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**Labor Market Outlook:**

**January 2023**

**10 January 2023**

**EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE SHARPLY INCREASED, UNEMPLOYMENT STAGNATED**

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**Executive Summary**

Since the number of unemployed persons increased by 23 thousand and the number of employed persons increased by 285 thousand, the labor force grew by 308 thousand. As a result, the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 10.2% in November.

The seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 pp to 12.9%, as female employment rose by 190 and unemployment dropped by 7 thousand. As for males, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate went up by 0.1 pp to 8.8%, following the increase in male employment (95 thousand) and unemployment (30 thousand. As in September and October, female labor force growth was higher than male labor force growth in November. Following these developments, the gender gap in the unemployment rates of females and males fell by 0.3 pp to 4.1% in November.

# The rise in the employment and labor force

According to the monthly seasonally adjusted data, the number of employed persons was up by 285 thousand MoM to 31 million 574 thousand, and the number of unemployed persons grew by 23 thousand to 3 million 576 thousand. As a result, the total labor force increased by 308 thousand to 35 million 150 thousand (Figure 1, Table 1). The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 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 remained unchanged at 10.2% in November. The level of the potential labor force surprisingly went up through the increases in November. As a result, the combined rate of unemployment and the potential labor force increased by 0.3 pp to 16.9%. The combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment increased by 0.1 pp and reached 14.3%. After increasing from 19.9% to 20.3% in September, “The composite measure of labor underutilization” which combines the two previous alternative unemployment metrics remained unchanged in October and increased by 0.5% to 20.8% in November (Figure 2, Table 4).

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

Source: Turkstat, Betam

**Decrease in female unemployment, increase in male unemployment**

Figure 3 shows the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for males and females. The level of female employment increased by 190 thousand whereas unemployment dropped by 7 thousand. As the increase in employment was higher than the increase in the labor force, the female unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 pp. to 12.9% in November. Male employment grew by 95 thousand in November, following an increase of 147 thousand in October. At the same time, male unemployment went up by 30 thousand on a monthly basis in November. As a result, the male unemployment rate rose from 8.7% to 8.8 in November (Figure 3).

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

Source: Turkstat, Betam

As a result of 190 thousand increase in employment, female employment rate was up 0.5 pp. to 31.7% in November. As for male, the employment rate rose by 0.2 pp. to 65.7%, following an increase of 0.4 pp. in October (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 | | |
| Nov-19 | 32581 | 28263 | 4317 | 13.3 | Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment |
| Dec-19 | 32564 | 28200 | 4364 | 13.4 | -17 | -63 | 47 |
| Jan-20 | 31786 | 27610 | 4176 | 13.1 | -778 | -590 | -188 |
| Feb-20 | 31606 | 27617 | 3989 | 12.6 | -180 | 7 | -187 |
| Mar-20 | 30385 | 26466 | 3919 | 12.9 | -1221 | -1151 | -70 |
| Apr-20 | 29270 | 25333 | 3937 | 13.5 | -1115 | -1133 | 18 |
| May-20 | 29844 | 25858 | 3987 | 13.4 | 574 | 525 | 50 |
| Jun-20 | 30599 | 26479 | 4120 | 13.5 | 755 | 621 | 133 |
| Jul-20 | 30506 | 26187 | 4318 | 14.2 | -93 | -292 | 198 |
| Aug-20 | 30877 | 26910 | 3967 | 12.8 | 371 | 723 | -351 |
| Sep-20 | 31031 | 27094 | 3937 | 12.7 | 154 | 184 | -30 |
| Oct-20 | 31126 | 27049 | 4077 | 13.1 | 95 | -45 | 140 |
| Nov-20 | 31266 | 27190 | 4076 | 13.0 | 140 | 141 | -1 |
| Dec-20 | 31008 | 27034 | 3974 | 12.8 | -258 | -156 | -102 |
| Jan-21 | 31466 | 27492 | 3974 | 12.6 | 458 | 458 | 0 |
| Feb-21 | 31786 | 27580 | 4207 | 13.2 | 320 | 88 | 233 |
| Mar-21 | 32430 | 28277 | 4153 | 12.8 | 644 | 697 | -54 |
| Apr-21 | 32602 | 28206 | 4396 | 13.5 | 172 | -71 | 243 |
| May-21 | 32432 | 28207 | 4226 | 13.0 | -170 | 1 | -170 |
| Jun-21 | 32281 | 28754 | 3526 | 10.9 | -151 | 547 | -700 |
| Jul-21 | 32618 | 28862 | 3756 | 11.5 | 337 | 108 | 230 |
| Aug-21 | 32892 | 28988 | 3904 | 11.9 | 274 | 126 | 148 |
| Sep-21 | 33263 | 29469 | 3794 | 11.4 | 371 | 481 | -110 |
| Oct-21 | 33256 | 29540 | 3716 | 11.2 | -7 | 71 | -78 |
| Nov-21 | 33419 | 29679 | 3740 | 11.2 | 163 | 139 | 24 |
| Dec-21 | 33713 | 29956 | 3757 | 11.1 | 294 | 277 | 17 |
| Jan-22 | 33633 | 29868 | 3765 | 11.2 | -80 | -88 | 8 |
| Feb-22 | 33570 | 29982 | 3588 | 10.7 | -63 | 114 | -177 |
| Mar-22 | 33708 | 30004 | 3704 | 11.0 | 138 | 22 | 116 |
| Apr-22 | 34234 | 30483 | 3751 | 11.0 | 526 | 479 | 47 |
| May-22 | 34531 | 30842 | 3689 | 10.7 | 297 | 359 | -62 |
| Jun-22 | 34363 | 30794 | 3569 | 10.4 | -168 | -48 | -120 |
| Jul-22 | 34161 | 30698 | 3463 | 10.1 | -202 | -96 | -106 |
| Aug-22 | 34439 | 31070 | 3370 | 9.8 | 278 | 372 | -93 |
| Sep-22 | 34530 | 31036 | 3493 | 10.1 | 91 | -34 | 123 |
| Oct-22 | 34842 | 31289 | 3553 | 10.2 | 312 | 253 | 60 |
| Nov-22 | 35150 | 31574 | 3576 | 10.2 | 308 | 285 | 23 |

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 (%) | Composite Measure of Labor Underutilization (in thousand) |
| Nov-19 | 13.3 | 4317 | 14.3 | 342 | 17.4 | 1637 | 18.4 | 6296 |
| Dec-19 | 13.4 | 4364 | 14.5 | 358 | 17.6 | 1659 | 18.7 | 6381 |
| Jan-20 | 13.1 | 4176 | 15.7 | 814 | 19.1 | 2343 | 21.6 | 7333 |
| Feb-20 | 12.6 | 3989 | 14.9 | 720 | 18.6 | 2322 | 20.7 | 7031 |
| Mar-20 | 12.9 | 3919 | 15.9 | 912 | 20.3 | 2822 | 23.1 | 7653 |
| Apr-20 | 13.5 | 3937 | 18.3 | 1419 | 23.4 | 3802 | 27.6 | 9158 |
| May-20 | 13.4 | 3987 | 19.1 | 1713 | 24.1 | 4223 | 29.1 | 9923 |
| Jun-20 | 13.5 | 4120 | 17.2 | 1143 | 22.5 | 3567 | 25.9 | 8830 |
| Jul-20 | 14.2 | 4318 | 18.2 | 1234 | 22.4 | 3241 | 26.1 | 8794 |
| Aug-20 | 12.8 | 3967 | 16.8 | 1220 | 21.4 | 3360 | 25.0 | 8547 |
| Sep-20 | 12.7 | 3937 | 15.9 | 997 | 21.3 | 3396 | 24.2 | 8330 |
| Oct-20 | 13.1 | 4077 | 17.4 | 1339 | 21.9 | 3508 | 25.7 | 8924 |
| Nov-20 | 13.0 | 4076 | 17.0 | 1239 | 23.0 | 4046 | 26.5 | 9361 |
| Dec-20 | 12.8 | 3974 | 18.0 | 1607 | 24.0 | 4563 | 28.5 | 10144 |
| Jan-21 | 12.6 | 3974 | 20.1 | 2351 | 22.9 | 4192 | 29.5 | 10516 |
| Feb-21 | 13.2 | 4207 | 19.7 | 2055 | 22.3 | 3708 | 28.1 | 9970 |
| Mar-21 | 12.8 | 4153 | 17.9 | 1652 | 20.9 | 3318 | 25.5 | 9123 |
| Apr-21 | 13.5 | 4396 | 19.5 | 1961 | 21.6 | 3375 | 27.1 | 9732 |
| May-21 | 13.0 | 4226 | 19.0 | 1936 | 21.5 | 3499 | 26.9 | 9661 |
| Jun-21 | 10.9 | 3526 | 14.9 | 1284 | 19.0 | 3219 | 22.6 | 8029 |
| Jul-21 | 11.5 | 3756 | 15.9 | 1430 | 19.2 | 3102 | 23.2 | 8289 |
| Aug-21 | 11.9 | 3904 | 15.0 | 1030 | 18.9 | 2852 | 21.7 | 7785 |
| Sep-21 | 11.4 | 3794 | 15.1 | 1229 | 18.4 | 2851 | 21.8 | 7874 |
| Oct-21 | 11.2 | 3716 | 15.7 | 1505 | 18.7 | 3079 | 22.8 | 8300 |
| Nov-21 | 11.2 | 3740 | 15.4 | 1407 | 18.2 | 2863 | 22.1 | 8010 |
| Dec-21 | 11.1 | 3757 | 15.4 | 1435 | 18.7 | 3133 | 22.6 | 8325 |
| Jan-22 | 11.2 | 3765 | 15.5 | 1448 | 18.8 | 3150 | 22.7 | 8363 |
| Feb-22 | 10.7 | 3588 | 14.8 | 1380 | 18.1 | 3038 | 21.8 | 8006 |
| Mar-22 | 11.0 | 3704 | 15.2 | 1420 | 18.3 | 3017 | 22.2 | 8140 |
| Apr-22 | 11.0 | 3751 | 14.5 | 1213 | 18.2 | 3031 | 21.4 | 7995 |
| May-22 | 10.7 | 3689 | 15.8 | 1767 | 17.5 | 2853 | 22.2 | 8309 |
| Jun-22 | 10.4 | 3569 | 14.0 | 1242 | 17.2 | 2828 | 20.5 | 7639 |
| Jul-22 | 10.1 | 3463 | 15.1 | 1695 | 18.0 | 3276 | 22.5 | 8434 |
| Aug-22 | 9.8 | 3370 | 13.5 | 1279 | 16.5 | 2769 | 19.9 | 7419 |
| Sep-22 | 10.1 | 3493 | 14.0 | 1341 | 16.7 | 2729 | 20.3 | 7564 |
| Oct-22 | 10.2 | 3553 | 14.2 | 1395 | 16.6 | 2675 | 20.3 | 7622 |
| Nov-22 | 10.2 | 3576 | 14.3 | 1450 | 16.9 | 2845 | 20.8 | 7872 |

Source: Turkstat, Betam

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Female labor force | Female employment | Female unemployment | Male labor force | Male employment | Male unemployment | Female LFPR | Female Employment Rate | Male LFPR | Male Employment Rate |
| Nov-19 | 10721 | 8970 | 1751 | 21860 | 19293 | 2567 | 34.3 | 28.7 | 71.5 | 63.1 |
| Dec-19 | 10635 | 8901 | 1734 | 21929 | 19299 | 2630 | 33.9 | 28.4 | 71.7 | 63.1 |
| Jan-20 | 10339 | 8685 | 1655 | 21446 | 18925 | 2521 | 33.0 | 27.7 | 70.0 | 61.8 |
| Feb-20 | 10163 | 8690 | 1472 | 21443 | 18927 | 2516 | 32.3 | 27.7 | 69.8 | 61.7 |
| Mar-20 | 9444 | 8055 | 1389 | 20942 | 18411 | 2531 | 30.0 | 25.6 | 68.1 | 59.9 |
| Apr-20 | 9186 | 7892 | 1295 | 20083 | 17441 | 2642 | 29.2 | 25.0 | 65.2 | 56.6 |
| May-20 | 9356 | 8018 | 1338 | 20488 | 17840 | 2648 | 29.7 | 25.4 | 66.4 | 57.8 |
| Jun-20 | 9663 | 8163 | 1500 | 20935 | 18316 | 2620 | 30.6 | 25.8 | 67.7 | 59.2 |
| Jul-20 | 9767 | 8235 | 1532 | 20739 | 17952 | 2786 | 30.9 | 26.0 | 66.9 | 57.9 |
| Aug-20 | 9797 | 8345 | 1452 | 21080 | 18565 | 2514 | 30.9 | 26.3 | 67.9 | 59.8 |
| Sep-20 | 9740 | 8323 | 1417 | 21291 | 18771 | 2520 | 30.7 | 26.2 | 68.5 | 60.4 |
| Oct-20 | 9760 | 8303 | 1457 | 21366 | 18746 | 2620 | 30.7 | 26.1 | 68.6 | 60.2 |
| Nov-20 | 9749 | 8351 | 1397 | 21518 | 18839 | 2678 | 30.6 | 26.2 | 68.9 | 60.4 |
| Dec-20 | 9830 | 8448 | 1382 | 21178 | 18586 | 2593 | 30.8 | 26.5 | 67.7 | 59.4 |
| Jan-21 | 10000 | 8553 | 1446 | 21467 | 18939 | 2528 | 31.3 | 26.8 | 68.5 | 60.5 |
| Feb-21 | 10210 | 8646 | 1564 | 21576 | 18934 | 2642 | 31.9 | 27.0 | 68.8 | 60.4 |
| Mar-21 | 10238 | 8615 | 1623 | 22192 | 19661 | 2531 | 32.0 | 26.9 | 70.7 | 62.6 |
| Apr-21 | 10455 | 8827 | 1628 | 22147 | 19379 | 2768 | 32.6 | 27.5 | 70.5 | 61.6 |
| May-21 | 10277 | 8716 | 1561 | 22155 | 19490 | 2665 | 32.0 | 27.2 | 70.4 | 61.9 |
| Jun-21 | 10349 | 8893 | 1456 | 21931 | 19862 | 2070 | 32.2 | 27.7 | 69.6 | 63.0 |
| Jul-21 | 10804 | 9275 | 1529 | 21813 | 19587 | 2226 | 33.6 | 28.8 | 69.1 | 62.1 |
| Aug-21 | 10662 | 9071 | 1591 | 22230 | 19917 | 2313 | 33.1 | 28.1 | 70.4 | 63.0 |
| Sep-21 | 10820 | 9248 | 1572 | 22443 | 20221 | 2222 | 33.5 | 28.6 | 71.0 | 63.9 |
| Oct-21 | 10888 | 9367 | 1521 | 22368 | 20173 | 2196 | 33.7 | 29.0 | 70.6 | 63.7 |
| Nov-21 | 10955 | 9373 | 1583 | 22463 | 20307 | 2157 | 33.8 | 28.9 | 70.8 | 64.0 |
| Dec-21 | 11065 | 9517 | 1549 | 22648 | 20440 | 2208 | 34.1 | 29.3 | 71.3 | 64.4 |
| Jan-22 | 11086 | 9564 | 1522 | 22547 | 20304 | 2243 | 34.1 | 29.5 | 70.9 | 63.9 |
| Feb-22 | 11076 | 9581 | 1495 | 22494 | 20401 | 2093 | 34.1 | 29.5 | 70.7 | 64.1 |
| Mar-22 | 10915 | 9394 | 1520 | 22793 | 20609 | 2184 | 33.5 | 28.9 | 71.5 | 64.7 |
| Apr-22 | 11361 | 9753 | 1608 | 22873 | 20730 | 2143 | 34.9 | 29.9 | 71.7 | 65.0 |
| May-22 | 11509 | 9939 | 1570 | 23022 | 20903 | 2119 | 35.3 | 30.5 | 72.1 | 65.4 |
| Jun-22 | 11519 | 9944 | 1575 | 22844 | 20850 | 1994 | 35.3 | 30.5 | 71.4 | 65.2 |
| Jul-22 | 11481 | 9992 | 1489 | 22680 | 20707 | 1974 | 35.1 | 30.6 | 70.8 | 64.7 |
| Aug-22 | 11532 | 10087 | 1445 | 22907 | 20982 | 1925 | 35.2 | 30.8 | 71.4 | 65.4 |
| Sep-22 | 11594 | 10121 | 1473 | 22936 | 20915 | 2021 | 35.4 | 30.9 | 71.4 | 65.1 |
| Oct-22 | 11772 | 10227 | 1545 | 23071 | 21062 | 2008 | 35.9 | 31.2 | 71.8 | 65.5 |
| Nov-22 | 11955 | 10417 | 1538 | 23195 | 21157 | 2038 | 36.4 | 31.7 | 72.1 | 65.7 |

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)