Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE)

**2nd 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 June 2023.

## It also includes provisional figures on EOE imports and exports for the second 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 – 2nd Quarter 2023**

Compared to the first quarter of 2023, employment in EOE decreased by 866 (-2.5%) from 35,337 to 34,471. Male employment increased by 108 from 18,873 to 18,981 and female employment dropped by 974 from 16,464 to 15,490 (Table 2).

The number of Mauritians employed in the EOE sector decreased by 283 (-1.4%) (+243 males and -526 females) from 19,556 to 19,273 and the number of foreign workers decreased by 583 (-3.7%) (-135 males and -448 females) from 15,781 at the end of March 2023 to 15,198 at the end of June 2023 (Table 2).

The decrease of 866 in employment in the EOE sector during the second quarter of 2023 is the net result of 1,173 jobs lost and 307 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 June 2022 to June 2023

From June 2022 to June 2023, total employment in EOE decreased by 617 (-1.8%) from 35,088 to 34,471. The number of Mauritian workers decreased by 911 (+35 males and -946 females). Employment of foreign workers increased by 294 (+89 males and +205 females) (Tables 2 and 5).

Job losses occurred mainly in enterprises engaged in the manufacture of “Wearing apparel” with a decrease of 789 jobs (Table 4).

 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 for first and second quarters of 2023 are subject to revision as and when the MRA - Customs Department submits latest amendments to Statistics Mauritius.

**3.1 Exports and Imports – 2nd Quarter 2023**

3.1.1 Exports (f.o.b)

Provisional figures show that EOE exports during the second quarter of 2023 amounted to R 11,988 million, that is, R 8 million (-0.1%) lower compared to the first quarter of 2023 (Table 6). That was mainly the result of decreases observed in exports of “Fish & fish preparations” (-R 231 million or -6.5%), “Articles of apparel and clothing” (-R 192 million or -5.4%) and “Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones” (-R 113 million or -10.9%) partly offset by increases in exports of “Instruments and appliances, n.e.s., for medical, surgical, dental or veterinary purposes” (+R156 million or +35.3%) and “Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles” (+R113 million or +12.2%).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022, EOE exports decreased by R 515 million (-4.1%).

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

South Africa, France, United Kingdom (UK) and United States of America (USA) are the principal EOE markets in the second quarter of 2023, together accounting for R 6,099 million (50.9%) 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 Q2 2023** | **Change on**  |
| **Q1 2023** | **Q2 2022** |
| South Africa | 1,704 | 49 | -171 |
| France | 1,627 | 87 | -3 |
| United Kingdom | 1,585 | 9 | -13 |
| USA | 1,183 | -64 | -39 |

Compared to the previous quarter, EOE exports to our main markets showed increases as follows: France (+5.6%), South Africa (+3.0%) and United Kingdom (+0.6%). However, a decrease of 5.1% in exports towards United States of America (USA) was observed.

When compared to the second quarter of 2022, decreases of 9.1%, 3.2 %, 0.8% and 0.2% were noted for South Africa, United States of America (USA), United Kingdom and France respectively.

Further details are given in Table 9.

3.1.2 Imports (c.i.f)

EOE imports during the second quarter of 2023 were estimated at R 7,354 million, representing an increase of R 543 million (+8.0%) compared to the firstquarter of 2023. This increase is due to higher imports of “Raw materials” by R 341 million (+5.2%) and “Machinery” by R 202 million (+90.2%) (Table 6).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022, imports decreased by R 872 million (-10.6%), mainly due to decreases in imports of “Textile yarn and fabrics” by R 802 million (-40.7%), “Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones” by R 384 million (-29.0%) and “Cotton” by R 258 million (-37.8%) partly offset by an increase in exports of “Fish and fish preparations” by R 648 million (+48.2%).

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 4,634 million in the second quarter of 2023 and its ratio to total exports worked out to 38.7% compared to 34.2% 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 21 million in the second quarter of 2023 compared to R 7 million in the second quarter of 2022. These sales are included in exports of Freeport, as and when the goods leave the country.

**Statistics Mauritius**

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