

Press Release

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MAY 2011 PRELIMINARY TREND DATA OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FROM THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, PRELIMINARY TREND DATA, MAY 2011 - 5.7%

According to **preliminary trend data for May 2011**, the unemployment rate reached 5.7% of the total civilian labour force. The data were provided by the Central Bureau of Statistics, based on monthly trend data calculations from the Labour Force Survey.

Table A. – Percentage of unemployed persons, out of the total civilian labour force – monthly trend data

Month	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	6.4	7.0	7.1	6.1
February	6.3	7.3	6.9	6.0
March	6.2	7.5	6.8	5.9
April	6.0	7.7	6.6	5.8
May	6.0	7.7	6.5	5.7
June	5.9	7.7	6.5	
July	5.9	7.7	6.5	
August	5.9	7.6	6.5	
September	6.0	7.5	6.5	
October	6.2	7.5	6.5	
November	6.4	7.4	6.4	
December	6.7	7.2	6.3	

Unemployed persons are those who did not work at all during the determinant week (even for one hour), and who actively sought work during the four weeks preceding their enumeration in the survey, by registering with the Labour Exchanges of the Employment Service, by personal or written application to employers, or by other ways, and would have been available to start work in the determinant week had suitable work been offered.

Written by Mark Feldman, Director of Labour Sector

For explanations and clarifications, please contact the Press Relations Unit, at 02-6527845

Unemployment trend data were calculated after adjustments for seasonal effects and irregular factors. **It should be noted that, trend data are calculated anew every month, by using the most updated data. Therefore, this trend is characterized by a high irregularity, which is expressed by a monthly fluctuation, and difficulty in trend estimation and analysis.**

The monthly estimates are based on a third of the quarterly sample, and therefore sampling errors are higher than sampling errors of quarterly estimates. As a result, the last three trend estimates may vary considerably.