

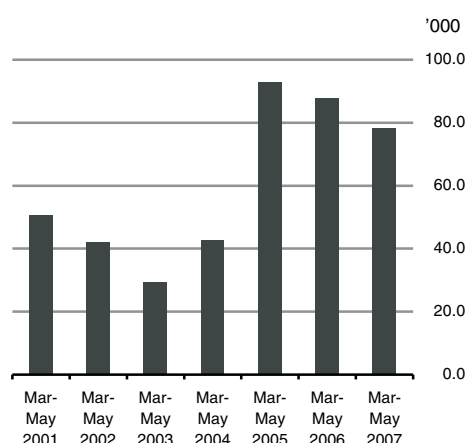


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

4 September 2007

Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 2 2007

**Annual increase in employment in the
Second Quarters 2001 to 2007**



ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
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
Mar-May 2007	2,095.4	98.8	2,194.1
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+20.5</i>	<i>+7.0</i>	<i>+27.4</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+78.4</i>	<i>+7.4</i>	<i>+85.8</i>

Employment grows by 3.9%

In the second quarter of 2007 there were 2,095,400 persons in employment, which represents an annual increase of 78,400 or 3.9%. This compares to an annual growth rate of 3.8% in the previous quarter and to a rate of 4.6% in the second quarter of 2006. There was an annual increase of just under 34,000 or 2.9% in the number of men at work, while the number of women increased by over 44,000 or 5.2%, accounting for almost 57% of the overall increase in employment. Persons in part-time employment increased by 27,500 and accounted for just over 35% of the overall annual change. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

There were 98,800 persons unemployed in the second quarter of 2007 representing an increase of 7,400 in the year. All of the growth in unemployment was attributable to an increase in short-term unemployment (+8,600), while long-term unemployment fell by 1,200. When seasonal factors are taken into account there was a quarterly increase of 4,300 in the numbers unemployed with the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increasing from 4.4% to 4.6% between the first and second quarters of 2007. *See tables 1, 3 & 17.*

Non-Irish nationals are tentatively estimated to have accounted for over 41,000 (52.6%) of the annual increase in the numbers in employment and for 1,600 (21.6%) of the increase in the number of unemployed persons. *See table A1 in the annex.*

Overall the labour force increased by 85,800 (4.1%) to 2,194,100 in the year to the second quarter of 2007 and accounted for 63.4% of all persons aged 15 and over compared with 62.6% in the second quarter of 2006. Female participation rates increased from 52.5% to 53.9% in the year with male participation rates also showing an increase from 72.8% to 73.1% over the same period. *See table 1.*

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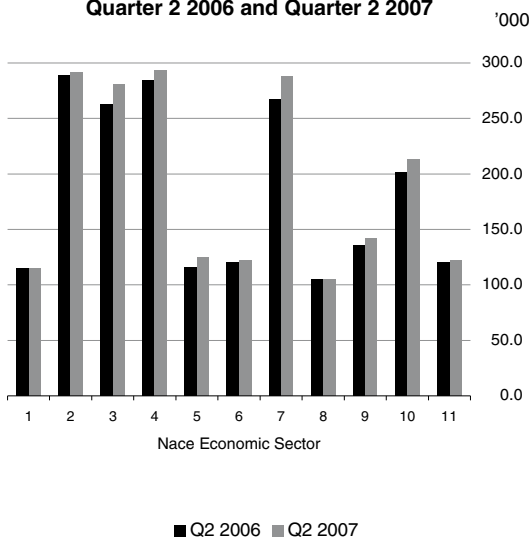
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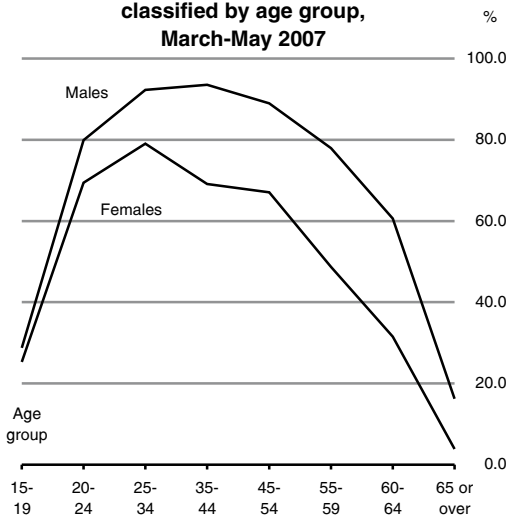
**Persons aged 15 years in employment (ILO)
classified by Nace Economic Sector,
Quarter 2 2006 and Quarter 2 2007**



KEY

- 1- A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- 2- C-E Other production industries
- 3- F Construction
- 4- G Wholesale and retail trade
- 5- H Hotels and restaurants
- 6- I Transport, storage and communication
- 7- J-K Financial and other business services
- 8- L Public administration and defence
- 9- M Education
- 10- N Health
- 11- O-Q Other services

**ILO participation rates
classified by age group,
March-May 2007**



The latest available figures for all 27 EU member states, which relate to the first quarter of 2007, show that between the first quarters of 2006 and 2007 Ireland's employment level grew by 3.8% and its labour force by 3.9%. The comparable figures for the EU-27 countries were 1.8% and 0.6% respectively. *See table 25.*

Annual employment growth in the Construction sector moderates

Employment in the construction sector continued to grow in the year to the second quarter of 2007 increasing by 17,600 or 6.7%. This compares to an annual growth rate of 11.2% in the previous quarter and to a rate of 8.4% in the same quarter last year. *See table 2b and graph opposite.*

Other sectors, which showed strong annual growth, were *Financial and other business services* (+20,300), *Health* (+11,800) and *Wholesale and retail trade* (+9,100). With the exception of *Public administration and defence*, which showed a decline of 500, all other sectors showed increases to varying degrees over the year. *See table 2b.*

The numbers employed in all occupational categories with the exception of *Other* (-2,900) increased over the year. The largest increases were in *Personal and protective services* (+16,800) many of whom were in the health and childcare occupations, *Managers and administrators* (+13,500) and *Associate professional and technical* (+13,400) occupational groups. *See table 4.*

There were 1,738,300 employees in the second quarter of 2007, an annual increase of 52,800. This comprised of an increase of 37,600 females and 15,200 males. The number of self-employed persons increased by 23,800 to 343,700 in the year accounting for just over 30% of the overall increase in employment. This increase was dominated by an increase in the number of self-employed males (+17,600). The number of persons assisting relatives increased by 1,800 to 13,400. *See table 6.*

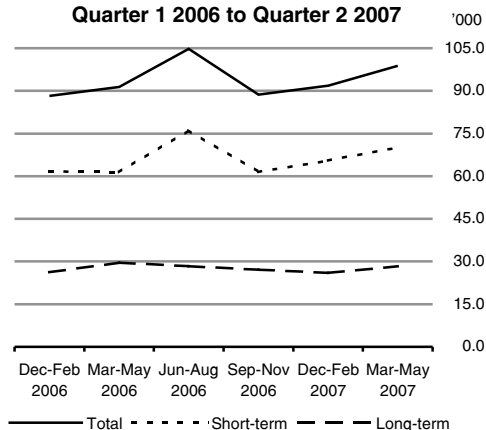
Demographic factors account for almost 75% of labour force growth

Demographic factors such as the increase in the number of people of working age in the population continued to fuel labour force growth accounting for just under 64,000 of the 85,800 people who joined the labour force in the year to the second quarter of 2007. Net inward migration accounted for approximately 70% of this demographic increase. Over 52% of the demographic increase can be attributed to those aged 25-34, the age group most affected by inward migration.

Over a quarter of the annual growth in the labour force, representing an increase of almost 22,000 was attributable to higher participation in the labour market. Over 90% of the increase in participation was attributable to females. All age groups with the exception of 25-34 year olds showed increases in labour force participation rates over the year. The most significant increases were in the 45-54 age group, rising from 76.6% to 78.1% and the 60-64 year age group rising from 44.8% to 46.1%. *See table 9 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, increased from 7.5% in the second quarter of 2006 to 7.6% in the second quarter of 2007. *See table 20.*

Numbers unemployed (ILO) classified by duration of unemployment, Quarter 1 2006 to Quarter 2 2007



Increases in the number of unemployed males and females

There were 59,100 males and 39,600 females unemployed in the second quarter of 2007, representing annual increases of 3,900 and 3,500 for men and women respectively. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for men increased from 4.6% to 4.7% between the first and second quarters of 2007 while the female rate rose from 4.1% to 4.3% over the same period. *See tables 1, 3 & 13.*

All of the annual increase in unemployment was attributable to short-term unemployment with increases of 4,600 and 4,000 for males and females respectively. The number of persons in long-term unemployment fell by 1,200 over the year to 28,400. The long-term unemployment rate decreased slightly from 1.4% to 1.3% in the year to the second quarter of 2007. *See tables 16, 17, 18 and graph opposite.*

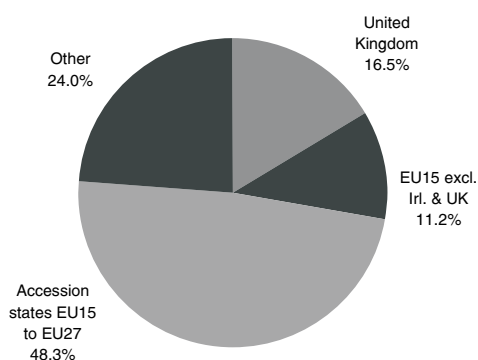
Over 239,000 foreign nationals in employment

Tentative estimates¹ of the labour force status of Non-Irish nationals are presented in the Annex. There were an estimated 331,100 foreign nationals aged 15 years of age and over in the state in the second quarter of 2007. Just over 239,000 were in employment while over 15,000 were unemployed according to ILO criteria. Nationals of the new EU Accession states were the fastest growing category with their numbers in the labour force growing by almost 35,000 from 88,200 in Q2 2006 to 123,100 in the most recent quarter. The two new member states Bulgaria and Romania who joined the EU in January 2007 are estimated to have accounted for approximately 4,000 of this increase. *See table A1 in the annex and graph opposite.*

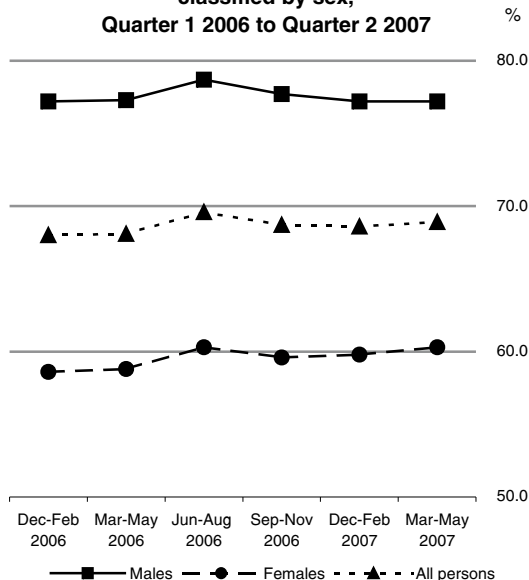
In the second quarter of 2007 Non-Irish Nationals accounted for over 11% of all persons aged 15 years and over in employment and just under 16% of the unemployed. Just under 29% of workers in the *Hotels and restaurants*, 13.9% of *Other production industries* and 13.1% of the *Construction* sectors were foreign nationals. *See tables A1 & 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 inter-censal population and migration estimates that take the Census 2006 results fully into account.

Non-Irish nationals in the Labour Force, March-May 2007



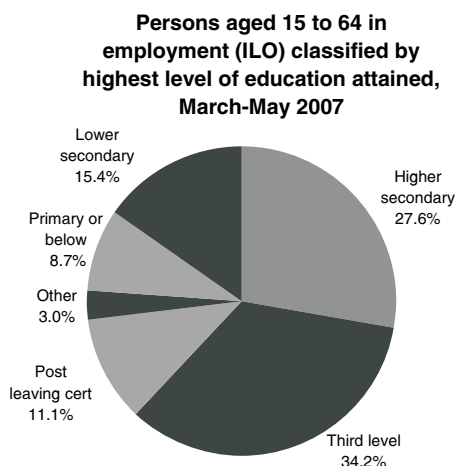
Employment rates for persons aged 15 to 64 classified by sex, Quarter 1 2006 to Quarter 2 2007



Female employment rate exceeds 60%

The employment rate for females aged 15-64 was 60.3% in the second quarter of 2007 which compares to a rate of 58.8% one year previously. The rate for males decreased slightly over the year from 77.3% to 77.2%. At an overall level the employment rate was 68.9% an increase of 0.8 percentage points on the 68.1% recorded in the second quarter of 2006. The highest employment rate, 81.9%, was recorded in 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 average working week in the second quarter of 2007 was 36.4 hours compared with 36.5 hours in the same quarter last year. *See table 5.*



Over a third of those aged 15-64 in employment have a third level qualification

Over a third (701,000) of persons in employment had a third level qualification in the second quarter of 2007. The rates for males and females in the most recent quarter were 29.0% (336,300) and 41.0% (364,800) respectively. Almost 18% of the unemployed had a third level qualification in the second quarter of 2007. *See table 23 and graph opposite.*

Regional Comparisons

Employment grew by 24,500 (+4.7%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 53,800 (+3.6%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the second quarter of 2007. There were increases of 4,200 and 3,300 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 60.4% to 61.7% between the second quarters of 2006 and 2007 while the rate in the Southern and Eastern region increased from 63.3% to 64.1% over the same period.

At NUTS 3 level employment grew in all regions with the exception of the Mid-West region where employment decreased by 700. The Mid-East (+6.9%) and Border (+5.9%) regions showed the highest percentage increases in employment over the year. The number of persons in employment resident in the Dublin region increased by 19,300 (+3.2%). 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 72,500 over the year to the second quarter of 2007, bringing the total number of persons at work to 2,013,300. This comprised an increase of 32,300 males and 40,300 females. This compares to an increase of 83,400 in the year to the second quarter of 2006. Meanwhile, the number describing themselves as "unemployed" rose by 4,300 over the year to 119,700. The numbers describing themselves as on "home duties" decreased by 6,900 over the year from 535,400 to 528,500. *See table 21.*

In the twelve months to the second quarter of 2007 the number of students increased by 1,600. The proportion of students with a job increased from 17.2% to 18.5% over the same twelve-month period, representing an increase of 4,900 in the number of students with a job. *See tables 21 & 22.*

Tables

Contents	Page no
Table 1 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and ILO Economic Status	7
Table 2a Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and Broad NACE Economic Sector	8
Table 2b Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and NACE Economic Sector	8
Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Series of persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, ILO Economic Status and NACE Economic Sector	9
Table 4 Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and occupation	10
Table 5 Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and usual hours of work	11
Table 6 Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by employment status	12
Table 7a Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions and ILO Economic Status	12
Table 7b Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions and ILO Economic Status	13
Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, March-May 2007	14
Table 9 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group	14
Table 10 Number of persons in the labour force (ILO) classified by sex and age group	15
Table 11 Number of persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and age group	15
Table 12 Employment rates (ILO) for persons aged 15-64, classified by sex and age group	16
Table 13 Number of persons unemployed (ILO) classified by sex and age group	16
Table 14 Unemployment rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group	17
Table 15 Labour force situation of married females classified by age group	17
Table 16 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by labour force, employment, unemployment and long-term unemployment (ILO)	18
Table 17 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and duration of unemployment (ILO)	19
Table 18 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, age group and duration of unemployment (ILO)	19
Table 19 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by detailed ILO Economic Status	20
Table 20 Indicators of potential labour supply	21
Table 21 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status	21
Table 22 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status, March-May 2007	22
Table 23 Persons aged 15 years to 64, classified by the highest level of education attained, ILO Economic Status and sex	23
Table 24 Estimated adult members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, March-May 2007	24
Table 25 Annual Labour Force Survey results classified by ILO Economic Status for persons aged 15 or over in EU member states	25

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

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ILO Economic Status	Mar- May 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07
Males							
In labour force	1,163.3	1,202.6	1,217.2	1,253.5	1,240.5	1,244.0	1,255.1
In employment:	1,110.1	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9
full-time	1,039.4	1,073.0	1,082.2	1,114.1	1,110.3	1,109.8	1,110.9
part-time:	70.7	76.9	79.8	77.4	76.0	78.1	85.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	68.7	75.0	78.0	75.8	74.5	77.0	82.4
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.1	2.7
Unemployed:	53.2	52.8	55.2	62.1	54.2	56.1	59.1
seeking full-time work	50.5	50.5	53.1	58.3	51.7	53.1	56.0
seeking part-time work	2.7	2.3	2.1	3.8	2.5	3.0	3.1
Not in labour force	457.6	456.5	455.4	433.0	456.8	464.3	462.8
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	5.2	6.2	5.8	8.4	5.7	9.8	6.1
Others	452.3	450.3	449.6	424.6	451.1	454.5	456.7
Total males aged 15 or over	1,620.9	1,659.1	1,672.6	1,686.5	1,697.3	1,708.3	1,717.9
Unemployment rate %	4.6	4.4	4.5	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.7
Participation rate %	71.8	72.5	72.8	74.3	73.1	72.8	73.1
Females							
In labour force	851.5	883.8	891.1	924.6	914.3	922.7	939.1
In employment:	819.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4
full-time	558.1	581.8	583.2	610.6	606.7	608.7	605.3
part-time:	261.0	266.5	271.8	271.2	273.1	278.3	294.1
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	259.0	264.2	269.4	269.2	271.0	276.6	291.5
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.0	2.2	1.7	2.6
Unemployed:	32.4	35.4	36.1	42.7	34.5	35.7	39.6
seeking full-time work	20.4	22.3	23.3	29.8	22.4	23.9	24.4
seeking part-time work	12.0	13.2	12.8	12.9	12.1	11.8	15.3
Not in labour force	805.0	809.4	806.6	787.4	810.3	811.4	801.9
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	3.9	3.9	3.9	7.1	4.3	6.5	4.9
Others	801.2	805.5	802.7	780.2	806.0	804.9	797.0
Total females aged 15 or over	1,656.6	1,693.1	1,697.7	1,711.9	1,724.6	1,734.1	1,740.9
Unemployment rate %	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.6	3.8	3.9	4.2
Participation rate %	51.4	52.2	52.5	54.0	53.0	53.2	53.9
All persons							
In labour force	2,014.8	2,086.3	2,108.3	2,178.1	2,154.8	2,166.7	2,194.1
In employment:	1,929.2	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4
full-time	1,597.5	1,654.7	1,665.4	1,724.7	1,717.0	1,718.5	1,716.2
part-time:	331.7	343.4	351.6	348.6	349.1	356.4	379.1
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	327.7	339.2	347.4	345.0	345.5	353.6	373.9
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.0	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.6	2.8	5.3
Unemployed:	85.6	88.2	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8	98.8
seeking full-time work	71.0	72.7	76.5	88.1	74.2	77.0	80.4
seeking part-time work	14.7	15.5	14.9	16.7	14.6	14.8	18.4
Not in labour force	1,262.6	1,265.9	1,262.0	1,220.4	1,267.1	1,275.8	1,264.7
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	9.1	10.1	9.8	15.5	9.9	16.4	11.0
Others	1,253.5	1,255.8	1,252.2	1,204.8	1,257.1	1,259.4	1,253.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,277.4	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5	3,458.9
Unemployment rate %	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.8	4.1	4.2	4.5
Participation rate %	61.5	62.2	62.6	64.1	63.0	62.9	63.4

¹ See Background Notes.

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

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Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Mar- May 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07
Males							
A-B Agriculture	102.6	104.8	103.8	109.1	105.2	105.7	103.1
C-F Industry	436.1	443.7	454.0	473.8	476.9	476.4	475.6
G-Q Services	571.3	601.4	604.2	608.5	604.2	605.8	617.2
Females							
A-B Agriculture	11.1	10.7	10.7	12.5	10.7	10.7	11.6
C-F Industry	100.5	95.1	97.2	100.6	96.8	96.6	96.2
G-Q Services	707.6	742.5	747.0	768.7	772.3	779.8	791.7
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	113.7	115.5	114.5	121.7	115.8	116.4	114.7
C-F Industry	536.6	538.8	551.2	574.4	573.7	573.0	571.8
G-Q Services	1,278.9	1,343.8	1,351.2	1,377.2	1,376.5	1,385.6	1,408.9
Total persons	1,929.2	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4

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

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Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Mar- May 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	102.6	104.8	103.8	109.1	105.2	105.7	103.1
C-E Other production industries	205.9	202.5	204.6	209.8	208.4	207.5	208.9
F Construction	230.2	241.1	249.4	263.9	268.5	268.9	266.7
G Wholesale and retail trade	133.2	143.5	143.7	147.7	146.8	146.6	149.2
H Hotels and restaurants	45.7	49.1	49.7	50.5	48.6	50.4	51.7
I Transport, storage and communication	91.1	91.3	91.8	97.7	89.8	93.9	95.3
J-K Financial and other business services	129.5	136.4	136.2	134.7	141.5	134.3	140.3
L Public administration and defence	48.8	51.3	51.5	49.8	52.0	52.5	50.7
M Education	35.8	37.6	38.9	34.6	37.7	38.8	37.4
N Health	33.5	33.7	34.9	38.1	35.0	35.9	38.1
O-Q Other services	53.7	58.5	57.6	55.5	52.8	53.4	54.5
Total males	1,110.1	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.1	10.7	10.7	12.5	10.7	10.7	11.6
C-E Other production industries	88.3	82.5	83.9	86.8	83.6	83.4	82.6
F Construction	12.2	12.7	13.3	13.9	13.2	13.2	13.6
G Wholesale and retail trade	133.7	142.6	140.7	150.0	141.5	144.7	144.3
H Hotels and restaurants	65.3	64.0	66.6	70.1	68.0	69.7	73.0
I Transport, storage and communication	27.1	29.2	28.9	30.6	27.4	29.5	27.2
J-K Financial and other business services	127.6	132.8	131.1	133.0	136.4	138.4	147.3
L Public administration and defence	49.4	51.8	53.6	56.0	53.1	53.0	53.9
M Education	87.3	95.3	96.7	89.2	101.9	103.2	104.1
N Health	154.5	162.5	166.4	172.8	175.2	176.2	174.8
O-Q Other services	62.7	64.2	63.0	66.9	68.8	65.0	67.1
Total females	819.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	113.7	115.5	114.5	121.7	115.8	116.4	114.7
C-E Other production industries	294.2	285.0	288.5	296.6	292.1	290.8	291.5
F Construction	242.4	253.8	262.7	277.8	281.6	282.1	280.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	266.9	286.1	284.4	297.8	288.3	291.3	293.5
H Hotels and restaurants	111.0	113.1	116.3	120.6	116.6	120.1	124.8
I Transport, storage and communication	118.2	120.5	120.7	128.3	117.2	123.4	122.4
J-K Financial and other business services	257.1	269.2	267.3	267.7	278.0	272.7	287.6
L Public administration and defence	98.2	103.1	105.1	105.8	105.1	105.6	104.6
M Education	123.1	132.8	135.6	123.7	139.6	142.0	141.5
N Health	188.0	196.3	201.2	210.9	210.2	212.1	213.0
O-Q Other services	116.4	122.8	120.6	122.4	121.6	118.5	121.6
Total persons	1,929.2	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4

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

'000

ILO Economic Status/ NACE Economic Sector	Mar- May 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07
Males							
In labour force	1,171.6	1,211.5	1,225.3	1,233.6	1,243.7	1,253.3	1,263.0
In employment:	1,116.8	1,156.8	1,168.8	1,176.2	1,188.1	1,195.1	1,202.6
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.5	105.8	105.7	105.8	105.7	106.6	105.0
C-E Other production industries	207.1	203.5	205.7	207.9	208.0	208.8	210.0
F Construction	232.9	243.7	252.2	259.8	266.7	271.7	269.7
G Wholesale and retail trade	134.9	144.2	145.4	145.3	147.0	147.5	150.8
H Hotels and restaurants	45.6	49.5	49.6	49.3	49.8	50.8	51.6
I Transport, storage and communication	91.0	92.0	91.6	97.0	90.0	94.6	95.1
J-K Financial and other business services	128.2	138.1	134.8	134.0	141.9	136.0	138.8
L Public administration and defence	48.7	51.1	51.5	49.4	52.7	52.3	50.7
M Education	35.9	37.3	38.9	35.1	37.6	38.5	37.4
N Health	33.3	34.1	34.6	37.6	35.5	36.4	37.7
O-Q Other services	53.9	58.6	57.8	55.0	53.0	53.6	54.5
Unemployed	54.1	54.9	56.0	57.5	55.7	58.5	59.8
Unemployment rate %	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.7
Participation rate %	72.2	73.0	73.2	73.1	73.3	73.3	73.5
Females							
In labour force	858.9	890.1	898.3	908.1	916.8	929.4	946.2
In employment:	824.5	852.2	860.4	870.8	880.9	891.2	904.9
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.9	10.9	10.5	12.1	11.2	10.9	11.3
C-E Other production industries	88.6	83.6	84.1	84.4	84.7	84.5	82.8
F Construction	12.1	12.9	13.2	13.7	13.5	13.4	13.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	135.9	143.0	143.2	145.9	142.3	145.2	147.0
H Hotels and restaurants	66.7	66.6	67.7	66.7	67.6	72.4	74.0
I Transport, storage and communication	27.5	28.9	29.3	30.2	27.7	29.2	27.5
J-K Financial and other business services	128.7	132.3	132.1	132.7	136.2	138.1	148.2
L Public administration and defence	49.3	52.6	53.6	54.7	53.4	53.7	54.0
M Education	85.4	93.0	94.7	94.6	100.5	100.8	102.0
N Health	155.4	162.7	167.5	171.3	175.2	176.5	176.0
O-Q Other services	63.6	65.7	64.0	65.6	67.5	66.5	68.2
Unemployed	34.4	37.9	38.0	38.1	34.7	38.3	41.4
Unemployment rate %	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.2	3.8	4.1	4.3
Participation rate %	51.8	52.6	52.8	53.0	53.3	53.6	54.2
All persons							
In labour force	2,030.0	2,101.4	2,123.3	2,143.2	2,159.5	2,182.6	2,208.8
In employment:	1,941.4	2,009.3	2,029.4	2,047.3	2,068.6	2,086.3	2,107.8
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	115.5	116.7	116.4	117.7	116.8	117.5	116.7
C-E Other production industries	295.3	287.4	289.6	292.1	292.9	293.3	292.8
F Construction	245.5	256.4	265.9	273.2	280.2	285.0	283.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	270.9	287.7	288.6	290.4	289.7	293.2	297.8
H Hotels and restaurants	113.3	115.2	118.2	115.7	117.8	122.4	126.4
I Transport, storage and communication	118.6	120.9	121.2	126.2	118.5	123.6	122.9
J-K Financial and other business services	256.7	269.9	266.3	268.5	277.4	273.7	286.1
L Public administration and defence	98.2	103.7	105.1	104.6	105.7	106.2	104.6
M Education	121.4	130.6	133.7	129.3	137.7	139.9	139.4
N Health	188.9	196.9	202.3	208.5	210.8	212.9	214.2
O-Q Other services	117.7	124.4	121.9	120.7	120.4	120.2	122.8
Unemployed	88.3	92.6	93.7	96.0	90.4	96.6	100.9
Unemployment rate %	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.6
Participation rate %	61.9	62.7	62.9	63.0	63.2	63.4	63.7

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Mar-May 05	Dec-Feb 06	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	218.6	213.8	215.5	218.7	217.8	221.6	223.8
2. Professional	112.5	118.5	119.8	116.6	123.3	119.9	120.6
3. Associate professional and technical	70.9	74.8	70.8	75.9	74.0	76.1	77.8
4. Clerical and secretarial	58.7	59.7	61.9	62.1	61.4	61.5	64.7
5. Craft and related	260.1	267.4	274.6	284.2	283.7	286.6	287.0
6. Personal and protective service	73.4	82.0	80.4	83.6	83.9	84.4	84.9
7. Sales	63	69.9	69.3	68.2	66.5	67.1	68.6
8. Plant and machine operatives	138.0	142.6	141.1	146.0	144.2	144.9	145.9
9. Other	114.9	121.1	128.7	136.0	131.6	125.8	122.7
Total males	1,110.1	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	98.1	95.1	97.5	100.1	94.7	96.9	102.7
2. Professional	106.1	117.5	116.3	112.3	125.3	123.7	122.9
3. Associate professional and technical	100.5	100.3	100.3	101.9	106.3	104.1	106.8
4. Clerical and secretarial	177.7	186.1	186.1	193.1	189.5	191.1	192.9
5. Craft and related	11.7	10.4	11.7	13.1	10.2	11.4	12.4
6. Personal and protective service	125.0	131.7	137.9	144.1	145.8	146.5	150.0
7. Sales	101.4	110.8	109.1	119.2	111.2	113.6	112.5
8. Plant and machine operatives	29.7	27.8	26.6	26.5	26.2	27.1	26.7
9. Other	68.9	68.7	69.4	71.4	70.5	72.6	72.5
Total females	819.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	316.7	309.0	313.0	318.8	312.5	318.5	326.5
2. Professional	218.6	236.0	236.1	228.9	248.5	243.6	243.5
3. Associate professional and technical	171.5	175.2	171.1	177.9	180.3	180.3	184.5
4. Clerical and secretarial	236.3	245.8	248.0	255.2	250.9	252.6	257.6
5. Craft and related	271.9	277.8	286.3	297.3	293.9	297.9	299.4
6. Personal and protective service	198.4	213.7	218.2	227.8	229.7	230.9	235.0
7. Sales	164.4	180.6	178.4	187.4	177.7	180.7	181.1
8. Plant and machine operatives	167.7	170.4	167.7	172.5	170.4	172.0	172.6
9. Other	183.7	189.8	198.1	207.4	202.1	198.4	195.2
Total persons	1,929.2	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4

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	Mar-May 05	Dec-Feb 06	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07
Males							
1-9 hours	7.8	8.4	8.7	4.6	6.2	7.3	8.2
10-19	19.1	23.1	22.0	18.5	19.3	19.2	21.1
20-29	39.4	42.5	45.4	44.5	44.6	45.8	48.3
30-34	19.1	20.5	21.1	21.7	19.6	20.2	22.2
35-39	394.8	412.9	430.9	448.6	430.8	431.8	427.7
40-44	256.7	273.1	268.9	275.2	288.9	284.4	288.0
45 & over	203.1	200.0	193.7	202.4	192.0	188.5	210.8
Variable hours ¹	170.0	169.2	171.2	176.0	185.0	190.7	169.8
Total males	1,110.1	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.1</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.5</i>	<i>40.8</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.5</i>	<i>40.6</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	24.0	25.2	25.9	20.5	24.5	26.4	30.1
10-19	85.7	85.1	85.8	79.9	86.6	90.9	93.4
20-29	159.8	169.0	169.1	175.2	177.3	176.4	178.8
30-34	51.9	56.6	55.5	59.5	57.5	62.0	66.3
35-39	308.0	321.4	331.6	347.8	335.7	340.4	335.1
40-44	107.0	111.0	106.3	115.5	114.3	109.2	112.7
45 & over	33.4	32.6	30.2	30.0	30.6	30.0	32.2
Variable hours ¹	49.3	47.4	50.6	53.3	53.3	51.8	50.9
Total females	819.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4
<i>Average hours per week</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>	<i>31.3</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	31.8	33.6	34.6	25.1	30.6	33.7	38.3
10-19	104.8	108.2	107.8	98.5	105.9	110.1	114.4
20-29	199.2	211.4	214.5	219.7	221.9	222.2	227.1
30-34	71.0	77.2	76.6	81.2	77.1	82.2	88.5
35-39	702.8	734.3	762.5	796.4	766.5	772.2	762.8
40-44	363.7	384.1	375.2	390.7	403.2	393.6	400.7
45 & over	236.5	232.6	223.9	232.4	222.6	218.5	243.0
Variable hours ¹	219.4	216.7	221.7	229.3	238.3	242.4	220.7
Total persons	1,929.2	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4
<i>Average hours per week</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>	<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	Mar-May 05	Dec-Feb 06	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	90.4	90.6	92.6	93.9	93.1	97.2	101.5
Self employed (with no paid employees)	177.2	177.1	177.4	179.8	181.7	186.1	186.1
Employee	835.9	877.8	887.8	912.5	907.0	899.6	903.0
Assisting relative	6.6	4.4	4.2	5.2	4.5	4.9	5.4
Total males	1,110.1	1,149.8	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	19.8	18.5	18.4	20.6	19.6	20.5	22.8
Self employed (with no paid employees)	33.8	32.3	31.4	30.6	31.4	31.2	33.3
Employee	758.4	790.1	797.7	823.0	821.2	828.1	835.3
Assisting relative	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.7	7.6	7.3	8.0
Total females	819.1	848.3	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	110.2	109.1	111.0	114.5	112.7	117.7	124.3
Self employed (with no paid employees)	211.0	209.3	208.9	210.4	213.2	217.3	219.4
Employee	1,594.2	1,667.9	1,685.5	1,735.5	1,728.1	1,727.7	1,738.3
Assisting relative	13.7	11.8	11.6	12.8	12.1	12.2	13.4
Total persons	1,929.2	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4

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

Region (NUTS2)	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border, Midland and Western					
Mar-May 2005	495.5	22.1	517.6	4.3	59.6
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
Mar-May 2007	540.4	27.5	567.9	4.8	61.7
Southern and Eastern					
Mar-May 2005	1,433.7	63.5	1,497.2	4.2	62.2
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
Mar-May 2007	1,554.9	71.3	1,626.3	4.4	64.1
State					
Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8	4.2	61.5
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
Mar-May 2007	2,095.4	98.8	2,194.1	4.5	63.4

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Region (NUTS3)		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border	Mar-May 2005	197.8	10.3	208.1	4.9	58.3
	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
	Mar-May 2007	217.4	12.2	229.6	5.3	63.4
Midland	Mar-May 2005	110.1	4.5	114.6	4.0	61.0
	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
	Mar-May 2007	121.2	5.5	126.7	4.4	61.1
West	Mar-May 2005	187.6	7.3	194.9	3.7	60.1
	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
	Mar-May 2007	201.8	9.7	211.5	4.6	62.7
Dublin	Mar-May 2005	574.3	25.5	599.7	4.2	63.7
	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
	Mar-May 2007	614.7	27.8	642.5	4.3	61.7
Mid-East	Mar-May 2005	217.3	6.0	223.4	2.7	64.2
	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
	Mar-May 2007	241.1	10.2	251.3	4.1	65.1
Mid-West	Mar-May 2005	163.9	8.0	171.9	4.7	61.7
	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
	Mar-May 2007	173.5	10.6	184.1	5.8	67.2
South-East	Mar-May 2005	200.3	12.0	212.3	5.6	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
	Mar-May 2007	221.2	11.9	233.1	5.1	63.3
South-West	Mar-May 2005	277.9	12.1	289.9	4.2	59.6
	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
	Mar-May 2007	304.4	10.9	315.3	3.5	62.0
State	Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8	4.2	61.5
	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
	Mar-May 2007	2,095.4	98.8	2,194.1	4.5	61.7

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	28.8	79.7	91.0	86.7	75.2	59.5	48.5	20.2	71.2
Married	*	94.8	95.6	96.3	92.7	82.1	64.2	16.8	77.3
Separated or divorced	*	*	90.2	88.6	80.0	66.9	47.9	13.8	69.6
Widowed	*	*	*	78.0	75.6	70.3	45.4	9.4	24.8
Total males	28.8	79.9	92.3	93.5	89.0	77.9	60.6	16.2	73.1
Females									
Single	25.3	69.9	82.7	78.5	75.0	63.5	38.9	4.7	62.7
Married	*	55.7	73.2	66.2	64.8	46.1	29.7	5.0	53.5
Separated or divorced	*	*	65.4	71.3	72.9	56.4	43.7	11.1	63.4
Widowed	*	*	*	64.4	71.4	46.6	32.2	2.3	12.1
Total females	25.3	69.4	79.0	69.1	67.1	48.7	31.5	3.9	53.9
All persons									
Single	27.1	74.9	87.2	83.1	75.1	61.1	44.8	12.8	67.2
Married	*	67.6	83.2	81.3	79.0	64.7	47.4	11.7	65.6
Separated or divorced	*	*	71.3	76.9	75.4	60.1	45.9	12.4	65.6
Widowed	*	*	77.3	68.0	72.6	53.4	35.5	3.7	14.8
Total persons	27.1	74.7	85.7	81.4	78.1	63.4	46.1	9.4	63.4

* 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									
Mar-May 2005	27.9	75.8	92.8	93.8	89.4	73.8	60.0	14.6	71.8
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
Mar-May 2007	28.8	79.9	92.3	93.5	89.0	77.9	60.6	16.2	73.1
Females									
Mar-May 2005	22.9	68.5	77.1	66.5	63.3	46.4	28.2	3.3	51.4
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
Mar-May 2007	25.3	69.4	79.0	69.1	67.1	48.7	31.5	3.9	53.9
All persons									
Mar-May 2005	25.4	72.2	85.1	80.2	76.4	60.2	44.2	8.3	61.5
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
Mar-May 2007	27.1	74.7	85.7	81.4	78.1	63.4	46.1	9.4	63.4

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Mar-May 2005	42.2	129.9	319.4	280.7	226.8	82.6	52.0	29.6	1,163.3
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
Mar-May 2007	42.6	139.3	357.1	296.7	236.1	89.9	58.7	34.6	1,255.1
Females									
Mar-May 2005	33.1	116.5	260.3	198.0	159.8	51.1	24.2	8.5	851.5
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
Mar-May 2007	36.0	119.6	294.8	214.7	177.9	55.3	30.3	10.4	939.1
All persons									
Mar-May 2005	75.3	246.4	579.8	478.7	386.7	133.7	76.1	38.1	2,014.8
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
Mar-May 2007	78.6	258.9	651.9	511.4	414.0	145.3	89.1	45.0	2,194.1

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									
Mar-May 2005	37.4	119.0	304.8	270.3	218.4	80.1	50.4	29.6	1,110.1
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
Mar-May 2007	36.2	128.4	339.3	285.9	227.1	87.0	57.6	34.3	1,195.9
Females									
Mar-May 2005	29.6	109.1	251.6	191.9	155.2	49.7	23.6	8.4	819.1
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
Mar-May 2007	31.5	111.8	283.4	206.6	172.2	53.6	29.9	10.3	899.4
All persons									
Mar-May 2005	67.1	228.1	556.4	462.2	373.6	129.8	74.0	38.0	1,929.2
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
Mar-May 2007	67.7	240.2	622.8	492.5	399.3	140.7	87.6	44.6	2,095.4

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

%

	Age group							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	15-64
Males								
Mar-May 2005	24.7	69.4	88.6	90.4	86.1	71.6	58.2	76.2
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
Mar-May 2007	24.5	73.7	87.7	90.1	85.6	75.4	59.5	77.2
Females								
Mar-May 2005	20.5	64.2	74.5	64.4	61.5	45.1	27.5	58.0
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
Mar-May 2007	22.2	64.9	75.9	66.5	65.0	47.2	31.1	60.3
All persons								
Mar-May 2005	22.7	66.8	81.6	77.4	73.8	58.5	42.9	67.1
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
Mar-May 2007	23.3	69.3	81.9	78.4	75.3	61.4	45.3	68.9

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

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Mar-May 2005	4.8	10.9	14.6	10.3	8.5	2.5	1.6	*	53.2
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
Mar-May 2007	6.4	10.9	17.7	10.9	9.0	2.9	1.1	*	59.1
Females									
Mar-May 2005	3.5	7.4	8.7	6.2	4.6	1.4	*	*	32.4
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
Mar-May 2007	4.5	7.9	11.4	8.1	5.6	1.7	*	*	39.6
All persons									
Mar-May 2005	8.3	18.3	23.3	16.5	13.0	3.9	2.1	*	85.6
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
Mar-May 2007	10.8	18.8	29.1	18.9	14.7	4.6	1.5	*	98.8

* 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								
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Mar-May 2005	11.3	8.4	4.6	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.0	*	4.6
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
Mar-May 2007	14.9	7.8	5.0	3.7	3.8	3.2	1.9	*	4.7
Females									
Mar-May 2005	10.6	6.3	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.7	*	*	3.8
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
Mar-May 2007	12.4	6.6	3.9	3.8	3.2	3.1	*	*	4.2
All persons									
Mar-May 2005	11.0	7.4	4.0	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.8	*	4.2
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
Mar-May 2007	13.8	7.2	4.5	3.7	3.5	3.2	1.7	*	4.5

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

Married Females	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Total married women ('000)									
Mar-May 2005	*	5.6	130.3	220.1	191.6	83.5	61.4	102.7	795.6
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
Mar-May 2007	*	5.6	132.7	221.4	196.7	84.7	71.7	110.5	823.5
of which In labour force ('000)									
Mar-May 2005	*	3.2	91.7	140.5	116.8	36.7	16.0	4.0	409.1
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
Mar-May 2007	*	3.1	97.2	146.6	127.5	39.0	21.3	5.5	440.3
of which In employment ('000)									
Mar-May 2005	*	3.0	88.6	136.8	114.3	35.9	15.8	4.0	398.5
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
Mar-May 2007	*	2.8	94.1	142.7	124.0	38.1	21.1	5.5	428.2
Participation rates (%)									
Mar-May 2005	*	56.4	70.4	63.8	61.0	44.0	26.1	3.9	51.4
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
Mar-May 2007	*	55.7	73.2	66.2	64.8	46.1	29.7	5.0	53.5

* 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	%	%
Mar-May 1998	1,620.4	1,494.0	126.4	63.6	7.8	3.9
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
Mar-May 2007	2,194.1	2,095.4	98.8	28.4	4.5	1.3

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Mar- May-05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May-06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May-07
Males							
Less than 1 year	31.7	32.9	33.8	40.7	33.8	36.5	38.4
1 year and over	21.2	19.7	21.1	21.1	20.2	19.3	20.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	53.2	52.8	55.2	62.1	54.2	56.1	59.1
Females							
Less than 1 year	26.1	28.9	27.7	35.5	27.6	28.9	31.7
1 year and over	6.3	6.6	8.4	7.2	6.9	6.7	7.9
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	32.4	35.4	36.1	42.7	34.5	35.7	39.6
All persons							
Less than 1 year	57.7	61.7	61.5	76.2	61.4	65.5	70.1
1 year and over	27.6	26.2	29.6	28.4	27.1	26.0	28.4
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	85.6	88.2	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8	98.8

* 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 Mar-May 2006				QNHS Mar-May 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	11.9	15.9	6.1	33.8	12.8	18.5	7.1	38.4
1 year and over	4.3	10.7	6.2	21.1	4.3	10.0	6.2	20.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	16.2	26.7	12.3	55.2	17.2	28.6	13.3	59.1
Females								
Less than 1 year	9.5	13.7	4.4	27.7	10.7	15.5	5.4	31.7
1 year and over	2.3	4.0	2.2	8.4	1.6	3.9	2.4	7.9
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	11.8	17.7	6.6	36.1	12.4	19.4	7.9	39.6
All persons								
Less than 1 year	21.4	29.6	10.5	61.5	23.5	34.1	12.5	70.1
1 year and over	6.6	14.6	8.4	29.6	6.0	13.8	8.7	28.4
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	28.1	44.4	18.9	91.4	29.6	48.0	21.2	98.8

* 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	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07
In labour force	2,014.8	2,086.5	2,071.9	2,086.3	2,108.3	2,178.1	2,154.8	2,166.7	2,194.1
In employment:	1,929.2	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4
full-time	1,597.5	1,647.0	1,639.8	1,654.7	1,665.4	1,724.7	1,717.0	1,718.5	1,716.2
part-time:	331.7	342.8	340.8	343.4	351.6	348.6	349.1	356.4	379.1
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	327.7	339.3	336.4	339.2	347.4	345.0	345.5	353.6	373.9
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	4.0	3.5	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.6	2.8	5.3
Unemployed:	85.6	96.7	91.3	88.2	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8	98.8
seeking full-time work	71.0	80.2	74.2	72.7	76.5	88.1	74.2	77.0	80.4
seeking part-time work	14.7	16.5	17.0	15.5	14.9	16.7	14.6	14.8	18.4
Not in labour force	1,262.6	1,215.1	1,260.2	1,265.9	1,262.0	1,220.4	1,267.1	1,275.8	1,264.7
Marginally attached to the labour force:	9.1	13.6	9.8	10.1	9.8	15.5	9.9	16.4	11.0
Discouraged workers	7.0	10.9	7.4	8.0	7.7	12.8	7.5	13.4	8.6
Passive jobseekers	2.1	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.5
Others:	1,253.5	1,201.5	1,250.3	1,255.8	1,252.2	1,204.8	1,257.1	1,259.4	1,253.7
Persons not in education, who want work ²	53.9	56.5	58.4	60.5	57.0	66.5	59.2	60.3	55.6
Persons in education, who want work ²	31.8	24.9	26.6	32.0	34.7	27.0	32.4	31.7	32.7
All other persons	1,167.9	1,120.1	1,165.3	1,163.3	1,160.5	1,111.4	1,165.5	1,167.4	1,165.4
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,277.4	3,301.6	3,332.1	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5	3,458.9

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
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
Mar-May 2007	4.9	7.3	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	Mar-May 05	Dec-Feb 06	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07
Males							
At work	1,080.6	1,119.6	1,130.4	1,146.5	1,157.2	1,159.5	1,162.7
Unemployed	77.1	80.2	80.3	83.6	79.4	82.6	81.8
Student	176.8	169.7	169.7	159.7	165.4	168.3	172.6
Home duties	5.1	5.0	5.1	4.3	5.3	5.6	5.8
Retired	208.7	213.3	213.0	216.6	214.4	214.4	216.2
Others	72.5	71.4	74.1	75.8	75.6	77.9	78.9
Total males	1,620.9	1,659.1	1,672.6	1,686.5	1,697.3	1,708.3	1,717.9
Females							
At work	776.8	806.0	810.4	824.5	839.9	845.7	850.7
Unemployed	32.5	36.2	35.1	41.4	33.8	37.3	37.9
Student	193.6	196.6	199.3	184.3	188.5	191.8	197.9
Home duties	539.4	535.0	530.3	536.1	541.9	537.2	522.8
Retired	72.2	76.9	78.3	80.4	77.0	79.2	85.5
Others	42.1	42.3	44.4	45.2	43.5	43.0	46.3
Total females	1,656.6	1,693.1	1,697.7	1,711.9	1,724.6	1,734.1	1,740.9
All persons							
At work	1,857.4	1,925.6	1,940.8	1,971.1	1,997.0	2,005.2	2,013.3
Unemployed	109.7	116.4	115.4	125.0	113.1	119.8	119.7
Student	370.4	366.2	369.0	344.0	354.0	360.1	370.6
Home duties	544.6	540.0	535.4	540.4	547.3	542.9	528.5
Retired	280.9	290.2	291.3	297.1	291.4	293.6	301.6
Others	114.6	113.7	118.4	121.0	119.0	120.9	125.1
Total persons	3,277.4	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5	3,458.9

¹ Classification based on respondent's own subjective assessment, see Background Notes.

Table 22 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status, March-May 2007

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,158.0	1.9	28.0	*	5.4	2.4	1,195.9
full-time	1,104.5	1.2	2.5	*	1.1	1.6	1,110.9
part-time:	53.6	*	25.5	*	4.4	*	85.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	51.2	*	25.4	*	4.3	*	82.4
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.4	*	*	*	*	*	2.7
Unemployed:	1.2	52.3	2.2	*	*	2.3	59.1
seeking full-time work	1.2	51.1	1.1	*	*	1.9	56.0
seeking part-time work	*	1.1	1.1	*	*	*	3.1
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.7	3.2	*	*	*	*	6.1
Others	1.8	24.5	142.1	5.3	209.4	73.6	456.7
Total males aged 15 or over	1,162.7	81.8	172.6	5.8	216.2	78.9	1,717.9
Females							
In employment:	844.0	1.5	40.4	9.7	*	3.2	899.4
full-time	598.1	*	2.8	1.4	*	2.3	605.3
part-time:	245.9	*	37.6	8.3	*	*	294.1
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	243.6	*	37.5	8.2	*	*	291.5
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.3	*	*	*	*	*	2.6
Unemployed:	*	21.1	3.2	13.7	*	*	39.6
seeking full-time work	*	16.2	1.6	5.7	*	*	24.4
seeking part-time work	*	4.9	1.6	8.0	*	*	15.3
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.5	1.4	*	1.3	*	*	4.9
Others	4.4	13.8	153.8	498.1	84.5	42.3	797.0
Total females aged 15 or over	850.7	37.9	197.9	522.8	85.5	46.3	1,740.9
All persons							
In employment:	2,002.1	3.4	68.4	9.9	6.0	5.6	2,095.4
full-time	1,702.5	1.8	5.3	1.5	1.1	4.0	1,716.2
part-time:	299.5	1.6	63.1	8.4	4.9	1.6	379.1
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	294.8	1.4	62.9	8.3	4.8	1.6	373.9
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.7	*	*	*	*	*	5.3
Unemployed:	1.9	73.4	5.4	14.0	1.2	3.0	98.8
seeking full-time work	1.6	67.4	2.7	5.9	*	2.3	80.4
seeking part-time work	*	6.0	2.7	8.1	*	*	18.4
Marginally attached to the labour force	3.2	4.5	*	1.3	*	*	11.0
Others	6.2	38.4	295.9	503.4	293.9	115.9	1,253.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	2,013.3	119.7	370.6	528.5	301.6	125.1	3,458.9

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	March-May 2006					March-May 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	127.4	12.6	140.0	9.0	58.3	124.1	12.1	136.2	8.9	57.7
Lower secondary	215.5	13.9	229.4	6.1	73.4	213.3	16.4	229.7	7.1	72.7
Higher secondary	312.2	13.5	325.7	4.1	85.4	318.2	15.0	333.2	4.5	85.7
Post leaving cert	125.3	4.3	129.6	3.3	93.6	130.2	4.3	134.5	3.2	93.1
Third level non degree	106.4	3.5	110.0	3.2	93.0	105.9	3.4	109.3	3.1	92.3
Third level degree or above	207.9	5.0	212.9	2.3	93.2	230.4	5.8	236.1	2.5	93.0
Other	37.2	2.4	39.6	6.1	87.2	39.5	2.0	41.5	4.8	88.7
Total males aged 15 to 64	1,132.0	55.1	1,187.1	4.6	81.0	1,161.6	58.8	1,220.5	4.8	81.1
Females aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	52.2	3.8	56.0	6.8	28.2	53.7	4.5	58.2	7.7	29.7
Lower secondary	101.0	7.5	108.5	6.9	41.5	101.6	8.4	110.0	7.6	42.4
Higher secondary	239.8	10.9	250.7	4.3	63.6	248.6	11.9	260.5	4.6	64.4
Post leaving cert	94.4	5.2	99.6	5.2	74.2	98.0	5.0	103.0	4.9	75.0
Third level non degree	120.0	3.5	123.6	2.8	78.8	125.2	4.7	130.0	3.6	81.8
Third level degree or above	217.3	4.2	221.5	1.9	85.9	239.6	3.8	243.4	1.6	86.0
Other	19.3	*	20.2	4.5	63.7	22.4	1.1	23.6	4.7	68.2
Total females aged 15 to 64	844.0	36.1	880.1	4.1	61.3	889.1	39.5	928.7	4.3	63.0
All persons aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	179.6	16.4	196.0	8.4	44.7	177.8	16.6	194.4	8.5	45.0
Lower secondary	316.5	21.4	337.9	6.3	58.9	314.9	24.8	339.7	7.3	59.1
Higher secondary	552.0	24.3	576.4	4.2	74.3	566.9	26.9	593.8	4.5	74.9
Post leaving cert	219.7	9.6	229.2	4.2	84.0	228.2	9.3	237.5	3.9	84.2
Third level non degree	226.4	7.1	233.5	3.0	84.9	231.1	8.1	239.2	3.4	86.3
Third level degree or above	425.3	9.2	434.4	2.1	89.3	469.9	9.6	479.5	2.0	89.3
Other	56.5	3.2	59.7	5.4	77.4	61.9	3.1	65.0	4.8	79.9
Total persons aged 15 to 64	1,976.0	91.2	2,067.2	4.4	71.3	2,050.8	98.4	2,149.1	4.6	72.2

Table 24 Estimated *adult*¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, March-May 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	102.6	97.1	199.8	4.9	3.0	7.9	4.0	10.3	14.3	111.5	110.4	222.0
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	79.6	56.9	136.5	2.0	1.2	3.3	46.0	66.0	112.0	127.7	124.1	251.8
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	10.4	3.5	13.9	*	*	*	72.4	80.1	152.5	83.0	83.6	166.6
Total	192.7	157.5	350.2	7.1	4.2	11.4	122.4	156.4	278.8	322.2	318.2	640.4
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	179.1	118.9	298.0	5.2	3.4	8.5	7.6	65.5	73.1	191.8	187.8	379.6
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	9.6	5.0	14.6	*	*	1.0	1.1	5.3	6.4	11.2	10.8	22.0
All children aged 5 to 14	77.5	52.2	129.8	2.4	1.7	4.1	4.0	27.5	31.5	84.0	81.4	165.4
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	110.7	72.6	183.4	2.6	2.0	4.6	9.7	43.2	52.9	123.0	117.9	240.9
All children aged 15 or over ³	148.3	96.8	245.1	4.8	3.1	7.9	51.8	98.8	150.5	204.9	198.7	403.5
Total	525.2	345.6	870.9	15.6	10.5	26.1	74.1	240.4	314.5	614.9	596.5	1,211.4
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	*	17.5	18.3	*	2.3	2.4	*	23.9	24.0	1.1	43.6	44.7
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.3	2.3	*	3.2	3.4
All children aged 5 to 14	1.2	16.0	17.2	*	2.0	2.1	*	9.1	9.3	1.5	27.1	28.6
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	*	1.7	1.7	*	9.1	9.8	3.2	29.3	32.5
All children aged 15 or over ³	8.6	27.0	35.6	*	1.5	1.9	9.4	43.8	53.2	18.3	72.4	90.6
Total	13.1	79.9	92.9	*	7.6	8.2	10.6	88.1	98.7	24.2	175.6	199.8
Total	731.0	583.0	1,314.0	23.3	22.4	45.6	207.1	484.9	692.0	961.4	1,090.3	2,051.6

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	Q1/2006					Q1/2007				
	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-27	231,227.1	210,646.7	20,580.7	56.8	8.9	232,582.9	214,508.5	18,074.0	56.8	7.8
EU-15	184,380.1	169,053.8	15,326.6	57.5	8.3	185,608.7	171,610.1	13,998.4	57.5	7.5
Eurozone ²	147,043.4	133,741.4	13,302.3	56.4	9.0	148,087.0	136,167.0	11,920.0	56.4	8.0
Belgium	4,605.6	4,207.0	398.7	52.8	8.7	4,723.1	4,347.8	375.3	53.7	7.9
Bulgaria	3,255.7	2,940.5	315.2	48.9	9.7	3,408.1	3,135.4	272.7	51.3	8.0
Czech Republic	5,199.6	4,785.2	414.4	59.4	8.0	5,177.0	4,865.0	312.0	58.7	6.0
Denmark	2,898.5	2,768.3	130.2	65.5	4.5	2,918.4	2,789.3	129.1	65.9	4.4
Germany	41,374.8	36,725.0	4,649.8	58.9	11.2	41,399.7	37,490.3	3,909.4	58.8	9.4
Estonia	678.4	634.7	43.7	59.7	6.4	683.3	647.0	36.3	60.1	5.3
Greece	4,873.1	4,400.0	473.1	53.3	9.7	4,906.6	4,461.0	445.7	53.4	9.1
Spain	21,335.9	19,400.1	1,935.8	57.3	9.1	21,925.3	20,069.2	1,856.1	57.9	8.5
France	27,190.8	24,578.2	2,612.6	56.0	9.6	27,305.9	24,821.2	2,484.7	56.0	9.1
Ireland	2,086.3	1,998.1	88.2	62.2	4.2	2,166.7	2,074.9	91.8	62.9	4.2
Italy	24,621.9	22,747.0	1,875.0	49.2	7.6	24,402.4	22,846.4	1,556.0	48.4	6.4
Cyprus	372.6	350.7	22.0	63.3	5.9	388.1	369.3	18.8	64.0	4.8
Latvia	1,145.8	1,056.6	89.2	58.3	7.8	1,164.2	1,084.4	79.8	59.3	6.9
Lithuania	1,586.0	1,484.3	101.7	55.8	6.4	1,587.3	1,507.7	79.6	55.8	5.0
Luxembourg	205.0	195.3	9.7	55.0	4.7	205.0	195.3	9.7	55.0	4.7
Hungary	4,208.6	3,885.0	323.5	50.2	7.7	4,221.8	3,905.5	316.3	50.3	7.5
Malta	164.3	151.4	12.9	50.4	7.9	164.9	153.7	11.2	50.3	6.8
Netherlands	8,552.1	8,164.7	387.4	65.1	4.5	8,693.8	8,361.5	332.2	65.9	3.8
Austria	4,041.8	3,818.2	223.7	59.1	5.5	4,139.5	3,948.5	191.0	60.1	4.6
Poland	16,799.7	14,098.2	2,701.4	53.5	16.1	16,733.5	14,839.3	1,894.2	53.2	11.3
Portugal	5,556.6	5,126.9	429.7	62.2	7.7	5,605.6	5,135.7	469.9	62.6	8.4
Romania	9,763.8	9,001.4	762.5	53.6	7.8	9,796.4	9,105.9	690.4	53.7	7.0
Slovenia	1,015.8	946.0	69.8	59.1	6.9	1,014.9	957.6	57.3	58.7	5.6
Slovak Republic	2,656.7	2,258.9	397.8	59.1	15.0	2,634.7	2,327.6	307.0	58.6	11.7
Finland	2,599.5	2,380.9	218.6	60.1	8.4	2,613.4	2,415.2	198.2	60.0	7.6
Sweden	4,677.5	4,309.6	367.9	62.4	7.9	4,755.7	4,432.4	323.2	62.8	6.8
United Kingdom	29,760.7	28,234.5	1,526.2	62.2	5.1	29,847.6	28,221.4	1,626.1	62.0	5.4

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 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, March-May, 2006 and 2007

Economic Status, March 2007, 2006 and 2005						'000
Nationality	ILO Economic Status				Total	
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Not economically active		
Q2 2007						
Irish nationals ¹	1,856.1	83.4	1,939.5	1,188.3	3,127.7	
Non-Irish nationals	239.3	15.4	254.7	76.4	331.1	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	39.7	2.2	41.9	25.2	67.1	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	26.9	1.7	28.6	7.8	36.4	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	116.3	6.9	123.1	14.3	137.5	
<i>Other</i>	56.4	4.7	61.1	29.1	90.2	
Total persons	2,095.4	98.8	2,194.1	1,264.7	3,458.9	
Q2 2006						
Irish nationals ¹	1,818.9	77.6	1,896.5	1,190.5	3,087.0	
Non-Irish nationals	198.1	13.8	211.8	71.5	283.3	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	40.1	3.1	43.2	26.0	69.2	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	27.5	1.5	29.0	6.8	35.8	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	83.0	5.2	88.2	10.6	98.8	
<i>Other</i>	47.5	4.0	51.4	28.1	79.5	
Total persons	2,017.0	91.4	2,108.3	1,262.0	3,370.3	
Year on year changes						
Irish nationals ¹	+ 37.2	+ 5.8	+ 43.0	- 2.2	+ 40.7	
Non-Irish nationals	+ 41.2	+ 1.6	+ 42.9	+ 4.9	+ 47.8	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	- 0.4	- 0.9	- 1.3	- 0.8	- 2.1	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	- 0.6	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	+ 33.3	+ 1.7	+ 34.9	+ 3.7	+ 38.7	
<i>Other</i>	+ 8.9	+ 0.7	+ 9.7	+ 1.0	+ 10.7	
Total persons	+ 78.4	+ 7.4	+ 85.8	+ 2.7	+ 88.6	

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

² Bulgaria and Romania are the new member states that joined the EU in Jan 2007 which are now included in the 'Accession states EU15 to EU 27'. These countries were previously included in 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, March-May, 2006 and 2007

	NACE Economic Sector											'000
Nationality	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	Total
Q2 2007												
Irish nationals ¹	109.0	251.0	243.6	259.9	88.9	110.8	255.4	103.3	133.3	192.3	108.5	1,856.1
Non-Irish nationals	5.6	40.5	36.6	33.6	35.8	11.7	32.2	1.2	8.2	20.7	13.1	239.3
of which:												
United Kingdom	1.1	5.7	5.4	5.5	2.5	2.5	6.3	*	3.1	4.1	2.7	39.7
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	2.6	1.5	2.5	3.9	1.8	7.8	*	1.8	1.8	2.5	26.9
Accession states EU15 to EU27 ²	3.0	24.7	26.3	18.5	19.6	5.0	10.2	*	*	3.0	5.0	116.3
Other	*	7.5	3.5	7.1	9.8	2.4	7.9	*	2.5	11.7	3.0	56.4
Total persons	114.7	291.5	280.3	293.5	124.8	122.4	287.6	104.6	141.5	213.0	121.6	2,095.4
Q2 2006												
Irish nationals ¹	110.3	256.3	230.2	261.4	87.2	111.9	239.6	104.1	128.7	181.1	108.1	1,818.9
Non-Irish nationals	4.3	32.2	32.5	23.0	29.1	8.9	27.7	*	6.9	20.2	12.4	198.1
of which:												
United Kingdom	*	5.7	5.4	5.5	2.6	2.4	7.2	*	2.9	4.3	2.9	40.1
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	3.7	1.4	2.2	3.5	2.2	7.8	*	1.9	2.2	1.9	27.5
Accession states EU15 to EU27 ²	2.7	18.7	22.7	10.5	11.7	2.8	6.6	*	*	2.4	4.4	83.0
Other	*	4.1	2.9	4.9	11.3	1.5	6.1	*	1.6	11.3	3.3	47.5
Total persons	114.5	288.5	262.7	284.4	116.3	120.7	267.3	105.1	135.6	201.2	120.6	2,017.0
Year on year changes												
Irish nationals ¹	- 1.3	- 5.3	+ 13.4	- 1.5	+ 1.7	- 1.1	+ 15.8	- 0.8	+ 4.6	+ 11.2	+ 0.4	+ 37.2
Non-Irish nationals	+ 1.3	+ 8.3	+ 4.1	+ 10.6	+ 6.7	+ 2.8	+ 4.5	*	+ 1.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	+ 41.2
of which:												
United Kingdom	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1	- 0.9	*	+ 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.4
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	- 1.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	- 0.4	0.0	*	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 0.6	- 0.6
Accession states EU15 to EU27 ²	+ 0.3	+ 6.0	+ 3.6	+ 8.0	+ 7.9	+ 2.2	+ 3.6	*	*	+ 0.6	+ 0.6	+ 33.3
Other	*	+ 3.4	+ 0.6	+ 2.2	- 1.5	+ 0.9	+ 1.8	*	+ 0.9	+ 0.4	- 0.3	+ 8.9
Total persons	+ 0.2	+ 3.0	+ 17.6	+ 9.1	+ 8.5	+ 1.7	+ 20.3	- 0.5	+ 5.9	+ 11.8	+ 1.0	+ 78.4

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

² Bulgaria and Romania are the new member states that joined the EU in Jan 2007 which are now included in the 'Accession states EU15 to EU 27'. These countries were previously included in 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