

Labour force, Employment and Unemployment – First quarter 2020

Introduction

1. This issue of Economic and Social Indicators (ESI) presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the first quarter of 2020, based on the results of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) from January to March 2020. The estimates refer to the Mauritian population aged 16 years and above.
2. Annual estimates of labour force including foreign workers derived after integrating data from CMPHS with other sources are given at Annex 3.

Key figures

	Q1 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Change	
				Q1 2019 to Q1 2020	Q4 2019 to Q1 2020
Population (aged 16+)	993,800	999,000	999,800	+6,000	+800
Labour Force (Economically active)	586,400	595,100	591,800	+5,400	-3,300
<i>Of which Employment</i>	<i>546,000</i>	<i>557,200</i>	<i>549,900</i>	<i>+3,900</i>	<i>-7,300</i>
<i>Unemployment</i>	<i>40,400</i>	<i>37,900</i>	<i>41,900</i>	<i>+1,500</i>	<i>+4,000</i>
Outside Labour Force (Economically inactive)	407,400	403,900	408,000	+600	+4,100
Activity rate (%)	59.0	59.6	59.2	+0.2	-0.4
Unemployment rate (%)	6.9	6.4	7.1	+0.2	+0.7
Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate	6.4	7.0	6.6	+0.2	-0.4
Youth unemployment	18,200	17,400	18,700	+500	+1,300
Youth unemployment rate (%)	23.4	23.2	25.5	+2.1	+2.3

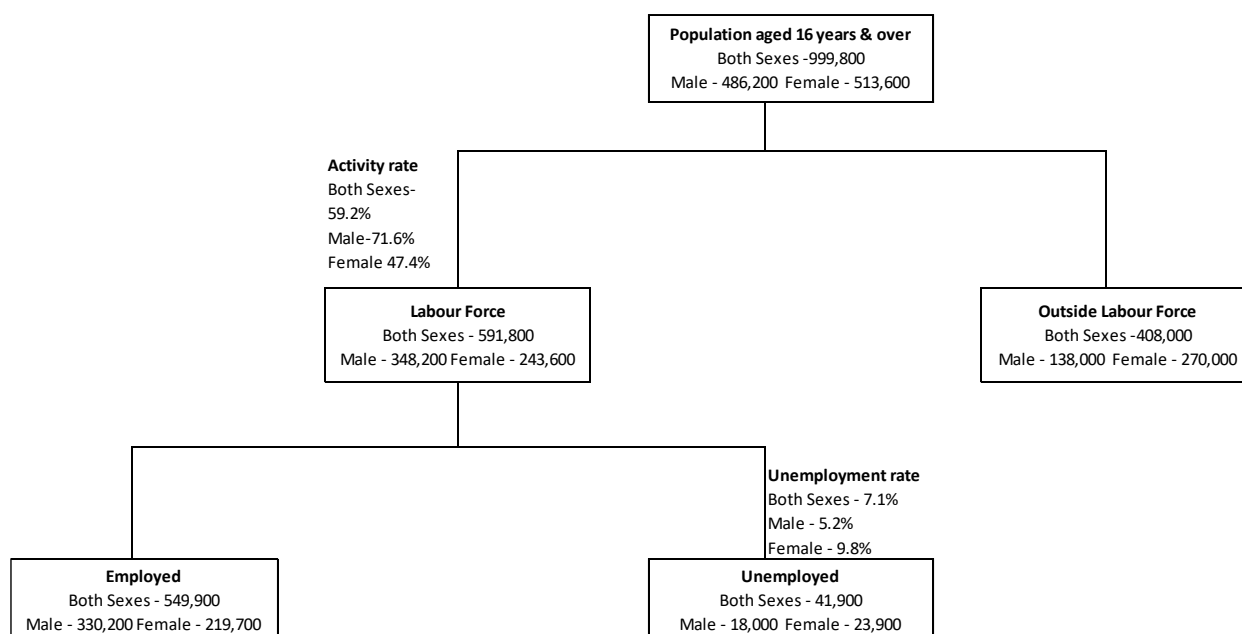
Note:

1. The face to face interviews were disrupted by the COVID-19 outbreak during the third month of the quarter (March 2020). The office had recourse to phone interviews to complete the survey. The weights were reviewed because of some non-response during the lockdown.
2. The net change in employment level in the above table is equal to “Employment creations minus employment losses” during the period under reference.

Labour market overview, first quarter 2020

- Compared with the corresponding quarter of 2019, there has been an increase in the labour force (+5,400), with a rise in both employment (+3,900) and unemployment (+1,500). The number of persons outside labour force increased by 600 during the same period.
- Compared with the previous quarter, labour force decreased by 3,300 with a decrease in employment (-7,300) and an increase in unemployment (+4,000). The number of persons outside labour force increased by 4,100 during the same period.

Chart 1: The Labour Market, 1st quarter 2020



Labour force participation

	Q1 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Change	
				Q1 2019 to Q1 2020	Q4 2019 to Q1 2020
Activity rate (%)					
Both sexes	59.0	59.6	59.2	+0.2	-0.4
Male	73.0	72.9	71.6	-1.4	-1.3
Female	45.7	46.9	47.4	+1.7	+0.5

- The activity rate for first quarter 2020 rose by 0.2 percentage point to 59.2% compared to the corresponding quarter of 2019. The male activity rate decreased by 1.4 percentage points to 71.6% and the female rate increased by 1.7 percentage points to 47.4%.

6. Compared to the previous quarter, the activity rate decreased by 0.4 percentage point. The male activity rate decreased by 1.3 percentage points to 71.6% while the female activity rate increased by 0.5 percentage point to 47.4%.

Employment

	Q1 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Change	
				Q1 2019 to Q1 2020	Q4 2019 to Q1 2020
Both sexes	546,000	557,200	549,900	+3,900	-7,300
Male	335,800	339,800	330,200	-5,600	-9,600
Female	210,200	217,400	219,700	+9,500	+2,300

7. From first quarter 2019 to first quarter 2020, employment increased by 3,900 to 549,900; female employment increased by 9,500 while male employment decreased by 5,600.

8. Compared to the previous quarter, employment decreased by 7,300; male employment decreased by 9,600 while female employment increased by 2,300.

Unemployment

	Q1 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Change	
				Q1 2019 to Q1 2020	Q4 2019 to Q1 2020
Both sexes	40,400	37,900	41,900	+1,500	+4,000
Male	17,400	14,500	18,000	+600	+3,500
Female	23,000	23,400	23,900	+900	+500
Unemployment rate (%)					
Both sexes	6.9	6.4	7.1	+0.2	+0.7
Male	4.9	4.1	5.2	+0.3	+1.1
Female	9.9	9.7	9.8	-0.1	+0.1

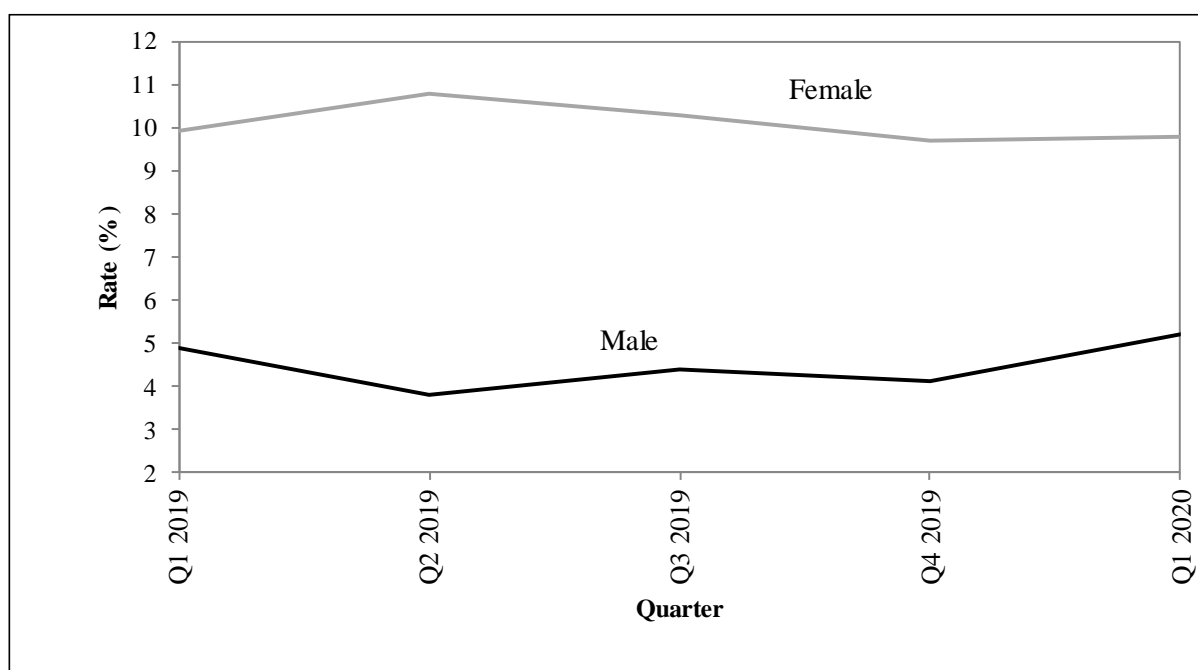
1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

9. From first quarter 2019 to first quarter 2020, the number of unemployed persons increased by 1,500; both male unemployment and female unemployment increased by 600 and 900 respectively.
10. The unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage point from 6.9% in first quarter 2019 to 7.1% in first quarter 2020. Male unemployment rate increased by 0.3 percentage point to 5.2% while female unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage point to 9.8%.

4th Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

11. When compared with the fourth quarter of 2019, the total number of unemployed persons increased by 4,000, with increases of 3,500 among males and 500 among females.
12. From fourth quarter 2019 to first quarter 2020, the unemployment rate increased by 0.7 percentage point from 6.4% to 7.1%. Male unemployment rate increased by 1.1 percentage points from 4.1% to 5.2% while female unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point from 9.7% to 9.8%.

Chart 2: Unemployment rate by sex, 1st quarter 2019 – 1st quarter 2020



Unemployment of the youth aged 16-24 years

	Q1 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Change	
				Q1 2019 to Q1 2020	Q4 2019 to Q1 2020
Both sexes	18,200	17,400	18,700	+500	+1,300
Male	8,100	7,500	9,800	+1,700	+2,300
Female	10,100	9,900	8,900	-1,200	-1,000
Youth unemployment rate (%)					
Both sexes	23.4	23.2	25.5	+2.1	+2.3
Male	18.3	18.0	24.7	+6.4	+6.7
Female	30.1	29.7	26.5	-3.6	-3.2

13. At the first quarter of 2020, unemployed youth aged 16 to 24 years was estimated at 18,700 (9,800 males and 8,900 females) compared to 17,400 (7,500 males and 9,900 females) at the previous quarter and 18,200 (8,100 males and 10,100 females) at the first quarter of 2019.

14. The youth unemployment rate increased from 23.4% to 25.5% in the first quarter of 2020 when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2019. During the same period, the youth unemployment rate for male increased by 6.4 percentage points to 24.7% and female youth unemployment rate decreased by 3.6 percentage points to 26.5%.

15. Compared to the previous quarter, the youth unemployment rate increased from 23.2% to 25.5%, with an increase of 6.7 percentage points in the male youth unemployment rate and a decrease of 3.2 percentage points in the female youth unemployment rate.

Characteristics of the unemployed as at first quarter 2020

16. The main characteristics of the unemployed as at first quarter 2020 were as follows:

- (i) The 41,900 unemployed comprised 18,000 males (43%) and 23,900 females (57%).
- (ii) Around 25,500 (61%) of the unemployed were not yet married. The majority of males (79%) were not yet married compared to 47% among the females.

- (iii) Some 20,400 (49%) of the unemployed did not have the Cambridge School Certificate (SC) or equivalent and among them, 4,200 had not even passed the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) or equivalent.
- (iv) Around 35,000 (84%) had been looking for work for up to one year and the remaining 6,900 (16%) for more than one year.
- (v) About 30,300 (72%) had working experience and 11,600 (28%) were looking for a first job.
- (vi) Around 18,700 (45%) were registered at the Employment Service Information Centre.
- (vii) There were 8,400 (20%) young persons aged 16 to 24 years, not yet married and looking for a first job. Some 2,200 possessed a qualification below SC.
- (viii) 4,300 or 10% of the unemployed were heads of households.
- (ix) 6,700 (16%) lived in households with no employed persons.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate

17. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2020 was 6.6%, higher than the rate at the corresponding quarter of 2019 (6.4%) but lower than the rate at the previous quarter (7.0%).

Population outside Labour Force

18. The number of persons aged 16 years and over, not forming part of the labour force (inactive population) was estimated at 408,000 at the first quarter of 2020 compared to 403,900 in the previous quarter and 407,400 in the first quarter of 2019.
19. The population outside labour force comprised 138,000 males and 270,000 females. Among males, around 49% were retired/old persons and 27% were students. Among females, 56% were homemakers, 20% were retired/old persons and 14% were students.

Sampling errors

20. The estimates in this publication are based on the results of a sample survey and are thus subject to sample variability. Standard errors and confidence intervals give an indication of this variability.
21. The standard error of the estimates and the 95% confidence interval which represent a 95% chance that the true value lies within that interval, are given in the tables that follow.
22. Standard errors for the first quarter of 2020 are slightly higher due to less households covered (2,613 instead of the targeted number of 2,820), as a result of incomplete data collection in March 2020 because of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 1st quarter 2019 – 1st quarter 2020

Both Sexes

		Estimates	Standard Error	95% confidence interval	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
Labour force					
	2019 Q1	586,400	11,300	564,100	608,700
	Q2	592,900	11,900	569,400	616,400
	Q3	585,000	10,200	564,900	605,200
	Q4	595,100	9,900	575,600	614,600
	2020 Q1 ¹	591,800	12,100	567,900	615,500
Employment					
	2019 Q1	546,000	10,700	524,800	567,100
	Q2	553,800	11,200	531,700	575,900
	Q3	545,700	9,900	526,100	565,300
	Q4	557,200	9,400	538,600	575,800
	2020 Q1 ¹	549,900	11,400	527,400	572,300
Unemployment					
	2019 Q1	40,400	2,800	34,900	46,000
	Q2	39,100	2,500	34,100	44,100
	Q3	39,300	2,400	34,600	44,100
	Q4	37,900	2,600	32,900	43,000
	2020 Q1 ¹	41,900	2,800	36,400	47,300
Unemployment rate, %					
	2019 Q1	6.9	0.5	6.0	7.8
	Q2	6.6	0.4	5.8	7.4
	Q3	6.7	0.4	5.9	7.5
	Q4	6.4	0.4	5.6	7.2
	2020 Q1 ¹	7.1	0.4	6.2	7.9
Activity rate, %					
	2019 Q1	59.0	0.6	57.7	60.3
	Q2	59.5	0.6	58.3	60.8
	Q3	58.7	0.6	57.5	59.8
	Q4	59.6	0.6	58.4	60.7
	2020 Q1 ¹	59.2	0.7	57.9	60.5

¹ Provisional

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 1st quarter 2019 – 1st quarter 2020

Male

		Estimates	Standard Error	95% confidence interval	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
Labour force					
	2019 Q1	353,200	7,100	339,200	367,200
	Q2	354,600	7,300	340,200	368,900
	Q3	354,600	6,400	342,000	367,200
	Q4	354,300	6,700	341,200	367,500
	2020 Q1 ¹	348,200	7,500	333,300	363,000
Employment					
	2019 Q1	335,800	6,700	322,600	349,000
	Q2	341,200	7,300	326,900	355,500
	Q3	339,100	6,100	327,000	351,100
	Q4	339,800	6,400	327,100	352,500
	2020 Q1 ¹	330,200	7,200	316,100	344,300
Unemployment					
	2019 Q1	17,400	1,800	13,800	21,000
	Q2	13,400	1,400	10,600	16,200
	Q3	15,500	1,500	12,500	18,500
	Q4	14,500	1,600	11,300	17,700
	2020 Q1 ¹	18,000	2,000	14,000	21,900
Unemployment rate, %					
	2019 Q1	4.9	0.5	4.0	5.9
	Q2	3.8	0.4	3.0	4.6
	Q3	4.4	0.4	3.6	5.2
	Q4	4.1	0.4	3.2	5.0
	2020 Q1 ¹	5.2	0.5	4.1	6.2
Activity rate, %					
	2019 Q1	73.0	0.8	71.4	74.6
	Q2	73.1	0.8	71.5	74.6
	Q3	73.1	0.7	71.7	74.6
	Q4	72.9	0.7	71.5	74.4
	2020 Q1 ¹	71.6	0.8	70.0	73.3

¹ Provisional

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 1st quarter 2019 – 1st quarter 2020

		Estimates	Standard Error	95% confidence interval	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
Female					
Labour force					
	2019 Q1	233,200	6,500	220,500	245,900
	Q2	238,300	6,800	225,000	251,600
	Q3	230,400	6,200	218,300	242,700
	Q4	240,800	5,700	229,700	251,900
	2020 Q1 ¹	243,600	6,500	230,700	256,500
Employment					
	2019 Q1	210,200	6,100	198,100	222,300
	Q2	212,600	6,200	200,300	224,900
	Q3	206,600	6,000	194,800	218,500
	Q4	217,400	5,400	206,800	227,900
	2020 Q1 ¹	219,700	6,200	207,500	231,800
Unemployment					
	2019 Q1	23,000	1,900	19,200	26,800
	Q2	25,700	2,100	21,500	29,900
	Q3	23,800	1,800	20,300	27,300
	Q4	23,400	1,800	19,800	27,000
	2020 Q1 ¹	23,900	2,000	19,900	27,900
Unemployment rate, %					
	2019 Q1	9.9	0.8	8.3	11.4
	Q2	10.8	0.8	9.2	12.4
	Q3	10.3	0.8	8.9	11.8
	Q4	9.7	0.7	8.3	11.1
	2020 Q1 ¹	9.8	0.8	8.3	11.4
Activity rate, %					
	2019 Q1	45.7	0.9	43.9	47.6
	Q2	46.6	0.9	44.8	48.4
	Q3	45.0	0.8	43.3	46.7
	Q4	46.9	0.8	45.3	48.5
	2020 Q1 ¹	47.4	0.8	45.8	49.1

¹ Provisional

The following tables together with the web version of this publication can be downloaded from Statistics Mauritius website at <http://statsmauritius.govmu.org> From the homepage, click on ‘Statistics by subject’ followed by ‘Labour’ then select the appropriate publication under the heading ‘Publications – Economic and Social Indicators’.

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NOTES

Release of Labour Force data

Labour Force statistics are compiled and published in the “Economic and Social Indicators” in March, June, September and December according to an advance calendar posted on the website of Statistics Mauritius (<http://statsmauritius.govmu.org>). This issue provides data for the first quarter 2020 compared to the previous quarter and to the same quarter a year ago.

However, where appropriate, historical series are also provided for the main indicators.

The CMPHS Survey methodology

Data collection

Face to face interviews of household members are carried out by qualified interviewers recruited by the office.

Frequency of data collection

Data collection is carried out monthly except in 2004 when it 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 has graduated on 28 February 2012.

Scope and coverage of collection

All private Mauritian households in the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues are covered.

Sampling method

A Stratified two-stage sampling design is used. At the first stage, Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) are selected in proportion to square root of the total number of households in the geographical district 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.

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.

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.

Estimation and reliability of results

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, 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.

Definitions

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.

Employment

Employed population consists of Mauritians aged 16 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.).

It is to be noted that 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.

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.

Labour force

Labour force or active population is made up of employed and unemployed population.

Unemployment rate

Unemployment rate is the ratio (%) of unemployment to labour force.

Outside the Labour Force (previously known as inactive population)

Outside the labour force includes all Mauritians aged 16+ years, 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.

Activity rate

Activity rate is the ratio (%) of labour force to population aged 16+ (active and inactive population).

Employer

An employer is a person who operates his/her own business or trade and hires one or more employees

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.

Employee

An Employee is a person who works for pay for someone else, even in a temporary capacity.

Apprentice

An Apprentice is a person being trained for a job or trade. He/She may be paid or may receive some pocket money; a paid apprentice is considered as an employee.

Contributing family worker

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

Educational attainment

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

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

Tertiary: comprises persons who in addition to 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.

Annual labour force estimates based on data from different data sources, 2012 - 2019

	Labour force			Employment				Unemployment ¹	
	Mauritians aged 16+	Foreign workers	Total	in large establishments	outside large establishments	Total	of whom Mauritians	Number	Rate
	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(000s)	(%)
Both sexes									
2012	556.3	24.0	580.3	311.5	224.2	535.7	511.7	44.6	8.0
2013	571.2	26.3	597.5	312.5	239.5	552.0	525.7	45.5	8.0
2014	575.7	28.3	604.0	313.5	245.7	559.2	530.9	44.8	7.8
2015	584.6	28.3	612.9	314.1	252.5	566.6	538.3	46.3	7.9
2016	581.0	28.6	609.6	314.2	253.0	567.2	538.6	42.4	7.3
2017	586.9	28.4	615.3	316.9	256.6	573.5	545.1	41.8	7.1
2018	583.8	29.4	613.2	320.0	253.1	573.1	543.7	40.1	6.9
2019	591.0	30.7	621.7	322.4	259.6	582.0	551.3	39.7	6.7
Male									
2012	346.9	14.2	361.1	198.3	144.7	343.0	328.8	18.1	5.2
2013	350.4	16.5	366.9	199.1	149.2	348.3	331.8	18.6	5.3
2014	352.8	18.3	371.1	199.3	152.4	351.7	333.4	19.4	5.5
2015	353.3	18.6	371.9	198.5	153.9	352.4	333.8	19.5	5.5
2016	353.6	19.3	372.9	198.6	157.4	356.0	336.7	16.9	4.8
2017	356.6	20.0	376.6	194.8	164.6	359.4	339.4	17.2	4.8
2018	352.8	21.3	374.1	196.0	161.4	357.4	336.1	16.7	4.7
2019	354.7	24.5	379.2	198.5	165.1	363.6	339.1	15.6	4.4
Female									
2012	209.4	9.8	219.2	113.2	79.5	192.7	182.9	26.5	12.7
2013	220.8	9.8	230.6	113.4	90.3	203.7	193.9	26.9	12.2
2014	222.9	10.0	232.9	114.2	93.3	207.5	197.5	25.4	11.4
2015	231.3	9.7	241.0	115.6	98.6	214.2	204.5	26.8	11.6
2016	227.4	9.3	236.7	115.6	95.6	211.2	201.9	25.5	11.2
2017	230.3	8.4	238.7	122.1	92.0	214.1	205.7	24.6	10.7
2018	231.0	8.1	239.1	124.0	91.7	215.7	207.6	23.4	10.1
2019	236.3	6.2	242.5	123.9	94.5	218.4	212.2	24.1	10.2

¹ Unemployment figures and rate refer to Mauritians

Note:

1. The above figures have been worked out in order to give a set of comparable labour force estimates obtained 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 Mauritian labour force estimates which are subject to sampling variability as mentioned at Annex 1.
- ii The Annual Survey of Employment and Earnings (SEE) carried out in March of each year. Employment figures refer to jobs in large establishments employing 10 or more persons and include both Mauritians and foreign workers.
- iii Employment in 'other than large' establishments has been estimated after reconciling data from CMPHS, SEE and administrative sources.

Table 1: Labour market activity by status, 1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

	Total Mauritian population aged 16 & over	In employment					Unemployed	In thousands	
		Employees	Employers	Own account workers	Contrib. family workers	Total		Total econ. active	Total econ. inactive
Both sexes									
2019 Q1	993.8	431.9	18.4	84.0	11.7	546.0	40.4	586.4	407.4
Q2	996.3	442.2	17.9	81.2	12.5	553.8	39.1	592.9	403.4
Q3	997.1	446.0	17.9	74.1	7.7	545.7	39.3	585.0	412.1
Q4	999.0	446.6	18.3	78.3	14.0	557.2	37.9	595.1	403.9
2020 Q1 ¹	999.8	441.7	19.8	77.1	11.3	549.9	41.9	591.8	408.0
% change, latest quarter over:									
previous quarter	0.1	-1.1	8.2	-1.5	-19.3	-1.3	10.6	-0.6	1.0
same quarter a year ago	0.6	2.3	7.6	-8.2	-3.4	0.7	3.7	0.9	0.1
Male									
2019 Q1	484.0	251.9	16.1	64.2	3.6	335.8	17.4	353.2	130.8
Q2	485.2	260.8	14.4	62.1	3.9	341.2	13.4	354.6	130.6
Q3	484.9	265.1	15.8	55.4	2.8	339.1	15.5	354.6	130.3
Q4	485.7	259.0	16.0	60.3	4.5	339.8	14.5	354.3	131.4
2020 Q1 ¹	486.2	250.8	15.8	61.5	2.1	330.2	18.0	348.2	138.0
% change, latest quarter over:									
previous quarter	0.1	-3.2	-1.3	2.0	-53.3	-2.8	24.1	-1.7	5.0
same quarter a year ago	0.5	-0.4	-1.9	-4.2	-41.7	-1.7	3.4	-1.4	5.5
Female									
2019 Q1	509.8	180.0	2.3	19.8	8.1	210.2	23.0	233.2	276.6
Q2	511.1	181.4	3.5	19.1	8.6	212.6	25.7	238.3	272.8
Q3	512.2	180.9	2.1	18.7	4.9	206.6	23.8	230.4	281.8
Q4	513.3	187.6	2.3	18.0	9.5	217.4	23.4	240.8	272.5
2020 Q1 ¹	513.6	190.9	4.0	15.6	9.2	219.7	23.9	243.6	270.0
% change, latest quarter over:									
previous quarter	0.1	1.8	73.9	-13.3	-3.2	1.1	2.1	1.2	-0.9
same quarter a year ago	0.7	6.1	73.9	-21.2	13.6	4.5	3.9	4.5	-2.4

¹ Provisional

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by age and sex, 1st Quarter 2020¹

	In thousands					
	Mauritian aged 16 and over	Age group (years)				
		16-24	25 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50+
Both sexes						
In employment	549.9	54.6	65.9	129.7	137.9	161.8
Unemployed	41.9	18.7	8.0	8.5	4.5	2.2
Labour force	591.8	73.3	73.9	138.2	142.4	164.0
Population outside labour force	408.0	95.3	14.0	28.2	31.5	239.0
Total Population	999.8	168.6	87.9	166.4	173.9	403.0
Employment rate (%)	92.9	74.5	89.2	93.8	96.8	98.7
Unemployment rate (%)	7.1	25.5	10.8	6.2	3.2	1.3
Activity rate (%)	59.2	43.5	84.1	83.1	81.9	40.7
Male						
In employment	330.2	29.9	36.7	74.1	81.8	107.7
Unemployed	18.0	9.8	3.2	3.1	1.2	0.7
Labour force	348.2	39.7	39.9	77.2	83.0	108.4
Population outside labour force	138.0	45.2	3.5	5.3	4.3	79.7
Total Population	486.2	84.9	43.4	82.5	87.3	188.1
Employment rate (%)	94.8	75.3	92.0	96.0	98.6	99.4
Unemployment rate (%)	5.2	24.7	8.0	4.0	1.4	0.6
Activity rate (%)	71.6	46.8	91.9	93.6	95.1	57.6
Female						
In employment	219.7	24.7	29.2	55.6	56.1	54.1
Unemployed	23.9	8.9	4.8	5.4	3.3	1.5
Labour force	243.6	33.6	34.0	61.0	59.4	55.6
Population outside labour force	270.0	50.1	10.5	22.9	27.2	159.3
Total Population	513.6	83.7	44.5	83.9	86.6	214.9
Employment rate (%)	90.2	73.5	85.9	91.1	94.4	97.3
Unemployment rate (%)	9.8	26.5	14.1	8.9	5.6	2.7
Activity rate (%)	47.4	40.1	76.4	72.7	68.6	25.9

¹ Provisional

Table 3: Employment by industrial activity, 1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

	Total employed aged 16+	Primary sector	Secondary sector	Tertiary sector	Selected NSIC ¹ Sections			
					Manufacturing	Construction	Wholesale and retail trade	Other services
					C	F	G	H - U
	(000s)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Both sexes								
2019 Q1	546.0	6.5	23.9	69.6	13.1	10.1	15.9	53.7
Q2	553.8	5.1	22.2	72.7	12.0	9.2	17.0	55.8
Q3	545.7	5.2	23.3	71.5	12.0	10.2	14.9	56.6
Q4	557.2	6.6	25.4	68.0	14.0	10.5	15.4	52.6
2020 Q1 ²	549.9	6.8	22.2	71.0	12.4	9.1	15.4	55.6
Male								
2019 Q1	335.8	7.9	29.8	62.3	12.9	15.9	14.8	47.5
Q2	341.2	6.4	28.4	65.2	12.5	14.5	15.4	49.8
Q3	339.1	6.0	28.5	65.5	11.0	16.0	14.7	50.8
Q4	339.8	8.1	31.4	60.5	13.3	16.8	14.4	46.1
2020 Q1 ²	330.2	9.1	27.8	63.1	12.0	14.9	13.7	49.5
Female								
2019 Q1	210.2	4.1	14.5	81.4	13.5	0.8	17.6	63.7
Q2	212.6	2.9	12.1	85.0	11.3	0.6	19.5	65.5
Q3	206.6	3.9	14.7	81.4	13.8	0.6	15.2	66.2
Q4	217.4	4.4	16.0	79.6	15.1	0.6	16.9	62.6
2020 Q1 ²	219.7	3.4	13.7	82.9	13.1	0.4	18.0	64.9

¹ National version of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Revision 4)

² Provisional

Table 4: Employment by occupational group, 1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

		ISCO-08 ¹					
		Total employed aged 16+	Managers, Professionals, Technicians & associate professionals	Clerical support workers	Service and sales workers	Agricultural, Craft & related trades workers, Plant & machine operators & assemblers	Elementary occupations
		(000s)	1,2,3 (%)	4 (%)	5 (%)	6,7,8 (%)	9 (%)
Both sexes							
	2019 Q1	546.0	23.6	7.9	23.1	29.4	16.0
	Q2	553.8	26.4	8.1	23.4	26.3	15.8
	Q3	545.7	24.2	9.8	21.2	28.2	16.6
	Q4	557.2	22.7	8.7	22.5	30.0	16.1
	2020 Q1 ²	549.9	24.4	9.5	21.9	27.1	17.1
Male							
	2019 Q1	335.8	21.1	4.5	20.3	41.3	12.8
	Q2	341.2	23.8	5.6	21.3	36.8	12.5
	Q3	339.1	22.4	6.6	18.9	38.5	13.6
	Q4	339.8	20.2	5.2	20.1	41.8	12.7
	2020 Q1 ²	330.2	21.2	6.1	19.6	39.4	13.7
Female							
	2019 Q1	210.2	27.7	13.3	27.5	10.5	21.0
	Q2	212.6	30.5	12.2	26.8	9.5	21.0
	Q3	206.6	27.3	15.0	25.1	11.0	21.6
	Q4	217.4	26.8	14.1	26.2	11.5	21.4
	2020 Q1 ²	219.7	29.3	14.7	25.3	8.6	22.1

¹ National version of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08)

² Provisional

Table 5: Employment by hours worked, 1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

	Total employed aged 16+ (000's)	Total hours worked (000's)	% having worked for:					Average number of hours worked
			0 hour	1 to 23 hours	24 to 40 hours	41 to 50 hours	51 and above	
Both sexes								
2019 Q1	546.0	19,900	4.6	11.7	45.4	25.9	12.4	38.1
Q2	553.8	21,100	3.8	10.8	42.2	29.3	13.9	39.6
Q3	545.7	20,000	4.6	10.3	48.0	23.9	13.2	38.4
Q4	557.2	21,300	5.9	9.9	38.0	31.4	14.8	40.5
2020 Q1 ¹	549.9	19,500	6.1	12.8	44.0	25.1	12.0	37.9
Male								
2019 Q1	335.8	12,700	5.8	8.9	42.7	27.1	15.5	40.1
Q2	341.2	13,500	4.6	8.6	38.1	31.7	17.0	41.5
Q3	339.1	13,100	4.7	7.2	46.4	25.2	16.5	40.5
Q4	339.8	13,800	5.6	6.2	36.0	34.2	18.0	42.9
2020 Q1 ¹	330.2	12,200	7.3	9.8	40.9	27.5	14.5	40.0
Female								
2019 Q1	210.2	7,200	2.8	16.3	49.6	23.9	7.4	35.1
Q2	212.6	7,600	2.5	14.4	48.8	25.5	8.8	36.6
Q3	206.6	6,900	4.5	15.4	50.7	21.7	7.7	34.9
Q4	217.4	7,500	6.5	15.8	41.1	26.9	9.7	36.8
2020 Q1 ¹	219.7	7,300	4.3	17.3	48.7	21.4	8.3	34.9

0 hour not included in total hours worked & in average number of hours worked

¹ Provisional

Table 6: Unemployment by educational attainment, 1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

	Unemployed Mauritians aged 16+ (000s)	Primary			Secondary			Tertiary		
		Total (%)	Below CPE (%)	Passed CPE (%)	Total (%)	Below SC (%)	Passed SC (%)	Passed HSC (%)		
Both sexes										
2019 Q1	40.4	12.8	10.6	2.2	67.3	38.4	15.8	13.1	19.9	
Q2	39.1	14.0	11.0	3.0	65.0	33.0	19.2	12.8	21.0	
Q3	39.3	15.8	10.7	5.1	56.2	32.8	12.7	10.7	28.0	
Q4	37.9	11.6	7.6	4.0	60.2	30.3	16.4	13.5	28.2	
2020 Q1 ¹	41.9	13.1	10.0	3.1	66.8	35.6	21.2	10.0	20.1	
Male										
2019 Q1	17.4	14.4	12.1	2.3	68.9	49.4	10.3	9.2	16.7	
Q2	13.4	14.2	10.5	3.7	63.4	41.8	9.7	11.9	22.4	
Q3	15.5	14.9	9.7	5.2	65.7	40.6	9.7	15.4	19.4	
Q4	14.5	11.7	5.5	6.2	70.4	42.1	13.8	14.5	17.9	
2020 Q1 ¹	18.0	11.7	10.0	1.7	68.9	39.4	21.7	7.8	19.4	
Female										
2019 Q1	23.0	11.7	9.5	2.2	66.1	30.0	20.0	16.1	22.2	
Q2	25.7	14.0	11.3	2.7	65.8	28.5	24.1	13.2	20.2	
Q3	23.8	16.3	11.3	5.0	50.1	27.8	14.7	7.6	33.6	
Q4	23.4	11.6	9.0	2.6	53.8	23.1	17.9	12.8	34.6	
2020 Q1 ¹	23.9	14.2	10.0	4.2	65.2	32.6	20.9	11.7	20.6	

¹ Provisional

Table 7: Unemployment by age, 1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

		In Thousands			
		All aged 16 and over	Age group (years)		
			16-24	25-49	50+
Both sexes					
	2019 Q1	40.4	18.2	19.9	2.3
	Q2	39.1	16.1	20.3	2.7
	Q3	39.3	16.4	20.2	2.7
	Q4	37.9	17.4	18.6	1.9
	2020 Q1 ¹	41.9	18.7	21.0	2.2
Change, latest quarter over:					
	previous quarter	4.0	1.3	2.4	0.3
	same quarter a year ago	1.5	0.5	1.1	-0.1
Male					
	2019 Q1	17.4	8.1	8.4	0.9
	Q2	13.4	6.1	5.9	1.4
	Q3	15.5	8.1	6.2	1.2
	Q4	14.5	7.5	5.8	1.2
	2020 Q1 ¹	18.0	9.8	7.5	0.7
Change, latest quarter over:					
	previous quarter	3.5	2.3	1.7	-0.5
	same quarter a year ago	0.6	1.7	-0.9	-0.2
Female					
	2019 Q1	23.0	10.1	11.5	1.4
	Q2	25.7	10.0	14.4	1.3
	Q3	23.8	8.3	14.0	1.5
	Q4	23.4	9.9	12.8	0.7
	2020 Q1 ¹	23.9	8.9	13.5	1.5
Change, latest quarter over:					
	previous quarter	0.5	-1.0	0.7	0.8
	same quarter a year ago	0.9	-1.2	2.0	0.1

¹ Provisional

Table 8: Unemployment by work experience, 1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

	Unemployed Mauritians aged 16+	No. of first job seekers	Unemployed with work experience by industry *					
			Total	Manuf.	Construction	Wholesale & Retail Trade	Accommodation & Food Service Activities	Other
			(000s)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Both sexes								
2019 Q1	40.4	13.4	27.0	13.0	10.0	20.7	19.6	36.7
Q2	39.1	10.5	28.6	12.9	8.0	24.5	11.5	43.1
Q3	39.3	11.0	28.3	12.0	7.3	24.5	16.1	40.1
Q4	37.9	14.1	23.8	11.8	11.8	15.5	14.7	46.2
2020 Q1 ¹	41.9	11.6	30.3	12.5	9.9	17.8	20.5	39.3
Change, latest quarter over:								
previous quarter	4.0	-2.5	6.5					
same quarter a year ago	1.5	-1.8	3.3					
Male								
2019 Q1	17.4	5.2	12.2	8.2	21.3	12.3	22.1	36.1
Q2	13.4	3.6	9.8	14.3	23.5	15.3	7.1	39.8
Q3	15.5	4.1	11.4	9.8	16.9	20.5	19.5	33.3
Q4	14.5	3.5	11.0	9.1	25.5	10.0	13.6	41.8
2020 Q1 ¹	18.0	4.1	13.9	11.5	20.1	18.0	17.3	33.1
Change, latest quarter over:								
previous quarter	3.5	0.6	2.9					
same quarter a year ago	0.6	-1.1	1.7					
Female								
2019 Q1	23.0	8.2	14.8	16.9	0.7	27.7	17.6	37.1
Q2	25.7	6.9	18.8	12.2	0.0	29.3	13.8	44.7
Q3	23.8	6.9	16.9	13.5	0.8	27.2	13.8	44.7
Q4	23.4	10.6	12.8	14.1	0.0	20.3	15.6	50.0
2020 Q1 ¹	23.9	7.5	16.4	13.4	1.2	17.7	23.2	44.5
Change, latest quarter over:								
previous quarter	0.5	-3.1	3.6					
same quarter a year ago	0.9	-0.7	1.6					

* National version of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Revision 4)

¹ Provisional

Table 9: Population outside labour force by reason, 1st Quarter 2019 to 1st Quarter 2020

	Total Mauritians aged 16+	Population outside labour force by reason					
		Total	Homemakers	Retired or elderly	Students	Sick or disabled	Other
		(000s)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Both sexes							
2019 Q1	993.8	407.4	39.1	29.0	18.4	9.1	4.4
Q2	996.3	403.4	38.9	28.2	19.5	9.5	3.9
Q3	997.1	412.1	38.2	29.8	21.2	7.8	3.0
Q4	999.0	403.9	38.1	31.8	20.6	6.9	2.6
2020 Q1 ¹	999.8	408.0	37.4	29.6	18.7	9.1	5.2
Male							
2019 Q1	484.0	130.8	0.3	48.9	27.3	17.4	6.1
Q2	485.2	130.6	0.3	48.5	28.6	16.5	6.1
Q3	484.9	130.3	0.4	50.4	30.7	13.7	4.8
Q4	485.7	131.4	0.9	53.1	30.1	11.6	4.3
2020 Q1 ¹	486.2	138.0	0.1	49.0	27.3	15.5	8.1
Female							
2019 Q1	509.8	276.6	57.5	19.6	14.2	5.2	3.5
Q2	511.1	272.8	57.3	18.5	15.1	6.2	2.9
Q3	512.2	281.8	55.7	20.3	16.8	5.0	2.2
Q4	513.3	272.5	56.0	21.5	16.0	4.6	1.9
2020 Q1 ¹	513.6	270.0	56.5	19.7	14.2	5.9	3.7

¹ Provisional