



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

Quarterly Report – 2019

Third Quarter

DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS & STATISTICS

Ministry of Finance, Economy and Policy Development

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Preface

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

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

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

Another major achievement for data collection for LFS was taken place in 2017 with the introduction of Computer Assisted Data Collection (CAPI) using tablet computers. Before 2017 enumerators used paper based method and used survey questionnaires to record the answers given by the respondents. A known probability sampling technique is used to select the sample and the annual labour force indicators are compiled using 25,750 housing units covering the entire country. The enumerators who are permanent officers of the Department visited each of these randomly selected housing units to collect the information with a great effort. The field work of the survey for the third quarter 2019 was done in the month of July, August and September in year 2019. 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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05.02.2020.

Acknowledgements

This report is the hundred and twelveth 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 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, Mrs. H.M.D.Sepalika, Mr. A.K.D.C.N.S.Karunarathna, Mr. T.D.M.S.D.Perera, 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, Senior Statistician & Statisticians, 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 Mr. T.D.M.S.D.Perera, 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 Mr. T.D.M.S.D.Perera, Statistician, Sample Surveys Division, assisted by Mr. A.M.A.E.Atapattu and Mrs. A.N.Ekanayake Statistical Officers, under the guidance of Mrs. Sajeewa Kodikara, Director (Statistics) and Mrs. E.A.A.P.Egodawatte, Deputy Director (Statistics), Sample Surveys Division.

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

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

Selected Labour Force Indicators ...

Indicator	Year									
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2017Q3	2018Q3	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3
Labour force participation rate										
By Gender										
Total	53.2	53.8	53.8	54.1	51.8	53.6	51.8	52.6	52.6	52.2
Male	74.6	74.7	75.1	74.5	73.0	73.6	72.7	73.4	73.4	72.9
Female	34.6	35.9	35.9	36.6	33.6	36.6	34.0	34.9	34.6	34.1
By residential sector										
Total	53.2	53.8	53.8	54.1	51.8	53.6	51.8	52.6	52.6	52.2
Urban	48.7	48.6	49.8	50.5	49.6	49.9	48.3	51.0	51.9	48.7
Rural	54.1	54.8	54.6	54.8	52.3	54.4	52.6	52.9	52.7	53.0
Unemployment Rate										
By Gender										
Total	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.7	4.9	5.1
Male	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.8	3.4	3.4	3.3
Female	6.5	7.6	7.0	6.5	7.1	6.8	6.6	6.9	7.5	8.5
By selected age Group (Year)										
20 - 29	13.6	14.2	14.2	13.5	15.0	14.2	14.3	14.5	15.1	16.9
20 - 24	19.9	19.7	19.9	17.8	20.1	19.0	18.7	21.0	17.8	23.1
25 - 29	8.2	9.4	9.2	9.5	10.4	9.8	10.6	9.0	12.6	11.8
By selected educational level										
GCE A/L and above										
Total	8.2	9.2	8.3	8.1	9.1	8.5	9.5	7.9	9.5	8.7
Male	5.4	4.7	4.7	5.0	5.1	4.9	4.8	5.4	5.1	4.8
Female	11.1	13.5	11.9	11.3	13.2	11.9	14.2	10.6	14.0	12.9
Employed population										
By Gender										
Total	7,700,489	7,830,976	7,947,683	8,208,179	8,015,166	8,163,869	8,040,704	8,182,970	8,203,018	8,155,341
Male	5,075,426	5,097,798	5,149,948	5,279,158	5,300,310	5,237,380	5,272,527	5,314,713	5,384,357	5,422,965
Female	2,625,064	2,733,178	2,797,735	2,929,021	2,714,855	2,926,489	2,768,177	2,868,256	2,818,661	2,732,376
By industry (Percentage)										
Total	7,700,489	7,830,976	7,947,683	8,208,179	8,015,166	8,163,869	8,040,704	8,182,970	8,203,018	8,155,341
%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	2,222,859	2,244,547	2,153,874	2,140,185	2,043,698	1,983,870	2,034,894	2,018,951	1,990,892	2,062,790
%	28.9	28.7	27.1	26.1	25.5	24.3	25.3	24.7	24.3	25.3
Industry	2,027,426	2,018,171	2,097,503	2,331,494	2,239,262	2,372,007	2,305,822	2,312,671	2,319,047	2,205,072
%	26.3	25.8	26.4	28.4	27.9	29.1	28.7	28.3	28.3	27.0
Services	3,450,205	3,568,259	3,696,306	3,736,500	3,732,206	3,807,992	3,699,988	3,851,348	3,893,079	3,887,479
%	44.8	45.6	46.5	45.5	46.6	46.6	46.0	47.1	47.5	47.7
By no. of hours worked per week (percentage)										
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0#	5.2	5.5	4.4	4.7	5.6	4.8	5.8	3.8	9.6	6.4
1 - 9	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	2.0	1.8
10 - 39	27.6	27.2	26.2	26.1	25.7	24.1	26.1	27.0	25.8	27.1
40 & above	65.9	65.7	67.9	67.5	66.9	69.3	66.3	67.6	62.6	64.7

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
2019, 3rd Quarter
(All Island)

15 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (15 years & over)	16,457,727	7,689,506	8,768,221	2,906,837	13,550,890
Labour force in this age group	8,593,138	5,606,707	2,986,431	1,415,615	7,177,523
Labour force participation rate	52.2	72.9	34.1	48.7	53.0
Employed population	8,155,341	5,422,965	2,732,376	1,343,301	6,812,040
Employment rate	94.9	96.7	91.5	94.9	94.9
Unemployed population	437,797	183,742	254,055	72,314	365,483
Unemployment rate	5.1	3.3	8.5	5.1	5.1
Not in labour force	7,864,590	2,082,799	5,781,790	1,491,222	6,373,367

18 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (18 years & over)	15,453,944	7,161,860	8,292,083	2,742,205	12,711,739
Labour force in this age group	8,553,190	5,578,193	2,974,997	1,412,451	7,140,739
Labour force participation rate	55.3	77.9	35.9	51.5	56.2
Employed population	8,126,739	5,399,048	2,727,691	1,342,385	6,784,353
Employment rate	95.0	96.8	91.7	95.0	95.0
Unemployed population	426,452	179,145	247,307	70,066	356,385
Unemployment rate	5.0	3.2	8.3	5.0	5.0
Not in labour force	6,900,753	1,583,667	5,317,086	1,329,754	5,571,000

20 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (20 years & over)	14,750,314	6,811,420	7,938,893	2,605,208	12,145,106
Labour force in this age group	8,396,354	5,473,210	2,923,144	1,387,200	7,009,153
Labour force participation rate	56.9	80.4	36.8	53.2	57.7
Employed population	8,006,328	5,314,879	2,691,449	1,320,238	6,686,091
Employment rate	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0
Unemployed population	390,026	158,331	231,695	66,963	323,063
Unemployment rate	4.6	2.9	7.9	4.8	4.6
Not in labour force	6,353,960	1,338,211	5,015,750	1,218,008	5,135,952

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Introduction

Highlights

- Labour force participation rate is 52.2% for the Third Quarter of 2019.
- Unemployment rate for the survey period is 5.1%.

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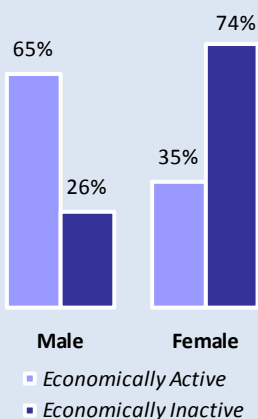


Figure 1 : Distribution of Economically active/Inactive population- Third quarter- 2019

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 2019 based on the data collected in July, August and September in 2019 covering the whole country.

Labour Force

(Economically Active Population)

Table 1 : Economically active population by gender and sector – Third Quarter 2019

Sector	Economically active population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	8,593,138	100.0	5,606,707	65.2	2,986,431	34.8
Urban	1,415,615	100.0	932,019	65.8	483,596	34.2
Rural	6,771,938	100.0	4,426,046	65.4	2,345,892	34.6
Estate	405,584	100.0	248,641	61.3	156,943	38.7

Table 2 : Economically inactive population by gender and sector – Third Quarter 2019

Sector	Economically inactive population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	7,864,590	100.0	2,082,799	26.5	5,781,790	73.5
Urban	1,491,222	100.0	422,235	28.3	1,068,987	71.7
Rural	6,063,798	100.0	1,566,594	25.8	4,497,203	74.2
Estate	309,570	100.0	93,970	30.4	215,599	69.6

Table 3 : LFPR by gender and year - All Island

Year	Total	Male	Female
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
2018	51.8	73.0	33.6
2017 Q3	53.6	73.6	36.6
2018 Q3	51.8	72.7	34.0
2019 Q1	52.6	73.4	34.9
2019 Q2	52.6	73.4	34.6
2019 Q3	52.2	72.9	34.1

Table 3 provides the information on LFPRs since year 2014. 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 30–39 years (95.9%), while that for female is reported from 45–49 age group (48.0%).

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 8.6 million in the third quarter 2019. Of which 65.2 percent are males and 34.8 percent are females. The economically inactive population is about 7.9 million. Out of the economically inactive population 26.5 percent are males and 73.5 percent are females (Table 2).

Table 4 : LFPR by age group and gender - Third Quarter 2019

Age group (Years)	Total	Male	Female
Sri Lanka	52.2	72.9	34.1
15 - 19	11.5	15.2	7.6
20 - 24	54.7	70.6	39.3
25 - 29	67.9	90.8	47.7
30 - 34	64.3	95.9	38.7
35 - 39	68.5	95.9	44.4
40 - 44	70.0	95.8	47.5
45 - 49	69.8	94.9	48.0
50 - 54	67.1	92.1	45.2
55 - 59	61.3	87.2	40.1
60+	30.9	48.9	16.1

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.

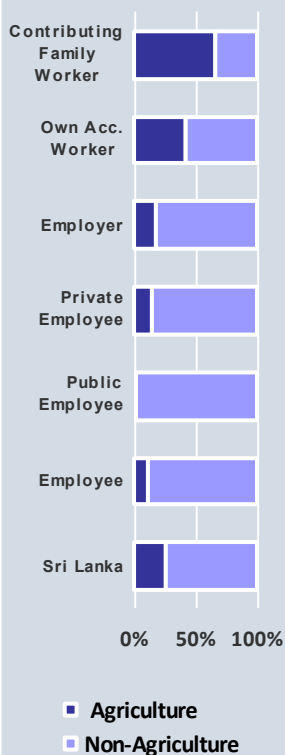


Figure 2: Distribution of employed population by employment status and Agriculture/Non-Agriculture sector - Third quarter 2019

Employment ...

Table 5: Distribution of Employed population by main industry (Third Quarter 2018 – Third quarter 2019)

Quarter	Sri Lanka	Major Industry Group		
		Agriculture	Industries	Services
2018 Q3 (No.)	8,040,704	2,034,894	2,305,822	3,699,988
(%)	100.0	25.3	28.7	46.0
2018 Q4 (No.)	8,088,448	2,072,954	2,236,604	3,778,889
(%)	100.0	25.6	27.7	46.7
2019 Q1 (No.)	8,182,970	2,018,951	2,312,671	3,851,348
(%)	100.0	24.7	28.3	47.1
2019 Q2 (No.)	8,203,018	1,990,892	2,319,047	3,893,079
(%)	100.0	24.3	28.3	47.5
2019 Q3 (No.)	8,155,341	2,062,790	2,205,072	3,887,479
(%)	100.0	25.3	27.0	47.7

Table 5 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by main industry from third quarter 2018 to third quarter 2019. During third quarter of 2019, the total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated as about 8.2 million. Of which, about 47.7 percent engaged in Service sector, 27.0 percent in Industries sector and 25.3 percent in Agriculture sector. Compared to 3rd quarter 2018 in 3rd quarter 2019 a increase in employment numbers can be observed in Agriculture and Services sectors.

Table 6: Distribution of employed population by employment status in Agriculture and Non-Agriculture sectors – Third quarter 2019

Employment Status	Sri Lanka		Sector			
			Agriculture		Non-Agriculture	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sri Lanka	8,155,341	100.0	2,062,790	25.3	6,092,551	74.7
Employee	4,735,206	100.0	554,392	11.7	4,180,814	88.3
Public	1,208,848	100.0	16,891	1.4	1,191,957	98.6
Private	3,526,358	100.0	537,501	15.2	2,988,857	84.8
Employer	210,022	100.0	37,851	18.0	172,171	82.0
Own Account Worker	2,605,346	100.0	1,072,045	41.1	1,533,301	58.9
Contributing Family Worker	604,766	100.0	398,502	65.9	206,265	34.1

Table 7: Percentage distribution of Employed population by main industry & gender – Third quarter 2019

Major Industry Group	Sri Lanka	Gender	
		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	25.3	24.8	26.3
Industry	27.0	27.9	25.4
Services	47.7	47.4	48.2

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

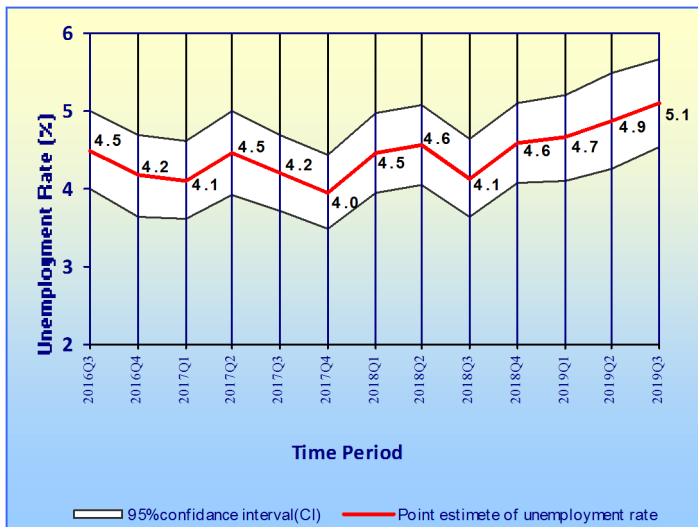
1. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles (G)
2. Transportation and storage (H)
3. Accommodation and food services activities (I)
4. Information and communication (J)
5. Financial and insurance activities (K)
6. Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)
7. Administrative 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 26.3 percent is in agriculture sector while this share is 24.8 percent for males.

Unemployment ...

Figure 3: Unemployment rates and its 95% confidence intervals (2016Q3 - 2019Q3)



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 2019

Age group (Years)	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	Gender	
	Number		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	437,797	5.1	3.3	8.5
15–24	213,967	23.3	17.5	33.9
25–29	102,981	11.8	7.1	19.8
Over 30	120,848	1.8	0.9	3.4

As can be seen from Table 8, overall unemployment rate reported for female is 8.5 percent and it is 3.3 percent for male. Youth unemployment rate (age 15 – 24 years) corresponding to the third quarter 2019 is 23.3 percent and that is the highest reported unemployment rate among all age groups. Further the unemployment rates for males and females are 17.5 and 33.9 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 2019

Level of Education	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	Gender	
	Number		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	437,797	5.1	3.3	8.5
Below GCE O/L	141,404	2.8	2.1	4.6
GCE O/L	116,047	7.7	5.8	11.3
GCE A/L & above	180,346	8.7	4.8	12.9

The highest unemployment rate is reported from the G.C.E (A/L) and above group which is about 8.7 percent. Corresponding percentages are 4.8 percent and 12.9 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.

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 number of unemployed persons is estimated as 437,797 during the third quarter 2019. The unemployment rate for the third quarter 2019 is 5.1 percent.

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

The Unemployment Rate

The proportion of unemployed population to the total labour force.

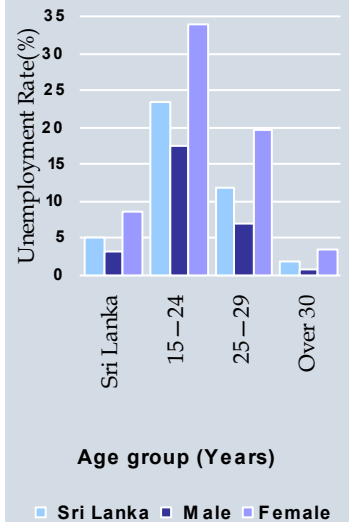


Figure 3: Unemployment rate by age group and gender – Third quarter 2019

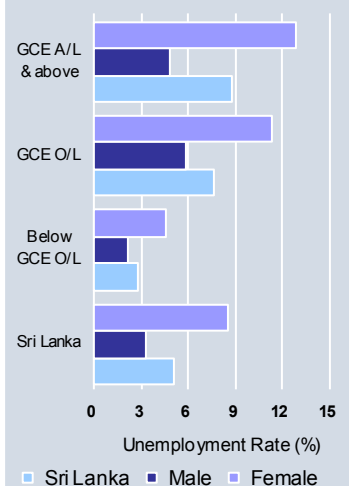


Figure 4: Unemployment rate by level of education and gender – Third quarter 2019

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

								NATIONAL LEVEL DATA
YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (15 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
2011	14,975,989	7,926,445	52.9	7,591,591	95.8	334,854	4.2	7,049,544
2012	14,857,578	7,798,407	52.5	7,488,704	96.0	309,703	4.0	7,059,171
2013	14,959,065	8,033,804	53.7	7,681,279	95.6	352,526	4.4	6,925,260
2014	15,134,484	8,048,884	53.2	7,700,489	95.7	348,395	4.3	7,085,600
2015	15,281,945	8,214,473	53.8	7,830,976	95.3	383,496	4.7	7,067,473
2016	15,448,679	8,310,682	53.8	7,947,683	95.6	362,999	4.4	7,137,997
2017	15,843,735	8,566,686	54.1	8,208,179	95.8	358,507	4.2	7,277,049
2018	16,196,232	8,387,759	51.8	8,015,166	95.6	372,593	4.4	7,808,473
2017Q3	15,893,819	8,522,219	53.6	8,163,869	95.8	358,350	4.2	7,371,600
2018Q3	16,177,183	8,387,701	51.8	8,040,704	95.9	346,998	4.1	7,789,482
2019Q1	16,328,478	8,582,753	52.6	8,182,970	95.3	399,784	4.7	7,745,724
2019Q2	16,398,758	8,623,249	52.6	8,203,018	95.1	420,231	4.9	7,775,509
2019Q3	16,457,727	8,593,138	52.2	8,155,341	94.9	437,797	5.1	7,864,590

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

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
	POPULATION	TOTAL	LABOUR	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
	(15 YEARS	LABOUR	FORCE	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	
	& OVER)	FORCE	PARTICI:	(% TO TOTAL		(% TO TOTAL		
			RATE(%)	LABOUR FORCE)		LABOUR FORCE)		
2011	7,027,780	5,203,267	74.0	5,061,214	97.3	142,053	2.7	1,824,513
2012	6,932,520	5,192,686	74.9	5,046,057	97.2	146,629	2.8	1,739,835
2013	6,926,750	5,187,873	74.9	5,024,341	96.8	163,533	3.2	1,738,877
2014	7,025,780	5,240,034	74.6	5,075,425	96.9	164,609	3.1	1,785,746
2015	7,036,944	5,255,593	74.7	5,097,798	97.0	157,794	3.0	1,781,352
2016	7,064,736	5,303,502	75.1	5,149,948	97.1	153,554	2.9	1,761,234
2017	7,292,047	5,434,510	74.5	5,279,158	97.1	155,352	2.9	1,857,537
2018	7,488,320	5,464,236	73.0	5,300,310	97.0	163,926	3.0	2,024,084
2017Q3	7,315,588	5,381,432	73.6	5,237,380	97.3	144,052	2.7	1,934,157
2018Q3	7,456,943	5,423,477	72.7	5,272,527	97.2	150,950	2.8	2,033,466
2019Q1	7,492,509	5,503,227	73.4	5,314,713	96.6	188,514	3.4	1,989,282
2019Q2	7,599,835	5,575,882	73.4	5,384,357	96.6	191,525	3.4	2,023,953
2019Q3	7,689,506	5,606,707	72.9	5,422,965	96.7	183,742	3.3	2,082,799

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

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
	POPULATION	TOTAL	LABOUR	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
	(15 YEARS	LABOUR	FORCE	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	
	& OVER)	FORCE	PARTICI:	(% TO TOTAL		(% TO TOTAL		
			RATE(%)	LABOUR FORCE)		LABOUR FORCE)		
2011	7,948,209	2,723,178	34.3	2,530,377	92.9	192,801	7.1	5,225,031
2012	7,925,058	2,605,721	32.9	2,442,647	93.7	163,074	6.3	5,319,336
2013	8,032,315	2,845,931	35.4	2,656,938	93.4	188,993	6.6	5,186,383
2014	8,108,704	2,808,850	34.6	2,625,064	93.5	183,786	6.5	5,299,854
2015	8,245,001	2,958,880	35.9	2,733,178	92.4	225,702	7.6	5,286,121
2016	8,383,943	3,007,180	35.9	2,797,735	93.0	209,445	7.0	5,376,764
2017	8,551,688	3,132,176	36.6	2,929,021	93.5	203,155	6.5	5,419,512
2018	8,707,912	2,923,523	33.6	2,714,855	92.9	208,667	7.1	5,784,390
2017Q3	8,578,231	3,140,787	36.6	2,926,489	93.2	214,298	6.8	5,437,444
2018Q3	8,720,240	2,964,224	34.0	2,768,177	93.4	196,047	6.6	5,756,016
2019Q1	8,835,969	3,079,526	34.9	2,868,256	93.1	211,270	6.9	5,756,443
2019Q2	8,798,923	3,047,367	34.6	2,818,661	92.5	228,706	7.5	5,751,556
2019Q3	8,768,221	2,986,431	34.1	2,732,376	91.5	254,055	8.5	5,781,790

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

AGE	HOUSEHOLD	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
	POP: (15 YEARS & OVER)	TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	16,457,727	8,593,138	52.2	8,155,341	94.9	437,797	5.1	7,864,590
15 - 19 YRS	1,707,413	196,784	11.5	149,013	75.7	47,771	24.3	1,510,630
20 - 24 YRS	1,315,407	719,696	54.7	553,500	76.9	166,196	23.1	595,710
25 - 29 YRS	1,283,737	871,748	67.9	768,767	88.2	102,981	11.8	411,989
30 - 39 YRS	2,871,574	1,911,076	66.6	1,850,873	96.8	60,203	3.2	960,498
40 + YRS	9,279,596	4,893,833	52.7	4,833,188	98.8	60,645	1.2	4,385,763

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

AGE	HOUSEHOLD	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
	POP: (15 YEARS & OVER)	TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	7,689,506	5,606,707	72.9	5,422,965	96.7	183,742	3.3	2,082,799
15 - 19 YRS	878,086	133,497	15.2	108,086	81.0	25,411	19.0	744,589
20 - 24 YRS	647,579	456,911	70.6	378,775	82.9	78,136	17.1	190,667
25 - 29 YRS	602,100	546,522	90.8	507,875	92.9	38,647	7.1	55,577
30 - 39 YRS	1,315,495	1,262,092	95.9	1,247,592	98.9	14,500	1.1	53,403
40 + YRS	4,246,247	3,207,684	75.5	3,180,637	99.2	27,047	0.8	1,038,563

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

AGE	HOUSEHOLD	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
	POP: (15 YEARS & OVER)	TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	8,768,221	2,986,431	34.1	2,732,376	91.5	254,055	8.5	5,781,790
15 - 19 YRS	829,328	63,287	7.6	40,927	64.7	22,360	35.3	766,041
20 - 24 YRS	667,828	262,785	39.3	174,725	66.5	88,060	33.5	405,043
25 - 29 YRS	681,638	325,226	47.7	260,892	80.2	64,334	19.8	356,412
30 - 39 YRS	1,556,079	648,983	41.7	603,281	93.0	45,703	7.0	907,095
40 + YRS	5,033,349	1,686,149	33.5	1,652,551	98.0	33,598	2.0	3,347,200

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
2012	100.0	2.5	8.3	11.0	25.2	53.0
2013	100.0	2.7	7.9	10.1	24.8	54.5
2014	100.0	2.4	7.2	9.7	25.2	55.5
2015	100.0	2.2	7.5	9.7	24.5	56.1
2016	100.0	2.0	7.3	9.5	24.2	57.0
2017	100.0	2.1	7.6	9.2	23.4	57.7
2018	100.0	1.8	7.2	9.0	22.6	59.4
2017Q3	100.0	2.4	7.4	8.8	23.7	57.7
2018Q3	100.0	2.0	7.1	9.4	23.1	58.4
2019Q1	100.0	2.2	7.0	9.5	22.5	58.7
2019Q2	100.0	1.9	7.6	9.1	23.6	57.8
2019Q3	100.0	1.8	6.8	9.4	22.7	59.3

**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
2012	100.0	2.7	8.3	11.2	25.2	52.6
2013	100.0	2.9	7.8	10.2	25.0	54.1
2014	100.0	2.5	7.3	9.6	25.4	55.2
2015	100.0	2.3	7.3	9.7	24.4	56.2
2016	100.0	2.2	7.3	9.4	24.2	56.9
2017	100.0	2.3	7.5	9.4	23.5	57.3
2018	100.0	2.0	7.3	9.4	22.6	58.7
2017Q3	100.0	2.4	7.3	9.1	23.4	57.8
2018Q3	100.0	2.2	7.2	9.8	22.7	58.0
2019Q1	100.0	2.4	7.1	9.5	22.1	58.9
2019Q2	100.0	2.1	7.6	9.5	23.5	57.3
2019Q3	100.0	2.0	7.0	9.4	23.0	58.7

**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
2012	100.0	2.2	8.4	10.5	25.1	53.8
2013	100.0	2.4	8.0	10.0	24.3	55.3
2014	100.0	2.2	7.1	9.9	24.8	56.0
2015	100.0	2.1	7.8	9.6	24.7	55.9
2016	100.0	1.6	7.2	9.6	24.3	57.3
2017	100.0	1.7	7.8	9.0	23.2	58.3
2018	100.0	1.4	6.9	8.3	22.7	60.7
2017Q3	100.0	2.4	7.4	8.4	24.2	57.6
2018Q3	100.0	1.7	7.0	8.5	23.7	59.1
2019Q1	100.0	1.8	6.9	9.6	23.2	58.5
2019Q2	100.0	1.5	7.5	8.5	23.9	58.7
2019Q3	100.0	1.5	6.4	9.5	22.1	60.5

**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
2012	100.0	18.7	47.3	17.5	16.6
2013	100.1	18.2	47.9	15.9	18.1
2014	100.0	16.4	48.9	16.0	18.6
2015	100.0	16.7	47.4	17.3	18.6
2016	100.0	16.2	47.4	16.3	20.1
2017	100.0	15.8	46.1	17.3	20.8
2018	100.0	14.9	45.9	18.1	21.2
2017Q3	100.0	15.1	45.9	17.2	21.8
2018Q3	100.0	14.6	46.8	18.3	20.3
2019Q1	100.0	13.8	45.8	17.7	22.7
2019Q2	100.0	14.6	45.3	18.2	21.9
2019Q3	100.0	14.3	45.5	17.1	23.1

**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
2012	100.0	18.0	51.2	17.7	13.1
2013	100.0	17.8	51.5	16.0	14.6
2014	100.0	16.4	52.6	16.2	14.8
2015	100.0	16.7	51.1	17.7	14.6
2016	100.0	16.1	51.1	16.7	16.1
2017	100.0	15.7	49.8	17.6	16.9
2018	100.0	14.7	49.7	18.8	16.7
2017Q3	100.0	15.1	49.5	17.7	17.7
2018Q3	100.0	14.5	50.9	18.2	16.4
2019Q1	100.0	14.2	49.6	18.2	18.0
2019Q2	100.0	14.7	48.3	19.3	17.7
2019Q3	100.0	14.3	49.7	17.2	18.8

**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
2012	100.0	19.9	39.3	17.2	23.7
2013	100.0	18.8	41.0	15.6	24.6
2014	100.0	16.5	41.7	15.8	26.0
2015	100.0	16.6	40.4	16.7	26.3
2016	100.0	16.3	40.6	15.6	27.5
2017	100.0	16.1	39.4	16.8	27.7
2018	100.0	15.2	38.4	16.5	29.9
2017Q3	100.0	14.9	39.4	16.4	29.3
2018Q3	100.0	14.7	39.0	18.6	27.7
2019Q1	100.0	13.3	38.8	16.6	31.4
2019Q2	100.0	14.4	39.5	16.2	29.9
2019Q3	100.0	14.4	37.0	16.8	31.8

**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
2012	100.0	56.5	15.3	41.2	2.8	31.9	8.7
2013	100.0	55.7	15.2	40.5	3.0	32.2	9.1
2014	100.0	56.4	15.5	40.9	2.7	32.0	8.9
2015	100.0	56.1	15.1	41.0	3.1	32.3	8.4
2016	100.0	57.8	14.6	43.3	2.7	31.6	7.8
2017	100.0	57.7	14.4	43.3	3.0	31.3	8.0
2018	100.0	57.8	14.5	43.3	2.8	32.3	7.2
2017Q3	100.0	57.4	14.0	43.4	3.2	30.8	8.6
2018Q3	100.0	56.6	13.2	43.3	2.8	32.8	7.9
2019Q1	100.0	57.9	15.0	42.9	2.7	32.5	6.9
2019Q2	100.0	58.5	15.0	43.5	2.5	32.4	6.6
2019Q3	100.0	58.1	14.8	43.2	2.6	31.9	7.4

**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
2012	100.0	56.7	12.9	43.8	3.8	35.9	3.6
2013	100.0	56.6	12.9	43.8	4.1	36.2	3.0
2014	100.0	57.3	13.1	44.2	3.6	36.2	2.8
2015	100.0	56.7	12.8	43.9	4.2	36.3	2.8
2016	100.0	58.9	12.4	46.4	3.7	34.7	2.7
2017	100.0	58.8	12.3	46.4	4.1	34.5	2.6
2018	100.0	57.8	12.0	45.8	3.7	36.0	2.5
2017Q3	100.0	58.6	12.3	46.4	4.5	34.1	2.8
2018Q3	100.0	56.8	11.0	45.8	3.9	36.6	2.7
2019Q1	100.0	58.0	12.5	45.5	3.6	36.2	2.2
2019Q2	100.0	58.7	12.8	45.9	3.5	35.8	2.0
2019Q3	100.0	57.8	12.0	45.8	3.6	36.1	2.5

**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
2012	100.0	56.1	20.2	35.9	0.9	23.7	19.3
2013	100.0	53.9	19.7	34.3	0.9	24.6	20.5
2014	100.0	54.8	20.1	34.7	1.0	23.7	20.5
2015	100.0	55.1	19.3	35.8	1.1	24.9	18.8
2016	100.0	55.9	18.5	37.4	0.9	25.9	17.2
2017	100.0	55.7	18.0	37.7	1.1	25.6	17.7
2018	100.0	57.8	19.3	38.5	1.0	24.9	16.3
2017Q3	100.0	55.2	17.2	38.0	1.0	24.8	19.0
2018Q3	100.0	56.2	17.5	38.6	0.7	25.3	17.8
2019Q1	100.0	57.7	19.7	38.0	0.9	25.6	15.8
2019Q2	100.0	58.0	19.0	39.0	0.6	26.0	15.4
2019Q3	100.0	58.6	20.4	38.2	0.6	23.7	17.2

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

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

Year	Total	Industry Group																
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other
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
2018	8,015,166	2,043,698	62,136	1,463,919	713,207	1,141,416	502,126	238,145	55,220	173,330	86,286	166,978	434,348	425,092	142,861	116,733	194,303	55,368
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
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
2019Q1	8,182,970	2,018,951	69,828	1,530,899	711,944	1,137,853	487,033	235,757	67,162	218,049	84,769	208,881	443,384	412,604	157,624	128,268	186,361	83,605
2019Q2	8,203,018	1,990,892	70,129	1,548,399	700,518	1,149,546	536,121	227,962	66,074	168,097	97,366	213,022	463,692	399,698	190,284	124,280	195,126	61,811
2019Q3	8,155,341	2,062,790	48,087	1,475,319	681,667	1,159,376	519,056	229,331	69,246	193,741	70,363	199,399	461,391	431,342	156,524	139,645	198,692	59,373

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
2018	5,300,310	1,270,968	59,514	785,112	688,318	835,444	483,618	153,022	38,942	92,422	53,152	118,324	286,200	135,153	52,200	83,418	119,488	45,016
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
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
2019Q1	5,314,713	1,257,644	67,749	807,254	683,296	784,560	475,165	146,215	42,644	115,561	57,881	152,596	281,639	127,111	51,528	94,298	96,361	73,211
2019Q2	5,384,357	1,265,748	68,252	809,805	673,693	794,926	522,149	143,969	46,376	93,403	62,666	151,731	296,290	139,594	70,514	86,624	108,006	50,611
2019Q3	5,422,965	1,343,147	46,304	807,303	656,782	830,824	502,398	141,616	54,278	111,251	45,323	148,338	296,733	129,045	63,342	91,412	112,360	42,510

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
2018	2,714,855	772,730	2,622	678,808	24,888	305,972	18,507	85,123	16,278	80,908	33,134	48,654	148,149	289,939	90,661	33,314	74,815	10,352
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
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
2019Q1	2,868,256	761,308	2,079	723,645	28,648	353,293	11,868	89,541	24,518	102,488	26,888	56,285	161,745	285,492	106,096	33,969	90,000	10,394
2019Q2	2,818,661	725,144	1,877	738,594	26,826	354,620	13,972	83,993	19,698	74,694	34,701	61,291	167,402	260,104	119,770	37,656	87,120	11,200
2019Q3	2,732,376	719,643	1,783	668,015	24,884	328,552	16,658	87,716	14,968	82,491	25,040	51,062	164,658	302,297	93,182	48,233	86,332	16,864

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

Major Industry Group	Year							
	2016	2017	2018	2017Q3	2018Q3	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3
Total	7,947,683	8,208,179	8,015,166	8,163,869	8,040,704	8,182,970	8,203,018	8,155,341
Agriculture	2,153,874	2,140,185	2,043,698	1,983,870	2,034,894	2,018,951	1,990,892	2,062,790
Industry	2,097,503	2,331,494	2,239,262	2,372,007	2,305,822	2,312,671	2,319,047	2,205,072
Services	3,696,306	3,736,500	3,732,206	3,807,992	3,699,988	3,851,348	3,893,079	3,887,479

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

Major Industry Group	Year							
	2016	2017	2018	2017Q3	2018Q3	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	27.1	26.1	25.5	24.3	25.3	24.7	24.3	25.3
Industry	26.4	28.4	27.9	29.1	28.7	28.3	28.3	27.0
Services	46.5	45.5	46.6	46.6	46.0	47.1	47.5	47.7

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

Agriculture

1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A)

Industries

1. Mining & Quarrying
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	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
2018	8,015,166	619,312	558,574	662,323	286,493	701,676	1,308,806	1,297,912	706,185	1,836,250	37,635
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
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
2019Q1	8,182,970	674,220	617,334	723,810	321,511	696,980	1,318,855	1,339,384	692,215	1,772,138	26,522
2019Q2	8,203,018	610,121	603,218	742,494	311,827	711,785	1,312,697	1,329,050	715,847	1,827,006	38,973
2019Q3	8,155,341	636,225	588,326	795,511	296,792	720,721	1,406,276	1,305,497	679,832	1,684,066	42,094

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
2018	5,300,310	458,466	195,476	441,897	141,871	504,461	882,375	891,693	607,346	1,145,178	31,548
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
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
2019Q1	5,314,713	485,438	226,919	467,109	157,993	479,474	865,656	907,719	604,338	1,099,987	20,080
2019Q2	5,384,357	437,482	238,004	474,346	162,642	492,619	879,497	900,682	613,105	1,152,480	33,499
2019Q3	5,422,965	466,881	232,553	506,432	136,465	511,872	970,145	912,581	607,229	1,040,560	38,246

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
2018	2,714,855	160,846	363,098	220,426	144,622	197,215	426,431	406,219	98,839	691,072	6,088
2017Q3	2,926,489	179,421	341,908	174,754	179,153	282,016	495,129	422,998	116,962	732,500	1,649
2018Q3	2,768,177	162,285	351,106	218,099	132,250	176,512	439,533	468,106	88,717	721,739	9,830
2019Q1	2,868,256	188,783	390,415	256,700	163,518	217,506	453,199	431,665	87,877	672,150	6,442
2019Q2	2,818,661	172,639	365,213	268,148	149,185	219,166	433,199	428,368	102,742	674,526	5,474
2019Q3	2,732,376	169,344	355,774	289,079	160,327	208,849	436,131	392,916	72,602	643,506	3,848

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	6.4	1.8	4.2	8.6	14.3	33.7	30.9
1	100.0	10.7	3.5	7.7	15.8	21.1	22.5	18.6
2	100.0	7.4	8.7	14.8	28.3	41.0
3	100.0	3.4	1.2	3.9	7.7	10.3	44.0	29.5
6	100.0	8.3	1.9	3.3	8.0	12.6	36.8	29.2
7	100.0	2.7	1.1	2.9	4.5	9.6	28.5	50.8
8	100.0	5.5	1.9	1.2	3.6	11.6	24.6	51.7
9	100.0	5.1	0.5	2.5	7.7	14.4	24.4	45.3
10	100.0	3.2	..	1.7	..	6.8	45.1	43.3
11	100.0	0.6	0.6	1.0	1.3	5.2	62.8	28.6
13	100.0	0.5	5.6	6.2	65.5	22.2
14	100.0	5.1	0.4	3.1	4.7	6.0	46.0	34.7
15	100.0	1.7	..	1.6	4.7	3.6	60.7	27.7
16	100.0	17.1	2.3	4.6	8.9	36.8	24.7	5.6
17	100.0	1.8	1.9	2.7	2.8	7.8	41.5	41.5
19	100.0	4.8	3.5	5.3	7.9	13.6	26.6	38.3
20	100.0	7.1	0.5	3.6	11.3	15.9	29.4	32.2
Other	100.0	3.6	5.0	3.6	8.0	13.5	37.2	29.1

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

.. Net reported

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

Industry group

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)

2 Mining & quarrying (B)

3 Manufacturing (C)

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

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

8 Transportation and storage (H)

9 Accommodation and food services activities (I)

10 Information and communication (J)

11 Financial and insurance activities (K)

13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)

14 Administrative and support service activities (N)

15 Public administration and defence compulsory social security (O)

16 Education (P)

17 Human health and social work activities (Q)

19 Other service activities (S)

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

Other

Other

12 Real estate activities (L)

18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)

21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

**TABLE 9 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40 + YRS
2012	100.0	14.1	40.5	18.8	15.8	10.8
2013	100.0	13.7	41.0	18.1	15.1	12.1
2014	100.0	14.2	39.8	19.3	15.4	11.3
2015	100.0	14.5	37.4	20.5	15.8	11.8
2016	100.0	16.1	39.7	21.1	13.2	9.8
2017	100.0	12.8	37.7	22.2	14.8	12.4
2018	100.0	14.1	38.9	22.5	15.0	9.5
2017Q3	100.0	10.4	39.3	22.0	17.7	10.7
2018Q3	100.0	13.6	38.0	25.9	14.9	7.7
2019Q1	100.0	13.7	38.3	19.3	14.1	14.5
2019Q2	100.0	14.3	32.0	25.7	15.8	12.1
2019Q3	100.0	10.9	38.0	23.5	13.8	13.9

**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
2012	100.0	19.6	41.6	17.0	12.3	9.4
2013	100.0	16.9	44.0	15.5	11.5	12.1
2014	100.0	20.1	37.6	18.3	11.7	12.3
2015	100.0	21.7	39.9	14.6	12.6	11.2
2016	100.0	23.0	42.8	16.9	7.7	9.6
2017	100.0	18.1	40.3	19.7	10.8	11.1
2018	100.0	20.5	40.9	17.5	10.7	10.5
2017Q3	100.0	20.1	40.6	18.8	14.0	6.5
2018Q3	100.0	20.4	42.2	20.1	10.5	6.8
2019Q1	100.0	18.7	43.8	12.4	9.6	15.5
2019Q2	100.0	22.7	34.0	22.1	7.7	13.6
2019Q3	100.0	13.8	42.5	21.0	7.9	14.7

**TABLE 9B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
2012	100.0	9.2	39.6	20.4	18.9	12.0
2013	100.0	11.0	38.4	20.3	18.2	12.1
2014	100.0	8.9	41.7	20.2	18.7	10.4
2015	100.0	9.4	35.6	24.6	18.1	12.2
2016	100.0	11.1	37.5	24.2	17.2	10.0
2017	100.0	8.8	35.7	24.2	17.9	13.5
2018	100.0	9.1	37.3	26.5	18.4	8.7
2017Q3	100.0	3.9	38.4	24.1	20.2	13.5
2018Q3	100.0	8.3	34.7	30.3	18.3	8.4
2019Q1	100.0	9.3	33.4	25.4	18.2	13.7
2019Q2	100.0	7.4	30.3	28.8	22.6	10.9
2019Q3	100.0	8.8	34.7	25.3	18.0	13.2

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

TABLE 10 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION (PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		GRADE 5 & BELOW	GRADES 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE & ABOVE
2012	100.0	2.6	37.4	27.2	32.9
2013	100.0	3.9	36.5	22.1	37.5
2014	100.0	3.1	37.7	22.4	36.8
2015	100.0	2.5	34.4	24.4	38.7
2016	100.0	2.7	35.4	22.1	39.8
2017	100.0	3.1	30.3	24.7	41.9
2018	100.0	2.2	30.5	21.4	45.8
2017Q3	100.0	2.9	26.2	25.0	45.9
2018Q3	100.0	2.6	27.1	21.2	49.1
2019Q1	100.0	2.8	34.1	22.9	40.1
2019Q2	100.0	2.6	27.7	24.9	44.8
2019Q3	100.0	2.9	29.4	26.5	41.2

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
2012	100.0	2.0	46.7	29.6	21.7
2013	100.0	4.7	43.7	24.3	27.4
2014	100.0	3.1	48.1	22.7	26.0
2015	100.0	1.7	44.1	30.9	23.4
2016	100.0	1.5	48.2	23.9	26.4
2017	100.0	2.0	37.5	30.0	30.5
2018	100.0	3.1	43.1	25.0	28.9
2017Q3	100.0	3.2	36.8	26.6	33.4
2018Q3	100.0	3.3	41.1	26.9	28.6
2019Q1	100.0	3.0	43.3	25.0	28.7
2019Q2	100.0	3.3	41.8	28.2	26.7
2019Q3	100.0	2.5	38.0	31.3	28.2

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
2012	100.0	3.0	29.0	25.0	43.0
2013	100.0	3.2	30.2	20.3	46.2
2014	100.0	3.1	28.5	22.1	46.4
2015	100.0	3.0	27.7	19.9	49.4
2016	100.0	3.6	26.0	20.8	49.6
2017	100.0	3.9	24.8	20.7	50.7
2018	100.0	1.5	20.6	18.7	59.2
2017Q3	100.0	2.6	19.1	23.9	54.4
2018Q3	100.0	2.0	16.3	16.8	64.9
2019Q1	100.0	2.7	26.0	21.1	50.3
2019Q2	100.0	1.9	15.9	22.1	60.0
2019Q3	100.0	3.2	23.2	23.1	50.6

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

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

		(2019 3 rd Quarter)		
Sex	Total	Duration		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	437,797	172,517	106,551	158,729
%	100.0	39.4	24.3	36.3
Male	183,742	92,105	43,531	48,106
%	100.0	50.1	23.7	26.2
Female	254,055	80,412	63,020	110,623
%	100.0	31.7	24.8	43.5

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)	16,457,727	144,636	0.9			
Employed Population	8,155,341	98,464	1.2			
Unemployed Population	437,797	25,692	5.9			
Employment Rate				94.9	0.29	0.30
Unemployment Rate				5.1	0.29	5.65
Labour Force	8,593,138	102,633	1.2			
Not in Labour Force	7,864,590	111,423	1.4			
Employed persons by major industry Groups						
1	2,062,790	84,798	4.1			
2	48,087	8,919	18.5			
3	1,475,319	54,419	3.7			
6	681,667	32,360	4.7			
7	1,159,376	44,464	3.8			
8	519,056	27,476	5.3			
9	229,331	18,066	7.9			
10	69,246	10,648	15.4			
11	193,741	16,762	8.7			
13	70,363	9,276	13.2			
14	199,399	16,361	8.2			
15	461,391	28,494	6.2			
16	431,342	25,994	6.0			
17	156,524	17,010	10.9			
19	139,645	14,584	10.4			
20	198,692	22,592	11.4			
Other	59,373	8,940	15.1			
Unemployed persons by level of education						
Below grade 6	12,820	4,101	32.0			
Grade 6 - 10	128,584	12,033	9.4			
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	116,047	11,396	9.8			
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	180,346	12,779	7.1			

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

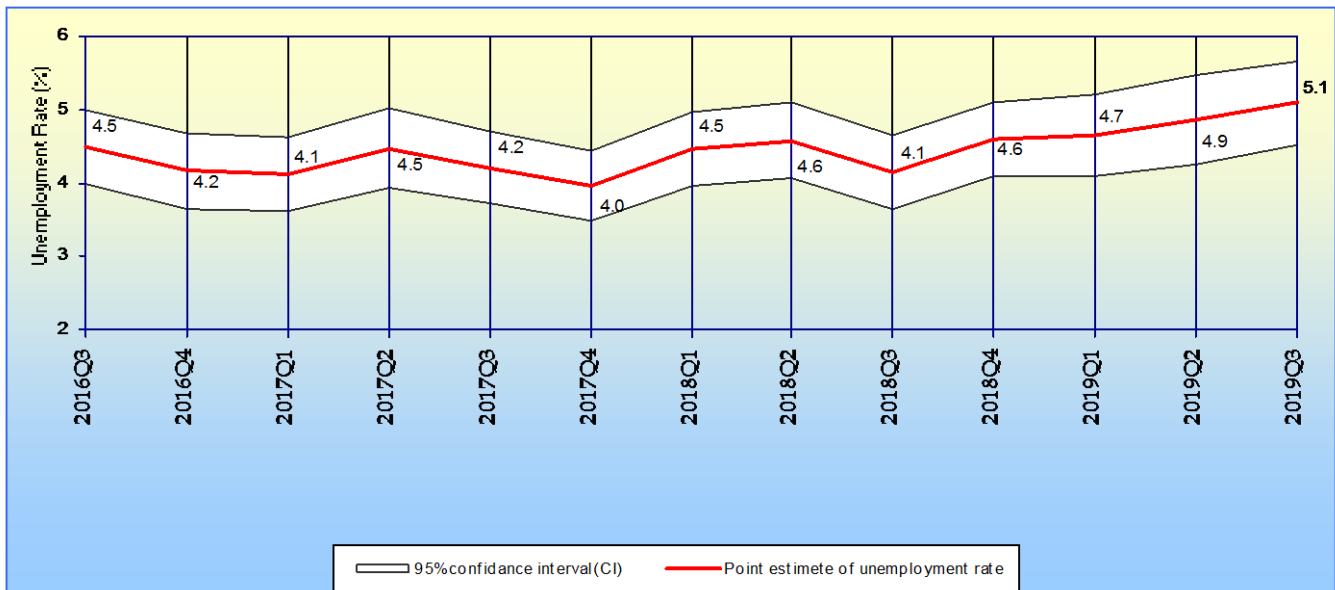
Estimated value (of the unemployment rate) \pm (standard error) * (1.96)

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 (2016Q3 - 2019Q3)



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 2016/2019, 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	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	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	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	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	8,214,473	52,021	0.63	8,112,463	8,316,483	7,830,976	50,426	0.64	7,732,093	7,929,860
2016	8,310,682	66,023	0.79	8,181,215	8,440,148	7,947,683	64,616	0.81	7,820,977	8,074,389
2017	8,566,686	49,822	0.58	8,468,989	8,664,382	8,208,179	48,420	0.59	8,113,231	8,303,126
2018	8,387,759	57,008	0.68	8,275,971	8,499,546	8,015,166	55,036	0.69	7,907,245	8,123,087
2017Q3	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
2018Q3	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
2019Q1	8,582,753	106,720	1.24	8,373,150	8,792,356	8,182,970	101,986	1.25	7,982,665	8,383,274
2019Q2	8,623,249	109,930	1.27	8,407,340	8,839,158	8,203,018	105,561	1.29	7,995,689	8,410,346
2019Q3	8,593,138	102,633	1.19	8,391,563	8,794,712	8,155,341	98,464	1.21	7,961,953	8,348,729

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	334,854	15,691	4.69	304,078	365,631	4.2	0.2	4.49	3.9	4.6
2012	309,703	13,287	4.29	283,643	335,763	4.0	0.2	4.14	3.6	4.3
2013	352,526	12,030	3.41	328,935	376,116	4.4	0.1	3.31	4.1	4.7
2014	348,395	12,697	3.64	323,497	373,293	4.3	0.2	3.50	4.0	4.6
2015	383,496	12,283	3.20	359,410	407,583	4.7	0.1	3.11	4.4	5.0
2016	362,999	11,186	3.08	341,064	384,933	4.4	0.1	3.02	4.1	4.6
2017	358,507	11,347	3.17	336,256	380,758	4.2	0.1	3.08	3.9	4.4
2018	372,593	11,350	3.05	350,337	394,849	4.4	0.1	2.94	4.2	4.7
2017Q3	358,350	22,006	6.14	315,129	401,571	4.2	0.3	5.99	3.7	4.7
2018Q3	346,998	21,787	6.28	304,208	389,788	4.1	0.3	6.15	3.6	4.6
2019Q1	399,784	25,301	6.33	350,091	449,477	4.7	0.3	6.07	4.1	5.2
2019Q2	420,231	27,760	6.61	365,708	474,754	4.9	0.3	6.37	4.3	5.5
2019Q3	437,797	25,692	5.87	387,336	488,257	5.1	0.3	5.65	4.5	5.7

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 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)	
2012	14,857,578	6,846,805	46.1	6,537,101	95.5	309,703	4.5	8,010,773
2013	14,958,239	6,966,035	46.6	6,600,172	94.7	365,863	5.3	8,007,536
2014	15,134,484	7,017,985	46.4	6,669,590	95.0	348,395	5.0	8,116,499
2015	15,281,945	7,156,393	46.8	6,772,896	94.6	383,496	5.4	8,125,553
2016	15,448,679	7,325,972	47.4	6,962,973	95.0	362,999	5.0	8,122,707
2017	15,843,735	7,474,883	47.2	7,116,376	95.2	358,507	4.8	8,368,851
2018	16,196,232	7,428,999	45.9	7,056,406	95.0	372,593	5.0	8,767,233
2017Q3	15,893,819	7,411,703	46.6	7,053,353	95.2	358,350	4.8	8,482,116
2018Q3	16,177,183	7,387,293	45.7	7,040,295	95.3	346,998	4.7	8,789,891
2019Q1	16,328,478	7,607,856	46.6	7,208,072	94.7	399,784	5.3	8,720,622
2019Q2	16,398,758	7,632,233	46.5	7,212,002	94.5	420,231	5.5	8,766,525
2019Q3	16,457,727	7,594,574	46.1	7,156,777	94.2	437,797	5.8	8,863,154

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
2012	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	365,863	5.3	50,436	23.8	149,243	22.4	64,566	8.6	55,398	3.2	46,221	1.3
2014	348,395	5.0	49,540	25.7	138,565	22.2	67,235	9.3	53,648	3.0	39,407	1.1
2015	383,496	5.4	55,557	28.6	143,351	22.0	78,592	10.4	60,768	3.4	45,229	1.2
2016	362,999	5.0	58,622	32.8	144,156	22.2	76,624	10.0	47,956	2.7	35,640	0.9
2017	358,507	4.8	46,016	25.1	135,121	19.7	79,727	10.4	53,053	3.0	44,590	1.1
2018	372,593	5.0	52,624	30.4	144,824	22.1	84,000	11.3	55,853	3.3	35,291	0.8
2017Q3	358,350	4.8	37,194	19.6	140,740	21.0	78,691	10.7	63,489	3.6	38,236	0.9
2018Q3	346,998	4.7	47,151	26.0	131,734	20.6	89,740	11.7	51,622	3.0	26,750	0.7
2019Q1	399,784	5.3	54,804	26.5	153,304	22.9	77,113	9.7	56,474	3.3	58,089	1.4
2019Q2	420,231	5.5	60,283	30.8	134,412	19.8	108,142	13.4	66,410	3.7	50,983	1.2
2019Q3	437,797	5.8	47,771	28.2	166,196	25.4	102,981	12.6	60,203	3.5	60,645	1.4

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
2018	No.	7,056,406	1,513,837	58,743	1,336,902	676,629	1,010,560	487,204	205,377	54,000	171,779	81,274	158,089	431,126	398,079	140,278	101,641	178,313	52,575
	%	100.0	21.5	0.8	18.9	9.6	14.3	6.9	2.9	0.8	2.4	1.2	2.2	6.1	5.6	2.0	1.4	2.5	0.7
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
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
2019Q1	No.	7,208,072	1,493,530	65,840	1,370,906	688,904	986,914	477,156	210,891	66,298	216,503	81,323	200,718	441,216	391,946	155,121	114,172	167,849	78,784
	%	100.0	20.7	0.9	19.0	9.6	13.7	6.6	2.9	0.9	3.0	1.1	2.8	6.1	5.4	2.2	1.6	2.3	1.1
2019Q2	No.	7,212,002	1,464,219	63,936	1,403,744	669,249	1,006,567	523,090	206,346	63,655	163,041	91,571	195,292	453,920	383,297	184,616	109,835	179,785	49,839
	%	100.0	20.3	0.9	19.5	9.3	14.0	7.3	2.9	0.9	2.3	1.3	2.7	6.3	5.3	2.6	1.5	2.5	0.7
2019Q3	No.	7,156,777	1,507,675	48,087	1,350,671	643,506	1,030,188	500,351	196,572	68,080	190,777	69,989	190,793	453,854	400,583	148,567	118,880	186,025	52,181
	%	100.0	21.1	0.7	18.9	9.0	14.4	7.0	2.7	1.0	2.7	1.0	2.7	6.3	5.6	2.1	1.7	2.6	0.7

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)