

## Labour force, Employment and Unemployment – First quarter 2017

### Introduction

1. This issue of Economic and Social Indicators (ESI) presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the first quarter of 2017, based on the results of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) from January to March 2017. The estimates refer to the Mauritian population aged 16 years and above.
2. Annual estimates of labour force including foreign workers derived after integrating data from CMPHS with other sources are given at Annex 3.

### Key figures

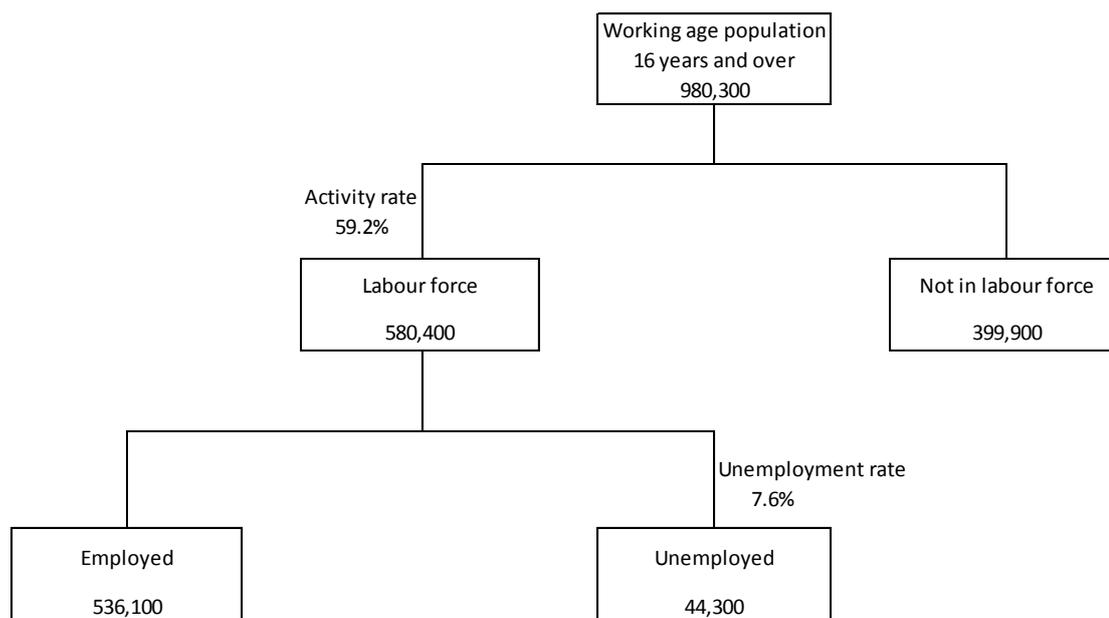
	Q1 2016	Q4 2016	Q1 2017	Change	
				Q1 2017 - Q1 2016	Q1 2017 - Q4 2016
Population (aged 16+)	972,300	978,400	980,300	+8,000	+1,900
Economically inactive	400,600	392,900	399,900	-700	+7,000
Labour Force (Economically active)	571,700	585,500	580,400	+8,700	-5,100
<i>Of which Employment</i>	<i>528,200</i>	<i>546,600</i>	<i>536,100</i>	<i>+7,900</i>	<i>-10,500</i>
<i>Unemployment</i>	<i>43,500</i>	<i>38,900</i>	<i>44,300</i>	<i>+800</i>	<i>+5,400</i>
Activity rate (%)	58.8	59.8	59.2	+0.4	-0.6
Unemployment rate (%)	7.6	6.6	7.6	0.0	+1.0
Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate (%)	7.0	7.3	7.1	+0.1	-0.2
Youth unemployment	18,700	18,300	22,200	+3,500	+3,900
Youth unemployment rate (%)	24.2	22.4	28.9	+4.7	+6.5

**NOTE: The increase or decrease in employment, represents the net change in employment level i.e the combined effect of employment creations and losses during the period under reference.**

## Labour market overview, first quarter 2017

3. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 2016, there has been an increase in the labour force (+8,700) with an increase in both employment (+7,900) and unemployment (+800).
4. Compared with the previous quarter, labour force decreased by 5,100 with an increase in unemployment (+5,400) and a decrease in employment (-10,500).

Chart 1: The Labour Market, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017



## Labour force participation

	Q1 2016	Q4 2016	Q1 2017	Change	
				Q1 2017 - Q1 2016	Q1 2017 - Q4 2016
Activity rate (%)					
Both sexes	58.8	59.8	59.2	+0.4	-0.6
Male	73.2	74.8	73.8	+0.6	-1.0
Female	45.0	45.6	45.3	+0.3	-0.3

## Labour force participation – increasing participation of both males and females

5. The activity rate for the first quarter 2017 was 59.2%, up by 0.4 percentage point from 58.8% in the corresponding quarter one year earlier. The male activity rate increased by 0.6 percentage point to 73.8% and the female rate by 0.3 percentage point to 45.3%.

6. Compared with the previous quarter, the activity rate decreased by 0.6 percentage point to 59.2%. The male activity rate decreased by 1.0 percentage point from 74.8% to 73.8% and the female activity rate by 0.3 percentage point from 45.6% to 45.3%.

## Employment

	Q1 2016	Q4 2016	Q1 2017	Change	
				Q1 2017 - Q1 2016	Q1 2017 - Q4 2016
Employment					
Both sexes	528,200	546,600	536,100	+7,900	-10,500
Male	330,300	343,900	335,400	+5,100	-8,500
Female	197,900	202,700	200,700	+2,800	-2,000

7. From first quarter 2016 to first quarter 2017, employment increased by 7,900 to 536,100; male employment increased by 5,100 to 335,400 and female employment increased by 2,800 to 200,700.

8. Compared with the previous quarter, employment decreased by 10,500 with decreases in both male (-8,500) and female (-2,000) employment.

## Unemployment

	Q1 2016	Q4 2016	Q1 2017	Change	
				Q1 2017 - Q1 2016	Q1 2017 - Q4 2016
Unemployment					
Both sexes	43,500	38,900	44,300	+800	+5,400
Male	17,200	13,200	17,700	+500	4,500
Female	26,300	25,700	26,600	+300	+900
Unemployment rate (%)					
Both sexes	7.6	6.6	7.6	0.0	+1.0
Male	4.9	3.7	5.0	+0.1	+1.3
Female	11.7	11.3	11.7	0.0	+0.4

### *1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2016 to 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017*

9. From first quarter 2016 to first quarter 2017, the number of unemployed persons increased by 800 (500 males and 300 females).
10. The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.6% for both periods under review. Male unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 5.0% while female unemployment rate maintained the same level of 11.7%.

### *4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016 to 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017*

11. When compared with the fourth quarter of 2016, the total number of unemployed persons increased by 5,400. Increases were registered among both males (+4,500) and females (+900).
12. From fourth quarter 2016 to first quarter 2017, the unemployment rate increased by 1.0 percentage point with increases in both males (+1.3 percentage points) and females (+0.4 percentage point) unemployment rates.

### *Unemployment of the youth aged 16-24 years*

	Q1 2016	Q4 2016	Q1 2017	Change	
				Q1 2017 - Q1 2016	Q1 2017 - Q4 2016
Youth unemployment					
Both sexes	18,700	18,300	22,200	+3,500	+3,900
Male	8,500	6,900	9,700	+1,200	+2,800
Female	10,200	11,400	12,500	+2,300	+1,100
Youth unemployment rate (%)					
Both sexes	24.2	22.4	28.9	+4.7	+6.5
Male	19.3	15.0	22.5	+3.2	+7.5
Female	30.7	31.8	37.1	+6.4	+5.3

13. At the first quarter 2017, youth unemployed aged 16 to 24 years numbered 22,200 (9,700 males and 12,500 females) compared to 18,300 (6,900 males and 11,400 females) at the previous quarter and 18,700 (8,500 males and 10,200 females) at the corresponding quarter of 2016.
14. The youth unemployment rate increased by 4.7 percentage points from 24.2% in the first quarter 2016 to 28.9% in the first quarter 2017. During the same period, the youth unemployment rate for both male and female increased by 3.2 percentage points to 22.5% and by 6.4 percentage points to 37.1%.

15. Compared to the previous quarter, the youth unemployment rate increased by 6.5 percentage points from 22.4% to 28.9% with increases of 7.5 percentage points in the male youth unemployment rate and 5.3 percentage point in the female youth unemployment rate.

### ***Characteristics of the unemployed as at first quarter 2017***

16. The main characteristics of the unemployed as at first quarter 2017 were as follows:

- (i) The 44,300 unemployed comprised 17,700 males (40%) and 26,600 females (60%).
- (ii) Around 26,000 (59%) of the unemployed were single. Among males the majority (76%) was single compared to 47% among the females.
- (iii) Some 3,600 or 8% had not reached the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) level or equivalent and a further 15,600 (35%) did not have the Cambridge School Certificate (SC) or equivalent.
- (iv) Around 34,100 (77%) had been looking for work for up to one year and the remaining 10,200 (23%) for more than one year.
- (v) About 29,200 (66%) had working experience and 15,100 (34%) were looking for a job for the first time.
- (vi) Around 21,400 (48%) were registered at the Employment Service.
- (vii) There were 10,800 (24%) young persons aged 16 to 24 years, not yet married and looking for a first job. Some 5,500 (29%) of them had not passed SC.
- (viii) Ever married (including widowed, divorced or separated) unemployed persons aged 25 to 44 years and having worked before numbered 10,300. Among them, about 4,600 (45%) had not passed SC.
- (ix) 4,300 or 10% of the unemployed were heads of households.
- (x) 5,100 (12%) lived in households with no employed persons.

### ***Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate***

17. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2017 was 7.1%, higher than the rate of 7.0% at the corresponding quarter of 2016 but was lower than 7.3% at the previous quarter.

## Economically inactive population

18. The number of persons aged 16 years and over, not forming part of the labour force (inactive population) was estimated at 399,900 at the first quarter 2017 compared to 392,900 in the previous quarter and 400,600 in the corresponding quarter of 2016.
19. The inactive population was made up of 125,600 males and 274,300 females. Among inactive males, around 46% were 'retired or old persons' and 31% were students. Among females, 61% were homemakers; 15% were 'retired or old persons' followed by 14% students.

## Forecasts of Employment and Unemployment estimates - Year 2017<sup>1</sup>

20. Based on the results of the survey for the first quarter of the current year and other information available, forecasts of employment and unemployment for year 2017 are as follows:

	Year 2016	Year 2017 <sup>1</sup>	Change
Employment	538,600	540,000	+1,400 <sup>2</sup>
Unemployment	42,400	42,800	+400
Unemployment rate (%)	7.3	7.3	0.0

<sup>1</sup>Provisional

<sup>2</sup>please see explanations in the box on page 1

### CAUTION:

The estimate of unemployment rate for the year is NOT end of year estimate (i.e as at 31<sup>st</sup> December). It represents weighted averages of estimates based on sample data collected throughout the year under review.

21. The employment level of Mauritians is expected to increase by 1,400 from 538,600 in 2016 to 540,000 in 2017. It is to be noted that this increase represents the net change in employment level, i.e the combined effect of employment creations and losses during the period under reference.
22. Unemployment rate for year 2017 is projected at 7.3%, same as in 2016.

### **Sampling errors**

23. The estimates in this publication are based on the results of a sample survey and are thus subject to sample variability. Standard errors and confidence intervals give an indication of this variability.
24. The standard error of the estimates and the 95% confidence interval which represent a 95% chance that the true value lies within that interval, are given in the tables that follow.

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2016 – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017

Both Sexes

		Estimates	Standard Error	95% confidence interval	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
Labour force					
	2016 Q1	571,700	12,400	547,300	596,200
	Q2	580,100	11,300	557,900	602,300
	Q3	580,700	10,400	560,300	601,200
	Q4	585,500	11,100	563,800	607,300
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	580,400	12,000	556,800	604,100
Employment					
	2016 Q1	528,200	11,200	506,200	550,300
	Q2	537,000	10,400	516,600	557,400
	Q3	536,300	10,000	516,600	556,100
	Q4	546,600	10,600	525,800	567,400
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	536,100	11,100	514,200	558,000
Unemployment					
	2016 Q1	43,500	2,800	38,000	48,900
	Q2	43,100	3,000	37,300	49,000
	Q3	44,400	2,600	39,200	49,500
	Q4	38,900	2,500	34,100	43,800
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	44,300	2,900	38,700	50,000
Unemployment rate, %					
	2016 Q1	7.6	0.4	6.8	8.4
	Q2	7.4	0.5	6.5	8.4
	Q3	7.6	0.4	6.8	8.5
	Q4	6.6	0.4	5.9	7.4
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	7.6	0.5	6.8	8.5
Activity rate, %					
	2016 Q1	58.8	0.7	57.5	60.1
	Q2	59.5	0.6	58.2	60.7
	Q3	59.5	0.6	58.2	60.7
	Q4	59.8	0.8	58.2	61.5
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	59.2	0.7	57.9	60.5

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2016 – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017

Male

		Estimates	Standard Error	95% confidence interval	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
<b>Labour force</b>					
	2016 Q1	347,500	7,900	332,000	363,100
	Q2	352,800	7,400	338,300	367,200
	Q3	356,900	7,200	342,800	371,100
	Q4	357,100	7,400	342,500	371,700
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	353,100	7,800	337,700	368,500
<b>Employment</b>					
	2016 Q1	330,300	7,500	315,600	345,100
	Q2	334,400	7,000	320,500	348,200
	Q3	338,000	7,100	323,900	352,100
	Q4	343,900	7,300	329,500	358,300
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	335,400	7,400	320,800	349,900
<b>Unemployment</b>					
	2016 Q1	17,200	1,700	13,800	20,600
	Q2	18,400	1,900	14,600	22,200
	Q3	18,900	1,800	15,400	22,400
	Q4	13,200	1,400	10,500	16,000
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	17,700	1,900	14,100	21,400
<b>Unemployment rate, %</b>					
	2016 Q1	4.9	0.5	4.0	5.9
	Q2	5.2	0.5	4.2	6.2
	Q3	5.3	0.5	4.3	6.3
	Q4	3.7	0.4	2.9	4.5
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	5.0	0.5	4.0	6.0
<b>Activity rate, %</b>					
	2016 Q1	73.2	0.8	71.7	74.8
	Q2	74.1	0.7	72.7	75.5
	Q3	74.9	0.8	73.4	76.4
	Q4	74.8	0.9	73.0	76.5
	2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	73.8	0.9	72.1	75.5

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2016 – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017

Female

	Estimates	Standard Error	95% confidence interval	
			Lower limit	Upper limit
<b>Labour force</b>				
2016 Q1	224,200	6,300	211,800	236,600
Q2	227,300	6,100	215,200	239,500
Q3	223,800	5,300	213,400	234,100
Q4	228,400	6,000	216,700	240,200
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	227,300	6,200	215,200	239,400
<b>Employment</b>				
2016 Q1	197,900	5,700	186,800	209,100
Q2	202,600	5,700	191,500	213,800
Q3	198,300	4,900	188,800	207,900
Q4	202,700	5,600	191,700	213,800
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	200,700	5,700	189,500	211,900
<b>Unemployment</b>				
2016 Q1	26,300	2,100	22,000	30,500
Q2	24,700	2,100	20,600	28,800
Q3	25,500	2,000	21,600	29,300
Q4	25,700	2,100	21,700	29,700
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	26,600	2,000	22,600	30,600
<b>Unemployment rate, %</b>				
2016 Q1	11.7	0.9	10.0	13.4
Q2	10.9	0.8	9.2	12.5
Q3	11.4	0.8	9.8	13.0
Q4	11.3	0.8	9.6	12.9
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	11.7	0.8	10.1	13.3
<b>Activity rate, %</b>				
2016 Q1	45.0	0.9	43.3	46.8
Q2	45.5	0.9	43.7	47.4
Q3	44.8	0.8	43.2	46.4
Q4	45.6	1.0	43.6	47.6
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	45.3	0.9	43.6	47.1

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

## Longer time series

- The following graphs show the series for employment, unemployment and activity rate from 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2013 to 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017.

Chart 2: Employment by quarter, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2013 – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017

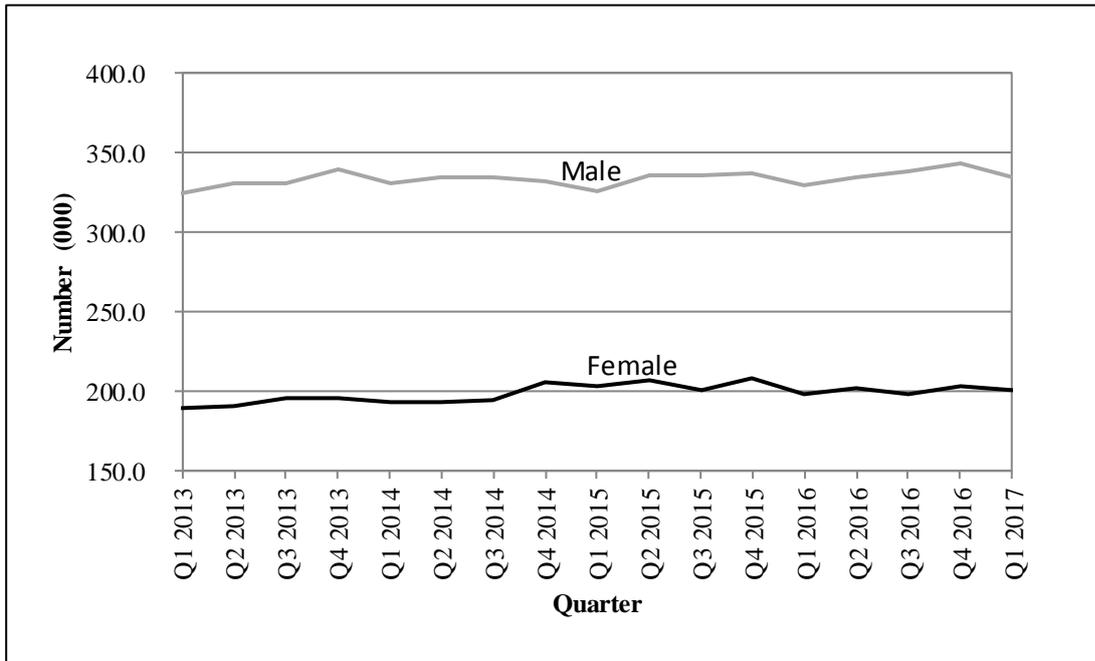


Chart 3: Unemployment rate by quarter, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2013 – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017

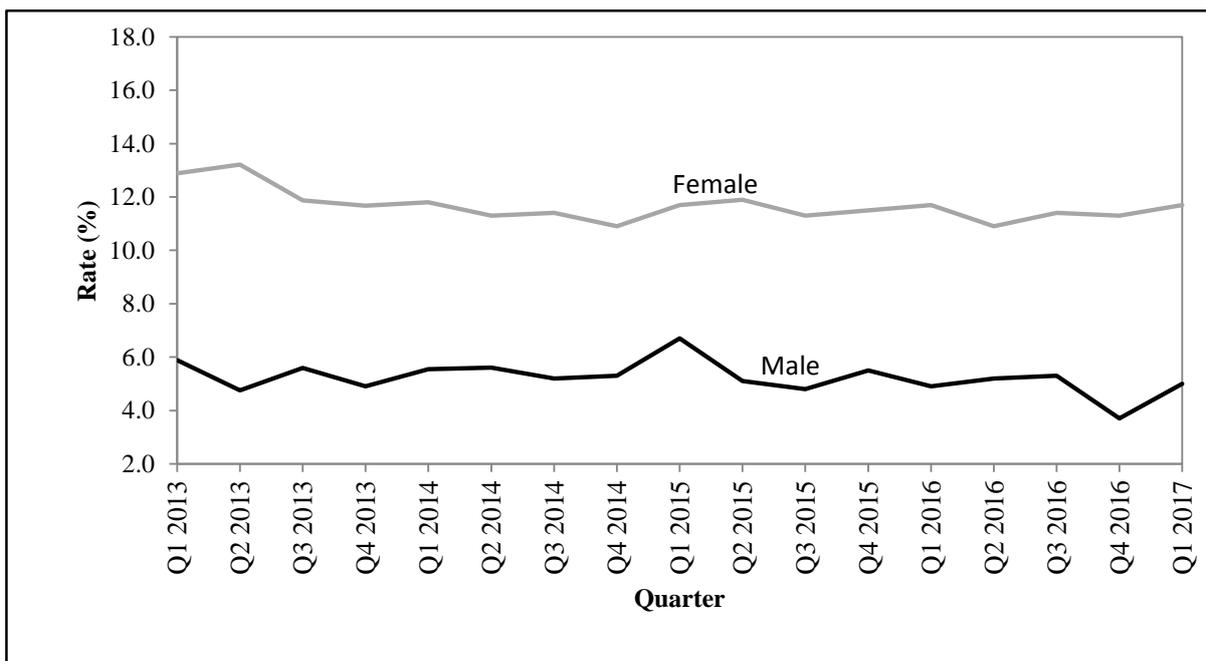
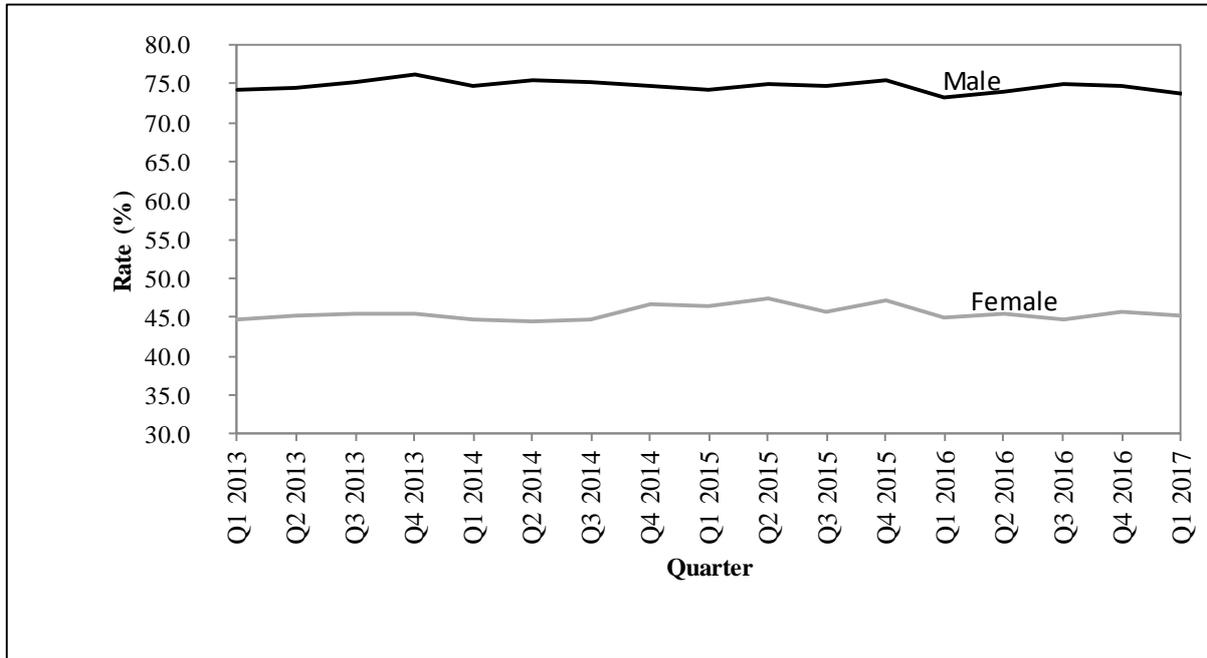


Chart 4: Activity rate by quarter, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2013 – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2017



The following tables together with the web version of this publication can be downloaded from Statistics Mauritius website at <http://statsmauritius.govmu.org> From the homepage, click on ‘Statistics by subject’ followed by ‘labour’ then select the appropriate publication under the heading ‘Publications – Economic and Social Indicators’.

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## **NOTES**

### **Release of Labour Force data**

Labour Force statistics are compiled and published in the “Economic and Social Indicators” in March, June, September and December according to an advance calendar posted on the website of Statistics Mauritius (<http://statsmauritius.govmu.org>). This issue provides data for the first quarter 2017 compared to the previous quarter and to the same quarter a year ago.

However, where appropriate, historical series are also provided for the main indicators.

### **The CMPHS Survey methodology**

#### **Data collection**

Face to face interviews of household members are carried out by qualified interviewers recruited by the office.

#### **Frequency of data collection**

Data collection is carried out monthly except in 2004 when it 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 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 has graduated on 28 February 2012.

#### **Scope and coverage of collection**

All private Mauritian households in the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues are covered.

#### **Sampling method**

A Stratified two-stage sampling design is used. 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 2011 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. 977.

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 been further increased to 11,280. Furthermore, in order to measure quarterly changes, 50% of the households sampled in a quarter are re-interviewed in the following quarter; for example, 50% of the households sampled in the first quarter of 2005 have been re-interviewed in the second quarter of 2005.

## **Questionnaire**

The CMPHS questionnaire comprises three modules: a basic module common to all rounds of the survey covering the general characteristics of the population (b) a second module covering labour force with in-depth investigation and a core set of questions which are kept constant at all rounds of the survey and (c) a third module grouping other topics of interest but investigated in less details.

## **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 this variability, 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**

### **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.

### **Employment**

Employed population consists of Mauritians aged 16 years and above (16+) 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 disorganisation of work (bad weather, break down of equipment, lack of order, etc.).

It is to be noted that as from year 2007, labour force estimates are based on population aged 16 years and above, following the amendment to the Labour Act in December 2006 whereby the minimum legal working age is 16 years, and the subsequent recommendation by the ILO to be in line with the amended Labour Act.

### **Unemployment**

Unemployed population comprises all Mauritians aged 16+ who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work during the reference period.

### **Labour force**

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

### **Unemployment rate**

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

### **Inactive population**

Inactive population includes all Mauritians aged 16+ years, 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.

### **Activity rate**

Activity rate is the ratio (%) of labour force to population aged 16+ (active and inactive population).

### **Employer**

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

**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 contributing family workers.

**Employee**

An Employee is a person who works for pay for someone else, even in a temporary capacity.

**Apprentice**

An Apprentice is a person being trained for a job or trade and does not receive pay or may just receive some pocket money; an apprentice is considered as an employee.

**Contributing family worker**

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

**Educational attainment**

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

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

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

## Annex 3

## Annual labour force estimates based on data from different data sources, 2011 - 2017

	Labour force			Employment				Unemployment <sup>1</sup>	
	Mauritians aged 16+	Foreign workers	Total	in large establishments	outside large establishments	Total	of whom Mauritians	Number	Rate
	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(%)
<b>Both sexes</b>									
2011	548.6	23.0	<b>571.6</b>	310.7	218.2	<b>528.9</b>	505.9	42.7	7.8
2012	556.3	24.0	<b>580.3</b>	311.5	224.2	<b>535.7</b>	511.7	44.6	8.0
2013	571.2	26.3	<b>597.5</b>	312.5	239.5	<b>552.0</b>	525.7	45.5	8.0
2014	575.7	28.3	<b>604.0</b>	313.5	245.7	<b>559.2</b>	530.9	44.8	7.8
2015	584.6	28.3	<b>612.9</b>	314.1	252.5	<b>566.6</b>	538.3	46.3	7.9
2016	581.0	28.6	<b>609.6</b>	314.2	253.0	<b>567.2</b>	538.6	42.4	7.3
2017 <sup>2</sup>	582.8	28.0	<b>610.8</b>	315.0	253.0	<b>568.0</b>	540.0	42.8	7.3
<b>Change current year over previous:</b>	1.8	-0.6	1.2	0.8	0.0	0.8	1.4	0.4	0.0
<b>Male</b>									
2011	343.3	13.4	<b>356.7</b>	197.8	141.6	<b>339.4</b>	326.0	17.3	5.0
2012	346.9	14.2	<b>361.1</b>	198.3	144.7	<b>343.0</b>	328.8	18.1	5.2
2013	350.4	16.5	<b>366.9</b>	199.1	149.2	<b>348.3</b>	331.8	18.6	5.3
2014	352.8	18.3	<b>371.1</b>	199.3	152.4	<b>351.7</b>	333.4	19.4	5.5
2015	353.3	18.6	<b>371.9</b>	198.5	153.9	<b>352.4</b>	333.8	19.5	5.5
2016	353.6	19.3	<b>372.9</b>	198.6	157.4	<b>356.0</b>	336.7	16.9	4.8
2017 <sup>2</sup>	352.4	19.8	<b>372.2</b>	199.1	157.4	<b>356.5</b>	336.7	17.5	5.0
<b>Change current year over previous:</b>	-1.2	0.5	-0.7	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.6	0.2
<b>Female</b>									
2011	205.3	9.6	<b>214.9</b>	112.9	76.6	<b>189.5</b>	179.9	25.4	12.4
2012	209.4	9.8	<b>219.2</b>	113.2	79.5	<b>192.7</b>	182.9	26.5	12.7
2013	220.8	9.8	<b>230.6</b>	113.4	90.3	<b>203.7</b>	193.9	26.9	12.2
2014	222.9	10.0	<b>232.9</b>	114.2	93.3	<b>207.5</b>	197.5	25.4	11.4
2015	231.3	9.7	<b>241.0</b>	115.6	98.6	<b>214.2</b>	204.5	26.8	11.6
2016	227.4	9.3	<b>236.7</b>	115.6	95.6	<b>211.2</b>	201.9	25.5	11.2
2017 <sup>2</sup>	230.4	8.2	<b>238.6</b>	115.9	95.6	<b>211.5</b>	203.3	25.3	11.0
<b>Change current year over previous:</b>	3.0	-1.1	1.9	0.3	0.0	0.3	1.4	-0.2	-0.2

<sup>1</sup> Unemployment figures and rate refer to Mauritians<sup>2</sup> Provisional**Note:**

1. The above figures have been worked out in order to give a set of comparable labour force estimates obtained from different sources. Users are cautioned in the use of these figures given that there are differences related to the reference period, coverage and methodology. The different sources from which these estimates have been obtained are as follows:

- i CMPHS for Mauritian labour force estimates which are subject to sampling variability as mentioned at Annex 1.
- ii The Annual Survey of Employment and Earnings (SEE) carried out in March of each year. Employment figures refer to jobs in large establishments employing 10 or more persons and include both Mauritians and foreign workers.
- iii Employment in 'other than large' establishments has been estimated after reconciling data from CMPHS, SEE and administrative sources.

**Table 1: Labour market activity by status, 1st Quarter 2016 to 1st Quarter 2017**

In thousands

	Total Mauritian population aged 16 & over	In employment					Unemployed	Total econ. active	Total econ. inactive
		Employees	Employers	Own account workers	Contrib. family workers	Total			
<b>Both sexes</b>									
2016 Q1	<b>972.3</b>	421.0	21.5	77.3	8.4	<b>528.2</b>	<b>43.5</b>	<b>571.7</b>	<b>400.6</b>
Q2	<b>975.2</b>	422.9	27.4	74.3	12.4	<b>537.0</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>580.1</b>	<b>395.1</b>
Q3	<b>976.1</b>	420.9	25.3	76.0	14.1	<b>536.3</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>580.7</b>	<b>395.4</b>
Q4	<b>978.4</b>	436.9	20.1	78.0	11.6	<b>546.6</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>585.5</b>	<b>392.9</b>
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>980.3</b>	424.5	21.8	80.4	9.4	<b>536.1</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>580.4</b>	<b>399.9</b>
<b>% change, latest quarter over:</b>									
previous quarter	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>-19.0</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>
same quarter a year ago	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>Male</b>									
2016 Q1	<b>474.6</b>	251.5	19.4	57.5	1.9	<b>330.3</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>347.5</b>	<b>127.1</b>
Q2	<b>476.1</b>	251.9	24.0	55.0	3.5	<b>334.4</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>352.8</b>	<b>123.3</b>
Q3	<b>476.5</b>	252.9	22.8	59.1	3.2	<b>338.0</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>356.9</b>	<b>119.6</b>
Q4	<b>477.6</b>	265.5	15.9	59.6	2.9	<b>343.9</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>357.1</b>	<b>120.5</b>
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>478.7</b>	254.5	18.2	59.7	3.0	<b>335.4</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>353.1</b>	<b>125.6</b>
<b>% change, latest quarter over:</b>									
previous quarter	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>
same quarter a year ago	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>-6.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
<b>Female</b>									
2016 Q1	<b>497.7</b>	169.5	2.1	19.8	6.5	<b>197.9</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>224.2</b>	<b>273.5</b>
Q2	<b>499.1</b>	171.0	3.4	19.3	8.9	<b>202.6</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>227.3</b>	<b>271.8</b>
Q3	<b>499.6</b>	168.0	2.5	16.9	10.9	<b>198.3</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>223.8</b>	<b>275.8</b>
Q4	<b>500.8</b>	171.4	4.2	18.4	8.7	<b>202.7</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>228.4</b>	<b>272.4</b>
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>501.6</b>	170.0	3.6	20.7	6.4	<b>200.7</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>227.3</b>	<b>274.3</b>
<b>% change, latest quarter over:</b>									
previous quarter	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-14.3</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>-26.4</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>
same quarter a year ago	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

**Table 2: Labour force characteristics by age and sex, 1st Quarter 2017<sup>1</sup>****In thousands**

	<b>Mauritian aged 16 and over</b>	<b>Age group (years)</b>				
		<b>16-24</b>	<b>25 - 29</b>	<b>30 - 39</b>	<b>40 - 49</b>	<b>50+</b>
<b>Both sexes</b>						
In employment	<b>536.1</b>	54.6	63.8	136.8	123.3	157.6
Unemployed	<b>44.3</b>	22.2	6.5	10.4	3.2	2.0
Labour force	<b>580.4</b>	76.8	70.3	147.2	126.5	159.6
Economically inactive	<b>399.9</b>	95.0	13.0	30.2	42.8	218.9
Total Population	<b>980.3</b>	171.8	83.3	177.4	169.3	378.5
Employment rate (%)	<b>92.4</b>	71.1	90.8	92.9	97.5	98.7
Unemployment rate (%)	<b>7.6</b>	28.9	9.2	7.1	2.5	1.3
Activity rate (%)	<b>59.2</b>	44.7	84.4	83.0	74.7	42.2
<b>Male</b>						
In employment	<b>335.4</b>	33.4	36.5	80.8	78.3	106.4
Unemployed	<b>17.7</b>	9.7	2.8	3.2	0.7	1.3
Labour force	<b>353.1</b>	43.1	39.3	84.0	79.0	107.7
Economically inactive	<b>125.6</b>	43.4	2.7	4.5	5.9	69.1
Total Population	<b>478.7</b>	86.5	42.0	88.5	84.9	176.8
Employment rate (%)	<b>95.0</b>	77.5	92.9	96.2	99.1	98.8
Unemployment rate (%)	<b>5.0</b>	22.5	7.1	3.8	0.9	1.2
Activity rate (%)	<b>73.8</b>	49.8	93.6	94.9	93.1	60.9
<b>Female</b>						
In employment	<b>200.7</b>	21.2	27.3	56.0	45.0	51.2
Unemployed	<b>26.6</b>	12.5	3.7	7.2	2.5	0.7
Labour force	<b>227.3</b>	33.7	31.0	63.2	47.5	51.9
Economically inactive	<b>274.3</b>	51.6	10.3	25.7	36.9	149.8
Total Population	<b>501.6</b>	85.3	41.3	88.9	84.4	201.7
Employment rate (%)	<b>88.3</b>	62.9	88.1	88.6	94.7	98.7
Unemployment rate (%)	<b>11.7</b>	37.1	11.9	11.4	5.3	1.3
Activity rate (%)	<b>45.3</b>	39.5	75.1	71.1	56.3	25.7

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

**Table 3: Employment by industrial activity, 1st Quarter 2016 to 1st Quarter 2017**

	Total employed aged 16+	Primary sector	Secondary sector	Tertiary sector	Selected NSIC <sup>1</sup> Sections			
					Manufacturing	Construction	Wholesale and retail trade	Other services
					C	F	G	H - U
	(000s)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
<b>Both sexes</b>								
2016 Q1	<b>528.2</b>	7.8	26.1	66.1	13.8	10.7	14.1	51.9
Q2	<b>537.0</b>	7.0	24.5	68.5	13.2	9.6	14.5	53.9
Q3	<b>536.3</b>	7.2	23.8	69.0	13.1	9.5	15.0	54.0
Q4	<b>546.6</b>	7.6	27.4	65.0	14.8	11.1	14.9	50.2
2017 Q1 <sup>2</sup>	<b>536.1</b>	7.7	23.6	68.7	13.1	9.5	15.0	53.7
<b>Male</b>								
2016 Q1	<b>330.3</b>	8.6	31.7	59.7	12.7	16.5	12.8	47.0
Q2	<b>334.4</b>	7.7	30.8	61.5	13.2	15.3	13.0	48.5
Q3	<b>338.0</b>	8.0	29.0	63.0	12.8	14.5	14.1	48.9
Q4	<b>343.9</b>	8.6	32.2	59.2	13.1	17.1	13.8	45.4
2017 Q1 <sup>2</sup>	<b>335.4</b>	9.1	27.8	63.1	12.0	14.5	14.4	48.7
<b>Female</b>								
2016 Q1	<b>197.9</b>	6.5	16.9	76.6	15.5	1.1	16.4	60.2
Q2	<b>202.6</b>	5.9	14.1	80.0	13.3	0.4	17.0	63.0
Q3	<b>198.3</b>	6.0	15.0	79.0	13.7	1.0	16.4	62.6
Q4	<b>202.7</b>	5.9	19.2	74.9	17.8	1.0	16.6	58.3
2017 Q1 <sup>2</sup>	<b>200.7</b>	5.5	16.5	78.0	14.8	1.2	16.0	62.0

<sup>1</sup> National version of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Revision 4)<sup>2</sup> Provisional

**Table 4: Employment by occupational group, 1st Quarter 2016 to 1st Quarter 2017**

	Total employed aged 16+	ISCO-08 <sup>1</sup>				
		Managers, Professionals, Technicians & associate professionals	Clerical support workers	Service and sales workers	Agricultural, Craft & related trades workers, Plant & machine operators & assemblers	Elementary occupations
		1,2,3 (%)	4 (%)	5 (%)	6,7,8 (%)	9 (%)
	(000s)					
<b>Both sexes</b>						
2016 Q1	<b>528.2</b>	25.3	8.3	20.3	29.7	16.4
Q2	<b>537.0</b>	24.2	8.5	22.5	29.6	15.2
Q3	<b>536.3</b>	24.0	8.9	22.3	30.3	14.5
Q4	<b>546.6</b>	25.1	8.3	20.4	31.2	15.0
2017 Q1 <sup>2</sup>	<b>536.1</b>	25.4	9.9	20.5	29.6	14.6
<b>Male</b>						
2016 Q1	<b>330.3</b>	24.4	5.4	17.8	40.2	12.2
Q2	<b>334.4</b>	23.0	5.3	19.9	39.9	11.9
Q3	<b>338.0</b>	22.2	6.5	20.1	40.6	10.6
Q4	<b>343.9</b>	23.3	5.9	18.5	40.6	11.7
2017 Q1 <sup>2</sup>	<b>335.4</b>	23.8	6.3	18.8	39.3	11.8
<b>Female</b>						
2016 Q1	<b>197.9</b>	26.8	13.1	24.4	12.2	23.5
Q2	<b>202.6</b>	26.3	13.8	26.8	12.5	20.6
Q3	<b>198.3</b>	27.2	12.9	26.1	12.7	21.1
Q4	<b>202.7</b>	28.2	12.3	23.6	15.3	20.6
2017 Q1 <sup>2</sup>	<b>200.7</b>	28.0	16.0	23.4	13.3	19.3

<sup>1</sup> National version of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08)<sup>2</sup> Provisional

**Table 5: Employment by hours worked, 1st Quarter 2016 to 1st Quarter 2017**

	Total employed aged 16+ (000's)	Total hours worked (000's)	% having worked for:					Average number of hours worked
			0 hour	1 to 23 hours	24 to 40 hours	41 to 50 hours	51 and above	
<b>Both sexes</b>								
2016 Q1	<b>528.2</b>	18,400	5.6	16.5	43.3	22.1	12.5	36.8
Q2	<b>537.0</b>	20,000	5.8	11.2	40.6	27.2	15.3	39.6
Q3	<b>536.3</b>	20,300	5.8	10.8	38.8	28.3	16.2	40.2
Q4	<b>546.6</b>	20,300	6.2	12.1	37.8	28.5	15.4	39.7
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>536.1</b>	19,700	6.2	12.0	41.9	26.1	13.8	39.1
<b>Male</b>								
2016 Q1	<b>330.3</b>	12,100	6.3	13.5	40.4	24.4	15.4	38.9
Q2	<b>334.4</b>	13,100	6.3	8.5	38.0	28.6	18.6	41.7
Q3	<b>338.0</b>	13,500	5.9	7.8	36.7	30.4	19.3	42.3
Q4	<b>343.9</b>	13,400	5.8	9.4	36.6	29.7	18.5	41.5
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>335.4</b>	12,800	6.8	9.1	39.6	27.1	17.4	41.0
<b>Female</b>								
2016 Q1	<b>197.9</b>	6,300	4.3	21.8	48.1	18.2	7.6	33.3
Q2	<b>202.6</b>	7,000	5.0	15.6	44.7	24.9	9.8	36.2
Q3	<b>198.3</b>	6,800	5.8	16.0	42.5	24.7	11.0	36.5
Q4	<b>202.7</b>	6,900	7.0	16.5	39.8	26.4	10.3	36.6
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>200.7</b>	6,900	5.2	16.7	45.9	24.3	7.9	35.9

0 hour not included in total hours worked & in average number of hours worked

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

**Table 6: Unemployment by educational attainment, 1st Quarter 2016 to 1st Quarter 2017**

	Unemployed Mauritians aged 16+ (000s)	Primary			Secondary			Tertiary		
		Total (%)	Below CPE (%)	Passed CPE (%)	Total (%)	Below SC (%)	Passed SC (%)	Passed HSC (%)	(%)	
<b>Both sexes</b>										
2016 Q1	<b>43.5</b>	<b>13.8</b>	9.9	3.9	<b>63.4</b>	37.2	13.3	12.9	<b>22.8</b>	
Q2	<b>43.1</b>	<b>15.3</b>	11.6	3.7	<b>62.0</b>	30.2	15.3	16.5	<b>22.7</b>	
Q3	<b>44.4</b>	<b>15.7</b>	11.2	4.5	<b>59.5</b>	32.0	13.3	14.2	<b>24.8</b>	
Q4	<b>38.9</b>	<b>15.7</b>	9.8	5.9	<b>58.6</b>	28.5	15.7	14.4	<b>25.7</b>	
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>13.3</b>	8.1	5.2	<b>66.6</b>	35.2	15.6	15.8	<b>20.1</b>	
<b>Male</b>										
2016 Q1	<b>17.2</b>	<b>16.3</b>	13.4	2.9	<b>58.1</b>	33.1	10.5	14.5	<b>25.6</b>	
Q2	<b>18.4</b>	<b>14.7</b>	11.4	3.3	<b>56.0</b>	29.3	10.9	15.8	<b>29.3</b>	
Q3	<b>18.9</b>	<b>19.6</b>	15.4	4.2	<b>59.8</b>	32.3	13.2	14.3	<b>20.6</b>	
Q4	<b>13.2</b>	<b>15.9</b>	12.1	3.8	<b>61.3</b>	37.1	15.9	8.3	<b>22.8</b>	
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>14.7</b>	8.5	6.2	<b>71.2</b>	42.4	12.4	16.4	<b>14.1</b>	
<b>Female</b>										
2016 Q1	<b>26.3</b>	<b>12.2</b>	7.6	4.6	<b>66.9</b>	39.9	15.2	11.8	<b>20.9</b>	
Q2	<b>24.7</b>	<b>15.8</b>	11.7	4.1	<b>66.4</b>	30.8	18.6	17.0	<b>17.8</b>	
Q3	<b>25.5</b>	<b>13.0</b>	8.3	4.7	<b>59.2</b>	31.8	13.3	14.1	<b>27.8</b>	
Q4	<b>25.7</b>	<b>15.6</b>	8.6	7.0	<b>57.2</b>	24.1	15.6	17.5	<b>27.2</b>	
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>12.4</b>	7.9	4.5	<b>63.5</b>	30.4	17.7	15.4	<b>24.1</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

**Table 7: Unemployment by age, 1st Quarter 2016 to 1st Quarter 2017**

In Thousands

	All aged 16 and over	Age group (years)		
		16-24	25-49	50+
<b>Both sexes</b>				
2016 Q1	43.5	18.7	22.2	2.6
Q2	43.1	19.3	20.8	3.0
Q3	44.4	19.1	22.6	2.7
Q4	38.9	18.3	18.8	1.8
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	44.3	22.2	20.1	2.0
<b>Change, latest quarter over:</b>				
previous quarter	5.4	3.9	1.3	0.2
same quarter a year ago	0.8	3.5	-2.1	-0.6
<b>Male</b>				
2016 Q1	17.2	8.5	7.2	1.5
Q2	18.4	9.1	7.6	1.7
Q3	18.9	8.5	8.9	1.5
Q4	13.2	6.9	5.3	1.0
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	17.7	9.7	6.7	1.3
<b>Change, latest quarter over:</b>				
previous quarter	4.5	2.8	1.4	0.3
same quarter a year ago	0.5	1.2	-0.5	-0.2
<b>Female</b>				
2016 Q1	26.3	10.2	15.0	1.1
Q2	24.7	10.2	13.2	1.3
Q3	25.5	10.6	13.7	1.2
Q4	25.7	11.4	13.5	0.8
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	26.6	12.5	13.4	0.7
<b>Change, latest quarter over:</b>				
previous quarter	0.9	1.1	-0.1	-0.1
same quarter a year ago	0.3	2.3	-1.6	-0.4

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

**Table 8: Unemployment by work experience, 1st Quarter 2016 to 1st Quarter 2017**

	Unemployed Mauritians aged 16+	No. of first job seekers	Unemployed with work experience by industry *					
			Total	Manuf.	Construction	Trade	Accommodation & Food Service Activities	Other
	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
<b>Both sexes</b>								
2016 Q1	43.5	13.6	29.9	12.7	9.7	23.1	21.4	33.1
Q2	43.1	12.1	31.0	13.2	11.0	16.8	20.0	39.0
Q3	44.4	15.1	29.3	15.4	9.6	19.4	16.4	39.2
Q4	38.9	10.9	28.0	14.3	10.4	21.4	14.3	39.6
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	44.3	15.1	29.2	16.1	9.9	18.5	16.8	38.7
<b>Change, latest quarter over:</b>								
previous quarter	5.4	4.2	1.2					
same quarter a year ago	0.8	1.5	-0.7					
<b>Male</b>								
2016 Q1	17.2	4.8	12.4	11.3	21.8	17.7	20.2	29.0
Q2	18.4	4.2	14.2	11.3	19.7	9.2	21.8	38.0
Q3	18.9	5.3	13.6	18.4	19.8	16.9	16.2	28.7
Q4	13.2	2.6	10.6	12.3	24.5	21.7	6.6	34.9
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	17.7	5.9	11.8	16.9	22.0	11.9	23.7	25.5
<b>Change, latest quarter over:</b>								
previous quarter	4.5	3.3	1.2					
same quarter a year ago	0.5	1.1	-0.6					
<b>Female</b>								
2016 Q1	26.3	8.8	17.5	13.7	1.1	26.9	22.3	36.0
Q2	24.7	7.9	16.8	14.9	3.5	23.2	18.5	39.9
Q3	25.5	9.8	15.7	12.7	0.6	21.7	16.6	48.4
Q4	25.7	8.3	17.4	15.5	1.7	21.3	19.0	42.5
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	26.6	9.2	17.4	15.5	1.7	23.0	12.1	47.7
<b>Change, latest quarter over:</b>								
previous quarter	0.9	0.9	0.0					
same quarter a year ago	0.3	0.4	-0.1					

\* National version of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Revision 4)

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

**Table 9: Economically inactive population by reason, 1st Quarter 2016 to 1st Quarter 2017**

	Total Mauritians aged 16+ (000s)	Economically inactive by reason					
		Total (000s)	Homemakers (%)	Retired or elderly (%)	Students (%)	Sick or disabled (%)	Other (%)
<b>Both sexes</b>							
2016 Q1	972.3	400.6	40.8	24.8	19.3	9.7	5.4
Q2	975.2	395.1	40.0	26.5	19.4	8.7	5.4
Q3	976.1	395.4	42.5	25.6	19.6	8.3	4.0
Q4	978.4	392.9	41.0	25.4	19.8	9.7	4.1
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	980.3	399.9	41.8	24.5	19.5	9.2	5.0
<b>Male</b>							
2016 Q1	474.6	127.1	0.7	45.7	29.7	16.1	7.8
Q2	476.1	123.3	0.2	47.0	30.5	14.8	7.5
Q3	476.5	119.6	0.1	48.2	31.8	14.5	5.4
Q4	477.6	120.5	0.6	45.1	31.5	16.8	6.0
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	478.7	125.6	0.9	45.6	30.8	15.4	7.3
<b>Female</b>							
2016 Q1	497.7	273.5	59.5	15.1	14.5	6.7	4.2
Q2	499.1	271.8	58.0	17.2	14.3	6.0	4.5
Q3	499.6	275.8	60.9	15.8	14.3	5.7	3.3
Q4	500.8	272.4	58.9	16.7	14.6	6.6	3.2
2017 Q1 <sup>1</sup>	501.6	274.3	60.6	14.8	14.4	6.3	3.9

<sup>1</sup> Provisional