



**QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE
SRI LANKA LABOUR FORCE
SURVEY**

Quarterly Report – 2018

Third Quarter

DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS & STATISTICS

Minister of Economic Reforms and Public Distribution

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Preface

In the past, information on labour force characteristics, employment and unemployment etc. were collected through labour force and socio - economic surveys conducted at five yearly time intervals. However, the employment and unemployment data are required at very short intervals to monitor the programs made in the employment generating policies of the government. Therefore, to satisfy this need, the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) designed a labour force survey on a quarterly basis, to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka on a continuous basis. This survey was commenced from the first quarter of 1990 and this report is the hundred and eighth in the series of quarterly reports published so far.

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes were made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data. The significant revisions were made on the labour force survey questionnaire in 1996, 2006, 2013 and some more improvements were made in 2016. A reweighting is applied to labour force survey data series from 2011 to 2015, in order to adjust the population estimates with the calculated population at the 2012 Census of Population and Housing. Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) technique was used to collect data from 2017 onwards. This was a remarkable achievement in data collection activities of labour force survey in Sri Lanka.

The field work of the survey for the third quarter 2018 was done in July, August and September in year 2018. This survey covered the whole country. A nationally representative annual sample of about 25,750 housing units have been selected for the survey in 2018. This report is based on a quarterly sample of 6,430 housing units.

*Mrs. I. R. Bandara
Director General of Census & Statistics*

*Department of Census & Statistics,
"Sankhyana Mandiraya",
306/71,
Poldurva Road,
Baththaramulla*

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Acknowledgements

This report is the hundred and eighth 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.

First of all my sincere gratitude was extended to Dr. A.J.Satharasinghe, former Director General of Department of Census and Statistics for his valuable guidance and continuous supervision.

Planning and execution of the survey was done by the staff of the Sample Surveys Division under the guidance of Mr. P.M.P. Anura Kumara, Additional Director General (Statistics) and Mr. S.H. Mansoor, Director (Statistics) and under the direction of Mr. M.D. Sunil Senanayake, Deputy Director, Sample Surveys Division.

The survey activities were organized and supervised by Mrs. W.A.C.Wijebandara, Mr. K.S.R.L.Senadeera, Mrs. M.D.D.D.Deepawansa, Mrs. C.Jayawickrama, Mr. A.K.D.C.N.S.Karunaratna, Mr. K.Weerasiri, Mrs. U.S.Dilrukshi, Mr. M.L.K.P.Kumara, Mrs. M.W.L.C.M. Chandrarathne, Mrs. P.D.Nanayakkara, Ms.R.P.M.Subhashini, Statisticians & Senior Statistician, of the Sample Surveys Division.

The computer data processing and final tabulations were done by Mr. A.M.A.E.Atapattu and Mrs. A.N. Ekanayake Statistical Officers of the Sample Surveys Division, under the supervision of Mrs. W.A.C.Wijebandara, Statistician. The Statistical Officers, Statistical Assistants, Development Officers (iii), 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 Mrs. I.A.M. Fernando, Additional Director General (ICT) and under the supervision of Mr. P.M.R.Fernando, Director (ICT) and 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 Mrs. W.A.C.Wijebandara and A.K.D.C.N.S.Karunaratna, Statisticians, Sample Surveys Division, assisted by Mr. A.M.A.E.Atapattu and Mrs. A.N. Ekanayake Statistical Officers of 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.

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

Selected Labour Force Indicators ...

Indicator	Year									
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2016Q3	2017Q3	2018Q1	2018Q2	2018Q3
Labour force participation rate										
By Gender										
Total	53.7	53.2	53.8	53.8	54.1	53.8	53.6	52.0	51.1	51.8
Male	74.9	74.6	74.7	75.1	74.5	75.0	73.6	73.4	72.5	72.7
Female	35.4	34.6	35.9	35.9	36.6	36.1	36.6	33.5	32.5	34.0
By residential sector										
Total	53.7	53.2	53.8	53.8	54.1	53.8	53.6	52.0	51.1	51.8
Urban	47.7	48.7	48.6	49.8	50.5	49.8	49.9	49.7	48.7	48.3
Rural	54.9	54.1	54.8	54.6	54.8	54.7	54.4	52.4	51.6	52.6
Unemployment Rate										
By Gender										
Total	4.4	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.2	4.5	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.1
Male	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.9	3.1	2.8
Female	6.6	6.5	7.6	7.0	6.5	7.6	6.8	7.4	7.4	6.6
By selected age Group (Year)										
20 – 29	13.1	13.6	14.2	14.2	13.5	14.3	14.2	15.7	15.6	14.3
20 – 24	19.3	19.9	19.7	19.9	17.8	19.8	19.0	21.2	20.9	18.7
25 – 29	7.6	8.2	9.4	9.2	9.5	9.7	9.8	10.7	10.8	10.6
By selected educational level										
GCE A/L and above										
Total	8.7	8.2	9.2	8.3	8.1	9.3	8.5	9.5	8.9	9.5
Male	5.7	5.4	4.7	4.7	5.0	4.5	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.8
Female	11.8	11.1	13.5	11.9	11.3	13.9	11.9	14.1	12.7	14.2
Employed population										
By Gender										
Total	7,681,279	7,700,489	7,830,976	7,947,683	8,208,179	7,999,821	8,163,869	7,961,358	7,970,154	8,040,704
Male	5,024,340	5,075,426	5,097,798	5,149,948	5,279,158	5,171,424	5,237,380	5,292,148	5,336,164	5,272,527
Female	2,656,938	2,625,064	2,733,178	2,797,735	2,929,021	2,828,397	2,926,489	2,669,210	2,633,989	2,768,177
By industry (Percentage)										
Total	7,681,279	7,700,489	7,830,976	7,947,683	8,208,179	7,999,821	8,163,869	7,961,358	7,970,154	8,040,704
%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	2,321,215	2,222,859	2,244,547	2,153,874	2,140,185	2,168,982	1,983,870	2,139,057	1,927,886	2,034,894
%	30.2	28.9	28.7	27.1	26.1	27.1	24.3	26.9	24.2	25.3
Industry	1,996,730	2,027,426	2,018,171	2,097,503	2,331,494	2,144,808	2,372,007	2,224,455	2,190,168	2,305,822
%	26.0	26.3	25.8	26.4	28.4	26.8	29.1	27.9	27.5	28.7
Services	3,363,334	3,450,205	3,568,259	3,696,306	3,736,500	3,686,032	3,807,992	3,597,846	3,852,099	3,699,988
%	43.8	44.8	45.6	46.5	45.5	46.1	46.6	45.2	48.3	46.0
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#	5.2	5.2	5.5	4.4	4.7	4.3	4.8	3.5	8.9	5.8
1 – 9	1.8	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.8
10 – 39	27.5	27.6	27.2	26.2	26.1	26.0	24.1	25.1	26.6	26.1
40 & above	65.5	65.9	65.7	67.9	67.5	68.0	69.3	69.8	62.5	66.3

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
Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics
2018, 3rd Quarter
(All Island)

15 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (15 years & over)	16,177,183	7,456,943	8,720,240	2,930,821	13,246,363
Labour force in this age group	8,387,701	5,423,477	2,964,224	1,415,096	6,972,605
Labour force participation rate	51.8	72.7	34.0	48.3	52.6
Employed population	8,040,704	5,272,527	2,768,177	1,365,028	6,675,676
Employment rate	95.9	97.2	93.4	96.5	95.7
Unemployed population	346,998	150,950	196,047	50,068	296,930
Unemployment rate	4.1	2.8	6.6	3.5	4.3
Not in labour force	7,789,482	2,033,466	5,756,016	1,515,725	6,273,757

18 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (18 years & over)	15,092,369	6,911,228	8,181,141	2,713,730	12,378,639
Labour force in this age group	8,325,032	5,382,673	2,942,359	1,403,754	6,921,279
Labour force participation rate	55.2	77.9	36.0	51.7	55.9
Employed population	7,991,425	5,238,005	2,753,420	1,354,744	6,636,681
Employment rate	96.0	97.3	93.6	96.5	95.9
Unemployed population	333,607	144,668	188,939	49,010	284,597
Unemployment rate	4.0	2.7	6.4	3.5	4.1
Not in labour force	6,767,336	1,528,555	5,238,782	1,309,976	5,457,360

20 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (20 years & over)	14,438,303	6,598,119	7,840,183	2,599,596	11,838,707
Labour force in this age group	8,177,941	5,276,645	2,901,297	1,379,483	6,798,458
Labour force participation rate	56.6	80.0	37.0	53.1	57.4
Employed population	7,878,095	5,156,484	2,721,611	1,332,607	6,545,488
Employment rate	96.3	97.7	93.8	96.6	96.3
Unemployed population	299,847	120,161	179,686	46,877	252,970
Unemployment rate	3.7	2.3	6.2	3.4	3.7
Not in labour force	6,260,361	1,321,475	4,938,887	1,220,113	5,040,249

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Appendix 1: Explanatory Notes

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

Introduction

Highlights

- **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is 51.8% for the Third Quarter of 2018.**
- **Unemployment rate for the survey period is 4.1%.**

Inside

- Labour Force **1**
- Employment **2**
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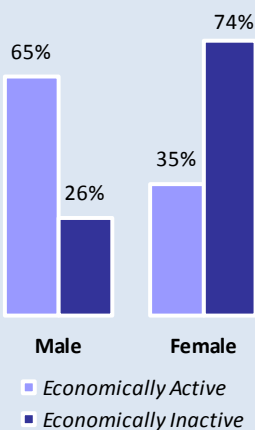


Figure 1: Distribution of Economically active/Inactive population - Third quarter - 2018

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey (LFS) is designed to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka. LFS has been conducted quarterly, since the first quarter of 1990.

This quarterly report contains labour force, employment and unemployment statistics for the third quarter 2018 based on the data collected in July, August and September in 2018 covering the whole country.

Labour Force

(Economically Active Population)

Table 1: Economically active population by gender and sector – Third Quarter 2018

Sector	Economically active population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	8,387,701	100.0	5,423,477	64.7	2,964,224	35.3
Urban	1,415,096	100.0	966,184	68.3	448,912	31.7
Rural	6,559,812	100.0	4,215,166	64.3	2,344,646	35.7
Estate	412,794	100.0	242,127	58.7	170,666	41.3

Table 2: Economically inactive population by gender and sector – Third Quarter 2018

Sector	Economically inactive population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	7,789,482	100.0	2,033,466	26.1	5,756,016	73.9
Urban	1,515,725	100.0	381,084	25.1	1,134,641	74.9
Rural	5,988,633	100.0	1,558,778	26.0	4,429,855	74.0
Estate	285,125	100.0	93,604	32.8	191,521	67.2

Table 3: LFPR by gender and year - All Island

Year	Total	Male	Female
2013	53.7	74.9	35.4
2014	53.2	74.6	34.6
2015	53.8	74.7	35.9
2016	54.1	75.1	36.0
2017	54.1	74.5	36.6
2016 Q3	53.8	75.0	36.1
2017 Q3	53.6	73.6	36.6
2018 Q1	52.0	73.4	33.5
2018 Q2	51.1	72.5	32.5
2018 Q3	51.8	72.7	34.0

Table 3 provides the information on LFPRs since year 2013 and lowest LFPR reported in 2018 Q2. Referring the Table 3, It is important to note that, male participation to the labour force is always higher than that of female.

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 30–34 years (97.0%), while that for female is reported from 45–49 age group (48.3%).

Labour Force

This is the currently economically active population. Which is the number of persons (age 15 years & above) who are employed or unemployed during the reference one week period.

Labour force participation rate (LFPR)

Labour force population expressed as a percentage of the population, age 15 years and over, defined as LFPR.

According to the Table 1, the estimated economically active population is about 8.4 million in the third quarter 2018. Of which 64.7 percent are males and 35.3 percent are females. The economically inactive population is about 7.8 million. Out of the economically inactive population 26.1 percent are males and 73.9 percent are females (Table 2).

Table 4: LFPR by age group and gender - Third Quarter 2018

Age group (Years)	Total	Male	Female
Sri Lanka	51.8	72.7	34.0
15 - 19	12.1	17.1	7.2
20 - 24	53.3	72.5	36.8
25 - 29	67.1	92.5	44.5
30 - 34	66.7	97.0	41.9
35 - 39	67.6	96.6	45.3
40 - 44	66.5	95.6	42.8
45 - 49	70.4	93.9	48.3
50 - 54	67.6	94.5	47.3
55 - 59	62.6	84.5	41.6
60+	29.5	45.3	16.5

Definition of '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.

Reference Period :

Previous week of the survey week

The Employment Rate

The proportion of employed population to the total labour force.

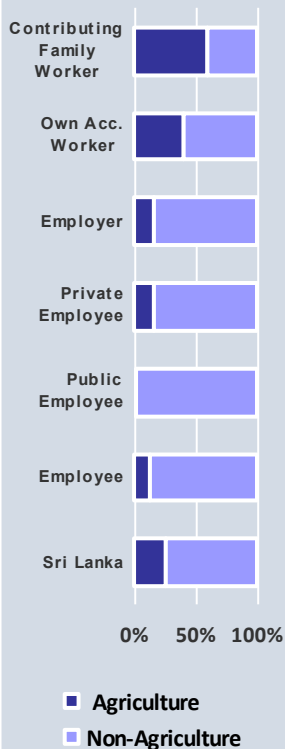


Figure 2 : Distribution of employed population by employment status and Agriculture/Non-Agriculture sector - Third quarter 2018

Employment ...

Table 5 : Distribution of Employed population by main industry (Third Quarter 2017 – Third quarter 2018)

Quarter	Sri Lanka	Major Industry Group		
		Agriculture	Industries	Services
2017 Q3 (No.)	8,163,869	1,983,870	2,372,007	3,807,992
(%)	100.0	24.3	29.1	46.6
2017 Q4 (No.)	8,299,911	2,240,772	2,346,194	3,712,945
(%)	100.0	27.0	28.3	44.7
2018 Q1 (No.)	7,961,358	2,139,057	2,224,455	3,597,846
(%)	100.0	26.9	27.9	45.2
2018 Q2 (No.)	7,970,154	1,927,886	2,190,168	3,852,099
(%)	100.0	24.2	27.5	48.3
2018 Q3 (No.)	8,040,704	2,034,894	2,305,822	3,699,988
(%)	100.0	25.3	28.7	46.0

Table 5 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by main industry from third quarter 2017 to third quarter 2018. During third quarter of 2018, the total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated as about 8.0 million. Of which, about 46.0 percent engaged in Service sector, 28.7 percent in Industries sector and 25.3 percent in Agriculture sector. Compared to 3rd quarter 2017 in 3rd quarter 2018 a slight increase in Agriculture employment can be observed.

Table 6 : Distribution of employed population by employment status in Agriculture and Non-Agriculture sectors – Third quarter 2018

Employment Status	Sri Lanka		Sector			
			Agriculture		Non-Agriculture	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sri Lanka	8,040,704	100.0	2,034,894	25.3	6,005,810	74.7
Employee	4,547,822	100.0	567,277	12.5	3,980,545	87.5
Public	1,063,775	100.0	23,291	2.2	1,040,484	97.8
Private	3,484,047	100.0	543,986	15.6	2,940,061	84.4
Employer	225,203	100.0	36,915	16.4	188,287	83.6
Own Account Worker	2,633,377	100.0	1,048,695	39.8	1,584,683	60.2
Contributing Family Worker	634,302	100.0	382,007	60.2	252,294	39.8

Table 7 : Percentage distribution of Employed population by main industry & gender – Third quarter 2018

Major Industry Group	Sri Lanka	Gender	
		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	25.3	23.9	28.0
Industry	28.7	29.4	27.4
Services	46.0	46.8	44.6

Main industry categories and sub sectors

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

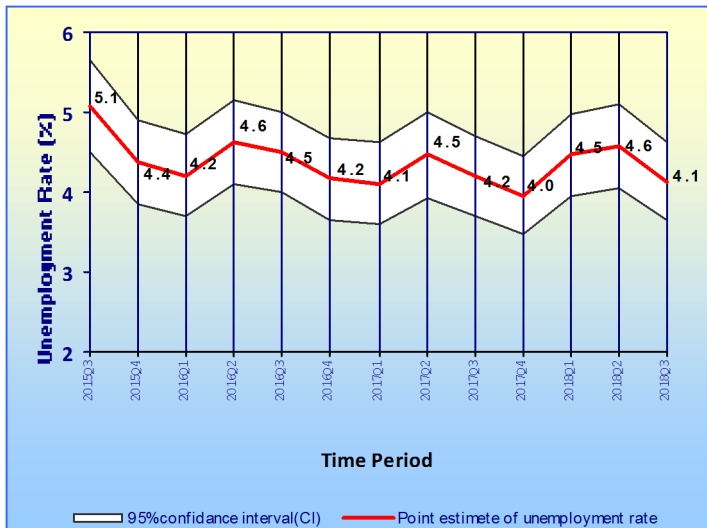
1. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles (G)
2. Transportation and storage (H)
3. Accommodation and food services activities (I)
4. Information and communication (J)
5. Financial and insurance activities (K)
6. Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)
7. Administrative and support service activities (N)
8. Public administration and defense 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)

Majority of the workforce are private sector employees followed by own account workers (Table 6) .

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 agriculture sector. Among employed females 28.0 percent is in agriculture sector while this share is 23.9 percent for males.

Unemployment ...

Figure 3 : Unemployment rates and it's 95% confidence intervals (2015Q3 - 2018Q3)



¹Sampling 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

Table 8: Number of Unemployed and Unemployment rate by age group and gender – Third quarter 2018

Age group (Years)	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	Gender	
			Male	Female
Sri Lanka	346,998	4.1	2.8	6.6
15–24	178,885	19.6	16.0	26.1
25–29	89,740	10.6	5.5	20.1
Over 30	78,372	1.2	0.6	2.2

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

As can be seen from Table 8, overall unemployment rate reported for female is 6.6 percent and it is 2.8 percent for male. Youth unemployment rate (age 15 – 24 years) corresponding to the third quarter 2018 is 19.6 percent and that is the highest reported unemployment rate among all age groups. Further the unemployment rates for males and females are 16.0 and 26.1 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 2018

Level of Education	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	Gender	
			Male	Female
Sri Lanka	346,998	4.1	2.8	6.6
Below GCE O/L	102,949	2.0	1.9	2.4
GCE O/L	73,578	4.8	4.1	6.0
GCE A/L & above	170,470	9.5	4.8	14.2

Survey results further show 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.

Definition of '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 said to be unemployed.

The Unemployment Rate

The proportion of unemployed population to the total labour force.

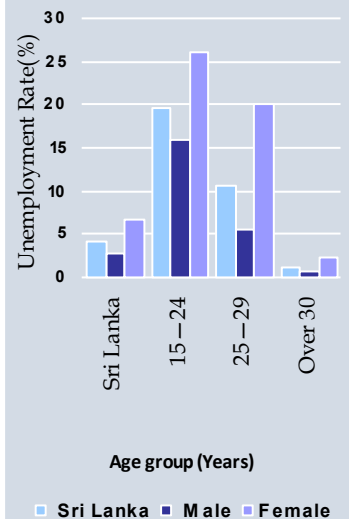


Figure 3: Unemployment rate by age group and gender – Third quarter 2018

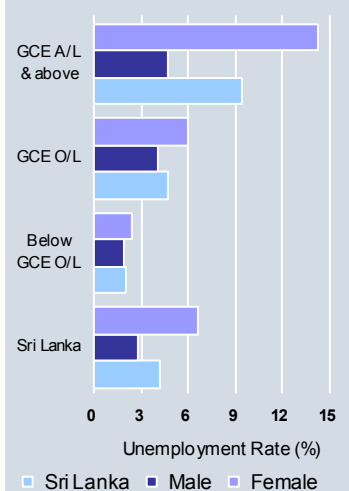


Figure 4: Unemployment rate by level of education and gender – Third quarter 2018

**TABLE 1 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD
POPULATION, 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	NATIONAL LEVEL DATA							
	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)	
2009 ¹	14,876,264	8,051,089	54.1	7,579,835	94.1	471,254	5.9	6,825,175
2010 ¹	15,166,285	8,096,477	53.4	7,696,142	95.1	400,335	4.9	7,069,808
2011 ²	14,975,989	7,926,445	52.9	7,591,591	95.8	334,854	4.2	7,049,544
2012 ²	14,857,578	7,798,407	52.5	7,488,704	96.0	309,703	4.0	7,059,171
2013 ²	14,959,065	8,033,804	53.7	7,681,279	95.6	352,526	4.4	6,925,260
2014 ²	15,134,484	8,048,884	53.2	7,700,489	95.7	348,395	4.3	7,085,600
2015 ²	15,281,945	8,214,473	53.8	7,830,976	95.3	383,496	4.7	7,067,473
2016 ²	15,448,679	8,310,682	53.8	7,947,683	95.6	362,999	4.4	7,137,997
2017 ²	15,843,735	8,566,686	54.1	8,208,179	95.8	358,507	4.2	7,277,049
2016Q3 ²	15,560,390	8,376,002	53.8	7,999,821	95.5	376,180	4.5	7,184,388
2017Q3 ²	15,893,819	8,522,219	53.6	8,163,869	95.8	358,350	4.2	7,371,600
2018Q1 ²	16,033,845	8,333,493	52.0	7,961,358	95.5	372,135	4.5	7,700,352
2018Q2 ²	16,347,924	8,351,988	51.1	7,970,154	95.4	381,834	4.6	7,995,937
2018Q3 ²	16,177,183	8,387,701	51.8	8,040,704	95.9	346,998	4.1	7,789,482

¹ - Excluding Northern province

² - All the districts are included and the tables consist with reweighted estimates.

**TABLE 1A - 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	NUMBER	RATE	
2009 ¹	6,925,821	5,173,106	74.7	4,949,825	95.7	223,281	4.3	1,752,715
2010 ¹	7,078,246	5,310,872	75.0	5,125,763	96.5	185,108	3.5	1,767,374
2011 ²	7,027,780	5,203,267	74.0	5,061,214	97.3	142,053	2.7	1,824,513
2012 ²	6,932,520	5,192,686	74.9	5,046,057	97.2	146,629	2.8	1,739,835
2013 ²	6,926,750	5,187,873	74.9	5,024,341	96.8	163,533	3.2	1,738,877
2014 ²	7,025,780	5,240,034	74.6	5,075,425	96.9	164,609	3.1	1,785,746
2015 ²	7,036,944	5,255,593	74.7	5,097,798	97.0	157,794	3.0	1,781,352
2016 ²	7,064,736	5,303,502	75.1	5,149,948	97.1	153,554	2.9	1,761,234
2017 ²	7,292,047	5,434,510	74.5	5,279,158	97.1	155,352	2.9	1,857,537
2016Q3 ²	7,086,406	5,315,532	75.0	5,171,424	97.3	144,108	2.7	1,770,874
2017Q3 ²	7,315,588	5,381,432	73.6	5,237,380	97.3	144,052	2.7	1,934,157
2018Q1 ²	7,423,101	5,449,958	73.4	5,292,148	97.1	157,810	2.9	1,973,143
2018Q2 ²	7,596,167	5,507,863	72.5	5,336,164	96.9	171,699	3.1	2,088,304
2018Q3 ²	7,456,943	5,423,477	72.7	5,272,527	97.2	150,950	2.8	2,033,466

**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	NUMBER	RATE	
2009 ¹	7,950,443	2,877,983	36.2	2,630,010	91.4	247,973	8.6	5,072,460
2010 ¹	8,088,039	2,785,605	34.4	2,570,379	92.3	215,226	7.7	5,302,434
2011 ²	7,948,209	2,723,178	34.3	2,530,377	92.9	192,801	7.1	5,225,031
2012 ²	7,925,058	2,605,721	32.9	2,442,647	93.7	163,074	6.3	5,319,336
2013 ²	8,032,315	2,845,931	35.4	2,656,938	93.4	188,993	6.6	5,186,383
2014 ²	8,108,704	2,808,850	34.6	2,625,064	93.5	183,786	6.5	5,299,854
2015 ²	8,245,001	2,958,880	35.9	2,733,178	92.4	225,702	7.6	5,286,121
2016 ²	8,383,943	3,007,180	35.9	2,797,735	93.0	209,445	7.0	5,376,764
2017 ²	8,551,688	3,132,176	36.6	2,929,021	93.5	203,155	6.5	5,419,512
2016Q3 ²	8,473,984	3,060,469	36.1	2,828,397	92.4	232,072	7.6	5,413,514
2017Q3 ²	8,578,231	3,140,787	36.6	2,926,489	93.2	214,298	6.8	5,437,444
2018Q1 ²	8,610,744	2,883,535	33.5	2,669,210	92.6	214,325	7.4	5,727,209
2018Q2 ²	8,751,757	2,844,125	32.5	2,633,989	92.6	210,136	7.4	5,907,632
2018Q3 ²	8,720,240	2,964,224	34.0	2,768,177	93.4	196,047	6.6	5,756,016

¹ - Excluding Northern province

² - All the districts are included and the tables consist with reweighted estimates.

TABLE 2 - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, BY AGE - BOTH SEXES

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (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	16,177,183	8,387,701	51.8	8,040,704	95.9	346,998	4.1	7,789,482
15 - 19 YRS	1,738,881	209,760	12.1	162,609	77.5	47,151	22.5	1,529,121
20 - 24 YRS	1,321,086	704,448	53.3	572,714	81.3	131,734	18.7	616,638
25 - 29 YRS	1,258,089	844,731	67.1	754,991	89.4	89,740	10.6	413,358
30 - 39 YRS	2,839,230	1,907,444	67.2	1,855,822	97.3	51,622	2.7	931,785
40 + YRS	9,019,898	4,721,318	52.3	4,694,567	99.4	26,750	0.6	4,298,580

TABLE 2A - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, BY AGE - MALE

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (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	7,456,943	5,423,477	72.7	5,272,527	97.2	150,950	2.8	2,033,466
15 - 19 YRS	858,824	146,833	17.1	116,044	79.0	30,789	21.0	711,991
20 - 24 YRS	612,152	443,632	72.5	379,910	85.6	63,722	14.4	168,520
25 - 29 YRS	593,511	549,179	92.5	518,880	94.5	30,300	5.5	44,332
30 - 39 YRS	1,254,988	1,214,342	96.8	1,198,532	98.7	15,810	1.3	40,646
40 + YRS	4,137,468	3,069,491	74.2	3,059,161	99.7	10,330	0.3	1,067,977

TABLE 2B - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, BY AGE - FEMALE

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (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	8,720,240	2,964,224	34.0	2,768,177	93.4	196,047	6.6	5,756,016
15 - 19 YRS	880,057	62,927	7.2	46,565	74.0	16,362	26.0	817,130
20 - 24 YRS	708,934	260,816	36.8	192,804	73.9	68,012	26.1	448,118
25 - 29 YRS	664,578	295,552	44.5	236,111	79.9	59,441	20.1	369,026
30 - 39 YRS	1,584,241	693,102	43.7	657,290	94.8	35,813	5.2	891,139
40 + YRS	4,882,430	1,651,827	33.8	1,635,406	99.0	16,421	1.0	3,230,603

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
2011 ¹	100.0	3.1	8.6	11.0	24.3	53.0
2012 ¹	100.0	2.5	8.3	11.0	25.2	53.0
2013 ¹	100.0	2.7	7.9	10.1	24.8	54.5
2014 ¹	100.0	2.4	7.2	9.7	25.2	55.5
2015 ¹	100.0	2.2	7.5	9.7	24.5	56.1
2016 ¹	100.0	2.0	7.3	9.5	24.2	57.0
2017 ¹	100.0	2.1	7.6	9.2	23.4	57.7
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	2.1	7.2	9.6	23.5	57.6
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.4	7.4	8.8	23.7	57.7
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	1.9	6.8	8.6	22.9	59.8
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	1.7	7.1	9.0	22.2	60.0
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	2.0	7.1	9.4	23.1	58.4

**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
2011 ¹	100.0	3.2	8.7	11.3	24.3	52.5
2012 ¹	100.0	2.7	8.3	11.2	25.2	52.6
2013 ¹	100.0	2.9	7.8	10.2	25.0	54.1
2014 ¹	100.0	2.5	7.3	9.6	25.4	55.2
2015 ¹	100.0	2.3	7.3	9.7	24.4	56.2
2016 ¹	100.0	2.2	7.3	9.4	24.2	56.9
2017 ¹	100.0	2.3	7.5	9.4	23.5	57.3
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	2.3	7.1	9.8	23.6	57.2
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.4	7.3	9.1	23.4	57.8
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	2.2	6.9	8.9	22.5	59.4
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	1.8	7.6	9.3	22.6	58.6
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	2.2	7.2	9.8	22.7	58.0

**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
2011 ¹	100.0	2.8	8.5	10.3	24.4	53.9
2012 ¹	100.0	2.2	8.4	10.5	25.1	53.8
2013 ¹	100.0	2.4	8.0	10.0	24.3	55.3
2014 ¹	100.0	2.2	7.1	9.9	24.8	56.0
2015 ¹	100.0	2.1	7.8	9.6	24.7	55.9
2016 ¹	100.0	1.6	7.2	9.6	24.3	57.3
2017 ¹	100.0	1.7	7.8	9.0	23.2	58.3
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	1.7	7.4	9.3	23.3	58.2
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.4	7.4	8.4	24.2	57.6
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	1.4	6.6	7.8	23.6	60.6
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	1.6	6.2	8.2	21.2	62.7
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	1.7	7.0	8.5	23.7	59.1

¹ - All the districts are included and the tables consist with reweighted estimates.

**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
2011 ¹	100.0	18.8	48.1	15.7	17.4
2012 ¹	100.0	18.7	47.3	17.5	16.6
2013 ¹	100.1	18.2	47.9	15.9	18.1
2014 ¹	100.0	16.4	48.9	16.0	18.6
2015 ¹	100.0	16.7	47.4	17.3	18.6
2016 ¹	100.0	16.2	47.4	16.3	20.1
2017 ¹	100.0	15.8	46.1	17.3	20.8
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	16.3	47.8	15.7	20.1
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	15.1	45.9	17.2	21.8
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	15.9	46.1	17.2	20.8
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	14.5	45.3	18.3	22.0
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	14.6	46.8	18.3	20.3

**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
2011 ¹	100.0	18.3	51.0	16.1	14.6
2012 ¹	100.0	18.0	51.2	17.7	13.1
2013 ¹	100.0	17.8	51.5	16.0	14.6
2014 ¹	100.0	16.4	52.6	16.2	14.8
2015 ¹	100.0	16.7	51.1	17.7	14.6
2016 ¹	100.0	16.1	51.1	16.7	16.1
2017 ¹	100.0	15.7	49.8	17.6	16.9
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	16.7	51.2	16.0	16.1
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	15.1	49.5	17.7	17.7
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	15.9	49.3	18.3	16.5
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	14.5	49.2	19.5	16.8
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	14.5	50.9	18.2	16.4

**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
2011 ¹	100.0	19.9	42.2	14.9	23.0
2012 ¹	100.0	19.9	39.3	17.2	23.7
2013 ¹	100.0	18.8	41.0	15.6	24.6
2014 ¹	100.0	16.5	41.7	15.8	26.0
2015 ¹	100.0	16.6	40.4	16.7	26.3
2016 ¹	100.0	16.3	40.6	15.6	27.5
2017 ¹	100.0	16.1	39.4	16.8	27.7
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	15.7	41.6	15.2	27.4
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	14.9	39.4	16.4	29.3
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	15.8	39.9	15.1	29.2
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	14.5	37.3	15.8	32.4
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	14.7	39.0	18.6	27.7

¹ - All the districts are included and the tables consist with reweighted estimates.

**TABLE 5 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL EMPLOYED	EMPLOYEE			EMPLOYER	OWN	UNPAID
		TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE		ACCOUNT WORKER	FAMILY WORKER
2011 ¹	100.0	55.1	14.6	40.5	2.9	31.5	10.6
2012 ¹	100.0	56.5	15.3	41.2	2.8	31.9	8.7
2013 ¹	100.0	55.7	15.2	40.5	3.0	32.2	9.1
2014 ¹	100.0	56.4	15.5	40.9	2.7	32.0	8.9
2015 ¹	100.0	56.1	15.1	41.0	3.1	32.3	8.4
2016 ¹	100.0	57.8	14.6	43.3	2.7	31.6	7.8
2017 ¹	100.0	57.7	14.4	43.3	3.0	31.3	8.0
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	59.3	14.5	44.8	2.3	30.5	7.8
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	57.4	14.0	43.4	3.2	30.8	8.6
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	58.0	14.3	43.8	2.7	31.8	7.5
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	59.3	15.8	43.5	2.6	32.1	5.9
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	56.6	13.2	43.3	2.8	32.8	7.9

**TABLE 5A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	TOTAL EMPLOYED	EMPLOYEE			EMPLOYER	OWN	UNPAID
		TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE		ACCOUNT WORKER	FAMILY WORKER
2011 ¹	100.0	56.0	12.8	43.1	3.8	35.9	4.3
2012 ¹	100.0	56.7	12.9	43.8	3.8	35.9	3.6
2013 ¹	100.0	56.6	12.9	43.8	4.1	36.2	3.0
2014 ¹	100.0	57.3	13.1	44.2	3.6	36.2	2.8
2015 ¹	100.0	56.7	12.8	43.9	4.2	36.3	2.8
2016 ¹	100.0	58.9	12.4	46.4	3.7	34.7	2.7
2017 ¹	100.0	58.8	12.3	46.4	4.1	34.5	2.6
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	60.3	12.9	47.4	3.2	33.8	2.7
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	58.6	12.3	46.4	4.5	34.1	2.8
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	58.6	12.4	46.2	3.5	35.3	2.5
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	58.4	12.7	45.7	3.3	35.9	2.4
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	56.8	11.0	45.8	3.9	36.6	2.7

**TABLE 5B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	TOTAL EMPLOYED	EMPLOYEE			EMPLOYER	OWN	UNPAID
		TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE		ACCOUNT WORKER	FAMILY WORKER
2011 ¹	100.0	53.3	18.1	35.2	0.9	22.7	23.1
2012 ¹	100.0	56.1	20.2	35.9	0.9	23.7	19.3
2013 ¹	100.0	53.9	19.7	34.3	0.9	24.6	20.5
2014 ¹	100.0	54.8	20.1	34.7	1.0	23.7	20.5
2015 ¹	100.0	55.1	19.3	35.8	1.1	24.9	18.8
2016 ¹	100.0	55.9	18.5	37.4	0.9	25.9	17.2
2017 ¹	100.0	55.7	18.0	37.7	1.1	25.6	17.7
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	57.6	17.5	40.1	0.7	24.5	17.2
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	55.2	17.2	38.0	1.0	24.8	19.0
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	56.9	18.0	38.8	1.0	24.8	17.4
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	61.4	22.1	39.3	1.1	24.5	13.1
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	56.2	17.5	38.6	0.7	25.3	17.8

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

¹ - All the districts are included and the tables consist with reweighted estimates.

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
2015	7,830,976	2,244,547	60,614	1,407,908	549,649	1,059,803	480,338	202,780	52,372	144,507	64,950	120,218	600,249	324,175	137,366	143,768	177,255	60,477
2016	7,947,683	2,153,874	59,907	1,420,628	616,968	1,102,337	516,128	203,083	61,522	159,325	54,703	107,490	609,205	343,837	141,836	137,552	209,101	50,188
2017	8,208,179	2,140,185	63,014	1,580,936	687,544	1,160,443	512,991	210,380	70,264	159,813	69,568	152,363	526,732	377,129	149,272	118,917	161,681	66,947
2016Q3	7,999,821	2,168,982	70,164	1,439,792	634,851	1,105,492	484,916	207,699	72,891	157,117	46,260	97,390	581,073	357,699	150,840	136,649	233,289	54,719
2017Q3	8,163,869	1,983,870	73,828	1,585,977	712,201	1,216,250	529,532	248,053	75,636	176,802	62,997	151,249	535,076	368,057	135,725	108,016	144,143	56,456
2018Q1	7,961,358	2,139,057	54,967	1,471,960	697,529	1,137,599	493,018	216,020	52,298	185,783	76,893	133,588	456,597	392,225	141,076	86,780	189,351	36,619
2018Q2	7,970,154	1,927,886	78,362	1,363,322	748,483	1,131,059	528,243	233,442	65,283	192,071	83,427	181,270	444,141	466,257	150,934	139,549	186,656	49,767
2018Q3	8,040,704	2,034,894	62,508	1,528,501	714,813	1,144,752	488,205	253,075	60,100	162,092	87,576	168,661	382,597	407,652	149,981	125,746	195,760	73,793

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 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
2015	5,097,797	1,360,831	57,116	741,643	527,419	756,298	465,920	140,042	41,206	79,485	42,853	91,639	395,291	92,824	45,976	105,307	107,469	46,478
2016	5,149,948	1,302,613	56,762	739,372	590,459	770,376	495,894	129,928	45,525	90,506	33,125	83,937	394,974	105,604	53,843	99,146	119,873	38,011
2017	5,279,158	1,279,980	60,026	822,518	655,436	814,523	495,005	134,587	50,551	93,495	46,100	109,152	336,452	114,026	48,245	83,172	84,014	51,877
2016Q3	5,171,424	1,311,167	64,899	718,507	606,889	777,686	464,307	135,856	49,787	84,676	31,961	84,571	395,051	119,881	58,085	93,991	135,367	38,744
2017Q3	5,237,380	1,148,634	68,397	846,273	682,359	844,677	513,133	162,438	54,958	99,632	39,596	94,196	333,892	111,911	44,239	77,935	66,894	48,216
2018Q1	5,292,148	1,340,641	50,872	793,104	677,257	812,901	475,615	149,502	43,019	105,660	43,476	89,188	305,170	144,037	52,812	60,256	118,364	30,274
2018Q2	5,336,164	1,223,934	77,152	753,634	714,756	844,716	501,039	156,945	44,532	95,571	55,763	133,747	286,345	143,413	50,240	98,434	113,432	42,510
2018Q3	5,272,527	1,258,479	58,184	790,992	698,948	825,137	472,958	153,461	37,311	83,543	60,374	128,016	255,251	115,972	60,103	94,746	121,128	57,924

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
2015	2,733,179	883,716	3,498	666,265	22,230	303,507	14,418	62,738	11,165	65,023	22,097	28,579	204,958	231,350	91,389	38,461	69,786	13,999
2016	2,797,735	851,261	3,145	681,256	26,509	331,961	20,234	73,154	15,997	68,819	21,578	23,553	214,231	238,233	87,993	38,405	89,228	12,178
2017	2,929,021	860,204	2,988	758,418	32,108	345,921	17,986	75,792	19,713	66,319	23,468	43,211	190,280	263,103	101,027	35,745	77,667	15,070
2016Q3	2,828,397	857,815	5,265	721,286	27,963	327,805	20,609	71,843	23,104	72,441	14,299	12,819	186,022	237,817	92,755	42,658	97,922	15,975
2017Q3	2,926,489	835,236	5,431	739,704	29,842	371,572	16,399	85,616	20,678	77,169	23,401	57,053	201,184	256,146	91,486	30,081	77,249	8,240
2018Q1	2,669,210	798,416	4,094	678,855	20,272	324,698	17,403	66,518	9,279	80,123	33,416	44,399	151,427	248,187	88,264	26,525	70,987	6,345
2018Q2	2,633,989	703,952	1,211	609,688	33,727	286,342	27,204	76,497	20,750	96,501	27,664	47,523	157,796	322,843	100,694	41,114	73,224	7,258
2018Q3	2,768,177	776,415	4,324	737,509	15,865	319,614	15,247	99,614	22,789	78,549	27,202	40,645	127,346	291,680	89,878	30,999	74,632	15,869

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

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

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 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	10
2014	7,700,489	353,465	491,521	450,247	327,479	902,710	1,562,251	1,312,975	635,899	1,633,672	30,270
2015	7,830,976	480,097	511,230	470,645	311,455	852,722	1,457,350	1,266,101	673,380	1,766,704	41,292
2016	7,947,683	480,492	519,032	484,965	320,791	891,034	1,435,354	1,274,167	702,675	1,795,378	43,795
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
2016Q3	7,999,821	460,654	528,284	440,539	342,107	902,700	1,400,432	1,289,440	704,489	1,897,097	34,079
2017Q3	8,163,869	589,658	549,235	524,670	333,356	866,574	1,300,781	1,302,188	777,712	1,891,454	28,240
2018Q1	7,961,358	604,919	509,749	609,964	268,551	698,385	1,364,513	1,341,687	710,664	1,819,088	33,838
2018Q2	7,970,154	615,954	588,872	685,766	308,794	741,034	1,225,877	1,236,438	719,465	1,810,012	37,942
2018Q3	8,040,704	602,787	550,849	678,919	274,926	665,657	1,315,943	1,307,874	688,591	1,911,190	43,967

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 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 | 10 | Armed Forces Occupations & unidentified occupations |

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	10
2014	5,075,424	265,819	175,533	301,206	157,091	630,281	1,017,807	881,891	559,814	1,056,416	29,566
2015	5,097,798	355,643	174,644	318,745	150,246	585,455	965,084	833,470	577,038	1,101,377	36,096
2016	5,149,948	344,185	188,059	310,846	155,926	606,054	930,845	830,428	607,801	1,139,332	36,473
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
2016Q3	5,171,424	338,285	197,115	258,984	171,254	628,945	908,702	827,704	595,631	1,217,087	27,718
2017Q3	5,237,380	410,237	207,327	349,916	154,204	584,558	805,651	879,190	660,750	1,158,954	26,591
2018Q1	5,292,148	437,788	191,247	399,855	133,570	505,600	919,344	928,636	612,067	1,131,278	32,763
2018Q2	5,336,164	466,661	186,189	439,891	158,129	523,747	849,497	882,809	631,134	1,168,666	29,441
2018Q3	5,272,527	440,502	199,744	460,820	142,677	489,145	876,410	839,768	599,874	1,189,451	34,137

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	10
2014	2,625,065	87,646	315,988	149,041	170,388	272,429	544,444	431,084	76,085	577,256	704
2015	2,733,178	124,454	336,586	151,900	161,209	267,267	492,267	432,631	96,342	665,326	5,196
2016	2,797,735	136,307	330,973	174,120	164,865	284,980	504,509	443,739	94,874	656,046	7,322
2017	2,929,021	154,639	346,838	198,667	173,408	269,145	512,325	468,150	108,550	693,881	3,418
2016Q3	2,828,397	122,369	331,169	181,555	170,853	273,755	491,730	461,736	108,858	680,010	6,361
2017Q3	2,926,489	179,421	341,908	174,754	179,153	282,016	495,129	422,998	116,962	732,500	1,649
2018Q1	2,669,210	167,131	318,501	210,110	134,980	192,785	445,169	413,051	98,597	687,810	1,075
2018Q2	2,633,989	149,293	402,682	245,875	150,665	217,287	376,380	353,629	88,330	641,347	8,501
2018Q3	2,768,177	162,285	351,106	218,099	132,250	176,512	439,533	468,106	88,717	721,739	9,830

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 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 | 10 | 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	5.8	1.8	4.0	7.9	14.2	34.4	32.0
1	100.0	9.1	3.7	8.0	16.2	20.6	24.0	18.4
2	100.0	3.3	3.2	2.2	13.6	8.9	14.1	54.8
3	100.0	3.3	1.2	3.9	6.8	11.6	42.2	31.1
6	100.0	6.7	1.0	3.3	6.1	13.5	40.3	29.1
7	100.0	2.6	0.5	1.2	4.4	9.1	31.2	51.0
8	100.0	5.6	0.3	0.6	1.7	8.2	26.9	56.7
9	100.0	2.6	1.7	2.4	7.3	9.8	22.3	53.9
10	100.0	1.5	2.8	5.3	60.5	30.0
11	100.0	2.4	..	0.8	0.6	2.5	66.8	26.9
13	100.0	3.3	..	1.4	5.8	9.9	56.4	23.3
14	100.0	3.4	1.8	3.2	4.0	4.8	41.2	41.6
15	100.0	2.5	0.3	0.3	0.5	5.3	61.5	29.7
16	100.0	16.1	1.8	5.6	5.8	39.1	24.7	6.9
17	100.0	2.3	0.6	1.1	2.5	5.9	49.3	38.2
19	100.0	6.0	4.6	7.4	8.8	15.9	28.1	29.2
20	100.0	5.6	3.4	2.4	10.9	17.8	27.0	32.9
Other	100.0	8.3	1.3	1.5	1.3	11.8	35.3	40.4

* 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
2011 ¹	100.0	12.7	42.2	20.7	15.9	8.5
2012 ¹	100.0	14.1	40.5	18.8	15.8	10.8
2013 ¹	100.0	13.7	41.0	18.1	15.1	12.1
2014 ¹	100.0	14.2	39.8	19.3	15.4	11.3
2015 ¹	100.0	14.5	37.4	20.5	15.8	11.8
2016 ¹	100.0	16.1	39.7	21.1	13.2	9.8
2017 ¹	100.0	12.8	37.7	22.2	14.8	12.4
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	16.7	37.7	21.9	14.2	9.4
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	10.4	39.3	22.0	17.7	10.7
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	13.0	39.1	22.0	16.9	9.0
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	14.3	39.3	22.7	15.7	8.0
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	13.6	38.0	25.9	14.9	7.7

**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
2011 ¹	100.0	17.6	44.7	17.1	13.1	7.6
2012 ¹	100.0	19.6	41.6	17.0	12.3	9.4
2013 ¹	100.0	16.9	44.0	15.5	11.5	12.1
2014 ¹	100.0	20.1	37.6	18.3	11.7	12.3
2015 ¹	100.0	21.7	39.9	14.6	12.6	11.2
2016 ¹	100.0	23.0	42.8	16.9	7.7	9.6
2017 ¹	100.0	18.1	40.3	19.7	10.8	11.1
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	23.8	39.1	16.2	8.7	12.3
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	20.1	40.6	18.8	14.0	6.5
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	19.2	36.9	22.4	10.1	11.4
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	18.7	43.5	15.8	14.2	7.8
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	20.4	42.2	20.1	10.5	6.8

**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
2011 ¹	100.0	9.1	40.4	23.4	17.9	9.2
2012 ¹	100.0	9.2	39.6	20.4	18.9	12.0
2013 ¹	100.0	11.0	38.4	20.3	18.2	12.1
2014 ¹	100.0	8.9	41.7	20.2	18.7	10.4
2015 ¹	100.0	9.4	35.6	24.6	18.1	12.2
2016 ¹	100.0	11.1	37.5	24.2	17.2	10.0
2017 ¹	100.0	8.8	35.7	24.2	17.9	13.5
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	12.3	36.9	25.5	17.7	7.6
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	3.9	38.4	24.1	20.2	13.5
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	8.4	40.7	21.7	21.9	7.3
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	10.8	35.9	28.3	16.9	8.2
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	8.3	34.7	30.3	18.3	8.4

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

¹ - All the districts are included and the tables consist with reweighted estimates.

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
2011 ¹	100.0	2.9	38.1	19.8	39.2
2012 ¹	100.0	2.6	37.4	27.2	32.9
2013 ¹	100.0	3.9	36.5	22.1	37.5
2014 ¹	100.0	3.1	37.7	22.4	36.8
2015 ¹	100.0	2.5	34.4	24.4	38.7
2016 ¹	100.0	2.7	35.4	22.1	39.8
2017 ¹	100.0	3.1	30.3	24.7	41.9
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	2.6	33.0	20.8	43.7
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.9	26.2	25.0	45.9
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	2.4	30.4	20.5	46.8
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	1.8	34.2	19.3	44.7
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	2.6	27.1	21.2	49.1

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
2011 ¹	100.0	2.0	47.8	20.3	29.9
2012 ¹	100.0	2.0	46.7	29.6	21.7
2013 ¹	100.0	4.7	43.7	24.3	27.4
2014 ¹	100.0	3.1	48.1	22.7	26.0
2015 ¹	100.0	1.7	44.1	30.9	23.4
2016 ¹	100.0	1.5	48.2	23.9	26.4
2017 ¹	100.0	2.0	37.5	30.0	30.5
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	1.9	45.2	25.5	27.4
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	3.2	36.8	26.6	33.4
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	2.7	43.5	24.8	29.0
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	2.8	46.0	23.9	27.3
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	3.3	41.1	26.9	28.6

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
2011 ¹	100.0	3.5	30.9	19.4	46.1
2012 ¹	100.0	3.0	29.0	25.0	43.0
2013 ¹	100.0	3.2	30.2	20.3	46.2
2014 ¹	100.0	3.1	28.5	22.1	46.4
2015 ¹	100.0	3.0	27.7	19.9	49.4
2016 ¹	100.0	3.6	26.0	20.8	49.6
2017 ¹	100.0	3.9	24.8	20.7	50.7
2016Q3 ¹	100.0	3.0	25.4	17.8	53.8
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.6	19.1	23.9	54.4
2018Q1 ¹	100.0	2.1	20.7	17.3	59.9
2018Q2 ¹	100.0	1.0	24.6	15.5	58.9
2018Q3 ¹	100.0	2.0	16.3	16.8	64.9

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

¹ - All the districts are included and the tables consist with reweighted estimates.

TABLE 11 - CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY SEX AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Sex	Total	Duration		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	346,998	167,031	73,906	106,060
%	100.0	48.1	21.3	30.6
Male	150,950	92,133	30,137	28,681
%	100.0	61.0	20.0	19.0
Female	196,047	74,898	43,770	77,380
%	100.0	38.2	22.3	39.5

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)	16,177,183	153,727	1.0			
Employed Population	8,040,704	110,003	1.4			
Unemployed Population	346,998	21,787	6.3			
Employment Rate				95.9	0.25	0.27
Unemployment Rate				4.1	0.25	6.15
Labour Force	8,387,701	112,385	1.3			
Not in Labour Force	7,789,482	112,234	1.4			
Employed persons by major industry Groups						
1	2,034,894	91,031	4.5			
2	62,508	11,617	18.6			
3	1,528,501	61,036	4.0			
6	714,813	33,185	4.6			
7	1,144,752	47,482	4.1			
8	488,205	25,908	5.3			
9	253,075	21,493	8.5			
10	60,100	10,338	17.2			
11	162,092	13,801	8.5			
13	87,576	11,714	13.4			
14	168,661	14,426	8.6			
15	382,597	24,302	6.4			
16	407,652	24,542	6.0			
17	149,981	14,610	9.7			
19	125,746	13,156	10.5			
20	195,760	18,846	9.6			
Other	73,793	10,171	13.8			
Unemployed persons by level of education						
Below grade 6	8,955	3,398	37.9			
Grade 6 - 10	93,994	9,042	9.6			
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	73,578	8,645	11.7			
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	170,470	9,991	5.9			

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,

(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)

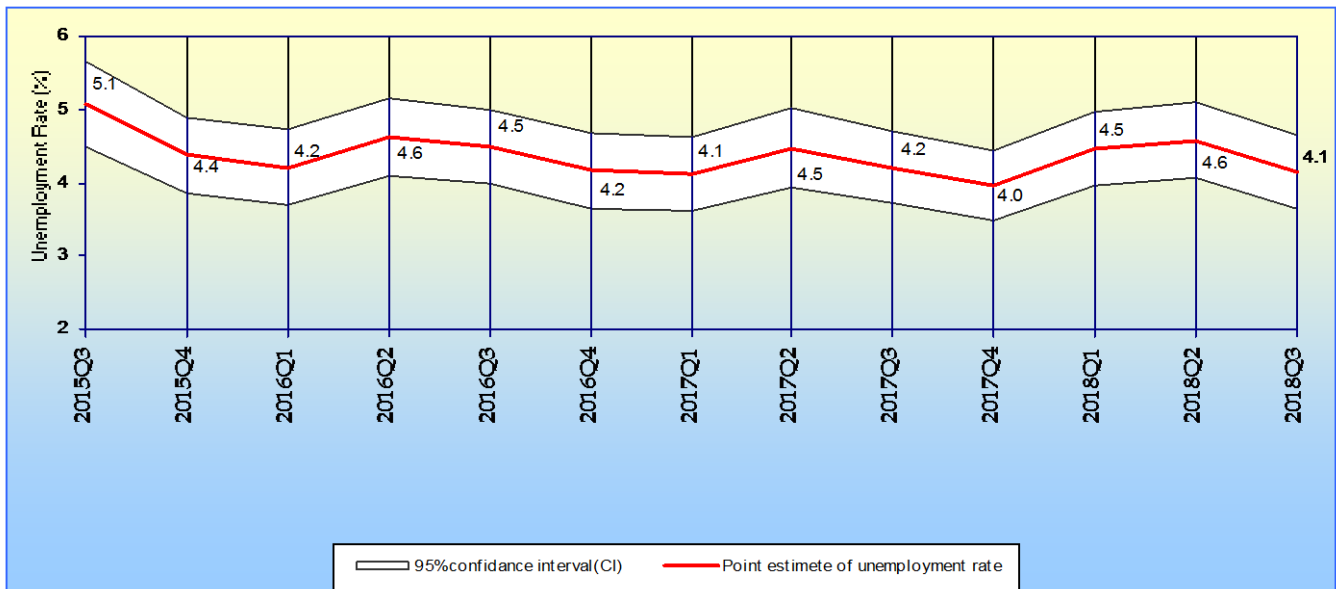
$$4.5 \pm (0.275) * (1.96)$$

$$(4.5 \pm 0.539)$$

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 (2015Q3 - 2018Q3)



As seen in figure 2, it is very important to note that, there were no statistically significant differences between the unemployment rates reported in different time periods of 2015/2018, 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)

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
2011 ¹	7,926,445	72,730	0.92	7,783,791	8,069,099	7,591,591	69,573	0.92	7,455,129	7,728,053
2012 ¹	7,798,407	66,291	0.85	7,668,392	7,928,422	7,488,704	63,894	0.85	7,363,389	7,614,018
2013 ¹	8,033,804	55,985	0.70	7,924,021	8,143,587	7,681,279	54,298	0.71	7,574,802	7,787,755
2014 ¹	8,048,884	60,868	0.76	7,929,525	8,168,243	7,700,489	58,417	0.76	7,585,937	7,815,042
2015 ¹	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 ¹	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 ¹	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
2016Q3 ²	8,376,002	93,505	1.12	8,192,356	8,559,647	7,999,821	91,820	1.15	7,819,486	8,180,157
2017Q3 ¹	8,522,219	100,350	1.18	8,325,129	8,719,308	8,163,869	97,830	1.20	7,971,729	8,356,009
2018Q1 ¹	8,333,493	102,663	1.23	8,131,856	8,535,129	7,961,358	98,624	1.24	7,767,655	8,155,062
2018Q2 ¹	8,351,988	97,802	1.17	8,159,901	8,544,075	7,970,154	94,554	1.19	7,784,446	8,155,861
2018Q3 ¹	8,387,701	112,385	1.34	8,166,975	8,608,428	8,040,704	110,003	1.37	7,824,654	8,256,753

Year	Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		Rate	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2011 ¹	334,854	15,691	4.69	304,078	365,631	4.2	0.2	4.49	3.9	4.6
2012 ¹	309,703	13,287	4.29	283,643	335,763	4.0	0.2	4.14	3.6	4.3
2013 ¹	352,526	12,030	3.41	328,935	376,116	4.4	0.1	3.31	4.1	4.7
2014 ¹	348,395	12,697	3.64	323,497	373,293	4.3	0.2	3.50	4.0	4.6
2015 ¹	383,496	12,283	3.20	359,410	407,583	4.7	0.1	3.11	4.4	5.0
2016 ¹	362,999	11,186	3.08	341,064	384,933	4.4	0.1	3.02	4.1	4.6
2017 ¹	358,507	11,347	3.17	336,256	380,758	4.2	0.1	3.08	3.9	4.4
2016Q3 ¹	376,180	21,704	5.77	333,554	418,806	4.5	0.3	5.66	4.0	5.0
2017Q3 ¹	358,350	22,006	6.14	315,129	401,571	4.2	0.3	5.99	3.7	4.7
2018Q1 ¹	372,135	22,660	6.09	327,630	416,639	4.5	0.3	5.86	4.0	5.0
2018Q2 ¹	381,834	22,717	5.95	337,218	426,451	4.6	0.3	5.76	4.1	5.1
2018Q3 ¹	346,998	21,787	6.28	304,208	389,788	4.1	0.3	6.15	3.6	4.6

¹ - All the districts are included and the Tables consist with reweighted estimates

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 PARTICI: RATE(%)	LABOUR FORCE				NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
				EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
2011 ¹	14,975,989	6,687,771	44.7	6,352,916	95.0	334,854	5.0	8,288,219
2012 ¹	14,857,578	6,846,805	46.1	6,537,101	95.5	309,703	4.5	8,010,773
2013 ¹	14,958,239	6,966,035	46.6	6,600,172	94.7	365,863	5.3	8,007,536
2014 ¹	15,134,484	7,017,985	46.4	6,669,590	95.0	348,395	5.0	8,116,499
2015 ¹	15,281,945	7,156,393	46.8	6,772,896	94.6	383,496	5.4	8,125,553
2016 ¹	15,448,679	7,325,972	47.4	6,962,973	95.0	362,999	5.0	8,122,707
2017 ¹	15,843,735	7,474,883	47.2	7,116,376	95.2	358,507	4.8	8,368,851
2016Q3 ¹	15,560,390	7,469,445	48.0	7,022,963	94.0	446,482	6.0	7,469,445
2017Q3 ¹	15,893,819	7,411,703	46.6	7,053,353	95.2	358,350	4.8	8,482,116
2018Q1 ¹	16,033,845	7,385,261	46.1	7,013,127	95.0	372,135	5.0	8,648,584
2018Q2 ¹	16,347,924	7,425,868	45.4	7,044,034	94.9	381,834	5.1	8,922,056
2018Q3 ¹	16,177,183	7,387,293	45.7	7,040,295	95.3	346,998	4.7	8,789,891

TABLE 2 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF NUMBER AND RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT BY AGE (ALTERNATIVE ESTIMATES)

YEAR	AGE GROUP											
	TOTAL		15 - 19		20 - 24		25 - 29		30 - 39		40 & ABOVE	
	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE
2011 ¹	334,854	5.0	42,636	20.9	141,252	20.6	69,319	8.9	53,111	3.3	28,537	0.8
2012 ¹	309,703	4.5	43,745	23.5	125,556	19.4	58,227	7.3	48,794	2.8	33,381	1.0
2013 ¹	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 ¹	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 ¹	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 ¹	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 ¹	358,507	4.8	46,016	25.1	135,121	19.7	79,727	10.4	53,053	3.0	44,590	1.1
2016Q3 ¹	446,482	6.0	74,844	37.2	171,471	25.4	94,779	11.8	64,812	3.6	40,577	1.0
2017Q3 ¹	358,350	4.8	37,194	19.6	140,740	21.0	78,691	10.7	63,489	3.6	38,236	0.9
2018Q1 ¹	372,135	5.0	48,275	27.4	145,498	23.3	81,874	11.5	62,976	3.7	33,511	0.8
2018Q2 ¹	381,834	5.1	54,754	32.8	150,112	22.6	86,641	11.8	59,764	3.6	30,564	0.7
2018Q3 ¹	346,998	4.7	47,151	26.0	131,734	20.6	89,740	11.7	51,622	3.0	26,750	0.7

¹- All the districts are included

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

Year	Industry group																		
	Total	1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other	
2015	No.	6,772,896	1,609,226	58,353	1,270,771	523,932	925,132	466,273	176,308	49,686	140,512	60,823	115,388	590,028	300,610	133,581	130,873	167,275	54,126
	%	100.0	23.8	0.9	18.8	7.7	13.7	6.9	2.6	0.7	2.1	0.9	1.7	8.7	4.4	2.0	1.9	2.5	0.8
2016	No.	6,962,973	1,563,142	56,945	1,297,576	591,710	974,467	501,897	175,754	59,445	158,159	51,192	103,576	602,318	317,987	138,767	126,838	196,875	46,324
	%	100.0	22.4	0.8	18.6	8.5	14.0	7.2	2.5	0.9	2.3	0.7	1.5	8.7	4.6	2.0	1.8	2.8	0.7
2017	No.	7,116,376	1,555,527	57,397	1,397,453	650,665	1,007,347	497,936	180,162	66,999	158,429	66,035	145,217	519,684	352,121	145,028	105,521	149,109	61,746
	%	100.0	21.9	0.8	19.6	9.1	14.2	7.0	2.5	0.9	2.2	0.9	2.0	7.3	4.9	2.0	1.5	2.1	0.9
2016Q3	No.	7,022,963	1,568,341	68,250	1,321,049	616,047	966,906	473,361	182,493	70,921	156,212	44,300	95,299	578,712	337,309	146,588	126,933	216,372	53,871
	%	100.0	22.3	1.0	18.8	8.8	13.8	6.7	2.6	1.0	2.2	0.6	1.4	8.2	4.8	2.1	1.8	3.1	0.8
2017Q3	No.	7,053,353	1,441,400	64,987	1,369,164	684,955	1,037,103	510,681	216,333	71,456	174,948	59,656	141,715	528,675	338,816	130,652	97,442	133,252	52,116
	%	100.0	20.4	0.9	19.4	9.7	14.7	7.2	3.1	1.0	2.5	0.8	2.0	7.5	4.8	1.9	1.4	1.9	0.7
2018Q1	No.	7,013,127	1,582,368	50,717	1,333,919	665,614	1,008,801	479,555	194,026	50,027	183,645	74,066	128,501	454,438	376,234	138,252	79,357	178,554	35,054
	%	100.0	22.6	0.7	19.0	9.5	14.4	6.8	2.8	0.7	2.6	1.1	1.8	6.5	5.4	2.0	1.1	2.5	0.5
2018Q2	No.	7,044,034	1,464,385	74,001	1,236,628	707,372	993,893	507,478	203,972	65,283	191,508	76,228	170,906	441,134	433,706	148,683	112,902	166,925	49,031
	%	100.0	20.8	1.1	17.6	10.0	14.1	7.2	2.9	0.9	2.7	1.1	2.4	6.3	6.2	2.1	1.6	2.4	0.7
2018Q3	No.	7,040,295	1,481,066	59,145	1,396,753	675,117	1,013,938	482,587	211,172	57,493	160,740	84,766	159,316	380,238	375,113	145,797	105,117	181,237	70,699
	%	100.0	21.0	0.8	19.8	9.6	14.4	6.9	3.0	0.8	2.3	1.2	2.3	5.4	5.3	2.1	1.5	2.6	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)