

Media Release

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[A previous media release on this subject appeared on August 21, 2023](#)

Jerusalem
September 28, 2023
319/2023

Labour Force Survey Data, August 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 August 2023.

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

Some of the data have already been presented in the media release of [September 19, 2023](#).

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

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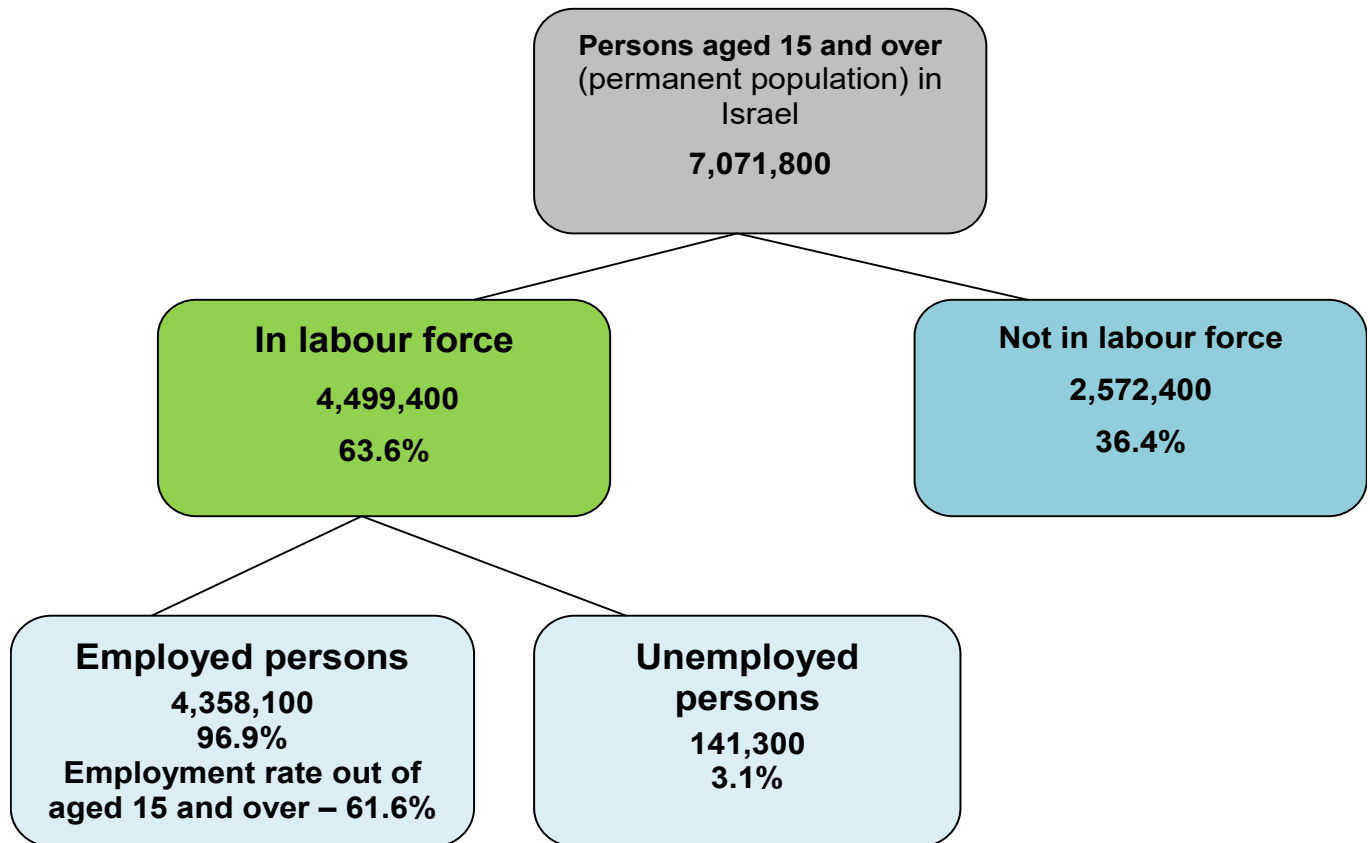
Chapter A - Seasonally adjusted data for August 2023

Seasonally Adjusted Data

In August 2023 (compared with July 2023, among persons aged 15 and over): ([For monthly data 08/2023](#))

- Participation rate in the labour force – 63.6% (same as in the previous month).
- Employment rate (the percentage of employed persons out of the total population) - 61.6% (61.5% in the previous month).
- Unemployment rate from the labour force – 3.1% (3.4% in the previous month).
- Participation rate in the labour force among persons aged 25-64 – 81.6% (81.7% in the previous month).
- Employment rate among persons aged 25-64 – 79.4% (79.3% in the previous month).
- Unemployment rate among persons aged 25-64 from the labour force – 2.7% (3.0% in the previous month).
- The share of employed persons usually working full time out of total employed persons – 77.4% (77.5% in the previous month).

**Labour Force Characteristics in August 2023 (compared with July 2023) -
Seasonally Adjusted Data
Persons aged 15 and over**



In August 2023, the number of persons in the labour force aged 15 and over was 4.499 million. Among them, 4.358 million were **employed** and approximately 141,000 were **unemployed**. Among the employed persons, 2.244 million were **men** (2.228 million in the previous month) and 2.114 million were **women** (2.111 million in the previous month).

The participation rate among persons aged 15 and over **in the labour force reached 63.6%** (same as in the previous month). Among **men** (see diagram 3), it declined 66.8% (66.9% in the previous month) and among **women** it reached 60.5% (same as in the previous month).

The unemployment rate among persons aged 15 and over **from the labour force** declined to 3.1% in this month (3.4% in the previous month, see diagram 1). The unemployment rate of **men** (see diagram 2) declined to 3.2% (3.4% in the previous month) and that of **women** declined to 3.1% (3.3% 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 rose to 61.6% in August 2023 (61.5% in the previous month). The employment rate among **men** (see diagram 4) rose to 64.7% (64.6% 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

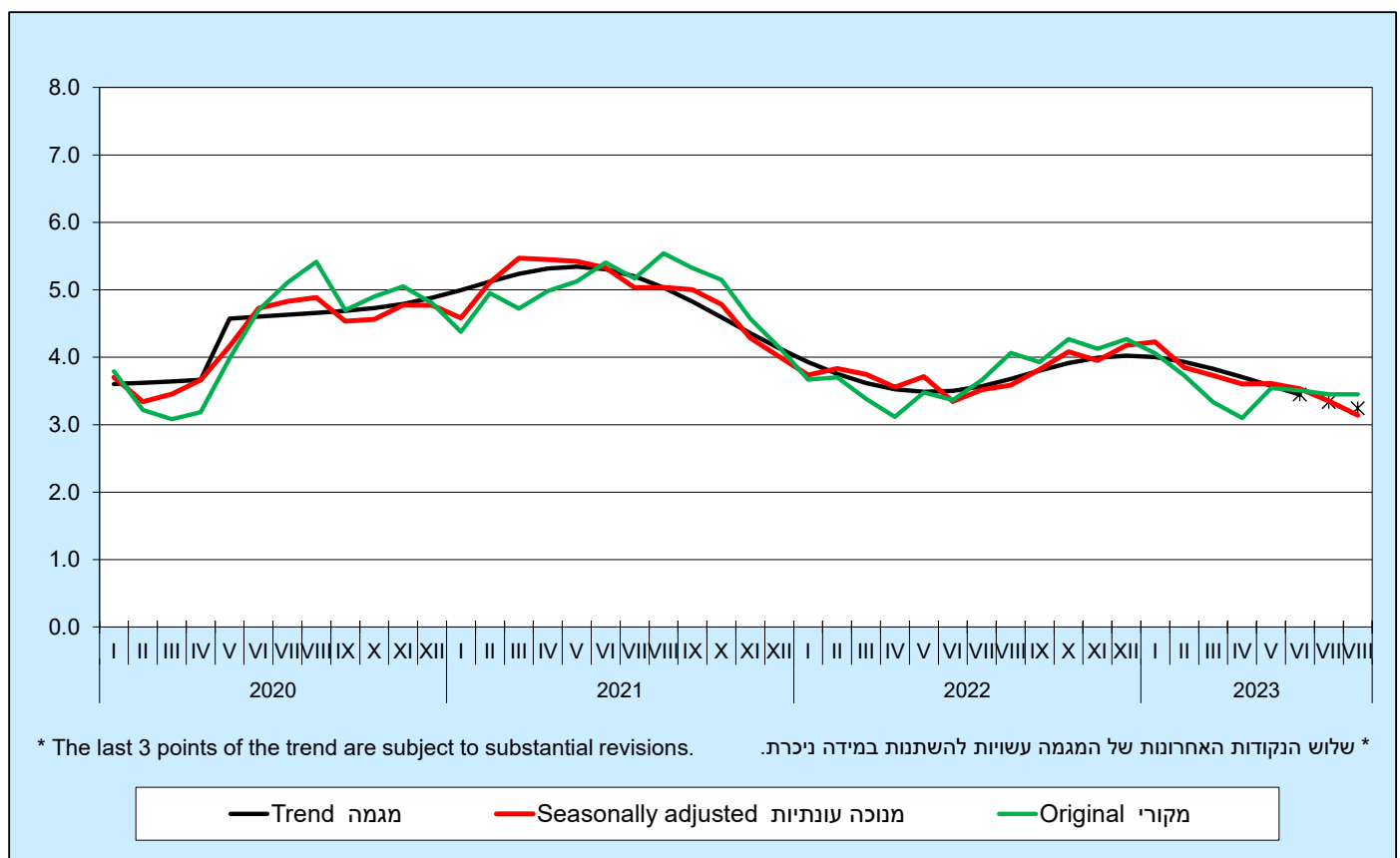


DIAGRAM 2. PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN LABOUR FORCE, BY SEX (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)

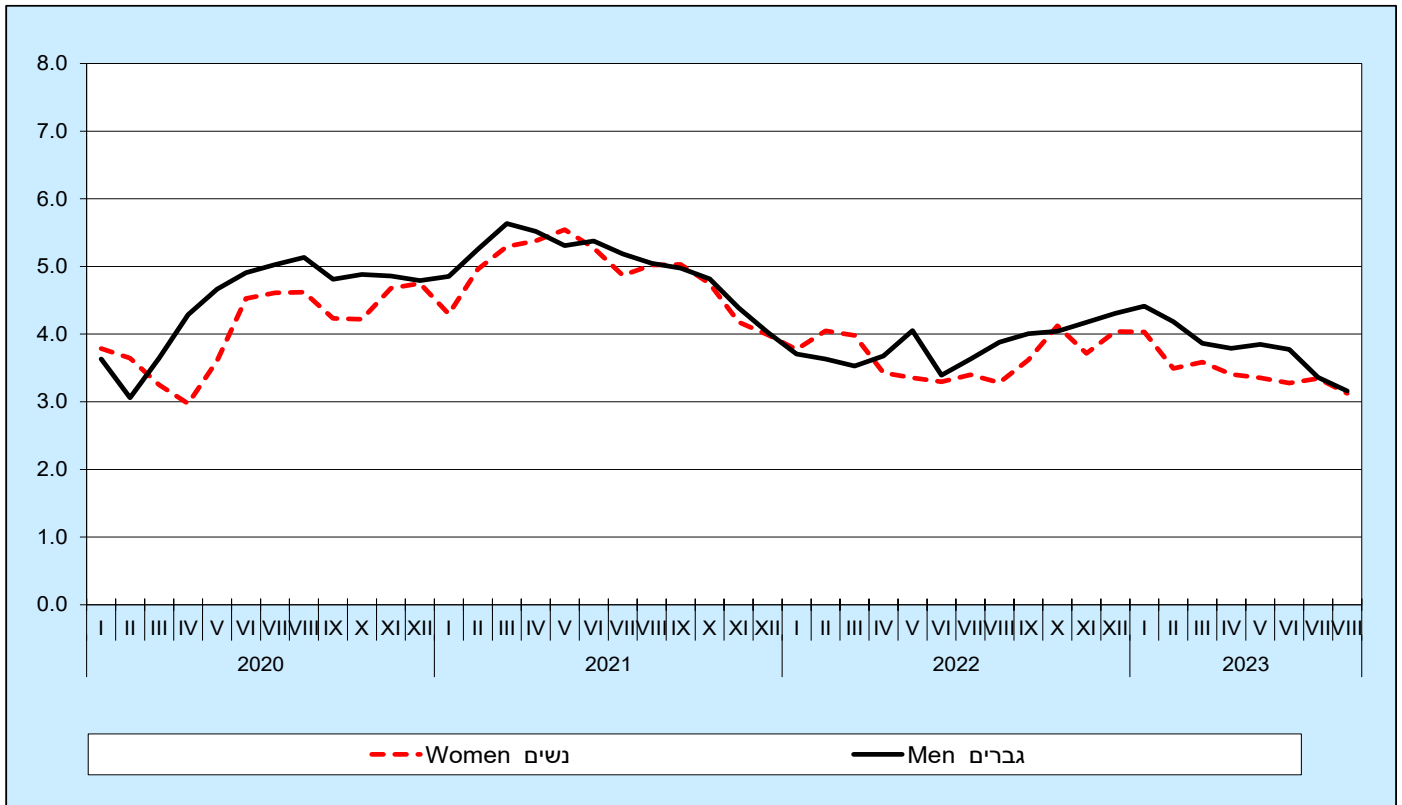


DIAGRAM 3. PERCENTAGE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LABOUR FORCE, BY SEX (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)

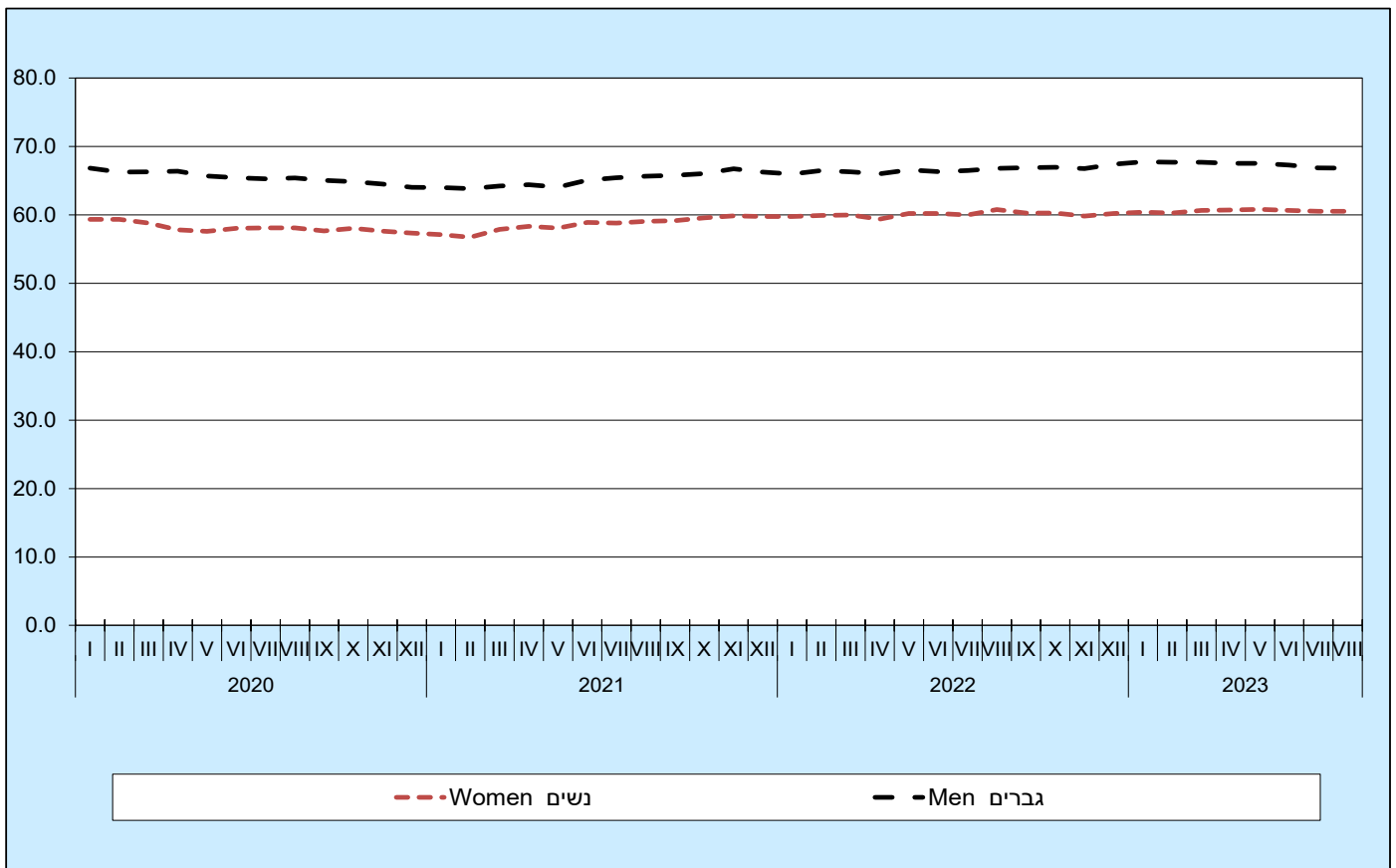


DIAGRAM 4. EMPLOYMENT RATES OF PERSONS AGED 15 AND OVER AND AGED 25-64, BY SEX (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)

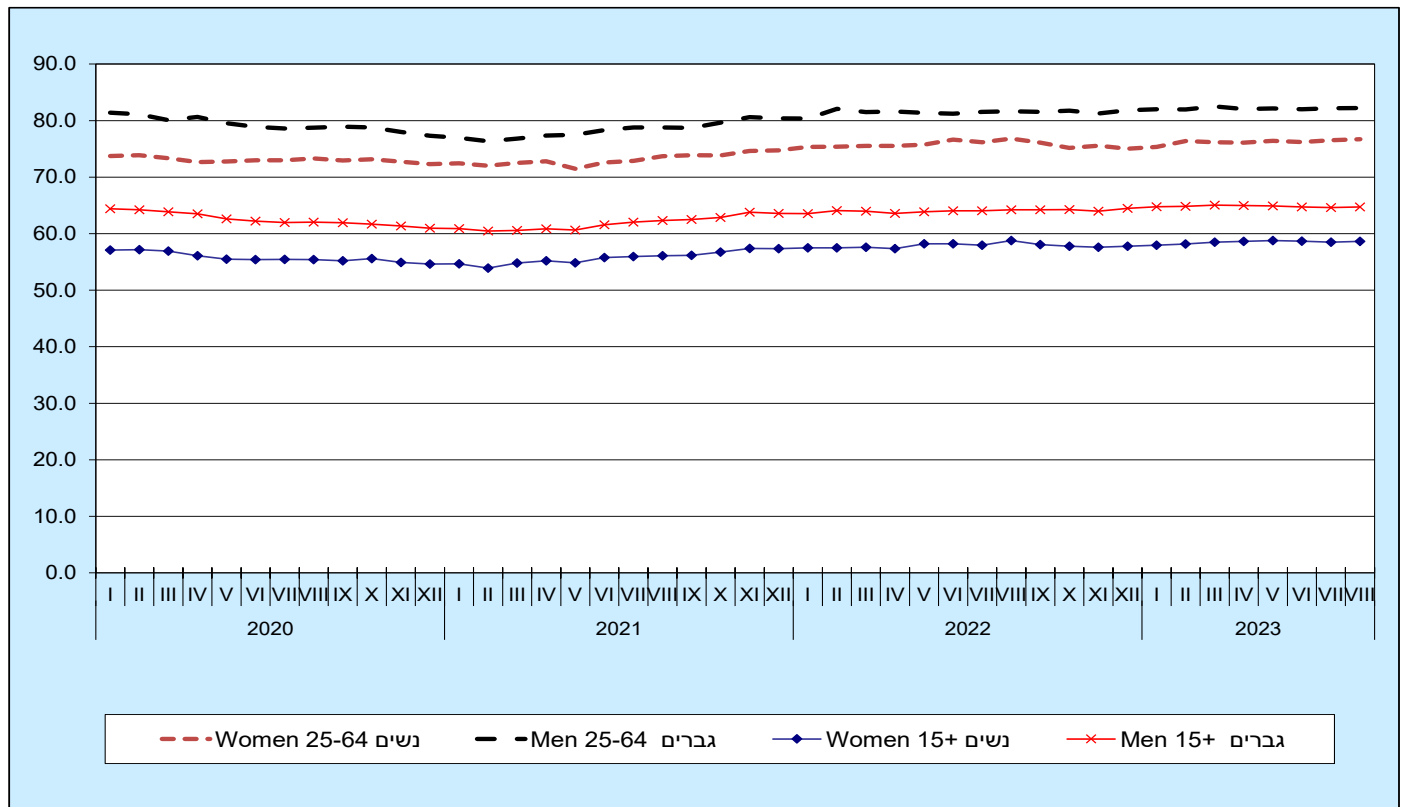


TABLE 1. EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY EXTENT OF WORK IN THE DETERMINANT WEEK (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)

Thousands	July 2023	August 2023	Difference	Percentage of change	Direction of change compared to the previous month
Employed persons - Total	4,339.6	4,358.1	18.4	0.4	↑
Worked full time	2,878.4	2,873.8	-4.6	-0.2	↓
Worked part time	1,102.4	1,126.7	24.3	2.2	↑
Temporarily absent from work (all week)	334.1	322.4	-11.7	-3.5	↓
Temporarily absent from work part of week	467.8	412.1	-55.7	-11.9	↓

In August 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 decreased, compared with the previous month.

The average weekly number of work hours per employed person reached 35.6 hours in August 2023 (same as in previous month). **The average weekly number of work hours per employee** rose to 35.8 hours (35.6% in the previous month).

The number of employed persons who **usually worked full time** (35 hours and over per week) decreased by 0.1% compared with the previous month. The number of employed persons who **usually worked part time** (less than 35 hours per week) increased by 0.6% compared with the previous month.

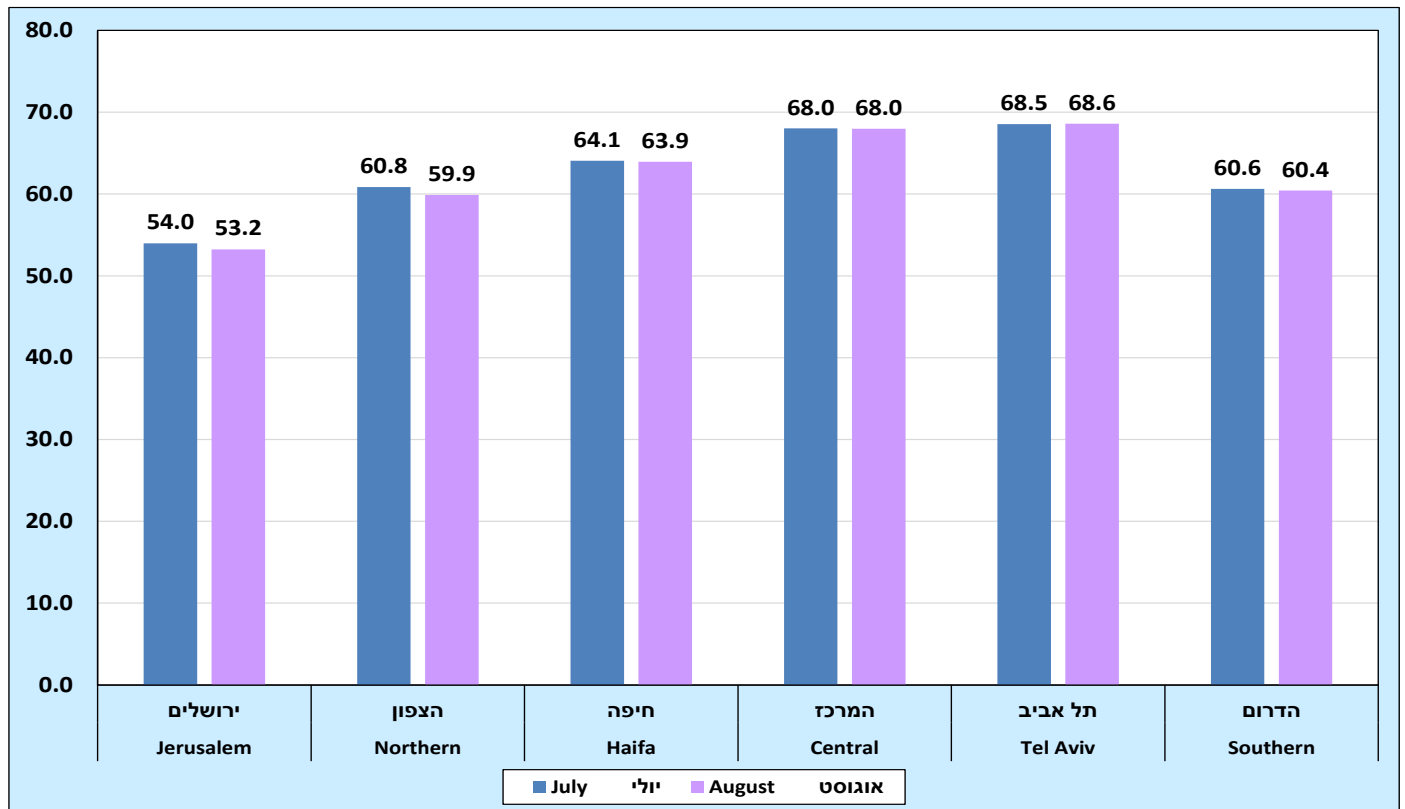
The share of employed persons **usually working full time** out of total employed persons – declined to 77.4% (77.5% in the previous month).

The share of those **usually worked full time** of all employed persons among **men** rose to 85.9% (85.8% in the previous month), and among **women** it declined to 68.3% (68.7% 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).

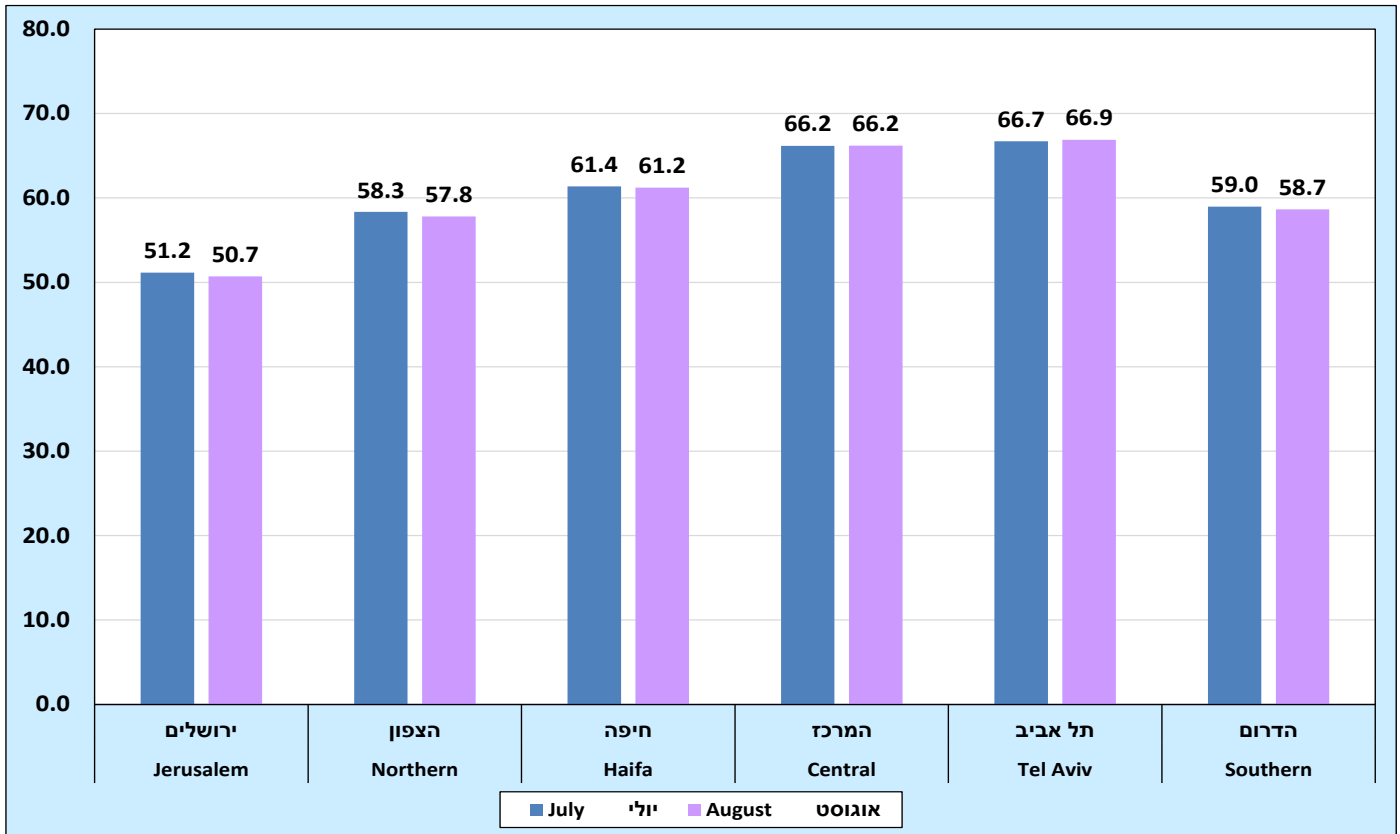
DIAGRAM 5. PERCENTAGE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LABOUR FORCE BY DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



In August 2023, the highest **participation rate in the labor force** among those aged 15 and over was in **Tel Aviv district** – 68.6% (68.5% in the previous month)

The lowest participation rate was in **Jerusalem district** – 53.2% (54.0% in the previous month).

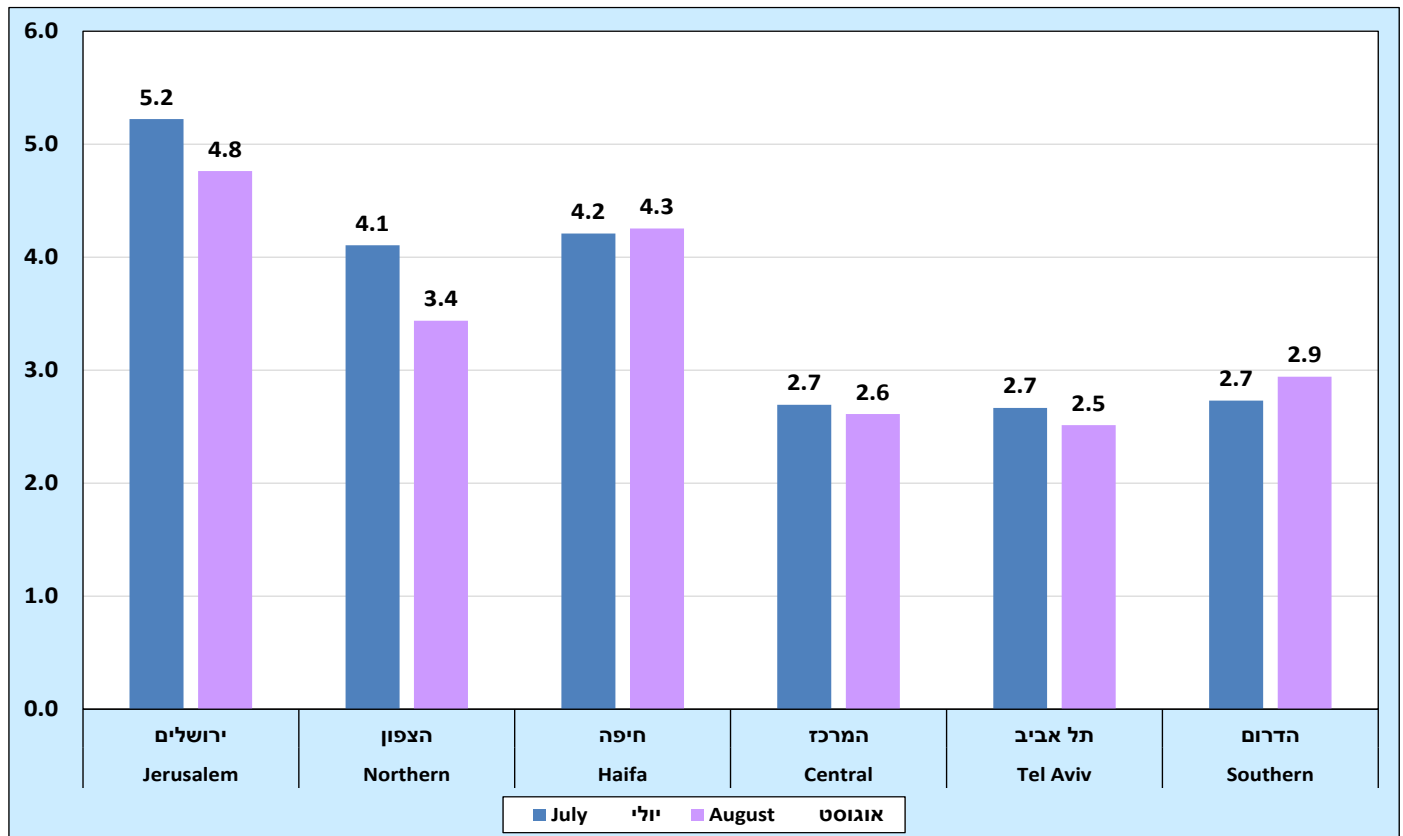
DIAGRAM 6. EMPLOYMENT RATE BY DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA)



In August 2023, the highest **employment rate** among those aged 15 and over was in **Tel Aviv district** – 66.9% (66.7% in the previous month).

The lowest **employment rate** was in **Jerusalem District** 50.7% (51.2% in the previous month).

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



In August 2023, the highest **unemployment rate** among those aged 15 and over was in **Jerusalem district** – 5.2% (4.8% in the previous month).

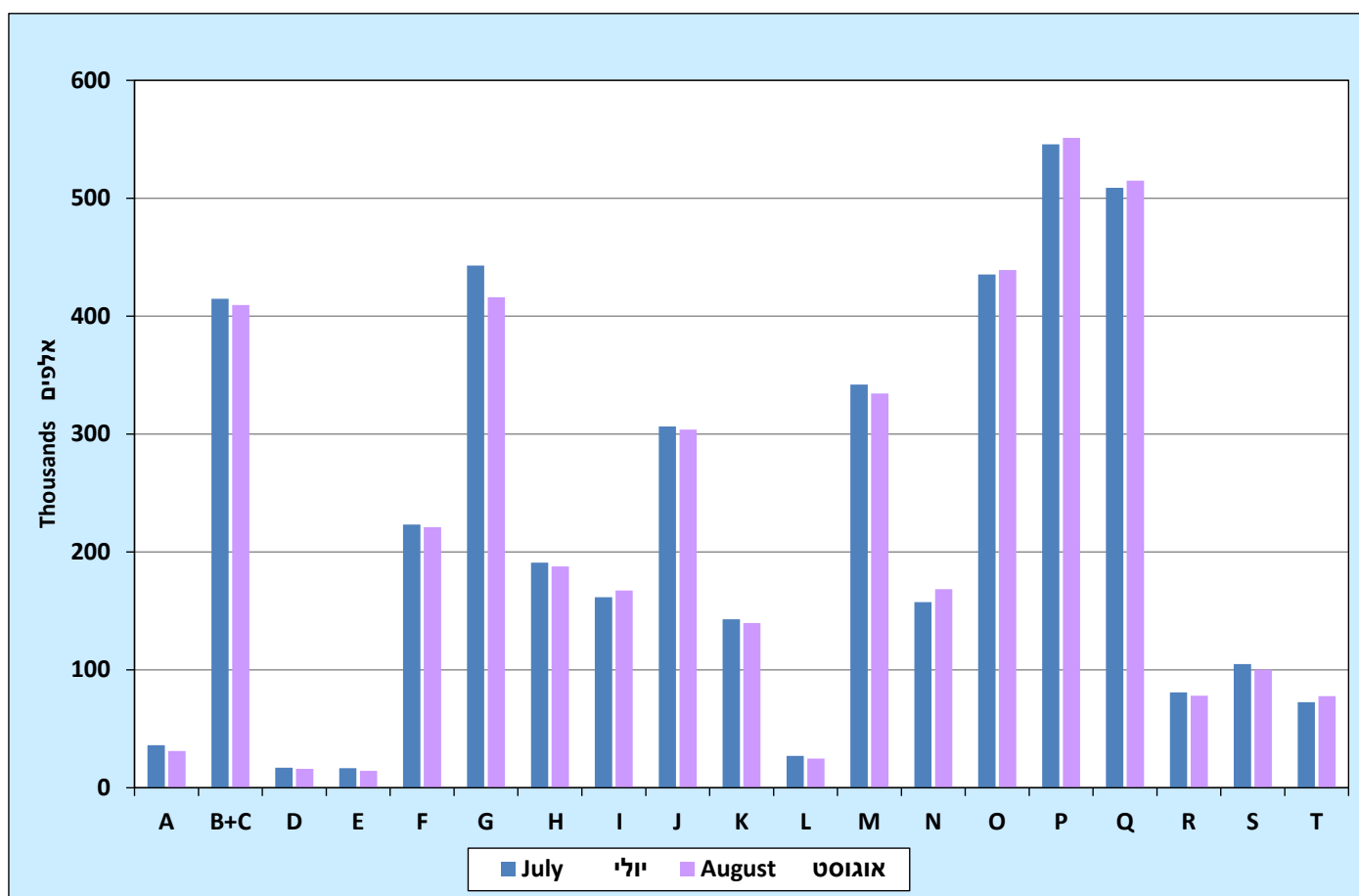
The lowest unemployment rate was in **Tel Aviv district** – 2.5% (2.7% in the previous month).

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 August 2023 the number of **employed persons** increased approximately by 18,000 compared with the previous month and reached 4.358 million. The number of **employees** in August 2023 rose to 3.837 million (3.819 million in the previous month).

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



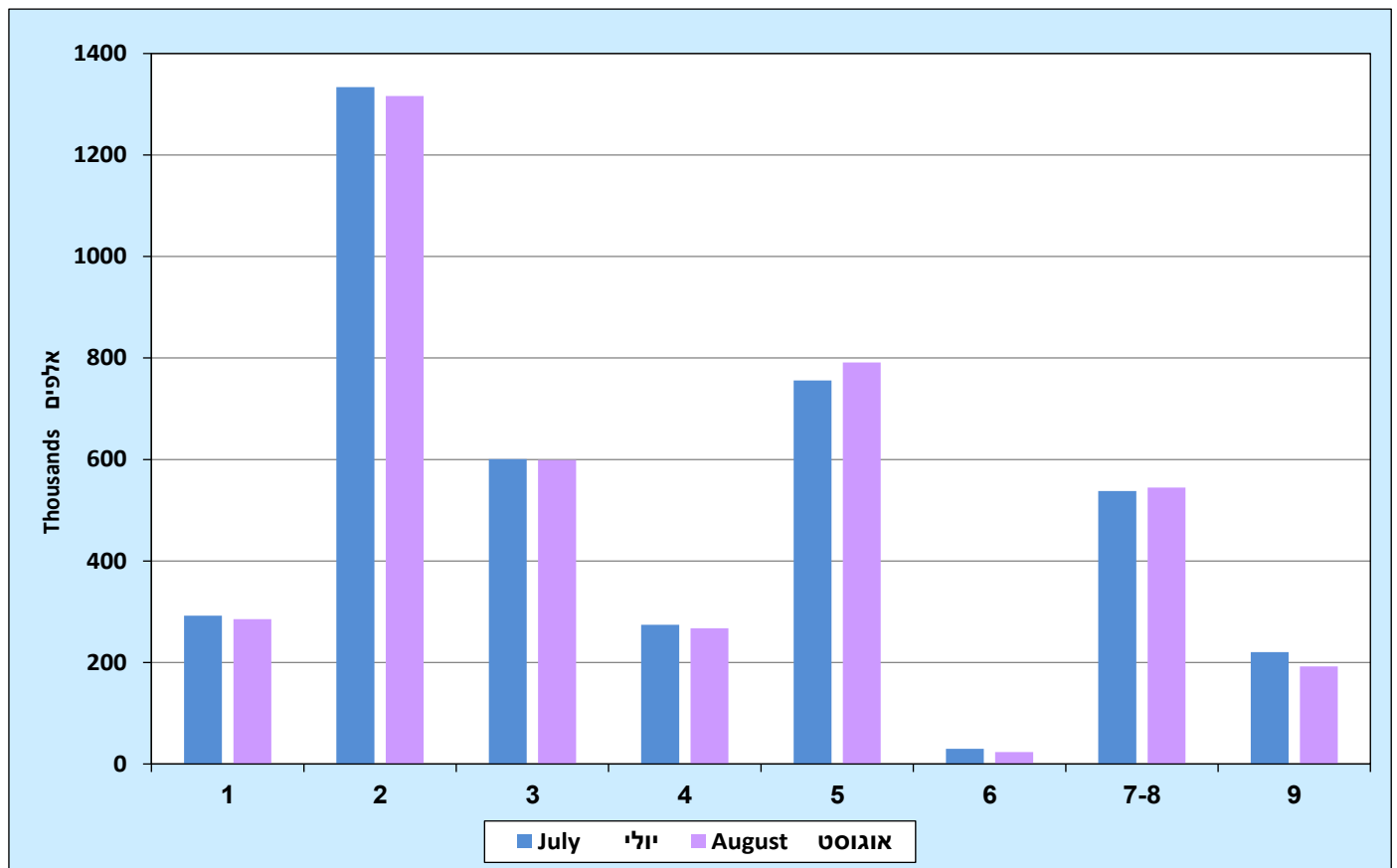
Code	Industry
A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing
B-C	Manufacturing; Mining and quarrying
D	Electricity supply
E	Water supply, sewerage and waste management
F	Construction
G	Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles
H	Transportation, storage, postal and courier activities
I	Accommodation 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: **Administrative and support service activities** (approximately 11,000 employed persons).

The **greatest decrease** was in industry: **Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles** (27,000 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 **increase** was in **Service and sales workers** (approximately 35,000 employed persons).

The greatest **decreases** were among **Elementary occupations** (approximately 28,000 employed persons) and **Professionals** (approximately 18,000 employed persons).

Employees in the high-tech - The number of employees in the **high-tech sector** declined in August 2023 approximately to 436,000 (approximately 462,000 in the previous month). The share of employees in the high-tech of all employees declined in August 2023 to 11.4% (12.1% 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 81.6% in August 2023 (81.7% in the previous month). Among **men** the rate declined to 84.5% (84.9% in the previous month) and among **women** the rate rose to 78.8% (78.7% in the previous month).

Among persons aged 25-64 **the unemployment rate from the labour force** declined to 2.7% (3.0% in the previous month). Among **men** the unemployment rate declined to 2.7% (3.2% in the previous month), and among **women** the unemployment rate reached 2.7% (same as in the previous month).

The employment rate among persons aged 25-64 rose to 79.4% (79.3% in the previous month). Among **men** the employment rate reached 82.2% (same as in the previous month) and among **women** the employment rate rose to 76.7% (76.5% in the previous month).

Chapter B - Original data for August 2023

Original Data

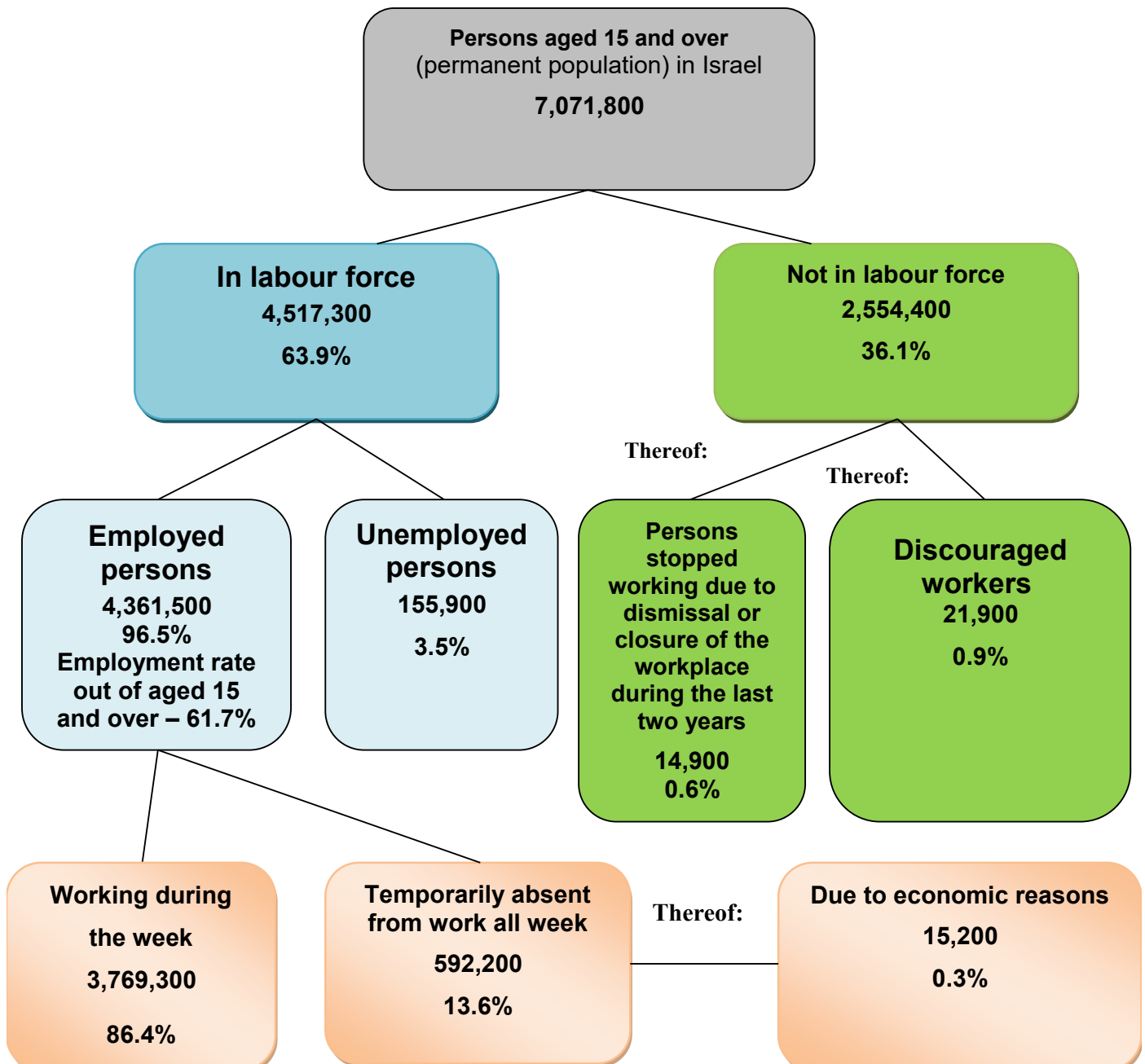
In August 2023 (compared with July 2023, among persons aged 15 and over): ([For monthly data 08/2023](#))

- Participation rate in the labour force – 63.9% (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 – 3.5% (3.4% in the previous month).
- Employment rate excluding persons temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons – 61.5% (61.4% 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	July 2023	August 2023
Unemployed persons	155,500 3.4%	155,900 3.5%
Employed persons temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons + unemployed persons	173,500 3.8%	171,000 3.8%
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	193,600 4.3%	186,000 4.1%
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	206,500 4.5%	205,300 4.5%

Labour Force Characteristics in August 2023 (compared with July 2023) - Original Data¹

Persons aged 15 and over



¹ Among Discouraged workers, there are 2.5 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	July 2023	August 2023	Difference	Percentage of change	Direction of change compared to the previous month
Employed persons - Total	4,352.9	4361.5	8.6	0.2	↑
Working during the week	3,955.2	3769.3	-186.0	-4.7	↓
Worked full time	2,992.7	2858.3	-134.5	-4.5	↓
Worked part time	962.5	911.0	-51.5	-5.3	↓
Temporarily absent from work (all week)	397.7	592.2	194.5	48.9	↑
Thereof: due to economic reasons	18.0	15.2	-2.8	-15.5	↓
Temporarily absent from work (all or part of week)	683.7	855.6	171.9	25.1	↑
Thereof: due to economic reasons	46.4	46.9	0.6	1.2	↑
Temporarily absent from work part of week	286.0	263.4	-22.6	-7.9	↓
Thereof: due to economic reasons	28.4	31.8	3.3	11.8	↑

In August 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 a decrease 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 and the number of those who were **absent from work due to economic reasons** has decreased, 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).

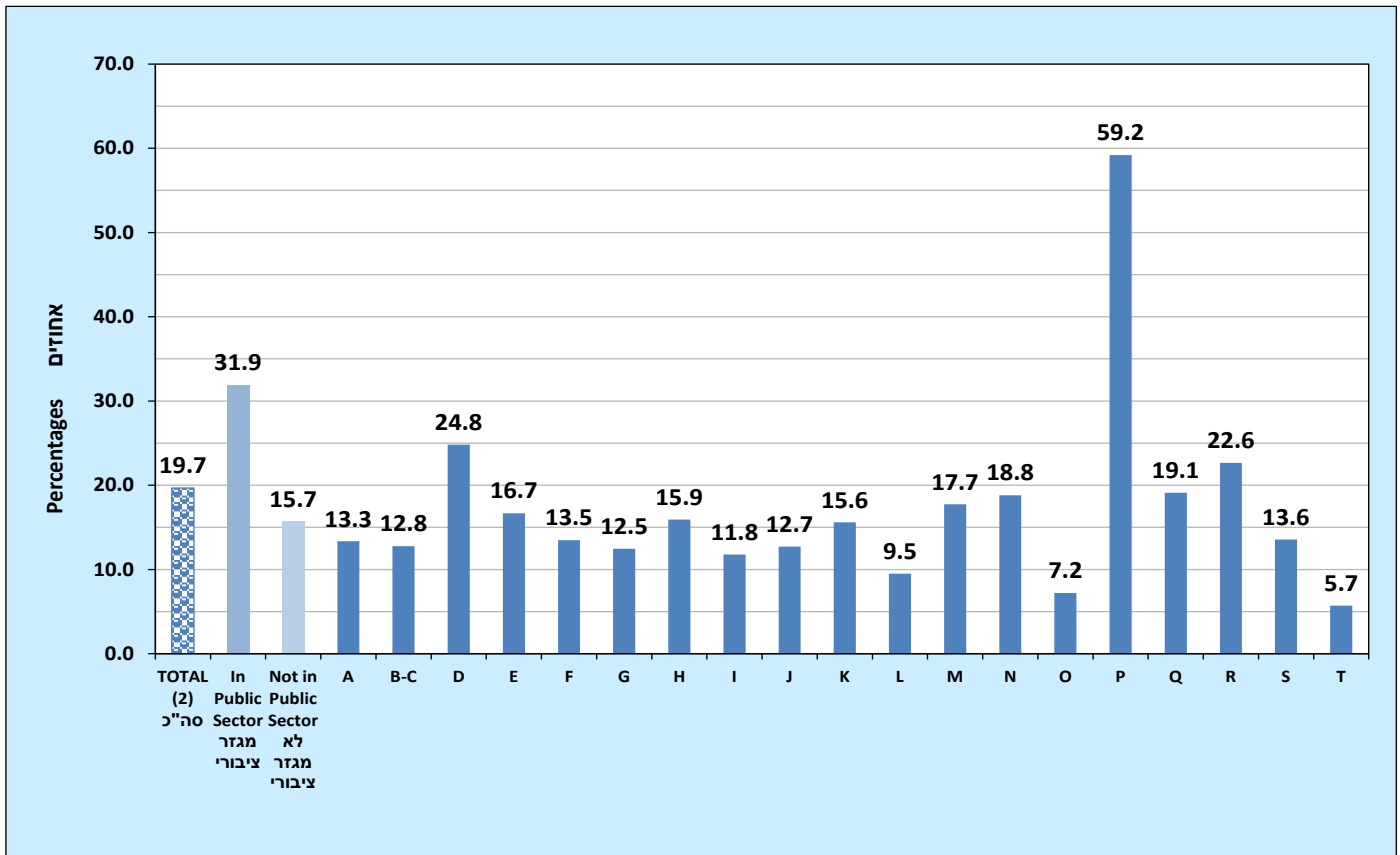
The number of **employed persons excluding temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons** increased by 0.3% compared with the previous month (an addition approximately of 11,000 employed). The **employment rate excluding temporarily absent from work all week due to economic reasons** of total persons aged 15 and over rose to 61.5% in August 2023 (61.4% in the previous month).

The **unemployment rate** in August 2023 rose to 3.5% (3.4% 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** declined approximately to 15,000 in August 2023 (compared with approximately 20,000 persons in the previous month). The number of **discouraged workers** in August 2023 rose approximately to 22,000 (approximately 15,000 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 August 2022 and July and August 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

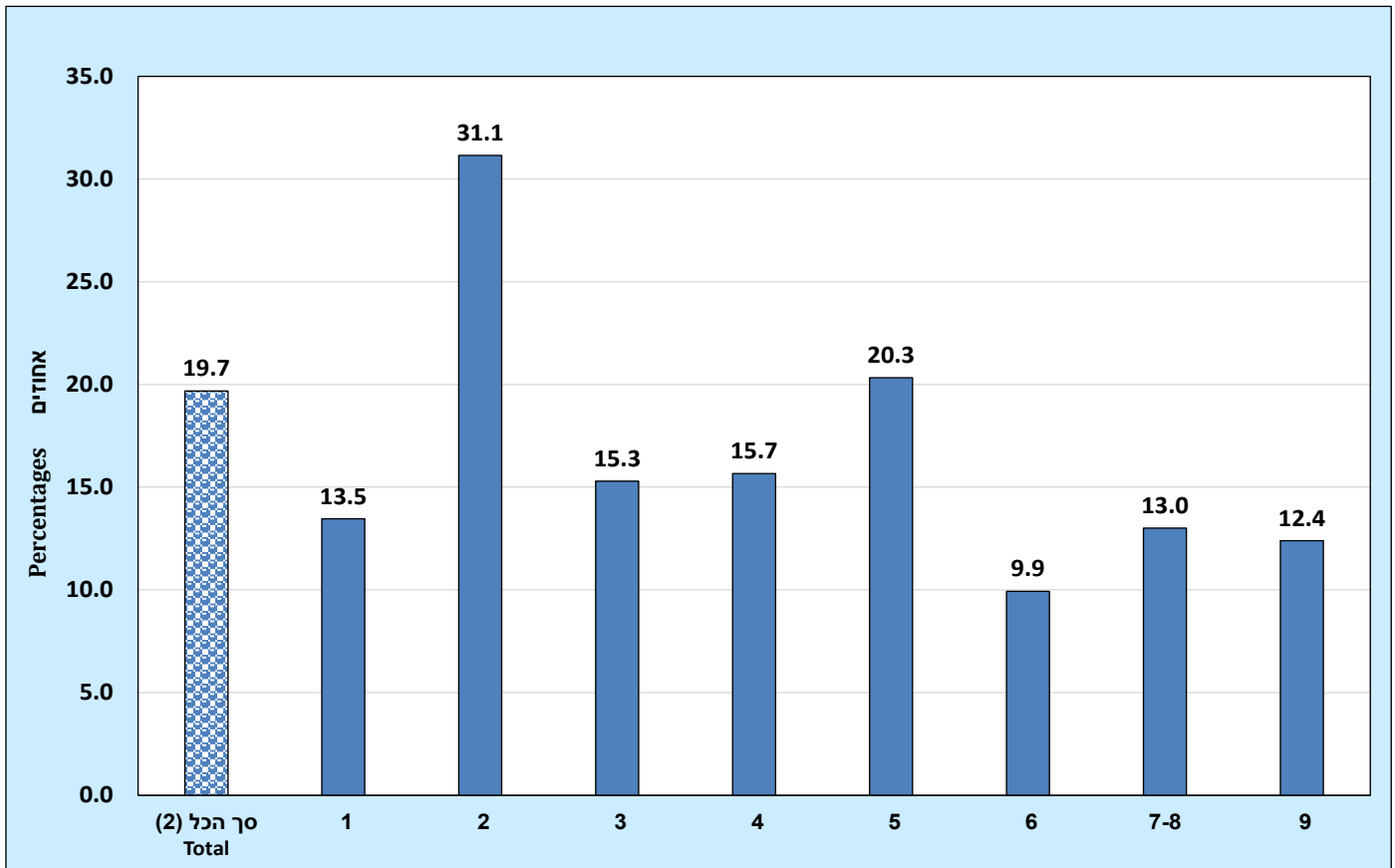
Code	Industry
O	Local, public and defence; administration and social security
P	Education
Q	Human health and social work activities
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation
S	Other service activities
T	Households as employers

The share of employed persons **temporarily absent from work all the week or part of the week** rose to 19.7% in August 2023 (15.8% in the previous month).

This share is high among **employed persons in the public sector** (by industry definition) compared to **employed persons not in the public sector** (by industry definition) 31.9.6% and 15.7% respectively, (in the previous month: 23.6%, 13.3% 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 **Education** (59.2%).

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 was in **Professionals** (31.1%).

The greatest share of employed persons **working from home** out of all employed persons was in **Information and communications** (54.5%).

The greatest share of employed persons **working from home** out of all employed persons was in **Professionals** (34.7%).

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 August 2022 and July and August 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** – 12.2%.

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 45-54** – 22.6%.

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** reached approximately 49,000 in August 2023 (same as in the previous month), and their share out of all employed persons reached 1.1% (same as in the previous month). (Detailed figures can be found in Table 2.9 in the "[Labour Force Survey Monthly Data](#)" on the website).

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.

Employees in the high-tech sector - [original data](#)

The number of employees in the **high-tech sector** declined approximately to 411,000 in August 2023 (approximately 437,000 in the previous month). The share of employees in the high-tech sector of all employees declined to 10.8% in August 2023 (11.5% 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 17,600 persons aged 15 and over a month has been interviewed on an ongoing basis. In August 2023, approximately 17,800 persons aged 15 and over have been interviewed. The response rate in August 2023 rose to 71.0% (70.2% 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,

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.

and disease prevention centers (8623); Libraries, archives and museums activities (91); Community centers (culture, youth and sports centres) (944); Extraterritorial organizations and bodies (99).

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](#).