

Summary of the labor force survey in Thailand : March 2013

Table 1 Comparison of the population aged 15 years and over by labor force status

Unit : million

Labor force status	2012			2013	
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Feb.	Mar.
Persons over 15 years	54.32	54.37	54.41	54.83	54.87
1. Total labor force	38.80	38.96	38.91	39.34	39.35
1.1 employed	38.06	38.19	38.14	38.81	38.75
1.2 unemployed	0.26	0.29	0.38	0.25	0.27
1.3 seasonally	0.48	0.48	0.39	0.28	0.33
2. Not in labor force	15.52	15.41	15.50	15.49	15.52

Remark : Underemployment worker is a worker who working less than 35 hours per week and available for additional work.

The results of Labor Force Survey of March in 2013 showed that there are population, aged 15 years and over, of about 54.87 million persons. Of these 39.35 million were in the labor force or available for work (38.75 million were employed, 0.27 million were unemployed and 0.33 million were seasonally inactive labor force). While 15.52 million were not in the labor force or not available for work, such as housewives, students or elderly.

Table 2 Comparison of the number of employed persons by industry

Unit : Million

Industry	2012			2013	
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Feb.	Mar.
Total	38.06	38.19	38.14	38.81	38.75
1. Agricultural	13.45	13.51	13.57	13.78	13.62
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13.45	13.51	13.57	13.78	13.62
2. Non-Agricultural	24.61	24.68	24.57	25.03	25.13
- Manufacturing	5.98	6.12	6.13	6.03	6.21
- Construction	2.54	2.95	2.80	2.78	2.99
- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	6.11	5.96	6.04	6.18	6.16
- Transportation and storage	1.05	1.02	0.85	1.07	1.01
- Accommodation and food service activities	2.36	2.25	2.34	2.53	2.31
- Financial and insurance activities	0.43	0.41	0.48	0.40	0.40
- Real estate activities	0.10	0.15	0.12	0.13	0.15
- Public administration defence and compulsory social security	1.68	1.67	1.76	1.72	1.66
- Education	1.28	1.13	1.19	1.29	1.19
- Human health and social work activities	0.64	0.63	0.59	0.66	0.55
- Other service activities	0.72	0.77	0.72	0.66	0.65
- Others	1.72	1.62	1.55	1.58	1.85

There were 38.75 million employed persons, which 13.62 and 25.13 million were in agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, respectively. Comparing with March in 2012, it was showed that the number of employed persons in agriculture and non-agriculture sectors increased by 0.11 million and 0.45 million, respectively. This increment was found in various industries e.g. 0.20 million in wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, 90 thousand in manufacture, 60 thousand in accommodation and food service activities and education and 40 thousand in construction. However, it was found that a decrease in some other industries e.g. 0.12 million in other service activities (Health service activities, pets care service and laundry & dry cleaning service) and 80 thousand in human health and social work activities. The rest shared in the other industries.

Considering the number of underemployed workers and available for additional work, there were 0.30 million or 0.8% of the total employed persons.

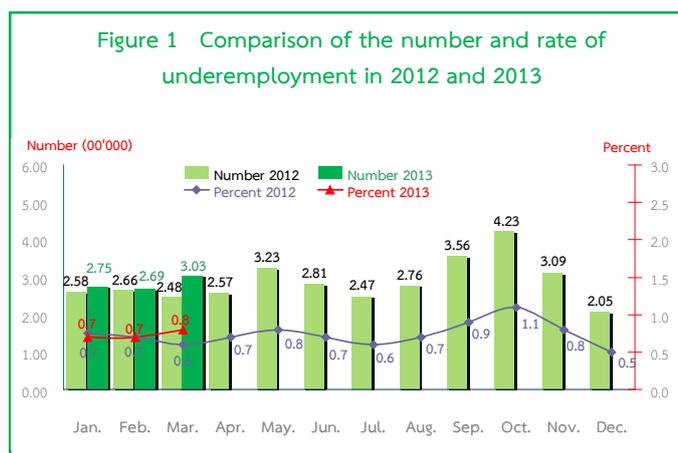
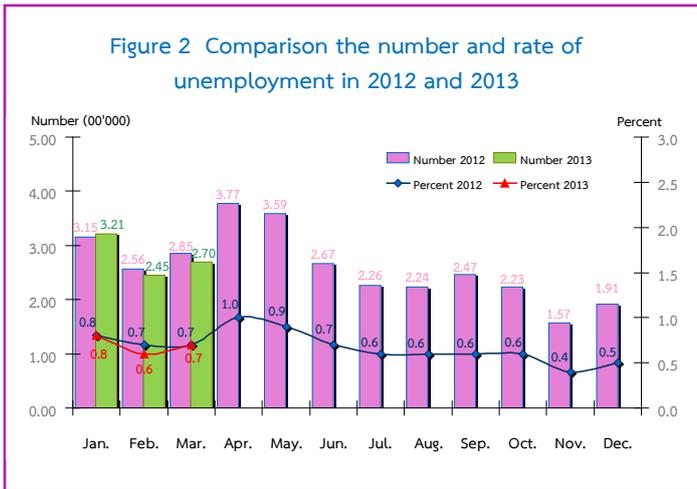


Figure 2 Comparison the number and rate of unemployment in 2012 and 2013



In March 2013, the total number of unemployed persons were 0.27 million or 0.7% of the total labor force and decreased of 15 thousand comparing to the same period as in 2012. Moreover, it showed an increase of 25 thousand (from 0.25 million to 0.27 million) in February 2013. Out of 0.27 million, there were 0.10 million having never worked and 0.17 million had ever, among these, the number of unemployed persons who ever worked decreased by 28 thousand (from 0.20 million to 0.17 million), comparing to the same period as in 2012. It was found that 0.17 million distributed in 3 sectors i.e. 86 thousand in manufacturing, 64 thousand in trade and services and 19 thousand in agriculture. (figure3)

Figure 3 Number of unemployed by experience of work of March in 2013

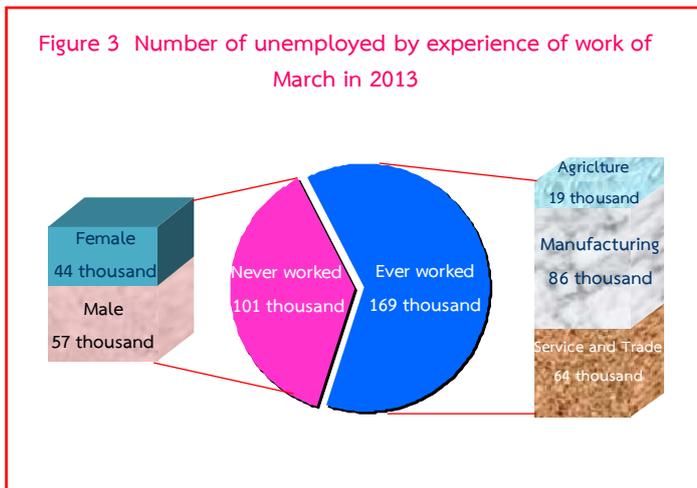
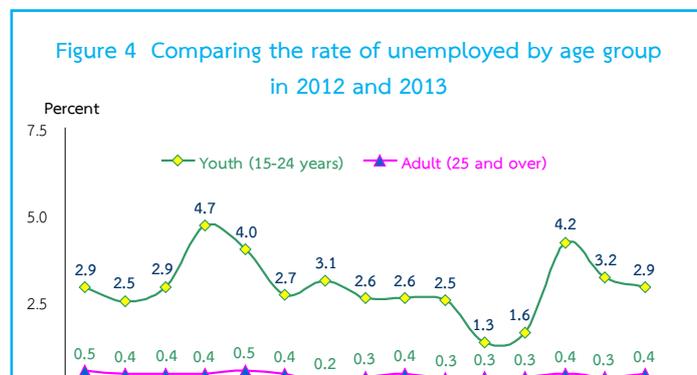
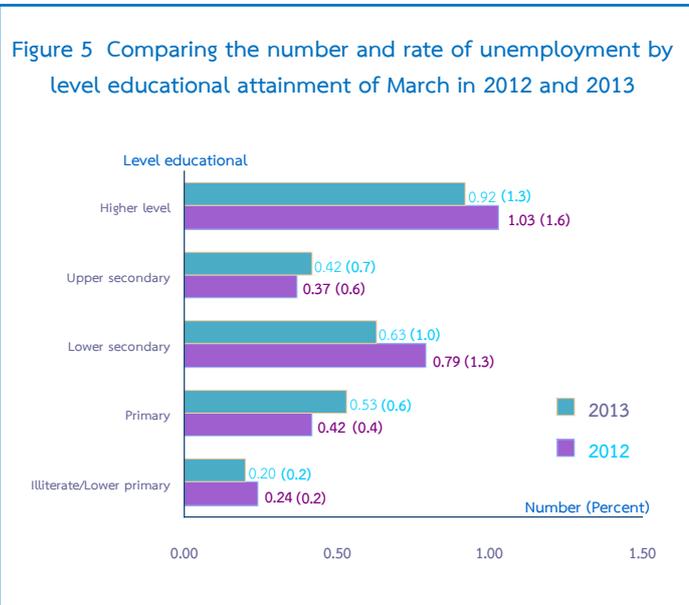


Figure 4 Comparing the rate of unemployed by age group in 2012 and 2013



Regarding the unemployment rates by age groups, there were 2.9% in a youth group (aged 15-24 years) and 0.4% in adults group (age 25 years and over).

The unemployment rate in the youth group unchanged comparing to the same period as in 2012 and decreased from 3.2% to 2.9% comparing to February in 2013.



For education level attainment of the unemployed persons in March 2013, it was found that most of the unemployed persons were with Higher level (92 thousand or 1.3%), followed by those with Lower secondary level (63 thousand or 1.0%), Primary level (53 thousand or 0.6%), Upper secondary level (42 thousand or 0.7%) and Illiterate and Less than primary level (20 thousand or 0.2%).

Comparing to the same period in 2012, the result showed that the number of unemployed persons with Lower secondary level decreased of 16 thousand, Higher level of 11 thousand and Illiterate and Less than primary level of 4 thousand. However, those with Primary level increased of 11 thousand and Upper secondary level of 5 thousand.



Concerning the unemployment rate by region, it was found that those in Bangkok was the highest with 0.9%, followed by those in the Northeast (0.8%), the Central (0.7%), the South (0.6%) and the North (0.5%).

Comparing to the same period as in 2012, the unemployment rate of the whole kingdom did not

change. However, concerning by region, it change in some regions such as, a decrease in the North and the Northeast, an increase in Bangkok and the Central. For the South did not change.