

Labour market monitoring

CEE
May 2023



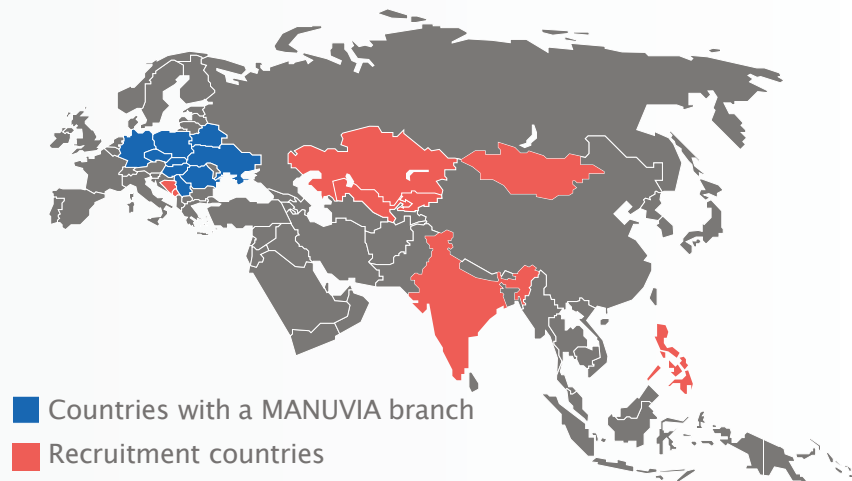
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Manuvia around the world



Unemployment in the Czech Republic



The Labour Office of the Czech Republic recorded as of 31. 5. 2023 a total of 253,893 job seekers. That is 7790 less than in the previous month and 18,425 more than last year.

The share of unemployed persons fell by 0.1 p.p. month-on-month, increased by 0.3 p.p. year-on-year. At the end of May, it stood at 3.5%.

In an international comparison, the unemployment rate according to the latest available EUROSTAT data (April) is the second lowest in the EU at 2.7% (EU average 6%).

The situation on the labor market currently corresponds to both the long-term development and the time of year.

Employer interest in new employees persists mainly in blue-collar and highly skilled occupations. There is a long-term demand for skilled craftsmen.

	05/2023	05/2022	05/2021
Unemployment rate in the Czech Republic	3.5%	3.2%	3.9%
Number of job seekers	253,893	235,468	285,822
Number of reachable job seekers	229,749	211,972	267,015
Number of job vacancies	285,692	337,331	346,604
Unemployment rate according to EUROSTAT	2.7%	2.4%	3.3%

'The labour market continues to be affected by seasonal work that is underway. Primarily in construction, gastronomy, tourism, hotels, agriculture and horticulture, but also in forestry, fishing, spa and mining.'

Karla Smičková, COO



Unemployment in regions

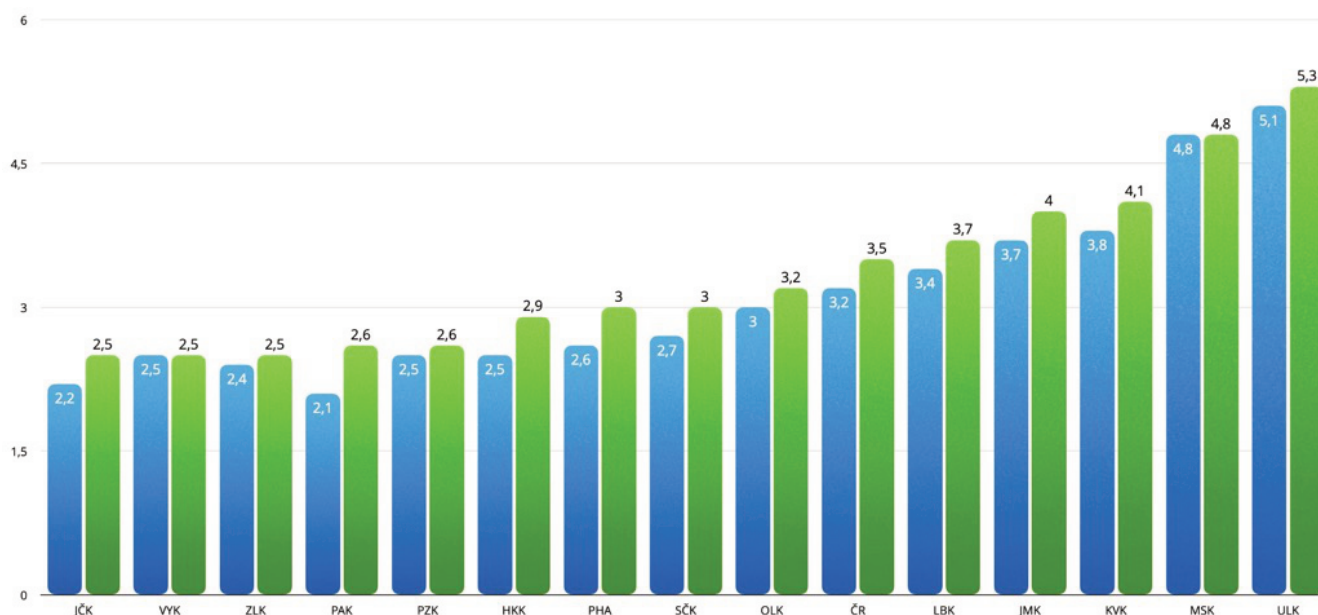


The highest share of unemployed persons in May was in Ústí nad Labem 5.3% and the Moravian-Silesian Region 4.8%. These regions had the highest proportion of unemployed persons in the same period last year, which is the long-term unemployment situation in these regions. On the other hand, **the lowest unemployment** was in the South Bohemia, Vysočina and Zlín regions (2.5%). **The situation has changed the most in Pardubice**, where the share of unemployed persons increased by 0.5 p.p.

Unemployment in regions

31. 05. 2022

31. 05. 2023



Structure of jobseekers



Of the total number of registered job seekers, **140,219 were women** and they accounted for **55.2%** of the total number of job seekers.



The percentage of unemployed **men** dropped to **3%** and for women to 3.9%.



In the past month, **35,969 persons with disabilities (PWD) were looking for work – 14.2% of the total unemployed**. Employers offered them a total of 10,239 vacancies through the Labour Office of the Czech Republic.



The average age of the unemployed was 43.3 years in May, compared to 43.8 last year. The age structure of jobseekers has not changed significantly over the last five years. And even during the past 12 months, only with slight changes.

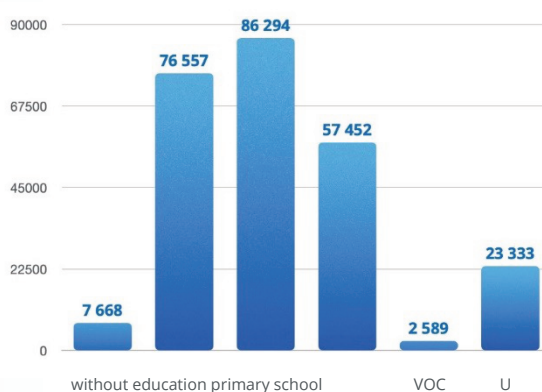


Jobseekers were most likely to be unemployed **with lower qualifications**, especially those with an apprenticeship without a high school diploma and with primary education.

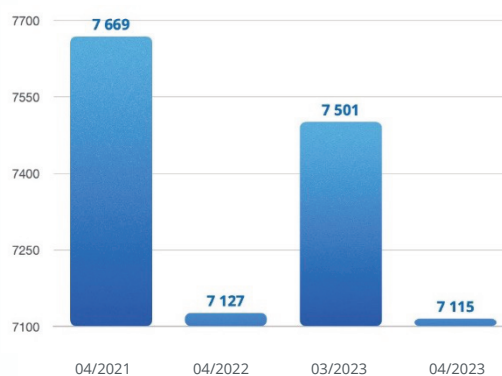


Changes in the structure of the unemployed **by education level** show that the highest year-on-year increase in growth occurred in the case of registered jobseekers with primary education (by 7231) and jobseekers with university (by 5162).

Structure of jobseekers



Number of graduates



In May, the share of unemployed persons in the under-29 age group and in the 30-49 age group increased slightly year-on-year. On the contrary, it fell by 1.5 percentage points in the 50+ category.

In absolute terms, however, this is an increase of 3157 persons.

As of 31. 5. 2023, the Labour Office of the Czech Republic a total of **94,375 applicants over 50 years of age and accounted for 37.2%** of the total number of unemployed.

In terms of **distribution by occupation**, at the end of May the largest number of auxiliary and unskilled workers were registered with the Labour Office of the Czech Republic: **79,083**.

Average wages in Q1 2023



CZK 41,265

was the average gross monthly nominal wage

CZK 34,741

was the median wage

In Q1 2023

the average gross monthly nominal wages per headcount in the national economy rose by **8.6%** compared with the same period of the previous year, but fell by **6.7% in real terms**.

Decline in real wages continued in Q1 2023

Although the average gross monthly nominal wage per headcount increased by 8.6% to CZK 41,265 compared with the same period last year, **after taking into account the effect of inflation, it fell by 6.7%**. Consumer prices had risen by 16.4% in Q1.

In Q1 2023

the average gross monthly nominal wage per the number of employees in the national economy totaled CZK 41,265, which is CZK 3,265 (8.6%) higher than in the same period of 2022.

Consumer prices

increased by **16.4%** over the period, so real wages fell by **6.7%**.

Wage volume

increased by **9.8%**, the number of employees increased by **1.1%**.

Compared to the previous quarter,

the average wage growth in Q1 2023, seasonally adjusted, was **2.2%**.

The highest average wage growth

compared to the same period in 2022 was recorded in the **production and distribution of electricity, gas, heat and air conditioning (23.1%)** sector. The lowest growth of 3.9% occurred in education.

Median wages

increased by **8.9%** compared to the same period of the previous year, reaching CZK 37,696 for men and CZK 31,856 for women. **80%** of the employees received a salary between **CZK 18 601–65,512**.

Unemployment in Slovakia



Unemployment fell for the fourth consecutive month in May. The PDU indicator fell below 4 percent for the first time

The decline in unemployment continued in May. The headline PDU indicator decreased from **April's 4.08** percent to **May's 3.90** percent. The decline continues despite an increase in the number of this year's university graduates in the jobseeker register. The reduction in unemployment is partly due to changes in activation work.

The share of available jobseekers of working age in the working-age population (WAP) has been the main unemployment indicator used by the Department of Labour, Social Affairs and Family since January this year. PDU reached **3.90 percent** in May, down **0.18** percentage points month-on-month and decreased by **76 hundredths of a percentage point year-on-year**. Since the beginning of this year, it has fallen by **0.54** percentage points. In May, the PDU settled at its lowest level since the department began tracking the indicator in January 2021.

A secondary indicator, the registered unemployment rate (RER), suggests that the labour market situation has returned to its pre-crisis state. The RER reached **5.10 percent in May, up from 5.05 percent in February**.

Despite the decline in overall unemployment, the number of job seekers under the age of **29** rose slightly in May. The reason was the traditional influx of this year's college graduates into the employment offices. In May, the Center of Labour, Social Affairs and Family registered the largest number of this year's graduates from the University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra (224), the University of Prešov (176) and the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra (166). Most jobseekers were trained in Non-Medical Health Sciences, Economic Sciences, and Medical Sciences. "Graduates can confidently turn to job centers. They can also find information about job vacancies on the website sluzbyzamjobosti.gov.sk, which is probably the most extensive database of its kind in Slovakia. Jobseekers can activate an agent that automatically searches for job offers in line with their ideas and skills. If a graduate needs advice on which position to choose, the experts at the offices can help him or her to find out what his or her personal prerequisites, abilities and competences are," briefly outlined the forms of support by Karol Zimmer, Director General of the Labour, Social Affairs and Family Office.



Unemployment in regions



Territory	Status of jobseekers at the end of the month	Economically active population	Number of jobseekers available	Unemployment rates calculated from the total of jobseekers available	Rate of recorded unemployment (in %)
Bratislava Region	11,868	396,286	11,178	2.99	2.82
Trnava Region	10,939	296,744	9,730	3.69	3.28
Trenčín Region	11,292	293,794	9,768	3.84	3.32
Nitra Region	14,894	348,496	12,476	4.27	3.58
Žilina Region	16,757	361,176	14,542	4.64	4.03
Banská Bystrica Region	29,399	318,035	22,775	9.24	7.16
Prešov Region	42,101	396,196	34,099	10.63	8.61
Košice Region	34,474	381,404	27,741	9.04	7.27
SLOVAKIA	171,724	2,792,131	142,309	6.15	5.10

Unemployment statistics – May 2023

PDU (Proportion of available jobseekers of working age to working age population): 3.90%
(4.08% in April 2023; 4.66% in May 2022).

Jobseekers in the Košice Region:	5,29%	(5,49% in April 2023)
Jobseekers in the Prešov:	6,31%	(6,61% in April 2023)
Jobseekers in the Banská:	5,52%	(6,25% in April 2023)
Jobseekers in Žilina Region:	3,11%	(3,20% in April 2023)
Jobseekers in Trenčín Region:	2,57%	(2,59% in April 2023)
Jobseekers in the Nitra Region:	2,75%	(2,77% in April 2023)
Jobseekers in Trnava Region:	2,53%	(2,57% in April 2023)
Jobseekers in the Bratislava:	2,28%	(2,31% in April 2023)

RER (Registered Unemployment Rate): 5.10% (5.34% in April 2023).

Number of available jobseekers of working age: 142,277 (148,957 people in April 2023).

Number of jobseekers aged under 29: 38,304 (38,129 in April 2023).

Total number of registered jobseekers: 171,724 (173,862 in April 2023; 188,886 in May 2022).

12,220 jobseekers were placed in the labour market (12,505 in April 2023).

Number of vacancies: 77,309 (75,618 in April 2023). The highest number of vacancies was in the Bratislava Region with 30,263 places, the lowest number of vacancies was in the Prešov Region with 2,495.

Number of vacancies suitable for graduates: 39,029.

Number of collective redundancies reported during May 2023: 6 (319 jobs at risk).



In March, the most pronounced increase average gross wage rate in the restaurant and hospitality sector

Average nominal monthly wages slowed their annual growth rate in all 10 sectors of the economy in March 2023.



As last month, wages rose the most in the lowest-earning sectors, **in restaurants and catering by 18% to €700, in construction by 15% to €1,000 and in accommodation by 15% to €1,038.**



Wages grew the slowest in the sector with the longest-standing highest earnings, namely **information and communication, by almost 6% to €2,617.**



High inflation distorted nominal earnings during March, so real wages were lower year-on-year in 7 of the 10 sectors surveyed. The biggest falls were in information and communication by 7.8%, transport and storage by 5.7% and industry by 5.1%.

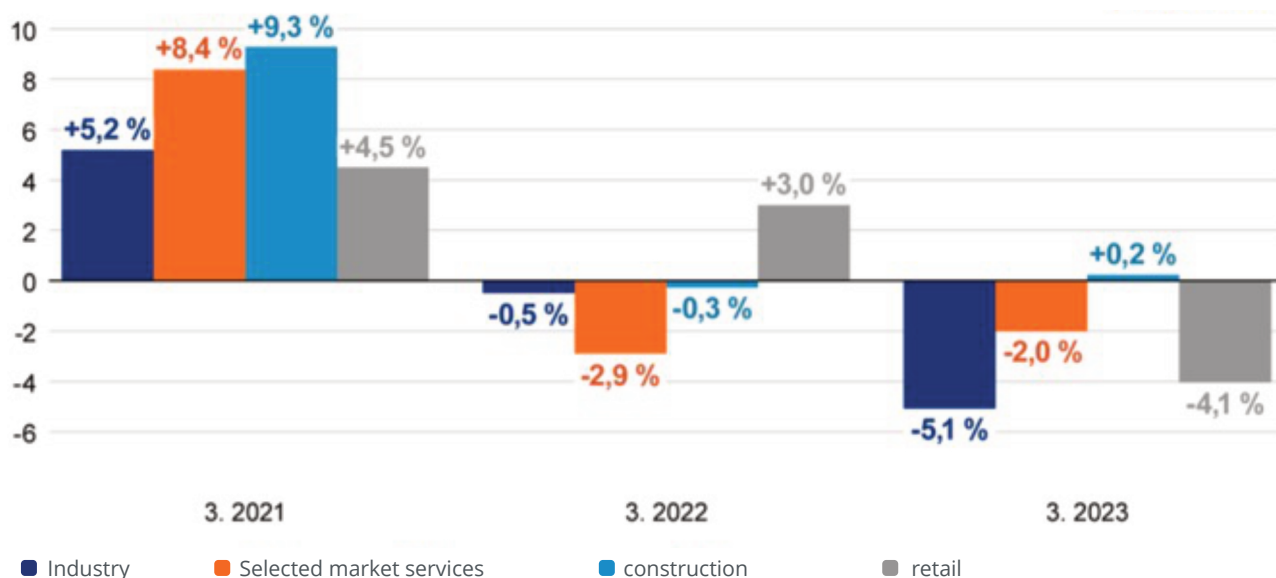


Real wages increased by 2.8% in restaurants and catering activities and very slightly by 0.2% in accommodation and construction.

Average Monthly Salary in sectors*



Year-on-year change in %



* Sectors with highest employment share
Source: Statistical Office SR

For the whole of Q1 2023, nominal monthly wages grew in all sectors surveyed, with most sectors growing at double-digit rates.

The largest increase was in accommodation, up one-fifth, and the smallest was in information and communication, **up 7.4%**.

Real wages have only increased by 5% since the beginning of the year in accommodation and 1.5% in restaurants and catering activities. In the other 8 sectors they fell from 0.3% in construction to 6.7% in information and communication.

The unemployment rate in May was 5.1%.

The registered unemployment rate at the end of May 2023 was estimated by the Ministry of Family and Social Policy at 5.1%. This is 0.1 pp lower than in April and 0.3 pp lower than at the end of May 2022.

Lower unemployment rate than last year

- The **lowest unemployment rate** in Poland was recorded in the Greater Poland Voivodeship (3%) and the **highest** (8.6%) in the Warmińsko-Mazurskie and Podkarpackie Voivodeships.
- In May this year, **803,600** jobs were registered at the labour offices. Compared to the previous month, the number of unemployed **decreased by 18,300 people, or 2.2%**.
- There were **46,600 people** on the unemployment register at the end of May 2023, i.e. 5.5% fewer unemployed than at the end of May 2022.
- Employers have reported **92,900 jobs, vacancies and professional activation positions to the labour offices**. This is about 11,700 more than in April 2023.
- According to Eurostat, Poland has the lowest unemployment rate in the European Union. The unemployment rate in Poland and the Czech Republic was 2.7% in April this year, compared to 6% in the EU and 6.5% in the euro area.

'Once again, we are witnessing the effectiveness of the tools put in place by our government. The measures we have adopted effectively protect the Polish labour market and support Polish entrepreneurship. The latest figures confirm what a hard-working and ambitious nation we are. This is a huge, historic achievement that demonstrates the strength of the Polish economy.'

Marlena Maląg

Minister of Family and Social Policy

Voivodeship	Unemployment rate in %
POLAND	5.1
Dolnośląskie	4.5
Kujawsko-Pomorskie	7.2
Lubelskie	7.7
Lubuskie	4.3
Łódzkie	5.5
Małopolskie	4.5
Mazowieckie	4.1
Opolskie	6.2
Podkarpackie	8.6
Podlaskie	7.1
Pomorskie	4.6
Śląskie	3.7
Świętokrzyskie	7.8
Warmińsko-Mazurskie	8.6
Wielkopolskie	3.0
Zachodniopomorskie	6.6

The unemployment rate in May was 5.5%.

During the ongoing spring recovery, unemployment in May 2023 fell from the previous month to **2,544,000**. At 42,000, the decline in May was weaker than usual. After seasonal adjustment, the number of unemployed increased by 9000. Compared to May last year, the number of unemployed is 284,000 higher. **The unemployment rate** declined by 0.2 percentage points to **5.5% in May 2023**.

Summer recovery remains weak

- **Underemployment**, which includes changes in labour market policy and short-term disability in addition to unemployment, was **3,419,000** people in May this year. That was 405,000 more than a year ago.
- Actual data on the actual use of **part-time positions** is available until March 2023. According to preliminary extrapolated data from the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, 133,000 workers received short-term work benefits this month, up from 140,000 in February.
- **The seasonally adjusted employment** subject to social security contributions increased by 13,000 from February to March 2023. Compared to a year earlier, BA projects that March employment rose by 319,000 to 34.65 million.

'Despite the weak economy, the labor market is generally stable. Employment growth continues but is losing momentum. Unemployment and underemployment fell, but less than usual in May.'

Daniel Terzenbach

Regional Director of the Federal Employment Agency (BA)

Unemployment rate reached 3.8% in May.

The number of unemployed in May 2023 was **186,000**, the unemployment rate was **3.8%**.

- Over the period March to May 2023, the number of unemployed aged 15-74 increased by 27,000 to **191,000**, with the unemployment rate rising by 0.5 p.p. to **3.9%**. The number of unemployed men was 104,000, their unemployment rate increased by 0.4 p.p. to 4.0 %. Among women, 88,000 were unemployed and their unemployment rate increased by 0.7 p.p. to 3.8 %.
- The number of unemployed people aged **15-24 years was 36,000** and their unemployment rate was **12.0%**. This age group accounted for 18.7 % of all unemployed. The unemployment rate in the 25-54 age group increased by 0.5 percentage point to 3.5 % and in the 55-74 age group it remained unchanged at 3.1%.
- The average job search time was **9.7 months**, 36.3 % of the unemployed had been looking for work for at least a year.

Unemployment by age group among people aged 15-74, March-May 2023

Age group, years	Number of people		Unemployment rate	
	thousand people	change, thousand people a)	%	change, thousand people a)
15-24	35.7	6.8	12.0	2.2
25-54	127.4	18.5	3.5	0.5
55-74	28.3	1.5	3.1	0.0
Total	191.5	26.8	3.9	0.5

a) Compared to the same period last year.

At the end of May 2023 compared to the previous year

According to the administrative data of the National Employment Service, the number of registered jobseekers decreased by 2.1% to 229,000 people.

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