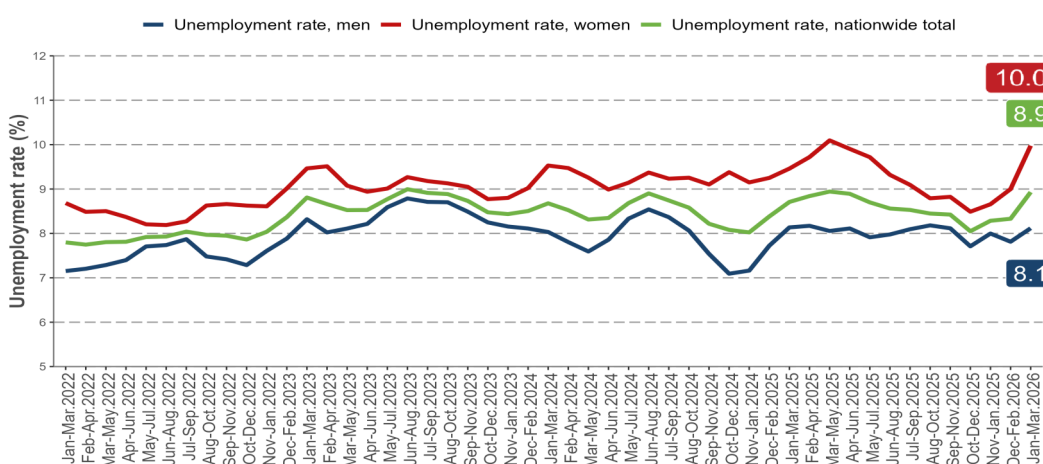


- In the January–March 2026 quarter, the national unemployment rate was estimated at 8.9%, a year-on-year increase of 0.2 percentage points (pp).
- The estimated number of employed persons increased 0.5% year on year.
- The main influences on the expansion in employed persons were the increases in the sectors of health activities (6.1%), professional activities (8.8%), and commerce (1.1%).
- The year-on-year increase in the population outside the labour force (1.2%) was influenced by the potential labour force, the majority of whom were not seeking work but were available to work.
- Compared to the previous moving quarter, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose 0.2 pp to stand at 8.7%.

Unemployment rate according to sex and nationwide total moving quarters



Unemployment

The national unemployment rate was estimated at 8.9%, a twelve-month increase of 0.2 pp that can be attributed to the faster growth in the labour force (0.7%) than in employed persons (0.5%). In the same period, the increase in unemployed persons (3.3%) was influenced by the rises in the unemployed with prior work experience (2.0%) and first-time job seekers (14.5%).

According to sex, the unemployment rate was 10.0% for women and 8.1% for men.

Employment

The increase in the estimated total number of employed persons (0.5%) can exclusively be attributed to the rise in women (1.2%) because the number of employed men fell 0.1% in the same period. Absent employed persons, who represent 10.3% of the total number of employed persons, increased 0.2%.

MOVING QUARTERS (2025–2026)

Unemployment rate (%)	Jan-Mar	Feb-Apr	Mar-May	Apr-Jun	May-Jul	Jun-Aug	Jul-Sep	Aug-Oct	Sep-Nov	Oct-Dec	Nov-Jan	Dec-Feb	Jan-Mar
Nationwide total	8.7	8.8	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.6	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.0	8.3	8.3	8.9
Women	9.5	9.7	10.1	9.9	9.7	9.3	9.1	8.8	8.8	8.5	8.7	9.0	10.0
Men	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.1	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.7	8.0	7.8	8.1

(1) As of the publication of results of the February–April 2022 moving quarter, INE has been publishing a statistical note together with the results of the National Employment Survey (ENE). In order to provide performance and quality indicators, the note includes the main estimates and their respective disaggregations as well as AAPOR codes, in accordance with institutional statistical quality criteria. For more information, see the [ENE Statistical Note, no. 48](#).

(*) INE defines available future starters as a subset of future starters. Future starters are persons who have not looked for work in the previous four weeks, because they will soon start a job, and they may or may not be available for work in the two weeks following the reference week. Future starters are included among the inactive population. Available future starters are defined as those who are available to work in the two weeks following the reference week, and they are added to the unemployed population for the calculation of the unemployment rate with available future starters (LU1) for statistical harmonization with the OECD.

MOVING QUARTER (January–March 2026)

Labour force participation rate	62.3%
Employment rate	56.7%
Unemployment rate	8.9%

Level (number of persons)

Labour force	10,359,303
Employed persons	9,434,192
Informally employed persons	2,498,665
Unemployed persons	925,111
Economically inactive persons	6,268,350

Twelve-month variations

Labour force	0.7%
Employed persons	0.5%
Informally employed persons	3.2%
Unemployed persons	3.3%
Economically inactive persons	1.2%

Analytical rates

Unemployment rate with available future starters (LU1)*	9.3%
Combined rate of unemployment and involuntary part-time work (LU2)	15.2%
Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (LU3)	17.4%
Labour force pressure rate	16.7%

Labour informality

Informal employment rate	26.5%
Employment rate in the informal sector	14.9%

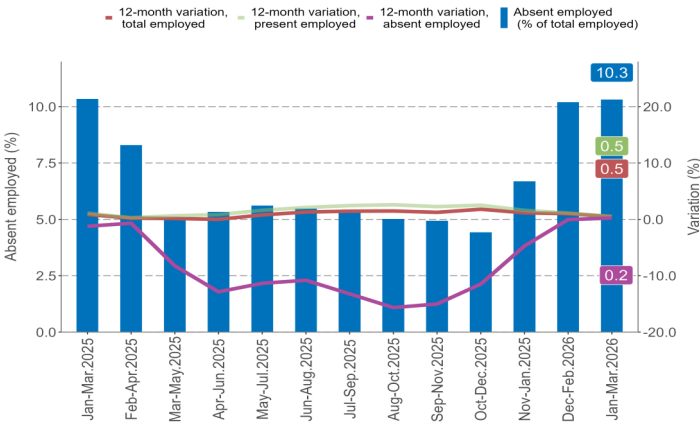
According to economic sector, the growth in employed persons was influenced by increases in health activities (6.1%), professional activities (8.8%), and commerce (1.1%). According to occupational category, the growth can be attributed to increases in informal wage earners (10.9%) and own-account workers (1.8%).

The informal employment rate rose 0.7 pp year on year to stand at 26.5%. In the same period, the increase in informally employed persons (3.2%) can be attributed to the rises in women (4.1%) and men (2.5%) and to the rise in wage earners of the private sector (10.7%).

Labour participation

The participation rate fell 0.1 pp year on year to stand at 62.3%, and the employment rate fell 0.3 pp to stand at 56.7%. Meanwhile, the increase in the population outside the labour force (1.2%) was influenced by the rises in inactive persons who are potentially active (4.9%) and the routinely inactive (0.4%).

Twelve-month variation of employed persons by type of employment and proportion of absent employed in the total number of employed, nationwide total moving quarters



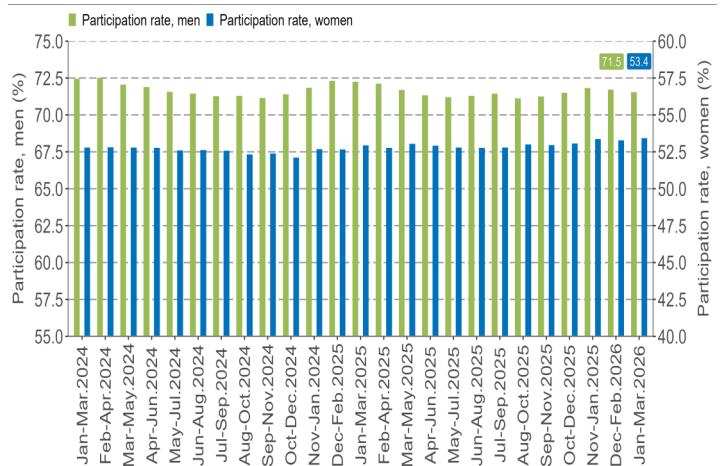
Employed persons absent from work

The twelve-month expansion in employed persons (0.5%) was led by the increase in those classified as present at their job (0.5%). In the same period, the number of absent employed persons, which represented 10.3% of the total number of employed persons, increased 0.2%.

Employed persons by age bracket

By age bracket, the expansion in the employed population (0.5%) can mainly be attributed to the increases in the brackets 35–44 years (1.8%) and 45–54 years (1.8%). The variation in employed women (1.2%) was due to the rise in the bracket 35–44 years (2.8%), while the decrease in employed men (-0.1%) was due to the fall in the bracket 25–34 years (-3.4%).

Participation rate according to sex, nationwide total moving quarters



Unemployment rate according to sex

The unemployment rate for men was 8.1%, showing no twelve-month variation, a result that can be attributed to the equal magnitude of the decrease in the labour force (-0.1%) and employed men (-0.1%). In the same period, the decrease in the number of unemployed men (-0.3%) can exclusively be attributed to the fall in the unemployed with prior work experience (-2.6%). For men, the participation rate fell 0.8 pp to stand at 71.5% and the employment rate fell 0.7 pp to stand at 65.7%. In the same period, the expansion in the number of men outside the labour force (3.5%) can mainly be attributed to the increases in the routinely inactive and inactive persons who are potentially active.

The unemployment rate for women increased 0.5 pp year on year to stand at 10.0% as a result of the faster growth in the labour force (1.8%) than in employed women (1.2%). In the same period, the increase in unemployed women (7.4%) was influenced by the rises in the unemployed with prior work experience (7.3%) and first-time job seekers (7.9%). For women, the participation rate rose 0.5 pp to stand at 53.4% and the employment rate rose 0.2 pp to stand at 48.1%. The decrease in women outside the labour force (-0.2%) can be exclusively attributed to the routinely inactive.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate

Compared to the previous moving quarter, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased 0.2 pp to stand at 8.7%. The increase can be attributed to the lack of variation in the labour force, which in turn was due to the variations in the unemployed (2.2%) and the employed (-0.2%). In the same time period, this indicator remained unchanged at 8.0% for men while the indicator increased 0.4 pp to stand at 9.5% for women.

Economic activity

The twelve-month increase in the employed population (0.5%) can be attributed to the rises in health activities (6.1%), professional activities (8.8%), commerce (1.1%), and real estate activities (18.8%). The principal decreases were in public administration (-5.7%), financial and insurance activities (-11.8%), and communications (-10.2%).

The year-on-year increase in employed women (1.2%) can mainly be attributed to the rise in education (5.5%), while the decrease in employed men (-0.1%) can mainly be attributed to the fall in education (-8.4%).

Occupational category

According to occupational category, the increase in employed persons (0.5%) was led by the rises in informal wage earners (10.9%), own-account workers (1.8%), and employers (3.0%). The main decreases were in the categories of formal wage earners (-1.5%), domestic workers (-5.8%), and unpaid family workers (-6.4%).

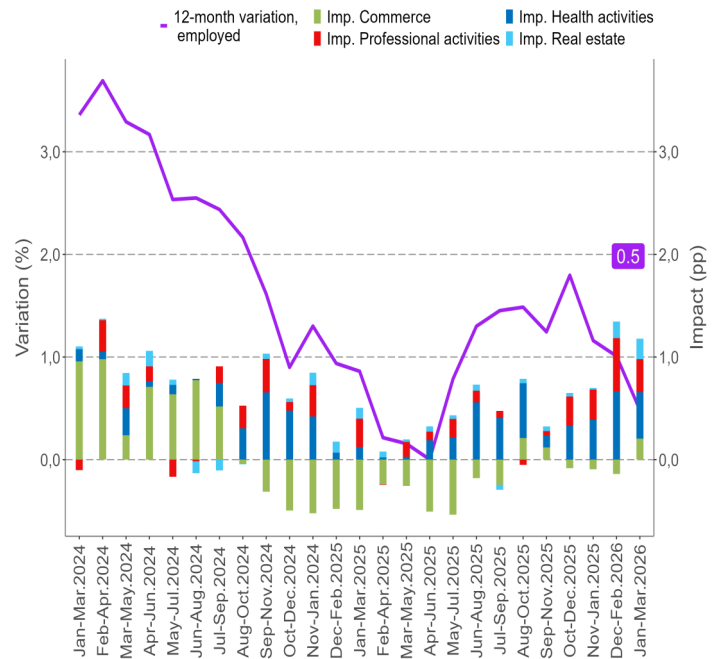
The increase in employed women (1.2%) can mainly be attributed to the rise in informal wage earners (15.4%), while the decrease in employed men (-0.1%) was led by the fall in formal wage earners (-2.2%).

Labour informality

The year-on-year increase in informally employed persons (3.2%) was influenced by the rises in women (4.1%) and men (2.5%). According to economic sector, the increase was mainly due to the rises in commerce (7.9%) and manufacturing (5.8%).

By occupational category, the increase in informally employed persons was influenced by rises in wage earners of the private sector (10.7%)

Twelve-month variation of employed persons and impacts according to branch of economic activity*, nationwide total



* These four economic sectors include the highest positive impacts in the latest moving quarter. Sectors with negative impacts have been excluded.

and wage earners of the public sector (12.5%).

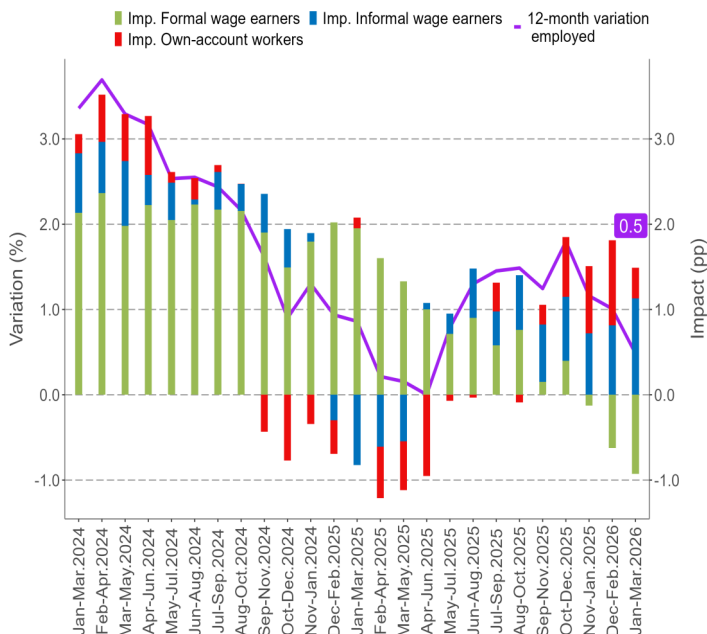
The informal employment rate increased 0.7 pp year on year to stand at 26.5%. For women, the informal employment rate rose 0.8 pp to stand at 27.9%. For men, the rate rose 0.6 pp to stand at 25.4%.

MOVING QUARTERS (2025–2026)

Informal employment rate (%)	MOVING QUARTERS (2025–2026)												
	Jan-Mar	Feb-Apr	Mar-May	Apr-Jun	May-Jul	Jun-Aug	Jul-Sep	Aug-Oct	Sep-Nov	Oct-Dec	Nov-Jan	Dec-Feb	Jan-Mar
Nationwide total	25.8	25.8	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.2	26.2	26.6	26.8	26.8	26.5	26.5
Women	27.1	27.3	27.6	27.6	27.5	27.8	28.1	28.2	28.4	28.7	28.2	28.0	27.9
Men	24.8	24.7	24.7	24.8	24.9	24.7	24.8	24.7	25.2	25.4	25.7	25.4	25.4

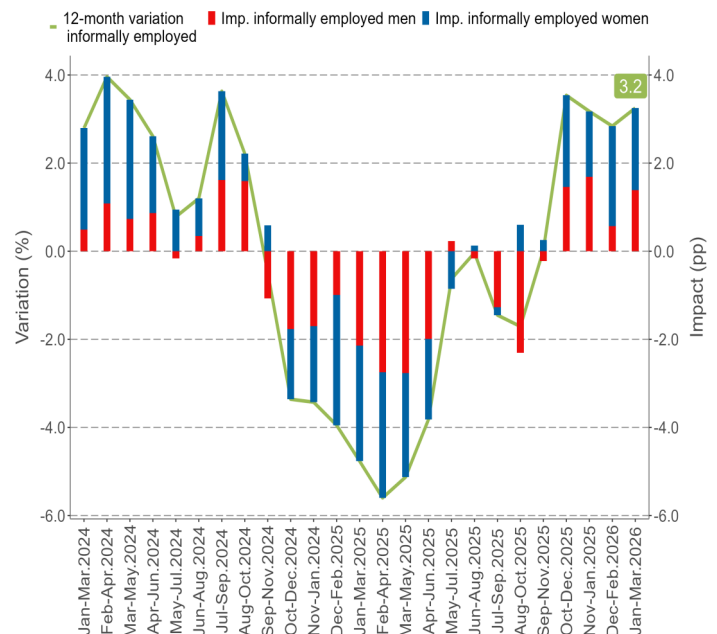
Twelve-month variations and impacts of employed persons according to occupational category, nationwide total

moving quarters



Twelve-month variations and impacts of informally employed persons according to sex, nationwide total

moving quarters



Hours actually worked

The volume of work, as measured by the quantity of hours per week actually worked by employed persons, decreased 0.1% year on year. Likewise, the average number of hours worked decreased 0.5% to stand at 35.7 hours. Men worked an average of 38.4 hours, and women worked an average of 32.2 hours.

Hours usually worked

The year-on-year expansion in employed persons (0.5%) was influenced by the increases in those who work 31–44 hours per week (9.2%) and part time, or 1–30 hours (5.8%). In contrast, decreases were observed in those who worked 45 hours (-38.6%) and 46 hours and over (-5.0%).

Employed persons according to hours usually worked, nationwide total (number of persons and percentages)

January–March 2026

Brackets of hours	Employed		Twelve-month variation		
	Level	%	Total	%	impact (pp)*
Total	9,434,192	100	45,354	0.5	-
1–30**	1,880,761	19.9	102,609	5.8	1.1
VPT***	1,234,591	65.6	3,908	0.3	0.2
IPT***	611,742	32.5	95,468	18.5	5.4
NS/NR	34,428	1.8	3,233	10.4	0.2
31–44	5,485,967	58.1	462,652	9.2	4.9
45	723,347	7.7	-455,106	-38.6	-4.8
46 and over	1,318,259	14.0	-69,991	-5.0	-0.7
No data	25,858	0.3	5,190	25.1	0.1

(*) The sum of the impacts is equal to the percentage variation and may differ if more decimals are used in the calculation.

(**) This bracket represents part-time employed persons as defined in the Labour Code in article 40 bis.

(***) Voluntary part-time employed persons (VPT) and involuntary part-time employed persons (IPT). Percentage of participation (%) and impact (pp) compared to the total of part-time employed persons.

(NS/NR) Beginning with the subsample of January 2020, the main questionnaire of the ENE includes the option Not sure/No response.

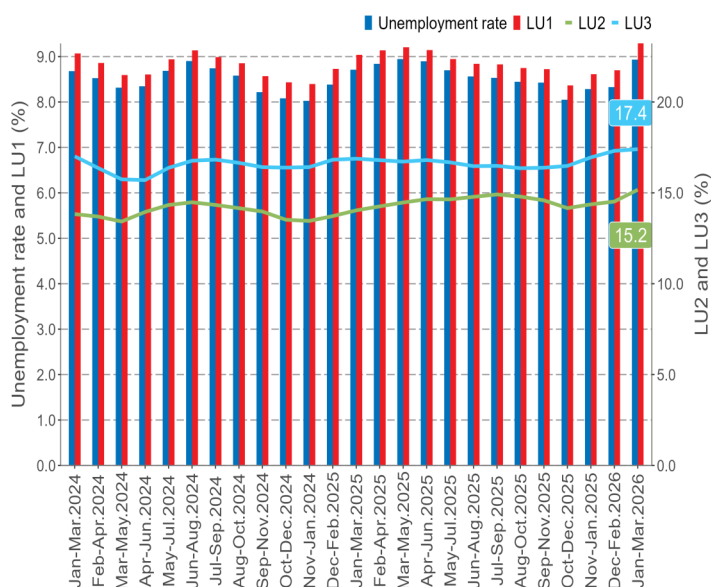
Unemployment rate with available future starters (LU1)²

The unemployment rate with available future starters increased 0.3 pp year on year to stand at 9.3%. The increase can be attributed to the rises in unemployed persons (3.3%) and available future starters (11.2%).

Combined rate of unemployment and involuntary part-time employed (LU2)³

The combined rate of unemployment and involuntary part-time work increased 1.2 pp to stand at 15.2%, which can be attributed to the rises in unemployed persons (3.3%), involuntary part-time employed persons (18.5%), and available future starters (11.2%).

Rates of unemployment and labour underutilization, nationwide total moving quarters



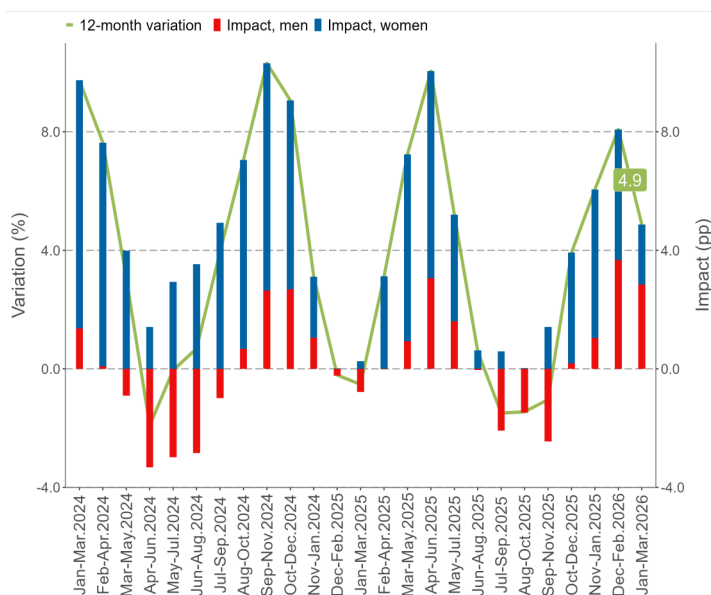
Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (LU3)⁴

The potential labour force, also known as inactive persons who are potentially active, increased 4.9% year on year, which due to the growth in men (7.1%) and women (3.4%).

This category mostly consists of persons who were not seeking a job but who were available to work. Thus, they would become potential entrants to the labour force if their expectations of finding a job improved.

The combined rate of unemployment and the potential labour force increased 0.5 pp year on year to stand at 17.4%. The indicator stood at 14.6% for men and 20.8% for women, and the gender gap was 6.2 pp.

Twelve-month variation of the potential labour force and impact according to sex, nationwide total moving quarters



(2) LU1 indicator = (unemployed persons + available future starters) / (labour force + available future starters)

(3) LU2 indicator = (unemployed persons + available future starters + involuntary part-time workers) / (labour force + available future starters)

(4) LU3 Indicator = (unemployed persons + available future starters + potential labour force) / (labour force + available future starters + potential labour force)

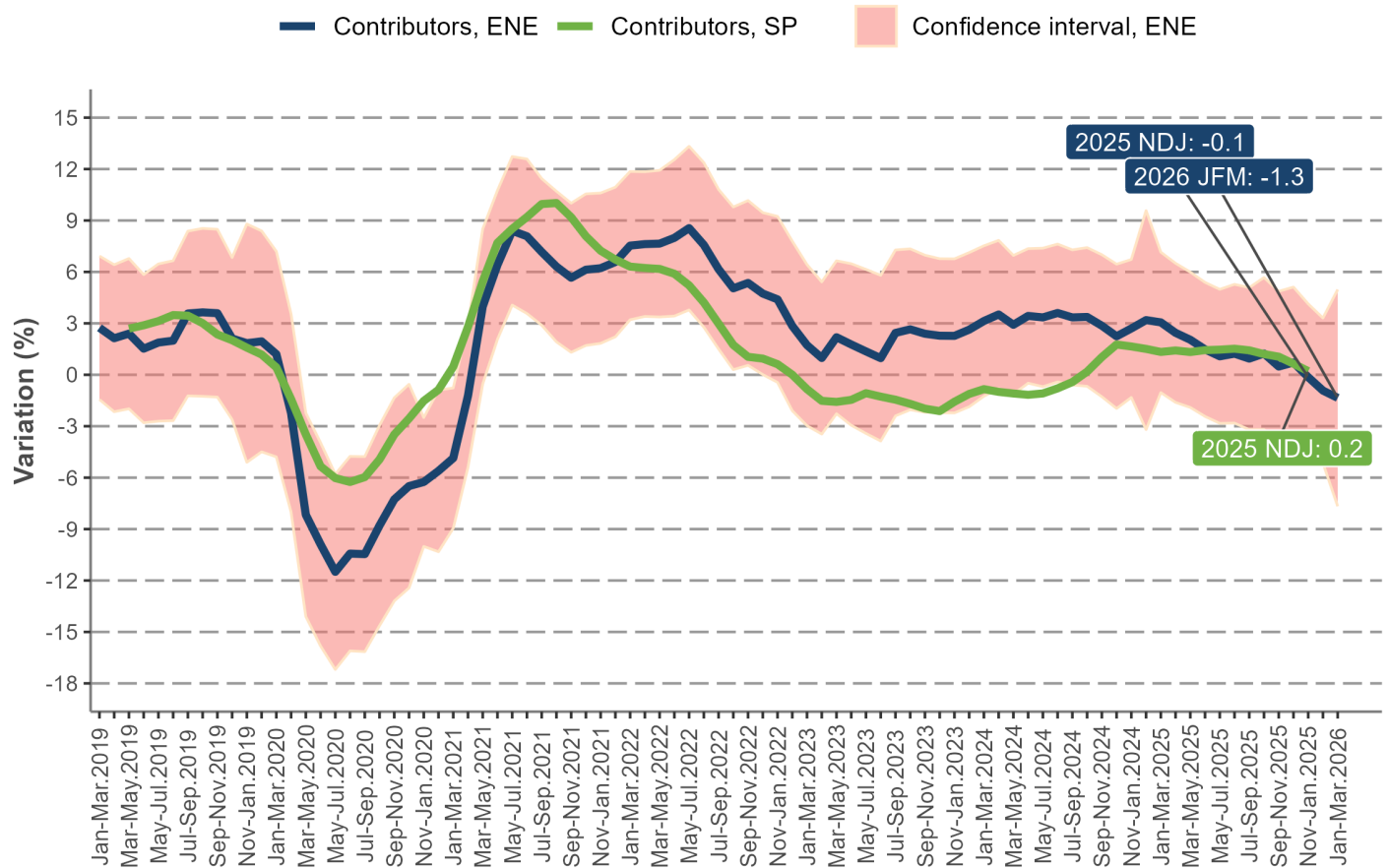
Appendix 1: Contrast with administrative records⁵

According to records from the Superintendency of Pensions (SP)⁶ on dependent contributors to private pension funds (AFP)⁷, which have a two-month delay compared to the results of the National Employment Survey (ENE), the number of dependent contributors in the November 2025–January 2026 moving quarter was 5,916,599. In contrast, there were an estimated 6,039,564 contributors in the same period according to ENE data. The SP figure is within the confidence interval of the ENE estimate.

For the November 2025–January 2026 quarter, the twelve-month variation in the number of contributors was 0.2% according to SP data. In contrast, ENE data for the same period showed a variation of -0.1%, which was not statistically significant. In subsequent quarters (for which SP data is not yet available), ENE data showed variations of -0.9% in December 2025–February 2026 and -1.3% in January–March 2026, but these increases were not statistically significant.

By sex, the main influence on the increase in contributors in the November 2025–January 2026 quarter was the rise in women (0.4%), according to SP data. In contrast, the ENE data showed that decrease in contributors for the same period was exclusively driven by the fall in men (-1.9%) because the number of women increased 2.2%. However, these variations were not statistically significant.

Development of twelve-month variation of contributors, estimate (ENE) and statistical series of the pension system moving quarters



(5) This section addresses methodological issues described in the technical note published on 31 December 2018 (available at *Sección Publicaciones y Anuarios/ Publicaciones*): <https://www.ine.cl/estadisticas/sociales/mercado-laboral/ocupacion-y-desocupacion>.

(6) The contributors are active affiliates with a formal employment relationship with an employer.

(7) In this section, the data on dependent contributors whose employers make normal payments to the individual capitalization accounts of AFPs is taken from the SP website.