

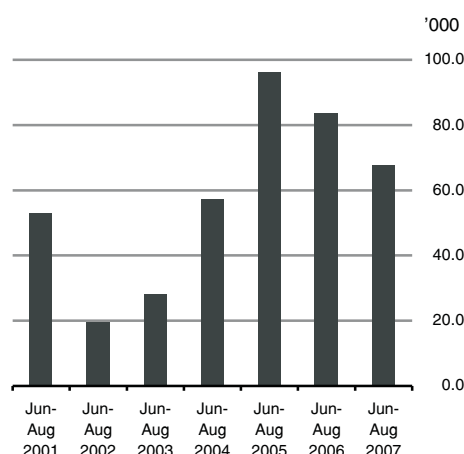


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

15 November 2007

Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 3 2007

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



ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
'000			
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
Jun-Aug 2007	2,140.9	106.1	2,247.0
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+45.5</i>	<i>+7.3</i>	<i>+52.9</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+67.6</i>	<i>+1.3</i>	<i>+68.9</i>

Employment growth slows to 3.3%

The number of persons in employment grew by almost 68,000 or 3.3% in the year to the third quarter of 2007 bringing the total in employment to 2,140,900. This compares with an annual growth rate of 3.9% in the previous quarter and to a rate of 4.2% in the third quarter of 2006. There was an increase of almost 27,000 or 2.2% in the number of men at work, while the number of women at work increased by 41,000 or 4.6% in the year. Over half (54.4%) of the employment growth can be attributed to an increase of 36,800 (+10.6%) in the number of persons in part-time employment, which is comprised of an increase of 13,300 males and 23,500 females. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

Non-Irish nationals are tentatively estimated to have accounted for 48,400 or 71.6% of the annual increase in the numbers in employment. The majority of these Non-Irish nationals came from the 12 new EU Accession states (+40,100). *See table A1 in the annex.*

There were 106,100 persons unemployed in the third quarter, representing an increase of 1,300 in the year. The number of long-term unemployed persons increased by 1,300 to 29,700 while short-term unemployment fell marginally by 200 to 76,000. *See tables 1, 17 & 18.*

When seasonal factors are taken into account the number of persons in employment increased by 8,200 in the quarter while the numbers unemployed decreased by 3,000. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 4.5% to 4.4% between the second and third quarters of 2007. *See table 3.*

At an overall level the number of persons in the labour force grew by 68,900 or 3.2% to 2,247,000 in the year. This accounted for 64.5% of the population aged 15 years and over and represents an increase on the 64.1% recorded one year previously. The male participation rate declined over the year from 74.3% to 74.0% while the female rate increased from 54.0% to 55.1%. *See table 1.*

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The latest available EU figures for all 27 EU member states, which relate to the second quarter of 2007, show that between the second quarters of 2006 and 2007 Ireland's employment level grew by 3.9% and its labour force by 4.1%. The comparable figures for the EU-27 countries were 1.9% and 0.7% respectively. See table 25.

Annual employment growth in the Construction sector slows to 1.7%

Employment in the *Construction* sector grew by 4,800 or 1.7% in the year to the third quarter of 2007. This compares to an annual growth rate of 6.7% in the previous quarter and to a rate of 10.2% in the same quarter last year. The annual increase in construction was attributable to the self-employed (+5,700) while the number of employees in the *Construction* sector showed a slight decline (-1,000) in the year. See table 2b and graph opposite.

Other sectors which showed strong employment growth over the year, included *Financial and other business services* (+28,700) and *Wholesale and retail trade* (+11,800). Combined these two sectors accounted for almost 60% of the annual growth in employment. Employment growth was also recorded in the *Hotels and restaurants* (+9,400), *Health* (+7,700) and *Education* (+7,700) sectors. The *Transport, storage and communication* (-6,100), *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* (-3,800) and *Other services* (-300) sectors showed declines over the year. See table 2b.

Almost 55% of the annual increase in employment was attributable to a growth in part-time employment. There was an increase of over 13,000 in the number of males in part-time employment while the number of females increased by more than 23,000. The increase in part-time employment was spread across a broad range of sectors but concentrated primarily in the *Financial and other business services* (+8,000), *Wholesale and retail trade* (+6,800), *Health* (+6,400) and *Hotels and restaurants* (+5,900) sectors. See tables 1 & 2b.

The numbers employed in all occupational categories with the exception of *Other* (-2,600) increased over the year. The largest increases were in the *Clerical and secretarial* (+13,500), *Personal and protective services* (+12,500), many of whom are in the health and childcare sectors and *Associate professional and technical* (+11,900) occupational groups. See table 4.

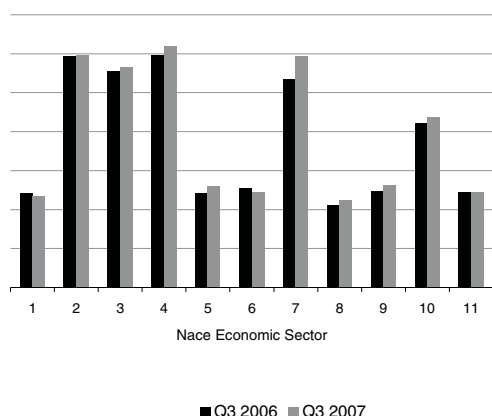
There were 1,770,000 employees in the third quarter of 2007, an annual increase of 34,500. This comprised of 31,100 females and 3,300 males. The number of self-employed persons increased by 27,900 to 352,800 in the year representing over 40% of the annual increase in employment. Almost 74% of the increase in the number of self-employed persons can be attributed to males. See table 6.

Demographic factors account for over 85% 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 over 60,000 of the 68,900 people who joined the labour force in the year to the third quarter of 2007. Net inward migration continued to be the main source of this demographic change accounting for an estimated 80% of the demographic increase. Over 53% of the demographic increase can be attributed to those aged 25-34, the age group most affected by inward migration.

Almost 9,000 of the annual growth in the labour force was attributable to higher participation in the labour market. Three age groups showed decreases in labour force participation rates, 15-19, 20-24 and 25-34 year olds. All of the decreases in these age groups was attributable to a decrease in male participation. The most

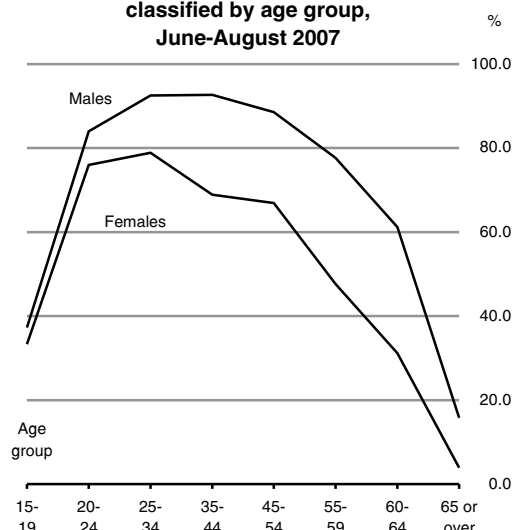
Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by Nace Economic Sector, Quarter 3 2006 and Quarter 3 2007



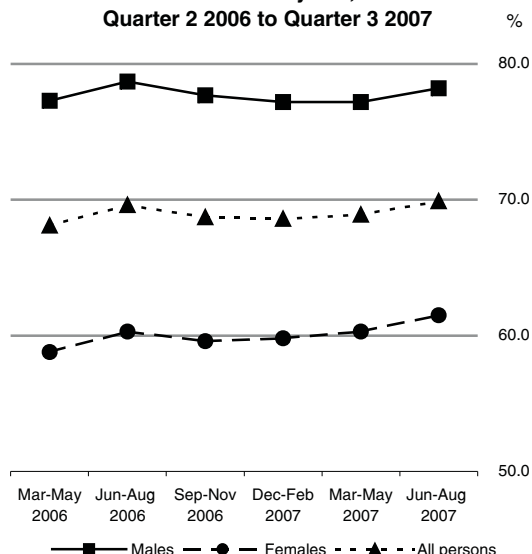
KEY

- 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, June-August 2007



**Employment rates for persons aged 15 to 64
classified by sex,
Quarter 2 2006 to Quarter 3 2007**



significant participation increase was in the 60-64 year age group rising from 44.2% to 46.2%. *See table 9 and graph on opposite page.*

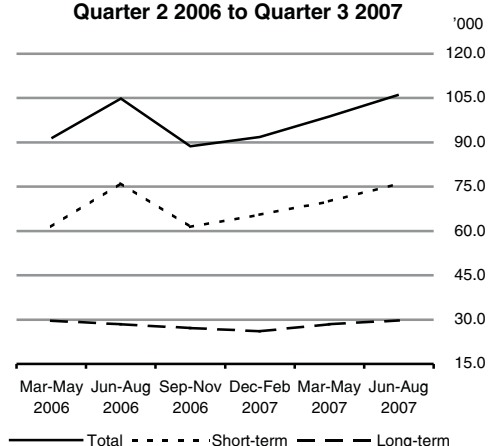
All of the survey-based labour supply indicators showed declines over the year. The broadest indicator, S3, which includes persons outside the labour force who show some interest in obtaining work as well as the unemployed, decreased from 8.4% to 7.8% over the year to the third quarter of 2007. *See table 20.*

Female employment rate continues to grow

The employment rate for females aged 15-64 was 61.5% in the third quarter of 2007, which compares to a rate of 60.3% one year previously. The rate for males decreased over the year from 78.7% to 78.2%, while the overall employment rate increased from 69.6% to 69.9%. Only two male age categories, 55-59 and 60-64, showed increases over the year. The opposite was the case for females with only one age category, 25-34, showing a decline. *See tables 11, 12 and graph opposite.*

The average working week in the third quarter of 2007 was 36.7 hours compared with 36.9 hours in the same quarter last year. *See table 5.*

**Numbers unemployed (ILO) classified by
duration of unemployment,
Quarter 2 2006 to Quarter 3 2007**



Moderate increase in numbers unemployed

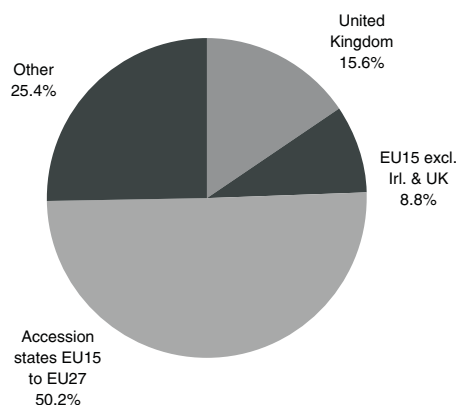
There were 63,400 males and 42,700 females unemployed in the third quarter of 2007, bringing the total number of unemployed to 106,100, an increase of 1,300 in the year. The number of unemployed males increased by 1,300 year on year while the number of unemployed females remained unchanged. *See tables 1 & 13.*

All of the annual increase was in long term unemployment (+1,300). However the long-term unemployment rate remained unchanged at 1.3% over the year. *See tables 16, 17, 18 and graph opposite.*

Almost 60% of labour force growth attributable to migrants from the new EU Member States

Tentative estimates¹ of the labour force status of Non-Irish nationals are presented in the Annex. There was an estimated 341,600 foreign nationals aged 15 years and over in the state in the third quarter of 2007. Of these, 248,000 were in employment while a further 16,200 were unemployed according to ILO criteria. Nationals of the new EU Accession states were the fastest growing category accounting for 58.9% (+40,600) of the overall growth in the labour force (+68,900). Bulgaria and Romania, who joined the EU in January 2007, are estimated to have accounted for approximately 7,500 of this increase. *See table A1 in the annex and graph opposite.*

**Non-Irish nationals in the
Labour Force,
June-August 2007**



In the third quarter of 2007 Non-Irish nationals accounted for almost 12% of all persons ages 15 years and over in employment. Almost 30% of workers in the *Hotels and restaurants*, 14.4% 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 at a later date in conjunction with the preparation of revised inter-censal population and migration estimates that take the Census 2006 results fully into account.

Regional comparisons

Employment grew by 24,100 (+4.5%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 43,600 (+2.8%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the third quarter of 2007. There were minor increases of 500 and 700 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 62.3% to 63.2% between the third quarters of 2006 and 2007, while the rate in the Southern and Eastern region increased from 64.7% to 65.0% 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 declined by 2,700. The Mid-East (+7.0%) and Midland (+6.6%) regions showed the highest percentage increases in employment over the year. The number of persons in employment resident in the Dublin region increased by 12,400 (+2.0%). All regional data is on the basis of the location of the respondent's usual address. *See table 7b.*

Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as "at work" grew by 62,800 over the year to the third quarter of 2007, bringing the total number of persons at work to 2,033,900. This comprised of an increase of 23,600 males and 39,300 females. Meanwhile, the number describing themselves as "unemployed" rose marginally by 300 over the year to 125,300. The numbers describing themselves as on "home duties" decreased by 9,500 from 540,400 to 530,900. *See table 21.*

The number of persons describing themselves as students increased by 7,800 in the year to 351,800. In the third quarter of 2007, 26.5% of students had a job compared to 26.4% for the same quarter last year. This represented an increase of 2,300 in the number of students in employment over the year. *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, June-August 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, June-August 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, June-August 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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Jun- Aug 05	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07
Males							
In labour force	1,204.3	1,217.2	1,253.5	1,240.5	1,244.0	1,255.1	1,281.5
In employment:	1,146.3	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9	1,218.2
full-time	1,071.0	1,082.2	1,114.1	1,110.3	1,109.8	1,110.9	1,127.5
part-time:	75.3	79.8	77.4	76.0	78.1	85.0	90.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	73.6	78.0	75.8	74.5	77.0	82.4	88.4
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.1	2.7	2.3
Unemployed:	58.0	55.2	62.1	54.2	56.1	59.1	63.4
seeking full-time work	54.3	53.1	58.3	51.7	53.1	56.0	59.3
seeking part-time work	3.6	2.1	3.8	2.5	3.0	3.1	4.0
Not in labour force	428.7	455.4	433.0	456.8	464.3	462.8	449.1
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	6.9	5.8	8.4	5.7	9.8	6.1	7.6
Others	421.8	449.6	424.6	451.1	454.5	456.7	441.6
Total males aged 15 or over	1,633.0	1,672.6	1,686.5	1,697.3	1,708.3	1,717.9	1,730.7
Unemployment rate %	4.8	4.5	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.9
Participation rate %	73.7	72.8	74.3	73.1	72.8	73.1	74.0
Females							
In labour force	882.2	891.1	924.6	914.3	922.7	939.1	965.5
In employment:	843.5	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4	922.8
full-time	576.0	583.2	610.6	606.7	608.7	605.3	628.1
part-time:	267.5	271.8	271.2	273.1	278.3	294.1	294.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	265.7	269.4	269.2	271.0	276.6	291.5	292.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.8	2.4	2.0	2.2	1.7	2.6	2.7
Unemployed:	38.8	36.1	42.7	34.5	35.7	39.6	42.7
seeking full-time work	25.9	23.3	29.8	22.4	23.9	24.4	29.9
seeking part-time work	12.9	12.8	12.9	12.1	11.8	15.3	12.8
Not in labour force	786.4	806.6	787.4	810.3	811.4	801.9	787.1
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	6.7	3.9	7.1	4.3	6.5	4.9	7.9
Others	779.6	802.7	780.2	806.0	804.9	797.0	779.2
Total females aged 15 or over	1,668.6	1,697.7	1,711.9	1,724.6	1,734.1	1,740.9	1,752.6
Unemployment rate %	4.4	4.1	4.6	3.8	3.9	4.2	4.4
Participation rate %	52.9	52.5	54.0	53.0	53.2	53.9	55.1
All persons							
In labour force	2,086.5	2,108.3	2,178.1	2,154.8	2,166.7	2,194.1	2,247.0
In employment:	1,989.8	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4	2,140.9
full-time	1,647.0	1,665.4	1,724.7	1,717.0	1,718.5	1,716.2	1,755.6
part-time:	342.8	351.6	348.6	349.1	356.4	379.1	385.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	339.3	347.4	345.0	345.5	353.6	373.9	380.4
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	3.5	4.1	3.6	3.6	2.8	5.3	5.0
Unemployed:	96.7	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8	98.8	106.1
seeking full-time work	80.2	76.5	88.1	74.2	77.0	80.4	89.2
seeking part-time work	16.5	14.9	16.7	14.6	14.8	18.4	16.9
Not in labour force	1,215.1	1,262.0	1,220.4	1,267.1	1,275.8	1,264.7	1,236.2
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	13.6	9.8	15.5	9.9	16.4	11.0	15.5
Others	1,201.5	1,252.2	1,204.8	1,257.1	1,259.4	1,253.7	1,220.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,301.6	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5	3,458.9	3,483.3
Unemployment rate %	4.6	4.3	4.8	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.7
Participation rate %	63.2	62.6	64.1	63.0	62.9	63.4	64.5

¹ See Background Notes.

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

	'000						
Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Jun- Aug 05	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07
Males							
A-B Agriculture	109.0	103.8	109.1	105.2	105.7	103.1	106.3
C-F Industry	447.0	454.0	473.8	476.9	476.4	475.6	482.9
G-Q Services	590.3	604.2	608.5	604.2	605.8	617.2	629.0
Females							
A-B Agriculture	10.6	10.7	12.5	10.7	10.7	11.6	11.6
C-F Industry	99.6	97.2	100.6	96.8	96.6	96.2	97.6
G-Q Services	733.2	747.0	768.7	772.3	779.8	791.7	813.5
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	119.6	114.5	121.7	115.8	116.4	114.7	117.9
C-F Industry	546.7	551.2	574.4	573.7	573.0	571.8	580.5
G-Q Services	1,323.5	1,351.2	1,377.2	1,376.5	1,385.6	1,408.9	1,442.5
Total persons	1,989.8	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4	2,140.9

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

	'000						
Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Jun- Aug 05	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	109.0	103.8	109.1	105.2	105.7	103.1	106.3
C-E Other production industries	207.2	204.6	209.8	208.4	207.5	208.9	214.3
F Construction	239.8	249.4	263.9	268.5	268.9	266.7	268.6
G Wholesale and retail trade	142.1	143.7	147.7	146.8	146.6	149.2	154.4
H Hotels and restaurants	50.5	49.7	50.5	48.6	50.4	51.7	52.6
I Transport, storage and communication	91.2	91.8	97.7	89.8	93.9	95.3	94.3
J-K Financial and other business services	130.4	136.2	134.7	141.5	134.3	140.3	145.9
L Public administration and defence	50.0	51.5	49.8	52.0	52.5	50.7	54.5
M Education	35.0	38.9	34.6	37.7	38.8	37.4	34.5
N Health	32.8	34.9	38.1	35.0	35.9	38.1	39.2
O-Q Other services	58.2	57.6	55.5	52.8	53.4	54.5	53.5
Total males	1,146.3	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9	1,218.2
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.6	10.7	12.5	10.7	10.7	11.6	11.6
C-E Other production industries	87.4	83.9	86.8	83.6	83.4	82.6	83.7
F Construction	12.2	13.3	13.9	13.2	13.2	13.6	14.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	144.5	140.7	150.0	141.5	144.7	144.3	155.1
H Hotels and restaurants	69.8	66.6	70.1	68.0	69.7	73.0	77.5
I Transport, storage and communication	27.3	28.9	30.6	27.4	29.5	27.2	27.9
J-K Financial and other business services	132.9	131.1	133.0	136.4	138.4	147.3	150.5
L Public administration and defence	51.0	53.6	56.0	53.1	53.0	53.9	57.7
M Education	84.8	96.7	89.2	101.9	103.2	104.1	96.9
N Health	158.7	166.4	172.8	175.2	176.2	174.8	179.3
O-Q Other services	64.2	63.0	66.9	68.8	65.0	67.1	68.7
Total females	843.5	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4	922.8
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	119.6	114.5	121.7	115.8	116.4	114.7	117.9
C-E Other production industries	294.6	288.5	296.6	292.1	290.8	291.5	298.0
F Construction	252.1	262.7	277.8	281.6	282.1	280.3	282.6
G Wholesale and retail trade	286.6	284.4	297.8	288.3	291.3	293.5	309.6
H Hotels and restaurants	120.4	116.3	120.6	116.6	120.1	124.8	130.0
I Transport, storage and communication	118.5	120.7	128.3	117.2	123.4	122.4	122.2
J-K Financial and other business services	263.3	267.3	267.7	278.0	272.7	287.6	296.4
L Public administration and defence	101.0	105.1	105.8	105.1	105.6	104.6	112.2
M Education	119.8	135.6	123.7	139.6	142.0	141.5	131.4
N Health	191.5	201.2	210.9	210.2	212.1	213.0	218.6
O-Q Other services	122.4	120.6	122.4	121.6	118.5	121.6	122.1
Total persons	1,989.8	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4	2,140.9

**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	Jun- Aug 05	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07
Males							
In labour force	1,186.1	1,224.7	1,234.3	1,244.2	1,252.8	1,262.3	1,262.3
In employment:	1,132.2	1,168.3	1,177.0	1,188.2	1,194.7	1,201.9	1,204.1
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	105.9	105.6	105.9	105.8	106.5	104.8	103.3
C-E Other production industries	205.1	206.0	207.7	208.1	208.7	210.4	211.9
F Construction	236.4	251.7	260.1	267.1	271.5	269.1	264.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	139.6	145.6	145.2	147.0	147.3	151.1	151.8
H Hotels and restaurants	49.3	49.5	49.4	50.1	50.5	51.5	51.4
I Transport, storage and communication	90.8	91.5	97.4	89.7	94.6	94.9	94.0
J-K Financial and other business services	129.0	135.4	133.1	142.7	135.4	139.6	144.1
L Public administration and defence	49.4	51.8	49.3	52.3	52.5	51.1	54.0
M Education	36.2	38.4	36.1	37.5	38.1	36.8	36.2
N Health	32.5	34.7	37.5	35.4	36.5	37.9	38.4
O-Q Other services	57.8	57.6	55.1	53.2	53.5	54.4	53.1
Unemployed	54.1	55.9	57.7	55.7	58.5	59.8	58.8
Unemployment rate %	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.6
Participation rate %	72.6	73.2	73.2	73.3	73.3	73.4	72.9
Females							
In labour force	866.2	898.1	908.6	916.8	929.0	946.1	948.6
In employment:	832.4	860.1	870.9	881.3	891.1	904.6	911.1
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.2	10.4	12.2	11.2	10.9	11.3	11.2
C-E Other production industries	85.0	84.1	84.5	84.7	84.5	82.7	81.6
F Construction	11.9	13.2	13.7	13.5	13.4	13.5	13.7
G Wholesale and retail trade	140.5	143.4	145.6	142.2	145.4	147.3	150.4
H Hotels and restaurants	66.4	67.6	66.9	67.7	72.1	73.9	74.1
I Transport, storage and communication	26.9	29.3	30.1	28.1	29.0	27.5	27.3
J-K Financial and other business services	132.3	132.4	132.5	136.2	137.9	148.7	149.9
L Public administration and defence	49.8	53.8	54.5	53.3	53.8	54.2	56.0
M Education	90.1	94.7	94.7	100.5	100.7	102.0	102.9
N Health	157.5	167.5	171.4	175.3	176.2	176.1	177.8
O-Q Other services	63.0	63.8	65.7	67.7	66.4	68.0	67.5
Unemployed	34.7	37.4	38.5	35.1	38.1	40.6	38.5
Unemployment rate %	4.0	4.2	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.0
Participation rate %	51.9	52.8	53.0	53.2	53.6	54.2	54.1
All persons							
In labour force	2,053.1	2,123.2	2,143.5	2,160.2	2,181.6	2,209.0	2,211.2
In employment:	1,964.7	2,028.6	2,047.9	2,069.3	2,085.8	2,106.8	2,115.0
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	116.0	116.1	117.9	116.8	117.4	116.3	114.2
C-E Other production industries	289.7	289.7	291.7	293.1	293.5	292.9	292.9
F Construction	248.2	265.0	273.8	280.6	284.8	282.6	278.7
G Wholesale and retail trade	279.6	288.8	290.2	289.7	293.2	298.1	301.4
H Hotels and restaurants	115.4	118.1	115.9	117.7	122.2	126.3	125.1
I Transport, storage and communication	117.8	120.6	127.5	117.8	123.6	122.3	121.4
J-K Financial and other business services	261.8	267.9	266.1	279.1	272.6	288.3	294.5
L Public administration and defence	99.6	105.4	104.4	105.8	106.1	104.9	110.7
M Education	125.7	133.6	130.1	137.9	138.9	139.3	138.5
N Health	189.9	202.2	208.7	210.9	212.6	214.1	216.1
O-Q Other services	120.8	122.0	120.8	120.6	119.7	122.9	120.6
Unemployed	88.9	93.5	96.5	90.4	96.4	100.7	97.7
Unemployment rate %	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.4
Participation rate %	62.2	62.9	63.1	63.2	63.4	63.7	63.5

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Jun- Aug 05	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	216.7	215.5	218.7	217.8	221.6	223.8	223.5
2. Professional	109.5	119.8	116.6	123.3	119.9	120.6	117.9
3. Associate professional and technical	71.0	70.8	75.9	74.0	76.1	77.8	79.2
4. Clerical and secretarial	61.4	61.9	62.1	61.4	61.5	64.7	65.6
5. Craft and related	267.1	274.6	284.2	283.7	286.6	287.0	294.2
6. Personal and protective service	77.9	80.4	83.6	83.9	84.4	84.9	85.4
7. Sales	66.8	69.3	68.2	66.5	67.1	68.6	72.1
8. Plant and machine operatives	143.3	141.1	146.0	144.2	144.9	145.9	151.3
9. Other	132.7	128.7	136.0	131.6	125.8	122.7	128.8
Total males	1,146.3	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9	1,218.2
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	96.3	97.5	100.1	94.7	96.9	102.7	103.0
2. Professional	103.4	116.3	112.3	125.3	123.7	122.9	117.9
3. Associate professional and technical	100.0	100.3	101.9	106.3	104.1	106.8	110.5
4. Clerical and secretarial	187.5	186.1	193.1	189.5	191.1	192.9	203.1
5. Craft and related	12.6	11.7	13.1	10.2	11.4	12.4	12.7
6. Personal and protective service	133.9	137.9	144.1	145.8	146.5	150.0	154.9
7. Sales	109.5	109.1	119.2	111.2	113.6	112.5	117.2
8. Plant and machine operatives	28.8	26.6	26.5	26.2	27.1	26.7	27.5
9. Other	71.5	69.4	71.4	70.5	72.6	72.5	75.9
Total females	843.5	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4	922.8
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	313.0	313.0	318.8	312.5	318.5	326.5	326.6
2. Professional	213.0	236.1	228.9	248.5	243.6	243.5	235.8
3. Associate professional and technical	170.9	171.1	177.9	180.3	180.3	184.5	189.8
4. Clerical and secretarial	248.8	248.0	255.2	250.9	252.6	257.6	268.7
5. Craft and related	279.7	286.3	297.3	293.9	297.9	299.4	306.9
6. Personal and protective service	211.8	218.2	227.8	229.7	230.9	235.0	240.3
7. Sales	176.3	178.4	187.4	177.7	180.7	181.1	189.3
8. Plant and machine operatives	172.0	167.7	172.5	170.4	172.0	172.6	178.8
9. Other	204.2	198.1	207.4	202.1	198.4	195.2	204.8
Total persons	1,989.8	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4	2,140.9

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	Jun-Aug 05	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07
Males							
1-9 hours	4.8	8.7	4.6	6.2	7.3	8.2	5.4
10-19	16.1	22.0	18.5	19.3	19.2	21.1	19.4
20-29	42.2	45.4	44.5	44.6	45.8	48.3	50.1
30-34	21.6	21.1	21.7	19.6	20.2	22.2	25.5
35-39	405.0	430.9	448.6	430.8	431.8	427.7	442.0
40-44	275.2	268.9	275.2	288.9	284.4	288.0	295.8
45 & over	213.2	193.7	202.4	192.0	188.5	210.8	215.6
Variable hours ¹	168.0	171.2	176.0	185.0	190.7	169.8	164.3
Total males	1,146.3	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9	1,218.2
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.4</i>	<i>40.5</i>	<i>40.8</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.5</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.8</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	18.9	25.9	20.5	24.5	26.4	30.1	22.9
10-19	80.3	85.8	79.9	86.6	90.9	93.4	92.7
20-29	170.7	169.1	175.2	177.3	176.4	178.8	182.7
30-34	55.9	55.5	59.5	57.5	62.0	66.3	68.6
35-39	324.7	331.6	347.8	335.7	340.4	335.1	349.7
40-44	109.2	106.3	115.5	114.3	109.2	112.7	118.0
45 & over	34.5	30.2	30.0	30.6	30.0	32.2	35.6
Variable hours ¹	49.3	50.6	53.3	53.3	51.8	50.9	52.5
Total females	843.5	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4	922.8
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>32.1</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>31.5</i>	<i>31.3</i>	<i>31.8</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	23.8	34.6	25.1	30.6	33.7	38.3	28.3
10-19	96.4	107.8	98.5	105.9	110.1	114.4	112.1
20-29	212.9	214.5	219.7	221.9	222.2	227.1	232.8
30-34	77.6	76.6	81.2	77.1	82.2	88.5	94.1
35-39	729.7	762.5	796.4	766.5	772.2	762.8	791.7
40-44	384.4	375.2	390.7	403.2	393.6	400.7	413.8
45 & over	247.7	223.9	232.4	222.6	218.5	243.0	251.2
Variable hours ¹	217.3	221.7	229.3	238.3	242.4	220.7	216.8
Total persons	1,989.8	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4	2,140.9
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>36.5</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>36.6</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>36.7</i>

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

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

'000

Employment status	Jun-Aug 05	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	91.8	92.6	93.9	93.1	97.2	101.5	101.7
Self employed (with no paid employees)	178.0	177.4	179.8	181.7	186.1	186.1	192.5
Employee	869.0	887.8	912.5	907.0	899.6	903.0	915.8
Assisting relative	7.5	4.2	5.2	4.5	4.9	5.4	8.1
Total males	1,146.3	1,162.0	1,191.4	1,186.3	1,187.9	1,195.9	1,218.2
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	18.9	18.4	20.6	19.6	20.5	22.8	22.3
Self employed (with no paid employees)	31.3	31.4	30.6	31.4	31.2	33.3	36.3
Employee	785.8	797.7	823.0	821.2	828.1	835.3	854.1
Assisting relative	7.5	7.4	7.7	7.6	7.3	8.0	10.0
Total females	843.5	855.0	881.8	879.8	887.0	899.4	922.8
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	110.7	111.0	114.5	112.7	117.7	124.3	124.0
Self employed (with no paid employees)	209.4	208.9	210.4	213.2	217.3	219.4	228.8
Employee	1,654.7	1,685.5	1,735.5	1,728.1	1,727.7	1,738.3	1,770.0
Assisting relative	15.0	11.6	12.8	12.1	12.2	13.4	18.2
Total persons	1,989.8	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4	2,140.9

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					
Jun-Aug 2005	512.7	23.8	536.4	4.4	61.3
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
Jun-Aug 2007	557.6	30.6	588.1	5.2	63.2
Southern and Eastern					
Jun-Aug 2005	1,477.1	72.9	1,550.1	4.7	63.9
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
Jun-Aug 2007	1,583.4	75.5	1,658.9	4.6	65.0
State					
Jun-Aug 2005	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5	4.6	63.2
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
Jun-Aug 2007	2,140.9	106.1	2,247.0	4.7	64.5

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Region (NUTS3)		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border	Jun-Aug 2005	202.0	10.9	213.0	5.1	59.3
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	220.1	15.6	235.6	6.6	61.9
Midland	Jun-Aug 2005	113.7	4.9	118.6	4.1	62.6
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	126.7	4.9	131.5	3.7	64.3
West	Jun-Aug 2005	196.9	8.0	204.9	3.9	62.7
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	210.8	10.2	221.0	4.6	63.9
Dublin	Jun-Aug 2005	585.6	28.8	614.5	4.7	65.0
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	620.8	31.2	652.0	4.8	65.9
Mid-East	Jun-Aug 2005	223.8	8.6	232.4	3.7	66.1
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	248.1	10.0	258.1	3.9	68.3
Mid-West	Jun-Aug 2005	169.7	9.0	178.7	5.0	63.7
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	173.5	10.0	183.5	5.5	62.8
South-East	Jun-Aug 2005	206.4	14.8	221.2	6.7	61.8
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	227.0	11.4	238.4	4.8	63.0
South-West	Jun-Aug 2005	291.5	11.7	303.3	3.9	61.8
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	314.0	12.9	326.8	3.9	63.6
State	Jun-Aug 2005	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5	4.6	63.2
	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
	Jun-Aug 2007	2,140.9	106.1	2,247.0	4.7	64.5

¹ See Background Notes.

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

and marital status, June-August 2007									%
Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	37.2	84.0	91.1	84.8	73.8	60.2	47.8	20.8	73.8
Married	*	88.1	96.3	96.0	92.5	81.5	64.5	16.3	77.1
Separated or divorced	*	*	90.3	88.0	78.4	69.4	48.0	15.9	68.5
Widowed	*	*	*	*	74.8	67.8	51.3	8.4	24.6
Total males	37.3	84.0	92.5	92.7	88.6	77.7	61.2	15.8	74.0
Females									
Single	33.3	76.6	83.7	77.0	74.5	56.5	38.5	3.9	66.1
Married	*	58.6	71.5	66.5	64.8	45.8	30.0	5.1	53.1
Separated or divorced	*	*	56.0	68.9	72.6	50.8	39.3	8.9	60.6
Widowed	*	*	84.5	74.2	69.1	51.5	29.4	2.5	12.1
Total females	33.3	76.0	78.9	68.9	66.9	47.6	31.2	3.9	55.1
All persons									
Single	35.3	80.4	87.7	81.4	74.1	58.6	44.0	12.6	70.2
Married	*	66.2	82.5	81.2	78.9	64.3	47.9	11.4	65.2
Separated or divorced	*	*	64.0	75.1	74.6	57.9	43.5	12.5	63.4
Widowed	*	*	87.5	80.2	71.0	56.3	34.6	3.7	14.9
Total persons	35.3	80.0	85.8	80.9	77.8	62.8	46.2	9.2	64.5

* 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 9 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group

	Age group								%
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Jun-Aug 2005	38.0	84.5	93.5	93.9	89.1	75.6	58.3	14.0	73.7
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
Jun-Aug 2007	37.3	84.0	92.5	92.7	88.6	77.7	61.2	15.8	74.0
Females									
Jun-Aug 2005	32.4	74.5	77.6	66.9	62.6	46.4	27.8	3.1	52.9
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
Jun-Aug 2007	33.3	76.0	78.9	68.9	66.9	47.6	31.2	3.9	55.1
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2005	35.2	79.5	85.6	80.4	75.9	61.2	43.1	7.9	63.2
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
Jun-Aug 2007	35.3	80.0	85.8	80.9	77.8	62.8	46.2	9.2	64.5

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Jun-Aug 2005	57.5	145.7	326.0	282.6	227.6	85.1	51.2	28.5	1,204.3
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
Jun-Aug 2007	55.1	146.9	362.3	296.7	236.1	90.1	60.2	34.1	1,281.5
Females									
Jun-Aug 2005	46.9	127.5	264.8	200.3	159.1	51.3	24.2	8.0	882.2
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
Jun-Aug 2007	47.3	130.7	298.4	215.5	178.4	54.4	30.4	10.4	965.5
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2005	104.4	273.2	590.9	483.0	386.7	136.4	75.4	36.5	2,086.5
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
Jun-Aug 2007	102.4	277.6	660.7	512.2	414.4	144.5	90.6	44.5	2,247.0

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Jun-Aug 2005	50.0	133.7	310.1	273.4	218.7	82.0	50.1	28.5	1,146.3
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
Jun-Aug 2007	46.3	134.3	343.6	285.6	227.9	87.8	58.9	33.9	1,218.2
Females									
Jun-Aug 2005	40.5	116.8	255.2	194.3	154.8	50.2	23.8	7.9	843.5
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
Jun-Aug 2007	41.3	120.4	285.2	208.1	174.2	53.5	29.8	10.2	922.8
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2005	90.4	250.5	565.2	467.7	373.5	132.1	73.9	36.4	1,989.8
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
Jun-Aug 2007	87.6	254.7	628.7	493.7	402.1	141.2	88.8	44.1	2,140.9

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								
Jun-Aug 2005	33.0	77.6	88.9	90.8	85.6	72.9	57.0	78.2
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
Jun-Aug 2007	31.3	76.8	87.7	89.3	85.5	75.7	59.9	78.2
Females								
Jun-Aug 2005	27.9	68.3	74.7	64.9	61.0	45.4	27.3	59.3
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
Jun-Aug 2007	29.1	70.0	75.4	66.5	65.4	46.8	30.6	61.5
All persons								
Jun-Aug 2005	30.5	72.9	81.9	77.9	73.3	59.2	42.2	68.8
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
Jun-Aug 2007	30.2	73.4	81.7	78.0	75.4	61.3	45.3	69.9

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									
Jun-Aug 2005	7.5	12.0	16.0	9.3	9.0	3.1	1.1	*	58.0
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
Jun-Aug 2007	8.9	12.6	18.7	11.1	8.2	2.4	1.3	*	63.4
Females									
Jun-Aug 2005	6.4	10.7	9.7	6.0	4.3	1.2	*	*	38.8
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
Jun-Aug 2007	5.9	10.3	13.3	7.4	4.2	1.0	*	*	42.7
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2005	14.0	22.6	25.6	15.3	13.3	4.3	1.5	*	96.7
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
Jun-Aug 2007	14.8	22.9	32.0	18.5	12.3	3.3	1.9	*	106.1

* 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									
Jun-Aug 2005	13.1	8.2	4.9	3.3	3.9	3.7	2.1	*	4.8
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
Jun-Aug 2007	16.1	8.6	5.2	3.8	3.5	2.6	2.1	*	4.9
Females									
Jun-Aug 2005	13.7	8.4	3.6	3.0	2.7	2.3	*	*	4.4
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
Jun-Aug 2007	12.6	7.9	4.4	3.4	2.3	1.7	*	*	4.4
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2005	13.4	8.3	4.3	3.2	3.4	3.1	2.0	*	4.6
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
Jun-Aug 2007	14.5	8.3	4.8	3.6	3.0	2.3	2.1	*	4.7

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

Married Females	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Total married women ('000)									
Jun-Aug 2005	*	6.1	132.8	218.1	194.4	83.4	61.9	104.3	801.2
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
Jun-Aug 2007	*	6.1	130.5	223.9	198.0	85.0	72.2	112.8	829.1
of which In labour force ('000)									
Jun-Aug 2005	*	3.3	91.9	140.8	117.9	36.9	16.0	3.5	410.4
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
Jun-Aug 2007	*	3.6	93.3	148.8	128.2	38.9	21.7	5.7	440.4
of which In employment ('000)									
Jun-Aug 2005	*	3.1	89.4	137.2	115.4	36.1	15.9	3.5	400.6
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
Jun-Aug 2007	*	3.5	90.2	144.5	125.4	38.4	21.3	5.7	429.3
Participation rates (%)									
Jun-Aug 2005	*	54.5	69.2	64.6	60.6	44.2	25.9	3.4	51.2
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
Jun-Aug 2007	*	58.6	71.5	66.5	64.8	45.8	30.0	5.1	53.1

* 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	%	%
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
Jun-Aug 2007	2,247.0	2,140.9	106.1	29.7	4.7	1.3

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Jun- Aug 05	Mar- May-06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May-07	Jun- Aug 07
Males							
Less than 1 year	36.1	33.8	40.7	33.8	36.5	38.4	41.6
1 year and over	21.6	21.1	21.1	20.2	19.3	20.5	21.3
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	58.0	55.2	62.1	54.2	56.1	59.1	63.4
Females							
Less than 1 year	32.3	27.7	35.5	27.6	28.9	31.7	34.4
1 year and over	6.5	8.4	7.2	6.9	6.7	7.9	8.4
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	38.8	36.1	42.7	34.5	35.7	39.6	42.7
All persons							
Less than 1 year	68.4	61.5	76.2	61.4	65.5	70.1	76.0
1 year and over	28.1	29.6	28.4	27.1	26.0	28.4	29.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	96.7	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8	98.8	106.1

* 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 Jun-Aug 2006				QNHS Jun-Aug 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	18.2	17.1	5.3	40.7	17.0	18.2	6.4	41.6
1 year and over	4.7	10.4	6.0	21.1	4.4	11.4	5.5	21.3
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	23.1	27.6	11.4	62.1	21.5	29.9	12.0	63.4
Females								
Less than 1 year	16.2	14.3	5.0	35.5	14.5	16.1	3.7	34.4
1 year and over	2.0	3.5	1.7	7.2	1.8	4.5	2.1	8.4
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	18.2	17.8	6.8	42.7	16.2	20.6	5.9	42.7
All persons								
Less than 1 year	34.4	31.4	10.3	76.2	31.5	34.4	10.2	76.0
1 year and over	6.7	13.9	7.8	28.4	6.2	15.9	7.7	29.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	41.3	45.4	18.1	104.8	37.7	50.5	17.9	106.1

* 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

ILO Economic Status	Jun- Aug 05	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07
In labour force	2,086.5	2,071.9	2,086.3	2,108.3	2,178.1	2,154.8	2,166.7	2,194.1	2,247.0
In employment:	1,989.8	1,980.6	1,998.1	2,017.0	2,073.3	2,066.1	2,074.9	2,095.4	2,140.9
full-time	1,647.0	1,639.8	1,654.7	1,665.4	1,724.7	1,717.0	1,718.5	1,716.2	1,755.6
part-time:	342.8	340.8	343.4	351.6	348.6	349.1	356.4	379.1	385.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	339.3	336.4	339.2	347.4	345.0	345.5	353.6	373.9	380.4
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	3.5	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.6	2.8	5.3	5.0
Unemployed:	96.7	91.3	88.2	91.4	104.8	88.7	91.8	98.8	106.1
seeking full-time work	80.2	74.2	72.7	76.5	88.1	74.2	77.0	80.4	89.2
seeking part-time work	16.5	17.0	15.5	14.9	16.7	14.6	14.8	18.4	16.9
Not in labour force	1,215.1	1,260.2	1,265.9	1,262.0	1,220.4	1,267.1	1,275.8	1,264.7	1,236.2
Marginally attached to the labour force:	13.6	9.8	10.1	9.8	15.5	9.9	16.4	11.0	15.5
Discouraged workers	10.9	7.4	8.0	7.7	12.8	7.5	13.4	8.6	12.2
Passive jobseekers	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.5	3.3
Others:	1,201.5	1,250.3	1,255.8	1,252.2	1,204.8	1,257.1	1,259.4	1,253.7	1,220.7
Persons not in education, who want work ²	56.5	58.4	60.5	57.0	66.5	59.2	60.3	55.6	54.7
Persons in education, who want work ²	24.9	26.6	32.0	34.7	27.0	32.4	31.7	32.7	18.6
All other persons	1,120.1	1,165.3	1,163.3	1,160.5	1,111.4	1,165.5	1,167.4	1,165.4	1,147.4
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,301.6	3,332.1	3,352.2	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5	3,458.9	3,483.3

¹ See Background Notes.

² Persons who want work are those who are looking for work but are not available and those who say they want a job but are not looking for work.

Table 20 Indicators of potential labour supply

Quarter	S1	S2	S3
Jun-Aug 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
Jun-Aug 2007	5.2	7.6	7.8

%

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	Jun-Aug 05	Mar-May 06	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07
Males							
At work	1,101.1	1,130.4	1,146.5	1,157.2	1,159.5	1,162.7	1,170.1
Unemployed	80.6	80.3	83.6	79.4	82.6	81.8	83.7
Student	163.1	169.7	159.7	165.4	168.3	172.6	167.0
Home duties	6.0	5.1	4.3	5.3	5.6	5.8	7.0
Retired	210.9	213.0	216.6	214.4	214.4	216.2	220.2
Others	71.3	74.1	75.8	75.6	77.9	78.9	82.7
Total males	1,633.0	1,672.6	1,686.5	1,697.3	1,708.3	1,717.9	1,730.7
Females							
At work	789.5	810.4	824.5	839.9	845.7	850.7	863.8
Unemployed	39.1	35.1	41.4	33.8	37.3	37.9	41.6
Student	182.8	199.3	184.3	188.5	191.8	197.9	184.9
Home duties	539.8	530.3	536.1	541.9	537.2	522.8	523.9
Retired	74.8	78.3	80.4	77.0	79.2	85.5	89.1
Others	42.5	44.4	45.2	43.5	43.0	46.3	49.3
Total females	1,668.6	1,697.7	1,711.9	1,724.6	1,734.1	1,740.9	1,752.6
All persons							
At work	1,890.6	1,940.8	1,971.1	1,997.0	2,005.2	2,013.3	2,033.9
Unemployed	119.8	115.4	125.0	113.1	119.8	119.7	125.3
Student	346.0	369.0	344.0	354.0	360.1	370.6	351.8
Home duties	545.8	535.4	540.4	547.3	542.9	528.5	530.9
Retired	285.6	291.3	297.1	291.4	293.6	301.6	309.3
Others	113.8	118.4	121.0	119.0	120.9	125.1	132.0
Total persons	3,301.6	3,370.3	3,398.4	3,421.8	3,442.5	3,458.9	3,483.3

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

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,165.7	2.0	41.7	*	5.7	3.0	1,218.2
full-time	1,108.2	1.1	15.0	*	1.1	2.1	1,127.5
part-time:	57.5	*	26.7	*	4.6	1.0	90.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	55.5	*	26.6	*	4.6	1.0	88.4
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.0	*	*	*	*	*	2.3
Unemployed:	1.3	52.6	6.3	*	*	2.4	63.4
seeking full-time work	1.2	51.4	4.2	*	*	2.1	59.3
seeking part-time work	*	1.2	2.1	*	*	*	4.0
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.8	3.9	1.0	*	*	*	7.6
Others	1.3	25.3	117.9	6.7	213.6	76.7	441.6
Total males aged 15 or over	1,170.1	83.7	167.0	7.0	220.2	82.7	1,730.7
Females							
In employment:	857.8	1.9	51.4	7.2	*	4.0	922.8
full-time	608.8	*	14.5	1.2	*	2.5	628.1
part-time:	249.0	1.0	36.9	6.1	*	1.4	294.7
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	246.7	*	36.7	6.0	*	1.4	292.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.3	*	*	*	*	*	2.7
Unemployed:	*	22.8	7.1	10.8	*	*	42.7
seeking full-time work	*	18.7	3.9	5.7	*	*	29.9
seeking part-time work	*	4.1	3.2	5.1	*	*	12.8
Marginally attached to the labour force	2.8	2.1	1.3	1.1	*	*	7.9
Others	2.4	14.8	125.1	504.8	88.2	43.9	779.2
Total females aged 15 or over	863.8	41.6	184.9	523.9	89.1	49.3	1,752.6
All persons							
In employment:	2,023.5	3.8	93.1	7.3	6.2	7.0	2,140.9
full-time	1,717.0	2.0	29.5	1.2	1.3	4.6	1,755.6
part-time:	306.5	1.8	63.6	6.1	5.0	2.4	385.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	302.2	1.6	63.2	6.0	5.0	2.4	380.4
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.3	*	*	*	*	*	5.0
Unemployed:	2.1	75.4	13.4	11.0	*	3.2	106.1
seeking full-time work	1.9	70.2	8.2	5.9	*	2.7	89.2
seeking part-time work	*	5.2	5.3	5.2	*	*	16.9
Marginally attached to the labour force	4.6	5.9	2.3	1.1	*	1.2	15.5
Others	3.7	40.1	243.1	511.5	301.7	120.6	1,220.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	2,033.9	125.3	351.8	530.9	309.3	132.0	3,483.3

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	Jun-Aug 2006				Jun-Aug 2007			
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	'000	%
Males aged 15 to 64								
Primary or below	131.5	13.6	145.1	9.4	125.4	12.4	137.9	9.0
Lower secondary	230.9	16.1	247.0	6.5	219.5	17.9	237.4	7.5
Higher secondary	315.9	17.1	333.0	5.1	328.0	16.8	344.8	4.9
Post leaving cert	128.7	3.5	132.2	2.6	131.3	4.8	136.1	3.5
Third level non degree	108.2	3.5	111.6	3.1	106.6	2.9	109.4	2.7
Third level degree or above	206.3	6.1	212.4	2.9	231.9	6.3	238.2	2.6
Other	40.5	2.1	42.6	4.9	41.6	2.0	43.6	4.6
Total males aged 15 to 64	1,161.9	62.0	1,224.0	5.1	1,184.3	63.1	1,247.4	5.1
Females aged 15 to 64								
Primary or below	54.3	4.8	59.1	8.1	53.5	3.7	57.2	6.5
Lower secondary	106.8	9.5	116.3	8.2	110.6	7.9	118.4	6.7
Higher secondary	257.8	12.2	270.0	4.5	258.3	12.8	271.0	4.7
Post leaving cert	93.5	4.2	97.7	4.3	96.2	5.1	101.3	5.0
Third level non degree	124.2	3.9	128.1	3.0	129.8	5.1	134.9	3.8
Third level degree or above	216.7	6.1	222.8	2.7	241.5	7.0	248.5	2.8
Other	19.3	1.9	21.1	9.0	22.7	1.0	23.7	4.2
Total females aged 15 to 64	872.5	42.6	915.1	4.7	912.5	42.6	955.1	4.5
All persons aged 15 to 64								
Primary or below	185.7	18.4	204.1	9.0	178.9	16.1	195.1	8.3
Lower secondary	337.7	25.6	363.3	7.0	330.1	25.8	355.8	7.3
Higher secondary	573.8	29.3	603.0	4.9	586.3	29.6	615.9	4.8
Post leaving cert	222.2	7.7	229.9	3.3	227.5	9.9	237.4	4.2
Third level non degree	232.4	7.4	239.8	3.1	236.4	8.0	244.4	3.3
Third level degree or above	423.0	12.2	435.2	2.8	473.4	13.3	486.7	2.7
Other	59.7	4.0	63.7	6.3	64.3	3.0	67.3	4.5
Total persons aged 15 to 64	2,034.5	104.6	2,139.1	4.9	2,096.8	105.7	2,202.5	4.8

Table 24 Estimated adult¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, June-August 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	104.9	99.6	204.5	3.4	3.2	6.6	4.4	9.4	13.8	112.7	112.2	224.9
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	79.2	56.6	135.8	2.2	1.6	3.8	47.0	66.2	113.2	128.3	124.4	252.8
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	10.9	3.9	14.7	*	*	*	75.1	81.0	156.1	86.1	84.9	171.0
Total	195.0	160.1	355.1	5.7	4.8	10.5	126.5	156.6	283.1	327.2	321.5	648.7
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	179.8	120.3	300.2	6.1	3.6	9.7	8.5	68.6	77.1	194.5	192.5	387.0
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	9.5	4.9	14.4	*	*	*	1.3	5.5	6.8	11.2	10.8	22.1
All children aged 5 to 14	76.9	51.0	127.9	2.1	1.5	3.5	3.3	28.1	31.4	82.3	80.6	162.8
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	110.5	75.2	185.8	2.6	2.2	4.8	10.3	42.0	52.3	123.4	119.5	242.9
All children aged 15 or over ³	152.5	99.3	251.8	4.3	2.2	6.5	52.1	101.0	153.1	208.9	202.5	411.4
Total	529.3	350.7	880.0	15.6	10.0	25.5	75.5	245.2	320.7	620.3	605.9	1,226.2
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.1	18.7	19.8	*	2.0	2.1	*	23.1	23.2	1.4	43.8	45.2
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.0	1.2	*	*	*	*	2.3	2.3	*	3.4	3.5
All children aged 5 to 14	1.0	16.3	17.4	*	1.6	1.7	*	9.0	9.3	1.5	26.9	28.3
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.8	17.9	20.6	*	1.0	1.1	1.2	9.7	10.9	4.1	28.5	32.7
All children aged 15 or over ³	8.7	28.1	36.8	*	*	1.2	8.7	45.2	53.9	17.7	74.3	92.0
Total	13.7	82.1	95.8	*	5.5	6.2	10.4	89.3	99.7	24.8	176.9	201.7
Total	737.9	592.9	1,330.8	22.0	20.3	42.3	212.4	491.1	703.5	972.3	1,104.3	2,076.6

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	Q2/2006					Q2/2007				
	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	232,782.9	213,848.0	18,935.2	57.1	8.1	234,332.4	217,848.9	16,483.1	57.2	7.0
EU-15	185,256.6	171,044.2	14,212.5	57.7	7.7	186,844.2	173,988.9	12,874.8	57.8	6.9
Eurozone ²	147,706.2	135,573.4	12,132.9	56.5	8.2	149,180.4	138,291.5	10,888.4	56.7	7.3
Belgium	4,597.7	4,216.0	381.8	52.6	8.3	4,702.7	4,344.7	357.9	53.4	7.6
Bulgaria	3,448.0	3,139.1	308.9	51.8	9.0	3,490.9	3,253.1	237.8	52.6	6.8
Czech Republic	5,192.9	4,826.0	367.0	59.2	7.1	5,188.5	4,913.9	274.6	58.7	5.3
Denmark	2,906.5	2,792.3	114.2	65.7	3.9	2,921.5	2,815.9	105.6	65.8	3.6
Germany	41,478.9	37,270.4	4,208.6	59.0	10.1	41,614.4	38,057.5	3,556.9	59.2	8.5
Estonia	692.8	650.0	42.8	61.0	6.2	693.5	658.6	35.0	61.0	5.0
Greece	4,880.2	4,452.8	427.4	53.3	8.8	4,917.9	4,519.9	398.0	53.4	8.1
Spain	21,530.1	19,693.1	1,837.0	57.6	8.5	22,127.3	20,367.3	1,760.0	58.2	8.0
France	27,124.8	24,742.6	2,382.1	55.8	8.8	27,414.5	25,234.3	2,180.1	56.1	8.0
Ireland	2,108.3	2,017.0	91.4	62.6	4.3	2,194.1	2,095.4	98.8	63.4	4.5
Italy	24,808.3	23,186.8	1,621.5	49.5	6.5	24,710.4	23,298.0	1,412.4	48.9	5.7
Cyprus	371.6	356.4	15.2	63.1	4.1	391.1	377.9	13.2	64.1	3.4
Latvia	1,154.9	1,071.6	83.3	58.8	7.2	1,178.5	1,108.0	70.5	60.0	6.0
Lithuania	1,590.7	1,502.0	88.8	56.0	5.6	1,609.8	1,543.8	66.0	56.5	4.1
Luxembourg	205.0	195.3	9.7	55.0	4.7	199.9	192.1	7.7	54.0	3.9
Hungary	4,239.5	3,933.8	305.7	50.5	7.2	4,239.3	3,942.5	296.9	50.5	7.0
Malta	164.6	151.8	12.7	50.3	7.7	166.7	155.6	11.1	50.7	6.7
Netherlands	8,573.4	8,241.0	332.4	65.2	3.9	8,747.8	8,468.6	279.1	66.2	3.2
Austria	4,110.9	3,916.9	194.0	60.1	4.7	4,221.4	4,034.7	186.6	61.2	4.4
Poland	16,824.5	14,459.4	2,365.1	53.6	14.1	16,753.9	15,152.3	1,601.5	53.5	9.6
Portugal	5,586.4	5,180.8	405.6	62.5	7.3	5,595.1	5,154.6	440.5	62.4	7.9
Romania	10,162.9	9,449.0	713.9	55.8	7.0	10,102.5	9,442.8	659.7	55.4	6.5
Slovenia	1,029.6	969.4	60.3	59.9	5.9	1,040.9	993.6	47.3	60.2	4.5
Slovak Republic	2,654.3	2,295.3	359.0	59.1	13.5	2,632.6	2,337.9	294.7	58.6	11.2
Finland	2,702.2	2,460.7	241.4	62.3	8.9	2,734.9	2,524.4	210.4	62.6	7.7
Sweden	4,813.1	4,425.9	387.2	64.0	8.0	4,878.1	4,543.1	335.0	64.3	6.9
United Kingdom	29,830.8	28,252.6	1,578.2	62.2	5.3	29,864.2	28,318.4	1,545.8	61.9	5.2

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, June-August, 2006 and 2007

Nationality	ILO Economic Status				'000
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Not economically active	Total
Q3 2007					
Irish nationals ¹	1,893.0	89.9	1,982.9	1,158.8	3,141.7
Non-Irish nationals	248.0	16.2	264.1	77.5	341.6
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	37.7	3.5	41.2	26.9	68.1
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	21.9	1.4	23.3	5.2	28.5
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	126.1	6.5	132.7	16.9	149.6
<i>Other</i>	62.2	4.8	67.0	28.4	95.4
Total persons	2,140.9	106.1	2,247.0	1,236.2	3,483.3
Q3 2006					
Irish nationals ¹	1,873.6	88.9	1,962.5	1,155.6	3,118.1
Non-Irish nationals	199.6	15.9	215.6	64.8	280.3
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	38.8	3.3	42.0	23.6	65.6
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	24.5	1.2	25.7	4.9	30.6
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	86.0	6.1	92.1	12.4	104.5
<i>Other</i>	50.3	5.4	55.7	23.8	79.5
Total persons	2,073.3	104.8	2,178.1	1,220.4	3,398.4
Year on year changes					
Irish nationals ¹	+ 19.4	+ 1.0	+ 20.4	+ 3.2	+ 23.6
Non-Irish nationals	+ 48.4	+ 0.3	+ 48.5	+ 12.7	+ 61.3
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	- 1.1	+ 0.2	- 0.8	+ 3.3	+ 2.5
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	- 2.6	+ 0.2	- 2.4	+ 0.3	- 2.1
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	+ 40.1	+ 0.4	+ 40.6	+ 4.5	+ 45.1
<i>Other</i>	+ 11.9	- 0.6	+ 11.3	+ 4.6	+ 15.9
Total persons	+ 67.6	+ 1.3	+ 68.9	+ 15.8	+ 84.9

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, June-August, 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	
Q3 2007												
Irish nationals ¹	112.5	255.2	245.6	273.8	91.2	110.7	263.6	110.1	124.8	196.3	109.2	1,893.0
Non-Irish nationals	5.4	42.8	36.9	35.8	38.8	11.5	32.9	2.1	6.5	22.3	12.9	248.0
of which:												
United Kingdom	1.1	6.1	4.7	4.8	2.2	2.2	6.8	*	2.3	4.0	2.5	37.7
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	3.2	1.0	2.2	2.8	1.1	6.4	*	1.4	1.6	1.4	21.9
Accession states EU15 to EU27 ²	3.2	25.4	27.2	20.9	22.5	5.4	10.9	*	*	3.6	5.6	126.1
Other	*	8.1	3.9	7.8	11.4	2.7	8.7	*	2.0	13.1	3.4	62.2
Total persons	117.9	298.0	282.6	309.6	130.0	122.2	296.4	112.2	131.4	218.6	122.1	2,140.9
Q3 2006												
Irish nationals ¹	116.5	264.5	242.5	273.1	91.0	118.5	242.8	104.5	117.9	191.6	110.9	1,873.6
Non-Irish nationals	5.2	32.1	35.4	24.7	29.6	9.9	24.9	1.3	5.8	19.3	11.5	199.6
of which:												
United Kingdom	*	5.3	5.8	5.5	2.1	2.7	6.4	*	2.1	4.4	2.8	38.8
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	2.8	1.0	1.9	4.5	2.8	5.6	*	1.8	2.0	1.4	24.5
Accession states EU15 to EU27 ²	3.3	18.4	24.0	11.1	12.7	3.0	6.5	*	*	2.4	3.9	86.0
Other	*	5.6	4.6	6.1	10.2	1.4	6.4	*	1.2	10.5	3.4	50.3
Total persons	121.7	296.6	277.8	297.8	120.6	128.3	267.7	105.8	123.7	210.9	122.4	2,073.3
Year on year changes												
Irish nationals ¹	- 4.0	- 9.3	+ 3.1	+ 0.7	+ 0.2	- 7.8	+ 20.8	+ 5.6	+ 6.9	+ 4.7	- 1.7	+ 19.4
Non-Irish nationals	+ 0.2	+ 10.7	+ 1.5	+ 11.1	+ 9.2	+ 1.6	+ 8.0	+ 0.8	+ 0.7	+ 3.0	+ 1.4	+ 48.4
of which:												
United Kingdom	*	+ 0.8	- 1.1	- 0.7	+ 0.1	- 0.5	+ 0.4	*	+ 0.2	- 0.4	- 0.3	- 1.1
EU15 excl. Irl. & UK	*	+ 0.4	0.0	+ 0.3	- 1.7	- 1.7	+ 0.8	*	- 0.4	- 0.4	0.0	- 2.6
Accession states EU15 to EU27 ²	- 0.1	+ 7.0	+ 3.2	+ 9.8	+ 9.8	+ 2.4	+ 4.4	*	*	+ 1.2	+ 1.7	+ 40.1
Other	*	+ 2.5	- 0.7	+ 1.7	+ 1.2	+ 1.3	+ 2.3	*	+ 0.8	+ 2.6	0.0	+ 11.9
Total persons	- 3.8	+ 1.4	+ 4.8	+ 11.8	+ 9.4	- 6.1	+ 28.7	+ 6.4	+ 7.7	+ 7.7	- 0.3	+ 67.6

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.

* 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