

ILO warns of alarming level of unemployment in Latin American youth



International
Labour
Organization

Geneva, January 31 (RHC)-- The International Labor Organization (ILO) has expressed concern over the alarming level of unemployment among youngsters in Latin America, where one out of five is lacking a job.

Near a dozen million individuals from 15 to 21 seeking a workplace fail to find any, according to the report, marking the highest rate in a decade. The ILO warned that the labor market in Latin America and the Caribbean is going through a general moment of uncertainty, also reflected in a rise in unemployment and hints of precariousness.

“The lack of decent work opportunities for young people causes great concern because it is a source of discouragement and frustration. This has been reflected in the front line of recent protests in the region, calling for changes to aim for a better future,” OIT Regional Director Juan Hunt said after releasing the report in Peru.

It is a slight increase, but it still means that over 25 million people are actively seeking employment and are not getting it, stated the specialists who prepared the report.

Unemployment rose last year in nine of 14 Latin American countries included in the study, which estimates that the labor market faces a complex situation, and affected especially women with 10.2 percent as opposed to men - 7.3 percent.

In the opinion of the Regional Director of the ILO Juan Felipe Hunt, dynamics of economic slowdown observed since mid-2018 have impacted both the structure and the quality of jobs.

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