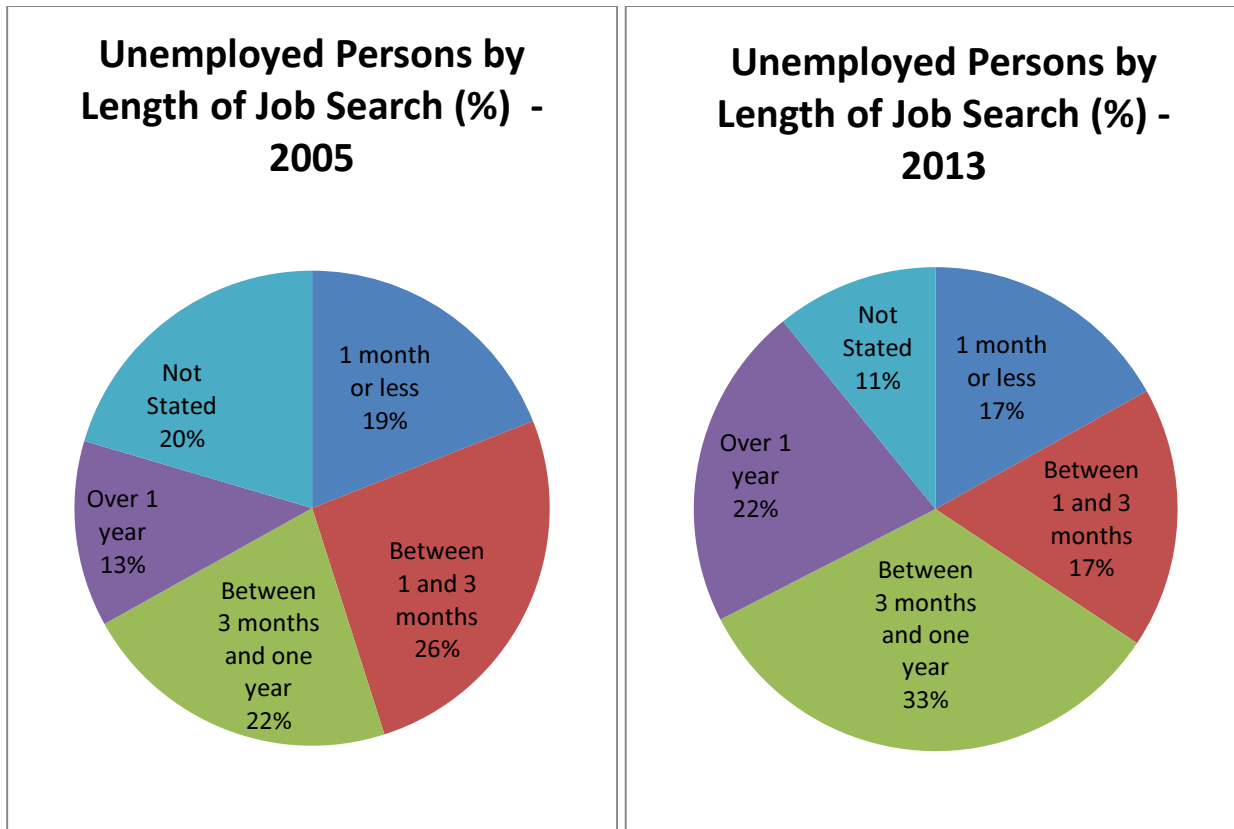


Unemployed Persons by Length of Job Search (2005 vs 2013)



Source: Barbados Statistical Service

Unemployed Persons by Length of Job Search	2005		2013	
	(000's)	%	(000's)	%
1 month or less	2.7	19	2.8	17
Between 1 and 3 months	3.7	26	2.9	17
Between 3 months and one year	3.1	22	5.5	33
Over 1 year	1.8	13	3.6	22
Not Stated	2.9	20	1.8	11
Total	14.2	100	16.6	100

This category seeks to analyse the length of job search of unemployed persons who are actively seeking employment and can be regarded as a gauge as to how quickly unemployed persons are being reabsorbed into the workforce. This length of job search is dissected into time periods such as:

- One month or less;
- Between 1 and 3 months;
- Between 3 months and one year; and
- Over one year

As at 2013, approximately one-third of unemployed persons fell into the category of persons looking for work **between three months and one year**. This category represented the largest proportion of unemployed workers, when compared to other cohorts such as:

- *“Over one year”* which accounted for 22% of unemployed persons;
- *“Between one and three months”* which represented 17% of unemployed persons; and
- *“One month or less”* which accounted for 17% of the unemployed

In comparing 2013 to the year 2005¹⁰, the observation is made that the proportions of unemployed persons falling into longer time periods has expanded. For instance, the proportion of persons recorded as unemployed for **over one year** moved from 13% in 2005 to 22% in 2013, whilst the proportion of persons unemployed **between 3 months and 1 year** rose from 22% in 2005 to 33% in 2013.

In contrast, smaller proportions of unemployed persons in the shorter time periods were recorded. The portion of persons unemployed **between one and three months** fell from 26% in 2005 to 17% in 2013. A marginal decrease was also recorded for persons unemployed for **less than one month**, decreasing from 19% in 2005, to 17% in 2013.

In assessing these two scenarios simultaneously, it may be deduced that in comparing the two years, the Barbados labour market has been increasingly challenged to absorb unemployed persons quickly and in an efficient manner.

¹⁰ Prior to 2005, the categories for this variable were of different durations, thereby impeding the ability to compare 2013 statistics with those of either 2003 or 2004.