Number of working persons with at least two jobs was higher than the number of the unemployed

16 November 2026

Employment and unemployment in the Czech Republic as measured by the Labour Force Sample Survey – 3rd quarter of 2026

The number of the employed persons was by 74.3 thousand higher, year-on-year (y-o-y); the total employment thus moderately increased. According to the methodology of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the number of the unemployed persons was by 12.8 thousand higher, y-o-y. The number of the economically inactive aged 15+ years decreased by 23.4 thousand during the same period.

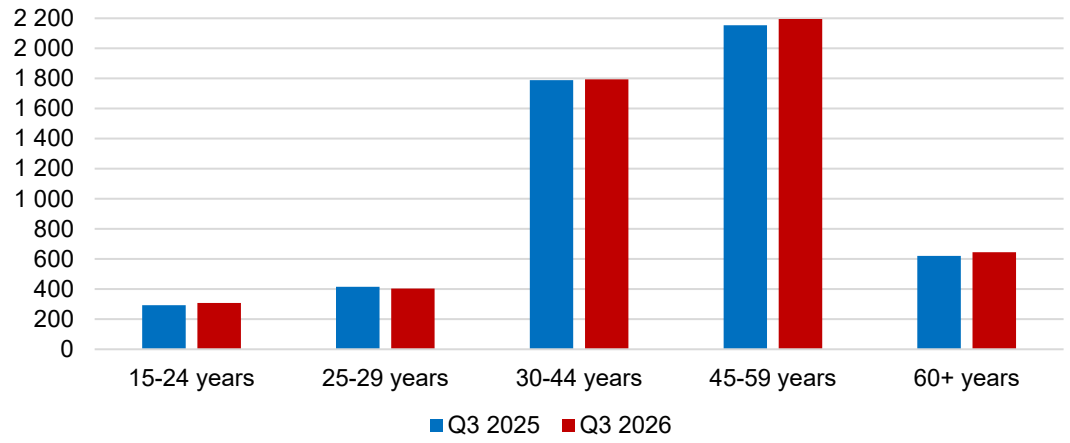
Employment

In the Q3 2026, the seasonally adjusted **average number of employed persons** increased by 8.9 thousand persons, compared to the Q2 2026.

The **number of working persons** aged 15+ years moderately increased, year-on-year. In the Q3 2026, an increment by 74.3 thousand persons (i.e. by 1.4%) resulting in the total of 5 346.4 thousand employed persons was recorded. The increase was mainly owing to an increase in the number of working persons of both sexes – the number of working males increased, year-on-year, by 42.4 thousand; the number of working females by 31.9 thousand. The most marked relative increment of the number of working persons was in the youngest age category of 15–24 years, where the number of working persons increased by 14.9 thousand persons (i.e. by 5.1%). A considerable increase was also recorded in the age group of 60+ years, where the number of working persons increased by 24.7 thousand (i.e. by 4.0%). A moderate increase was also recorded in the age group of 45–59 years, in which there were by 41.0 thousand working persons more (i.e. by 1.9%). On the other hand, in the age category of 30–44 years, the number of working persons remained almost at the same level; it increased by 4.9 thousand, y-o-y (i.e. by 0.3%). In the age group of 25–29 years, the number of working persons decreased by 11.2 thousand (i.e. by 2.7%). The year-on-year changes in individual age groups are to a considerable extent influenced by the demographic structure of the population and by the gradual shift of the population into higher age categories.

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Chart 1: The number of working persons in the national economy and their structure by age group (thousand)



Source: CZSO, LFSS

In terms of sex, the most marked relative increase in the number of working persons was in females in the youngest age group of 15–24 years, the number of whom increased, y-o-y, by 11.9 thousand (i.e. by 9.4%). The number of working females in the age group of 60+ years also considerably increased, by 19.8 thousand, y-o-y (i.e. by 7.1%). Conversely, the biggest relative decrease was recorded as for males in the age category of 25–29 years, where their number decreased by 10.5 thousand, y-o-y (i.e. by 4.3%).

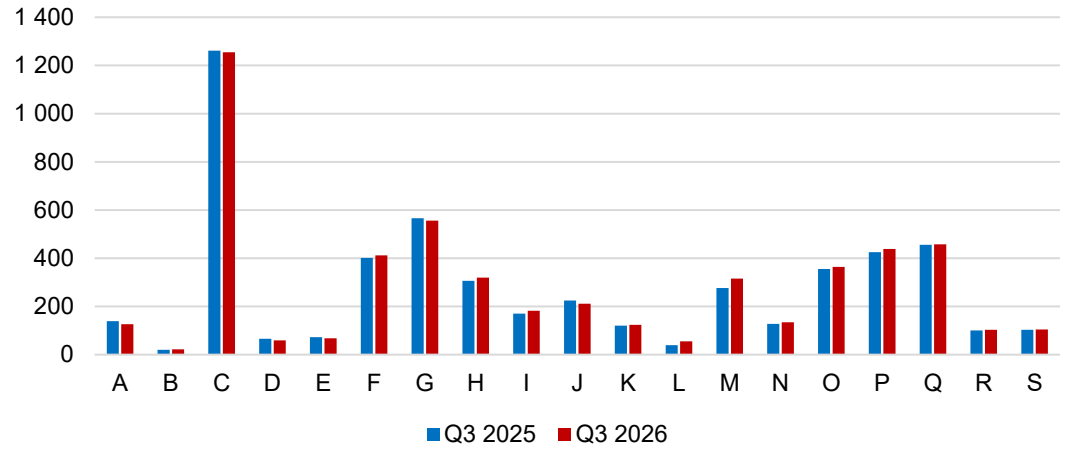
The number of **employees** increased by 54.1 thousand (i.e. by 1.2% to 4 486.4 thousand persons). The number of **the self-employed** (without unpaid contributing family workers) increased by 20.1 thousand persons. The number of **the self-employed without employees** (own-account workers) was by 29.2 thousand higher (i.e. by 4.1%), whereas the number of **the self-employed with employees** (employers) was by 9.1 thousand lower, year-on-year (i.e. a decrease by 7.2%). In concrete numbers, the number of the self-employed without employees reached 737.7 thousand and the number of the self-employed with employees 107.6 thousand. In the Q3 2026, the share of the self-employed in the total employment was 15.8%, which is by 0.2 percentage point (p. p.) more than in the corresponding period of 2025.

According to data for the Q3 2026, the development of employment in individual economic activities (CZ-NACE sections) in Czechia was different[1)]. In the **primary sector** of agriculture, forestry and fishing, the number of working persons decreased, year-on-year, by 12.5 thousand to 126.2 thousand persons (i.e. by 9.0%). Employment in the **secondary sector** of industry and construction only slightly decreased; the number of working persons decreased there by 5.1 thousand to 1 815.8 thousand persons (i.e. by 0.3%). In the **tertiary sector** of services, on the other hand, the total employment increased, y-o-y, namely by 91.2 thousand to 3 403.7 thousand persons (i.e. by 2.8%). In services, the biggest relative increment was recorded in the section of 'real estate activities,' namely by 16.2 thousand persons (i.e. by 41.5%). The section of 'professional, scientific and technical activities' also markedly increased (by 39.4 thousand persons, i.e. by 14.3%). Conversely, a decrease in

[1)] Data for economic activities (CZ-NACE sections) may be influenced by the employed methodology of the Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS). The survey only covers persons living in dwellings (flats), i.e. private households. Data on persons living in collective accommodation establishments are not measured; these establishments often give accommodation to foreign nationals.

employment was reflected in the section of ‘information and communication’ (by 13.5 thousand persons, i.e. by 6.0%) and in the section of ‘wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles,’ (by 10.0 thousand persons, i.e. by 1.8%).

Chart 2: The number of working persons in the national economy by economic activity (thousand)



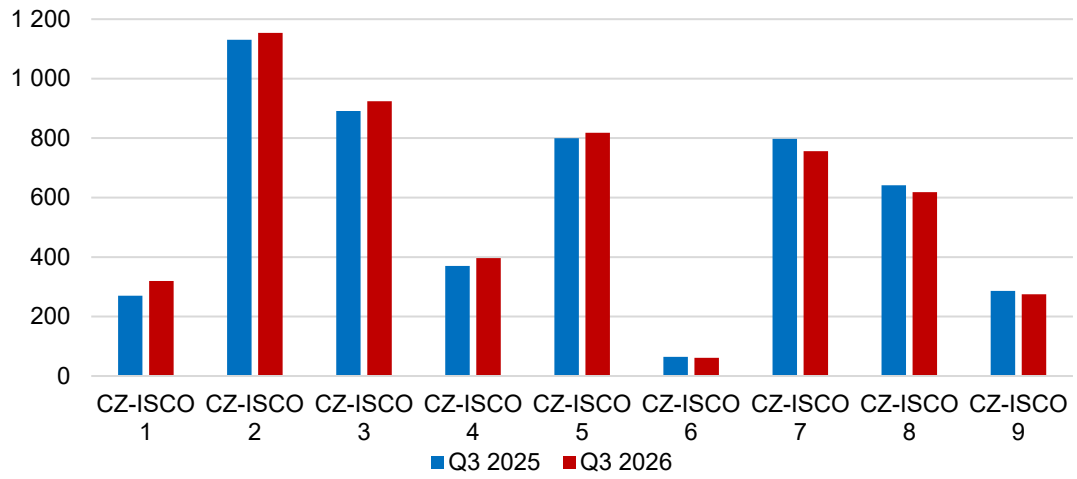
A – Agriculture, forestry and fishing; B – Mining and quarrying; C – Manufacturing; D – Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; E – Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities; F – Construction; G – Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; H –Transportation and storage; I – Accommodation and food service activities; J – Information and communication; K – Financial and insurance activities; L – Real estate activities; M – Professional, scientific and technical activities; N – Administrative and support service activities; O – Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; P – Education; Q – Human health and social work activities; R – Arts, entertainment and recreation; S – Other service activities.

Source: CZSO, LFSS

Along with changes in the structure by economic activity (CZ-NACE section), changes in the structure of working persons by occupation also occurred. According to the **Classification of Occupations (CZ-ISCO)**, the number of working persons increased relatively the most in the major group of managers (by 49.4 thousand persons, i.e. by 18.3%) and in the armed forces occupations (by 3.3 thousand persons, i.e. by 16.2%).

The biggest absolute decrease in the number of working persons occurred in the major group of craft and related trades workers (by 41.3 thousand persons, i.e. by 5.2%). The most marked relative decrease was in the major group of skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers (by 3.4 thousand persons, i.e. by 5.3%).

Chart 3: The number of working persons in the national economy by Classification of Occupations (thousand)



CZ-ISCO 1 – Managers; CZ-ISCO 2 – Professionals; CZ-ISCO 3 – Technicians and associate professionals; CZ-ISCO 4 – Clerical support workers; CZ-ISCO 5 – Service and sales workers; CZ-ISCO 6 – Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers; CZ-ISCO 7 – Craft and related trades workers; CZ-ISCO 8 – Plant and machine operators, and assemblers; CZ-ISCO 9 – Elementary occupations.

Source: CZSO, LFSS

The structure of **working persons according to the educational attainment** also develops along with the mentioned changes in the employment structure. The number of working persons with **primary education** dropped by 12.1 thousand to 235.5 thousand persons and the number of the employed with **secondary education without A-level examination** decreased by 32.0 thousand to 1 527.0 thousand persons. On the other hand, the number of working persons with **secondary education with A-level examination** increased, year-on-year, by 34.4 thousand to 1 975.0 thousand persons. The biggest increase occurred in persons with **tertiary education** the number of whom increased by 82.8 thousand to 1 606.8 thousand. This increase mainly applied to males with tertiary education the number of whom increased by 47.7 thousand, year-on-year, whereas in females with tertiary education it increased by 35.0 thousand.

The **employment rate** (the percentage of working persons in the age group of 15–64 years old) reached 76.3% in the Q3 2026; compared to the corresponding period of the previous year it thus increased, after rounding off, by 0.4 percentage point. The male employment rate was 80.7%, which is a year-on-year increment by 0.3 p. p., the female one reached 71.9% with a y-o-y increase by 0.4 p. p. The employment rate in Czechia is one of the highest within the entire European Union (EU27). In 2025, only the following reported a higher average employment rate: Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Malta, Germany, Denmark, Cyprus, and Sweden.

Within the EU, Czechia is distinguished by an above-average use of **full-time jobs**; this type of job is clearly dominating in the age group of 15–64 years. In 2025, 92.0% of working persons worked full-time in Czechia; thus, we ranked twelfth in EU Member States. Last year, the highest share of full-time workers was in Bulgaria (98.3%), Romania (97.7%), Croatia (97.0%), and also in Slovakia (95.6%). On the other hand, people work full-time the least in Netherlands (Kingdom of the; 57.8%) and also in our neighbouring Austria (69.9%) and Germany (70.6%).

Share of **part-time jobs in main employment** has been increasing in the Czech labour market during the last years, which has a positive influence on the total employment.

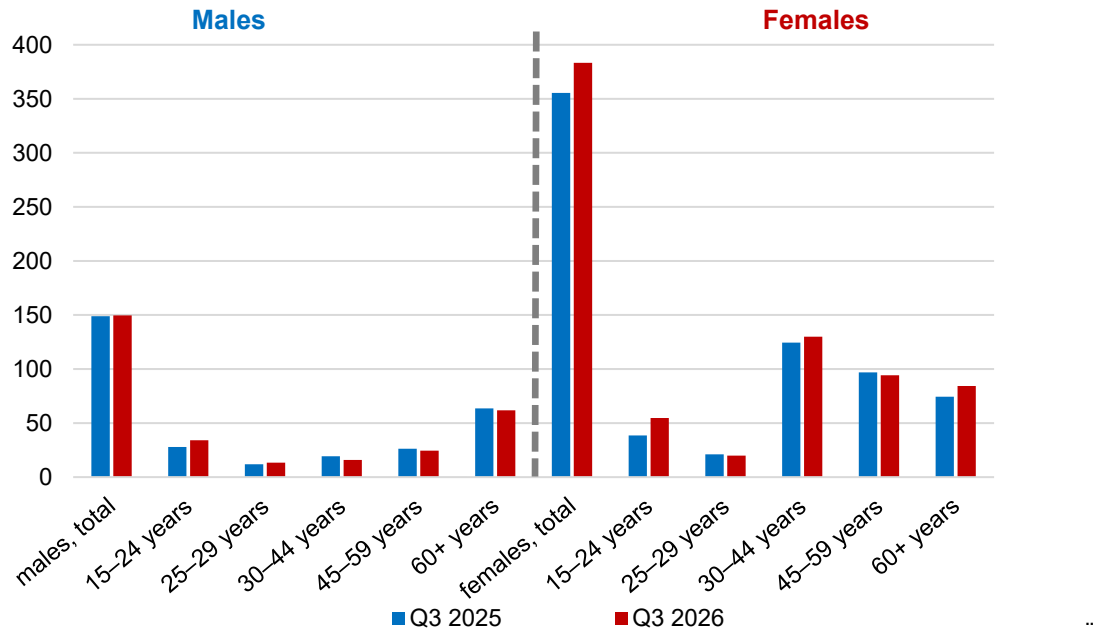
In the Q3 2026, 533.0 thousand persons worked part-time, which was by 28.6 thousand more, year-on-year (an increase by 5.7%). In the Q3 2018, 385.9 thousand persons worked part-time; their number increased during the last eight years by 147.1 thousand (i.e. an increase by 38.1%).

In the Q3 2026, the number of part-time jobs mainly increased among females, in whom it increased, year-on-year, by 27.9 thousand persons (by 7.9%). As for males, the number of part-time jobs remained on a similar value as in the previous year, the increment was 0.7 thousand persons (i.e. 0.5%).

In the reference period, 383.3 thousand females worked part-time, which was 71.9% of all persons using this type of employment. Reduced working hours provided them greater flexibility, especially when carrying their caring responsibilities. Females worked part-time most often in ‘education,’ ‘human health and social work activities,’ and in the section of ‘wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles’. From the total number of all employed females, 15.4% worked part-time. Females gave most often the following reasons for that: other personal reasons (81.2 thousand), childcare or care for an adult person (73.2 thousand), or the fact that another job was unavailable (56.5 thousand). The highest number of females working part-time was in the age of 30–44 years (130.0 thousand, i.e. 33.9% of females working part-time).

Males used reduced working hours significantly less. 149.6 thousand of them worked part-time, which is only 5.2% of all working males. They were employed most often in ‘manufacturing,’ ‘education,’ and also in the section of ‘wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles’. Males worked part-time most often due to “other personal reasons” (46.7 thousand). As for age, the highest number of them was in the group of the 60+ years old (61.8 thousand, i.e. 41.3%). The data confirm that there is a different motivation of both sexes: while females primarily use part-time jobs in relation to caring for small children, males choose them rather in their higher age.

Chart 4: The number of part-time workers and their age structure (thousand)



Source: CZSO, LFSS

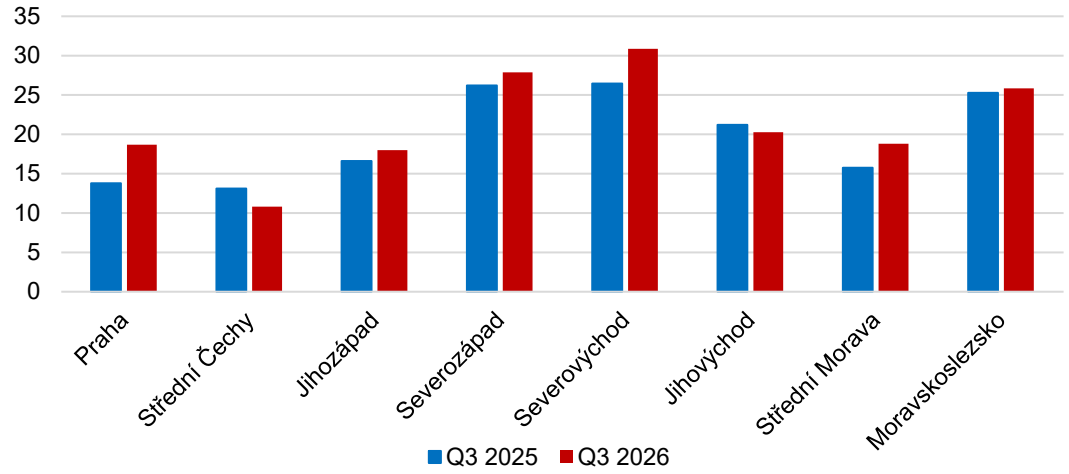
The frequency of holding **more than one job** also corresponds with the extent of working time in the main job. Within the entire EU, in 2025, 4.1% of all working persons held at least two jobs. In Czechia, the share was lower. To compare, in Netherlands (Kingdom of the) and Denmark it was over 9%.

The **number of persons aged 15–64 years with at least two jobs** reached in Czechia, in the Q3 2026, 177.1 thousand, which was 3.5% of all working persons in that age group. The vast majority of those persons had the "employee" status in their main jobs, whereas in their second jobs they predominantly had the status of "the self-employed". The highest number of second jobs was held in the section of 'education,' in the section of 'professional, scientific and technical activities,' and in the section of 'human health and social work activities'.

Unemployment

The seasonally adjusted **average number of unemployed persons according to the ILO methodology**[2)] increased in the Q3 2026 by 2.2 thousand, compared to that in the Q2 2026.

Chart 5: The number of the unemployed in cohesion regions of the Czech Republic (thousand)



Source: CZSO, LFSS

The total number of **the unemployed** persons aged **15+ years** increased, year-on-year, by 12.8 thousand to 171.2 thousand. The number of the unemployed females increased by 17.9 thousand to 99.1 thousand, whereas as for males, there was a decrease by 5.1 thousand to 72.0 thousand. In terms of the age structure, the highest number of the unemployed males was in the age of 15–24 years (21.7 thousand) and females in the age of 30–44 years (33.6 thousand).

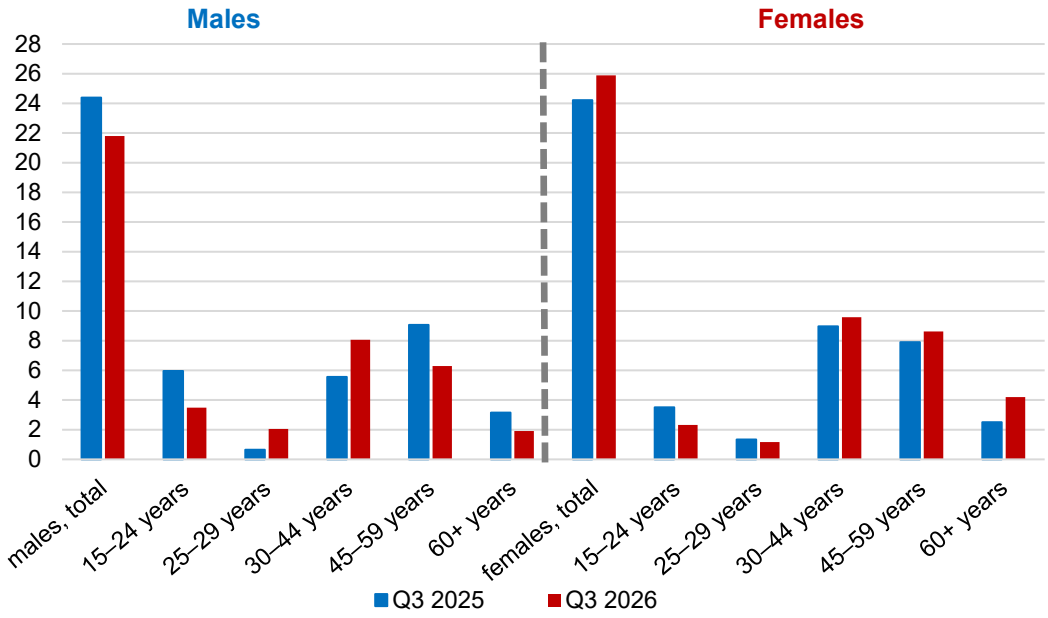
The number of persons **unemployed for one year and longer**, i.e. the long-term unemployed, has almost unchanged, y-o-y. Their number decreased by 0.9 thousand to 47.7 thousand persons. In the

*[2)] The ILO methodology defines **the unemployed** as persons who during the reference period were without a job, did not work an hour for pay or remuneration, and were in an active manner seeking a job they would be able to join within fortnight at the latest. This methodology is uniform for all EU Member States and provides internationally comparable data. It has to be taken into consideration that the definition of "the unemployed" by the ILO differs from the definition of "job applicants kept in the register of the labour offices" of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.*

Q3 2026, the long-term unemployed thus made 27.9% of all the unemployed. A y-o-y increase was recorded for females the number of whom increased by 1.7 thousand, whereas the number of the long-term unemployed males decreased by 2.6 thousand, y-o-y.

The number of the long-term unemployed males was 21.8 thousand in total; in females, the number was 25.9 thousand. Most of the long-term unemployed were in the age group of 30–44 years; 8.1 thousand males and 9.6 thousand females were there.

Chart 6: The number of persons unemployed for one year and longer and their age structure (thousand)

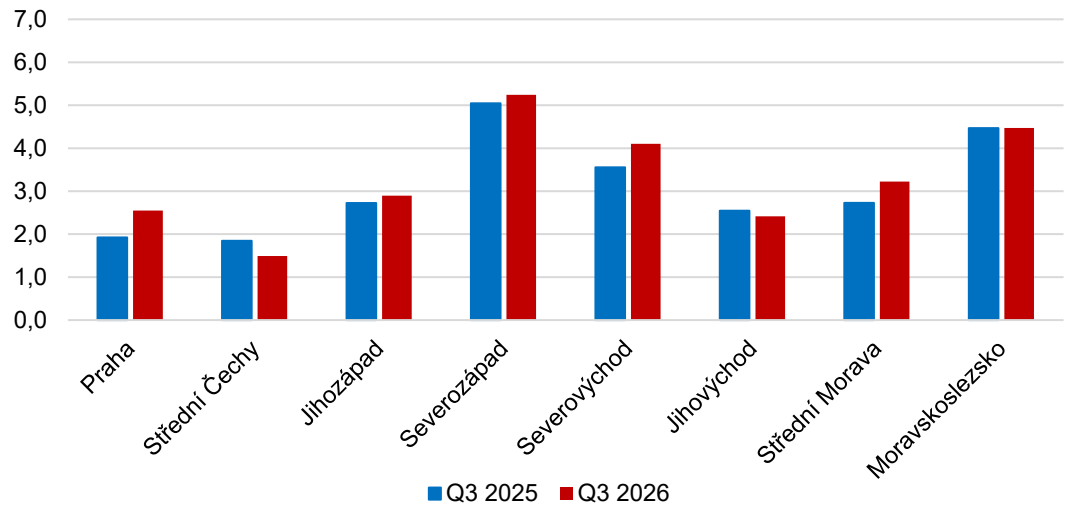


Source: CZSO, LFSS

The **general unemployment rate according to the ILO definition** in the age group of 15–64 years old (the percentage of the unemployed in the labour force, i.e. in the sum of the employed and the unemployed) increased by 0.2 p. p., year-on-year, and in the Q3 2026 it was 3.2%.

In terms of comparison of **cohesion regions**, the general unemployment rate of persons aged 15–64 years was the highest in the *Severozápad* cohesion region (5.2%) and in the *Moravskoslezsko* cohesion region (4.5%). On the other hand, the lowest figures were reported by the *Střední Čechy* cohesion region (1.5%), the *Jihovýchod* cohesion region (2.4%), and the *Praha* cohesion region (2.5%). The unemployment rate increased, year-on-year, in five cohesion regions; it was the most marked in the *Praha* cohesion region, where it was by 0.6 p. p. higher and in the *Severovýchod* cohesion region and in the *Střední Morava* cohesion region, in both of which it was by 0.5 p. p. higher. In the *Moravskoslezsko* cohesion region, it remained on the same level; in the *Jihovýchod* cohesion region, it decreased by 0.1 p. p. and in the *Střední Čechy* cohesion region it decreased by 0.4 p. p.

Chart 7: Unemployment rate of the 15–64 years old in cohesion regions of the Czech Republic (%)



Source: CZSO, LFSS

Economic inactivity

The **number of economically inactive persons aged 15+ years** decreased by 23.4 thousand, year-on-year, to 3 407.0 thousand. The number of economically inactive males increased by 10.5 thousand to 1 392.3 thousand, whereas the number of economically inactive females decreased by 33.9 thousand to 2 014.7 thousand.

In the sample survey, data are also collected on **persons who do not work and do not seek a job in an active manner and therefore do not comply with the ILO conditions for the unemployed**, however, they express their wish to work. In the Q3 2026, the number of economically inactive persons willing to work reached 75.6 thousand, which is by 0.8 thousand less than in the corresponding period of 2025.

However, the number of persons who would like to work, yet they are not able to start in a job immediately, remains relatively high. Only 16.4 thousand persons are able to start in a job within a fortnight, at the latest.

Note:

Data in the analysis have not been seasonally adjusted unless otherwise stated.

Recalculation to the same population structure

The Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS) is carried out in selected dwelling households. Collective accommodation establishments are not included in the survey. The data found were weighted to the population of Czechia based on the results of the population (demographic) statistics as at the beginning of the reference quarter; estimates of the number of persons living outside private households were subtracted from the population totals of the demographic statistics.

Starting with the first quarter of 2026, results in the quarterly analysis are published in the territorial breakdown at the NUTS 2 level (cohesion regions) instead of the previous NUTS 3 level (Regions).

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