

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT PRECIPITATES, UNEMPLOYMENT RISES

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Executive Summary

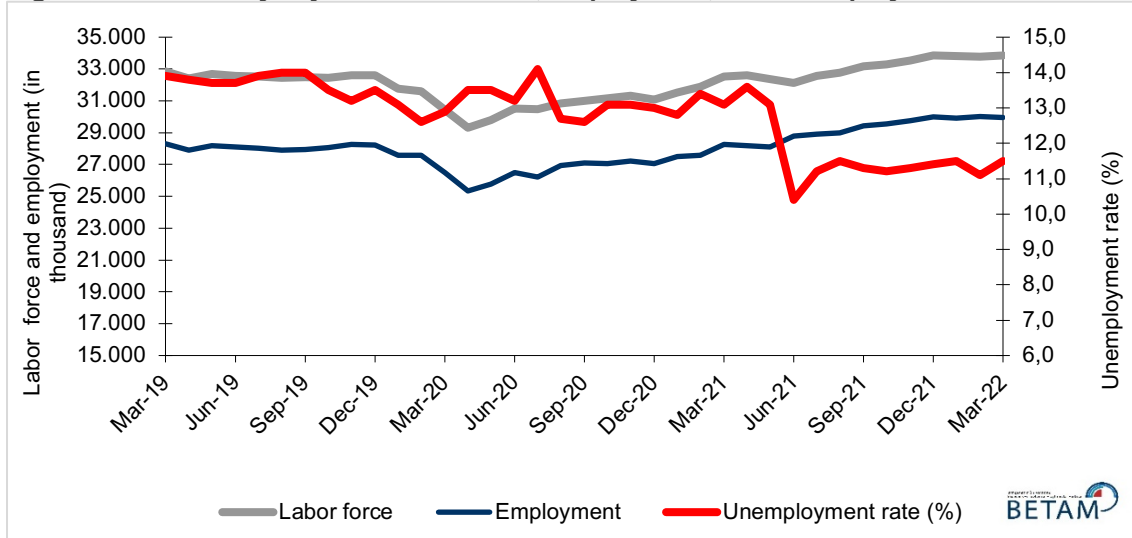
Since the number of employed persons decreased by 59 thousand and the number of unemployed persons increased by 153 thousand, the labor force rose by 96 thousand. As a result, the unemployment rate increased 0.4 pp to 11.5% from February to March.

Seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate edged up by 0.5 pp MoM to 13.9% as the female employment declined by 271 thousand while the number of unemployed females rose by 25. On the other hand, seasonally adjusted male unemployment rate rose by 0.4 pp to 10.3% following the increases in male employment and the number of unemployed males by 212 thousand and 129 thousand, respectively. Following these developments, the gender gap in the unemployment rates of females and males edged up to 3.6%.

Employment falls, the number of unemployed persons rises

According to the monthly seasonally adjusted data, the number of employed persons declined by 59 thousand MoM to 29 million 956 thousand and the number of unemployed persons increased by 153 thousand to 3 million 894 thousand. Therefore, the total labor force increased by 96 thousand to 33 million 851 thousand (Figure 1, Table 1). As a result, the unemployment rate rose by 0.4 pp to 11.5% in March. To note, the unemployment rate in February is revised from 10.7% to 11.1%.

Figure 1 : Seasonally adjusted labor force, employment, and unemployment



Source: Turkstat, Betam

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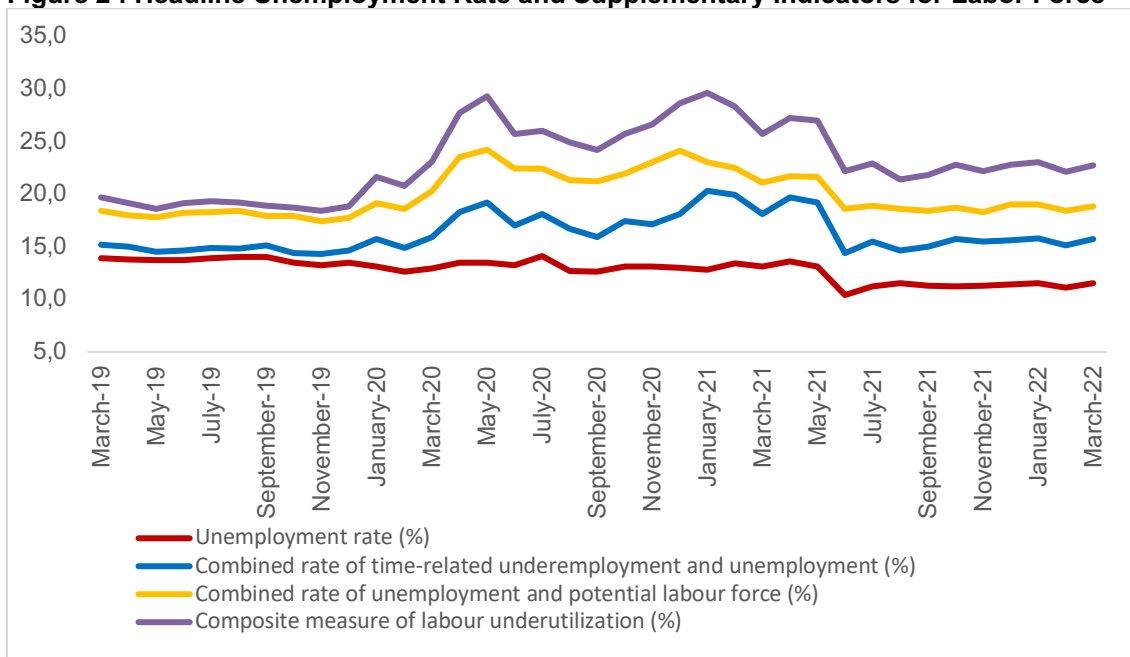
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Developments in the alternative unemployment rates

Box 1 reports the methods how Turkstat calculates the alternative unemployment rates. These measures consider both the time-related underemployment (those who are employed less than 40 hours a week but would like to increase their working hours, nevertheless, fail to do so) and the potential labor force (the individuals who are neither employed nor looking for a job but wish to work).

According to the seasonally adjusted data, "the combined rate of unemployment and the potential labor force" edged up by 0.4 pp to 18.8% while "general unemployment rate" increased 0.4 pp to 11.5%. Potential labor force rose by 15 thousand in March, following the increases of 55 thousand and 92 thousand in January and February, respectively. On the other hand, "the combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment" increased by 0.6 pp to 15.7% from February to March. "The composite measure of labor underutilization", which combines the two previous alternative unemployment metrics, rose from 22.1% to 22.7% (Figure 2, Table 4).

Figure 2 : Headline Unemployment Rate and Supplementary Indicators for Labor Force



Source: Turkstat, Betam

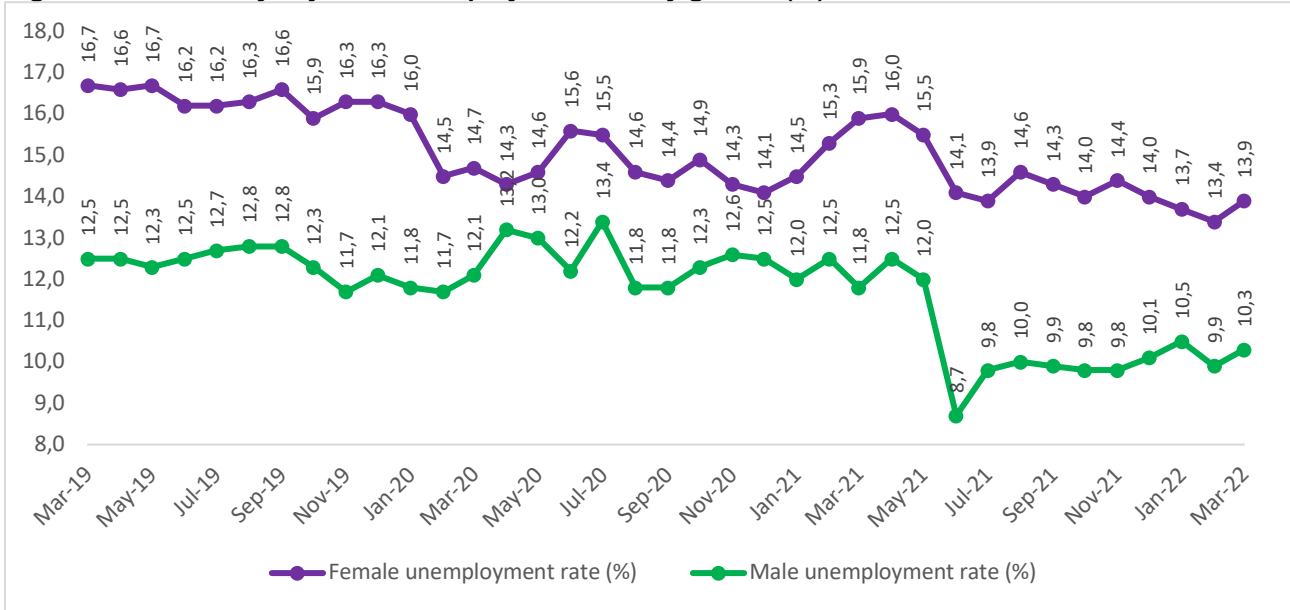
On the developments of sectorial employment

As known, Turkstat began to release monthly labor statistics instead of 3-month-average as of January 2021. Nevertheless, it was evident that there were huge swings in the monthly sectorial employment levels, which cannot be attributed to the economic conjuncture. With the release of 2021 Q4 labor statistics on February 15th, Turkstat announced that the monthly sectorial employment statistics will no longer be published. Indeed, the labor statistics that was released on March 10th did not include sectorial employment data. From now on, Betam will analyze the sectorial employment developments in its quarterly notes.

Female and male unemployment rates rise

Figure 3 shows seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for males and for females. Female employment ceased to rise following the cumulative increase of 623 thousand in the last six months and it fell by 271 thousand. On the other hand, the number of unemployed females increased MoM by 25 thousand. In light of these developments, the female unemployment rate rose by 0.5 pp to 13.9%. The number of unemployed males rose by 129 thousand while male employment increased by 212 thousand in March. Hence, the unemployment rate of males edged up from 9.9% to 10.3% (Table 3).

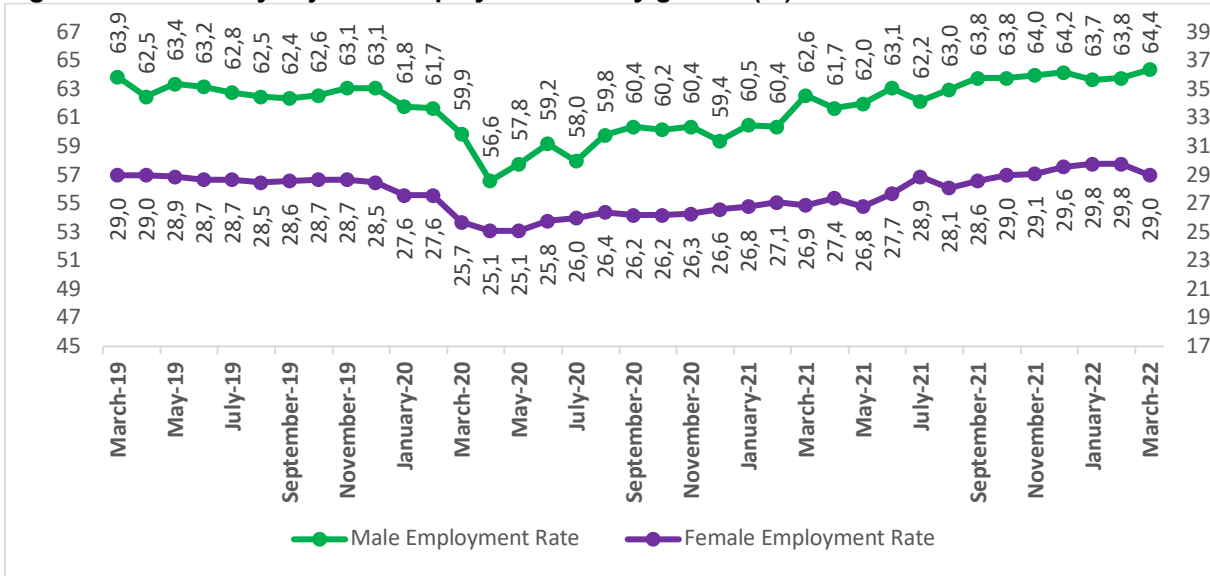
Figure 3 : Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate by gender (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam

The female employment rate dropped MoM to 29%, which is the level in October 2021 (Figure 4). The female employment rate is 1.4 pp above its pre-pandemic level (27.6% in January 2020). The female employment rate fell sharply in March 2022 after reaching its peak in December 2017 as it recovers from 2018 recession and the crisis of pandemic. On the other hand, the male employment rate increased by 0.6 pp to 64.4%.

Figure 4 : Seasonally adjusted employment rate by gender (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam

Table 1 : Seasonally adjusted labor force indicators (in thousands)

	Labor force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment rate	Monthly changes		
					Labor force	Employment	Unemployment
March-19	32858	28302	4556	13,9%			
April-19	32404	27920	4485	13,8%	-454	-382	-71
May-19	32672	28191	4481	13,7%	268	271	-4
June-19	32572	28108	4464	13,7%	-100	-83	-17
July-19	32538	28022	4516	13,9%	-34	-86	52
August-19	32439	27901	4538	14,0%	-99	-121	22
September-19	32490	27927	4564	14,0%	51	26	26
October-19	32435	28065	4370	13,5%	-55	138	-194
November-19	32589	28275	4314	13,2%	154	210	-56
December-19	32611	28217	4393	13,5%	22	-58	79
January-20	31762	27588	4174	13,1%	-849	-629	-219
February-20	31583	27598	3985	12,6%	-179	10	-189
March-20	30419	26490	3929	12,9%	-1164	-1108	-56
April-20	29310	25339	3971	13,5%	-1109	-1151	42
May-20	29780	25769	4011	13,5%	470	430	40
June-20	30521	26479	4043	13,2%	741	710	32
July-20	30489	26198	4291	14,1%	-32	-281	248
August-20	30833	26920	3913	12,7%	344	722	-378
September-20	31019	27099	3920	12,6%	186	179	7
October-20	31154	27069	4085	13,1%	135	-30	165
November-20	31315	27215	4101	13,1%	161	146	16
December-20	31089	27050	4039	13,0%	-226	-165	-62
January-21	31525	27487	4038	12,8%	436	437	-1
February-21	31868	27586	4282	13,4%	343	99	244
March-21	32519	28271	4248	13,1%	651	685	-34
April-21	32623	28175	4448	13,6%	104	-96	200
May-21	32368	28116	4252	13,1%	-255	-59	-196
June-21	32140	28788	3352	10,4%	-228	672	-900
July-21	32561	28924	3637	11,2%	421	136	285
August-21	32754	28987	3767	11,5%	193	63	130
September-21	33173	29412	3762	11,3%	419	425	-5
October-21	33281	29562	3719	11,2%	108	150	-43
November-21	33528	29736	3792	11,3%	247	174	73
December-21	33838	29979	3859	11,4%	310	243	67
January-22	33821	29921	3900	11,5%	-17	-58	41
February-22	33755	30015	3741	11,1%	-66	94	-159
March-22	33851	29956	3894	11,5%	96	-59	153

Source: Turkstat, Betam

Table 2 : Unemployment, alternative unemployment rates (%) levels (in thousand)

	Unemployment Rate (%)	Persons in Unemployment (in thousands)	Combined Rate of Time-Related Underemployment and Unemployment (%)	Time-Related Underemployed (in thousands)	Combined Rate of Unemployment and Potential Labor Force (%)	Potential Labor Force (in thousands)	Composite Measure of Labor Underutilization (%)	Total
Mar-19	13,9	4556	15,2	438	18,4	1826	19,7	6820
Apr-19	13,8	4485	15,0	376	18,0	1644	19,1	6504
May-19	13,7	4481	14,5	256	17,8	1624	18,6	6361
Jun-19	13,7	4464	14,6	292	18,2	1790	19,1	6545
Jul-19	13,9	4516	14,9	332	18,3	1761	19,3	6609
Aug-19	14,0	4538	14,8	263	18,4	1753	19,2	6554
Sep-19	14,0	4564	15,1	342	17,9	1525	18,9	6431
Oct-19	13,5	4370	14,4	301	17,9	1749	18,7	6420
Nov-19	13,2	4314	14,3	346	17,4	1642	18,4	6302
Dec-19	13,5	4393	14,6	368	17,7	1676	18,8	6437
Jan-20	13,1	4174	15,7	813	19,1	2339	21,6	7326
Feb-20	12,6	3985	14,9	721	18,6	2321	20,8	7027
Mar-20	12,9	3929	15,9	908	20,3	2818	23,1	7655
Apr-20	13,5	3971	18,3	1393	23,5	3813	27,7	9177
May-20	13,5	4011	19,2	1707	24,2	4216	29,3	9934
Jun-20	13,2	4043	17,0	1146	22,4	3600	25,7	8789
Jul-20	14,1	4291	18,1	1228	22,4	3271	26,0	8790
Aug-20	12,7	3913	16,7	1236	21,3	3373	24,9	8522
Sep-20	12,6	3920	15,9	1012	21,2	3371	24,2	8303
Oct-20	13,1	4085	17,4	1336	21,9	3505	25,7	8926
Nov-20	13,1	4101	17,1	1254	23,0	4028	26,6	9383
Dec-20	13,0	4039	18,1	1588	24,1	4550	28,6	10177
Jan-21	12,8	4038	20,3	2362	23,0	4172	29,6	10572
Feb-21	13,4	4282	19,9	2060	22,5	3727	28,3	10069
Mar-21	13,1	4248	18,1	1638	21,1	3312	25,7	9198
Apr-21	13,6	4448	19,7	1979	21,7	3360	27,2	9787
May-21	13,1	4252	19,2	1963	21,6	3494	27,0	9709
Jun-21	10,4	3352	14,4	1276	18,6	3226	22,2	7854
Jul-21	11,2	3637	15,5	1410	18,9	3104	22,9	8151
Aug-21	11,5	3767	14,6	1015	18,6	2857	21,4	7639
Sep-21	11,3	3762	15,0	1214	18,4	2870	21,8	7846
Oct-21	11,2	3719	15,7	1506	18,7	3081	22,8	8306
Nov-21	11,3	3792	15,5	1405	18,3	2869	22,2	8065
Dec-21	11,4	3859	15,6	1420	19,0	3173	22,8	8452
Jan-22	11,5	3900	15,8	1444	19,0	3119	23,0	8462
Feb-22	11,1	3741	15,1	1356	18,4	3027	22,1	8124
Mar-22	11,5	3894	15,7	1421	18,8	3042	22,7	8356

Source: Turkstat, Betam

Table 3 : Seasonally adjusted female and male labor market indicators (thousands)

	Total labor force, Female	Total Employment, Female	Total Unemployed, Female	Total labor force, Male	Total Employment, Male	Total Unemployed, Male	Women LFPR	Women Employment Rate	Men LFPR	Men Employment Rate
Mar-19	10.783	8.979	1.804	22.075	19.323	2.752	34,8	29,0	73,0	63,9
Apr-19	10.782	8.993	1.789	21.622	18.927	2.695	34,8	29,0	71,4	62,5
May-19	10.751	8.960	1.791	21.920	19.231	2.690	34,6	28,9	72,3	63,4
Jun-19	10.647	8.918	1.729	21.925	19.190	2.735	34,3	28,7	72,2	63,2
Jul-19	10.677	8.945	1.732	21.861	19.077	2.784	34,3	28,7	71,9	62,8
Aug-19	10.609	8.875	1.734	21.830	19.026	2.804	34,0	28,5	71,7	62,5
Sep-19	10.688	8.919	1.769	21.802	19.008	2.794	34,3	28,6	71,5	62,4
Oct-19	10.669	8.975	1.694	21.766	19.091	2.676	34,1	28,7	71,3	62,6
Nov-19	10.734	8.983	1.751	21.855	19.291	2.564	34,3	28,7	71,5	63,1
Dec-19	10.651	8.916	1.735	21.960	19.301	2.658	34,0	28,5	71,8	63,1
Jan-20	10.319	8.667	1.652	21.444	18.922	2.522	32,9	27,6	70,0	61,8
Feb-20	10.145	8.671	1.474	21.438	18.928	2.511	32,3	27,6	69,8	61,7
Mar-20	9.470	8.078	1.392	20.949	18.412	2.537	30,1	25,7	68,1	59,9
Apr-20	9.215	7.897	1.319	20.094	17.442	2.652	29,2	25,1	65,2	56,6
May-20	9.281	7.930	1.351	20.499	17.839	2.660	29,4	25,1	66,4	57,8
Jun-20	9.668	8.163	1.505	20.854	18.316	2.538	30,6	25,8	67,4	59,2
Jul-20	9.757	8.243	1.514	20.732	17.955	2.777	30,8	26,0	66,9	58,0
Aug-20	9.787	8.355	1.433	21.046	18.565	2.481	30,9	26,4	67,8	59,8
Sep-20	9.731	8.327	1.404	21.288	18.773	2.516	30,7	26,2	68,5	60,4
Oct-20	9.782	8.323	1.458	21.372	18.746	2.627	30,8	26,2	68,6	60,2
Nov-20	9.772	8.375	1.397	21.543	18.839	2.704	30,7	26,3	69,0	60,4
Dec-20	9.853	8.467	1.386	21.237	18.583	2.654	30,9	26,6	67,9	59,4
Jan-21	9.996	8.547	1.448	21.529	18.940	2.589	31,3	26,8	68,7	60,5
Feb-21	10.224	8.656	1.568	21.644	18.930	2.714	32,0	27,1	69,0	60,4
Mar-21	10.246	8.620	1.625	22.273	19.651	2.622	32,0	26,9	70,9	62,6
Apr-21	10.463	8.789	1.673	22.161	19.386	2.775	32,6	27,4	70,5	61,7
May-21	10.189	8.605	1.584	22.180	19.512	2.668	31,7	26,8	70,5	62,0
Jun-21	10.361	8.896	1.465	21.778	19.892	1.886	32,2	27,7	69,1	63,1
Jul-21	10.810	9.308	1.502	21.751	19.616	2.135	33,6	28,9	68,9	62,2
Aug-21	10.626	9.074	1.552	22.128	19.913	2.215	33,0	28,1	70,0	63,0
Sep-21	10.773	9.228	1.545	22.400	20.184	2.216	33,4	28,6	70,8	63,8
Oct-21	10.890	9.370	1.520	22.391	20.192	2.199	33,7	29,0	70,7	63,8
Nov-21	11.014	9.433	1.581	22.515	20.303	2.211	34,0	29,1	71,0	64,0
Dec-21	11.141	9.585	1.555	22.698	20.394	2.304	34,4	29,6	71,5	64,2
Jan-22	11.191	9.662	1.529	22.630	20.259	2.371	34,5	29,8	71,2	63,7
Feb-22	11.199	9.697	1.502	22.556	20.318	2.238	34,5	29,8	70,9	63,8
Mar-22	10.953	9.426	1.527	22.897	20.530	2.367	33,7	29,0	71,9	64,4

Source: Turkstat, Betam

Box 1 : Definitions of alternative unemployment rates¹

The time-related underemployment: Persons employed in the reference week who actually worked less than 40 hours as total (in main job and additional job/s), were willing to work additional hours and were available to do so, but could not find a job for the extra hours.

The potential labor force: Persons not in employment who would like to work, but for whom the existing conditions limit active job search and/or availability.

The unemployed: The unemployed comprises all persons 15 years of age and over who were not employed during the reference period had used at least one active channel for seeking a job during the last four weeks and were available to start work within two weeks.

1) Unemployment rate = [persons in unemployment/labor force]x100

2) Combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment =

$$[(\text{persons in time-related underemployment} + \text{persons in unemployment}) / \text{labor force}] * 100$$

3) Combined rate of unemployment and potential labor force =

$$[(\text{persons in unemployment} + \text{potential labor force}) / (\text{labor force} + \text{potential labor force})] * 100$$

4) Composite measure of labor underutilization =

$$[(\text{persons in time-related underemployment} + \text{persons in unemployment} + \text{potential labor force}) / (\text{labor force} + \text{potential labor force})] * 100$$

¹ Detailed information is available in the **Metadata** section of the link : <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Kategori/GetKategori?p=istihdam-issizlik-ve-ucret-108&dil=1>