

Labour force, Employment and Unemployment – Year 2016

Introduction

1. This eighth issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the year 2016, 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 variability that tend to be relatively large in cases where the sample numbers are small.

Key figures

	2015	2016	Change 2016-2015
Population (aged 16+)	968,300	975,500	7,200
Economically inactive	383,700	394,500	10,800
Labour Force (Economically active)	584,600	581,000	-3,600
<i>Of which Employment</i>	<i>538,300</i>	<i>538,600</i>	<i>300</i>
<i>Unemployment</i>	<i>46,300</i>	<i>42,400</i>	<i>-3,900</i>
Activity rate (%)	60.4	59.6	-0.8
Unemployment rate (%)	7.9	7.3	-0.6
Youth unemployment	21,200	18,900	-2,300
Youth unemployment rate (%)	26.3	23.9	-2.4

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

NOTE: The increase in employment, e.g 300 in the above table represents the net change in employment level i.e “Employment creations minus employment losses” during the period under reference.

Key points

3. Change from 2015 to 2016

- a. The Mauritian labour force decreased by 3,600 while the number of inactives increased by 10,800 with 11,900 in the age of 50 years and over.
- b. Employment went up by 300 and unemployment went down by 3,900.
- c. The overall activity rate decreased from 60.4% to 59.6% and the unemployment rate from 7.9% to 7.3%.

Youth

- d. Youth employment went up by 800 and unemployment down by 2,300.
- e. Youth unemployment rate therefore decreased by 2.4 percentage points from 26.3% to 23.9%.

Male

- f. Male labour force increased by 300 and the number of inactives increased by 3,500.
- g. Male employment went up by 2,900 and unemployment down by 2,600.
- h. Male activity rate decreased from 74.8% to 74.3% and unemployment rate from 5.5% to 4.8%.

Female

- i. Female labour force decreased by 3,900 while the number of inactives increased by 7,300.
- j. Female employment decreased by 2,600 and unemployment decreased by 1,300.
- k. Female activity rate declined from 46.6% to 45.5% and unemployment rate from 11.6% to 11.2%.

4. Situation in 2016

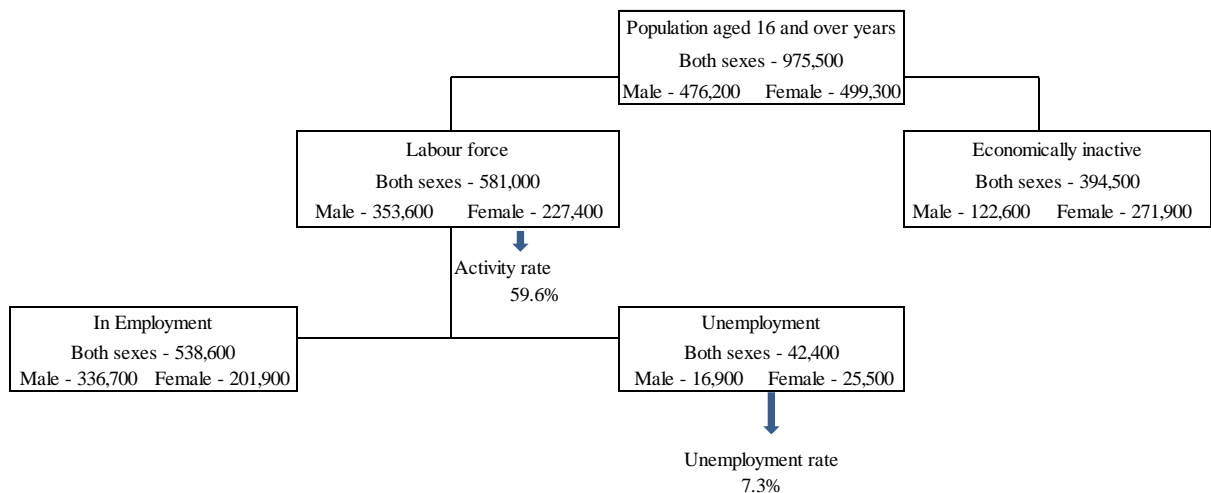
- a. Men comprised 61% of the workforce (Table 2).
- b. Most of the workers (79%) were employees (Table 4)
- c. Among the unemployed, women outnumbered men (25,500 compared to 16,900) though they were generally more qualified (Table 16).
- d. Unemployment rate was highest at the lowest age groups and decreased progressively with increasing age (Table 13). Youth (aged 16 to 24 years) unemployment rate stood at 23.9% (18.3% for male and 31.2% for female).

5. Evolution from 2006 to 2016

- Men are more economically active than women but the gap is decreasing over time (Table 20).
- Female employment is increasing faster than male employment (Table 7).
- The tertiary sector is becoming increasingly important in terms of employment (Table 7).
- From 9.0% recorded in 2006, the unemployment rate was at its lowest in 2008 (7.2%) after which an upward trend was observed till 2012 (8.0%). The rate remained at 7.8%, 8.0% up to 2015 and declined significantly to 7.3% in 2016 (Table 21).
- From a rate of 23.4% in 2006, youth unemployment dropped to 19.3% in 2008. It then rose to 26.3% in 2015 and declined to 23.9% in 2016 (Table 14).

Labour market overview

Chart 1 – The Labour Market, 2016



- In 2016, the population of working age (aged 16 years and over) numbered 975,500, of whom 581,000 consisted of the labour force (or were economically active) resulting in an activity rate of 59.6%. The number employed totalled 538,600 whilst the number unemployed stood at 42,400; the unemployment rate worked out to 7.3% of the labour force.

Chart 2 – Population structure by age, sex and economic activity, 2016



7. The pyramid (Chart 2) and Table 2 indicate that in 2016:

- i. The number of inactives 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

Total employment stood at 538,600 (336,700 males and 201,900 females) in 2016. The employment to population ratio was around 55% (71% for males and 40% for females) (Table 1)

Men comprised 61% of the workforce

8. Out of every 100 persons in the workforce, 61 were men and the mean age of a worker was 42 years for men and 40 years for women.

The workforce is mainly made up of married persons

9. The workforce was made up mainly of married persons (65.8%), followed by persons in the single state (24.9%). A small proportion of the employed were widowed, divorced and separated (9.3%). Compared to the male workforce, the female workforce consisted of a higher proportion of widowed, divorced and separated persons (15.8% compared to 5.4%) (Table 3).

The workforce is mostly made up of employees

10. 79.4% of the employed were employees while around 18.4% were self-employed (own account workers or employers) and the remaining 2.2% were contributing family workers. The female workforce as compared to the male workforce comprised a higher proportion of employees (84.8% against 76.2% among males) and contributing family workers (4.4% against 0.9%) but a lower proportion of self-employed (10.8% against 23.0% among males) (Table 4).

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

11. On average, an employed person worked 39.0 hours per week. An employer put in 41.9 hours of work compared to 39.8 hours for an employee and 34.9 hours for an own-account worker (Table 5).
12. Average monthly income from employment, which includes income from paid work and income from business activities, amounted to Rs 19,400. The average monthly income for an employer was Rs 28,200 against Rs 12,000 for an own-account worker while that for an employee stood at Rs 20,200 (Table 6).

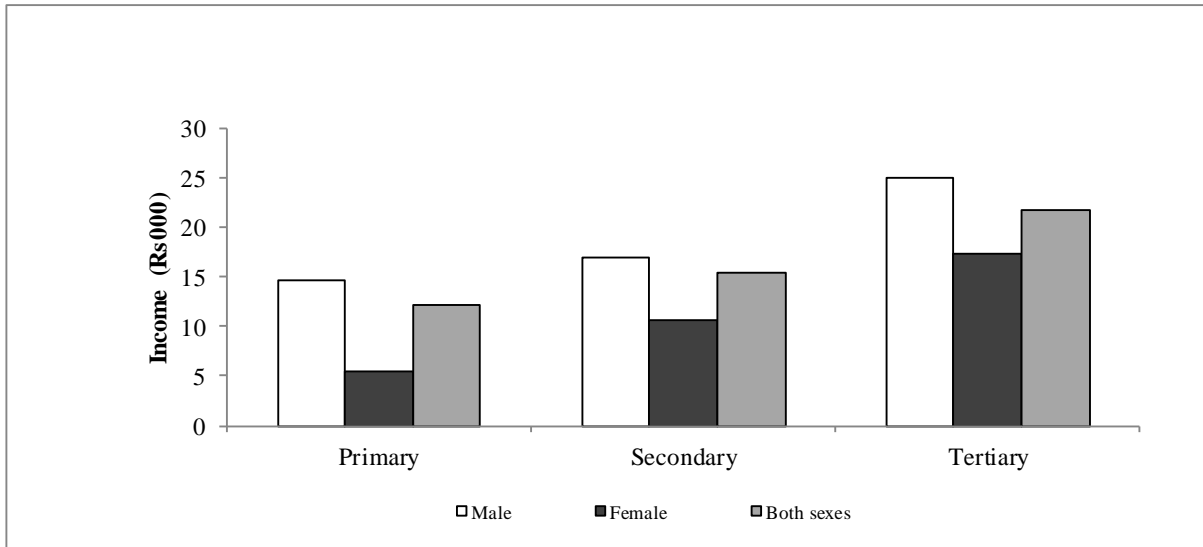
Median basic wage of Mauritian employees

13. In 2016, the median monthly basic wage of Mauritian employees was around Rs 12,200 ; i.e 50% of employees earned less than Rs 12,200 while the other 50% earned more than it. Basic wage comprises all emoluments, including yearly compensation and increment but excludes allowances such as bonus or overtime, (Table 22).

The tertiary sector provided jobs to 7 out of every 10 workers and gave the highest pay

14. Out of every 100 workers, 67 were employed in the tertiary sector (covering trade, accommodation and food service activities, transportation and storage and all the other service industries), 26 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 7 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 21,800), followed by the secondary sector (Rs 15,400) and the primary sector (Rs 12,200) (Table 8).

Chart 3 – Average monthly income from employment by industrial sector and sex, 2016



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 (13.1 years), followed by 9.6 years in the tertiary sector and 9.4 years in the secondary sector. (Table 9).
17. Employed persons in the secondary sector had the longest hours of work (39.9 hours per week), followed by those in the tertiary sector (39.5 hours) and the primary sector (31.4 hours) (Table 10).

Employed Mauritians are distributed across all occupational groups

18. Around 24.7% of the employed was engaged in the highest occupational groups (ISCO 1-3) which comprised chief executives, senior officials and legislators; professionals; technicians and associate professionals. Clerical and support workers (ISCO 4) made up 8.5% of the workforce; service and sales workers (ISCO 5) 21.3%. Another 30.2% 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 15.4% of the workforce. (Table 11).
19. Chief executives, senior officials and legislators; professionals; technicians and associate professionals earned the highest monthly income (Rs 35,700), followed by clerical and support workers (Rs 19,700). The lowest income was drawn by those engaged in elementary occupations (Rs 10,400) (Table 12).
20. In addition to their main job and secondary job (if any), 21.9% of the employed population was available for additional work. Employed women were less available for additional work than their male counterparts; 17% reported that they were willing to work additional hours against 25% for men.

Some 5% of the employed had secondary jobs

21. Out of the 538,600 employed, 5.4% held a secondary job. Around 30.0% of the secondary job holders were employees. The main sectors in which they were operating were: agriculture (28.5%), wholesale and retail trade and repairs (12.7%) and manufacturing (10.3%).

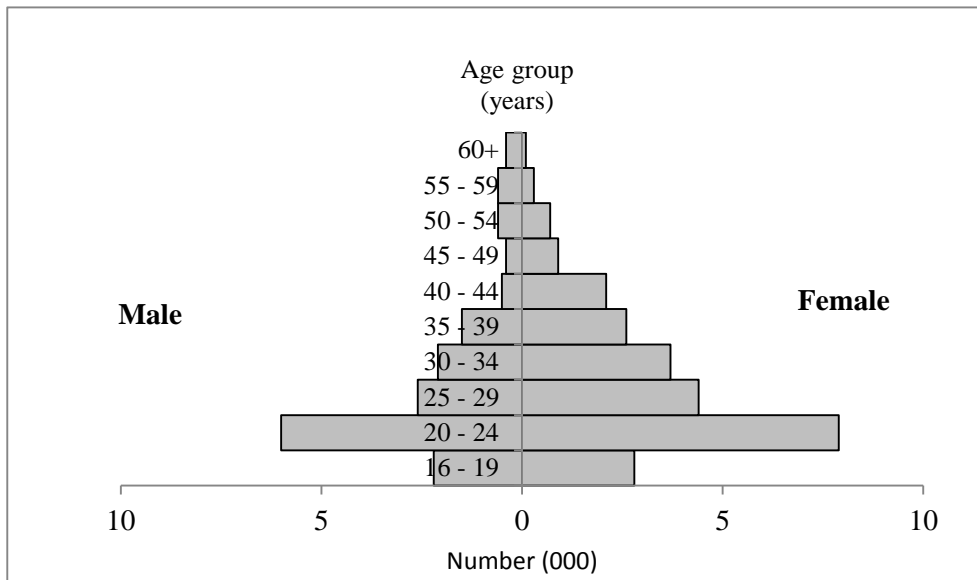
Unemployment

22. In 2016, unemployed persons numbered 42,400, comprising 16,900 men and 25,500 women. The unemployment rate was 7.3%, 11.2% among women and 4.8% among men. (Table 1)

There are more unemployed among women than among men

23. The unbalanced shape of the pyramid in Chart 4 indicates the predominance of females among the unemployed at almost all age-groups. Women represented 60% of the total unemployed and they outnumbered men by 8,600.

Chart 4 – Age-sex structure of the unemployed population, 2016



24. The mean age of both unemployed men and women was 29 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 23.9% among those below 25 years and 1.7% 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 around 13 percentage points among the unemployed below 25 years.

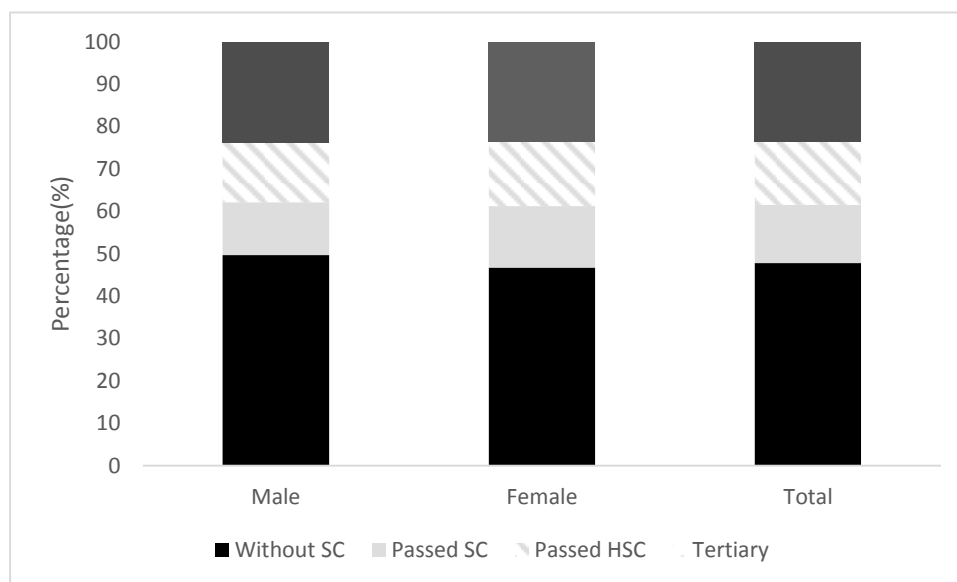
The unemployed men are mostly single while the unemployed women are mostly ever-married

27. About 43% of the unemployed were ever-married and the remaining were single. Most of the unemployed men, however, were single (77%) whereas most of the unemployed women were ever-married (56%), i.e. currently married, widowed, divorced or separated (Table 15).

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

28. Around 48% of the unemployed, representing 20,300 persons, did not hold a Cambridge School Certificate (SC): 11% had not attained the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) level, 4% 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 14% and that with Higher School Certificate (HSC) 15%. Unemployed having studied up to the tertiary level numbered some 10,000 and represented 24% of the total unemployed (Table 16).

Chart 5 – Unemployed population by education attainment and sex, 2016



Unemployed women are generally more qualified than unemployed men

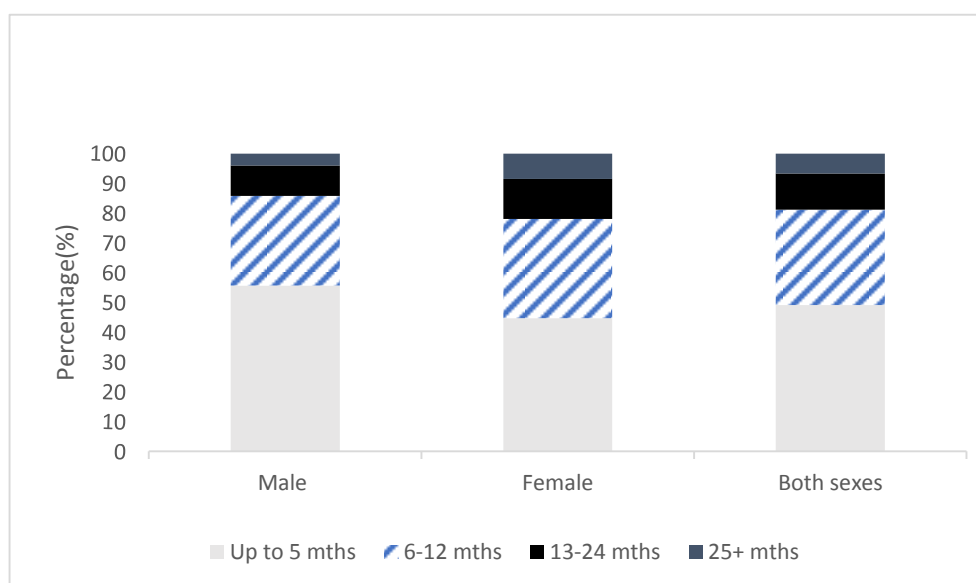
29. Unemployed women were generally more qualified than their male counterparts; around 30% of them possessed the School Certificate or the Higher School Certificate against 27% among males.

Women are in unemployment nearly four months more than men

30. The proportion of persons in unemployment for a duration of less than six months is higher among males (56%) compared to females (45%) while the proportion of those who are unemployed for more than twenty four months is higher among females (8.5%) against 4.0% among males (Chart 6).

31. On average, an unemployed person had been without a job for 10 months. Average duration of unemployment for males was 7.7 months compared to 11.6 months for females

Chart 6 – Duration of unemployment by sex, 2016



The unemployed is predominantly made up of persons with work experience

32. Around 70% of the unemployed had worked in the past. More than two third (72%) had work experience in the tertiary sector, mainly ‘Wholesale & retail trade’ (20%) followed by ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ (17%). Another 25% had worked previously in the secondary sector, mainly in ‘Manufacturing’ followed by ‘Construction’. The remaining 3.0% previously worked in the agricultural sector.

52% of the unemployed who worked before lost their job following completion of their contract or temporary job and non satisfaction with job

33. Some 26% of the unemployed lost their job following completion of their contract or temporary job and another 26% left their job due to non-satisfaction with job while around 8% left due to marriage/household responsibilities. Closure of establishment and reduction in workforce accounted for 19% of the job losses.

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

34. The unemployed usually had recourse to more than one method of job search. The most common method was ‘applied to prospective employers’ (58%) followed by ‘checked at factories, worksites, etc’ (44%). Around 43% were registered at the Employment Service (Table 17).

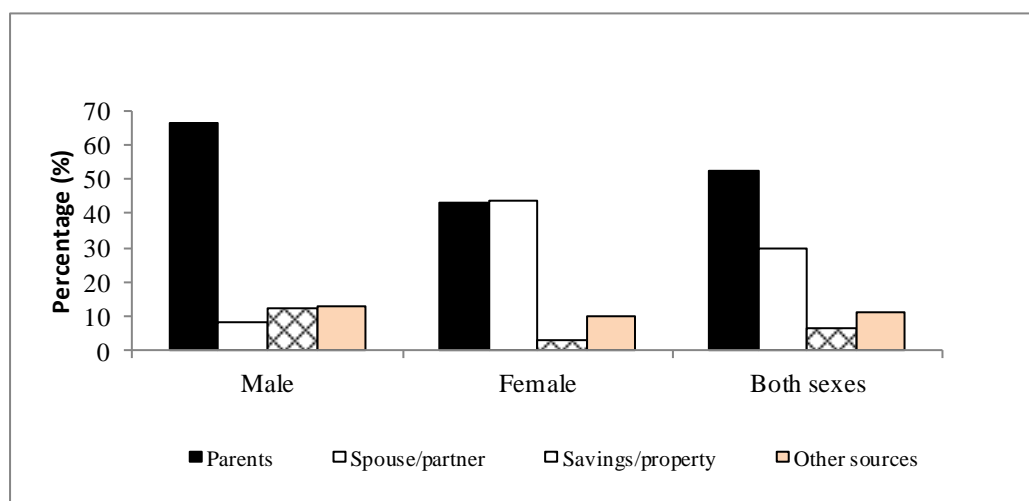
The unemployed were more willing to accept full time rather than part time employment

35. The unemployed were more likely to accept full time employment (93%) rather than part time employment (63%). 87% would take up a job in the public sector while 86% in the private sector. Only 52% were willing to accept a temporary job. Some 59% would accept a job below their qualification while 58% were willing to work outside their level of qualification or training.(Table 18).

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

36. The main source of income support for the unemployed to meet their daily needs was their parents (52%) followed by their spouse/partner (30%). Other sources of support were from other relatives, savings and pensions.

Chart 7 – Unemployed population by main source of income to meet daily needs and sex, 2016



Inactive population

37. The number of persons aged 16 years and over not forming part of the labour force (inactive population) stood at 394,500 (122,600 males and 271,900 females) (Table 19). Some 7,100 of them were classified as inactive 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 34% of these inactive did not look for work because they either believed that suitable jobs were not available or did not know where to look for work.

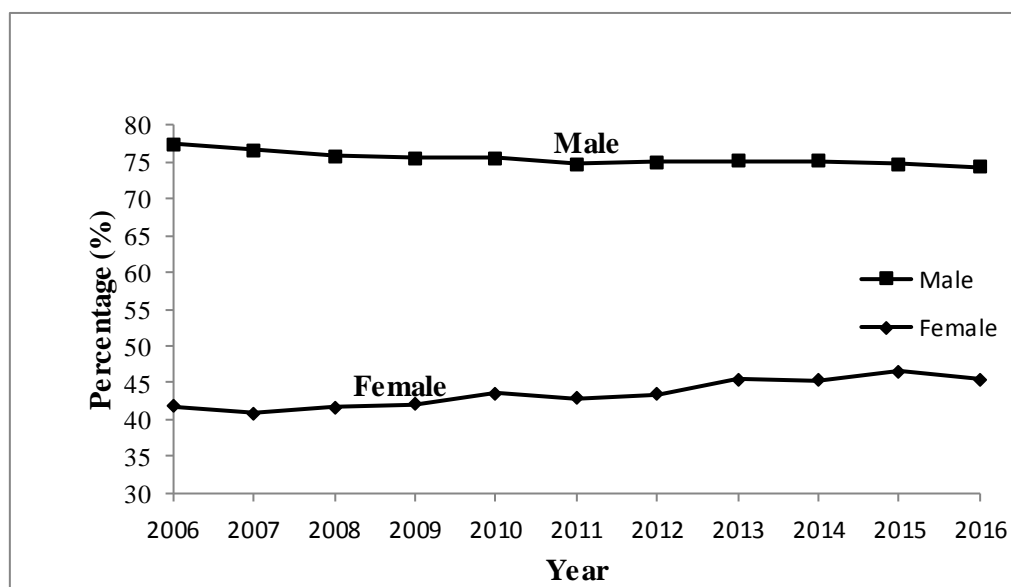
38. The inactive population comprised 41% homemakers, 20% students, 26% retired or old persons and 9% sick or disabled persons.

Evolution from 2006 to 2016

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

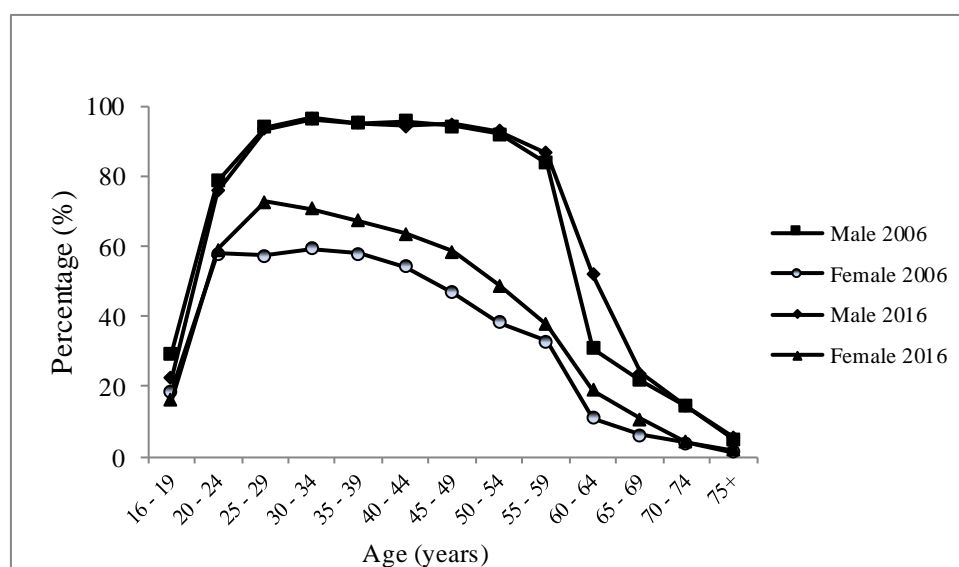
39. During the period 2006 to 2016, male activity rate was consistently higher than female activity rate (Chart 8). However, the gap was narrowing over time as the activity rate for men has been constantly decreasing over the years while that of females has been generally increasing (Table 20).

Chart 8 – Activity rate by sex, 2006 - 2016



40. Over the years, the shape of the curve for female activity rate by age (Chart 9) 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 20-49 years.

Chart 9 – Activity rate by age and sex – 2006 & 2016



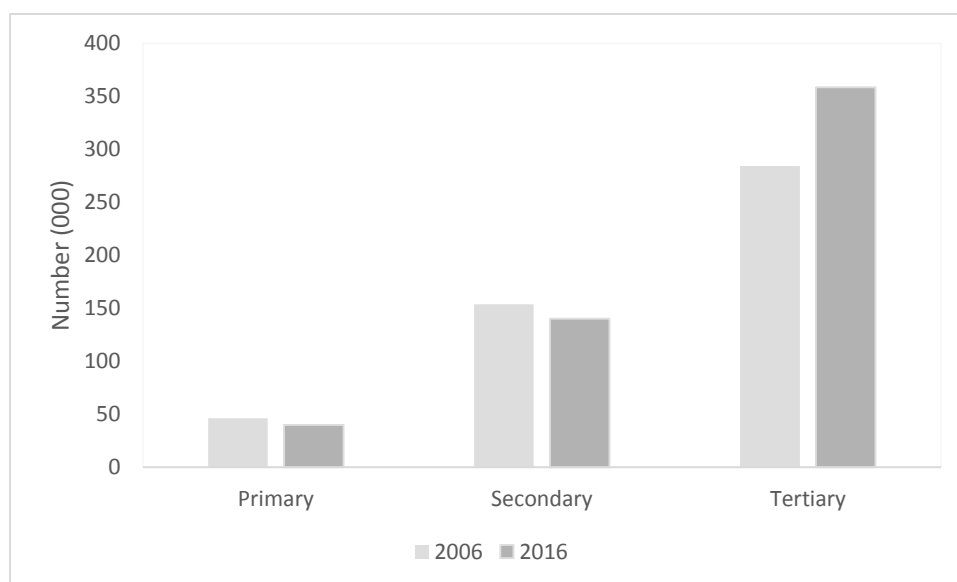
Female employment is increasing faster than male employment

41. During the period 2006 to 2016, female employment increased at a faster rate than male employment. On average, female employment increased annually by 4,000 or 2.3% whereas male employment increased by 1,400 or 0.4% (Table 7).

The tertiary sector is becoming increasingly important in terms of employment

42. Over time, the tertiary sector has become increasingly important in terms of employment. From 2006 to 2016, employment in this sector rose from 284,400 to 358,500; its share over total employment also increased from 59% to 67%. In contrast, employment in the primary and secondary sectors has been declining over time. In the primary sector, employment went down from 46,200 in 2006 to 39,800 in 2016 mainly due to a decline in the agricultural sector. In the secondary sector, employment declined from 153,700 to 140,300 mainly due to a decreasing workforce in the manufacturing sector (Table 7).

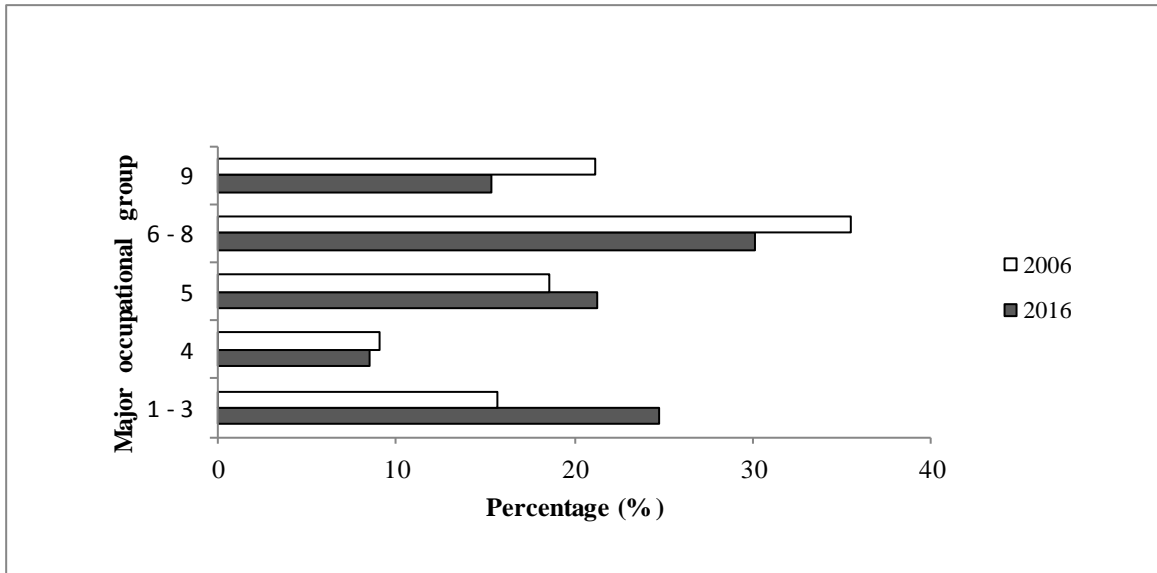
Chart 10 – Employed population by industrial sector , 2006 & 2016



Mauritian workforce is moving up the occupation ladder

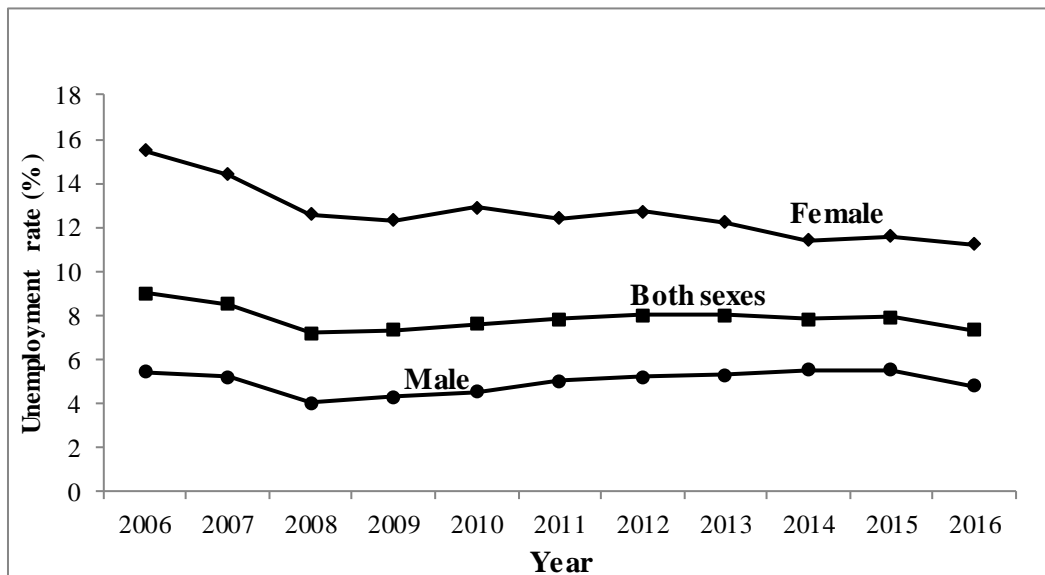
43. The share of employment in the higher occupational groups (ISCO 1-3) comprising legislators, senior officials and managers; professionals; technicians and associate professionals increased from 15.7% in 2006 to 24.7% in 2016. In contrast the share of employment in the lowest occupational group (ISCO 9) representing elementary jobs decreased from 21.1% to 15.4%

Chart 11 – Employed population by occupational group, 2006 -2016



Female unemployment rate remains higher than male unemployment rate.

Chart 12 – Unemployment rate by sex, 2006 – 2016



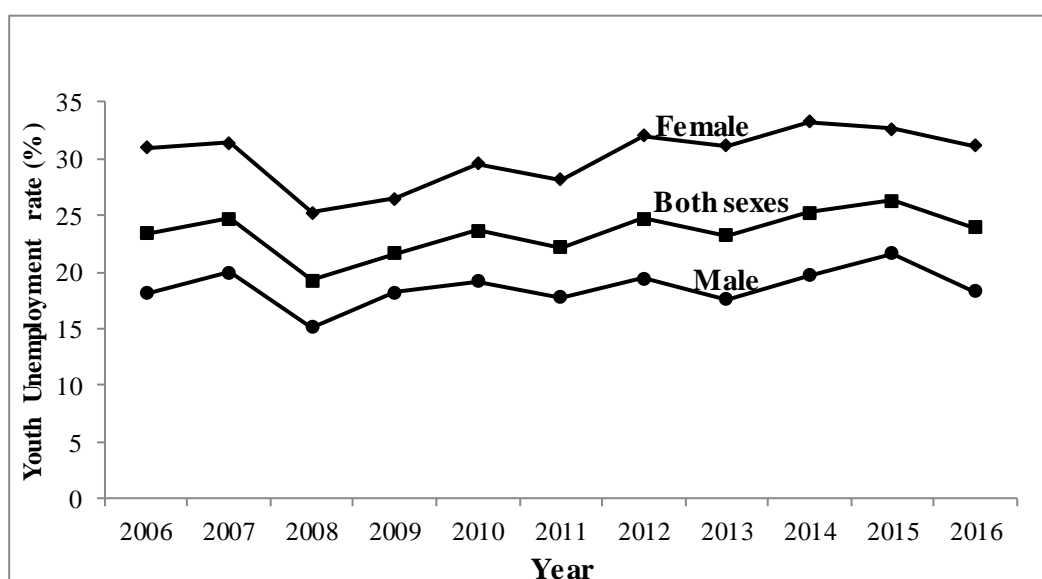
44. From 9.0% recorded in 2006, the unemployment rate decreased to 7.2% in 2008 after which an upward trend was observed till 2012 (8.0%). The rate remained at 8.0% in 2013, stood at 7.8% in 2014 and declined from 7.9% in 2015 to 7.3% in 2016.. (Table 21)

45. The change over time was smoother for male than for female. Female unemployment rate was 15.5% in 2006, after which it declined to 7.3% in 2009 when it took an up and down movement. The disparity between male and female unemployment rate was lower in 2016 than in 2006.

Trend in youth unemployment, 2006 to 2016

46. From a rate of around 23.4% in 2006, youth unemployment rate dropped to 19.3% in 2008. It then rose to around 26.3% in 2015 and then dropped to 23.9% again in 2016 (Table 14).
47. Youth unemployment rate for women has been consistently higher than that of men. During the period 2006 to 2009, the gap between male and female youth unemployment rate decreased as a result of a sharper decline in female unemployment rate. The gap then widened due to a higher increase in female unemployment rate.
48. The young unemployed in 2016 numbered 18,900 of whom 8,200 were men and 10,700 women compared to 8,600 men and 10,200 women in 2006.

Chart 13 – Youth (16-24 yrs) unemployment rate, 2006-2016



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Table 1 - Estimated Labour Force, Employment, Unemployment and Inactive Population by sex, 2015-2016

	2015				2016			
	Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval		Estimates	Standard Error	95% Confidence Interval	
			Lower Limit	Upper Limit			Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Population								
Both Sexes	968,300	9,700	949,200	987,500	975,500	11,100	953,600	997,400
Male	472,400	5,500	461,600	483,300	476,200	6,200	464,100	488,300
Female	495,900	5,400	485,300	506,500	499,300	6,000	487,500	511,100
Labour Force								
Both Sexes	584,600	7,400	570,100	599,300	581,000	8,000	565,200	596,800
Male	353,300	4,800	343,900	362,800	353,600	5,100	343,500	363,700
Female	231,300	4,000	223,500	239,200	227,400	4,100	219,300	235,400
Employment								
Both Sexes	538,300	7,000	524,500	552,200	538,600	7,600	523,700	553,500
Male	333,800	4,700	324,700	343,000	336,700	5,000	327,000	346,500
Female	204,500	3,700	197,200	211,900	201,900	3,800	194,500	209,300
Unemployment								
Both Sexes	46,300	1,600	43,200	49,500	42,400	1,500	39,300	45,400
Male	19,500	900	17,700	21,400	16,900	1,000	15,000	18,700
Female	26,800	1,200	24,400	29,200	25,500	1,200	23,200	27,800
Inactive Population								
Both Sexes	383,700	5,500	372,800	394,400	394,500	5,800	383,100	406,000
Male	119,100	2,700	113,800	124,300	122,600	2,800	117,200	128,000
Female	264,600	4,100	256,600	272,500	271,900	4,200	263,700	280,200
Activity rate (%)								
Both Sexes	60.4	0.4	59.5	61.2	59.6	0.4	58.7	60.4
Male	74.8	0.5	73.8	75.8	74.3	0.5	73.3	75.2
Female	46.6	0.6	45.5	47.8	45.5	0.6	44.4	46.7
Unemployment rate (%)								
Both Sexes	7.9	0.3	7.4	8.4	7.3	0.2	6.8	7.8
Male	5.5	0.3	5.0	6.0	4.8	0.3	4.3	5.3
Female	11.6	0.5	10.6	12.6	11.2	0.5	10.3	12.1
Youth unemployment								
Both Sexes	21,200	1,100	19,100	23,300	18,900	1,000	17,000	20,800
Male	9,900	700	8,600	11,300	8,200	600	7,000	9,500
Female	11,300	800	9,700	12,800	10,700	800	9,200	12,200
Youth unemployment rate (%)								
Both Sexes	26.3	1.1	24.2	28.5	23.9	1.0	21.9	26.0
Male	21.6	1.3	19.0	24.2	18.3	1.3	15.9	20.9
Female	32.7	1.8	29.1	36.2	31.2	1.8	27.7	34.8

Table 2 – Labour force, employment, unemployment by age and sex - 2016

Age group	Labour Force			Employment			Unemployment		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
16 -19	8,800	6,100	14,900	6,600	3,300	9,900	2,200	2,800	5,000
20 - 24	35,900	28,200	64,100	29,900	20,300	50,200	6,000	7,900	13,900
25 - 29	38,300	29,400	67,700	35,700	25,000	60,700	2,600	4,400	7,000
30 - 34	39,200	29,400	68,600	37,100	25,700	62,800	2,100	3,700	5,800
35 - 39	46,300	32,500	78,800	44,800	29,900	74,700	1,500	2,600	4,100
40 - 44	39,600	26,400	66,000	39,100	24,300	63,400			
45 - 49	40,800	25,100	65,900	40,400	24,200	64,600			
50 - 54	44,000	23,400	67,400	43,400	22,700	66,100	2,500	4,100	6,600
55 - 59	35,100	15,900	51,000	34,500	15,600	50,100			
60 - 64	17,100	6,800	23,900	16,700	6,700	23,400			
65 & over	8,500	4,200	12,700	8,500	4,200	12,700			
Total	353,600	227,400	581,000	336,700	201,900	538,600	16,900	25,500	42,400

Table 3 - Employed population by marital status and sex – 2016

Marital status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Married	225,100	129,400	354,500
Widowed/Divorced / Separated	18,100	31,800	49,900
Single	93,500	40,700	134,200
All marital states	336,700	201,900	538,600

Table 4 - Employed population by employment status and sex - 2016

Employment status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	20,700	3,200	23,900
Own Account worker	56,600	18,700	75,300
Employee	256,500	171,200	427,700
Contributing family worker	2,900	8,800	11,700
All employment states	336,700	201,900	538,600

Table 5 - Mean hours of work per week by employment status and sex - 2016

Employment status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	42.3	39.6	41.9
Own Account worker	36.5	30.2	34.9
Employee	42.1	36.2	39.8
Contributing family worker	27.7	29.8	29.3
All employment states	41.1	35.5	39.0

Table 6 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by employment status and sex - 2016

Employment status	Average monthly income (Rs)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Employer	29,000	23,300	28,200
Own Account worker	13,500	7,500	12,000
Employee	22,800	16,300	20,200
All employment states	21,700	15,600	19,400

Table 7 - Employed population by industrial sector and sex - 2006 & 2016

Industrial Sector	2006			2016		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	33,100	13,100	46,200	27,500	12,300	39,800
Secondary	110,000	43,700	153,700	106,500	33,800	140,300
<i>of which Manufacturing</i>	<i>57,900</i>	<i>42,700</i>	<i>100,600</i>	<i>44,700</i>	<i>31,100</i>	<i>75,800</i>
<i>Construction</i>	<i>48,800</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>49,600</i>	<i>54,700</i>	<i>1,800</i>	<i>56,500</i>
Tertiary	179,600	104,800	284,400	202,700	155,800	358,500
<i>of which Wholesale and retail trade</i>	<i>42,000</i>	<i>25,700</i>	<i>67,700</i>	<i>45,300</i>	<i>33,800</i>	<i>79,100</i>
<i>Accommodation and food service activities</i>	<i>22,600</i>	<i>11,400</i>	<i>34,000</i>	<i>27,700</i>	<i>17,900</i>	<i>45,600</i>
<i>Transportation and storage</i>	<i>26,300</i>	<i>2,200</i>	<i>28,500</i>	<i>30,100</i>	<i>5,100</i>	<i>35,200</i>
<i>Public administration and defence</i>	<i>28,900</i>	<i>7,900</i>	<i>36,800</i>	<i>28,100</i>	<i>12,100</i>	<i>40,200</i>
<i>Education, health and social work</i>	<i>27,000</i>	<i>26,300</i>	<i>53,300</i>	<i>21,700</i>	<i>32,600</i>	<i>54,300</i>
All Sectors	322,700	161,600	484,300	336,700	201,900	538,600

Table 8 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment status by industrial sector and sex - 2016

Industrial sector	Average monthly income (Rs)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	14,600	5,500	12,200
Secondary	16,900	10,700	15,400
Tertiary	25,100	17,300	21,800
All sectors	21,700	15,600	19,400

Table 9 - Mean length of service by industrial sector and sex - 2016

Industrial sector	Length of service (years)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	14.6	9.7	13.1
Secondary	9.6	8.8	9.4
Tertiary	11.2	7.6	9.6
All sectors	11.0	8.0	9.8

Table 10 - Mean hours of work by industrial sector and sex - 2016

Industrial sector	Mean hours of work per week		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	35.1	23.3	31.4
Secondary	39.9	38.8	39.9
Tertiary	42.5	35.5	39.5
All sectors	41.1	35.5	39.0

Table 11 - Employed population by occupational group and sex - 2006 & 2016

ISCO* major occupational group	Occupational group	2006			2016		
		Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
1 - 3	Managers; Professionals; Technicians and associate professionals	47,600	28,500	76,100	78,500	54,500	133,000
4	Clerical support workers	17,500	26,100	43,600	19,300	26,400	45,700
5	Service and sales workers	57,400	32,800	90,200	64,100	50,500	114,600
6 - 8	Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers; Craft and related trade workers; Plant and machine operators and assemblers	136,400	35,600	172,000	135,700	26,800	162,500
9	Elementary occupations	63,800	38,600	102,400	39,100	43,700	82,800
	All occupational groups	322,700	161,600	484,300	336,700	201,900	538,600

* International Standard Classification of Occupations

Table 12 - Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by occupational group and sex - 2016

ISCO* major occupational group	Occupational group	Average monthly income (Rs)		
		Male	Female	Both Sexes
1 - 3	Managers; Professionals; Technicians and associate professionals	40,200	29,100	35,700
4	Clerical support workers	22,300	17,800	19,700
5	Service and sales workers	18,400	11,000	15,300
6 - 8	Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers; Craft and related trade workers; Plant and machine operators and assemblers	14,200	7,300	13,100
9	Elementary occupations	14,500	6,500	10,400
	All occupational groups	21,700	15,600	19,400

* International Standard Classification of Occupations

Table 13 - Unemployment rate (%) by age group and sex - 2016

Age group (years)	Male	Female	Both Sexes
16 - 24	18.3	31.2	23.9
25 - 29	6.8	14.7	10.2
30 - 39	4.2	10.2	6.7
40 - 49	1.1	6.0	3.0
50 and over	1.5	2.2	1.7
All ages	4.8	11.2	7.3

Table 14 - Youth (16-24 yrs) unemployed and unemployment rate (%) by sex , 2006 - 2016

Year	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
2006	8,600	10,200	18,800	18.1	31.0	23.4
2007	8,800	9,700	18,500	20.0	31.4	24.7
2008	6,300	7,400	13,700	15.1	25.3	19.3
2009	7,500	7,600	15,100	18.2	26.5	21.6
2010	8,000	9,200	17,200	19.2	29.6	23.7
2011	7,500	8,700	16,200	17.8	28.2	22.2
2012	8,400	10,100	18,500	19.4	32.0	24.7
2013	7,900	9,700	17,600	17.6	31.2	23.2
2014	9,000	10,500	19,500	19.7	33.3	25.3
2015	9,900	11,300	21,200	21.6	32.7	26.3
2016	8,200	10,700	18,900	18.3	31.2	23.9

Table 15 - Unemployed population by marital status and sex – 2016

Marital status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Ever Married	3,900	14,200	18,100
Single	13,000	11,300	24,300
Total	16,900	25,500	42,400

Table 16 - Unemployment population by educational attainment and sex - 2016

Educational attainment	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Primary	2,900	3,700	6,600
<i>Below CPE</i>	2,300	2,400	4,700
<i>Passed CPE</i>	600	1,300	1,900
Secondary	10,000	15,800	25,800
<i>Form I - V but not passed SC</i>	5,500	8,200	13,700
<i>Passed SC</i>	2,100	3,700	5,800
<i>Passed HSC</i>	2,400	3,900	6,300
Tertiary	4,000	6,000	10,000
Total	16,900	25,500	42,400

Table 17 - Unemployed population by method of job search and sex – 2016

Method of job search	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Applied to prospective employers	10,300	14,200	24,500
Checked at factories, worksites etc	8,800	9,900	18,700
Registered at Employment Service *	6,000	12,300	18,300
Placed or answered advertisements	7,000	10,400	17,400
Sought assistance and advices **	5,100	6,300	11,400
All Unemployed	16,900	25,500	42,400

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

**to obtain a paid job or start own business

Table 18 - Unemployed population by type of job willing to accept and sex - 2016

Type of job willing to accept	Number		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Full time employment	15,900	23,400	39,300
Part time employment	10,700	16,200	26,900
Employment without limit	12,900	18,400	31,300
Temporary employment	9,000	13,000	22,000
Employment in public sector	14,400	22,400	36,800
Employment in private sector	14,800	21,700	36,500
Below level of qualification	9,500	15,600	25,100
Outside training or qualification	9,400	15,300	24,700
All Unemployed	16,900	25,500	42,400

Table 19 - Inactive population by inactivity status and sex – 2016

Inactivity status	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Students	38,200	39,300	77,500
Retired or old persons	56,900	44,100	101,000
Sick or disabled	19,000	17,200	36,200
Homemakers	8,500	161,000	161,500
Other		10,300	18,300
Total	122,600	271,900	394,500

Table 20 - Age specific activity rate (%) by sex - 2006 & 2016

Age group (years)	2006			2016		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
16 - 19	29.5	18.6	24.1	22.3	16.0	19.2
20 - 24	78.6	58.0	68.4	75.9	59.2	67.5
25 - 29	94.1	57.5	75.8	93.6	72.6	83.2
30 - 34	96.5	59.4	77.9	96.3	70.7	83.4
35 - 39	95.1	57.9	76.7	95.1	67.3	81.2
40 - 44	95.8	54.3	75.2	94.3	63.6	79.0
45 - 49	94.4	46.9	70.8	94.9	58.6	76.8
50 - 54	92.0	38.3	65.0	92.8	48.8	70.6
55 - 59	83.9	33.0	57.6	86.7	37.7	61.7
60 - 64	30.9	10.9	20.2	52.0	18.9	34.7
65+	13.8	3.6	7.9	15.9	5.8	10.1
All Ages	77.4	41.8	59.3	74.3	45.5	59.6

Table 21 - Unemployment rate (%) by sex - 2006 - 2016

Year	Unemployment Rate (%)		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes
2006	5.4	15.5	9.0
2007	5.2	14.4	8.5
2008	4.0	12.6	7.2
2009	4.3	12.3	7.3
2010	4.5	12.9	7.6
2011	5.0	12.4	7.8
2012	5.2	12.7	8.0
2013	5.3	12.2	8.0
2014	5.5	11.4	7.8
2015	5.5	11.6	7.9
2016	4.8	11.2	7.3

Table 22 - Percentage distribution of Mauritian employees² by basic wage range - 2016

Basic wage ³ range Rupees per month	Employees		Wages	
	%	Cumulative %	%	Cumulative %
Up to 3,500	5.3	5.3	0.7	0.7
3,501 - 4,000	1.9	7.2	0.4	1.1
4,001 - 4,500	1.0	8.2	0.2	1.3
4,501 - 5,000	2.6	10.8	0.7	2.0
5,001 - 6,000	3.9	14.7	1.2	3.2
6,001 - 7,000	4.3	19.0	1.5	4.7
7,001 - 8,000	6.5	25.5	2.7	7.4
8,001 - 9,000	6.3	31.9	2.9	10.4
9,001 - 10,000	7.2	39.0	3.7	14.1
10,001 - 11,000	5.1	44.1	2.9	17.0
11,001 - 12,000	4.7	48.8	2.9	19.9
12,001 - 13,000	5.0	53.8	3.4	23.3
13,001 - 14,000	3.7	57.5	2.7	26.0
14,001 - 15,000	3.8	61.4	3.0	29.0
15,001 - 20,000	11.8	73.2	11.1	40.1
20,001 - 25,000	7.5	80.7	9.0	49.1
25,001 - 30,000	4.3	85.0	6.4	55.5
30,001 - 35,000	3.6	88.6	6.3	61.8
35,001 - 40,000	2.8	91.5	5.7	67.5
40,001 - 50,000	3.6	95.1	8.6	76.1
50,001 - 60,000	1.6	96.7	4.7	80.8
60,001 - 70,000	1.0	97.7	3.5	84.3
70,001 - 75,000	0.3	98.0	1.4	85.7
75,001 and Over	2.0	100.0	14.3	100.0
Total	100.0		100.0	

Notes:

1. The above figures have been worked out using data from different sources. Users are cautioned in the use of these figures given that there are differences related to the reference period, coverage and methodology. The different sources from which these estimates have been obtained are as follows:

(i) CMPHS for estimates of wages in 'other than large' establishments, i.e those employing less than 10 persons in the private sector. These estimates are subject to sampling variability as mentioned in the methodology of the CMPHS included at the end of this report.

(ii) Business surveys carried by Statistics Mauritius for estimates of wages in large private establishments (March 2016) and public establishments (April 2016)

2. The term 'employees', which excludes self-employed and unpaid family workers, covers all persons in regular or casual employment and includes:-

- (a) Persons temporarily absent on paid sick or vacation leave; and
- (b) Persons holding managerial posts, family workers receiving wages or salaries, and paid apprentices.
- (c) Persons holding both part time and full time jobs

3. The Basic Wage comprises all emoluments, including yearly compensation and increment but excluding allowances such as bonus or overtime

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 2011 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. 977. 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.

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. Basic pay comprises all emoluments, including yearly compensation and increment but excluding allowances such as bonus and overtime, i.e Gross pay, including yearly compensation and increment, minus allowances such as bonus and overtime payments.

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

¹As 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