

Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

Conference «Active Ageing for Longer and Better Working Lives»

Designing a strategy for longer and better working lives

1 October, 2015



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

CONTENT

- Demographic challenges
- Labour market situation and challenges
- Active ageing project
- Conclusions



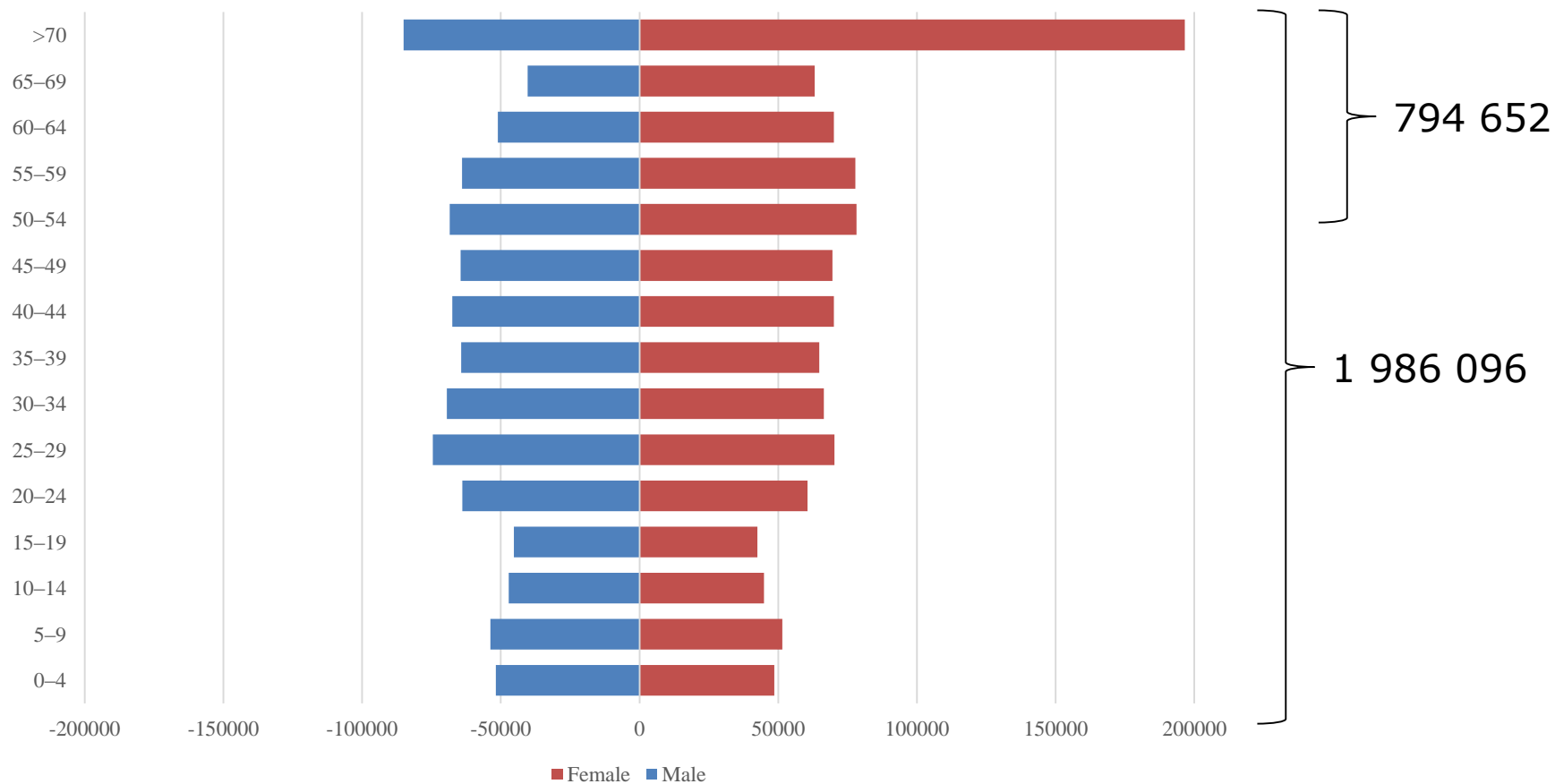
Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

DEMOGRAPHIC CHALLENGES



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

POPULATION IN 2015





Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

MAIN INFLUENCING FACTORS

- Shrinking younger age cohorts rather than large expansion in older age groups.
- Comparatively low total fertility rate – in 2013 in EU28 total fertility rate was 1.55 while in Latvia it was 1.52 (Eurostat).
- Emigration, especially by young and middle-aged Latvians.
- Relatively slow-increasing life expectancy - in 2013 in EU28 life expectancy at birth was 80.6 years while in Latvia it was 74.1 year (Eurostat).



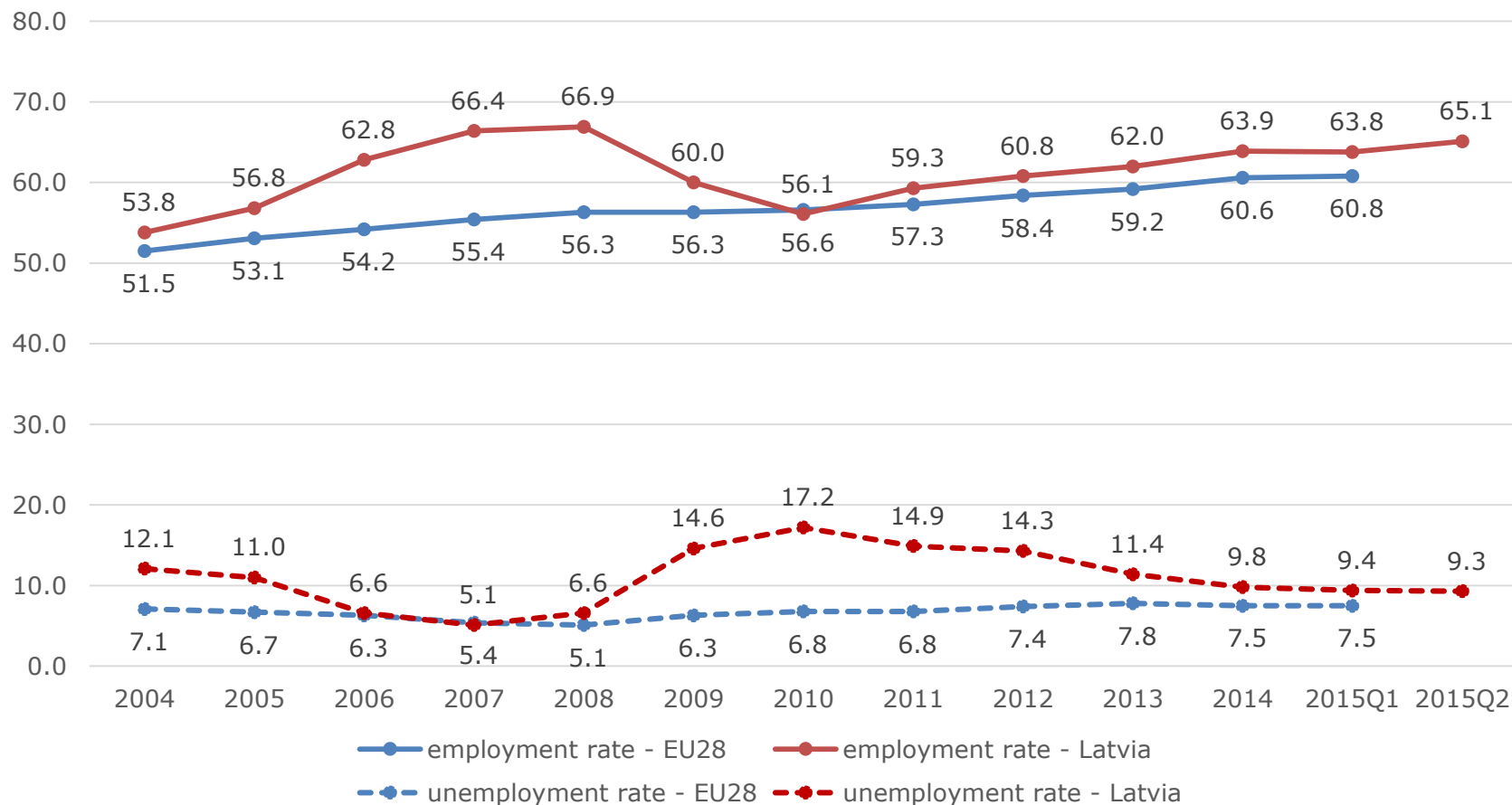
Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

LABOUR MARKET SITUATION AND CHALLENGES



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

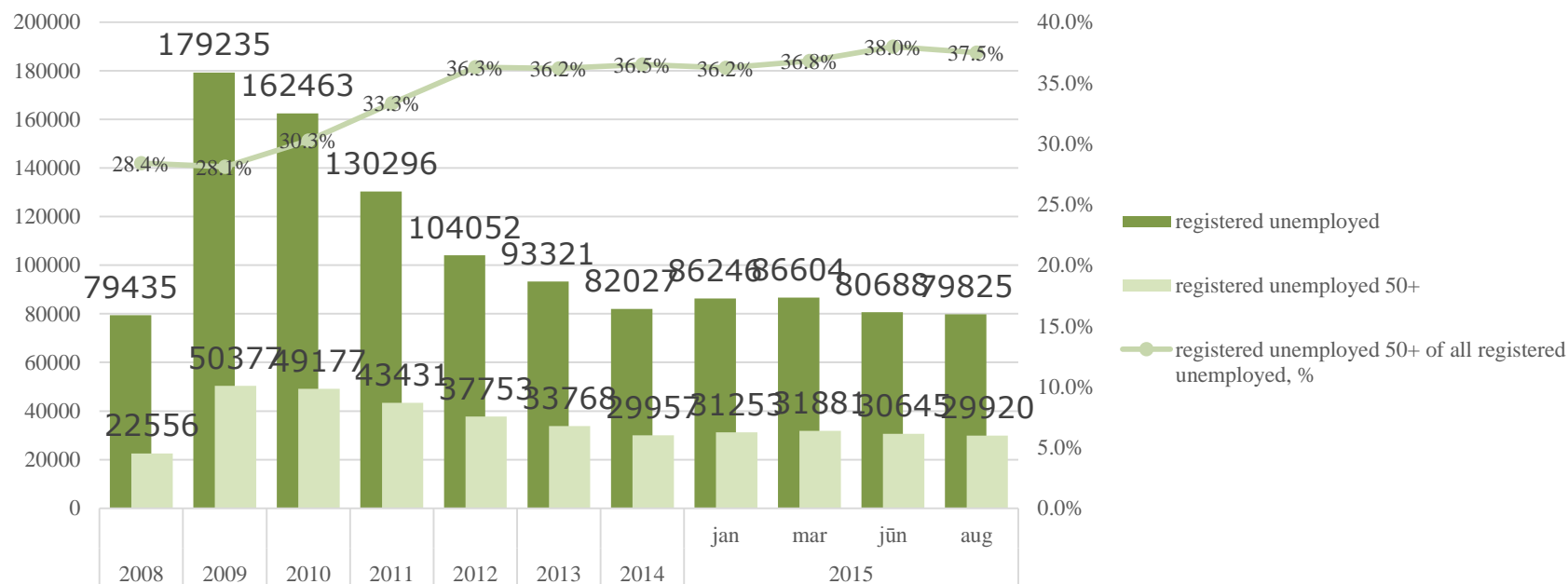
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (50-64 YEARS)





Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED 50+ AUGUST 2015



- 37,5 % of all registered unemployed were aged 50 or above
- long term unemployed – 43,1%
- average unemployment spell – 9,4 months (6,8 months – average)



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

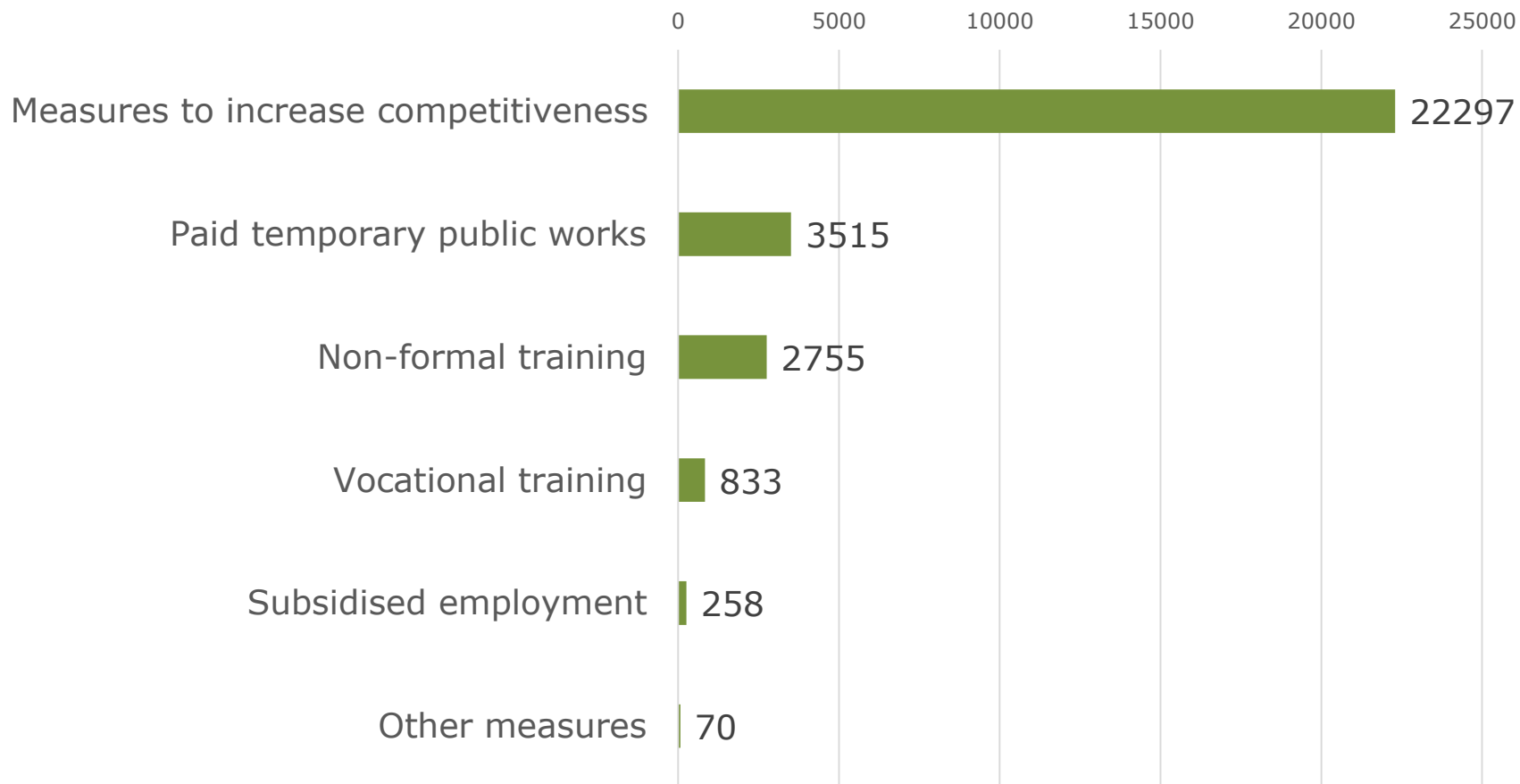
INVOLVEMENT IN ALMP MEASURES (I)

- ALMP measures benefiting older workers depending from their needs.
- Profiling System - to shorten the period of unemployment and prevent potential risks that could delay return in the labour market.
- Result of profiling - most appropriate support, measures and intensity based on job opportunities, self-esteem and motivation.



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

INVOLVEMENT IN ALMP MEASURES (II)



Source: State Employment Agency



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

ACTIVE AGEING PROJECT



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

- Project «Latvia: Developing a Comprehensive Active Ageing Strategy for Longer and Better Working Lives»
- Financed by the European Union under the budget heading 04.03.07: "Analysis and studies on the social situation, demographics and the family"
- Objective: to develop an evidence based and comprehensive active ageing strategy in Latvia that would facilitate longer and better working lives taking into account the considerable demographic challenges the country has to cope with
- Implementation period: March 2014 – February 2016



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- to **analyse the profile of the population aged 50 and older** (economic activity, level of education, health and others) and their labour market participation characteristics;
- to **identify main obstacles, incentives and disincentives** for the 50+ population to stay in the labour market;
- to **assess the existing measures** and identify applicable best practice examples for active and healthy ageing;
- to **outline the challenges** for healthy ageing and the policy measures needed to support improved health outcomes for 50+;
- to **evaluate the steps needed to improve** provision (both public and private), participation and effectiveness of lifelong learning activities;
- to **make evidence-based recommendations** for developing a comprehensive active ageing strategy.



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- Report «Active Ageing Challenges for Longer Working Lives in Latvia»
- Seminars (participants from public administration institutions, the World Bank, strategic partners, social partners, NGOs, private providers):
 - Seminar on general active ageing issues;
 - Seminar on employment issues;
 - Seminar on health issues;
 - Seminar on social protection issues;
 - Seminar on family care issues.
- Study visits to Austria, Poland and Estonia
- Steering committee (representatives from public administration institutions and social partners)



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

ACTIVE AGEING STRATEGY

- Development of comprehensive active ageing strategy for Latvia – February 2016.
- Objective of the active ageing strategy - facilitate longer and better working lives in such a way improving individual and overall economic situation.
- Priorities of the active ageing strategy:
 - Employment - older people inclusive labour market;
 - Education - educated and knowledgeable older workers responding to changing labour market conditions;
 - Health – healthy older people, who can remain active and independent for as long as possible;
 - Social protection – socially protected older workers.



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

ESF SUPPORT FOR ACTIVE AGEING STRATEGY

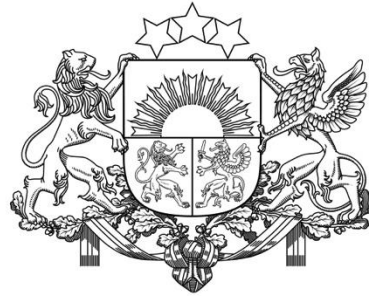
- ESF Operational programme's "Growth and Employment" specific objective 7.3.2. "to prolong workability and employment of older employed persons".
- Possible activities: assessment of abilities, skills and health conditions of elderly people, planning of human resources, consultative support to companies for facilitating longer working lives, PR activities, adjustments of workplaces etc.
- Funding: 10 596 711 euro.



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

CONCLUSIONS

- Decreasing labour force and changes to its structure.
- Activities aimed at promoting active ageing require cooperation between all relevant sectors and stakeholders.
- Employed and unemployed as well as inactive are the target groups of active ageing policies.
- Enabling environment for longer working lives.
- Importance of promoting lifelong learning, healthy lifestyles, health and safety at work.



Ministry of Welfare
Republic of Latvia

Thank you for you attention!

