

Media Release

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[A previous media release on this subject appeared on May 4, 2023](#)

Jerusalem
May 22, 2023
161/2023

Labour Force Survey Data, April 2023

We would like to sincerely thank the thousands of households who responded to this survey and to our dedicated interviewers who ensured the highest quality data collection.

In Chapter A, will be presented seasonally adjusted data for April 2023.

In Chapter B, will be presented data for April 2023 (original series).

Some of the data have already been presented in the media release of [May 15, 2023](#).

In Chapter C, will be presented additional details of definitions and explanations ([Definitions and Explanations](#)).

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For explanations and clarifications, please contact the Statistics Information Center,
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Chapter A - Seasonally adjusted data for April 2023

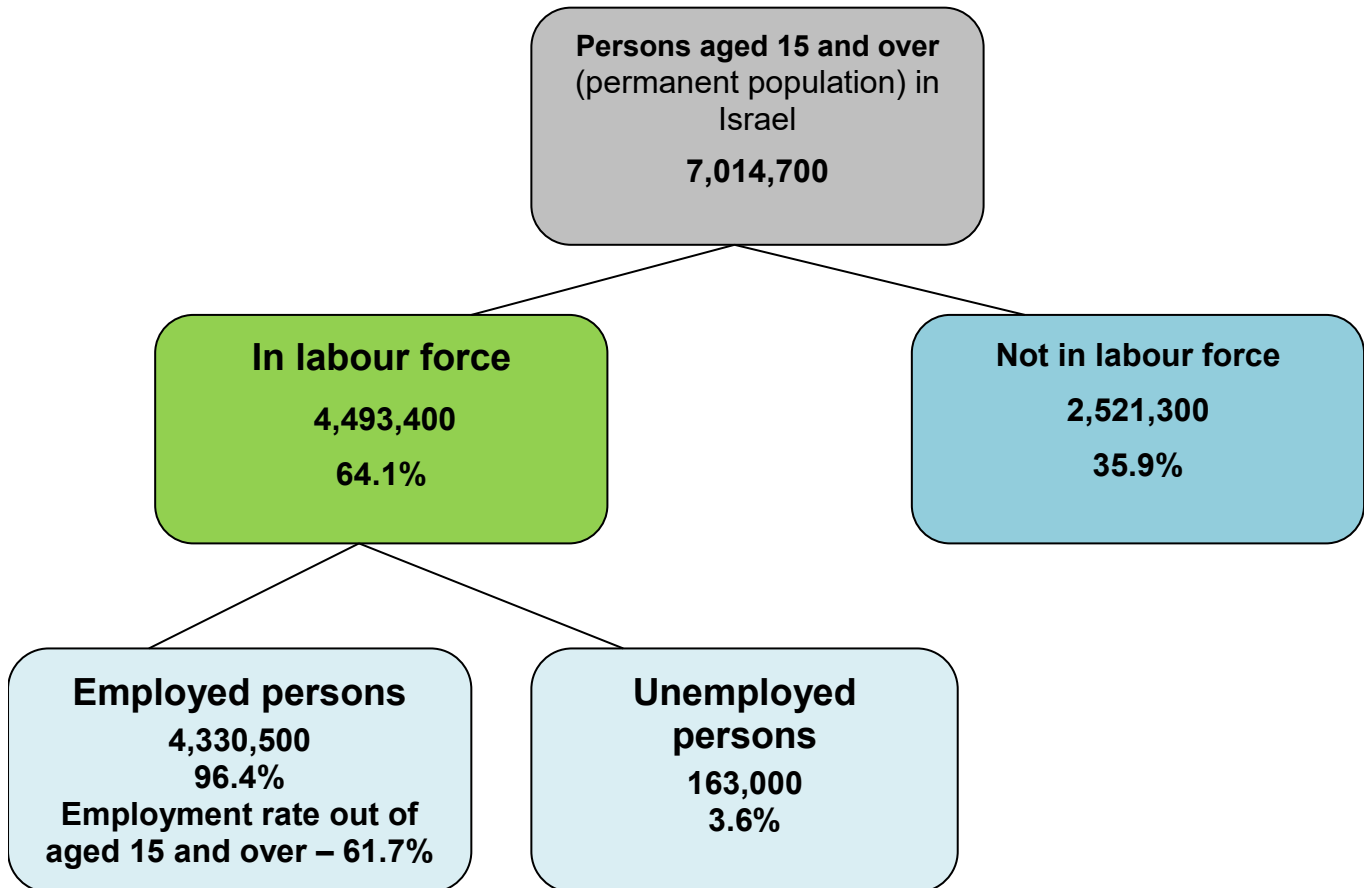
Seasonally Adjusted Data

In April 2023 (compared with March 2023, among persons aged 15 and over): ([For monthly data 04/2023](#))

- Participation rate in the labour force – 64.1% (same as in the previous month).
- Employment rate (the percentage of employed persons out of the total population) - 61.7% (same as in the previous month).
- Unemployment rate from the labour force – 3.6% (3.8% in the previous month).
- Participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 25-64 – 81.5% (81.9% in the previous month).
- Employment rate among persons aged 25-64 – 78.9% (79.2% in the previous month).
- Unemployment rate among persons aged 25-64 from the labour force – 3.1% (3.2% in the previous month).
- The share of employed persons usually working full time out of total employed persons – 76.4% (76.7 in the previous month).

Labour Force Characteristics in April 2023 (compared with March 2023) - Seasonally Adjusted Data

Persons aged 15 and over



In April 2023, **the number of persons in the labour force** aged 15 and over was 4.493 million. Among them, 4.330 million were **employed** and 163,000 were **unemployed**. Among the employed persons, 2.233 million were **men** (same as in the previous month) and 2.098 million were **women** (2.087 million in the previous month).

The participation rate among persons aged 15 and over **in the labour force** declined to 64.1% (same as in the previous month). Among **men** (see diagram 3), declined to 67.5% (67.7% in previous month) and among **women** it reached 60.7% (same as in the previous month).

The **unemployment rate** among persons aged 15 and over **from the labour force** declined to 3.6% in this month (3.8% in the previous month, see diagram 1). The unemployment rate of **men** (see diagram 2) declined to 3.8% (3.9% in the previous month) and that of **women** declined to 3.4% (3.6% in the previous month).

The **employment rate** (calculated as the percentage of employed persons out of the entire population) among persons aged 15 and over reached 61.7% in April 2023 (same as in the previous month). The employment rate among **men** (see diagram 4) declined to 64.9% (65.1% in the previous month) and that of **women** rose to 58.6% (58.5% in the previous month).

DIAGRAM 1. PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN LABOUR FORCE

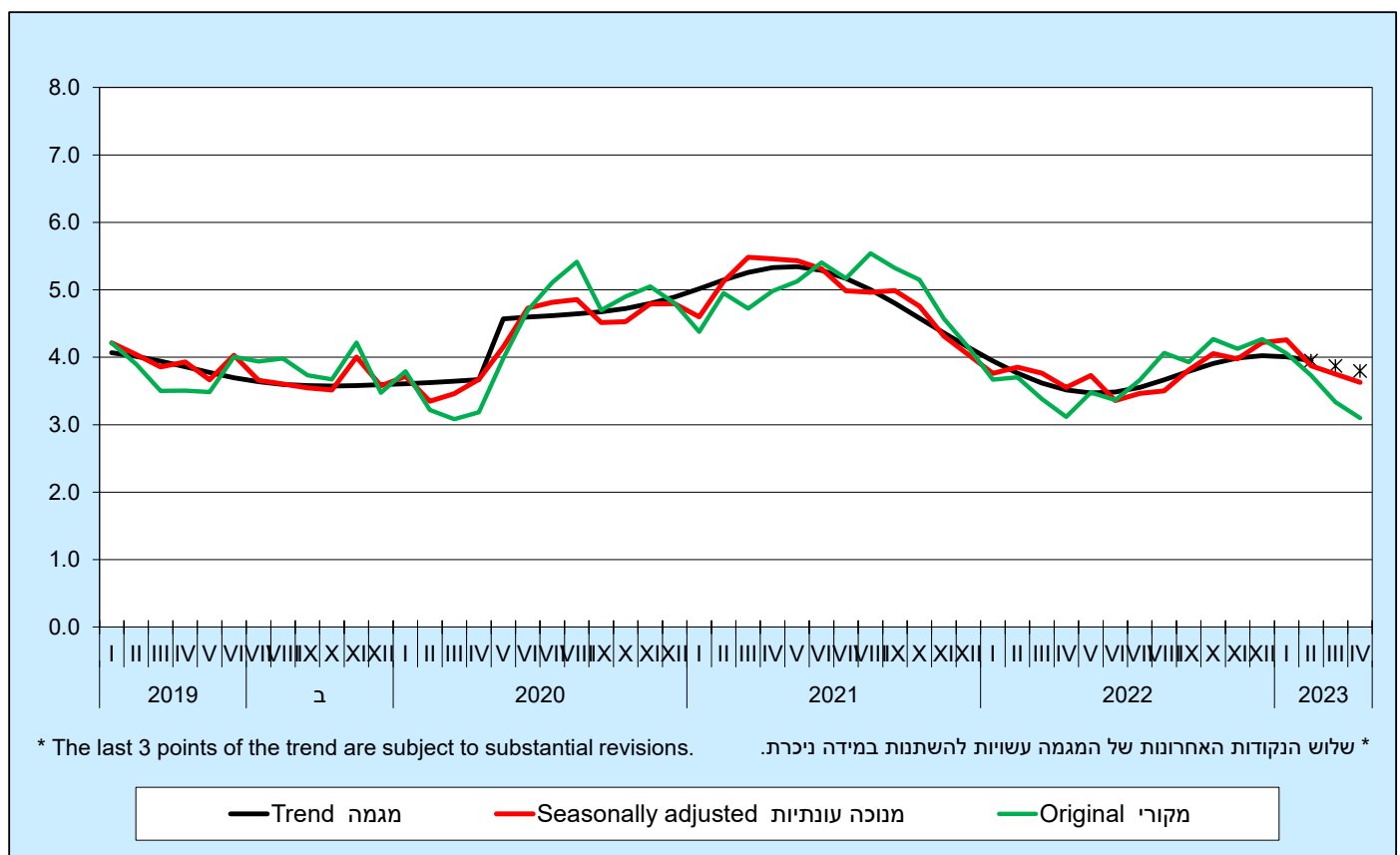


DIAGRAM 2. PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN LABOUR FORCE, BY SEX (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)

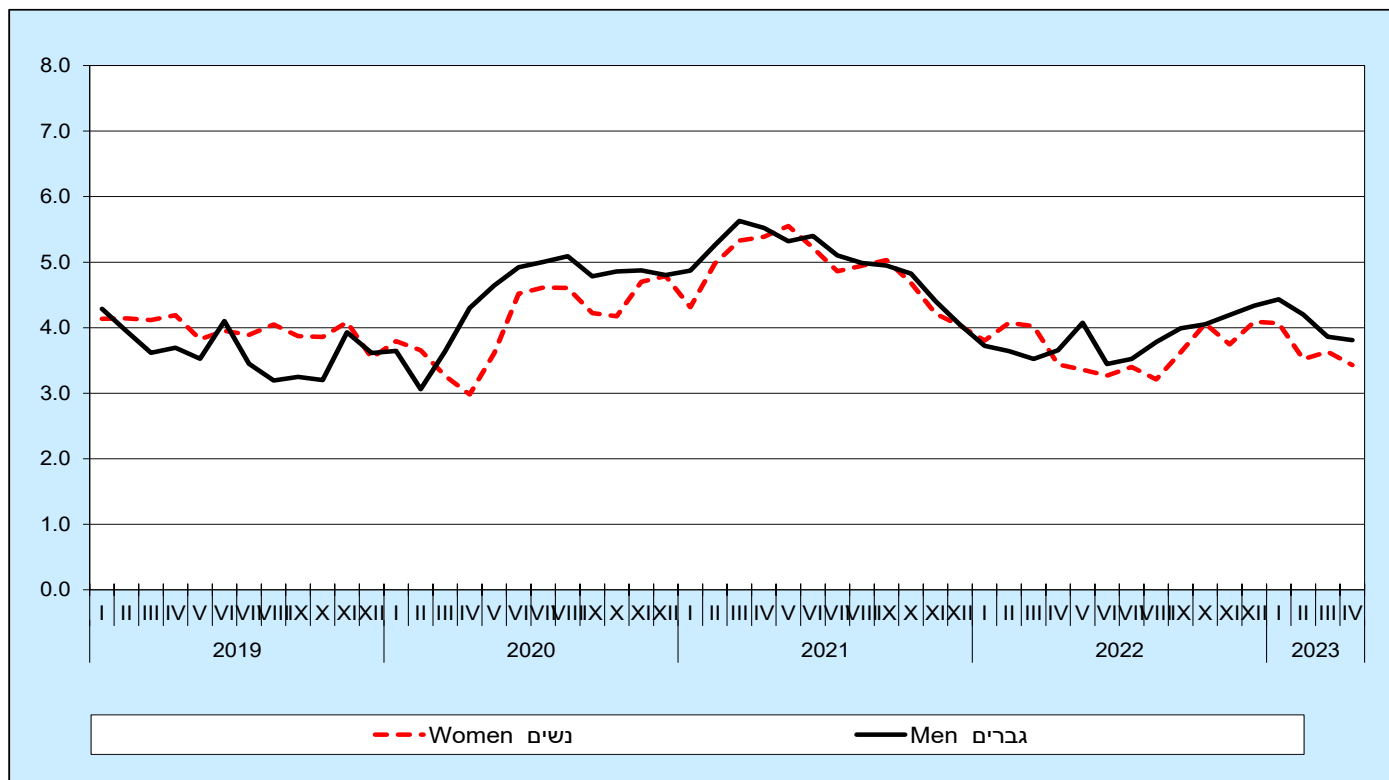


DIAGRAM 3. PERCENTAGE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LABOUR FORCE, BY SEX (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)

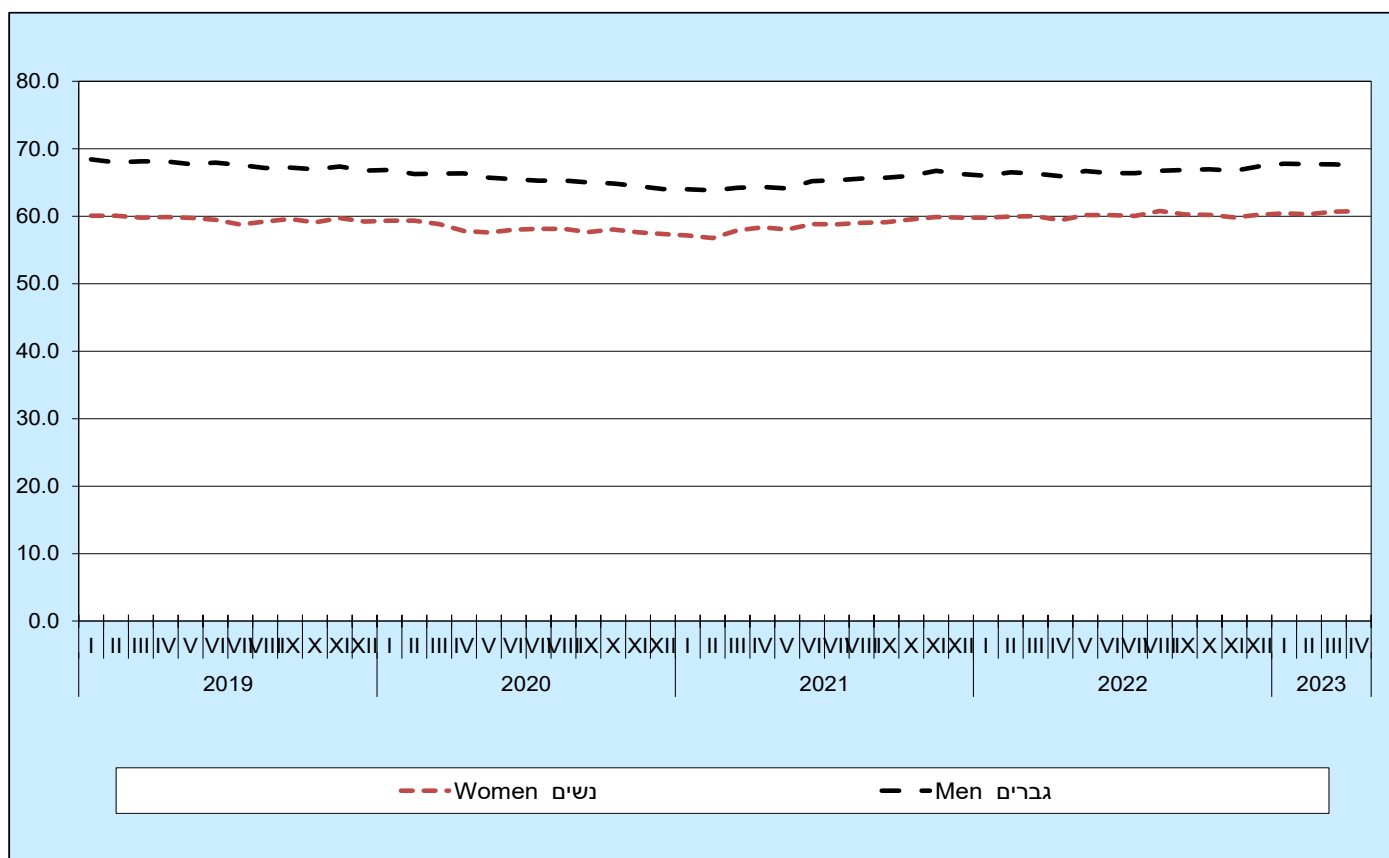


DIAGRAM 4. EMPLOYMENT RATES OF PERSONS AGED 15 AND OVER AND AGED 25-64, BY SEX (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)

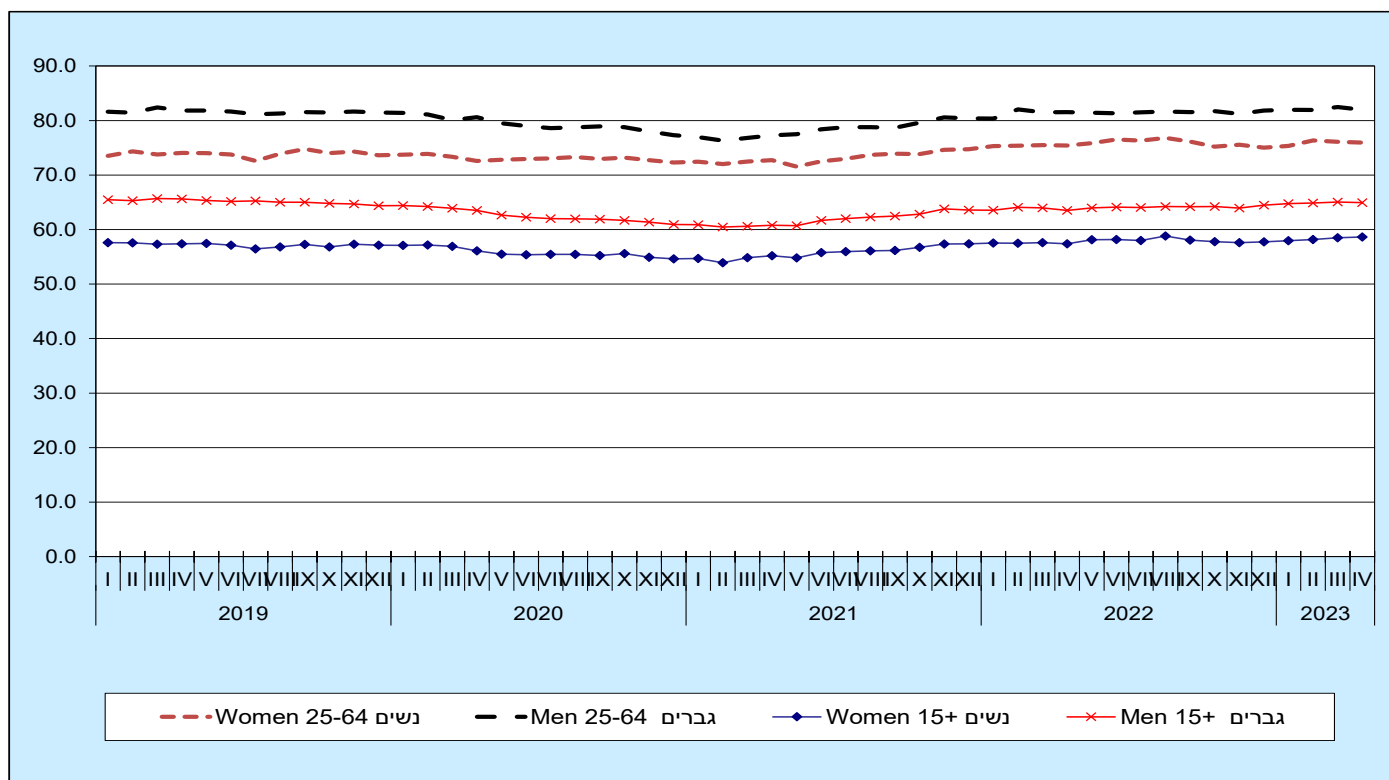


TABLE 1. EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY EXTENT OF WORK IN THE DETERMINANT WEEK (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)

Thousands	March 2023	April 2023	Difference	Percentage of change	Direction of change compared to the previous month
Employed persons - Total	4,320.1	4,330.5	10.3	0.2	↑
Worked full time	2,757.1	2,642.1	-115.0	-4.2	↓
Worked part time	1,270.8	1,370.5	99.7	7.8	↑
Temporarily absent from work (all week)	270.3	289.9	19.7	7.3	↑
Temporarily absent from work part of week	508.0	566.2	58.2	11.5	↑

In April 2023, there was a decrease in the number of employed persons who **worked full time** (35 hours and over per week) in the **determinant week** and an increase in the number of employed persons who **worked part-time** (less than 35 hours) in the **determinant week**, compared with the previous month.

The number of employed persons who were **temporarily absent from work** (all week) has increased, compared with the previous month.

The average weekly number of work hours per employed person rose to 34.9 hours in April 2023 (34.8 in previous month). **The average weekly number of work hours per employee** declined to 33.6 hours (35.0 in the previous month).

The number of employed persons who **usually worked full time** (35 hours and over per week) decreased by a small percentage compared with the previous month. The number of employed persons who **usually worked part time** (less than 35 hours per week) increased by 1.4% compared with the previous month.

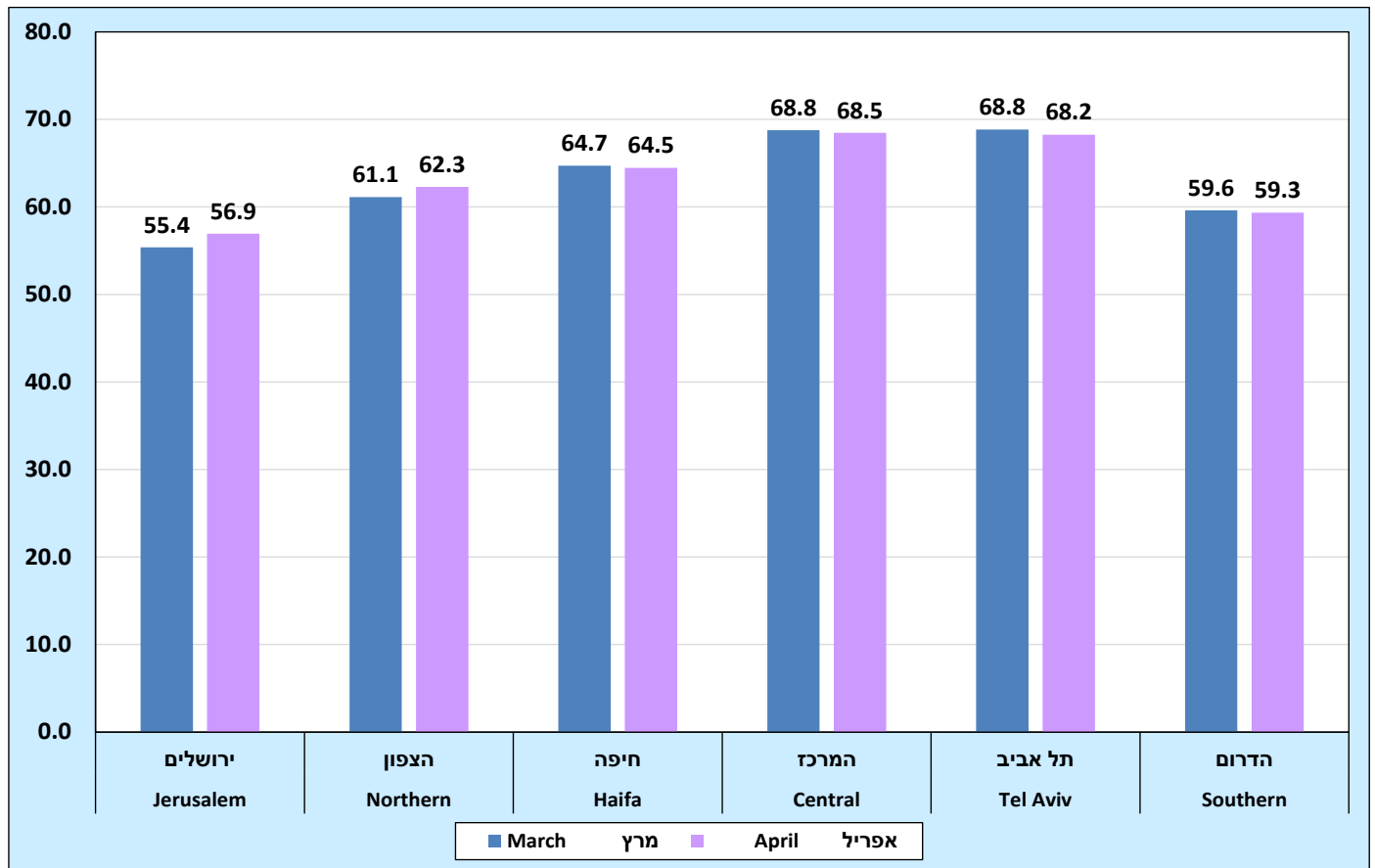
The share of employed persons **usually working full time** out of total employed persons – declined to 76.4% (76.7% in the previous month).

The share of those **usually worked full time** of all employed persons among **men** declined to 84.9% (85.0% in the previous month), and among **women** it declined to 67.4% (67.8% in the previous month). (Detailed figures can be found in Tables 1.24-1.26 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

Labour Force Characteristics by District of Residence

(Detailed figures can be found in Tables 1.11-1.16 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

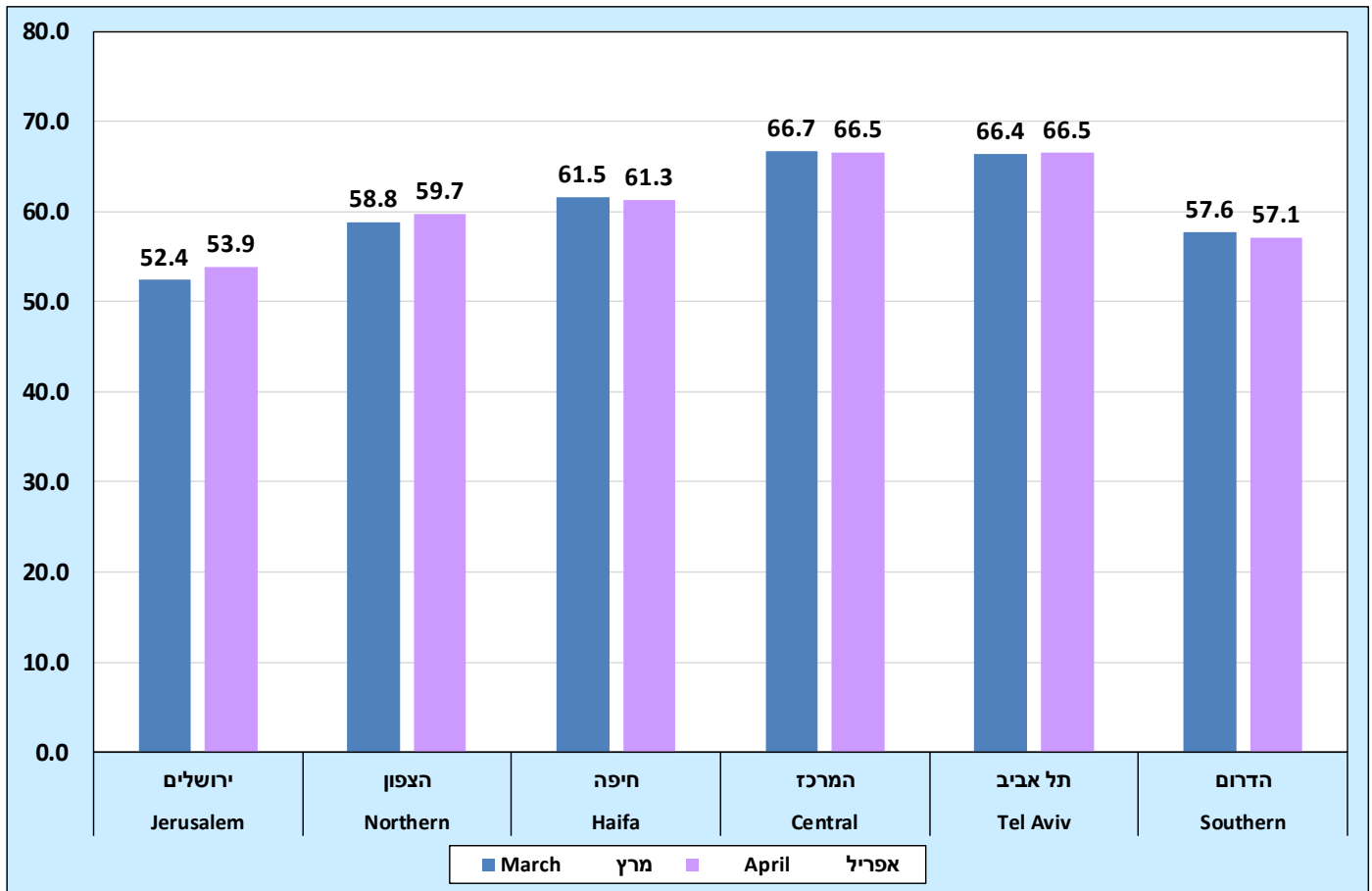
DIAGRAM 5. PERCENTAGE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LABOUR FORCE BY DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



In April 2023, the highest **participation rate in the labor force** among those aged 15 and over was in **Central district** - 68.5% (68.8% in the previous month)

The lowest participation rate was in **Jerusalem district** – 56.9% (55.4% in the previous month).

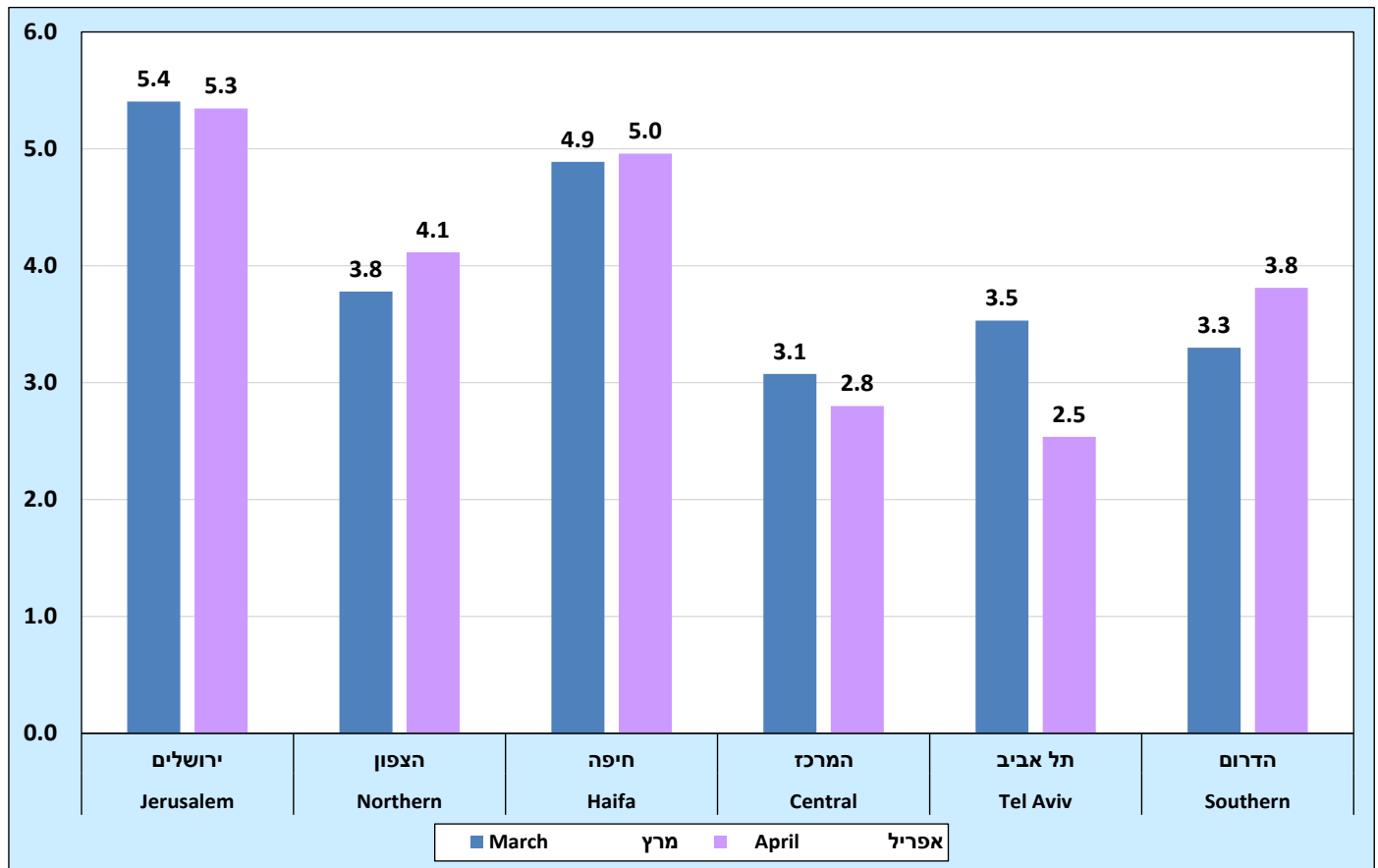
DIAGRAM 6. EMPLOYMENT RATE BY DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



In April 2023, the highest **employment rate** among those aged 15 and over was in **Central district** and in the **Tel Aviv district** - 66.5% in each district (in the previous month: 66.7%, 66.4% respectively).

The lowest **employment rate** was in **Jerusalem District** 53.9% (52.4% in the previous month).

DIAGRAM 7. PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN LABOUR FORCE, BY DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



In April 2023, the highest **unemployment rate** among those aged 15 and over was in **Jerusalem district** – 5.3% (5.4% in the previous month).

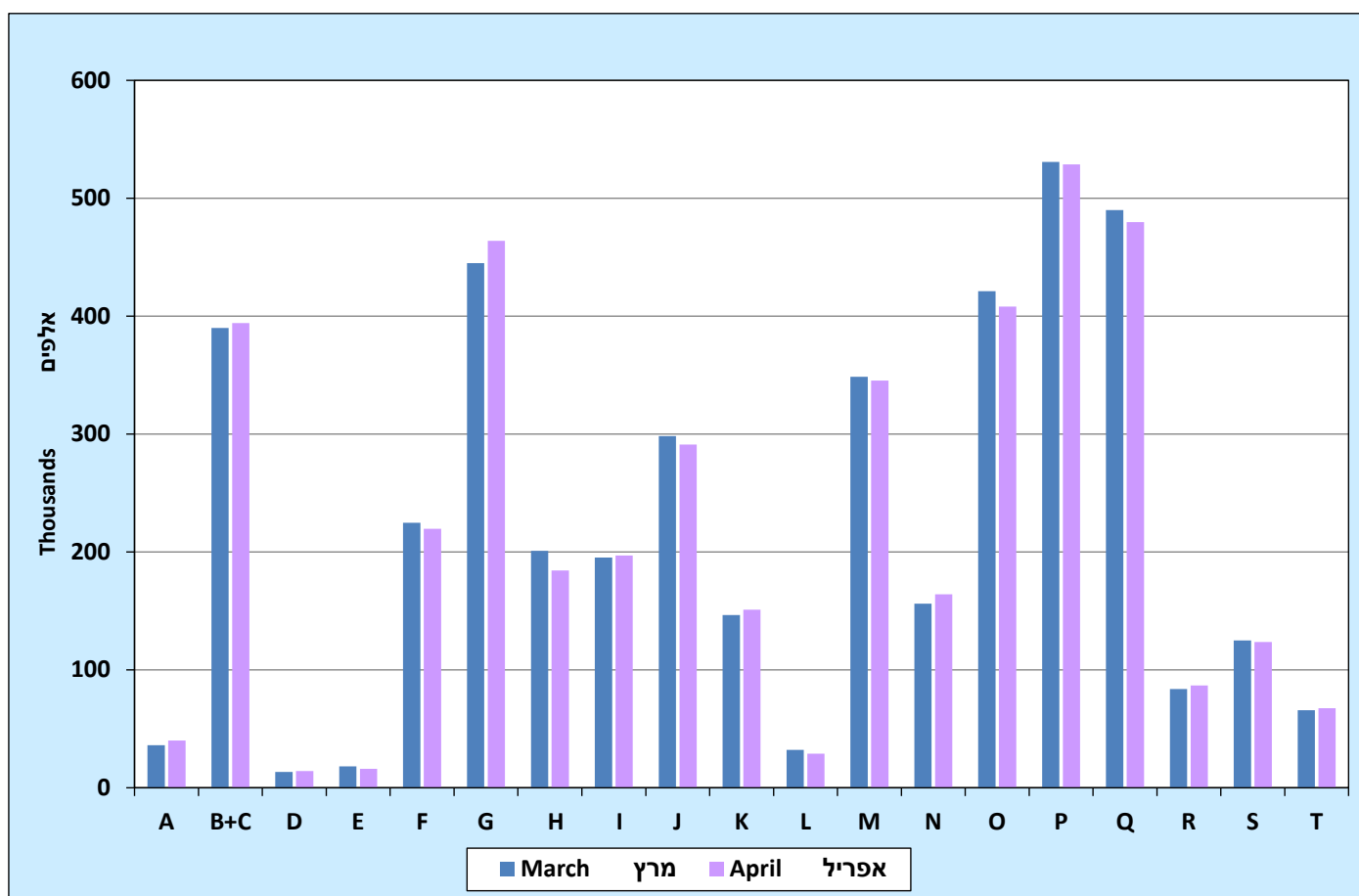
The lowest unemployment rate was in **Tel Aviv district** – 2.5% (3.5% in the previous month).

Employed Persons by Industry ([By the new classification of All Economic Activities \(Updated edition\), Technical Publication no. 80](#))

(Detailed figures can be found in Tables 2.1.2 and 2.5.2 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

In April 2023 the number of **employed persons** increased approximately by 10,000 compared with the previous month and reached 4.330 million. The number of **employees** in April 2023 rose to 3.775 million (3.757 million in the previous month).

DIAGRAM 8. EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY INDUSTRY (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



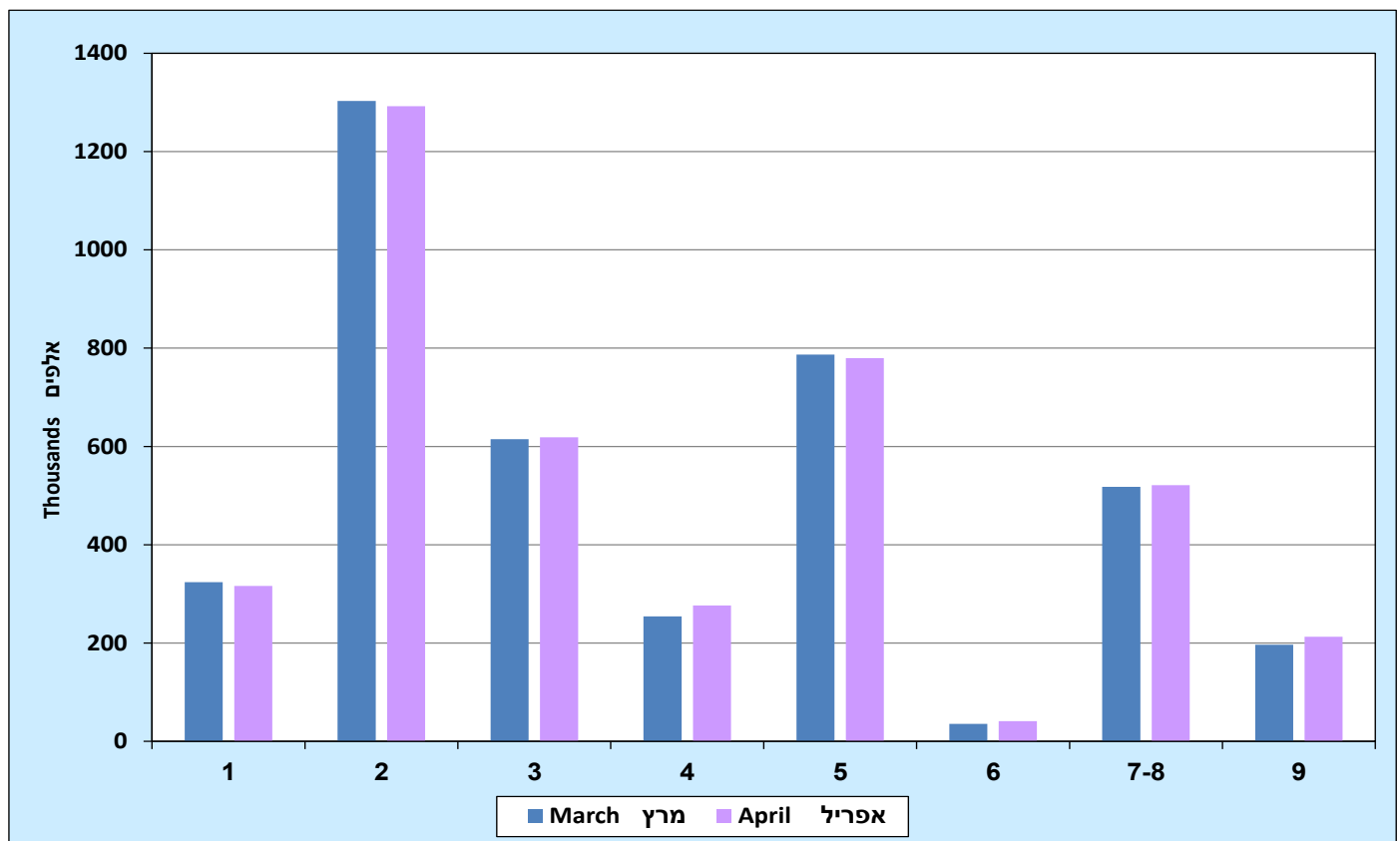
Code	Industry
A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing
B-C	Manufacturing; Mining and quarrying
D	Electricity supply
E	Water supply, sewerage and waste management
F	Construction
G	Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles
H	Transportation, storage, postal and courier activities
I	Accommodation and food service activities
J	Information and communications
K	Financial and insurance activities
L	Real estate activities
M	Professional, scientific and technical activities
N	Administrative and support service activities
O	Local, public and defence administration and social security
P	Education
Q	Human health and social work activities
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation
S	Other service activities
T	Households as employers

Among employed persons, the **greatest increase** was in industry: **Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles** (approximately 19,000 employed persons).

The **greatest decrease** was in industry: **Transportation, storage, postal and courier activities** (approximately 17,000 employed persons).

Employed Persons by Occupation ([By the new classification of Occupations, Technical Publication no. 81](#)) (Detailed figures can be found in Tables 2.10.2 and 2.14.2 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

DIAGRAM 9. EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY OCCUPATION (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



Code	Occupation
1	Managers
2	Professionals
3	Practical engineers, technicians, agents, and associate professionals
4	Clerical support workers
5	Service and sales workers
6	Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers

Code	Occupation
7-8	Skilled workers in manufacturing and construction, and other skilled workers
9	Elementary occupations

Among **employed persons**, the greatest **increases** were in following occupations: **Clerical support workers** (22,000 employed persons) and **Elementary occupations** (approximately 16,000 employed persons).

The greatest **decrease** was among **Professionals** (approximately 11,000 employed persons).

Employees in the high-tech - The number of employees in the **high-tech sector** rose in April 2023 approximately to 454,000 (approximately 453,000 in the previous month). The share of employees in the high-tech of all employees reached in April 2023 12.0% (same as in the previous month). (Detailed figures can be found in Tables 2.18 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

Persons aged 25-64

(Detailed figures can be found in Tables 1.20-1.22 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website)

Among persons aged 25-64 **the participation rate in the labour force** declined to 81.5% in April 2023 (81.9% in the previous month). Among **men** the rate declined to 84.7% (85.2% in the previous month) and among **women** the rate declined to 78.3% (78.6% in the previous month).

Among persons aged 25-64 **the unemployment rate from the labour force** declined to 3.1% (3.2% in the previous month). Among **men** the unemployment rate reached 3.2% (same as in the previous month), and among **women** the unemployment rate declined to 3.0% (3.3% in the previous month).

The employment rate among persons aged 25-64 declined to 78.9% (79.2% in the previous month). Among **men** the employment rate declined to 82.0% (82.5% in the previous month) and among **women** the employment rate declined to 76.0% (76.1% in the previous month).

Chapter B - Original data for April 2023

Original Data

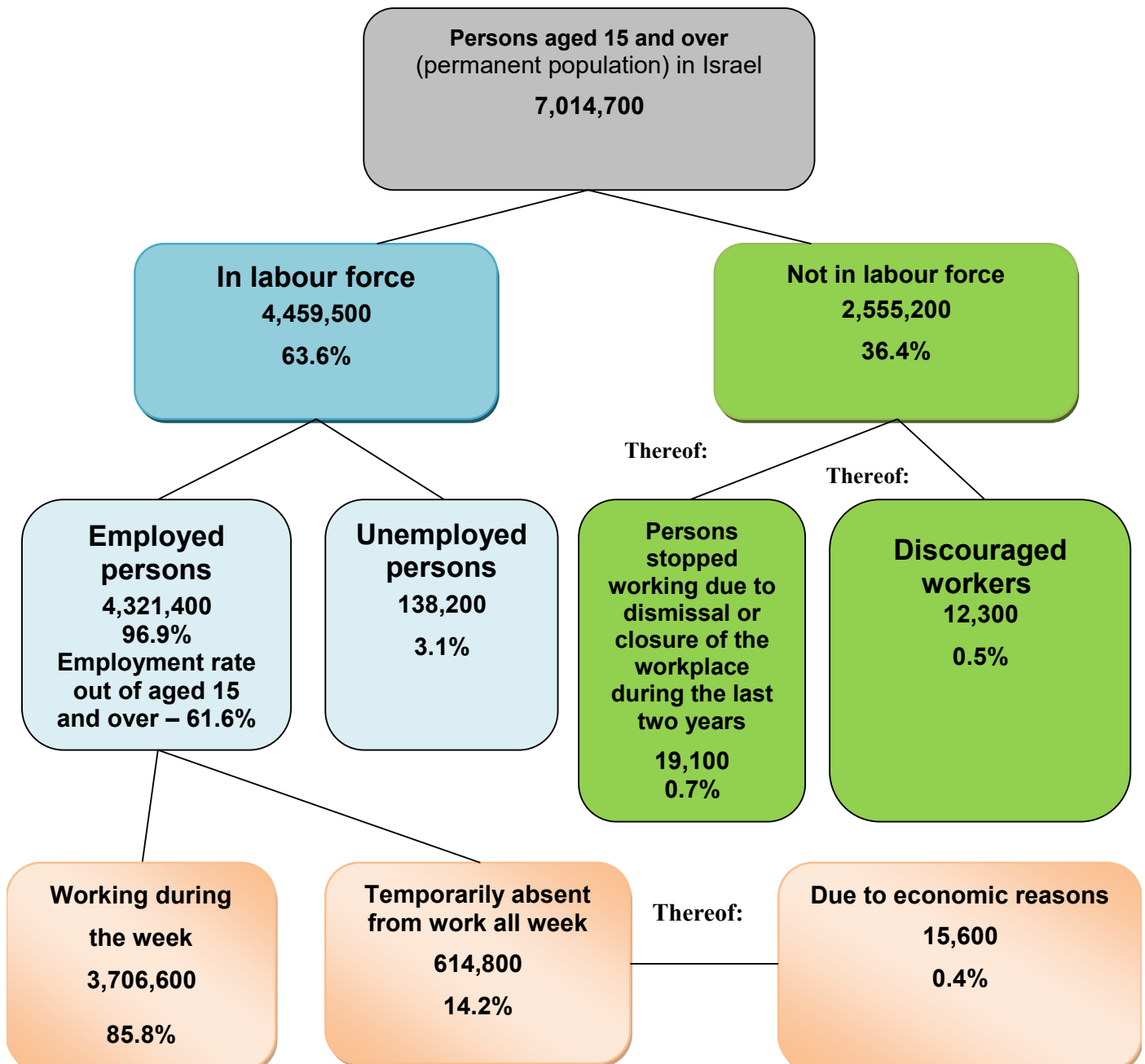
In April 2023 (compared with March 2023, among persons aged 15 and over): ([For monthly data 04/2023](#))

- Participation rate in the labour force – 63.6% (64.0% in the previous month).
- Employment rate (the percentage of employed persons out of the total population) – 61.6% (61.9% in the previous month).
- Unemployment rate – 3.1% (3.3% in the previous month).
- Employment rate excluding persons temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons – 61.4% (61.7% in the previous month).
- A file on [Tracking Government Employment Targets](#) can be seen on the CBS website. (Hebrew only)

Number and percentage in labour force	March 2023	April 2023
Unemployed persons	149,400 3.3%	138,200 3.1%
Employed persons temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons + unemployed persons	160,900 3.6%	153,800 3.4%
Persons not in the labour force who stopped working due to dismissal or closure of the workplace during the last two years + employed persons temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons + unemployed persons	178,400 4.0%	172,800 3.9%
Discouraged workers + persons not in the labour force who stopped working due to dismissal or closure of the workplace during the last two years + employed persons temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons + unemployed persons	187,200 4.2%	182,500 4.1%

Labour Force Characteristics in April 2023 (compared with March 2023)- Original Data¹

Persons aged 15 and over



¹ Among Discouraged workers, there are 2.7 thousand people who stopped working due to dismissal during the last two years

TABLE 2. EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY EXTENT OF WORK IN THE DETERMINANT WEEK (ORIGINAL DATA)

Thousands	March 2023	April 2023	Difference	Percentage of change	Direction of change compared to the previous month
Employed persons - Total	4,332.2	4321.4	-10.8	-0.3	↓
Working during the week	4,155.9	3706.6	-449.3	-10.8	↓
Worked full time	3,031.2	2026.7	-1004.5	-33.1	↓
Worked part time	1,124.7	1679.9	555.2	49.4	↑
Temporarily absent from work (all week)	176.3	614.8	438.5	248.7	↑
Thereof: due to economic reasons	11.4	15.6	4.2	36.5	↑
Temporarily absent from work (all or part of week)	553.7	2067.0	1513.3	273.3	↑
Thereof: due to economic reasons	29.6	21.2	-8.4	-28.4	↓
Temporarily absent from work part of week	377.4	1452.2	1074.9	284.8	↑
Thereof: due to economic reasons	18.2	5.6	-12.6	-69.2	↓

In April 2023, there was a decrease in the number of employed persons who **worked full-time** (35 hours or more) in the **determinant week** and there was an increase in the number of employed persons who **worked part-time** (less than 35 hours) in the **determinant week**, compared with the previous month.

The number of employed persons who were **temporarily absent from work** (all week) and the number of those who were **absent from work due to economic reasons** have increased, compared with the previous month. (Detailed data can be found in Tables 1.4-1.6 and 1.30-1.32 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

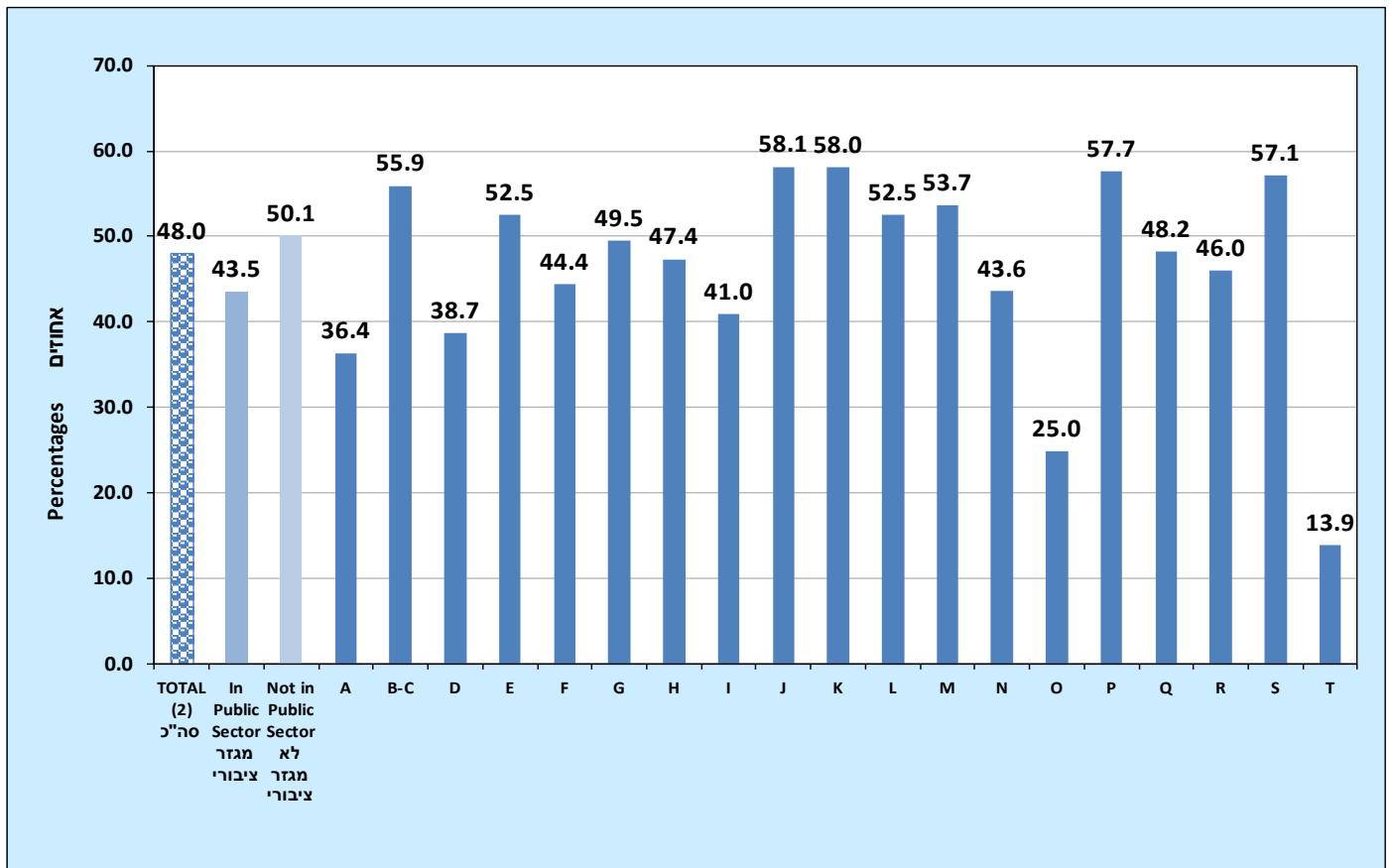
The number of **employed persons excluding temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons** decreased by 0.3% compared with the previous month (a decrease approximately of 15,000 employed). The **employment rate excluding temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons** of total persons aged 15 and over declined to 61.4% in April 2023 (61.7% in the previous month).

The **unemployment rate** in April 2023 declined to 3.1% (3.3% in the previous month). The number of persons **not in the labour force who stopped working due to dismissal or closure of the workplace during the last two years** reached approximately 19,000 in April 2023 (compared with approximately 18,000 persons in the previous month, who stopped working due to dismissal or closure of the workplace since March 2020). The number of **discouraged workers** in April 2023 rose approximately to 12,000 (approximately 11,000 in the previous month).

Employed persons temporarily absent from work all or part of week by industry and occupation, Original data ([By the new classification of All Economic Activities \(Updated edition\), Technical Publication no. 80](#)) ([By the new Classification of Occupations, Technical Publication no. 81](#))

Table 1 attached to this media release presents the data for employed persons and employees temporarily absent from work all of the week or part of it by industry and occupation in April 2022 and March and April 2023. The data on employed persons and employees working from home can be found in table 7 attached to this media release.

**DIAGRAM 10. EMPLOYED PERSONS TEMPORARILY ABSENT FROM WORK ALL THE WEEK OR PART OF THE WEEK OF TOTAL EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY INDUSTRY (1)
(ORIGINAL DATA)**



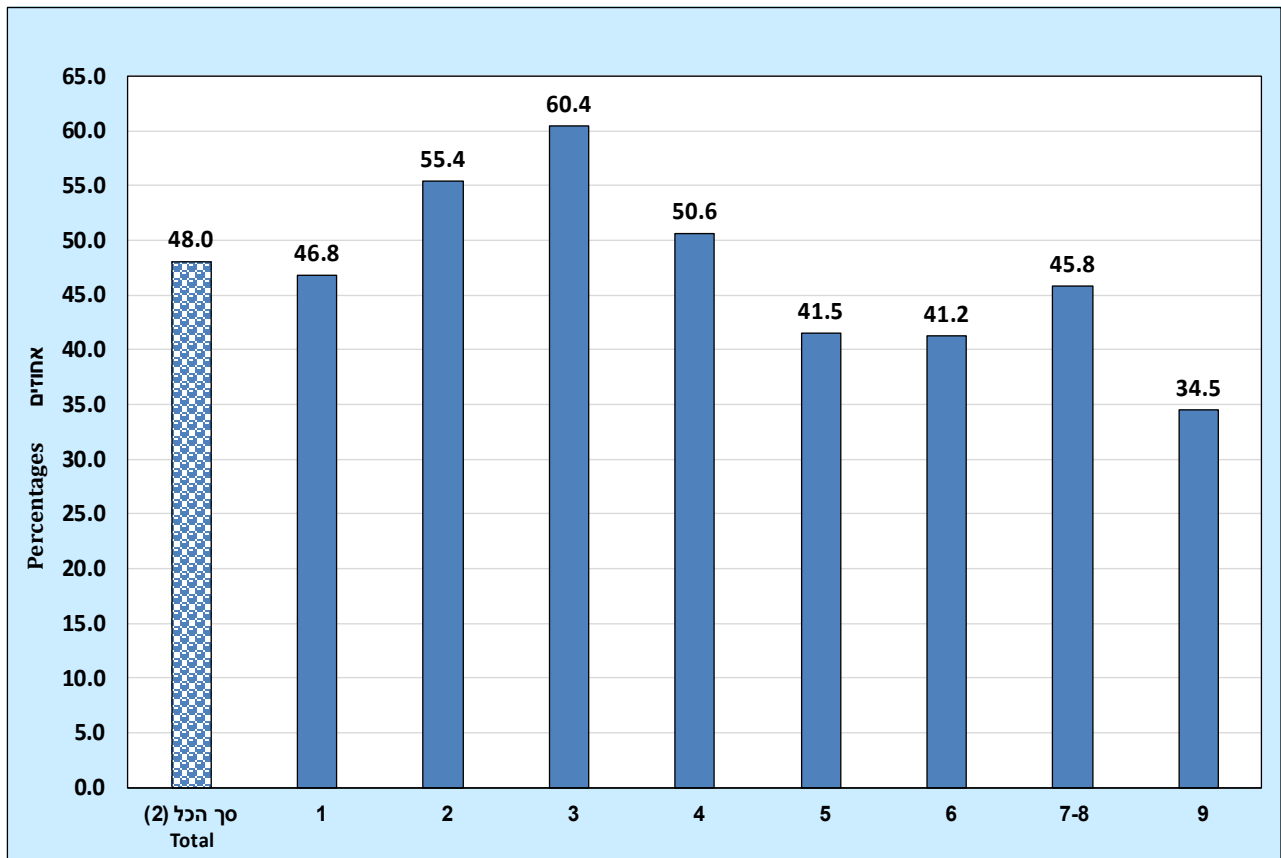
- (1) Excl. persons living outside localities (Bedouins in the South) or in institutions (permanent samples).
 (2) Incl. employed persons in the industry "Extra-Territorial Organizations and Bodies" (Category U), and employed persons whose industry is not known.

Code	Industry
A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing
B-C	Manufacturing; Mining and quarrying
D	Electricity supply
E	Water supply, sewerage and waste management
F	Construction
G	Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles
H	Transportation, storage, postal and courier activities
I	Accommodation and food service activities
J	Information and communications
K	Financial and insurance activities
L	Real estate activities
M	Professional, scientific and technical activities
N	Administrative and support service activities
O	Local, public and defence; administration and social security
P	Education
Q	Human health and social work activities
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation
S	Other service activities
T	Households as employers

The share of employed persons **temporarily absent from work all the week or part of the week** rose to 48.0% in April 2023 (12.8% in the previous month). This share is low among **employed persons in the public sector** (by industry definition) compared to **employed persons not in the public sector** (by industry definition) 43.5% and 50.1% respectively, (in the previous month: 14.6%, 12.3% respectively).

The greatest share of employed persons who were **temporarily absent from work all or part of the week**, out of all employed persons was in following industry: **Information and communications** (58.1%), **Financial and insurance activities** (58.0%), **Education** (57.7%) and **Other service activities** (57.1%).

DIAGRAM 11. EMPLOYED PERSONS TEMPORARILY ABSENT FROM WORK ALL THE WEEK OR PART OF THE WEEK OF TOTAL EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY OCCUPATION (1) (ORIGINAL DATA)



- (1) Excl. persons living outside localities (Bedouins in the South) or in institutions (permanent samples).
 (2) Incl. employed persons whose occupation is not known.

Code	Occupation
1	Managers
2	Professionals
3	Practical engineers, technicians, agents, and associate professionals
4	Clerical support workers
5	Service and sales workers
6	Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers
7-8	Skilled workers in manufacturing and construction, and other skilled workers
9	Elementary occupations

The greatest share of employed persons who were **temporarily absent from work all or part of the week**, out of all employed persons were in the following occupation: **Practical engineers, technicians, agents, and associate professionals** (60.4%) and **Professionals** (55.4%).

The greatest share of employed persons **working from home** out of all employed persons was in following industries: **Information and communications** (49.6%), **Professional, scientific and technical activities** (35.3%) and **Real estate activities** (33.2%).

The greatest share of employed persons **working from home** out of all employed persons was in following occupations: **Professionals** (30.1%), **Managers** (20.1%) and **Practical engineers, technicians, agents, and associate professionals** (16.4%).

Persons absent from work and unemployed persons by Age groups and Sex - original data

Table 2 attached to this media release presents the data for employed persons temporarily absent from work during all of the week or part of it by age groups and sex in April 2022 and March and April 2023. Table 6 presents unemployment rate by age and sex.

The greatest **unemployment rate** in labour force was in the following age groups: **aged 15-17** – 9.5%.

The greatest share of employed persons **temporarily absent from work all or part of week** out of all employed persons was among persons in following age groups: **aged 60-64** - 54.4%.

Employees working part time involuntarily - original data

As of 2018, the definition of employees working part time involuntarily² was changed following the transition to a new and expanded questionnaire. The number of **employees working part time involuntarily** rose approximately to 40,000 in April 2023 (36,000 in the previous month), and their share out of all employed persons rose to 0.9% (0.8% in the previous month).

(Detailed figures can be found in Table 2.9 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

Employees in the high-tech sector - original data

The number of employees in the **high-tech sector** rose approximately to 474,000 in April 2023 (approximately 470,000 in the previous month). The share of employees in the high-tech

² Until 2017: those usually working less than 35 hours per week (including employees, owners of LTD companies), because they sought but did not find full-time or additional work.

As of 2018: those usually working less than 35 hours per week (not including employees, owners of LTD companies), who are interested in working more than 35 hours and actively sought to work more hours in the last four weeks.

sector of all employees reached 12.5% in April 2023 (same as in the previous month). (Detailed figures can be found in Table 2.18 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

Chapter C - Definitions and Methodological Explanations

The Labour Force Survey is the main source of information regarding the labour force in Israel, and is conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics on an ongoing basis. The survey follows the development of the labour force in Israel, its size and characteristics, the extent of unemployment, etc.

Starting from the beginning of 2023, an average of approximately 17,300 persons aged 15 and over a month has been interviewed on an ongoing basis. In April 2023, approximately 15,400 persons aged 15 and over have been interviewed. The response rate in April 2023 declined to 60.8% (65.9% in the previous month).

The survey population includes the permanent population of Israel, as well as tourists and temporary residents living in Israel continuously for more than one year.

Detailed definitions of labour force characteristics can be found on the internet site, topic "[Labour Market](#)".

The definitions of groups relevant to this Media Release are as follows:

1. **Unemployed persons:** Persons aged 15 and over who did not work at all during the determinant week (even for one hour) and do not have work from which they were absent the entire determinant week, who actively sought work during the four weeks preceding the interview and were available to work during the determinant week.
2. **Employed persons temporarily absent from work due to economic reasons:** Employed persons aged 15 and over who were temporarily absent from work all week due to reduced workload or work stoppage.
3. **Non-participants in the labour force who stopped working due to dismissal or closure of the workplace during the last two years:** Persons aged 15 and over who did not work in the determinant week, and do not have work from which they were absent the entire determinant week and did not actively seek work during the four weeks preceding the interview and were dismissed from their work during the last two years.

4. **Discouraged workers:** All persons aged 15 and over who were not included in the weekly labour force but were interested in working, and could have started working during the determinant week had they been offered suitable work (“available to work”) and sought work during the 12 months preceding the survey but not over the last four weeks preceding the survey for the following reasons: they believed there are no appropriate jobs for them in their field or in their area of residence in terms of wages, work hours, or interesting work; lack of appropriate experience or training; language difficulties or inappropriate age (too young or too old).

The percentage of the labour force of the three groups together (1-3) or 4 groups together (1-4)³ is calculated from the labour force with the addition of the third or fourth group respectively to the labour force.

5. **Employed persons excluding temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons:** Employed persons aged 15 and over excluding those who were temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons (see definition in paragraph 2 above).
6. **Employment rate excluding temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons:** Calculated as percent of employed persons excluding temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons of total persons aged 15 and over.
7. **Public sector by industry definition** includes following industries: Manufacture of other transport equipment (30); Electricity supply (35); Water supply (36); Sewerage (37); Postal activities (5310); Local administration (83); Public administration and defence; and social security (84); Pre-primary education institutions (kindergartens) (850); Primary education institutions (851); Secondary education institutions (lower and upper secondary education) (852); Tertiary-Type B (non-academic) education institutions (853); Academic colleges and extensions of foreign institutions of higher education (854); Universities (855); Hospital activities (861); Public clinics (8620); Health offices, family and community health centers, and disease prevention centers (8623); Libraries, archives and museums activities (91); Community centers (culture, youth and sports centres) (944); Extraterritorial organizations and bodies (99).

³People who are both in Discouraged workers group and among those who stopped working due to dismissal during the last two years - are counted only once.

8. **High technology sector:** The definition of high technology sector is based on the "[Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities 2011, Technical Publication 80, The Central Bureau of Statistics](#)", as well as on the definitions of OECD and Eurostat (See additional information in publication: "[Development of High-Tech Sector in Israel, 1995-2014](#)"). **Manufacturing in the High-Tech Sector:** Manufacture of pharmaceutical products and homeopathic pharmaceutical preparations (21), Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products (26), Manufacture of air and spacecraft and related machinery (303). **Knowledge-Intensive Services in the High-Tech Sector:** Telecommunications (61), Computer programming, consultancy and related activities (62), Data processing, hosting and related activities; web portals (631), Research and development centers (720), Research and development in engineering and natural sciences (721).

A detailed methodology of the survey can be found on the internet site, topic "[Labour Market](#)".

Finally, there are other bodies that publish data related to labour market statistics (not in the framework of the Labour Force Survey). Detailed definitions for jobseekers in the Employment Service⁴ and claimants for unemployment benefits from the National Insurance Institute⁵ can be seen in the Introduction to Chapter 9 "[The Labour Market](#)" in the [Statistical Abstract of Israel](#). The differences between the data of the various bodies and the data of the CBS are mainly due to significant differences in definitions. The definitions in these bodies are operative for the fulfillment of their functions, while the CBS data are based on definitions of official statistics, in accordance with the function of the CBS. In light of this and to remove all doubt, talks are currently being held between all the bodies regarding the various data, so there will be full coordination and transparency in the data.

* Additional data on this subject are published in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" and in the file on "[Tracking Government Employment Targets](#)" (Hebrew only) on the [Central Bureau of Statistics website](#).

⁴ [On the Employment Service website \(Hebrew only\)](#).

⁵ [On the National Insurance Institute website](#).