# Chapter 30

# **Employment and unemployment**

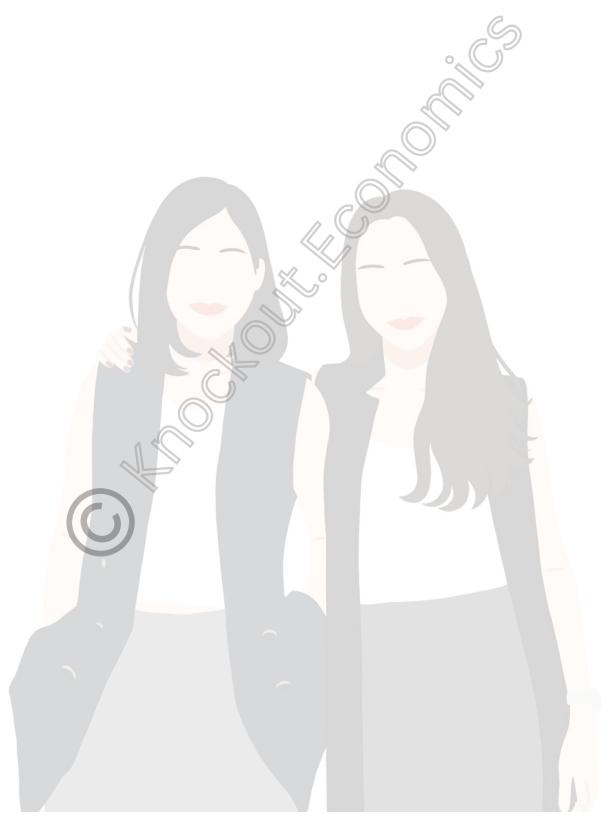
## **Key terms**

- 1. Employment : being involved in productive activity for which a payment is received.
- 2. Unemployment: being without a job while willing and able to work.
- 3. Flexible labour force: a labour force is one which adjusts quickly and smoothly
- 4. to changes in market condition.
- 5. Economically active: those in the labour force, both the employed and the unemployed.
- 6. Economically inactive: those not in the labour force.
- 7. Labour market participation rate: the proportion of the working-age population who are in the labour force.
- 8. Claimant count: a measure of unemployment which counts as unemployed those
- 9. in receipt of unemployment benefits.
- 10. Labour force survey (ILO) measure: a measure of unemployment which counts as
- 11. unemployed people who identify as such in a survey.
- 12. Frictional unemployment : temporary unemployment arising from workers being in between jobs.
- 13. Structural unemployment : unemployment caused by long-term changes in the pattern of demand and methods of production.
- 14. Cyclical unemployment: unemployment caused by a lack of aggregate demand.
- 15. Search unemployment : unemployment arising from workers who have lost their jobs looking for a job they are willing to accept.
- 16. Casual unemployment : unemployment arising from workers regularly being between periods of employment.
- 17. Seasonal unemployment: unemployment caused by a fall in demand at particular times of the year.
- 18. Regional unemployment: unemployment caused by a decline in job opportunities in a particular area of the country.
- 19. Technological unemployment: unemployment caused by workers being replaced by capital equipment.

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20. Full employment: when people who are willing and able to work get a job.

Unemployment is at its lowest possible rate



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## 1. How to measure unemployment

- Count those in receipt of unemployment-related benefits.
- Carry out labour force surveys

## 2. Causes and types of unemployment

## 2.1 Frictional Unemployment:

- Casual unemployment: when workers are out of work between periods of employment.
- Seasonal unemployment: when workers are not in demand in some period of the year
  e.g. workers in tourism

#### 2.2 Structural unemployment

- · Regional unemployment : decline in jobs in a particular area.
- Technological unemployment: workers are replaced by machines.

#### 2.3 Cyclical unemployment

## 3. Consequences of unemployment

#### **Advantages**

#### 3.1 Reduce inflation

- : As people have less income to spend on goods and services
- : There will be less spending and lower AD

## **Disadvantages**

- 3.1 Lower standard of living
- 3.2 Firms receive less revenue and profit
- 3.3 Unemployment reflects inefficient use of resources
- 3.4 Government gains lower tax

#### 4. Policies to reduce unemployment

- 4.1 Reducing income tax
- 4.2 Cutting unemployed benefits
- 4.3 Providing education and training
- 4.4 Increasing in government spending to create job
- 4.5 Reducing interest rate to stimulate investment from producer