Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE)

**2nd 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 June 2024.

## It also includes provisional figures on EOE imports and exports for the second 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 – 2nd Quarter 2024**

Compared to the first quarter of 2024, employment in EOE decreased by 200 (-0.6%) from 32,604 to 32,404. Male employment decreased by 55 from 17,850 to 17,795 and female employment dropped by 145 from 14,754 to 14,609 (Table 2).

The number of Mauritians employed in the EOE sector decreased by 270 (-1.5%) (-90 males and -180 females) from 18,294 to 18,024 and the number of foreign workers increased by 70 (+0.5%) (+35 males and +35 females) from 14,310 at the end of March 2024 to 14,380 at the end of June 2024 (Table 2).

The decrease of 200 in employment in the EOE sector during the second quarter of 2024 is the net result of 592 jobs lost and 392 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 2023 to June 2024

From June 2023 to June 2024, total employment in EOE decreased by 2,067 (-6.0%) from 34,471 to 32,404. The number of Mauritian workers decreased by 1,249 (-805 males and -444 females). Employment of foreign workers decreased by 818 (-381 males and -437 females) (Tables 2 and 5).

Job losses occurred mainly in enterprises engaged in the manufacture of “Wearing apparel” with a decrease of 1,620 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 2022 are final, those for 2023 and for first and second quarters of 2024 are subject to revision as and when the MRA - Customs Department submits latest amendments to Statistics Mauritius.

**3.1 Exports and Imports – 2nd Quarter 2024**

3.1.1 Exports (f.o.b)

Provisional figures show that EOE exports during the second quarter of 2024 amounted to R 11,435 million, that is, R 1,966 million (+20.8%) higher compared to the first quarter of 2024 (Table 6). That was mainly the result of increases observed in exports of “Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles” (+R 303 million or +24.2%), “Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones” (+R 295 million or +273.1%), “Articles of apparel and clothing” (+R 255 million or +9.1%), “Instruments and appliances, n.e.s for medical, surgical, dental or veterinary purposes” (+R 248 million or +63.6%), “Fish & fish preparations” (+R 239 million or +8.7%) and “Live animals other than fish"(+R 114 million or +13.7%).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2023, EOE exports decreased by R 551 million (-4.6%).

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

South Africa, United Kingdom (UK), United States of America (USA) and France remain the principal EOE markets in the second quarter of 2024, together accounting for R 6,055 million (53.0%) 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 2024** | **Change on**  |
| **Q1 2024** | **Q2 2023** |
| South Africa | 2,051 | 586 | 347 |
| United Kingdom | 1.448 | 162 | -137 |
| USA | 1,383 | 58 | 200 |
| France | 1,173 | 145 | -451 |

Compared to the previous quarter, EOE exports to our main markets showed increases as follows: South Africa (+40.0%), France (+14.1%), United Kingdom (+12.6%) and United States of America (USA) (+4.4%).

When compared to the second quarter of 2023, increases in EOE exports towards South Africa (+20.4%) and United States of America (USA) (+16.9%) were noted while decreases of 27.8% and 8.6% were noted for France and United Kingdom respectively.

Further details are given in Table 9.

3.1.2 Imports (c.i.f)

EOE imports during the second quarter of 2024 were estimated at R 6,128 million, representing an increase of R 621 million (+11.3%) compared to the firstquarter of 2024. This increase is due to higher imports of “Raw materials” by R 657 million (+12.6%) offset by a decrease in imports of “Machinery” by R 36 million (-12.2%) (Table 6).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2023, imports decreased by R 1,218 million (-16.6%), mainly due to decreases in imports of “Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones” by R 723 million (-77.0%) and “Fish and fish preparations” by R 593 million (-29.9%) partly offset by an increase in “Textile yarn and fabrics” by R 478 million (+41.0%).

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 5,307 million in the second quarter of 2024 and its ratio to total exports worked out to 46.4% compared to 38.7% 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 5 million in the second quarter of 2024 compared to R 21 million in the second quarter of 2023. These sales are included in exports of Freeport, as and when the goods leave the country.

**Statistics Mauritius**

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