

Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE) 1st Quarter 2021

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 2021.

It also includes provisional figures on EOE imports and exports for the first quarter of 2021 as well as figures for the year 2019 and 2020. Table 1 shows the main indicators of the EOE sector for the period 2012 to 2020.

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 2021

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2020, employment in EOE decreased by 229 (-0.6%) from 36,736 to 36,507. Male employment dropped by 391 from 20,461 to 20,070 while female employment increased by 162 from 16,275 to 16,437 (Table 2).

The number of Mauritians employed in the EOE sector increased by 275 (+1.4%) (108 males and 167 females) from 19,120 to 19,395 and the number of foreign workers decreased by 504 (-2.9%) (-499 males and -5 females) from 17,616 at the end of December 2020 to 17,112 at the end of March 2021 (Table 2).

The decrease of 229 in employment in the EOE sector during the first quarter of 2021 is the net result of 593 jobs lost and 364 jobs created. The job losses were due to some contraction of workforce whilst jobs created were due to expansion in existing enterprises.

2.2 Evolution of employment from March 2020 to March 2021

From March 2020 to March 2021, total employment in EOE decreased by 6,981 (-16.1 %) from 43,488 to 36,507. The number of Mauritian workers decreased by 3,981 (-972 males and -3,009 females). Employment of foreign workers decreased by 3,000 (-1,655 males and -1,345 females) (Tables 2 and 5).

Job losses occurred mainly in enterprises engaged in the manufacture of “Wearing apparel” with a decrease of 6,009 jobs (Table 4).

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 2019 are final, those for 2020 and first quarter 2021 are provisional and subject to revision as and when the MRA - Customs Department submits latest amendments to Statistics Mauritius.

3.1 Exports and Imports – 1st Quarter 2021

3.1.1 Exports (f.o.b)

Provisional figures show that EOE exports during the first quarter of 2021 amounted to R 9,435 million, that is, R 1,653 million (-14.9%) lower compared to the fourth quarter of 2020 (Table 6). That was mainly the result of decreases observed in exports of “Articles of apparel and clothing” (-R 537 million or -12.9%), “Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones” (-R 295 million or -43.2%) and “Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles” (-R 271 million or -20.6%).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2020, EOE exports decreased by R 100 million (-1.0%).

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

South Africa, United Kingdom (UK), France and United States of America (USA) remain the principal EOE markets, together accounting for R 4,928 million (52.2%) 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 2020	Q1 2020
South Africa	1,563	-325	389
United Kingdom	1,440	-56	237
France	1,005	-87	54
USA	920	-134	-376

Compared to the previous quarter, EOE exports to our main markets showed decreases as follows: South Africa (-17.2%), USA (-12.7%), France (-8.0%) and United Kingdom (-3.7%).

When compared to the first quarter of 2020, increases of 33.1%, 19.7%, and 5.7% were noted for South Africa, United Kingdom and France respectively whilst USA registered a decrease of 29.0%.

Further details are given in Table 9.

3.1.2 Imports (c.i.f)

EOE imports during the first quarter of 2021 were estimated at R 5,401 million, representing a decrease of R 539 million (-9.1%) compared to the fourth quarter of 2020. This decrease is mainly due to lower imports of raw material by R 572 million (-9.9 %) (Table 6).

Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2020, imports increased by R 590 million (+12.3%), mainly due to an increase in imports of “Fish and fish preparations” by R 559 million (+51.4%), partly offset by a decrease of R 187 million (-31.8%) in “Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones”. 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 4,034 million in the first quarter of 2021 and its ratio to total exports worked out to 42.8 % compared to 49.5 % in the corresponding quarter of 2020 (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 36 million in the first quarter of 2021 compared to R 21 million in the first quarter of 2020. These sales are included in exports of Freeport, as and when the goods leave the country.

Statistics Mauritius

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Table 1 - Main economic indicators, EOE Sector, 2012 - 2020

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 ¹
1. No of enterprises as at December	330	309	300	284	282	280	263	239	235
- New	1	2	8	1	2	-	-	-	-
- Closures	23	23	17	17	4	2	17	24	4
2. Employment as at December	54,583	53,663	54,813	53,601	52,602	52,172	49,866	44,160	36,736
- Net change	-1,063	-920	+1,150	-1,212	-999	-430	-2,306	-5,706	-7,424
- Growth rate (%)	-1.9	-1.7	+2.1	-2.2	-1.9	-0.8	-4.4	-11.4	-16.8
3. Exports (f.o.b, R million) (excluding sales to Freeport)	45,606	46,778	49,069	48,487	44,422	43,027	43,311	42,319	37,385
4. Imports (c.i.f, R million):	26,665	29,340	28,596	27,312	25,638	27,094	25,929	24,645	19,794
- Raw materials	25,435	27,850	27,001	25,835	24,254	25,891	24,596	23,641	18,950
- Machinery & spare parts	1,230	1,490	1,595	1,477	1,384	1,203	1,333	1,004	844
5. Net exports (R million)	18,941	17,438	20,473	21,175	18,784	15,933	17,382	17,674	17,591
6. Net exports to Exports (%)	41.5	37.3	41.7	43.7	42.3	37.0	40.1	41.8	47.1
7. Value added at basic prices (R million)	19,157	20,328	20,704	20,968	20,125	19,867	19,607	18,698	15,985
- Share in Manufacturing (%)	40.0	39.3	38.9	39.0	37.3	36.8	35.9	34.3	34.8
- Share in Gross value added (%)	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.2	4.9	4.6	4.3	4.2
8. Annual Real Growth rate of Value added (%)	+1.4	-3.0	+2.5	-3.1	-5.1	+0.3	-4.5	-5.6	-21.3
9. Investment (R million)	1,065	1,930	2,700	1,140	1,254	1,091	1,104	739	724
- of which Machinery	988	1,101	1,686	636	750	745	770	625	610

¹ Provisional

Table 2 - Employment by size of enterprise and sex, EOE Sector, March 2020 - March 2021

Category	Number of enterprises as at			Employment								
				March 2020			December 2020			March 2021		
	March 20	December 20	March 21	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Enterprises with less than 10 employees	47	57	57	77	70	147	98	68	166	95	63	158
Enterprises with 10 or more employees	192	178	178	22,591	20,545	43,136	20,341	16,032	36,373	19,947	16,199	36,146
Outworkers	Napp	Napp	Napp	29	176	205	22	175	197	28	175	203
TOTAL	239	235	235	22,697	20,791	43,488	20,461	16,275	36,736	20,070	16,437	36,507
<i>Mauritian</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	8,948	14,428	23,376	7,868	11,252	19,120	7,976	11,419	19,395
<i>Foreign workers (Expatriates)</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	<i>Napp</i>	13,749	6,363	20,112	12,593	5,023	17,616	12,094	5,018	17,112

Napp - Not applicable

Table 3 - Employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2020 - March 2021

Product group	March 2020				March 2021			
	Number of enterprises	Employment			Number of enterprises	Employment		
		Male	Female	Both sexes		Male	Female	Both sexes
1. Food	18	1,991	3,270	5,261	17	1,871	3,132	5,003
2. Flowers	2	30	38	68	2	16	22	38
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	23	2,873	413	3,286	22	2,566	404	2,970
4. Wearing apparel:	84	14,158	12,721	26,879	83	12,031	8,839	20,870
<i>Pullovers</i>	12	512	374	886	12	421	211	632
<i>Other garments</i>	72	13,646	12,347	25,993	71	11,610	8,628	20,238
5. Leather products and footwear	5	144	455	599	5	134	379	513
6. Wood and paper products	10	260	271	531	10	239	214	453
7. Optical goods	2	213	188	401	2	185	173	358
8. Electronic watches and clocks	5	254	315	569	4	230	255	485
9. Electric and electronic products	5	59	104	163	5	54	101	155
10. Jewellery and related articles	12	393	600	993	12	362	561	923
11. Toys and carnival articles	2	17	190	207	2	13	153	166
12. Other products	71	2,305	2,226	4,531	71	2,369	2,204	4,573
TOTAL	239	22,697	20,791	43,488	235	20,070	16,437	36,507

Table 4 - Net change in employment by product group, EOE Sector, March 2020 - March 2021

Product group	Employment			Net change from	
	Mar. 20	Dec. 20	Mar. 21	Dec. 20 to Mar. 21	Mar. 20 to Mar. 21
1. Food	5,261	4,991	5,003	12	-258
2. Flowers	68	38	38	-	-30
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	3,286	3,054	2,970	-84	-316
4. Wearing apparel:	26,879	21,196	20,870	-326	-6,009
<i>Pullovers</i>	886	638	632	-6	-254
<i>Other garments</i>	25,993	20,558	20,238	-320	-5,755
5. Leather products and footwear	599	513	513	-	-86
6. Wood and paper products	531	457	453	-4	-78
7. Optical goods	401	358	358	-	-43
8. Electronic watches and clocks	569	484	485	1	-84
9. Electric and electronic products	163	159	155	-4	-8
10. Jewellery and related articles	993	935	923	-12	-70
11. Toys and carnival articles	207	163	166	3	-41
12. Other products	4,531	4,388	4,573	185	42
TOTAL	43,488	36,736	36,507	-229	-6,981

Table 5 - Expatriate employment by product group and sex, EOE Sector, March 2020 - March 2021

Product group	Employment					
	March 2020			March 2021		
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
1. Food	598	1,315	1,913	560	1,263	1,823
2. Flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	2,037	10	2,047	1,819	18	1,837
4. Wearing apparel:	10,347	4,977	15,324	9,067	3,684	12,751
<i>Pullovers</i>	300	29	329	272	2	274
<i>Other garments</i>	10,047	4,948	14,995	8,795	3,682	12,477
5. Leather products and footwear	35	2	37	35	2	37
6. Wood and paper products	13	1	14	12	-	12
7. Optical goods	96	-	96	80	-	80
8. Electronic watches and clocks	61	2	63	45	3	48
9. Electric and electronic products	13	-	13	9	-	9
10. Jewellery and related articles	64	3	67	56	3	59
11. Toys and carnival articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Other	485	53	538	411	45	456
TOTAL	13,749	6,363	20,112	12,094	5,018	17,112

Table 6 - Net EOE Exports, 2019 - 1st Quarter 2021

Value: R Million

Item	2019	2020 ¹	2020 ¹				2021 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
A. Total exports (f.o.b)	42,319	37,385	9,535	5,304	11,458	11,088	9,435
B. Total imports (c.i.f):	24,645	19,794	4,811	3,693	5,350	5,940	5,401
<i>Raw materials</i>	<i>23,641</i>	<i>18,950</i>	<i>4,585</i>	<i>3,479</i>	<i>5,128</i>	<i>5,758</i>	<i>5,186</i>
<i>Machinery</i>	<i>1,004</i>	<i>844</i>	<i>226</i>	<i>214</i>	<i>222</i>	<i>182</i>	<i>215</i>
Net Exports (A - B)	17,674	17,591	4,724	1,611	6,108	5,148	4,034
Net Exports as % of Total Exports	41.8	47.1	49.5	30.4	53.3	46.4	42.8

¹ Provisional

Table 7 - EOE exports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2019 - 1st Quarter 2021

Value (F.o.b): R Million

SITC Section/Description	2019	2020 ¹	2020 ¹				2021 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	42,319	37,385	9,535	5,304	11,458	11,088	9,435
0 - Food and live animals	11,251	11,157	2,903	2,070	3,054	3,130	3,137
of which :							
Live animals other than fish	733	1,248	224	333	222	469	431
Fish & fish preparations	9,839	9,331	2,561	1,608	2,651	2,511	2,579
Cereals and cereal preparations	130	55	11	8	18	18	9
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	128	131	32	10	56	33	22
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	445	463	119	103	114	127	74
Medicaments (including Veterinary medicaments)	154	157	44	48	37	28	18
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	7,711	6,583	1,804	648	2,068	2,063	1,496
of which :							
Paper, paperboard and articles	57	55	9	10	24	12	10
Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles	3,999	4,139	1,008	539	1,279	1,313	1,042
Glass	-	3	-	-	3	-	2
Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	3,473	2,180	745	60	692	683	388
Iron and steel	3	2	1	-	-	1	1
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	242	387	43	28	122	194	71
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	22,476	18,447	4,626	2,416	5,969	5,436	4,575
of which :							
Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	308	277	64	52	78	83	61
Articles of apparel and clothing	18,166	14,567	3,797	1,758	4,861	4,151	3,614
Optical goods	308	188	36	9	65	78	83
Watches and clocks	798	755	161	87	224	283	218
Printed matter	129	96	21	25	15	35	19
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	677	436	118	106	86	126	110
Toys, games and sporting goods	142	159	36	17	49	57	32
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	505	422	114	66	109	133	100
Other sections	66	217	8	29	75	105	60

¹ Provisional

Table 8 - EOE imports of selected commodities by SITC section, 2019 - 1st Quarter 2021

Value (C.i.f): R Million

SITC Section/Description	2019	2020 ¹	2020 ¹				2021 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	24,645	19,794	4,811	3,693	5,350	5,940	5,401
0 - Food and live animals	6,508	5,922	1,246	1,019	1,727	1,930	1,739
of which :							
Meat and meat preparations	198	84	51	6	9	18	4
Fish & fish preparations	5,855	5,319	1,087	910	1,627	1,695	1,646
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	2,638	1,578	465	346	297	470	443
of which :							
Cotton	1,836	1,190	328	246	234	382	293
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	121	65	17	19	10	19	33
Wool and other animal hair	418	185	78	62	15	30	87
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related products	3	2	-	1	-	1	-
5 - Chemicals and related products, n.e.s	1,733	1,242	287	262	305	388	450
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	10,292	7,531	2,009	1,433	2,012	2,077	1,886
of which :							
Leather	270	215	51	28	63	73	47
Paper, paperboard and articles	278	237	61	57	61	58	61
Textile yarn and fabrics	4,827	3,570	919	836	800	1,015	987
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	3,244	1,885	588	143	705	449	401
Iron and steel	498	476	130	81	124	141	85
Non-ferrous metals	185	185	33	44	24	84	34
7 - Machinery & transport equipment	1,004	844	226	214	222	182	215
of which :							
Machinery specialized for particular industries	460	342	104	73	105	60	69
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,114	2,130	497	318	552	763	514
of which :							
Optical goods, watches & clocks	688	572	159	84	166	163	132
Printed matter	176	122	32	25	26	39	29
Articles, n.e.s. of plastics	412	387	98	84	117	88	93
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	222	385	86	15	51	233	95
Other sections	353	545	81	100	235	129	154

¹Provisional

Table 9 - EOE exports by country of destination, 2019 - 1st Quarter 2021

Value (F.o.b): R Million

Country of destination	2019	2020 ¹	2020 ¹				2021 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Exports	42,319	37,385	9,535	5,304	11,458	11,088	9,435
Europe:	22,096	20,186	5,230	3,215	5,966	5,775	5,448
Austria	36	44	10	7	8	19	9
Belgium	874	775	169	61	271	274	216
France	4,542	3,907	951	747	1,117	1,092	1,005
Germany	1,018	863	191	123	229	320	250
Italy	2,596	3,344	760	723	935	926	815
Netherlands	2,370	2,453	923	255	616	659	710
Portugal	489	193	61	3	117	12	90
Spain	1,758	1,646	522	158	546	420	433
Switzerland	756	680	172	97	221	190	186
United Kingdom	6,332	5,033	1,203	831	1,503	1,496	1,440
Other	1,325	1,248	268	210	403	367	294
Asia:	4,991	3,715	991	291	1,175	1,258	598
China	230	157	41	24	54	38	62
Hong Kong (S.A.R) ²	102	40	13	6	10	11	9
India	483	641	109	110	203	219	129
Japan	259	151	33	32	47	39	18
Sri Lanka	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Vietnam	2,564	1,687	478	36	583	590	209
Other	1,353	1,038	316	83	278	361	171
Africa:	8,932	8,552	1,907	968	2,824	2,853	2,374
Madagascar	2,422	2,289	546	445	522	776	642
Reunion	257	212	34	50	53	75	41
Seychelles	79	65	15	21	20	9	23
South Africa	5,721	5,572	1,174	388	2,122	1,888	1,563
Other	453	414	138	64	107	105	105
America:	6,163	4,816	1,374	813	1,452	1,177	975
Canada	242	195	55	31	73	36	41
Panama	67	48	10	1	30	7	1
U.S.A	5,781	4,437	1,296	765	1,322	1,054	920
Other	73	136	13	16	27	80	13
Oceania:	136	115	33	15	42	25	40
Australia	125	96	29	13	34	20	34
New Zealand	11	19	4	2	8	5	6
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, 2019 - 1st Quarter 2021

Value (C.i.f) : R Million

Country of origin	2019	2020 ¹	2020 ¹				2021 ¹
			1st Qr	2nd Qr	3rd Qr	4th Qr	1st Qr
Total EOE Imports	24,645	19,794	4,811	3,693	5,350	5,940	5,401
Europe:	11,072	9,048	2,323	1,330	2,727	2,668	2,126
Belgium	2,978	1,600	533	18	653	396	364
France	3,338	2,872	697	488	828	859	847
Germany	390	258	83	30	62	83	49
Italy	984	995	204	236	199	356	241
Netherlands	72	37	7	13	6	11	8
Spain	1,809	2,016	495	291	693	537	368
Sweden	8	3	1	-	1	1	-
Switzerland	442	297	79	52	76	90	82
United Kingdom	320	158	56	26	32	44	33
Other	731	812	168	176	177	291	134
Asia:	8,430	6,890	1,695	1,627	1,549	2,019	1,987
China	3,275	2,296	649	683	398	566	515
Hong Kong (S.A.R) ²	326	363	61	142	61	99	47
India	2,310	1,950	428	398	605	519	776
Indonesia	750	865	233	174	176	282	214
Japan	72	52	13	8	12	19	15
Korea, Republic of	462	340	59	36	25	220	77
Malaysia	186	127	31	34	34	28	27
Pakistan	74	54	8	3	16	27	15
Singapore	106	71	13	15	18	25	22
Thailand	448	437	104	67	137	129	132
Other	421	335	96	67	67	105	147
Africa:	4,361	3,420	667	635	974	1,144	1,163
Burkina Faso	26	14	-	-	14	-	-
Madagascar	188	160	30	21	31	78	37
Seychelles	2,102	1,921	267	352	657	645	799
South Africa	558	576	175	77	113	211	115
Zambia	503	110	29	-	41	40	61
Other	984	639	166	185	118	170	151
America:	398	273	61	58	79	75	103
Brazil	24	16	9	1	1	5	11
U.S.A	171	196	42	38	55	61	57
Canada	5	10	-	-	10	-	2
Other	198	51	10	19	13	9	33
Oceania:	383	163	64	43	21	35	20
Australia	228	84	41	22	5	16	6
Other	155	79	23	21	16	19	14

¹ Provisional

² Special Administrative Region of China

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