



# Economic and Social Indicators

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**Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE)** 

1st Quarter 2024

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Statistics Mauritius Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development Port Louis



## Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE) 1st Quarter 2024

#### 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 2024.

It also includes provisional figures on EOE imports and exports for the first quarter of 2024 as well as figures for the years 2022 and 2023. Table 1 shows the main indicators of the EOE sector for the period 2015 to 2023.

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 2024

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2023, employment in EOE decreased by 442 (-1.3%) from 33,293 to 32,851. Male employment dropped by 367 from 18,390 to 18,023 and female employment decreased by 75 from 14,903 to 14,828 (Table 2).

The number of Mauritians employed in the EOE sector fell by 188 (-1.0%) (-192 males and +4 females) from 18,548 to 18,360 and the number of foreign workers decreased by 254 (-1.7%) (-175 males and -79 females) from 14,745 at the end of December 2023 to 14,491 at the end of March 2024 (Table 2).

The decrease of 442 in employment in the EOE sector during the first quarter of 2024 is the net result of 810 jobs lost and 368 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 2023 to March 2024

From March 2023 to March 2024, total employment in EOE decreased by 2,486 (-7.0%) from 35,337 to 32,851. The number of Mauritian workers decreased by 1,196 (-511 males and -685 females). Employment of foreign workers decreased by 1,290 (-339 males and -951 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 2022 are final, those for 2023 and first quarter 2024 are subject to revision as and when the MRA - Customs Department submits latest amendments to Statistics Mauritius.

#### 3.1 Exports and Imports – 1st Quarter 2024

#### 3.1.1 Exports (f.o.b)

Provisional figures show that EOE exports during the first quarter of 2024 amounted to R 9,469 million, that is, R 1,258 million (-11.7%) lower compared to the fourth quarter of 2023 (Table 6). That was mainly the result of decreases observed in exports of "Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones" (-R 642 million or -85.6%), "Articles of apparel and clothing" (-R 274 million or -8.9%), "Articles, n.e.s. of plastics" (-179 million or -48.9%) and "Cereals and cereal preparations" (-R 110 million or -95.7%).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2023, EOE exports decreased by R 2,468 million (-20.7%).

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

South Africa, United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK) and France remain the principal EOE markets, together accounting for R 5,104 million (53.9%) 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)

(It minut)										
Country of destination	Exports Q1 2024	Change on								
, and a second	P · · · · · ·	Q4 2023	Q1 2023							
South Africa	1,465	-417	-190							
USA	1,325	+71	+78							
United Kingdom	1,286	-124	-255							
France	1,028	-106	-488							

Compared to the previous quarter, EOE exports to USA showed an increase of 5.7% while decreases were observed in the other principal markets as follows: South Africa (-22.2%), France (-9.3%) and United Kingdom (-8.8%).

When compared to the first quarter of 2023, an increase of 6.3% was noted for USA while decreases in EOE exports towards France (-32.2%), United Kingdom (-16.5%) and South Africa (-11.5%) were noted.

Further details are given in Table 9.

#### 3.1.2 <u>Imports (c.i.f)</u>

EOE imports during the first quarter of 2024 were estimated at R 5,507 million, representing a decrease of R 846 million (-13.3%) compared to the fourth quarter of 2023 (Table 6). This decrease is mainly due to lower imports of raw materials by R 860 million (-14.2%) (Table 6).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2023, imports decreased by R 1,302 million (-19.1%), mainly due to decreases in imports of "Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones" by R 820 million (-85.1%), "Cotton" by R 285 million (-45.2%) and "Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares" by R 115 million (-88.5%).

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 3,962 million in the first quarter of 2024 and its ratio to total exports worked out to 41.8% compared to 43.0% in the corresponding quarter of 2023 (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 1 million in the first quarter of 2024 compared to R 4 million in the first quarter of 2023. 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 Port Louis 28 June 2024

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**Table 1 - Main economic indicators, EOE Sector, 2015 - 2023** 

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 1
1. No of enterprises as at December	284	282	280	263	239	235	233	232	231
- New	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Closures	17	4	2	17	24	4	2	1	1
2. Employment as at December	53,601	52,602	52,172	49,866	44,160	36,736	35,024	36,109	33,293
- Net change	-1,212	-999	-430	-2,306	-5,706	-7,424	-1,712	+1085	-2,816
- Growth rate (%)	-2.2	-1.9	-0.8	-4.4	-11.4	-16.8	-4.7	+3.1	-7.8
3. Exports (f.o.b, R million) (excluding sales to Freeport)	48,487	44,422	43,027	43,311	42,319	37,289	42,657	49,918	47,247
4. Imports (c.i.f, R million):	27,312	25,638	27,094	25,929	24,645	19,629	25,673	33,466	26,781
- Raw materials	25,835	24,254	25,891	24,596	23,641	18,786	24,684	32,147	25,421
- Machinery & spare parts	1,477	1,384	1,203	1,333	1,004	843	989	1,319	1,360
5. Net exports (R million)	21,175	18,784	15,933	17,382	17,674	17,660	16,984	16,452	20,466
6. Net exports to Exports (%)	43.7	42.3	37.0	40.1	41.8	47.4	39.8	33.0	43.3
7. Value added at basic prices (R million)	22,118	21,803	22,105	22,406	18,711	16,039	18,430	21,306	21,175
- Share in Manufacturing (%)	40.4	39.3	39.5	39.6	34.7	33.0	32.9	31.2	29.0
- Share in Gross value added (%)	6.0	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.3	3.7
8. Annual Real Growth rate of Value added (%)	-3.1	-5.1	+0.3	-4.5	-3.2	-21.9	+6.5	+11.8	-11.2
9. Investment (R million)	1,140	1,354	1,091	1,104	739	724	848	1,184	1,295
- of which Machinery	636	850	745	770	625	610	703	1,022	1,100

<sup>1</sup> Revised

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Table 2 - Employment by size of enterprise and sex, EOE Sector, March 2023 - March 2024

	Nimal	of oto				I	Employmer	nt					
Category	Numb	er of enterprise	es as at	March 2023			De	December 2023			March 2024 <sup>1</sup>		
	March 2023	December 2023	March 2024 <sup>1</sup>	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	
Enterprises with less than 10 employees	65	65	65	106	82	188	102	77	179	100	76	176	
Enterprises with 10 or more employees	166	166	165	18,729	16,202	34,931	18,246	14,653	32,899	17,891	14,580	32,471	
Outworkers	Napp	Napp	Napp	38	180	218	42	173	215	32	172	204	
TOTAL	231	231	230	18,873	16,464	35,337	18,390	14,903	33,293	18,023	14,828	32,851	
Mauritian	Napp	Napp	Napp	7,979	11,577	19,556	7,660	10,888	18,548	7,468	10,892	18,360	
Foreign workers (Expatriates)	Napp	Napp	Napp	10,894	4,887	15,781	10,730	4,015	14,745	10,555	3,936	14,491	

Napp - Not applicable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

6

Table 3 - Employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2023 - March 2024

		Marcl	n 2023		March 2024 <sup>1</sup>					
Product group	Number of		Employment		Number of		Employment			
	enterprises	Male	Female	Both sexes	enterprises	Male	Female	Both sexes		
1. Food	16	1,705	2,970	4,675	16	1,765	2,881	4,646		
2. Flowers	1	19	26	45	1	25	18	43		
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	20	2,172	342	2,514	20	2,102	316	2,418		
4. Wearing apparel:	83	10,864	8,359	19,223	83	9,995	6,967	16,962		
Pullovers	12	383	215	598	12	371	200	571		
Other garments	71	10,481	8,144	18,625	71	9,624	6,767	16,391		
5. Leather products and footwear	5	142	443	585	5	143	422	565		
6. Wood and paper products	10	236	298	534	10	242	344	586		
7. Optical goods	2	214	204	418	2	204	210	414		
8. Electronic watches and clocks	4	267	307	574	4	243	285	528		
9. Electric and electronic products	5	49	113	162	5	57	105	162		
10. Jewellery and related articles	12	309	512	821	12	245	364	609		
11. Toys and carnival articles	2	14	154	168	2	10	152	162		
12. Other products	71	2,882	2,736	5,618	70	2,992	2,764	5,756		
TOTAL	231	18,873	16,464	35,337	230	18,023	14,828	32,851		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

Table 4 - Net change in employment by product group, EOE Sector, March 2023 - March 2024

		Employment		Net change from			
Product group	Mar. 23	Dec. 23	Mar. 24 <sup>1</sup>	Dec. 23 to Mar. 24 <sup>1</sup>	Mar. 23 to Mar. 24 <sup>1</sup>		
1. Food	4,675	4,712	4,646	-66	-29		
2. Flowers	45	38	43	5	-2		
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	2,514	2,487	2,418	-69	-96		
4. Wearing apparel:	19,223	17,333	16,962	-371	-2,261		
Pullovers	598	599	571	-28	-27		
Other garments	18,625	16,734	16,391	-343	-2,234		
5. Leather products and footwear	585	571	565	-6	-20		
6. Wood and paper products	534	546	586	40	52		
7. Optical goods	418	409	414	5	-4		
8. Electronic watches and clocks	574	542	528	-14	-46		
9. Electric and electronic products	162	162	162	0	0		
10. Jewellery and related articles	821	619	609	-10	-212		
11. Toys and carnival articles	168	158	162	4	-6		
12. Other products	5,618	5,716	5,756	40	138		
TOTAL	35,337	33,293	32,851	-442	-2,486		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

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Table 5 - Expatriate employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2023 - March 2024

			Emplo	yment				
Product group		March 2023			March 2024 <sup>1</sup>			
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes		
1. Food	705	1,217	1,922	779	1,223	2,002		
2. Flowers	0	0	0	0	0	0		
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	1,595	22	1,617	1,557	21	1,578		
4. Wearing apparel:	8,006	3,574	11,580	7,555	2,610	10,165		
Pullovers	248	6	254	243	6	249		
Other garments	7,758	3,568	11,326	7,312	2,604	9,916		
5. Leather products and footwear	38	6	44	41	6	47		
6. Wood and paper products	14	0	14	15	0	15		
7. Optical goods	107	0	107	98	0	98		
8. Electronic watches and clocks	67	1	68	59	1	60		
9. Electric and electronic products	7	0	7	19	0	19		
10. Jewellery and related articles	53	4	57	61	5	66		
11. Toys and carnival articles	0	0	0	0	0	0		
12. Other	302	63	365	371	70	441		
TOTAL	10,894	4,887	15,781	10,555	3,936	14,491		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provisional

Table 6 - Net EOE Exports, 2022 - 1st Quarter 2024

Value: R Million

Item	2022	2023 1		2024 <sup>2</sup>			
Item	2022	2023	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
A. Total exports (f.o.b)	49,918	47,247	11,937	11,986	12,598	10,727	9,469
B. Total imports (c.i.f)	33,466	26,781	6,809	7,346	6,273	6,353	5,507
Raw materials	32,147	25,421	6,585	6,920	5,845	6,072	5,212
Machinery	1,319	1,360	224	426	428	281	295
Net Exports (A - B)	16,452	20,466	5,128	4,640	6,325	4,374	3,962
Net Exports as % of Total Exports	33.0	43.3	43.0	38.7	50.2	40.8	41.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revised <sup>2</sup> Provisional

Table 7 - EOE exports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2022 -  $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$  Quarter 2024

Value (F.o.b): R Million

CITC Seed on December 2	2022	2022 1		202	3 1		2024 2
SITC Section/Description	2022	2023 1	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	49,918	47,247	11,937	11,986	12,598	10,727	<u>9,469</u>
0 - Food and live animals	14,823	16,994	4,518	4,286	4,375	3,815	3,704
of which:							
Live animals other than fish	2,081	3,756	782	711	1,427	836	830
Fish & fish preparations	12,049	12,431	3,579	3,348	2,799	2,706	2,761
Cereals and cereal preparations	62	154	7	18	15	115	5
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	120	180	50	54	46	30	28
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	956	383	98	88	98	100	94
Medicaments (including Veterinary medicaments)	133	4	3	2	0	0	0
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	10,150	8,534	2,044	2,074	2,478	1,939	1,424
of which:							
Paper, paperboard and articles	85	70	13	36	14	7	10
Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles	5,172	4,379	927	1,040	1,278	1,133	1,251
Glass	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	4,656	3,827	1,037	924	1,116	750	108
Iron and steel	9	4	3	0	0	0	0
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	737	234	45	65	82	42	41
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	22,616	20,261	4,932	5,165	5,409	4,754	4,140
of which:							
Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	413	481	92	130	133	126	77
Articles of apparel and clothing Instruments and appliances, n.e.s., for medical, surgical,	16,493	13,594	3,470	3,338	3,699	3,087	2,813
dental or veterinary purposes	1,819	2,052	445	598	534	476	390
Optical goods	272	338	61	127	69	82	70
Watches and clocks	1,450	1,429	356	419	345	310	311
Printed matter	112	85	27	18	17	23	20
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	690	916	158	156	237	366	187
Toys, games and sporting goods	166	152	28	39	48	38	23
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	809	817	207	236	224	151	145
Other sections	516	661	250	254	110	47	38

<sup>1</sup> Revised <sup>2</sup> Provisional

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

Table 8 - EOE imports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2022 -  $1^{\rm st}$  Quarter 2024

Value (C.i.f): R Million

SITC Section/Decomption	2022	2022 1		202	3 1		2024 2
SITC Section/Description	2022	2023 1	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	33,466	26,781	<u>6,809</u>	7,346	6,273	6,353	<u>5,507</u>
0 - Food and live animals	7,492	7,494	1,660	2,140	1,541	2,153	1,919
of which:							
Meat and meat preparations	42	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fish & fish preparations	7,102	6,973	1,564	1,985	1,420	2,005	1,718
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	3,898	2,333	798	546	493	496	517
of which:							
Cotton	3,069	1,865	631	424	383	426	346
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	140	62	13	19	7	22	19
Wool and other animal hair	442	203	83	53	61	6	107
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related products	5	5	1	1	2	1	1
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	2,227	1,785	399	421	507	458	439
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	13,998	10,133	2,612	2,722	2,516	2,284	1,741
of which:							
Leather	296	286	66	86	73	61	58
Paper, paperboard and articles	348	251	51	74	73	53	41
Textile yarn and fabrics	5,941	4,176	986	1,167	1,050	974	1,006
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	5,039	3,493	964	939	816	774	144
Iron and steel	758	599	190	159	135	115	82
Non-ferrous metals	281	307	75	65	82	85	41
7 - Machinery & transport equipment	1,319	1,360	224	426	428	281	295
of which:							
Machinery specialized for particular industries	636	749	81	202	282	184	90
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	3,524	2,759	791	757	605	606	558
of which:							
Optical goods, watches & clocks	855	886	209	235	211	231	189
Printed matter	163	145	40	38	35	32	31
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	489	392	125	126	70	71	71
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	811	271	130	95	39	7	15
Other sections	1,003	912	324	333	181	74	37

<sup>1</sup> Revised <sup>2</sup> Provisional

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

Table 9 - EOE exports by country of destination, 2022 - 1st Quarter 2024

Value (F.o.b): R Million

Country of destination	2022	2022.1		202	3 1		2024 2
Country of destination	2022	2023 1	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	49,918	47,247	11,937	11,986	12,598	10,727	9,469
Europe:	25,141	24,576	6,848	6,790	5,614	5,324	5,136
Austria	48	25	10	4	4	8	8
Belgium	1,064	741	146	186	155	253	156
France	5,725	5,485	1,516	1,624	1,211	1,134	1,028
Germany	916	989	245	300	254	190	235
Italy	2,008	2,332	469	984	388	490	386
Netherlands	2,884	2,758	1,062	514	561	621	722
Portugal	400	268	181	60	17	11	37
Spain	3,822	3,423	977	966	815	665	760
Switzerland	1,111	851	288	217	183	162	157
United Kingdom	5,978	6,219	1,541	1,585	1,684	1,410	1,286
Other	1,185	1,485	413	350	342	380	361
Asia:	5,375	5,001	1,236	1,286	1,436	1,044	329
China	172	144	52	29	26	36	17
Hong Kong (S.A.R) <sup>3</sup>	51	60	10	23	11	16	11
India	840	727	163	220	204	141	93
Japan	132	230	56	82	59	34	43
Sri Lanka	0	1	1	0	0	0	4
Vietnam	3,572	3,249	691	843	1,044	671	17
Other	608	590	263	89	92	146	144
Africa:	13,679	11,469	2,490	2,593	3,363	3,023	2,617
Madagascar	4,363	3,350	638	727	1,025	960	1,015
Reunion	260	260	63	73	58	66	41
Seychelles	86	76	16	32	16	13	17
South Africa	8,592	7,387	1,655	1,704	2,147	1,882	1,465
Other	378	396	118	57	117	102	79
America:	5,458	5,967	1,287	1,251	2,139	1,289	1,350
Canada	260	117	22	40	39	17	16
Panama	34	8	3	1	1	3	5
U.S.A	5,079	5,709	1,247	1,183	2,025	1,254	1,325
Other	85	133	15	27	74	15	4
Oceania:	265	235	76	65	47	47	37
Australia	250	221	72	63	42	44	32
New Zealand	15	14	4	2	5	3	5
Other	0	0	o l	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	0	$\stackrel{\circ}{0}$	0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revised <sup>2</sup> Provisional

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Special Administrative Region of China

Country of origin	2022	2022 1		202	23 1		2024 2
Country of origin	2022	2023 1	1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	33,466	26,781	6,809	7,346	6,273	6,353	<u>5,507</u>
Europe:	15,006	11,767	2,950	3,525	2,746	2,546	2,037
Belgium	4,720	3,491	888	1,022	810	771	137
France	3,779	2,964	911	928	662	463	555
Germany	408	481	88	75	236	83	73
Italy	1,536	977	287	277	258	155	173
Netherlands	42	82	8	24	35	15	43
Spain	2,111	1,838	323	640	253	623	556
Sweden	1	4	2	0	2	0	0
Switzerland	478	418	88	149	96	85	85
United Kingdom	337	286	78	77	79	52	80
Other	1,594	1,226	277	333	315	299	335
Asia:	11,051	7,711	1,927	2,012	1,866	1,907	1,960
China	3,076	2,642	656	620	633	733	624
Hong Kong (S.A.R) <sup>3</sup>	289	180	51	43	53	33	51
India	3,577	2,289	603	653	527	506	605
Indonesia	778	720	227	162	158	174	234
Japan	130	78	11	22	19	26	15
Korea, Republic of	248	113	11	26	58	17	17
Malaysia	244	234	60	52	57	64	33
Pakistan	164	36	8	19	3	6	8
Singapore	109	61	23	14	13	11	15
Thailand	651	483	146	96	116	125	169
Other	1,785	875	131	305	229	212	189
Africa:	6,330	6,519	1,658	1,602	1,433	1,826	1,316
Burkina Faso	66	61	0	0	61	0	21
Madagascar	394	388	53	100	177	58	105
Seychelles	2,882	3,860	828	965	796	1,272	882
South Africa	493	437	130	118	120	69	51
Zambia	117	52	6	0	0	46	24
Other	2,378	1,721	641	419	279	381	233
America:	573	538	159	181	129	69	165
Brazil	39	93	31	18	30	14	64
U.S.A	321	317	93	108	66	49	61
Canada	6	3	1	1	0	0	1
Other	207	125	34	54	33	6	39
Oceania:	506	245	114	26	100	5	28
Australia	386	187	97	11	79	0	23
Other	119	58	17	15	21	5	5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revised

13

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Special Administrative Region of China

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