In November 2021 (Q4), the working age population (16 years and above) was around 7.81 million of whom 3,633,132 were employed, 1,135,637 were unemployed and 3,044,224 were out of labour force.

The sum of employed and unemployed population results to population in labour force (4,768,769 persons). The proportion of working age population who were in the labour force increased to 61 percent in November 2021(Q4) from 50.9 percent in August 2021(Q3).

The proportion of the working age population outside the labour force declined to 39 percent in November 2021 (Q4) as compared to August 2021(Q3) (49.1 percent) and November 2020 (Q4) (43.5 percent).

The share of subsistence agriculture in population outside labour force was 33.5 percent in November 2021 (Q4) and it declined by 5.8 percentage points as compared to August 2021 (Q3) (39.3 percent).

The sum of employed population (3,633,132 persons) and subsistence agricultural without employment (1,566,460) gives the estimate number of workforce1 in November 2021 (Q4) equivalent to 5,199,591 persons.

Therefore, in November 2021 (Q4), the proportion of working age population engaged in employment or subsistence agriculture was 66.6 percent as compared to 64.6 percent in August 2021(Q3), and to 74.2 percent registered in November 2020 (Q4).

The share of agricultural workers in total workforce (employed +subsistence agricultural) declined by around 2.1 percentage points from 65.1 percent in August 2021 to 63.0 percent in November 2021.

The employment-to-population ratio relatively increased in November 2021 (Q4) (46.5 percent) as compared to August 2021 (Q3) (41.0 percent) and became slightly higher than the one registered one year back in November 2020 (45.1 percent).

Because of the increase in both employment and unemployment compared to August 2021, the labour force participation rate increased at higher pace than the employment to population ratio.

It increased from 50.9 percent in in August 2020 to 61.0 percent in November 2021 (Q4). Generally, the number of employed population has declined since August 2020 but has increased in November 2021 (Q4).

Reference document (PDF & Excel)

- LFS_NOVEMBER 2021(Q4)_FINAL REPORT.pdf (pdf, 6.83 MB)
  LAST UPDATED: 18 Jul 2025
- RLFS_Tables_November_2021(Q4).xls (xls, 279.5 KB)
  LAST UPDATED: 18 Jul 2025

Data source

Labour Force Survey 2021

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