High employment among women

Danes are good at taking their turn on the labour market. We have a high employment rate and a low unemployment rate in a European context. Part of the explanation is Danish women's high employment rate.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE





UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Employees as per cent of the total workforce between 16 and 66 years



LABOUR FORCE

Total of those employed and those unemployed between 16 and 66 years.

THE POPULATION AND THE LABOUR MARKET

	Unit	1985	1990	1995	2000	2004
Total population	1 000	5 111	5 135	5 216	5 330	5 398
Labour force population	people	2 729	2 794	2 796	2 786	2 766
Men		1 476	1 488	1 491	1 478	1 452
Women		1 253	1 306	1 305	1 308	1 314
Employed		2 598	2 674	2 517	2 668	2 619
Men		1 442	1 454	1 357	1 420	1 378
Women		1 157	1 219	1 160	1 248	1 240
Activity rate	per cent	79.8	80.2	78.8	77.5	76.6
Men		85.7	84.6	83.1	81.4	79.7
Women		73.8	75.8	74.5	73.6	73.4
Unemployed	1 000	252	272	288	150	176
Men	people	111	124	134	68	85
Women		141	148	154	82	92
Unemployment rate	per cent	9.1	9.7	10.3	5.4	6.4



ACTIVITY RATE

Number of persons in the labour force between the age of 16 and 66 years as a percentage of the total population between the age of 16 and 66 years.

The Danish labour market is characterised by a high participation rate. An important reason for this is the fact that Danish women work more than in many other European countries. However, almost one-fourth of those at working age (16-66 years) are outside the labour force. A great number of these are persons receiving early retirement pensions, or early retirement pay and young people enrolled for an education.

16 per cent of the men and 23 per cent of the women on the labour market are parttime employees. Part-time employment is most common in trade, hotels and restaurants and finance and business services.

• • • DID YOU KNOW THAT

Average wages have increased by 65 per cent since 1990. During the same period, prices have increased by only 34 per cent resulting in a considerably higher purchasing power. • • •

There have always been more men than women on the Danish labour market, but today the difference is much smaller than previously. Today men make up only slightly more than half the workforce. The unemployment rate is almost the same for both genders.

In the early 1990s, the unemployment rate was historically high in Denmark. Since then, the unemployment rate has decreased drastically, and despite an increase early in the new millennium the unemployment rate is low today. About 6 in 100 persons do not have a job.