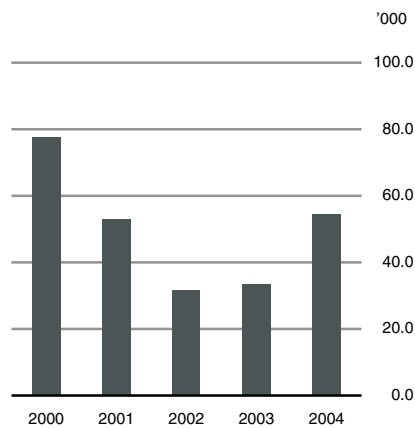




Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 4 2004

**Annual average employment increases
2000-2004**



ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
Sep-Nov 2003	1,828.9	85.9	1,914.8
Dec-Feb 2004	1,835.9	83.6	1,919.5
Mar-May 2004	1,836.2	84.2	1,920.3
Jun-Aug 2004	1,893.6	93.9	1,987.5
Sep-Nov 2004	1,894.1	85.6	1,979.7
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+0.5</i>	<i>-8.3</i>	<i>-7.8</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+65.2</i>	<i>-0.3</i>	<i>+64.9</i>

Employment up by 3% in 2004

On average employment increased by 54,400 or 3.0% last year. This compares with average annual increases of 1.9% in 2003, 1.8% in 2002 and 3.1% in 2001. The average number of males in employment in 2004 was 29,700 (+2.8%) higher than in the previous year while the average number of female workers was up by 24,700 (+3.2%). See table 1 & graph.

Employment growth in the fourth quarter was stronger than in earlier quarters with the numbers at work increasing by 65,200 or 3.6% in the year. This is the highest level of annual growth recorded since the 3.8% recorded in the first quarter of 2001. Full-time employment accounted for over four-fifths of the annual increase. See table 1.

There were 85,600 persons unemployed in the fourth quarter of 2004, representing a seasonal decrease of 8,300 in the quarter and an annual fall of 300 on the fourth quarter of 2003. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.4% in the fourth quarter. See tables 1 & 3.

The labour force increased by 64,900 to 1,979,700 in the year to the fourth quarter of 2004. This accounted for 61.0% of all persons aged 15 and over compared with 60.2% in the fourth quarter of 2003. The male participation rate increased in the year from 71.1% to 71.5% while the female rate increased from 49.6% to 50.8%. See table 1.

For more information contact Noel Ryan at 021-4535491 or Michael Quinlan at 021-4535301.

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414

Tel: +353-1 498 4000
Fax: +353-1 498 4229

Tel: +353-21 453 5000
Fax: +353-21 453 5492

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: www.cso.ie
and go to

Labour Market and Earnings: Labour Market

Director General: Donal Garvey

Enquiries:

Labour Market Statistics Direct Dial (021) 453 5491
Email: labour@cso.ie

Queries and Sales Information Section, ext 5032
information@cso.ie

© Central Statistics Office

The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

Employment in Construction grows by almost 10% in 2004

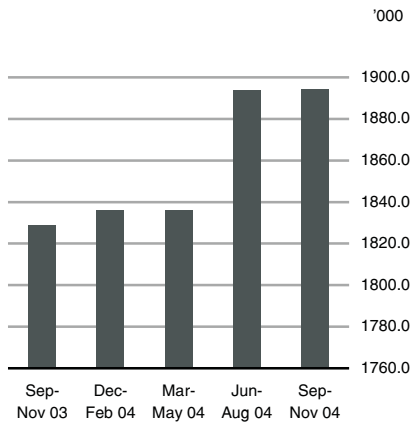
On average, employment in the *Construction* sector grew by almost 10% or 19,100 in 2004. The rate of employment growth strengthened over the year from an annual increase of 7.2% in the first quarter of 2004 to 13.4% (+26,800) in the fourth quarter of 2004. *See table 2b.*

The numbers employed in the *Financial and other business services* sector also continued to grow strongly throughout the year with an annual increase of 16,400 in the fourth quarter. Employment in *Other services* (+11,000), *Wholesale and retail trade* (+8,900) and *Health* (+6,700), also showed strong growth in the year to the fourth quarter. Employment in the year fell in two sectors, *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* (-10,900) and *Hotels and restaurants* (-2,800). The decline in the *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* sector is somewhat overstated due to changes in the sample. *See table 2b.*

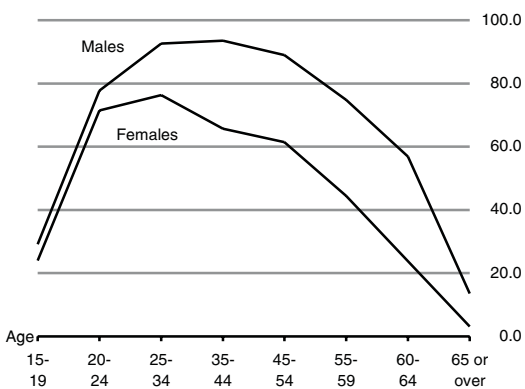
There were increases in all but one occupational category in the year to the fourth quarter. The largest increases were in *Craft and related* (+17,300) and *Other* (+13,200) while the lowest increase was in *Plant and machine operatives* (+800). There was a fall of 2,100 in *Associate professional and technical* occupations. *See table 4.*

There was a modest increase (+3,400) in the number of self-employed people in the year to 314,700 while the number of employees increased by 62,300 to 1,565,100. The latter comprised an increase of 30,800 males and 31,600 females. There was an annual decrease in the number of persons assisting relatives from 14,900 to 14,300. *See table 6.*

Numbers in Employment ILO



ILO participation rates by age group



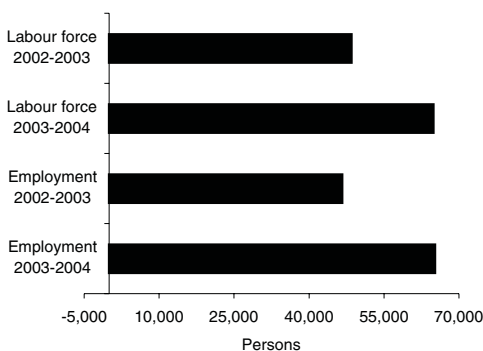
Two out of three persons aged 15-64 in employment

The employment rate for persons aged 15-64 in the fourth quarter of 2004 was 66.7% compared to 65.7% in the same quarter last year. The rates for males and females both showed increases over the year with the male rate increasing from 75.4% to 76.0% and the female rate increasing from 55.9% to 57.2%. *See table 12.*

The number of persons in part-time employment increased by 11,700 in the year to 316,500. This increase accounted for less than a fifth of the overall annual employment growth (+65,200), a similar pattern to the earlier quarters of the year. Part-time employment continues to be dominated by females with the number of women with a part-time job increasing by 13,300 to stand at 251,900 in the fourth quarter of 2004. *See table 1.*

The average working week in the fourth quarter of 2004 was 37.1 hours, down from the 37.4 recorded in the fourth quarter of 2003. For males the average working week was 41.3 hours and for females it was 32.0. *See table 5.*

Employment and labour force growth 2002- 2004



Increased participation accounts for almost one third of labour force growth

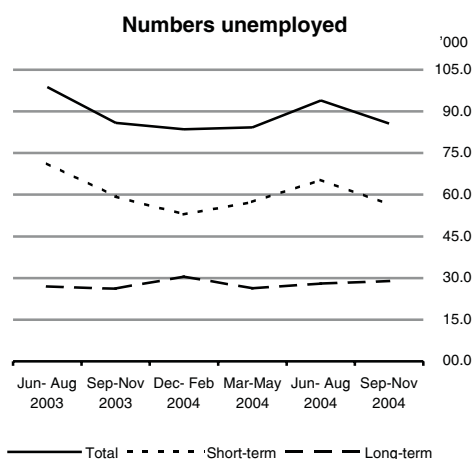
Demographic factors, such as the increase in the population of working age and changes in its age structure, added an estimated 45,000 to the labour force over the year, with the balance of 20,000 being due to the increase in labour force participation rates. The most significant increase in participation was recorded for those aged 45-54 (73.1% to 75.3%). There was an increase of 11,500 in the number of married women in the labour force and their participation rate rose from 48.5% to 49.8%. *See tables 1, 9 & 15.*

Since the third quarter of 2003 the importance of increased participation to the overall labour force growth has been evident. In that quarter just over 8% of the overall annual increase was attributable to increased participation while in the

fourth quarter of 2004 almost 31% of the labour force growth can be attributed to this factor.

Immigration is also estimated to have accounted for close to one third of the overall increase in the labour force.

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, increased from 7.4% in the fourth quarter of 2003 to 7.6% in the fourth quarter of 2004. *See tables 1, 19 & 20.*



Modest decrease in unemployment

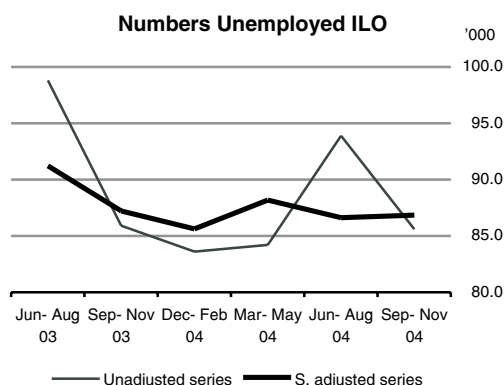
There were 52,800 males and 32,800 females unemployed in the fourth quarter of 2004, representing an annual decrease of 500 for males and an annual increase of 200 for females. The largest annual decrease in the numbers unemployed was concentrated in the 25–34 year age group where the numbers decreased by 1,400 to 22,400. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 4.4% this quarter. *See tables 3 & 13.*

Long-term unemployment is estimated to have increased over the year by 2,700 while short-term unemployment decreased by 2,900 over the same period. Those aged 15-24 (+1,700) showed the largest increase in long term unemployment. Persons in this age group also accounted for the largest decrease in short term unemployment. The long-term unemployment rate increased from 1.4% a year ago to 1.5% this quarter. *See tables 16, 17 & 18.*

Regional Comparisons

Employment grew by 24,900 (+5.3%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 40,300 (+3.0%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the fourth quarter of 2004. All of the annual fall in unemployment was concentrated in the Border, Midland and Western region where there was a decrease of 400 in the numbers unemployed in the year. *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western Region increased from 58.3% to 59.7% between the fourth quarters of 2003 and 2004. The participation rate in the Southern and Eastern region increased more moderately from 60.9% to 61.5% over the same period.



Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as “at work” grew by 70,600 in the year to 1,828,000. This comprised an increase of 34,800 males and 35,800 females. This compares to an increase of 46,000 in the year to the fourth quarter of 2003. Meanwhile, the numbers describing themselves as “unemployed” fell by 6,000 in the year to 112,000. Most of this decline was by those recording themselves as unemployed but not actively seeking work or available for work at the time of the survey. *See table 21.*

The numbers describing themselves as “on home duties” decreased by 4,200 to 558,500 in the year. *See table 21.*

The number of students decreased by 6,600 in the year to 357,700. In the fourth quarter 15.6% of students had a job compared to 16.0% for the same quarter last year and this represented a fall of 2,300 in the number of students with a job. *See table 22.*

Contents

Page no

Table 1	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and ILO Economic Status	6
Table 2a	Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and broad economic sector	7
Table 2b	Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and NACE economic sector	7
Table 3	Seasonally Adjusted Series of persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, ILO Economic Status and NACE Economic Sector	8
Table 4	Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and occupation	9
Table 5	Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and usual hours of work	10
Table 6	Persons aged 15 years and over (ILO) classified by employment status	11
Table 7a	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions and ILO Economic Status	11
Table 7b	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions and ILO Economic Status	12
Table 8	Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status	13
Table 9	Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group	13
Table 10	Number of persons in the labour force (ILO) classified by sex and age group	14
Table 11	Number of persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and age group	14
Table 12	Employment rates (ILO) for persons aged 15-64, classified by sex and age group	15
Table 13	Number of persons unemployed (ILO) classified by sex and age group	15
Table 14	Unemployment rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group	16
Table 15	Labour force situation of married females classified by age group	16
Table 16	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by labour force, employment, unemployment and long-term unemployment (ILO)	17
Table 17	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and duration of unemployment (ILO)	18
Table 18	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, age group and duration of unemployment	18
Table 19	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by detailed ILO Economic Status	19
Table 20	Indicators of potential labour supply	20
Table 21	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status	20
Table 22	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status	21
Table 23	Estimated adult members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex	22
Table 24	Annual Labour Force Survey results classified by ILO Economic Status for persons aged 15 or over in EU member states	23

Tables

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Sep- Nov 02	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
Males							
In labour force	1,092.4	1,123.0	1,114.5	1,118.4	1,119.6	1,156.0	1,145.2
In employment:	1,040.5	1,063.6	1,061.1	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4
full-time	975.2	991.1	994.9	997.0	1,000.2	1,030.4	1,027.7
part-time:	65.3	72.5	66.3	68.8	64.9	67.9	64.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	64.0	70.4	64.3	66.9	63.5	65.8	63.6
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.3	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.5	2.1	1.0
Unemployed:	51.9	59.4	53.3	52.6	54.4	57.7	52.8
seeking full-time work	49.4	55.0	49.6	50.1	52.1	54.4	50.8
seeking part-time work	2.4	4.4	3.7	2.5	2.3	3.3	2.0
Not in labour force	447.2	433.4	452.1	454.1	459.1	431.4	456.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	7.7	8.6	7.0	7.8	6.3	7.7	7.9
Others	439.4	424.8	445.1	446.2	452.8	423.8	448.5
Total males aged 15 or over	1,539.6	1,556.4	1,566.6	1,572.4	1,578.7	1,587.4	1,601.6
Unemployment rate %	4.7	5.3	4.8	4.7	4.9	5.0	4.6
Participation rate %	71.0	72.2	71.1	71.1	70.9	72.8	71.5
Females							
In labour force	773.9	812.3	800.3	801.1	800.8	831.5	834.5
In employment:	741.7	772.8	767.8	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7
full-time	512.3	534.6	529.2	530.2	524.8	545.8	549.8
part-time:	229.5	238.2	238.6	240.0	246.2	249.5	251.9
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	228.2	236.0	236.6	238.1	243.9	247.6	250.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.3	2.3	2.0	1.9	2.3	1.9	1.9
Unemployed:	32.2	39.4	32.6	31.0	29.8	36.2	32.8
seeking full-time work	19.6	27.9	21.3	20.7	19.6	25.7	21.4
seeking part-time work	12.6	11.5	11.2	10.3	10.2	10.5	11.4
Not in labour force	811.0	790.5	813.0	818.5	821.1	799.5	809.6
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.5	6.0	3.9	4.4	3.6	5.8	3.4
Others	806.5	784.5	809.1	814.1	817.5	793.7	806.3
Total females aged 15 or over	1,584.9	1,602.8	1,613.4	1,619.6	1,621.9	1,631.0	1,644.1
Unemployment rate %	4.2	4.9	4.1	3.9	3.7	4.3	3.9
Participation rate %	48.8	50.7	49.6	49.5	49.4	51.0	50.8
All persons							
In labour force	1,866.3	1,935.3	1,914.8	1,919.5	1,920.3	1,987.5	1,979.7
In employment:	1,782.3	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1
full-time	1,487.5	1,525.7	1,524.1	1,527.1	1,525.0	1,576.2	1,577.5
part-time:	294.8	310.7	304.8	308.8	311.1	317.4	316.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	292.2	306.4	300.9	305.0	307.4	313.4	313.6
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.6	4.3	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.0	2.9
Unemployed:	84.1	98.8	85.9	83.6	84.2	93.9	85.6
seeking full-time work	69.0	82.9	70.9	70.8	71.7	80.1	72.2
seeking part-time work	15.0	15.9	15.0	12.8	12.4	13.8	13.4
Not in labour force	1,258.1	1,223.9	1,265.1	1,272.5	1,280.3	1,230.9	1,266.0
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	12.2	14.6	10.9	12.2	10.0	13.4	11.3
Others	1,245.9	1,209.3	1,254.2	1,260.3	1,270.3	1,217.5	1,254.8
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,124.5	3,159.2	3,179.9	3,192.0	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7
Unemployment rate %	4.5	5.1	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.3
Participation rate %	59.7	61.3	60.2	60.1	60.0	61.8	61.0

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 02	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
Males							
A-B Agriculture	110.6	107.1	111.3	107.6	105.8	108.9	102.3
C-F Industry	398.6	405.6	401.5	404.7	404.5	423.7	429.6
G-Q Services	531.3	550.8	548.3	553.4	554.8	565.6	560.6
Females							
A-B Agriculture	12.5	14.3	12.1	11.3	11.1	10.9	10.2
C-F Industry	97.7	102.2	96.4	95.1	102.1	103.6	98.9
G-Q Services	631.5	656.3	659.2	663.8	657.8	680.8	692.6
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	123.1	121.4	123.4	118.9	117.0	119.9	112.5
C-F Industry	496.3	507.8	498.0	499.8	506.5	527.3	528.5
G-Q Services	1,162.9	1,207.2	1,207.6	1,217.2	1,212.7	1,246.5	1,253.2
Total persons	1,782.3	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1

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 02	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	110.6	107.1	111.3	107.6	105.8	108.9	102.3
C-E Other production industries	216.8	215.7	209.7	211.8	208.8	212.1	212.2
F Construction	181.8	189.9	191.8	192.9	195.7	211.6	217.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	128.9	131.5	130.5	133.2	131.3	137.0	134.6
H Hotels and restaurants	45.6	51.9	49.1	49.7	49.4	48.4	45.7
I Transport, storage and communication	84.9	84.2	84.4	84.7	87.2	89.4	90.5
J-K Financial and other business services	113.6	117.3	116.8	116.4	120.9	123.0	123.0
L Public administration and defence	47.9	53.3	50.4	48.7	48.8	48.2	46.7
M Education	34.4	34.5	34.9	34.6	33.2	35.1	35.0
N Health	32.8	33.5	34.8	34.6	33.8	33.7	33.4
O-Q Other services	43.3	44.6	47.4	51.6	50.3	50.8	51.6
Total males	1,040.5	1,063.6	1,061.1	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.5	14.3	12.1	11.3	11.1	10.9	10.2
C-E Other production industries	88.2	92.0	87.6	85.6	91.8	93.4	88.9
F Construction	9.5	10.2	8.8	9.4	10.3	10.1	10.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	122.7	129.5	125.9	130.2	128.9	133.2	130.9
H Hotels and restaurants	65.9	71.7	66.3	63.4	58.4	67.7	66.9
I Transport, storage and communication	28.4	28.6	30.2	28.7	26.0	25.4	25.2
J-K Financial and other business services	110.9	113.3	114.4	118.0	116.1	120.0	124.7
L Public administration and defence	40.4	40.5	40.2	41.2	40.7	45.3	47.6
M Education	77.9	75.6	83.2	84.9	84.7	77.3	83.5
N Health	130.4	140.3	141.0	142.6	143.3	148.4	149.1
O-Q Other services	55.0	56.7	57.9	54.8	59.7	63.6	64.7
Total females	741.7	772.8	767.8	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	123.1	121.4	123.4	118.9	117.0	119.9	112.5
C-E Other production industries	305.0	307.7	297.3	297.4	300.6	305.6	301.1
F Construction	191.3	200.1	200.6	202.3	206.0	221.7	227.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	251.5	261.0	256.5	263.4	260.2	270.2	265.4
H Hotels and restaurants	111.5	123.7	115.4	113.1	107.8	116.1	112.6
I Transport, storage and communication	113.3	112.8	114.6	113.4	113.2	114.8	115.7
J-K Financial and other business services	224.5	230.6	231.3	234.4	237.0	243.1	247.7
L Public administration and defence	88.3	93.8	90.6	89.9	89.5	93.5	94.4
M Education	112.3	110.1	118.1	119.4	117.9	112.3	118.5
N Health	163.2	173.8	175.8	177.2	177.0	182.1	182.5
O-Q Other services	98.3	101.3	105.3	106.4	110.0	114.4	116.3
Total persons	1,782.3	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1

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

'000

ILO Economic Status/ NACE Economic Sector	Sep- Nov 02	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
Males							
In labour force	1,093.3	1,105.6	1,115.0	1,125.5	1,129.5	1,138.7	1,145.4
In employment:	1,040.6	1,048.6	1,060.8	1,073.2	1,073.2	1,083.7	1,091.5
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	109.4	104.8	110.1	109.1	107.8	106.5	101.2
C-E Other production industries	218.0	212.1	211.0	212.2	210.4	208.9	213.6
F Construction	180.4	187.0	190.0	194.6	199.2	208.3	215.2
G Wholesale and retail trade	129.7	129.2	131.3	133.0	133.0	134.7	135.3
H Hotels and restaurants	46.6	50.4	50.2	49.9	49.6	47.0	46.8
I Transport, storage and communication	84.7	83.5	84.1	85.5	87.4	88.7	90.2
J-K Financial and other business services	114.3	116.1	117.5	117.9	120.0	121.8	123.6
L Public administration and defence	48.5	52.0	51.0	49.4	48.6	47.1	47.3
M Education	34.2	34.7	34.7	34.5	33.3	35.3	34.7
N Health	32.2	33.9	34.3	34.6	33.9	34.0	33.0
O-Q Other services	43.2	44.4	47.2	51.5	50.7	50.9	51.4
Unemployed	52.9	55.9	54.5	53.6	55.6	54.3	54.0
Unemployment rate %	4.8	5.1	4.9	4.7	5.0	4.8	4.7
Participation rate %	71.2	70.9	71.3	71.6	71.5	71.6	71.7
Females							
In labour force	776.0	796.9	801.7	806.3	809.5	816.9	835.2
In employment:	743.0	761.7	768.2	774.2	777.3	785.2	801.4
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.8	13.8	12.5	11.5	11.0	10.5	10.5
C-E Other production industries	88.5	88.9	88.1	87.3	92.6	90.2	89.7
F Construction	9.4	9.9	8.8	9.5	10.5	9.8	10.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	124.5	126.1	127.7	130.1	130.6	129.9	132.7
H Hotels and restaurants	65.4	66.7	65.4	65.1	62.3	63.1	65.8
I Transport, storage and communication	28.1	28.3	29.8	28.9	26.5	25.2	24.8
J-K Financial and other business services	110.8	111.9	114.3	117.7	117.9	118.8	124.4
L Public administration and defence	40.6	39.9	40.5	41.6	40.6	44.6	47.9
M Education	77.1	80.2	82.4	82.8	82.8	82.1	82.7
N Health	130.7	139.5	141.4	142.5	143.9	147.5	149.5
O-Q Other services	54.4	55.4	57.1	56.3	60.3	62.2	63.7
Unemployed	32.6	35.1	32.8	32.3	32.3	32.2	32.9
Unemployment rate %	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9
Participation rate %	49.0	49.6	49.8	49.9	49.9	50.0	50.9
All persons							
In labour force	1,869.2	1,902.9	1,916.6	1,931.6	1,938.7	1,956.0	1,980.6
In employment:	1,783.5	1,810.9	1,828.9	1,845.9	1,851.5	1,869.5	1,892.8
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	122.2	118.6	122.5	120.7	119.0	117.0	111.7
C-E Other production industries	306.5	300.9	299.2	300.2	302.6	298.9	303.3
F Construction	190.0	196.8	199.1	203.9	209.7	217.9	225.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	254.1	255.4	258.8	263.4	263.5	264.8	267.5
H Hotels and restaurants	112.0	117.2	115.6	115.5	111.4	110.1	112.7
I Transport, storage and communication	112.8	111.7	113.9	114.4	113.9	113.9	114.8
J-K Financial and other business services	225.1	228.7	231.7	235.2	237.7	241.5	247.9
L Public administration and defence	89.0	91.9	91.4	90.8	89.6	91.7	95.1
M Education	111.3	114.7	117.1	117.1	116.5	117.2	117.4
N Health	162.9	173.5	175.7	177.1	177.8	181.5	182.4
O-Q Other services	97.8	99.5	104.5	107.7	111.4	112.7	115.3
Unemployed	85.4	91.2	87.2	85.6	88.2	86.6	86.9
Unemployment rate %	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.4
Participation rate %	59.9	60.1	60.4	60.6	60.5	60.7	61.1

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Sep- Nov 02	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	228.6	219.6	222.4	230.2	227.1	227.7	221.8
2. Professional	100.5	104.6	110.2	109.0	108.4	107.5	110.2
3. Associate professional and technical	66.3	71.7	72.4	72.1	72.3	69.2	67.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	51.8	53.1	52.3	50.9	53.1	56.3	58.8
5. Craft and related	226.5	234.0	232.3	232.4	231.3	244.0	251.5
6. Personal and protective service	73.2	77.4	73.7	74.9	72.8	74.3	73.2
7. Sales	55.3	59.0	57.6	58.8	59.0	59.3	59.2
8. Plant and machine operatives	143.3	135.9	135.1	131.6	130.3	138.0	137.7
9. Other	94.9	108.1	105.1	105.8	111.0	122.0	112.1
Total males	1,040.5	1,063.6	1,061.1	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	88.9	90.7	86.5	93.5	92.1	89.5	91.0
2. Professional	90.7	90.2	95.3	99.6	103.0	97.7	101.7
3. Associate professional and technical	93.2	95.3	96.1	93.4	94.8	96.1	98.5
4. Clerical and secretarial	168.1	168.6	169.7	168.0	167.6	171.2	174.7
5. Craft and related	13.5	14.5	13.2	11.9	12.4	13.0	11.2
6. Personal and protective service	103.9	117.6	115.2	114.3	112.6	124.1	122.6
7. Sales	90.4	95.7	93.9	96.0	93.3	100.6	99.5
8. Plant and machine operatives	36.5	34.9	33.3	30.2	29.1	32.6	31.6
9. Other	56.5	65.3	64.6	63.2	66.1	70.3	70.8
Total females	741.7	772.8	767.8	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	317.5	310.3	308.9	323.7	319.2	317.2	312.8
2. Professional	191.2	194.8	205.5	208.5	211.4	205.3	211.9
3. Associate professional and technical	159.6	167.0	168.5	165.6	167.1	165.4	166.4
4. Clerical and secretarial	219.9	221.8	222.0	218.9	220.7	227.6	233.5
5. Craft and related	240.0	248.5	245.5	244.3	243.6	256.9	262.8
6. Personal and protective service	177.2	195.1	188.9	189.3	185.4	198.4	195.9
7. Sales	145.7	154.7	151.5	154.9	152.3	159.9	158.7
8. Plant and machine operatives	179.8	170.8	168.4	161.8	159.4	170.7	169.2
9. Other	151.4	173.4	169.7	168.9	177.0	192.3	182.9
Total persons	1,782.3	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1

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 02	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
Males							
1-9 hours	6.9	4.7	7.4	8.8	9.1	5.4	6.4
10-19	18.0	16.2	18.3	19.4	17.4	14.7	15.7
20-29	36.1	42.3	35.5	36.4	35.6	38.2	36.6
30-34	17.7	20.6	17.5	17.3	18.8	19.6	18.6
35-39	360.1	379.9	371.2	370.3	375.6	396.2	392.4
40-44	234.5	242.4	245.7	250.1	250.5	260.5	253.6
45 & over	202.3	201.1	208.5	202.3	198.9	193.7	195.7
Variable hours ¹	165.0	156.4	157.0	161.2	159.3	170.2	173.5
Total males	1,040.5	1,063.6	1,061.1	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.6</i>	<i>41.5</i>	<i>41.6</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	20.0	17.1	21.4	21.9	22.5	17.5	20.5
10-19	71.1	71.0	73.8	74.4	77.8	75.7	79.7
20-29	143.0	149.8	147.7	148.7	152.2	156.9	156.4
30-34	42.1	46.6	48.2	48.6	49.9	46.8	48.8
35-39	288.2	310.5	300.2	300.9	293.6	315.7	313.7
40-44	100.8	99.9	98.6	98.0	98.8	104.1	101.8
45 & over	31.9	33.2	32.4	34.3	32.6	31.3	31.2
Variable hours ¹	44.6	44.9	45.5	43.3	43.7	47.3	49.6
Total females	741.7	772.8	767.8	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>32.4</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>32.0</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>32.0</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	26.9	21.8	28.8	30.7	31.6	22.9	27.0
10-19	89.0	87.2	92.1	93.7	95.2	90.4	95.4
20-29	179.1	192.1	183.2	185.2	187.8	195.1	193.0
30-34	59.7	67.1	65.7	66.0	68.7	66.4	67.3
35-39	648.3	690.4	671.5	671.2	669.1	711.8	706.1
40-44	335.4	342.2	344.3	348.1	349.3	364.6	355.3
45 & over	234.2	234.2	240.9	236.6	231.5	225.0	226.9
Variable hours ¹	209.6	201.4	202.5	204.5	203.0	217.5	223.1
Total persons	1,782.3	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.5</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.1</i>	<i>37.0</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.1</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 02	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	¹ Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	82.5	84.2	87.4	87.9	85.6	88.9	88.7
Self employed (with no paid employees)	170.3	169.5	173.7	175.5	177.0	176.4	172.8
Employee	779.7	800.9	792.7	794.5	796.2	825.0	823.5
Assisting relative	8.0	9.0	7.3	7.9	6.4	8.1	7.4
Total males	1,040.5	1,063.6	1,061.1	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	16.9	17.2	18.7	19.2	20.5	20.9	21.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	31.0	32.3	31.4	30.7	32.5	31.1	31.3
Employee	684.9	714.2	710.0	713.4	710.9	736.9	741.6
Assisting relative	8.9	9.2	7.6	6.8	7.1	6.5	6.9
Total females	741.7	772.8	767.8	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	99.4	101.3	106.1	107.1	106.1	109.7	110.6
Self employed (with no paid employees)	201.3	201.8	205.2	206.2	209.5	207.4	204.1
Employee	1,464.6	1,515.2	1,502.8	1,507.9	1,507.1	1,561.9	1,565.1
Assisting relative	17.0	18.2	14.9	14.6	13.5	14.5	14.3
Total persons	1,782.3	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1

¹ Contains revised figures

Table 7a Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions¹ and ILO Economic Status

Region (NUTS2)	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border, Midland and Western					
Sep-Nov 2002	445.8	24.3	470.1	5.2	57.4
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
Mar-May 2004	468.9	22.3	491.2	4.5	58.1
Jun-Aug 2004	489.8	25.2	515.1	4.9	60.4
Sep-Nov 2004	490.8	23.4	514.2	4.6	59.7
Southern and Eastern					
Sep-Nov 2002	1,336.5	59.7	1,396.2	4.3	60.6
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
Mar-May 2004	1,367.3	61.9	1,429.2	4.3	60.7
Jun-Aug 2004	1,403.8	68.6	1,472.4	4.7	62.2
Sep-Nov 2004	1,403.3	62.2	1,465.5	4.2	61.5
State					
Sep-Nov 2002	1,782.3	84.1	1,866.3	4.5	59.7
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
Mar-May 2004	1,836.2	84.2	1,920.3	4.4	60.0
Jun-Aug 2004	1,893.6	93.9	1,987.5	4.7	61.8
Sep-Nov 2004	1,894.1	85.6	1,979.7	4.3	61.0

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 7b Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions¹ and ILO Economic Status

Region (NUTS3)		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border	Sep-Nov 2002	176.5	12.8	189.4	6.8	55.8
	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
	Mar-May 2004	189.7	10.5	200.2	5.2	57.2
	Jun-Aug 2004	195.3	12.2	207.6	5.9	58.9
	Sep-Nov 2004	196.6	11.1	207.7	5.4	58.5
Midland	Sep-Nov 2002	97.6	4.2	101.8	4.1	57.8
	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
	Mar-May 2004	102.9	5.0	107.9	4.6	59.2
	Jun-Aug 2004	108.3	5.7	114.0	5.0	61.9
	Sep-Nov 2004	107.4	4.7	112.1	4.2	60.2
West	Sep-Nov 2002	171.6	7.3	178.9	4.1	58.8
	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
	Mar-May 2004	176.2	6.8	183.0	3.7	58.4
	Jun-Aug 2004	186.1	7.3	193.4	3.8	61.3
	Sep-Nov 2004	186.8	7.5	194.3	3.9	60.6
Dublin	Sep-Nov 2002	549.6	23.7	573.3	4.1	62.7
	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
	Mar-May 2004	550.2	24.7	574.9	4.3	62.0
	Jun-Aug 2004	560.2	24.7	585.0	4.2	63.0
	Sep-Nov 2004	564.0	24.4	588.4	4.1	62.9
Mid-East	Sep-Nov 2002	198.9	7.2	206.1	3.5	63.8
	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
	Mar-May 2004	204.2	6.7	210.9	3.2	62.8
	Jun-Aug 2004	210.9	8.2	219.0	3.7	64.6
	Sep-Nov 2004	212.0	6.2	218.2	2.9	63.7
Mid-West	Sep-Nov 2002	147.9	6.2	154.1	4.1	57.4
	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
	Mar-May 2004	156.7	8.3	165.0	5.0	60.5
	Jun-Aug 2004	160.0	9.7	169.7	5.7	62.0
	Sep-Nov 2004	159.4	8.5	167.9	5.1	60.9
South-East	Sep-Nov 2002	187.0	10.6	197.6	5.3	59.1
	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
	Mar-May 2004	192.2	10.5	202.6	5.2	58.9
	Jun-Aug 2004	195.9	13.0	208.9	6.2	60.2
	Sep-Nov 2004	195.2	11.6	206.8	5.6	59.1
South-West	Sep-Nov 2002	253.1	12.1	265.2	4.5	57.0
	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
	Mar-May 2004	264.1	11.6	275.7	4.2	58.0
	Jun-Aug 2004	276.8	13.0	289.8	4.5	60.7
	Sep-Nov 2004	272.8	11.4	284.2	4.0	59.1
State	Sep-Nov 2002	1,782.3	84.1	1,866.3	4.5	59.7
	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
	Mar-May 2004	1,836.2	84.2	1,920.3	4.4	60.0
	Jun-Aug 2004	1,893.6	93.9	1,987.5	4.7	61.8
	Sep-Nov 2004	1,894.1	85.6	1,979.7	4.3	61.0

¹ See Background Notes.

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

%

Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	29.1	77.7	91.7	86.7	76.1	58.0	44.7	18.0	68.9
Married	21.3	75.3	94.8	95.9	92.7	78.9	60.3	13.8	76.5
Separated or divorced	*	*	91.7	87.5	76.7	62.6	44.5	14.7	68.0
Widowed	*	*	88.3	96.9	66.1	66.2	48.6	6.8	23.9
Total males	29.1	77.7	92.6	93.5	89.1	74.8	56.9	13.6	71.5
Females									
Single	23.9	72.2	82.7	75.5	76.0	58.3	32.7	4.5	60.7
Married	51.1	53.0	67.3	63.2	58.6	42.4	21.8	3.7	49.8
Separated or divorced	*	30.2	61.1	68.3	67.9	50.4	41.8	4.3	60.0
Widowed	*	*	80.6	55.3	60.3	43.4	20.5	2.1	9.9
Total females	24.0	71.5	76.3	65.7	61.4	44.4	23.8	3.1	50.8
All persons									
Single	26.6	75.0	87.6	81.9	76.1	58.1	39.9	11.6	65.0
Married	38.6	59.3	79.2	79.4	76.0	60.9	42.1	9.4	63.2
Separated or divorced	*	42.2	68.9	73.9	71.1	55.7	42.9	10.0	62.8
Widowed	*	*	85.8	70.9	61.7	50.0	27.5	3.0	12.8
Total persons	26.6	74.6	84.4	79.6	75.3	59.7	40.5	7.7	61.0

* 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 2002	31.1	77.1	92.4	92.7	87.5	75.2	55.7	14.4	71.0
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
Mar-May 2004	27.0	76.1	92.5	93.1	89.1	75.5	54.9	13.7	70.9
Jun-Aug 2004	37.4	83.7	92.5	93.3	89.2	74.9	55.2	13.9	72.8
Sep-Nov 2004	29.1	77.7	92.6	93.5	89.1	74.8	56.9	13.6	71.5
Females									
Sep-Nov 2002	24.5	67.6	74.7	65.4	57.1	39.6	23.4	3.2	48.8
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
Mar-May 2004	20.0	66.0	75.6	65.9	60.2	42.1	24.8	3.1	49.4
Jun-Aug 2004	30.7	73.9	75.6	65.0	60.8	42.6	22.0	3.0	51.0
Sep-Nov 2004	24.0	71.5	76.3	65.7	61.4	44.4	23.8	3.1	50.8
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2002	27.8	72.4	83.6	79.0	72.4	57.7	39.6	8.1	59.7
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
Mar-May 2004	23.6	71.1	84.1	79.5	74.7	59.0	40.0	7.7	60.0
Jun-Aug 2004	34.2	78.8	84.0	79.1	75.1	58.9	38.7	7.8	61.8
Sep-Nov 2004	26.6	74.6	84.4	79.6	75.3	59.7	40.5	7.7	61.0

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2002	49.4	130.2	289.7	261.8	212.6	77.1	44.0	27.6	1,092.4
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
Mar-May 2004	41.6	129.5	300.9	271.3	221.3	82.1	45.9	27.0	1,119.6
Jun-Aug 2004	57.5	142.7	303.9	272.9	222.9	81.9	46.6	27.6	1,156.0
Sep-Nov 2004	44.6	134.3	308.5	275.7	223.9	82.5	48.4	27.2	1,145.2
Females									
Sep-Nov 2002	37.1	112.7	234.0	186.6	137.8	39.5	18.3	7.9	773.9
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
Mar-May 2004	29.4	111.2	245.8	192.5	149.1	44.6	20.5	7.8	800.8
Jun-Aug 2004	44.9	125.0	247.8	191.1	151.1	45.5	18.4	7.7	831.5
Sep-Nov 2004	35.1	122.7	253.3	194.2	153.4	47.9	20.1	7.9	834.5
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2002	86.5	242.9	523.7	448.4	350.4	116.6	62.4	35.5	1,866.3
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
Mar-May 2004	71.0	240.8	546.7	463.8	370.3	126.6	66.4	34.7	1,920.3
Jun-Aug 2004	102.4	267.7	551.7	464.0	374.0	127.4	64.9	35.3	1,987.5
Sep-Nov 2004	79.7	257.0	561.8	469.9	377.3	130.3	68.5	35.1	1,979.7

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2002	43.1	119.8	275.3	251.9	204.9	74.7	43.3	27.5	1,040.5
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
Mar-May 2004	36.6	119.8	285.1	260.4	212.2	79.5	44.7	26.8	1,065.2
Jun-Aug 2004	49.5	130.7	288.6	263.2	213.9	79.7	45.3	27.3	1,098.3
Sep-Nov 2004	38.3	124.0	294.7	265.9	215.2	80.0	47.4	27.1	1,092.4
Females									
Sep-Nov 2002	33.0	105.4	224.7	181.0	133.5	38.4	17.8	7.8	741.7
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
Mar-May 2004	25.8	104.5	237.2	186.3	145.5	43.9	20.2	7.6	771.0
Jun-Aug 2004	38.2	114.3	240.1	185.5	147.3	44.2	18.1	7.7	795.3
Sep-Nov 2004	30.8	114.6	244.7	187.9	149.2	46.7	19.9	7.9	801.7
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2002	76.1	225.3	500.0	432.9	338.5	113.1	61.1	35.4	1,782.3
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
Mar-May 2004	62.4	224.2	522.3	446.7	357.7	123.5	64.9	34.5	1,836.2
Jun-Aug 2004	87.7	245.0	528.8	448.6	361.2	123.9	63.4	35.0	1,893.6
Sep-Nov 2004	69.1	238.7	539.4	453.8	364.4	126.6	67.2	34.9	1,894.1

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

%

	Age group							Total 15-64
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	
Males								
Sep-Nov 2002	27.1	71.0	87.8	89.2	84.3	72.9	54.8	75.1
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
Mar-May 2004	23.8	70.3	87.6	89.4	85.4	73.2	53.5	75.2
Jun-Aug 2004	32.3	76.7	87.8	89.9	85.6	72.9	53.7	77.1
Sep-Nov 2004	24.9	71.7	88.5	90.2	85.6	72.5	55.7	76.0
Females								
Sep-Nov 2002	21.7	63.3	71.8	63.5	55.4	38.5	22.7	54.9
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
Mar-May 2004	17.6	62.0	73.0	63.7	58.8	41.5	24.4	55.8
Jun-Aug 2004	26.1	67.6	73.2	63.1	59.3	41.4	21.7	57.2
Sep-Nov 2004	21.1	66.8	73.7	63.6	59.7	43.3	23.6	57.2
All persons								
Sep-Nov 2002	24.5	67.1	79.8	76.3	69.9	55.9	38.8	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
Mar-May 2004	20.7	66.2	80.3	76.5	72.1	57.6	39.1	65.5
Jun-Aug 2004	29.3	72.1	80.5	76.5	72.5	57.3	37.8	67.2
Sep-Nov 2004	23.1	69.3	81.1	76.9	72.7	58.0	39.7	66.7

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

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2002	6.3	10.4	14.4	9.9	7.7	2.4	0.7	*	51.9
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
Mar-May 2004	5.0	9.8	15.8	10.8	9.1	2.5	1.2	*	54.4
Jun-Aug 2004	7.9	12.0	15.3	9.8	9.0	2.2	1.3	0.3	57.7
Sep-Nov 2004	6.4	10.3	13.8	9.9	8.7	2.5	1.1	*	52.8
Females									
Sep-Nov 2002	4.1	7.3	9.2	5.6	4.2	1.1	0.5	*	32.2
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
Mar-May 2004	3.6	6.8	8.5	6.2	3.5	0.6	0.3	*	29.8
Jun-Aug 2004	6.8	10.7	7.6	5.6	3.9	1.3	*	*	36.2
Sep-Nov 2004	4.3	8.1	8.6	6.3	4.2	1.2	*	*	32.8
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2002	10.4	17.7	23.6	15.5	11.9	3.5	1.2	*	84.1
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
Mar-May 2004	8.6	16.5	24.4	17.1	12.6	3.2	1.5	0.3	84.2
Jun-Aug 2004	14.7	22.7	22.9	15.4	12.8	3.5	1.6	0.3	93.9
Sep-Nov 2004	10.6	18.4	22.4	16.2	12.9	3.7	1.3	*	85.6

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 14 Unemployment 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 2002	12.7	8.0	5.0	3.8	3.6	3.1	1.6	*	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
Mar-May 2004	12.1	7.5	5.3	4.0	4.1	3.1	2.5	*	4.9
Jun-Aug 2004	13.8	8.4	5.0	3.6	4.0	2.7	2.8	1.0	5.0
Sep-Nov 2004	14.3	7.7	4.5	3.6	3.9	3.0	2.2	0.4	4.6
Females									
Sep-Nov 2002	11.1	6.5	3.9	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.8	*	4.2
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	*	3.9
Mar-May 2004	12.2	6.1	3.5	3.2	2.4	1.4	1.7	*	3.7
Jun-Aug 2004	15.1	8.6	3.1	3.0	2.6	2.8	1.3	*	4.3
Sep-Nov 2004	12.2	6.6	3.4	3.2	2.7	2.5	1.1	*	3.9
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2002	12.0	7.3	4.5	3.5	3.4	3.0	2.0	*	4.5
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
Mar-May 2004	12.1	6.9	4.5	3.7	3.4	2.5	2.3	0.8	4.4
Jun-Aug 2004	14.4	8.5	4.2	3.3	3.4	2.7	2.4	0.8	4.7
Sep-Nov 2004	13.4	7.1	4.0	3.4	3.4	2.8	1.9	0.3	4.3

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

Married Females	Age group							Total	
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64		65+
Total married women ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2002	0.5	5.7	128.5	212.2	186.0	76.1	54.7	93.1	756.8
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
Mar-May 2004	0.6	4.8	128.8	219.0	192.3	81.7	58.5	99.2	784.9
Jun-Aug 2004	0.6	5.3	128.0	217.6	190.5	82.7	58.8	100.4	783.8
Sep-Nov 2004	0.5	5.4	129.3	218.2	190.1	83.2	59.1	99.9	785.8
of which In labour force ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2002	*	2.9	81.9	132.6	101.7	28.5	11.8	3.5	362.9
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
Mar-May 2004	*	2.3	84.4	138.3	112.3	33.4	13.0	3.7	387.5
Jun-Aug 2004	*	2.4	83.0	136.5	112.2	33.5	12.2	3.8	383.6
Sep-Nov 2004	0.3	2.9	87.0	138.0	111.4	35.3	12.9	3.7	391.3
of which In employment ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2002	*	2.7	79.2	128.8	98.6	27.7	11.4	3.5	352.1
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
Mar-May 2004	*	2.0	82.6	134.9	110.0	32.9	12.9	3.7	378.8
Jun-Aug 2004	*	2.1	81.3	132.9	110.1	32.7	12.1	3.8	375.0
Sep-Nov 2004	0.3	2.6	85.3	134.1	108.8	34.7	12.7	3.7	382.1
Participation rates (%)									
Sep-Nov 2002	*	50.5	63.7	62.5	54.7	37.4	21.5	3.7	47.9
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
Mar-May 2004	*	47.5	65.5	63.1	58.4	40.8	22.2	3.8	49.4
Jun-Aug 2004	*	44.5	64.8	62.7	58.9	40.5	20.7	3.8	48.9
Sep-Nov 2004	*	53.0	67.3	63.2	58.6	42.4	21.8	3.7	49.8

* 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 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
Mar-May 2004	1,920.3	1,836.2	84.2	26.3	4.4	1.4
Jun-Aug 2004	1,987.5	1,893.6	93.9	28.0	4.7	1.4
Sep-Nov 2004	1,979.7	1,894.1	85.6	28.9	4.3	1.5

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Sep- Nov 02	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
Males							
Less than 1 year	32.8	38.6	33.5	29.7	33.9	36.6	31.3
1 year and over	19.0	20.3	19.6	22.8	20.2	20.7	21.3
Not stated	*	0.6	*	*	0.3	0.4	*
Total males	51.9	59.4	53.3	52.6	54.4	57.7	52.8
Females							
Less than 1 year	26.3	32.6	25.9	23.2	23.5	28.8	25.2
1 year and over	5.8	6.8	6.6	7.7	6.2	7.3	7.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	32.2	39.4	32.6	31.0	29.8	36.2	32.8
All persons							
Less than 1 year	59.1	71.2	59.4	52.9	57.4	65.4	56.5
1 year and over	24.9	27.0	26.2	30.5	26.3	28.0	28.9
Not stated	*	0.6	*	*	0.4	0.4	*
Total persons	84.1	98.8	85.9	83.6	84.2	93.9	85.6

* 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

	QNHS Sep-Nov 2003				QNHS Sep-Nov 2004				Total
	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	13.0	14.3	6.3	33.5	12.0	13.4	5.8	31.3	
1 year and over	4.0	10.4	5.3	19.6	4.6	10.2	6.5	21.3	
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Total males	17.0	24.7	11.7	53.3	16.7	23.6	12.4	52.8	
Females									
Less than 1 year	10.4	11.6	3.9	25.9	9.6	11.6	4.0	25.2	
1 year and over	1.6	3.4	1.6	6.6	2.7	3.3	1.5	7.5	
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Total females	12.1	15.0	5.5	32.6	12.3	14.9	5.6	32.8	
All persons									
Less than 1 year	23.4	25.9	10.1	59.4	21.6	25.0	9.9	56.5	
1 year and over	5.6	13.8	6.9	26.2	7.3	13.5	8.0	28.9	
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Total persons	29.0	39.7	17.2	85.9	29.0	38.5	18.0	85.6	

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Sep- Nov 02	Dec- Feb 03	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04
In labour force	1,866.3	1,868.7	1,875.5	1,935.3	1,914.8	1,919.5	1,920.3	1,987.5	1,979.7
In employment:	1,782.3	1,783.6	1,793.4	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1
full-time	1,487.5	1,482.4	1,488.2	1,525.7	1,524.1	1,527.1	1,525.0	1,576.2	1,577.6
part-time:	294.8	301.1	305.2	310.7	304.8	308.8	311.1	317.4	316.6
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	292.2	297.7	301.7	306.4	300.9	305.0	307.4	313.4	313.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	2.6	3.4	3.5	4.3	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.0	2.9
Unemployed:	84.1	85.2	82.1	98.8	85.9	83.6	84.2	93.9	85.6
seeking full-time work	69.0	71.6	69.0	82.9	70.9	70.8	71.7	80.1	72.2
seeking part-time work	15.0	13.5	13.1	15.9	15.0	12.8	12.4	13.8	13.4
Not in labour force	1,258.1	1,270.1	1,269.6	1,223.9	1,265.1	1,272.5	1,280.3	1,230.9	1,266.0
Marginally attached to the labour force:	12.2	12.7	12.1	14.6	10.9	12.2	10.0	13.4	11.3
Discouraged workers	9.2	9.4	9.1	11.2	8.3	9.4	8.1	10.8	8.4
Passive jobseekers	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.4	2.7	2.8	1.9	2.6	2.9
Others:	1,245.9	1,257.4	1,257.5	1,209.3	1,254.2	1,260.3	1,270.3	1,217.5	1,254.7
Persons not in education, who want work ¹	56.3	58.9	61.9	52.1	45.4	54.9	53.3	56.5	56.1
Persons in education, who want work ¹	40.7	47.0	52.1	30.8	31.6	29.7	35.3	25.0	27.8
All other persons	1,148.9	1,151.5	1,143.5	1,126.4	1,177.2	1,175.8	1,181.7	1,135.9	1,170.8
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,124.5	3,138.9	3,145.1	3,159.2	3,179.9	3,192.0	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7

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
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
Mar-May 2004	4.8	7.4	7.6
Jun-Aug 2004	5.2	8.0	8.2
Sep-Nov 2004	4.7	7.5	7.6

%

NOTE: Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 19:

S1: Unemployed plus discouraged workers as a percentage of the Labour Force plus discouraged workers.

S2: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work as a percentage of the Labour Force plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.

S3: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work plus underemployed part-time workers as a percentage of the Labour Force plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.

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

'000

Principal Economic Status	Sep-Nov 02	Jun-Aug 03	Sep-Nov 03	Dec-Feb 04	Mar-May 04	Jun-Aug 04	Sep-Nov 04
Males							
At work	1,010.1	1,019.6	1,032.1	1,036.7	1,038.5	1,052.1	1,066.9
Unemployed	82.2	83.7	82.2	79.3	81.1	80.5	78.0
Student	175.5	169.1	172.6	177.4	179.0	170.4	171.2
Home duties	6.2	7.9	4.7	4.4	4.5	4.6	5.2
Retired	197.9	205.0	204.7	205.7	206.9	208.3	208.6
Others	67.6	71.2	70.3	69.0	68.7	71.5	71.7
Total males	1,539.6	1,556.4	1,566.6	1,572.4	1,578.7	1,587.4	1,601.6
Females							
At work	701.2	720.9	725.3	730.1	731.9	745.5	761.1
Unemployed	36.0	38.5	35.8	35.0	31.6	37.2	34.0
Student	191.8	182.1	191.7	196.2	198.4	180.0	186.5
Home duties	559.4	557.4	558.0	553.4	551.9	560.0	553.3
Retired	63.8	68.1	67.6	67.3	70.3	68.8	70.5
Others	32.7	35.7	35.1	37.6	37.9	39.4	38.8
Total females	1,584.9	1,602.8	1,613.4	1,619.6	1,621.9	1,631.0	1,644.1
All persons							
At work	1,711.4	1,740.5	1,757.4	1,766.8	1,770.4	1,797.6	1,828.0
Unemployed	118.2	122.2	118.0	114.3	112.6	117.7	112.0
Student	367.3	351.2	364.3	373.6	377.4	350.4	357.7
Home duties	565.6	565.3	562.7	557.8	556.4	564.6	558.5
Retired	261.6	273.1	272.2	273.0	277.2	277.1	279.1
Others	100.4	106.9	105.4	106.5	106.6	110.9	110.5
Total persons	3,124.5	3,159.2	3,179.9	3,192.0	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7

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 2004

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,062.8	2.0	23.0	*	3.0	1.4	1,092.4
full-time	1,022.1	1.0	3.0	*	0.5	1.0	1,027.7
part-time:	40.6	1.0	20.0	*	2.5	0.5	64.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	39.6	0.9	20.0	*	2.5	0.5	63.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.0	*	*	*	*	*	1.0
Unemployed:	0.9	47.6	1.6	*	0.4	2.1	52.8
seeking full-time work	0.9	46.8	0.7	*	*	1.9	50.8
seeking part-time work	*	0.7	0.9	*	*	*	2.0
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.2	5.8	*	*	0.4	0.3	7.9
Others	1.9	22.7	146.4	4.8	204.8	67.8	448.5
Total males aged 15 or over	1,066.9	78.0	171.2	5.2	208.6	71.7	1,601.6
Females							
In employment:	757.1	1.5	32.9	7.9	0.4	1.9	801.7
full-time	543.7	0.7	3.1	1.2	*	1.0	549.8
part-time:	213.4	0.8	29.7	6.7	0.4	0.9	251.9
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	211.8	0.7	29.6	6.7	0.4	0.8	250.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.6	*	*	*	*	*	1.9
Unemployed:	0.8	19.9	2.2	9.4	*	0.5	32.8
seeking full-time work	0.6	16.6	0.3	3.5	*	0.3	21.4
seeking part-time work	*	3.3	1.8	5.9	*	*	11.4
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.2	0.8	0.4	0.8	*	*	3.4
Others	2.0	11.7	151.1	535.2	69.9	36.4	806.3
Total females aged 15 or over	761.1	34.0	186.5	553.3	70.5	38.8	1,644.1
All persons							
In employment:	1,819.8	3.5	55.9	8.1	3.5	3.3	1,894.1
full-time	1,565.8	1.7	6.1	1.4	0.5	2.0	1,577.5
part-time:	254.0	1.8	49.7	6.7	2.9	1.3	316.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	251.4	1.7	49.6	6.7	2.9	1.3	313.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	2.6	*	*	*	*	*	2.9
Unemployed:	1.7	67.5	3.7	9.6	0.5	2.6	85.6
seeking full-time work	1.5	63.4	1.0	3.7	0.3	2.2	72.2
seeking part-time work	*	4.0	2.7	5.9	*	0.3	13.4
Marginally attached to the labour force	2.5	6.6	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.4	11.3
Others	4.0	34.4	297.5	540.0	274.7	104.2	1,254.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	1,828.0	112.0	357.7	558.5	279.1	110.5	3,245.7

* 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, QNHS, September-November 2004

'000

Composition of family unit	In employment			Unemployed			Not economically active			Total ²		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Husband and wife (or couple) without children:												
Wife/female partner aged under 45	88.0	82.4	170.4	2.0	1.9	3.9	3.0	9.8	12.8	93.0	94.1	187.1
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	64.1	43.3	107.4	1.7	0.9	2.7	42.7	63.1	105.8	108.5	107.3	215.9
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	8.2	2.5	10.7	*	*	*	68.3	72.2	140.5	76.5	74.8	151.2
Total	160.3	128.2	288.5	3.8	2.8	6.5	114.0	145.2	259.2	278.1	276.1	554.2
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	158.6	100.2	258.8	5.5	2.6	8.0	9.7	70.8	80.5	173.7	173.6	347.3
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	10.2	4.4	14.5	0.9	*	1.1	1.4	7.5	8.9	12.5	12.1	24.6
All children aged 5 to 14	74.0	47.8	121.8	1.7	1.4	3.1	3.4	28.7	32.1	79.2	77.9	157.0
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	112.9	71.5	184.4	3.7	2.2	5.9	8.6	48.6	57.2	125.2	122.3	247.5
All children aged 15 or over	138.3	86.2	224.5	4.2	1.7	6.0	53.8	104.2	158.0	196.4	192.1	388.5
Total	493.9	310.1	804.0	16.0	8.1	24.1	76.9	259.9	336.8	586.9	578.0	1,164.9
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	0.8	17.4	18.2	*	2.1	2.1	*	22.6	22.7	1.0	42.0	43.0
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.3	1.3	*	*	*	*	2.0	2.1	*	3.5	3.6
All children aged 5 to 14	1.3	13.4	14.7	*	1.5	1.6	*	7.6	7.8	1.7	22.5	24.1
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.2	16.3	18.5	*	1.3	1.4	0.7	8.7	9.4	3.0	26.4	29.4
All children aged 15 or over	7.8	23.3	31.1	0.3	0.9	1.2	8.3	46.6	54.9	16.4	70.8	87.2
Total	12.1	71.7	83.8	0.7	6.0	6.7	9.4	87.5	96.8	22.2	165.2	187.4
Total	666.4	510.0	1,176.3	20.4	16.9	37.3	200.3	492.5	692.8	887.1	1,019.4	1,906.5

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

Region	Q2/2003					Q2/2004				
	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	212,082	193,086	18,997	56.6	9.0	212,305	193,350	18,955	56.6	8.9
EU-15	178,344	164,197	14,147	56.8	7.9	178,592	164,462	14,131	56.8	7.9
Eurozone ¹	140,796	128,504	12,293	55.4	8.7	141,810	129,480	12,330	55.6	8.7
Belgium	4,392	4,055	337	51.4	7.7	4,473	4,144	329	52.0	7.4
Czech Republic	5,087	4,703	384	59.2	7.5	5,101	4,682	419	59.0	8.2
Denmark	2,859	2,704	154	65.5	5.4	2,893	2,742	151	65.9	5.2
Germany ²	39,821	35,927	3,894	57.3	9.8	39,821	35,927	3,894	57.3	9.8
Estonia	660	589	71	58.7	10.8	661	595	66	58.8	10.0
Greece	4,728	4,287	442	52.5	9.3	4,823	4,330	493	53.3	10.2
Spain	18,751	16,666	2,085	54.1	11.1	19,143	17,050	2,093	54.9	10.9
France	26,360	24,140	2,220	55.9	8.4	26,515	24,215	2,300	55.9	8.7
Ireland	1,876	1,793	82	59.6	4.4	1,920	1,836	84	60.0	4.4
Italy	24,203	22,057	2,146	49.3	8.9	24,361	22,438	1,923	49.6	7.9
Cyprus	341	327	14	63.1	4.1	352	336	15	63.1	4.3
Latvia	1,122	1,004	119	57.3	10.6	1,133	1,021	112	57.7	9.9
Lithuania	1,690	1,473	218	60.2	12.9	1,621	1,437	184	57.4	11.4
Luxembourg ²	195	188	7	54.8	3.6	195	188	7	54.8	3.6
Hungary	4,165	3,924	241	49.7	5.8	4,135	3,894	241	49.5	5.8
Malta	161	149	12	50.3	7.5	157	146	11	49.5	7.0
Netherlands	8,432	8,126	306	64.7	3.6	8,496	8,101	395	64.9	4.6
Austria	3,906	3,746	160	59.4	4.1	3,932	3,742	190	58.6	4.8
Poland	16,938	13,657	3,281	54.6	19.4	16,907	13,682	3,225	54.4	19.1
Portugal	5,451	5,118	333	62.1	6.1	5,472	5,125	347	61.9	6.3
Slovenia	959	896	62	56.5	6.5	1,006	946	60	59.0	6.0
Slovak Republic	2,615	2,167	448	60.1	17.1	2,640	2,149	491	60.1	18.6
Finland	2,681	2,401	281	62.8	10.5	2,659	2,384	275	62.1	10.3
Sweden	4,608	4,352	256	62.8	5.6	4,620	4,311	309	62.5	6.7
United Kingdom	30,081	28,637	1,444	62.5	4.8	29,269	27,929	1,341	61.7	4.6

Source: Eurostat.

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

Note: Table contains revised data.

¹ Eurozone consists of EU15 states with the exceptions of Denmark, Sweden and United Kingdom,

² Data for Germany and Luxembourg for Q2 2004 is unchanged from Q2 2003 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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
ILO Labour Force Classification	<p>The primary classification used for the QNHS results is the ILO (International Labour Office) 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:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Inactive Population (not in labour force): All other persons.</p> <p>The labour force comprises persons employed plus unemployed.</p>
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 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		Southern and Eastern NUTS2 Region	
Border	Cavan Donegal Leitrim Louth Monaghan Sligo	Dublin	Dublin Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal South Dublin
Midland	Laoighis Longford Offaly Westmeath	Mid-East	Kildare Meath Wicklow
West	Galway City Galway County Mayo Roscommon	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

QNHS Social Modules

While the main purpose of the QNHS is the production of quarterly labour force estimates, there is also a provision for the collection of data on social topics through the inclusion of special survey modules. The selection of the major national modules undertaken to date has been largely based on the results of a canvas of users (over 100 organisations) that was conducted by the CSO in 1996 and most recently 2002. The results of the canvas are presented to the National Statistics Board and they are asked to indicate their priorities for the years ahead.

The schedule for social modules in any given year is based on the following structure:

Quarter 1	Annual modules update (Disability, Pensions, Childcare, Accidents and Illness)
Quarter 2	EU module (always covered under EU legislation)
Quarter 3	National module and Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Survey
Quarter 4	National module

The table below outlines the social modules published to date in the QNHS

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q3 2004	ICT household survey
Q4 2003	Crime and Victimisation
Q3 2003	Housing
Q3 2003	ICT household survey
Q2 2003	Life long learning
Q4 2002	Childcare
Q3 2002	Teleworking
Q3 2002	Voter registration and participation
Q2 2002	Disability in the labour force (Annual update Q1 2004)
Q1 2002	Pension provision (Annual update Q1 2004)
Q3 2001	Health
Q2 2001	Length and pattern of working time
Q4 2000	Home computing
Q2 2000	Transition from school to working life
Q1 2000	Travel to work
Q1 1999	Recycling and energy conservation
Q4 1998	Crime and Victimisation
Q3 1998	Home computing
Q3 1998	Housing and households

Planned future modules are as follows:

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q2 2004	Length and pattern of working time
Q3 2004	Travel to work
Q4 2004	Equality
Q1 2005	Annual update module
Q2 2005	Reconciliation between work and family life
Q3 2005	ICT household survey
Q3 2005	Recycling and energy
Q4 2005	Pension provision
Q1 2006	Annual update module
Q2 2006	Transition from work into retirement
Q3 2006	ICT household survey
Q3 2006	Social capital and sport
Q4 2006	Health