1 February 2022

Unemployment rate was 2.2% in December

Rates of employment, unemployment, and economic activity
– December 2021

The **employment rate** of the aged 15–64 years (the percentage share of the employed in the population aged 15–64 years), seasonally adjusted, reached 75.1% in December 2021 and increased by 1.3 percentage point (p. p.) compared to that in December 2020. The male employment rate was 81.8%; the female employment rate was 68.1%, both seasonally adjusted. The employment rate of persons aged 15–29 years, seasonally adjusted, was 44.7%, in the age group of 30–49 years it reached 88.2%, and in the age group of 50–64 years it amounted to 78.2%.

The **general unemployment rate** of the aged 15–64 years (the percentage share of the unemployed in the labour force, that is in the total number of the employed and the unemployed (that means economically active persons)), seasonally adjusted, reached 2.2% in December 2021 and decreased by 1.1 p. p., year-on-year. The male unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, amounted to 2.0%; the female unemployment rate reached 2.5%.

*“The percentage of people seeking a job was on a very low level in December, too. The female unemployment rate decreased to 2.5% and the male one kept below the threshold of two percent. These values are similar to those before the pre-covid year of 2019,”* Dalibor Holý, Director of the Labour Market and Equal Opportunities Statistics Department of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), comments on the results.

The **economic activity** **rate** of the aged 15–64 years (the percentage share of the number of the economically active in the total number of persons of this age group), seasonally adjusted, reached 76.8% and rose by 0.5 p. p. compared to that in December 2020. Following the seasonal adjustment, the male economic activity rate (83.5%) exceeded the female economic activity rate by 13.6 p. p.

Eurostat, in its press release, publishes the monthly unemployment rate, identical in terms of the methodology applied, but for the age group of 15–74 years. In the Czech Republic, the general unemployment rate for the aged 15–74 years in December 2021 was 2.1%, while the data are based on the Labour Force Sample Survey results for the corresponding month.

Appended Tables 1 and 2 contain methodologically consistent time series of basic indicators of the labour market and seasonally adjusted absolute numbers of the employed persons and of the unemployed ones, starting in 1993. Table 3 has been added, with average numbers of hours actually worked, broken down by employees and the self-employed. This special table is not seasonally adjusted – the data can be compared only year-on-year (having in mind different numbers of working days).

*Notes:*

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*Data source: CZSO, Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS), which is conducted in selected private households; collective accommodation establishments are not included in the survey. The LFSS results have been grossed up to the total population of the Czech Republic using data of the population statistics as at 1 January 2021 and the prediction of the population development in the following twelve months.*

*Time series are updated in the course of seasonal adjustment as the whole series except for Table 3.*

*End of data collection: 21 January 2022*

*End of preliminary data processing: 27 January 2022*

*Next News Release will be published on: 3 March 2022*

Annexes:

Table 1 Rates of employment, unemployment, and of economic activity (seasonally adjusted)

Table 2 Absolute numbers of the employed and unemployed persons (both seasonally adjusted)

Table 3 Weekly hours actually worked in the main job