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**Labor Market Outlook:**

**November 2023**

**10 Nov 2023**

**DECREASES IN EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT**

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**Executive Summary**

The decrease of 59,000 in employment, along with a decrease of 46,000 in the number of unemployed, resulted in a total labor force decrease of 105,000. The overall unemployment rate has decreased by 0.1 percentage points from August to September, reaching 9.1 percent.

The seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points from August to September, reaching 12.3 percent, as a result of a 68,000 decrease in employment and a 40,000 decrease in the number of unemployed. On the other hand, the male unemployment rate remained at 7.5 percent in September, following a 9,000 increase in employment and a 5,000 decrease in the number of unemployed males. The female labor force level decreased by 109,000, while the male labor force level increased by 4,000. Consequently, the gender gap in unemployment rates decreased from 5 percentage points to 4.8 percentage points in September.

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

Source: Turkstat, Betam

# Decrease in unemployment rate

According to seasonally adjusted data, the number of employed individuals decreased by 59,000, reaching 31.686 million from August to September. In September, the number of unemployed individuals decreased by 46,000, reaching 3.168 million. The labor force decreased by 105,000 and stands at 34.854 million (Figure 1, Table 1). As a result, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points from August to September, reaching 9.1 percent.

# Developments in the alternative unemployment rates

Box 1 reports the methods Turkstat uses 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 and 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" in September was 9.1 percent, while the unemployment rate considering the potential labor force decreased from 17.5 to 16.7 percent, with a decrease of 335,000 in the potential labor force. The unemployment rate accounting for time-related underemployment decreased by 0.6 percentage points to 14.6 percent. The composite measure of labor underutilization rate, which is a combination of the last two alternative rates, decreased by 1.2 percentage points to reach 21.8 percent (Figure 2, Table 2).

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

Source: Turkstat, Betam

# Decrease in female employment

Figure 3 shows the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for females and males. From August to September, the level of female employment decreased by 68,000, while the number of unemployed females decreased by 40,000, resulting in a net decrease of 109,000 in the labor force. The female unemployment rate also decreased by 0.2 percentage points, reaching 12.3 percent from August to September. In August, female employment had increased by 21,000, and the female unemployment rate had decreased from 12.8 percent to 12.5 percent. In September, male employment increased by 9,000, while the number of unemployed males decreased by 5,000, and the male unemployment rate stood at 7.5 percent. In August, male employment had decreased by 18,000. The male unemployment rate had also decreased by 0.1 percentage point, reaching 7.5 percent.

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

Source: Turkstat, Betam

The female employment rate increased by 0.3 percentage point to 31.2 percent as a result of the 68,000 decrease in employment, while the male employment rate stood at 65.8 percent (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 | | |
| September-20 | 31.099 | 27.174 | 3.925 | 12,6 | Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment |
| October-20 | 31.062 | 27.005 | 4.057 | 13,1 | -37 | -169 | 132 |
| November-20 | 31.070 | 27.018 | 4.052 | 13,0 | 8 | 13 | -5 |
| December-20 | 31.004 | 27.096 | 3.908 | 12,6 | -66 | 78 | -144 |
| January-21 | 31.601 | 27.646 | 3.955 | 12,5 | 597 | 550 | 47 |
| February-21 | 31.911 | 27.671 | 4.240 | 13,3 | 310 | 25 | 285 |
| March-21 | 32.573 | 28.397 | 4.176 | 12,8 | 662 | 726 | -64 |
| April-21 | 32.632 | 28.291 | 4.341 | 13,3 | 59 | -106 | 165 |
| May-21 | 32.286 | 28.007 | 4.279 | 13,3 | -346 | -284 | -62 |
| June-21 | 32.186 | 28.631 | 3.555 | 11,0 | -100 | 624 | -724 |
| July-21 | 32.577 | 28.805 | 3.772 | 11,6 | 391 | 174 | 217 |
| August-21 | 32.911 | 28.982 | 3.930 | 11,9 | 334 | 177 | 158 |
| September-21 | 33.334 | 29.569 | 3.765 | 11,3 | 423 | 587 | -165 |
| October-21 | 33.287 | 29.612 | 3.675 | 11,0 | -47 | 43 | -90 |
| November-21 | 33.330 | 29.615 | 3.715 | 11,1 | 43 | 3 | 40 |
| December-21 | 33.746 | 30.040 | 3.707 | 11,0 | 416 | 425 | -8 |
| January-22 | 33.785 | 29.990 | 3.795 | 11,2 | 39 | -50 | 88 |
| February-22 | 33.637 | 30.004 | 3.633 | 10,8 | -148 | 14 | -162 |
| March-22 | 33.823 | 30.079 | 3.743 | 11,1 | 186 | 75 | 110 |
| April-22 | 34.204 | 30.513 | 3.691 | 10,8 | 381 | 434 | -52 |
| May-22 | 34.586 | 30.849 | 3.737 | 10,8 | 382 | 336 | 46 |
| June-22 | 34.318 | 30.761 | 3.557 | 10,4 | -268 | -88 | -180 |
| July-22 | 33.920 | 30.455 | 3.465 | 10,2 | -398 | -306 | -92 |
| August-22 | 34.388 | 31.011 | 3.377 | 9,8 | 468 | 556 | -88 |
| September-22 | 34.442 | 30.963 | 3.479 | 10,1 | 54 | -48 | 102 |
| October-22 | 34.550 | 31.037 | 3.513 | 10,2 | 108 | 74 | 34 |
| November-22 | 35.054 | 31.503 | 3.551 | 10,1 | 504 | 466 | 38 |
| December-22 | 34.953 | 31.370 | 3.583 | 10,3 | -101 | -133 | 32 |
| January-23 | 35.116 | 31.698 | 3.418 | 9,7 | 163 | 328 | -165 |
| February-23 | 34.872 | 31.347 | 3.524 | 10,1 | -244 | -351 | 106 |
| March-23 | 34.640 | 31.182 | 3.458 | 10,0 | -232 | -165 | -66 |
| April-23 | 35.171 | 31.661 | 3.510 | 10,0 | 531 | 479 | 52 |
| May-23 | 35.058 | 31.744 | 3.314 | 9,5 | -113 | 83 | -196 |
| June-23 | 34.707 | 31.395 | 3.312 | 9,5 | -351 | -349 | -2 |
| July-23 | 35.013 | 31.742 | 3.271 | 9,3 | 306 | 347 | -41 |
| August-23 | 34.959 | 31.745 | 3.214 | 9,2 | -54 | 3 | -57 |
| September-23 | 34.854 | 31.686 | 3.168 | 9,1 | -105 | -59 | -46 |

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 |
| Sep-20 | 12,6 | 3925 | 15,9 | 1020 | 21,2 | 3386 | 24,1 | 8331 |
| Oct-20 | 13,1 | 4057 | 17,3 | 1317 | 21,8 | 3471 | 25,7 | 8845 |
| Nov-20 | 13,0 | 4052 | 17,1 | 1261 | 23,1 | 4064 | 26,6 | 9377 |
| Dec-20 | 12,6 | 3908 | 17,8 | 1611 | 23,8 | 4555 | 28,3 | 10074 |
| Jan-21 | 12,5 | 3955 | 20,0 | 2365 | 22,8 | 4210 | 29,3 | 10530 |
| Feb-21 | 13,3 | 4240 | 19,7 | 2046 | 22,4 | 3748 | 28,1 | 10034 |
| Mar-21 | 12,8 | 4176 | 17,9 | 1655 | 20,9 | 3327 | 25,4 | 9158 |
| Apr-21 | 13,3 | 4341 | 19,4 | 1990 | 21,4 | 3362 | 26,9 | 9692 |
| May-21 | 13,3 | 4279 | 19,3 | 1952 | 21,7 | 3483 | 27,2 | 9714 |
| Jun-21 | 11,0 | 3555 | 15,0 | 1273 | 19,1 | 3205 | 22,7 | 8033 |
| Jul-21 | 11,6 | 3772 | 15,9 | 1408 | 19,3 | 3117 | 23,3 | 8297 |
| Aug-21 | 11,9 | 3930 | 15,1 | 1040 | 18,9 | 2824 | 21,8 | 7793 |
| Sep-21 | 11,3 | 3765 | 14,9 | 1202 | 18,3 | 2858 | 21,7 | 7825 |
| Oct-21 | 11,0 | 3675 | 15,5 | 1484 | 18,6 | 3091 | 22,7 | 8251 |
| Nov-21 | 11,1 | 3715 | 15,4 | 1418 | 18,2 | 2874 | 22,1 | 8007 |
| Dec-21 | 11,0 | 3707 | 15,2 | 1422 | 18,6 | 3157 | 22,5 | 8286 |
| Jan-22 | 11,2 | 3795 | 15,5 | 1442 | 18,8 | 3148 | 22,7 | 8385 |
| Feb-22 | 10,8 | 3633 | 14,9 | 1379 | 18,2 | 3043 | 21,9 | 8055 |
| Mar-22 | 11,1 | 3743 | 15,3 | 1432 | 18,4 | 3040 | 22,3 | 8215 |
| Apr-22 | 10,8 | 3691 | 14,3 | 1200 | 18,1 | 3052 | 21,3 | 7944 |
| May-22 | 10,8 | 3737 | 15,9 | 1762 | 17,6 | 2852 | 22,3 | 8351 |
| Jun-22 | 10,4 | 3557 | 14,0 | 1248 | 17,2 | 2833 | 20,5 | 7637 |
| Jul-22 | 10,2 | 3465 | 15,2 | 1691 | 18,1 | 3266 | 22,7 | 8421 |
| Aug-22 | 9,8 | 3377 | 13,5 | 1265 | 16,5 | 2751 | 19,9 | 7393 |
| Sep-22 | 10,1 | 3479 | 14,0 | 1343 | 16,7 | 2728 | 20,3 | 7550 |
| Oct-22 | 10,2 | 3513 | 14,2 | 1393 | 16,6 | 2665 | 20,4 | 7571 |
| Nov-22 | 10,1 | 3551 | 14,3 | 1462 | 16,9 | 2856 | 20,8 | 7868 |
| Dec-22 | 10,3 | 3583 | 14,9 | 1625 | 17,1 | 2888 | 21,4 | 8096 |
| Jan-23 | 9,7 | 3418 | 15,3 | 1955 | 16,8 | 2983 | 21,9 | 8355 |
| Feb-23 | 10,1 | 3524 | 16,1 | 2090 | 17,9 | 3311 | 23,3 | 8925 |
| Mar-23 | 10,0 | 3458 | 15,0 | 1738 | 17,3 | 3065 | 22,0 | 8261 |
| Apr-23 | 10,0 | 3510 | 16,9 | 2434 | 17,3 | 3113 | 23,6 | 9057 |
| May-23 | 9,5 | 3314 | 15,8 | 2225 | 16,6 | 3004 | 22,4 | 8544 |
| Jun-23 | 9,5 | 3312 | 16,5 | 2415 | 17,8 | 3486 | 24,1 | 9213 |
| Jul-23 | 9,3 | 3271 | 14,7 | 1876 | 17,7 | 3556 | 22,6 | 8703 |
| Aug-23 | 9,2 | 3214 | 15,2 | 2100 | 17,5 | 3520 | 23,0 | 8834 |
| Sep-23 | 9,1 | 3168 | 14,6 | 1921 | 16,7 | 3184 | 21,8 | 8273 |

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 |
| Sep-20 | 9.815 | 8.387 | 1.427 | 21.284 | 18.787 | 2.498 | 30,9 | 26,4 | 68,4 | 60,4 |
| Oct-20 | 9.692 | 8.231 | 1.461 | 21.370 | 18.774 | 2.597 | 30,5 | 25,9 | 68,6 | 60,3 |
| Nov-20 | 9558 | 8154 | 1404 | 21512 | 18864 | 2648 | 30 | 25,6 | 68,9 | 60,4 |
| Dec-20 | 9714 | 8356 | 1357 | 21291 | 18740 | 2551 | 30,5 | 26,2 | 68,1 | 59,9 |
| Jan-21 | 10046 | 8604 | 1442 | 21555 | 19042 | 2513 | 31,5 | 27,0 | 68,8 | 60,8 |
| Feb-21 | 10278 | 8699 | 1579 | 21633 | 18972 | 2661 | 32,2 | 27,2 | 69,0 | 60,5 |
| Mar-21 | 10177 | 8558 | 1619 | 22396 | 19839 | 2558 | 31,8 | 26,7 | 71,3 | 63,2 |
| Apr-21 | 10486 | 8885 | 1601 | 22146 | 19407 | 2740 | 32,7 | 27,7 | 70,5 | 61,7 |
| May-21 | 10147 | 8586 | 1561 | 22139 | 19421 | 2718 | 31,6 | 26,7 | 70,3 | 61,7 |
| Jun-21 | 10290 | 8834 | 1456 | 21896 | 19796 | 2100 | 32,0 | 27,5 | 69,5 | 62,8 |
| Jul-21 | 10770 | 9233 | 1537 | 21807 | 19572 | 2235 | 33,5 | 28,7 | 69,1 | 62,0 |
| Aug-21 | 10694 | 9092 | 1602 | 22217 | 19890 | 2327 | 33,2 | 28,2 | 70,3 | 63,0 |
| Sep-21 | 10960 | 9372 | 1588 | 22375 | 20197 | 2178 | 33,9 | 29,0 | 70,7 | 63,9 |
| Oct-21 | 10976 | 9445 | 1530 | 22311 | 20167 | 2144 | 33,9 | 29,2 | 70,5 | 63,7 |
| Nov-21 | 10918 | 9325 | 1594 | 22412 | 20291 | 2121 | 33,7 | 28,8 | 70,7 | 64,0 |
| Dec-21 | 11123 | 9621 | 1502 | 22623 | 20419 | 2205 | 34,3 | 29,7 | 71,3 | 64,3 |
| Jan-22 | 11171 | 9658 | 1512 | 22614 | 20332 | 2282 | 34,4 | 29,7 | 71,1 | 64,0 |
| Feb-22 | 11116 | 9597 | 1519 | 22521 | 20407 | 2114 | 34,2 | 29,5 | 70,8 | 64,1 |
| Mar-22 | 10939 | 9422 | 1517 | 22883 | 20657 | 2226 | 33,6 | 29,0 | 71,8 | 64,8 |
| Apr-22 | 11321 | 9750 | 1571 | 22883 | 20763 | 2120 | 34,8 | 29,9 | 71,7 | 65,1 |
| May-22 | 11530 | 9956 | 1574 | 23057 | 20894 | 2163 | 35,4 | 30,5 | 72,2 | 65,4 |
| Jun-22 | 11473 | 9899 | 1574 | 22845 | 20861 | 1983 | 35,1 | 30,3 | 71,4 | 65,2 |
| Jul-22 | 11288 | 9791 | 1498 | 22632 | 20664 | 1967 | 34,5 | 29,9 | 70,7 | 64,5 |
| Aug-22 | 11514 | 10052 | 1461 | 22875 | 20959 | 1916 | 35,2 | 30,7 | 71,3 | 65,4 |
| Sep-22 | 11581 | 10083 | 1499 | 22861 | 20880 | 1981 | 35,3 | 30,8 | 71,2 | 65,0 |
| Oct-22 | 11649 | 10085 | 1564 | 22901 | 20952 | 1949 | 35,5 | 30,7 | 71,2 | 65,2 |
| Nov-22 | 11970 | 10416 | 1554 | 23084 | 21087 | 1997 | 36,4 | 31,7 | 71,7 | 65,5 |
| Dec-22 | 11902 | 10205 | 1697 | 23051 | 21165 | 1886 | 36,2 | 31,0 | 71,5 | 65,7 |
| Jan-23 | 11832 | 10223 | 1609 | 23284 | 21474 | 1809 | 36,0 | 31,1 | 72,2 | 66,6 |
| Feb-23 | 11878 | 10356 | 1522 | 22993 | 20991 | 2002 | 36,1 | 31,4 | 71,2 | 65,0 |
| Mar-23 | 11573 | 9979 | 1594 | 23067 | 21203 | 1864 | 35,1 | 30,3 | 71,4 | 65,6 |
| Apr-23 | 11959 | 10297 | 1662 | 23212 | 21363 | 1848 | 36,3 | 31,2 | 71,8 | 66,1 |
| May-23 | 11901 | 10363 | 1538 | 23158 | 21381 | 1776 | 36,1 | 31,4 | 71,6 | 66,1 |
| Jun-23 | 11735 | 10200 | 1536 | 22971 | 21195 | 1776 | 35,5 | 30,9 | 71,0 | 65,5 |
| Jul-23 | 11908 | 10387 | 1521 | 23105 | 21355 | 1750 | 36,0 | 31,4 | 71,3 | 65,9 |
| Aug-23 | 11896 | 10408 | 1488 | 23063 | 21337 | 1726 | 36,0 | 31,5 | 71,1 | 65,8 |
| Sep-23 | 11787 | 10340 | 1448 | 23067 | 21346 | 1721 | 35,6 | 31,2 | 71,1 | 65,8 |

Source: Turkstat, Betam

Box 1: Definitions of alternative unemployment rates[[3]](#footnote-3)

**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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3. 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-3)