Summary of the labor force survey in Thailand: December 2016

Structure of the Labor force

The results of Labor Force Survey in December 2016 showed that there are population, aged 15 years and over, of about 55.77 million persons. Of these 37.79 million were in the labor force or available for work (37.36 million were employed, 303 thousand were unemployed and 129 thousand were seasonally inactive labor force), while 17.98 million were not in the labor force or not available for work, such as housewives, students or elderly.

Employed of the Labor force

- Employed
  
  There were 37.36 million employed persons, which 12.57 and 24.79 million were in agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, respectively. Comparing with December in 2015, it was shown that the number of employed persons in agriculture sector decreased by 1.06 million and non-agriculture sector decreased by 450 thousand (from 25.24 million to 24.79 million). This decrement was found in various industries e.g. 0.38 million in manufacturing, 0.20 million in construction, 0.11 million in public administration defence and compulsory social security, 40 thousand in accommodation and food service activities and 20 thousand in education and human health and social work activities. However, an increase in some other industries was found e.g., 0.11 million in wholesale and retail trade repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, 60 thousand in other service activities, 30 thousand in financial and insurance activities and real estate activities and the rest shared in the other industries.

Underemployment workers

Considering the number of underemployed workers and available for additional work, there were 0.17 million or 0.5% of the total employed persons.
Considered underemployment rate by sex, it was shown that the overall underemployment rate of male was higher than female.

In December 2016, number of underemployment of male was higher than female (92 thousand and 80 thousand respectively).

And underemployment rate of male was 0.5% and female was 0.5%.

Unemployment

Unemployment rate by sex

Unemployment by sex

Considered unemployment rate by sex in December 2016, it was found that, unemployment rate of male was higher than female (0.9% and 0.7% respectively).
Unemployment rate by age group

Regarding the unemployment rates by age groups, there were 3.5% in a youth group (aged 15-24 years) and 0.5% in adults group (age 25 years and over).

The unemployment rate in the youth group increased from 2.5% to 3.5% comparing to the same period as in 2015, and decreased from 5.3% to 3.5% comparing to November in 2016. In adults group did not change (0.5%) comparing to November in 2016.

Number and Rate of unemployment by level educational attainment

For level of educational attainment of unemployed persons in December 2016, it was found that most of them had higher level (99 thousand or 1.3%), followed by those with lower secondary level (75 thousand or 1.2%), upper secondary level (57 thousand or 0.9%), primary level (54 thousand or 0.6%) and no schooling and incomplete primary level (18 thousand or 0.2%).

Comparing to the same period in 2015, the result showed that the number of unemployed persons with higher level and lower secondary level increased of 24 thousand, no schooling and incomplete primary level of 6 thousand and primary level of 1 thousand. However, those with upper secondary level decreased of 4 thousand.

Number of unemployed by experience of work

Out of 303 thousand, there were 108 thousand having never worked (65 thousand were male and 43 thousand were female) and 195 thousand had ever, among these, the number of unemployed persons who ever worked increased by 27 thousand (from 168 thousand to 195 thousand), comparing to the same period as in 2015. It was found that 195 thousand distributed in 3 sectors i.e. 94 thousand in services and trade, 83 thousand in manufacturing and 18 thousand in agriculture.
The number of unemployed persons who never worked 108 thousand, it was found that most of them had higher level of 60 thousand, followed by those with upper secondary level of 24 thousand, lower secondary level of 13 thousand and primary level of 11 thousand.

The number of unemployed persons who ever worked 195 thousand, it was found that most of them had lower secondary level of 62 thousand, followed by those with primary level of 43 thousand, higher level of 39 thousand, upper secondary level of 33 thousand and no schooling and incomplete primary level of 18 thousand.

### Unemployment persons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>1.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>0.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangkok</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Concerning the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate by region, it was found that those in the Central was the highest with (1.00 thousand or 0.9%), followed by the Northeast (0.69 thousand or 0.7%), the North (0.53 thousand or 0.8%), the South (0.75 thousand or 0.9%) and Bangkok (1.00 thousand or 0.9%).

Comparing to the same period as in 2015, the unemployment of the whole kingdom increased of 48 thousand. However, concerning by region, it increases in the Central, Bangkok and the North but decrease in the South.