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**Labor Market Outlook:**

**December 2022**

**15 December 2022**

**SHARP INCREASE IN FEMALE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

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**Executive Summary**

Since the number of unemployed persons increased by 57 thousand and the number of employed persons increased by 229 thousand, the labor force grew by 286 thousand. As a result, the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 pp to 10.2% from September to October.

The seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate increased by 0.5 pp to 13.3%, as female employment and unemployment rose by 81 and 72 thousand, respectively. As for males, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 pp to 8.6% following the decrease in male unemployment by 16 thousand and the increase in the number of employed by 148 thousand. The female and male labor force increased by 154 and 133 thousand, respectively. Following these developments, the gender gap in the unemployment rates of females and males rose by 0.6 pp to 4.7%.

# The rise in the employment and labor force

According to the monthly seasonally adjusted data, the number of employed persons was up by 229 thousand MoM to 31 million 220 thousand, and the number of unemployed persons grew by 57 thousand to 3 million 534 thousand. Therefore, the total labor force increased by 287 thousand to 34 million 734 thousand (Figure 1, Table 1). From September to October, the unemployment rate rose by 0.1 pp to 10.2%.

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

Source: Turkstat, Betam

# Developments in the alternative unemployment rates

Box 1 reports the methods Turkstat used to calculate the alternative unemployment rates. These measures consider both the time-related underemployment (those who are employed for less than 40 hours a week but would like to increase their working hours but 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 general unemployment rate increased by 0.1 pp to 10.2% from September to October. The level of the potential labor force went down through the increases in the labor force and employment. As a result, the combined rate of unemployment and the potential labor force fell by 0.1 pp to 16.6%. The combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment increased by 0.2 pp and reached 14.2% in October. After increasing 0.4 pp. in September, “The composite measure of labor underutilization” which combines the two previous alternative unemployment metrics, was unchanged at 20.3% in October (Figure 2, Table 4).

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

Source: Turkstat, Betam

# Record high unemployment rate for female

Figure 3 shows the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for males and females. The level of female employment and unemployment increased by 81 thousand and 72 thousand, respectively. Therefore, female unemployment rate rose by 0.5 pp. to 13,3 in October, with labor force growing faster than employment. Male employment grew by 148 thousand, following a decrease of 60 thousand in September. At the same time, male unemployment fell by 16 thousand on a monthly basis in October. As a result, the unemployment rate of male declined 0.1 pp. to 8.6 in October (Figure 3).

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

Source: Turkstat, Betam

As a result of 81 thousand increase in employment, female employment rate was up 0.2 pp. to 30.8% in October. As for male, the employment rate rose by 0.4 pp. to 65.6%, following a decrease of 0.3 pp. in September (Figure 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 | | |
| Oct-19 | 32430 | 28060 | 4370 | 13.5% | Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment |
| Nov-19 | 32582 | 28265 | 4317 | 13.2% | 152 | 205 | -53 |
| Dec-19 | 32565 | 28200 | 4365 | 13.4% | -17 | -65 | 48 |
| Jan-20 | 31787 | 27611 | 4176 | 13.1% | -778 | -589 | -189 |
| Feb-20 | 31609 | 27621 | 3989 | 12.6% | -178 | 10 | -187 |
| Mar-20 | 30370 | 26450 | 3920 | 12.9% | -1239 | -1171 | -69 |
| Apr-20 | 29268 | 25331 | 3937 | 13.5% | -1102 | -1119 | 17 |
| May-20 | 29849 | 25862 | 3987 | 13.4% | 581 | 531 | 50 |
| Jun-20 | 30594 | 26475 | 4120 | 13.5% | 745 | 613 | 133 |
| Jul-20 | 30511 | 26193 | 4318 | 14.2% | -83 | -282 | 198 |
| Aug-20 | 30876 | 26910 | 3967 | 12.8% | 365 | 717 | -351 |
| Sep-20 | 31034 | 27097 | 3937 | 12.7% | 158 | 187 | -30 |
| Oct-20 | 31124 | 27047 | 4077 | 13.1% | 90 | -50 | 140 |
| Nov-20 | 31265 | 27186 | 4078 | 13.0% | 141 | 139 | 1 |
| Dec-20 | 31008 | 27032 | 3976 | 12.8% | -257 | -154 | -102 |
| Jan-21 | 31472 | 27496 | 3976 | 12.6% | 464 | 464 | 0 |
| Feb-21 | 31785 | 27577 | 4208 | 13.2% | 313 | 81 | 232 |
| Mar-21 | 32434 | 28280 | 4153 | 12.8% | 649 | 703 | -55 |
| Apr-21 | 32597 | 28202 | 4395 | 13.5% | 163 | -78 | 242 |
| May-21 | 32435 | 28211 | 4224 | 13.0% | -162 | 9 | -171 |
| Jun-21 | 32275 | 28751 | 3524 | 10.9% | -160 | 540 | -700 |
| Jul-21 | 32614 | 28862 | 3752 | 11.5% | 339 | 111 | 228 |
| Aug-21 | 32887 | 28988 | 3899 | 11.9% | 273 | 126 | 147 |
| Sep-21 | 33250 | 29462 | 3788 | 11.4% | 363 | 474 | -111 |
| Oct-21 | 33238 | 29529 | 3709 | 11.2% | -12 | 67 | -79 |
| Nov-21 | 33476 | 29725 | 3751 | 11.2% | 238 | 196 | 42 |
| Dec-21 | 33740 | 29973 | 3768 | 11.2% | 264 | 248 | 17 |
| Jan-22 | 33658 | 29885 | 3773 | 11.2% | -82 | -88 | 5 |
| Feb-22 | 33588 | 29994 | 3594 | 10.7% | -70 | 109 | -179 |
| Mar-22 | 33710 | 30003 | 3707 | 11.0% | 122 | 9 | 113 |
| Apr-22 | 34233 | 30483 | 3750 | 11.0% | 523 | 480 | 43 |
| May-22 | 34513 | 30827 | 3685 | 10.7% | 280 | 344 | -65 |
| Jun-22 | 34338 | 30775 | 3564 | 10.4% | -175 | -52 | -121 |
| Jul-22 | 34113 | 30659 | 3454 | 10.1% | -225 | -116 | -110 |
| Aug-22 | 34377 | 31019 | 3358 | 9.8% | 264 | 360 | -96 |
| Sep-22 | 34447 | 30971 | 3477 | 10.1% | 70 | -48 | 119 |
| Oct-22 | 34734 | 31200 | 3534 | 10.2% | 287 | 229 | 57 |

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 |
| Oct-19 | 13.5 | 4370 | 14.4 | 300 | 17.9 | 1748 | 18.7 | 6418 |
| Nov-19 | 13.3 | 4317 | 14.3 | 342 | 17.4 | 1637 | 18.4 | 6296 |
| Dec-19 | 13.4 | 4365 | 14.5 | 357 | 17.6 | 1658 | 18.7 | 6380 |
| Jan-20 | 13.1 | 4176 | 15.7 | 815 | 19.1 | 2343 | 21.6 | 7333 |
| Feb-20 | 12.6 | 3989 | 14.9 | 721 | 18.6 | 2322 | 20.7 | 7032 |
| Mar-20 | 12.9 | 3920 | 15.9 | 909 | 20.3 | 2817 | 23.1 | 7646 |
| Apr-20 | 13.5 | 3937 | 18.3 | 1419 | 23.4 | 3801 | 27.6 | 9157 |
| May-20 | 13.4 | 3987 | 19.1 | 1714 | 24.1 | 4225 | 29.1 | 9926 |
| Jun-20 | 13.5 | 4120 | 17.2 | 1142 | 22.5 | 3566 | 25.9 | 8828 |
| Jul-20 | 14.2 | 4318 | 18.2 | 1235 | 22.4 | 3243 | 26.1 | 8796 |
| Aug-20 | 12.8 | 3967 | 16.8 | 1220 | 21.4 | 3359 | 25.0 | 8547 |
| Sep-20 | 12.7 | 3937 | 16.0 | 1028 | 21.3 | 3397 | 24.2 | 8362 |
| Oct-20 | 13.1 | 4077 | 17.4 | 1339 | 21.9 | 3507 | 25.7 | 8923 |
| Nov-20 | 13.0 | 4078 | 17.0 | 1237 | 23.0 | 4043 | 26.5 | 9358 |
| Dec-20 | 12.8 | 3976 | 18.0 | 1605 | 24.0 | 4560 | 28.5 | 10142 |
| Jan-21 | 12.6 | 3976 | 20.1 | 2350 | 22.9 | 4191 | 29.5 | 10517 |
| Feb-21 | 13.2 | 4208 | 19.7 | 2054 | 22.3 | 3707 | 28.1 | 9968 |
| Mar-21 | 12.8 | 4153 | 17.9 | 1653 | 20.9 | 3319 | 25.5 | 9125 |
| Apr-21 | 13.5 | 4395 | 19.5 | 1961 | 21.6 | 3375 | 27.1 | 9731 |
| May-21 | 13.0 | 4224 | 19.0 | 1939 | 21.5 | 3503 | 26.9 | 9665 |
| Jun-21 | 10.9 | 3524 | 14.9 | 1285 | 19.0 | 3220 | 22.6 | 8029 |
| Jul-21 | 11.5 | 3752 | 15.9 | 1434 | 19.2 | 3106 | 23.2 | 8292 |
| Aug-21 | 11.9 | 3899 | 15.0 | 1034 | 18.9 | 2857 | 21.7 | 7790 |
| Sep-21 | 11.4 | 3788 | 15.1 | 1233 | 18.4 | 2855 | 21.8 | 7876 |
| Oct-21 | 11.2 | 3709 | 15.6 | 1476 | 18.7 | 3083 | 22.8 | 8268 |
| Nov-21 | 11.2 | 3751 | 15.4 | 1404 | 18.2 | 2863 | 22.1 | 8018 |
| Dec-21 | 11.2 | 3768 | 15.4 | 1428 | 18.8 | 3171 | 22.6 | 8367 |
| Jan-22 | 11.2 | 3773 | 15.5 | 1444 | 18.8 | 3146 | 22.7 | 8363 |
| Feb-22 | 10.7 | 3594 | 14.8 | 1377 | 18.1 | 3035 | 21.8 | 8006 |
| Mar-22 | 11.0 | 3707 | 15.2 | 1417 | 18.3 | 3013 | 22.2 | 8137 |
| Apr-22 | 11.0 | 3750 | 14.5 | 1214 | 18.2 | 3032 | 21.4 | 7996 |
| May-22 | 10.7 | 3685 | 15.8 | 1768 | 17.5 | 2854 | 22.2 | 8307 |
| Jun-22 | 10.4 | 3564 | 14.0 | 1243 | 17.2 | 2829 | 20.5 | 7636 |
| Jul-22 | 10.1 | 3454 | 15.1 | 1697 | 18.0 | 3276 | 22.5 | 8427 |
| Aug-22 | 9.8 | 3358 | 13.5 | 1283 | 16.5 | 2772 | 19.9 | 7412 |
| Sep-22 | 10.1 | 3477 | 14.0 | 1346 | 16.7 | 2732 | 20.3 | 7554 |
| Oct-22 | 10.2 | 3534 | 14.2 | 1398 | 16.6 | 2676 | 20.3 | 7608 |

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 |
| Oct-19 | 10659 | 8969 | 1690 | 21771 | 19092 | 2680 | 34.1 | 28.7 | 71.4 | 62.6 |
| Nov-19 | 10720 | 8969 | 1750 | 21862 | 19295 | 2567 | 34.3 | 28.7 | 71.6 | 63.2 |
| Dec-19 | 10636 | 8902 | 1734 | 21929 | 19298 | 2631 | 33.9 | 28.4 | 71.7 | 63.1 |
| Jan-20 | 10339 | 8685 | 1654 | 21448 | 18926 | 2521 | 33.0 | 27.7 | 70.0 | 61.8 |
| Feb-20 | 10165 | 8693 | 1472 | 21444 | 18928 | 2517 | 32.4 | 27.7 | 69.9 | 61.7 |
| Mar-20 | 9443 | 8054 | 1389 | 20927 | 18396 | 2531 | 30.0 | 25.6 | 68.0 | 59.8 |
| Apr-20 | 9185 | 7890 | 1295 | 20083 | 17441 | 2642 | 29.1 | 25.0 | 65.2 | 56.6 |
| May-20 | 9359 | 8020 | 1339 | 20490 | 17842 | 2648 | 29.7 | 25.4 | 66.4 | 57.8 |
| Jun-20 | 9661 | 8160 | 1501 | 20934 | 18315 | 2619 | 30.6 | 25.8 | 67.7 | 59.2 |
| Jul-20 | 9769 | 8237 | 1532 | 20742 | 17956 | 2786 | 30.9 | 26.0 | 66.9 | 58.0 |
| Aug-20 | 9795 | 8342 | 1452 | 21082 | 18567 | 2514 | 30.9 | 26.3 | 67.9 | 59.8 |
| Sep-20 | 9739 | 8322 | 1417 | 21294 | 18774 | 2520 | 30.7 | 26.2 | 68.5 | 60.4 |
| Oct-20 | 9759 | 8302 | 1457 | 21364 | 18745 | 2619 | 30.7 | 26.1 | 68.6 | 60.2 |
| Nov-20 | 9744 | 8347 | 1397 | 21520 | 18839 | 2681 | 30.6 | 26.2 | 68.9 | 60.4 |
| Dec-20 | 9828 | 8447 | 1381 | 21180 | 18585 | 2595 | 30.8 | 26.5 | 67.7 | 59.4 |
| Jan-21 | 10001 | 8555 | 1446 | 21471 | 18941 | 2530 | 31.3 | 26.8 | 68.6 | 60.5 |
| Feb-21 | 10207 | 8642 | 1564 | 21578 | 18935 | 2643 | 31.9 | 27.0 | 68.8 | 60.4 |
| Mar-21 | 10241 | 8618 | 1622 | 22193 | 19662 | 2531 | 32.0 | 26.9 | 70.7 | 62.6 |
| Apr-21 | 10451 | 8823 | 1628 | 22146 | 19379 | 2767 | 32.6 | 27.5 | 70.5 | 61.6 |
| May-21 | 10283 | 8722 | 1561 | 22152 | 19489 | 2663 | 32.0 | 27.2 | 70.4 | 61.9 |
| Jun-21 | 10347 | 8890 | 1457 | 21928 | 19861 | 2067 | 32.2 | 27.7 | 69.6 | 63.0 |
| Jul-21 | 10805 | 9276 | 1530 | 21808 | 19586 | 2222 | 33.6 | 28.8 | 69.1 | 62.1 |
| Aug-21 | 10661 | 9069 | 1592 | 22226 | 19919 | 2307 | 33.1 | 28.1 | 70.4 | 63.1 |
| Sep-21 | 10815 | 9242 | 1573 | 22436 | 20220 | 2216 | 33.5 | 28.6 | 70.9 | 63.9 |
| Oct-21 | 10877 | 9356 | 1522 | 22360 | 20173 | 2187 | 33.6 | 28.9 | 70.6 | 63.7 |
| Nov-21 | 11001 | 9419 | 1582 | 22475 | 20306 | 2170 | 34.0 | 29.1 | 70.9 | 64.0 |
| Dec-21 | 11084 | 9536 | 1548 | 22656 | 20437 | 2220 | 34.2 | 29.4 | 71.4 | 64.4 |
| Jan-22 | 11104 | 9582 | 1522 | 22554 | 20303 | 2252 | 34.2 | 29.5 | 71.0 | 63.9 |
| Feb-22 | 11089 | 9594 | 1494 | 22500 | 20400 | 2100 | 34.1 | 29.5 | 70.7 | 64.1 |
| Mar-22 | 10913 | 9393 | 1520 | 22797 | 20610 | 2187 | 33.5 | 28.9 | 71.5 | 64.7 |
| Apr-22 | 11357 | 9750 | 1608 | 22876 | 20733 | 2142 | 34.9 | 29.9 | 71.7 | 65.0 |
| May-22 | 11484 | 9914 | 1570 | 23029 | 20913 | 2116 | 35.2 | 30.4 | 72.1 | 65.5 |
| Jun-22 | 11487 | 9911 | 1576 | 22851 | 20863 | 1988 | 35.2 | 30.4 | 71.4 | 65.2 |
| Jul-22 | 11425 | 9935 | 1490 | 22688 | 20724 | 1964 | 34.9 | 30.4 | 70.8 | 64.7 |
| Aug-22 | 11466 | 10020 | 1446 | 22910 | 20998 | 1912 | 35.0 | 30.6 | 71.5 | 65.5 |
| Sep-22 | 11506 | 10033 | 1474 | 22941 | 20938 | 2003 | 35.1 | 30.6 | 71.5 | 65.2 |
| Oct-22 | 11660 | 10114 | 1546 | 23074 | 21086 | 1987 | 35.5 | 30.8 | 71.8 | 65.6 |

Source: Turkstat, Betam

**Box 1: Definitions of alternative unemployment rates[[4]](#footnote-4)**

**The time-related underemployment**: Persons employed in the reference week who worked less than 40 hours in 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 =**

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

**3) Combined rate of unemployment and potential labor force =**

[(persons in unemployment + potential labor force)/ (labor force+ potential labor force)] x 100

**4) Composite measure of labor underutilization =**

[(persons in time-related underemployment + persons in unemployment + potential labor force) / (labor force+ potential labor force)] x 100

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4. 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> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)