

Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE)

1st Quarter 2020

1. Introduction

This issue of “Economic and Social Indicators” (ESI) presents the results of the Quarterly Survey of Employment among Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE), conducted by Statistics Mauritius at the end of March 2020.

It also includes provisional figures on EOE imports and exports for the first quarter of 2020 as well as figures for the years 2018 and 2019. Table 1 shows the main indicators of the EOE sector for the period 2011 to 2019.

EOE consist of enterprises formerly holding an EPZ certificate as well as enterprises manufacturing goods for export and holding a registration certificate issued by the ex-Board of Investment.

2. Employment

2.1 Employment – 1st Quarter 2020

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2019, employment in EOE decreased by 672 (-1.5%) from 44,160 to 43,488. Male employment dropped by 358 from 23,055 to 22,697 and female employment decreased by 314 from 21,105 to 20,791 (Table 2).

The number of Mauritians employed in the EOE sector went down by 371 (-1.6%) (-18 males and -353 females) from 23,747 to 23,376 and the number of foreign workers decreased by 301 (-1.5%) (-340 males and +39 females) from 20,413 at the end of December 2019 to 20,112 at the end of March 2020 (Table 2).

The decrease of 672 in employment in the EOE sector during the first quarter of 2020 is the net result of 328 jobs created due to expansion in existing enterprises and 1,000 jobs lost. The job losses were due to the contraction of workforce.

2.2 Evolution of employment from March 2019 to March 2020

From March 2019 to March 2020, total employment in EOE decreased by 5,211 (-10.7%) from 48,699 to 43,488. The number of Mauritian workers decreased by 3,335 (-1,069 males and -2,266 females). Employment of foreign workers decreased by 1,876 (-2,124 males and +248 females) (Tables 2 and 5).

Job losses occurred mainly in enterprises engaged in the manufacture of “Wearing apparel” with a decrease of 4,668 jobs.

Details of employment by product group and sex are given in Table 3 and changes in employment by product group in Table 4.

3. Exports and Imports

Statistics on imports and exports are compiled from declarations lodged at Customs by importers and exporters. Some of these declarations are, at times, revised at a later period and corrections made accordingly on the computerised database of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) - Customs Department. Thus, while figures for 2018 are final, those for 2019 and first quarter 2020 are subject to revision as and when the MRA - Customs Department submits latest amendments to Statistics Mauritius.

3.1 Exports and Imports – 1st Quarter 2020

3.1.1 Exports (f.o.b)

Provisional figures show that EOE exports during the first quarter of 2020 amounted to R 9,598 million, that is, R 552 million (-5.4%) lower compared to the fourth quarter of 2019 (Table 6). That was mainly the result of a decrease of R 508 million (-11.7%) in the exports of “Articles of apparel and clothing”, partly offset by an increase of R 239 million (+10.3%) in the exports of “Fish and fish preparations”.

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2019, EOE exports decreased by R 617 million (-6.0%).

Details on EOE exports by section are given in Table 7.

United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK), South Africa and France remain the principal EOE markets, together accounted for R 4,665 million (48.6%) of total EOE exports (Table 9). The table below highlights the changes in our main EOE exports markets.

EOE exports by main country of destination

(R million)

Country of destination	Exports Q1 2020	Change on	
		Q4 2019	Q1 2019
USA	1,331	+4	-28
United Kingdom	1,195	-370	-512
South Africa	1,176	-205	+21
France	963	-18	-198

Compared to the previous quarter, EOE exports to our main markets showed decreases as follows: United Kingdom (-23.6%), South Africa (-14.8%) and France (-1.8%). An increase of +0.3% in exports to USA was recorded.

When compared to the first quarter of 2019, decreases of 30.0%, 17.1% and 2.1% were noted for United Kingdom, France and USA respectively whilst South Africa showed an increase of 1.8%.

Further details are given in Table 9.

3.1.2 Imports (c.i.f)

EOE imports during the first quarter of 2020 were estimated at R 4,791 million, representing a decrease of R 1,252 million (-20.7%) compared to the fourth quarter of 2019 (Table 6). This decrease is mainly due to lower imports of raw materials by R 1,173 million (-20.5%).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2019, imports decreased by R 1,537 million (-24.3%), mainly due to decreases in imports of “Fish & fish preparations” by R 397 million (-26.6%), “Cotton” by R 348 million (-51.5%), “Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones” by R 259 million (-31.9%) and “Textile yarn and fabrics” by R 174 million (-15.9%). Details on EOE imports by section are given in Table 8.

3.1.3 Net exports

Net exports, i.e. exports minus imports, amounted to R 4,807 million in the first quarter of 2020 and its ratio to total exports worked out to 50.1% compared to 38.1% in the corresponding quarter of 2019 (Table 6).

It is to be noted that the above exports and imports figures do not include transactions of the EOE with the Freeport. EOE sales to the Freeport, considered as local sales, were valued at R 21 million in the first quarter of 2020 compared to R 34 million in the first quarter of 2019. These sales are included in exports of Freeport, as and when the goods leave the country.

Statistics Mauritius

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July 2020

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Table 1 - Main economic indicators, EOE Sector, 2011 - 2019

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1. No of enterprises as at December	352	330	309	300	284	282	280	263	239
- New	15	1	2	8	1	2	-	-	-
- Closures	33	23	23	17	17	4	2	17	24
2. Employment as at December	55,646	54,583	53,663	54,813	53,601	52,602	52,172	49,866	44,160
- Net change	-180	-1,063	-920	+1,150	-1,212	-999	-430	-2,306	-5,706
- Growth rate (%)	-0.3	-1.9	-1.7	+2.1	-2.2	-1.9	-0.8	-4.4	-11.4
3. Exports (f.o.b, R million)	43,100	45,606	46,778	49,069	48,487	44,422	43,027	43,311	42,518 ¹
4. Imports (c.i.f, R million):	27,025	26,665	29,340	28,596	27,312	25,638	27,094	25,929	24,686 ¹
- Raw materials	25,994	25,435	27,850	27,001	25,835	24,254	25,891	24,596	23,681 ¹
- Machinery & spare parts	1,031	1,230	1,490	1,595	1,477	1,384	1,203	1,333	1,005 ¹
5. Net exports (R million)	16,075	18,941	17,438	20,473	21,175	18,784	15,933	17,382	17,832 ¹
6. Net exports to Exports (%)	37.3	41.5	37.3	41.7	43.7	42.3	37.0	40.1	41.9 ¹
7. Value added at basic prices (R million)	18,088	19,157	20,328	20,704	20,968	20,125	19,867	19,607	18,698 ²
- Share in Manufacturing (%)	39.5	40.0	39.3	38.9	39.0	37.3	36.8	35.9	34.3 ²
- Share in Gross value added (%)	6.2	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.2	4.9	4.6	4.3 ²
8. Annual Real Growth rate of Value added (%)	+6.1	+1.4	-3.0	+2.5	-3.1	-5.1	+0.3	-4.5	-5.6 ²
9. Investment (R million)	1,139	1,065	1,930	2,700	1,140	1,254	1,091	1,104	739 ²
- of which Machinery	986	988	1,101	1,686	636	750	745	770	625 ²

¹ Provisional

² Revised

Table 2 - Employment by size of enterprise and sex, EOE Sector, March 2019 - March 2020

Category	Number of enterprises as at			Employment								
				March 2019			December 2019			March 2020		
	March 19	December 19	March 20	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Enterprises with less than 10 employees	52	44	47	91	86	177	73	64	137	77	70	147
Enterprises with 10 or more employees	206	195	192	25,777	22,548	48,325	22,962	20,899	43,861	22,591	20,545	43,136
Outworkers	Napp	Napp	Napp	22	175	197	20	142	162	29	176	205
TOTAL	258	239	239	25,890	22,809	48,699	23,055	21,105	44,160	22,697	20,791	43,488
<i>Mauritian</i>	Napp	Napp	Napp	10,017	16,694	26,711	8,966	14,781	23,747	8,948	14,428	23,376
<i>Foreign workers (Expatriates)</i>	Napp	Napp	Napp	15,873	6,115	21,988	14,089	6,324	20,413	13,749	6,363	20,112

Napp - Not Applicable

Table 3 - Employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2019 - March 2020

Product group	March 2019				March 2020			
	Number of enterprises	Employment			Number of enterprises	Employment		
		Male	Female	Both sexes		Male	Female	Both sexes
1. Food	21	2,043	3,353	5,396	18	1,991	3,270	5,261
2. Flowers	2	31	40	71	2	30	38	68
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	24	3,138	467	3,605	23	2,873	413	3,286
4. Wearing apparel:	95	16,971	14,576	31,547	84	14,158	12,721	26,879
<i>Pullovers</i>	13	809	601	1,410	12	512	374	886
<i>Other garments</i>	82	16,162	13,975	30,137	72	13,646	12,347	25,993
5. Leather products and footwear	5	237	418	655	5	144	455	599
6. Wood and paper products	10	265	309	574	10	260	271	531
7. Optical goods	2	211	190	401	2	213	188	401
8. Electronic watches and clocks	5	247	332	579	5	254	315	569
9. Electric and electronic products	5	63	116	179	5	59	104	163
10. Jewellery and related articles	13	412	610	1,022	12	393	600	993
11. Toys and carnival articles	2	15	208	223	2	17	190	207
12. Other products	74	2,257	2,190	4,447	71	2,305	2,226	4,531
TOTAL	258	25,890	22,809	48,699	239	22,697	20,791	43,488

Table 4 - Net change in employment by product group, EOE Sector, March 2019 - March 2020

Product group	Employment			Net change from	
	Mar. 19	Dec. 19	Mar. 20	Dec. 19 to Mar. 20	Mar. 19 to Mar. 20
1. Food	5,396	5,180	5,261	81	-135
2. Flowers	71	71	68	-3	-3
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	3,605	3,381	3,286	-95	-319
4. Wearing apparel:	31,547	27,589	26,879	-710	-4,668
<i>Pullovers</i>	1,410	904	886	-18	-524
<i>Other garments</i>	30,137	26,685	25,993	-692	-4,144
5. Leather products and footwear	655	596	599	3	-56
6. Wood and paper products	574	542	531	-11	-43
7. Optical goods	401	399	401	2	0
8. Electronic watches and clocks	579	565	569	4	-10
9. Electric and electronic products	179	185	163	-22	-16
10. Jewellery and related articles	1,022	991	993	2	-29
11. Toys and carnival articles	223	208	207	-1	-16
12. Other products	4,447	4,453	4,531	78	84
TOTAL	48,699	44,160	43,488	-672	-5,211

Table 5 - Expatriate employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2019 - March 2020

Product group	Employment					
	March 2019			March 2020		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
1. Food	591	1,412	2,003	598	1,315	1,913
2. Flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	2,197	26	2,223	2,037	10	2,047
4. Wearing apparel:	12,376	4,626	17,002	10,347	4,977	15,324
<i>Pullovers</i>	577	72	649	300	29	329
<i>Other garments</i>	11,799	4,554	16,353	10,047	4,948	14,995
5. Leather products and footwear	36	2	38	35	2	37
6. Wood and paper products	1	1	2	13	1	14
7. Optical goods	91	-	91	96	-	96
8. Electronic watches and clocks	63	2	65	61	2	63
9. Electric and electronic products	15	1	16	13	0	13
10. Jewellery and related articles	62	4	66	64	3	67
11. Toys and carnival articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Other	441	41	482	485	53	538
TOTAL	15,873	6,115	21,988	13,749	6,363	20,112

Table 6 - Net EOE Exports, 2018 - 1st Quarter 2020

Value: R Million

Item	2018	2019 ¹	2019 ¹				2020 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
A. Total exports (f.o.b)	43,311	42,518	10,215	11,461	10,692	10,150	9,598
B. Total imports (c.i.f):	25,929	24,686	6,328	6,195	6,120	6,043	4,791
<i>Raw materials</i>	24,596	23,681	6,046	5,989	5,914	5,732	4,559
<i>Machinery</i>	1,333	1,005	282	206	206	311	232
Net Exports (A - B)	17,382	17,832	3,887	5,266	4,572	4,107	4,807
Net Exports as % of Total Exports	40.1	41.9	38.1	45.9	42.8	40.5	50.1

¹ Provisional

Table 7 - EOE exports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2018 - 1st Quarter 2020

Value (F.o.b): R Million

SITC Section/Description	2018	2019 ¹	2019 ¹				2020 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	43,311	42,518	10,215	11,461	10,692	10,150	9,598
0 - Food and live animals	12,213	11,251	3,052	2,886	2,633	2,680	2,910
of which :							
Live animals other than fish	631	734	199	154	170	211	224
Fish & fish preparations	10,658	9,838	2,696	2,527	2,286	2,329	2,568
Cereals and cereal preparations	422	131	41	46	33	11	11
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	130	128	27	33	28	40	32
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	360	445	88	106	116	135	121
Medicaments (including Veterinary medicaments)	157	155	53	28	32	42	46
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	6,390	7,706	1,797	2,129	1,938	1,842	1,805
of which :							
Paper, paperboard and articles	45	58	20	10	14	14	9
Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles	3,216	3,995	924	1,075	1,051	945	1,008
Glass	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	2,915	3,473	806	995	831	841	745
Iron and steel	7	3	-	1	1	1	1
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	202	246	44	76	62	64	43
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	23,720	22,676	5,194	6,215	5,903	5,364	4,679
of which :							
Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	306	307	68	90	74	75	64
Articles of apparel and clothing	19,583	18,366	4,159	5,062	4,792	4,353	3,845
Optical goods	267	308	86	100	63	59	36
Watches and clocks	834	798	194	226	212	166	161
Printed matter	135	128	40	28	30	30	20
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	665	677	180	167	200	130	118
Toys, games and sporting goods	169	143	30	30	41	42	36
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	565	505	128	127	115	135	119
Other sections	296	66	13	16	12	25	8

¹ Provisional

Table 8 - EOE imports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2018 - 1st Quarter 2020

Value (C.i.f): R Million

SITC Section/Description	2018	2019 ¹	2019 ¹				2020 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	25,929	24,686	6,328	6,195	6,120	6,043	4,791
0 - Food and live animals	6,716	6,548	1,683	1,639	1,689	1,537	1,255
of which :							
Meat and meat preparations	348	198	57	39	53	49	51
Fish & fish preparations	6,008	5,895	1,494	1,533	1,528	1,340	1,097
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	2,507	2,639	908	471	631	629	465
of which :							
Cotton	1,575	1,836	676	307	382	471	328
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	148	120	32	33	29	26	17
Wool and other animal hair	451	418	144	59	143	72	78
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related products	3	3	1	1	1	-	-
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	1,587	1,733	447	403	497	386	287
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	11,008	10,292	2,443	2,822	2,488	2,539	1,975
of which :							
Leather	319	271	70	62	63	76	51
Paper, paperboard and articles	302	278	68	78	64	68	61
Textile yarn and fabrics	5,408	4,828	1,093	1,386	1,175	1,174	919
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	3,283	3,244	813	833	798	800	554
Iron and steel	421	498	122	134	125	117	130
Non-ferrous metals	188	184	51	52	37	44	33
7 - Machinery & transport equipment	1,333	1,005	282	206	206	311	232
of which :							
Machinery specialized for particular industries	692	459	134	95	85	145	104
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,098	2,113	487	570	499	557	497
of which :							
Optical goods, watches & clocks	570	689	178	192	152	167	159
Printed matter	188	176	48	47	42	39	32
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	399	412	103	107	95	107	98
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	280	222	48	60	57	57	86
Other sections	677	353	77	83	109	84	80

¹ Provisional

Table 9 - EOE exports by country of destination, 2018 - 1st Quarter 2020

Value (F.o.b): R Million

Country of destination	2018	2019 ¹	2019 ¹				2020 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	43,311	42,518	10,215	11,461	10,692	10,150	9,598
Europe:	24,364	22,232	5,648	5,966	5,257	5,361	5,249
Austria	40	36	5	5	14	12	10
Belgium	815	874	170	276	202	226	166
France	5,374	4,597	1,161	1,317	1,138	981	963
Germany	1,021	1,026	285	271	260	210	191
Italy	2,785	2,596	589	809	566	632	760
Netherlands	2,550	2,369	665	556	443	705	928
Portugal	356	489	143	173	105	68	61
Spain	2,797	1,759	426	406	501	426	529
Switzerland	889	756	197	216	181	162	178
United Kingdom	6,492	6,402	1,707	1,557	1,573	1,565	1,195
Other	1,245	1,328	300	380	274	374	268
Asia:	4,064	4,992	1,212	1,328	1,288	1,164	1,001
China	250	230	51	54	68	57	41
Hong Kong (S.A.R) ²	112	103	31	37	26	9	13
India	225	483	81	102	159	141	109
Japan	297	259	57	84	81	37	33
Sri Lanka	6	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vietnam	2,067	2,564	598	726	618	622	478
Other	1,107	1,353	394	325	336	298	326
Africa:	8,698	8,938	1,897	2,425	2,437	2,179	1,901
Madagascar	2,126	2,421	534	630	642	615	538
Reunion	386	257	70	63	68	56	34
Seychelles	92	79	19	22	18	20	15
South Africa	5,662	5,727	1,155	1,583	1,608	1,381	1,176
Other	432	454	119	127	101	107	138
America:	6,075	6,221	1,429	1,713	1,667	1,412	1,414
Canada	260	242	52	81	63	46	57
Panama	65	68	10	18	21	19	10
U.S.A	5,647	5,837	1,359	1,594	1,557	1,327	1,331
Other	103	74	8	20	26	20	16
Oceania:	110	135	29	29	43	34	33
Australia	90	125	26	27	39	33	29
New Zealand	20	10	3	2	4	1	4
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Provisional

² Special Administrative Region of China

Note: Breakdowns may not add up to totals due to rounding

Table 10 - EOE imports by country of origin, 2018 - 1st Quarter 2020

Value (C.i.f) : R Million

Country of origin	2018	2019 ¹	2019 ¹				2020 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	25,929	24,686	6,328	6,195	6,120	6,043	4,791
Europe:	11,965	11,121	2,979	2,689	2,717	2,736	2,299
Belgium	3,059	2,978	748	765	744	721	533
France	4,360	3,372	1,115	805	667	785	675
Germany	417	390	93	97	86	114	83
Italy	1,024	985	202	289	194	300	204
Netherlands	39	72	8	44	12	8	7
Spain	1,775	1,822	484	339	658	341	494
Sweden	4	8	5	1	-	2	1
Switzerland	469	442	111	128	77	126	79
United Kingdom	270	321	69	109	84	59	56
Other	548	731	144	112	195	280	167
Asia:	9,343	8,432	1,896	2,312	2,311	1,913	1,704
China	3,729	3,275	763	901	810	801	649
Hong Kong (S.A.R) ²	377	326	72	90	81	83	61
India	2,946	2,310	529	652	607	522	427
Indonesia	641	750	171	248	180	151	233
Japan	90	72	21	20	14	17	13
Korea, Republic of	115	464	20	75	325	44	59
Malaysia	179	186	52	41	51	42	31
Pakistan	135	74	19	8	30	17	8
Singapore	91	106	28	34	27	17	13
Thailand	593	448	111	124	99	114	104
Other	448	421	110	119	87	105	106
Africa:	3,461	4,353	1,210	1,031	849	1,263	665
Burkina Faso	-	26	1	25	-	-	-
Madagascar	141	188	48	29	75	36	30
Seychelles	1,802	2,094	387	667	357	683	264
South Africa	501	558	242	89	73	154	175
Zambia	135	503	191	27	153	132	29
Other	882	984	341	194	191	258	167
America:	601	398	127	60	135	76	60
Brazil	60	24	5	7	7	5	9
U.S.A	194	171	46	44	33	48	42
Canada	11	5	-	2	-	3	-
Other	336	198	76	7	95	20	9
Oceania:	558	383	117	103	108	55	63
Australia	293	228	70	43	70	45	41
Other	265	155	47	60	38	10	22

¹ Provisional

² Special Administrative Region of China

Note: Breakdowns may not add up to totals due to rounding