

Structural unemployment in Poland

The aim of the presented paper is twofold. Firstly, to estimate structural rate of unemployment in Poland. Secondly, to compare different methods of the estimation basing on wide and narrow definition of structural unemployment.

The analyses provided in the paper focus on not only labour market flows methods related to search and matching processes but also on Phillips curve framework.

Mainly, the labour market variables (wages, unemployment rate, labour flows and labour productivity) are used. Due to methodological issues also extended analysis using prices and interest rates are provided. The data covers period from 1995 to 2017.

To estimate structural unemployment the definition of steady state unemployment proposed by search and matching model is used. Another measure of structural unemployment one can get using Phillips curve hypothesis and the cointegrated VAR models.

The results are as follow. Different methodological approaches employed deliver qualitatively similar results. The structural rate of unemployment during the most part of the analyzed period was lower than observed one. In the first half of 2017 we can see that gap between real and structural unemployment diminished and some symptoms of increasing wage pressure were noticed.

¹ Narodowy Bank Polski and University of Lodz, Poland.