

## Labour force, Employment and Unemployment – Second Quarter 2006

### 1. Introduction

This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the second quarter of 2006, based on the results of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) from April to June 2006. For comparison purposes, the estimates for the corresponding quarter of 2005 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 and the definition of terms used are given at Annex I. Annex II shows a series of comparable annual estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the period 2000 to 2006. The estimates for 2006 are provisional.

It is to be noted that all estimates in this report are subject to sampling error that 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. For the 2006 round, the reference week has been changed to the second week of the month so that estimates can be published 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 for the second quarter of 2006 was estimated at 492,200 and the number of unemployed at 54,000. Labour force thus worked out to 546,200. Comparative figures for the corresponding quarter of 2005 were: 482,700 employed, 56,100 unemployed and a labour force of 538,800.
- (ii) The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2006 was 9.9% compared to 9.3% at the previous quarter and 10.4% at the corresponding quarter of 2005. Based on data collected for the second quarter of 2006 and trends for past years, it is expected that unemployment rate for the year 2006 will be 9.4%, down from 9.6% in 2005.

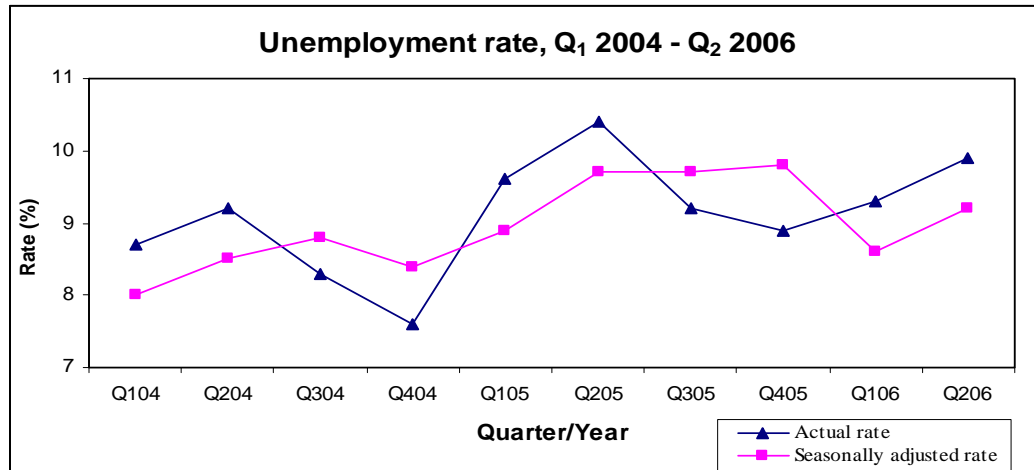
Unemployment rate is influenced by seasonal factors. It is usually higher in the first half of the year because of school leavers joining the labour market, and lower in the second half with more casual jobs being available mainly in the trade sector (street vendors, salespersons in shops, etc.) at the end of the year. Based on the quarterly data for the period first quarter 2001 to second quarter 2006, seasonally adjusted unemployment rates have been calculated and are presented in Table 1 and Chart 1.

**Table 1 – Actual and seasonally adjusted quarterly unemployment rates, Q<sub>1</sub> 2004 – Q<sub>2</sub> 2006**

Unemployment rate (%)	2004					2005					2006	
	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Mid year	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	Mid year	1st Qr	2nd Qr
<b>Actual</b>	8.7	9.2	8.3	7.6	<b>8.5</b>	9.6	10.4	9.2	8.9	<b>9.6</b>	9.3	9.9
<b>Seasonally adjusted</b>	8.0	8.5	8.8	8.4	<b>8.5</b>	8.9	9.7	9.7	9.8	<b>9.6</b>	8.6	9.2

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2006 works out to 9.2% compared to 8.6% at the previous quarter and 9.7% at the second quarter of 2005.

**Chart 1 - Actual and seasonally adjusted unemployment rates, Q<sub>1</sub> 2004 – Q<sub>2</sub> 2006**



### 3. Characteristics of the unemployed

The main characteristics of the unemployed at the second quarter of 2006 were:

- The 54,000 unemployed comprised 20,900 males (39%) and 33,100 females (61%).
- Around 20,900 or nearly 40% of the unemployed were below 25 years. Half (10,500) of the unemployed males and nearly one third (10,400) of the unemployed females were below 25 years.
- Around 23,600 (44%) unemployed were single. Among males, the majority (15,100 or 72%) was single while among females, the majority (24,600 or 75%) was ever married (including widowed, divorced or separated).
- Some 15,200 or 28% had not passed the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) examination or equivalent and a further 22,900 (42%) did not have the Cambridge School Certificate (SC) or equivalent.
- Around 36,600 (69%) had been looking for work for up to one year and the remaining 17,400 (31%) for more than one year.
- About 37,100 (69%) had working experience and 16,900 (31%) were looking for a job for the first time.
- Around 22,400 (41%) were registered at the Employment Service.
- There were 8,700 (16%) young persons aged 15 to 24 years, not yet married and looking for a first job. Some 4,400 (50%) 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 17,300. Among them 13,700 (79%) had not passed SC.
- 5,500 or 10% of the unemployed were heads of households.
- 7,300 (13%) lived in households with no employed persons.

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

Among the 935,400 persons aged 15 years and over, in the second quarter of 2006, 546,200 or 58% were active, with 492,200 (52%) having a job and 54,000 (6%) unemployed. The remaining 389,200 (42%) persons were inactive. The estimates for the corresponding quarter of 2005 were 482,700 (52%) employed, 56,100 (6%) unemployed and 387,200 (42%) inactive persons.

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, 2nd quarter 2005 & 2006**

	2nd Quarter 2005				2nd Quarter 2006			
	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	538,800	9,100	520,900	556,700	546,200	8,600	529,400	563,000
Male	347,800	5,500	337,000	358,600	350,800	6,100	338,800	362,800
Female	191,000	6,100	178,900	203,000	195,400	4,900	185,700	205,100
<b>Employment</b>								
Both Sexes	482,700	8,100	466,700	498,700	492,200	7,800	476,900	507,500
Male	324,900	5,000	315,000	334,800	329,900	5,700	318,700	341,000
Female	157,800	5,500	146,900	168,600	162,300	4,600	153,300	171,400
<b>Unemployment</b>								
Both Sexes	56,100	3,300	49,700	62,600	54,000	3,100	47,900	60,100
Male	22,900	2,000	19,000	26,800	20,900	1,800	17,500	24,400
Female	33,200	2,300	28,700	37,700	33,100	2,200	28,800	37,400
<b>Inactive Population</b>								
Both Sexes	387,200	9,800	367,900	406,600	389,200	7,900	373,600	404,800
Male	108,000	4,900	98,400	117,600	109,500	3,800	102,100	117,000
Female	279,200	6,700	266,100	292,300	279,700	6,200	267,400	291,900
<b>Activity rate (%)</b>								
Both Sexes	58.2	0.9	56.4	60.0	58.4	0.7	57.0	59.7
Male	76.3	0.9	74.5	78.1	76.2	0.8	74.7	77.7
Female	40.6	1.2	38.2	43.1	41.1	1.0	39.2	43.1
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>								
Both Sexes	10.4	0.5	9.3	11.5	9.9	0.5	8.9	10.9
Male	6.6	0.5	5.5	7.6	6.0	0.5	5.0	6.9
Female	17.4	1.1	15.3	19.5	16.9	1.0	14.9	19.0

Table 3 shows quarterly and annual estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for 2004, 2005 and 2006.

**Table 3 - Quarterly estimates of labour force, employment, unemployment and inactive population by sex, 2004 - 2006**

	<b>Year 2004</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2005</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2005</b>	<b>3rd Quarter 2005</b>	<b>4th Quarter 2005</b>	<b>Year 2005</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2006</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2006</b>	<b>Year 2006<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Labour Force</b>									
Both Sexes	<b>532,100</b>	537,300	538,800	549,000	546,000	<b>542,500</b>	546,700	546,200	<b>549,000</b>
Male	<b>348,200</b>	347,900	347,800	351,500	350,800	<b>349,400</b>	351,400	350,800	<b>352,400</b>
Female	<b>183,900</b>	189,400	191,000	197,500	195,200	<b>193,100</b>	195,300	195,400	<b>196,600</b>
<b>Employment</b>									
Both Sexes	<b>487,000</b>	485,800	482,700	498,700	497,500	<b>490,400</b>	496,100	492,200	<b>497,500</b>
Male	<b>327,900</b>	326,500	324,900	333,400	332,600	<b>329,100</b>	332,400	329,900	<b>333,400</b>
Female	<b>159,100</b>	159,300	157,800	165,300	164,900	<b>161,300</b>	163,700	162,300	<b>164,100</b>
<b>Unemployment</b>									
Both Sexes	<b>45,100</b>	51,500	56,100	50,300	48,500	<b>52,100</b>	50,600	54,000	<b>51,500</b>
Male	<b>20,300</b>	21,400	22,900	18,100	18,200	<b>20,300</b>	19,000	20,900	<b>19,000</b>
Female	<b>24,800</b>	30,100	33,200	32,200	30,300	<b>31,800</b>	31,600	33,100	<b>32,500</b>
<b>Inactive Population</b>									
Both Sexes	<b>381,500</b>	385,200	387,200	380,600	386,400	<b>383,700</b>	387,100	389,200	<b>386,400</b>
Male	<b>101,600</b>	106,100	108,000	106,000	108,100	<b>106,500</b>	108,200	109,500	<b>107,900</b>
Female	<b>279,900</b>	279,100	279,200	274,600	278,300	<b>277,200</b>	278,900	279,700	<b>278,500</b>
<b>Activity rate (%)</b>									
Both Sexes	<b>58.2</b>	58.2	58.2	59.1	58.6	<b>58.6</b>	58.5	58.4	<b>58.7</b>
Male	<b>77.4</b>	76.6	76.3	76.8	76.4	<b>76.6</b>	76.5	76.2	<b>76.6</b>
Female	<b>39.7</b>	40.4	40.6	41.8	41.2	<b>41.1</b>	41.2	41.1	<b>41.3</b>
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>									
Both Sexes	<b>8.5</b>	9.6	10.4	9.2	8.9	<b>9.6</b>	9.3	9.9	<b>9.4</b>
Male	<b>5.8</b>	6.2	6.6	5.1	5.2	<b>5.8</b>	5.4	6.0	<b>5.4</b>
Female	<b>13.5</b>	15.9	17.4	16.3	15.5	<b>16.5</b>	16.2	16.9	<b>16.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

Note: Quarterly estimates of labour force, employment, unemployment and inactive population for year 2004 are given at Annex III

## 5. Employment

The number of employed persons during the second quarter of 2006 was estimated at 492,200 with 329,900 males and 162,300 females. Employment sex ratio works out to approximately 2 males to 1 female.

### 5.1 *Employment by industrial sector*

As shown in Table 4, during the second quarter of 2006, the primary sector comprising agriculture, and mining & quarrying, provided jobs to about 10% of the working population. The secondary sector, which includes manufacturing, electricity & water and construction, employed another 31%, and the tertiary sector, which covers trade, hotels & restaurants, transport and all the other service industries, the remaining 59%.

**Table 4 - Percentage distribution of the employed population by industrial sector and sex, 2nd quarter 2005 & 2006**

Industrial sector	2nd quarter 2005			2nd quarter 2006		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
<b>Primary</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>
<b>Secondary</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>25.8</b>
of which Manufacturing	21.2	17.9	27.9	20.1	17.5	25.3
Construction	10.7	15.5	0.7	10.4	15.3	0.3
<b>Tertiary</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>60.3</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>55.3</b>	<b>65.5</b>
of which Wholesale and retail trade	12.7	12.1	13.9	13.8	13.2	15.0
Hotels and restaurants	7.1	7.4	6.4	7.1	6.9	7.5
Transport, storage and communications	8.1	10.6	2.9	8.3	10.5	4.0
Public administration and defence	7.1	8.1	5.1	7.2	8.3	4.8
Education, health and social work	9.1	5.9	15.8	9.4	6.4	15.4
<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>

### 5.2 *Employment by occupation*

During the second quarter of 2006, 36% of the working population were either employed as “skilled agricultural and fishery workers or craft and related trade 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 18% of the workforce respectively. The remaining consisted of “legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals” (15%) and “clerks” (9%).

Analysis by sex shows that 44% of males were employed as “skilled agricultural workers and fishery workers; craft and related trades workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers”



In the second quarter of 2006, the majority or 81% of workers were employees and the remaining 19% were working in their own or family enterprises with 17% as either employers or own account workers and 2% as contributing family workers (Table 6).

Analysis by sex shows that the proportion of employees was higher among working women (86%) than among working men (79%), while the proportion of employers and own account workers was higher among men (21%) than among women (10%). On the other hand, contributing family workers constituted about 4% of working women compared to only 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. About half (52%) reported having worked for more than 40 hours. Those workers were mostly in manufacturing enterprises (15%), followed by wholesale & retail trade (8%), construction (5%), transport (5%) and hotels & restaurants (5%).

The average number of hours worked per week, including overtime but excluding all leaves and lunch time, was 41.3 with men reporting having worked 43.2 hours on average and women, 37.4 hours.

**Table 7 - Percentage distribution of the employed population by sex and number of hours worked during the survey reference week, 2nd quarter 2005 & 2006**

Actual number of hours worked per week	2nd quarter 2005			2nd quarter 2006		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
0	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.3	4.5	3.8
1 - 23	8.8	5.7	15.2	8.9	6.3	14.2
24 - 40	34.1	32.1	38.0	35.1	32.7	40.0
41 - 50	34.4	36.5	30.0	34.4	35.9	31.3
51 and above	19.0	22.0	13.0	17.3	20.6	10.7
<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. Unemployment

The number of unemployed persons in the second quarter of 2006 is estimated at 54,000 comprising 20,900 males and 33,100 females. The unemployment rate, defined as the percentage of unemployed to labour force, works out to 9.9% (6.0% for males and 16.9% for females). The 95% confidence interval for the overall unemployment rate is 8.9% to 10.9%. The seasonally adjusted rate works out to 9.2% with the rate being 5.4% for males and 16.0% for females.





### 6.3 *Educational attainment*

From Table 10, it is observed that in the second quarter of 2006, 28% of the unemployed had not passed the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE), and a further 42% did not possess the Cambridge School Certificate (SC). The proportions of unemployed with SC and Higher School Certificate (HSC) were respectively 20% and 6%. The number of unemployed having studied up to the tertiary level represented nearly 4%.

**Table 10 - Percentage distribution of the unemployed population by educational attainment and sex, 2nd quarter 2005 & 2006**

Educational attainment	2nd quarter 2005			2nd quarter 2006		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
<b>Primary</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>36.2</b>
Below CPE	20.2	20.4	20.1	28.1	28.2	28.1
Passed CPE	15.8	13.3	17.5	9.0	10.5	8.1
<b>Secondary</b>	<b>58.3</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>56.4</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>60.9</b>
Below SC	33.0	34.9	31.7	33.4	36.6	31.3
Passed SC	18.4	20.7	16.8	19.7	15.7	22.2
Passed HSC	6.9	5.6	7.9	6.2	4.2	7.4
<b>Tertiary</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<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>

Analysis by sex shows that the proportion of the unemployed having only primary or lower secondary education, that is they had not reached the SC level, was higher for males (75%) than for females (68%). The proportion of unemployed having achieved SC was 16% for males and 22% for females. Corresponding figures for HSC holders were 4% and 7%. The proportion of unemployed males with a tertiary qualification was 5% against 3% for females.

### 6.4 *Duration of unemployment*

During the second quarter of 2006, 69% of the unemployed reported being without a job for up to one year and 31% for more than one year. Analysis by sex shows that women were unemployed for longer periods than their male counterparts. About 41% of the unemployed females had been looking for work for more than a year compared to 14% of males.

**Table 11 - Percentage distribution of the unemployed population by duration of unemployment and sex, 2nd quarter 2005 & 2006**

Duration of unemployment (months)	2nd quarter 2005			2nd quarter 2006		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Up to 12	58.6	66.7	52.8	69.2	85.9	58.6
13 - 24	23.2	17.6	27.3	18.9	9.4	24.9
More than 24	18.2	15.7	19.9	11.9	4.7	16.5
<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>

### 6.5 *Work experience*

Around 31% of the unemployed were first job seekers while the remaining 69% had work experience. The proportion of males having work experience was 73% while that for females stood at 66%.

### 6.6 *Job search*

**Table 12 - Percentage distribution of the unemployed population by job search method and sex, 2nd quarter 2005 & 2006**

Job search method	2nd quarter 2005			2nd quarter 2006		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Checked at factories, worksites, etc.	54.0	27.8	51.3	52.3	62.7	45.7
Applied to prospective employers	51.2	55.2	48.4	49.6	53.2	47.3
Registration at Employment Service	45.7	49.2	43.3	41.4	34.2	46.0
Sought assistance or advice	26.8	30.6	24.0	36.7	31.9	39.7
Placed or answered advertisements	25.2	24.8	25.5	24.5	21.3	26.5
Tried to set up own business	4.4	6.4	3.0	6.4	5.5	7.0

As regards job search, some of the unemployed had recourse to more than one method. As shown in Table 12, during the second quarter of 2006, the most common method of job search was “checked at factories, worksites, etc.”, as reported by 52% of the unemployed, followed by “applied to prospective employers”, being reported by 50% of them. Around 41% were registered at the Employment Service. Only 6% of the unemployed had taken steps to start a business of their own.

## 7. Inactive population

The number of persons aged 15 years and over, not forming part of the labour force (inactive population) was estimated at 389,200 (109,500 males and 279,700 females). As given in Table 13, the inactive population comprised 151,200 (39%) homemakers, 98,400 (25%) retired or old persons, 89,000 (23%) students, and 30,400 (8%) sick or disabled persons.

**Table 13 - Percentage distribution of the inactive population by sex, 2nd quarter 2005 & 2006**

Activity status	2nd quarter 2005			2nd quarter 2006		
	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Both Sexes (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Homemakers	42.0	0.6	58.0	39.0	0.2	54.2
Retired or old persons	26.6	43.1	20.3	25.4	40.1	19.7
Students	21.5	41.2	13.9	23.0	43.8	14.9
Sick or disabled persons	6.2	10.2	4.7	7.9	12.6	6.0
Other	3.7	4.9	3.1	4.7	3.3	5.2
<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>

The inactives also included some 8,500 persons not interested to work, among whom 2,500 were aged 15 to 19 years.

Another 2,000 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, it is estimated that nearly 1,600 persons either believed that suitable jobs were not available or did not know where to look for work.

An analysis of the inactive population by sex reveals that the male inactives comprised mostly of old, retired, sick or disabled persons (53%) and students (44%). The inactive females were mostly homemakers (54%); old, retired, sick or disabled persons (26%) and students (15%).

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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. Up to 2005, the reference period for data on labour force was the last week of the survey month. As from 2006, the reference week has been changed to the second week of the survey
Scope and coverage of collection	Private Mauritian households in the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues.
Sampling method	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 The second stage stratification criteria are community, household size and average monthly expenditure of the household.
Sample size	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. As from 2005, the sample for the year has
Questionnaire	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 thir

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 t

Estimation and reliability of results Estimates worked out from household 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 t

## **Definition of terms used**

### **1. Household**

A household is defined as either a person living on his/her own or a group of two or more persons, who may or may not be related, but who live together and make common provision for food and other essentials for living.

### **2. Employment**

Employed population consists of Mauritians aged 15 years and above (15+) who have worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during the reference week of a month. It includes those who are temporarily absent from work for reasons such as leave with pay, leave without pay and temporary disorganization of work (bad weather, break down of equipment, lack of order, etc..).

### **3. Unemployment**

Unemployed population comprises all Mauritians aged 15+ who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work during the reference period.

### **4. Labour force**

Labour force or active population is made up of employed and unemployed population.

### **5. Unemployment rate**

Unemployment rate is the ratio (%) of unemployment to that of labour force.

### **6. Inactive population**

Inactive population includes all Mauritians aged 15+, not forming part of the labour force for reasons such as attendance at educational institutions, engagement in household duties, retirement, old age and infirmity/disablement.

### **7. Activity rate**

Activity rate is the ratio (%) of labour force to that of population aged 15+ (active + inactive population).

### **8. Employer**

An employer is a person who operates his/her own business or trade and hires one or more employees.

**9. Own account worker**

An Own account worker is a person who operates his/her own business or trade but does not hire employees. He/She may be working alone or with the help of unpaid family members.

**10. Employee**

An Employee is a person who works for pay for someone else, even in a temporary capacity. An Apprentice, who is a person being trained for a job or trade and does not receive pay or may just receive some pocket money is also considered as an employee.

**11. Contributing family worker**

A Contributing family worker is a person who works without pay in an enterprise operated by a family member.

**12. Educational attainment**

*Primary* : comprises those who have studied up to a “Standard” between standard 1 and the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) or equivalent.

*Secondary* : comprises those who have studied up to a “Form” between Form 1 and the Higher School Certificate (HSC) or equivalent.

*Tertiary*: comprises those who above their secondary certificates (SC and HSC or equivalent) also possess either a diploma/certificate, which is above the HSC but below a first degree, or a degree.

## Labour force, Employment and Unemployment, 15 years and over, 2000 - 2006

('000)

Year	Labour force			Employment (including foreign workers) <sup>1</sup>			Unemployment	
	Mauritian	Foreign workers	Total	in large establishments <sup>2</sup>	outside large establishments	Total	Number	Rate <sup>3</sup>
<b>Both sexes</b>								
2000	505.2	14.6	519.8	298.7	187.2	485.9	33.9	6.7
2001	512.5	16.5	529.0	302.0	191.6	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	296.9	203.5	500.4	40.5	7.7
2004	532.1	17.5	549.6	293.3	211.2	504.5	45.1	8.5
2005	542.5	16.6	559.1	292.2	214.8	507.0	52.1	9.6
2006 <sup>5</sup>	549.0	16.7	565.7	294.1	220.1	514.2	51.5	9.4
<b>Male</b>								
2000	336.2	5.0	341.2	187.5	135.7	323.2	18.0	5.4
2001	339.5	5.8	345.3	188.3	138.1	326.4	18.9	5.6
2002	340.5 <sup>4</sup>	6.4	346.9	188.2	140.4	328.6	18.3	5.4
2003	344.2	7.9	352.1	188.2	144.2	332.4	19.7	5.7
2004	348.2	9.0	357.2	189.1	147.8	336.9	20.3	5.8
2005	349.4	9.1	358.5	189.3	148.9	338.2	20.3	5.8
2006 <sup>5</sup>	352.4	8.3	360.7	189.1	152.6	341.7	19.0	5.4
<b>Female</b>								
2000	169.0	9.6	178.6	111.2	51.5	162.7	15.9	9.4
2001	173.0	10.7	183.7	113.7	53.5	167.2	16.5	9.5
2002	173.7 <sup>4</sup>	10.6	184.3	109.0	56.2	165.2	19.1	11.0
2003	178.5	10.3	188.8	108.7	59.3	168.0	20.8	11.7
2004	183.9	8.5	192.4	104.2	63.4	167.6	24.8	13.5
2005	193.1	7.5	200.6	102.9	65.9	168.8	31.8	16.5
2006 <sup>5</sup>	196.6	8.4	205.0	105.0	67.5	172.5	32.5	16.5

<sup>1</sup> Revised<sup>4</sup> The low increase results from the implementation of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in the sugar industry<sup>2</sup> Average of March and September figures<sup>3</sup> Unemployment as a percentage of Mauritian labour force<sup>5</sup> Provisional



**Quarterly estimates of labour force, employment, unemployment and inactive population by sex, 2004**

	<b>1st Quarter 2004</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2004</b>	<b>3rd Quarter 2004</b>	<b>4th Quarter 2004</b>	<b>Year 2004</b>
<b>Labour Force</b>					
Both Sexes	541,100	540,700	526,800	523,500	<b>532,100</b>
Male	348,700	347,500	349,000	348,500	<b>348,200</b>
Female	192,400	193,200	177,800	175,000	<b>183,900</b>
<b>Employment</b>					
Both Sexes	494,100	491,200	483,300	483,800	<b>487,000</b>
Male	328,400	324,600	329,800	330,100	<b>327,900</b>
Female	165,700	166,600	153,500	153,700	<b>159,100</b>
<b>Unemployment</b>					
Both Sexes	47,000	49,500	43,500	39,700	<b>45,100</b>
Male	20,300	22,900	19,200	18,400	<b>20,300</b>
Female	26,700	26,600	24,300	21,300	<b>24,800</b>
<b>Inactive Population</b>					
Both Sexes	367,700	373,000	390,300	395,800	<b>381,500</b>
Male	98,800	102,400	102,500	104,000	<b>101,600</b>
Female	268,900	270,600	287,800	291,800	<b>279,900</b>
<b>Activity rate (%)</b>					
Both Sexes	59.6	59.2	57.4	56.9	<b>58.2</b>
Male	78.0	77.2	77.3	77.0	<b>77.4</b>
Female	41.7	41.7	38.2	37.5	<b>39.7</b>
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>					
Both Sexes	8.7	9.2	8.3	7.6	<b>8.5</b>
Male	5.8	6.6	5.5	5.3	<b>5.8</b>
Female	13.9	13.8	13.7	12.2	<b>13.5</b>