



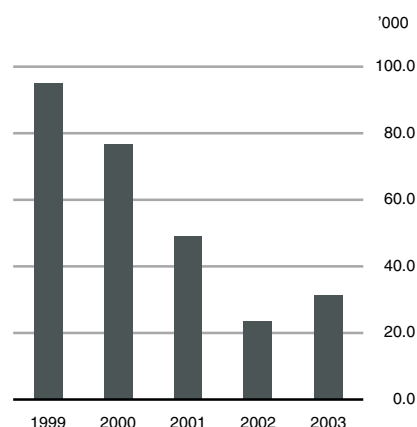
Central Statistics Office

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.**

11 March 2004

**Annual average employment increases
1999-2003**



Quarterly National Household Survey Fourth Quarter 2003

ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
			'000
Sep-Nov 2002	1,770.7	84.1	1,854.7
Dec-Feb 2003	1,772.0	84.9	1,857.0
Mar-May 2003	1,778.3	81.4	1,859.7
Jun-Aug 2003	1,820.8	98.9	1,919.7
Sep-Nov 2003	1,815.3	86.5	1,901.8
<i>Change in quarter</i>	-5.5	-12.4	-17.9
<i>Change in year</i>	+44.6	+2.4	+47.1

Employment grew by 1.8% in 2003

On average, employment increased by 31,400 or 1.8% last year. This compares with average annual increases of 1.4% in 2002, 2.9% in 2001 and 4.7% in 2000. The average number of females in employment in 2003 was 18,000 (+2.4%) higher than in the previous year while the average number of male workers was up by 13,300 (+1.3%). *See table 1 & graph.*

Employment growth in the fourth quarter was considerably stronger than in earlier quarters with the numbers at work increasing by 44,600 or 2.5% in the year. Full-time employment accounted for over three-quarters of the annual increase. This was the opposite to the earlier quarters where part-time employment accounted for most of the growth. *See table 1.*

There were 86,500 persons unemployed in the fourth quarter of 2003, representing a seasonal decrease of 12,400 in the quarter and an annual increase of 2,400 on the fourth quarter of 2002. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell back to 4.6% in the fourth quarter from 4.9% in the previous three-month period. *See tables 1 & 3.*

The labour force increased by 47,100 in the year to 1,901,800. This accounted for 60.2% of all persons aged 15 or over compared with 59.7% in the fourth quarter of 2002. The male participation rate increased slightly in the year from 70.8% to 71.0% while the female rate increased from 48.9% to 49.7%. *See table 1.*

Comparable data for most EU states (and for the first time also for the Accession states) are now available for the second quarter of 2003. The relevant data are summarised in table 24.

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

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Ref 46/2004

ISSN 1393-6875

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Largest employment growth in Health and Construction

Employment grew in the year to the fourth quarter in all sectors with the exception of *Other production industries* (-7,600) and *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* (-200). The largest growth areas were *Health* (+12,100) and *Construction* (+9,300). Strong growth was also evident in the *Other services* sector (+7,500) and the *Financial and other business services* sector (+6,400). The largest growth area for males was *Construction* (+9,800) and for females it was *Health* (+10,200). See table 2b.

All occupational categories increased in the year, except *Plant and machine operatives* (-11,000) and *Managers and administrators* (-8,700). The largest increases were for *Other* occupations (+18,200), *Professional* (+13,700) and *Personal and protective services* (+12,100). See table 4.

The number of self employed persons without employees fell by 3,500 in the year, while the number with employees grew by 6,400. See table 6.

There were 1,497,300 employees in the fourth quarter of 2003, an annual increase of 36,800. This was made up of an increase of 24,400 female employees and 12,400 male employees. The number of persons assisting relatives fell by 2,000 in the year to 15,100. See table 6.

Over 50% of annual employment growth attributable to 25 to 34 year olds

Over 50% (22,500) of the annual employment growth of 44,600 was attributable to the 25-34 year age group. The number of males aged 25-34 in employment increased by 10,100 to 289,700 while the number of females rose by 12,400 to 237,400. Half (6,200) of the latter increase was accounted for by married females. The employment rate for persons aged 25-34 increased from 79.9% to 80.9% over the year. See tables 1, 11, 12 & 15.

Overall the employment rate for persons aged 15-64 in the fourth quarter of 2003 was 65.6% compared to 65.0% in the same quarter last year. The employment rate for males and females both showed increases over the year with the male rate increasing from 74.9% to 75.2% and the female rate increasing from 55.0% to 56.0%. See table 12.

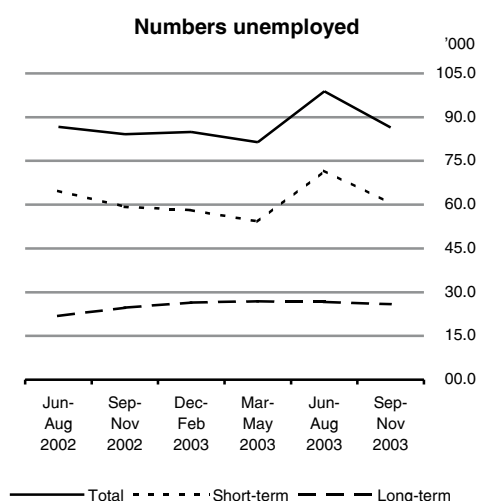
The number of persons in part-time employment increased by 10,100 in the year to 301,700. Almost all of this increase (+9,800) was for females. This increase accounted for less than a quarter of the overall annual employment growth (+44,600), a marked difference to the pattern that had emerged in the previous two quarters. See table 1.

The average working week in the fourth quarter of 2003 was 37.4 hours, unchanged from the third quarter of 2003 and the fourth quarter of 2002. The number of persons working '45 and over' hours a week increased by 6,200 in the year to 237,400 and the numbers working variable hours decreased by 7,300 over the same period. See table 5.

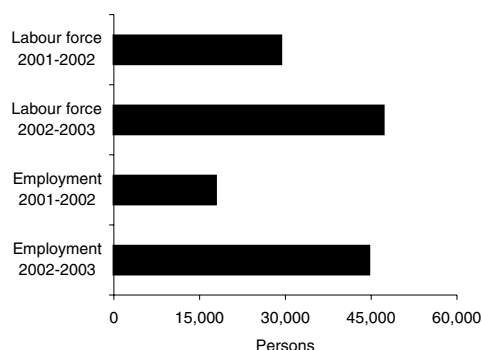
Modest increase in unemployment

There were 53,300 males and 33,200 females unemployed in the fourth quarter of 2003, representing annual increases of 1,600 and 800 respectively. The largest annual increase in the numbers unemployed was concentrated in the 20-24 year age group where the numbers increased by 1,700 to 20,300. See table 13.

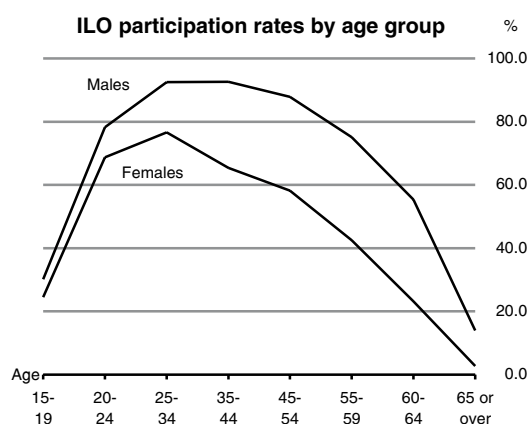
The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for males fell from 5.1% in the third quarter to 4.9% in the fourth quarter of 2003. There was a corresponding decline from 4.5% to 4.3% in the seasonally adjusted female unemployment rate. See table 3.



Employment and labour force growth 2001- 2003



ILO participation rates by age group



Long-term unemployment increased over the year by 1,100 with short-term unemployment increasing by 1,200 over the same period. The increase in long term unemployment was concentrated in the 25 to 44 year age category in contrast to the trend in short-term unemployment where the growth is concentrated in the under 25 age category. The long-term unemployment rate remained unchanged in the fourth quarter at 1.4%. *See tables 17 & 18.*

Labour Force growth

The annual increase in the labour force of 47,100 comprised an increase of 26,000 females and 21,100 males. Labour force growth was largest for both males and females in the 25-34 year age category, which showed increases of 12,800 and 10,200 respectively. *See table 10.*

Demographic factors, such as the increase in the population of working age and changes in its age structure, added an estimated 35,500 to the labour force over the year, with the balance of 11,500 being due to the increase in labour force participation rates. The most significant increase in participation was recorded for those aged 25-34 (83.7% to 84.6%). There was an increase of 16,000 in the number of married women in the labour force and their participation rate rose from 47.7% to 48.3%. *See tables 1, 9 & 15.*

The number of persons outside the labour force who expressed some interest in obtaining work decreased by 21,900 in the year. On the basis of this decrease, 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, decreased from 8.4% in the fourth quarter of 2002 to 7.7% in the fourth quarter of 2003. *See tables 1, 19 & 20.*

Regional comparisons

Employment grew by 18,300 (+4.1%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 26,300 (+2.0%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the fourth quarter of 2003. All of the annual growth in unemployment was concentrated in the Southern and Eastern region where there was an increase of 2,600 in the numbers unemployed in the year. *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western Region increased from 57.4% to 58.5% between the fourth quarters of 2002 and 2003. The participation rate in the Southern and Eastern region also increased from 60.5% to 60.8% over the same period.

Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as “at work” grew by 44,200 in the year to 1,742,500. This comprised an increase of 21,200 males and 23,000 females. This compares to an increase of 19,300 in the year to the fourth quarter of 2002. Meanwhile, the numbers describing themselves as “unemployed” decreased slightly (-200) in the year to 117,600. *See table 21.*

The numbers describing themselves as “on home duties” decreased by 3,500 to 554,200 in the year. *See table 21.*

The number of students decreased by 5,500 in the year to 369,600. This comprised a decrease of 4,500 male students and a decrease of 1,000 female students. The number of students with a job rose from 15.7% to 16.1% in the year to the fourth quarter of 2003. *See table 22.*

Tables

Table 1 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and ILO Economic Status

'000

ILO Economic Status	Sep- Nov 01	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
Males							
In labour force	1,069.1	1,094.9	1,083.4	1,082.2	1,080.6	1,110.4	1,104.5
In employment:	1,024.2	1,042.2	1,031.8	1,028.1	1,029.2	1,051.1	1,051.2
full-time	957.9	976.1	966.4	958.4	959.8	979.4	985.4
part-time:	66.3	66.1	65.4	69.7	69.4	71.7	65.7
of which: <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	65.1	64.6	64.0	67.8	67.7	69.7	63.8
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.9	1.7	2.0	2.0
Unemployed:	44.9	52.6	51.7	54.1	51.4	59.3	53.3
seeking full-time work	42.1	49.8	49.2	51.0	48.4	54.9	49.5
seeking part-time work	2.7	2.8	2.5	3.0	3.0	4.3	3.8
Not in labour force	433.8	423.9	447.8	455.3	456.7	431.3	450.2
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	7.2	7.9	7.6	8.0	8.1	8.5	6.9
Others	426.6	415.9	440.2	447.3	448.6	422.8	443.2
Total males aged 15 or over	1,502.9	1,518.7	1,531.2	1,537.5	1,537.3	1,541.7	1,554.6
Unemployment rate %	4.2	4.8	4.8	5.0	4.8	5.3	4.8
Participation rate %	71.1	72.1	70.8	70.4	70.3	72.0	71.0
Females							
In labour force	756.5	786.7	771.3	774.8	779.1	809.2	797.3
In employment:	728.7	752.6	738.9	743.9	749.1	769.6	764.1
full-time	507.8	527.9	512.7	515.1	516.5	534.1	528.2
part-time:	220.9	224.8	226.2	228.8	232.6	235.5	236.0
of which: <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	219.6	223.6	224.8	227.2	230.9	233.2	233.9
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.7	2.3	2.0
Unemployed:	27.7	34.1	32.4	30.9	30.0	39.6	33.2
seeking full-time work	17.6	24.0	19.9	20.4	20.1	28.3	21.8
seeking part-time work	10.2	10.1	12.5	10.5	9.9	11.4	11.4
Not in labour force	798.6	779.9	806.6	811.1	807.4	784.0	806.3
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.4	4.8	4.5	4.7	4.0	6.2	3.9
Others	794.2	775.1	802.2	806.3	803.4	777.8	802.3
Total females aged 15 or over	1,555.1	1,566.5	1,577.9	1,585.9	1,586.5	1,593.2	1,603.6
Unemployment rate %	3.7	4.3	4.2	4.0	3.9	4.9	4.2
Participation rate %	48.6	50.2	48.9	48.9	49.1	50.8	49.7
All persons							
In labour force	1,825.5	1,881.5	1,854.7	1,857.0	1,859.7	1,919.7	1,901.8
In employment:	1,752.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0	1,778.3	1,820.8	1,815.3
full-time	1,465.7	1,504.0	1,479.1	1,473.5	1,476.3	1,513.5	1,513.6
part-time:	287.2	290.9	291.6	298.5	302.0	307.2	301.7
of which: <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	284.7	288.2	288.9	295.0	298.6	302.9	297.7
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	2.5	2.7	2.7	3.5	3.4	4.3	4.0
Unemployed:	72.6	86.7	84.1	84.9	81.4	98.9	86.5
seeking full-time work	59.7	73.7	69.1	71.4	68.5	83.2	71.3
seeking part-time work	12.9	12.9	15.0	13.5	12.9	15.7	15.2
Not in labour force	1,232.5	1,203.7	1,254.4	1,266.4	1,264.1	1,215.2	1,256.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	11.6	12.7	12.1	12.7	12.1	14.6	10.8
Others	1,220.8	1,191.0	1,242.3	1,253.6	1,252.0	1,200.6	1,245.6
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,058.0	3,085.3	3,109.1	3,123.3	3,123.8	3,134.9	3,158.2
Unemployment rate %	4.0	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	5.2	4.5
Participation rate %	59.7	61.0	59.7	59.5	59.5	61.2	60.2

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 2a Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and broad economic sector

	'000						
Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Sep- Nov 01	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
Males							
A-B Agriculture	112.4	109.9	107.6	102.2	99.9	104.1	107.9
C-F Industry	396.2	403.2	396.2	395.3	395.4	402.0	398.9
G-O Services	515.6	529.1	527.9	530.6	533.9	545.1	544.3
Females							
A-B Agriculture	12.0	12.8	12.2	12.1	13.3	13.9	11.7
C-F Industry	106.6	100.8	96.8	96.4	97.1	101.5	95.8
G-O Services	610.1	639.0	629.9	635.3	638.7	654.2	656.7
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	124.4	122.7	119.8	114.3	113.2	118.0	119.6
C-F Industry	502.8	504.0	493.1	491.7	492.6	503.5	494.7
G-O Services	1,125.7	1,168.2	1,157.8	1,166.0	1,172.6	1,199.3	1,201.0
Total persons	1,752.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0	1,778.3	1,820.8	1,815.3

Table 2b Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and NACE economic sector

	'000						
Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Sep- Nov 01	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	112.4	109.9	107.6	102.2	99.9	104.1	107.9
C-E Other production industries	220.7	222.7	214.7	215.8	214.3	213.0	207.7
F Construction	175.5	180.5	181.5	179.5	181.1	189.0	191.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	127.0	129.9	128.6	128.6	126.7	130.5	129.7
H Hotels and restaurants	43.7	46.1	46.0	46.9	48.8	52.1	49.3
I Transport, storage and communication	81.9	85.0	83.9	82.8	83.7	82.9	83.4
J-K Financial and other business services	113.0	112.8	113.4	113.9	115.5	116.4	116.7
L Public administration and defence	44.2	47.9	46.9	48.9	50.1	52.3	49.5
M Education	33.1	33.3	34.0	34.8	34.2	33.8	34.4
N Health	29.2	30.4	32.3	32.5	33.3	33.0	34.2
O Other services	43.6	43.8	42.7	42.3	41.6	44.1	47.2
Total males	1,024.2	1,042.2	1,031.8	1,028.1	1,029.2	1,051.1	1,051.2
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.0	12.8	12.2	12.1	13.3	13.9	11.7
C-E Other production industries	97.3	91.3	87.5	87.4	87.8	91.5	87.0
F Construction	9.3	9.5	9.3	9.0	9.3	10.1	8.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	118.6	127.1	121.6	123.7	124.1	129.4	126.0
H Hotels and restaurants	65.5	70.5	66.3	63.6	66.5	72.2	66.9
I Transport, storage and communication	29.0	29.2	28.4	28.1	27.1	28.2	29.7
J-K Financial and other business services	115.2	116.2	111.9	112.8	111.4	113.6	115.0
L Public administration and defence	37.2	42.1	40.2	39.7	40.6	40.1	39.9
M Education	73.2	71.6	77.6	80.2	80.6	74.9	82.1
N Health	120.2	127.4	128.8	133.3	134.6	138.8	139.0
O Other services	51.2	54.8	55.0	54.0	53.8	56.9	58.0
Total females	728.7	752.6	738.9	743.9	749.1	769.6	764.1
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	124.4	122.7	119.8	114.3	113.2	118.0	119.6
C-E Other production industries	318.0	314.0	302.2	303.2	302.1	304.4	294.6
F Construction	184.8	190.0	190.8	188.5	190.4	199.0	200.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	245.6	257.1	250.3	252.3	250.8	259.9	255.7
H Hotels and restaurants	109.1	116.6	112.4	110.5	115.3	124.3	116.2
I Transport, storage and communication	110.9	114.2	112.3	110.9	110.8	111.1	113.1
J-K Financial and other business services	228.2	229.1	225.3	226.6	226.9	230.0	231.7
L Public administration and defence	81.4	90.0	87.1	88.6	90.7	92.4	89.4
M Education	106.3	104.9	111.6	115.0	114.8	108.8	116.5
N Health	149.4	157.8	161.1	165.7	167.9	171.8	173.2
O Other services	94.9	98.6	97.7	96.3	95.4	101.0	105.2
Total persons	1,752.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0	1,778.3	1,820.8	1,815.3

**Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Series¹ of persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex,
ILO Economic Status and NACE economic sector**

'000

	Sep- Nov 01	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
Males							
In labour force	1,070.8	1,076.4	1,084.4	1,089.6	1,090.6	1,092.8	1,104.7
In employment:	1,025.3	1,025.6	1,032.2	1,035.9	1,037.5	1,035.4	1,050.9
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	111.0	108.0	105.9	103.4	102.2	102.5	105.9
C-E Other production industries	221.9	217.1	216.1	217.8	216.4	207.7	209.2
F Construction	174.5	178.1	180.3	180.8	183.7	186.5	189.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	127.8	127.7	129.1	128.7	128.4	128.4	130.0
H Hotels and restaurants	44.5	44.2	46.9	47.5	49.3	50.0	50.3
I Transport, storage and communication	81.7	84.0	83.6	83.4	84.3	82.0	83.1
J-K Financial and other business services	113.8	111.7	113.9	115.0	115.0	115.4	117.1
L Public administration and defence	44.7	46.6	47.6	49.7	49.8	50.9	50.3
M Education	33.1	33.6	34.0	34.6	34.1	34.2	34.3
N Health	28.7	30.9	31.7	32.7	33.1	33.6	33.6
O Other services	43.4	43.0	42.5	42.9	42.0	43.4	46.9
Unemployed	45.8	49.6	52.9	54.0	53.4	56.0	54.6
Unemployment rate %	4.3	4.6	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.9
Participation rate %	71.4	70.6	71.0	71.0	70.9	70.6	71.2
Females							
In labour force	759.4	767.3	774.1	781.3	785.0	789.9	800.0
In employment:	731.3	737.8	741.4	749.9	755.1	755.4	766.6
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.4	12.3	12.7	12.3	13.2	13.2	12.3
C-E Other production industries	97.3	88.5	87.7	88.3	89.6	88.6	87.3
F Construction	9.1	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.7	9.8	8.7
G Wholesale and retail trade	120.5	123.2	123.5	124.1	125.8	125.6	127.8
H Hotels and restaurants	65.8	65.3	66.6	66.5	68.7	67.0	67.1
I Transport, storage and communication	29.0	28.8	28.2	28.4	27.5	27.9	29.3
J-K Financial and other business services	114.9	113.6	111.8	114.0	112.8	111.2	114.9
L Public administration and defence	37.4	41.3	40.6	40.5	40.2	39.3	40.4
M Education	72.6	75.4	76.9	78.5	79.1	79.0	81.3
N Health	120.7	126.9	129.6	132.8	134.7	138.3	140.0
O Other services	50.9	53.4	54.5	55.0	54.7	55.5	57.4
Unemployed	28.4	30.3	33.3	31.7	32.5	35.1	34.1
Unemployment rate %	3.7	3.9	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.3
Participation rate %	49.0	48.9	49.2	49.4	49.6	49.5	50.0
All persons							
In labour force	1,830.3	1,845.4	1,858.6	1,870.5	1,878.2	1,884.9	1,904.8
In employment:	1,756.9	1,763.7	1,774.0	1,785.1	1,792.3	1,791.4	1,817.9
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	123.5	120.2	118.7	115.8	115.2	115.7	118.3
C-E Other production industries	319.3	305.8	303.8	305.6	306.3	296.4	296.4
F Construction	183.7	187.3	189.6	189.6	193.4	196.2	198.6
G Wholesale and retail trade	248.3	251.0	252.7	252.8	254.0	254.1	257.9
H Hotels and restaurants	110.0	109.5	113.1	114.5	117.9	116.9	116.9
I Transport, storage and communication	110.8	112.5	112.0	112.0	111.7	109.5	112.8
J-K Financial and other business services	228.8	226.3	225.7	228.4	227.3	227.6	231.9
L Public administration and defence	82.3	87.9	88.3	89.9	90.2	90.3	90.8
M Education	105.5	109.1	110.8	112.9	113.3	113.2	115.6
N Health	149.4	157.7	161.4	165.5	167.8	171.8	173.7
O Other services	94.2	96.4	96.8	97.7	97.1	99.0	104.0
Unemployed	73.9	80.5	85.7	86.0	85.3	92.0	88.0
Unemployment rate %	4.0	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.9	4.6
Participation rate %	60.0	59.6	59.9	60.1	60.1	59.9	60.4

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 4 Persons aged 15 and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and occupation

'000

Broad occupational group	Sep- Nov 01	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	225.6	224.1	223.5	217.8	219.1	214.5	217.4
2. Professional	95.5	97.8	99.9	105.7	106.6	103.3	109.4
3. Associate professional and technical	67.5	64.4	66.2	67.7	69.7	71.0	71.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	50.3	52.4	51.5	51.6	50.5	52.6	52.1
5. Craft and related	221.2	225.2	226.0	227.0	227.0	232.3	231.6
6. Personal and protective service	69.3	73.5	73.0	72.7	73.3	77.0	73.5
7. Sales	55.7	56.8	55.3	55.2	54.2	58.6	57.1
8. Plant and machine operatives	147.3	147.3	141.9	138.4	136.1	134.4	133.6
9. Other	91.8	100.8	94.5	91.9	92.7	107.5	104.5
Total males	1,024.2	1,042.2	1,031.8	1,028.1	1,029.2	1,051.1	1,051.2
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	87.3	88.4	88.5	89.0	92.0	90.0	85.9
2. Professional	82.9	86.1	90.9	93.4	92.8	90.1	95.0
3. Associate professional and technical	88.3	91.3	92.8	91.3	94.3	94.9	95.0
4. Clerical and secretarial	167.4	173.3	167.6	165.6	164.8	167.0	168.2
5. Craft and related	12.9	12.4	13.5	14.1	13.5	14.3	13.1
6. Personal and protective service	99.7	105.6	103.5	107.3	109.8	117.2	115.1
7. Sales	87.2	96.0	90.0	91.1	92.2	96.0	94.1
8. Plant and machine operatives	47.4	39.6	36.2	36.1	35.6	35.2	33.5
9. Other	55.7	60.1	56.0	56.0	54.3	64.9	64.2
Total females	728.7	752.6	738.9	743.9	749.1	769.6	764.1
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	312.9	312.4	312.0	306.8	311.1	304.5	303.3
2. Professional	178.3	183.9	190.8	199.2	199.4	193.4	204.5
3. Associate professional and technical	155.8	155.7	158.9	159.0	163.9	165.9	166.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	217.7	225.7	219.0	217.2	215.3	219.6	220.3
5. Craft and related	234.1	237.7	239.4	241.1	240.5	246.5	244.6
6. Personal and protective service	169.0	179.0	176.5	180.0	183.1	194.2	188.6
7. Sales	142.9	152.5	145.3	146.3	146.3	154.5	151.2
8. Plant and machine operatives	194.7	187.0	178.1	174.5	171.6	169.6	167.1
9. Other	147.6	160.9	150.5	147.9	147.0	172.4	168.7
Total persons	1,752.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0	1,778.3	1,820.8	1,815.3

Table 5 Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and usual hours of work

'000

Usual hours per week	Sep- Nov 01	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
Males							
1-9 hours	6.7	3.3	7.0	8.5	8.7	4.7	7.4
10-19	16.3	15.0	18.1	21.2	19.4	16.1	18.1
20-29	35.6	38.7	35.7	35.8	36.6	41.6	35.0
30-34	17.5	19.5	17.4	16.9	16.1	20.3	17.2
35-39	330.7	362.2	359.4	360.6	364.2	377.4	370.3
40-44	245.6	234.4	233.2	228.7	227.4	240.4	244.2
45 & over	207.0	204.6	199.1	192.5	190.1	197.4	205.2
Variable hours ¹	164.8	164.4	161.8	164.0	166.8	153.4	153.7
Total males	1,024.2	1,042.2	1031.8	1,028.1	1,029.2	1,051.1	1,051.2
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>42.0</i>	<i>41.9</i>	<i>41.6</i>	<i>41.2</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.4</i>	<i>41.6</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	18.9	14.5	20.0	20.6	21.8	17.0	21.3
10-19	67.6	65.3	70.3	72.7	73.5	69.7	73.2
20-29	135.6	143.5	140.6	139.4	141.0	148.0	145.7
30-34	38.4	41.2	41.6	43.4	43.3	46.0	47.5
35-39	279.7	305.3	289.7	294.9	293.9	310.8	300.1
40-44	112.6	104.5	100.4	98.4	98.7	100.7	99.2
45 & over	34.0	33.4	32.1	33.0	31.1	33.1	32.2
Variable hours ¹	42.0	45.0	44.1	41.5	45.8	44.5	44.9
Total females	728.7	752.6	738.9	743.9	749.1	769.6	764.1
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>32.6</i>	<i>32.8</i>	<i>32.3</i>	<i>32.3</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>32.5</i>	<i>32.1</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	25.6	17.8	27.0	29.2	30.5	21.6	28.7
10-19	83.9	80.3	88.4	93.9	92.9	85.7	91.3
20-29	171.2	182.2	176.3	175.2	177.6	189.6	180.7
30-34	55.9	60.8	59.0	60.3	59.3	66.2	64.8
35-39	610.4	667.5	649.2	655.4	658.2	688.2	670.3
40-44	358.1	338.9	333.6	327.1	326.0	341.1	343.4
45 & over	241.0	238.0	231.2	225.5	221.2	230.5	237.4
Variable hours ¹	206.8	209.4	205.9	205.5	212.5	197.8	198.6
Total persons	1,752.9	1,794.8	1770.7	1,772.0	1,778.3	1,820.8	1,815.3
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.4</i>

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

Table 6 Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by employment status

'000

Employment status	Sep- Nov 01	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	81.2	81.2	80.3	81.1	83.3	81.7	85.0
Self employed (with no paid employees)	167.5	166.3	165.9	162.4	161.2	165.0	169.0
Employee	767.0	785.2	777.3	776.4	777.0	795.2	789.7
Assisting relative	8.5	9.5	8.3	8.2	7.7	9.2	7.5
Total males	1,024.2	1,042.2	1,031.8	1,028.1	1,029.2	1,051.1	1,051.2
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	17.3	16.8	16.4	17.1	17.6	16.8	18.1
Self employed (with no paid employees)	28.0	28.6	30.4	29.4	29.8	31.6	30.8
Employee	674.6	698.1	683.2	688.4	691.7	712.1	707.6
Assisting relative	8.8	9.2	8.8	9.0	9.9	9.1	7.5
Total females	728.7	752.6	738.9	743.9	749.1	769.6	764.1
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	98.6	98.0	96.7	98.3	100.9	98.6	103.1
Self employed (with no paid employees)	195.5	194.8	196.3	191.8	191.0	196.6	199.8
Employee	1,441.5	1,483.3	1,460.5	1,464.7	1,468.8	1,507.3	1,497.3
Assisting relative	17.3	18.7	17.1	17.2	17.6	18.3	15.1
Total persons	1,752.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0	1,778.3	1,820.8	1,815.3

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					
Sep-Nov 2001	436.2	24.4	460.6	5.3	57.1
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
Mar-May 2003	450.9	24.6	475.4	5.2	57.3
Jun-Aug 2003	467.2	27.7	494.9	5.6	59.0
Sep-Nov 2003	467.3	24.9	492.2	5.1	58.5
Southern and Eastern					
Sep-Nov 2001	1,316.7	48.2	1,364.9	3.5	60.6
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
Mar-May 2003	1,327.5	56.8	1,384.3	4.1	60.4
Jun-Aug 2003	1,353.5	71.2	1,424.7	5.0	62.0
Sep-Nov 2003	1,348.0	61.6	1,409.6	4.4	60.8
State					
Sep-Nov 2001	1,752.9	72.6	1,825.5	4.0	59.7
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
Mar-May 2003	1,778.3	81.4	1,859.7	4.4	59.5
Jun-Aug 2003	1,820.8	98.9	1,919.7	5.2	61.2
Sep-Nov 2003	1,815.3	86.5	1,901.8	4.5	60.2

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	Sep-Nov 2001	169.2	11.6	180.7	6.4	55.6
	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
	Mar-May 2003	169.5	11.7	181.2	6.4	55.2
	Jun-Aug 2003	175.9	11.8	187.6	6.3	56.8
	Sep-Nov 2003	176.9	11.2	188.1	6.0	56.9
Midland	Sep-Nov 2001	87.5	3.9	91.4	4.3	55.7
	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
	Mar-May 2003	93.3	5.1	98.4	5.2	58.9
	Jun-Aug 2003	94.8	5.2	100.0	5.2	59.6
	Sep-Nov 2003	93.2	4.1	97.3	4.2	57.7
West	Sep-Nov 2001	179.6	8.9	188.5	4.7	59.3
	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
	Mar-May 2003	188.1	7.8	195.9	4.0	58.5
	Jun-Aug 2003	196.6	10.7	207.3	5.2	60.9
	Sep-Nov 2003	197.2	9.6	206.8	4.6	60.5
Dublin	Sep-Nov 2001	555.3	17.8	573.1	3.1	63.4
	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
	Mar-May 2003	550.3	21.6	571.9	3.8	62.2
	Jun-Aug 2003	554.7	27.3	582.0	4.7	63.3
	Sep-Nov 2003	558.6	24.5	583.1	4.2	62.8
Mid-East	Sep-Nov 2001	191.1	6.4	197.5	3.2	63.3
	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
	Mar-May 2003	199.1	6.1	205.2	3.0	63.6
	Jun-Aug 2003	200.5	8.8	209.3	4.2	64.5
	Sep-Nov 2003	201.4	7.0	208.4	3.4	63.3
Mid-West	Sep-Nov 2001	148.3	6.7	155.0	4.3	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
	Mar-May 2003	153.5	7.0	160.4	4.3	59.1
	Jun-Aug 2003	158.0	9.7	167.7	5.8	61.8
	Sep-Nov 2003	155.3	9.3	164.6	5.6	60.0
South-East	Sep-Nov 2001	177.9	7.3	185.2	3.9	57.4
	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
	Mar-May 2003	180.0	10.8	190.9	5.7	58.4
	Jun-Aug 2003	185.9	12.6	198.5	6.3	60.9
	Sep-Nov 2003	182.1	10.2	192.2	5.3	58.4
South-West	Sep-Nov 2001	244.2	10.0	254.2	4.0	56.9
	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
	Mar-May 2003	244.5	11.3	255.8	4.4	56.5
	Jun-Aug 2003	254.5	12.7	267.2	4.8	58.8
	Sep-Nov 2003	250.6	10.6	261.2	4.1	57.2
State	Sep-Nov 2001	1,752.9	72.6	1,825.5	4.0	59.7
	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
	Mar-May 2003	1,778.3	81.4	1,859.7	4.4	59.5
	Jun-Aug 2003	1,820.8	98.9	1,919.7	5.2	61.2
	Sep-Nov 2003	1,815.3	86.5	1,901.8	4.5	60.2

¹ See Background Notes.

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

%

Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	30.2	78.1	91.7	84.8	70.7	61.1	47.9	20.7	68.6
Married	*	86.3	94.2	95.3	91.6	78.5	58.1	14.0	75.9
Separated or divorced	*	*	94.4	85.9	81.3	64.3	41.5	14.1	69.9
Widowed	*	*	91.2	84.1	76.2	59.9	47.8	6.5	21.7
Total males	30.2	78.2	92.5	92.6	87.9	75.1	55.4	14.0	71.0
Females									
Single	24.5	69.5	84.6	77.9	67.9	51.6	29.2	4.3	60.1
Married	*	46.0	65.8	62.4	56.1	40.8	21.6	3.0	48.3
Separated or divorced	*	*	61.8	67.1	64.7	50.2	35.5	14.0	58.8
Widowed	*	*	70.3	62.8	61.5	41.9	24.3	1.9	10.7
Total females	24.5	68.7	76.6	65.4	58.2	42.5	23.2	2.7	49.7
All persons									
Single	27.4	73.8	88.5	81.8	69.5	57.4	42.1	12.9	64.6
Married	*	58.1	78.4	78.7	73.9	60.4	40.2	9.3	62.2
Separated or divorced	*	*	70.4	72.6	70.7	55.9	38.2	14.0	62.8
Widowed	*	*	78.9	67.7	65.3	46.1	29.6	2.8	13.0
Total persons	27.4	73.5	84.6	78.9	73.0	59.0	39.3	7.7	60.2

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

%

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2001	32.1	77.5	93.3	93.4	88.1	75.8	55.6	15.1	71.1
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
Mar-May 2003	29.3	75.1	92.1	92.7	87.4	74.9	55.5	14.0	70.3
Jun-Aug 2003	39.4	82.1	92.2	92.2	87.6	74.6	54.9	13.7	72.0
Sep-Nov 2003	30.2	78.2	92.5	92.6	87.9	75.1	55.4	14.0	71.0
Females									
Sep-Nov 2001	24.4	69.5	77.3	64.7	55.7	37.1	20.6	2.7	48.6
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
Mar-May 2003	22.5	65.7	75.7	66.5	57.5	41.6	24.6	3.3	49.1
Jun-Aug 2003	33.2	73.1	75.8	66.1	57.0	41.7	24.9	3.0	50.8
Sep-Nov 2003	24.5	68.7	76.6	65.4	58.2	42.5	23.2	2.7	49.7
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2001	28.4	73.5	85.3	78.9	71.9	56.7	38.1	8.1	59.7
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
Mar-May 2003	26.0	70.4	84.0	79.5	72.4	58.5	40.1	8.0	59.5
Jun-Aug 2003	36.4	77.6	84.0	79.0	72.3	58.3	39.9	7.6	61.2
Sep-Nov 2003	27.4	73.5	84.6	78.9	73.0	59.0	39.3	7.7	60.2

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									
Sep-Nov 2001	53.3	133.9	283.9	246.4	208.6	72.8	41.9	28.4	1,069.1
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
Mar-May 2003	46.3	132.1	294.9	248.5	210.6	77.6	43.8	26.8	1,080.6
Jun-Aug 2003	61.8	143.6	297.2	248.2	211.7	77.9	43.7	26.4	1,110.4
Sep-Nov 2003	47.0	140.2	302.5	250.3	213.1	79.7	44.6	27.1	1,104.5
Females									
Sep-Nov 2001	38.5	119.9	233.5	175.8	131.7	34.9	15.5	6.5	756.5
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
Mar-May 2003	34.0	115.3	239.4	181.9	139.0	41.9	19.4	8.2	779.1
Jun-Aug 2003	49.8	128.2	241.7	181.2	138.4	42.6	19.9	7.5	809.2
Sep-Nov 2003	36.6	122.8	247.0	179.5	142.0	43.8	18.8	6.9	797.3
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2001	91.8	253.8	517.4	422.3	340.3	107.7	57.4	34.9	1,825.5
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
Mar-May 2003	80.3	247.4	534.3	430.4	349.6	119.5	63.2	35.0	1,859.7
Jun-Aug 2003	111.6	271.9	538.9	429.4	350.1	120.5	63.5	33.8	1,919.7
Sep-Nov 2003	83.6	262.9	549.5	429.8	355.1	123.5	63.4	34.0	1,901.8

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									
Sep-Nov 2001	48.0	124.0	271.7	239.3	201.1	70.9	41.0	28.2	1,024.2
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
Mar-May 2003	40.7	122.4	279.8	238.7	202.7	75.2	43.0	26.8	1,029.2
Jun-Aug 2003	52.9	131.1	280.6	238.0	203.7	75.6	43.0	26.2	1,051.1
Sep-Nov 2003	40.9	128.8	287.9	240.6	205.2	77.4	43.5	27.0	1,051.2
Females									
Sep-Nov 2001	34.7	112.6	226.3	170.9	128.3	34.2	15.3	6.5	728.7
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
Mar-May 2003	30.3	109.3	230.1	176.4	134.8	41.1	19.0	8.1	749.1
Jun-Aug 2003	42.7	117.1	230.9	175.8	134.7	41.7	19.4	7.4	769.6
Sep-Nov 2003	32.6	113.8	237.4	174.3	138.0	42.8	18.4	6.8	764.1
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2001	82.8	236.6	498.0	410.2	329.3	105.1	56.3	34.6	1,752.9
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
Mar-May 2003	71.0	231.7	509.9	415.1	337.5	116.4	62.0	34.8	1,778.3
Jun-Aug 2003	95.6	248.1	511.5	413.7	338.4	117.3	62.4	33.6	1,820.8
Sep-Nov 2003	73.5	242.6	525.3	414.9	343.2	120.2	61.9	33.8	1,815.3

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								
Sep-Nov 2001	29.0	71.8	89.3	90.7	84.9	73.9	54.4	75.8
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
Mar-May 2003	25.8	69.6	87.4	89.0	84.1	72.7	54.5	74.5
Jun-Aug 2003	33.8	75.0	87.0	88.4	84.3	72.4	54.0	76.0
Sep-Nov 2003	26.3	71.9	88.0	89.0	84.6	72.9	54.0	75.2
Females								
Sep-Nov 2001	22.0	65.3	74.9	62.9	54.2	36.4	20.3	55.1
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
Mar-May 2003	20.0	62.3	72.8	64.5	55.7	40.8	24.1	55.4
Jun-Aug 2003	28.4	66.7	72.4	64.1	55.5	40.8	24.4	56.7
Sep-Nov 2003	21.8	63.7	73.7	63.5	56.5	41.5	22.7	56.0
All persons								
Sep-Nov 2001	25.6	68.6	82.1	76.6	69.6	55.3	37.4	65.5
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
Mar-May 2003	23.0	65.9	80.2	76.6	69.9	56.9	39.3	65.0
Jun-Aug 2003	31.2	70.8	79.7	76.1	69.9	56.8	39.2	66.4
Sep-Nov 2003	24.1	67.8	80.9	76.2	70.5	57.4	38.3	65.6

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									
Sep-Nov 2001	5.2	9.8	12.2	7.1	7.5	1.9	0.9	*	44.9
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
Mar-May 2003	5.7	9.7	15.1	9.8	8.0	2.3	0.8	*	51.4
Jun-Aug 2003	8.9	12.6	16.6	10.2	7.9	2.3	0.7	*	59.3
Sep-Nov 2003	6.1	11.4	14.6	9.7	7.9	2.3	1.1	*	53.3
Females									
Sep-Nov 2001	3.8	7.3	7.2	5.0	3.4	0.7	*	*	27.7
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
Mar-May 2003	3.7	6.0	9.3	5.5	4.2	0.8	0.4	*	30.0
Jun-Aug 2003	7.1	11.2	10.8	5.4	3.7	0.9	0.5	*	39.6
Sep-Nov 2003	4.0	8.9	9.6	5.2	4.0	1.0	0.4	*	33.2
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2001	9.0	17.2	19.4	12.1	11.0	2.6	1.1	0.3	72.6
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
Mar-May 2003	9.3	15.7	24.4	15.4	12.1	3.1	1.2	*	81.4
Jun-Aug 2003	16.0	23.7	27.4	15.6	11.6	3.2	1.2	*	98.9
Sep-Nov 2003	10.1	20.3	24.2	14.9	11.9	3.3	1.5	*	86.5

* 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									
Sep-Nov 2001	9.8	7.4	4.3	2.9	3.6	2.6	2.1	*	4.2
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
Mar-May 2003	12.2	7.4	5.1	4.0	3.8	3.0	1.8	*	4.8
Jun-Aug 2003	14.3	8.7	5.6	4.1	3.7	2.9	1.6	*	5.3
Sep-Nov 2003	13.0	8.1	4.8	3.9	3.7	2.9	2.5	*	4.8
Females									
Sep-Nov 2001	9.8	6.1	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.0	*	*	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
Mar-May 2003	10.8	5.2	3.9	3.0	3.0	1.9	2.1	*	3.9
Jun-Aug 2003	14.3	8.7	4.5	3.0	2.7	2.0	2.3	*	4.9
Sep-Nov 2003	11.0	7.3	3.9	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.1	*	4.2
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2001	9.8	6.8	3.7	2.9	3.2	2.4	1.9	*	4.0
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
Mar-May 2003	11.6	6.3	4.6	3.6	3.5	2.6	1.9	*	4.4
Jun-Aug 2003	14.3	8.7	5.1	3.6	3.3	2.6	1.8	*	5.2
Sep-Nov 2003	12.1	7.7	4.4	3.5	3.4	2.7	2.4	*	4.5

Table 15 Labour force situation of married females classified by age group

	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	Age group 45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Total married women ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2001	0.5	6.0	122.5	203.8	183.8	72.2	53.0	89.8	731.5
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
Mar-May 2003	0.5	6.3	123.1	200.1	187.1	77.8	56.2	95.8	746.9
Jun-Aug 2003	0.3	5.4	127.4	202.7	188.1	77.7	57.8	97.3	756.8
Sep-Nov 2003	0.3	5.4	128.4	204.4	190.7	78.4	58.8	97.2	763.6
of which In labour force ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2001	*	2.9	81.1	124.2	97.3	25.3	9.7	3.0	343.4
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
Mar-May 2003	*	2.8	78.9	127.2	103.0	30.5	13.1	3.3	359.0
Jun-Aug 2003	*	2.3	81.8	127.5	103.8	31.0	13.4	3.0	363.0
Sep-Nov 2003	*	2.5	84.6	127.5	107.0	32.0	12.7	2.9	369.1
of which In employment ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2001	*	2.7	78.9	121.0	94.8	24.9	9.6	3.0	334.8
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
Mar-May 2003	*	2.5	76.4	123.7	100.3	30.1	13.0	3.2	349.4
Jun-Aug 2003	*	2.2	79.1	124.4	101.8	30.3	13.2	3.0	354.1
Sep-Nov 2003	*	2.1	82.3	124.3	104.3	31.4	12.5	2.9	359.8
Participation rates (%)									
Sep-Nov 2001	*	47.2	66.2	60.9	52.9	35.1	18.2	3.4	46.9
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
Mar-May 2003	*	43.7	64.1	63.6	55.1	39.2	23.4	3.5	48.1
Jun-Aug 2003	*	43.0	64.2	62.9	55.2	39.8	23.1	3.0	48.0
Sep-Nov 2003	*	46.0	65.8	62.4	56.1	40.8	21.6	3.0	48.3

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 16 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by labour force, employment, unemployment and long-term unemployment (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 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
Mar-May 2003	1,859.7	1,778.3	81.4	26.9	4.4	1.4
Jun-Aug 2003	1,919.7	1,820.8	98.9	26.7	5.2	1.4
Sep-Nov 2003	1,901.8	1,815.3	86.5	25.9	4.5	1.4

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

'000

Duration	Quarterly National Household Survey						
	Sep- Nov 01	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
Males							
Less than 1 year	27.7	35.5	32.8	34.3	31.4	38.7	33.7
1 year and over	17.1	17.0	18.8	19.4	19.7	20.0	19.4
Not stated	*	*	*	0.4	*	0.5	*
Total males	44.9	52.6	51.7	54.1	51.4	59.3	53.3
Females							
Less than 1 year	23.5	29.3	26.5	23.8	22.8	33.0	26.7
1 year and over	4.3	4.8	5.9	7.0	7.2	6.6	6.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	27.7	34.1	32.4	30.9	30.0	39.6	33.2
All persons							
Less than 1 year	51.2	64.7	59.3	58.1	54.2	71.7	60.4
1 year and over	21.3	21.8	24.7	26.4	26.9	26.7	25.9
Not stated	*	*	*	0.4	*	0.6	*
Total persons	72.6	86.7	84.1	84.9	81.4	98.9	86.5

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

'000

Duration	QNHS Sep-Nov 2002				QNHS Sep-Nov 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	13.1	14.8	5.0	32.8	13.3	14.2	6.2	33.7
1 year and over	3.9	9.2	5.7	18.8	4.1	10.1	5.2	19.4
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	17.0	23.9	10.7	51.7	17.5	24.4	11.5	53.3
Females								
Less than 1 year	10.3	11.9	4.4	26.5	11.3	11.5	3.9	26.7
1 year and over	1.8	2.6	1.5	5.9	1.7	3.2	1.6	6.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	12.0	14.5	5.9	32.4	12.9	14.8	5.5	33.2
All persons								
Less than 1 year	23.3	26.6	9.3	59.3	24.6	25.7	10.0	60.4
1 year and over	5.7	11.8	7.2	24.7	5.8	13.3	6.8	25.9
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	29.1	38.4	16.6	84.1	30.4	39.1	16.9	86.5

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 19 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by detailed ILO Economic Status

'000

ILO Economic Status	Quarterly National Household Survey								
	Sep- Nov 01	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03
In labour force	1,825.5	1,825.4	1,827.0	1,881.5	1,854.7	1,857.0	1,859.7	1,919.7	1,901.8
In employment:	1,752.9	1,745.5	1,749.9	1,794.8	1,770.7	1,772.0	1,778.3	1,820.8	1,815.3
full-time	1,465.7	1,450.8	1,460.2	1,504.0	1,479.1	1,473.5	1,476.3	1,513.5	1,513.6
part-time:	287.2	294.6	289.6	290.9	291.6	298.5	302.0	307.2	301.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	284.7	292.1	286.7	288.2	288.9	295.0	298.6	302.9	297.7
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	2.5	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.7	3.5	3.4	4.3	4.0
Unemployed:	72.6	80.0	77.2	86.7	84.1	84.9	81.4	98.9	86.5
seeking full-time work	59.7	67.5	65.5	73.7	69.1	71.4	68.5	83.2	71.3
seeking part-time work	12.9	12.4	11.7	12.9	15.0	13.5	12.9	15.7	15.2
Not in labour force	1,232.5	1,245.6	1,247.6	1,203.7	1,254.4	1,266.4	1,264.1	1,215.2	1,256.4
Marginally attached to the labour force:	11.6	12.2	11.1	12.7	12.1	12.7	12.1	14.6	10.8
Discouraged workers	9.2	9.3	7.3	9.3	9.1	9.4	9.1	11.3	8.1
Passive jobseekers	2.5	2.9	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.3	3.0	3.4	2.7
Others:	1,220.8	1,233.4	1,236.5	1,191.0	1,242.3	1,253.6	1,252.0	1,200.6	1,245.6
Persons not in education, who want work ¹	63.5	62.7	63.4	63.1	62.5	65.6	67.6	56.6	49.1
Persons in education, who want work ¹	38.8	38.9	47.3	29.3	35.4	41.4	46.7	26.2	28.2
All other persons	1,118.5	1,131.8	1,125.8	1,098.7	1,144.5	1,146.6	1,137.8	1,117.8	1,168.3
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,058.0	3,071.1	3,074.7	3,085.3	3,109.1	3,123.3	3,123.8	3,134.9	3,158.2

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

Quarter	S1	S2	S3
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
Mar-May 2003	4.8	8.3	8.5
Jun-Aug 2003	5.7	8.5	8.8
Sep-Nov 2003	5.0	7.5	7.7

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 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status¹**

'000

Principal Economic Status	Quarterly National Household Survey						
	Sep-Nov 01	Jun-Aug 02	Sep-Nov 02	Dec-Feb 03	Mar-May 03	Jun-Aug 03	Sep-Nov 03
Males							
At work	994.9	998.1	1,000.6	994.0	996.2	1,006.7	1,021.8
Unemployed	73.3	83.8	81.6	82.7	79.8	83.1	81.4
Student	174.6	171.3	179.0	184.3	185.2	170.3	174.5
Home duties	5.0	5.7	6.1	5.6	5.2	7.7	4.6
Retired	194.7	197.0	197.2	201.0	201.1	203.6	202.8
Others	60.5	62.9	66.7	69.9	69.8	70.4	69.6
Total males	1,502.9	1,518.7	1,531.2	1,537.5	1,537.3	1,541.7	1,554.6
Females							
At work	684.1	700.1	697.7	702.3	705.5	717.1	720.7
Unemployed	36.3	41.6	36.2	34.1	32.9	38.9	36.2
Student	196.8	181.7	196.1	202.0	203.8	185.0	195.1
Home duties	545.9	546.1	551.6	550.0	546.6	548.9	549.6
Retired	60.6	65.0	63.5	65.0	64.7	67.7	67.0
Others	31.4	32.0	32.8	32.4	33.1	35.6	34.9
Total females	1,555.1	1,566.5	1,577.9	1,585.9	1,586.5	1,593.2	1,603.6
All persons							
At work	1,679.0	1,698.2	1,698.3	1,696.3	1,701.6	1,723.8	1,742.5
Unemployed	109.6	125.4	117.8	116.9	112.7	122.0	117.6
Student	371.4	353.0	375.1	386.2	389.0	355.3	369.6
Home duties	550.9	551.8	557.7	555.6	551.7	556.6	554.2
Retired	255.3	262.0	260.7	265.9	265.8	271.3	269.8
Others	91.9	94.9	99.5	102.4	102.9	105.9	104.5
Total persons	3,058.0	3,085.3	3,109.1	3,123.3	3,123.8	3,134.9	3,158.2

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, September-November 2003

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,018.6	2.5	25.5	*	3.0	1.5	1,051.2
full-time	978.8	1.4	3.8	*	0.3	1.1	985.4
part-time:	39.8	1.0	21.8	*	2.6	0.5	65.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	38.2	0.7	21.7	*	2.6	0.5	63.8
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.6	0.3	*	*	*	*	2.0
Unemployed:	0.6	47.8	2.8	*	0.6	1.4	53.3
seeking full-time work	0.6	46.5	0.6	*	0.4	1.3	49.5
seeking part-time work	*	1.2	2.2	*	*	*	3.8
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.1	5.1	*	*	*	0.3	6.9
Others	1.6	26.0	146.0	4.3	199.0	66.3	443.2
Total males aged 15 or over	1,021.8	81.4	174.5	4.6	202.8	69.6	1,554.6
Females							
In employment:	716.4	1.9	34.0	9.3	0.4	2.2	764.1
full-time	520.2	0.8	3.9	1.7	*	1.5	528.2
part-time:	196.1	1.1	30.1	7.6	0.3	0.7	236.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	194.7	0.6	30.1	7.6	0.3	0.7	233.9
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.4	0.6	*	*	*	*	2.0
Unemployed:	0.6	19.9	2.9	9.3	*	0.3	33.2
seeking full-time work	0.5	16.5	0.9	3.6	*	*	21.8
seeking part-time work	*	3.4	2.0	5.7	*	*	11.4
Marginally attached to the labour force	0.9	1.3	0.4	1.0	*	0.3	3.9
Others	2.8	13.1	157.9	530.0	66.5	32.1	802.3
Total females aged 15 or over	720.7	36.2	195.1	549.6	67.0	34.9	1,603.6
All persons							
In employment:	1,735.0	4.4	59.5	9.4	3.3	3.7	1,815.3
full-time	1,499.0	2.2	7.7	1.7	0.4	2.6	1,513.6
part-time:	236.0	2.1	51.8	7.7	3.0	1.1	301.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	232.9	1.3	51.8	7.6	3.0	1.1	297.7
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	3.0	0.9	*	*	*	*	4.0
Unemployed:	1.2	67.6	5.7	9.4	0.8	1.7	86.5
seeking full-time work	1.1	63.1	1.5	3.6	0.4	1.6	71.3
seeking part-time work	*	4.6	4.2	5.8	0.4	*	15.2
Marginally attached to the labour force	2.0	6.4	0.6	1.0	*	0.6	10.8
Others	4.4	39.1	303.9	534.3	265.5	98.4	1,245.6
Total persons aged 15 or over	1,742.5	117.6	369.6	554.2	269.8	104.5	3,158.2

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 23 Estimated *adult*¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, September-November 2003

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	85.2	79.1	164.3	2.1	2.1	4.1	4.6	9.2	13.8	91.9	90.4	182.3
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	60.6	42.0	102.5	2.5	1.0	3.5	44.3	64.6	109.0	107.4	107.6	215.0
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	8.0	2.0	10.0	*	*	*	65.9	70.7	136.7	74.1	72.7	146.8
Total	153.8	123.1	276.9	4.7	3.1	7.8	114.9	144.5	259.5	273.4	270.7	544.1
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	156.5	95.0	251.5	5.4	3.5	8.9	10.6	70.4	81.0	172.5	168.9	341.4
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	10.3	4.8	15.1	0.6	*	0.7	1.3	7.0	8.3	12.2	11.9	24.1
All children aged 5 to 14	66.1	40.8	106.9	1.7	1.4	3.2	3.1	26.7	29.9	70.9	69.0	139.9
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	108.7	66.0	174.7	3.9	1.7	5.5	9.6	52.1	61.7	122.2	119.7	241.9
All children aged 15 or over	132.3	82.3	214.7	3.0	1.6	4.7	49.7	100.3	150.0	185.0	184.3	369.3
Total	473.9	289.1	762.9	14.7	8.4	23.0	74.3	256.5	330.8	562.8	553.9	1,116.7
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.2	17.3	18.5	*	2.5	2.7	*	21.9	22.1	1.5	41.7	43.3
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	0.7	0.9	*	*	*	*	1.8	1.8	*	2.7	2.9
All children aged 5 to 14	0.8	13.0	13.8	*	1.6	1.7	0.3	6.4	6.7	1.2	21.0	22.2
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.3	14.0	16.3	*	0.9	0.9	1.0	8.0	9.0	3.4	22.9	26.2
All children aged 15 or over	6.7	20.1	26.9	0.3	0.9	1.2	9.3	46.4	55.7	16.3	67.5	83.7
Total	11.3	65.1	76.3	0.6	6.0	6.6	10.8	84.6	95.4	22.6	155.7	178.3
Total	638.9	477.2	1,116.1	19.9	17.5	37.5	200.0	485.6	685.6	858.8	980.3	1,839.2

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 classified by ILO Economic Status for persons aged 15 or over in EU member states and Accession states

	Q2/2002					Q2/2003				
	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)	176,169	162,813	13,355	56.4	7.6	178,253	164,615	13,637	56.5	7.7
EU 15 + ACC ¹	210,085	191,720	18,364	56.3	8.7	211,991	193,504	18,487	56.4	8.7
Eurozone ²	138,894	127,386	11,507	54.9	8.3	140,705	128,922	11,783	55.1	8.4
Austria	3,923	3,781	142	58.9	3.6	3,923	3,781	142	58.9	3.6
Belgium	4,353	4,052	301	51.2	6.9	4,392	4,055	337	51.4	7.7
Denmark	2,863	2,741	122	65.6	4.3	2,859	2,704	154	65.5	5.4
Finland	2,686	2,406	280	63.2	10.4	2,681	2,401	281	62.8	10.5
France ³	25,909	23,678	2,231	55.5	8.6	26,823	24,513	2,310	55.2	8.6
Germany	39,637	36,275	3,362	57.3	8.5	39,637	36,275	3,362	57.3	8.5
Greece	4,369	3,949	420	48.7	9.6	4,407	4,015	392	48.6	8.9
Ireland	1,827	1,750	77	59.4	4.2	1,860	1,778	81	59.5	4.4
Italy	23,963	21,757	2,206	48.8	9.2	24,203	22,057	2,146	49.3	8.9
Luxembourg	193	188	5	54.7	2.6	193	188	5	54.7	2.6
Netherlands	8,391	8,176	214	64.9	2.6	8,432	8,126	306	64.7	3.6
Portugal	5,376	5,133	243	61.8	4.5	5,403	5,067	336	61.7	6.2
Spain	18,267	16,241	2,026	53.1	11.1	18,751	16,666	2,085	54.1	11.1
Sweden	4,575	4,348	227	62.7	5.0	4,608	4,352	256	62.8	5.6
United Kingdom	29,837	28,338	1,499	62.4	5.0	30,081	28,637	1,444	62.5	4.8
Accession states										
Czech Republic	5,090	4,733	357	59.5	7.0	5,087	4,703	384	59.2	7.5
Estonia	642	581	61	57.2	9.5	660	589	71	58.7	10.8
Cyprus	326	315	11	61.9	3.4	341	327	14	63.1	4.1
Latvia	1,138	987	151	58.3	13.3	1,122	1,004	119	57.3	10.6
Lithuania	1,633	1,421	212	58.4	13.0	1,690	1,473	218	60.2	12.9
Hungary	4,097	3,846	230	49.6	5.6	4,165	3,924	241	49.7	5.8
Malta	160	149	11	50.3	6.9	161	149	12	50.3	7.5
Poland	17,253	13,820	3,432	55.7	19.9	16,938	13,657	3,281	54.6	19.4
Slovenia	980	922	58	58.1	5.9	959	896	62	56.5	6.5
Slovakia	2,597	2,111	486	59.7	18.7	2,615	2,167	448	60.1	17.1

Source: Eurostat.

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

Note: Table contains revised data.

¹ (European Union + 10 acceding states), ² Eurozone does not include Denmark, Sweden and United Kingdom,

³ Data for France for Q2 2002 is unchanged from Q2 2001 as updated detail is not available at present,

⁴ Data for Germany, Luxembourg and Austria for Q2 2003 is unchanged from Q2 2002 as updated detail is not available at present.

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 within the next two weeks, 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, Midland and Western NUTS2 Region

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

Southern and Eastern 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