

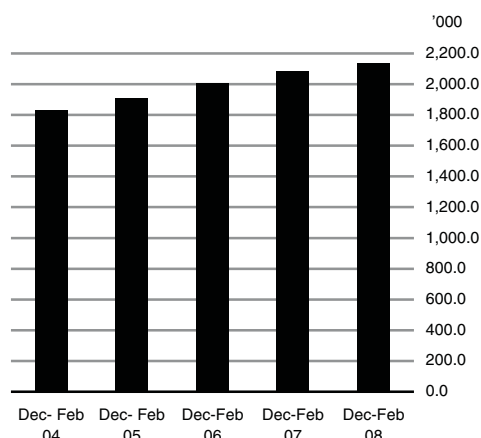


**Central Statistics Office**  
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

5 June 2008

## Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 1 2008

### Numbers in employment (ILO), Quarter 1 2004 to Quarter 1 2008



### ILO<sup>1</sup> Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
	'000		
<b>Dec-Feb 2007</b>	2,081.3	93.4	2,174.7
<b>Mar-May 2007</b>	2,101.6	100.3	2,201.9
<b>Jun-Aug 2007</b>	2,146.0	107.3	2,253.3
<b>Sep-Nov 2007</b>	2,138.9	101.0	2,239.9
<b>Dec-Feb 2008</b>	2,135.1	102.1	2,237.2
<i>Change in quarter</i>	-3.8	+1.1	-2.7
<i>Change in year</i>	+53.8	+8.7	+62.5

<sup>1</sup> International Labour Office.

### Employment growth slows to 2.6%

In the first quarter of 2008 there were 2,135,100 persons in employment, an annual increase of 53,800 or 2.6%. This compares with an annual growth rate of 3.2% in the previous quarter and a rate of 3.8% in the first quarter of 2007. *See table 1.*

There was an annual increase of 14,300 or 1.2% in the number of men in employment, while the number of women in employment increased by almost 40,000 or 4.5%. The increase in women in employment accounts for almost three-quarters (73.4%) of the overall increase in employment. *See table 1.*

Full-time employment grew by 18,400 in the year to the first quarter of 2008, with the number of males in full-time employment increasing by 4,500 and females by 13,900. *See table 1.*

When seasonal factors are taken into account, there was a quarterly increase of 6,200 in the number of persons employed. This compares with a quarterly increase of 19,500 in Q1 2007 and an average quarterly increase of 17,000 during 2007. *See table 3.*

There were 102,100 persons unemployed in the first quarter of 2008, an increase of 8,700 in the year. All of the growth in unemployment was attributable to males (+11,000), while female unemployment decreased by 2,300. The number of males in short-term unemployment increased by 8,400 while the number of long-term unemployed males increased by 2,500 over the year. When seasonal factors are taken into account, there was a quarterly increase of 3,200 in the numbers unemployed with the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increasing from 4.6% to 4.8% over the quarter. *See tables 1, 3, 17 & 18.*

*For more information contact Noel Ryan at 021 453 5491 or Tara Galvin at 021 453 5093.*

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Ardee Road  
Dublin 6  
Ireland

Skehard Road  
Cork  
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)  
0870 8760256 (UK/NL)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000  
Fax: +353 1 498 4229

Tel: +353 21 453 5000  
Fax: +353 21 453 5492

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)  
and go to  
Labour Market and Earnings: Labour Market

Director General: Gerard O'Hanlon

Enquiries:

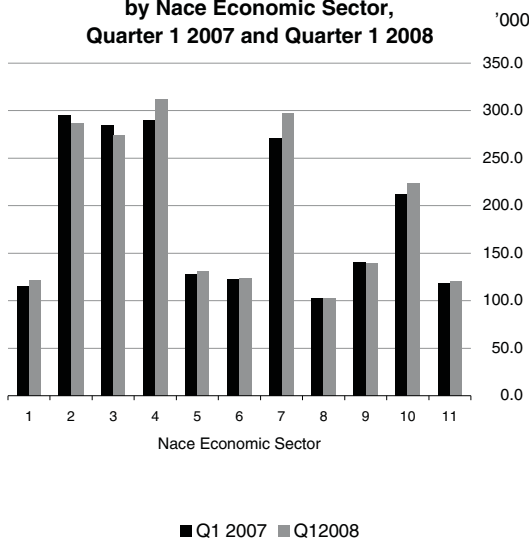
Labour Market Statistics Direct Dial (021) 453 5491  
Email: [labour@cso.ie](mailto:labour@cso.ie)  
Queries and Sales Information Section, ext 5021  
[information@cso.ie](mailto:information@cso.ie)

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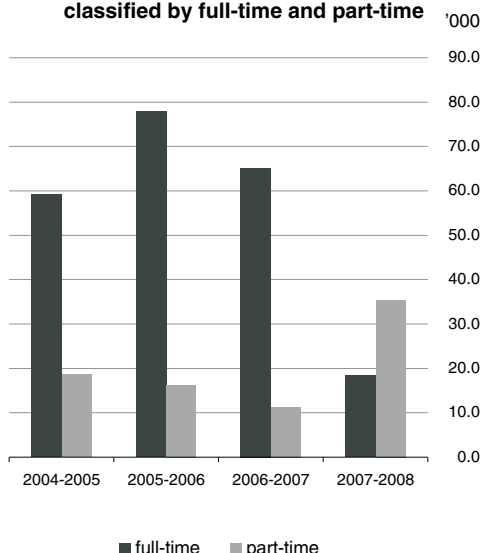
**Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by Nace Economic Sector, Quarter 1 2007 and Quarter 1 2008**



#### 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 growth in the First Quarters 2004 to 2008 classified by full-time and part-time**



Overall, the labour force increased by 62,500 (+2.9%) to 2,237,200 in the year to the first quarter of 2008, compared with labour force growth of 80,400 (+3.8%) in the year to Q1 2007. The overall participation rate increased from 63.3% in Q1 2007 to 63.5% in Q1 2008. Female participation rates increased from 53.4% to 54.2% in the year while the male participation rate declined from 73.2% to 72.9% over the same period. *See tables 1 & 9.*

Non-Irish workers are tentatively estimated to have accounted for over 48,000 (90.0%) of the annual increase in employment and for 1,300 (14.9%) of the increase in the number of unemployed persons. By comparison the annual increase in the number of Non-Irish workers in the year to Q1 2007 was 66,500. *See table A1 in the annex.*

The latest available figures for all EU 27 member states, which are for the fourth quarter of 2007, show that between the fourth quarters of 2006 and 2007 Ireland's employment level grew by 3.2% and its labour force by 3.6%. The comparable average figures for the EU-27 countries were 1.9% and 0.9% respectively. Ireland's unemployment rate (4.5%) continued to be well below the EU-27 average of 6.8%. *See table 25.*

## Financial and other business services and Wholesale and retail trade sectors account for nearly 90% of employment growth

Some sectors showed stronger employment growth than others. Employment in the *Financial and other business services* sector grew by 26,300 or 9.7% in the year to the first quarter of 2008 and accounted for almost half (48.9%) of the overall increase in employment. This compares with an annual increase of 2,700 or 1.0% in the first quarter of 2007. The increase of 12,300 in male employment in the *Financial and other business services* sector, represented 86.0% of the overall growth in male employment. The *Wholesale and retail trade* sector also showed strong growth with employment increasing by 21,100 or 7.3% over the year. *See table 2b and graph opposite.*

Employment in the *Construction* sector fell by 9,800 (-3.4%) over the year compared with an annual increase of 28,500 (+11.1%) in the same quarter of 2007. All of the decrease in construction employment was attributable to males. The number of employees in the *Construction* sector decreased over the year by 16,900 though this was partially offset by an increase in self-employed persons (+7,100). Other sectors, which showed a decline over the year were *Other production industries* (-7,500) and *Education* (-500). *See table 2b.*

Two occupational categories showed a decline in employment over the year, *Craft and related* (-3,300) and *Other* (-8,700). The largest increases were in the *Associate professional and technical* (+17,800), *Managers and administrators* (+14,300) and *Sales* (+9,400) occupational groups. *See table 4.*

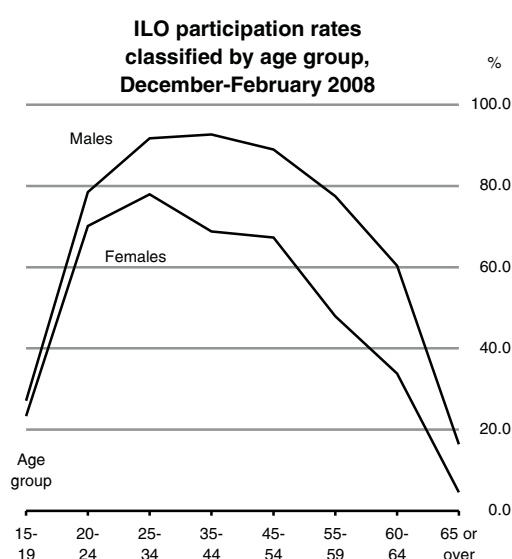
## Almost two-thirds of employment growth attributable to increase in part-time employment

Part-time employment continued to show strong growth over the year to the first quarter of 2008, accounting for almost 66% of overall employment growth. In the same quarter last year the increase in part-time employment accounted for only 14.8% of the annual growth in employment. Of the 35,400 increase, 25,700 was attributable to females and 9,700 to males. The increase in part-time employment was distributed across a broad range of sectors but the largest increases were in the *Financial and other business services* (+8,100) *Health* (+5,700) and *Wholesale and retail trade* (+5,600) sectors. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

## Increase in self-employment continues to account for almost 60% of employment growth

The number of self-employed persons increased by 31,200 (9.4%) to 362,100 in the year, accounting for 58% of the annual increase in employment. Two-thirds of the increase in the numbers self employed can be attributed to males (+20,600) and one third to females (+10,700). Sectors which had the largest increases were *Construction* (+7,100), *Financial and other business services* (+7,000) and *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* (+6,400). See table 6.

There were 1,758,400 employees in the first quarter of 2008, an annual increase of 19,900 or just over 1%. All of the increase in the number of employees is attributable to an increase in female employees, up 28,000 (+3.4%). The number of male employees declined over the year by 8,200 or almost 1%. The largest decreases in the number of employees occurred in the *Construction* (-16,900) and *Other production industries* (-10,500) sectors, both of which have high proportions of males in employment. See table 6.

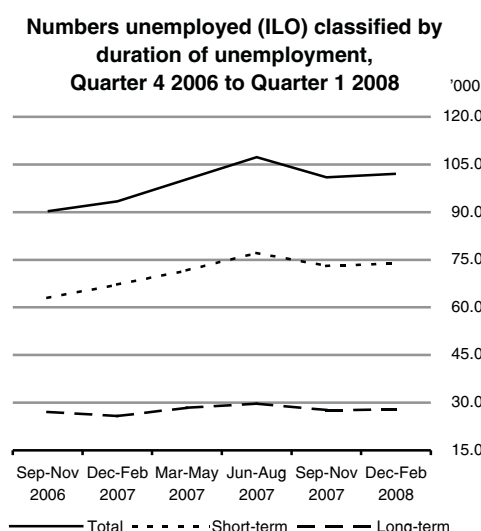


## Demographic factors account for over 85% of labour force growth

There were 2,237,200 persons in the labour force in the first quarter of 2008, an annual increase of 2.9%. The growth is due to the increase in the number of people of working age in the population and higher participation rates. Most of the growth came from the changing population structure, accounting for over 55,000 of the 62,500 people who joined the labour force in the year to the first quarter of 2008. Net inward migration continued to be the main source of this demographic change accounting for an estimated 90% of the demographic increase. Almost 56% of the demographic increase can be attributed to those aged 25-34, the age group most affected by inward migration.

Over 7,000 of the annual growth in the labour force was attributable to higher participation in the labour market. The most significant increases in participation were among those in the 60-64 year age group, rising from 44.9% to 47.3%, and the 45-54 age group where participation rose from 77.0% to 78.2% over the year. Participation rates decreased among the younger age groups with the greatest decrease being observed among 15-19 year olds where participation fell from 27.8% in Q1 2007 to 25.2% in Q1 2008. See tables 9 & 10 and graph opposite.

The broadest survey-based labour supply indicator, S3 which includes persons outside the labour force who show some interest in obtaining work as well as the unemployed, decreased from 7.7% in the first quarter of 2007 to 7.4% in the first quarter of 2008. See table 20.



## All of the increase in unemployment attributable to males

There were 67,900 males and 34,200 females unemployed in the first quarter of 2008, bringing the total number of unemployed up to 102,100, an increase of 8,700 (9.3%) in the year. The number of unemployed males increased by 11,000. All of the increase in unemployment is due to this rise in male unemployment. The number of unemployed females fell by 2,300. See tables 1 & 13.

Male short-term unemployment increased by 8,400 while male long-term unemployment increased by 2,500. Female short-term and long-term unemployment decreased by 1,900 and 400 respectively. The majority of the annual increase occurred in the 25-44 age group (+5,300). See tables 16, 17 & 18 and graph opposite.

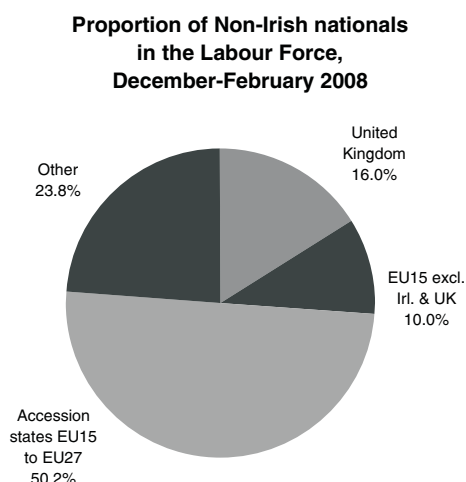
## Number of people not in the labour force grows by 24,100 in the year

In the year to Q1 2008 the number of people defined as not in the labour force grew by 24,100, an increase of 1.9%, whereas in the year to Q1 2007 the number of people not in the labour force fell marginally (-300). *See table 1.*

## Most of employment growth attributable to Non-Irish nationals

Broad indicative estimates of the labour force status of Non-Irish nationals are presented in the Annex. There were an estimated 491,500 Non-Irish nationals aged 15 and over in the State in the first quarter of 2008. Of these, 352,000 were in employment, while a further 21,100 were unemployed according to ILO criteria, giving a total Non-Irish national labour force of 373,100, up 49,700 in the year. This compares to an annual Non-Irish national labour force increase of 68,900 for Q1 2007. Nationals of the new EU accession states were the fastest-growing category, accounting for 49.8% (+31,100) of overall labour force growth. *See table A1 in the annex and graph opposite.*

In the first quarter of 2008 Non-Irish nationals accounted for over 16% of all persons aged 15 years and over in employment. Almost 38.0% of workers in the *Hotels and restaurants*, 19.4% in *Wholesale and retail trade*, 18.9% in the *Other production industries* and 17.7% in the *Construction* sectors were Non-Irish nationals. The largest increase in employment for Non-Irish nationals occurred in the *Wholesale and retail trade* sector (+22,500) which accounted for over 46% of the annual increase in employment for Non-Irish nationals. *See tables A1 & A2 in the annex.*



## Regional Comparisons

Employment grew by 15,500 (+2.9%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 38,300 (+2.5%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the first quarter of 2008. There were increases of 6,300 and 2,500 in the numbers unemployed in the Border, Midland and Western and Southern and Eastern region respectively. *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western region was 61.8% in Q1 2008 compared with a participation rate of 64.1% in the Southern and Eastern region. *See table 7a.*

At NUTS3 level, employment grew in all regions with the Mid-East (+4.5%), Midland (+3.5%) and South-East (+3.5%) regions showing the highest employment growth rates over the year. There was an annual increase of 13,300 (+2.2%) in the numbers in employment in the Dublin region, down from 17,900 in Q1 2007. All regional data is based on the location of the respondents' usual address. *See table 7b.*

## Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as "at work" grew by 43,000 in the year to 2,055,800. This comprised 11,400 males and 31,700 females. This compares with an increase of 80,200 in the year to the first quarter of 2007. Meanwhile the number describing themselves as "unemployed" rose by 11,400 in the year to 132,100 and the number describing themselves as "retired" increased by 17,100 to 305,800. *See table 21.*

The number of students increased by 11,300 in the year to 364,700. In the first quarter of 2008 17.8% of students were in employment. There was an increase of 3,000 in the number of students at work over the year. *See tables 21 & 22.*

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page no</b>
<b>Table 1</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and ILO Economic Status	6
<b>Table 2a</b> Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and Broad NACE Economic Sector	7
<b>Table 2b</b> Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and NACE Economic Sector	7
<b>Table 3</b> Seasonally Adjusted Series of persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, ILO Economic Status and NACE Economic Sector	8
<b>Table 4</b> Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and occupation	9
<b>Table 5</b> Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by sex and usual hours of work	10
<b>Table 6</b> Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by employment status	11
<b>Table 7a</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions and ILO Economic Status	11
<b>Table 7b</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions and ILO Economic Status	12
<b>Table 8</b> Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, December-February 2008	13
<b>Table 9</b> Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group	13
<b>Table 10</b> Number of persons in the labour force (ILO) classified by sex and age group	14
<b>Table 11</b> Number of persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and age group	14
<b>Table 12</b> Employment rates (ILO) for persons aged 15-64, classified by sex and age group	15
<b>Table 13</b> Number of persons unemployed (ILO) classified by sex and age group	15
<b>Table 14</b> Unemployment rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group	16
<b>Table 15</b> Labour force situation of married females classified by age group	16
<b>Table 16</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by labour force, employment, unemployment and long-term unemployment (ILO)	17
<b>Table 17</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and duration of unemployment (ILO)	18
<b>Table 18</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, age group and duration of unemployment (ILO)	18
<b>Table 19</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by detailed ILO Economic Status	19
<b>Table 20</b> Indicators of potential labour supply	20
<b>Table 21</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status	20
<b>Table 22</b> Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status, December-February 2008	21
<b>Table 23</b> Persons aged 15 years to 64, classified by the highest level of education attained, ILO Economic Status and sex	22
<b>Table 24</b> Estimated adult members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, December-February 2008	23
<b>Table 25</b> Annual Labour Force Survey results classified by ILO Economic Status for persons aged 15 or over in EU member states	24

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Dec- Feb 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,212.4</b>	<b>1,248.2</b>	<b>1,251.3</b>	<b>1,261.5</b>	<b>1,286.9</b>	<b>1,277.7</b>	<b>1,276.5</b>
In employment:	1,158.9	1,193.1	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7
full-time	1,081.3	1,116.9	1,116.3	1,116.2	1,131.5	1,128.7	1,120.8
part-time:	77.6	76.2	78.1	85.3	91.3	85.4	87.8
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	75.7	74.8	77.0	82.5	88.9	83.3	86.0
<i>part-time, underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	2.0	1.4	1.1	2.8	2.4	2.2	1.8
Unemployed:	53.4	55.1	56.9	60.0	64.1	63.6	67.9
seeking full-time work	51.1	52.6	53.9	56.8	59.9	59.8	65.0
seeking part-time work	2.3	2.5	3.0	3.2	4.2	3.8	2.9
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>455.4</b>	<b>451.1</b>	<b>457.7</b>	<b>456.5</b>	<b>443.5</b>	<b>463.9</b>	<b>475.1</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	6.3	5.8	9.9	6.1	7.6	6.6	7.8
Others	449.1	445.3	447.8	450.3	436.0	457.3	467.3
<b>Total males aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,667.8</b>	<b>1,699.3</b>	<b>1,709.0</b>	<b>1,718.0</b>	<b>1,730.5</b>	<b>1,741.5</b>	<b>1,751.6</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>72.7</b>	<b>73.5</b>	<b>73.2</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>72.9</b>
<b>Females</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>881.9</b>	<b>914.2</b>	<b>923.4</b>	<b>940.4</b>	<b>966.4</b>	<b>962.3</b>	<b>960.6</b>
In employment:	845.9	879.0	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8	926.4
full-time	580.2	607.2	610.4	607.0	629.4	625.7	624.3
part-time:	265.7	271.8	276.5	293.2	293.8	299.1	302.2
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	263.3	269.5	274.7	290.4	291.0	296.9	300.3
<i>part-time, underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	2.4	2.3	1.8	2.7	2.8	2.2	1.9
Unemployed:	36.1	35.2	36.5	40.3	43.1	37.5	34.2
seeking full-time work	22.9	22.9	24.5	25.0	30.3	22.7	22.4
seeking part-time work	13.2	12.3	12.0	15.3	12.9	14.7	11.8
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>807.6</b>	<b>804.7</b>	<b>805.0</b>	<b>796.9</b>	<b>782.1</b>	<b>803.3</b>	<b>811.8</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.0	4.2	6.6	4.9	7.8	4.9	3.6
Others	803.6	800.5	798.4	792.0	774.3	798.4	808.2
<b>Total females aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,689.5</b>	<b>1,718.9</b>	<b>1,728.4</b>	<b>1,737.2</b>	<b>1,748.5</b>	<b>1,765.5</b>	<b>1,772.4</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.6</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>55.3</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>54.2</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>2,094.3</b>	<b>2,162.4</b>	<b>2,174.7</b>	<b>2,201.9</b>	<b>2,253.3</b>	<b>2,239.9</b>	<b>2,237.2</b>
In employment:	2,004.8	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1
full-time	1,661.5	1,724.1	1,726.7	1,723.2	1,760.9	1,754.4	1,745.1
part-time:	343.3	348.0	354.6	378.5	385.2	384.5	390.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	339.0	344.2	351.6	373.0	379.9	380.1	386.3
<i>part-time, underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	4.3	3.8	3.0	5.5	5.3	4.4	3.7
Unemployed:	89.5	90.3	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0	102.1
seeking full-time work	74.0	75.5	78.4	81.8	90.2	82.5	87.4
seeking part-time work	15.5	14.8	14.9	18.5	17.1	18.5	14.7
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>1,263.0</b>	<b>1,255.8</b>	<b>1,262.7</b>	<b>1,253.3</b>	<b>1,225.6</b>	<b>1,267.1</b>	<b>1,286.8</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	10.4	10.0	16.5	11.0	15.4	11.5	11.4
Others	1,252.7	1,245.8	1,246.2	1,242.3	1,210.2	1,255.7	1,275.5
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>3,357.3</b>	<b>3,418.2</b>	<b>3,437.4</b>	<b>3,455.2</b>	<b>3,478.9</b>	<b>3,507.1</b>	<b>3,524.0</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>62.4</b>	<b>63.3</b>	<b>63.3</b>	<b>63.7</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>63.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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)	Dec- Feb 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
A-B Agriculture	104.3	103.7	104.1	101.8	104.7	106.2	108.0
C-F Industry	448.1	482.3	481.4	479.7	486.4	474.2	467.9
G-Q Services	606.5	607.0	608.9	620.1	631.7	633.6	632.8
<b>Females</b>							
A-B Agriculture	11.2	10.9	11.0	12.0	12.0	12.4	13.9
C-F Industry	95.2	97.2	97.4	97.3	98.5	95.5	93.6
G-Q Services	739.5	770.9	778.6	790.8	812.7	816.9	818.9
<b>All persons</b>							
A-B Agriculture	115.5	114.7	115.0	113.8	116.7	118.7	122.0
C-F Industry	543.3	579.5	578.9	577.0	584.9	569.7	561.5
G-Q Services	1,346.0	1,377.9	1,387.5	1,410.9	1,444.4	1,450.5	1,451.7
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>2,004.8</b>	<b>2,072.1</b>	<b>2,081.3</b>	<b>2,101.6</b>	<b>2,146.0</b>	<b>2,138.9</b>	<b>2,135.1</b>

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

	'000						
Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Dec- Feb 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.3	103.7	104.1	101.8	104.7	106.2	108.0
C-E Other production industries	205.1	210.9	210.7	211.7	217.2	208.8	207.8
F Construction	243.0	271.4	270.8	267.9	269.2	265.5	260.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	143.9	147.1	146.8	150.5	155.5	156.2	155.1
H Hotels and restaurants	52.4	51.9	54.2	55.4	56.7	56.0	54.0
I Transport, storage and communication	91.4	89.6	93.7	95.2	94.2	93.3	97.8
J-K Financial and other business services	137.4	141.2	134.2	139.3	144.8	147.1	146.5
L Public administration and defence	50.5	50.7	51.0	49.3	53.1	52.1	52.5
M Education	37.6	37.5	38.6	37.2	34.1	35.5	36.8
N Health	34.6	35.9	36.6	38.7	39.8	39.9	38.0
O-Q Other services	58.8	53.2	53.8	54.5	53.5	53.6	52.1
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,158.9</b>	<b>1,193.1</b>	<b>1,194.4</b>	<b>1,201.5</b>	<b>1,222.8</b>	<b>1,214.1</b>	<b>1,208.7</b>
<b>Females</b>							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.2	10.9	11.0	12.0	12.0	12.4	13.9
C-E Other production industries	82.5	83.9	84.0	83.5	84.5	81.9	79.3
F Construction	12.7	13.3	13.4	13.8	14.0	13.5	14.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	141.2	140.7	143.7	144.0	154.9	155.4	156.5
H Hotels and restaurants	65.6	72.1	73.9	76.9	81.6	76.4	76.9
I Transport, storage and communication	29.0	27.2	29.4	26.9	27.5	27.5	25.6
J-K Financial and other business services	131.5	134.9	137.3	146.6	149.4	150.1	151.3
L Public administration and defence	50.6	51.9	51.6	52.3	55.9	52.9	50.4
M Education	94.2	100.6	101.6	102.5	95.0	103.6	102.9
N Health	163.0	174.9	176.1	174.5	179.6	181.3	186.1
O-Q Other services	64.4	68.5	64.9	67.1	68.6	69.7	69.1
<b>Total females</b>	<b>845.9</b>	<b>879.0</b>	<b>886.9</b>	<b>900.1</b>	<b>923.2</b>	<b>924.8</b>	<b>926.4</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	115.5	114.7	115.0	113.8	116.7	118.7	122.0
C-E Other production industries	287.6	294.9	294.6	295.2	301.7	290.7	287.1
F Construction	255.7	284.6	284.2	281.8	283.2	279.0	274.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	285.0	287.8	290.5	294.5	310.4	311.6	311.6
H Hotels and restaurants	118.0	124.0	128.1	132.3	138.4	132.3	131.0
I Transport, storage and communication	120.4	116.8	123.1	122.2	121.7	120.8	123.4
J-K Financial and other business services	268.8	276.2	271.5	285.9	294.2	297.1	297.8
L Public administration and defence	101.2	102.5	102.7	101.6	109.1	105.0	102.9
M Education	131.8	138.1	140.2	139.7	129.2	139.1	139.7
N Health	197.6	210.7	212.6	213.2	219.3	221.3	224.1
O-Q Other services	123.2	121.8	118.8	121.6	122.1	123.3	121.1
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>2,004.8</b>	<b>2,072.1</b>	<b>2,081.3</b>	<b>2,101.6</b>	<b>2,146.0</b>	<b>2,138.9</b>	<b>2,135.1</b>

**Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Series<sup>1</sup> of persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex,  
ILO Economic Status and NACE Economic Sector**

	'000						
ILO Economic Status/ NACE Economic Sector	Dec- Feb 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,219.9</b>	<b>1,250.1</b>	<b>1,259.3</b>	<b>1,269.7</b>	<b>1,268.7</b>	<b>1,280.1</b>	<b>1,284.3</b>
<b>In employment:</b>	<b>1,164.3</b>	<b>1,193.3</b>	<b>1,199.9</b>	<b>1,209.5</b>	<b>1,209.1</b>	<b>1,214.2</b>	<b>1,213.7</b>
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	105.0	104.1	104.6	103.6	102.1	106.6	108.4
C-E Other production industries	206.1	210.5	212.0	213.3	214.5	208.5	209.3
F Construction	245.5	269.6	273.5	270.8	265.5	263.8	262.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	144.3	146.8	147.4	153.0	152.8	155.9	155.8
H Hotels and restaurants	52.8	53.1	54.7	54.9	55.5	57.2	54.5
I Transport, storage and communication	91.4	90.0	93.4	95.4	93.8	93.9	97.4
J-K Financial and other business services	139.1	141.2	135.8	138.4	144.0	147.1	148.1
L Public administration and defence	50.5	51.0	50.9	49.3	52.9	52.3	52.4
M Education	36.9	37.6	37.7	36.6	35.5	35.7	35.7
N Health	35.1	35.9	37.3	38.5	39.2	39.9	38.9
O-Q Other services	58.8	53.2	53.9	54.6	53.2	53.7	52.2
<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>60.3</b>	<b>61.1</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>69.2</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>73.2</b>	<b>73.7</b>	<b>73.7</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>73.3</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>73.4</b>
<b>Females</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>888.2</b>	<b>916.7</b>	<b>930.1</b>	<b>945.5</b>	<b>951.8</b>	<b>965.1</b>	<b>967.6</b>
<b>In employment:</b>	<b>849.8</b>	<b>880.3</b>	<b>891.1</b>	<b>904.6</b>	<b>912.9</b>	<b>926.3</b>	<b>930.8</b>
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.3	11.3	11.1	11.7	11.8	12.9	14.0
C-E Other production industries	84.0	84.8	85.5	83.3	82.5	82.7	80.7
F Construction	12.8	13.6	13.4	13.6	13.8	13.8	14.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	141.8	140.9	144.5	146.5	151.3	155.4	157.5
H Hotels and restaurants	68.0	72.5	76.4	77.4	78.0	77.1	79.3
I Transport, storage and communication	28.8	27.3	29.2	27.3	27.1	27.7	25.4
J-K Financial and other business services	130.9	135.1	137.1	147.2	148.6	150.4	151.4
L Public administration and defence	51.5	52.1	52.6	52.8	54.0	53.3	51.4
M Education	92.3	98.6	99.7	100.3	101.2	101.4	101.1
N Health	163.0	175.2	176.0	175.6	178.3	181.6	185.9
O-Q Other services	65.7	67.4	66.1	67.9	67.7	68.6	70.3
<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>41.9</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>36.6</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>54.7</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>2,108.2</b>	<b>2,166.5</b>	<b>2,189.7</b>	<b>2,217.2</b>	<b>2,218.3</b>	<b>2,244.7</b>	<b>2,252.6</b>
<b>In employment:</b>	<b>2,014.4</b>	<b>2,072.4</b>	<b>2,091.9</b>	<b>2,114.0</b>	<b>2,122.5</b>	<b>2,140.2</b>	<b>2,146.4</b>
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	116.0	115.5	115.2	115.7	114.0	119.5	122.0
C-E Other production industries	290.0	295.8	297.1	296.7	296.8	291.6	289.5
F Construction	258.4	283.3	287.1	284.2	279.5	277.7	277.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	286.0	288.5	291.8	299.5	303.3	312.3	313.2
H Hotels and restaurants	120.0	125.1	130.4	133.9	133.3	133.5	133.4
I Transport, storage and communication	120.3	117.1	122.7	122.7	121.2	121.3	122.9
J-K Financial and other business services	268.9	277.5	271.8	285.6	292.6	298.7	298.2
L Public administration and defence	101.8	102.8	103.4	102.2	107.4	105.3	103.7
M Education	129.2	136.7	137.3	137.4	135.7	137.8	136.6
N Health	197.8	211.2	212.8	214.4	217.3	221.9	224.3
O-Q Other services	124.4	120.7	119.9	122.8	121.0	122.2	122.2
<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>93.4</b>	<b>91.9</b>	<b>97.3</b>	<b>102.0</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>103.0</b>	<b>106.2</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>63.8</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>63.7</b>

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes.



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

'000

Broad occupational group	Dec- Feb 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
1. Managers and administrators	213.5	215.4	219.0	221.0	219.4	213.1	225.6
2. Professional	119.0	122.7	119.4	119.7	117.1	120.7	120.3
3. Associate professional and technical	74.8	73.8	75.8	77.5	78.3	79.1	79.2
4. Clerical and secretarial	59.7	61.2	61.2	64.9	65.9	62.3	62.1
5. Craft and related	267.8	283.8	286.3	287.5	295.0	290.1	281.9
6. Personal and protective service	84.2	86.2	86.8	86.7	87.7	88.9	86.3
7. Sales	70.3	66.5	67.6	69.1	72.8	73.6	74.5
8. Plant and machine operatives	144.7	145.7	146.7	147.4	153.1	151.1	155.5
9. Other	124.9	137.7	131.5	127.8	133.5	135.4	123.3
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,158.9</b>	<b>1,193.1</b>	<b>1,194.4</b>	<b>1,201.5</b>	<b>1,222.8</b>	<b>1,214.1</b>	<b>1,208.7</b>
<b>Females</b>							
1. Managers and administrators	94.3	93.6	95.9	101.7	101.7	98.0	103.7
2. Professional	115.8	123.5	121.7	120.9	115.9	121.9	122.7
3. Associate professional and technical	100.9	106.8	104.6	107.0	111.2	112.8	118.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	183.6	186.1	187.4	189.5	199.4	197.8	193.2
5. Craft and related	10.4	10.5	11.7	12.8	12.9	12.6	12.9
6. Personal and protective service	132.5	147.2	148.1	151.6	156.1	157.6	157.3
7. Sales	109.7	111.2	113.6	113.0	117.6	115.9	116.1
8. Plant and machine operatives	28.1	27.0	28.2	27.7	28.7	27.2	26.4
9. Other	70.3	73.1	75.8	75.8	79.6	80.9	75.3
<b>Total females</b>	<b>845.9</b>	<b>879.0</b>	<b>886.9</b>	<b>900.1</b>	<b>923.2</b>	<b>924.8</b>	<b>926.4</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
1. Managers and administrators	307.8	309.0	315.0	322.7	321.2	311.1	329.3
2. Professional	234.8	246.2	241.1	240.6	233.1	242.6	243.0
3. Associate professional and technical	175.7	180.6	180.4	184.6	189.5	191.9	198.2
4. Clerical and secretarial	243.3	247.3	248.6	254.4	265.3	260.1	255.2
5. Craft and related	278.3	294.3	298.0	300.2	307.9	302.7	294.7
6. Personal and protective service	216.8	233.3	234.9	238.3	243.8	246.4	243.6
7. Sales	180.0	177.8	181.2	182.1	190.4	189.5	190.6
8. Plant and machine operatives	172.8	172.8	174.9	175.2	181.8	178.3	181.9
9. Other	195.2	210.8	207.3	203.6	213.1	216.3	198.6
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>2,004.8</b>	<b>2,072.1</b>	<b>2,081.3</b>	<b>2,101.6</b>	<b>2,146.0</b>	<b>2,138.9</b>	<b>2,135.1</b>

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

	'000						
Usual hours of work per week	Dec-Feb 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07	Sep-Nov 07	Dec-Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
1-9 hours	8.4	6.0	7.1	7.9	5.3	7.7	7.9
10-19	23.2	19.1	18.9	20.9	19.4	20.5	23.0
20-29	43.2	44.9	46.3	48.8	50.9	49.4	48.1
30-34	20.8	20.0	20.4	22.3	25.7	23.9	24.1
35-39	415.7	433.4	435.9	430.0	443.2	427.1	417.8
40-44	276.3	293.6	288.7	292.6	301.5	299.6	305.4
45 & over	201.7	192.6	188.4	210.5	214.3	203.9	204.1
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	169.7	183.5	188.8	168.4	162.6	182.0	178.1
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,158.9</b>	<b>1,193.1</b>	<b>1,194.4</b>	<b>1,201.5</b>	<b>1,222.8</b>	<b>1,214.1</b>	<b>1,208.7</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	40.6	40.6	40.5	40.6	40.7	40.5	40.4
<b>Females</b>							
1-9 hours	25.0	24.2	26.1	29.7	22.9	27.4	29.7
10-19	84.6	85.8	89.7	92.5	91.9	98.8	99.6
20-29	168	175.8	174.5	177.5	181.6	183.6	181.7
30-34	56.3	57.1	61.6	65.8	67.7	65.8	68.8
35-39	320.3	335.2	341.1	336.2	350.9	339.3	334.7
40-44	111.4	116.3	111.6	114.8	120.2	117.1	120.9
45 & over	32.9	30.9	30.1	32.2	35.2	34.2	33.0
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	47.3	53.8	52.1	51.5	52.7	58.5	58.1
<b>Total females</b>	<b>845.9</b>	<b>879.0</b>	<b>886.9</b>	<b>900.1</b>	<b>923.2</b>	<b>924.8</b>	<b>926.4</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	31.7	31.8	31.6	31.4	31.8	31.4	31.4
<b>All persons</b>							
1-9 hours	33.4	30.2	33.3	37.6	28.2	35.0	37.7
10-19	107.8	104.9	108.6	113.3	111.3	119.3	122.6
20-29	211.3	220.7	220.8	226.3	232.4	233.0	229.7
30-34	77.1	77.1	82.0	88.1	93.4	89.7	92.9
35-39	736.0	768.6	777.0	766.2	794.1	766.4	752.5
40-44	387.7	409.9	400.3	407.4	421.7	416.7	426.4
45 & over	234.5	223.5	218.5	242.7	249.6	238.1	237.2
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	217.0	237.3	240.9	219.9	215.4	240.5	236.2
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>2,004.8</b>	<b>2,072.1</b>	<b>2,081.3</b>	<b>2,101.6</b>	<b>2,146.0</b>	<b>2,138.9</b>	<b>2,135.1</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	36.7	36.6	36.4	36.4	36.7	36.4	36.3

<sup>1</sup> Includes 'not stated'.

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

'000

Employment status	Dec- Feb 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
Self employed (with paid employees)	90.5	92.1	96.0	100.1	100.1	102.9	103.7
Self employed (with no paid employees)	176.6	179.6	183.4	183.3	189.7	197.1	196.3
Employee	887.6	917.1	910.4	913.0	925.2	907.3	902.2
Assisting relative	4.2	4.3	4.7	5.2	7.8	6.8	6.5
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,158.9</b>	<b>1,193.1</b>	<b>1,194.4</b>	<b>1,201.5</b>	<b>1,222.8</b>	<b>1,214.1</b>	<b>1,208.7</b>
<b>Females</b>							
Self employed (with paid employees)	18.3	19.4	20.4	22.6	22.2	22.1	21.8
Self employed (with no paid employees)	32.4	31.4	31.1	33.3	36.4	39.6	40.4
Employee	787.6	820.6	828.2	836.2	854.8	853.6	856.2
Assisting relative	7.5	7.6	7.3	8.0	9.9	9.4	8.1
<b>Total females</b>	<b>845.9</b>	<b>879.0</b>	<b>886.9</b>	<b>900.1</b>	<b>923.2</b>	<b>924.8</b>	<b>926.4</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
Self employed (with paid employees)	108.8	111.4	116.4	122.7	122.2	125.0	125.4
Self employed (with no paid employees)	209.0	211.1	214.5	216.6	226.1	236.6	236.7
Employee	1,675.2	1,737.7	1,738.5	1,749.2	1,780.0	1,761.0	1,758.4
Assisting relative	11.8	11.9	12.0	13.1	17.7	16.3	14.6
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>2,004.8</b>	<b>2,072.1</b>	<b>2,081.3</b>	<b>2,101.6</b>	<b>2,146.0</b>	<b>2,138.9</b>	<b>2,135.1</b>

**Table 7a Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions<sup>1</sup> and ILO Economic Status**

Region (NUTS2)	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
<b>Border, Midland and Western</b>					
Dec-Feb 2006	512.5	23.2	535.7	4.3	60.3
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
Dec-Feb 2008	549.5	31.0	580.5	5.3	61.8
<b>Southern and Eastern</b>					
Dec-Feb 2006	1,492.3	66.3	1,558.6	4.3	63.1
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
Dec-Feb 2008	1,585.6	71.1	1,656.7	4.3	64.1
<b>State</b>					
Dec-Feb 2006	2,004.8	89.5	2,094.3	4.3	62.4
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
Dec-Feb 2008	2,135.1	102.1	2,237.2	4.6	63.5

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes.

**Table 7b Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions<sup>1</sup> and ILO Economic Status**

Region (NUTS3)		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
<b>Border</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	206.8	10.6	217.4	4.9	59.6
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	221.4	13.5	234.9	5.7	60.3
<b>Midland</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	114.4	3.9	118.3	3.3	61.0
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	124.1	6.5	130.6	5.0	62.7
<b>West</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	191.2	8.7	200.0	4.4	60.7
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	204.0	11.0	215.0	5.1	63.0
<b>Dublin</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	596.3	27.2	623.5	4.4	64.6
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	627.5	27.8	655.3	4.2	65.6
<b>Mid-East</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	231.3	7.5	238.7	3.1	65.6
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	255.3	8.9	264.1	3.4	67.0
<b>Mid-West</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	172.7	7.9	180.6	4.4	63.3
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	172.1	9.0	181.2	5.0	61.6
<b>South-East</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	204.3	13.0	217.3	6.0	60.3
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	225.6	12.1	237.6	5.1	61.9
<b>South-West</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	287.8	10.7	298.5	3.6	60.3
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	305.2	13.3	318.4	4.2	61.9
<b>State</b>	Dec-Feb 2006	2,004.8	89.5	2,094.3	4.3	62.4
	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
	Dec-Feb 2008	2,135.1	102.1	2,237.2	4.6	63.5

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes.

**Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, December-February 2008**

%

Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	27.1	78.2	90.6	86.5	76.2	58.7	42.5	21.4	70.4
Married	*	94.3	94.5	95.1	92.4	82.3	64.8	16.9	77.5
Separated or divorced	*	*	88.8	87.6	81.1	69.0	49.9	15.8	69.9
Widowed	*	*	78.8	86.0	79.1	64.1	44.0	8.7	23.9
Total males	27.1	78.5	91.7	92.7	89.0	77.5	60.4	16.4	72.9
Females									
Single	23.3	71.1	82.1	74.8	75.9	54.2	38.6	3.4	62.0
Married	*	52.3	71.6	66.6	65.4	46.2	32.4	5.8	54.2
Separated or divorced	*	*	71.4	72.2	70.4	58.6	44.2	13.7	63.3
Widowed	*	*	72.8	73.2	70.0	44.7	34.1	3.3	13.1
Total females	23.3	70.1	77.9	68.8	67.3	47.9	33.8	4.6	54.2
All persons									
Single	25.2	74.7	86.7	81.2	76.0	57.1	40.9	12.7	66.5
Married	*	65.5	81.8	81.1	79.2	64.5	49.4	12.1	66.0
Separated or divorced	*	*	76.5	77.4	74.4	63.1	46.9	14.8	65.8
Widowed	*	*	74.5	77.1	72.4	50.2	36.5	4.4	15.4
Total persons	25.2	74.3	84.9	80.9	78.2	62.9	47.3	9.9	63.5

\* 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								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Dec-Feb 2006	29.6	79.0	92.8	93.9	89.2	76.8	58.6	14.0	72.7
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
Dec-Feb 2008	27.1	78.5	91.7	92.7	89.0	77.5	60.4	16.4	72.9
Females									
Dec-Feb 2006	22.9	68.4	77.6	66.7	64.6	47.3	30.4	3.4	52.2
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
Dec-Feb 2008	23.3	70.1	77.9	68.8	67.3	47.9	33.8	4.6	54.2
All persons									
Dec-Feb 2006	26.3	73.7	85.3	80.4	77.0	62.2	44.6	8.1	62.4
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
Dec-Feb 2008	25.2	74.3	84.9	80.9	78.2	62.9	47.3	9.9	63.5

**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+	
<b>Males</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	44.0	136.1	336.2	294.1	232.9	87.2	53.1	28.8	1,212.4
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
Dec-Feb 2008	39.5	135.7	367.4	305.9	242.3	90.3	60.3	35.1	1,276.5
<b>Females</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	32.6	116.0	273.5	204.6	166.8	52.5	27.1	8.8	881.9
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
Dec-Feb 2008	32.7	121.2	304.2	220.9	181.4	54.9	33.1	12.2	960.6
<b>All persons</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	76.6	252.1	609.7	498.7	399.7	139.7	80.2	37.6	2,094.3
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
Dec-Feb 2008	72.2	256.9	671.7	526.8	423.7	145.2	93.3	47.4	2,237.2

**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+	
<b>Males</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	38.2	126.1	319.8	284.8	224.2	84.8	52.4	28.6	1,158.9
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
Dec-Feb 2008	33.6	122.7	345.7	293.8	231.7	87.1	59.2	34.9	1,208.7
<b>Females</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	29.2	109.0	261.7	197.8	162.0	50.8	26.7	8.8	845.9
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
Dec-Feb 2008	30.0	114.0	293.7	213.6	176.7	53.8	32.5	12.2	926.4
<b>All persons</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	67.4	235.1	581.5	482.5	386.2	135.6	79.1	37.3	2,004.8
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
Dec-Feb 2008	63.6	236.8	639.3	507.4	408.3	140.8	91.7	47.1	2,135.1



**Table 12 Employment rates<sup>1</sup> (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
<b>Males</b>								
Dec-Feb 2006	25.7	73.2	88.3	90.9	85.8	74.7	57.8	77.3
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
Dec-Feb 2008	23.0	71.0	86.3	89.0	85.1	74.7	59.4	76.3
<b>Females</b>								
Dec-Feb 2006	20.6	64.2	74.3	64.4	62.8	45.7	29.9	58.6
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
Dec-Feb 2008	21.4	66.0	75.2	66.5	65.5	46.9	33.2	60.7
<b>All persons</b>								
Dec-Feb 2006	23.2	68.8	81.4	77.8	74.4	60.4	44.0	68.1
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
Dec-Feb 2008	22.2	68.5	80.8	77.9	75.4	61.0	46.4	68.6

<sup>1</sup> 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+	
<b>Males</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	5.8	10.0	16.4	9.3	8.7	2.4	*	*	53.4
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
Dec-Feb 2008	5.9	13.0	21.8	12.2	10.6	3.2	1.0	*	67.9
<b>Females</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	3.4	7.0	11.8	6.8	4.8	1.7	*	*	36.1
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
Dec-Feb 2008	2.7	7.2	10.6	7.3	4.7	1.1	*	*	34.2
<b>All persons</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	9.2	18.6	27.8	17.5	14.1	4.3	1.0	*	92.6
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
Dec-Feb 2008	8.6	20.2	32.3	19.4	15.3	4.4	1.6	*	102.1

\* 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								78
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
<b>Males</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	13.1	7.3	4.9	3.2	3.7	2.7	*	*	4.4
Sep-Nov 2006	12.6	5.8	5.0	3.8	3.7	3.1	*	*	4.4
Dec-Feb 2007	14.2	7.4	4.6	3.8	3.5	3.4	1.9	*	4.5
Mar-May 2007	14.9	7.7	5.0	3.8	3.9	3.2	1.9	*	4.8
Jun-Aug 2007	16.2	8.4	5.2	3.9	3.6	2.6	2.2	*	5.0
Sep-Nov 2007	14.8	8.6	5.6	4.0	3.6	3.2	1.8	*	5.0
Dec-Feb 2008	14.9	9.6	5.9	4.0	4.4	3.6	1.7	*	5.3
<b>Females</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	10.4	6.1	4.3	3.3	2.9	3.2	*	*	4.1
Sep-Nov 2006	11.2	5.6	3.8	3.6	2.6	2.6	*	*	3.8
Dec-Feb 2007	12.5	5.5	3.9	3.4	3.0	2.1	*	*	3.9
Mar-May 2007	12.5	6.6	4.0	3.8	3.2	3.1	*	*	4.3
Jun-Aug 2007	12.8	7.7	4.5	3.5	2.4	*	*	*	4.5
Sep-Nov 2007	10.8	6.2	3.8	3.6	2.6	2.0	*	*	3.9
Dec-Feb 2008	8.3	5.9	3.5	3.3	2.6	2.1	*	*	3.6
<b>All persons</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	12.0	6.8	4.6	3.2	3.4	2.9	1.4	*	4.3
Sep-Nov 2006	12.0	5.7	4.4	3.7	3.2	2.9	1.3	*	4.2
Dec-Feb 2007	13.5	6.5	4.3	3.7	3.2	2.9	1.6	*	4.3
Mar-May 2007	13.8	7.2	4.5	3.8	3.6	3.2	1.7	*	4.6
Jun-Aug 2007	14.6	8.1	4.9	3.7	3.1	2.3	2.1	*	4.8
Sep-Nov 2007	12.9	7.5	4.8	3.8	3.2	2.7	1.8	*	4.5
Dec-Feb 2008	11.9	7.8	4.8	3.7	3.6	3.0	1.7	*	4.6

**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+	
<b>Total married women ('000)</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	*	6.8	138.2	224.4	196.3	83.6	64.7	107.3	821.8
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
Dec-Feb 2008	*	8.3	146.2	230.1	200.5	86.5	70.7	111.1	853.9
<b>of which In labour force ('000)</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	*	4.0	97.7	143.3	123.9	38.6	18.7	4.1	430.5
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
Dec-Feb 2008	*	4.3	104.6	153.3	131.1	40.0	22.9	6.5	462.9
<b>of which In employment ('000)</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	*	3.4	94.0	139.1	120.8	37.4	18.4	4.0	417.6
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
Dec-Feb 2008	*	4.1	101.9	149.2	128.6	39.4	22.6	6.5	452.5
<b>Participation rates (%)</b>									
Dec-Feb 2006	*	59.3	70.7	63.9	63.1	46.1	28.8	3.8	52.4
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
Dec-Feb 2008	*	52.3	71.6	66.6	65.4	46.2	32.4	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	%	%
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
uMar-May 2006 <sup>1</sup>	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
Dec-Feb 2008	2237.2	2135.1	102.1	27.8	4.6	1.2

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Dec- Feb 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
Less than 1 year	33.7	34.9	37.6	39.4	42.5	42.7	46.0
1 year and over	19.5	19.9	19.0	20.4	21.3	20.6	21.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Total males</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>64.1</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>67.9</b>
<b>Females</b>							
Less than 1 year	29.4	28.1	29.7	32.2	34.7	30.3	27.8
1 year and over	6.6	7.1	6.7	8.0	8.5	7.1	6.3
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Total females</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>34.2</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
Less than 1 year	63.1	63.0	67.2	71.6	77.2	73.0	73.8
1 year and over	26.1	27.1	25.8	28.4	29.7	27.7	27.8
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>89.5</b>	<b>90.3</b>	<b>93.4</b>	<b>100.3</b>	<b>107.3</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>102.1</b>

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

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

'000

	QNHS Dec-Feb 2007				QNHS Dec-Feb 2008			
	Age group			Total	Age group			Total
	15-24	25-44	45 or over		15-24	25-44	45 or over	
<b>Males</b>								
Less than 1 year	12.8	17.8	7.0	37.6	14.7	23.2	8.1	46.0
1 year and over	3.8	9.9	5.3	19.0	4.1	10.5	6.9	21.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Total males</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>
<b>Females</b>								
Less than 1 year	9.2	15.5	4.9	29.7	8.1	14.8	4.8	27.8
1 year and over	1.7	3.3	1.7	6.7	1.7	2.9	1.7	6.3
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Total females</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>34.2</b>
<b>All persons</b>								
Less than 1 year	22.0	33.3	11.9	67.2	22.9	38.0	12.9	73.8
1 year and over	5.5	13.2	7.0	25.8	5.8	13.4	8.6	27.8
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>93.4</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>102.1</b>

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

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

	'000								
ILO Economic Status	Dec- Feb 06	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>2,094.3</b>	<b>2,113.9</b>	<b>2,183.4</b>	<b>2,162.4</b>	<b>2,174.7</b>	<b>2,201.9</b>	<b>2,253.3</b>	<b>2,239.9</b>	<b>2,237.2</b>
In employment:	2,004.8	2,021.1	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1
full-time	1,661.5	1,670.8	1,730.0	1,724.1	1,726.7	1,723.2	1,760.9	1,754.4	1,745.1
part-time:	343.3	350.4	346.9	348.0	354.6	378.5	385.2	384.5	390.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i> <sup>1</sup>	339.0	346.2	343.2	344.2	351.6	373.0	379.9	380.1	386.3
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> <sup>1</sup>	4.3	4.2	3.7	3.8	3.0	5.5	5.3	4.4	3.7
Unemployed:	89.5	92.8	106.5	90.3	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0	102.1
seeking full-time work	74.0	77.8	89.5	75.5	78.4	81.8	90.2	82.5	87.4
seeking part-time work	15.5	15.0	16.9	14.8	14.9	18.5	17.1	18.5	14.7
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>1,263.0</b>	<b>1,253.9</b>	<b>1,211.3</b>	<b>1,255.8</b>	<b>1,262.7</b>	<b>1,253.3</b>	<b>1,225.6</b>	<b>1,267.1</b>	<b>1,286.8</b>
Marginally attached to the labour force:	10.4	9.9	15.6	10.0	16.5	11.0	15.4	11.5	11.4
Discouraged workers	8.2	7.8	12.7	7.5	13.4	8.5	12.1	9.5	9.3
Passive jobseekers	2.1	2.1	2.8	2.5	3.1	2.6	3.4	2.0	2.1
<b>Others:</b>	<b>1,252.7</b>	<b>1,244.0</b>	<b>1,195.8</b>	<b>1,245.8</b>	<b>1,246.2</b>	<b>1,242.3</b>	<b>1,210.2</b>	<b>1,255.7</b>	1,275.5
Persons not in education, who want work <sup>2</sup>	61.6	58.2	67.4	60.0	61.2	56.7	55.6	52.4	53.9
Persons in education, who want work <sup>2</sup>	31.5	34.4	26.6	32.0	31.2	32.3	18.8	25.8	24.7
All other persons	1,159.5	1,151.4	1,101.8	1,153.8	1,153.7	1,153.3	1,135.8	1,177.5	1,196.9
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>3,357.3</b>	<b>3,367.9</b>	<b>3,394.7</b>	<b>3,418.2</b>	<b>3,437.4</b>	<b>3,455.2</b>	<b>3,478.9</b>	<b>3,507.1</b>	<b>3,524.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes.

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

**Table 20 Indicators of potential labour supply**

Quarter	S1	S2	S3
Dec-Feb 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
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
Dec-Feb 2008	5.0	7.3	7.4

%

NOTE: Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 19:

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

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

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

**Table 21 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status<sup>1</sup>**

Principal Economic Status	Dec-Feb 06	Sep-Nov 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07	Sep-Nov 07	Dec-Feb 08
<b>Males</b>							
At work	1,128.5	1,163.9	1,166.1	1,168.4	1,175.1	1,181.4	1,177.5
Unemployed	80.9	79.9	83.0	82.4	84.4	87.1	95.5
Student	168.4	163.6	165.6	170.6	165.3	167.5	170.1
Home duties	5.2	5.4	5.7	5.9	7.2	8.3	7.4
Retired	213.0	211.1	210.8	212.5	216.6	216.7	218.0
Others	71.8	75.3	77.7	78.1	81.8	80.5	83.2
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,667.8</b>	<b>1,699.3</b>	<b>1,709.0</b>	<b>1,718.0</b>	<b>1,730.5</b>	<b>1,741.5</b>	<b>1,751.6</b>
<b>Females</b>							
At work	804.1	839.8	846.7	852.1	865.4	878.0	878.4
Unemployed	36.4	34.1	37.7	38.4	41.6	36.3	36.7
Student	193.2	185.5	187.7	195.3	182.4	191.1	194.6
Home duties	536.8	540.5	535.9	521.5	522.3	523.2	523.0
Retired	76.7	75.9	77.8	84.3	87.9	83.8	87.8
Others	42.3	43.1	42.5	45.6	48.8	53.1	51.9
<b>Total females</b>	<b>1,689.5</b>	<b>1,718.9</b>	<b>1,728.4</b>	<b>1,737.2</b>	<b>1,748.5</b>	<b>1,765.5</b>	<b>1,772.4</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
At work	1,932.6	2,003.8	2,012.8	2,020.6	2,040.6	2,059.4	2,055.8
Unemployed	117.4	114.0	120.7	120.8	126.0	123.5	132.1
Student	361.7	349.1	353.4	365.9	347.8	358.7	364.7
Home duties	541.9	546.0	541.6	527.5	529.5	531.6	530.4
Retired	289.7	287.0	288.7	296.8	304.5	300.5	305.8
Others	114.1	118.4	120.2	123.8	130.6	133.6	135.1
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>3,357.3</b>	<b>3,418.2</b>	<b>3,437.4</b>	<b>3,455.2</b>	<b>3,478.9</b>	<b>3,507.1</b>	<b>3,524.0</b>

'000

<sup>1</sup> Classification based on respondent's own subjective assessment, see Background Notes.



**Table 22 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status, December-February 2008**

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
<b>Males</b>							
In employment:	1,171.4	2.4	25.8	*	5.9	3.1	1,208.7
full-time	1,114.9	1.8	1.3	*	*	1.9	1,120.8
part-time:	56.6	*	24.5	*	5.0	1.1	87.8
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	54.9	*	24.5	*	4.9	1.1	86.0
<i>part-time, underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	1.7	*	*	*	*	*	1.8
Unemployed:	1.8	61.8	1.1	*	*	2.1	67.9
seeking full-time work	1,114.9	1.8	1.3	*	*	1.9	1,120.8
seeking part-time work	1.8	60.7	*	*	*	1.8	65.0
Marginally attached to the labour force	*	1.1	1.0	*	*	*	2.9
Others	1.9	26.8	143.0	7.0	210.7	77.9	467.3
<b>Total males aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,177.5</b>	<b>95.5</b>	<b>170.1</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>218.0</b>	<b>83.2</b>	<b>1,751.6</b>
<b>Females</b>							
In employment:	874.1	1.3	39.0	8.0	*	3.6	926.4
full-time	618.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	*	2.2	624.3
part-time:	256.1	*	37.4	6.5	*	1.4	302.2
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	254.4	*	37.2	6.5	*	1.4	300.3
<i>part-time, underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	1.7	*	*	*	*	*	1.9
Unemployed:	*	21.1	1.8	9.9	*	*	34.2
seeking full-time work	*	17.0	*	4.0	*	*	22.4
seeking part-time work	*	4.0	1.4	5.8	*	*	11.8
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.1	*	*	*	*	*	3.6
Others	2.5	13.5	153.3	504.6	86.9	47.5	808.2
<b>Total females aged 15 or over</b>	<b>878.4</b>	<b>36.7</b>	<b>194.6</b>	<b>523.0</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>1,772.4</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
In employment:	2,045.5	3.7	64.8	8.1	6.3	6.7	2,135.1
full-time	1,732.9	2.8	2.9	1.5	1.0	4.1	1,745.1
part-time:	312.7	*	61.9	6.6	5.4	2.6	390.0
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	309.3	*	61.7	6.6	5.3	2.6	386.3
<i>part-time, underemployed<sup>1</sup></i>	3.4	*	*	.	*	*	3.7
Unemployed:	2.6	82.9	2.9	10.2	1.0	2.6	102.1
seeking full-time work	2.3	77.7	*	4.2	*	2.2	87.4
seeking part-time work	*	5.2	2.4	5.9	*	*	14.7
Marginally attached to the labour force	3.4	5.2	*	*	*	*	11.4
Others	4.4	40.3	296.4	511.6	297.5	125.3	1,275.5
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>2,055.8</b>	<b>132.1</b>	<b>364.7</b>	<b>530.4</b>	<b>305.8</b>	<b>135.1</b>	<b>3,524.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes.

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

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

Highest education level attained	December-February 2007					December-February 2008				
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour	Unemployment	Participation	In employment	Unemployed	In labour	Unemployment	Participation
			force	rate	rate			force	rate	rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%
<b>Males aged 15 to 64</b>										
Primary or below	125.9	12.6	138.5	9.1	59.0	114.8	12.9	127.7	10.1	57.2
Lower secondary	206.1	14.6	220.7	6.6	72.6	209.8	18.5	228.3	8.1	71.2
Higher secondary	319.2	14.5	333.7	4.3	85.1	320.8	19.2	340.0	5.6	85.0
Post leaving cert	131.3	4.1	135.4	3.0	93.4	129.1	4.5	133.6	3.4	92.8
Third level non degree	108.0	3.0	111.0	2.7	92.8	110.2	3.3	113.5	2.9	91.5
Third level degree or above	219.3	5.2	224.5	2.3	92.2	240.3	6.3	246.6	2.6	92.7
Other	52.6	2.8	55.3	5.1	88.9	48.8	2.9	51.7	5.6	86.7
<b>Total males aged 15 to 64</b>	<b>1,162.4</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>1,219.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>1,173.8</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>1,241.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>80.7</b>
<b>Females aged 15 to 64</b>										
Primary or below	49.7	3.9	53.6	7.3	28.1	49.2	3.0	52.1	5.8	28.7
Lower secondary	96.8	7.4	104.2	7.1	40.7	99.3	6.5	105.8	6.1	41.2
Higher secondary	248.7	10.5	259.2	4.1	64.4	260.0	10.3	270.3	3.8	64.5
Post leaving cert	95.4	4.0	99.4	4.0	73.7	90.7	3.5	94.2	3.7	71.6
Third level non degree	125.2	4.2	129.3	3.2	80.1	132.3	3.7	136.0	2.7	80.9
Third level degree or above	234.1	4.9	239.0	2.1	86.2	254.8	5.8	260.6	2.2	85.9
Other	27.5	1.6	29.1	5.5	64.2	28.0	1.4	29.4	4.8	63.9
<b>Total females aged 15 to 64</b>	<b>877.3</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>913.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>62.3</b>	<b>914.2</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>948.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>62.9</b>
<b>All persons aged 15 to 64</b>										
Primary or below	175.6	16.5	192.1	8.6	45.1	164.0	15.9	179.9	8.8	44.4
Lower secondary	302.9	22.0	324.8	6.8	58.0	309.1	25.0	334.1	7.5	57.8
Higher secondary	567.9	24.9	592.9	4.2	74.7	580.8	29.6	610.4	4.8	74.5
Post leaving cert	226.8	8.1	234.8	3.4	83.9	219.7	8.0	227.8	3.5	82.7
Third level non degree	233.1	7.1	240.3	3.0	85.5	242.5	7.0	249.5	2.8	85.4
Third level degree or above	453.4	10.1	463.5	2.2	89.0	495.1	12.1	507.2	2.4	89.1
Other	80.0	4.4	84.4	5.2	78.6	76.7	4.3	81.0	5.3	76.7
<b>Total persons aged 15 to 64</b>	<b>2,039.7</b>	<b>93.1</b>	<b>2,132.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>2,088.0</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>2,189.8</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>71.9</b>

**Table 24 Estimated *adult*<sup>1</sup> members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, December-February 2008**

'000

Composition of family unit	In employment			Unemployed			Not economically active			Total <sup>2</sup>		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<b>Husband and wife (or couple) without children:</b>												
Wife/female partner aged under 45	117.9	111.7	229.6	4.3	3.3	7.6	5.9	11.5	17.4	128.1	126.6	254.7
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	86.3	64.3	150.6	3.1	1.9	5.0	46.9	68.5	115.4	136.4	134.7	271.1
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	11.8	4.8	16.6	*	*	*	76.2	81.1	157.3	88.1	86.0	174.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>216.0</b>	<b>180.8</b>	<b>396.9</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>129.0</b>	<b>161.2</b>	<b>290.2</b>	<b>352.6</b>	<b>347.3</b>	<b>699.9</b>
<b>Husband and wife (or couple) with children:</b>												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	189.2	127.1	316.3	7.6	3.3	10.9	11.1	75.9	87.0	207.9	206.3	414.2
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	8.9	4.9	13.8	*	*	1.2	1.9	6.0	7.9	11.6	11.3	22.8
All children aged 5 to 14	78.6	54.6	133.2	3.1	2.1	5.2	4.5	27.9	32.4	86.1	84.6	170.7
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	106.2	72.8	179.1	3.6	1.4	5.0	10.5	42.9	53.4	120.3	117.1	237.4
All children aged 15 or over <sup>3</sup>	144.9	96.7	241.5	3.2	1.6	4.8	46.2	92.5	138.7	194.3	190.8	385.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>527.7</b>	<b>356.1</b>	<b>883.8</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>74.1</b>	<b>245.2</b>	<b>319.4</b>	<b>620.2</b>	<b>610.1</b>	<b>1,230.3</b>
<b>Lone parent with children:</b>												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.1	17.3	18.4	*	1.8	2.0	*	23.5	23.6	1.4	42.6	44.0
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	*	1.0	*	*	*	*	1.9	1.9	*	2.8	2.9
All children aged 5 to 14	1.6	16.7	18.3	*	2.0	2.1	*	8.6	8.9	1.9	27.4	29.3
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.7	19.3	22.0	*	1.4	1.6	1.2	9.2	10.4	4.1	29.9	34.0
All children aged 15 or over <sup>3</sup>	8.8	28.1	36.9	*	1.1	2.0	8.2	46.4	54.5	17.8	75.6	93.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>96.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>89.7</b>	<b>99.4</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>178.2</b>	<b>203.6</b>
<b>Total</b>												

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

<sup>2</sup> See the discussion on the grossing effect in the background notes.

<sup>3</sup> 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 states<sup>1</sup>**

Region	Q4/2006					Q4/2007				
	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	234,097.8	215,811.9	18,285.6	57.3	7.8	236,159.9	219,994.0	16,166.5	57.4	6.8
EU-15	186,756.1	172,791.2	13,964.7	57.9	7.5	188,660.1	175,848.8	12,811.6	58.1	6.8
Eurozone <sup>2</sup>	149,094.5	137,102.4	11,991.9	56.9	8.0	150,787.1	139,821.5	10,965.9	57.1	7.3
Belgium	4,730.1	4,355.8	374.3	53.9	7.9	4,779.8	4,443.3	336.6	54.0	7.0
Bulgaria	3,448.0	3,159.6	288.4	51.8	8.4	3,521.7	3,306.4	215.3	53.0	6.1
Czech Republic	5,201.4	4,861.7	339.7	59.1	6.5	5,220.0	4,967.2	252.8	58.8	4.8
Denmark	2,927.8	2,825.0	102.8	66.0	3.5	2,895.8	2,804.3	91.5	65.4	3.2
Germany	41,949.7	37,878.2	4,071.4	59.7	9.7	42,107.1	38,689.5	3,417.7	59.9	8.1
Estonia	689.4	650.7	38.6	60.6	5.6	681.9	653.8	28.1	59.9	4.1
Greece	4,891.2	4,462.1	429.1	53.3	8.8	4,915.6	4,519.1	396.5	53.3	8.1
Spain	21,812.4	20,001.8	1,810.6	57.9	8.3	22,404.5	20,476.9	1,927.6	58.4	8.6
France	27,608.5	25,242.7	2,365.8	56.5	8.6	27,916.0	25,806.6	2,109.4	56.8	7.6
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>2,162.4</b>	<b>2,072.1</b>	<b>90.3</b>	<b>63.3</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>2,239.9</b>	<b>2,138.9</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Italy	24,726.8	23,018.2	1,708.5	49.2	6.9	24,981.0	23,325.8	1,655.2	49.3	6.6
Cyprus	378.1	362.1	16.0	63.9	4.2	398.9	384.9	14.1	64.7	3.5
Latvia	1,173.1	1,101.3	71.8	59.7	6.1	1,213.1	1,148.8	64.3	61.8	5.3
Lithuania	1,574.2	1,498.2	76.1	55.4	4.8	1,591.8	1,525.0	66.9	55.9	4.2
Luxembourg	205.0	195.3	9.7	55.0	4.7	211.6	203.6	8.0	55.9	3.8
Hungary	4,272.4	3,952.9	319.6	50.9	7.5	4,237.2	3,909.4	327.8	50.4	7.7
Malta	163.8	152.7	11.0	50.2	6.7	166.2	155.9	10.3	50.6	6.2
Netherlands	8,655.9	8,343.3	312.6	65.6	3.6	8,756.1	8,511.4	244.7	66.1	2.8
Austria	4,136.7	3,952.3	184.4	60.2	4.5	4,201.5	4,032.9	168.6	60.7	4.0
Poland	16,987.0	14,911.3	2,075.6	54.1	12.2	16,986.1	15,538.0	1,448.1	54.1	8.5
Portugal	5,601.4	5,142.8	458.6	62.5	8.2	5,627.7	5,188.2	439.5	62.7	7.8
Romania	9,787.6	9,080.9	706.8	53.7	7.2	9,773.4	9,173.9	599.5	53.6	6.1
Slovenia	1,012.2	955.9	56.3	58.6	5.6	1,032.0	983.4	48.7	59.4	4.7
Slovak Republic	2,654.5	2,333.4	321.0	59.1	12.1	2,677.5	2,398.5	279.0	59.2	10.4
Finland	2,614.4	2,437.8	176.6	60.1	6.8	2,646.3	2,485.3	161.1	60.4	6.1
Sweden	4,737.2	4,452.0	285.2	62.7	6.0	4,813.6	4,548.6	265.0	63.1	5.5
United Kingdom	29,996.6	28,411.8	1,584.8	62.4	5.3	30,163.6	28,674.4	1,489.2	62.3	4.9

Source: Eurostat and Quarterly National Household Survey.

Note: <sup>1</sup> Trends in some member states may be affected by changes in methodology.<sup>2</sup> 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, December-February, 2007 and 2008**

	ILO Economic Status				'000
Nationality	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Not economically active	Total
<b>Q1 2008</b>					
Irish nationals <sup>1</sup>	1,783.1	81.0	1,864.0	1,168.5	3,032.6
Non-Irish nationals	352.0	21.1	373.1	118.3	491.5
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	55.7	3.9	59.7	38.0	97.6
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. &amp; UK</i>	35.7	1.6	37.3	10.7	48.0
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	176.3	11.1	187.4	28.7	216.1
<i>Other</i>	84.3	4.5	88.8	40.9	129.7
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>2,135.1</b>	<b>102.1</b>	<b>2,237.2</b>	<b>1,286.8</b>	<b>3,524.0</b>
<b>Q1 2007</b>					
Irish nationals <sup>1</sup>	1,777.7	73.5	1,851.3	1,161.6	3,012.9
Non-Irish nationals	303.6	19.8	323.4	101.1	424.5
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	50.9	3.1	54.0	33.7	87.8
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. &amp; UK</i>	31.9	2.3	34.2	8.1	42.3
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	147.7	8.6	156.3	19.6	175.9
<i>Other</i>	73.1	5.8	79.0	39.7	118.7
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>2,081.3</b>	<b>93.4</b>	<b>2,174.7</b>	<b>1,262.7</b>	<b>3,437.4</b>
<b>Year on year changes</b>					
Irish nationals <sup>1</sup>	+ 5.4	+ 7.5	+ 12.7	+ 6.9	+ 19.7
Non-Irish nationals	+ 48.4	+ 1.3	+ 49.7	+ 17.2	+ 67.0
<i>of which:</i>					
<i>United Kingdom</i>	+ 4.8	+ 0.8	+ 5.7	+ 4.3	+ 9.8
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. &amp; UK</i>	+ 3.8	- 0.7	+ 3.1	+ 2.6	+ 5.7
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	+ 28.6	+ 2.5	+ 31.1	+ 9.1	+ 40.2
<i>Other</i>	+ 11.2	- 1.3	+ 9.8	+ 1.2	+ 11.0
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>+ 53.8</b>	<b>+ 8.7</b>	<b>+ 62.5</b>	<b>+ 24.1</b>	<b>+ 86.6</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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, December-February, 2007 and 2008**

	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
Q1 2008												
Irish nationals <sup>1</sup>	113.6	232.8	225.8	251.2	81.3	107.5	246.7	101.2	129.7	190.5	102.8	1,783.1
Non-Irish nationals	8.3	54.3	48.6	60.4	49.7	15.9	51.1	1.7	10.0	33.6	18.3	352.0
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.8	7.1	5.7	8.9	3.2	3.4	9.6	*	3.8	7.1	4.2	55.7
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. &amp; UK</i>	*	4.5	2.4	3.3	4.6	1.9	11.2	*	1.8	2.5	2.5	35.7
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27<sup>2</sup></i>	4.4	34.0	34.1	36.7	27.7	7.0	18.8	*	1.8	5.2	6.4	176.3
<i>Other</i>	1.8	8.7	6.3	11.5	14.1	3.7	11.5	*	2.5	18.8	5.2	84.3
Total persons	122.0	287.1	274.4	311.6	131.0	123.4	297.8	102.9	139.7	224.1	121.1	2,135.1
Q1 2007												
Irish nationals <sup>1</sup>	109.2	242.8	233.9	252.6	80.9	108.5	232.7	101.3	130.1	184.4	101.4	1,777.7
Non-Irish nationals	5.9	51.8	50.3	37.9	47.2	14.6	38.7	1.4	10.1	28.3	17.4	303.6
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.1	6.2	7.3	7.0	2.7	3.6	9.0	*	3.6	6.0	3.7	50.9
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. &amp; UK</i>	*	4.3	1.6	2.5	4.9	2.1	8.9	*	2.0	2.2	2.7	31.9
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27<sup>2</sup></i>	3.4	31.3	36.8	20.4	25.1	6.1	12.8	*	1.3	4.2	6.1	147.7
<i>Other</i>	*	10.0	4.6	8.0	14.6	2.9	8.0	*	3.2	15.9	4.9	73.1
Total persons	115.0	294.6	284.2	290.5	128.1	123.1	271.5	102.7	140.2	212.6	118.8	2,081.3
Year on year changes												
Irish nationals <sup>1</sup>	+ 4.4	- 10.0	- 8.1	- 1.4	+ 0.4	- 1.0	+ 14.0	- 0.1	- 0.4	+ 6.1	+ 1.4	+ 5.4
Non-Irish nationals	+ 2.4	+ 2.5	- 1.7	+ 22.5	+ 2.5	+ 1.3	+ 12.4	+ 0.3	- 0.1	+ 5.3	+ 0.9	+ 48.4
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	+ 0.7	+ 0.9	- 1.6	+ 1.9	+ 0.5	- 0.2	+ 0.6	*	+ 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 0.5	+ 4.8
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. &amp; UK</i>	*	+ 0.2	+ 0.8	+ 0.8	- 0.3	- 0.2	+ 2.3	*	- 0.2	+ 0.3	- 0.2	+ 3.8
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27<sup>2</sup></i>	+ 1.0	+ 2.7	- 2.7	+ 16.3	+ 2.6	+ 0.9	+ 6.0	*	+ 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 0.3	+ 28.6
<i>Other</i>	*	- 1.3	+ 1.7	+ 3.5	- 0.5	+ 0.8	+ 3.5	*	- 0.7	+ 2.9	+ 0.3	+ 11.2
Total persons	+ 7.0	- 7.5	- 9.8	+ 21.1	+ 2.9	+ 0.3	+ 26.3	+ 0.2	- 0.5	+ 11.5	+ 2.3	+ 53.8

<sup>1</sup> 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

<b>Purpose of Survey</b>	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.
<b>Reference Period</b>	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.
<b>Data Collection</b>	Information is collected on laptop computers, using computer-assisted personal interview (CAPI) software.
<b>Sample Design</b>	<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>
<b>Usual residence and de facto population concepts</b>	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.
<b>ILO Labour Force Classification</b>	<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><b>In Employment:</b> 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><b>Unemployed:</b> 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><b>Inactive Population (not in labour force):</b> 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 (Nomenclature generale des Activités économiques dans les Communautés européennes) 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**

<b>Border</b>	Cavan
	Donegal
	Leitrim
	Louth
	Monaghan
<b>Midland</b>	Sligo
	Laoighis
	Longford
	Offaly
<b>West</b>	Westmeath
	Galway City
	Galway County
	Mayo
	Roscommon

**Southern and Eastern  
NUTS2 Region**

<b>Dublin</b>	Dublin City
	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown
	Fingal
	South Dublin
<b>Mid-East</b>	Kildare
	Meath
	Wicklow
<b>Mid-West</b>	Clare
	Limerick City
	Limerick County
<b>South-East</b>	North Tipperary
	Carlow
	Kilkenny
	South Tipperary
	Waterford City
	Waterford County
<b>South-West</b>	Wexford
	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:

<b>Quarter 1</b>	Annual modules update (Disability, Pensions, Childcare, Accidents and Illness), Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Survey
<b>Quarter 2</b>	EU module (always covered under EU legislation)
<b>Quarter 3</b>	National module
<b>Quarter 4</b>	National module

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

<b>Reference Quarter</b>	<b>Social Module</b>
Q2 2007	Union membership
Q1 2006	ICT (information and communications technology) household survey
Q4 2005	Pension provision
Q4 2005	Special Saving Incentive Accounts (SSIAs)
Q3 2005	ICT household survey
Q3 2005	Recycling and energy conservation
Q2 2005	Reconciliation between work and caring responsibilities
Q4 2004	Equality
Q1 2005	Childcare
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)

Social modules yet to be published:

<b>Reference Quarter</b>	<b>Social Module</b>
Q1 2006	Annual modules update
Q2 2006	Transition from work into retirement
Q3 2006	Social capital
Q1 2007	Annual modules update
Q2 2007	Educational attainment
Q3 2007	Health
Q1 2008	Working conditions and agency work

**Further Information**

The following information on Labour Market statistics is available on the CSO website [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie): a full set of revised time series tables, further data in relation to QNHS social modules, methodology details and questionnaires. Special analyses can also be requested by emailing [Labour@cso.ie](mailto:Labour@cso.ie).