



LABOUR FORCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA, 2021 – ANNUAL AVERAGE

The Labour Force Survey results are presented for the annual period from January to December 2021.

On 1 January 2021, the new [Regulation \(EU\) No. 2019/1700](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning social statistics, as well as the related [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No. 2019/2240](#) concerning the labour force domain, entered into force, thus repealing the Regulation (EC) No. 577/98.

The implementation of the new legal basis has brought some changes in the Labour Force Survey, starting with changes in the questionnaire design, the use of strictly prescribed and harmonised sequence of questions, changes in the existing questions, removing existing and adding new questions, to changes in the coverage and definition of employment and unemployment (see the chapter Notes on methodology for details).

In view of the mentioned changes, it was expected that the data released before and after the implementation of the new legal background would not be consistent and that the changes would cause breaks in time series. After the completion of the analyses, it was established that there were no breaks in data series and that the data for 2021 are comparable with data for the previous periods. A brief review of the approach and methodology used in these analyses is available in [Methodological summary on the breaks in time series exercise_HR](#).

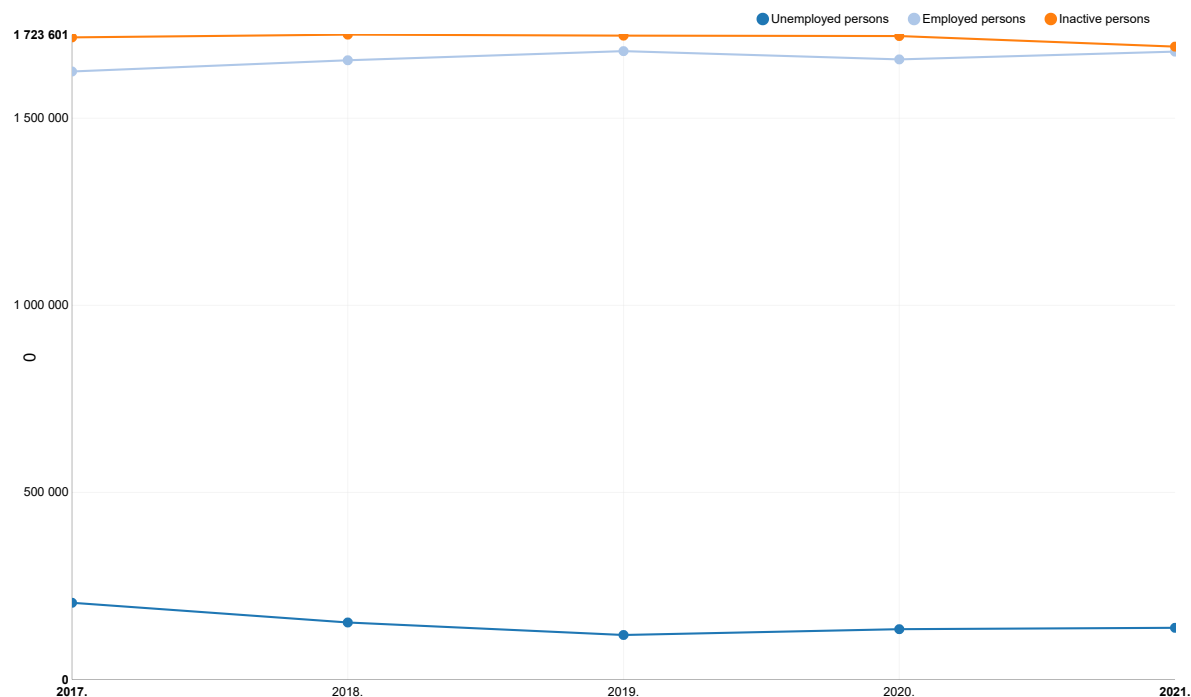
The exception are indicators of working hours, for which it was determined that the breaks in time series are present, which makes them incomparable with data for previous periods.

As the methodology of the Labour Force Survey is harmonised with the regulations of the Eurostat, the results for the Republic of Croatia are regularly published on the web pages and in Eurostat's publications, thus enabling the comparison of the Republic of Croatia with all EU Member States.

A continuous application of the methodological concept, as prescribed by Eurostat and the International Labour Organisation, ensured that the Labour Force Survey results clearly point to the labour market trends of the Republic of Croatia.

Data in this First Release for the period from 2017 to 2021 are averages of four quarterly results.

G-1 CHANGES IN CATEGORIES OF WORKING-AGE POPULATION, 2017 – 2021



G-2. COMPARISON BETWEEN ILO AND REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR 2021, '000

	Not registered ILO unemployed persons 46	
Registered unemployed persons 137	Registered ILO unemployed persons 92	ILO unemployed persons 138
	Registered unemployed persons who are not ILO unemployed 45	

The comparison of unemployment data obtained by the Labour Force Survey with those according to the Croatian Employment Service (CES) and those obtained from other administrative data records shows that the average unemployment rate for 2021, according to the administrative records, was higher (8.0%) than the ILO unemployment rate (7.6%). In the same period, the average number of unemployed persons according to the Labour Force Survey was 1 000 persons higher than the number obtained from the CES. Since interviewed persons provided information on their registration with the CES, the data comparison shows that 92 000, or 66.4%, out of the total of 138 000 unemployed persons were registered with the CES, 33.5% of persons who were classified as unemployed in the Labour Force Survey were not interested in registering with the CES and the remaining 0.1% did not respond to the question on the registration. At the same time, 45 000, or 32.9%, of the total of 137 000 persons who were registered with the CES did not fulfil the international criteria of unemployment.

1 WORKING-AGE POPULATION, BY ACTIVITY AND SEX

'000

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total				
Working-age population (15+)	3.531	3.519	3.512	3.508
Labour force	1.807	1.798	1.792	1.816
Persons in employment	1.655	1.679	1.657	1.678
Unemployed persons	152	119	135	138
Inactive population (15+)	1.724	1.721	1.720	1.692
%				
Activity rate	51,2	51,1	51,0	51,8
Employment/population ratio	46,9	47,7	47,2	47,8
Unemployment rate	8,4	6,6	7,5	7,6
Men				
Working-age population (15+)	1.687	1.682	1.679	1.678
Labour force	968	968	973	978
Persons in employment	894	909	901	907
Unemployed persons	74	60	72	71
Inactive population (15+)	719	714	706	700
%				
Activity rate	57,4	57,6	58,0	58,3
Employment/population ratio	53,0	54,0	53,6	54,1
Unemployment rate	7,6	6,2	7,5	7,3
Women				
Working-age population (15+)	1.844	1.838	1.833	1.830
Labour force	839	830	819	838
Persons in employment	761	771	757	771
Unemployed persons	78	59	62	67
Inactive population (15+)	1.005	1.007	1.014	992
%				
Activity rate	45,5	45,2	44,7	45,8
Employment/population ratio	41,3	42,0	41,3	42,1
Unemployment rate	9,3	7,2	7,6	8,0

2 WORKING-AGE POPULATION, BY ACTIVITY, AGE AND SEX

'000

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Labour force				Persons in employment				
Total								
Total	1.807	1.798	1.792	1.816	1.655	1.679	1.657	1.678
15 – 24	153	149	143	142	117	124	113	111
25 – 49	1.148	1.138	1.127	1.128	1.055	1.060	1.045	1.048
50 – 64	482	482	494	515	459	466	472	490
65 and over	(25)	(30)	(28)	(31)	(25)	(30)	(28)	(29)
55 – 64	268	273	286	304	257	263	272	291
15 – 64	1.783	1.768	1.764	1.785	1.630	1.650	1.630	1.649
20 – 64	1.753	1.742	1.740	1.762	1.610	1.631	1.618	1.634
25 – 29	198	194	190	185	172	174	165	162
15 – 29	351	343	333	327	289	298	277	273
Men								
Total	968	968	973	978	894	909	901	907
15 – 24	89	89	89	85	71	76	72	69
25 – 49	603	601	601	599	558	563	558	557
50 – 64	261	261	265	274	250	252	253	261
65 and over	(15)	(17)	(18)	(21)	(15)	(17)	(17)	(20)
55 – 64	154	156	160	165	147	152	154	158
15 – 64	953	951	955	957	879	891	883	887
20 – 64	936	933	942	944	867	878	876	878
25 – 29	108	102	103	101	96	95	92	89
15 – 29	197	191	191	186	168	171	164	159
Women								
Total	839	830	819	838	761	771	757	771
15 – 24	64	59	54	57	(45)	48	(41)	42
25 – 49	545	537	525	529	497	497	487	491
50 – 64	220	221	229	242	209	214	219	229
65 and over	((10))	((13))	((10))	((10))	((10))	((13))	((10))	((9))
55 – 64	114	116	125	139	109	111	119	133
15 – 64	829	818	809	828	751	758	747	762
20 – 64	817	808	798	818	743	752	743	756
25 – 29	90	92	87	84	76	79	(73)	73
15 – 29	154	152	141	141	121	126	114	115
Unemployed persons				Inactive population				
Total								
Total	152	119	135	138	1 724	1 721	1 720	1.692
15 – 24	(36)	(25)	(30)	(31)	303	299	297	289
25 – 49	93	77	82	80	196	188	181	164
50 – 64	(23)	((17))	(22)	(25)	407	402	387	362
65 and over	-	.	.	.	818	831	855	877
55 – 64	((12))	((9))	((13))	((13))	331	326	313	295
15 – 64	152	119	134	136	906	890	865	815
20 – 64	143	111	122	128	716	702	680	635
25 – 29	((26))	((21))	((25))	((23))	(45)	(43)	(41)	(40)
15 – 29	62	(45)	55	54	349	342	338	329
Men								
Total	74	60	72	71	719	714	706	700
15 – 24	((17))	((13))	((17))	((16))	145	141	137	137
25 – 49	(45)	(37)	(44)	(42)	76	70	61	55
50 – 64	((11))	((9))	((12))	((12))	170	168	162	151
65 and over	-	.	.	.	327	335	346	356
55 – 64	((7))	((4))	((7))	((7))	135	132	127	122
15 – 64	74	59	72	70	392	379	360	344
20 – 64	69	55	66	65	296	286	266	253
25 – 29	((12))	((7))	((11))	((11))	((16))	((18))	((15))	((14))
15 – 29	(29)	((20))	(28)	(27)	161	159	152	150
Women								
Total	78	59	62	67	1 005	1 007	1 014	992
15 – 24	((19))	((12))	((14))	((15))	158	158	160	152
25 – 49	(48)	(40)	(38)	(38)	119	118	121	108

50 – 64	((11))	((7))	((10))	((13))	237	234	225	210
65 and over	-	-	.	.	491	497	509	521
55 – 64	((5))	((5))	((7))	((6))	196	194	185	172
15 – 64	78	59	62	66	514	511	505	471
20 – 64	74	56	56	62	419	416	414	382
25 – 29	((14))	((14))	((14))	((12))	(29)	((24))	((26))	((26))
15 – 29	(33)	(25)	(28)	(27)	188	183	186	179

3 POPULATION ACTIVITY MEASURES, BY AGE AND SEX

%

	Activity rates				Employment/population rates				Unemployment rates			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total												
Total	51,2	51,1	51,0	51,8	46,9	47,7	47,2	47,8	8,4	6,6	7,5	7,6
15 – 24	33,5	33,2	32,5	33,0	25,6	27,7	25,6	25,7	(23,7)	(16,6)	(21,1)	(21,9)
25 – 49	85,4	85,8	86,1	87,3	78,5	80,0	79,9	81,1	8,1	6,8	7,3	7,1
50 – 64	54,2	54,5	56,1	58,8	51,6	52,6	53,6	55,9	(4,7)	((3,4))	(4,4)	(4,9)
65 and over	(3,0)	(3,5)	(3,2)	(3,4)	(3,0)	(3,5)	(3,1)	(3,2)	-	.	.	.
55 – 64	44,8	45,5	47,8	50,8	42,8	44,0	45,5	48,6	((4,4))	((3,4))	((4,7))	((4,2))
15 – 64	66,3	66,5	67,1	68,7	60,6	62,1	62,0	63,4	8,6	6,7	7,6	7,6
20 – 64	71,0	71,3	71,9	73,5	65,2	66,7	66,9	68,2	8,2	6,4	7,0	7,2
25 – 29	81,4	82,0	82,1	82,2	70,9	73,3	71,3	71,9	((12,9))	((10,6))	((13,2))	((12,5))
15 – 29	50,2	50,1	49,6	49,9	41,3	43,5	41,3	41,6	17,6	(13,2)	16,6	16,6
Men												
Total	57,4	57,6	58,0	58,3	53,0	54,0	53,6	54,1	7,6	6,2	7,5	7,3
15 – 24	37,9	38,8	39,2	38,4	30,5	33,2	31,9	31,1	((19,6))	((14,5))	((18,7))	((18,9))
25 – 49	88,8	89,5	90,8	91,5	82,1	84,0	84,2	85,1	(7,5)	(6,2)	(7,3)	(7,0)
50 – 64	60,6	60,8	62,0	64,4	58,0	58,7	59,3	61,5	((4,4))	((3,5))	((4,4))	((4,5))
65 and over	(4,3)	(4,9)	(5,0)	(5,6)	(4,3)	(4,9)	(4,8)	(5,3)	-	.	.	.
55 – 64	53,4	54,2	55,7	57,4	51,0	52,6	53,4	55,1	((4,5))	((2,8))	((4,1))	((4,1))
15 – 64	70,9	71,5	72,6	73,6	65,4	67,0	67,2	68,2	7,8	6,3	7,5	7,3
20 – 64	75,9	76,5	78,0	78,9	70,3	72,0	72,5	73,4	7,4	5,9	7,0	6,9
25 – 29	87,2	84,7	87,3	88,0	77,9	78,9	78,0	78,1	((10,8))	((6,9))	((10,7))	((11,2))
15 – 29	55,0	54,6	55,7	55,3	46,9	48,9	47,7	47,1	(14,8)	((10,4))	(14,4)	(14,8)
Women												
Total	45,5	45,2	44,7	45,8	41,3	42,0	41,3	42,1	9,3	7,2	7,6	8,0
15 – 24	28,8	27,3	25,3	27,2	(20,4)	21,9	(19,0)	20,1	((29,4))	((19,8))	((25,0))	((26,4))
25 – 49	82,0	82,0	81,3	83,0	74,8	75,9	75,4	77,0	(8,8)	(7,5)	(7,3)	(7,2)
50 – 64	48,2	48,5	50,5	53,5	45,7	46,9	48,3	50,6	((5,2))	((3,4))	((4,4))	((5,3))
65 and over	((2,0))	((2,5))	((2,0))	((1,9))	((2,0))	((2,5))	((2,0))	((1,7))	-	-	.	.
55 – 64	36,7	37,5	40,4	44,6	35,2	35,9	38,2	42,7	((4,2))	((4,2))	((5,4))	((4,3))
15 – 64	61,7	61,6	61,6	63,7	55,9	57,1	56,9	58,6	9,5	7,3	7,7	8,0
20 – 64	66,1	66,1	65,9	68,2	60,1	61,5	61,3	63,0	9,0	6,9	7,0	7,6
25 – 29	75,4	79,2	76,8	76,2	63,8	67,5	(64,3)	65,6	((15,5))	((14,8))	((16,2))	((13,9))
15 – 29	45,1	45,4	43,2	44,2	35,5	37,8	34,7	35,8	(21,3)	(16,7)	(19,6)	(19,0)

4 SHARE IN WORKING-AGE POPULATION, BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND SEX

%

	Labour force								Inactive population			
	Persons in employment				Unemployed persons							
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total												
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Uncompleted basic school	((0,8))	((0,7))	((0,6))	((0,4))	.	.	.	.	12,1	11,8	10,3	9,0
Basic school (8 years)	7,0	7,0	6,4	6,5	((9,9))	((10,3))	((8,9))	((9,4))	30,0	29,4	29,6	28,9
Vocational schools	59,3	60,1	60,5	60,9	63,3	62,9	66,6	68,7	39,6	40,3	41,1	42,7
Grammar school	(3,2)	(3,2)	(2,8)	(3,0)	((5,0))	.	.	.	6,5	6,8	6,8	6,9
Higher education (professional and university study, master of science degree, doctorate)	29,6	29,1	29,7	29,1	(20,6)	((22,8))	((20,7))	((18,2))	11,8	11,7	12,1	12,5
Women												
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Uncompleted basic school	((0,8))	((0,6))	.	.	.	.	.	.	15,5	14,9	13,0	11,5
Basic school (8 years)	7,1	7,4	6,4	6,1	((8,9))	((7,8))	((8,6))	((9,2))	32,7	32,4	32,4	31,4
Vocational schools	51,9	52,2	52,7	53,5	(60,0)	(58,1)	(60,7)	(64,9)	34,0	35,0	35,2	37,5
Grammar school	(4,0)	(3,5)	(3,7)	(3,7)	.	.	.	.	7,5	7,4	8,2	8,2
Higher education (professional and university study, master of science degree, doctorate)	36,2	36,2	36,8	36,5	((24,4))	((29,5))	((27,3))	((22,2))	10,4	10,3	11,2	11,5

5 PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT, BY STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT AND SEX

'000

	Total				Men				Women			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total												
Persons in employment	1.655	1.679	1.657	1.678	894	909	901	907	761	771	757	771
Persons in paid employment	1.455	1.472	1.452	1.458	770	772	759	757	685	700	692	701
Self-employed persons	179	187	190	194	116	128	134	139	63	60	56	54
Unpaid family workers	(21)	(20)	((16))	(26)	((8))	((9))	((7))	((11))	((13))	((11))	((9))	((15))
%												
Persons in employment	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Persons in paid employment	87,9	87,7	87,6	86,9	86,1	85,0	84,3	83,4	90,0	90,8	91,5	90,9
Self-employed persons	10,8	11,1	11,5	11,5	12,9	14,0	14,9	15,3	8,3	7,7	7,4	7,1
Unpaid family workers	(1,3)	(1,2)	((0,9))	(1,6)	((0,9))	((1,0))	((0,8))	((1,2))	((1,7))	((1,5))	((1,2))	((2,0))

6 PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT, ACCORDING TO NKD 2007. AND BY SEX

'000

	Total			Men			Women		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Total ¹⁾	1.679	1.657	1.678	909	901	907	771	757	771
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104	107	114	70	73	76	(34)	(34)	(38)
Mining and quarrying	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Manufacturing	299	293	297	196	195	196	103	98	102
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	((19))	((18))	((19))	((13))	((13))	((15))	.	.	.
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	(31)	(31)	(33)	(26)	(25)	(26)	((5))	((6))	((7))
Construction	111	119	128	101	111	118	((10))	((8))	((10))
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	231	233	235	104	105	103	127	129	132
Transportation and storage	107	105	108	88	88	88	((19))	((17))	((19))
Accommodation and food service activities	107	95	96	(47)	(43)	(47)	61	52	50
Information and communication	(58)	(56)	(47)	(36)	(38)	(32)	((22))	((18))	((15))
Financial and insurance activities	(38)	(39)	(36)	((14))	((11))	((12))	((24))	((27))	(24)
Real estate activities	.	((6))	((6))	.	.	.	.	.	.
Professional, scientific and technical activities	74	71	70	(32)	(31)	(31)	(42)	(40)	(39)
Administrative and support service activities	(44)	(45)	(45)	(26)	(24)	(26)	((18))	((21))	((19))
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	118	122	120	66	65	65	(52)	57	55
Education	129	122	117	(30)	(29)	(24)	99	93	94
Human health and social work activities	127	124	128	((22))	((21))	((18))	104	103	110
Arts, entertainment and recreation	(31)	(29)	(29)	((17))	((14))	((13))	((14))	((15))	((16))
Other service activities	(36)	(32)	(39)	((12))	((7))	((9))	((24))	(25)	(30)
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods – and services – producing activities of households for own use	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Activities of extra-territorial organisations and bodies	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Unknown	.	.	((6))	.	.	.	.	.	.

1) Due to unreliable estimates marked by ((.)), data do not add up to the total.

7 PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT, ACCORDING TO NKD 2007. AND BY SEX

%

	Total			Men			Women		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Total ¹⁾	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	6,2	6,4	6,8	7,7	8,1	8,3	(4,4)	(4,5)	(4,9)
Mining and quarrying	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Manufacturing	17,8	17,7	17,7	21,6	21,6	21,6	13,4	13,0	13,2
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	((1,1))	((1,1))	((1,1))	((1,5))	((1,5))	((1,7))	.	.	.
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	(1,8)	(1,9)	(2,0)	(2,9)	(2,8)	(2,8)	((0,6))	((0,8))	((1,0))
Construction	6,6	7,2	7,6	11,1	12,3	13,0	((1,3))	((1,1))	((1,3))
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	13,8	14,1	14,0	11,5	11,6	11,3	16,5	17,0	17,1
Transportation and storage	6,4	6,3	6,4	9,7	9,8	9,8	((2,4))	((2,2))	((2,5))
Accommodation and food service activities	6,4	5,7	5,8	(5,1)	(4,8)	(5,2)	7,9	6,8	6,4
Information and communication	(3,5)	(3,4)	(2,8)	(4,0)	(4,2)	(3,5)	((2,9))	((2,4))	((1,9))
Financial and insurance activities	(2,3)	(2,3)	(2,1)	((1,6))	((1,2))	((1,4))	((3,1))	((3,6))	(3,1)
Real estate activities	.	((0,3))	((0,3))	.	.	.	.	.	.
Professional, scientific and technical activities	4,4	4,3	4,2	(3,5)	(3,5)	(3,4)	(5,4)	(5,3)	(5,1)
Administrative and support service activities	(2,6)	(2,7)	(2,7)	(2,9)	(2,6)	(2,9)	((2,3))	((2,8))	((2,4))
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	7,1	7,4	7,1	7,3	7,2	7,1	(6,8)	7,5	7,1
Education	7,7	7,4	7,0	(3,3)	(3,2)	(2,6)	12,9	12,3	12,1
Human health and social work activities	7,5	7,5	7,6	((2,5))	((2,3))	((2,0))	13,5	13,6	14,3
Arts, entertainment and recreation	(1,8)	(1,7)	(1,8)	((1,8))	((1,5))	((1,4))	((1,8))	((2,0))	((2,1))
Other service activities	(2,1)	(1,9)	(2,3)	((1,3))	((0,8))	((1,0))	((3,2))	(3,3)	(3,9)
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods – and services – producing activities of households for own use	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Unknown	.	.	((0,3))	.	.	.	.	.	.

1) Due to unreliable estimates marked by ((.)), data do not add up to the total.

8 PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT, ACCORDING TO NKZ 10. MAJOR GROUPS OF OCCUPATIONS AND BY SEX

'000

	Total			Men			Women		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Total ¹⁾	1.679	1.657	1.678	909	901	907	771	757	771
Managers	83	84	78	61	60	55	(22)	((24))	(22)
Professionals	303	307	291	112	115	108	190	192	183
Technicians and associate professionals	238	239	241	134	135	129	103	104	112
Clerical support workers	166	160	163	59	(57)	57	108	103	106
Service and sales workers	299	275	300	107	91	104	192	184	196
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	68	71	75	43	47	54	(25)	(24)	(22)
Craft and related trades workers	194	203	209	180	187	191	((14))	((16))	((18))
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	164	171	173	120	130	133	(44)	(41)	41
Elementary occupations	146	128	131	75	63	65	70	65	66
Armed forces occupations	((13))	((14))	((11))	((12))	((13))	((9))	.	.	.
Unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

%

Total ¹⁾	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Managers	5,0	5,1	4,6	6,7	6,7	6,1	(2,9)	((3,1))	(2,9)
Professionals	18,0	18,5	17,4	12,3	12,7	11,9	24,7	25,4	23,8
Technicians and associate professionals	14,2	14,4	14,4	14,8	15,0	14,2	13,4	13,7	14,6
Clerical support workers	9,9	9,7	9,7	6,5	(6,3)	6,3	13,9	13,7	13,8
Service and sales workers	17,8	16,6	17,9	11,8	10,1	11,4	24,9	24,3	25,5
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	4,1	4,3	4,5	4,8	5,3	5,9	(3,2)	(3,2)	(2,8)
Craft and related trades workers	11,6	12,3	12,5	19,8	20,8	21,0	((1,8))	((2,2))	((2,4))
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	9,8	10,3	10,3	13,2	14,5	14,6	(5,8)	(5,4)	5,3
Elementary occupations	8,7	7,7	7,8	8,3	7,0	7,2	9,1	8,6	8,6
Armed forces occupations	((0,8))	((0,9))	((0,6))	((1,4))	((1,5))	((1,0))	.	.	.
Unknown	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

9 AVERAGE HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED ON MAIN JOB DURING REFERENCE WEEK, ACCORDING TO NKD 2007. ACTIVITY SECTIONS AND BY SEX

	2018	2019	2020	2021 ¹⁾
Total				
Total	38,5	38,4	38,0	37,9
Agriculture	37,2	37,7	38,3	37,1
Industry	38,9	38,6	38,0	38,3
Services	38,5	38,3	38,0	37,8
Men				
Total	39,1	39,0	38,5	38,5
Agriculture	39,1	39,4	39,7	38,6
Industry	39,2	38,9	38,3	38,6
Services	39,1	39,1	38,5	38,4
Women				
Total	37,7	37,6	37,4	37,3
Agriculture	34,0	34,4	35,2	33,9
Industry	37,7	37,7	37,4	37,6
Services	38,0	37,7	37,5	37,4

1) Since 2021, the new binding Regulation (EU) No. 2019/1700 and the related Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 2019/2240, concerning the labour force domain, have entered into force. Their implementation caused changes in the methodology and breaks in time series of indicators of working hours, which makes the data from 2021 incomparable with data in previous periods.

10 UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, BY DURATION OF JOB SEARCH

	Total, '000				Total, %			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total ¹⁾	152	119	135	138	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Less than 1 month	((7))	((8))	((7))	((7))	((4,6))	((6,4))	((4,9))	((5,1))
1 – 5 months	52	(45)	56	49	34,0	(37,6)	41,5	35,8
6 – 11 months	(25)	((19))	(32)	(25)	(16,7)	((15,9))	(23,7)	(18,1)
12 – 23 months	(27)	((19))	((16))	(27)	(17,7)	((15,9))	((12,2))	(19,5)
24 months and longer	(32)	((17))	((17))	((22))	(20,7)	((13,9))	((12,6))	((15,7))

1) Due to non-response of respondents, a sum of low-level data does not add up to the total.

11 REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, NOT ILO UNEMPLOYED

	Total, '000				Total, %			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total								
ILO unemployed persons ¹⁾	152	119	135	138	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Registered with CES	109	85	103	92	71,8	71,8	76,5	66,4
Not registered with CES	(42)	(34)	(31)	(46)	(27,8)	(28,2)	(23,3)	(33,5)
Registered unemployed persons	154	129	151	137	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Of which not ILO unemployed	44	43	48	45	28,7	33,6	31,7	32,9
Men								
ILO unemployed persons ¹⁾	74	60	72	71	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Registered with CES	50	(38)	(51)	(44)	67,3	(64,0)	(70,5)	(62,5)
Not registered with CES	(24)	((21))	((21))	(26)	(32,5)	((36,0))	((29,1))	(37,2)
Registered unemployed persons	66	57	67	61	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Of which not ILO unemployed	17	19	16	17	25,0	33,2	24,0	27,2
Women								
ILO unemployed persons ¹⁾	78	59	62	67	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Registered with CES	60	(47)	(52)	(47)	76,0	(79,6)	(83,5)	(70,5)
Not registered with CES	((18))	((12))	((10))	((20))	((23,4))	((20,4))	((16,5))	((29,5))
Registered unemployed persons	87	72	84	76	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Of which not ILO unemployed	28	24	32	28	31,6	33,8	38,0	37,5

1) Due to non-response of respondents, a sum of low-level data does not add up to the total.

12 COMPARISON BETWEEN REGISTERED AND ILO UNEMPLOYMENT, BY SEX

	Total				Men				Women			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Unemployed persons registered with CES, '000	154	129	151	137	66	57	67	61	87	72	84	76
ILO unemployed persons, '000	152	119	135	138	74	60	72	71	78	59	62	67
ILO unemployment rate, %	8,4	6,6	7,5	7,6	7,6	6,2	7,5	7,3	9,3	7,2	7,6	8,0
Registered unemployment rate ¹⁾ , %	9,2	7,6	8,9	8,0	7,6	6,5	7,6	6,8	10,9	8,9	10,4	9,3

1) Rates were calculated from final revised administrative data.

NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

Data sources

Data presented in this First Release have been calculated from the data collected in the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

The Labour Force Survey is the most comprehensive official survey on the labour market characteristics in the Republic of Croatia that is conducted on the sample of randomly selected private households.

Data collected by the Labour Force Survey are related to socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of households, with the special emphasis on the status in activity according to the methodological standards of the International Labour Organisation (employed persons, unemployed persons and persons outside the labour force), activity and occupation characteristics on the current, second and previous job, hours of work and working time, unemployment characteristics and educational attainment characteristics.

The Labour Force Survey is harmonised with the EU regulations and Eurostat's methodology prescribed for the EU-Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS). The Labour Force Survey is binding at the EU level and it is a reference data source that provides observing and comparability of labour market statistics at the international level.

Background

The Labour Force Survey was introduced in the statistical system of the Republic of Croatia in November 1996 as an annual survey. It was carried out in the same manner in June 1997. From 1998 to 2006 it was carried out by interviewing sampled households every month and data were published for each half-year period.

Starting from 2007, the Labour Force Survey has been carried out continuously on a weekly basis, that is, households are interviewed throughout the year. This means that every week is both a reference and an interviewing, i.e. implementation, week. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics processes and publishes results in quarterly dynamics.

Since the beginning of 2016, the earlier method of data collection on printed questionnaires was replaced by interviewing methods using laptops and phone.

Since the beginning of 2021, the new Regulation (EU) No. 2019/1700 has entered into force, which repealed the Regulation (EC) No. 577/98, which was, until then, the basic legal framework for conducting the Labour Force Survey.

Data collection

The Labour Force Survey is a panel survey conducted on a weekly basis. Every sampled household is interviewed four times over a year-and-a-half period following the 2- (2) -2 rotation scheme. In other words, households are interviewed in two subsequent quarters, omitted from the sample for the next two quarters and then in the next two subsequent quarters they are interviewed again. This allows for timely monitoring of flows of persons at the labour market, in quarterly and annual dynamics. Every household selected into the sample receives an announcement letter from the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

Interviews are carried out by applying the CAPI and CATI data collection methods.

The CAPI method (Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing) includes interviewing on laptops "face to face". All households selected into sample for the first time and households that either do not have a telephone/cell phone or do not want, for whatever reason, be interviewed by telephone are interviewed in this way.

The CATI method (Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing) includes interviewing by phone from the CATI Center. All households that accepted in the first interviewing to be interviewed by phone are interviewed in this way.

Accordingly, interviewers visit sampled addresses every week and conduct interviews on private households living at these addresses. The interview lasts approximately 20 minutes. On the basis of the Act on Official Statistics (NN, No. 25/20), all information given by interviewed persons are confidential. The data collected are used for statistical purposes only.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, since 2020, the Labour Force Survey has been facing difficulties in the collection and processing of data.

Since the second quarter of 2020, the data collection has been adjusted to the new circumstances and "face-to-face" interviewing using laptops was partly replaced by telephone interviewing.

In announcement letters sent to the selected addresses, when a phone number was not available in the phone book, households were asked to provide their phone number for the purpose of establishing contact and conducting the survey.

Basic concepts and definitions

The Labour Force Survey measures the economic activity of the population in a short survey period of one week.

Reference period is every week in the whole year.

Target population includes all persons residing in private households who make usual population of the Republic of Croatia.

A household is a small economic group of persons that is usually, although not always, a group of relatives. There are one-person and multi-person households, providing that the multi-person households consist of two or more persons who jointly reside in a housing unit or a part of it and share costs for food and basic household needs, or jointly contribute to the household income and/or mutually share all or a major part of household costs.

Working-age population is comprised of all persons aged 15 years and over.

Employed persons comprise persons aged 15 to 89 who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:

- a) persons who during the reference week worked **for at least one hour** for pay in cash or kind, including unpaid family workers
- b) persons having a job or their own business who were **temporarily not at work** due to annual leave, working time arrangements, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave, or persons in job-related training.

Accordingly, a pensioner, a housewife, a student or a person not in formal employment can also be classified as employed persons.

Employed persons are also:

- persons on **parental leave**, either receiving and/or being entitled to job-related income or benefits, or whose parental leave is expected to be three months or less
- seasonal workers **during the off-season**, where they continue to regularly perform tasks and duties for the job or business, excluding fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations
- persons **temporarily not at work** for other reasons where the expected duration of the absence is three months or less
- **persons that produce agricultural goods** whose main part is intended for sale or barter.

Regarding the status in employment, employed persons are classified either as persons in paid employment (employees), as self-employed persons or as unpaid family workers.

Persons in paid employment are those who work for an employer in the state or private sector and are paid for their work in cash or kind.

Self-employed persons are employers who run an enterprise and employ one or more employees, as well as own-account workers who have no employees.

Unpaid family workers are those who are not in paid employment or self-employment, but work in an enterprise owned by a family member and do not receive a payment for their work. They can also be relatives who do not reside in the same household where the owner of the family business resides.

Unemployed persons are those between 15 and 74 years old, who meet the following three criteria:

- a) not employed during the reference week
- b) currently available for work, i.e. were available for paid employment or self-employment before the end of the two weeks following the reference week
- c) actively seeking work, i.e. had either carried out activities in the four -week period ending with the reference week to seek paid employment or self-employment or found a job to start within a period of at most three months from the end of the reference week.

Active population (labour force) comprises employed and unemployed persons.

Inactive population (persons outside the labour force) comprise persons who are in one of the following categories:

- a) aged below 15
- b) aged 15 to 89 and neither employed nor unemployed during the reference week

c) aged above 89.

Activity rate represents the labour force as a percentage of the working-age population.

Employment rate represents employed persons as a percentage of working-age population.

Unemployment rate represents unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force.

In certain tables, the sum total may not equal the sum of individual figures due to the rounding to thousands.

Changes in the Labour Force Survey since 2021

Definition of employment

Until 2020, employed persons included persons who turned 15 years of age and over, while since 2021 and onwards, they have included persons aged from **15 to 89** years.

Persons temporarily not at work but have a job to return to after the reason for their absence ceased to exist have been classified since 2021 as employed only if the total expected duration of their absence is three months or less, i.e., if during their absence they continue to receive income or benefit for their work. Until 2020, all persons temporarily absent from work who had a job to return to after the reason for their absence ceased to exist (irrespective of the reason for absence) were classified as employed persons.

Persons on parental leave have been classified since 2021 as employed only if they either receive and/or are entitled to job-related income or benefits, or if their parental leave is expected to last three months or less. Until 2020, all persons on parental leave were classified as employed persons.

Seasonal workers who did not work in the reference week (**off-season period**) have been classified since 2021 as employed persons if they continue to regularly perform tasks and duties for the job or business, excluding fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations. Until 2020, seasonal workers were classified as employed persons if they signed a contract/agreement with an employer to return to the same job at the beginning of the new season and/or if they continued to receive at least 50% or more of income or benefits during the off-season.

Persons that produce agricultural goods whose main part is intended for consumption in own household were, until 2020, classified as employed persons, while they have been excluded from employment since 2021. Only if the main part of their agricultural production is intended for sale or barter are such persons classified as employed.

Unpaid family workers who perform work for members of their families have been classified since 2021 as employed persons, even if they do not reside in the same household with their relatives who own the trade/enterprise/agricultural holding, while, until 2020, they were classified as employed only if they resided in a joint household with them.

Definition of unemployment

Until 2020, unemployed persons included persons who turned 15 years and over, while, since 2021 and onwards, they have included persons aged from **15 to 74** years. Changes in the definition of unemployment and inactivity result from the explained definitions of employment.

Questionnaire design

In order to improve the comparability of data across countries, a unique, strictly prescribed and harmonised sequence of questions has been applied for defining of major survey categories (employed persons, unemployed persons, persons outside of the labour force).

Further on, new questions have been introduced (e.g., questions related to migrations, economic and organisational dependence of self-employed persons, etc.). Some questions have been removed, e.g. questions related to the situation of the respondent a year prior to the interview and certain questions concerning informal education characteristics. Particular questions and answers offered to respondents have been changed in order to achieve standardisation of questions in the Labour Force Survey with those in other surveys in the social statistics domain.

In addition, certain blocks of questions have been modified more substantially, e.g. the block of questions related to working hours (contracted working hours have been monitored since 2021 along with usual and actually worked ones, etc.). Moreover, the location of certain blocks of questions in the questionnaire has also been changed.

Labour Force Survey and administrative sources

Besides Labour Force Survey data on employment and unemployment, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics also publishes data on employment and unemployment according to administrative sources in the Republic of Croatia (including registered unemployment rate).

The following text provides methodological characteristics that cause mutual differences between data on employed persons.

Source and coverage: until 2016, data from administrative sources were based on monthly and annual statistical surveys (RAD-1 and RAD-1G forms) covering employed persons in legal entities of all types of ownership, government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units on the territory of the Republic of Croatia. The monthly survey covers 70% of all employed persons in each NKD 2007. division. Since 2016, data on employed persons in legal entities have been gathered by processing data from the "Report on Income, Income Tax and Surtax as well as Contributions for Mandatory Insurances" (JOPPD form) in effect since 1 January 2014 and are not comparable to previously published monthly data. Data on employed persons in crafts and trades and free-lances as well as on employed insured persons – private farmers are taken over from the records on active pension insurance beneficiaries kept by the Croatian Institute for Pension Insurance. The Labour Force Survey results are estimated on the basis of a representative statistical sample of private households in the Republic of Croatia.

Reference period: administrative data on employed persons refer to the last day of the previous month, while the Labour Force Survey data are related to a reference week.

Observation period: administrative data are processed and published in monthly dynamics, while the Labour Force Survey results are related to a quarterly period.

Definitions of employed persons: administrative sources apply the formal definition of employment (persons who have signed the work contract with the employer for a fixed or unspecified period of time, irrespective of type of ownership and of whether they work full time or less than full time), while the Labour Force Survey shows employed persons as all persons who were, in the reference week for at least one hour, engaged in any work for payment in cash or kind, as well as those who were absent from work during the reference week, but had a job to return to with the same employer after the reason for absence no longer existed.

Released data: administrative data on employed persons are published monthly in the First Release "Persons in Paid Employment, by Activities" and in the Statistics in Line on the web site of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

The First Release "Active Population in the Republic of Croatia" is the publications in which Labour Force Survey results on employed persons are published in the quarterly dynamics. The RAD-1G annual survey data are also published at lower territorial levels, while the Labour Force Survey results are available at HR_NUTS 2021 classification levels – HR_NUTS 2.

The Croatian Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Croatia publishes data on unemployed persons taken over from administrative sources as well as those obtained through the Labour Force Survey. These data differ due to the following methodological characteristics.

Source and coverage: data on registered unemployment are obtained from the Register of Unemployed Persons kept by the Croatian Employment Service, while the Labour Force Survey results are collected by interviewing private households. Register contains data on all unemployed persons in the Republic of Croatia, while the Labour Force Survey results are estimated on the basis of the representative statistical sample.

Reference period: the Register data refer to the last day of each month, while the Labour Force Survey data are collected for each reference week.

Observation period: the Register data are taken over in monthly dynamics, while the Labour Force Survey results are processed and published for a quarterly period.

Definitions of unemployed persons: a registered unemployed person is a person who is registered with the Croatian Employment Service, that is, each person who meets criteria defined by the Act on Job Placement and Unemployment Insurance and the Croatian Employment Service. According to the Labour Force Survey, an unemployed person is either a person who did not perform any work for payment in cash or kind in the reference week, and was actively seeking job in the course of four weeks before the interview and is prepared to start performing an offered job in the following two weeks or a person who has found a job and will start working in the next three months.

Released data: data on registered unemployment and registered unemployment rate are published monthly in the First Release "Persons in Employment, by Activities" and in the Statistics in Line on the web site of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics. The First Release "Active Population in the Republic of Croatia" is a publication in which the comparison of unemployment rate obtained from the Labour Force Survey results and the one from administrative sources are published. At the same time, the Croatian Employment Service publishes administrative data on unemployment at lower territorial levels, while the Labour Force Survey data are available at HR_NUTS 2021 classification levels – HR_NUTS 2.

The data show that the unemployment rate based on the administrative data sources is higher than the Labour Force Survey rate. This is, on one hand, due to the fact that some categories of population formally classified as unemployed or inactive are nevertheless active, and on the other, administrative sources, besides actually unemployed persons, include a significant share of persons who are not classified as unemployed according to the definition of the Labour Force Survey, but are through this status entitled to some social or economic rights and benefits.

Classifications used

a) The National Classification of Activities, 2007 version, comparable to the international Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community, NACE Rev. 2, was used in the coding of economic activities.

b) The National Classification of Occupations 2010, NKZ 10., comparable to the International Standard Classification of Occupations, ISCO-08, was used in the coding of occupations.

Coverage and comparability

Data from the 1991 Census on Population, Households and Dwellings were used as a sample frame in the period from 1996 to 1999. In this period, the parts of Croatian territory with still ongoing war operations at the time when Labour Force Survey was prepared could not be included in the sample frame.

The database of the Croatian Electrical Utility containing data on households spread on the whole Croatian territory was used as a sample frame for 2000 and 2001. Hence, for the first time, the sample and the Labour Force Survey results, since 2000, have related to the whole Republic of Croatia.

Starting from the first half-year of 2002, the sample frame based on the Census 2001 data had been used for the Labour Force Survey, while, since the beginning of 2014, the new sample frame based on the data from the Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in 2011 has been in use.

The Labour Force Survey methodology determines that the population residing in institutions (such as homes, convents, hospitals for long-term treatments, etc.) is not included in the sample frame.

Data revision

In order to achieve consistency and comparability of data for 2014 and onwards with already published data for previous years, the weighting revision has been done on the data for the period from 2007 to 2013, i.e., the data have been weighted according to the Census 2011 results by using the calibration method. The data are published in the First Release "Active Population in the Republic of Croatia, 2007 – 2013" of 23 December 2014.

Due to the availability of new and more updated estimates of the total population of the Republic of Croatia, the Labour Force Survey data from the fourth quarter of 2015 to the fourth quarter of 2016 have been revised in order to make them in line with the demographic data on the Republic of Croatia. These data are published in the First Release of 11 April 2017, while the data for the remaining three quarters of 2015 are available in the Statistics in Line.

Sample design

The Labour Force Survey is based on the random sample of private households. In the period from 1996 to 2006, the sample was separately defined for each period, that is, the interviews were not repeated, which means that the sample did not have a panel component. Since 2007, the panel component has been introduced in the sample design and households have been repeatedly interviewed four times. However, since the beginning of 2014, the repeated interviewing of previously selected households has been abandoned due to changes in the methodology of processing and implementation of the Labour Force Survey. Having in mind that the Census of Population, Households and Dwellings 2011 has been used as a new sample frame, all households in the first quarter of 2014 were selected for the first time, but the interviewing dynamics remained the same.

Since 2014 the new sample design has been determined. The sample consists of four separately selected subsamples, rotation groups (panels). The sample design is two-stage and stratified. The sample frame is stratified in seven strata at HR_NUTS 2021 classification levels – HR_NUTS 2 and further separated into urban and rural parts. The random sample of inhabited dwellings is selected in two stages and the sample design used is a two-stage cluster sampling. Before selecting the sample, the so-called segments are formed. Segments are territorial units formed by grouping of one or several neighbouring enumeration districts, which were established for the purpose of carrying out the Census of Population, Households and Dwellings 2011.

In the first stage, the random sample of segments is chosen from each stratum and in the second one, the random sample of inhabited dwellings within the selected segments.

Since the beginning of 2021, the sample size has been gradually enlarged by adding of 325 new households in each panel, i.e., a part of the sample interviewed for the first time. The enlargement is planned to last for a year and a half.

In an average quarter, the sample consists of 7 849 dwellings selected in the sample. All members all of private households permanently living in these dwellings and accepting to participate in the Labour Force Survey, were interviewed. In 2021, there were 34 362 persons aged 15 years and over interviewed in 16 066 households.

Weighting

The weighting procedure is carried out in order to calculate the estimate for the whole household population. This procedure provides for the compensation of the design and sample size impact as well as the impact of the non-response of households to the Labour Force Survey.

Since the beginning of 2014, the new process of weighting the collected data has been determined. In the first phase of the process, the calculation included the weights of the selection of units into the sample taken over from both sampling stages (segments and dwellings) and, in the second one, the weights due to the adjustment to the non-response of units included in the sample. In the last phase of weighting, the final weights calculated in the first two phases were calibrated at the population distribution estimates by age groups, sex and statistical spatial units at the NKPJS 2nd level according to the Census of Population, Households and Dwellings 2011, which was updated with data on live births and deaths as well as on population migrations in the Republic of Croatia.

The calibration can be described as a process of reweighting aimed at balancing the population estimates by age groups, sex and at HR_NUTS 2021 classification levels – HR_NUTS 2 from the Labour Force Survey, in other words, the distribution of the population of the Republic of Croatia by age groups, sex and statistical spatial units at NKPJS 2nd level from the Census of Population, Households and Dwellings 2011.

The overall non-response rate for 2021 was 42.6% and the refusal rate was 21.7%.

Abbreviations

EC	European Community
EU	European Union
Eurostat	Statistical Office of the European Communities
CES	Croatian Employment Service
COVID-19	COrona Virus Disease-19
HR_NUTS 2021.	National Classification of Statistical Regions 2021
HR_NUTS 2	2nd level statistical regions
ILO	International Labour Organisation
NKD 2007.	National Classification of Activities, 2007 version
NKPJS	Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics
NKZ 10.	National Classification of Occupations, 2010 version
NN	Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia
NUTS	common classification of territorial units for statistics
'000	thousand

Symbols

-	no occurrence
.	not zero, but extremely inaccurate estimation
(())	inaccurate estimation
()	less accurate estimation

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