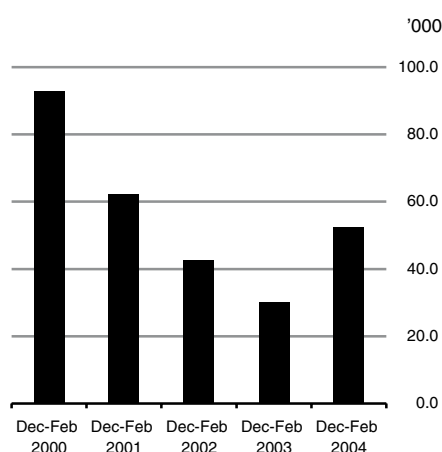


## Quarterly National Household Survey First Quarter 2004

**Annual Increase in Employment in the  
First Quarters 2000 to 2004**



**ILO Labour Force**

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
<b>Dec-Feb 2003</b>	1,783.6	85.2	1,868.7
<b>Mar-May 2003</b>	1,793.4	82.1	1,875.5
<b>Jun-Aug 2003</b>	1,836.4	98.8	1,935.3
<b>Sep-Nov 2003</b>	1,828.9	85.9	1,914.8
<b>Dec-Feb 2004</b>	1,835.9	83.6	1,919.5
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+7.0</i>	<i>-2.3</i>	<i>+4.7</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+52.3</i>	<i>-1.6</i>	<i>+50.8</i>

### Employment growth maintained in first quarter of 2004

There were 1,835,900 persons in employment in the first quarter of 2004, an increase of 52,300 or 2.9% in the year. This compares with an annual increase of 2.6% in the previous quarter and 1.7% in the corresponding quarter of 2003. Increases in the numbers in full-time employment accounted for just over 85% of the annual change. *See table 1.*

The new employment figure reflects a seasonal increase of 7,000 in the quarter, which compares to an increase of 1,300 in the same quarter last year. Falls of 6,400 and 1,700 were recorded in the first quarters of 2002 and 2001 respectively. *See table 1.*

In the first quarter of 2004, there were 83,600 persons unemployed, a quarterly decrease of 2,300 and an annual decrease of 1,600. This is the first annual decrease in the numbers unemployed since the second quarter of 2001. When seasonal factors are taken into account there was a quarterly decrease of 1,800 in the number of persons unemployed. *See tables 1 & 3.*

Overall, the labour force increased by 50,800 to 1,919,500 in the year to the first quarter. This accounted for 60.1% of all persons aged 15 and over compared with 59.5% in the first quarter of 2003. Female participation rates increased from 48.8% to 49.5% in the year to the first quarter of 2004 with male participation rates also showing an increase from 70.6% to 71.1% over the same period. *See table 1.*

A revised QNHS series based on the results of the 2002 Census of Population is being issued today in conjunction with this release. Details of the revisions are presented in a separate release entitled "Revised Series Post 2002 Census of Population". A full set of revised time series is also available on our website at [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) under the link for the Quarterly National Household Survey.

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The latest available figures for all 25 EU member states, which are for the second quarter of 2003, show that between the second quarters of 2002 and 2003 Ireland's employment level grew by 1.7% and its labour force by 1.9%. This compares with corresponding growth rates of 0.9% and 1.3% for the EU-15 and of 0.7 % and 1.0% for the EU-25. *See table 24.*

## Construction sector shows largest employment growth

The largest employment growth on a sectoral basis was recorded in the *Construction* sector showing an increase of 13,500 in the year to the first quarter of 2004. Employment grew in all other sectors with the exception of *Other production industries* (-8,400) and a small decline in *Public administration and defence* (-300). Strong growth was also recorded in *Wholesale and retail trade* (+10,100), *Other services* (+10,100), *Health* (+9,400) and *Financial and other business services* (+8,300). For males the largest growth area was *Construction* (+13,200) and for females it was *Health* (+7,600). *See table 2b.*

All occupational categories increased in the year with the exception of *Plant and machine operatives*, which decreased by 14,200. The largest increases were for *Other* (+20,100) and for *Managers and administrators* (+11,700). *See table 4.*

The number of self employed persons with employees increased slightly to 101,600 in the year and the number without employees decreased slightly to 195,600. *See table 6.*

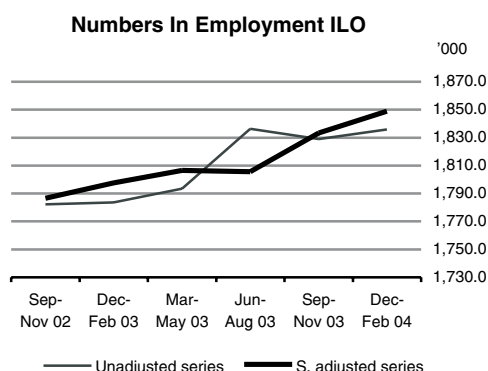
There were 1,524,300 employees in the first quarter of 2004, an annual increase of 54,900. This comprised an increase of 27,200 males and 27,600 females. The number of persons assisting relatives decreased by 2,600 in the year to 14,500. All of the decrease (-2,600) was for females. *See table 6.*

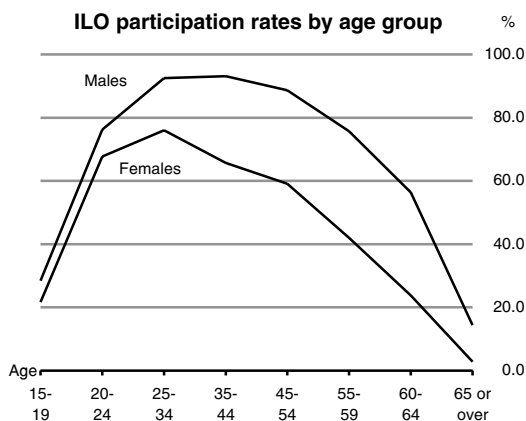
## Males account for most of growth in full-time employment

Full time employment increased by 44,700 in the year to 1,527,100. Almost two thirds of the increase (29,300) was for males, bringing the number of males in full-time employment to 997,000. There were 530,200 females in full-time employment, an increase of 15,400 in the year. *See table 1.*

The numbers in part-time employment grew by 7,700 in the year to 308,800. This comprised an increase of 8,400 females combined with a small decrease of 800 in the number of males. The vast majority of persons in part-time employment indicate that they are satisfied with their situation and are not, therefore, classified as underemployed. *See table 1.*

In the first quarter of 2004, the average working week was 37.1 hours, a slight decrease over the year when the average working week was 37.2 hours. For males the average working week was 41.3 hours, unchanged from one year previously and for females it was 32.0 hours a decrease of 0.2 hours in the year. *See table 5.*





## Labour force growth

The annual increase in the labour force of 50,800 comprised an increase of 27,000 males and 23,800 females. Labour force growth was largest for both males and females in the 25-34 and 45-54 year age categories. *See tables 1 & 10.*

Demographic factors, such as the increase in the population of working age and changes in its age structure, added an estimated 36,400 to the labour force over the year, with the balance of 14,400 being due to changes in labour force participation rates. The most significant increases in participation over the year were recorded for those aged 45-54 (72.2% to 73.9%) and those aged 20-24 (70.6% to 72%). Participation rates for married females over the year also showed an increase from 48.0% to 48.8% and reflected an increase of 16,000 in the number of married females in the labour force. *See tables 9 & 15.*

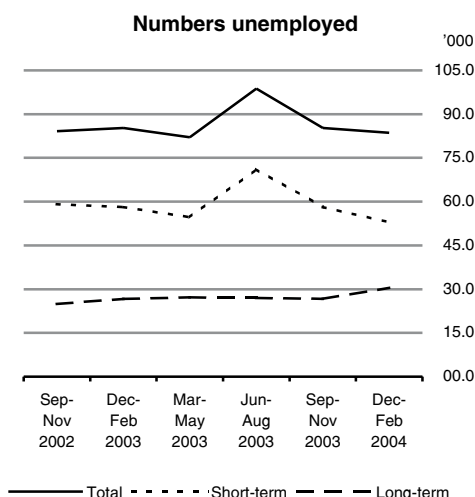
The number of persons outside the labour force who expressed some interest in obtaining work decreased by 21,800 in the year. On the basis of this decrease, the broadest survey-based labour supply indicator, S3, which includes persons outside the labour force who show some interest in obtaining work as well as the unemployed, decreased from 8.3% in the first quarter of 2003 to 7.8% in the first quarter of 2004. *See tables 1, 19 & 20.*

## Moderate decrease in numbers unemployed

There were 52,600 males and 31,000 females unemployed in the first quarter of 2004 representing an overall decrease of 1,600 persons in the year. All of the overall decrease was accounted for by males. The largest annual decrease in the numbers unemployed was concentrated in the 15-19 year age group where the numbers decreased by 2,000 to 8,000. This was partially offset by slight increases in the number of unemployed persons in the 20-24, 35-44 and 60-64 year age categories. *See tables 1 & 13.*

The unemployment rate fell from 4.6% to 4.4% in the year. The male unemployment rate was 4.7% and the female unemployment rate was 3.9%. Seasonally adjusted, the male and female unemployment rates stood at 4.7% and 4.0% respectively. *See tables 1 & 3.*

Long-term unemployment increased over the year by 3,800 with short-term unemployment decreasing by 5,200 over the same period. The increase in long-term unemployment was evident in all age groups but concentrated primarily in the 25-44 year age category. The long-term unemployment rate rose from 1.4% to 1.6% in the year to the first quarter. *See tables 16, 17 & 18.*



## Regional comparisons

In absolute terms annual employment growth was evenly divided between the two NUTS2 regions with the Border, Midland and Western region showing an increase of 26,000 (5.8%) and the Southern and Eastern region showing an increase of 26,300 (2.0%) in the year to the first quarter of 2004. Despite an overall annual decrease in the numbers unemployed, there was an increase of 1,300 in the numbers unemployed in the Southern and Eastern region. *See table 7a.*

At NUTS3 level the numbers in employment increased in all regions during the year. The largest increases were in the South-West (+12,200), the Border (+12,000) and the West (+8,000) regions. Unemployment decreased in four regions, remained unchanged in the Midlands, increased by 1,500 in the Mid-West and increased slightly in the Dublin and Mid-East regions. The unemployment rate was lowest in the Mid-East region (3.1%) and highest in the Border region (5.4%). *See table 7b.*

## Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as “at work” grew by 57,500 in the year to 1,766,800. This comprised an increase of 32,900 males and 24,700 females. This compares to an increase of 30,000 in the year to the first quarter of 2003. The numbers describing themselves as “unemployed” decreased by 2,900 in the year to 114,300. *See table 21.*

The numbers classified as “on home duties” decreased by 5,700 to 557,800 in the year with most of the decrease attributable to females (-4,400). *See table 21.*

The number of students decreased by 5,000 in the year to 373,600. This comprised a decrease of 3,800 male students and a decrease of 1,200 female students. In the first quarter, 15.4% of students had a job, unchanged from the figure reported one year previously. *See table 22.*

## Tables

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Dec- Feb 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,073.0</b>	<b>1,092.4</b>	<b>1,091.4</b>	<b>1,092.7</b>	<b>1,123.0</b>	<b>1,114.5</b>	<b>1,118.4</b>
In employment:	1,023.3	1,040.5	1,037.3	1,040.9	1,063.6	1,061.1	1,065.8
full-time	953.1	975.2	967.7	971.1	991.1	994.9	997.0
part-time:	70.3	65.3	69.6	69.8	72.5	66.3	68.8
of which: <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> <sup>1</sup>	68.9	64.0	67.7	68.1	70.4	64.3	66.9
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> <sup>1</sup>	1.4	1.3	1.9	1.7	2.1	2.0	1.9
Unemployed:	49.6	51.9	54.2	51.7	59.4	53.3	52.6
seeking full-time work	47.4	49.4	51.1	48.7	55.0	49.6	50.1
seeking part-time work	2.3	2.4	3.0	3.0	4.4	3.7	2.5
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>441.2</b>	<b>447.2</b>	<b>455.0</b>	<b>457.1</b>	<b>433.4</b>	<b>452.1</b>	<b>454.1</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	7.8	7.7	8.1	8.2	8.6	7.0	7.8
Others	433.4	439.4	446.9	448.9	424.8	445.1	446.2
<b>Total males aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,514.2</b>	<b>1,539.6</b>	<b>1,546.4</b>	<b>1,549.8</b>	<b>1,556.4</b>	<b>1,566.6</b>	<b>1,572.4</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>70.6</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>71.1</b>
<b>Females</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>759.7</b>	<b>773.9</b>	<b>777.3</b>	<b>782.8</b>	<b>812.3</b>	<b>800.3</b>	<b>801.1</b>
In employment:	730.1	741.7	746.3	752.5	772.8	767.8	770.1
full-time	504.9	512.3	514.8	517.0	534.6	529.2	530.2
part-time:	225.2	229.5	231.6	235.4	238.2	238.6	240.0
of which: <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> <sup>1</sup>	224.1	228.2	230.0	233.7	236.0	236.6	238.1
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> <sup>1</sup>	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.3	2.0	1.9
Unemployed:	29.6	32.2	31.0	30.4	39.4	32.6	31.0
seeking full-time work	19.4	19.6	20.5	20.2	27.9	21.3	20.7
seeking part-time work	10.2	12.6	10.5	10.1	11.5	11.2	10.3
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>799.5</b>	<b>811.0</b>	<b>815.2</b>	<b>812.5</b>	<b>790.5</b>	<b>813.0</b>	<b>818.5</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.5	4.5	4.6	3.9	6.0	3.9	4.4
Others	795.0	806.5	810.5	808.6	784.5	809.1	814.1
<b>Total females aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,559.2</b>	<b>1,584.9</b>	<b>1,592.5</b>	<b>1,595.3</b>	<b>1,602.8</b>	<b>1,613.4</b>	<b>1,619.6</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>49.1</b>	<b>50.7</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>49.5</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,832.7</b>	<b>1,866.3</b>	<b>1,868.7</b>	<b>1,875.5</b>	<b>1,935.3</b>	<b>1,914.8</b>	<b>1,919.5</b>
In employment:	1,753.5	1,782.3	1,783.6	1,793.4	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9
full-time	1,458.0	1,487.5	1,482.4	1,488.2	1,525.7	1,524.1	1,527.1
part-time:	295.5	294.8	301.1	305.2	310.7	304.8	308.8
of which: <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> <sup>1</sup>	292.9	292.2	297.7	301.7	306.4	300.9	305.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> <sup>1</sup>	2.6	2.6	3.4	3.5	4.3	3.9	3.8
Unemployed:	79.2	84.1	85.2	82.1	98.8	85.9	83.6
seeking full-time work	66.8	69.0	71.6	69.0	82.9	70.9	70.8
seeking part-time work	12.5	15.0	13.5	13.1	15.9	15.0	12.8
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>1,240.8</b>	<b>1,258.1</b>	<b>1,270.1</b>	<b>1,269.6</b>	<b>1,223.9</b>	<b>1,265.1</b>	<b>1,272.5</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	12.3	12.2	12.7	12.1	14.6	10.9	12.2
Others	1,228.5	1,245.9	1,257.4	1,257.5	1,209.3	1,254.2	1,260.3
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>3,073.4</b>	<b>3,124.5</b>	<b>3,138.9</b>	<b>3,145.1</b>	<b>3,159.2</b>	<b>3,179.9</b>	<b>3,192.0</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>61.3</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>60.1</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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)	Dec- Feb 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
A-B Agriculture	112.2	110.6	104.9	102.9	107.1	111.3	107.6
C-F Industry	393.0	398.6	397.7	399.2	405.6	401.5	404.7
G-O Services	518.2	531.3	534.7	538.9	550.8	548.3	553.4
<b>Females</b>							
A-B Agriculture	12.5	12.5	12.5	13.7	14.3	12.1	11.3
C-F Industry	102.6	97.7	96.9	98.3	102.2	96.4	95.1
G-O Services	615.0	631.5	636.9	640.4	656.3	659.2	663.8
<b>All persons</b>							
A-B Agriculture	124.7	123.1	117.4	116.6	121.4	123.4	118.9
C-F Industry	495.6	496.3	494.6	497.5	507.8	498.0	499.8
G-O Services	1,133.2	1,162.9	1,171.6	1,179.3	1,207.2	1,207.6	1,217.2
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>1,753.5</b>	<b>1,782.3</b>	<b>1,783.6</b>	<b>1,793.4</b>	<b>1,836.4</b>	<b>1,828.9</b>	<b>1,835.9</b>

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

'000

Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Dec- Feb 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	112.2	110.6	104.9	102.9	107.1	111.3	107.6
C-E Other production industries	218.3	216.8	218.0	217.3	215.7	209.7	211.8
F Construction	174.7	181.8	179.7	181.9	189.9	191.8	192.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	127.8	128.9	129.2	127.7	131.5	130.5	133.2
H Hotels and restaurants	45.3	45.6	46.5	48.4	51.9	49.1	49.7
I Transport, storage and communication	81.5	84.9	83.8	85.0	84.2	84.4	84.7
J-K Financial and other business services	111.4	113.6	114.4	116.2	117.3	116.8	116.4
L Public administration and defence	44.5	47.9	50.1	51.3	53.3	50.4	48.7
M Education	33.5	34.4	35.2	34.6	34.5	34.9	34.6
N Health	29.7	32.8	32.9	33.7	33.5	34.8	34.6
O Other services	44.4	43.3	42.7	42.0	44.6	47.4	51.6
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,023.3</b>	<b>1,040.5</b>	<b>1,037.3</b>	<b>1,040.9</b>	<b>1,063.6</b>	<b>1,061.1</b>	<b>1,065.8</b>
<b>Females</b>							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.5	12.5	12.5	13.7	14.3	12.1	11.3
C-E Other production industries	93.5	88.2	87.7	88.9	92.0	87.6	85.6
F Construction	9.1	9.5	9.2	9.4	10.2	8.8	9.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	121.1	122.7	124.0	124.0	129.5	125.9	130.2
H Hotels and restaurants	62.1	65.9	63.6	66.0	71.7	66.3	63.4
I Transport, storage and communication	28.7	28.4	28.1	27.0	28.6	30.2	28.7
J-K Financial and other business services	113.9	110.9	111.7	110.9	113.3	114.4	118.0
L Public administration and defence	38.6	40.4	40.2	41.0	40.5	40.2	41.2
M Education	74.4	77.9	80.7	81.4	75.6	83.2	84.9
N Health	125.3	130.4	135.0	136.2	140.3	141.0	142.6
O Other services	51.0	55.0	53.6	53.7	56.7	57.9	54.8
<b>Total females</b>	<b>730.1</b>	<b>741.7</b>	<b>746.3</b>	<b>752.5</b>	<b>772.8</b>	<b>767.8</b>	<b>770.1</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	124.7	123.1	117.4	116.6	121.4	123.4	118.9
C-E Other production industries	311.8	305.0	305.8	306.1	307.7	297.3	297.4
F Construction	183.8	191.3	188.8	191.4	200.1	200.6	202.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	248.9	251.5	253.3	251.6	261.0	256.5	263.4
H Hotels and restaurants	107.4	111.5	110.0	114.4	123.7	115.4	113.1
I Transport, storage and communication	110.2	113.3	111.9	112.1	112.8	114.6	113.4
J-K Financial and other business services	225.3	224.5	226.1	227.1	230.6	231.3	234.4
L Public administration and defence	83.1	88.3	90.2	92.4	93.8	90.6	89.9
M Education	107.9	112.3	115.9	116.1	110.1	118.1	119.4
N Health	155.0	163.2	167.8	169.9	173.8	175.8	177.2
O Other services	95.3	98.3	96.3	95.7	101.3	105.3	106.4
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>1,753.5</b>	<b>1,782.3</b>	<b>1,783.6</b>	<b>1,793.4</b>	<b>1,836.4</b>	<b>1,828.9</b>	<b>1,835.9</b>

**Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Series<sup>1</sup> of persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, ILO economic status and NACE Economic Sector**

<sup>1</sup> 000

	Dec- Feb 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,081.8</b>	<b>1,094.1</b>	<b>1,099.4</b>	<b>1,101.9</b>	<b>1,104.5</b>	<b>1,116.2</b>	<b>1,125.8</b>
<b>In employment :</b>	<b>1,031.8</b>	<b>1,041.3</b>	<b>1,045.1</b>	<b>1,048.4</b>	<b>1,047.8</b>	<b>1,061.9</b>	<b>1,073.2</b>
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	113.5	108.8	106.1	105.0	105.6	109.3	108.9
C-E Other production industries	219.7	218.2	219.1	219.2	211.4	211.3	212.6
F Construction	175.9	180.7	180.8	184.3	187.4	190.6	194.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	127.9	129.7	129.2	129.2	129.3	131.3	133.0
H Hotels and restaurants	46.2	46.3	47.3	48.8	49.7	49.9	50.7
I Transport, storage and communication	81.9	84.7	84.3	85.5	83.5	84.2	85.2
J-K Financial and other business services	112.8	114.3	115.7	115.5	116.2	117.4	117.6
L Public administration and defence	45.1	48.6	50.9	51.1	51.9	51.2	49.5
M Education	33.4	34.3	35.1	34.6	34.7	34.8	34.5
N Health	29.9	32.2	33.1	33.6	34.1	34.2	34.8
O Other services	44.8	43.4	42.9	42.2	44.2	47.5	51.6
<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>52.9</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>71.5</b>	<b>71.2</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>70.8</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>71.7</b>
<b>Females</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>767.7</b>	<b>777.4</b>	<b>784.4</b>	<b>790.4</b>	<b>794.3</b>	<b>804.0</b>	<b>807.7</b>
<b>In employment :</b>	<b>737.2</b>	<b>744.9</b>	<b>752.6</b>	<b>757.7</b>	<b>758.4</b>	<b>771.0</b>	<b>776.0</b>
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.8	12.8	13.0	13.5	13.5	12.5	11.8
C-E Other production industries	94.7	88.3	89.0	90.2	89.3	87.7	87.0
F Construction	9.2	9.4	9.3	9.7	9.9	8.8	9.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	121.4	124.7	124.1	125.6	125.9	127.9	130.2
H Hotels and restaurants	65.0	66.2	66.5	68.1	66.5	66.4	66.4
I Transport, storage and communication	29.0	28.4	28.5	27.3	28.1	30.2	29.0
J-K Financial and other business services	114.7	111.3	112.2	111.8	111.6	115.0	118.2
L Public administration and defence	39.4	40.8	40.9	40.5	39.9	40.8	41.9
M Education	73.1	77.3	79.3	79.7	79.4	82.6	83.2
N Health	125.6	131.0	135.0	136.1	139.8	141.8	142.5
O Other services	52.1	54.4	54.9	54.6	55.3	57.1	56.1
<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>32.4</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>49.1</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>50.0</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,849.7</b>	<b>1,872.0</b>	<b>1,884.3</b>	<b>1,893.1</b>	<b>1,897.0</b>	<b>1,920.7</b>	<b>1,934.1</b>
<b>In employment :</b>	<b>1,769.1</b>	<b>1,786.5</b>	<b>1,797.6</b>	<b>1,806.6</b>	<b>1,805.6</b>	<b>1,833.4</b>	<b>1,848.9</b>
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	126.3	121.6	119.0	118.6	119.3	121.7	120.6
C-E Other production industries	314.2	306.6	307.9	310.1	300.1	299.1	299.4
F Construction	185.1	190.3	190.2	193.8	197.3	199.5	203.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	249.7	254.4	253.6	254.7	255.0	259.3	263.4
H Hotels and restaurants	111.3	112.4	114.0	117.0	116.3	116.2	117.2
I Transport, storage and communication	111.1	113.1	112.9	113.0	111.3	114.3	114.4
J-K Financial and other business services	227.2	225.5	227.6	227.7	227.7	232.3	235.7
L Public administration and defence	84.5	89.3	91.7	91.8	91.6	91.9	91.3
M Education	106.3	111.4	114.2	114.4	114.6	117.1	117.5
N Health	155.8	163.1	168.2	169.7	173.7	176.0	177.2
O Other services	96.8	97.7	97.5	97.0	99.6	104.6	107.5
<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>85.5</b>	<b>87.1</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>90.7</b>	<b>87.3</b>	<b>85.5</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>60.6</b>

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes



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

'000

Broad occupational group	Dec- Feb 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
1. Managers and administrators	230.0	228.6	222.6	224.3	219.6	222.4	230.2
2. Professional	96.2	100.5	106.5	107.5	104.6	110.2	109.0
3. Associate professional and technical	65.9	66.3	67.9	70.2	71.7	72.4	72.1
4. Clerical and secretarial	50.3	51.8	52.0	51.0	53.1	52.3	50.9
5. Craft and related	217.1	226.5	227.6	228.4	234.0	232.3	232.4
6. Personal and protective service	71.6	73.2	73.1	73.7	77.4	73.7	74.9
7. Sales	54.9	55.3	55.5	54.6	59.0	57.6	58.8
8. Plant and machine operatives	146.2	143.3	139.9	138.0	135.9	135.1	131.6
9. Other	91.2	94.9	92.1	93.3	108.1	105.1	105.8
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,023.3</b>	<b>1,040.5</b>	<b>1,037.3</b>	<b>1,040.9</b>	<b>1,063.6</b>	<b>1,061.1</b>	<b>1,065.8</b>
<b>Females</b>							
1. Managers and administrators	86.5	88.9	89.3	92.6	90.7	86.5	93.5
2. Professional	85.8	90.7	93.6	93.3	90.2	95.3	99.6
3. Associate professional and technical	87.6	93.2	91.9	94.7	95.3	96.1	93.4
4. Clerical and secretarial	169.0	168.1	166.4	165.9	168.6	169.7	168.0
5. Craft and related	12.5	13.5	14.1	13.6	14.5	13.2	11.9
6. Personal and protective service	97.6	103.9	107.2	109.9	117.6	115.2	114.3
7. Sales	90.2	90.4	90.9	91.6	95.7	93.9	96.0
8. Plant and machine operatives	43.5	36.5	36.2	35.7	34.9	33.3	30.2
9. Other	57.4	56.5	56.7	55.0	65.3	64.6	63.2
<b>Total females</b>	<b>730.1</b>	<b>741.7</b>	<b>746.3</b>	<b>752.5</b>	<b>772.8</b>	<b>767.8</b>	<b>770.1</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
1. Managers and administrators	316.5	317.5	312.0	316.9	310.3	308.9	323.7
2. Professional	182.0	191.2	200.1	200.8	194.8	205.5	208.5
3. Associate professional and technical	153.5	159.6	159.8	164.9	167.0	168.5	165.6
4. Clerical and secretarial	219.2	219.9	218.4	216.9	221.8	222.0	218.9
5. Craft and related	229.6	240.0	241.7	242.1	248.5	245.5	244.3
6. Personal and protective service	169.2	177.2	180.3	183.6	195.1	188.9	189.3
7. Sales	145.1	145.7	146.3	146.2	154.7	151.5	154.9
8. Plant and machine operatives	189.7	179.8	176.0	173.7	170.8	168.4	161.8
9. Other	148.6	151.4	148.8	148.3	173.4	169.7	168.9
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>1,753.5</b>	<b>1,782.3</b>	<b>1,783.6</b>	<b>1,793.4</b>	<b>1,836.4</b>	<b>1,828.9</b>	<b>1,835.9</b>

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

	'000						
Usual hours per week	Dec- Feb 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
1-9 hours	7.3	6.9	8.4	8.6	4.7	7.4	8.8
10-19	18.7	18.0	20.9	19.4	16.2	18.3	19.4
20-29	35.5	36.1	36.1	37.1	42.3	35.5	36.4
30-34	19.3	17.7	17.1	16.3	20.6	17.5	17.3
35-39	334.0	360.1	361.9	366.8	379.9	371.2	370.3
40-44	236.4	234.5	230.2	229.3	242.4	245.7	250.1
45 & over	207.0	202.3	195.7	193.6	201.1	208.5	202.3
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	165.1	165.0	167.0	169.9	156.4	157.0	161.2
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,023.3</b>	<b>1,040.5</b>	<b>1,037.3</b>	<b>1,040.9</b>	<b>1,063.6</b>	<b>1,061.1</b>	<b>1,065.8</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.9</i>	<i>41.6</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.5</i>	<i>41.6</i>	<i>41.3</i>
<b>Females</b>							
1-9 hours	20.4	20.0	20.6	21.6	17.1	21.4	21.9
10-19	70.2	71.1	73.3	74.3	71.0	73.8	74.4
20-29	136.1	143.0	141.5	143.3	149.8	147.7	148.7
30-34	39.1	42.1	44.0	43.8	46.6	48.2	48.6
35-39	280.3	288.2	293.6	294.0	310.5	300.2	300.9
40-44	108.1	100.8	98.4	98.1	99.9	98.6	98.0
45 & over	33.3	31.9	32.7	31.1	33.2	32.4	34.3
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	42.6	44.6	42.1	46.2	44.9	45.5	43.3
<b>Total females</b>	<b>730.1</b>	<b>741.7</b>	<b>746.3</b>	<b>752.5</b>	<b>772.8</b>	<b>767.8</b>	<b>770.1</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>32.4</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>32.4</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>32.0</i>
<b>All persons</b>							
1-9 hours	27.8	26.9	28.9	30.3	21.8	28.8	30.7
10-19	88.9	89.0	94.1	93.7	87.2	92.1	93.7
20-29	171.6	179.1	177.6	180.4	192.1	183.2	185.2
30-34	58.4	59.7	61.2	60.0	67.1	65.7	66.0
35-39	614.2	648.3	655.5	660.7	690.4	671.5	671.2
40-44	344.5	335.4	328.6	327.4	342.2	344.3	348.1
45 & over	240.3	234.2	228.4	224.7	234.2	240.9	236.6
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	207.7	209.6	209.2	216.1	201.4	202.5	204.5
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>1,753.5</b>	<b>1,782.3</b>	<b>1,783.6</b>	<b>1,793.4</b>	<b>1,836.4</b>	<b>1,828.9</b>	<b>1,835.9</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.7</i>	<i>37.5</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.1</i>

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

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

'000

Employment status	Dec- Feb 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
Self employed (with paid employees)	84.3	82.5	83.2	85.5	84.2	87.4	87.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	170.9	170.3	166.6	165.5	169.5	173.7	175.5
Employee	760.2	779.7	779.6	782.4	800.9	792.7	794.5
Assisting relative	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.6	9.0	7.3	7.9
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,023.3</b>	<b>1,040.5</b>	<b>1,037.3</b>	<b>1,040.9</b>	<b>1,063.6</b>	<b>1,061.1</b>	<b>1,065.8</b>
<b>Females</b>							
Self employed (with paid employees)	17.7	16.9	17.6	18.1	17.2	18.7	19.2
Self employed (with no paid employees)	29.6	31.0	29.7	30.2	32.3	31.4	30.7
Employee	673.4	684.9	689.8	693.9	714.2	710.0	713.4
Assisting relative	9.5	8.9	9.2	10.2	9.2	7.6	6.8
<b>Total females</b>	<b>730.1</b>	<b>741.7</b>	<b>746.3</b>	<b>752.5</b>	<b>772.8</b>	<b>767.8</b>	<b>770.1</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
Self employed (with paid employees)	101.9	99.4	100.8	103.6	101.3	106.1	107.1
Self employed (with no paid employees)	200.5	201.3	196.3	195.7	201.8	205.2	206.2
Employee	1,433.6	1,464.6	1,469.4	1,476.4	1,515.2	1,502.8	1,507.9
Assisting relative	17.5	17.0	17.1	17.7	18.2	14.9	14.6
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>1,753.5</b>	<b>1,782.3</b>	<b>1,783.6</b>	<b>1,793.4</b>	<b>1,836.4</b>	<b>1,828.9</b>	<b>1,835.9</b>

**Table 7a Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions<sup>1</sup> and ILO Economic Status**

Region	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
<b>Border, Midland and Western</b>					
Dec-Feb 2002	433.7	25.0	458.7	5.4	57.1
Sep-Nov 2002	445.8	24.3	470.1	5.2	57.4
Dec-Feb 2003	447.8	25.1	472.9	5.3	57.4
Mar-May 2003	448.9	24.5	473.4	5.2	57.3
Jun-Aug 2003	462.6	26.4	489.0	5.4	58.8
Sep-Nov 2003	465.9	23.8	489.7	4.9	58.3
Dec-Feb 2004	473.8	22.3	496.1	4.5	58.8
<b>Southern and Eastern</b>					
Dec-Feb 2002	1,319.8	54.2	1,374.0	3.9	60.5
Sep-Nov 2002	1,336.5	59.7	1,396.2	4.3	60.6
Dec-Feb 2003	1,335.8	60.0	1,395.8	4.3	60.3
Mar-May 2003	1,344.5	57.6	1,402.1	4.1	60.5
Jun-Aug 2003	1,373.9	72.4	1,446.3	5.0	62.1
Sep-Nov 2003	1,363.0	62.1	1,425.1	4.4	60.9
Dec-Feb 2004	1,362.1	61.3	1,423.4	4.3	60.6
<b>State</b>					
Dec-Feb 2002	1,753.5	79.2	1,832.7	4.3	59.6
Sep-Nov 2002	1,782.3	84.1	1,866.3	4.5	59.7
Dec-Feb 2003	1,783.6	85.2	1,868.7	4.6	59.5
Mar-May 2003	1,793.4	82.1	1,875.5	4.4	59.6
Jun-Aug 2003	1,836.4	98.8	1,935.3	5.1	61.3
Sep-Nov 2003	1,828.9	85.9	1,914.8	4.5	60.2
Dec-Feb 2004	1,835.9	83.6	1,919.5	4.4	60.1

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes.

**Table 7b Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions<sup>1</sup> and ILO Economic Status**

Region		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
<b>Border</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	172.0	12.5	184.5	6.8	55.3
	Sep-Nov 2002	176.5	12.8	189.4	6.8	55.8
	Dec-Feb 2003	178.1	11.8	189.9	6.2	55.7
	Mar-May 2003	177.4	12.0	189.4	6.4	55.5
	Jun-Aug 2003	184.2	12.1	196.4	6.2	57.2
	Sep-Nov 2003	185.9	11.7	197.6	5.9	57.2
	Dec-Feb 2004	190.1	10.8	201.0	5.4	57.6
<b>Midland</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	94.7	4.0	98.7	4.1	57.2
	Sep-Nov 2002	97.6	4.2	101.8	4.1	57.8
	Dec-Feb 2003	98.6	4.6	103.2	4.4	58.3
	Mar-May 2003	100.7	5.5	106.2	5.2	59.8
	Jun-Aug 2003	102.6	5.5	108.2	5.1	60.4
	Sep-Nov 2003	102.0	4.3	106.3	4.0	58.9
	Dec-Feb 2004	104.6	4.6	109.2	4.2	59.7
<b>West</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	167.0	8.5	175.5	4.8	59.0
	Sep-Nov 2002	171.6	7.3	178.9	4.1	58.8
	Dec-Feb 2003	171.1	8.7	179.8	4.8	58.8
	Mar-May 2003	170.8	7.0	177.8	3.9	57.8
	Jun-Aug 2003	175.7	8.8	184.5	4.8	59.7
	Sep-Nov 2003	177.9	7.9	185.7	4.2	59.4
	Dec-Feb 2004	179.1	6.8	185.9	3.7	59.5
<b>Dublin</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	547.5	20.3	567.8	3.6	62.9
	Sep-Nov 2002	549.6	23.7	573.3	4.1	62.7
	Dec-Feb 2003	548.4	24.6	573.0	4.3	62.4
	Mar-May 2003	548.2	21.9	570.1	3.8	62.1
	Jun-Aug 2003	553.9	28.1	582.0	4.8	63.3
	Sep-Nov 2003	554.1	24.8	578.8	4.3	62.7
	Dec-Feb 2004	548.7	25.1	573.8	4.4	62.0
<b>Mid-East</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	191.1	6.7	197.8	3.4	63.0
	Sep-Nov 2002	198.9	7.2	206.1	3.5	63.8
	Dec-Feb 2003	199.8	6.4	206.3	3.1	63.3
	Mar-May 2003	201.6	6.1	207.7	2.9	63.6
	Jun-Aug 2003	203.4	8.9	212.3	4.2	64.6
	Sep-Nov 2003	202.8	7.0	209.8	3.3	63.3
	Dec-Feb 2004	203.5	6.6	210.1	3.1	62.9
<b>Mid-West</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	149.3	6.7	156.0	4.3	58.5
	Sep-Nov 2002	147.9	6.2	154.1	4.1	57.4
	Dec-Feb 2003	149.8	6.1	156.0	3.9	58.0
	Mar-May 2003	152.9	6.7	159.6	4.2	59.1
	Jun-Aug 2003	157.2	9.3	166.5	5.6	61.4
	Sep-Nov 2003	153.6	8.8	162.5	5.4	59.7
	Dec-Feb 2004	155.4	7.6	163.1	4.7	59.9
<b>South-East</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	182.4	8.9	191.2	4.6	58.3
	Sep-Nov 2002	187.0	10.6	197.6	5.3	59.1
	Dec-Feb 2003	186.3	11.6	197.9	5.9	58.9
	Mar-May 2003	188.1	11.3	199.4	5.7	59.2
	Jun-Aug 2003	195.3	13.1	208.3	6.3	61.5
	Sep-Nov 2003	191.1	10.4	201.5	5.2	59.1
	Dec-Feb 2004	191.0	10.8	201.8	5.3	58.8
<b>South-West</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	249.5	11.6	261.1	4.5	57.0
	Sep-Nov 2002	253.1	12.1	265.2	4.5	57.0
	Dec-Feb 2003	251.3	11.3	262.6	4.3	56.4
	Mar-May 2003	253.7	11.6	265.3	4.4	56.8
	Jun-Aug 2003	264.1	13.1	277.2	4.7	59.1
	Sep-Nov 2003	261.4	11.0	272.4	4.0	57.6
	Dec-Feb 2004	263.5	11.2	274.7	4.1	58.0
<b>State</b>	Dec-Feb 2002	1,753.5	79.2	1,832.7	4.3	59.6
	Sep-Nov 2002	1,782.3	84.1	1,866.3	4.5	59.7
	Dec-Feb 2003	1,783.6	85.2	1,868.7	4.6	59.5
	Mar-May 2003	1,793.4	82.1	1,875.5	4.4	59.6
	Jun-Aug 2003	1,836.4	98.8	1,935.3	5.1	61.3
	Sep-Nov 2003	1,828.9	85.9	1,914.8	4.5	60.2
	Dec-Feb 2004	1,835.9	83.6	1,919.5	4.4	60.1

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes.

**Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, December-February 2004**

and marital status, December-February 2004									%
Marital status	Age group								
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Single	28.4	76.2	91.5	85.4	72.3	62.4	47.2	20.4	67.8
Married	*	80.1	94.5	95.7	92.4	78.5	59.2	14.5	76.4
Separated or divorced	*	*	90.7	87.6	79.5	67.2	43.6	12.6	69.6
Widowed	*	*	*	87.9	80.4	71.6	51.3	7.4	24.8
Total males	28.4	76.2	92.5	93.1	88.7	75.7	56.4	14.4	71.1
Females									
Single	21.8	68.5	83.6	78.6	69.5	52.9	37.2	3.8	59.0
Married	*	42.2	65.6	62.4	57.2	40.3	22.1	3.4	48.8
Separated or divorced	*	*	63.4	68.4	63.9	49.3	32.1	9.0	58.3
Widowed	*	*	76.9	72.2	57.6	41.3	22.4	1.9	10.2
Total females	21.7	67.7	76.0	65.7	59.1	42.0	23.8	2.8	49.5
All persons									
Single	25.1	72.4	87.9	82.5	71.1	58.9	43.9	12.2	63.7
Married	*	52.4	78.2	78.9	75.0	59.9	41.4	9.7	62.7
Separated or divorced	*	*	70.5	74.1	69.6	56.3	37.0	11.0	62.4
Widowed	*	*	87.2	76.9	63.4	49.3	29.4	3.0	13.2
Total persons	25.1	72.0	84.2	79.4	73.9	59.1	40.2	7.9	60.1

\* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

	Age group								%
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Dec-Feb 2002	30.7	76.3	92.1	93.2	87.9	75.4	55.3	15.3	70.9
Sep-Nov 2002	31.1	77.1	92.4	92.7	87.5	75.2	55.7	14.4	71.0
Dec-Feb 2003	30.4	75.9	92.1	92.8	87.1	74.8	55.2	14.0	70.6
Mar-May 2003	29.4	75.0	92.2	92.7	87.4	74.9	55.5	14.1	70.5
Jun-Aug 2003	39.5	81.7	92.3	92.2	87.6	74.6	54.9	13.8	72.2
Sep-Nov 2003	30.3	77.8	92.6	92.6	87.9	75.0	55.4	14.2	71.1
Dec-Feb 2004	28.4	76.2	92.5	93.1	88.7	75.7	56.4	14.4	71.1
Females									
Dec-Feb 2002	23.9	68.2	76.8	65.6	56.3	37.3	22.0	2.8	48.7
Sep-Nov 2002	24.5	67.6	74.7	65.4	57.1	39.6	23.4	3.2	48.8
Dec-Feb 2003	23.5	65.3	75.1	66.2	57.1	40.6	23.2	3.2	48.8
Mar-May 2003	22.5	65.7	75.4	66.5	57.4	41.5	24.6	3.3	49.1
Jun-Aug 2003	33.2	73.0	75.4	66.0	57.0	41.6	24.9	3.0	50.7
Sep-Nov 2003	24.5	68.5	76.3	65.4	58.2	42.4	23.2	2.8	49.6
Dec-Feb 2004	21.7	67.7	76.0	65.7	59.1	42.0	23.8	2.8	49.5
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2002	27.4	72.3	84.4	79.3	72.2	56.6	38.7	8.2	59.6
Sep-Nov 2002	27.8	72.4	83.6	79.0	72.4	57.7	39.6	8.1	59.7
Dec-Feb 2003	27.0	70.6	83.6	79.4	72.2	57.9	39.3	7.9	59.5
Mar-May 2003	26.0	70.4	83.8	79.5	72.5	58.4	40.1	8.0	59.6
Jun-Aug 2003	36.4	77.4	83.9	79.1	72.3	58.3	40.0	7.7	61.3
Sep-Nov 2003	27.4	73.2	84.5	78.9	73.1	59.0	39.4	7.7	60.2
Dec-Feb 2004	25.1	72.0	84.2	79.4	73.9	59.1	40.2	7.9	60.1

**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
<b>Males</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	49.5	125.3	281.3	259.5	211.6	74.2	42.7	28.9	1,073.0
Sep-Nov 2002	49.4	130.2	289.7	261.8	212.6	77.1	44.0	27.6	1,092.4
Dec-Feb 2003	48.0	128.4	290.9	262.9	212.6	77.5	44.0	27.0	1,091.4
Mar-May 2003	46.2	126.4	292.1	263.6	213.8	78.5	44.8	27.3	1,092.7
Jun-Aug 2003	61.7	137.8	294.2	263.6	215.1	79.0	44.7	26.9	1,123.0
Sep-Nov 2003	47.1	132.4	298.3	266.6	216.8	80.2	45.5	27.7	1,114.5
Dec-Feb 2004	43.9	129.8	299.3	269.1	219.7	81.6	46.7	28.3	1,118.4
<b>Females</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	36.7	110.3	234.5	184.9	133.8	35.9	16.8	6.9	759.7
Sep-Nov 2002	37.1	112.7	234.0	186.6	137.8	39.5	18.3	7.9	773.9
Dec-Feb 2003	35.5	109.7	236.8	189.5	138.5	40.9	18.3	8.1	777.3
Mar-May 2003	33.7	110.1	237.9	191.2	139.7	42.3	19.6	8.3	782.8
Jun-Aug 2003	49.5	122.8	239.7	190.6	139.3	42.8	20.1	7.5	812.3
Sep-Nov 2003	36.4	116.5	245.3	189.6	142.7	44.1	18.8	7.0	800.3
Dec-Feb 2004	32.1	115.4	245.9	191.1	145.8	44.1	19.5	7.2	801.1
<b>All persons</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	86.1	235.6	515.8	444.4	345.3	110.1	59.5	35.7	1,832.7
Sep-Nov 2002	86.5	242.9	523.7	448.4	350.4	116.6	62.4	35.5	1,866.3
Dec-Feb 2003	83.5	238.1	527.7	452.4	351.1	118.4	62.4	35.0	1,868.7
Mar-May 2003	79.9	236.5	529.9	454.8	353.6	120.8	64.4	35.6	1,875.5
Jun-Aug 2003	111.2	260.6	534.0	454.2	354.4	121.7	64.8	34.4	1,935.3
Sep-Nov 2003	83.5	248.9	543.6	456.2	359.5	124.3	64.3	34.7	1,914.8
Dec-Feb 2004	76.0	245.2	545.2	460.2	365.5	125.6	66.2	35.4	1,919.5

**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
<b>Males</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	44.2	115.7	267.3	250.1	203.7	72.0	41.6	28.8	1,023.3
Sep-Nov 2002	43.1	119.8	275.3	251.9	204.9	74.7	43.3	27.5	1,040.5
Dec-Feb 2003	41.8	118.0	275.5	252.2	204.6	75.0	43.3	26.9	1,037.3
Mar-May 2003	40.5	117.0	277.3	253.1	205.7	76.1	43.9	27.2	1,040.9
Jun-Aug 2003	52.8	125.7	277.9	252.7	207.1	76.7	44.0	26.7	1,063.6
Sep-Nov 2003	41.0	121.5	284.0	256.2	208.7	77.9	44.3	27.6	1,061.1
Dec-Feb 2004	39.1	120.3	284.0	258.0	211.6	79.3	45.5	28.0	1,065.8
<b>Females</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	33.1	103.7	225.9	179.2	130.0	34.9	16.5	6.8	730.1
Sep-Nov 2002	33.0	105.4	224.7	181.0	133.5	38.4	17.8	7.8	741.7
Dec-Feb 2003	31.7	103.3	227.8	183.5	134.0	39.8	18.1	8.0	746.3
Mar-May 2003	30.0	104.2	228.5	185.4	135.5	41.4	19.2	8.2	752.5
Jun-Aug 2003	42.4	112.1	228.9	184.9	135.5	41.9	19.6	7.4	772.8
Sep-Nov 2003	32.4	108.5	235.8	184.0	138.6	43.1	18.4	6.9	767.8
Dec-Feb 2004	28.9	107.7	237.6	184.6	142.0	43.1	19.1	7.1	770.1
<b>All persons</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	77.3	219.5	493.2	429.3	333.7	106.8	58.2	35.6	1,753.5
Sep-Nov 2002	76.1	225.3	500.0	432.9	338.5	113.1	61.1	35.4	1,782.3
Dec-Feb 2003	73.5	221.4	503.3	435.7	338.6	114.8	61.4	34.9	1,783.6
Mar-May 2003	70.5	221.3	505.7	438.5	341.3	117.6	63.1	35.4	1,793.4
Jun-Aug 2003	95.2	237.8	506.9	437.6	342.6	118.5	63.6	34.2	1,836.4
Sep-Nov 2003	73.4	230.0	519.8	440.2	347.4	120.9	62.8	34.5	1,828.9
Dec-Feb 2004	68.1	228.0	521.6	442.6	353.6	122.4	64.5	35.1	1,835.9

**Table 12 Employment rates<sup>1</sup> (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
<b>Males</b>								
Dec-Feb 2002	27.4	70.5	87.5	89.8	84.6	73.1	53.9	75.0
Sep-Nov 2002	27.1	71.0	87.8	89.2	84.3	72.9	54.8	75.1
Dec-Feb 2003	26.4	69.8	87.2	89.0	83.8	72.4	54.2	74.6
Mar-May 2003	25.8	69.4	87.5	89.0	84.1	72.6	54.5	74.7
Jun-Aug 2003	33.8	74.5	87.2	88.4	84.3	72.4	54.0	76.1
Sep-Nov 2003	26.3	71.5	88.2	89.0	84.6	72.9	54.0	75.4
Dec-Feb 2004	25.3	70.6	87.7	89.2	85.4	73.6	54.9	75.4
<b>Females</b>								
Dec-Feb 2002	21.5	64.2	73.9	63.5	54.7	36.3	21.6	55.1
Sep-Nov 2002	21.7	63.3	71.8	63.5	55.4	38.5	22.7	54.9
Dec-Feb 2003	21.0	61.5	72.3	64.1	55.3	39.5	22.9	55.0
Mar-May 2003	20.0	62.2	72.4	64.4	55.7	40.7	24.1	55.3
Jun-Aug 2003	28.4	66.6	72.0	64.0	55.5	40.7	24.3	56.6
Sep-Nov 2003	21.8	63.8	73.3	63.5	56.5	41.4	22.7	55.9
Dec-Feb 2004	19.6	63.2	73.4	63.5	57.5	41.1	23.3	55.9
<b>All persons</b>								
Dec-Feb 2002	24.5	67.4	80.7	76.6	69.7	54.9	37.8	65.1
Sep-Nov 2002	24.5	67.1	79.8	76.3	69.9	55.9	38.8	65.1
Dec-Feb 2003	23.8	65.7	79.8	76.5	69.6	56.2	38.6	64.8
Mar-May 2003	23.0	65.8	80.0	76.6	69.9	56.9	39.4	65.1
Jun-Aug 2003	31.2	70.6	79.6	76.2	69.9	56.8	39.3	66.4
Sep-Nov 2003	24.1	67.6	80.8	76.2	70.6	57.4	38.5	65.7
Dec-Feb 2004	22.5	66.9	80.6	76.3	71.5	57.6	39.2	65.7

<sup>1</sup> 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
<b>Males</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	5.3	9.6	14.0	9.4	7.9	2.3	1.1	*	49.6
Sep-Nov 2002	6.3	10.4	14.4	9.9	7.7	2.4	0.7	*	51.9
Dec-Feb 2003	6.2	10.4	15.4	10.8	8.1	2.5	0.8	*	54.2
Mar-May 2003	5.7	9.4	14.8	10.5	8.1	2.4	0.8	*	51.7
Jun-Aug 2003	8.9	12.2	16.3	10.9	8.1	2.3	0.7	*	59.4
Sep-Nov 2003	6.1	10.8	14.3	10.4	8.1	2.3	1.1	*	53.3
Dec-Feb 2004	4.8	9.5	15.4	11.1	8.1	2.3	1.2	0.3	52.6
<b>Females</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	3.6	6.5	8.6	5.8	3.8	1.0	0.3	*	29.6
Sep-Nov 2002	4.1	7.3	9.2	5.6	4.2	1.1	0.5	*	32.2
Dec-Feb 2003	3.8	6.4	9.0	6.0	4.4	1.1	*	*	31.0
Mar-May 2003	3.7	5.9	9.4	5.8	4.2	0.8	0.4	*	30.4
Jun-Aug 2003	7.1	10.6	10.8	5.7	3.8	0.9	0.5	*	39.4
Sep-Nov 2003	4.0	8.1	9.5	5.5	4.0	1.0	0.4	*	32.6
Dec-Feb 2004	3.2	7.7	8.2	6.6	3.8	1.0	0.5	*	31.0
<b>All persons</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	8.9	16.1	22.6	15.2	11.7	3.3	1.4	*	79.2
Sep-Nov 2002	10.4	17.7	23.6	15.5	11.9	3.5	1.2	*	84.1
Dec-Feb 2003	10.0	16.7	24.4	16.7	12.5	3.6	1.0	*	85.2
Mar-May 2003	9.4	15.3	24.2	16.4	12.3	3.2	1.2	*	82.1
Jun-Aug 2003	16.0	22.8	27.1	16.6	11.8	3.2	1.2	*	98.8
Sep-Nov 2003	10.1	18.9	23.8	15.9	12.1	3.3	1.5	*	85.9
Dec-Feb 2004	8.0	17.2	23.6	17.6	11.9	3.2	1.7	0.3	83.6

\* 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
<b>Males</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	10.7	7.6	5.0	3.6	3.7	3.1	2.5	*	4.6
Sep-Nov 2002	12.7	8.0	5.0	3.8	3.6	3.1	1.6	*	4.7
Dec-Feb 2003	13.0	8.1	5.3	4.1	3.8	3.2	1.8	*	5.0
Mar-May 2003	12.3	7.4	5.1	4.0	3.8	3.0	1.8	*	4.7
Jun-Aug 2003	14.4	8.8	5.5	4.1	3.7	2.9	1.6	*	5.3
Sep-Nov 2003	13.0	8.2	4.8	3.9	3.7	2.9	2.5	*	4.8
Dec-Feb 2004	10.9	7.3	5.1	4.1	3.7	2.8	2.6	1.0	4.7
<b>Females</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	9.8	5.9	3.7	3.1	2.8	2.7	1.8	*	3.9
Sep-Nov 2002	11.1	6.5	3.9	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.8	*	4.2
Dec-Feb 2003	10.6	5.8	3.8	3.2	3.2	2.8	*	*	4.0
Mar-May 2003	10.9	5.3	3.9	3.1	3.0	1.9	2.1	*	3.9
Jun-Aug 2003	14.4	8.7	4.5	3.0	2.7	2.0	2.3	*	4.9
Sep-Nov 2003	11.0	6.9	3.9	2.9	2.8	2.3	2.1	*	4.1
Dec-Feb 2004	9.9	6.7	3.4	3.4	2.6	2.2	2.3	0.5	3.9
<b>All persons</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	10.3	6.8	4.4	3.4	3.4	3.0	2.3	*	4.3
Sep-Nov 2002	12.0	7.3	4.5	3.5	3.4	3.0	2.0	*	4.5
Dec-Feb 2003	12.0	7.0	4.6	3.7	3.6	3.0	1.6	*	4.6
Mar-May 2003	11.7	6.5	4.6	3.6	3.5	2.6	1.9	*	4.4
Jun-Aug 2003	14.4	8.7	5.1	3.7	3.3	2.6	1.8	*	5.1
Sep-Nov 2003	12.2	7.6	4.4	3.5	3.4	2.7	2.4	*	4.5
Dec-Feb 2004	10.5	7.0	4.3	3.8	3.3	2.6	2.5	0.9	4.4

**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
<b>Total married women ('000)</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	0.6	5.1	128.3	211.6	184.1	72.8	53.9	90.2	746.5
Sep-Nov 2002	0.5	5.7	128.5	212.2	186.0	76.1	54.7	93.1	756.8
Dec-Feb 2003	0.5	6.0	127.7	211.9	186.8	76.9	56.4	93.9	760.2
Mar-May 2003	0.5	6.1	126.9	210.8	188.3	78.5	56.8	96.8	764.8
Jun-Aug 2003	0.3	5.3	130.9	213.8	189.4	78.3	58.4	98.3	774.8
Sep-Nov 2003	0.3	5.0	132.2	216.4	191.9	79.0	59.0	98.6	782.4
Dec-Feb 2004	0.3	4.6	129.6	216.9	191.8	80.9	58.5	99.0	781.7
<b>of which In labour force ('000)</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	*	2.5	85.0	131.5	99.0	25.4	10.6	3.2	357.3
Sep-Nov 2002	*	2.9	81.9	132.6	101.7	28.5	11.8	3.5	362.9
Dec-Feb 2003	*	2.9	81.9	133.6	101.8	29.4	12.1	3.3	365.1
Mar-May 2003	*	2.7	81.2	134.1	103.7	30.8	13.3	3.3	369.2
Jun-Aug 2003	*	2.2	84.2	134.6	104.5	31.1	13.5	3.0	373.3
Sep-Nov 2003	*	2.2	87.0	135.0	107.7	32.2	12.7	2.9	379.8
Dec-Feb 2004	*	2.0	85.1	135.5	109.7	32.6	12.9	3.4	381.1
<b>of which In employment ('000)</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	*	2.3	82.5	127.9	96.4	24.9	10.6	3.2	347.9
Sep-Nov 2002	*	2.7	79.2	128.8	98.6	27.7	11.4	3.5	352.1
Dec-Feb 2003	*	2.7	79.7	129.8	98.8	28.7	12.0	3.2	355.0
Mar-May 2003	*	2.4	78.6	130.3	100.9	30.4	13.1	3.3	359.2
Jun-Aug 2003	*	2.1	81.4	131.2	102.5	30.5	13.3	3.0	364.1
Sep-Nov 2003	*	1.9	84.7	131.7	104.9	31.6	12.6	2.9	370.3
Dec-Feb 2004	*	1.8	83.2	131.9	107.2	31.9	12.8	3.4	372.2
<b>Participation rates (%)</b>									
Dec-Feb 2002	*	48.9	66.2	62.2	53.8	34.8	19.8	3.6	47.9
Sep-Nov 2002	*	50.5	63.7	62.5	54.7	37.4	21.5	3.7	47.9
Dec-Feb 2003	*	48.4	64.1	63.1	54.5	38.2	21.5	3.5	48.0
Mar-May 2003	*	44.2	64.0	63.6	55.0	39.2	23.4	3.4	48.3
Jun-Aug 2003	*	42.4	64.3	62.9	55.2	39.8	23.1	3.0	48.2
Sep-Nov 2003	*	44.4	65.8	62.4	56.1	40.7	21.6	3.0	48.5
Dec-Feb 2004	*	42.2	65.6	62.4	57.2	40.3	22.1	3.4	48.8

\* 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 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	1,638.9	1,467.7	171.2	90.6	10.4	5.5
Dec-Feb 1998	1,620.1	1,481.7	138.4	72.6	8.5	4.5
Mar-May 1998	1,620.4	1,494.0	126.4	63.6	7.8	3.9
Jun-Aug 1998	1,689.1	1,560.2	128.9	62.0	7.6	3.7
Sep-Nov 1998	1,653.3	1,547.1	106.2	51.9	6.4	3.1
Dec-Feb 1999	1,650.5	1,555.6	94.9	43.7	5.7	2.6
Mar-May 1999	1,685.9	1,589.1	96.9	41.5	5.7	2.5
Jun-Aug 1999	1,766.1	1,665.8	100.4	38.0	5.7	2.2
Sep-Nov 1999	1,735.7	1,647.4	88.3	36.4	5.1	2.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,729.9	1,648.7	81.2	29.8	4.7	1.7
Mar-May 2000	1,745.9	1,671.4	74.5	27.7	4.3	1.6
Jun-Aug 2000	1,813.3	1,736.1	77.1	25.9	4.3	1.4
Sep-Nov 2000	1,781.0	1,712.6	68.4	24.3	3.8	1.4
Dec-Feb 2001	1,776.2	1,710.9	65.3	21.7	3.7	1.2
Mar-May 2001	1,787.0	1,721.9	65.1	20.8	3.6	1.2
Jun-Aug 2001	1,867.4	1,788.9	78.5	22.1	4.2	1.2
Sep-Nov 2001	1,831.6	1,759.9	71.8	21.4	3.9	1.2
Dec-Feb 2002	1,832.7	1,753.5	79.2	23.2	4.3	1.3
Mar-May 2002	1,840.9	1,763.9	77.0	21.7	4.2	1.2
Jun-Aug 2002	1,894.6	1,808.4	86.2	22.0	4.6	1.2
Sep-Nov 2002	1,866.3	1,782.3	84.1	24.9	4.5	1.3
Dec-Feb 2003	1,868.7	1,783.6	85.2	26.7	4.6	1.4
Mar-May 2003	1,875.5	1,793.4	82.1	27.2	4.4	1.5
Jun-Aug 2003	1,935.3	1,836.4	98.8	27.0	5.1	1.4
Sep-Nov 2003	1,914.8	1,828.9	85.9	26.2	4.5	1.4
Dec-Feb 2004	1,919.5	1,835.9	83.6	30.5	4.4	1.6

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

'000

Duration	Quarterly National Household Survey						
	Dec- Feb 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
Less than 1 year	31.6	32.8	34.2	31.5	38.6	33.5	29.7
1 year and over	17.9	19.0	19.6	20.0	20.3	19.6	22.8
Not stated	*	*	0.4	0.3	0.6	*	*
<b>Total males</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>52.6</b>
<b>Females</b>							
Less than 1 year	24.3	26.3	23.9	23.2	32.6	25.9	23.2
1 year and over	5.3	5.8	7.1	7.2	6.8	6.6	7.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Total females</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>39.4</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>31.0</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
Less than 1 year	55.9	59.1	58.1	54.6	71.2	59.4	52.9
1 year and over	23.2	24.9	26.7	27.2	27.0	26.2	30.5
Not stated	*	*	0.4	0.3	0.6	*	*
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>85.2</b>	<b>82.1</b>	<b>98.8</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>83.6</b>

\* 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 Dec-Feb 2003				QNHS Dec-Feb 2004			
	Age group				Age group			
	15-24	25-44	45 or over	Total	15-24	25-44	45 or over	Total
<b>Males</b>								
Less than 1 year	12.2	16.2	5.8	34.2	9.8	14.0	5.8	29.7
1 year and over	4.2	9.9	5.4	19.6	4.5	12.3	6.0	22.8
Not stated	*	*	*	0.4	*	*	*	*
<b>Total males</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>52.6</b>
<b>Females</b>								
Less than 1 year	8.3	11.4	4.1	23.9	8.7	10.9	3.6	23.2
1 year and over	1.8	3.6	1.7	7.1	2.2	3.9	1.7	7.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Total females</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>31.0</b>
<b>All persons</b>								
Less than 1 year	20.5	27.6	9.9	58.1	18.5	25.0	9.4	52.9
1 year and over	6.0	13.5	7.2	26.7	6.6	16.2	7.7	30.5
Not stated	*	*	*	0.4	*	*	*	*
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>85.2</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>83.6</b>

\* 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								
	Dec- Feb 02	Mar- May 02	Jun- Aug 02	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,832.7</b>	<b>1,840.9</b>	<b>1,894.6</b>	<b>1,866.3</b>	<b>1,868.7</b>	<b>1,875.5</b>	<b>1,935.3</b>	<b>1,914.8</b>	<b>1,919.5</b>
In employment:	1,753.5	1,763.9	1,808.4	1,782.3	1,783.6	1,793.4	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9
full-time	1,458.0	1,471.5	1,514.3	1,487.5	1,482.4	1,488.2	1,525.7	1,524.1	1,527.1
part-time:	295.5	292.3	294.1	294.8	301.1	305.2	310.7	304.8	308.8
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	292.9	289.4	291.3	292.2	297.7	301.7	306.4	300.9	305.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.6	3.4	3.5	4.3	3.9	3.8
Unemployed:	79.2	77.0	86.2	84.1	85.2	82.1	98.8	85.9	83.6
seeking full-time work	66.8	65.2	73.2	69.0	71.6	69.0	82.9	70.9	70.8
seeking part-time work	12.5	11.8	13.0	15.0	13.5	13.1	15.9	15.0	12.8
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>1,240.8</b>	<b>1,248.9</b>	<b>1,209.2</b>	<b>1,258.1</b>	<b>1,270.1</b>	<b>1,269.6</b>	<b>1,223.9</b>	<b>1,265.1</b>	<b>1,272.5</b>
Marginally attached to the labour force:	12.3	11.1	12.7	12.2	12.7	12.1	14.6	10.9	12.2
Discouraged workers	9.4	7.4	9.4	9.2	9.4	9.1	11.2	8.3	9.4
Passive jobseekers	2.9	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.4	2.7	2.8
Others:	1,228.5	1,237.8	1,196.4	1,245.9	1,257.4	1,257.5	1,209.3	1,254.2	1,260.3
Persons not in education, who want work <sup>1</sup>	57.2	57.5	56.1	56.3	58.9	61.9	52.1	45.4	54.9
Persons in education, who want work <sup>1</sup>	42.9	51.6	35.5	40.7	47.0	52.1	30.8	31.6	29.7
All other persons	1,128.4	1,128.7	1,104.8	1,148.9	1,151.5	1,143.5	1,126.4	1,177.2	1,175.8
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>3,073.4</b>	<b>3,089.8</b>	<b>3,103.7</b>	<b>3,124.5</b>	<b>3,138.9</b>	<b>3,145.1</b>	<b>3,159.2</b>	<b>3,179.9</b>	<b>3,192.0</b>

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

**Table 20 Indicators of potential labour supply**

Quarter	S1	S2	S3
Dec-Feb 1999	6.6	10.0	10.3
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	8.0	8.2
Jun-Aug 2000	4.9	8.1	8.3
Sep-Nov 2000	4.3	7.8	8.0
Dec-Feb 2001	4.2	7.4	7.5
Mar-May 2001	4.1	7.3	7.4
Jun-Aug 2001	4.7	7.8	8.0
Sep-Nov 2001	4.4	7.5	7.6
Dec-Feb 2002	4.8	7.8	8.0
Mar-May 2002	4.6	7.6	7.8
Jun-Aug 2002	5.0	7.9	8.0
Sep-Nov 2002	5.0	7.9	8.0
Dec-Feb 2003	5.0	8.1	8.3
Mar-May 2003	4.8	8.0	8.2
Jun-Aug 2003	5.7	8.3	8.5
Sep-Nov 2003	4.9	7.2	7.4
Dec-Feb 2004	4.8	7.6	7.8

%

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 Status<sup>1</sup>**

'000

Principal Economic Status	Quarterly National Household Survey						
	Dec-Feb 02	Sep-Nov 02	Dec-Feb 03	Mar-May 03	Jun-Aug 03	Sep-Nov 03	Dec-Feb 04
<b>Males</b>							
At work	994.0	1,010.1	1,003.8	1,008.2	1,019.6	1,032.1	1,036.7
Unemployed	82.3	82.2	83.1	80.5	83.7	82.2	79.3
Student	174.0	175.5	181.2	182.6	169.1	172.6	177.4
Home duties	5.6	6.2	5.8	5.3	7.9	4.7	4.4
Retired	195.7	197.9	201.8	202.4	205.0	204.7	205.7
Others	62.6	67.6	70.7	70.7	71.2	70.3	69.0
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,514.2</b>	<b>1,539.6</b>	<b>1,546.4</b>	<b>1,549.8</b>	<b>1,556.4</b>	<b>1,566.6</b>	<b>1,572.4</b>
<b>Females</b>							
At work	685.3	701.2	705.4	709.8	720.9	725.3	730.1
Unemployed	38.0	36.0	34.0	33.1	38.5	35.8	35.0
Student	192.5	191.8	197.4	199.0	182.1	191.7	196.2
Home duties	552.1	559.4	557.8	555.2	557.4	558.0	553.4
Retired	61.6	63.8	65.2	65.0	68.1	67.6	67.3
Others	29.7	32.7	32.5	33.2	35.7	35.1	37.6
<b>Total females</b>	<b>1,559.2</b>	<b>1,584.9</b>	<b>1,592.5</b>	<b>1,595.3</b>	<b>1,602.8</b>	<b>1,613.4</b>	<b>1,619.6</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
At work	1,679.3	1,711.4	1,709.3	1,718.0	1,740.5	1,757.4	1,766.8
Unemployed	120.3	118.2	117.2	113.6	122.2	118.0	114.3
Student	366.5	367.3	378.6	381.6	351.2	364.3	373.6
Home duties	557.7	565.6	563.5	560.5	565.3	562.7	557.8
Retired	257.3	261.6	267.0	267.4	273.1	272.2	273.0
Others	92.3	100.4	103.2	103.9	106.9	105.4	106.5
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>3,073.4</b>	<b>3,124.5</b>	<b>3,138.9</b>	<b>3,145.1</b>	<b>3,159.2</b>	<b>3,179.9</b>	<b>3,192.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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 2004**

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
<b>Males</b>							
In employment:	1,032.4	2.1	25.7	*	3.2	2.2	1,065.8
full-time	992.4	1.1	1.4	*	0.5	1.5	997.0
part-time:	40.0	1.0	24.3	*	2.7	0.7	68.8
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	38.4	0.7	24.3	*	2.7	0.7	66.9
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.6	0.3	*	*	*	*	1.9
Unemployed:	0.5	48.5	1.0	*	0.9	1.5	52.6
seeking full-time work	0.5	47.4	*	*	0.6	1.2	50.1
seeking part-time work	*	1.1	0.8	*	0.3	0.3	2.5
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.9	5.1	*	*	0.3	0.4	7.8
Others	1.8	23.5	150.6	4.2	201.2	64.8	446.2
<b>Total males aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,036.7</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>177.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>205.7</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>1,572.4</b>
<b>Females</b>							
In employment:	726.1	1.4	31.8	8.1	0.6	2.1	770.1
full-time	525.3	0.7	1.7	1.2	*	1.2	530.2
part-time:	200.8	0.7	30.1	6.9	0.6	0.9	240.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	199.2	0.6	30.1	6.9	0.6	0.8	238.1
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.6	*	*	*	*	*	1.9
Unemployed:	0.7	19.9	1.5	8.2	*	0.6	31.0
seeking full-time work	0.6	16.2	0.3	3.3	*	0.3	20.7
seeking part-time work	*	3.6	1.3	4.9	*	0.3	10.3
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.3	1.4	*	1.0	*	0.4	4.4
Others	2.0	12.3	162.7	536.0	66.6	34.4	814.1
<b>Total females aged 15 or over</b>	<b>730.1</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>196.2</b>	<b>553.4</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>1,619.6</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
In employment:	1,758.5	3.6	57.5	8.1	3.9	4.4	1,835.9
full-time	1,517.7	1.8	3.1	1.2	0.6	2.8	1,527.1
part-time:	240.8	1.8	54.3	7.0	3.3	1.6	308.8
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	237.6	1.3	54.3	7.0	3.3	1.5	305.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	3.3	0.5	*	*	*	*	3.8
Unemployed:	1.2	68.4	2.5	8.4	1.0	2.1	83.6
seeking full-time work	1.1	63.7	0.5	3.4	0.6	1.6	70.8
seeking part-time work	*	4.7	2.1	5.0	0.3	0.5	12.8
Marginally attached to the labour force	3.3	6.5	0.3	1.0	0.3	0.8	12.2
Others	3.8	35.9	313.3	540.2	267.8	99.3	1,260.3
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,766.8</b>	<b>114.3</b>	<b>373.6</b>	<b>557.8</b>	<b>273.0</b>	<b>106.5</b>	<b>3,192.0</b>

\* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

**Table 23 Estimated *adult*<sup>1</sup> members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, QNHS, December-February 2004**

Composition of family unit	In employment			Unemployed			Not economically active			Total <sup>2</sup>		
	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	87.2	79.7	167.0	2.3	2.3	4.6	3.7	9.8	13.5	93.2	91.8	185.0
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	62.6	43.7	106.3	2.4	0.8	3.2	44.7	63.4	108.1	109.8	107.9	217.6
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	8.4	2.4	10.8	*	*	*	67.8	72.5	140.3	76.3	74.9	151.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>158.2</b>	<b>125.8</b>	<b>284.0</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>116.2</b>	<b>145.7</b>	<b>261.9</b>	<b>279.2</b>	<b>274.6</b>	<b>553.8</b>
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	161.0	98.2	259.2	6.5	2.6	9.1	10.2	73.8	84.0	177.7	174.7	352.3
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	9.7	4.3	14.0	0.7	*	0.9	1.3	6.9	8.2	11.7	11.4	23.1
All children aged 5 to 14	70.9	44.1	115.0	2.2	1.5	3.7	3.0	28.7	31.8	76.1	74.3	150.5
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	110.8	67.8	178.6	3.5	1.9	5.4	9.5	51.0	60.5	123.9	120.7	244.6
All children aged 15 or over	136.7	82.8	219.5	3.3	1.6	4.9	49.0	101.4	150.4	189.0	185.9	374.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>489.1</b>	<b>297.2</b>	<b>786.3</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>261.9</b>	<b>335.0</b>	<b>578.4</b>	<b>567.0</b>	<b>1,145.4</b>
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.0	17.3	18.3	*	2.1	2.2	*	19.6	19.8	1.2	39.0	40.2
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	0.9	1.1	*	*	*	*	1.3	1.3	*	2.4	2.6
All children aged 5 to 14	1.0	13.6	14.6	*	1.8	1.8	0.3	7.6	7.9	1.3	23.0	24.3
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.7	14.0	16.7	*	1.1	1.3	0.9	8.1	9.1	3.8	23.2	27.1
All children aged 15 or over	7.5	20.1	27.6	0.3	0.8	1.1	8.1	47.2	55.4	15.9	68.2	84.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>83.8</b>	<b>93.4</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>155.9</b>	<b>178.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>659.6</b>	<b>489.0</b>	<b>1,148.7</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>198.8</b>	<b>491.4</b>	<b>690.2</b>	<b>879.9</b>	<b>997.5</b>	<b>1,877.4</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> 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-25	210,099	191,734	18,364	56.3	8.7	212,174	193,136	19,038	56.4	9.0
EU-15	176,183	162,827	13,355	56.4	7.6	178,436	164,247	14,188	56.6	8.0
Eurozone <sup>1</sup>	138,908	127,400	11,507	54.9	8.3	140,888	128,554	12,334	55.1	8.8
Belgium	4,353	4,052	301	51.2	6.9	4,392	4,055	337	51.4	7.7
Czech Republic	5,090	4,733	357	59.5	7.0	5,087	4,703	384	59.2	7.5
Denmark	2,863	2,741	122	65.6	4.3	2,859	2,704	154	65.5	5.4
Germany	39,637	36,275	3,362	57.3	8.5	39,821	35,927	3,894	57.3	9.8
Estonia	642	581	61	57.2	9.5	660	589	71	58.7	10.8
Greece	4,369	3,949	420	48.7	9.6	4,407	4,015	392	48.6	8.9
Spain	18,267	16,241	2,026	53.1	11.1	18,751	16,666	2,085	54.1	11.1
France <sup>2</sup>	25,909	23,678	2,231	55.5	8.6	26,823	24,513	2,310	55.2	8.6
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>1,841</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>1,876</b>	<b>1,793</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Italy	23,963	21,757	2,206	48.8	9.2	24,203	22,057	2,146	49.3	8.9
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
Luxembourg <sup>3</sup>	193	188	5	54.7	2.6	193	188	5	54.7	2.6
Hungary	4,097	3,868	230	48.9	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
Netherlands	8,391	8,176	214	64.9	2.6	8,432	8,126	306	64.7	3.6
Austria	3,923	3,781	142	58.9	3.6	3,906	3,746	160	59.4	4.1
Poland	17,253	13,820	3,432	55.7	19.9	16,938	13,657	3,281	54.6	19.4
Portugal	5,376	5,133	243	61.8	4.5	5,403	5,067	336	61.7	6.2
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
Finland	2,686	2,406	280	63.2	10.4	2,681	2,401	281	62.8	10.5
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

Source: Eurostat.

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

Note: Table contains revised data.

<sup>1</sup> Eurozone consists of EU15 states with the exceptions of Denmark, Sweden and United Kingdom,<sup>2</sup> Data for France for Q2 2002 is unchanged from Q2 2001 as updated detail is not available at present,<sup>3</sup> Data for Luxembourg 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 2002 and 1996 Censuses 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

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

#### Southern and Eastern NUTS2 Region

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