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STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

DIANA CREȚU ¹

Abstract

In this article I set out to present the situation in terms of unemployment rate, the number of registered unemployed but also the share of unemployed nationwide in the period 2020-2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the unemployment rate has increased considerably. The provisions of the military ordinances on stopping the new virus have caused many companies to partially or even completely cease their activity, many people being left without a job, they being helped by the state with a technical unemployment benefit, which led to the highest unemployment rate in the last two years, resulting in a deficient economy. The research method used in the study undertaken is the statistical processing and economic analysis of existing data for the period 2020-2021 on specialized sites such as the National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Eurostat, FAO, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development but also other specialized materials.

Keywords: unemployment rate, pandemic, unemployed

JEL Classification: C13, J60, J20

INTRODUCTION

The crisis caused by coronavirus has been and still is a threat to the economy and the living standards of its citizens. During this health crisis, many employees lost their jobs, so the unemployment rate rose considerably. The pandemic risks leading to the emergence of a blocked generation of young people with too few employment prospects. and the latest figures show that young people face major obstacles, which prevent them from continuing their training and education, trying more jobs or entering the labor market. In this article we will see which ones are more accurate. the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labor market from the latest statistics.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The research method used in the study is statistical processing and economic analysis of data. The research was conducted on the basis of statistical data provided by INS, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, MADR, but also books, magazines, scientific papers on the Romanian labor force (unemployment rate, number of registered unemployed and the share of unemployed).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. Monthly unemployment rate by gender

Period	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020
Total	2.9	2.9	2.9	3	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4
Male	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2
Female	2.9	3	3	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6

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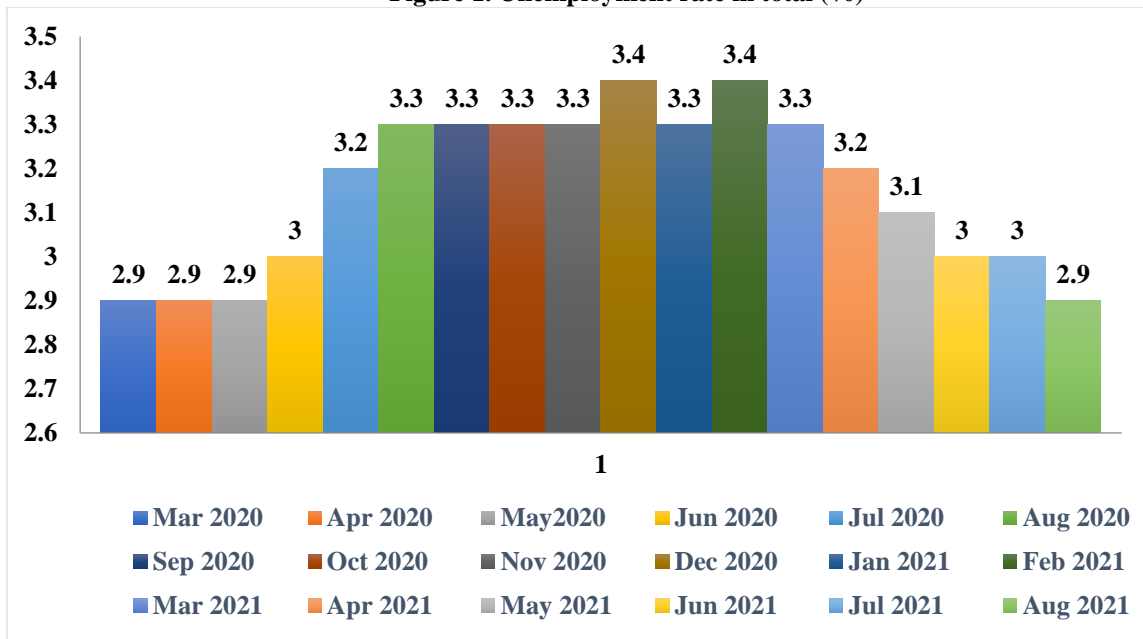
Table 1 Monthly unemployment rate by gender (continued)

Period	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	Jun 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2021
Total	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3	3	2.9
Male	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.1	3	2.9	2.9	2.9
Female	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.1	3	3

Source: INSSE

Table number 1 according to the National Institute of Statistics shows the unemployment rate (ratio between the number of unemployed and the active civilian population) in March 2020 (beginning of the pandemic) until August 2021 by gender and total.

Figure 1. Unemployment rate in total (%)



Analyzing the total unemployment rate, we notice that the highest value was registered in December and February with 3.4% and the lowest at the beginning of the pandemic period (March, April May) with a percentage of 2.9% and the average being 3, 15%.

Figure 2. Male unemployment rate (%)

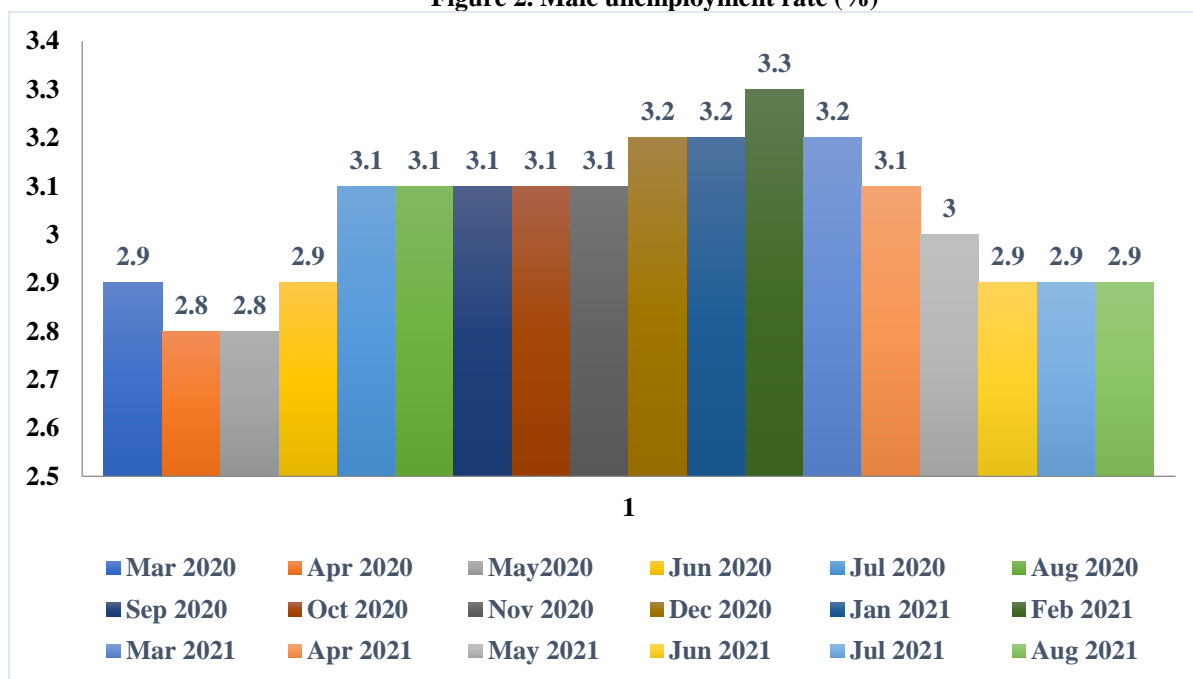
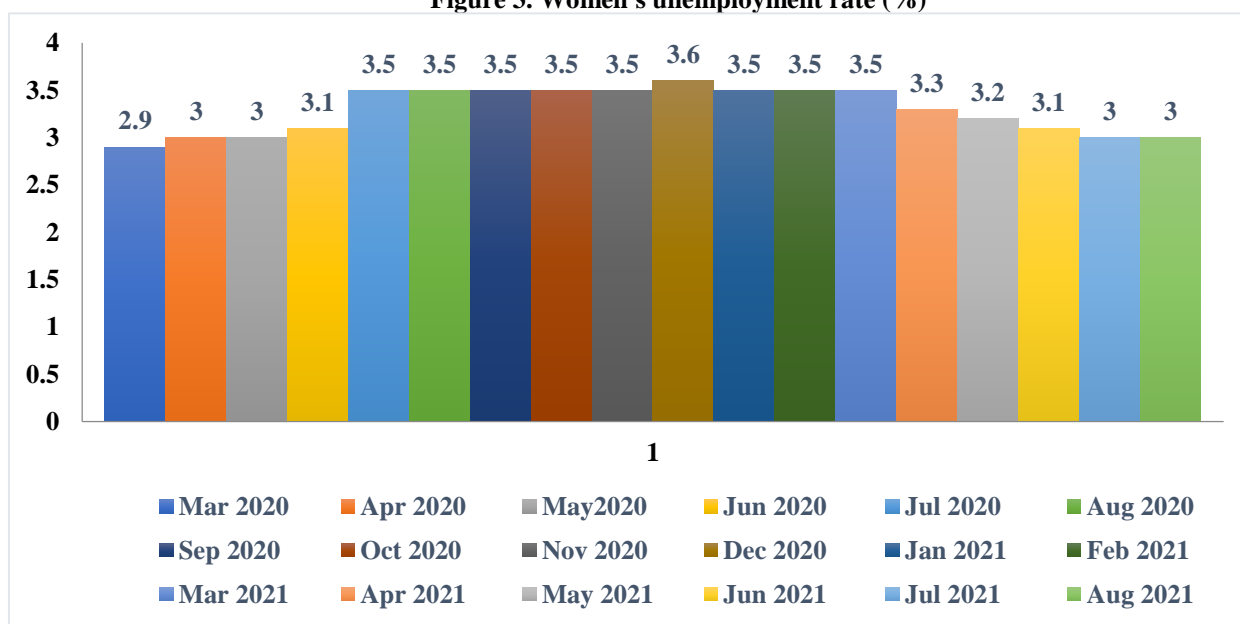


Figure 3. Women's unemployment rate (%)



Source: INSSE data processing

Analyzing the two genders (graph 2 and 3) we see that the highest unemployment rate is given by women with an average of 3.28% and men recorded an average of 3.03%.

Table 2. Number of registered unemployed

Period	2020									
	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
Total	250882	251944	249635	260667	283939	286662	285294	285731	290676	296051
Male	135218	132833	131145	135760	145579	146227	145465	145567	149130	154250
Female	115664	119111	118490	124907	138360	140435	139829	140164	141546	141801

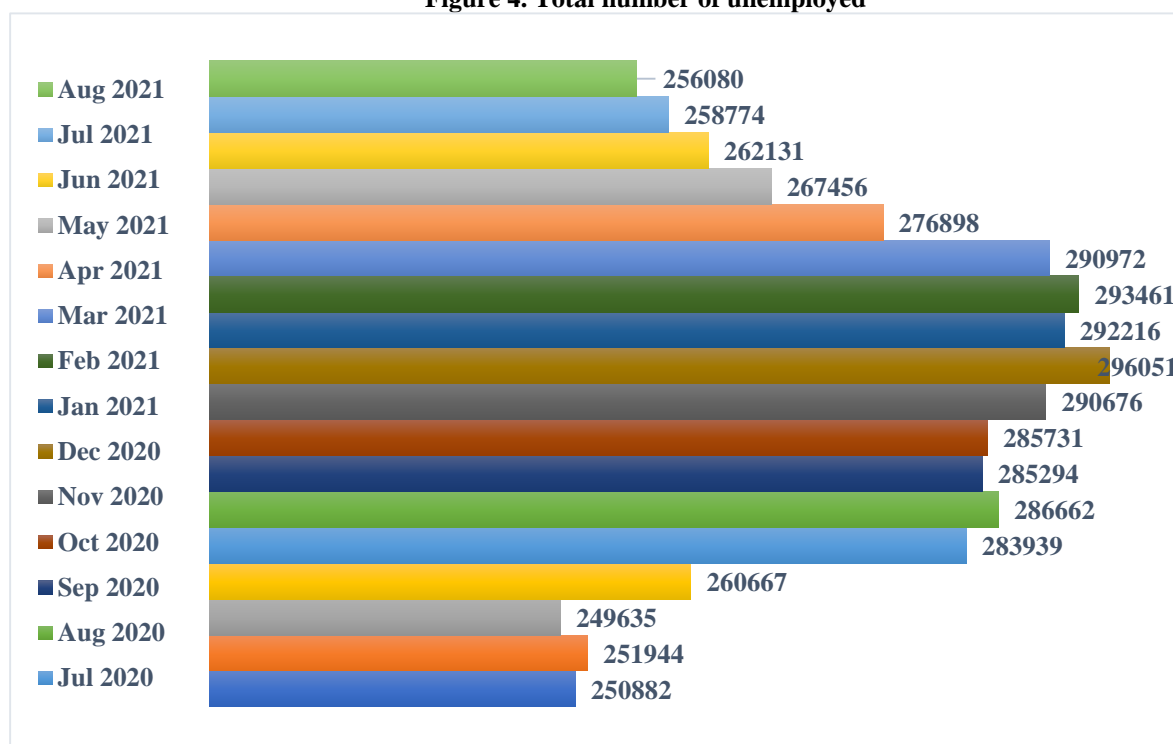
Table 2. Number of registered unemployed (continued)

Period	2021							
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII
Total	292216	293461	290972	276898	267456	262131	258774	256080
Male	153446	154828	153370	145983	141394	138998	137590	136676
Female	138770	138633	137602	130915	126062	123133	121184	119404

Source: *INSSE*

Table number 2 shows the number of registered unemployed from March 2020 to August 2021.

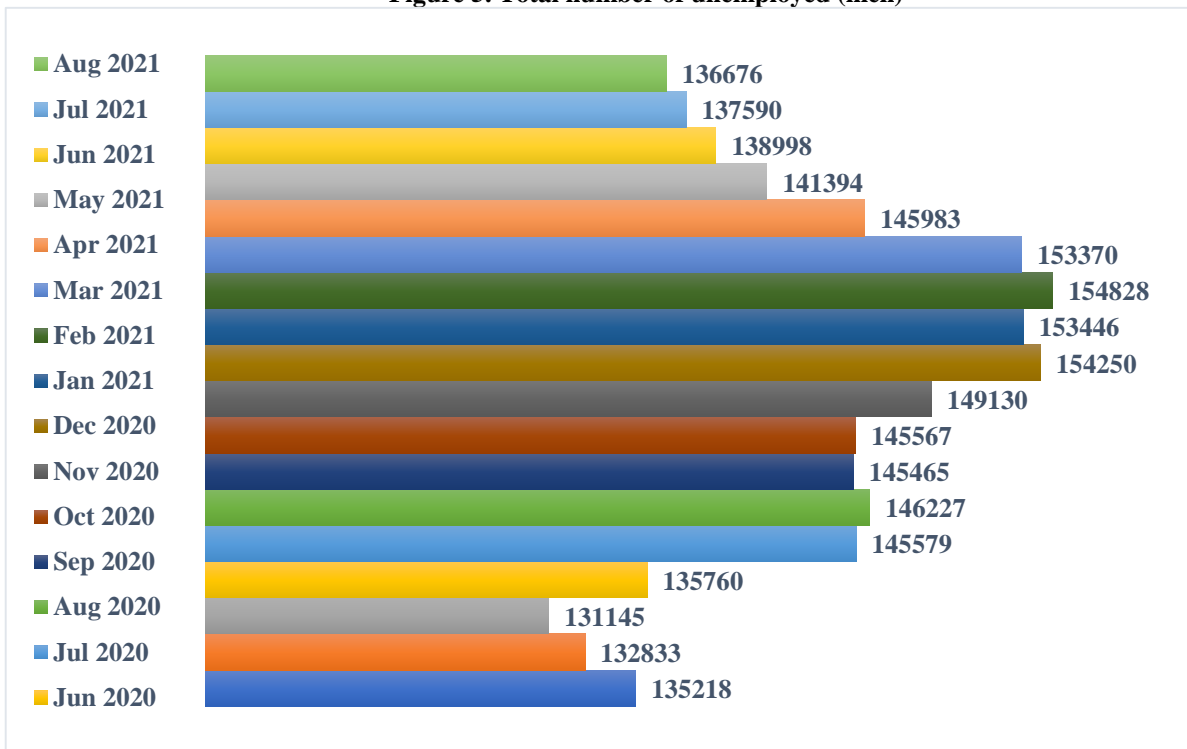
Figure 4. Total number of unemployed



Source: *INSSE data processing*

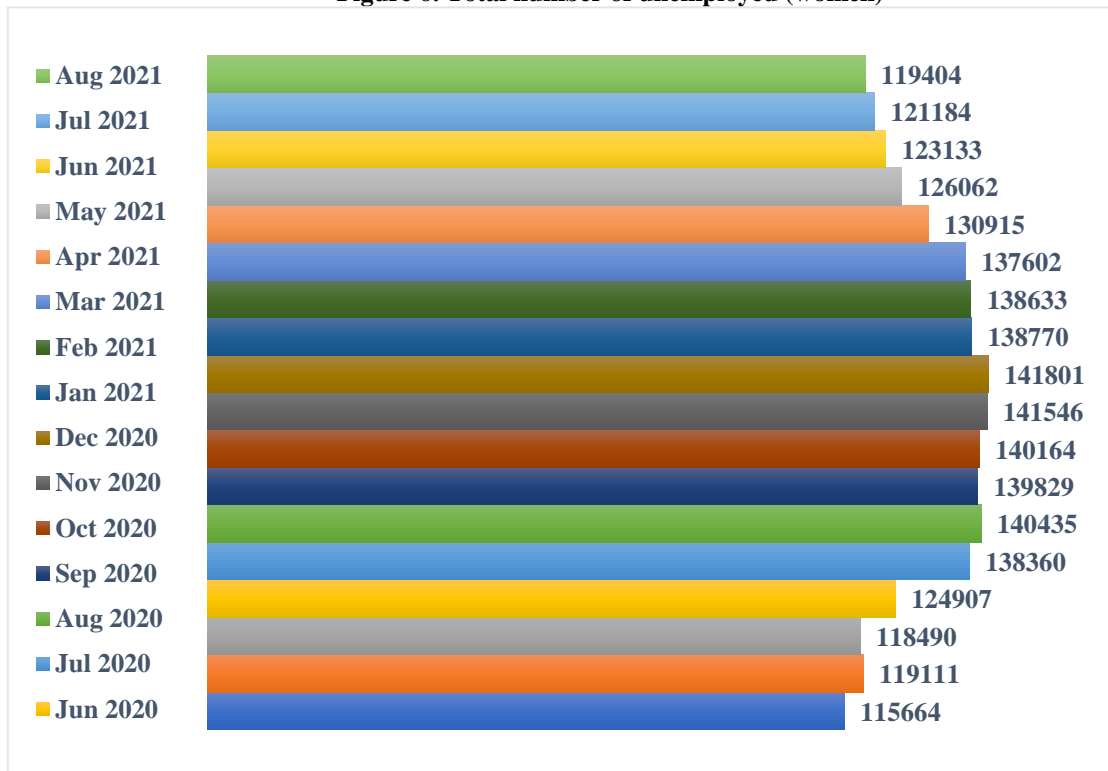
If we refer to the total number of unemployed we have a maximum registered in December 2020 with a value of 296051 people and the lowest value was registered in May of the same year resulting in an average of 274414 people.

Figure 5. Total number of unemployed (men)



The maximum regarding the number of male unemployed was registered in February 2021 with a value of 154828 persons and the minimum was registered in May 2020 with a value of 131145 persons resulting in an average of 143525.5 persons.

Figure 6. Total number of unemployed (women)



Regarding the female sex, the total unemployment rate reached the maximum in December 2020 with a value of 141801 people and a minimum of 115664 people in March 2020, resulting in an average of 130889.44 people.

Table 3 Share of the unemployed by sex (%)

Period	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2020	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020
Total	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Male	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2
Female	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	2	2	2	2	2.1	2.1

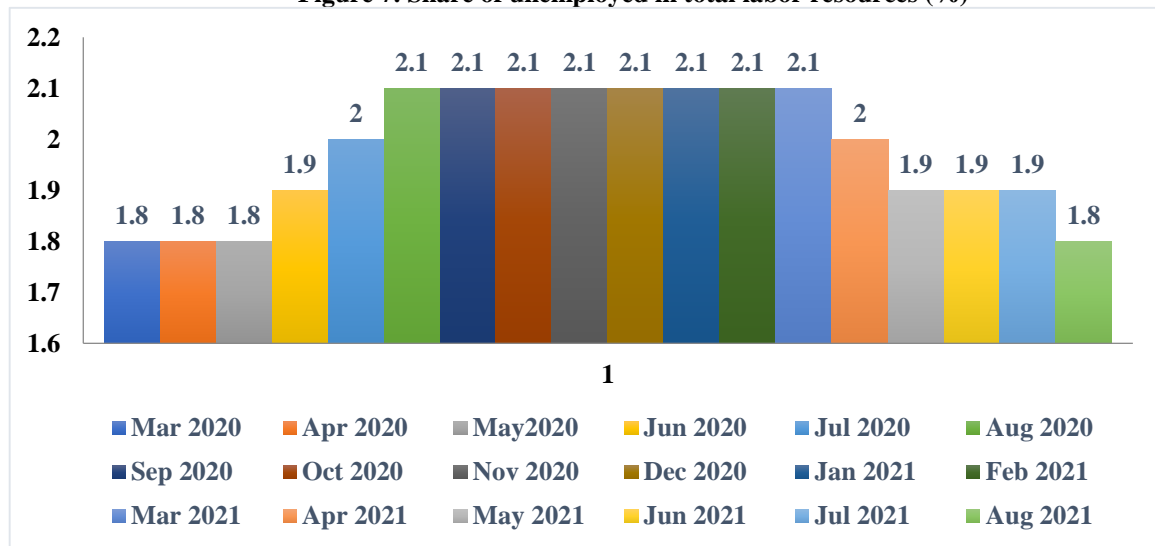
Table 3 Share of the unemployed by sex (%) (continued)

Period	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	Jun 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2021
Total	2.1	2.1	2.1	2	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8
Male	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2	2	2	2
Female	2	2	2	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7

Source: INSSE

Table 3 shows the share of the unemployed by total / gender between March 2020 (beginning of the pandemic year) and August 2021.

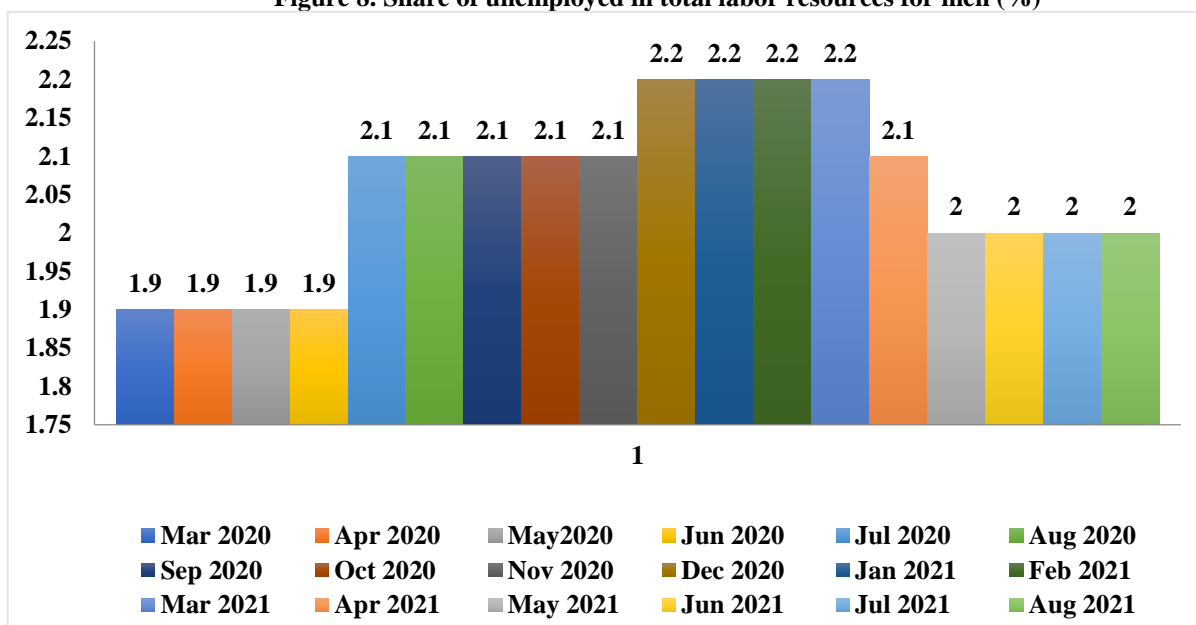
Figure 7. Share of unemployed in total labor resources (%)



Source: INSSE data processing

The maximum reached regarding the share of the total unemployed was 2.1% in the period August 2020-March 2021 and the minimum of 1.8% in the first 3 months of the analyzed period and the last month. The average reaching the value of 1.97%.

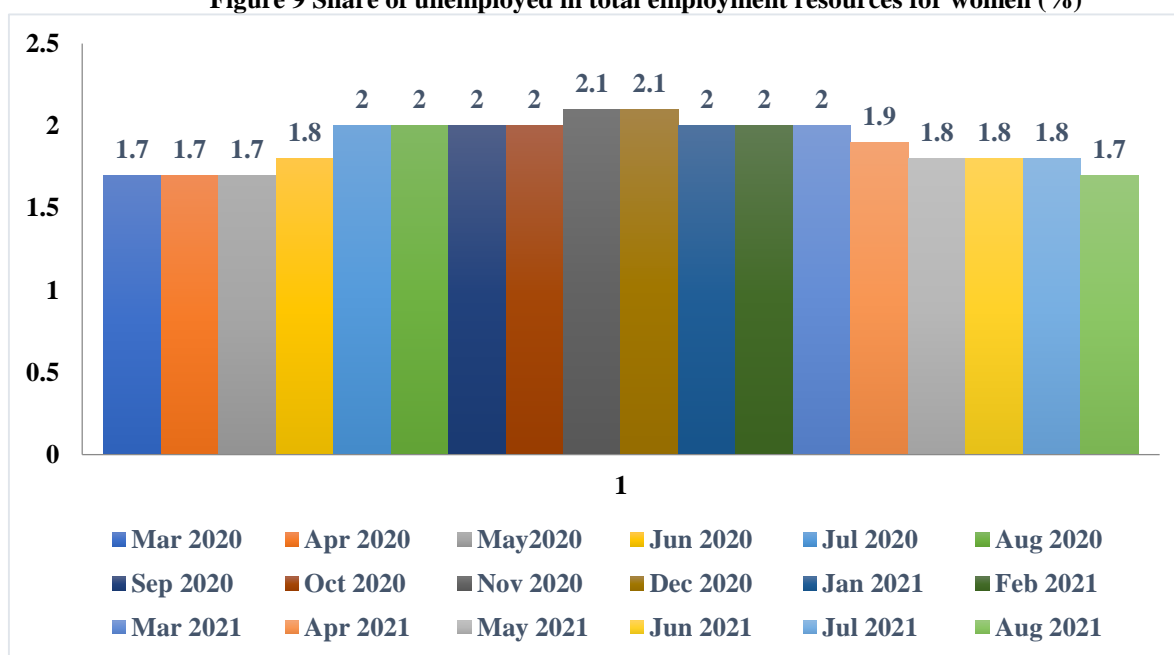
Figure 8. Share of unemployed in total labor resources for men (%)



Source: INSSE data processing

The share of male unemployed reached a maximum of 2.2% in December 2020-March 2021 and a minimum of 1.9% in the first four months of the analyzed period. Their average reached a value of 2.05%.

Figure 9 Share of unemployed in total employment resources for women (%)



Source: INSSE data processing

The share of the unemployed for females reached a maximum of 2.1% in November and December 2020 and a minimum of 1.7% in the first three months of the analyzed period, averaging 1.89%.

CONCLUSIONS

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the labor force was severely affected, as we can see in the statistical data presented above.

Regarding the number of unemployed per total / country at the beginning of the pandemic, a total of 249635 people was registered and in December the figure reached 296051 people.

From the whole analyzed period resulting an average of 274414.94 people. In the same period analyzed, the average number of unemployed men was 143525.5 and the average number of women was 130889.44.

If we refer to the unemployment rate per total / country we have a maximum of 3.4% in December 2020 and February 2021 and a minimum of 2.9% recorded at the beginning of the pandemic and at the end of the analyzed period (August).

The unemployment rate (men) registered a maximum of 3.3% in February of 2021 and the minimum reached a value of 2.8% in April and May of 2020. The average of the analyzed period of the unemployment rate in the category of men of was 3.03%.

The maximum registered for the unemployment rate (women) was 3.6% in December 2020 and the minimum registered a percentage of 2.9% in the first month of the analyzed period. The average calculated unemployment rate is 3.28%.

The share of unemployment in the total country reached a maximum of 2.1% between August 2020 and March 2021 and the minimum was 1.8% at the beginning of the pandemic. The average share of unemployment in the analyzed period was 1.97%.

The share of unemployment among males had a maximum of 2.2% in January-March 2021 and a minimum of 1.9% in the first 4 months of the pandemic. The average share of unemployment in men during the period is 2.05%.

According to the INS, the share of female unemployment in the analyzed period registered a maximum of 2.1% in November-December 2020 and the minimum had a value of 1.7%. The average share of unemployment in the analyzed period was 1.89% .

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