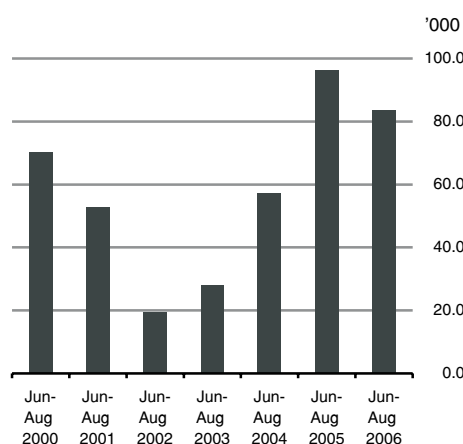




Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 3 2006

**Annual increase in employment in the
Third Quarters 2000 to 2006**



ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
Jun-Aug 2005	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5
Sep-Nov 2005	1,980.6	91.3	2,071.9
Dec-Feb 2006	1,998.1	88.2	2,086.3
Mar-May 2006	2,017.0	91.4	2,108.3
Jun-Aug 2006	2,073.3	104.8	2,178.1
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+56.3</i>	<i>+13.4</i>	<i>+69.8</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+83.5</i>	<i>+8.1</i>	<i>+91.6</i>

Number in employment continues to show strong growth

The number of persons in employment grew by over 83,000 or 4.2% in the year to the third quarter of 2006 bringing the total in employment to 2,073,300. This compares with an annual growth rate of 4.6% in the previous quarter and to a rate of 5.1% in the third quarter of 2005. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

There was an increase of over 45,000 or 3.9% in the number of men at work while the number of women at work increased by over 38,000 or 4.5%. Almost all of the employment growth can be attributed to an increase of 77,700 (+4.7%) in the number of persons in full-time employment.

There was an increase of 7,800 in the number of persons in short-term unemployment and a marginal rise of 300 in long-term unemployment. In total, 104,800 were unemployed in the third quarter, representing an increase of 8,100 or 8.4% on the corresponding quarter in 2005. When seasonal factors are taken into account there was a quarterly increase of 1,900 in the numbers unemployed with the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increasing slightly from 4.4% to 4.5% over the quarter. *See tables 1, 3, 17 & 18.*

Non-Irish nationals are tentatively estimated to have accounted for 40,500 (48.5%) of the annual increase in the numbers in employment and for 5,200 (64.2%) of the increase in the numbers unemployed. *See table A1 in the annex.*

Overall the labour force continued to show strong growth in the year to the third quarter of 2006 with an increase of almost 92,000 or 4.4%. As a result there was an estimated 2,178,100 persons in the labour force in the third quarter, accounting for 64.1% of all persons aged 15 years and over. This compares with a participation rate of 63.2% in the same quarter last year. Female participation rose from 52.9% to 54.0% while that for males increased from 73.7% to 74.3% over the year. *See table 1.*

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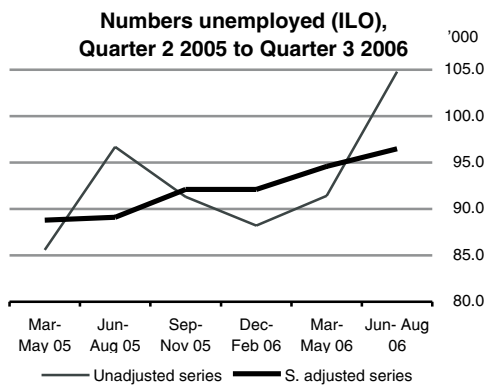
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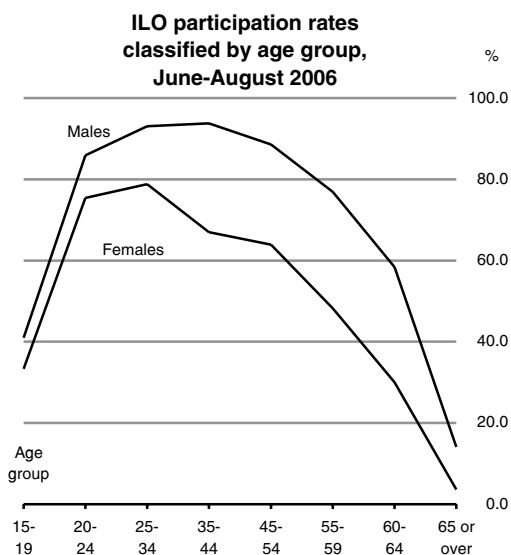


The latest available figures for all 25 EU member states, which are for the second quarter of 2006, show that between the second quarters of 2005 and 2006 Ireland's employment level and labour force grew by 4.6%. The comparable figures for EU-25 were 2.0% and 1.2% respectively. See table 25.

Demographic factors continue to 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 69,100 to the labour force over the year and as such accounted for over three-quarters of the annual growth in the labour force. Net inward migration is estimated to have accounted for approximately 70% of this demographic increase. Over half of the demographic increase can be attributed to those aged 25-34, which is the age group most affected by inward migration.

Increased labour force participation accounted for the balance of 22,000 in the annual labour force growth. All age groups recorded increased participation rates over the year particularly those in the 15-19 and 55-59 age categories where the participation rates increased by 2 and 1.4 percentage points respectively. See tables 1, 9, 15 and graph opposite.



In absolute terms the most significant increase (+40,000) in the labour force was recorded for those aged 25-34. There was a further increase of 17,500 in the number of married women in the labour force with their participation rate rising from 51.2% to 52.0% over the year. See tables 1, 10 & 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, increased from 7.9% in the third quarter of 2005 to 8.4% in the third quarter of 2006. See tables 19 & 20.

Construction and health sectors account for over half of employment growth

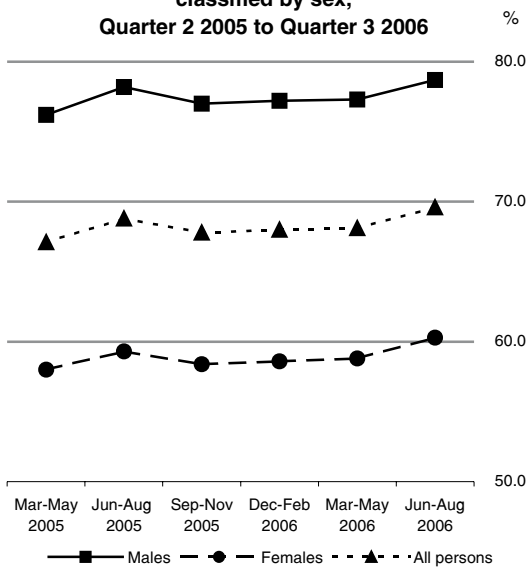
Employment in the *Construction* (+25,700) and *Health* (+19,400) sectors continued to grow strongly in the year to the third quarter of 2006, accounting for just over 54% of the total growth in employment when combined. Almost a quarter of the growth in the *Health* sector can be attributed to part-time employment while over 11,000, or 43.2%, of the annual increase in the *Construction* sector was accounted for by workers classified as self-employed. See table 2b.

All other areas in the services sector recorded employment growth over the year. The *Hotels and restaurants* sector showed little or no change. Employment in the *Other production industries* sector increased by around 2,000 in the year thus reversing to a small extent the downward trend of recent years. See table 2b.

The numbers employed in all occupational categories increased over the year. The largest increases were in the *Craft and related* (+17,600), *Personal and protective services* (+16,000) many of whom were in the health and childcare sectors and *Professional* (+15,900) occupational groups. See table 4.

There were 1,735,500 employees in the third quarter of 2006, an annual increase of 80,800. This comprised an increase of 43,500 males and 37,200 females. The number of self-employed persons increased by 4,800 to 324,900 in the year while the number of persons assisting relatives decreased by 2,200 to 12,800. See table 6.

Employment rates for persons aged 15 to 64 classified by sex, Quarter 2 2005 to Quarter 3 2006



Female employment rate exceeds 60%

The employment rate for females aged 15-64 was 60.3% in the third quarter of 2006, which is the first time the female rate has exceeded the 60% mark. This compares with a rate of 59.3% one year previously. The rate for males also increased over the year from 78.2% to 78.7% bringing the overall employment rate to 69.6%. Strong employment rate growth was particularly evident for those aged 55 and over. The highest employment rate, 82.2%, was recorded in the 25-34 age group where 88.4% of males and 75.8% of females were in employment. See tables 11, 12 and graph opposite.

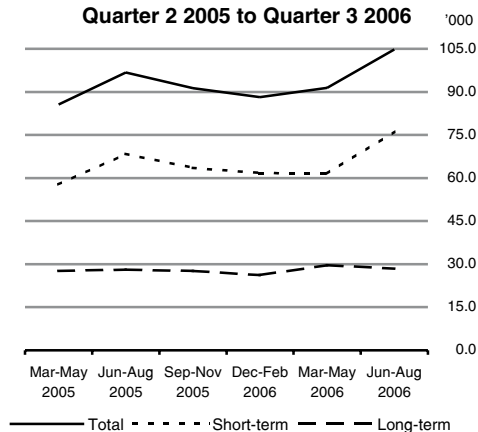
The average working week in the third quarter of 2006 was 36.9 hours compared with 37.2 hours in the same quarter last year. See table 5.

Increase in numbers unemployed

There were 62,100 males and 42,700 females unemployed in the third quarter of 2006, representing annual increases of approximately 4,000 in each case. The largest annual increase in the numbers unemployed was concentrated in the 15-19 year age group where the numbers increased by 3,200 to 17,200 (many of these were students seeking summer work). The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased from 4.4% to 4.5% over the quarter. See tables 3 & 13.

Long-term unemployment increased slightly over the year by 300 whereas short-term unemployment increased by 7,800 over the same period. The largest increase in short-term unemployment was recorded for those aged 25-44 (+4,800). The long-term unemployment rate remained unchanged at 1.3% over the year. See tables 16, 17, 18 and graph opposite.

Numbers unemployed (ILO) classified by duration of unemployment, Quarter 2 2005 to Quarter 3 2006

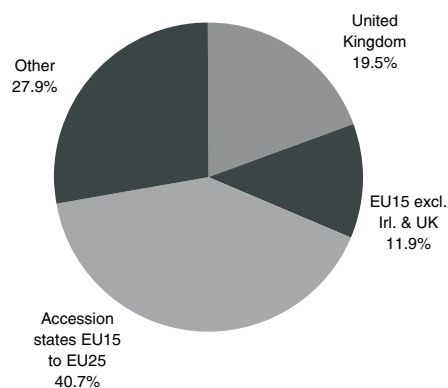


Almost 90,000 from the new EU Member States in the labour force

Tentative estimates of the labour force status of Non-Irish nationals are presented in the Annex. There was an estimated 280,300 Foreign nationals aged 15 years of age and over in the State in the third quarter of 2006. Of these, 199,600 were in employment while a further 15,900 were unemployed according to the ILO criteria. Nationals of the new EU Accession states were the fastest growing category with the numbers in the labour force increasing from 56,600 in the third quarter of 2005 to 87,700 in the most recent quarter. The number of Non-Irish nationals in the labour force from outside the EU also increased significantly from 47,500 to 60,100 over the year. See table A1 in the annex and graph opposite.

In the third quarter of 2006 Non-Irish nationals accounted for 24.5% of workers in the *Hotels & restaurants*, 12.7% of *Construction* and 10.8% of *Other production industries* sectors. The greatest increase in Non-Irish national workers was in the *Construction* sector where the number employed increased by almost 12,900 over the year, almost identical to the estimated increase of 13,000 in the number of Irish nationals employed in the sector. The *Hotels and restaurants* sector recorded an annual increase of 6,400 in the number of Foreign nationals employed despite an annual rise of just 200 for the sector overall. See table A2 in the annex.

Non-Irish nationals in the Labour Force, June-August 2006



Regional comparisons

Employment grew by 20,800 (+4.1%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 62,700 (+4.2%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the third quarter of 2006. Most of the annual rise in unemployment occurred in the Border, Midland and Western region (+6,100). *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western region increased from 61.3% to 62.3% between the third quarters of 2005 and 2006 while the rate in the Southern and Eastern region increased from 63.9% to 64.7% over the same period.

At NUTS3 level employment grew in all regions with the South-East (+5.8%) and the South-West (+4.6%) showing the highest growth rates over the year. There was an annual increase of 22,800 (+3.9%) in the numbers in employment in the Dublin region. All regional data is on the basis of the location of the respondent's usual residence. *See table 7b.*

Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as "at work" grew by 80,500 in the year to 1,971,100. This comprised an increase of 45,400 males and 35,000 females. This compares to an increase of 93,000 in the year to the third quarter of 2005. Meanwhile, the number describing themselves as "unemployed" rose by 5,200 in the year to 125,000. The numbers describing themselves as on "home duties" decreased by 5,400 to 540,400 in the year. *See table 21.*

The number of students decreased (-2,000) in the year to 344,000. In the third quarter of 2006, 26.4% of students had a job compared to 25.1% for the same quarter last year and this represented an increase of 4,100 in the number of students "at work". *See tables 21 & 22.*

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Jun- Aug 04	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06
Males							
In labour force	1,156.0	1,163.3	1,204.3	1,194.8	1,202.6	1,217.2	1,253.5
In employment:	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4
full-time	1,030.4	1,039.4	1,071.0	1,066.0	1,073.0	1,082.2	1,114.1
part-time:	67.9	70.7	75.3	74.6	76.9	79.8	77.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	65.8	68.7	73.6	72.3	75.0	78.0	75.8
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.3	1.9	1.7	1.6
Unemployed:	57.7	53.2	58.0	54.3	52.8	55.2	62.1
seeking full-time work	54.4	50.5	54.3	50.7	50.5	53.1	58.3
seeking part-time work	3.3	2.7	3.6	3.5	2.3	2.1	3.8
Not in labour force	431.4	457.6	428.7	454.0	456.5	455.4	433.0
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	7.7	5.2	6.9	5.3	6.2	5.8	8.4
Others	423.8	452.3	421.8	448.6	450.3	449.6	424.6
Total males aged 15 or over	1,587.4	1,620.9	1,633.0	1,648.8	1,659.1	1,672.6	1,686.5
Unemployment rate %	5.0	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.5	5.0
Participation rate %	72.8	71.8	73.7	72.5	72.5	72.8	74.3
Females							
In labour force	831.5	851.5	882.2	877.1	883.8	891.1	924.6
In employment:	795.3	819.1	843.5	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8
full-time	545.8	558.1	576.0	573.9	581.8	583.2	610.6
part-time:	249.5	261.0	267.5	266.2	266.5	271.8	271.2
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	247.6	259.0	265.7	264.1	264.2	269.4	269.2
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.9	2.1	1.8	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.0
Unemployed:	36.2	32.4	38.8	37.0	35.4	36.1	42.7
seeking full-time work	25.7	20.4	25.9	23.5	22.3	23.3	29.8
seeking part-time work	10.5	12.0	12.9	13.5	13.2	12.8	12.9
Not in labour force	799.5	805.0	786.4	806.2	809.4	806.6	787.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	5.8	3.9	6.7	4.5	3.9	3.9	7.1
Others	793.7	801.2	779.6	801.7	805.5	802.7	780.2
Total females aged 15 or over	1,631.0	1,656.6	1,668.6	1,683.3	1,693.1	1,697.7	1,711.9
Unemployment rate %	4.3	3.8	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.6
Participation rate %	51.0	51.4	52.9	52.1	52.2	52.5	54.0
All persons							
In labour force	1,987.5	2,014.8	2,086.5	2,071.9	2,086.3	2,108.3	2,178.1
In employment:	1,893.6	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3
full-time	1,576.2	1,597.5	1,647.0	1,639.8	1,654.7	1,665.4	1,724.7
part-time:	317.4	331.7	342.8	340.8	343.4	351.6	348.6
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	313.4	327.7	339.3	336.4	339.2	347.4	345.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.0	4.0	3.5	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.6
Unemployed:	93.9	85.6	96.7	91.3	88.2	91.4	104.8
seeking full-time work	80.1	71.0	80.2	74.2	72.7	76.5	88.1
seeking part-time work	13.8	14.7	16.5	17.0	15.5	14.9	16.7
Not in labour force	1,230.9	1,262.6	1,215.1	1,260.2	1,265.9	1,262.0	1,220.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	13.4	9.1	13.6	9.8	10.1	9.8	15.5
Others	1,217.5	1,253.5	1,201.5	1,250.3	1,255.8	1,252.2	1,204.8
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,218.4	3,277.4	3,301.6	3,332.1	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4
Unemployment rate %	4.7	4.2	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.8
Participation rate %	61.8	61.5	63.2	62.2	62.2	62.6	64.1

¹ See Background Notes.

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

	'000						
Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Jun- Aug 04	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06
Males							
A-B Agriculture	108.9	102.6	109.0	104.9	104.8	103.8	109.1
C-F Industry	423.7	436.1	447.0	446.0	443.7	454.0	473.8
G-Q Services	565.6	571.3	590.3	589.6	601.4	604.2	608.5
Females							
A-B Agriculture	10.9	11.1	10.6	10.4	10.7	10.7	12.5
C-F Industry	103.6	100.5	99.6	95.4	95.1	97.2	100.6
G-Q Services	680.8	707.6	733.2	734.4	742.5	747.0	768.7
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	119.9	113.7	119.6	115.3	115.5	114.5	121.7
C-F Industry	527.3	536.6	546.7	541.3	538.8	551.2	574.4
G-Q Services	1,246.5	1,278.9	1,323.5	1,324.0	1,343.8	1,351.2	1,377.2
Total persons	1,893.6	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3

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

	'000						
Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Jun- Aug 04	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	108.9	102.6	109.0	104.9	104.8	103.8	109.1
C-E Other production industries	212.1	205.9	207.2	205.4	202.5	204.6	209.8
F Construction	211.6	230.2	239.8	240.6	241.1	249.4	263.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	137.0	133.2	142.1	141.5	143.5	143.7	147.7
H Hotels and restaurants	48.4	45.7	50.5	48.0	49.1	49.7	50.5
I Transport, storage and communication	89.4	91.1	91.2	91.9	91.3	91.8	97.7
J-K Financial and other business services	123.0	129.5	130.4	130.5	136.4	136.2	134.7
L Public administration and defence	48.2	48.8	50.0	50.2	51.3	51.5	49.8
M Education	35.1	35.8	35.0	36.3	37.6	38.9	34.6
N Health	33.7	33.5	32.8	32.5	33.7	34.9	38.1
O-Q Other services	50.8	53.7	58.2	58.7	58.5	57.6	55.5
Total males	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.9	11.1	10.6	10.4	10.7	10.7	12.5
C-E Other production industries	93.4	88.3	87.4	82.8	82.5	83.9	86.8
F Construction	10.1	12.2	12.2	12.5	12.7	13.3	13.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	133.2	133.7	144.5	143.5	142.6	140.7	150.0
H Hotels and restaurants	67.7	65.3	69.8	67.5	64.0	66.6	70.1
I Transport, storage and communication	25.4	27.1	27.3	26.5	29.2	28.9	30.6
J-K Financial and other business services	120.0	127.6	132.9	132.4	132.8	131.1	133.0
L Public administration and defence	45.3	49.4	51.0	50.6	51.8	53.6	56.0
M Education	77.3	87.3	84.8	91.5	95.3	96.7	89.2
N Health	148.4	154.5	158.7	159.0	162.5	166.4	172.8
O-Q Other services	63.6	62.7	64.2	63.4	64.2	63.0	66.9
Total females	795.3	819.1	843.5	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	119.9	113.7	119.6	115.3	115.5	114.5	121.7
C-E Other production industries	305.6	294.2	294.6	288.2	285.0	288.5	296.6
F Construction	221.7	242.4	252.1	253.2	253.8	262.7	277.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	270.2	266.9	286.6	285.0	286.1	284.4	297.8
H Hotels and restaurants	116.1	111.0	120.4	115.5	113.1	116.3	120.6
I Transport, storage and communication	114.8	118.2	118.5	118.3	120.5	120.7	128.3
J-K Financial and other business services	243.1	257.1	263.3	263.0	269.2	267.3	267.7
L Public administration and defence	93.5	98.2	101.0	100.7	103.1	105.1	105.8
M Education	112.3	123.1	119.8	127.9	132.8	135.6	123.7
N Health	182.1	188.0	191.5	191.5	196.3	201.2	210.9
O-Q Other services	114.4	116.4	122.4	122.1	122.8	120.6	122.4
Total persons	1,893.6	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3

**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	Jun- Aug 04	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06
Males							
In labour force	1,137.4	1,171.9	1,185.4	1,197.2	1,211.1	1,226.0	1,233.3
In employment:	1,083.3	1,116.8	1,131.4	1,142.3	1,156.5	1,168.9	1,175.7
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	105.9	104.5	105.8	104.9	106.2	105.7	105.8
C-E Other production industries	209.7	207.2	205.1	205.5	203.3	205.8	207.7
F Construction	208.1	232.7	235.7	239.3	244.2	252.0	259.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	134.6	135.2	139.6	141.8	143.8	145.8	145.1
H Hotels and restaurants	46.9	45.7	49.0	49.3	49.4	49.7	49.0
I Transport, storage and communication	88.7	91.5	90.5	91.4	92.1	92.3	96.8
J-K Financial and other business services	122.3	128.2	129.9	131.2	137.6	134.9	134.3
L Public administration and defence	47.5	48.5	49.5	51.0	51.4	51.1	49.4
M Education	35.3	36.0	35.3	36.2	37.2	39.1	34.9
N Health	33.7	33.6	32.5	32.6	33.9	35.1	37.6
O-Q Other services	50.5	54.2	58.0	58.5	58.3	58.1	55.3
Unemployed	54.1	54.2	54.3	55.2	54.8	56.2	57.8
Unemployment rate %	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.7
Participation rate %	71.6	72.2	72.5	72.7	73.0	73.2	73.1
Females							
In labour force	816.4	859.5	866.7	878.6	889.4	899.4	909.1
In employment:	784.4	825.0	832.3	841.5	851.5	861.4	870.8
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.5	11.0	10.2	10.7	10.8	10.6	12.2
C-E Other production industries	90.6	88.4	84.8	83.8	84.0	83.9	84.2
F Construction	9.9	12.0	12.0	12.9	12.8	13.1	13.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	129.6	136.2	140.5	144.4	143.0	143.6	145.7
H Hotels and restaurants	63.8	66.9	66.0	66.8	66.8	68.2	66.5
I Transport, storage and communication	25.2	27.6	27.1	26.4	29.1	29.4	30.3
J-K Financial and other business services	119.0	129.3	132.1	132.4	131.8	132.9	132.3
L Public administration and defence	44.6	49.4	50.2	50.7	52.5	53.7	55.0
M Education	81.8	85.3	89.8	90.7	93.1	94.6	94.3
N Health	147.1	155.1	157.2	159.7	162.7	167.2	171.0
O-Q Other services	62.3	63.7	62.9	62.8	65.1	64.1	65.5
Unemployed	32.4	34.6	34.8	36.8	37.6	38.4	38.5
Unemployment rate %	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2
Participation rate %	50.0	51.8	51.9	52.3	52.6	52.9	53.0
All persons							
In labour force	1,954.9	2,031.1	2,053.4	2,074.7	2,100.6	2,125.0	2,143.7
In employment:	1,867.6	1,942.3	1,963.8	1,983.0	2,008.3	2,030.8	2,046.6
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	116.5	115.5	116.0	115.7	117.0	116.3	117.8
C-E Other production industries	300.2	295.2	289.6	289.6	287.7	289.4	291.6
F Construction	217.8	245.4	247.5	252.0	256.9	265.7	272.6
G Wholesale and retail trade	264.3	271.2	280.5	285.8	287.0	289.2	291.4
H Hotels and restaurants	110.6	114.0	115.0	115.9	115.1	119.4	115.3
I Transport, storage and communication	113.7	118.6	117.4	118.3	121.2	121.1	127.0
J-K Financial and other business services	241.7	257.5	262.0	264.2	268.7	267.8	266.5
L Public administration and defence	92.0	98.2	99.6	101.6	103.6	105.1	104.5
M Education	117.1	121.1	124.9	127.0	130.5	133.4	129.0
N Health	180.9	188.6	189.8	192.3	196.7	202.0	208.6
O-Q Other services	112.7	117.9	120.8	121.2	123.6	122.2	121.0
Unemployed	86.5	88.8	89.1	92.1	92.1	94.6	96.5
Unemployment rate %	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5
Participation rate %	60.7	61.9	62.1	62.4	62.7	63.0	63.0

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Jun- Aug 04	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	227.7	218.6	216.7	217.3	213.8	215.5	218.7
2. Professional	107.5	112.5	109.5	114.9	118.5	119.8	116.6
3. Associate professional and technical	69.2	70.9	71.0	69.9	74.8	70.8	75.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	56.3	58.7	61.4	58.4	59.7	61.9	62.1
5. Craft and related	244.0	260.1	267.1	269.6	267.4	274.6	284.2
6. Personal and protective service	74.3	73.4	77.9	76.9	82.0	80.4	83.6
7. Sales	59.3	63.0	66.8	68.5	69.9	69.3	68.2
8. Plant and machine operatives	138.0	138.0	143.3	144.4	142.6	141.1	146.0
9. Other	122.0	114.9	132.7	120.7	121.1	128.7	136.0
Total males	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	89.5	98.1	96.3	95.5	95.1	97.5	100.1
2. Professional	97.7	106.1	103.4	109.8	117.5	116.3	112.3
3. Associate professional and technical	96.1	100.5	100.0	97.3	100.3	100.3	101.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	171.2	177.7	187.5	184.4	186.1	186.1	193.1
5. Craft and related	13.0	11.7	12.6	11.5	10.4	11.7	13.1
6. Personal and protective service	124.1	125.0	133.9	135.0	131.7	137.9	144.1
7. Sales	100.6	101.4	109.5	108.7	110.8	109.1	119.2
8. Plant and machine operatives	32.6	29.7	28.8	27.7	27.8	26.6	26.5
9. Other	70.3	68.9	71.5	70.2	68.7	69.4	71.4
Total females	795.3	819.1	843.5	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	317.2	316.7	313.0	312.8	309.0	313.0	318.8
2. Professional	205.3	218.6	213.0	224.7	236.0	236.1	228.9
3. Associate professional and technical	165.4	171.5	170.9	167.2	175.2	171.1	177.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	227.6	236.3	248.8	242.8	245.8	248.0	255.2
5. Craft and related	256.9	271.9	279.7	281.1	277.8	286.3	297.3
6. Personal and protective service	198.4	198.4	211.8	211.9	213.7	218.2	227.8
7. Sales	159.9	164.4	176.3	177.2	180.6	178.4	187.4
8. Plant and machine operatives	170.7	167.7	172.0	172.1	170.4	167.7	172.5
9. Other	192.3	183.7	204.2	190.9	189.8	198.1	207.4
Total persons	1,893.6	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3

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

'000

Usual hours of work per week	Jun-Aug 04	Mar-May 05	Jun-Aug 05	Sep-Nov 05	Dec-Feb 06	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06
Males							
1-9 hours	5.4	7.8	4.8	7.4	8.4	8.7	4.6
10-19	14.7	19.1	16.1	19.8	23.1	22.0	18.5
20-29	38.2	39.4	42.2	40.6	42.5	45.4	44.5
30-34	19.6	19.1	21.6	21.3	20.5	21.1	21.7
35-39	396.2	394.8	405.0	407.2	412.9	430.9	448.6
40-44	260.5	256.7	275.2	265.4	273.1	268.9	275.2
45 & over	193.7	203.1	213.2	209.7	200.0	193.7	202.4
Variable hours ¹	170.2	170.0	168.0	169.2	169.2	171.2	176.0
Total males	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.1</i>	<i>41.4</i>	<i>41.0</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.5</i>	<i>40.8</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	17.5	24.0	18.9	25.0	25.2	25.9	20.5
10-19	75.7	85.7	80.3	84.9	85.1	85.8	79.9
20-29	156.9	159.8	170.7	164.9	169.0	169.1	175.2
30-34	46.8	51.9	55.9	56.9	56.6	55.5	59.5
35-39	315.7	308.0	324.7	322.0	321.4	331.6	347.8
40-44	104.1	107.0	109.2	109.2	111.0	106.3	115.5
45 & over	31.3	33.4	34.5	32.4	32.6	30.2	30.0
Variable hours ¹	47.3	49.3	49.3	44.8	47.4	50.6	53.3
Total females	795.3	819.1	843.5	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>32.1</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	22.9	31.8	23.8	32.4	33.6	34.6	25.1
10-19	90.4	104.8	96.4	104.6	108.2	107.8	98.5
20-29	195.1	199.2	212.9	205.4	211.4	214.5	219.7
30-34	66.4	71.0	77.6	78.3	77.2	76.6	81.2
35-39	711.8	702.8	729.7	729.2	734.3	762.5	796.4
40-44	364.6	363.7	384.4	374.6	384.1	375.2	390.7
45 & over	225.0	236.5	247.7	242.1	232.6	223.9	232.4
Variable hours ¹	217.5	219.4	217.3	214.0	216.7	221.7	229.3
Total persons	1,893.6	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>36.6</i>	<i>36.5</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	Jun-Aug 04	Mar-May 05	Jun-Aug 05	Sep-Nov 05	Dec-Feb 06	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	88.9	90.4	91.8	89.3	90.6	92.6	93.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	176.4	177.2	178.0	173.8	177.1	177.4	179.8
Employee	825.0	835.9	869.0	871.8	877.8	887.8	912.5
Assisting relative	8.1	6.6	7.5	5.6	4.4	4.2	5.2
Total males	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	20.9	19.8	18.9	17.9	18.5	18.4	20.6
Self employed (with no paid employees)	31.1	33.8	31.3	32.8	32.3	31.4	30.6
Employee	736.9	758.4	785.8	781.6	790.1	797.7	823.0
Assisting relative	6.5	7.2	7.5	7.8	7.5	7.4	7.7
Total females	795.3	819.1	843.5	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	109.7	110.2	110.7	107.2	109.1	111.0	114.5
Self employed (with no paid employees)	207.4	211.0	209.4	206.6	209.3	208.9	210.4
Employee	1,561.9	1,594.2	1,654.7	1,653.4	1,667.9	1,685.5	1,735.5
Assisting relative	14.5	13.7	15.0	13.4	11.8	11.6	12.8
Total persons	1,893.6	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3

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					
Jun-Aug 2004	489.8	25.2	515.1	4.9	60.4
Mar-May 2005	495.5	22.1	517.6	4.3	59.6
Jun-Aug 2005	512.7	23.8	536.4	4.4	61.3
Sep-Nov 2005	506.5	24.8	531.4	4.7	60.1
Dec-Feb 2006	512.2	23.1	535.4	4.3	60.1
Mar-May 2006	515.9	24.2	540.1	4.5	60.4
Jun-Aug 2006	533.5	29.9	563.3	5.3	62.3
Southern and Eastern					
Jun-Aug 2004	1,403.8	68.6	1,472.4	4.7	62.2
Mar-May 2005	1,433.7	63.5	1,497.2	4.2	62.2
Jun-Aug 2005	1,477.1	72.9	1,550.1	4.7	63.9
Sep-Nov 2005	1,474.1	66.4	1,540.5	4.3	62.9
Dec-Feb 2006	1,485.9	65.1	1,551.0	4.2	63.0
Mar-May 2006	1,501.1	67.1	1,568.2	4.3	63.3
Jun-Aug 2006	1,539.8	75.0	1,614.7	4.6	64.7
State					
Jun-Aug 2004	1,893.6	93.9	1,987.5	4.7	61.8
Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8	4.2	61.5
Jun-Aug 2005	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5	4.6	63.2
Sep-Nov 2005	1,980.6	91.3	2,071.9	4.4	62.2
Dec-Feb 2006	1,998.1	88.2	2,086.3	4.2	62.2
Mar-May 2006	2,017.0	91.4	2,108.3	4.3	62.6
Jun-Aug 2006	2,073.3	104.8	2,178.1	4.8	64.1

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	Jun-Aug 2004	195.3	12.2	207.6	5.9	58.9
	Mar-May 2005	197.8	10.3	208.1	4.9	58.3
	Jun-Aug 2005	202.0	10.9	213.0	5.1	59.3
	Sep-Nov 2005	200.3	11.7	212.0	5.5	58.6
	Dec-Feb 2006	205.5	10.5	216.0	4.9	59.4
	Mar-May 2006	205.2	10.8	216.0	5.0	59.1
	Jun-Aug 2006	210.4	13.2	223.6	5.9	60.5
Midland	Jun-Aug 2004	108.3	5.7	114.0	5.0	61.9
	Mar-May 2005	110.1	4.5	114.6	4.0	61.0
	Jun-Aug 2005	113.7	4.9	118.6	4.1	62.6
	Sep-Nov 2005	113.0	4.5	117.5	3.9	61.2
	Dec-Feb 2006	114.3	3.9	118.3	3.3	60.9
	Mar-May 2006	115.2	4.8	120.0	4.0	61.3
	Jun-Aug 2006	118.8	5.9	124.7	4.7	63.0
West	Jun-Aug 2004	186.1	7.3	193.4	3.8	61.3
	Mar-May 2005	187.6	7.3	194.9	3.7	60.1
	Jun-Aug 2005	196.9	8.0	204.9	3.9	62.7
	Sep-Nov 2005	193.2	8.6	201.8	4.3	61.0
	Dec-Feb 2006	192.4	8.7	201.1	4.3	60.6
	Mar-May 2006	195.5	8.6	204.1	4.2	61.2
	Jun-Aug 2006	204.3	10.7	215.0	5.0	63.9
Dublin	Jun-Aug 2004	560.2	24.7	585.0	4.2	63.0
	Mar-May 2005	574.3	25.5	599.7	4.2	63.7
	Jun-Aug 2005	585.6	28.8	614.5	4.7	65.0
	Sep-Nov 2005	586.4	27.5	614.0	4.5	64.4
	Dec-Feb 2006	594.4	26.7	621.2	4.3	64.8
	Mar-May 2006	595.4	29.7	625.2	4.8	64.8
	Jun-Aug 2006	608.4	29.0	637.5	4.6	65.7
Mid-East	Jun-Aug 2004	210.9	8.2	219.0	3.7	64.6
	Mar-May 2005	217.3	6.0	223.4	2.7	64.2
	Jun-Aug 2005	223.8	8.6	232.4	3.7	66.1
	Sep-Nov 2005	224.1	8.2	232.3	3.5	65.1
	Dec-Feb 2006	225.8	7.2	233.0	3.1	65.0
	Mar-May 2006	225.6	7.8	233.4	3.3	64.6
	Jun-Aug 2006	231.8	9.1	240.9	3.8	65.9
Mid-West	Jun-Aug 2004	160.0	9.7	169.7	5.7	62.0
	Mar-May 2005	163.9	8.0	171.9	4.7	61.7
	Jun-Aug 2005	169.7	9.0	178.7	5.0	63.7
	Sep-Nov 2005	169.4	7.8	177.2	4.4	62.9
	Dec-Feb 2006	171.5	7.6	179.1	4.3	63.1
	Mar-May 2006	174.2	7.1	181.3	3.9	63.5
	Jun-Aug 2006	176.2	10.1	186.3	5.4	64.8
South-East	Jun-Aug 2004	195.9	13.0	208.9	6.2	60.2
	Mar-May 2005	200.3	12.0	212.3	5.6	59.9
	Jun-Aug 2005	206.4	14.8	221.2	6.7	61.8
	Sep-Nov 2005	203.9	12.3	216.1	5.7	59.9
	Dec-Feb 2006	206.3	12.9	219.2	5.9	60.3
	Mar-May 2006	213.6	11.3	224.9	5.0	61.5
	Jun-Aug 2006	218.4	13.5	232.0	5.8	62.8
South-West	Jun-Aug 2004	276.8	13.0	289.8	4.5	60.7
	Mar-May 2005	277.9	12.1	289.9	4.2	59.6
	Jun-Aug 2005	291.5	11.7	303.3	3.9	61.8
	Sep-Nov 2005	290.3	10.7	301.0	3.6	60.8
	Dec-Feb 2006	287.9	10.6	298.5	3.6	60.1
	Mar-May 2006	292.3	11.2	303.5	3.7	60.9
	Jun-Aug 2006	305.0	13.2	318.1	4.1	63.3
State	Jun-Aug 2004	1,893.6	93.9	1,987.5	4.7	61.8
	Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8	4.2	61.5
	Jun-Aug 2005	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5	4.6	63.2
	Sep-Nov 2005	1,980.6	91.3	2,071.9	4.4	62.2
	Dec-Feb 2006	1,998.1	88.2	2,086.3	4.2	62.2
	Mar-May 2006	2,017.0	91.4	2,108.3	4.3	62.6
	Jun-Aug 2006	2,073.3	104.8	2,178.1	4.8	64.1

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, June-August 2006

%

Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	41.0	85.8	92.1	86.5	75.5	59.0	47.0	15.6	74.4
Married	*	91.0	95.9	96.5	92.0	81.1	61.5	15.4	76.9
Separated or divorced	*	*	89.3	92.4	79.0	64.5	44.8	8.3	71.2
Widowed	*	*	*	85.9	81.7	69.3	49.7	7.0	21.7
Total males	41.0	85.9	93.1	93.8	88.6	76.9	58.4	14.1	74.3
Females									
Single	33.2	75.8	84.4	77.4	71.8	58.3	41.4	5.1	65.8
Married	*	61.6	70.5	64.4	61.9	46.7	28.1	4.5	52.0
Separated or divorced	*	*	60.4	66.4	71.0	55.4	45.7	8.1	60.6
Widowed	*	*	85.1	68.2	62.4	40.4	26.3	2.2	10.2
Total females	33.3	75.4	78.8	67.0	63.9	48.2	30.0	3.6	54.0
All persons									
Single	37.2	80.9	88.6	82.7	74.0	58.7	44.9	10.9	70.4
Married	*	71.9	81.8	80.3	77.1	64.4	45.3	10.7	64.6
Separated or divorced	*	*	68.7	75.3	73.8	59.0	45.3	8.2	64.5
Widowed	*	*	88.0	72.8	67.6	46.9	32.0	3.2	12.6
Total persons	37.2	80.7	86.1	80.5	76.3	62.6	44.2	8.2	64.1

* 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									
Jun-Aug 2004	37.4	83.7	92.5	93.3	89.2	74.9	55.2	13.9	72.8
Mar-May 2005	27.9	75.8	92.8	93.8	89.4	73.8	60.0	14.6	71.8
Jun-Aug 2005	38.0	84.5	93.5	93.9	89.1	75.6	58.3	14.0	73.7
Sep-Nov 2005	30.4	79.4	92.8	93.8	89.7	75.0	58.2	14.1	72.5
Dec-Feb 2006	29.6	79.0	92.7	94.0	89.2	76.8	58.8	14.0	72.5
Mar-May 2006	30.2	79.9	93.2	93.9	89.0	76.4	58.3	14.5	72.8
Jun-Aug 2006	41.0	85.9	93.1	93.8	88.6	76.9	58.4	14.1	74.3
Females									
Jun-Aug 2004	30.7	73.9	75.6	65.0	60.8	42.6	22.0	3.0	51.0
Mar-May 2005	22.9	68.5	77.1	66.5	63.3	46.4	28.2	3.3	51.4
Jun-Aug 2005	32.4	74.5	77.6	66.9	62.6	46.4	27.8	3.1	52.9
Sep-Nov 2005	24.3	70.4	77.4	66.4	63.8	47.7	29.0	3.4	52.1
Dec-Feb 2006	22.7	68.3	78.2	66.8	64.6	47.2	30.4	3.4	52.2
Mar-May 2006	22.8	68.8	78.5	66.7	64.1	48.6	31.2	4.2	52.5
Jun-Aug 2006	33.3	75.4	78.8	67.0	63.9	48.2	30.0	3.6	54.0
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2004	34.2	78.8	84.0	79.1	75.1	58.9	38.7	7.8	61.8
Mar-May 2005	25.4	72.2	85.1	80.2	76.4	60.2	44.2	8.3	61.5
Jun-Aug 2005	35.2	79.5	85.6	80.4	75.9	61.2	43.1	7.9	63.2
Sep-Nov 2005	27.4	74.9	85.2	80.2	76.8	61.5	43.7	8.1	62.2
Dec-Feb 2006	26.2	73.6	85.6	80.4	76.9	62.1	44.7	8.0	62.2
Mar-May 2006	26.6	74.4	86.0	80.4	76.6	62.6	44.8	8.7	62.6
Jun-Aug 2006	37.2	80.7	86.1	80.5	76.3	62.6	44.2	8.2	64.1

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									
Jun-Aug 2004	57.5	142.7	303.9	272.9	222.9	81.9	46.6	27.6	1,156.0
Mar-May 2005	42.2	129.9	319.4	280.7	226.8	82.6	52.0	29.6	1,163.3
Jun-Aug 2005	57.5	145.7	326.0	282.6	227.6	85.1	51.2	28.5	1,204.3
Sep-Nov 2005	46.0	137.5	330.2	284.9	230.6	84.8	51.9	29.0	1,194.8
Dec-Feb 2006	44.6	136.6	334.9	286.8	230.3	87.2	53.2	28.8	1,202.6
Mar-May 2006	45.5	139.0	341.7	289.1	231.2	87.2	53.3	30.1	1,217.2
Jun-Aug 2006	61.7	150.7	347.0	290.9	231.5	88.0	54.2	29.6	1,253.5
Females									
Jun-Aug 2004	44.9	125.0	247.8	191.1	151.1	45.5	18.4	7.7	831.5
Mar-May 2005	33.1	116.5	260.3	198.0	159.8	51.1	24.2	8.5	851.5
Jun-Aug 2005	46.9	127.5	264.8	200.3	159.1	51.3	24.2	8.0	882.2
Sep-Nov 2005	35.1	122.1	269.3	200.0	163.0	53.0	25.7	8.9	877.1
Dec-Feb 2006	32.7	117.9	275.7	202.3	166.1	52.8	27.3	8.8	883.8
Mar-May 2006	32.7	117.6	278.4	202.6	165.9	54.6	28.4	11.0	891.1
Jun-Aug 2006	47.9	129.9	283.8	204.9	166.6	54.3	27.7	9.4	924.6
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2004	102.4	267.7	551.7	464.0	374.0	127.4	64.9	35.3	1,987.5
Mar-May 2005	75.3	246.4	579.8	478.7	386.7	133.7	76.1	38.1	2,014.8
Jun-Aug 2005	104.4	273.2	590.9	483.0	386.7	136.4	75.4	36.5	2,086.5
Sep-Nov 2005	81.1	259.5	599.5	484.9	393.6	137.8	77.5	37.9	2,071.9
Dec-Feb 2006	77.4	254.6	610.6	489.1	396.5	140.0	80.5	37.7	2,086.3
Mar-May 2006	78.2	256.7	620.0	491.7	397.1	141.8	81.7	41.1	2,108.3
Jun-Aug 2006	109.6	280.6	630.9	495.8	398.0	142.4	81.8	39.0	2,178.1

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									
Jun-Aug 2004	49.5	130.7	288.6	263.2	213.9	79.7	45.3	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
Jun-Aug 2005	50.0	133.7	310.1	273.4	218.7	82.0	50.1	28.5	1,146.3
Sep-Nov 2005	39.2	127.0	314.9	275.9	221.8	81.9	50.9	28.8	1,140.5
Dec-Feb 2006	38.9	126.5	318.5	277.9	221.9	84.9	52.6	28.6	1,149.8
Mar-May 2006	40.3	128.0	324.8	279.3	222.6	84.4	52.6	30.0	1,162.0
Jun-Aug 2006	52.2	137.0	329.4	280.9	223.9	85.0	53.5	29.5	1,191.4
Females									
Jun-Aug 2004	38.2	114.3	240.1	185.5	147.3	44.2	18.1	7.7	795.3
Mar-May 2005	29.6	109.1	251.6	191.9	155.2	49.7	23.6	8.4	819.1
Jun-Aug 2005	40.5	116.8	255.2	194.3	154.8	50.2	23.8	7.9	843.5
Sep-Nov 2005	32.0	112.8	258.7	193.2	157.8	51.6	25.2	8.8	840.1
Dec-Feb 2006	29.3	110.8	264.3	195.7	161.5	51.1	26.9	8.8	848.3
Mar-May 2006	28.7	109.8	267.7	195.6	160.9	53.2	28.1	11.0	855.0
Jun-Aug 2006	40.1	119.6	273.0	197.9	162.1	52.7	27.1	9.3	881.8
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2004	87.7	245.0	528.8	448.6	361.2	123.9	63.4	35.0	1,893.6
Mar-May 2005	67.1	228.1	556.4	462.2	373.6	129.8	74.0	38.0	1,929.2
Jun-Aug 2005	90.4	250.5	565.2	467.7	373.5	132.1	73.9	36.4	1,989.8
Sep-Nov 2005	71.2	239.8	573.5	469.2	379.7	133.5	76.2	37.6	1,980.6
Dec-Feb 2006	68.2	237.2	582.8	473.6	383.3	136.0	79.5	37.4	1,998.1
Mar-May 2006	69.0	237.8	592.4	474.9	383.6	137.6	80.7	41.0	2,017.0
Jun-Aug 2006	92.3	256.6	602.4	478.9	386.0	137.7	80.6	38.8	2,073.3

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								
Jun-Aug 2004	32.3	76.7	87.8	89.9	85.6	72.9	53.7	77.1
Mar-May 2005	24.7	69.4	88.6	90.4	86.1	71.6	58.2	76.2
Jun-Aug 2005	33.0	77.6	88.9	90.8	85.6	72.9	57.0	78.2
Sep-Nov 2005	25.9	73.3	88.5	90.8	86.3	72.4	57.2	77.0
Dec-Feb 2006	25.8	73.1	88.2	91.0	85.9	74.7	58.1	77.2
Mar-May 2006	26.8	73.6	88.6	90.7	85.7	74.0	57.5	77.3
Jun-Aug 2006	34.7	78.1	88.4	90.6	85.7	74.2	57.6	78.7
Females								
Jun-Aug 2004	26.1	67.6	73.2	63.1	59.3	41.4	21.7	57.2
Mar-May 2005	20.5	64.2	74.5	64.4	61.5	45.1	27.5	58.0
Jun-Aug 2005	27.9	68.3	74.7	64.9	61.0	45.4	27.3	59.3
Sep-Nov 2005	22.1	65.0	74.3	64.2	61.7	46.5	28.5	58.4
Dec-Feb 2006	20.3	64.1	75.0	64.6	62.8	45.7	30.0	58.6
Mar-May 2006	20.0	64.2	75.5	64.4	62.2	47.4	30.9	58.8
Jun-Aug 2006	27.9	69.4	75.8	64.7	62.2	46.8	29.4	60.3
All persons								
Jun-Aug 2004	29.3	72.1	80.5	76.5	72.5	57.3	37.8	67.2
Mar-May 2005	22.7	66.8	81.6	77.4	73.8	58.5	42.9	67.1
Jun-Aug 2005	30.5	72.9	81.9	77.9	73.3	59.2	42.2	68.8
Sep-Nov 2005	24.1	69.2	81.5	77.6	74.0	59.5	42.9	67.8
Dec-Feb 2006	23.1	68.6	81.7	77.9	74.4	60.4	44.1	68.0
Mar-May 2006	23.5	69.0	82.1	77.6	73.9	60.8	44.2	68.1
Jun-Aug 2006	31.4	73.8	82.2	77.7	74.0	60.6	43.5	69.6

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

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Jun-Aug 2004	7.9	12.0	15.3	9.8	9.0	2.2	1.3	0.3	57.7
Mar-May 2005	4.8	10.9	14.6	10.3	8.5	2.5	1.6	*	53.2
Jun-Aug 2005	7.5	12.0	16.0	9.3	9.0	3.1	1.1	*	58.0
Sep-Nov 2005	6.8	10.5	15.3	8.9	8.7	2.9	0.9	*	54.3
Dec-Feb 2006	5.7	10.2	16.3	8.9	8.5	2.3	0.7	*	52.8
Mar-May 2006	5.2	11.0	16.9	9.8	8.6	2.8	0.7	*	55.2
Jun-Aug 2006	9.4	13.7	17.6	10.0	7.6	3.0	0.7	*	62.1
Females									
Jun-Aug 2004	6.8	10.7	7.6	5.6	3.9	1.3	*	*	36.2
Mar-May 2005	3.5	7.4	8.7	6.2	4.6	1.4	0.6	*	32.4
Jun-Aug 2005	6.4	10.7	9.7	6.0	4.3	1.2	0.4	*	38.8
Sep-Nov 2005	3.1	9.3	10.6	6.8	5.2	1.4	0.5	*	37.0
Dec-Feb 2006	3.5	7.2	11.4	6.6	4.7	1.7	0.4	*	35.4
Mar-May 2006	4.0	7.8	10.7	7.0	5.0	1.4	0.3	*	36.1
Jun-Aug 2006	7.8	10.4	10.8	7.0	4.5	1.6	0.6	*	42.7
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2004	14.7	22.7	22.9	15.4	12.8	3.5	1.6	0.3	93.9
Mar-May 2005	8.3	18.3	23.3	16.5	13.0	3.9	2.1	*	85.6
Jun-Aug 2005	14.0	22.6	25.6	15.3	13.3	4.3	1.5	*	96.7
Sep-Nov 2005	9.9	19.7	26.0	15.7	14.0	4.3	1.4	0.3	91.3
Dec-Feb 2006	9.1	17.3	27.7	15.5	13.1	4.0	1.1	0.3	88.2
Mar-May 2006	9.2	18.8	27.6	16.8	13.5	4.2	1.0	*	91.4
Jun-Aug 2006	17.2	24.1	28.4	17.0	12.0	4.6	1.2	*	104.8

* 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									
Jun-Aug 2004	13.8	8.4	5.0	3.6	4.0	2.7	2.8	1.0	5.0
Mar-May 2005	11.3	8.4	4.6	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.0	*	4.6
Jun-Aug 2005	13.1	8.2	4.9	3.3	3.9	3.7	2.1	*	4.8
Sep-Nov 2005	14.7	7.6	4.6	3.1	3.8	3.4	1.8	*	4.5
Dec-Feb 2006	12.8	7.4	4.9	3.1	3.7	2.7	1.3	*	4.4
Mar-May 2006	11.5	7.9	4.9	3.4	3.7	3.2	1.4	*	4.5
Jun-Aug 2006	15.3	9.1	5.1	3.4	3.3	3.4	1.3	*	5.0
Females									
Jun-Aug 2004	15.1	8.6	3.1	3.0	2.6	2.8	1.3	*	4.3
Mar-May 2005	10.6	6.3	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.3	*	3.8
Jun-Aug 2005	13.7	8.4	3.6	3.0	2.7	2.3	1.6	*	4.4
Sep-Nov 2005	8.9	7.6	3.9	3.4	3.2	2.6	1.8	*	4.2
Dec-Feb 2006	10.5	6.1	4.1	3.3	2.8	3.2	1.5	*	4.0
Mar-May 2006	12.2	6.7	3.8	3.5	3.0	2.5	0.9	*	4.1
Jun-Aug 2006	16.3	8.0	3.8	3.4	2.7	3.0	2.0	*	4.6
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2004	14.4	8.5	4.2	3.3	3.4	2.7	2.4	0.8	4.7
Mar-May 2005	11.0	7.4	4.0	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.8	*	4.2
Jun-Aug 2005	13.4	8.3	4.3	3.2	3.4	3.1	2.0	*	4.6
Sep-Nov 2005	12.2	7.6	4.3	3.2	3.5	3.1	1.8	0.9	4.4
Dec-Feb 2006	11.8	6.8	4.5	3.2	3.3	2.9	1.3	0.7	4.2
Mar-May 2006	11.8	7.3	4.5	3.4	3.4	3.0	1.2	*	4.3
Jun-Aug 2006	15.7	8.6	4.5	3.4	3.0	3.3	1.5	*	4.8

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)									
Jun-Aug 2004	0.6	5.3	128.0	217.6	190.5	82.7	58.8	100.4	783.8
Mar-May 2005	0.3	5.6	130.3	220.1	191.6	83.5	61.4	102.7	795.6
Jun-Aug 2005	*	6.1	132.8	218.1	194.4	83.4	61.9	104.3	801.2
Sep-Nov 2005	0.4	6.2	134.3	221.1	195.6	84.2	63.4	106.3	811.4
Dec-Feb 2006	0.5	6.1	134.4	221.9	196.0	84.3	65.1	107.5	815.6
Mar-May 2006	0.5	5.3	129.1	221.6	196.4	84.0	66.4	107.4	810.6
Jun-Aug 2006	0.4	5.5	132.9	223.2	199.3	84.9	68.1	108.9	823.0
of which In labour force ('000)									
Jun-Aug 2004	*	2.4	83.0	136.5	112.2	33.5	12.2	3.8	383.6
Mar-May 2005	*	3.2	91.7	140.5	116.8	36.7	16.0	4.0	409.1
Jun-Aug 2005	*	3.3	91.9	140.8	117.9	36.9	16.0	3.5	410.4
Sep-Nov 2005	*	3.4	95.5	140.8	121.4	39.3	17.1	3.9	421.6
Dec-Feb 2006	0.3	3.6	96.4	142.0	123.6	38.8	18.8	4.1	427.4
Mar-May 2006	*	3.2	92.1	141.8	122.6	39.6	19.9	5.8	424.9
Jun-Aug 2006	*	3.4	93.6	143.7	123.4	39.7	19.1	4.9	427.9
of which In employment ('000)									
Jun-Aug 2004	*	2.1	81.3	132.9	110.1	32.7	12.1	3.8	375.0
Mar-May 2005	*	3.0	88.6	136.8	114.3	35.9	15.8	4.0	398.5
Jun-Aug 2005	*	3.1	89.4	137.2	115.4	36.1	15.9	3.5	400.6
Sep-Nov 2005	*	3.2	92.1	136.6	117.9	38.4	16.7	3.9	409.0
Dec-Feb 2006	0.3	3.1	93.1	138.0	120.6	37.6	18.6	4.0	415.2
Mar-May 2006	*	2.9	89.2	137.7	119.4	38.7	19.7	5.8	413.5
Jun-Aug 2006	*	3.0	90.4	139.4	120.8	38.4	18.8	4.8	415.6
Participation rates (%)									
Jun-Aug 2004	*	44.5	64.8	62.7	58.9	40.5	20.7	3.8	48.9
Mar-May 2005	*	56.4	70.4	63.8	61.0	44.0	26.1	3.9	51.4
Jun-Aug 2005	*	54.5	69.2	64.6	60.6	44.2	25.9	3.4	51.2
Sep-Nov 2005	*	55.5	71.1	63.7	62.1	46.6	26.9	3.7	52.0
Dec-Feb 2006	*	58.8	71.7	64.0	63.1	46.1	28.8	3.8	52.4
Mar-May 2006	*	59.7	71.3	64.0	62.4	47.1	29.9	5.4	52.4
Jun-Aug 2006	*	61.6	70.5	64.4	61.9	46.7	28.1	4.5	52.0

* 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	%	%
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
Jun-Aug 2005	2,086.5	1,989.8	96.7	28.1	4.6	1.3
Sep-Nov 2005	2,071.9	1,980.6	91.3	27.6	4.4	1.3
Dec-Feb 2006	2,086.3	1,998.1	88.2	26.2	4.2	1.3
Mar-May 2006	2,108.3	2,017.0	91.4	29.6	4.3	1.4
Jun-Aug 2006	2,178.1	2,073.3	104.8	28.4	4.8	1.3

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

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	'000						
	Jun- Aug 04	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May-06	Jun- Aug 06
Males							
Less than 1 year	36.6	31.7	36.1	33.4	32.9	33.8	40.7
1 year and over	20.7	21.2	21.6	20.7	19.7	21.1	21.1
Not stated	0.4	0.3	0.3	*	*	0.3	0.3
Total males	57.7	53.2	58.0	54.3	52.8	55.2	62.1
Females							
Less than 1 year	28.8	26.1	32.3	30.0	28.9	27.7	35.5
1 year and over	7.3	6.3	6.5	6.9	6.6	8.4	7.2
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	36.2	32.4	38.8	37.0	35.4	36.1	42.7
All persons							
Less than 1 year	65.4	57.7	68.4	63.5	61.7	61.5	76.2
1 year and over	28.0	27.6	28.1	27.6	26.2	29.6	28.4
Not stated	0.4	0.3	0.3	*	*	0.3	0.3
Total persons	93.9	85.6	96.7	91.3	88.2	91.4	104.8

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

	QNHS Jun-Aug 2005				QNHS Jun-Aug 2006				'000
	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	15.6	13.6	6.9	36.1	18.2	17.1	5.3	40.7	
1 year and over	3.9	11.6	6.1	21.6	4.7	10.4	6.0	21.1	
Not stated	*	*	*	0.3	*	*	*	0.3	
Total males	19.5	25.2	13.2	58.0	23.1	27.6	11.4	62.1	
Females									
Less than 1 year	15.5	13.0	3.7	32.3	16.2	14.3	5.0	35.5	
1 year and over	1.6	2.7	2.2	6.5	2.0	3.5	1.7	7.2	
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Total females	17.1	15.7	6.0	38.8	18.2	17.8	6.8	42.7	
All persons									
Less than 1 year	31.1	26.6	10.6	68.4	34.4	31.4	10.3	76.2	
1 year and over	5.5	14.3	8.3	28.1	6.7	13.9	7.8	28.4	
Not stated	*	*	0.3	0.3	*	*	*	0.3	
Total persons	36.6	40.9	19.2	96.7	41.3	45.4	18.1	104.8	

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06
In labour force	1,987.5	1,979.7	1,990.5	2,014.8	2,086.5	2,071.9	2,086.3	2,108.3	2,178.1
In employment:	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3
full-time	1,576.2	1,577.6	1,581.0	1,597.5	1,647.0	1,639.8	1,654.7	1,665.4	1,724.7
part-time:	317.4	316.6	327.4	331.7	342.8	340.8	343.4	351.6	348.6
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	313.4	313.6	324.3	327.7	339.3	336.4	339.2	347.4	345.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	4.0	2.9	3.0	4.0	3.5	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.6
Unemployed:	93.9	85.6	82.1	85.6	96.7	91.3	88.2	91.4	104.8
seeking full-time work	80.1	72.2	69.1	71.0	80.2	74.2	72.7	76.5	88.1
seeking part-time work	13.8	13.4	13.0	14.7	16.5	17.0	15.5	14.9	16.7
Not in labour force	1,230.9	1,266.0	1,272.5	1,262.6	1,215.1	1,260.2	1,265.9	1,262.0	1,220.4
Marginally attached to the labour force:	13.4	11.3	12.1	9.1	13.6	9.8	10.1	9.8	15.5
Discouraged workers	10.8	8.4	9.3	7.0	10.9	7.4	8.0	7.7	12.8
Passive jobseekers	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.1	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.7
Others:	1,217.5	1,254.7	1,260.4	1,253.5	1,201.5	1,250.3	1,255.8	1,252.2	1,204.8
Persons not in education, who want work ²	56.5	56.1	56.5	53.9	56.5	58.4	60.5	57.0	66.5
Persons in education, who want work ²	25.0	27.8	29.4	31.8	24.9	26.6	32.0	34.7	27.0
All other persons	1,135.9	1,170.8	1,174.4	1,167.9	1,120.1	1,165.3	1,163.3	1,160.5	1,111.4
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,218.4	3,245.7	3,262.9	3,277.4	3,301.6	3,332.1	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4

¹ See Background Notes.

² 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
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
Jun-Aug 2005	5.1	7.7	7.9
Sep-Nov 2005	4.7	7.5	7.7
Dec-Feb 2006	4.6	7.4	7.6
Mar-May 2006	4.7	7.3	7.5
Jun-Aug 2006	5.4	8.3	8.4

%

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

Principal Economic Status	Jun-Aug 04	Mar-May 05	Jun-Aug 05	Sep-Nov 05	Dec-Feb 06	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06
Males							
At work	1,052.1	1,080.6	1,101.1	1,109.8	1,119.6	1,130.4	1,146.5
Unemployed	80.5	77.1	80.6	80.9	80.2	80.3	83.6
Student	170.4	176.8	163.1	169.0	169.7	169.7	159.7
Home duties	4.6	5.1	6.0	5.2	5.0	5.1	4.3
Retired	208.3	208.7	210.9	211.9	213.3	213.0	216.6
Others	71.5	72.5	71.3	72.0	71.4	74.1	75.8
Total males	1,587.4	1,620.9	1,633.0	1,648.8	1,659.1	1,672.6	1,686.5
Females							
At work	745.5	776.8	789.5	794.4	806.0	810.4	824.5
Unemployed	37.2	32.5	39.1	37.5	36.2	35.1	41.4
Student	180.0	193.6	182.8	193.6	196.6	199.3	184.3
Home duties	560.0	539.4	539.8	538.5	535.0	530.3	536.1
Retired	68.8	72.2	74.8	76.9	76.9	78.3	80.4
Others	39.4	42.1	42.5	42.4	42.3	44.4	45.2
Total females	1,631.0	1,656.6	1,668.6	1,683.3	1,693.1	1,697.7	1,711.9
All persons							
At work	1,797.6	1,857.4	1,890.6	1,904.3	1,925.6	1,940.8	1,971.1
Unemployed	117.7	109.7	119.8	118.4	116.4	115.4	125.0
Student	350.4	370.4	346.0	362.6	366.2	369.0	344.0
Home duties	564.6	544.6	545.8	543.7	540.0	535.4	540.4
Retired	277.1	280.9	285.6	288.7	290.2	291.3	297.1
Others	110.9	114.6	113.8	114.4	113.7	118.4	121.0
Total persons	3,218.4	3,277.4	3,301.6	3,332.1	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4

'000

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, June-August 2006

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,141.6	1.9	41.3	*	4.2	2.2	1,191.4
full-time	1,093.7	1.2	17.2	*	0.5	1.2	1,114.1
part-time:	47.9	0.6	24.1	*	3.7	1.0	77.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	46.7	0.5	23.8	*	3.7	1.0	75.8
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.2	*	0.3	*	*	*	1.6
Unemployed:	1.1	51.8	6.9	0.3	0.4	1.5	62.1
seeking full-time work	1.1	50.6	4.9	*	*	1.2	58.3
seeking part-time work	*	1.2	2.0	*	*	0.3	3.8
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.8	3.6	1.6	*	0.8	0.4	8.4
Others	1.9	26.3	109.8	3.7	211.2	71.7	424.6
Total males aged 15 or over	1,146.5	83.6	159.7	4.3	216.6	75.8	1,686.5
Females							
In employment:	819.0	1.7	49.5	8.6	0.7	2.4	881.8
full-time	593.0	1.0	13.4	2.0	*	1.1	610.6
part-time:	226.0	0.7	36.1	6.6	0.6	1.2	271.2
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	224.2	0.7	35.9	6.6	0.6	1.2	269.2
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.8	*	*	*	*	*	2.0
Unemployed:	0.7	24.7	6.6	10.0	*	0.6	42.7
seeking full-time work	0.5	21.2	3.9	3.8	*	0.4	29.8
seeking part-time work	*	3.5	2.7	6.2	*	*	12.9
Marginally attached to the labour force	2.1	1.6	2.1	0.9	*	*	7.1
Others	2.7	13.4	126.1	516.5	79.4	42.1	780.2
Total females aged 15 or over	824.5	41.4	184.3	536.1	80.4	45.2	1,711.9
All persons							
In employment:	1,960.6	3.6	90.8	8.8	4.9	4.5	2,073.3
full-time	1,686.8	2.3	30.6	2.1	0.6	2.4	1,724.7
part-time:	273.9	1.3	60.2	6.7	4.3	2.2	348.6
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	270.9	1.2	59.8	6.7	4.3	2.2	345.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	3.0	*	0.5	*	*	*	3.6
Unemployed:	1.9	76.5	13.6	10.3	0.6	2.1	104.8
seeking full-time work	1.6	71.8	8.8	4.0	*	1.6	88.1
seeking part-time work	*	4.7	4.7	6.3	0.4	0.5	16.7
Marginally attached to the labour force	3.9	5.2	3.7	1.0	1.0	0.6	15.5
Others	4.6	39.8	235.9	520.2	290.6	113.7	1,204.8
Total persons aged 15 or over	1,971.1	125.0	344.0	540.4	297.1	121.0	3,398.4

¹ See Background Notes.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 23 Persons aged 15 to 64, classified by the highest level of education attained, ILO Economic Status and sex

Highest education level attained	June-August 2005					June-August 2006				
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Males aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	131.8	13.8	145.6	9.5	60.2	131.5	13.6	145.1	9.4	60.1
Lower secondary	222.9	16.6	239.6	6.9	76.7	230.9	16.1	247.0	6.5	76.9
Higher secondary	309.5	13.7	323.2	4.2	87.2	315.9	17.1	333.0	5.1	88.1
Post leaving cert	121.9	3.6	125.5	2.9	93.0	128.7	3.5	132.2	2.6	94.0
Third level non degree	101.3	2.9	104.1	2.8	93.1	108.2	3.5	111.6	3.1	93.2
Third level degree or above	199.4	5.5	204.9	2.7	93.5	206.3	6.1	212.4	2.9	93.4
Other	31.0	1.8	32.8	5.5	86.3	40.5	2.1	42.6	4.9	88.4
Total males aged 15 to 64	1,117.8	57.9	1,175.8	4.9	82.3	1,161.9	62.0	1,224.0	5.1	82.9
Females aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	54.8	3.9	58.7	6.6	28.8	54.3	4.8	59.1	8.1	29.5
Lower secondary	109.5	9.4	118.9	7.9	44.4	106.8	9.5	116.3	8.2	44.4
Higher secondary	246.8	11.7	258.5	4.5	65.9	257.8	12.2	270.0	4.5	67.1
Post leaving cert	94.4	3.4	97.8	3.5	72.8	93.5	4.2	97.7	4.3	73.7
Third level non degree	117.6	3.8	121.4	3.1	80.0	124.2	3.9	128.1	3.0	81.1
Third level degree or above	195.9	5.2	201.0	2.6	86.7	216.7	6.1	222.8	2.7	85.5
Other	16.7	1.2	17.9	6.7	65.3	19.3	1.9	21.1	9.0	64.5
Total females aged 15 to 64	835.6	38.6	874.2	4.4	62.1	872.5	42.6	915.1	4.7	63.2
All persons aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	186.5	17.7	204.2	8.7	45.8	185.7	18.4	204.1	9.0	46.2
Lower secondary	332.4	26.1	358.5	7.3	61.8	337.7	25.6	363.3	7.0	62.3
Higher secondary	556.3	25.4	581.8	4.4	76.3	573.8	29.3	603.0	4.9	77.3
Post leaving cert	216.3	7.0	223.3	3.1	82.9	222.2	7.7	229.9	3.3	84.2
Third level non degree	218.9	6.7	225.5	3.0	85.6	232.4	7.4	239.8	3.1	86.3
Third level degree or above	395.2	10.7	405.9	2.6	90.0	423.0	12.2	435.2	2.8	89.2
Other	47.7	3.0	50.7	5.9	77.5	59.7	4.0	63.7	6.3	78.8
Total persons aged 15 to 64	1,953.4	96.5	2,050.0	4.7	72.2	2,034.5	104.6	2,139.1	4.9	73.1

Table 24 Estimated adult¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, June-August 2006

'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	92.3	88.2	180.5	3.6	3.5	7.1	4.2	8.8	13.0	100.2	100.6	200.7
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	70.8	52.0	122.8	1.8	1.3	3.2	45.2	61.7	106.9	117.9	115.0	232.9
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	9.0	3.2	12.2	*	*	*	70.8	78.5	149.3	79.8	81.8	161.6
Total	172.1	143.5	315.6	5.5	4.9	10.4	120.2	149.0	269.2	297.8	297.4	595.3
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	174.7	112.6	287.4	6.1	4.1	10.2	7.1	68.9	76.0	187.9	185.7	373.6
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	9.3	4.2	13.5	0.4	*	0.6	1.4	6.4	7.9	11.1	10.9	22.0
All children aged 5 to 14	76.8	49.1	125.9	1.9	2.3	4.1	4.0	29.4	33.4	82.6	80.8	163.5
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	113.1	72.5	185.6	3.4	2.0	5.3	8.8	47.7	56.5	125.2	122.2	247.4
All children aged 15 or over	148.2	96.5	244.7	3.8	1.6	5.4	54.5	104.8	159.3	206.6	202.8	409.4
Total	522.2	334.9	857.1	15.6	10.2	25.7	75.8	257.2	333.0	613.5	602.4	1,215.8
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.3	18.0	19.3	*	1.5	1.5	0.4	23.5	23.9	1.7	43.0	44.7
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.1	1.2	*	*	*	*	1.4	1.4	*	2.8	2.9
All children aged 5 to 14	1.2	15.9	17.1	*	1.3	1.4	0.4	8.3	8.7	1.7	25.5	27.3
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.9	16.6	19.5	0.3	0.7	1.0	0.6	9.2	9.8	3.8	26.5	30.3
All children aged 15 or over	8.6	26.6	35.2	*	1.1	1.2	9.2	44.8	54.0	17.9	72.4	90.4
Total	14.1	78.2	92.3	0.5	4.8	5.3	10.7	87.2	97.9	25.2	170.2	195.5
Total	708.4	556.6	1,265.0	21.6	19.9	41.4	206.6	493.5	700.1	936.5	1,070.0	2,006.5

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 25 Labour Force Survey results classified by ILO Economic Status for persons aged 15 or over in EU member states¹

Region	Q2/2005					Q2/2006				
	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	216,434	197,049	19,385	57.0	9.0	218,932	201,005	17,928	57.2	8.2
EU-15	182,509	167,711	14,798	57.3	8.1	185,017	170,789	14,228	57.6	7.7
Eurozone ²	145,461	132,542	12,919	56.1	8.9	147,467	135,318	12,149	56.5	8.2
Belgium	4,582	4,212	370	52.8	8.1	4,598	4,216	382	52.6	8.3
Czech Republic	5,153	4,751	402	59.2	7.8	5,193	4,826	367	59.2	7.1
Denmark	2,876	2,738	138	65.3	4.8	2,907	2,792	114	65.7	3.9
Germany	40,809	36,195	4,613	58.3	11.3	41,299	37,070	4,229	58.8	10.2
Estonia	663	609	54	58.8	8.1	693	650	43	61.0	6.2
Greece	4,848	4,382	467	53.3	9.6	4,880	4,453	427	53.3	8.8
Spain	20,840	18,895	1,945	56.7	9.3	21,530	19,693	1,837	57.6	8.5
France	26,926	24,611	2,315	56.0	8.6	27,068	24,690	2,378	55.8	8.8
Ireland	2,015	1,929	86	61.5	4.2	2,108	2,017	91	62.6	4.3
Italy	24,488	22,651	1,837	49.2	7.5	24,808	23,187	1,622	49.5	6.5
Cyprus	367	348	20	63.4	5.4	372	356	15	63.1	4.1
Latvia	1,132	1,028	104	57.6	9.2	1,155	1,072	83	58.8	7.2
Lithuania	1,610	1,473	137	56.7	8.5	1,591	1,502	89	56.0	5.6
Luxembourg	203	194	9	55.6	4.4	203	194	9	55.6	4.5
Hungary	4,190	3,891	298	50.0	7.1	4,240	3,934	306	50.5	7.2
Malta	161	148	13	49.7	8.1	165	152	13	50.3	7.7
Netherlands	8,523	8,113	410	65.0	4.8	8,573	8,241	332	65.2	3.9
Austria	4,014	3,803	211	59.2	5.3	4,111	3,917	194	60.1	4.7
Poland	17,019	13,947	3,072	54.5	18.1	16,825	14,459	2,365	53.6	14.1
Portugal	5,531	5,132	399	62.1	7.2	5,586	5,181	406	62.5	7.3
Slovenia	1,005	947	58	58.7	5.8	1,030	969	60	59.9	5.9
Slovak Republic	2,625	2,196	429	59.2	16.3	2,654	2,295	359	59.1	13.5
Finland	2,682	2,425	258	62.2	9.6	2,702	2,461	241	62.4	8.9
Sweden	4,772	4,359	413	64.0	8.7	4,813	4,426	387	64.0	8.0
United Kingdom	29,400	28,072	1,328	61.7	4.5	29,831	28,253	1,578	62.2	5.3

Source: Eurostat and Quarterly National Household Survey.

Note: ¹ Trends in some member states may be affected by changes in methodology.

² Eurozone consists of EU15 states with the exceptions of Denmark, Sweden and United Kingdom.

Annex

Estimates of the Population aged 15 years and over classified by nationality and labour force status

The following tables provide tentative estimates of the labour force classified by nationality. The figures are considered 'tentative' as the very large migration flows in recent years present a significant measurement challenge in a general purpose household survey such as the QNHS. The main concerns, which are based on international experience, centre around the extent to which the survey captures minority communities in a proportionate and representative manner. Notwithstanding these concerns, the CSO believes that the estimates presented in the following tables provide a broadly accurate picture of the current situation and recent trends. The figures are subject to review in the light of the results of the 2006 Census of Population.

Table A1 Estimated number of persons aged 15 years and over classified by nationality and ILO Economic Status, June-August, 2005 and 2006

Nationality	ILO Economic Status				Total
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Not economically active	
'000					
Q3 2006					
Irish nationals ¹	1,873.6	88.9	1,962.5	1,155.6	3,118.1
Non-Irish nationals	199.6	15.9	215.6	64.8	280.3
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	38.8	3.3	42.0	23.6	65.6
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	24.5	1.2	25.7	4.9	30.6
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU25</i>	82.0	5.7	87.7	8.8	96.4
<i>Other</i>	54.4	5.7	60.1	27.5	87.6
Total persons	2,073.3	104.8	2,178.1	1,220.4	3,398.4
Q3 2005					
Irish nationals ¹	1,830.6	86.0	1,916.6	1,153.9	3,070.5
Non-Irish nationals	159.1	10.7	169.9	61.2	231.1
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	40.5	2.8	43.3	24.6	67.8
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	21.4	1.1	22.5	4.7	27.3
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU25</i>	53.2	3.4	56.6	5.8	62.3
<i>Other</i>	44.1	3.4	47.5	26.2	73.7
Total persons	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5	1,215.1	3,301.6
Year on year changes					
Irish nationals ¹	+ 43.0	+ 2.9	+ 45.9	+ 1.7	+ 47.6
Non-Irish nationals	+ 40.5	+ 5.2	+ 45.7	+ 3.6	+ 49.2
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	- 1.7	+ 0.5	- 1.3	- 1.0	- 2.2
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	+ 3.1	+ 0.1	+ 3.2	+ 0.2	+ 3.3
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU25</i>	+ 28.8	+ 2.3	+ 31.1	+ 3.0	+ 34.1
<i>Other</i>	+ 10.3	+ 2.3	+ 12.6	+ 1.3	+ 13.9
Total persons	+ 83.5	+ 8.1	+ 91.6	+ 5.3	+ 96.8

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

Data may be subject to future revision.

Data may be subject to sampling or other survey errors, which are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

Table A2 Estimated number of persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by nationality and NACE Economic Sector, June-August, 2005 and 2006

Nationality	NACE Economic Sector											Total
	A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	C-E Other production industries	F Construction	G Wholesale and retail trade	H Hotels and restaurants	I Transport, storage and communication	J-K Financial and other business services	L Public administration and defence	M Education	N Health	O-Q Other services	
Q3 2006												
Irish nationals ¹	116.5	264.5	242.5	273.1	91.0	118.5	242.8	104.5	117.9	191.6	110.9	1,873.6
Non-Irish nationals	5.2	32.1	35.4	24.7	29.6	9.9	24.9	1.3	5.8	19.3	11.5	199.6
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	0.7	5.3	5.8	5.5	2.1	2.7	6.4	0.9	2.1	4.4	2.8	38.8
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	0.7	2.8	1.0	1.9	4.5	2.8	5.6	*	1.8	2.0	1.4	24.5
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU25</i>	3.2	18.1	22.5	10.7	12.6	2.8	6.1	*	0.4	1.9	3.7	82.0
<i>Other</i>	0.6	5.9	6.1	6.6	10.4	1.6	6.9	0.3	1.5	11.0	3.7	54.4
Total persons	121.7	296.6	277.8	297.8	120.6	128.3	267.7	105.8	123.7	210.9	122.4	2,073.3
Q3 2005												
Irish nationals ¹	114.8	266.9	229.5	267.8	97.2	110.6	241.8	99.5	114.2	175.9	112.4	1,830.6
Non-Irish nationals	4.8	27.7	22.5	18.8	23.2	7.9	21.5	1.5	5.6	15.6	10.0	159.1
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	0.8	5.7	5.6	4.9	2.3	3.0	6.6	1.0	2.4	4.6	3.6	40.5
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	0.9	2.4	0.8	1.9	3.2	1.4	6.2	*	1.7	1.3	1.4	21.4
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU25</i>	2.7	13.9	12.5	5.7	8.7	1.7	3.9	*	*	1.3	2.5	53.2
<i>Other</i>	0.4	5.7	3.7	6.3	8.9	1.8	4.8	0.3	1.4	8.4	2.4	44.1
Total persons	119.6	294.6	252.1	286.6	120.4	118.5	263.3	101.0	119.8	191.5	122.4	1,989.8
Year on year changes												
Irish nationals ¹	+ 1.7	- 2.4	+ 13.0	+ 5.3	- 6.2	+ 7.9	+ 1.0	+ 5.0	+ 3.7	+ 15.7	- 1.5	+ 43.0
Non-Irish nationals	+ 0.4	+ 4.4	+ 12.9	+ 5.9	+ 6.4	+ 2.0	+ 3.4	- 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 3.7	+ 1.5	+ 40.5
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.6	- 0.2	- 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.8	- 1.7
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	- 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	0.0	+ 1.3	+ 1.4	- 0.6	*	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	0.0	+ 3.1
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU25</i>	+ 0.5	+ 4.2	+ 10.0	+ 5.0	+ 3.9	+ 1.1	+ 2.2	*	*	+ 0.6	+ 1.2	+ 28.8
<i>Other</i>	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 2.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.5	- 0.2	+ 2.1	0.0	+ 0.1	+ 2.6	+ 1.3	+ 10.3
Total persons	+ 2.1	+ 2.0	+ 25.7	+ 11.2	+ 0.2	+ 9.8	+ 4.4	+ 4.8	+ 3.9	+ 19.4	0.0	+ 83.5

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

Data may be subject to future revision.

Data may be subject to sampling or other survey errors, which are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

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 24 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 City 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), Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Survey
Quarter 2	EU module (always covered under EU legislation)
Quarter 3	National module
Quarter 4	National module

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

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q4 2005	Special Saving Incentive Accounts (SSIAs)
Q3 2005	ICT household survey
Q2 2005	Educational attainment
Q1 2005	Childcare
Q4 2004	Equality
Q3 2004	ICT household survey
Q2 2004	Union membership
Q2 2004	Work organisation and working time
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 and Q1 2005)
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

Social modules yet to be published:

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q3 2004	Travel to work
Q1 2005	Annual update module
Q2 2005	Reconciliation between work and family life
Q3 2005	Recycling and energy
Q4 2005	Pension provision
Q1 2006	Annual update module
Q1 2006	ICT household survey
Q2 2006	Transition from work into retirement
Q3 2006	Social capital and sport
Q4 2006	Crime and victimisation