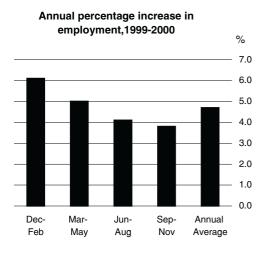
Based on the 1996 Census of Population figures For figures based on the 2002 Census of Population see the revised QNHS series.

21 February 2001



# Quarterly National Household Survey Fourth Quarter 2000

	ILO L	abour Force	
-			<u>'000</u>
	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
Sep-Nov 1999	1,647.4	88.7	1,736.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,650.6	81.5	1,732.1
Mar-May 2000	1,670.7	74.9	1,745.6
Jun-Aug 2000	1,737.9	77.7	1,815.6
Sep-Nov 2000	1,710.3	68.8	1,779.1
Change in quarter	-27.6	-8.9	-36.5
Change in year	+62.9	-19.9	+43.0

#### Employment up by 4.7% in 2000

On average, employment grew by 4.7% last year, compared with an increase of 6.3% in 1999. The rate of growth in employment continued to moderate during the course of 2000. The fourth quarter showed an annual increase of 62,900, or 3.8%, which compares with 6.1% in the first quarter. *See graph*.

There were 1,710,300 persons in employment in quarter four of 2000, a fall of 27,600 from the seasonal peak recorded in the summer quarter. There was also a seasonal decrease in unemployment, which was down by 8,900 to 68,800 persons. *See table 1*.

In the year, unemployment fell by 19,900, with long-term unemployment down by almost 12,000, to 24,200. The unemployment rate fell to 3.9% in the fourth quarter of 2000. This compares with 5.1% in the same quarter of 1999. *See tables 1, 15 and 16.* 

On an annual basis, the labour force grew by 43,000 persons, to 1,779,100, in quarter four of 2000. The labour force participation rate for males was 71.0% and, for females 47.9%. *See table 1*.

#### New features this quarter

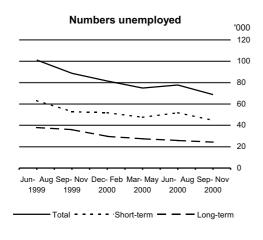
This release contains several new tables, to give more in-depth analysis. Table 5 is about trends in employment status while tables 8 to 13 give extra details of the labour force, employment and unemployment, by age group.

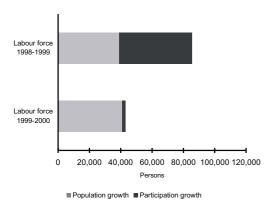
For more information contact Joe Treacy at 021-4535305, Nicola Tickner at 021-4535420 or Noel Ryan at 021-4535490.

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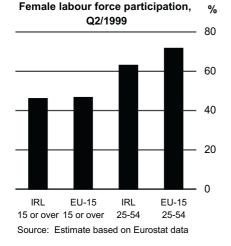
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Labour force growth, 1998-2000



#### Unemployment rate falls below 4%

With unemployment down to 68,800 persons in quarter four of 2000, the unemployment rate, as measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey, fell below 4% for the first time. The rate of 3.9% in the last quarter of 2000 compares with 5.1% one year previously. *See table 1*.

Unemployment decreased by almost 20,000 in the year, with a fall of 11,600 for males and 8,300 for females. The number of males unemployed in quarter four was 41,400 and the number of females 27,400. There were 22,800 unemployed persons aged under 25; another 30,900 aged between 25 and 44; and 15,100 aged 45 or over. *See table 16*.

There were 24,200 persons long-term unemployed in quarter four of 2000. This was almost 12,000 below the corresponding 1999 figure. About half the long-term unemployed (11,800 persons) were aged between 25 and 44, and almost a third (7,700) were aged 45 or over. The number of persons unemployed for less than a year fell by 8,200, on an annual basis, to 44,500. *See tables 15 and 16.* 

#### Labour force growth slower in 2000 than in 1999

Although the latest results show continued strong growth in employment and the labour force, the pace of growth has slowed down, when compared with the exceptionally high increases seen during 1999. Between the fourth quarters of 1998 and 1999, the labour force grew by 85,400. It increased by just half as much (+43,000) in the following twelve months. *See graph*.

The increasing population of working age is estimated to have added 38,900 to the labour force between quarter four of 1998 and 1999, with the balance of 46,500 being due to higher labour force participation. However, between 1999 and 2000, almost all of the increase in the labour force was due to population growth, which added an estimated 41,000 persons, while only 1,900 of the annual increase was attributable to higher labour force participation.

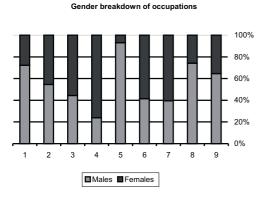
From 57.0% in quarter four of 1998, the labour force participation rate increased to 58.9% in 1999, and to 59.2% in 2000. The participation rate for males fell slightly, from 71.1% to 71.0% in the past year; the rate fell in all age groups except 15-19, 35 to 44 and 60 to 64. For females, the participation rate increased in the year, from 47.1% to 47.9%. There were increases in all age groups between 25 and 64 but female labour force participation fell in the lower and higher age groups. *See tables 1 and 8*.

Compared with the rest of the EU, the latest comparable labour force survey figures - which are for spring 1999 - show that Ireland's female labour force participation rate of 46% is close to the EU-15 average of 46.6%. For women aged 25 to 54 - the age group most likely to be in the labour force - the female participation rate was 63.1%, compared with 71.6% for the EU-15. *See graph.* 

#### Increases in construction, wholesaling and retailing

Employment grew in the past year in all sectors except agriculture, forestry, fishing and other services. The fastest growing sectors were construction (+23,300), the wholesale and retail sector (+13,300) and education and health (+16,000). There was only a very small annual change in employment in public administration and defence. In line with seasonal patterns, the wholesale and retail sectors, together with hotels and restaurants, saw a decrease in employment between quarters three and four. *See table 2*.

A new table, on employment status, shows that there were almost 290,000 self-employed persons in quarter four last year, about the same number as in 1999. The number with employees increased by 9,100. However, the number of



1. Managers and administrators

- 2. Professional 3.
- Associate professional and technical Clerical and secretarial 4.
- Craft and related 5.
- 6. Personal and protective service
- Sales
- 8 Plant and machine operatives
- 9. Other

The graph shows that men outnumber women by nearly three to one in management and administration jobs, which include farming. However, there are over three times as many female as there are male clerical and secretarial workers. See also table 3.

self-employed persons without employees fell by 9,500 in the year, largely reflecting the fall in agriculture. In quarter four of 2000, there were 101,100 self-employed persons with employees and 188,800 without employees. See table 5.

There were 1,401,400 employees in quarter four of 2000, an annual increase of 66,300. The number of assisting relatives, in agriculture and other sectors, fell by 3,000 to 19,000. See table 5.

#### Full-time jobs increased by 53,500 in the year

Full-time employment grew by 53,500 in the year, accounting for a large portion of the annual growth. The number of males in full-time jobs grew by 30,600 and the number of females by 22,900. The total number in part-time employment, at 279,300 persons, was 9,400 higher than in 1999. All of this increase was for females, who accounted for three quarters of those in part-time employment. See table 1.

Almost 35% of women work for less than 35 hours a week compared to 7.8% of men. The number of persons working between 35 and 39 hours a week increased by more than 50,000 and the numbers working 40 to 44 hours grew by 11,300 in the year to quarter four of 2000. The numbers working 45 hours or more decreased by 6,000 and the numbers working variable hours decreased by 6,700. See table 4.

The average working week was 37.9 hours in quarter four of 2000 compared with 38.1 hours in 1999 and 38.7 hours in 1998. For men the average working week was 42.0 hours and for women it was 32.8 hours. See table 4.

#### Unemployment rate in Dublin falls below 3%

Employment grew by 22,700 (+5.7%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 40,200 (+3.2%) in the Southern and Eastern region between quarter four of 1999 and 2000. Unemployment also fell in both regions: by 6,500 in the Border, Midlands and West and by 13,500 in the Eastern and Southern region. See table 6a.

At NUTS 3 level, employment grew and unemployment fell in all regions. The largest annual employment increase, of 23,500 persons, was in Dublin. The unemployment rate was lowest in the Dublin region at 2.9% and highest in the Border region at 5.4%. See table 6b.

#### **Principal Economic Status**

The number of persons describing their usual situation as at work grew by 61,400 to 1,632,800 in the year to quarter four of 2000. The number of males at work increased by 27,400 and the number of females by 33,900. The numbers describing themselves as unemployed fell by 8,600 to 107,300. See table 19.

Of the 364,400 students in the fourth quarter, 16.2% (or 59,200) had a job, compared with 28.6% in the summer months. The number of female students increased by almost 6,000 in the year but there was a slight decrease in the number of male students. See tables 19 and 20.

The number of persons describing their situation as on home duties, at 561,700, was down by 10,500 in the year. See table 20.

# Table 1 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and ILO economic status

							1 000
ILO economic status	Sep- Nov 98	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00	Sep- Nov 00
Males							
In labour force	994.4	1,048.3	1,030.5	1,029.3	1,034.9	1,069.7	1,048.8
In employment :	928.4	989.5	977.5	979.8	989.9	1,023.0	1,007.4
full-time	863.1	914.8	908.5	910.2	918.2	954.8	939.1
part-time :	65.3	74.7	69.0	69.7	71.7	68.2	68.3
of which : part-time, not underemployed *	61.0	71.8	66.3	67.9	70.0	66.6	67.2
part-time, underemployed *	4.3	2.9	2.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.1
Unemployed :	66.0	58.8	53.0	49.5	44.9	46.6	41.4
seeking full-time work	64.2	55.6	50.2	47.3	42.6	43.7	39.2
seeking part-time work Not in labour force	1.8 <b>429.3</b>	3.2 <b>391.3</b>	2.8 <b>418.1</b>	2.2 <b>425.6</b>	2.3 <b>422.7</b>	3.0 <b>394.4</b>	2.2 <b>428.8</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	429.3 10.9	10.6	<b>410.1</b> 9.4	<b>425.6</b> 9.6	<b>422.7</b> 7.8	<b>394.4</b> 8.9	<b>420.0</b> 7.8
Others	418.4	380.8	408.7	416.0	414.9	385.5	421.0
Total males aged 15 or over	1,423.8	1,439.6	1,448.6	1,455.0	1,457.5	1,464.0	1,477.6
-	,		1,446.0 <i>5.1</i>		,		
Unemployment rate %	6.6	5.6 70.8	5.1 71.1	4.8 70.7	4.3	4.4 73.1	3.9
Participation rate %	69.8	72.8	71.1	70.7	71.0	73.1	71.0
Females							
In labour force	656.3	722.0	705.6	702.8	710.8	745.9	730.3
In employment :	616.3	679.7	669.9	670.8	680.8	714.8	702.9
full-time	432.4	477.3	469.0	467.3	471.9	505.1	491.9
part-time :	183.8	202.5	200.8	203.5	208.9	209.7	211.0
of which : part-time, not underemployed *	180.6	200.4	198.8	201.7	207.0	208.0	209.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> * Unemployed :	3.2 40.0	2.0 42.2	2.0 35.7	1.8 32.0	1.9 30.0	1.7 31.1	1.4 27.4
seeking full-time work	25.2	27.8	22.8	19.5	18.7	19.7	16.2
seeking part-time work	14.8	14.5	13.0	12.6	11.3	11.4	11.3
Not in labour force	817.7	766.9	793.6	800.0	794.3	765.0	795.7
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	6.1	7.2	6.6	6.2	4.4	5.6	4.4
Others	811.6	759.7	786.9	793.8	789.9	759.4	791.3
Total females aged 15 or over	1,474.0	1,488.8	1,499.2	1,502.8	1,505.0	1,510.9	1,526.0
Unemployment rate %	6.1	5.9	5.1	4.6	4.2	4.2	3.8
Participation rate %	44.5	48.5	47.1	46.8	47.2	49.4	47.9
All persons							
In labour force	1,650.7	1,770.3	1,736.1	1,732.1	1,745.6	1,815.6	1,779.1
In employment :	1,544.7	1,669.2	1,647.4	1,650.6	1,670.7	1,737.9	1,710.3
full-time	1,295.5	1,392.1	1,377.5	1,377.5	1,390.1	1,460.0	1,431.0
part-time :	249.2	277.2	269.9	273.1	280.6	277.9	279.3
of which : part-time, not underemployed *	241.7	272.2	265.2	269.5	277.0	274.6	276.8
part-time, underemployed *	7.5	4.9	4.7	3.6	3.6	3.3	2.5
Unemployed : seeking full-time work	106.0 89.4	101.1 83.4	88.7 73.0	81.5 66.8	74.9 61.3	77.7 63.3	68.8 55.3
seeking part-time work	16.6	03.4 17.7	73.0 15.7	14.8	13.6	14.4	13.5
Not in labour force	1,247.1	1,158.2	1,211.6	1,225.7	1,217.0	1,159.3	1,224.5
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	17.1	17.7	16.0	15.8	12.2	14.5	12.2
Others	1,230.0	1,140.5	1,195.7	1,209.9	1,204.7	1,144.8	1,212.3
Total persons aged 15 or over	2,897.7	2,928.4	2,947.8	2,957.8	2,962.6	2,975.0	3,003.6
Unemployment rate %	6.4	5.7	5.1	4.7	4.3	4.3	3.9
Participation rate %	57.0	60.5	58.9	58.6	58.9	61.0	59.2

\* See Background Notes

Economic sector	Sep-	Jun-	Sep-	Dec-	Mar-	Jun-	Sep-
(NACE Rev. 1)	Nov 98	Aug 99	Nov 99	Feb 00	May 00	Aug 00	Nov 00
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	121.2	126.7	124.4	118.8	116.3	116.6	109.4
C-E Other production industries	216.6	222.3	214.6	213.2	213.1	223.1	220.4
F Construction	130.7	143.7	148.0	151.9	159.2	168.2	169.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	115.3	125.7	122.9	124.8	125.7	131.3	127.3
H Hotels and restaurants	40.1	45.1	41.9	43.5	44.0	47.1	44.9
I Transport, storage and communication	70.6	74.0	74.7	75.7	75.5	77.7	78.0
J-K Financial and other business services	90.8	104.3	103.1	104.1	107.1	107.9	105.8
L Public administration and defence	43.6	47.4	46.7	45.9	45.8	47.0	45.8
M-N Education and health	58.0	57.7	58.2	58.7	60.6	59.7	63.5
O Other services	41.5	42.6	43.1	43.1	42.7	44.4	42.5
Total males	928.4	989.5	977.5	979.8	989.9	1,023.0	1,007.4
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	15.1	15.5	15.6	15.0	14.6	14.1	13.3
C-E Other production industries	89.0	99.0	99.4	100.3	96.8	103.3	100.6
F Construction	6.0	7.2	6.8	7.8	7.2	7.3	8.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	99.9	110.7	106.3	108.6	110.1	122.1	115.3
H Hotels and restaurants	60.3	71.6	63.2	61.9	65.0	71.1	65.1
I Transport, storage and communication	23.3	25.9	25.2	25.5	25.2	28.2	27.2
J-K Financial and other business services	93.6	103.7	102.2	102.7	105.0	111.0	110.5
L Public administration and defence	26.8	30.4	31.6	30.9	32.0	31.7	32.7
M-N Education and health	153.3	161.3	167.6	168.0	174.0	172.8	178.2
O Other services	48.9	54.3	52.0	50.2	50.8	53.2	51.5
Total females	616.3	679.7	669.9	670.8	680.8	714.8	702.9
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	136.3	142.3	140.0	133.8	130.9	130.7	122.7
C-E Other production industries	305.6	321.3	314.0	313.5	309.9	326.4	321.0
F Construction	136.7	150.9	154.8	159.7	166.3	175.5	178.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	215.3	236.4	229.3	233.5	235.8	253.4	242.6
H Hotels and restaurants	100.4	116.7	105.1	105.4	109.0	118.3	110.0
I Transport, storage and communication	93.9	99.9	99.9	101.2	100.8	105.9	105.2
J-K Financial and other business services	184.4	208.0	205.3	206.8	212.1	218.8	216.3
L Public administration and defence	70.4	77.8	78.3	76.8	77.8	78.8	78.5
M-N Education and health	211.3	219.0	225.8	226.7	234.7	232.5	241.8
O Other services	90.4	97.0	95.1	93.2	93.4	97.6	94.1
Total persons	1,544.7	1,669.2	1,647.4	1,650.6	1,670.7	1,737.9	1,710.3

## Table 2 Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and NACE economic sector

# Table 3 Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and occupation

Broad Occupational Group	Sep- Nov 98	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00	Sep- Nov 00
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	217.5	224.4	226.2	222.0	219.6	219.4	217.2
2. Professional	82.8	85.9	87.5	87.8	90.6	91.8	94.0
3. Associate professional and							
technical	54.3	59.5	59.9	60.6	62.4	65.2	64.2
4. Clerical and secretarial	49.0	55.1	51.2	51.1	50.0	52.5	50.4
5. Craft and related	192.5	206.0	209.3	211.8	213.3	217.3	219.1
6. Personal and protective service	65.0	69.4	66.8	68.8	69.3	71.9	68.4
7. Sales	47.7	54.8	52.1	53.5	54.4	55.2	55.0
8. Plant and machine operatives	126.1	131.0	127.2	128.4	134.1	143.3	140.6
9. Other	93.5	103.4	97.3	95.8	96.1	106.4	98.5
Total males	928.4	989.5	977.5	979.8	989.9	1,023.0	1,007.4
Females							
<ol> <li>Managers and administrators</li> </ol>	70.2	76.9	75.2	77.5	81.4	84.4	83.4
2. Professional	68.9	71.7	75.3	75.4	75.9	73.9	78.3
3. Associate professional and							
technical	69.2	74.6	74.4	74.7	76.8	77.0	80.5
4. Clerical and secretarial	143.0	156.6	153.4	152.5	154.4	162.6	160.5
5. Craft and related	16.8	16.6	16.6	15.8	14.6	14.9	16.3
6. Personal and protective service	82.5	95.6	93.0	92.6	96.4	103.7	96.9
7. Sales	73.3	82.9	79.5	79.6	82.3	90.9	84.2
8. Plant and machine operatives	40.4	46.0	47.1	48.0	45.8	51.0	48.9
9. Other	51.9	58.7	55.4	54.6	53.1	56.5	53.9
Total females	616.3	679.7	669.9	670.8	680.8	714.8	702.9
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	287.7	301.3	301.5	299.5	301.1	303.8	300.6
2. Professional	151.7	157.7	162.7	163.2	166.5	165.7	172.2
3. Associate professional and							
technical	123.6	134.1	134.3	135.3	139.2	142.1	144.7
4. Clerical and secretarial	192.0	211.7	204.7	203.6	204.4	215.1	210.9
5. Craft and related	209.2	222.6	225.9	227.5	227.9	232.3	235.4
6. Personal and protective service	147.6	165.0	159.8	161.4	165.7	175.6	165.3
7. Sales	120.9	137.7	131.6	133.1	136.7	146.0	139.3
8. Plant and machine operatives	166.5	177.0	174.3	176.4	180.0	194.3	189.6
9. Other	145.4	162.0	152.7	150.4	149.2	162.8	152.4
Total persons	1,544.7	1,669.2	1,647.4	1,650.6	1,670.7	1,737.9	1,710.3

							000
Usual hours per week	Sep- Nov 98	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00	Sep- Nov 00
Males							
1-9 hours	5.6	4.6	7.8	8.2	7.8	3.9	6.8
10-19	5.0 15.9	4.0	16.8	18.4	20.1	14.0	18.3
20-29	35.7	38.9	36.7	36.1	20.1 36.7	37.1	37.4
30-34	17.0	18.9	17.2	17.0	17.9	18.2	15.7
35-39	229.4	274.4	277.8	278.6	289.3	310.9	307.8
40-44	229.4 241.9	248.3	240.5	243.4	238.9	256.2	248.6
40-44 45 & over	241.9	248.3 222.1	240.5 216.3	243.4 216.2	209.6	256.2 216.9	240.0
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>							
Total males	152.7	167.1	164.5	161.8	169.7	165.7	162.3
	928.4	989.5	977.5	979.8	989.9	1,023.0	1,007.4
Average hours per week	42.9	42.5	42.2	42.1	42.0	42.4	42.0
Females							
1-9 hours	15.6	13.2	19.4	19.2	19.3	13.1	17.7
10-19	56.3	56.4	60.8	63.2	64.7	61.0	66.1
20-29	107.9	119.7	117.7	120.1	120.9	129.7	128.1
30-34	32.7	33.6	33.2	31.9	31.7	34.4	32.9
35-39	207.0	240.4	241.0	241.1	243.2	266.7	261.9
40-44	118.8	125.9	114.4	110.2	112.2	125.6	117.5
45 & over	40.2	40.3	38.7	41.7	41.8	40.8	38.6
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	37.8	50.3	44.8	43.4	47.0	43.6	40.2
Total females	616.3	679.7	669.9	670.8	680.8	714.8	702.9
Average hours per week	33.1	33.3	32.8	32.7	32.8	33.3	32.8
All persons							
1-9 hours	21.3	17.8	27.1	27.4	27.1	17.0	24.6
10-19	72.2	71.7	77.6	81.6	84.8	75.0	84.4
20-29	143.5	158.5	154.4	156.2	157.6	166.8	165.5
30-34	49.8	52.6	50.5	48.9	49.6	52.6	48.6
35-39	436.4	514.8	518.8	519.7	532.4	577.6	569.7
40-44	360.6	374.2	354.8	353.6	351.2	381.8	366.1
45 & over	270.4	262.3	255.0	257.9	251.5	257.7	249.0
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	190.5	217.4	209.2	205.2	216.6	209.3	202.5
Total persons	1,544.7	1,669.2	1,647.4	1,650.6	1,670.7	1,737.9	1,710.3
Average hours per week	38.7	38.5	38.1	38.1	38.0	38.4	37.9

<sup>1</sup> Includes 'not stated'

#### Table 5 Persons at work classified by employment status

	ed by empty	Syment Sta	lus				<sup>1</sup> 000
Employment Status	Sep- Nov 98	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00	Sep- Nov 00
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	72.1	74.6	74.4	78.4	80.1	79.9	82.4
Self employed (with no paid employees)	162.9	162.9	169.2	167.7	165.2	162.3	161.0
Employee	685.7	739.5	724.6	725.9	735.8	770.6	755.9
Assisting relative	7.7	12.4	9.4	7.9	8.8	10.1	8.1
Total males	928.4	989.5	977.5	979.8	989.9	1,023.0	1,007.4
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	16.3	17.1	17.6	18.6	18.2	18.1	18.7
Self employed (with no paid employees)	27.9	29.9	29.1	29.9	30.0	28.2	27.8
Employee	560.2	620.9	610.4	610.0	619.8	657.2	645.5
Assisting relative	11.8	11.8	12.7	12.3	12.8	11.3	10.9
Total females	616.3	679.7	669.9	670.8	680.8	714.8	702.9
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	88.4	91.8	92.0	96.9	98.3	98.1	101.1
Self employed (with no paid employees)	190.8	192.8	198.3	197.6	195.2	190.5	188.8
Employee	1,246.0	1,360.4	1,335.1	1,335.9	1,355.6	1,427.9	1,401.4
Assisting relative	19.5	24.3	22.0	20.2	21.6	21.4	19.0
Total persons	1,544.7	1,669.2	1,647.4	1,650.6	1,670.7	1,737.9	1,710.3

#### Table 6a Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions<sup>1</sup> and ILO economic status

Region	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	000	000	000	%	%
Border, Midland and Western					
Sep-Nov 1998	374.3	30.2	404.5	7.5	53.5
Jun-Aug 1999	407.0	29.6	436.6	6.8	56.9
Sep-Nov 1999	401.5	27.7	429.1	6.4	55.6
Dec-Feb 2000	404.0	26.2	430.2	6.1	55.6
Mar-May 2000	409.8	24.9	434.7	5.7	55.9
Jun-Aug 2000	426.6	24.6	451.2	5.5	57.6
Sep-Nov 2000	424.2	21.2	445.4	4.8	56.4
Eastern and Southern					
Sep-Nov 1998	1,170.4	75.8	1,246.2	6.1	58.2
Jun-Aug 1999	1,262.2	71.4	1,333.6	5.4	61.7
Sep-Nov 1999	1,245.9	61.1	1,307.0	4.7	60.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,246.6	55.4	1,301.9	4.3	59.6
Mar-May 2000	1,260.9	50.0	1,310.9	3.8	60.0
Jun-Aug 2000	1,311.3	53.1	1,364.4	3.9	62.3
Sep-Nov 2000	1,286.1	47.6	1,333.7	3.6	60.2
State					
Sep-Nov 1998	1,544.7	106.0	1,650.7	6.4	57.0
Jun-Aug 1999	1,669.2	101.1	1,770.3	5.7	60.5
Sep-Nov 1999	1,647.4	88.7	1,736.1	5.1	58.9
Dec-Feb 2000	1,650.6	81.5	1,732.1	4.7	58.6
Mar-May 2000	1,670.7	74.9	1,745.6	4.3	58.9
Jun-Aug 2000	1,737.9	77.7	1,815.6	4.3	61.0
Sep-Nov 2000	1,710.3	68.8	1,779.1	3.9	59.2

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes

# Table 6b Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions<sup>1</sup> and ILO economic status

Region		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		000	000	000	%	%
Border	Sep-Nov 1998	150.4	14.7	165.1	8.9	52.6
	Jun-Aug 1999	161.7	15.3	177.0	8.6	55.6
	Sep-Nov 1999	158.0	14.7	172.7	8.5	54.0
	Dec-Feb 2000	158.6	12.5	171.1	7.3	53.5
	Mar-May 2000	161.7	11.5	173.1	6.6	54.1
	Jun-Aug 2000	167.1	10.5	177.6	5.9	55.2
	Sep-Nov 2000	167.5	9.6	177.1	5.4	54.9
Midlands	Sep-Nov 1998	76.9	6.5	83.4	7.8	52.9
	Jun-Aug 1999	84.3	6.3	90.6	7.0	56.4
	Sep-Nov 1999	83.9	5.3	89.2	5.9	55.0
	Dec-Feb 2000	82.9	5.8	88.7	6.6	55.1
	Mar-May 2000	85.2	4.9	90.2	5.5	55.9
	Jun-Aug 2000	87.6	5.3	92.9	5.7	57.4
	Sep-Nov 2000	86.9	4.3	91.2	4.7	55.7
West	Sep-Nov 1998	147.0	9.0	156.0	5.7	54.9
	Jun-Aug 1999	161.0	8.0	169.0	4.7	58.6
	Sep-Nov 1999	159.6	7.7	167.3	4.6	57.7
	Dec-Feb 2000	162.6	7.9	170.4	4.6	58.3
	Mar-May 2000	162.9	8.5	171.5	5.0	57.8
	Jun-Aug 2000	171.8	8.8	180.7	4.9	60.3
	Sep-Nov 2000	169.7	7.3	177.0	4.1	58.3
Dublin	Sep-Nov 1998	501.7	30.4	532.1	5.7	61.1
	Jun-Aug 1999	528.6	24.9	553.5	4.5	63.7
	Sep-Nov 1999	525.3	21.8	547.1	4.0	62.3
	Dec-Feb 2000	528.1	21.6	549.7	3.9	62.4
	Mar-May 2000	533.8	19.0	552.8	3.4	62.7
	Jun-Aug 2000	552.0	19.2	571.2	3.4	64.7
	Sep-Nov 2000	548.8	16.7	565.5	2.9	63.4
Mid-East	Sep-Nov 1998	161.5	8.2	169.8	4.8	60.2
	Jun-Aug 1999	177.3	9.2	186.4	4.9	64.4
	Sep-Nov 1999	175.2	7.8	182.9	4.3	62.5
	Dec-Feb 2000	176.3	7.4	183.6	4.0	62.3
	Mar-May 2000	177.6	6.9	184.5	3.7	62.4
	Jun-Aug 2000 Sep-Nov 2000	186.4 183.5	7.4 6.5	193.7 190.0	3.8 3.4	64.6 62.6
Mid-West	Sep-Nov 1998	131.6	7.7	139.3	5.5	55.4
WIG-West	Jun-Aug 1999	147.4	8.8	156.2	5.6	61.5
	Sep-Nov 1999	143.4	7.7	151.1	5.1	59.2
	Dec-Feb 2000	143.8	6.4	150.2	4.3	58.4
	Mar-May 2000	144.9	6.1	151.0	4.0	58.7
	Jun-Aug 2000	149.6	6.7	156.4	4.3	60.8
	Sep-Nov 2000	145.8	6.0	151.7	3.9	58.2
South-East	Sep-Nov 1998	155.0	14.7	169.7	8.7	55.3
	Jun-Aug 1999	170.1	14.7	184.8	7.9	59.2
	Sep-Nov 1999	166.8	12.0	178.8	6.7	57.1
	Dec-Feb 2000	165.6	10.2	175.9	5.8	56.0
	Mar-May 2000	166.9	8.5	175.4	4.9	56.2
	Jun-Aug 2000	175.0	9.6	184.6	5.2	58.9
	Sep-Nov 2000	168.1	8.7	176.9	4.9	56.1
South-West	Sep-Nov 1998	220.5	14.7	235.3	6.3	54.7
	Jun-Aug 1999	238.8	13.9	252.7	5.5	57.9
	Sep-Nov 1999	235.2	11.8	247.0	4.8	56.5
	Dec-Feb 2000	232.8	9.8	242.6	4.0	55.3
	Mar-May 2000	237.7	9.5	247.1	3.8	56.5
	Jun-Aug 2000	248.3	10.2	258.5	3.9	59.0
	Sep-Nov 2000	240.0	9.8	249.7	3.9	56.5
State	Sep-Nov 1998	1,544.7	106.0	1,650.7	6.4	57.0
	Jun-Aug 1999	1,669.2	101.1	1,770.3	5.7	60.5
	Sep-Nov 1999	1,647.4	88.7	1,736.1	5.1	58.9
	Dec-Feb 2000	1,650.6	81.5	1,732.1	4.7	58.6
	Mar-May 2000	1,670.7	74.9	1,745.6	4.3	58.9
	Jun-Aug 2000	1,737.9	77.7	1,815.6	4.3	61.0
	Sep-Nov 2000	1,710.3	68.8	1,779.1	3.9	59.2

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes

#### Table 7 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, September-November 2000

				A	ge group				
Marital Status	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Tota
Males									
Single	34.3	79.0	92.2	86.7	73.6	60.0	50.7	18.3	67.7
Married	*	84.7	95.7	95.9	90.7	76.6	56.5	13.7	76.3
Separated or divorced	*	*	93.7	86.7	78.4	67.9	45.0	16.9	72.9
Widowed	*	*	*	88.3	84.7	72.2	52.4	6.7	25.3
Total males	34.3	79.1	93.4	93.6	87.7	73.8	55.0	13.6	71.0
Females									
Single	27.2	70.3	86.0	82.6	70.9	48.2	33.4	4.1	59.2
Married	*	64.8	65.5	59.7	50.7	33.1	18.2	3.0	46.1
Separated or divorced	*	*	65.5	67.1	63.7	42.6	29.0	*	58.5
Widowed	*	*	79.3	63.6	47.2	38.1	20.2	1.6	9.2
Total females	27.2	70.1	76.4	63.7	53.4	35.3	20.2	2.5	47.9
All persons									
Single	30.8	74.7	89.4	84.9	72.6	55.9	45.0	11.8	63.8
Married	*	70.0	78.7	77.4	70.8	55.3	37.8	9.1	61.2
Separated or divorced	*	*	72.9	73.7	69.4	53.3	35.9	11.8	63.8
Widowed	*	*	82.8	70.4	58.2	47.1	27.2	2.6	12.5
Total persons	30.8	74.6	85.0	78.5	70.6	54.8	37.5	7.3	59.2

\* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

#### Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group

		Age group									
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total		
Males											
Sep-Nov 1998	31.2	80.1	93.7	93.1	86.8	72.8	52.8	14.6	69.8		
Jun-Aug 1999	45.1	86.2	94.5	93.2	87.4	72.9	53.5	15.0	72.8		
Sep-Nov 1999	34.1	80.5	94.0	93.2	88.6	74.2	53.1	15.4	71.1		
Dec-Feb 2000	32.8	78.9	94.0	93.3	88.0	74.8	53.5	15.0	70.7		
Mar-May 2000	34.1	79.0	94.0	93.4	88.0	73.9	53.7	14.7	71.0		
Jun-Aug 2000	45.3	85.8	94.2	93.8	87.6	73.6	54.8	13.4	73.1		
Sep-Nov 2000	34.3	79.1	93.4	93.6	87.7	73.8	55.0	13.6	71.0		
Females											
Sep-Nov 1998	23.5	71.3	74.0	60.1	46.6	29.4	17.1	2.8	44.5		
Jun-Aug 1999	38.5	79.3	75.5	61.6	49.0	34.0	19.6	2.7	48.5		
Sep-Nov 1999	27.3	72.1	76.2	62.3	50.1	34.4	19.5	2.7	47.1		
Dec-Feb 2000	25.0	70.6	76.3	62.3	51.4	34.6	19.1	2.4	46.8		
Mar-May 2000	26.2	67.6	77.2	63.1	52.2	35.0	19.5	2.9	47.2		
Jun-Aug 2000	38.6	76.5	76.6	63.1	51.9	34.9	19.6	2.9	49.4		
Sep-Nov 2000	27.2	70.1	76.4	63.7	53.4	35.3	20.2	2.5	47.9		
All persons											
Sep-Nov 1998	27.5	75.8	83.8	76.4	66.9	51.3	34.8	7.9	57.0		
Jun-Aug 1999	41.9	82.8	85.0	77.2	68.3	53.7	36.5	8.0	60.5		
Sep-Nov 1999	30.8	76.3	85.1	77.6	69.5	54.5	36.2	8.2	58.9		
Dec-Feb 2000	29.0	74.8	85.2	77.6	69.8	55.0	36.2	7.8	58.6		
Mar-May 2000	30.3	73.4	85.7	78.0	70.2	54.7	36.5	8.0	58.9		
Jun-Aug 2000	42.0	81.2	85.4	78.2	69.9	54.4	37.1	7.4	61.0		
Sep-Nov 2000	30.8	74.6	85.0	78.5	70.6	54.8	37.5	7.3	59.2		

%

%

#### Table 9 Number of persons in the labour force (ILO) classified by sex and age group

				A	ge group				
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Sep-Nov 1998	55.3	124.4	256.9	238.0	195.1	60.7	37.5	26.6	994.4
Jun-Aug 1999	78.9	137.9	264.1	239.4	199.7	62.4	38.7	27.3	1,048.3
Sep-Nov 1999	59.8	132.3	265.4	240.5	202.3	63.8	38.5	28.0	1,030.5
Dec-Feb 2000	56.9	128.8	267.0	241.3	203.3	65.3	39.2	27.5	1,029.3
Mar-May 2000	58.5	129.6	269.2	241.9	204.1	64.9	39.6	27.0	1,034.9
Jun-Aug 2000	77.2	141.7	272.6	243.7	203.8	65.7	40.5	24.6	1,069.7
Sep-Nov 2000	58.4	133.1	274.4	244.9	205.0	67.0	40.8	25.1	1,048.8
Females									
Sep-Nov 1998	39.5	108.2	205.0	157.2	103.3	24.0	12.3	6.7	656.2
Jun-Aug 1999	63.9	124.5	212.2	161.8	110.5	28.4	14.3	6.4	722.0
Sep-Nov 1999	45.6	117.5	215.4	164.4	113.1	28.8	14.2	6.5	705.6
Dec-Feb 2000	41.0	113.6	216.2	165.0	117.4	29.5	14.2	5.8	702.8
Mar-May 2000	42.5	109.6	219.3	167.8	119.9	30.0	14.5	7.1	710.8
Jun-Aug 2000	62.1	124.6	219.2	168.4	119.8	30.4	14.6	6.9	745.9
Sep-Nov 2000	44.0	117.3	221.8	171.0	123.7	31.3	15.1	6.1	730.3
All persons									
Sep-Nov 1998	94.7	232.6	461.8	395.2	298.5	84.7	49.8	33.3	1,650.7
Jun-Aug 1999	142.7	262.4	476.3	401.2	310.2	90.8	53.0	33.7	1,770.3
Sep-Nov 1999	105.4	249.7	480.8	404.9	315.4	92.6	52.7	34.6	1,736.1
Dec-Feb 2000	98.0	242.5	483.2	406.4	320.6	94.7	53.4	33.3	1,732.1
Mar-May 2000	101.0	239.3	488.5	409.7	324.1	94.9	54.1	34.1	1,745.6
Jun-Aug 2000	139.2	266.2	491.8	412.1	323.6	96.1	55.1	31.5	1,815.6
Sep-Nov 2000	102.3	250.4	496.2	415.9	328.7	98.3	55.9	31.2	1,779.1

## Table 10 Number of persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and age group

									000
				А	ge group				
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Sep-Nov 1998	49.2	112.9	240.8	223.6	182.5	57.3	35.8	26.4	928.4
Jun-Aug 1999	70.5	126.9	251.4	227.3	189.0	59.7	37.6	27.2	989.5
Sep-Nov 1999	54.1	122.3	253.8	228.9	192.2	61.3	37.2	27.8	977.5
Dec-Feb 2000	51.5	121.6	254.1	230.5	193.5	63.0	38.3	27.1	979.8
Mar-May 2000	52.8	124.0	257.3	231.6	195.5	63.0	38.8	26.9	989.9
Jun-Aug 2000	69.2	134.0	261.8	234.4	195.8	63.8	39.6	24.5	1,023.0
Sep-Nov 2000	53.0	126.1	265.2	235.6	197.2	65.2	40.1	25.0	1,007.4
Females									
Sep-Nov 1998	34.0	99.4	194.8	149.0	97.6	23.1	11.6	6.7	616.3
Jun-Aug 1999	55.7	113.9	202.5	154.8	105.6	27.2	13.7	6.3	679.7
Sep-Nov 1999	41.4	109.7	205.7	157.3	107.7	27.7	13.8	6.5	669.9
Dec-Feb 2000	37.0	106.9	207.9	157.8	112.9	28.6	13.9	5.7	670.8
Mar-May 2000	38.1	103.6	211.3	161.7	115.7	29.2	14.2	7.0	680.8
Jun-Aug 2000	55.3	117.5	211.3	163.4	116.7	29.6	14.3	6.8	714.8
Sep-Nov 2000	39.8	111.0	214.7	165.8	120.2	30.6	14.8	6.0	702.9
All persons									
Sep-Nov 1998	83.2	212.3	435.6	372.6	280.1	80.4	47.4	33.1	1,544.7
Jun-Aug 1999	126.2	240.8	453.9	382.0	294.6	86.9	51.3	33.5	1,669.2
Sep-Nov 1999	95.5	232.0	459.5	386.3	299.9	89.0	51.0	34.2	1,647.4
Dec-Feb 2000	88.5	228.5	462.1	388.3	306.5	91.6	52.2	32.8	1,650.6
Mar-May 2000	90.9	227.5	468.6	393.4	311.3	92.2	53.0	33.9	1,670.7
Jun-Aug 2000	124.6	251.4	473.0	397.7	312.5	93.5	53.8	31.3	1,737.9
Sep-Nov 2000	92.8	237.2	479.9	401.4	317.4	95.8	54.8	31.1	1,710.3

1000

1000

### Table 11 Number of persons unemployed (ILO) classified by sex and age group

				А	ge group				
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Sep-Nov 1998	6.1	11.5	16.1	14.4	12.7	3.4	1.8	0.1	66.0
Jun-Aug 1999	8.4	10.9	12.7	12.2	10.7	2.7	1.1	0.1	58.8
Sep-Nov 1999	5.7	10.0	11.6	11.6	10.1	2.5	1.2	0.2	53.0
Dec-Feb 2000	5.4	7.2	12.9	10.8	9.7	2.2	0.9	0.3	49.5
Mar-May 2000	5.7	5.7	11.9	10.3	8.6	1.9	0.8	0.0	44.9
Jun-Aug 2000	7.9	7.7	10.8	9.4	8.0	1.9	0.9	0.1	46.6
Sep-Nov 2000	5.4	7.0	9.2	9.3	7.8	1.9	0.8	0.1	41.4
Females									
Sep-Nov 1998	5.5	8.8	10.2	8.2	5.7	1.0	0.6	0.0	40.0
Jun-Aug 1999	8.1	10.6	9.7	7.1	4.9	1.2	0.6	0.1	42.2
Sep-Nov 1999	4.2	7.8	9.7	7.1	5.4	1.1	0.4	0.1	35.7
Dec-Feb 2000	4.0	6.7	8.3	7.2	4.5	0.9	0.2	0.1	32.0
Mar-May 2000	4.4	6.1	8.1	6.0	4.2	0.8	0.2	0.1	30.0
Jun-Aug 2000	6.8	7.1	7.9	5.0	3.1	0.8	0.3	0.1	31.1
Sep-Nov 2000	4.2	6.3	7.1	5.3	3.5	0.7	0.3	0.0	27.4
All persons									
Sep-Nov 1998	11.6	20.3	26.3	22.6	18.4	4.4	2.4	0.2	106.0
Jun-Aug 1999	16.5	21.6	22.4	19.2	15.6	3.9	1.7	0.2	101.1
Sep-Nov 1999	9.9	17.8	21.3	18.6	15.5	3.6	1.7	0.3	88.7
Dec-Feb 2000	9.4	14.0	21.2	18.0	14.2	3.1	1.1	0.5	81.5
Mar-May 2000	10.1	11.7	19.9	16.4	12.8	2.7	1.0	0.1	74.9
Jun-Aug 2000	14.7	14.8	18.7	14.3	11.1	2.6	1.3	0.2	77.7
Sep-Nov 2000	9.6	13.3	16.4	14.5	11.3	2.5	1.1	0.1	68.8

## Table 12 Unemployment rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group

				A	ge group				
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Tota
lales									
Sep-Nov 1998	11.0	9.2	6.3	6.0	6.5	5.6	4.7	0.5	6.6
Jun-Aug 1999	10.7	7.9	4.8	5.1	5.4	4.3	2.8	0.4	5.6
Sep-Nov 1999	9.6	7.6	4.4	4.8	5.0	3.9	3.2	0.9	5.1
Dec-Feb 2000	9.5	5.6	4.8	4.5	4.8	3.4	2.3	1.2	4.8
Mar-May 2000	9.8	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.2	2.9	2.1	0.1	4.3
Jun-Aug 2000	10.3	5.4	4.0	3.8	3.9	2.8	2.3	0.3	4.4
Sep-Nov 2000	9.2	5.2	3.4	3.8	3.8	2.8	1.9	0.4	3.9
emales									
Sep-Nov 1998	13.9	8.1	5.0	5.2	5.5	4.0	5.3	0.5	6.1
Jun-Aug 1999	12.7	8.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.1	1.7	5.9
Sep-Nov 1999	9.2	6.6	4.5	4.3	4.7	3.8	3.1	1.1	5.1
Dec-Feb 2000	9.8	5.9	3.8	4.4	3.8	3.0	1.7	2.3	4.6
Mar-May 2000	10.3	5.5	3.7	3.6	3.5	2.8	1.6	1.3	4.2
Jun-Aug 2000	10.9	5.7	3.6	3.0	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.0	4.2
Sep-Nov 2000	9.5	5.3	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.2	2.2	0.5	3.8
II persons									
Sep-Nov 1998	12.2	8.7	5.7	5.7	6.2	5.1	4.8	0.5	6.4
Jun-Aug 1999	11.6	8.2	4.7	4.8	5.0	4.3	3.2	0.7	5.7
Sep-Nov 1999	9.4	7.1	4.4	4.6	4.9	3.9	3.1	0.9	5.1
Dec-Feb 2000	9.6	5.8	4.4	4.4	4.4	3.3	2.1	1.4	4.7
Mar-May 2000	10.0	4.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	2.9	1.9	0.4	4.3
Jun-Aug 2000	10.5	5.6	3.8	3.5	3.4	2.8	2.3	0.7	4.3
Sep-Nov 2000	9.3	5.3	3.3	3.5	3.4	2.6	2.0	0.4	3.9

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#### Table 13 Labour force situation of married females

				А	ge group				
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Tota
Total Married Women									
Sep-Nov 1998	0.2	6.9	138.3	205.5	177.1	63.7	48.9	82.9	723.4
Jun-Aug 1999	0.3	5.9	133.6	202.8	180.5	64.1	48.5	83.3	718.9
Sep-Nov 1999	0.5	6.3	132.3	202.9	179.8	64.6	48.8	84.9	720.1
Dec-Feb 2000	0.7	6.1	130.5	203.5	182.9	65.6	49.7	84.8	723.8
Mar-May 2000	0.9	5.2	125.0	203.0	184.0	65.8	51.3	85.5	720.5
Jun-Aug 2000	0.7	6.4	126.4	203.9	185.0	67.1	52.5	86.8	728.8
Sep-Nov 2000	0.7	6.3	127.3	204.8	184.2	68.6	53.6	88.5	734.1
of which In Labour Force	('000)								
Sep-Nov 1998	0.0	4.0	89.2	116.0	76.7	17.3	7.3	2.5	313.0
Jun-Aug 1999	0.0	3.2	88.1	117.2	82.3	19.9	8.6	2.7	322.1
Sep-Nov 1999	0.1	3.6	88.7	118.3	85.0	20.5	8.5	2.8	327.6
Dec-Feb 2000	0.1	3.4	87.3	119.1	89.2	21.0	8.5	2.3	331.1
Mar-May 2000	0.2	2.8	84.1	120.0	91.0	21.3	8.8	2.9	331.0
Jun-Aug 2000	0.3	3.7	83.4	120.4	90.5	21.9	9.5	2.7	332.4
Sep-Nov 2000	0.2	4.2	83.4	122.3	93.4	22.8	9.8	2.6	338.7
of which In Employment (	('000)								
Sep-Nov 1998	0.0	3.8	85.3	110.6	73.1	16.8	7.1	2.5	299.2
Jun-Aug 1999	0.0	3.0	85.0	112.5	79.2	19.2	8.4	2.6	309.9
Sep-Nov 1999	0.1	3.3	84.9	114.0	81.2	19.9	8.3	2.8	314.5
Dec-Feb 2000	0.1	3.1	84.4	114.5	85.9	20.4	8.3	2.3	319.0
Mar-May 2000	0.2	2.7	81.7	116.2	88.3	20.7	8.7	2.9	321.4
Jun-Aug 2000	0.3	3.5	81.0	117.5	88.6	21.3	9.3	2.6	324.1
Sep-Nov 2000	0.2	3.9	81.2	119.3	91.1	22.3	9.6	2.6	330.2
Participation rates (%)									
Sep-Nov 1998	*	57.5	64.5	56.5	43.3	27.1	14.9	3.1	43.3
Jun-Aug 1999	*	54.4	66.0	57.8	45.6	31.1	17.7	3.2	44.8
Sep-Nov 1999	*	56.6	67.0	58.3	47.3	31.7	17.4	3.3	45.5
Dec-Feb 2000	*	57.1	66.9	58.6	48.8	32.1	17.1	2.7	45.7
Mar-May 2000	*	54.4	67.3	59.1	49.5	32.3	17.1	3.4	45.9
Jun-Aug 2000	*	54.5	65.9	59.1	48.9	32.6	18.0	3.1	45.
Sep-Nov 2000	*	64.8	65.5	59.7	50.7	33.1	18.2	3.0	46.1

\* Sample occurrence too smal for estimation

Period	Labour force	Unemployed	<i>of which</i> Long term unemployed	Unemployment rate	Long-term unemployment rate
	000	000	000	%	%
April 1988	1,327.7	217.0	137.8	16.3	10.4
April 1989	1,307.8	196.8	128.0	15.0	9.8
April 1990	1,332.1	172.4	110.2	12.9	8.3
April 1991	1,354.4	198.5	119.7	14.7	8.8
April 1992	1,371.8	206.6	116.5	15.1	8.5
April 1993	1,403.2	220.1	125.4	15.7	8.9
April 1994	1,431.6	211.0	128.2	14.7	9.0
April 1995	1,459.2	177.4	103.3	12.2	7.1
April 1996	1,507.5	179.0	103.3	11.9	6.9
April 1997	1,539.0	159.0	86.3	10.3	5.6
Sep-Nov 1997	1,643.9	171.6	90.2	10.4	5.5
Dec-Feb 1998	1,621.6	138.6	72.6	8.5	4.5
Mar-May 1998	1,621.1	126.6	63.5	7.8	3.9
Jun-Aug 1998	1,688.6	128.9	61.7	7.6	3.7
Sep-Nov 1998	1,650.7	106.0	51.7	6.4	3.1
Dec-Feb 1999	1,650.1	95.1	43.6	5.8	2.6
Mar-May 1999	1,688.1	96.9	41.6	5.7	2.5
Jun-Aug 1999	1,770.3	101.1	37.9	5.7	2.1
Sep-Nov 1999	1,736.1	88.7	36.0	5.1	2.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,732.1	81.5	29.7	4.7	1.7
Mar-May 2000	1,745.6	74.9	27.4	4.3	1.6
Jun-Aug 2000	1,815.6	77.7	25.7	4.3	1.4
Sep-Nov 2000	1,779.1	68.8	24.2	3.9	1.4

## Table 14 Labour force, unemployed and long-term unemployed (ILO)

Table 15	Persons aged 15	years and over cl	lassified by sex and	duration of unem	ployment (ILO)
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			Quarterly Nati	onal Household	Survey		
Duration	Sep-	Jun-	Sep-	Dec-	Mar-	Jun-	Sep-
	Nov 98	Aug 99	Nov 99	Feb 00	May 00	Aug 00	Nov 00
Males							
Less than 1 year	27.8	31.0	27.0	27.2	24.1	26.6	22.6
1 year and over	37.9	27.7	26.0	22.2	20.7	19.9	18.6
Not stated	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Total males	66.0	58.8	53.0	49.5	44.9	46.6	41.4
Females							
Less than 1 year	26.0	32.0	25.8	24.5	23.3	25.2	21.9
1 year and over	13.8	10.2	10.0	7.5	6.7	5.9	5.5
Not stated	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total females	40.0	42.2	35.7	32.0	30.0	31.1	27.4
All persons							
Less than 1 year	53.8	63.0	52.7	51.7	47.3	51.9	44.5
1 year and over	51.7	37.9	36.0	29.7	27.4	25.7	24.2
Not stated	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total persons	106.0	101.1	88.7	81.5	74.9	77.7	68.8

# Table 16Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, age group and duration of<br/>unemployment (ILO)

		QNHS Se	p-Nov 1999			QNHS Sep	o-Nov 2000	
Duration		Age	group			Age	group	
	15-24	25-44	45 or over	Total	15-24	25-44	45 or over	Total
Males								
Less than 1 year	11.5	10.7	4.7	27.0	9.5	9.2	3.8	22.6
1 year and over	4.2	12.4	9.4	26.0	2.8	9.2	6.6	18.6
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Total males	15.7	23.2	14.1	53.0	12.4	18.5	10.5	41.4
Females								
Less than 1 year	9.3	12.2	4.3	25.8	8.6	9.8	3.5	21.9
1 year and over	2.7	4.5	2.7	10.0	1.8	2.6	1.1	5.5
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total females	12.0	16.8	7.0	35.7	10.4	12.4	4.6	27.4
All persons								
Less than 1 year	20.8	23.0	9.0	52.7	18.1	19.1	7.3	44.5
1 year and over	6.9	17.0	12.0	36.0	4.7	11.8	7.7	24.2
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2
Total persons	27.7	40.0	21.0	88.7	22.8	30.9	15.1	68.8

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				Quarterlv N	ational Househol	d Survev			
ILO economic status	Sep-	Dec-	Mar-	Jun-	Sep-	Dec-	Mar-	Jun-	Sep
	Nov 98	Feb 99	May 99	Aug 99	Nov 99	Feb 00	May 00	Aug 00	Nov 0
In labour force	1,650.7	1,650.1	1,688.1	1,770.3	1,736.1	1,732.1	1,745.6	1,815.6	1,779.
In employment :	1,544.7	1,555.0	1,591.1	1,669.2	1,647.4	1,650.6	1,670.7	1,737.9	1,710.
full-time	1,295.5	1,305.5	1,324.6	1,392.1	1,377.5	1,377.5	1,390.1	1,460.0	1,431.
part-time :	249.2	249.5	266.5	277.2	269.9	273.1	280.6	277.9	279.3
of which : part-time, not underemployed	241.7	242.9	260.6	272.2	265.2	269.5	277.0	274.6	276.8
part-time, underemployed	7.5	6.6	5.9	4.9	4.7	3.6	3.6	3.3	2.
Unemployed :	106.0	95.1	96.9	101.1	88.7	81.5	74.9	77.7	68.8
seeking full-time work	89.4	80.7	80.1	83.4	73.0	66.8	61.3	63.3	55.3
seeking part-time work	16.6	14.4	16.8	17.7	15.7	14.8	13.6	14.4	13.5
Not in labour force	1,247.1	1,257.9	1,227.4	1,158.2	1,211.6	1,225.7	1,217.0	1,159.3	1,224.
Marginally attached to the labour force :	17.1	19.3	16.7	17.7	16.0	15.8	12.2	14.5	12.2
Discouraged workers	13.3	14.1	12.6	13.2	13.1	12.8	9.6	11.5	9.5
Passive jobseekers	3.8	5.2	4.1	4.5	2.9	3.0	2.6	3.0	2.7
Others :	1,230.0	1,238.5	1,210.7	1,140.5	1,195.7	1,209.9	1,204.7	1,144.8	1,212.3
Persons not in education, who want work <sup>1</sup>	52.6	57.7	61.8	67.0	64.3	61.5	63.0	66.8	69.5
Persons in education, who want work 1	36.1	35.3	46.6	32.7	39.0	39.3	51.5	33.7	39.9
All other persons	1,141.2	1,145.5	1,102.3	1,040.7	1,092.4	1,109.0	1,090.3	1,044.4	1,102.9
Total persons aged 15 or over	2,897.7	2,908.0	2,915.5	2,928.4	2,947.8	2,957.8	2,962.6	2,975.0	3,003.0

 Table 17 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by detailed ILO economic status

<sup>1</sup> Persons who want work are those who are looking for work but are not available and those who say they want a job but are not looking for work.

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#### Table 18 Indicators of potential labour supply

Period	S1	S2	S3				
1996	12.7	16.0	17.5				
1997	11.3	15.7	17.0				
Sep-Nov 1997	11.1	14.1	15.6				
Dec-Feb 1998	9.3	12.6	13.7				
Mar-May 1998	8.6	12.1	12.7				
Jun-Aug 1998	8.5	11.6	12.1				
Sep-Nov 1998	7.2	10.2	10.6				
Dec-Feb 1999	6.6	10.0	10.4				
Mar-May 1999	6.4	9.9	10.3				
Jun-Aug 1999	6.4	10.0	10.3				
Sep-Nov 1999	5.8	9.3	9.6				
Dec-Feb 2000	5.4	8.8	9.0				
Mar-May 2000	4.8	8.2	8.4				
Jun-Aug 2000	4.9	8.4	8.6				
Sep-Nov 2000	4.4	8.1	8.2				

NOTE : Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 10 :
S1 : Unemployed plus discouraged workers as a
percentage of the Labour Force plus discouraged
workers.
S2 : Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others
not in education who want work as a percentage
of the Labour Force plus marginally attached plus
others not in education who want work.
S3 : Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others
not in education who want work plus underemployed
part-time workers as a percentage of the Labour

Force plus marginally attached plus others not in

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education who want work.

## Table 19 Population aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status<sup>1</sup>

Principal		Qua	arterly National Ho	ousehold Survey			
Economic	Sep-	Jun-	Sep-	Dec-	Mar-	Jun-	Sep-
Status	Nov 98	Aug 99	Nov 99	Feb 00	May 00	Aug 00	Nov 00
Males							
At work	904.2	938.0	948.0	952.6	957.2	972.7	975.4
Unemployed	99.9	86.4	80.4	79.7	74.9	74.6	72.3
Student	169.0	163.1	172.4	173.2	175.5	161.5	171.8
Home duties	7.8	9.5	8.8	8.5	8.6	8.6	7.6
Retired	187.3	185.5	183.7	187.0	187.5	190.9	192.7
Others	55.6	57.1	55.2	53.9	53.8	55.8	57.6
Total males	1,423.8	1,439.6	1,448.6	1,455.0	1,457.5	1,464.0	1,477.6
Females							
At work	574.5	616.0	623.4	626.7	630.9	651.7	657.3
Unemployed	39.6	37.1	35.5	37.3	34.9	39.3	35.0
Student	182.8	173.0	186.7	191.1	199.1	178.6	192.6
Home duties	583.0	570.6	563.5	560.4	552.8	554.2	554.0
Retired	63.6	60.2	61.4	61.1	60.7	60.8	60.5
Others	30.5	31.9	28.7	26.1	26.6	26.4	26.5
Total females	1,474.0	1,488.8	1,499.2	1,502.8	1,505.0	1,510.9	1,526.0
All persons							
At work	1,478.7	1,554.0	1,571.4	1,579.3	1,588.1	1,624.3	1,632.8
Unemployed	139.5	123.5	115.9	117.0	109.8	113.9	107.3
Student	351.8	336.2	359.2	364.4	374.6	340.1	364.4
Home duties	590.8	580.1	572.2	568.9	561.4	562.8	561.7
Retired	250.9	245.7	245.1	248.1	248.2	251.7	253.2
Others	86.1	89.0	83.9	80.0	80.4	82.1	84.2
Total persons	2,897.7	2,928.4	2,947.8	2,957.8	2,962.6	2,975.0	3,003.6

<sup>1</sup> Classification based on respondent's own subjective assessment, see Background Notes.

			Duin	simpl Essential C	Na. 4		
LO economic status	At work	Unemployed	Prin Student	cipal Economic S Home duties	Retired	Others	Tota
Males							
In employment :	972.0	3.0	27.0	0.5	3.4	1.6	1,007
full-time	931.5	2.0	3.6	0.3	0.6	1.1	939
part-time :	40.5	1.0	23.4	0.1	2.8	0.5	68
of which : part-time, not underemployed	39.5	0.8	23.4	0.1	2.8	0.5	67
part-time, underemployed	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1
Unemployed :	0.5	38.3	1.3	0.0	0.7	0.5	41
seeking full-time work	0.5	37.3	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.5	39
seeking part-time work	0.0	1.0	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.0	2
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.0	5.6	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.7	7
Others	1.9	25.5	143.4	7.1	188.3	54.8	421
Total males aged 15 or over	975.4	72.3	171.8	7.6	192.7	57.6	1,477
Females							
In employment :	652.6	1.9	32.3	14.6	0.3	1.2	70
full-time	484.5	0.7	3.6	2.3	0.0	0.7	49
part-time :	168.0	1.2	28.7	12.3	0.3	0.5	21
of which : part-time, not underemployed	166.8	1.1	28.7	12.2	0.3	0.5	209
part-time, underemployed	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	
Unemployed :	0.7	16.1	1.9	8.4	0.1	0.2	27
seeking full-time work	0.5	12.3	0.6	2.5	0.1	0.1	16
seeking part-time work	0.2	3.7	1.3	5.9	0.1	0.1	1
Marginally attached to the labour force	0.9	1.1	0.5	1.7	0.1	0.1	4
Others	3.2	15.9	157.9	529.3	60.0	25.0	79
Total females aged 15 or over	657.3	35.0	192.6	554.0	60.5	26.5	1,52
All persons							
In employment :	1,624.6	4.9	59.2	15.1	3.8	2.7	1 71/
							1,71
full-time part-time :	1,416.1 208.5	2.8	7.2 52.1	2.6	0.6	1.8	1,43 <sup>-</sup> 279
part-time : of which : part-time, not underemployed		2.2		12.4	3.2	1.0	
part-time, underemployed	206.3 2.1	1.9 0.3	52.1 0.0	12.3 0.1	3.2 0.0	1.0 0.0	276
Unemployed :	2.1						
	1.2 1.0	54.3	3.3	8.4	0.8	0.7	6
seeking full-time work		49.6 4.7	1.1 2.2	2.5	0.4 0.4	0.6	5
seeking part-time work	0.2			5.9		0.1	1: 1:
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.9	6.7	0.7	1.7	0.4	0.8	
Others	5.1	41.4	301.3	536.4	248.3	79.8	1,212

# Table 20Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal EconomicStatus, September-November 2000

	LFS April 1997	Sep- Nov 97	Dec- Feb 98	Mar- May 98	Quarterly Jun- Aug 98	National H Sep- Nov 98	ousehold S Dec- Feb 99	Survey Mar- May 99	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00	Sep- Nov 00
1. Total employment (ILO)	1,380	1,472	1,483	1,495	1,560	1,545	1,555	1,591	1,669	1,647	1,651	1,671	1,738	1710.3
2. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	142	135	134	135	136	136	137	136	142	140	134	131	131	123
3. Non-agricultural employment (1-2)	1,238	1,337	1,349	1,360	1,424	1,409	1,418	1,455	1,527	1,507	1,517	1,540	1,607 0	1,587
4. State-sponsored employment schemes <sup>1</sup>	41	40	40	41	41	40	41	41	40	38	39	39	38	37
5. Non-agricultural employment, excluding schemes (3-4)	1,197	1,297	1,309	1,319	1,383	1,369	1,377	1,414	1,487	1,469	1,478	1,501	1,569	1,550
6. Public sector employment <sup>1</sup>	297	296	301	300	304	301	306	306	309	297	304 <sup>2</sup>	305 <sup>2</sup>	304 <sup>3</sup>	308 <sup>3</sup>
7. Private sector employment (5-6)	900	1,001	1,008	1,019	1,079	1,068	1,071	1,108	1,178	1,172	1,174	1,196	1,265	1242

<sup>1</sup> Based on administrative data. Public sector employment estimate excludes Telecom Eireann from Q3/1999.

<sup>2</sup> Revised

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<sup>3</sup> Provisional

# **Background Notes**

- **Purpose of Survey** The Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) began in September 1997, replacing the annual April Labour Force Survey (LFS). The purpose of the survey is the production of quarterly labour force estimates and occasional reports on special social topics. The survey meets the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98, adopted in March 1998, which requires the introduction of quarterly labour force surveys in EU Member States.
  - **Reference Period** Information is collected continuously throughout the year, with 3,000 households surveyed each week to give a total sample of 39,000 households in each quarter. The reference quarters for survey results are: Q1 December to February, Q2 March to May, Q3 June to August and Q4 September to November.
    - **Data Collection** Information is collected on laptop computers, using computer-assisted personal interview (CAPI) software.
    - **Sample Design** A two-stage sample design is used. This comprises a first stage sample of 2,600 blocks (or small areas) selected at county level to proportionately represent eight strata reflecting population density. Each block was selected to contain, on average, 75 dwellings and the sample of blocks is fixed for a period of about five years. In the second stage of sampling, 15 households are surveyed in each block to give a total quarterly sample of 39,000 households.

Households are asked to take part in the survey for five consecutive quarters and are then replaced by other households in the same block. Thus, one fifth of the households in the survey are replaced each quarter and the QNHS sample involves an overlap of 80% between consecutive quarters and 20% between the same quarter in consecutive years.

The survey results are weighted to agree with population estimates broken down by age, sex and region. The population estimates for April of each year are published in a separate release.

ILO Labour Force<br/>ClassificationThe primary classification used for the QNHS results is the ILO labour force classification. Labour<br/>Force Survey data on this basis have been published since 1988. The ILO classification<br/>distinguishes the following main subgroups of the population aged 15 or over:

**In Employment:** Persons who worked in the week before the survey for one hour or more for payment or profit, including work on the family farm or business and all persons who had a job but were not at work because of illness, holidays etc. in the week.

**Unemployed:** Persons who, in the week before the survey, were without work and available for work and had taken specific steps, in the preceding four weeks, to find work.

Inactive Population (not in labour force): All other persons.

The labour force comprises persons employed plus unemployed.

- Participation and<br/>Unemployment RatesThe rates given in this release are based on the ILO classification. The Participation Rate is the<br/>number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 or<br/>over. The Unemployment Rate is the number of unemployed expressed as a percentage of the total<br/>labour force.
  - **Duration of Unemployment** The duration of unemployment is the length of time since a person last had a job or began looking for work, whichever is more recent. The long-term unemployment rate is the number of persons unemployed for one year or more expressed as a percentage of the total labour force.

Underemployment	In the LFS and in the first two quarters of the QNHS, a person who had a part-time job was classified as underemployed if he/she was looking and available for another part-time job or a full-time job.
	Since the March-May 1998 quarter, the category "underemployed" has been based on a new question relating to the respondent's satisfaction with his/her current hours. Thus, a respondent who works in a part-time job is classified as "underemployed" if he/she is looking and available for another job and has explicitly stated that the hours worked currently are "too few".
	This change has affected comparability (but only within the "At work, part-time" category) between the December-February 1997/98 and subsequent quarters.
Principal Economic Status Classification	Results are also available using the Principal Economic Status (PES) classification which was used in the Labour Force Survey and the Census of Population. The PES classification is based on a single question in which respondents are asked what is their usual situation with regard to employment and given the following response categories:
	<ul> <li>At work</li> <li>Unemployed</li> <li>Student</li> <li>Engaged on home duties</li> <li>Retired</li> <li>Other.</li> </ul>
	This PES question is asked before the sequence of questions used to derive ILO status.
NACE Industrial Classification	The QNHS sectoral employment figures are based on the EU NACE classification as defined in Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3037/90. Ten NACE sub-categories are distinguished in Table 2a of this release. About half of these categories correspond exactly or very closely with the sectoral breakdown formerly used in the LFS. However, there are some discontinuities between the old and new series. The CSO can provide tables showing the correspondence between the two classifications, using LFS data, to interested users.
	The QNHS sectoral series in Table 2a, in each quarter up to quarter one of 1999, were revised following improvements to the activity and occupation coding procedures in the survey. This had a marginal effect on the allocation of the employment figures between sectors but did not alter the main trends at sectoral level.
Occupations	Table 2b presents occupational data. The classification system used is based on the UK Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) with some modifications to reflect the Irish labour market. This classification was also used in the 1996 Census of Population and has replaced the previous Census and Labour Force Survey occupations classification. The old and new classifications are not perfectly comparable. The 1996 Census of Population report on occupations (Census Volume 7) contains further information on comparing the classifications.
	The data given in Table 2b is at a broad level, corresponding to SOC major groups. More detailed quarterly data is available on request from the CSO.
NESF Recommendations on Unemployment Statistics	In May 1997, the National Economic and Social Forum (NESF) published its report on unemployment statistics (Forum Report No. 13) which included a range of recommendations on unemployment statistics. The CSO broadly supported the recommendations and, using them as a basis, proposed a new form of presentation for labour force statistics to the <i>Strategy Group on Employment and Unemployment (SGEU)</i> . The group endorsed the CSO's proposal and it was agreed by Government in December, 1997.
	The new presentation is reflected in the prominence given to the ILO-based measures of employment and unemployment and in the introduction of a number of new summary labour market indicators.

Labour Supply Indicators	Table 11 contains three indicators of potential labour supply. These indicators take into account, in addition to the unemployed, groups outside the labour force who have indicated some interest in obtaining a job. These extra groups include discouraged workers (who are not looking for work as they believe they are not qualified or that no work is available) and other groups who want work but do not meet all the ILO criteria to be classified as unemployed. Persons who indicated that they were not available or not looking for work because they were in education were not included in the calculation of any of these indicators. The indicators are available back to 1988, when the ILO classification was first included in LFS reports.
	A further indicator, the percentage of households with children under 15 which have no person in employment, has been calculated for the years 1988 to 1997 and is available on request. This indicator will be published in due course in conjunction with a comprehensive analysis of quarterly household and family statistics from the QNHS.
Comparing the LFS and the QNHS	The LFS was conducted each year in April and involved the completion of a written questionnaire in each of the sample households. The QNHS, on the other hand, involves continuous surveying (of 3,000 households each week) so that the results reflect the average situation over the course of three months. The LFS paper questionnaires have been replaced by laptop computers, allowing some key questions (such as existence of a job in the week before the survey, full-time versus part-time jobs) to be refined and improved. The main factors affecting comparability of the two surveys are:
	<ul> <li>Seasonal effects on numbers employed and unemployed</li> <li>The change from a point-in-time to a continuous survey (survey reference period)</li> <li>Changes in the questionnaire, which has increased the observed level of labour force participation, particularly in part-time jobs.</li> </ul>
	The changes made to the questionnaire and their effect on the survey results are described below.
Changes to Questions on Employment	The LFS question relating to ILO employment was a multiple choice question about the person's employment situation last week in which one of the response categories was " <i>Worked for at least 1 hour</i> ". This was replaced in the QNHS by the following three direct questions:
	"In the week ending Sunday dd/mm/yyyy did you do any work for payment or profit, even if it was for one hour?"
	"Even though you did not do paid work in the week ending dd/mm/yyyy, did you have a job or business from which you were away and to which you expect to return?"
	"Or, did you do any work for a business owned by another family member?"
	The second and third questions were only asked if the previous answer was " <i>No</i> ". The main effect of these questions has been to elicit more information about part-time employment, so that the estimates of part-time employment are higher in the QNHS than in the LFS.
	Information on full-time and part-time jobs is also collected using a more direct approach in the QNHS. The relevant LFS question distinguished four response categories, relating to occasional and regular as well as to full-time and part-time jobs. These concepts are now asked separately and the question on full-time or part-time work is as follows:
	"Thinking about the hours of work in the job, would you describe it as full-time or part-time?".
	This change has also increased the proportion of respondents indicating part-time involvement in the workforce. The effect of these changes is to cause a once-off discontinuity between the LFS and QNHS results.

**Effect of Questionnaire Changes, 1997-1998** The Principal Economic Status (PES) results, which are broadly comparable between the LFS and QNHS, showed an annual increase of 88,300 in the At Work category between spring 1997 and 1998. This is below the increase of 114,600 observed in the ILO numbers in employment, which included almost 20,000 more students and about 5,000 more women working in the home who also had a job. The CSO is attributing 20,000 of the observed annual increase in ILO employment in the year to March-May 1998 to the improved coverage of part-time employment, giving an underlying change for the year of 95,000. Breaking this down for males and females, male employment is estimated to have increased by 52,000 and female employment by 43,000 between spring 1997 and 1998.

**Seasonality** Seasonal factors do not affect annual comparisons of LFS/QNHS results. However, they do affect the sub-annual comparisons and the effects of seasonal variation in labour supply and demand are evident from the QNHS results.

Seasonal factors are most clearly visible in the results for the June-August quarter, when the number of persons in employment is at its highest. Unemployment also increases in that quarter, when more people are available and looking for work. Other summer seasonal effects can be seen in the sectoral employment figures (with strong results for retailing, hotels and restaurants) and in the lower number of students in summer. There is also evidence that employment and unemployment are both lower in the winter months.

However, it will not be possible to accurately calculate seasonal factors until the survey has been conducted for a number of years.

**NUTS2 and NUTS3 regions** The regional classifications in this release are based on the NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units) classification used by Eurostat. The NUTS3 regions correspond to the eight Regional Authorities established under the Local Government Act, 1991 (Regional Authorities) (Establishment) Order, 1993, which came into operation on 1 January 1994. The NUTS2 regions, which were proposed by Government and agreed by Eurostat in 1999, are groupings of the NUTS3 regions. The composition of the regions is set out below.

	idlands and UTS2 Region	Eastern and Southern NUTS2 Region			
Border	Cavan Donegal Leitrim Louth Monaghan	Dublin	Dublin Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal South Dublin		
	Sligo	Mid-East	Kildare Meath		
Midland	Laoighis Longford		Wicklow		
	Offaly Westmeath	Mid-West	Clare Limerick County Borough Limerick County		
West	Galway County Borough Galway County		Tipperary North Riding		
	Mayo Roscommon	South-East	Carlow Kilkenny Tipperary South Riding Waterford County Borough Waterford County Wexford		
		South-West	Cork County Borough Cork County Kerry		