Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey
Quarterly Report
3rd Quarter - 2024

Department of Census and Statistics
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

SRI LANKA LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

Quarterly Report – 2024
Third Quarter

DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS & STATISTICS
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

ISBN 978 – 624 – 6716 – 00 – 4

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 2024 was done in the month of July, August and September in year 2024. 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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08.04.2025.

Acknowledgements

This report is the hundred and thirty second in the series of the Quarterly Labour Force Survey which was commenced from the first 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 Mr. S.H. Mansoor, Director (Statistics) and under the direction of Mr. W. Gnanathilaka and Dr(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. T.D.M.S.D. Perera, Ms. U.S. Dilrukshi, Mr. L.S.N. Perera, Ms. M.W.L.C.M. Chandrarathne, Ms. M.M.G.D Manamperi, Ms. R.P.M. Subhashini, Mr. H.M.S.C. Bandara 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, Mr. K.L.C.S. Weerasooriya, Additional Director General (ICT) and Mr. E.M.D. Ekanayake, Director (ICT) were responsible for implementing CAPI methodology and preparation of data collection and computer edits programmes. Maintaining of sample selection programme and its related computer software was done by Mr. P.D.D. Peiris, 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 Mr. S.H. Mansoor, Director (Statistics) and Dr(Ms). M.D.D.D. Deepawansa, 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 diretion 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	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q1	2024Q2	2024Q3
Labour force participation rate										
By Gender										
Total	52.3	50.6	49.9	49.8	48.6	49.0	48.8	47.1	47.8	46.9
Male	73.0	71.9	71.0	70.5	68.6	70.4	68.4	67.2	68.1	66.8
Female	34.5	32.0	31.8	32.1	31.3	31.0	32.0	29.6	30.0	29.4
By residential sector										
Total	52.3	50.6	49.9	49.8	48.6	49.0	48.8	47.1	47.8	46.9
Urban	50.2	47.0	46.9	47.2	46.0	46.8	45.2	46.3	45.4	43.4
Rural	52.7	51.3	50.5	50.3	49.1	49.5	49.6	47.2	48.3	47.7
Unemployment Rate										
By Gender										
Total	4.8	5.5	5.1	4.7	4.7	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.2
Male	3.3	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.6	4.2	3.7	3.1	3.6	2.6
Female	7.4	8.5	7.9	6.5	7.0	6.4	6.7	7.4	7.0	7.2
By selected age Group (Year)										
20 - 29	15.3	18.1	18.3	16.2	17.0	16.6	17.7	16.8	16.9	15.8
20 - 24	20.3	25.2	26.8	21.8	21.6	20.8	23.1	20.7	23.7	19.9
25 - 29	11.0	12.0	11.4	11.7	13.0	13.3	13.4	13.7	11.2	12.4
By selected educational level										
GCE A/L and above										
Total	8.5	9.8	9.1	7.8	8.0	8.7	8.4	8.3	7.8	7.8
Male	5.0	6.2	6.2	5.5	5.8	7.4	6.8	5.8	5.8	5.6
Female	11.9	13.6	12.2	10.1	10.2	10.0	9.9	11.0	10.0	10.3
Employed population										
By Gender										
Total	8,180,693	7,999,093	8,113,507	8,147,731	8,009,916	8,010,340	8,006,250	7,901,693	7,988,626	7,838,793
Male	5,368,896	5,372,947	5,414,280	5,373,965	5,307,563	5,302,442	5,234,273	5,320,151	5,379,472	5,310,683
Female	2,811,796	2,626,146	2,699,228	2,773,766	2,702,354	2,707,898	2,771,977	2,581,542	2,609,154	2,528,110
By industry (Percentage)										
Total	8,180,693	7,999,093	8,113,507	8,147,731	8,009,916	8,010,340	8,006,250	7,901,693	7,988,626	7,838,793
%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	2,071,940	2,169,679	2,213,015	2,158,559	2,088,344	2,152,377	2,032,281	2,039,574	2,000,744	2,066,789
%	25.3	27.1	27.3	26.5	26.1	26.9	25.4	25.8	25.0	26.4
Industry	2,258,421	2,152,746	2,109,482	2,158,199	2,043,154	2,076,868	2,001,320	1,949,786	2,116,002	1,988,578
%	27.6	26.9	26.0	26.5	25.5	25.9	25.0	24.7	26.5	25.4
Services	3,850,332	3,676,668	3,791,011	3,830,973	3,878,418	3,781,095	3,972,650	3,912,333	3,871,880	3,783,426
%	47.1	46.0	46.7	47.0	48.4	47.2	49.6	49.5	48.5	48.3
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	100.0
0*	6.4	14.6	9.6	5.8	4.2	6.4	4.5	2.7	4.0	1.9
1 - 9	1.7	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.1	2.8	1.9	2.2	1.8
10 - 39	26.8	27.1	29.6	31.9	31.2	34.2	30.9	29.7	29.4	27.1
40 & above	65.1	56.2	58.7	60.3	62.1	57.3	61.8	65.8	64.3	69.2

* 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 2024
Third Quarter
Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics

15 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (15 years & over)	17,426,919	8,170,937	9,255,983	2,930,897	14,496,023
Labour force in this age group	8,179,992	5,455,198	2,724,794	1,271,087	6,908,905
Labour force participation rate	46.9	66.8	29.4	43.4	47.7
Employed population	7,838,793	5,310,683	2,528,110	1,222,317	6,616,476
Employment rate	95.8	97.4	92.8	96.2	95.8
Unemployed population	341,199	144,514	196,685	48,770	292,429
Unemployment rate	4.2	2.6	7.2	3.8	4.2
Not in labour force	9,246,927	2,715,739	6,531,188	1,659,810	7,587,118

18 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (18 years & over)	16,390,707	7,645,771	8,744,935	2,784,469	13,606,237
Labour force in this age group	8,152,977	5,431,787	2,721,190	1,264,626	6,888,351
Labour force participation rate	49.7	71.0	31.1	45.4	50.6
Employed population	7,817,248	5,291,641	2,525,607	1,216,958	6,600,290
Employment rate	95.9	97.4	92.8	96.2	95.8
Unemployed population	335,729	140,146	195,583	47,668	288,061
Unemployment rate	4.1	2.6	7.2	3.8	4.2
Not in labour force	8,237,730	2,213,984	6,023,746	1,519,844	6,717,886

20 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (20 years & over)	15,691,011	7,309,513	8,381,498	2,678,167	13,012,845
Labour force in this age group	8,044,050	5,355,907	2,688,143	1,249,174	6,794,876
Labour force participation rate	51.3	73.3	32.1	46.6	52.2
Employed population	7,744,426	5,239,076	2,505,349	1,208,382	6,536,044
Employment rate	96.3	97.8	93.2	96.7	96.2
Unemployed population	299,624	116,831	182,793	40,792	258,832
Unemployment rate	3.7	2.2	6.8	3.3	3.8
Not in labour force	7,646,961	1,953,606	5,693,356	1,428,992	6,217,969

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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 - 2024

Sector	Economically Active Population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	8,179,992	100	5,455,198	66.7	2,724,794	33.3
Urban	1,271,087	100	876,642	69.0	394,445	31.0
Rural	6,552,850	100	4,354,166	66.4	2,198,684	33.6
Estate	356,055	100	224,390	63.0	131,665	37.0

Table 2: Economically inactive population by gender and sector, third quarter - 2024

Sector	Economically Inactive Population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	9,246,927	100	2,715,739	29.4	6,531,188	70.6
Urban	1,659,810	100	511,538	30.8	1,148,271	69.2
Rural	7,254,986	100	2,093,724	28.9	5,161,261	71.1
Estate	332,132	100	110,476	33.3	221,656	66.7

According to the Table 1, the estimated economically active population is about 8.2 million in the third quarter 2024. Of which 66.7 percent are males and 33.3 percent are females. The economically inactive population is about 9.2 million. Out of the economically inactive population 29.4 percent are males and 70.6 percent are females (Table 2).

Table 3: LFPR by gender and year, 2018 - 2024Q3

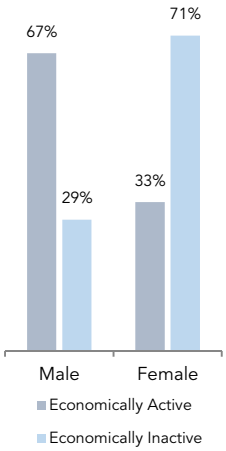
Year	Total	Male	Female
2019	52.3	73.0	34.5
2020	50.6	71.9	32.0
2021	49.9	71.0	31.8
2022	49.8	70.5	32.1
2023	48.6	68.6	31.3
2022 Q3	49.0	70.4	31.0
2023 Q3	48.8	68.4	32.0
2024 Q1	47.1	67.2	29.6
2024 Q2	47.8	68.1	30.0
2024 Q3	46.9	66.8	29.4

Table 3 provides the information on LFPRs by gender since year 2018. 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 – 2024

Age group (Years)	Total	Male	Female
Sri Lanka	46.9	66.8	29.4
15 - 19	7.8	11.5	4.2
20 - 24	43.8	56.3	31.2
25 - 29	63.4	84.0	45.2
30 - 34	65.4	93.1	42.0
35 - 39	67.5	95.0	44.0
40 - 44	65.3	93.1	40.4
45 - 49	67.6	93.5	45.0
50 - 54	62.6	90.6	39.6
55 - 59	56.3	79.5	35.5
60+	28.0	45.2	13.6

Figure 1: Distribution of economically active vs inactive population, third quarter 2024



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 35 - 39 years (95.0%), while that for female is reported from 25 - 29 age group (45.2%).

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 2023 – third quarter 2024)

Quarter	Sri Lanka	Major Industry Group		
		Agriculture	Industries	Services
2023 Q3	8,006,250	2,032,281	2,001,320	3,972,650
(%)	100.0	25.4	25.0	49.6
2023 Q4	7,819,131	2,075,112	1,977,017	3,767,002
(%)	100.0	26.5	25.3	48.2
2024 Q1	7,901,693	2,039,574	1,949,786	3,912,333
(%)	100.0	25.8	24.7	49.5
2024 Q2	7,988,626	2,000,744	2,116,002	3,871,880
(%)	100.0	25.0	26.5	48.5
2024 Q3	7,838,793	2,066,789	1,988,578	3,783,426
(%)	100.0	26.4	25.4	48.3

Table 5 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by main industry from third quarter 2023 to third quarter 2024. During third quarter of 2024, the total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated as 7.8 million. Of which, about 48.3 percent engaged in service sector, 26.4 percent in agriculture sector and 25.4 percent in industry sector. In the third quarter of 2024, there are increases in employed persons in agriculture sector compared to the third quarter of 2023.

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 - 2024

Employment Status	Sri Lanka		Sector			
			Agriculture		Non-Agriculture	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sri Lanka	7,838,793	100.0	2,066,789	26.4	5,772,004	73.6
Employee	4,487,225	100.0	626,723	14.0	3,860,502	86.0
Public	1,037,973	100.0	14,597*	1.4*	1,023,376	98.6
Private	3,449,252	100.0	612,127	17.7	2,837,126	82.3
Employer	216,780	100.0	31,128*	14.4*	185,652	85.6
Own Account Worker	2,709,932	100.0	1,156,176	42.7	1,553,756	57.3
Contributing Family Worker	424,856	100.0	252,761	59.5	172,094	40.5

***These Figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of Variation) Values are high.**

According to the Table 6 Majority of the workforce are private sector employees followed by own account workers. Non agriculture sector covers 73.6 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 25.0 percent is in agriculture sector while this share is 27.0 percent for males.

Figure 2 : Distribution of employed population by employment status and Agriculture/ Non- Agriculture sector, third quarter - 2024

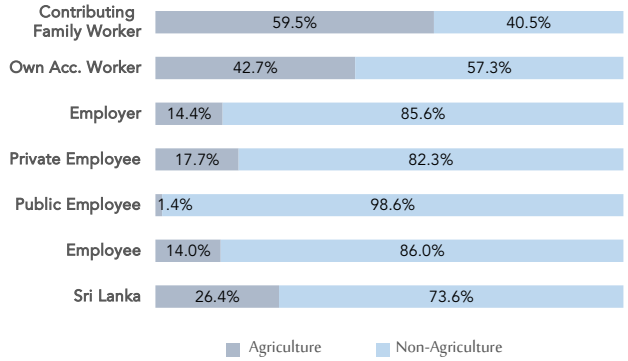


Table 7: Percentage distribution of Employed population by major industry group & gender, third quarter – 2024

Major Industry group	Sri Lanka	Gender	
		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	26.4	27.0	25.0
Industry	25.4	24.6	26.9
Services	48.3	48.4	48.0

Unemployment

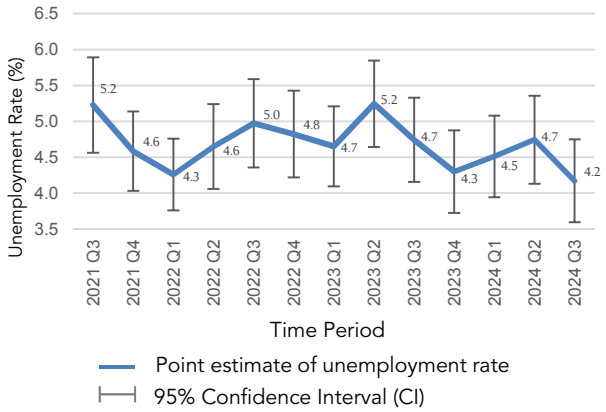
Unemployed

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, 2021Q3 - 2024Q3



The number of unemployed persons is estimated as 341,199 during the third quarter 2024. The unemployment rate for the third quarter 2024 is 4.2 percent.

As shown in Figure 3, it is very important to note that, when the changes in unemployment rate is explained the corresponding sampling errors[1] and the confidence limits need to considered.

Table 8: Number of unemployed and unemployment rate by age group and gender, third quarter - 2024

Age group (Years)	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka		Gender	
	Number	Sri Lanka	Male	Female
Sri Lanka	341,199	4.2	2.6	7.2
15 - 24	165,245	21.8	16.8	31.7
25 - 29	92,351	12.4	7.5	20.4
Over 30	83,602	1.3	0.6	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 quater 2024

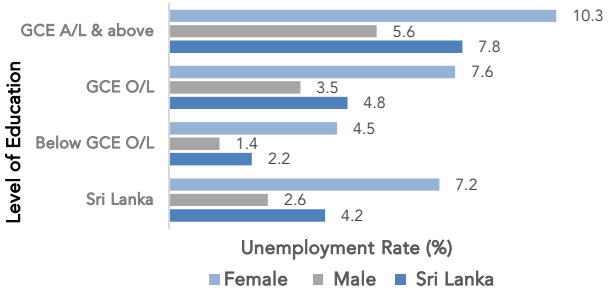
As per the table 8, overall unemployment rate reported for female is 7.2 percent and it is 2.6 percent for male. Youth unemployment rate (age 15 – 24 years) corresponding to the third quarter 2024 is 21.8 percent and that is the highest reported unemployment rate among all age groups. Further the unemployment rates for males and females are 16.8 and 31.7 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 - 2024

Level of Education	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka		Gender	
	Number	Sri Lanka	Male	Female
Sri Lanka	341,199	4.2	2.6	7.2
Below GCE O/L	99,484	2.2	1.4	4.5
GCE O/L	75,466	4.8	3.5	7.6
GCE A/L & above	166,250	7.8	5.6	10.3

Figure 5 : Unemployment rate by level of education and gender, third quater 2024



The highest unemployment rate is reported from the G.C.E.(A/L) and above group which is 7.8 percent. Corresponding percentages are 5.6 percent and 10.3 percent for males and females respectively. Female unemployment rates are higher than those of males in all levels of education.

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
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		Number
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
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
2022	17,161,973	8,547,062	49.8	8,147,731	95.3	399,332	4.7	8,614,911
2023	17,306,492	8,408,331	48.6	8,009,916	95.3	398,415	4.7	8,898,161
2022Q3	17,186,326	8,429,503	49.0	8,010,340	95.0	419,163	5.0	8,756,823
2023Q3	17,227,262	8,404,925	48.8	8,006,250	95.3	398,674	4.7	8,822,337
2024Q1	17,575,175	8,275,154	47.1	7,901,693	95.5	373,461	4.5	9,300,021
2024Q2	17,548,937	8,386,482	47.8	7,988,626	95.3	397,855	4.7	9,162,455
2024Q3	17,426,919	8,179,992	46.9	7,838,793	95.8	341,199	4.2	9,246,927

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
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		Number
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
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
2022	7,914,636	5,580,786	70.5	5,373,965	96.3	206,822	3.7	2,333,850
2023	8,024,760	5,503,595	68.6	5,307,563	96.4	196,032	3.6	2,521,164
2022Q3	7,866,468	5,536,205	70.4	5,302,442	95.8	233,763	4.2	2,330,264
2023Q3	7,938,352	5,432,622	68.4	5,234,273	96.3	198,349	3.7	2,505,730
2024Q1	8,167,457	5,488,120	67.2	5,320,151	96.9	167,969	3.1	2,679,336
2024Q2	8,194,669	5,580,419	68.1	5,379,472	96.4	200,947	3.6	2,614,250
2024Q3	8,170,937	5,455,198	66.8	5,310,683	97.4	144,514	2.6	2,715,739

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
		Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate (%)	Employed		Unemployed		Number
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
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
2022	9,247,337	2,966,276	32.1	2,773,766	93.5	192,510	6.5	6,281,061
2023	9,281,733	2,904,736	31.3	2,702,354	93.0	202,382	7.0	6,376,997
2022Q3	9,319,858	2,893,299	31.0	2,707,898	93.6	185,401	6.4	6,426,559
2023Q3	9,288,909	2,972,302	32.0	2,771,977	93.3	200,325	6.7	6,316,607
2024Q1	9,407,718	2,787,034	29.6	2,581,542	92.6	205,492	7.4	6,620,684
2024Q2	9,354,267	2,806,062	30.0	2,609,154	93.0	196,908	7.0	6,548,205
2024Q3	9,255,983	2,724,794	29.4	2,528,110	92.8	196,685	7.2	6,531,188

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	17,426,919	8,179,992	46.9	7,838,793	95.8	341,199	4.2	9,246,927
15 – 19 Yrs	1,735,908	135,942	7.8	94,367	69.4	41,575	30.6	1,599,966
20 – 24 Yrs	1,415,437	620,646	43.8	496,975	80.1	123,671	19.9	794,792
25 – 29 Yrs	1,176,784	746,432	63.4	654,080	87.6	92,351	12.4	430,352
30 – 39 Yrs	2,479,049	1,648,651	66.5	1,595,750	96.8	52,901	3.2	830,398
40+ Yrs	10,619,741	5,028,321	47.3	4,997,619	99.4	30,702	0.6	5,591,420

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	8,170,937	5,455,198	66.8	5,310,683	97.4	144,514	2.6	2,715,739
15 – 19 Yrs	861,424	99,290	11.5	71,607	72.1	27,683	27.9	762,133
20 – 24 Yrs	712,747	401,481	56.3	345,116	86.0	56,365	14.0	311,266
25 – 29 Yrs	553,266	464,554	84.0	429,663	92.5	34,891	7.5	88,712
30 – 39 Yrs	1,138,293	1,071,338	94.1	1,056,243	98.6	15,095	1.4	66,955
40+ Yrs	4,905,207	3,418,535	69.7	3,408,055	99.7	10,480	0.3	1,486,672

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	9,255,983	2,724,794	29.4	2,528,110	92.8	196,685	7.2	6,531,188
15 – 19 Yrs	874,484	36,652	4.2	22,760	62.1	13,892	37.9	837,833
20 – 24 Yrs	702,691	219,165	31.2	151,859	69.3	67,306	30.7	483,526
25 – 29 Yrs	623,518	281,878	45.2	224,418	79.6	57,460	20.4	341,640
30 – 39 Yrs	1,340,756	577,313	43.1	539,508	93.5	37,806	6.5	763,443
40+ Yrs	5,714,534	1,609,786	28.2	1,589,565	98.7	20,222	1.3	4,104,747

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Cofficient 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
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
2022	100.0	1.3	6.5	9.0	21.4	61.8
2023	100.0	1.2	6.4	8.4	20.3	63.7
2022Q3	100.0	1.0	6.3	8.8	21.2	62.6
2023Q3	100.0	1.2	6.2	8.6	20.2	63.8
2024Q1	100.0	1.2	6.3	8.8	19.2	64.5
2024Q2	100.0	1.4	6.2	8.6	19.5	64.3
2024Q3	100.0	1.2	6.3	8.3	20.4	63.8

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
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
2022	100.0	1.3	6.4	9.1	21.2	62.0
2023	100.0	1.4	6.4	8.4	20.0	63.9
2022Q3	100.0	1.1	5.9	8.9	20.9	63.1
2023Q3	100.0	1.4	6.2	8.5	19.8	64.1
2024Q1	100.0	1.3	6.5	8.5	18.5	65.1
2024Q2	100.0	1.5	6.5	8.4	19.3	64.4
2024Q3	100.0	1.3	6.5	8.1	19.9	64.2

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
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
2022	100.0	1.1	6.8	8.9	21.8	61.4
2023	100.0	0.8	6.4	8.4	20.9	63.4
2022Q3	100.0	0.8	7.2	8.6	21.7	61.7
2023Q3	100.0	0.9	6.2	8.8	20.8	63.3
2024Q1	100.0	0.9	5.7	9.4	20.7	63.2
2024Q2	100.0	1.3	5.6	9.2	19.9	64.0
2024Q3	100.0	0.9	6.0	8.9	21.3	62.9

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Cofficient 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
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
2022	100.0	12.7	45.1	17.6	24.6
2023	100.0	12.6	43.9	18.5	25.1
2022Q3	100.0	12.5	44.9	17.9	24.7
2023Q3	100.0	13.5	42.8	18.1	25.6
2024Q1	100.0	11.3	43.7	19.1	25.9
2024Q2	100.0	12.5	42.8	19.0	25.7
2024Q3	100.0	11.2	44.6	19.2	25.0

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
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
2022	100.0	13.0	49.1	18.5	19.4
2023	100.0	12.9	48.0	19.2	19.9
2022Q3	100.0	13.0	49.1	18.9	18.9
2023Q3	100.0	13.6	47.3	19.4	19.7
2024Q1	100.0	11.2	48.2	20.2	20.4
2024Q2	100.0	12.8	47.0	19.6	20.6
2024Q3	100.0	12.0	48.2	20.0	19.8

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
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
2022	100.0	12.0	37.2	16.1	34.7
2023	100.0	12.0	35.8	17.0	35.3
2022Q3	100.0	11.4	36.6	16.1	35.9
2023Q3	100.0	13.3	34.3	15.8	36.6
2024Q1	100.0	11.6	34.5	16.9	37.1
2024Q2	100.0	11.9	34.1	17.7	36.3
2024Q3	100.0	9.6	37.0	17.6	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			
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
2022	100.0	58.0	15.1	42.9	2.9	33.1	5.9
2023	100.0	59.0	14.6	44.5	2.6	32.8	5.5
2022Q3	100.0	57.3	15.1	42.2	3.0	33.7	6.0
2023Q3	100.0	60.3	15.2	45.1	2.4	32.2	5.1
2024Q1	100.0	59.2	14.9	44.3	2.7	33.0	5.2
2024Q2	100.0	59.0	14.4	44.6	3.3	33.0	4.8
2024Q3	100.0	57.2	13.2	44.0	2.8	34.6	5.4

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			
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
2022	100.0	57.0	11.9	45.1	3.9	37.2	2.0
2023	100.0	57.6	11.5	46.1	3.5	36.8	2.1
2022Q3	100.0	56.6	11.6	45.0	4.0	37.5	1.8
2023Q3	100.0	58.6	11.8	46.7	3.1	36.4	1.9
2024Q1	100.0	58.0	11.7	46.3	3.4	36.4	2.2
2024Q2	100.0	57.2	11.4	45.8	4.4	36.6	1.8
2024Q3	100.0	55.7	10.2	45.5	3.6	38.7	2.0

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			
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
2022	100.0	60.0	21.3	38.7	1.0	25.4	13.6
2023	100.0	61.9	20.6	41.2	0.9	25.0	12.2
2022Q3	100.0	58.7	22.1	36.6	1.0	26.3	14.0
2023Q3	100.0	63.5	21.6	41.9	1.1	24.3	11.1
2024Q1	100.0	61.7	21.4	40.2	1.1	25.9	11.4
2024Q2	100.0	62.7	20.4	42.3	1.0	25.4	10.8
2024Q3	100.0	60.5	19.7	40.8	0.9	26.0	12.6

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Cofficient 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
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
2022	8,147,731	2,158,559	58,979	1,408,819	690,401	1,142,754	486,346	235,544	71,054	182,379	87,337	146,494	456,844	461,829	169,298	162,099	157,590	71,404
2023	8,009,916	2,088,344	64,606	1,377,686	600,862	1,127,497	504,645	277,739	78,347	176,891	89,946	135,523	438,156	429,311	185,014	209,128	160,913	65,308
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
2023Q3	8,006,250	2,032,281	77,050	1,351,108	573,163	1,085,319	494,551	291,554	60,332	174,437	92,899	161,629	429,824	501,876	189,910	219,071	196,704	74,543
2024Q1	7,901,693	2,039,574	66,853	1,278,491	604,442	1,161,471	556,339	242,696	63,318	152,521	90,037	154,273	412,578	456,883	210,551	206,449	141,198	64,019
2024Q2	7,988,626	2,000,744	60,339	1,454,158	601,505	1,182,393	489,853	257,506	85,569	156,510	95,425	158,947	425,039	425,473	173,637	205,640	149,653	66,236
2024Q3	7,838,793	2,066,789	63,589	1,365,901	559,089	1,193,121	523,749	279,423	95,767	166,178	73,548	141,451	386,567	380,739	160,871	206,330	112,927	62,755

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
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	134,475	40,557
2022	5,373,965	1,422,010	58,657	758,623	658,525	831,372	466,203	141,812	48,341	100,235	55,248	104,400	271,425	139,674	61,720	123,033	79,292	53,396
2023	5,307,563	1,418,583	62,801	731,875	574,746	823,014	480,265	167,045	60,945	97,742	57,625	92,927	270,067	127,997	59,902	167,068	62,929	52,031
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
2023Q3	5,234,273	1,368,187	70,944	724,170	555,067	778,563	468,458	169,693	46,476	82,447	52,979	114,034	264,124	157,857	61,162	176,802	82,732	60,580
2024Q1	5,320,151	1,422,258	65,370	711,642	560,555	840,721	533,959	156,008	42,090	84,905	60,898	116,221	250,454	156,623	65,463	166,129	35,637	51,217
2024Q2	5,379,472	1,424,001	60,339	775,013	580,303	847,189	461,997	171,167	63,801	91,970	55,409	112,321	262,600	135,737	57,446	161,030	62,215	56,934
2024Q3	5,310,683	1,433,800	63,269	717,115	527,828	902,316	502,982	170,821	71,336	95,539	51,049	94,589	244,123	127,057	47,481	159,676	56,268	45,435

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
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
2022	2,773,766	736,549	322	650,196	31,877	311,382	20,144	93,732	22,712	82,144	32,089	42,094	185,419	322,155	107,578	39,066	78,298	18,009
2023	2,702,354	669,761	1,805	645,812	26,116	304,483	24,381	110,694	17,401	79,150	32,321	42,595	168,089	301,314	125,112	42,060	97,984	13,277
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
2023Q3	2,771,977	664,094	6,106	626,938	18,096	306,756	26,093	121,861	13,855	91,990	39,920	47,596	165,700	344,019	128,748	42,269	113,972	13,964
2024Q1	2,581,542	617,316	1,483	566,849	43,886	320,750	22,380	86,688	21,228	67,616	29,139	38,051	162,124	300,260	145,088	40,320	105,560	12,802
2024Q2	2,609,154	576,743	..	679,144	21,202	335,204	27,855	86,339	21,767	64,539	40,016	46,626	162,439	289,736	116,191	44,610	87,438	9,303
2024Q3	2,528,110	632,989	320	648,786	31,260	290,805	20,767	108,602	24,431	70,639	22,499	46,862	142,444	253,682	113,390	46,654	56,659	17,321

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Cofficient of variation) values are high. .. Not reported

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

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)
2 Minning & 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 teritorial organizations & bodies (U)

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

Major Industry Group	Year								
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q1	2024Q2	2024Q3
Total	7,999,093	8,113,507	8,147,731	8,009,916	8,010,340	8,006,250	7,901,693	7,988,626	7,838,793
Agriculture	2,169,679	2,213,015	2,158,559	2,088,344	2,152,377	2,032,281	2,039,574	2,000,744	2,066,789
Industry	2,152,746	2,109,482	2,158,199	2,043,154	2,076,868	2,001,320	1,949,786	2,116,002	1,988,578
Services	3,676,668	3,791,011	3,830,973	3,878,418	3,781,095	3,972,650	3,912,333	3,871,880	3,783,426

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

Major Industry Group	Year								
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q1	2024Q2	2024Q3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	27.1	27.3	26.5	26.1	26.9	25.4	25.8	25.0	26.4
Industry	26.9	26.0	26.5	25.5	25.9	25.0	24.7	26.5	25.4
Services	46.0	46.7	47.0	48.4	47.2	49.6	49.5	48.5	48.3

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

Agriculture

1. Agriculture Foresty and Fishery (A)

Industries

1. Minning & 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
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
2022	8,147,731	340,894	596,432	688,341	296,177	901,590	1,310,662	1,173,642	786,507	2,007,366	46,120
2023	8,009,916	320,025	587,902	690,537	262,986	984,747	1,211,408	1,105,729	759,785	2,056,729	30,068
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
2023Q3	8,006,250	296,027	654,834	691,626	252,677	959,445	1,138,436	1,097,294	783,701	2,111,563	20,647
2024Q1	7,901,693	304,685	623,962	650,597	293,904	1,014,114	1,164,285	1,070,523	789,030	1,954,603	35,991
2024Q2	7,988,626	334,376	577,877	683,824	272,126	1,043,545	1,170,331	1,131,565	778,460	1,951,583	44,938
2024Q3	7,838,793	360,739	538,628	711,384	255,372	914,269	1,277,850	1,084,706	776,165	1,871,411	48,270

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
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
2022	5,373,965	264,794	215,652	437,218	141,818	606,381	956,970	835,321	622,142	1,252,138	41,531
2023	5,307,563	252,648	226,462	422,132	118,267	673,020	926,474	770,046	599,409	1,290,760	28,345
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
2023Q3	5,234,273	225,780	235,052	411,873	102,191	670,162	861,206	765,504	616,030	1,327,726	18,750
2024Q1	5,320,151	220,010	220,227	446,549	150,647	704,851	902,606	756,066	627,007	1,258,938	33,248
2024Q2	5,379,472	250,696	211,193	448,692	146,131	695,019	907,179	807,471	602,390	1,268,971	41,730
2024Q3	5,310,683	270,594	214,295	473,941	110,154	642,197	987,693	754,040	611,234	1,202,039	44,496

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
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
2022	2,773,766	76,101	380,779	251,123	154,359	295,209	353,692	338,321	164,364	755,227	4,589
2023	2,702,354	67,378	361,440	268,406	144,719	311,727	284,934	335,682	160,376	765,969	1,723
2022Q3	2,707,898	73,616	380,721	248,073	156,612	273,905	378,631	315,106	168,259	710,445	2,530
2023Q3	2,771,977	70,247	419,783	279,753	150,486	289,283	277,230	331,790	167,671	783,837	1,897
2024Q1	2,581,542	84,675	403,734	204,048	143,257	309,262	261,679	314,456	162,023	695,664	2,743
2024Q2	2,609,154	83,680	366,684	235,131	125,995	348,527	263,152	324,094	176,070	682,612	3,208
2024Q3	2,528,110	90,145	324,333	237,443	145,218	272,071	290,157	330,666	164,931	669,372	3,773

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

1	Managers, Senior Officials and Legislators	6	Skilled Agricultura, 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	1.9	1.8	4.6	8.4	14.1	35.9	33.2
1	100.0	4.0	3.6	8.4	16.0	21.3	27.1	19.6
2	100.0	2.1	1.7	2.1	4.3	5.2	35.0	49.7
3	100.0	1.1	1.2	4.1	5.7	11.6	40.6	35.6
6	100.0	3.3	1.1	4.9	12.5	13.4	40.9	24.0
7	100.0	0.7	0.6	2.9	3.2	6.4	32.0	54.2
8	100.0	0.4	0.9	3.2	5.8	8.7	30.7	50.2
9	100.0	2.2	0.8	5.6	6.7	14.2	25.6	45.0
10	100.0	..	..	4.2	2.7	4.2	48.2	40.8
11	100.0	..	..	1.5	4.1	3.7	60.0	30.7
13	100.0	..	1.7	..	4.0	7.9	64.3	22.0
14	100.0	..	2.2	0.9	5.8	3.6	44.0	43.6
15	100.0	1.7	..	..	0.9	0.4	63.3	33.6
16	100.0	1.0	2.1	1.3	7.6	46.9	35.3	5.8
17	100.0	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.3	2.2	48.6	45.6
19	100.0	1.3	2.2	5.7	9.1	13.5	30.8	37.5
20	100.0	..	1.7	10.0	12.8	15.9	35.9	23.7
Other	100.0	5.0	10.8	..	6.7	19.3	32.1	26.0

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

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

Industry group

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)
2 Minning & 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 teritorial 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
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
2022	100.0	9.6	37.2	24.4	14.1	14.7
2023	100.0	10.0	35.5	25.3	14.2	15.1
2022Q3	100.0	12.2	31.8	25.9	14.4	15.7
2023Q3	100.0	8.2	37.3	26.8	12.9	14.8
2024Q1	100.0	6.2	34.7	29.6	16.3	13.2
2024Q2	100.0	13.5	38.3	22.0	14.6	11.5
2024Q3	100.0	12.2	36.2	27.1	15.5	9.0

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
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
2022	100.0	12.9	38.9	21.2	12.1	14.8
2023	100.0	13.8	36.6	21.5	12.2	15.8
2022Q3	100.0	13.9	34.4	25.0	12.1	14.7
2023Q3	100.0	15.2	38.6	23.5	8.5	14.3
2024Q1	100.0	11.3	36.9	24.3	13.9	13.6
2024Q2	100.0	15.6	37.9	22.0	13.8	10.7
2024Q3	100.0	19.2	39.0	24.1	10.4	7.3

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
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
2022	100.0	6.1	35.2	27.7	16.3	14.6
2023	100.0	6.2	34.4	28.9	16.0	14.4
2022Q3	100.0	10.1	28.5	27.1	17.3	16.9
2023Q3	100.0	1.3	36.0	30.1	17.2	15.4
2024Q1	100.0	1.9	32.9	34.0	18.2	13.0
2024Q2	100.0	11.4	38.8	21.9	15.4	12.4
2024Q3	100.0	7.1	34.2	29.2	19.2	10.3

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Cofficient 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
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
2022	100.0	1.8	32.1	23.6	42.6
2023	100.0	1.8	31.1	23.6	43.6
2022Q3	100.0	0.3	29.8	24.8	45.1
2023Q3	100.0	1.0	29.0	23.2	46.9
2024Q1	100.0	1.5	21.7	27.4	49.4
2024Q2	100.0	2.4	30.8	23.2	43.6
2024Q3	100.0	1.5	27.7	22.1	48.7

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
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
2022	100.0	2.2	40.1	28.0	29.6
2023	100.0	2.3	39.3	25.1	33.4
2022Q3	100.0	0.6	39.0	25.8	34.6
2023Q3	100.0	..	36.5	25.5	38.0
2024Q1	100.0	1.1	28.3	31.0	39.6
2024Q2	100.0	1.8	36.5	27.8	33.8
2024Q3	100.0	1.0	29.6	26.8	42.7

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
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
2022	100.0	1.3	23.5	18.8	56.4
2023	100.0	1.4	23.1	22.1	53.4
2022Q3	100.0	..	18.2	23.5	58.3
2023Q3	100.0	1.9	21.5	21.0	55.6
2024Q1	100.0	1.9	16.3	24.4	57.4
2024Q2	100.0	3.0	25.0	18.5	53.5
2024Q3	100.0	1.8	26.3	18.7	53.2

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

.. Not reported

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

(2024 3rd Quarter)

Sex	Total	Duration		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	341,199	141,151	93,584	106,464
%	100.0	41.4	27.4	31.2
Male	144,514	67,309	39,100	38,105
%	100.0	46.6	27.1	26.4
Female	196,685	73,842	54,484	68,359
%	100.0	37.5	27.7	34.8

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

	Estimated Value	Standard Error	Cofficient of Variation (%)	Estimated Value (Ratio)	Standard Error	Cofficient of Variation (%)
General labour force characteristics						
Population (15 years & over)	17,426,919	170,761	1.0			
Employed Population	7,838,793	106,628	1.4			
Unemployed Population	341,199	25,053	7.3			
Employment Rate				95.8	0.29	0.31
Unemployment Rate				4.2	0.29	7.04
Labour Force	8,179,992	111,704	1.4			
Not in Labour Force	9,246,927	129,211	1.4			
Employed persons by major industry Groups						
1	2,066,789	84,168	4.1			
2	63,589	15,011	23.6			
3	1,365,901	51,456	3.8			
6	559,089	29,511	5.3			
7	1,193,121	49,429	4.1			
8	523,749	26,725	5.1			
9	279,423	27,643	9.9			
10	95,767	13,140	13.7			
11	166,178	18,302	11.0			
13	73,548	10,770	14.6			
14	141,451	14,886	10.5			
15	386,567	26,812	6.9			
16	380,739	24,882	6.5			
17	160,871	16,543	10.3			
19	206,330	19,676	9.5			
20	112,927	14,137	12.5			
Other	62,755	10,174	16.2			
Unemployed persons by level of education						
Below grade 6	5,008	3,100	61.9			
Grade 6 - 10	94,475	10,521	11.1			
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	75,466	9,264	12.3			
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	166,250	12,760	7.7			

Industry group

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)
2 Minning & 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 teritorial 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 not 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 fallows

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) ± (standard error) * (1.96)

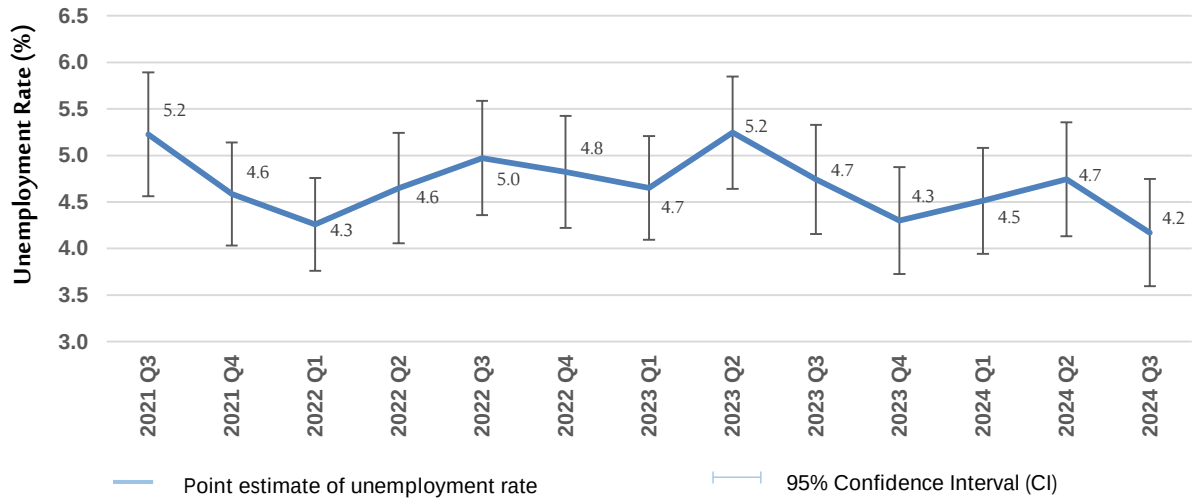
4.5 ± (0.275) * (1.96)
(4.5 ± 0.539)

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 (2021Q3- 2024Q3)



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 2021/2024, 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. Lower	95% C.I. Upper	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I. Lower	95% C.I. Upper
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
2022	8,547,062	58,034	0.68	8,433,262	8,660,862	8,147,731	56,377	0.69	8,037,181	8,258,281
2023	8,408,331	60,811	0.72	8,289,086	8,527,576	8,009,916	58,584	0.73	7,895,039	8,124,794
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
2023Q3	8,404,925	125,613	1.49	8,158,216	8,651,633	8,006,250	120,034	1.50	7,770,499	8,242,001
2024Q1	8,275,154	121,902	1.47	8,035,740	8,514,568	7,901,693	117,778	1.49	7,670,377	8,133,008
2024Q2	8,386,482	112,841	1.35	8,164,859	8,608,105	7,988,626	109,302	1.37	7,773,953	8,203,300
2024Q3	8,179,992	111,704	1.37	7,960,602	8,399,382	7,838,793	106,628	1.36	7,629,372	8,048,214

Year	Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I. Lower	95% C.I. Upper	Rate	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I. Lower	95% C.I. Upper
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
2022	399,332	13,022	3.26	373,797	424,867	4.7	0.1	3.17	4.4	5.0
2023	398,415	13,036	3.27	372,852	423,978	4.7	0.1	3.15	4.4	5.0
2022Q3	419,163	27,170	6.48	365,801	472,526	5.0	0.3	6.29	4.4	5.6
2023Q3	398,674	26,269	6.59	347,081	450,267	4.7	0.3	6.28	4.2	5.3
2024Q1	373,461	24,804	6.64	324,747	422,175	4.5	0.3	6.41	3.9	5.1
2024Q2	397,855	26,961	6.78	344,903	450,808	4.7	0.3	6.57	4.1	5.4
2024Q3	341,199	25,053	7.34	291,994	390,405	4.2	0.3	7.04	3.6	4.7

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 (Page 2)

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 partici: rate (%)	Labour Force				Not in labour Force Number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
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
2022	17,161,973	7,497,884	43.7	7,098,552	94.7	399,332	5.3	9,664,089
2023	17,306,492	7,380,485	42.6	6,982,070	94.6	398,415	5.4	9,926,008
2022Q3	17,186,326	7,334,986	42.7	6,915,823	94.3	419,163	5.7	9,851,340
2023Q3	17,227,262	7,412,183	43.0	7,013,509	94.6	398,674	5.4	9,815,078
2024Q1	17,575,175	7,386,041	42.0	7,012,580	94.9	373,461	5.1	10,189,133
2024Q2	17,548,937	7,492,062	42.7	7,094,207	94.7	397,855	5.3	10,056,874
2024Q3	17,426,919	7,332,255	42.1	6,991,056	95.3	341,199	4.7	10,094,664

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
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
2022	399,332	5.3	38,456	32.0	148,378	23.8	97,317	12.6	56,437	3.5	58,743	1.3
2023	398,415	5.4	39,737	33.5	141,290	24.0	100,763	14.2	56,381	3.7	60,244	1.4
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
2023Q3	398,674	5.4	32,766	28.8	148,768	25.5	106,748	14.4	51,316	3.4	59,075	1.3
2024Q1	373,461	5.1	22,997	23.1	129,609	22.3	110,668	15.1	60,718	4.2	49,469	1.1
2024Q2	397,855	5.3	53,708	38.7	152,577	25.4	87,497	12.1	58,160	3.9	45,913	1.0
2024Q3	341,199	4.7	41,575	36.4	123,671	21.6	92,351	13.2	52,901	3.5	30,702	0.7

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

Alternative Estimates ***(Page 3)***

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
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
2022	No.	7,098,552	1,624,304	54,869	1,273,780	626,142	1,021,153	450,290	195,864	69,084	179,777	81,766	135,361	449,381	429,513	164,503	142,340	135,921	64,505
	%	100.0	22.9	0.8	17.9	8.8	14.4	6.3	2.8	1.0	2.5	1.2	1.9	6.3	6.1	2.3	2.0	1.9	0.9
2023	No.	6,982,070	1,565,483	60,338	1,242,417	539,663	994,013	476,430	239,278	77,115	174,986	84,258	126,467	435,718	403,080	181,525	182,460	141,912	56,928
	%	100.0	22.4	0.9	17.8	7.7	14.2	6.8	3.4	1.1	2.5	1.2	1.8	6.2	5.8	2.6	2.6	2.0	0.8
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
2023Q3	No.	7,013,509	1,507,509	74,783	1,242,295	513,495	957,670	466,594	247,021	59,225	171,666	87,238	156,370	428,750	466,225	188,723	200,969	178,172	66,802
	%	100.0	21.5	1.1	17.7	7.3	13.7	6.7	3.5	0.8	2.4	1.2	2.2	6.1	6.6	2.7	2.9	2.5	1.0
2024Q1	No.	7,012,580	1,574,861	63,758	1,161,145	558,130	1,037,713	529,422	219,045	63,318	151,094	83,846	154,273	408,904	432,936	204,917	191,894	122,607	54,715
	%	100.0	22.5	0.9	16.6	8.0	14.8	7.5	3.1	0.9	2.2	1.2	2.2	5.8	6.2	2.9	2.7	1.7	0.8
2024Q2	No.	7,094,207	1,597,732	57,663	1,312,374	554,058	1,055,696	465,239	227,693	83,440	151,965	89,414	156,838	420,438	379,164	169,905	181,194	131,170	60,226
	%	100.0	22.5	0.8	18.5	7.8	14.9	6.6	3.2	1.2	2.1	1.3	2.2	5.9	5.3	2.4	2.6	1.8	0.8
2024Q3	No.	6,991,056	1,618,426	61,171	1,256,010	521,375	1,070,935	501,975	240,825	91,776	163,654	72,272	135,921	386,567	367,668	158,289	188,487	99,712	55,995
	%	100.0	23.1	0.9	18.0	7.5	15.3	7.2	3.4	1.3	2.3	1.0	1.9	5.5	5.3	2.3	2.7	1.4	0.8

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 Minning & 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 teritorial organizations & bodies (U)

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The Vision of DCS

"To be the leader in the region in producing timely statistical information to achieve the country's development goals."

The Mission of DCS

"Making contribution in the socioeconomic development of the country by providing accurate timely statistics, more Effectively by means of new technology, and utilising the services of dedicated staff under a strategic leadership to become a prosperous nation in the globalised environment."

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