In August 2021 (Q3), the working age population (16 years and above) was around 7.75 million of whom 3,179,124 were employed, 764,480 were unemployed and 3,806,301 were out of labour force.

The sum of employed and unemployed population results to population in labour force (3,943,604 persons).

The proportion of working age population who were in the labour force declined to 50.9 percent in August 2021 (Q3) from 53.3 percent in May 2021 (Q2).

The proportion of the working age population outside the labour force increased to 49.1 percent in August 2021(Q3) as compared to May 2021 (Q1) (46.7 percent) and August 2020(Q3) (41.8 percent).

The share of subsistence agriculture in population outside labour force was 39.3 percent in August 2021(Q3) and it declined by 11 percentage points as compared to August 2020(Q3) (50.4 percent). The sum of employed population (3,179,124 persons) and subsistence agricultural without employment (1,826,507) gives the estimate number of workforce in August 2021 (Q3) equivalent to 5,005,631 persons.

Therefore, in August 2021 (Q3), the proportion of working age population engaged in employment or substance agriculture was 64.6 percent as compared to 67.9 percent in May 2021 (Q2), and to 74.2 percent registered in August 2020 (Q3).

Reference document (PDF & Excel)

- LFS_Aug_2021_Final report.pdf (pdf, 3.99 MB)
  LAST UPDATED: 18 Jul 2025
- RLFS Tables_ August_2021_Q3.xls (xls, 172 KB)
  LAST UPDATED: 18 Jul 2025

Data source

Labour Force Survey 2021

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