2 April 2024

The adjusted unemployment was 2.7% in February

Rates of employment, unemployment, and economic activity – February 2024

**The employment rate**

The proportion of employed persons in the number of all persons aged 15–64 years reached 75.3% in February 2024. It decreased by 0.4 percentage point (p.p.) compared to that in February 2023. The male employment rate was 81.5%; the female employment rate was 68.7%. The employment rate of persons aged 15–29 years was 44.1%, in the age group of 30–49 years it was 83.4%, and in the age group of 50–64 years it was 81.2%.

**The general unemployment rate**

The percentage of the unemployed in the labour force, that is in the total number of the employed and the unemployed (that means economically active persons), reached 2.7% in February 2024. It increased by 0.2 percentage point, year-on-year. The male unemployment rate reached 2.3%; the female unemployment rate reached 3.2%.

*“Although we observe an upward trend in Czech unemployment for over a year, the rate of 2.7% still does not reach the level during COVID lockdowns when it was above three percent. Currently it is approximately on the level of autumn 2017,”* Dalibor Holý, Director of the Labour Market and Equal Opportunities Statistics Department of the Czech Statistical Office, comments on the results.

**The economic activity rate**

The percentage of the economically active in the total number of persons aged 15–64 years reached 77.4%. It decreased by 0.2 p. p. compared to that in February 2023. The male economic activity rate (83.4%) exceeded the female economic activity rate (71.0%) by 12.4 p. p.

**International comparability**

All data presented in the News Release are seasonally adjusted. They apply to the age group of 15–64 years. They come from the Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS) carried out by a network of interviewers of the CZSO in households and are different in terms of methodology from administrative data of the Labour Office of the Czech Republic on registered job applicants (namely the “Share of unemployed persons” indicator).

The LFSS has an internationally comparable methodology, which defines the employed and the unemployed in accordance with recommendations of the International Labour Organization. The CZSO regularly sends data from the LFSS to Eurostat, which prepares monthly press release on unemployment as for Member States of the EU, however, for the age group of 15–74 years. The unemployment rate in that age group (of the aged 15–74 years) was 2.6% in Czechia in February 2024.

In compliance with the international methodology for the LFSS, the survey is only carried out in private households; collective accommodation establishments as well as temporary shelters are not covered.

Tables 1 and 2 enclosed contain methodologically consistent time series of basic indicators of the labour market and numbers of the employed and unemployed persons, starting in 1993.

*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 2023; estimations of the number of persons living outside private households have been subtracted from the population totals of vital statistics.*

*Methodological notes:* [*https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/zam\_vsps*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/zam_vsps)

*End of data collection: 22 March 2024*

*End of preliminary data processing: 26 March 2024*

*Next news release will be published on: 2 May 2024*

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)

Chart 1 The general unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted)