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NOTE

From:	Employment Committee
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Implementation of the Recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market – Key Messages from the Employment Committee

With a view to the EPSCO Council on 20 June 2024, delegations will find attached Annex 2: Data collection for monitoring the implementation of the Recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market: full results for 2022.

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Data collection for monitoring the LTU Recommendation
Full results for 2022

April 2024

Employment,
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and Inclusion

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Table of contents

List of tables

List of figures

Executive summary

The Council Recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market[1] (hereinafter the LTU Recommendation) was adopted in February 2016 in response to the high levels of long-term unemployment across the EU that arose following the large-scale job losses incurred during the economic and financial crisis. Long-term unemployment arises as the rates of transition from unemployment to employment decrease progressively as the time spent out of work increases. The primary aim of the LTU Recommendation is to provide individualised and integrated support for long-term unemployed people that involves all relevant services (employment, social, health) in order to improve transition rates and, thereby, reduce the economic and social costs associated with prolonged unemployment.

This report presents the **results of monitoring the implementation of the LTU Recommendation in 2022**. Data collection was based on the associated Indicator Framework and accompanying methodological manual, as revised by the Indicators Group of the Employment Committee (EMCO-IG) in November 2023[2].

Context for implementation of the LTU Recommendation

Indicators at the aggregate level describe the context for the implementation of the LTU Recommendation in each Member State and at EU level. The evolution of these indicators through time represents an indirect means of monitoring the impact of the Recommendation and other relevant policies (e.g., preventative actions).

Annual data from the EU Labour Force Survey (LFS) show that the numbers of LTU fell progressively from 9.9 million in 2014 to reach 4.7 million in 2020. This downward trend was briefly interrupted in 2021 when numbers rose to 5.1 million as some of those that lost their jobs when COVID hit in 2020 became long-term unemployed. In 2022 the downward trend resumed, with numbers reducing by 645 thousand to reach a new low of just under 4.5 million, which saw the long-term unemployment rate reduce from 2.7% to 2.5%. At the same time, administrative data from national unemployment registers paint a less favourable picture, showing more than double the number of LTU in 2022 (10.2 million), substantially slower declines over the longer-term, an earlier increase when the pandemic hit, and LTU numbers in 2022 that are still above pre-pandemic levels. These dynamics are better illustrated by the new registered LTU ratio indicator (i.e. the share of the population aged 25-64 who are registered LTU according to national definitions), which stood at 4.3% in 2022.

In addition to the indicators measuring the level of long-term unemployment, a series of social indicators illustrate the disadvantages it can convey. In 2022, long-term unemployed in the EU were close to three and a half times as likely to be at risk of poverty or social exclusion or to suffer from material or social deprivation compared to the general population (71.3% vs. 20.8% and 43.5% vs. 12.7% respectively). The relative disadvantage for LTU is greatest in countries where the risks of the different elements of poverty are generally low and lowest in the countries where poverty is more widespread. LTU are also more likely to be overburdened by the cost of housing, and to have unmet needs for medical care. In many countries, the net replacement rate (proportion of previous in-work income received through benefits) drops off dramatically as people become long-term unemployed. Low replacement rates can create an incentive to find work but the scale of differences in the replacement rates for short and long-term unemployed highlight the disadvantages that are compounded by prolonged unemployment.

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[1] http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32016H0220%2801%29&qid=1456753373365
[2] Only the 2018 version is available online.

Numbers of LTU and the recovery from the COVID crisis

More detailed analysis of changes in the numbers of long-term unemployed using quarterly data from the LFS shows a clear and immediate increase as COVID hit, and that this impact affected women more than men. The increase was, however, relatively short-lived and numbers of LTU recorded by the LFS had returned to the lows seen in the second quarter of 2020 by the third quarter of 2023. The trends observed for unemployed of different durations suggest that the number of long-term unemployed in the EU will continue to fall well into 2024.

While the administrative data also show reduced numbers of registered LTU because of a higher net outflow in 2022, the actual caseloads of LTU seen by national PES have yet to return to pre-COVID levels and there has been an important shift in the composition of the LTU client base, with the contribution of those unemployed for more than 24 months rising from 65.1% in 2019 to 76.0% in 2022. All Member States experienced a net outflow of LTU in 2022 and, therefore, falls in the number of registered LTU. This is a welcome development, but numbers remain above pre-pandemic levels in just under half of cases, indicating an uneven recovery. Moreover, the increased contribution of those unemployed for more than 24 months applied in the majority of Member States, signalling a rising concentration of people that are particularly hard to place. Looking forward, quarterly data from the LFS provide a source of optimism that PES caseloads of LTU will continue to fall in 2023 and complete the reversal of the increases caused by COVID.

Implementation of the LTU Recommendation

The LTU Recommendation requires that all long-term unemployed are offered an in-depth individualised assessment and provided with a job integration agreement (JIA), signed with a single point of contact providing access to all relevant services, at the latest by 18 months of unemployment. It is not, however, prescriptive in the way that countries implement the relevant services and the combination of differences in the approach taken, the starting points from which they were developed, and national practices concerning treatment of breaks in the unemployment spell mean that comparison between countries is of limited value and that more focus should be put on developments through time for individual countries.

After seven years of implementation, only just over half of Member States (15) fulfil the first objective of the Recommendation by providing a JIA or its equivalent to at least 90% of LTU that have been registered as unemployed for at least 18 months. There are six Member States in which at least one in three LTU registered for at least 18 months does not have an active JIA (BE, DE, ES, CY[3], PT, SK).

Data on transitions to employment in 2022 are missing for Czechia, Greece, Hungary, and Romania, representing a fundamental gap in the respective monitoring data[4]. In the 23 Member States for which data are available, a total of just under 3.7 million JIA users ended their unemployment spell in 2022, of which 1.7 million, or 47.6%, are known to have taken up employment. Comparison with the previous year shows that transition rates were higher (better) in only 2 of 21 cases.

Follow-up monitoring

Follow-up indicators look at the extent to which employment outcomes are sustainable – i.e. the proportion of LTU that ended their unemployment spell by taking up work that is still in work (not necessarily in the same job) a year later.

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[3] CY did not provide JIA stocks by duration of unemployment so the share of LTU registered for at least 18 months with a JIA is not known. However, it is known that only 1.0% of all LTU have a JIA.
[4] CZ and RO provided data on the number of JIA users that exited to employment in 2022 but failed to provide data on the total number of JIA users whose unemployment spell ended in the year (needed in the denominator) so cannot be included in the analysis. HU provided the number of JIA users that exited to employment in 2020 but not for 2021.

Data are currently available for just 14 Member States, and this remains an area for improvement. In these countries, 60.7% of JIA users taking up work in 2021 were in work a year later, a better (higher) proportion than for those leaving the register in 2020 (40.5%). However, this change largely reflects improvements in Italy where the share of JIA users still in employment 12 months after exiting more than doubled. If Italy is excluded from both years, then there is hardly any change (about 47.3% in both reference years).

1   Introduction

The Council Recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market[5], henceforth the LTU Recommendation, was adopted in February 2016 in response to the high levels of long-term unemployment that had built up across the EU following the large-scale job losses that occurred as a result of the financial crisis.

Aimed at boosting rates of transition from unemployment to employment, the LTU Recommendation calls on Member States to improve support for long-term unemployed by:

➢ Encouraging registration with an employment service;
➢ Increasing individualised support for the long-term unemployed through a detailed assessment of their needs and prospects for employment, at the latest by 18 months (duration of unemployment);
➢ Ensuring delivery of a job-integration agreement (JIA) - again at latest by 18 months - that defines the services and measures that will be offered to facilitate a return to work, with mutual obligations of employment service and jobseeker;
➢ Improving the continuity of support by coordinating the provision of the various services available to the long-term unemployed (e.g., relating to their social, health and housing as well as employment situation) though a single point of contact;
➢ Increasing the involvement of employers by improving the effectiveness of services targeting employers and building closer links to improve the chances of the long-term unemployed being placed.

Article 9 of the LTU Recommendation recommends monitoring its implementation *"through the multilateral surveillance within the framework of the European Semester and through the Joint Assessment Framework of indicators. The monitoring should follow up on the extent to which registered long-term unemployed persons have regained employment, whether their integration into the labour market is sustainable and the use of job-integration agreements"*. The Employment Committee (EMCO), with the support of the Commission, accordingly established an Indicator Framework and accompanying methodological manual and launched an annual data collection process.

This report presents the results of the data collection for reference year 2022. Section 2 provides a brief overview of the context for the implementation of the LTU Recommendation, considering (where relevant) developments since its adoption in 2016. Section 3 looks at the different stages of implementation and provides a basis for the grouping of countries for analysis and interpretation of indicator results. Section 4 reflects on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the levels of long-term unemployment. The remaining sections present the indicator results at the direct (sections 5 and 6) and follow-up (section 7) levels of monitoring.

Important notes:

Unless specified otherwise, EU refers throughout this report to the current configuration of 27 Member States following the exit of the UK. In charts and tables, the EU27 label is equivalent to the EU27_2020 label used by Eurostat.

When interpreting the national administrative data on LTU and JIA users the following need to be considered:

-   There have been changes in the groups considered LTU in the following cases: LU, DK (2017), FR (2018), BE, EL (2021)
-   Changes in age-groups covered: FI (2017, from 30-64 to 25-64), EL (2017, from 25-75 to 25-64) BG (2017, from 25-64 to 30-64), EE (from 30-63 to 30-64), MT (2021, from 25-64 to 30-64), SK (2021, from 29-64 to 30-64)

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[5] http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32016H0220%2801%29&qid=1456753373365

- Data are affected by changes in the monitoring system/methodology in the following cases: CZ (improvements in 2017), LV (change of database used for destination of exits in 2018), IT (data improve gradually, but many changes were implemented in the data for reference year 2019), ES (automatic renewals in 2020), CY (automatic renewals between March 2020 and June 2021, length of interruption to break the unemployment spell changed from 2 weeks to 28 days in 2020), NL (2021)
- FR: There is a break in the series between 2018 and 2019 for data on LTU by level of education, resulting from the introduction of a new assessment system in 2018 ("Profil de compétences")

When interpreting the national administrative data on JIA users the following need to be considered:

- There is a break in the time-series due to changes regarding what is considered a JIA at the national level in the following cases: HR (2017), SK (2016, 2017, 2018), BG (2018), RO (2018), IE (2019, 2022), PT (2020), MT (2020)
- FR: Exits to employment are based on estimations
- HR: 2016 data are not in line with the LTU methodological manual and should not be considered
- BG: exits by destination and follow-up data for JIA users were based on estimations up to reference year 2020

2   Context for implementation of the LTU Recommendation

The aggregate (macroeconomic) indicators defined in the Indicator Framework (revision of February 2019) are intended to monitor the general situation of LTU in the EU. They provide, on the one hand, information about the context within which the LTU Recommendation is being implemented and, on the other, an indirect means of monitoring its impact. The rest of this section looks at the latest situation and changes since 2015 (i.e. the situation before the LTU Recommendation was introduced) for the main aggregate level indicators. First, as additional context, we consider trends in the overall numbers of long-term unemployed.

2.1   Numbers of long-term unemployed

According to the EU Labour Force Survey, the number of long-term unemployed aged 25-64 in the EU reduced from a peak of 9.9 million in 2014 to 4.7 million in 2020 (Figure 1). In 2021, this downward trend was briefly interrupted as numbers rose by 461 thousand as some of those that lost their job when COVID hit became long-term unemployed. Nearly a sixth of this rise was accounted for by rises in Spain and Italy alone (255 and 112 thousand respectively). In 2022, the downward trend resumed as numbers of LTU reduced by 646 thousand to reach a new low of just under 4.5 million, less than half the peak level.

Despite the temporary increase in 2021, over the 8 years from 2014 to 2022, the number of long-term unemployed fell by 1.5 million in Spain (from 2.6 to 1.1 million) accounting for more than a quarter (28.4%) of the overall reduction across the EU. Other major contributors to the overall fall were France (10.9%), Italy (10.7%), Greece (9.4%), Germany (8.0%), and Poland (8.0%). Most of these are larger Member States with higher numbers of LTU simply based on population size so the inclusion of Greece in this list is notable.

Figure 1 – Number of long-term unemployed aged 25-64 in the EU, 2013-2022 (millions)

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023.
Notes: Break in the series: 2014 & 2021.

The substantial improvement indicated by the LFS data is not, however, necessarily reflected in the numbers of people that have been registered as unemployed for a year or more by national public employment services (PES). Indeed, the LTU caseload seen by national PES in the EU in 2022 (i.e. annual average stock of registered LTU) was more than double the number recorded by the LFS (10.2 vs. 4.5 million). While it is not possible to compare changes at EU level over a long period because of some changes in two larger Member States (France and Italy) in the way that numbers of registered LTU are reported, a comparison can be made at country level. Figure 2 below shows the number of long-

term unemployed in 2022 compared to 2016 based on LFS data and national unemployment registers. To ensure that the comparison covers only coherent national register data, the data for Italy and Luxembourg cover the period 2017-2022 and for France 2018-2022.

The data show that numbers of registered LTU are not reducing as much as the LFS data imply, reiterating the fact that the LFS data seem to paint a rosier picture than the administrative data. In 21 of the 27 Member States, the LFS indicates a greater decline in the number of LTU than the unemployment register. In these countries, the number of LTU in 2022 was on average 53% of the number in 2016 according to the LFS compared to 88% in the national registers. Indeed, in Estonia, Greece, and Hungary the administrative data indicate that the numbers of registered LTU have remained static or increased whilst the LFS records declines. Estonia is particularly notable in this regard, as the register data show a 313% increase. This increase may be partly driven reforms to the incapacity benefits system in 2016 which introduced a work ability allowance system requiring people with at least partial work capacity to register with the PES. The case of Greece is also notable given that according to the LFS it was one of the important contributors to the overall fall in LTU numbers while the numbers of registered LTU seen by the PES have hardly changed.

There are just five countries in which the register data show a faster decline in LTU numbers – Bulgaria, Cyprus, Malta, Romania, and Slovakia. On average in these countries, the LFS shows the number of LTU in 2020 to be 59% of the 2016 level compared to 32% in the national registers.

Figure 2 – Number of LTU in 2022 compared to 2016, LFS vs register data (2016=100)

* 2017=100 (IT, LU) ** 2018=100 (FR)

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey (data extracted on 15 September 2023) and DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database (data extracted on 19 January 2024).

Notes: Breaks in series: DK 2016-2017; BE, DK & IE 2016-2017; SE 2017-2018; NL 2018-2019; DE 2019-2020 and all countries 2020-2021. Definition differs: ES & FR 2021 & 2022[6].

2.2   Long-term unemployment rate

The overall indicator for monitoring the implementation of the LTU Recommendation is the long-term unemployment rate for people aged 25-64 – i.e. the proportion of the active population aged 25-64 that is LTU. The LTU rate is clearly an important factor in implementing the Recommendation – a high rate makes effective implementation more imperative but at the same time more difficult and more expensive because of the high numbers of LTU in need of assistance and weak labour market situation. Note, however, that the indicator is based on numbers of LTU as measured by the EU LFS and may, therefore, not reflect the caseloads being seen by national PES (see previous section).

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[6] LFS quality reports inform on the reasons for such breaks and their possible significance. These are available at: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/lfs/quality

In 2022, the LTU rate for persons aged 25-64 across the EU was 2.3%, down from 2.7% in 2021 and well below the peak of 5.3% in 2014 (Figure 3). LTU rates have fallen in all countries since 2014 with the exception of Sweden where the rate in 2022 was slightly higher (+0.5 pp) but still below the EU average (2.0%, Figure 4).

In 2014, a third of Member States had LTU rates in excess of 6%, a third between 3 and 6% and a third below 3%. In 2022, rates were below 3% in all countries except Greece (7.5%), Spain (5.0%), Italy (4.3%), and Slovakia (3.8%).

Figure 3 – LTU rate in the EU, 2013-2022 (% active population, 25-64)
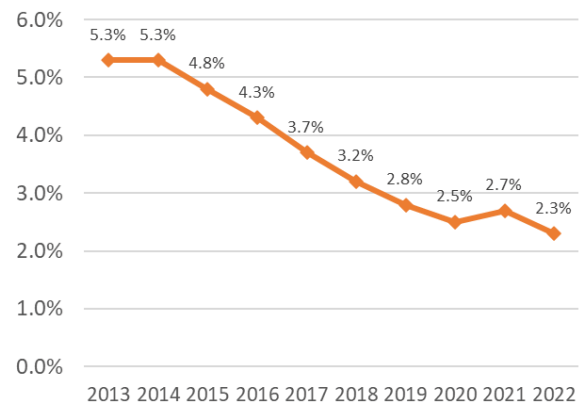
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023.
Notes: Break in the series: 2014 & 2021.

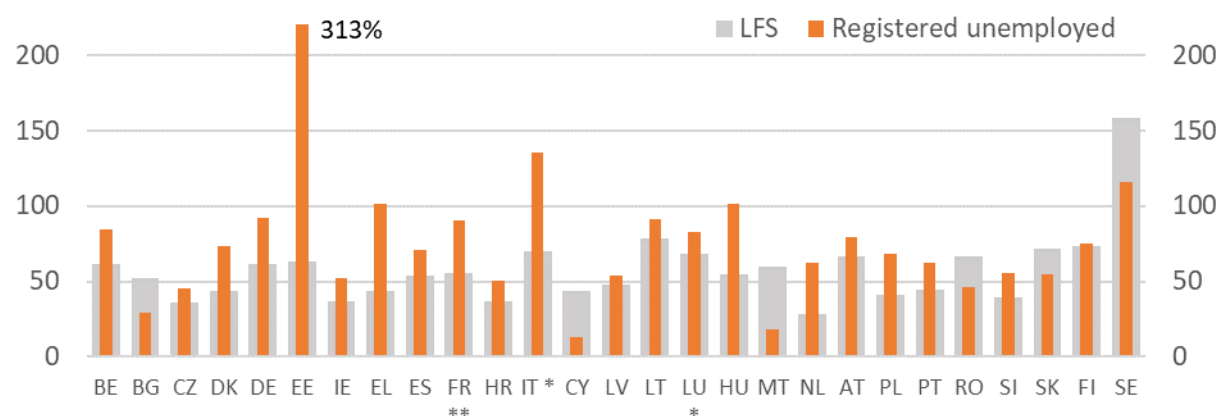**Figure 4 – LTU rate by country, 2014 and 2022 (% active population, 25-64)**
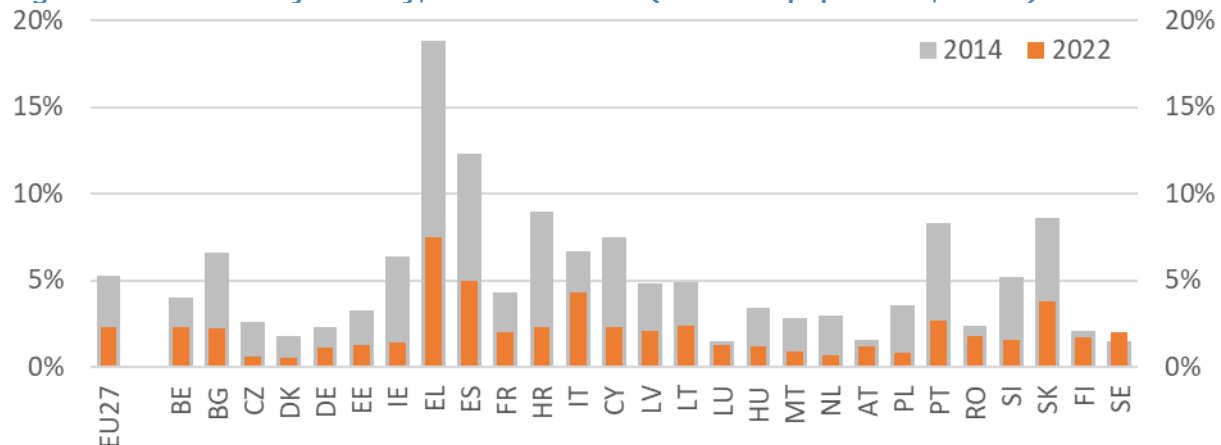
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023.
Notes: Breaks in series: LU 2014-2015; DK 2016-2017; BE, DK & IE 2016-2017; SE 2017-2018; NL 2018-2019; DE 2019-2020 and all countries 2020-2021. Definition differs: ES & FR 2021 & 2022[7].

2.3 Share of the population registered as LTU

The supplementary indicator on the share of the population aged 25-64 who are registered LTU according to national definitions (i.e. the registered LTU ratio) aims to better reflect the actual caseloads of LTU seen by national PES, which are the targets of the Recommendation.

In 2022, the registered LTU ratio for persons aged 25-64 across the EU was 4.3%, down from a peak since 2018 of 4.9% in 2021 (Figure 5). Reliable timeseries data at EU level going back to 2016 are not available (see left side of Figure 5) due to breaks in the series for Italy and France in 2017 and 2018 respectively. Adjusting the data to exclude France and Italy (see right side of Figure 5) and thereby have a longer time-series first shows the important impact that these countries have on the EU level figures. The registered LTU ratio at EU level is consistently between 1.5 and 1.7 percentage points higher when France and Italy are included – together these countries account for more than half of all registered

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[7] LFS quality reports inform on the reasons for such breaks and their possible significance. These are available at: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/lfs/quality

LTU in the EU (average 54.7% between 2018 and 2022) but only just over a quarter of the population (average 27.5%). Secondly it demonstrates some differences compared to the LTU rate with the same geographical coverage (i.e. excluding FR and IT) over the same period. Firstly, from 2016 to 2019, both the registered LTU ratio and the LTU progressively reduced but the former more slowly (-1.0 pp vs -1.7 pp), indicating that actual LTU caseloads did not reduce as dramatically as suggested by the LTU rate. Secondly, the registered LTU ratio began to rise in 2020, earlier than suggested by the LTU rate, which only began to rise in 2021. Indeed, this is consistent with the COVID crisis having reduced work opportunities for unemployed in 2020 resulting in more unemployed remaining or becoming LTU. Lastly, the LTU ratio reduced slightly faster than the LTU rate in 2022 (-0.6 pp vs -0.4 pp), indicating that actual LTU caseloads reduced more quickly than suggested by the LTU rate.

Since 2016 the LTU rate has halved while the registered LTU ratio has fallen by a quarter. These differences largely reflect changes in the numerators of the indicators – i.e. numbers of registered LTU reducing less than LFS unemployed (-25.5% vs -46.6%). Their denominators also play a more limited role as the active population aged 25-64 rose (+4.1%) in line with increasing activity rates (from 80.3% to 84.9%) while the population of the same age declined (-1.5%) reducing the difference between the two populations. The relatively lower reduction in registered LTU ratio relative to the LTU rate implies that the propensity for ILO unemployed to register with the PES has increased or there is a higher proportion of registered LTU catered for by the PES are outside the strict ILO definition of unemployment used by the LFS (3 conditions: out of work, available for work, and actively seeking work). This could include persons not immediately available to work due to childcare or health reasons and persons working limited numbers of hours who have nevertheless been seeking (more) work for an extended period, potentially some of the most difficult to place individuals. Consideration of such individuals is very much aligned with the spirit of the LTU Recommendation, so this development highlights an important limitation of focusing on the LTU rate as the overall indicator for monitoring its implementation.

Figure 5 - LTU rate and LTU ratio in the EU, 2016-2022 (% active population & % of population, 25-64)
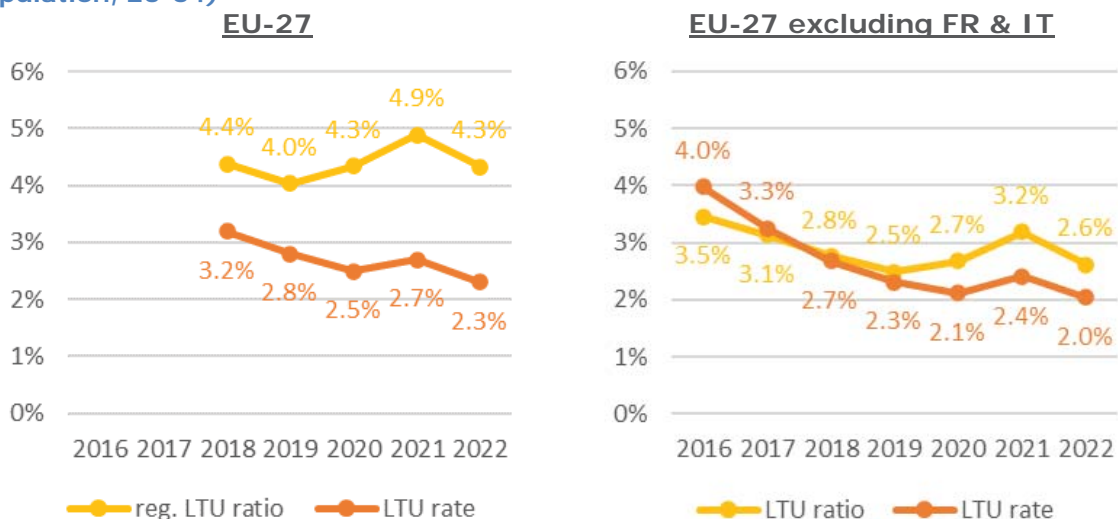
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023. DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted 24 January 2023.
Notes: Break in the series: 2014 & 2021.

At national level, the registered LTU ratio exceeds the LTU rate in six out of ten countries, implying that national client bases tend to extend beyond the concept of ILO unemployed. However, this is not the only possible explanation as the propensity for people that are ILO unemployed to register with the PES also plays a role in determining the difference between the LTU ratio and LTU rate.

The ratio between the registered LTU ratio and the LTU rate ranges from less than 0.5 in Cyprus (0.1), Malta (0.1), Bulgaria (0.4) and Romania (0.4) to more than 3 in France (3.8) and the Netherlands (5.0). Part of the difference can be explained by the fact that the administrative data for 11 countries (BG, EE, HR, IT, CY, LV, LT, PL, PT, SI and SK) taken from the LTU data collection exclude people aged 25-29 (i.e. they are missing from the numerator). Indeed, this situation applies to seven of the eleven countries where the ratio between the LTU ratio and the LTU rate is less than one. Nevertheless, the differences are also at least in part attributed to the extent to which national definitions of registered unemployed deviate from the ILO definition of unemployment used in LFS. For example, in Malta, the criteria to be registered as unemployed more or less correspond with the ILO definition but not all ILO unemployed register or remain registered with the PES. Consequently, the LFS data on LTU for Malta are higher than the number of registered LTU (2.4 thousand vs 0.27 thousand). In the Netherlands, registered LTU are those in receipt of either unemployment benefit (WW) provided by the Employee Insurance Agency or social assistance benefit (Participatiewet) provided by municipalities for more than 12 months. In both instances, the benefits can be claimed while in work (up to a certain limit) and in the latter case by some people that are not immediately available for, or searching for, work (e.g. due to medical and social circumstances)[8]. Consequently, there are far more registered LTU in the Netherlands than LFS LTU (322 thousand vs. 56 thousand).

Figure 6 – LTU rate and LTU ratio, 2022 (% active population & % of population, 25-64)
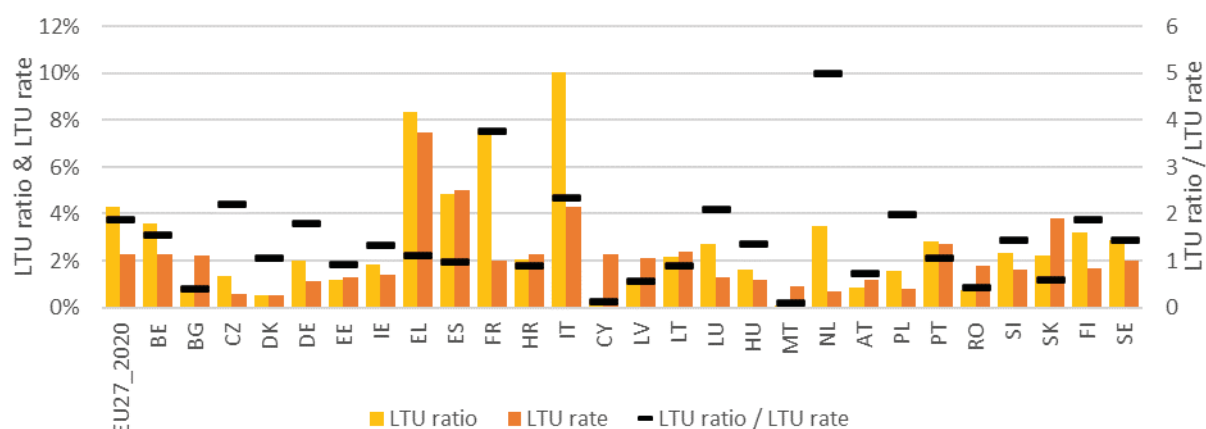
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023. DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted 24 January 2023. The denominator of the LTU ratio for BG, EE, HR, IT, CY, LV, LT, PL, PT, SI and SK do not include those aged 25-29.

2.4 Share of unemployed who are long-term unemployed

The supplementary indicator on the share of unemployed aged 25-64 who are long-term unemployed (i.e. have been seeking work for a year or more) shows the relative importance of LTU among the wider population that public employment services (PES) are tasked with assisting. Higher proportions of LTU imply low rates of transition out of unemployment for significant parts of the unemployed population even if there can still be relatively high rates of transition for people recently becoming unemployed.

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[8] Source: MISSOC (http://www.missoc.org).

In 2014, when long-term unemployment was at its peak, well over half (54.1%) of all unemployed people in the EU had been out of work for at least a year. Subsequently, that proportion reduced progressively to reach 39.3% in 2020 (Figure 7). Until 2019 this change was driven by the number of LTU falling slightly faster than the number of short-term unemployed. In 2020, however, the particularly large decline compared to the previous year (-6.6 pp) arose from a continued decline in numbers of LTU (-11.1%) paired with a dramatic rise in short-term unemployed (+16.6%) as people lost their jobs as a result of the pandemic. In 2021, two thirds of the decline that took place in 2020 was reversed (+4.4 pp) due to a rise in the number of LTU (+9.9%) as some of those that lost their jobs in 2020 reached 12 months of unemployment, coupled with a decline in the number of short-term unemployed (-8.5%) as labour markets opened up again. In 2022, the share of LTU amongst the unemployed slightly reduced (-0.2 pp), resuming the trend seen prior to 2019 of LTU falling slightly faster than the number of short-term unemployed (-12.6% vs. -11.8%).

Figure 7 – Share of LTU amongst the unemployed in the EU, 2013-2022 (%, 25-64)
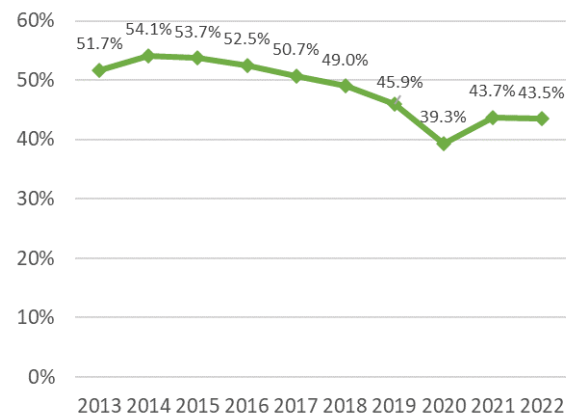
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023.
Notes: Break in the series: 2021.

In 2014, more than half of the unemployed were LTU in half of Member States (13). Finland and Sweden were the only countries where the share was less than 30% (Figure 8). By 2022, the LTU share was over 50% only in Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Slovakia and below 30% in six Member States (CZ, DK, EE, NL, AT, and PL). Indeed, the majority of countries have seen significant reductions in the share of LTU amongst unemployed. The only exceptions are Luxembourg and Sweden where the share increased. Up to 2019, when unemployment was falling generally, this is likely to reflect improved rates of transition out of long-term unemployment, which was a key objective of the LTU Recommendation. Between 2019 and 2020, when unemployment rose overall, accelerated inflows to short-term unemployment contributed to further reductions in the share of LTU. The reduction was briefly interrupted in 2021 as those that lost their jobs in 2020 reached 12 months of unemployment but the dynamics seen during 2014-2019 have resumed in 2022.

Figure 8 – Share of LTU amongst the unemployed, 2014 and 2022 (%, 25-64)
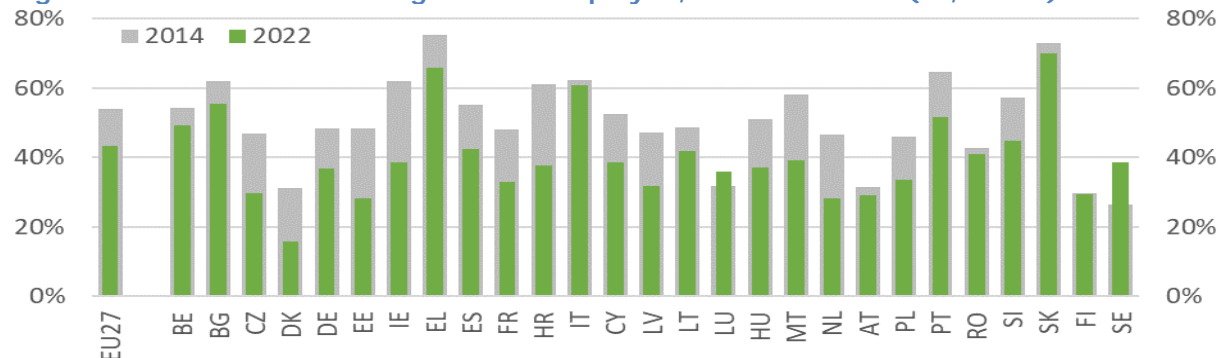
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023.

Notes: Breaks in series: LU 2014-2015, DK 2016-2017, BE, DK & IE 2016-2017, SE 2017-2018, NL 2018-2019, DE 2019-2020 and all countries 2020-2021. Definition differs: ES & FR 2021 & 2022[9].

The situation in each Member State can be categorised according to whether the LTU rate and the share of LTU amongst unemployed are above or below the levels for the EU as a whole (Table 1). For example, a low LTU rate and low share of LTU among unemployed implies relatively small numbers of LTU requiring assistance paired with high turnover of unemployed, while a high LTU rate and high share of LTU among unemployed implies relatively large numbers of LTU requiring assistance paired with low turnover of unemployed. Comparing the situations in 2014 and 2022 suggests some convergence in that the number of countries in which the problem of long-term unemployment is below average has increased (from 15 to 18 for both variables and from 18 to 23 for at least one) but also increasing polarisation with a small group of countries in a worse than average situation. Just 4 countries were worse than average for both variables in 2022 (EL, IT, PT and SK).

Table 1 – Categorisation of countries by LTU rate and share of LTU amongst unemployed, 2014 and 2022

LTU rate (relative to EU)	Share of LTU among unemployed (relative to EU)	2014	2022
Low	Low	CZ, DK, DE, EE, FR, LV, LT, LU, HU, NL, AT, PL, RO, FI, SE (15)	CZ, DK, DE, EE, IE, FR, HR, CY, LV, LU, HU, MT, NL, AT, PL, RO, FI, SE (18)
Low	High	BE, MT, SI (3)	BE, BG, SI (3)
High	Low	CY (1)	ES, LT (2)
High	High	BG, IE, EL, ES, HR, IT, PT, SK (8)	EL, IT, PT, SK (4)

Source: Authors elaborations based on data from Eurostat, Labour Force Survey extracted on 15 September 2023.

2.5 Share of LTU registered with the PES

The context indicator on the share of LTU aged 25-64 registered with the PES provides insight into the possible impact of the LTU Recommendation in terms of encouraging the registration of LTU with an employment service. It should be clear, however, that the indicator provides only a partial picture because the population of LTU as measured by the LFS – which applies the strict ILO definition of unemployment does not necessarily correspond to the target population at national level.

EU level data for 2022 show that 70.7% of LTU were registered with the PES, down from 74.0% in 2014. However, the time-series (dashed blue line in Figure 9) shows significant drops in 2018 and in 2020 which derive from breaks in the series for Italy and Germany respectively. In the case of Italy, registration rates have always been well below average, ranging between 48 and 50% for the period 2014-2017, but the data for 2018 show a sudden 50% drop to 24.1%. More than a third of LTU respondents did not answer the REGISTER question, compared to 1% or less in previous years. However, the non-response rate reduces to 15% in 2019 and then to 1% from 2020 onwards, bringing the rate of registration back

Figure 9 – Share of LTU registered with the PES across the EU, 2013-2022 (%)
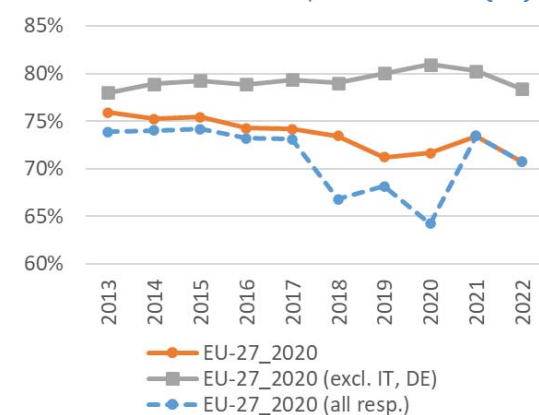
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023.
Notes: Break in the series: 2021.

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[9] LFS quality reports inform on the reasons for such breaks and their possible significance. These are available at: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-statistical-reports/-/ks-ft-22-003.

above 40%. In the case of Germany, LTU registration rates have always been well above average, sitting at 90% or above throughout 2014-2019 but the data for 2020 do not include information about the registration status of LTU respondents. Adjusting the data to exclude non-responses smooths the time-series (orange line in Figure 9) but still the high weight of Italy and Germany, which account for almost a third of all LTU in the EU, produces a noticeable dip in the EU level registration rate between 2018 and 2020. The reason for the sudden change in Italy in 2018 and the lack of data in Germany in 2020 is not clear. If Italy and Germany are excluded, then the registration rate amongst LTU across the rest of the EU does not exhibit such a dip (grey line in Figure 9) and suggests that registration rates rose slightly during the pandemic. The data for 2022, which do not have any obvious gaps, show that the registration rate amongst LTU across the EU has hardly changed since 2014 (78.9% to 78.8% - grey line in Figure 9), despite registration rates having fallen in the majority of countries (17 vs 8) (Figure 10). Registration rates for LTU in 2022 were above 90% in Finland (90.7%) and Sweden (92.5%) but only 18.9% in Latvia and 11.6% in Romania.

Figure 10 – Share of LTU registered with the PES, 2014 and 2022 (%)
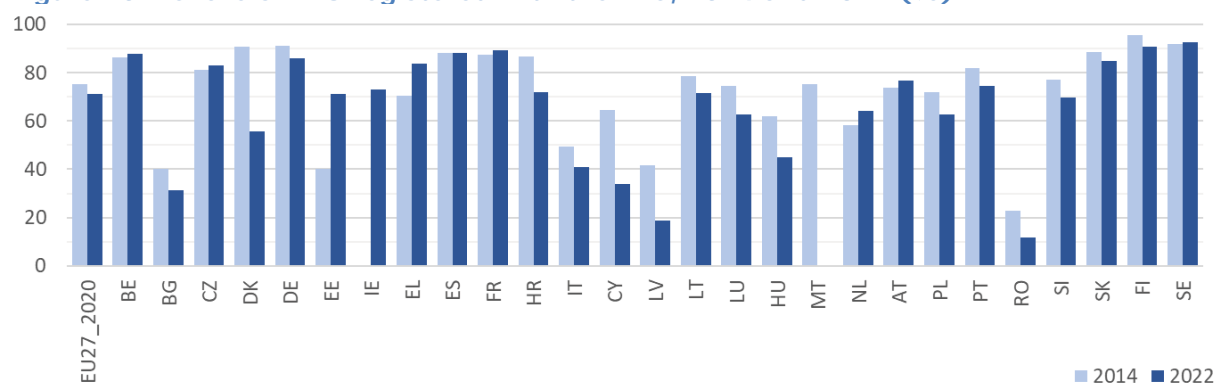
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023.
Note: Breaks in series: LU 2014-2015; DK 2015-2016; BE & DK 2016-2017; SE 2017-2018; NL 2018-2019; and all countries 2020-2021. Definition differs: ES & FR 2021 &2022. Unreliable due to small sample size: MT 2019-2021. Data not available: IE 2013-2020; MT 2021. LV reported that there is a great difference with administrative data.

2.6 Activation of LTU

The supplementary indicator on the activation rate of LTU looks at the proportion of registered LTU aged 25 or over that are placed on an active labour market measure. The indicator is based on stock data and represents the average share of registered LTU participating in active measures at any point in the reference year. In order for the indicator to be calculated, participant data for each active labour market measure in LMP categories 2-7 needs to be available with a breakdown, firstly to identify which participants were previously registered unemployed and then (for this group) by duration of unemployment. Although some countries are able to provide this information for measures delivered by the PES, the breakdown is more difficult for interventions delivered by other providers and the data are therefore often incomplete. In 2021 (the latest year available), data on the activation of long-term registered unemployed adults (25+) were sufficiently complete for publication in 18 Member States (Figure 11).

At least a fifth of all long-term registered unemployed were participating in an active measure at any point during 2021 in Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, and Sweden but in eight other Member States the proportion was less than one in ten (BG, CZ, DE, HR, LT, PL, SI and FI). In more cases than not (14 of 18), activation rates of long-term registered unemployed were lower than those for all registered unemployed, implying that LTU are less likely to be placed on active measures than short-term unemployed despite the clear need for additional support. The only cases where LTU are more likely to be activated were

Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, and Sweden – the same four countries that had the highest LTU activation rates.

It is known that delivery of active measures during 2021 was increased in many countries to aid recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Indeed, data on LTU activation rates for 2019 and 2021 show that rates are higher than in 2019 in all but four cases (BG, HU, AT, and SE).

Figure 11 – Activation of registered unemployed and long-term registered unemployed, 2021 (%, 25+)
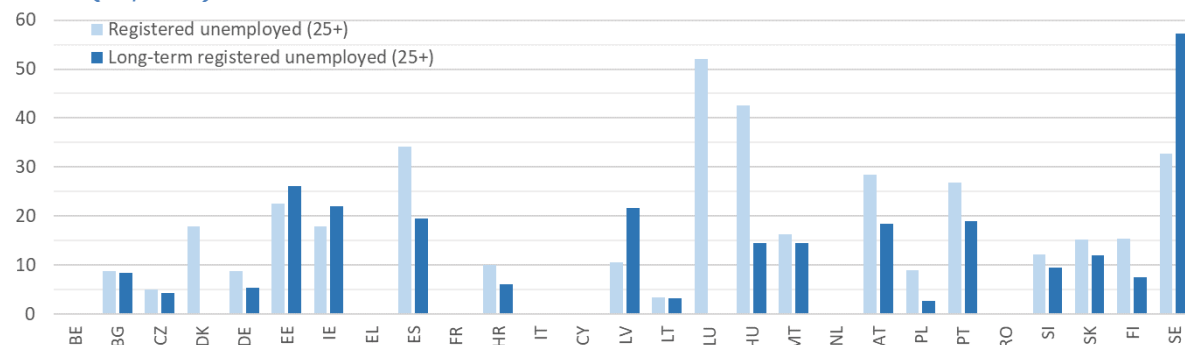
Source: DG-EMPL, Labour market policies database. Data extracted 19 January 2024.
Notes: Registered unemployed: data for BG, DE, ES, LT, LU, HU may be understated by 5-20%; data for CZ, DK, IE, SE include estimates; data not available for BE, EL, FR, IT, CY, NL, RO.
Long-term registered unemployed: data for BG, DE, ES, LT, HU, PT may be understated by 5-20%; data for CZ, IE, HR, SE include estimates; data not available for BE, DK, EL, FR, IT, CY, LU, NL, RO.

2.7 Participation of LTU in education and training

The context indicator on the share of LTU aged 25-64 who have participated in education and training within the last 4 weeks provides insight into the access that LTU have to training opportunities and a possible impact of the LTU Recommendation as countries do more to boost their employability.

In 2022, the proportion of LTU who had received education and training (either formal or non-formal) during the previous four weeks stood at 10.3% across the EU, up from 7.8% in 2014 and 9.9% in 2021. The proportion varied from 2-5% in Czechia, Greece, and Italy to 20-32% in Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, and Slovenia, and 53% in Sweden (Figure 12). However, data are not available for 8 Member States in 2022 due to small sample sizes so the picture at national level is somewhat incomplete. Amongst the 19 Member States for which a comparison is possible, rates of LTU participation in education and training have increased noticeably since 2014 in Estonia (+10.8 pp), Luxembourg (+10.4 pp) and Slovenia (+8.1 pp). The data show that participation has reduced in Czechia, France, and Austria, but by less than 5 pp in all cases.

At EU level, receipt of education and training among LTU was higher for women than for men (11.5% compared to 9.0%) and for those aged 25-54 than those aged 55-64 (11.1% vs 7.6%). It is striking, however, that LTU with higher levels of education were much more likely to have participated in additional education and training than their less educated counterparts (19.7% of LTU with a high education, 9.2% of LTU with a medium education and just 6.8% of LTU with a low education). This pattern applies in all Member States for which data are available except Sweden, but even in this case those with a high level of education were more likely to participate in education and training compared to those with lower levels of education. Moreover, to date, there is no evidence to suggest that the implementation of the Recommendation is helping to focus training more on those most at need (i.e. LTU with low levels of education). There has only been a small rise at EU level (4.8% in 2014 and 6.8% in 2022) and no common pattern at national level.

Figure 12 – Participation of LTU in education and training, 2014 and 2022 (%, 25-64)
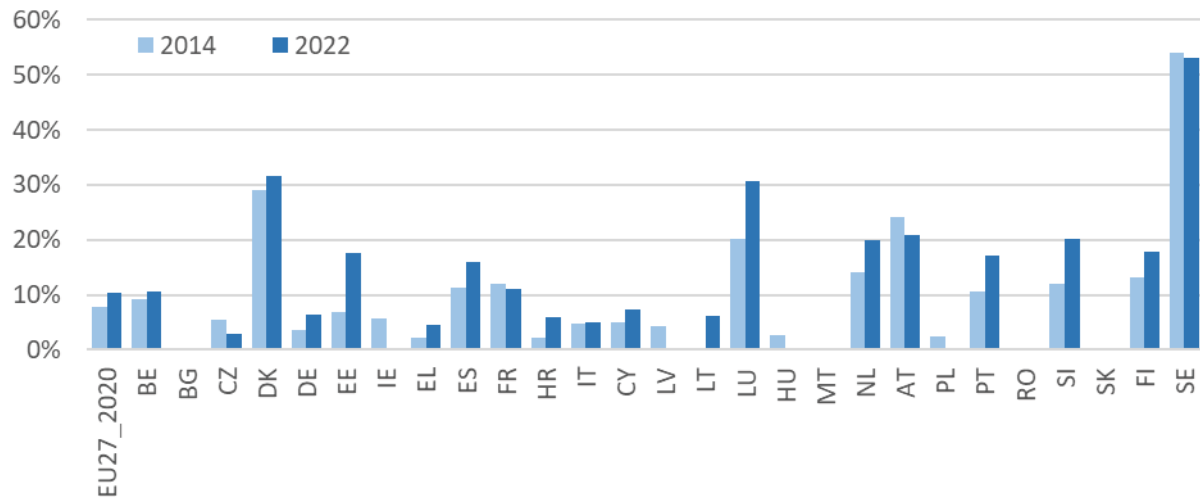
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey, data extracted on 15 September 2023.
Notes: Data not publishable for BG, MT, RO and SK in either year, for IE, LV, HU, PL in 2021 or for 2014 for LT. The following data are of low reliability due to small sample size – 2014: EE, HR, CY, LV, LU, HU, PL; 2022: CZ, EE, HR, CY, LT, SI. Break in the series: LU 2014-2015, DK 2015-2016, BE, DK, IE & MT 2016-2017, SE 2017-2018, NL 2018-2019, DE 2019-2020, all countries 2020-2021. Definitions differ: ES & FR 2021 & 2022.

2.8 Social situation of long-term unemployed

The LTU Indicator Framework includes a number of indicators at both the aggregate and direct levels of monitoring that are designed to measure social issues that are either factors potentially contributing to the incidence of long-term unemployment and incentives (or disincentives) to take up employment (e.g. the availability of childcare facilities or the level of in-work poverty) or issues that are potentially caused or exacerbated by long-term unemployment (e.g. the risk of poverty or social exclusion). These are listed and defined in Table 4 and Table 5 in Annex.

The indicators concerned are based primarily on data from the European Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), which uses a slightly different definition of long-term unemployment than the EU Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS), which is the primary source of data for other key indicators. One indicator of net replacement rates derives from the Commission tax and benefits database[10].

The definition of long-term unemployment applied in the EU-LFS is the de facto standard for harmonised EU data on the issue. A person has to be unemployed according to the ILO definition, which means fulfilling 3 conditions - i.e., out of work (not even 1 hour per week), available for work and actively seeking work - and have been seeking work for 12 months or more (since their last job in case they started the search before leaving). In the EU-SILC there is no standard definition of long-term unemployment and the condition has to be tested using a number of variables. Following the advice of the Indicators Sub-Group of the Social Protection Committee (SPC-ISG), for the purposes of monitoring the LTU Recommendation, long-term unemployed are identified in the SILC data based on the respondents' self-declared work status at the time of the interview and in each of the previous 12 months (they have to declare themselves unemployed in all of them) and with the additional caveat that they are actively looking for work (at the time of the interview).

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[10] https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/indicators-statistics/economic-databases/tax-and-benefits-indicators-database_en

Analysis by SPC-ISG shows that the numbers of long-term unemployed based on the so-called "LTU plus" definition[11] are broadly comparable with LFS figures.

For many of the social indicators, the main interest is to compare the situation of LTU aged 25-64 with the wider population of this age to see the extent of any disadvantage conferred by long-term unemployment, and to see how the situation for both groups is developing through time. In the analysis below the text also compares the situation of the long-term unemployed with that of the group of "short-term unemployed" which refers to people unemployed at the time of the survey and unemployed for at least one month, but less than twelve of the previous 12 months.

Indicators that are designed to measure social issues potentially caused or exacerbated by long-term unemployment demonstrate that the relative disadvantage conferred by long-term unemployment remains high (Figure 14):

- **At-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion**: The at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate (AROPE) in the EU in 2022 was 20.8%. However, the rate was 48.2% for people that were short-term unemployed and 71.3% for the long-term unemployed. Long-term unemployed are therefore more than three times as likely to be at risk of poverty or social exclusion than the general population. This is partly related to the fact that AROPE contains an indicator on low work intensity of households[12]. Moreover, there has been almost no reduction in the AROPE rate for long-term unemployed since 2015 while that for the general population has decreased (-0.1 pp vs -3.4 pp). The relative disadvantage conferred by long-term unemployment has therefore increased over the period. At country level, the relative disadvantage for long-term unemployed (measured by the ratio of AROPE rates for LTU and the general population) was highest in Czechia (ratio of 7.1) and then Denmark and the Netherlands (5.1-5.6 times higher), all countries in which the risks for the general population are relatively low.

- **Material and social deprivation:** The material and social deprivation rate measures poverty in a way that goes beyond monetary indicators and considers its impact in terms of the standard of living that people actually enjoy. In 2022, 12.7% of the EU population aged 25-64 was considered to be materially or socially deprived. However, the rate was more than twice as high among short-term unemployed (26.9%) and closer to three and a half times higher among the long-term unemployed (43.5%). The material and social deprivation rate has reduced more among LTU than among the wider population since 2015 (-7.8 pp vs -5.2 pp) but has only slightly reduced the relative disadvantage conferred by long-term unemployment. At country level, the likelihood of LTU being materially and socially deprived has reduced more than for the broader population in 18 Member States yet remains at least three times higher in 22 Member States.

- **Housing cost overburden:** The cost of housing can often represent a disproportionate part of living costs for people with lower incomes and people are considered "overburdened" when this share exceeds 40% of disposable income. In 2022, 8.6% of the EU population aged 25-64 was overburdened by housing costs. However, the rate was more than double among short-term unemployed (17.2%) and more than triple among the long-term unemployed (21.1%). Since 2015 the housing cost overburden rate reduced more among LTU than among the wider population (-3.7 pp vs -2.8 pp) but has only slightly diminished the relative disadvantage conferred by long-term unemployment. At country level, the likelihood of LTU being overburdened by housing costs remains at least three times that of the general population in 16 of the 26 Member States for which a comparison is possible (data not available for RO).

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[11] The "plus" refers to the caveat regarding active job-search – i.e. it adds a condition to the basic requirement to be unemployed at the time of interview and in each of the previous 12 months.
[12] See: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Glossary:At_risk_of_poverty_or_social_exclusion_(AROPE)

- **Unmet need for medical care:** Getting access to appropriate medical care can be more problematic for people with low incomes or other issues (e.g. access to transport). In 2022, 11.0% of long-term unemployed reported an unmet need for medical care. This is similar to amongst the short-term unemployed (10.9%) but considerably more than in the population as a whole (6.3%). The unmet need for medical care has increased among LTU since 2015 but remained unchanged among the wider population (+1.7 pp vs -0.1 pp), expanding the relative disadvantage among the long-term unemployed. At country level, the likelihood of LTU having an unmet need for medical care was more than twice that of the general population in 11 of the Member States for which data are available.

Figure 13 - Social indicators – Issues caused or exacerbated by long-term unemployment, 2015 and 2022 (%)
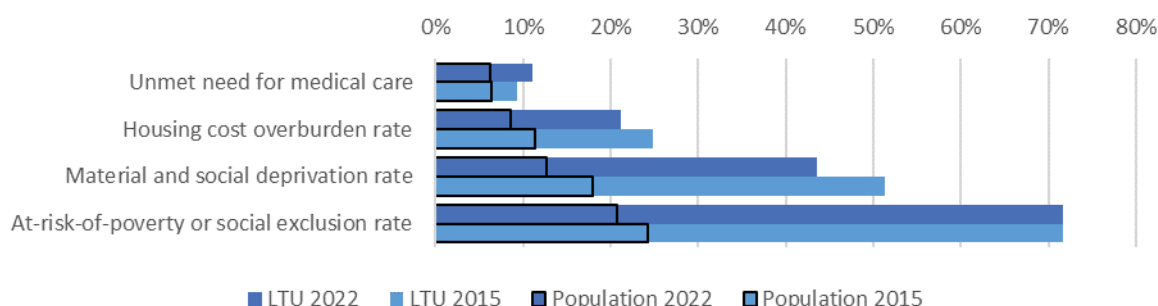
Source: Eurostat, EU-SILC (custom extractions made on 15 December 2023)

Indicators that are designed to measure factors potentially contributing to the incidence of long-term unemployment and incentives (or disincentives) to take up employment demonstrate some improvement (Figure 14):

- **In-work poverty:** Being in work does not necessarily provide relief from poverty. In 2022, 8.3% of the working population aged 25-64 was still at risk of poverty, down only slightly compared to 2015 (9.6%). This typically stems from low wages, low labour force attachment, large family size, or a combination of these[13]. Where low wages are a driving factor then there may be a disincentive for long-term unemployed to find work because it implies relatively low chances of finding work that pays enough to boost their standard of living. At national level, in-work poverty rates have improved since 2015 in just under a third of Member States but remain above 10% in seven Member States (EE, EL, ES, IT, LU, PT, and RO).

- **Childcare services:** The extent to which long-term unemployed with children below school age have access to childcare facilities can be a factor in determining whether or not they are able to take up work (i.e. potentially prolonging unemployment). At the same time, a lack of available childcare may discourage active job-search and therefore contribute to lower levels of unemployment. Data for 2022 show that use of full-time (30+ hours) formal childcare for children less than 3 stood at 35.7% in the EU as a whole, up from 30.0% in 2015. At national level, the level of use has risen in 22 of the 27 Member States since 2015.

- **Receipt of social benefits:** Social benefits play a key role in mitigating the impact of unemployment (and therefore long-term unemployment) on disposable income, the most notable being unemployment benefits and social assistance. Such benefits aim to provide sufficient income to people that are out of work without providing a disincentive to take up employment. In 2022, 75.5% of LTU in the EU lived in a household that received social benefits (other than those related to old age and survivors), noticeably

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[13] Crettaz, E. and Bonoli (2010): https://www.ssoar.info/ssoar/bitstream/handle/document/19798/ssoar-2010-crettaz_et_al-why_are_some_workers_poor.pdf?sequence=1

less than short-term unemployed (85.2%) and up from 65.6% in 2015 (Figure 14). At national level, the proportion was less than 60% in just six Member States (EL, ES, HR, CY, PL, and PT).

- **Contribution of social benefits to disposable income:** Income from social benefits accounted for almost half of disposable income for long-term unemployed (49.9%), much higher than for short-term unemployed (36.7%) and up from just over four fifths in 2015 (41.7%). However, this figure includes those that receive no social benefits and given that benefit coverage is lower for long-term unemployed than short-term unemployed, it implies that – for those households that do receive benefits - the importance of benefits in disposable income is even greater. This demonstrates the increasing importance of social benefits in supporting households affected by unemployment as the duration of unemployment increases and underlines concerns for LTU in households that receive no social benefits (e.g. in terms of risk of poverty).

- **Net replacement rate:** The net replacement rate is the ratio of net income while out of work (mainly social benefits such as unemployment benefits, housing benefits and social assistance) divided by net income while in work. A lower rate creates a greater risk of disadvantage when out of work but can also imply a greater incentive to actively seek work. In 2022, the net replacement rate at EU level for a person who was single, unemployed for 13 months (i.e. LTU) and previously earned the average wage was 39.7% (Figure 14), almost unchanged since 2015 (39.4%). Rates for those unemployed for 2 and 7 months were much higher at 59.8% and 50.2% respectively, highlighting the additional disadvantages created by being out of work for long periods.

Figure 14 – Social indicators – Factors potentially contributing to the incidence of long-term unemployment, 2015 and 2022 (%)
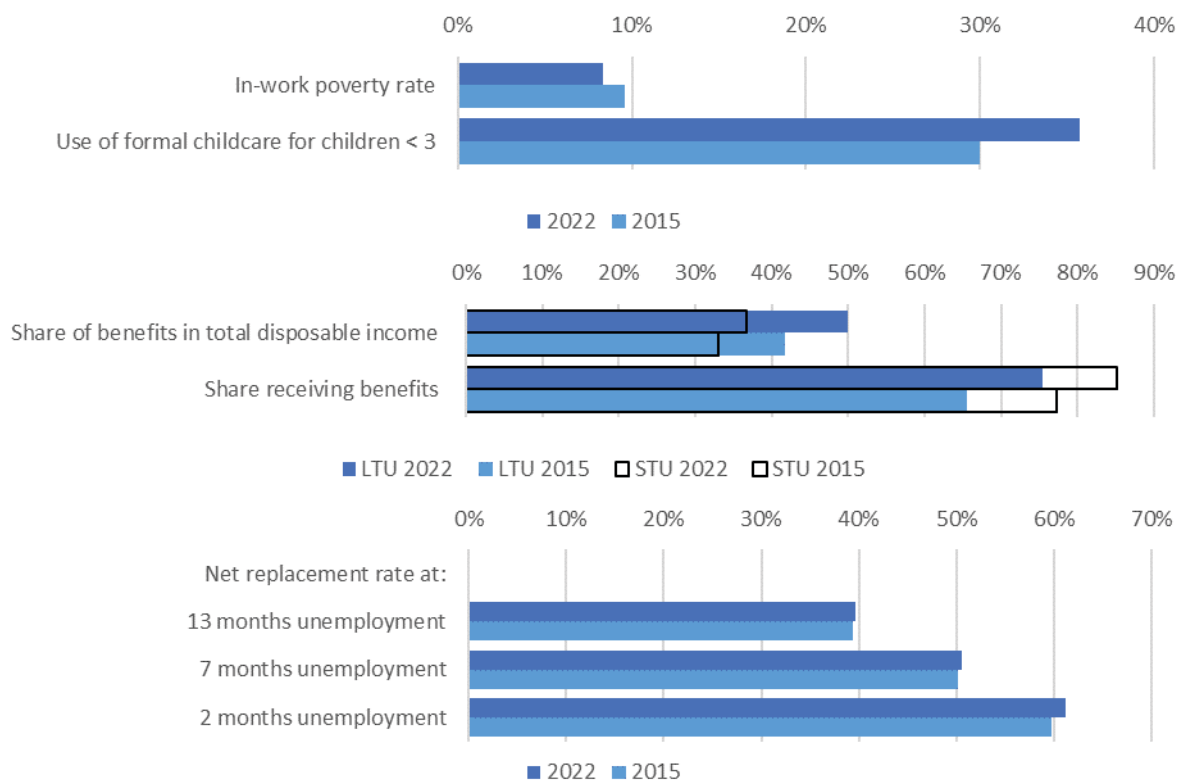
Source: Eurostat, EU-SILC (custom extractions made on 15 December 2023 and ilc_caindformal) & European Commission, Tax and benefits database, data extracted on 18 January 2024.
Note: The net replacement rates are those for a person who was single, unemployed for the relevant number of months and previously earned the average wage.

3   Delivery of JIAs: grouping of countries for analysis

The LTU Recommendation requires that all long-term unemployed are offered an in-depth individualised assessment and provided with a job integration agreement (JIA) at the latest by 18 months of unemployment. A JIA is understood to be *"a written agreement between a registered long-term unemployed person and a single point of contact, having the objective of facilitating that person's transition into employment on the labour market"*.

Most public employment services (PES) routinely provide all, or most, registered unemployed with an individual action plan (IAP) within a relatively short period after registration (max 6 months). An IAP is typically provided after an initial assessment/profiling and sets out the service offer and the rights and obligations of both service provider and client as they work together to get the jobseeker into employment. IAPs are generally reviewed on an ongoing basis, with the frequency and content of the reviews varying between countries and sometimes with the level of need (i.e., employability of client). Reviews will generally focus on the fulfilment of steps/activities previously agreed and specified in the IAP and planning of future steps/activities.

The JIA concept outlined in the Recommendation implies either a new action plan or that the existing plan is modified (if necessary) on the basis of an in-depth assessment (delivered after the person has become long-term unemployed) that is over and above the routine "progress" review and considers the full range of issues and barriers that have resulted in a person becoming long-term unemployed (i.e. prevented the original IAP from delivering a positive outcome in the first 12 months of unemployment) and how they can be addressed. The JIA should also identify a single point of contact (SPOC) through which the LTU client can get access to all the relevant services (employment, social, health, financial advice, etc.) they might need to facilitate their reintegration into work.

In simple terms, there are three main options for implementation of the LTU Recommendation. One is to deliver the JIA as a new service model, independent from the IAP and provided only to people becoming long-term unemployed (dedicated JIA). The second is to build on the existing IAP model and provide additional features that are triggered once a person has reached at least 12 months of unemployment (IAP with in-depth assessment for LTU). The third is, effectively, to do nothing on the basis that the existing IAP provision fulfils all the criteria of a JIA.

Given that monitoring of the Recommendation focuses on delivery of JIAs and subsequent outcomes, the different possible approaches need to be taken into account when interpreting results and making comparisons between countries. In particular, it is possible for countries that routinely provide an IAP to all unemployed to report 100% delivery of JIAs to LTU even if the IAP does not fulfil the criteria of a JIA (e.g., because there is no in-depth assessment after the initial profiling on registration). Clearly, it would be unreasonable to directly compare such a result to the JIA delivery rates reported by countries that have made specific efforts to develop service provisions in the full spirit of the Recommendation.

In order to try and guide interpretation of results for the direct and follow-up monitoring indicators, countries were first grouped in 2018 (in preparation for analysis of data for reference year 2017) according to their JIA delivery approach based on three sources of qualitative information about the implementation of the Recommendation, though primarily the first two of these as they provided more detailed information and explanatory metadata:

- LTU monitoring exercise
- EMCO 2018 review of the implementation of the LTU Recommendation

- Ad hoc module to the 2018 PES capacity questionnaire

These were used to try and answer three key questions:

- Is there a JIA that is delivered only to LTU or, in the case of an IAP provided to all unemployed, some differentiation of the IAP for LTU?
- Is the JIA or IAP based on an in-depth (re)assessment that takes place after the client becomes LTU?
- Does the JIA facilitate access to a package of services from different providers?

In practice, the second and third questions are not straightforward to answer. In case of the in-depth assessment, there is no clear definition of "in-depth" so naturally there are different interpretations. In some cases, the regular IAP progress review might be considered adequate whilst others would count only a specific review to re-assess/profile the client and overhaul the IAP, which might happen specifically after 12 months or routinely every 6 months, or similar. We would be inclined to consider only the latter as fulfilling the requirements of the Recommendation. The former cannot be precluded when PES advisors have low caseloads, but in case of high caseloads progress reviews are liable to be largely a "tick-box" exercise checking on whether specific actions/objectives have been fulfilled rather than a comprehensive review of changing circumstances and consideration of how to address the barriers that exist. In other words, there is a quality continuum and different respondents will have different views of the extent to which national practice for delivery of JIAs fulfils the requirements of the Recommendation. Since the LTU monitoring process is focused on JIA delivery and not implementation of the SPOC concept, the final grouping of countries is based entirely on the JIA delivery approach and does not consider the SPOC (see Table 2).

Table 2 – Characteristics of JIA delivery groups

Group	Basis
Dedicated JIA	Distinct plan provided only to LTU on the basis of an in-depth assessment. In cases where this distinct plan is provided only to a subset of LTU a country is only included in this group when the distinct JIA is provided to the majority of LTU (the remainder typically have a regular IAP)
IAP with in-depth assessment for LTU	Regular IAP provided to all unemployed is updated/enhanced for LTU on the basis of a further in-depth assessment/review process that is triggered either at a specific duration (12m, 16m, etc.) or by a mandatory renewal process (e.g., every 6m, every 12m).
Regular IAP	Regular IAP provided to all unemployed. Plan may be reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis but there are no mandatory reviews linked to the duration of unemployment or the lifespan of the plan.
JIA not yet implemented	Regular IAP provided to all unemployed is not considered (at national level) to fulfil the requirements of the Recommendation[14] and a JIA has not yet been developed.

The groupings originally identified in 2018 (for reference year 2017) have been updated each year in line with the characteristics of JIA delivery approaches in the Member States have evolved. These updates are summarised briefly in Table 3. During the latest update (for reference year 2022), the groupings did not change.

Table 3 – Evolution of the application of JIA delivery groups

Ref. year	Change in grouping
2017	- **HR:** In 2016, people registering as unemployed were provided with an IAP within 60 days of registration and data covered all LTU who had an IAP (in principle

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[14] JIAs should be developed on the basis of an in-depth individualised assessment made after the person becomes LTU and should: detail explicit goals, timelines and obligations for the jobseeker; detail the service providers' offer to the jobseeker; be regularly monitored and updated according to changing circumstances/needs of the jobseeker; and identify a single-point of contact responsible for supporting the jobseeker through a coordinated offer of available employment and social services.

	100%, though marginally under in practice). From 2017, the Individual Action Plans (IAPs) provided to all unemployed had to be renewed after 12 months and this renewal was treated in the monitoring data for 2017 as the point of delivery of a JIA.
2018	- **RO:** moved from the "Regular IAP" group to the "Dedicated JIA" group following the introduction of a JIA in August 2018. - **BG**: moved from the "IAP with in-depth assessment" group to the "Dedicated JIA" group following the introduction of a JIA in May 2018. - **HR**: Starting from 2018, unemployed are reassessed after 12 months and provided with a new Job Integration Agreement (JIA, or Sporazum o uključivanje na tržište rada).
2019	- **EL**: moved from the "No JIA implemented" group to the "Regular IAP" group since it became obligatory for all people newly registering as unemployed to be provided with an IAP as from April 2018. IAPs are also provided to existing unemployed without an IAP who want to participate in an ALMP. The IAP is, however, not regularly reviewed and is updated only in case of changes such as gaining a qualification. There is no additional in-depth assessment or review linked to duration of unemployment that could qualify the IAP as a JIA. - **IT**: moved from "Regular IAP" group to "IAP with assessment" group. Since December 2018, PES are obliged to renew the service pact issued to all unemployed once they reach 12 months or unemployment. - **CY**: moved from the "No JIA implemented" group to the "Regular IAP" group, though with a strong caveat. In Cyprus, all people registering as unemployed have to sign a cooperation agreement with the PES but no IAP is provided by default. Rather, IAPs are provided only to groups considered vulnerable by the PES. In 2019, LTU were added to the groups considered as vulnerable and thus eligible for an IAP. Since there is no differentiation from the IAPs offered to other vulnerable groups it does not seem appropriate to consider this a JIA so it is treated as a regular IAP, but with the caveat that - unlike other countries - it is not offered to all unemployed. - **IE**: moved from the "Regular IAP" group to the "Dedicated JIA" group. For reference years 2016-2018, JIA users were defined to cover both LTU referred to JobPath (dedicated service for LTU referred randomly) and LTU with an active Personal Progression Plan (PPP) still supported by Intreo (the Irish PES). Data for reference years from 2019-2021 cover only the former.
2020	- **MT:** moved from the "Dedicated JIA" group to the "IAP with assessment" group. In Malta, all registered unemployed receive a Personal Action Plan (PAP) on the basis of an individualised assessment soon after registration. Until September 2019, LTU furthest from the labour market and unregistered inactive received additional, more intensive, support through the Work Programme Initiative (WPI) which qualified as a JIA. The WPI has since been replaced by an individualised in-depth reassessment of the existing PAP tailored to the specific needs of LTU. - **PT**: moved from the "IAP with assessment" group to the "Dedicated JIA" group. In Portugal, all unemployed benefit from an Individual Action Plan (IAP) within 15 days from registration. As of January 2019, a new JIA model extends the basic support of the IAP and ensures that people becoming LTU participate in a dedicated guidance intervention ("Coaching - Supporting Activities") before reaching 18 months of unemployment. While this new approach was introduced in 2019, corresponding monitoring data are available only for 2020 onwards. Data up to 2019 simply cover LTU with an IAP.
2021	**No changes.**
2022	- **IE:** moved from the "Dedicated JIA" group to the "IAP with assessment" group. Data on JIA users for 2022, cover LTU referred to JobPath (randomly selected), LTU referred to the Local Area Employment Service (LAES, randomly selected or volunteered) and LTU referred to the National Employment Services (NES) and LTU with a re-assessed Action Plan as part of their on-going interaction with Intreo.

The latest groupings shown in are considered to be the best fit based on the information currently available. It has to be recognised, however, that the grouping is based solely on characterisation of the JIA delivery approach and does not take into account the quality of the JIAs (or the regular IAPs) and their ongoing management (e.g., in terms of what constitutes an in-depth assessment or the range of services and support measures covered).

Figure 15 –JIA delivery groups, 2022

Dedicated JIA

4 countries: BG, PT, RO, SK

Regular IAP

11 countries: BE, EE, EL, ES, FR, CY, LU, NL, AT, PL, SE

IAP with in-depth assessment for LTU

12 countries: CZ, DK, DE, IE, HR, IT, LV, LT, MT, HU, SI, FI

Source: Authors elaboration based on qualitative information from the LTU monitoring database (data extracted 22 January 2024).

4   LTU monitoring in numbers

4.1 Survey data show LTU numbers returning to pre-COVID levels

Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, the number of people recorded as long-term unemployed by the EU Labour Force Survey had been falling steadily. From the first quarter of 2018 to the first quarter of 2020 the number fell by more than a quarter from 6.6 to 4.8 million (-27%) and there was then a further 19% drop in the second quarter of 2020 bringing the number of LTU in the EU down to 3.9 million (Figure 16). From the complete available time-series since 2003, this is the first occasion in which the number of LTU has dipped below 4 million, the previous low of 4.6 million being in the third quarter of 2008 just before the financial crisis (Figure 17).

The labour market impact of COVID-related public health restrictions from the second quarter of 2020 onwards is clear (Figure 16). Immediately, the number of long-term unemployed jumped by 25.7% to 4.9 million in the third quarter of 2020 and there were then smaller increases to a peak of 5.3 million in the second quarter of 2021. Subsequently, numbers have fallen progressively to return to the historical low of 3.9 million by the third quarter of 2023.

Figure 16 – Number of long-term unemployed in the EU, 2018-Q1 to 2023-Q3 (millions)
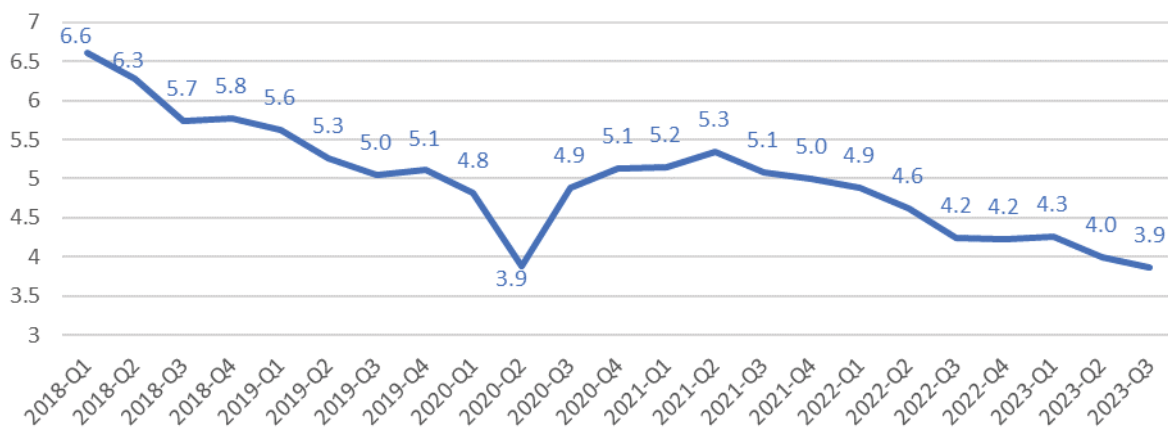
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey (lfsq_ugad). Data extracted 24 January 2024

Figure 17 – Number of long-term unemployed in the EU, 2003-Q2 to 2023-Q3 (millions)
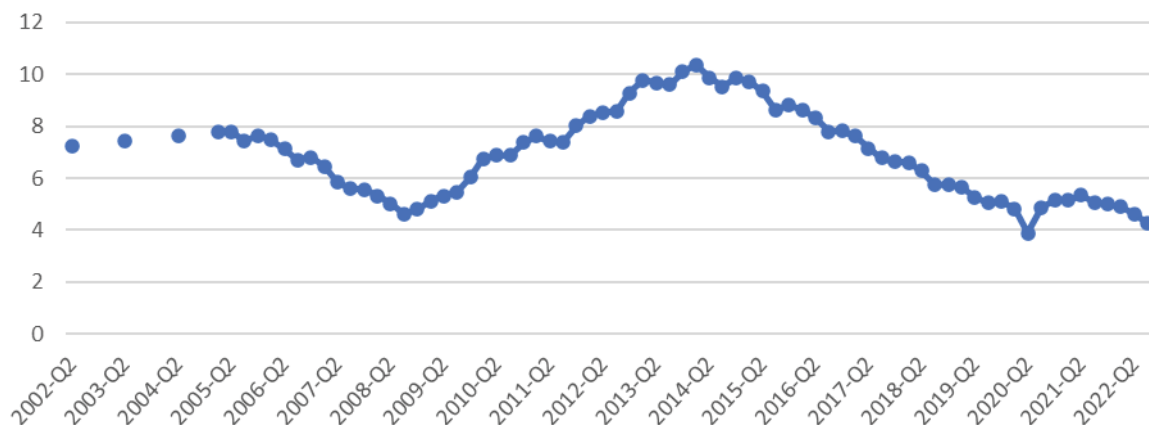
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey (lfsq_ugad). Data extracted 24 January 2024

Looking in more detail at the evolution of long-term unemployment since the start of the pandemic shows a number of interesting features. Figure 18 shows the number of long-term unemployed in the EU expressed as an index, starting from the low point of 3.9 million

in 2020-Q2 as 100 and considering the breakdown by sex (using coloured lines) and by duration of unemployment (solid lines for the total, dashed lines for the very long-term unemployed (24 months or more) and dotted lines for those unemployed 12-23 months). It can be seen that:

- The pandemic had a clearly gendered impact. The number of women affected by long-term unemployment increased substantially more than for men (peak of 44% above the starting point compared to 30% for men). This applies across durations, but the gender gap is more pronounced for those unemployed for two years or more.

- The initial surge in long-term unemployment in 2020-Q3 affected all durations similarly, though the number of women becoming long-term unemployed (i.e., entering the group unemployed for 12-23 months) increased most (+35% compared to +26% for all LTU and a low of +21% for men unemployed 24+ months). This is consistent with a slowdown in recruitment reducing the chances of any unemployed person finding work so that duration increases apply across the board. In other words, the chances of a person unemployed for 9-11 months remaining unemployed and moving into the 12-23 month group were much the same as for someone 21-23 months unemployed who would move into the 24+ month group.

- After the first quarter impact, there is a clear divergence by duration. The numbers of LTU unemployed for 12-23 months continued to increase through to a peak 66% above the starting point in 2021-Q2 and then declined progressively all the way back to the starting level (index=100) in 2022-Q3. Note that this increase derives, in the main, not from people who lost their job because of (i.e. after the start of) the pandemic, but people already short-term unemployed when the pandemic struck who could not find work and became long-term unemployed. Despite a brief rise to 5% above the starting point in 2022-Q4, numbers reduced to 2% below those seen in 2020-Q2 by 2023-Q3.

- The numbers of very long-term unemployed (24 months or more) did not increase nearly as much as those unemployed 12-23 months and peaked much earlier (+27% in 2020-Q4). After this point the number initially fell back (to 18% above the starting point in 2021-Q1) and then slowly rose back to 28% above the starting point in 2022-Q2. Numbers subsequently reduced, only returning to just 1% above their starting point in 2023-Q3.

- This divergent behaviour is not unexpected because of the time-lag in becoming very long-term unemployed. Indeed, the progressive increase of 12-23 month unemployed from the start of the pandemic in 2020-Q2 through to 2021-Q2, followed by an abrupt downturn in the next quarter (2021-Q3), is reflected a year later by a progressive increase in the number of very long-term unemployed from 2021-Q2 to 2022-Q2 and downturn in 2022-Q3. The rate of increase was much slower for the very long-term unemployed, but this is to be expected because some of those becoming LTU will not remain unemployed so that only part of the increase will flow through to the very long-term unemployed.

- Assuming that the decline in numbers of people unemployed 12-23 months from 2022-Q3 to 2022-Q3 is also tracked with a one-year lag then, to date, the available data show just the first quarter of the anticipated fall in the number of very long-term unemployed. The likelihood, therefore, is that this number will continue to fall well into 2024. Since this group accounts for nearly six in ten long-term unemployed (58% in 2023-Q3), it follows that the total number of LTU will also continue to fall.

Figure 18 – Changes in long-term unemployment through the pandemic by sex and duration of unemployment, EU-27, 2020-Q2 to 2023-Q3 (index 2022Q2=100)
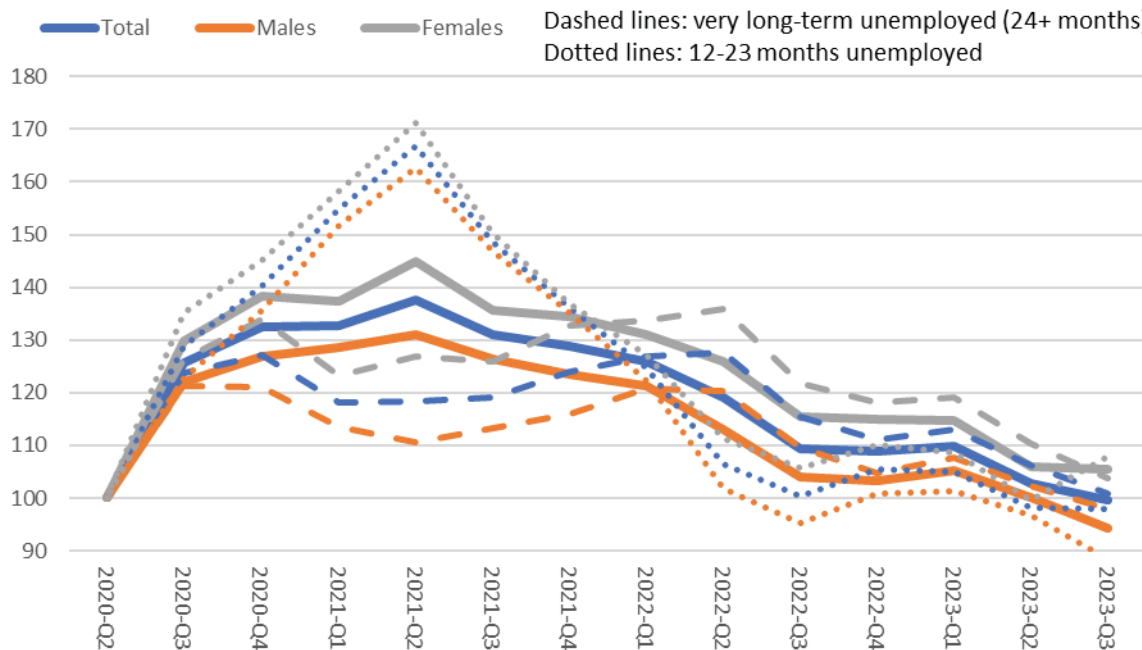
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey (lfsq_ugad). Data extracted 24 January 2024

4.2 Administrative data show numbers of registered LTU reducing but there has been an uneven return to pre-COVID levels

While survey data show a return to pre-COVID levels, the numbers of registered long-term unemployed show a slightly less positive picture (Figure 19).

Between 2019 and 2021 the numbers of LTU recorded by the LFS reduced by 2.3% to 5.1 million as rising numbers of people unemployed for 12-23 months (23.6%) were offset by reducing numbers of unemployed for longer periods (-16.9%). In contrast, the average stock of registered LTU increased 20% from 9.6 million to 11.6 million over the same period and showed similar increases amongst those unemployed for 12-23 months and for 24 months or longer (22% and 21% respectively).

In 2022, the number of LTU recorded by the LFS fell 12.6% to 4.5 million, below the previous low seen in 2020 (4.7 million). This change was driven by large decreases in numbers of people unemployed for 12-23 months and for longer (-28% and -50%). While the numbers of registered LTU reduced by a similar extent (-11.3%) to 10.3 million, the numbers remain 6.5% above the low recorded in 2019 (9.6 million). Moreover, the recent change was driven by a decrease in the numbers of unemployed for 12-23 months only (-38.1%) as numbers of unemployed for 24 months or longer rose slightly (+2.7%).

The implication is that, in contrast to the picture provided by the LFS data, the actual caseloads of LTU seen by national PES have yet to return to pre-COVID levels. Furthermore, the contribution of those unemployed for more than 24 months has risen from 65.1% in 2019 to 76.0% in 2022.

Figure 19 – Numbers of registered LTU by duration compared to LFS LTU, EU-27, 2018-2022
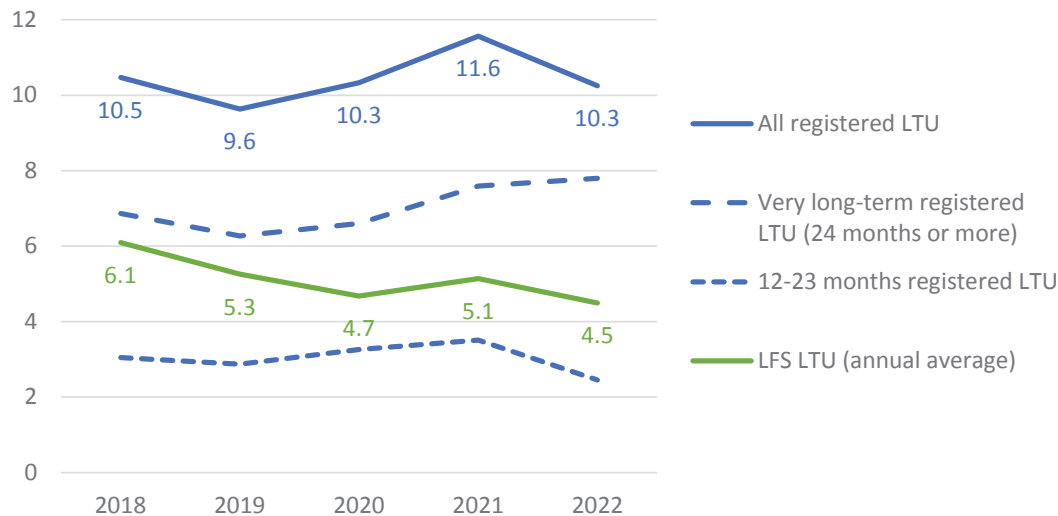
Source: Source: LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 24 January 2023. Eurostat, Labour Force Survey (lfsq_ugad). Data extracted 15 September 2023.
Note: Breakdowns of registered LTU by duration exclude CZ and NL so do not add up to the total, which covers all Member States.

The recent change at EU level is primarily explained by the number of registered unemployed becoming LTU (i.e. entrants to the LTU monitoring process) and the number of LTU ending their unemployment spell (i.e. exits). In 2022, the former declined 25.0% while the latter declined 7.9%. This further expanded the net outflow which started in 2021 (i.e. exits > entrants), resulting in a decrease of 11.3% (or 1.3 million) in the average stock of registered LTU (Figure 20). It is interesting to note that despite a net outflow already existing in 2021, the average stock of registered LTU did not decline until 2022. This is explained by the fact that in 2021 the exits were concentrated in the latter part of the year and thus had little impact on the stocks, which were still high (i.e., above the average level in 2020) in the earlier months. Even if the data clearly cover different populations, this timing does appear to be corroborated by the LFS data, which show clear declines in Q3 and Q4 of 2021 (Figure 18), particularly amongst those unemployed for 12-23 months.

Figure 20 – Main variables, registered LTU 25-64, EU27, 2021-2022
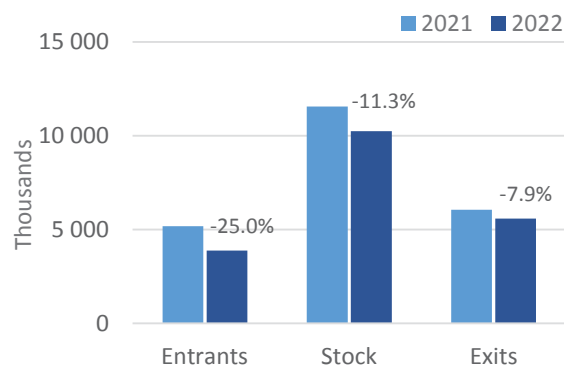
Source: LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 24 January 2023.
Note: Entrants exclude data for EL and RO. Exits exclude data for CZ, HU and RO.

Figure 21 - Main variables, JIA Users 25-64, EU27, 2021-2022
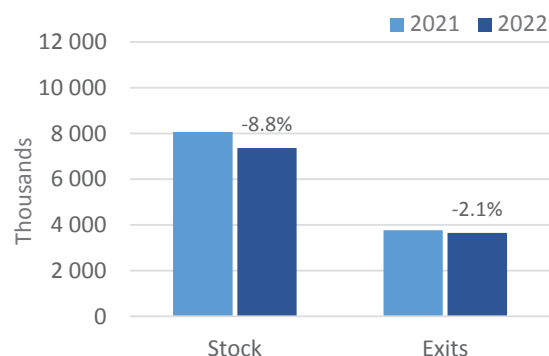
Source: LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 24 January 2023.
Note: Exits exclude data for CZ, EL, HU and RO.

In 2022, the average stock of registered LTU with a JIA declined 8.8% (or 710 thousand, see

Figure 21) compared to 2021, a smaller reduction than in the average stock of registered LTU (-11.3%). This resulted in a slight rise in JIA coverage among all LTU from 69.8% to 71.8%. However, as the LTU Recommendation requires that all long-term unemployed are offered an in-depth individualised assessment and provided with a JIA at the latest by 18 months of unemployment it is perhaps more apt to focus on LTU registered for 18 months or more. In 2022, their number declined by 7.9% while the number with a JIA reduced by 5.7%, leading to a slight rise in JIA coverage from 69.2% to 70.9%. This suggests that, at EU level, the ability to delivery JIAs has improved slightly as the impact of the COVID crisis has eased.

The data at country level show that the situation apparent at EU level also applies at national level. The number of registered unemployed becoming LTU reduced across all Member States while the number of LTU ending their unemployment spell reduced in all but seven cases (IE, FR, IT, PL, PT, SK and FI, see Figure 22). The result of this was a net outflow and reduction in the average stock of long-term registered unemployed in almost all Member States in 2022 (NL being the only exception, with no change). The reductions in caseload, however, varied considerably between countries, ranging from less than 1% in Italy and Hungary, less than 10% in Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Ireland, Greece and Slovakia, to more than 40% in Denmark, Cyprus, Lithuania, Malta and Austria.

Figure 22 - Changes in registered LTU stocks and flows, 2021-22 (%)
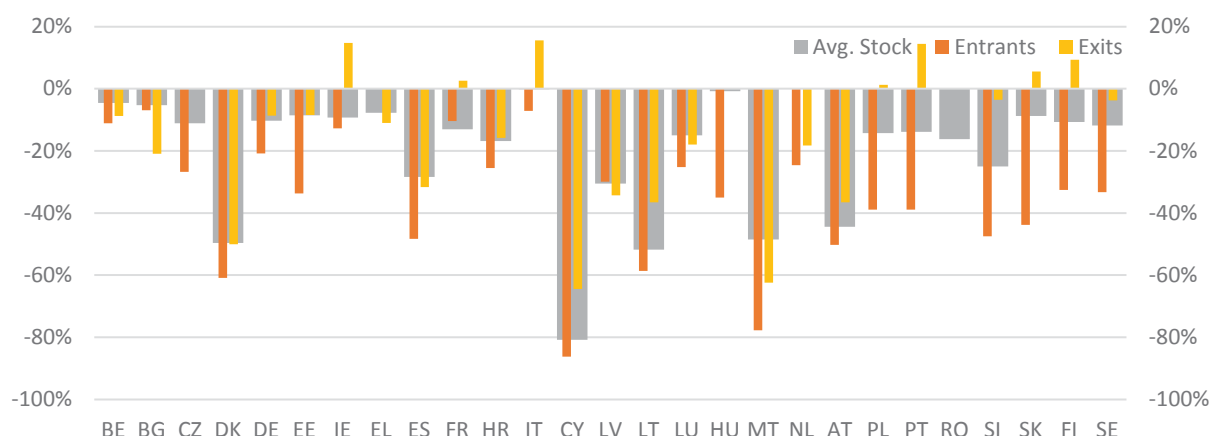
Source: LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 24 January 2023.
Notes: Data for entrants missing for EL and RO. Data on exits missing for CZ, HU, and RO.

While caseloads reduced across all Member States in 2022, the average stock of long-term registered unemployed remains above the level seen prior to the crisis in 2019 in just under half of Member States (see Figure 23). Indeed, average stock is still 20-40% higher

in Germany, Italy, Slovakia, and Hungary, around 50% higher in Czechia and Finland, and 105% higher in Estonia. Such differences are a reflection of both the extent of the impact of the COVID crisis at national level and the extent of any subsequent recovery, both of which vary between countries. For instance, in the case of Bulgaria the average stock declined in 2020, 2021 and 2022 – i.e. the crisis did not lead to a rise in long-term registered unemployed to begin with. In contrast, Czechia saw substantial rises in both 2020 (+12%) and 2021 (+53%) only partly offset by a reduction in 2022 (-11%). Overall, these differences suggest that to date, there has been an uneven recovery from the impact of the COVID crisis across Europe.

Regardless of whether numbers of yet to return to pre-COVID levels, most countries for which the data are available (19 out of 25), have experienced a rise in the share of registered LTU unemployed for more than 24 months since 2019. Rises exceeding 10 pp have occurred in Denmark, Austria, Italy, and Estonia. Exceptionally, the share reduced by 0.3-3.8 pp in Bulgaria, Romania, Latvia, Croatia, Portugal, and Slovakia.

Figure 23 - Registered LTU stocks and share of LTU unemployed for 24+ months, 2019-2022 (% and pp)
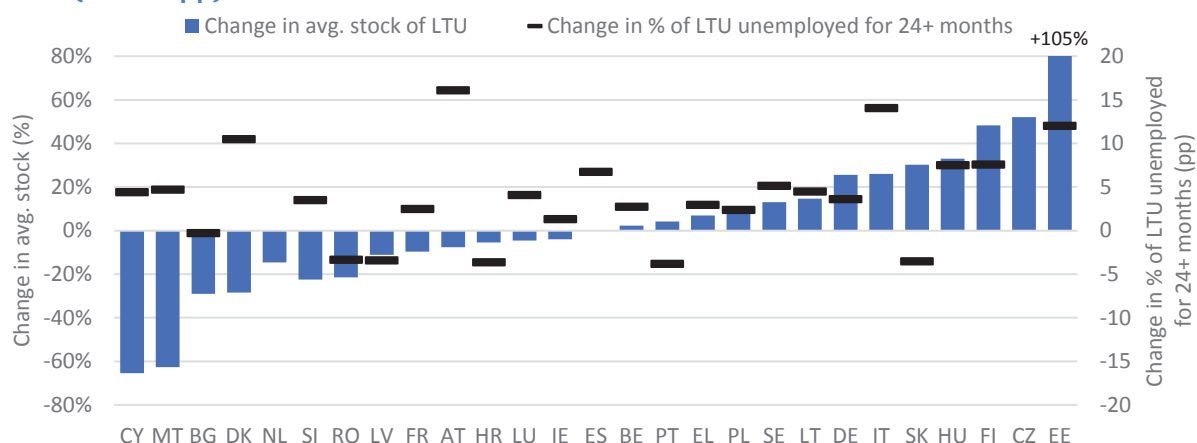
Source: LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 24 January 2023.
Notes: Data on the proportion of LTU unemployed for 24+ months not available for CZ and NL.

5 Direct level of monitoring: delivery of JIAs

5.1 Delivery of JIAs to LTU unemployed for at least 18 months

The overall indicator for the direct level of monitoring measures the extent to which long-term unemployed registered for <u>at least 18 months</u> have been provided with a JIA (target 100%). Results for 2022 are shown in Figure 24.

Figure 24 – Use of JIAs amongst LTU registered for at least 18 months, 2022 (%, 25-64)
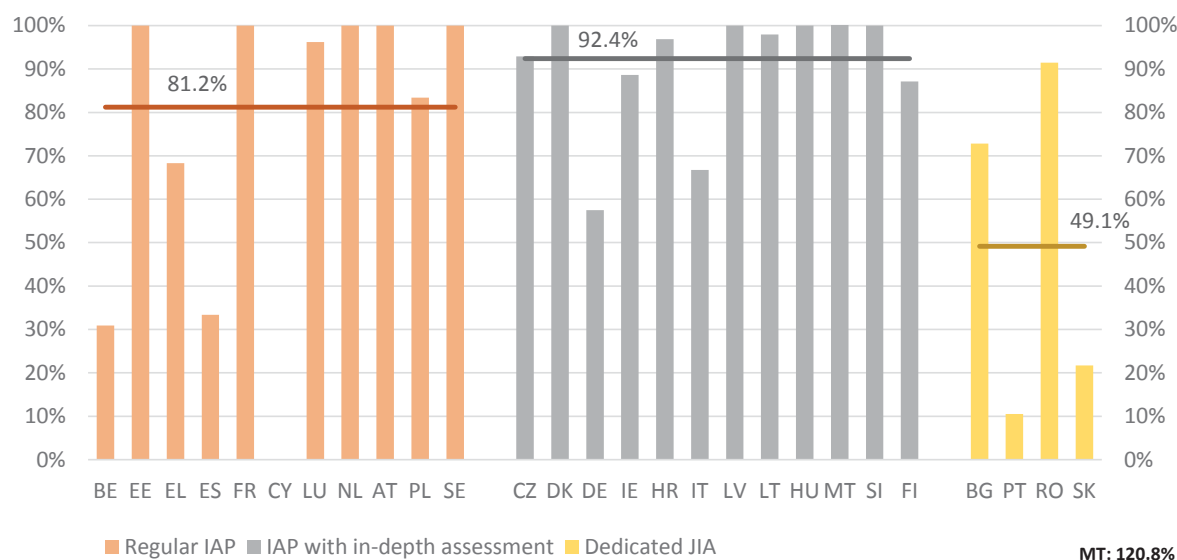
Regular IAP   IAP with in-depth assessment   Dedicated JIA

MT: 120.8%

Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted 22 January 2024.
Note: Lines show the average result for countries with data in each JIA delivery group. Data for MT give a value >100% (120.8%) because data on JIA users include individuals with a JIA who are not covered in the data on LTU. In CY there no breakdowns by duration of unemployment.

In 2022, ten countries (DK, EE, FR, LV, HU, MT, NL, AT, SI, SE) reported that all LTU registered for at least 18 months had a JIA. All are members of the two groups that use IAPs provided to all unemployed with or without additional in-depth assessment and/or some differentiation in the service offer for LTU (Figure 24). Coverage was also over 95% in Lithuania (98.0%) and Luxembourg (96.2%). At the same time, there are five Member States (BE, ES, CY, PT, SK) in which at least two in three LTU registered for at least 18 months do not have an active JIA.

The group average of 81.2% for countries using a **regular IAP** is notably higher than it was in 2021 (73.5%). However, this increase reflects the fact that Cyprus is excluded from the calculations as there were no data available for 2022. In Cyprus, JIAs were first provided to LTU in January 2020 but their provision was suspended in March and until October 2022 due to COVID-19. Consequently, no LTU had a JIA in 2021 and in 2022 there were only 14 LTU with a JIA. As the breakdown of LTU by duration is not available to pick out those unemployed for at least 18 months, Cyprus is excluded from the calculations. If Cyprus was included in the calculation as zero percent (the real number cannot be much different), then the average coverage of LTU registered for at least 18 months would be 73.8%, which is similar to 2021.

The result in the group of countries that provide regular IAPs is held down by relatively low coverage in Belgium (30.9%) and Spain (33.4%):

- In **Belgium**, action plans in two regions (Brussels and Wallonia) expire after 12 months and renewal thereafter is voluntary and there is a substantial group of very

long-term unemployed (5+ years) that may not have an action plan. Coverage has declined slightly compared to 2021 (32.2%).

- In **Spain**, it is voluntary to have an IAP (equivalent to JIA) except in certain cases (e.g. when the unemployed request access to certain benefits, which require completion of a JIA, or if the job counsellor deems it necessary), and thus not all long-term unemployed (LTU) have one. Coverage has increased compared to 2021 (29.4%).

In the **IAP with in-depth assessment** group, most countries report that the vast majority of LTU registered for at least 18 months have an active IAP. Consequently, the group average rate of coverage in 2022 is 92.4%, down slightly compared to 2021 (93.8%). This includes Ireland that moved to this group in 2022, though excluding it would only make a small difference (92.7%). This result is held down only by lower results in Germany (57.5%) and Italy (66.7%).

- In **Germany,** the lower rate of coverage largely reflects the rigorous recording of what constitutes an active IAP (has to have been reviewed within the last 7 months). The coverage rate seen in 2022 is slightly up compared to 2021 (55.6%) but still considerably lower than before the pandemic (72.1% in 2019). Face-to-face consultation is needed to agree or renew (existing) JIAs and restrictions during COVID clearly impacted on delivery of updated JIAs. It seems that the renewal process has not yet fully returned to previous levels.
- In **Italy**, although it is (since December 2018) a requirement that PES review and update the service pact (IAP) of people reaching 12 months of unemployment, the data indicate that this process has still not reached all LTU. Coverage in 2022 (66.7%) is similar to the coverage in 2021 (66.0%).

In the case of countries with a **dedicated JIA**, the average coverage rate of 49.1% seen in 2022 represents a slight improvement compared to 2021 (47.5%). However, this reflects the fact that Ireland moved from the group of countries with a dedicated JIA to the group with IAP with an assessment. If Ireland was excluded from the group so that it covers the same four countries (BG, PT, RO and SK) in both reference years, then there is actually a small decrease (50.1% in 2021 vs 49.1% in 2022). Whilst there has been an important improvement in JIA coverage in Bulgaria (from 60.9% in 2021 to 72.8% in 2022), other countries in this group saw JIA coverage reduce:

- In **Romania**, the JIA concept was introduced in August 2018[15] so that coverage in 2018 (14.5%) reflected JIAs issued in just the last few months of the year. Coverage reached 56.1% in 2019, 66.7% in 2020 and then almost complete coverage (99.0%) in 2021. In 2022, it dropped to 91.4%.
- In **Slovakia**, since February 2017, LTU are being provided with a JIA following enrolment in the ZAZ project[16]. Coverage of JIAs improved progressively from 25.2% of LTU in 2017, to 47.2% in 2018 and 54.6% in 2019. However, provision of JIAs slowed down in 2020 to 43.4% when due to COVID the provision of JIAs was restricted only to LTU registered in the PES offices in Bratislava, Malacky, and Pezinok. Coverage in 2021 and 2022 was further reduced to 27.8% and 21.7% respectively.
- In **Portugal**, data on JIA users cover LTU who have participated in a dedicated guidance intervention introduced in January 2020 and exclude LTU with a regular IAP (all unemployed get one), which will tend to understate coverage compared to countries that consider the regular IAP to fulfil the requirements of a JIA. Coverage of JIAs stood at 16.2% in 2020 but fell to 12.6% in 2021, with the slowdown in

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[15] Order no. 255/2018: https://lege5.ro/Gratuit/gi4tanryhaya/acord-de-integrare-in-munca-nr-ordin-254-2018?dp=gi3dkmzyge4dama

[16] Job integration agreements (Dohoda o pracovnej integracii) have been established from February 2017 under the project "Increased activity to employment" (ZAZ) which operates under the Act on Employment services.

delivery attributed to the impact of COVID-19. In 2022, coverage dropped to 10.5%.

5.2 Delivery of JIAs to LTU registered for less than 18 months

One of the supplementary indicators for direct level monitoring looks at the delivery of JIAs to LTU before they reach 18 months of unemployment (i.e., registered unemployed with duration 12-18 months). Logically, coverage rates would be lower than for those that have already reached 18 months of unemployment because, at the point in time that an observation is made, some of those with 12-18 months duration will still be waiting for their JIA whilst in the 18+ group all should (in theory) have received their JIA[17]. In practice, however, this is often not the case.

Results for 2022 are shown in

Figure 25. In the **regular IAP** group, the average coverage rate for LTU registered for less than 18 months in 2022 (78.5%) was below that for those registered for a longer duration (81.2%). Indeed, coverage rates for shorter duration LTU were lower in Greece (36.0% vs. 68.3%) and Spain (17.6% vs. 33.4%) but higher in Belgium (49.1% vs. 30.9%) where some of those unemployed for longer periods do not take up the option to renew their action plan and Poland (86.1% vs. 83.4%). While the same situation applied in 2021 and 2020, it contrasts with the pre-pandemic situation in 2019 when the coverage rate for LTU registered for less than 18 months in 2020 was above that for those registered for longer (76.2% vs. 74.3%). This may reflect the impact of COVID-19 on the provision of IAPs to people newly becoming long-term unemployed, as those registered for longer are less affected because they (potentially) already had a JIA before the pandemic hit.

Results for the **IAP with in-depth assessment** group indicate that the average coverage rate for LTU registered for less than 18 months in 2022 (86.9%) was lower than that for LTU registered for longer (92.4%). Coverage rates for shorter durations of unemployment were higher only in Germany (58.0% vs 57.5%) and Italy (78.0% vs 66.7%).

In the group of countries using **dedicated JIAs** the results are mixed. In Bulgaria and Romania, LTU registered for less than 18 months were more likely to have a JIA (BG: 96.9% vs 72.8%, RO: 89.2% vs 91.4%) in 2022 whilst the reverse was true in Slovakia (0.0% vs. 21.7%) and Portugal (1.8% vs. 10.5%). In the case of Slovakia, as mentioned above, JIAs are available only to LTU registered in three administrative regions (Bratislava, Malacky, and Pezinok) since 2020. Additionally, since then there were hardly any LTU with shorter and medium durations (12-18 months and 18-23 months) with a JIA. This implies that delivery of JIAs effectively ceased during the pandemic or was restricted to those very long-term unemployed (24 months or more) and that this pattern continued in 2021 and 2022.

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[17] This does not necessarily apply if JIAs are time-limited and/or need to be reviewed after a certain time (e.g. in BE and DE).

Figure 25 – Use of JIAs amongst LTU registered for less than 18 months, 2022 (%, 25-64)
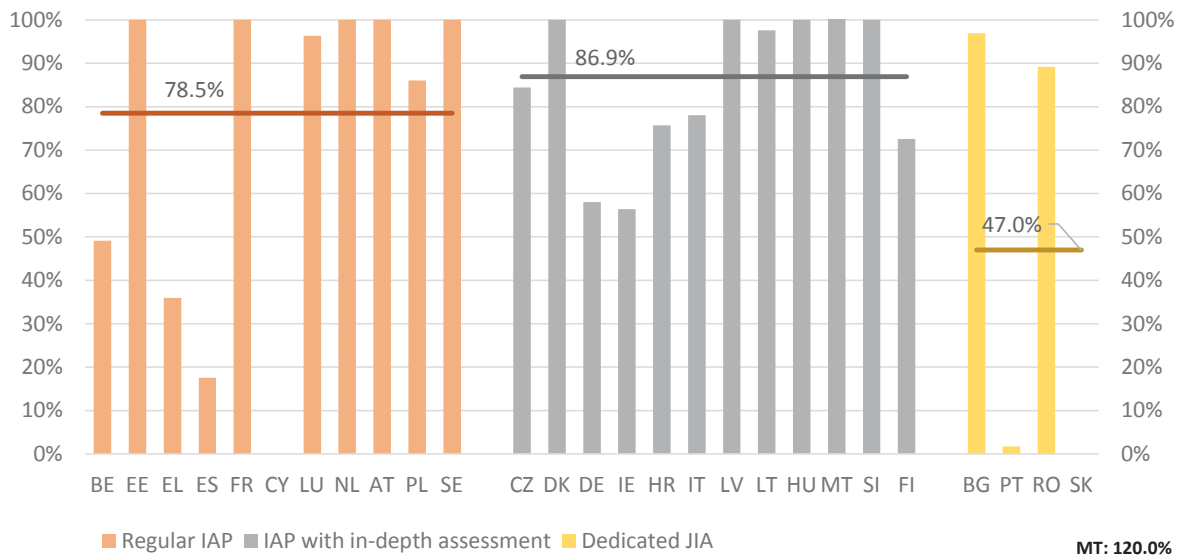
Legend: ■ Regular IAP ■ IAP with in-depth assessment ■ Dedicated JIA

MT: 120.0%

Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted 22 January 2024.
Note: Lines show the average result for countries with data in each JIA delivery group. Data for MT give a value >100% (120.0%) due to data on JIA users including individuals with a JIA not covered in the data on LTU. In CY there no breakdowns by duration of unemployment.

6 Direct level of monitoring: transitions to employment

The primary objective of the Recommendation is to reduce the incidence of long-term unemployment by helping those confronted with long spells out of work back into employment more quickly (i.e., to improve transition rates). The primary indicator of success in this respect is the supplementary indicator that measures the proportion of LTU with a JIA in the reference year whose unemployment spell ended because they took up work – i.e. made the transition from unemployment to employment.

Data on transitions to employment in 2022 are available for 23 countries (Figure 26). Data are missing for Czechia, Greece, Hungary, and Romania, representing a fundamental gap in the respective monitoring data[18]. Additionally, data for Cyprus are not meaningful due to the low number of LTU with a JIA (32 out of 6,103 exits or 0.5%).

Indicator results are best for the regular IAP group, for which an average of 48.2% of ending unemployment spells for JIA users in 2022 derived from a transition to employment. Results were only slightly lower for the IAP with assessment group (42.1%) and quite a bit lower for the dedicated JIA group (33.2%), though there are differences between countries within all groups (Figure 26). Results for all groups are quite a bit lower than in the previous year – 52.4% for regular IAP, 50.3% for IAP with in-depth assessment and 38.7% for dedicated JIA. The group results are, however, not fully comparable because of changes in the availability and comparability of the data between 2021 and 2022 in Cyprus, Ireland, and Hungary.

Figure 26 – Proportion of unemployment spells ending in employment for JIA users, 2022 (%)
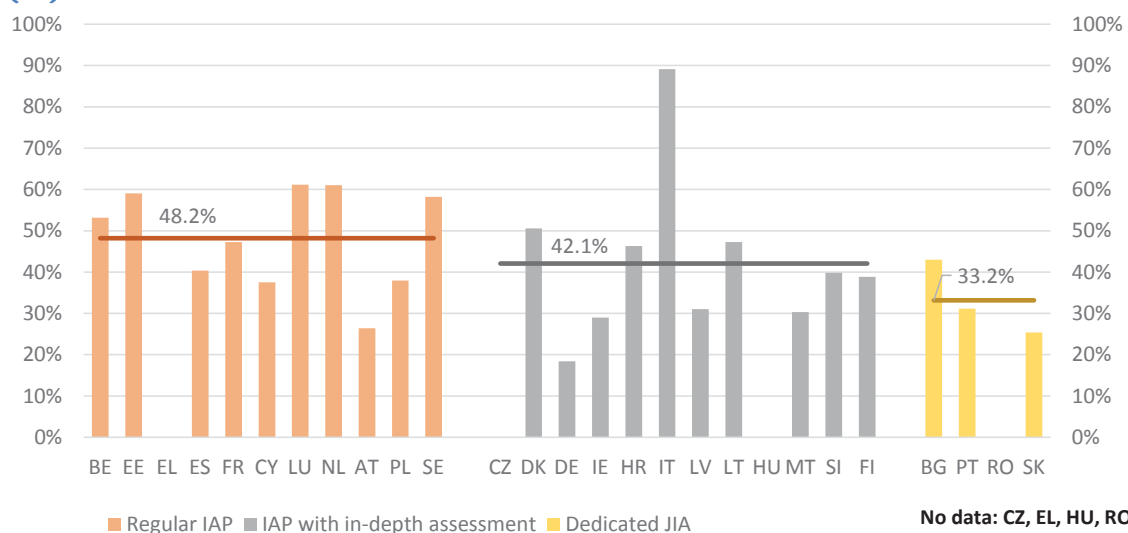
Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.
Note: Lines show the average result for countries with data in each JIA delivery group. Data for CY are not meaningful as only 0.5% of exits had a JIA.

At country level, Italy stands out from all other countries with 89.1% of ending spells resulting in employment, with only the Netherlands and Luxembourg reporting even close to 60% (61.1% and 61.2% respectively). At the other end of the scale, the lowest rates of transition to employment were seen in Germany (18.4%), Slovakia (25.4%), and Austria (26.4%). For certain, these results are affected by the underlying processes, procedures

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[18] CZ and RO provided data on the number of JIA users that exited to employment in 2022 but failed to provide data on the total number of JIA users whose unemployment spell ended in the year (needed in the denominator) so cannot be included in the analysis. HU provided the number of JIA users that exited to employment up to 2021 but due to technical problems could not provide complete data for 2022 – data will be provided in the next data collection.

and other factors that determine how long people remain registered unemployed and the reasons for deregistration. In Italy, the exceptionally high proportion of employment outcomes is a direct result of a system that effectively keeps people registered until they either find work lasting at least 180 days or retire – spells of registered unemployment do not end for any other reason. This is a complete contrast to the situation in countries with high benefit conditionality where deregistration due to voluntary drop-out, transfer to another social benefit, and sanctions can be significant contributors to the possible set of reasons for ending an unemployment spell. Comparison between countries is, therefore, of limited value for this indicator and the focus should be on changes through time within countries.

Of the 21 countries for which a comparison between 2021 and 2022 is possible[19], only two (FR and LU) reported higher proportions of JIA users transitioning to employment in 2022 than in 2021. So, although the number of registered LTU decreased in 2022 (see section 4.2), the direct level monitoring data suggest that smaller proportions of JIA users found work. This aligns with the fact that the absolute number of exits to employment decreased in most countries (17 out of 21).

In 2022, the 23 countries for which data on JIA exits by destination are available saw a total of just under 3.7 million JIA users end their unemployment spell, of which 1.7 million, or 47.6%, are known to have taken up employment (Figure 27). This compares to 1.8 out of 3.8 million, or 49.1%, in 2021. For a further 247 thousand LTU, the unemployment spell ended as a result of participation in an ALMP (6.8%). This figure is low for a number of reasons. Firstly, according to the definitions of the Indicator Framework, the data record only ALMPs that (a) break the unemployment spell (definition of an exit) and (b) are not already recorded as an exit to employment. This means that the data cover only training-related and any other non-employment related ALMPs in countries where such measures also cause a break in the unemployment spell, which are a minority. Secondly, in some countries the data on exits by destination distinguish only between employed or not (by reference to social security registers). Consequently, the data on exits to ALMPs only cover around half of countries with data (11 countries). Moreover, two thirds (66.0%) of all the exits to ALMPs recorded come from Germany, where ALMPs accounted for 28.3% of all ending spells. In the remaining 10 countries that record some exits to ALMPs, these account for 2.3% of ending spells.

Figure 27 – Exits by destination for JIA users, 2022 (%, 25-64)

EU aggregate & EU average take into account only the 22 countries for which data on exits to employment are available.
* indicates countries where all LTU have a JIA
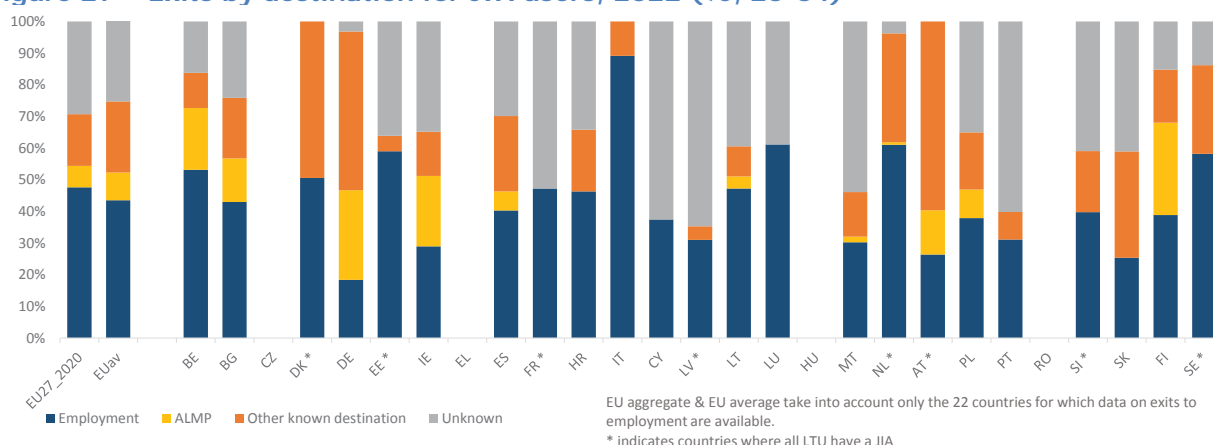
Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.
Notes: EU aggregate & EU average take into account only the 23 countries for which data on exits to employment are available. * Indicates countries where all LTU have a JIA.

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[19] Excluding CY for which data is no applicable in 2021, IE for which there are no data for 2021 and CZ, EL, HU and RO for which there are not available data for 2022.

7 Follow-up monitoring

Note: In the analysis of follow-up level monitoring indicators, the groups of countries by JIA delivery status reflect the situation at the time that the unemployment spell ended (i.e., in 2021). The groupings in 2021 were the same as in 2020.

7.1 Sustainability of employment outcomes

The overall indicator for the follow-up level of monitoring looks at the sustainability of employment outcomes achieved by JIA users. The indicator measures the proportion of JIA users that exited to employment in year n-1 who are still in employment 12 months later[20].

The latest available results refer to those ending their unemployment spell in 2021. Values can be calculated for only 14 countries because the remaining 12 countries for which the indicator is relevant[21] were unable to provide follow-up data covering the situation 12 months after exit (CZ, DE, EE, IE, EL, FR, HU, LV, LU, NL, RO, FI)[22].

The indicator results for JIA users taking up employment in 2021 (

Figure 28) show that higher proportions were in employment 12 months later for countries in the IAP with assessment group (71.9%) and dedicated JIA group (55.5%) than in the regular IAP group (47.0%).

Compared to the previous year (i.e. for unemployment spells ending in 2020), the average result for countries in the **regular IAP** group fell from 47.7% to 47.0%. This decline derives primarily by the fact that Cyprus did not implement a JIA in 2021 and thus, was not included in the results. If Cyprus was excluded from the 2020 results (66.7%), then the group's average for 2020 would drop to 44.0%. In four of the remaining five countries in this group results for 2021 improved – most notably in Spain and Austria (+6 pp in both countries to 53.8% and 62.7% respectively). The only exception is Poland where only 5.0% of JIA users exiting to employment in 2021 were known to be in work a year later (5.3% in 2020. This result depresses the average result for the group and reflects the lack of capacity to follow-up what happens to people after they leave the unemployment register (88.6% of JIA users that exited to employment in 2021 were in an unknown situation 12 months later). Without Poland, the group average would be 57.5%, more in line with the results for other groups.

Meanwhile, the average result for the **IAP with assessment** group improved from 61.0% to 71.9% while that for the **dedicated IAP** group increased slightly from 54.4% to 55.5%. In the latter case there have not been any major changes in neither the availability of the data nor in results at the country level. In the group of countries with IAP with assessment however, there some changes to be noted. Firstly, the 2021 data do not include Germany (60.0% in 2020) and Hungary (35.9% in 2020) which will provide the data with a delay. If these two countries are excluded from 2020, then the group average is 65.3%. Secondly, the share of JIA users in employment 12 months after exiting to employment more than doubled in Italy (from 30.7% in 2020 to 76.8% in 2021) but decreased notably in Croatia (from 90.0% in 2020 to 79.1% in 2021).

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[20] Still in employment simply means that the person is in employment at the point of the follow-up observation (i.e., 12 months after the initial exit to employment). It does not mean that the person is in the same job, or even that they have been employed continuously since starting the initial job that ended their unemployment spell.
[21] Cyprus did not implement a JIA in 2021.
[22] In the case of DE the lack of data is due to a technical delay rather than being unable to provide the data. HU did not provide data on situation employment for 2021 due to technical problems. Missing data will be provided in the next data collection.

Figure 28 – JIA users in employment 12 months after exiting to employment in 2021 (%, 25-64)
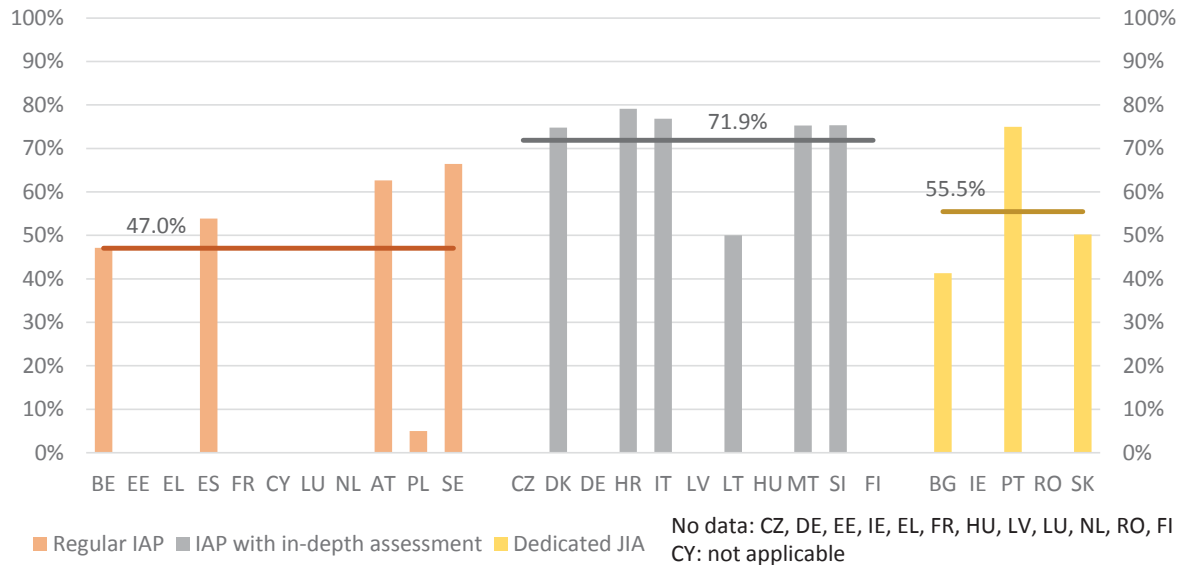
47.0%

71.9%

55.5%

BE EE EL ES FR CY LU NL AT PL SE   CZ DK DE HR IT LV LT HU MT SI FI   BG IE PT RO SK

■ Regular IAP ■ IAP with in-depth assessment ■ Dedicated JIA

No data: CZ, DE, EE, IE, EL, FR, HU, LV, LU, NL, RO, FI
CY: not applicable

Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.
Note: Lines show the average result for countries with data in each JIA delivery group. The proportion of JIA users in unknown situations 12 months after existing to employment in 2021 was <1% in DK, HR and AT; 1-10% in BE, BG, ES, LT, SI, and SE; 10-17% in IT, MT, PT, and SK; and 80% in HU and PL.

Across the 14 countries covered, the data show a total of just under 870 thousand JIA users whose unemployment spell ended as a result of starting work in 2021. Of these:
-   526 thousand (60.7%) were in work a year later (Figure 29).
-   136.1 thousand (15.7%) were unemployed again;
-   14.3 thousand (1.6%) were participating in an ALMP;
-   25.2 thousand (2.9%) were in other known situations that include sickness, maternity, retirement;
-   165.2 thousand (19%) were in unknown situations (i.e. did not appear in any of the registers covering any of the known situations).

Figure 29 – Situation of JIA users 12 months after exiting to employment in 2021 by JIA delivery group (%, 25-64)

Total Regular IAP IAP with in-depth assessment Dedicated JIA

■ Employment ■ ALMP ■ Unemployment ■ Other known destination ■ Unknown
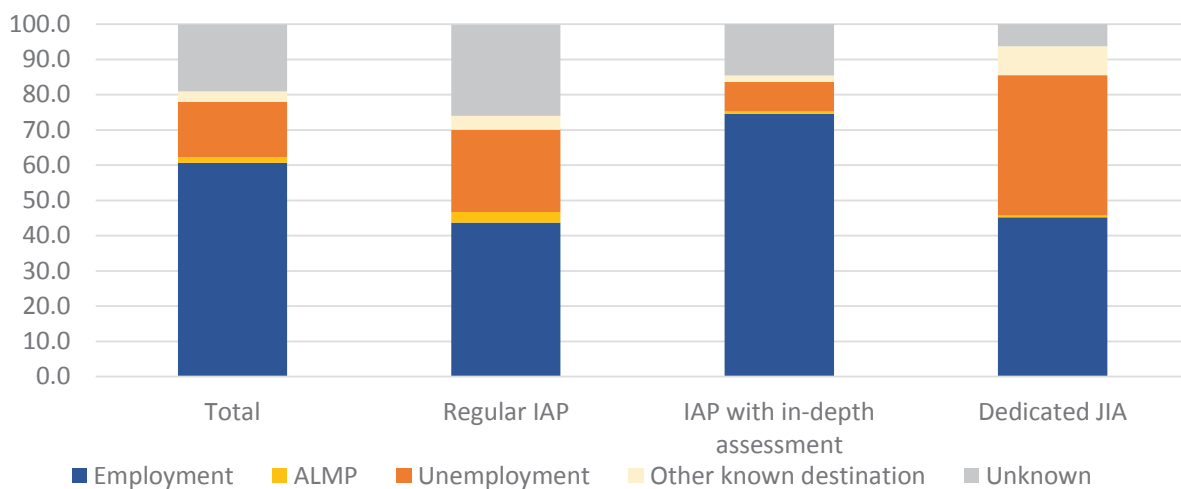
Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.

When compared to those ending their unemployment spell as a result of starting work in 2020, a higher proportion were in employment 12 month later +20.2 pp) while there were also slightly higher proportions in unemployment (+2.9 pp), ALMPs (+0.1pp) and in other known situation +0.6 pp). However, the positive outcome in terms of employment is attributed to Italy where, as mentioned earlier, the share of JIA users still in employment 12 months after exiting more than doubled (from 30.7% in 2020 to 76.8% in 2021), while the share of those in an unknown situation dropped from 67.3% to 16.5%. If Italy is excluded from both years then there is hardly any change as the share of JIA users who are still employed 12 months after exiting is about 47.3% in both reference years.

8   Conclusions

This report presents the results of the collection of data for monitoring the Council Recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market for reference year 2022. The monitoring is focused on the delivery of job integration agreements (JIAs), the employment outcomes achieved and the extent to which these are sustainable.

The Recommendation is not prescriptive so that countries are free to implement it in ways that suit their national systems and circumstances. For analysis purposes, countries are grouped according to the characteristics of their JIA delivery model, though this does not necessarily mean that the approaches of each country within a group are similar since in practice there is a continuous spectrum of delivery methods. Moreover, national practices regarding what causes or does not cause a break in the unemployment spell may also have a significant impact on indicator results and further limits the possibility to make any comparison between countries. Finally, it should be noted that the monitoring process does not take any account of the quality of JIAs and their ongoing management.

Indicators at the aggregate level describe the context for the implementation of the LTU Recommendation in each Member State and at EU level. The evolution of these indicators through time represents an indirect means of monitoring the impact of the Recommendation and other relevant policies (e.g. preventative actions).

Indicators based on harmonised survey data (i.e. the LFS) show that despite a temporary rise in the numbers of long-term unemployed in 2021, the problem of long-term unemployment has reduced significantly over recent years. The annual data used for indicators show that the number of LTU reduced in 2022, recovering from the uptick in 2021, to reach a new all-time low and is likely to continue further. The survey data therefore show imply that the COVID pandemic had a relatively short-term impact on long-term unemployment and that the situation has now recovered.

The administrative data from national unemployment registers show that the reality facing public employment services is somewhat different. The number of people registered as unemployed for a year or more in the EU in 2022 was more than double the number of long-term unemployed recorded by the LFS (10.3 vs. 4.5 million). While both the annual data of the LFS survey data on long-term unemployment and national administrative data on numbers of registered LTU show declines of similar magnitude in 2022 (-12.6% and -11.3% respectively), the latter show that the number of registered LTU in 2022 remains 6.5% above those seen pre-pandemic in 2019 (10.3 million vs. 9.6 million), indicating that caseloads seen by national PES have yet to fully recover from the impact of the pandemic. Further, administrative data show that the contribution of caseloads related to those unemployed for more than 24 months has risen from 65.1% in 2019 to 76.0% in 2022.

The recent reduction is explained by a continued net outflow of registered LTU in 2022. The net outflow that began in 2021 increased in 2022 as the number of registered unemployed becoming LTU (i.e. entrants to the LTU monitoring process) declined 25.0% while the number of LTU ending their unemployment spell (i.e. exits) declined 7.9%.
The pattern of change seen at EU level tends to apply also at national level. There was a net outflow and reduction in the average stock of long-term registered unemployed in almost all Member States in 2022, yet numbers remain above the level seen prior to the crisis in 2019 in just under half of cases suggesting an uneven recovery. Furthermore, the share of registered LTU unemployed for more than 24 months has risen in most Member States for which the data is available (19 out of 25) since 2019.

The target to deliver JIAs to all LTU registered for at least 18 months remains some way off. Whilst just over half of Member States (15) achieved at least 90% coverage in 2022,

there were six countries in which at least one in three LTU registered for 18 months or more did not have a JIA. Coverage was almost non-existent in Cyprus (1.0% for all LTU), where provision was suspended from mid-March 2020 to October 2022, but was also below 35% in Belgium, Spain, Portugal, and Slovakia. Although some countries have seen JIA coverage slightly reduce, there have also been improvements, most notably in Bulgaria (+11.9 pp) and Luxembourg (+5.0 pp). Coverage also appears increased in Ireland (+51.6 pp) but that is due to methodological changes regarding what constitutes a JIA.

Outcomes of JIA provision are assessed in terms of the proportion of unemployment spells that end as a result of starting work. Comparison between countries or against a particular target level cannot be made because of differences in national systems and the criteria for causing a break in the unemployment spell. Nevertheless, the indicator can be used at country level to compare outcomes through time. In the majority of cases (19 of 21 countries with relevant data) results for 2022 were lower (worse) than in 2021.

Follow-up indicators show the situation of JIA users twelve months after they started work but can only be calculated for 14 countries. 12 countries have not been able to provide the necessary data, while in the case of Cyprus the indicator is not relevant as JIAs were not implemented in 2021 due to the pandemic. The latest results show an improvement of outcomes compared to the previous year - 60.7% of JIA users that ended their unemployment spell as a result of taking up work in 2021 were in work 12 months later (not necessarily in the same job) compared to 40.5% of those that left in 2020. Results for 2020 however are liable to be understated due to incomplete data (the situation 12m after exit was unknown for 43.0% of JIA exits to employment in 2020, while for those that exited to employment in 2021 was 19.0% - mainly due to improvements in Italy where the share of those still employed increased from 30.7% to 76.8%). If Italy is excluded from both years, then there is hardly any change (about 47.3% in both reference years).

Annex

Table 4 – List of indicators based on external data sources by type of indicator and data source and notes about the data

Indicator	Source
Aggregate level	
Long-term unemployment rate (25-64)	EU-LFS
Share of unemployed who are LTU (25-64)	
Participation of LTU in education and training (25-64)	
Transition rate to employment for LTU (25-64)	
Transition rate to inactivity for LTU (25-64)	
Non-transition rate for LTU (25-64)	
Share of LTU registered with public employment services (25-64)	
Registered LTU ratio (25-64)	LTU monitoring database/ UNIDEMO
Activation rate of registered LTU (25 or over)	LMP
At-risk-of-poverty rate for LTU (25-64)	EU-SILC
Material and social deprivation rate of LTU (25-64)	
In-work poverty rate (25-64)	
Housing cost overburden rate among LTU (25-64)	
Unmet need for medical care for LTU (25-64)	
Use of formal childcare for children less than 3	
Direct level	
Share of LTU registered for less than 18 months (25-64)	EU-LFS
Activation rate of LTU (25 or over) (LMP cat. 4)	LMP
Net replacement rates for LTU	EC Tax & Benefit database
Share of LTU receiving any benefits (25-64)	EU-SILC
Share of social benefits in total disposable income of LTU (25-64)	
Transition from unemployment to employment within 6 and 12 months (25-64)	PES Bench learning
Follow-up level	
Vacancy rate	EU-JVS

General notes:
- Definitions for most indicators can be found in the Indicator Framework for Monitoring the Council Recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market of February 2018. The indicator Framework has been updated in February 2019 and November 2023 but these versions are not available online.

- EU-LFS, LMP and EC Tax & Benefit data were extracted on 15 September 2023, 19 January 2024 and 18 January 2024. EU-SILC data were extracted on 15 December 2023 (custom extraction). There are no data on the transition from unemployment to employment within 6 and 12 months (PES Bench learning) as well as on vacancy rates (EU-JVS).

- Flags for EU-LFS, EU-SILC and LMP data:
  : = not available
  b = break in time series
  e = estimated
  u = low reliability
  p = provisional

- EU27: Figures refer to aggregates of data from all 27 Member States.

Table 5 – Definitions of social indicators

Indicator	Definition and further notes
At-risk-of-poverty rate for LTU (25-64)	The current Indicator Framework refers to the at-risk-of-poverty (AROP) rate but previous discussions at EMCO IG/SPC-ISG meetings have suggested that the wider measure including social exclusion (AROPE), which is one of the headline indicators for the EU2020 strategy, would be preferable. AROPE is defined as the proportion of the population (or a subset thereof) which is at risk of poverty (with an equivalised disposable income, after social transfers, of less than 60% of the national median), material deprivation (inability to afford some items considered by most people to be desirable or even necessary to lead an adequate life) or living in a household with a very low work intensity (households where the members of working age worked less than 20% of their total potential during the previous 12 months). Note that the figures used refer to the "old" definition of AROPE available from the specially extracted disaggregated data used to consider the additional risks conveyed by long-term unemployment. Further details of the differences between the "old" and "new" definition can be found on the Eurostat website[23].
Material and social deprivation rate of LTU (25-64)	Proportion of the population (or a subset thereof) that cannot afford at least five of a list of 13 deprivation items . This indicator expands previous measures of material deprivation by adding (to the list of items that can be afforded) items that reflect the capacity of an individual to spend money on themselves or on social activities rather than just on household necessities.
In-work poverty rate (25-64)	Proportion of people in employment (or a subset thereof) with an equivalised disposable income (after social transfers) of less than 60% of the national median.
Housing cost overburden rate among LTU (25-64)	Proportion of the population (or subset thereof) living in households where the total housing costs ('net' of housing allowances) represent more than 40% of disposable income ('net' of housing allowances).
Unmet need for medical care for LTU (25-64)	Proportion of the population (or a subset thereof) reporting an unmet need for medical care (for any reason).
Use of formal childcare for children less than 3	Proportion of children aged less than 3 who are placed in formal childcare (i.e. other than by family) for more than 30 hours per week.
Net replacement rates for LTU	Net income of an unemployed person receiving unemployment benefits, housing benefits and social assistance / Income earned previously in the job before becoming unemployed.
Share of LTU receiving any benefits (25-64)	Proportion of the population (or a subset thereof) receiving any social benefits (other than old-age and survivors' benefits).
Share of social benefits in total disposable income of LTU (25-64)	Social benefits (other than old-age or survivors) received by the population (or a subset thereof) / total disposable income of the population (or a subset thereof)

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[23] https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Glossary:At_risk_of_poverty_or_social_exclusion_(AROPE)

Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion
Data collection for monitoring of the LTU Recommendation: 2022

Table 6 – LTU monitoring data, main variables (thousands), 2021 and 2022

	2021 LTU			2021 JIA users		2022 LTU			2022 JIA users	
	Entrants	Average stock	Exits	Average stock	Exits	Entrants	Average stock	Exits	Average stock	Exits
EU27	:	11,563,395	:	8,071,263	:	:	10,252,988	:	7,360,864	:
BE	93,119	227,772	244,015	83,430	104,984	82,807	217,496	222,714	72,955	91,914
BG	26,722	34,977	55,684	23,157	47,332	24,876	33,134	44,064	25,403	37,455
CZ	61,683	84,325	:	69,801	:	45,172	74,937	:	68,028	:
DK	35,360	31,495	46,817	31,495	46,817	13,843	15,850	23,399	15,850	23,399
DE	1,229,664	990,400	1,179,135	525,189	533,456	973,476	888,813	1,077,330	511,970	571,678
EE	15,490	9,320	13,107	9,320	13,107	10,268	8,525	11,997	8,525	11,997
IE	31,400	54,200	30,400	20,000	13,000	27,400	49,200	34,900	41,100	20,700
EL	:	506,477	238,650	326,782	:	:	467,466	212,299	298,417	:
ES	859,712	1,780,869	1,064,090	503,514	242,815	444,867	1,275,092	727,185	413,536	194,490
FR	1,355,390	2,911,902	1,500,900	2,911,902	1,500,900	1,214,730	2,531,914	1,540,580	2,531,914	1,540,580
HR	25,726	50,880	30,791	43,946	15,762	19,153	42,316	25,912	39,486	16,986
IT	526,652	3,186,608	675,604	2,132,278	439,047	489,169	3,180,653	780,891	2,142,450	478,184
CY	22,631	7,308	17,178	-	-	3,127	1,400	6,103	14	32
LV	14,106	16,866	19,788	16,866	19,788	9,890	11,713	13,003	11,713	13,003
LT	79,587	69,615	86,754	66,891	77,648	32,901	33,582	55,084	32,859	50,810
LU	6,627	12,016	7,976	11,052	7,627	4,956	10,218	6,546	9,834	6,342
HU	53,360	86,617	29,006	86,617	29,006	34,687	85,928	:	85,928	:
MT	432	524	670	639	707	96	270	252	326	284
NL	54,430	377,720	168,340	377,720	168,340	41,040	377,840	137,590	377,840	137,590
AT	96,779	78,947	115,748	78,947	115,748	48,125	43,863	73,407	43,863	73,407
PL	241,062	386,165	224,466	329,423	192,457	147,400	331,082	227,335	277,803	190,428
PT	131,467	181,331	103,950	17,443	8,086	80,274	156,258	119,018	13,566	7,938
RO	:	93,165	:	91,900	:	:	78,078	:	71,051	:
SI	19,869	35,321	20,356	35,321	20,356	10,435	26,503	19,640	26,503	19,640
SK	53,778	75,591	42,078	15,989	3,543	30,211	68,957	44,404	12,745	3,230
FI	31,674	100,401	61,289	89,058	45,480	21,369	89,636	67,015	74,921	52,630
SE	114,068	172,583	116,746	172,583	116,746	76,128	152,265	112,425	152,265	112,425

Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.

Table 7 – JIA and LTU exits by destination, 2022 (%)

	LTU				JIA users			
	Emp.	ALMP	Other known	Unknown	Emp.	ALMP	Other known	Unknown
EU av.	43.9%	7.4%	19.5%	32.6%	43.6%	8.7%	22.5%	30.4%
BE	62.0%	13.3%	9.2%	15.4%	53.1%	19.5%	11.2%	16.2%
BG	41.5%	13.8%	19.1%	25.6%	43.0%	13.8%	19.1%	24.1%
CZ	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	50.6%	0.0%	49.4%	0.0%	50.6%	0.0%	49.4%	0.0%
DE	17.4%	21.9%	50.1%	10.6%	18.4%	28.3%	50.1%	3.2%
EE	59.0%	:	4.9%	36.1%	59.0%	:	4.9%	36.1%
IE	29.5%	22.6%	12.0%	35.8%	29.0%	22.2%	14.0%	34.8%
EL	47.6%	8.3%	0.8%	43.3%	:	:	:	:
ES	33.7%	3.2%	24.1%	39.0%	40.3%	6.0%	23.8%	29.8%
FR	47.3%	:	:	52.7%	47.3%	:	:	52.7%
HR	44.2%	0.0%	16.9%	38.9%	46.3%	0.0%	19.5%	34.1%
IT	89.8%	:	10.2%	0.0%	89.1%	:	10.9%	0.0%
CY	16.9%	0.0%	3.0%	80.1%	37.5%	0.0%	:	62.5%
LV	31.0%	:	4.3%	64.7%	31.0%	:	4.3%	64.7%
LT	46.6%	3.5%	9.6%	40.3%	47.3%	3.8%	9.5%	39.4%
LU	61.5%	:	:	38.5%	61.2%	:	:	38.8%
HU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
MT	33.7%	0.0%	12.3%	54.0%	30.3%	1.8%	14.1%	53.9%
NL	61.1%	0.8%	34.4%	3.8%	61.1%	0.8%	34.4%	3.8%
AT	26.4%	14.0%	59.6%	0.0%	26.4%	14.0%	59.6%	0.0%
PL	37.7%	8.5%	18.4%	35.3%	37.9%	9.0%	18.1%	35.0%
PT	38.2%	0.0%	6.4%	55.4%	31.1%	0.0%	8.7%	60.2%
RO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
SI	39.8%	0.0%	19.3%	40.9%	39.8%	0.0%	19.3%	40.9%
SK	43.6%	0.0%	19.9%	36.4%	25.4%	0.0%	33.6%	41.0%
FI	36.2%	24.1%	17.8%	22.0%	38.9%	29.2%	16.8%	15.2%
SE	58.2%	:	28.0%	13.8%	58.2%	:	28.0%	13.8%

Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.

Table 8 – Situation of LTU and JIA users 6 and 12 months after exiting in 2021 (%)

| | Situation 6m after exit | | | | | | | | | | Situation 12m after exit | | | | | | | | | |
| | LTU | | | | | JIA users | | | | | LTU | | | | | JIA users | | | | |
	Emp.	ALMP	Unemp.	Other	Unknown	Emp.	ALMP	Unemp.	Other	Unknown	Emp.	ALMP	Unemp.	Other	Unknown	Emp.	ALMP	Unemp.	Other	Unknown
EU av.	39.8%	2.0%	19.4%	12.0%	48.2%	39.1%	2.5%	19.6%	13.9%	49.6%	38.7%	1.8%	19.5%	11.5%	48.3%	37.7%	2.1%	20.0%	13.6%	49.6%
BE	38.4%	4.2%	36.4%	10.5%	10.6%	37.7%	5.1%	36.7%	10.3%	10.2%	35.9%	3.1%	35.2%	15.1%	10.7%	37.5%	3.7%	35.2%	13.4%	10.3%
BG	32.5%	6.1%	24.5%	14.3%	22.6%	34.9%	7.0%	23.2%	12.4%	22.4%	34.8%	0.2%	28.9%	7.9%	28.3%	38.3%	0.2%	25.0%	9.1%	27.4%
CZ	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	52.6%	0.0%	15.6%	31.7%	0.0%	52.6%	0.0%	15.6%	31.7%	0.0%	53.7%	0.0%	14.7%	31.7%	0.0%	53.7%	0.0%	14.7%	31.7%	0.0%
DE	34.2%	:	:	:	65.8%	32.3%	:	:	:	67.7%	:	:	:	:	0.0%	:	:	:	:	0.0%
EE	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%
IE	:	:	16.4%	:	83.6%	:	:	12.3%	:	87.7%	:	:	10.2%	:	89.8%	:	:	9.2%	:	90.8%
EL	36.5%	0.1%	37.4%	0.1%	0.0%	:	:	:	:	:	29.8%	0.6%	39.6%	0.1%	0.0%	:	:	:	:	:
ES	31.2%	1.1%	31.2%	3.7%	32.9%	30.1%	2.5%	40.8%	3.2%	23.4%	34.2%	0.5%	29.7%	3.5%	32.0%	32.5%	0.9%	40.3%	3.2%	23.1%
FR	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%
HR	60.7%	0.0%	37.9%	:	1.4%	54.8%	0.0%	43.6%	:	1.6%	59.2%	0.0%	38.5%	:	2.3%	52.0%	0.0%	45.4%	:	2.6%
IT	66.1%	0.3%	9.2%	10.9%	13.5%	70.9%	0.2%	4.4%	10.6%	13.9%	64.3%	0.3%	10.4%	11.0%	14.0%	68.7%	0.2%	5.6%	10.7%	14.8%
CY	23.4%	0.0%	3.0%	:	73.6%	:	:	:	:	:	31.8%	0.0%	1.1%	:	67.0%	:	:	:	:	:
LV	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%
LT	28.5%	4.1%	31.2%	17.7%	18.4%	28.7%	4.1%	31.4%	17.3%	18.5%	27.2%	4.5%	28.3%	20.6%	19.4%	27.4%	4.5%	28.3%	20.3%	19.4%
LU	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%
HU	23.7%	2.9%	15.6%	0.0%	57.8%	23.7%	2.9%	15.6%	0.0%	57.8%	:	4.5%	17.2%	0.0%	78.4%	:	4.5%	17.2%	0.0%	78.4%
MT	37.0%	0.0%	8.2%	10.6%	44.2%	35.9%	0.0%	7.9%	9.3%	46.8%	38.1%	0.0%	7.3%	10.7%	43.9%	37.3%	0.0%	6.9%	9.3%	46.4%
NL	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%
AT	31.9%	4.5%	41.4%	20.6%	0.4%	31.9%	4.5%	41.4%	20.6%	0.4%	34.1%	3.8%	37.2%	22.5%	0.6%	34.1%	3.8%	37.2%	22.5%	0.6%
PL	40.3%	0.7%	10.1%	11.4%	37.4%	40.8%	0.8%	10.4%	10.8%	37.1%	5.1%	0.6%	7.0%	0.6%	86.7%	5.2%	0.7%	7.2%	0.6%	86.3%
PT	47.2%	0.0%	5.2%	0.4%	47.2%	38.4%	0.0%	4.3%	0.4%	56.8%	49.1%	0.0%	4.9%	3.6%	42.5%	39.5%	0.0%	4.6%	5.8%	50.2%
RO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
SI	42.7%	0.0%	8.6%	:	48.6%	42.7%	0.0%	8.6%	:	48.6%	41.1%	0.0%	12.5%	:	46.4%	41.1%	0.0%	12.5%	:	46.4%
SK	39.5%	0.4%	10.3%	14.6%	35.3%	21.5%	0.2%	10.6%	32.1%	35.6%	38.7%	0.5%	13.4%	14.4%	33.1%	19.2%	0.3%	17.0%	31.7%	31.8%
FI	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%	:	:	:	:	100.0%
SE	49.0%	9.7%	7.4%	21.5%	12.5%	49.0%	9.7%	7.4%	21.5%	12.5%	41.5%	12.4%	13.9%	19.0%	13.1%	41.5%	12.4%	13.9%	19.0%	13.1%

Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.

Table 9 – Direct level indicators: Use of JIAs among LTU (25-64) by sex, age, educational attainment and duration of unemployment, 2022 (%)

	Total	By sex		By age		By educational attainment [1]			By duration of unempl.		Change since 2021 (pp)
		Men	Women	25-54	55-64	Low	Medium	High	12-18m	>=18m	
EU av.	77.8%	77.4%	78.7%	78.0%	76.1%	76.9%	74.9%	76.2%	77.5%	81.4%	2.4
BE	33.5%	33.7%	33.4%	37.5%	21.1%	29.9%	37.0%	43.4%	49.1%	30.9%	-3.1
BG	76.7%	76.5%	76.8%	81.0%	69.4%	88.5%	53.6%	51.9%	96.9%	72.8%	10.5
CZ	90.8%	90.4%	91.1%	91.6%	88.7%	92.2%	90.1%	88.9%	84.4%	92.9%	8.0
DK	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0
DE	57.6%	57.8%	57.4%	56.4%	60.4%	54.8%	60.8%	59.3%	58.0%	57.5%	4.6
EE	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0
IE	83.5%	86.1%	78.4%	83.5%	83.6%	:	:	:	56.4%	88.6%	46.6
EL	63.8%	61.9%	64.7%	64.1%	63.2%	60.0%	65.7%	66.9%	36.0%	68.3%	-0.7
ES	32.4%	32.5%	32.4%	35.3%	29.5%	33.2%	31.3%	29.5%	17.6%	33.4%	4.2
FR	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0
HR	93.3%	93.5%	93.1%	91.9%	95.0%	95.4%	92.9%	89.1%	75.7%	96.9%	6.9
IT	67.4%	67.0%	67.7%	67.7%	66.5%	67.0%	68.2%	68.9%	78.0%	66.7%	0.4
CY	1.0%	1.1%	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%	1.3%	0.8%	1.0%	:	:	1.0
LV	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0
LT	97.8%	97.8%	97.9%	97.5%	98.3%	98.2%	97.9%	97.4%	97.6%	98.0%	1.8
LU	96.2%	95.5%	97.0%	96.3%	96.1%	95.8%	96.0%	98.3%	96.3%	96.2%	4.3
HU	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0
MT	120.7%	113.4%	145.9%	130.8%	107.0%	128.2%	111.5%	150.0%	120.0%	120.8%	-1.2
NL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	:	:	:	100.0%	100.0%	0.0
AT	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0
PL	83.9%	84.6%	83.4%	83.7%	84.4%	83.8%	84.3%	82.4%	86.1%	83.4%	-1.4
PT	8.7%	9.0%	8.5%	7.9%	9.8%	9.1%	7.8%	8.2%	1.8%	10.5%	-0.9
RO	91.0%	91.0%	91.1%	:	:	:	:	:	89.2%	91.4%	-7.6
SI	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0
SK	18.5%	13.6%	22.0%	17.2%	21.8%	25.0%	14.2%	10.2%	0.0%	21.7%	-2.7
FI	83.6%	84.3%	82.5%	83.6%	83.6%	83.2%	84.8%	82.3%	72.6%	87.1%	-5.1
SE	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0

[1] Low, medium and high levels of educational attainment refer to ISCED categories 0-2, 3-4 and 5-8 respectively. Further information about the ISCED classification is available from https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/International_Standard_Classification_of_Education_(ISCED).

Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.

Table 10 – Direct level indicators: Proportion of unemployment spells ending in employment for JIA users (25-64) by sex, age and educational attainment, 2022 (%)

	Total	By sex		By age		By educational attainment [1]			Change since 2021 (pp)
		Men	Women	25-54	55-64	Low	Medium	High	
EU av.	43.6%	43.0%	43.3%	48.3%	33.2%	38.7%	44.8%	50.9%	-6.0
BE	53.1%	57.1%	48.3%	54.0%	44.5%	51.1%	56.6%	51.0%	-3.6
BG	43.0%	40.3%	45.2%	44.8%	39.6%	46.5%	38.8%	48.8%	-7.4
CZ	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	50.6%	52.2%	48.9%	52.9%	43.8%	44.3%	49.9%	57.4%	-6.6
DE	18.4%	20.4%	16.0%	20.3%	14.0%	16.8%	19.7%	25.2%	-1.8
EE	59.0%	56.4%	61.1%	64.3%	46.8%	51.4%	57.7%	64.0%	-4.3
IE	29.0%	31.1%	25.0%	31.2%	17.6%	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	40.3%	39.6%	40.7%	46.7%	28.4%	37.5%	45.3%	49.3%	-3.8
FR	47.3%	47.3%	47.3%	50.8%	32.6%	42.7%	47.1%	50.1%	0.5
HR	46.3%	39.4%	51.7%	59.1%	29.4%	34.5%	48.7%	61.5%	-1.4
IT	89.1%	87.8%	90.4%	100.0%	58.6%	85.7%	93.3%	96.8%	-0.3
CY	37.5%	33.3%	38.5%	37.9%	33.3%	41.7%	36.4%	33.3%	:
LV	31.0%	27.2%	34.1%	34.9%	25.1%	25.2%	30.0%	41.1%	-9.8
LT	47.3%	47.1%	47.4%	51.4%	39.9%	43.2%	46.9%	50.5%	-1.6
LU	61.2%	59.4%	62.9%	66.1%	42.9%	59.2%	64.8%	59.7%	0.8
HU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
MT	30.3%	35.0%	19.5%	35.8%	21.6%	26.5%	33.3%	37.5%	-5.2
NL	61.1%	61.2%	60.9%	62.6%	57.2%	:	:	:	-0.8
AT	26.4%	27.6%	25.0%	30.8%	17.0%	22.4%	28.0%	41.6%	-5.8
PL	37.9%	36.1%	39.4%	40.8%	27.8%	27.8%	39.0%	50.9%	-9.7
PT	31.1%	29.3%	32.3%	40.1%	17.6%	24.5%	38.8%	42.8%	-6.0
RO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
SI	39.8%	35.9%	43.3%	49.4%	25.1%	27.2%	41.1%	58.5%	-11.2
SK	25.4%	22.0%	27.1%	36.8%	9.1%	21.7%	27.6%	38.2%	-3.2
FI	38.9%	39.2%	38.5%	40.0%	36.9%	29.0%	39.8%	48.0%	-4.2
SE	58.2%	64.6%	51.6%	59.3%	53.9%	54.4%	58.9%	61.6%	-0.1

[1] Low, medium and high levels of educational attainment refer to ISCED categories 0-2, 3-4 and 5-8 respectively. Further information about the ISCED classification is available from https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/International_Standard_Classification_of_Education_(ISCED).

Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.

April 2024

49

Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion
Data collection for monitoring of the LTU Recommendation: 2022

Table 11 – Direct level indicators: context indicators, 2021 and 2022 (%)

	Share of LTU registered for less than 18 months		Activation rate of LTU (25 or over)		Net replacement rates		Share of LTU receiving any benefits		Share of social benefits in total disposable income of LTU	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
EU27	30.6 b	23.9	:	:	41.7	39.7	74.8	75.5	49.7	49.9
BE	30.1 b	21.2	:	:	61.9	49.6	98.1	97.0	72.6	71.3
BG	31.9 b	28.4 u	8.3 u	:	8.1	7.5	70.0	69.7	31.2	28.4
CZ	47.1 b	33.4	4.2 e	:	33.3	36.9	66.7	60.8	50.7	38.2
DK	43.8 b	42.0 u	:	:	57.9	55.9	98.8	100.0	75.7	73.6
DE	26.8 b	20.5	5.4 u	:	34.2	31.9	94.6	99.7	80.7	85.5
EE	50.8 b	45.1	26.1	:	24.8	26.0	67.8	75.7	37.9	31.9
IE	36.1 b	:	22 e	:	46.1	41.8	94.1	91.1	63.0	64.6
EL	20.8 b	17.7	:	:	39.9	19.3	55.8	53.9	27.7	23.5
ES	28.9 bd	20.5	19.4 u	:	57.9	64.4	59.1	57.9	38.7	36.7
FR	34.4 bd	31.5	:	:	67.6	67.6	95.4	97.1	65.9	64.1
HR	39.9 b	27.0 u	6 e	:	36.3	35.4	36.0	32.0	17.2	16.1
IT	27.2 b	22.6	:	:	49.8	52.6	69.4	65.2	35.2	34.4
CY	34.8 b	26.8 u	:	:	41.3	38.4	57.7	52.2	22.1	15.4
LV	47.9 bu	:	21.7	:	38.9	36.2	64.4	63.9	61.2	31.5
LT	36.5 b	30.0	3.2 u	:	42.3	31.8	89.9	77.3	47.4	44.8
LU	34.5 b	28.7 u	:	:	45.3	45.5	77.7	71.4	58.5	41.6
HU	50.9 b	36.4	14.5 u	:	7.6	6.6	68.5	71.5	28.7	35.2
MT	:	:	14.4	:	52.9	50.3	74.2	75.0 u	32.9	37.7 u
NL	28.9 b	22.8	:	:	69.5	69.8	98.5	96.5	87.6	88.4
AT	40.3 b	25.4	18.4	:	51.0	51.9	94.4	92.2	69.6	64.8
PL	52.1 b	38.9	2.7	:	21.3	21.0	53.3	57.6	21.2	21.7
PT	29.7 b	21.1	19 u	:	75.0	75.0	53.2	58.4	28.0	33.2
RO	:	41.5 u	:	:	4.6	4.3	55.0	:	20.9	:
SI	41.1 b	38.4 u	9.5	:	39.1	36.8	81.3	84.0	40.8	42.1
SK	24.5 b	16.4	11.9	:	13.8	13.2	71.3	75.4	36.0	32.2
FI	27.0 b	24.2	7.4	:	52.9	52.7	98.8	98.9	83.3	75.4
SE	51.2 b	38.4	57.3 e	:	52.1	50.3	86.1	80.4	77.2	51.7

Note: See Table 4 for data sources and notes about the data.

Table 12 – Follow-up level indicators: JIA users (25-64) in employment 6 and 12 months after exiting to employment in 2021, by sex and age (%)

| | 6m after exiting to employment | | | | | | 12m after exiting to employment | | | | | |
| | Total | By sex | | By age | | Change since 2020 (pp) | Total | By sex | | By age | | Change since 2020 (pp) |
		Men	Women	25-54	55-64			Men	Women	25-54	55-64	
EU av.	65.8%	65.2%	66.5%	66.3%	63.8%	6.9	59.5%	58.3%	60.6%	60.5%	55.9%	4.3
BE	52.3%	52.0%	52.8%	52.1%	54.4%	2.7	47.2%	46.6%	48.0%	46.8%	51.2%	1.3
BG	47.0%	56.1%	40.4%	45.3%	50.1%	1.9	41.3%	41.1%	41.4%	41.1%	41.7%	1.6
CZ	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	76.5%	76.4%	76.6%	77.7%	72.1%	4.1	74.8%	75.0%	74.5%	75.9%	70.5%	2.3
DE	65.1%	63.4%	67.9%	66.4%	58.9%	4.2	:	:	:	:	:	:
EE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	53.3%	51.9%	54.2%	55.2%	46.0%	3.6	53.8%	52.1%	54.8%	56.3%	44.1%	6.0
FR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
HR	86.1%	86.4%	86.0%	86.6%	84.9%	-5.0	79.1%	78.1%	79.8%	81.5%	72.3%	-10.9
IT	79.3%	80.6%	78.0%	80.2%	74.3%	49.6	76.8%	77.9%	75.8%	78.0%	70.4%	46.1
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LT	54.2%	51.0%	57.3%	55.9%	49.6%	5.1	50.0%	46.8%	53.1%	52.2%	44.3%	0.8
LU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
HU*	28.9%	26.6%	30.6%	29.9%	24.2%	-3.8	:	:	:	:	:	:
MT	76.5%	75.7%	78.2%	77.8%	72.6%	-6.2	75.3%	73.4%	79.5%	76.7%	71.0%	-2.3
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
AT	67.6%	64.9%	71.3%	68.1%	65.0%	5.3	62.7%	60.7%	65.4%	64.2%	54.7%	6.0
PL	67.7%	67.0%	68.3%	67.1%	70.9%	0.3	5.0%	5.0%	4.9%	4.9%	5.5%	-0.3
PT	78.0%	76.5%	79.0%	78.7%	75.4%	62.9	75.0%	74.2%	75.4%	76.2%	70.1%	0.6
RO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
SI	80.6%	78.5%	82.3%	79.7%	83.7%	1.7	75.3%	72.7%	77.4%	75.6%	74.3%	3.3
SK	57.9%	55.1%	59.1%	57.7%	58.9%	-9.3	50.2%	45.9%	52.1%	50.7%	47.6%	0.9
FI	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
SE	81.9%	81.5%	82.4%	82.3%	79.9%	1.0	66.4%	66.7%	66.1%	66.7%	65.3%	2.3

* Based on partial provisional data.
Source: DG EMPL, LTU monitoring database, data extracted on 22 January 2024.

Table 13 – Aggregate level indicators: LTU rate (25-64) by sex, age, educational attainment and duration of unemployment, 2022 (%)

	Total	By sex		By age		By educational attainment (1)			By duration of unempl.		Change since 2021 (pp)
		Men	Women	25-54	55-64	Low	Medium	High	12-18m	>=18m	
EU27	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.3	2.7	5.6	2.1	1.2	0.6	1.8	-0.4
BE	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.5	7.3	2.4	1.0	0.5	1.7	-0.2
BG	2.2	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.2	7.6	2.1	0.6	0.6	1.7	-0.3
CZ	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.7	4.6	0.5	0.2 u	0.2	0.4	-0.2
DK	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6 u	0.8 u	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.4	-0.6
DE	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.4	2.7	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.8	-0.1
EE	1.3	1.6	1.0	1.2	1.7 u	3.3 u	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.8	-0.3
IE	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.6 u	3.8 u	1.8	0.8	0.2	1.1	-0.3
EL	7.5	5.2	10.3	7.6	6.8	9.6	8.8	5.0	1.4	6.0	-1.4
ES	5.0	3.9	6.1	4.5	6.9	8.0	5.3	2.7	1.0	4.0	-1.0
FR	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.8	2.8	4.5	2.3	1.1	0.6	1.4	-0.3
HR	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.1 u	4.5 u	2.3	1.7 u	0.7	1.6	-0.2
IT	4.3	3.8	4.9	4.6	3.1	7.2	3.8	1.7	0.9	3.4	-0.7
CY	2.3	2.0	2.5	2.2	2.4	3.3	2.8	1.6	0.6	1.6	-0.2
LV	2.1	2.6	1.5	2.0	2.1	5.0 u	2.6	0.9	0.6	1.5	-0.3
LT	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.1	3.5	6.5 u	3.3	1.3	0.7	1.7	-0.3
LU	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	2.0 u	1.7 u	1.3	1.1	0.4	0.9	-0.4
HU	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	4.1	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.1
MT	0.9	0.9	0.9 u	1.0	:	1.2 u	0.8 u	0.9 u	0.5	0.4	0.0
NL	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	1.5	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.6	-0.2
AT	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.8	3.2	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.9	-0.8
PL	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	2.5 u	1.0	0.3 u	0.3	0.5	-0.1
PT	2.7	2.4	3.0	2.5	3.4	3.5	3.0	1.7	0.5	2.2	-0.1
RO	1.8	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.6	5.0	1.7	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.0
SI	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.9 u	4.6 u	1.9	0.8 u	0.6	0.9	-0.2
SK	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.5	33.9	3.2	1.2	0.6	3.2	0.2
FI	1.7	2.0	1.4	1.3	3.0	3.8	1.8	1.2	0.4	1.3	-0.2
SE	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.8	3.0	9.2	1.8	0.8	0.8	1.2	-0.1

(1) Low, medium and high levels of educational attainment refer to ISCED categories 0-2, 3-4 and 5-8 respectively. Further information about the ISCED classification is available from https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/International_Standard_Classification_of_Education_(ISCED).
Note: See Table 4 for data sources and notes about the data.

Table 14 – Aggregate level indicators: Supplementary and context indicators, 2021 and 2022 (%)

	Registered LTU ratio (25-64)		Share of unemployed who are LTU		Share of LTU registered with PES*		Activation rate of registered LTU (25 or over)		Participation of LTU in education and training	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
EU27	4.9	4.3	43.7 b	43.5	74.1 b	71.2	:	:	9.9 b	10.3
BE	3.7	3.6	48.2 b	49.4	91.1 b	88.0	:	:	11.4 b	10.6
BG	0.9	0.9	51.2 b	55.4	41.6 b	31.4	8.3 u	:	:	:
CZ	1.5	1.3	29.7 b	29.8	79.9 b	83.0	4.2 e	:	2.3 bu	2.8 u
DK	1.1	0.5	26.8 b	15.8	88.0 b	55.7	:	:	27.3 b	31.6
DE	2.2	2.0	36.5 b	37.0	85.7 b	85.8	5.4 u	:	7.0 b	6.5
EE	1.3	1.2	28.9 b	28.2	72.9 b	71.1	26.1	29.1	17.9 bu	17.7 u
IE	2.1	1.9	35.7 b	38.6	100.0 b	73.2	22 e	:	18.8 bu	:
EL	9.0	8.3	65.1 b	66.0	83.6 b	83.9	:	:	2.9 b	4.5
ES	6.7	4.8	44.6 bd	42.4	87.8 bd	88.0 d	19.4 u	:	15.3 bd	15.9 d
FR	8.7	7.5	34.9 bd	32.9	90.7 bd	89.3 d	:	:	9.8 bd	11.0 d
HR	2.3	2.1	40.6 b	37.8	67.6 b	71.8	6 e	:	:	6.0 u
IT	10.0	10.0	59.9 b	60.8	47.7 b	41.1	:	:	5.0 b	5.0
CY	1.5	0.3	37.5 b	38.7	59.0 b	34.0	:	:	4.9 bu	7.4 u
LV	1.6	1.2	32.2 b	31.8	23.3 b	18.9	21.7	:	:	:
LT	4.5	2.2	39.1 b	41.9	84.2 b	71.4	3.2 u	:	4.2 bu	6.1 u
LU	3.3	2.7	39.7 b	36.0	65.6 b	62.7	:	:	30.8 b	30.6
HU	1.6	1.6	33.2 b	37.2	50.6 b	44.9	14.5 u	:	:	:
MT	0.2	0.1	30.9 b	39.2	38.3 b	:	14.4	:	:	:
NL	4.1	3.5	28.6 b	28.3	64.6 b	64.3	:	:	20.3 b	20.0
AT	1.6	0.9	35.4 b	29.2	81.4 b	76.6	18.4	:	19.9 b	20.8
PL	1.8	1.6	29.8 b	33.5	63.4 b	62.6	2.7	:	:	:
PT	3.3	2.8	49.4 b	51.8	76.4 b	74.4	19 u	:	16.4 b	17.2
RO	0.9	0.8	39.1 b	41.0	12.1 b	11.6	:	:	:	:
SI	3.1	2.3	43.1 b	45.0	73.3 b	69.8	9.5	:	12.9 bu	20.1 u
SK	2.4	2.2	59.0 b	70.1	85.8 b	84.7	11.9	11	:	:
FI	3.6	3.2	29.8 b	29.4	91.2 b	90.7	7.4	8.2	21.1 b	17.8
SE	3.3	2.9	32.2 b	38.5	92.1 b	92.5	57.3 e	51.6 e	49.9 b	53.1

Note: See Table 4 for data sources and notes about the data.

*LV reported that there is a great difference with administrative data.

Table 15 – Aggregate level indicators: Social situation of long-term unemployed (25-64), 2021 and 2022 (%)

	At-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate		Material and social deprivation rate		In-work poverty rate		Housing cost overburden rate		Unmet need for medical care for LTU		Use of formal childcare for children less than 3	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
EU27	72.3	71.7	41.7	43.5	8.7	8.3	21.9	21.1	10.6	11.0	37.9	35.7
BE	71.4	73.3	41.9	36.5	3.7	3.5	27.6	28.1	6.8	3.6	51.7	52.7
BG	77.7	78.7	66.2	69.1	9.6	9.6	22.8	36.4	9.5	13.4	18.7	17.4
CZ	77.5	68.6	49.3	46.3	3.6	3.6	35.8	26.6	6.6	2.7	4.9	6.8
DK	78.9	76.6	47.2	45.1	4.4	4.4	59.6	59.5	30.8	22.5	69.1	74.7
DE	80.9	83.9	48.6	54.9	8.0	6.6	9.6	8.2	4.5	3.4	31.4	23.9
EE	65.3	56.3	18.8	32.1	9.8	10.3	24.3	16.9	19.8	21.2	25.7	33.7
IE	65.7	65	32.5	41.8	4.2	5.3	6.5	5.6	10.5	20.9	15.1	19.1
EL	68.7	66.7	60.9	62.1	11.0	10.5	53.9	53.3	20.1	28.7	32.3	29.1
ES	68.5	64.3	41.0	39.2	12.6	11.7	23.7	21.5	4.8	4.6	55.3	48.6
FR	72.7	69.6	38.5	44.1	6.5	7.1	:	16.7	12.5	16.5	57.1	56.2
HR	60.1	59.3	26.6	24.9	4.9	4.8	18.4	13.8	12.3	7.9	33.3	27.5
IT	72.9	74.9	37.3	36.3	11.5	11.6	18.6	20.9	15.7	12.5	33.4	30.9
CY	63.5	57.3	33.0	31.1	7.6	8.0	8	11.8	2.2	2.2	27.4	24.4
LV	64.5	78.9	38.9	47.6	10.1	9.5	23.5	28.4	29.5	33.7	29.2	32.7
LT	67.9	70.6	39.3	41.2	7.5	7.7	14.7	22.7	10.5	12.8	21.4	22.8
LU	72.4	55.9	28.2	18.0	13.3	13.2	17.4	26.7	6.9	2.9 u	62.0	54.7
HU	71.9	72	64.2	61.1	7.5	7.3	10.2	24.5	18.1	15.0	13.8	12.9
MT	56.9	63.7 u	47.0	48.9 u	7.6	7.3	20.4	12.6 u	19.7 u	:	24.0	43.1
NL	90	89.6	39.7	51.5	4.8	4.6	30	41.4	6.0	3.7	74.2	72.3
AT	79.8	68.1	32.5	33.3	7.6	8.3	25.2	23.4	6.9	6.7	28.5	23.0
PL	55	61	30.3	31.1	9.0	9.2	18.8	19.9	15.7	11.0	17.2	15.9
PT	65.8	65.2	37.2	38.5	11.3	10.0	15.4	13.4	18.0	14.8	43.3	47.6
RO	67.3	:	64.0	:	14.9	13.5	14.9	:	7.2 u	:	9.5	12.3
SI	54.8	59.7	18.8	19.0	4.8	4.8	13.9	17.2	16.8	8.0	47.5	52.3
SK	70.3	67.2	50.7	48.7	6.5	7.2	21.1	12.4	8.2	8.2	2.3	2.3
FI	81.1	71.9	29.5	25.9	2.6	2.3	8.6	8.3	21.2	23.9	39.1	40.0
SE	79.8	66.8	25.4	31.3	6.4	6.9	44.4	26.7	13.5	26.0	55.8	54.4

Note: See Table 4 for data sources and notes about the data.

April 2024

54