THE EVOLUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN HUNEDOARA COUNTY IN THE CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC CHANGES

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Abstract: *The paper "Evolution of unemployment in Hunedoara County in the context of economic changes" analyzes the fluctuations of the unemployment rate in Hunedoara County over a period of time between 2013 and 2023. The study is based on official statistical data from the National Employment Agency, the National Institute of Statistics, but also on the analysis of regional economic reports. During the analyzed period, Hunedoara County went through several stages of significant economic transformation, starting with dependence on the extractive industry (coal, mining) and reaching an increasingly diversified economic sector, including areas such as IT, tourism and agriculture.*

• Introduction

Hunedoara County is an administrative unit located in the central-western part of Romania, in the historical region of Transylvania. The county seat is the municipality of Deva. Hunedoara County is part of the West Development Region, and its seat is the municipality of Deva. The county covers an area of 7,063 km², representing approximately 2.9% of the territory of Romania.

The economic profile of Hunedoara County has historically been strongly influenced by heavy industry, especially the extractive, metallurgical and energy industries. Although, in the analyzed period, 2013-2023, significant transformations have been recorded, these sectors remain important, along with the development of other areas, such as services and manufacturing.

• Material and method

The study is based on official statistical data from the National Employment Agency, the National Institute of Statistics, but also on the analysis of regional economic reports (2013-2023). The data analyzed are: number of unemployed, unemployment rate, number of registered unemployed, registered unemployment rate.

• Results and discussions

Table 1

Evolution of number of registered unemployed and unemployment rate in Hunedoara county

Specification	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of registered unemployed persons											
Total	14,476	12,467	11,339	11,339	7,898	5,830	5,157	5,736	6,231	6,170	7,062
Women	6,831	5,926	5,479	5,479	3,766	3,081	2,714	3,156	2,978	3,292	3,820
Recipients of the unemployment benefit (unemployed persons with work experience)											
Total	5,635	3,810	3,020	3,020	3,014	2,579	2,165	3,468	2,885	1,865	2,127
Women	2,385	1,723	1,549	1,549	1,359	1,419	1,212	1,927	1,266	1,044	1,140
Recipients of the unemployment benefit (unemployed persons without work experience)											
Total	1,292	801	591	591	234	203	203	224	133	141	123
Women	599	394	322	322	122	125	175	206	74	70	67
Unemployed persons who do not receive an unemployment benefit											
Total	7,549	7,856	7,728	7,728	4,650	3,048	2,789	2,044	3,213	4,164	4,812
Women	3,847	3,809	3,608	3,608	2,285	1,537	1,327	1,023	1,638	2,178	2,613
Unemployment rate (%)											
Total	7.5	6.6	6.1	6.1	4.5	3.4	3.0	3.4	4.0	4.0	4.5
Women	7.6	6.9	6.3	6.3	4.6	3.8	3.4	4.0	4.3	4.5	5.2

Table 2

Evolution of registered unemployed people by educational level in Hunedoara county

Specification	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Recipients of the unemployment benefit (unemployed persons with work experience)											
Total	5,635	3,810	3,020	3,020	3,014	2,579	2,165	3,468	2,885	1,865	2,127
Primary, lower secondary, vocational education	2,948	2,041	1,529	1,529	1,461	1,309	1,175	1,720	1,358	881	948
Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	1,896	1,275	1,052	1,052	1,124	967	675	1,268	1,106	746	877
Tertiary education	791	494	439	439	429	303	315	480	421	238	302
Recipients of the unemployment benefit (unemployed persons without work experience)											
Total	1,292	801	591	591	234	203	203	224	133	141	123
Primary, lower secondary, vocational education	12	36	27	27	14	-	0	-	16	30	27
Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	1,058	655	467	467	182	174	201	206	97	92	79
Tertiary education	222	110	97	97	38	29	2	18	20	19	17
Unemployed persons who do not receive an unemployment benefit											
Total	7,549	7,856	7,728	7,728	4,650	3,048	2,789	2,044	3,213	4,164	4,812
Primary, lower secondary, vocational education	5,913	5,778	5,278	5,278	3,602	2,219	1,902	1,436	2,393	3,028	3,455
Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	1,359	1,712	1,991	1,991	844	653	678	517	685	966	1,137
Tertiary education	277	366	459	459	204	176	209	91	135	170	220

• Conclusions

The analysis of the possible causes of the evolution of unemployment in Hunedoara County during the period 2013-2023 requires a detailed examination of the economic, political and demographic factors that shaped the local labor market.

Improving the employment situation in Hunedoara County requires a multidimensional approach, addressing both the demand and supply of labor, as well as the structural factors influencing the local labor market.