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Export Oriented Enterprises

1st Quarter 2023

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Note: Readers are invited to make the distinction between official data which are published in the Economic and Social indicators and the analysis presented for the benefit of general readers. Differences of opinion may arise regarding the analytical part but these do not in any way, undermine the quality of the data. The Editors welcome constructive critical comments.

Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE) 1st Quarter 2023

1. Introduction

This issue of “Economic and Social Indicators” (ESI) presents the results of the Quarterly Survey of Employment among Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE), conducted by Statistics Mauritius at the end of March 2023.

It also includes provisional figures on EOE imports and exports for the first quarter of 2023 as well as figures for the years 2021 and 2022. Table 1 shows the main indicators of the EOE sector for the period 2014 to 2022.

EOE consist of enterprises formerly holding an EPZ certificate as well as enterprises manufacturing goods for export and holding a registration certificate issued by the ex-Board of Investment.

2. Employment

2.1 Employment – 1st Quarter 2023

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2022, employment in EOE decreased by 772 (-2.1%) from 36,109 to 35,337. Male employment dropped by 662 from 19,535 to 18,873 and female employment decreased by 110 from 16,574 to 16,464 (Table 2).

The number of Mauritians employed in the EOE sector fell by 292 (-1.5%) (-183 males and -109 females) from 19,848 to 19,556 and the number of foreign workers decreased by 480 (-3.0%) (-479 males and -1 female) from 16,261 at the end of December 2022 to 15,781 at the end of March 2023 (Table 2).

The decrease of 772 in employment in the EOE sector during the first quarter of 2023 is the net result of 1,040 jobs lost and 268 jobs created. The job losses were due to some contraction of workforce whilst jobs created were due to expansion in existing enterprises.

2.2 Evolution of employment from March 2022 to March 2023

From March 2022 to March 2023, total employment in EOE increased by 433 (+1.2%) from 34,904 to 35,337. The number of Mauritian workers decreased by 646 (-219 males and -427 females). Employment of foreign workers increased by 1,079 (+479 males and +600 females) (Tables 2 and 5).

Details of employment by product group and sex are given in Table 3 and changes in employment by product group in Table 4.

3. Exports and Imports

Statistics on imports and exports are compiled from declarations lodged at Customs by importers and exporters. Some of these declarations are, at times, revised at a later period and corrections made accordingly on the computerised database of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) - Customs Department. Thus, while figures for 2021 are final, those for 2022 and first quarter 2023 are subject to revision as and when the MRA - Customs Department submits latest amendments to Statistics Mauritius.

3.1 Exports and Imports – 1st Quarter 2023

3.1.1 Exports (f.o.b)

Provisional figures show that EOE exports during the first quarter of 2023 amounted to R 11,996 million, that is, R 971 million (-7.5%) lower compared to the fourth quarter of 2022 (Table 6). That was mainly the result of decreases observed in exports of “Articles of apparel and clothing” (-R 619 million or -14.9%), “Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles” (-R 176 million or -16.0%) and “Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones” (-R 135 million or -11.5%) partly offset by increases in “Live animals other than fish” (+R 239 million or +44.0%) and “Fish & fish preparations” (+R 119 million or +3.4%).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022, EOE exports increased by R 1,071 million (+9.8%).

Details on EOE exports by section are given in Table 7.

South Africa, United Kingdom (UK), France and United States of America (USA) remain the principal EOE markets, together accounting for R 6,018 million (50.2%) of total EOE exports (Table 9). The table below highlights the changes in our main EOE exports markets.

EOE exports by main country of destination

(R million)

Country of destination	Exports Q1 2023	Change on	
		Q4 2022	Q1 2022
South Africa	1,655	-417	-120
United Kingdom	1,576	+78	+120
France	1,540	+198	+172
USA	1,247	+39	-85

Compared to the previous quarter, EOE exports to our main markets showed increases as follows: France (+14.8%), United Kingdom (+5.2%) and USA (+3.2%). However, a decrease of 20.1 % in exports towards South Africa was observed.

When compared to the first quarter of 2022, increases of 12.6% and 8.2% were noted for France and United Kingdom respectively while decreases in EOE exports for South Africa (-6.8%) and USA (-6.4%) were noted.

Further details are given in Table 9.

3.1.2 Imports (c.i.f)

EOE imports during the first quarter of 2023 were estimated at R 6,811 million, representing a decrease of R 2,157 million (-24.1%) compared to the fourth quarter of 2022 (Table 6). This decrease is mainly due to lower imports of raw materials by R 2,094 million (-24.1%) (Table 6).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022, imports decreased by R 667 million (-8.9%), mainly due to decreases in imports of “Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones” by R 190 million (-16.5%), “Textile yarn and fabrics” by R 155 million (-13.6%) and “Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares” by R 139 million (-51.7%).

Details on EOE imports by section are given in Table 8.

3.1.3 Net exports

Net exports, i.e. exports minus imports, amounted to R 5,185 million in the first quarter of 2023 and its ratio to total exports worked out to 43.2% compared to 31.6% in the corresponding quarter of 2022 (Table 6).

It is to be noted that the above exports and imports figures do not include transactions of the EOE with the Freeport. EOE sales to the Freeport, considered as local sales, were valued at R 4 million in the first quarter of 2023 compared to R 5 million in the first quarter of 2022. These sales are included in exports of Freeport, as and when the goods leave the country.

Statistics Mauritius

Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development

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Table 1 - Main economic indicators, EOE Sector, 2014 - 2022

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 ¹
1. No of enterprises as at December	300	284	282	280	263	239	235	233	232
- New	8	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Closures	17	17	4	2	17	24	4	2	1
2. Employment as at December	54,813	53,601	52,602	52,172	49,866	44,160	36,736	35,024	36,109
- Net change	+1,150	-1,212	-999	-430	-2,306	-5,706	-7,424	-1,712	1,085
- Growth rate (%)	+2.1	-2.2	-1.9	-0.8	-4.4	-11.4	-16.8	-4.7	3.1
3. Exports (f.o.b, R million) (excluding sales to Freeport)	49,069	48,487	44,422	43,027	43,311	42,319	37,289	42,657	49,918
4. Imports (c.i.f, R million):	28,596	27,312	25,638	27,094	25,929	24,645	19,629	25,673	33,466
- Raw materials	27,001	25,835	24,254	25,891	24,596	23,641	18,786	24,684	32,147
- Machinery & spare parts	1,595	1,477	1,384	1,203	1,333	1,004	843	989	1,319
5. Net exports (R million)	20,473	21,175	18,784	15,933	17,382	17,674	17,660	16,984	16,452
6. Net exports to Exports (%)	41.7	43.7	42.3	37.0	40.1	41.8	47.4	39.8	33.0
7. Value added at basic prices (R million)	21,264	22,118	21,803	22,105	22,406	18,711	16,039	18,430	21,770
- Share in Manufacturing (%)	39.3	40.4	39.3	39.5	39.6	34.7	33.0	32.9	31.6
- Share in Gross value added (%)	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.4
8. Annual Real Growth rate of Value added (%)	+2.5	-3.1	-5.1	+0.3	-4.5	-3.2	-21.9	+6.5	+11.8
9. Investment (R million)	2,700	1,140	1,354	1,091	1,104	739	724	848	1,184
- of which Machinery	1,686	636	850	745	770	625	610	703	1,022

¹Revised

Table 2 - Employment by size of enterprise and sex, EOE Sector, March 2022 - March 2023

Category	Number of enterprises as at			Employment								
				March 2022			December 2022			March 2023		
	March 2022	December 2022	March 2023	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Enterprises with less than 10 employees	59	65	65	87	61	148	103	75	178	106	82	188
Enterprises with 10 or more employees	174	167	166	18,495	16,054	34,549	19,400	16,346	35,746	18,729	16,202	34,931
Outworkers	Napp	Napp	Napp	31	176	207	32	153	185	38	180	218
TOTAL	233	232	231	18,613	16,291	34,904	19,535	16,574	36,109	18,873	16,464	35,337
<i>Mauritian</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>8,198</i>	<i>12,004</i>	<i>20,202</i>	<i>8,162</i>	<i>11,686</i>	<i>19,848</i>	<i>7,979</i>	<i>11,577</i>	<i>19,556</i>
<i>Foreign workers (Expatriates)</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>10,415</i>	<i>4,287</i>	<i>14,702</i>	<i>11,373</i>	<i>4,888</i>	<i>16,261</i>	<i>10,894</i>	<i>4,887</i>	<i>15,781</i>

Napp - Not applicable

Table 3 - Employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2022 - March 2023

Product group	March 2022				March 2023			
	Number of enterprises	Employment			Number of enterprises	Employment		
		Male	Female	Both sexes		Male	Female	Both sexes
1. Food	16	1,718	2,871	4,589	16	1,705	2,970	4,675
2. Flowers	2	21	26	47	1	19	26	45
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	21	2,104	344	2,448	20	2,172	342	2,514
4. Wearing apparel:	83	10,842	8,417	19,259	83	10,864	8,359	19,223
<i>Pullovers</i>	12	417	199	616	12	383	215	598
<i>Other garments</i>	71	10,425	8,218	18,643	71	10,481	8,144	18,625
5. Leather products and footwear	5	139	431	570	5	142	443	585
6. Wood and paper products	10	234	252	486	10	236	298	534
7. Optical goods	2	184	208	392	2	214	204	418
8. Electronic watches and clocks	4	252	301	553	4	267	307	574
9. Electric and electronic products	5	56	119	175	5	49	113	162
10. Jewellery and related articles	12	352	575	927	12	309	512	821
11. Toys and carnival articles	2	15	148	163	2	14	154	168
12. Other products	71	2,696	2,599	5,295	71	2,882	2,736	5,618
TOTAL	233	18,613	16,291	34,904	231	18,873	16,464	35,337

Table 4 - Net change in employment by product group, EOE Sector, March 2022 - March 2023

Product group	Employment			Net change from	
	Mar. 22	Dec. 22	Mar. 23	Dec. 22 to Mar. 23	Mar. 22 to Mar. 23
1. Food	4,589	4,834	4,675	-159	86
2. Flowers	47	44	45	1	-2
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	2,448	2,615	2,514	-101	66
4. Wearing apparel:	19,259	19,900	19,223	-677	-36
<i>Pullovers</i>	616	626	598	-28	-18
<i>Other garments</i>	18,643	19,274	18,625	-649	-18
5. Leather products and footwear	570	577	585	8	15
6. Wood and paper products	486	520	534	14	48
7. Optical goods	392	398	418	20	26
8. Electronic watches and clocks	553	574	574	0	21
9. Electric and electronic products	175	162	162	0	-13
10. Jewellery and related articles	927	838	821	-17	-106
11. Toys and carnival articles	163	166	168	2	5
12. Other products	5,295	5,481	5,618	137	323
TOTAL	34,904	36,109	35,337	-772	433

Table 5 - Expatriate employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2022 - March 2023

Product group	Employment					
	March 2022			March 2023		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
1. Food	448	1,052	1,500	705	1,217	1,922
2. Flowers	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	1,502	10	1,512	1,595	22	1,617
4. Wearing apparel:	7,937	3,157	11,094	8,006	3,574	11,580
<i>Pullovers</i>	256	2	258	248	6	254
<i>Other garments</i>	7,681	3,155	10,836	7,758	3,568	11,326
5. Leather products and footwear	39	8	47	38	6	44
6. Wood and paper products	11	0	11	14	0	14
7. Optical goods	71	0	71	107	0	107
8. Electronic watches and clocks	39	1	40	67	1	68
9. Electric and electronic products	13	0	13	7	0	7
10. Jewellery and related articles	49	3	52	53	4	57
11. Toys and carnival articles	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Other	306	56	362	302	63	365
TOTAL	10,415	4,287	14,702	10,894	4,887	15,781

Table 6 - Net EOE Exports, 2021 - 1st Quarter 2023

Value: R Million

Item	2021	2022 ¹	2022 ¹				2023 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
A. Total exports (f.o.b)	42,657	49,918	10,925	12,503	13,524	12,967	11,996
B. Total imports (c.i.f)	25,673	33,466	7,478	8,226	8,793	8,968	6,811
<i>Raw materials</i>	24,684	32,147	7,108	7,988	8,369	8,681	6,587
<i>Machinery</i>	989	1,319	370	238	424	287	224
Net Exports (A - B)	16,984	16,452	3,447	4,277	4,731	3,999	5,185
Net Exports as % of Total Exports	39.8	33.0	31.6	34.2	35.0	30.8	43.2

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Table 7 - EOE exports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2021 - 1st Quarter 2023

Value (F.o.b): R Million

SITC Section/Description	2021	2022 ¹	2022 ¹				2023 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	42,657	49,918	10,925	12,503	13,524	12,967	11,996
0 - Food and live animals	12,454	14,823	3,081	3,575	3,988	4,179	4,518
of which :							
Live animals other than fish	1,916	2,081	535	478	525	543	782
Fish & fish preparations	9,955	12,049	2,441	2,884	3,263	3,460	3,579
Cereals and cereal preparations	59	62	13	11	25	13	7
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	200	120	26	29	39	26	50
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	499	956	169	174	155	457	98
Medicaments (including Veterinary medicaments)	155	133	69	43	19	1	3
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	8,549	10,150	2,318	2,602	2,878	2,352	2,044
of which :							
Paper, paperboard and articles	65	85	13	17	43	11	13
Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles	5,122	5,172	1,289	1,302	1,478	1,103	927
Glass	6	4	0	2	2	0	0
Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	3,138	4,656	973	1,219	1,293	1,172	1,037
Iron and steel	5	9	0	2	3	3	3
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	320	737	123	399	143	73	45
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	20,464	22,616	5,174	5,571	6,178	5,692	4,991
of which :							
Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	308	413	97	95	117	103	92
Articles of apparel and clothing	15,045	16,493	3,777	3,942	4,622	4,151	3,532
Instruments and appliances, n.e.s., for medical, surgical, dental or veterinary purposes	1,629	1,819	379	569	453	418	442
Optical goods	336	272	73	86	53	60	61
Watches and clocks	1,289	1,450	376	374	366	334	356
Printed matter	104	112	27	24	34	27	27
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	537	690	135	121	174	260	158
Toys, games and sporting goods	222	166	34	52	35	45	28
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	650	809	192	203	213	200	207
Other sections	171	516	34	153	143	188	250

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Note: Breakdowns may not add up to totals due to rounding

Table 8 - EOE imports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2021 - 1st Quarter 2023

Value (C.i.f): R Million

SITC Section/Description	2021	2022 ¹	2022 ¹				2023 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	25,673	33,466	7,478	8,226	8,793	8,968	6,811
0 - Food and live animals	6,249	7,492	1,669	1,432	1,902	2,488	1,659
of which :							
Meat and meat preparations	16	42	10	5	16	11	
Fish & fish preparations	5,792	7,102	1,607	1,344	1,752	2,399	1,563
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	2,248	3,898	898	855	1,052	1,093	798
of which :							
Cotton	1,549	3,069	646	682	824	918	631
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	154	140	33	37	41	29	13
Wool and other animal hair	374	442	170	70	114	88	83
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related products	4	5	1	1	1	3	1
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	2,002	2,227	509	576	672	470	399
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	10,903	13,998	2,989	3,993	3,720	3,295	2,614
of which :							
Leather	238	296	62	76	85	74	66
Paper, paperboard and articles	266	348	89	72	72	115	51
Textile yarn and fabrics	5,148	5,941	1,143	1,969	1,534	1,295	988
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	3,475	5,039	1,154	1,323	1,351	1,211	964
Iron and steel	398	758	148	222	254	134	190
Non-ferrous metals	235	281	78	55	79	69	75
7 - Machinery & transport equipment	989	1,319	370	238	424	287	224
of which :							
Machinery specialized for particular industries	388	636	174	81	255	125	81
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,674	3,524	933	850	799	943	791
of which :							
Optical goods, watches & clocks	750	855	241	185	208	222	209
Printed matter	151	163	37	42	51	34	40
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	407	489	115	118	130	126	125
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	554	811	269	209	110	223	130
Other sections	604	1,003	109	281	223	389	325

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Note: Breakdowns may not add up to totals due to rounding

Table 9 - EOE exports by country of destination, 2021 - 1st Quarter 2023

Value (F.o.b): R Million

Country of destination	2021	2022 ¹	2022 ¹				2023 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	42,657	49,918	10,925	12,503	13,524	12,967	11,996
Europe:	21,556	25,141	5,545	6,276	6,349	6,970	6,908
Austria	43	48	12	17	13	6	10
Belgium	750	1,064	126	182	246	509	146
France	4,801	5,725	1,368	1,630	1,385	1,342	1,540
Germany	953	916	283	185	197	250	245
Italy	2,548	2,008	613	496	361	537	469
Netherlands	2,679	2,884	511	632	842	899	1,062
Portugal	285	400	38	206	70	86	181
Spain	2,006	3,822	599	706	1,221	1,295	977
Switzerland	941	1,111	258	290	289	275	288
United Kingdom	5,341	5,978	1,456	1,598	1,425	1,498	1,576
Other	1,209	1,185	281	334	300	273	414
Asia:	4,419	5,375	891	1,523	1,533	1,428	1,235
China	268	172	44	37	57	34	52
Hong Kong (S.A.R) ³	66	51	15	10	12	14	10
India	782	840	161	282	193	204	162
Japan	151	132	15	48	37	33	56
Sri Lanka	14	0	0	0	0	0	1
Vietnam	2,587	3,572	549	996	1,066	960	691
Other	551	608	107	150	168	183	263
Africa:	11,848	13,679	2,982	3,292	4,165	3,239	2,490
Madagascar	3,452	4,363	1,003	1,267	1,123	971	638
Reunion	240	260	50	68	64	78	63
Seychelles	83	86	20	28	25	14	16
South Africa	7,627	8,592	1,775	1,875	2,871	2,072	1,655
Other	446	378	134	54	82	104	118
America:	4,644	5,458	1,456	1,333	1,393	1,276	1,287
Canada	168	260	91	53	61	55	22
Panama	9	34	4	24	4	2	3
U.S.A	4,333	5,079	1,332	1,222	1,318	1,208	1,247
Other	134	85	29	34	10	11	15
Oceania:	190	265	50	79	83	53	76
Australia	172	250	45	74	82	49	72
New Zealand	17	15	5	5	1	4	4
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Special Administrative Region of China

Note: Breakdowns may not add up to totals due to rounding

Table 10 - EOE imports by country of origin, 2021 - 1st Quarter 2023

Value (C.i.f): R Million

Country of origin	2021	2022 ¹	2022 ¹				2023 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	25,673	33,466	7,478	8,226	8,793	8,968	6,811
Europe:	11,210	15,006	3,348	3,697	4,084	3,878	2,953
Belgium	3,185	4,720	1,111	1,212	1,284	1,113	888
France	3,579	3,779	733	983	909	1,154	917
Germany	260	408	127	109	109	62	88
Italy	1,150	1,536	412	445	297	382	287
Netherlands	31	42	6	12	12	12	8
Spain	1,612	2,111	444	364	716	587	320
Sweden	9	1	0	1	1	0	2
Switzerland	438	478	138	92	137	111	88
United Kingdom	221	337	78	72	97	91	78
Other	725	1,594	299	407	522	366	277
Asia:	9,256	11,051	2,478	3,093	2,933	2,547	1,929
China	2,665	3,076	741	811	840	683	656
Hong Kong (S.A.R) ³	270	289	80	76	78	55	51
India	3,526	3,577	653	1,264	786	875	604
Indonesia	759	778	216	204	200	159	227
Japan	68	130	56	17	26	30	11
Korea, Republic of	288	248	31	48	110	60	11
Malaysia	191	244	70	39	76	59	60
Pakistan	120	164	14	44	71	35	8
Singapore	82	109	26	30	33	20	23
Thailand	550	651	167	100	201	183	146
Other	737	1,785	424	460	512	388	132
Africa:	4,550	6,330	1,447	1,269	1,486	2,128	1,655
Burkina Faso	58	66	0	57	9	0	0
Madagascar	212	394	45	73	100	176	53
Seychelles	2,634	2,882	659	544	519	1,160	825
South Africa	570	493	103	100	129	162	130
Zambia	150	117	105	0	0	11	6
Other	926	2,378	535	495	729	619	641
America:	420	573	131	139	175	128	159
Brazil	17	39	9	9	11	10	31
U.S.A	232	321	68	76	100	77	93
Canada	5	6	2	2	0	2	1
Other	166	207	52	52	64	39	34
Oceania:	238	506	75	28	115	288	114
Australia	165	386	35	6	85	261	97
Other	73	119	40	22	31	27	18

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Special Administrative Region of China

Note: Breakdowns may not add up to totals due to rounding

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