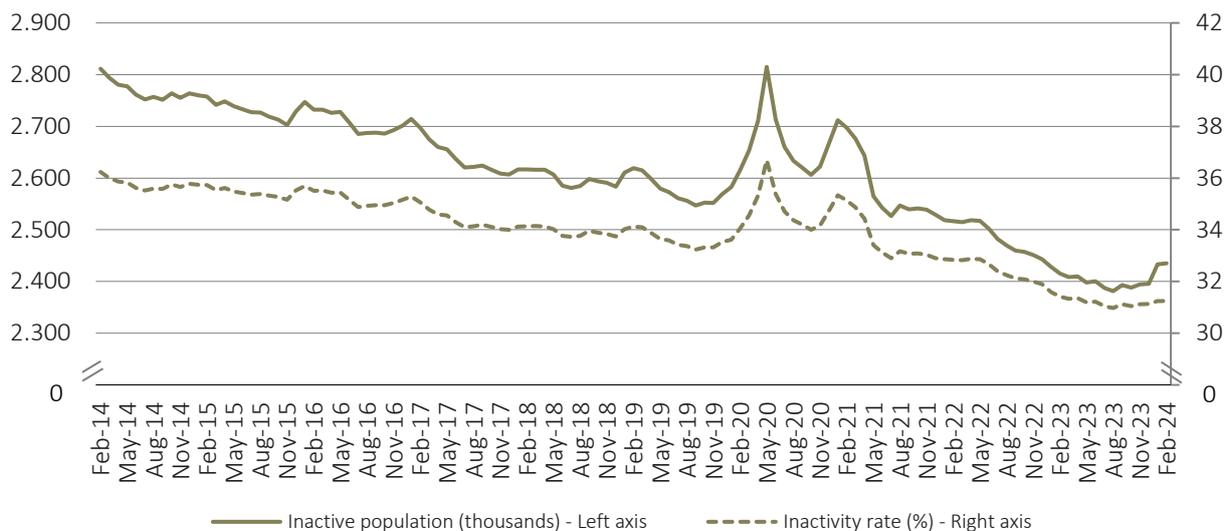
The labour underutilisation has decreased in February 2024 to 633.2 thousand, the same as the labour underutilisation rate (11.5%).

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

(seasonally adjusted data)

— Labour underutilisation (thousands) - Left axis   ----- Labour underutilisation rate (%) - Right axis

Note: The February 2024 estimates are provisional.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – February 2024

Criteria used when classifing the population aged 16 to 74 by labour status


```
Total population
(aged 16 to 74)
├── Not employed
│   ├── Searched for a job in the previous 4 weeks
│   │   ├── Available to start working in the following 2 weeks → Unemployed
│   │   └── Not available to start working in the following 2 weeks → Inactive seeking work, but not immediately available
│   └── Did not search for a job in the previous 4 weeks
│       ├── Want to work
│       │   ├── Available to start working in the following 2 weeks → Inactive available, but not seeking work
│       │   └── Not available to start working in the following 2 weeks → Other inactive
│       └── Do not want to work → Other inactive
└── Employed
    ├── Part-time workers
    │   ├── Want to work more hours and are available to start working those hours in the following 2 weeks → Underemployment of part-time workers
    │   └── Other part-time workers
    └── Full-time workers
```

Inactive population

Employed population

Unemployed + Inactive seeking work, but not immediately available + Inactive available, but not seeking work + Underemployment of part-time workers = **Labour underutilisation**
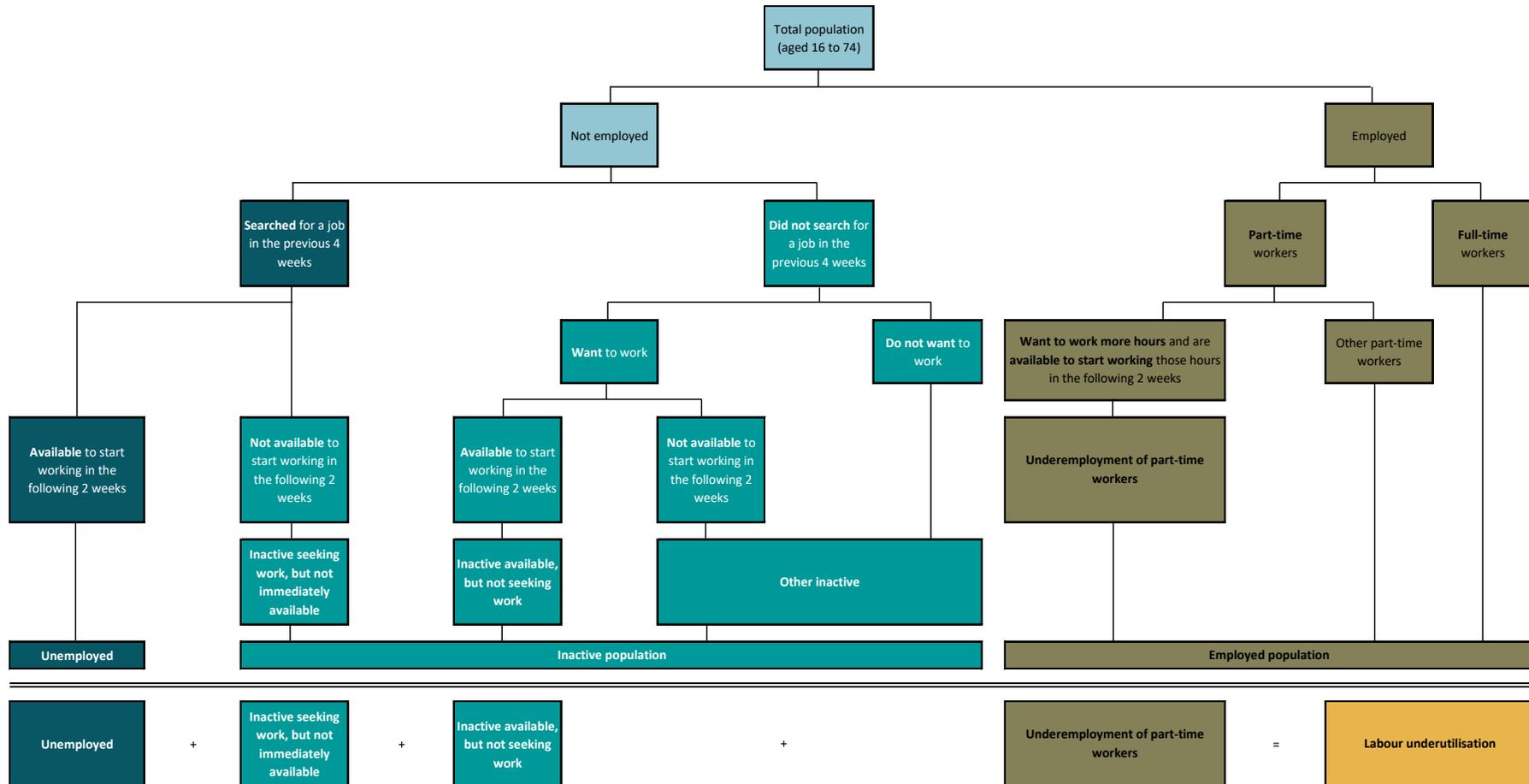
Table 1: Active population and activity rate by sex and age group (16 to 74 years)

	Seasonally adjusted data					Not seasonally adjusted data				
	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)
	Thousands									
Active population	**5,272.2**	**5,299.6**	**5,298.9**	**5,355.5**	**5,359.6**	**5,279.3**	**5,304.8**	**5,301.2**	**5,361.3**	**5,365.6**
Men	2,633.0	2,648.2	2,646.9	2,673.0	2,677.7	2,639.7	2,651.4	2,649.7	2,678.9	2,683.3
Women	2,639.2	2,651.4	2,651.9	2,682.5	2,682.0	2,639.6	2,653.4	2,651.5	2,682.4	2,682.3
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	377.7	387.6	386.0	391.4	386.0	373.6	390.5	385.6	389.5	381.9
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	4,894.4	4,912.0	4,912.8	4,964.2	4,973.6	4,905.7	4,914.3	4,915.6	4,971.7	4,983.7
	%									
Activity rate	**68.6**	**68.9**	**68.9**	**68.8**	**68.8**	**68.7**	**68.9**	**68.9**	**68.8**	**68.8**
Men	71.7	72.0	71.9	71.6	71.7	71.9	72.1	72.0	71.8	71.8
Women	65.8	66.0	66.1	66.1	66.1	65.8	66.1	66.0	66.1	66.1
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	38.2	39.3	39.2	39.5	39.0	37.8	39.6	39.2	39.3	38.6
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	73.1	73.2	73.2	73.0	73.1	73.2	73.3	73.3	73.1	73.2

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 years)

	Seasonally adjusted data					Not seasonally adjusted data				
	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)
	Thousands									
Employed population	**4,908.6**	**4,951.3**	**4,952.3**	**5,003.4**	**5,000.2**	**4,898.3**	**4,950.2**	**4,944.5**	**4,994.5**	**4,989.8**
Men	2,459.9	2,481.3	2,480.7	2,510.6	2,514.4	2,457.2	2,481.1	2,477.9	2,508.0	2,511.7
Women	2,448.7	2,470.0	2,471.6	2,492.8	2,485.8	2,441.1	2,469.2	2,466.6	2,486.5	2,478.1
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	306.3	298.3	298.2	298.1	297.0	300.3	297.1	294.4	293.3	291.0
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	4,602.3	4,653.0	4,654.1	4,705.2	4,703.2	4,597.9	4,653.1	4,650.1	4,701.2	4,698.7
	%									
Employment rate	**63.9**	**64.4**	**64.4**	**64.2**	**64.2**	**63.7**	**64.3**	**64.3**	**64.1**	**64.0**
Men	67.0	67.4	67.4	67.3	67.3	66.9	67.4	67.3	67.2	67.2
Women	61.0	61.5	61.6	61.5	61.2	60.8	61.5	61.4	61.3	61.0
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	31.0	30.3	30.3	30.1	30.0	30.4	30.2	29.9	29.6	29.4
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	68.7	69.4	69.4	69.2	69.1	68.6	69.4	69.3	69.1	69.1

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – February 2024

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

	Seasonally adjusted data					Not seasonally adjusted data				
	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)
	Thousands									
Unemployed population	**363.6**	**348.3**	**346.6**	**352.2**	**359.4**	**381.1**	**354.6**	**356.7**	**366.8**	**375.8**
Men	173.1	166.9	166.3	162.5	163.3	182.6	170.4	171.8	170.9	171.6
Women	190.5	181.4	180.3	189.7	196.2	198.5	184.3	184.9	195.9	204.2
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	71.5	89.4	87.9	93.3	89.0	73.3	93.4	91.2	96.3	90.8
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	292.1	258.9	258.7	258.9	270.5	307.7	261.3	265.5	270.6	285.0
	%									
Unemployment rate	**6.9**	**6.6**	**6.5**	**6.6**	**6.7**	**7.2**	**6.7**	**6.7**	**6.8**	**7.0**
Men	6.6	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.9	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.4
Women	7.2	6.8	6.8	7.1	7.3	7.5	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.6
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	18.9	23.1	22.8	23.8	23.1	19.6	23.9	23.6	24.7	23.8
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	6.0	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.4	6.3	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.7

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 years)

	Seasonally adjusted data					Not seasonally adjusted data				
	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)
	Thousands									
Inactive population	**2,415.2**	**2,394.5**	**2,395.6**	**2,433.4**	**2,434.9**	**2,408.1**	**2,389.3**	**2,393.3**	**2,427.6**	**2,428.9**
Men	1,040.9	1,031.3	1,033.1	1,059.6	1,057.2	1,034.2	1,028.1	1,030.4	1,053.7	1,051.6
Women	1,374.4	1,363.2	1,362.5	1,373.8	1,377.7	1,373.9	1,361.2	1,362.9	1,374.0	1,377.3
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	611.3	597.6	598.7	598.7	604.2	615.4	594.7	599.1	600.6	608.4
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	1,804.0	1,797.0	1,796.9	1,834.7	1,830.7	1,792.7	1,794.6	1,794.2	1,827.1	1,820.5
	%									
Inactivity rate	**31.4**	**31.1**	**31.1**	**31.2**	**31.2**	**31.3**	**31.1**	**31.1**	**31.2**	**31.2**
Men	28.3	28.0	28.1	28.4	28.3	28.1	27.9	28.0	28.2	28.2
Women	34.2	34.0	33.9	33.9	33.9	34.2	33.9	34.0	33.9	33.9
Youth (aged 16 to 24)	61.8	60.7	60.8	60.5	61.0	62.2	60.4	60.8	60.7	61.4
Adults (aged 25 to 74)	26.9	26.8	26.8	27.0	26.9	26.8	26.7	26.7	26.9	26.8

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – February 2024

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

	Seasonally adjusted data					Not seasonally adjusted data				
	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)	Feb 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024 (p)
	Thousands									
Labour underutilisation	**654.1**	**636.2**	**628.8**	**635.6**	**633.2**	**679.7**	**636.8**	**639.6**	**659.5**	**652.7**
Unemployed population	363.6	348.3	346.6	352.2	359.4	381.1	354.6	356.7	366.8	375.8
Underemployed part-time workers	149.4	147.2	145.0	146.1	144.2	154.9	146.5	144.4	146.9	144.9
Persons seeking work but not immediately available	31.0	33.0	32.7	33.7	28.1	30.2	31.3	33.4	35.3	27.2
Persons available to work but not seeking	110.1	107.9	104.5	103.5	101.5	113.6	104.4	105.1	110.5	104.8
	%									
Labour underutilisation rate	12.1	11.7	11.6	11.6	11.5	12.5	11.7	11.8	12.0	11.9

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey.

Note: (p) – Provisional estimates.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES – February 2024

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 from the 29th of November 2023 onwards reflect this revision.[2]

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).

---

[2] 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 – February 2024

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 – February 2024

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 January 2024 estimates (16 to 74) - main indicators -			
	Unit	**Seasonally adjusted data**	**Not seasonally adjusted data**
Active population		19.9	19.7
Employed population		14.8	15.5
Unemployed population	Thousands	5.2	4.3
Inactive population		- 19.4	- 19.1
Labour underutilisation		0.0	0.4
Employment rate		0.1	0.2
Unemployment rate		0.1	0.0
Men's unemployment rate		0.0	0.0
Women's unemployment rate	pp	0.2	0.1
Youth unemployment rate (16 to 24)		0.5	0.5
Adults' unemployment rate (25 to 74)		0.0	0.0
Labour underutilisation rate		0.0	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 – February 2024

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. (%) = (Unemployed population / Labour force) x 100

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

E.R. (%) = (Employed population / Working age population) x 100

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

A.R. (%) = (Labour force / Working age population) x 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. (%) = (Working age inactive population / Working age population) x 100

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

L.U.R. (%) = (Labour underutilisation / Extended labour force) x 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

2 May 2024: "Monthly Employment and Unemployment Statistics – March 2024".

3 May 2024: Eurostat News Release.