

EMPLOYMENT OBSERVATORY

# Central & Eastern Europe

Employment Trends and Developments

# 6



European Commission

Directorate-General for Employment,  
Industrial Relations and Social Affairs

# EMPLOYMENT OBSERVATORY

## Central & Eastern Europe

Employment trends and  
developments

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*The views expressed in this Bulletin do not necessarily reflect those of the contributors whose names are listed on the inside back cover.*

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# Employment developments in Central and Eastern Europe

## Introduction

After a period of deepening recession, the signs of economic recovery which began to emerge in parts of Central and Eastern Europe in the second half of 1992 became more evident and more widespread during 1993. GDP continued to increase in Poland, where recovery dates back to the beginning of 1992, and, for the first time since the transition began, also rose in Romania and Albania. Moreover, while output declined in the other four countries included in this review, it did so at a slower rate than before. Furthermore, in the first quarter of 1994, industrial output expanded in Hungary and Slovakia as well as in Poland and Romania, and fell only slightly in the Czech Republic.

At the same time, though there was a continuing fall employment in 1993 throughout the region, the net rate of job loss was less than in earlier years. As a result, the rise in unemployment moderated significantly. Indeed in Hungary, despite declining employment, as well as in Albania — where it had reached a much higher level than elsewhere in the region — the rate of unemployment fell during 1993.

There were also, however, less encouraging signs which raise serious questionmarks over the sustainability of recovery in the countries where it has occurred and emphasise the difficulties of achieving economic growth at a desirable rate elsewhere. In particular, while inflation seems to have been kept under reasonable control in most places, it remains in double figures everywhere. More seriously, except in the Czech Republic, the internal and external debt burden has tended to increase significantly as economies have begun to recover. Imports have typically risen much faster than exports and balances of payments were in substantial deficit in most countries in 1993. Equally, tax revenue has not kept pace with public expenditure and budget deficits impose a major constraint on expansion everywhere, apart perhaps in Czech Republic, which has both budget and balance of payments surpluses.

In addition, though unemployment is increasing much less rapidly than before, it remains high in most parts

and substantial numbers in the regions have been out of work for a considerable time. With the constraints on welfare expenditure and real wages, this has led to an increasing incidence of poverty and growing social problems, which are not only of concern in themselves but are liable to undermine popular support for programmes of reform.

Moreover, for Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary, in particular, the continuing conflict in the former Yugoslavia and the trade embargo which this has caused have severely disrupted exports and have forced Bulgaria to suspend service of its foreign debt. With no end to the conflict in sight, this makes it even more difficult for countries to achieve satisfactory rates of economic growth and to attract the foreign investment which would make this easier.

On the other hand, economic recovery in Western Europe now seems to be firmly underway, which, given its major importance both as a market for exports from countries in the regions and as a source of direct investment, could help to ease problems of development.

## Output

After three years of substantial decline in most parts of the region, GDP increased in 1993 in three of the seven countries. In Poland, it grew by almost 4%, following a rise of 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% in 1992. In Romania, though growth was a modest 1%, this contrasts strongly with falls of 13-14% in both the preceding two years. In Albania, where the economy is much less developed than elsewhere and where more than half of GDP comes from agriculture, output is estimated to have expanded by 11% in 1993 as against a fall of almost 30% between 1990 and 1992 (though the estimates for Albania, both for GDP and other indicators, may be subject to a wider margin of error than for the other countries).

In the other countries, the fall in GDP was on a smaller scale than in 1991 or 1992, ranging from just over 4% in Bulgaria and Slovakia to an estimated 2% in Hungary and under 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% in the Czech Republic.

Nevertheless, all of the countries, even those experiencing growth in 1993, have some considerable way to go before recouping the losses in output suffered since 1989. In Poland, after two years of growth, GDP in 1993 was some 12% below its level four years earlier. In the other countries, the reduction has been much greater. In the Czech Republic and Hungary, the decline in GDP over these four years amounted to around 20%, in Slovakia, to 23%, in Romania and Albania to just under 30% and in Bulgaria, to a massive 32% (Graphs 1-7).

The loss in industrial output over this period was even larger throughout the region as production shifted from industry to services. This continued to be the case in 1993, industrial output falling by more than GDP in all countries where the latter declined, except in Hungary, where industrial output increased by an estimated 4% despite the fall in GDP which was caused largely by a decline in output in agriculture, as noted below.

As a result, industrial production in 1993 was considerably below the level four years earlier in all of the countries. Even in Hungary and Poland, where industrial output rose by more than GDP in both 1992 and 1993, the reduction over this period was close to 30%. In the Czech Republic, it was 36% and in Slovakia, 43%, while in the other countries, it was as much as 50% or more. Indeed in Albania, estimates suggest that the level of production in the first quarter of 1994 was only around 30% of what it had been in 1989.

However, in four of the countries — the exceptions being the Czech Republic and Romania as well as Albania — industrial output was higher in the first quarter of 1994 as compared with the level one year earlier, the increase being just over 10% in Poland, almost 10% in Hungary and just under 9% in Bulgaria — the first rise in the latter since the transition began.

Throughout the region, agricultural production has declined considerably since the reform process began, especially in countries where agriculture had been relatively efficient. A major reason for this has not only been the way the privatisation of land has been implemented and the break-up of the former system of collectivisation, but also the substantial reduction in agricultural support, particularly for cooperatives, which has led to a lack of capital and poor equipment. In 1993, output fell significantly in Bulgaria and Hungary. In the former, because of the very slow implementation of the land reform and severe draught, production declined by 17% and in the latter, by 6%. Indeed in Hungary, output in 1993 was 30% lower than the average level over the period 1981 to 1984.

Agricultural production also fell in the Czech Republic in 1993, though by only 1%. On the other hand, in Romania, where output had also fallen sharply in

previous years, it increased by over 12% in 1993, assisted by government support for the purchase of equipment and fertilisers, favourable climatic conditions and an improved legal framework.

### Trade developments

With the exception of the Czech Republic and Romania, the trade balance deteriorated in all the countries in the region in 1993, in some cases, significantly so. The most extreme case was Albania, where imports in US dollar terms increased by over three times during the year as GDP rose significantly. Though exports valued in the same terms also increased for the first time since 1989, the rise was nowhere near enough to match the surge in imports. As a result the trade deficit reached crisis proportions at four times the value of exports.

While the situation is less desperate in Hungary, the growth of consumers' expenditure in 1993 was accompanied by a rise in the dollar value of imports of some 13%. Since exports fell by 17% over the same period, the trade deficit increased markedly, to around 40% of the value of exports. There are, however, signs of an improvement in trade performance in the first half of 1994 with exports growing at constant prices by 18% relative to the same period one year earlier.

Growth of expenditure was also associated with a sharp rise in imports in Poland of 18% in dollar terms. Though exports also grew, assisted by the steady depreciation of the exchange rate, the rise (7%) was significantly less than this and the trade deficit, which was already substantial, almost doubled during the year. While imports also increased in Romania, the rise was smaller — reflecting a growth of essential items such as energy and raw materials, which accounted for over half of the import bill, rather than a rise in consumer goods — and was more than matched by an increase in exports (of 6%), so that the trade deficit narrowed slightly in 1993.

In Bulgaria, though imports declined, exports fell by more — by around 8% in dollar terms — with the result that the trade surplus was significantly reduced and problems of debt servicing became acute. (Figures from border declarations show a significant deficit rather than a small surplus in 1993 but a similar deterioration in trade performance — see Notes to statistical tables.) This was coupled with rising internal debt problems, with the budget deficit increasing to 9% of GDP reflecting not only the shrinking tax base but also the difficulty of collecting tax revenue. (In contrast, the budget deficit in Romania was reduced from 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% in 1992 to only 2% in 1993.)

For the other two countries, the Czech and Slovak Republics, there are problems in assessing changes in trade performance, since before 1993 they were part of

the same country — the former Czechoslovakia. Trade between the two, therefore, changed from being internal to being external. The effect has been to improve the balance of payments accounts of the Czech Republic since it has a significant surplus on trade with Slovakia, and to worsen the accounts of the latter. The apparent shift from deficit to surplus in the Czech Republic in 1993, therefore, is wholly a consequence of this.

In sum, therefore, the Czech Republic was the only country of the seven with a trade surplus in 1993, though it was also the country where exports of services were most important (exports of goods were in deficit). All of the countries, however, have succeeded in shifting trade away from traditional markets to Western Europe, despite recession in the latter for much of the transition period. In the case of Czech Republic, for example, exports to the Community grew by 24% in 1993 and exports to developed countries amounted to 70% of the total, excluding trade with Slovakia.

Renewed growth of the Western European market as economic recovery occurs, given its new-found importance, can only help to relieve constraints on development in Central and Eastern European countries by boosting export earnings — and there are some signs of this occurring in the first part of 1994.

It is also likely to improve the prospects for direct investment which in some of the countries has been greatly depressed by the recession in the Community. In the Czech Republic, for example, investment inflows were down by 40% in 1993 and the United States was a far more important source of direct investment in the year than Germany or other Western European countries (accounting for 45% of the total, three times as much as Germany). On the other hand, in Slovakia, there was 63% more foreign capital in 1993 than in 1992, while in Romania, there was 46% more at the end of the year than at the beginning. In both countries, however, foreign investment had previously been at a relatively low level.

Countries in the region, however, are differentially placed to benefit from renewed expansion of foreign investment. Thus, whereas for the more developed countries in the region, most of the inflows come from advanced economies in Western Europe and from the United States, in the case of Bulgaria, for example, which is both less developed and less favourably regarded as a location for investment, most of the foreign capital comes from Greece, Turkey, a few Arab countries and Russia. Moreover, it very much tends to be concentrated in distribution and retailing rather than industry (there are 279 partly or wholly foreign owned companies in the former sector, just 44 in industry).

## Employment

Despite the growth of GDP in three of the countries and the slowdown in the rate of decline elsewhere, employment continued to fall throughout the region in 1993. Except in Hungary and Romania, however, the fall was smaller than in the previous year, ranging from only around  $1/2\%$  in Poland (though if private agriculture is excluded the decline amounted to around 2% during 1993) and  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$  in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia to almost 4% in Romania, 6% in Hungary and over 13% in Albania (which, however, was less than the 20% decline recorded in 1992). Moreover, in Hungary, data for the first half of 1994 show that the decline in employment has slowed down since 1993. (See the special article below for a discussion of what these changes imply for employment in relation to working-age population.)

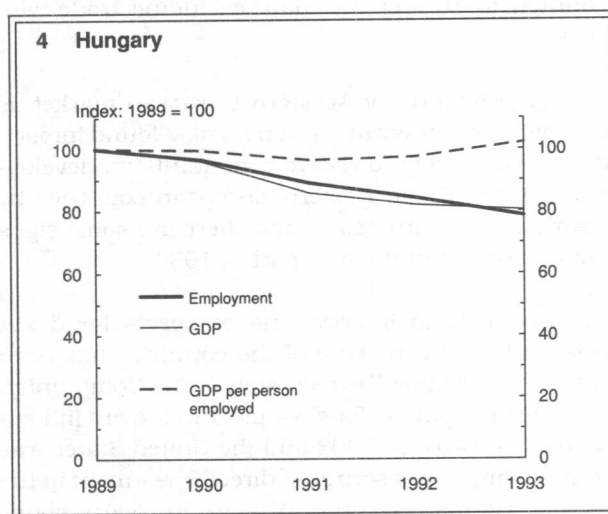
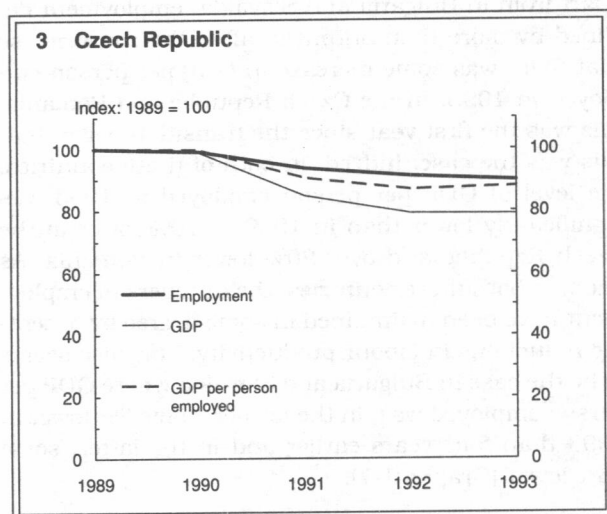
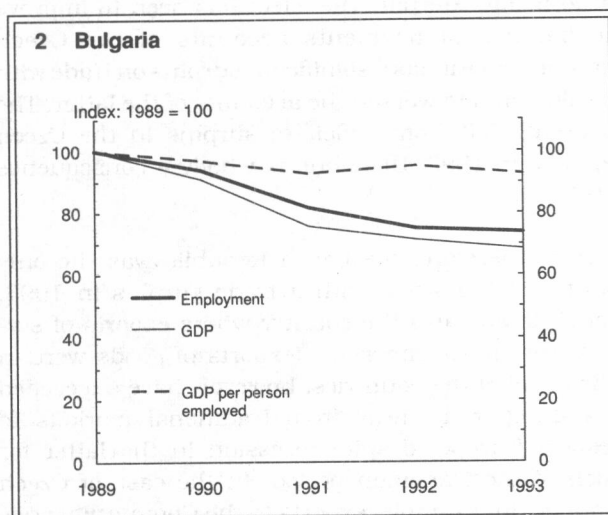
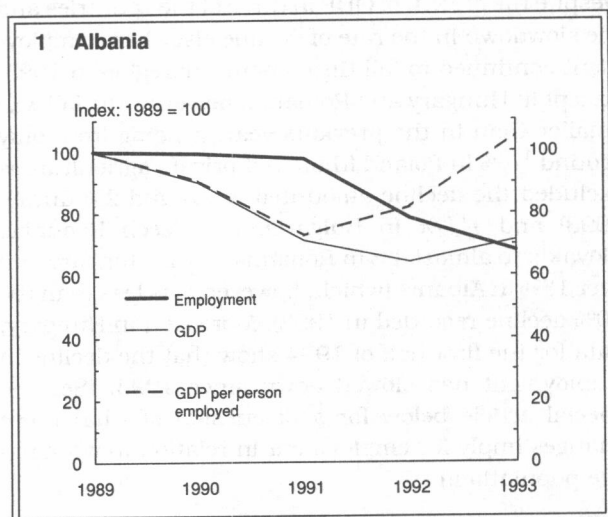
Nevertheless, in spite of the slowdown in net job losses, apart from in Bulgaria and Slovakia, employment declined by more than output in all of the countries so that there was some increase in GDP per person employed in 1993. In the Czech Republic and Romania, this was the first year since the transition began that this was the case. Indeed, in both of these countries, the level of GDP per person employed in 1993 was significantly lower than in 1989 — 10% lower in the Czech Republic and over 20% lower in Romania. As such, in both these countries, the numbers in employment have been maintained in some degree by accepting reductions in labour productivity. This also seems to be the case in Bulgaria and Slovakia where GDP per person employed was, in the former, some 8% lower in 1993 than four years earlier and in the latter, some 15% lower (Graphs 1-7).

By contrast, in Hungary and Poland, as well as apparently in Albania, labour productivity, as measured by GDP per person employed, increased slightly.

These different patterns of productivity change may reflect different policies towards the maintenance of employment in the different countries. At the same time, it is hazardous to read too much into them, if only because countries may well have started from different positions as regards the extent of overmanning. In Poland, for example, studies tended to show that the scale of overmanning was considerable in the late-1980s as the transition got underway (some estimates put the size of hidden unemployment represented by overmanning at around 25% of employment at this time).

In both the Czech Republic and Hungary, much of the fall in employment continued to be concentrated in agriculture. The numbers employed in this sector fell by 17% in 1993 in the former and by 24% in the latter, with the result that in the two countries, agriculture

Employment, output and productivity in Central and Eastern Europe, 1989-1993



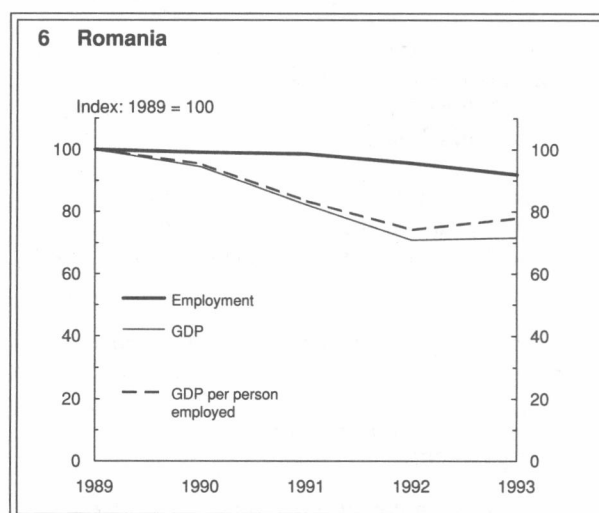
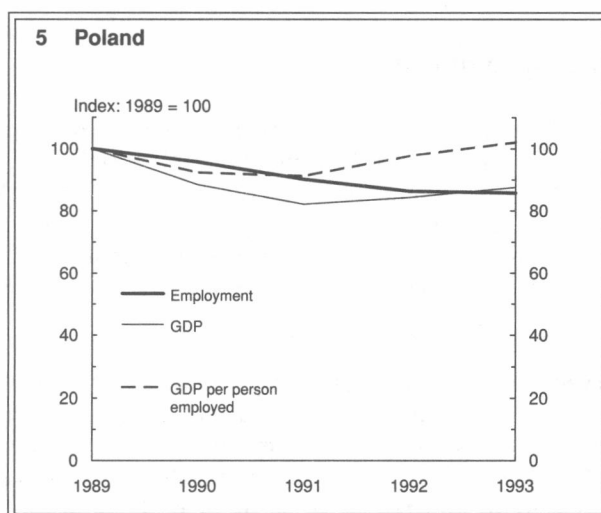
provided only around half the jobs as in 1989 (just over half in the Czech Republic, just over half in Hungary). In both cases, however, this statistic may overstate to some extent the reduction which has actually occurred both because of organisational changes and some reclassification of activities from agriculture to industry and services.

In the other countries in 1993, there was either a much more modest reduction — as in Poland or Slovakia where the decline was only 2-3% — or a marked increase, partly due to the process of land reform and the restitution of agricultural land to its former owners. Thus, in Albania, employment in agriculture expanded by 18% and in Bulgaria, by 26% as the number of individual holdings increased by 200%. (In the latter, it should be noted, however, that those who are given back land are immediately classified as employed in the sector, whereas in practice there is usually a lag between when they become owners and when they actually start farming.) Similarly, agricultural employ-

ment increased for the third successive year in Romania — by 5% — the only country in the region where the numbers employed in the sector 1993 were higher than before the reform process began.

As in earlier years, job losses in 1993 were in most cases most pronounced in industry (including construction), despite growth of output in three of the countries. The decline was most dramatic in Albania where the numbers employed declined by 28%, with an apparent fall of over 70% in construction alone. Nevertheless, in both Bulgaria and Hungary, industrial employment was down by almost 10% over the year, the fall being particularly large in construction (14% in the former and in mining in the latter (20%). There were also significant reductions in Romania, Poland and Slovakia, the numbers employed falling by 6-7%. The figures in the latter two cases, however, conceal substantial increases in employment in power and water (17% and 38%, respectively) and large reductions in construction (down by 15% in Poland and 25% in Slovakia).

## Employment, output and productivity in Central and Eastern Europe, 1989-1993



In the Czech Republic, the net job loss in industry was much less, at just under 2%, though in this case, a marked growth in employment in construction (11%) partly compensated for a fall in manufacturing and mining (down by 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% and 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>%, respectively).

In none of the countries, however, in spite of the expansion of private sector activity, were services — where most private activity is concentrated — able to compensate for the job losses elsewhere in the economy. Indeed only in three countries — Poland (where the rise was 5%) and the Czech and Slovak Republics (where it was around 3%) — was any increase in employment in services recorded in 1993. Although the fall in service employment was only small in Hungary (1%), in Bulgaria, it was over 6%, in Romania, 9%, and in Albania, a massive 27%. In the latter, however, there are some doubts about the reliability of this figure, given that survey methods of data collection have not yet been introduced.

In Bulgaria and Romania, certain questionmarks also surround the data on services. These manifest themselves, in particular, in relation to employment in trade and catering (retailing, restaurants and hotels), which is a focus for private sector activity, which is characterised by very small businesses and a high level of self-employment and which showed a decline in 1993 — of 6% in Bulgaria and as much as 23% in Romania. The scale of the fall in the latter especially raises some doubts about the estimates, given that increases were recorded in the two previous years. This contrasts with an increase in this sector of 12% in the Czech Republic and 24% in Poland.

Too much, however, should not be read into year-to-year changes at the sub-sectoral level, especially in services where private businesses are expanding, since all of the countries are in a continuous process



of trying to improve their statistical information in the new economic circumstances. What appear to be changes in employment, therefore, are in many cases likely to be the result of new information or better estimation techniques. The introduction or extension of surveys, particularly of the labour force, is part of this process.

The quarterly LFS results also suggest some increase in employment in the Czech Republic during the course of 1993, the figure for the first quarter of 1994 being some 4% higher than a year earlier. Similarly, in Slovakia, employment at the beginning of 1994 was around 1% higher than at the beginning of 1993. By contrast, in both Hungary and Poland, the two other countries to have implemented quarterly surveys, there was a reduction of employment during 1993, the first quarter 1994 figure being around 3% lower than one year before in both cases. However, whereas this represents a slowdown in the rate of decline in Hungary, it represents an acceleration in Poland

### The Labour Force Survey in Bulgaria

The first Labour Force Survey was carried out in September 1993. The survey, as elsewhere, covered all residents aged 15 and over living in private households.

The population was classified into three groups — employed, unemployed and inactive — according to criteria similar to those recommended by ILO.

People in employment were defined as those who during the reference week:

- worked at least one hour and received payment;
- were employed but temporarily absent.

Women on maternity leave were classified as employed only during fully-paid maternity leave (which in Bulgaria varies from 120 to 180 days).

The unemployed were defined as those who during the reference week were out of work, had been actively seeking a job in the preceding four weeks and were available to start work within one week. Also included in this category were those who were not actively seeking a job but who expected to start work within 30 days or to return to a job from which they had been laid off or from which they were on unpaid leave. Students, housewives and pensioners were also classified as unemployed if they satisfied these criteria.

The Survey covered 30,000 households, or around 1% of the total. A two-stage sampling method was adopted — selecting 2,000 administrative regions and urban and rural areas at the first stage and 15 households within each of these at the second — on the basis of the 1992 Census of Population which served as sampling frame. The plan for the future is to rotate one third of the sample each time.

The response rate of the first survey was very high (91%).

According to the registered figures, in September 1993, 599,000 people were unemployed (giving a rate of 15.7%) while the LFS gives a total of 815,000 (and a rate of 21.4%). Part of the reason for the difference is that while the LFS include all those above 15, the registered figures exclude those below 16 and those in retirement. A further part of the difference, however, arises from the fact that many people, especially if not entitled to receive unemployment benefits, do not register as job seekers at labour offices.

where, as noted above, average employment was only marginally lower in 1993 than in 1992.

### Unemployment

The reductions in employment noted above seem to have been accompanied in most countries by a continuing rise in unemployment. In Albania, the Czech Republic and Hungary, however, the unemployment rate seems to have either stabilised or even fallen, while in the other countries, the rise has generally moderated.

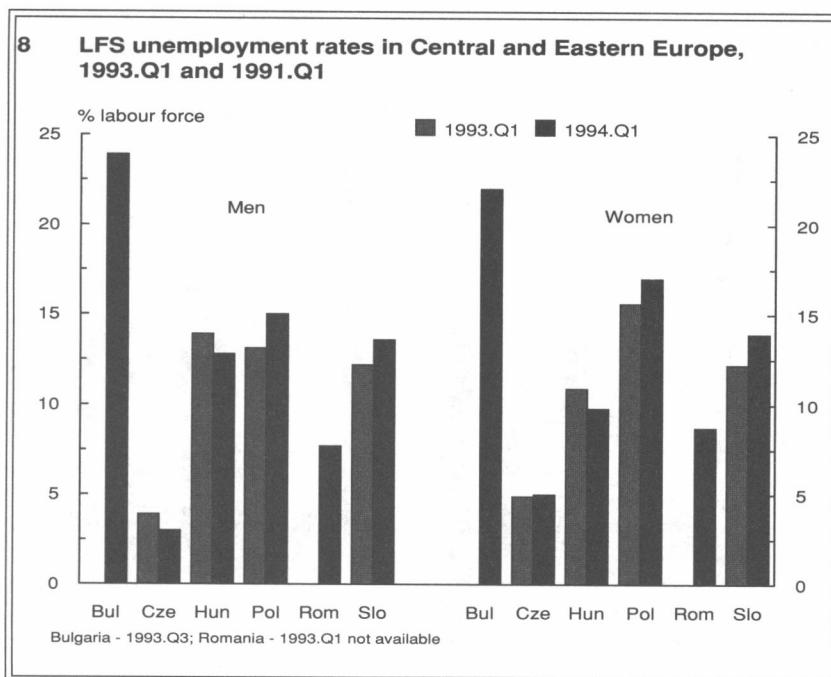
Nevertheless, at the beginning of 1994, unemployment was over 20% in Albania, around 16% in Bulgaria and Poland, just under 14% in Slovakia and around 12% in Hungary. (In Bulgaria, the results of the first Labour Force Survey carried out in September 1993 indicate an even higher figure of around 21% — see Box.) In Romania, the rate was either 11% or just over 8%, depending whether the registered data (the higher figure) or the newly-introduced Labour Force Survey is used as the indicator. Only in the Czech Republic was unemployment unequivocally in single figures, the rate being 4% according to the LFS in March 1994 (the registered figure is slightly below this) (Graphs 8 and 9).

Monitoring what is happening to unemployment, however, is by no means straightforward. The figures for those registered at labour offices, which in most Western European countries are used as indicators of changes over short periods of time, are subject to variation as a result of changes in regulations governing entitlement to benefit — a major incentive to register — or because of a growing number of those registered exhausting their entitlement. This is not so different, however, from the situation in Community countries, in a number of which the registration criteria have been subject to change in recent years. At the same time, most of the Central and Eastern European countries have introduced quarterly Labour Force Surveys which provide an additional indicator of short-term changes in unemployment, though, like the registered figures, these are not yet seasonally adjusted to take account of variations during the year.

In terms of those registered at labour offices, the average rate of unemployment was higher in 1993 than in 1992 in all of the countries apart from the Czech Republic where it was marginally lower. The increase was most marked in Albania, where the rate went up from just under 27% to almost 30%, though this was a marked improvement on 1992, when the rate rose by over 17% of the labour force.

In Bulgaria and Hungary, however, the rise was also significant at around 2% of the labour force (from 13%





to 15% in the former, from just over 10% to just under 13% in the latter), while in Poland, the increase was only slightly less at almost 2% of the labour force (from 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% to 15<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>%). In each case, however, this rise was only around half the increase between 1991 and 1992.

In Romania and Slovakia, unemployment went up by 1-1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% of the labour force, much less than the rise of 5% or more which occurred in 1992.

This general moderation in unemployment, however, does not seem to have continued in all countries during the course of 1993 and in the first part of 1994. In Romania, there seems from the registration figures to have been some acceleration in the rise in the unemployment rate in the last quarter of 1993 and the first quarter of 1994, with the rate in the latter period being some 2% higher than six months earlier. Similarly in Slovakia, the rate in the first quarter of 1994 was 2% higher than a year earlier, while in the Czech Republic, unemployment which had been falling began to increase from mid-1993 and in the first quarter of 1994 was 1% of the labour force higher than nine months previously.

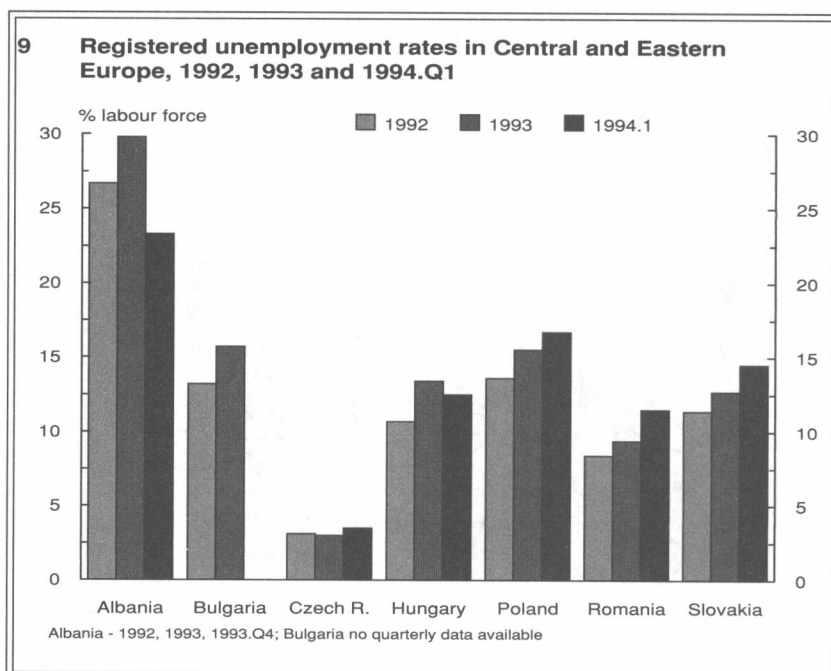
In Poland, on the other hand, the rise in unemployment seems to have moderated further during 1993 (once allowance is made for the change in

the basis of calculation — see Notes to the Statistical Tables at the end of this Bulletin), the rate at the beginning of 1994 being only around 1% higher than one year before. Moreover, in Hungary, the rise in unemployment has not only slowed down but has been reversed, the unemployment rate in the first quarter of 1994 being 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> percentage points lower than a year earlier (12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% as against 14%).

In Albania, registered unemployment declined more markedly (from 33% to 23%), partly due to the restitution of land to those formerly employed on state farms (by the end of 1993 about 90% had received land). It was also due, however, to many of the unemployed no longer registering as job seekers at labour offices because their entitlement to unemployment benefit had expired. In addition, despite

strong natural growth of population, the number of people of working age declined by around 5% in 1993 — and the labour force by some 10% — as many went abroad in search of work.

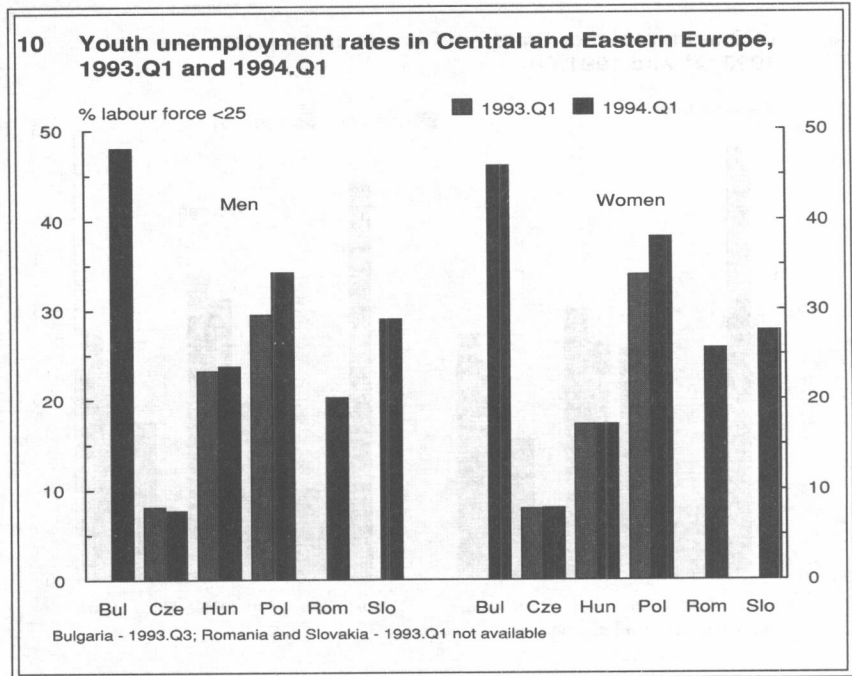
The Labour Force Survey data, in the countries where surveys were in operation in 1993, show slightly different changes in unemployment rates though broadly similar trends. Thus in Poland, the LFS suggests a somewhat larger rise in unemployment between mid-1993 and the beginning of 1994 (from 13% to 16%) and in Hungary, slightly less of a fall (12% to 11%), while in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, it suggests that



the increase in the year up to the first quarter 1994 may not have been so steep.

Unemployment continues to be higher for women than for men, with the sole exception of Hungary, where the rate for women in the first quarter of 1994 was just under 10%, some 3 percentage points lower than the male rate. In Slovakia, however, the difference between the two was very small — less than 1/2% percentage point — and, in the other countries, according to the LFS, it was only around 2% or less, though in Poland, the difference had been higher in earlier periods (3% in most quarters of 1993). Except for the Czech Republic, the registration figures show a larger difference between the two rates, with apparently a higher proportion of women than men who are unemployed registering as such. Indeed, in Romania, the difference was as much as 4 percentage points in the first quarter of 1994 as opposed to only 1 percentage point according to the LFS figures.

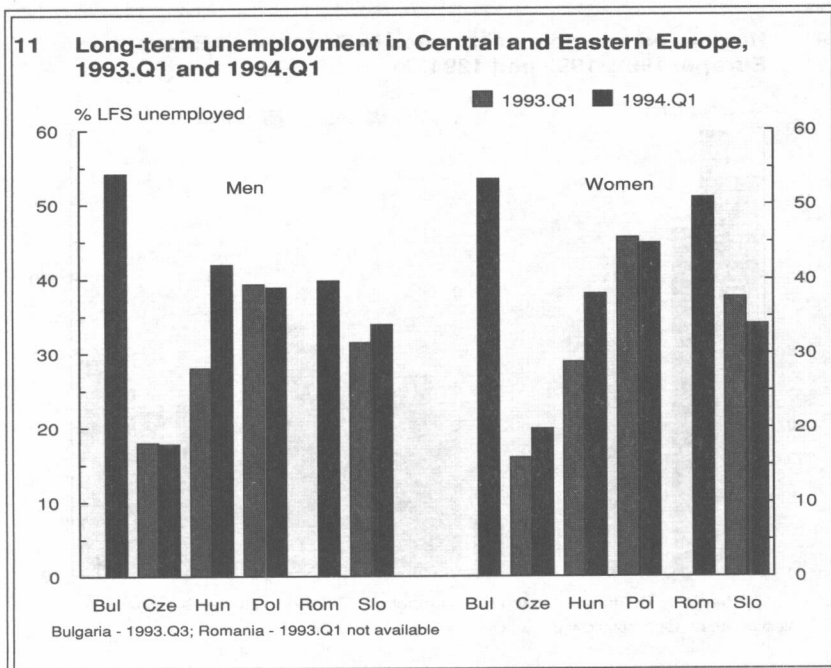
As in the Community, young people under 25 are affected disproportionately by unemployment. In the first quarter of 1994, the youth unemployment rate was around twice as high as the overall rate in most of the countries (Graph 10). In Poland, the rate was as high as 36%, while in Slovakia, it was only just under 30% and in Hungary and Romania, over 20%. Only in the



Czech Republic was the rate under 10%, though still at almost 8%, double the rate for those over 25. Although LFS estimates are only available for Bulgaria for September 1993, these, nevertheless, show an even higher rate of youth unemployment than elsewhere at around 47%.

In Poland and Slovakia, moreover, youth unemployment increased much more rapidly than the overall rate in the year up to the first quarter of 1994, with the rate being some 4 percentage points higher than at the beginning of 1993 in the former and almost 5 percentage points higher than in the second quarter of 1993 in the latter.

At the same time, long-term unemployment seems to have become a long-term problem. In four of the six countries for which data are available from Labour Force Surveys, 40% or more of those out of work had been unemployed for a year or more at the beginning of 1994 — the two exceptions being the Czech Republic and Slovakia. In Bulgaria, this proportion was high as 54% in September 1993 and is unlikely to have changed much since then, while in Romania, it was 45% (Graph 11). These rates are comparable to those in the Community, where the proportion of long-term unemployed was also over 40% at the latest count (1992), and only in the Czech Republic was the figure — at 19% — significantly less than this. In



all of the countries, moreover, the proportion either increased during 1993 — especially in Hungary, where it rose from 28% to 40% between the first quarter of 1993 and the same period a year later — or remained at much the same level. Nowhere has long-term unemployment as yet shown a tendency to decline in importance.

### Regional unemployment

There is little sign of the regional disparities in unemployment rates which emerged in the early stages of the transition changing significantly. In most of the countries, the difference between the regions with the lowest rate — typically the area around the capital city or the most industrialised parts — and those with the highest rate — typically regions dependent on agriculture or on basic industries in decline — has either widened or remained much the same.

Even in the Czech Republic, where unemployment is generally low, the rate averaged over 6% in Northern Moravia at the end of 1993 as opposed to only 1½% in Mid Bohemia where Prague is situated. The gap, moreover, widened during 1993 as unemployment rose in the former and remained broadly unchanged in the latter. In Hungary, where unemployment fell in most parts of the country during the course of 1993, the North-East continued to have an average rate of well over 20% while in the North-West and Budapest, it was just over 9%. This is similar to the scale of variation in Poland between the predominantly agricultural region of *Płnocno-Wschodni* in the North-East (22%) and the industrial region of *Poludniowy* in the South (11%) and in Romania, between Bucharest (7½%) and Southern Moldova (16½%).

In Slovakia, the gap was even wider between Bratislava (4½%) and East Slovakia (17½%) — though this is partly because of relatively narrow way in which the former region is defined. In addition, whereas unemployment tended to come down slightly in Bratislava during 1993 and the first quarter of 1994, in other parts of the country, it continued to rise. Similarly in Bulgaria, unemployment declined in Sofia over the same period (to just above 8%) and increased significantly in the agricultural region of Montana (to 23½%).

Finally, Albania, where regional data are available only for 1993 and where unemployment is high everywhere, also shows marked variations between different parts of the country, the rate averaging 29% in the North-East and 18% in the South.

### Inflation and real wages

By Western standards, inflation has remained high in most parts of the region. Nevertheless, in all countries for which data are available apart from Romania, infla-

tion tended to fall in the latter part of 1993 and the first part of 1994 after increasing in a number of cases in the first half of 1993.

In the Czech Republic, where inflation has normally been lower than elsewhere, but where it rose above 20% in the first part of 1993 because of the implementation of VAT together with tax and price rises, the rate was down to 10% in the first quarter of 1994, due partly to government control of wages introduced in the second half of 1993 and extending into 1994. In Hungary, inflation fell to under 20% — to just under 17% — in the first quarter of 1994 for the first time in the 1990s, while in Slovakia, the rate also declined to well under 20% — to 15% at the beginning of 1994, though in this case it had been much lower in 1992. In Poland, on the other hand, though the rate was still twice that in Slovakia, it was nevertheless lower than at any time since the transition began (Graphs 12-17).

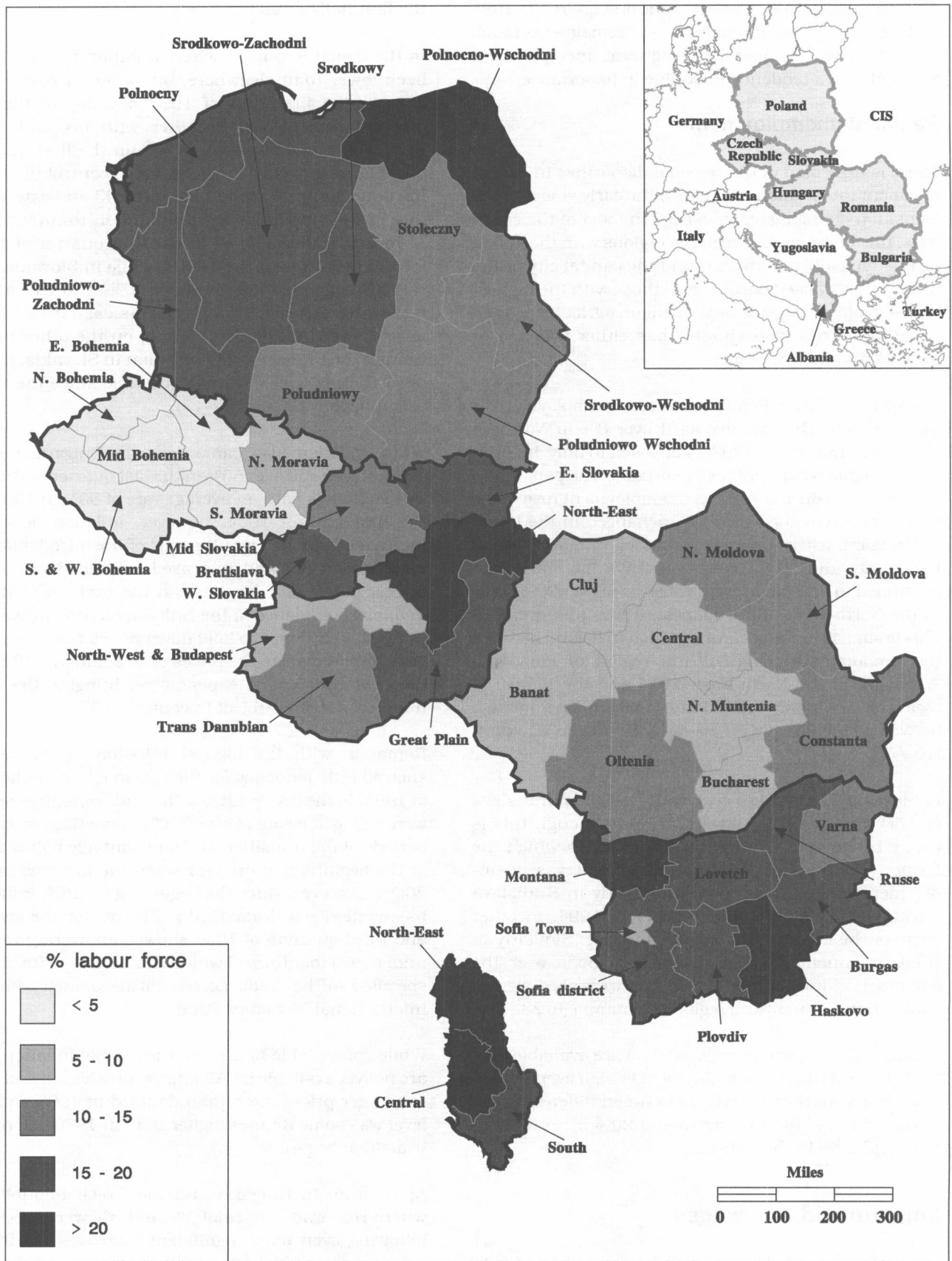
While inflation also came down in Bulgaria during 1993, it was still over 50% in the last quarter — though this compares with an average rate of 80% in 1992. In the first part of 1994, however, inflation began to increase again as a result partly of the introduction of value-added tax and increased rents and electricity prices, partly of a large fall in the exchange rate as financial confidence in the Bulgarian economy waned. In April, in attempt to hold down prices rises, controls were imposed on an the prices of an additional 12 basic items of consumers' expenditure, bringing the total number of items subject to control to 37.

Romania, with the highest inflation in the region showed little tendency for the rate to fall up to the end of 1993. In the last quarter of the year, consumer prices were rising at a rate of over 300%, more than in earlier periods of the transition and substantially higher than at the beginning of the year when the rate was under 200%. However, since the beginning of 1994, inflation has come down dramatically. Figures for the second and third quarters of 1994 showed an average rate of under 3% a month, well within the ceiling of 70% a year specified in the credit agreement negotiated with the International Monetary Fund.

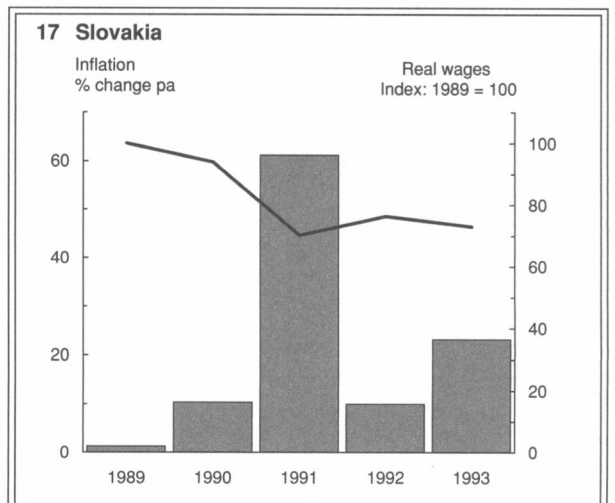
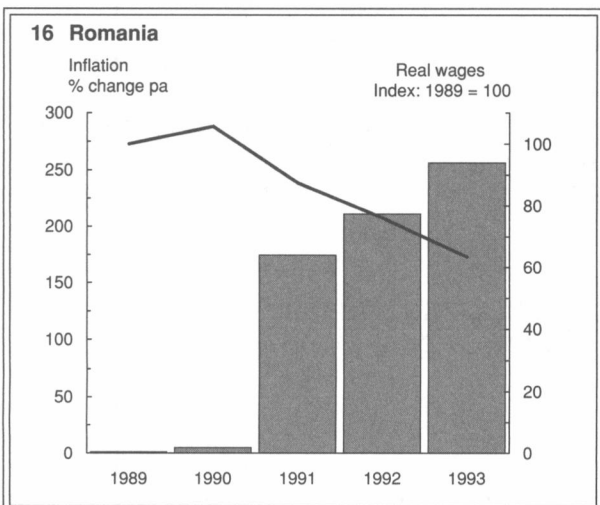
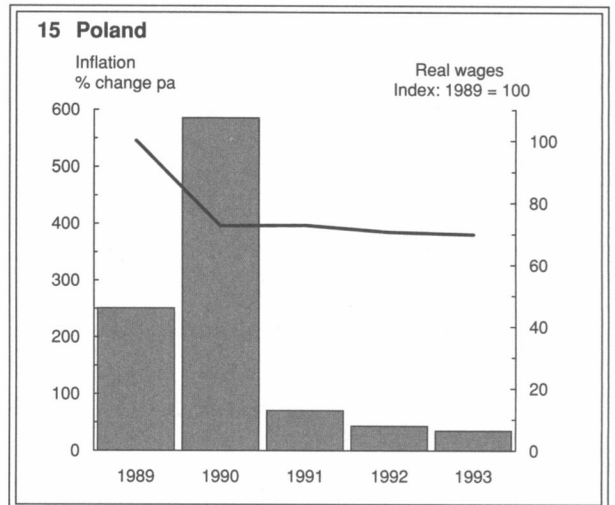
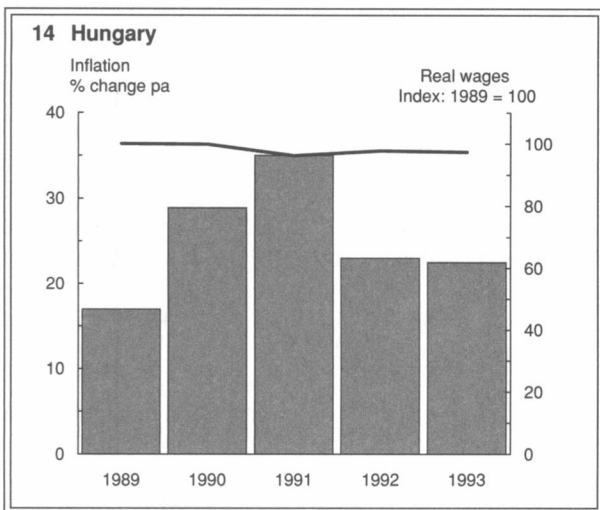
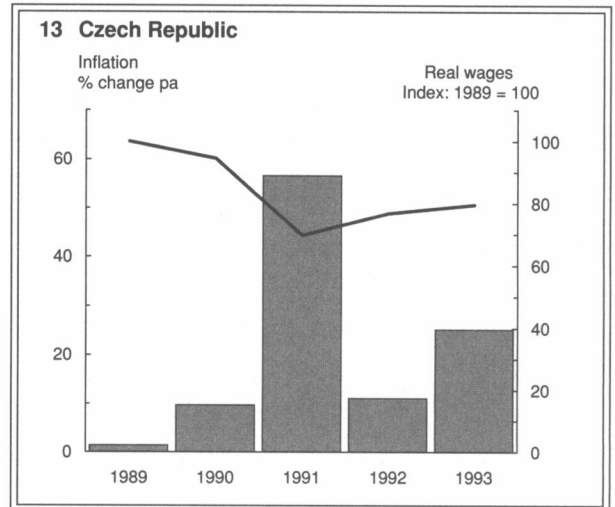
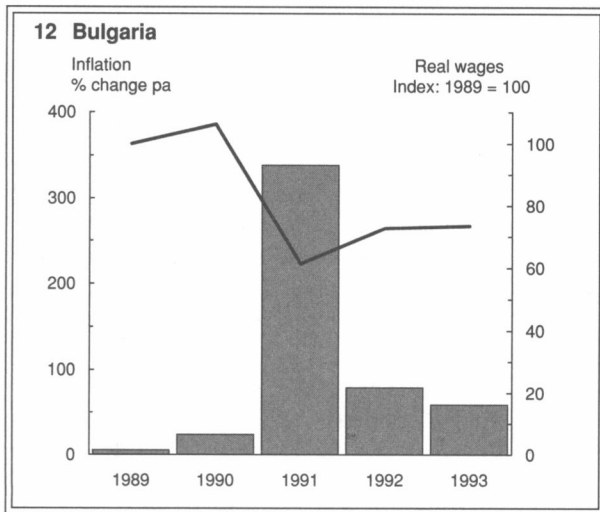
While comparable figures on the annual inflation rate are not yet available for Albania, estimates suggest that consumer prices more than doubled in 1993 and the level was some 8 times higher than in 1990 before the transition began.

Apart from in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic — where real wages rises of 1% and 3% were recorded following even more significant increases in 1992 — prices increased by more than average wages throughout the region in 1993 (it should be emphasised, however, that the data for average wages generally

Regional unemployment, 1993.4



Changes in price inflation and real wages in Central and Eastern Europe, 1989-1993



### 'Strategy for Poland'

In June 1994, the Polish Parliament adopted 'Strategy for Poland', a medium-term economic strategy for the period 1994-1997.

The overall objective is to maintain a high rate of economic growth while reducing the economic and social costs of market reform.

In particular, the following goals were set:

- GDP to rise by 22% over the three-year period, or by an average of 5% a year;
- inflation to be reduced to 9% by 1997;
- the unemployment rate to be reduced to below 14% by the end of 1997;
- real wages to rise by 11% over the three years.

The main economic measures to be taken include:

- reduction of the budget deficit to 2-3% by 1997;
- stabilisation of the public debt at 90% of GDP;
- reduction in the trade deficit;
- full repayment of foreign debt, as agreed with the Clubs of Paris and London;
- reduction in nominal and real interest rates;
- stabilisation of the real exchange rate.

Other important measures include:

- the introduction of collective bargaining and decentralised methods of wage determination;
- the development of a new system of social security;
- increased resources for active labour market policies;
- the introduction of tax allowances for investment in education and training.

excludes the increasing numbers working in small businesses). The reduction in real wages, however, was under 1/2% in Hungary and only around 1% in Poland. In Romania and Slovakia, on the other hand, real wages fell significantly, in the latter by over 4%, following a substantial rise in 1992 (of 8%), while in the former, they declined by as much as 16%, following reductions of a similar size over the previous years.

Even in the two countries where real wages rose in 1993, the increase was not nearly enough to compensate for the considerable reductions which occurred in the earlier transition years — though when interpreting this fall, account needs to be taken of the considerably wider choice of goods that have become available in all of the countries over this period. In Bulgaria, average real wages were over 25% below their level in 1989 — and some 30% below that in 1990 — while in the Czech Republic, they were some 20% below what they were when the process of reform started, even though significantly higher than two years earlier.

In Poland and Slovakia, though in the former real wages have not fallen markedly since 1990 and in the latter were slightly higher in 1993 than two years earlier, the average level of real wages in 1993 was, nevertheless, in both cases some 30% down on what it was in 1989.

Romania seems to have experienced by far the largest reduction in real wages. After three years of continuous decline on a substantial scale, real wages in 1993 were on average almost 40% lower than in 1989 and only just over half what their level in 1990.

Hungary alone of the countries in the region has experienced only a small decline in real wages, their average level being under 3% lower in 1993 than four years earlier.

Real wages in Hungary also appear to have risen significantly in the first quarter of 1994 — by 7% on the same period a year earlier — as price inflation slowed. In four of the other five countries for which data available, however, real wages were also higher in the first part of 1994 than a year before. The only exception is Romania, where real wages continued to fall.

### Social benefits and minimum wages

All of the countries in the region have achieved only partial success in providing a satisfactory level of social protection, partly because of the limited resources at their disposal.

In terms of rates benefit and minimum wages — the two being very much related — there has been some convergence to a similar level relative to the average wage in each of the countries. In most cases, this has meant a tendency for relative levels to be reduced over time, the one exception being Poland, where the minimum wage was initially set at a very low level. In 1993, the minimum wage averaged around 35% in the Czech Republic and Hungary (slightly above in the former, slightly below in the latter) and around 40% in Poland and Slovakia. Though no precise figures are available for 1993 for Bulgaria and Romania, the level in both was of the same order. In Albania, on the other hand, where data are available, the level was somewhat lower at only 27% of the average wage.

In all of the countries, the precise relationship of the minimum to the average wage varied during 1993 because it was adjusted only periodically to inflation (in Romania, for example, the level was some 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> times higher in December 1993 than in January but was still worth less in real terms). Quarterly variations in the relative level, therefore, are not of great significance.

Much the same similarity across the region in relative levels is also true of unemployment benefits and minimum pensions. The former were around 36% of the average wage in 1993 in Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland, and only slightly higher in Albania (38%), while in Slovakia, they were somewhat lower at only 29%. Equally, minimum pensions varied only from 30% of the average wage (in Poland) to 37% (in Slovakia) for four of the five countries for which there are data for 1993, and in the other two countries — Bulgaria and Romania — data for earlier years suggest that the rates probably fell within this range. In the fifth country for which 1993 data exist, Hungary, the minimum pension had been reduced to only 24% (as against 36% in 1989).

The standard rates of benefit payable are set at a level which is, increasingly, a compromise between preventing increasing numbers of the population living in poverty and what can be afforded. In many cases, however, the benefits received do not provide sufficient income to achieve the former objective. Moreover, as the recession has gone on, a growing proportion of the unemployed in all of the countries have exhausted their entitlement to benefit and have to survive on *ad hoc* social assistance payments of various kinds which can be well below the standard rates of benefit.

Throughout the region, therefore, large numbers of people are living in poverty. In Poland, for example, according to the

### Economic forecasts for the Czech Republic, 1994

Latest estimates are for GDP growth in 1994 of 2-2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% and for employment to stop falling, though not to increase. Inflation is forecast to average 10-11% during the year, while wages are projected to rise by 15-16%, giving real wage growth of 4-5%. Unemployment is expected to increase a little during the year to reach 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% at the end of 1994 on an LFS basis.

estimates of the Institute of Labour and Social Affairs, at the end of 1993, 40% of the population were living on incomes below the social minimum (this is much higher than the World Bank estimate — of 15% — which is based on those with expenditure below the lowest retirement pension payable). Although the evidence is that the numbers living in poverty have now stabilised, they remain unacceptably high.

The situation in Poland has prompted a rethink of the whole social protection policy and, in particular, of the need to develop a new and more effective system of social and health insurance as well as to take explicit account of the large numbers of people afflicted by long-term unemployment, a problem, which, as in the Community, the social protection system was not designed for. This rethink is, therefore, focusing both on this problem, and the associated need for large-scale job creation to reduce unemployment, and on the need to make the system more efficient and more targeted on the people at risk.

Poland, however, is by no means alone in facing such problems. In all of the countries, the emergence of

### Economic projections for Romania, 1994 and 1995

(% change)	1994	1995
GDP	+2.4	+2.8
Industrial output	+2.0	+2.7
Investment	+5.5	+6.3
Exports (FOB)	+12.4	+8.2
Imports (FOB)	-3.7	+4.3
Consumer price inflation	145.0	+44.0
Numbers employed (end of year)	-2.8	-2.5
Numbers unemployed (end of year)	+15.9	+18.5

poverty and social deprivation on a large-scale is a major challenge for governments and a serious threat to social and political stability.

### Prospects

The growth of output in some of the countries during 1993 and the slowing down of the fall in others is creating some optimism about future economic prospects. In Poland, where GDP expanded by most, the new medium-term strategy for the period 1994 to 1997, accepted by the Parliament in June 1994, envisages average growth of 5% a year over this period with stabilisation of the exchange rate, inflation down to single figures, lower real interest rates and reductions both in the budget and balance of payments deficits (see Box p. 11). Such a combination of outcomes would represent a major achievement for any economy. For Poland, it requires a substantial improvement in economic performance as compared with the recent past, when growth has been accompanied by rapidly rising imports, a widening balance of payments deficit and a falling exchange rate.

The prospect of growing markets in Western Europe as economic recovery takes place could create a more favourable environment for growth in Central and Eastern Europe. Nevertheless, the achievement of high rates of growth and increases in employment, which has become a matter of some urgency if the reform process and the transition is to be sustained, while maintaining control over balance of payments and budget deficits as well as inflation, represents a formidable challenge for policy throughout the region. Inevitably, to maintain stability and access to international credit, governments have to give priority to the latter objectives. The key question is whether in the face of the restrictive measures which this necessitates, as well as in the face of the privatisation of large state enterprises and their full exposure to market forces which has still largely to take place, sufficient rates of growth can be generated to achieve employment and real income objectives.



# The labour force in transition

A feature of all Central and Eastern European countries before the process of political and economic reform began was the high numbers of people in employment. Men and women of working age were both expected to work if physically capable of doing so and were assured of jobs, even at the expense of low levels of productivity and high levels of overmanning in many areas of the economy.

Since the reform process got underway, however, it has become increasingly difficult to maintain levels of employment in the face of the deep recession which has affected all countries over the past few years. As a result, there have been substantial job losses which the growth of employment in the private sector, especially in services, has failed so far to compensate for. Open unemployment has, therefore, become an acute problem in many parts of the region for the first time.

As described in the last issue of this Bulletin (Employment trends in Central and Eastern Europe, No. 5), the rise in unemployment, however, reflects only part of the problem of inadequate job creation which has arisen. In a number of countries - though by no means all - the reform process has also been accompanied by significant numbers of people who were previously in employment leaving the labour force altogether.

The concern here is to examine the changes in the labour force which have occurred in Central and Eastern European countries over the transition period. Specifically, the aim is, first, to identify differences in experience between age groups as well as between men and women - to see, for example, the shortage of jobs has led to a disproportionate number of older people leaving the labour force or has reduced the number of young people entering or whether more women have left than men.

A second and related aim is to try to throw light on the main reasons for the changes in activity which have occurred. Thirdly, rates of labour force participation in Central and Eastern European countries are compared with those in the Community to indicate the nature and extent of the differences which at present exist and how far rates in the former countries are tending to move closer to those in the latter.

Such an analysis is by no means straightforward. The data on labour force numbers - on those in employment and those who are unemployed - are by no means ideal. In particular, the most recent Census of Population for most of the countries was before the reform process began to have major effects. The Labour Force Surveys which have been introduced in all countries apart from Albania, though they are based on only a sample of households, provide a valuable indication of the changes which have so far occurred during the transition. It should be emphasised, however, that the concepts used to define employment and unemployment in the latter are not precisely the same as those used by the Census, nor is the coverage the same since the LFS includes only private households. Moreover, there may well be some difference between Labour Force Surveys in the different countries which could affect comparisons between them (see Box for a description of the data used in the analysis). Nevertheless, despite these qualifications, the LFS results should give a reasonable insight into the broad trends which have taken place.

## Activity rates before transition

### Working-age population

Working-age population can be defined with some precision for Central and Eastern European countries. In all those covered by this Bulletin, apart from in Poland, where it is five years later in each case, the official age of retirement is 60 for men and 55 for women. (For the Czech Republic and Slovakia, the official retirement age for women is in fact between 53 and 57, depending on the number of children.) At the other end of the scale, the official lower age limit for starting work (ie essentially the school-leaving age) is also much the same in all of the countries (15 or 16 in all cases apart from Poland, where it is 18). Working age, therefore, covers a very similar age range across the region. (To ease data problems, 15 has been taken as the lower age limit of working-age population in each of the countries.)

In comparison, while the school-leaving age is similar in the Community - either 15 or 16 - the official age of

## Data on labour force, employment and unemployment

The data by age-group for labour force participation, employment and unemployment in each of the countries are taken from Census of Population and Labour Force Surveys. The specific dates to which the data relate are (the source is the Census of Population except where otherwise indicated):

Albania: 1979, 1989

Bulgaria: 1985, Dec 1992, Sept 1993 (LFS)

Czech Republic: 1980, March 1991, 1993.Q4 (LFS)

Hungary: 1980, Jan 1990, 1994.Q1 (LFS)

Poland: 1978, 1988, Nov 1993 (LFS)

Romania: 1977, Jan 1992, April 1994 (LFS)

Slovak Republic: 1980, March 1991, 1993.Q4 (LFS)

It should be noted that the data from the LFS are not completely comparable with Census figures, because they are based only on a small sample of households and they cover only those living in private households. Moreover, the definitions of employment and unemployment are not necessarily precisely the same. In the LFS, for all the countries, both concepts are defined in terms of internationally agreed criteria - ie a person is counted as being employed if they worked at least one hour during the reference week, while they are counted as being unemployed if they were available for work and actively seeking work. In the Census, the definitions are somewhat different and vary from country to country - though in practice relatively few people worked less than full-time in the pre-transition period, which is the main potential source of difference between the two, and unemployment was not officially recognised. Nevertheless, the two sources ought to give similar results, particularly for rates of participation, employment and unemployment in each of the age-groups. (Comparisons of the LFS results with the Census figures for Community countries tend to confirm this.)

The Community figures are based on Census results for 1980 (and come from ILO, **Labour Force Statistics**, 1945-1989) and on the Community Labour Force Survey for 1989 and 1992. The former set of data has been approximately adjusted to an LFS basis (by comparing the LFS and ILO figures for the latest common year).

retirement tends to be older. In all countries, apart from France and Italy, where it is 60 and Denmark, where it is 67, the retirement age for men is 65 (though in Belgium it is between 60 and 65). In most countries, moreover, the retirement age for women is the same as for men, the exceptions being Italy (where it is 55), the UK and Greece, where it is 60 (or, in the case of Greece, it was 60 in 1989 - it is now 65) and Portugal, where it is 62.

Any analysis of activity rates and levels of employment needs to start by examining the employment situation of people within this age range. This does not mean, of course, that everyone within this range should be either in work or actively looking for work, particularly those in the younger age group who might remain in education or training beyond the school-leaving age. Nor does it mean that anyone over the age of retirement should no longer be working. The rate of labour force participation of people of working age, however, provides a primary benchmark for comparing different countries and a starting-point for assessing changes over time.

At the beginning of the process of reforms - towards the end of the 1980s or beginning of the 1990s, depending on the country concerned - the activity rate for people of working age in each of the countries averaged around 80%, with the exception of Poland where the average rate of 73% in 1988 was lower than elsewhere. This compares with an average rate of activity in the Community for working-age population (taken as 15 to 59 for women and 15 to 64 for men in order to simplify the calculation) of 69% at around the same time (1989) (Graph 1). However, the rate in the Southern Member States, which are at a more similar stage of economic development to the Central and Eastern European countries than those in the North and, therefore, in some sense more comparable, tended to be much lower - 60% in Spain and 62% in Greece - though in Portugal, it was above the Community average (at 71%).

The difference in rates between Central and Eastern European countries and the Community was almost entirely due to the much higher rate of women's participation in the labour force in the former than in the latter. Whereas for men of working-age, the average rate of activity was around 80-85% in both Central and Eastern European countries and the Community, for women of working age, the average rate in the Community was only 56% in 1989 - over 10 percentage points lower than in Poland, the country with the lowest rate in Central and Eastern Europe. In relation to the other countries, the difference was considerable, rates averaging 71-72% in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia and around 80% in Albania and Bulgaria (Graph 2).

Moreover, as compared with Spain and Greece, the gap was even wider, since in these two countries the activity rate of women was only 42% in the former and 45% in

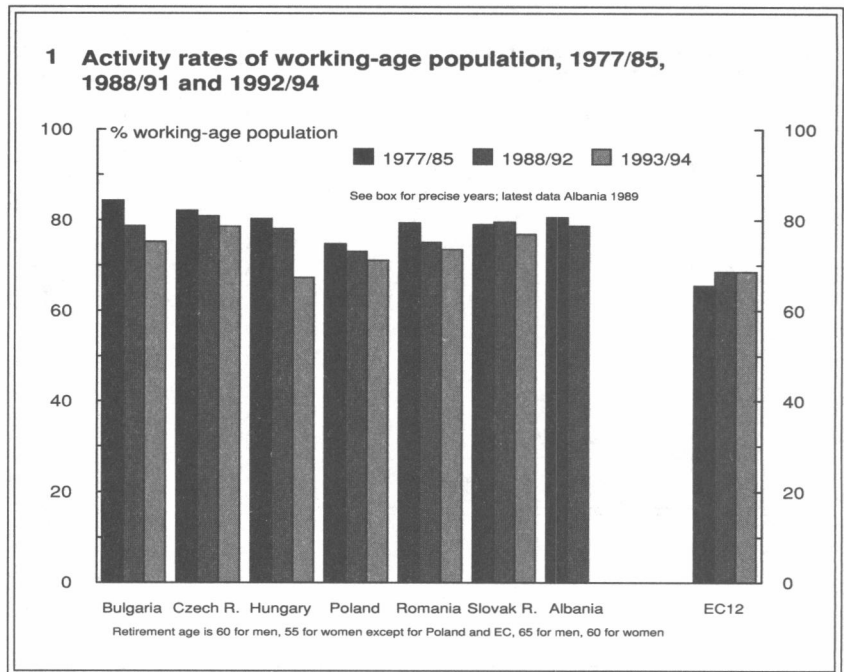
the latter in 1989, though in Portugal, it was closer to the rate in Central and Eastern Europe at 60%.

This difference was most pronounced for women of prime working age - 25 to 49 - which is also the age when women have children and have to cope with caring for these as well as with other family responsibilities. In the Community, a high, if rapidly diminishing, proportion of women in this age group leave the labour force, either as they get married (which tends to be the case in the less developed Southern Member States) or as they have children (which is the case in a number of Northern Member States). The average rate for these was 64% in 1989, though there was considerable variation between Member States - the rate was almost 90% in Denmark and over 75% in France, but under 70% in all countries part from in these two plus Portugal and the UK and under 55% in Spain, Greece, Italy and Ireland (Graphs 3-18).

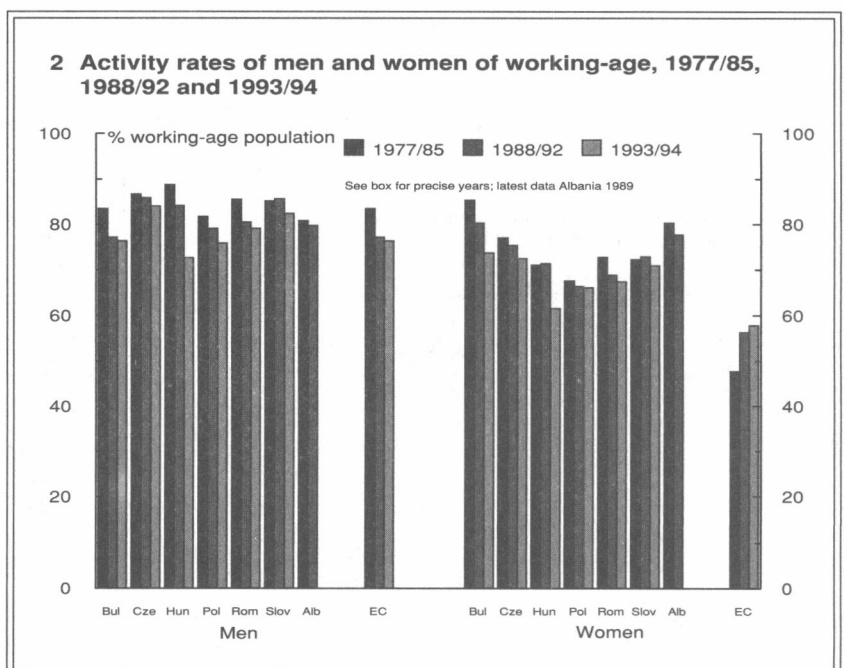
By contrast, of the Central and Eastern European countries, only Poland had an activity rate for prime working-age women of less than 80% before the transition got underway, and then only marginally so - 79%. In Bulgaria, the rate was over 90%, in Albania, around 90% and in the Czech Republic, 87%.

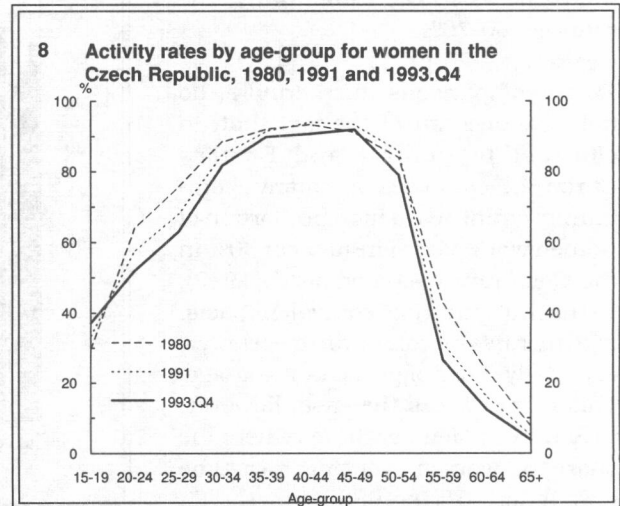
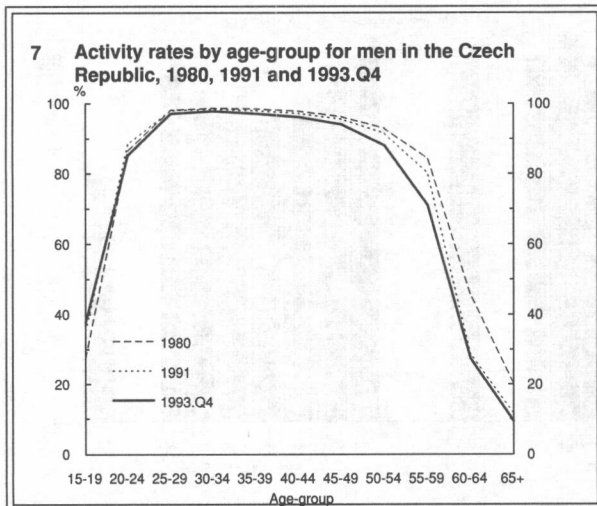
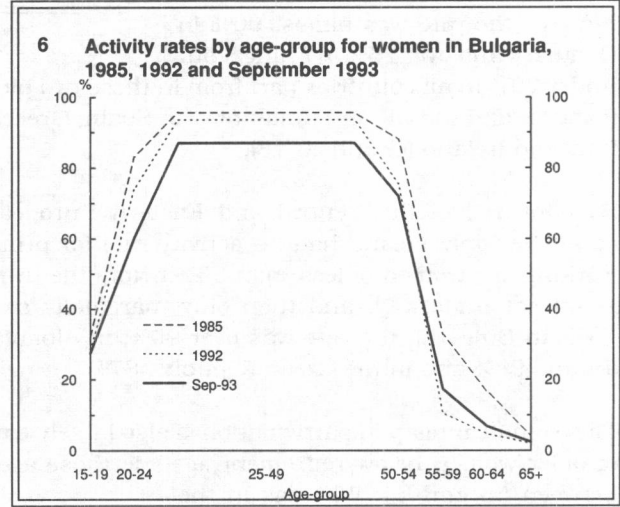
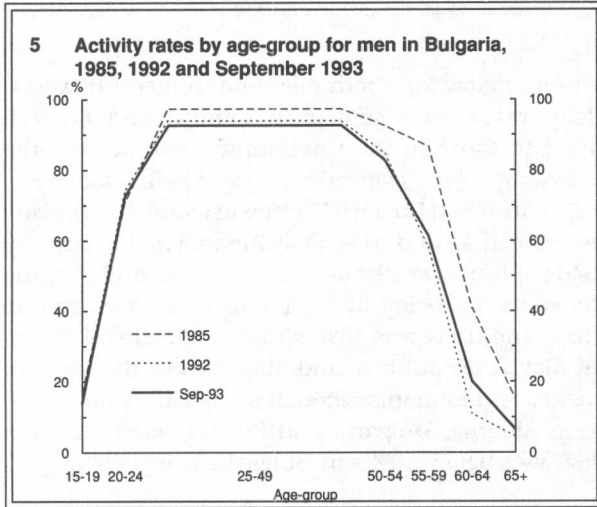
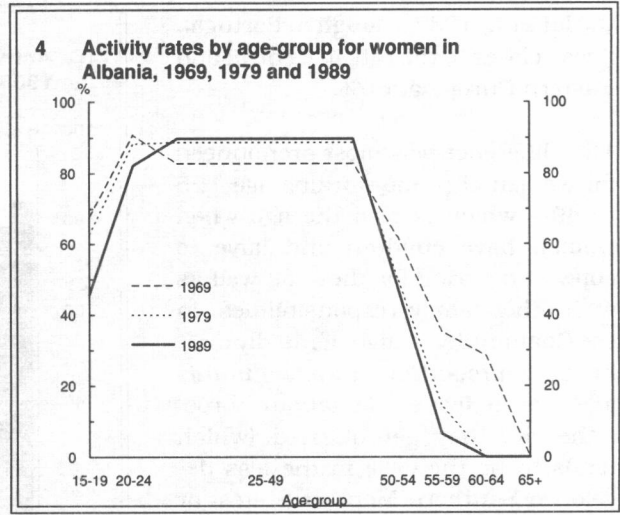
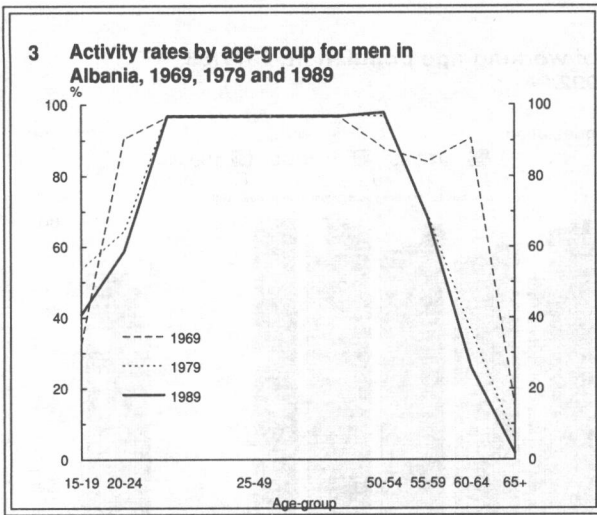
This significant gap in participation is also largely true of older women below retirement age - ie those aged between 50 and 54. Whereas in the Community, the average activity rate for such women was only around 40% in 1989, in all Central and Eastern European countries, apart from Albania and Romania where it was about the same as in the Community, the rate was 60-70%.

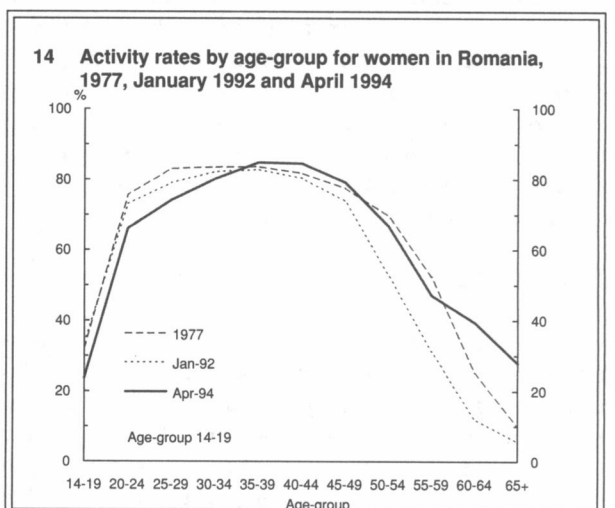
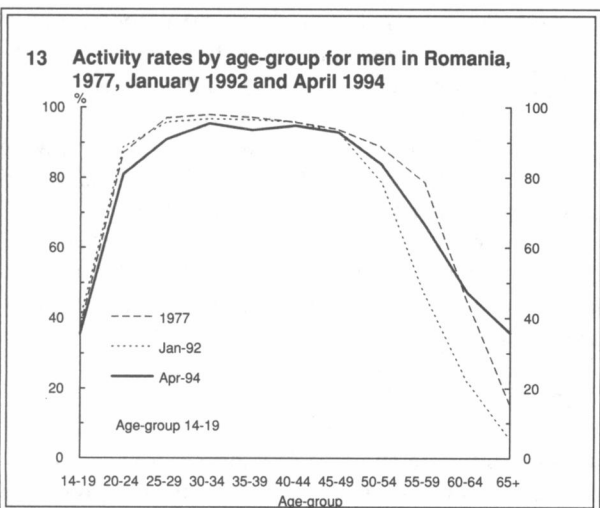
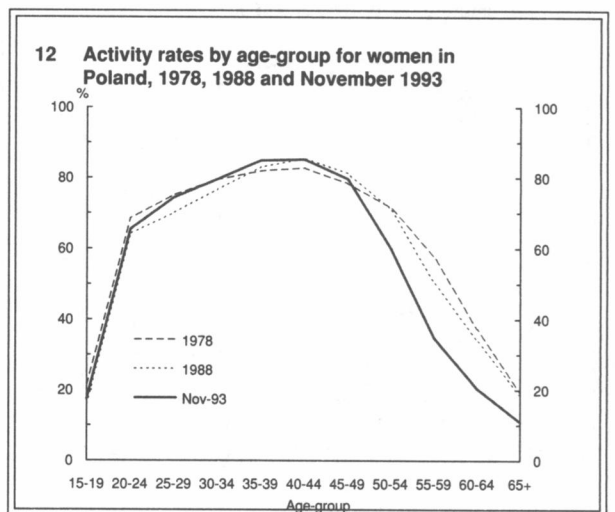
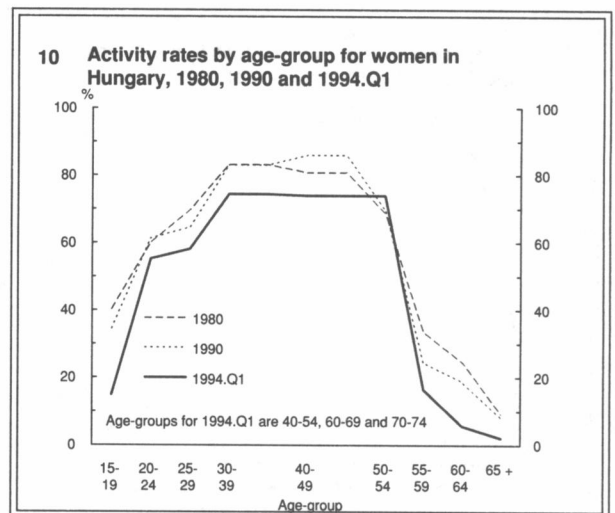
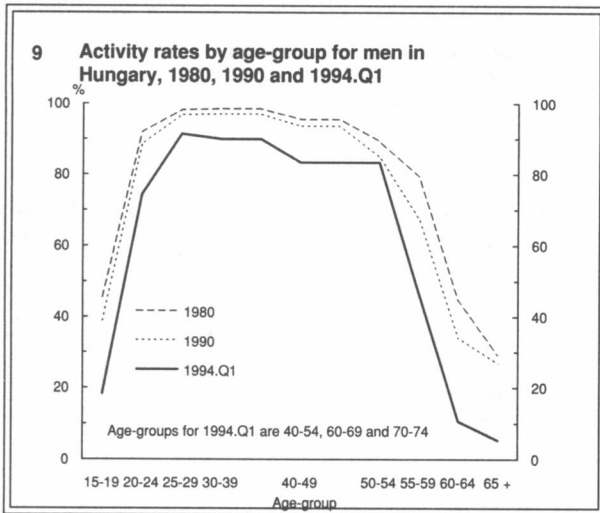
These comparisons, furthermore, do not take account of the fact that, in contrast to Central and Eastern European countries, in many Community countries, a high proportion of women work part-time (almost 30% in the Community as a whole in 1992), so that on a full-time equivalent basis, activity rates of women are even lower, especially those of prime working-age. This is much less the case, however, in Southern Member States where the share of women working part-time was under 10% in 1989.

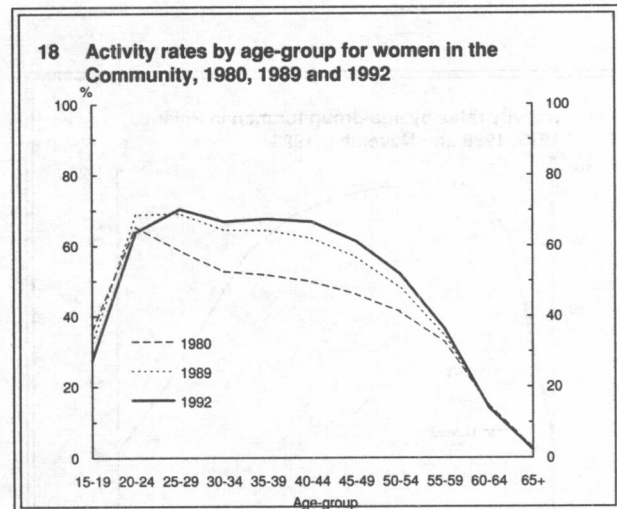
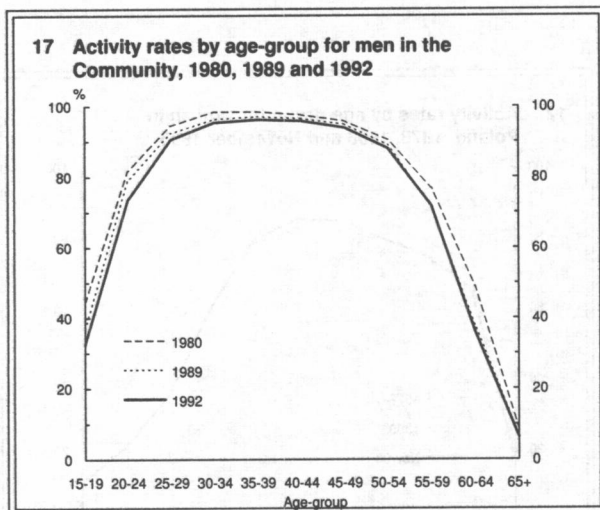
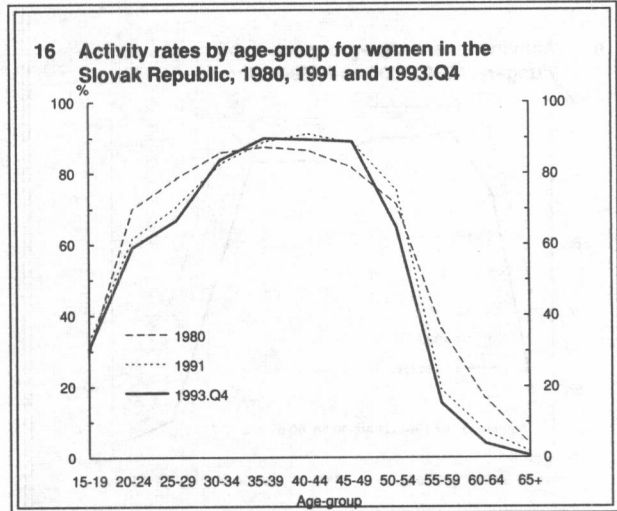
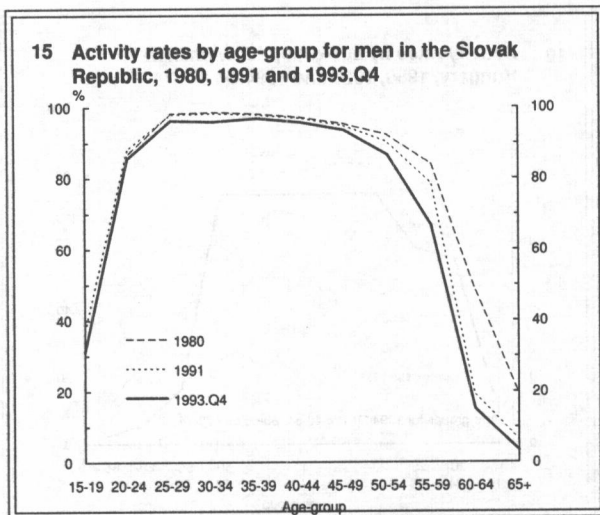


For those below 25 - both men and women - however, activity rates were similar in Central and Eastern Europe to those in the Community. For women, the rate averaged just over 50% in 1989, while for five of the 7 Central and Eastern European countries, the rate was between 44 and 54%. Only Albania and Poland lay outside this range, the former well above (63%), the latter some way below (38%). For men, the average rate in the Community was 58%, similar to that in the Czech and Slovak Republics and just below the rate in Hungary and Romania, though significantly above the rate in Albania, Bulgaria and Poland, where in each case it was below 50% - in Bulgaria, below 45%.









Despite the similarity in rates, however, the gap between the rates of activity of men and women under 25 was less in the Community than in Central and Eastern European countries. While labour force participation was higher among men than women in the Community as in most Central and Eastern European countries, the difference was 7 percentage points in 1989 (58% as against 51%) as compared with 10 percentage points or more in all the latter countries (15 percentage points in Hungary and Slovakia). In Albania and Bulgaria, the activity rate of women in this age group was higher than for men, in the former which is the least developed country in the region, considerably so.

### Older people

Before transition, there were also pronounced differences between Central and Eastern Europe and the Community in rates of participation of those above retirement age. This was particularly the case for men, for whom, in the Community, the average rate in 1989 was only around 7%. Only in Bulgaria of the Central and

Eastern European countries was the rate similarly low, though in Albania, Romania and Slovakia, the rate was not much higher at around 10-11%. For the Czech Republic, in contrast, it was some 17% and for Hungary and Poland, around 30%.

For women above the age of retirement, the extent of participation was more similar, with the average rate of 5% in the Community being higher than that in Albania and Bulgaria and only slightly below the rate in Slovakia (7%). Although the rates, as for men, were relatively high in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland - as well as in Romania, where alone of the countries, activity of women in this age group was higher than of men - the difference with the Community was not so marked (only in Poland was the average rate above 15%).

### Trends

In the years before the reform process began, rates of labour force participation of both men and women of

working age were relatively stable in Central and Eastern European countries. For men and women of prime working age, average rates were not much different at the end of the 1980s to what they had been at the beginning of the decade.

By contrast, in the Community, while activity rates of prime working-age men fell slightly, those of women increased sharply in most Member States, especially in those where rates had been relatively low, the average rising from 52% in 1980 to 64% in 1989.

For young people under 25, however, rates in Central and Eastern Europe, in contrast to those in the Community, were not so stable. In Hungary, where the extent of participation of men was higher than elsewhere in 1980, the activity rate for men under 25 declined from 71% to 62% over the 1980s, while in Poland and Albania, it also fell by 9 percentage points.

The rate for women of under 25 also declined in these three countries, to much the same extent as for men in Albania and Poland, but by much less in Hungary (by 4 percentage points). Participation of young women fell too in all the other countries apart from Romania (by 3-4 percentage points in the Czech and Slovak Republics and by 7 percentage points in Bulgaria). By contrast, the average activity rate of women under 25 increased over the 1980s in the Community.

The effect of these changes was, as in the Community, to narrow the gap between the activity rates of young men and women in Hungary as well as in Albania and Bulgaria, but to widen it in the Czech and Slovak Republics.

### Participation in education and training

The changes for both men and women partly reflect trends in participation in education and training. In 1980, the proportion of young people between 15 and 24 in full-time education or training ranged from around 40% in the Czech Republic, Poland - where the school-leaving age was higher than in the other countries - and Slovakia to under 35% in Bulgaria, 30% in Romania and only around 25% in Hungary. In none of the countries was there much difference between the proportions of men and women remaining in education.

In both Hungary and Poland, there is evidence of a marked increase in participation in education and training over the 1980s. In the former this amounted to 9-10 percentage points for men and women, bringing the proportion closer to that in other countries in the region, while in Poland, it was only slightly smaller. In Bulgaria, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, on the other hand, where activity rates of this age group changed by less, the increase was much smaller and largely confined to women.

### Child care leave

At the same time, child care leave also seems to have played a part in the change in activity rates of women under 25, though the information available on this is far from complete. In both the Czech and Slovak Republics, the proportion of young women on maternity and child care leave - generally those on staying at home beyond the initial (six-month) paid leave of absence - and, therefore, not included as part of the labour force increased according to the estimations of the Czech and Slovak Statistical Offices over the 1980s (from 11% to 14% in the former, 6% to 11% in the latter), so contributing to the fall in activity rates. By contrast, in Hungary, the proportion declined significantly (from 17% to 12%, bringing it more into line with other countries), partly because of a shift from the under 25 age group to the 25 and over, so offsetting the increase in participation in education and moderating the fall in the activity rate.

In the Community also, the change reflects the net effect of two opposing trends - an increasing proportion of women under 25 remaining in full-time education or training offset by a declining proportion staying at home because of family responsibilities.

### Changing participation of older people

For all of the countries in Central and Eastern Europe, there is evidence of a declining rate of labour force participation among older people over the 1980s, largely before the transition got underway. This applies to both those above official retirement age and those below and was particularly marked among men.

Thus, in the Czech and Slovak Republics, the rate of activity of men aged between 55 and 59 declined by 4-5 percentage points between 1980 and 1991, while in Poland, it fell by 10 percentage points between 1977 and 1988 (as did the rate for those aged 60 to 64, ie just below retirement age in this country) and in Hungary by as much as 12 percentage points in the 10 years up to 1990. In the latter, however, the transition process was well underway by this time. In Romania, the fall seems to have been even larger, at more than 30 percentage points between 1978 and January 1992, though again some of this fall almost certainly occurred after the reform process began. On the other hand, in Albania, the fall between 1979 and 1989 was marginal.

For men above the official age of retirement, the reduction in activity over the respective periods was much less than for those just below in Hungary (only 3 percentage points), Poland (under 3 percentage points) and Romania (13 percentage points), but much larger in Albania (5 percentage points), the Czech Republic (9 percentage points) and Slovakia (16 percentage points).

Activity rates for older men also declined markedly in Bulgaria between 1985 and the end of 1992, though it is even more difficult than in the case of Romania to judge how much of this occurred after the transition began.

Throughout Central and Eastern Europe, therefore, a trend towards the declining participation of older men was apparent during the 1980s before the reform process got underway, just as in Western Europe, where it was associated with early retirement. For women, whereas - apart from in Poland - there was a general fall in rates of participation among those above retirement age, for those just below, reductions were much less widespread. In the Czech and Slovak Republics, there was a small increase in activity of those between 50 and 54 over the 1980s, while in Poland, the rate remained virtually unchanged (though here there was a fall of 7 percentage points for women aged 55 to 59 - the official retirement age) and in Albania, while there was a decline, it was small (2 percentage points).

In Hungary, however, the activity rate of women in this age group fell by 12 percentage points between 1980 and 1990, while in Bulgaria and Romania, there seems to have been similarly large falls over the 1980s and the early part of the 1990s.

For women over retirement age, the largest reductions in activity also occurred in Bulgaria and Romania (9-10 percentage points between the two last Censuses), though again some of this probably occurred after the transition began. Falls in the other countries ranged from 8 percentage points in Slovakia to 2 percentage points in Albania - where the rate was already extremely low in 1979 (4%) - and zero in Poland.

### Changes over the transition

Although the period since the process of reform began in Central and Eastern European countries is relatively short, a number of trends are already apparent.

Rates of participation generally appear to have fallen, though the incidence of the reduction in terms of the labour market groups affected has not been uniform. In most countries, however, participation of younger and older age groups has declined by more than that of people of prime working age.

Overall, according to the latest estimates (generally in the latter part of 1993 or the first part of 1994), the average rate of activity of people of working age has fallen by between 2 and 4 percentage points in each of the countries, apart from Bulgaria and Hungary. In the latter, the reduction - in this case, between 1990 and the first quarter of 1994 - was considerably larger at some 10 percentage points.

In Bulgaria, it is even more difficult than for the other countries to make an estimate of the change, since the last Census of Population before the reforms was in 1985. Between then and the next Census at the end of 1992 - by which time the transition had already been underway for two years or so - the overall activity rate of those of working age declined from 84% to 79%, with most of the fall probably occurring in the latter part of the period. Between the end of 1992 and September 1993, there was a further reduction of almost 4 percentage points.

In Bulgaria, activity rates of women declined by more than those of men. In the latter, the fall in participation of women amounted to almost 7 percentage points between the end of 1992 and September 1993 (and to 12 percentage points from 1985), while the rate for men fell by only 1 percentage point. Since the average activity rate of working-age women was higher than for other countries in the region before the transition began - and indeed higher than for men - this represents some convergence towards the position elsewhere.

The only other country in which there has been a larger reduction in the participation of women than of men is the Czech Republic - in this case between early 1991 and end of 1993 but here the difference was small (3 percentage points as against 2 percentage points) and possibly within the margin of error involved in the comparison of the two different sources.

In three of the other four countries for which data are available, participation of men has declined by more than that of women - in Romania, the two have fallen by the same amount - but only in Poland was the difference significant. Here the average activity rate of women of working age remained broadly unchanged between 1988 and the end of 1993, while the average rate for men fell by 3 percentage points. Since activity rates for women were relatively low in Poland before the transition, this again represents some move towards convergence of rates in the region.

### Activity of those of prime working age

In Poland, the difference in experience as between men and women has been particularly marked for those of prime working age (25- 49), the activity rate of women in this age group increasing by over 2 percentage points during the transition while the rate for men has fallen slightly. This has also been the case in Romania, where there has been a small rise in participation among prime working-age women and a fall of over 2 percentage points for men of the same age. In the other countries, the relative changes in activity for men and women in this age group reflect those for working-age population as a whole (Graph 19).



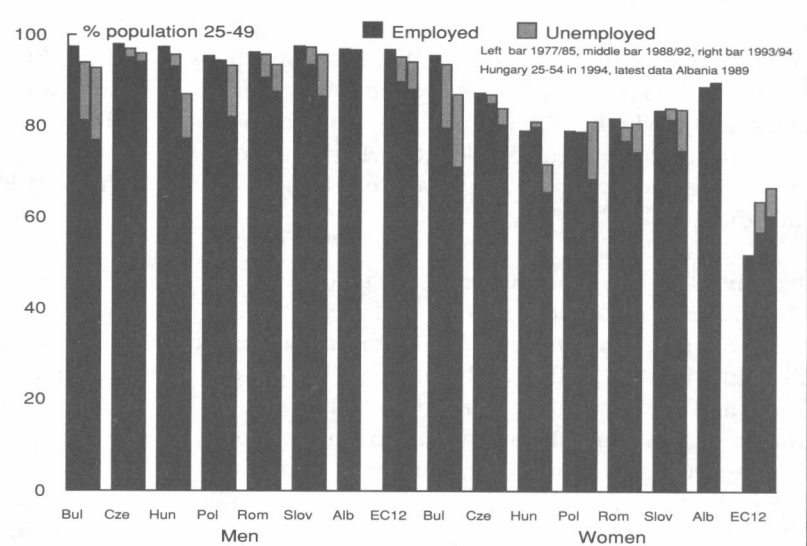
The relative changes for men and women in Poland and Romania in the early 1990s were similar to those in the Community, where there was a fairly uniform tendency for activity rates of men to fall and those of men to rise. Nevertheless, despite the continued increase in participation among prime working-age women in the latter (of 3 percentage points between 1989 and 1992 - more in the Southern Member States, less in the Northern - as against a fall of 1 percentage point for men - with little difference between North and South), their rate of activity remains significantly below that in most Central and Eastern European countries. Whereas in the Community, the average rate for women in this age group is still well below 70% on average, for the countries in Central and Eastern Europe, only in Hungary is the rate below 80% and, despite some reduction since the reform process started, in the Czech and Slovak Republics as well as in Bulgaria, it is well above this.

The reform process has been accompanied by large-scale reductions in employment and increasing unemployment in most parts of the region. In terms of employment rather than activity, therefore, the gap between the Community and countries in Central and Eastern Europe is somewhat less pronounced. Apart from in the Czech Republic, in all countries in the region, a significant proportion of women in the labour force are unemployed rather than in work. In Bulgaria, some 18% of women aged 25 to 49 who were recorded as being available for work were unemployed in September 1993, so that only 71% of women in this age group were in employment as compared with the 87% who were economically active.

Much the same was the case in Poland where just under 16% of women in the labour force who were of prime working age were unemployed at the end of 1993, giving a figure of 69% in employment, only slightly above that for Hungary (where under 9% were unemployed).

In the case of prime working-age men, activity rates in most countries in Central and Eastern Europe have fallen below the average in the Community - the only two exceptions being the Czech and Slovak Republics, where at the latest count, the rate was still around 96% (as against 94% in the Community). Indeed in Hungary, the rate at the end of 1993 had fallen to only 90%, which means that one in 10 of men in this age group were recorded as being neither in work nor actively looking for a job.

**19 Activity rates of employed and unemployed men and women of prime working-age, 1977/85, 1988/92 and 1993/94**



Moreover, apart from in the Czech Republic and to lesser extent in Romania, unemployment among men of prime working-age was greater than the average in the Community in all Central and Eastern European countries. In Hungary and Slovakia, around 10% of men in the labour force in this age group were unemployed at the end of 1993, while in Poland, the figure was 12% at the end of 1993 and in Bulgaria as high as 17%.

### Activity of under 25s

In a number of the Central and Eastern European countries, labour force participation among young men and women of under 25 has fallen significantly since the reform process began. This is particularly the case in Hungary and Romania. In the latter, the rate of activity of men in this age group declined by 9 percentage points between January 1992 and April 1994 (from 65% to 56%) while that of women fell by 12 percentage points (from 54% to 42%). In Hungary, the reduction between 1990 and the first quarter of 1994 was even larger - from 62% to 45% for men and from 47% to 33% for women (Graph 20).

There was also a fall in the activity rate for this age group in Slovakia and Bulgaria, though in the former it was confined to men (from 60% to 56% between 1991 and 1993) and in the latter to women. In Bulgaria, the reduction in participation among women under 25 was considerable. Between 1985 and September 1993, the rate fell from 58% to 43% - from a level well above that of men of the same age to one which is virtually the same.

In the Czech Republic and Poland, activity rates of young people under 25 have so far changed very little

during the transition, though in the latter, as noted above, there had been a marked reduction over the 1980s before the transition began.

The net effect of these changes is that rates of activity of men under 25 are slightly above the average for the Community (54% in 1992) in half the six countries for which recent data are available and below in the other three - significantly so in the case of Hungary and Bulgaria.

In terms of employment, however, the picture is somewhat different. A higher proportion of men in this age group are in employment in the Community than in all countries in Central and Eastern Europe apart from the Czech Republic. This reflects the fact that unemployment has affected young people under 25 particularly badly in most parts of the region. This is especially the case in Bulgaria, where in September 1993 the rate of youth unemployment had reached 45% for men, so that only 23% of men in this age group were in employment (and only 40% of the 20 to 24 age group). Moreover, in both Poland and Slovakia, the unemployment for young men was only just below 30% and the proportion of the 15 to 24 year olds in employment was significantly less than those who were economically active (35% in Poland, 40% in Slovakia).

Youth unemployment in these three countries, therefore, is on a par with the worst affected parts of the Community - Spain and Southern Italy. Indeed the average rate in Bulgaria is significantly above the average in these countries. Although in Hungary and Romania, rates of youth unemployment were somewhat lower than in these three countries, in both cases

they were, nevertheless, over 20% for young men at the beginning of 1994.

By contrast, for women under 25, activity rates are now lower in all the countries than the average in the Community (47% in 1992), whereas at the beginning of the 1980s, they had been higher in most countries.

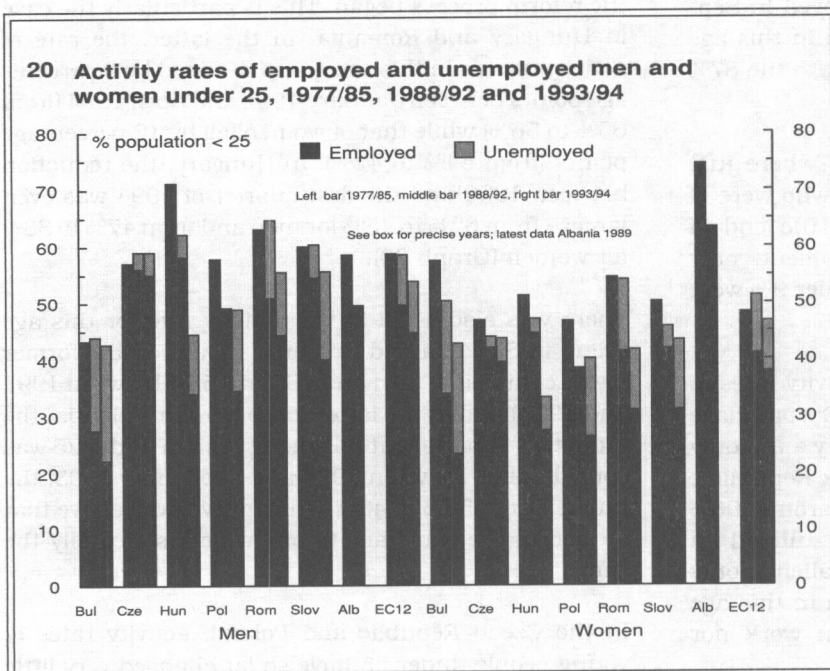
### Participation in education and training

The activity rates for young people are to a large extent the mirror image of rates of participation in education and training beyond the normal school-leaving age (though it should be emphasised that LFS estimates on this are subject perhaps to a wide margin of error). In Hungary, in particular, where activity rates for both men and women have fallen significantly since 1990, the proportion of under 25s remaining in full-time education or training has risen considerably, from around 35% to over 50% in 1993, higher than anywhere else in Central and Eastern Europe. Indeed this increase is sufficient to explain virtually all of the reduction in rates of activity (Graph 21).

In Slovakia, on the other hand, where the activity rate for men under 25 has declined since 1991, their participation in education and training has changed by very little. In this case, therefore, some 1% of men in this age group in 1994 were neither recorded as being economically active or being trained.

In Romania, this phenomenon is much more pronounced. Although the proportion of those under 25 in education or training seems to have increased in 1992 and 1993 (by around 3 percentage points for men and 7 percentage points for women), the extent of the rise was far less than the fall in activity rates. This implies that over 10% of men under 25 in September 1993 were neither economically active nor undergoing training. In the case of women, the proportion seems to have been even higher, though many of these may have been caring for children (8% of women in this age group are reported as being on child care leave, which would still leave some 15% as falling into no clear category).

In the Czech Republic, where there was little change in activity rates of men and women under 25, participation in education and training seems to have fallen slightly since 1991. Some 3% of young men were, therefore, recorded in 1993 as effectively doing nothing. Moreover some 9% of



women in this age group were neither economically active nor in full-time education nor on child care leave, as compared with under 2% in 1991.

In Poland, there seems to have been little change since 1988 in either activity rates of young people or their participation in education and training.

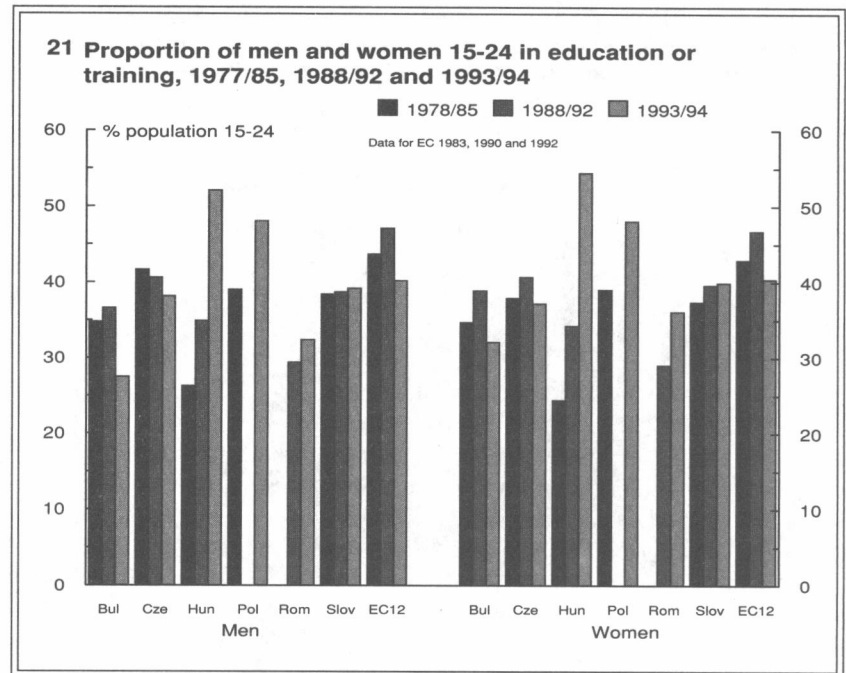
### Activity of older people

The reduction in activity rates since the transition began has been particularly pronounced for older people both below official retirement age and above. For men aged between 55 and 59, the rate of activity in the Czech Republic at the latest count was 9 percentage points lower than at the beginning of transition, in the Slovak Republic, 12 percentage points lower, in Poland, 15 percentage points lower and in Hungary, 21 percentage points lower. Moreover, in Poland, where men officially retire five years later than elsewhere in the region, the activity rate for the 60 to 64 age group fell by 17 percentage points between 1988 and the end of 1993 to only 36%, so that a large majority of men of this age were no longer working.

In Bulgaria, where the Census year fell less conveniently than in other countries, the activity rate of men of between 55 and 59 declined by a massive 29 percentage points between 1985 and September 1993 (all of the decline occurring before December 1992). (For Romania, the figures from the April 1994 LFS show an *increase* in rates of participation of older people, though this is largely because of methodological differences between the Census of Population and the LFS, especially as regards the treatment of employment in agriculture.)

The result of these reductions is that in all countries in Central and Eastern Europe the activity rate for men in this age group is now lower than in the Community (where it was 72% in 1992), and in some cases significantly lower. Indeed, in Bulgaria and Poland, 60% or less of men aged 55 to 59 were economically active at the last count and in Hungary, the figure was less than half.

Activity rates of women just below retirement age have also fallen significantly, if by somewhat less. In the Czech Republic, the rate for women of between 50 and 54 was some 6 percentage points lower at the latest count than at the beginning of the transition, while in Poland and the Slovak Republic, it was 9 percentage points less (and in the former, 16 percentage points



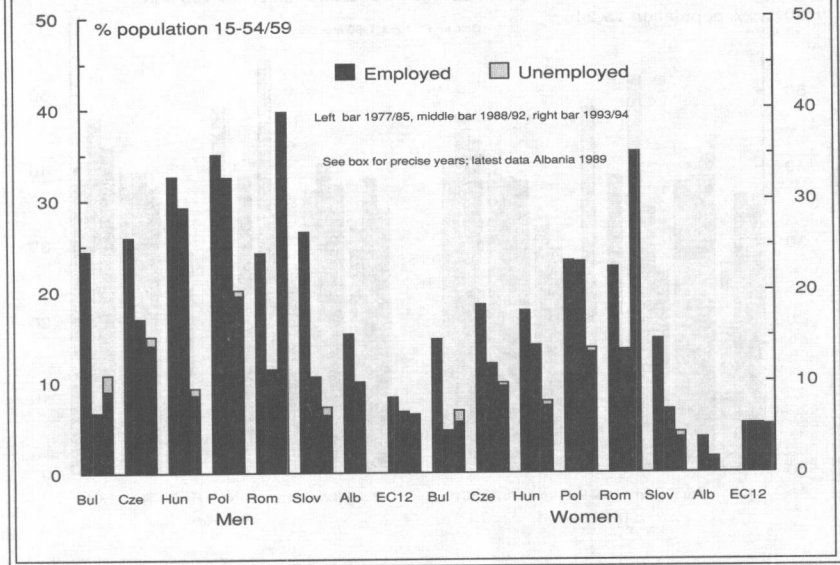
less for the 55 to 59 age group). The reduction seems to have been even more marked in Bulgaria, where the rate declined by 16 percentage points between 1985 and September 1993, though some of the fall may have occurred before the transition began.

Nevertheless, despite these falls, the participation of women in this age group in Central and Eastern European countries remains higher than in the Community. Indeed, although it increased significantly during the 1980s in the latter, it was still only 52% in 1992 as compared with almost 80% in the Czech Republic, over 70% in Bulgaria and over 60% in Slovakia and Poland (if only marginally so in the latter).

For the most part, the fall in activity rates has been slightly less marked for both men and women above retirement age. In the Czech and Slovak Republics, rates for men of 60 and over and of women of 55 and over declined by only 2-3 percentage points between 1991 and 1993, though in both cases, substantial reductions had occurred over the 1980s before the reform process began. Similarly in Bulgaria, while rates fell significantly between 1985 and 1993 - by 14 percentage points for men and 8 percentage points for women - this fall was concentrated in the period up to the end of 1992, since when rates for both sexes may have risen (Graph 22).

On the other hand, in both Hungary and Poland, substantial reductions in the participation of men and women above retirement age during the transition are evident. In the latter, this amounted to 12 percentage points for men and 10 for women between 1988 and 1993, while in Hungary, the activity rate for men of 60 and over fell by as much as 20 percentage points

**22 Activity rates of employed and unemployed men and women above retirement age, 1977/85, 1988/92 and 1993/94**



between 1990 and the first quarter of 1994 and that of women of 55 and over by 6 percentage points.

For both men and women, these reductions have served to bring activity rates for those above retirement age in Central and Eastern Europe closer to the average in the Community. For men, only in the Czech Republic, Poland and, probably Romania, were rates for those of 60 and over much above 10%, while for women of 55 and over, rates were below 10% in all but the latter two countries. Only in these two countries, therefore, was participation of those above retirement age significantly higher than the Community average on the latest figures available.

### Changes in working-age population

Changes in the labour force are, of course, also affected by changes in population of working-age as well as by rates of participation. In most of the countries in Central and Eastern Europe, there is little sign of any marked change in the rate of growth, or decline, in the figures for working-age population since the transition began. In Poland and the Czech and Slovak Republics,

working-age population was growing only very slowly before the transition and has continued to do so since, while in Hungary, it was declining during the 1980s and has gone on falling, albeit very slowly.

In Bulgaria and Romania, however, some change in trend is evident. Whereas in both cases working-age population increased during the 1980s - if only by a very little in the former - between 1990 and 1992, it fell by 1% a year (by 50 thousand in Bulgaria, 200,000 in Romania). Nevertheless, in both countries, it increased in 1993, suggesting that significant net emigration was relatively short-lived.

In Albania, by contrast, the number of people of working age seems to have declined considerably in the recent past. Estimates suggest that between 1989 and 1993, the number of working-age men fell by 10% or by 2% a year which compares with a growth of almost 3% a year over the preceding 10 years. This would appear to indicate that some 15% of men in this age group (around 175 thousand) left the country over this period. For women, though the numbers of working age continued to rise between 1989 and 1993, they did so at a very much slower rate than over the preceding 10 years (by under 1% a year as against 3%). If the estimates are correct, therefore, significant emigration also seems to have occurred among women, implying an overall reduction in the potential labour force - both men and women - of some 250 thousand.

Young people seem to have accounted for much of this apparent outflow. The number of men aged 20 to 24 declined by 30% in the four years between 1989 and 1993 while those of 50 and over increased at much the same rate as before. As a result there was a marked ageing of the potential labour force, the proportion of working-age men under 25 falling from 33% to 27% in just four years.

## Definition of series

All the population and employment series are averages for the period. For unemployment, the annual figures are averages for the year, except where stated, but the quarterly figures are for the end of the period.

Resident population	A	(T) - including immigrants and nationals temporarily abroad, excluding visitors and armed forces of other countries
Working age population	A	(T) - population between official school-leaving age and official retirement age
Female population working age	A	(T) - female population between official school-leaving age and official retirement age, which is approximately 15-54, but which varies for each of the countries as shown in the notes to the tables
Male population working age	A	(T) - male population between official school-leaving age and official retirement age, which is approximately 15-59, but which varies for each of the countries as shown in the notes to the tables
Population below working age	A	(T) - population below official school-leaving age
Population above working age	A	(T) - population above official retirement age
Active population	A	(T) - numbers in armed forces or civilian labour force, including numbers employed in the private and informal sectors; where possible women on long-term maternity leave are excluded
Armed forces	A	(T) - members of armed forces (where numbers are available)
Civilian labour force	Q+A	(T) - active population minus armed forces
Civilian employed	Q+A	(T) - persons working full or part-time in civilian occupations; in some cases employment by sector is only available for the number of jobs as indicated in the notes
Employed in agriculture	Q+A	(T) - persons employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing
Employed in manufacturing	Q+A	(T) - persons employed in manufacturing; repair services should be included in trade and catering if possible
Employed in trade+catering	Q+A	(T) - persons employed in retail and wholesale distribution, catering and hotels and repairs
Employed in financial services	Q+A	(T) - persons employed in banking, insurance, business and other financial services
Employed in public administration	Q+A	(T) - persons employed in central and local government
Employed in other services	Q+A	(T) - persons employed in services not elsewhere specified, including armed forces where not separately identified
Self-employed	Q+A	(T) - persons working as proprietors or on own account in their main occupation
Employees	Q+A	(T) - persons working as civilian employees in their main occupation
Unemployed (LFS)	Q+A	(T) - persons of working-age without work who are actively seeking work and are immediately available for work
Registered unemployed	Q+A	(T) - unemployed registered at labour offices
Youth unemployed	Q+A	(T) - numbers of unemployed aged less than 25 years old

Long-term unemployed	Q+A (T)	- numbers of unemployed who have been unemployed for more than 1 year
Activity rates	A (%)	- 100 (active population/population of working age)
Unemployment rate	Q+A (%)	- 100 (unemployed/civilian labour force)
Youth unemployment rate	Q+A (%)	- numbers of youth unemployed as a % of civilian labour force aged less than 25 years old
Price and wage inflation	Q+A (g)	- % change in average price/wage index for period compared with value in the same period 1 year earlier, eg 1991=100 (index <sub>91</sub> /index <sub>90</sub> - 1); 1992.Q1=100 (index <sub>92q1</sub> /index <sub>91q1</sub> - 1)
Consumer price inflation	Q+A (g)	- % change in representative index of prices for average household
Wage Inflation	Q+A (g)	- % change in index of average gross monthly wages for full-time employees
Social protection	Q+A (w)	- ratios of monthly values to average gross monthly wages for full-time employees (ie before tax)
Minimum wage	Q+A (w)	- minimum official monthly wage as prescribed by legislation expressed as ratio of average gross monthly wage for full-time employees
Average unemployment benefit	Q+A (w)	- average unemployment benefit received by persons receiving unemployment benefit, as a ratio of the average gross wage of full-time employees
Minimum pension	Q+A (w)	- minimum monthly pension per person prescribed by legislation for persons in households without full-time wage or salary income, as a ratio of the average gross monthly wage
Economic activity	Q+A (g)	- national accounts details; % change in indices for period compared with the same period 1 year earlier
GDP constant prices	Q+A (g)	- % change in gross domestic product at constant market prices on SNA definitions (average of output and expenditure estimates if available)
Industrial output	Q+A (g)	- % change in gross output of manufacturing, mining, power and water industries
Consumers expenditure const prices	Q+A (g)	- % change in consumers expenditure on goods and services at constant market prices
Fixed investment	Q+A (g)	- % change in gross fixed capital formation at constant market prices
External trade	Q+A (\$)	- value of trade in goods, converted to US dollars at current exchange rates and expressed at a quarterly rate (ie divided by 4 for annual figures)
Trade balance	Q+A (\$)	- dollar value of exports less imports
Exports of goods	Q+A (\$)	- US dollar value of exports of goods, valued fob.
Imports of goods	Q+A (\$)	- US dollar value of imports of goods, valued fob (or cif if fob is not available)

Key:

Q -	Quarterly	A -	Annual
(T) -	Thousands	(%) -	Per cent
(g) -	Per cent change per annum	(w) -	% average gross wage
(\$) -	US dollar (millions)		

**Statistical tables: 1989-1993**

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<b>Population ('000s) R1</b>							
<i>Resident population B1</i>							
1989	3182	8765	10302	10398	37963	23152	5276
1990	3287	8668	10303	10365	38119	23207	5298
1991	3260	8596	10309	10345	38245	23185	5283
1992	3190	8485	10318	10324	38365	22810	5307
1993	3168	8470	10330	10294	38459	22755	5325
<i>Working age population A1 B2 C1 H1 P1 R2 S1</i>							
1989	1882	4890	5913	5963	23157	12988	3011
1990	1959	4835	5980	5977	23278	13011	3042
1991	1925	4795	6049	6015	23402	13058	3057
1992	1849	4733	6115	6044	23539	12775	3083
1993	1763	4737	6180	6064	23693	12866	3119
<i>Female population working age</i>							
1989	904	2303	2798	2845	11607	6125	1442
1990	944	2280	2834	2861	11665	6136	1459
1991	945	2263	2879	2881	11727	6158	1471
1992	937	2237	2915	2897	11795	6034	1482
1993	878	2243	2948	2908	11871	6081	1501
<i>Male population working age</i>							
1989	979	2588	3115	3118	11550	6863	1569
1990	1015	2556	3146	3116	11613	6875	1583
1991	980	2532	3170	3134	11675	6900	1586
1992	912	2496	3200	3147	11744	6741	1601
1993	885	2494	3232	3156	11822	6785	1618
<i>Population below working age</i>							
1989	1051	1799	2285	2150	9649	5905	1354
1990	1069	1779	2223	2098	9573	5863	1338
1991	1063	1764	2148	2036	9473	5717	1310
1992	1067	1742	2092	1984	9348	5584	1256
1993	1067	1714	2037	1934	9196	5340	1232
<i>Population above working age</i>							
1989	249	2077	2114	2285	5157	4259	911
1990	259	2054	2110	2290	5268	4333	918
1991	267	2037	2113	2294	5370	4410	916
1992	273	2010	2113	2296	5478	4451	968
1993	281	2019	2113	2296	5570	4548	974
<b>Labour Force and employment ('000s) C2 P2 S2</b>							
<i>Active population A2 H2 R3</i>							
1989	1552	-	5471	4896	17375	-	2597
1990	1580	-	5396	4745	17218	-	2535
1991	1535	-	5310	4562	17345	-	2523
1992	1521	-	5215	4652	17374	-	2476 e
1993	1373	-	5115	4498	17693	-	2485 e
1993.1	1390	-	5174	4522	17676	-	-
1993.2	1383	-	5145	4517	17559	-	-
1993.3	1371	-	5175	4505	17785	-	-
1993.4	1346	-	5272	4451	17735	-	-
<i>Female active population</i>							
1989	734	-	2515	2231	7906	-	1160
1990	722	-	2454	2136	7871	-	1144
1991	715	-	2373	2126	8094	-	1107
1992	707	-	2266	2093	7989	-	1045 e

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Female active population</i>							
1993	616	-	2228	2026	8272	-	1061 e
1993.1	638	-	2421	2042	7946	-	-
1993.2	653	-	2395	2041	7944	-	-
1993.3	-	-	2409	2030	7996	-	-
1993.4	-	-	2456	1992	7998	-	-
<i>Male active population</i>							
1989	819	-	2956	2665	9469	-	1437
1990	857	-	2942	2609	9347	-	1391
1991	829	-	2937	2436	9251	-	1416
1992	814	-	2949	2559	9385	-	1431 e
1993	757	-	2887	2472	9421	-	1424 e
1993.1	752	-	2754	2480	9730	-	-
1993.2	761	-	2750	2476	9615	-	-
1993.3	-	-	2766	2475	9789	-	-
1993.4	-	-	2816	2459	9737	-	-
<i>Armed forces</i> <sup>P3 S3</sup>							
1989	43	-	237	-	373	-	119
1990	49	-	232	-	347	-	107
1991	50	-	214	-	335	-	94
1992	45	-	205	-	342	-	80 e
1993	45	-	194	-	372	-	81
<i>Civilian labour force</i> <sup>B3 P4 S4</sup>							
1989	1509	4365	5234	-	17002	10946	2478
1990	1531	4162	5164	-	16871	10840	2428
1991	1485	3819	5096	-	17010	11123	2429
1992	1476	3774	5010	-	17032	11387	2396 e
1993	1327	3823 e	4921	-	17321	11227 e	2404 e
1993.1	1353	-	-	-	17308	-	2352 e
1993.2	1345	-	-	-	17191	-	2398 e
1993.3	1318	-	-	-	17417	-	2430 e
1993.4	1293	-	-	-	17367	-	2437 e
<i>Female civilian labour force</i>							
1989	729	-	2483	-	7906	4943	1161
1990	718	1913 e	2423	-	7871	5002	1144
1991	711	1727 e	2338	-	8094	5267	1107
1992	704	1827 e	2234	-	7989	5451	1045 e
1993	614	1797 e	2198	-	8272	5332 e	1061 e
1993.1	636	-	-	-	7946	-	1027 e
1993.2	642	-	-	-	7944	-	1053 e
1993.3	593	-	-	-	7996	-	1079 e
1993.4	585	-	-	-	7998	-	1085 e
<i>Male civilian labour force</i>							
1989	780	-	2751	-	9096	6003	1317
1990	814	2447 e	2741	-	9000	5838	1284
1991	774	2092 e	2758	-	8916	5856	1322
1992	772	1947 e	2776	-	9043	5936	1351 e
1993	715	2026 e	2723	-	9049	5895 e	1343 e
1993.1	717	-	-	-	9362	-	1325 e
1993.2	702	-	-	-	9247	-	1345 e
1993.3	725	-	-	-	9421	-	1351 e
1993.4	708	-	-	-	9369	-	1352 e
<i>Employed</i> <sup>A3 B4 C3 H3 P5 R4 S5</sup>							
1989	1439	4365	5403	4872	17002	10946	2498
1990	1429	4097	5351	4699	16280	10840	2478



	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Employed</i> <sup>A3 B4 C3 H3 P5 R4 S5</sup>							
1991	1404	3564	5059	4334	15326	10786	2281
1992	1127	3274	4927	4096	14677	10458	2163
1993	977	3222 e	4853	3827	14584	10062 e	2128 e
1993.1	935	2375	4950	3823	14841	-	2065 e
1993.2	946	2324	4946	3844	14820	-	2102 e
1993.3	982	2281	4977	3831	15143	-	2125 e
1993.4	1045	2193	5077	3811	14772	-	2120 e
1994.1	1033	2086	5045	3710	14347	-	2086
<i>Employed in agriculture</i>							
1989	705	814	631	755	4557	-	345
1990	671	758	634	705	4328	3144	335
1991	668	660	510	592	4116	3205	280
1992	500	559	427	458	3839	3442	265
1993	590	706	333	349	3763	3615 e	258 e
1993.1	-	256	409	342	3633	-	233
1993.2	-	254	390	352	3751	-	238
1993.3	-	253	382	364	3923	-	236
1993.4	-	216	379	339	3814	-	226
<i>Employed in mining</i>							
1989	35	114	197	93	578	-	25
1990	34	114	186	78	565	259	17
1991	31	103	169	65	459	277	22
1992	26	-	124	53	459	272	24
1993	23	-	111	42	424	259 e	31 e
1993.1	-	-	143	44	421	-	33
1993.2	-	-	134	41	430	-	34
1993.3	-	-	126	41	403	-	37
1993.4	-	-	113	42	376	-	38
<i>Employed in manufacturing</i> <sup>B5</sup>							
1989	292	1496	1839	1306	4173	-	801
1990	301	1347	1760	1283	3947	3613	769
1991	293	1217	1705	1169	3657	3372	652
1992	213	1057	1582	1054	3282	2865	623
1993	187	962	1511	940	3114	2606 e	597 e
1993.1	-	937	1491	975	3335	-	605
1993.2	-	906	1495	948	3117	-	610
1993.3	-	879	1494	926	3162	-	597
1993.4	-	854	1536	912	3165	-	606
<i>Employed in power and water</i>							
1989	5	36	78	121	182	-	41
1990	4	38	79	117	137	133	39
1991	4	37	75	104	138	154	38
1992	4	-	92	108	142	164	39
1993	4	-	88	105	167	165 e	54 e
1993.1	-	-	102	103	127	-	43
1993.2	-	-	103	102	183	-	44
1993.3	-	-	99	106	175	-	44
1993.4	-	-	97	109	148	-	46
<i>Employed in construction</i>							
1989	100	333	392	322	1321	-	289
1990	95	312	403	333	1243	706	280
1991	97	231	404	287	1065	501	254
1992	88	193	408	217	1066	579	219
1993	25	168	453	207	903	574 e	165 e
1993.1	-	135	410	196	919	-	189

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Employed in construction</i>							
1993.2	-	130	413	212	951	-	190
1993.3	-	125	431	213	998	-	193
1993.4	-	117	435	207	868	-	194
<i>Employed in trade and catering<sup>A4</sup></i>							
1989	68	395	620	-	1515	-	278
1990	66	372	613	-	1626	724	277
1991	66	308	571	518	1530	912	256
1992	89	315	644	597	1682	929	240
1993	89	296	721	580	2080	716 e	190 e
1993.1	-	152	656	577	1661	-	251
1993.2	-	145	675	575	1595	-	267
1993.3	-	140	703	572	1688	-	266
1993.4	-	133	726	594	1663	-	250
<i>Employed transport &amp; communications</i>							
1989	40	290	351	-	1222	-	161
1990	44	286	371	-	1056	765	163
1991	41	267	368	382	999	689	160
1992	35	242	366	346	968	649	159
1993	21	222	385	336	866	592 e	174 e
1993.1	-	209	397	340	847	-	165
1993.2	-	205	399	336	749	-	164
1993.3	-	202	399	332	843	-	164
1993.4	-	197	392	337	820	-	172
<i>Employed in financial services</i>							
1989	3	26	25	-	380	-	9
1990	3	25	28	-	327	39	10
1991	3	27	37	-	312	44	14
1992	3	34	51	69	388	57	17
1993	3	32	65	73	373	65 e	24 e
1993.1	-	26	60	73	-	-	21
1993.2	-	28	64	72	345	-	25
1993.3	-	28	69	73	-	-	23
1993.4	-	29	79	73	-	-	21
<i>Employed in health and education</i>							
1989	104	491	585	691	1950	-	306
1990	107	494	596	669	2002	731	309
1991	105	475	592	660	2039	738	288
1992	107	463	595	548	1906	739	310
1993	97	450	587	586	1881	740 e	368 e
1993.1	-	459	647	568	2008	-	336
1993.2	-	459	634	590	2002	-	347
1993.3	-	456	617	593	1893	-	346
1993.4	-	455	633	596	1914	-	334
<i>Employed in public administration<sup>B6 H4 P6</sup></i>							
1989	10	61	92	362	195	-	36
1990	10	55	95	305	193	88	51
1991	13	50	99	286	202	99	53
1992	11	47	123	311	229	113	72
1993	7	55	137	298	262	117 e	89 e
1993.1	-	53	253	300	-	-	119
1993.2	-	53	254	303	-	-	123
1993.3	-	54	262	296	-	-	122
1993.4	-	55	268	294	-	-	124

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Employed in other services</i> <sup>H5</sup>							
1989	77	309	593	1222	929	-	207
1990	94	296	586	1210	856	638	228
1991	83	241	529	279	809	795	264
1992	51	203	515	335	716	649	195
1993	0	167	462	310	751	613 e	178 e
1993.1	-	148	382	305	-	-	167
1993.2	-	144	385	313	-	-	162
1993.3	-	137	395	315	-	-	169
1993.4	-	167	409	308	-	-	165
<i>Self-employed</i> <sup>B7 C4 H6 R5 S6</sup>							
1989	-	-	20	412	4270	597	8 e
1990	-	-	48	530	4424	942	22 e
1991	-	-	250	601 e	4600	3302	100 e
1992	-	-	450	620 e	4850	3831	140 e
1993	-	-	550 e	632 e	4965	3677	137
1993.1	-	-	641	600 e	4434	-	136
1993.2	-	-	643	620 e	4574	-	137
1993.3	-	293	638	650 e	4824	-	137
1993.4	-	-	644	660 e	4733	-	140
<i>Employees</i> <sup>S7</sup>							
1989	-	4365	5214	4460	12732	8076	2470 e
1990	-	4097	5099	4169	11856	7957	2392 e
1991	-	3564	4705	3733	10726	7484	2160 e
1992	-	3274	4397	3475	9827	6627	1989 e
1993	-	3222 e	4216	3195	9619	3685 e	2050
1993.1	-	2375	4309	3223	10407	-	2027
1993.2	-	2324	4304	3224	10246	-	2059
1993.3	-	2281	4339	3181	10319	-	2061
1993.4	-	2086	4433	3151	10039	-	2052
<i>Unemployed (LFS)</i>							
1992	-	-	-	444	2333 e	-	-
1993	-	-	-	519	2427	-	301
1993.1	-	-	225	547	2467	-	287
1993.2	-	-	199	518	2371	-	296
1993.3	-	814	198	517	2274	-	304
1993.4	-	-	196	494	2595	-	317
1994.1	-	-	206	482	2719	971	333
<i>Female unemployed (LFS)</i>							
1992	-	-	-	178	1193 e	-	-
1993	-	-	-	203	1244	-	132
1993.1	-	-	119	215	1242	-	125
1993.2	-	-	111	201	1224	-	126
1993.3	-	393	113	204	1190	-	130
1993.4	-	-	110	192	1319	-	146
1994.1	-	-	116	184	1340	483	150
<i>Male unemployed (LFS)</i>							
1992	-	-	-	266	1140 e	-	-
1993	-	-	-	316	1183	-	169
1993.1	-	-	106	332	1225	-	162
1993.2	-	-	88	317	1147	-	170
1993.3	-	421	85	313	1084	-	174
1993.4	-	-	86	302	1276	-	171
1994.1	-	-	90	298	1379	488	183

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Youth unemployed (mainly LFS)</i> <sup>A5 B8 C5 H7 P7 R6 S8</sup>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	30	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	204	72	76	603	-	94
1992	-	258	52	120	811	247	88
1993	192	256	-	141	954	430	112
1993.1	-	250	68	132	625	357	-
1993.2	-	240	52	133	599	390	101
1993.3	-	266	66	153	649	364	115
1993.4	-	269	68	147	724	430	118
1994.1	-	250	70	129	687	591	115
<i>Female youth unemployed</i>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	21	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	111	38	-	318	-	47
1992	-	134	28	43	433	154	40
1993	94	132	-	51	508	266	44
1993.1	-	125	32	47	306	220	-
1993.2	-	122	26	48	296	243	35
1993.3	-	140	34	56	323	232	45
1993.4	-	149	33	52	355	266	51
1994.1	-	127	34	44	339	322	48
<i>Male youth unemployed</i>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	9	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	93	34	-	285	-	47
1992	-	124	24	77	378	94	48
1993	98	124	-	90	446	164	68
1993.1	-	125	36	85	319	138	-
1993.2	-	118	26	85	303	147	66
1993.3	-	126	32	97	325	132	70
1993.4	-	129	35	95	368	164	67
1994.1	-	123	36	85	348	269	67
<i>Long-term unemployed (mainly LFS)</i> <sup>A5 C5 H8 P7 R7 S9</sup>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	-	9	21	-	-	18
1992	-	-	20	92	-	190	95
1993	195	-	-	174	916	-	100
1993.1	-	-	38	155	1047	313	98
1993.2	-	-	38	172	844	422	97
1993.3	-	438	36	178	843	-	100
1993.4	-	-	38	191	928	-	106
1994.1	-	-	39	195	1136	440	113
<i>Long-term female unemployed</i>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	-	5	-	-	-	9
1992	-	-	11	36	-	-	49
1993	88	-	-	70	501	-	50
1993.1	-	-	19	62	566	180	47
1993.2	-	-	20	69	454	279	50
1993.3	-	210	19	76	470	-	50
1993.4	-	-	21	73	512	-	53
1994.1	-	-	23	70	600	246	51

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Long-term male unemployed</i>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	-	4	-	-	-	9
1992	-	-	9	56	-	-	46
1993	107	-	-	104	415	-	50
1993.1	-	-	19	93	481	133	51
1993.2	-	-	18	103	390	143	47
1993.3	228	-	17	102	373	-	50
1993.4	-	-	17	118	416	-	53
1994.1	-	-	16	125	536	194	62
<i>Registered unemployed</i>							
1989	113	-	-	24	-	-	-
1990	151	65	17	46	591	-	14
1991	140	255	141	227	1684	337	169
1992	394	500	163	556	2355	929	286
1993	396	601	155	671	2737	1076	323
1993.1	455	604	152	699	2649	1062	306
1993.2	437	586	138	673	2702	1036	318
1993.3	396	599	167	674	2830	1040	350
1993.4	301	626	185	640	2890	1165	368
1994.1	267	615	184	627	2950	1291	371
<i>Female registered unemployed</i>							
1989	62	-	-	10	-	-	-
1990	78	42	-	18	301	-	15
1991	75	140	78	93	967	208	86
1992	200	264	94	229	1252	563	144
1993	199	313	89	276	1447	639	156
1993.1	230	310	84	282	1386	620	144
1993.2	237	303	81	276	1439	617	152
1993.3	191	317	99	282	1509	632	174
1993.4	141	328	103	265	1507	686	176
1994.1	-	317	101	249	1515	726	174
<i>Male registered unemployed</i>							
1989	52	-	-	14	-	-	-
1990	72	23	-	28	290	-	16
1991	65	115	63	134	717	129	83
1992	194	235	69	327	1103	366	141
1993	197	288	66	395	1290	437	167
1993.1	225	295	68	417	1263	438	162
1993.2	200	283	57	397	1263	419	166
1993.3	205	282	68	391	1321	410	176
1993.4	160	298	82	375	1382	479	192
1994.1	-	298	83	378	1435	566	197

### Activity and unemployment rates (%) <sup>B9</sup>

#### *Female activity rate*

1989	81.1	-	89.9	78.5	68.1	80.6	80.4
1990	76.5	83.9 e	86.6	74.7	67.5	81.4	78.4
1991	75.6	76.3 e	82.4	73.7	69.0	86.8	75.3
1992	75.4	82.1 e	77.7	73.0	67.7	89.9	70.5
1993	70.2	75.8 e	75.6	69.7	69.7	85.3	70.7
1993.1	-	-	83.1	70.2	69.9	-	-
1993.2	-	-	82.2	70.2	69.9	-	-
1993.3	-	-	82.6	69.8	70.3	-	-
1993.4	-	-	84.3	68.5	70.3	-	-

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Male activity rate</i>							
1989	83.6	-	94.9	85.1	82.0	87.3	91.6
1990	84.4	87.9 e	93.5	83.7	80.5	84.8	87.9
1991	84.6	82.6 e	92.6	77.8	79.2	86.8	89.3
1992	89.9	77.6 e	92.2	81.3	79.9	88.2	89.4
1993	85.5	75.2 e	89.3	78.4	79.7	85.8	88.0
1993.1	-	-	86.1	78.6	86.7	-	-
1993.2	-	-	85.9	78.5	86.6	-	-
1993.3	-	-	86.4	78.4	88.0	-	-
1993.4	-	-	88.0	78.0	87.7	-	-
<i>Unemployment rate (LFS)</i>							
1992	-	-	-	9.9	-	-	-
1993	-	-	-	11.9	14.0	-	12.5
1993.1	-	-	4.3	12.5	14.3	-	12.2
1993.2	-	-	3.9	11.9	13.8	-	12.3
1993.3	-	21.4	3.8	11.9	13.1	-	12.5
1993.4	-	-	3.7	11.5	14.9	-	13.0
1994.1	-	-	4.0	11.5	16.0	8.2	13.7
<i>Female unemployment rate (LFS)</i>							
1992	-	-	-	8.7	-	-	-
1993	-	-	-	10.4	15.6	-	12.4
1993.1	-	-	4.9	10.9	15.6	-	12.2
1993.2	-	-	4.6	10.2	15.4	-	12.0
1993.3	-	22.0	4.7	10.4	14.9	-	12.1
1993.4	-	-	4.5	10.0	16.5	-	13.4
1994.1	-	-	5.0	9.8	17.0	8.7	13.9
<i>Male unemployment rate (LFS)</i>							
1992	-	-	-	11.0	-	-	-
1993	-	-	-	13.2	12.7	-	12.6
1993.1	-	-	3.9	13.9	13.1	-	12.2
1993.2	-	-	3.2	13.2	12.4	-	12.6
1993.3	-	20.9	3.1	13.0	11.5	-	12.9
1993.4	-	-	3.0	12.7	13.6	-	12.6
1994.1	-	-	3.0	12.8	15.0	7.7	13.6
<i>Youth unemployment rate (mainly LFS)</i>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	-	8.0	-	27.0	-	-
1992	-	-	5.7	18.8	33.2	-	-
1993	-	-	-	21.2	38.2	-	25.7
1993.1	-	-	8.0	20.6	31.5	-	-
1993.2	-	-	6.4	20.8	29.8	-	23.7
1993.3	-	47.0	7.8	22.5	27.4	-	26.5
1993.4	-	-	7.4	21.2	31.6	-	26.8
1994.1	-	-	7.8	21.0	36.0	22.5	28.5
<i>Female youth unemployment rate</i>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	-	8.8	-	30.5	-	-
1992	-	-	6.3	15.1	35.8	-	-
1993	-	-	-	18.1	37.3	-	22.2
1993.1	-	-	7.9	17.2	33.9	-	-
1993.2	-	-	6.9	17.8	32.2	-	18.5
1993.3	-	46.0	8.5	19.5	29.7	-	22.8
1993.4	-	-	7.7	17.7	34.2	-	25.3
1994.1	-	-	8.0	17.2	38.1	25.7	27.7

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Male youth unemployment rate</i>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	-	7.3	-	23.9	-	-
1992	-	-	5.2	22.3	30.7	-	-
1993	-	-	-	23.5	39.0	-	28.5
1993.1	-	-	8.1	23.2	29.5	-	-
1993.2	-	-	5.9	23.0	27.8	-	28.0
1993.3	-	48.0	7.2	24.7	25.4	-	29.5
1993.4	-	-	7.1	23.6	29.4	-	28.0
1994.1	-	-	7.7	23.7	34.2	20.2	29.0
<i>Registered unemployment rate</i> <sup>H9 P8 S10</sup>							
1989	7.5	-	-	0.5	-	-	-
1990	9.8	1.6	0.3	1.0	3.4	-	0.6
1991	9.4	6.7	2.6	4.1	9.7	3.0	6.6
1992	26.7	13.2	3.1	10.7	13.6	8.4	11.4
1993	29.8	15.7	3.0	13.4	15.5	9.4	12.7
1993.1	33.6	-	2.9	14.0	14.4	9.3	12.0
1993.2	32.5	-	2.6	13.4	14.8	9.1	12.5
1993.3	30.1	-	3.2	13.4	15.4	9.1	13.7
1993.4	23.3	-	3.5	12.8	16.4	10.4	14.0
1994.1	-	-	3.5	12.5	16.7	11.5	14.5 e
<i>Female registered unemployment rate</i>							
1989	8.4	-	-	0.4	-	-	-
1990	10.9	2.2	-	0.8	3.8	-	1.2
1991	10.5	8.1	3.0	3.5	11.9	4.0	6.9
1992	28.4	14.3	3.6	9.0	15.7	10.7	11.7
1993	32.4	17.4	3.5	11.4	17.5	11.7	12.9
1993.1	36.1	-	3.3	11.6	16.1	11.4 e	11.9
1993.2	36.9	-	3.2	11.4	16.8	11.3 e	12.5
1993.3	32.2	-	3.9	11.6	17.6	11.6	14.4
1993.4	24.1	-	4.1	10.9	17.9	12.9	14.5
1994.1	-	-	4.0	10.2	17.9	13.6	14.3 e
<i>Male registered unemployment rate</i>							
1989	6.6	-	-	0.5	-	-	-
1990	8.8	0.9	-	1.0	3.1	-	0.8
1991	8.3	5.5	2.3	4.8	7.8	2.2	6.3
1992	25.1	12.3	2.6	12.0	11.8	6.2	11.1
1993	27.6	14.2	2.4	15.2	13.7	7.4	12.5
1993.1	31.3	-	2.5	16.1	13.0	7.5	12.1
1993.2	28.5	-	2.1	15.4	13.1	7.1	12.4
1993.3	28.3	-	2.5	15.1	13.5	6.9	13.2
1993.4	22.6	-	3.0	14.5	15.0	8.1	14.4
1994.1	-	-	3.0	14.6	15.5	9.6	14.7 e

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<b>Price and wage inflation (% pa)</b>							
<i>Consumer price inflation</i>							
1989	-	5.6	1.4	17.0	251.1	1.1	1.3
1990	-	23.8	9.7	28.9	585.8	5.1	10.4
1991	-	338.5	56.6	35.0	70.3	174.5	61.2
1992	-	79.4	11.1	23.0	43.0	210.9	10.0
1993	-	59.1	25.2	22.5	35.3	256.1	23.2
1993.1	-	69.0	21.7	24.7	39.0	171.0	19.1
1993.2	-	61.9	21.8	21.7	36.0	213.3	22.4
1993.3	-	53.5	21.2	22.2	33.4	280.6	25.7
1993.4	-	52.0	18.7	21.7	35.5	308.2	25.6
1994.1	-	55.1	10.0	16.8	30.8	265.3	15.5
<i>Wage inflation<sup>H10</sup></i>							
1989	-	8.8	2.2	17.9	291.8	4.0	2.8
1990	-	31.5	3.7	28.6	398.0	10.5	3.9
1991	-	152.8	15.4	30.0	70.6	121.3	16.6
1992	-	112.7	22.5	25.1	38.8	170.0	20.3
1993	-	53.3	25.0	22.0	33.8	196.5	17.5
1993.1	-	58.6	27.4	20.2	43.7	136.1	18.5
1993.2	-	63.1	28.1	23.9	39.7	178.6	17.9
1993.3	-	54.6	24.4	22.5	26.6	244.0	18.9
1993.4	-	36.8	20.9	21.3	24.4	222.0	15.5
1994.1	-	55.1	14.9	24.8	34.6	241.0	17.4
<i>Real wage growth</i>							
1989	-	3.0	0.8	0.8	11.6	2.1	1.4
1990	-	6.2	-5.5	-0.2	-27.4	5.6	-6.1
1991	-	-42.3	-26.3	-3.7	0.2	-17.2	-25.2
1992	-	18.6	10.3	1.7	-2.9	-13.0	8.7
1993	-	1.1	3.6	-0.4	-1.1	-16.7	-4.3
1993.1	-	-6.3	4.7	-3.6	3.4	-12.9	-0.4
1993.2	-	0.7	5.2	1.8	2.7	-11.1	-2.2
1993.3	-	0.7	2.7	0.2	-5.1	-9.7	-4.9
1993.4	-	-10.0	1.9	-0.3	-5.8	-21.1	-7.4
1994.1	-	1.1	4.5	6.8	2.9	-6.7	1.7
<b>Social protection (% av wage)<sup>R8</sup></b>							
<i>Minimum wage<sup>P9</sup></i>							
1989	68.0	51.1	-	35.0	11.6	63.7	-
1990	66.0	44.6	-	42.0	21.4	73.0	-
1991	65.0	58.4	51.1	39.0	34.7	60.3	52.0
1992	40.0	35.9	45.9	36.0	37.0	45.7	47.5
1993	27.2	-	36.5	33.0	40.1	-	42.1
1993.1	31.0	-	41.1	39.0	41.1	-	46.4
1993.2	30.5	-	36.6	35.0	39.3	-	42.5
1993.3	25.2	-	37.0	33.0	41.3	-	41.0
1993.4	23.7	-	32.2	28.0	38.8	-	39.2
1994.1	50.0	-	36.7	35.0	39.2	-	44.4
<i>Average unemployment benefit<sup>B10 P10</sup></i>							
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1991	-	60.6	46.3	41.0	-	-	43.8
1992	56.0	38.1	24.8	39.3	36.0	-	31.6
1993	38.4	35.5	-	36.6	36.0	-	29.2
1993.1	37.0	37.0	-	39.6	36.0	-	33.6
1993.2	36.2	36.2	-	36.7	36.0	-	29.8



	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Average unemployment benefit</i> <sup>B10 P10</sup>							
1993.3	33.2	33.2	-	36.0	36.0	-	28.2
1993.4	35.6	35.6	-	30.1	36.0	-	25.8
1994.1	63.9	34.5	-	36.0	36.0	-	31.1 e
<i>Minimum pension</i>							
1989	64.0	25.5	31.2	36.0	23.8	31.5	32.5
1990	61.0	34.3	40.3	34.0	33.5	30.1	32.7
1991	91.0	34.0	46.6	29.0	33.7	33.1	39.4
1992	48.0	-	41.3	25.9	29.3	35.5	37.3
1993	32.5	-	34.2	24.3	30.5	-	37.0
1993.1	33.2	-	37.0	26.7	32.0	-	39.3
1993.2	32.1	-	34.3	24.6	32.3	-	39.0
1993.3	29.9	-	34.6	24.0	30.8	-	37.6
1993.4	34.9	-	33.1	20.4	28.5	-	32.9
1994.1	45.4	-	36.5	26.0	32.7	-	38.8
<i>Economic activity (% pa)</i>							
<i>GDP constant prices</i> <sup>R9</sup>							
1989	-	-	4.5	-	0.2	-5.8	1.1
1990	-10.0	-9.1	-1.2	-4.0	-11.6	-5.6	-2.5
1991	-21.0	-16.7	-14.2	-10.7	-7.0	-12.9	-11.2
1992	-9.7	-5.7	-6.6 e	-4.5	2.6	-13.8	-7.0 e
1993	11.0	-4.2	-0.3	-2.0 e	3.8	1.0	-4.1 e
1993.1	-	-0.3	-1.8 e	-	-	-	-5.5 e
1993.2	-	-	3.8 e	-	-	-	-5.0 e
1993.3	-	-	0.0 e	-	-	-	-4.3 e
1993.4	-	-	-3.3	-	-	-	-1.6 e
<i>Industrial output</i> <sup>P11 S11</sup>							
1989	-	-0.2	1.5	-	-	-2.1	1.1
1990	-8.2	-17.5	-3.5	-8.5	-24.2	-18.8	-2.7
1991	-42.5	-27.8	-22.3	-19.1	-11.9	-19.6	-21.6
1992	-20.4	-21.9	-10.6	-9.8	3.9	-22.0	-13.7
1993	-	-7.5	-5.3 e	4.0 e	5.6	0.8	-13.5
1993.1	-	-10.8	-4.7 e	-1.3	2.0	-16.2	-16.6
1993.2	-	-5.4	-4.2 e	4.8	9.4	2.4	-13.7
1993.3	-	-8.9	-6.6 e	8.0	2.8	12.8	-13.5
1993.4	-	-6.9	-5.6 e	3.2	8.3	8.1	-10.3
1994.1	-25.1	8.7	-0.7	9.4	10.4	-2.8	2.4 e
<i>Consumers' expenditure const prices</i> <sup>R9</sup>							
1989	-	-	2.9	-	-0.3	1.4	3.6
1990	-	-	1.9	-3.3	-15.3	8.9	4.4
1991	-	-	-31.2	-5.6	6.6	-11.7	-27.8
1992	-	-	8.2	-2.2	1.0	-8.5	-
1993	-	-	4.0 e	1.0 e	5.3	1.0	-0.6 e
<i>Fixed investment</i>							
1989	-	-	2.8	-	-2.4	-1.6	4.0
1990	-	-6.1	8.2	-9.8	-10.1	-35.5	11.8
1991	-	41.6	-32.5	-12.0	-4.1	-31.6	-20.0
1992	-	183.4	16.6	-1.3	0.7	-2.2	-
1993	-	-	5.0	0.2 e	1.9	0.7	-3.4 e
<i>External trade (\$m)</i> <sup>B11</sup>							
<i>Trade balance</i> <sup>C6 S12</sup>							
1989	-24	-	-1	197	797	513	-
1990	-38	-198 e	-191	235	1199	-812	-
1991	-38	-11	210	-299	-154	-277	-121

	Albania	Bulgaria	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Slovakia
<i>Trade balance</i> <sup>C6 S12</sup>							
1992	-25	122	-344	-89	-681	-355	-28
1993	-114	34	55	-906	-1173	-282	-75 e
1993.1	-103	-6	584	-766	-989	-393	176 e
1993.2	-93	60	58	-1263	-1884	-208	-136 e
1993.3	-139	164	-8	-419	-600	-74	-8 e
1993.4	-127	-85	-416	-1175	-1218	-452	-329 e
1994.1	-84	20	-	-	-665	138	-130 e
<i>Exports of goods</i>							
1989	94	-	2693	2401	3367	2622	-
1990	57	622 e	2263	2397	3581	1467	-
1991	26	934	1996	2547	3726	1066	826
1992	20	1273	2224	2678	3297	1091	935
1993	28	1175	3194	2227	3536	1223	1482 e
1993.1	28	862	3046	1873	3223	1098	1340 e
1993.2	26	1053	3342	1941	3503	1184	1473 e
1993.3	24	1218	3044	2249	3579	1359	1517 e
1993.4	35	1568	3342	2844	3838	1252	1600 e
1994.1	28	1928	-	-	3658	1080	1359 e
<i>Imports of goods</i> <sup>P12</sup>							
1989	119	-	2694	2205	2569	2109	-
1990	95	821 e	2454	2162	2382	2279	-
1991	64	945	1786	2846	3880	1343	947
1992	45	1152	2568	2767	3978	1446	963
1993	142	1147	3139	3133	4709	1505	1557 e
1993.1	131	867	2462	2639	4212	1492	1164 e
1993.2	119	993	3284	3204	5386	1392	1609 e
1993.3	163	1054	3052	2668	4180	1433	1525 e
1993.4	162	1654	3758	4019	5056	1704	1929 e
1994.1	112	1908	-	-	4323	942	1489 e

## Regional labour force and unemployment

	Labour force ('000s)	Registered unemployed ('000s)	rate (%)		Labour force ('000s)	Registered unemployed ('000s)	rate (%)
<b>Albania</b>				<b>Burgas</b>			
<i>North-East</i>				1993.3			
1989	-	-	-	1993.4	277	56	14.4
1990	-	-	-	1994.1	264	59	15.2
1991	-	-	-	<i>Varna</i>			
1992	-	-	-	1989	458	-	-
1993	312	91	29.2	1990	434	5	1.1
1993.1	-	-	-	1991	410	41	10.0
1993.2	-	-	-	1992	397	51	12.7
1993.3	-	-	-	1993	298	47	11.6
1993.4	-	-	-	1993.1	308	50	12.4
1994.1	-	-	-	1993.2	302	43	11.3
<i>Central region</i>				1993.3	296	43	10.4
1989	-	-	-	1993.4	288	56	13.5
1990	-	-	-	1994.1	279	57	13.7
1991	-	-	-	<i>Lovetch</i>			
1992	-	-	-	1989	542	-	-
1993	661	153	23.2	1990	520	5	1.0
1993.1	-	-	-	1991	462	44	9.5
1993.2	-	-	-	1992	450	63	13.3
1993.3	-	-	-	1993	362	70	14.9
1993.4	-	-	-	1993.1	369	71	14.2
1994.1	-	-	-	1993.2	365	68	14.5
<i>South</i>				1993.3	363	69	15.5
1989	-	-	-	1993.4	352	70	15.8
1990	-	-	-	1994.1	338	66	14.8
1991	-	-	-	<i>Montana</i>			
1992	-	-	-	1989	328	-	-
1993	320	57	17.8	1990	309	5	1.6
1993.1	-	-	-	1991	281	35	12.5
1993.2	-	-	-	1992	285	55	19.3
1993.3	-	-	-	1993	219	61	21.8
1993.4	-	-	-	1993.1	225	58	20.1
1994.1	-	-	-	1993.2	221	60	20.9
<b>Bulgaria</b>				1993.3	219	62	23.2
<i>Sofia Town</i>				1993.4	213	60	24.1
1989	619	-	-	1994.1	203	63	23.5
1990	588	8	1.3	<i>Plovdiv</i>			
1991	533	44	8.3	1989	601	-	-
1992	527	48	8.9	1990	587	14	2.4
1993	421	48	9.0	1991	541	76	14.0
1993.1	431	48	8.9	1992	545	98	19.2
1993.2	423	47	8.8	1993	420	99	18.9
1993.3	418	49	9.1	1993.1	428	100	18.9
1993.4	411	45	8.6	1993.2	424	100	19.6
1994.1	400	44	8.3	1993.3	419	100	17.8
<i>Burgas</i>				1993.4	407	99	17.5
1989	419	-	-	1994.1	397	105	18.7
1990	403	7	1.7	<i>Russe</i>			
1991	378	39	10.3	1989	375	-	-
1992	380	59	16.0	1990	364	5	1.3
1993	277	58	15.4	1991	342	36	10.5
1993.1	287	60	16.2	1992	338	57	17.7
1993.2	280	56	15.7	1993	253	64	19.2

	Labour force ( '000s)	Registered unemployed ( '000s)	rate (%)		Labour force ( '000s)	Registered unemployed ( '000s)	rate (%)
<b>Russe</b>				<b>N. Bohemia</b>			
1993.1	260	69	20.2	1991	613	16	2.6
1993.2	257	63	20.7	1992	608	20	3.4
1993.3	251	59	16.6	1993	603	21	3.4
1993.4	243	66	18.6	1993.1	603	20	3.4
1994.1	231	61	17.2	1993.2	603	19	3.1
<b>Softa district</b>				1993.3	603	22	3.7
1989	530	-	-	1993.4	603	25	4.2
1990	502	11	2.2	1994.1	-	-	-
1991	443	56	12.6	<b>E. Bohemia</b>			
1992	442	73	16.0	1989	-	-	-
1993	324	72	16.0	1990	661	2	0.3
1993.1	336	72	15.5	1991	659	16	2.4
1993.2	326	68	15.2	1992	635	19	2.9
1993.3	322	74	16.7	1993	636	15	2.4
1993.4	314	74	16.7	1993.1	636	15	2.4
1994.1	307	77	17.3	1993.2	636	13	2.1
<b>Haskovo</b>				1993.3	636	17	2.6
1989	494	-	-	1993.4	636	18	2.9
1990	457	6	1.3	1994.1	-	-	-
1991	429	48	11.2	<b>S. Moravia</b>			
1992	410	73	17.5	1989	-	-	-
1993	320	82	19.7	1990	1025	3	0.3
1993.1	321	76	17.7	1991	1039	31	3.0
1993.2	320	81	18.8	1992	1024	37	3.6
1993.3	320	87	21.0	1993	1031	34	3.3
1993.4	317	92	22.3	1993.1	1031	34	3.3
1994.1	304	86	21.0	1993.2	1031	30	2.9
<b>Czech Rep</b>				1993.3	1031	35	3.4
<b>Mid Bohemia</b>				1993.4	1031	40	3.9
1989	-	-	-	1994.1	-	-	-
1990	1277	3	0.3	<b>N. Moravia</b>			
1991	1248	23	1.8	1989	-	-	-
1992	1214	20	1.7	1990	994	5	0.5
1993	1230	18	1.5	1991	1010	38	3.8
1993.1	1232	18	1.5	1992	990	47	4.8
1993.2	1232	16	1.3	1993	982	49	5.0
1993.3	1232	19	1.5	1993.1	982	46	4.7
1993.4	1232	20	1.6	1993.2	982	45	4.6
1994.1	-	-	-	1993.3	982	55	5.6
<b>S. &amp; W. Bohemia</b>				1993.4	982	61	6.2
1989	-	-	-	1994.1	-	-	-
1990	799	2	0.3	<b>Hungary</b>			
1991	800	18	2.3	<b>Trans Danubian</b>			
1992	781	20	2.5	1989	1025 e	7	0.7
1993	782	18	2.3	1990	993 e	11	1.1
1993.1	782	18	2.3	1991	959 e	49	5.0
1993.2	782	15	2.0	1992	972 e	112	11.6
1993.3	782	19	2.4	1993	928 e	134	14.4
1993.4	782	21	2.7	1993.1	932 e	140	15.0
1994.1	-	-	-	1993.2	931 e	134	14.4
<b>N. Bohemia</b>				1993.3	928 e	133	14.3
1989	-	-	-	1993.4	919 e	128	13.9
1990	618	2	0.2	1994.1	-	-	-

	Labour force			Registered unemployed		
	('000s)	('000s)	rate (%)	('000s)	('000s)	rate (%)
<i>Great Plain</i>						
1989	900 e	4	0.4			
1990	874 e	9	1.0			
1991	853 e	50	6.0			
1992	856 e	120	14.0			
1993	819 e	147	17.9			
1993.1	823 e	154	18.7			
1993.2	822 e	147	17.9			
1993.3	820 e	146	17.8			
1993.4	810 e	139	17.2			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<i>North-East</i>						
1989	1053 e	10	1.0			
1990	1026 e	21	2.0			
1991	1012 e	85	8.0			
1992	996 e	189	18.8			
1993	967 e	218	22.5			
1993.1	972 e	228	23.5			
1993.2	971 e	218	22.5			
1993.3	969 e	219	22.6			
1993.4	957 e	208	21.7			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<i>North-West &amp; Budapest</i>						
1989	1918 e	3	0.2			
1990	1852 e	5	0.3			
1991	1759 e	44	3.0			
1992	1828 e	136	7.5			
1993	1785 e	173	9.7			
1993.1	1795 e	177	9.9			
1993.2	1793 e	175	9.8			
1993.3	1788 e	175	9.7			
1993.4	1765 e	165	9.3			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<b>Poland</b>						
<i>Stoleczny</i>						
1989	-	-	-			
1990	2331	101	4.3			
1991	2291	204	8.9			
1992	2264	238	10.5			
1993	2229	301	13.5			
1993.1	2206	260	11.8			
1993.2	2222	272	12.2			
1993.3	2219	294	13.3			
1993.4	2229	301	13.5			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<i>Pólnocno-Wschodni</i>						
1989	-	-	-			
1990	1111	106	9.5			
1991	1129	185	16.4			
1992	1132	211	18.6			
1993	1134	249	22.0			
1993.1	1115	222	19.9			
1993.2	1123		22.9			
1993.3	1124	240	21.4			
<i>Pólnocno-Wschodni</i>						
1993.4	1134	249	22.0			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<i>Pólnocny</i>						
1989	-	-	-			
1990	1724	110	6.4			
1991	1747	244	14.0			
1992	1726	295	17.1			
1993	1701	334	19.6			
1993.1	1696	312	18.4			
1993.2	1699	312	18.4			
1993.3	1686	322	19.1			
1993.4	1701	334	19.6			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<i>Srodkowo-Zachodni</i>						
1989	-	-	-			
1990	2606	176	6.7			
1991	2602	333	12.8			
1992	2686	399	14.9			
1993	2713	457	16.9			
1993.1	2698	419	15.5			
1993.2	2714	430	15.8			
1993.3	2703	451	16.7			
1993.4	2713	457	16.9			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<i>Pólnudniowo Zachodni</i>						
1989	-	-	-			
1990	1918	140	7.3			
1991	1869	260	13.9			
1992	1888	297	15.7			
1993	1874	343	18.3			
1993.1	1867	319	17.1			
1993.2	1875	324	17.3			
1993.3	1867	339	18.2			
1993.4	1874	343	18.3			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<i>Pólnudniowy</i>						
1989	-	-	-			
1990	3032	122	4.0			
1991	2924	242	8.3			
1992	2972	289	9.7			
1993	3027	330	10.9			
1993.1	3024	296	9.8			
1993.2	3036	302	9.9			
1993.3	3016	323	10.7			
1993.4	3027	330	10.9			
1994.1	-	-	-			
<i>Srodkowy</i>						
1989	-	-	-			
1990	1586	125	7.9			
1991	1573	235	14.9			
1992	1619	258	15.9			
1993	1568	293	18.8			

	Labour force ( '000s)	Registered unemployed ( '000s)	rate (%)		Labour force ( '000s)	Registered unemployed ( '000s)	rate (%)
<i>Srodkowy</i>				<i>N. Muntenia</i>			
1993.1	1561	275	17.6	1991	1253	33	2.6
1993.2	1568	280	17.9	1992	1325	98	7.4
1993.3	1564	292	18.7	1993	-	132	9.9
1993.4	1568	293	18.8	1993.1	-	115	8.7
1994.1	-	-	-	1993.2	-	109	8.2
<i>Poludniowo Wschodni</i>				1993.3	-	107	8.1
1989	-	-	-	1993.4	-	132	9.9
1990	3059	181	5.9	1994.1	-	148	10.1
1991	3024	337	11.1	<i>Oltenia</i>			
1992	3083	402	13.0	1989	1183	-	-
1993	3080	437	14.2	1990	1190	-	-
1993.1	3085	419	13.6	1991	1154	41	3.4
1993.2	3091	422	13.6	1992	1225	98	8.0
1993.3	3068	428	13.9	1993	-	135	11.0
1993.4	3080	437	14.2	1993.1	-	117	9.5
1994.1	-	-	-	1993.2	-	112	9.2
<i>Srodkowo-Wschodni</i>				1993.3	-	115	9.4
1989	-	-	-	1993.4	-	135	11.0
1990	1060	65	6.1	1994.1	-	146	12.0
1991	1055	115	10.9	<i>Banat</i>			
1992	1075	121	11.2	1989	1094	-	-
1993	1091	145	13.2	1990	1047	-	-
1993.1	1080	126	11.7	1991	1018	26	2.5
1993.2	1086	131	12.1	1992	1047	71	6.8
1993.3	1086	141	12.9	1993	-	91	8.7
1993.4	1091	145	13.2	1993.1	-	80	7.6
1994.1	-	-	-	1993.2	-	76	7.3
<b>Romania</b>				1993.3	-	82	7.8
<i>Bucharest</i>				1993.4	-	91	8.7
1989	1525	-	-	1994.1	-	98	9.4
1990	1497	-	-	<i>Central</i>			
1991	1542	30	1.9	1989	1361	-	-
1992	1620	87	5.4	1990	1310	-	-
1993	-	111	6.9	1991	1305	24	1.8
1993.1	-	95	5.8	1992	1330	90	6.8
1993.2	-	92	5.7	1993	-	120	9.0
1993.3	-	102	6.3	1993.1	-	102	7.6
1993.4	-	111	6.9	1993.2	-	100	7.6
1994.1	-	117	7.6	1993.3	-	103	7.7
<i>Constanta</i>				1993.4	-	120	9.0
1989	928	-	-	1994.1	-	132	10.0
1990	936	-	-	<i>Cluj</i>			
1991	938	37	3.8	1989	1438	-	-
1992	1005	92	9.2	1990	1412	-	-
1993	-	105	10.5	1991	1423	47	3.2
1993.1	-	100	9.9	1992	1512	135	8.9
1993.2	-	97	9.7	1993	-	145	9.6
1993.3	-	95	9.4	1993.1	-	161	10.6
1993.4	-	105	10.5	1993.2	-	169	11.2
1994.1	-	117	11.7	1993.3	-	148	9.8
<i>N. Muntenia</i>				1993.4	-	145	9.6
1989	1259	-	-	1994.1	-	160	10.7
1990	1257	-	-				

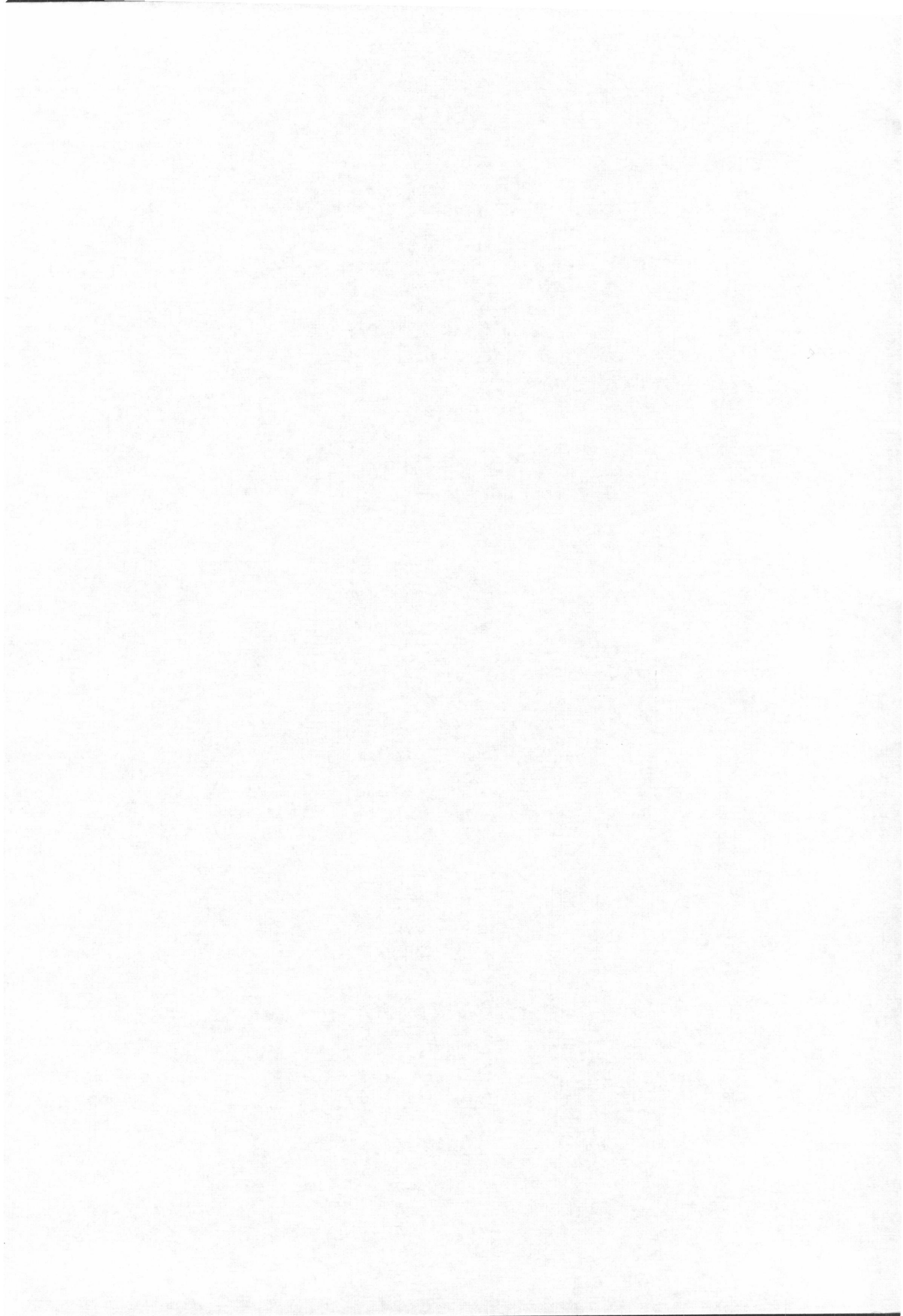
	Labour force ('000s)	Registered unemployed	
		('000s)	rate (%)
<b>N. Moldova</b>			
1989	1164	-	-
1990	1189	-	-
1991	1164	58	4.7
1992	1258	141	11.2
1993	-	175	13.9
1993.1	-	161	12.8
1993.2	-	152	12.1
1993.3	-	160	12.7
1993.4	-	175	13.9
1994.1	-	198	15.9
<b>S. Moldova</b>			
1989	994	-	-
1990	1002	-	-
1991	989	42	4.0
1992	1066	115	10.8
1993	-	151	14.2
1993.1	-	134	12.5
1993.2	-	128	12.0
1993.3	-	128	12.0
1993.4	-	161	14.2
1994.1	-	177	16.6
<b>Slovakia</b>			
<b>Bratislava</b>			
1989	289	-	-
1990	275	1	0.3
1991	287	11	3.7
1992	290 e	16	5.7
1993	222 e	13	4.4
1993.1	212 e	13	4.4
1993.2	222 e	13	4.3
1993.3	228 e	14	4.8
1993.4	226 e	13	4.5
1994.1	226	13	4.3

	Labour force ('000s)	Registered unemployed	
		('000s)	rate (%)
<b>W. Slovakia</b>			
1989	744	-	-
1990	722	4	0.5
1991	738	55	7.2
1992	730 e	96	12.7
1993	790 e	106	13.8
1993.1	775 e	101	13.1
1993.2	789 e	104	13.6
1993.3	793 e	114	14.9
1993.4	803 e	118	15.4
1994.1	798	118	15.4
<b>Mid Slovakia</b>			
1989	760	-	-
1990	734	4	0.5
1991	737	50	6.4
1992	724 e	86	11.0
1993	733 e	97	12.6
1993.1	720 e	91	11.8
1993.2	732 e	95	12.3
1993.3	741 e	106	13.7
1993.4	740 e	114	14.8
1994.1	732	114	14.7
<b>E. Slovakia</b>			
1989	674	-	-
1990	664	6	0.9
1991	674	52	7.5
1992	665 e	89	12.8
1993	659 e	107	15.1
1993.1	644 e	101	14.3
1993.2	655 e	106	14.9
1993.3	668 e	116	16.3
1993.4	667 e	123	17.4
1994.1	663	126	17.8

Year	Month	Day	Event	Location	Notes
1945	Jan	1	...	...	...
1945	Jan	2	...	...	...
1945	Jan	3	...	...	...
1945	Jan	4	...	...	...
1945	Jan	5	...	...	...
1945	Jan	6	...	...	...
1945	Jan	7	...	...	...
1945	Jan	8	...	...	...
1945	Jan	9	...	...	...
1945	Jan	10	...	...	...
1945	Jan	11	...	...	...
1945	Jan	12	...	...	...
1945	Jan	13	...	...	...
1945	Jan	14	...	...	...
1945	Jan	15	...	...	...
1945	Jan	16	...	...	...
1945	Jan	17	...	...	...
1945	Jan	18	...	...	...
1945	Jan	19	...	...	...
1945	Jan	20	...	...	...
1945	Jan	21	...	...	...
1945	Jan	22	...	...	...
1945	Jan	23	...	...	...
1945	Jan	24	...	...	...
1945	Jan	25	...	...	...
1945	Jan	26	...	...	...
1945	Jan	27	...	...	...
1945	Jan	28	...	...	...
1945	Jan	29	...	...	...
1945	Jan	30	...	...	...
1945	Jan	31	...	...	...







## Notes to tables

e estimated

— break in series - figures before and after the line not directly comparable

### Albania

Sources: The data come from the National Statistical Institute and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. As yet no Labour Force Survey results are available so that the labour force and employment figures are administrative data plus estimates for the private sector and the only unemployment figures are from Labour Office registrations.

- 1 Working age is 15-54 for women and 15-59 for men
- 2 Excluding armed forces
- 3 The figures for employment by sector are for the end of the year
- 4 The numbers employed in the private sector were 30 thousand in 1991, 62 thousand in 1992 and 80 thousand in 1993
- 5 The figure relates to registered unemployed and is for the end of the year

### Bulgaria

Sources: The data come from the National Statistical Institute and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. The first Labour Force Survey was carried out in September 1993. The labour force and employment figures are administrative data plus estimates for the private sector.

- 1 Not corrected for immigrants and emigrants
- 2 Includes all persons of working age, men aged 16-59, women aged 16-54 and those outside the working age limits who take part in economic activities, as well as foreigners working in the country under special inter-governmental agreements
- 3 Including women on maternity leave. The division between men and women is estimated. The figures for 1991, 1992 and 1993 include estimates of the employed in the private sector. These estimates have been incompletely allocated between sectors and therefore the sectoral figures do not sum to the total.
- 4 Quarterly data on employed refer to state and cooperative enterprises only. Annual figures for 1991, 1992 and 1993, however, also include estimates for the private sector
- 5 Including mining, electricity and water supply in 1992
- 6 Figures include people employed in central and local government, juridical and legal agencies and state archives
- 7 No separate data available on self-employed and employees before the LFS results
- 8 Unemployed up to 30 years old based on the registered figures. The LFS for September 1993 gives figures for the total unemployed of under 25 of 249 thousand and of 121 thousand for women and 128 thousand for men
- 9 Since the figures for active population are not available, activity rates are calculated on the basis of civilian labour force
- 10 Expressed as a percentage of the average wage in the state and cooperative sectors only
- 11 The figures coming from the border declarations are as follows:

	1992	1993
Trade balance	-212	-330
Exports	3956	3971
Imports	4169	4301

### Czech Republic

Sources: Population data are from the *Annual Demographic Statistics*, adjusted to be consistent with the Population Census, 1991. Labour force and employment annual data are based on establishment surveys and, in the case of the armed forces and the self-employed, on administrative records, adjusted in the latter case by the results of a small sample survey of the self-employed. Price inflation data are based on a sample survey of selected shops and other outlets (and on a standard basket of selected goods and services). Wage inflation data come from establishment surveys of firms with 25 or more employees. Social protection figures are calculated from legislative regulations and, in the case of the average wage, from establishment surveys. Industrial output estimates come from establishment surveys, adjusted for the self-employed. External trade data before 1991 are from establishment surveys and since 1991 from customs statistics.

- 1 Working age is 15-54 for women, 15-59 for men
- 2 Excluding apprentices and women on unpaid maternity leave. Quarterly figures come from the LFS and include apprentices, all women on maternity leave and professionals in military service and exclude conscripts
- 3 Annual figures are total number of jobs - ie multiple job holders are counted more than once - and exclude apprentices and women on maternity leave. Quarterly figures come from the LFS
- 4 Excluding those employed in productive cooperatives

5 Figures come from the LFS

6 Up to and including 1992, excluding trade between the Czech and Slovak Republics

## Hungary

Sources: Population data are averages of updated Census of Population figures for 1st January of consecutive years. Labour force and employment figures since 1992 are from quarterly Labour Force Surveys and before 1992 from various sources. The classification of employment by sector since 1992 is based on the Hungarian equivalent of ISIC rev. 3 and before 1992 is specially estimated by the Central Statistical Office. The sources of other data are similar to those for the Czech Republic described above.

- 1 Working age is 15-54 for women, 15-59 for men
- 2 Active population = employed + registered unemployed. The number of employed = the number of employees based on annual and quarterly labour force statistics since 1992 and on enterprise statistics and estimations for the previous years, excluding persons who remain away from their workplace for a long period (eg women on child-care leave).
- 3 Including armed forces which are classified to public administration. In 1992, the classification of economic activities was changed. Data for 1992 and 1993 are therefore not directly comparable with those for the previous years
- 4 Including armed forces
- 5 From 1991, the figures exclude the numbers employed in trade and catering and transport and communications which are shown separately
- 6 Including those employed by the self-employed and partnerships
- 7 Registered figures for 1991. LFS figures for 1992 and later periods
- 8 The figure for 1991 includes only benefit recipients. LFS figures for 1992 and later periods
- 9 The registered unemployment rate is the official one based on the national concept of the labour force (ie including all women on maternity leave) as at 1st January estimated from the LFS
- 10 Figures cover all employees in the government sector and employees in economic units with more than 20 employees

## Poland

Sources: Population data are averages based on the Census of Population. Labour force and employment data for 1993 are from the quarterly Labour Force Survey. Annual data before 1993 come from administrative records plus sample surveys of small enterprises and, in the case of agriculture, from Census figures and the LFS. The classification of employment by sector is specially estimated for the Bulletin in the case of the annual figures; the quarterly figures come from the LFS, which uses a Polish version of the European Community NACE classification. Price inflation data are from the retail price survey. Industrial output data are based on monthly statistical reports from all enterprises employing 20, 50 or more people according to the kind of economic activity and a 10% sample of those employing over 5 but less than 20 or 50 as the case may be. Monthly data are checked annually by means of a census survey. External trade data are derived since 1st January 1992 from customs documents and are consistent with UN methodology.

- 1 Working age taken as 15-60. Official working age is 18-59 for women, 18-64 for men. Population figures include all permanent residents irrespective of whether they are in the country or abroad for variable periods of time (perhaps indefinitely). They exclude immigrants resident temporarily (in many cases, for more than a year)
- 2 All figures for active population, civilian labour force and employment have been revised according to new estimates of employment in agriculture from the LFS. Figures exclude civilians in armed forces
- 3 Figures exclude conscripts
- 4 Quarterly figures for 1993 for labour force and employment are from the LFS
- 5 Data for employment by sector is estimated by the CSO
- 6 Includes only central government
- 7 The 1993 figures are from the LFS
- 8 The registered unemployment rate for the last quarter 1993 is based on the new estimate of employment. The figures based on old employment data are: 15.4% for total unemployed, 17.6% for female unemployed and 13.7% for male unemployed
- 9 As a % of average net wage
- 10 From March 1992, unemployed persons receive an unemployment benefit equal to 36% of the average monthly wage
- 11 Data for 1991 and 1992 were calculated according to the National Accounts concepts (SNA 1993). From January 1994, the European Classification of Activities (Polish version of NACE) has been introduced covering all units with more than 5 employees. 1993 figures have been revised according to the new system of classification
- 13 Figure for 1992 is CIF

## Romania

Sources: The data come from the National Commission for Statistics. As yet no Labour Force Survey results are available so that the labour force and employment figures are administrative data plus estimates for the private sector and the only unemployment figures are from Labour Office registrations.

- 1 Figures for 1992 come from the Census of Population
- 2 Working age is 16-54 for women, 16-59 for men
- 3 No data for armed forces
- 4 Figures based on a new system for distinguishing sectors of activity recently introduced and conforming with the standard international classification (ISIC). Figures are for the end of the period in each case
- 5 Including individual agricultural workers
- 6 The figures up to and including 1993 include unemployment benefit recipients only. The 1994.Q1 figure comes from the LFS
- 7 Unemployed for nine months and over up to and including 1993. The 1994.Q1 figure comes from the LFS. For 1993, figures for long-term unemployed do not include those for whom the period of entitlement to benefit has expired
- 8 Figures are calculated on the basis of net rather than gross wages
- 9 Provisional data

## Slovak Republic

Sources: The data are derived from similar sources as described above for the Czech Republic, since before January 1993, the two countries shared a common statistical system.

- 1 Working age is 15-54 for women, 15-59 for men
- 2 Quarterly figures for 1993 for labour force and employment come from the LFS
- 3 Figures for 1989 and 1993 are for the end of the year
- 4 Figures include women on maternity leave up to 28 weeks. Quarterly figures for 1993 come from the LFS
- 5 Total number of jobs including multiple job holders. Apprentices and all women on maternity leave are excluded. Quarterly figures come from the LFS and the total figures include women on maternity leave up to 28 weeks while the figures for employment by sector include all women on maternity leave
- 6 Figures for 1993 come from the LFS. They exclude members of productive cooperatives and include all women on maternity leave
- 7 Figures for 1993 come from the LFS and include all women on maternity leave
- 8 Figures for 1991 and 1992 are based on registrations and are for the end of the year. Figures from 1993 onwards come from the LFS
- 9 Figures for 1991 and 1992 are based on registrations and are for the end of the year. Figures from 1993 onwards come from the LFS. The figures for 1993 exclude the long-term unemployed without previous employment experience. The figure for 1994.Q1 includes all long-term unemployed
- 10 Figures for registered unemployment are calculated on the basis of the civilian labour force including all women on maternity leave, while LFS figures include only women on maternity leave up to 28 weeks
- 11 From 1989 to 1991 including construction. Quarterly figures are preliminary
- 12 Including trade with Czech Republic



# Acknowledgements

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The production of the Bulletin is coordinated by Alphametrics in collaboration with the contributors listed below who provided the data and their interpretation of what is happening in their countries.

**There is a broad degree of consensus between the contributors about the nature and scale of the developments described and analysed. However, the views expressed in this Bulletin do not necessarily reflect, in every case, the views of all the experts.**

## Contributors

### Albania

*Silvana Eski*  
Ministry of Labour, Emigration and  
Social Protection

*Vojsava Progri*  
Institute of Statistics

### Bulgaria

*Iskra Spasova Beleva*  
Institute of Economics, Bulgarian Academy of  
Sciences

*Snejana Georgieva Iovcheva*  
Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

*Miltcho Mladenov*  
National Statistical Institute

### Czech Republic

*Jaroslav Kux*  
Research Institute for Labour and Social Affairs  
Czech Statistical Office

*Marta Moravcova*  
Czech Statistical Office

### Hungary

*Agnes Hars*  
Labour Research Institute

*Judit Lakatos*  
Central Statistical Office

*Janos Timar*  
University of Economic Science, Budapest

### Poland

*Jan Kordos*  
*Janusz Witkowski*  
Central Statistical Office

*Adam Kurzynowski*  
Warsaw School of Economics

*Eugeniusz Kwiatkowski*  
Institute of Economics, University of Lodz

### Romania

*Mircea Cosea*  
Council for Coordination Strategy and  
Economic Reform

*Ilie Dumitrescu*  
National Commission for Statistics

*Gheorghe Raboaca*  
Ministry of Labour and Social Protection,  
Institute of Labour Research

### Slovak Republic

*Milan Olexa*  
Slovak Statistical Office

### Alphametrics

*Andy Fuller*  
*Jacinta Melia*  
*Shirley Seal*

*Michael Horgan*  
*Loredana Sementini*  
*Terry Ward*

Enquiries about this Bulletin and requests to receive future or past issues should be addressed to:  
Alphametrics, 37 rue van Campenhout, 1040 Brussels, Tel no. +32-2-736-1079, Fax no. +32-2-736-2389 or:  
Commission of the European Communities, DG V/B/1, 200 rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels, Fax no. +32-2-296-1422

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