



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

Quarterly Report – 2017

Fourth Quarter

**DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS & STATISTICS
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL POLICIES AND ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS**

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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 fifth 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 small 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. For the 2017 survey Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) method is introduced to collect survey data.

The field work of the survey for the fourth quarter 2017 was done in October, November and December in year 2017. This survey covered the whole country. A nationally representative annual sample of about 25,750 housing units have been selected for the survey in 2017. This report is based on a quarterly sample of 6,440 housing units.

*Dr. A.J. Satharasinghe
Director General of Census & Statistics*

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

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Acknowledgements

This report is hundred and fifth 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. D.G.S.G. Munasinghe, Additional Director General (Statistics) and Mrs. K.M.D.S.D. Karunaratne, 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.Karunarithna, 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, Statistical Officer and Mrs. A.N. Ekanayake, Statistical Assistant 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 the survey data entry and preparation of data entry and computer edits programmes. Data entry was decentralized and manual editing, coding & data entry were done by responsible officers at district secretariats in all the districts. 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.Karunarithna, Statisticians, Sample Surveys Division, assisted by Mr. A.M.A.E.Atapattu, Statistical Officer and Mrs. Asanthi Ekanayaka, Statistical Assistant 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.J.M. Fernando, 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	2015Q4	2016Q4	2017Q1	2017Q2	2017Q3	2017Q4
Labour force participation rate										
By Gender										
Total	53.7	53.2	53.8	53.8	53.5	54.0	54.7	53.9	53.6	54.1
Male	74.9	74.6	74.7	75.1	75.3	74.9	75.1	74.6	73.6	74.9
Female	35.4	34.6	35.9	35.9	35.1	36.0	37.6	35.9	36.6	36.4
By residential sector										
Total	53.7	53.2	53.8	53.8	53.5	54.0	54.7	53.9	53.6	54.1
Urban	47.7	48.7	48.6	49.8	50.3	51.1	51.5	48.5	49.9	52.1
Rural	54.9	54.1	54.8	54.6	54.2	54.6	55.4	55.1	54.4	54.5
Unemployment Rate										
By Gender										
Total	4.4	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.5	4.2	4.0
Male	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.7	3.0	2.7	3.0
Female	6.6	6.5	7.6	7.0	7.7	6.8	6.5	7.1	6.8	5.6
By selected age Group (Year)										
20 – 29	13.1	13.6	14.2	14.2	13.1	14.0	12.5	14.6	14.2	12.6
20 – 24	19.3	19.9	19.7	19.9	15.5	19.0	17.4	18.4	19.0	16.6
25 – 29	7.6	8.2	9.4	9.2	10.9	9.6	8.0	11.3	9.8	8.9
By selected educational level										
GCE A/L and above										
Total	8.7	8.2	9.2	8.3	8.2	7.6	7.8	8.2	8.5	7.9
Male	5.7	5.4	4.7	4.7	3.9	3.7	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.3
Female	11.8	11.1	13.5	11.9	12.4	11.6	10.8	11.8	11.9	10.4
Employed population										
By Gender										
Total	7,681,279	7,700,489	7,830,976	7,947,683	7,828,639	8,006,700	8,230,207	8,138,728	8,163,869	8,299,911
Male	5,024,340	5,075,426	5,097,798	5,149,948	5,141,010	5,225,199	5,235,046	5,315,916	5,237,380	5,328,290
Female	2,656,938	2,625,064	2,733,178	2,797,735	2,687,629	2,781,501	2,995,161	2,822,812	2,926,489	2,971,621
By industry (Percentage)										
Total	7,681,279	7,700,489	7,830,976	7,947,683	7,828,639	8,006,700	8,230,207	8,138,728	8,163,869	8,299,911
%	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	2,200,361	2,209,976	2,221,761	2,114,336	1,983,870	2,240,772
%	30.2	28.9	28.7	27.1	28.1	27.6	27.0	26.0	24.3	27.0
Industry	1,996,730	2,027,426	2,018,171	2,097,503	1,957,031	2,055,386	2,306,398	2,301,377	2,372,007	2,346,194
%	26.0	26.3	25.8	26.4	25.0	25.7	28.0	28.3	29.1	28.3
Services	3,363,334	3,450,205	3,568,259	3,696,306	3,671,247	3,741,339	3,702,049	3,723,015	3,807,992	3,712,945
%	43.8	44.8	45.6	46.5	46.9	46.7	45.0	45.7	46.6	44.7
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	100
0#	5.2	5.2	5.5	4.4	4.6	3.9	3.5	6.6	4.8	4.1
1 – 9	1.8	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.7
10 – 39	27.5	27.6	27.2	26.2	25.8	25.4	26.7	27.3	24.1	26.2
40 & above	65.5	65.9	65.7	67.9	67.7	69.4	68.1	64.6	69.3	67.9

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
2017, 4th Quarter
(All Island)

15 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (15 years & over)	15,983,218	7,336,828	8,646,391	2,789,063	13,194,155
Labour force in this age group	8,642,120	5,493,160	3,148,961	1,453,872	7,188,248
Labour force participation rate	54.1	74.9	36.4	52.1	54.5
Employed population	8,299,911	5,328,290	2,971,621	1,388,360	6,911,551
Employment rate	96.0	97.0	94.4	95.5	96.2
Unemployed population	342,210	164,869	177,340	65,513	276,697
Unemployment rate	4.0	3.0	5.6	4.5	3.8
Not in labour force	7,341,098	1,843,668	5,497,430	1,335,191	6,005,907

18 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (18 years & over)	14,929,151	6,822,906	8,106,245	2,608,798	12,320,353
Labour force in this age group	8,595,169	5,459,224	3,135,945	1,450,800	7,144,370
Labour force participation rate	57.6	80.0	38.7	55.6	58.0
Employed population	8,263,458	5,300,164	2,963,295	1,385,287	6,878,171
Employment rate	96.1	97.1	94.5	95.5	96.3
Unemployed population	331,711	159,060	172,651	65,513	266,198
Unemployment rate	3.9	2.9	5.5	4.5	3.7
Not in labour force	6,333,981	1,363,682	4,970,299	1,157,998	5,175,983

20 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (20 years & over)	14,302,143	6,516,837	7,785,306	2,513,567	11,788,576
Labour force in this age group	8,447,186	5,347,179	3,100,008	1,433,339	7,013,847
Labour force participation rate	59.1	82.1	39.8	57.0	59.5
Employed population	8,145,190	5,206,658	2,938,532	1,371,635	6,773,555
Employment rate	96.4	97.4	94.8	95.7	96.6
Unemployed population	301,997	140,521	161,476	61,705	240,292
Unemployment rate	3.6	2.6	5.2	4.3	3.4
Not in labour force	5,854,956	1,169,659	4,685,298	1,080,228	4,774,729

CONTENTS

	Page No.
Preface	iii
Acknowledgements	v
Highlights	vii
Summary Statistics	viii
Contents	ix
Labour Force	1
Employment	2
Unemployment	3
Tables	
Table No.	
1. Historical table of Labour Force Status (current) of the Household Population, 15 years of Age and over - Both Sexes	4
1A. Historical table of Labour Force Status (current) of the Household Population, 15 years of Age and over – Male	5
1B. Historical table of Labour Force Status (current) of the Household Population, 15 years of Age and over – Female	5
2. Labour Force Status (current) of the Household Population 15 years of Age and over, by Age - Both Sexes	6
2A. Labour Force Status (current) of the Household Population 15 years of Age and over, by Age – Male	7
2B. Labour Force Status (current) of the Household Population 15 years of Age and over, by Age – Female	7
3. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Age Groups (percentage) - Both Sexes	8
3A. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Age Groups (percentage) – Male	8
3B. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Age Groups (percentage) – Female	8
4. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Level of Education (percentage) - Both Sexes	9
4A. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Level of Education (percentage) – Male	9
4B. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Level of Education (percentage) – Female	9
5. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Employment Status (percentage) - Both Sexes	10
5A. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Employment Status (percentage) – Male	10
5B. Historical table of Currently Employed persons by Employment Status (percentage) – Female	10
6. Currently employed persons by Industry group (Based on ISIC Rev.4) – Both sexes	11
6A. Currently employed persons by Industry group (Based on ISIC Rev.4) – Male	12
6B. Currently employed persons by Industry group (Based on ISIC Rev.4) – Female	13
6C. Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group - Both sexes	14
6D. Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group (percentage) - Both sexes	14
7. Currently employed persons by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Both sexes	15
7A. Currently employed persons by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) – Male	16
7B. Currently employed persons by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) – Female	16
8. Currently Employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job and Major Industrial group (percentage) - Both Sexes	17
9. Historical table of Currently Unemployed persons by Age Groups (percentage) - Both Sexes	18
9A. Historical table of Currently Unemployed persons by Age Groups (percentage) – Male	18
9B. Historical table of Currently Unemployed persons by Age Groups (percentage) – Female	18
10. Historical table of Currently Unemployed persons by Level of Education (percentage) - Both Sexes	19
10A. Historical table of Currently Unemployed persons by Level of Education (percentage) – Male	19
10B. Historical table of Currently Unemployed persons by Level of Education (percentage) – Female	19
11. Currently Unemployed Persons by Sex and Duration of Unemployment	20
12. Standard error and coefficient of variation of selected variables	21

Appendix 1: Explanatory Notes

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

Introduction

Highlights

- Labour force participation rate is 54.1% for the Fourth Quarter of 2017.
- Unemployment rate for the survey period is 4.0%.

Inside

Labour Force	1
Employment	2
Unemployment	3
Selected Labour Force Indicators	4

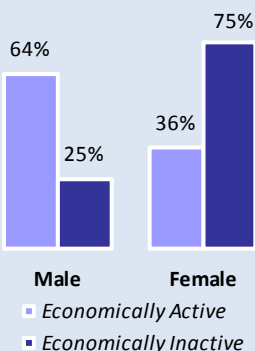


Figure 1: Distribution of Economically active/Inactive population - Fourth quarter - 2017

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 bulletin contains labour force, employment and unemployment statistics for the fourth quarter 2017 based on the data collected in October, November and December in 2017 covering the whole country.

Labour Force ...

(Economically Active Population)

Table 1: Economically active population by gender and sector – Fourth Quarter 2017

Sector	Economically active population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	8,642,120	100.0	5,493,160	63.6	3,148,961	36.4
Urban	1,453,872	100.0	967,589	66.6	486,284	33.4
Rural	6,778,524	100.0	4,297,564	63.4	2,480,960	36.6
Estate	409,724	100.0	228,007	55.6	181,717	44.4

Table 2: Economically inactive population by gender and sector – Fourth Quarter 2017

Sector	Economically inactive population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Sri Lanka	7,341,098	100.0	1,843,668	25.1	5,497,430	74.9
Urban	1,335,191	100.0	315,802	23.7	1,019,389	76.3
Rural	5,755,276	100.0	1,449,887	25.2	4,305,390	74.8
Estate	250,631	100.0	77,980	31.1	172,651	68.9

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
2015 Q4	53.5	75.3	35.1
2016 Q4	54.0	74.9	36.0
2017 Q1	54.7	75.1	37.6
2017 Q2	53.9	74.6	35.9
2017 Q3	53.6	73.6	36.6
2017 Q4	54.1	74.9	36.4

Table 3 provides the information on LFPRs since year 2013. Referring the Table 3, It is important to note that, male participation to the labour force is always higher than that of females.

Considering the Table 4, the distribution of LFPR by age group and by gender depicts high male participation compared to female in all age groups. The highest participation rate for male is reported from age group 35 – 39 years (96.5%), while that for female is reported from 45 – 49 age group (51.4%).

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 week.

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 fourth quarter 2017. Of which 63.6 percent are males and 36.4 percent are females. The economically inactive population is about 7.3 million. Out of the economically inactive population 25.1 percent are males and 74.9 percent are females (Table 2).

Table 4: LFPR by age group and gender - Fourth Quarter 2017

Age group (Years)	Total	Male	Female
Sri Lanka	54.1	74.9	36.4
15 - 19	11.6	17.8	5.7
20 - 24	59.4	75.6	44.9
25 - 29	69.7	93.3	49.1
30 - 34	64.5	94.5	39.9
35 - 39	68.2	96.5	44.7
40 - 44	71.4	95.8	51.1
45 - 49	71.6	95.1	51.4
50 - 54	67.7	92.0	48.7
55 - 59	64.6	88.7	44.1
60+	33.1	51.6	17.8

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.

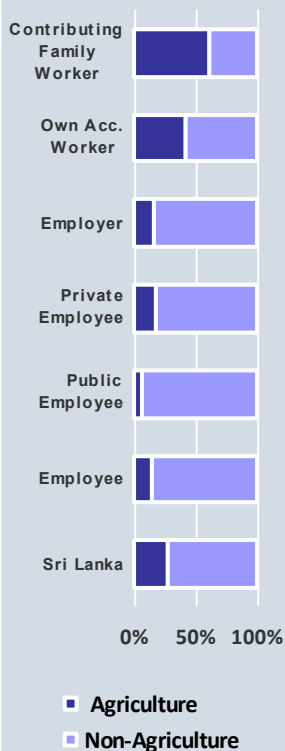


Figure 2 : Distribution of employed population by employment status and Agriculture/Non-Agriculture sector - Fourth quarter 2017

Employment ...

Table 5 : Distribution of Employed population by main industry
(Fourth Quarter 2016 – Fourth quarter 2017)

Quarter	Sri Lanka	Major Industry Group		
		Agriculture	Industries	Services
2016 Q4 (No.)	8,006,700	2,209,976	2,055,386	3,741,339
(%)	100.0	27.6	25.7	46.7
2017 Q1 (No.)	8,230,207	2,221,761	2,306,398	3,702,049
(%)	100.0	27.0	28.0	45.0
2017 Q2 (No.)	8,138,728	2,114,336	2,301,377	3,723,015
(%)	100.0	26.0	28.3	45.7
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

Table 5 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by main industry from fourth quarter 2016 to fourth quarter 2017. During fourth quarter of 2017, the total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated as about 8.3 million. Of which, about 44.7 percent engaged in Service sector, 28.3 percent in Industries sector and 27.0 percent in Agriculture sector.

Table 6 : Distribution of employed population by employment status in Agriculture and Non-Agriculture sectors – Fourth quarter 2017

Employment Status	Sri Lanka		Sector			
			Agriculture		Non-Agriculture	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sri Lanka	8,299,911	100.0	2,240,772	27.0	6,059,139	73.0
Employee	4,786,850	100.0	716,188	15.0	4,070,663	85.0
Public	1,190,257	100.0	78,124	6.6	1,112,132	93.4
Private	3,596,593	100.0	638,063	17.7	2,958,530	82.3
Employer	229,743	100.0	38,824	16.9	190,919	83.1
Own Account Worker	2,664,743	100.0	1,107,108	41.5	1,557,635	58.5
Contributing Family Worker	618,574	100.0	378,652	61.2	239,922	38.8

Table 7 : Percentage distribution of Employed population by main industry & gender – Fourth quarter 2017

Major Industry Group	Sri Lanka	Gender	
		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	27.0	25.5	29.7
Industry	28.3	28.8	27.4
Services	44.7	45.8	42.9

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

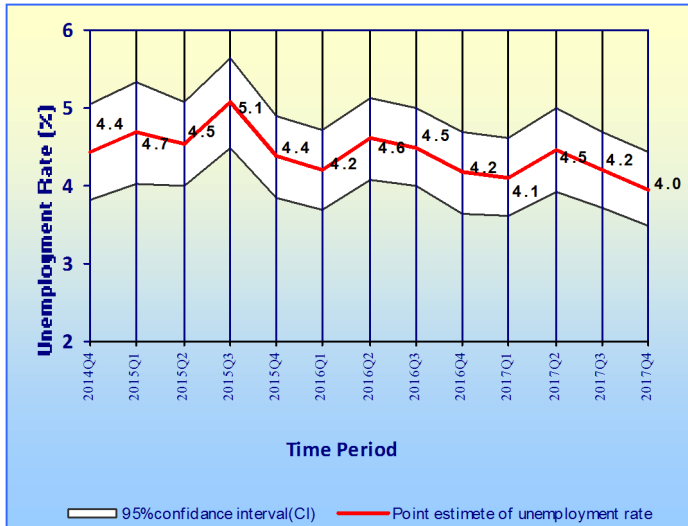
1. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles (G)
2. Transportation and storage (H)
3. Accommodation and food services activities (I)
4. Information and communication (J)
5. Financial and insurance activities (K)
6. Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)
7. Administrative 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 29.7 percent is in agriculture sector while this share is 25.5 percent for males.

Unemployment ...

Figure 3 : Unemployment rates and it's 95% confidence intervals (2014Q4 - 2017Q4)



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

The number of unemployed persons is estimated as 342,210 during the fourth quarter 2017. The unemployment rate for the Fourth quarter 2017 is 4.0 percent.

As shown in Figure 3, it is very important to note that, when sampling error¹ is considered there are no statistically significant drops/increases of unemployment rates reported in different time periods starting from fourth quarter 2014 to fourth quarter 2017.

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.

Table 8: Number of Unemployed and Unemployment rate by age group and gender – Fourth quarter 2017

Age group (Years)	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	Gender	
	Number		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	342,210	4.0	3.0	5.6
15–24	174,398	17.4	14.7	22.0
25–29	78,705	8.9	6.3	13.1
Over 30	89,107	1.3	0.9	2.1

As can be seen from Table 8, overall unemployment rate reported for female is 5.6 percent and it is 3.0 percent for male. Youth unemployment rate (age 15 – 24 years) corresponding to the fourth quarter 2017 is 17.3 percent and that is the highest reported unemployment rate among all age groups. Further rates for both males and females are 14.7 and 22.0 percent respectively for age group 15 – 24.

The survey results further revealed 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 – Fourth quarter 2017

The highest unemployment rate is reported from the G.C.E (A/L) and above group which is about 7.9 percent. Corresponding percentages are 5.3 percent and 10.4 percent for males and females respectively. Female unemployment rates are higher than those of males in all levels of education.

Level of Education	Unemployment Rate (%)			
	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	Gender	
	Number		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	342,210	4.0	3.0	5.6
Below GCE O/L	100,016	2.0	1.6	2.7
GCE O/L	94,810	5.8	5.5	6.3
GCE A/L & above	147,384	7.9	5.3	10.4

This 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.

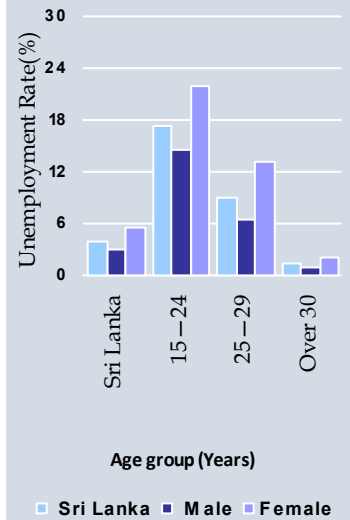


Figure 3: Unemployment rate by age group and gender – Fourth quarter 2017

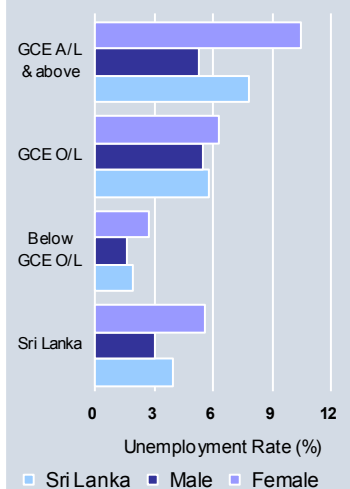


Figure 4: Unemployment rate by level of education and gender – Fourth quarter 2017

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

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (15 YEARS & OVER)	NATIONAL LEVEL DATA						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	LABOUR FORCE		UNEMPLOYED		
				EMPLOYED 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
2016Q4 ²	15,468,203	8,354,841	54.0	8,006,700	95.8	348,141	4.2	7,113,362
2017Q1 ²	15,684,110	8,583,082	54.7	8,230,207	95.9	352,875	4.1	7,101,029
2017Q2 ²	15,813,790	8,519,322	53.9	8,138,728	95.5	380,594	4.5	7,294,468
2017Q3 ²	15,893,819	8,522,219	53.6	8,163,869	95.8	358,350	4.2	7,371,600
2017Q4 ²	15,983,218	8,642,120	54.1	8,299,911	96.0	342,210	4.0	7,341,098

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
2016Q4 ²	7,168,508	5,369,143	74.9	5,225,199	97.3	143,943	2.7	1,799,365
2017Q1 ²	7,166,309	5,381,244	75.1	5,235,046	97.3	146,198	2.7	1,785,065
2017Q2 ²	7,349,462	5,482,206	74.6	5,315,916	97.0	166,290	3.0	1,867,257
2017Q3 ²	7,315,588	5,381,432	73.6	5,237,380	97.3	144,052	2.7	1,934,157
2017Q4 ²	7,336,828	5,493,160	74.9	5,328,290	97.0	164,869	3.0	1,843,668

**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
2016Q4 ²	8,299,695	2,985,698	36.0	2,781,501	93.2	204,198	6.8	5,313,997
2017Q1 ²	8,517,801	3,201,838	37.6	2,995,161	93.5	206,677	6.5	5,315,964
2017Q2 ²	8,464,328	3,037,116	35.9	2,822,812	92.9	214,304	7.1	5,427,212
2017Q3 ²	8,578,231	3,140,787	36.6	2,926,489	93.2	214,298	6.8	5,437,444
2017Q4 ²	8,646,391	3,148,961	36.4	2,971,621	94.4	177,340	5.6	5,497,430

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	15,983,218	8,642,120	54.1	8,299,911	96.0	342,210	4.0	7,341,098
15 - 19 YRS	1,681,076	194,934	11.6	154,721	79.4	40,213	20.6	1,486,142
20 - 24 YRS	1,359,664	808,264	59.4	674,078	83.4	134,185	16.6	551,400
25 - 29 YRS	1,269,835	885,156	69.7	806,452	91.1	78,705	8.9	384,679
30 - 39 YRS	2,821,713	1,878,644	66.6	1,837,816	97.8	40,828	2.2	943,070
40 + YRS	8,850,930	4,875,123	55.1	4,826,844	99.0	48,279	1.0	3,975,808

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	7,336,828	5,493,160	74.9	5,328,290	97.0	164,869	3.0	1,843,668
15 - 19 YRS	819,990	145,981	17.8	121,633	83.3	24,349	16.7	674,009
20 - 24 YRS	642,390	485,850	75.6	417,626	86.0	68,225	14.0	156,540
25 - 29 YRS	593,028	553,095	93.3	517,984	93.7	35,111	6.3	39,933
30 - 39 YRS	1,276,160	1,220,469	95.6	1,205,683	98.8	14,787	1.2	55,691
40 + YRS	4,005,259	3,087,764	77.1	3,065,365	99.3	22,399	0.7	917,496

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	8,646,391	3,148,961	36.4	2,971,621	94.4	177,340	5.6	5,497,430
15 - 19 YRS	861,085	48,953	5.7	33,089	67.6	15,864	32.4	812,132
20 - 24 YRS	717,274	322,413	44.9	256,453	79.5	65,961	20.5	394,860
25 - 29 YRS	676,807	332,061	49.1	288,467	86.9	43,594	13.1	344,746
30 - 39 YRS	1,545,553	658,174	42.6	632,133	96.0	26,041	4.0	887,379
40 + YRS	4,845,671	1,787,359	36.9	1,761,479	98.6	25,880	1.4	3,058,312

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

**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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	1.6	7.4	9.4	24.4	57.1
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	2.2	7.5	9.0	23.4	57.8
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	1.9	7.4	9.3	24.3	57.1
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.4	7.4	8.8	23.7	57.7
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	1.9	8.1	9.7	22.1	58.2

**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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	1.8	7.3	9.7	24.1	57.1
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	2.4	7.2	9.6	23.0	57.8
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	2.2	7.5	9.1	25.0	56.2
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.4	7.3	9.1	23.4	57.8
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	2.3	7.8	9.7	22.6	57.5

**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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	1.4	7.4	9.0	25.0	57.2
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	2.0	7.9	8.1	24.2	57.9
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	1.5	7.3	9.8	22.9	58.6
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.4	7.4	8.4	24.2	57.6
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	1.1	8.6	9.7	21.3	59.3

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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	15.7	48.0	16.4	19.9
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	16.6	46.6	16.7	20.1
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	15.6	47.4	16.7	20.3
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	15.1	45.9	17.2	21.8
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	16.1	44.5	18.6	20.8

**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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	15.7	51.3	16.8	16.2
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	16.3	50.6	16.7	16.5
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	15.4	50.8	17.0	16.8
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	15.1	49.5	17.7	17.7
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	15.9	48.3	19.0	16.8

**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
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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	15.8	41.8	15.5	26.9
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	17.1	39.7	16.6	26.6
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	16.0	40.9	16.2	27.0
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	14.9	39.4	16.4	29.3
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	16.4	37.7	17.9	28.0

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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	57.6	14.0	43.6	2.8	31.8	7.8
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	58.2	14.8	43.4	3.1	30.4	8.3
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	57.5	14.3	43.2	2.9	32.0	7.7
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	57.4	14.0	43.4	3.2	30.8	8.6
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	57.7	14.3	43.3	2.8	32.1	7.5

**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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	59.2	11.7	47.4	3.6	34.5	2.8
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	59.4	12.4	46.9	4.0	33.8	2.8
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	58.4	12.2	46.3	4.2	34.9	2.4
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	58.6	12.3	46.4	4.5	34.1	2.8
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	58.6	12.4	46.2	3.7	35.2	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
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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	54.7	18.2	36.4	1.3	26.7	17.3
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	56.1	18.8	37.3	1.6	24.6	17.8
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	55.6	18.2	37.3	0.5	26.3	17.6
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	55.2	17.2	38.0	1.0	24.8	19.0
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	56.0	17.9	38.1	1.1	26.5	16.4

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

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
2016Q4	8,006,700	2,209,976	42,519	1,368,664	644,203	1,119,341	526,603	213,973	53,278	144,872	53,802	122,126	614,689	352,767	143,197	152,251	196,668	47,770
2017Q1	8,230,207	2,221,761	49,566	1,571,862	684,970	1,082,766	501,556	193,613	69,871	153,957	60,406	126,487	617,182	379,848	145,561	122,189	197,871	50,742
2017Q2	8,138,728	2,114,336	50,160	1,549,489	701,729	1,200,451	514,549	202,897	61,493	146,126	59,549	121,121	578,048	344,861	154,536	124,512	154,145	60,727
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
2017Q4	8,299,911	2,240,772	78,503	1,616,416	651,275	1,142,307	506,328	196,956	74,056	162,370	95,321	210,595	376,621	415,752	161,265	120,950	150,563	99,862

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
2016Q4	5,225,199	1,327,821	42,519	732,508	614,401	789,959	508,407	139,594	41,658	81,652	31,423	92,490	401,404	101,101	55,285	110,416	114,836	39,724
2017Q1	5,235,046	1,311,760	45,821	795,706	651,658	766,708	483,010	125,261	47,423	101,328	45,585	99,039	382,710	112,944	46,326	77,349	108,086	34,333
2017Q2	5,315,916	1,302,571	47,382	807,729	673,213	836,507	496,175	136,759	43,825	87,464	37,811	94,922	377,467	98,738	52,260	89,650	82,557	50,885
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
2017Q4	5,328,290	1,356,956	78,503	840,362	614,512	810,199	487,702	113,891	56,000	85,554	61,409	148,451	251,737	132,512	50,157	87,754	78,519	74,073

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
2016Q4	2,781,501	882,155	-	636,156	29,802	329,382	18,196	74,379	11,620	63,219	22,379	29,636	213,285	251,666	87,913	41,835	81,832	8,047
2017Q1	2,995,161	910,001	3,745	776,156	33,312	316,058	18,546	68,352	22,448	52,629	14,820	27,447	234,472	266,904	99,236	44,840	89,785	16,409
2017Q2	2,822,812	811,765	2,778	741,759	28,516	363,944	18,374	66,138	17,669	58,662	21,738	26,199	200,582	246,123	102,276	34,862	71,588	9,842
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
2017Q4	2,971,621	883,816	-	776,054	36,763	332,108	18,626	83,064	18,056	76,815	33,912	62,144	124,883	283,240	111,109	33,196	72,044	25,789

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)

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						
	2015	2016	2016Q4	2017Q1	2017Q2	2017Q3	2017Q4
Total	7,830,976	7,947,683	8,006,700	8,230,207	8,138,728	8,163,869	8,299,911
Agriculture	2,244,547	2,153,874	2,209,976	2,221,761	2,114,336	1,983,870	2,240,772
Industry	2,018,171	2,097,503	2,055,386	2,306,398	2,301,377	2,372,007	2,346,194
Services	3,568,258	3,696,306	3,741,339	3,702,049	3,723,015	3,807,992	3,712,945

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

Major Industry Group	Year						
	2015	2016	2016Q4	2017Q1	2017Q2	2017Q3	2017Q4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	28.7	27.1	27.6	27.0	26.0	24.3	27.0
Industry	25.8	26.4	25.7	28.0	28.3	29.1	28.3
Services	45.6	46.5	46.7	45.0	45.7	46.6	44.7

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

Agriculture

1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A)

Industries

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

Services

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

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

Year	Total	Occupation group									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	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
2016Q4	8,006,700	491,693	505,036	513,968	314,152	914,961	1,495,661	1,258,343	684,834	1,782,675	45,377
2017Q1	8,230,207	505,890	515,526	533,477	345,101	845,433	1,402,215	1,411,424	701,082	1,928,091	41,970
2017Q2	8,138,728	554,698	540,184	541,264	333,196	874,948	1,415,556	1,355,565	716,279	1,776,857	30,181
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
2017Q4	8,299,911	592,692	626,537	619,001	299,691	702,017	1,500,639	1,399,751	764,211	1,756,992	38,377

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
2016Q4	5,225,199	341,500	177,633	338,685	159,190	634,012	957,577	839,572	600,428	1,138,783	37,819
2017Q1	5,235,046	381,904	172,715	344,104	166,115	560,748	892,552	895,405	588,812	1,193,399	39,294
2017Q2	5,315,916	398,246	218,342	337,867	155,321	586,482	924,958	908,007	626,665	1,132,803	27,226
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
2017Q4	5,328,290	433,996	245,746	391,859	142,072	480,604	946,731	913,727	648,856	1,092,716	31,985

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
2016Q4	2,781,501	150,192	327,402	175,284	154,962	280,949	538,084	418,771	84,406	643,892	7,558
2017Q1	2,995,161	123,986	342,811	189,373	178,986	284,685	509,663	516,019	112,270	734,692	2,676
2017Q2	2,822,812	156,452	321,842	203,398	177,875	288,466	490,598	447,558	89,614	644,054	2,955
2017Q3	2,926,489	179,421	341,908	174,754	179,153	282,016	495,129	422,998	116,962	732,500	1,649
2017Q4	2,971,621	158,697	380,791	227,143	157,619	221,414	553,909	486,024	115,356	664,277	6,392

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	4.1	1.7	4.9	7.5	13.8	34.8	33.2
1	100.0	6.0	3.9	10.8	12.9	19.9	26.9	19.6
2	100.0	5.5	..	5.8	4.0	5.9	30.7	48.1
3	100.0	2.6	1.1	3.6	7.0	10.6	41.2	33.9
6	100.0	4.4	0.9	3.2	7.2	12.2	39.1	33.1
7	100.0	1.2	0.3	2.4	4.6	9.5	29.3	52.7
8	100.0	2.5	0.6	2.3	3.8	8.8	31.9	50.2
9	100.0	3.4	..	1.9	6.7	9.9	18.2	59.8
10	100.0	1.6	4.3	5.3	51.8	37.0
11	100.0	..	0.2	0.7	1.6	3.5	68.9	25.1
13	100.0	2.3	1.2	3.7	7.9	3.0	53.6	28.2
14	100.0	3.8	0.7	1.7	3.4	8.3	37.8	44.2
15	100.0	3.6	1.0	0.3	2.1	3.9	58.0	31.1
16	100.0	12.3	3.2	3.5	6.8	40.3	26.3	7.7
17	100.0	4.6	..	1.1	4.3	8.5	44.5	37.1
19	100.0	3.8	4.6	1.1	4.9	10.7	29.4	45.6
20	100.0	4.7	2.5	4.8	8.6	13.8	27.9	37.8
Other	100.0	1.1	..	5.6	2.4	13.6	46.8	30.5

* 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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	15.4	39.6	23.0	12.3	9.6
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	14.9	36.6	18.3	16.5	13.7
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	14.3	35.8	25.4	13.0	11.4
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	10.4	39.3	22.0	17.7	10.7
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	11.8	39.2	23.0	11.9	14.1

**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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	19.3	42.6	20.5	9.4	8.2
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	19.6	44.1	13.8	7.5	15.0
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	18.5	35.4	24.2	12.7	9.1
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	20.1	40.6	18.8	14.0	6.5
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	14.8	41.4	21.3	9.0	13.6

**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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	12.8	37.6	24.8	14.3	10.5
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	11.5	31.2	21.6	22.9	12.8
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	10.9	36.2	26.4	13.3	13.2
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	3.9	38.4	24.1	20.2	13.5
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	8.9	37.2	24.6	14.7	14.6

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

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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	2.0	36.9	23.5	37.6
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	4.5	32.1	23.5	39.9
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	1.4	36.7	22.9	39.0
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.9	26.2	25.0	45.9
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	3.6	25.6	27.7	43.1

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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	2.1	50.7	24.5	22.7
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	1.3	39.1	29.2	30.4
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	1.2	42.9	27.7	28.1
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	3.2	36.8	26.6	33.4
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	2.3	31.2	35.9	30.5

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
2016Q4 ¹	100.0	1.9	27.2	22.8	48.2
2017Q1 ¹	100.0	6.7	27.1	19.5	46.7
2017Q2 ¹	100.0	1.5	31.8	19.2	47.5
2017Q3 ¹	100.0	2.6	19.1	23.9	54.4
2017Q4 ¹	100.0	4.9	20.4	20.0	54.7

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

		(2017 4 th Quarter)		
Sex	Total	Duration		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	342,210	139,530	94,335	108,345
%	100.0	40.8	27.6	31.7
Male	164,869	67,350	56,181	41,339
%	100.0	40.9	34.1	25.1
Female	177,340	72,180	38,154	67,006
%	100.0	40.7	21.5	37.8

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)	15,983,218	134,737	0.8			
Employed Population	8,299,911	95,752	1.2			
Unemployed Population	342,210	21,625	6.3			
Employment Rate				96.0	0.25	0.26
Unemployment Rate				4.0	0.25	6.20
Labour Force	8,642,120	97,500	1.1			
Not in Labour Force	7,341,098	100,021	1.4			
Employed persons by major industry Groups						
1	2,240,772	87,273	3.9			
2	78,503	16,509	21.0			
3	1,616,416	55,648	3.4			
6	651,275	29,862	4.6			
7	1,142,307	44,100	3.9			
8	506,328	25,129	5.0			
9	196,956	18,006	9.1			
10	74,056	10,096	13.6			
11	162,370	14,973	9.2			
13	95,321	11,981	12.6			
14	210,595	18,276	8.7			
15	376,621	23,988	6.4			
16	415,752	23,159	5.6			
17	161,265	15,036	9.3			
19	120,950	12,715	10.5			
20	150,563	14,766	9.8			
Other	99,862	12,691	12.7			
Unemployed persons by level of education						
Below grade 6	12,399	3,440	27.7			
Grade 6 - 10	87,617	8,452	9.6			
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	94,810	8,880	9.4			
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	147,384	11,772	8.0			

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

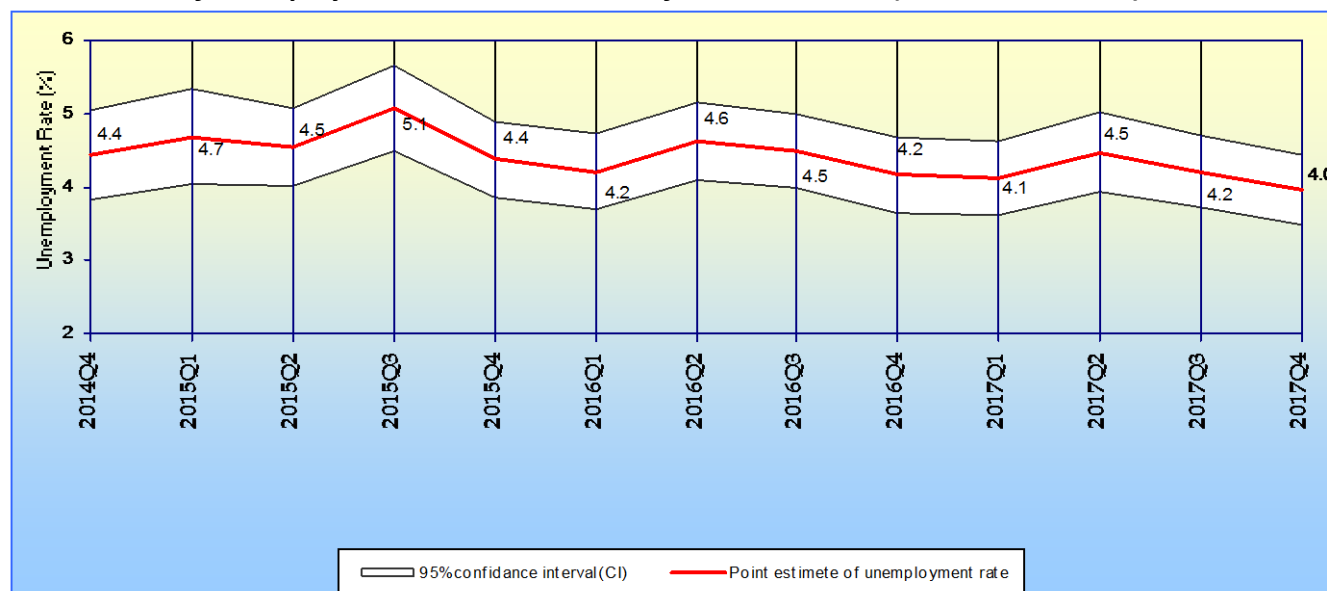
Estimated value (of the unemployment rate) \pm (standard error) * (1.96)

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 (2014Q4 - 2017Q4)



Note:

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 2014/2017, 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
2016Q4 ¹	8,354,841	94,227	1.13	8,169,776	8,539,906	8,006,700	91,735	1.15	7,826,528	8,186,872
2017Q1 ¹	8,583,082	96,084	1.12	8,394,371	8,771,793	8,230,207	93,303	1.13	8,046,958	8,413,456
2017Q2 ¹	8,519,322	92,362	1.08	8,337,922	8,700,722	8,138,728	88,761	1.09	7,964,400	8,313,057
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
2017Q4 ¹	8,642,120	97,500	1.10	8,450,627	8,833,614	8,299,911	95,752	1.20	8,111,849	8,487,972

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
2016Q4 ¹	348,141	22,565	6.48	303,823	392,460	4.2	0.3	6.32	3.6	4.7
2017Q1 ¹	352,875	22,757	6.45	308,179	397,570	4.1	0.3	6.28	3.6	4.6
2017Q2 ¹	380,594	24,201	6.36	333,062	428,125	4.5	0.3	6.15	3.9	5.0
2017Q3 ¹	358,350	22,006	6.14	315,129	401,571	4.2	0.3	5.99	3.7	4.7
2017Q4 ¹	342,210	21,625	6.30	299,737	384,682	4.0	0.3	6.20	3.5	4.4

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
2016Q3 ¹	15,560,390	7,469,445	48.0	7,022,963	94.0	446,482	6.0	7,469,445
2017Q1 ¹	15,684,110	7,472,857	47.6	7,119,982	95.3	352,875	4.7	8,211,254
2017Q2 ¹	15,813,790	7,442,591	47.1	7,061,997	94.9	380,594	5.1	8,371,199
2017Q3 ¹	15,893,819	7,411,703	46.6	7,053,353	95.2	358,350	4.8	8,482,116
2017Q4 ¹	15,983,218	7,572,382	47.4	7,230,172	95.5	342,210	4.5	8,410,837

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
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
2017Q1 ¹	352,875	4.7	52,415	27.4	129,114	19.1	64,751	8.8	58,234	3.3	48,361	1.2
2017Q2 ¹	380,594	5.1	54,242	29.9	136,443	20.4	96,763	12.4	49,661	2.8	43,485	1.1
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
2017Q4 ¹	342,210	4.5	40,213	23.5	134,185	18.4	78,705	9.6	40,828	2.4	48,279	1.2

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
2016Q4	No.	7,069,945	1,645,815	41,320	1,259,661	620,209	1,007,440	508,936	182,990	52,579	144,872	53,111	116,976	609,593	317,623	137,935	141,693	185,427	43,765
	%	100.0	23.3	0.6	17.8	8.8	14.2	7.2	2.6	0.7	2.0	0.8	1.7	8.6	4.5	2.0	2.0	2.6	0.6
2017Q1	No.	7,119,982	1,591,080	46,469	1,402,368	651,196	935,447	489,824	159,536	64,378	153,957	58,243	121,688	609,921	362,256	137,373	105,791	186,480	43,975
	%	100.0	22.3	0.7	19.7	9.1	13.1	6.9	2.2	0.9	2.2	0.8	1.7	8.6	5.1	1.9	1.5	2.6	0.6
2017Q2	No.	7,061,997	1,575,512	45,134	1,349,354	644,039	1,052,761	502,327	173,425	58,108	143,909	56,375	112,960	569,304	321,565	152,562	108,742	139,299	56,622
	%	100.0	22.3	0.6	19.1	9.1	14.9	7.1	2.5	0.8	2.0	0.8	1.6	8.1	4.6	2.2	1.5	2.0	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
2017Q4	No.	7,230,172	1,614,116	72,997	1,468,924	622,470	1,004,075	488,914	171,354	74,056	160,902	89,866	204,505	370,838	385,846	159,527	110,108	137,405	94,270
	%	100.0	22.3	1.0	20.3	8.6	13.9	6.8	2.4	1.0	2.2	1.2	2.8	5.1	5.3	2.2	1.5	1.9	1.3

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)