

STAGNATION SIGNALS IN EMPLOYMENT

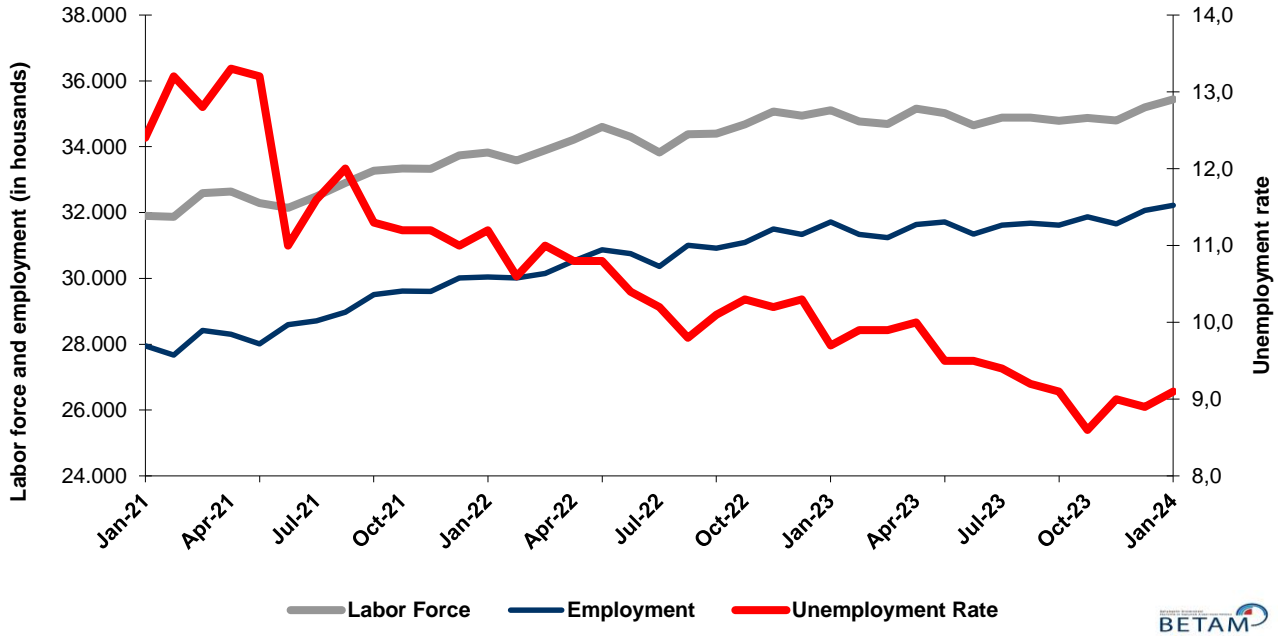
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Executive Summary

The increase of 160,000 in employment, along with an increase of 85,000 in the number of unemployed, resulted in a total labor force increase of 245,000. The overall unemployment rate has decreased by 0.2 percentage points from December to January, reaching 9.1 percent.

The seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate decreased by 0.3 percentage points from December to January, reaching 11.7 percent, as a result of a 157,000 increase in employment and a 25,000 decrease in the number of unemployed. On the other hand, the male unemployment rate reached 7.7 percent in January, following a 3,000 increase in employment and a 109,000 decrease in the number of unemployed males. The female labor force level increased by 133,000, while the male labor force level increased by 112,000. Consequently, the gender gap in unemployment rates decreased from 4.7 percentage points to 4 percentage points in January.

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



Source: Turkstat, Betam

Increases in employment and unemployment

According to seasonally adjusted data, the number of employed individuals increased by 160,000, reaching 32.222 million from December to January. In January, the number of unemployed individuals increased by 85,000, reaching 3.214 million. The labor force increased by 245,000 and stands at 35.436 million (Figure 1, Table 1). As a result, the unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points from December to January, reaching 9.1 percent.

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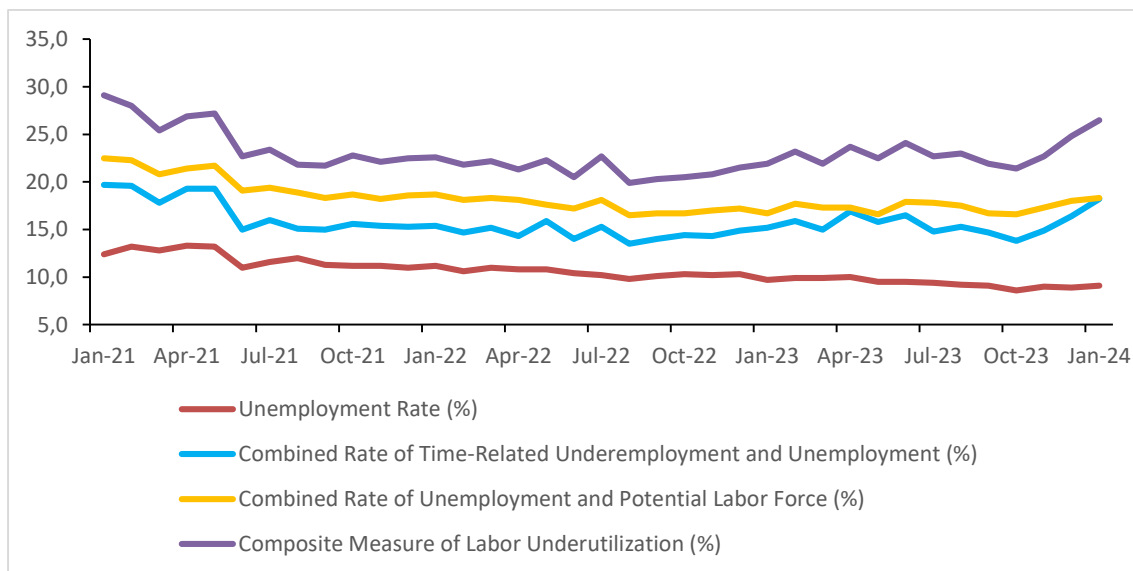
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Increase in the alternative unemployment rates

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 January was 9.1 percent, while the unemployment rate considering the potential labor force increased from 18 to 18.3 percent, with an increase of 94,000 in the potential labor force. The unemployment rate accounting for time-related underemployment increased by 1.8 percentage points to 18.2 percent. The composite measure of labor underutilization rate, which is a combination of the last two alternative rates, increased by 1.7 percentage points to reach 26.5 percent (Figure 2, Table 2).

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

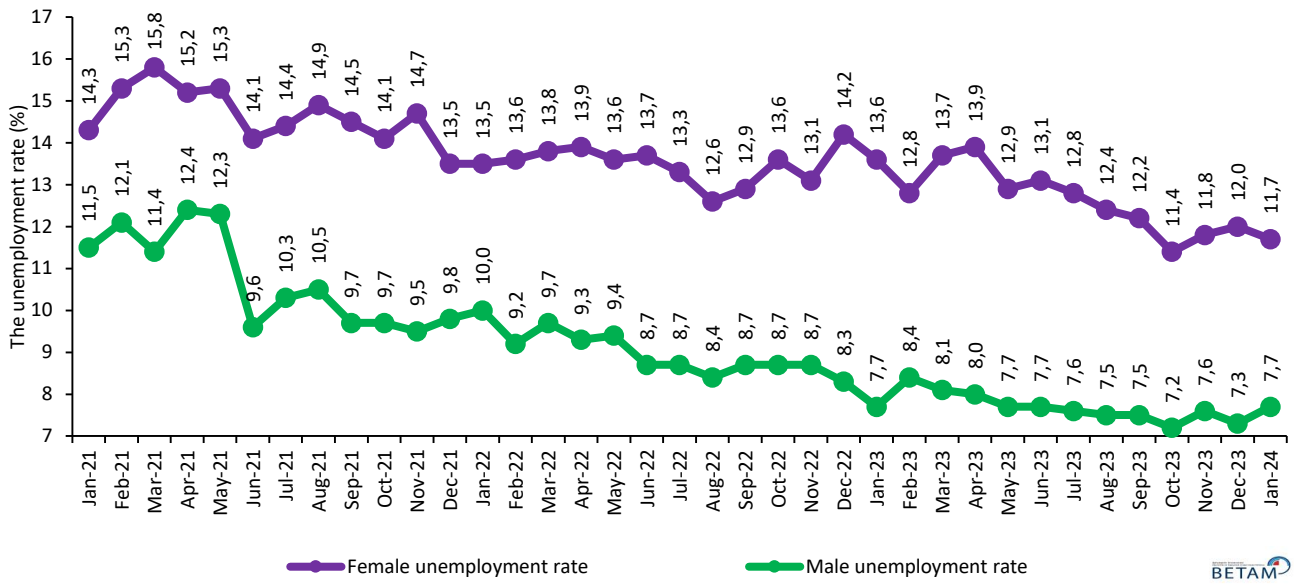


Source: Turkstat, Betam

Decrease in female unemployment

Figure 3 shows the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for females and males. From December to January, the level of female employment increased by 157,000, while the number of unemployed females decreased by 25,000, resulting in a net rise of 133,000 in the labor force. The female unemployment rate also increased by 0.3 percentage points, reaching 11.7 percent from December to January. In December, female employment had increased by 212,000, and the female unemployment rate had increased from 11.8 percent to 12 percent. The reason for this increase is the 50 thousand increase in number of unemployed as a result of a higher increase in labor force than the increase in employment. In January, male employment increased by 3,000, while the number of unemployed males decreased by 109,000, and the male unemployment rate is realized at 7.7 percent. In December, male employment had increased by 195,000. The male unemployment rate faced an increase of 0.3 percentage point, reaching 7.3 percent.

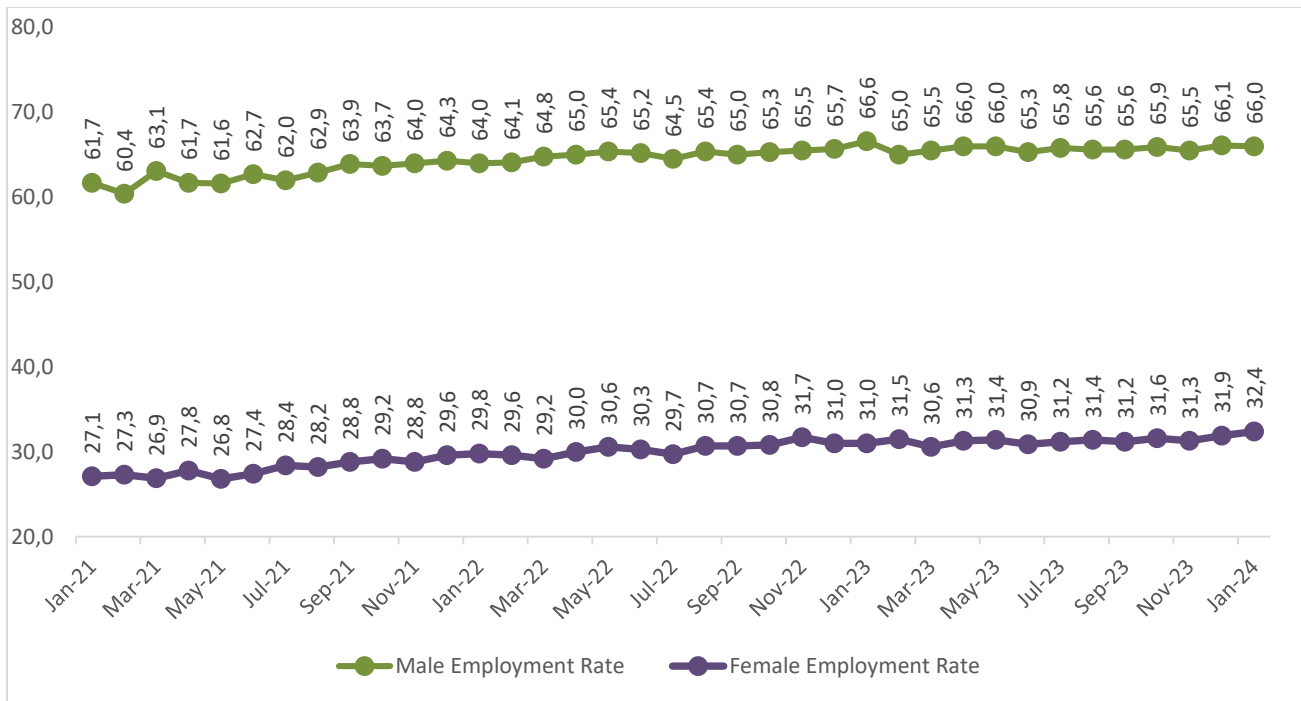
Figure 3: Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate by gender (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam

The female employment rate increased to 32.4 percent as a result of the 157,000 increase in employment, while the male employment rate declined to 66 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 |
| December-20 | 31,003 | 27,089 | 3,913 | 12.6 | | | |
| January-21 | 31,900 | 27,957 | 3,943 | 12.4 | 897 | 868 | 30 |
| February-21 | 31,869 | 27,672 | 4,196 | 13.2 | -31 | -285 | 253 |
| March-21 | 32,591 | 28,420 | 4,171 | 12.8 | 722 | 748 | -25 |
| April-21 | 32,643 | 28,304 | 4,339 | 13.3 | 52 | -116 | 168 |
| May-21 | 32,289 | 28,012 | 4,278 | 13.2 | -354 | -292 | -61 |
| June-21 | 32,141 | 28,590 | 3,551 | 11.0 | -148 | 578 | -727 |
| July-21 | 32,490 | 28,715 | 3,776 | 11.6 | 349 | 125 | 225 |
| August-21 | 32,905 | 28,972 | 3,932 | 12.0 | 415 | 257 | 156 |
| September-21 | 33,271 | 29,506 | 3,765 | 11.3 | 366 | 534 | -167 |
| October-21 | 33,334 | 29,617 | 3,717 | 11.2 | 63 | 111 | -48 |
| November-21 | 33,325 | 29,602 | 3,723 | 11.2 | -9 | -15 | 6 |
| December-21 | 33,737 | 30,017 | 3,719 | 11.0 | 412 | 415 | -4 |
| January-22 | 33,823 | 30,044 | 3,779 | 11.2 | 86 | 27 | 60 |
| February-22 | 33,584 | 30,012 | 3,572 | 10.6 | -239 | -32 | -207 |
| March-22 | 33,888 | 30,150 | 3,738 | 11.0 | 304 | 138 | 166 |
| April-22 | 34,217 | 30,525 | 3,692 | 10.8 | 329 | 375 | -46 |
| May-22 | 34,603 | 30,867 | 3,736 | 10.8 | 386 | 342 | 44 |
| June-22 | 34,301 | 30,749 | 3,552 | 10.4 | -302 | -118 | -184 |
| July-22 | 33,823 | 30,359 | 3,464 | 10.2 | -478 | -390 | -88 |
| August-22 | 34,382 | 31,007 | 3,375 | 9.8 | 559 | 648 | -89 |
| September-22 | 34,398 | 30,920 | 3,478 | 10.1 | 16 | -87 | 103 |
| October-22 | 34,677 | 31,093 | 3,584 | 10.3 | 279 | 173 | 106 |
| November-22 | 35,067 | 31,502 | 3,565 | 10.2 | 390 | 409 | -19 |
| December-22 | 34,946 | 31,340 | 3,606 | 10.3 | -121 | -162 | 41 |
| January-23 | 35,107 | 31,710 | 3,396 | 9.7 | 161 | 370 | -210 |
| February-23 | 34,770 | 31,335 | 3,435 | 9.9 | -337 | -375 | 39 |
| March-23 | 34,685 | 31,237 | 3,449 | 9.9 | -85 | -98 | 14 |
| April-23 | 35,151 | 31,640 | 3,511 | 10.0 | 466 | 403 | 62 |
| May-23 | 35,020 | 31,711 | 3,310 | 9.5 | -131 | 71 | -201 |
| June-23 | 34,655 | 31,349 | 3,306 | 9.5 | -365 | -362 | -4 |
| July-23 | 34,882 | 31,614 | 3,268 | 9.4 | 227 | 265 | -38 |
| August-23 | 34,888 | 31,677 | 3,210 | 9.2 | 6 | 63 | -58 |
| September-23 | 34,784 | 31,616 | 3,168 | 9.1 | -104 | -61 | -42 |
| October-23 | 34,875 | 31,867 | 3,008 | 8.6 | 91 | 251 | -160 |
| November-23 | 34,794 | 31,655 | 3,139 | 9.0 | -81 | -212 | 131 |
| December-23 | 35,191 | 32,062 | 3,129 | 8.9 | 397 | 407 | -10 |
| January-24 | 35,436 | 32,222 | 3,214 | 9.1 | 245 | 160 | 85 |

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-20 | 13.1 | 4080 | 17.4 | 1329 | 21.9 | 3492 | 24.1 | 8901 |
| Nov-20 | 13.0 | 4052 | 17.1 | 1261 | 23.1 | 4063 | 24.1 | 9376 |
| Dec-20 | 12.6 | 3913 | 17.8 | 1606 | 23.8 | 4548 | 24.1 | 10067 |
| Jan-21 | 12.4 | 3943 | 19.7 | 2341 | 22.5 | 4174 | 24.1 | 10458 |
| Feb-21 | 13.2 | 4196 | 19.6 | 2050 | 22.3 | 3746 | 24.1 | 9993 |
| Mar-21 | 12.8 | 4171 | 17.8 | 1630 | 20.8 | 3293 | 24.1 | 9094 |
| Apr-21 | 13.3 | 4339 | 19.3 | 1961 | 21.4 | 3367 | 24.1 | 9667 |
| May-21 | 13.2 | 4278 | 19.3 | 1954 | 21.7 | 3485 | 24.1 | 9717 |
| Jun-21 | 11.0 | 3551 | 15.0 | 1270 | 19.1 | 3199 | 24.1 | 8020 |
| Jul-21 | 11.6 | 3776 | 16.0 | 1422 | 19.4 | 3135 | 24.1 | 8334 |
| Aug-21 | 12.0 | 3932 | 15.1 | 1037 | 18.9 | 2820 | 24.1 | 7789 |
| Sep-21 | 11.3 | 3765 | 15.0 | 1226 | 18.3 | 2844 | 24.1 | 7835 |
| Oct-21 | 11.2 | 3717 | 15.6 | 1483 | 18.7 | 3095 | 24.1 | 8295 |
| Nov-21 | 11.2 | 3723 | 15.4 | 1409 | 18.2 | 2863 | 24.1 | 7995 |
| Dec-21 | 11.0 | 3719 | 15.3 | 1443 | 18.6 | 3140 | 24.1 | 8302 |
| Jan-22 | 11.2 | 3779 | 15.4 | 1430 | 18.7 | 3131 | 24.1 | 8340 |
| Feb-22 | 10.6 | 3572 | 14.7 | 1365 | 18.1 | 3061 | 24.1 | 7998 |
| Mar-22 | 11.0 | 3738 | 15.2 | 1413 | 18.3 | 3015 | 24.1 | 8166 |
| Apr-22 | 10.8 | 3692 | 14.3 | 1201 | 18.1 | 3054 | 24.1 | 7947 |
| May-22 | 10.8 | 3736 | 15.9 | 1766 | 17.6 | 2857 | 24.1 | 8359 |
| Jun-22 | 10.4 | 3552 | 14.0 | 1250 | 17.2 | 2835 | 24.1 | 7638 |
| Jul-22 | 10.2 | 3464 | 15.3 | 1711 | 18.1 | 3245 | 24.1 | 8420 |
| Aug-22 | 9.8 | 3375 | 13.5 | 1267 | 16.5 | 2752 | 24.1 | 7394 |
| Sep-22 | 10.1 | 3478 | 14.0 | 1338 | 16.7 | 2721 | 24.1 | 7537 |
| Oct-22 | 10.3 | 3584 | 14.4 | 1409 | 16.7 | 2650 | 24.1 | 7643 |
| Nov-22 | 10.2 | 3565 | 14.3 | 1450 | 17.0 | 2887 | 24.1 | 7902 |
| Dec-22 | 10.3 | 3606 | 14.9 | 1601 | 17.2 | 2904 | 24.1 | 8111 |
| Jan-23 | 9.7 | 3396 | 15.2 | 1940 | 16.7 | 2961 | 24.1 | 8298 |
| Feb-23 | 9.9 | 3435 | 15.9 | 2093 | 17.7 | 3304 | 24.1 | 8833 |
| Mar-23 | 9.9 | 3449 | 15.0 | 1754 | 17.3 | 3085 | 24.1 | 8288 |
| Apr-23 | 10.0 | 3511 | 16.9 | 2430 | 17.3 | 3108 | 24.1 | 9048 |
| May-23 | 9.5 | 3310 | 15.8 | 2223 | 16.6 | 3002 | 24.1 | 8535 |
| Jun-23 | 9.5 | 3306 | 16.5 | 2412 | 17.9 | 3529 | 24.1 | 9247 |
| Jul-23 | 9.4 | 3268 | 14.8 | 1895 | 17.8 | 3578 | 24.1 | 8740 |
| Aug-23 | 9.2 | 3210 | 15.3 | 2128 | 17.5 | 3510 | 24.1 | 8847 |
| Sep-23 | 9.1 | 3168 | 14.7 | 1945 | 16.7 | 3170 | 24.1 | 8284 |
| Oct-23 | 8.6 | 3008 | 13.8 | 1805 | 16.6 | 3335 | 24.1 | 8148 |
| Nov-23 | 9.0 | 3139 | 14.9 | 2045 | 17.3 | 3483 | 24.1 | 8667 |
| Dec-23 | 8.9 | 3129 | 16.4 | 2642 | 18.0 | 3909 | 24.1 | 9680 |
| Jan-24 | 9.1 | 3214 | 18.2 | 3235 | 18.3 | 4003 | 24.1 | 10453 |

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-20 | 9703 | 8232 | 1471 | 21382 | 18773 | 2609 | 30.5 | 25.9 | 68.6 | 60.3 |
| Nov-20 | 9563 | 8155 | 1408 | 21505 | 18861 | 2644 | 30 | 25.6 | 68.9 | 60.4 |
| Dec-20 | 9710 | 8353 | 1357 | 21293 | 18736 | 2557 | 30.5 | 26.2 | 68.1 | 59.9 |
| Jan-21 | 10084 | 8642 | 1442 | 21816 | 19315 | 2501 | 31.6 | 27.1 | 69.7 | 61.7 |
| Feb-21 | 10305 | 8727 | 1578 | 21563 | 18945 | 2618 | 32.2 | 27.3 | 68.8 | 60.4 |
| Mar-21 | 10229 | 8609 | 1620 | 22362 | 19810 | 2551 | 32 | 26.9 | 71.2 | 63.1 |
| Apr-21 | 10520 | 8919 | 1601 | 22123 | 19385 | 2738 | 32.8 | 27.8 | 70.4 | 61.7 |
| May-21 | 10174 | 8615 | 1559 | 22115 | 19396 | 2719 | 31.7 | 26.8 | 70.3 | 61.6 |
| Jun-21 | 10276 | 8824 | 1453 | 21865 | 19766 | 2098 | 32 | 27.4 | 69.4 | 62.7 |
| Jul-21 | 10690 | 9154 | 1536 | 21801 | 19561 | 2239 | 33.2 | 28.4 | 69.1 | 62 |
| Aug-21 | 10701 | 9102 | 1600 | 22203 | 19871 | 2333 | 33.2 | 28.2 | 70.3 | 62.9 |
| Sep-21 | 10889 | 9306 | 1583 | 22382 | 20201 | 2181 | 33.7 | 28.8 | 70.8 | 63.9 |
| Oct-21 | 10986 | 9441 | 1546 | 22348 | 20177 | 2171 | 34 | 29.2 | 70.6 | 63.7 |
| Nov-21 | 10913 | 9313 | 1600 | 22412 | 20290 | 2123 | 33.7 | 28.8 | 70.7 | 64 |
| Dec-21 | 11098 | 9603 | 1495 | 22638 | 20414 | 2224 | 34.2 | 29.6 | 71.3 | 64.3 |
| Jan-22 | 11197 | 9686 | 1511 | 22626 | 20358 | 2268 | 34.5 | 29.8 | 71.2 | 64 |
| Feb-22 | 11132 | 9616 | 1516 | 22453 | 20396 | 2056 | 34.2 | 29.6 | 70.5 | 64.1 |
| Mar-22 | 11016 | 9498 | 1518 | 22872 | 20651 | 2221 | 33.9 | 29.2 | 71.8 | 64.8 |
| Apr-22 | 11345 | 9771 | 1575 | 22872 | 20754 | 2118 | 34.8 | 30 | 71.7 | 65 |
| May-22 | 11541 | 9969 | 1572 | 23062 | 20898 | 2164 | 35.4 | 30.6 | 72.2 | 65.4 |
| Jun-22 | 11460 | 9890 | 1571 | 22841 | 20859 | 1981 | 35.1 | 30.3 | 71.4 | 65.2 |
| Jul-22 | 11192 | 9699 | 1494 | 22631 | 20660 | 1971 | 34.2 | 29.7 | 70.7 | 64.5 |
| Aug-22 | 11506 | 10052 | 1454 | 22876 | 20955 | 1921 | 35.2 | 30.7 | 71.3 | 65.4 |
| Sep-22 | 11538 | 10048 | 1490 | 22860 | 20872 | 1988 | 35.2 | 30.7 | 71.2 | 65 |
| Oct-22 | 11680 | 10091 | 1589 | 22998 | 21002 | 1995 | 35.6 | 30.8 | 71.5 | 65.3 |
| Nov-22 | 11977 | 10414 | 1563 | 23090 | 21088 | 2002 | 36.5 | 31.7 | 71.7 | 65.5 |
| Dec-22 | 11872 | 10184 | 1689 | 23074 | 21156 | 1917 | 36.1 | 31 | 71.6 | 65.7 |
| Jan-23 | 11825 | 10217 | 1608 | 23282 | 21494 | 1788 | 35.9 | 31 | 72.2 | 66.6 |
| Feb-23 | 11880 | 10363 | 1518 | 22889 | 20972 | 1917 | 36.1 | 31.5 | 70.9 | 65 |
| Mar-23 | 11663 | 10069 | 1595 | 23022 | 21168 | 1854 | 35.4 | 30.6 | 71.3 | 65.5 |
| Apr-23 | 11978 | 10310 | 1668 | 23174 | 21330 | 1843 | 36.3 | 31.3 | 71.7 | 66 |
| May-23 | 11901 | 10365 | 1535 | 23120 | 21345 | 1774 | 36.1 | 31.4 | 71.5 | 66 |
| Jun-23 | 11729 | 10197 | 1532 | 22926 | 21152 | 1774 | 35.5 | 30.9 | 70.8 | 65.3 |
| Jul-23 | 11820 | 10305 | 1515 | 23062 | 21309 | 1753 | 35.8 | 31.2 | 71.2 | 65.8 |
| Aug-23 | 11879 | 10400 | 1478 | 23009 | 21277 | 1732 | 35.9 | 31.4 | 71 | 65.6 |
| Sep-23 | 11766 | 10330 | 1436 | 23018 | 21285 | 1733 | 35.5 | 31.2 | 71 | 65.6 |
| Oct-23 | 11834 | 10482 | 1351 | 23041 | 21385 | 1656 | 35.7 | 31.6 | 71 | 65.9 |
| Nov-23 | 11768 | 10374 | 1394 | 23026 | 21281 | 1745 | 35.5 | 31.3 | 70.9 | 65.5 |
| Dec-23 | 12029 | 10586 | 1444 | 23162 | 21476 | 1686 | 36.3 | 31.9 | 71.2 | 66.1 |
| Jan-24 | 12162 | 10743 | 1419 | 23274 | 21479 | 1795 | 36.6 | 32.4 | 71.5 | 66 |

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>