

## Labour market: Unemployment

### 0. Prerequisites

#### 0.1 Legal environment

##### [0.1.1 Responsibility for collecting, processing, and disseminating statistics](#)

###### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

According to article 7 of the "Georgian Law on Official Statistics" (*Law*), the National Statistics Office of Georgia (NSO) is responsible for the collection, processing and dissemination of statistical data.

According to the Law, other state and local self-governed bodies legal entities of public law and other administrative bodies may perform activities in the field of official statistics in accordance with international standards and methodologies.

The NSO ensures the coordination of works in the field of official statistics, issues recommendations on statistical standards and methodologies, performs the exchange of statistical information between administrative bodies and supports the implementation of approved standards and methodologies.

##### [0.1.3 Confidentiality of individual reporters' data](#)

###### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

According to the *Law*, article 28 "Statistical Data Confidentiality":

Data acquired for statistical purposes are confidential, if they enable to identify respondent.

The dissemination of confidential statistical data or their use for non-statistical purposes is prohibited unless the cases stated by the Georgian legislation.

##### [0.1.4 Ensuring statistical reporting](#)

###### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

According to the *Law*, article 25 "Obligation to Provide Statistical and Other Information":

With the view of fulfilling its functions the Geostat shall be authorized to request and receive from administrative bodies, physical and legal persons all kinds of statistical data and other information, including confidential information and/or information containing personal data, in line with the "Law on Personal Data Protection".

Administrative bodies shall be obliged to provide available information on physical persons and legal entities of private law to Geostat, including confidential information and/or information containing personal data in line with the "Law on Personal Data Protection".

In case of failure to provide information to Geostat required under the statistical activities program approved by the Government of Georgia, legal entities registered in the Register of entrepreneurial and non-commercial legal entities shall be liable

to proceedings stipulated in the Code of Administrative Offices of Georgia.

## 0.2 Resources

### 0.2.2 Ensuring efficient use of resources

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

In order to ensure the efficient use of resources the following measures are undertaken:

The thorough planning of statistical works (on multi-annual, annual and quarterly basis) that ensure the production and dissemination of reliable and relevant statistical information;

The permanent monitoring of the appropriate use of resources according their destination.

Special attention is granted to the improvement of the staff performances, especially its qualification and abilities.

## 0.3 Relevance

### 0.3.1 Monitoring user requirements

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

In order to assure the production and dissemination of relevant statistics in the process of elaboration of draft annual program of statistical works, the interested public and other institutions are consulted.

## 0.4 Quality management

### 0.4.1 Quality policy

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

Quality awareness is evidenced by references to quality in the *Law* according to which the production of statistical information is based on the principles of impartiality, statistical deontology.

### 0.4.2 Quality monitoring

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

A range of measures to ensure the high quality of works at each stage of information flow are undertaken.

The primary and processed data are carefully checked for their internal, temporal consistency, as well as cross-checked with available data from other statistical and administrative sources of information.

In order to ensure the high quality of primary data, meetings with data providers are frequently held.

Quality policy is based on the provisions of national and EU legislation, Strategy of NSO, European Statistics Code of Practice, user needs and expectations. It defines overall intentions and directions of institution related to quality.

### 0.4.3 Quality planning

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#### 1. Integrity

##### 1.1 Professionalism

##### 1.1.1 Impartiality of statistics

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

According to the *Law*, article 4 production and dissemination of statistics shall be based on the fundamental principles of official statistics.

The NSO is concerned to honor its independence and objectivity by the *Law* and regulation pursuing the objectivity of tools used, such as survey methods, statistical classifications, definitions of indicators, etc., as well as the objectivity of releasing and providing statistical data and information.

##### 1.1.2 Selection of sources, methodology, and modes of dissemination

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

Bodies of the NSO and other statistical establishments shall obtain statistical information by means of statistical observations (current statistical reports and specially arranged statistical observations).

Objects of statistical observations shall be resident as well as non-resident enterprises operating on the territory of Georgia within the observation program limits.

A type of the statistical observation, a circle of the observation objects, the regularity, the form and term of data presentation are defined in accordance with the observation objectives and shall, together with appropriate methodological institutions, be approved by the NSO.

Producing the statistics and disseminating the information derived as a result of producing the statistics shall be in compliance with the international standards and practice.

##### 1.1.3 Commenting on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

The NSO has full authority to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics. This rarely occurs due to the provision of press briefings/conferences where NSO staff can provide information on methodologies, interpretation of statistics and respond to general

questions.

## 1.2 Transparency

### 1.2.1 Disclosure of terms and conditions for statistical collection, processing, and dissemination

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

Disclosure of terms and conditions for statistical collection, processing and dissemination is guaranteed by the state statistical program each year adopted by the president of Georgia. In state statistical program each data produced by the NSO has its short description, periodicity and timelines.

The law on statistics is publicly available on NSO's website [www.geostat.ge](http://www.geostat.ge) (in English on web page [http://geostat.ge/cms/site\\_images/latest%20Law%20of%20Georgia\\_2018.pdf](http://geostat.ge/cms/site_images/latest%20Law%20of%20Georgia_2018.pdf)), also on the web of the Legislative Herald of Georgia: <https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/90946?publication=11>

### 1.2.2 Internal governmental access to statistics prior to release

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

There are no privileges for access to statistical data in Georgia. Statistical data are equally available to all users from the web: [www.geostat.ge](http://www.geostat.ge), also from publications of the NSO.

### 1.2.3 Attribution of statistical products

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

There is no ministerial comment on the occasion of statistical releases.

### 1.2.4 Advance notice of major changes in methodology, source data, and statistical techniques.

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

Methodology (for data collection, processing and analysis) and questionnaires of the NSO are adopted by the Statistical Board of the NSO which consists of 8 members (including its Chairman – an Executive Director of the NSO).

For any changes in methodology, data source or questionnaire content or its design there is a need of changes in the resolution of the Statistical Board.

## 1.3 Ethical standards

### 1.3.1 Guidelines for staff behavior

#### **National Statistics Office of Georgia**

The internal regulations of the NSO define the staff behavior.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Concepts and definitions

#### 2.1.1 Concepts and definitions

The national definition of unemployment is based on the methodology of the International Labour Organization (ILO), in particular in the Resolution concerning statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment, adopted by the thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians.

Unemployed: a person of 15 years of age and above who, during the reference period (7 days preceding the interview), was not employed and within the previous four weeks actively searched for work and in case of success was ready to start work within the next two weeks.

Unemployment rate: the ratio of the number of unemployed to the number of the economically active population, expressed as a percentage.

### 2.2 Scope

#### 2.2.1 Scope

Scope of the data

Population coverage: all persons aged 15 years and over living in private households. Unemployment data cover gender, urban, rural data.

Exceptions to coverage

**Geographical coverage:** Data do not cover the territories of Abkhazian Autonomous Republic and Tskhinvali Region (former South Ossetian Autonomous Region), a part of Georgian territory not controlled by the central authorities.

### 2.3 Classification/sectorization

#### 2.3.1 Classification/sectorization

Unemployment data are classified by sex, urban/rural, region, age, education.

## 3. Accuracy and reliability

### 3.1 Source data

#### 3.1.1 Source data collection programs

Before 2017 source of unemployment data was the Integrated Household Survey which included a labour force module. In 2017 the Labour Force Survey was separated from the Integrated Household Survey and independent LFS established.

The Labour Force Survey consists of quarterly interviewing households in Tbilisi and 10 regions of Georgia.

The sampling frame is based on the results of the 2014 Population Census and covers non-institutional part of the population. Those

households are subjects of observation which live at the sampled addresses.

Data collection: Pen and Paper Interview (PAPI) performed by the interviewers.

Sample size and design: Two-stage cluster sampling is used. Where primary sampling unit (PSU) is a census unit, and secondary sampling unit (SSU) is the address of a household. Before 2017 the sample size was about 3400 addresses per quarter and the sample size was selected so that statistically reliable main indicators could be estimated on the level of regions.

Starting from 2017 the sample size was increased and significant changes in the sample design were made. The survey based on a sample of 5952 households per quarter, for urban areas - 2784 households and rural areas - 3168 households. From 2017 2-(2)-2 sample rotation scheme was adapted. This rotation scheme is based on having a panel of sample households interviewed for two consecutive quarters, out of the sample for two quarters, and then interviewed again for a final two quarters. Sample household is interviewed a maximum of 4 times over a period of 18 months. This rotation scheme provides a 50% overlap in the sample households from one quarter to the next, and also a 50% overlap in the sample between a particular quarter and the same quarter the following year.

### [3.1.2 Source data definitions, scope, classifications, valuation, and time of recording](#)

Source data definitions follow ILO recommendations.

### [3.1.3 Source data timeliness](#)

Source data are received 10 days after the reference period.

## 3.3 Statistical techniques [3.3.2 Other statistical procedures](#)

Data are not seasonally adjusted.

## 4. Serviceability

### 4.1 Periodicity and timeliness

#### [4.1.1 Periodicity](#)

Before 2018 - annual, from 2018 - quarterly.

#### **Periodicity flexibility**

Georgia was availing itself of a flexibility option on the periodicity of the Labor market. From 2018 unemployment data are released quarterly.

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market: Unemployment data.

#### 4.1.2 Timeliness

Annual - 150 days after the reference year.

Quarterly – 55 days after the end of the reference quarter.

#### Timeliness flexibility

Georgia was availing itself of a flexibility option on the timeliness of the Labor market. From 2018 unemployment data are released quarterly.

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#### 4.2 Consistency

##### 4.2.1 Internal consistency

The annual *Statistical Yearbook* publishes data on total unemployment.

The data on unemployment are available by sex, region, urban, rural and age group on NSO website.

##### 4.2.2 Temporal consistency

Unemployment data are available in time series on the web site.

#### 4.3 Revision

##### 4.3.1 Revision schedule

Data are final.

## 5. Accessibility

#### 5.1 Data

##### 5.1.1 Statistical presentation

The data on unemployment are published by sex, region, urban, rural, age group, and level of education.

##### 5.1.2 Dissemination media and format

Hard copy - Other

*Statistical Yearbook, Men and Women*

Electronic - On-line bulletin or data

Data are available on the NSO website

at: [http://geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p\\_id=146&lang=eng](http://geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=146&lang=eng)

##### 5.1.3 Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar with all the release dates throughout the

year is available on the NSO web site with following link [http://geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p\\_id=23&lang=eng](http://geostat.ge/index.php?action=page&p_id=23&lang=eng)

#### 5.1.4 Simultaneous release

Statistical data are simultaneously released to users of statistical information through the release of the NSO publications and through posting statistical data on the NSO web site [www.geostat.ge](http://www.geostat.ge)

#### 5.1.5 Dissemination on request

Special requests on hard copy and electronic form may be obtained from NSO.

## 5.2 Metadata

### 5.2.1 Dissemination of documentation on concepts, scope, classifications, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques

Methodological notes are available at NSO website [www.geostat.ge](http://www.geostat.ge). Brief methodological notes are also published in *Statistical Yearbook*.