

Labour force, Employment and Unemployment based on the results of the Continuous Multi Purpose Household Survey – Year 2010

Introduction

1. This second issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the year 2010, based on the results of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS). The estimates refer to the Mauritian population aged 16 years and above in the Republic of Mauritius; foreign workers are not included.
2. The estimates in this publication are subject to sampling error that tends to be relatively large as the sample numbers are small.

Key figures

	2009	2010	Change 2009 - 2010
Labour force	566,300	581,300	+15,000
Employment	524,800	536,100	+11,300
Unemployment	41,500	45,200	+3,700
Unemployment rate (%)	7.3	7.8	+0.5 pt
Activity rate (%)	59.1	59.8	+0.7 pt

Detailed estimates together with sampling error and confidence interval are given in Table 1 at Annex.

Key points

3. Change from 2009 to 2010

- a. Labour force increased by 15,000 from 566,300 to 581,300
- b. Activity rate increased from 59.1% to 59.8%. Male activity rate remained unchanged at 76.1% while female activity rate rose from 42.6% to 44.2%
- c. Employment increased by 11,300 from 524,800 to 536,100 driven by an increase of 7,900 in female employment while male employment increased by 3,400
- d. Unemployment rate increased from 7.3% to 7.8%. Male unemployment rate increased from 4.4% to 4.6% and female unemployment rate from 12.3% to 13.0%

4. Situation in 2010

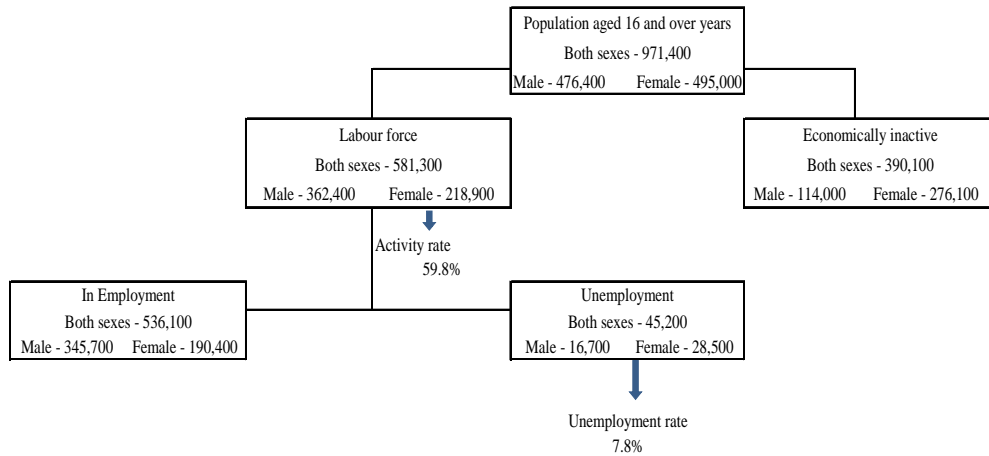
- a. The workforce was made up of around twice as many men as women.
- b. Most of the workers were employees.
- c. The tertiary sector was the main source of jobs for Mauritians.
- d. Unemployed women outnumbered unemployed men though they were generally more qualified.

5. Evolution from 2001 to 2010

- a. Men are more economically active than women but the gap is decreasing over time
- b. Female employment is increasing faster than male employment
- c. The tertiary sector is becoming increasingly important in terms of employment
- d. Unemployment rate has been increasing to reach a peak in 2005; it then decreased till 2009 when an upward trend was observed

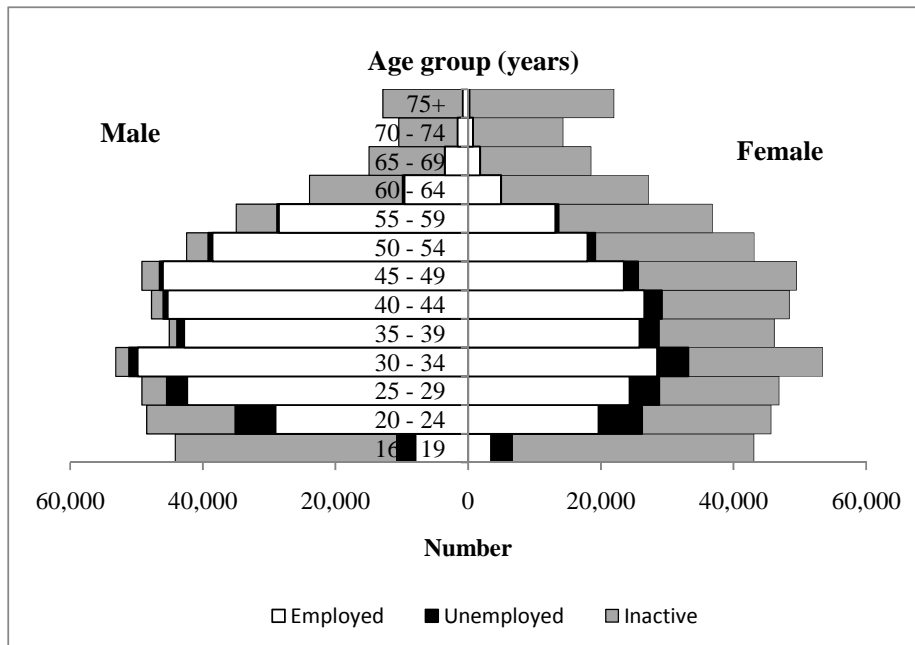
Labour market overview

Chart 1 – The Labour Market, 2010



6. In 2010, the population of working age (aged 16 years and over) numbered 971,400, of whom 581,300 fell in the labour force (or were economically active) resulting in an activity rate of 59.8%. The number employed totalled 536,100 whilst the number unemployed stood at 45,200; the unemployment rate worked out to 7.8% of the labour force.

Chart 2 – Population structure by age, sex and economic activity, 2010

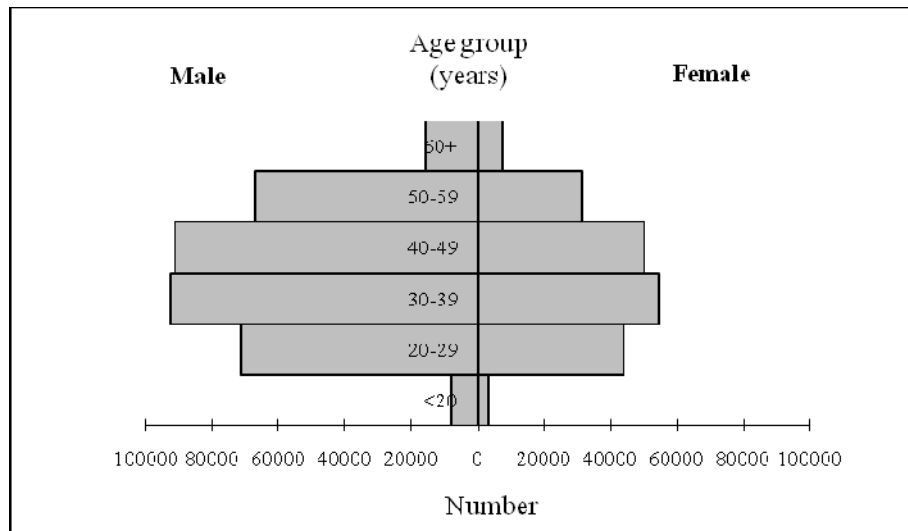


7. The pyramid (Chart 2) and Table 2 indicates that in 2010:
- i. The number of inactive women was significantly higher than that of men at all ages;
 - ii. There were fewer women than men among the employed at all ages ;
 - iii. Unemployed women were more numerous than unemployed men at all ages;
 - iv. As from age 20 – 24 years, the number of unemployed generally tends to decrease as age increases.

Employment

8. Total employment stood at 536,100 (345,700 males and 190,400 females) in 2010. The employment to population ratio was around 55% (73% for males and 38% for females).

Chart 3 – Age-sex structure of the employed population, 2010



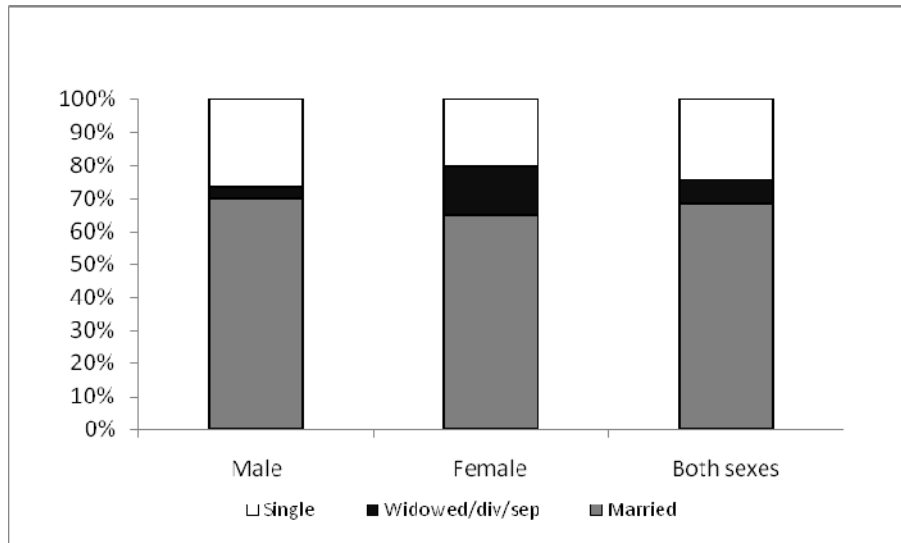
There are two times as many men as women in the workforce

9. The workforce comprised around twice as many men as women and was concentrated in the age group 30 to 50 years. The mean age of a worker was 40.4 years for males and 39.4 years for females.

The workforce is mainly made up of married persons

10. The workforce was mainly made up of married persons (68.1%), followed by persons in the single state (24.5%). A small proportion of the employed were widowed, divorced and separated (7.4%). Compared to the male workforce, the female workforce consisted of a higher proportion of widowed, divorced and separated persons (14.8% compared to 3.4%) (Table 3).

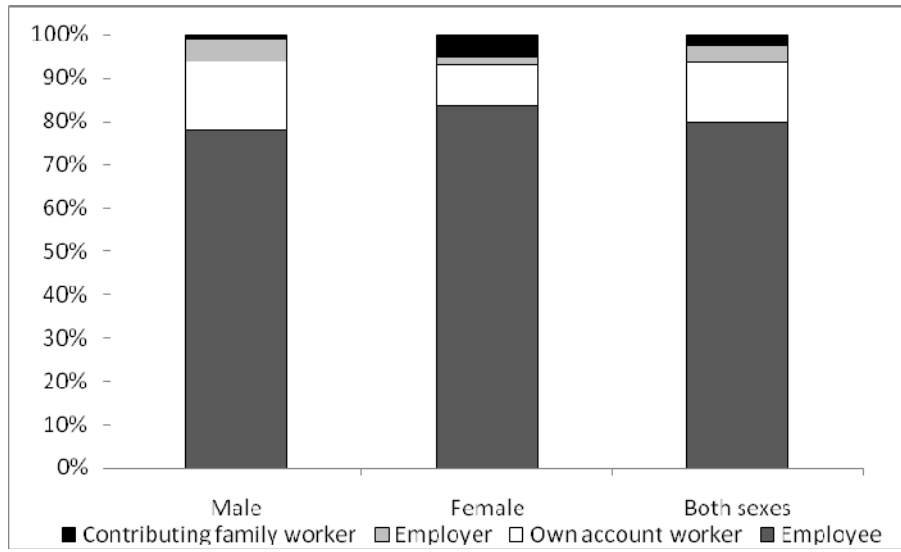
Chart 4 – Employed population by marital status and sex, 2010



The workforce is mostly made up of employees

11. Some 80% of the employed were employees while around 18% were self-employed (own account workers or employer) and the remaining 2% were contributing family workers. The female workforce as compared to the male workforce comprised a higher proportion of employees (83.5% against 77.9% among males) and contributing family workers (5.1% against 0.9%) but a smaller proportion of self employed (11.4% against 21.2% among males) (Table 4).

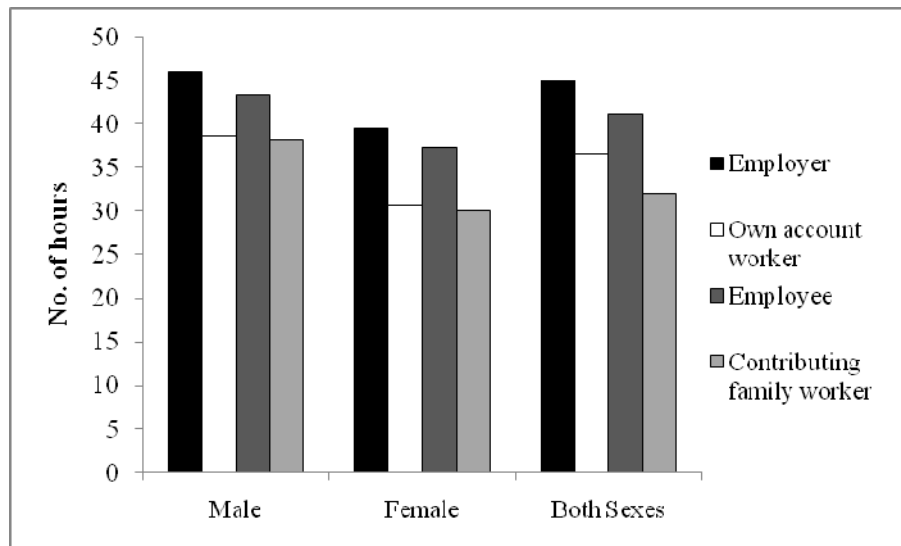
Chart 5 – Employed population by employment status and sex, 2010



Employers worked longer hours than other categories of workers and earned the highest income

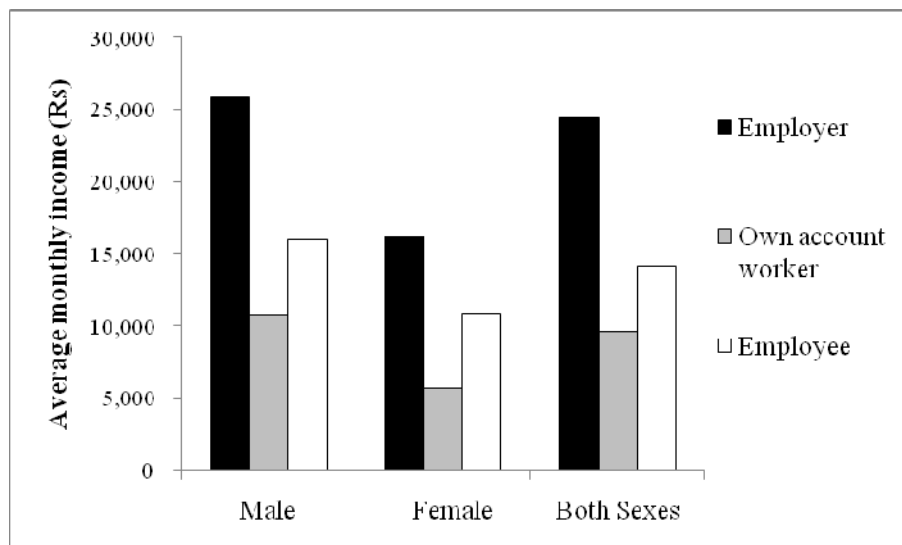
12. On average, an employed person worked 40.5 hours per week. An employer put in 45.0 hours of work compared to 41.1 hours for an employee and 36.6 hours for an own-account worker (Table 5).

Chart 6 – Mean hours of work by employment status and sex, 2010



13. Monthly income from employment, which includes income from paid work and income from business activities, amounted to Rs 13,900. The average monthly income for an employer was Rs 24,400 against Rs 9,600 for an own-account worker while that for an employee stood at Rs 14,100 (Table 6).

Chart 7 – Average monthly income from employment by employment status and sex, 2010

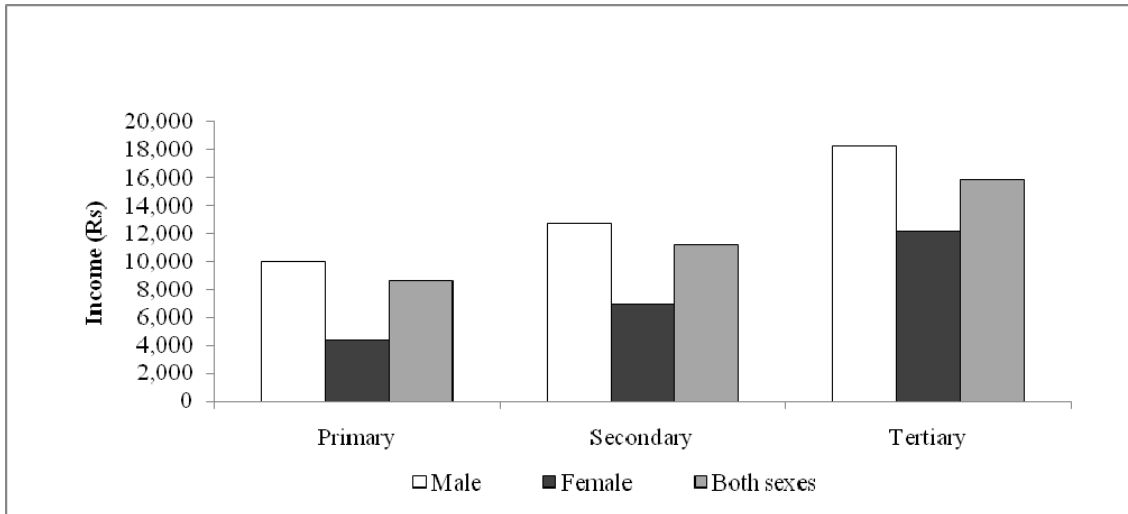


The tertiary sector provided jobs to 6 out every 10 workers and gave the highest pay

14. Out of every 10 workers, 6 were employed in the tertiary sector (covering trade, hotels & restaurants, transport and all the other service industries), 3 in the secondary sector (covering manufacturing, electricity & water and construction) and 1 in the primary sector (covering agriculture and mining & quarrying) (Table 7).

15. Income from employment was highest in the tertiary sector (Rs 15,800), followed by the secondary sector (Rs 11,200) and the primary sector (Rs 8,600) (Table 8).

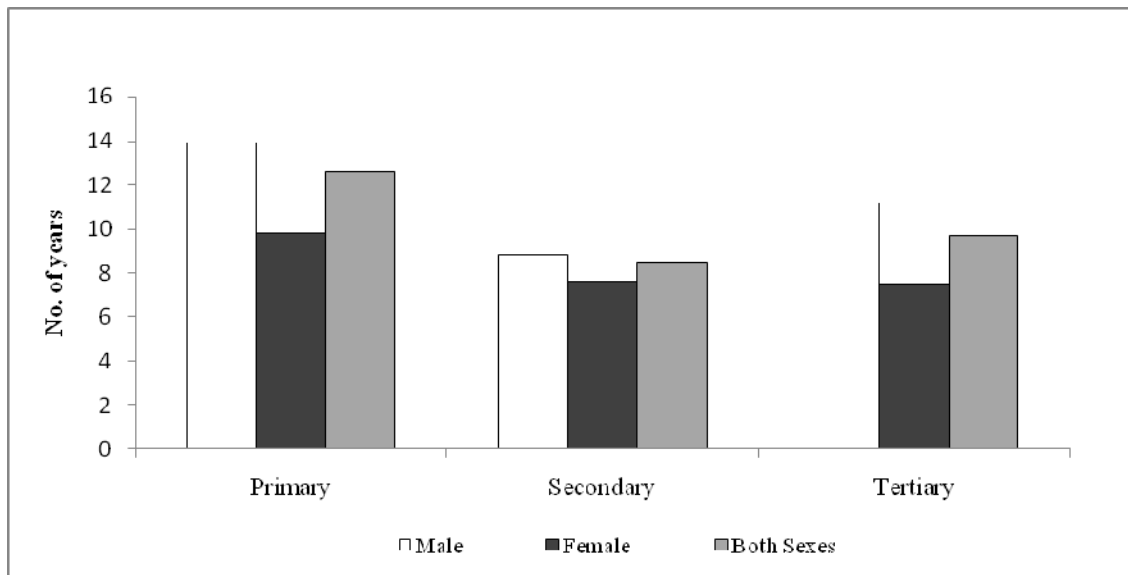
Chart 8 – Average monthly income from employment by industrial sector and sex, 2010



Workers in the primary sector had the highest length of service but worked for fewer hours

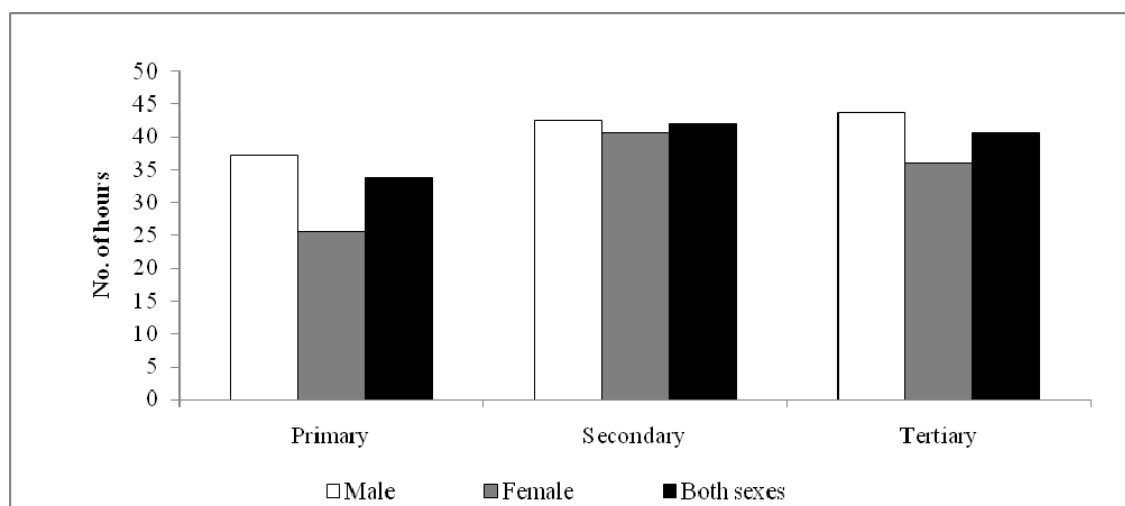
16. Workers in the primary sector had the highest length of service with their present employer (12.6 years), followed by the tertiary sector (9.7 years) and the secondary sector (8.5 years) (Table 9).

Chart 9 – Mean length of service by industrial sector and sex, 2010



17. Employed persons in the secondary sector had the longest hours of work (42.0 hours per week), followed by those in the tertiary sector (40.7 hours) and the primary sector (33.7 hours) (Table 10).

Chart 10 – Mean hours of work per week by industrial sector and sex, 2010



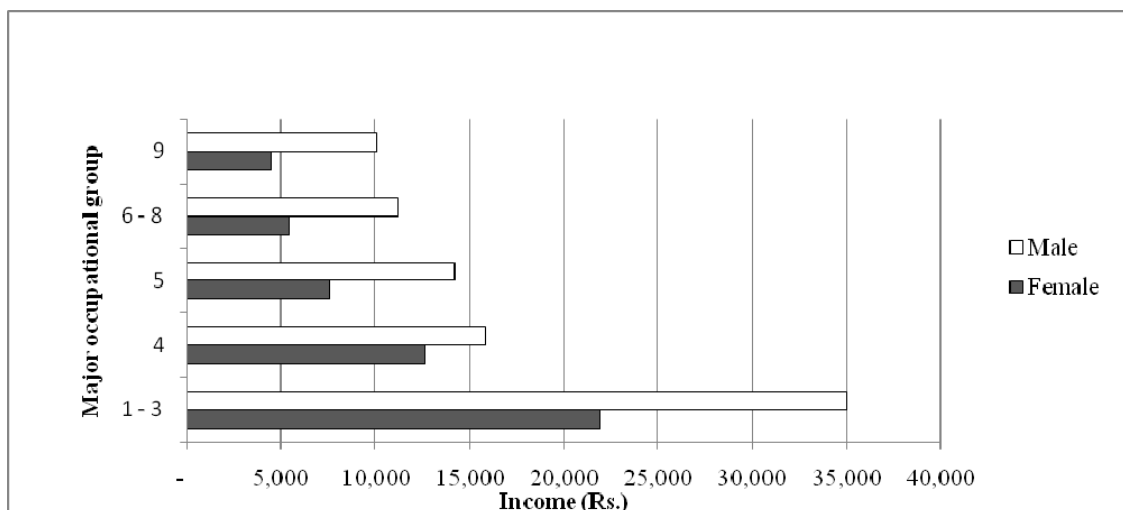
The Mauritian workforce is distributed across all occupational groups

18. Some 17.6% of the workforce was engaged in the higher occupational group (ISCO 1-3) which comprises legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals. Clerks (ISCO 4) made up 10.2% of the workforce; service, shop and market sales workers (ISCO 5) 19.3%. Another 33.9% were skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers (ISCO 6-8). Those engaged in elementary occupations (ISCO 9) made up 19.0% (Table 11).

Workers engaged in higher occupational groups earned the highest income

19. Legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals earned the highest income (Rs 29,600), followed by clerks (Rs 14,000). The lowest income was drawn by those engaged in elementary occupations (Rs 7,800) (Table 12).

Chart 11 – Average monthly income from employment by occupational group and sex, 2010



1 out every 5 workers was available for additional work

20. In addition to this main job and secondary job (if any), 22.2% of the employed population were available for additional work. Employed women were less available for additional work than their male counterparts; 17.6% reported they were willing to work additional hours against 24.7% for men.

Only 5% of the employed had secondary jobs

21. Out of the 536,100 employed, 27,000, that is, around 5% held a secondary job. Most of the secondary job holders (72%) were employees in their main job. The main sectors in which they got their secondary jobs were: agriculture (34.0%), wholesale and retail trade and repairs (13.4%), and construction (10.4%).

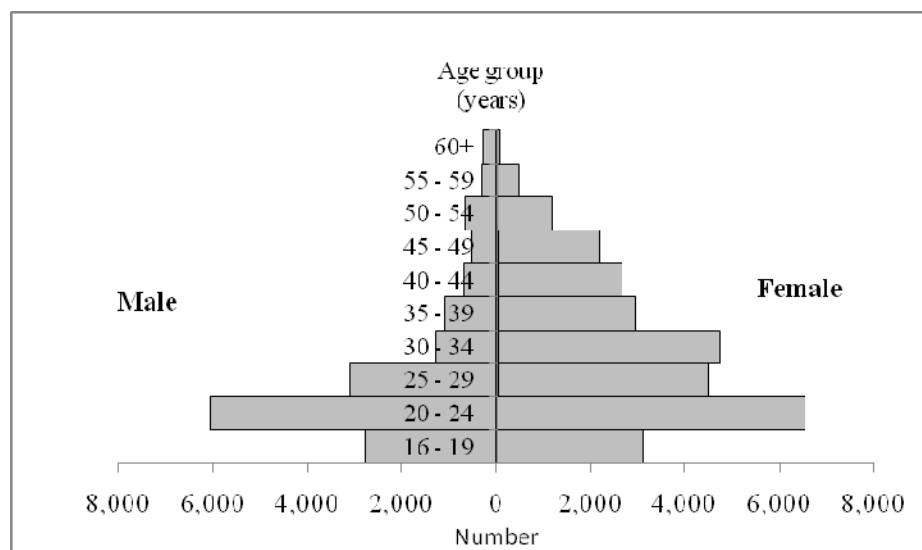
Unemployment

22. The number of unemployed persons numbered 45,200, comprising 16,700 males and 28,500 females. The unemployment rate was 7.8%, higher among females (13.0%) than among males (4.6%).

There are more unemployed among females than among males

23. The unbalanced shape of the pyramid in Chart 12 indicates the predominance of females among the unemployed at all age-groups. Women represented 63% of the total unemployed and they outnumbered men by 11,800.

Chart 12 – Age-sex structure of the unemployed population, 2010



Unemployed males are younger than their female counterparts

24. On average, an unemployed male was more than three years younger than his female counterpart. The mean age of the unemployed male was 28.4 years and that of unemployed female was 31.8 years.

Unemployment rate is highest among young persons

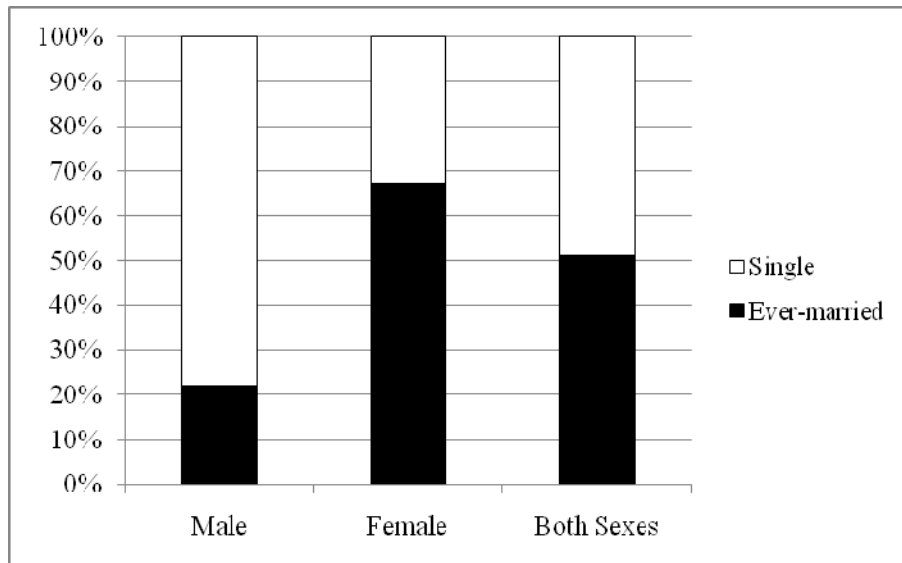
25. Unemployment rate was highest at the lowest age groups and decreased progressively with increasing age. It was 34.1% among those below 20 years and 2.4% at age 50 years and above (Table 13).

26. The disparity between male and female unemployment was highest in the lower age group; the difference was nearly 22 percentage points among the unemployed below 20 years and around 3 percentage points among those aged 50 years and above.

The unemployed men are mostly single while the unemployed women are mostly ever-married

27. Out of the total number of unemployed, around half were ever-married and half were single. Most of the unemployed men, however, were single (77.8%) whereas most of the unemployed women were ever-married (67.4%), i.e. currently married, widowed, divorced or separated (Table 14).

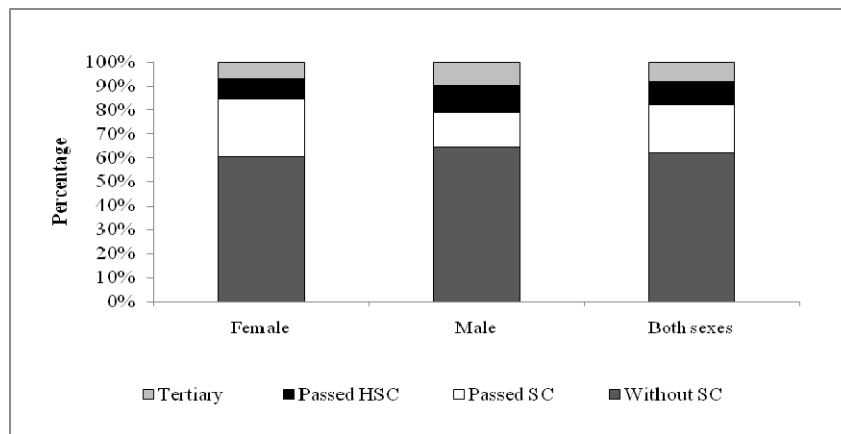
Chart 13 – Unemployed population by marital status and sex, 2010



A large majority of the unemployed do not hold the School Certificate

28. Some 62% of the unemployed, representing 28,000 persons, were without a Cambridge School Certificate (SC): 19% had not reached the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) level, 11% held the CPE certificate only, and a further 32% attended secondary school but did not pass the SC. The proportion with SC as highest attainment was 20% and that with Higher School Certificate (HSC) 10%. Unemployed having studied up to the tertiary level numbered some 3,600 and represented 8% of the total unemployed (Table 15).

Chart 14 – Unemployed population by education attainment and sex, 2010



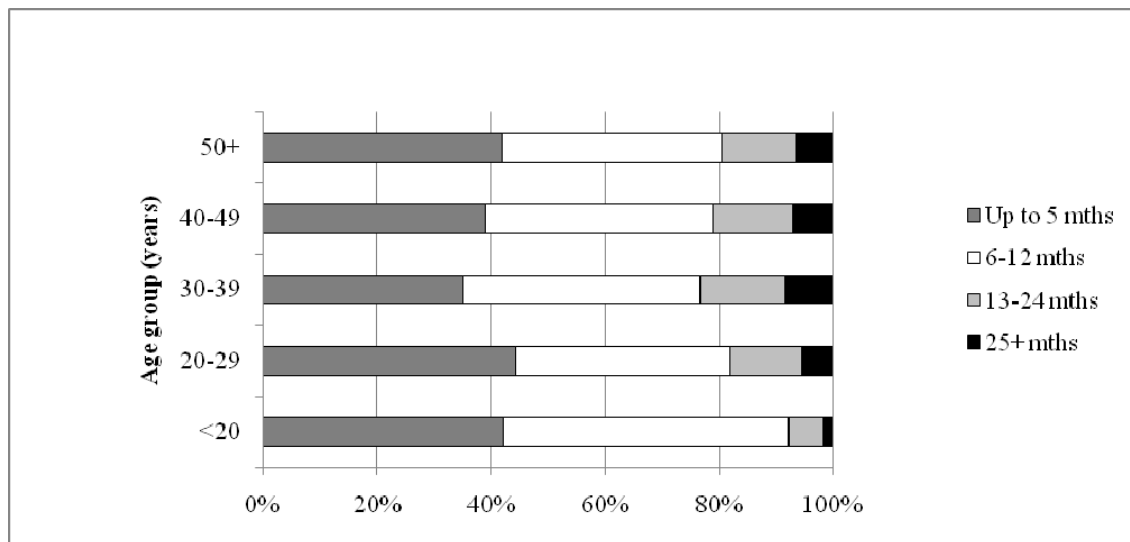
Unemployed women are generally more qualified than unemployed men

29. Unemployed women were generally more qualified than their male counterparts; around 39% of them possessed the School Certificate or above against 35% among males. However, a higher proportion of unemployed men (10%) attained tertiary level education as compared to unemployed women (7%).

Women are in unemployment around three and a half months more than men

30. On average, an unemployed person had been without a job for 10.8 months. Women remained unemployed for 12.2 months compared to 8.4 months for men. The duration of unemployment varies with age (Chart 15). The proportion unemployed for less than six months was generally highest among the youngest age groups while the proportion unemployed for more than 24 months was highest among those aged 30-39 years.

Chart 15 – Duration of unemployment by age group, 2010



The unemployed is predominantly made up of persons with work experience

31. Around two thirds of the unemployed had worked in the past. Slightly more than half (54%) had work experience in the tertiary sector, mainly 'Wholesale & retail trade' and 'Hotels & restaurants'. Another 42% had worked previously in the secondary sector, mainly in 'Manufacturing' followed by 'Construction'. The remaining 4% previously worked in the agricultural sector.

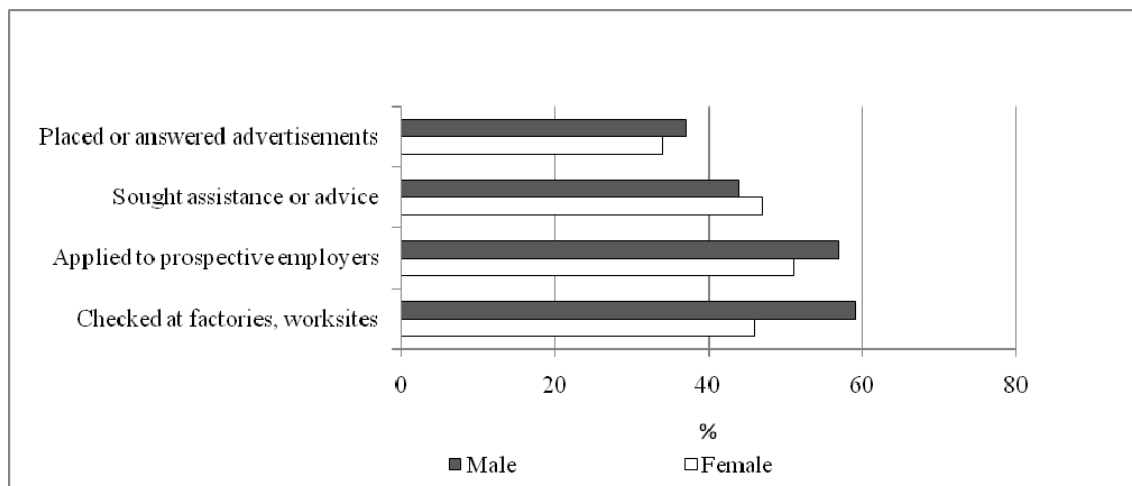
One quarter of the unemployed who worked before lost their job following closures and downsizing of firms

32. Some 24% of the unemployed lost their job following closure of firms or reduction in the workforce. Another 24% became jobless after completing their work/contract while around 23% were dissatisfied with their employment.

The most popular method of job search was ‘applied to prospective employers’ and ‘checked at factories, worksites’

33. The unemployed usually has recourse to more than one method of job search. The most common method was ‘applied to prospective employers’ (53%) followed by ‘checked at factories, worksites, etc’ (51%). Around 43% were registered at the Employment Service. Less than 10% had taken steps to start a business of their own (Table 16).

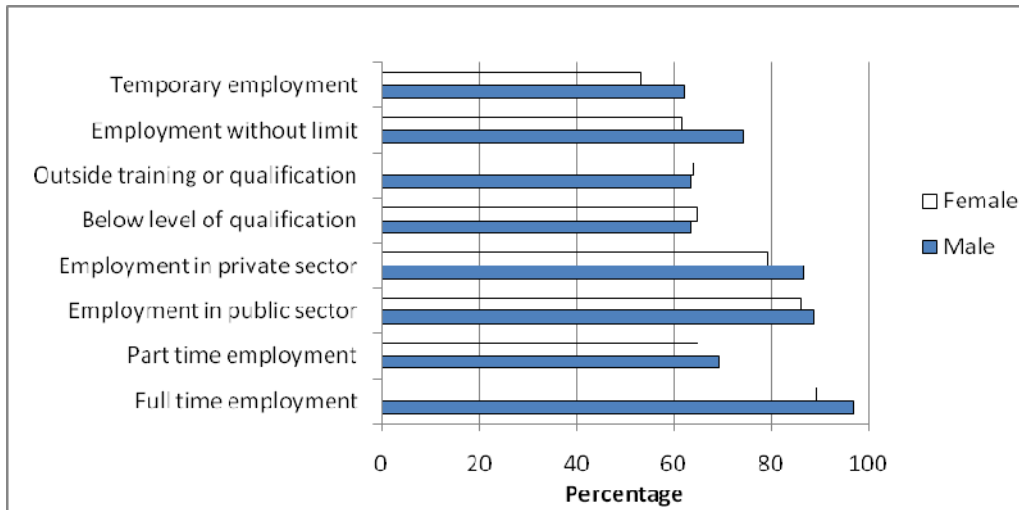
Chart 16 – Unemployed population by method of job search and sex, 2010



The unemployed were more willing to accept full time rather than part time employment

34. The unemployed were more likely to accept full time employment (92.0%) rather than part time employment (66.6%). They showed a slight preference for work in the public sector; 87.4% would take up a job in the public sector against 81.9% in the private sector. Only 56.4% were willing to have a temporary job. The proportion who would accept a job below or outside their level of qualification or training was around 64.0% (Table 17).

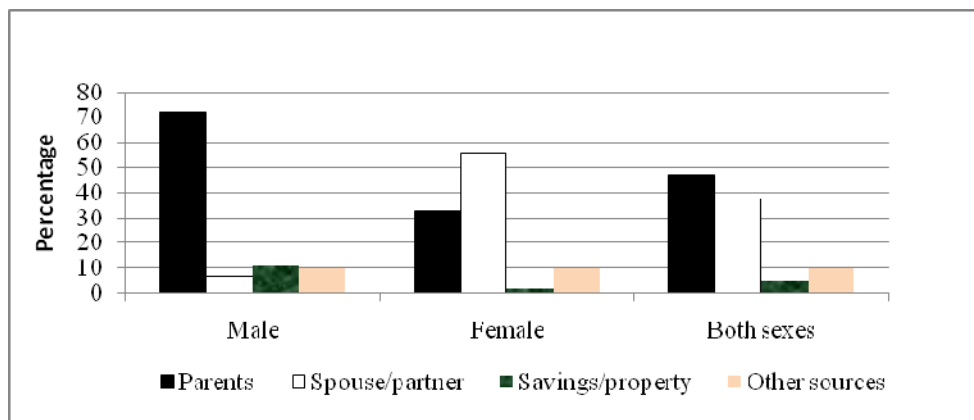
Chart 17 – Unemployed population by type of job willing to accept and sex, 2010



The unemployed relied mainly on their parents and spouse for financial support

35. The main source of income support for the unemployed to meet their daily needs was their parents (47.4%) followed by their spouse/partner (37.6%). Other sources of support were from other relatives, savings and pensions.

Chart 18 – Unemployed population by main source of income to meet daily needs and sex, 2010



Inactive population

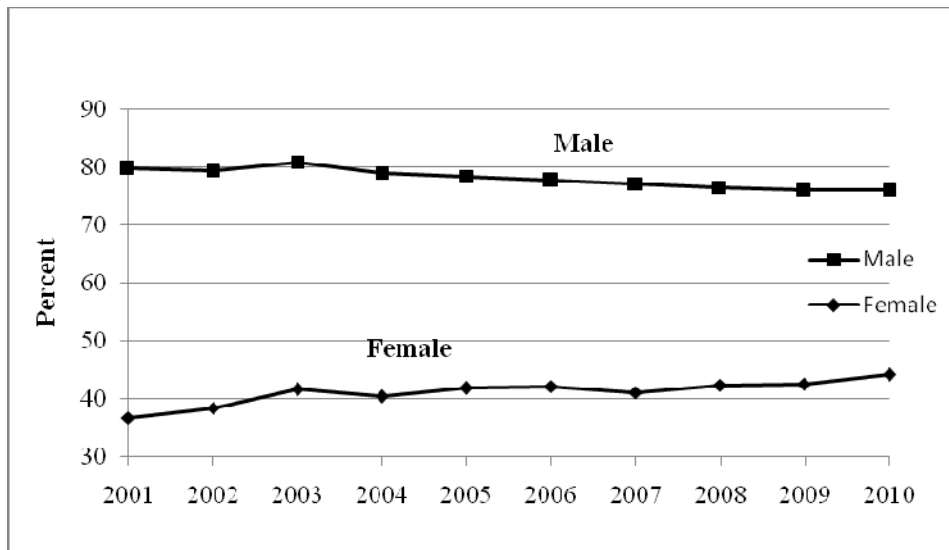
36. The number of persons aged 16 years and over not forming part of the labour force (inactive population) stood at 390,100 (114,000 males and 276,100 females) (Table 18). Some 2,800 of them were classified as inactives although they were not working and were available for work; the main reason being that they were not actively looking for work. Those persons have not been classified as unemployed since they did not satisfy all the three criteria for unemployment, i.e., not working, looking for work and available for work. About 58% of these inactives did not look for work because they either believed that suitable jobs were not available or did not know where to look for work.
37. The inactive population comprised 43.8% homemakers, 23.1% students, 22.5% retired or old persons and 7.7% sick or disabled persons.

Evolution from 2001 to 2010

Male activity rate is higher than for females but the gap is decreasing over time

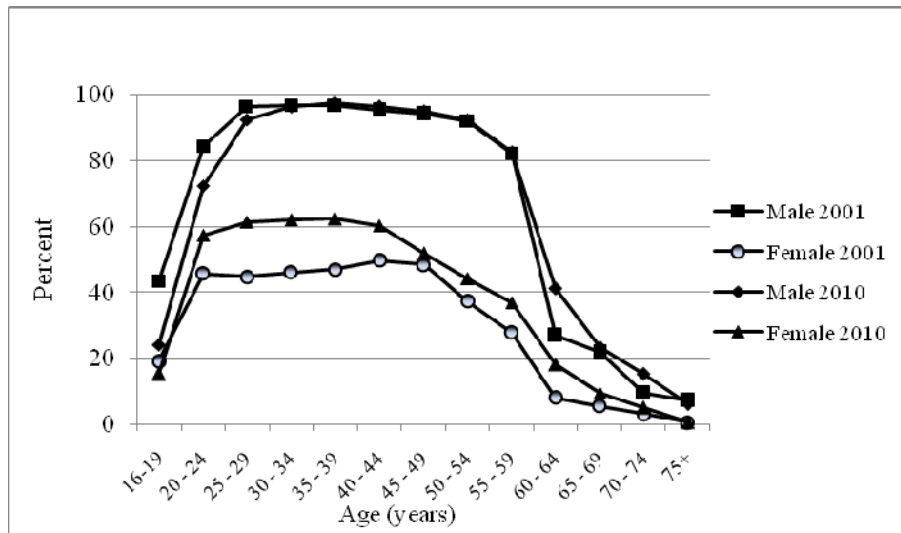
38. During the period 2001 to 2010, male activity rate was always higher than female activity rate (Chart 19). However, the gap is narrowing over time as the activity rate for men has been constantly decreasing over the years while that of females has been increasing (Table 19).

Chart 19 – Activity rate by sex, 2001 - 2010



39. Over the years, the shape of the curve for female activity rate by age (Chart 20) is tending towards that of the male. Increases in activity rate are noted for females aged 20 years and over, being more pronounced for women aged 20 - 44 years.

Chart 20 – Activity rate by age and sex – 2001 & 2010



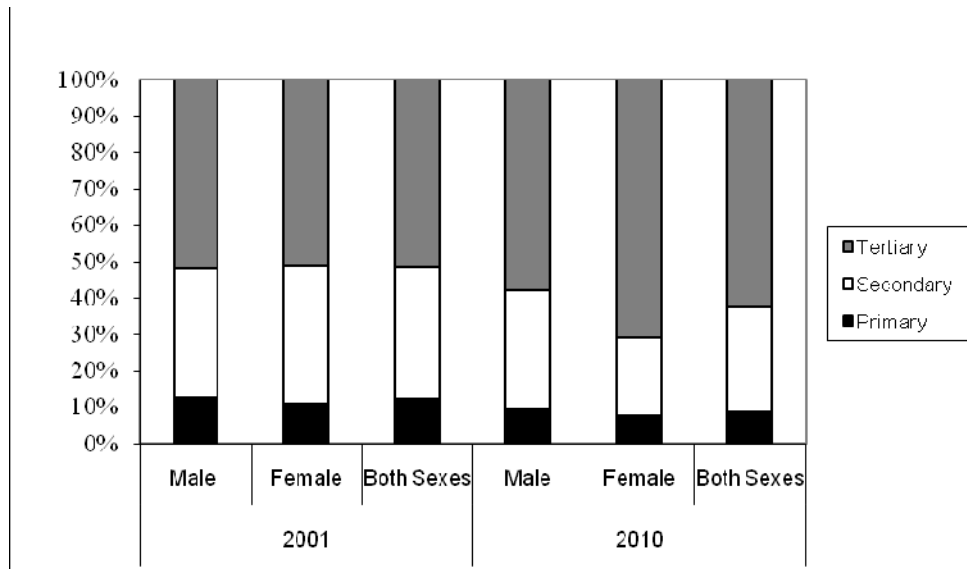
Female employment is increasing faster than male employment

40. During the period 2001 to 2010, female employment increased at a faster rate than male employment. On average, female employment increased annually by 3,800 or 2.2% whereas male employment increased by 2,900 or 0.9%.

The tertiary sector is becoming increasingly important in terms of employment

41. Over time, the tertiary sector is becoming increasingly important in terms of employment. From 2001 to 2010, employment in this sector rose from 245,800 to 336,100; its share over total employment also increased from 52% to 63%. In contrast, employment in the primary and secondary sectors has been declining over time. In the primary sector, employment went down from 57,300 in 2001 to 45,700 in 2010 mainly due to a decline in the agricultural sector. In the secondary sector, employment declined from 172,500 to 154,300 mainly due to a decreasing workforce in the manufacturing sector (Table 7).

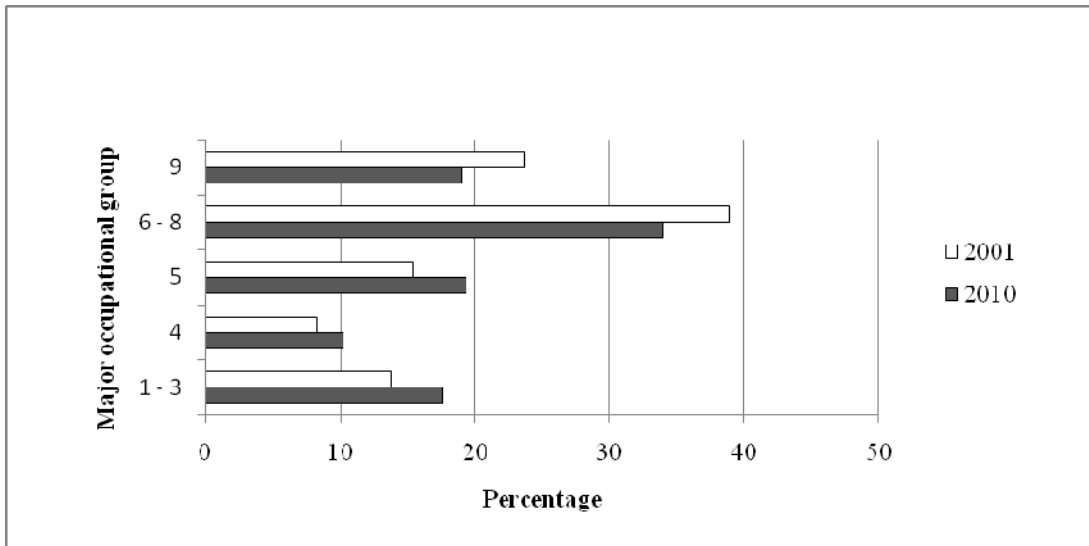
Chart 21 – Employed population by industrial sector and sex, 2001 & 2010



Mauritian workforce is moving up the occupation ladder

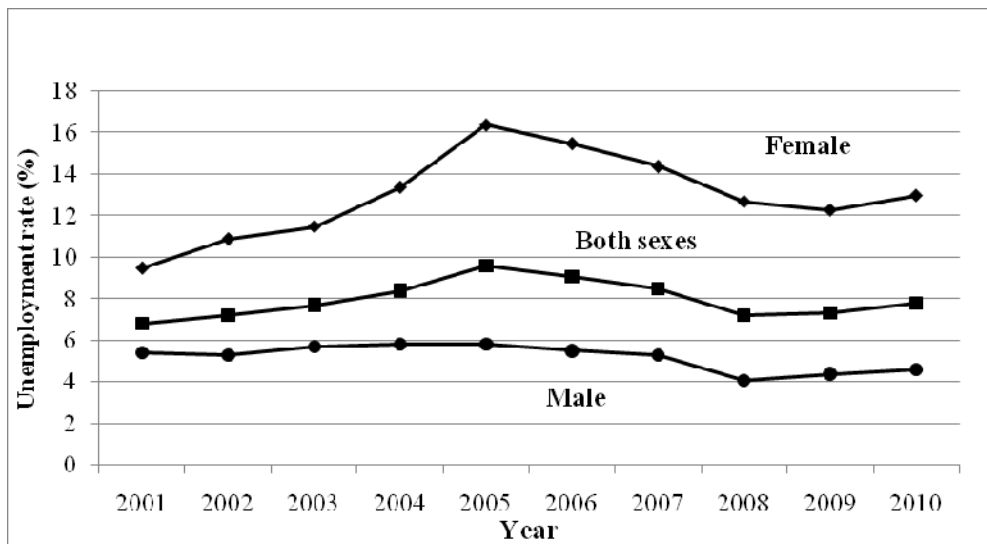
42. The share of employment in the higher occupational groups (ISCO 1-3) comprising legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals increased from 13.8% in 2001 to 17.6% in 2010. Service workers and shop and market sales workers (ISCO 5) also had a larger share of employment in 2010, 19.3% against 15.4% in 2001. In contrast the share of employment in the lowest occupational group (ISCO 9) representing elementary jobs decreased from 23.7% to 19.0%. Also, skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers (ISCO 6-8) were less represented, 33.9% in 2010 against 38.7% in 2001 (Table 11).

Chart 22 – Employed population by occupational group, 2001 – 2010



Unemployment rate has been decreasing since 2005 but has taken an upward trend as from 2009

Chart 23 – Unemployment rate by sex, 2001 - 2010



43. The unemployment rate increased from 6.8% in 2001, to 9.6% in 2005 after which it started declining. It however rose from 7.2% in 2008 to 7.3% in 2009 and 7.8% in 2010 (Table 20).

44. The change over time is quite smooth for male while female unemployment rate increased to attain a peak in 2005, after which it declined till 2009 when it took an upward trend. The disparity between male and female unemployment is higher in 2010 than in 2001.

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May 2011

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Table 20 - Unemployment rate (%) by sex, 2001 - 2010

Table 1 - Estimated labour force, employment, unemployment and inactive population by sex, 2009 & 2010

	2009				2010			
	Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval		Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval	
			Lower Limit	Upper Limit			Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Labour Force								
Both Sexes	566,300	6,400	553,600	578,900	581,300	6,500	568,500	594,100
Male	358,100	4,300	349,700	366,500	362,400	4,300	353,900	370,900
Female	208,200	3,500	201,300	215,100	218,900	3,700	211,600	226,100
Employment								
Both Sexes	524,800	6,100	512,700	536,600	536,100	6,100	524,500	548,100
Male	342,300	4,200	334,100	350,400	345,700	4,200	337,500	354,000
Female	182,500	3,300	175,900	189,000	190,400	3,400	183,700	197,200
Unemployment								
Both Sexes	41,500	1,600	38,400	44,800	45,200	1,700	41,700	48,600
Male	15,800	900	14,000	17,700	16,700	900	14,800	18,500
Female	25,700	1,200	23,400	28,100	28,500	1,300	25,900	31,000
Inactive Population								
Both Sexes	392,700	5,500	381,900	403,400	390,100	5,500	379,300	401,000
Male	112,700	2,700	107,400	117,900	114,000	2,600	108,800	119,200
Female	280,000	4,100	271,900	288,100	276,100	4,100	268,100	284,200
Activity rate (%)								
Both Sexes	59.1	0.4	58.3	59.9	59.8	0.4	59.0	60.6
Male	76.1	0.5	75.2	77.0	76.1	0.5	75.2	77.0
Female	42.6	0.6	41.5	43.8	44.2	0.6	43.0	45.4
Unemployment rate (%)								
Both Sexes	7.3	0.3	6.8	7.9	7.8	0.3	7.2	8.3
Male	4.4	0.3	3.9	4.9	4.6	0.3	4.1	5.1
Female	12.3	0.5	11.3	13.4	13.0	0.5	11.9	14.1

Table 2 - Labour force, employment and unemployment by age group and sex - 2010

Age group	Labour force			Employment			Unemployment		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
16-19	10,700	6,600	17,300	7,900	3,500	11,400	2,800	3,100	5,900
20-24	35,100	26,200	61,300	29,000	19,700	48,700	6,100	6,600	12,700
25-29	45,400	28,800	74,200	42,300	24,300	66,600	3,100	4,500	7,600
30-34	51,100	33,200	84,300	49,900	28,400	78,300	1,300	4,700	6,000
35-39	43,900	28,800	72,700	42,800	25,800	68,600	1,100	2,900	4,000
40-44	45,900	29,200	75,100	45,300	26,600	71,900	2,300	6,700	9,000
45-49	46,500	25,600	72,100	46,000	23,400	69,400			
50-54	39,200	19,200	58,400	38,500	18,000	56,500			
55-59	28,800	13,600	42,400	28,500	13,100	41,600			
60-64	9,900	5,000	14,900	9,600	4,900	14,500			
65 & over	5,900	2,700	8,600	5,900	2,700	8,600			
Total	362,400	218,900	581,300	345,700	190,400	536,100	16,700	28,500	45,200

Table 3 - Employed population by marital status and sex - 2010

Marital status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Married	241,800	123,400	365,200
Widowed/divorced/separated	11,700	28,100	39,800
Single	92,200	38,900	131,100
All marital states	345,700	190,400	536,100

Table 4 - Employed population by employment status and sex - 2010

Employment status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	18,300	3,400	21,700
Own account worker	54,900	18,300	73,200
Employee	269,400	159,000	428,400
Contributing family worker	3,100	9,700	12,800
All employment states	345,700	190,400	536,100

Table 5 - Mean hours of work per week by employment status and sex - 2010

Employment status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	46.0	39.5	45.0
Own account worker	38.7	30.6	36.6
Employee	43.4	37.3	41.1
Contributing family worker	38.2	30.1	32.0
All employment states	42.8	36.3	40.5

Table 6 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by employment status and sex - 2010

Employment status	Average monthly income (Rs)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	25,800	16,200	24,400
Own account worker	10,800	5,700	9,600
Employee	16,000	10,900	14,100
All employment states	15,700	10,500	13,900

Table 7 - Employed population by industrial sector and sex - 2001 & 2010

Industrial Sector	2001			2010		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	40,200	17,100	57,300	31,500	14,200	45,700
Secondary	113,500	59,000	172,500	113,300	41,000	154,300
<i>of which Manufacturing</i>	<i>66,400</i>	<i>57,600</i>	<i>124,000</i>	<i>53,000</i>	<i>38,800</i>	<i>91,800</i>
<i>Construction</i>	<i>43,000</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>44,100</i>	<i>56,900</i>	<i>1,900</i>	<i>91,800</i>
Tertiary	165,800	80,000	245,800	200,900	135,200	336,100
<i>of which Wholesale and retail trade</i>	<i>46,800</i>	<i>18,300</i>	<i>65,100</i>	<i>46,500</i>	<i>29,000</i>	<i>75,500</i>
<i>Hotels and restaurants</i>	<i>17,600</i>	<i>6,300</i>	<i>23,900</i>	<i>24,700</i>	<i>16,300</i>	<i>41,000</i>
<i>Transport, storage and communications</i>	<i>29,200</i>	<i>3,500</i>	<i>32,700</i>	<i>33,600</i>	<i>5,200</i>	<i>38,800</i>
<i>Public administration and defence</i>	<i>24,300</i>	<i>5,800</i>	<i>30,100</i>	<i>29,600</i>	<i>8,300</i>	<i>37,900</i>
<i>Education, health and social work</i>	<i>19,300</i>	<i>20,500</i>	<i>39,800</i>	<i>20,700</i>	<i>29,700</i>	<i>50,400</i>
All sectors	319,500	156,100	475,600	345,700	190,400	536,100

Table 8 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by industrial sector and sex - 2010

Industrial Sector	Average monthly Income (Rs.)		
	Male	Female	Both sexes
Primary	10,000	4,400	8,600
Secondary	12,700	7,000	11,200
Tertiary	18,200	12,100	15,800
All sectors	15,700	10,500	13,900

Table 9 - Mean length of service by industrial sector and sex - 2010

Industrial sector	Length of service (years)		
	Male	Female	B. Sexes
Primary	13.9	9.8	12.6
Secondary	8.8	7.6	8.5
Tertiary	11.2	7.5	9.7
All sectors	10.7	7.7	9.6

Table 10 - Mean hours of work per week by industrial sector and sex - 2010

Industrial Sector	Mean hours of work per week		
	Male	Female	B. Sexes
Primary	37.3	25.6	33.7
Secondary	42.5	40.6	42.0
Tertiary	43.8	36.1	40.7
All sectors	42.8	36.3	40.5

Table 11 - Employed population by occupational group and sex - 2001 & 2010

ISCO* major occupational group	Occupational group	2001			2010		
		Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
1 - 3	Legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals	42,600	23,300	65,900	54,900	39,400	94,300
4	Clerks	17,900	22,100	40,000	23,200	31,500	54,700
5	Service workers and shop and market sales workers	52,000	21,100	73,100	61,600	42,000	103,600
6 - 8	Skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers	136,900	47,000	183,900	147,700	34,200	181,900
9	Elementary occupations	70,100	42,600	112,700	58,300	43,300	101,600
	All occupational groups	319,500	156,100	475,600	345,700	190,400	536,100

* International Standard Classification of Occupations

Table 12 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by occupational group and sex - 2010

ISCO* major occupational group	Occupational group	Average monthly income (Rs)		
		Male	Female	Both Sexes
1 - 3	Legislators, senior officials and managers;professionals; technicians and associate professionals	35,000	21,900	29,600
4	Clerks	15,900	12,600	14,000
5	Service workers and shop and market sales workers	14,200	7,600	11,700
6 - 8	Skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers	11,200	5,400	10,200
9	Elementary occupations	10,100	4,500	7,800
	All occupational groups	15,700	10,500	13,900

* International Standard Classification of Occupations

Table 13 - Unemployment rate (%) by age group and sex - 2010

Age group (Years)	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Below 20	25.7	47.6	34.1
20-29	11.4	20.1	14.9
30-39	2.5	12.4	6.4
40-49	1.3	8.8	4.1
50 and over	1.4	4.4	2.4
All ages	4.6	13.0	7.8

Table 14 - Unemployed population by marital status and sex - 2010

Marital status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Ever married	3,700	19,200	22,900
Single	13,000	9,300	22,300
Total	16,700	28,500	45,200

Table 15 - Unemployed population by educational attainment and sex - 2010

Educational attainment	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	5,300	8,200	13,500
<i>Below CPE</i>	3,700	4,800	8,500
<i>Passed CPE</i>	1,600	3,400	5,000
Secondary	9,800	18,300	28,100
<i>Form I - V but not passed SC</i>	5,500	9,100	14,600
<i>Passed SC</i>	2,400	6,800	9,200
<i>Passed HSC</i>	1,900	2,400	4,300
Tertiary level	1,600	2,000	3,600
Total	16,700	28,500	45,200

Table 16 - Unemployed population by method of job search and sex - 2010

Method of job search	Male	Female	Both sexes
Applied to prospective employers	9,500	14,400	23,900
Checked at factories, worksites, etc	9,900	13,100	23,000
Registered at Employment Service	6,100	13,200	19,300
Placed and answered advertisements	6,100	9,600	15,700
Sought assistance and advice*	7,400	13,300	20,700
All unemployed	16,700	28,500	45,200

* to obtain a paid job or to start own business

Table 17 - Unemployed population by type of job willing to accept and sex - 2010

Type of job willing to accept	Number		
	Male	Female	Both sexes
Full time employment	16,200	25,400	41,600
Part time employment	11,600	18,500	30,100
Employment without limit	12,400	17,600	30,100
Temporary employment	10,400	15,200	25,500
Employment in public sector	14,800	24,600	39,500
Employment in private sector	14,500	22,600	37,000
Below level of qualification	10,600	18,400	29,000
Outside training or qualification	10,600	18,200	28,800
All unemployed	16,700	28,500	45,200

Table 18 - Inactive population by inactivity status and sex - 2010

Inactivity status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Students	45,900	44,200	90,100
Retired or old persons	49,300	38,400	87,700
Sick or disabled	14,400	15,800	30,200
Homemakers	4,400	170,600	170,800
Other		7,100	11,300
Total	114,000	276,100	390,100

Table 19 - Age specific activity rate (%) by sex - 2001 & 2010

Age group (Years)	2001			2010		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
16-19	43.5	19.4	31.6	24.2	15.3	19.8
20 - 24	84.3	45.8	65.4	72.4	57.4	65.1
25 - 29	96.4	44.8	70.8	92.4	61.5	77.3
30 - 34	96.8	46.2	71.8	96.2	62.2	79.1
35 - 39	96.7	47.1	72.1	97.3	62.3	79.6
40 - 44	95.2	49.7	72.7	96.2	60.4	78.2
45 - 49	94.0	48.4	71.3	94.7	51.7	73.1
50 - 54	92.0	37.5	64.3	92.4	44.4	68.2
55 - 59	82.1	27.9	53.5	82.4	37.0	59.1
60 - 64	27.0	8.2	16.9	41.2	18.2	29.0
65+	13.5	3.1	7.5	15.5	4.9	9.3
All ages	79.8	36.8	58.0	76.1	44.2	59.8

Table 20 - Unemployment rate (%) by sex, 2001 - 2010

Year	Unemployment rate (%)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
2001	5.4	9.5	6.8
2002	5.3	10.9	7.2
2003	5.7	11.5	7.7
2004	5.8	13.4	8.4
2005	5.8	16.4	9.6
2006	5.5	15.5	9.1
2007	5.3	14.4	8.5
2008	4.1	12.7	7.2
2009	4.4	12.3	7.3
2010	4.6	13.0	7.8

Methodology of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey

- 1. Data collection** : Face to face interviewing of household members.
- 2. Frequency of data collection** : Monthly except in 2004 when data collection was carried out every quarter. Up to 2005, the reference period for data on labour force was the last week of the survey month. As from 2006, the reference week has been changed to the second week of the survey month so that estimates can be published within one quarter of the reference period, as required by the IMF Special Data Dissemination System (SDDS) to which the country expects to graduate by January 2011.
- 3. Scope and coverage of collection** : Mauritian households in the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues.
- 4. Sampling methodology** : Stratified two-stage sampling design. At the first stage, Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) are selected with probability proportional to size and at the second stage, a fixed number of households is selected from each selected PSU. Prior to 2005, the first stage stratification factors were urban, semi urban and rural geographical locations. As from 2005, the Relative Development Index (RDI) is used as the spatial stratification factor. This index is based on 12 variables encompassing housing and living conditions, literacy and education, and employment derived from the 2000 Housing and Population Census to rank PSUs. A set of RDIs for administrative regions has been published in the series "Economic and Social Indicators" - Issue No. 393 in October 2002. The second stage stratification criteria are community, household size and average monthly expenditure of the household.
- 5. Sample size** : From 1999 to 2003, around 6,500 households were covered each year. In 2004, the sample was increased to 8,640 so that reliable quarterly estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment could be worked out. As from 2005, the sample for the year has been further increased to 11,280. Furthermore, in order to measure quarterly changes, 50% of the households sampled in a quarter are re-interviewed in the following quarter; for example, 50% of the households sampled in the first quarter of 2005 have been re-interviewed in the second quarter of 2005.
- 6. Questionnaire** : The CMPHS questionnaire comprises three modules: (a) a basic module common to all rounds of the survey covering the general characteristics of the population (b) a second module covering labour force with in-depth investigation and a core set of questions which are kept constant at all rounds of the survey and (c) a third module grouping other topics of interest but investigated in less details.

7. Estimation and reliability of estimates : Estimates worked out from household survey data are inevitably subject to sampling variability since they are based on information collected from only a sample of households rather than from all households. The Standard Error (S.E), which is a measure of this variability, is used to set confidence intervals for any estimate (whether a total or a rate) derived from the sample. For example, a 95% confidence interval indicates that there is 95% chance that the upper and lower limits of the interval enclose the true value (which would be obtained if all households had been surveyed). Standard errors and confidence intervals are calculated for the main labour force estimates.

Definition of terms

- 1. Household** : A household is defined as either a person living on his/her own or a group of two or more persons, who may or may not be related, but who live together and make common provision for food and other essentials for living.
- 2. Employment** : Employed population consists of Mauritians aged 16¹ years and above (16+) who have worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during the reference week of a month. It includes those who are temporarily absent from work for reasons such as leave with pay, leave without pay and temporary disorganisation of work (bad weather, break down of equipment, lack of order, etc.).
- 3. Unemployment** : Unemployed population comprises all Mauritians aged 16+ who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work during the reference period.
- 4. Labour force** : Labour force or active population is made up of employed and unemployed population.
- 5. Activity rate** : Activity rate is the ratio (%) of labour force to population aged 16+ (active and inactive population).
- 6. Unemployment rate** : Unemployment rate is the ratio (%) of unemployment to labour force.
- 7. Inactive population** : Inactive population includes all Mauritians aged 16+, not forming part of the labour force for reasons such as attendance at educational institutions, engagement in household duties, retirement, old age and infirmity/disablement.
- 8. Employer** : An Employer is a person who operates his/her own business or trade and hires one or more employees.
- 9. Own account worker** : An Own account worker is a person who operates his/her own business or trade but does not hire employees. He/She may be working alone or with the help of contributing family workers.
- 10. Employee** : An Employee is a person who works for pay for someone else, even in a temporary capacity.

11. Apprentice : An Apprentice is a person being trained for a job or trade and does not receive pay or may just receive some pocket money; an apprentice is considered as an employee.

12. Contributing family worker : A Contributing family worker is a person who works without pay in an enterprise operated by a family member.

13. Educational attainment

Primary : comprises those who have studied up to a “Standard” between Standard 1 and the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) or equivalent.

Secondary : comprises those who have studied up to a “Form” between Form 1 and the Higher School Certificate (HSC) or equivalent.

Tertiary : comprises those who above their secondary educational certificates (SC and HSC or equivalent) also possess either a certificate/diploma (which is above the HSC but below a first degree) or a degree.

14. Income from employment

Paid employee : income refers to gross pay, i.e., before tax and other deductions. Gross pay includes all allowances and overtime payments.

Employer and own account worker : income refers to the net income obtained after deductions of expenses.

¹ As from year 2007, labour force estimates are based on population aged 16 years and above, following the amendment to the Labour Act in December 2006 whereby the minimum legal working age is 16 years, and the subsequent recommendation by the ILO to be in line with the amended Labour Act