

Labour force, Employment and Unemployment based on the results of the Continuous Multi Purpose Household Survey – Year 2012

Introduction

1. This fourth issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the year 2012, 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

	2011	2012	Change 2011 - 2012
Labour force	582,800	593,100	+10,300
Employment	536,700	544,800	+8,100
Unemployment	46,100	48,300	+2,200
Unemployment rate (%)	7.9	8.1	+0.2 pt
Activity rate (%)	59.3	59.7	+0.4pt

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

Key points

3. Change from 2011 to 2012

- a. Labour force increased by 10,300 from 582,800 to 593,100.
- b. Activity rate increased from 59.3% to 59.7%. Male activity rate increased from 75.5% to 75.7% and female activity rate from 43.7% to 44.3%.
- c. Employment increased by 8,100 from 536,700 to 544,800 driven by an increase of 4,200 in female employment and 3,900 in male employment.
- d. Unemployment rate increased from 7.9% to 8.1%. Male unemployment rate increased from 5.2% to 5.3% while female unemployment rate increased from 12.5% to 12.7%.

4. Situation in 2012

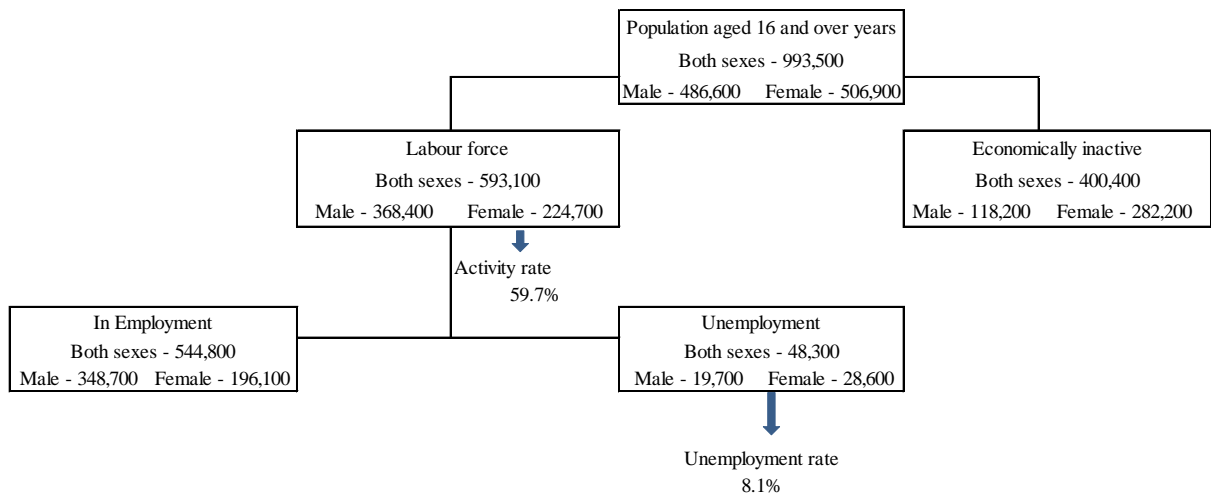
- a. The workforce was made up of around twice as many men as women.
- b. Most of the workers were employees.
- c. The tertiary sector was the main source of jobs for Mauritians.
- d. Unemployed women outnumbered unemployed men though they were generally more qualified.

5. Evolution from 2002 to 2012

- 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, 2012



6. In 2012, the population of working age (aged 16 years and over) numbered 993,500, of whom 593,100 consisted of the labour force (or were economically active) resulting in an activity rate of 59.7%. The number employed totalled 544,800 whilst the number unemployed stood at 48,300; the unemployment rate worked out to 8.1% of the labour force.

Chart 2 – Population structure by age, sex and economic activity, 2012

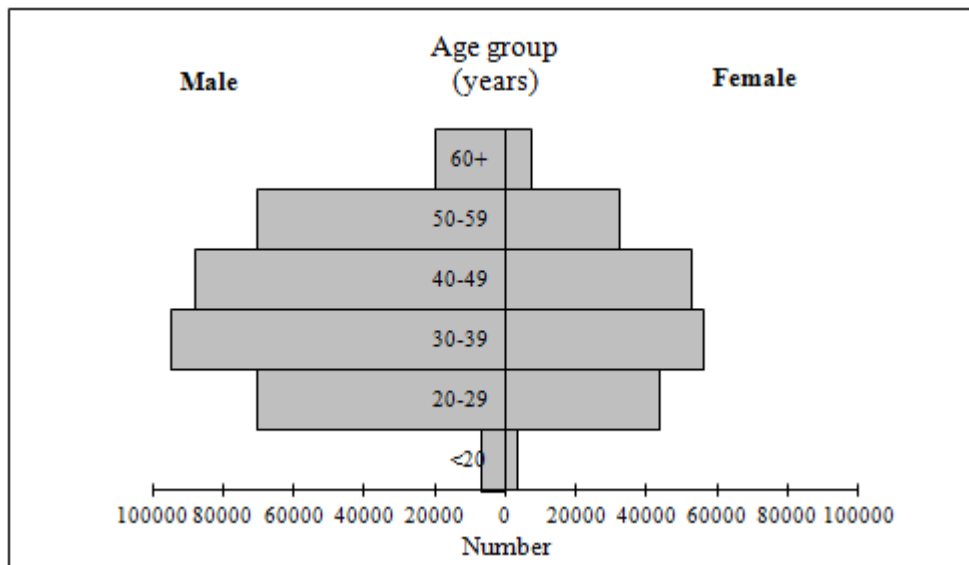


7. The pyramid (Chart 2) and Table 2 indicate that in 2012:
- i. The number inactive was significantly higher among women than men at all ages;
 - ii. There were fewer women than men among the employed at all ages ;
 - iii. Unemployed women were more numerous than unemployed men at almost all ages;
 - iv. As from age 20 – 24 years, the number unemployed generally decreased with age.

Employment

8. Total employment stood at 544,800 (348,700 males and 196,100 females) in 2012. The employment to population ratio was around 55% (72% for males and 39% for females).

Chart 3 – Age-sex structure of the employed population, 2012



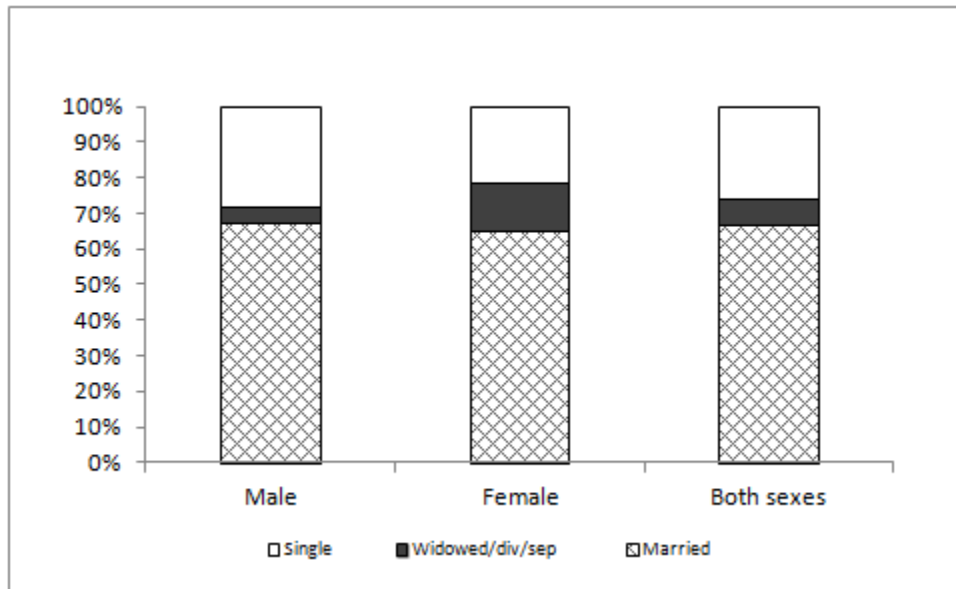
There are two times as many men as women in the workforce

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 39.1 years for females.

The workforce is mainly made up of married persons

10. The workforce was made up mainly of married persons (66.4%), followed by persons in the single state (26%). A small proportion of the employed were widowed, divorced and separated (7.6%). Compared to the male workforce, the female workforce consisted of a higher proportion of widowed, divorced and separated persons (13.5% compared to 4.3%) (Table 3).

Chart 4 – Employed population by marital status and sex, 2012



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 (83.7% against 77.5% among males) and contributing family workers (4.8% against 0.8%) but a lower proportion of self employed (11.5% against 21.7% among males) (Table 4).

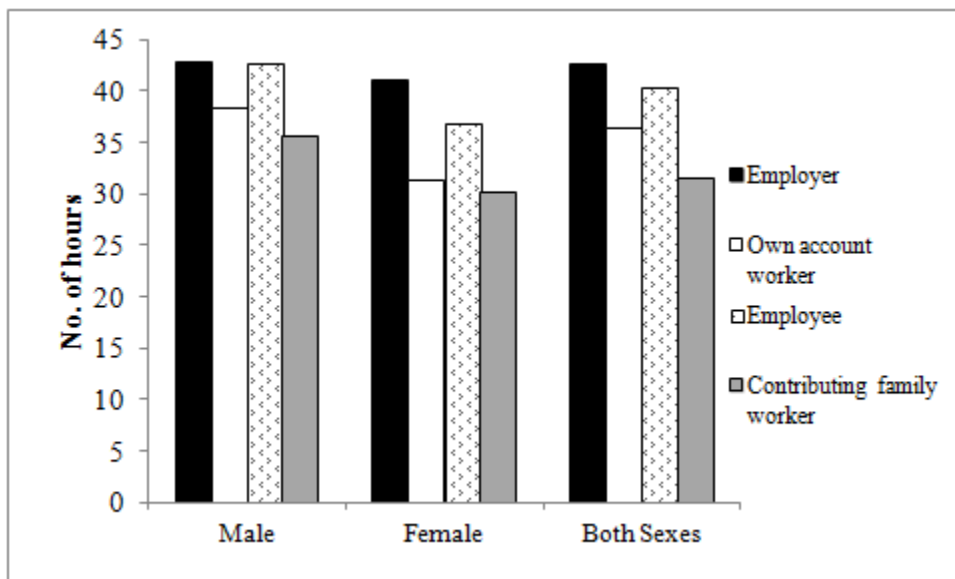
Chart 5 – Employed population by employment status and sex, 2012



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

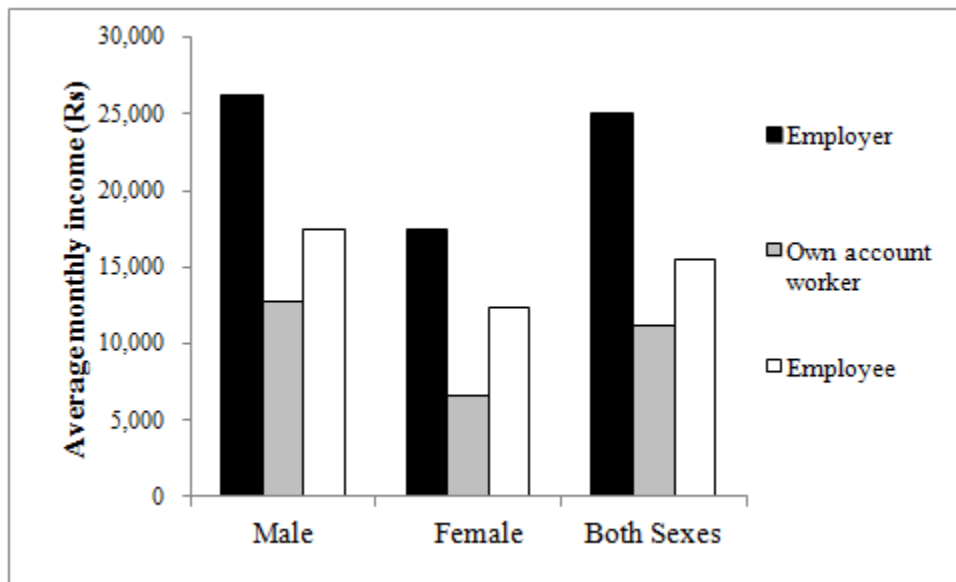
- On average, an employed person worked 39.7 hours per week. An employer put in 42.6 hours of work compared to 40.3 hours for an employee and 36.4 hours for an own-account worker (Table 5).

Chart 6 – Mean hours of work by employment status and sex, 2012



13. Monthly income from employment, which includes income from paid work and income from business activities, amounted to Rs 15,300. The average monthly income for an employer was Rs 25,100 against Rs 11,200 for an own-account worker while that for an employee stood at Rs 15,500 (Table 6).

Chart 7 – Average monthly income from employment by employment status and sex, 2012

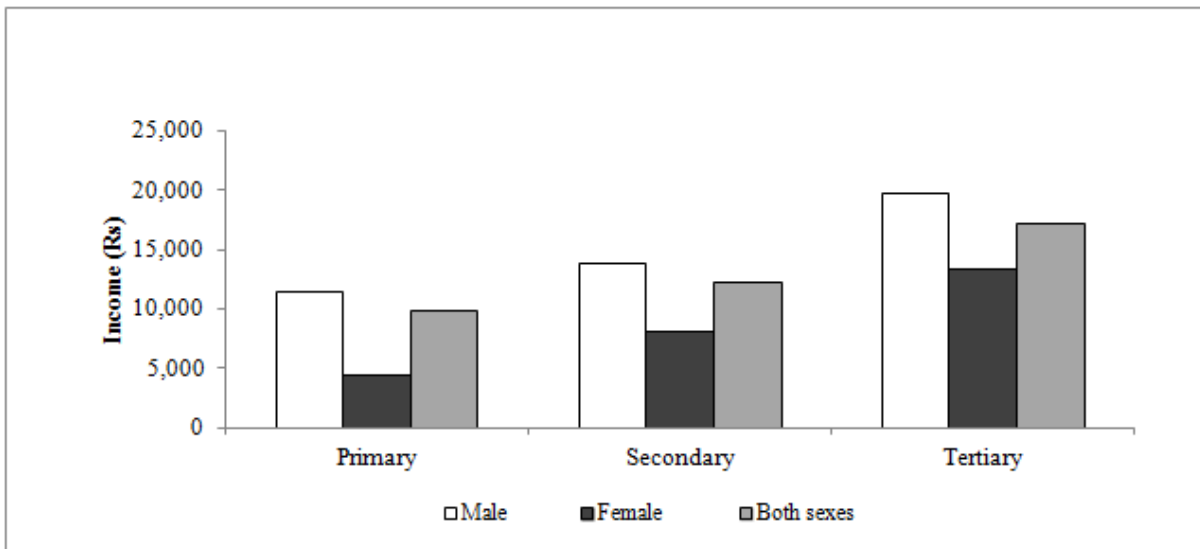


The tertiary sector provided jobs to 6 out every 10 workers and gave the highest pay

14. Out of every 100 workers, 65 were employed in the tertiary sector (covering trade, accommodation and food service activities, transportation and storage and all the other service industries), 25 in the secondary sector (covering manufacturing, electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply and water supply, sewerage waste management and remediation activities and construction) and 10 in the primary sector (covering agriculture, forestry and fishing and mining & quarrying) (Table 7).

15. Income from employment was highest in the tertiary sector (Rs 17,100), followed by the secondary sector (Rs 12,300) and the primary sector (Rs 9,800) (Table 8).

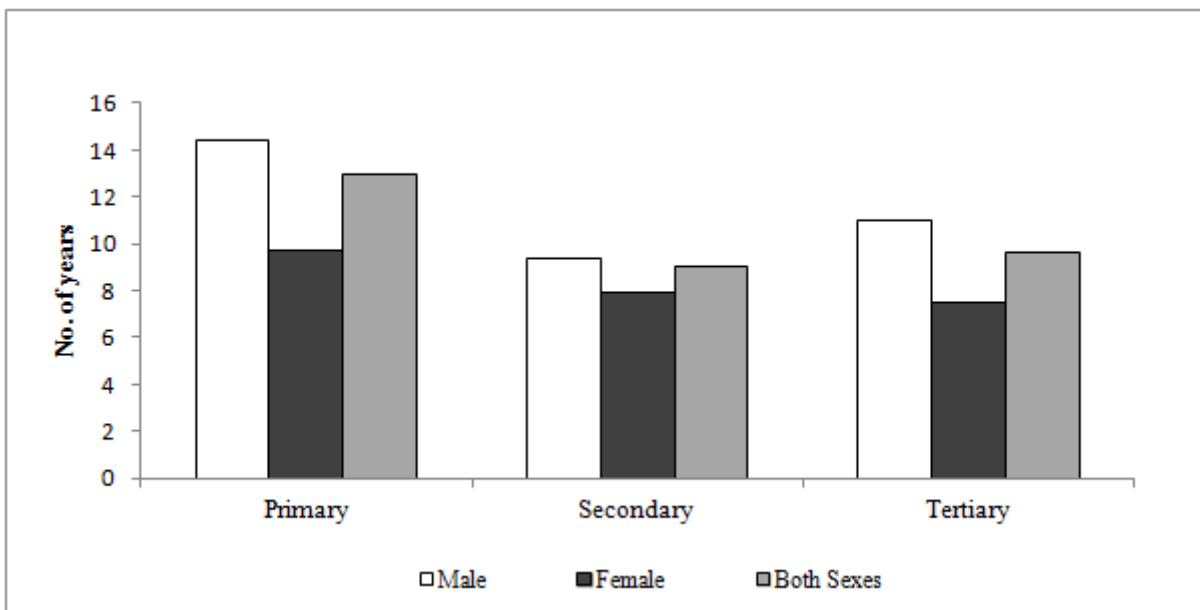
Chart 8 – Average monthly income from employment by industrial sector and sex, 2012



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

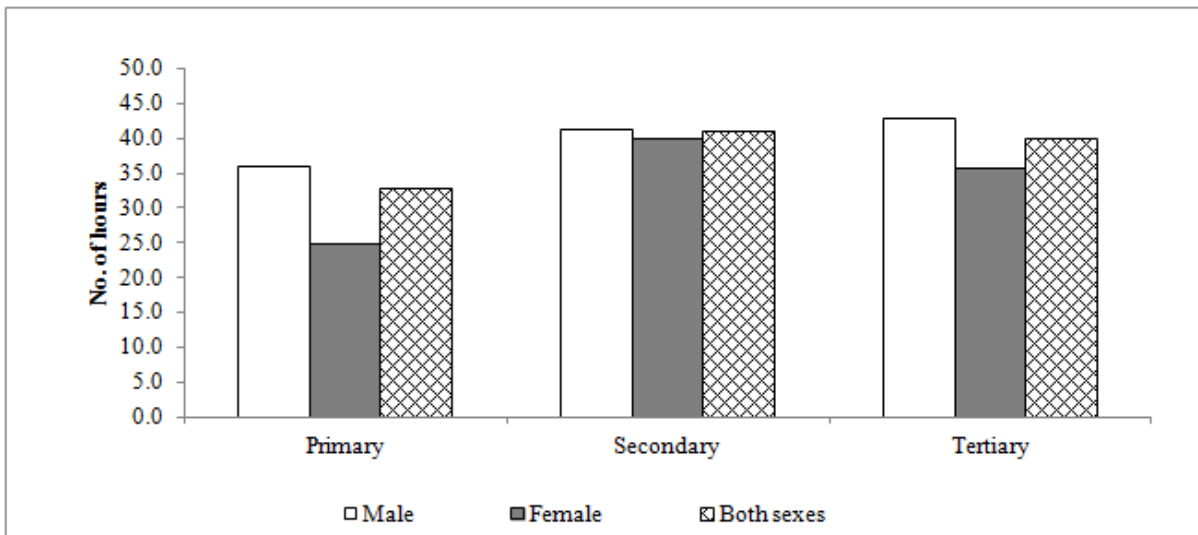
16. Workers in the primary sector had the highest length of service with their present employer (13 years), followed by the tertiary sector (9.6 years) and the secondary sector (9 years) (Table 9).

Chart 9 – Mean length of service by industrial sector and sex, 2012



17. Employed persons in the secondary sector had the longest hours of work (40.9 hours per week), followed by those in the tertiary sector (39.9 hours) and the primary sector (32.7 hours) (Table 10).

Chart 10 – Mean hours of work per week by industrial sector and sex, 2012



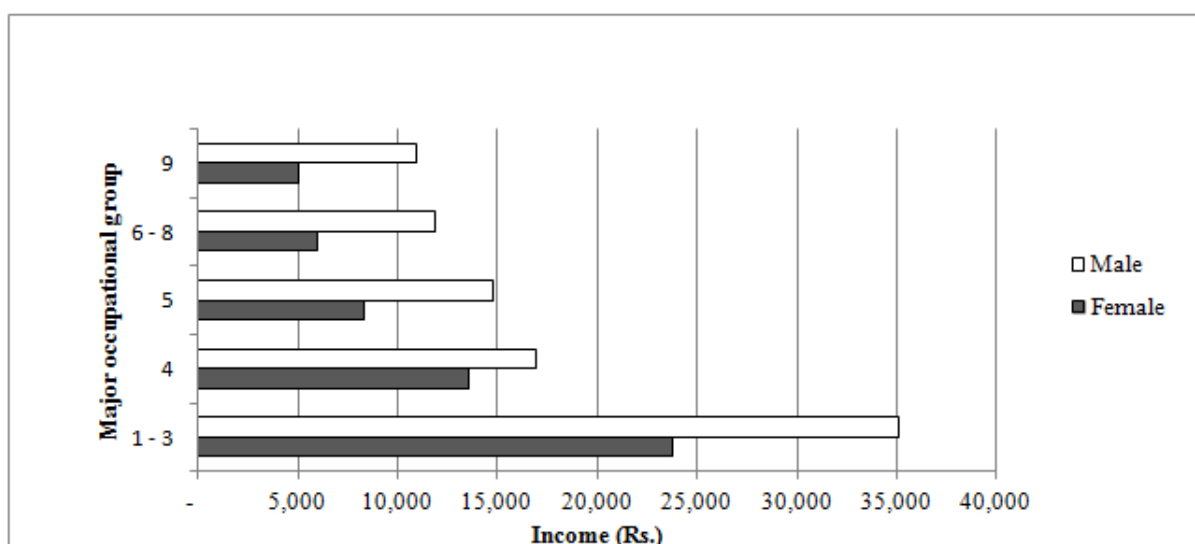
The Mauritian workforce is distributed across all occupational groups

18. Around 20.4% of the workforce was engaged in the highest occupational group (ISCO 1-3) which comprised chief executives, senior officials and legislators; professionals; technicians and associate professionals. Clerical and support workers (ISCO 4) made up 9.1% of the workforce; service and sales workers (ISCO 5) 21.2%. Another 31.9% were skilled agricultural, forestry 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 17.4% of the workforce. (Table 11).

Workers engaged in higher occupational groups earned the highest income

19. Chief executives, senior officials and legislators; professionals; technicians and associate professionals earned the highest income (Rs 30,600), followed by clerical and support workers (Rs 14,800). 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, 2012



1 out of every 5 workers was available for additional work

20. In addition to their main job and secondary job (if any), 21.1% of the employed population were available for additional work. Employed women were less available for additional work than their male counterparts; 16.9% reported that they were willing to work additional hours against 23.5% for men.

Only 4% of the employed had secondary jobs

21. Out of the 539,100 employed, 4.1% held a secondary job. Around 59% of the secondary job holders were employers/own account workers. The main sectors in which they were operating were: agriculture (22.4%), wholesale and retail trade and repairs (12.2%), and construction (7.2%).

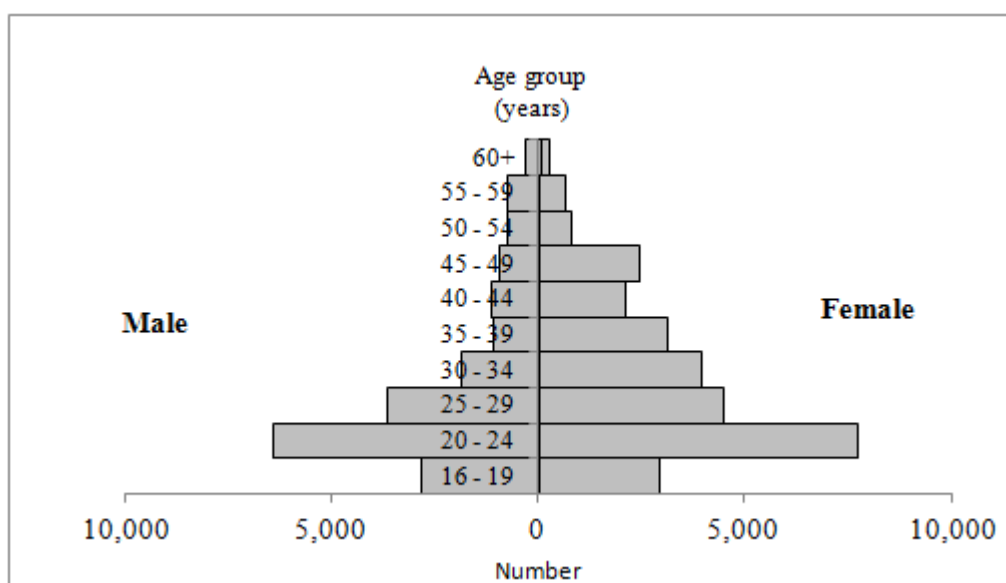
Unemployment

22. The number of unemployed persons numbered 48,300, comprising 19,700 males and 28,600 females. The unemployment rate was 8.1%, higher among females (12.7%) than among males (5.3%).

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 8,900.

Chart 12 – Age-sex structure of the unemployed population, 2012



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 29.3 years and that of unemployed female was 31 years.

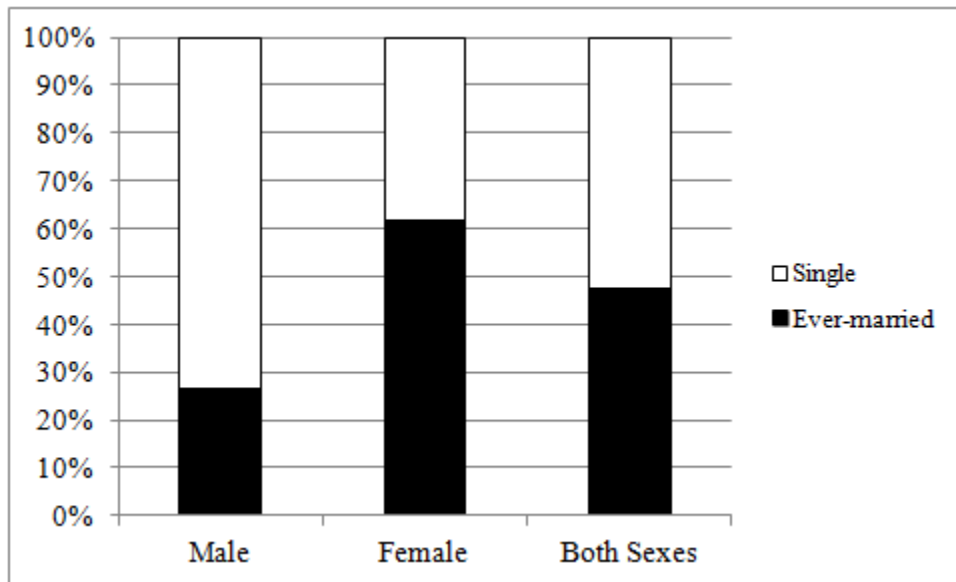
Unemployment rate is highest among young persons

25. Unemployment rate was highest at the lowest age groups and decreased progressively with increasing age. It was 35.7% among those below 20 years and 2.6% 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 16 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. About 47% of the unemployed were ever-married and the remaining were single. Most of the unemployed men, however, were single (73.6%) whereas most of the unemployed women were ever-married (61.9%), i.e. currently married, widowed, divorced or separated (Table 14).

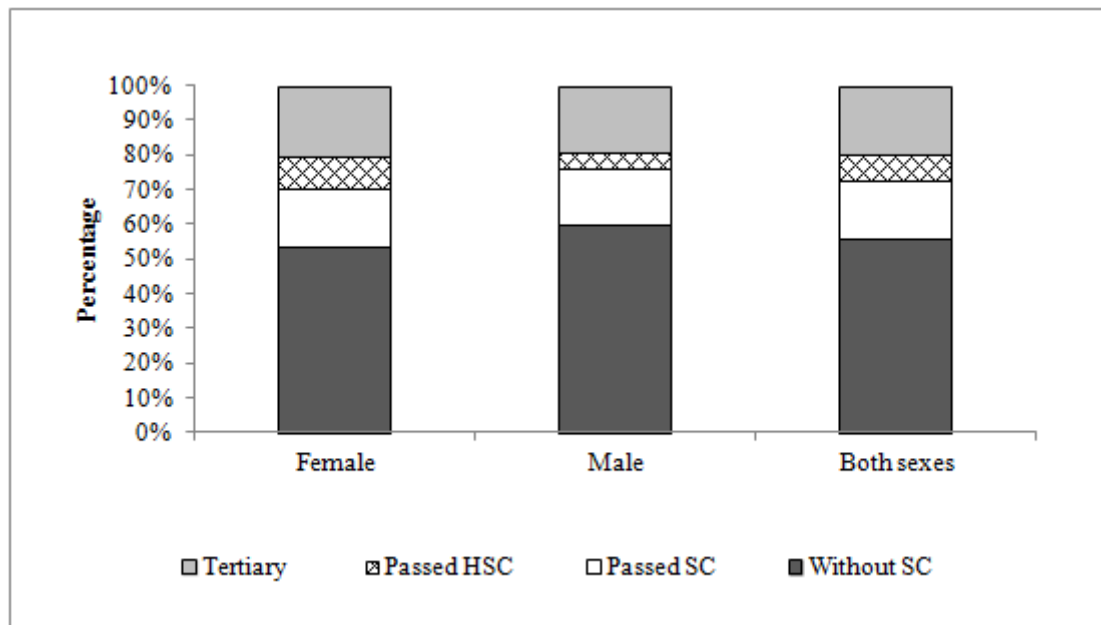
Chart 13 – Unemployed population by marital status and sex, 2012



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

28. Around 56% of the unemployed, representing 27,100 persons, did not hold a Cambridge School Certificate (SC): 17% had not attained the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) level, 7% 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 17% and that with Higher School Certificate (HSC) 7.5%. Unemployed having studied up to the tertiary level numbered some 9,600 and represented 20% of the total unemployed (Table 15).

Chart 14 – Unemployed population by education attainment and sex, 2012



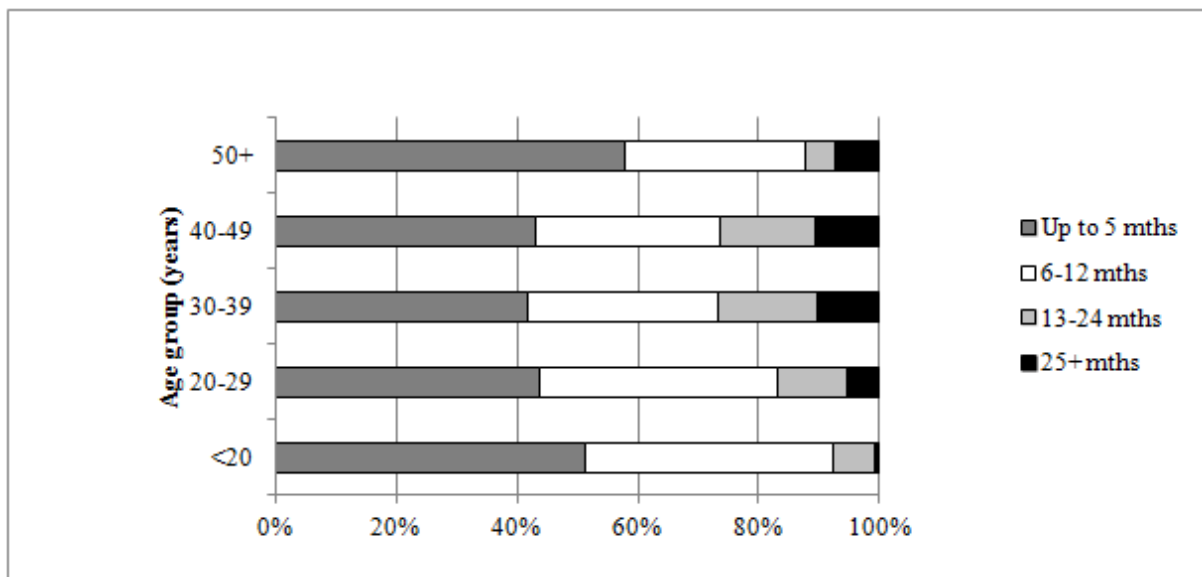
Unemployed women are generally more qualified than unemployed men

29. Unemployed women were generally more qualified than their male counterparts; around 46.5% of them possessed the School Certificate or above against 40.1% among males. Similarly, a slightly higher proportion of unemployed women (20%) attained tertiary level education as compared to unemployed men (19%).

Women are in unemployment around five months more than men

30. On average, an unemployed person had been without a job for 10.6 months. Women remained unemployed for 12.7 months compared to 7.7 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 50 years and over while the proportion unemployed for more than 24 months was highest among those aged 30 to 49 years.

Chart 15 – Duration of unemployment by age group, 2012



The unemployed is predominantly made up of persons with work experience

31. Around two thirds of the unemployed had worked in the past. More than half (60%) had work experience in the tertiary sector, mainly ‘Wholesale & retail trade’ and ‘Accommodation and food service activities’. Another 36% had worked previously in the secondary sector, mainly in ‘Manufacturing’ followed by ‘Construction’. The remaining 4% previously worked in the agricultural sector.

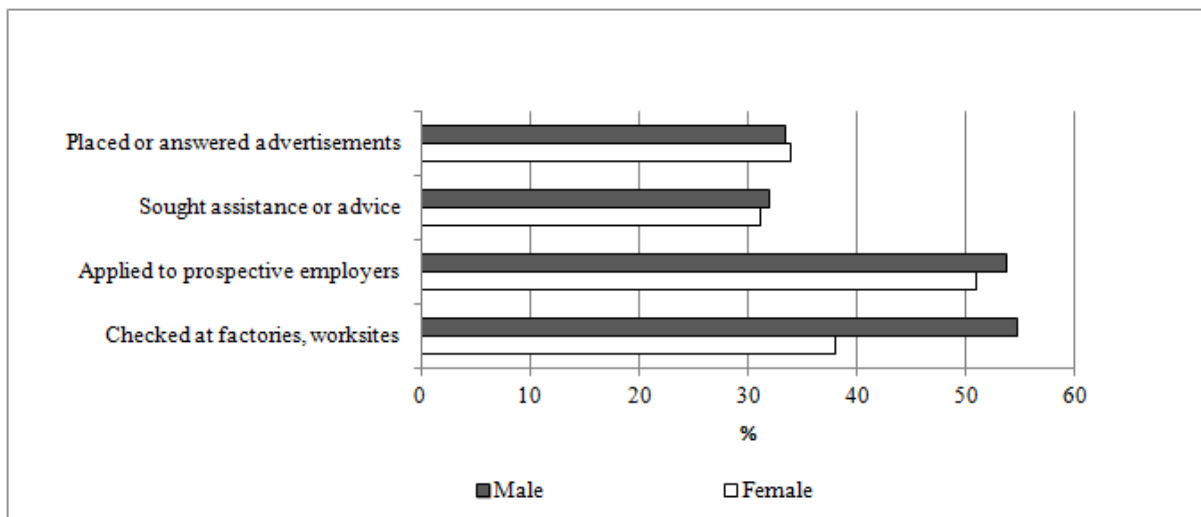
28% of the unemployed who worked before lost their job following completion of their contract or temporary job

32. Some 28% of the unemployed lost their job following completion of their contract or temporary job. Another 26% left their job due to non-satisfaction with job while around 12% left due to marriage/household responsibilities. Closure of establishment and reduction in workforce in workforce accounted for 11% and 10% respectively of the job losses.

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’(52%) followed by ‘checked at factories,worksites, etc’ (45%). Around 37% were registered at the Employment Service. Less than 10% had taken steps to start a business of their own (Table 16).

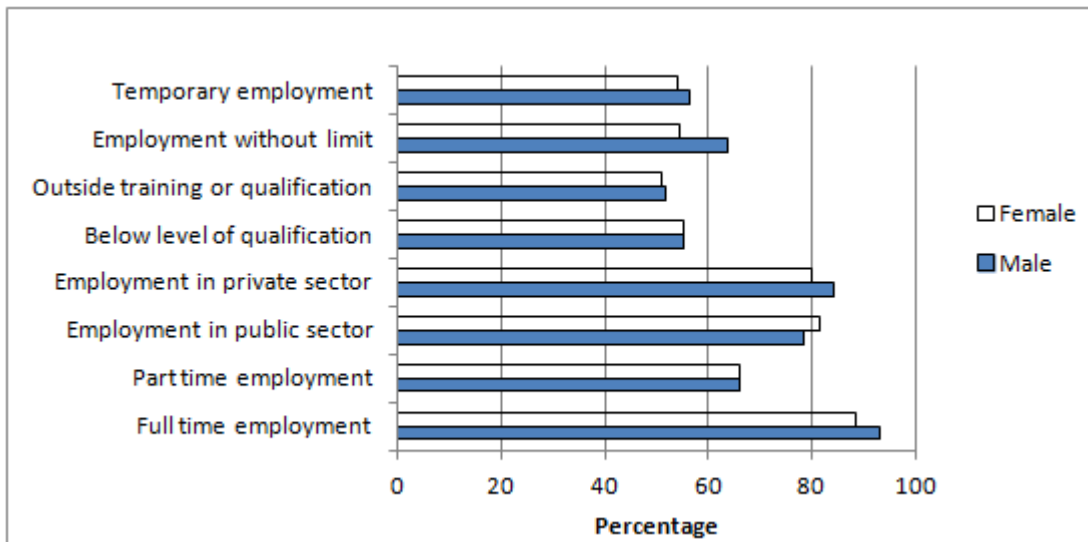
Chart 16 – Unemployed population by method of job search and sex, 2012



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 (90%) rather than part time employment (66%). They showed a slight preference for work in the private sector; 81% would take up a job in the private sector against 80% in the public sector. Only 55% 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 51% (Table 17).

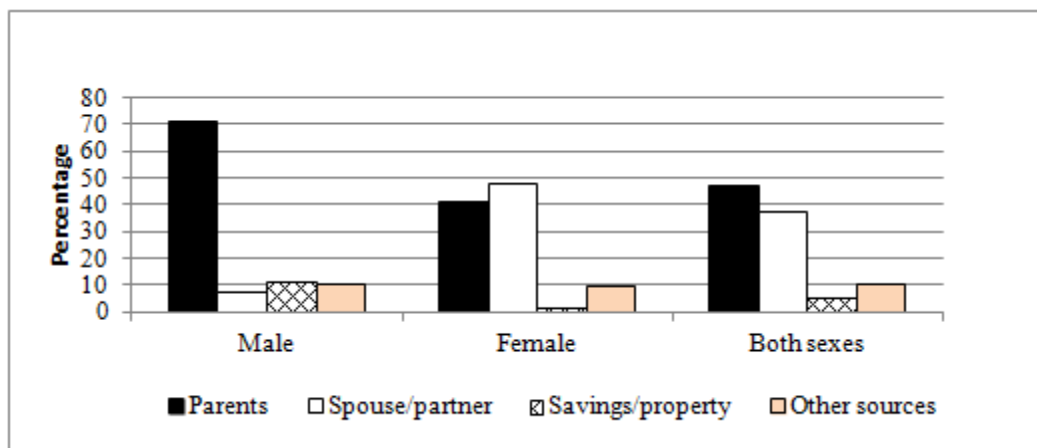
Chart 17 – Unemployed population by type of job willing to accept and sex, 2012



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, 2012



Inactive population

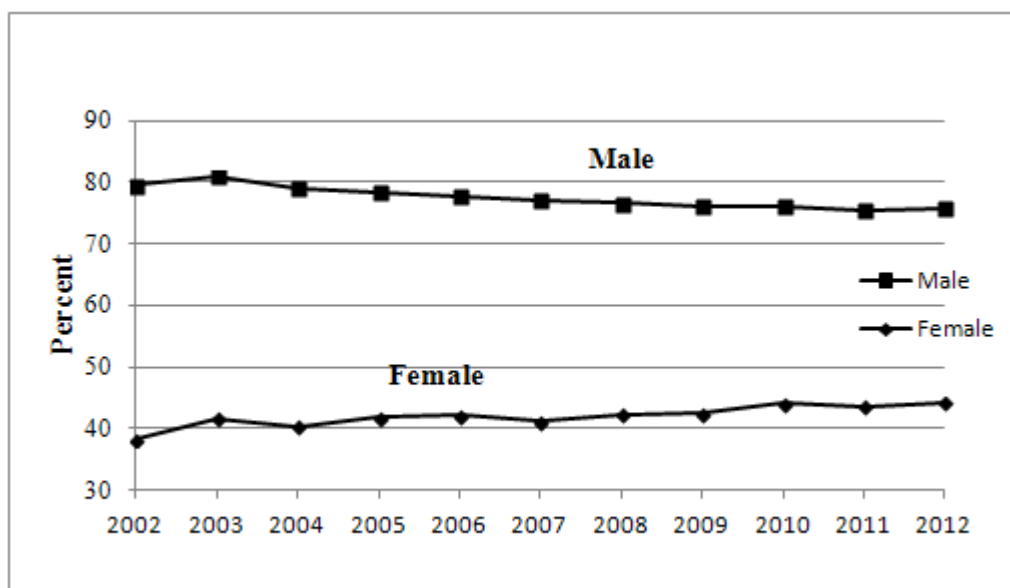
36. The number of persons aged 16 years and over not forming part of the labour force (inactive population) stood at 400,400 (118,200 males and 282,200 females) (Table 18). Some 7,800 of them were classified as inactives although they were not working and were available for work; the main reason being 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 59% 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 39.8% homemakers, 21.7% students, 23.9% retired or old persons and 8.4% sick or disabled persons.

Evolution from 2002 to 2012

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

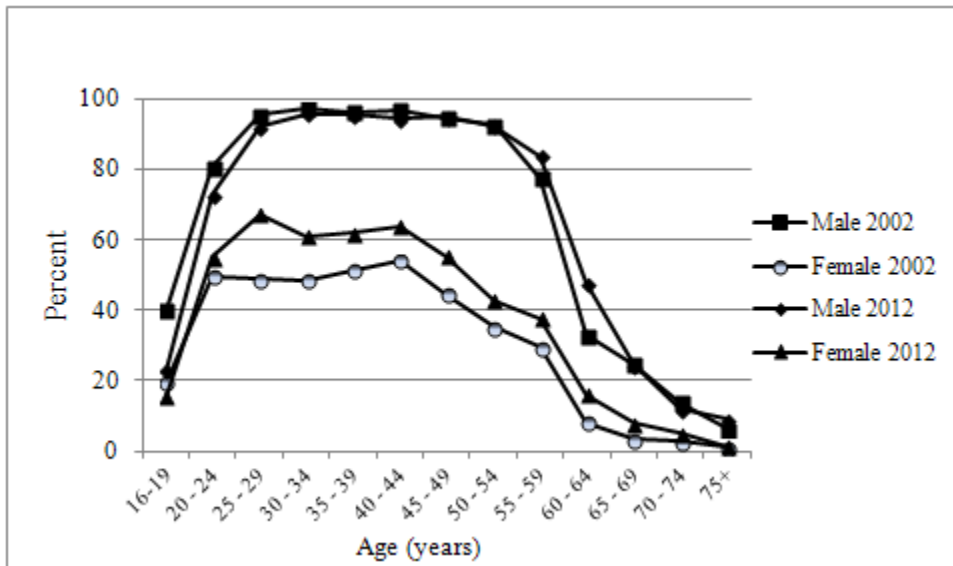
38. During the period 2002 to 2012, male activity rate was consistently higher than female activity rate (Chart 19). However, the gap was narrowing over time as the activity rate for men has been constantly decreasing over the years while that of females has been generally increasing (Table 19).

Chart 19 – Activity rate by sex, 2002 - 2012



39. Over the years, the shape of the curve for female activity rate by age (Chart 20) has been tending towards that of the male except for a peak at the age 25-29 years. Increases in activity rate were noted for females aged 20 years and over, being more pronounced for women aged 20-49 years.

Chart 20 – Activity rate by age and sex – 2002 & 2012



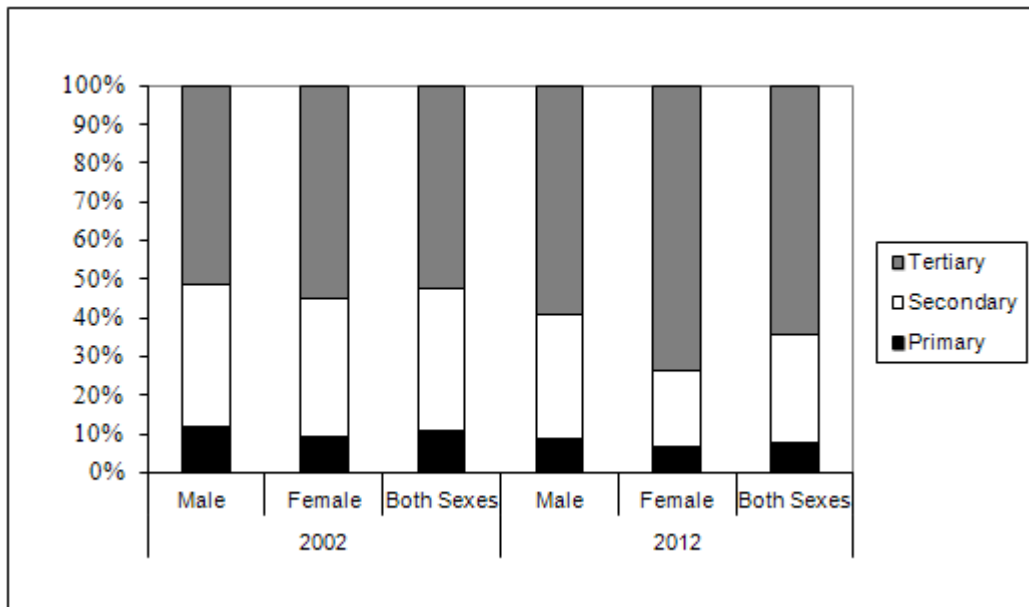
Female employment is increasing faster than male employment

40. During the period 2002 to 2012, female employment increased at a faster rate than male employment. On average, female employment increased annually by 4,700 or 2.8% whereas male employment increased by 3,100 or 0.9%.

The tertiary sector is becoming increasingly important in terms of employment

41. Over time, the tertiary sector has become increasingly important in terms of employment. From 2002 to 2012, employment in this sector rose from 245,400 to 351,400; its share over total employment also increased from 53% to 65%. In contrast, employment in the primary and secondary sectors has been declining over time. In the primary sector, employment went down from 50,800 in 2002 to 41,800 in 2012 mainly due to a decline in the agricultural sector. In the secondary sector, employment declined from 170,600 to 151,600 mainly due to a decreasing workforce in the manufacturing sector (Table 7).

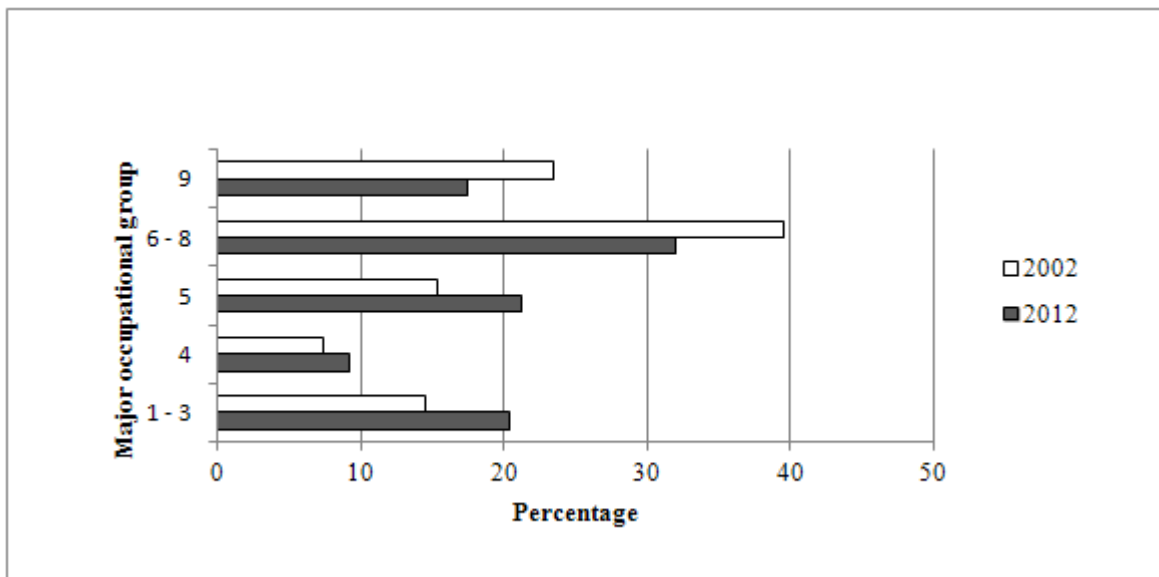
Chart 21 – Employed population by industrial sector and sex, 2002 & 2012



Mauritian workforce is moving up the occupation ladder

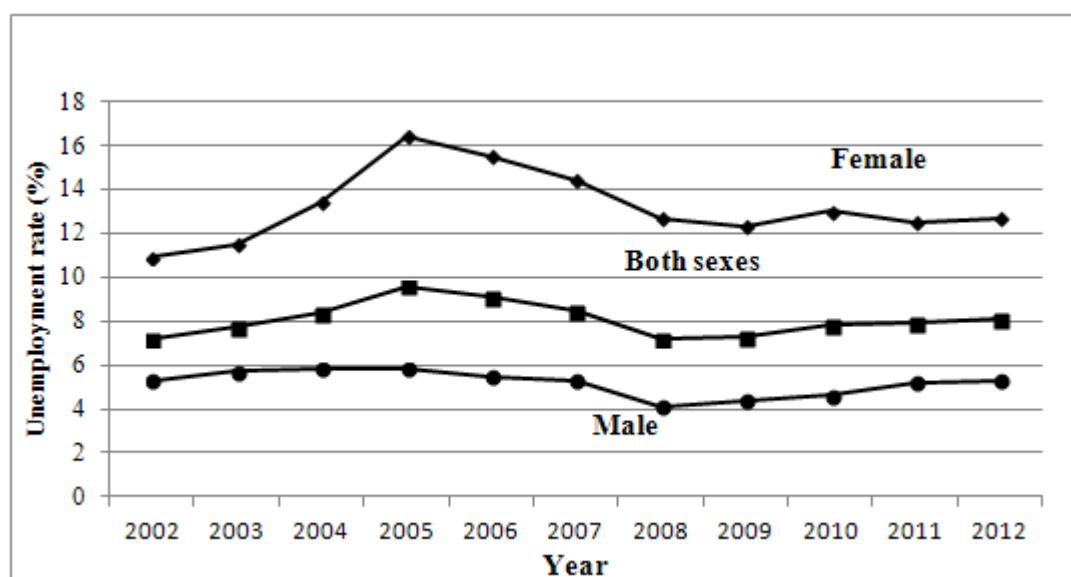
42. The share of employment in the higher occupational groups (ISCO 1-3) comprising legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals increased from 14.5% in 2002 to 20.4% in 2012. Service workers and shop and market sales workers (ISCO 5) also had a larger share of employment in 2012, 21.2% against 15.3% in 2002. In contrast the share of employment in the lowest occupational group (ISCO 9) representing elementary jobs decreased from 23.4% to 17.4%. Also, skilled agricultural and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers (ISCO 6-8) were less represented in 2012 (31.9%) compared to 39.5% in 2002 (Table 11).

Chart 22 – Employed population by occupational group, 2002 – 2012



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

Chart 23 – Unemployment rate by sex, 2002 – 2012



43. The unemployment rate increased from 7.2% in 2002, to 9.6% in 2005 after which it started declining. It however rose from 7.2% in 2008 to 8.1% in 2012 (Table 20).

44. 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 up and down movement. The disparity between male and female unemployment rate was higher in 2012 than in 2002.

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Table-1 Estimated labour force, employment, unemployment and inactive population by sex, 2011 & 2012

	2011				2012			
	Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval		Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval	
			Lower Limit	Upper Limit			Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Labour Force								
Both Sexes	582,800	7,200	568,700	597,000	593,100	7200	579300	607,600
Male	363,600	4,900	354,100	373,200	368,400	4900	359,100	378,200
Female	219,200	3,700	211,900	226,500	224,700	3,700	217,500	232,200
Employment								
Both Sexes	536,700	6,700	523,600	549,800	544,800	7200	531,800	557,800
Male	344,800	4,700	335,600	354,000	348,700	4,600	339,600	357,800
Female	191,900	3,400	185,300	198,500	196,100	3,400	189,300	202,800
Unemployment								
Both Sexes	46,100	1,800	42,600	49,700	48,300	1,700	45,000	51,600
Male	18,800	1,100	16,800	20,900	19,700	1,000	17,800	21,600
Female	27,300	1,300	24,700	29,900	28,600	1,200	26,200	31,000
Inactive Population								
Both Sexes	400,100	5,700	388,900	411,300	400,400	5,500	389,700	411,300
Male	118,200	2,500	113,200	123,200	118,200	2,500	113,300	123,100
Female	281,900	4,500	273,000	290,800	282,200	4,200	273,600	290,700
Activity rate (%)								
Both Sexes	59.3	0.4	58.6	60.0	59.7	0.4	59.0	60.4
Male	75.5	0.4	74.6	76.3	75.7	0.4	74.9	76.6
Female	43.7	0.6	42.6	44.9	44.3	0.6	43.2	45.4
Unemployment rate (%)								
Both Sexes	7.9	0.3	7.4	8.5	8.1	0.3	7.7	8.7
Male	5.2	0.3	4.6	5.7	5.3	0.2	4.9	5.8
Female	12.5	0.5	11.4	13.5	12.7	0.5	11.8	13.7

Table 2 – Labour force, employment, unemployment by age and sex - 2012

Age group	Labour Force			Employment			Unemployment		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
16 - 19	9,600	6,500	16,100	6,800	3,600	10,400	2,800	2,900	5,700
20 - 24	38,200	27,000	65,200	31,800	19,300	51,100	6,400	7,700	14,100
25 - 29	41,900	29,100	71,000	38,300	24,600	62,900	3,600	4,500	8,100
30 - 34	52,200	33,100	85,300	50,300	29,100	79,400	1,900	4,000	5,900
35 - 39	45,400	30,200	75,600	44,200	27,000	71,200	1,200	3,200	4,400
40 - 44	42,600	29,500	72,100	41,500	27,400	68,900			
45 - 49	47,000	27,800	74,800	46,100	25,400	71,500			
50 - 54	40,400	19,300	59,700	39,700	18,400	58,100	3,800	6,300	10,100
55 - 59	31,000	14,500	45,500	30,200	13,900	44,100			
60 - 64	13,500	5,100	18,600	13,300	4,900	18,200			
65 & over	6,600	2,600	9,200	6,500	2,500	9,000			
Total	368,400	224,700	593,100	348,700	196,100	544,800	19,700	28,600	48,300

Table 3 - Employed population by marital status and sex - 2012

Marital status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Married	234,400	127,600	362,000
Widowed/divorced/separated	14,900	26,400	41,300
Single	99,400	42,100	141,500
All marital states	348,700	196,100	544,800

Table 4 - Employed population by employment status and sex - 2012

Employment status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	17,300	2,300	19,600
Own account worker	58,500	20,200	78,700
Employee	270,100	164,200	434,300
Contributing family worker	2,800	9,400	12,200
All employment states	348,700	196,100	544,800

Table 5 - Mean hours of work per week by employment status and sex - 2012

Employment status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	42.8	41.1	42.6
Own account worker	38.3	31.2	36.4
Employee	42.5	36.7	40.3
Contributing family worker	35.6	30.2	31.4
All employment states	41.8	35.9	39.7

Table 6 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by employment status and sex - 2012

Employment status	Average monthly income (Rs)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	26,200	17,400	25,100
Own account worker	12,700	6,600	11,200
Employee	17,500	12,300	15,500
All employment states	17,100	11,800	15,300

Table 7 - Employed population by industrial sector and sex - 2002 & 2012

Industrial Sector	2002			2012		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	39,900	13,700	53,600	29,400	12,400	41,800
Secondary	111,100	56,100	167,200	112,500	39,100	151,600
<i>of which Manufacturing</i>	<i>61,500</i>	<i>54,500</i>	<i>116,000</i>	<i>49,000</i>	<i>37,100</i>	<i>86,100</i>
<i>Construction</i>	<i>44,900</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>45,400</i>	<i>55,500</i>	<i>1,400</i>	<i>56,900</i>
Tertiary	166,900	79,100	246,000	206,800	144,600	351,400
<i>of which Wholesale and retail trade</i>	<i>42,400</i>	<i>19,300</i>	<i>61,700</i>	<i>49,800</i>	<i>36,700</i>	<i>86,500</i>
<i>Accommodation and food service activities</i>	<i>17,200</i>	<i>6,600</i>	<i>23,800</i>	<i>23,900</i>	<i>14,700</i>	<i>38,600</i>
<i>Transportation and storage</i>	<i>23,300</i>	<i>2,800</i>	<i>26,100</i>	<i>31,700</i>	<i>3,700</i>	<i>35,400</i>
<i>Public administration and defence</i>	<i>25,000</i>	<i>8,000</i>	<i>33,000</i>	<i>31,600</i>	<i>10,300</i>	<i>41,900</i>
<i>Education, human health & social work</i>	<i>19,500</i>	<i>21,300</i>	<i>40,800</i>	<i>21,000</i>	<i>28,400</i>	<i>49,400</i>
All sectors	317,900	148,900	466,800	348,700	196,100	544,800

Table 8 – Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by industrial sector and sex-2012

Industrial Sector	Average monthly Income (Rs.)		
	Male	Female	Both sexes
Primary	11,500	4,400	9,800
Secondary	13,800	8,100	12,300
Tertiary	19,700	13,300	17,100
All sectors	17,100	11,800	15,300

Table 9 –Mean length of service by industrial sector and sex -2012

Industrial sector	Length of service (years)		
	Male	Female	B. Sexes
Primary	14.4	9.7	13.0
Secondary	9.4	7.9	9.0
Tertiary	11.0	7.5	9.6
All sectors	10.8	7.7	9.7

Table 10 - Mean hours of work per week by industrial sector and sex - 2012

Industrial Sector	Mean hours of work per week		
	Male	Female	B. Sexes
Primary	36.0	24.8	32.7
Secondary	41.3	39.8	40.9
Tertiary	42.9	35.7	39.9
All sectors	41.8	35.9	39.7

Table 11 - Employed population by occupational group and sex - 2002 & 2012

ISCO* major occupational group	Occupational group	2002			2012		
		Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
1 - 3	Chief executives, senior officials and legislators;professionals; technicians and associate professionals	43,100	24,800	67,900	67,200	43,800	111,000
4	Clerical support workers	14,200	20,200	34,400	19,200	30,500	49,700
5	Service and sales workers	49,300	22,100	71,400	68,000	47,500	115,500
6 - 8	Skilled agricultural ,forestry and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers	141,000	43,300	184,300	146,000	28,000	174,000
9	Elementary occupations	70,300	38,500	108,800	48,300	46,300	94,600
	All occupational groups	317,900	148,900	466,800	348,700	196,100	544,800

* International Standard Classification of Occupations

Table 12 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by occupational group and sex - 2012

ISCO* major occupational group	Occupational group	Average monthly income (Rs)		
		Male	Female	Both Sexes
1 - 3	Chief executives, senior officials and legislators; professionals; technicians and associate professionals	35,100	23,800	30,600
4	Clerical support workers	16,900	13,600	14,800
5	Service and sales workers	14,800	8,300	12,300
6 - 8	Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers; craft and related trade workers; plant and machine operators and assemblers	11,900	6,000	11,000
9	Elementary occupations	10,900	5,000	8,100
	All occupational groups	17,100	11,800	15,300

* International Standard Classification of Occupations

Table 13 - Unemployment rate (%) by age group and sex - 2012

Age group (Years)	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Below 20	29.4	45.2	35.7
20-29	12.6	21.8	16.4
30-39	3.0	11.2	6.3
40-49	2.3	8.0	4.5
50 and over	1.9	4.2	2.6
All ages	5.3	12.7	8.1

Table 14 - Unemployed population by marital status and sex - 2012

Marital status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Ever married	5,200	17,700	22,900
Single	14,500	10,900	25,400
Total	19,700	28,600	48,300

Table 15 - Unemployed population by educational attainment and sex - 2012

Educational attainment	Male	Female	Both sexes
Primary	4,900	6,800	11,700
<i>Below CPE</i>	3,900	4,500	8,400
<i>Passed CPE</i>	1,000	2,300	3,300
Secondary	11,000	16,000	27,000
<i>Form I - V but not passed SC</i>	6,900	8,500	15,400
<i>Passed SC</i>	3,200	4,800	8,000
<i>Passed HSC</i>	900	2,700	3,600
Tertiary	3,800	5,800	9,600
Total	19,700	28,600	48,300

Table 16 - Unemployed population by method of job search and sex - 2012

Method of job search	Male	Female	Both sexes
Applied to prospective employers	10,600	14,600	25,200
Checked at factories, worksites, etc	10,800	10,900	21,700
Registered at Employment Service*	6,400	11,700	18,100
Placed and answered advertisements	6,600	9,700	16,300
Sought assistance and advice**	6,300	8,900	15,200
All unemployed	19,700	28,600	48,300

* 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 - 2012

Type of job willing to accept	Number		
	Male	Female	Both sexes
Full time employment	18,300	25,300	43,600
Part time employment	13,000	18,900	31,900
Employment without limit	12,600	15,600	28,200
Temporary employment	11,100	15,500	26,600
Employment in public sector	15,400	23,300	38,700
Employment in private sector	16,600	22,800	39,400
Below level of qualification	10,900	15,800	26,700
Outside training or qualification	10,200	14,500	24,700
All unemployed	19,700	28,600	48,300

Table 18 - Inactive population by inactivity status and sex - 2012

Inactivity status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Students	42,500	44,500	87,000
Retired or old persons	50,300	45,200	95,500
Sick or disabled	16,800	16,700	33,500
Homemakers	8,600	159,000	159,400
Other		16,800	25,000
Total	118,200	282,200	400,400

Table 19 - Age specific activity rate (%) by sex - 2002 & 2012

Age group (Years)	2002			2012		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
16-19	39.8	19.5	29.9	23.0	15.6	19.3
20 - 24	80.6	49.7	65.5	72.9	55.2	64.3
25 - 29	95.4	48.9	72.4	92.2	67.2	80.0
30 - 34	97.2	48.6	73.1	95.8	61.1	78.5
35 - 39	96.2	51.4	74.0	95.6	61.8	78.4
40 - 44	97.0	54.2	75.7	94.6	63.9	79.0
45 - 49	94.7	44.6	69.8	95.0	55.5	75.1
50 - 54	92.6	35.2	63.4	92.4	42.8	67.2
55 - 59	77.6	29.7	52.4	83.9	37.6	60.2
60 - 64	32.8	8.1	19.6	47.6	16.1	31.0
65+	15.4	2.3	7.7	16.1	4.5	9.3
All ages	79.4	38.4	58.6	75.7	44.3	59.7

Table 20 - Unemployment rate (%) by sex, 2002 - 2012

Year	Unemployment rate (%)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
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
2012	5.3	12.7	8.1

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.

For comparison purposes, employment estimates for previous years have been worked out using the revised classifications. There are changes in the employment estimates at industrial group level; hence they are not strictly comparable. The overall employment estimates are however not affected.

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