Methodology of the calculation of monthly data from quarterly data of the Labour Force Sample Survey

The source for processing of monthly data on employment and unemployment are data from the Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS).

The data gathered in the reference period for the given month are the basis of the estimate. The reference period for a month covers all reference weeks in reference to the schedule set by Eurostat for every year, see below.

Schedule of reference periods for the monthly processing in 2026:

Month	Reference week	Period length
January	1-5	5 weeks
February	6-9	4 weeks
March	10-13	4 weeks
April	14-18	5 weeks
May	19-22	4 weeks
June	23-26	4 weeks
July	27-31	5 weeks
August	32-35	4 weeks
September	36-39	4 weeks
October	40-44	5 weeks
November	45-48	4 weeks
December	49-52	4 weeks

The weight adjustment is carried out the standard way to demographic variables (region, sex, age group).

The seasonal adjustment applies the internationally recommended method Tramo-Seats using JDemetra+ software (developed by Eurostat in order to ensure comparability in the results). Since the reference month of April, there has been a change in the model of seasonal adjustment (a switchover to a trend-cycle); at the same time, the method of direct adjustment is used when the resulting time series (the rates of employment, unemployment, and economic activity) are adjusted, not the absolute figures on the numbers of the employed or unemployed. A shortened time series from 2015 are used to identify the adjustment model, for the reason of changes in seasonality and the labour market patterns. The full time series starting from 1993 are published. The new adjustment model is partly stabilized in order not to change the historical data with every new month.