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PERSONS IN PAID EMPLOYMENT, BY SEX AND BY COUNTIES, THIRD QUARTER 2026

Data on persons in employment in legal entities, by counties, were obtained by processing data from the JOPPD form. The processing was performed according to the predominant NKD 2025 activity and place of permanent/temporary residence. Therefore, the data by activities are not comparable with the monthly data published so far.

In September 2026, the largest number of persons in employment was in the City of Zagreb, 379 600, which accounted for **21.5%** of the total number of persons in employment in the Republic of Croatia. The lowest number of persons in employment was in the County of Lika-Senj, 19 367, which accounted for **1.1%** of the total number of persons in employment in the Republic of Croatia. The largest number of employed women was in the City of Zagreb, 186 144, which accounted for 22.6%, and the lowest in the County of Lika-Senj, 8 706, which accounted for 1.1% of the total number of employed women in the Republic of Croatia.

In September 2026 compared to September 2025, the number of persons in employment in legal entities increased only in the County of Slavonski Brod-Posavina, by 0.2%, whereas it decreased in 20 counties, with the largest decrease being recorded in the County of Lika-Senj and in the City of Zagreb, of 2.0% in each. In the same period, the number of employed women in legal entities increased in seven counties, with the largest increase being recorded in the counties of Požega-Slavonia and Slavonski Brod-Posavina, of 0.8% in each, whereas it decreased in 12 counties, with the largest decrease being recorded in County of Lika-Senj, of 1.7%. The number of persons in employment in legal entities remained the same in the counties of Sisak-Moslavina and Istria.

For the period from July to September 2026, compared to the same period of the previous year, the number of persons in employment in legal entities decreased in all counties, with the largest decrease being recorded in the County of Lika-Senj, of 2.8%. The number of employed women increased in two counties: by 0.7% in the County of Požega-Slavonia and by 0.1% in the County of Slavonski Brod-Posavina. A decrease in the number of employed women was recorded in 18 counties, ranging from 0.1% in the counties of Sisak-Moslavina and Istria to 1.7% in the County of Lika-Senj and the City of Zagreb. The number of employed women remained the same in the County of Split-Dalmatia.

The highest registered unemployment rate in September 2026 was recorded in the County of Virovitica-Podravina, of **7.9%**, which was 4.5 percentage points higher than the registered unemployment rate in the Republic of Croatia. The lowest one was recorded in the County of Istria, of **1.1%**, which was 2.3 percentage points lower than the registered unemployment rate in the Republic of Croatia. The highest registered unemployment rate for women was recorded in the County of Virovitica-Podravina, of 9.2%, which was 5.4 percentage points higher than the registered unemployment rate for women in the Republic of Croatia. The lowest one was recorded in the County of Istria, of 1.3%, which was 2.5 percentage points lower than the registered unemployment rate for women in the Republic of Croatia.

Detailed data by activities can be downloaded from the link [Statistics in Line](#).

1 LABOUR FORCE ACCORDING TO ADMINISTRATIVE SOURCES, BY COUNTIES
AND BY SEX, 2026

County	Active population (labour force) ¹⁾			Total persons in employment ¹⁾²⁾			Unemployed persons			Registered unemployment rate, % ¹⁾		
	VII	VIII	IX	VII	VIII	IX	VII	VIII	IX	VII	VIII	IX
Republic of Croatia	1 828 435	1 840 420	1 829 483	1 766 371	1 777 224	1 766 888	62 064	63 196	62 595	3,4	3,4	3,4
Women	858 366	861 901	855 324	824 856	827 769	822 401	33 510	34 132	32 923	3,9	4,0	3,8
Zagreb	151 658	152 597	152 635	147 668	148 452	148 566	3 990	4 145	4 069	2,6	2,7	2,7
Women	68 225	68 482	68 501	66 102	66 268	66 383	2 123	2 214	2 118	3,1	3,2	3,1
Krapina-Zagorje	55 858	55 930	55 917	54 792	54 805	54 866	1 066	1 125	1 051	1,9	2,0	1,9
Women	25 060	25 092	24 989	24 499	24 502	24 476	561	590	513	2,2	2,4	2,1
Sisak-Moslavina	57 735	57 991	57 579	54 668	54 867	54 518	3 067	3 124	3 061	5,3	5,4	5,3
Women	26 358	26 360	26 209	24 747	24 704	24 603	1 611	1 656	1 606	6,1	6,3	6,1
Karlovac	47 056	47 109	47 053	45 926	45 991	45 983	1 130	1 118	1 070	2,4	2,4	2,3
Women	21 766	21 751	21 706	21 155	21 155	21 159	611	596	547	2,8	2,7	2,5
Varaždin	73 437	73 720	73 662	71 766	71 959	71 941	1 671	1 761	1 721	2,3	2,4	2,3
Women	33 615	33 581	33 509	32 711	32 635	32 628	904	946	881	2,7	2,8	2,6
Koprivnica-Križevci	41 938	42 075	41 959	40 894	40 979	41 012	1 044	1 096	947	2,5	2,6	2,3
Women	18 999	19 025	18 978	18 460	18 464	18 468	539	561	510	2,8	2,9	2,7
Bjelovar-Bilogora	40 010	40 129	40 059	38 659	38 664	38 636	1 351	1 465	1 423	3,4	3,7	3,6
Women	18 425	18 379	18 384	17 715	17 624	17 669	710	755	715	3,9	4,1	3,9
Primorje-Gorski Kotar	133 015	134 281	132 869	129 489	130 700	129 205	3 526	3 581	3 664	2,7	2,7	2,8
Women	63 126	63 873	63 123	61 208	61 917	61 171	1 918	1 956	1 952	3,0	3,1	3,1
Lika-Senj	20 045	20 456	20 040	19 381	19 794	19 367	664	662	673	3,3	3,2	3,4
Women	9 107	9 397	9 025	8 771	9 067	8 706	336	330	319	3,7	3,5	3,5
Virovitica-Podravina	27 227	27 535	27 519	24 929	25 265	25 340	2 298	2 270	2 179	8,4	8,2	7,9
Women	12 446	12 586	12 539	11 211	11 374	11 388	1 235	1 212	1 151	9,9	9,6	9,2
Požega-Slavonia	24 633	24 603	24 522	23 526	23 518	23 455	1 107	1 085	1 067	4,5	4,4	4,4
Women	11 295	11 232	11 164	10 749	10 688	10 653	546	544	511	4,8	4,8	4,6
Slavonski Brod-Posavina	53 885	54 217	54 299	50 448	50 680	50 738	3 437	3 537	3 561	6,4	6,5	6,6
Women	23 084	23 111	23 106	21 131	21 088	21 104	1 953	2 023	2 002	8,5	8,8	8,7
Zadar	77 653	78 390	76 802	75 680	76 437	74 772	1 973	1 953	2 030	2,5	2,5	2,6
Women	36 664	37 015	36 067	35 638	35 980	35 022	1 026	1 035	1 045	2,8	2,8	2,9
Osijek-Baranja	110 500	110 697	110 543	102 494	102 772	102 829	8 006	7 925	7 714	7,2	7,2	7,0
Women	51 995	51 974	51 701	47 432	47 419	47 349	4 563	4 555	4 352	8,8	8,8	8,4
Šibenik-Knin	43 246	44 032	43 414	41 527	42 306	41 481	1 719	1 726	1 933	4,0	3,9	4,5

Women	20 324	20 686	20 436	19 502	19 867	19 493	822	819	943	4,0	4,0	4,6
Vukovar-Srijem	55 842	56 293	56 225	52 280	52 647	52 623	3 562	3 646	3 602	6,4	6,5	6,4
Women	25 498	25 633	25 597	23 425	23 510	23 518	2 073	2 123	2 079	8,1	8,3	8,1
Split-Dalmatia	205 512	207 341	204 206	196 254	198 053	194 931	9 258	9 288	9 275	4,5	4,5	4,5
Women	98 948	99 296	97 512	93 946	94 295	92 777	5 002	5 001	4 735	5,1	5,0	4,9
Istria	115 010	115 935	113 964	113 771	114 700	112 670	1 239	1 235	1 294	1,1	1,1	1,1
Women	53 557	53 833	52 881	52 876	53 171	52 217	681	662	664	1,3	1,2	1,3
Dubrovnik-Neretva	61 973	62 677	61 896	60 161	60 784	60 063	1 812	1 893	1 833	2,9	3,0	3,0
Women	28 692	28 982	28 528	27 668	27 918	27 550	1 024	1 064	978	3,6	3,7	3,4
Međimurje	45 377	45 493	45 211	43 920	43 969	43 752	1 457	1 524	1 459	3,2	3,3	3,2
Women	20 666	20 683	20 538	19 882	19 862	19 772	784	821	766	3,8	4,0	3,7
City of Zagreb	386 251	388 414	388 569	377 564	379 377	379 600	8 687	9 037	8 969	2,2	2,3	2,3
Women	190 352	190 791	190 680	185 864	186 122	186 144	4 488	4 669	4 536	2,4	2,4	2,4

1) Provisional data.

2) Data on non-residents are not presented. See Notes on Methodology.

2 PERSONS IN PAID EMPLOYMENT IN LEGAL ENTITIES, BY COUNTIES AND BY SEX, 2026

County	Persons in paid employment in legal entities ¹⁾²⁾				Indices ¹⁾			
	VII	VIII	IX	VII – IX	$\frac{\text{VII 2026}}{\text{VII 2025}}$	$\frac{\text{VIII 2026}}{\text{VIII 2025}}$	$\frac{\text{IX 2026}}{\text{IX 2025}}$	$\frac{\text{VII – IX 2026}}{\text{VII – IX 2025}}$
Republic of Croatia	1 508 052	1 519 807	1 517 847	1 515 235	97,8	98,5	98,9	98,4
Women	717 455	720 901	719 733	719 363	98,7	99,4	99,7	99,2
Zagreb	133 238	134 059	134 154	133 817	99,0	99,6	99,9	99,5
Women	60 120	60 310	60 422	60 284	98,9	99,6	100,1	99,5
Krapina-Zagorje	47 300	47 345	47 395	47 347	98,4	98,9	99,3	98,9
Women	21 810	21 815	21 787	21 804	99,3	99,8	100,1	99,7
Sisak-Moslavina	47 599	47 800	47 426	47 608	98,1	99,0	98,9	98,7
Women	21 855	21 809	21 699	21 788	99,6	100,0	100,0	99,9
Karlovac	40 012	40 115	40 117	40 081	98,0	98,6	99,0	98,5
Women	18 415	18 436	18 450	18 434	98,6	99,1	99,6	99,1
Varaždin	62 613	62 788	62 726	62 709	96,9	97,5	98,2	97,5
Women	28 941	28 870	28 824	28 878	99,0	99,2	99,5	99,2
Koprivnica-Križevci	34 986	35 077	35 088	35 050	97,4	98,0	99,1	98,1
Women	16 042	16 061	16 065	16 056	99,1	99,7	100,5	99,7
Bjelovar-Bilogora	33 053	33 034	33 057	33 048	98,1	98,4	98,9	98,5
Women	15 409	15 308	15 394	15 370	99,0	98,9	99,8	99,3
Primorje-Gorski Kotar	107 481	108 894	108 758	108 378	97,6	98,4	98,8	98,2
Women	52 209	52 999	52 929	52 712	98,4	99,5	99,9	99,3
Lika-Senj	15 741	16 242	16 211	16 065	96,0	97,7	98,0	97,2
Women	7 220	7 544	7 397	7 387	96,6	99,9	98,3	98,3
Virovitica-Podravina	19 774	20 114	20 195	20 028	96,4	98,5	99,0	98,0
Women	9 181	9 340	9 381	9 301	97,6	100,0	100,4	99,4
Požega-Slavonia	19 719	19 733	19 692	19 715	98,3	98,8	99,1	98,7
Women	9 323	9 264	9 241	9 276	100,6	100,6	100,8	100,7
Slavonski Brod-Posavina	42 364	42 567	42 655	42 529	98,8	99,5	100,2	99,5
Women	17 899	17 849	17 888	17 879	99,7	99,9	100,8	100,1
Zadar	59 765	60 633	60 537	60 312	98,0	99,0	99,2	98,7
Women	29 181	29 561	29 366	29 369	99,2	100,3	99,9	99,8
Osijek-Baranja	88 270	88 547	88 577	88 465	97,8	98,4	98,8	98,3
Women	41 518	41 512	41 436	41 489	98,8	99,5	99,6	99,3
Šibenik-Knin	32 431	33 269	33 182	32 961	96,8	98,6	98,9	98,1
Women	15 855	16 265	16 262	16 127	97,1	99,1	99,7	98,6
Vukovar-Srijem	43 264	43 623	43 628	43 505	97,7	99,0	99,3	98,7
Women	19 883	19 968	20 001	19 951	98,5	99,6	99,9	99,3
Split-Dalmatia	159 148	161 153	160 270	160 190	98,4	99,5	99,4	99,1
Women	78 829	79 336	78 953	79 039	99,5	100,2	100,3	100,0
Istria	89 812	90 891	90 522	90 408	99,1	99,6	99,7	99,5
Women	43 080	43 499	43 303	43 294	99,8	100,0	100,0	99,9
Dubrovnik-Neretva	48 722	49 387	49 188	49 099	99,6	99,6	99,5	99,6
Women	23 348	23 596	23 478	23 474	100,0	99,7	99,6	99,8

Međimurje	39 494	39 578	39 362	39 478	98,2	98,4	99,3	98,6
Women	17 986	17 977	17 899	17 954	98,1	98,7	99,3	98,7
City of Zagreb	342 692	344 453	344 567	343 904	96,5	97,4	98,0	97,3
Women	169 187	169 443	169 407	169 346	97,8	98,3	98,8	98,3
Non-residents	574	505	540	540	81,8	74,4	80,6	78,9
Women	164	139	151	151	72,2	61,8	68,3	67,5

1) Provisional data.

2) Activity sections U (Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use) and V (Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies) as well as their divisions are not presented in this First Release since they were not covered by the survey.

NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

Since January 2026, statistical data are observed, processed and presented according to the National Classification of Activities, 2025 version (NKD 2025). The classification entered into force on 1 January 2025 (NN, No. 47/24). Its content and structure are completely harmonised with the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Union (NACE Rev. 2.1). Its implementation ensures quality international comparability of statistical data.

In order to calculate the indices, the 2025 data were converted from NKD 2007 activities to NKD 2025 activities using the macro method of conversion.

The National Classification of Activities 2025 – NKD 2025 has a different structure compared to the NKD 2007 and a more detailed overview of the differences by sections between the new and the existing classification is described in the document [Differences between NKD 2007 and NKD 2025](#).

Data sources

The total number of persons in employment includes persons employed in legal entities, in trades and crafts and free lances, as well as insured persons – private farmers.

Data on persons in employment in legal entities were gathered by processing the data from the Report on Income, Income Tax and Surtax as well as Contributions for Mandatory Insurances (JOPPD form), which has been in effect since 1 January 2014.

All persons or entities that are the payers of income for which the income tax regulations prescribe the obligation of accounting and paying deduction tax are under the obligation to submit the JOPPD form.

Data on persons in employment in crafts and trades and free lances are processed according to the records on pension insurance beneficiaries obtained from the Croatian Pension Insurance Institute.

The Croatian Pension Insurance Institute provides data on employed insured persons – private farmers.

Data on the number of unemployed persons are obtained from the Croatian Employment Service.

Coverage and comparability

The survey on persons in paid employment in legal entities includes all persons who have signed a work contract, regardless of the type of work contract and whether they work full-time or less than full-time.

Non-residents are persons employed in legal entities on the territory of the Republic of Croatia who do not have permanent/temporary residence in the Republic of Croatia.

The survey on persons in crafts and trades and free lances includes owners and employees registered with the Croatian Pension Insurance Institute.

Data are presented according to the predominant, main activity of NKD 2025, while the monthly data published so far were presented according to the "pure" activity. This means that the processing, in addition to the main activity, was also performed according to secondary activities. Therefore, the data by activities are not comparable with the monthly data published so far.

Data on counties are presented according to the place of permanent/temporary residence by the territorial constitution in accordance with the Act on the Territories of Counties, Towns and Municipalities in the Republic of Croatia (NN, Nos 86/06, 125/06, 16/07, 95/08, 46/10, 145/10, 37/13, 44/13, 45/13 and 110/15).

Definitions

Persons in paid employment are all persons who have signed a work contract with an employer for a fixed or an unspecified period of time, irrespective of the type of ownership and of whether they work full-time or less than full-time.

Registered unemployment rate is calculated as a ratio of the number of unemployed persons to the total active population (labour force).

Abbreviations

NKD 2007	National Classification of Activities, 2007 version
NKD 2025	National Classification of Activities, 2025 version
NN	Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia

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