



Economic and Social Indicators

Issue No 1865

Export Oriented Enterprises

1st Quarter 2025

Released online : Friday 27 June 2025

<https://statsmauritius.govmu.org>

Price: Rs 40.00

Statistics Mauritius
Ministry of Finance
Port Louis

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 2025

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 2025.

It also includes provisional figures on EOE imports and exports for the first quarter of 2025 as well as figures for the years 2023 and 2024. Table 1 shows the main indicators of the EOE sector for the period 2016 to 2024.

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 2025

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2024, employment in EOE decreased by 1,000 (-3.2%) from 31,406 to 30,406. Male employment dropped by 606 from 17,643 to 17,037 and female employment decreased by 394 from 13,763 to 13,369 (Table 2).

The number of Mauritians employed in the EOE sector fell by 688 (-4.0%) (-469 males and -219 females) from 17,064 to 16,376 and the number of foreign workers decreased by 312 (-2.2%) (-137 males and -175 females) from 14,342 at the end of December 2024 to 14,030 at the end of March 2025 (Table 2).

The decrease of 1,000 in employment in the EOE sector during the first quarter of 2025 is the net result of 1,350 jobs lost and 350 jobs created. The job losses were due to contraction of workforce in some enterprises and closure of enterprises whilst jobs created were due to expansion in existing enterprises.

2.2 Evolution of employment from March 2024 to March 2025

From March 2024 to March 2025, total employment in EOE decreased by 2,198 (-6.7%) from 32,604 to 30,406. The number of Mauritian workers decreased by 1,918 (-755 males and -1,163 females). Employment of foreign workers decreased by 280 (-58 males and -222 females) (Tables 2 and 5).

Job losses occurred mainly in enterprises engaged in the manufacture of “Wearing apparel” with a decrease of 1,367 jobs.

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 2023 are final, those for 2024 and first quarter 2025 are subject to revision as and when the MRA - Customs Department submits latest amendments to Statistics Mauritius.

3.1 Exports and Imports – 1st Quarter 2025

3.1.1 Exports (f.o.b)

Provisional figures show that EOE exports during the first quarter of 2025 amounted to R 9,380 million, that is, R 1,693 million (-15.3%) lower compared to the fourth quarter of 2024 (Table 6). That was mainly the result of decreases observed in exports of “Live animals other than fish” (-R 1,126 million or -70.9%), “Articles of apparel and clothing” (-R 430 million or -14.6%) and “Fish & fish preparations” (-R 183 million or -6.0%) partly offset by an increase in exports of “Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles” (+R 200 million or +16.2%).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2024, EOE exports decreased by R 66 million (-0.7%).

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

South Africa, United Kingdom (UK), Spain, Madagascar, France and United States of America (USA) are the principal EOE markets in the first quarter of 2025, together accounting for R 7,062 million (75.3%) 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 2025	Change on	
		Q4 2024	Q1 2024
South Africa	1,700	-354	+232
United Kingdom	1,478	-72	+193
Spain	1,107	+84	+348
Madagascar	995	-5	-29
France	978	-182	-26
USA	804	-592	-520

Compared to the previous quarter, EOE exports to Spain showed an increase of 8.2% while decreases were observed in the other markets as follows: USA (-42.4%), South Africa (-17.2%), France (-15.7%), United Kingdom (-4.6%) and Madagascar (-0.5%).

When compared to the first quarter of 2024, increases in exports were observed for Spain (+45.8%), South Africa (+15.8%) and United Kingdom (+15.0%) while decreases of 39.3%, 2.8% and 2.6% were noted in exports towards USA, Madagascar and France respectively.

Further details are given in Table 9.

3.1.2 Imports (c.i.f)

EOE imports during the first quarter of 2025 were estimated at R 5,175 million, representing a decrease of R 923 million (-15.1%) compared to the fourth quarter of 2024 (Table 6). This decrease is mainly due to lower imports of raw materials by R 1,003 million (-17.1%) offset by an increase in imports of “Machinery” by R 80 million (+32.9%) (Table 6).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2024, imports decreased by R 330 million (-6.0%), mainly due to a decrease in imports of “Fish & fish preparations” by R 294 million (-17.1%) partly offset by an increase in imports of “Textile yarn and fabrics” by R 185 million (+18.4%).

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 4,205 million in the first quarter of 2025 and its ratio to total exports worked out to 44.8% compared to 41.7% in the corresponding quarter of 2024 (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 2 million in the first quarter of 2025 compared to R 1 million in the first quarter of 2024. These sales are included in exports of Freeport, as and when the goods leave the country.

Statistics Mauritius

Ministry of Finance

Port Louis

27 June 2025

Contact Persons:

Mrs. T. Joomun, Statistician/ Senior Statistician
 Mrs. O. Anadachee, Temporary Principal Statistical Officer
 Statistics Unit,
 Ministry of Industry, SME and Cooperatives
 8th Floor, Air Mauritius Bldg.
 Port-Louis.
 Tel. : (230) 260 3326
 E-mail : cso_industry@govmu.org
 Website: <http://statsmauritius.govmu.org>

Table 1 - Main economic indicators, EOE Sector, 2016 - 2024

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 ¹
1. No of enterprises as at December	282	280	263	239	235	233	232	231	228
- New	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Closures	4	2	17	24	4	2	1	1	3
2. Employment as at December	52,602	52,172	49,866	44,160	36,736	35,024	36,109	33,293	31,406
- Net change	-999	-430	-2,306	-5,706	-7,424	-1,712	+1,085	-2,816	-1,887
- Growth rate (%)	-1.9	-0.8	-4.4	-11.4	-16.8	-4.7	+3.1	-7.8	-5.7
3. Exports (f.o.b, R million) (excluding sales to Freeport)	44,422	43,027	43,311	42,319	37,289	42,657	49,918	47,247	43,865
4. Imports (c.i.f, R million):	25,638	27,094	25,929	24,645	19,629	25,673	33,466	26,781	23,656
- Raw materials	24,254	25,891	24,596	23,641	18,786	24,684	32,147	25,421	22,560
- Machinery & spare parts	1,384	1,203	1,333	1,004	843	989	1,319	1,360	1,096
5. Net exports (R million)	18,784	15,933	17,382	17,674	17,660	16,984	16,452	20,466	20,209
6. Net exports to Exports (%)	42.3	37.0	40.1	41.8	47.4	39.8	33.0	43.3	46.1
7. Value added at basic prices (R million)	21,803	22,105	22,406	18,711	16,039	18,430	21,306	21,175	22,065
- Share in Manufacturing (%)	39.3	39.5	39.6	34.7	33.0	32.9	31.6	28.9	28.6
- Share in Gross value added (%)	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.3	3.8	3.7
8. Annual Real Growth rate of Value added (%)	-5.1	+0.3	-4.5	-3.2	-21.9	+6.5	+11.8	-11.2	-1.1
9. Investment (R million)	1,354	1,091	1,104	739	724	848	1,184	1,220	1,210
- of which Machinery	850	745	770	625	610	703	1,022	1,025	1,015

¹ Revised

Table 2 - Employment by size of enterprise and sex, EOE Sector, March 2024 - March 2025

Category	Number of enterprises as at			Employment								
				March 2024 ¹			December 2024			March 2025 ²		
	March 2024 ¹	December 2024	March 2025 ²	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Enterprises with less than 10 employees	63	70	70	95	71	166	112	93	205	109	85	194
Enterprises with 10 or more employees	167	158	156	17,723	14,511	32,234	17,504	13,521	31,025	16,901	13,107	30,008
Outworkers	Napp	Napp	Napp	32	172	204	27	149	176	27	177	204
T O T A L	230	228	226	17,850	14,754	32,604	17,643	13,763	31,406	17,037	13,369	30,406
<i>Mauritian</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>7,507</i>	<i>10,787</i>	<i>18,294</i>	<i>7,221</i>	<i>9,843</i>	<i>17,064</i>	<i>6,752</i>	<i>9,624</i>	<i>16,376</i>
<i>Foreign workers (Expatriates)</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>10,343</i>	<i>3,967</i>	<i>14,310</i>	<i>10,422</i>	<i>3,920</i>	<i>14,342</i>	<i>10,285</i>	<i>3,745</i>	<i>14,030</i>

Napp - Not applicable

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Table 3 - Employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2024 - March 2025

Product group	March 2024 ¹				March 2025 ²			
	Number of enterprises	Employment			Number of enterprises	Employment		
		Male	Female	Both sexes		Male	Female	Both sexes
1. Food	16	1,820	2,786	4,606	16	1,624	2,620	4,244
2. Flowers	1	25	18	43	1	18	18	36
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	20	2,102	316	2,418	20	2,043	291	2,334
4. Wearing apparel:	83	9,756	6,982	16,738	80	9,303	6,068	15,371
<i>Pullovers</i>	12	371	200	571	10	313	139	452
<i>Other garments</i>	71	9,385	6,782	16,167	70	8,990	5,929	14,919
5. Leather products and footwear	5	143	422	565	5	129	410	539
6. Wood and paper products	10	252	350	602	10	258	308	566
7. Optical goods	2	204	210	414	2	187	195	382
8. Electronic watches and clocks	4	243	285	528	4	231	241	472
9. Electric and electronic products	5	57	105	162	5	57	111	168
10. Jewellery and related articles	12	245	364	609	12	225	337	562
11. Toys and carnival articles	2	10	152	162	2	10	144	154
12. Other products	70	2,993	2,764	5,757	69	2,952	2,626	5,578
TOTAL	230	17,850	14,754	32,604	226	17,037	13,369	30,406

¹ Revised ² Provisional

Table 4 - Net change in employment by product group, EOE Sector, March 2024 - March 2025

Product group	Employment			Net change from	
	Mar. 24 ¹	Dec. 24	Mar. 25 ²	Dec. 24 to Mar. 25 ²	Mar. 24 ¹ to Mar. 25 ²
1. Food	4,606	4,353	4,244	-109	-362
2. Flowers	43	35	36	1	-7
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	2,418	2,362	2,334	-28	-84
4. Wearing apparel:	16,738	16,101	15,371	-730	-1,367
<i>Pullovers</i>	571	469	452	-17	-119
<i>Other garments</i>	16,167	15,632	14,919	-713	-1,248
5. Leather products and footwear	565	541	539	-2	-26
6. Wood and paper products	602	589	566	-23	-36
7. Optical goods	414	374	382	8	-32
8. Electronic watches and clocks	528	553	472	-81	-56
9. Electric and electronic products	162	168	168	0	6
10. Jewellery and related articles	609	561	562	1	-47
11. Toys and carnival articles	162	163	154	-9	-8
12. Other products	5,757	5,606	5,578	-28	-179
TOTAL	32,604	31,406	30,406	-1,000	-2,198

¹ Revised ² Provisional

Table 5 - Expatriate employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2024 - March 2025

Product group	Employment					
	March 2024 ¹			March 2025 ²		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
1. Food	668	1,237	1,905	676	1,132	1,808
2. Flowers	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	1,557	21	1,578	1,578	29	1,607
4. Wearing apparel:	7,449	2,627	10,076	7,304	2,498	9,802
<i>Pullovers</i>	243	6	249	231	5	236
<i>Other garments</i>	7,206	2,621	9,827	7,073	2,493	9,566
5. Leather products and footwear	41	6	47	42	5	47
6. Wood and paper products	23	0	23	39	1	40
7. Optical goods	98	0	98	90	0	90
8. Electronic watches and clocks	59	1	60	55	1	56
9. Electric and electronic products	19	0	19	20	0	20
10. Jewellery and related articles	61	5	66	60	2	62
11. Toys and carnival articles	0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Other	368	70	438	421	77	498
TOTAL	10,343	3,967	14,310	10,285	3,745	14,030

¹ Revised ² Provisional

Table 6 - Net EOE Exports, 2023 - 1st Quarter 2025

Value: R Million

Item	2023	2024 ¹	2024 ¹				2025 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
A. Total exports (f.o.b)	47,247	43,865	9,446	11,415	11,931	11,073	9,380
B. Total imports (c.i.f)	26,781	23,656	5,505	6,129	5,925	6,098	5,175
<i>Raw materials</i>	<i>25,421</i>	<i>22,560</i>	<i>5,210</i>	<i>5,870</i>	<i>5,627</i>	<i>5,855</i>	<i>4,852</i>
<i>Machinery</i>	<i>1,360</i>	<i>1,096</i>	<i>295</i>	<i>259</i>	<i>298</i>	<i>243</i>	<i>323</i>
Net Exports (A - B)	20,466	20,209	3,941	5,286	6,006	4,975	4,205
Net Exports as % of Total Exports	43.3	46.1	41.7	46.3	50.3	44.9	44.8

¹ Revised ² Provisional

Table 7 - EOE exports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2023 - 1st Quarter 2025

Value (F.o.b): R Million

SITC Section/Description	2023	2024 ¹	2024 ¹				2025 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	47,247	43,865	9,446	11,415	11,931	11,073	9,380
0 - Food and live animals	16,994	17,510	3,704	4,226	4,819	4,762	3,469
of which :							
Live animals other than fish	3,756	4,559	830	944	1,196	1,589	463
Fish & fish preparations	12,431	12,220	2,762	2,999	3,415	3,044	2,861
Cereals and cereal preparations	154	166	5	63	90	8	0
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	180	121	28	31	33	30	31
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	383	468	94	103	135	136	102
Medicaments (including Veterinary medicaments)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	8,534	7,037	1,434	2,069	1,994	1,541	1,704
of which :							
Paper, paperboard and articles	70	44	10	18	10	7	11
Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles	4,379	5,730	1,261	1,550	1,683	1,236	1,436
Glass	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	3,827	955	108	403	229	215	184
Iron and steel	4	1	0	0	0	0	2
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	234	193	41	63	43	47	68
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	20,261	18,345	4,107	4,861	4,865	4,513	3,949
of which :							
Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	481	424	77	130	91	126	79
Articles of apparel and clothing	13,594	11,875	2,787	3,052	3,082	2,955	2,525
Instruments and appliances, n.e.s., for medical, surgical, dental or veterinary purposes	2,052	2,114	390	640	607	477	451
Optical goods	338	325	65	66	92	102	65
Watches and clocks	1,429	1,255	311	324	379	241	235
Printed matter	85	93	20	29	27	18	23
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	916	898	186	245	222	245	239
Toys, games and sporting goods	152	139	23	43	35	38	34
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	817	706	143	183	208	172	158
Other sections	661	191	38	62	42	44	57

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, 2023 - 1st Quarter 2025

Value (C.i.f): R Million

SITC Section/Description	2023	2024 ¹	2024 ¹				2025 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	26,781	23,656	5,505	6,129	5,925	6,098	5,175
0 - Food and live animals	7,494	6,942	1,918	1,577	1,520	1,927	1,522
of which :							
Meat and meat preparations	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
Fish & fish preparations	6,973	6,355	1,717	1,396	1,423	1,819	1,423
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	2,333	2,279	516	629	542	592	500
of which :							
Cotton	1,865	1,647	346	448	371	482	339
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	62	94	19	15	43	17	8
Wool and other animal hair	203	343	107	119	83	34	79
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related products	5	4	1	1	1	1	2
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	1,785	2,301	439	517	631	713	405
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	10,133	8,462	1,740	2,493	2,245	1,984	1,851
of which :							
Leather	286	271	58	75	74	65	61
Paper, paperboard and articles	251	240	41	46	93	60	43
Textile yarn and fabrics	4,176	5,128	1,005	1,642	1,340	1,142	1,190
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	3,493	634	144	216	154	120	127
Iron and steel	599	509	82	101	161	165	99
Non-ferrous metals	307	213	41	45	54	74	51
7 - Machinery & transport equipment	1,360	1,096	295	259	298	243	323
of which :							
Machinery specialized for particular industries	749	417	90	136	94	97	114
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,759	2,275	558	562	611	543	527
of which :							
Optical goods, watches & clocks	886	659	189	150	167	153	151
Printed matter	145	119	31	34	30	25	30
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	392	398	71	125	118	84	76
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	271	121	15	33	28	43	29
Other sections	912	297	38	91	77	95	45

¹ Revised ² Provisional

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

Table 9 - EOE exports by country of destination, 2023 - 1st Quarter 2025

Value (F.o.b): R Million

Country of destination	2023	2024 ¹	2024 ¹				2025 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	47,247	43,865	9,446	11,415	11,931	11,073	9,380
Europe:	24,576	22,982	5,104	5,818	6,037	6,023	5,269
Austria	25	14	8	5	0	1	1
Belgium	741	671	156	207	205	104	84
France	5,485	4,507	1,004	1,164	1,179	1,160	978
Germany	989	822	233	305	177	108	183
Italy	2,332	1,725	385	486	440	414	301
Netherlands	2,758	3,182	722	629	894	937	649
Portugal	268	212	37	11	68	96	28
Spain	3,423	3,518	759	894	840	1,023	1,107
Switzerland	851	671	156	202	169	144	138
United Kingdom	6,219	5,912	1,285	1,441	1,636	1,550	1,478
Other	1,485	1,748	359	474	429	486	322
Asia:	5,001	1,940	327	786	467	359	363
China	144	43	17	14	8	3	5
Hong Kong (S.A.R) ³	60	64	11	18	23	12	12
India	727	609	93	258	150	108	119
Japan	230	115	43	37	28	8	14
Sri Lanka	1	4	4	0	0	0	3
Vietnam	3,249	697	17	355	172	153	77
Other	590	408	142	104	86	75	133
Africa:	11,469	12,816	2,628	3,309	3,666	3,212	2,865
Madagascar	3,350	4,111	1,024	1,056	1,031	1,000	995
Reunion	260	207	41	52	58	56	60
Seychelles	76	89	17	26	21	25	26
South Africa	7,387	8,054	1,468	2,051	2,481	2,054	1,700
Other	396	355	78	124	75	77	84
America:	5,967	5,983	1,349	1,468	1,728	1,438	831
Canada	117	73	16	23	15	19	13
Panama	8	11	5	1	5	1	1
U.S.A	5,709	5,784	1,324	1,384	1,680	1,396	804
Other	133	115	4	60	28	22	13
Oceania:	235	144	37	32	33	40	52
Australia	221	124	32	29	26	37	50
New Zealand	14	20	5	3	7	4	3
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

¹ Revised² Provisional³ Special Administrative Region of China

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

Table 10 - EOE imports by country of origin, 2023 - 1st Quarter 2025

Value (C.i.f): R Million

Country of origin	2023	2024 ¹	2024 ¹				2025 ²
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	26,781	23,656	5,505	6,129	5,925	6,098	5,175
Europe:	11,767	8,530	2,029	2,382	2,114	2,006	1,678
Belgium	3,491	402	137	99	87	79	97
France	2,964	2,701	551	714	744	692	491
Germany	481	468	73	121	143	131	121
Italy	977	803	173	188	201	241	178
Netherlands	82	122	43	9	48	22	6
Spain	1,838	1,494	552	271	339	332	225
Sweden	4	1	0	0	0	1	1
Switzerland	418	412	85	140	104	82	113
United Kingdom	286	684	80	474	70	59	51
Other	1,226	1,443	335	366	378	367	395
Asia:	7,711	8,989	1,959	2,075	2,528	2,428	2,029
China	2,642	3,110	624	716	830	941	587
Hong Kong (S.A.R) ³	180	182	51	33	49	48	35
India	2,289	2,813	604	717	809	683	791
Indonesia	720	929	234	175	266	253	189
Japan	78	81	15	21	24	21	25
Korea, Republic of	113	241	17	25	94	105	57
Malaysia	234	108	33	14	16	46	36
Pakistan	36	66	8	5	17	35	18
Singapore	61	61	15	10	19	17	21
Thailand	483	601	168	155	164	114	122
Other	875	797	190	204	240	165	148
Africa:	6,519	4,793	1,324	1,329	965	1,175	1,103
Burkina Faso	61	42	21	22	0	0	0
Madagascar	388	417	105	106	135	71	83
Seychelles	3,860	2,900	889	735	493	782	760
South Africa	437	344	51	51	130	113	59
Zambia	52	24	24	0	0	0	0
Other	1,721	1,066	234	415	207	209	201
America:	538	1,169	165	273	271	460	349
Brazil	93	496	64	35	107	291	216
U.S.A	317	440	61	120	122	137	75
Canada	3	99	1	67	5	26	0
Other	125	134	39	51	37	6	58
Oceania:	245	175	28	70	47	29	16
Australia	187	72	23	20	23	7	12
Other	58	103	5	50	24	22	4

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Special Administrative Region of China

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

Statistics Mauritius
LIC Centre,
John Kennedy Street,
Port Louis, MAURITIUS
T: +230 208 1800
F: +230 211 4150
W: <https://statsmauritius.govmu.org>
E: statsmauritius@govmu.org