

## **Labour force, Employment and Unemployment Fourth Quarter 2005**

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## Labour force, Employment and Unemployment – Fourth Quarter 2005

### 1. Introduction

This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the fourth quarter of 2005, based on the results of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) from October to December 2005. For comparison purposes, the estimates for the corresponding quarter of 2004 are also presented.

As from 2004, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) is using the CMPHS for the measurement of quarterly labour force, employment and unemployment. The methodology of the CMPHS is given in Annex I. Annex II shows a series of comparable annual estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the period 2000 to 2005.

It is to be noted that all estimates in this report are subject to sampling error which tends to be relatively large when the sample numbers are small.

For 2005, the survey was carried out every month and the survey reference week was the last week of the month. As from January 2006, the reference week will be the second week of the month. This change will enable the CSO to work out the estimates within one quarter of the reference period, as required by the IMF Special Data Dissemination System (SDDS) to which the country expects to graduate by 2007.

### 2. Main findings

- (i) The number of employed persons at the fourth quarter of 2005 was estimated at 497,500 and the number of unemployed at 48,500. Labour force thus worked out to 546,000. Based on data collected for the four quarters, employment for the year 2005 is estimated at 490,400 and unemployment at 52,100, resulting in a labour force of 542,500.
- (ii) The unemployment rate for the fourth quarter of 2005 was 8.9% compared to 9.2% at the previous quarter and 7.6% at the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Unemployment rate for the year 2005 is estimated at 9.6% against 8.5% in 2004.

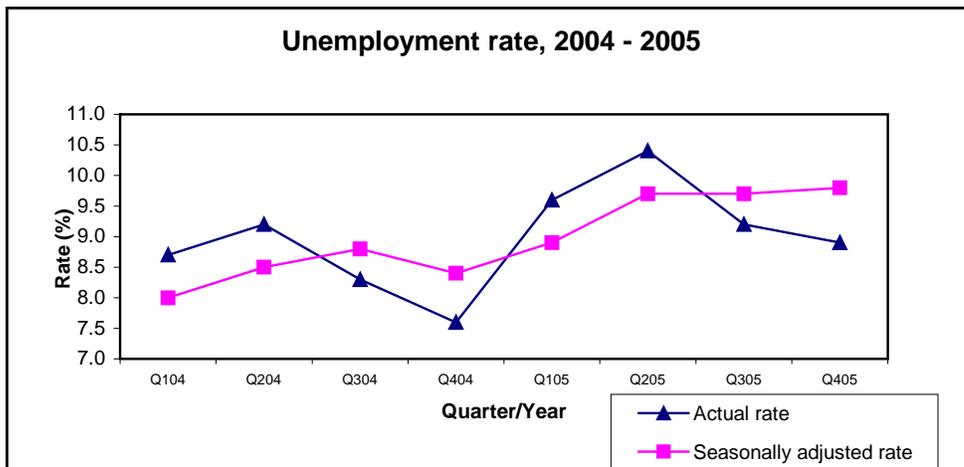
Unemployment rate is influenced by seasonal factors. It is usually higher in the first half of the year because of school leavers joining the labour market, and lower in the second half with more casual jobs being available mainly in the trade sector (street vendors, salespersons in shops, etc.) at the end of the year. Based on the quarterly data for the period first quarter 2001 to fourth quarter 2005, unemployment rates for the four quarters of 2004 and 2005 have been seasonally adjusted and are presented below (Table 1 and Chart1).

**Table 1 – Actual and seasonally adjusted unemployment rates, 2004 – 2005.**

Unemployment rate	2004					2005				
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Mid year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Mid year
Actual	8.7	9.2	8.3	7.6	8.5	9.6	10.4	9.2	8.9	9.6
Seasonally adjusted	8.0	8.5	8.8	8.4	8.5	8.9	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.6

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the fourth quarter of 2005 works out to 9.8% compared to 9.7% at the third quarter of 2005 and 8.4% for the corresponding quarter of 2004.

**Chart 1 - Actual and seasonally adjusted unemployment rates, 2004 – 2005.**



### 3. Characteristics of the unemployed.

The main characteristics of the unemployed at the fourth quarter of 2005 were:

- 7,900 (43%) unemployed males were below 25 years compared to 9,300 (31%) unemployed females.
- About half of the unemployed were single. Among males, the majority (13,700 or 75%) was single while among females, the majority (22,200 or 73%) was ever married (including widowed, divorced or separated).
- Some 9,900 (20%) had not passed the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) examination or equivalent and a further 22,700 (47%) did not have the Cambridge School Certificate (SC) or equivalent.
- Around 33,200 (about 2 out of 3 or 68%) had been looking for work for up to one year and the remaining 15,300 (32%) for more than one year.
- About 33,100 (68%) had working experience and 15,400 (32%) were looking for a job for the first time.
- Around 20,500 (42%) were registered at the Employment Service.
- Among the unemployed, there were 7,200 (15%) young persons aged 15 to 24 years, not yet married and looking for a first job. Some 2,800 (39%) of them had not passed SC.
- Ever married (including widowed, divorced or separated) unemployed persons aged 25 to 44 years and having worked before numbered 12,000. Among them 10,300 (86%) had not passed SC.
- 6,100 or 13 % of the unemployed were heads of households.
- 5,900 (12%) lived in households with no employed persons.

#### 4. Activity status of the population aged 15 years and over

In the fourth quarter of 2005, among the population aged 15 years and over, some 497,500 (53%) had a job, 48,500 (5%) were unemployed and 386,400 (41%) were inactive. The estimates for the corresponding quarter of 2004 were 483,800 or 53% employed, 39,700 (4%) unemployed and 395,800 (43%) inactive.

Standard errors and confidence intervals have been calculated for the main labour force estimates and are shown in Table 2 below.

**Table 2 - Estimated labour force, employment, unemployment and inactive population by sex, 4th quarter 2004 & 2005**

	4th Quarter 2004				4th Quarter 2005			
	Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval		Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval	
			Lower Limit	Upper Limit			Lower Limit	Upper Limit
<b>Labour Force</b>								
Both Sexes	523,500	13,800	496,000	550,900	546,000	10,700	525,100	567,000
Male	348,500	9,100	330,300	366,500	350,800	7,200	336,700	365,000
Female	175,000	7,000	161,100	188,900	195,200	5,800	183,900	206,500
<b>Employment</b>								
Both Sexes	483,800	12,700	458,600	509,100	497,500	10,200	477,400	517,600
Male	330,100	8,700	312,800	347,500	332,600	6,800	319,200	346,000
Female	153,700	6,300	141,200	166,200	164,900	5,400	154,300	175,400
<b>Unemployment</b>								
Both Sexes	39,700	3,500	32,700	46,500	48,500	3,100	42,400	54,700
Male	18,400	2,000	14,200	22,300	18,200	1,900	14,400	22,000
Female	21,300	2,500	16,400	26,200	30,300	2,500	25,300	35,300
<b>Inactive Population</b>								
Both Sexes	395,800	10,500	375,000	416,800	386,400	8,600	369,600	403,300
Male	104,000	4,700	94,900	113,500	108,100	4,100	100,100	116,100
Female	291,800	8,100	275,600	307,900	278,300	6,800	264,800	291,800
<b>Activity rate (%)</b>								
Both Sexes	56.9	0.7	55.5	58.3	58.6	0.6	57.3	59.8
Male	77.0	0.8	75.3	78.7	76.4	0.7	75.0	77.9
Female	37.5	1.1	35.2	39.8	41.2	1.0	39.3	43.2
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>								
Both Sexes	7.6	0.6	6.4	8.8	8.9	0.5	7.8	10.0
Male	5.3	0.6	4.1	6.4	5.2	0.5	4.2	6.2
Female	12.2	1.3	9.7	14.7	15.5	1.2	13.2	17.9

Table 3 shows quarterly and annual estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for 2004 and 2005.

**Table 3 - Quarterly estimates of labour force, employment, unemployment and inactive population by sex, 2004 and 2005**

	1st Quarter 2004	2nd Quarter 2004	3rd Quarter 2004	4th Quarter 2004	Year 2004	1st Quarter 2005	2nd Quarter 2005	3rd Quarter 2005	4th Quarter 2005	Year 2005
<b>Labour Force</b>										
Both Sexes	541,100	540,700	526,800	523,500	532,100	537,300	538,800	549,000	546,000	542,500
Male	348,700	347,500	349,000	348,500	348,200	347,900	347,800	351,500	350,800	349,400
Female	192,400	193,200	177,800	175,000	183,900	189,400	191,000	197,500	195,200	193,100
<b>Employment</b>										
Both Sexes	494,100	491,200	483,300	483,800	487,000	485,800	482,700	498,700	497,500	490,400
Male	328,400	324,600	329,800	330,100	327,900	326,500	324,900	333,400	332,600	329,100
Female	165,700	166,600	153,500	153,700	159,100	159,300	157,800	165,300	164,900	161,300
<b>Unemployment</b>										
Both Sexes	47,000	49,500	43,500	39,700	45,100	51,500	56,100	50,300	48,500	52,100
Male	20,300	22,900	19,200	18,400	20,300	21,400	22,900	18,100	18,200	20,300
Female	26,700	26,600	24,300	21,300	24,800	30,100	33,200	32,200	30,300	31,800
<b>Inactive Population</b>										
Both Sexes	367,700	373,000	390,300	395,800	381,500	385,200	387,200	380,600	386,400	383,700
Male	98,800	102,400	102,500	104,000	101,600	106,100	108,000	106,000	108,100	106,500
Female	268,900	270,600	287,800	291,800	279,900	279,100	279,200	274,600	278,300	277,200
<b>Activity rate (%)</b>										
Both Sexes	59.6	59.2	57.4	56.9	58.2	58.2	58.2	59.1	58.6	58.6
Male	78.0	77.2	77.3	77.0	77.4	76.6	76.3	76.8	76.4	76.6
Female	41.7	41.7	38.2	37.5	39.7	40.4	40.6	41.8	41.2	41.1
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>										
Both Sexes	8.7	9.2	8.3	7.6	8.5	9.6	10.4	9.2	8.9	9.6
Male	5.8	6.6	5.5	5.3	5.8	6.2	6.6	5.1	5.2	5.8
Female	13.9	13.8	13.7	12.2	13.5	15.9	17.4	16.3	15.5	16.5

## 5. Employment

The number of persons at work during the fourth quarter of 2005 was estimated at 497,500 with 332,600 males and 164,900 females. Employment sex ratio works out to approximately 2 males to 1 female.

### 5.1 *Employment by industrial sector*

Table 4 shows that, during the fourth quarter of 2005, the primary sector comprising agricultural and mining & quarrying industries, provided jobs to about 11% of the working population. The secondary sector, which includes manufacturing, electricity & water and construction industries, employed another 32%, and the tertiary sector which covers trade, hotels & restaurants, transport and all the other service industries, 57%.

**Table 4 - Percentage distribution of the employed population by industrial sector and sex, 4th quarter 2004 & 2005**

Industrial sector	4th quarter 2004			4th quarter 2005		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
<b>Primary</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>8.7</b>
<b>Secondary</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>30.7</b>
of which Manufacturing	22.8	19.5	30.0	21.2	16.6	30.4
Construction	10.3	14.8	0.6	10.5	15.5	0.3
<b>Tertiary</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>60.8</b>	<b>57.1</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>60.6</b>
of which Wholesale and retail trade	16.1	16.2	15.8	14.5	14.8	13.9
Hotels and restaurants	5.7	6.2	4.6	7.0	6.8	7.3
Transport, storage and communications	7.0	8.9	2.8	6.3	8.3	2.4
Public administration and defence	6.2	7.2	4.2	8.1	9.2	5.8
Education, health and social work	8.6	6.2	13.8	9.0	6.2	14.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### 5.2 *Employment by occupation*

During the fourth quarter of 2005, most of the working population (35%) was employed as “skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trades workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers”. Workers engaged in “elementary occupations” and “service workers and shop and market sales workers” accounted for 21% and 19% of the workforce respectively. The remaining 25% consisted of “legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals” (16%) and “clerks” (9%).

Analysis by sex shows that 40% of males were employed as “skilled agricultural workers and fishery workers; craft and related trades workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers” compared to only 25% among females. On the other hand, 17% of females were engaged in clerical duties compared to 5% males.



Analysis by sex shows that the proportion of employees was higher among working women (85%) than among working men (80%), while the proportion of employers and own account workers was higher among men (19%) than among women (11%). On the other hand, contributing family workers constituted about 4% of working women compared to about one per cent of working men.

#### 5.4 Hours of work

Table 7 on distribution of employment by hours worked shows that some 4% of employed persons did not work during the reference week, either because they were sick or on leave. More than half (55%) has reported having worked for more than 40 hours. Those workers were mostly in manufacturing enterprises (16%), wholesale & retail trade (9%), construction (6%) and hotels & restaurants (5%).

The average number of hours worked per week, including overtime but excluding all leaves and lunch time, was 42.2 hours (44.2 for men and 38.2 for women).

**Table 7 - Percentage distribution of the employed population by sex and number of hours worked during the survey reference week, 4th quarter 2004 & 2005**

Actual number of hours worked per week	4th quarter 2004			4th quarter 2005		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
0	5.9	4.7	8.2	3.9	3.3	5.1
1 - 23	7.8	5.4	13.2	6.8	4.9	10.6
24 - 40	36.7	36.5	37.3	34.3	31.0	40.8
41 - 50	31.2	32.3	28.8	34.5	37.1	29.4
51 and above	18.4	21.1	12.5	20.5	23.7	14.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 6. Unemployment

The number of unemployed persons in the fourth quarter of 2005 is estimated at 48,500 comprising 18,200 males and 30,300 females. The unemployment rate, defined as the percentage of unemployed to labour force, works out to 8.9% (5.2% for males and 15.5% for females). The 95% confidence interval for the overall unemployment rate is 7.8% to 10.0%. The seasonally adjusted rate works out to 9.8% (5.9% for males and 16.8% for females).

### 6.1 Age and sex

Table 8 shows that unemployed males were younger than unemployed females. Thus, 43% of the males were under 25 years compared to 31% for females. On the other hand, 48% of unemployed females were in the age bracket 25 to 39 years compared to 41% for males. The mean age of the unemployed works out to 28 years for males and 31 years for females.

**Table 8 - Percentage distribution of the unemployed population by age and sex, 4th quarter 2004 & 2005**

Age group (years)	4th quarter 2004			4th quarter 2005		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Below 20	18.2	23.6	13.5	10.8	14.9	8.2
20 - 24	30.2	37.8	23.7	24.8	28.5	22.6
25 - 29	13.9	14.0	13.7	24.1	24.7	23.7
30 - 39	22.0	14.6	28.4	21.0	16.2	23.9
40 - 49	12.4	9.8	14.7	15.3	10.9	18.0
50 & over	3.3	0.2	6.0	4.0	4.8	3.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 6.2 *Marital status*

Out of the total number of persons who were unemployed, 48% were married, 45% were single and the remaining 7% were widowed, divorced or separated. Unemployed males were mostly single (75%) while among females, 73% were ever married (including widowed, divorced or separated) and 27% single (Table 9).

**Table 9 - Percentage distribution of the unemployed population by marital status and sex, 4th quarter 2004 & 2005**

Marital status	4th quarter 2004			4th quarter 2005		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Married	30.5	13.8	44.9	48.3	22.5	63.8
Widowed, divorced or separated	9.1	2.1	15.2	6.8	2.3	9.5
Single	60.4	84.1	39.9	44.9	75.2	26.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 6.3 *Educational attainment*

From table 10, it is observed that in the fourth quarter of 2005, 20% of the unemployed had not passed the CPE, and a further 47% did not possess the School Certificate. The proportions of unemployed with SC, HSC and tertiary education were 17%, 7% and 9% respectively.



During the fourth quarter of 2005, 2 out of 3 or 68% of the unemployed have reported being without a job for up to one year and 32% for more than one year. Analysis by sex shows that women were unemployed for longer periods than their male counterparts. About 36% of the unemployed females had been looking for work for more than a year compared to 23% of males.

### 6.5 *Work experience*

Around 32% of the unemployed were first job seekers while the remaining 68% had work experience. That proportion was 75% for males and 64 % for females.

### 6.6 *Job search*

**Table 12 - Percentage distribution of the unemployed population by main job search method and sex, 4th quarter 2004 & 2005**

Main job search method	4th quarter 2004			4th quarter 2005		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Checked at factories, worksites, etc.	51.5	57.1	46.6	47.5	62.0	39.1
Applied to prospective employers	48.0	54.7	42.4	45.6	52.8	41.4
Registration at Employment Service	42.7	39.0	45.8	42.2	44.9	40.3
Sought assistance or advice	10.8	7.9	13.3	23.3	16.6	27.2
Placed or answered advertisements	15.0	11.5	18.0	26.7	22.0	29.4
Tried to set up own business	0.9	1.9	0.0	7.4	6.1	8.1

As regards job search, some of the unemployed had recourse to more than one method. As shown in table 11, during the fourth quarter of 2005, the most common method of job search was “checked at factories, worksites, etc.”, as reported by 48% of the unemployed, followed by “applied to prospective employers”, being reported by 46% of them. Around 42% were registered at the Employment Service. Around 7% of the unemployed had taken steps to start a business of their own in the fourth quarter of 2005 compared to only 1% a year before.

## 6. Inactive population

The number of persons aged 15 years and over, not forming part of the labour force (inactive population) was estimated at 386,400 (108,100 males and 278,300 females). This inactive population comprised 168,200 (44%) homemakers, 90,700 (24%) retired or old persons, 88,300 (23%) students, and 28,500 (7%) sick or disabled persons (Table 13).

**Table 13 - Percentage distribution of the inactive population by sex,  
4th quarter 2004 & 2005**

Activity status	4th quarter 2004			4th quarter 2005		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Homemakers	46.2	1.0	62.2	43.9	0.5	60.8
Retired or old persons	24.1	43.4	17.3	23.7	40.4	17.1
Students	19.8	37.4	13.5	23.0	43.1	15.2
Sick or disabled persons	6.9	14.9	4.1	7.4	12.4	5.5
Other	3.0	3.3	2.9	2.0	3.6	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Among the male inactives, 56,700 (53%) were old, retired, sick or disabled persons and 46,300 (43%) were students. The inactive females were mostly homemakers (167,600 or 61%); 62,500 or 23% were old, retired, sick or disabled persons and 42,100 (15%) were students.

The inactives also included some 5,500 persons not interested to work, among whom 3,300 were aged 15 to 19 years.

Another 2,800 were classified as inactive although they were not working and were available for work because they were not actively looking for work. Those persons have been classified as inactive and not as unemployed since they do not satisfy all the three criteria for unemployment, i.e. not working, looking for work and available for work. From the survey responses, 73% of those 2,800 persons believed that suitable jobs were not available or they did not know where to look for work.

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### Methodology of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey

Data collection	Face to face interviewing of household members.
Frequency of data collection	Monthly except in 2004 when data collection was carried out every quarter. The reference period for data on labour force is the last week of the survey month.
Scope and coverage of collection	Private mauritian households in the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues.
Sampling method	<p>Stratified two-stage sampling design. At the first stage, Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) are selected with probability proportional to size and at the second stage, a fixed number of households is selected from each selected PSU. Prior to 2005, the first stage stratification factors were urban, semi urban and rural geographical locations. As from 2005, the Relative Development Index (RDI) is used as the spatial stratification factor. This index is based on 12 variables encompassing housing and living conditions, literacy and education, and employment derived from the 2000 Housing and Population Census to rank PSUs. A set of RDIs for administrative regions has been published in the series "Economic and Social Indicators" - Issue No. 393.</p> <p>The second stage stratification criteria are community, household size and average monthly expenditure of the household.</p>
Sample size	<p>From 1999 to 2003, around 6,500 households were covered each year. In 2004, the sample was increased to 8,640 so that reliable quarterly estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment could be worked out. In 2005, the sample for the year has been further increased to 11,280. Furthermore, in order to measure quarterly changes, 50% of the households sampled in the first quarter have been re-interviewed in the second quarter. For the third quarter also, re-interview has been done for 50 % of households covered in the second quarter.</p>
Questionnaire	<p>The CMPHS questionnaire comprises three modules: a basic module common to all rounds of the survey covering the general characteristics of the population, one or more special topic modules dealing with subjects requiring in-depth investigation and a third module grouping other topics of interest but investigated in less details.</p>

Every year different topics are covered according to users' needs. As from 2004, the CMPHS is also being used as the instrument for the measurement of labour force, employment and unemployment on a quarterly basis; hence, a set of core questions on the labour force has been included and will be kept constant at all rounds of the survey.

**Estimation and reliability of results** Estimates worked out from households survey data are inevitably subject to sampling variability since they are based on information collected from only a sample of households rather than from all households. The Standard Error (S.E) which is a measure of this variability, is used to set confidence intervals for any estimate (whether a total or a rate) derived from the sample. For example, a 95% confidence interval indicates that there is 95% chance that the upper and lower limits of the interval enclose the true value (which would be obtained if all households had been surveyed). Standard errors and confidence intervals are calculated for the main labour force estimates.

#### Definitions used

Definitions of labour force, employment and unemployment used are according to the ILO recommendations. The **labour force** or active population (aged 15 years and over) is made up of the employed and the unemployed populations. The **employed population** consists of persons who are working while the **unemployed population** consists of persons who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work. The **inactive population** (aged 15 years and over) is neither employed nor unemployed and consists mainly of students, homemakers, retired persons and the disabled.

**Activity rate** is defined as the percentage of the Mauritian population aged 15 years and over who is active (employed or unemployed). **Unemployment rate** is the percentage of the Mauritian labour force that is unemployed.

## ANNEX II

## Labour force, Employment and Unemployment, 15 years and over, 2000 - 2005

('000)

Year	Labour force			Employment <sup>1</sup>			Unemployment	
	Mauritian	Foreign workers	Total	in large establishments <sup>2</sup>	outside large establishments	Total	Number	Rate <sup>3</sup> (%)
Both sexes								
2000	505.2	14.6	519.8	297.7	188.2	485.9	33.9	6.7
2001	512.5	16.5	529.0	301.0	192.6	493.6	35.4	6.9
2002	514.2 <sup>4</sup>	17.0	531.2	296.2	197.6	493.8	37.4	7.3
2003	522.7	18.2	540.9	295.9	204.5	500.4	40.5	7.7
2004	532.1	17.5	549.6	292.3	212.2	504.5	45.1	8.5
2005	542.5	16.6	559.1	291.2	215.8	507.0	52.1	9.6
Male								
2000	336.2	5.0	341.2	187.2	136.0	323.2	18.0	5.4
2001	339.5	5.8	345.3	188.0	138.4	326.4	18.9	5.6
2002	340.5 <sup>4</sup>	6.4	346.9	187.9	140.7	328.6	18.3	5.4
2003	344.2	7.9	352.1	187.9	144.5	332.4	19.7	5.7
2004	348.2	9.0	357.2	188.8	148.1	336.9	20.3	5.8
2005	349.4	9.1	358.5	189.0	149.2	338.2	20.3	5.8
Female								
2000	169.0	9.6	178.6	110.5	52.2	162.7	15.9	9.4
2001	173.0	10.7	183.7	113.0	54.2	167.2	16.5	9.5
2002	173.7 <sup>4</sup>	10.6	184.3	108.3	56.9	165.2	19.1	11.0
2003	178.5	10.3	188.8	108.0	60.0	168.0	20.8	11.7
2004	183.9	8.5	192.4	103.5	64.1	167.6	24.8	13.5
2005	193.1	7.5	200.6	102.2	66.6	168.8	31.8	16.5

<sup>1</sup> Includes foreign workers<sup>2</sup> Average of March and September figures<sup>3</sup> Unemployment as a percentage of Mauritian labour force<sup>4</sup> The low increase results from the implementation of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in the sugar industry