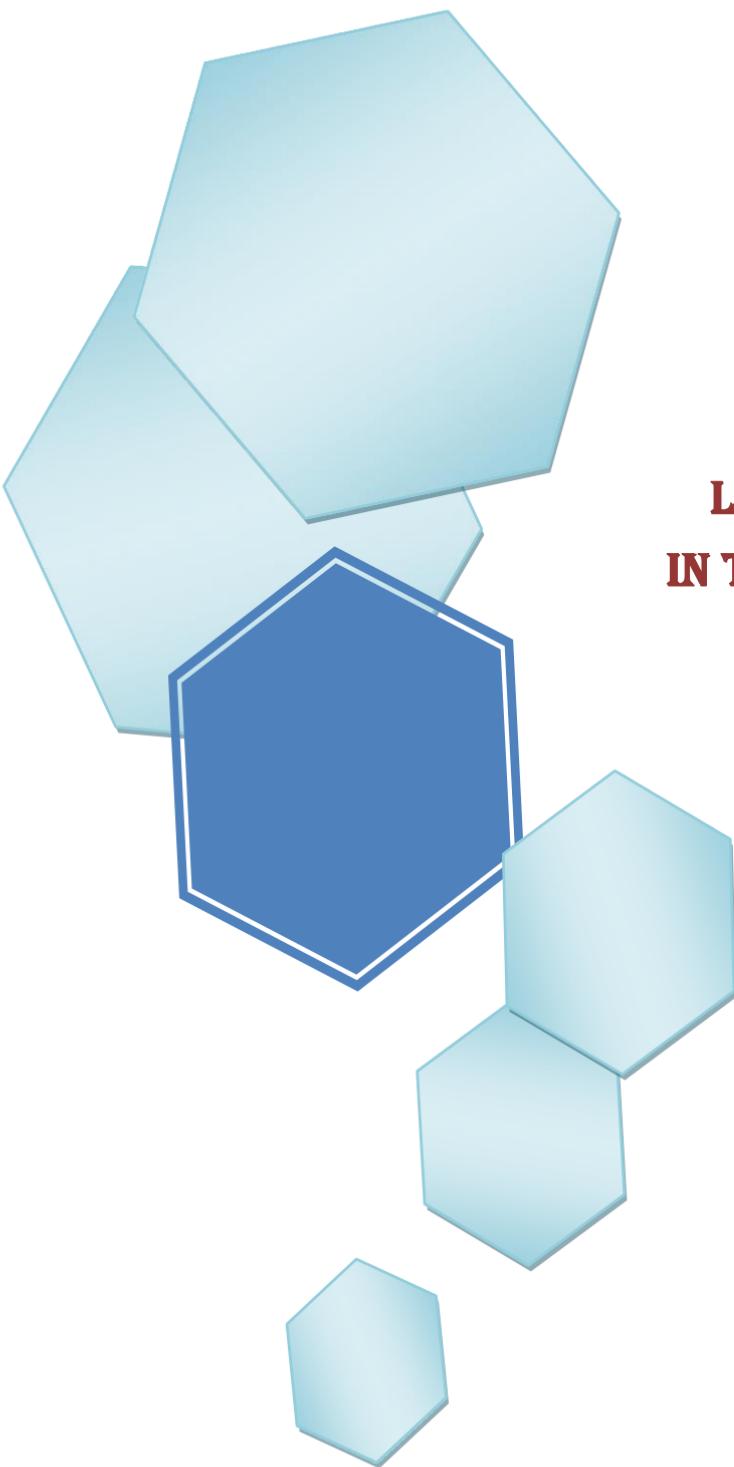


Kingdom of Morocco



High Commission for Planning
The Regional Directorate of Agadir



**NOTE ON THE
LABOR MARKET SITUATION
IN THE SOUSS-MASSA REGION
IN 2021**

February 202

NOTE ON THE LABOR MARKET SITUATION IN THE SOUSS MASSA REGION IN 2021

While the successive waves of the Covid-19 pandemic have had a deleterious effect on the entire labor market, the year 2021 will see the beginnings of economic recovery at the regional level thanks to the massive vaccination campaign and the implementation of the health pass. The activity rate fell much less sharply than that recorded in 2020. The employment rate has remained almost stationary over the past two years, with an increase in the number of workers and employed workers; while the unemployment rate and the number of unemployed fell. The underemployment rate and the number of underemployed labor force also decreased in 2021.

I. Activity and employment

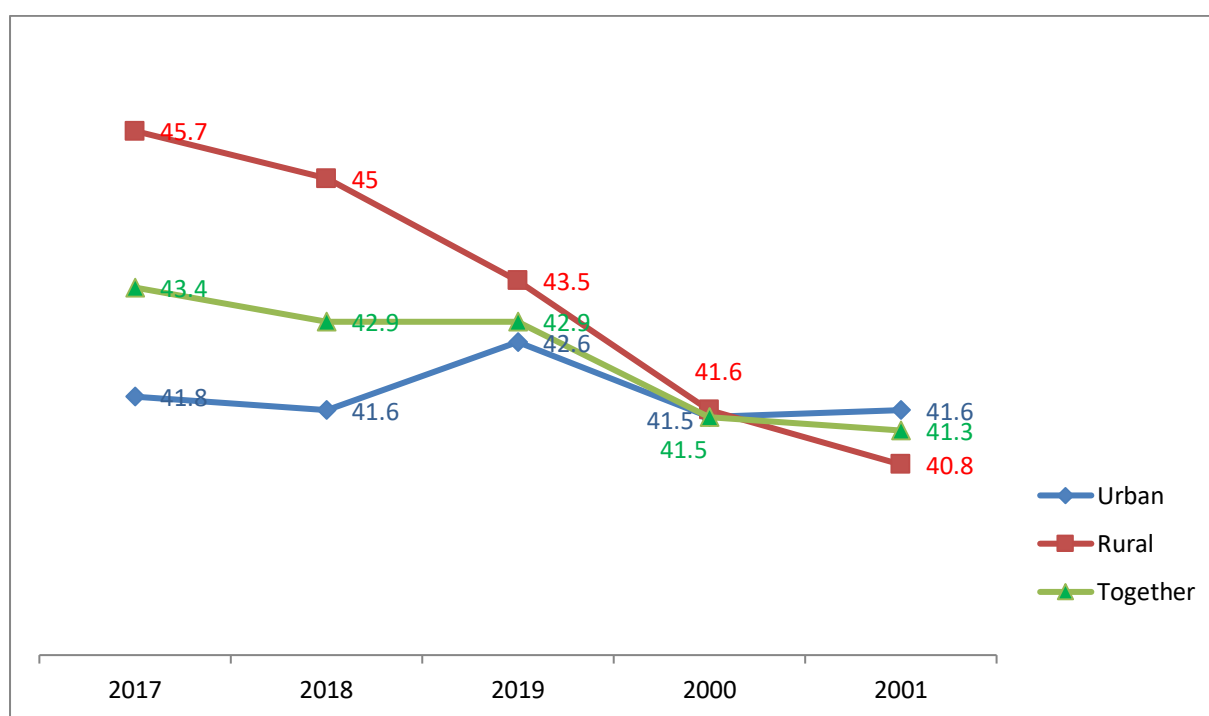
Slight increase in activity and return to pre-pandemic levels in urban areas

The number of active people in the Souss Massa region reached about 904 thousand people during the year 2021, an increase of about 11 thousand people compared to the year 2020. The urban environment the area almost 571 thousand (63%). The number of working people residing in rural areas is approximately 333 thousand (37%) of the working population. Women account for 20% of the total labor force, down 0.9 point from 2020.

Between 2020 and 2021, the regional activity rate decreased by 0.2 points to 41.3%, it is considered the lowest of the rates recorded at the national level. It experienced a much larger drop (-1.4 points) in 2020 during the pandemic. At the national level, the activity rate increased by 0.5 point to stand at 45.3%.

The urban area experienced an increase of (+0.1 point) to settle at 41.6% while the rural area recorded a drop of 0.8 point from 41.6% to 40.8%.

Graph 1: Evolution of the activity rate since 2017 in the Souss Massa region (in %).



The activity rate for women fell by 0.8 point (16%), while it increased by 0.2 point for men (68.3%).

In accordance with what has been observed over the past four years, the activity rate of men remains identical between places of residence (68.1% in urban areas and 68.8% in rural areas).

And contrary to what was noted for women, the difference in the activity rate between urban and rural women in 2021 is only 0.8 point (15.7% in town and 16.5% in the countryside).

The activity rate for graduates increased by 0.4 point in 2021 to stabilize at 44.7%, while it fell for people without any diploma by 0.9 points from 39.3% in 2020 to 38.4% in 2021.

The employment rate is approaching its pre-pandemic level

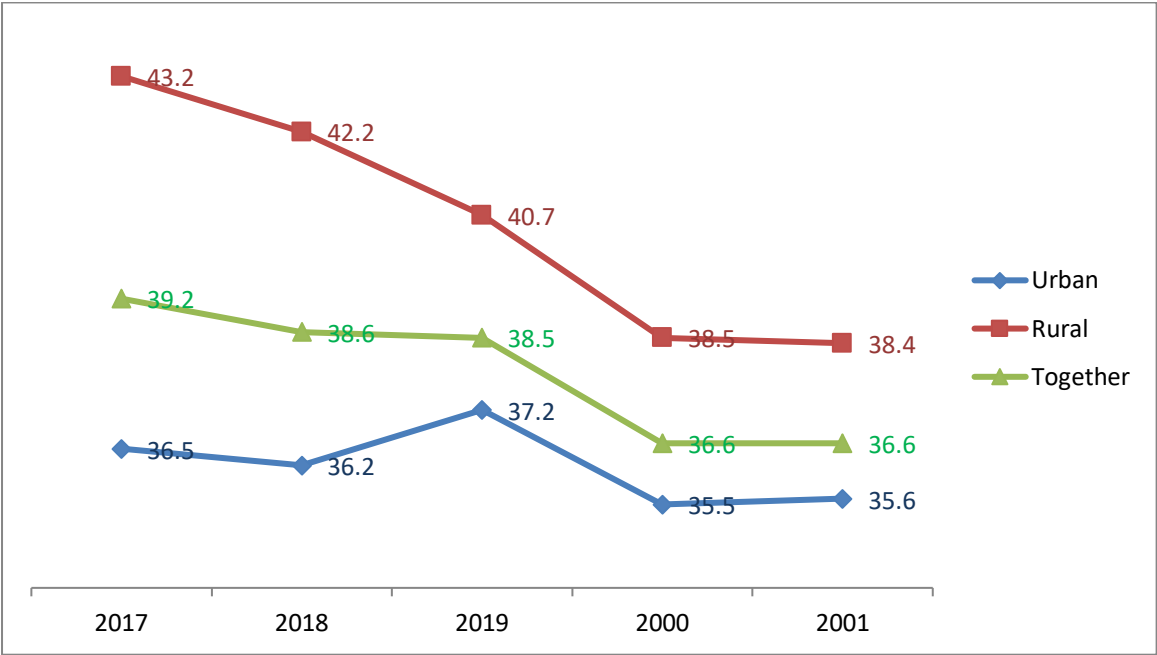
The number of employed population increased from 788 thousand to 802 thousand between 2020 and 2021. Urban areas recorded 61% of occupied workers against 60% in 2020.

The employment rate recorded at the regional level in 2021 is identical to that recorded a year earlier (36.6%). This shows a start of a return to the level before the pandemic and a delay in this situation compared to the national level; the employment rate at the national level recorded an

increase of 0.3 point during this period from 39.4% to 39.7%. However, the employment rate remains below the level recorded before the pandemic (38.5% in 2019).

Employment rates in the two residential settings did not show any remarkable change after the pandemic. The employment rate in 2021 is 35.6% (35.5% in 2020) in urban areas and 38.4% in rural areas (38.5% in 2020).

Graph 2: Evolution of the employment rate since 2017 in the Souss Massa region (in %)



The participation of women in regional economic activity remains very low, the employment rate among them does not exceed 13.3% in 2021, down 1.1 points compared to 2020 (14.4%). This rate changes according to the environment, it is only 11.8% for urban women, recording a drop of 0.1 point compared to 2020 (11.9%), while rural women recorded a higher large drop compared to 2020 of 2.4 points (15.7% in 2021 against 18.1% in 2020).

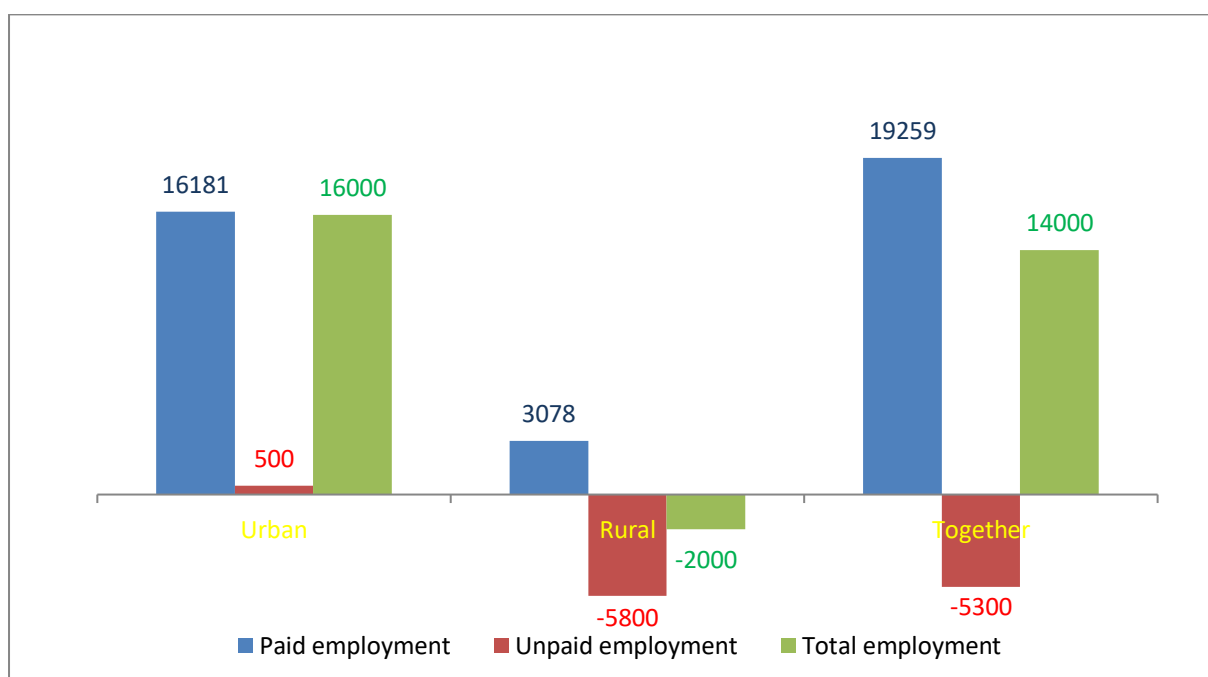
As for men, the employment rate increased by one point one year after the pandemic (61.6% in 2021). It increased in urban areas by 2.3 points from 62.1% to 64 .4% and by 0.3 point in rural areas, going from 59.7% to 60.0%.

Jobs created, mainly paid

After losing 26.000 jobs a year earlier, the regional economy created 14.000 jobs in 2021, which corresponds to an increase of 1.8%, resulting from the creation of 16.000 jobs in urban areas (+3.4%) and a loss of 2.000 jobs in rural areas (-0.9%).

By type of job, more than 19.000 paid jobs have been created, 16.000 in urban areas and 3.000 in rural areas. Unpaid employment decreased by 5.300 jobs, loss of 5.800 in rural areas and creation of 500 jobs in urban areas.

Graph 3: Net change in employment between 2020 and 2021 according to type of job and place of residence in the Souss Massa region.



The service and "agriculture, forestry and fishing" sectors remain the main job providers

Among the 802.039 employed persons estimated in 2021, the "services" sector employs 45.4%, followed by "agriculture, forestry and fishing" with 30.1%, "construction" 13.5% and industry including crafts" with 11.0%.

Nearly 6 rural workers out of 10 (56.5%) work in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector, and nearly two-thirds of city workers (60.3%) work in the service sector.

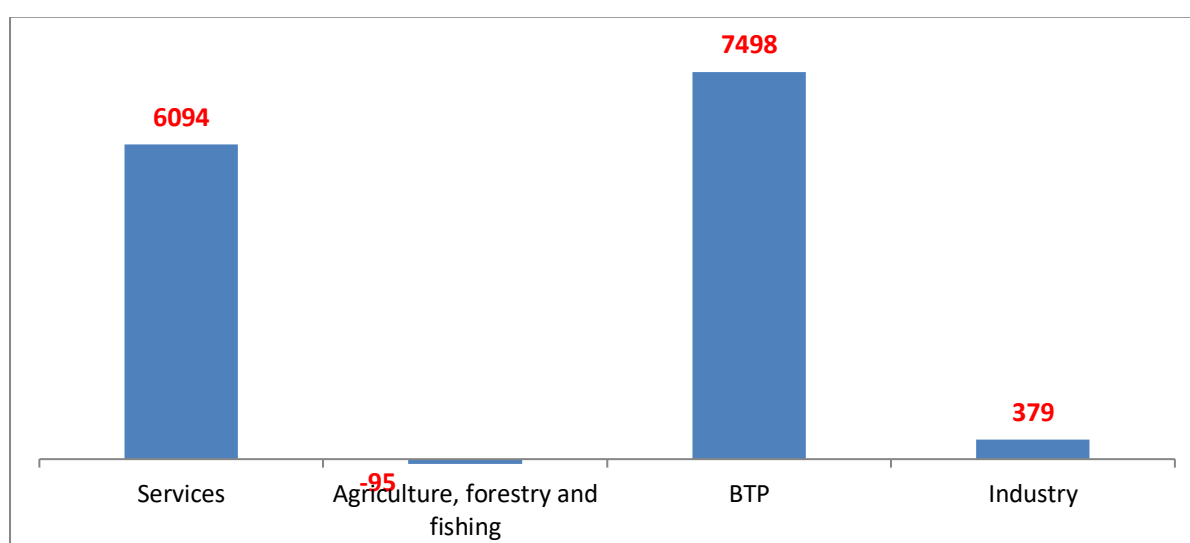
Sectoral job creation

The "agriculture, forestry and fishing" sector registered a net balance of almost zero in terms of job creation/loss at the regional level. The "services" sector, meanwhile, created more than 6.000 jobs at the regional level, recording a 2.4% increase in employment in this sector.

The industry sector, including handicrafts, created nearly 400 jobs, 1.000 jobs in urban areas and lost nearly 600 jobs in rural areas.

The construction sector has created 7.500 jobs, about 5.100 jobs in urban areas and 2.400 in rural areas.

Graph 4: Net change in the volume of employment between 2020 and 2021 by sector of economic activity and place of residence in the SM region



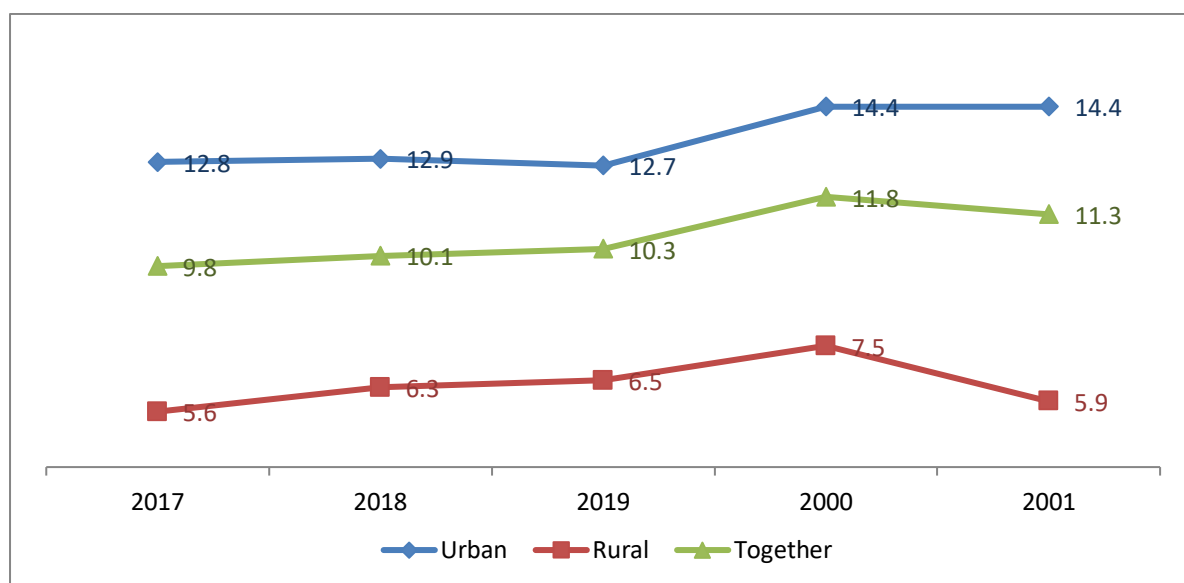
II. Unemployment and underemployment

Drop in unemployment

Between 2020 and 2021, the number of unemployed decreased by 3.000 people, from 105.000 to 102.000 unemployed, which corresponds to a decrease of 2.9%. This decrease is the consequence of an increase of 3.000 unemployed in urban areas and a decrease of 6.000 in rural areas.

The unemployment rate fell by 0.5 points between 2020 and 2021, falling from 11.8% to 11.3%. By area of residence, this rate fell from 7.5% to 5.9% (-1.6 points) in rural areas, while there was no change in urban areas (14.4%) during this period. At the national level, the unemployment rate increased from 11.9% to 12.3% during the same period.

Graph 5: Evolution of the unemployment rate since 2017 (in %)

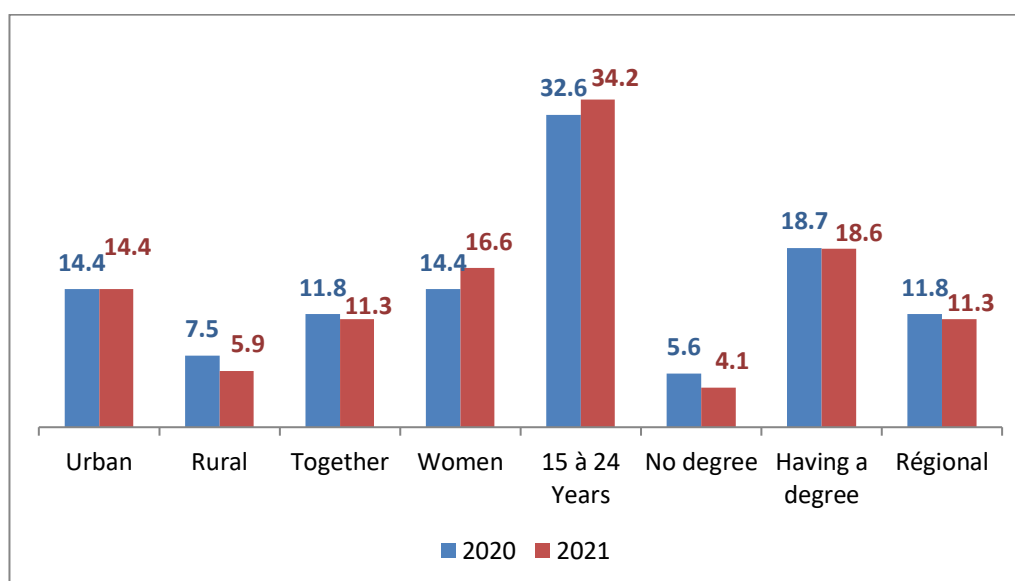


This drop in unemployment hides disparities in all categories of the population. Indeed, the unemployment rate increased respectively by 2.2 points for women, rising from 14.4% to 16.6%, while this rate fell by 1.2 points for men (from 11.1% to 9.9%).

According to the diploma, the unemployment rate recorded a drop of 0.1 point among graduates, going from 18.7% to 18.6%, and of 1.5 among people without any diploma, going from 5.6 % to 4.1%.

By age, the unemployment rate fell by 1.6 points for young people aged 15 to 24 years, from 32.6% to 34.2%, and by 0.3 points for people aged 25 to 34 years, going from 19.5% to 19.2%.

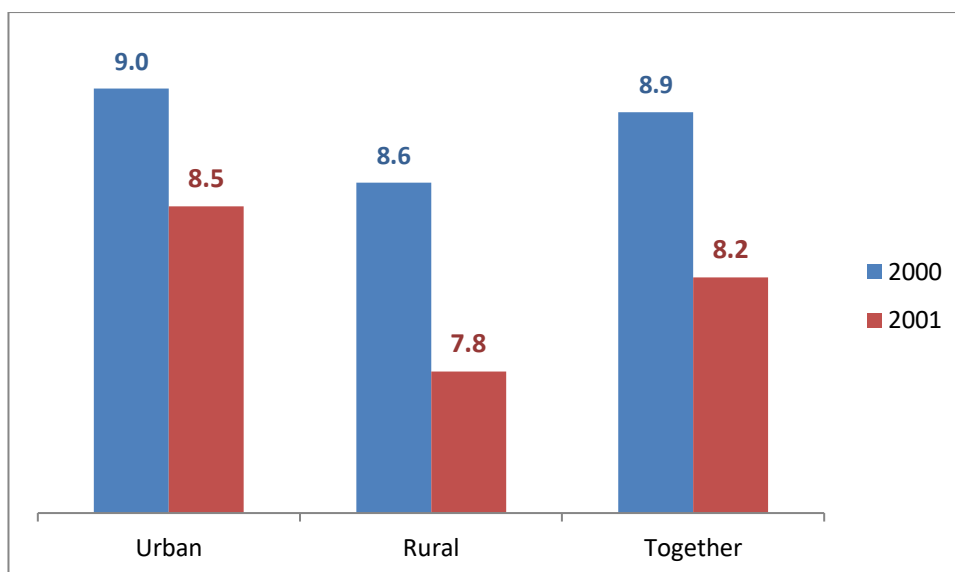
Graph 6: Evolution of the unemployment rate between 2020 and 2021 for certain categories of the population in the SM region (in %)



Decline in underemployment

The volume of underemployment rose, during the same period, from 70.000 to 66.000 people. It went from 43,000 to 41,000 in the urban reas and from 27,000 to 25,000 in the countryside. The underemployment rate thus fell, at the regional level, from 8.9% to 8.2%. It decreased from 9.0% to 8.5% in urban areas and from 8.6% to 7.8% in rural araes.

Graph 7: Evolution of the underemployment rate between 2020 and 2021 by place of residence in the SM region (in %)



Concepts and definitions

Population active: It is made up of all the people who make up the labor available for the production of goods and services. She understands, on the one hand, people with a job (employed workers), and on the other hand, people who are looking for a job (active unemployed).

Actifs occupés : The employed labor force includes all persons, aged 7 and over, involved in the production of goods and services during a brief specified reference period. It also includes all people normally employed but absent from work for a temporary impediment. It is a broad concept that encompasses all types of jobs, including casual work, part-time work and all forms of irregular employment.

Unemployed : The unemployed labor force is made up of people aged 15 and over, declaring that they have no professional activity and who are looking for a job.

Inactive population: is made up of persons who are neither active employed nor active unemployed. Inactive people are classified according to the cause of their inactivity (type of inactivity). The following categories are distinguished (child, schoolboy or student, housewife, pensioner, pensioner, sick or infirm, old man and other inactive)

Total population = Active population + inactive population

Underemployment: The employed working population in a state of underemployment is made up of the following two categories:

Time-related underemployment;

Other forms of inadequate employment.

Activity rate : is the ratio of the active population (working and unemployed) aged 15 and over to the total population of the same group.

Employment rate : expresses the share of employed workers in the total population.

Unemployment rate : The unemployment rate is the ratio of the population in unemployment aged 15 and over to the active population of the same group.

Table 1: Annual activity, employment and unemployment indicators by place of residence in 2021

| | Regional 2021 | | | National 2021 | | |
|--|---------------|------------|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Urban | Rural | together | Urban | Rural | together |
| Activity (for 15 years and over) | | | | | | |
| Active population | 571 | 333 | 904 | 7 511 | 4 770 | 12 280 |
| Feminization rate of the working population | 19,1 | 21,7 | 20,0 | 22,8 | 24,5 | 23,5 |
| Activity rate | 41,6 | 40,8 | 41,3 | 42,3 | 50,9 | 45,3 |
| • According to gender | | | | | | |
| men | 68,1 | 68,8 | 68,3 | 67,3 | 76,0 | 70,4 |
| women | 15,7 | 16,5 | 16,0 | 18,7 | 25,2 | 20,9 |
| • According to age | | | | | | |
| 15-24 years old | 17,8 | 19,4 | 18,4 | 20,6 | 28,9 | 23,9 |
| 25-34 years old | 55,2 | 50,4 | 53,7 | 59,4 | 61,4 | 60,1 |
| 35-44 years old | 57,3 | 57,6 | 57,4 | 57,9 | 65,9 | 60,5 |
| 45 years and over | 37,4 | 40,5 | 38,7 | 36,0 | 53,2 | 41,8 |
| • According to the degree | | | | | | |
| Not graduates | 36,0 | 41,0 | 38,4 | 35,2 | 53,6 | 43,8 |
| Graduates | 46,3 | 40,0 | 44,7 | 47,2 | 45,3 | 46,8 |
| Employment (15 years and over) | | | | | | |
| Employed active population | 489 | 313 | 802 | 6 239 | 4 533 | 10 772 |
| Employment rate | 35,6 | 38,4 | 36,6 | 35,1 | 48,4 | 39,7 |
| • According to gender | | | | | | |
| men | 60,0 | 64,4 | 61,6 | 57,6 | 71,9 | 62,7 |
| women | 11,8 | 15,7 | 13,3 | 13,9 | 24,3 | 17,4 |
| Structure of employment according to sectors of economic activity | | | | | | |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 13,1 | 56,5 | 30,1 | 4,6 | 67,8 | 31,2 |
| Industry (including crafts) | 13,8 | 6,6 | 11,0 | 17,0 | 4,4 | 11,7 |
| BTP | 12,7 | 14,8 | 13,5 | 12,5 | 9,5 | 11,2 |
| Services | 60,3 | 22,1 | 45,4 | 65,8 | 18,3 | 45,8 |
| Unspecified activities | 0,1 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| Share of paid employment in total employment, of which: | 96,7 | 85,3 | 92,3 | 97,3 | 69,9 | 85,8 |
| employees | 66,6 | 57,5 | 63,3 | 67,8 | 46,2 | 60,4 |
| Self-employed | 33,4 | 42,5 | 36,7 | 32,2 | 53,8 | 39,6 |

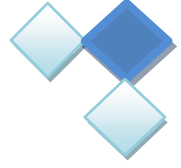
Source: National Employment Survey 2021

Table 1 continued: Annual activity, employment and unemployment indicators by place of residence in 2021

| | Regional 2021 | | | National 2021 | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| | Urban | Rural | together | Urban | Rural | together |
| Working population employed in underemployment | 41 | 25 | 66 | 550 | 453 | 1 003 |
| Underemployment rate | 8,5 | 7,8 | 8,2 | 8,8 | 10,0 | 9,3 |
| <i>• By form of underemployment</i> | | | | | | |
| Visible underemployment (linked to working time) | 2,6 | 3,6 | 3,0 | 3,8 | 4,9 | 4,3 |
| Invisible underemployment (linked to earned income and training-employment match) | 5,8 | 4,2 | 5,2 | 5,0 | 5,1 | 5,0 |
| Unemployment | | | | | | |
| Unemployed labor force | 82 | 20 | 102 | 1 271 | 237 | 1 508 |
| Rate of feminization of the unemployed labor force | 32,7 | 16,6 | 29,6 | 34,6 | 18,7 | 32,1 |
| Unemployment rate | 14,4 | 5,9 | 11,3 | 16,9 | 5,0 | 12,3 |
| <i>• According to gender</i> | | | | | | |
| men | 12,0 | 6,3 | 9,9 | 14,4 | 5,3 | 10,9 |
| women | 24,6 | 4,6 | 16,6 | 25,6 | 3,8 | 16,8 |
| <i>• According to age</i> | | | | | | |
| 15-24 years old | 41,6 | 23,3 | 34,2 | 46,7 | 15,9 | 31,8 |
| 25-34 years old | 23,6 | 8,6 | 19,2 | 25,9 | 6,9 | 19,6 |
| 35-44 years old | 6,8 | * | 5,6 | 9,5 | 2,4 | 7,0 |
| 45 years old and over | 4,4 | * | 3,3 | 5,7 | 1,3 | 3,8 |
| <i>• According to the degree</i> | | | | | | |
| Not graduates | 5,8 | 2,4 | 4,1 | 7,8 | 2,1 | 4,6 |
| Graduates | 20,0 | 13,7 | 18,6 | 21,7 | 12,0 | 19,6 |

*not available

Source: National Employment Survey 2021



High Commission for Planning

المنذوبية السامية للتخطيط

Regional Directorate of Agadir

المديرية الجهوية لأكادير

شارع الجنرال الكتاني ص ب 301 الهاتف 05 28 84 07 58 / الفاكس : 05 28 84 07 74

Avenue Général Kettani B.P 301-Agadir– Tél : 05 28 84 07 58/ Fax : 05 28 84 07 74

E-mail: drp.agadir@gmail.com

www.hcp.ma/region-agadir

