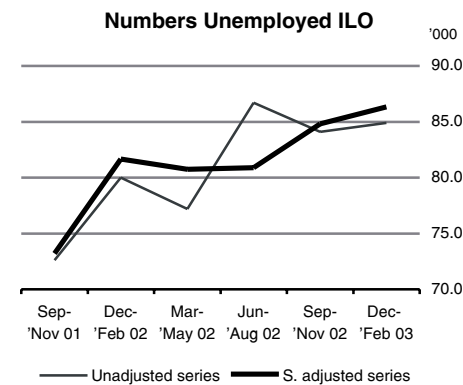
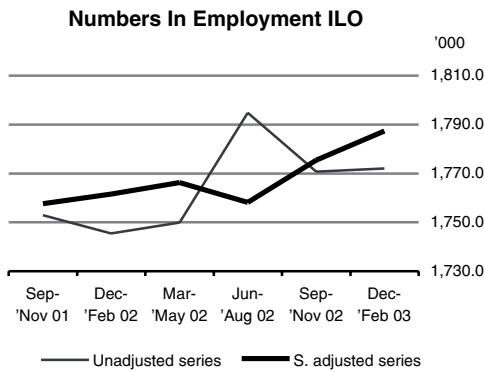




Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

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

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Quarterly National Household Survey First Quarter 2003

ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
			'000
Dec-Feb 2002	1,745.5	80.0	1,825.4
Mar-May 2002	1,749.9	77.2	1,827.0
Jun-Aug 2002	1,794.8	86.7	1,881.5
Sep-Nov 2002	1,770.7	84.1	1,854.7
Dec-Feb 2003	1,772.0	84.9	1,857.0
<i>Change in quarter</i>	+1.3	+0.8	+2.3
<i>Change in year</i>	+26.5	+4.9	+31.6

Public Sector underpins employment growth

Employment grew by 26,500 or 1.5% to 1,772,000 in the year to the first quarter of 2003. This increase was accounted for entirely by employment growth in the *Education, Health and Public administration and defence* sectors, which consist predominantly of public sector workers. The annual increase was equally divided between males (+13,000) and females (+13,500). *See tables 1 & 2b.*

A new table, which presents a synopsis of seasonally adjusted data presented in tables 1 and 2b, is included for the first time and a separate release containing retrospective data back to 1998 is also available. The seasonal factors are based on the recommended minimum of five years data – in this case 1998 to 2002 inclusive. Since this period involved substantial and unprecedented change in the Irish labour market, users should exercise caution in interpreting movements in the adjusted series particularly over the short term. *See table 3.*

Quarterly movements in the seasonally adjusted employment series were somewhat volatile over the past year, ranging from a fall of over 8,000 in the third quarter of 2002 to an increase of over 17,000 in the fourth quarter. The estimated quarterly increase in the most recent quarter was 11,900.

There were 84,900 persons unemployed in the first quarter. This represented an increase of 4,900 in the year and 800 in the quarter. The seasonally adjusted series also showed an increase (+1,500) in unemployment in the quarter. The unemployment rate was 4.6% in the first quarter of 2003, compared with 4.4% one year previously. *See tables 1 & 3.*

The labour force increased by 31,600 to 1,857,000 in the year. The male participation rate decreased slightly from 70.5% to 70.4% while the female participation rate increased from 48.7% to 48.9%. *See table 1.*

Comparable figures for most EU countries are now available for the second quarter of 2002 and show that between the second quarter of 2001 and 2002 Ireland's employment level grew by 1.9% compared with an EU average of just 0.7%. Similarly, Ireland's labour force increased by 2.5% compared with a rise of 1.0% for the EU as a whole. *See tables 1 & 24.*

For more information contact Nicola Tickner at 021-4535420 or Noel Ryan at 021-4535491.

Fall in agricultural and industrial employment

In the year to the first quarter of 2003, employment grew in all sectors with the exception of *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* (-7,400) and *Other production industries* (-7,200). The biggest growth areas were *Health* (+12,300), *Education* (+8,400) and *Public administration and defence* (+6,600). See table 2b.

When seasonal factors are taken into account the underlying quarterly increases in the largest growth areas in the quarter were *Health* (+4,500), *Education* (+2,500) and *Public administration and defence* (+2,000). See table 3.

Five of the occupational categories recorded increases in the year, the largest of which were: *Professionals* (+17,700), *Craft and related* (+12,700) and *Personal and protective services* (+10,700). The largest decrease was for *Plant and machine operatives* (-14,000). See table 4.

All of employment growth was accounted for by employees, which increased by 31,600 to 1,464,700 in the year. The number of assisting relatives decreased slightly to 17,200, while the number of self employed persons with paid employees decreased by 900 to 98,300 and the number without employees fell by 3,500 to 191,800 in the year. See table 6.

Male unemployment rate reaches 5%

Most of the annual increase of 4,900 in the numbers unemployed was accounted for by males (+ 4,100) bringing the number of unemployed males to 54,100 and the number of unemployed females to 30,900. The male unemployment rate rose to 5.0% compared with the female rate of 4.0%. See table 13.

The number of persons unemployed increased in all age groups with the exception of the 60 to 64 and 65 and over age groups for males and the 20 to 24 and the 60 to 64 year age groups for females.

In the year short-term unemployment increased by 1,400 to 58,100 while long-term unemployment increased by 3,300 to 26,400. The long-term unemployment rate rose as a result by 0.1% to 1.4%. Almost half of all unemployed men aged 45 or over are long-term unemployed compared with a quarter of those in the 15 to 24 year age group. The age differences in duration of unemployment are similar for unemployed females, although less pronounced. See tables 16 & 17.

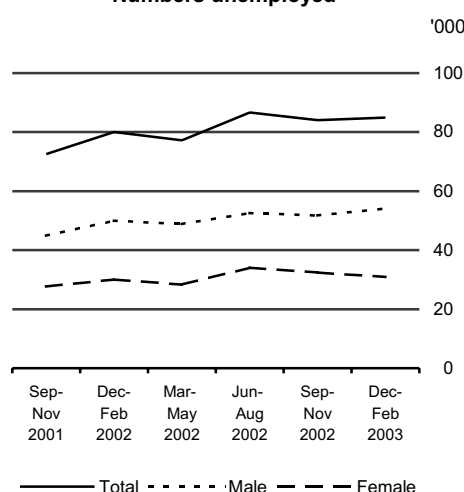
The broadest survey based labour supply indicator, S3, which includes persons outside the labour force who show some interest in obtaining work, as well as the unemployed, rose from 8.3% to 8.6% in the year to the first quarter of 2003. See table 20.

Moderation in Labour Force growth

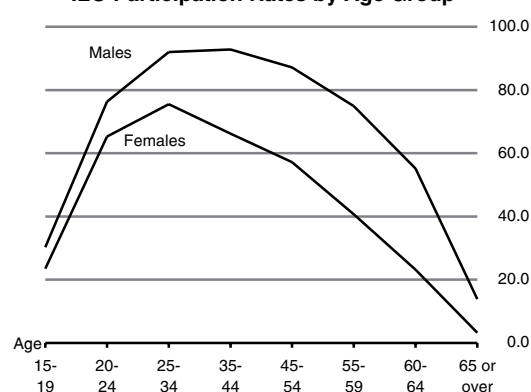
Overall the labour force increased by 31,600 to 1,857,000 in the year to the first quarter compared with a corresponding rise of almost 50,000 in the previous year. The overall increase was comprised of an increase of 17,100 men and 14,500 women.

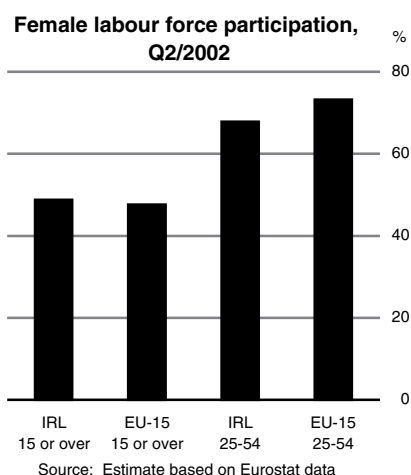
If participation rates had remained the same, demographic factors such as the increase in the population of working age and changes in its structure would have added an estimated 38,700 to the labour force between the first quarters of 2002 and 2003. In the event, changes in participation rates, particularly among the younger age group (15 to 24), contributed a net decrease of 7,200. The overall participation rate for married females increased again from 47.6% to 47.8% despite a decrease in the rate for those aged under 35. See tables 1, 9 & 15.

Numbers unemployed



ILO Participation Rates by Age Group





The latest available EU labour force survey results, for the second quarter of 2002, show that the female labour force participation rate in Ireland, at 48.8%, was somewhat above the EU-15 average of 47.6%.

For women aged 25 to 54, the age group most likely to be in the labour force, the participation rate in Ireland at 67.8% was still lagging behind the 73.2% recorded for the EU-15 region. *See graph.*

Average hours worked continues to fall

The average working week was 37.2 hours in quarter one of 2003 compared with 37.6 hours in 2002 and 37.8 hours in 2001. For men the average working week was 41.2 hours and for women it was 32.3 hours. Nearly four in ten females work for less than 35 hours a week compared to less than one in ten males. In the year, the number of persons working 35 to 39 hours a week increased by 40,700 (or 6.6%) and the numbers working 40 hours or more decreased by 28,200 (or 4.9%). The numbers working variable hours remained virtually unchanged at 205,500. *See table 5.*

Employment increases in all regions other than Dublin

Employment grew by 16,300 (+3.7%) in the *Border, Midland and Western* region and by 10,200 (+0.8%) in the *Eastern and Southern* region in the year to the first quarter of 2003. Unemployment remained unchanged at 25,800 in the *Border, Midland and Western* region but increased by 5,000 to 59,200 in the *Eastern and Southern* region. *See table 7a.*

At NUTS 3 level the numbers in employment increased in all regions with the exception of *Dublin*, where the number in employment decreased by 1,200 (-0.2%). The largest employment increases were in the *Mid-East* (+8,600), and the *West* (+8,500).

Unemployment increased in four regions, *Dublin* (+3,800), *South-East* (+2,400), *Midlands* (+500) and the *West* (+300), and decreased slightly in the remaining four regions. The unemployment rate was lowest in the *Mid-East* region (3.1%) and highest in the *Border* region (6.3%). *See table 7b.*

Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as “at work” grew by 27,200 in the year to 1,696,300. This comprised an increase of 8,900 males and 18,300 females. This compares to an increase of 33,600 in the year to the first quarter of 2002. *See table 21.*

The numbers describing themselves as “unemployed” decreased by 4,200 in the year to 116,900. This comprised a decrease of 4,700 females and a slight increase in the number of males. These changes contrast with increases in the number of unemployed under the ILO criteria and reflect for the most part a decreasing propensity for inactive persons under the ILO scheme to describe themselves as unemployed. *See table 21.*

The numbers describing themselves as “on home duties” increased by 4,200 to 555,600 in the year. Virtually all of the increase was for females. *See table 21.*

The number of students increased by 5,600 in the year to 386,200. This comprised an increase of 4,500 male students and 1,200 female students. In the first quarter of 2003, 15.6% of students had a job. This proportion shows a marginal increase from the fourth quarter of 2002, but is somewhat lower than the first quarter of 2001 when 16.1% of students had a job. *See table 22.*

Tables

Table 1 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and ILO economic status
¹ '000

ILO economic status	Dec- Feb 01	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03
Males							
In labour force	1,046.9	1,069.1	1,065.1	1,066.0	1,094.9	1,083.4	1,082.2
In employment :	1,008.0	1,024.2	1,015.1	1,017.2	1,042.2	1,031.8	1,028.1
full-time	940.1	957.9	944.6	950.8	976.1	966.4	958.4
part-time :	67.9	66.3	70.5	66.3	66.1	65.4	69.7
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed *</i>	66.8	65.1	69.1	64.9	64.6	64.0	67.8
<i>part-time, underemployed *</i>	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.9
Unemployed :	38.9	44.9	50.0	48.8	52.6	51.7	54.1
seeking full-time work	36.9	42.1	47.7	46.6	49.8	49.2	51.0
seeking part-time work	2.0	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.8	2.5	3.0
Not in labour force	435.6	433.8	445.4	447.7	423.9	447.8	455.3
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	8.7	7.2	7.7	7.5	7.9	7.6	8.0
Others	426.8	426.6	437.7	440.2	415.9	440.2	447.3
Total males aged 15 or over	1,482.4	1,502.9	1,510.5	1,513.7	1,518.7	1,531.2	1,537.5
Unemployment rate %	3.7	4.2	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.8	5.0
Participation rate %	70.6	71.1	70.5	70.4	72.1	70.8	70.4
Females							
In labour force	728.6	756.5	760.3	761.0	786.7	771.3	774.8
In employment :	701.9	728.7	730.4	732.7	752.6	738.9	743.9
full-time	486.8	507.8	506.2	509.4	527.9	512.7	515.1
part-time :	215.1	220.9	224.1	223.3	224.8	226.2	228.8
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed *</i>	214.0	219.6	222.9	221.8	223.6	224.8	227.2
<i>part-time, underemployed *</i>	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.6
Unemployed :	26.7	27.7	30.0	28.3	34.1	32.4	30.9
seeking full-time work	15.5	17.6	19.9	18.8	24.0	19.9	20.4
seeking part-time work	11.2	10.2	10.1	9.5	10.1	12.5	10.5
Not in labour force	802.2	798.6	800.3	799.9	779.9	806.6	811.1
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.1	4.4	4.5	3.6	4.8	4.5	4.7
Others	798.1	794.2	795.8	796.4	775.1	802.2	806.3
Total females aged 15 or over	1,530.8	1,555.1	1,560.6	1,560.9	1,566.5	1,577.9	1,585.9
Unemployment rate %	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.7	4.3	4.2	4.0
Participation rate %	47.6	48.6	48.7	48.8	50.2	48.9	48.9
All persons							
In labour force	1,775.5	1,825.5	1,825.4	1,827.0	1,881.5	1,854.7	1,857.0
In employment :	1,709.9	1,752.9	1,745.5	1,749.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0
full-time	1,426.9	1,465.7	1,450.8	1,460.2	1,504.0	1,479.1	1,473.5
part-time :	283.0	287.2	294.6	289.6	290.9	291.6	298.5
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed *</i>	280.8	284.7	292.1	286.7	288.2	288.9	295.0
<i>part-time, underemployed *</i>	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.7	3.5
Unemployed :	65.6	72.6	80.0	77.2	86.7	84.1	84.9
seeking full-time work	52.4	59.7	67.5	65.5	73.7	69.1	71.4
seeking part-time work	13.2	12.9	12.4	11.7	12.9	15.0	13.5
Not in labour force	1,237.7	1,232.5	1,245.6	1,247.6	1,203.7	1,254.4	1,266.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	12.8	11.6	12.2	11.1	12.7	12.1	12.7
Others	1,224.9	1,220.8	1,233.4	1,236.5	1,191.0	1,242.3	1,253.6
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,013.2	3,058.0	3,071.1	3,074.7	3,085.3	3,109.1	3,123.3
Unemployment rate %	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.6	4.5	4.6
Participation rate %	58.9	59.7	59.4	59.4	61.0	59.7	59.5

* See Background Notes

Table 2a Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and broad economic sector

l 000

Broad ¹ economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Dec- Feb 01	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03
Males							
A-B Agriculture	108.1	112.4	109.4	108.4	109.9	107.6	102.2
C-F Industry	391.9	396.2	391.0	385.4	403.2	396.2	395.3
G-O Services	507.9	515.6	514.7	523.4	529.1	527.9	530.6
Females							
A-B Agriculture	13.5	12.0	12.3	12.4	12.8	12.2	12.1
C-F Industry	106.3	106.6	102.7	98.5	100.8	96.8	96.4
G-O Services	582.1	610.1	615.4	621.7	639.0	629.9	635.3
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	121.7	124.4	121.7	120.7	122.7	119.8	114.3
C-F Industry	498.2	502.8	493.6	484.0	504.0	493.1	491.7
G-O Services	1,090.0	1,125.7	1,130.1	1,145.1	1,168.2	1,157.8	1,166.0
Total persons	1,709.9	1,752.9	1,745.5	1,749.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0

¹ Table contains revised figures**Table 2b Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and NACE economic sector**

l 000

Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Dec- Feb 01	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	108.1	112.4	109.4	108.4	109.9	107.6	102.2
C-E Other production industries	220.8	220.7	216.9	213.1	222.7	214.7	215.8
F Construction	171.1	175.5	174.1	172.3	180.5	181.5	179.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	128.2	127.0	127.4	125.0	129.9	128.6	128.6
H Hotels and restaurants	43.4	43.7	45.5	44.7	46.1	46.0	46.9
I Transport, storage and communication	79.6	81.9	80.3	81.4	85.0	83.9	82.8
J-K Financial and other business services	109.7	113.0	111.6	114.0	112.8	113.4	113.9
L Public administration and defence	45.1	44.2	43.7	48.2	47.9	46.9	48.9
M Education	32.9	33.1	33.0	33.8	33.3	34.0	34.8
N Health	28.5	29.2	29.2	31.2	30.4	32.3	32.5
O Other services	40.4	43.6	43.9	45.1	43.8	42.7	42.3
Total males	1,008.0	1,024.2	1,015.1	1,017.2	1,042.2	1,031.8	1,028.1
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13.5	12.0	12.3	12.4	12.8	12.2	12.1
C-E Other production industries	97.5	97.3	93.6	89.8	91.3	87.5	87.4
F Construction	8.8	9.3	9.1	8.8	9.5	9.3	9.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	118.3	118.6	121.7	120.8	127.1	121.6	123.7
H Hotels and restaurants	63.2	65.5	63.2	60.1	70.5	66.3	63.6
I Transport, storage and communication	27.6	29.0	28.6	28.8	29.2	28.4	28.1
J-K Financial and other business services	108.4	115.2	114.8	115.1	116.2	111.9	112.8
L Public administration and defence	33.3	37.2	38.3	41.0	42.1	40.2	39.7
M Education	69.6	73.2	73.6	76.2	71.6	77.6	80.2
N Health	111.5	120.2	124.2	125.8	127.4	128.8	133.3
O Other services	50.2	51.2	51.0	53.9	54.8	55.0	54.0
Total females	701.9	728.7	730.4	732.7	752.6	738.9	743.9
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	121.7	124.4	121.7	120.7	122.7	119.8	114.3
C-E Other production industries	318.3	318.0	310.4	302.9	314.0	302.2	303.2
F Construction	179.9	184.8	183.2	181.1	190.0	190.8	188.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	246.5	245.6	249.1	245.9	257.1	250.3	252.3
H Hotels and restaurants	106.6	109.1	108.7	104.8	116.6	112.4	110.5
I Transport, storage and communication	107.2	110.9	108.9	110.2	114.2	112.3	110.9
J-K Financial and other business services	218.1	228.2	226.4	229.1	229.1	225.3	226.6
L Public administration and defence	78.4	81.4	82.0	89.2	90.0	87.1	88.6
M Education	102.6	106.3	106.6	110.0	104.9	111.6	115.0
N Health	140.0	149.4	153.4	157.0	157.8	161.1	165.7
O Other services	90.7	94.9	94.9	99.0	98.6	97.7	96.3
Total persons	1,709.9	1,752.9	1,745.5	1,749.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0

Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Series* of persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, ILO economic status and NACE Economic Sector

¹ 000

	Dec- Feb 01	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03
Males							
In labour force	1,056.9	1,072.8	1,074.7	1,076.0	1,071.8	1,087.3	1,091.5
In employment :	1,017.4	1,026.4	1,024.2	1,025.7	1,022.8	1,033.8	1,037.0
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	109.7	111.6	111.1	110.1	107.3	106.8	104.0
C-E Other production industries	223.1	221.5	218.9	216.0	216.8	215.7	217.7
F Construction	172.1	174.6	175.0	174.6	178.2	180.5	180.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	128.8	128.1	128.1	126.2	127.0	129.7	129.3
H Hotels and restaurants	43.9	44.4	45.9	45.4	44.4	46.7	47.2
I Transport, storage and communication	80.0	81.8	80.9	82.1	83.7	83.7	83.6
J-K Financial and other business services	110.9	114.0	112.7	113.8	111.1	114.2	114.9
L Public administration and defence	45.5	44.7	44.0	48.3	46.8	47.6	49.1
M Education	32.8	33.0	32.9	33.7	33.6	33.9	34.7
N Health	28.9	28.7	29.5	30.9	31.0	31.7	32.8
O Other services	41.4	43.7	44.9	45.0	42.8	42.9	43.3
Unemployed	39.5	45.5	50.5	50.4	49.9	52.5	54.4
Unemployment rate %	3.7	4.2	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.8	5.0
Participation rate %	71.3	71.4	71.2	71.0	70.6	71.0	71.1
Females							
In labour force	736.8	759.7	767.9	771.4	765.9	774.8	781.6
In employment :	709.6	731.6	737.4	740.4	735.3	742.0	750.3
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13.5	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.6	12.4	12.1
C-E Other production industries	98.1	97.0	94.1	92.2	88.8	87.2	87.9
F Construction	8.8	9.0	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.0	9.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	118.8	120.5	122.1	122.8	122.8	123.6	124.0
H Hotels and restaurants	65.5	65.3	65.2	63.6	65.2	66.0	65.5
I Transport, storage and communication	28.0	29.2	29.0	28.9	28.5	28.6	28.6
J-K Financial and other business services	109.8	115.1	116.2	116.4	113.7	111.9	114.0
L Public administration and defence	34.2	37.5	39.3	40.5	41.1	40.6	40.7
M Education	68.4	72.8	72.3	74.9	74.7	77.1	78.8
N Health	111.9	120.8	124.3	125.3	127.1	129.7	133.1
O Other services	51.4	51.1	52.2	54.5	53.2	54.9	55.2
Unemployed	27.7	28.1	31.0	30.1	31.0	32.8	31.8
Unemployment rate %	3.8	3.7	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.1
Participation rate %	48.2	49.0	49.2	49.3	48.9	49.2	49.4
All persons							
In labour force	1,794.0	1,832.0	1,843.1	1,847.2	1,837.8	1,861.4	1,873.7
In employment :	1,727.0	1,757.7	1,761.5	1,766.3	1,758.2	1,775.4	1,787.3
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	123.2	123.9	123.3	122.5	119.9	119.2	116.0
C-E Other production industries	321.2	318.4	313.1	308.1	305.8	302.7	305.8
F Construction	180.9	183.8	184.2	183.7	187.4	189.6	189.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	248.0	248.9	250.4	248.6	249.8	253.7	253.3
H Hotels and restaurants	109.5	109.5	111.1	108.8	110.0	112.6	112.6
I Transport, storage and communication	107.9	110.9	109.8	111.3	112.1	112.2	112.1
J-K Financial and other business services	220.4	228.9	228.4	230.6	225.0	225.9	228.4
L Public administration and defence	79.8	82.2	83.5	88.7	87.9	88.2	90.2
M Education	101.1	105.6	105.0	108.5	108.8	110.8	113.3
N Health	141.0	149.4	154.0	156.2	158.1	161.3	165.8
O Other services	92.8	94.9	97.1	99.6	95.8	97.9	98.4
Unemployed	67.2	73.2	81.7	80.7	80.9	84.8	86.3
Unemployment rate %	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.6
Participation rate %	59.6	60.0	60.1	60.0	59.5	60.0	60.1

* See Background Notes

Table 4 Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and occupation

¹ 000

Broad Occupational Group	Dec- Feb 01	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	218.8	225.6	225.0	222.0	224.1	223.5	217.8
2. Professional	94.5	95.5	95.7	98.5	97.8	99.9	105.7
3. Associate professional and technical	66.6	67.5	65.9	64.9	64.4	66.2	67.7
4. Clerical and secretarial	50.1	50.3	50.1	53.8	52.4	51.5	51.6
5. Craft and related	218.2	221.2	216.0	212.1	225.2	226.0	227.0
6. Personal and protective service	66.9	69.3	71.2	71.6	73.5	73.0	72.7
7. Sales	55.6	55.7	54.9	54.3	56.8	55.3	55.2
8. Plant and machine operatives	143.4	147.3	145.2	143.2	147.3	141.9	138.4
9. Other	93.8	91.8	91.0	96.8	100.8	94.5	91.9
Total males	1,008.0	1,024.2	1,015.1	1,017.2	1,042.2	1,031.8	1,028.1
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	84.8	87.3	86.3	86.2	88.4	88.5	89.0
2. Professional	77.6	82.9	85.7	89.8	86.1	90.9	93.4
3. Associate professional and technical	79.6	88.3	87.4	89.8	91.3	92.8	91.3
4. Clerical and secretarial	159.5	167.4	169.0	169.7	173.3	167.6	165.6
5. Craft and related	15.2	12.9	12.4	11.9	12.4	13.5	14.1
6. Personal and protective service	97.9	99.7	98.0	96.6	105.6	103.5	107.3
7. Sales	87.3	87.2	90.9	89.8	95.7	90.0	91.1
8. Plant and machine operatives	47.1	47.4	43.3	40.1	39.6	36.2	36.1
9. Other	52.9	55.7	57.3	58.8	60.1	56.0	56.0
Total females	701.9	728.7	730.4	732.7	752.6	738.9	743.9
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	303.6	312.9	311.3	308.2	312.4	312.0	306.8
2. Professional	172.1	178.3	181.5	188.4	183.9	190.8	199.2
3. Associate professional and technical	146.2	155.8	153.2	154.7	155.7	158.9	159.0
4. Clerical and secretarial	209.7	217.7	219.1	223.5	225.7	219.0	217.2
5. Craft and related	233.3	234.1	228.4	223.9	237.7	239.4	241.1
6. Personal and protective service	164.8	169.0	169.3	168.1	179.0	176.5	180.0
7. Sales	142.9	142.9	145.8	144.1	152.5	145.3	146.3
8. Plant and machine operatives	190.5	194.7	188.5	183.3	187.0	178.1	174.5
9. Other	146.7	147.6	148.3	155.6	160.9	150.5	147.9
Total persons	1,709.9	1,752.9	1,745.5	1,749.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0

Table 5 Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and usual hours of work
¹ 000

Usual hours per week	Dec- Feb 01	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03
Males							
1-9 hours	7.8	6.7	7.5	7.0	3.3	7.0	8.5
10-19	19.6	16.3	19.1	18.5	15.0	18.1	21.2
20-29	35.5	35.6	35.1	35.0	38.7	35.7	35.8
30-34	16.1	17.5	19.2	18.3	19.5	17.4	16.9
35-39	311.6	330.7	333.1	343.9	362.2	359.4	360.6
40-44	249.2	245.6	235.1	228.6	234.4	233.2	228.7
45 & over	208.5	207.0	203.4	204.7	204.6	199.1	192.5
Variable hours ¹	159.7	164.8	162.6	161.2	164.4	161.8	164.0
Total males	1,008.0	1,024.2	1,015.1	1,017.2	1,042.2	1031.8	1,028.1
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.8</i>	<i>42.0</i>	<i>41.8</i>	<i>41.9</i>	<i>41.9</i>	<i>41.6</i>	<i>41.2</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	18.3	18.9	20.5	20.1	14.5	20.0	20.6
10-19	67.3	67.6	70.3	69.0	65.3	70.3	72.7
20-29	131.6	135.6	134.6	136.7	143.5	140.6	139.4
30-34	34.2	38.4	38.5	39.1	41.2	41.6	43.4
35-39	259.7	279.7	281.5	287.5	305.3	289.7	294.9
40-44	113.4	112.6	108.7	102.7	104.5	100.4	98.4
45 & over	38.0	34.0	33.5	34.8	33.4	32.1	33.0
Variable hours ¹	39.4	42.0	42.7	42.7	45.0	44.1	41.5
Total females	701.9	728.7	730.4	732.7	752.6	738.9	743.9
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>32.6</i>	<i>32.6</i>	<i>32.4</i>	<i>32.5</i>	<i>32.8</i>	<i>32.3</i>	<i>32.3</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	26.1	25.6	28.1	27.1	17.8	27.0	29.2
10-19	86.9	83.9	89.3	87.6	80.3	88.4	93.9
20-29	167.1	171.2	169.6	171.7	182.2	176.3	175.2
30-34	50.3	55.9	57.7	57.4	60.8	59.0	60.3
35-39	571.3	610.4	614.7	631.4	667.5	649.2	655.4
40-44	362.6	358.1	343.8	331.4	338.9	333.6	327.1
45 & over	246.5	241.0	237.0	239.5	238.0	231.2	225.5
Variable hours ¹	199.1	206.8	205.4	203.7	209.4	205.9	205.5
Total persons	1,709.9	1,752.9	1,745.5	1,749.9	1,794.8	1770.7	1,772.0
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>37.6</i>	<i>37.7</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.2</i>

¹ Includes 'not stated'

Table 6 Persons in employment classified by employment status

'000

Employment Status	Dec-Feb 01	Sep-Nov 01	Dec-Feb 02	Mar-May 02	Jun-Aug 02	Sep-Nov 02	Dec-Feb 03
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	81.9	81.2	81.9	83.3	81.2	80.3	81.1
Self employed (with no paid employees)	161.1	167.5	166.3	164.1	166.3	165.9	162.4
Employee	757.4	767.0	758.5	762.3	785.2	777.3	776.4
Assisting relative	7.6	8.5	8.3	7.5	9.5	8.3	8.2
Total males	1,008.0	1,024.2	1,015.1	1,017.2	1,042.2	1,031.8	1,028.1
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	18.5	17.3	17.2	17.5	16.8	16.4	17.1
Self employed (with no paid employees)	27.0	28.0	29.0	29.0	28.6	30.4	29.4
Employee	645.3	674.6	674.5	677.7	698.1	683.2	688.4
Assisting relative	11.1	8.8	9.6	8.5	9.2	8.8	9.0
Total females	701.9	728.7	730.4	732.7	752.6	738.9	743.9
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	100.4	98.6	99.2	100.8	98.0	96.7	98.3
Self employed (with no paid employees)	188.1	195.5	195.3	193.1	194.8	196.3	191.8
Employee	1,402.7	1,441.5	1,433.1	1,440.0	1,483.3	1,460.5	1,464.7
Assisting relative	18.6	17.3	17.9	16.0	18.7	17.1	17.2
Total persons	1,709.9	1,752.9	1,745.5	1,749.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0

Table 7a Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions¹ and ILO economic status

Region	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border, Midland and Western					
Dec-Feb 2001	424.1	21.2	445.3	4.8	56.2
Sep-Nov 2001	436.2	24.4	460.6	5.3	57.1
Dec-Feb 2002	435.0	25.8	460.8	5.6	56.9
Mar-May 2002	438.8	25.5	464.3	5.5	57.0
Jun-Aug 2002	453.1	27.2	480.3	5.7	58.4
Sep-Nov 2002	449.0	25.1	474.1	5.3	57.4
Dec-Feb 2003	451.3	25.8	477.1	5.4	57.5
Eastern and Southern					
Dec-Feb 2001	1,285.8	44.4	1,330.2	3.3	59.9
Sep-Nov 2001	1,316.7	48.2	1,364.9	3.5	60.6
Dec-Feb 2002	1,310.5	54.2	1,364.7	4.0	60.4
Mar-May 2002	1,311.0	51.7	1,362.8	3.8	60.3
Jun-Aug 2002	1,341.7	59.5	1,401.2	4.2	61.9
Sep-Nov 2002	1,321.7	59.0	1,380.6	4.3	60.5
Dec-Feb 2003	1,320.7	59.2	1,379.8	4.3	60.2
State					
Dec-Feb 2001	1,709.9	65.6	1,775.5	3.7	58.9
Sep-Nov 2001	1,752.9	72.6	1,825.5	4.0	59.7
Dec-Feb 2002	1,745.5	80.0	1,825.4	4.4	59.4
Mar-May 2002	1,749.9	77.2	1,827.0	4.2	59.4
Jun-Aug 2002	1,794.8	86.7	1,881.5	4.6	61.0
Sep-Nov 2002	1,770.7	84.1	1,854.7	4.5	59.7
Dec-Feb 2003	1,772.0	84.9	1,857.0	4.6	59.5

¹ See Background Notes

Table 7b Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions¹ and ILO economic status

Region		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border	Dec-Feb 2001	167.6	10.3	177.9	5.8	55.1
	Sep-Nov 2001	169.2	11.6	180.7	6.4	55.6
	Dec-Feb 2002	166.8	12.4	179.2	6.9	55.0
	Mar-May 2002	168.7	12.3	181.0	6.8	55.2
	Jun-Aug 2002	171.4	12.8	184.2	6.9	55.9
	Sep-Nov 2002	170.8	12.7	183.5	6.9	55.6
	Dec-Feb 2003	172.4	11.7	184.0	6.3	55.5
Midlands	Dec-Feb 2001	86.1	3.5	89.6	3.9	54.9
	Sep-Nov 2001	87.5	3.9	91.4	4.3	55.7
	Dec-Feb 2002	88.9	3.8	92.7	4.1	56.1
	Mar-May 2002	90.7	3.7	94.3	3.9	56.8
	Jun-Aug 2002	93.9	4.1	98.0	4.2	58.8
	Sep-Nov 2002	90.6	4.0	94.7	4.2	56.5
	Dec-Feb 2003	91.1	4.3	95.4	4.5	57.1
West	Dec-Feb 2001	170.4	7.5	177.9	4.2	58.0
	Sep-Nov 2001	179.6	8.9	188.5	4.7	59.3
	Dec-Feb 2002	179.4	9.5	188.9	5.0	59.2
	Mar-May 2002	179.5	9.4	188.9	5.0	59.0
	Jun-Aug 2002	187.8	10.3	198.1	5.2	60.7
	Sep-Nov 2002	187.5	8.4	195.9	4.3	59.7
	Dec-Feb 2003	187.9	9.8	197.7	5.0	59.7
Dublin	Dec-Feb 2001	550.6	14.5	565.0	2.6	63.2
	Sep-Nov 2001	555.3	17.8	573.1	3.1	63.4
	Dec-Feb 2002	552.7	20.5	573.3	3.6	63.0
	Mar-May 2002	548.3	20.3	568.6	3.6	62.6
	Jun-Aug 2002	551.7	23.8	575.5	4.1	63.4
	Sep-Nov 2002	552.9	23.5	576.4	4.1	62.8
	Dec-Feb 2003	551.5	24.3	575.8	4.2	62.5
Mid-East	Dec-Feb 2001	185.2	6.2	191.4	3.2	62.9
	Sep-Nov 2001	191.1	6.4	197.5	3.2	63.3
	Dec-Feb 2002	189.9	6.7	196.6	3.4	62.8
	Mar-May 2002	192.9	6.6	199.6	3.3	63.4
	Jun-Aug 2002	200.8	8.0	208.8	3.8	65.6
	Sep-Nov 2002	197.4	7.2	204.6	3.5	63.8
	Dec-Feb 2003	198.5	6.4	204.9	3.1	63.2
Mid-West	Dec-Feb 2001	143.9	5.9	149.8	3.9	57.1
	Sep-Nov 2001	148.3	6.7	155.0	4.3	58.3
	Dec-Feb 2002	148.3	6.8	155.1	4.4	58.2
	Mar-May 2002	149.4	5.7	155.1	3.7	58.3
	Jun-Aug 2002	155.0	6.1	161.1	3.8	60.8
	Sep-Nov 2002	148.0	6.4	154.4	4.1	57.4
	Dec-Feb 2003	150.1	6.2	156.4	4.0	57.9
South-East	Dec-Feb 2001	168.6	8.5	177.1	4.8	55.9
	Sep-Nov 2001	177.9	7.3	185.2	3.9	57.4
	Dec-Feb 2002	177.7	8.8	186.5	4.7	57.5
	Mar-May 2002	178.3	8.7	187.0	4.7	58.0
	Jun-Aug 2002	183.4	9.6	193.0	5.0	59.6
	Sep-Nov 2002	179.6	10.2	189.8	5.4	58.4
	Dec-Feb 2003	178.7	11.2	189.8	5.9	58.1
South-West	Dec-Feb 2001	237.4	9.4	246.8	3.8	55.7
	Sep-Nov 2001	244.2	10.0	254.2	4.0	56.9
	Dec-Feb 2002	241.9	11.4	253.2	4.5	56.7
	Mar-May 2002	242.2	10.3	252.5	4.1	56.4
	Jun-Aug 2002	250.8	11.9	262.8	4.5	58.7
	Sep-Nov 2002	243.7	11.7	255.5	4.6	56.7
	Dec-Feb 2003	242.0	11.0	253.0	4.4	56.0
State	Dec-Feb 2001	1,709.9	65.6	1,775.5	3.7	58.9
	Sep-Nov 2001	1,752.9	72.6	1,825.5	4.0	59.7
	Dec-Feb 2002	1,745.5	80.0	1,825.4	4.4	59.4
	Mar-May 2002	1,749.9	77.2	1,827.0	4.2	59.4
	Jun-Aug 2002	1,794.8	86.7	1,881.5	4.6	61.0
	Sep-Nov 2002	1,770.7	84.1	1,854.7	4.5	59.7
	Dec-Feb 2003	1,772.0	84.9	1,857.0	4.6	59.5

¹ See Background Notes

Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, December-February 2003

and marital status, December-February 2003									%
Marital Status	Age group								
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Single	30.3	76.2	90.9	86.1	73.5	59.3	44.8	21.0	67.6
Married	*	83.1	94.5	95.2	90.7	78.4	58.2	13.9	75.7
Separated or divorced	*	*	87.7	88.1	76.1	69.6	41.7	12.1	70.4
Widowed	*	*	85.6	78.7	80.5	66.5	52.7	6.2	23.2
Total males	30.3	76.3	92.0	92.8	87.1	74.9	55.2	13.9	70.4
Females									
Single	23.4	66.1	83.7	79.5	72.9	53.4	32.9	4.7	58.6
Married	*	47.9	64.3	63.0	54.5	38.3	21.5	3.5	47.8
Separated or divorced	*	*	57.9	68.0	63.6	49.7	31.2	6.2	58.7
Widowed	*	*	68.0	62.3	53.0	42.6	23.6	2.6	10.6
Total females	23.5	65.3	75.5	66.2	57.2	40.7	23.2	3.2	48.9
All persons									
Single	26.9	71.2	87.6	83.3	73.3	57.1	40.7	13.2	63.4
Married	*	58.0	77.7	78.8	72.6	58.7	40.3	9.4	61.8
Separated or divorced	*	*	66.8	74.4	68.4	58.8	36.1	9.6	63.2
Widowed	*	*	73.6	66.4	61.2	48.9	30.8	3.3	13.5
Total persons	27.0	70.8	83.8	79.4	72.1	58.0	39.2	7.9	59.5

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 9 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group

									%
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	Age group 45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Dec-Feb 2001	33.2	78.0	93.1	93.4	87.1	74.9	54.7	13.5	70.6
Sep-Nov 2001	32.1	77.5	93.3	93.4	88.1	75.8	55.6	15.1	71.1
Dec-Feb 2002	30.5	76.4	92.0	93.1	87.9	75.5	55.3	15.1	70.5
Mar-May 2002	29.2	75.7	92.5	93.0	87.8	75.3	55.6	14.9	70.4
Jun-Aug 2002	38.6	83.3	92.0	92.8	87.4	76.1	54.9	14.2	72.1
Sep-Nov 2002	31.0	77.4	92.3	92.7	87.5	75.3	55.7	14.2	70.8
Dec-Feb 2003	30.3	76.3	92.0	92.8	87.1	74.9	55.2	13.9	70.4
Females									
Dec-Feb 2001	25.1	68.1	76.3	64.3	52.9	35.8	21.3	2.8	47.6
Sep-Nov 2001	24.4	69.5	77.3	64.7	55.7	37.1	20.6	2.7	48.6
Dec-Feb 2002	23.7	67.8	77.1	65.6	56.3	37.3	22.0	2.8	48.7
Mar-May 2002	22.1	65.3	77.6	65.7	57.6	38.1	22.9	3.0	48.8
Jun-Aug 2002	32.6	74.1	75.7	65.0	56.8	39.2	22.4	3.0	50.2
Sep-Nov 2002	24.3	67.7	75.0	65.5	57.2	39.7	23.4	3.2	48.9
Dec-Feb 2003	23.5	65.3	75.5	66.2	57.2	40.7	23.2	3.2	48.9
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2001	29.2	73.0	84.8	78.7	70.1	55.6	38.0	7.4	58.9
Sep-Nov 2001	28.4	73.5	85.3	78.9	71.9	56.7	38.1	8.1	59.7
Dec-Feb 2002	27.2	72.1	84.6	79.2	72.1	56.6	38.7	8.1	59.4
Mar-May 2002	25.7	70.5	85.1	79.2	72.7	56.9	39.3	8.2	59.4
Jun-Aug 2002	35.7	78.7	83.9	78.7	72.1	57.9	38.7	7.9	61.0
Sep-Nov 2002	27.7	72.6	83.7	79.0	72.3	57.7	39.5	8.0	59.7
Dec-Feb 2003	27.0	70.8	83.8	79.4	72.1	58.0	39.2	7.9	59.5

Table 10 Number of persons in the labour force (ILO) classified by sex and age group

' 000

	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	Age group 45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Dec-Feb 2001	56.1	131.9	275.3	244.5	204.2	69.0	40.8	25.1	1,046.9
Sep-Nov 2001	53.3	133.9	283.9	246.4	208.6	72.8	41.9	28.4	1,069.1
Dec-Feb 2002	50.5	132.6	282.7	246.7	208.8	73.5	41.8	28.6	1,065.1
Mar-May 2002	47.7	131.4	285.9	247.0	209.2	74.5	42.1	28.2	1,066.0
Jun-Aug 2002	62.6	145.0	286.8	246.7	208.7	76.1	42.0	27.0	1,094.9
Sep-Nov 2002	49.9	136.8	292.3	248.1	209.8	76.4	43.1	27.1	1,083.4
Dec-Feb 2003	48.4	134.9	294.4	248.7	209.6	76.7	43.1	26.6	1,082.2
Females									
Dec-Feb 2001	40.3	114.7	222.6	173.0	123.1	32.2	16.0	6.8	728.6
Sep-Nov 2001	38.5	119.9	233.5	175.8	131.7	34.9	15.5	6.5	756.5
Dec-Feb 2002	37.1	118.1	233.9	178.3	133.7	35.7	16.7	6.9	760.3
Mar-May 2002	34.2	112.7	237.2	178.2	137.0	36.9	17.3	7.4	761.0
Jun-Aug 2002	50.2	128.3	233.3	176.4	135.7	38.3	17.1	7.3	786.7
Sep-Nov 2002	37.3	118.9	234.2	178.3	137.2	39.3	18.1	7.9	771.3
Dec-Feb 2003	35.9	115.8	237.8	180.6	137.8	40.7	18.2	8.0	774.8
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2001	96.4	246.6	498.0	417.4	327.2	101.3	56.7	31.9	1,775.5
Sep-Nov 2001	91.8	253.8	517.4	422.3	340.3	107.7	57.4	34.9	1,825.5
Dec-Feb 2002	87.6	250.7	516.6	425.0	342.5	109.2	58.4	35.4	1,825.4
Mar-May 2002	81.9	244.2	523.1	425.2	346.2	111.3	59.5	35.6	1,827.0
Jun-Aug 2002	112.8	273.3	520.1	423.1	344.4	114.5	59.1	34.3	1,881.5
Sep-Nov 2002	87.2	255.7	526.6	426.4	347.0	115.7	61.2	35.0	1,854.7
Dec-Feb 2003	84.2	250.7	532.2	429.3	347.4	117.4	61.2	34.6	1,857.0

Table 11 Number of persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and age group

' 000

	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	Age group 45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Dec-Feb 2001	51.3	125.4	265.9	236.8	196.9	66.7	39.9	25.1	1,008.0
Sep-Nov 2001	48.0	124.0	271.7	239.3	201.1	70.9	41.0	28.2	1,024.2
Dec-Feb 2002	45.1	122.4	268.4	237.8	201.0	71.2	40.7	28.4	1,015.1
Mar-May 2002	41.9	121.6	271.0	238.7	202.2	72.7	41.1	28.1	1,017.2
Jun-Aug 2002	54.1	133.5	272.0	238.8	201.5	74.5	41.0	26.9	1,042.2
Sep-Nov 2002	43.5	126.1	277.8	238.7	202.2	74.0	42.4	27.1	1,031.8
Dec-Feb 2003	42.1	124.0	278.7	238.6	201.6	74.3	42.3	26.5	1,028.1
Females									
Dec-Feb 2001	37.1	109.2	214.6	168.2	119.5	31.4	15.4	6.5	701.9
Sep-Nov 2001	34.7	112.6	226.3	170.9	128.3	34.2	15.3	6.5	728.7
Dec-Feb 2002	33.5	110.8	225.4	172.8	130.0	34.7	16.4	6.8	730.4
Mar-May 2002	30.6	106.9	228.9	172.6	133.4	35.8	17.2	7.3	732.7
Jun-Aug 2002	44.3	118.9	225.1	171.1	131.8	37.2	17.0	7.2	752.6
Sep-Nov 2002	33.2	111.0	225.0	173.0	133.0	38.2	17.6	7.8	738.9
Dec-Feb 2003	32.1	109.2	228.8	175.0	133.4	39.6	17.9	7.9	743.9
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2001	88.4	234.5	480.5	405.0	316.3	98.1	55.4	31.6	1,709.9
Sep-Nov 2001	82.8	236.6	498.0	410.2	329.3	105.1	56.3	34.6	1,752.9
Dec-Feb 2002	78.5	233.3	493.8	410.6	330.9	106.0	57.1	35.3	1,745.5
Mar-May 2002	72.5	228.4	499.9	411.4	335.6	108.4	58.3	35.4	1,749.9
Jun-Aug 2002	98.3	252.4	497.1	409.9	333.3	111.7	58.0	34.1	1,794.8
Sep-Nov 2002	76.7	237.1	502.8	411.8	335.3	112.2	60.0	34.8	1,770.7
Dec-Feb 2003	74.2	233.2	507.6	413.6	335.0	113.8	60.3	34.4	1,772.0

Table 12 Employment rates¹ (ILO) for persons aged 15-64, classified by sex and age group %

	15-19	20-24	25-34	Age group 35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	total 15-64
Males								
Dec-Feb 2001	30.4	74.1	89.9	90.5	83.9	72.5	53.6	75.8
Sep-Nov 2001	29.0	71.8	89.3	90.7	84.9	73.9	54.4	75.8
Dec-Feb 2002	27.3	70.5	87.4	89.8	84.6	73.2	53.9	74.7
Mar-May 2002	25.6	70.0	87.7	89.9	84.8	73.4	54.2	74.7
Jun-Aug 2002	33.3	76.7	87.3	89.8	84.4	74.5	53.6	76.4
Sep-Nov 2002	27.1	71.3	87.7	89.2	84.3	73.0	54.8	74.9
Dec-Feb 2003	26.4	70.2	87.1	89.0	83.8	72.5	54.2	74.4
Females								
Dec-Feb 2001	23.1	64.8	73.6	62.5	51.4	34.8	20.6	54.0
Sep-Nov 2001	22.0	65.3	74.9	62.9	54.2	36.4	20.3	55.1
Dec-Feb 2002	21.4	63.7	74.3	63.6	54.7	36.3	21.7	55.0
Mar-May 2002	19.7	61.9	74.9	63.6	56.1	37.0	22.7	55.2
Jun-Aug 2002	28.8	68.6	73.1	63.0	55.2	38.1	22.2	56.5
Sep-Nov 2002	21.6	63.2	72.0	63.5	55.4	38.6	22.8	55.0
Dec-Feb 2003	21.0	61.6	72.6	64.1	55.3	39.6	22.9	55.0
All persons								
Dec-Feb 2001	26.8	69.5	81.8	76.3	67.7	53.8	37.0	64.9
Sep-Nov 2001	25.6	68.6	82.1	76.6	69.6	55.3	37.4	65.5
Dec-Feb 2002	24.4	67.1	80.9	76.5	69.7	54.9	37.8	64.9
Mar-May 2002	22.8	66.0	81.3	76.6	70.5	55.4	38.5	65.0
Jun-Aug 2002	31.1	72.7	80.2	76.3	69.8	56.5	37.9	66.5
Sep-Nov 2002	24.4	67.3	79.9	76.3	69.9	56.0	38.8	65.0
Dec-Feb 2003	23.7	65.9	79.9	76.5	69.6	56.2	38.6	64.8

¹ The employment rate represents the percentage of the population (or sub-population) that is in employment. The unemployment rate, on the other hand, represents the percentage of the labour force that are unemployed in any given population.

Table 13 Number of persons unemployed (ILO) classified by sex and age group ' 000

	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	Age group 45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Dec-Feb 2001	4.8	6.5	9.5	7.6	7.3	2.3	0.8	*	38.9
Sep-Nov 2001	5.2	9.8	12.2	7.1	7.5	1.9	0.9	*	44.9
Dec-Feb 2002	5.4	10.2	14.2	8.9	7.8	2.3	1.1	*	50.0
Mar-May 2002	5.8	9.9	15.0	8.3	7.0	1.8	1.1	*	48.8
Jun-Aug 2002	8.5	11.4	14.8	7.9	7.2	1.6	1.0	*	52.6
Sep-Nov 2002	6.3	10.7	14.6	9.3	7.6	2.4	0.7	*	51.7
Dec-Feb 2003	6.2	10.8	15.7	10.1	7.9	2.4	0.8	*	54.1
Females									
Dec-Feb 2001	3.1	5.5	8.0	4.8	3.6	0.9	0.5	*	26.7
Sep-Nov 2001	3.8	7.3	7.2	5.0	3.4	0.7	*	*	27.7
Dec-Feb 2002	3.7	7.2	8.5	5.5	3.8	1.0	0.3	*	30.0
Mar-May 2002	3.7	5.9	8.3	5.6	3.6	1.1	*	*	28.3
Jun-Aug 2002	5.9	9.4	8.2	5.3	3.9	1.1	*	*	34.1
Sep-Nov 2002	4.1	7.9	9.2	5.3	4.2	1.1	0.5	*	32.4
Dec-Feb 2003	3.8	6.7	9.0	5.6	4.4	1.1	*	*	30.9
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2001	7.9	12.0	17.5	12.4	10.9	3.2	1.4	0.3	65.6
Sep-Nov 2001	9.0	17.2	19.4	12.1	11.0	2.6	1.1	0.3	72.6
Dec-Feb 2002	9.1	17.5	22.7	14.4	11.6	3.2	1.4	*	80.0
Mar-May 2002	9.4	15.7	23.2	13.9	10.6	2.9	1.2	*	77.2
Jun-Aug 2002	14.4	20.8	23.0	13.2	11.1	2.7	1.2	*	86.7
Sep-Nov 2002	10.5	18.6	23.8	14.6	11.8	3.5	1.2	*	84.1
Dec-Feb 2003	10.0	17.5	24.7	15.7	12.4	3.6	1.0	*	84.9

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation

Table 14 Unemployment rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group

	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	Age group 45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Dec-Feb 2001	8.6	4.9	3.4	3.1	3.6	3.3	2.0	*	3.7
Sep-Nov 2001	9.8	7.4	4.3	2.9	3.6	2.6	2.1	*	4.2
Dec-Feb 2002	10.7	7.7	5.0	3.6	3.7	3.1	2.5	*	4.7
Mar-May 2002	12.1	7.5	5.2	3.4	3.3	2.5	2.5	*	4.6
Jun-Aug 2002	13.6	7.9	5.2	3.2	3.5	2.2	2.4	*	4.8
Sep-Nov 2002	12.7	7.8	5.0	3.8	3.6	3.1	1.6	*	4.8
Dec-Feb 2003	12.9	8.0	5.3	4.1	3.8	3.2	1.7	*	5.0
Females									
Dec-Feb 2001	7.8	4.8	3.6	2.8	2.9	2.8	3.4	*	3.7
Sep-Nov 2001	9.8	6.1	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.0	*	*	3.7
Dec-Feb 2002	9.9	6.1	3.6	3.1	2.8	2.7	1.8	*	3.9
Mar-May 2002	10.7	5.2	3.5	3.1	2.6	2.9	*	*	3.7
Jun-Aug 2002	11.8	7.3	3.5	3.0	2.9	2.9	*	*	4.3
Sep-Nov 2002	11.1	6.6	3.9	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.8	*	4.2
Dec-Feb 2003	10.5	5.8	3.8	3.1	3.2	2.8	*	*	4.0
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2001	8.2	4.9	3.5	3.0	3.3	3.1	2.4	0.8	3.7
Sep-Nov 2001	9.8	6.8	3.7	2.9	3.2	2.4	1.9	0.8	4.0
Dec-Feb 2002	10.4	7.0	4.4	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.3	*	4.4
Mar-May 2002	11.5	6.4	4.4	3.3	3.1	2.6	2.0	*	4.2
Jun-Aug 2002	12.8	7.6	4.4	3.1	3.2	2.4	2.0	*	4.6
Sep-Nov 2002	12.0	7.3	4.5	3.4	3.4	3.0	2.0	*	4.5
Dec-Feb 2003	11.9	7.0	4.6	3.7	3.6	3.0	1.6	*	4.6

Table 15 Labour force situation of married females

	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	Age group 45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Total Married Women ('000)									
Dec-Feb 2001	0.3	6.0	125.1	201.7	185.7	68.8	54.6	88.6	730.7
Sep-Nov 2001	0.5	6.0	122.5	203.8	183.8	72.2	53.0	89.8	731.5
Dec-Feb 2002	0.6	5.5	122.8	203.6	183.7	72.5	53.2	89.7	731.6
Mar-May 2002	0.6	5.1	120.3	202.0	182.8	72.7	53.4	88.1	725.2
Jun-Aug 2002	0.6	5.7	122.0	203.2	183.5	73.4	54.5	89.6	732.6
Sep-Nov 2002	0.5	6.3	123.9	202.2	185.0	75.5	54.0	92.2	739.6
Dec-Feb 2003	0.5	6.4	123.8	201.6	185.6	76.3	55.7	92.9	742.7
of which In Labour Force ('000)									
Dec-Feb 2001	*	3.8	81.9	121.4	93.2	22.8	10.6	2.8	336.7
Sep-Nov 2001	*	2.9	81.1	124.2	97.3	25.3	9.7	3.0	343.4
Dec-Feb 2002	*	2.7	81.1	126.6	98.9	25.2	10.5	3.2	348.5
Mar-May 2002	*	2.6	79.3	125.7	101.0	25.7	11.1	3.1	348.6
Jun-Aug 2002	*	2.8	78.3	126.1	99.9	26.9	11.1	3.1	348.4
Sep-Nov 2002	*	3.1	78.9	126.4	101.3	28.3	11.6	3.4	353.1
Dec-Feb 2003	*	3.1	79.5	127.0	101.1	29.2	12.0	3.2	355.4
of which In Employment ('000)									
Dec-Feb 2001	*	3.5	79.1	118.4	90.6	22.4	10.3	2.8	327.2
Sep-Nov 2001	*	2.7	78.9	121.0	94.8	24.9	9.6	3.0	334.8
Dec-Feb 2002	*	2.6	78.8	123.2	96.4	24.8	10.5	3.2	339.4
Mar-May 2002	*	2.5	77.8	122.1	98.7	25.1	11.0	3.0	340.3
Jun-Aug 2002	*	2.6	76.3	122.9	97.2	26.2	11.0	3.1	339.4
Sep-Nov 2002	*	2.9	76.4	122.8	98.2	27.6	11.3	3.4	342.7
Dec-Feb 2003	*	2.9	77.4	123.4	98.2	28.5	11.9	3.2	345.7
Participation rates (%)									
Dec-Feb 2001	*	63.3	65.5	60.2	50.2	33.2	19.5	3.2	46.1
Sep-Nov 2001	*	47.2	66.2	60.9	52.9	35.1	18.2	3.4	46.9
Dec-Feb 2002	*	49.6	66.1	62.2	53.9	34.8	19.8	3.6	47.6
Mar-May 2002	*	50.4	65.9	62.2	55.3	35.4	20.8	3.5	48.1
Jun-Aug 2002	*	48.4	64.2	62.1	54.4	36.7	20.4	3.5	47.6
Sep-Nov 2002	*	49.0	63.7	62.5	54.7	37.5	21.5	3.7	47.7
Dec-Feb 2003	*	47.9	64.3	63.0	54.5	38.3	21.5	3.5	47.8

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation

Table 16 Labour force, employment, unemployed and long-term unemployed (ILO)

Period	Labour force	In employment	Unemployed	<i>of which</i> Long-term unemployed	Unemployment rate	Long-term unemployment rate
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
April 1988	1,327.7	1,110.7	217.0	137.8	16.3	10.4
April 1989	1,307.8	1,111.0	196.8	128.0	15.0	9.8
April 1990	1,332.1	1,159.7	172.4	110.2	12.9	8.3
April 1991	1,354.4	1,155.9	198.5	119.7	14.7	8.8
April 1992	1,371.8	1,165.2	206.6	116.5	15.1	8.5
April 1993	1,403.2	1,183.1	220.1	125.4	15.7	8.9
April 1994	1,431.6	1,220.6	211.0	128.2	14.7	9.0
April 1995	1,459.2	1,281.7	177.4	103.3	12.2	7.1
April 1996	1,507.5	1,328.5	179.0	103.3	11.9	6.9
April 1997	1,539.0	1,379.9	159.0	86.3	10.3	5.6
Sep-Nov 1997	1,643.9	1,472.3	171.6	90.2	10.4	5.5
Dec-Feb 1998	1,621.6	1,483.1	138.6	72.6	8.5	4.5
Mar-May 1998	1,621.1	1,494.5	126.6	63.5	7.8	3.9
Jun-Aug 1998	1,688.6	1,559.7	128.9	61.7	7.6	3.7
Sep-Nov 1998	1,650.7	1,544.7	106.0	51.7	6.4	3.1
Dec-Feb 1999	1,650.1	1,555.0	95.1	43.6	5.8	2.6
Mar-May 1999	1,688.1	1,591.1	96.9	41.6	5.7	2.5
Jun-Aug 1999	1,770.3	1,669.2	101.1	37.9	5.7	2.1
Sep-Nov 1999	1,736.1	1,647.4	88.7	36.0	5.1	2.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,732.1	1,650.6	81.5	29.7	4.7	1.7
Mar-May 2000	1,745.6	1,670.7	74.9	27.4	4.3	1.6
Jun-Aug 2000	1,815.6	1,737.9	77.7	25.7	4.3	1.4
Sep-Nov 2000	1,779.1	1,710.3	68.8	24.2	3.9	1.4
Dec-Feb 2001	1,775.5	1,709.9	65.6	21.5	3.7	1.2
Mar-May 2001	1,781.9	1,716.5	65.4	20.5	3.7	1.2
Jun-Aug 2001	1,866.1	1,786.6	79.5	22.1	4.3	1.2
Sep-Nov 2001	1,825.5	1,752.9	72.6	21.3	4.0	1.2
Dec-Feb 2002	1,825.4	1,745.5	80.0	23.1	4.4	1.3
Mar-May 2002	1,827.0	1,749.9	77.2	21.6	4.2	1.2
Jun-Aug 2002	1,881.5	1,794.8	86.7	21.8	4.6	1.2
Sep-Nov 2002	1,854.7	1,770.7	84.1	24.7	4.5	1.3
Dec-Feb 2003	1,857.0	1,772.0	84.9	26.4	4.6	1.4

Table 17 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and duration of unemployment (ILO)
¹ 000

Duration	Quarterly National Household Survey						
	Dec- Feb 01	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03
Males							
Less than 1 year	22.6	27.7	32.0	31.7	35.5	32.8	34.3
1 year and over	15.9	17.1	17.9	17.1	17.0	18.8	19.4
Not stated	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4
Total males	38.9	44.9	50.0	48.8	52.6	51.7	54.1
Females							
Less than 1 year	20.9	23.5	24.8	23.8	29.3	26.5	23.8
1 year and over	5.6	4.3	5.2	4.5	4.8	5.9	7.0
Not stated	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total females	26.7	27.7	30.0	28.3	34.1	32.4	30.9
All persons							
Less than 1 year	43.5	51.2	56.7	55.4	64.7	59.3	58.1
1 year and over	21.5	21.3	23.1	21.6	21.8	24.7	26.4
Not stated	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4
Total persons	65.6	72.6	80.0	77.2	86.7	84.1	84.9

Table 18 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, age group and duration of unemployment (ILO)
¹ 000

Duration	QNHS Dec-Feb 2002				QNHS Dec-Feb 2003			
	Age group			Total	Age group			Total
	15-24	25-44	45 or over		15-24	25-44	45 or over	
Males								
Less than 1 year	11.8	14.9	5.3	32.0	12.5	16.1	5.7	34.3
1 year and over	3.7	8.2	6.0	17.9	4.5	9.6	5.3	19.4
Not stated	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4
Total males	15.6	23.1	11.3	50.0	17.1	25.8	11.2	54.1
Females								
Less than 1 year	9.3	11.5	4.0	24.8	8.6	11.1	4.1	23.8
1 year and over	1.6	2.5	1.1	5.2	1.8	3.5	1.7	7.0
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total females	10.9	14.0	5.1	30.0	10.5	14.6	5.8	30.9
All persons								
Less than 1 year	21.2	26.3	9.2	56.7	21.1	27.2	9.8	58.1
1 year and over	5.3	10.7	7.1	23.1	6.3	13.1	7.0	26.4
Not stated	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4
Total persons	26.5	37.1	16.3	80.0	27.5	40.4	17.1	84.9

Table 19 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by detailed ILO economic status

¹ 000

ILO economic status	Quarterly National Household Survey								
	Dec- Feb 01	Mar- May 01	Jun- Aug 01	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03
In labour force	1,775.5	1,781.9	1,866.1	1,825.5	1,825.4	1,827.0	1,881.5	1,854.7	1,857.0
In employment :	1,709.9	1,716.5	1,786.6	1,752.9	1,745.5	1,749.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0
full-time	1,426.9	1,432.2	1,494.9	1,465.7	1,450.8	1,460.2	1,504.0	1,479.1	1,473.5
part-time :	283.0	284.3	291.7	287.2	294.6	289.6	290.9	291.6	298.5
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed</i>	280.8	281.9	289.2	284.7	292.1	286.7	288.2	288.9	295.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.7	3.5
Unemployed :	65.6	65.4	79.5	72.6	80.0	77.2	86.7	84.1	84.9
seeking full-time work	52.4	53.7	65.0	59.7	67.5	65.5	73.7	69.1	71.4
seeking part-time work	13.2	11.7	14.5	12.9	12.4	11.7	12.9	15.0	13.5
Not in labour force	1,237.7	1,235.5	1,168.0	1,232.5	1,245.6	1,247.6	1,203.7	1,254.4	1,266.4
Marginally attached to the labour force :	12.8	10.8	12.3	11.6	12.2	11.1	12.7	12.1	12.7
Discouraged workers	10.1	8.5	9.5	9.2	9.3	7.3	9.3	9.1	9.4
Passive jobseekers	2.7	2.3	2.9	2.5	2.9	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.3
Others :	1,224.9	1,224.7	1,155.6	1,220.8	1,233.4	1,236.5	1,191.0	1,242.3	1,253.6
Persons not in education, who want work ¹	63.3	63.6	67.6	63.5	62.7	63.4	63.1	62.5	65.6
Persons in education, who want work ¹	37.6	48.7	32.4	38.8	38.9	47.3	29.3	35.4	41.4
All other persons	1,124.0	1,112.5	1,055.6	1,118.5	1,131.8	1,125.8	1,098.7	1,144.5	1,146.6
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,013.2	3,017.3	3,034.0	3,058.0	3,071.1	3,074.7	3,085.3	3,109.1	3,123.3

¹ 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.

Table 20 Indicators of potential labour supply

Period	S1	S2	S3
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
Dec-Feb 2001	4.2	7.7	7.8
Mar-May 2001	4.1	7.5	7.7
Jun-Aug 2001	4.7	8.2	8.3
Sep-Nov 2001	4.5	7.8	7.9
Dec-Feb 2002	4.9	8.2	8.3
Mar-May 2002	4.6	8.0	8.1
Jun-Aug 2002	5.1	8.3	8.4
Sep-Nov 2002	5.0	8.2	8.4
Dec-Feb 2003	5.1	8.4	8.6

%

NOTE : Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 19 :

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 education who want work.

Table 21 Population aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status¹

' 000

Principal Economic Status	Quarterly National Household Survey						
	Dec-Feb 01	Sep-Nov 01	Dec-Feb 02	Mar-May 02	Jun-Aug 02	Sep-Nov 02	Dec-Feb 03
Males							
At work	978.7	994.9	985.1	989.0	998.1	1,000.6	994.0
Unemployed	70.0	73.3	82.3	79.8	83.8	81.6	82.7
Student	175.8	174.6	179.8	182.0	171.3	179.0	184.3
Home duties	8.4	5.0	5.5	5.9	5.7	6.1	5.6
Retired	193.7	194.7	195.8	196.3	197.0	197.2	201.0
Others	55.8	60.5	61.9	60.8	62.9	66.7	69.9
Total males	1,482.4	1,502.9	1,510.5	1,513.7	1,518.7	1,531.2	1,537.5
Females							
At work	656.9	684.1	684.0	692.3	700.1	697.7	702.3
Unemployed	33.4	36.3	38.8	34.7	41.6	36.2	34.1
Student	200.5	196.8	200.8	201.1	181.7	196.1	202.0
Home duties	552.0	545.9	545.8	538.6	546.1	551.6	550.0
Retired	60.8	60.6	61.5	64.1	65.0	63.5	65.0
Others	27.1	31.4	29.7	30.1	32.0	32.8	32.4
Total females	1,530.8	1,555.1	1,560.6	1,560.9	1,566.5	1,577.9	1,585.9
All persons							
At work	1,635.5	1,679.0	1,669.1	1,681.3	1,698.2	1,698.3	1,696.3
Unemployed	103.4	109.6	121.1	114.5	125.4	117.8	116.9
Student	376.3	371.4	380.6	383.0	353.0	375.1	386.2
Home duties	560.4	550.9	551.4	544.5	551.8	557.7	555.6
Retired	254.6	255.3	257.3	260.4	262.0	260.7	265.9
Others	83.0	91.9	91.6	90.9	94.9	99.5	102.4
Total persons	3,013.2	3,058.0	3,071.1	3,074.7	3,085.3	3,109.1	3,123.3

¹ Classification based on respondent's own subjective assessment, see Background Notes.

Table 22 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status, December-February 2003

1 000

ILO economic status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment :	990.3	2.3	29.3	0.1	4.5	1.7	1,028.1
full-time	953.0	1.6	1.7	0.0	0.9	1.3	958.4
part-time :	37.3	0.7	27.5	0.1	3.6	0.4	69.7
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed</i>	35.8	0.5	27.4	0.1	3.6	0.4	67.8
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
Unemployed :	0.9	49.7	1.6	0.3	0.5	1.0	54.1
seeking full-time work	0.9	48.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.8	51.0
seeking part-time work	0.0	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	3.0
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.2	6.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	8.0
Others	1.5	24.6	153.2	5.3	195.9	66.7	447.3
Total males aged 15 or over	994.0	82.7	184.3	5.6	201.0	69.9	1,537.5
Females							
In employment :	698.8	0.8	31.0	10.7	0.7	1.8	743.9
full-time	510.4	0.3	1.6	1.6	0.1	1.1	515.1
part-time :	188.3	0.5	29.5	9.1	0.7	0.8	228.8
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed</i>	186.9	0.4	29.5	9.0	0.7	0.8	227.2
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6
Unemployed :	0.6	19.4	1.3	8.9	0.2	0.5	30.9
seeking full-time work	0.5	15.8	0.3	3.3	0.0	0.4	20.4
seeking part-time work	0.1	3.6	1.0	5.5	0.2	0.1	10.5
Marginally attached to the labour force	0.9	1.2	0.5	1.9	0.0	0.2	4.7
Others	2.0	12.8	169.1	528.5	64.0	29.9	806.3
Total females aged 15 or over	702.3	34.1	202.0	550.0	65.0	32.4	1,585.9
All persons							
In employment :	1,689.0	3.2	60.3	10.8	5.2	3.5	1,772.0
full-time	1,463.4	1.9	3.3	1.6	0.9	2.3	1,473.5
part-time :	225.7	1.2	57.0	9.1	4.3	1.2	298.5
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed</i>	222.7	0.9	56.9	9.1	4.3	1.2	295.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	3.0	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5
Unemployed :	1.6	69.1	2.9	9.1	0.7	1.5	84.9
seeking full-time work	1.4	64.3	0.6	3.6	0.3	1.2	71.4
seeking part-time work	0.1	4.8	2.3	5.6	0.4	0.3	13.5
Marginally attached to the labour force	2.1	7.2	0.6	1.9	0.2	0.7	12.7
Others	3.6	37.4	322.4	533.9	259.8	96.7	1,253.6
Total persons aged 15 or over	1,696.3	116.9	386.2	555.6	265.9	102.4	3,123.3

Table 23 Estimated *adult*¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO economic status and sex, QNHS, December-February 2003

¹ 000

Composition of family unit	In employment			Unemployed			Not economically active			Total ²		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Husband and wife (or couple) without children												
Wife/Female partner aged under 45	81.8	75.8	157.5	2.8	2.7	5.5	3.6	8.9	12.5	88.1	87.4	175.5
Wife/Female partner aged 45 to 64	61.0	41.6	102.6	1.6	1.1	2.7	42.5	63.6	106.1	105.1	106.4	211.5
Wife/Female partner aged 65 or over	7.3	1.7	9.1	*	*	*	62.3	67.3	129.6	69.7	69.0	138.7
Total	150.1	119.1	269.2	4.4	3.8	8.2	108.4	139.8	248.2	262.9	262.7	525.6
Husband and wife (or couple) with children												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	148.8	90.0	238.8	5.8	2.6	8.4	9.8	69.0	78.9	164.4	161.7	326.0
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	10.1	4.6	14.6	0.8	0.3	1.1	1.2	6.8	8.0	12.0	11.7	23.7
All children aged 5 to 14	64.3	39.2	103.5	1.7	1.7	3.5	2.8	25.9	28.8	68.9	66.9	135.7
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	105.8	64.0	169.8	3.9	1.6	5.5	10.0	51.9	61.9	119.6	117.6	237.2
All children aged 15 or over	127.9	77.2	205.1	3.4	2.1	5.5	52.0	103.2	155.2	183.4	182.5	365.9
Total	456.8	275.0	731.8	15.6	8.4	24.0	75.8	256.9	332.7	548.2	540.3	1,088.5
Lone parent with children												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	0.7	18.1	18.9	*	2.1	2.3	*	23.4	23.6	1.1	43.7	44.8
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	0.9	1.1	*	*	*	*	1.4	1.4	*	2.4	2.6
All children aged 5 to 14	0.7	13.0	13.7	*	1.1	1.3	0.4	6.1	6.5	1.2	20.3	21.5
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.6	15.5	18.1	*	1.1	1.2	0.9	7.8	8.6	3.6	24.3	27.9
All children aged 15 or over	7.0	21.3	28.3	0.4	0.8	1.2	9.0	44.0	53.1	16.4	66.1	82.5
Total	11.2	68.9	80	0.8	5.2	6	10.5	82.7	93.2	22.5	156.8	179.3
Total	618.1	463.0	1,081.1	20.8	17.4	38.2	194.7	479.4	674.1	833.6	959.8	1,793.4

¹ For the purpose of the table, an adult is either a lone parent or a member of a couple.

² See the discussion on the grossing effect in the background notes.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 24 Annual Labour Force Survey results (ILO classification) for persons aged 15 or over in EU Member States

Q2/2001						Q2/2002				
	Labour Force	In Employment	Unemployed	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Labour Force	In Employment	Unemployed	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
	' 000	' 000	' 000	%	%	' 000	' 000	' 000	%	%
EU 15 (European Union)	174,414	161,717	12,697	56.1	7.3	176,122	162,777	13,344	56.4	7.6
Eurozone*	137,486	126,512	10,975	54.7	8.0	138,847	127,350	11,496	54.9	8.3
Austria	3,876	3,745	131	58.2	3.4	3,876	3,745	131	58.6	3.4
Belgium	4,305	4,039	266	50.9	6.2	4,353	4,052	301	51.2	6.9
Denmark	2,835	2,717	118	65.2	4.2	2,863	2,741	122	65.6	4.3
Federal Republic of Germany	39,606	36,528	3,078	57.5	7.8	39,637	36,275	3,362	57.3	8.5
Finland	2,679	2,403	276	63.3	10.3	2,686	2,406	280	63.2	10.4
France	25,909	23,678	2,231	55.5	8.6	25,909	23,678	2,231	55.5	8.6
Greece	4,362	3,918	445	48.7	10.2	4,369	3,949	420	48.7	9.6
Ireland	1,782	1,717	65	59.1	3.7	1,827	1,750	77	59.4	4.2
Italy	23,642	21,373	2,268	48.3	9.6	23,963	21,757	2,206	48.8	9.2
Luxembourg	189	185	3	53.8	1.8	193	188	5	54.7	2.6
Netherlands	8,239	8,065	175	64.2	2.1	8,391	8,176	214	64.9	2.6
Portugal	5,187	4,984	204	62.1	3.9	5,376	5,133	243	61.8	4.5
Spain	17,710	15,877	1,833	51.9	10.4	18,267	16,241	2,026	53.1	11.1
Sweden	4,555	4,339	215	62.7	4.7	4,575	4,348	227	62.7	5.0
United Kingdom	29,538	28,149	1,389	62.1	4.7	29,837	28,338	1,499	62.4	5.0

Source: Eurostat

Note: Trends in some member states may be affected by changes in methodology

Note: Table contains revised data

Note: Data for Austria and France for Q2 2002 is unchanged from Q2 2001 as updated detail is not available at present

* Eurozone does not include Denmark, Sweden and United Kingdom

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 Classification The primary classification used for the QNHS results is the ILO labour force classification. Labour Force Survey data on this basis have been published since 1988. The ILO classification 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, Employment and Unemployment Rates The rates given in this release are based on the ILO classification. The Participation Rate is the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 or over. The Employment Rate is the number of employed aged 15 to 64 expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 to 64. The Unemployment Rate is the number of unemployed expressed as a percentage of the total 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:

- At work
- Unemployed
- Student
- Engaged on home duties
- Retired
- Other.

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. Eleven NACE sub-categories are distinguished in Table 2b 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 2b, 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 4 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 4 is at a broad level, corresponding to SOC major groups. More detailed quarterly data is available on request from the CSO.

Family Units

Table 23 presents family data. The definition used is as follows:

Family Unit

A family unit consists of either:

1. a married couple, or
2. a married couple and one or more of their never-married children, or
3. one parent and one or more of his or her never-married children, or
4. a couple living together (with never-married children, if any) who are not married to each other, where it is clear that the couple form a “de facto” family unit.

Households may contain more than one family unit or may contain a family together with other persons not in a family unit as defined above.

However, there are problems identifying some unmarried parents with children as separate family units. This happens particularly where one unmarried parent with one or more children lives with his/her parent(s) and the information recorded in the survey on the relationship to the reference person does not clearly identify the parent/child relationships. In such cases, the unmarried parent and children may not be identified as a distinct family unit. As a result, the number of family units consisting of unmarried parents with children is probably understated to some degree.

Grossing Effect

The QNHS grossing procedure aligns the distribution of persons covered in the survey with independently determined population estimates at the level of sex, five-year age group and region. This means that the adjustment factors assigned to each spouse within a family unit will differ. Accordingly, some male and female estimates in family tables, which might be expected to be identical, differ slightly. Another factor effecting the slight difference is that, in a small number of cases, gender was incorrectly recorded or coded.

Labour Supply Indicators

Table 20 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.

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:

- Seasonal effects on numbers employed and unemployed
- The change from a point-in-time to a continuous survey (survey reference period)
- Changes in the questionnaire, which has increased the observed level of labour force participation, particularly in part-time jobs.

Changes to Questions on Employment

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?”.

The main effect of these changes 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.

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.

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.

Seasonal Adjustment Methodology

The data from the QNHS was adjusted using the X-11-ARIMA procedure. This procedure is an adaptation of the U.S. Bureau of the Census X-11 seasonal adjustment programme developed by Statistics Canada.

The first task in the process is to identify whether the series being adjusted is best considered additive or multiplicative for seasonal adjustment purposes. All of the QNHS series analysed were found to be multiplicative.

Once the series has been identified as being either additive or multiplicative the method fits an ARIMA (Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average) model to the unadjusted series and then uses the model forecast to extend the unadjusted series. The extended series is then seasonally adjusted using the standard X-11 seasonal adjustment method. The extension of the series improves the estimation of the seasonal factors and reduces revisions to the seasonally adjusted series as new data becomes available. To be able to use X-11-ARIMA you must have at least 5 years data.

The essential difference between X-11 and X-11-ARIMA is the use of ARIMA (Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average) models to improve the adjustment at the end of the time series by extending the time series. In the ARIMA model identification phase an attempt to determine the type of underlying probabilistic process that governs the behaviour of the time series is made. The choice of ARIMA model in this process was restricted to the 5 pre-defined models which were identified by Statistics Canada as fitting the majority of well behaved time series.

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.

Border, Midlands and Western NUTS2 Region

Border	Cavan Donegal Leitrim Louth Monaghan Sligo
Midland	Laoighis Longford Offaly Westmeath
West	Galway City Galway County Mayo Roscommon

Eastern and Southern NUTS2 Region

Dublin	Dublin Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal South Dublin
Mid-East	Kildare Meath Wicklow
Mid-West	Clare Limerick City Limerick County North Tipperary
South-East	Carlow Kilkenny South Tipperary Waterford City Waterford County Wexford
South-West	Cork City Cork County Kerry