

Labour force, Employment and Unemployment based on the results of the Continuous Multi Purpose Household Survey – Year 2011

Introduction

1. This third issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the year 2011, 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 in cases where the sample numbers are small.

Key figures

	2010	2011	Change 2010 - 2011
Labour force	581,300	582,800	+1,500
Employment	536,100	536,700	+600
Unemployment	45,200	46,100	+900
Unemployment rate (%)	7.8	7.9	+0.1 pt
Activity rate (%)	59.8	59.3	-0.5 pt

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

Key points

3. Change from 2010 to 2011

- a. Labour force increased by 1,500 from 581,300 to 582,800.
- b. Activity rate decreased from 59.8% to 59.3%. Male activity rate decreased from 76.1% to 75.5% while female activity rate fell from 44.2% to 43.7%.
- c. Employment increased by 600 from 536,100 to 536,700 driven by an increase of 1,500 in female employment while male employment decreased by 900.
- d. Unemployment rate increased from 7.8% to 7.9%. Male unemployment rate increased from 4.6% to 5.2% while female unemployment rate decreased from 13.0% to 12.5%.

4. Situation in 2011

- 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 2011

- 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 2008 after which an upward trend was observed.

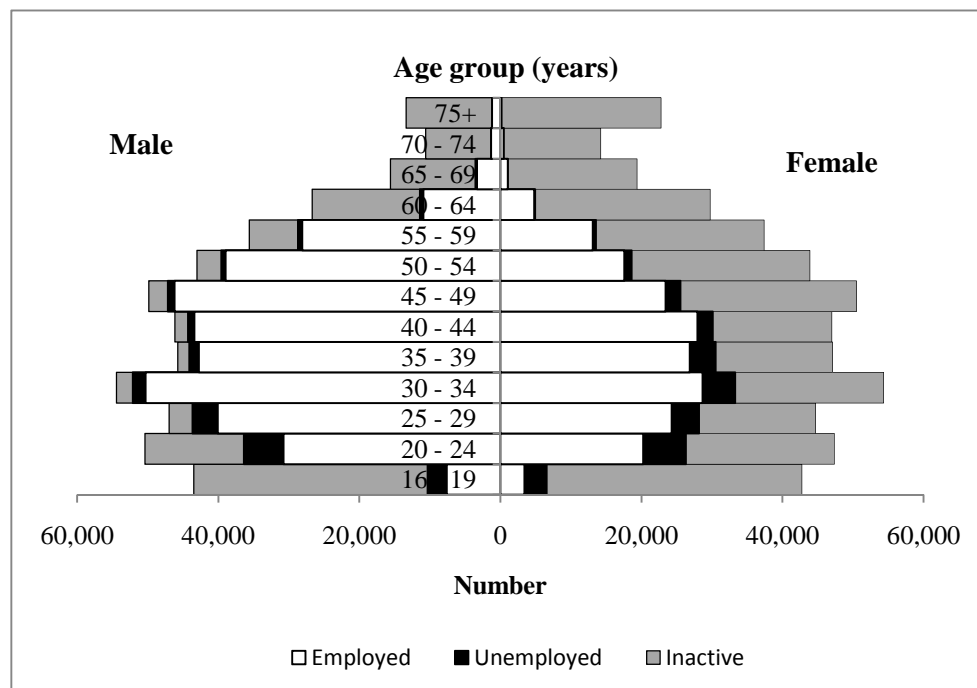
Labour market overview

Chart 1 – The Labour Market, 2011



6. In 2011, the population of working age (aged 16 years and over) numbered 982,900, of whom 582,800 consisted of the labour force (or were economically active) resulting in an activity rate of 59.3%. The number employed totalled 536,700 whilst the number unemployed stood at 46,100; the unemployment rate worked out to 7.9% of the labour force.

Chart 2 – Population structure by age, sex and economic activity, 2011

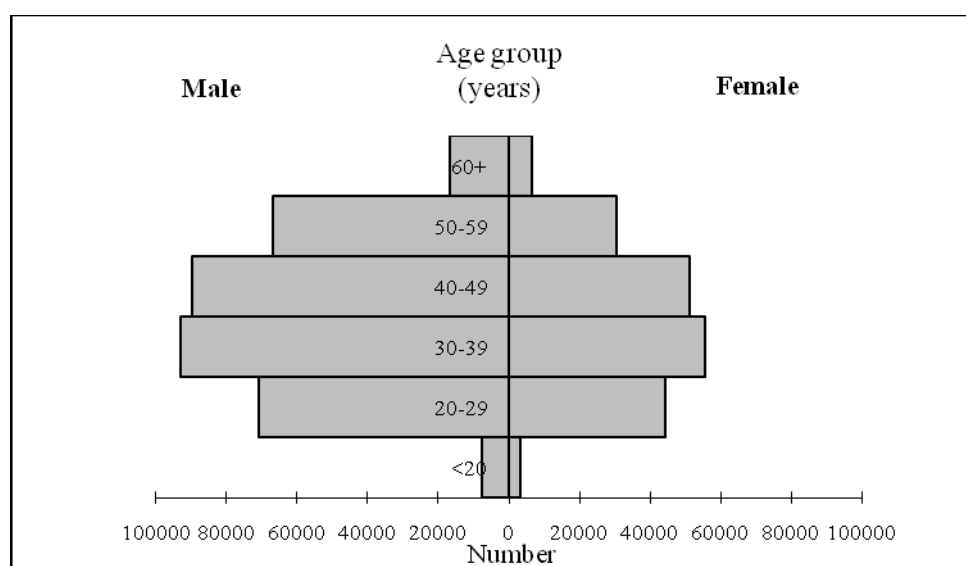


7. The pyramid (Chart 2) and Table 2 indicate that in 2011:
 - i. The number inactive was significantly higher among women than men at all ages;
 - ii. There were fewer women than men among the employed at all ages ;
 - iii. Unemployed women were more numerous than unemployed men at almost all ages;
 - iv. As from age 20 – 24 years, the number unemployed generally decreased with age.

Employment

8. Total employment stood at 536,700 (344,800 males and 191,900 females) in 2011. The employment to population ratio was around 55% (72% for males and 38% for females).

Chart 3 – Age-sex structure of the employed population, 2011



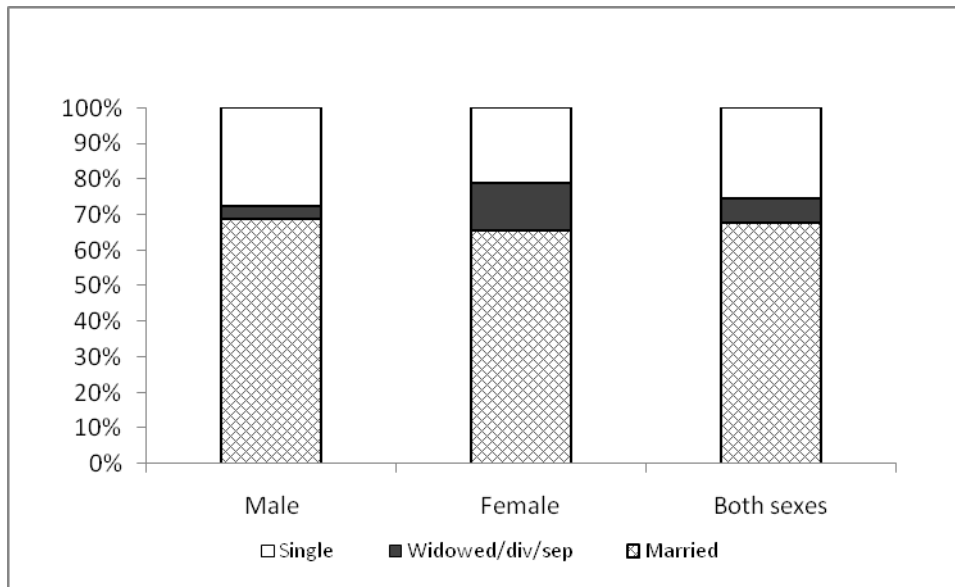
There are two times as many men as women in the workforce

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 40.5 years for males and 39.1 years for females.

The workforce is mainly made up of married persons

10. The workforce was made up mainly of married persons (67.6%), followed by persons in the single state (25.4%). A small proportion of the employed were widowed, divorced and separated (7.0%). Compared to the male workforce, the female workforce consisted of a higher proportion of widowed, divorced and separated persons (13.2% compared to 3.5%) (Table 3).

Chart 4 – Employed population by marital status and sex, 2011



The workforce is mostly made up of employees

11. 81% of the employed were employees while around 17% 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 (85.1% against 78.4% among males) and contributing family workers (4.3% against 0.7%) but a lower proportion of self employed (10.6% against 21.0% among males) (Table 4).

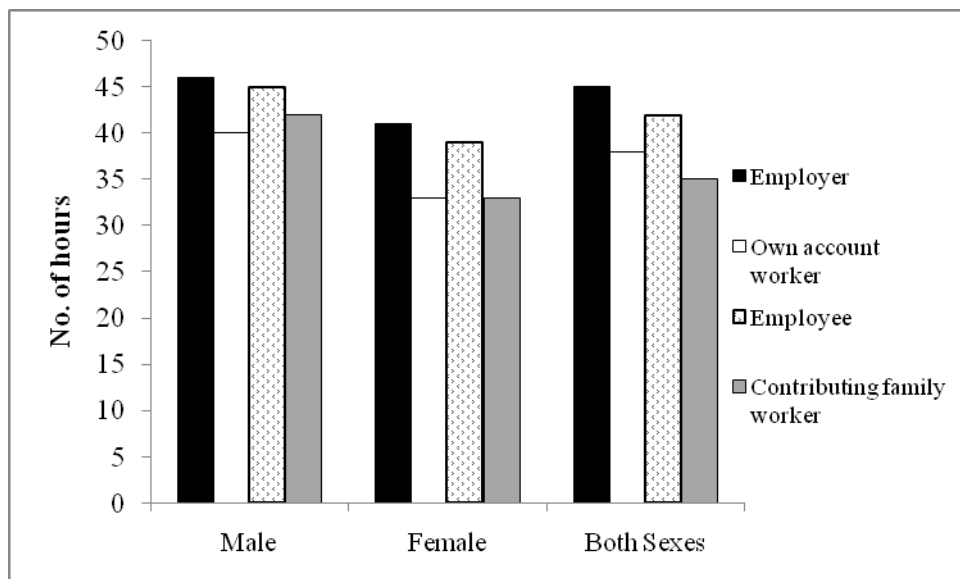
Chart 5 – Employed population by employment status and sex, 2011



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

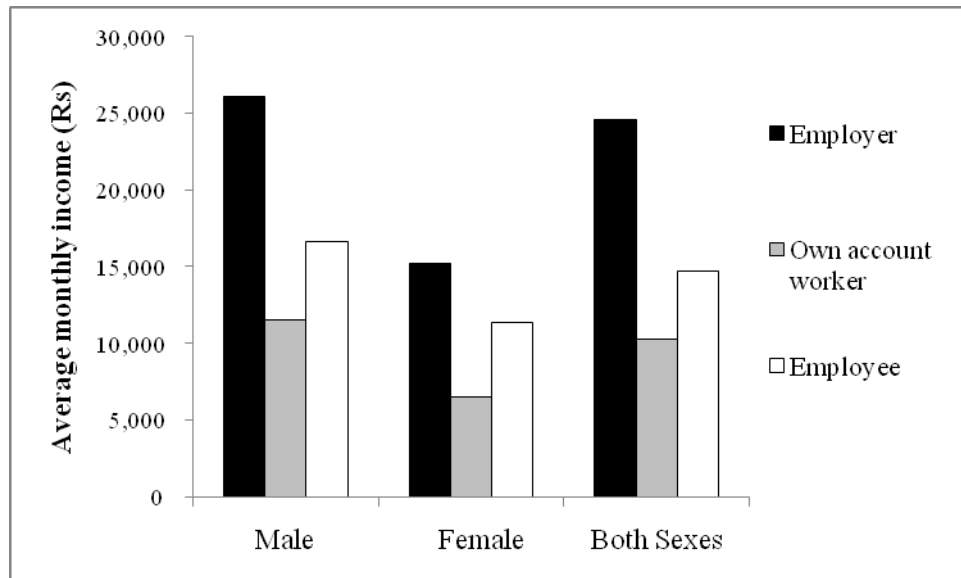
- On average, an employed person worked 41.7 hours per week. An employer put in 45.4 hours of work compared to 42.3 hours for an employee and 37.9 hours for an own-account worker (Table 5).

Chart 6 – Mean hours of work by employment status and sex, 2011



13. Monthly income from employment, which includes income from paid work and income from business activities, amounted to Rs 14,500. The average monthly income for an employer was Rs 24,600 against Rs 10,300 for an own-account worker while that for an employee stood at Rs 14,700 (Table 6).

Chart 7 – Average monthly income from employment by employment status and sex, 2011

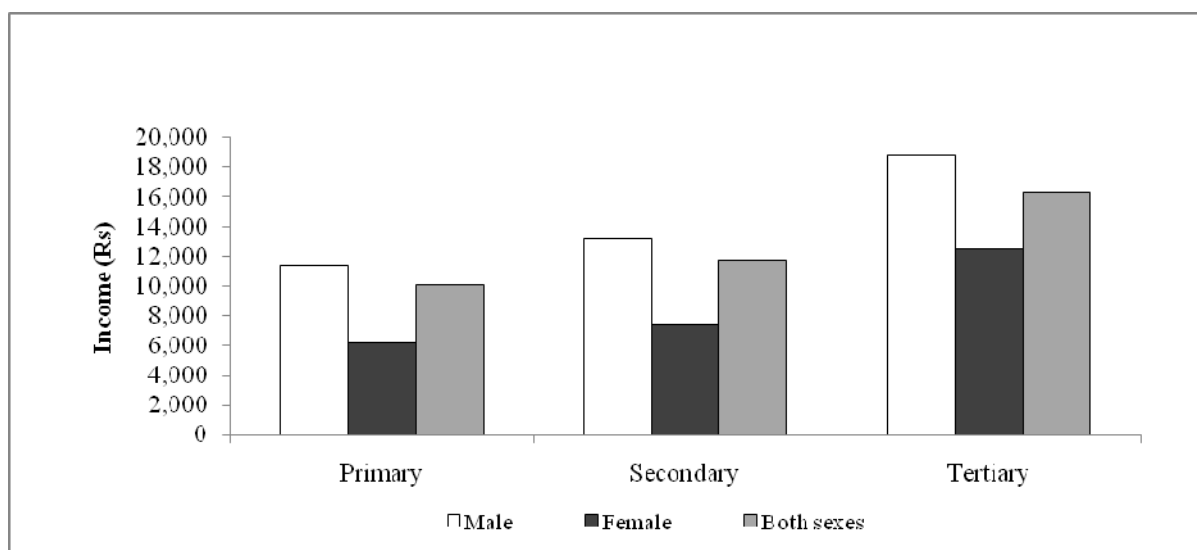


The tertiary sector provided jobs to 6 out every 10 workers and gave the highest pay

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 16,300), followed by the secondary sector (Rs 11,700) and the primary sector (Rs 10,100) (Table 8).

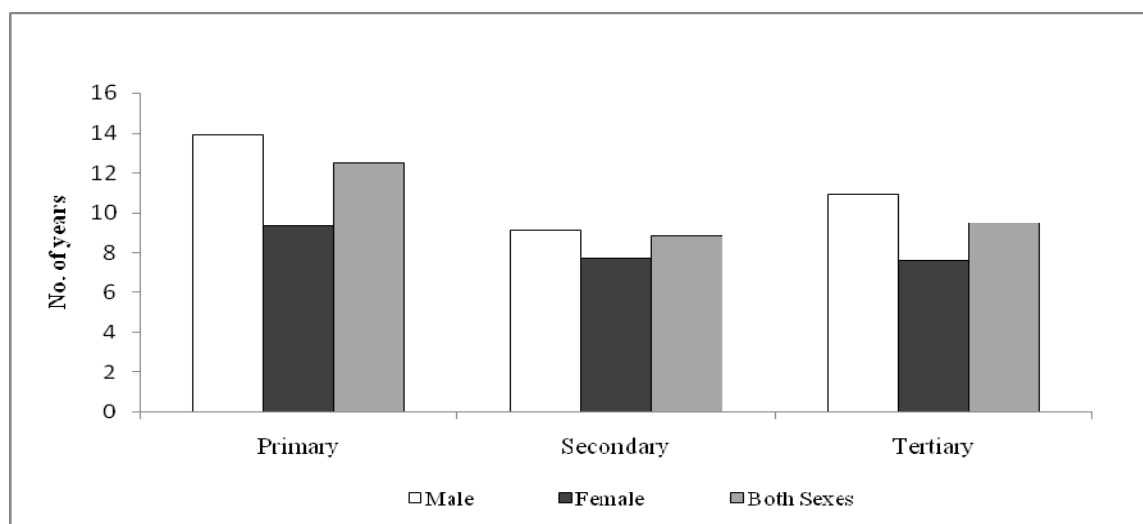
Chart 8 – Average monthly income from employment by industrial sector and sex, 2011



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

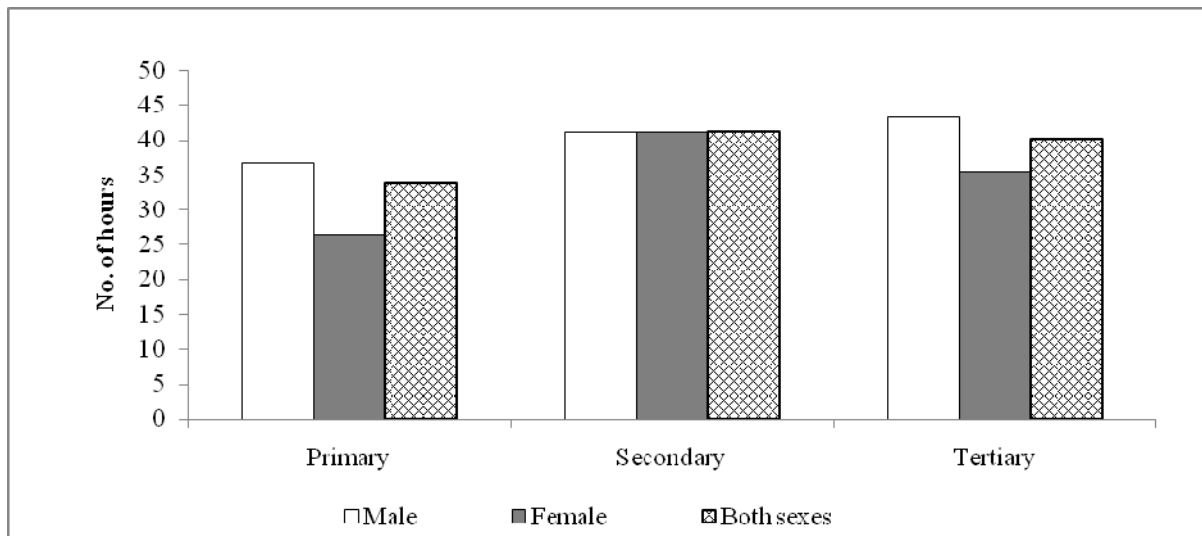
16. Workers in the primary sector had the highest length of service with their present employer (12.5 years), followed by the tertiary sector (9.5 years) and the secondary sector (8.8 years) (Table 9).

Chart 9 – Mean length of service by industrial sector and sex, 2011



17. Employed persons in the secondary sector had the longest hours of work (43.4 hours per week), followed by those in the tertiary sector (41.8 hours) and the primary sector (35.1 hours) (Table 10).

Chart 10 – Mean hours of work per week by industrial sector and sex, 2011



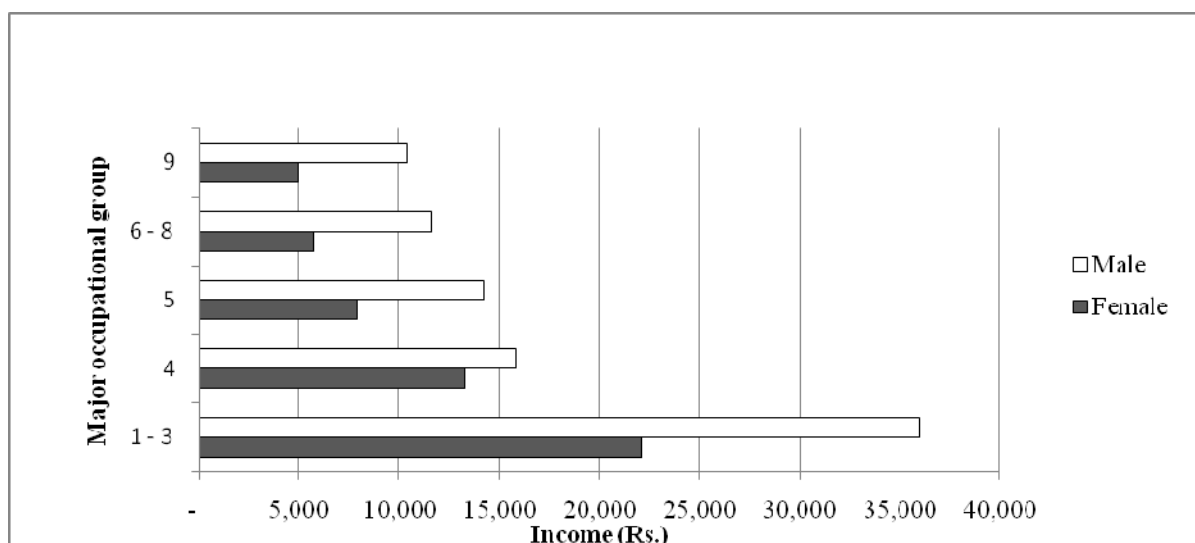
The Mauritian workforce is distributed across all occupational groups

18. Around 18.5% of the workforce was engaged in the highest occupational group (ISCO 1-3) which comprised legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals. Clerks (ISCO 4) made up 10.5% of the workforce; service, shop and market sales workers (ISCO 5) 19.7%. Another 32.6% 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 18.7% of the workforce. (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 30,300), followed by clerks (Rs 14,300). The lowest income was drawn by those engaged in elementary occupations (Rs 8,100) (Table 12).

Chart 11 – Average monthly income from employment by occupational group and sex, 2011



1 out of every 4 workers was available for additional work

20. In addition to their main job and secondary job (if any), 23.0% of the employed population were available for additional work. Employed women were less available for additional work than their male counterparts; 18.1% reported that they were willing to work additional hours against 25.7% for men.

Only 4% of the employed had secondary jobs

21. Out of the 536,100 employed, 4.3% held a secondary job. Around 60% of the secondary job holders were employers/own account workers. The main sectors in which they were operating were: agriculture (34.3%), wholesale and retail trade and repairs (14.3%), and construction (11.0%).

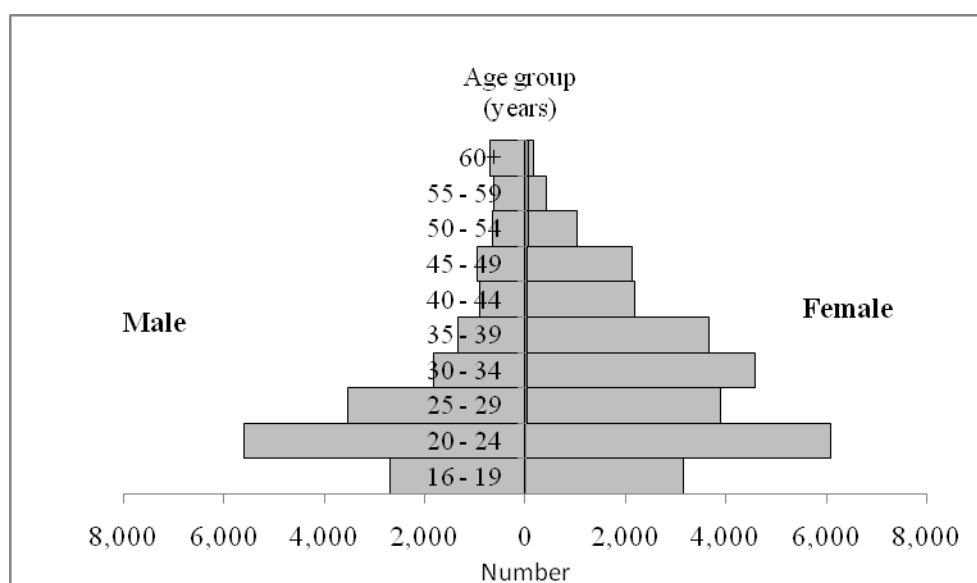
Unemployment

22. The number of unemployed persons numbered 46,100, comprising 18,800 males and 27,300 females. The unemployment rate was 7.9%, higher among females (12.5%) than among males (5.2%).

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 59% of the total unemployed and they outnumbered men by 8,500.

Chart 12 – Age-sex structure of the unemployed population, 2011



Unemployed males are younger than their female counterparts

24. On average, an unemployed male was one year younger than his female counterpart. The mean age of the unemployed male was 30.8 years and that of unemployed female was 31.8 years.

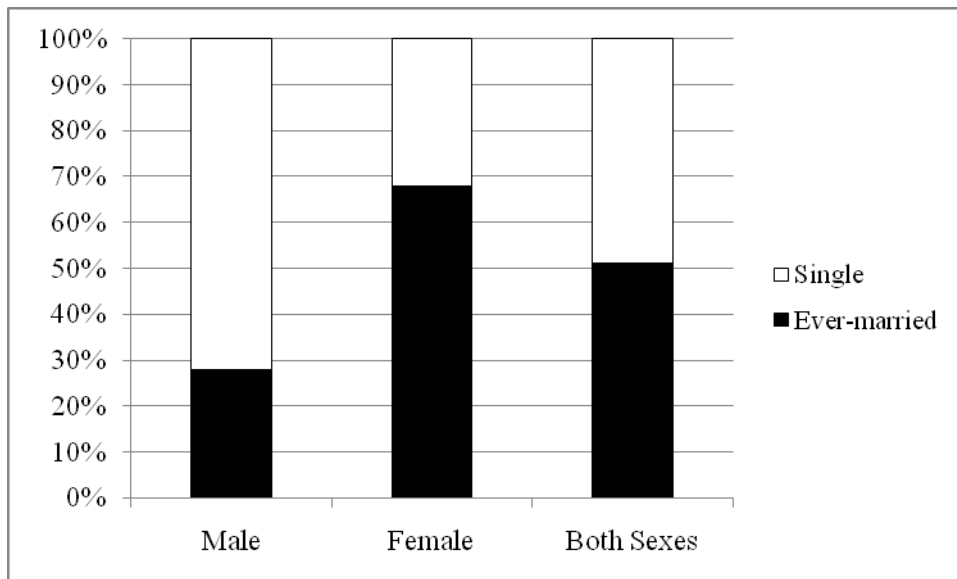
Unemployment rate is highest among young persons

25. Unemployment rate was highest at the lowest age groups and decreased progressively with increasing age. It was 34.7% among those below 20 years and 2.9% at age 50 years and above (Table 13).
26. The disparity between male and female unemployment rate was highest in the lower age group; the difference was nearly 22 percentage points among the unemployed below 20 years and around 2 percentage points among those aged 50 years and above.

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

27. Around half of the unemployed were ever-married and the remaining were single. Most of the unemployed men, however, were single (72.3%) whereas most of the unemployed women were ever-married (67.8%), i.e. currently married, widowed, divorced or separated (Table 14).

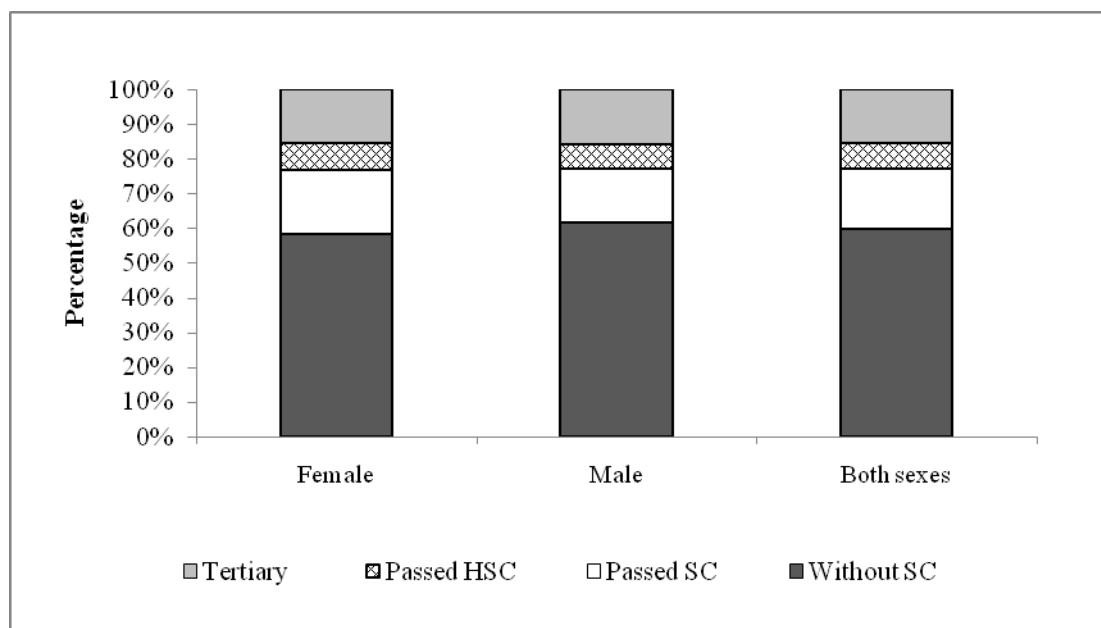
Chart 13 – Unemployed population by marital status and sex, 2011



A high percentage of the unemployed do not hold the School Certificate

28. Around 60% of the unemployed, representing 27,700 persons, did not hold a Cambridge School Certificate (SC): 19% had not attained the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) level, 8% held the CPE certificate only, and a further 33% attended secondary school but did not pass the SC. The proportion with SC as highest attainment was 17% and that with Higher School Certificate (HSC) 7%. Unemployed having studied up to the tertiary level numbered some 7,200 and represented 16% of the total unemployed (Table 15).

Chart 14 – Unemployed population by education attainment and sex, 2011



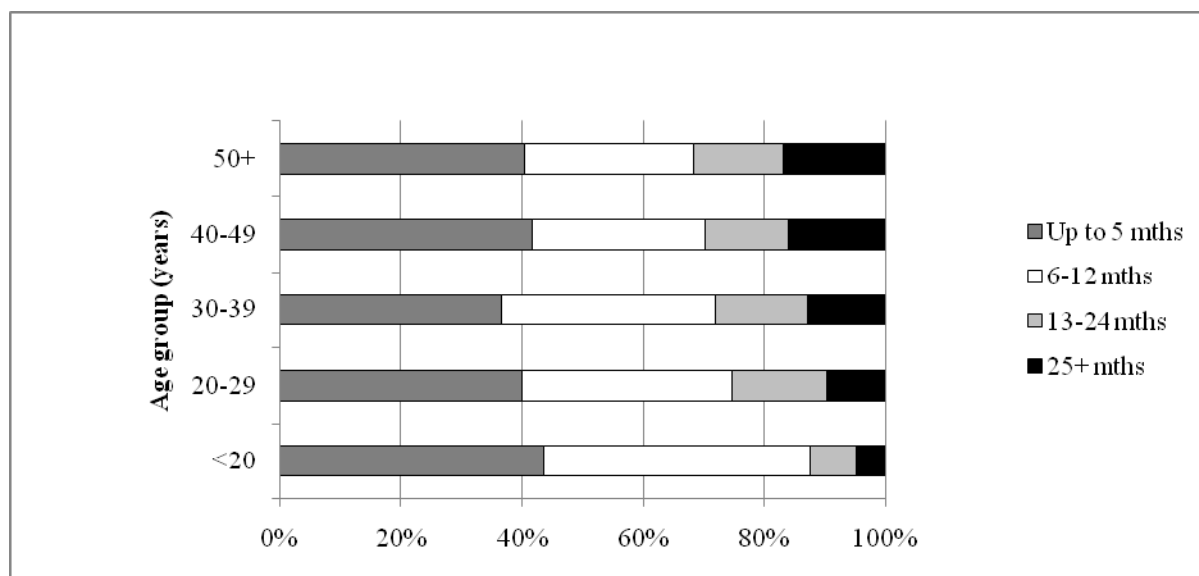
Unemployed women are generally more qualified than unemployed men

29. Unemployed women were generally more qualified than their male counterparts; around 42% of them possessed the School Certificate or above against 38% among males. However, a slightly higher proportion of unemployed men (16%) attained tertiary level education as compared to unemployed women (15%).

Women are in unemployment around five months more than men

30. On average, an unemployed person had been without a job for 13.8 months. Women remained unemployed for 16.0 months compared to 10.7 months for men. The duration of unemployment varies with age (Chart 15). The proportion unemployed for less than six months was highest among those aged under 20 years while the proportion unemployed for more than 24 months was highest among those in the upper age groups.

Chart 15 – Duration of unemployment by age group, 2011



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 (55%) had work experience in the tertiary sector, mainly 'Wholesale & retail trade' and 'Hotels & restaurants'. Another 40% had worked previously in the secondary sector, mainly in 'Manufacturing' followed by 'Construction'. The remaining 5% previously worked in the agricultural sector.

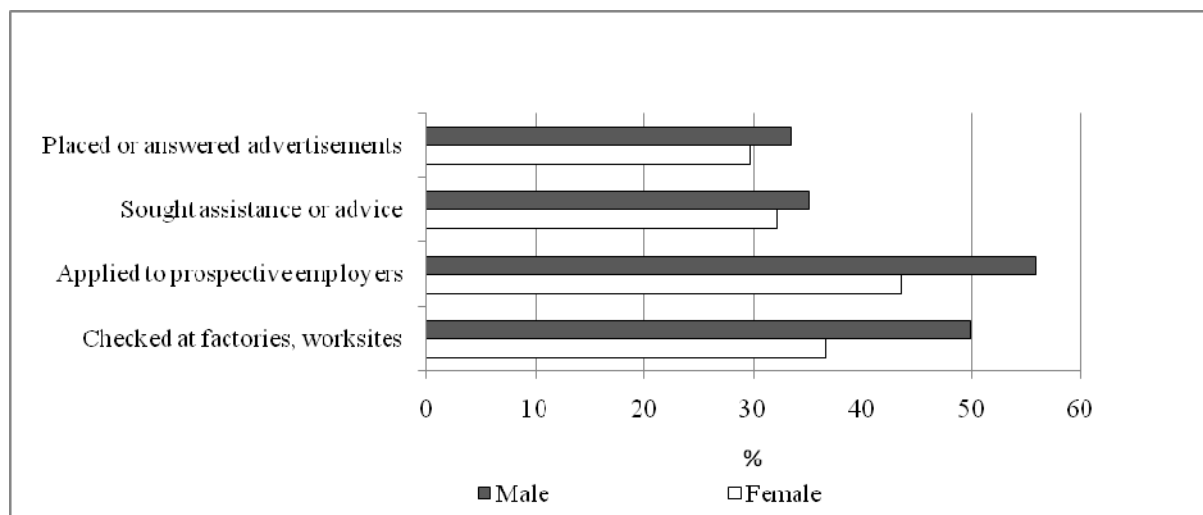
27% of the unemployed who worked before lost their job following completion of their contract or temporary job

32. Some 27% of the unemployed lost their job following completion of their contract or temporary job. Another 25% left their job due to non-satisfaction with job while around 12% left due to marriage/household responsibilities.

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

33. The unemployed usually had recourse to more than one method of job search. The most common method was ‘applied to prospective employers’ (49%) followed by ‘checked at factories, worksites, etc’ (42%). Around 40% were registered at the Employment Service. Less than 10% had taken steps to start a business of their own (Table 16).

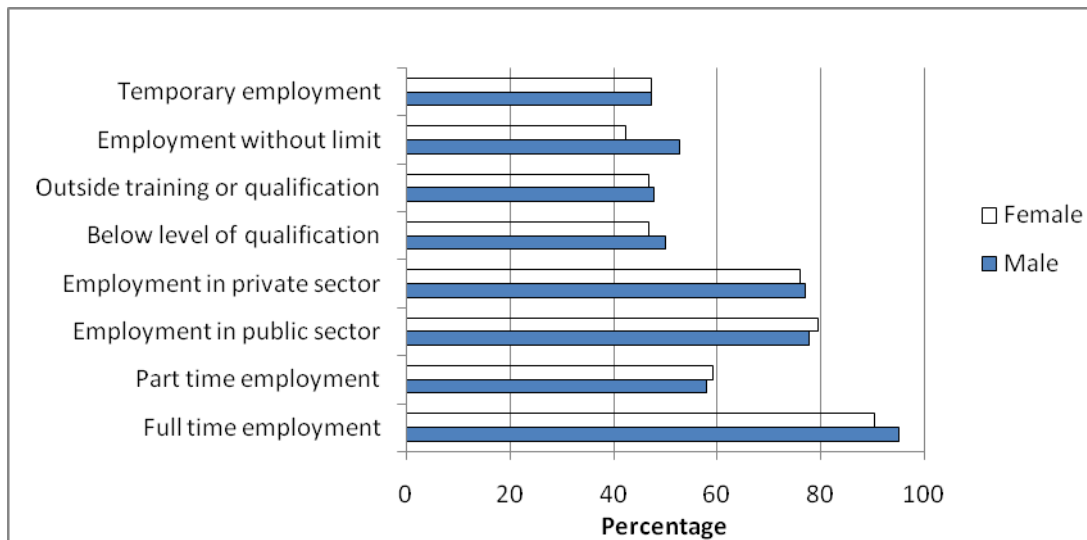
Chart 16 – Unemployed population by method of job search and sex, 2011



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 (92.4%) rather than part time employment (58.8%). They showed a slight preference for work in the public sector; 78.7% would take up a job in the public sector against 76.6% in the private sector. Only 47.3% were willing to accept a temporary job. The proportion who would accept a job below or outside their level of qualification or training was around 48.0% (Table 17).

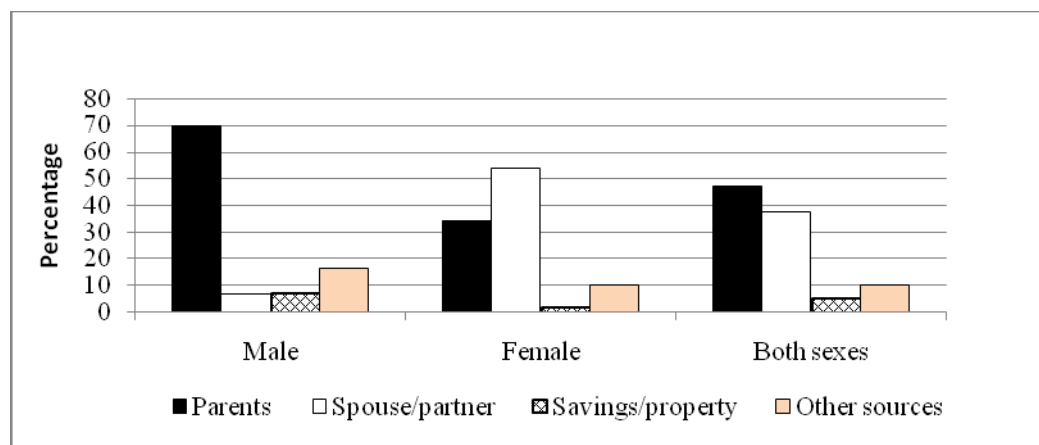
Chart 17 – Unemployed population by type of job willing to accept and sex, 2011



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 (48.6%) followed by their spouse/partner (34.9%). 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, 2011



Job Seekers

36. Nearly all jobseekers (98%) looked for paid employment. Their main sectors of interest were manufacturing, construction, hotels & restaurants and public administration. The types of job they were looking for were mainly service workers and shop sales workers, craft & related trade workers, clerks and elementary occupations.
37. Some 5% of job seekers had been offered a job which they did not accept. The main reasons for not accepting the jobs were : place of work too far from residence, low pay and odd hours of work
38. About 18% of the job seekers were interested in setting up their own business, mainly in sectors such as manufacturing, trade and restaurants.
39. Only 9% of the job seekers tried to set their own business and more than half of them reported that the main problem faced was lack of funds.

Inactive population

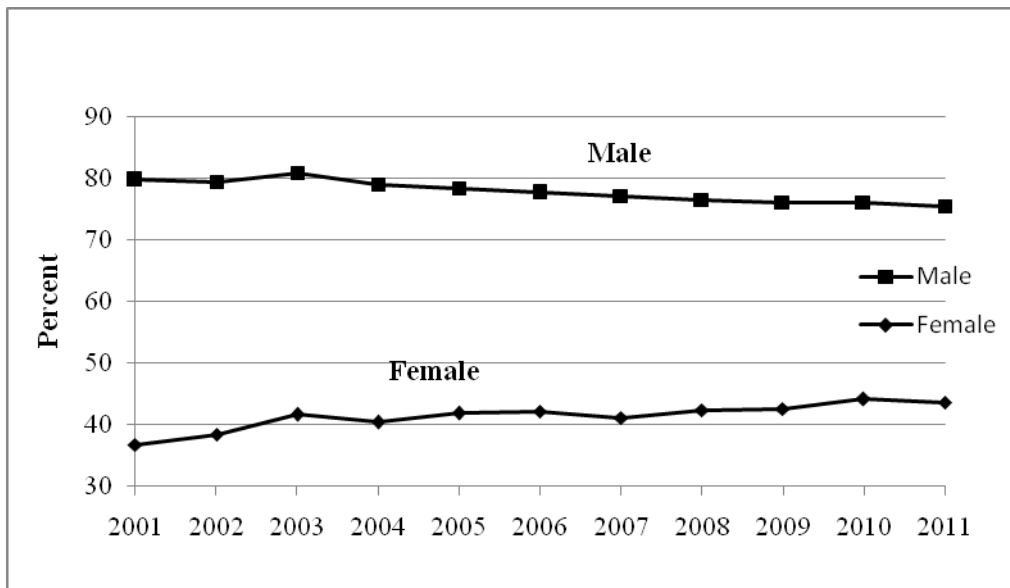
40. The number of persons aged 16 years and over not forming part of the labour force (inactive population) stood at 400,100 (118,200 males and 281,900 females) (Table 18). Some 9,400 of them were classified as inactives although they were not working and were available for work; the main reason being 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 62% 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.
41. The inactive population comprised 39.4% homemakers, 22.5% students, 24.7% retired or old persons and 7.7% sick or disabled persons.

Evolution from 2001 to 2011

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

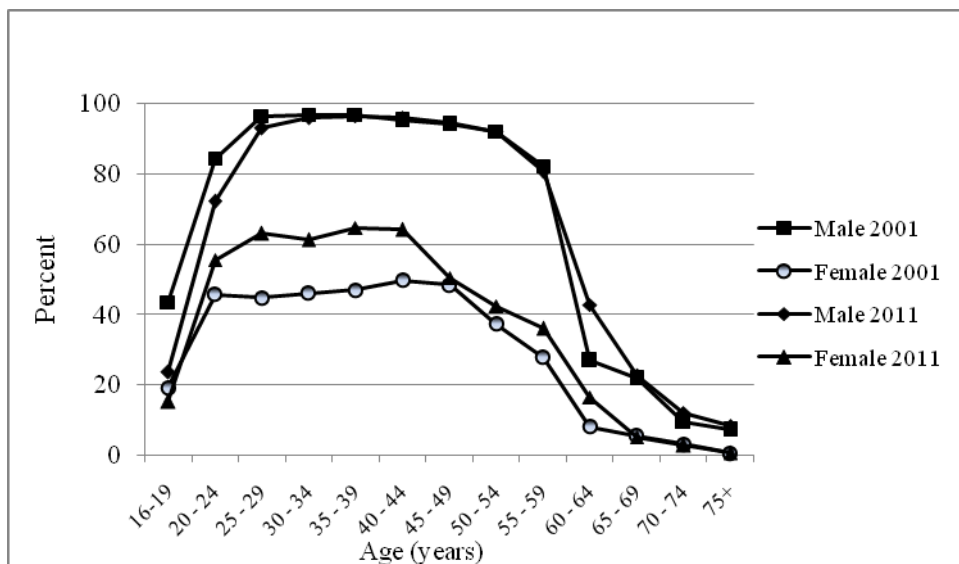
42. During the period 2001 to 2011, male activity rate was consistently higher than female activity rate (Chart 19). However, the gap was narrowing over time as the activity rate for men has been constantly decreasing over the years while that of females has been generally increasing (Table 19).

Chart 19 – Activity rate by sex, 2001 - 2011



43. Over the years, the shape of the curve for female activity rate by age (Chart 20) has been tending towards that of the male. Increases in activity rate were 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 & 2011



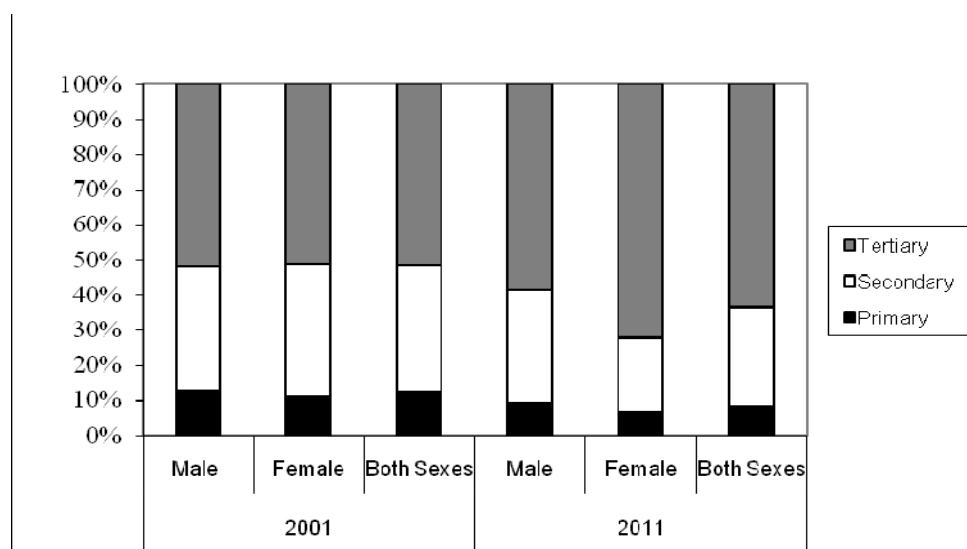
Female employment is increasing faster than male employment

44. During the period 2001 to 2011, female employment increased at a faster rate than male employment. On average, female employment increased annually by 3,600 or 2.1% whereas male employment increased by 2,500 or 0.8%.

The tertiary sector is becoming increasingly important in terms of employment

45. Over time, the tertiary sector has become increasingly important in terms of employment. From 2001 to 2011, employment in this sector rose from 245,800 to 340,600; 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 44,500 in 2011 mainly due to a decline in the agricultural sector. In the secondary sector, employment declined from 172,500 to 151,600 mainly due to a decreasing workforce in the manufacturing sector (Table 7).

Chart 21 – Employed population by industrial sector and sex, 2001 & 2011

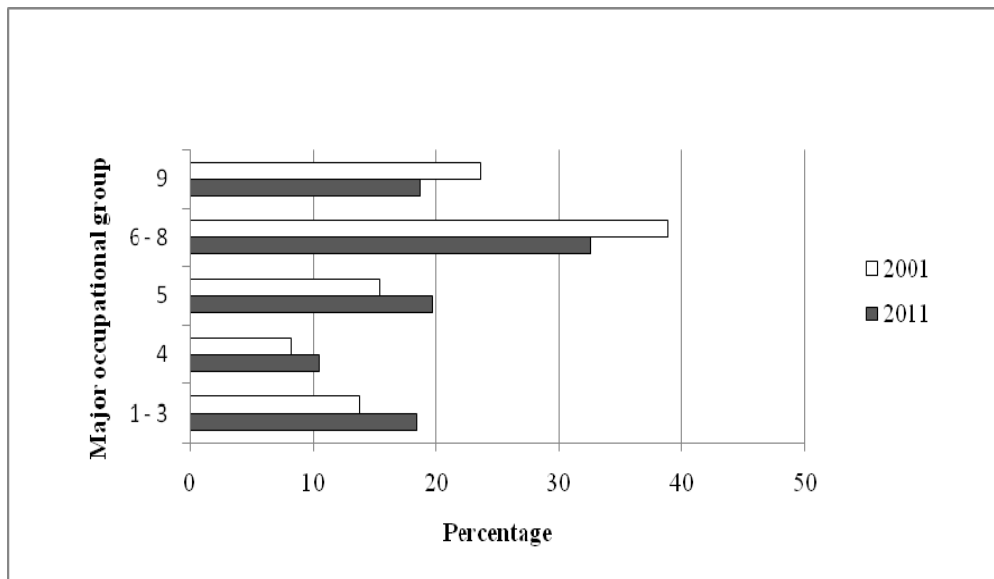


Mauritian workforce is moving up the occupation ladder

46. 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 18.5% in 2011. Service workers and shop and market sales workers (ISCO 5) also had a larger

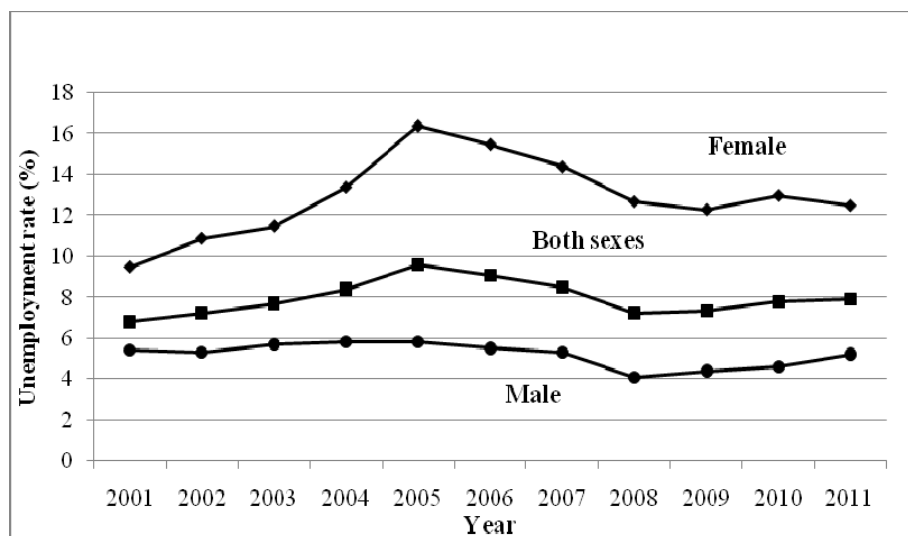
share of employment in 2011, 19.7% against 15.4% in 2001. In contrast the share of employment in the lowest occupational group (ISCO 9) representing elementary jobs decreased from 23.7% to 18.7%. Also, skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers (ISCO 6-8) were less represented in 2011 (32.6%) compared to 38.7% in 2001 (Table 11).

Chart 22 – Employed population by occupational group, 2001 – 2011



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

Chart 23 – Unemployment rate by sex, 2001 - 2011



47. 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 7.9% in 2011 (Table 20).
48. The change over time was smoother for male than for female. Female unemployment rate increased to attain a peak in 2005, after which it declined till 2009 when it took an upward trend and then declined again in 2011. The disparity between male and female unemployment rate was higher in 2011 than in 2001.

Statistics Mauritius
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Port Louis
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Contact person: Mr. C. K. Arianaick

Statistician

Statistics Mauritius
LIC Centre, Port Louis

Tel: 2122316, 2122317

Fax: 2114150

email: carianaick@mail.gov.mu

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Table 1 - Estimated labour force, employment, unemployment and inactive population by sex, 2010 & 2011

	2010				2011			
	Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval		Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval	
			Lower Limit	Upper Limit			Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Labour Force								
Both Sexes	581,300	6,500	568,500	594,100	582,800	7,200	568,700	597,000
Male	362,400	4,300	353,900	370,900	363,600	4,900	354,100	373,200
Female	218,900	3,700	211,600	226,100	219,200	3,700	211,900	226,500
Employment								
Both Sexes	536,100	6,100	524,500	548,100	536,700	6,700	523,600	549,800
Male	345,700	4,200	337,500	354,000	344,800	4,700	335,600	354,000
Female	190,400	3,400	183,700	197,200	191,900	3,400	185,300	198,500
Unemployment								
Both Sexes	45,200	1,700	41,700	48,600	46,100	1,800	42,600	49,700
Male	16,700	900	14,800	18,500	18,800	1,100	16,800	20,900
Female	28,500	1,300	25,900	31,000	27,300	1,300	24,700	29,900
Inactive Population								
Both Sexes	390,100	5,500	379,300	401,000	400,100	5,700	388,900	411,300
Male	114,000	2,600	108,800	119,200	118,200	2,500	113,200	123,200
Female	276,100	4,100	268,100	284,200	281,900	4,500	273,000	290,800
Activity rate (%)								
Both Sexes	59.8	0.4	59.0	60.6	59.3	0.4	58.6	60.0
Male	76.1	0.5	75.2	77.0	75.5	0.4	74.6	76.3
Female	44.2	0.6	43.0	45.4	43.7	0.6	42.6	44.9
Unemployment rate (%)								
Both Sexes	7.8	0.3	7.2	8.3	7.9	0.3	7.4	8.5
Male	4.6	0.3	4.1	5.1	5.2	0.3	4.6	5.7
Female	13.0	0.5	11.9	14.1	12.5	0.5	11.4	13.5

Table 2 - Labour force, employment and unemployment by age group and sex - 2011

Age group	Labour force			Employment			Unemployment		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
16-19	10,300	6,600	16,900	7,600	3,400	11,000	2,700	3,200	5,900
20-24	36,400	26,300	62,700	30,800	20,200	51,000	5,600	6,100	11,700
25-29	43,600	28,200	71,800	40,100	24,300	64,400	3,500	3,900	7,400
30-34	52,100	33,300	85,400	50,300	28,700	79,000	1,800	4,600	6,400
35-39	44,100	30,600	74,700	42,800	26,900	69,700	1,300	3,700	5,000
40-44	44,300	30,100	74,400	43,400	27,900	71,300	3,900	5,800	9,700
45-49	47,200	25,500	72,700	46,200	23,400	69,600			
50-54	39,600	18,600	58,200	38,900	17,600	56,500			
55-59	28,700	13,400	42,100	28,100	13,100	41,200			
60-64	11,400	5,000	16,400	10,900	4,800	15,700			
65 & over	5,900	1,600	7,500	5,700	1,600	7,300			
Total	363,600	219,200	582,800	344,800	191,900	536,700	18,800	27,300	46,100

Table 3 - Employed population by marital status and sex - 2011

Marital status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Married	237,300	125,700	363,000
Widowed/divorced/separated	12,200	25,300	37,500
Single	95,300	40,900	136,200
All marital states	344,800	191,900	536,700

Table 4 - Employed population by employment status and sex - 2011

Employment status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	18,300	3,000	21,300
Own account worker	54,000	17,400	71,400
Employee	270,200	163,300	433,500
Contributing family worker	2,300	8,200	10,500
All employment states	344,800	191,900	536,700

Table 5 - Mean hours of work per week by employment status and sex - 2011

Employment status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	46.2	40.9	45.4
Own account worker	39.7	32.5	37.9
Employee	44.5	38.6	42.3
Contributing family worker	41.8	32.6	34.7
All employment states	43.8	37.8	41.7

Table 6 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by employment status and sex - 2011

Employment status	Average monthly income (Rs)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	26,100	15,200	24,600
Own account worker	11,500	6,500	10,300
Employee	16,600	11,400	14,700
All employment states	16,400	11,000	14,500

Table 7 - Employed population by industrial sector and sex - 2001 & 2011

Industrial Sector	2001			2011		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	40,200	17,100	57,300	31,700	12,800	44,500
Secondary	113,500	59,000	172,500	111,200	40,400	151,600
<i>of which Manufacturing</i>	<i>66,400</i>	<i>57,600</i>	<i>124,000</i>	<i>52,300</i>	<i>38,500</i>	<i>90,800</i>
<i>Construction</i>	<i>43,000</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>44,100</i>	<i>55,800</i>	<i>1,700</i>	<i>57,500</i>
Tertiary	165,800	80,000	245,800	201,900	138,700	340,600
<i>of which Wholesale and retail trade</i>	<i>46,800</i>	<i>18,300</i>	<i>65,100</i>	<i>50,100</i>	<i>33,100</i>	<i>83,200</i>
<i>Hotels and restaurants</i>	<i>17,600</i>	<i>6,300</i>	<i>23,900</i>	<i>24,600</i>	<i>14,800</i>	<i>39,400</i>
<i>Transport, storage and communications</i>	<i>29,200</i>	<i>3,500</i>	<i>32,700</i>	<i>31,700</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>36,700</i>
<i>Public administration and defence</i>	<i>24,300</i>	<i>5,800</i>	<i>30,100</i>	<i>28,500</i>	<i>8,900</i>	<i>37,400</i>
<i>Education, health and social work</i>	<i>19,300</i>	<i>20,500</i>	<i>39,800</i>	<i>20,500</i>	<i>29,400</i>	<i>49,900</i>
All sectors	319,500	156,100	475,600	344,800	191,900	536,700

Table 8 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by industrial sector and sex - 2011

Industrial Sector	Average monthly Income (Rs.)		
	Male	Female	Both sexes
Primary	11,400	6,200	10,100
Secondary	13,200	7,400	11,700
Tertiary	18,800	12,500	16,300
All sectors	16,400	11,000	14,500

Table 9 - Mean length of service by industrial sector and sex - 2011

Industrial sector	Length of service (years)		
	Male	Female	B. Sexes
Primary	13.9	9.3	12.5
Secondary	9.1	7.7	8.8
Tertiary	10.9	7.6	9.5
All sectors	10.6	7.7	9.6

Table 10 - Mean hours of work per week by industrial sector and sex - 2011

Industrial Sector	Mean hours of work per week		
	Male	Female	B. Sexes
Primary	38.2	27.5	35.1
Secondary	43.6	42.7	43.4
Tertiary	44.8	37.3	41.8
All sectors	43.8	37.8	41.7

Table 11 - Employed population by occupational group and sex - 2001 & 2011

ISCO* major occupational group	Occupational group	2001			2011		
		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	58,500	40,700	99,200
4	Clerks	17,900	22,100	40,000	22,200	34,200	56,400
5	Service workers and shop and market sales workers	52,000	21,100	73,100	63,400	42,300	105,700
6 - 8	Skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers	136,900	47,000	183,900	143,800	31,200	175,000
9	Elementary occupations	70,100	42,600	112,700	56,900	43,500	100,400
	All occupational groups	319,500	156,100	475,600	344,800	191,900	536,700

* International Standard Classification of Occupations

Table 12 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by occupational group and sex - 2011

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	36,000	22,100	30,300
4	Clerks	15,800	13,300	14,300
5	Service workers and shop and market sales workers	14,200	7,900	11,900
6 - 8	Skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers	11,600	5,700	10,600
9	Elementary occupations	10,400	5,000	8,100
	All occupational groups	16,400	11,000	14,500

* International Standard Classification of Occupations

Table 13 - Unemployment rate (%) by age group and sex - 2011

Age group (Years)	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Below 20	26.1	48.1	34.7
20-29	11.4	18.3	14.2
30-39	3.3	12.9	7.1
40-49	2.0	7.7	4.2
50 and over	2.3	4.2	2.9
All ages	5.2	12.5	7.9

Table 14 - Unemployed population by marital status and sex - 2011

Marital status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Ever married	5,200	18,500	23,700
Single	13,600	8,800	22,400
Total	18,800	27,300	46,100

Table 15 - Unemployment population by educational attainment and sex - 2011 (R)

Educational attainment	Male	Female	Both sexes
Primary	5,200	7,400	12,600
<i>Below CPE</i>	3,800	4,900	8,700
<i>Passed CPE</i>	1,400	2,500	3,900
Secondary	10,600	15,700	26,300
<i>Form I - V but not passed SC</i>	6,400	8,500	14,900
<i>Passed SC</i>	2,900	5,100	8,000
<i>Passed HSC</i>	1,300	2,100	3,400
Tertiary	3,000	4,200	7,200
Total	18,800	27,300	46,100

Table 16 - Unemployed population by method of job search and sex - 2011

Method of job search	Male	Female	Both sexes
Applied to prospective employers	10,500	11,900	22,400
Checked at factories, worksites, etc	9,400	10,000	19,400
Registered at Employment Service*	6,900	11,400	18,300
Placed and answered advertisements	6,300	8,100	14,400
Sought assistance and advice**	6,600	8,800	15,400
All unemployed	18,800	27,300	46,100

* Estimates refer to cases reported in the survey and differ from figures of registered unemployed from the Employment Service

** to obtain a paid job or to start own business

Table 17 - Unemployed population by type of job willing to accept and sex - 2011

Type of job willing to accept	Number		
	Male	Female	Both sexes
Full time employment	17,900	24,700	42,600
Part time employment	10,900	16,200	27,100
Employment without limit	9,900	11,600	21,500
Temporary employment	8,900	12,900	21,800
Employment in public sector	14,600	21,700	36,300
Employment in private sector	14,500	20,800	35,300
Below level of qualification	9,400	12,800	22,200
Outside training or qualification	9,000	12,800	21,800
All unemployed	18,800	27,300	46,100

Table 18 - Inactive population by inactivity status and sex - 2011

Inactivity status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Students	45,300	44,900	90,200
Retired or old persons	51,300	47,600	98,900
Sick or disabled	14,600	16,200	30,800
Homemakers	7,000	157,500	157,800
Other		15,700	22,400
Total	118,200	281,900	400,100

Table 19 - Age specific activity rate (%) by sex - 2001 & 2011

Age group (Years)	2001			2011		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
16-19	43.5	19.4	31.6	23.7	15.3	19.6
20 - 24	84.3	45.8	65.4	72.1	55.6	64.1
25 - 29	96.4	44.8	70.8	92.9	63.0	78.3
30 - 34	96.8	46.2	71.8	95.8	61.2	78.5
35 - 39	96.7	47.1	72.1	96.4	64.8	80.4
40 - 44	95.2	49.7	72.7	96.0	64.1	79.9
45 - 49	94.0	48.4	71.3	94.5	50.6	72.4
50 - 54	92.0	37.5	64.3	92.1	42.4	67.0
55 - 59	82.1	27.9	53.5	80.6	36.1	57.8
60 - 64	27.0	8.2	16.9	42.8	16.6	29.0
65+	13.5	3.1	7.5	15.1	2.9	7.9
All ages	79.8	36.8	58.0	75.5	43.7	59.3

Table 20 - Unemployment rate (%) by sex, 2001 - 2011

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
2011	5.2	12.5	7.9

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 graduated in February 2012.
- 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.

8. Implementation of revised classifications : Statistics Mauritius is using, as from 2012, adapted versions of the following revised classifications:

- a. International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Rev. 4 of 2007;
- b. International Standard Classification of Occupations, 2008; and
- c. International Standard Classification of Education, 1997.

Hence, the next issue of this Economic and Social Indicators publication will present year 2012 labour force, employment and unemployment estimates based on the above adapted classifications.

9. 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. **Job Seekers** : Jobseekers comprise persons who are looking for a paid job or trying to set up their own business during a four-week period (including the reference period of one week).
5. **Labour force** : Labour force or active population is made up of employed and unemployed population.
6. **Activity rate** : Activity rate is the ratio (%) of labour force to population aged 16+ (active and inactive population).
7. **Unemployment rate** : Unemployment rate is the ratio (%) of unemployment to labour force.
8. **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.
9. **Employer** : An Employer is a person who operates his/her own business or trade and hires one or more employees.
10. **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.
11. **Employee** : An Employee is a person who works for pay for someone else, even in a temporary capacity.
12. **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.

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

14. 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.

15. 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