

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

Why in news?

The national unemployment rate among urban youth is decreasing in FY25, but 6 states and UTs have seen an increase in unemployment rates from Q1 to Q3.

- PLFS is the primary source of data on employment and unemployment situation in India.
- The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) gives Indicators like the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR), Unemployment Rate (UR), etc.
- **Released by** - Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation.
- **Survey period** - Quarterly Bulletin [October – December 2024].

Key Findings

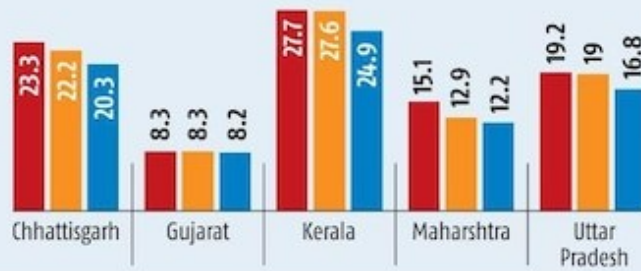
- **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)** - In urban areas among persons of age 15 years and above has increased from 49.9% to 50.4%.
- LFPR for male of age 15 years and above in urban areas increased from 74.1% to 75.4% reflecting overall increasing trend in male LFPR.
- LFPR among female of age 15 years and above for urban areas increased from 25.0% to 25.2%.
- **Worker Population Ratio (WPR)** - In urban areas among persons of age 15 years and above has increased from 46.6% to 47.2%.
- WPR for male of age 15 years and above for urban areas increased from 69.8% to 70.9% reflecting overall increasing trend in male WPR.
- **Unemployment Rate (UR)** - In urban areas among persons of age 15 years and above decreased from 6.5% to 6.4%.
- UR among males of age 15 years and above remained same as 5.8%.
- UR among female of age 15 years and above decreased from 8.6 % to 8.1%.
- **State wise data - Rising unemployment states** - Assam shows highest urban youth unemployment rate at 27. 5% in Q3, up from 23. 9% in Q1.
- Bihar's rate has increased to 26. 4% from 20. 8%, Madhya Pradesh to 15% from 11. 2%, and Haryana to 12. 9% from 11. 2%.
- In Jammu & Kashmir the rate rose to 35. 3% from 29. 8%,
- Delhi's rate grew to 4. 9% from 3. 7%.
- **Declined unemployment states** - Kerala is followed by Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat with slight decreases.

DEMOGRAPHIC WATCH

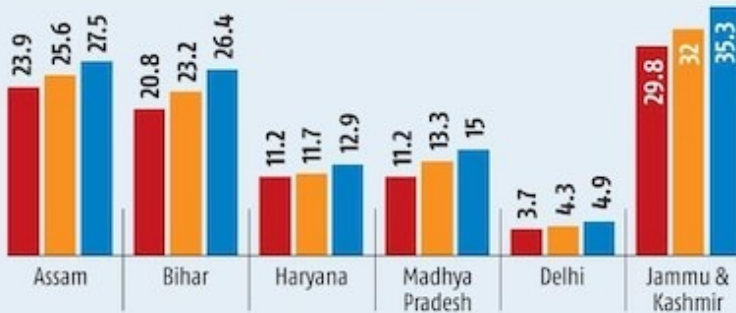
Urban youth unemployment rate in FY25 (%)

■ Q1 ■ Q2 ■ Q3

GOING DOWNWARDS



ON THE RISE



Note: Youth refers to the age group of 15–29 years who are usually first-timers in labour markets

Source: PLFS

- **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** – The study states that youth comprise nearly 83% of the unemployed workforce, with educational attainment increasing significantly.

References

1. [PIB | Periodic Labour Force Survey \(PLFS\)](#)
2. [Business Standard | Periodic Labour Force Survey \(PLFS\)](#)



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