Summary of the labor force survey in Thailand: October 2016

Structure of the Labor force

The results of Labor Force Survey in October 2016 showed that there are population, aged 15 years and over, of about 55.71 million persons. Of these 37.72 million were in the labor force or available for work (37.14 million were employed, 0.45 million were unemployed and 0.13 million were seasonally inactive labor force), while 17.99 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 37.14 million employed persons, which 11.21 and 25.93 million were in agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, respectively. Comparing with October in 2015, it was shown that the number of employed persons in agriculture sector decreased by 0.88 million and non-agriculture sector decreased by 70 thousand (from 26.00 million to 25.93 million). This decrement was found in various industries e.g. 0.41 million in manufacturing, 60 thousand in public administration defence and compulsory social security, and 20 thousand in real estate activities. However, an increase in some other industries was found e.g., 0.15 million in construction, 0.12 million in wholesale and retail trade repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, 0.10 million in other service activities, 90 thousand in accommodation and food service activities and the rest shared in the other industries.

Underemployment workers

Considering the number of underemployed workers and available for additional work, there were 0.21 million or 0.6% 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 October 2016, number of underemployment of male was higher than female (135 thousand and 78 thousand respectively).

And underemployment rate of male was 0.7% and female was 0.5%.

Unemployment

-Number and Rate of unemployment

In October 2016, the total number of unemployed persons were 0.45 million or 1.2% of the total labor force and increased of 122 thousand (from 328 thousand to 450 thousand) comparing to the same period as in 2015. And, showed an increase of 116 thousand (from 334 thousand to 450 thousand) in September 2016.

Comparing to the unemployment rate to the same period as in 2015 increased for both male and female.

Unemployment rate by sex

Considered unemployment rate by sex in October 2016, it was found that, unemployment rate of male was higher than female (1.3% and 1.1% respectively)

Comparing to the unemployment rate to the same period as in 2015 increased for both male and female.
Unemployment rate by age group

Regarding the unemployment rates by age groups, there were 5.5% in a youth group (aged 15-24 years) and 0.7% in adults group (age 25 years and over).

The unemployment rate in the youth group increased from 3.6% to 5.5% comparing to the same period as in 2015, and increased from 4.1% to 5.5% comparing to September in 2016. In adults group increased from 0.5% to 0.7% comparing to the same period as in 2015.

Number and Rate of unemployment by level educational attainment

For level of educational attainment of unemployed persons in October 2016, it was found that most of them had higher level (1.91 thousand or 2.3%), followed by those with lower secondary level (1.05 thousand or 1.7%), primary level (67 thousand or 0.8%), upper secondary level (65 thousand or 1.0%) and no schooling and incomplete primary level (2.2 thousand or 0.3%).

Comparing to the same period in 2015, the result showed that the number of unemployed persons with lower secondary level increased of 55 thousand, higher level of 50 thousand, upper secondary level of 12 thousand and primary level of 11 thousand. However, those with no schooling and incomplete primary level decreased of 4 thousand.

Number of unemployed by experience of work

Out of 450 thousand, there were 210 thousand having never worked (118 thousand were male and 92 thousand were female) and 240 thousand had ever, among these, the number of unemployed persons who ever worked increased by 59 thousand (from 181 thousand to 240 thousand), comparing to the same period as in 2015. It was found that 240 thousand distributed in 3 sectors i.e. 115 thousand in services and trade, 112 thousand in manufacturing and 13 thousand in agriculture.
The number of unemployed persons who never worked 210 thousand, it was found that most of them had higher level of 129 thousand, followed by those with lower secondary level and upper secondary level of 29 thousand, primary level of 21 thousand and no schooling and incomplete primary level of 2 thousand.

The number of unemployed persons who ever worked 240 thousand, it was found that most of them had lower secondary level of 76 thousand, followed by those with higher level of 62 thousand, primary level of 46 thousand, upper secondary level of 36 thousand and no schooling and incomplete primary level of 20 thousand.

### Number of unemployed and unemployment rate by region

Concerning the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate by region, it was found that those in the Central was the highest with (1.29 thousand or 1.1%), followed by the Northeast (103 thousand or 1.1%), the South (93 thousand or 1.8%), the North (69 thousand or 1.1%) and Bangkok (56 thousand or 1.1%).

Comparing to the same period as in 2015, the unemployment of the whole kingdom increased of 122 thousand. However, concerning by region, it increases in the Central, the South, the Northeast and the North but decrease in Bangkok.