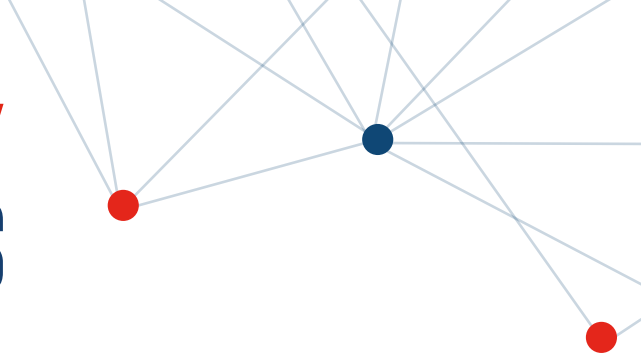




# LABOR OBSERVATORY OF THE AMERICAS



## DATA SHEET

# PERU

2023



### Surface Area:

1,285,216 km<sup>2</sup>



### Population 2017:

31.237.385 personas<sup>1</sup>

(last official census)



### Population 2023:

33,726 million inhabitants

(Estimated)

## Composition of the population

(as of the 2017 official census):



**50,8%**  
WOMEN  
14.9 millones



**49,2%**  
MEN  
14.5 millones



### Economically Active Population

(first quarter 2023)

**70.2%**  
(18,08 million)

55.2% (9,98 million) are men, and 44.8% (8,1 million) are women.



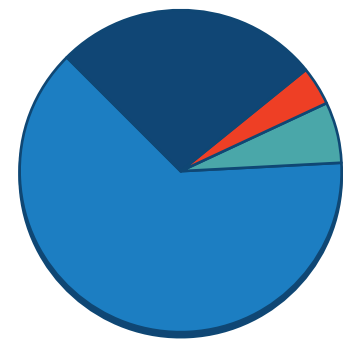
### Gross Domestic Product (GDP) 2022

242,624 million US dollars<sup>2</sup>



### GDP 2023:

In the first semester GDP contracted 0.5% compared to the same period in 2022. Growth is expected to be 0.8% in the second semester.



Ethnically, **25.7%** of the population identifies as indigenous; **3.6%** consider they are of African descent; **5.9%** identify as of white origin. **60.2%** identify as mestizo.

<sup>1</sup> The information in this data sheet has been obtained mainly from the National Statistics and IT Institute of the Government of Peru and its quarterly reports.

<sup>2</sup> <https://statistics.cepal.org/portal/cepalstat/perfil-nacional.html?theme=2&country=per&lang=e>



# Analysis of the socio-economic situation

## **Employment (first quarter 2023):**

17,027,200 people. Of the total employed population, 55.8% (9,5 million) are men and 44.2% (7,53 million) are women.

## **Inactive population (first quarter 2023):**

29.8% (7,66 million) with a variation of 1.7 percentage points compared to 2022.

## **Unemployment (first quarter 2023):**

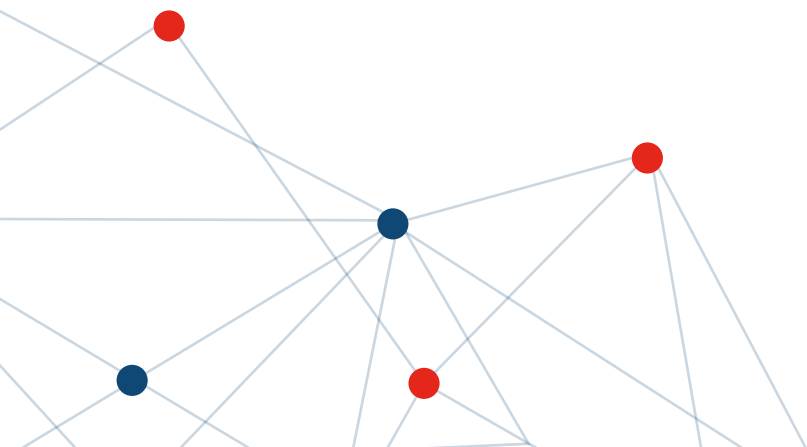
The unemployment rate is 5.9% with a reduction of 0.3 percentage point compared to the same quarter of 2022 (6.2%). The unemployment rate for women was 7.1%, and for men 4.8%.

## **Informality (first quarter 2023):**

73.5% of the employed population work in the informal sector.

## **Poverty (2022):**

Monetary poverty affected 27.5% of the population (9,18 million), increasing by 1.6 percentage points compared to 2021 (25.9%).





# Highlights of the 2023 Scenario

In 2023 Peru has been experiencing a political crisis resulting from the dismissal and imprisonment of Pedro Castillo, the democratically elected president. The crisis broke out after the third attempted coup d'état by Congress, which had been seeking to remove Pedro Castillo for a year and a half, without respecting the popular will expressed in the ballots.

During the first three months of the year, massive protests demanded the release and restitution of Castillo as legitimate president. It is estimated that, so far this year, police and military repression has resulted in more than 66 people murdered, almost a thousand injured and hundreds of arrests following the decision of Dina Boluarte - who took over the presidency - to establish a state of exception, restricting civil liberties, declaring curfews in some areas of the country and granting broad powers to the military to confront demonstrations.

Outrage at government violence forced Boluarte to present a bill - frustrated five times by Congress - to anticipate elections; congress has proposed that the early elections be only presidential. Boluarte declined her promise to hold early elections and assures that she will remain in power until the presidential term initiated by Castillo ends. Currently, the president faces an investigation by the Public Prosecutor's Office for human rights violations in the framework of the mobilizations. The prosecutor's office has questioned her on three occasions to determine her responsibility in police and military repression.





For social, international organizations and other sectors of civil society it is evident that state repression responds to classism and structural racism, since the violation of human rights by the army and the national police has been with lethal weapons, used indiscriminately against indigenous people and campesinos from the most marginalized regions of Peru, in terms of unequal political participation and access to basic rights such as health, housing and education. Other government actions have also been questioned in relation to intervention measures in public universities, violation of due process in arrests, persecution of social organizations questioning the government, all under the shelter of impunity supported by the economic and media elites, and the dominant political class.

86% of the population (IEP, 2023) disapproves of Congress, as they consider that legislators have focused on the dismissal of Castillo and on defending business and regional interests without consideration for social policies.

There is also concern that, given the rise in crime and insecurity, the government's response will be the declaration of a state of emergency, which began in August and was extended for 60 days in September in 17 districts of seven provinces of the country. The measure by Boluarte and her Council of Ministers suspended the constitutional rights of freedom of movement, assembly and personal security until the end of November.

Peru is also experiencing difficulties due to the severity of the El Niño climate phenomenon, with intense rains on the coastal areas and the north of the Peruvian mountains; and extensive droughts in the southern Andes. It is estimated that between the end of 2023 and the beginning of 2024, 1.4 million Peruvians will be at risk because of the drought, with a deficit of water for consumption, crops and animals, and at high risk of floods, avalanches and landslides due to heavy rains.

<sup>3</sup> <https://iep.org.pe/>





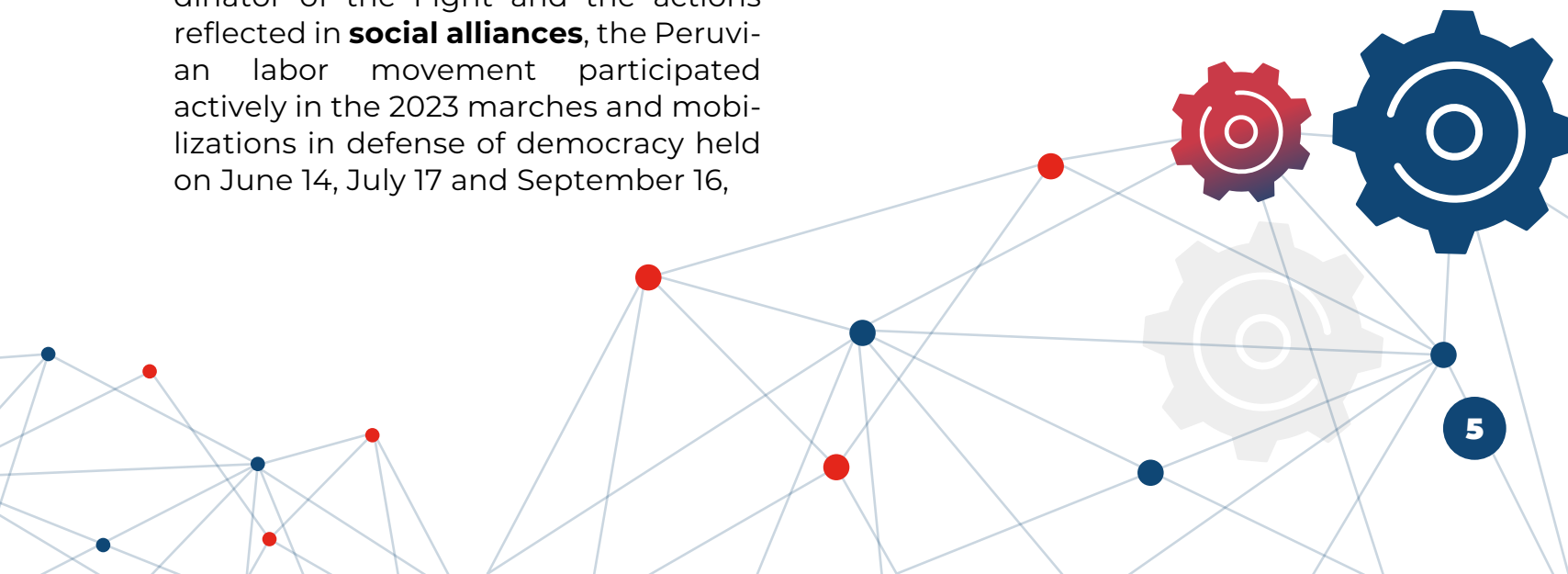
# Actions of the Trade Unions and Other Social Sectors

**Politically** and in the defense of **peace and democracy**, given Dina Boluarte's speech at the United Nations (UN), the Peruvian trade union movement denounced the government's threat of military repression of the mechanisms to coordinate the fight for democracy, concealed in a false narrative of actions against violence. She also denounced the violation of popular will that, at the ballots, had ratified the importance of ending privatization contracts. The complaints of the union movement became clear with the announcement of the declaration of a state of emergency and the deployment of armed forces in different districts, and the setback in the recovery of the oilfields by Petro Perú. For trade unionism, the executive and Congress constantly attack democracy and the Peruvian people.

Also in the **political sphere**, as a member of the National Unitary Coordinator of the Fight and the actions reflected in **social alliances**, the Peruvian labor movement participated actively in the 2023 marches and mobilizations in defense of democracy held on June 14, July 17 and September 16,

among others. Trade union action demanded unrestricted respect for the right to peaceful protest, rejected the campaign of fear unleashed by the Boluarte government, and called for political stability for full economic reactivation of the country and the assurance of decent work.

Trade unionism has worked in conjunction with other sectors and social movements in the country to demand that the executive and legislature listen to the popular will expressed in the ballots and step aside as it is a failed, delegitimized and inefficient administration, and thus rescue the country from a Congress plagued by scandals and decisions favoring private interests above the general benefit, impeding the reactivation of investment and the econo-

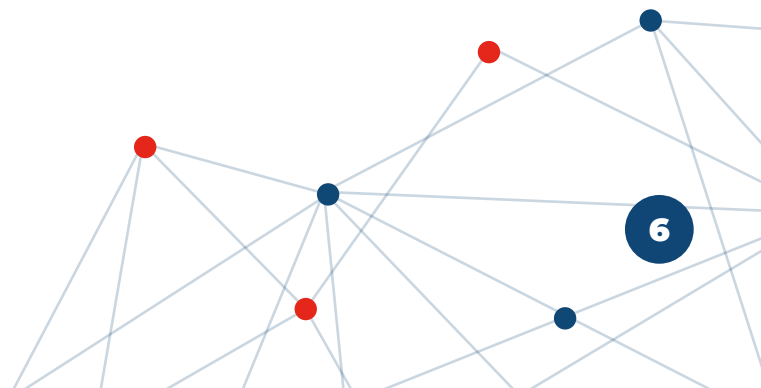




my, with the working class and Peruvian people in general suffering the consequences.

Regarding **labor and equal opportunity and treatment**, Peruvian trade unionism confronted the layoffs in Brightcell, and demanded solutions to the specifications in Telefónica's supply chain. The Brightcell company left 20 families without income after communicating to the Ministry of Labor its request for a perfect suspension as part of abusive collective layoffs. The trade union movement affirms that the company violated the law on individual labor relations by attempting to negotiate collective layoffs with SITENEL without providing the relevant business information required to verify the reasons for its economic failures and business restructuring. Additionally, in trade union action to defend **collective bargaining** and labor relations denounced the systematic blocking of collective negotiations in another 16 companies, and in the Telefónica production chain, with documents provided by SITENEL pending resolution since in 2008. The trade union movement demanded the Ministry of Labor to take immediate action to confront the impunity of Telefónica's supply companies. It is noteworthy that Peruvian trade unionism is also committed to the fight to defend ILO Convention 87 to guarantee freedom of association, collective bargaining and the right to strike.

Politically, trade union action for **social dialogue and tripartite consultations**, given the invitation of the Ministry of Labor to the plenary session of the National Labor Council (CNT) to analyze the technical formula to adjust the minimum salary, the trade union movement pointed out the importance of CNT as a space for grassroots struggles, and emphasized that social dialogue cannot be limited to the opinion of the government in office, and that the readjustment of the minimum wage has a technical formula approved in 2007 by the CNT itself. Similarly, the trade union movement pointed out that a structural change of vision is required for the CNT meeting to contribute to national development, in which dialogue and listening are promoted between employers, union federations and the Ministry of Labor & Employment Promotion), and that the rise in the minimum salary must be implemented without delay. It also pointed out that the CNT will only work when the social demands of the people are adopted, requiring a total change in the rulers and the neoliberal policies they promote and, when an agenda is built that resolves socio-labor conflicts, based on the demands for change demanded by the Peruvian people and which they have been demanding for decades are solved.





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**Contents and Writing** - Danilo Urrea

**Review and editing** - TUCA team

**Translation** - Victoria Brown

**Graphic design and layout** - Gervasio Della Ratta



*With support from:*

