

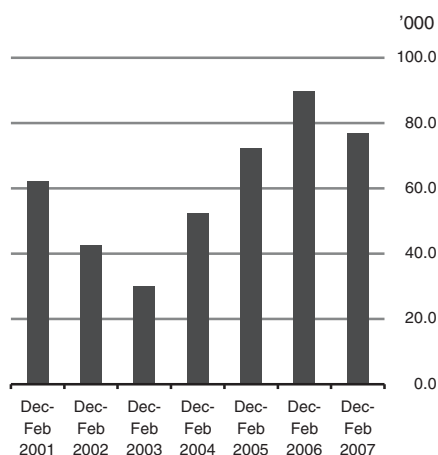


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

15 May 2007

Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 1 2007

**Annual Increase in employment in the
First Quarters 2001 to 2007**



ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
	'000		
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
Sep-Nov 2006	2,066.1	88.7	2,154.8
Dec-Feb 2007	2,074.9	91.8	2,166.7
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+8.8</i>	<i>+3.1</i>	<i>+11.9</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+76.8</i>	<i>+3.6</i>	<i>+80.4</i>

Annual employment growth moderates in first quarter of 2007

The number of persons in employment grew by 76,800 or 3.8% in the year to 2,074,900 in the first quarter of 2007. This compares to an annual growth rate of 4.3% in the previous quarter and to a rate of 4.7% in the same quarter last year. The number of men in employment increased over the year by 38,100 (+3.3%) while the number of females increased by 38,700 (+4.6%). *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

When seasonal factors are taken into account the number of persons in employment increased by 16,400 in the quarter compared with an average quarterly adjusted increase of 21,400 in 2006. *See table 3 and graph on page 2.*

There were 91,800 persons unemployed in the first quarter of 2007, representing an increase of 3,600 over the year. The increase of 3,300 in the numbers of unemployed males accounted for over 90% of the overall annual increase. The number of persons in short-term unemployment increased by 3,800, which was partially offset by a small decrease of 200 in the number of persons in long-term unemployment. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased from 4.1% to 4.4% between the fourth quarter of 2006 and the first quarter of 2007. *See tables 1, 3, 17 & 18.*

The total number of persons in the labour force now stands at 2,166,700, an increase of 80,400 or 3.9% over the year. This accounts for 62.9% of all persons aged 15 and over compared with 62.2% in the first quarter of 2006. Female participation rose from 52.2% to 53.2% while that for males increased from 72.5% to 72.8%. *See table 1.*

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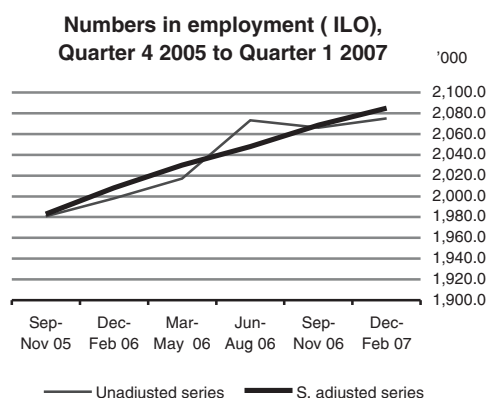
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Non-Irish national workers are tentatively estimated to have accounted for around 45,000 or almost 60% of the annual increase in the numbers in employment. The number of unemployed foreign nationals increased by 1,200 over the year to 14,900 representing just under one sixth of the total number of unemployed persons in the first quarter. *See table A1 in the annex.*

The latest available figures for all EU 25 member states, which are for the fourth quarter of 2006, show that between the fourth quarters of 2005 and 2006 Ireland's employment level grew by 4.3% and its labour force by 4.0%. The comparable figures for the EU-25 countries were 2.1% and 1.0% respectively. *See table 25.*

Construction accounts for almost three quarters of male employment growth

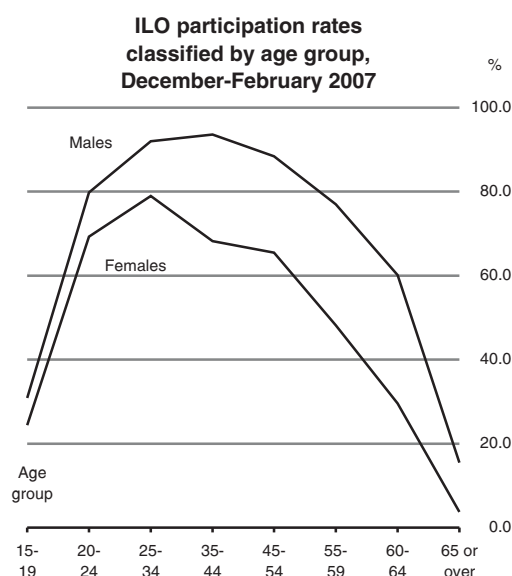
Employment growth in the *Construction* sector remained very strong, with an increase of 28,300 (+11.2%) to 282,100 in the year to the first quarter of 2007. The growth in the *Construction* sector was dominated by males (+27,800) and accounted for 73% of the overall annual increase in the number of males at work. *See table 2b.*

Both the *Health* and *Education* sectors also showed strong growth over the year, increasing by 15,800 (+8.0%) and 9,200 (+6.9%) respectively. Combined, the increase of 13,700 females at work in the *Health* sector and the additional 7,900 females at work in the *Education* sector accounted for almost 56% of the overall annual increase in the number of women at work. *See table 2b.*

With the exception of *Other services* which showed a decline of 4,300, all other service sectors showed increases to varying degrees over the year. There was an increase of almost 6,000 in the number employed in the *Other production industries* sector while a small increase was also recorded in the numbers engaged in the *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* sector. *See table 2b.*

All occupation categories showed an increase in employment in the year. The largest increases were in the *Craft and related* (+20,100), *Personal and protective services* (+17,200) many of whom were in the health and childcare sectors, *Managers and administrators* (+9,500) and *Other* (+8,600) occupational groups. *See table 4.*

There were 1,727,700 employees in the first quarter of 2007, an annual increase of 59,800. This comprised an increase of 38,000 females and 21,800 males. The number of self-employed persons increased by 16,600 to 335,000 in the year representing over one fifth of the annual increase in employment. *See table 6.*



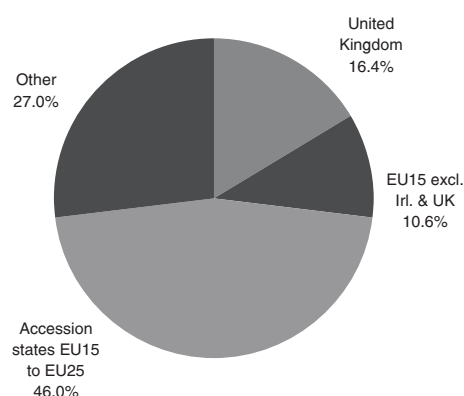
Migration continues to fuel labour force growth

Demographic factors, such as the increase in the population of working age and changes in its age structure, added an estimated 63,000 to the labour force over the year. Net inward migration is estimated to have accounted for almost 75% of this demographic increase. The demographic factor was particularly evident in the case of the 25-34 age group, the age group most affected by net inward migration, where a rise in the labour force of over 31,000 was recorded in the year.

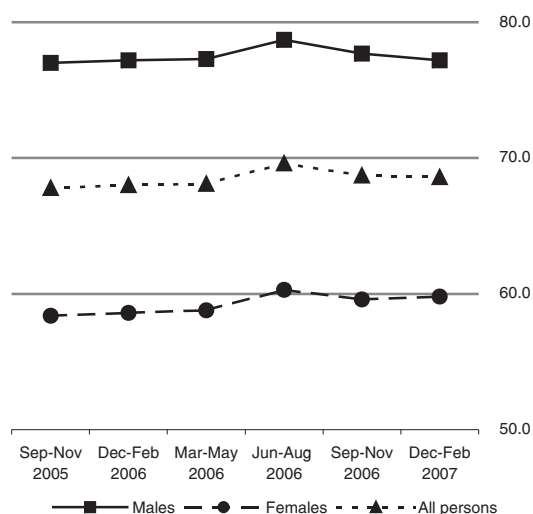
Increased labour force participation accounted for the balance of 17,400 in the annual labour force growth. All age groups with the exception of those aged 25-34, which remained static, recorded increases in participation rates, while female participation rates in particular continued to rise sharply. *See tables 9, 15 and graph opposite.*

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, remained unchanged over the year at 7.6%. *See table 20.*

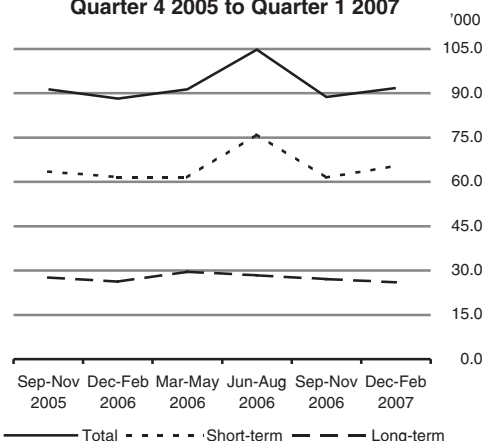
Non-Irish nationals in the Labour Force, December-February 2007



Employment rates for persons aged 15 to 64 classified by sex, Quarter 4 2005 to Quarter 1 2007



Numbers unemployed (ILO) classified by duration of unemployment, Quarter 4 2005 to Quarter 1 2007



Almost 320,000 foreign nationals aged 15 and over

Tentative estimates¹ of the labour force status of Non-Irish nationals are presented in the Annex. There were an estimated 319,800 foreign nationals aged 15 years of age and over in the state in the first quarter of 2007. Of these almost 230,000 were in employment while just under 15,000 were unemployed according to ILO criteria. Nationals of the ten new EU Accession states, who joined in May 2004, were the fastest growing category with their numbers in the labour force growing from 74,100 in the first quarter of 2006 to 112,400 in the most recent quarter. Figures for the two new member states (Bulgaria and Romania) who joined the EU in January 2007 are still included within the *Other* category, which showed an increase of 11,400 in its population aged 15 and over in the year to the first quarter of 2007. It is estimated that, combined, Bulgaria and Romania accounted for approximately 2,500 of this increase. See table A1 in the annex and graph opposite.

In the first quarter of 2007 foreign nationals accounted for almost 30% of workers in the *Hotels & restaurants sector*, 13.5% of *Construction* workers and 13.4% of those employed in the *Other production industries* sector. There was an increase of 11,500 in the number of foreign workers in the *Construction* sector, the largest increase across all sectors, while strong growth was also recorded in the *Other production industries* (+9,600), *Hotels and restaurants* (+9,100) and *Wholesale and retail trade* (+7,000) sectors. See table A2 in the annex.

¹The nationality figures presented have been described as tentative as they have not been revised in line with the most recent Census of Population data. Initial analysis suggests that the QNHS under-estimates the foreign national population by approximately 20–25%. The re-calibration of the series will be addressed later on this year in conjunction with the preparation of revised intercensal population and migration estimates that take the Census 2006 results fully into account.

Employment rate continues to rise

The employment rate for persons aged 15-64 continued to rise in the year to the first quarter of 2007 from 68.0% to 68.6%. The rate for females increased from 58.6% to 59.8% while the rate for males remained unchanged at 77.2% over the year. From an age perspective the highest employment rate, 81.9%, relates to the 25-34 age group where 87.7% of males and 75.9% of females were in employment. See tables 11, 12 and graph opposite.

The number of persons in part-time employment increased by 13,000 (+3.8%) in the twelve months to the first quarter of 2007. Almost 12,000 of the overall rise was accounted for by females. The sectors that recorded the largest annual increases in part-time employment were *Health* (+5,800) and *Wholesale and retail trade* (+3,300). See table 1.

Increase in numbers unemployed

There were 56,100 males and 35,700 females unemployed in the first quarter of 2007, representing annual increases of 3,300 and 300 for males and females respectively. The largest annual increase in the numbers unemployed was in the 35-44 year age group where the numbers increased by 2,300 to 17,800. See tables 1, 13 and graph opposite.

Long-term unemployment decreased slightly over the year (-200) while short-term unemployment increased (+3,800) over the same period. All of the increase in short-term unemployment was attributable to males, and in particular those aged 25-44 where there was an increase of 1,900 over the year. The long-term unemployment rate decreased from 1.3% a year ago to 1.2% this quarter. See tables 16, 17, 18 and graph opposite.

Regional comparisons

Employment grew by 22,300 (+4.4%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 54,500 (+3.7%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the first quarter of 2007. There were increases of 2,300 and 1,300 in the numbers unemployed in the Southern and Eastern and Border, Midland and Western regions, respectively. *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western region increased from 60.1% to 61.1% between the first quarters of 2006 and 2007 while the rate in the Southern and Eastern region increased from 63.0% to 63.6% over the same period. *See table 7a.*

At NUTS 3 level employment grew in all regions with the exception of the Mid-West region where employment remained more or less unchanged (-200). The South-East (+6.1%) and West (+5.1%) regions showed the highest percentage increases in employment over the year. The number of persons in employment resident in the Dublin region increased by 17,800 (+3.0%). 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 79,600 over the year to the first quarter of 2007, bringing the total number of persons at work to 2,005,200. This comprised an increase of 39,900 males and 39,700 females. This compares to an increase of 89,900 in the year to the first quarter of 2006. Meanwhile, the number describing themselves as "unemployed" rose by 3,400 over the year to 119,800. The numbers describing themselves as on "home duties" increased by 2,900 over the year from 540,000 to 542,900. *See table 21.*

In the twelve months to the first quarter of 2007 the number of students decreased by 6,100. However the proportion of students with a job increased from 16.4% to 17.5% over the same twelve-month period, representing an increase of 2,800 in the number of students with a job. *See tables 21 & 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	Dec- Feb 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
Males							
In labour force	1,149.8	1,194.8	1,202.6	1,217.2	1,253.5	1,240.5	1,244.0
In employment:	1,098.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9
full-time	1,028.5	1,066.0	1,073.0	1,082.2	1,114.1	1,110.3	1,109.8
part-time:	69.8	74.6	76.9	79.8	77.4	76.0	78.1
of which: part-time, not underemployed ¹	68.2	72.3	75.0	78.0	75.8	74.5	77.0
part-time, underemployed ¹	1.6	2.3	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.1
Unemployed:	51.5	54.3	52.8	55.2	62.1	54.2	56.1
seeking full-time work	48.9	50.7	50.5	53.1	58.3	51.7	53.1
seeking part-time work	2.6	3.5	2.3	2.1	3.8	2.5	3.0
Not in labour force	461.5	454.0	456.5	455.4	433.0	456.8	464.3
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	7.3	5.3	6.2	5.8	8.4	5.7	9.8
Others	454.2	448.6	450.3	449.6	424.6	451.1	454.5
Total males aged 15 or over	1,611.3	1,648.8	1,659.1	1,672.6	1,686.5	1,697.3	1,708.3
Unemployment rate %	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	5.0	4.4	4.5
Participation rate %	71.4	72.5	72.5	72.8	74.3	73.1	72.8
Females							
In labour force	840.7	877.1	883.8	891.1	924.6	914.3	922.7
In employment:	810.1	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0
full-time	552.5	573.9	581.8	583.2	610.6	606.7	608.7
part-time:	257.6	266.2	266.5	271.8	271.2	273.1	278.3
of which: part-time, not underemployed ¹	256.1	264.1	264.2	269.4	269.2	271.0	276.6
part-time, underemployed ¹	1.4	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.0	2.2	1.7
Unemployed:	30.6	37.0	35.4	36.1	42.7	34.5	35.7
seeking full-time work	20.2	23.5	22.3	23.3	29.8	22.4	23.9
seeking part-time work	10.4	13.5	13.2	12.8	12.9	12.1	11.8
Not in labour force	810.9	806.2	809.4	806.6	787.4	810.3	811.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.8	4.5	3.9	3.9	7.1	4.3	6.5
Others	806.2	801.7	805.5	802.7	780.2	806.0	804.9
Total females aged 15 or over	1,651.7	1,683.3	1,693.1	1,697.7	1,711.9	1,724.6	1,734.1
Unemployment rate %	3.6	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.6	3.8	3.9
Participation rate %	50.9	52.1	52.2	52.5	54.0	53.0	53.2
All persons							
In labour force	1,990.5	2,071.9	2,086.3	2,108.3	2,178.1	2,154.8	2,166.7
In employment:	1,908.3	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9
full-time	1,581.0	1,639.8	1,654.7	1,665.4	1,724.7	1,717.0	1,718.5
part-time:	327.4	340.8	343.4	351.6	348.6	349.1	356.4
of which: part-time, not underemployed ¹	324.3	336.4	339.2	347.4	345.0	345.5	353.6
part-time, underemployed ¹	3.0	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.6	2.8
Unemployed:	82.1	91.3	88.2	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8
seeking full-time work	69.1	74.2	72.7	76.5	88.1	74.2	77.0
seeking part-time work	13.0	17.0	15.5	14.9	16.7	14.6	14.8
Not in labour force	1,272.5	1,260.2	1,265.9	1,262.0	1,220.4	1,267.1	1,275.8
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	12.1	9.8	10.1	9.8	15.5	9.9	16.4
Others	1,260.4	1,250.3	1,255.8	1,252.2	1,204.8	1,257.1	1,259.4
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,262.9	3,332.1	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5
Unemployment rate %	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.8	4.1	4.2
Participation rate %	61.0	62.2	62.2	62.6	64.1	63.0	62.9

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)	Dec- Feb 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
Males							
A-B Agriculture	101.5	104.9	104.8	103.8	109.1	105.2	105.7
C-F Industry	431.8	446.0	443.7	454.0	473.8	476.9	476.4
G-Q Services	565.0	589.6	601.4	604.2	608.5	604.2	605.8
Females							
A-B Agriculture	11.0	10.4	10.7	10.7	12.5	10.7	10.7
C-F Industry	98.6	95.4	95.1	97.2	100.6	96.8	96.6
G-Q Services	700.5	734.4	742.5	747.0	768.7	772.3	779.8
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	112.5	115.3	115.5	114.5	121.7	115.8	116.4
C-F Industry	530.4	541.3	538.8	551.2	574.4	573.7	573.0
G-Q Services	1,265.4	1,324.0	1,343.8	1,351.2	1,377.2	1,376.5	1,385.6
Total persons	1,908.3	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9

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

'000

Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Dec- Feb 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	101.5	104.9	104.8	103.8	109.1	105.2	105.7
C-E Other production industries	210.0	205.4	202.5	204.6	209.8	208.4	207.5
F Construction	221.8	240.6	241.1	249.4	263.9	268.5	268.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	134.3	141.5	143.5	143.7	147.7	146.8	146.6
H Hotels and restaurants	48.2	48.0	49.1	49.7	50.5	48.6	50.4
I Transport, storage and communication	90.4	91.9	91.3	91.8	97.7	89.8	93.9
J-K Financial and other business services	123.7	130.5	136.4	136.2	134.7	141.5	134.3
L Public administration and defence	48.5	50.2	51.3	51.5	49.8	52.0	52.5
M Education	34.6	36.3	37.6	38.9	34.6	37.7	38.8
N Health	32.9	32.5	33.7	34.9	38.1	35.0	35.9
O-Q Other services	52.4	58.7	58.5	57.6	55.5	52.8	53.4
Total males	1,098.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.0	10.4	10.7	10.7	12.5	10.7	10.7
C-E Other production industries	87.2	82.8	82.5	83.9	86.8	83.6	83.4
F Construction	11.4	12.5	12.7	13.3	13.9	13.2	13.2
G Wholesale and retail trade	133.3	143.5	142.6	140.7	150.0	141.5	144.7
H Hotels and restaurants	64.0	67.5	64.0	66.6	70.1	68.0	69.7
I Transport, storage and communication	25.3	26.5	29.2	28.9	30.6	27.4	29.5
J-K Financial and other business services	129.2	132.4	132.8	131.1	133.0	136.4	138.4
L Public administration and defence	47.9	50.6	51.8	53.6	56.0	53.1	53.0
M Education	85.2	91.5	95.3	96.7	89.2	101.9	103.2
N Health	152.6	159.0	162.5	166.4	172.8	175.2	176.2
O-Q Other services	63.0	63.4	64.2	63.0	66.9	68.8	65.0
Total females	810.1	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	112.5	115.3	115.5	114.5	121.7	115.8	116.4
C-E Other production industries	297.3	288.2	285.0	288.5	296.6	292.1	290.8
F Construction	233.1	253.2	253.8	262.7	277.8	281.6	282.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	267.6	285.0	286.1	284.4	297.8	288.3	291.3
H Hotels and restaurants	112.3	115.5	113.1	116.3	120.6	116.6	120.1
I Transport, storage and communication	115.7	118.3	120.5	120.7	128.3	117.2	123.4
J-K Financial and other business services	252.9	263.0	269.2	267.3	267.7	278.0	272.7
L Public administration and defence	96.4	100.7	103.1	105.1	105.8	105.1	105.6
M Education	119.8	127.9	132.8	135.6	123.7	139.6	142.0
N Health	185.5	191.5	196.3	201.2	210.9	210.2	212.1
O-Q Other services	115.4	122.1	122.8	120.6	122.4	121.6	118.5
Total persons	1,908.3	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9

**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	Dec- Feb 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
Males							
In labour force	1,158.1	1,197.1	1,211.1	1,225.7	1,233.7	1,243.6	1,252.8
In employment:	1,105.1	1,141.9	1,156.5	1,168.8	1,176.3	1,188.2	1,194.7
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	102.7	105.3	106.0	105.5	105.7	105.8	106.8
C-E Other production industries	210.7	205.1	203.4	205.9	208.0	207.9	208.7
F Construction	224.4	239.1	244.1	252.2	259.3	266.7	272.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	134.5	141.5	143.8	146.0	145.2	146.9	147.0
H Hotels and restaurants	48.4	49.1	49.2	50.0	49.1	49.9	50.5
I Transport, storage and communication	91.0	91.9	91.7	92.4	96.6	89.9	94.1
J-K Financial and other business services	124.9	131.5	137.6	135.5	133.1	142.8	135.4
L Public administration and defence	48.6	51.0	51.2	51.3	49.4	52.8	52.3
M Education	34.3	36.2	37.2	39.2	35.0	37.5	38.3
N Health	33.1	32.7	33.9	34.7	37.8	35.4	36.1
O-Q Other services	52.4	58.8	58.5	58.0	55.0	52.9	53.4
Unemployed	53.2	55.6	54.8	56.1	57.5	55.8	58.3
Unemployment rate %	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.6
Participation rate %	71.9	72.7	73.0	73.2	73.2	73.3	73.3
Females							
In labour force	846.1	879.7	889.2	899.3	908.2	916.5	928.2
In employment:	813.5	841.8	851.4	861.0	871.0	881.1	890.0
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.2	10.8	10.9	10.5	12.1	11.1	10.9
C-E Other production industries	88.7	83.8	83.9	83.9	84.3	84.7	84.8
F Construction	11.6	12.9	12.9	13.1	13.7	13.6	13.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	133.6	144.7	143.0	143.2	145.8	142.5	145.1
H Hotels and restaurants	66.2	67.1	66.0	68.3	66.8	67.4	71.7
I Transport, storage and communication	25.2	26.8	29.1	29.0	30.2	27.8	29.4
J-K Financial and other business services	128.2	132.1	131.5	132.9	133.0	135.9	137.0
L Public administration and defence	48.7	50.8	52.6	53.7	54.7	53.2	53.8
M Education	83.2	90.5	93.0	94.6	94.5	100.7	100.7
N Health	152.7	159.4	162.7	167.1	171.5	175.5	176.5
O-Q Other services	64.2	62.4	65.4	64.1	65.7	67.6	66.2
Unemployed	32.2	37.4	37.3	38.5	38.1	34.8	37.6
Unemployment rate %	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2	3.9	4.1
Participation rate %	51.3	52.3	52.6	52.9	53.0	53.2	53.6
All persons							
In labour force	2,004.2	2,075.8	2,100.3	2,124.5	2,143.4	2,159.3	2,180.9
In employment:	1,919.1	1,982.9	2,008.3	2,030.0	2,047.8	2,068.5	2,084.9
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	114.0	116.0	117.0	116.2	117.5	116.8	117.9
C-E Other production industries	299.8	289.2	287.4	289.5	292.3	292.8	293.4
F Construction	235.8	251.9	256.9	265.6	272.9	280.2	285.6
G Wholesale and retail trade	268.3	286.2	287.0	289.5	290.6	289.5	292.2
H Hotels and restaurants	113.6	116.1	114.1	119.5	115.9	117.2	121.0
I Transport, storage and communication	116.1	119.1	120.6	121.3	126.4	118.5	123.2
J-K Financial and other business services	252.8	263.9	268.7	269.1	265.6	279.0	272.0
L Public administration and defence	97.0	101.5	103.7	105.2	104.4	105.9	106.1
M Education	117.5	126.3	130.3	134.2	129.4	137.6	139.3
N Health	185.9	192.1	196.8	202.1	208.6	211.1	212.7
O-Q Other services	116.5	120.9	123.9	122.3	121.0	120.4	119.5
Unemployed	85.5	92.4	92.3	94.8	95.9	89.8	96.2
Unemployment rate %	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.1	4.4
Participation rate %	61.5	62.4	62.7	63.0	63.0	63.2	63.4

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Dec- Feb 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	220.7	217.3	213.8	215.5	218.7	217.8	221.6
2. Professional	108.3	114.9	118.5	119.8	116.6	123.3	119.9
3. Associate professional and technical	68.5	69.9	74.8	70.8	75.9	74.0	76.1
4. Clerical and secretarial	58.1	58.4	59.7	61.9	62.1	61.4	61.5
5. Craft and related	256.5	269.6	267.4	274.6	284.2	283.7	286.6
6. Personal and protective service	75.3	76.9	82.0	80.4	83.6	83.9	84.4
7. Sales	61.8	68.5	69.9	69.3	68.2	66.5	67.1
8. Plant and machine operatives	140.0	144.4	142.6	141.1	146.0	144.2	144.9
9. Other	109.0	120.7	121.1	128.7	136.0	131.6	125.8
Total males	1,098.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	96.4	95.5	95.1	97.5	100.1	94.7	96.9
2. Professional	101.5	109.8	117.5	116.3	112.3	125.3	123.7
3. Associate professional and technical	97.8	97.3	100.3	100.3	101.9	106.3	104.1
4. Clerical and secretarial	181.1	184.4	186.1	186.1	193.1	189.5	191.1
5. Craft and related	12.3	11.5	10.4	11.7	13.1	10.2	11.4
6. Personal and protective service	124.0	135.0	131.7	137.9	144.1	145.8	146.5
7. Sales	101.0	108.7	110.8	109.1	119.2	111.2	113.6
8. Plant and machine operatives	29.7	27.7	27.8	26.6	26.5	26.2	27.1
9. Other	66.2	70.2	68.7	69.4	71.4	70.5	72.6
Total females	810.1	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	317.2	312.8	309.0	313.0	318.8	312.5	318.5
2. Professional	209.9	224.7	236.0	236.1	228.9	248.5	243.6
3. Associate professional and technical	166.3	167.2	175.2	171.1	177.9	180.3	180.3
4. Clerical and secretarial	239.2	242.8	245.8	248.0	255.2	250.9	252.6
5. Craft and related	268.8	281.1	277.8	286.3	297.3	293.9	297.9
6. Personal and protective service	199.3	211.9	213.7	218.2	227.8	229.7	230.9
7. Sales	162.8	177.2	180.6	178.4	187.4	177.7	180.7
8. Plant and machine operatives	169.7	172.1	170.4	167.7	172.5	170.4	172.0
9. Other	175.3	190.9	189.8	198.1	207.4	202.1	198.4
Total persons	1,908.3	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9

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	Dec- Feb 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
Males							
1-9 hours	8.6	7.4	8.4	8.7	4.6	6.2	7.3
10-19	18.4	19.8	23.1	22.0	18.5	19.3	19.2
20-29	37.7	40.6	42.5	45.4	44.5	44.6	45.8
30-34	18.1	21.3	20.5	21.1	21.7	19.6	20.2
35-39	391.3	407.2	412.9	430.9	448.6	430.8	431.8
40-44	253.5	265.4	273.1	268.9	275.2	288.9	284.4
45 & over	196.0	209.7	200.0	193.7	202.4	192.0	188.5
Variable hours ¹	174.7	169.2	169.2	171.2	176.0	185.0	190.7
Total males	1,098.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.0</i>	<i>41.0</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.5</i>	<i>40.8</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.5</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	23.6	25.0	25.2	25.9	20.5	24.5	26.4
10-19	81.0	84.9	85.1	85.8	79.9	86.6	90.9
20-29	159.2	164.9	169.0	169.1	175.2	177.3	176.4
30-34	49.1	56.9	56.6	55.5	59.5	57.5	62.0
35-39	309.9	322.0	321.4	331.6	347.8	335.7	340.4
40-44	104.2	109.2	111.0	106.3	115.5	114.3	109.2
45 & over	32.2	32.4	32.6	30.2	30.0	30.6	30.0
Variable hours ¹	50.9	44.8	47.4	50.6	53.3	53.3	51.8
Total females	810.1	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>31.5</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	32.2	32.4	33.6	34.6	25.1	30.6	33.7
10-19	99.4	104.6	108.2	107.8	98.5	105.9	110.1
20-29	196.9	205.4	211.4	214.5	219.7	221.9	222.2
30-34	67.2	78.3	77.2	76.6	81.2	77.1	82.2
35-39	701.2	729.2	734.3	762.5	796.4	766.5	772.2
40-44	357.7	374.6	384.1	375.2	390.7	403.2	393.6
45 & over	228.2	242.1	232.6	223.9	232.4	222.6	218.5
Variable hours ¹	225.6	214.0	216.7	221.7	229.3	238.3	242.4
Total persons	1,908.3	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>36.6</i>	<i>36.5</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>36.6</i>	<i>36.4</i>

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

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

'000

Employment status	Dec- Feb 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	90.0	89.3	90.6	92.6	93.9	93.1	97.2
Self employed (with no paid employees)	177.5	173.8	177.1	177.4	179.8	181.7	186.1
Employee	824.1	871.8	877.8	887.8	912.5	907.0	899.6
Assisting relative	6.7	5.6	4.4	4.2	5.2	4.5	4.9
Total males	1,098.3	1,140.5	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	20.5	17.9	18.5	18.4	20.6	19.6	20.5
Self employed (with no paid employees)	31.1	32.8	32.3	31.4	30.6	31.4	31.2
Employee	751.0	781.6	790.1	797.7	823.0	821.2	828.1
Assisting relative	7.5	7.8	7.5	7.4	7.7	7.6	7.3
Total females	810.1	840.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	110.5	107.2	109.1	111.0	114.5	112.7	117.7
Self employed (with no paid employees)	208.6	206.6	209.3	208.9	210.4	213.2	217.3
Employee	1,575.1	1,653.4	1,667.9	1,685.5	1,735.5	1,728.1	1,727.7
Assisting relative	14.2	13.4	11.8	11.6	12.8	12.1	12.2
Total persons	1,908.3	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9

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					
Dec-Feb 2005	490.0	22.2	512.2	4.3	59.2
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
Sep-Nov 2006	531.3	24.2	555.5	4.4	61.1
Dec-Feb 2007	534.5	24.4	558.9	4.4	61.1
Southern and Eastern					
Dec-Feb 2005	1,418.3	60.0	1,478.3	4.1	61.6
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
Sep-Nov 2006	1,534.8	64.5	1,599.3	4.0	63.7
Dec-Feb 2007	1,540.4	67.4	1,607.8	4.2	63.6
State					
Dec-Feb 2005	1,908.3	82.1	1,990.5	4.1	61.0
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
Sep-Nov 2006	2,066.1	88.7	2,154.8	4.1	63.0
Dec-Feb 2007	2,074.9	91.8	2,166.7	4.2	62.9

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	Dec-Feb 2005	196.6	9.9	206.5	4.8	58.0
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	213.5	11.6	225.1	5.1	60.5
	Dec-Feb 2007	212.7	12.4	225.1	5.5	60.3
Midland	Dec-Feb 2005	109.9	3.9	113.8	3.5	60.6
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	119.2	3.7	123.0	3.0	61.7
	Dec-Feb 2007	119.5	4.7	124.2	3.8	61.8
West	Dec-Feb 2005	183.5	8.3	191.8	4.3	59.7
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	198.5	8.9	207.4	4.3	61.3
	Dec-Feb 2007	202.3	7.4	209.7	3.5	61.4
Dublin	Dec-Feb 2005	567.3	23.7	591.1	4.0	62.9
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	610.4	26.6	637.0	4.2	65.3
	Dec-Feb 2007	612.2	27.8	640.0	4.3	65.2
Mid-East	Dec-Feb 2005	216.2	6.0	222.2	2.7	64.3
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	232.8	6.9	239.7	2.9	65.0
	Dec-Feb 2007	236.4	7.9	244.3	3.2	65.8
Mid-West	Dec-Feb 2005	161.0	7.9	168.9	4.7	61.2
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	171.0	8.5	179.5	4.7	62.1
	Dec-Feb 2007	171.3	9.3	180.6	5.2	62.2
South-East	Dec-Feb 2005	198.9	11.3	210.2	5.4	59.5
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	219.1	11.1	230.1	4.8	61.9
	Dec-Feb 2007	218.8	10.5	229.3	4.6	61.4
South-West	Dec-Feb 2005	274.9	11.0	285.9	3.8	59.1
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	301.5	11.4	312.9	3.6	61.7
	Dec-Feb 2007	301.7	11.8	313.6	3.8	61.5
State	Dec-Feb 2005	1,908.3	82.1	1,990.5	4.1	61.0
	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
	Sep-Nov 2006	2,066.1	88.7	2,154.8	4.1	63.0
	Dec-Feb 2007	2,074.9	91.8	2,166.7	4.2	62.9

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, December-February 2007

Table 3 Labour force participation rate (LFPR), indexed by sex, age group and marital status, December-February 2007

Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	30.9	79.5	90.8	87.3	73.7	56.5	49.8	19.5	71.1
Married	*	94.8	95.3	96.0	92.2	81.3	63.8	16.3	77.0
Separated or divorced	*	*	89.6	90.6	81.2	67.6	41.9	10.9	70.3
Widowed	*	*	*	84.5	78.1	70.8	46.7	8.0	23.4
Total males	30.9	79.8	92.0	93.6	88.4	77.0	60.1	15.5	72.8
Females									
Single	24.4	69.7	83.2	78.0	70.6	64.5	41.7	3.9	62.2
Married	*	57.1	72.2	65.3	63.8	45.5	27.9	5.4	52.9
Separated or divorced	*	*	71.1	69.2	70.6	57.5	37.3	7.3	61.4
Widowed	*	*	*	73.7	70.6	44.1	28.8	1.9	11.5
Total females	24.4	69.3	79.0	68.2	65.5	48.2	29.6	3.7	53.2
All persons									
Single	27.7	74.7	87.3	83.3	72.4	59.6	46.6	12.3	67.0
Married	*	70.1	82.3	80.6	78.2	63.9	46.5	11.7	65.1
Separated or divorced	*	*	76.3	76.5	74.4	61.4	39.7	8.9	64.7
Widowed	*	*	72.3	76.8	72.5	51.8	33.1	3.1	14.0
Total persons	27.8	74.6	85.6	81.0	77.0	62.7	44.9	8.9	62.9

* Population estimates of less than 1,000 are deemed too small for publication purposes due to reliability concerns. Sampling or other survey errors are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

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									
Dec-Feb 2005	28.0	76.7	92.3	93.4	89.0	75.0	57.8	13.6	71.4
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
Sep-Nov 2006	30.7	81.0	92.8	93.8	89.0	77.0	59.2	15.1	73.1
Dec-Feb 2007	30.9	79.8	92.0	93.6	88.4	77.0	60.1	15.5	72.8
Females									
Dec-Feb 2005	22.4	68.6	76.8	66.3	62.4	45.3	25.9	3.2	50.9
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
Sep-Nov 2006	23.4	71.1	78.6	67.3	65.4	48.3	28.8	3.8	53.0
Dec-Feb 2007	24.4	69.3	79.0	68.2	65.5	48.2	29.6	3.7	53.2
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2005	25.3	72.6	84.6	79.8	75.7	60.3	41.9	7.8	61.0
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
Sep-Nov 2006	27.1	76.1	85.8	80.7	77.2	62.7	44.0	8.8	63.0
Dec-Feb 2007	27.8	74.6	85.6	81.0	77.0	62.7	44.9	8.9	62.9

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									
Dec-Feb 2005	42.6	132.0	312.5	277.2	224.9	83.5	49.6	27.5	1,149.8
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
Sep-Nov 2006	46.0	141.5	350.4	292.9	233.9	88.2	55.7	31.9	1,240.5
Dec-Feb 2007	46.2	140.2	350.5	294.2	233.7	88.7	57.5	32.9	1,244.0
Females									
Dec-Feb 2005	32.5	117.2	257.3	197.1	156.8	49.5	22.0	8.4	840.7
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
Sep-Nov 2006	33.5	123.3	287.0	207.0	171.4	54.8	27.0	10.2	914.3
Dec-Feb 2007	35.0	120.7	291.3	210.4	172.6	54.8	28.1	9.8	922.7
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2005	75.2	249.1	569.9	474.2	381.6	133.0	71.7	35.8	1,990.5
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
Sep-Nov 2006	79.5	264.9	637.4	499.9	405.3	143.0	82.7	42.1	2,154.8
Dec-Feb 2007	81.3	260.9	641.8	504.6	406.3	143.5	85.6	42.8	2,166.7

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Dec-Feb 2005	37.9	122.2	298.0	267.2	216.5	80.6	48.4	27.3	1,098.3
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
Sep-Nov 2006	40.2	133.0	332.9	282.3	225.4	85.6	55.0	31.8	1,186.3
Dec-Feb 2007	39.7	129.9	334.3	283.5	225.7	85.8	56.4	32.8	1,187.9
Females									
Dec-Feb 2005	29.6	110.2	248.7	190.8	153.0	47.8	21.7	8.3	810.1
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
Sep-Nov 2006	29.8	116.5	276.5	199.8	167.0	53.4	26.7	10.2	879.8
Dec-Feb 2007	30.7	114.0	280.2	203.3	167.6	53.6	27.8	9.8	887.0
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2005	67.5	232.4	546.7	458.1	369.6	128.3	70.1	35.6	1,908.3
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
Sep-Nov 2006	70.0	249.5	609.4	482.1	392.4	139.0	81.7	42.0	2,066.1
Dec-Feb 2007	70.4	243.9	614.5	486.8	393.3	139.4	84.2	42.5	2,074.9

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								
Dec-Feb 2005	24.9	71.0	88.0	90.0	85.7	72.4	56.4	76.0
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
Sep-Nov 2006	26.8	76.1	88.2	90.4	85.7	74.6	58.4	77.7
Dec-Feb 2007	26.6	73.9	87.7	90.1	85.4	74.4	59.0	77.2
Females								
Dec-Feb 2005	20.3	64.5	74.2	64.2	60.9	43.8	25.6	57.5
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
Sep-Nov 2006	20.7	67.1	75.7	65.0	63.7	47.1	28.5	59.6
Dec-Feb 2007	21.4	65.5	75.9	65.9	63.6	47.2	29.3	59.8
All persons								
Dec-Feb 2005	22.7	67.8	81.2	77.1	73.3	58.2	41.0	66.8
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
Sep-Nov 2006	23.8	71.7	82.1	77.8	74.7	60.9	43.5	68.7
Dec-Feb 2007	24.0	69.7	81.9	78.1	74.5	60.9	44.2	68.6

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									
Dec-Feb 2005	4.7	9.7	14.5	9.9	8.3	2.9	1.2	*	51.5
Sep-Nov 2005	6.8	10.5	15.3	8.9	8.7	2.9	*	*	54.3
Dec-Feb 2006	5.7	10.2	16.3	8.9	8.5	2.3	*	*	52.8
Mar-May 2006	5.2	11.0	16.9	9.8	8.6	2.8	*	*	55.2
Jun-Aug 2006	9.4	13.7	17.6	10.0	7.6	3.0	*	*	62.1
Sep-Nov 2006	5.8	8.5	17.5	10.6	8.5	2.7	*	*	54.2
Dec-Feb 2007	6.5	10.4	16.2	10.8	8.0	3.0	1.1	*	56.1
Females									
Dec-Feb 2005	3.0	7.0	8.6	6.2	3.7	1.7	*	*	30.6
Sep-Nov 2005	3.1	9.3	10.6	6.8	5.2	1.4	*	*	37.0
Dec-Feb 2006	3.5	7.2	11.4	6.6	4.7	1.7	*	*	35.4
Mar-May 2006	4.0	7.8	10.7	7.0	5.0	1.4	*	*	36.1
Jun-Aug 2006	7.8	10.4	10.8	7.0	4.5	1.6	*	*	42.7
Sep-Nov 2006	3.8	6.9	10.5	7.2	4.4	1.4	*	*	34.5
Dec-Feb 2007	4.3	6.6	11.1	7.0	5.1	1.1	*	*	35.7
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2005	7.7	16.7	23.2	16.2	12.1	4.6	1.5	*	82.1
Sep-Nov 2005	9.9	19.7	26.0	15.7	14.0	4.3	1.4	*	91.3
Dec-Feb 2006	9.1	17.3	27.7	15.5	13.1	4.0	1.1	*	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
Sep-Nov 2006	9.5	15.4	28.0	17.8	12.9	4.1	1.0	*	88.7
Dec-Feb 2007	10.9	17.0	27.3	17.8	13.0	4.1	1.4	*	91.8

* Population estimates of less than 1,000 are deemed too small for publication purposes due to reliability concerns. Sampling or other survey errors are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

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									
Dec-Feb 2005	11.1	7.4	4.6	3.6	3.7	3.5	2.5	*	4.5
Sep-Nov 2005	14.7	7.6	4.6	3.1	3.8	3.4	*	*	4.5
Dec-Feb 2006	12.8	7.4	4.9	3.1	3.7	2.7	*	*	4.4
Mar-May 2006	11.5	7.9	4.9	3.4	3.7	3.2	*	*	4.5
Jun-Aug 2006	15.3	9.1	5.1	3.4	3.3	3.4	*	*	5.0
Sep-Nov 2006	12.6	6.0	5.0	3.6	3.6	3.0	*	*	4.4
Dec-Feb 2007	14.1	7.4	4.6	3.7	3.4	3.4	2.0	*	4.5
Females									
Dec-Feb 2005	9.1	6.0	3.4	3.2	2.4	3.4	*	*	3.6
Sep-Nov 2005	8.9	7.6	3.9	3.4	3.2	2.6	*	*	4.2
Dec-Feb 2006	10.5	6.1	4.1	3.3	2.8	3.2	*	*	4.0
Mar-May 2006	12.2	6.7	3.8	3.5	3.0	2.5	*	*	4.1
Jun-Aug 2006	16.3	8.0	3.8	3.4	2.7	3.0	*	*	4.6
Sep-Nov 2006	11.2	5.6	3.7	3.5	2.6	2.5	*	*	3.8
Dec-Feb 2007	12.4	5.5	3.8	3.3	2.9	2.1	*	*	3.9
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2005	10.2	6.7	4.1	3.4	3.2	3.5	2.2	*	4.1
Sep-Nov 2005	12.2	7.6	4.3	3.2	3.5	3.1	1.8	*	4.4
Dec-Feb 2006	11.8	6.8	4.5	3.2	3.3	2.9	1.3	*	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
Sep-Nov 2006	12.0	5.8	4.4	3.6	3.2	2.8	1.2	*	4.1
Dec-Feb 2007	13.4	6.5	4.3	3.5	3.2	2.9	1.7	*	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)									
Dec-Feb 2005	*	5.5	128.5	220.2	191.3	85.2	59.9	102.3	793.3
Sep-Nov 2005	*	6.2	134.3	221.1	195.6	84.2	63.4	106.3	811.4
Dec-Feb 2006	*	6.1	134.4	221.9	196.0	84.3	65.1	107.5	815.6
Mar-May 2006	*	5.3	129.1	221.6	196.4	84.0	66.4	107.4	810.6
Jun-Aug 2006	*	5.5	132.9	223.2	199.3	84.9	68.1	108.9	823.0
Sep-Nov 2006	*	4.9	136.8	224.2	200.0	85.2	70.0	109.7	831.5
Dec-Feb 2007	*	5.4	133.9	222.9	198.0	85.6	69.8	107.7	823.8
of which In labour force ('000)									
Dec-Feb 2005	*	2.8	88.6	140.8	114.5	36.8	14.7	3.9	402.3
Sep-Nov 2005	*	3.4	95.5	140.8	121.4	39.3	17.1	3.9	421.6
Dec-Feb 2006	*	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
Sep-Nov 2006	*	2.8	97.8	145.1	126.8	39.6	19.4	5.4	437.0
Dec-Feb 2007	*	3.1	96.6	145.6	126.3	39.0	19.5	5.9	436.0
of which In employment ('000)									
Dec-Feb 2005	*	2.6	86.2	136.8	112.0	36.0	14.5	3.9	392.2
Sep-Nov 2005	*	3.2	92.1	136.6	117.9	38.4	16.7	3.9	409.0
Dec-Feb 2006	*	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
Sep-Nov 2006	*	2.4	95.6	141.4	124.0	38.8	19.2	5.4	426.9
Dec-Feb 2007	*	2.9	94.0	141.6	123.1	38.3	19.4	5.8	425.2
Participation rates (%)									
Dec-Feb 2005	*	51.9	69.0	63.9	59.8	43.3	24.5	3.8	50.7
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
Sep-Nov 2006	*	56.6	71.5	64.7	63.4	46.5	27.7	4.9	52.6
Dec-Feb 2007	*	57.1	72.2	65.3	63.8	45.5	27.9	5.4	52.9

* Population estimates of less than 1,000 are deemed too small for publication purposes due to reliability concerns. Sampling or other survey errors are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

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	%	%
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
Sep-Nov 2006	2,154.8	2,066.1	88.7	27.1	4.1	1.3
Dec-Feb 2007	2,166.7	2,074.9	91.8	26.0	4.2	1.2

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Dec- Feb 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May-06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
Males							
Less than 1 year	30.3	33.4	32.9	33.8	40.7	33.8	36.5
1 year and over	21.0	20.7	19.7	21.1	21.1	20.2	19.3
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	51.5	54.3	52.8	55.2	62.1	54.2	56.1
Females							
Less than 1 year	23.8	30.0	28.9	27.7	35.5	27.6	28.9
1 year and over	6.7	6.9	6.6	8.4	7.2	6.9	6.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	30.6	37.0	35.4	36.1	42.7	34.5	35.7
All persons							
Less than 1 year	54.1	63.5	61.7	61.5	76.2	61.4	65.5
1 year and over	27.8	27.6	26.2	29.6	28.4	27.1	26.0
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	82.1	91.3	88.2	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8

* Population estimates of less than 1,000 are deemed too small for publication purposes due to reliability concerns. Sampling or other survey errors are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

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

'000

	QNHS Dec-Feb 2006				QNHS Dec-Feb 2007			
	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	12.1	15.0	5.8	32.9	12.8	16.9	6.9	36.5
1 year and over	3.7	10.1	5.8	19.7	4.0	10.0	5.3	19.3
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	15.9	25.2	11.7	52.8	16.9	27.0	12.3	56.1
Females								
Less than 1 year	9.0	14.9	4.9	28.9	9.1	15.0	4.9	28.9
1 year and over	1.6	3.1	1.9	6.6	1.8	3.2	1.7	6.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	10.6	18.0	6.8	35.4	11.0	18.2	6.5	35.7
All persons								
Less than 1 year	21.1	29.9	10.7	61.7	21.9	31.8	11.7	65.5
1 year and over	5.3	13.3	7.7	26.2	5.8	13.3	7.0	26.0
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	26.5	43.2	18.5	88.2	27.9	45.2	18.8	91.8

* Population estimates of less than 1,000 are deemed too small for publication purposes due to reliability concerns. Sampling or other survey errors are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07
In labour force	1,990.5	2,014.8	2,086.5	2,071.9	2,086.3	2,108.3	2,178.1	2,154.8	2,166.7
In employment:	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9
full-time	1,581.0	1,597.5	1,647.0	1,639.8	1,654.7	1,665.4	1,724.7	1,717.0	1,718.5
part-time:	327.4	331.7	342.8	340.8	343.4	351.6	348.6	349.1	356.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	324.3	327.7	339.3	336.4	339.2	347.4	345.0	345.5	353.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	3.0	4.0	3.5	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.6	2.8
Unemployed:	82.1	85.6	96.7	91.3	88.2	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8
seeking full-time work	69.1	71.0	80.2	74.2	72.7	76.5	88.1	74.2	77.0
seeking part-time work	13.0	14.7	16.5	17.0	15.5	14.9	16.7	14.6	14.8
Not in labour force	1,272.5	1,262.6	1,215.1	1,260.2	1,265.9	1,262.0	1,220.4	1,267.1	1,275.8
Marginally attached to the labour force:	12.1	9.1	13.6	9.8	10.1	9.8	15.5	9.9	16.4
Discouraged workers	9.3	7.0	10.9	7.4	8.0	7.7	12.8	7.5	13.4
Passive jobseekers	2.8	2.1	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.7	2.5	2.9
Others:	1,260.4	1,253.5	1,201.5	1,250.3	1,255.8	1,252.2	1,204.8	1,257.1	1,259.4
Persons not in education, who want work ²	56.5	53.9	56.5	58.4	60.5	57.0	66.5	59.2	60.3
Persons in education, who want work ²	29.4	31.8	24.9	26.6	32.0	34.7	27.0	32.4	31.7
All other persons	1,174.4	1,167.9	1,120.1	1,165.3	1,163.3	1,160.5	1,111.4	1,165.5	1,167.4
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,262.9	3,277.4	3,301.6	3,332.1	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5

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
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
Sep-Nov 2006	4.4	7.1	7.3
Dec-Feb 2007	4.8	7.5	7.6

%

NOTE: Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 19:

S1: Unemployed plus discouraged workers *as a percentage of* the Labour Force plus discouraged workers.S2: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work *as a percentage of* the Labour Force plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.S3: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work plus underemployed part-time workers *as a percentage of* the Labour Force plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.**Table 21 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status¹**

'000

Principal Economic Status	Dec-Feb 05	Sep-Nov 05	Dec-Feb 06	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07
Males							
At work	1,068.5	1,109.8	1,119.6	1,130.4	1,146.5	1,157.2	1,159.5
Unemployed	78.9	80.9	80.2	80.3	83.6	79.4	82.6
Student	177.7	169.0	169.7	169.7	159.7	165.4	168.3
Home duties	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.1	4.3	5.3	5.6
Retired	210.1	211.9	213.3	213.0	216.6	214.4	214.4
Others	70.7	72.0	71.4	74.1	75.8	75.6	77.9
Total males	1,611.3	1,648.8	1,659.1	1,672.6	1,686.5	1,697.3	1,708.3
Females							
At work	767.2	794.4	806.0	810.4	824.5	839.9	845.7
Unemployed	31.2	37.5	36.2	35.1	41.4	33.8	37.3
Student	196.4	193.6	196.6	199.3	184.3	188.5	191.8
Home duties	546.5	538.5	535.0	530.3	536.1	541.9	537.2
Retired	71.4	76.9	76.9	78.3	80.4	77.0	79.2
Others	39.1	42.4	42.3	44.4	45.2	43.5	43.0
Total females	1,651.7	1,683.3	1,693.1	1,697.7	1,711.9	1,724.6	1,734.1
All persons							
At work	1,835.7	1,904.3	1,925.6	1,940.8	1,971.1	1,997.0	2,005.2
Unemployed	110.1	118.4	116.4	115.4	125.0	113.1	119.8
Student	374.1	362.6	366.2	369.0	344.0	354.0	360.1
Home duties	551.9	543.7	540.0	535.4	540.4	547.3	542.9
Retired	281.5	288.7	290.2	291.3	297.1	291.4	293.6
Others	109.7	114.4	113.7	118.4	121.0	119.0	120.9
Total persons	3,262.9	3,332.1	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5

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, December-February 2007

ILO Economic Status							Total	
		At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	Total
Males								
In employment:		1,151.9	2.3	26.7	*	4.6	2.2	1,187.9
full-time		1,104.4	1.4	1.8	*	*	1.5	1,109.8
part-time:		47.4	*	24.9	*	3.9	*	78.1
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>		46.6	*	24.9	*	3.9	*	77.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>		*	*	*	*	*	*	1.1
Unemployed:		*	50.8	1.4	*	*	1.8	56.1
seeking full-time work		*	49.9	*	*	*	1.5	53.1
seeking part-time work		*	*	1.1	*	*	*	3.0
Marginally attached to the labour force		4.1	4.3	*	*	*	*	9.8
Others		2.7	25.2	139.6	5.2	208.3	73.6	454.5
Total males aged 15 or over		1,159.5	82.6	168.3	5.6	214.4	77.9	1,708.3
Females								
In employment:		837.8	1.5	36.2	8.6	1.0	2.0	887.0
full-time		603.8	*	1.6	1.3	*	1.1	608.7
part-time:		234.0	*	34.6	7.3	*	*	278.3
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>		232.4	*	34.6	7.3	*	*	276.6
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>		1.6	*	*	*	*	*	1.7
Unemployed:		*	21.6	1.4	11.1	*	*	35.7
seeking full-time work		*	17.7	*	5.0	*	*	23.9
seeking part-time work		*	3.9	1.1	6.2	*	*	11.8
Marginally attached to the labour force		4.0	1.0	*	1.0	*	*	6.5
Others		3.4	13.2	153.7	516.5	77.9	40.2	804.9
Total females aged 15 or over		845.7	37.3	191.8	537.2	79.2	43.0	1,734.1
All persons								
In employment:		1,989.7	3.8	62.9	8.8	5.6	4.2	2,074.9
full-time		1,708.2	2.2	3.4	1.3	*	2.6	1,718.5
part-time:		281.5	1.6	59.5	7.4	4.8	1.6	356.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>		279.0	1.3	59.5	7.4	4.8	1.6	353.6
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>		2.5	*	*	*	*	*	2.8
Unemployed:		1.4	72.5	2.7	11.4	1.1	2.6	91.8
seeking full-time work		1.3	67.6	*	5.1	*	2.0	77.0
seeking part-time work		*	4.8	2.3	6.3	*	*	14.8
Marginally attached to the labour force		8.1	5.2	1.1	1.0	*	*	16.4
Others		6.1	38.4	293.3	521.7	286.2	113.8	1,259.4
Total persons aged 15 or over		2,005.2	119.8	360.1	542.9	293.6	120.9	3,442.5

¹ See Background Notes.

* Population estimates of less than 1,000 are deemed too small for publication purposes due to reliability concerns. Sampling or other survey errors are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

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

Highest education level attained	December-February 2006					December-February 2007				
	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	126.9	11.6	138.5	8.4	59.4	126.1	12.6	138.7	9.1	58.6
Lower secondary	212.5	14.3	226.8	6.3	72.8	209.2	15.0	224.2	6.7	72.5
Higher secondary	309.2	13.0	322.2	4.0	84.6	320.0	14.5	334.4	4.3	84.9
Post leaving cert	127.2	3.8	131.0	2.9	93.4	131.7	3.9	135.6	2.9	93.5
Third level non degree	103.9	3.0	106.9	2.8	91.9	108.1	2.8	110.9	2.5	92.9
Third level degree or above	210.2	5.1	215.3	2.4	92.9	217.8	4.9	222.7	2.2	92.3
Other	31.2	1.8	33.0	5.5	85.7	42.3	2.2	44.5	4.9	88.3
Total males aged 15 to 64	1,121.2	52.5	1,173.7	4.5	80.8	1,155.1	55.9	1,211.1	4.6	81.0
Females aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	52.4	4.0	56.4	7.1	28.8	49.7	3.9	53.6	7.3	27.8
Lower secondary	100.6	6.0	106.6	5.6	40.2	98.2	7.3	105.5	6.9	40.7
Higher secondary	240.8	12.0	252.8	4.7	63.6	249.6	10.4	260.0	4.0	64.3
Post leaving cert	92.9	4.6	97.5	4.7	73.6	97.2	3.9	101.1	3.9	73.9
Third level non degree	119.4	3.9	123.2	3.2	79.4	126.4	4.1	130.4	3.1	80.4
Third level degree or above	215.6	3.7	219.4	1.7	85.7	233.5	4.7	238.3	2.0	86.6
Other	17.9	1.2	19.1	6.3	64.3	22.7	1.3	23.9	5.4	64.2
Total females aged 15 to 64	839.5	35.4	874.9	4.0	61.1	877.2	35.6	912.9	3.9	62.2
All persons aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	179.4	15.5	194.9	8.0	45.4	175.8	16.5	192.4	8.6	44.8
Lower secondary	313.1	20.3	333.3	6.1	57.8	307.4	22.4	329.7	6.8	58.0
Higher secondary	550.0	25.0	574.9	4.3	73.9	569.5	24.9	594.4	4.2	74.5
Post leaving cert	220.1	8.4	228.6	3.7	83.9	228.8	7.9	236.7	3.3	84.0
Third level non degree	223.3	6.9	230.1	3.0	84.8	234.5	6.8	241.4	2.8	85.8
Third level degree or above	425.9	8.8	434.7	2.0	89.1	451.4	9.6	461.0	2.1	89.2
Other	49.1	3.0	52.1	5.8	76.4	64.9	3.5	68.4	5.1	78.1
Total persons aged 15 to 64	1,960.7	87.9	2,048.7	4.3	71.0	2,032.4	91.6	2,124.0	4.3	71.7

Table 24 Estimated *adult*¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, December-February 2007

'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	99.3	96.3	195.7	4.2	3.0	7.3	4.5	9.1	13.6	108.0	108.5	216.5
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	75.9	55.0	130.9	2.3	1.5	3.8	46.1	65.1	111.2	124.3	121.6	245.9
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	10.1	3.8	13.9	*	*	*	71.0	77.4	148.4	81.2	81.2	162.4
Total	185.3	155.1	340.5	6.6	4.6	11.2	121.5	151.6	273.2	313.5	311.3	624.8
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	178.1	116.3	294.4	4.8	3.4	8.1	8.1	70.0	78.1	191.0	189.7	380.7
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	9.1	4.9	14.0	*	*	*	1.1	5.4	6.6	10.8	10.5	21.3
All children aged 5 to 14	78.6	53.8	132.4	2.5	1.8	4.3	4.3	28.6	32.9	85.4	84.2	169.6
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	111.6	73.0	184.6	3.2	2.1	5.2	10.5	47.2	57.7	125.3	122.2	247.5
All children aged 15 or over ³	145.8	95.5	241.3	4.0	1.9	5.9	52.6	100.1	152.7	202.4	197.5	399.9
Total	523.2	343.5	866.7	15.0	9.4	24.4	76.6	251.3	327.9	614.8	604.2	1,219.0
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.1	16.7	17.8	*	2.0	2.1	*	23.8	24.0	1.3	42.5	43.8
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.0	1.0	*	*	*	*	2.1	2.2	*	3.3	3.3
All children aged 5 to 14	1.1	17.0	18.1	*	1.5	1.5	*	7.7	8.2	1.6	26.1	27.8
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.4	18.6	21.0	*	1.3	1.6	*	8.5	9.0	3.2	28.4	31.6
All children aged 15 or over ³	8.3	26.1	34.4	*	*	1.1	9.7	44.4	54.2	18.2	71.4	89.6
Total	12.9	79.4	92.3	*	5.8	6.3	11.0	86.5	97.6	24.5	171.7	196.2
Total												

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.³ For the purpose of this table persons (regardless of age) living with a parent or parents are defined as children.

* Population estimates of less than 1,000 are deemed too small for publication purposes due to reliability concerns. Sampling or other survey errors are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

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

Region	Q4/2005					Q4/2006				
	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	218,205	198,832	19,373	57.2	8.9	220,347	202,994	17,357	57.4	7.9
EU-15	183,872	168,869	15,001	57.5	8.2	186,241	172,213	14,030	57.8	7.5
Eurozone ²	146,565	133,510	13,051	56.3	8.9	148,579	136,524	12,057	56.7	8.1
Belgium	4,661	4,267	393	53.6	8.4	4,730	4,356	374	53.9	7.9
Czech Republic	5,209	4,804	405	59.6	7.8	5,201	4,862	340	59.1	6.5
Denmark	2,904	2,787	117	65.8	4.0	2,928	2,825	103	66.0	3.5
Germany	41,109	36,664	4,445	58.6	10.8	41,741	37,683	4,058	59.4	9.7
Estonia	661	615	47	58.5	7.1	689	651	39	60.5	5.7
Greece	4,854	4,383	471	53.2	9.7	4,891	4,462	429	53.3	8.8
Spain	21,156	19,314	1,841	57.0	8.7	21,812	20,002	1,811	57.9	8.3
France	27,088	24,495	2,592	56.0	9.6	27,251	24,810	2,441	55.9	9.0
Ireland	2,072	1,981	91	62.2	4.4	2,155	2,066	89	63.0	4.1
Italy	24,666	22,685	1,980	49.4	8.0	24,727	23,018	1,709	49.2	6.9
Cyprus	370	351	19	62.8	5.1	378	362	16	63.9	4.2
Latvia	1,136	1,048	89	57.9	7.8	1,173	1,101	72	59.7	6.1
Lithuania	1,598	1,484	113	56.3	7.1	1,574	1,498	76	55.4	4.8
Luxembourg ³	203	194	9	55.6	4.4	203	194	9	55.6	4.4
Hungary	4,225	3,916	309	50.4	7.3	4,272	3,953	320	50.9	7.5
Malta ⁴	160	148	12	49.5	7.5	165	154	11	50.6	6.7
Netherlands	8,529	8,150	378	65.0	4.4	8,656	8,343	313	65.6	3.6
Austria	4,052	3,845	207	59.4	5.1	4,137	3,952	184	60.2	4.4
Poland	17,283	14,389	2,894	55.2	16.7	16,987	14,911	2,076	54.1	12.2
Portugal	5,581	5,134	447	62.5	8.0	5,601	5,143	459	62.5	8.2
Slovenia	1,027	954	74	59.8	7.2	1,012	956	56	58.6	5.5
Slovak Republic	2,664	2,254	410	59.7	15.4	2,655	2,333	321	59.1	12.1
Finland ⁴	2,594	2,398	197	59.9	7.6	2,675	2,495	181	61.6	6.8
Sweden	4,686	4,352	335	62.7	7.1	4,737	4,452	285	62.7	6.0
United Kingdom	29,717	28,220	1,498	62.2	5.0	29,997	28,412	1,585	62.4	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.³ Q4 2006 figures for Luxembourg relate to Q2 2006 as updated detail is not available at present.⁴ Q4 2006 figures for Malta and Finland relate to Q3 2006 as updated detail is not available at present.

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 the 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, December-February, 2006 and 2007

'000					
Nationality	ILO Economic Status				Total
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Not economically active	
Q1 2007					
Irish nationals ¹	1,845.5	76.9	1,922.4	1,200.3	3,122.6
Non-Irish nationals	229.4	14.9	244.4	75.5	319.8
of which:					
United Kingdom	37.8	2.3	40.1	24.9	65.0
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	24.0	1.7	25.8	6.1	31.9
Accession states EU15 to EU25	106.3	6.1	112.4	11.7	124.1
Other ²	61.3	4.8	66.1	32.8	98.9
Total persons	2,074.9	91.8	2,166.7	1,275.8	3,442.5
Q1 2006					
Irish nationals ¹	1,814.0	74.5	1,888.5	1,192.5	3,081.0
Non-Irish nationals	184.2	13.7	197.9	73.4	271.2
of which:					
United Kingdom	40.4	2.9	43.3	26.4	69.8
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	24.0	1.2	25.2	6.8	32.0
Accession states EU15 to EU25	69.1	5.0	74.1	7.9	82.0
Other ²	50.6	4.7	55.3	32.2	87.5
Total persons	1,998.1	88.2	2,086.3	1,265.9	3,352.2
Year on year changes					
Irish nationals ¹	+ 31.5	+ 2.4	+ 33.9	+ 7.8	+ 41.6
Non-Irish nationals	+ 45.2	+ 1.2	+ 46.5	+ 2.1	+ 48.6
of which:					
United Kingdom	- 2.6	- 0.6	- 3.2	- 1.5	- 4.8
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	0.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	- 0.7	- 0.1
Accession states EU15 to EU25	+ 37.2	+ 1.1	+ 38.3	+ 3.8	+ 42.1
Other ²	+ 10.7	+ 0.1	+ 10.8	+ 0.6	+ 11.4
Total persons	+ 76.8	+ 3.6	+ 80.4	+ 9.9	+ 90.3

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

² Includes two new accession states Bulgaria and Romania. It is estimated that the combined population of these accounts for 2,500 of the 11,400 increase of the 'Other' category.

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, December-February, 2006 and 2007

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	
Q1 2007												
Irish nationals ¹	112.0	251.8	244.1	262.6	84.2	112.4	243.1	104.5	134.4	190.9	105.4	1,845.5
Non-Irish nationals	4.4	39.1	38.0	28.7	35.9	11.0	29.6	1.1	7.5	21.2	13.1	229.4
of which:												
United Kingdom	*	4.6	5.4	5.2	2.0	2.6	6.7	*	2.6	4.4	2.7	37.8
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	3.2	1.2	1.9	3.7	1.6	6.9	*	1.5	1.6	2.0	24.0
Accession states EU15 to EU25	2.4	23.4	25.8	15.3	18.1	4.3	8.6	*	*	2.8	4.5	106.3
Other ²	*	7.9	5.5	6.2	12.1	2.5	7.4	*	2.6	12.4	3.9	61.3
Total persons	116.4	290.8	282.1	291.3	120.1	123.4	272.7	105.6	142.0	212.1	118.5	2,074.9
Q1 2006												
Irish nationals ¹	110.3	255.5	227.3	264.5	86.3	112.2	241.7	101.9	126.0	177.4	111.1	1,814.0
Non-Irish nationals	5.3	29.5	26.5	21.7	26.8	8.3	27.5	1.2	6.9	18.9	11.7	184.2
of which:												
United Kingdom	*	5.8	5.4	4.7	2.5	2.4	7.1	*	3.3	5.0	2.9	40.4
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	2.8	*	1.8	3.0	1.3	7.5	*	2.0	1.5	2.2	24.0
Accession states EU15 to EU25	3.1	15.7	16.2	9.3	9.4	3.1	6.7	*	*	1.5	3.6	69.1
Other	*	5.1	4.0	5.9	11.9	1.5	6.2	*	1.1	10.9	3.0	50.6
Total persons	115.5	285.0	253.8	286.1	113.1	120.5	269.2	103.1	132.8	196.3	122.8	1,998.1
Year on year changes												
Irish nationals ¹	+ 1.7	- 3.7	+ 16.8	- 1.9	- 2.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.4	+ 2.6	+ 8.4	+ 13.5	- 5.7	+ 31.5
Non-Irish nationals	- 0.9	+ 9.6	+ 11.5	+ 7.0	+ 9.1	+ 2.7	+ 2.1	- 0.1	+ 0.6	+ 2.3	+ 1.4	+ 45.2
of which:												
United Kingdom	*	- 1.2	0.0	+ 0.5	- 0.5	+ 0.2	- 0.4	*	- 0.7	- 0.6	- 0.2	- 2.6
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	+ 0.4	*	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	- 0.6	*	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2	0.0
Accession states EU15 to EU25	- 0.7	+ 7.7	+ 9.6	+ 6.0	+ 8.7	+ 1.2	+ 1.9	*	*	+ 1.3	+ 0.9	+ 37.2
Other ²	*	+ 2.8	+ 1.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.0	+ 1.2	*	+ 1.5	+ 1.5	+ 0.9	+ 10.7
Total persons	+ 0.9	+ 5.8	+ 28.3	+ 5.2	+ 7.0	+ 2.9	+ 3.5	+ 2.5	+ 9.2	+ 15.8	- 4.3	+ 76.8

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

² Includes two new accession states Bulgaria and Romania. It is estimated that the combined population of these accounts for 2,500 of the 11,400 increase of the 'Other' category.

* Population estimates of less than 1,000 are deemed too small for publication purposes due to reliability concerns. Sampling or other survey errors are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change. 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**

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 City
	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), 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 2006	Crime and victimisation
Q4 2005	Pension provision
Q4 2005	Special Saving Incentive Accounts (SSIAs)
Q3 2005	Recycling and energy conservation
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
Q1 2005	Annual update module
Q2 2005	Reconciliation between work and family life
Q1 2006	Annual update module
Q1 2006	ICT household survey
Q2 2006	Transition from work into retirement
Q3 2006	Social capital and sport