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Ministry of Economic Planning and Development

CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

1990
HOUSING AND POPULATION CENSUS
OF
MAURITIUS

ANALYSIS REPORT
VOLUME VIII - ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
CHARACTERISTICS AND PROSPECTS

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1. MEASUREMENT OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

1.1 Introduction

One of the most important uses of the results of population censuses carried out in Mauritius, is to obtain up to date information for manpower planning. As part of the series of reports on the 1990 Housing and Population Census, this report purports to examine the economic characteristics of the population as revealed by the census. Data from other sources, such as current surveys on employment, carried out by the Central Statistical Office and unemployment statistics published by the Ministry for Civil Service Affairs and Employment, have been complementarily used.

Chapter two of this report focuses on the size and major characteristics of the labour force in comparison to the 1983 Census. The two components of the labour force, namely the employed and unemployed populations, have been analysed separately in the following two chapters. Current estimates and forecasts of the labour force, employment and unemployment, mainly based on the 1990 Census figures are given in the last chapter. These figures are subject to revisions, as more recent estimates and projections of the population become available.

1.2 Population Coverage

All persons in private households as well as those living in communal establishments in the Islands of Mauritius, Rodrigues, Agalega and St Brandon were covered by the Census.

In the recommendations of the International Labour Office, there is no specified minimum age limit for defining the population for which inquiry on economic activity is required. This age criterion depends upon national circumstances. In Mauritius, questions relating to economic activities were asked in respect of all persons aged twelve years and above. This age limit has been chosen because it is a known fact that some children leaving school at primary level (end of compulsory schooling), do engage in activities such as helping in family enterprises or as learners in trades and crafts, which are considered as being economic activity according to international recommendations.

1.3 Adopted Concepts and Definitions

The following general concepts and definitions have been used for the Census and are therefore relevant throughout this report.

Economic activity

The concept of economic activity for the measurement of the economically active population is defined in terms of production of goods and services, as set forth by the United Nations System of National Accounts.

Economically active population (labour force)

The economically active population comprises all persons who fulfil the requirements for inclusion among the employed or the unemployed as defined below.

Employed

All persons above the specified minimum age, who were engaged in any form of economic activity for at least one hour during the reference period, were considered as being employed. Persons who were temporarily absent from their jobs during this specified period were also counted as being employed.

Unemployed

Unemployed persons were all those above the specified minimum age, who were not working but were available for work and were seeking work.

2. LABOUR FORCE

The labour force or economically active population which represents the country's supply of labour available for production of goods and services at a given point in time, was found to be 432,019 as at end of June 1990, according to the 1990 Population Census.

The size of the labour force is normally influenced by changes in the overall population over time as well as by the volume of employment opportunities in the country. The number of young persons joining the labour market over the years also depends upon education prospects and training facilities. Free secondary education introduced in 1977 caused a reduction in the number of boys and girls looking for jobs. Similarly in the coming years a decrease at ages under 20 is expected as a result of government's policy to expand tertiary education and industrial and vocational training facilities. On the other hand, the number of persons joining the labour market in the age group 20-24 is expected to increase with the availability of better employment prospects associated with the second phase of industrialisation.

2.1 Changes in the labour force, 1983 and 1990

The total labour force showed an increase of 18% over the period 1983 to 1990 while the population grew by only 5% over the same period. This increase in the labour force is attributable to two factors. Firstly, a change in the population structure (i.e more persons in the age bracket 25-44 years, where activity rates are usually high - table 2.3), has given rise to an increased number of persons being available for work. Secondly, a significant rise is noted in economic activity among women.

Table 2.1 - Economically active and inactive population by sex, 1983 and 1990

	Male		Female		Both sexes	
	1983	1990	1983	1990	1983	1990
Population	499,023	527,760	502,668	528,900	1,001,691	1,056,660
Econ. active	268,856	301,368	96,255	130,651	365,111	432,019
Inactive	230,167	226,392	406,413	398,249	636,580	624,641

From the figures in Table 2.1, an increase of 36% is noted in the female labour force while male labour force increased by only 12% from 1983 to 1990. Consequently the sex ratio of the labour force which was about 3 males to 1 female in 1983 has declined to 2:1 in 1990. Figs 2.1 and 2.2 show the age distribution pattern of the male and female labour force for the years 1983 and 1990.

2.2 Activity rates

At the 1990 population census 432,019 persons were classified in the labour force out of a total population of 1,056,660; giving thus a crude activity rate of 40.9% compared to 36.4% in 1983. The rates for males and females separately were 57.0% and 24.7% respectively, which represent rises of 3.1 and 5.5 percentage points over the 1983 rates.

Fig 2.1 - Male labour force by age , 1983 & 1990

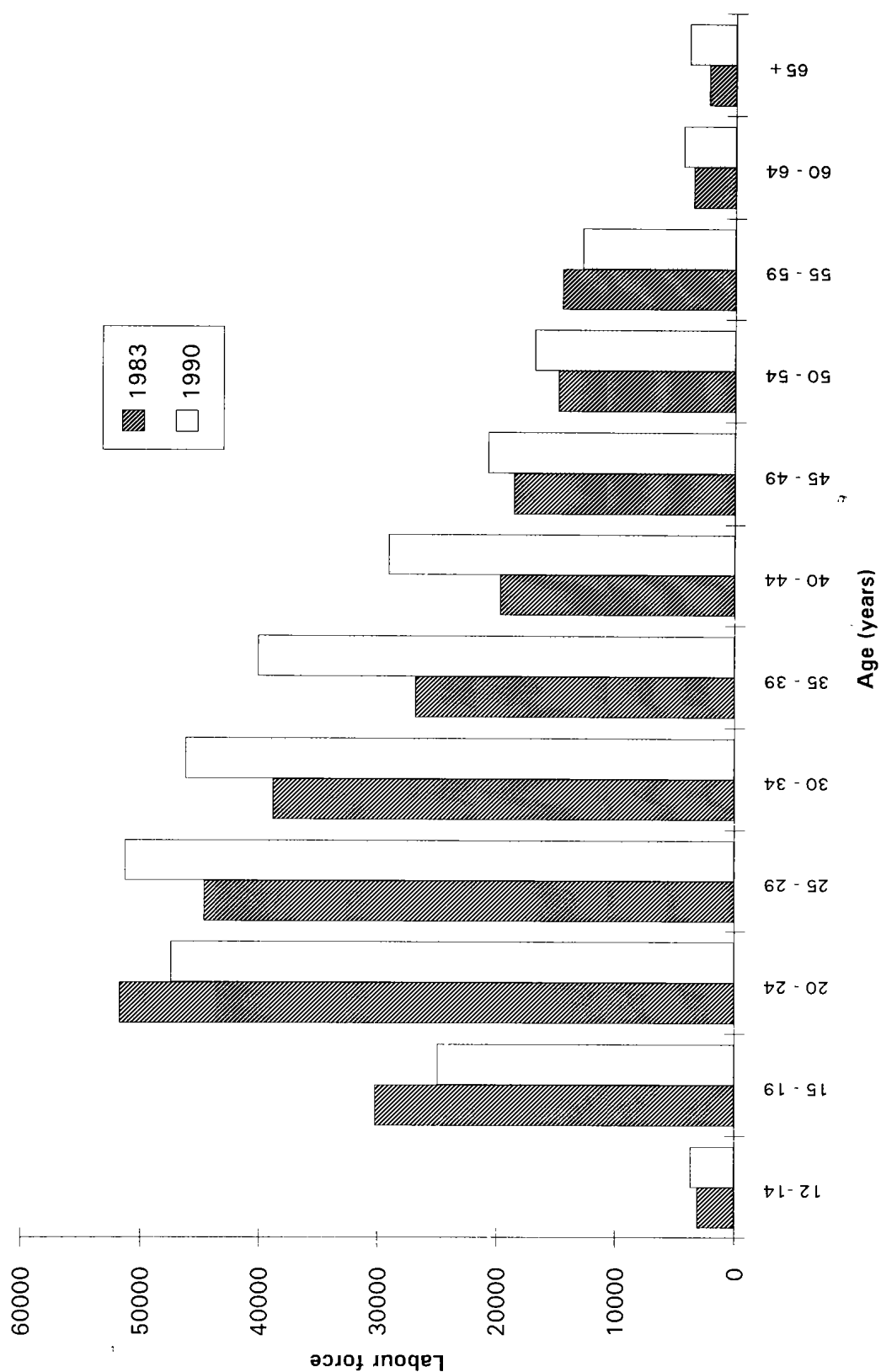
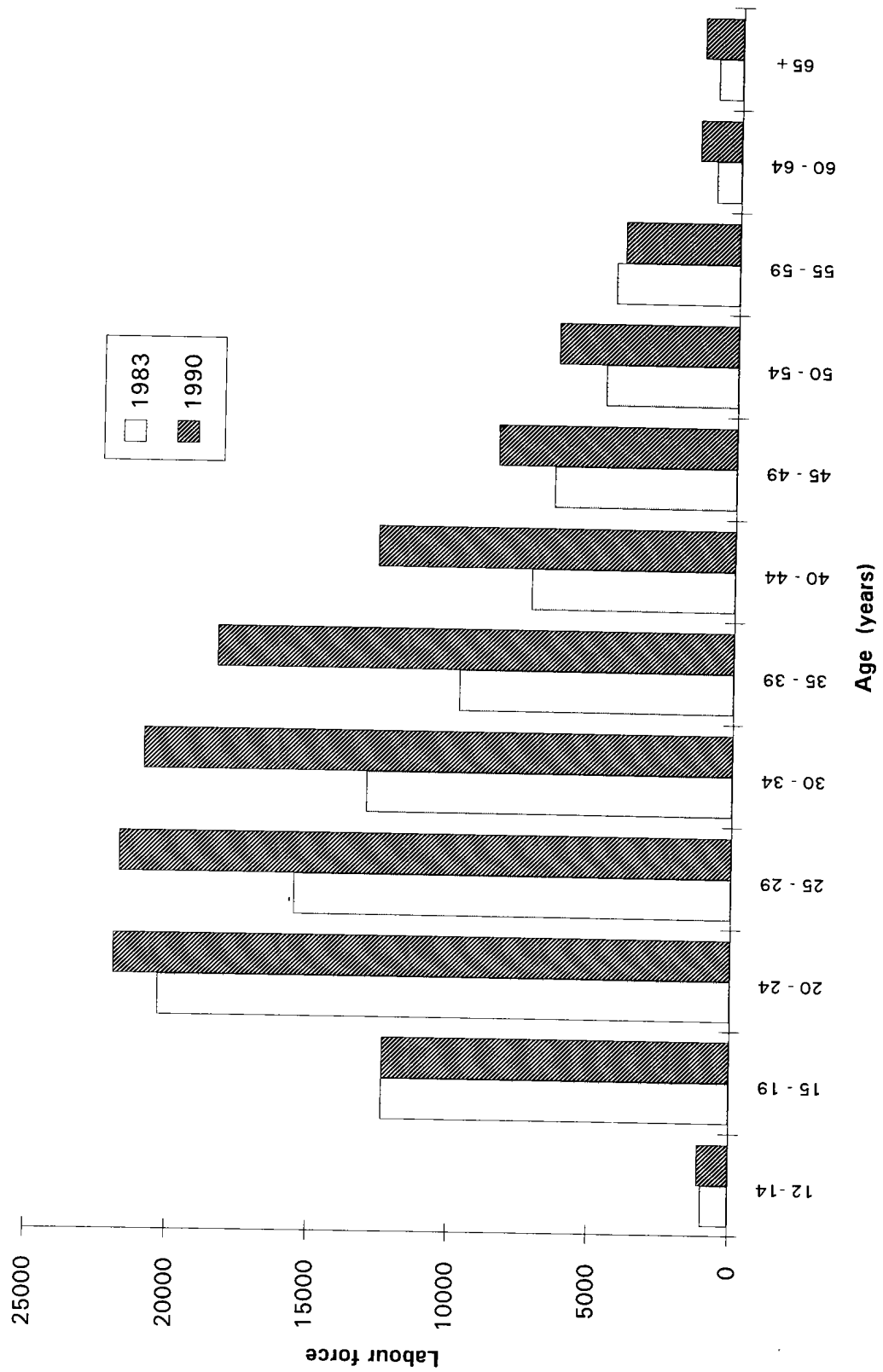


Fig 2.2 - Female labour force by age , 1983 & 1990



Age specific activity rate also called the labour force participation rate is a refined measure of the activity of the population as it relates the number of economically active persons to the population of working age. The rates for the population aged 12 years and above were 74.9% for males and 32.2% for females in 1990 compared to 73.7% and 25.9% respectively in 1983.

Table 2.2 - Population aged 12 years and above and labour force by sex, 1983 and 1990

	Male		Female		Both sexes	
	1983	1990	1983	1990	1983	1990
Population (12 years and above)	364,876	402,144	371,122	406,107	736,295	808,251
Labour force	268,856	301,368	96,255	130,651	365,111	432,019
Activity rate(%)	73.7	74.9	25.9	32.2	49.6	53.5

The marginal increase of 1.2 percentage points in the activity rate of males aged twelve years and above is explained by the fact that activity rates have nearly reached the optimum levels for almost all age groups as shown in table 2.3 below. The increase of 32,412 in the male labour force between 1983 and 1990 is therefore almost entirely attributable to the growth of the male population over this period and the different age composition of the 1983 and 1990 populations.

Among women, activity rates have gone up in almost all age groups ; resulting in an increase of 6.3 percentage points in the overall activity rate of females aged twelve years and above during the period 1983 to 1990. The most significant change in activity rates among females occurred at ages 30 to 39 where an increase of 12 percentage points is noted between 1983 and 1990. A probable explanation to the rise in economic activity for this age interval is that women who had left their jobs for marriage and child care have taken up employment again at a later age when their children no longer needed their full attention. The availability of jobs being an incentive for women, who have never worked before, to contribute to their household income has also brought many women to enter the labour market for the first time at a later age when household responsibilities have diminished.

2.3 Standardised activity rates

Standardised activity rates show how the size of the labour force would vary under the influence of the variations of age-specific activity rates only, i.e assuming no change in the age composition of the working population. These rates for 1990 have been calculated by applying age-specific activity rates of 1990 to the 1983 population which is treated as standard. The rates thus obtained are 73.4 for males and 32.3 for females.

Table 2.3 - Population , Activity rates and Labour force by age and sex , 1983 and 1990

Male

Age (Years)	1983			1990		
	Population	Activity rates	Labour force	Population	Activity rates	Labour force
12 -14	31,287	10.0	3,136	32,906	11.2	3,689
15 - 19	59,441	50.8	30,190	49,238	50.7	24,971
20 - 24	54,593	94.8	51,740	52,426	90.4	47,407
25 - 29	45,908	97.2	44,640	53,689	95.5	51,251
30 - 34	40,115	96.8	38,830	47,714	96.8	46,181
35 - 39	27,746	96.8	26,850	41,284	97.1	40,088
40 - 44	20,674	95.2	19,680	30,126	96.6	29,087
45 - 49	19,885	93.4	18,570	21,908	94.6	20,727
50 - 54	16,659	89.2	14,860	18,462	91.2	16,836
55 - 59	17,670	82.2	14,530	15,688	81.7	12,817
60 - 64	12,182	29.3	3,570	14,758	29.7	4,389
65 - 69	8,886	15.6	1,389	11,301	21.3	2,407
70 -74	5,378	11.1	595	6,480	14.7	955
75 and above	4,452	6.2	276	6,164	9.1	563
12 and above	364,876	73.7	268,856	402,144	74.9	301,368
15 and above	333,589	79.7	265,720	369,238	80.6	297,679

Female

Age (Years)	1983			1990		
	Population	Activity rates	Labour force	Population	Activity rates	Labour force
12 -14	30,069	3.2	955	32,231	3.4	1,098
15 - 19	58,267	21.2	12,350	47,964	25.7	12,334
20 - 24	53,752	37.8	20,340	50,238	43.6	21,920
25 - 29	45,825	33.9	15,530	51,893	41.9	21,742
30 - 34	39,466	32.9	12,990	45,875	45.6	20,912
35 - 39	28,582	34.0	9,720	39,925	45.9	18,340
40 - 44	21,251	33.9	7,210	30,309	41.8	12,671
45 - 49	20,143	32.0	6,440	22,802	37.0	8,446
50 - 54	16,483	28.3	4,670	19,576	32.4	6,347
55 - 59	17,910	24.3	4,350	16,475	24.6	4,054
60 - 64	13,000	6.6	860	16,088	9.0	1,448
65 - 69	10,256	5.0	512	12,952	6.0	781
70 -74	7,262	2.9	212	8,269	3.8	311
75 and above	8,856	1.3	116	11,510	2.1	246
12 and above	371,122	25.9	96,255	406,107	32.2	130,650
15 and above	341,053	27.9	95,300	373,876	34.7	129,552

Fig 2.3 - Age- specific activity rates , 1983 & 1990

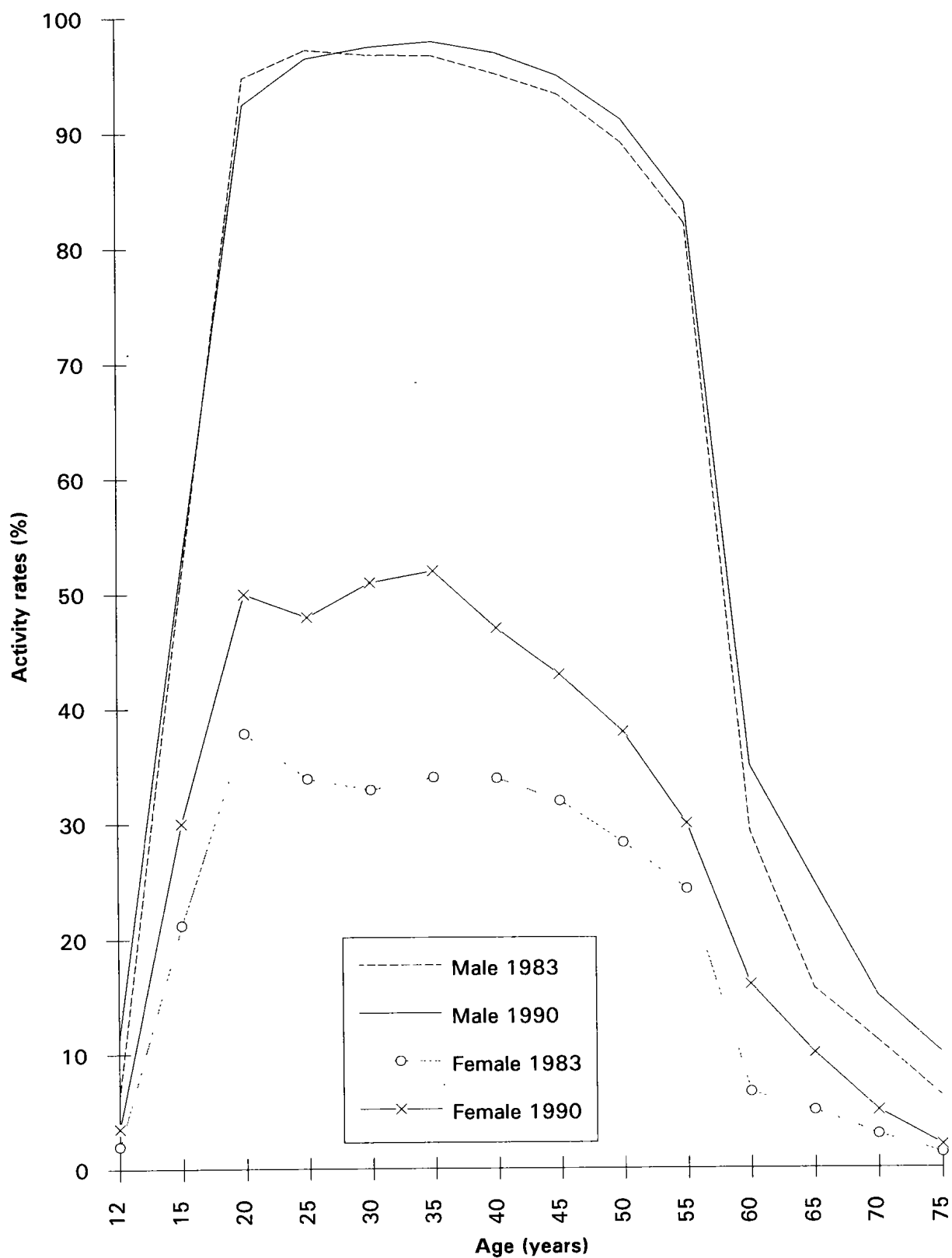


Table 2.4 - Specific and standardised activity rates, 1983 and 1990

Activity rate	Male	Female
1983 activity rate	73.7	25.9
1990 standardised activity rate	73.4	31.8
1990 activity rate	74.9	32.2

The standardised rate of 73.4 for males compared to the 1983 activity rate shows that there has been a small drop in economic activity among males. This decline in activity could be due to prolonged education among the younger persons. For instance, at age 20-24, the percentage of those studying has more than doubled when compared to 1983 figures.

2.4 Activity rates by marital status

Activity rates observed in 1990 vary from 47% in the category 'Widowed, divorced and separated' to 86% among married men. The figures in table 2.5 show that the level of activity among married men has remained constant since 1983 while among single men, a decrease of 4 percentage points is noted over this seven year period and among those classified as 'Widowed, divorced and separated' an increase of 2 points is noted. The reduction in the rates among the single is due to the twin factors of continuing education and postponement of marriage. In fact, the proportion married among young males declined drastically between 1983 and 1990.

Analysis by age shows that the fall in economic activity among single men (over 90% of whom are below 35 years) has resulted in a decrease in overall male activity rates in all the lower five-year age brackets between 15 and 34 years. Activity among married men aged 20 to 44 years has reached the maximum level, i.e 98-99%, while in the category 'Widowed, divorced and separated' in the same age interval, the observed rates lie between those for 'single' and 'married'. Further details are given in table 2.6.

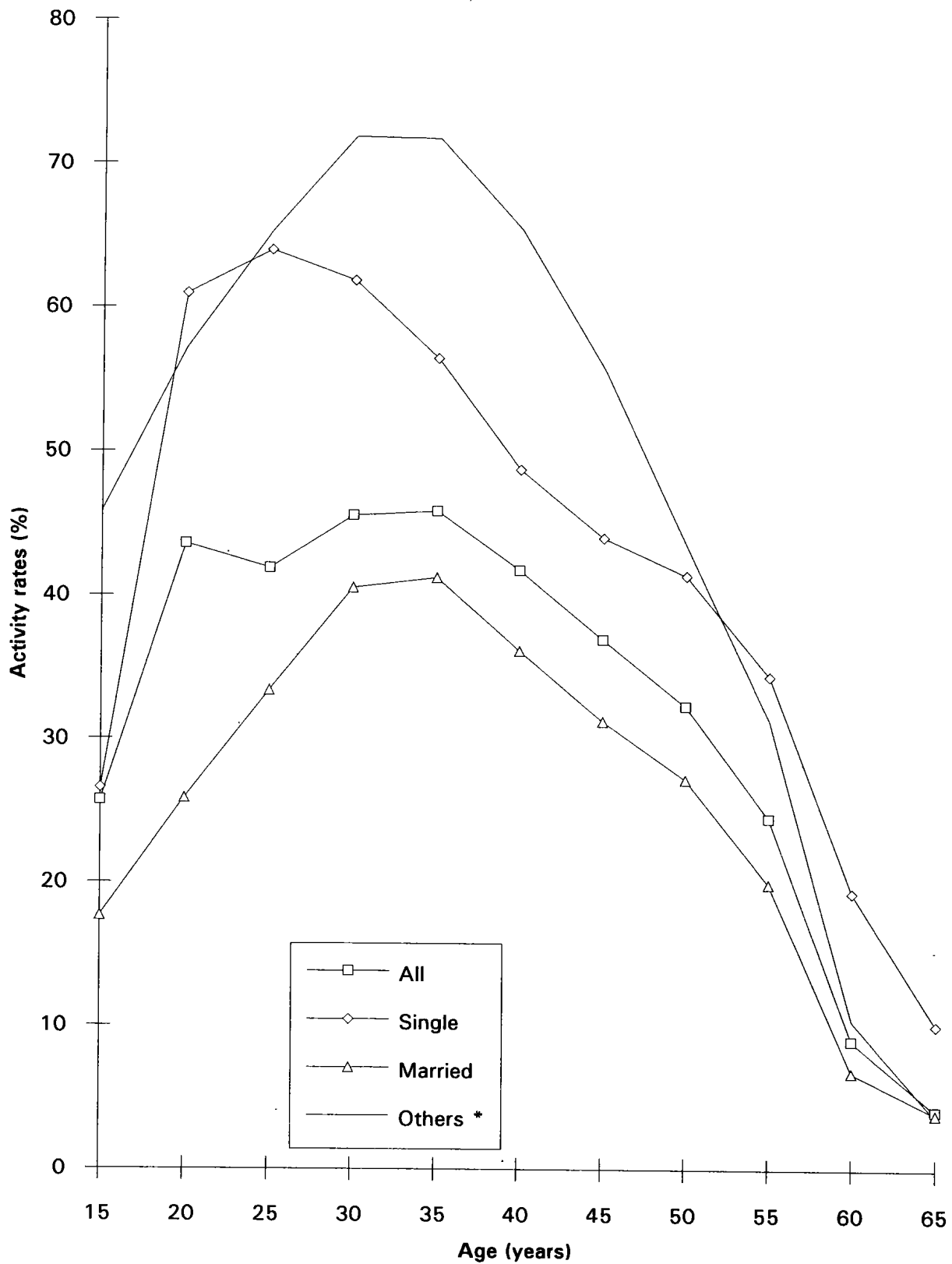
Table 2.5 - Activity rates by marital status and sex, 1983 & 1990

Marital status	Male		Female	
	1983	1990	1983	1990
Single	68	64	32	34
Married	86	86	21	32
Widowed, divorced & separated	47	49	28	30
All marital states	74	75	26	32

Table 2.6 - Activity rates by marital status, age and sex , 1990

Age (years) \ Marital status	All marital states	Single	Married	Widowed, divorced, separated
<u>Male</u>				
12 - 14	11.2	11.2	50.0	33.3
15 - 19	50.7	50.5	92.1	81.2
20 - 24	90.4	89.4	98.1	93.9
25 - 29	95.4	92.8	99.0	95.1
30 - 34	96.8	91.0	98.9	91.6
35 - 39	97.1	86.2	98.7	91.4
40 - 44	96.5	81.4	98.0	86.2
45 - 49	94.6	77.1	96.2	83.1
50 - 54	91.2	72.5	92.8	79.4
55 - 59	81.7	67.2	83.6	67.9
60 - 64	29.7	28.2	30.5	24.3
65 and above	16.4	19.1	17.6	11.7
12 and above	74.9	64.0	85.8	49.4
15 and above	80.6	75.9	85.8	49.4
<u>Female</u>				
12 - 14	3.4	3.4	16.2	-
15 - 19	25.7	26.6	17.7	45.9
20 - 24	43.6	61.0	25.9	57.2
25 - 29	41.9	64.0	33.4	65.3
30 - 34	45.6	61.9	40.6	71.9
35 - 39	45.9	56.5	41.3	71.8
40 - 44	41.8	48.8	36.2	65.5
45 - 49	37.0	44.1	31.3	55.8
50 - 54	32.4	41.5	27.3	43.6
55 - 59	24.6	34.5	20.0	31.4
60 - 64	9.0	19.4	6.8	10.4
65 and above	4.1	10.1	3.9	3.7
12 and above	32.2	34.2	31.5	30.1
15 and above	34.7	44.3	31.6	30.1

Fig 2.4 - Female activity rates by marital status, 1990



*Widowed,divorced & separated

In 1983, female activity rates by marital status varied from 21% among married women to 32% among single women. By 1990, this range has narrowed down to only 4 percentage points, i.e from 30% in the category 'Widowed, divorced and separated' to 34% among single women. It can also be noted that the rate for married women in 1990 is higher than that for 'Widowed, divorced and separated' ones while in 1983 married women were much less active as shown by the figures in table 2.5. This observed change has been the result of an increasing number of married women joining the labour market. In fact, during the period 1983 to 1990, a rise of 11 percentage points is noted in the activity rate for married women while increases of only 2 percentage points are noted in each of the other two categories of women.

Though the 1990 figures for females indicate a convergence in activity rate among the different marital status groups, the evolution of the rates with age is quite different as shown on the activity rates curves in figure 2.4. The highest rates (61-64%) among single women are observed in the age interval 20 to 34 years. Among married women, the highest rates vary from 36% in the age bracket 40-44 years to 41% among those between 30 to 39 years old. In the category 'Widowed, divorced and separated' which comprises women who have a greater necessity for work because of family responsibilities, activity rates as high as 72% have been noted in the age interval 30 to 39 years.

2.5 Labour force, employment and unemployment

The labour force consists of persons who are employed as well as those who are unemployed. Figures for the years 1983 and 1990 are given below.

Table 2.7 - Composition of the labour force, 1983 & 1990

	Male		Female		Both sexes	
	1983	1990	1983	1990	1983	1990
Employment	216,965	283,605	76,139	124,013	293,104	407,618
Unemployment	51,891	17,763	20,116	6,638	72,007	24,401
Labour force	268,856	301,368	96,255	130,651	365,111	432,019

The labour force or the number of economically active persons which represents the number of potential workers has been increasing by nearly 10,000 annually to reach 432,019 in 1990 from 365,111 in 1983. During this interval female labour force which stood at 96,255 in 1983 has increased at a faster rate, nearly 5% annually, to reach 130,651 in 1990 while the number of economically active males rose from 268,856 in 1983 to 301,368 in 1990, representing an annual increase of approximately 2%. The higher rate of increase for females is explained by the fact that an increasing number of women who were previously engaged in household duties have been taking up jobs which are considered as economic activity. On the other hand, there is not much scope for further rise among males as the level of activity is already high.

Fig 2.5 - Working population by activity status, 1983 & 1990

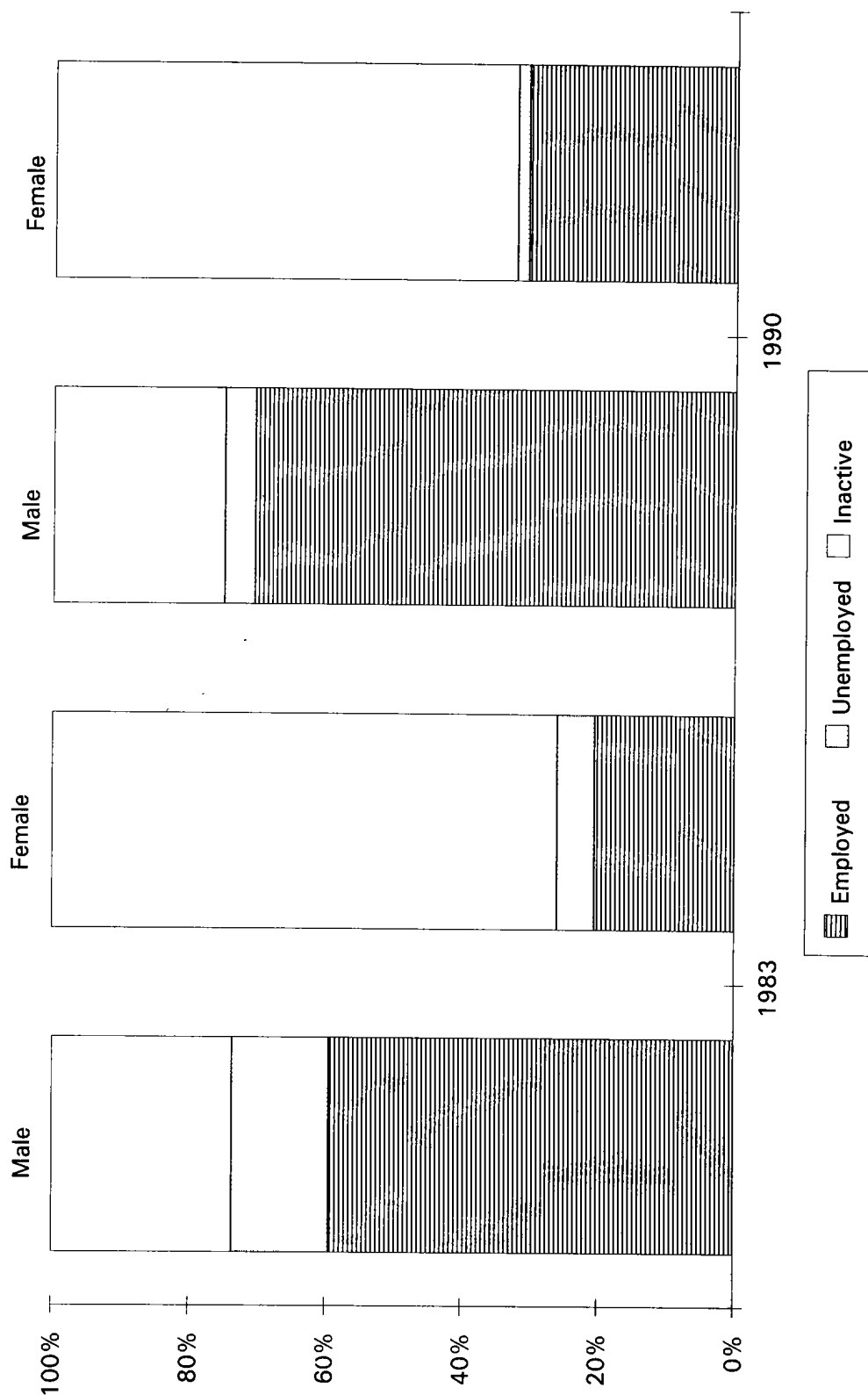


Table 2.8 - Population aged 12 years and above by geographical district and current activity status , 1990

District	Total	Currently active		Inactive
		Employed	Unemployed	
Port -Louis	102,751	49,898	3,118	49,735
Pamplemousses	76,656	37,803	2,275	36,578
Rivière du Rempart	66,225	31,714	2,353	32,158
Flacq	85,538	40,862	3,470	41,206
Grand Port	73,829	36,686	3,083	34,060
Plaines Wilhems	251,317	130,481	5,915	114,921
Moka	49,864	25,603	1,470	22,791
Black River	32,229	18,060	673	13,496
Savanne	46,654	24,991	1,332	20,331
Island of Mauritius	785,063	396,098	23,689	365,276
Rodrigues	23,188	11,520	712	10,956
Republic of Mauritius	808,251	407,618	24,401	376,232

The number of persons with jobs has increased from 293,104 in 1983 to 407,618 in 1990; an increase of 39% while the total labour force has increased by 18% only. These different rates of increase imply an important drop in unemployment during this seven year period as indeed shown by the figures in table 2.7. Analysis of the data by sex shows that the rate of increase in female employment has been twice the rate observed among males as a result of which the proportion of women in total employment has reached 30% in 1990 compared to 26% in 1983.

At the 1990 Population Census, the number of reported cases of 'unemployed' was 17,763 among males and 6,638 among females, yielding unemployment rates (i.e. the percentage of unemployed persons in the labour force) of 6 and 5 per cent respectively. The corresponding rates for 1983 were 19% among males and 21% among females; representing 51,891 unemployed males and 20,116 unemployed females. This sharp decline in unemployment from 72,007 in 1983 to 24,401 in 1990 is mainly attributable to the rapid expansion of the Export Processing Zone in the eighties. In fact, over 50,000 additional jobs have been created in this sector between 1983 and 1990.

Table 2.8 shows the distribution of the population of working age by current activity status and geographical district, including Rodrigues. Out of the total of 432,019 persons who constituted the Mauritian labour force (the currently actives) in 1990, 12,232 or about 3% were residents of Rodrigues. The proportion of employed persons among the actives is approximately the same in both islands, i.e 94%.

2.6 Economically active life

Working life tables representing the life cycle of economic activity in hypothetical cohorts of persons, subject at each period of their lives to given rates of mortality and of participation in economic activities, have been calculated from data obtained at the 1990 Population Census.

These tables provide estimates of the duration of productive life span as compared to total life span. For example, the average male worker aged 20 years could expect to live for an additional 47.8 years and to remain in the labour force for an additional 38.5 years. On the other hand, a woman of the same age is expected to live for a further 55.2 years and to be economically active for some 36.7 more years. The figures worked out for different age groups of the population of working age are given in table 2.9.

Life expectancy of women is higher than that of men by about seven years up to the age of 40 to 45 years while the expected number of remaining active years is lower by about two years. After 45 years, the difference in both total life and working life expectancy diminishes gradually. By the age of 50, working life expectancy is almost equal for the two sexes. The average length of inactive life for women is thus 9 years higher than those for male - 7 years due to differences in mortality levels and 2 years due to lower participation rates.

2.7 Entries into the labour force, retirements and losses by death

Measures of rates of entry into and retirement from the labour force as well as the depletion of the labour force by death have also been derived from the working life tables.

Firstly, the annual losses from the labour force by death and retirement and gains by entries from the inactive population in the different 5-year age groups have been calculated. The figures are shown in table 2.10. The crude rates of entry, retirement and death which represent the number of entries, retirements and deaths per 1000 persons in the labour force, are presented in table 2.11.

Table 2.9 - Life expectancy of the working population by age and sex - 1990

Age interval (x to x + 5) years	Male			Female		
	Total life expectancy at age x	Average number of remaining active years at age x	Average number of remaining inactive years at age x	Total life expectancy at age x	Average number of remaining active years at age x	Average number of remaining inactive years at age x
10 - 15	57.4	48.2	9.2	64.9	46.5	18.4
15 - 20	52.6	43.3	9.3	60.0	41.6	18.4
20 - 25	47.8	38.5	9.3	55.2	36.7	18.5
25 - 30	43.0	33.7	9.3	50.4	31.8	18.6
30 - 35	38.3	28.9	9.4	45.6	27.0	18.6
35 - 40	33.8	24.2	9.5	40.9	22.2	18.7
40 - 45	29.4	19.8	9.6	36.1	18.1	18.0
45 - 50	25.3	15.6	9.7	31.5	14.9	16.6
50 - 55	21.4	11.6	9.8	27.0	11.6	15.4
55 - 60	17.9	8.0	9.9	22.8	8.5	14.3
60 - 65	14.7	5.6	9.1	18.8	6.5	12.3
65 - 70	12.0	6.8	5.2	15.2	6.1	9.1
70 - 75	9.5	5.8	3.7	11.8	4.9	6.9
75 and above	7.2	5.8	1.4	9.2	5.2	4.0

Table 2.10 - Changes in the labour force by new entries, retirements, deaths and by age & sex -1990.

Age (Years)	Male				Female			
	Labour force	Annual entries	Annual retirements	Deaths	Labour force	Annual entries	Annual retirements	Deaths
10 - 14	3,688	3,340	-	2	1,122	1,794	-	-
15 - 19	25,605	4,238	-	22	14,390	2,303	-	10
20 - 24	48,497	2,338	-	52	25,121	907	-	21
25 - 29	51,813	269	-	75	24,911	51	-	20
30 - 34	46,524	71	-	112	23,398	184	-	33
35 - 39	40,460	-	21	173	20,763	-	159	26
40 - 44	29,224	-	90	183	14,246	-	273	33
45 - 49	20,814	-	127	187	9,806	-	205	36
50 - 54	16,838	-	202	267	7,440	-	254	47
55 - 59	13,179	-	855	278	4,943	-	360	47
60 - 64	5,166	-	912	187	2,574	-	326	41
65 - 69	2,826	-	226	131	1,295	-	143	32
70 - 74	972	-	100	66	414	-	68	19
75 and above	616	-	70	36	230	-	34	9
Total	306,222	10,256	2,603	1,771	150,653	5,239	1,822	374

Though the number of male entries into the labour force is almost twice the number for females, the entry rate for females is higher than that for males. Retirement rate which represents the number of persons leaving the labour force (at any age) is also higher among females; implying thus that in general women remain economically active for a lesser number of years. On the other hand, death rate among male workers is more than twice that noted among female workers.

Table 2.11 - Crude rates of entry, retirement and death by sex, 1990

Rate (per thousand)	Male	Female
Crude entry rate (e)	33.4	34.7
Crude retirement rate (r)	8.5	12.0
Crude death rate (d)	5.7	2.4
Replacement rate (e-r-d)	19.2	20.3
Replacement ratio	235	241

The net effect of entry, death and retirement is given by the replacement rate which can be interpreted as the rate of natural increase of the labour force. The rates for 1990 are 19.2 for males and 20.3 for females. These figures show that female labour force is being replenished at a faster rate, essentially because of much lower mortality rates.

The labour force replacement ratio defined as the annual number of entries into the labour force per 100 of the sum of retirements and deaths, represents the demands of entering workers for jobs in proportion to the number of jobs being vacated by retirement and death. In 1990, for each 100 male departures (either by retirement or death) 235 more were joining the labour market and the corresponding figures for women were 239 against every 100 departures.

3. EMPLOYED POPULATION

The rise of 114,514 noted in employment from 293,104 in 1983 to 407,618 in 1990 has been mainly a result of the accelerated expansion of the EPZ sector in the eighties. Increasing job facilities in this sector has attracted a large proportion of those reported as unemployed and inactive (specifically married women) at the previous census. In fact, the number of employed married women has doubled over the period 1983 to 1990 (from 32,819 to 66,060) while the total number of married women enumerated has increased from 178,446 to 215,243; a rise of 20% only.

3.1 Employed population by industry

The three sectors employing the largest number of persons over the years 1983 to 1990 are 'Agriculture & fishing', 'Manufacturing' and 'Community, social and personal services'. In 1983, 'Agriculture & fishing' accounted for 27% of total employment compared to 23% in 'Community, social and personal services' and 21% in the manufacturing sector. By 1990, the share of the Manufacturing sector has increased by 11 percentage points, reaching 32% whilst those of 'Community, social and personal services' and 'Agriculture & fishing' fell to 20% and 17% respectively. This change in the importance of these three sectors as suppliers of jobs is again attributable to the rapid growth of the EPZ manufacturing sector with a creation of 54,000 additional jobs between 1983 and 1990. During the same period, the net increase in employment in 'Community, social and personal services' was around 15,000 while a decrease of about 10,000 was noted in Agriculture, as reported at the censuses. Evolution of employment in the other industry groups as well, is given in table 3.1

Agriculture and fishing

The number of persons engaged in agricultural activities, including government employees, as reported at the 1990 Population Census was 68,000 compared to 78,400 at the previous census. The fall of 13% noted in employment in this sector has occurred mainly in sugarcane cultivation where a decrease of 6,700 employees is noted.

40,400 employees out of the total of 68,000 in the agricultural sector were engaged in sugar cane plantations in 1990. The corresponding figures for 1983 were 47,100 out of a total of 78,400, indicating thus a slight fall in the share of employment in sugar cane cultivation from 60% to 59% by 1990. This contraction in employment in the sugar sector has occurred on the sugar estates and in large plantations while the small-holder sector has remained more or less constant. The decline in employment has not however affected production since there has been greater recourse to mechanisation of some cultivating and harvesting operations.

Manufacturing

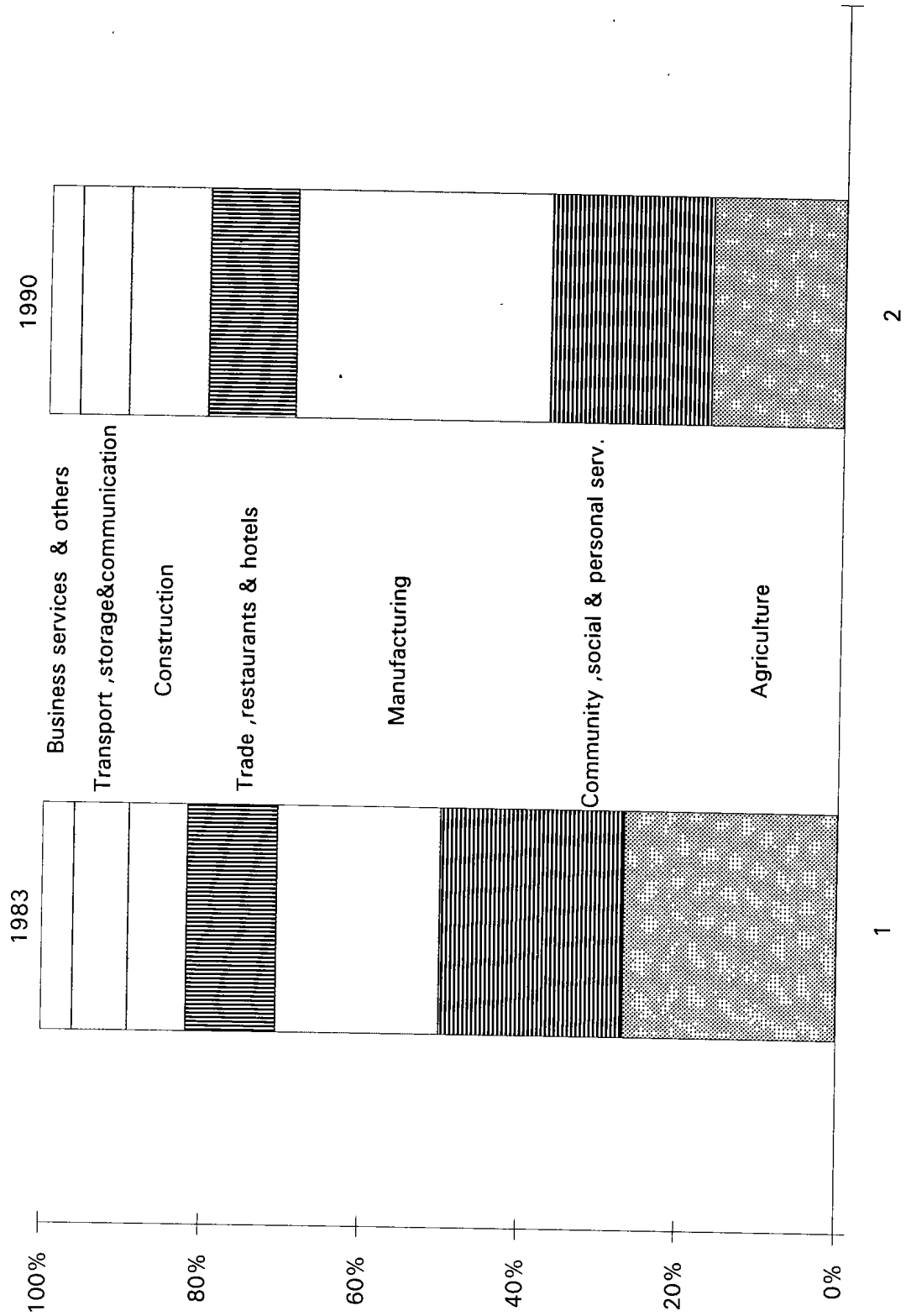
The manufacturing sector has become the largest employment generator with 130,900 employees in 1990 compared to 60,400 in 1983. During this period, employment in EPZ enterprises has increased by more than three times, i.e. from 23,100 in 1983 to 77,000 in 1990. The non-EPZ sector which comprised more than 60% of employed persons of the manufacturing sector in 1983, has expanded at a much slower pace, thus bringing down its share to around 40% in 1990.

Out of a total of 54,000 additional jobs created in the EPZ manufacturing sector over the period 1983 to 1990, about 31,000 went to females and 23,000 to males. Although this sector continues to employ a larger number of female workers, the proportion of males has reached 35% in 1990 compared to only 18% in 1983. In the overall manufacturing sector however, the sex ratio has remained at about 1:1 over the period.

Table 3.1 - Employed population by industry and sex , 1983 & 1990 (in thousands)

Industrial group	1983			1990		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agricultural & fishing of which sugar cane	58.5 (32.9)	19.9 (14.2)	78.4 (47.1)	50.3 (28.5)	17.7 (11.9)	68.0 (40.4)
Mining & quarrying	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.7
Manufacturing of which sugar of which EPZ	33.7 (7.0) (4.2)	26.7 (0.2) (18.9)	60.4 (7.2) (23.1)	69.4 (7.1) (27.2)	61.5 (0.4) (49.8)	130.9 (7.5) (77.0)
Electricity & water	4.3	0.1	4.4	3.4	0.1	3.5
Construction	21.4	0.2	21.6	40.3	0.3	40.6
Wholesale & retail trade, restaurants & hotels	26.6	6.4	33.0	34.3	10.6	44.9
Transport ,storage, & communicaton	19.6	0.7	20.3	23.0	1.8	24.8
Financing , insurance , real estate & business services	4.9	1.7	6.6	8.2	3.4	11.6
Community , social and personal services	47.7	20.3	68.0	54.1	28.5	82.6
Total	217.0	76.1	293.1	283.6	124.0	407.6

Fig 3.1- Employment by industry, 1983 & 1990



Community, social and personal services

Employment in 'Community, social and personal services' which stood at 68,000 in 1983, increased by 21% to reach 82,600 in 1990. Male employment rose from 47,700 to 54,100; an increase of 13% while the rise in female employment was over 40% i.e from 20,300 to 28,500. A fall in the proportion of male workers from 70% in 1983 to 65% in 1990 is therefore noted.

In 1990, government employees represented about 46% of employment in 'Community, social and personal services'. In fact, the majority of government employees (nearly 75%) are classified in this sector. The remaining 25% has been classified under other industry headings according to the type of activity performed at their respective places of work.

3.2 Employed population by industry, age and sex

Analysis of the age composition of the working population in 1990 as per table 3.2 shows that the highest proportion of workers (nearly one third) was in the age bracket 25 - 34 for both males and females. However, the proportion of employees below 35 years is higher among females, i.e 58.1% compared to 55.4% among males. Average age of the employed population works out to 34.6 years for males and 33.5 years for females.

In the manufacturing sector, out of the total of 61,530 female workers, 75% were below 35 years while in Agriculture only 18% of the total of 17,716 women were in that age bracket. The average age of the female employee was 28.9 years in Manufacturing and 43.3 years in Agriculture. These differences in age composition of the female work force in these two particular sectors may be explained by the increased number of job opportunities in the manufacturing sector, specifically in EPZ enterprises, for the new entrants into the labour force and also by a marked preference for such jobs rather than agricultural ones by the younger generation. The trade sector, with 10,587 female employees in 1990 also employs a high proportion of young women. In fact, the two lower age groups 12 - 24 and 25 - 34 years accounted for 26.8% and 32.2% respectively of the total number of female workers of this sector.

In 'Community, social and personal services', the second largest employer of female workers after the manufacturing sector, women aged between 25 and 34 years constituted about 32% of the female work force and those between 35 and 44 years made up to 30% of the total of 28,234 female workers employed in this sector.

Among males, the proportion of employees below 35 years in the manufacturing sector was nearly as high as for females, i.e 73% while in the agricultural sector, nearly 60% of male workers were above 34 years. The other two sectors where the majority of male workers (i.e more than 50%) were above 34 years, are 'Electricity and water' and 'Community, social and personal services'. The aging of the working population in these two sectors is explained by a reduced intake of new employees over the last ten years in the two public enterprises (the Central Electricity Board and the Central Water Authority) which constitute the group 'Electricity and water' and in government services which account for more than half of the number of employees in 'Community, social and personal services.'

Table 3.2 - Percentage distribution of the employed population by industry , age and sex , 1990

[illegible]

Table 3.3 - Average age of the employed population by industry and sex ,1990

Industry	Male	Female	Both sexes
Agricultural & fishing	38	43.3	39.4
of which sugar cane	(38.4)	(44.1)	(40.1)
Mining & quarrying	30	37.4	31.1
Manufacturing	29.9	28.9	29.4
of which EPZ	(25.2)	(28.4)	(27.3)
Electricity & water	40.7	36.8	40.5
Construction	34.3	31.7	34.3
Wholesale & retail trade,restaurants & hotels	34.5	33.8	34.4
Transport ,storage, & communication	35.8	29	35.3
Financing , insurance , real estate & business services	34.7	29.5	33.2
Community , social and personal services	36.8	37.9	37.2
of which : central government	(39.6)	(37.2)	(39.1)
local government	(41.6)	(39.7)	(41.4)
All industry groups	34.6	33.5	34.2

3.3 Employed population by length of service with present employer and sector of employment

In government services, three quarters of the number of employees have already completed at least 10 years of service while those who have completed 20 years or more, represent one third of the workforce in this sector. These figures reflect the slowdown in the intake of new employees in government departments over the recent years and also the tendency for workers to stay for a career.

Almost the same pattern of distribution is noted in public enterprises and in the Sugar Industry where it is noted that over 60% of employees have been working for the same employer for at least 10 years and would most probably stay until retirement age.

On the other hand, the proportion of EPZ workers having been engaged in their present jobs for more than 20 years is almost negligible. In the bracket 10-19 years of service as well, a very low percentage of employees is noted, i.e 7% only. This may be explained by the fact that the EPZ is a newly developed sector and is also characterised by a high mobility among its workers, so that the length of service with given employers tends to be relatively small. Current surveys of employment show that there were already some 21,000 persons employed in the EPZ in 1980 and 45,000 in 1985. Without the tendency for workers to shift from one employer to another, the proportion with 5 to 19 years of service would have been higher than the figures shown in table 3.4 below.

Table 3.4 - Percentage distribution of the employed population by length of service and sector of employment, 1990

Length of service	Government services	Public enterprises	Sugar industry	EPZ	Other private enterprises
Less than 1 year	4.0	6.8	9.4	24.0	19.3
1-4 years	12.0	21.0	17.6	53.2	35.8
5-9 years	9.6	11.5	10.0	15.2	15.7
10-19 years	41.8	44.0	31.0	7.4	18.5
20 & above	32.6	16.7	32.0	0.2	10.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

3.4 Employed population by occupation

Employment figures in the various industry groups for 1990 have also been distributed by major occupational groups of ISCO-88, a revised version of the 1968 International Standard Classification of Occupations. Table 3.5 shows the distribution of employment by industry and occupation for males and females separately.

For comparison purposes, table 3.6 shows employment figures for 1983 and 1990 classified according to the major groups of the 1968 version of ISCO. ISCO-88 being a more detailed classification, it has been easier to recompile the 1990 Census data according to ISCO-68 rather than adjusting the 1983 data to the more recent classification.

Table 3.5 - Employed population by industry , occupation and sex , 1990

Male

Industry	Occupation *									
	Total	Legislators senior officials and managers	Professionals	Technicians and associate professionals	Clerks	Service workers shop,market & sales workers	Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	Craft and related trades workers	Plant and machine operators and assemblers	Elementary occupations
Agriculture,hunting,forestry and fishing	50,252	237	129	475	407	315	13,395	806	1,802	32,686
Mining and quarrying	558	8	-	-	6	1	3	295	15	230
Manufacturing	69,405	2,135	434	973	3,512	1,205	539	27,145	26,603	6,859
Electricity , gas and water	3,438	25	80	282	329	25	13	1,162	561	961
Construction	40,262	358	152	479	804	45	49	28,785	2,031	7,559
Wholesale and retail trade , restaurants & hotels	34,341	7,859	279	951	2,527	12,147	395	2,118	1,241	6,824
Transport , storage and communication	23,016	489	151	1,010	2,619	2,898	26	1,166	9,416	5,241
Financing , insurance , real estate and business services	8,194	764	796	1,400	2,267	1,008	29	221	303	1,406
Community , social and personal services	53,678	1,293	4,779	9,034	4,164	8,272	551	9,861	1,702	14,022
Activities not elsewhere classified	461	8	2	4	17	8	2	14	12	394
Total	283,605	13,176	6,802	14,608	16,652	25,924	15,002	71,573	43,686	76,182

* International Standard Classification of Occupations 1988

Table 3.5 (cont'd) - Employed population by industry, occupation and sex , 1990

Female	Industry	Total	Occupation *								
			Legislators senior officials and managers	Professionals	Technicians and associate professionals	Clerks	Service workers shop, market & sales workers	Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	Craft and related trades workers	Plant and machine operators and assemblers	Elementary occupations
	Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	17,716	16	11	32	121	13	2,308	18	29	15,168
	Mining and quarrying	104	-	1	-	2	-	-	2	-	99
	Manufacturing	61,530	369	72	355	3,970	373	37	9,636	39,906	6,812
	Electricity , gas and water	143	-	2	9	116	-	1	3	-	12
	Construction	329	4	4	17	171	3	6	77	7	40
	Wholesale and retail trade , restaurants & hotels	10,587	1,725	80	220	2,624	4,577	55	99	51	1,156
	Transport , storage and communication	1,742	52	26	147	1,142	264	1	11	18	81
	Financing , insurance , real estate and business services	3,365	94	139	313	2,708	35	1	12	2	61
	Community , social and personal services	28,234	383	2409	7683	4,144	2,065	22	300	75	11,153
	Activities not elsewhere classified	263	1	1	-	20	2	-	-	6	233
	Total	124,013	2,644	2,745	8,776	15,018	7,332	2,431	10,158	40,094	34,815

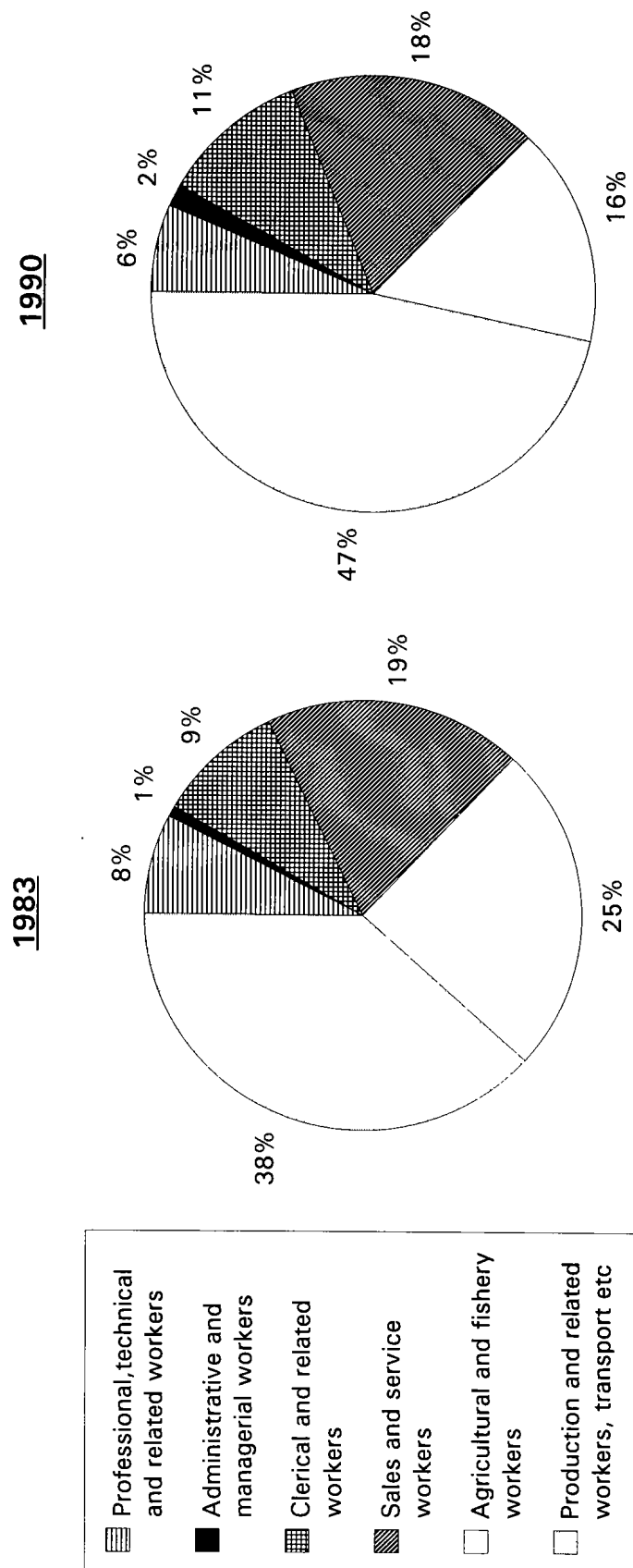
* International Standard Classification of Occupations 1988

Table 3.6 - Employed population by occupation and sex , 1983 and 1990 (in thousands)

Occupational group*	1983			1990		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Professional, technical and related workers	13.8	8.9	22.7	16.1	10.1	26.2
Administrative and managerial workers	2.3	0.2	2.5	6.0	1.0	7.0
Clerical and related workers	18.6	8.4	27.0	28.0	16.2	44.2
Sales and service workers	40.0	16.5	56.5	51.2	23.8	75.0
Agricultural and fishery workers	53.5	18.8	72.3	48.3	17.8	66.1
Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers(non-agricultural)	88.8	23.3	112.1	134.0	55.1	189.1
Total	217.0	76.1	293.1	283.6	124.0	407.6

*International Standard Classification of Occupation 1968

Fig 3.2 : Employment by occupation , 1983 - 1990



The number of persons employed in the various occupational groups shows increases between 1983 and 1990 for all the categories except for agricultural workers. The highest rise is noted among production workers with a total of 189,000 in 1990 compared to 112,000 in 1983. On the other hand, a net decrease of 6,000 is noted among agricultural workers. The share of production workers in the total employed labour force has therefore increased from 38% in 1983 to 46% in 1990 while that of agricultural workers fell from 25% to 16%. These figures again reflect the growing importance of the manufacturing sector over the agricultural sector. Analysis by sex shows that the number of women engaged as production workers has more than doubled, i.e from 23,000 in 1983 to 55,000 in 1990, whilst a slower rate of growth of about 50% is noted among males. Though male employment has risen less rapidly than female employment, in absolute numbers the increase over this seven year period is of the order of 45,000, i.e 13,000 more than for females. Among agricultural workers both the number of male and female workers have gone down by 5,000 and 1,000 respectively. These figures indicate a definite preference for jobs in manufacturing industries among both males and females.

The number of persons employed as sales and service workers has also increased significantly between 1983 and 1990. Net increases of 11,000 among males and 7,000 among females have been noted, bringing thus the total number of employees in this group to 75,000 in 1990 from 57,000 in 1983. This increase is mainly attributable to the expansion of wholesale and retail trade activities as well as the tourism industry, specifically hotel services.

The "clerical and related workers" group has registered an increase of 17,000 employees between these two census years, but its share in total employment has remained almost at the 1983 level, i.e around 10%. Managers and administrators constituted 0.9% and 1.7% of the total number of workers in 1983 and 1990 respectively. Professionals and technicians who accounted for 7.7% in 1983 found their share dropping to 6.4% in 1990. It can also be noted that in 1983 only 8% of the total of 2,500 posts of managers and administrators were occupied by women but in 1990 this proportion has gone up to 14% whilst among professionals and technicians the sex ratio has remained at around 3:2.

3.5 Employed population by educational attainment

Table 3.7 shows the composition of the employed population by educational attainment, age and sex for the year 1990. Analysis of these figures shows that about 35,000 persons, representing 8.6% of the total number of persons in employment, had no education or had only pre-primary education. 46.4% of the working population or 189,000 employees had received primary education and among these employees about 24,000 had passed the certificate of primary education. A further 42.7% of the total number of employees had followed or completed secondary education. This category of employees which numbers about 173,500, includes 55,365 and 18,487 holders of School Certificate and Higher School Certificate respectively. It is to be noted that about 4,500 persons who have followed courses leading to awards of a level between the Higher School Certificate and just below a first university degree have also been classified as having secondary education, at the 1990 Population Census. University graduates numbered around 9,300, i.e 2.3% of total employment.

The general level of education of the working population has significantly improved over the years 1983 to 1990, as shown by the comparative figures in table 3.8.

Table 3.7 - Employed population (1) by educational attainment , age and sex ,1990

Educational attainment Age (years)					
	Nil and Preprimary	Primary	Secondary	University degree	Total
<u>Both sexes</u>					
12 and above	<u>34912</u>	<u>188991</u>	<u>173503</u>	<u>9277</u>	<u>406683</u>
12 - 24	1756	42936	49406	177	94275
25 - 44	14070	104149	107542	7263	233024
45 - 64	17563	38843	16083	1717	74206
65 and above	1523	3063	472	120	5178
<u>Male</u>					
12 and above	<u>16774</u>	<u>134417</u>	<u>124481</u>	<u>7262</u>	<u>282934</u>
12 - 24	1158	29663	32181	105	63107
25 - 44	5995	71087	79200	5535	161817
45 - 64	8751	31172	12715	1515	54153
65 and above	870	2495	385	107	3857
<u>Female</u>					
12 and above	<u>18138</u>	<u>54574</u>	<u>49022</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>123749</u>
12 - 24	598	13273	17225	72	31168
25 - 44	8075	33062	28342	1728	71207
45 - 64	8812	7671	3368	202	20053
65 and above	653	568	87	13	1321

(1) Excludes 935 persons who did not state their educational attainments

Table 3.8 - Percentage distribution of the employed population by educational attainment , age and sex , 1983 & 1990

Age (years)		1983					1990					
		12 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 & above	12 & above	12 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 & above	12 & above	
Sex and educational attainment												
	<u>Male</u>											
	Nil & preprimary	2.5	6.1	21.7	21.6	9.5	1.8	3.7	16.2	22.6	5.9	
	Primary	48.7	48.6	62.7	61.7	52.3	47.0	43.9	57.5	64.8	47.5	
	Secondary *	48.4	42.0	13.9	14.7	35.8	50.9	49.0	23.5	9.9	44.0	
	University degree	0.4	3.3	1.7	2.0	2.4	0.2	3.4	2.8	2.7	2.6	
	All levels	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
<u>Female</u>												
	Nil & preprimary	2.8	20.5	54.1	39.7	23.9	1.9	11.3	43.9	49.5	14.7	
	Primary	46.5	39.4	34.7	51.3	40.2	42.6	46.5	38.3	42.9	44.1	
	Secondary *	50.2	37.6	10.6	8.8	34.3	55.3	39.8	16.8	6.6	39.6	
	University degree	0.5	2.5	0.6	0.2	1.6	0.2	2.4	1.0	1.0	1.6	
	All levels	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

* Includes award above H.S.C and just below university degree

The proportion of males having no education or only pre-primary education has gone down by four percentage points, i.e from nearly 10% in 1983 to 6% in 1990. Approximately the same rate of decrease is noted among males having primary education only. These decreases in the lower educational level groups are explained by the fact that more males have been pursuing studies up to secondary level, following the introduction of free secondary education in 1976. In fact, the proportion of males having secondary education has gone up by over 8 percentage points between 1983 and 1990. The proportion of male university degree holders has also increased from 2.4% in 1983 to 2.6% in 1990.

Women with no education or with only pre-primary education constituted 15% of the female working population in 1990, compared to 24% in 1983. The proportion of those having primary education has risen by nearly 4 percentage points while among those having secondary education, an increase of 5 percentage points is noted. The proportion of degree holders has remained almost constant over the period.

Analysis of employment figures in the age bracket 12 to 24 years shows that among women the proportion having secondary education is higher than that among men. In 1983 working women with secondary education comprised 50% of the total number of female workers aged 12 to 24 years while among males the proportion was 48%. The corresponding figures for 1990, i.e 55% among females and 51% among males indicate a still wider difference. This is probably explained by the fact that young girls with higher educational attainment are more likely to be interested in taking up jobs while among those with less education, a higher proportion may be inactive. On the other hand, young boys who have left school will all be interested in taking up employment, irrespective of their level of education. More than half of the total number of employed persons are found in the age bracket 25 to 44 years. In this age group, a higher proportion of female workers were reported to have only primary education in 1990, i.e 46.5% with primary education compared to 40% only with secondary education. In 1983, approximately the same proportion (38-39%) was noted at these two levels. Among male workers in the same age group, the proportion having reached secondary education was 49% compared to 44% with primary education only in 1990, a major improvement over the 1983 situation when 49% had only primary education and 42% had been to secondary schools.

3.6 Employed population with vocational or technical training

According to data collected at the 1990 Population Census, 31,558 employed persons or 7.7% of the total of 407,618, have had some kind of vocational or technical training (table 3.9). The proportions having been trained among male and female workers were 7.3% and 8.8% respectively. The total number of persons who were reported as having undergone vocational or technical training, was 38,064 of whom 83% were already in employment. Latest figures available at the Industrial and Vocational Training Board (IVTB) indicate that about 50,000 persons have attended a training course during the years 1989 to 1993. Among these trained persons, sponsored trainees numbered 23,384, i.e nearly half of the total.

The majority (over 90%) of those having some form of vocational or technical training have at least secondary education at various stages in the regular academic context. The main fields in which they have been trained are 'Commerce and business administration', 'Teacher training' and 'Trade, craft and industrial techniques'. Table 3.10 shows the various fields of training and the levels of training reached by the working population in 1990.

The *elementary level* includes literary programmes for older people who are illiterate as well as programmes with a vocational emphasis for those who have had some primary schooling.

Table 3.9 - Employed population with and without vocational or technical training, 1990

Training	Male	Female	Both sexes
University degree holders Also having vocational or technical training	7,262 (1,121)	2,015 (285)	9,277 (1,406)
Employees having secondary education With vocational or technical training	124,481 (18,485)	49,022 (10,245)	173,503 (28,730)
Employees with less than secondary education With vocational or technical training	151,862 (1,006)	72,976 (416)	224,838 (1,422)
Total employed population With vocational or technical training	283,605 (20,612)	124,013 (10,946)	407,618 (31,558)

The preliminary level includes out-of-school vocational programmes for those who already have some five or six years of full-time schooling in primary institutions. Such programmes include training for jobs requiring relatively elementary skills.

The lower intermediate level includes vocational and technical programmes whose level would lie between the School Certificate and the Higher School Certificate in the regular academic programme. Examples of programmes included here are training for semi-skilled and skilled jobs, primary school teacher training, nursing, secretarial training.

The higher intermediate level includes vocational and technical programmes leading to awards whose level would lie between the Higher School Certificate and just below a first university degree. The programmes are of a more 'practical orientation' and are typically subject matter specialised. Mastery of programmes at this level require the equivalent of full secondary education.

Out of the 30,000 employees (excluding those who also have a university degree) who have been vocationally or technically trained, 75% have obtained certificates or diplomas at lower intermediate level. A further 15% have reached higher intermediate level while the remaining 10% have followed courses at elementary and preliminary levels.

Analysis of the data by field of training shows that nearly one quarter of those who have followed vocational or technical courses, were in the field of commerce and business administration. This field includes courses relating to accountancy and book-keeping, secretarial practice, commerce, marketing and sales, etc. Another 20% of these trained employees have followed courses in teacher training for primary and secondary schools. Secondary school teachers who are holders of diplomas from the Mauritius Institute of Education, are also included in this group. Employees trained in trade, craft and industrial techniques comprise 18% of the total number of trained workers. Nurses and other employees in the field of public health who have obtained certificates or diplomas of a level below a university degree account for 8% of the total of 30,000 vocationally or technically trained employees.

Table 3.10 - Employed population having vocational or technical training by level and broad field of training ,1990

Field of training	Level of training		Elementary		Lower intermediate level		Higher intermediate level		All levels	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Commerce & business administration	182	4.4	5321	19.0	1310	22.9	6813	18.0		
Teacher training	101	2.4	5271	18.7	786	13.7	6158	16.2		
Trade,craft & industrial techniques	1485	35.9	3516	12.5	370	6.5	5371	14.2		
Medical diagnostic & treatment	47	1.1	2162	7.7	338	5.9	2547	6.7		
Mathematics &computer science	33	0.8	1407	5.0	366	6.4	1806	4.8		
Service trades	308	7.4	958	3.4	96	1.7	1362	3.6		
Engineering	57	1.4	651	2.3	352	6.2	1060	2.8		
Agriculture	31	0.7	302	1.1	184	3.2	517	1.4		
Home economics & domestic science	176	4.3	231	0.8	43	0.8	450	1.2		
Fine & applied arts	74	1.8	222	0.8	118	2.1	414	1.1		
Other	452	10.9	2571	9.2	555	9.7	3578	9.4		
Total employed	2946	71.0	22612	80.6	4518	79.0	30076	79.3		
Total of all persons	4,139		28,078		5,719		37,936			

Note : (1) Figures exclude 1406 persons who have a university degree as well as vocational training and 128 persons of whom 76 were employed , who did not state in which fields they have received their training

(2) The percentage represent the number of employed peson in each of the cells (level of training / field of training) as a proportion of the total of trained persons at that level of training

The other fields in which employees have been trained include 'Mathematics & computer science', 'Service trade', 'Engineering', etc. The number of employed persons trained in each of these fields are given in table 3.10.

Table 3.10 also shows the number of employed trained person in each of the categories (level and field of training) as a percentage of the total number of persons trained at that level. Among those who have been trained at elementary and preliminary levels, 71% were already employed and the majority of these employed persons have been trained in the field of trade, craft and industrial techniques.

At lower intermediate level, it appears that it is easier to obtain jobs with certificates in 'Commerce & business administration', and 'Teacher training' and 'Trade craft & industrial techniques'. In fact, 50% of trained persons at this level were employed in these three fields. A further 30% have obtained jobs in various other fields and the remaining 20% were still without jobs.

At higher intermediate level, 'Commerce & business administration' and 'Teaching' absorbed 23% and 14% of the technically trained population.

3.7 Employed population by occupation and training

Among the 407,618 employed persons in 1990, some 2% were university graduates. A further 8% who have undergone primary or secondary education up to various stages have also been trained in some vocational or technical fields. The large majority of employees (90% of the total) have had no specialised training outside regular primary or secondary institutions. The proportions of university graduates and vocationally or technically trained workers in the different occupational groups are given in table 3.11.

In the major group 'Legislators, senior officials and managers', 75% of the employees had only academic qualifications at primary or secondary level. Among the 25% who had been trained at higher levels, 11% were holders of university degrees and 14% had followed courses in various vocational and technical fields. In this major group, 16,000 persons were enumerated at the 1990 Population Census, of whom 11,000 were general managers. This latter sub group also includes all persons who manage small businesses on their own behalf, or on behalf of proprietors, for example, shop keepers, working proprietors of small restaurants, cafes, etc. This classification is based on the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO - 88), according to which no specific skill level has been associated with jobs classified in this sub group.

52% of working professionals were found to be university graduates while a further 26% have been vocationally or technically trained in subjects relevant to their jobs. The remaining 22% with only academic primary or secondary education have developed professional skills from experience in their respective tasks. It is to be noted that this major group also includes religious professionals as well as occupations in the sub group 'writers and creative or performing artists' which comprise artists, singers, musicians, etc.

The highest proportion of vocationally and technically trained employees was found to be in the major group 'Technicians & associate professionals' which includes occupations requiring technical knowledge. Among the 31,558 persons who were reported at the 1990 census as having been vocationally or technically trained, 11,088 or 35% were among technicians and associate professionals. But nevertheless, among the 23,383 employees classified in this major group, nearly half were holders of academic qualifications only.

In the major group 'Clerk', 20% of the employees had followed technical or vocational courses. This group includes occupations such as stenographers, typists, word processor operators and other office machine operators which require appropriate training for proper handling of tasks involved.

Table 3.11 - Percentage distribution of the employed population by occupation and training level, 1990

Occupation	University degree holders	Below university level		All levels
		With vocational or technical training	Without vocational or technical training	
Legislators, senior officials & managers	11	14	75	100
Professionals	52	26	22	100
Technicians & associate professionals	7	46	47	100
Clerks	2	20	78	100
Service & sales workers	-	7	93	100
Skilled agricultural workers	-	1	99	100
Craft & related trades workers	-	4	96	100
Plant & machine operators & assemblers	-	2	98	100
Elementary occupations	-	1	99	100
All occupations	2	8	90	100

In the other occupational groups, comprising mostly manual workers, the proportion having been trained for their jobs is very low, as shown by the figures in table 3.11.

3.8 Household level employment

Table 3.12 shows the average number of persons employed per household for households of various sizes. A steady rise is noted in employment rate with increasing household size.

The probability of a person in a household being employed which is the ratio of average number employed to household size fluctuates in the interval of 0.36 to 0.49, with the peak of 0.49 being in two member households. This ratio declines steadily with household size from the 0.49 of two-member households to 0.36 in households of six members; explained by the presence of increasing number of inactive children. In the larger households (seven or more members), the propensity for employment rises again as a result of grown up children entering the labour market.

Comparison with similar data for 1983 shows that the number of households in Mauritius has increased by 14% while employment has gone up by 61%. A marked increase is therefore noted in the average number of employed persons per household, i.e from 1.27 in 1983 to 1.73 in 1990. These figures indicate a marked improvement in the level of living of the Mauritian family; household employment level and hence household income being one of the main factors which determines households resources.

Table 3.12 - Employment by household size, 1990

Household size (persons)	Number of households	Number employed	Average number employed	Propensity for employment*
1	12,336	4,950	0.401	0.401
2	25,092	24,363	0.971	0.486
3	39,673	53,616	1.351	0.450
4	55,797	86,545	1.551	0.388
5	42,905	77,794	1.813	0.363
6	26,905	57,815	2.149	0.358
7	15,166	38,766	2.556	0.365
8	8,352	24,781	2.967	0.371
9	4,432	15,491	3.495	0.388
10 and above	5,452	24,065	4.414	0.401
Total	236,110	408,186	1.729	

* Propensity is defined as ratio of average number employed to household size

4. UNEMPLOYED POPULATION

According to the international standard definition of unemployment, all persons above a specified minimum age (12 years adopted at population censuses carried out in Mauritius) who during the reference period of the census were without work, currently available for work and seeking work, were classified as being unemployed. The number of such cases reported at the 1990 Census, was 24,401, of which 17,763 were males and 6,638 were females. Compared to 1983 figures, unemployment has therefore gone down by 67% and 34% for males and females respectively.

4.1 Unemployed population by age, marital status and sex

The data in table 4.1 show that 70% of unemployed persons were below 25 years of age. This category of unemployed persons comprised mostly new entrants into the labour market. In fact, among the total of 12,847 unemployed males below 25 years, 11,862 or 92% were first job seekers. A similar proportion is noted among females as well.

In the higher age brackets, i.e among those aged 25 years and above, the number of males looking for a first job represented 58% of the number of unemployed men above 24 years while the corresponding figure noted for females was 77%. The higher figure noted for females is probably explained by the fact that some women, specifically married ones, take up their first jobs at a later age when their children have reached school going age.

Analysis by marital status shows marked differences in the proportions of unemployed males and females reported in the different status groups. Out of the total of 6,638 unemployed women, 28% were married while among unemployed males, only 10% were married. The explanation given above for the difference in the proportions of unemployed males and females among those aged 25 and above may also apply here. In the category of divorced, widowed and separated persons also, a larger number of women have been reported as unemployed (374 against 180 men). This category of unemployed women comprises in majority, women who were previously inactive and who find themselves in need of a job as a result of their changed marital states.

4.2 Unemployed population by educational attainment

Over half of the 24,366 unemployed persons who have stated their educational attainment at the 1990 Census, have been to secondary schools. Among these, 15% were holders of School Certificate and a further 5% had passed the Higher School Certificate. In this category of unemployed persons, i.e those having secondary level education, only 10% have also been vocationally or technically trained. For these people, in addition to their academic knowledge, some job training at say, the preliminary or lower intermediate level of vocational and technical training programmes would no doubt increase their chances of finding appropriate jobs.

Analysis by sex shows that among females, the proportion having secondary level education is higher than among males, i.e 60% compared to 48%. Although a larger number of jobs have become available for females in the EPZ sector, the figures show that women with secondary level education are less willing to accept such factory work. On the other hand, it is probable that men find jobs suitable for their educational level more easily or because of greater financial responsibilities as heads or future heads of households, are less choosy in accepting work.

Table 4.1 - Unemployed population by age,marital status and sex ,1990

Sex & Marital Status Age (years)	Male				Female			
	Single	Married	Divorced, widowed separated	Total	Single	Married	Divorced, widowed separated	Total
12 - 24	12,646	187	14	12,847	3,579	520	48	4,147
25 - 34	2,838	817	78	3,733	711	920	130	1,761
35 - 44	239	473	46	758	105	319	123	547
45 - 54	45	213	21	279	15	74	54	143
55 - 64	13	92	18	123	3	14	14	31
65 +	4	16	3	23	1	3	5	9
Total	15,785	1,798	180	17,763	4,414	1,850	374	6,638

Table 4.2 - Unemployed population by educational attainment ,training and sex ,1990

Educational attainment and training	Male	Female	Total
University degree	105	67	172
Also having vocational or technical training	(15)	(91)	(24)
Secondary level	8548	3960	12508
With vocational or technical training	(637)	(680)	(1317)
Up to primary level	9086	2600	11686
With vocational or technical training	(48)	(33)	(81)
Total unemployed population	17739	6627	24366
With vocational or technical training	(700)	(722)	(1422)

4.3 Household level unemployment

Table 4.3 below shows the number of households and the number of unemployed persons by size of household. The average number of unemployed persons per household as given in the fourth column, increases slowly from 0.009 in one member households to reach 0.103 in households of five members. In the larger households, i.e those with 6 members to 9 and more, the rate of increase is much faster as a result of the presence of more grown up children in search of jobs. Per capita unemployment which is the ratio of the number of unemployed persons to the total number of persons present in the household, has also been calculated and are shown in the table 4.3

The overall (i.e all households together) average number of unemployed persons per household works out to 0.1, representing a decline of 71% over the 1983 average of 0.35. This drastic fall in the household unemployment level over the past seven years, has no doubt been beneficial to the households.

Table 4.3 - Unemployment by household size, 1990

Household size	Number of households	Number unemployed	Average number unemployed	Per capita unemployment
1	12,336	106	0.009	0.009
2	25,092	763	0.031	0.016
3	39,673	1,933	0.049	0.025
4	55,797	3,528	0.063	0.031
5	42,905	4,419	0.103	0.051
6	26,905	4,402	0.164	0.082
7	15,166	3,368	0.222	0.111
8	8,352	2,350	0.281	0.140
9	4,432	1,577	0.356	0.178
10 and above	5,452	2,033	0.353	0.186
Total	236,110	24,479	0.104	

5. CURRENT ESTIMATES AND FORECASTS OF LABOUR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The 1990 census data relating to economic characteristics of the population, specifically employment and unemployment, have been cross checked with those obtained from other sources as described below to assess their correctness and reliability.

Employment data are regularly collected through the Survey of Employment and Earnings in large establishments. These establishments comprise sugar cane plantations of 10 hectares or more; tea plantations of 2 hectares or more; all 'flue-cured' tobacco establishments; other agricultural and non-agricultural establishments having 10 or more employees as well as all central and local government departments.

Employment in establishments other than those covered by the Survey of Employment and Earnings are also regularly estimated based on information from various administrative records such as licences and permits.

Regular estimates of unemployment are based on registered unemployment data, as published by the Employment Division of the Ministry for Civil Service Affairs & Employment.

After the evaluation exercise, it has been concluded that male employment figures derived from the census is low because of overreporting in the number of unemployed cases. In fact, some persons who are already performing some kind of work but are at the same time looking for other jobs which are more to their liking and aptitudes, tend to report themselves as unemployed.

Among women, the level of economic activity in 1990 is believed to be higher than that noted at the census. From the 1992 Census of Economic Activities, it has been deduced that there is a large proportion of women working at home and it is believed that some of these women may not have reported themselves as economically active at the 1990 Population Census. A second possible source of underreporting of female economic activity may have been due to the fact that heads of households (mostly men) have supplied the necessary information for all members of the household. It is therefore possible that in some cases, the heads may have reported wives and daughters who were already working as inactive .

5.1 - Activity rates, 1990 - 1994

It has been found that the census activity rates, specially for females, suffered from under reporting. The rates obtained at the 1986 Labour Force Sample Survey are believed to give a more accurate picture of the true level of economic activity among the working population. The census activity rates for 1990 have therefore been adjusted accordingly, and, based on these adjusted rates for 1990, projections for the ensuing years have been made. Sex-age-specific activity rates for the years 1990 to 1994 are given in table 5.2.

The age specific activity rates for males obtained at the 1990 Population Census have been adjusted only marginally, and particularly for ages 50 years and above. The overall adjusted activity rate (defined here as the percentage of the population aged 12 years and above classified as economically active) among males works out to 76%. Almost the same activity rates have been assumed for the years 1991 to 1994 except for a slight decrease at ages under 20 (because of increased availability of education and training facilities) and a slight increase for age group 20-24 (in line with better employment prospects associated with the second phase of industrialisation).

Female activity rates observed at the 1990 Census have been adjusted for almost all age groups, while at the same time maintaining the age pattern of participation observed at the census. The overall adjusted rate works out to 37%. During the period 1991 to 1994, the female participation rate has been assumed to have increased by around 2% annually. At this rate the proportion of active women among those aged 12 years and above will reach 40% by 1994.

Table 5.1 - Activity rates by sex, 1983 and 1990

	Male	Female
1983 rate	73.7	25.9
1990 census rate	74.9	32.2
1990 adjusted rate	76.1	37.1

5.2 Labour force, 1990 - 1994

The labour force (or currently active population) by age group in 1990 has been estimated by applying the adjusted sex-age-specific activity rates to the population figures in the different age brackets. Hence, total labour force in 1990 works out to 456,900 (306,200 males and 150,700 females). These estimates of labour force by age group and sex are given in table 5.3 together with estimates for 1991 to 1994.

In 1993, out of a total of 852,000 persons aged 12 years and above, 488,600 have been estimated to be economically active compared to 456,900 out of a total of 808,300 in 1990. The labour force has grown by 31,700 over the period even if the proportion of actives in the population aged 12 years and above has remained almost unchanged, i.e. at about 57%. Based on the population projections for 1994 and estimated activity rates, total labour force will comprise over half a million persons by mid 1994.

The increase in male labour force from 306,200 to 326,100 during the period 1990 to 1994 is due to changes in the age structure of the population only, i.e., in 1994, compared to 1990, there are more persons in those age groups where activity rates are high. On the other hand, about half of the increase in the female labour force, from 150,700 in 1990 to 174,600 in 1994, is the result of continuing rise in economic activity among women.

Table 5.2 - Activity rates by age and sex , 1990 - 1994

Male

Age (years)	Activity rates				
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
12 - 14	11.2	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5
15 - 19	52.0	51.5	51.0	50.5	50.0
20 - 24	92.5	93.0	93.5	94.0	95.0
25 - 29	96.5	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0
30 - 34	97.5	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0
35 - 39	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0
40 - 44	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.0
45 - 49	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0
50 - 54	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2
55 - 59	84.0	84.0	84.0	84.0	84.0
60 - 64	35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0
65 - 69	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
70 - 74	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
75 and above	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
12 and above	76.1	76.0	75.8	75.8	75.9
15 and above	81.9	82.1	82.1	81.9	81.9

Female

Age (years)	Activity rates				
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
12 - 14	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
15 - 19	30.0	31.0	32.0	33.0	34.0
20 - 24	50.0	51.0	52.0	53.0	54.0
25 - 29	48.0	49.0	50.0	51.0	52.0
30 - 34	51.0	52.0	53.0	54.0	55.0
35 - 39	52.0	53.0	54.0	55.0	56.0
40 - 44	47.0	48.0	49.0	50.0	51.0
45 - 49	43.0	44.0	45.0	46.0	47.0
50 - 54	38.0	39.0	40.0	41.0	42.0
55 - 59	30.0	31.0	32.0	33.0	34.0
60 - 64	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0
65 - 69	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
70 - 74	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
75 and above	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
12 and above	37.1	37.8	38.4	39.2	40.1
15 and above	40.0	40.8	41.6	42.4	43.2

Table 5.3 - Labour force by age and sex , 1990 - 1994

Male

Age (years)	Labour force				
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
12 - 14	3,686	3,261	3,397	3,415	3,351
15 - 19	25,605	25,599	26,195	27,066	27,509
20 - 24	48,497	46,664	46,083	44,503	45,648
25 - 29	51,813	52,999	53,062	52,032	50,159
30 - 34	46,524	47,174	48,081	49,049	50,421
35 - 39	40,460	40,785	42,447	42,830	43,850
40 - 44	29,224	32,697	34,782	36,665	38,167
45 - 49	20,814	21,366	22,712	24,577	25,638
50 - 54	16,838	16,800	16,853	16,737	17,834
55 - 59	13,179	13,469	14,045	14,116	13,816
60 - 64	5,166	4,851	4,632	4,575	4,690
65 - 69	2,826	3,008	3,085	3,132	3,084
70 - 74	972	1,001	1,043	1,104	1,193
75 and above	616	650	682	700	707
12 and above	306,220	310,324	317,099	320,501	326,067
15 and above	302,534	307,063	313,702	317,086	322,716

Female

Age (years)	Labour force				
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
12 - 14	1,122	1,072	1,122	1,126	1,103
15 - 19	14,390	15,153	15,990	17,309	18,298
20 - 24	25,121	24,492	24,413	24,099	25,024
25 - 29	24,911	26,023	25,979	26,464	25,955
30 - 34	23,398	24,116	25,070	26,242	27,439
35 - 39	20,763	21,385	22,432	23,233	24,290
40 - 44	14,246	15,970	17,295	18,602	19,663
45 - 49	9,806	10,477	11,213	12,422	13,234
50 - 54	7,440	7,565	7,838	8,031	8,769
55 - 59	4,943	5,295	5,709	6,065	6,234
60 - 64	2,574	2,465	2,374	2,362	2,417
65 - 69	1,295	1,373	1,422	1,462	1,460
70 - 74	414	432	450	465	504
75 and above	230	230	243	246	246
12 and above	150,653	156,048	161,550	168,128	174,636
15 and above	149,531	154,976	160,428	167,002	173,533

Table 5.4 - Labour force, Employment and Unemployment ; 1990 - 1993 (in thousands)

Both sexes

Year	Population 12 years and above	Labour Force	Employment			Unemployment
			in large establishments	outside large establishments	Total	
1990	808	457	284	161	445	12
1991	821	466	287	169	456	10
1992	838	478	287	181	468	10
1993	852	489	282	198	480	9

Male

Year	Population 12 years and above	Labour Force	Employment			Unemployment
			in large establishments	outside large establishments	Total	
1990	402	306	185	112	297	9
1991	408	310	185	118	303	7
1992	418	317	185	125	310	7
1993	423	321	182	133	315	6

Female

Year	Population 12 years and above	Labour Force	Employment			Unemployment
			in large establishments	outside large establishments	Total	
1990	406	151	99	49	148	3
1991	413	156	102	51	153	3
1992	420	161	102	56	158	3
1993	429	168	100	65	165	3

Figure 5.1 - Unemployment rate 1983 - 1993

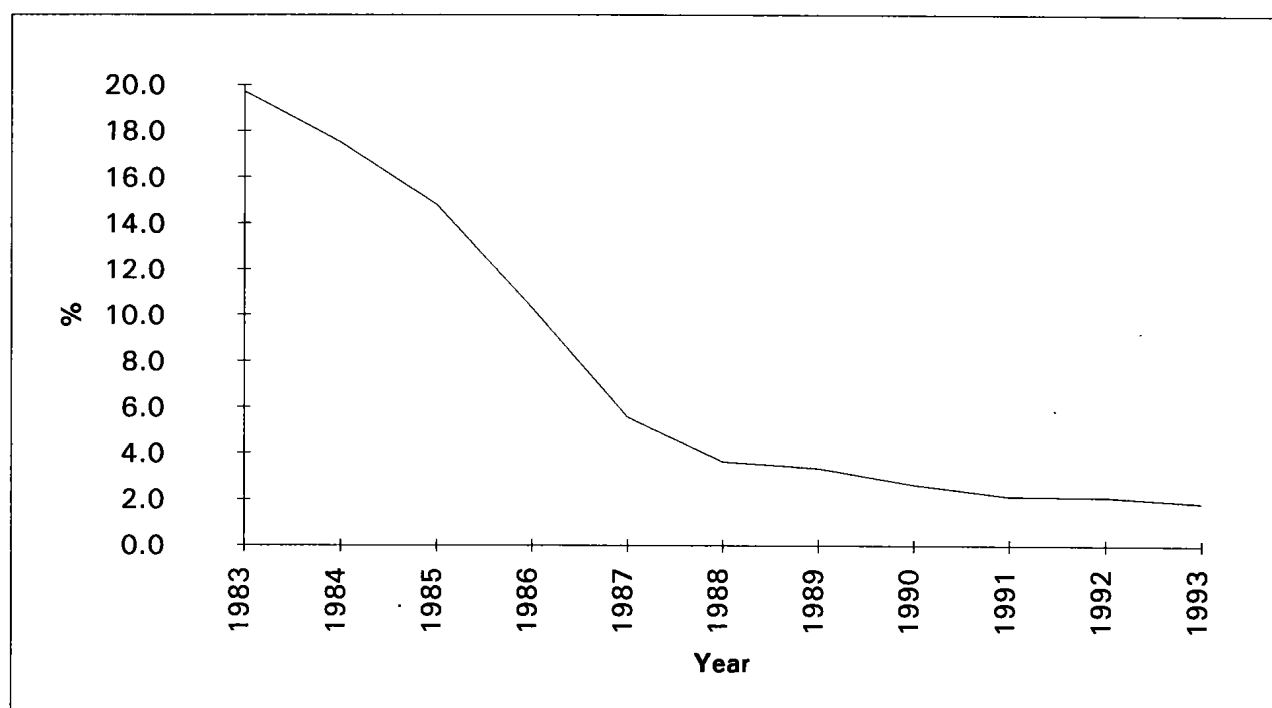


Table 5.5 - Unemployment rate by sex , 1983 - 1993

Year	Unemployment (thousands)			Unemployment rate (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1983	52.0	20.0	72.0	19.3	20.8	19.7
1984	47.0	19.0	66.0	17.3	18.1	17.5
1985	40.0	19.0	59.0	14.3	16.0	14.8
1986	30.0	13.0	43.0	10.4	10.1	10.3
1987	18.0	6.0	24.0	6.1	4.4	5.6
1988	12.0	4.0	16.0	4.0	2.8	3.6
1989	11.0	4.0	15.0	3.6	2.7	3.3
1990	9.0	3.0	12.0	2.9	2.0	2.6
1991	7.0	3.0	10.0	2.3	1.9	2.1
1992	7.0	3.0	10.0	2.2	1.9	2.1
1993	6.0	3.0	9.0	1.9	1.8	1.8

5.3 Employment 1990 - 1993

After adjustment of unemployment figures, employment in 1990 amounted to 444,500, made up of 297,000 males and 147,500 females. Thereafter, employment has been increasing by an average of about 11,500 each year to reach 479,500 in 1993. Analysis of the data by sex shows that male employment has increased by 6% over the period 1990 to 1993, that is from 297,000 in 1990 to 314,500 in 1993. Female employment on the other hand increased by about 12%, from 147,500 to 165,000. However, though female employment has been increasing at this faster rate, the proportion of males to females during the period has changed only slightly. In fact, from 33.2% in 1990, the proportion of women in total employment was 34.4% in 1993.

5.4 Unemployment, 1990 - 1993

At the 1990 Census, the number of reported cases of 'unemployed' in the age group 12 years and above were 17,800 among males and 6,600 among females, yielding unemployment rates of about 6% and 5% respectively. These figures appear to be high when compared to registered unemployment data. As at mid 1990, the number of persons registered as being unemployed was about 8,000 and 6,300 among males and females respectively. Furthermore, the number of work permits (1500 in 1990) issued to foreign workers by the Ministry for Civil Service Affairs and Employment and the number of vacancies (7,000 as at September 1990) reported by large establishments at the Survey of Employment and Earnings indicate labour shortage rather than shortage of jobs. On the basis of this information, unemployment rates of 3% for males and 2% for females respectively have been adopted for 1990, giving thus unemployment totals of 9,200 for males and 3,000 for females compared to 52,000 and 20,000 at the 1983 Census. It has been assumed that from 1991 to 1993, these rates were of the order of 2% for both male and female. The number of unemployed persons by sex as well as corresponding unemployment rates for the years 1983 to 1993 are given in table 5.5.

5.5 Employment by industry, 1990 - 1993

The employment figures have been distributed according to the major industrial divisions of the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) of industrial activities. Classification into the various industry groups was based on the distribution obtained from the Survey of Employment and Earnings for large establishments. For employment outside large establishments, the distributions obtained at the 1990 Population Census and the 1992 Census of Economic Activities in small establishments, together with information obtained from administrative sources were considered. Employment figures by ISIC for 'large' and 'other than large' establishments separately are given in table 5.6.

It is to be noted that government employees enumerated at the 1990 Census were classified under various industry headings according to the type of activity performed at their respective places of work. In the present series of data, all government employees (in central and local administrations) have been grouped under 'Community, social and personal services' so as to be in line with the classification adopted for the Survey of Employment and Earnings where breakdown by industry group is not available.

In 1993, the manufacturing sector, with 29% of total employment, was employing the largest number of persons, followed by 'Community, social & personal services' with 23%. 'Agriculture & fishing' and 'Wholesale & retail trade and restaurants & hotels' accounted for 15% and 14% respectively.

Table 5.6 - Employment (1) by industry and size of establishment , 1990 - 1993 (in thousands)

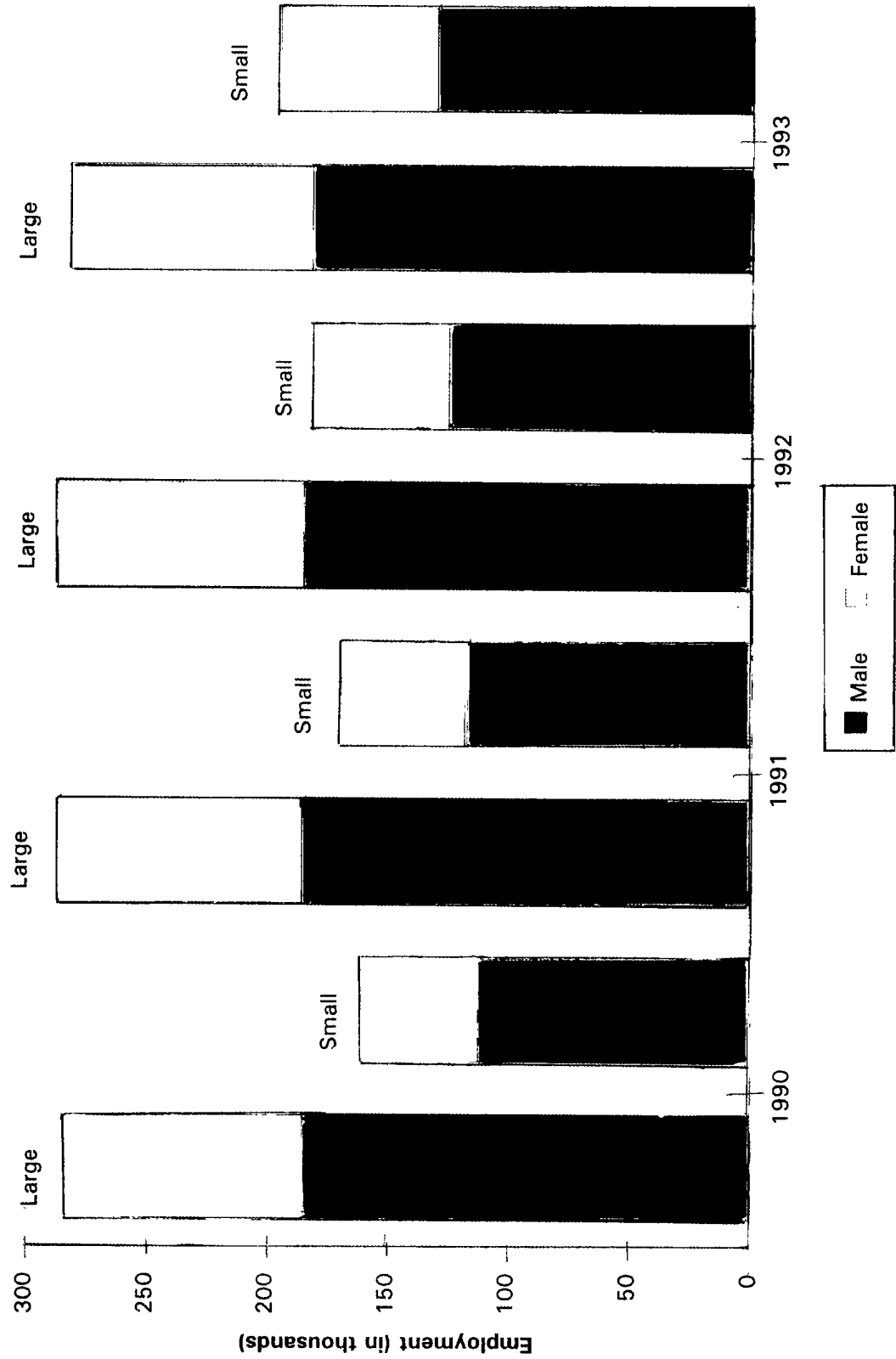
Industrial group	1990			1991			1992			1993		
	Large	Other	Total	Large	Other	Total	Large	Other	Total	Large	Other	Total
Agricultural & fishing (2) of which sugar cane	37.7 (33.0)	34.4 (7.4)	72.1 (40.4)	38.1 (33.3)	33.9 (7.0)	72.0 (40.3)	37.0 (32.5)	34.5 (7.0)	71.5 (39.5)	36.0 (32.0)	35.0 (7.0)	71.0 (39.0)
Mining & quarrying	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.8	1.0	0.2	1.0	1.2	0.2	1.0	1.2
Manufacturing (3) of which sugar EPZ	117.1 (7.5) (85.2)	21.2 (-) (3.0)	138.3 (7.5) (88.2)	116.7 (7.4) (85.9)	22.7 (-) (3.0)	139.4 (7.4) (88.9)	115.8 (7.3) (86.0)	25.5 (-) (2.8)	141.3 (7.3) (88.8)	110.1 (7.2) (81.0)	29.0 (-) (2.5)	139.1 (7.2) (83.5)
Electricity & water	3.4	-	3.4	3.4	-	3.4	3.4	-	3.4	3.5	-	3.5
Construction	11.5	19.3	30.8	10.8	19.9	30.7	11.1	20.6	31.7	11.1	21.8	32.9
Wholesale & retail trade, restaurants & hotels	17.0	35.2	52.2	18.3	38.6	56.9	19.2	42.1	61.3	19.7	47.1	66.8
Transport, storage, & communication	12.7	15.9	28.6	13.6	17.4	31.0	13.7	19.8	33.5	13.6	21.1	34.7
Financing, insurance, real estate & business services	9.3	2.2	11.5	9.6	2.5	12.1	10.1	2.8	12.9	10.7	3.4	14.1
Community, social and personal services of which : central government local government	69.8 (54.1) (5.1)	32.2 (-) (-)	102.0 (54.1) (5.1)	71.7 (54.8) (5.1)	33.5 (-) (-)	105.2 (54.8) (5.1)	72.8 (54.8) (5.1)	35.0 (-) (-)	107.8 (54.8) (5.1)	74.3 (55.1) (5.3)	38.9 (-) (-)	113.2 (55.1) (5.3)
Activities n.e.c	4.8	-	4.8	4.4	-	4.4	3.6	-	3.6	3.0	-	3.0
Total	283.5	161.0	444.5	286.8	169.3	456.1	286.9	181.3	468.2	282.2	197.3	479.5

(1) Employment figures do not include foreigners working in Mauritius

(2) Excludes sugar and tea factories

(3) Includes sugar and tea factories

Fig 5.2 - Employment by size of establishment and sex, 1990 - 1993



Agriculture & fishing

Employment in 'Agriculture & fishing' was estimated at about 72,000 in 1990 compared to 78,400 in 1983. A further decrease of about 1,100 employees is noted in this sector over the last three years. This continuing fall in the employment level which occurred mainly in large establishments, specifically in the Sugar Industry, resulted in a decrease in the percentage of total employment accounted for by the agricultural sector, from 16.2% in 1990 to 14.8% in 1993. Over 50% of the agricultural workers were engaged in sugar cane cultivation. During the period 1990 to 1993, a reduction of 1,400 was noted in this category of employees while in the other agricultural activities employment has remained almost constant.

During the above period, female employment in Agriculture has increased slightly from 24,500 to 24,900. On the other hand, male employment has decreased by 1,500, reaching 46,100 in 1993 from 47,600 in 1990.

Manufacturing

After adjustment for underreporting, employment in the manufacturing sector stood at 138,300, representing 31% of total employment in 1990. By mid 1993 it has gained about 800 more workers but its share in total employment has dropped to 29%. Figures in table 5.6 show that employment in large establishments of the manufacturing sector has gone down by 7,000 during this three year period while in establishments other than large, an increase of 7,800 is noted.

Out of a total of 138,300 persons in this sector in 1990, 88,200 were employed by EPZ firms. In 1993, although still the main supplier of jobs in the manufacturing sector, EPZ manufacturing enterprises were employing some 83,500 persons, representing 60% of employment in 'Manufacturing', a significant drop from the 64% observed in 1990.

This decrease of 4,700 in EPZ employment was made up of 3,800 males and 900 females. EPZ establishments continue to employ a larger number of female workers. In fact it is estimated that at June 1993, there were about 59,000 females against 24,400 males employed, a ratio of 2.4 female to 1 male. In the overall manufacturing sector, this proportion was about 1:1.

Wholesale, retail trade, restaurant & hotels

The number of persons reported at the 1990 Population Census, as being engaged in 'Wholesale, retail trade, restaurants & hotels' is believed to be too low. In this sector, a large number of family members participate in running the business, specifically in small establishments. Based on information obtained at the 1992 Census of Economic Activities, a total of 52,200 employees has been adopted for this sector in 1990.

During the period 1990 to 1993, a further rise in employment is noted in the trade industries; to a larger extent in small establishments and in the informal sector. In 1993, 47,100 out of the total of 66,800 employees estimated for 1993 in this sector were working outside large establishments, compared to 35,200 out of a total of 52,200 in 1990. While employment outside large establishments went up by nearly 12,000, the number of additional workers recruited by large enterprises was 2,700, mainly in hotels.

Male employment which was around 37,000 in 1990, increased by over 22% to reach 45,400 in 1993. Female employment grew at a faster rate to reach 21,400 in 1993 from 15,100 in 1990, an increase of nearly 42%.

Table 5.7 - Employment (1) by industry and sex , 1990 - 1993 (in thousands)

Industrial group	1990			1991			1992			1993		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agricultural & fishing (2) of which sugar cane	47.6 (28.5)	24.5 (11.9)	72.1 (40.4)	47.2 (28.2)	24.8 (12.1)	72.0 (40.3)	46.9 (27.4)	24.6 (12.1)	71.5 (39.5)	46.1 (27.0)	24.9 (12.0)	71.0 (39.0)
Mining & quarrying	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.9	0.1	1.0	1.1	0.1	1.2	1.1	0.1	1.2
Manufacturing (3) of which sugar EPZ	68.8 (7.1) (28.2)	69.5 (0.4) (60.0)	138.3 (7.5) (88.2)	68.0 (7.0) (27.5)	71.4 (0.4) (61.4)	139.4 (7.4) (88.9)	67.7 (7.0) (26.2)	73.6 (0.3) (62.6)	141.3 (7.3) (88.8)	65.8 (7.0) (24.4)	73.3 (0.2) (59.1)	139.1 (7.2) (83.5)
Electricity & water	3.3	0.1	3.4	3.3	0.1	3.4	3.3	0.1	3.4	3.4	0.1	3.5
Construction	30.5	0.3	30.8	30.5	0.2	30.7	31.5	0.2	31.7	32.7	0.2	32.9
Wholesale & retail trade, restaurants & hotels	37.1	15.1	52.2	40.8	16.1	56.9	43.0	18.3	61.3	45.4	21.4	66.8
Transport ,storage, & communication	26.8	1.8	28.6	28.9	2.1	31.0	31.4	2.1	33.5	32.3	2.4	34.7
Financing , insurance , real estate & business services	8.0	3.5	11.5	8.5	3.6	12.1	9.0	3.9	12.9	9.7	4.4	14.1
Community , social and personal services of which : central government local government	69.5 (43.6) (4.6)	32.5 (10.5) (0.5)	102.0 (54.1) (5.1)	71.0 (43.9) (4.6)	34.2 (10.9) (0.5)	105.2 (54.8) (5.1)	72.7 (43.9) (4.5)	35.1 (10.9) (0.6)	107.8 (54.8) (5.1)	75.1 (43.8) (4.7)	38.1 (11.3) (0.6)	113.2 (55.1) (5.3)
Activities n.e.c	4.7	0.1	4.8	4.3	0.1	4.4	3.5	0.1	3.6	2.9	0.1	3.0
Total	297.0	147.5	444.5	303.4	152.7	456.1	310.1	158.1	468.2	314.5	165.0	479.5

(1) Employment figures do not include foreigners working in Mauritius

(2) Excludes sugar and tea factories

(3) Includes sugar and tea factories

Community, social and personal services

'Community, social and personal services' including government services accounted for 23% of the total number of persons employed in 1990 ,i.e, 102,000 out of 444,500. In 1993 employment in this sector has reached 113,200, which still represented about 23% of total employment.

In 1993, government (central and local) employees represent 53.4% of employment in 'Community, social and personal services' compared to nearly 58% in 1990. This follows the fact that total number of employees in government departments has remained nearly constant over the period, i.e., around 60,000, while employment in private services has increased by 10,000.

Male employment in 'Community, social and personal services' has increased by 5,600 , i.e. from 69,500 to 75,100 over the period. Female employment which stood at 32,500 in 1990 has reached 38,100 in 1993, showing thus the same increase in number as for males.

5.6 Activity rates and labour force projections, 1990 - 2010

It has been assumed that economic activity among males will remain more or less constant in the coming years as the optimum level has nearly been reached in most of the age groups. For ages below 19 years the rates are expected to go down to some extent as a result of government's policy to improve and provide increasing facilities for tertiary education, vocational and technical training. Slight increases have been allowed for ages 20 to 29 years based on the assumption that with the second phase of industrialisation, better employment opportunities will become available.

Women's participation in the labour force has sizeably increased over the past years and it is expected to improve further in the future. By 1995, the level of economic activity among females is expected to be about 10% higher than that of 1990. After 2000, it has been assumed that female activity rates will continue to rise but at a slower rate; i.e a further 5% by 2000 and 3% more by 2010.

Projected sex-age specific activity rates for the years 1990 to 2010 are given in table 5.8.

The growth in the labour force has been estimated by applying the above set of projected activity rates by age group to the population projections by age group for the years 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2010. Hence, by 1995 the Mauritian labour force is expected to reach about 513,000; an increase of about 12% over the estimated figure of 457,000 in 1990. The number of economically active males and females will be around 332,000 and 181,000 respectively. Based on the assumption of increasing activity among women as well as increase in the population size, female labour force is expected to reach over 250,000 by 2010. On the other hand though the level of economic activity is expected to be almost constant, male labour force is expected to be around 395,000 by 2000 as a result of population growth. The sex ratio will therefore be around 1.5 males to 1 female compared to the 2:1 ratio of 1990. Estimated figures of labour force by age group and sex up to 2010 are given in table 5.9.

Table 5.8 - Projections of activity rates by age and sex , 1990 - 2010

Male

Age (years)	Activity rates				
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
12 - 14	11.2	9.5	9.0	8.7	8.5
15 - 19	52.0	50.0	49.5	49.0	49.0
20 - 24	92.5	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0
25 - 29	96.5	97.0	97.0	97.5	98.0
30 - 34	97.5	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0
35 - 39	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0
40 - 44	97.0	97.0	97.0	97.5	97.5
45 - 49	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.5	95.5
50 - 54	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2
55 - 59	84.0	84.0	84.0	84.0	84.0
60 - 64	35.0	35.0	34.0	34.0	34.0
65 - 69	25.0	25.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
70 - 74	15.0	15.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
75 and above	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
12 and above	76.1	76.3	77.8	77.9	77.6
15 and above	81.9	81.8	82.4	82.8	82.0

Female

Age (years)	Activity rates				
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
12 - 14	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.0
15 - 19	30.0	35.0	38.0	39.0	40.0
20 - 24	50.0	55.0	59.0	61.0	63.0
25 - 29	0.0	53.0	58.0	60.0	62.0
30 - 34	51.0	56.0	60.0	63.0	65.0
35 - 39	52.0	57.0	60.0	63.0	65.0
40 - 44	47.0	52.0	57.0	61.0	64.0
45 - 49	43.0	48.0	53.0	58.0	62.0
50 - 54	38.0	43.0	48.0	53.0	57.0
55 - 59	30.0	35.0	39.0	42.0	43.0
60 - 64	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0
65 - 69	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
70 - 74	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
75 and above	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
12 and above	37.1	41.0	44.9	46.7	48.0
15 and above	40.0	44.0	47.5	49.6	50.6

Table 5.9 - Projections of labour force by age and sex , 1990 - 2010

Male

Age (years)	Labour force				
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
12 - 14	3,686	3,133	2,571	2,785	2,609
15 - 19	25,605	28,406	25,732	24,078	25,431
20 - 24	48,497	45,887	53,098	49,246	46,550
25 - 29	51,813	49,235	45,289	54,218	50,543
30 - 34	46,524	50,974	48,163	45,399	54,071
35 - 39	40,460	45,367	50,074	47,557	44,829
40 - 44	29,224	38,763	43,572	48,822	46,369
45 - 49	20,814	27,465	36,594	41,627	46,404
50 - 54	16,838	18,751	24,818	33,233	37,607
55 - 59	13,179	14,120	15,745	20,930	28,027
60 - 64	5,166	4,780	4,998	5,604	7,450
65 - 69	2,826	3,021	2,698	2,918	3,272
70 - 74	972	1,278	1,284	1,199	1,297
75 and above	616	706	888	1,019	1,034
12 and above	306,220	331,886	355,524	378,635	395,493
15 and above	302,534	328,753	352,953	375,850	392,884

Female

Age (years)	Labour force				
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
12 - 14	1,122	1,032	826	930	893
15 - 19	14,390	19,457	19,151	18,576	20,148
20 - 24	25,121	25,728	32,121	30,708	29,974
25 - 29	24,911	25,748	26,199	32,572	31,122
30 - 34	23,398	28,263	28,321	28,353	35,157
35 - 39	20,763	25,582	29,687	29,589	29,108
40 - 44	14,246	20,392	25,180	29,960	29,839
45 - 49	9,806	14,255	20,414	25,289	30,056
50 - 54	7,440	9,543	13,904	19,985	24,330
55 - 59	4,943	6,589	8,351	11,789	15,712
60 - 64	2,574	2,471	2,837	3,244	4,253
65 - 69	1,295	1,449	1,396	1,612	1,843
70 - 74	414	546	616	597	689
75 and above	230	249	301	354	375
12 and above	150,653	181,304	209,304	233,558	253,499
15 and above	149,531	180,272	208,478	232,628	252,606