

Labor Force Indicators- Winter 1385 (22 December 2006 -20March 2007)

Employment and unemployment are among major economic issues of every country so that any changes in unemployment are treated as development indicators in societies. Meanwhile, unemployment rate is one of the indicators used to evaluate the economic conditions of the country. Labor force survey is executed over the various seasons of the year aiming at estimation of the labor force indicators annually and quarterly as well as estimating its changes across the country and urban and rural areas and calculating the annual changes in the provinces through rotation sampling. On the basis of the results of the survey, the major labor force indicators during winter 2007 are presented in Table 1. Moreover, the changes in labor force indicators compared to winter 2006 as well as the previous season, namely autumn 2006, are shown in Table 2.

- Review of the economic participation rate shows that 39.2 % of the population at working age (10 and over) was economically active¹ in winter 2007; namely, they are classified under employed² or unemployed³ group. The study of changes in the economic participation rate compared to the corresponding season in the preceding year, winter 2006, shows a 0.6 % decline. The findings show that this decline mainly stemmed from the increase in the number of non-economically active population. Also the 0.8% decline in this rate compared to the autumn 2007 mainly originated from the decline in the number of employed population in the agricultural sector.
- Share of underemployment indicates that 8.4 percent of the employed population was underemployed⁴ in winter.

1. **Economically active population:** All people aged 10 and over who were engaged, during the reference week, in goods and services production (employed) or could have had participation (unemployed) are economically active population, under the definition of the work.

2. **Employed:** Under the definition of the work, all people aged 10 and over who worked during the reference week, at least one hour, or for a reason left the work temporarily are treated as employed .

3. **Unemployed:** All people aged 10 and over who are jobless, available for work and looking for jobs, or are jobless and available to work , but due to the start of the intended work in future and/or expectation to return to the previous jobs, are not looking for jobs during the reference week, are treated as unemployed.

4. **Underemployed:** All people who worked less than 44 hours for economic reasons (non-work season, work recession, not finding a job with more hours, etc.) and/or they were available for the overtime work are treated as underemployed.

Table 1. Labor force indicators by sex, urban and rural areas, winter 2007

Description	Total country	Male	Female	Urban areas	Rural areas
Economic participation rate	۳۹,۲	۶۲,۸	۱۵,۰	۳۸,۳	۴۱,۰
Underemployment share	۸,۴	۹,۴	۴,۰	۶,۰	۱۳,۱
Unemployment rate	۱۲,۱	۱۱,۰	۱۶,۷	۱۳,۸	۸,۸
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15 -24	25.4	23.2	33.2	29.9	17.7
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15 -29	22.4	۲۰,۰	30.9	25.6	16.1
Employment share in agricultural sector	20.5	19.5	25.4	5.3	49.5
Employment share in manufacturing sector	32.6	32.4	33.5	34.4	29.3
Employment share in services sector	46.8	48.1	41.1	60.3	21.2

- Reviewing the unemployment rate of the people aged 10 and over shows that in winter, 12.1 percent of the economically active population (employed or unemployed) were unemployed. The study on the changes in unemployment rate shows that this indicator experienced no change compared to that of winter 2006. The rate of this indicator also increased 0.5 percent compared to that of previous autumn due to the decrease in population employed in the agricultural sector and increase of the unemployed population.

Table 2. Changes in the major labor force indicator by sex, urban and rural areas- winter 2007 compared to winter 2006 and autumn 2007

Description	Total country		Male		Female		Urban areas		Rural areas	
	Winter	Autumn	Winter	Autumn	Winter	Autumn	Winter	Autumn	Winter	Autumn
Economic participation rate	-0.6	-0.8	-0.7	-1	-0.5	-0.5	-0.7	-0.5	-0.3	-1.2
Unemployment rate	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.8	-0.3	-0.8	0	0.3	-0.1	0.9
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15 -24	0.5	0.7	0.6	1.3	0.1	-1.1	1	0.2	-0.3	1.5
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15 -29	0.5	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.8	-0.3	1	0.2	-0.4	1.6

-Unemployment rate among the youths aged 15 –24 ¹ indicates that in winter 2007, 25.4 percent of the economically active population aged 15-24 were unemployed. The unemployment rate of the youths aged 15-29 ² indicates that 22.4 percent of the economically active youths of this age group were unemployed in winter 2007. Seasonal changes of these indicators are presented in Table 2.

¹. International Labour Office (ILO) recommends youths unemployment rate for 15-24 age group.

². National Youth Organization of I. R. Iran uses unemployment rate of the 15-29 year-old youths.

Reviewing employment share in 3 sectors of economic activities indicates that in the winter, 46.8, 32.6 and 20.5 percent of the employed population was employed in services sector, manufacturing sector and agricultural sector respectively. Reviews indicate that the majority of the urban employed population was employed in service sector and the rural one was engaged in agricultural sector.

Some major labor force indicators in winter 2007 by province are presented in Table 3.

Table 3. Labor force indicators by province

Winter 2007

Province	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate	Employment share in agricultural sector	Employment share in manufacturing sector	Employment share in services sector
Total country	39.2	12.1	20.5	32.6	46.8
East Azarbayejan	48.7	7.1	24.6	45.1	30.3
West Azarbayejan	38.3	15.5	۳۴,۰	۲۲,۰	۴۴,۰
Ardebil	43.2	11.3	42.3	20.9	36.8
Esfahan	42.5	10.5	12.1	43.4	44.5
Ilam	37.9	12.9	39.9	21.4	38.7
Bushehr	39.3	7.8	20.3	23.9	55.8
Tehran	39.5	11.7	2.7	33.4	63.9
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiyari	37.2	16.3	18.4	42.6	۳۹,۰
South Khorasan	41.3	13.5	32.8	31.1	36.1
Khorasan-e-Razavi	39.4	9.3	27.8	31.6	40.6
North Khorasan	33.7	6.8	۳۶,۰	29.5	34.5
Khuzestan	37.8	۱۴,۰	20.6	۳۳,۰	45.9
Zanjan	44.3	17.9	35.4	33.5	31.1
Semnan	36.5	11.4	19.7	31.3	۴۹,۰
Sistan & Baluchestan..	۳۵,۰	9.5	21.2	۳۹,۰	39.8
Fars	35.6	13.6	21.5	29.4	49.1
Qazvin	36.3	12.6	24.7	30.5	44.7
Qom	36.9	11.9	5.2	42.9	51.8
Kordestan	38.5	17.4	30.8	23.6	45.7
Kerman	40.5	10.8	34.5	29.8	35.7
Kermanshah	33	21.6	27.4	21.2	51.4
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad.....	35.3	17.1	36.9	26.3	36.7
Golestan	41.8	9.9	30.7	28.4	۴۱,۰
Gilan	37.8	12.1	23.6	25.5	50.9
Lorestan	35.5	19.9	31.8	27.4	40.9
Mazandaran	40.6	11.2	22.2	30.5	47.3
Markazi	37.2	15.9	24.3	34.7	۴۱,۰
Hormozgan	31.7	5.7	20.8	25.1	54.1
Hamadan	37.4	18.6	27.9	25.9	46.2

Yazd	46.2	8.2	12.9	47.1	۴۰٫۰
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