

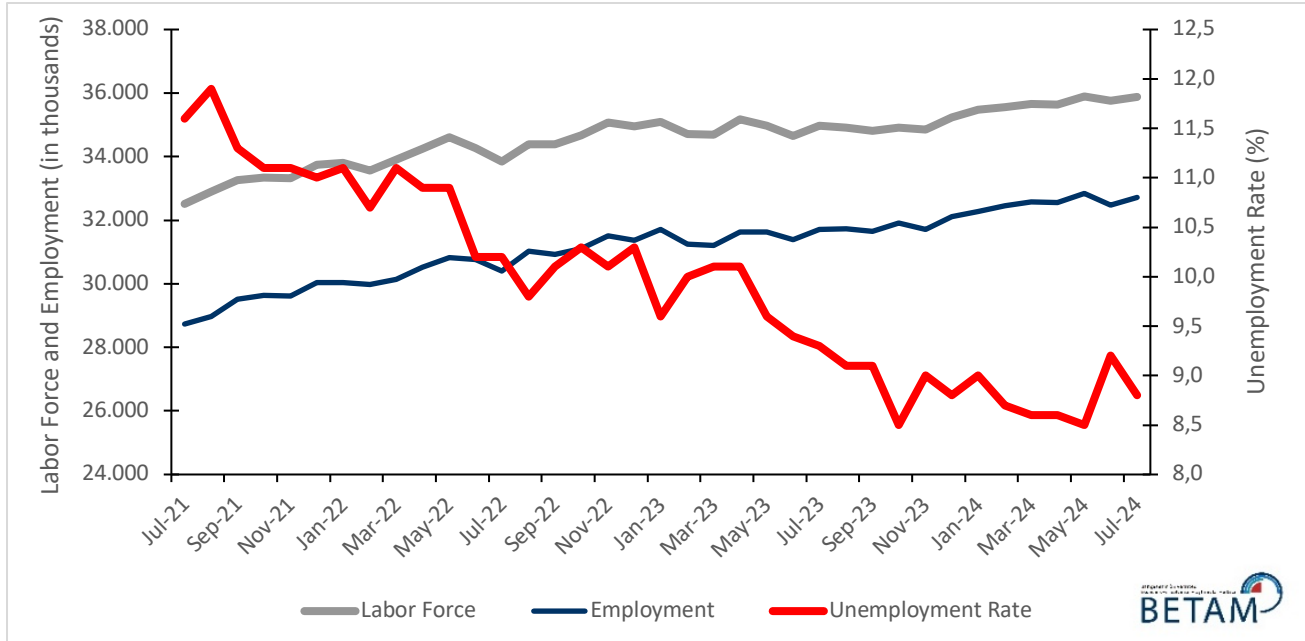
## DECREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

Seyfettin Gürsel\*, Saliha Tanrıverdi\*\*

### Executive Summary

The increase in employment by 235 thousand and the decrease in unemployed people by 112 thousand increased the labor force by approximately 123 thousand people, and the general unemployment rate decreased by 0.4 points from June to July, reaching 8.8 percent. Seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate remains constant at 12.4 percent as a result of the 55 thousand increase in employment and the 6 thousand increase in the number of unemployed from June to July. The male unemployment rate decreased to 7 percent in July, as a result of an increase of 180 thousand people in employment and a decrease of 118 thousand people in unemployed. While the female labor force increases by 61 thousand, the male labor force is at 62 thousand. The gender gap in the unemployment rates resulting from these developments increased by 0.5 points in July compared to June, reaching 5.4 points.

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



Source: Turkstat, Betam

### Increase in employment and decrease in the number of unemployed

According to seasonally adjusted data, the number of employed people increased by 235 thousand from June to July and reached 32 million 712 thousand. In July, the number of unemployed people decreased by 112 thousand to 3 million 167 thousand. As a result of this development, the workforce increased by 123 thousand, reaching 35 million 879 thousand (Figure 1, Table 1). The unemployment rate decreased by 0.4 percentage points to 8.8 in July.

\* Prof. Dr. Seyfettin Gürsel, Betam, Director, [seyfettin.gursel@bau.edu.tr](mailto:seyfettin.gursel@bau.edu.tr)

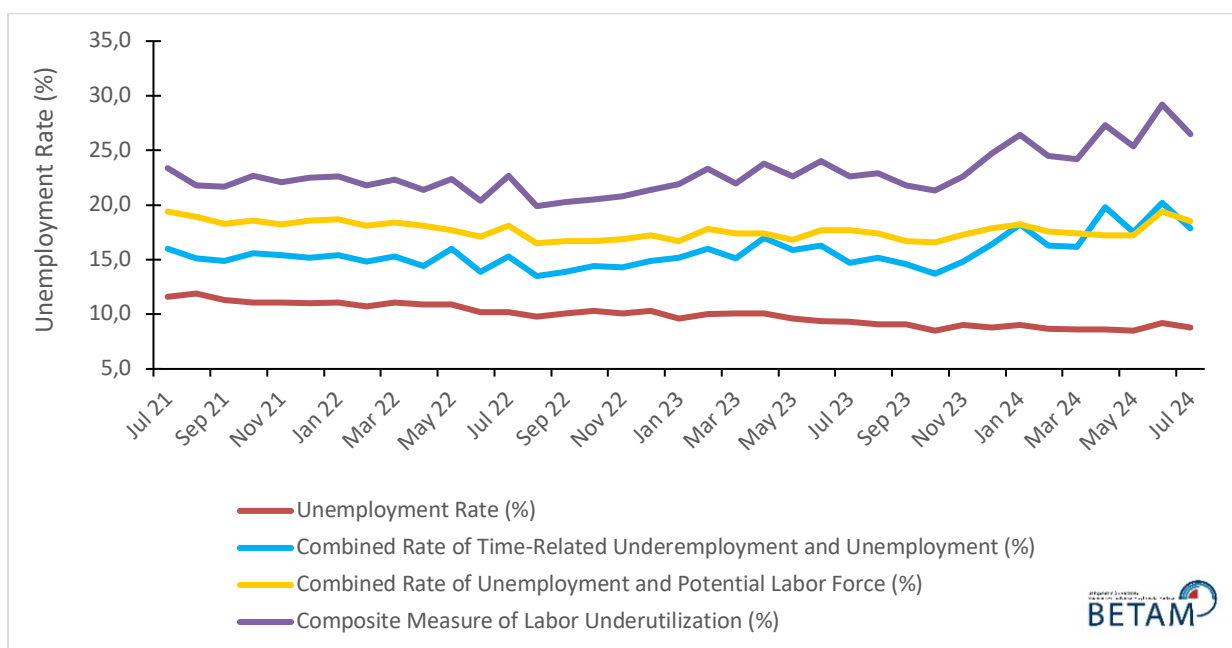
\*\* Saliha Tanrıverdi, Betam, Research Assistant, [saliha.tanriverdi@bau.edu.tr](mailto:saliha.tanriverdi@bau.edu.tr)

## Fall 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 "general unemployment rate" was 8.8 percent in July, while the unemployment rate that takes the potential workforce into account decreased from 19.4 percent to 18.5 percent as a result of the 280 thousand decrease in the potential workforce, and the unemployment rate that takes time-related underemployment into account decreased by 2.3 points to 17.9 percent. The unemployment rate, which is the combination of the last two alternative unemployment rates, decreased by 2.7 points to 26.5 percent (Figure 2, Table 2).

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

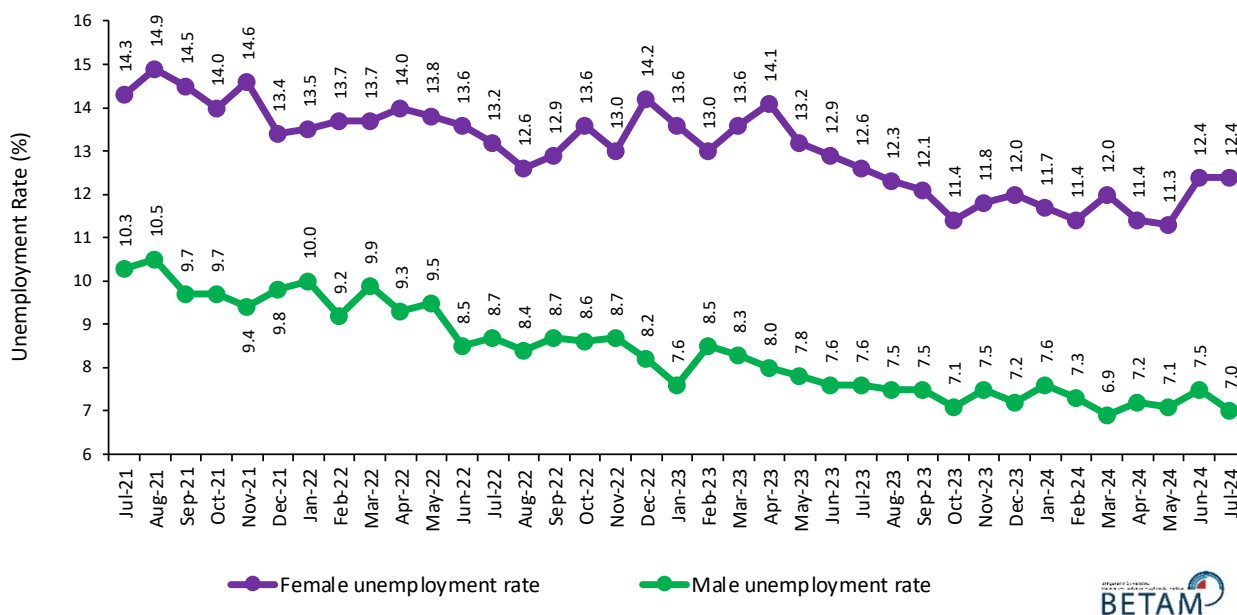


Source: Turkstat, Betam

## Decrease in female and male unemployment rates

Figure 3 shows seasonal adjusted female and male unemployment rates. While the employment level of women increased by 55 thousand from June to July, the number of unemployed increased by 6 thousand people, and as a result, the workforce increased by 61 thousand. The female unemployment rate, which increased in June, did not change from June to July and remained at 12.4. Women's employment decreased by 242 thousand in June. While male employment increased by 180 thousand in July, the number of unemployed decreased by 118 thousand and the male unemployment rate was 7 percent. There was a decrease of 124 thousand in male employment in June, and the unemployment rate increased by 0.4 percentage points to 7.5 percent.

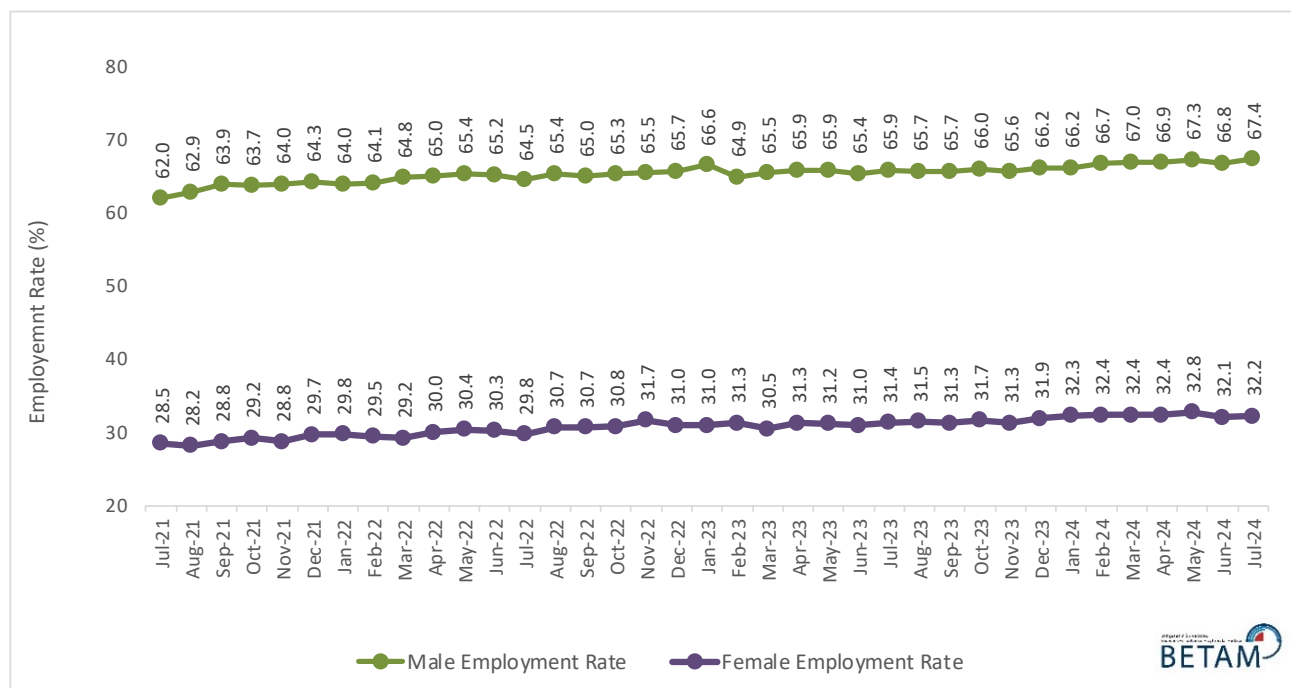
**Figure 3: Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate by gender (%)**



Source: Turkstat, Betam

While the female employment rate increased to 32.2 percent as a result of an increase in employment of 55 thousand people, the male employment rate increased to 67.4 percent with an increase of 180 thousand people (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
Jul.21	32,513	28,733	3,780	11.6			
Aug.21	32,903	28,972	3,931	11.9	390	239	151
Sep.21	33,270	29,515	3,755	11.3	367	543	-176
Oct.21	33,337	29,630	3,706	11.1	67	115	-49
Nov.21	33,330	29,615	3,715	11.1	-7	-15	9
Dec.21	33,749	30,039	3,710	11.0	419	424	-5
Jan.22	33,807	30,042	3,766	11.1	58	3	56
Feb.22	33,572	29,982	3,590	10.7	-235	-60	-176
Mar.22	33,910	30,138	3,771	11.1	338	156	181
Apr.22	34,245	30,521	3,724	10.9	335	383	-47
May.22	34,602	30,827	3,775	10.9	357	306	51
Jun.22	34,268	30,761	3,507	10.2	-334	-66	-268
Jul.22	33,853	30,395	3,458	10.2	-415	-366	-49
Aug.22	34,379	31,015	3,364	9.8	526	620	-94
Sep.22	34,397	30,932	3,465	10.1	18	-83	101
Oct.22	34,671	31,104	3,568	10.3	274	172	103
Nov.22	35,072	31,514	3,558	10.1	401	410	-10
Dec.22	34,957	31,366	3,591	10.3	-115	-148	33
Jan.23	35,092	31,710	3,383	9.6	135	344	-208
Feb.23	34,711	31,242	3,469	10.0	-381	-468	86
Mar.23	34,695	31,204	3,492	10.1	-16	-38	23
Apr.23	35,179	31,623	3,556	10.1	484	419	64
May.23	34,979	31,621	3,358	9.6	-200	-2	-198
Jun.23	34,643	31,397	3,245	9.4	-336	-224	-113
Jul.23	34,964	31,709	3,255	9.3	321	312	10
Aug.23	34,916	31,724	3,193	9.1	-48	15	-62
Sep.23	34,808	31,657	3,151	9.1	-108	-67	-42
Oct.23	34,903	31,919	2,984	8.5	95	262	-167
Nov.23	34,842	31,715	3,127	9.0	-61	-204	143
Dec.23	35,225	32,117	3,108	8.8	383	402	-19
Jan.24	35,473	32,275	3,198	9.0	248	158	90
Feb.24	35,557	32,463	3,094	8.7	84	188	-104
Mar.24	35,658	32,574	3,084	8.6	101	111	-10
Apr.24	35,642	32,565	3,076	8.6	-16	-9	-8
May.24	35,894	32,843	3,051	8.5	252	278	-25
Jun.24	35,756	32,477	3,279	9.2	-138	-366	228
Jul.24	35,879	32,712	3,167	8.8	123	235	-112

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
Jul.21	11.6	3,780	16.0	1,422	19.4	3,136	23.4	8,338
Aug.21	11.9	3,931	15.1	1,037	18.9	2,821	21.8	7,789
Sep.21	11.3	3,755	14.9	1,202	18.3	2,856	21.7	7,813
Oct.21	11.1	3,706	15.6	1,495	18.6	3,065	22.7	8,265
Nov.21	11.1	3,715	15.4	1,418	18.2	2,874	22.1	8,007
Dec.21	11.0	3,710	15.2	1,420	18.6	3,154	22.5	8,284
Jan.22	11.1	3,766	15.4	1,440	18.7	3,144	22.6	8,350
Feb.22	10.7	3,590	14.8	1,379	18.1	3,036	21.8	8,005
Mar.22	11.1	3,771	15.3	1,417	18.4	3,025	22.3	8,213
Apr.22	10.9	3,724	14.4	1,207	18.1	3,021	21.4	7,952
May.22	10.9	3,775	16.0	1,761	17.7	2,855	22.4	8,391
Jun.22	10.2	3,507	13.9	1,256	17.1	2,838	20.4	7,601
Jul.22	10.2	3,458	15.3	1,722	18.1	3,259	22.7	8,439
Aug.22	9.8	3,364	13.5	1,277	16.5	2,765	19.9	7,406
Sep.22	10.1	3,465	13.9	1,316	16.7	2,736	20.3	7,517
Oct.22	10.3	3,568	14.4	1,425	16.7	2,668	20.5	7,660
Nov.22	10.1	3,558	14.3	1,457	16.9	2,851	20.8	7,866
Dec.22	10.3	3,591	14.9	1,618	17.2	2,925	21.4	8,133
Jan.23	9.6	3,383	15.2	1,951	16.7	2,974	21.9	8,308
Feb.23	10.0	3,469	16.0	2,085	17.8	3,296	23.3	8,850
Mar.23	10.1	3,492	15.1	1,747	17.4	3,081	22.0	8,320
Apr.23	10.1	3,556	17.0	2,424	17.4	3,106	23.8	9,086
May.23	9.6	3,358	15.9	2,204	16.8	3,027	22.6	8,589
Jun.23	9.4	3,245	16.3	2,402	17.7	3,508	24.0	9,154
Jul.23	9.3	3,255	14.7	1,885	17.7	3,565	22.6	8,704
Aug.23	9.1	3,193	15.2	2,114	17.4	3,490	22.9	8,797
Sep.23	9.1	3,151	14.6	1,931	16.7	3,196	21.8	8,278
Oct.23	8.5	2,984	13.7	1,798	16.6	3,369	21.3	8,151
Nov.23	9.0	3,127	14.8	2,030	17.3	3,507	22.6	8,664
Dec.23	8.8	3,108	16.4	2,669	17.9	3,894	24.7	9,671
Jan.24	9.0	3,198	18.2	3,258	18.2	3,983	26.4	10,439
Feb.24	8.7	3,094	16.3	2,702	17.6	3,840	24.5	9,636
Mar.24	8.6	3,084	16.2	2,693	17.4	3,778	24.2	9,554
Apr.24	8.6	3,076	19.8	3,981	17.2	3,689	27.3	10,746
May.24	8.5	3,051	17.5	3,230	17.2	3,771	25.4	10,053
Jun.24	9.2	3,279	20.2	3,944	19.4	4,538	29.2	11,761
Jul.24	8.8	3,167	17.9	3,255	18.5	4,258	26.5	10,681

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
Jul.21	10,698	9,169	1,529	21,815	19,564	2,251	33.2	28.5	69.1	62.0
Aug.21	10,695	9,101	1,594	22,208	19,871	2,337	33.2	28.2	70.3	62.9
Sep.21	10,893	9,314	1,579	22,377	20,201	2,176	33.7	28.8	70.7	63.9
Oct.21	10,995	9,452	1,543	22,342	20,178	2,163	34.0	29.2	70.5	63.7
Nov.21	10,925	9,326	1,599	22,405	20,288	2,116	33.7	28.8	70.7	64.0
Dec.21	11,120	9,625	1,495	22,629	20,415	2,214	34.3	29.7	71.3	64.3
Jan.22	11,197	9,684	1,513	22,610	20,358	2,253	34.5	29.8	71.1	64.0
Feb.22	11,119	9,591	1,528	22,453	20,391	2,062	34.2	29.5	70.5	64.1
Mar.22	11,001	9,490	1,511	22,909	20,648	2,261	33.8	29.2	71.9	64.8
Apr.22	11,360	9,768	1,592	22,885	20,753	2,132	34.9	30.0	71.7	65.0
May.22	11,521	9,931	1,591	23,081	20,897	2,184	35.3	30.4	72.3	65.4
Jun.22	11,460	9,901	1,559	22,808	20,860	1,948	35.1	30.3	71.3	65.2
Jul.22	11,215	9,732	1,483	22,637	20,663	1,974	34.3	29.8	70.7	64.5
Aug.22	11,504	10,058	1,446	22,875	20,957	1,918	35.2	30.7	71.3	65.4
Sep.22	11,542	10,058	1,484	22,855	20,874	1,981	35.2	30.7	71.2	65.0
Oct.22	11,685	10,100	1,585	22,987	21,004	1,983	35.6	30.8	71.5	65.3
Nov.22	11,987	10,426	1,561	23,085	21,088	1,997	36.5	31.7	71.7	65.5
Dec.22	11,891	10,203	1,688	23,066	21,163	1,903	36.2	31.0	71.6	65.7
Jan.23	11,827	10,217	1,610	23,265	21,493	1,772	35.9	31.0	72.1	66.6
Feb.23	11,843	10,307	1,536	22,868	20,936	1,932	36.0	31.3	70.8	64.9
Mar.23	11,631	10,048	1,583	23,064	21,156	1,909	35.3	30.5	71.4	65.5
Apr.23	12,004	10,307	1,697	23,175	21,316	1,859	36.4	31.3	71.7	65.9
May.23	11,853	10,289	1,564	23,126	21,332	1,794	35.9	31.2	71.5	65.9
Jun.23	11,747	10,234	1,513	22,896	21,164	1,732	35.6	31.0	70.7	65.4
Jul.23	11,872	10,374	1,498	23,092	21,335	1,757	35.9	31.4	71.3	65.9
Aug.23	11,895	10,430	1,465	23,021	21,294	1,727	36.0	31.5	71.0	65.7
Sep.23	11,775	10,349	1,426	23,033	21,309	1,724	35.6	31.3	71.0	65.7
Oct.23	11,850	10,504	1,345	23,054	21,415	1,639	35.8	31.7	71.0	66.0
Nov.23	11,780	10,390	1,391	23,062	21,325	1,736	35.5	31.3	71.0	65.6
Dec.23	12,042	10,599	1,443	23,182	21,518	1,665	36.3	31.9	71.3	66.2
Jan.24	12,157	10,735	1,422	23,315	21,540	1,776	36.6	32.3	71.7	66.2
Feb.24	12,153	10,764	1,389	23,404	21,699	1,705	36.6	32.4	71.9	66.7
Mar.24	12,240	10,769	1,470	23,419	21,805	1,614	36.8	32.4	71.9	67.0
Apr.24	12,167	10,784	1,383	23,474	21,781	1,694	36.6	32.4	72.1	66.9
May.24	12,307	10,920	1,387	23,587	21,923	1,663	37.0	32.8	72.4	67.3
Jun.24	12,194	10,678	1,516	23,562	21,799	1,763	36.6	32.1	72.2	66.8
Jul.24	12,255	10,733	1,522	23,624	21,979	1,645	36.8	32.2	72.4	67.4

Source: Turkstat, Betam

## Box 1: Definitions of alternative unemployment rates<sup>1</sup>

**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 =**

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

<sup>1</sup> 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>