

HIGH INCREASE IN FEMALE UNEMPLOYMENT

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Executive Summary

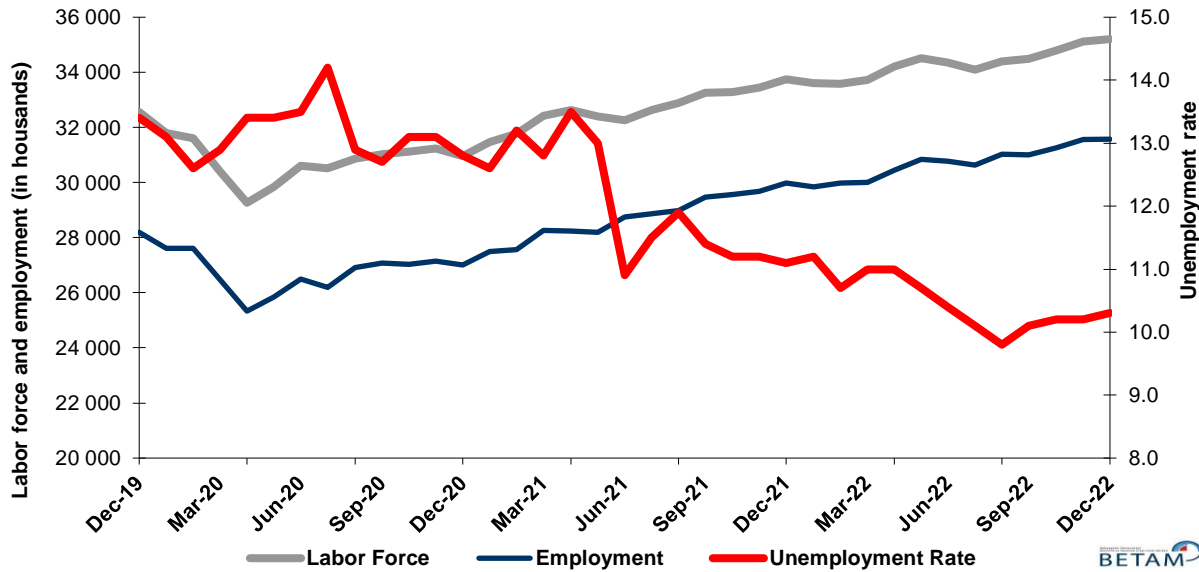
Since the number of unemployed persons increased by 62 thousand and the number of employed persons increased by 18 thousand, the labor force grew by 80 thousand. As a result, the overall unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage points from November to December, reaching a level of 10.3 percent.

The seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate increased by 1.3 percentage points from November to December, reaching 14.4 percent, as a result of an 80,000 decrease in employment and a 166,000 increase in the number of unemployed females. On the other hand, the male unemployment rate decreased by 0.5 percentage points to 8.2 percent, following a 98,000 increase in employment and a 105,000 decrease in the number of unemployed males. While female labor force increased by 87,000, male labor force decreased by 7,000 in December. Similar to last three months, female labor force growth in December exceeded male labor force growth. Additionally, due to the decline in female employment, the gender gap in unemployment rates reached its highest level since 2005, with a 1.8 percentage point increase, standing at 6.2 percentage points.

Limited increase in employment

According to seasonally adjusted monthly data, the number of employed individuals increased by 18,000 from November to December, reaching a total of 31,573,000 people. The number of unemployed individuals also increased by 62,000 to 3,633,000 people. As a result, the labor force increased by 80,000 to reach 35,208,000 people. (Figure 1, Table 1). The unemployment rate increased by 0,1 pp to 10.3%

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



Source: Turkstat, Betam

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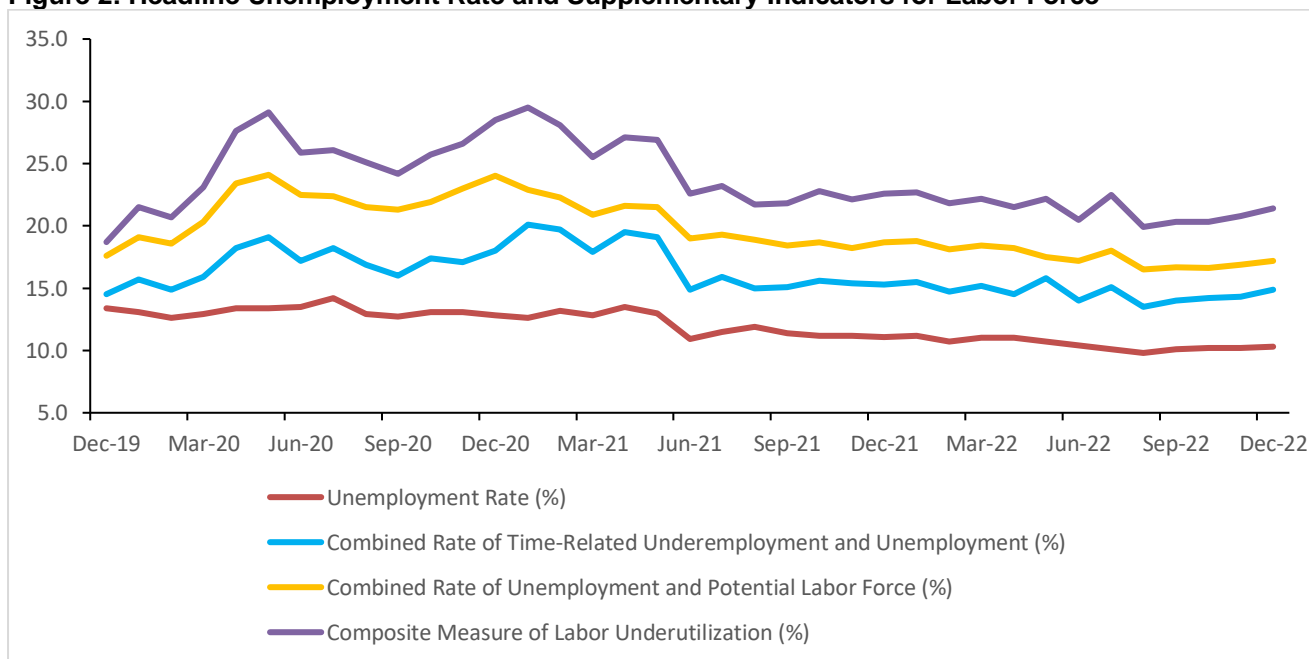
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Developments in the alternative unemployment rates

Box 1 reports the methods 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 seasonally adjusted data, the "overall unemployment rate" increased by 0.1 percentage points from November to December, reaching a level of 10.3 percent. In a month where the increase in the labor force and employment was limited, the potential labor force also increased, and the "combined rate of unemployment and the potential labor force" increased by 0.3 percentage points to 17.2 percent. In this month with low employment growth, the "combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment ratio" increased significantly by 0.6 percentage points to 14.9 percent. The "composite measure of labor underutilization ratio," which is composed of the combined rates of the last two alternative unemployment rates, continued its uninterrupted increase from August to November and increased by 0.6 percentage points to reach 21.4 percent in December. (Figure 2, Table 4).

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

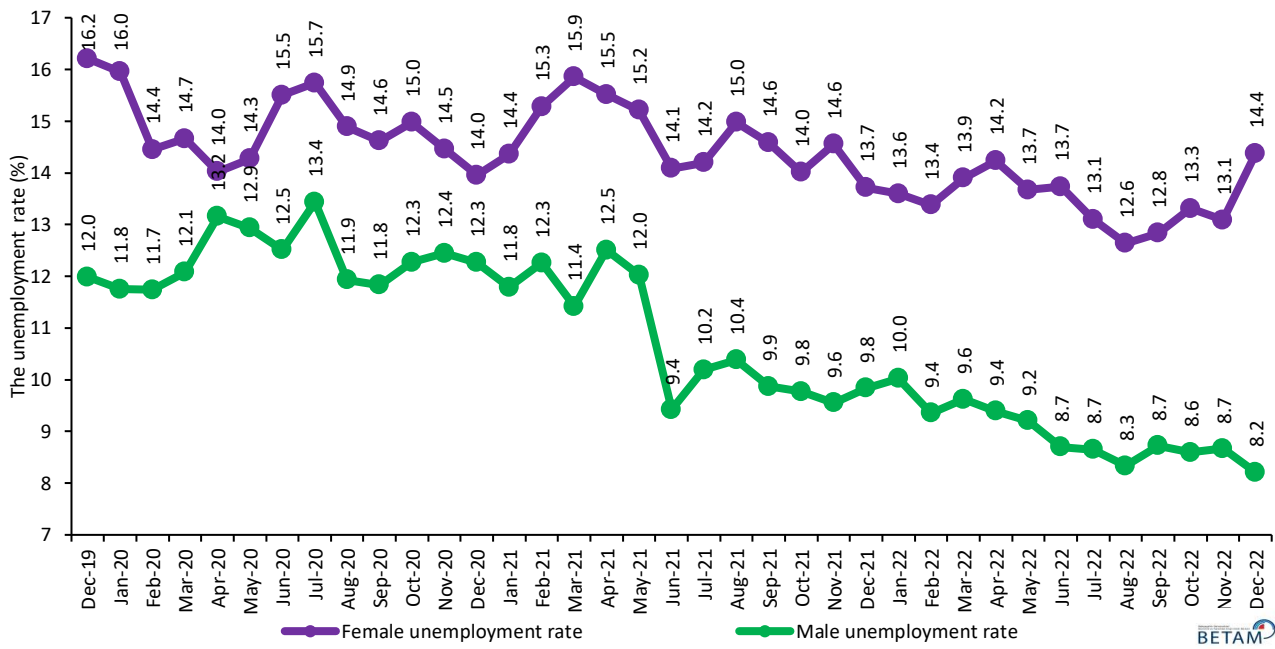


Source: Turkstat, Betam

Gender gap in unemployment broke a record

Figure 3 shows the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for males and females. From November to December, female employment decreased by 80,000, while the number of unemployed females increased by 167,000. As a result of the significant increase in the number of unemployed individuals accompanying the decline in female employment, the female unemployment rate experienced a strong increase of 1.3 percentage points, reaching 14.4 percent from November to December. On the other hand, male employment increased by 98,000 in December, following an increase of 147,000 in October and 96,000 in November, while the male labor force decreased by 7,000. Consequently, the male unemployment rate also decreased from 8.7 percent to 8.2 percent. These contrasting developments resulted in the gender gap in the unemployment rate reaching its highest level in history, with a difference of 6.2 percentage points (Figure 3).

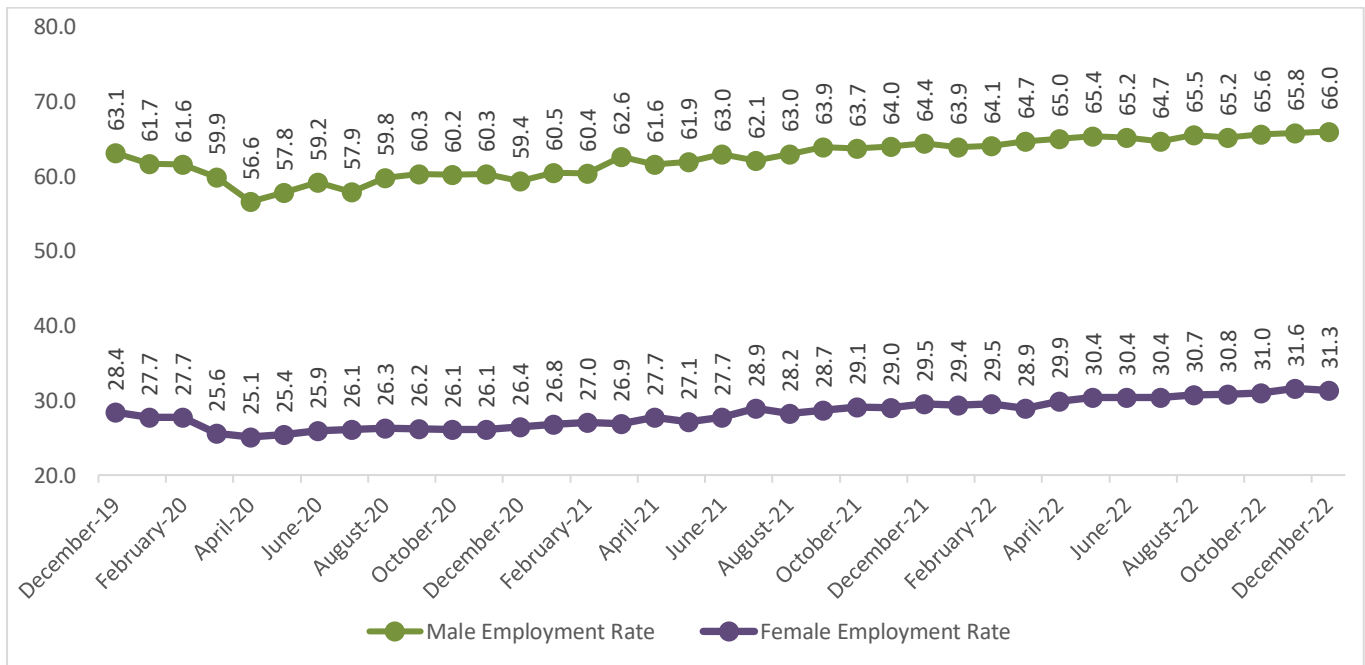
Figure 3: Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate by gender (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam

As a result of the decrease of 80,000 in female employment in November, the female employment rate decreased by 0.3 percentage points, reaching 31.3 percent. On the other hand, the male employment rate continued its upward trend in December and reached 66.0 percent, maintaining the increase observed since 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		
					Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment
December-19	32555	28204	4352	13.4%			
January-20	31787	27615	4172	13.1%	-768	-589	-180
February-20	31599	27615	3984	12.6%	-188	0	-188
March-20	30397	26482	3915	12.9%	-1202	-1133	-69
April-20	29265	25334	3931	13.4%	-1132	-1148	16
May-20	29832	25849	3983	13.4%	567	515	52
June-20	30616	26497	4119	13.5%	784	648	136
July-20	30526	26199	4327	14.2%	-90	-298	208
August-20	30877	26904	3972	12.9%	351	705	-355
September-20	31022	27080	3942	12.7%	145	176	-30
October-20	31120	27039	4081	13.1%	98	-41	139
November-20	31235	27151	4084	13.1%	115	112	3
December-20	30962	27000	3962	12.8%	-273	-151	-122
January-21	31468	27501	3967	12.6%	506	501	5
February-21	31766	27564	4202	13.2%	298	63	235
March-21	32414	28261	4154	12.8%	648	697	-48
April-21	32640	28243	4397	13.5%	226	-18	243
May-21	32408	28185	4224	13.0%	-232	-58	-173
June-21	32271	28748	3523	10.9%	-137	563	-701
July-21	32632	28872	3760	11.5%	361	124	237
August-21	32897	28991	3906	11.9%	265	119	146
September-21	33269	29474	3794	11.4%	372	483	-112
October-21	33287	29571	3716	11.2%	18	97	-78
November-21	33436	29692	3744	11.2%	149	121	28
December-21	33736	29988	3748	11.1%	300	296	4
January-22	33615	29851	3764	11.2%	-121	-137	16
February-22	33576	29989	3587	10.7%	-39	138	-177
March-22	33716	30005	3711	11.0%	140	16	124
April-22	34220	30458	3762	11.0%	504	453	51
May-22	34523	30832	3692	10.7%	303	374	-70
June-22	34344	30778	3566	10.4%	-179	-54	-126
July-22	34102	30643	3459	10.1%	-242	-135	-107
August-22	34397	31036	3361	9.8%	295	393	-98
September-22	34488	31005	3484	10.1%	91	-31	123
October-22	34796	31251	3545	10.2%	308	246	61
November-22	35126	31555	3571	10.2%	330	304	26
December-22	35206	31573	3633	10.3%	80	18	62

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
Dec-19	13.4	4352	14.5	368	17.6	1672	18.7	6392
Jan-20	13.1	4172	15.7	819	19.1	2348	21.5	7338
Feb-20	12.6	3984	14.9	724	18.6	2326	20.7	7034
Mar-20	12.9	3915	15.9	918	20.3	2830	23.1	7663
Apr-20	13.4	3931	18.2	1395	23.4	3808	27.6	9134
May-20	13.4	3983	19.1	1715	24.1	4225	29.1	9923
Jun-20	13.5	4119	17.2	1147	22.5	3574	25.9	8840
Jul-20	14.2	4327	18.2	1229	22.4	3236	26.1	8791
Aug-20	12.9	3972	16.9	1246	21.5	3397	25.1	8615
Sep-20	12.7	3942	16.0	1022	21.3	3387	24.2	8351
Oct-20	13.1	4081	17.4	1334	21.9	3501	25.7	8916
Nov-20	13.1	4084	17.1	1257	23.0	4026	26.6	9367
Dec-20	12.8	3962	18.0	1611	24.0	4564	28.5	10137
Jan-21	12.6	3967	20.1	2358	22.9	4201	29.5	10526
Feb-21	13.2	4202	19.7	2056	22.3	3709	28.1	9967
Mar-21	12.8	4154	17.9	1648	20.9	3313	25.5	9115
Apr-21	13.5	4397	19.5	1968	21.6	3384	27.1	9749
May-21	13.0	4224	19.1	1966	21.5	3495	26.9	9685
Jun-21	10.9	3523	14.9	1285	19.0	3220	22.6	8029
Jul-21	11.5	3760	15.9	1428	19.3	3145	23.2	8333
Aug-21	11.9	3906	15.0	1029	18.9	2850	21.7	7785
Sep-21	11.4	3794	15.1	1230	18.4	2852	21.8	7876
Oct-21	11.2	3716	15.6	1477	18.7	3086	22.8	8278
Nov-21	11.2	3744	15.4	1405	18.2	2862	22.1	8011
Dec-21	11.1	3748	15.3	1414	18.7	3150	22.6	8311
Jan-22	11.2	3764	15.5	1446	18.8	3147	22.7	8358
Feb-22	10.7	3587	14.7	1349	18.1	3041	21.8	7976
Mar-22	11.0	3711	15.2	1414	18.4	3055	22.2	8180
Apr-22	11.0	3762	14.5	1200	18.2	3015	21.5	7977
May-22	10.7	3692	15.8	1763	17.5	2848	22.2	8303
Jun-22	10.4	3566	14.0	1242	17.2	2827	20.5	7636
Jul-22	10.1	3459	15.1	1690	18.0	3268	22.5	8417
Aug-22	9.8	3361	13.5	1283	16.5	2772	19.9	7415
Sep-22	10.1	3484	14.0	1344	16.7	2732	20.3	7560
Oct-22	10.2	3545	14.2	1396	16.6	2675	20.3	7616
Nov-22	10.2	3571	14.3	1452	16.9	2846	20.8	7869
Dec-22	10.3	3633	14.9	1613	17.2	2926	21.4	8171

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
Dec-19	10629	8906	1723	21926	19298	2628	33.9	28.4	71.7	63.1
Jan-20	10347	8695	1651	21440	18920	2520	33.0	27.7	70.0	61.7
Feb-20	10160	8692	1468	21439	18923	2516	32.3	27.7	69.8	61.6
Mar-20	9449	8064	1385	20948	18418	2530	30.0	25.6	68.1	59.9
Apr-20	9185	7896	1288	20081	17438	2642	29.1	25.1	65.2	56.6
May-20	9347	8013	1334	20485	17836	2649	29.6	25.4	66.4	57.8
Jun-20	9683	8183	1501	20932	18314	2619	30.6	25.9	67.7	59.2
Jul-20	9792	8251	1541	20735	17948	2786	30.9	26.1	66.9	57.9
Aug-20	9801	8343	1459	21075	18562	2514	30.9	26.3	67.9	59.8
Sep-20	9735	8313	1423	21287	18767	2519	30.7	26.2	68.4	60.3
Oct-20	9756	8295	1461	21364	18743	2621	30.7	26.1	68.6	60.2
Nov-20	9722	8315	1406	21513	18836	2677	30.5	26.1	68.9	60.3
Dec-20	9783	8419	1365	21179	18582	2597	30.7	26.4	67.7	59.4
Jan-21	10002	8566	1436	21466	18935	2531	31.3	26.8	68.5	60.5
Feb-21	10191	8634	1557	21575	18930	2645	31.9	27.0	68.8	60.4
Mar-21	10223	8602	1621	22191	19658	2533	31.9	26.9	70.7	62.6
Apr-21	10494	8866	1628	22146	19377	2769	32.7	27.7	70.5	61.6
May-21	10256	8697	1560	22152	19488	2664	32.0	27.1	70.4	61.9
Jun-21	10347	8890	1457	21924	19858	2066	32.2	27.7	69.6	63.0
Jul-21	10828	9290	1537	21804	19582	2222	33.6	28.9	69.1	62.1
Aug-21	10675	9076	1599	22222	19915	2307	33.1	28.2	70.3	63.0
Sep-21	10836	9255	1580	22433	20219	2214	33.6	28.7	70.9	63.9
Oct-21	10929	9398	1531	22358	20173	2185	33.8	29.1	70.6	63.7
Nov-21	10991	9391	1600	22445	20301	2144	33.9	29.0	70.8	64.0
Dec-21	11075	9556	1519	22661	20433	2229	34.2	29.5	71.4	64.4
Jan-22	11057	9555	1503	22558	20297	2261	34.1	29.4	71.0	63.9
Feb-22	11068	9587	1481	22507	20402	2105	34.1	29.5	70.7	64.1
Mar-22	10917	9400	1517	22799	20605	2194	33.5	28.9	71.6	64.7
Apr-22	11339	9726	1614	22881	20732	2149	34.8	29.9	71.7	65.0
May-22	11501	9929	1572	23022	20902	2120	35.3	30.4	72.1	65.4
Jun-22	11497	9918	1579	22847	20860	1987	35.2	30.4	71.4	65.2
Jul-22	11425	9927	1497	22677	20715	1962	34.9	30.4	70.8	64.7
Aug-22	11491	10039	1452	22906	20997	1909	35.1	30.7	71.4	65.5
Sep-22	11565	10081	1484	22924	20924	2000	35.3	30.8	71.4	65.2
Oct-22	11736	10173	1562	23060	21078	1982	35.8	31.0	71.7	65.6
Nov-22	11944	10381	1563	23182	21174	2009	36.4	31.6	72.0	65.8
Dec-22	12031	10301	1729	23175	21272	1903	36.6	31.3	71.9	66.0

Source: Turkstat, Betam

Box 1: Definitions of alternative unemployment rates¹

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 = $[\text{persons in unemployment} / \text{labor force}] \times 100$

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 =

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

4) Composite measure of labor underutilization =

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

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>