



# A Selection of Labour Force Survey Results

Autumn 1398<sup>1</sup> (23 September - 21 December 2019)



Statistical Centre of Iran

---

<sup>1</sup>.It is the Iranian year which usually begins on the day of 21 March of the Gregorian calendar. To find the corresponding year of the Gregorian calendar, add 621 or 622 (depending on the time of the year) to a [solar Hijri](#) year. For example, the corresponding year of the year 1398 in the Gregorian calendar is (21 March 2019-19 March 2020).

**Iranian seasons and their equivalent in Gregorian calendar**

Spring (21 March-21June)

Summer (22 June -22 September)

Autumn (23 September -21 December)

Winter (22 December -20 March)

## Introduction

The pair concepts of employment and unemployment are so basic to national economies that any rise in employment rate - which means a drop in unemployment - is reckoned as an indicator to the national development. Moreover, the unemployment rate is an indicator for appraising the national economic conditions. The information on the nation's market would be collected through the Household Employment and Unemployment Characteristics Survey (HEUCS) as of the year 1376. However, in order to improve the HEUCS quality and its conformance with the international concepts, particularly, with those of the ILO, the Survey plan was revised in order that the current plan namely "Labour Force Survey" could be implemented. The "Labour Force Survey" was first conducted in the year 1384 and since then has regularly been taken in the middle month of every season.

The "Labour Force Survey" is conducted in order to obtain information on the composition and current condition of Labour force and its changes. This objective is accomplished by "estimation of seasonal and annual Labour force indicators at national and provincial levels", "estimation of annual number of population in labour force at national and provincial levels", "estimation of seasonal and annual changes in labour force at national and provincial levels", and "estimation of annual changes in labour force indicators at provincial levels".

The population covered in this survey includes the people who, according to the definition, are members of private or collective settled households in urban or rural areas, so the members of private unsettled households and institutional households are not included in this survey. The method used for conducting this survey is a two-step classified clustering method. In this survey, in addition to the estimation of current levels, the estimate of changes is made; therefore, the rotation sampling is used. The rotation sampling can provide the estimate of current levels and changes in the best manner by fixing some sample units between two quarters of the survey and changing the remaining units. With respect to the aim of the survey, the selected rotation pattern for this survey is a "2-2-2" pattern which means that during the Master Sample period, each sample household is enumerated four times; accordingly, that sample household is in the sample for two successive quarters and then is excluded from the sample temporarily for two successive quarters and again is included in the sample for the two next successive quarters. This household is then excluded from the sample until the end of the years related to the master sample period. It should be noted that for optimal conduct of rotation sampling, the master sample is needed. The master sample refers to the sample that can be used for selection of sub-samples to satisfy the needs of several surveys or several rounds of a survey. The sampling frame of the first step (from the spring of the year 1397) is the fourth master sample of the household surveys. The master sample includes the sampling units (clusters) of the first step. Each cluster includes one block/village, part of a large block/village or in some cases a combination of some small blocks/villages which were created from the 2016 National Population and Housing Census. With respect to the changes in population and housing units in urban areas and in order to prepare an appropriate and updated frame in urban areas, some households were listed within the master sample clusters in the winter of the year 1397, but due to minor changes in population and housing units in rural areas, no listing was made in rural areas (unless in exceptional cases).

It should be cited that since the spring of the year 1397, the confidence interval for the unemployment rate has been 95 percent in the release of the Survey results. In view of the statistical methodology, the confidence interval means that if several samples are selected from the target population by using the same sampling method, and based on each of the samples, a confidence interval is calculated for the real unemployment rate. It is expected that 95% of these confidence intervals include the real unemployment rate.

Furthermore, according to the studies made, due to social changes in working age entering in the labour market in recent years in different countries, the minimum age of 15 has been considered for the review of the labour market key indicator; accordingly, owing to similar changes in our country,

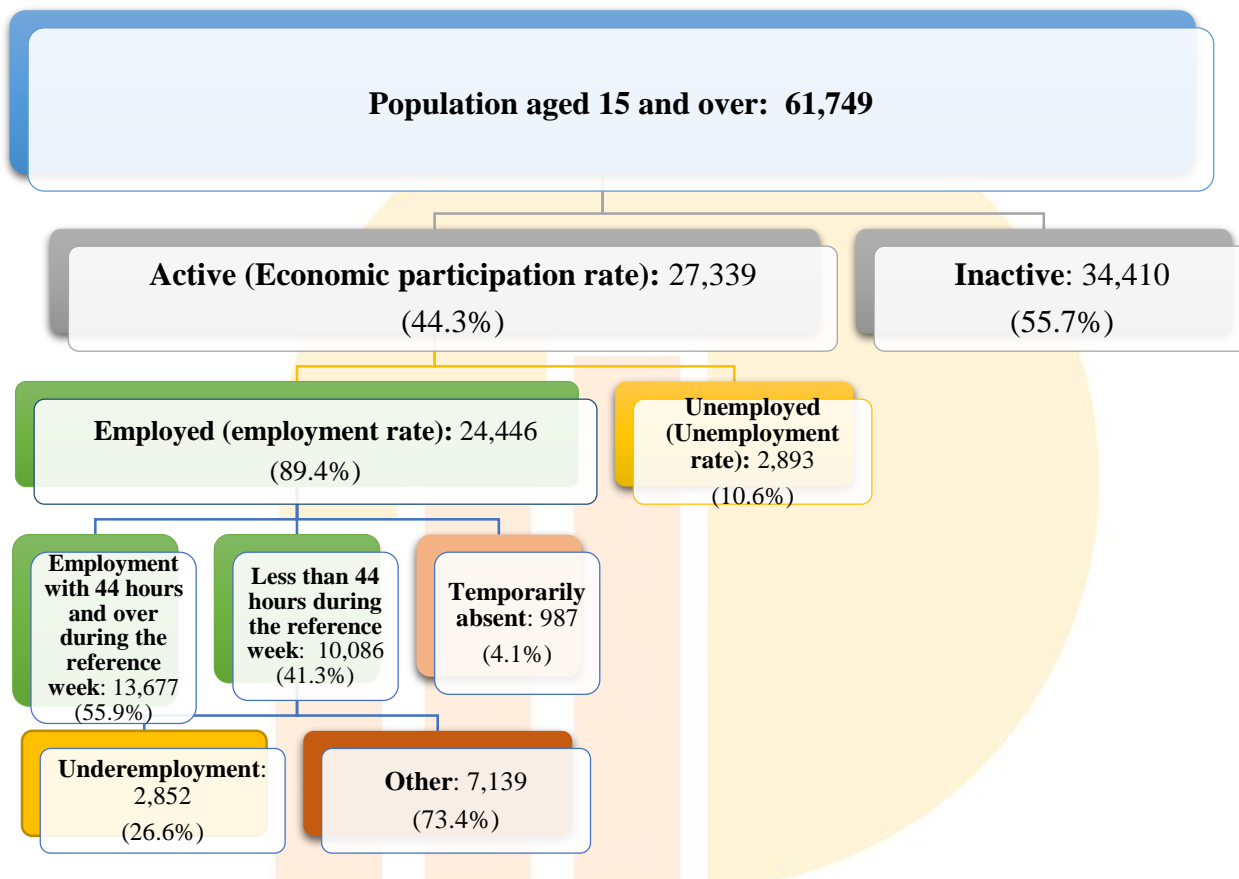
from now on the major indicators of the national labour market are calculated and presented based on the population aged 15 and over.

### Findings

Table 1 provides the major indicators of labour market and its changes in the autumn of the year 1398 compared with the autumn of the year 1397. Tables 2 and 2.1 also show major labour force indicators by province.

Figure 1 shows the major indicators of labour market in the autumn of the year 1398.

**Figure 1. Major Indicators of Labour Market- Autumn, the Year 1398  
(Thousand people)**



A review of the economic participation rate for the population aged 15 and over (activity rate) reveals that 44.3% of the population at working age (15 years and over) are economically active; i.e., they lie either in the employed or the unemployed group. In addition, the results indicate that the economic participation rate stands lower for women compared to men and urban areas in contrast to rural areas. The review of the changes trend in national economic participation rate shows that this indicator decreased by 0.2% compared with the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397). The review of employment proportion of population aged 15 and over shows that 39.6 percent of working age population (15 years and over) were employed. This indicator stands higher for men and rural areas compared to women and urban areas.

**TABLE 1. MAJOR LABOUR FORCE INDICATORS AND THEIR CHANGES BY SEX, URBAN AND RURAL AREAS; AUTUMN, THE YEAR 1398 COMPARED TO THE AUTUMN, THE YEAR 1397<sup>1</sup> (Number/ person-rate, share and ratio: percent)**

Labor Force Indicators <sup>2</sup>		Total			Male			Female		
		Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Changes	Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Changes	Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Changes
Population aged 15 and over	Number	61748982	61081256	667726	30881381	30565134	316247	30867601	30516122	351479
Economic participation rate of population aged 15 and over	Rate	44.3	44.5	-0.2	71.0	71.1	-0.1	17.5	17.9	-0.4
	Number	27338820	27190994	147826	21934923	21731472	203451	5403897	5459518	-55621
Employment of population aged 15 and over	Ratio	39.6	39.2	0.4	64.7	63.8	0.9	14.5	14.7	-0.2
	Number	24446094	23973924	472170	19978199	19501534	476665	4467895	4472390	-4495
Unemployment of population aged 15 and over	Rate	10.6	11.8	-1.2	8.9	10.3	-1.4	17.3	18.1	-0.8
	Number	2892726	3217075	-324349	1956724	2229942	-273218	936002	987132	-51130
Unemployment of population aged 15-24	Rate	25.8	27.0	-1.2	22.3	23.7	-1.4	38.3	38.6	-0.3
	Number	716840	783797	-66957	483592	533770	-50178	233248	250026	-16778
Unemployment of population aged 18-35 <sup>3</sup>	Rate	17.9	19.3	-1.4	14.7	16.1	-1.4	29.3	30.5	-1.2
	Number	2159160	2362583	-203423	1381006	1537860	-156854	778154	824723	-46569
Unemployment of higher education graduates aged 15 and over	Rate	17.4	18.6	-1.2	12.6	13.7	-1.1	27.3	28.1	-0.8
	Number	1252307	1309254	-56947	609596	635342	-25746	642711	673910	-31199
Employment in agriculture sector	Share	17.1	17.2	-0.1	16.8	16.9	-0.1	18.8	18.6	0.2
	Number	4190304	4119963	70341	3350531	3289343	61188	839773	830619	9154
Employment in manufacturing sector	Share	32.9	32.8	0.1	33.4	33.5	-0.1	30.4	29.9	0.5
	Number	8031075	7874632	156443	6671222	6536831	134391	1359853	1337801	22052
Employment in services sector	Share	50.0	49.9	0.1	49.8	49.6	0.2	50.8	51.5	-0.7
	Number	12222984	11974572	248412	9954988	9670659	284329	2267996	2303913	-35917
Underemployment	Share	10.6	11.7	-1.1	11.5	13.0	-1.5	6.2	6.4	-0.2
	Number	2579900	2810950	-231050	2303594	2525971	-222377	276306	284979	-8673
The share of the unemployed higher education graduates aged 15 and over out of the total unemployed population	Share	43.3	40.7	2.6	31.2	28.5	2.7	68.7	68.3	0.4
The share of the employed higher education graduates aged 15 and over out of the total employed population	Share	24.4	23.9	0.5	21.3	20.6	0.7	38.2	38.6	-0.4
Economic participation of the population aged 10 and over	Rate	40.1	40.4	-0.3	64.2	64.3	-0.1	15.9	16.3	-0.4
Employment of the population aged 10 and over	Ratio	35.9	35.6	0.3	58.5	57.7	0.8	13.2	13.4	-0.2
Unemployment of the population aged 10 and over	Rate	10.6	11.8	-1.2	8.9	10.3	-1.4	17.3	18.0	-0.7

The difference between the total grand of employees with the total employees in the three sectors is due to the unstated cases of major economic sectors.

1. The figures for the year 1397 have been updated according to the projection of the population aged 15 and over.
2. Difference is due to rounding.
3. According to Para 4 of the act No.98/S/100/249 dated 17 Ordibehesht of the year 1398 approved by the High Council of Youth, age range of youth has changed from 15-29 to 18-35.

**TABLE 1. MAJOR LABOUR FORCE INDICATORS AND THEIR CHANGES BY SEX, URBAN AND RURAL AREAS; AUTUMN, THE YEAR 1398 COMPARED TO THE AUTUMN, THE YEAR 1397<sup>1</sup> (Number /person-rate, share and ratio: percent)**

Labour Force Indicators <sup>2</sup>		Urban areas			Rural areas		
		Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Changes	Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Changes
Population aged 15 and over	Number	47070197	46329909	740288	14678785	14751347	-72562
Economic participation of population aged 15 and over	Rate	43.2	43.5	-0.3	47.7	47.6	0.1
	Number	20331355	20171365	159990	7007465	7019623	-12158
Employment of population aged 15 and over	Ratio	38.1	37.8	0.3	44.4	43.9	0.5
	Number	17932906	17494311	438595	6513188	6479613	33575
Unemployment of population aged 15 and over	Rate	11.8	13.3	-1.5	7.1	7.7	-0.6
	Number	2398449	2677058	-278609	494277	540016	-45739
Unemployment of population aged 15-24	Rate	28.9	31.2	-2.3	18.8	17.7	1.1
	Number	556879	625360	-68481	159961	158437	1524
Unemployment of population aged 18-35 <sup>3</sup>	Rate	19.6	21.2	-1.6	12.7	13.4	-0.7
	Number	1788778	1961376	-172598	370382	401207	-30825
Unemployment of higher education graduates aged 15 and over	Rate	16.9	18.2	-1.3	22.0	23.1	-1.1
	Number	1109418	1170595	-61177	142888	138655	4233
Employment in agriculture sector	Share	6.2	6.1	0.1	47.2	47.0	0.2
	Number	1114119	1074137	39982	3076185	3045825	30360
Employment in manufacturing sector	Share	34.4	34.3	0.1	28.6	29.0	-0.4
	Number	6166734	5996230	170504	1864341	1878402	-14061
Employment in services sector	Share	59.4	59.6	-0.2	24.1	24.0	0.1
	Number	10650969	10419318	231651	1572015	1555254	16761
Underemployment	Share	9.3	10.0	-0.7	13.9	16.3	-2.4
	Number	1672636	1756746	-84110	907264	1054203	-146939
The share of the unemployed higher education graduates aged 15 and over out of the total unemployed population	Share	46.3	43.7	2.6	28.9	25.7	3.2
The share of the employed higher education graduates aged 15 and over out of the total employed population	Share	30.4	30.2	0.2	7.8	7.1	0.7
Economic participation of the population aged 10 and over	Rate	39.3	39.7	-0.4	42.6	42.8	-0.2
Employment of the population aged 10 and over	Ratio	34.7	34.4	0.3	39.6	39.5	0.1
Unemployment of the population aged 10 and over	Rate	11.8	13.3	-1.5	7.0	7.7	-0.7

The difference between the total grand of employees with the total employees in the three sectors is due to the unstated cases of major economic sectors.

1. The figures for the year 1397 have been updated according to the projection of the population aged 15 and over.
2. Difference is due to rounding.
3. According to Para 4 of the act No.98/S/100/249 dated 17 Ordibehesht of the year 1398 approved by the High Council of Youth, age range of youth has changed from 15-29 to 18-35.

A review of employment in major economic sectors indicates that the services sector holds the biggest share of employment with 50.0%, followed by manufacturing sector with 32.9% and agriculture sector with 17.1%. The contribution of the employed people to the agriculture sector had a 0.1 percent decline, but both manufacturing and service sectors experience a 0.1 percent rise in autumn of the year 1398 in comparison with the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

Review of the unemployment rate among the population aged 15 and over shows that 10.6 percent of the economically active population were unemployed. Moreover, based on the confidence interval of 95%, the total national unemployment rate was between 10.2 and 11.0 percent with a 10.6 percent point estimation. This means that with the confidence interval of 95 percent, this interval shows the national real unemployment rate. Based on the results, the unemployment rate was higher for women and urban areas than men and rural areas. A review of the changes trend happened in the indicator at national level shows that this indicator experienced a 1.2 percent decrease compared to the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

The unemployment rate among the youths aged 15-24 indicates that 25.8% percent of the economically active population at this age group were unemployed. This indicator stands higher for women and urban areas than for men and rural areas. A review of the changes trend in national unemployment rate among the youths aged 15-24 shows that the indicator decreased by 1.2% from the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

The unemployment rate among the youths aged 18-35 indicates that 17.9% of the active population aged 18-35 were unemployed. This indicator stands higher for women and urban areas than men and rural areas. A review of the changes trend in national unemployment rate among the youths aged 18-35 shows that this indicator fell by 1.4% compared to the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

Review of the unemployment rate among the higher education graduates aged 15 and over shows that 17.4 percent of the active population among higher education graduates were unemployed. This indicator stands higher for women and rural areas than men and urban areas. A review of the changes trend shows that this indicator dropped by 1.2% compared to the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

The underemployment share tells that 10.6% of the total employed population were underemployed. The indicator stands higher for men and rural areas than for women and urban areas. This indicator in the autumn of the year 1398 experienced a 1.1 percent decrease compared to the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

The study of the share of the employed population aged 15 and over with usual working hours of 49 hours or over shows that 36.5% of the employed people usually work 49 hours and over per week. This indicator, which is one of the indicators of the decent work, shows that a large share of the employed people work more than standard hour. This indicator experienced no change compared to the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

In the autumn of the year 1398, the share of the unemployed higher education graduates out of the total unemployed population was 43.3 percent. The indicator stands higher for women and urban areas

than for men and rural areas. A review of the changes shows that this indicator experienced a 2.6 percent rise compared to the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

The results indicate that in the autumn of the year 1398, the share of the employed higher education graduates out of the total employed people was 24.4 percent. The indicator stands higher for women and urban areas than for men and rural areas. A review of the changes shows that this indicator increased by 0.5 percent over the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).

The study of the unemployment rate of the population aged 10 and over shows that 10.6% of the active population were unemployed. According to these results, unemployment rate was higher for women and urban areas than for men and rural areas. This rate experienced a 1.2 % decline in the autumn of the year 1398 in comparison with the corresponding season in the previous year (autumn, the year 1397).



Table 2 shows some major labour force indicators in the autumn, the year 1398, for the population aged 15 and over, in comparison with the autumn, the year 1397 by province.

**TABLE 2- SOME MAJOR LABOUR FORCE INDICATORS FOR THE POPULATION AGED 15 AND OVER IN THE AUTUMN, THE YEAR 1398 IN COMPARISON WITH THE AUTUMN, THE YEAR 1397 BY PROVINCE** (percent)

Province	Economic participation rate		Employment ratio		Unemployment rate		
	Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Autumn, the year 1398		Autumn, the year 1397
					Point estimation	95 percent confidence interval	
Total country	44.3	44.5	39.6	39.2	10.6	(10.2-11.0)	11.8
East Azarbaijejan	44.5	44.0	39.5	39.1	11.2	(9.4-12.9)	11.1
West Azarbaijejan	45.2	46.2	40.2	39.8	11.1	(9.2-13.1)	13.8
Ardebil	48.5	47.3	43.3	43.2	10.6	(8.5-12.8)	8.8
Esfahan	46.1	48.8	41.1	41.9	11.0	(9.3-12.8)	14.1
Alborz	45.6	42.9	39.6	36.0	13.0	(11.1-14.8)	16.1
Ilam	37.9	39.2	34.8	35.0	8.1	(6.3-9.9)	10.8
Bushehr	41.5	41.6	37.5	37.0	9.4	(7.2-11.6)	11.1
Tehran	41.7	42.3	37.8	37.0	9.4	(8.0-10.9)	12.5
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	44.1	41.8	37.0	34.7	16.1	(13.4-18.7)	17.1
South Khorasan	46.1	47.6	43.6	43.6	5.4	(4.1-6.8)	8.4
Khorasan-e-Razavi	52.4	52.1	49.1	47.3	6.3	(5.1-7.5)	9.1
North Khorasan	48.0	50.2	43.8	44.7	8.8	(7.1-10.5)	10.8
Khuzestan	43.9	44.6	37.5	38.0	14.5	(12.5-16.4)	14.9
Zanjan	49.9	46.1	45.2	42.6	9.4	(7.5-11.2)	7.6
Semnan	38.8	39.8	35.8	37.1	7.6	(5.9-9.2)	6.7
Sistan & Baluchestan	37.5	38.1	32.9	32.1	12.1	(9.6-14.6)	15.7
Fars	42.6	44.1	38.6	40.2	9.4	(7.7-11.1)	8.7
Qazvin	44.8	46.1	40.2	41.0	10.2	(8.2-12.2)	11.2
Qom	39.5	37.7	35.5	33.4	10.0	(8.5-11.6)	11.4
Kordestan	45.9	48.1	40.0	41.1	12.9	(11.1-14.7)	14.6
Kerman	41.9	43.6	37.1	39.0	11.4	(9.6-13.2)	10.5
Kermanshah	47.4	47.0	39.7	38.4	16.3	(13.3-19.2)	18.4
Kohgiluyeh & Boyer-Ahmad	40.5	40.2	35.8	34.9	11.7	(9.4-13.9)	13.1
Golestan	42.2	42.9	38.2	38.2	9.6	(7.4-11.8)	10.9
Gilan	43.1	46.2	38.0	40.9	11.8	(9.9-13.8)	11.4
Lorestan	41.4	41.0	35.7	35.7	13.8	(11.9-15.6)	12.9
Mazandaran	46.1	42.9	41.5	39.1	9.8	(8.2-11.5)	8.8
Markazi	37.0	38.1	33.6	35.4	9.1	(6.7-11.5)	7.1
Hormozgan	47.4	43.6	41.0	39.1	13.5	(11.8-15.3)	10.3
Hamedan	47.0	44.5	43.0	41.2	8.6	(6.8-10.3)	7.4
Yazd	46.1	45.8	39.9	39.9	13.4	(11.3-15.4)	12.9



Table 2.1 shows some major labour force indicators in the autumn, the year 1398, for the population aged 10 and over, in comparison with the autumn, the year 1397 by province.

**TABLE 2- 1 SOME MAJOR LABOUR FORCE INDICATORS FOR THE POPULATION AGED 10 AND OVER IN THE AUTUMN, THE YEAR 1398 IN COMPARISON WITH THE AUTUMN, THE YEAR 1397 BY PROVINCE** (percent)

Province	Economic participation rate		Employment ratio		Unemployment rate		
	Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Autumn, the year 1398	Autumn, the year 1397	Autumn, the year 1398		Autumn, the year 1397
					Point estimation	95 percent confidence interval	
Total country	40 .1	40 .4	35 .9	35 .6	10 .6	(10. 2-11. 0)	11 .8
East Azarbaijejan	40 .5	40 .4	36 .0	35 .9	11 .2	(9. 4-12. 9)	11 .1
West Azarbaijejan	40 .8	42 .0	36 .3	36 .3	11 .1	(9. 2-13. 1)	13 .7
Ardebil	44 .3	43 .4	39 .6	39 .6	10 .6	(8. 5-12. 7)	8 .7
Esfahan	42 .2	44 .8	37 .6	38 .5	11 .0	(9. 2-12. 7)	14 .1
Alborz	41 .4	38 .9	36 .0	32 .6	13 .0	(11. 1-14. 8)	16 .0
Ilam	34 .1	36 .0	31 .3	32 .2	8 .1	(6. 3-9. 9)	10 .8
Bushehr	37 .0	36 .9	33 .5	32 .8	9 .4	(7. 2-11. 6)	11 .0
Tehran	38 .6	39 .0	35 .0	34 .1	9 .4	( 8. 0-10. 9)	12 .6
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	39 .8	37 .7	33 .4	31 .3	16 .1	(13. 4-18. 7)	17 .1
South Khorasan	39 .7	41 .6	37 .6	38 .2	5 .5	(4. 1-6. 8)	8 .3
Khorasan-e-Razavi	46 .8	46 .8	43 .8	42 .6	6 .3	(5. 1-7. 4)	9 .1
North Khorasan	42 .4	44 .6	38 .7	39 .8	8 .7	(7. 0-10. 4)	10 .8
Khuzestan	39 .3	39 .8	33 .6	33 .9	14 .5	(12. 6-16. 4)	14 .8
Zanjan	45 .4	41 .9	41 .2	38 .7	9 .3	(7. 5-11. 1)	7 .7
Semnan	35 .4	36 .8	32 .7	34 .3	7 .7	(6. 0-9. 4)	6 .7
Sistan & Baluchestan	31 .7	31 .9	27 .9	26 .9	12 .0	(9. 5-14. 6)	15 .7
Fars	38 .5	40 .2	34 .9	36 .7	9 .4	(7. 7-11. 1)	8 .7
Qazvin	40 .6	42 .0	36 .5	37 .3	10 .2	(8. 2-12. 2)	11 .2
Qom	35 .2	34 .0	31 .7	30 .1	10 .0	(8. 5-11. 6)	11 .5
Kordestan	41 .6	43 .6	36 .2	37 .2	12 .9	(11. 1-14. 7)	14 .6
Kerman	37 .1	39 .2	32 .9	35 .1	11 .4	(9. 6-13. 2)	10 .5
Kermanshah	43 .4	43 .4	36 .4	35 .4	16 .2	(13. 3-19. 2)	18 .3
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	35 .8	35 .7	31 .6	31 .0	11 .7	(9. 4-13. 9)	13 .1
Golestan	37 .2	38 .1	33 .7	33 .9	9 .6	(7. 4-11. 8)	10 .9
Gilan	40 .3	43 .2	35 .6	38 .3	11 .8	(9. 9-13. 7)	11 .4
Lorestan	36 .9	37 .1	31 .8	32 .3	13 .8	(11. 9-15. 6)	12 .9
Mazandaran	43 .0	40 .0	38 .7	36 .5	9 .8	(8. 2-11. 5)	8 .9
Markazi	34 .2	34 .9	31 .1	32 .5	9 .1	(6. 7-11. 5)	7 .0
Hormozgan	41 .0	38 .1	35 .5	34 .2	13 .5	(11. 8-15. 3)	10 .2
Hamedan	42 .9	40 .4	39 .2	37 .4	8 .5	(6. 8-10. 2)	7 .4
Yazd	41 .4	41 .8	35 .9	36 .4	13 .4	(11. 3-15. 4)	13 .0

## Definitions and concepts

The Statistical Centre of Iran employs new international definitions and concepts based on the ICLS 1983<sup>1</sup> for measuring the employment and unemployment in the Labour Force Survey.

**Work:** This key term is used to determine the status of economic activity of people. The term "work" refers to the group of economic activities (mentally or physically) which are done for earning income (cash or in kind) and its objective is to produce goods or services. Generally, the people who work are divided into two groups: self-employed, who work for themselves, and wage and salary earners, who earn money for the work they do.

**Statistical period (Reference week):** Refers to the second or third calendar week (Saturday to Friday) of the middle month of each season.

**Employed:** All people aged 15 or over who according to the definition of work, have worked for at least one hour during the<sup>2</sup> reference week or have temporarily left their job for one reason or another, are reckoned as employed. Persons who, without receiving any remuneration, work for a member of their household that is a relative (unpaid family workers); trainees who perform an activity in relation to the activity of the institute for apprenticeships during the training period, namely, they directly contribute to the production of goods or services, their activity is considered "work"; students who have worked during the reference week, according to the definition of work; and all people who are serving as permanent and temporary cadre in the armed forces (armed forces, cadre personnel, soldiers, commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers of the military forces and the police) are considered employed.

**Unemployed:** The unemployed are all people aged 15 or over who have the following three criteria together:

1. have no job during the reference week (not engaged in a wage salary job or self-employment),
2. have been seeking job during the reference week and the preceding three weeks (have taken specific steps to seek paid employment or self-employment),
3. are available to work during the reference week or the following week (available for a wage /salary employment or self-employment). All people who, because of expecting to start a job in future or return to their former job, have not been seeking a job, but have had no job and have been available to work - are also considered unemployed.

**Labour force (active population):** is the sum of persons in employment plus persons in unemployment.

**Underemployment:** The underemployed people are all employed people who have been present in or temporarily absent from the workplace and have worked less than 44 hours during the reference week due to economic reasons such as work recession, not finding a job with more hours, or non-work season, but have been willing and ready to work more in the reference week.

---

<sup>1</sup> ILO, Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (Geneva, 1983).

## Indicators

### *Economic participation rate (Economic activity rate)*

The ratio of the active population (employed & unemployed) 15 years of age and over (or 10 years of age and over) to the working age population 15 years of age and over (or 10 years of age and over) multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Economic participation rate} = \frac{\text{Economically active population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over)}}{\text{Population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over)}} \times 100$$

**Employment ratio:** The ratio of the employed population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over) to the total population at working age, 15 years old and over (or 10 years and over) multiplied by 100

$$\text{Employment ratio} = \frac{\text{Employed population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over)}}{\text{Population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over)}} \times 100$$

### **Unemployment rate**

The ratio of the unemployed population to the active population (employed & unemployed) multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Unemployment rate} = \frac{\text{Unemployed population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over)}}{\text{Active population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over)}} \times 100$$

### **Employment rate**

The ratio of the employed population to the active population (employed & unemployed) multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Employment rate} = \frac{\text{Employed population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over)}}{\text{Active population aged 15 and over (or aged 10 and over)}} \times 100 = 100 - \text{unemployment rate}$$

### **Unemployment rate of the population aged 15-24 (or 18-35 years old)**

The ratio of the unemployed population aged 15-24 or (18-35 years of age) to the economically active population aged 15-24 (18-35) multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Unemployment rate aged 15-24 or (18-35)} = \frac{\text{Unemployed population aged 15-24 (or 18-35)}}{\text{Economically active population aged 15-24 (or 18-35)}} \times 100$$

### **Unemployment rate of higher education graduates**

The ratio of unemployed higher education graduates to active higher education graduates multiplied by 100

$$\text{Unemployed higher education graduates}$$

$$\text{Unemployment rate of higher education graduates} = \frac{\text{Unemployed higher education graduates aged 15 and over}}{\text{Active higher education graduates}} \times 100$$

### Share of unemployed higher education graduates aged 15 and over

The ratio of unemployed higher education graduates to the total unemployed population aged 15 and over multiplied by 100

Unemployed higher education graduates aged 15 and over

$$\text{Share of unemployed higher education graduates aged 15 and over} = \frac{\text{Unemployed higher education graduates aged 15 and over}}{\text{Unemployed population aged 15 and over}} \times 100$$

### Share of employed higher education graduates aged 15 and over

The ratio of employed higher education graduates to the total employed population aged 15 and over multiplied by 100

Employed higher education graduates aged 15 and over

$$\text{Share of employed higher education graduates aged 15 and over} = \frac{\text{Employed higher education graduates aged 15 and over}}{\text{Employed population aged 15 and over}} \times 100$$

### Underemployment share

The ratio of the underemployed population aged 15 and over to the employed population aged 15 and over multiplied by 100

Underemployed population aged 15 and over

$$\text{Underemployment rate} = \frac{\text{Underemployed population aged 15 and over}}{\text{Employed population aged 15 and over}} \times 100$$

Statistical Centre of Iran