

SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE, SLIGHT DECREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

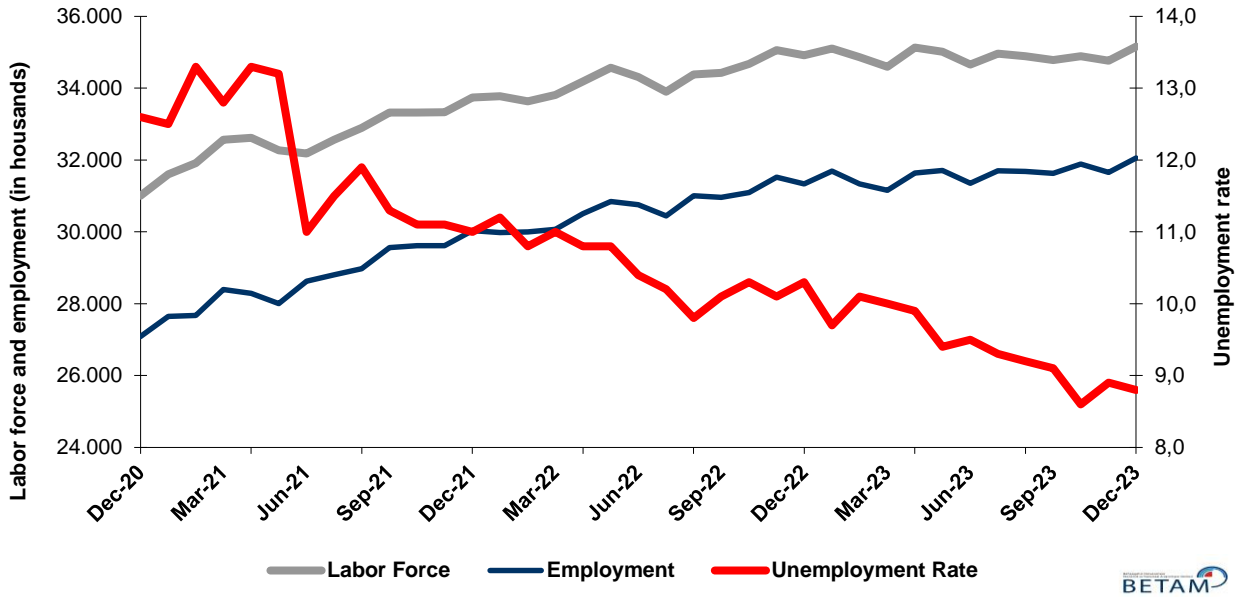
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Executive Summary

The increase of 399,000 in employment, along with a decrease of 12,000 in the number of unemployed, resulted in a total labor force increase of 387,000. The overall unemployment rate has decreased by 0.1 percentage points from November to December, reaching 8.8 percent.

The seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage points from November to December, reaching 12 percent, as a result of a 208,000 decrease in employment and a 43,000 decrease in the number of unemployed. On the other hand, the male unemployment rate declined to 7.1 percent in December, following a 191,000 increase in employment and a 56,000 decrease in the number of unemployed males. The female labor force level increased by 250,000, while the male labor force level increased by 135,000. Consequently, the gender gap in unemployment rates increased from 4.5 percentage points to 4.9 percentage points in December.

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



Source: Turkstat, Betam

Slight decrease in unemployment rate despite a significant rise in employment

According to seasonally adjusted data, the number of employed individuals increased by 399,000, reaching 32.056 million from November to December. In December, the number of unemployed individuals decreased by 12,000, reaching 3.098 million. The labor force increased by 387,000 and stands at 35.154 million (Figure 1, Table 1). As a result, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points from November to December, reaching 8.8 percent.

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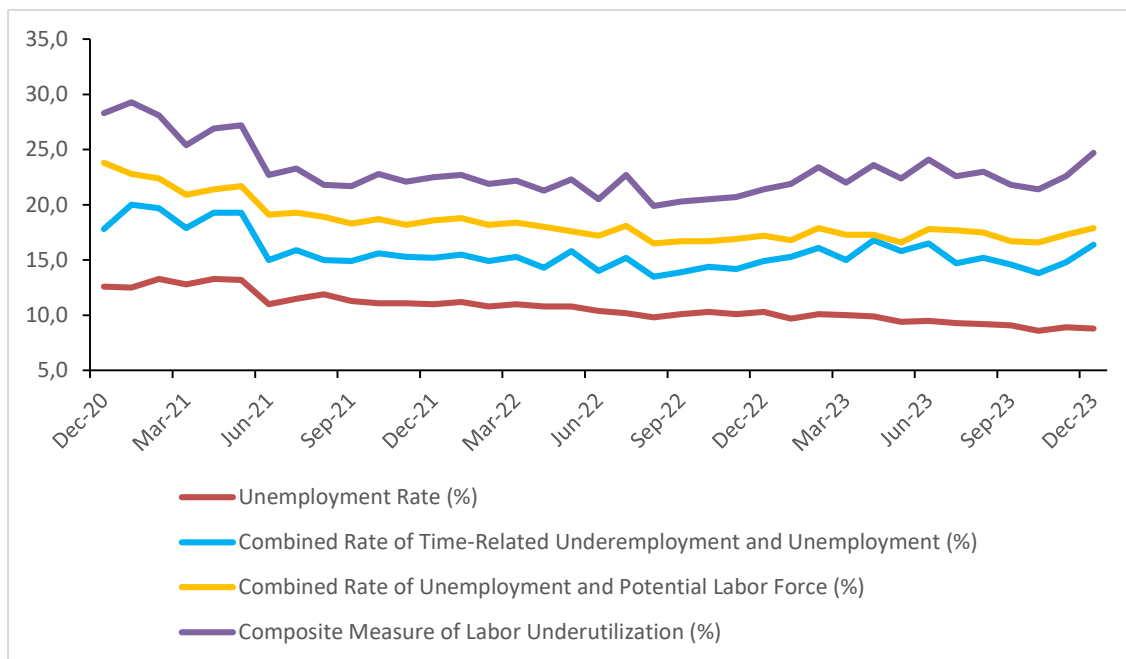
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Developments in the alternative unemployment rates

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 December was 8.8 percent, while the unemployment rate considering the potential labor force increased from 17.3 to 17.9 percent, with an increase of 379,000 in the potential labor force. The unemployment rate accounting for time-related underemployment increased by 1.6 percentage points to 16.4 percent. The composite measure of labor underutilization rate, which is a combination of the last two alternative rates, increased by 2.1 percentage points to reach 24.7 percent (Figure 2, Table 2).

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

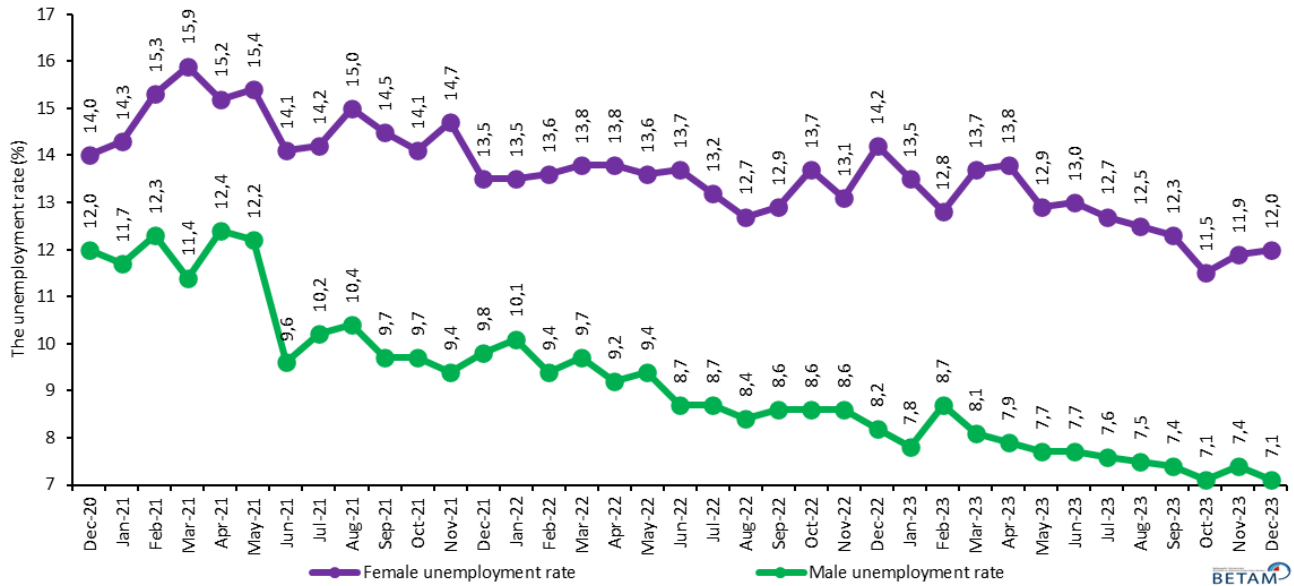


Source: Turkstat, Betam

Visible increase in female employment

Figure 3 shows the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for females and males. From November to December, the level of female employment increased by 208,000, while the number of unemployed females increased by 43,000, resulting in a net rise of 250,000 in the labor force. The female unemployment rate also increased by 0.1 percentage points, reaching 12 percent from November to December. In November, female employment had decreased by 106,000, and the female unemployment rate had increased from 11.5 percent to 11.9 percent. In December, male employment increased by 191,000, while the number of unemployed males decreased by 56,000, and the male unemployment rate declined to 7.1 percent. In November, male employment had decreased by 124,000. The male unemployment rate faced an increase of 0.3 percentage point, reaching 7.4 percent.

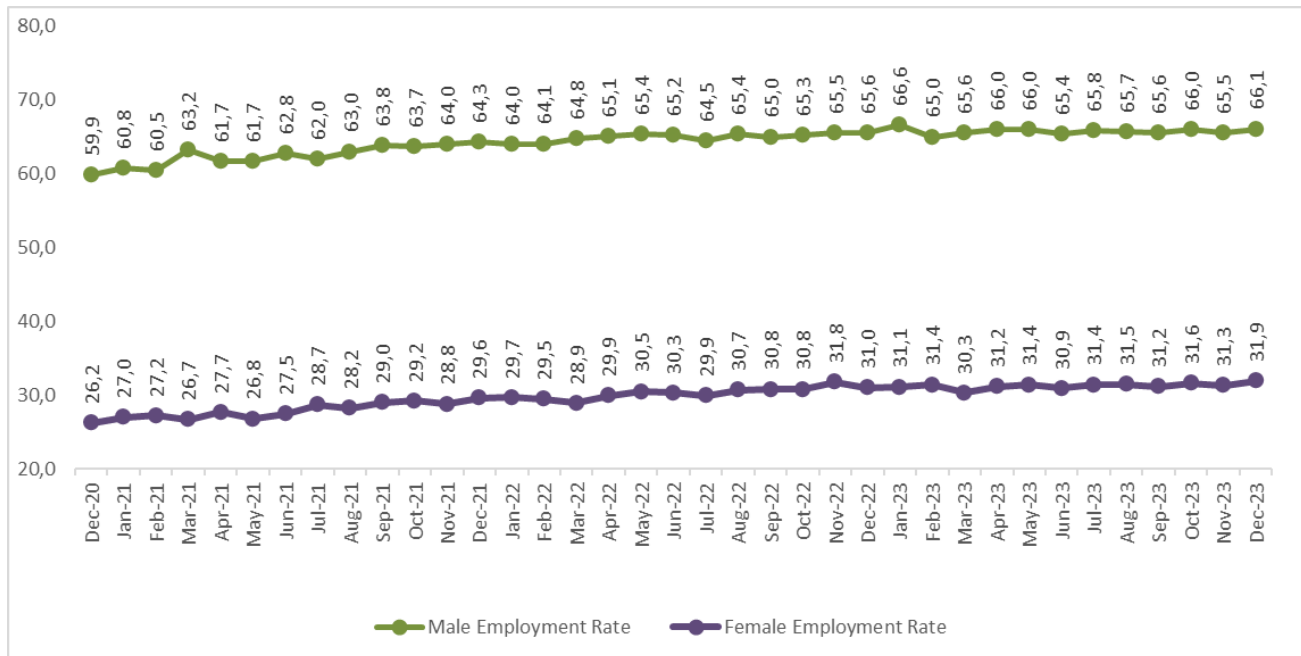
Figure 3: Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate by gender (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam

The female employment rate increased by 0.6 percentage point to 31.9 percent as a result of the 208,000 increase in employment, while the male employment rate reached 66.1 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		
					Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment
November-20	31.068	27.016	4.052	13,0			
December-20	31.003	27.089	3.913	12,6	-65	73	-139
January-21	31.604	27.644	3.960	12,5	601	555	47
February-21	31.913	27.671	4.242	13,3	309	27	282
March-21	32.567	28.393	4.174	12,8	654	722	-68
April-21	32.621	28.288	4.333	13,3	54	-105	159
May-21	32.275	28.006	4.269	13,2	-346	-282	-64
June-21	32.183	28.629	3.554	11,0	-92	623	-715
July-21	32.566	28.806	3.761	11,5	383	177	207
August-21	32.898	28.978	3.920	11,9	332	172	159
September-21	33.325	29.564	3.761	11,3	427	586	-159
October-21	33.327	29.614	3.713	11,1	2	50	-48
November-21	33.330	29.617	3.713	11,1	3	3	
December-21	33.739	30.031	3.708	11,0	409	414	-5
January-22	33.780	29.985	3.795	11,2	41	-46	87
February-22	33.636	30.001	3.635	10,8	-144	16	-160
March-22	33.809	30.074	3.735	11,0	173	73	100
April-22	34.186	30.508	3.679	10,8	377	434	-56
May-22	34.574	30.848	3.725	10,8	388	340	46
June-22	34.313	30.758	3.555	10,4	-261	-90	-170
July-22	33.906	30.449	3.458	10,2	-407	-309	-97
August-22	34.381	31.009	3.372	9,8	475	560	-86
September-22	34.430	30.959	3.472	10,1	49	-50	100
October-22	34.674	31.096	3.578	10,3	244	137	106
November-22	35.062	31.519	3.543	10,1	388	423	-35
December-22	34.921	31.340	3.581	10,3	-141	-179	38
January-23	35.106	31.689	3.417	9,7	185	349	-164
February-23	34.861	31.335	3.527	10,1	-245	-354	110
March-23	34.601	31.156	3.445	10,0	-260	-179	-82
April-23	35.127	31.635	3.492	9,9	526	479	47
May-23	35.014	31.713	3.301	9,4	-113	78	-191
June-23	34.659	31.355	3.304	9,5	-355	-358	3
July-23	34.962	31.702	3.259	9,3	303	347	-45
August-23	34.891	31.686	3.204	9,2	-71	-16	-55
September-23	34.786	31.628	3.158	9,1	-105	-58	-46
October-23	34.889	31.888	3.002	8,6	103	260	-156
November-23	34.767	31.657	3.110	8,9	-122	-231	108
December-23	35.154	32.056	3.098	8,8	387	399	-12

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	3923	15,9	1021	21,2	3387	24,1	8330
Oct-20	13,1	4080	17,4	1329	21,9	3492	25,7	8901
Nov-20	13,0	4052	17,1	1261	23,1	4063	26,6	9376
Dec-20	12,6	3913	17,8	1606	23,8	4548	28,3	10067
Jan-21	12,5	3960	20,0	2361	22,8	4204	29,3	10525
Feb-21	13,3	4242	19,7	2045	22,4	3746	28,1	10032
Mar-21	12,8	4174	17,9	1655	20,9	3328	25,4	9158
Apr-21	13,3	4333	19,3	1963	21,4	3369	26,9	9665
May-21	13,2	4269	19,3	1960	21,7	3493	27,2	9722
Jun-21	11,0	3554	15,0	1273	19,1	3205	22,7	8033
Jul-21	11,5	3761	15,9	1417	19,3	3128	23,3	8306
Aug-21	11,9	3920	15,0	1015	18,9	2833	21,8	7768
Sep-21	11,3	3761	14,9	1204	18,3	2861	21,7	7826
Oct-21	11,1	3713	15,6	1486	18,7	3099	22,8	8298
Nov-21	11,1	3713	15,3	1386	18,2	2877	22,1	7976
Dec-21	11,0	3708	15,2	1420	18,6	3154	22,5	8282
Jan-22	11,2	3795	15,5	1441	18,8	3147	22,7	8383
Feb-22	10,8	3635	14,9	1377	18,2	3040	21,9	8052
Mar-22	11,0	3735	15,3	1438	18,4	3046	22,2	8219
Apr-22	10,8	3679	14,3	1210	18,0	3018	21,3	7906
May-22	10,8	3725	15,8	1738	17,6	2864	22,3	8327
Jun-22	10,4	3555	14,0	1249	17,2	2834	20,5	7638
Jul-22	10,2	3458	15,2	1696	18,1	3271	22,7	8425
Aug-22	9,8	3372	13,5	1269	16,5	2756	19,9	7397
Sep-22	10,1	3472	13,9	1314	16,7	2734	20,3	7520
Oct-22	10,3	3578	14,4	1415	16,7	2656	20,5	7649
Nov-22	10,1	3543	14,2	1436	16,9	2867	20,7	7846
Dec-22	10,3	3581	14,9	1622	17,2	2929	21,4	8132
Jan-23	9,7	3417	15,3	1954	16,8	2982	21,9	8353
Feb-23	10,1	3527	16,1	2086	17,9	3305	23,4	8917
Mar-23	10,0	3445	15,0	1745	17,3	3073	22,0	8263
Apr-23	9,9	3492	16,8	2409	17,3	3126	23,6	9027
May-23	9,4	3301	15,8	2231	16,6	3011	22,4	8543
Jun-23	9,5	3304	16,5	2415	17,8	3486	24,1	9205
Jul-23	9,3	3259	14,7	1880	17,7	3559	22,6	8699
Aug-23	9,2	3204	15,2	2099	17,5	3517	23,0	8821
Sep-23	9,1	3158	14,6	1921	16,7	3183	21,8	8262
Oct-23	8,6	3002	13,8	1813	16,6	3345	21,4	8159
Nov-23	8,9	3110	14,8	2036	17,3	3512	22,6	8658
Dec-23	8,8	3098	16,4	2667	17,9	3891	24,7	9656

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	9812	8386	1425	21282	18783	2498	30,9	26,4	68,4	60,4
Oct-20	9703	8232	1471	21382	18773	2609	30,5	25,9	68,6	60,3
Nov-20	9563	8155	1408	21505	18861	2644	30,0	25,6	68,9	60,4
Dec-20	9710	8353	1357	21293	18736	2557	30,5	26,2	68,1	59,9
Jan-21	10042	8602	1440	21562	19041	2520	31,5	27,0	68,8	60,8
Feb-21	10275	8700	1575	21638	18971	2667	32,1	27,2	69,0	60,5
Mar-21	10171	8556	1615	22396	19837	2560	31,8	26,7	71,3	63,2
Apr-21	10484	8886	1598	22137	19402	2735	32,7	27,7	70,4	61,7
May-21	10146	8587	1559	22129	19419	2710	31,6	26,8	70,3	61,7
Jun-21	10290	8836	1454	21892	19793	2100	32,0	27,5	69,5	62,8
Jul-21	10766	9233	1534	21800	19573	2227	33,4	28,7	69,1	62,0
Aug-21	10690	9090	1600	22208	19888	2320	33,2	28,2	70,3	63,0
Sep-21	10956	9370	1586	22369	20194	2175	33,9	29,0	70,7	63,8
Oct-21	10996	9447	1549	22331	20167	2163	34,0	29,2	70,5	63,7
Nov-21	10929	9327	1602	22401	20290	2111	33,8	28,8	70,6	64,0
Dec-21	11113	9614	1499	22625	20417	2209	34,3	29,6	71,3	64,3
Jan-22	11165	9656	1508	22615	20329	2286	34,4	29,7	71,1	64,0
Feb-22	11112	9597	1515	22523	20404	2120	34,2	29,5	70,8	64,1
Mar-22	10931	9419	1512	22878	20655	2223	33,6	28,9	71,8	64,8
Apr-22	11314	9749	1565	22873	20759	2114	34,7	29,9	71,7	65,1
May-22	11526	9957	1569	23047	20891	2156	35,3	30,5	72,1	65,4
Jun-22	11470	9899	1570	22844	20859	1985	35,1	30,3	71,4	65,2
Jul-22	11284	9789	1494	22623	20659	1964	34,5	29,9	70,6	64,5
Aug-22	11509	10050	1459	22872	20959	1913	35,2	30,7	71,3	65,4
Sep-22	11577	10081	1496	22854	20878	1976	35,3	30,8	71,2	65,0
Oct-22	11694	10096	1598	22980	21000	1980	35,6	30,8	71,5	65,3
Nov-22	11999	10431	1568	23063	21089	1974	36,5	31,8	71,7	65,5
Dec-22	11886	10196	1690	23036	21144	1892	36,2	31,0	71,5	65,6
Jan-23	11823	10221	1602	23283	21468	1816	35,9	31,1	72,2	66,6
Feb-23	11871	10355	1517	22990	20980	2010	36,0	31,4	71,2	65,0
Mar-23	11558	9972	1585	23044	21184	1859	35,1	30,3	71,3	65,6
Apr-23	11943	10293	1651	23184	21342	1842	36,2	31,2	71,7	66,0
May-23	11891	10360	1531	23123	21353	1770	36,0	31,4	71,5	66,0
Jun-23	11724	10195	1529	22935	21160	1775	35,5	30,9	70,9	65,4
Jul-23	11896	10382	1515	23065	21321	1745	36,0	31,4	71,2	65,8
Aug-23	11887	10403	1484	23004	21283	1721	35,9	31,5	71,0	65,7
Sep-23	11779	10334	1445	23007	21294	1713	35,6	31,2	70,9	65,6
Oct-23	11843	10478	1364	23047	21409	1637	35,8	31,6	71,0	66,0
Nov-23	11777	10372	1404	22991	21285	1706	35,5	31,3	70,8	65,5
Dec-23	12027	10580	1447	23126	21476	1650	36,3	31,9	71,1	66,1

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 = [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>