



28.5% OF THE UNEMPLOYED IN THE 1ST QUARTER OF 2024 MOVED INTO EMPLOYMENT IN THE 2ND QUARTER OF 2024

Of the total persons who were unemployed in the 1st quarter of 2024, 52.8% (195.1 thousand) remained in that state in the 2nd quarter of 2024, 28.5% (105.3 thousand) moved into employment and 18.7% (69.2 thousand) moved into inactivity.

In the same period, 31.3% (52.8 thousand) of unemployed men and 26.2% (52.5 thousand) of unemployed women moved into employment.

From the 1st quarter of 2024 to the 2nd quarter of 2024, 35.3% (87.3 thousand) of the short-term unemployed and 18.1% (24.5 thousand) of those inactives belonging to the “potential workforce” moved into employment.

At the same time, 9.3% (65.9 thousand) of those who were self-employed and 25.0% (92.3 thousand) of those who were unemployed in the previous quarter became employees.

Of the total of employees who, in the 1st quarter of 2024, had a temporary work contract or other contractual arrangement, 23.7% (166.9 thousand) moved into a permanent work contract in the 2nd quarter of 2024.

Of the total of workers who were part-time workers in the 1st quarter of 2024, 18.0% (77.4 thousand) changed to full-time work in the 2nd quarter of 2024.

The percentage of persons who remained employed between the 1st quarter of 2024 and the 2nd quarter of 2024, but changed jobs, stood at 3.2% (159.2 thousand).

In the same period, 3.8% (185.3 thousand) of those who remained employed continued to have two or more jobs and 2.1% (102.2 thousand) moved from one job to two jobs or more, with a corresponding increase of 0.4 p.p. and of 0.2 p.p. in relation to the previous quarter, respectively.

Of the total persons aged 16 to 34 who, in the 1st quarter of 2024, were not in employment, education or training (NEET), 20.9% (44.4 thousand) moved into employment, while 17.6% (37.6 thousand) started to attend education or training in the 2nd quarter of 2024. In both cases, there was an increase of 0.8 pp and of 2.6 pp compared to the previous quarter, respectively.

Following the revision of the estimates produced from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), with reference to the final results of the 2021 Census as explained in the Press Release “[Employment Statistics – 2nd quarter of 2024](#)” and in the “[Note on the revision of the Labour Force Survey estimates](#)”, released on 7 August 2024, the labour market flows back series (quarterly and annual; from the 1st quarter of 2011 to the 1st quarter of 2024 and from 2011 to



2023) have also been revised. These back series are available on the Statistics Portugal’s website, as well as in the files attached to this Press Release.

Of the total persons who were employed in the 1st quarter of 2024, 96.9% (4,901.1 thousand) remained in that state in the 2nd quarter of 2024, while 1.2% (60.8 thousand) moved into unemployment and 1.9% (97.5 thousand) changed into inactivity (Figures 1 and 2 and Table 1 in the annex).

At the same time, 52.8% (195.1 thousand) of the unemployed remained unemployed, while 28.5% (105.3 thousand) moved into employment and 18.7% (69.2 thousand) into inactivity.

As a result, the net flow of employment (that is, total inflows minus total outflows) was positive and estimated at 40.5 thousand persons (as the quarterly change of the employed population in the 2nd quarter of 2024). The net flow of unemployment was negative and estimated at 37.6 thousand persons (as the quarterly change of the unemployed population in the 2nd quarter of 2024), as the number of persons who moved into unemployment (136.9 thousand) was lower than the number of those who left that state (174.5 thousand).

Figure 1. Quarterly labour market flows
(thousand persons)

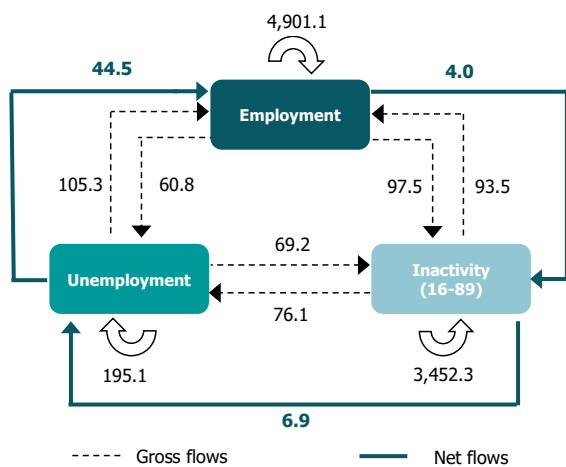
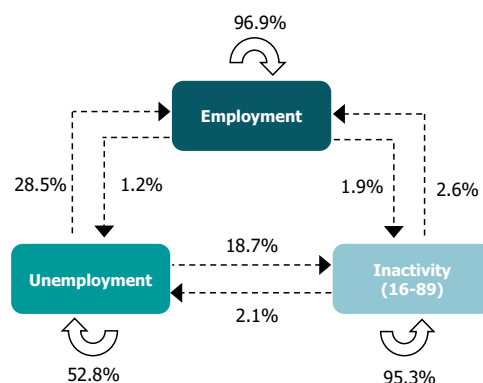


Figure 2. Quarterly labour market flows
(in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Considering the flows from unemployment by sex (Figures 3 and 4), it is estimated that 31.3% (52.8 thousand) of unemployed men and 26.2% (52.5 thousand) of unemployed women in the 1st quarter of 2024 moved into employment in the 2nd quarter of 2024.

In the same period, 15.6% (26.3 thousand) of men and 21.4% (42.9 thousand) of women in unemployment moved into inactivity.

Figure 3. Unemployment quarterly flows – Males
(in % of initial status)

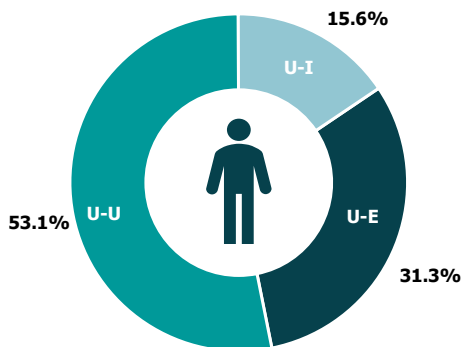
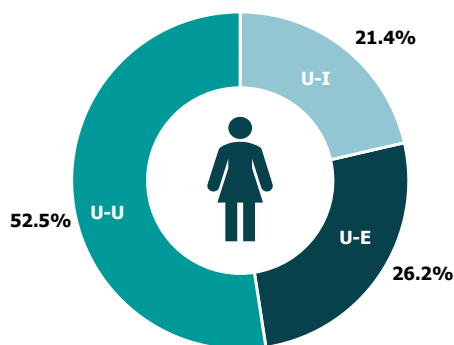


Figure 4. Unemployment quarterly flows – Females
(in % of initial status)

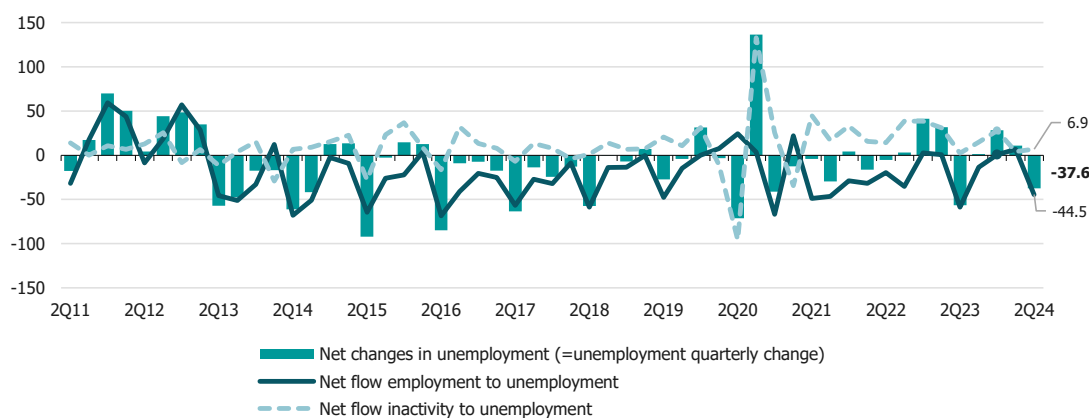


U-E: Transition unemployment-employment U-U: Transition unemployment-unemployment U-I: Transition unemployment-inactivity

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Figure 4 shows the quarterly changes and net flows into unemployment for the harmonized Labour Force Survey data series since 2011, thus allowing to quantify the contribution of each flow to the quarterly change in unemployment. In the 2nd quarter of 2024, the net flow between employment and unemployment is the one that contributes to the decrease in unemployment, as the difference between the number of persons who moved from employment to unemployment (60.8 thousand) and the number of those who moved from unemployment to employment (105.3 thousand) is negative and lower than the difference between the number of persons who moved from inactivity to unemployment (76.1 thousand) and those who moved from unemployment to inactivity (69.2 thousand).

Figure 4. Quarterly net flows into unemployment (thousand persons)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Figure 5 shows that 35.3% of short-term unemployed and 18.1% of those inactives belonging to the “potential workforce” in the 1st quarter of 2024 moved into employment in the 2nd quarter of 2024. In the same period, 14.8% of long-term unemployed and 2.0% of “other inactive” also moved into employment.

According to Figure 6, 27.6% of those inactives in the “potential workforce” in the 1st quarter of 2024 moved into unemployment in the 2nd quarter of 2024. These are non-employed persons who, in the 1st quarter of 2024, 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 2nd quarter of 2024, met both criteria (active search and availability to start working), thus becoming part of the unemployed population.

In addition, 35.8% of those inactives who were in the “potential workforce” in the 1st quarter of 2024 moved into the “other inactivity” in the 2nd quarter of 2024, which means that they no longer actively search for a job and are not available to start working in the reference period, thus staying further away from the labour market.

Figure 5. Quarterly flows between employment, unemployment (by duration) and type of inactivity (in % of initial status)

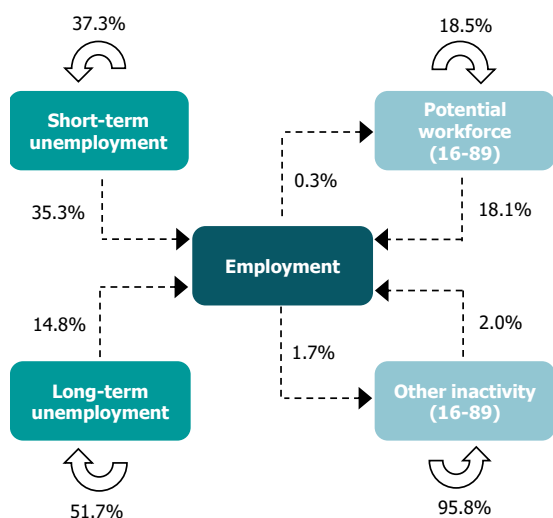
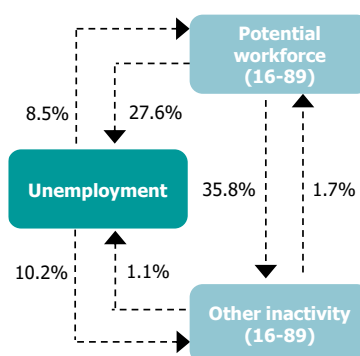


Figure 6. Quarterly flows between unemployment and type of inactivity (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Notes:

Potential workforce - the group of inactives available to work, but not looking for a job and of inactives searching for a job, but not available to work;
Other inactivity - includes every inactive person who is not part of the “Potential workforce”.

Figure 7 shows the quarterly flows from short-term and long-term unemployment to employment (in % of the initial status) referring to the harmonized series since 2011. In the case of the transition from short-term unemployment to employment, there was an increase of 7.3 percentage points (pp) compared to the previous quarter and a decrease of 4.0 pp in relation to the same quarter of the previous year. The transition from long-term unemployment to employment decreased in relation to the two comparison periods: 0.3 pp and 0.8 pp,



respectively. The transition rates from short-term unemployment to employment are consistently higher than those for long-term unemployment.

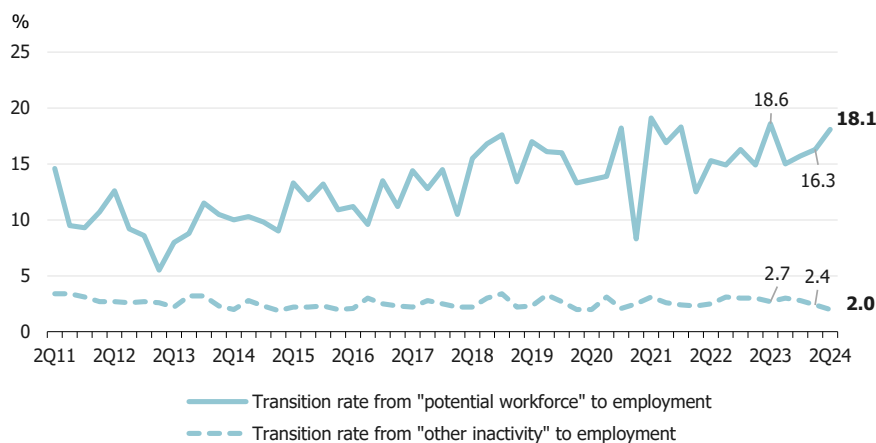
Figure 7. Quarterly flows between unemployment (by duration) and employment (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

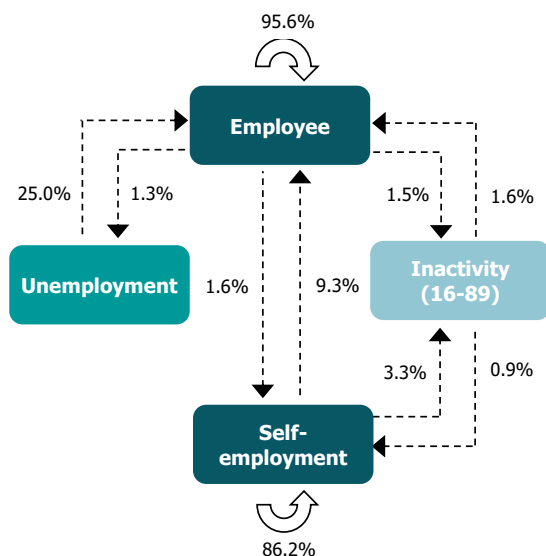
In the case of flows into employment by type of inactivity (Figure 8), the results indicate an increase of 1.8 pp in the transition from the “potential workforce” to employment between the previous quarter and the current quarter. Compared to the same quarter of the previous year, this flow decreased by 0.5 pp.

Figure 8. Quarterly flows between inactivity (by type) and employment (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Figure 9. Quarterly flows between professional status, unemployment and inactivity (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Note: Due to low reliability, estimates regarding the flows between self-employment and unemployment are not published (these are transitions with little expression in the labour market).

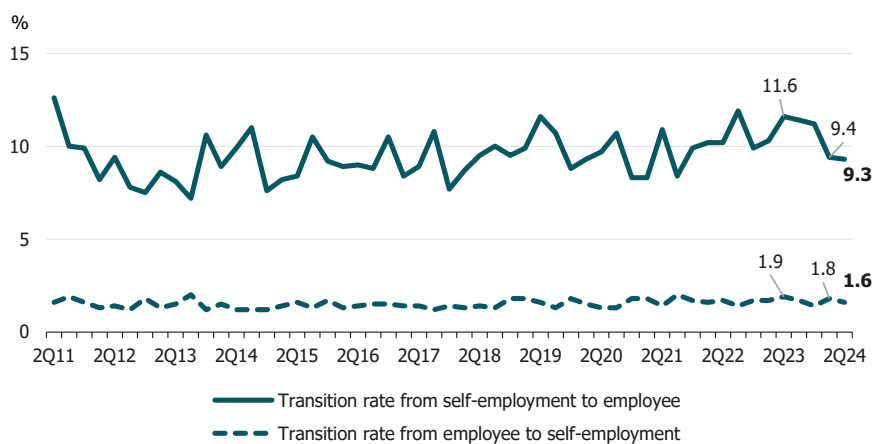
From the 1st quarter of 2024 to the 2nd quarter of 2024, 9.3% (65.9 thousand) of those self-employed became employees. On the other hand, 1.6% (68.7 thousand) of those who were employees moved into self-employment. In the same period, 25.0% (92.3 thousand) of the unemployed became employees.

Lastly, of the total of employees in the 1st quarter of 2024, 1.5% (65.4 thousand) moved into inactivity in the 2nd quarter of 2024, while 3.3% (23.2 thousand) of those who were self-employed moved into inactivity.

According to Figure 10, the percentage of self-employed workers who, in the 2nd quarter of 2024, moved to employee decreased by 0.1 pp compared to the previous quarter and by 2.3 pp compared to the same period of the previous year.



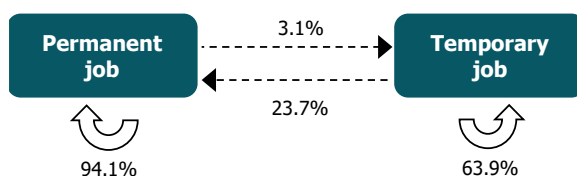
Figure 10. Quarterly flows by professional status (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Of all employees that had a temporary job in the 1st quarter of 2024, 23.7% (166.9 thousand) changed to a permanent job in the 2nd quarter of 2024.

Figure 11. Quarterly flows by permanency of the job (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Notes:

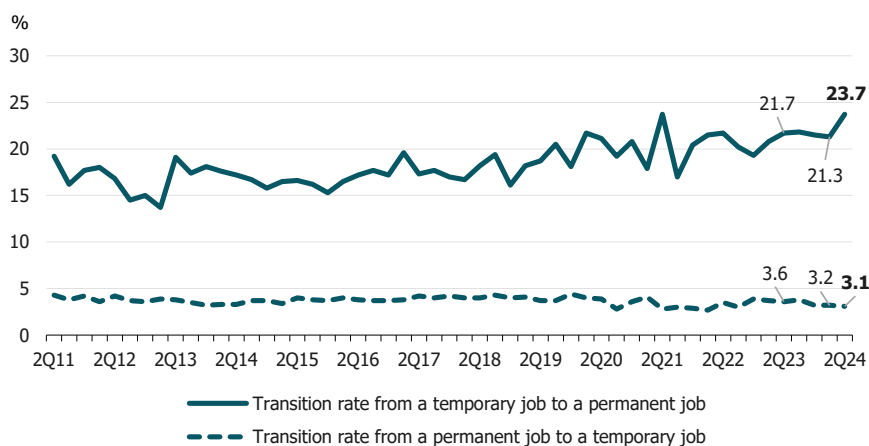
Permanent job - employees with a permanent job or work contract of unlimited duration.

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

Figure 12 shows that the percentage of employees who had a temporary job and changed to a permanent job in the 2nd quarter of 2024 increased 2.4 pp in relation to the previous quarter and 2.0 pp compared to the same quarter of the previous year.



Figure 12. Quarterly flows by permanency of the job (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

From the 1st quarter of 2024 to the 2nd quarter of 2024, 18.0% (77.4 thousand) of all workers with a part-time job moved into a full-time job. At the same time, 15.2% (44.9 thousand) of all employees with a part-time job changed to a full-time job.

Figure 13. Quarterly flows between full-time and part-time workers (in % of initial status)

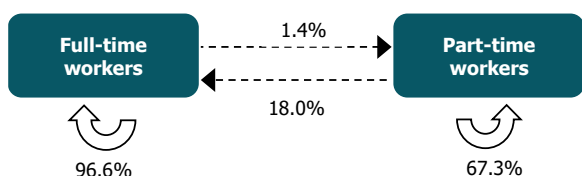
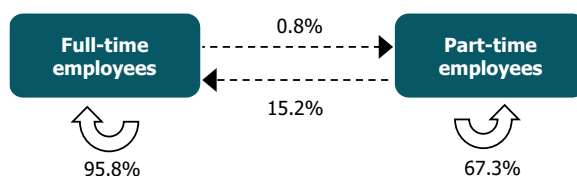


Figure 14. Quarterly flows between full-time and part-time employees (in % of initial status)

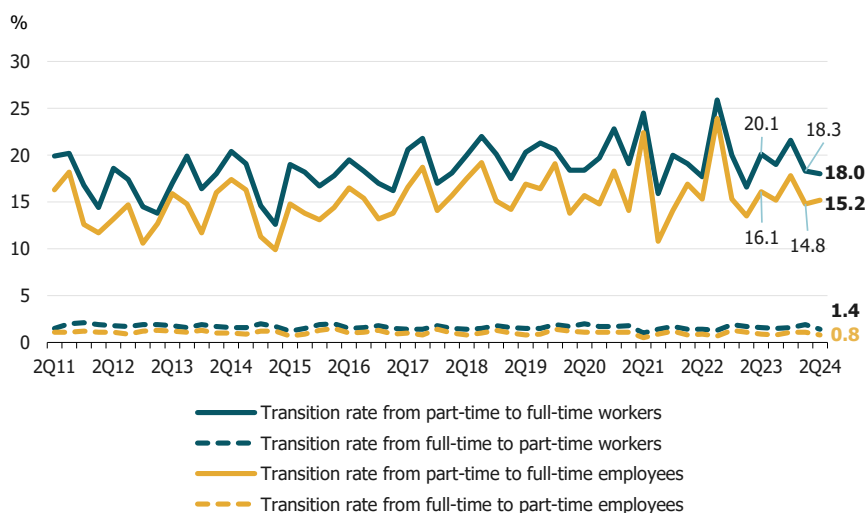


Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Compared to the previous quarter, the flow from part-time to full-time workers decreased by 0.3 pp, while in comparison to the same quarter of 2023 it decreased by 2.1 pp. Considering the employees, the flow increased by 0.4 pp and decreased by 0.9 pp in relation to the two comparison periods, respectively.



Figure 15. Quarterly flows between full-time and part-time workers and employees (in % of initial status)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey – 2nd quarter of 2024.

The percentage of persons who remained in employment between the 1st quarter of 2024 and the 2nd quarter of 2024, but changed jobs, was 3.2% (159.2 thousand), having decreased by 0.2 pp compared to the previous quarter and by 0.4 pp in relation to the same quarter of 2023.

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.

Figure 16. Quarterly job-to-job transition rate (in % of transition employment - employment)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

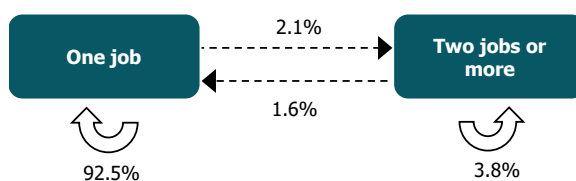


In addition to the information disseminated in the last Press Release, on 15 May 2024, the movements between number of jobs of those remaining in employment, as well the transitions between young persons aged 16 to 34 who are not in employment, education or training (NEET)¹ and employment, education or training are also presented.

Figure 17 shows that of the total persons who remained in employment between the 1st quarter of 2024 and the 2nd quarter of 2024, 3.8% (185.3 thousand) continued to have two or more jobs and 2.1% (102.2 thousand) moved from a single job to two jobs or more, having these percentages increased by 0.4 p.p. and 0.2 p.p. in relation to the previous quarter, respectively.

In the same period, 1.6% (78.3 thousand) of those who remained employed moved from two jobs or more to one job, which represents a decrease of 0.2 p.p. compared to the previous quarter.

Figure 17. Quarterly flows between number of jobs of the population remaining in employment
(in % of transition employment - employment)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

Notes:

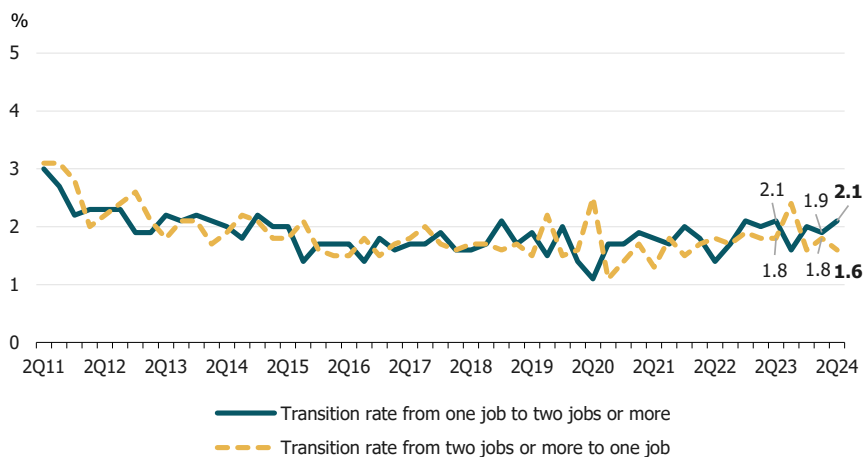
One job - Employed population running only one economic activity.

Two or more jobs - Employed population running other economic activities, in addition to the main activity.

The harmonized data series since 2011 shows low transition rates in relation to those persons who remain employed within a quarter and move from two or more jobs to a single job, which ranges between 1.1% (3rd quarter of 2020) and 3.1% (2nd and 3rd quarters of 2011). In the same way, the percentage of persons remaining in employment and moving from a single job to two or more jobs ranges between 1.1% (2nd quarter of 2020) and 3.0% (2nd quarter of 2011).

¹ NEET - young persons of a certain age group who, in the reference week, were not employed (i.e., were unemployed or inactive), nor attended any education or training activity that week or in the previous three weeks. In general, persons aged between 15 and 24 are considered young (16 to 24 years old, in the case of Portugal) but, in the context of prolonging the transition to adulthood, this condition has been considering other wider age groups as, for example, from 25 to 34 or from 15 to 34 years old (16 to 34 years old, in the case of Portugal). However, due to reliability only the flow estimates regarding the young persons aged 16 to 34 are presented in this Press Release.

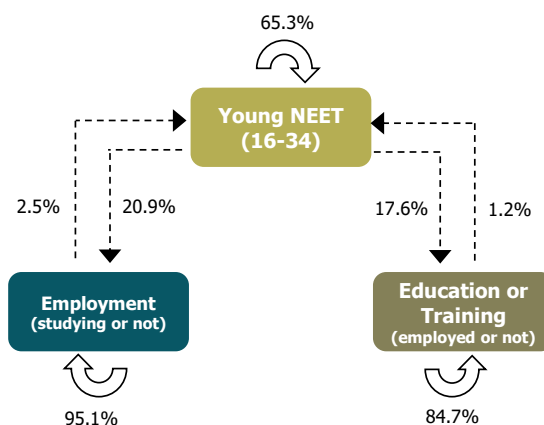
Figure 18. Quarterly flows between number of jobs of the population remaining in employment (in % of transition employment - employment)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

From the 1st quarter of 2024 to the 2nd quarter of 2024, 65.3% (139.1 mil) of all young persons aged 16 to 34 who were not in employment, education or training (NEET) remained in that state, while 20.9% (44.4 mil) moved to employment and 17.6% (37.6 mil) started to attend education or training. Both percentages increased compared to the previous quarter (0.8 p.p. and 2.6 p.p., respectively).

Figure 19. Quarterly flows between young persons aged 16 to 34 who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) and employment, education or training (in % of initial state)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

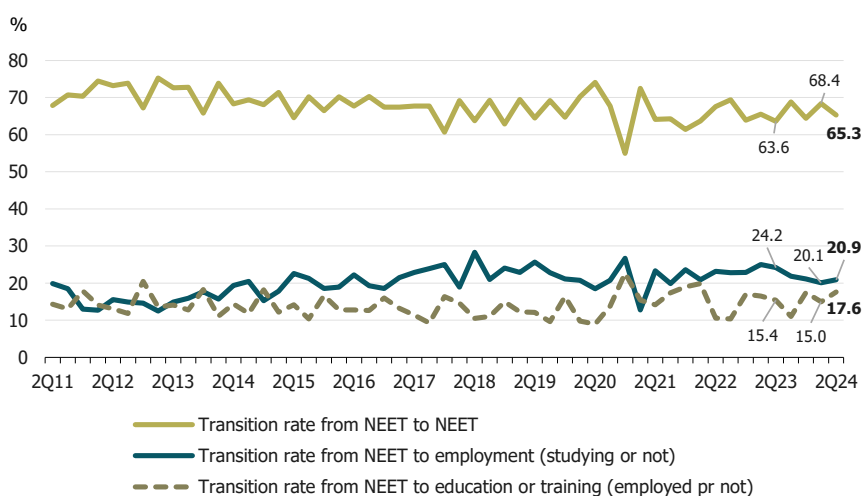
Notes:

Young NEET (16-34) - young persons aged 16 to 34 who are not in employment, education or training.
 Employment (studying or not) - young persons aged 16 to 34 who are employed, regardless of whether they are or not in education or training.
 Education or Training (employed or not) - young persons aged 16 to 34 who are in education or training, regardless of whether they are or not in employment.
 Those who are simultaneously in employment and in education or training are counted in both states. Therefore, the transitions (in % of initial status) from any state to the other states (for example, NEET to NEET, NEET to employment and NEET to education or training) add up more than 100%.



Considering the harmonized estimates since 2011, it is concluded that the transition rates from NEET (young persons aged 16 to 34) to employment are generally higher than the transition rates to education or training, which range between 12.5% (1st quarter of 2013) and 28.3% (2nd quarter of 2018), and between 9.0% (2nd quarter of 2020) and 22.7% (4th quarter of 2020), respectively.

Figure 20. Quarterly flows between young persons aged 16 to 34 who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) and employment, education or training (in % of initial state)



Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.

The results of the 1st quarter of 2024², released by Eurostat on 13 June 2024³, concerning the quarterly labour market flows of the population aged between 15 and 74⁴, indicate that 26.0% of those who were unemployed in Portugal in the 4th quarter of 2023 moved into employment, this value being 3.0 pp higher than that of the European Union (23.0%). In the same period, 17.8% of the unemployed in Portugal changed to inactivity, while in the European Union this flow stood at 23.1%.

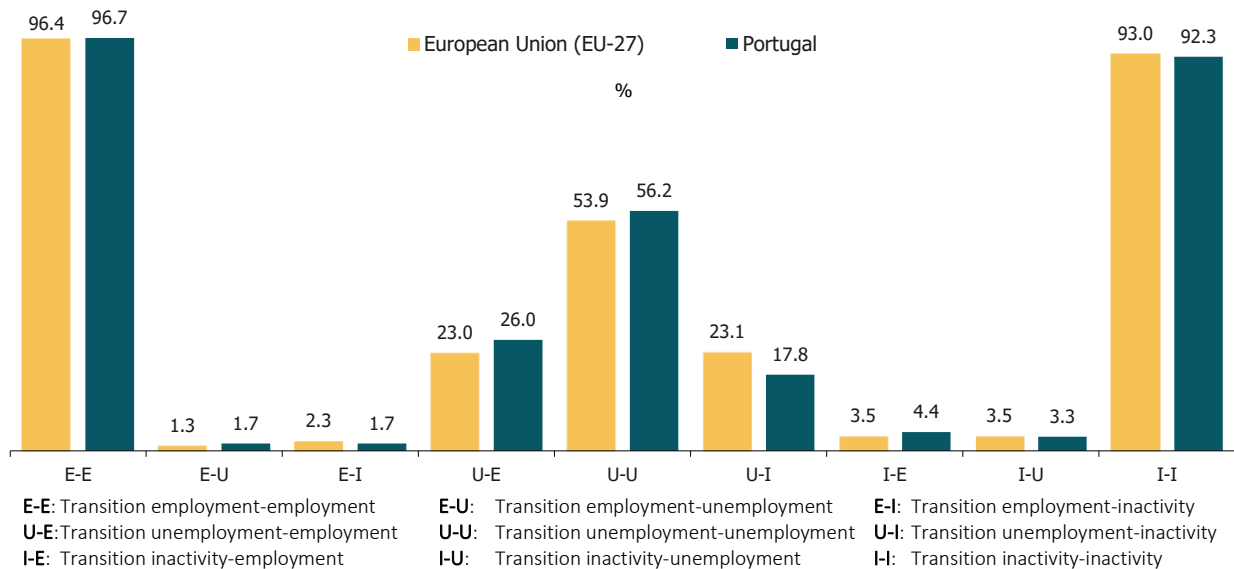
² The estimates for Portugal are still based on weights calibrated to the Monthly Estimates of the Resident Population according to the 2011 Census.

³ The European Union Labour Market Flows for the 2nd quarter of 2024 are expected to be released by Eurostat on 13 September 2024.

⁴ For Portugal, those aged 15 in the 4th quarter of 2023 were included in the inactivity into inactivity flow (remaining in inactivity).



Figure 21. Labour market flows in the 1st quarter of 2024 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, 2023Q4-2024Q1 (population aged 15-74; in % of initial status) [[LFSI_LONG_Q](#)].

Note: The values in this figure do not yet reflect the revision of estimates presented in the current Press Release, since the revised data will be transmitted to Eurostat jointly with this release.



Table 1. Quarterly and annual labour market flows – Main results

Portugal	Quarterly value			Rate of change	
	2Q-2023	1Q-2024	2Q-2024	On year	On quarter
Flows	Thousand persons			%	
Transition employment - employment	4 814.0	4 871.6	4 901.1	1.8	0.6
Transition employment - unemployment	59.1	90.7	60.8	2.8	- 33.0
Transition employment - inactivity	114.7	121.4	97.5	- 15.0	- 19.7
Transition unemployment - employment	117.9	83.9	105.3	- 10.7	25.5
Transition unemployment - unemployment	195.2	204.4	195.1	- 0.1	- 4.6
Transition unemployment - inactivity	72.7	70.4	69.2	- 4.8	- 1.7
Transition inactivity - employment	119.5	103.9	93.5	- 21.7	- 10.0
Transition inactivity - unemployment	75.1	74.4	76.1	1.4	2.3
Transition inactivity - inactivity	3 385.7	3 407.1	3 452.3	2.0	1.3
Flows	In % of initial status			pp	
Transition employment - employment	96.5	95.8	96.9	0.4	1.1
Transition employment - unemployment	1.2	1.8	1.2	-	-0.6
Transition employment - inactivity	2.3	2.4	1.9	-0.4	-0.5
Transition unemployment - employment	30.6	23.4	28.5	-2.1	5.1
Transition unemployment - unemployment	50.6	57.0	52.8	2.2	-4.2
Transition unemployment - inactivity	18.8	19.6	18.7	-0.1	-0.9
Transition inactivity - employment	3.3	2.9	2.6	-0.7	-0.3
Transition inactivity - unemployment	2.1	2.1	2.1	-	-
Transition inactivity - inactivity	94.6	95.0	95.3	0.7	0.3

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey - 2nd quarter of 2024.



TECHNICAL NOTE

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. However, it should be noted 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 this suspension, Statistics Portugal decided to incorporate the variable "highest level of education completed" in the calibration weighting process from the 2nd quarter of 2020 to the 3rd quarter of 2023, in addition to the information usually used (monthly estimates of the resident population by sex, age group and region).⁵

In the 2nd quarter of 2024, the Labour Force Survey sample weights were calibrated by using the resident population estimates calculated from the final results of Census 2021. The back series (quarterly and annual) of the estimates released as part of the "Employment Statistics" publication have been revised and are available on the Statistics Portugal's website⁶. 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.

The quarterly labour market flows 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.

The quarterly flows subsample weights are derived from the LFS cross-sectional weights of the reference quarter and then calibrated to compensate the sample size reduction and to ensure the consistency between quarterly flows estimates and LFS quarterly estimates according to:

⁵For more information, users should consult the "[Methodological note on the revision of the Labour Force Survey data: the context of the COVID-19 pandemic](#)", published on 8 November 2023 together with the Press Release "[Employment Statistics – 3rd quarter of 2023](#)".

⁶For more information on the impact of this revision, users should consult the "[Note on the revision of the Labour Force Survey estimates](#)" published on 7 August 2024 together with the Press Release "[Employment Statistics - 2nd quarter 2024](#)".



- i) estimates of the employed, unemployed and inactive population by sex and ten-year age groups in the reference quarter;
- ii) estimates of the employed, unemployed and inactive population by sex in the previous quarter;
- iii) estimates of the resident population by subregions (LFS calibration weighting regions) in the reference quarter;
- iv) estimates of the employed population by professional status in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter;
- v) estimates of employees by type of work contract in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter;
- 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;
- vii) estimates of the unemployed population by duration of unemployment in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter;
- viii) estimates of the inactive population by type of inactivity in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter;
- ix) estimates of the employed population by number of jobs in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter;
- x) estimates of young persons aged 16 to 34 by employment, education and training status in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter;
- xi) estimates by educational attainment in the reference quarter and in the previous quarter.

The estimates for the 2011 data series (in force from the 1st quarter of 2011 to the 4th quarter of 2020) were revised in the light of the reconciliation exercise with the 2021 data series, thus making it possible to compare the estimates between the two series.

Due to consistency, quarterly 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. For this reason, the estimates of flows regarding the inactive population aged 16 to 89 may do not exactly match the published LFS inactive estimate or the population estimate for this age group (in the previous quarter) on the Statistics Portugal's website.

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

For more detailed information users should consult the "[Labour Force Survey methodological document](#)" (only in Portuguese) available at <https://smi.ine.pt/> (tab *Documentação metodológica; tema "Labour market"*).

The complete series of the main quarterly flows since 2011 are updated quarterly on the Statistics Portugal's website. In addition, all flow estimates for the last five periods are available in the Excel files attached to the Press Release, with the exception of the current quarter in which the complete series is released, including the revised annual flows.

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.

On year change

The year-on-year change compares the level of the variable in the reference quarter with that in the same quarter of the previous year. This change, given a stable seasonality pattern, is not affected by fluctuations of this nature. It may, however, be influenced by one-off effects in a specific quarter.

On quarter change

The quarterly change compares the level of the variable over two consecutive quarters. Although this indicator allows to monitor the recent pace of the variable, its computation is particularly influenced by seasonal effects and other specific effects in one of the quarters or both.

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