



Economic and Social Indicators

Issue No 1781

**Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment (based on the
results of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey)**

4th Quarter 2023

Released online : 29 March 2024

<https://statsmauritius.govmu.org>

Price: Rs 40.00

Statistics Mauritius
Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
Port Louis

Note: Readers are invited to make the distinction between official data which are published in the Economic and Social indicators and the analysis presented for the benefit of general readers. Differences of opinion may arise regarding the analytical part but these do not in any way, undermine the quality of the data. The Editors welcome constructive critical comments.

Labour force, Employment and Unemployment – Fourth quarter 2023

Introduction

1. This issue of Economic and Social Indicators (ESI) presents a set of estimates of labour force, employment and unemployment for the fourth quarter of 2023, based on the results of the Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) from October to December 2023. 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 the CMPHS with other data sources, are given at Annex 3.

Key figures

	Q4 2022	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Change	
				Q4 2022 to Q4 2023	Q3 2023 to Q4 2023
Population (aged 16+)	1,011,300	1,015,400	1,015,300	+4,000	-100
Labour Force (Economically active)	570,300	593,300	596,100	+25,800	+2,800
<i>Of which Employment</i>	<i>531,500</i>	<i>556,100</i>	<i>559,700</i>	<i>+28,200</i>	<i>+3,600</i>
<i>Unemployment</i>	<i>38,800</i>	<i>37,200</i>	<i>36,400</i>	<i>-2,400</i>	<i>-800</i>
Outside Labour Force (Economically inactive)	441,000	422,100	419,200	-21,800	-2,900
Activity rate (%)	56.4	58.4	58.7	+2.3	+0.3
Unemployment rate (%)	6.8	6.3	6.1	-0.7	-0.2
Youth unemployment	14,000	12,400	12,200	-1,800	-200
Youth unemployment rate (%)	21.3	17.8	17.3	-4.0	-0.5

Labour market overview, fourth quarter 2023

3. Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022, the labour force has increased by 25,800. Employment increased by 28,200 while unemployment decreased by 2,400. The number of persons outside labour force declined by 21,800 during the same period.
4. Compared to third quarter of 2023, labour force increased by 2,800 with a rise in employment (+3,600) and a fall in unemployment (-800). The number of persons outside labour force decreased by 2,900 during the same period.

Chart 1: The Labour Market, 4th Quarter 2023



Labour force participation

	Q4 2022	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Change	
				Q4 2022 to Q4 2023	Q3 2023 to Q4 2023
Both sexes	56.4	58.4	58.7	+2.3	+0.3
Male	70.4	70.0	70.0	-0.4	0.0
Female	43.3	47.6	48.1	+4.8	+0.5

- The activity rate for fourth quarter 2023 increased by 2.3 percentage points to 58.7% compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022. The male activity rate decreased by 0.4 percentage point to 70.0% and the female activity rate increased by 4.8 percentage points to 48.1%.
- Compared to third quarter 2023, the activity rate increased by 0.3 percentage point. The male activity rate remained unchanged and the female activity rate increased by 0.5 percentage point.

Employment

	Q4 2022	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Change Q4 2022 to Q4 2023	Q3 2023 to Q4 2023
Both sexes	531,500	556,100	559,700	+28,200	+3,600
Male	326,100	328,200	329,600	+3,500	+1,400
Female	205,400	227,900	230,100	+24,700	+2,200

7. From fourth quarter 2022 to fourth quarter 2023, employment increased by 28,200 to 559,700; male employment increased by 3,500 and female employment by 24,700.
8. Compared to third quarter 2023, employment increased by 3,600; both male and female employment increased by 1,400 and 2,200 respectively.

Unemployment

	Q4 2022	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Change Q4 2022 to Q4 2023	Q3 2023 to Q4 2023
Both sexes	38,800	37,200	36,400	-2,400	-800
Male	18,300	15,800	14,400	-3,900	-1,400
Female	20,500	21,400	22,000	+1,500	+600
Unemployment rate (%)					
Both sexes	6.8	6.3	6.1	-0.7	-0.2
Male	5.3	4.6	4.2	-1.1	-0.4
Female	9.1	8.6	8.7	-0.4	+0.1

4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

9. From fourth quarter 2022 to fourth quarter 2023, the number of unemployed persons decreased by 2,400. Male unemployment decreased by 3,900 and female unemployment increased by 1,500.
10. The unemployment rate decreased by 0.7 percentage point from 6.8% in fourth quarter 2022 to 6.1% in fourth quarter 2023. Male unemployment rate decreased by 1.1 percentage points to reach 4.2% and female unemployment went down by 0.4 percentage point to 8.7%.

3rd Quarter 2023 to 4th Quarter 2023

11. When compared to third quarter 2023, the total number of unemployed persons decreased by 800, with a decrease of 1,400 among males and an increase of 600 among females.
12. Total unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage point from 6.3% in the third quarter of 2023 to 6.1% in the fourth quarter of 2023. Male unemployment rate decreased by 0.4 percentage point from 4.6% to 4.2% and female unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point from 8.6% to 8.7%.

Unemployment of the youth aged 16-24 years

	Q4 2022	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Change	
				Q4 2022 to Q4 2023	Q3 2023 to Q4 2023
Both sexes	14,000	12,400	12,200	-1,800	-200
Male	7,100	6,000	5,900	-1,200	-100
Female	6,900	6,400	6,300	-600	-100
Youth unemployment rate (%)					
Both sexes	21.3	17.8	17.3	-4.0	-0.5
Male	17.7	15.3	15.2	-2.5	-0.1
Female	27.1	21.1	19.7	-7.4	-1.4

13. At the fourth quarter of 2023, unemployed youth aged 16 to 24 years was estimated at 12,200 (5,900 males and 6,300 females) compared to 12,400 (6,000 males and 6,400 females) at the previous quarter and 14,000 (7,100 males and 6,900 females) at the fourth quarter of 2022.
14. The youth unemployment rate decreased in the fourth quarter of 2023 to 17.3% from 21.3% in the corresponding quarter of 2022. During the same period, the rate for young men decreased by 2.5 percentage points to 15.2%, and that for young women decreased by 7.4 percentage points to 19.7%.
15. Compared to third quarter 2023, the youth unemployment rate decreased from 17.8% to 17.3%, with decreases of 0.1 percentage point for young men and 1.4 percentage points for young women.

Characteristics of the unemployed as at fourth quarter 2023

16. The main characteristics of the unemployed as at fourth quarter 2023 were as follows:

- (i) The 36,400 unemployed comprised 14,400 males (40%) and 22,000 females (60%).
- (ii) Around 21,600 (59%) of the unemployed were single; males (83%) and females (44%).
- (iii) Some 16,300 (45%) of the unemployed did not have the Cambridge School Certificate (SC) or equivalent and among them 2,200 had not even passed the Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC)/Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) or equivalent.
- (iv) Around 28,600 (79%) had been looking for work for up to one year and the remaining 7,800 (21%) for more than one year.
- (v) About 24,600 (68%) had working experience and 11,800 (32%) were looking for a first job.
- (vi) Around 16,800 (46%) were registered at the Employment Service Information Centre.
- (vii) There were 6,200 (17%) young persons aged 16 to 24 years, not yet married and looking for a first job. Some 2,000 possessed a qualification below SC.
- (viii) Some 2,600 or 7% of the unemployed were heads of households.
- (ix) Around 4,600 (13%) lived in households with no employed persons.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate

17. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the fourth quarter of 2023 was 6.7%, lower than the rate of 7.4% at the corresponding quarter of 2022 but higher than the rate of 6.4% at the previous quarter.

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 419,200 at the fourth quarter of 2023 compared to 422,100 in the third quarter of 2023 and 441,000 in the fourth quarter of 2022.

19. The population outside labour force comprised 147,700 males and 271,500 females. Among males, around 52% were retired/old persons and 25% were students. Among females, 49% were homemakers and 26% were retired/old persons.

Employment and Unemployment estimates - Year 2023¹

Based on the results of the survey for the four quarters of 2023, the following are the estimates for employment and unemployment for 2023 compared to 2022:

	Year 2022	Year 2023 ¹	Change (2023 over 2022)
Employment	519,600	555,200	+35,600
Unemployment	43,200	37,700	-5,500
Unemployment rate (%)	7.7	6.4	-1.3

¹Provisional

CAUTION:

The estimate of unemployment rate for the year is NOT end of year estimate (i.e. as at 31st December). It represents weighted averages of estimates based on sample data collected throughout the year under review.

20. Employment increased by 35,600 in 2023 to reach 555,200 compared to 519,600 in 2022.
21. Unemployment rate for year 2023 worked out 6.4% compared to 7.7% in 2022.

Reliability of the Labour Force estimates

22. The estimates in this publication are based on the results of a sample survey and are thus subject to sample variability. Standard errors (SE) and coefficient of variation (CV) give an indication of this variability. The standard error of the estimates and the coefficient of variation (SE/estimate) are given in the table that follows.

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Both Sexes

		Estimates	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)
Labour force				
	2022 Q4	570,300	14,000	2.5
	2023 Q1	591,200	9,900	1.7
	2023 Q2	591,300	9,200	1.6
	2023 Q3	593,300	8,700	1.5
	2023 Q4 ¹	596,100	9,200	1.5
Employment				
	2022 Q4	531,500	12,900	2.4
	2023 Q1	551,800	9,800	1.8
	2023 Q2	553,200	8,800	1.6
	2023 Q3	556,100	8,400	1.5
	2023 Q4 ¹	559,700	8,900	1.6
Unemployment				
	2022 Q4	38,800	3,400	8.8
	2023 Q1	39,400	2,900	7.4
	2023 Q2	38,100	2,800	7.3
	2023 Q3	37,200	2,800	7.5
	2023 Q4 ¹	36,400	2,600	7.1
Unemployment rate, %				
	2022 Q4	6.8	0.5	7.4
	2023 Q1	6.7	0.5	7.5
	2023 Q2	6.4	0.5	7.8
	2023 Q3	6.3	0.5	7.9
	2023 Q4 ¹	6.1	0.4	6.6
Activity rate, %				
	2022 Q4	56.4	0.8	1.4
	2023 Q1	58.3	0.6	1.0
	2023 Q2	58.2	0.6	1.0
	2023 Q3	58.4	0.6	1.0
	2023 Q4 ¹	58.7	0.6	1.0

¹ Provisional

Reliability of estimates

High reliability	Less than 7.5
Medium reliability	7.5 - 15.0
Low reliability	Greater than 15.0

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Male

		Estimates	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)
Labour force				
	2022 Q4	344,400	8,900	2.6
	2023 Q1	345,900	6,600	1.9
	2023 Q2	343,600	6,500	1.9
	2023 Q3	344,000	5,900	1.7
	2023 Q4 ¹	344,000	5,900	1.7
Employment				
	2022 Q4	326,100	8,600	2.6
	2023 Q1	327,300	6,500	2.0
	2023 Q2	328,000	6,300	1.9
	2023 Q3	328,200	5,600	1.7
	2023 Q4 ¹	329,600	5,600	1.7
Unemployment				
	2022 Q4	18,300	2,100	11.5
	2023 Q1	18,600	1,900	10.2
	2023 Q2	15,600	1,800	11.5
	2023 Q3	15,800	1,700	10.8
	2023 Q4 ¹	14,400	1,600	11.1
Unemployment rate, %				
	2022 Q4	5.3	0.6	11.3
	2023 Q1	5.4	0.5	9.3
	2023 Q2	4.5	0.5	11.1
	2023 Q3	4.6	0.5	10.9
	2023 Q4 ¹	4.2	0.4	9.5
Activity rate, %				
	2022 Q4	70.4	0.9	1.3
	2023 Q1	70.3	0.8	1.1
	2023 Q2	69.8	0.8	1.1
	2023 Q3	70.0	0.8	1.1
	2023 Q4 ¹	70.0	0.8	1.1

¹ Provisional

Reliability of estimates

High reliability	Less than 7.5
Medium reliability	7.5 - 15.0
Low reliability	Greater than 15.0

Estimated labour force, employment and unemployment by sex, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Female

		Estimates	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)
Labour force				
	2022 Q4	225,900	8,700	3.9
	2023 Q1	245,300	5,600	2.3
	2023 Q2	247,700	5,300	2.1
	2023 Q3	249,300	5,300	2.1
	2023 Q4 ¹	252,100	5,800	2.3
Employment				
	2022 Q4	205,400	7,700	3.7
	2023 Q1	224,500	5,500	2.4
	2023 Q2	225,200	5,300	2.4
	2023 Q3	227,900	5,300	2.3
	2023 Q4 ¹	230,100	5,600	2.4
Unemployment				
	2022 Q4	20,500	2,500	12.2
	2023 Q1	20,800	1,900	9.1
	2023 Q2	22,500	2,000	8.9
	2023 Q3	21,400	2,000	9.3
	2023 Q4 ¹	22,000	1,900	8.6
Unemployment rate, %				
	2022 Q4	9.1	1.0	11.0
	2023 Q1	8.5	0.8	9.4
	2023 Q2	9.1	0.8	8.8
	2023 Q3	8.6	0.8	9.3
	2023 Q4 ¹	8.7	0.7	8.0
Activity rate, %				
	2022 Q4	43.3	1.1	2.5
	2023 Q1	47.0	0.9	1.9
	2023 Q2	47.3	0.9	1.9
	2023 Q3	47.6	0.9	1.9
	2023 Q4 ¹	48.1	0.9	1.9

¹ Provisional

Reliability of estimates

High reliability	Less than 7.5
Medium reliability	7.5 - 15.0
Low reliability	Greater than 15.0

The following tables together with the web version of this publication can be downloaded from Statistics Mauritius website at

https://statsmauritius.govmu.org/Pages/Statistics/By_Subject/Labour/SB_labour.aspx

List of tables

Table 1: Population aged 16 years and over by economic activity status, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by age and sex, 4th Quarter 2023

Table 3: Employment by industrial activity, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Table 4: Employment by occupational group, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Table 5: Employment by hours worked at main job, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Table 6: Unemployed population by educational attainment, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Table 7: Unemployed population by age group, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Table 8: Unemployed population with work experience by industry, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Table 9: Population outside labour force by reason for inactivity, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

Statistics Mauritius

Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development

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29 March 2023

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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 (<https://statsmauritius.govmu.org>). This issue provides data for the fourth quarter 2023 compared to the previous quarter and to the same quarter a year ago.

The CMPHS methodology

Data collection

Following the COVID-19 outbreak in March 2020, the face-to-face interviews of household members were replaced by telephone interviews. As from January 2023, face-to-face interviews have been resumed.

Frequency of data collection

As from 2005, data collection is carried out monthly except in 2020 after the COVID-19 outbreak of in March 2020, it was carried out only in May, June, July, September, October and December 2020.

The reference week is the second week of the survey month so that quarterly estimates can be published within the quarter following the reference quarter, 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. 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. As from 2023, in order to improve the variance estimates, RDI boundaries have been reviewed such that each geographical district has four even strata. For this exercise, the 2022 Housing and Population Census results have been used.

At the second stage, stratification criteria are community, household size and average monthly expenditure of the household. From 2005 to 2022, 10 households were selected from each selected PSU in Islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues. However, as from 2023 the number of households selected for each PSU in Island of Rodrigues have been increased from

10 to 15 while that of Island of Mauritius has remained the same. It is to be noted that the sample size has remained unchanged.

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 a 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. Standard errors and coefficient of variation for the main labour force estimates are given in this report.

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 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 years and above 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 and above, 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 years and above.

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 and is paid.

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 from Grade 1 (Standard 1) to Grade 6 (Standard 6) or to Primary School Achievement Certificate (PSAC)/Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) or equivalent.

Secondary: comprises persons who have studied from Grade 7 (Form 1) to Grade 13 (Form 6) or to 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, 2014 - 2022

	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									
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	30.9	621.9	325.2	257.0	582.2	551.3	39.7	6.7
2020	570.1	31.8	601.9	326.5	223.2	549.7	517.9	52.2	9.2
2021	532.8	30.0	562.8	305.5	208.9	514.4	484.4	48.4	9.1
2022 ²	562.8	28.3	591.1	304.1	243.8	547.9	519.6	43.2	7.7
Male									
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	24.7	379.4	200.1	163.7	363.8	339.1	15.6	4.4
2020	336.6	24.9	361.5	199.2	136.0	335.2	310.3	26.3	7.8
2021	318.8	24.0	342.8	186.2	130.8	317.0	293.0	25.8	8.1
2022 ²	338.4	22.4	360.8	182.9	157.5	340.4	318.0	20.4	6.0
Female									
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	125.1	93.3	218.4	212.2	24.1	10.2
2020	233.5	6.9	240.4	127.3	87.2	214.5	207.6	25.9	11.1
2021	214.0	6.0	220.0	119.3	78.1	197.4	191.4	22.6	10.6
2022 ²	224.4	5.9	230.3	121.2	86.3	207.5	201.6	22.8	10.2

¹ Unemployment figures and rate refer to Mauritians

² Provisional

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) in large establishments 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: Population aged 16 years and over by economic activity status, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

In thousands

	Population aged 16 years & over	In employment					Unemployed	Total econ. active	Total econ. inactive	
		Employees	Employers	Own account workers	Contrib. family workers	Total				
Both sexes										
2022 Q4	1,011.3	398.4	46.1	80.1	6.9	531.5	38.8	570.3	441.0	
2023 Q1	1,014.1	429.1	21.7	87.6	13.4	551.8	39.4	591.2	422.9	
2023 Q2	1,015.7	431.4	26.0	83.2	12.6	553.2	38.1	591.3	424.4	
2023 Q3	1,015.4	436.4	23.0	84.5	12.2	556.1	37.2	593.3	422.1	
2023 Q4 ¹	1,015.3	438.7	24.3	85.1	11.6	559.7	36.4	596.1	419.2	
% change, latest quarter over:										
previous quarter	0.0					0.6	-2.2	0.5	-0.7	
same quarter a year ago	0.4					5.3	-6.2	4.5	-4.9	
Male										
2022 Q4	489.3	220.9	40.7	63.8	0.7	326.1	18.3	344.4	144.9	
2023 Q1	491.7	240.3	16.2	65.5	5.3	327.3	18.6	345.9	145.8	
2023 Q2	492.5	239.0	20.6	64.2	4.2	328.0	15.6	343.6	148.9	
2023 Q3	491.5	241.0	19.6	63.6	4.0	328.2	15.8	344.0	147.5	
2023 Q4 ¹	491.7	242.3	19.9	62.7	4.7	329.6	14.4	344.0	147.7	
% change, latest quarter over:										
previous quarter	0.0					0.4	-8.9	0.0	0.1	
same quarter a year ago	0.5					1.1	-21.3	-0.1	1.9	
Female										
2022 Q4	522.0	177.5	5.4	16.3	6.2	205.4	20.5	225.9	296.1	
2023 Q1	522.4	188.8	5.5	22.1	8.1	224.5	20.8	245.3	277.1	
2023 Q2	523.2	192.4	5.4	19.0	8.4	225.2	22.5	247.7	275.5	
2023 Q3	523.9	195.4	3.4	20.9	8.2	227.9	21.4	249.3	274.6	
2023 Q4 ¹	523.6	196.4	4.4	22.4	6.9	230.1	22.0	252.1	271.5	
% change, latest quarter over:										
previous quarter	-0.1					1.0	2.8	1.1	-1.1	
same quarter a year ago	0.3					12.0	7.3	11.6	-8.3	

¹ Provisional

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by age and sex, 4th Quarter 2023¹

		In thousands					
		Mauritan Population aged 16 years and over	Age group (years)				
			16-24	25 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50+
Both sexes							
	In employment	559.7	58.4	66.8	133.7	144.6	156.2
	Unemployed	36.4	12.2	7.7	11.2	3.8	1.5
	Labour force	596.1	70.6	74.5	144.9	148.4	157.7
	Population outside labour force	419.2	91.5	10.9	21.0	31.5	264.3
	Total Population	1015.3	162.1	85.4	165.9	179.9	422.0
	Employment rate (%)	93.9	82.7	89.7	92.3	97.4	99.0
	Unemployment rate (%)	6.1	17.3	10.3	7.7	2.6	1.0
	Activity rate (%)	58.7	43.6	87.2	87.3	82.5	37.4
Male							
	In employment	329.6	32.8	35.5	73.5	83.3	104.5
	Unemployed	14.4	5.9	3.2	3.2	1.2	0.9
	Labour force	344.0	38.7	38.7	76.7	84.5	105.4
	Population outside labour force	147.7	43.0	2.8	5.2	5.7	91.0
	Total Population	491.7	81.7	41.5	81.9	90.2	196.4
	Employment rate (%)	95.8	84.8	91.7	95.8	98.6	99.1
	Unemployment rate (%)	4.2	15.2	8.3	4.2	1.4	0.9
	Activity rate (%)	70.0	47.4	93.3	93.7	93.7	53.7
Female							
	In employment	230.1	25.6	31.3	60.2	61.3	51.7
	Unemployed	22.0	6.3	4.5	8.0	2.6	0.6
	Labour force	252.1	31.9	35.8	68.2	63.9	52.3
	Population outside labour force	271.5	48.5	8.1	15.8	25.8	173.3
	Total Population	523.6	80.4	43.9	84.0	89.7	225.6
	Employment rate (%)	91.3	80.3	87.4	88.3	95.9	98.9
	Unemployment rate (%)	8.7	19.7	12.6	11.7	4.1	1.1
	Activity rate (%)	48.1	39.7	81.5	81.2	71.2	23.2

¹ Provisional

Table 3: Employment by industrial activity, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

	Total employed aged 16 years and over	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									
2022 Q4	531.5	5.3	24.6	70.1	11.1	12.7	15.6	54.5	
2023 Q1	551.8	5.6	19.2	75.2	10.3	7.7	17.5	57.7	
2023 Q2	553.2	5.5	21.3	73.2	11.5	8.8	16.4	56.8	
2023 Q3	556.1	4.7	22.0	73.3	11.6	9.5	16.1	57.2	
2023 Q4 ²	559.7	5.3	21.4	73.3	11.4	9.2	15.5	57.8	
Male									
2022 Q4	326.1	6.5	33.4	60.1	11.9	20.4	13.6	46.5	
2023 Q1	327.3	7.2	25.3	67.5	11.0	12.5	16.6	50.9	
2023 Q2	328.0	6.8	27.8	65.4	12.1	14.2	15.1	50.3	
2023 Q3	328.2	5.5	27.9	66.6	11.5	15.0	15.3	51.3	
2023 Q4 ²	329.6	6.6	27.7	65.7	11.4	15.2	14.5	51.2	
Female									
2022 Q4	205.4	3.5	10.5	86.0	9.8	0.6	18.8	67.2	
2023 Q1	224.5	3.3	10.2	86.5	9.2	0.7	18.8	67.7	
2023 Q2	225.2	3.6	11.9	84.5	10.7	0.9	18.3	66.2	
2023 Q3	227.9	3.7	13.3	83.0	11.6	1.4	17.3	65.7	
2023 Q4 ²	230.1	3.5	12.4	84.1	11.5	0.7	16.9	67.2	

¹ National version of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities Rev. 2 (ISIC Rev. 4)

² Provisional

Table 4: Employment by occupational group, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

	Total employed aged 16 years and over (000s)	ISCO-08 ¹				
		Managers, Professionals, Technicians & associate professionals 1,2,3 (%)	Clerical support workers 4 (%)	Service and sales workers 5 (%)	Agricultural, Craft & related trades workers, Plant & machine operators & assemblers 6,7,8 (%)	Elementary occupations 9 (%)
Both sexes						
2022 Q4	531.5	19.5	11.6	22.1	30.2	16.6
2023 Q1	551.8	30.9	8.9	22.6	25.2	12.4
2023 Q2	553.2	31.0	8.2	21.7	27.0	12.1
2023 Q3	556.1	29.7	9.5	20.6	26.5	13.7
2023 Q4 ²	559.7	30.7	8.7	21.3	25.7	13.6
Male						
2022 Q4	326.1	17.7	6.1	20.2	44.9	11.1
2023 Q1	327.3	27.7	5.9	20.6	36.4	9.4
2023 Q2	328.0	28.2	5.1	18.8	38.9	9.0
2023 Q3	328.2	27.1	5.9	17.9	38.6	10.5
2023 Q4 ²	329.6	27.7	5.1	18.7	37.8	10.7
Female						
2022 Q4	205.4	22.5	20.3	25.0	7.0	25.2
2023 Q1	224.5	35.5	13.4	25.5	8.9	16.7
2023 Q2	225.2	35.2	12.7	25.8	9.6	16.7
2023 Q3	227.9	33.4	14.6	24.6	9.2	18.2
2023 Q4 ²	230.1	35.0	13.9	25.1	8.4	17.6

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

² Provisional

Table 5: Employment by hours worked at main job, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

	Total employed ¹ (000s)	Total hours worked (000s)	% having worked for:				Average number of hours worked
			1 to 23 hours	24 to 40 hours	41 to 50 hours	51 and above	
Both sexes							
2022 Q4	520.3	20,800	2.7	60.5	36.4	0.4	40.0
2023 Q1	525.7	21,100	8.3	48.3	32.3	11.1	40.1
2023 Q2	525.3	21,000	9.5	45.1	34.8	10.6	40.0
2023 Q3	533.0	21,400	8.7	45.9	34.2	11.2	40.2
2023 Q4 ²	525.8	21,500	8.8	42.8	37.0	11.4	40.9
Male							
2022 Q4	321.7	13,200	1.1	56.0	42.3	0.6	41.0
2023 Q1	308.8	12,800	6.8	44.9	34.7	13.6	41.4
2023 Q2	311.8	12,900	8.1	42.1	36.5	13.3	41.4
2023 Q3	312.9	13,100	6.5	42.4	36.8	14.3	41.9
2024 Q4 ²	311.2	13,200	6.7	40.5	38.5	14.3	42.4
Female							
2022 Q4	198.6	7,600	5.3	67.9	26.8	0.0	38.3
2023 Q1	216.9	8,300	10.4	53.3	28.8	7.5	38.3
2023 Q2	213.5	8,100	11.6	49.5	32.3	6.6	37.9
2023 Q3	220.0	8,300	12.0	50.9	30.4	6.7	37.7
2023 Q4 ²	214.6	8,300	11.8	46.1	34.8	7.3	38.7

¹ Number of employed persons, aged 16 years and over, who work at least one hour during the reference week at main job

² Provisional

Table 6: Unemployed population by educational attainment, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

	Unemployed Mauritians aged 16+ (000s)	Primary			Secondary			Tertiary		
		Total (%)	Below CPE/PSAC (%)	Passed CPE/PSAC (%)	Total (%)	Below SC (%)	Passed SC (%)		Passed HSC (%)	
Both sexes										
2022 Q4	38.8	9.3	3.1	6.2	74.7	33.0	25.0	16.7	16.0	
2023 Q1	39.4	13.7	9.4	4.3	66.0	38.8	17.5	9.7	20.3	
2023 Q2	38.1	13.9	10.2	3.7	69.6	42.3	15.0	12.3	16.5	
2023 Q3	37.2	14.5	10.5	4.0	68.3	40.1	19.1	9.1	17.2	
2023 Q4 ¹	36.4	8.7	6.0	2.7	64.9	36.0	18.7	10.2	26.4	
Male										
2022 Q4	18.3	11.4	4.9	6.5	74.9	35.0	25.7	14.2	13.7	
2023 Q1	18.6	14.5	11.3	3.2	67.2	43.6	16.1	7.5	18.3	
2023 Q2	15.6	4.5	3.2	1.3	75.6	51.9	15.4	8.3	19.9	
2023 Q3	15.8	15.2	12.7	2.5	70.2	48.7	13.9	7.6	14.6	
2023 Q4 ¹	14.4	9.8	7.0	2.8	68.7	45.1	15.3	8.3	21.5	
Female										
2022 Q4	20.5	7.4	1.5	5.9	74.6	31.2	24.4	19.0	18.0	
2023 Q1	20.8	13.0	7.7	5.3	64.9	34.6	18.8	11.5	22.1	
2023 Q2	22.5	20.4	15.1	5.3	65.4	35.6	14.7	15.1	14.2	
2023 Q3	21.4	14.0	8.9	5.1	66.8	33.6	22.9	10.3	19.2	
2023 Q4 ¹	22.0	8.2	5.5	2.7	62.3	30.0	20.9	11.4	29.5	

¹ Provisional

Table 7: Unemployed population by age group, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

		In thousands			
		All aged 16 and over	Age group (years)		
			16-24	25-49	50+
Both sexes					
	2022 Q4	38.8	14.0	20.8	4.0
	2023 Q1	39.4	13.8	22.6	3.0
	2023 Q2	38.1	13.1	21.1	3.9
	2023 Q3	37.2	12.4	21.2	3.6
	2023 Q4 ¹	36.4	12.2	22.7	1.5
Change, latest quarter over:					
	previous quarter	-0.8	-0.2	1.5	-2.1
	same quarter a year ago	-2.4	-1.8	1.9	-2.5
Male					
	2022 Q4	18.3	7.1	7.7	3.5
	2023 Q1	18.6	7.0	9.6	2.0
	2023 Q2	15.6	6.2	7.9	1.5
	2023 Q3	15.8	6.0	7.7	2.1
	2023 Q4 ¹	14.4	5.9	7.6	0.9
Change, latest quarter over:					
	previous quarter	-1.4	-0.1	-0.1	-1.2
	same quarter a year ago	-3.9	-1.2	-0.1	-2.6
Female					
	2022 Q4	20.5	6.9	13.1	0.5
	2023 Q1	20.8	6.8	13.0	1.0
	2023 Q2	22.5	6.9	13.2	2.4
	2023 Q3	21.4	6.4	13.5	1.5
	2023 Q4 ¹	22.0	6.3	15.1	0.6
Change, latest quarter over:					
	previous quarter	0.6	-0.1	1.6	-0.9
	same quarter a year ago	1.5	-0.6	2.0	0.1

¹ Provisional

Table 8: Unemployed population with work experience by industry, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

	Unemployed Mauritians aged 16+	No. of first job seekers	Unemployed with work experience by industry ¹						
			Total	Manuf.	Construction	Wholesale & Retail Trade	Accommodation & Food Service Activities	Other	
			(000s)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
Both sexes									
2022 Q4	38.8	16.5	22.3	16.1	13.5	9.9	9.4	51.1	
2023 Q1	39.4	12.1	27.3	12.1	14.3	17.9	18.3	37.4	
2023 Q2	38.1	10.9	27.2	14.0	8.1	17.6	14.7	45.6	
2023 Q3	37.2	9.2	28.0	11.8	20.4	22.1	11.4	34.3	
2023 Q4 ²	36.4	11.8	24.6	11.4	11.0	16.6	13.0	48.0	
Change, latest quarter over:									
previous quarter	-0.8	2.6	-3.4						
same quarter a year ago	-2.4	-4.7	2.3						
Male									
2022 Q4	18.3	7.4	10.9	18.3	24.8	7.3	10.1	39.5	
2023 Q1	18.6	5.0	13.6	14.7	25.7	13.2	18.4	28.0	
2023 Q2	15.6	4.2	11.4	15.8	16.7	15.8	14.0	37.7	
2023 Q3	15.8	2.5	13.3	7.5	42.1	20.3	7.5	22.6	
2023 Q4 ²	14.4	3.8	10.6	7.6	22.6	12.3	16.0	41.5	
Change, latest quarter over:									
previous quarter	-1.4	1.3	-2.7						
same quarter a year ago	-3.9	-3.6	-0.3						
Female									
2022 Q4	20.5	9.1	11.4	14.0	2.6	12.3	8.8	62.3	
2023 Q1	20.8	7.1	13.7	9.5	2.9	22.6	18.3	46.7	
2023 Q2	22.5	6.7	15.8	12.6	1.9	19.0	15.2	51.3	
2023 Q3	21.4	6.7	14.7	15.6	0.7	23.8	15.0	44.9	
2023 Q4 ²	22.0	8.0	14.0	14.3	2.1	20.0	10.7	52.9	
Change, latest quarter over:									
previous quarter	0.6	1.3	-0.7						
same quarter a year ago	1.5	-1.1	2.6						

¹ National version of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities Rev. 2 (ISIC Rev. 4)² Provisional

Table 9: Population outside labour force by reason for inactivity, 4th Quarter 2022 to 4th Quarter 2023

	Total Mauritians aged 16+ (000s)	Economically inactive by status					
		Total (000s)	Homemakers (%)	Retired or elderly (%)	Students (%)	Sick or disabled (%)	Other (%)
Both sexes							
2022 Q4	1,011.3	441.0	41.7	28.8	19.3	7.2	3.0
2023 Q1	1,014.1	422.9	35.4	34.1	17.2	8.1	5.2
2023 Q2	1,015.7	424.4	32.9	34.2	18.3	9.8	4.8
2023 Q3	1,015.4	422.1	32.6	35.0	20.1	8.8	3.5
2023 Q4 ¹	1,015.3	419.2	31.8	34.9	19.1	9.2	5.0
Male							
2022 Q4	489.3	144.9	0.0	56.5	26.6	13.9	3.0
2023 Q1	491.7	145.8	0.0	54.3	24.9	13.6	7.2
2023 Q2	492.5	148.9	0.2	53.2	25.5	15.8	5.3
2023 Q3	491.5	147.5	0.2	52.5	27.1	14.6	5.6
2023 Q4 ¹	491.7	147.7	0.2	51.8	25.4	14.8	7.8
Female							
2022 Q4	522.0	296.1	62.1	15.2	15.8	4.0	2.9
2023 Q1	522.4	277.1	54.0	23.5	13.1	5.2	4.2
2023 Q2	523.2	275.5	50.6	23.9	14.4	6.5	4.6
2023 Q3	523.9	274.6	50.0	25.6	16.4	5.7	2.3
2023 Q4 ¹	523.6	271.5	48.9	25.7	15.7	6.2	3.5

¹ Provisional

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