

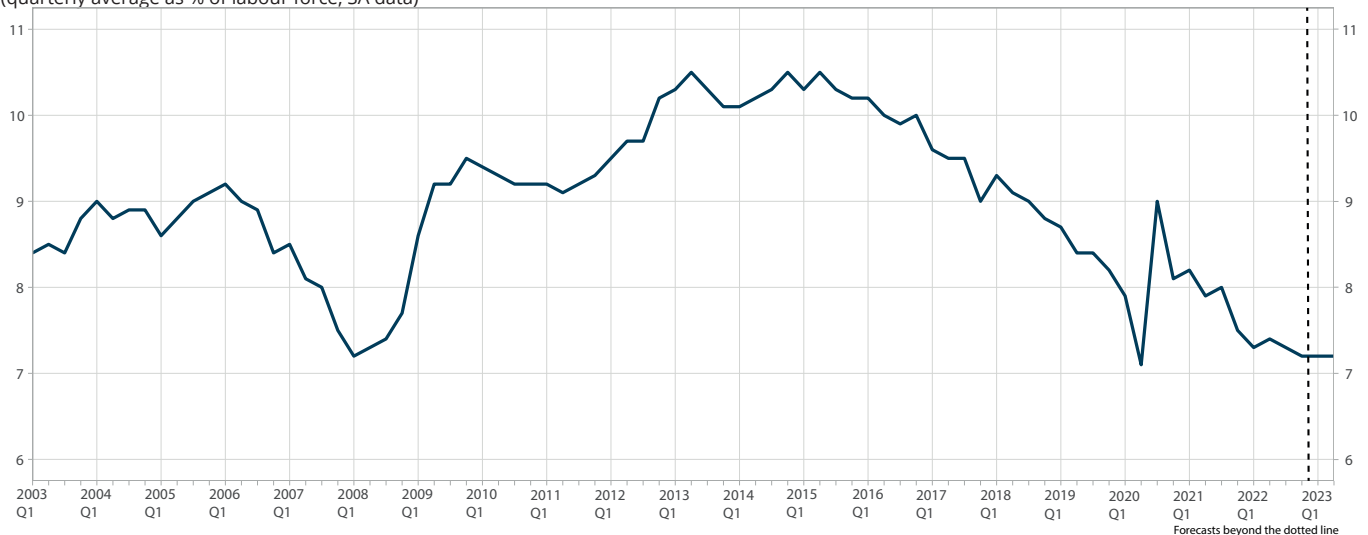
Unemployment

In Q4 2022, the unemployment rate according to the ILO definition again remained virtually stable compared to the previous quarter: -0.1 points, to 7.2% of the labour force (► **Figure 1**). This was 0.3 points below its level of Q4 2021 and its lowest level since Q1 2008 (if we exclude the exceptional artificial drop in Q2 2020, during the first lockdown). The year-on-year fall is the result of a more dynamic decline in momentum in employment than in that of the labour force: 467,000 net jobs created throughout the year for 396,000 additional workers. Employment and the labour force slowed together at the end of the year but the unemployment rate and the labour force participation rate according to the ILO definition remained at their highest ever levels since INSEE first measured them (1975).

In H1 2023, the labour force is expected to increase at a similar pace to that in Q4 2022 (+37,000 in Q1 2023 and +28,000 in Q2). Given that a slowdown is expected in employment (+39,000 on average in Q1 then +22,000 in Q2), the unemployment rate is likely to remain at 7.2% of the labour force until mid-2023 (► **Figure 2**). ●

► 1. Unemployment rate (ILO definition)

(quarterly average as % of labour force, SA data)



Scope: France (excluding Mayotte), persons aged 15 or over living in ordinary housing.

Source: INSEE, Labour Force Survey.

2. Change in employment, unemployment and the active population

(variation in quarterly average in thousands, SA data)

	2021				2022				2023		Annual change		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2020	2021	2022
Employment (1)	104	299	328	261	176	115	102	74	39	22	50	992	467
<i>reminder: employment at the end of the period</i>	232	367	289	233	119	110	94	54	24	19	-8	1 121	377
Unemployment (2)	30	-62	33	-157	-28	21	-19	-45	-2	6	-47	-156	-71
Active population = (1) + (2)	134	237	361	104	149	135	83	29	37	28	3	836	396
<i>Trend labour force (a)</i>	8	7	6	6	7	8	9	11	9	8	24	27	35
<i>"Pre-crisis" cyclical bending effect (b)</i>	10	30	33	26	18	11	10	7	4	2	6	99	46
<i>Effect of work-linked training on youth activity (c)</i>	31	35	37	26	16	27	36	23	14	17	38	129	102
<i>Residue (d)</i>	85	165	284	46	108	89	27	-12	10	0	-65	580	212
Variation in unemployment rate	0.1	-0.3	0.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.3
Unemployment rate	8.2	7.9	8.0	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2			

■ Forecast

Note: employment corresponds here to total employment (payroll employment including sandwich contracts + self-employment), measured as a quarterly average (a) Trend based on adjusted 2022 active population projections.

(b) This flexibility effect represents the fact that new workers enter the labour market when the employment situation improves.

(c) Effect based on sandwich contract numbers from DARES, calculations by INSEE.

(d) In 2020 and 2021, the residue covers the specific effect of the health crisis on activity behaviour.

How to read it: between Q3 2022 and Q4 2022, employment increased by 74,000 on average, unemployment decreased by 45,000 and the labour force increased by 29,000. The unemployment rate declined by 0.1 points and reached 7.2%.

Scope: France (excluding Mayotte), persons aged 15 or over.

Source: INSEE, Labour Force Survey, Quarterly employment estimates