3 November 2021

Total employment was positively influenced by an increase in the number of working persons aged 45+ years

Employment and unemployment in the Czech Republic as measured by the Labour Force Sample Survey – 3rd quarter of 2021

**Total employment in the Q3 2021 increased by 23.9 thousand persons, year-on-year (y-o-y). The number of the unemployed, according to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) methodology, decreased by 8.3 thousand persons. The number of the economically inactive including children up to 15 years of age decreased by 12.0 thousand.**

### Employment

In the Q3 2021, the seasonally adjusted **average number of employed persons** increased by 57.0 thousand persons, compared to the Q2 2021.

The **number of working persons** aged 15+ years increased by 23.9 thousand persons, y-o-y, i.e. by 0.5%, to 5 257.2 thousand persons. It is mainly return of females to the labour market that contributed to the increase. The number of working females increased by 23.2 thousand persons, year-on-year, whereas the number of working males remained almost unchanged. The total **number of** **the self-employed** decreased by 42.6 thousand persons, namely due to a decrease in the **number of** **the self-employed without employees** (own-account workers) by29.4 thousand. The **number of** **the self-employed with employees** (employers) also decreased, by 13.3 thousand. The number of **contributing** **family workers** decreased, too, by 7.5 thousand persons. On the other hand, the **number of employees** increased by 74.1 thousand to 4 421.5 thousand.

The **age structure of working persons** has been changing for a long time. *“In the group of the employed in the younger productive age, the employment decreased by 60.5 thousand. The decrease was considerable both in females and males; to put it concretely, it was by 24.2 thousand and 36.4 thousand, respectively. On the other hand, there was a high increase in the number of the employed, namely over 50 thousand, in the age group of 45 to 49 years*,” Marta Petráňová, Head of the Unit for Labour Forces, Migration, and Equal Opportunities of the CZSO says. In total, the number of working persons aged 45+ years increased by 84.5 thousand.

According to data for the Q3 2021, the development of employment in individual economic activities (CZ-NACE sections) in the Czech Republic was different*[[1]](#footnote-1))*. The employment decreased in the **secondary sector** of industry and construction (by 16.0 thousand to 1 933.5 thousand), mainly due to a decrease in the number of working persons in manufacturing (by 27.2 thousand). Whereas the number of working persons in industry decreased, the number of working persons in construction increased, y-o-y (by 16.7 thousand). In the **tertiary sector** of services, the total employment increased by 48.8 thousand to 3 193.8 thousand. As for this sector, the number of working persons especially increased in the section of ‘education’ (by 37.2 thousand), ‘information and communication’ (by 31.8 thousand), in the section of ‘professional, scientific and technical activities’ (by 15.5 thousand), and in ‘financial and insurance activities’ (by 6.9 thousand). On the other hand, the employment in the sector of services considerably decreased in the section of ‘administrative and support service activities’ (by 15.1 thousand) and also in ‘accommodation and food service activities’ (by 9.9 thousand), and in the section of ‘transportation and storage’ (by 9.2 thousand). In the **primary sector** of agriculture, forestry and fishing, the number of working persons decreased by 8.4 thousand to 129.6 thousand.

The development of **the number of working persons according to the Classification of Occupations (CZ-ISCO)** corresponds to the development of employment in individual sections of economic activities (industries). The number of working persons increased the most in the major group of professionals (by 91.4 thousand) and in the major group of managers (by 43.2 thousand). On the other hand, the number of working persons among the following decreased: technicians and associate professionals (by 43.8 thousand) and craft and related trades workers (by 24.6 thousand), and the number of working persons in elementary occupations significantly decreased (by 16.4 thousand).

The development trend in the number of working persons according to the educational attainment is also related to those changes in the employment structure. The number of working persons with **tertiary education** considerably increased, by 110.7 thousand. On the other hand, the number of employed persons in both the most numerous groups of persons with secondary education without A-level examination and with A-level examination decreased. The number of the employed with **secondary education without A-level examination** decreased by 26.2 thousand and the number of working persons with **secondary education with A-level examination** decreased by 36.9 thousand. The number of working persons with **primary education** also decreased, by 23.3 thousand.

The **employment rate** (percentage of working persons in the age group of 15–64 years old) in the Q3 2021 increased compared to the corresponding period of the previous year by 0.6 percentage point (p. p.) to 75.0%. The male employment rate increased by 0.2 p. p. to 81.8% and the female employment rate by 1.0 p. p. to 67.8%.

### Unemployment

The seasonally adjusted **average number of unemployed persons according to the ILO** **methodology**[[2]](#footnote-2)) decreased in the Q3 2021 by 24.3 thousand persons, compared to that in the Q2 2021.

The total **number of the unemployed** aged 15+ years decreased by 8.3 thousand, y-o-y, and reached 145.6 thousand persons. Primarily the number of the unemployed males decreased by 6.8 thousand to 66.5 thousand; the number of the unemployed females remained almost unchanged (a decrease by 1.6 thousand to 79.1 thousand). The number of the unemployed decreased the most in the *Ústecký* Region (by 4.3 thousand) and in the *Královéhradecký* Region (by 3.2 thousand). On the other hand, the highest year-on-year increase was in the *Moravskoslezský* Region (by 5.5 thousand). The **number of persons unemployed for one year and longer** increased by 11.2 thousand persons, y-o-y, and reached 42.0 thousand persons.

The **general unemployment rate according to the ILO definition** in the age group of  
15–64 years old (the share of the unemployed in the labour force, i.e. in the sum of the employed and the unemployed) decreased by 0.2 p. p. to 2.8% in the Q3 2021, year-on-year.

As for **regional comparison**, the general unemployment rate was the highest in the *Karlovarský* Region (5.0%) and in the *Moravskoslezský* Region (4.9%). On the other hand, the unemployment rate of the aged 15–64 years decreased the most in the *Královéhradecký* Region (by 1.2 p. p to 2.1%) and in the *Ústecký* Region (by 1.2 p. p. to 3.0%). The *Jihočeský* Region had the lowest unemployment rate in Czechia (1.8%).

### Economic inactivity

**The number of economically inactive persons aged 15+ years** decreased by 21.5 thousand, year-on-year, to 3 578.6 thousand. The number of all the economically inactive persons including children up to 15 years of age decreased by 12.0 thousand to 5 301.1 thousand. The number of economically inactive females decreased by 19.5 thousand, whereas the number of economically inactive males increased by 7.5 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**, yet they state that they would like to work. In the Q3 2021, the number of such persons was 66.0 thousand persons, i.e. by 32.8 thousand persons less than in the corresponding period of 2020. The number of persons who are willing to work, however, they are not able to start in a potential job immediately, is relatively high. Only 32.3 thousand of the persons are able to start in a job within a fortnight, at the latest.

*Notes:*

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*Data source: The CZSO, Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS) 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 natural population change and net migration in 2021.*

*End of data collection: 22 October 2021*

*End of preliminary data processing: 26 October 2021*

*Related Internet-published document: 250129-21 - “Employment and Unemployment in the Czech Republic as Measured by the Labour Force Sample Survey – quarterly data” with the final survey results will be available on the CZSO website by the end of the Q4 2021. (*[*Home*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/home) *-* [*We publish*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/we-publish) *-* [*Catalogue of Products*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/catalogue-of-products) *- Employment and Unemployment)*

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Annexes:

Table 1 Employed persons (status in the main job, absolute numbers, percentages, year-on-year increments, and indices)

Chart 1 The employed and the unemployed (absolute numbers)

1. ) *Data for the aforementioned economic activities sections may be influenced by the applied methodology of the Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS). The survey only covers persons living in dwellings (flats), i.e. private households. Data for persons living in collective accommodation establishments are not measured; these establishments often give accommodation to foreign nationals.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
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, and were in an active manner seeking 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 should be noted 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.* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)