

# Changes in Employment / Unemployment Rates During the Pandemic (Covid-19) Period

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# *INTRODUCTION*

Due to the Covid19 virus, which started in early 2020, there were problems in many issues. The worst of these problems were deaths. The next most important problem was that people's business life was negatively affected. Many people have been fired since the pandemic began. The media has always focused on the number of people who die, but I've seen a lot of people go hungry because of being fired. In this story, I would like to draw attention to the increase in the number of people fired during the pandemic period. I will also make recommendations to businesses and governments. While preparing these data, I separately touched on the number of unemployment around the world and the number of unemployed in Turkey. I used data from 2014 to 2021. *(The reason of I started in 2014 is to compare the usual data and the extraordinary data that has changed with the pandemic.)*

## ➤ The Data Of Employment Range Of World

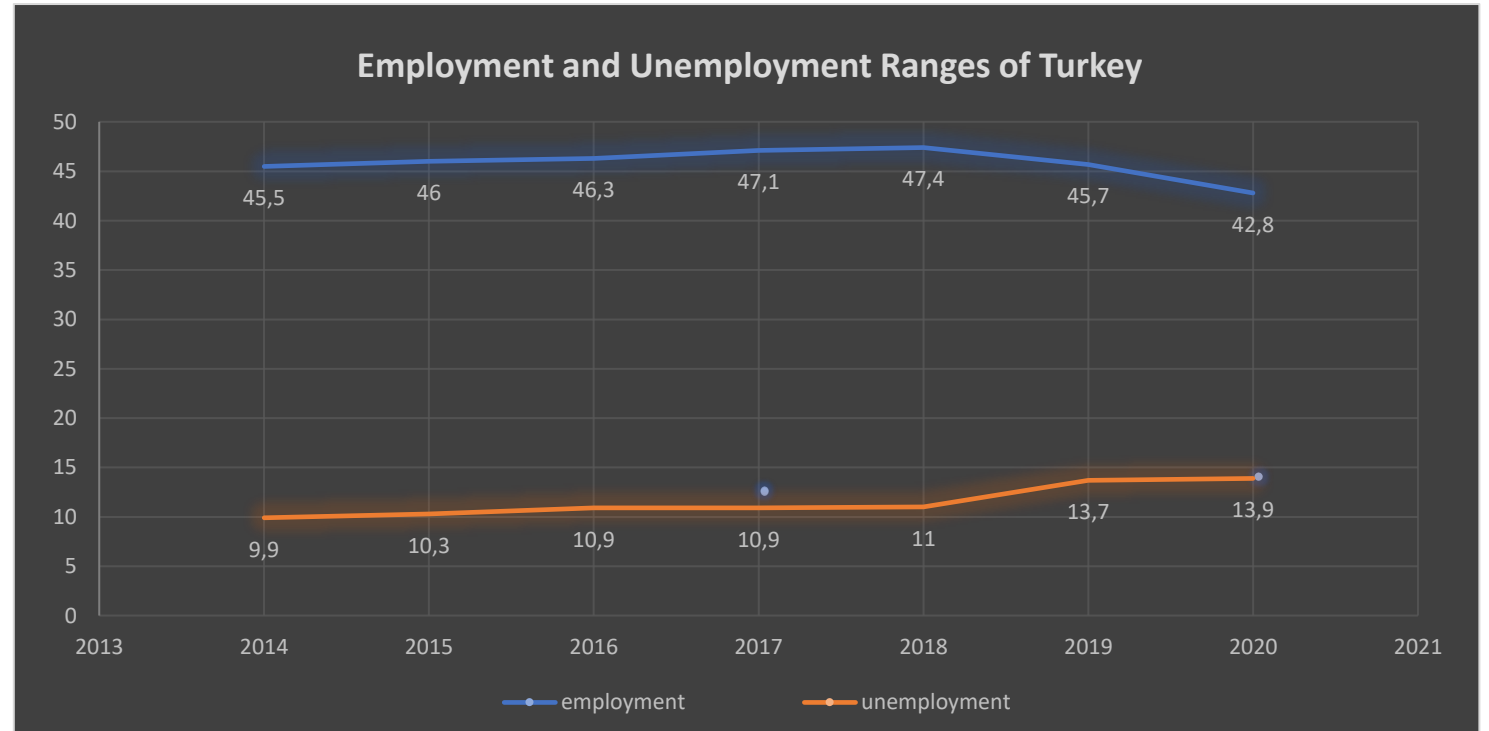
Location ▼	▼ Q2-2019	▼ Q3-2019	▼ Q4-2019	▼ Q1-2020	▼ Q2-2020	▼ Q3-2020	▲ Q4-2020	▼ Q1-2021
South Africa	42.64	42.40	42.19	42.23	36.44	37.44	38.02	..
Turkey	50.06	50.11	50.38	48.96	45.38	47.80	47.94	..
Costa Rica	62.01	61.27	61.62	61.96	49.70	52.41	55.26	56.04
Chile	64.31	64.55	63.80	63.20	51.29	52.65	56.31	57.41
Greece	56.59	56.65	56.87	56.72	55.26	56.26	56.80	..
Italy	58.94	59.06	59.28	59.17	57.02	57.68	58.47	..
Mexico	62.21	62.27	62.34	62.45	..	56.93	59.05	59.54
Colombia	65.10	65.06	64.96	63.38	50.50	56.35	59.90	60.92
Spain	63.30	63.28	63.52	63.13	58.90	60.62	61.11	..
Belgium	65.72	65.55	65.17	65.25	64.44	64.80	64.37	..
France	65.56	65.33	65.91	65.99	64.44	65.09	65.60	..
Korea	66.67	66.88	67.07	66.76	65.34	65.68	65.65	65.65
Israel	68.96	68.74	68.65	68.65	66.57	66.08	65.85	65.40

- The data you see in the table are employment data from the second quarter of 2019 to the first quarter of 2021. Employment figures have increased in the period until the start of the pandemic. It decreased during the pandemic period. Especially in the first half of 2020, unemployment increased with the collapse of companies that could not get used to the emergency situation.

Reference: <https://data.oecd.org/emp/employment-rate.htm>

## ➤ Employment and Unemployment Ranges of Turkey

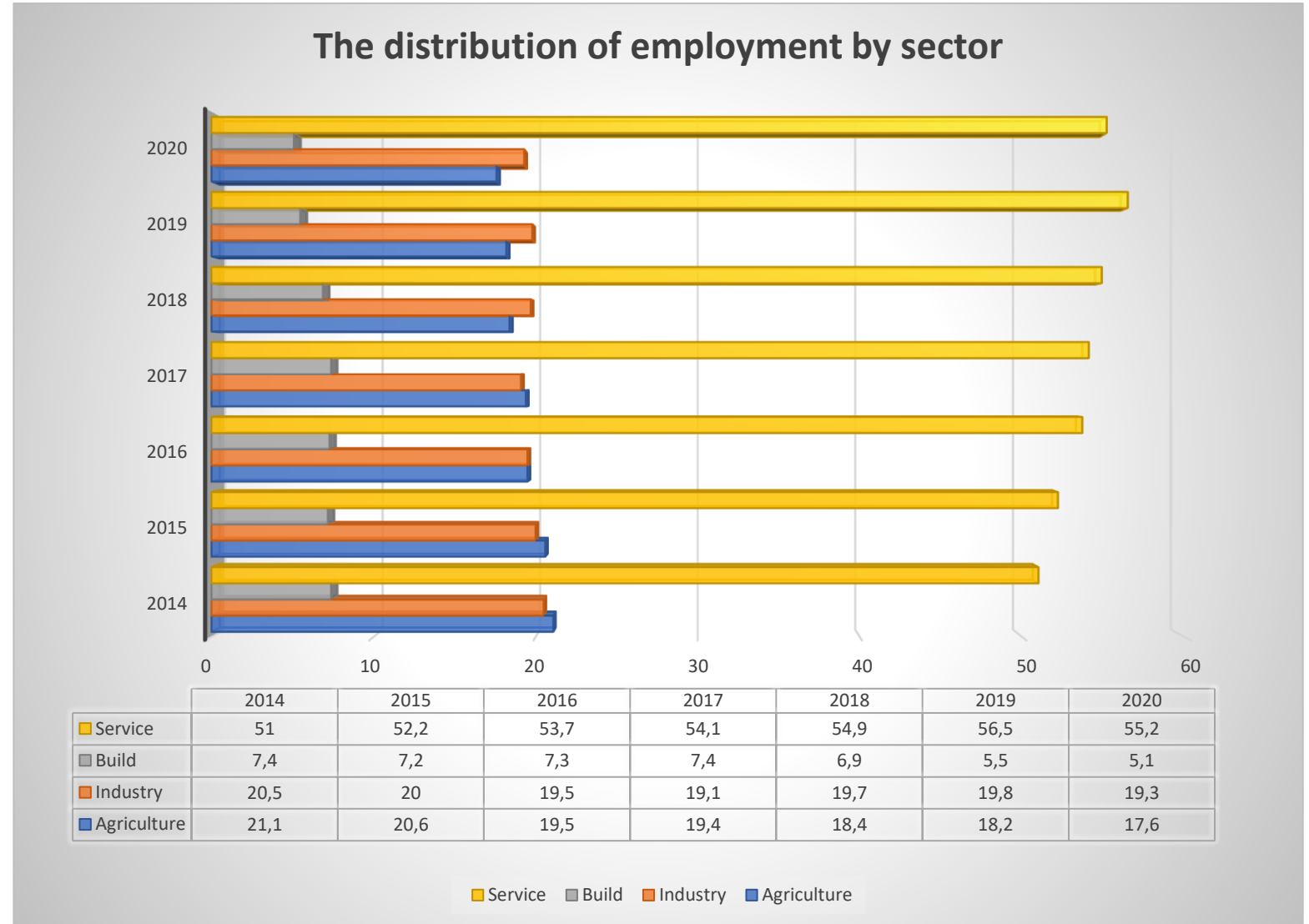
*The orange line you see in the graph shows the number of unemployment. The blue line shows employment. Employment has decreased since 2019 due to Turkey's economic problems. However, the results were far below the figures expected in 2020. When we look at the rates here, we see that unemployment affects a lot of people.*



Reference: <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Isgucu-Istatistikleri-2020-37484>

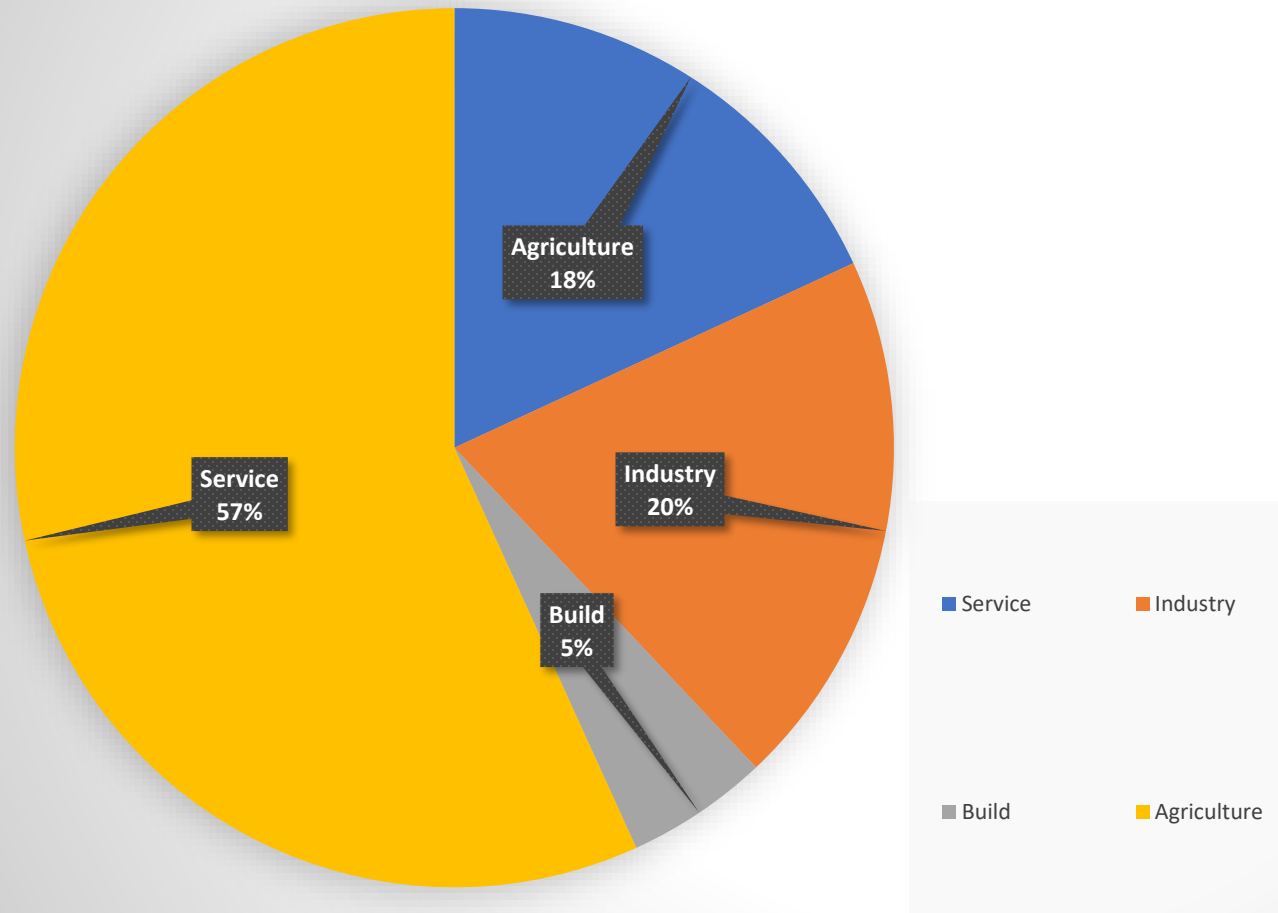
## ➤ The Distribution of Employment By Sector

*When we examine the sectoral distribution of employment, we see that the highest decrease was experienced in the service sector. The main reason for this is that businesses such as cafes, restaurants and shopping malls are closed. When these businesses were closed due to prohibitions, they were in a difficult situation financially. As a result, they laid off many people.*



Reference: <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Isgucu-Istatistikleri-2020-37484>

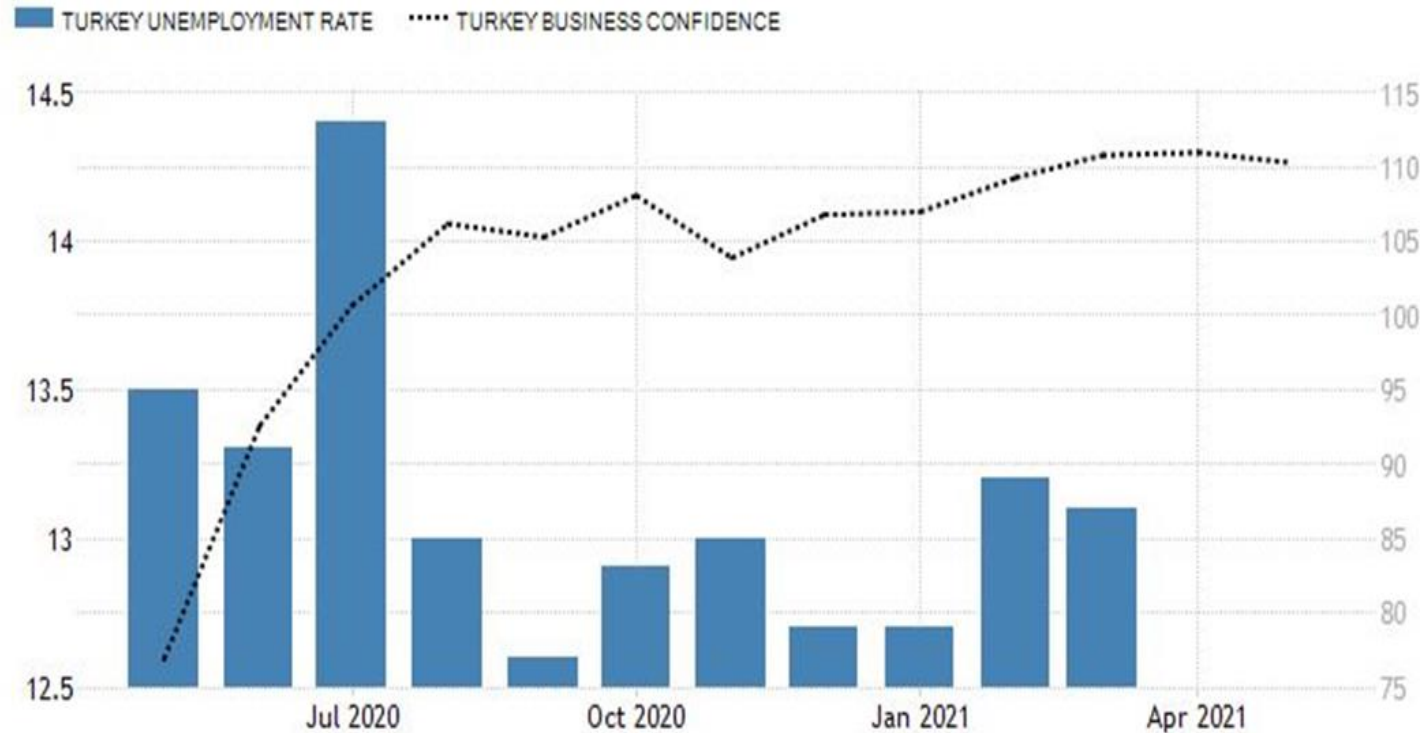
## The distribution of employment by sector (2020)



- In the proportional distribution we see in the figure, we see that the service sector occupies a large place. The restriction decisions taken due to Pandemis mostly affected the service sector. If Industry and Agriculture had a larger share, the economy would not have been adversely affected during the pandemic period. We would also see much less change in the number of unemployment.*

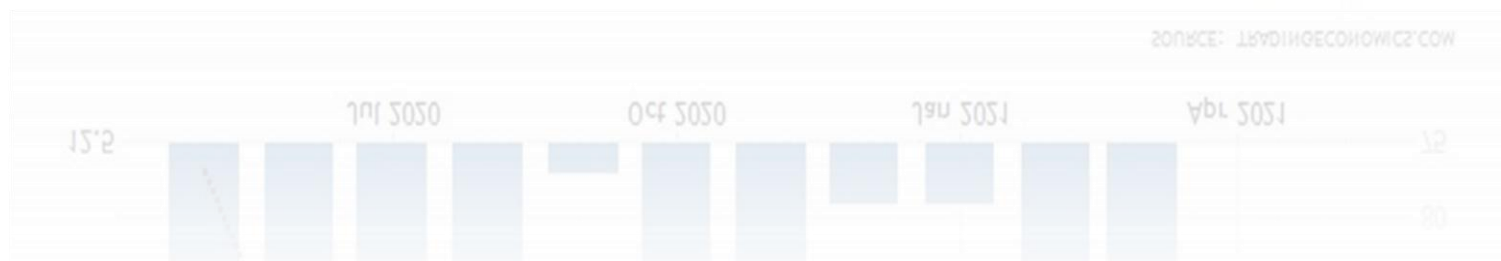
## ➤ Turkey Unemployment Rate

- In the unemployment data we see in this table, the periods with the highest figures are the dates of the ban decisions. In other words, as the businesses were closed, they fired the workers. For example, there was a curfew in July 2020. During these times, the number of unemployed people increased.*



SOURCE: TRADINGECONOMICS.COM

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*As a result, the reason for the increase in unemployment during the pandemic period; It is the dismissal of workers for compulsory reasons by businesses that have had difficult processes. Especially the high number of those in the service sector is showing us the effects of the curfew. My suggestion to businesses is to move their services to the digital world. At this point, the state needs to take useful steps. For example, the government could relocate people working in the service sector to factories producing during the pandemic. He used to make municipal buses as worker service vehicles. Non-governmental organizations should not ignore this information I have revealed.*

