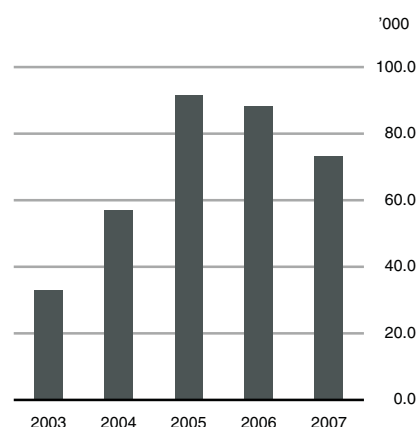


Quarterly National Household Survey

Quarter 4 2007

**Annual average employment increases
2003-2007**



ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	'000 Labour Force
Sep-Nov 2006	2,072.1	90.3	2,162.4
Dec-Feb 2007	2,081.3	93.4	2,174.7
Mar-May 2007	2,101.6	100.3	2,201.9
Jun-Aug 2007	2,146.0	107.3	2,253.3
Sep-Nov 2007	2,138.9	101.0	2,239.9
<i>Change in quarter</i>	-7.1	-6.3	-13.4
<i>Change in year</i>	+66.8	+10.7	+77.5

Employment grows by 3.2%

There were 2,138,900 persons in employment in the fourth quarter of 2007, representing an increase of 66,800 or 3.2% in the year. This compares to an annual growth rate of 3.3% in the previous quarter and to a rate of 4.4% in the fourth quarter of 2006. The increase of 45,800 (+5.2%) in female employment represented almost 69% of the total increase in employment, with male employment increasing by 21,000 (+1.8%). *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

Part-time employment increased by 36,500 over the year representing over half of the overall growth in employment. Of the increase in part-time employment, 27,300 was attributable to females, while male part-time employment increased by 9,200. Full-time employment grew by 30,300 in the year to the fourth quarter of 2007, with males increasing by 11,800 and females 18,500. *See table 1 and graph on page 3.*

Employment grew by an average of 73,200 persons or 3.6% in 2007. This compares with an average growth rate of 4.5% in 2006. The number of males in employment in 2007 increased by an average of 29,300 or 2.5% while the number of females increased by an average of 43,900 or 5.1%. *See table 1 and graph on page 2.*

A revised QNHS series based on the results of the 2006 Census of Population is being issued today in conjunction with this release. Details of the revisions are presented in a separate release entitled "Revised Series Post 2006 Census of Population". A full set of revised time series is also available on our website at www.cso.ie under the link for the Quarterly National Household Survey.

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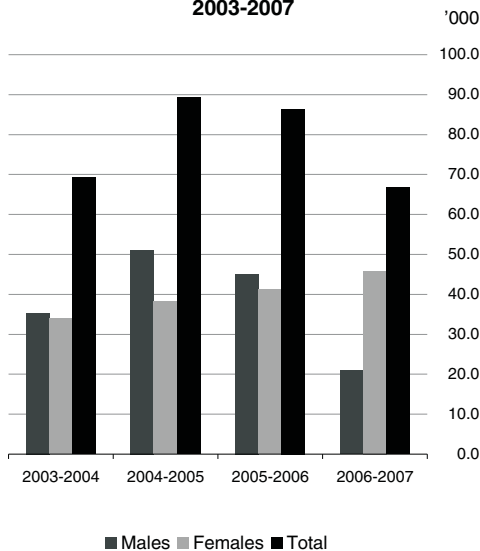
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**Employment growth
classified by sex
2003-2007**



There were 101,000 persons unemployed in the fourth quarter of 2007 representing an increase of 10,700 in the year. Almost all of the growth in unemployment was attributable to an increase in short-term unemployment (+10,000), of which 7,800 was attributable to males and 2,200 to females. All of the increase (+700) in long-term unemployment was attributable to males. See tables 1, 17 & 18.

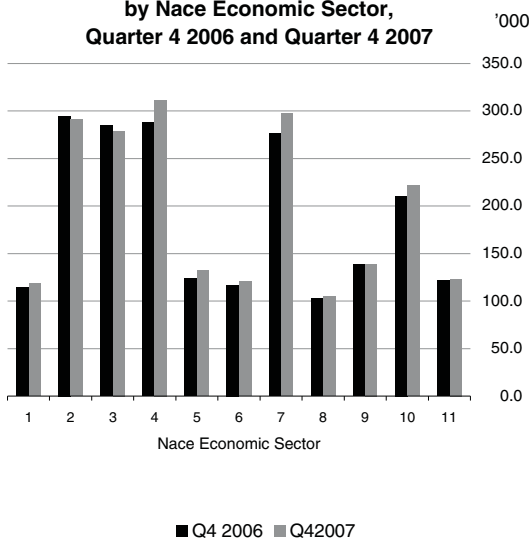
When seasonal factors are taken into account the number of persons in employment increased by 17,900 in the quarter while the numbers unemployed showed an increase of 2,900. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly to 4.6% compared with 4.5% in the previous quarter and 4.3% in the fourth quarter of 2006. See table 3.

The total number of persons in the labour force now stands at 2,239,900, an increase of 77,500 or 3.6% over the year. This compares to annual labour force growth of 3.2% in the previous quarter and 4.1% in the fourth quarter of 2006. The labour force now accounts for 63.9% of all persons aged 15 and over, compared with 63.3% a year earlier. See table 1.

Non-Irish workers are estimated to have accounted for almost 49,000 (+72.9%) of the annual increase in the numbers in employment and for 1,000 (+9.3%) of the increase in the numbers unemployed. See table A1 in the annex.

The latest available figures for all EU 27 member states, which are for the third quarter of 2007, show that between the third quarters of 2006 and 2007 Ireland's employment level grew by 3.3% while its labour force grew by 3.2%. The comparable figures for the EU-27 were 2.0% and 0.9% respectively. See table 25.

**Persons aged 15 years and over in
employment (ILO) classified
by Nace Economic Sector,
Quarter 4 2006 and Quarter 4 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

Employment in the construction sector declines over the year

Employment fell by 5,600 (-2.0%) in the *Construction* sector over the year compared with an annual increase of 30,300 (+11.9%) in the same quarter of 2006. All of the decrease in construction employment was attributable to males (-5,900). The number of employees in the *Construction* sector decreased over the year by 15,200 and this was partially offset by an increase in self employed persons (+9,500). The only other sector to show a decline was *Other production industries* where employment decreased by 4,200 in the year. See table 2b and graph opposite.

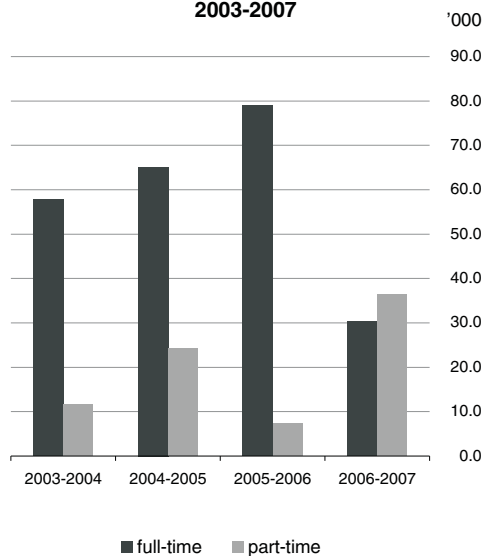
Both the *Wholesale and retail*, and *Financial and other business services* sectors showed strong growth, increasing by 23,800 (+8.3%) and 20,900 (+7.6%) respectively in the year to the fourth quarter of 2007. Combined they account for over two-thirds of the overall increase in employment, representing 71.4% (+15,000) of male and 65.3% (+29,900) of female employment growth. See table 2b and graph opposite.

The numbers employed in all occupation categories with the exception of *Professional* (-3,600) increased over the year. The largest increases were in *Personal and protective services* (+13,100) many of whom are in the health and childcare occupations, *Clerical and secretarial* (+12,800) and *Sales* (+11,700) occupational groups. See table 4.

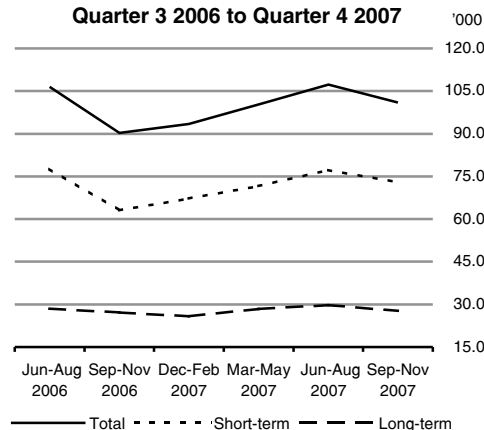
Increase in self employed accounts for almost 60% of the annual increase in employment

The number of self employed persons increased by 39,100 to 361,600 in the year representing almost 60% of the annual increase in employment. Self employed males dominated the increase rising by 28,300 in the year while self employed females increased by 10,900. Sectors, which had the largest increases in the numbers of self employed, were *Construction*, *Agriculture* and *Financial and*

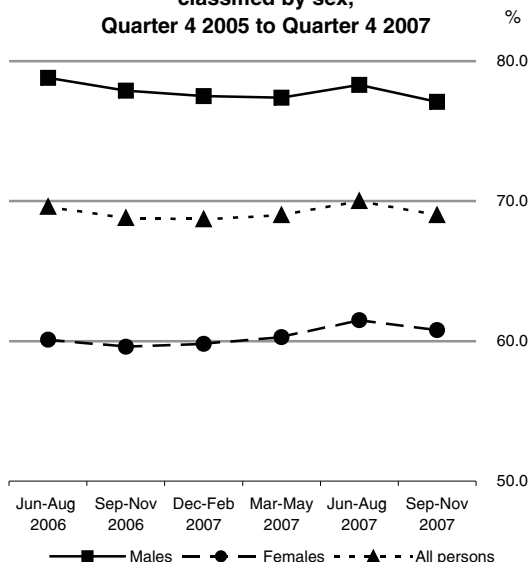
**Employment growth
classified by full-time and part-time
2003-2007**



**Numbers unemployed (ILO) classified by
duration of unemployment,
Quarter 3 2006 to Quarter 4 2007**



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



other business services. There were 1,761,000 employees in the fourth quarter of 2007, an annual increase of 23,300. This comprised an increase of 33,000 females and a decrease of 9,800 males. *See table 6.*

Net Migration continues to fuel 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 almost 63,000 of the 77,500 people who joined the labour force in the year to the fourth quarter of 2007. Net inward migration continued to be the main source of this demographic change accounting for almost 80% of the demographic increase. Over 50% of the demographic increase can be attributed to those aged 25-34, the age group most affected by inward migration.

Almost 15,000 of the annual growth in the labour force was attributable to higher participation in the market. The male participation rate declined marginally from 73.5% to 73.4% while the female participation rate increased from 53.2% to 54.5%. The participation rate of married females increased from 52.6% to 54.2% over the year. Three age groups showed minor decreases in labour force participation rates, 15-19, 25-34 and 55-59. The most significant increase was in the 60-64 age group rising from 44.0% to 46.5%. *See tables 9 & 10.*

The broadest survey-based labour supply indicator, S3, which includes persons outside the labour force who show some interest in obtaining work as well as the unemployed, remained unchanged over the year at 7.3%. *See table 20.*

Almost 80% of increase in unemployment attributable to males

There were 63,600 males and 37,500 females unemployed in the fourth quarter of 2007, representing annual increases of 8,500 and 2,300 for males and females respectively. The largest annual increase in the numbers unemployed was in the 20-24 year age group where the numbers increased by 4,600 to 19,800. *See tables 1 & 13.*

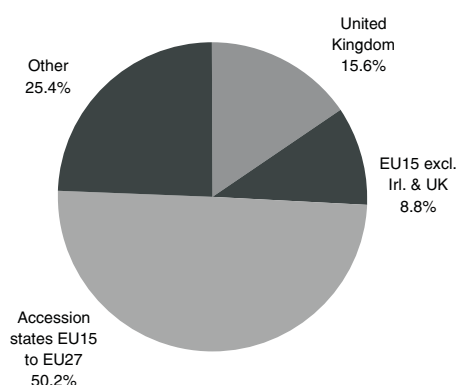
Almost all of the 10,700 increase in unemployment was due to a rise in short-term unemployment (+10,000). Males accounted for 7,800 and females 2,200 of the increase in short-term unemployment. All of the increase in long-term unemployment (+700) was attributable to males. The long-term unemployment rate decreased from 1.3% a year earlier to 1.2% in the fourth quarter of 2007. *See tables 16, 17 & 18 and graph opposite.*

Slight increase in employment rate

The overall employment rate increased from 68.8% to 69.0% in the year to the fourth quarter of 2007. The rate for males decreased over the year from 77.9% to 77.1%, while the female employment rate increased from 59.6% to 60.8%. Only two male age categories, 45-54 and 60-64, showed increases over the year. The opposite was the case for female with only two categories, 20-24 and 25-34 showing a decline. *See tables 11 & 12 and graph opposite.*

The average working week in the fourth quarter of 2007 was 36.4 hours compared with 36.6 hours in the same quarter last year. *See table 5.*

**Non-Irish nationals in the
Labour Force,
September-November 2007**



Over 70% of employment growth attributable to foreign nationals

Broad indicative estimates of the labour force status of Non-Irish nationals are presented in the Annex. There were an estimated 468,100 foreign nationals aged 15 and over in the state in the fourth quarter of 2007. Of these 334,700 were in employment while a further 20,000 were unemployed according to ILO criteria, giving a total Non-Irish national labour force of 354,700, up 49,700 in the year. This compares to an annual Non-Irish national labour force increase of 69,400 for Q4 2006. Nationals of the new EU Accession states were the fastest growing category accounting for 58.7% (+45,500) of overall labour force growth (+77,500). *See table A1 in the annex and graph opposite.*

In the fourth quarter of 2007 Non-Irish nationals accounted for almost 16% of all persons aged 15 years and over in employment. Over 37% of workers in the *Hotels and restaurants*, 17.7% in the *Other production industries*, 17.3% of the *Wholesale and retail trade* and 17.2% in the *Construction* sectors were foreign nationals. *See tables A1 & A2 in the annex.*

Regional comparisons

Employment grew by 26,500 (+4.9%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 40,300 (+2.6%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the fourth quarter of 2007. There were increases of 8,100 and 2,600 in the numbers unemployed in the Southern and Eastern region and Border, Midland and Western region, respectively. *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western region increased from 61.3% to 62.7% between the fourth quarters of 2006 and 2007 while the rate in the Southern and Eastern region increased from 64.0% to 64.3% over the same period. *See table 7a.*

At NUTS3 level employment grew in all regions with the Mid-East (+6.4%) and Midland (+5.9%) showing the highest employment growth rates over the year. There was an annual increase of over 8,000 in the numbers in employment in the Dublin region, down from 24,600 in Q4 2006. All regional data is based on 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 55,600 in the year to 2,059,400. This comprised an increase of 17,500 males and 38,200 females. This compares to an increase of 93,700 in the year to the fourth quarter of 2006. Meanwhile, the number describing themselves as "unemployed" rose by 9,500 in the year to 123,500. The number describing themselves as on "home duties" decreased by 14,400 to 531,600 in the year. *See table 21.*

The number of students increased by 9,600 in the year to 358,700. In the fourth quarter of 2007, 18.3% of students had a job compared to 16.7% for the same quarter last year and this represented an increase of 7,600 in the number of students in employment. *See tables 21 & 22.*

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

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ILO Economic Status	Sep- Nov 05	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
Males							
In labour force	1,202.9	1,259.5	1,248.2	1,251.3	1,261.5	1,286.9	1,277.7
In employment:	1,148.0	1,196.8	1,193.1	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1
full-time	1,072.9	1,119.3	1,116.9	1,116.3	1,116.2	1,131.5	1,128.7
part-time:	75.1	77.6	76.2	78.1	85.3	91.3	85.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	72.8	76.0	74.8	77.0	82.5	88.9	83.3
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.3	1.6	1.4	1.1	2.8	2.4	2.2
Unemployed:	54.9	62.6	55.1	56.9	60.0	64.1	63.6
seeking full-time work	51.3	58.8	52.6	53.9	56.8	59.9	59.8
seeking part-time work	3.6	3.9	2.5	3.0	3.2	4.2	3.8
Not in labour force	452.9	427.9	451.1	457.7	456.5	443.5	463.9
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	5.4	8.4	5.8	9.9	6.1	7.6	6.6
Others	447.5	419.6	445.3	447.8	450.3	436.0	457.3
Total males aged 15 or over	1,655.8	1,687.4	1,699.3	1,709.0	1,718.0	1,730.5	1,741.5
Unemployment rate %	4.6	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.0
Participation rate %	72.6	74.6	73.5	73.2	73.4	74.4	73.4
Females							
In labour force	875.1	923.9	914.2	923.4	940.4	966.4	962.3
In employment:	837.7	880.1	879.0	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8
full-time	572.3	610.8	607.2	610.4	607.0	629.4	625.7
part-time:	265.5	269.3	271.8	276.5	293.2	293.8	299.1
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	263.3	267.2	269.5	274.7	290.4	291.0	296.9
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.2	2.1	2.3	1.8	2.7	2.8	2.2
Unemployed:	37.4	43.8	35.2	36.5	40.3	43.1	37.5
seeking full-time work	24.0	30.8	22.9	24.5	25.0	30.3	22.7
seeking part-time work	13.5	13.1	12.3	12.0	15.3	12.9	14.7
Not in labour force	805.4	783.4	804.7	805.0	796.9	782.1	803.3
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.7	7.2	4.2	6.6	4.9	7.8	4.9
Others	800.7	776.2	800.5	798.4	792.0	774.3	798.4
Total females aged 15 or over	1,680.5	1,707.3	1,718.9	1,728.4	1,737.2	1,748.5	1,765.5
Unemployment rate %	4.3	4.7	3.9	4.0	4.3	4.5	3.9
Participation rate %	52.1	54.1	53.2	53.4	54.1	55.3	54.5
All persons							
In labour force	2,078.1	2,183.4	2,162.4	2,174.7	2,201.9	2,253.3	2,239.9
In employment:	1,985.7	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9
full-time	1,645.2	1,730.0	1,724.1	1,726.7	1,723.2	1,760.9	1,754.4
part-time:	340.6	346.9	348.0	354.6	378.5	385.2	384.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	336.1	343.2	344.2	351.6	373.0	379.9	380.1
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.4	3.7	3.8	3.0	5.5	5.3	4.4
Unemployed:	92.3	106.5	90.3	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0
seeking full-time work	75.2	89.5	75.5	78.4	81.8	90.2	82.5
seeking part-time work	17.1	16.9	14.8	14.9	18.5	17.1	18.5
Not in labour force	1,258.3	1,211.3	1,255.8	1,262.7	1,253.3	1,225.6	1,267.1
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	10.0	15.6	10.0	16.5	11.0	15.4	11.5
Others	1,248.3	1,195.8	1,245.8	1,246.2	1,242.3	1,210.2	1,255.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,336.4	3,394.7	3,418.2	3,437.4	3,455.2	3,478.9	3,507.1
Unemployment rate %	4.4	4.9	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.5
Participation rate %	62.3	64.3	63.3	63.3	63.7	64.8	63.9

¹ See Background Notes.

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

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Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Sep- Nov 05	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
Males							
A-B Agriculture	104.2	107.7	103.7	104.1	101.8	104.7	106.2
C-F Industry	449.9	477.6	482.3	481.4	479.7	486.4	474.2
G-Q Services	594.0	611.6	607.0	608.9	620.1	631.7	633.6
Females							
A-B Agriculture	10.7	12.7	10.9	11.0	12.0	12.0	12.4
C-F Industry	95.4	101.1	97.2	97.4	97.3	98.5	95.5
G-Q Services	731.6	766.2	770.9	778.6	790.8	812.7	816.9
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	114.9	120.4	114.7	115.0	113.8	116.7	118.7
C-F Industry	545.2	578.7	579.5	578.9	577.0	584.9	569.7
G-Q Services	1,325.6	1,377.8	1,377.9	1,387.5	1,410.9	1,444.4	1,450.5
Total persons	1,985.7	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9

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)	Sep- Nov 05	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.2	107.7	103.7	104.1	101.8	104.7	106.2
C-E Other production industries	208.1	211.1	210.9	210.7	211.7	217.2	208.8
F Construction	241.7	266.4	271.4	270.8	267.9	269.2	265.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	141.8	147.9	147.1	146.8	150.5	155.5	156.2
H Hotels and restaurants	51.0	53.7	51.9	54.2	55.4	56.7	56.0
I Transport, storage and communication	91.9	97.3	89.6	93.7	95.2	94.2	93.3
J-K Financial and other business services	130.8	134.8	141.2	134.2	139.3	144.8	147.1
L Public administration and defence	49.5	48.6	50.7	51.0	49.3	53.1	52.1
M Education	36.4	34.3	37.5	38.6	37.2	34.1	35.5
N Health	33.4	38.9	35.9	36.6	38.7	39.8	39.9
O-Q Other services	59.1	56.1	53.2	53.8	54.5	53.5	53.6
Total males	1,148.0	1,196.8	1,193.1	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.7	12.7	10.9	11.0	12.0	12.0	12.4
C-E Other production industries	82.8	87.1	83.9	84.0	83.5	84.5	81.9
F Construction	12.6	14.0	13.3	13.4	13.8	14.0	13.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	142.2	148.6	140.7	143.7	144.0	154.9	155.4
H Hotels and restaurants	68.9	73.0	72.1	73.9	76.9	81.6	76.4
I Transport, storage and communication	26.2	30.4	27.2	29.4	26.9	27.5	27.5
J-K Financial and other business services	131.2	131.9	134.9	137.3	146.6	149.4	150.1
L Public administration and defence	49.7	54.7	51.9	51.6	52.3	55.9	52.9
M Education	90.9	88.2	100.6	101.6	102.5	95.0	103.6
N Health	159.3	172.9	174.9	176.1	174.5	179.6	181.3
O-Q Other services	63.4	66.6	68.5	64.9	67.1	68.6	69.7
Total females	837.7	880.1	879.0	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	114.9	120.4	114.7	115.0	113.8	116.7	118.7
C-E Other production industries	290.9	298.3	294.9	294.6	295.2	301.7	290.7
F Construction	254.3	280.4	284.6	284.2	281.8	283.2	279.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	284.0	296.4	287.8	290.5	294.5	310.4	311.6
H Hotels and restaurants	119.9	126.7	124.0	128.1	132.3	138.4	132.3
I Transport, storage and communication	118.1	127.7	116.8	123.1	122.2	121.7	120.8
J-K Financial and other business services	261.9	266.6	276.2	271.5	285.9	294.2	297.1
L Public administration and defence	99.1	103.3	102.5	102.7	101.6	109.1	105.0
M Education	127.3	122.5	138.1	140.2	139.7	129.2	139.1
N Health	192.7	211.8	210.7	212.6	213.2	219.3	221.3
O-Q Other services	122.5	122.6	121.8	118.8	121.6	122.1	123.3
Total persons	1,985.7	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9

**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	Sep- Nov 05	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
Males							
In labour force	1,204.5	1,242.3	1,250.1	1,258.8	1,269.2	1,269.9	1,279.9
In employment:	1,148.1	1,183.0	1,193.3	1,199.9	1,209.6	1,209.1	1,214.1
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.4	104.9	103.8	104.9	103.6	102.2	106.2
C-E Other production industries	207.6	209.1	210.5	211.7	213.4	214.8	208.5
F Construction	240.2	262.7	269.9	273.6	270.4	265.6	264.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	141.7	145.4	146.9	146.9	153.1	153.0	155.9
H Hotels and restaurants	52.2	52.7	53.1	54.4	55.0	55.7	57.2
I Transport, storage and communication	92.0	96.8	89.8	94.0	95.1	93.6	93.7
J-K Financial and other business services	130.9	134.2	141.2	135.6	138.5	144.3	146.9
L Public administration and defence	49.9	48.2	50.9	51.0	49.4	52.8	52.2
M Education	36.4	35.4	37.6	37.9	36.5	35.4	35.6
N Health	33.5	38.6	36.1	37.0	38.5	39.3	40.1
O-Q Other services	59.2	55.8	53.4	53.8	54.6	53.2	53.9
Unemployed	55.6	59.4	55.6	59.4	60.3	60.9	64.0
Unemployment rate %	4.6	4.8	4.4	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.0
Participation rate %	72.8	73.5	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.4	73.6
Females							
In labour force	877.6	909.4	916.8	929.5	946.4	951.5	965.1
In employment:	839.0	870.3	880.4	890.8	904.8	913.1	926.2
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.1	12.3	11.3	11.3	11.7	11.7	12.8
C-E Other production industries	84.1	84.9	85.2	85.1	83.3	82.5	83.1
F Construction	12.9	13.8	13.6	13.5	13.6	13.8	13.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	142.8	145.1	140.9	144.4	146.7	151.3	155.4
H Hotels and restaurants	68.8	69.7	72.2	76.5	77.6	78.1	76.7
I Transport, storage and communication	26.4	30.0	27.5	28.9	27.4	27.1	27.9
J-K Financial and other business services	131.4	131.5	135.1	136.7	147.4	149.0	150.4
L Public administration and defence	49.9	53.2	52.2	52.5	52.6	54.3	53.3
M Education	89.8	93.8	99.4	99.0	100.3	101.0	102.4
N Health	159.4	171.6	174.9	176.1	175.9	178.3	181.1
O-Q Other services	62.3	65.6	67.3	66.3	67.9	67.7	68.4
Unemployed	38.2	39.4	36.2	38.5	41.3	39.0	38.7
Unemployment rate %	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.0
Participation rate %	52.3	53.2	53.4	53.8	54.4	54.4	54.7
All persons							
In labour force	2,081.2	2,151.3	2,165.8	2,188.2	2,217.4	2,220.7	2,243.5
In employment:	1,986.7	2,054.0	2,073.1	2,091.0	2,113.9	2,123.0	2,140.9
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	115.1	117.4	115.0	116.0	115.4	113.9	118.9
C-E Other production industries	292.4	293.4	296.5	296.6	296.7	296.4	292.5
F Construction	253.1	276.4	283.3	286.9	284.4	279.3	277.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	284.9	289.7	288.5	291.5	299.7	303.3	312.3
H Hotels and restaurants	120.9	122.1	125.2	130.2	133.7	133.6	133.7
I Transport, storage and communication	118.2	127.3	117.1	123.4	121.9	121.3	121.3
J-K Financial and other business services	262.9	265.7	277.3	271.1	286.0	293.3	298.3
L Public administration and defence	99.6	101.9	103.0	103.0	102.3	107.6	105.5
M Education	126.2	128.5	137.0	136.9	137.5	135.7	138.1
N Health	193.1	210.0	211.2	212.8	214.4	217.4	221.8
O-Q Other services	121.2	121.4	120.5	119.8	122.9	121.1	122.0
Unemployed	93.5	98.9	91.6	97.9	102.0	99.6	102.5
Unemployment rate %	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6
Participation rate %	62.5	63.3	63.5	63.7	64.0	63.9	64.1

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Sep- Nov 05	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	217.1	216.7	215.4	219.0	221.0	219.4	213.1
2. Professional	115.2	116.9	122.7	119.4	119.7	117.1	120.7
3. Associate professional and technical	70.0	76.1	73.8	75.8	77.5	78.3	79.1
4. Clerical and secretarial	58.2	61.6	61.2	61.2	64.9	65.9	62.3
5. Craft and related	269.6	284.4	283.8	286.3	287.5	295.0	290.1
6. Personal and protective service	78.9	85.5	86.2	86.8	86.7	87.7	88.9
7. Sales	68.8	68.2	66.5	67.6	69.1	72.8	73.6
8. Plant and machine operatives	146.3	146.8	145.7	146.7	147.4	153.1	151.1
9. Other	124.0	140.6	137.7	131.5	127.8	133.5	135.4
Total males	1,148.0	1,196.8	1,193.1	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	94.9	99.3	93.6	95.9	101.7	101.7	98.0
2. Professional	108.7	111.0	123.5	121.7	120.9	115.9	121.9
3. Associate professional and technical	97.7	102.5	106.8	104.6	107.0	111.2	112.8
4. Clerical and secretarial	182.1	190.2	186.1	187.4	189.5	199.4	197.8
5. Craft and related	11.6	13.3	10.5	11.7	12.8	12.9	12.6
6. Personal and protective service	135.7	144.9	147.2	148.1	151.6	156.1	157.6
7. Sales	107.6	118.7	111.2	113.6	113.0	117.6	115.9
8. Plant and machine operatives	27.8	27.0	27.0	28.2	27.7	28.7	27.2
9. Other	71.5	73.2	73.1	75.8	75.8	79.6	80.9
Total females	837.7	880.1	879.0	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	312.0	316.0	309.0	315.0	322.7	321.2	311.1
2. Professional	223.9	227.9	246.2	241.1	240.6	233.1	242.6
3. Associate professional and technical	167.7	178.6	180.6	180.4	184.6	189.5	191.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	240.3	251.8	247.3	248.6	254.4	265.3	260.1
5. Craft and related	281.2	297.7	294.3	298.0	300.2	307.9	302.7
6. Personal and protective service	214.6	230.5	233.3	234.9	238.3	243.8	246.4
7. Sales	176.4	186.9	177.8	181.2	182.1	190.4	189.5
8. Plant and machine operatives	174.1	173.8	172.8	174.9	175.2	181.8	178.3
9. Other	195.5	213.7	210.8	207.3	203.6	213.1	216.3
Total persons	1,985.7	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9

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	Sep- Nov 05	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
Males							
1-9 hours	7.4	4.5	6.0	7.1	7.9	5.3	7.7
10-19	19.7	18.5	19.1	18.9	20.9	19.4	20.5
20-29	41.2	44.8	44.9	46.3	48.8	50.9	49.4
30-34	21.6	21.8	20.0	20.4	22.3	25.7	23.9
35-39	409.0	450.2	433.4	435.9	430.0	443.2	427.1
40-44	267.9	278.7	293.6	288.7	292.6	301.5	299.6
45 & over	211.8	203.2	192.6	188.4	210.5	214.3	203.9
Variable hours ¹	169.4	175.1	183.5	188.8	168.4	162.6	182.0
Total males	1,148.0	1,196.8	1,193.1	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1
<i>Average hours per week</i>	41.0	40.8	40.6	40.5	40.6	40.7	40.5
Females							
1-9 hours	24.8	20.3	24.2	26.1	29.7	22.9	27.4
10-19	84.6	79.6	85.8	89.7	92.5	91.9	98.8
20-29	164.2	173.9	175.8	174.5	177.5	181.6	183.6
30-34	56.7	59.0	57.1	61.6	65.8	67.7	65.8
35-39	320.4	346.8	335.2	341.1	336.2	350.9	339.3
40-44	109.7	117.0	116.3	111.6	114.8	120.2	117.1
45 & over	32.5	30.1	30.9	30.1	32.2	35.2	34.2
Variable hours ¹	44.8	53.4	53.8	52.1	51.5	52.7	58.5
Total females	837.7	880.1	879.0	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8
<i>Average hours per week</i>	31.8	32.1	31.8	31.6	31.4	31.8	31.4
All persons							
1-9 hours	32.2	24.8	30.2	33.3	37.6	28.2	35.0
10-19	104.3	98.0	104.9	108.6	113.3	111.3	119.3
20-29	205.4	218.7	220.7	220.8	226.3	232.4	233.0
30-34	78.3	80.8	77.1	82.0	88.1	93.4	89.7
35-39	729.4	797.1	768.6	777.0	766.2	794.1	766.4
40-44	377.6	395.6	409.9	400.3	407.4	421.7	416.7
45 & over	244.3	233.3	223.5	218.5	242.7	249.6	238.1
Variable hours ¹	214.2	228.5	237.3	240.9	219.9	215.4	240.5
Total persons	1,985.7	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9
<i>Average hours per week</i>	36.9	36.9	36.6	36.4	36.4	36.7	36.4

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

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

'000

Employment status	Sep- Nov 05	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	89.1	93.0	92.1	96.0	100.1	100.1	102.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	173.3	178.0	179.6	183.4	183.3	189.7	197.1
Employee	880.2	920.9	917.1	910.4	913.0	925.2	907.3
Assisting relative	5.4	5.0	4.3	4.7	5.2	7.8	6.8
Total males	1,148.0	1,196.8	1,193.1	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	17.8	20.4	19.4	20.4	22.6	22.2	22.1
Self employed (with no paid employees)	33.1	30.8	31.4	31.1	33.3	36.4	39.6
Employee	779.0	821.3	820.6	828.2	836.2	854.8	853.6
Assisting relative	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.3	8.0	9.9	9.4
Total females	837.7	880.1	879.0	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	106.9	113.3	111.4	116.4	122.7	122.2	125.0
Self employed (with no paid employees)	206.3	208.7	211.1	214.5	216.6	226.1	236.6
Employee	1,659.3	1,742.3	1,737.7	1,738.5	1,749.2	1,780.0	1,761.0
Assisting relative	13.2	12.6	11.9	12.0	13.1	17.7	16.3
Total persons	1,985.7	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9

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					
Sep-Nov 2005	506.3	25.1	531.4	4.7	60.2
Jun-Aug 2006	531.9	30.0	561.9	5.3	62.5
Sep-Nov 2006	530.4	24.6	555.0	4.4	61.3
Dec-Feb 2007	534.0	24.7	558.8	4.4	61.4
Mar-May 2007	539.6	27.5	567.1	4.8	61.9
Jun-Aug 2007	555.1	30.8	585.9	5.3	63.3
Sep-Nov 2007	556.9	27.2	584.1	4.7	62.7
Southern and Eastern					
Sep-Nov 2005	1,479.5	67.2	1,546.7	4.3	63.0
Jun-Aug 2006	1,545.0	76.4	1,621.5	4.7	65.0
Sep-Nov 2006	1,541.7	65.7	1,607.4	4.1	64.0
Dec-Feb 2007	1,547.3	68.6	1,615.9	4.2	63.9
Mar-May 2007	1,562.1	72.8	1,634.9	4.5	64.4
Jun-Aug 2007	1,590.9	76.5	1,667.5	4.6	65.3
Sep-Nov 2007	1,582.0	73.8	1,655.8	4.5	64.3
State					
Sep-Nov 2005	1,985.7	92.3	2,078.1	4.4	62.3
Jun-Aug 2006	2,076.9	106.5	2,183.4	4.9	64.3
Sep-Nov 2006	2,072.1	90.3	2,162.4	4.2	63.3
Dec-Feb 2007	2,081.3	93.4	2,174.7	4.3	63.3
Mar-May 2007	2,101.6	100.3	2,201.9	4.6	63.7
Jun-Aug 2007	2,146.0	107.3	2,253.3	4.8	64.8
Sep-Nov 2007	2,138.9	101.0	2,239.9	4.5	63.9

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Region (NUTS3)		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border	Sep-Nov 2005	201.3	11.9	213.2	5.6	58.7
	Jun-Aug 2006	212.5	13.5	226.0	6.0	60.9
	Sep-Nov 2006	215.3	11.8	227.1	5.2	60.8
	Dec-Feb 2007	215.5	12.6	228.2	5.5	60.7
	Mar-May 2007	220.1	12.3	232.4	5.3	61.5
	Jun-Aug 2007	222.4	15.8	238.2	6.6	62.2
	Sep-Nov 2007	223.9	13.0	236.9	5.5	61.4
Midland	Sep-Nov 2005	113.5	4.5	117.9	3.8	61.4
	Jun-Aug 2006	118.9	5.9	124.7	4.7	63.1
	Sep-Nov 2006	119.6	3.8	123.4	3.1	61.9
	Dec-Feb 2007	119.9	4.7	124.6	3.8	62.0
	Mar-May 2007	121.3	5.6	126.8	4.4	62.7
	Jun-Aug 2007	126.7	5.0	131.7	3.8	64.3
	Sep-Nov 2007	126.6	5.8	132.4	4.4	64.3
West	Sep-Nov 2005	191.5	8.8	200.2	4.4	61.1
	Jun-Aug 2006	200.5	10.7	211.2	5.1	64.0
	Sep-Nov 2006	195.5	9.0	204.5	4.4	61.6
	Dec-Feb 2007	198.7	7.4	206.0	3.6	61.8
	Mar-May 2007	198.2	9.6	207.9	4.6	62.0
	Jun-Aug 2007	206.0	10.0	216.0	4.6	64.0
	Sep-Nov 2007	206.3	8.4	214.7	3.9	63.2
Dublin	Sep-Nov 2005	588.5	27.9	616.4	4.5	64.3
	Jun-Aug 2006	610.0	29.9	640.0	4.7	65.8
	Sep-Nov 2006	613.1	27.1	640.2	4.2	65.5
	Dec-Feb 2007	614.2	28.5	642.6	4.4	65.4
	Mar-May 2007	616.7	28.6	645.3	4.4	65.3
	Jun-Aug 2007	623.9	31.8	655.6	4.8	66.1
	Sep-Nov 2007	621.5	30.1	651.6	4.6	65.4
Mid-East	Sep-Nov 2005	228.0	8.3	236.3	3.5	65.5
	Jun-Aug 2006	238.7	9.5	248.1	3.8	66.4
	Sep-Nov 2006	240.6	7.2	247.8	2.9	65.7
	Dec-Feb 2007	244.2	8.3	252.6	3.3	66.4
	Mar-May 2007	249.1	10.6	259.8	4.1	67.8
	Jun-Aug 2007	256.4	10.3	266.7	3.9	68.8
	Sep-Nov 2007	256.1	9.7	265.8	3.6	67.6
Mid-West	Sep-Nov 2005	171.1	7.8	178.9	4.4	63.0
	Jun-Aug 2006	175.5	10.1	185.7	5.5	64.9
	Sep-Nov 2006	170.2	8.6	178.8	4.8	62.2
	Dec-Feb 2007	170.7	9.3	180.0	5.1	62.4
	Mar-May 2007	173.3	10.6	183.8	5.7	63.5
	Jun-Aug 2007	173.4	9.8	183.2	5.4	62.9
	Sep-Nov 2007	172.2	9.3	181.4	5.1	61.9
South-East	Sep-Nov 2005	202.3	12.2	214.5	5.7	59.9
	Jun-Aug 2006	216.7	13.6	230.4	5.9	62.9
	Sep-Nov 2006	217.9	11.2	229.1	4.9	62.0
	Dec-Feb 2007	218.0	10.6	228.6	4.6	61.5
	Mar-May 2007	220.1	11.8	231.9	5.1	62.0
	Jun-Aug 2007	225.6	11.5	237.1	4.8	63.0
	Sep-Nov 2007	225.8	11.7	237.5	4.9	62.5
South-West	Sep-Nov 2005	289.6	11.0	300.6	3.6	61.0
	Jun-Aug 2006	304.1	13.2	317.3	4.2	63.7
	Sep-Nov 2006	299.9	11.6	311.5	3.7	62.2
	Dec-Feb 2007	300.1	12.0	312.1	3.9	62.0
	Mar-May 2007	302.8	11.2	314.0	3.6	62.1
	Jun-Aug 2007	311.7	13.1	324.9	4.0	64.0
	Sep-Nov 2007	306.5	13.0	319.5	4.1	62.4
State	Sep-Nov 2005	1,985.7	92.3	2,078.1	4.4	62.3
	Jun-Aug 2006	2,076.9	106.5	2,183.4	4.9	64.3
	Sep-Nov 2006	2,072.1	90.3	2,162.4	4.2	63.3
	Dec-Feb 2007	2,081.3	93.4	2,174.7	4.3	63.3
	Mar-May 2007	2,101.6	100.3	2,201.9	4.6	63.7
	Jun-Aug 2007	2,146.0	107.3	2,253.3	4.8	64.8
	Sep-Nov 2007	2,138.9	101.0	2,239.9	4.5	63.9

¹ See Background Notes.

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

and marital status, September-November 2007									%
Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	28.4	81.0	91.3	85.3	76.0	59.6	45.7	22.5	71.5
Married	*	88.5	95.1	95.1	93.1	81.4	64.2	16.7	77.5
Separated or divorced	*	*	94.0	86.6	78.5	69.5	48.0	16.2	68.6
Widowed	*	*	*	93.7	76.4	61.8	46.9	10.7	25.8
Total males	28.4	81.2	92.4	92.3	89.4	77.0	60.4	16.8	73.4
Females									
Single	25.9	72.3	82.2	76.2	75.3	57.3	38.3	4.7	63.2
Married	*	58.1	71.1	66.9	66.1	46.2	31.6	5.8	54.2
Separated or divorced	*	*	67.2	69.8	69.6	52.8	37.9	9.5	61.1
Widowed	*	*	64.4	76.8	64.5	48.2	31.2	3.0	12.4
Total females	25.9	71.7	77.8	69.1	67.6	47.9	32.5	4.5	54.5
All persons									
Single	27.2	76.7	87.1	81.3	75.7	58.6	42.9	14.1	67.6
Married	*	68.4	81.8	81.1	80.0	64.1	48.5	12.0	66.0
Separated or divorced	*	*	73.1	75.4	73.0	59.9	42.6	13.2	64.0
Widowed	*	*	70.7	80.8	68.0	52.5	35.2	4.5	15.3
Total persons	27.1	76.4	85.2	80.8	78.5	62.6	46.5	10.0	63.9

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

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

	Age group								%
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Sep-Nov 2005	30.4	79.3	92.8	93.7	89.7	75.0	58.1	14.1	72.6
Jun-Aug 2006	40.9	86.2	93.2	93.8	88.7	76.9	58.3	14.1	74.6
Sep-Nov 2006	30.7	81.3	92.9	93.8	89.0	77.0	59.0	15.1	73.5
Dec-Feb 2007	30.9	80.2	92.2	93.5	88.4	77.0	60.0	15.5	73.2
Mar-May 2007	28.7	80.4	92.4	93.4	89.1	77.9	60.4	16.2	73.4
Jun-Aug 2007	37.3	84.2	92.6	92.6	88.6	77.6	61.0	15.8	74.4
Sep-Nov 2007	28.4	81.2	92.4	92.3	89.4	77.0	60.4	16.8	73.4
Females									
Sep-Nov 2005	24.4	70.3	76.9	66.3	63.8	47.7	29.1	3.4	52.1
Jun-Aug 2006	33.3	75.5	78.2	66.9	63.9	48.1	29.9	3.6	54.1
Sep-Nov 2006	23.5	71.4	78.0	67.1	65.4	48.3	28.7	3.9	53.2
Dec-Feb 2007	24.6	69.8	78.4	67.9	65.5	48.3	29.5	3.7	53.4
Mar-May 2007	25.3	69.8	78.6	68.8	67.1	48.7	31.4	3.9	54.1
Jun-Aug 2007	33.1	76.2	78.6	68.6	66.9	47.7	31.2	3.8	55.3
Sep-Nov 2007	25.9	71.7	77.8	69.1	67.6	47.9	32.5	4.5	54.5
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2005	27.5	74.8	84.9	80.1	76.8	61.5	43.7	8.1	62.3
Jun-Aug 2006	37.2	80.9	85.8	80.5	76.4	62.6	44.2	8.2	64.3
Sep-Nov 2006	27.2	76.4	85.5	80.6	77.3	62.8	44.0	8.8	63.3
Dec-Feb 2007	27.8	75.0	85.4	80.8	77.0	62.8	44.9	8.9	63.3
Mar-May 2007	27.1	75.2	85.6	81.3	78.1	63.5	46.0	9.3	63.7
Jun-Aug 2007	35.2	80.3	85.7	80.8	77.8	62.8	46.2	9.2	64.8
Sep-Nov 2007	27.1	76.4	85.2	80.8	78.5	62.6	46.5	10.0	63.9

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2005	45.3	136.1	331.4	291.3	233.0	84.9	52.0	28.9	1,202.9
Jun-Aug 2006	60.4	151.2	347.6	296.6	233.6	87.4	53.8	29.0	1,259.5
Sep-Nov 2006	45.1	142.5	351.5	298.9	235.9	87.9	55.3	31.2	1,248.2
Dec-Feb 2007	45.1	140.4	353.1	299.9	235.6	88.1	56.9	32.2	1,251.3
Mar-May 2007	41.8	140.7	357.8	301.5	238.4	89.5	58.0	33.8	1,261.5
Jun-Aug 2007	54.3	147.7	363.1	301.2	238.3	89.6	59.4	33.3	1,286.9
Sep-Nov 2007	41.3	141.1	366.0	302.5	242.1	89.4	59.5	35.8	1,277.7
Females									
Sep-Nov 2005	34.7	119.3	267.8	202.4	163.7	52.8	25.6	8.8	875.1
Jun-Aug 2006	47.2	130.0	283.3	207.0	166.5	53.5	27.2	9.2	923.9
Sep-Nov 2006	33.2	123.2	286.7	209.1	171.5	53.9	26.5	10.1	914.2
Dec-Feb 2007	34.6	120.5	291.7	212.6	172.6	54.1	27.6	9.6	923.4
Mar-May 2007	35.6	120.7	295.2	216.6	177.7	54.8	29.7	10.1	940.4
Jun-Aug 2007	46.6	131.2	298.9	217.5	178.3	53.9	29.9	10.1	966.4
Sep-Nov 2007	36.5	124.4	301.1	221.1	181.1	54.7	31.4	11.9	962.3
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2005	80.0	255.4	599.2	493.7	396.7	137.7	77.7	37.8	2,078.1
Jun-Aug 2006	107.6	281.2	630.9	503.6	400.1	140.9	81.0	38.2	2,183.4
Sep-Nov 2006	78.3	265.6	638.2	507.9	407.4	141.8	81.8	41.3	2,162.4
Dec-Feb 2007	79.8	260.9	644.7	512.5	408.2	142.3	84.5	41.8	2,174.7
Mar-May 2007	77.4	261.4	653.0	518.1	416.1	144.4	87.7	43.9	2,201.9
Jun-Aug 2007	100.8	278.8	662.0	518.7	416.6	143.6	89.3	43.4	2,253.3
Sep-Nov 2007	77.8	265.5	667.1	523.6	423.2	144.1	90.9	47.7	2,239.9

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									
Sep-Nov 2005	38.4	125.7	316.1	282.0	224.0	81.9	51.1	28.7	1,148.0
Jun-Aug 2006	51.0	137.7	330.0	285.9	225.8	84.3	53.1	28.9	1,196.8
Sep-Nov 2006	39.4	134.1	334.0	287.4	227.3	85.2	54.6	31.1	1,193.1
Dec-Feb 2007	38.7	130.0	336.9	288.4	227.5	85.1	55.8	32.0	1,194.4
Mar-May 2007	35.5	129.9	339.9	290.0	229.1	86.7	56.9	33.5	1,201.5
Jun-Aug 2007	45.5	135.3	344.4	289.5	229.7	87.3	58.1	33.1	1,222.8
Sep-Nov 2007	35.2	129.0	345.4	290.5	233.4	86.5	58.4	35.6	1,214.1
Females									
Sep-Nov 2005	31.6	110.2	257.0	195.4	158.3	51.4	25.2	8.7	837.7
Jun-Aug 2006	39.4	119.6	271.9	199.7	162.0	51.9	26.6	9.1	880.1
Sep-Nov 2006	29.5	116.2	275.9	201.6	167.0	52.5	26.2	10.0	879.0
Dec-Feb 2007	30.3	113.9	280.1	205.3	167.5	53.0	27.3	9.6	886.9
Mar-May 2007	31.2	112.7	283.5	208.3	172.0	53.1	29.3	10.0	900.1
Jun-Aug 2007	40.6	121.0	285.5	209.8	174.0	53.0	29.4	10.0	923.2
Sep-Nov 2007	32.6	116.7	289.7	213.1	176.4	53.6	30.8	11.9	924.8
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2005	70.1	235.9	573.1	477.4	382.3	133.3	76.2	37.4	1,985.7
Jun-Aug 2006	90.4	257.3	602.0	485.6	387.8	136.2	79.6	38.0	2,076.9
Sep-Nov 2006	68.9	250.4	609.9	489.0	394.3	137.7	80.8	41.2	2,072.1
Dec-Feb 2007	69.0	243.9	617.0	493.7	394.9	138.1	83.1	41.6	2,081.3
Mar-May 2007	66.7	242.7	623.4	498.3	401.1	139.8	86.2	43.5	2,101.6
Jun-Aug 2007	86.1	256.3	629.9	499.3	403.7	140.3	87.5	43.0	2,146.0
Sep-Nov 2007	67.8	245.7	635.1	503.6	409.8	140.2	89.3	47.5	2,138.9

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								
Sep-Nov 2005	25.8	73.3	88.6	90.7	86.2	72.4	57.0	77.1
Jun-Aug 2006	34.6	78.5	88.5	90.5	85.7	74.1	57.5	78.8
Sep-Nov 2006	26.8	76.6	88.2	90.2	85.7	74.6	58.2	77.9
Dec-Feb 2007	26.5	74.3	87.9	89.9	85.4	74.3	58.8	77.5
Mar-May 2007	24.4	74.3	87.8	89.9	85.6	75.4	59.3	77.4
Jun-Aug 2007	31.3	77.1	87.9	89.0	85.4	75.6	59.7	78.3
Sep-Nov 2007	24.2	74.2	87.2	88.6	86.2	74.6	59.3	77.1
Females								
Sep-Nov 2005	22.2	65.0	73.8	64.0	61.7	46.4	28.5	58.3
Jun-Aug 2006	27.8	69.4	75.0	64.5	62.2	46.6	29.3	60.1
Sep-Nov 2006	20.9	67.4	75.1	64.7	63.7	47.0	28.4	59.6
Dec-Feb 2007	21.5	66.0	75.3	65.5	63.6	47.2	29.2	59.8
Mar-May 2007	22.2	65.2	75.5	66.2	64.9	47.2	31.0	60.3
Jun-Aug 2007	28.9	70.3	75.1	66.2	65.3	46.8	30.6	61.5
Sep-Nov 2007	23.1	67.2	74.8	66.6	65.8	47.0	31.8	60.8
All persons								
Sep-Nov 2005	24.1	69.1	81.2	77.5	74.0	59.6	42.9	67.8
Jun-Aug 2006	31.2	74.0	81.9	77.6	74.0	60.5	43.5	69.6
Sep-Nov 2006	23.9	72.0	81.7	77.6	74.8	61.0	43.4	68.8
Dec-Feb 2007	24.1	70.1	81.7	77.9	74.5	60.9	44.1	68.7
Mar-May 2007	23.3	69.8	81.7	78.2	75.3	61.5	45.3	69.0
Jun-Aug 2007	30.1	73.8	81.6	77.7	75.4	61.4	45.3	70.0
Sep-Nov 2007	23.6	70.7	81.1	77.7	76.0	60.9	45.7	69.0

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									
Sep-Nov 2005	6.8	10.4	15.3	9.3	9.0	3.0	1.0	*	54.9
Jun-Aug 2006	9.3	13.4	17.5	10.7	7.8	3.1	*	*	62.6
Sep-Nov 2006	5.7	8.3	17.5	11.4	8.6	2.7	*	*	55.1
Dec-Feb 2007	6.4	10.4	16.2	11.5	8.1	3.0	1.1	*	56.9
Mar-May 2007	6.2	10.8	17.9	11.5	9.3	2.9	1.1	*	60.0
Jun-Aug 2007	8.8	12.4	18.7	11.7	8.6	2.4	1.3	*	64.1
Sep-Nov 2007	6.1	12.1	20.7	12.0	8.7	2.8	1.0	*	63.6
Females									
Sep-Nov 2005	3.1	9.1	10.8	7.0	5.4	1.4	*	*	37.4
Jun-Aug 2006	7.8	10.4	11.3	7.4	4.5	1.7	*	*	43.8
Sep-Nov 2006	3.7	6.9	10.8	7.5	4.5	1.4	*	*	35.2
Dec-Feb 2007	4.3	6.7	11.5	7.3	5.1	1.2	*	*	36.5
Mar-May 2007	4.4	7.9	11.7	8.3	5.7	1.7	*	*	40.3
Jun-Aug 2007	6.0	10.2	13.4	7.7	4.3	*	*	*	43.1
Sep-Nov 2007	3.9	7.7	11.3	8.0	4.8	1.1	*	*	37.5
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2005	9.9	19.5	26.1	16.3	14.4	4.4	1.4	*	92.3
Jun-Aug 2006	17.1	23.8	28.9	18.0	12.3	4.8	1.3	*	106.5
Sep-Nov 2006	9.4	15.2	28.3	18.9	13.1	4.1	1.0	*	90.3
Dec-Feb 2007	10.7	17.1	27.7	18.8	13.2	4.1	1.4	*	93.4
Mar-May 2007	10.7	18.7	29.6	19.8	15.0	4.6	1.5	*	100.3
Jun-Aug 2007	14.7	22.6	32.1	19.4	12.9	3.3	1.9	*	107.3
Sep-Nov 2007	10.0	19.8	32.0	20.0	13.5	3.9	1.6	*	101.0

* 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									
Sep-Nov 2005	15.1	7.6	4.6	3.2	3.9	3.5	1.9	0.7	4.6
Jun-Aug 2006	15.5	8.9	5.0	3.6	3.3	3.6	1.4	0.2	5.0
Sep-Nov 2006	12.6	5.8	5.0	3.8	3.7	3.1	1.3	0.3	4.4
Dec-Feb 2007	14.2	7.4	4.6	3.8	3.5	3.4	1.9	0.5	4.5
Mar-May 2007	14.9	7.7	5.0	3.8	3.9	3.2	1.9	0.9	4.8
Jun-Aug 2007	16.2	8.4	5.2	3.9	3.6	2.6	2.2	0.6	5.0
Sep-Nov 2007	14.8	8.6	5.6	4.0	3.6	3.2	1.8	0.4	5.0
Females									
Sep-Nov 2005	8.9	7.6	4.0	3.5	3.3	2.6	1.8	1.4	4.3
Jun-Aug 2006	16.6	8.0	4.0	3.6	2.7	3.1	2.2	1.4	4.7
Sep-Nov 2006	11.2	5.6	3.8	3.6	2.6	2.6	1.3	0.5	3.8
Dec-Feb 2007	12.5	5.5	3.9	3.4	3.0	2.1	1.0	0.6	3.9
Mar-May 2007	12.5	6.6	4.0	3.8	3.2	3.1	1.3	1.3	4.3
Jun-Aug 2007	12.8	7.7	4.5	3.5	2.4	1.8	1.9	1.7	4.5
Sep-Nov 2007	10.8	6.2	3.8	3.6	2.6	2.0	1.9	0.3	3.9
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2005	12.4	7.6	4.4	3.3	3.6	3.2	1.9	0.9	4.4
Jun-Aug 2006	15.9	8.5	4.6	3.6	3.1	3.4	1.6	0.5	4.9
Sep-Nov 2006	12.0	5.7	4.4	3.7	3.2	2.9	1.3	0.3	4.2
Dec-Feb 2007	13.5	6.5	4.3	3.7	3.2	2.9	1.6	0.6	4.3
Mar-May 2007	13.8	7.2	4.5	3.8	3.6	3.2	1.7	1.0	4.6
Jun-Aug 2007	14.6	8.1	4.9	3.7	3.1	2.3	2.1	0.9	4.8
Sep-Nov 2007	12.9	7.5	4.8	3.8	3.2	2.7	1.8	0.4	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)									
Sep-Nov 2005	*	6.6	137.4	223.8	196.0	83.8	63.2	106.0	817.3
Jun-Aug 2006	*	6.4	137.6	225.5	199.0	83.7	67.0	106.9	826.5
Sep-Nov 2006	*	5.8	141.8	226.7	199.9	83.8	68.9	107.6	835.1
Dec-Feb 2007	*	6.3	139.1	226.1	197.9	84.3	68.8	105.6	828.6
Mar-May 2007	*	6.6	137.8	224.4	196.0	83.6	70.4	108.3	827.3
Jun-Aug 2007	*	7.4	135.5	227.2	197.7	84.0	71.0	110.3	833.6
Sep-Nov 2007	*	7.5	140.6	229.0	199.2	85.6	71.3	110.6	844.2
of which In labour force ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2005	*	3.7	96.7	142.0	121.8	39.0	17.0	3.8	424.3
Jun-Aug 2006	*	4.0	95.4	145.0	123.2	39.0	18.8	4.8	430.3
Sep-Nov 2006	*	3.3	99.4	146.2	126.7	38.9	19.0	5.4	439.2
Dec-Feb 2007	*	3.6	98.6	146.9	126.3	38.4	19.2	5.8	439.0
Mar-May 2007	*	3.8	99.5	147.8	127.0	38.6	20.9	5.4	443.0
Jun-Aug 2007	*	4.3	95.8	150.2	128.0	38.5	21.4	5.6	443.9
Sep-Nov 2007	*	4.4	99.9	153.1	131.7	39.5	22.5	6.5	457.6
of which In employment ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2005	*	3.4	93.0	137.6	118.2	38.2	16.7	3.8	411.1
Jun-Aug 2006	*	3.4	91.8	140.5	120.5	37.7	18.5	4.7	417.1
Sep-Nov 2006	*	2.8	97.0	142.4	123.8	38.1	18.8	5.3	428.5
Dec-Feb 2007	*	3.4	95.6	142.9	123.1	37.7	19.1	5.7	427.6
Mar-May 2007	*	3.4	96.1	143.7	123.5	37.6	20.7	5.3	430.4
Jun-Aug 2007	*	4.2	92.5	145.8	125.1	38.0	21.0	5.5	432.2
Sep-Nov 2007	*	4.2	97.5	148.5	128.8	38.9	22.2	6.5	446.6
Participation rates (%)									
Sep-Nov 2005	*	55.7	70.3	63.5	62.1	46.6	26.9	3.6	51.9
Jun-Aug 2006	*	62.5	69.3	64.3	61.9	46.6	28.0	4.5	52.1
Sep-Nov 2006	*	57.8	70.1	64.5	63.4	46.4	27.6	5.0	52.6
Dec-Feb 2007	*	57.6	70.9	65.0	63.8	45.5	27.9	5.5	53.0
Mar-May 2007	*	57.0	72.2	65.9	64.8	46.1	29.7	4.9	53.5
Jun-Aug 2007	*	58.2	70.7	66.1	64.8	45.8	30.1	5.0	53.3
Sep-Nov 2007	*	58.1	71.1	66.9	66.1	46.2	31.6	5.8	54.2

* 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 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	1,837.7	1,760.6	77.1	21.6	4.2	1.2
Jun-Aug 2002	1,891.3	1,804.9	86.4	22.0	4.6	1.2
Sep-Nov 2002	1,862.8	1,778.7	84.1	24.9	4.5	1.3
Dec-Feb 2003	1,864.8	1,779.5	85.4	26.7	4.6	1.4
Mar-May 2003	1,872.7	1,790.1	82.6	27.4	4.4	1.5
Jun-Aug 2003	1,931.8	1,832.7	99.1	27.3	5.1	1.4
Sep-Nov 2003	1,912.7	1,827.1	85.7	26.3	4.5	1.4
Dec-Feb 2004	1,916.5	1,833.0	83.5	30.6	4.4	1.6
Mar-May 2004	1,919.1	1,834.6	84.6	26.5	4.4	1.4
Jun-Aug 2004	1,987.0	1,893.1	93.9	28.1	4.7	1.4
Sep-Nov 2004	1,982.1	1,896.4	85.8	28.8	4.3	1.5
Dec-Feb 2005	1,993.4	1,910.8	82.6	27.6	4.1	1.4
Mar-May 2005	2,018.2	1,931.6	86.5	27.5	4.3	1.4
Jun-Aug 2005	2,091.7	1,994.3	97.4	28.0	4.7	1.3
Sep-Nov 2005	2,078.1	1,985.7	92.3	27.6	4.4	1.3
Dec-Feb 2006	2,094.3	2,004.8	89.5	26.1	4.3	1.2
Mar-May 2006	2,115.9	2,023.3	92.6	29.6	4.4	1.4
uMar-May 2006 ¹	2,113.9	2,021.1	92.8	29.6	4.4	1.4
Jun-Aug 2006	2,183.4	2,076.9	106.5	28.5	4.9	1.3
Sep-Nov 2006	2,162.4	2,072.1	90.3	27.1	4.2	1.3
Dec-Feb 2007	2,174.7	2,081.3	93.4	25.8	4.3	1.2
Mar-May 2007	2,201.9	2,101.6	100.3	28.4	4.6	1.3
Jun-Aug 2007	2,253.3	2,146.0	107.3	29.7	4.8	1.3
Sep-Nov 2007	2,239.9	2,138.9	101.0	27.7	4.5	1.2

¹ The two occurrences of Q2 2006 data has been included to reflect the changeover from the 'De Facto' to the 'Usually Resident' definition - see Background Notes.

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Sep- Nov 05	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
Males							
Less than 1 year	34.1	41.2	34.9	37.6	39.4	42.5	42.7
1 year and over	20.7	21.1	19.9	19.0	20.4	21.3	20.6
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	54.9	62.6	55.1	56.9	60.0	64.1	63.6
Females							
Less than 1 year	30.4	36.4	28.1	29.7	32.2	34.7	30.3
1 year and over	7.0	7.4	7.1	6.7	8.0	8.5	7.1
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	37.4	43.8	35.2	36.5	40.3	43.1	37.5
All persons							
Less than 1 year	64.5	77.7	63.0	67.2	71.6	77.2	73.0
1 year and over	27.6	28.5	27.1	25.8	28.4	29.7	27.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	92.3	106.5	90.3	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0

* 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 Sep-Nov 2006				QNHS Sep-Nov 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	10.1	18.4	6.4	34.9	14.2	21.4	7.2	42.7
1 year and over	3.8	10.5	5.6	19.9	4.0	11.1	5.5	20.6
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	14.0	28.9	12.1	55.1	18.2	32.7	12.7	63.6
Females								
Less than 1 year	9.0	14.5	4.6	28.1	10.1	15.5	4.7	30.3
1 year and over	1.6	3.8	1.7	7.1	1.6	3.8	1.7	7.1
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	10.6	18.3	6.3	35.2	11.7	19.3	6.5	37.5
All persons								
Less than 1 year	19.1	32.9	11.0	63.0	24.2	36.8	11.9	73.0
1 year and over	5.4	14.3	7.3	27.1	5.5	15.0	7.2	27.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	24.7	47.3	18.4	90.3	29.8	52.0	19.2	101.0

* 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	Sep- Nov 05	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	uMar- May 06 ¹	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07
In labour force	2,078.1	2,094.3	2,115.9	2,113.9	2,183.4	2,162.4	2,174.7	2,201.9	2,253.3	2,239.9
In employment:	1,985.7	2,004.8	2,023.3	2,021.1	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9
full-time	1,645.2	1,661.5	1,672.3	1,670.8	1,730.0	1,724.1	1,726.7	1,723.2	1,760.9	1,754.4
part-time:	340.6	343.3	351.0	350.4	346.9	348.0	354.6	378.5	385.2	384.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i> ²	336.1	339.0	346.8	346.2	343.2	344.2	351.6	373.0	379.9	380.1
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ²	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2	3.7	3.8	3.0	5.5	5.3	4.4
Unemployed:	92.3	89.5	92.6	92.8	106.5	90.3	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0
seeking full-time work	75.2	74.0	77.6	77.8	89.5	75.5	78.4	81.8	90.2	82.5
seeking part-time work	17.1	15.5	15.0	15.0	16.9	14.8	14.9	18.5	17.1	18.5
Not in labour force	1,258.3	1,263.0	1,259.5	1,253.9	1,211.3	1,255.8	1,262.7	1,253.3	1,225.6	1,267.1
Marginally attached to the labour force:	10.0	10.4	9.9	9.9	15.6	10.0	16.5	11.0	15.4	11.5
Discouraged workers	7.5	8.2	7.8	7.8	12.7	7.5	13.4	8.5	12.1	9.5
Passive jobseekers	2.5	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.8	2.5	3.1	2.6	3.4	2.0
Others:	1,248.3	1,252.7	1,249.5	1,244.0	1,195.8	1,245.8	1,246.2	1,242.3	1,210.2	1,255.7
Persons not in education, who want work ³	59.8	61.6	58.3	58.2	67.4	60.0	61.2	56.7	55.6	52.4
Persons in education, who want work ³	26.6	31.5	34.2	34.4	26.6	32.0	31.2	32.3	18.8	25.8
All other persons	1,161.9	1,159.5	1,157.0	1,151.4	1,101.8	1,153.8	1,153.7	1,153.3	1,135.8	1,177.5
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,336.4	3,357.3	3,375.4	3,367.9	3,394.7	3,418.2	3,437.4	3,455.2	3,478.9	3,507.1

¹ The two occurrences of Q2 2006 data has been included to reflect the changeover from the 'De Facto' to the 'Usually Resident' definition - see Background Notes.

² See Background Notes.

³ 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
Sep-Nov 2002	5.0	8.3	8.4
Dec-Feb 2003	5.1	8.5	8.7
Mar-May 2003	4.9	8.4	8.6
Jun-Aug 2003	5.7	8.6	8.8
Sep-Nov 2003	4.9	7.5	7.7
Dec-Feb 2004	4.8	7.7	7.9
Mar-May 2004	4.8	7.5	7.7
Jun-Aug 2004	5.2	8.1	8.3
Sep-Nov 2004	4.7	7.6	7.7
Dec-Feb 2005	4.6	7.4	7.6
Mar-May 2005	4.6	7.3	7.5
Jun-Aug 2005	5.2	8.8	9.0
Sep-Nov 2005	4.8	7.5	7.8
Dec-Feb 2006	4.6	7.5	7.7
Mar-May 2006	4.7	7.4	7.6
Mar-May 2006u	4.7	7.4	7.6
Jun-Aug 2006	5.4	8.4	8.5
Sep-Nov 2006	4.5	7.2	7.3
Dec-Feb 2007	4.9	7.6	7.7
Mar-May 2007	4.9	7.4	7.6
Jun-Aug 2007	5.3	7.7	7.9
Sep-Nov 2007	4.9	7.2	7.3

NOTE: Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 19:

S1: Unemployed plus discouraged workers *as a percentage of the Labour Force* plus discouraged workers.

S2: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work *as a percentage of the Labour Force* plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.

S3: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work plus underemployed part-time workers *as a percentage of the Labour Force* plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.

¹ The two occurrences of Q2 2006 data has been included to reflect the changeover from the 'De Facto' to the 'Usually Resident' definition - see Background Notes.

Table 21 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status¹

Principal Economic Status	Sep-Nov 05	Jun-Aug 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07	Sep-Nov 07
Males							
At work	1,117.3	1,152.5	1,163.9	1,166.1	1,168.4	1,175.1	1,181.4
Unemployed	81.3	84.0	79.9	83.0	82.4	84.4	87.1
Student	167.7	157.6	163.6	165.6	170.6	165.3	167.5
Home duties	5.4	4.3	5.4	5.7	5.9	7.2	8.3
Retired	211.8	213.6	211.1	210.8	212.5	216.6	216.7
Others	72.3	75.4	75.3	77.7	78.1	81.8	80.5
Total males	1,655.8	1,687.4	1,699.3	1,709.0	1,718.0	1,730.5	1,741.5
Females							
At work	792.7	824.1	839.8	846.7	852.1	865.4	878.0
Unemployed	37.5	42.4	34.1	37.7	38.4	41.6	36.3
Student	190.6	181.2	185.5	187.7	195.3	182.4	191.1
Home duties	540.4	535.3	540.5	535.9	521.5	522.3	523.2
Retired	76.7	79.2	75.9	77.8	84.3	87.9	83.8
Others	42.5	45.0	43.1	42.5	45.6	48.8	53.1
Total females	1,680.5	1,707.3	1,718.9	1,728.4	1,737.2	1,748.5	1,765.5
All persons							
At work	1,910.1	1,976.6	2,003.8	2,012.8	2,020.6	2,040.6	2,059.4
Unemployed	118.9	126.4	114.0	120.7	120.8	126.0	123.5
Student	358.2	338.9	349.1	353.4	365.9	347.8	358.7
Home duties	545.8	539.6	546.0	541.6	527.5	529.5	531.6
Retired	288.5	292.8	287.0	288.7	296.8	304.5	300.5
Others	114.8	120.4	118.4	120.2	123.8	130.6	133.6
Total persons	3,336.4	3,394.7	3,418.2	3,437.4	3,455.2	3,478.9	3,507.1

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, September-November 2007

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,176.8	2.0	26.5	*	5.7	2.7	1,214.1
full-time	1,121.3	1.3	3.6	*	*	1.5	1,128.7
part-time:	55.5	*	22.9	*	4.9	1.2	85.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	53.5	*	22.9	*	4.9	1.2	83.3
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.0	*	*	*	*	*	2.2
Unemployed:	1.0	56.7	2.1	*	*	2.4	63.6
seeking full-time work	1.0	55.3	*	*	*	2.1	59.8
seeking part-time work	*	1.4	1.7	*	*	*	3.8
Marginally attached to the labour force	2.0	3.4	*	*	*	*	6.6
Others	1.5	25.0	138.5	7.3	209.9	75.1	457.3
Total males aged 15 or over	1,181.4	87.1	167.5	8.3	216.7	80.5	1,741.5
Females							
In employment:	871.7	1.3	39.3	8.0	*	3.9	924.8
full-time	617.5	1.0	3.4	1.6	*	2.2	625.7
part-time:	254.2	*	35.9	6.4	*	1.7	299.1
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	252.1	*	35.9	6.4	*	1.7	296.9
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.2	*	*	*	*	*	2.2
Unemployed:	1.1	20.6	2.7	12.4	*	*	37.5
seeking full-time work	*	16.5	*	4.7	*	*	22.7
seeking part-time work	*	4.1	2.3	7.6	*	*	14.7
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.8	1.5	*	*	*	*	4.9
Others	3.4	12.9	148.9	502.1	82.8	48.3	798.4
Total females aged 15 or over	878.0	36.3	191.1	523.2	83.8	53.1	1,765.5
All persons							
In employment:	2,048.6	3.3	65.8	8.3	6.4	6.6	2,138.9
full-time	1,738.8	2.2	7.0	1.7	*	3.7	1,754.4
part-time:	309.7	1.1	58.8	6.5	5.5	2.9	384.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	305.6	*	58.8	6.5	5.4	2.9	380.1
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.2	*	*	*	*	*	4.4
Unemployed:	2.1	77.3	4.8	13.0	*	2.9	101.0
seeking full-time work	1.8	71.9	*	5.3	*	2.4	82.5
seeking part-time work	*	5.5	4.0	7.8	*	*	18.5
Marginally attached to the labour force	3.8	4.9	*	*	*	*	11.5
Others	4.9	37.9	287.4	509.4	292.7	123.4	1,255.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	2,059.4	123.5	358.7	531.6	300.5	133.6	3,507.1

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	September-November 2006					September-November 2007				
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Males aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	126.7	11.6	138.3	8.4	59.5	115.7	11.6	127.3	9.1	57.4
Lower secondary	214.6	13.6	228.2	6.0	73.4	212.4	18.2	230.7	7.9	72.5
Higher secondary	314.7	14.1	328.9	4.3	84.9	324.2	16.8	341.0	4.9	85.5
Post leaving cert	125.4	4.1	129.5	3.2	93.8	129.7	4.5	134.1	3.4	92.6
Third level non degree	104.9	3.5	108.4	3.2	92.8	109.4	3.3	112.7	2.9	92.4
Third level degree or above	221.0	5.5	226.5	2.4	92.8	239.6	6.2	245.9	2.5	92.5
Other	54.6	2.6	57.2	4.5	91.2	47.5	2.8	50.3	5.6	86.9
Total males aged 15 to 64	1,162.0	55.0	1,217.0	4.5	81.6	1,178.5	63.4	1,241.9	5.1	81.2
Females aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	48.8	3.8	52.7	7.2	27.5	49.9	3.6	53.5	6.7	29.6
Lower secondary	96.6	7.0	103.5	6.8	41.2	103.8	6.1	109.9	5.6	42.3
Higher secondary	244.0	9.3	253.3	3.7	63.3	253.9	12.6	266.5	4.7	64.5
Post leaving cert	93.2	3.8	97.0	3.9	74.0	92.0	4.0	95.9	4.2	72.4
Third level non degree	124.2	4.6	128.9	3.6	80.6	131.4	3.3	134.7	2.4	80.9
Third level degree or above	232.8	4.7	237.5	2.0	85.3	253.1	6.1	259.2	2.4	86.1
Other	29.2	1.9	31.1	6.1	66.3	28.8	1.8	30.6	5.9	64.7
Total females aged 15 to 64	869.0	35.1	904.1	3.9	62.0	912.9	37.4	950.4	3.9	63.3
All persons aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	175.6	15.4	191.0	8.1	45.1	165.6	15.2	180.8	8.4	44.9
Lower secondary	311.2	20.5	331.7	6.2	59.0	316.2	24.4	340.6	7.2	58.9
Higher secondary	558.8	23.4	582.2	4.0	73.9	578.1	29.4	607.5	4.8	74.8
Post leaving cert	218.6	8.0	226.6	3.5	84.2	221.6	8.4	230.1	3.7	83.0
Third level non degree	229.1	8.1	237.2	3.4	85.7	240.8	6.6	247.4	2.7	85.8
Third level degree or above	453.9	10.2	464.0	2.2	88.8	492.7	12.3	505.1	2.4	89.1
Other	83.8	4.5	88.3	5.1	80.6	76.3	4.6	80.9	5.7	77.0
Total persons aged 15 to 64	2,030.9	90.2	2,121.1	4.3	71.9	2,091.4	100.9	2,192.3	4.6	72.4

Table 24 Estimated *adult*¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, Sept-Nov 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	112.3	104.3	216.7	3.4	2.8	6.2	5.3	12.6	17.9	121.0	119.7	240.8
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	84.0	63.0	147.0	2.9	1.3	4.2	47.3	67.6	114.9	134.2	131.9	266.1
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	10.9	4.3	15.2	*	*	*	73.5	80.7	154.2	84.5	85.0	169.5
Total	207.3	171.6	378.9	6.4	4.1	10.5	126.1	160.9	287.0	339.7	336.6	676.4
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	186.7	126.1	312.8	7.9	4.0	11.9	10.2	70.5	80.6	204.8	200.5	405.3
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	10.0	6.1	16.1	1.0	*	1.2	1.8	6.2	8.0	12.8	12.5	25.3
All children aged 5 to 14	78.8	53.8	132.6	2.9	1.8	4.7	3.9	27.6	31.5	85.7	83.1	168.8
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	109.7	75.0	184.7	3.7	2.2	5.8	10.0	42.1	52.1	123.4	119.2	242.6
All children aged 15 or over ³	146.6	98.2	244.9	3.3	2.2	5.5	47.9	93.3	141.1	197.8	193.7	391.5
Total	531.8	359.1	891.0	18.8	10.4	29.2	73.8	239.6	313.4	624.4	609.1	1,233.5
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	*	17.0	17.9	*	2.3	2.4	*	24.8	24.9	1.1	44.1	45.2
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.0	1.0	*	*	*	*	1.8	1.8	*	3.0	3.0
All children aged 5 to 14	1.0	16.7	17.7	*	1.4	1.7	*	9.0	9.4	1.6	27.1	28.8
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.4	18.5	21.0	*	1.4	1.5	*	10.1	11.3	3.8	30.0	33.8
All children aged 15 or over ³	8.1	26.4	34.5	*	1.1	1.3	8.8	45.0	53.9	17.2	72.4	89.7
Total	12.5	79.6	92.0	*	6.3	7.2	10.5	90.7	101.3	23.9	176.6	200.5
Total	751.5	610.3	1,361.9	26.1	20.8	46.9	210.4	491.2	701.6	988.0	1,122.4	2,110.4

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

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

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	Q3/2006					Q3/2007				
	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	234,859.7	216,427.8	18,431.9	57.5	7.8	236,996.1	220,681.6	16,314.1	57.7	6.9
EU-15	186,655.3	172,811.8	13,843.5	58.0	7.4	188,914.4	176,091.1	12,823.1	58.3	6.8
Eurozone ²	148,731.6	136,996.3	11,735.4	56.8	7.9	150,893.3	140,096.8	10,796.3	57.2	7.2
Belgium	4,655.2	4,277.1	378.1	53.2	8.1	4,727.6	4,385.3	342.2	53.4	7.2
Bulgaria	3,511.2	3,200.8	310.4	52.7	8.8	3,550.6	3,315.5	235.1	53.5	6.6
Czech Republic	5,205.0	4,839.4	365.6	59.3	7.0	5,208.8	4,941.9	266.9	58.8	5.1
Denmark	2,943.7	2,835.9	107.8	66.5	3.7	2,921.7	2,805.8	115.9	65.9	4.0
Germany	41,706.7	37,641.1	4,065.7	59.4	9.7	42,123.9	38,600.1	3,523.8	59.8	8.4
Estonia	686.5	649.6	37.0	60.4	5.4	690.8	662.1	28.7	60.7	4.2
Greece	4,902.5	4,494.2	408.3	53.5	8.3	4,926.8	4,539.3	387.5	53.5	7.9
Spain	21,660.7	19,895.6	1,765.0	57.8	8.1	22,302.5	20,510.6	1,791.9	58.4	8.0
France	27,838.0	25,413.4	2,424.6	57.0	8.7	28,128.7	25,953.7	2,174.9	57.3	7.7
Ireland	2,183.4	2,076.9	106.5	64.3	4.9	2,253.3	2,146.0	107.3	64.8	4.8
Italy	24,489.5	23,000.8	1,488.7	48.8	6.1	24,817.7	23,417.1	1,400.6	49.0	5.6
Cyprus	374.8	360.0	14.8	63.8	3.9	395.4	379.8	15.6	64.7	3.9
Latvia	1,192.7	1,118.8	73.9	60.7	6.2	1,201.5	1,130.8	70.7	61.2	5.9
Lithuania	1,602.7	1,511.5	91.2	56.4	5.7	1,623.7	1,560.2	63.5	57.0	3.9
Luxembourg	205.0	195.3	9.7	55.0	4.7	203.8	195.2	8.6	55.0	4.2
Hungary	4,266.4	3,948.1	318.3	50.8	7.5	4,254.2	3,947.4	306.8	50.7	7.2
Malta	164.8	153.7	11.1	50.6	6.7	167.3	156.9	10.3	51.0	6.2
Netherlands	8,605.1	8,294.8	310.3	65.3	3.6	8,767.9	8,512.5	255.4	66.3	2.9
Austria	4,205.5	4,025.3	180.2	61.4	4.3	4,291.1	4,095.1	196.0	62.1	4.6
Poland	17,140.5	14,905.5	2,235.0	54.7	13.0	16,963.5	15,432.3	1,531.2	54.1	9.0
Portugal	5,604.7	5,187.3	417.4	62.6	7.4	5,644.7	5,200.3	444.4	62.9	7.9
Romania	10,364.0	9,633.5	730.4	56.9	7.0	10,304.8	9,690.7	614.1	56.5	6.0
Slovenia	1,030.5	973.6	56.9	59.7	5.5	1,052.4	1,006.2	46.2	60.5	4.4
Slovak Republic	2,665.3	2,321.5	343.8	59.3	12.9	2,668.7	2,366.7	301.9	59.0	11.3
Finland	2,675.3	2,494.5	180.9	61.6	6.8	2,705.3	2,541.6	163.7	61.9	6.1
Sweden	4,837.2	4,530.3	306.9	64.2	6.3	4,907.8	4,638.6	269.2	64.5	5.5
United Kingdom	30,142.8	28,449.3	1,693.4	62.8	5.6	30,191.6	28,549.9	1,641.7	62.5	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 estimates of the labour force classified by nationality. The figures are considered 'broadly indicative' as the very large migration flows in recent years present a significant measurement challenge in a general purpose household survey such as the QNHS. The main concerns, which are based on international experience, centre around the extent to which the survey captures minority communities in a proportionate and representative manner. Notwithstanding these concerns, the CSO believes that the estimates presented in the following tables provide a broadly accurate picture of the current situation and recent trends.

Table A1 Estimated number of persons aged 15 years and over classified by nationality and ILO Economic Status, September-November, 2006 and 2007

Nationality	ILO Economic Status				'000
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Not economically active	Total
Q4 2007					
Irish nationals ¹	1,804.2	81.1	1,885.2	1,153.8	3,039.0
Non-Irish nationals	334.7	20.0	354.7	113.4	468.1
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	51.4	4.1	55.5	36.3	91.8
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	34.5	1.2	35.8	8.4	44.2
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	167.7	9.4	177.1	25.9	203.0
<i>Other</i>	81.0	5.3	86.3	42.7	129.1
Total persons	2,138.9	101.0	2,239.9	1,267.1	3,507.1
Q4 2006					
Irish nationals ¹	1,786.0	71.3	1,857.3	1,160.0	3,017.3
Non-Irish nationals	286.0	19.0	305.0	95.8	400.9
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	51.3	3.8	55.1	34.6	89.7
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	32.7	1.9	34.6	8.0	42.6
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	124.2	7.4	131.6	16.3	147.9
<i>Other</i>	77.9	5.9	83.8	36.9	120.7
Total persons	2,072.1	90.3	2,162.4	1,255.8	3,418.2
Year on year changes					
Irish nationals ¹	+ 18.2	+ 9.8	+ 27.9	- 6.2	+ 21.7
Non-Irish nationals	+ 48.7	+ 1.0	+ 49.7	+ 17.6	+ 67.2
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	+ 1.7	+ 2.1
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	+ 1.8	- 0.7	+ 1.2	+ 0.4	+ 1.6
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	+ 43.5	+ 2.0	+ 45.5	+ 9.6	+ 55.1
<i>Other</i>	+ 3.1	- 0.6	+ 2.5	+ 5.8	+ 8.4
Total persons	+ 66.8	+ 10.7	+ 77.5	+ 11.3	+ 88.9

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

Data may be subject to future revision.

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

Table A2 Estimated number of persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by nationality and NACE Economic Sector, September-November, 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
Q4 2007												
Irish nationals ¹	111.2	239.3	231.0	257.6	83.0	104.8	251.1	102.9	129.8	189.5	103.9	1,804.2
Non-Irish nationals	7.4	51.4	48.0	54.0	49.3	16.0	46.0	2.1	9.3	31.8	19.3	334.7
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.9	7.1	6.4	8.1	2.3	2.9	8.0	1.0	3.7	5.9	4.0	51.4
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	3.8	1.5	3.1	4.6	2.6	10.4	*	2.1	2.9	2.6	34.5
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	3.8	32.0	35.1	31.1	27.4	7.7	17.4	*	1.0	5.0	6.8	167.7
<i>Other</i>	1.2	8.5	5.0	11.6	15.1	2.8	10.2	*	2.6	18.0	5.8	81.0
Total persons	118.7	290.7	279.0	311.6	132.3	120.8	297.1	105.0	139.1	221.3	123.3	2,138.9
Q4 2006												
Irish nationals ¹	108.2	247.8	234.5	251.2	80.8	103.6	240.9	100.9	128.8	184.5	104.8	1,786.0
Non-Irish nationals	6.5	47.1	50.2	36.6	43.2	13.2	35.3	1.6	9.3	26.3	16.9	286.0
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.1	7.1	7.5	6.8	2.7	3.1	8.8	*	3.6	6.1	3.6	51.3
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	4.0	1.5	3.7	4.9	2.0	8.4	*	2.0	2.4	3.1	32.7
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	4.6	25.7	34.2	16.6	20.4	5.4	9.3	*	*	2.0	5.2	124.2
<i>Other</i>	*	10.2	7.0	9.5	15.2	2.6	8.7	*	3.0	15.8	5.1	77.9
Total persons	114.7	294.9	284.6	287.8	124.0	116.8	276.2	102.5	138.1	210.7	121.8	2,072.1
Year on year changes												
Irish nationals ¹	+ 3.0	- 8.5	- 3.5	+ 6.4	+ 2.2	+ 1.2	+ 10.2	+ 2.0	+ 1.0	+ 5.0	- 0.9	+ 18.2
Non-Irish nationals	+ 0.9	+ 4.3	- 2.2	+ 17.4	+ 6.1	+ 2.8	+ 10.7	+ 0.5	0.0	+ 5.5	+ 2.4	+ 48.7
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	+ 0.8	0.0	- 1.1	+ 1.3	- 0.4	- 0.2	- 0.8	*	+ 0.1	- 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	- 0.2	0.0	- 0.6	- 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 2.0	*	+ 0.1	+ 0.5	- 0.5	+ 1.8
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27²</i>	- 0.8	+ 6.3	+ 0.9	+ 14.5	+ 7.0	+ 2.3	+ 8.1	*	*	+ 3.0	+ 1.6	+ 43.5
<i>Other</i>	*	- 1.7	- 2.0	+ 2.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.5	*	- 0.4	+ 2.2	+ 0.7	+ 3.1
Total persons	+ 4.0	- 4.2	- 5.6	+ 23.8	+ 8.3	+ 4.0	+ 20.9	+ 2.5	+ 1.0	+ 10.6	+ 1.5	+ 66.8

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

* 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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Usual residence and de facto population concepts	Up to and including Q1 2006 the annual population estimates have been calculated using the de facto definition of population (i.e. all persons present in the state). From Q2 2006 onwards a new concept of usual residence will be used, i.e. all persons usually resident and present in the state plus absent persons who are usually resident in Ireland but are temporarily away from home and outside the state.
ILO Labour Force Classification	<p>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:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Inactive Population (not in labour force): All other persons.</p> <p>The labour force comprises persons employed plus unemployed.</p>

**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.

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
Q3 2006	Sport and physical exercise
Q4 2005	Pension provision
Q4 2005	Special Saving Incentive Accounts (SSIAs)
Q3 2005	ICT household survey
Q3 2005	Recycling and energy conservation
Q2 2005	Education 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