

21 March 2024

Registered unemployment in Opolskie Voivodship in 2023

 **1.0%**

Decrease in the number of the registered unemployed persons in relation to December 2022

In Opolskie Voivodship, at the end of 2023 there was a lower number of registered unemployed persons than in the previous year. Registered unemployment rate remained at the level of December 2022. The balance of the unemployed was favourable, which means that during the year more persons were deregistered from the register than were registered.

Total registered unemployed persons

At the end of December 2023, there were 20.3 thousand registered unemployed persons in the powiat labour offices, who accounted for 2.6% of the total number of the unemployed in the country. The number of unemployed persons compared to the previous year decreased by 1.0% and by 43.9% in relation to December 2015 (in the country: by 3.0% and by 49.6%, respectively).

At the end of December 2023, the most registered unemployed persons were in Nyski Powiat (2.8 thousand) followed by powiats: Brzeski and Kędzierzyńsko-kozielski (2.3 thousand each) as well as in the city of Opole (2.2 thousand). These powiats comprised more than a half (47.4%) of registered unemployed persons in the voivodship. Over the year, a drop in the number of registered unemployed persons was recorded in 8 powiats, from 5.4% in the city of Opole to 0.1% in Prudnicki Powiat. An increase in the number of the registered unemployed occurred in four powiats, of which the highest in Brzeski Powiat (of 3.4%).

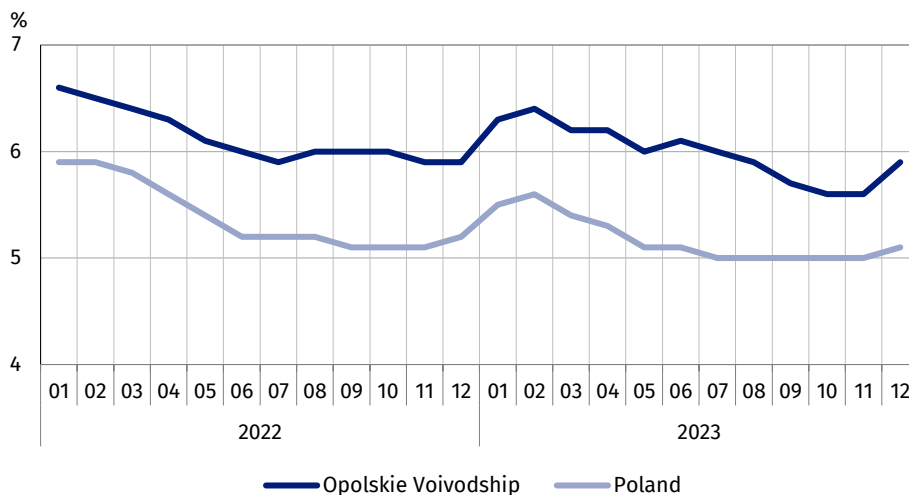
Registered unemployment rate

In the first five months of 2023, in Opolskie Voivodship, registered unemployment rate was lower than in the previous year. In June and July its higher level was recorded, while in months August-November once again it was lower than in the corresponding months of 2022. At the end of 2023 registered unemployment rate in Opolskie Voivodship was at the level of December 2022, i.e. 5.9%. In the country the registered unemployment rate amounted to 5.1% and was lower by 0.1 percentage point in relation to 2022. In terms of unemployment rate, Opolskie Voivodship was ranked 9th in the country at the end of 2023. The highest position was held by Wielkopolskie Voivodship with unemployment rate equal to 3.0%.

The unemployment rate at the end of 2023 was at the level of December of the last year.

Chart 1. Registered unemployment rate by months

As of the end of the month

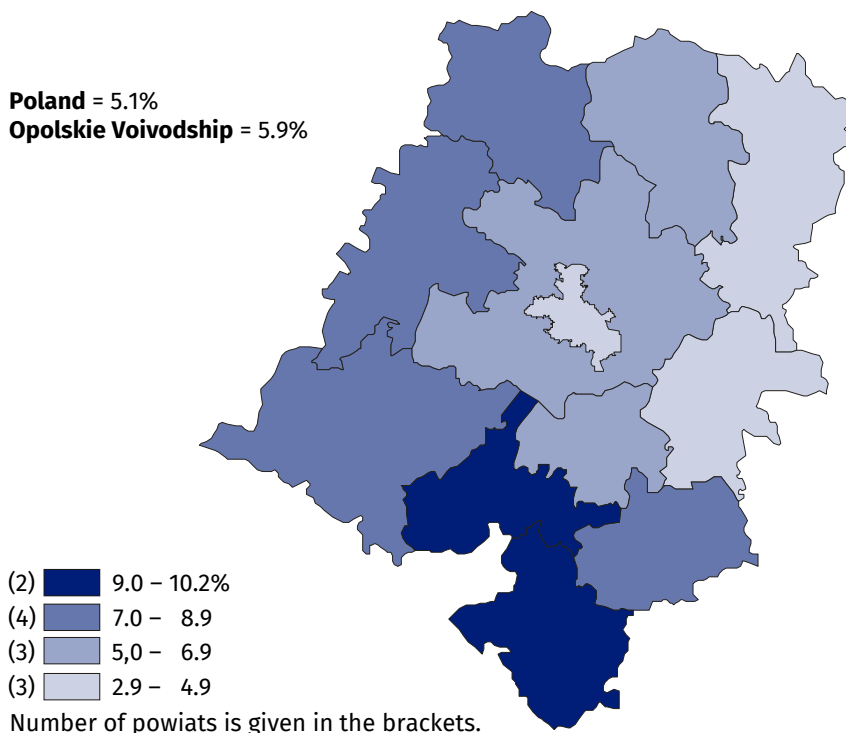


In 2023, the unemployment rate continued to vary widely across particular powiats. The spread of the unemployment rate at the end of December 2023 amounted to 7.3 percentage points and increased by 0.4 percentage point on annual basis. Powiats with the highest unemployment rate were: Głubczycki (10.2%), Prudnicki (9.1%) as well as Namysłowski (8.9%). The lower unemployment rate than the average in the voivodship was observed in city of Opole (2.9%), as well as in powiats: Strzelecki (4.4%), Oleski (4.5%), Krapkowicki (5.1%), and Opolski (5.7%).

A decrease in the unemployment rate, on a yearly basis, was recorded in the city of Opole (of 0.2 percentage point) and in powiats: Kędzierzyńsko-kozielski, Kluczborski and Nyski (0.1 percentage point each). An increase occurred in three powiats: Brzeski (of 0.3 percentage point), Głubczycki (of 0.2 percentage point) and Oleski (of 0.1 percentage point). In the remaining five powiats registered unemployment rate remained at the level from December 2022.

Map 1. Registered unemployment rate in 2023

As of 31 December

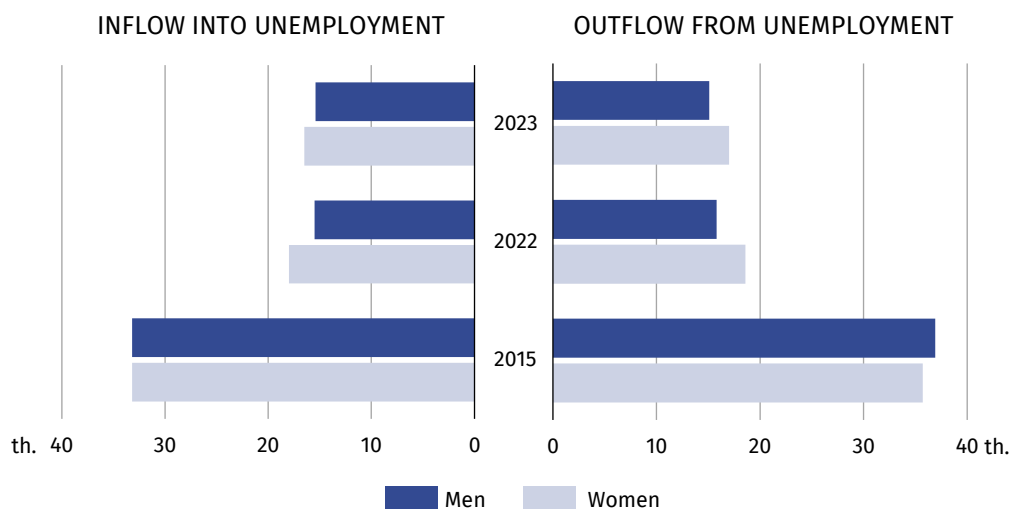


Unemployment turnover

In Opolskie Voivodship in 2023, the balance of unemployed persons was beneficial, that is, during the year, more by 0.2 thousand persons were removed from the registers than were registered. In 2023, in powiat labour offices of Opolskie Voivodship, 31.9 thousand persons were registered and simultaneously 32.1 thousand persons were deregistered from the register. The number of persons who obtained the status of the unemployed decreased by 4.6% compared to 2022 and by 52.0% in relation to 2015. The number of deregistered unemployed also decreased compared to both 2022 and 2015, i.e. by 6.8% and by 55.8%, respectively.

Balance of the unemployed in 2023 was favourable

Chart 2. Unemployed persons newly registered and deregistered



Among newly registered unemployed in 2023 women accounted for 51.7% and their share decreased by 2.1 percentage points in relation to 2022. Majority, i.e. 78.6% of the newly registered unemployed were re-entrants. Their number compared to 2022 decreased by 1.6%. A vast group among newly registered unemployed were persons previously employed – 90.4% (in 2022 – 86.4%).

In 2023, women accounted for 52.9% of the deregistered unemployed (the year before – 54.0%). Still, the main reason for the loss of the unemployed status was taking up employment which concerned 59.4% (in 2022 – 55.3%) of the total number of the deregistered unemployed. In 2023, 19.1 thousand persons i.e. slightly (by 0.2%) more than in the year before found employment. The second most frequent reason was lack of confirmation of the availability to work. For this reason, 4.6 thousand persons were removed from the register, which accounted for 14.3% (in 2022 – 13.1%) of the total number of the deregistered. As a result of starting a traineeship in 2023, 2.0 thousand unemployed persons were deregistered and 1.7 thousand persons voluntarily resigned from their unemployed status (in 2022: 3.4 thousand and 2.0 thousand, respectively).

The number of the newly registered and the deregistered from the registers of powiat labour offices varied between months. The most new registrations of the unemployed in 2023 took place in January (3.5 thousand) while the least in April (2.1 thousand). On the other hand, the most unemployed persons were deregistered in September (3.5 thousand) and the least in January (2.2 thousand).

The labour market turnover index, which expresses as a percentage the ratio of the number of unemployed persons taking up work in a given reporting period, to the number of newly registered unemployed, amounted to 59.8% in 2023 versus 56.9% in 2022. This value achieved the highest level in Krapkowicki Powiat (66.4%) while the lowest in Głubczycki Powiat (52.7%). Compared to 2022 the labour market turnover index increased in overwhelming number

In 2023, the labour market turnover index was higher than in previous year

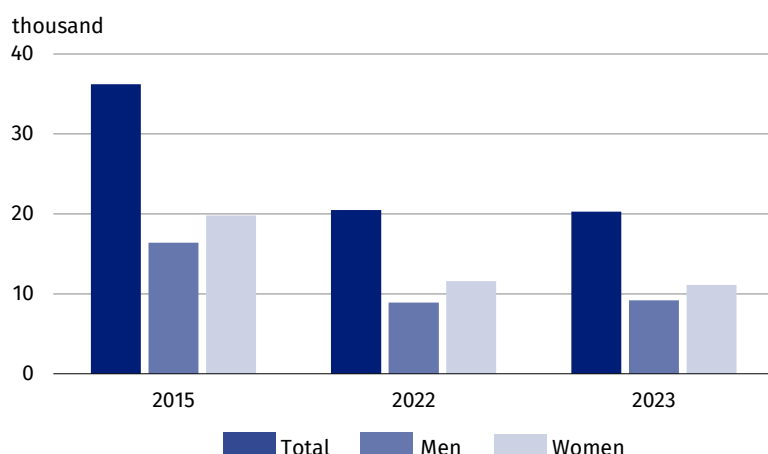
of powiats, the most by 7.8 percentage points in Strzelecki Powiat. Only in Głubczycki Powiat its decrease was recorded (of 2.8 percentage points).

Demographic and social characteristics of unemployed persons

Similarly to the previous years, women still predominated among the unemployed, who at the end of 2023 accounted for 54.7% (in the country – 52.6%). The share of women in the total number of the unemployed decreased by 1.8 percentage point compared to 2022, however increased by 0.1 percentage point in relation to 2015. At the end of 2023, per 100 unemployed men, there were 121 unemployed women (the year before – 130, while in 2015 – 120).

More than a half of the registered unemployed were women

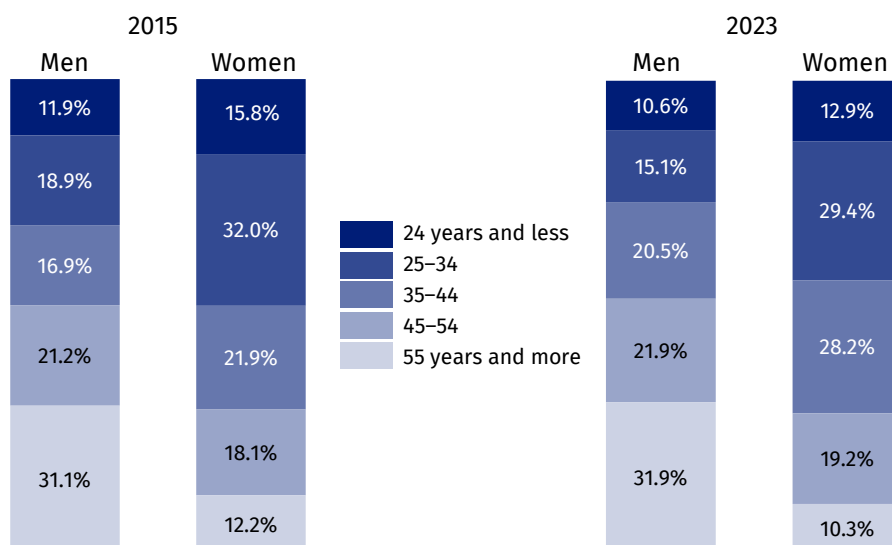
Chart 3. Registered unemployed persons by sex
As of 31 December



Persons in the age group 35–44 years found themselves in the worst situation on the labour market in Opolskie Voivodship. Their number at the end of 2023 was at the level of 5.0 thousand, which accounted for 24.7% (the year before – 24.5% while in 2015 – 19.6%) of the total unemployed. The number of unemployed persons in the analysed age group decreased by 0.3% compared to 2022 and by 29.2% in relation to 2015. The least numerous unemployed group were persons of age up to 24 years. Their number at the end of 2023 amounted to 2.4 thousand, i.e. by 3.3% more than in the previous year and by 52.6% less compared to December 2015.

Persons in the age group of 35-44 years were in the most difficult situation on the labour market

Chart 4. Registered unemployed persons by sex and age
As of 31 December

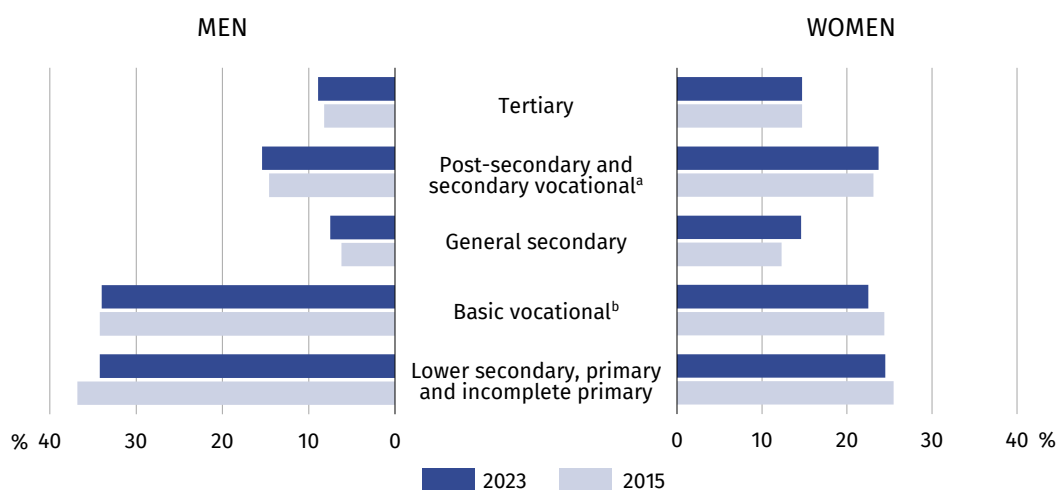


Among unemployed men, persons aged 45 years and more accounted for 53.8%, while a corresponding percentage for women amounted to 29.5% (in 2022: 54.8% and 30.0%, respectively).

Most of the unemployed registered in powiat labour offices at the end of 2023 were persons with a relatively low education level. The most numerous group among the unemployed included persons with lower secondary, primary and incomplete primary as well as basic vocational/sectoral education. Their number at the end of 2023 was at the level of 11.5 thousand, which accounted for 56.6% of the total number of the unemployed (in 2022 – 57.2%, while in 2015 – 59.5%). The number of the unemployed persons with analysed education decreased by 2.0% in relation to 2022, while by 46.6% compared to 2015. The lowest number of unemployed persons concerned those with general secondary education. At the end of 2023 their number amounted to 2.3 thousand and was higher by 2.4% in relation to 2022, however by 33.3% lower compared to 2015. The unemployed with general secondary education constituted 11.4% of the total number of the unemployed, i.e. more by 0.4 percentage point than the year before and by 1.8 percentage point in comparison with the end of December 2015.

Among unemployed women, persons with tertiary, vocational secondary (including post-secondary) and general secondary education accounted for 53.0% (the year before – 51.6%). The corresponding percentage for men was 31.8% (in 2022 – 31.3%).

Chart 5. Registered unemployed persons by sex and level of education
As of 31 December



a,b In 2023 sectoral education included : a – stage II, b – stage I.

At the end of December 2023, among registered unemployed persons in Opolskie Voivodship's powiat labour offices, persons who were previously employed were predominant. Their share was at the level of 90.3%. The number of unemployed persons previously employed was 18.3 thousand and was lower by 0.4% than in the previous year and by 42.7% in comparison with the end of December 2015.

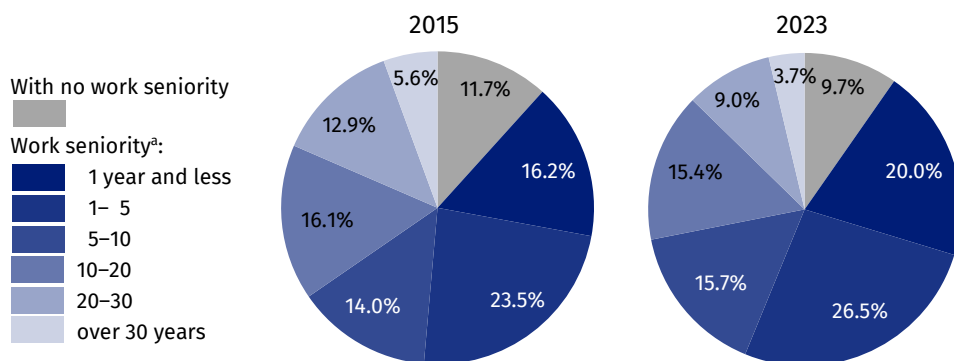
In terms of work seniority, the most numerous group of the unemployed were persons with work seniority ranging from 1 to 5 years, i.e. 26.5% of the total number of the unemployed. Over a half (60.5%) of these persons were women. The number of the unemployed with discussed work seniority was at the level from the end of December 2022, i.e. 5.4 thousand, however it decreased by 36.8% in relation to the end of December 2015. Still, the least numerous group of the unemployed were persons, who had a work seniority of more than 30 years and their share amounted to 3.7%. The number of these persons decreased in comparison with the previous year by 9.4% and by 62.7% in relation to 2015.

The most numerous group among the registered unemployed were persons with lower secondary, primary and incomplete primary education as well as basic vocational or basic sectoral vocational

Most of the registered unemployed were persons previously in employment

The percentage of persons with no work seniority at the end of 2023 amounted to 9.7%, in the previous year – 10.3%, while in 2015 – 11.7%. The number of the unemployed without work seniority decreased by 6.3% compared to the end of 2022 and by 53.3% in relation to the end of December 2015.

Chart 6. Registered unemployed persons by work seniority
As of 31 December

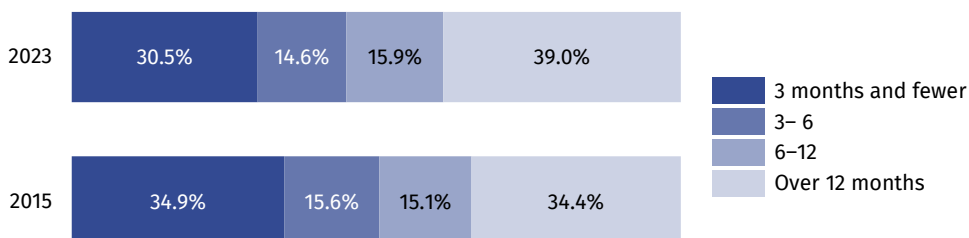


a The class intervals were shifted upward, i.e. the class 1-5 includes persons who worked 1 year and 1 day to full 5 years.

At the end of 2023, the number of persons seeking employment for over 12 months amounted to 7.9 thousand and was lower by 6.7% than in the previous year and by 36.4% than in 2015. The share of analysed group among the total number of the unemployed, on annual basis, decreased by 2.4 percentage points and at the end of 2023 amounted to 39.0%. Still, over a half (60.3%) in this group of the unemployed were women.

Over 1/3 of the registered unemployed were persons unemployed for more than 12 months

Chart 7. Registered unemployed persons by duration of unemployment^a
As of 31 December



a From the date of registering in a labour office, the class intervals were shifted upward, e.g. the class 3-6 months includes persons remaining unemployed from 3 months and 1-day to full 6 months

In Opolskie Voivodship, majority of unemployed persons did not have rights to unemployment benefit and at the end of December 2023 there were 17.6 thousand of them, i.e. fewer by 2.6% than in 2022 and by 44.1% compared to 2015. At the end of 2023, the share of persons who were not entitled to unemployment benefit amounted to 86.5% and was higher by 1.4 percentage point than in the previous year as well as by 0.3 percentage point than at the end of December 2015. At the end of 2023, per every 100 persons registered in Opolskie Voivodship's powiat labour offices, 14 unemployed persons received an unemployment benefit (the year before – 12, while in 2015 – 13).

Most of the registered unemployed were not entitled to unemployment benefit

More than a half (54.4%) of the unemployed with no entitlement to benefit were women. Among the total number of the unemployed without a right for benefit, 58.0% were long-term unemployed, 28.7% - unemployed over 50 years of age and 23.7% – persons up to 30 years of age.

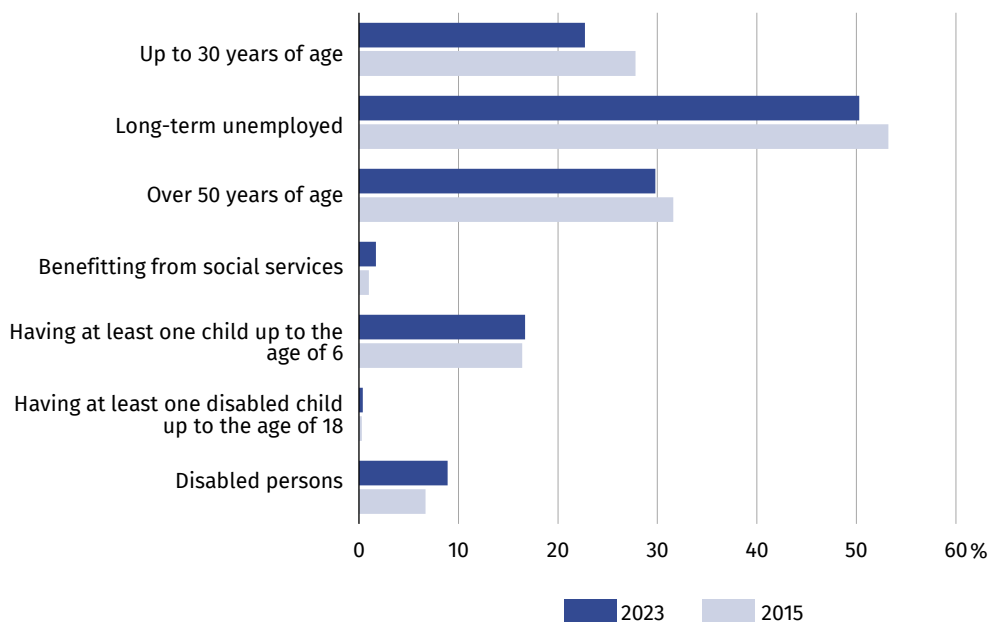
At the end of 2023 the number of the unemployed persons living in rural areas amounted to 9.2 thousand, i.e. 45.2% of the total number of the registered unemployed in the voivodship. The number of unemployed persons living in rural areas decreased by 0.4% compared to 2022 and by 45.6% in relation to 2015. During the January-December 2023 period, 13.7 thousand unemployed persons living in rural areas had been registered, i.e. as in the previous year 42.8% of the total number of the registered unemployed during the year. In this period, 13.7 thousand unemployed rural inhabitants were deregistered from powiat labour offices registers, which accounted for 42.6% (in 2022 – 43.1%) of the total number of the deregistered in the voivodship. Due to taking up work, 8.2 thousand unemployed persons living in rural areas were deregistered, i.e. 43.0% of the total number of the deregistered due to that reason in the voivodship.

Unemployed persons with a specific situation on the labour market

Among the registered unemployed, categories of persons with a specific situation on the labour market were distinguished. These include, among others, the long-term unemployed, who at the end of 2023 accounted for 50.3% of the total number of the unemployed (in 2022 – 52.1%). At the end of 2023 there were 10.2 thousand long-term unemployed and their number, compared to December 2022, decreased by 0.5 thousand, i.e. by 4.5%. The group that is in particularly difficult situation on the labour market also includes the unemployed persons over 50 years of age. At the end of 2023 there were 6.1 thousand of them and they accounted for 29.8% of the total number of the unemployed. Compared to the previous year, the number of unemployed persons over 50 years of age decreased by 0.2 thousand, i.e. by 2.7%. The analysed group of the unemployed also includes persons up to 30 years of age. The number of these persons at the end of 2023 amounted to 4.6 thousand, i.e. by 3.5% than in 2022.

Long-term unemployed persons were more than a half of the registered unemployed

Chart 8. The share of unemployed persons with a specific situation on the labour market
As of 31 December

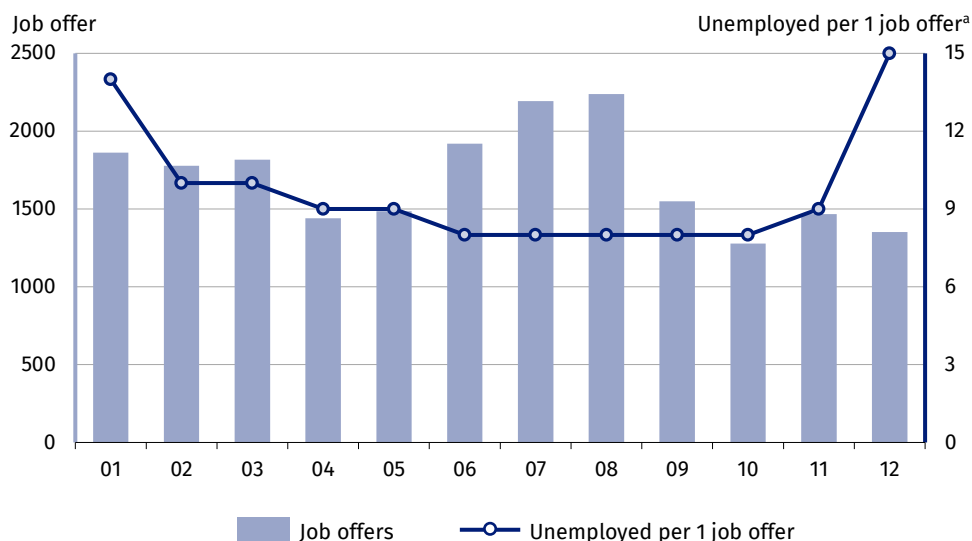


Job offers

In 2023, 20.4 thousand job offers were submitted to powiat labour offices, i.e. by 25.2% fewer than in the previous year and by 52.8% compared to 2015. Majority (80.9%) of offers came from private sector employees. Among all the offers, 10.8% (in 2022 – 13.8%) concerned traineeship and 5.2% (a year earlier – 4.9%) social utility works. For persons with disabilities, 2.9% of job offers were intended (in 2022 – 3.1%).

Powiat labour offices had fewer job offers than a year before

Chart 9. Job offers and registered unemployed persons per one job offer in 2023



a As of the end of the month.

The highest number of job offers were submitted in the city of Opole (5.9 thousand) and in Kędzierzyńsko-kozielski Powiat (2.4 thousand), while the least in Prudnicki Powiat (0.5 thousand), followed by Oleski Powiat (0.6 thousand).

At the end of December 2023, 1.4 thousand jobs were vacant, which means that per one not taken job offer there were 15 unemployed persons compared to 16 in 2022 and 22 in 2015.

Labour Fund expenses

The basic instrument of economic mitigation of the effects of unemployment is the Labour Fund from which PLN 153.6 million was spent in 2023, i.e. more by 2.6% than in 2022, while fewer by 14.4% compared to 2015. The most resources from the Labour Fund in the voivodship were spent on active forms of combatting unemployment (56.8%) as well as benefits for the unemployed (34.4%), on which PLN 87.2 million and PLN 52.8 million, respectively, were allocated.

Most of the means from the Labour Fund were allocated on the implementation of labour markets programmes combatting unemployment

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[Inflow to unemployment in reporting period](#)

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[Job offer](#)

[Registered unemployment rate](#)