



Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey

Quarterly Report

3rd Quarter - 2022

SRI LANKA LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

Quarterly Report – 2022
Third Quarter

DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS & STATISTICS
Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies

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Preface

Department of Census and Statistics has a long history of conducting the Labour Force Survey (LFS) in Sri Lanka. For instance, before 1990 this survey was conducted at every five yearly time intervals and from 1990 onward it was conducted as a regular survey to provide quarterly and annual labour force indicators. Labour Force Surveys provide various labour force indicators including employment and unemployment status of the country. Specially the survey provides necessary information to compile GDP and other important economic indicators of the country.

Various improvements were incorporated into the LFS during past period without breaking its core concepts and definitions which were used since 1990. In 2006, new modules were added to the LFS to capture the information on computer literacy, household economic activities and informal sector employment. The structure of the LFS questionnaire which was used during 2006-2012 was revised in 2013 with new improvements for concepts and classifications used. It is important to note that in 2013 the definition of working age population was revised from age ten and above population to age fifteen and above population.

In 2016, published labour force estimates from 2011 to 2015 were revised according to the population estimates of the Census of Population and Housing which was conducted in 2012. This revision was done along with the international best practices.

Another major achievement for data collection for LFS was taken place in 2017 with the introduction of Computer Assisted Data Collection (CAPI) using tablet computers. Before 2017 enumerators used paper based method and used survey questionnaires to record the answers given by the respondents. A known probability sampling technique is used to select the sample and the annual labour force indicators are compiled using 25,750 housing units covering the entire country. The enumerators who are permanent officers of the Department visited each of these randomly selected housing units to collect the information with a great effort. The field work of the survey for the third quarter 2022 was done in the month of July, August and September in year 2022. This report is based on the data collected in quarterly sample of 6,440 housing units.

I hope the information in this report is very valuable and useful to make evidence based decisions for various users to identify the issues as well as the changes in the labour market of Sri Lanka.

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Acknowledgements

This report is the hundred and twenty fourth in the series of the Quarterly Labour Force Survey which was commenced from the second quarter of 1990 and is being continued by the Department of Census and Statistics.

Planning and execution of the survey was done by the staff of the Sample Surveys Division under the guidance of Ms. K.M.D.S.D. Karunaratne, Additional Director General (Statistics) and Ms. K.A. Sajeewa Kodikara, Director (Statistics) and under the direction of Mr. W. Gnanathilaka and Ms. M.D.D.D. Deepawansa, Deputy Directors, Sample Surveys Division.

The survey activities were organized and supervised by Ms. H.M.D. Sepalika, Mr. A.K.D.C.N.S. Karunaratna, Mr. T.D.M.S.D. Perera, Ms. U.S. Dilrukshi, Mr. K.T. Sureskumar, Ms. M.W.L.C.M. Chandrarathne, Ms. P.D. Nanayakkara, Ms. R.P.M. Subhashini, Mr. H.M.S.C. Bandara, Ms. C.R. Liyanage and Ms. A.H.L.T. Sandaruwini, Statisticians, of the Sample Surveys Division.

The computer data processing and final tabulations were done by Mr. A.M.A.E. Atapattu Statistical Officer of the Sample Surveys Division, under the supervision of Mr. T.D.M.S.D. Perera, Statistician. The Statistical Officers, Statistical Assistants, Development Officers, Information and Communication Technology Assistants and Data Entry Operators/ Coding Clerks of the Sample Survey Division are acknowledged for their valuable contribution during the whole survey process.

The Information & Communication Technology Division, under the direction of Mr. P.M.R. Fernando, Additional Director General (ICT) and under the supervision of Mr. W.H.P.N. Weerasiri, Director (ICT), were responsible for implementing CAPI methodology and preparation of data collection and computer edits programmes. Developing of sample selection programme and its related computer software was done by Mr. K.M.R. Wickramasinghe, Deputy Director (ICT).

This publication was organized and prepared by Mr. T.D.M.S.D. Perera, Statistician, Sample Surveys Division, assisted by Mr. A.M.A.E. Atapattu Statistical Officer, under the guidance of Ms. K.A. Sajeewa Kodikara, Director (Statistics) and Mr. W. Gnanathilaka, Deputy Director (Statistics), Sample Surveys Division.

District staff of the Department who worked on the survey deserves a special word of thanks. The Deputy Directors/ Senior Statisticians/ Statisticians supervised the survey and field Statistical Officers, worked hard at the data collection stage, to make this survey a success. Printing of the report was done by the staff of Printing Division, under the supervision of Mr. M.L.K.P. Kumara, Statistician and under the direction of Ms. U.V. Jayakody, Director (Statistics).

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to all the respondents of the survey for their valuable cooperation.

Selected Labour Force Indicators

Indicator	Year								
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3
Labour force participation rate									
By Gender									
Total	51.8	52.3	50.6	49.9	51.0	49.5	51.2	50.1	49.0
Male	73.0	73.0	71.9	71.0	72.5	71.0	71.8	70.9	70.4
Female	33.6	34.5	32.0	31.8	32.4	30.9	33.6	32.1	31.0
By residential sector									
Total	51.8	52.3	50.6	49.9	51.0	49.5	51.2	50.1	49.0
Urban	49.6	50.2	47.0	46.9	48.6	45.6	48.4	47.6	46.8
Rural	52.3	52.7	51.3	50.5	51.6	50.2	51.8	50.6	49.5
Unemployment Rate									
By Gender									
Total	4.4	4.8	5.5	5.1	5.8	5.2	4.3	4.6	5.0
Male	3.0	3.3	4.0	3.7	4.3	3.7	3.0	3.7	4.2
Female	7.1	7.4	8.5	7.9	8.6	8.2	6.5	6.5	6.4
By selected age Group (Year)									
20 - 29	15.0	15.3	18.1	18.3	17.6	18.3	14.2	17.1	16.6
20 - 24	20.1	20.3	25.2	26.8	22.8	24.6	19.0	24.2	20.8
25 - 29	10.4	11.0	12.0	11.4	13.0	13.1	10.2	11.0	13.3
By selected educational level									
GCE A/L and above									
Total	9.1	8.5	9.8	9.1	9.6	9.6	7.5	7.8	8.7
Male	5.1	5.0	6.2	6.2	6.7	6.5	5.1	4.5	7.4
Female	13.2	11.9	13.6	12.2	12.7	12.9	9.9	11.3	10.0
Employed population									
By Gender									
Total	8,015,166	8,180,693	7,999,093	8,113,507	7,967,695	8,043,868	8,388,531	8,177,045	8,010,340
Male	5,300,310	5,368,896	5,372,947	5,414,280	5,348,960	5,430,176	5,492,427	5,421,108	5,302,442
Female	2,714,855	2,811,796	2,626,146	2,699,228	2,618,735	2,613,692	2,896,104	2,755,937	2,707,898
By industry (Percentage)									
Total	8,015,166	8,180,693	7,999,093	8,113,507	7,967,695	8,043,868	8,388,531	8,177,045	8,010,340
%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	2,043,698	2,071,940	2,169,679	2,213,015	2,061,630	2,390,849	2,098,143	2,125,240	2,152,377
%	25.5	25.3	27.1	27.3	25.9	29.7	25.0	26.0	26.9
Industry	2,239,262	2,258,421	2,152,746	2,109,482	2,188,330	1,969,427	2,342,511	2,267,064	2,076,868
%	27.9	27.6	26.9	26.0	27.5	24.5	27.9	27.7	25.9
Services	3,732,206	3,850,332	3,676,668	3,791,011	3,717,735	3,683,592	3,947,877	3,784,742	3,781,095
%	46.6	47.1	46.0	46.7	46.7	45.8	47.1	46.3	47.2
By no. of hours worked per week (percentage)									
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0*	5.6	6.4	14.6	9.6	5.6	14.7	4.1	7.7	6.4
1 - 9	1.7	1.7	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.1
10 - 39	25.7	26.8	27.1	29.6	26.6	30.4	27.7	34.1	34.2
40 & above	66.9	65.1	56.2	58.7	66.1	52.7	66.1	55.8	57.3

* has a job but not at work during the reference week

Note : Working age population considered as (age 15 & over population)

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey 2022
Third Quarter
Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics

15 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (15 years & over)	17,186,326	7,866,468	9,319,858	2,899,709	14,286,617
Labour force in this age group	8,429,503	5,536,205	2,893,299	1,357,449	7,072,054
Labour force participation rate	49.0	70.4	31.0	46.8	49.5
Employed population	8,010,340	5,302,442	2,707,898	1,287,420	6,722,921
Employment rate	95.0	95.8	93.6	94.8	95.1
Unemployed population	419,163	233,763	185,401	70,030	349,133
Unemployment rate	5.0	4.2	6.4	5.2	4.9
Not in labour force	8,756,823	2,330,264	6,426,559	1,542,260	7,214,563

18 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (18 years & over)	16,074,658	7,348,495	8,726,163	2,728,493	13,346,165
Labour force in this age group	8,400,685	5,512,404	2,888,281	1,356,174	7,044,512
Labour force participation rate	52.3	75.0	33.1	49.7	52.8
Employed population	7,989,588	5,286,707	2,702,881	1,286,144	6,703,444
Employment rate	95.1	95.9	93.6	94.8	95.2
Unemployed population	411,097	225,697	185,401	70,030	341,067
Unemployment rate	4.9	4.1	6.4	5.2	4.8
Not in labour force	7,673,972	1,836,091	5,837,882	1,372,319	6,301,653

20 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (20 years & over)	15,373,741	7,031,378	8,342,363	2,617,254	12,756,487
Labour force in this age group	8,296,782	5,443,508	2,853,273	1,341,058	6,955,724
Labour force participation rate	54.0	77.4	34.2	51.2	54.5
Employed population	7,928,788	5,242,144	2,686,644	1,280,326	6,648,461
Employment rate	95.6	96.3	94.2	95.5	95.6
Unemployed population	367,994	201,365	166,630	60,731	307,263
Unemployment rate	4.4	3.7	5.8	4.5	4.4
Not in labour force	7,076,960	1,587,870	5,489,090	1,276,197	5,800,763

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Appendix 1: Explanatory Notes

Appendix 2: Alternative estimates of employment, unemployment and labour force characteristics

Labour Force

All persons aged 15 years & over who are currently economically active during the reference period (Labour Force = employed persons + unemployed persons)

Reference Period:

Previous week of the survey week (3rd week of every month)

Labour force participation rate (LFPR)

Labour force as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over.

Labour Force (Economically Active Population)

Table 1: Economically active population by gender and sector, third quarter - 2022

Sector	Economically Active Population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	8,429,503	100	5,536,205	65.7	2,893,299	34.3
Urban	1,357,449	100	899,688	66.3	457,761	33.7
Rural	6,663,061	100	4,403,381	66.1	2,259,679	33.9
Estate	408,993	100	233,136	57.0	175,858	43.0

Table 2: Economically inactive population by gender and sector, third quarter - 2022

Sector	Economically Inactive Population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	8,756,823	100	2,330,264	26.6	6,426,559	73.4
Urban	1,542,260	100	428,321	27.8	1,113,939	72.2
Rural	6,957,769	100	1,826,344	26.2	5,131,425	73.8
Estate	256,795	100	75,599	29.4	181,195	70.6

According to the Table 1, the estimated economically active population is about 8.4 million in the third quarter 2022. Of which 65.7 percent are males and 34.3 percent are females. The economically inactive population is about 8.8 million. Out of the economically inactive population 26.6 percent are males and 73.4 percent are females. (Table 2)

Table 3: LFPR by gender and year, 2017 - 2022Q3

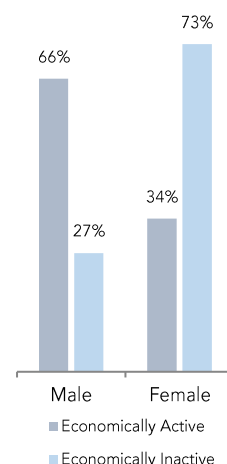
Year	Total	Male	Female
2017	54.1	74.5	36.6
2018	51.8	73.0	33.6
2019	52.3	73.0	34.5
2020	50.6	71.9	32.0
2021	49.9	71.0	31.8
2020 Q3	51.0	72.5	32.4
2021 Q3	49.5	71.0	30.9
2022 Q1	51.2	71.8	33.6
2022 Q2	50.1	70.9	32.1
2022 Q3	49.0	70.4	31.0

Table 3 provides the information on LFPRs by gender since year 2017. Referring the Table 3, it is important to note that, male participation to the labour force is always higher than that of female.

Table 4: LFPR by age group and gender, third quarter - 2022

Age group (Years)	Total	Male	Female
Sri Lanka	49.0	70.4	31.0
15 - 19	7.3	11.1	4.1
20 - 24	46.4	62.1	33.1
25 - 29	68.0	88.6	47.4
30 - 34	66.0	96.0	41.8
35 - 39	67.1	96.2	43.4
40 - 44	69.7	96.4	45.0
45 - 49	69.5	95.6	47.2
50 - 54	65.3	92.9	41.9
55 - 59	59.2	84.6	36.5
60+	28.3	45.1	15.3

Figure 1: Distribution of economically active vs inactive population, third quarter 2022



Considering the Table 4, the distribution of LFPR by age group and by gender depicts high male participation compared to female in all age groups. The highest participation rate for male is reported from age group 40 - 44 years (96.4%), while that for female is reported from 25 - 29 age group (47.4%).

Employment

Employed

Persons, who worked at least one hour during the reference period, as paid employees, employers, own account workers or contributing family workers are said to be employed. This also includes persons with a job but not at work during the reference period.

Employment Rate

The proportion of employed population to the total labour force.

Table 5: Distribution of employed population by main industry (third quarter 2021 - third quarter 2022)

Quarter	Sri Lanka	Major Industry Group		
		Agriculture	Industries	Services
2021 Q3	8,043,868	2,390,849	1,969,427	3,683,592
(%)	100.0	29.7	24.5	45.8
2021 Q4	8,146,367	2,127,835	2,198,797	3,819,735
(%)	100.0	26.1	27.0	46.9
2022 Q1	8,388,531	2,098,143	2,342,511	3,947,877
(%)	100.0	25.0	27.9	47.1
2022 Q2	8,177,045	2,125,240	2,267,064	3,784,742
(%)	100.0	26.0	27.7	46.3
2022 Q3	8,010,340	2,152,377	2,076,868	3,781,095
(%)	100.0	26.9	25.9	47.2

Table 5 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by main industry from third quarter 2021 to third quarter 2022. During third quarter of 2022, the total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated as 8.0 million. Of which, about 47.2 percent engaged in service sector, 26.9 percent in agriculture sector and 25.9 percent in industry sector. In the third quarter of 2022, there is an increase in employed persons in industry and service sectors compared to the third quarter of 2021.

Main industry categories and sub sectors

Agriculture
Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A)
Industries
1. Mining & Quarrying (B)
2. Manufacturing (C)
3. Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E, F)

Services

1. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles (G)
2. Transportation and storage (H)
3. Accommodation and food services activities (I)
4. Information and communication (J)
5. Financial and insurance activities (K)
6. Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)
7. Administrative and support service activities (N)
8. Public administration and defence compulsory social security (O)
9. Education (P)
10. Human health and social work activities (Q)
11. Other service activities (S)
12. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)
13. Real estate activities (L) Arts, entertainment and recreation (R) Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

Table 6: Distribution of employed population by employment status in agriculture and non - agriculture sectors, third quarter - 2022

Employment Status	Sector					
	Sri Lanka		Agriculture		Non-Agriculture	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sri Lanka	8,010,340	100.0	2,152,377	26.9	5,857,963	73.1
Employee	4,592,864	100.0	742,259	16.2	3,850,605	83.8
Public	1,213,037	100.0	30,203	2.5	1,182,834	97.5
Private	3,379,826	100.0	712,056	21.1	2,667,771	78.9
Employer	238,343	100.0	36,520	15.3	201,823	84.7
Own Account Worker	2,701,255	100.0	1,087,886	40.3	1,613,369	59.7
Contributing Family Worker	477,878	100.0	285,712	59.8	192,166	40.2

According to the Table 6 Majority of the workforce are private sector employees followed by own account workers. Non agriculture sector covers 73.1 percent of employed population in Sri Lanka, employees and own account workers are highly constraining in that sector.

Table 7 depicts the percentage distribution of male and female employed population by main industry sectors. Highest employment share is in service sector and this is true for both male & female, while the lowest shares are for industry sector. Among employed females 27.1 percent is in agriculture sector while this share is 26.7 percent for males.

Figure 2 : Distribution of employed population by employment status and Agriculture/ Non- Agriculture sector, third quarter - 2022

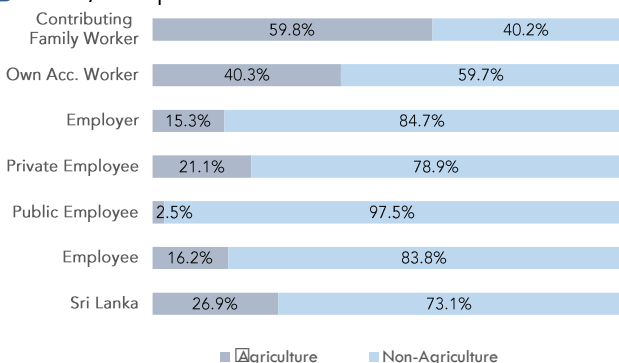


Table 7: Percentage distribution of Employed population by major industry group & gender, third quarter – 2022

Major Industry group	Sri Lanka	Gender	
		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	26.9	26.7	27.1
Industry	25.9	27.2	23.4
Services	47.2	46.1	49.4

Unemployment

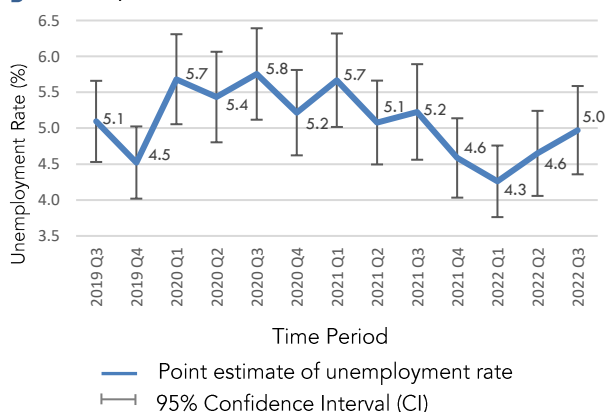
Unemployed

Persons available and/or looking for work, and who did not work and taken steps to find a job during last four weeks and ready to accept a job given a work opportunity within next two weeks are defined as be unemployed.

Unemployment Rate

The proportion of unemployed population to the total labour force.

Figure 3 : Unemployment rates and it's 95% confidence intervals, 2019Q3 - 2022Q3



The number of unemployed persons is estimated as 419,163 during the third quarter 2022. The unemployment rate for the third quarter 2022 is 5.0 percent.

As shown in Figure 3, it is very important to note that, when the changes in unemployment rate is explained the corresponding sampling errors¹ and the confidence limits need to be considered.

Table 8: Number of unemployed and unemployment rate by age group and gender, third quarter - 2022

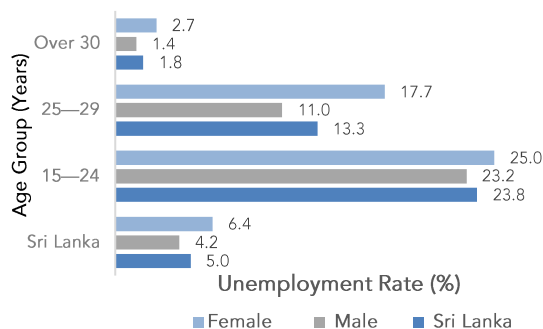
Age group (Years)	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka	Gender		
		Number	Sri Lanka	Male
Sri Lanka	419,163	5.0	4.2	6.4
15 - 24	184,408	23.8	23.2	25.0
25 - 29	108,736	13.3	11.0	17.7
Over 30	126,018	1.8	1.4	2.7

1 Sampling error

When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, estimates differ from the true values of population they represent. This difference, or sampling error, occurs by chance, and its variability is measured by the sampling error of the estimate.

For more details, please refer the explanatory note given under the labour force link in the DCS website; www.statistics.gov.lk

Figure 4 : Unemployment rate by age group and gender, third quarter 2022



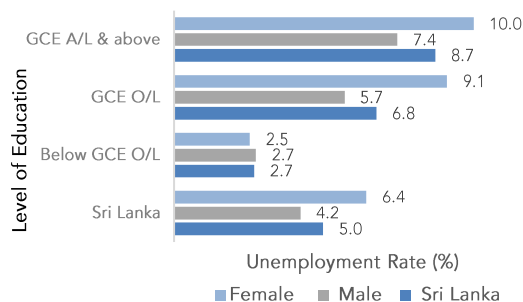
As per the table 8, overall unemployment rate reported for female is 6.4 percent and it is 4.2 percent for male. Youth unemployment rate (age 15 – 24 years) corresponding to the third quarter 2022 is 23.8 percent and that is the highest reported unemployment rate among all age groups. Further the unemployment rates for males and females are 23.2 and 25.0 percent respectively for age group 15 - 24.

The survey results further reveals that the unemployment among females is higher than that of males, in all age groups. Youth and female unemployment contribute more to the overall unemployment of the country.

Table 9: Number of unemployed and unemployment rate by level of education, third quarter - 2022

Level of Education	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka	Gender		
		Number	Sri Lanka	Male
Sri Lanka	419,163	5.0	4.2	6.4
Below GCE O/L	126,220	2.7	2.7	2.5
GCE O/L	103,983	6.8	5.7	9.1
GCE A/L & above	188,960	8.7	7.4	10.0

Figure 5 : Unemployment rate by level of education and gender, third quarter 2022



The highest unemployment rate is reported from the G.C.E.(A/L) and above group which is 8.7 percent. Corresponding percentages are 7.4 percent and 10.0 percent for males and females respectively. Female unemployment rates are higher than those of males except Below GCE O/L.

Survey results further shows that the problem of unemployment is more acute in the case of educated females than educated males, which was observed consistently over the results of previous survey rounds as well.

Table 1 – Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Both sexes

Year	Household population: (15 years & over)	Labour force						Not in labour force Number
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
2013	14,959,065	8,033,804	53.7	7,681,279	95.6	352,526	4.4	6,925,260
2014	15,134,484	8,048,884	53.2	7,700,489	95.7	348,395	4.3	7,085,600
2015	15,281,945	8,214,473	53.8	7,830,976	95.3	383,496	4.7	7,067,473
2016	15,448,679	8,310,682	53.8	7,947,683	95.6	362,999	4.4	7,137,997
2017	15,843,735	8,566,686	54.1	8,208,179	95.8	358,507	4.2	7,277,049
2018	16,196,232	8,387,759	51.8	8,015,166	95.6	372,593	4.4	7,808,473
2019	16,424,016	8,592,010	52.3	8,180,693	95.2	411,318	4.8	7,832,006
2020	16,739,396	8,466,606	50.6	7,999,093	94.5	467,513	5.5	8,272,790
2021	17,133,659	8,553,290	49.9	8,113,507	94.9	439,783	5.1	8,580,369
2020Q3	16,561,964	8,454,219	51.0	7,967,695	94.2	486,524	5.8	8,107,745
2021Q3	17,157,591	8,487,440	49.5	8,043,868	94.8	443,572	5.2	8,670,151
2022Q1	17,105,140	8,761,803	51.2	8,388,531	95.7	373,272	4.3	8,343,337
2022Q2	17,125,995	8,575,758	50.1	8,177,045	95.4	398,713	4.6	8,550,237
2022Q3	17,186,326	8,429,503	49.0	8,010,340	95.0	419,163	5.0	8,756,823

Table 1 A– Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Male

Year	Household population: (15 years & over)	Labour force						Not in labour force Number
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
2013	6,926,750	5,187,873	74.9	5,024,341	96.8	163,533	3.2	1,738,877
2014	7,025,780	5,240,034	74.6	5,075,425	96.9	164,609	3.1	1,785,746
2015	7,036,944	5,255,593	74.7	5,097,798	97.0	157,794	3.0	1,781,352
2016	7,064,736	5,303,502	75.1	5,149,948	97.1	153,554	2.9	1,761,234
2017	7,292,047	5,434,510	74.5	5,279,158	97.1	155,352	2.9	1,857,537
2018	7,488,320	5,464,236	73.0	5,300,310	97.0	163,926	3.0	2,024,084
2019	7,610,113	5,554,192	73.0	5,368,896	96.7	185,296	3.3	2,055,920
2020	7,788,634	5,598,004	71.9	5,372,947	96.0	225,057	4.0	2,190,629
2021	7,915,659	5,621,223	71.0	5,414,280	96.3	206,943	3.7	2,294,436
2020Q3	7,709,032	5,590,124	72.5	5,348,960	95.7	241,164	4.3	2,118,908
2021Q3	7,946,584	5,640,394	71.0	5,430,176	96.3	210,218	3.7	2,306,190
2022Q1	7,887,172	5,664,059	71.8	5,492,427	97.0	171,632	3.0	2,223,113
2022Q2	7,940,596	5,628,003	70.9	5,421,108	96.3	206,895	3.7	2,312,593
2022Q3	7,866,468	5,536,205	70.4	5,302,442	95.8	233,763	4.2	2,330,264

Table 1B – Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Female

Year	Household population: (15 years & over)	Labour force						Not in labour force Number
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
2013	8,032,315	2,845,931	35.4	2,656,938	93.4	188,993	6.6	5,186,383
2014	8,108,704	2,808,850	34.6	2,625,064	93.5	183,786	6.5	5,299,854
2015	8,245,001	2,958,880	35.9	2,733,178	92.4	225,702	7.6	5,286,121
2016	8,383,943	3,007,180	35.9	2,797,735	93.0	209,445	7.0	5,376,764
2017	8,551,688	3,132,176	36.6	2,929,021	93.5	203,155	6.5	5,419,512
2018	8,707,912	2,923,523	33.6	2,714,855	92.9	208,667	7.1	5,784,390
2019	8,813,903	3,037,818	34.5	2,811,796	92.6	226,022	7.4	5,776,085
2020	8,950,763	2,868,602	32.0	2,626,146	91.5	242,456	8.5	6,082,161
2021	9,218,000	2,932,067	31.8	2,699,228	92.1	232,840	7.9	6,285,933
2020Q3	8,852,932	2,864,095	32.4	2,618,735	91.4	245,360	8.6	5,988,837
2021Q3	9,211,007	2,847,046	30.9	2,613,692	91.8	233,354	8.2	6,363,961
2021Q4	9,376,767	3,001,466	32.0	2,792,679	93.0	208,787	7.0	6,375,301
2022Q1	9,217,968	3,097,744	33.6	2,896,104	93.5	201,640	6.5	6,120,225
2022Q2	9,185,398	2,947,755	32.1	2,755,937	93.5	191,818	6.5	6,237,643
2022Q3	9,319,858	2,893,299	31.0	2,707,898	93.6	185,401	6.4	6,426,559

Table 2 - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age – Both sexes

Age	Household population: (15 years & over)	Labour force						Not in labour force Number
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
All ages	17,186,326	8,429,503	49.0	8,010,340	95.0	419,163	5.0	8,756,823
15 – 19 Yrs	1,812,585	132,722	7.3	81,553	61.4	51,169	38.6	1,679,863
20 – 24 Yrs	1,382,025	641,237	46.4	507,997	79.2	133,239	20.8	740,788
25 – 29 Yrs	1,198,585	815,550	68.0	706,814	86.7	108,736	13.3	383,035
30 – 39 Yrs	2,640,584	1,758,656	66.6	1,698,340	96.6	60,315	3.4	881,928
40+ Yrs	10,152,548	5,081,339	50.0	5,015,636	98.7	65,703	1.3	5,071,209

Table 2A - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age – Male

Age	Household population: (15 years & over)	Labour force						Not in labour force Number
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
All ages	7,866,468	5,536,205	70.4	5,302,442	95.8	233,763	4.2	2,330,264
15 – 19 Yrs	835,090	92,696	11.1	60,298	65.0	32,398	35.0	742,393
20 – 24 Yrs	634,979	394,178	62.1	313,838	79.6	80,340	20.4	240,801
25 – 29 Yrs	600,913	532,145	88.6	473,713	89.0	58,432	11.0	68,768
30 – 39 Yrs	1,183,833	1,138,012	96.1	1,109,750	97.5	28,262	2.5	45,821
40+ Yrs	4,611,653	3,379,173	73.3	3,344,842	99.0	34,331	1.0	1,232,480

Table 2B - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age – Female

Age	Household population: (15 years & over)	Labour force						Not in labour force Number
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
All ages	9,319,858	2,893,299	31.0	2,707,898	93.6	185,401	6.4	6,426,559
15 – 19 Yrs	977,495	40,025	4.1	21,254	53.1	18,771	46.9	937,470
20 – 24 Yrs	747,045	247,059	33.1	194,159	78.6	52,900	21.4	499,987
25 – 29 Yrs	597,672	283,405	47.4	233,100	82.3	50,304	17.7	314,268
30 – 39 Yrs	1,456,750	620,644	42.6	588,590	94.8	32,054	5.2	836,106
40+ Yrs	5,540,895	1,702,166	30.7	1,670,794	98.2	31,372	1.8	3,838,729

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Table 3 – Historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (Percentage) - Both sexes

Year	All ages	Age groups				
		15 – 19 Yrs	20 – 24 Yrs	25 – 29 Yrs	30 – 39 Yrs	40+ Yrs
2016	100.0	2.0	7.3	9.5	24.2	57.0
2017	100.0	2.1	7.6	9.2	23.4	57.7
2018	100.0	1.8	7.2	9.0	22.6	59.4
2019	100.0	1.9	7.1	9.3	22.6	59.1
2020	100.0	1.7	6.8	9.2	22.0	60.2
2021	100.0	1.4	6.3	9.4	21.1	61.8
2020Q3	100.0	1.7	7.0	8.9	22.5	59.8
2021Q3	100.0	1.6	6.5	9.0	21.4	61.5
2022Q1	100.0	1.5	7.1	9.5	21.3	60.6
2022Q2	100.0	1.4	6.6	9.0	22.0	61.0
2022Q3	100.0	1.0	6.3	8.8	21.2	62.6

Table 3A – Historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (Percentage) - Male

Year	All ages	Age groups				
		15 – 19 Yrs	20 – 24 Yrs	25 – 29 Yrs	30 – 39 Yrs	40+ Yrs
2016	100.0	2.2	7.3	9.4	24.2	56.9
2017	100.0	2.3	7.5	9.4	23.5	57.3
2018	100.0	2.0	7.3	9.4	22.6	58.7
2019	100.0	2.1	7.2	9.4	22.3	59.0
2020	100.0	1.9	7.0	9.1	21.8	60.3
2021	100.0	1.6	6.4	9.4	20.5	62.0
2020Q3	100.0	1.9	7.4	8.6	22.0	60.1
2021Q3	100.0	1.8	7.1	8.9	20.6	61.6
2021Q4	100.0	1.6	6.3	9.4	20.9	61.8
2022Q1	100.0	1.6	7.1	9.6	21.1	60.5
2022Q2	100.0	1.4	6.4	9.0	21.5	61.7
2022Q3	100.0	1.1	5.9	8.9	20.9	63.1

Table 3B – Historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (Percentage) - Female

Year	All ages	Age groups				
		15 – 19 Yrs	20 – 24 Yrs	25 – 29 Yrs	30 – 39 Yrs	40+ Yrs
2016	100.0	1.6	7.2	9.6	24.3	57.3
2017	100.0	1.7	7.8	9.0	23.2	58.3
2018	100.0	1.4	6.9	8.3	22.7	60.7
2019	100.0	1.4	7.0	9.1	23.1	59.4
2020	100.0	1.4	6.5	9.3	22.6	60.1
2021	100.0	1.1	6.0	9.3	22.3	61.4
2020Q3	100.0	1.5	6.1	9.7	23.6	59.1
2021Q3	100.0	1.2	5.2	9.4	23.0	61.2
2022Q1	100.0	1.4	7.0	9.2	21.7	60.7
2022Q2	100.0	1.5	6.9	9.1	22.9	59.6
2022Q3	100.0	0.8	7.2	8.6	21.7	61.7

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Table 4 – Historical table of currently employed persons by level of education (Percentage) - Both sexes

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & Below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE & above
2016	100.0	16.2	47.4	16.3	20.1
2017	100.0	15.8	46.1	17.3	20.8
2018	100.0	14.9	45.9	18.1	21.2
2019	100.0	14.0	45.8	17.4	22.8
2020	100.0	13.7	46.0	17.8	22.5
2021	100.0	13.0	45.7	17.6	23.8
2020Q3	100.0	13.6	46.0	17.4	23.0
2021Q3	100.0	13.1	47.2	17.1	22.6
2022Q1	100.0	11.9	45.6	18.0	24.4
2022Q2	100.0	13.1	45.3	17.7	23.8
2022Q3	100.0	12.5	44.9	17.9	24.7

Table 4A – Historical table of currently employed persons by level of education (Percentage) - Male

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & Below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE & above
2016	100.0	16.1	51.1	16.7	16.1
2017	100.0	15.7	49.8	17.6	16.9
2018	100.0	14.7	49.7	18.8	16.7
2019	100.0	14.1	49.6	18.0	18.2
2020	100.0	13.8	49.8	18.3	18.1
2021	100.0	13.0	49.6	18.6	18.8
2020Q3	100.0	13.7	50.0	18.3	18.0
2021Q3	100.0	12.7	51.6	17.8	17.9
2022Q1	100.0	12.3	49.2	19.2	19.3
2022Q2	100.0	13.2	49.6	18.3	18.9
2022Q3	100.0	13.0	49.1	18.9	18.9

Table 4B – Historical table of currently employed persons by level of education (Percentage) - Female

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & Below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE & above
2016	100.0	16.3	40.6	15.6	27.5
2017	100.0	16.1	39.4	16.8	27.7
2018	100.0	15.2	38.4	16.5	29.9
2019	100.0	13.8	38.4	16.3	31.6
2020	100.0	13.4	38.1	16.8	31.7
2021	100.0	12.8	37.8	15.5	33.8
2020Q3	100.0	13.4	38.0	15.6	33.0
2021Q3	100.0	13.8	38.1	15.8	32.3
2022Q1	100.0	11.2	38.9	15.7	34.2
2022Q2	100.0	12.9	37.0	16.7	33.5
2022Q3	100.0	11.4	36.6	16.1	35.9

Table 5 – Historical table of currently employed persons by employment status (Percentage) - Both sexes

Year	Total employed	Employee			Employer	Own account worker	Unpaid family worker
		Total	Public	Private			
2016	100.0	57.8	14.6	43.3	2.7	31.6	7.8
2017	100.0	57.7	14.4	43.3	3.0	31.3	8.0
2018	100.0	57.8	14.5	43.3	2.8	32.3	7.2
2019	100.0	57.9	14.9	43.0	2.6	32.5	7.0
2020	100.0	57.5	14.8	42.7	2.5	33.2	6.8
2021	100.0	57.3	15.2	42.0	2.7	33.4	6.6
2020Q3	100.0	57.9	14.5	43.5	3.0	32.7	6.3
2021Q3	100.0	57.1	14.9	42.2	2.7	33.2	7.0
2022Q1	100.0	58.2	14.9	43.3	2.7	33.4	5.6
2022Q2	100.0	57.8	15.1	42.7	3.1	32.6	6.5
2022Q3	100.0	57.3	15.1	42.2	3.0	33.7	6.0

Table 5A – Historical table of currently employed persons by employment status (Percentage) - Male

Year	Total employed	Employee			Employer	Own account worker	Unpaid family worker
		Total	Public	Private			
2016	100.0	58.9	12.4	46.4	3.7	34.7	2.7
2017	100.0	58.8	12.3	46.4	4.1	34.5	2.6
2018	100.0	57.8	12.0	45.8	3.7	36.0	2.5
2019	100.0	57.7	12.2	45.5	3.5	36.5	2.3
2020	100.0	56.7	12.0	44.7	3.4	37.5	2.4
2021	100.0	56.6	12.1	44.4	3.7	37.3	2.4
2020Q3	100.0	58.0	12.1	45.9	4.2	36.2	1.7
2021Q3	100.0	56.5	11.8	44.6	3.6	37.2	2.7
2022Q1	100.0	57.3	12.1	45.2	3.7	37.2	1.8
2022Q2	100.0	56.3	11.7	44.6	4.2	37.5	2.0
2022Q3	100.0	56.6	11.6	45.0	4.0	37.5	1.8

Table 5B – Historical table of currently employed persons by employment status (Percentage) - Female

Year	Total employed	Employee			Employer	Own account worker	Unpaid family worker
		Total	Public	Private			
2016	100.0	55.9	18.5	37.4	0.9	25.9	17.2
2017	100.0	55.7	18.0	37.7	1.1	25.6	17.7
2018	100.0	57.8	19.3	38.5	1.0	24.9	16.3
2019	100.0	58.3	19.9	38.4	0.8	24.8	16.1
2020	100.0	59.0	20.5	38.5	0.8	24.4	15.8
2021	100.0	58.7	21.5	37.2	0.8	25.4	15.2
2020Q3	100.0	57.9	19.4	38.5	0.7	25.7	15.7
2021Q3	100.0	58.4	21.2	37.2	0.8	24.8	16.0
2022Q1	100.0	60.1	20.4	39.6	0.9	26.2	12.8
2022Q2	100.0	60.8	21.7	39.0	1.0	23.0	15.2
2022Q3	100.0	58.7	22.1	36.6	1.0	26.3	14.0

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Table 6 - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Fourth Revision) - both sexes

Year	Total	Industry Group																
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other
2018	8,015,166	2,043,698	62,136	1,463,919	713,207	1,141,416	502,126	238,145	55,220	173,330	86,286	166,978	434,348	425,092	142,861	116,733	194,303	55,368
2019	8,180,693	2,071,940	60,902	1,504,314	693,205	1,134,496	514,469	232,344	64,382	187,933	90,317	205,009	436,175	425,931	169,232	135,247	186,970	67,828
2020	7,999,093	2,169,679	56,856	1,397,689	698,201	1,095,384	523,654	217,281	57,828	183,474	85,990	164,829	447,051	402,808	156,424	123,220	167,255	51,470
2021	8,113,507	2,213,015	54,586	1,362,311	692,585	1,153,516	481,703	214,497	72,881	182,313	80,762	136,073	490,106	423,135	174,539	128,418	201,726	51,342
2020Q3	7,967,695	2,061,630	52,886	1,419,295	716,149	1,115,078	559,201	222,015	69,161	182,556	87,635	166,976	440,603	402,873	147,139	121,706	161,307	41,488
2021Q3	8,043,868	2,390,849	48,745	1,256,663	664,020	1,161,082	454,929	224,255	83,320	182,532	62,195	114,079	480,492	391,757	181,237	120,344	167,560	59,810
2022Q1	8,388,531	2,098,143	71,451	1,512,110	758,950	1,181,749	545,886	257,773	60,658	172,988	85,652	156,784	466,703	479,552	170,702	177,600	126,530	65,301
2022Q2	8,177,045	2,125,240	59,727	1,480,582	726,755	1,162,580	464,286	212,196	63,800	173,541	83,466	134,193	448,765	447,196	192,711	158,388	172,043	71,576
2022Q3	8,010,340	2,152,377	61,691	1,330,670	684,507	1,157,750	476,966	224,464	82,239	167,809	93,557	142,599	437,661	471,450	148,915	144,031	155,393	78,262

Table 6A - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Fourth Revision) - Male

Year	Total	Industry Group																
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other
2018	5,300,310	1,270,968	59,514	785,112	688,318	835,444	483,618	153,022	38,942	92,422	53,152	118,324	286,200	135,153	52,200	83,418	119,488	45,016
2019	5,368,896	1,333,249	59,244	784,687	665,725	800,488	497,102	145,858	46,255	105,999	59,418	149,307	278,608	131,014	61,889	93,078	101,972	55,004
2020	5,372,947	1,404,424	54,650	769,527	670,928	800,735	504,586	143,909	43,545	108,800	55,021	119,004	284,605	120,956	58,231	94,149	101,098	38,778
2021	5,414,280	1,423,619	53,512	775,837	663,925	834,545	465,940	136,349	51,631	108,793	49,777	96,394	290,754	127,846	63,616	96,710	101,098	40,557
2020Q3	5,348,960	1,322,551	48,723	788,145	686,947	816,645	540,772	147,801	52,316	101,491	61,975	117,587	297,698	112,499	47,424	87,299	88,278	30,807
2021Q3	5,430,176	1,541,928	48,337	756,890	629,071	850,006	441,179	142,972	65,751	118,733	34,592	84,487	285,613	108,150	67,282	87,634	122,914	44,637
2022Q1	5,492,427	1,330,489	71,451	821,027	731,025	832,822	527,565	152,704	45,047	92,274	55,780	116,172	277,765	135,565	59,160	135,505	56,413	51,663
2022Q2	5,421,108	1,431,957	59,727	803,286	686,578	869,444	448,119	128,482	40,617	96,649	58,052	94,700	244,618	135,055	79,582	122,295	74,729	47,220
2022Q3	5,302,442	1,417,967	60,404	722,892	659,036	847,837	457,184	134,975	54,292	85,202	53,590	102,456	262,162	148,881	49,705	103,317	80,890	61,650

Table 6B - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Fourth Revision) - Female

Year	Total	Industry Group																
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other
2018	2,714,855	772,730	2,622	678,808	24,888	305,972	18,507	85,123	16,278	80,908	33,134	48,654	148,149	289,939	90,661	33,314	74,815	10,352
2019	2,811,796	738,692	1,658	719,627	27,479	334,008	17,368	86,486	18,126	81,934	30,899	55,701	157,567	294,916	107,344	42,169	84,998	12,825
2020	2,626,146	765,256	2,206	628,162	27,273	294,649	19,068	73,372	14,282	74,674	30,969	45,826	162,446	281,852	98,193	29,071	66,157	12,692
2021	2,699,228	789,396	1,074	586,474	28,660	318,971	15,763	78,147	21,250	73,519	30,985	39,679	199,352	295,289	110,923	31,708	67,251	10,785
2020Q3	2,618,735	739,079	4,162	631,151	29,202	298,433	18,429	74,214	16,845	81,064	25,660	49,389	142,904	290,374	99,715	34,406	73,028	10,681
2021Q3	2,613,692	848,921	407	499,772	34,949	311,076	13,750	81,284	17,569	63,799	27,603	29,591	194,880	283,607	113,955	32,711	44,645	15,173
2022Q1	2,896,104	767,654	..	691,083	27,925	348,927	18,320	105,069	15,610	80,713	29,873	40,612	188,938	343,987	111,542	42,095	70,117	13,638
2022Q2	2,755,937	693,282	..	677,297	40,177	293,135	16,167	83,714	23,183	76,892	25,415	39,493	204,147	312,141	113,130	36,093	97,314	24,357
2022Q3	2,707,898	734,410	1,287	607,778	25,471	309,912	19,782	89,488	27,947	82,606	39,967	40,143	175,499	322,570	99,209	40,714	74,503	16,611

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

.. Net reported

Note: These Industry groups are based on ISIC - Rev. 4

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)

2 Mining & quarrying (B)

3 Manufacturing (C)

6 Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E, F)

7 Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles (G)

8 Transportation and storage (H)

9 Accommodation and food services activities (I)

10 Information and communication (J)

11 Financial and insurance activities (K)

13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)

14 Administrative and support service activities (N)

15 Public administration and defence compulsory social security (O)

16 Education (P)

17 Human health and social work activities (Q)

19 Other service activities (S)

20 Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)

Other

Other

12 Real estate activities (L)

18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)

21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

Table 6C: Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group - Both sexes

Major Industry Group	Year								
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3
Total	8,015,166	8,180,693	7,999,093	8,113,507	7,967,695	8,043,868	8,388,531	8,177,045	8,010,340
Agriculture	2,043,698	2,071,940	2,169,679	2,213,015	2,061,630	2,390,849	2,098,143	2,125,240	2,152,377
Industry	2,239,262	2,258,421	2,152,746	2,109,482	2,188,330	1,969,427	2,342,511	2,267,064	2,076,868
Services	3,732,206	3,850,332	3,676,668	3,791,011	3,717,735	3,683,592	3,947,877	3,784,742	3,781,095

Table 6D: Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group (percentage) - Both sexes

Major Industry Group	Year								
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	25.5	25.3	27.1	27.3	25.9	29.7	25.0	26.0	26.9
Industry	27.9	27.6	26.9	26.0	27.5	24.5	27.9	27.7	25.9
Services	46.6	47.1	46.0	46.7	46.7	45.8	47.1	46.3	47.2

Note: These Industry groups are based on ISIC - Rev. 4

Agriculture

1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A)

Industries

1. Mining & Quarrying (B)
2. Manufacturing (C)
3. Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E,F)

Services

1. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)
2. Transportation and storage (H)
3. Accommodation and food services activities (I)
4. Information and communication (J)
5. Financial and insurance activities (K)
6. Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)
7. Administrative and support service activities (N)
8. Public administration and defence compulsory social security (O)
9. Education (P)
10. Human health and social work activities (Q)
11. Other service activities (S)
12. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)
13. Real estate activities (L) Arts, entertainment and recreation (R) Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

Table 7 - Currently Employed person by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Both sexes

Year	Total	Occupation group									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
2017	8,208,179	560,734	557,870	554,603	327,836	822,243	1,404,798	1,367,232	739,821	1,838,349	34,692
2018	8,015,166	619,312	558,574	662,323	286,493	701,676	1,308,806	1,297,912	706,185	1,836,250	37,635
2019	8,180,693	622,467	609,084	741,805	308,894	707,967	1,375,540	1,307,767	714,546	1,757,807	34,816
2020	7,999,093	512,087	531,298	695,206	306,448	756,851	1,373,582	1,222,380	729,394	1,833,523	38,325
2021	8,113,507	324,769	576,124	681,988	282,448	947,824	1,308,645	1,142,171	816,954	2,000,483	32,101
2020Q3	7,967,695	600,793	548,296	605,077	294,112	747,669	1,218,047	1,242,883	800,041	1,867,864	42,912
2021Q3	8,043,868	345,062	525,376	702,917	262,691	909,791	1,353,767	1,097,480	762,730	2,046,290	37,766
2022Q1	8,388,531	307,116	564,300	717,414	270,317	1,002,213	1,211,111	1,322,328	897,692	2,051,782	44,257
2022Q2	8,177,045	407,914	584,115	675,065	326,895	857,553	1,346,379	1,230,848	749,834	1,967,533	30,909
2022Q3	8,010,340	345,011	602,922	698,312	289,037	843,826	1,310,344	1,103,746	775,467	1,992,519	49,156

Table 7A - Currently Employed person by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Male

Year	Total	Occupation group									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
2017	5,279,158	406,096	211,033	355,936	154,428	553,098	892,473	899,082	631,271	1,144,468	31,274
2018	5,300,310	458,466	195,476	441,897	141,871	504,461	882,375	891,693	607,346	1,145,178	31,548
2019	5,368,896	453,211	228,884	477,666	148,506	494,410	943,543	892,716	619,409	1,080,828	29,724
2020	5,372,947	373,757	191,282	452,640	140,458	540,840	984,507	883,796	617,644	1,154,222	33,801
2021	5,414,280	261,533	211,883	440,246	133,690	639,288	981,016	843,075	644,676	1,228,363	30,511
2020Q3	5,348,960	437,374	198,569	407,400	126,042	527,631	883,418	903,513	674,130	1,150,499	40,386
2021Q3	5,430,176	289,273	179,589	470,377	119,956	622,488	1,021,808	845,412	608,648	1,236,474	36,151
2022Q1	5,492,427	229,872	186,894	444,281	129,044	663,771	875,013	941,093	726,382	1,259,242	36,836
2022Q2	5,421,108	324,390	207,701	427,088	165,883	584,665	1,005,351	897,694	577,697	1,203,548	27,091
2022Q3	5,302,442	271,395	222,201	450,239	132,425	569,921	931,714	788,640	607,207	1,282,074	46,626

Table 7B - Currently Employed person by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Female

Year	Total	Occupation group									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
2017	2,929,021	154,639	346,838	198,667	173,408	269,145	512,325	468,150	108,550	693,881	3,418
2018	2,714,855	160,846	363,098	220,426	144,622	197,215	426,431	406,219	98,839	691,072	6,088
2019	2,811,796	169,256	380,200	264,139	160,388	213,557	431,997	415,051	95,138	676,978	5,092
2020	2,626,146	138,329	340,016	242,566	165,990	216,011	389,075	338,584	111,750	679,301	4,524
2021	2,699,228	63,236	364,242	241,742	148,758	308,536	327,629	299,096	172,278	772,120	1,590
2020Q3	2,618,735	163,419	349,727	197,678	168,071	220,038	334,630	339,371	125,911	717,365	2,526
2021Q3	2,613,692	55,789	345,787	232,540	142,735	287,302	331,959	252,068	154,081	809,816	1,615
2022Q1	2,896,104	77,244	377,407	273,134	141,272	338,442	336,098	381,235	171,311	792,540	7,421
2022Q2	2,755,937	83,525	376,414	247,977	161,012	272,887	341,028	333,154	172,137	763,985	3,818
2022Q3	2,707,898	73,616	380,721	248,073	156,612	273,905	378,631	315,106	168,259	710,445	2,530

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | Managers, Senior Officials and Legislators | 6 | Skilled Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery workers |
| 2 | Professionals | 7 | Craft and Related Trades workers |
| 3 | Technicians and Associate Professionals | 8 | Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers |
| 4 | Clerks and Clerical support workers | 9 | Elementary occupations |
| 5 | Services and Sales workers | 0 | Armed Forces Occupations & unidentified occupations |

Table 8 - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job and major industrial group (Percentage) - Both sexes

Major Industrial group	Total	0 *	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & Over
Total	100.0	6.4	2.1	6.6	11.3	16.3	30.9	26.4
1	100.0	4.9	3.5	10.4	19.1	21.2	25.3	15.6
2	100.0	16.2	..	9.2	9.8	11.6	8.6	44.6
3	100.0	7.1	1.9	5.0	6.9	11.8	34.4	32.8
6	100.0	12.2	2.4	7.5	14.5	17.0	29.8	16.5
7	100.0	4.4	0.8	3.1	7.3	12.3	26.9	45.1
8	100.0	9.2	1.5	8.7	10.8	11.3	26.7	31.6
9	100.0	14.9	1.0	1.8	8.2	15.5	22.9	35.7
10	100.0	5.7	1.4	1.7	4.3	4.8	39.9	42.3
11	100.0	1.8	0.9	1.9	0.6	4.4	74.8	15.8
13	100.0	7.7	2.8	8.1	9.5	10.2	43.7	18.0
14	100.0	9.3	1.5	6.1	3.7	5.6	33.2	40.6
15	100.0	0.5	0.3	1.3	6.0	4.9	57.7	29.3
16	100.0	4.8	1.9	8.1	8.8	45.8	24.3	6.4
17	100.0	5.1	0.7	2.3	2.7	4.4	39.3	45.4
19	100.0	3.9	2.4	9.4	11.8	15.6	31.1	25.8
20	100.0	13.7	4.9	8.1	16.8	18.9	19.8	17.8
Other	100.0	5.5	2.9	8.9	7.2	15.6	35.8	24.1

* Has a job but not at work during the reference week

.. Net reported

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Industry group

- 1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)
- 2 Mining & quarrying (B)
- 3 Manufacturing (C)
- 6 Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E,F)
- 7 Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)
- 8 Transportation and storage (H)
- 9 Accommodation and food services activities (I)
- 10 Information and communication (J)
- 11 Financial and insurance activities (K)
- 13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)
- 14 Administrative and support service activities (N)
- 15 Public administration and defence compulsory social security (O)
- 16 Education (P)
- 17 Human health and social work activities (Q)
- 19 Other service activities (S)
- 20 Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)
- Other
 - Other
 - 12 Real estate activities (L)
 - 18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)
 - 21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

Table 9 – Historical table of currently unemployed persons by age groups (Percentage) - Both Sexes

Year	Total	Age groups				
		15 – 19 Yrs	20 – 24 Yrs	25 – 29 Yrs	30 – 39 Yrs	40 + Yrs
2016	100.0	16.1	39.7	21.1	13.2	9.8
2017	100.0	12.8	37.7	22.2	14.8	12.4
2018	100.0	14.1	38.9	22.5	15.0	9.5
2019	100.0	13.0	36.0	22.8	14.3	13.8
2020	100.0	13.5	39.3	21.5	13.8	12.0
2021	100.0	8.9	42.5	22.2	15.2	11.1
2020Q3	100.0	16.0	33.8	21.9	14.6	13.6
2021Q3	100.0	8.4	38.5	24.7	15.4	13.0
2022Q1	100.0	8.9	37.2	24.1	15.3	14.5
2022Q2	100.0	8.2	43.1	22.7	11.6	14.4
2022Q3	100.0	12.2	31.8	25.9	14.4	15.7

Table 9A– Historical table of currently unemployed persons by age groups (Percentage) – Male

Year	Total	Age groups				
		15 – 19 Yrs	20 – 24 Yrs	25 – 29 Yrs	30 – 39 Yrs	40 + Yrs
2016	100.0	23.0	42.8	16.9	7.7	9.6
2017	100.0	18.1	40.3	19.7	10.8	11.1
2018	100.0	20.5	40.9	17.5	10.7	10.5
2019	100.0	18.3	38.9	19.5	8.3	15.0
2020	100.0	18.8	41.0	18.6	11.9	9.7
2021	100.0	12.3	45.0	20.0	12.1	10.6
2020Q3	100.0	20.5	34.3	20.4	12.9	11.9
2021Q3	100.0	12.2	40.6	24.0	11.1	12.2
2022Q1	100.0	16.8	37.0	21.9	10.6	13.7
2022Q2	100.0	11.7	43.6	16.6	13.7	14.4
2022Q3	100.0	13.9	34.4	25.0	12.1	14.7

Table 9B – Historical table of currently unemployed persons by age groups (Percentage) – Female

Year	Total	Age groups				
		15 – 19 Yrs	20 – 24 Yrs	25 – 29 Yrs	30 – 39 Yrs	40 + Yrs
2016	100.0	11.1	37.5	24.2	17.2	10.0
2017	100.0	8.8	35.7	24.2	17.9	13.5
2018	100.0	9.1	37.3	26.5	18.4	8.7
2019	100.0	8.7	33.6	25.5	19.3	12.9
2020	100.0	8.5	37.7	24.1	15.6	14.1
2021	100.0	5.8	40.3	24.2	18.0	11.6
2020Q3	100.0	11.6	33.4	23.4	16.2	15.3
2021Q3	100.0	4.9	36.7	25.3	19.3	13.8
2022Q1	100.0	2.2	37.3	26.0	19.4	15.2
2022Q2	100.0	4.5	42.6	29.4	9.2	14.3
2022Q3	100.0	10.1	28.5	27.1	17.3	16.9

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Table 10 – Historical table of currently unemployed persons by level of education (Percentage) - Both sexes

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE & Above
2016	100.0	2.7	35.4	22.1	39.8
2017	100.0	3.1	30.3	24.7	41.9
2018	100.0	2.2	30.5	21.4	45.8
2019	100.0	2.9	31.4	23.9	41.9
2020	100.0	2.2	32.6	23.5	41.7
2021	100.0	1.4	29.6	24.9	44.1
2020Q3	100.0	2.3	35.2	22.5	40.0
2021Q3	100.0	2.0	29.0	25.5	43.5
2022Q1	100.0	2.7	31.5	21.4	44.4
2022Q2	100.0	3.3	29.2	25.9	41.6
2022Q3	100.0	0.3	29.8	24.8	45.1

Table 10A – Historical table of currently unemployed persons by level of education (Percentage) – Male

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE & Above
2016	100.0	1.5	48.2	23.9	26.4
2017	100.0	2.0	37.5	30.0	30.5
2018	100.0	3.1	43.1	25.0	28.9
2019	100.0	2.9	42.2	27.0	28.0
2020	100.0	2.3	41.5	27.7	28.5
2021	100.0	1.8	36.0	29.9	32.3
2020Q3	100.0	2.8	44.7	23.9	28.6
2021Q3	100.0	1.9	36.2	29.7	32.2
2022Q1	100.0	3.5	35.2	28.4	33.0
2022Q2	100.0	4.6	38.9	33.3	23.2
2022Q3	100.0	0.6	39.0	25.8	34.6

Table 10B – Historical table of currently unemployed persons by level of education (Percentage) – Female

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE & Above
2016	100.0	3.6	26.0	20.8	49.6
2017	100.0	3.9	24.8	20.7	50.7
2018	100.0	1.5	20.6	18.7	59.2
2019	100.0	2.9	22.5	21.4	53.3
2020	100.0	2.2	24.2	19.7	53.9
2021	100.0	1.0	23.9	20.5	54.6
2020Q3	100.0	1.8	25.9	21.2	51.1
2021Q3	100.0	2.0	22.6	21.7	53.8
2022Q1	100.0	2.1	28.3	15.4	54.1
2022Q2	100.0	1.9	18.7	17.9	61.4
2022Q3	100.0	..	18.2	23.5	58.3

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

.. Net reported

Table 11 – Currently unemployed persons by sex and duration of unemployment

Sex	Total	Duration (2022 3 rd Quarter)		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	419,163	192,812	121,391	104,960
%	100.0	46.0	29.0	25.0
Male	233,763	120,468	60,544	52,751
%	100.0	51.5	25.9	22.6
Female	185,401	72,344	60,847	52,209
%	100.0	39.0	32.8	28.2

Table 12 – Standard error and coefficient of variation of selected variables

	Estimated Value	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)	Estimated Value (Ratio)	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)
General labour force characteristics						
Population (15 years & over)	17,186,326	158,914	0.9			
Employed Population	8,010,340	113,189	1.4			
Unemployed Population	419,163	27,170	6.5			
Employment Rate				95.0	0.31	0.33
Unemployment Rate				5.0	0.31	6.29
Labour Force	8,429,503	116,603	1.4			
Not in Labour Force	8,756,823	113,036	1.3			
Employed persons by major industry Groups						
1	2,152,377	86,127	4.0			
2	61,691	14,829	24.0			
3	1,330,670	53,370	4.0			
6	684,507	32,526	4.8			
7	1,157,750	49,876	4.3			
8	476,966	26,903	5.6			
9	224,464	19,506	8.7			
10	82,239	11,539	14.0			
11	167,809	15,885	9.5			
13	93,557	12,534	13.4			
14	142,599	14,204	10.0			
15	437,661	27,946	6.4			
16	471,450	28,906	6.1			
17	148,915	14,671	9.9			
19	144,031	14,317	9.9			
20	155,393	19,294	12.4			
Other	78,262	9,956	12.7			
Unemployed persons by level of education						
Below grade 6	1,387	1,387	100.0			
Grade 6 - 10	124,833	15,495	12.4			
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	103,983	10,366	10.0			
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	188,960	12,573	6.7			
Industry group						
1	Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)					
2	Mining & quarrying (B)					
3	Manufacturing (C)					
6	Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E,F)					
7	Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)					
8	Transportation and storage (H)					
9	Accommodation and food services activities (I)					
10	Information and communication (J)					
11	Financial and insurance activities (K)					
13	Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)					
14	Administrative and support service activities (N)					
15	Public administration and defence compulsory social security (O)					
16	Education (P)					
17	Human health and social work activities (Q)					
19	Other service activities (S)					
20	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)					
Other	Other Real estate activities (L) Arts, entertainment and recreation (R) Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)					

Special Statistical Appendix

Explanatory Notes

Coverage

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey was designed to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka. This survey is being conducted quarterly, since the first quarter of 1990.

This quarterly survey of households is conducted through a scientifically selected sample designed to represent the civilian non-institutional population. Respondents are interviewed to obtain information about the employment status etc. of each member of the household 15 years of age and older.

The field work of the survey is done during the third week of each month, Monday through Sunday. This is known as the "survey week". The inquiry relates to activity or status are referred in the preceding week of the survey week; referred to as the "reference week".

The concepts and definitions underlying labour force data are as follows.

Concepts & Definitions

1. **Labour force:** The labour force is composed of the economically active population 15 years of age and over.
2. **The Economically Active Population:** is defined as those persons who are/were employed or unemployed during the reference period of the survey.
3. **Employed:** Persons, who during the reference period, worked as paid employees, employers, own account workers (self employed), or unpaid family workers are said to be employed. This includes persons with a job but not at work during the reference period.
4. **Unemployed:** Persons who are seeking and available for work, but had no employment during the reference period.
5. **Currently Economically Active:** A person who was employed or unemployed during the current reference period is considered to be currently economically active.
6. **Not in the Labour Force (not economically active):** Persons who were neither working nor available/looking for work are classified as "not in the labour force". Persons are not in the labour force for such reasons as: full time care of the household, full – time students, retired or old age, infirmed or disabled, or are not interested in working for one reason or another. Current and Usual definitions apply.
7. **Criteria for classification of underemployment:** In order to classify an employed persons as visibly underemployed,

*Explanatory Notes (Page 2)**(i) If the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her main activity*

In Sri Lanka scenario, 35 hours per week is taken as the cut-off point applicable to all workers, except government teachers. As in practice, though teachers do have a normal duration of work which is below the general cut-off point, they should be on a full time schedule according to the nature of their job. Further, those who do have a secondary job or those who are employers, were considered as having worked the normal duration in their respective activity.

Therefore, if the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her activity (as described above), then the person is further questioned to ascertain whether he/She is prepared and available for further work if provided. Such persons are considered underemployed in their respective employment.

(ii) If the person has worked more than the normal duration in his/her activity

If the person has worked even more than 35 hours as usually, but he has worked less than 35 hours actually in the reference period, only due to the off season or bad weather, such persons were also further questioned to check their underemployment situation, considering them as a special category.

8. Informal Sector Employment

In order to classify a person to be employed in informal sector employment, following information were used.

- (i) Registration of the organization
- (ii) Accounts keeping practices of the organization
- (iii) Total number of regular employees of the organization.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the quarterly labour force data are subject to both sampling and non - sampling errors. When a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent.

The exact differences or sampling error, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 95 percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.96 standard errors from the "true" population value, because of sampling error. Analyses relating to the Labour Force Survey are generally conducted at the 95 percent level of confidence.

For example, the confidence interval for the quarterly unemployment rate is calculated as follows

When the estimated unemployment rate is 4.5 and standard error of unemployment rate is 0.275 then 95% confidence interval

Estimated value (of the unemployment rate) \pm (standard error) * (1.96)

$$4.5 \pm (0.275) * (1.96)$$

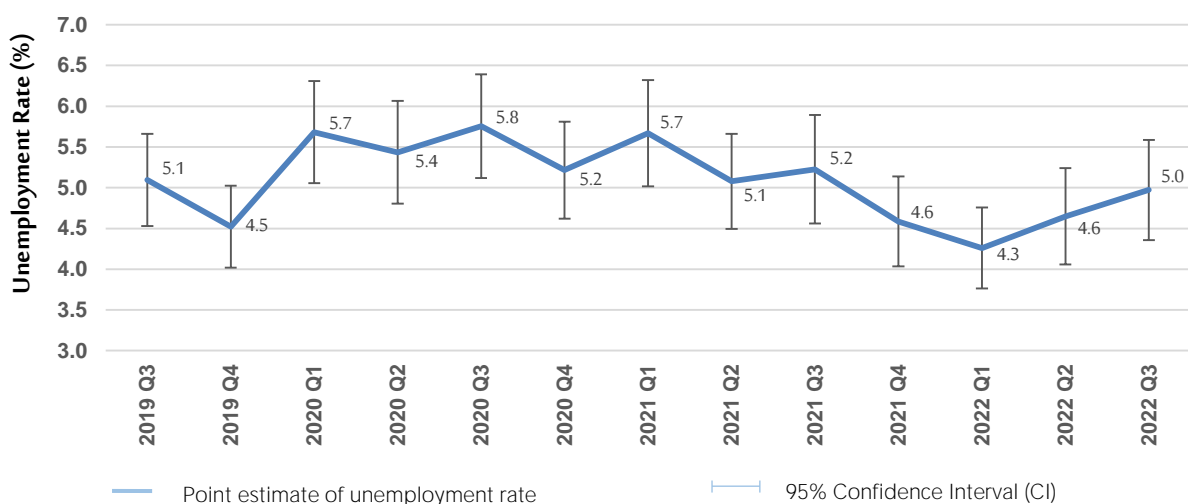
$$(4.5 \pm 0.539)$$

Explanatory Notes (Page 3)

This means, the 95 percent confidence interval on the quarterly unemployment rate could range from (4.0 to 5.0). This implies that there is about 95 percent chance that the "true" unemployment rate lies within this interval. This range includes all the values range from 4.0 to 5.0. When the comparison of this estimate is done between two quarters, if any of the value within the 95 percent confidence interval of one quarter overlaps with the confidence interval of the other , it means that the estimates of this two quarters are not significantly different.

Therefore, in each quarterly labour force report, a separate table is given including approximate standard errors for some selected variables, so that users could understand this statistical scenario clearly.

Distribution of unemployment rates and 95% confidence intervals (2019Q3 - 2022Q3)



As seen in figure, it is very important to note that, there were no statistically significant differences between the unemployment rates reported in different time periods of 2019/2022, when sampling error was considered.

Change in survey schedule

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes have been made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data. In January 2006, some improvements were made to the labour force survey schedule in order to fulfill the requirements of data users and also to provide additional information for planning purposes. The revision was made focusing on literacy, household economic activities, and informal sector employment and under employment etc.

From January , 2013 onwards, the lower bound of working age populations is considered as age 15, hence age 15 and over population is considered as working age population. The survey schedule is updated to obtain more precise information on following age, informal employment, informal sector, secondary occupation, wages & income , unemployment & trainings.

New Industry & Occupation classifications

From January 2013 onward the survey uses new industry & occupation classifications, such as
 SLIC Rev 4:- Sri Lanka Standard Industry Classification based on International Standard Industry classification - Rev.4 (ISIC Rev 4)
 SLSCO 08:- Sri Lanka Standard Classification of Occupation-2008 based on International Standard Classification of Occupation-2008 (ISCO 2008)

Explanatory Notes (Page 4)

Note :

It is important to note that, all the data published here are the estimates based on a sample survey and these are subject to sampling errors. These sampling errors can be statistically evaluated from the survey results. Therefore, sampling error is normally measured in terms of the standard error of the particular variable. Standard error could be used to calculate the confidence limits with a prescribed accuracy where the true value of the estimates lies.

Further reliability of the estimates can be expressed in terms of Coefficient of Variation (CV). The CV is a relative measure of the sampling error and is calculated as sampling error divided by the expected value of the given characteristic.

In view of this, following table is given to show the estimates for some selected variables, it's standard error, CV and 95% Confidence interval.

It is also important to note that all the estimates we publish in this report are subject to sampling error and one should be cautious in the interpretation of results, especially with respect to the trends over time.

Estimate of Confidence Intervals for some selected characteristics

Year	Labour Force					Employed				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2015	8,214,473	52,021	0.63	8,112,463	8,316,483	7,830,976	50,426	0.64	7,732,093	7,929,860
2016	8,310,682	66,023	0.79	8,181,215	8,440,148	7,947,683	64,616	0.81	7,820,977	8,074,389
2017	8,566,686	49,822	0.58	8,468,989	8,664,382	8,208,179	48,420	0.59	8,113,231	8,303,126
2018	8,387,759	57,008	0.68	8,275,971	8,499,546	8,015,166	55,036	0.69	7,907,245	8,123,087
2019	8,592,010	54,293	0.63	8,485,546	8,698,475	8,180,693	52,108	0.64	8,078,513	8,282,872
2020	8,466,606	58,917	0.70	8,351,075	8,582,137	7,999,093	56,610	0.71	7,888,086	8,110,101
2021	8,553,290	58,311	0.68	8,438,947	8,667,633	8,113,507	56,072	0.69	8,003,555	8,223,460
2020Q3	8,454,219	113,655	1.34	8,230,994	8,677,444	7,967,695	109,767	1.38	7,752,107	8,183,284
2021Q3	8,487,440	114,908	1.35	8,261,752	8,713,128	8,043,868	111,964	1.39	7,823,963	8,263,773
2022Q1	8,761,803	109,195	1.25	8,547,341	8,976,265	8,388,531	106,255	1.27	8,179,844	8,597,218
2022Q2	8,575,758	118,825	1.39	8,342,379	8,809,137	8,177,045	114,472	1.40	7,952,217	8,401,873
2022Q3	8,429,503	116,603	1.38	8,200,490	8,658,517	8,010,340	113,189	1.41	7,788,032	8,232,649

Year	Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		Rate	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2015	383,496	12,283	3.20	359,410	407,583	4.7	0.1	3.11	4.4	5.0
2016	362,999	11,186	3.08	341,064	384,933	4.4	0.1	3.02	4.1	4.6
2017	358,507	11,347	3.17	336,256	380,758	4.2	0.1	3.08	3.9	4.4
2018	372,593	11,350	3.05	350,337	394,849	4.4	0.1	2.94	4.2	4.7
2019	411,318	12,814	3.12	386,191	436,444	4.8	0.1	3.00	4.5	5.1
2020	467,513	14,029	3.00	440,004	495,022	5.5	0.2	2.88	5.2	5.8
2021	439,783	13,930	3.17	412,468	467,097	5.1	0.2	3.05	4.8	5.4
2020Q3	486,524	28,361	5.83	430,821	542,227	5.8	0.3	5.63	5.1	6.4
2021Q3	443,572	29,504	6.65	385,624	501,519	5.2	0.3	6.48	4.6	5.9
2022Q1	373,272	22,835	6.12	328,423	418,121	4.3	0.3	5.95	3.8	4.8
2022Q2	398,713	26,801	6.72	346,075	451,351	4.6	0.3	6.48	4.1	5.2
2022Q3	419,163	27,170	6.48	365,801	472,526	5.0	0.3	6.29	4.4	5.6

Alternative estimates

Alternative Estimates of Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics

Official employment, unemployment and labour force characteristics are estimated at the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey, based on the internationally comparable concepts and definitions recommended by the ILO. However the validity of the concepts and definitions used at the survey is questioned very often in some forums, for the appropriateness of these concepts and definitions in the Sri Lankan context.

The concepts and definitions, which were found to be controversial, are as below.

- (1) **Number of Hours of Work** : A person who work **at least one hour** during the reference week, is considered **employed**, under these definitions.
- (2) **Working Age Population** : All persons of **age 10 years and over** are considered to be in the working age, before 2013. However, this was changed as **age 15 and over** from 2013 onward.
- (3) **Employment Status** : All,
 - a) Paid employees, (those who work for wages/salaries).
 - b) Employers (who have at least one paid employee under them).
 - c) Own account workers (who carry out the economic activity without having anypaid employees).
 - d) Contributing family workers (who make their contribution to the economic activities carried out bytheir own household, without wages/salaries).

The validity of the above concepts and definitions is raised due to the following reasons.

- (1) **Number of Hours of Work** : Some pointed out that one hour per week is too low, to consider a person to be employed.
- (2) **Working Age Population** : Some pointed out those persons in the age group 10-14 yrs. are too young to be considered in the working age. (From 2013 onward the working age population is considered as age 15 and over).
- (3) **Employment Status** : Some pointed out that 'contributing family workers' may work in the family enterprise without payment because they have no other work, and so it is not appropriate to consider them as employed.

An attempt has been made to produce '**Alternative estimates of Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics,**' by revising the original concepts and definitions so that the above issues are addressed as explained below.

The revisions made are,

- (1) **Number of Hours of Work** : Persons who work **20 hours or more per week only** are considered to be employed.
- (2) **Contributing Family Worker** : Contributing family workers are **not** considered as employed. They are considered as **economically inactive** (not in the labour force) so only, **a) paid employees b) employers and c) own account workers are considered to be employed.**

Following tables are based on the above alternative concepts and definitions.

Alternative estimates of employment, unemployment and labour force characteristics

Table 1 - Labour force status of household population 15 years & over (Alternative estimates)

Year	Household population (15 years & over)	Total labour force	Labour force particl: rate (%)	Labour Force				Not In labour Force Number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
2013	14,958,239	6,966,035	46.6	6,600,172	94.7	365,863	5.3	8,007,536
2014	15,134,484	7,017,985	46.4	6,669,590	95.0	348,395	5.0	8,116,499
2015	15,281,945	7,156,393	46.8	6,772,896	94.6	383,496	5.4	8,125,553
2016	15,448,679	7,325,972	47.4	6,962,973	95.0	362,999	5.0	8,122,707
2017	15,843,735	7,474,883	47.2	7,116,376	95.2	358,507	4.8	8,368,851
2018	16,196,232	7,428,999	45.9	7,056,406	95.0	372,593	5.0	8,767,233
2019	16,424,016	7,609,700	46.3	7,198,383	94.6	411,318	5.4	8,814,316
2020	16,739,396	7,438,037	44.4	6,970,524	93.7	467,513	6.3	9,301,359
2021	17,133,659	7,471,067	43.6	7,031,284	94.1	439,783	5.9	9,662,592
2020Q3	16,561,964	7,547,212	45.6	7,060,688	93.6	486,524	6.4	9,014,752
2021Q3	17,157,591	7,322,128	42.7	6,878,556	93.9	443,572	6.1	9,835,463
2022Q1	17,105,140	7,787,449	45.5	7,414,177	95.2	373,272	4.8	9,317,691
2022Q2	17,125,995	7,393,481	43.2	6,994,768	94.6	398,713	5.4	9,732,513
2022Q3	17,186,326	7,334,986	42.7	6,915,823	94.3	419,163	5.7	9,851,340

Table 2- Historical table of number and rate of unemployment by age (Alternative estimates)

Year	Total		Age group									
			15 - 19		20 - 24		25 - 29		30 - 39		40 & above	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
2013	365,863	5.3	50,436	23.8	149,243	22.4	64,566	8.6	55,398	3.2	46,221	1.3
2014	348,395	5.0	49,540	25.7	138,565	22.2	67,235	9.3	53,648	3.0	39,407	1.1
2015	383,496	5.4	55,557	28.6	143,351	22.0	78,592	10.4	60,768	3.4	45,229	1.2
2016	362,999	5.0	58,622	32.8	144,156	22.2	76,624	10.0	47,956	2.7	35,640	0.9
2017	358,507	4.8	46,016	25.1	135,121	19.7	79,727	10.4	53,053	3.0	44,590	1.1
2018	372,593	5.0	52,624	30.4	144,824	22.1	84,000	11.3	55,853	3.3	35,291	0.8
2019	411,318	5.4	53,652	29.3	148,046	22.4	93,793	11.8	59,009	3.4	56,818	1.3
2020	467,513	6.3	62,910	38.0	183,722	27.5	100,359	13.0	64,493	3.9	56,029	1.3
2021	439,783	5.9	39,102	30.8	187,104	29.7	97,631	12.5	66,973	4.2	48,972	1.1
2020Q3	486,524	6.4	77,904	41.3	164,666	24.4	106,652	13.7	70,972	4.2	66,329	1.6
2021Q3	443,572	6.1	37,040	27.7	170,865	27.9	109,485	14.9	68,376	4.3	57,806	1.4
2022Q1	373,272	4.8	33,142	23.7	138,744	20.3	89,994	10.9	57,269	3.4	54,122	1.2
2022Q2	398,713	5.4	32,860	27.5	171,881	26.6	90,599	12.1	46,076	2.8	57,297	1.3
2022Q3	419,163	5.7	51,169	42.7	133,239	22.9	108,736	14.3	60,315	3.8	65,703	1.5

Table 3 - Currently Employed persons by Industry group (No. and percentage) (Based on ISIC Fourth Revision) - (Alternative estimates)

Year	Total	Industry group																	
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other	
2018	No.	7,056,406	1,513,837	58,743	1,336,902	676,629	1,010,560	487,204	205,377	54,000	171,779	81,274	158,089	431,126	398,079	140,278	101,641	178,313	52,575
	%	100.0	21.5	0.8	18.9	9.6	14.3	6.9	2.9	0.8	2.4	1.2	2.2	6.1	5.6	2.0	1.4	2.5	0.7
2019	No.	7,198,383	1,538,804	58,117	1,365,637	659,891	992,825	500,547	204,840	62,552	184,666	87,913	193,082	430,760	401,519	164,487	119,721	172,494	60,528
	%	100.0	21.4	0.8	19.0	9.2	13.8	7.0	2.8	0.9	2.6	1.2	2.7	6.0	5.6	2.3	1.7	2.4	0.8
2020	No.	6,970,524	1,592,043	51,906	1,276,171	660,251	970,228	494,638	186,117	55,187	174,496	82,307	157,459	433,734	370,960	152,648	114,254	153,050	45,075
	%	100.0	22.8	0.7	18.3	9.5	13.9	7.1	2.7	0.8	2.5	1.2	2.3	6.2	5.3	2.2	1.6	2.2	0.6
2021	No.	7,031,284	1,645,518	47,771	1,236,731	643,441	1,015,162	452,687	183,091	71,279	177,033	76,063	129,244	476,399	373,300	168,807	109,266	181,500	43,994
	%	100.0	23.4	0.7	17.6	9.2	14.4	6.4	2.6	1.0	2.5	1.1	1.8	6.8	5.3	2.4	1.6	2.6	0.6
2020Q3	No.	7,060,688	1,550,619	50,481	1,302,095	679,722	997,712	532,659	194,444	64,938	182,556	85,035	160,101	437,448	375,498	145,196	114,503	153,483	34,198
	%	100.0	22.0	0.7	18.4	9.6	14.1	7.5	2.8	0.9	2.6	1.2	2.3	6.2	5.3	2.1	1.6	2.2	0.5
2021Q3	No.	6,878,556	1,755,378	45,779	1,159,277	623,103	997,445	420,659	183,842	80,368	176,135	55,428	112,516	461,552	337,741	174,793	97,327	150,708	46,504
	%	100.0	25.5	0.7	16.9	9.1	14.5	6.1	2.7	1.2	2.6	0.8	1.6	6.7	4.9	2.5	1.4	2.2	0.7
2022Q1	No.	7,414,177	1,563,785	67,554	1,376,477	708,945	1,068,678	525,527	224,336	59,423	171,701	83,122	146,346	464,833	451,491	165,310	163,540	111,591	61,518
	%	100.0	21.1	0.9	18.6	9.6	14.4	7.1	3.0	0.8	2.3	1.1	2.0	6.3	6.1	2.2	2.2	1.5	0.8
2022Q2	No.	6,994,768	1,570,545	55,650	1,334,556	640,541	1,022,902	414,020	158,043	60,657	169,067	78,010	121,940	430,022	406,530	186,647	133,661	148,727	63,250
	%	100.0	22.5	0.8	19.1	9.2	14.6	5.9	2.3	0.9	2.4	1.1	1.7	6.1	5.8	2.7	1.9	2.1	0.9
2022Q3	No.	6,915,823	1,629,107	56,044	1,187,042	612,006	1,032,713	428,094	192,857	78,738	163,161	83,397	131,785	430,680	423,574	144,411	124,547	128,618	69,048
	%	100.0	23.6	0.8	17.2	8.8	14.9	6.2	2.8	1.1	2.4	1.2	1.9	6.2	6.1	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.0

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.4) are indicated as A,B,C.....U. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV),some of these groups have been combined.

Industry Group

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)

2 Mining & quarrying (B)

3 Manufacturing (C)

6 Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E,F)

7 Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)

8 Transportation and storage (H)

9 Accommodation and food services activities (I)

10 Information and communication (J)

11 Financial and insurance activities (K)

13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)

14 Administrative and support service activities (N)

15 Public administration and defence compulsory social security (O)

16 Education (P)

17 Human health and social work activities (Q)

19 Other service activities (S)

20 Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)

Other

Other

12 Real estate activities (L)

18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)

21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

2022


Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey Quarterly Report 3rd Quarter

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