In February 2021 (Q1), the working age population (16 years and above) was around 7.6 million of whom 3,204,924 were employed, 655,648 unemployed and 3,764,686 out of labour force.

The sum of employed and unemployed population results to population in labour force (3,860,572 persons).

The proportion of working age population who were in the labour force decreased to 50.6 percent in February 2021(Q1) from 56.5 percent in November 2020.

The proportion of the working age population outside the labour force increased to 49.4 percent in February 2021_Q1 as compared to November 2020 (43.5 percent) and remained higher compared to the situation of February 2020 (44.4 percent).

The share of subsistence agriculture in population outside labour force was 43.4 percent in February 2021 declined from 52.7 percent as compared to November 2020, to 50.4 percent in August 2020 and to 53.4 percent in February 2020.

The sum of employed population (3,204,924 persons) and subsistence agricultural without employment (1,936,803) gives the estimate number of workers in February 2021 equivalent to 5,140,987 persons.

Therefore, in February 2021, the proportion of working age population engaged in employment or substance agriculture was 67.4 percent as compared to 74.2 in the previous round and to 76.9 percent in February 2020.

Reference document (PDF & Excel)

RLFS Feb2021(Q1) Final Report.pdf (pdf, 8.6 MB)
LAST UPDATED: 18 Jul 2025

RLFS_Tables_February_2021(Q1).xls (xls, 277 KB)
LAST_UPDATED: 18 Jul 2025

Data source

Labour Force Survey 2021

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