

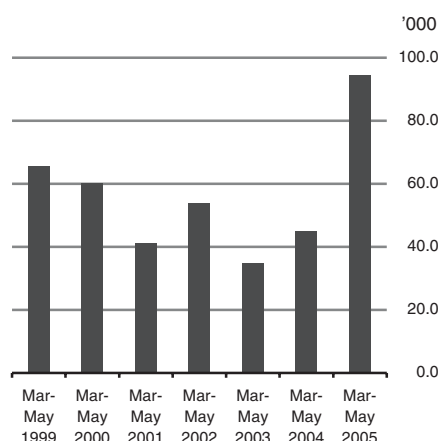


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

14 September 2005

Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 2 2005

**Annual Increase in Labour Force in
the Second Quarters 1999 to 2005**



ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
'000			
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
Dec-Feb 2005	1,908.3	82.1	1,990.5
Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+20.9</i>	<i>+3.5</i>	<i>+24.3</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+93.0</i>	<i>+1.4</i>	<i>+94.5</i>

Record growth as labour force increases to over 2 million

In the second quarter of 2005 there were 2,014,800 persons in the labour force which represents an annual increase of 94,500 or 4.9%. This is the highest year on year increase recorded in absolute terms since the QNHS began, surpassing the record annual increases attained at the end of the last decade. Over the past ten years the labour force has grown by 556,000 or over 38%, the number of females increased by over 300,000, or almost 55%, while males were up by 254,000 or 28%.

The labour force now accounts for 61.5% of all persons aged 15 and over, compared with 60.0% in the second quarter of 2004 and 53.6% in 1995. In the past year the female participation rate rose strongly from 49.4% to 51.4% and is now almost 12 percentage points higher than the 39.7% recorded in 1995. The male participation rate increased over the year from 70.9% to 71.8% and is now almost 4 percentage points higher than 1995 when it stood at 68%. *See table 1 & graph.*

The number of persons in employment grew by 93,000 in the year to reach 1,929,200 in the second quarter of 2005. This is the highest annual growth rate (+5.1%) recorded since the second quarter of 2000. The number of women in employment increased over the year by 48,000 (+6.2%), of which almost 15,000 was accounted for by a rise in the number of part-time workers. The number of males in employment increased by 44,900 (+4.2%) over the same period. *See table 1.*

There were 85,600 persons unemployed in the second quarter of 2005, representing an increase of 1,400 in the year. The unemployment rate now stands at 4.2% down from the 4.4% reported in the same quarter last year. *See tables 1, 17 & 18.*

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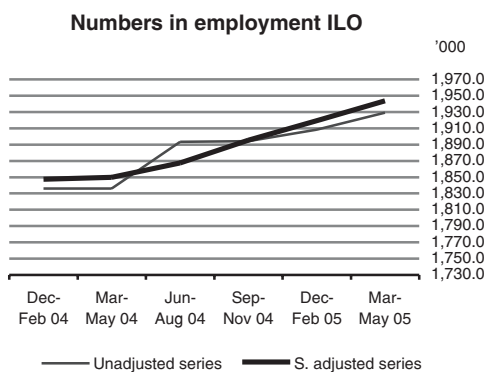
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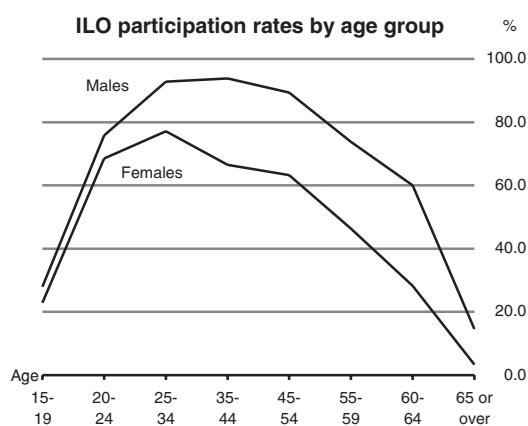


Impact of seasonality on headline figures

When seasonal factors are taken into account the number of persons in employment increased by over 24,000 in the quarter while the numbers unemployed rose by 3,600. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly to 4.3% compared with 4.2% in the previous quarter and 4.5% in the second quarter of 2004. *See table 3.*

Migration and increased participation fuel labour force growth

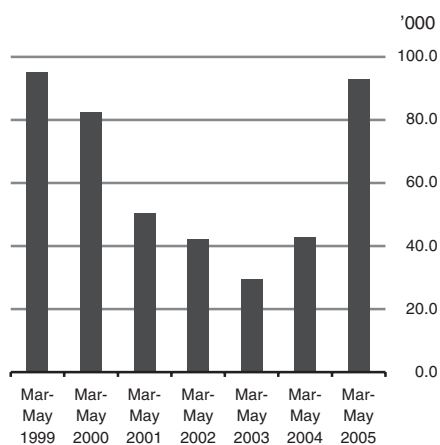
Demographic factors, such as the increase in the population of working age and changes in its age structure, added an estimated 54,000 to the labour force over the year. Migration is estimated to have accounted for approximately two-thirds (around 36,000) of this demographic increase. Around one third of the new migrants found employment in the *Construction* sector while increases were also recorded in *Other production industries*, *Wholesale & retail*, *Financial and other business services* and *Hotels and restaurants*.



The balance of 40,000 in the labour force increase was due to higher labour force participation rates. All age groups showed increases in participation rates while female participation rates rose very sharply and, in particular, there was an increase of just under 22,000 in the number of married women in the labour force with their participation rate rising by two percentage points from 49.4% to 51.4%. *See tables 1, 9 & 15.*

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 7.6% in the second quarter of 2004 to 7.3% in the second quarter of 2005. *See tables 1, 19 & 20.*

Annual Increase in Employment in the Second Quarters 1999 to 2005



Employment increases in most sectors

Employment in the *Construction* (+36,400) and *Financial and other business services* (+20,100) sectors grew strongly in the year to the second quarter of 2005. Other areas in the services sector recorded employment growth to varying degrees. *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* continued to show a decline (-3,300) while there was a fall of 6,400 in the numbers employed in *Other production industries*. *See table 2b.*

The *Construction* sector accounted for over three quarters of the overall growth in the number of males in employment with a further one fifth attributable to the *Financial and other business services*. There was a greater spread across the sectors in relation to the growth in female employment. Almost a quarter of the annual growth in female employment was attributable to the *Financial and other business services*, while other significant sectors included *Health* (23%), *Public administration and defence* (18%), *Hotels and restaurants* (14%) and *Wholesale and retail* (10%).

All occupational categories with the exception of *Managers and administrators* (-2,500) increased in the year. The largest increases were in *Craft and related* (+28,300) and *Clerical and secretarial* (+15,600). *See table 4.*

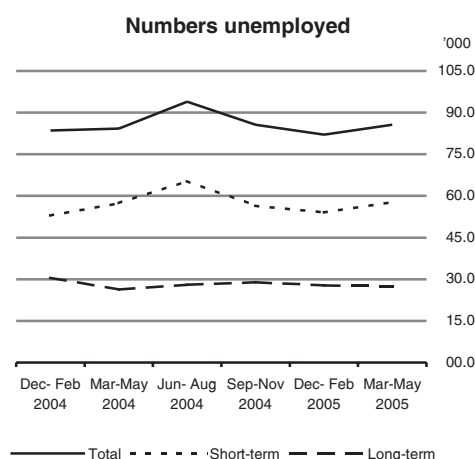
There were 1,594,200 employees in the second quarter of 2005, an annual increase of 87,100. This comprised an increase of 47,500 females and 39,700 males. The number of self-employed persons increased by 5,600 to 321,200 in the year while the number of persons assisting relatives increased slightly to 13,700. *See table 6.*

Employment rate increases for all age groups

The employment rate for persons aged 15-64 continued to rise in the year to the second quarter of 2005 from 65.5% to 67.1%. The rates for both males and females increased over the year, with the male rate rising from 75.2% to 76.2% and the female rate rising from 55.8% to 58.0%. Strong employment rate growth was particularly evident among the older age groups. The employment rate for males aged 60-64 increased from 53.5% to 58.2% while the rate for females aged 55-59 increased from 41.5% to 45.1% over the year. *See table 12.*

The number of persons in part-time employment increased by 20,600 in the year to the second quarter of 2005. Most (14,800) of this rise was accounted for by increased numbers of females taking up part-time work. The sectors that showed the largest annual increases in part-time employment were the *Financial and other business services* (+4,800), *Education* (+3,000) and *Health* (+2,800).

The average working week in the second quarter of 2005 was 36.9 hours, down slightly from the 37.0 hours recorded in the same quarter last year. The number of persons working *variable* hours increased by 16,400 over the year. *See table 5.*



Slight increase in numbers unemployed

There were 53,200 males and 32,400 females unemployed in the second quarter of 2005, representing an annual increase of 2,600 for females and a fall of 1,200 for males. The largest annual increase in the numbers unemployed was concentrated in the 20-24 year age group where the numbers increased by 1,800 to 18,300. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly over the quarter from 4.2% to 4.3%. *See tables 3 & 13.*

Long-term unemployment is estimated to have increased over the year by 1,300 to 27,600 while short-term unemployment increased by 300 to 57,700 over the same period. Those aged 45 or over (+1,200) showed the largest increase in short-term unemployment. The increase in long-term unemployment was distributed fairly evenly with those aged 15-24 showing the highest increase (+600) over the year. *See tables 16, 17 & 18.*

Regional comparisons

Employment grew by 26,600 (+5.7%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 66,400 (+4.9%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the second quarter of 2005. All of the annual increase in unemployment occurred in the Southern and Eastern region (+1,600), while there was a slight fall (-200) in the Border, Midland and Western region. *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Southern and Eastern region increased from 60.7% to 62.2% between the second quarters of 2004 and 2005. The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western region also showed an increase of 1.5 percentage points to 59.6% over the same period.

At NUTS3 level employment grew in all regions with the Midlands (+7.0%) and the West (+6.5%) showing the highest percentage increases over the year. The number of persons in employment in the Dublin region increased by over 24,000 (+4.4%).

Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as “at work” grew by 87,000 in the year to 1,857,400. This comprised an increase of 42,100 males and 44,900 females. This compares to an increase of 52,400 in the year to the second

quarter of 2004. Meanwhile, the numbers describing themselves as “unemployed” fell by 2,900 in the year to 109,700. *See table 21.*

The numbers describing themselves as “on home duties” fell by almost 12,000 to 544,600 in the year. *See table 21.*

The number of students showed a fall of 7,000 in the year to 370,400. In the second quarter of 2005 15.5% of students had a job compared to 14.4% for the same quarter last year and this represented an increase of 3,000 in the number of students with a job. *See table 22.*

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

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ILO Economic Status	Mar- May 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05
Males							
In labour force	1,092.7	1,118.4	1,119.6	1,156.0	1,145.2	1,149.8	1,163.3
In employment:	1,040.9	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1
full-time	971.1	997.0	1,000.2	1,030.4	1,027.7	1,028.5	1,039.4
part-time:	69.8	68.8	64.9	67.9	64.7	69.8	70.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	68.1	66.9	63.5	65.8	63.6	68.2	68.7
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.7	1.9	1.5	2.1	1.0	1.6	2.0
Unemployed:	51.7	52.6	54.4	57.7	52.8	51.5	53.2
seeking full-time work	48.7	50.1	52.1	54.4	50.8	48.9	50.5
seeking part-time work	3.0	2.5	2.3	3.3	2.0	2.6	2.7
Not in labour force	457.1	454.1	459.1	431.4	456.4	461.5	457.6
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	8.2	7.8	6.3	7.7	7.9	7.3	5.2
Others	448.9	446.2	452.8	423.8	448.5	454.2	452.3
Total males aged 15 or over	1,549.8	1,572.4	1,578.7	1,587.4	1,601.6	1,611.3	1,620.9
Unemployment rate %	4.7	4.7	4.9	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.6
Participation rate %	70.5	71.1	70.9	72.8	71.5	71.4	71.8
Females							
In labour force	782.8	801.1	800.8	831.5	834.5	840.7	851.5
In employment:	752.5	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1
full-time	517.0	530.2	524.8	545.8	549.8	552.5	558.1
part-time:	235.4	240.0	246.2	249.5	251.9	257.6	261.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	233.7	238.1	243.9	247.6	250.0	256.1	259.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.7	1.9	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.4	2.1
Unemployed:	30.4	31.0	29.8	36.2	32.8	30.6	32.4
seeking full-time work	20.2	20.7	19.6	25.7	21.4	20.2	20.4
seeking part-time work	10.1	10.3	10.2	10.5	11.4	10.4	12.0
Not in labour force	812.5	818.5	821.1	799.5	809.6	810.9	805.0
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	3.9	4.4	3.6	5.8	3.4	4.8	3.9
Others	808.6	814.1	817.5	793.7	806.3	806.2	801.2
Total females aged 15 or over	1,595.3	1,619.6	1,621.9	1,631.0	1,644.1	1,651.7	1,656.6
Unemployment rate %	3.9	3.9	3.7	4.3	3.9	3.6	3.8
Participation rate %	49.1	49.5	49.4	51.0	50.8	50.9	51.4
All persons							
In labour force	1,875.5	1,919.5	1,920.3	1,987.5	1,979.7	1,990.5	2,014.8
In employment:	1,793.4	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2
full-time	1,488.2	1,527.1	1,525.0	1,576.2	1,577.5	1,581.0	1,597.5
part-time:	305.2	308.8	311.1	317.4	316.5	327.4	331.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	301.7	305.0	307.4	313.4	313.6	324.3	327.7
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	3.5	3.8	3.7	4.0	2.9	3.0	4.0
Unemployed:	82.1	83.6	84.2	93.9	85.6	82.1	85.6
seeking full-time work	69.0	70.8	71.7	80.1	72.2	69.1	71.0
seeking part-time work	13.1	12.8	12.4	13.8	13.4	13.0	14.7
Not in labour force	1,269.6	1,272.5	1,280.3	1,230.9	1,266.0	1,272.5	1,262.6
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	12.1	12.2	10.0	13.4	11.3	12.1	9.1
Others	1,257.5	1,260.3	1,270.3	1,217.5	1,254.8	1,260.4	1,253.5
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,145.1	3,192.0	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7	3,262.9	3,277.4
Unemployment rate %	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.3	4.1	4.2
Participation rate %	59.6	60.1	60.0	61.8	61.0	61.0	61.5

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 2a Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and Broad NACE Economic Sector

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Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Mar- May 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05
Males							
A-B Agriculture	102.9	107.6	105.8	108.9	102.3	101.5	102.6
C-F Industry	399.2	404.7	404.5	423.7	429.6	431.8	436.1
G-Q Services	538.9	553.4	554.8	565.6	560.6	565.0	571.3
Females							
A-B Agriculture	13.7	11.3	11.1	10.9	10.2	11.0	11.1
C-F Industry	98.3	95.1	102.1	103.6	98.9	98.6	100.5
G-Q Services	640.4	663.8	657.8	680.8	692.6	700.5	707.6
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	116.6	118.9	117.0	119.9	112.5	112.5	113.7
C-F Industry	497.5	499.8	506.5	527.3	528.5	530.4	536.6
G-Q Services	1,179.3	1,217.2	1,212.7	1,246.5	1,253.2	1,265.4	1,278.9
Total persons	1,793.4	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2

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

'000

Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Mar- May 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	102.9	107.6	105.8	108.9	102.3	101.5	102.6
C-E Other production industries	217.3	211.8	208.8	212.1	212.2	210.0	205.9
F Construction	181.9	192.9	195.7	211.6	217.4	221.8	230.2
G Wholesale and retail trade	127.7	133.2	131.3	137.0	134.6	134.3	133.2
H Hotels and restaurants	48.4	49.7	49.4	48.4	45.7	48.2	45.7
I Transport, storage and communication	85.0	84.7	87.2	89.4	90.5	90.4	91.1
J-K Financial and other business services	116.2	116.4	120.9	123.0	123.0	123.7	129.5
L Public administration and defence	51.3	48.7	48.8	48.2	46.7	48.5	48.8
M Education	34.6	34.6	33.2	35.1	35.0	34.6	35.8
N Health	33.7	34.6	33.8	33.7	33.4	32.9	33.5
O-Q Other services	42.0	51.6	50.3	50.8	51.6	52.4	53.7
Total males	1,040.9	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13.7	11.3	11.1	10.9	10.2	11.0	11.1
C-E Other production industries	88.9	85.6	91.8	93.4	88.9	87.2	88.3
F Construction	9.4	9.4	10.3	10.1	10.0	11.4	12.2
G Wholesale and retail trade	124.0	130.2	128.9	133.2	130.9	133.3	133.7
H Hotels and restaurants	66.0	63.4	58.4	67.7	66.9	64.0	65.3
I Transport, storage and communication	27.0	28.7	26.0	25.4	25.2	25.3	27.1
J-K Financial and other business services	110.9	118.0	116.1	120.0	124.7	129.2	127.6
L Public administration and defence	41.0	41.2	40.7	45.3	47.6	47.9	49.4
M Education	81.4	84.9	84.7	77.3	83.5	85.2	87.3
N Health	136.2	142.6	143.3	148.4	149.1	152.6	154.5
O-Q Other services	53.7	54.8	59.7	63.6	64.7	63.0	62.7
Total females	752.5	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	116.6	118.9	117.0	119.9	112.5	112.5	113.7
C-E Other production industries	306.1	297.4	300.6	305.6	301.1	297.3	294.2
F Construction	191.4	202.3	206.0	221.7	227.4	233.1	242.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	251.6	263.4	260.2	270.2	265.4	267.6	266.9
H Hotels and restaurants	114.4	113.1	107.8	116.1	112.6	112.3	111.0
I Transport, storage and communication	112.1	113.4	113.2	114.8	115.7	115.7	118.2
J-K Financial and other business services	227.1	234.4	237.0	243.1	247.7	252.9	257.1
L Public administration and defence	92.4	89.9	89.5	93.5	94.4	96.4	98.2
M Education	116.1	119.4	117.9	112.3	118.5	119.8	123.1
N Health	169.9	177.2	177.0	182.1	182.5	185.5	188.0
O-Q Other services	95.7	106.4	110.0	114.4	116.3	115.4	116.4
Total persons	1,793.4	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2

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	Mar- May 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05
Males							
In labour force	1,101.7	1,126.8	1,128.6	1,137.1	1,146.8	1,158.2	1,172.4
In employment:	1,048.0	1,073.6	1,072.2	1,082.8	1,093.3	1,106.0	1,117.2
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.6	109.0	107.4	107.3	101.0	102.8	104.1
C-E Other production industries	219.1	212.1	210.5	209.5	213.0	209.9	207.6
F Construction	184.5	194.8	198.6	208.1	215.8	224.0	233.6
G Wholesale and retail trade	129.4	133.3	133.1	134.6	135.0	134.5	135.1
H Hotels and restaurants	48.6	49.9	49.5	47.3	46.6	48.3	45.7
I Transport, storage and communication	85.3	85.4	87.4	88.7	90.2	91.2	91.2
J-K Financial and other business services	115.1	118.2	119.7	121.8	123.6	125.6	128.2
L Public administration and defence	51.2	49.1	48.6	47.2	47.5	48.9	48.6
M Education	34.7	34.5	33.3	35.3	34.8	34.5	35.9
N Health	33.7	34.7	33.8	34.0	33.0	33.0	33.5
O-Q Other services	42.2	51.7	50.5	50.6	51.5	52.3	54.0
Unemployed	53.0	53.9	55.5	54.2	53.8	53.0	54.1
Unemployment rate %	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6
Participation rate %	71.0	71.7	71.4	71.5	71.7	71.9	72.3
Females							
In labour force	790.4	807.1	808.4	816.2	836.2	846.7	859.5
In employment:	758.0	774.3	776.7	785.0	802.3	813.8	825.2
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13.5	11.4	10.9	10.5	10.6	11.1	10.9
C-E Other production industries	89.8	87.3	92.3	90.5	89.6	89.0	88.6
F Construction	9.4	9.5	10.1	9.9	10.4	11.4	11.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	125.3	130.4	130.2	129.9	132.8	133.5	135.0
H Hotels and restaurants	69.0	65.9	61.0	63.2	66.4	66.5	68.1
I Transport, storage and communication	27.4	28.8	26.4	25.3	24.9	25.3	27.5
J-K Financial and other business services	112.1	117.2	117.4	119.5	124.8	127.9	129.1
L Public administration and defence	40.9	41.9	40.7	44.5	47.6	48.7	49.5
M Education	79.5	83.0	82.5	82.1	82.8	83.3	85.0
N Health	136.5	142.6	143.8	147.4	149.6	152.6	155.1
O-Q Other services	54.4	56.0	60.6	62.2	63.8	64.4	63.7
Unemployed	32.7	32.7	32.1	32.0	32.9	32.5	34.8
Unemployment rate %	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.0
Participation rate %	49.5	49.9	49.8	50.0	50.9	51.3	51.8
All persons							
In labour force	1,891.9	1,933.4	1,937.0	1,954.6	1,982.1	2,004.2	2,032.2
In employment:	1,806.8	1,847.6	1,849.9	1,867.3	1,895.3	1,919.3	1,943.7
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	118.1	120.6	118.5	117.8	111.5	114.1	115.1
C-E Other production industries	309.2	299.9	303.2	299.1	302.7	299.7	296.6
F Construction	194.4	204.0	209.2	217.8	226.1	235.0	246.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	254.7	263.5	263.3	264.8	267.6	267.6	270.1
H Hotels and restaurants	117.9	115.2	111.2	110.4	113.0	114.2	114.4
I Transport, storage and communication	112.6	114.4	113.6	113.9	115.2	116.7	118.6
J-K Financial and other business services	227.5	235.2	237.4	241.4	248.3	253.5	257.6
L Public administration and defence	92.5	90.7	89.6	91.7	95.3	97.2	98.4
M Education	114.2	117.6	116.0	117.1	117.5	117.9	121.1
N Health	170.1	177.4	177.4	181.3	182.7	185.6	188.6
O-Q Other services	96.9	108.0	111.3	112.5	115.2	117.0	117.8
Unemployed	85.7	86.5	87.7	86.1	86.9	85.3	88.9
Unemployment rate %	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.3
Participation rate %	60.1	60.6	60.5	60.7	61.1	61.5	62.0

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Mar- May 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	224.3	230.2	227.1	227.7	221.8	220.7	218.6
2. Professional	107.5	109.0	108.4	107.5	110.2	108.3	112.5
3. Associate professional and technical	70.2	72.1	72.3	69.2	67.9	68.5	70.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	51.0	50.9	53.1	56.3	58.8	58.1	58.7
5. Craft and related	228.4	232.4	231.3	244.0	251.5	256.5	260.1
6. Personal and protective service	73.7	74.9	72.8	74.3	73.2	75.3	73.4
7. Sales	54.6	58.8	59.0	59.3	59.2	61.8	63.0
8. Plant and machine operatives	138.0	131.6	130.3	138.0	137.7	140.0	138.0
9. Other	93.3	105.8	111.0	122.0	112.1	109.0	114.9
Total males	1,040.9	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	92.6	93.5	92.1	89.5	91.0	96.4	98.1
2. Professional	93.3	99.6	103.0	97.7	101.7	101.5	106.1
3. Associate professional and technical	94.7	93.4	94.8	96.1	98.5	97.8	100.5
4. Clerical and secretarial	165.9	168.0	167.6	171.2	174.7	181.1	177.7
5. Craft and related	13.6	11.9	12.4	13.0	11.2	12.3	11.7
6. Personal and protective service	109.9	114.3	112.6	124.1	122.6	124.0	125.0
7. Sales	91.6	96.0	93.3	100.6	99.5	101.0	101.4
8. Plant and machine operatives	35.7	30.2	29.1	32.6	31.6	29.7	29.7
9. Other	55.0	63.2	66.1	70.3	70.8	66.2	68.9
Total females	752.5	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	316.9	323.7	319.2	317.2	312.8	317.2	316.7
2. Professional	200.8	208.5	211.4	205.3	211.9	209.9	218.6
3. Associate professional and technical	164.9	165.6	167.1	165.4	166.4	166.3	171.5
4. Clerical and secretarial	216.9	218.9	220.7	227.6	233.5	239.2	236.3
5. Craft and related	242.1	244.3	243.6	256.9	262.8	268.8	271.9
6. Personal and protective service	183.6	189.3	185.4	198.4	195.9	199.3	198.4
7. Sales	146.2	154.9	152.3	159.9	158.7	162.8	164.4
8. Plant and machine operatives	173.7	161.8	159.4	170.7	169.2	169.7	167.7
9. Other	148.3	168.9	177.0	192.3	182.9	175.3	183.7
Total persons	1,793.4	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2

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

	'000						
Usual hours per week	Mar-May 03	Dec-Feb 04	Mar-May 04	Jun-Aug 04	Sep-Nov 04	Dec-Feb 05	Mar-May 05
Males							
1-9 hours	8.6	8.8	9.1	5.4	6.4	8.6	7.8
10-19	19.4	19.4	17.4	14.7	15.7	18.4	19.1
20-29	37.1	36.4	35.6	38.2	36.6	37.7	39.4
30-34	16.3	17.3	18.8	19.6	18.6	18.1	19.1
35-39	366.8	370.3	375.6	396.2	392.4	391.3	394.8
40-44	229.3	250.1	250.5	260.5	253.6	253.5	256.7
45 & over	193.6	202.3	198.9	193.7	195.7	196.0	203.1
Variable hours ¹	169.9	161.2	159.3	170.2	173.5	174.7	170.0
Total males	1,040.9	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.0</i>	<i>41.1</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	21.6	21.9	22.5	17.5	20.5	23.6	24.0
10-19	74.3	74.4	77.8	75.7	79.7	81.0	85.7
20-29	143.3	148.7	152.2	156.9	156.4	159.2	159.8
30-34	43.8	48.6	49.9	46.8	48.8	49.1	51.9
35-39	294.0	300.9	293.6	315.7	313.7	309.9	308.0
40-44	98.1	98.0	98.8	104.1	101.8	104.2	107.0
45 & over	31.1	34.3	32.6	31.3	31.2	32.2	33.4
Variable hours ¹	46.2	43.3	43.7	47.3	49.6	50.9	49.3
Total females	752.5	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>32.0</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>32.0</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>31.7</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	30.3	30.7	31.6	22.9	27.0	32.2	31.8
10-19	93.7	93.7	95.2	90.4	95.4	99.4	104.8
20-29	180.4	185.2	187.8	195.1	193.0	196.9	199.2
30-34	60.0	66.0	68.7	66.4	67.3	67.2	71.0
35-39	660.7	671.2	669.1	711.8	706.1	701.2	702.8
40-44	327.4	348.1	349.3	364.6	355.3	357.7	363.7
45 & over	224.7	236.6	231.5	225.0	226.9	228.2	236.5
Variable hours ¹	216.1	204.5	203.0	217.5	223.1	225.6	219.4
Total persons	1,793.4	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.1</i>	<i>37.0</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.1</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>36.9</i>

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

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

'000

Employment status	Mar-May 03	¹ Dec-Feb 04	Mar-May 04	Jun-Aug 04	Sep-Nov 04	Dec-Feb 05	Mar-May 05
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	85.5	87.9	85.6	88.9	88.7	90.0	90.4
Self employed (with no paid employees)	165.5	175.5	177.0	176.4	172.8	177.5	177.2
Employee	782.4	794.5	796.2	825.0	823.5	824.1	835.9
Assisting relative	7.6	7.9	6.4	8.1	7.4	6.7	6.6
Total males	1,040.9	1,065.8	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	18.1	19.2	20.5	20.9	21.9	20.5	19.8
Self employed (with no paid employees)	30.2	30.7	32.5	31.1	31.3	31.1	33.8
Employee	693.9	713.4	710.9	736.9	741.6	751.0	758.4
Assisting relative	10.2	6.8	7.1	6.5	6.9	7.5	7.2
Total females	752.5	770.1	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	103.6	107.1	106.1	109.7	110.6	110.5	110.2
Self employed (with no paid employees)	195.7	206.2	209.5	207.4	204.1	208.6	211.0
Employee	1,476.4	1,507.9	1,507.1	1,561.9	1,565.1	1,575.1	1,594.2
Assisting relative	17.7	14.6	13.5	14.5	14.3	14.2	13.7
Total persons	1,793.4	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2

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					
Mar-May 2003	448.9	24.5	473.4	5.2	57.3
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
Dec-Feb 2005	490.0	22.2	512.2	4.3	59.2
Mar-May 2005	495.5	22.1	517.6	4.3	59.6
Southern and Eastern					
Mar-May 2003	1,344.5	57.6	1,402.1	4.1	60.5
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
Dec-Feb 2005	1,418.3	60.0	1,478.3	4.1	61.6
Mar-May 2005	1,433.7	63.5	1,497.2	4.2	62.2
State					
Mar-May 2003	1,793.4	82.1	1,875.5	4.4	59.6
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
Dec-Feb 2005	1,908.3	82.1	1,990.5	4.1	61.0
Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8	4.2	61.5

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	Mar-May 2003	177.4	12.0	189.4	6.4	55.5
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	196.6	9.9	206.5	4.8	58.0
	Mar-May 2005	197.8	10.3	208.1	4.9	58.3
Midland	Mar-May 2003	100.7	5.5	106.2	5.2	59.8
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	109.9	3.9	113.8	3.5	60.6
	Mar-May 2005	110.1	4.5	114.6	4.0	61.0
West	Mar-May 2003	170.8	7.0	177.8	3.9	57.8
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	183.5	8.3	191.8	4.3	59.7
	Mar-May 2005	187.6	7.3	194.9	3.7	60.1
Dublin	Mar-May 2003	548.2	21.9	570.1	3.8	62.1
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	567.3	23.7	591.1	4.0	62.9
	Mar-May 2005	574.3	25.5	599.7	4.2	63.7
Mid-East	Mar-May 2003	201.6	6.1	207.7	2.9	63.6
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	216.2	6.0	222.2	2.7	64.3
	Mar-May 2005	217.3	6.0	223.4	2.7	64.2
Mid-West	Mar-May 2003	152.9	6.7	159.6	4.2	59.1
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	161.0	7.9	168.9	4.7	61.2
	Mar-May 2005	163.9	8.0	171.9	4.7	61.7
South-East	Mar-May 2003	188.1	11.3	199.4	5.7	59.2
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	198.9	11.3	210.2	5.4	59.5
	Mar-May 2005	200.3	12.0	212.3	5.6	59.9
South-West	Mar-May 2003	253.7	11.6	265.3	4.4	56.8
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	274.9	11.0	285.9	3.8	59.1
	Mar-May 2005	277.9	12.1	289.9	4.2	59.6
State	Mar-May 2003	1,793.4	82.1	1,875.5	4.4	59.6
	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
	Dec-Feb 2005	1,908.3	82.1	1,990.5	4.1	61.0
	Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8	4.2	61.5

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, March-May 2005

and marital status, March-May 2005									%
Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	27.9	75.7	91.9	88.5	76.8	54.8	47.2	20.1	68.9
Married	*	85.8	95.2	95.7	92.6	78.5	62.7	15.0	76.7
Separated or divorced	*	*	89.7	88.7	79.5	63.0	50.1	12.9	71.2
Widowed	*	*	74.7	95.5	76.5	59.9	58.2	6.3	23.6
Total males	27.9	75.8	92.8	93.8	89.4	73.8	60.0	14.6	71.8
Females									
Single	22.8	69.0	82.3	76.9	75.9	60.1	39.8	4.9	60.1
Married	*	56.4	70.4	63.8	61.0	44.0	26.1	3.9	51.4
Separated or divorced	*	*	54.5	68.4	66.4	53.2	38.2	4.6	58.6
Widowed	*	*	71.2	65.1	67.1	46.8	27.4	2.3	11.3
Total females	22.9	68.5	77.1	66.5	63.3	46.4	28.2	3.3	51.4
All persons									
Single	25.4	72.4	87.5	83.5	76.4	56.9	44.2	13.0	64.8
Married	*	65.1	81.2	79.7	77.1	61.6	45.3	10.2	64.2
Separated or divorced	*	*	64.8	75.0	71.1	57.2	43.4	8.5	63.2
Widowed	*	*	72.7	74.5	69.4	50.6	34.9	3.1	13.8
Total persons	25.4	72.2	85.1	80.2	76.4	60.2	44.2	8.3	61.5

* 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									
Mar-May 2003	29.4	75.0	92.2	92.7	87.4	74.9	55.5	14.1	70.5
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
Dec-Feb 2005	28.0	76.7	92.3	93.4	89.0	75.0	57.8	13.6	71.4
Mar-May 2005	27.9	75.8	92.8	93.8	89.4	73.8	60.0	14.6	71.8
Females									
Mar-May 2003	22.5	65.7	75.4	66.5	57.4	41.5	24.6	3.3	49.1
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
Dec-Feb 2005	22.4	68.6	76.8	66.3	62.4	45.3	25.9	3.2	50.9
Mar-May 2005	22.9	68.5	77.1	66.5	63.3	46.4	28.2	3.3	51.4
All persons									
Mar-May 2003	26.0	70.4	83.8	79.5	72.5	58.4	40.1	8.0	59.6
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
Dec-Feb 2005	25.3	72.6	84.6	79.8	75.7	60.3	41.9	7.8	61.0
Mar-May 2005	25.4	72.2	85.1	80.2	76.4	60.2	44.2	8.3	61.5

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									
Mar-May 2003	46.2	126.4	292.1	263.6	213.8	78.5	44.8	27.3	1,092.7
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
Dec-Feb 2005	42.6	132.0	312.5	277.2	224.9	83.5	49.6	27.5	1,149.8
Mar-May 2005	42.2	129.9	319.4	280.7	226.8	82.6	52.0	29.6	1,163.3
Females									
Mar-May 2003	33.7	110.1	237.9	191.2	139.7	42.3	19.6	8.3	782.8
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
Dec-Feb 2005	32.5	117.2	257.3	197.1	156.8	49.5	22.0	8.4	840.7
Mar-May 2005	33.1	116.5	260.3	198.0	159.8	51.1	24.2	8.5	851.5
All persons									
Mar-May 2003	79.9	236.5	529.9	454.8	353.6	120.8	64.4	35.6	1,875.5
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
Dec-Feb 2005	75.2	249.1	569.9	474.2	381.6	133.0	71.7	35.8	1,990.5
Mar-May 2005	75.3	246.4	579.8	478.7	386.7	133.7	76.1	38.1	2,014.8

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									
Mar-May 2003	40.5	117.0	277.3	253.1	205.7	76.1	43.9	27.2	1,040.9
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
Dec-Feb 2005	37.9	122.2	298.0	267.2	216.5	80.6	48.4	27.3	1,098.3
Mar-May 2005	37.4	119.0	304.8	270.3	218.4	80.1	50.4	29.6	1,110.1
Females									
Mar-May 2003	30.0	104.2	228.5	185.4	135.5	41.4	19.2	8.2	752.5
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
Dec-Feb 2005	29.6	110.2	248.7	190.8	153.0	47.8	21.7	8.3	810.1
Mar-May 2005	29.6	109.1	251.6	191.9	155.2	49.7	23.6	8.4	819.1
All persons									
Mar-May 2003	70.5	221.3	505.7	438.5	341.3	117.6	63.1	35.4	1,793.4
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
Dec-Feb 2005	67.5	232.4	546.7	458.1	369.6	128.3	70.1	35.6	1,908.3
Mar-May 2005	67.1	228.1	556.4	462.2	373.6	129.8	74.0	38.0	1,929.2

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

%

	Age group							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	15-64
Males								
Mar-May 2003	25.8	69.4	87.5	89.0	84.1	72.6	54.5	74.7
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
Dec-Feb 2005	24.9	71.0	88.0	90.0	85.7	72.4	56.4	76.0
Mar-May 2005	24.7	69.4	88.6	90.4	86.1	71.6	58.2	76.2
Females								
Mar-May 2003	20.0	62.2	72.4	64.4	55.7	40.7	24.1	55.3
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
Dec-Feb 2005	20.3	64.5	74.2	64.2	60.9	43.8	25.6	57.5
Mar-May 2005	20.5	64.2	74.5	64.4	61.5	45.1	27.5	58.0
All persons								
Mar-May 2003	23.0	65.8	80.0	76.6	69.9	56.9	39.4	65.1
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
Dec-Feb 2005	22.7	67.8	81.2	77.1	73.3	58.2	41.0	66.8
Mar-May 2005	22.7	66.8	81.6	77.4	73.8	58.5	42.9	67.1

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									
Mar-May 2003	5.7	9.4	14.8	10.5	8.1	2.4	0.8	*	51.7
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
Dec-Feb 2005	4.7	9.7	14.5	9.9	8.3	2.9	1.2	*	51.5
Mar-May 2005	4.8	10.9	14.6	10.3	8.5	2.5	1.6	*	53.2
Females									
Mar-May 2003	3.7	5.9	9.4	5.8	4.2	0.8	0.4	*	30.4
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
Dec-Feb 2005	3.0	7.0	8.6	6.2	3.7	1.7	0.3	*	30.6
Mar-May 2005	3.5	7.4	8.7	6.2	4.6	1.4	0.6	*	32.4
All persons									
Mar-May 2003	9.4	15.3	24.2	16.4	12.3	3.2	1.2	*	82.1
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
Dec-Feb 2005	7.7	16.7	23.2	16.2	12.1	4.6	1.5	*	82.1
Mar-May 2005	8.3	18.3	23.3	16.5	13.0	3.9	2.1	*	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									
Mar-May 2003	12.3	7.4	5.1	4.0	3.8	3.0	1.8	*	4.7
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
Dec-Feb 2005	11.1	7.4	4.6	3.6	3.7	3.5	2.5	0.4	4.5
Mar-May 2005	11.3	8.4	4.6	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.0	*	4.6
Females									
Mar-May 2003	10.9	5.3	3.9	3.1	3.0	1.9	2.1	*	3.9
Dec-Feb 2004	9.9	6.7	3.4	3.4	2.6	2.2	2.3	0.5	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
Dec-Feb 2005	9.1	6.0	3.4	3.2	2.4	3.4	1.4	0.6	3.6
Mar-May 2005	10.6	6.3	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.3	1.5	3.8
All persons									
Mar-May 2003	11.7	6.5	4.6	3.6	3.5	2.6	1.9	*	4.4
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
Dec-Feb 2005	10.2	6.7	4.1	3.4	3.2	3.5	2.2	0.5	4.1
Mar-May 2005	11.0	7.4	4.0	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.8	0.3	4.2

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)									
Mar-May 2003	0.5	6.1	126.9	210.8	188.3	78.5	56.8	96.8	764.8
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
Dec-Feb 2005	0.3	5.5	128.5	220.2	191.3	85.2	59.9	102.3	793.3
Mar-May 2005	0.3	5.6	130.3	220.1	191.6	83.5	61.4	102.7	795.6
of which In labour force ('000)									
Mar-May 2003	*	2.7	81.2	134.1	103.7	30.8	13.3	3.3	369.2
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
Dec-Feb 2005	*	2.8	88.6	140.8	114.5	36.8	14.7	3.9	402.3
Mar-May 2005	*	3.2	91.7	140.5	116.8	36.7	16.0	4.0	409.1
of which In employment ('000)									
Mar-May 2003	*	2.4	78.6	130.3	100.9	30.4	13.1	3.3	359.2
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
Dec-Feb 2005	*	2.6	86.2	136.8	112.0	36.0	14.5	3.9	392.2
Mar-May 2005	*	3.0	88.6	136.8	114.3	35.9	15.8	4.0	398.5
Participation rates (%)									
Mar-May 2003	*	44.2	64.0	63.6	55.0	39.2	23.4	3.4	48.3
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
Dec-Feb 2005	*	51.9	69.0	63.9	59.8	43.3	24.5	3.8	50.7
Mar-May 2005	*	56.4	70.4	63.8	61.0	44.0	26.1	3.9	51.4

* 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 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
Dec-Feb 2005	1,990.5	1,908.3	82.1	27.8	4.1	1.4
Mar-May 2005	2,014.8	1,929.2	85.6	27.6	4.2	1.4

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Mar- May 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05
Males							
Less than 1 year	31.5	29.7	33.9	36.6	31.3	30.3	31.7
1 year and over	20.0	22.8	20.2	20.7	21.3	21.0	21.2
Not stated	0.3	*	0.3	0.4	*	*	0.3
Total males	51.7	52.6	54.4	57.7	52.8	51.5	53.2
Females							
Less than 1 year	23.2	23.2	23.5	28.8	25.2	23.8	26.1
1 year and over	7.2	7.7	6.2	7.3	7.5	6.7	6.3
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	30.4	31.0	29.8	36.2	32.8	30.6	32.4
All persons							
Less than 1 year	54.6	52.9	57.4	65.4	56.5	54.1	57.7
1 year and over	27.2	30.5	26.3	28.0	28.9	27.8	27.6
Not stated	0.3	*	0.4	0.4	*	0.3	0.3
Total persons	82.1	83.6	84.2	93.9	85.6	82.1	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 Mar-May 2004				QNHS Mar-May 2005			
	Age group			Total	Age group			Total
	15-24	25-44	45 or over		15-24	25-44	45 or over	
Males								
Less than 1 year	11.2	15.9	6.8	33.9	11.5	13.9	6.3	31.7
1 year and over	3.6	10.6	6.0	20.2	4.1	11.1	6.1	21.2
Not stated	*	*	*	0.3	*	*	*	0.3
Total males	14.8	26.7	12.9	54.4	15.7	24.9	12.6	53.2
Females								
Less than 1 year	8.3	11.8	3.3	23.5	9.0	12.1	5.0	26.1
1 year and over	1.9	2.9	1.3	6.2	1.9	2.7	1.7	6.3
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	10.3	14.8	4.6	29.8	10.9	14.9	6.7	32.4
All persons								
Less than 1 year	19.6	27.7	10.1	57.4	20.4	26.0	11.3	57.7
1 year and over	5.4	13.5	7.3	26.3	6.0	13.8	7.7	27.6
Not stated	*	*	*	0.4	*	*	*	0.3
Total persons	25.2	41.5	17.6	84.2	26.6	39.8	19.2	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	Mar- May 03	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05
In labour force	1,875.5	1,935.3	1,914.8	1,919.5	1,920.3	1,987.5	1,979.7	1,990.5	2,014.8
In employment:	1,793.4	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2
full-time	1,488.2	1,525.7	1,524.1	1,527.1	1,525.0	1,576.2	1,577.6	1,581.0	1,597.5
part-time:	305.2	310.7	304.8	308.8	311.1	317.4	316.6	327.4	331.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	301.7	306.4	300.9	305.0	307.4	313.4	313.6	324.3	327.7
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	3.5	4.3	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.0	2.9	3.0	4.0
Unemployed:	82.1	98.8	85.9	83.6	84.2	93.9	85.6	82.1	85.6
seeking full-time work	69.0	82.9	70.9	70.8	71.7	80.1	72.2	69.1	71.0
seeking part-time work	13.1	15.9	15.0	12.8	12.4	13.8	13.4	13.0	14.7
Not in labour force	1,269.6	1,223.9	1,265.1	1,272.5	1,280.3	1,230.9	1,266.0	1,272.5	1,262.6
Marginally attached to the labour force:	12.1	14.6	10.9	12.2	10.0	13.4	11.3	12.1	9.1
Discouraged workers	9.1	11.2	8.3	9.4	8.1	10.8	8.4	9.3	7.0
Passive jobseekers	3.1	3.4	2.7	2.8	1.9	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.1
Others:	1,257.5	1,209.3	1,254.2	1,260.3	1,270.3	1,217.5	1,254.7	1,260.4	1,253.5
Persons not in education, who want work ¹	61.9	52.1	45.4	54.9	53.3	56.5	56.1	56.5	53.9
Persons in education, who want work ¹	52.1	30.8	31.6	29.7	35.3	25.0	27.8	29.4	31.8
All other persons	1,143.5	1,126.4	1,177.2	1,175.8	1,181.7	1,135.9	1,170.8	1,174.4	1,167.9
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,145.1	3,159.2	3,179.9	3,192.0	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7	3,262.9	3,277.4

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 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
Dec-Feb 2005	4.6	7.3	7.5
Mar-May 2005	4.6	7.2	7.3

%

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	Mar-May 03	Dec-Feb 04	Mar-May 04	Jun-Aug 04	Sep-Nov 04	Dec-Feb 05	Mar-May 05
Males							
At work	1,008.2	1,036.7	1,038.5	1,052.1	1,066.9	1,068.5	1,080.6
Unemployed	80.5	79.3	81.1	80.5	78.0	78.9	77.1
Student	182.6	177.4	179.0	170.4	171.2	177.7	176.8
Home duties	5.3	4.4	4.5	4.6	5.2	5.4	5.1
Retired	202.4	205.7	206.9	208.3	208.6	210.1	208.7
Others	70.7	69.0	68.7	71.5	71.7	70.7	72.5
Total males	1,549.8	1,572.4	1,578.7	1,587.4	1,601.6	1,611.3	1,620.9
Females							
At work	709.8	730.1	731.9	745.5	761.1	767.2	776.8
Unemployed	33.1	35.0	31.6	37.2	34.0	31.2	32.5
Student	199.0	196.2	198.4	180.0	186.5	196.4	193.6
Home duties	555.2	553.4	551.9	560.0	553.3	546.5	539.4
Retired	65.0	67.3	70.3	68.8	70.5	71.4	72.2
Others	33.2	37.6	37.9	39.4	38.8	39.1	42.1
Total females	1,595.3	1,619.6	1,621.9	1,631.0	1,644.1	1,651.7	1,656.6
All persons							
At work	1,718.0	1,766.8	1,770.4	1,797.6	1,828.0	1,835.7	1,857.4
Unemployed	113.6	114.3	112.6	117.7	112.0	110.1	109.7
Student	381.6	373.6	377.4	350.4	357.7	374.1	370.4
Home duties	560.5	557.8	556.4	564.6	558.5	551.9	544.6
Retired	267.4	273.0	277.2	277.1	279.1	281.5	280.9
Others	103.9	106.5	106.6	110.9	110.5	109.7	114.6
Total persons	3,145.1	3,192.0	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7	3,262.9	3,277.4

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, March-May 2005

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,076.7	1.7	24.7	*	4.9	1.9	1,110.1
full-time	1,033.4	0.9	2.8	*	1.2	0.9	1,039.4
part-time:	43.3	0.8	21.9	*	3.7	0.9	70.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	41.5	0.7	21.8	*	3.7	0.9	68.7
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.8	*	*	*	*	*	2.0
Unemployed:	0.7	47.5	1.7	*	0.6	2.5	53.2
seeking full-time work	0.7	46.3	1.2	*	0.4	1.9	50.5
seeking part-time work	*	1.2	0.5	*	0.3	0.6	2.7
Marginally attached to the labour force	0.8	3.4	0.3	*	*	0.5	5.2
Others	2.3	24.5	150.0	4.8	203.0	67.7	452.3
Total males aged 15 or over	1,080.6	77.1	176.8	5.1	208.7	72.5	1,620.9
Females							
In employment:	771.7	1.0	32.6	10.4	0.7	2.7	819.1
full-time	551.9	0.5	2.1	1.6	*	1.8	558.1
part-time:	219.8	0.5	30.5	8.8	0.5	0.9	261.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	217.9	0.5	30.4	8.7	0.5	0.9	259.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.9	*	*	*	*	*	2.1
Unemployed:	0.5	18.5	2.5	10.2	*	0.5	32.4
seeking full-time work	0.4	14.5	1.2	4.0	*	0.3	20.4
seeking part-time work	*	4.0	1.2	6.2	*	*	12.0
Marginally attached to the labour force	0.8	1.1	0.5	1.1	*	*	3.9
Others	3.7	11.9	158.0	517.7	71.1	38.6	801.2
Total females aged 15 or over	776.8	32.5	193.6	539.4	72.2	42.1	1,656.6
All persons							
In employment:	1,848.5	2.7	57.3	10.5	5.6	4.6	1,929.2
full-time	1,585.3	1.3	5.0	1.7	1.4	2.7	1,597.5
part-time:	263.1	1.3	52.4	8.8	4.2	1.8	331.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	259.5	1.2	52.2	8.8	4.2	1.8	327.7
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	3.6	*	*	*	*	*	4.0
Unemployed:	1.2	66.0	4.2	10.4	0.9	3.0	85.6
seeking full-time work	1.0	60.8	2.4	4.1	0.4	2.2	71.0
seeking part-time work	*	5.2	1.7	6.3	0.5	0.8	14.7
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.7	4.5	0.8	1.1	0.3	0.7	9.1
Others	6.0	36.5	308.1	522.6	274.1	106.3	1,253.5
Total persons aged 15 or over	1,857.4	109.7	370.4	544.6	280.9	114.6	3,277.4

* 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, March-May 2005

'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	93.9	89.4	183.3	2.5	2.6	5.2	3.9	8.8	12.7	100.4	100.8	201.1
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	67.7	46.0	113.7	2.1	1.3	3.4	42.6	63.2	105.8	112.4	110.5	222.9
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	8.6	2.7	11.3	*	*	*	69.1	73.5	142.6	77.8	76.2	154.0
Total	170.3	138.0	308.3	4.7	4.0	8.7	115.6	145.4	261.0	290.6	287.4	578.0
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	166.9	109.4	276.3	6.5	3.1	9.6	8.4	69.4	77.8	181.8	181.9	363.7
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	9.5	4.2	13.7	0.6	*	0.7	1.4	7.0	8.4	11.5	11.3	22.9
All children aged 5 to 14	72.5	47.4	119.9	2.0	1.7	3.7	2.9	27.0	29.8	77.4	76.0	153.5
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	112.3	72.9	185.2	3.3	2.2	5.5	9.1	46.9	56.0	124.7	122.1	246.8
All children aged 15 or over	140.2	91.3	231.5	2.9	1.6	4.5	54.6	101.2	155.7	197.7	194.0	391.8
Total	501.5	325.2	826.7	15.4	8.7	24.1	76.4	251.4	327.8	593.2	585.4	1,178.6
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.0	17.4	18.4	*	2.5	2.6	0.3	24.2	24.5	1.3	44.1	45.4
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.0	1.1	*	0.3	0.3	*	2.0	2.0	*	3.4	3.4
All children aged 5 to 14	0.8	11.7	12.5	*	1.4	1.4	0.4	8.0	8.4	1.2	21.1	22.2
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.3	15.8	18.1	*	1.1	1.3	0.5	8.1	8.7	3.0	25.1	28.1
All children aged 15 or over	8.0	24.7	32.7	0.5	1.3	1.9	8.3	44.7	53.0	16.8	70.8	87.6
Total	12.1	70.7	82.8	0.8	6.6	7.4	9.5	87.1	96.6	22.3	164.4	186.7
Total	683.8	533.9	1,217.7	20.9	19.4	40.2	201.5	484.0	685.4	906.1	1,037.2	1,943.4

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

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

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 24 Annual Labour Force Survey results 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	211,818	192,767	19,052	56.5	9.0	213,351	193,874	19,477	56.6	9.1
EU-15	178,080	163,878	14,202	56.7	8.0	179,638	164,986	14,653	56.8	8.2
Eurozone ¹	141,473	129,078	12,396	55.5	8.8	142,856	130,004	12,852	55.6	9.0
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	39,821	35,927	3,894	57.3	9.8	39,724	35,463	4,261	56.9	10.7
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	4,331	493	53.3	10.2
Spain	19,432	17,241	2,191	54.6	11.3	20,093	17,866	2,227	55.5	11.1
France	26,360	24,140	2,220	55.9	8.4	26,707	24,388	2,319	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	195	188	7	54.8	3.6	196	186	9	54.0	4.6
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	8,428	8,125	303	64.8	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	29,140	27,744	1,396	61.8	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.

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 (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:

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 Census of Population and has replaced the previous Census and Labour Force Survey occupations classification. The old and new classifications are not perfectly comparable. The 1996 Census of Population report on occupations (Census Volume 7) contains further information on comparing the classifications.

The data given in Table 4 is at a broad level, corresponding to SOC major groups. More detailed quarterly data is available on request from the CSO.

Family Units

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

Family Unit

A family unit consists of either:

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

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

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

Grossing Effect

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

Labour Supply Indicators

Table 20 contains three indicators of potential labour supply. These indicators take into account, in addition to the unemployed, groups outside the labour force who have indicated some interest in obtaining a job. These extra groups include discouraged workers (who are not looking for work as they believe they are not qualified or that no work is available) and other groups who want work but do not meet all the ILO criteria to be classified as unemployed. Persons who indicated that they were not available or not looking for work because they were in education were not included in the calculation of any of these indicators. The indicators are available back to 1988, when the ILO classification was first included in LFS reports.

Comparing the LFS and the QNHS

The LFS was conducted each year in April and involved the completion of a written questionnaire in each of the sample households. The QNHS, on the other hand, involves continuous surveying (of 3,000 households each week) so that the results reflect the average situation over the course of three months. The LFS paper questionnaires have been replaced by laptop computers, allowing some key questions (such as existence of a job in the week before the survey, full-time versus part-time jobs) to be refined and improved. The main factors affecting comparability of the two surveys are:

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

Changes to Questions on Employment

Information on full-time and part-time jobs is also collected using a more direct approach in the QNHS. The relevant LFS question distinguished four response categories, relating to occasional and regular as well as to full-time and part-time jobs. These concepts are now asked separately and the question on full-time or part-time work is as follows:

“Thinking about the hours of work in the job, would you describe it as full-time or part-time?”.

The main effect of these changes has been to elicit more information about part-time employment, so that the estimates of part-time employment are higher in the QNHS than in the LFS.

This change has also increased the proportion of respondents indicating part-time involvement in the workforce. The effect of these changes is to cause a once-off discontinuity between the LFS and QNHS results.

Seasonality

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

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

**Seasonal Adjustment
Methodology**

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

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

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

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

**NUTS2 and NUTS3
regions**

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

**Border, Midland and
Western NUTS2 Region**

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

**Southern and Eastern
NUTS2 Region**

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

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
Q4 2004	Equality
Q3 2004	ICT household survey
Q2 2004	Union Membership
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	Work organisation and working time
Q3 2004	Travel to work
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