

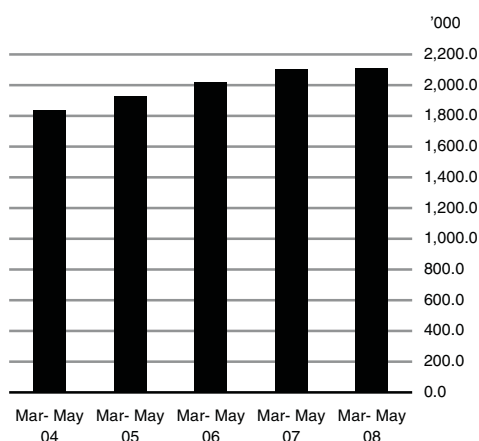


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

20 August 2008

Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 2 2008

**Numbers in employment (ILO),
Quarter 2 2004 to Quarter 2 2008**



ILO¹ Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
Mar-May 2007	2,101.6	100.3	2,201.9
Jun-Aug 2007	2,146.0	107.3	2,253.3
Sep-Nov 2007	2,138.9	101.0	2,239.9
Dec-Feb 2008	2,135.1	102.1	2,237.2
Mar-May 2008	2,108.5	115.5	2,223.9
<i>Change in quarter</i>	-26.6	+13.4	-13.3
<i>Change in year</i>	+6.9	+15.2	+22.0

¹ International Labour Office.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rises to 5.1% in Q2

The total number of persons in the labour force in the second quarter of 2008 was 2,223,900, representing an increase of 22,000 or 1.0% over the year. This compares with an annual labour force growth of 4.2% or 88,000 in the second quarter of 2007. The overall participation rate for the second quarter of 2008 was 63.4%, compared with a rate of 63.7% for Q2 2007. *See table 1.*

Employment grew by 6,900 or 0.3% over the year, bringing the total number of persons employed to 2,108,500. The annual growth rate for Q2 2007 was 4.0%. Female employment increased by 21,500 or 2.4% while male employment declined by 14,600 or 1.2% over the year. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

Full-time employment decreased by 4,300 over the year, with male full-time employment falling by 19,500, partially offset by an increase of 15,200 for females. Part-time employment increased by 11,100 with 6,200 of the increase attributable to females and 4,900 to males. *See table 1.*

There were 115,500 persons unemployed in the second quarter of 2008, an increase of 15,200 in the year. All of the growth in unemployment was attributable to an increase in male unemployment (+18,000), while female unemployment fell by 2,800. When seasonal factors are taken into account there was a quarterly increase of 7,700 in the numbers unemployed with the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increasing from 4.8% to 5.1% between the first and second quarters of 2008. *See tables 1 & 3.*

Employment in the *Construction* sector decreased by 26,800 or 9.5% in the year to the second quarter of 2008, compared with an annual growth rate of 6.3% to the second quarter of 2007. The annual decrease in construction was attributable to a decline in the number of male employees (-27,700).

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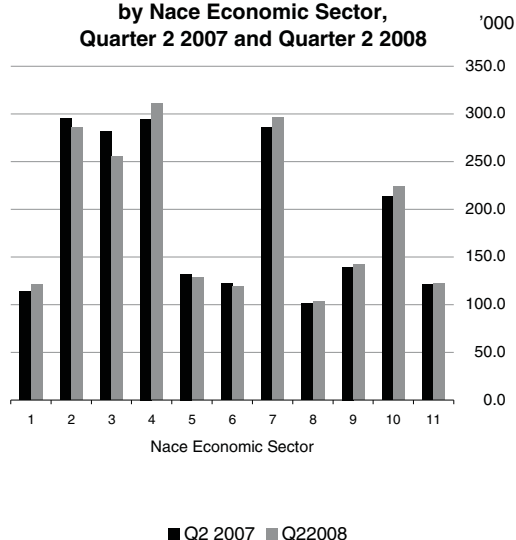
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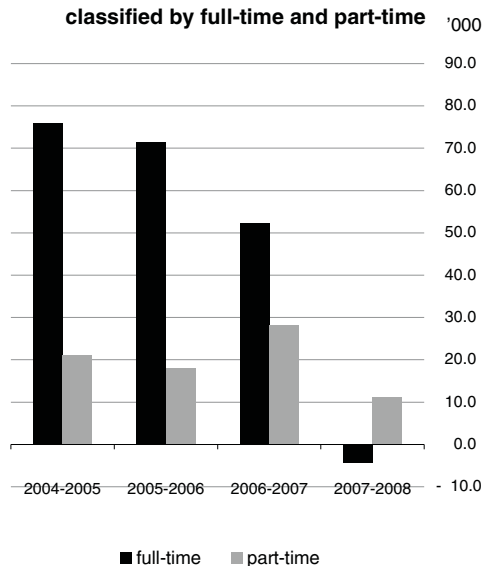
Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by Nace Economic Sector, Quarter 2 2007 and Quarter 2 2008



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 Second Quarters 2004 to 2008 classified by full-time and part-time



The sectors which showed the strongest growth in employment were *Wholesale and retail trade* (+16,200), *Health* (+10,700) and *Financial and other business services* (+10,400). In addition to *Construction*, the sectors which showed a decrease in employment over the year were *Other production industries* (-8,800), *Hotels and restaurants* (-3,700) and *Transport, storage and communication* (-3,000). See tables 2b & 6 and graph opposite.

The latest available figures for all EU-27 member states, which are for the first quarter of 2008, show that between the first quarters of 2007 and 2008 Ireland's labour force grew by 2.9% and its employment level by 2.6%. The comparable average figures for the EU-27 countries were 1.5% and 2.3% respectively. Ireland's unemployment rate of 4.6% continued to be well below the EU-27 average of 7.0%. See table 25.

Full-time employment declines over the year

Part-time employment grew by 11,100 on an annual basis, partially offset by a decrease in full-time employment (-4,300). There was an increase of 4,900 in the number of males in part-time employment while the number of females increased by 6,200 over the year. The increase in part-time employment was spread across a number of sectors with *Wholesale and retail* (+3,200), *Health* (+2,800) and *Other services* (+2,400) showing the largest increases. See tables 1 & 2b and graph below.

Male full-time employment fell by 19,500 in the year while female full-time employment increased by 15,200. The largest decreases in full-time employment were recorded in the *Construction* (-26,500) and *Other production industries* (-10,100) sectors, with the largest increases in the *Wholesale and retail trade* (+13,000), *Financial and other business services* (+9,300) and *Health* (+7,900) sectors. See tables 1 & 2b.

The majority of occupational categories showed an increase in employment over the year. The largest increases were in the *Associate professional and technical* (+10,200) and *Managers and administrators* (+10,000) occupational groups. The most notable decreases were recorded in the *Craft and related* (-20,600) and *Other* (-11,300) occupational categories. See table 4.

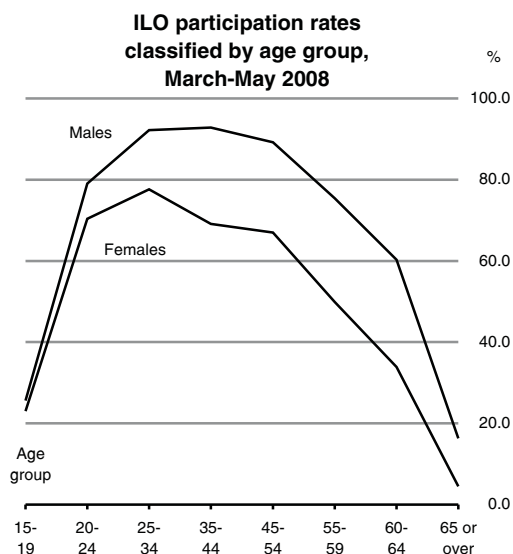
Number of male employees decreases by 20,300

There were 1,745,500 employees in the second quarter of 2008, representing an annual decrease of 3,700. All of the decrease in the number of employees is attributable to males (-20,300) with the number of female employees increasing by 16,600. Sectors which had the largest decreases in the number of employees, were *Construction* (-27,700) and *Other production industries* (-9,800), both of which have high proportions of males in employment. See table 6.

The number of self employed persons increased by 8,900 to 348,200 in the year, with self-employed males increasing by 4,100 and females 4,800. Sectors, which had the largest increases, were *Agriculture* (+6,900), *Financial and other business services* (+1,700), *Other production industries* (+1,500). and *Other services* (+1,500). In the year to Q2 2007, the level of employee growth was 56,300, with self employed growth of 22,400. See table 6.

Labour force growth driven by demographic factors

There were 2,223,900 persons in the labour force in the second quarter of 2008, an annual increase of 1.0% (+22,000). All of the labour force growth arose from the changing population structure, accounting for over 35,000 people joining the labour force in the year to the second quarter of 2008. Net inward migration continued to be the main source, accounting for over 70% of the demographic



increase. Almost 50% of the demographic increase can be attributed to those aged 25-34, the age group most affected by inward migration.

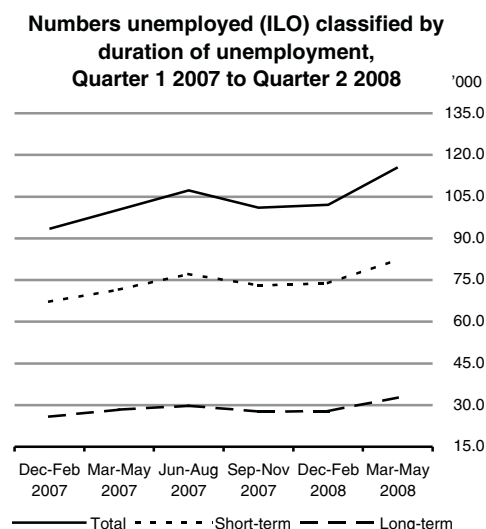
The increase from demographic factors was partially offset by a decrease of over 13,000 arising from changes in participation in the labour force. The largest decrease in participation was among the 15-19 age group where participation declined by 2.7 percentage points over the year to 24.4%. The overall participation rate was 63.4% in Q2 2008, compared with 63.7% in Q2 2007. The participation rate had increased by 0.9 percentage points in the year to Q2 2007. *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, increased from 7.6% in the second quarter of 2007 to 8.0% in the second quarter of 2008. *See table 20.*

All of the increase in unemployment attributable to males

There were 78,000 males and 37,500 females unemployed in the second quarter of 2008, bringing the total number of unemployed to 115,500, an increase of 15,200 (+15.2%) in the year. All of the increase in the number of unemployed is attributable to males (+18,000), with the number of unemployed females declining by 2,800 over the year. *See tables 1 & 13.*

Both short-term (+10,800) and long-term (+4,300) unemployment increased over the year to the second quarter of 2008. Male short-term unemployment increased by 13,100 while male long-term unemployment increased by 4,700. The decrease in female unemployment was primarily in short-term unemployment (-2,300). *See tables 16, 17 & 18 and graph opposite.*



Number of people not in the labour force grows by 32,800 in the year

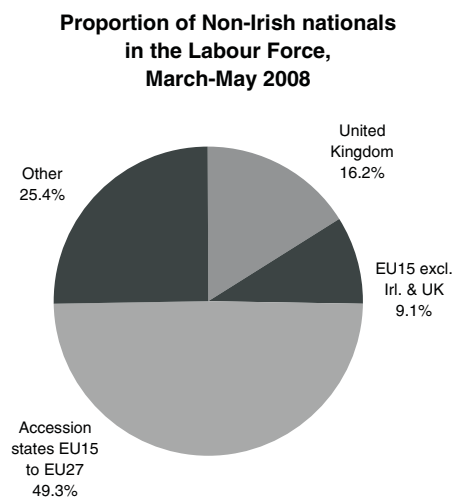
In the year to Q2 2008 the number of people defined as not in the labour force grew by 32,800, an increase of 2.6%, whereas in the year to Q2 2007 the number of people not in the labour force was not showing any significant change. *See table 1.*

Non-Irish national labour force growth falls to 25,700

Broad indicative estimates of the labour force status of Non-Irish nationals are presented in the Annex. There were an estimated 484,000 Non-Irish nationals aged 15 and over in the State in the second quarter of 2008. Of these 337,800 were in employment, while a further 24,800 were unemployed according to ILO criteria. This gives a total Non-Irish national labour force of 362,500, up 25,700 (+7.6%) in the year, less than half the annual growth for Q2 2007 (+54,900). Nationals of the new EU Accession states were the fastest-growing group in the labour force (+16,900). Non-Irish nationals now account for 16.3% of the labour force compared to 15.3% in Q2 2007. *See table A1 in the annex and graph opposite.*

The number of Non-Irish nationals in employment increased by 21,500 (+6.8%) in the year, while there was a decrease of 14,600 (-0.8%) in employment for Irish nationals. The number of unemployed Non-Irish nationals increased by 4,300, representing 28.3% of the increase in the number of unemployed persons. *See table A1 in the annex.*

Almost 38% of workers in the *Hotels and restaurants*, 19.4% in *Other production industries*, 18.9% in *Wholesale and retail trade* and 16.2% *Construction* sectors were Non-Irish nationals. The largest increase in employment for Non-Irish nationals occurred in the *Wholesale and retail trade* sector (+14,300), while the largest decrease was recorded in *Construction* (-7,000). *See tables A1 & A2 in the annex.*



Regional Comparisons

Employment grew by 1,900 (+0.4%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 4,900 (+0.3%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the second quarter of 2008. There were increases of 7,300 (+26.5%) and 7,900 (+10.9%) in the numbers unemployed in the Border, Midland and Western and Southern and Eastern regions respectively. *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western region was 61.8% in Q2 2008 compared with a participation rate of 63.9% in the Southern and Eastern region. *See table 7a.*

At NUTS3 level, employment grew in the West (+3.0%), Mid-East (+2.4%) and South-East (+1.5) regions with the Midland region remaining unchanged. Employment decreased in the Border (-1.8%), Dublin (-0.3%), Mid-West (-1.0%) and South-West (-0.3%) regions. 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 10,000 in the year to 2,030,600. This comprised an increase in females of 24,900 and a decrease in males of 14,800. This compares with an increase of 75,500 in the year to the second quarter of 2007. Meanwhile the number describing themselves as "unemployed" rose by 15,400 in the year to 136,200, and the number describing themselves as "retired" increased by 11,800 to 308,600. *See table 21.*

The overall number of students decreased by 500 in the year to 365,400. The number of students in employment fell by 3,300 over the year to give a student employment rate of 17.6%. *See table 21 & 22.*

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

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ILO Economic Status	Mar- May 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08
Males							
In labour force	1,222.7	1,251.3	1,261.5	1,286.9	1,277.7	1,276.5	1,264.9
In employment:	1,166.7	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9
full-time	1,086.7	1,116.3	1,116.2	1,131.5	1,128.7	1,120.8	1,096.7
part-time:	80.0	78.1	85.3	91.3	85.4	87.8	90.2
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	78.3	77.0	82.5	88.9	83.3	86.0	87.5
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.7	1.1	2.8	2.4	2.2	1.8	2.7
Unemployed:	56.0	56.9	60.0	64.1	63.6	67.9	78.0
seeking full-time work	53.8	53.9	56.8	59.9	59.8	65.0	74.5
seeking part-time work	2.1	3.0	3.2	4.2	3.8	2.9	3.5
Not in labour force	451.2	457.7	456.5	443.5	463.9	475.1	474.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	6.0	9.9	6.1	7.6	6.6	7.8	7.0
Others	445.2	447.8	450.3	436.0	457.3	467.3	467.4
Total males aged 15 or over	1,673.8	1,709.0	1,718.0	1,730.5	1,741.5	1,751.6	1,739.3
Unemployment rate %	4.6	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.3	6.2
Participation rate %	73.0	73.2	73.4	74.4	73.4	72.9	72.7
Females							
In labour force	891.3	923.4	940.4	966.4	962.3	960.6	959.1
In employment:	854.5	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6
full-time	584.1	610.4	607.0	629.4	625.7	624.3	622.2
part-time:	270.4	276.5	293.2	293.8	299.1	302.2	299.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	267.9	274.7	290.4	291.0	296.9	300.3	297.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.5	1.8	2.7	2.8	2.2	1.9	2.4
Unemployed:	36.8	36.5	40.3	43.1	37.5	34.2	37.5
seeking full-time work	24.0	24.5	25.0	30.3	22.7	22.4	25.7
seeking part-time work	12.8	12.0	15.3	12.9	14.7	11.8	11.8
Not in labour force	802.8	805.0	796.9	782.1	803.3	811.8	811.7
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.0	6.6	4.9	7.8	4.9	3.6	3.7
Others	798.8	798.4	792.0	774.3	798.4	808.2	808.0
Total females aged 15 or over	1,694.0	1,728.4	1,737.2	1,748.5	1,765.5	1,772.4	1,770.8
Unemployment rate %	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.5	3.9	3.6	3.9
Participation rate %	52.6	53.4	54.1	55.3	54.5	54.2	54.2
All persons							
In labour force	2,113.9	2,174.7	2,201.9	2,253.3	2,239.9	2,237.2	2,223.9
In employment:	2,021.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5
full-time	1,670.8	1,726.7	1,723.2	1,760.9	1,754.4	1,745.1	1,718.9
part-time:	350.4	354.6	378.5	385.2	384.5	390.0	389.6
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	346.2	351.6	373.0	379.9	380.1	386.3	384.5
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.2	3.0	5.5	5.3	4.4	3.7	5.1
Unemployed:	92.8	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0	102.1	115.5
seeking full-time work	77.8	78.4	81.8	90.2	82.5	87.4	100.2
seeking part-time work	15.0	14.9	18.5	17.1	18.5	14.7	15.2
Not in labour force	1,253.9	1,262.7	1,253.3	1,225.6	1,267.1	1,286.8	1,286.1
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	9.9	16.5	11.0	15.4	11.5	11.4	10.7
Others	1,244.0	1,246.2	1,242.3	1,210.2	1,255.7	1,275.5	1,275.4
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,367.9	3,437.4	3,455.2	3,478.9	3,507.1	3,524.0	3,510.1
Unemployment rate %	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.6	5.2
Participation rate %	62.8	63.3	63.7	64.8	63.9	63.5	63.4

¹ See Background Notes.

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

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Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Mar- May 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08
Males							
A-B Agriculture	102.5	104.1	101.8	104.7	106.2	108.0	106.6
C-F Industry	458.2	481.4	479.7	486.4	474.2	467.9	447.4
G-Q Services	606.1	608.9	620.1	631.7	633.6	632.8	632.9
Females							
A-B Agriculture	10.8	11.0	12.0	12.0	12.4	13.9	14.7
C-F Industry	97.7	97.4	97.3	98.5	95.5	93.6	94.0
G-Q Services	745.9	778.6	790.8	812.7	816.9	818.9	812.9
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	113.2	115.0	113.8	116.7	118.7	122.0	121.3
C-F Industry	555.9	578.9	577.0	584.9	569.7	561.5	541.4
G-Q Services	1,352.0	1,387.5	1,410.9	1,444.4	1,450.5	1,451.7	1,445.8
Total persons	2,021.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5

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

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Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Mar- May 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	102.5	104.1	101.8	104.7	106.2	108.0	106.6
C-E Other production industries	206.2	210.7	211.7	217.2	208.8	207.8	206.3
F Construction	251.9	270.8	267.9	269.2	265.5	260.1	241.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	143.7	146.8	150.5	155.5	156.2	155.1	157.1
H Hotels and restaurants	53.4	54.2	55.4	56.7	56.0	54.0	53.9
I Transport, storage and communication	91.2	93.7	95.2	94.2	93.3	97.8	91.9
J-K Financial and other business services	136.0	134.2	139.3	144.8	147.1	146.5	148.0
L Public administration and defence	50.1	51.0	49.3	53.1	52.1	52.5	51.6
M Education	38.5	38.6	37.2	34.1	35.5	36.8	38.1
N Health	35.7	36.6	38.7	39.8	39.9	38.0	38.3
O-Q Other services	57.6	53.8	54.5	53.5	53.6	52.1	53.9
Total males	1,166.7	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.8	11.0	12.0	12.0	12.4	13.9	14.7
C-E Other production industries	84.4	84.0	83.5	84.5	81.9	79.3	80.1
F Construction	13.3	13.4	13.8	14.0	13.5	14.3	13.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	139.7	143.7	144.0	154.9	155.4	156.5	153.5
H Hotels and restaurants	69.4	73.9	76.9	81.6	76.4	76.9	74.7
I Transport, storage and communication	28.8	29.4	26.9	27.5	27.5	25.6	27.2
J-K Financial and other business services	130.1	137.3	146.6	149.4	150.1	151.3	148.3
L Public administration and defence	52.2	51.6	52.3	55.9	52.9	50.4	51.4
M Education	95.6	101.6	102.5	95.0	103.6	102.9	103.9
N Health	166.9	176.1	174.5	179.6	181.3	186.1	185.6
O-Q Other services	63.3	64.9	67.1	68.6	69.7	69.1	68.2
Total females	854.5	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	113.2	115.0	113.8	116.7	118.7	122.0	121.3
C-E Other production industries	290.7	294.6	295.2	301.7	290.7	287.1	286.4
F Construction	265.2	284.2	281.8	283.2	279.0	274.4	255.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	283.4	290.5	294.5	310.4	311.6	311.6	310.7
H Hotels and restaurants	122.8	128.1	132.3	138.4	132.3	131.0	128.6
I Transport, storage and communication	119.9	123.1	122.2	121.7	120.8	123.4	119.2
J-K Financial and other business services	266.0	271.5	285.9	294.2	297.1	297.8	296.3
L Public administration and defence	102.3	102.7	101.6	109.1	105.0	102.9	103.0
M Education	134.1	140.2	139.7	129.2	139.1	139.7	142.0
N Health	202.6	212.6	213.2	219.3	221.3	224.1	223.9
O-Q Other services	120.9	118.8	121.6	122.1	123.3	121.1	122.1
Total persons	2,021.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5

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

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ILO Economic Status/ NACE Economic Sector	Mar- May 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08
Males							
In labour force	1,233.1	1,257.2	1,272.2	1,269.1	1,279.4	1,281.7	1,274.7
In employment:	1,176.6	1,197.8	1,212.2	1,209.4	1,213.4	1,211.1	1,196.7
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.5	104.5	103.8	102.2	106.5	108.3	108.7
C-E Other production industries	207.9	212.0	213.5	214.1	208.6	209.3	208.0
F Construction	254.6	272.4	271.0	266.8	263.4	261.2	244.2
G Wholesale and retail trade	145.6	147.8	152.2	153.1	155.8	156.4	158.6
H Hotels and restaurants	53.1	54.6	55.2	55.5	57.1	54.4	53.7
I Transport, storage and communication	91.4	93.7	95.6	93.4	93.8	97.7	92.3
J-K Financial and other business services	135.6	135.6	139.2	143.9	146.4	148.1	148.2
L Public administration and defence	50.1	50.8	49.4	53.1	52.3	52.2	51.7
M Education	37.5	37.9	36.0	35.8	35.9	36.0	36.7
N Health	35.7	37.1	38.7	39.2	39.8	38.7	38.3
O-Q Other services	57.8	54.1	54.4	53.2	53.6	52.5	52.5
Unemployed	55.9	59.0	59.7	60.9	65.1	70.4	77.4
Unemployment rate %	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.8	5.1	5.5	6.1
Participation rate %	73.5	73.7	73.9	73.3	73.6	73.4	73.2
Females							
In labour force	898.1	929.6	947.4	951.1	964.3	967.2	965.9
In employment:	859.6	890.3	905.4	914.1	925.1	929.9	926.9
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.5	11.1	11.7	11.8	12.9	14.0	14.3
C-E Other production industries	84.1	85.4	83.2	82.5	82.8	80.6	79.9
F Construction	13.1	13.4	13.7	13.8	13.8	14.3	13.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	142.5	144.3	147.1	151.0	155.4	157.3	156.9
H Hotels and restaurants	70.3	76.1	77.9	78.1	76.8	78.9	75.7
I Transport, storage and communication	29.1	29.4	27.0	27.3	27.5	25.7	27.3
J-K Financial and other business services	131.5	136.5	148.1	148.8	150.0	150.6	149.6
L Public administration and defence	52.7	52.8	52.8	54.0	53.0	51.7	51.9
M Education	93.6	99.4	100.4	101.2	101.7	100.8	101.7
N Health	168.0	176.0	175.6	178.5	181.5	185.8	186.8
O-Q Other services	64.2	65.9	68.0	67.7	68.5	70.2	69.1
Unemployed	38.0	39.3	41.1	38.8	38.2	36.9	38.0
Unemployment rate %	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.9
Participation rate %	52.9	53.8	54.4	54.4	54.7	54.6	54.5
All persons							
In labour force	2,132.1	2,187.4	2,221.1	2,217.8	2,243.6	2,249.8	2,242.7
In employment:	2,037.0	2,087.8	2,118.8	2,122.7	2,139.5	2,141.2	2,125.8
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	114.9	115.4	115.6	113.9	119.4	122.3	123.1
C-E Other production industries	291.8	297.1	296.6	296.4	292.1	289.5	288.0
F Construction	267.7	285.8	284.6	280.3	277.6	275.6	257.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	288.2	292.1	299.3	302.9	312.4	313.7	315.5
H Hotels and restaurants	125.0	129.6	134.3	133.8	133.5	132.6	130.3
I Transport, storage and communication	120.4	122.6	122.8	121.0	121.6	122.7	119.8
J-K Financial and other business services	266.8	271.2	286.9	292.9	297.7	297.6	297.2
L Public administration and defence	103.0	103.4	102.4	107.2	105.2	103.7	103.8
M Education	132.0	137.5	137.3	135.8	137.6	136.9	139.5
N Health	203.8	212.7	214.6	217.5	221.5	224.2	225.5
O-Q Other services	122.0	120.1	122.5	121.0	122.2	122.5	122.8
Unemployed	93.6	98.2	100.4	100.3	103.3	107.4	115.1
Unemployment rate %	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.8	5.1
Participation rate %	63.1	63.8	64.0	63.8	64.1	63.7	63.7

¹ See Background Notes.

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

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Broad occupational group	Mar- May 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	213.1	219.0	221.0	219.4	213.1	225.6	226.4
2. Professional	119.2	119.4	119.7	117.1	120.7	120.3	124.4
3. Associate professional and technical	70.7	75.8	77.5	78.3	79.1	79.2	79.3
4. Clerical and secretarial	61.4	61.2	64.9	65.9	62.3	62.1	60.1
5. Craft and related	275.5	286.3	287.5	295.0	290.1	281.9	267.7
6. Personal and protective service	82.4	86.8	86.7	87.7	88.9	86.3	87.6
7. Sales	69.2	67.6	69.1	72.8	73.6	74.5	74.1
8. Plant and machine operatives	142.2	146.7	147.4	153.1	151.1	155.5	149.6
9. Other	132.9	131.5	127.8	133.5	135.4	123.3	117.8
Total males	1,166.7	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	96.5	95.9	101.7	101.7	98.0	103.7	106.3
2. Professional	114.9	121.7	120.9	115.9	121.9	122.7	123.4
3. Associate professional and technical	100.9	104.6	107.0	111.2	112.8	118.9	115.5
4. Clerical and secretarial	183.9	187.4	189.5	199.4	197.8	193.2	194.7
5. Craft and related	12.0	11.7	12.8	12.9	12.6	12.9	12.0
6. Personal and protective service	139.4	148.1	151.6	156.1	157.6	157.3	155.9
7. Sales	108.8	113.6	113.0	117.6	115.9	116.1	114.3
8. Plant and machine operatives	27.0	28.2	27.7	28.7	27.2	26.4	24.9
9. Other	71.1	75.8	75.8	79.6	80.9	75.3	74.5
Total females	854.5	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	309.7	315.0	322.7	321.2	311.1	329.3	332.7
2. Professional	234.1	241.1	240.6	233.1	242.6	243.0	247.7
3. Associate professional and technical	171.6	180.4	184.6	189.5	191.9	198.2	194.8
4. Clerical and secretarial	245.3	248.6	254.4	265.3	260.1	255.2	254.9
5. Craft and related	287.5	298.0	300.2	307.9	302.7	294.7	279.6
6. Personal and protective service	221.8	234.9	238.3	243.8	246.4	243.6	243.5
7. Sales	178.0	181.2	182.1	190.4	189.5	190.6	188.4
8. Plant and machine operatives	169.2	174.9	175.2	181.8	178.3	181.9	174.6
9. Other	204.0	207.3	203.6	213.1	216.3	198.6	192.3
Total persons	2,021.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5

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

	'000						
Usual hours of work per week	Mar-May 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07	Sep-Nov 07	Dec-Feb 08	Mar-May 08
Males							
1-9 hours	8.6	7.1	7.9	5.3	7.7	7.9	9.1
10-19	21.8	18.9	20.9	19.4	20.5	23.0	22.9
20-29	46.0	46.3	48.8	50.9	49.4	48.1	50.8
30-34	21.2	20.4	22.3	25.7	23.9	24.1	23.2
35-39	433.3	435.9	430.0	443.2	427.1	417.8	415.0
40-44	272.0	288.7	292.6	301.5	299.6	305.4	292.1
45 & over	193.7	188.4	210.5	214.3	203.9	204.1	197.2
Variable hours ¹	170.1	188.8	168.4	162.6	182.0	178.1	176.5
Total males	1,166.7	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9
<i>Average hours per week</i>	40.5	40.5	40.6	40.7	40.5	40.4	40.3
Females							
1-9 hours	25.7	26.1	29.7	22.9	27.4	29.7	29.3
10-19	85.1	89.7	92.5	91.9	98.8	99.6	97.7
20-29	167.9	174.5	177.5	181.6	183.6	181.7	184.8
30-34	55.1	61.6	65.8	67.7	65.8	68.8	66.7
35-39	331.7	341.1	336.2	350.9	339.3	334.7	337.5
40-44	107.8	111.6	114.8	120.2	117.1	120.9	118.1
45 & over	30.5	30.1	32.2	35.2	34.2	33.0	30.7
Variable hours ¹	50.5	52.1	51.5	52.7	58.5	58.1	56.8
Total females	854.5	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6
<i>Average hours per week</i>	31.7	31.6	31.4	31.8	31.4	31.4	31.3
All persons							
1-9 hours	34.3	33.3	37.6	28.2	35.0	37.7	38.5
10-19	106.9	108.6	113.3	111.3	119.3	122.6	120.6
20-29	213.9	220.8	226.3	232.4	233.0	229.7	235.6
30-34	76.3	82.0	88.1	93.4	89.7	92.9	89.9
35-39	765.0	777.0	766.2	794.1	766.4	752.5	752.4
40-44	379.8	400.3	407.4	421.7	416.7	426.4	410.3
45 & over	224.2	218.5	242.7	249.6	238.1	237.2	228.0
Variable hours ¹	220.6	240.9	219.9	215.4	240.5	236.2	233.4
Total persons	2,021.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5
<i>Average hours per week</i>	36.6	36.4	36.4	36.7	36.4	36.3	36.1

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

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

'000

Employment status	Mar-May 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07	Sep-Nov 07	Dec-Feb 08	Mar-May 08
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	91.5	96.0	100.1	100.1	102.9	103.7	98.1
Self employed (with no paid employees)	175.6	183.4	183.3	189.7	197.1	196.3	189.4
Employee	895.6	910.4	913.0	925.2	907.3	902.2	892.7
Assisting relative	4.0	4.7	5.2	7.8	6.8	6.5	6.7
Total males	1,166.7	1,194.4	1,201.5	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	18.2	20.4	22.6	22.2	22.1	21.8	20.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	31.6	31.1	33.3	36.4	39.6	40.4	39.8
Employee	797.3	828.2	836.2	854.8	853.6	856.2	852.8
Assisting relative	7.4	7.3	8.0	9.9	9.4	8.1	8.2
Total females	854.5	886.9	900.1	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	109.7	116.4	122.7	122.2	125.0	125.4	119.0
Self employed (with no paid employees)	207.2	214.5	216.6	226.1	236.6	236.7	229.2
Employee	1,692.9	1,738.5	1,749.2	1,780.0	1,761.0	1,758.4	1,745.5
Assisting relative	11.4	12.0	13.1	17.7	16.3	14.6	14.8
Total persons	2,021.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5

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

Region (NUTS2)	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border, Midland and Western					
Mar-May 2006	515.9	24.4	540.2	4.5	60.6
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
Mar-May 2008	541.5	34.8	576.3	6.0	61.8
Southern and Eastern					
Mar-May 2006	1,505.3	68.4	1,573.7	4.3	63.5
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
Mar-May 2008	1,567.0	80.7	1,647.6	4.9	63.9
State					
Mar-May 2006	2,021.1	92.8	2,113.9	4.4	62.8
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
Mar-May 2008	2,108.5	115.5	2,223.9	5.2	63.4

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Region (NUTS3)		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border	Mar-May 2006	207.7	11.0	218.7	5.0	62.8
	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
	Mar-May 2008	216.1	14.9	231.0	6.4	59.8
Midland	Mar-May 2006	115.5	4.8	120.3	4.0	59.4
	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
	Mar-May 2008	121.3	7.9	129.2	6.1	62.4
West	Mar-May 2006	192.6	8.6	201.2	4.3	61.5
	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
	Mar-May 2008	204.1	12.0	216.1	5.6	63.6
Dublin	Mar-May 2006	594.4	30.3	624.7	4.9	61.5
	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
	Mar-May 2008	614.9	31.2	646.0	4.8	65.3
Mid-East	Mar-May 2006	232.5	8.1	240.6	3.4	64.7
	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
	Mar-May 2008	255.2	9.8	265.0	3.7	67.0
Mid-West	Mar-May 2006	173.7	7.3	181.0	4.0	65.1
	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
	Mar-May 2008	171.6	10.4	181.9	5.7	61.8
South-East	Mar-May 2006	212.5	11.4	223.9	5.1	63.6
	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
	Mar-May 2008	223.3	13.9	237.2	5.8	61.8
South-West	Mar-May 2006	292.1	11.4	303.4	3.7	61.7
	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
	Mar-May 2008	302.0	15.4	317.5	4.9	61.7
State	Mar-May 2006	2,021.1	92.8	2,113.9	4.4	62.8
	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
	Mar-May 2008	2,108.5	115.5	2,223.9	5.2	63.4

¹ See Background Notes.

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

and marital status, March-May 2008									%
Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	25.6	78.9	91.0	86.2	74.9	52.7	44.3	21.1	70.2
Married	*	83.4	95.5	95.7	92.7	81.0	64.2	16.7	77.5
Separated or divorced	*	*	84.4	84.6	80.9	62.5	44.2	19.3	68.1
Widowed	*	*	82.6	91.9	82.2	71.3	51.8	7.9	26.3
Total males	25.6	79.0	92.2	92.8	89.2	75.4	60.3	16.3	72.7
Females									
Single	23.0	71.1	82.4	75.9	76.0	55.6	36.2	4.8	62.3
Married	*	54.3	71.0	67.0	65.2	48.8	33.0	5.6	54.4
Separated or divorced	*	*	57.6	70.4	70.0	60.2	36.4	15.0	61.0
Widowed	*	*	100.0	64.8	66.1	42.4	35.7	2.7	12.4
Total females	23.0	70.4	77.6	69.1	67.0	49.9	33.9	4.5	54.2
All persons									
Single	24.3	75.0	87.0	81.6	75.4	53.8	41.1	13.6	66.5
Married	*	62.3	81.7	81.4	79.2	65.0	49.4	11.9	66.0
Separated or divorced	*	*	65.3	75.3	74.1	61.3	39.8	17.2	63.8
Widowed	*	*	94.1	73.1	70.7	51.1	39.7	3.7	15.4
Total persons	24.4	74.7	85.0	81.1	78.1	62.8	47.2	9.7	63.4

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

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

	Age group								%
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Mar-May 2006	30.2	80.2	93.2	93.8	89.0	76.4	58.2	14.4	73.0
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
Mar-May 2008	25.6	79.0	92.2	92.8	89.2	75.4	60.3	16.3	72.7
Females									
Mar-May 2006	23.0	69.0	77.8	66.5	64.1	48.6	31.2	4.2	52.6
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
Mar-May 2008	23.0	70.4	77.6	69.1	67.0	49.9	33.9	4.5	54.2
All persons									
Mar-May 2006	26.6	74.7	85.6	80.3	76.6	62.7	44.8	8.7	62.8
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
Mar-May 2008	24.4	74.7	85.0	81.1	78.1	62.8	47.2	9.7	63.4

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Mar-May 2006	44.8	140.7	341.6	293.8	232.8	86.5	52.7	29.5	1,222.7
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
Mar-May 2008	37.1	131.1	364.0	306.0	242.9	88.2	60.5	35.0	1,264.9
Females									
Mar-May 2006	32.7	118.7	277.5	204.3	165.8	53.8	27.8	10.8	891.3
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
Mar-May 2008	32.1	118.5	301.8	222.7	181.3	57.4	33.4	11.9	959.1
All persons									
Mar-May 2006	77.5	259.5	619.1	498.1	398.6	140.3	80.5	40.3	2,113.9
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
Mar-May 2008	69.2	249.6	665.8	528.7	424.2	145.7	94.0	46.9	2,223.9

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Mar-May 2006	39.6	129.7	324.8	283.7	223.9	83.7	52.0	29.4	1,166.7
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
Mar-May 2008	30.1	116.0	339.5	290.7	232.3	84.5	58.9	34.9	1,186.9
Females									
Mar-May 2006	28.7	110.9	266.5	197.0	160.7	52.4	27.5	10.8	854.5
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
Mar-May 2008	28.6	110.5	290.2	215.4	176.1	56.0	32.9	11.9	921.6
All persons									
Mar-May 2006	68.3	240.6	591.3	480.7	384.6	136.0	79.5	40.2	2,021.1
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
Mar-May 2008	58.6	226.4	629.8	506.1	408.4	140.5	91.9	46.8	2,108.5

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

%

	Age group							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	15-64
Males								
Mar-May 2006	26.6	73.9	88.6	90.6	85.6	73.9	57.4	77.4
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
Mar-May 2008	20.8	69.9	86.0	88.2	85.2	72.2	58.7	75.6
Females								
Mar-May 2006	20.2	64.5	74.7	64.2	62.1	47.3	30.9	58.7
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
Mar-May 2008	20.5	65.6	74.6	66.8	65.0	48.7	33.4	60.5
All persons								
Mar-May 2006	23.5	69.2	81.8	77.5	73.9	60.8	44.2	68.2
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
Mar-May 2008	20.7	67.7	80.4	77.6	75.2	60.6	46.1	68.1

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

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Mar-May 2006	5.3	11.0	16.8	10.2	8.9	2.9	*	*	56.0
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
Mar-May 2008	7.0	15.1	24.5	15.3	10.6	3.8	1.6	*	78.0
Females									
Mar-May 2006	3.9	7.8	11.0	7.3	5.1	1.4	*	*	36.8
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
Mar-May 2008	3.5	8.0	11.5	7.3	5.2	1.4	*	*	37.5
All persons									
Mar-May 2006	9.2	18.9	27.8	17.4	14.0	4.2	1.0	*	92.8
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
Mar-May 2008	10.5	23.1	36.0	22.6	15.9	5.2	2.1	*	115.5

* 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 14 Unemployment rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group

%

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Mar-May 2006	11.8	7.8	4.9	3.5	3.8	3.3	*	*	4.6
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
Mar-May 2008	18.9	11.5	6.7	5.0	4.4	4.3	2.6	*	6.2
Females									
Mar-May 2006	12.0	6.6	4.0	3.6	3.1	2.6	*	*	4.1
Dec-Feb 2007	12.5	5.5	3.9	3.4	3.0	2.1	*	*	4.0
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
Mar-May 2008	11.0	6.8	3.8	3.3	2.9	2.4	1.5	*	3.9
All persons									
Mar-May 2006	11.9	7.3	4.5	3.5	3.5	3	1.3	*	4.4
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
Mar-May 2008	15.2	9.3	5.4	4.3	3.7	3.5	2.2	*	5.2

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

Married Females	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Total married women ('000)									
Mar-May 2006	*	6.3	133.8	223.4	195.9	82.8	65.2	105.5	813.4
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
Mar-May 2008	*	7.0	147.0	230.6	203.7	87.0	71.2	113.5	860.6
of which In labour force ('000)									
Mar-May 2006	*	3.7	93.7	142.6	122.3	38.9	19.4	5.7	426.6
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
Mar-May 2008	*	3.8	104.3	154.4	132.8	42.4	23.5	6.4	467.9
of which In employment ('000)									
Mar-May 2006	*	3.3	90.6	138.5	119.0	38.0	19.3	5.7	414.5
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
Mar-May 2008	*	3.6	101.3	150.0	129.8	41.3	23.2	6.4	455.6
Participation rates (%)									
Mar-May 2006	*	58.8	70.1	63.8	62.4	47.0	29.8	5.4	52.4
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
Mar-May 2008	*	54.3	71.0	67.0	65.2	48.8	33.0	5.6	54.4

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

Table 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	%	%
Sep-Nov 1999	1,735.7	1,647.4	88.3	36.4	5.1	2.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,729.9	1,648.7	81.2	29.8	4.7	1.7
Mar-May 2000	1,745.9	1,671.4	74.5	27.7	4.3	1.6
Jun-Aug 2000	1,813.3	1,736.1	77.1	25.9	4.3	1.4
Sep-Nov 2000	1,781.0	1,712.6	68.4	24.3	3.8	1.4
Dec-Feb 2001	1,776.2	1,710.9	65.3	21.7	3.7	1.2
Mar-May 2001	1,787.0	1,721.9	65.1	20.8	3.6	1.2
Jun-Aug 2001	1,867.4	1,788.9	78.5	22.1	4.2	1.2
Sep-Nov 2001	1,831.6	1,759.9	71.8	21.4	3.9	1.2
Dec-Feb 2002	1,832.7	1,753.5	79.2	23.2	4.3	1.3
Mar-May 2002	1,837.7	1,760.6	77.1	21.6	4.2	1.2
Jun-Aug 2002	1,891.3	1,804.9	86.4	22.0	4.6	1.2
Sep-Nov 2002	1,862.8	1,778.7	84.1	24.9	4.5	1.3
Dec-Feb 2003	1,864.8	1,779.5	85.4	26.7	4.6	1.4
Mar-May 2003	1,872.7	1,790.1	82.6	27.4	4.4	1.5
Jun-Aug 2003	1,931.8	1,832.7	99.1	27.3	5.1	1.4
Sep-Nov 2003	1,912.7	1,827.1	85.7	26.3	4.5	1.4
Dec-Feb 2004	1,916.5	1,833.0	83.5	30.6	4.4	1.6
Mar-May 2004	1,919.1	1,834.6	84.6	26.5	4.4	1.4
Jun-Aug 2004	1,987.0	1,893.1	93.9	28.1	4.7	1.4
Sep-Nov 2004	1,982.1	1,896.4	85.8	28.8	4.3	1.5
Dec-Feb 2005	1,993.4	1,910.8	82.6	27.6	4.1	1.4
Mar-May 2005	2,018.2	1,931.6	86.5	27.5	4.3	1.4
Jun-Aug 2005	2,091.7	1,994.3	97.4	28.0	4.7	1.3
Sep-Nov 2005	2,078.1	1,985.7	92.3	27.6	4.4	1.3
Dec-Feb 2006	2,094.3	2,004.8	89.5	26.1	4.3	1.2
Mar-May 2006	2,113.9	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	2,237.2	2,135.1	102.1	27.8	4.6	1.2
Mar-May 2008	2,239.9	2,108.5	115.5	32.7	5.2	1.5

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Mar- May 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08
Males							
Less than 1 year	34.7	37.6	39.4	42.5	42.7	46.0	52.5
1 year and over	21.0	19.0	20.4	21.3	20.6	21.5	25.1
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	56.0	56.9	60.0	64.1	63.6	67.9	78.0
Females							
Less than 1 year	28.3	29.7	32.2	34.7	30.3	27.8	29.9
1 year and over	8.6	6.7	8.0	8.5	7.1	6.3	7.6
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	36.8	36.5	40.3	43.1	37.5	34.2	37.5
All persons							
Less than 1 year	62.9	67.2	71.6	77.2	73.0	73.8	82.4
1 year and over	29.6	25.8	28.4	29.7	27.7	27.8	32.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	92.8	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0	102.1	115.5

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

'000

	QNHS Mar-May 2007				QNHS Mar-May 2008			
	Age group			Total	Age group			Total
	15-24	25-44	45 or over		15-24	25-44	45 or over	
Males								
Less than 1 year	12.7	19.4	7.3	39.4	16.6	27.4	8.4	52.5
1 year and over	4.2	9.9	6.3	20.4	5.4	12.2	7.5	25.1
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total males	17.0	29.4	13.6	60.0	22.1	39.8	16.1	78.0
Females								
Less than 1 year	10.8	15.9	5.5	32.2	9.3	15.6	4.9	29.9
1 year and over	1.6	4.0	2.5	8.0	2.3	3.2	2.2	7.6
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	12.4	20.0	7.9	40.3	11.5	18.8	7.1	37.5
All persons								
Less than 1 year	23.5	35.4	12.7	71.6	25.9	43.1	13.4	82.4
1 year and over	5.8	13.9	8.8	28.4	7.6	15.4	9.7	32.7
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total persons	29.4	49.4	21.5	100.3	33.7	58.6	23.2	115.5

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

	'000								
ILO Economic Status	Mar- May 06	Jun- Aug 06	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08
In labour force	2,113.9	2,183.4	2,162.4	2,174.7	2,201.9	2,253.3	2,239.9	2,237.2	2,223.9
In employment:	2,021.1	2,076.9	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5
full-time	1,670.8	1,730.0	1,724.1	1,726.7	1,723.2	1,760.9	1,754.4	1,745.1	1,718.9
part-time:	350.4	346.9	348.0	354.6	378.5	385.2	384.5	390.0	389.6
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	346.2	343.2	344.2	351.6	373.0	379.9	380.1	386.3	384.5
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	4.2	3.7	3.8	3.0	5.5	5.3	4.4	3.7	5.1
Unemployed:	92.8	106.5	90.3	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0	102.1	115.5
seeking full-time work	77.8	89.5	75.5	78.4	81.8	90.2	82.5	87.4	100.2
seeking part-time work	15.0	16.9	14.8	14.9	18.5	17.1	18.5	14.7	15.2
Not in labour force	1,253.9	1,211.3	1,255.8	1,262.7	1,253.3	1,225.6	1,267.1	1,286.8	1,286.1
Marginally attached to the labour force:	9.9	15.6	10.0	16.5	11.0	15.4	11.5	11.4	10.7
Discouraged workers	7.8	12.7	7.5	13.4	8.5	12.1	9.5	9.3	8.6
Passive jobseekers	2.1	2.8	2.5	3.1	2.6	3.4	2.0	2.1	2.2
Others:	1,244.0	1,195.8	1,245.8	1,246.2	1,242.3	1,210.2	1,255.7	1,275.5	1,275.4
Persons not in education, who want work ²	58.2	67.4	60.0	61.2	56.7	55.6	52.4	53.9	52.1
Persons in education, who want work ²	34.4	26.6	32.0	31.2	32.3	18.8	25.8	24.7	31.6
All other persons	1,151.4	1,101.8	1,153.8	1,153.7	1,153.3	1,135.8	1,177.5	1,196.9	1,191.8
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,367.9	3,394.7	3,418.2	3,437.4	3,455.2	3,478.9	3,507.1	3,524.0	3,510.1

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Table 20 Indicators of potential labour supply

Quarter	S1	S2	S3
Mar-May 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
Mar-May 2008	5.6	7.8	8.0

%

NOTE: Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 19:

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

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

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

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

Principal Economic Status	Mar-May 06	Dec-Feb 07	Mar-May 07	Jun-Aug 07	Sep-Nov 07	Dec-Feb 08	Mar-May 08
Males							
At work	1,135.1	1,166.1	1,168.4	1,175.1	1,181.4	1,177.5	1,153.6
Unemployed	81.1	83.0	82.4	84.4	87.1	95.5	99.8
Student	168.8	165.6	170.6	165.3	167.5	170.1	173.7
Home duties	5.2	5.7	5.9	7.2	8.3	7.4	6.6
Retired	210.1	210.8	212.5	216.6	216.7	218.0	220.2
Others	73.6	77.7	78.1	81.8	80.5	83.2	85.3
Total males	1,673.8	1,709.0	1,718.0	1,730.5	1,741.5	1,751.6	1,739.3
Females							
At work	810.0	846.7	852.1	865.4	878.0	878.4	877.0
Unemployed	35.7	37.7	38.4	41.6	36.3	36.7	36.4
Student	197.9	187.7	195.3	182.4	191.1	194.6	191.6
Home duties	529.0	535.9	521.5	522.3	523.2	523.0	526.1
Retired	77.2	77.8	84.3	87.9	83.8	87.8	88.4
Others	44.2	42.5	45.6	48.8	53.1	51.9	51.3
Total females	1,694.0	1,728.4	1,737.2	1,748.5	1,765.5	1,772.4	1,770.8
All persons							
At work	1,945.1	2,012.8	2,020.6	2,040.6	2,059.4	2,055.8	2,030.6
Unemployed	116.8	120.7	120.8	126.0	123.5	132.1	136.2
Student	366.7	353.4	365.9	347.8	358.7	364.7	365.4
Home duties	534.2	541.6	527.5	529.5	531.6	530.4	532.7
Retired	287.2	288.7	296.8	304.5	300.5	305.8	308.6
Others	117.9	120.2	123.8	130.6	133.6	135.1	136.6
Total persons	3,367.9	3,437.4	3,455.2	3,478.9	3,507.1	3,524.0	3,510.1

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

Table 22 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status, March-May 2008

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,147.5	2.1	27.6	*	6.0	3.5	1,186.9
full-time	1,089.8	1.6	1.8	*	*	2.5	1,096.7
part-time:	57.7	*	25.8	*	5.2	1.0	90.2
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	55.3	*	25.8	*	5.1	1.0	87.5
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.4	*	*	*	*	*	2.7
Unemployed:	2.1	69.6	2.6	*	*	2.3	78.0
seeking full-time work	2.0	68.3	1.6	*	*	1.7	74.5
seeking part-time work	*	1.2	*	*	*	*	3.5
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.6	4.2	*	*	*	*	7.0
Others	2.4	23.9	142.9	6.1	213.0	79.1	467.4
Total males aged 15 or over	1,153.6	99.8	173.7	6.6	220.2	85.3	1,739.3
Females							
In employment:	871.4	1.2	36.8	8.0	*	3.2	921.6
full-time	615.9	*	2.1	1.5	*	2.0	622.2
part-time:	255.6	*	34.7	6.5	*	1.2	299.4
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	253.4	*	34.5	6.5	*	1.2	297.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.2	*	*	*	*	*	2.4
Unemployed:	1.0	20.0	2.5	12.3	*	1.5	37.5
seeking full-time work	*	17.0	1.4	5.4	*	1.1	25.7
seeking part-time work	*	3.0	1.1	6.9	*	*	11.8
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.1	*	*	*	*	*	3.7
Others	3.4	14.4	151.6	505.0	87.2	46.3	808.0
Total females aged 15 or over	877.0	36.4	191.6	526.1	88.4	51.3	1,770.8
All persons							
In employment:	2,018.9	3.3	64.4	8.1	6.9	6.8	2,108.5
full-time	1,705.6	2.3	3.9	1.6	*	4.5	1,718.9
part-time:	313.3	1.0	60.6	6.5	6.0	2.2	389.6
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	308.7	*	60.4	6.5	5.9	2.2	384.5
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.6	*	*	*	*	*	5.1
Unemployed:	3.1	89.6	5.1	12.8	1.1	3.8	115.5
seeking full-time work	2.8	85.3	3.0	5.8	*	2.8	100.2
seeking part-time work	*	4.3	2.1	6.9	*	1.0	15.2
Marginally attached to the labour force	2.8	5.0	1.3	*	*	*	10.7
Others	5.8	38.3	294.5	511.1	300.2	125.4	1,275.4
Total persons aged 15 or over	2,030.6	136.2	365.4	532.7	308.6	136.6	3,510.1

¹ See Background Notes.

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

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

Highest education level attained	March-May 2007					March-May 2008				
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Males aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	123.8	12.0	135.8	8.8	58.1	110.5	13.1	123.5	10.6	56.3
Lower secondary	210.0	16.0	226.0	7.1	72.7	203.2	23.8	227.0	10.5	71.1
Higher secondary	317.5	15.0	332.5	4.5	85.9	313.4	21.4	334.8	6.4	84.6
Post leaving cert	130.3	4.5	134.8	3.3	93.1	128.2	6.3	134.5	4.7	93.4
Third level non degree	106.1	3.7	109.9	3.4	92.4	111.1	4.8	115.9	4.1	92.5
Third level degree or above	231.5	6.1	237.6	2.6	92.8	239.7	6.2	245.8	2.5	92.4
Other	48.8	2.4	51.2	4.7	89.4	46.0	2.3	48.3	4.8	87.7
Total males aged 15 to 64	1,168.0	59.7	1,227.7	4.9	81.4	1,152.0	77.9	1,229.9	6.3	80.7
Females aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	53.6	4.5	58.1	7.7	29.9	47.2	2.6	49.8	5.2	28.2
Lower secondary	99.9	8.4	108.4	7.7	42.4	100.8	6.4	107.1	6.0	41.8
Higher secondary	248.0	12.0	260.0	4.6	64.5	256.3	11.7	268.0	4.4	64.5
Post leaving cert	96.4	5.0	101.4	4.9	75.0	90.6	4.3	94.9	4.5	71.4
Third level non degree	124.2	4.9	129.1	3.8	81.4	135.7	4.4	140.2	3.1	79.3
Third level degree or above	240.6	3.9	244.6	1.6	85.5	251.8	6.0	257.8	2.3	85.3
Other	27.4	1.4	28.8	4.9	68.4	27.3	2.1	29.4	7.1	68.1
Total females aged 15 to 64	890.1	40.1	930.3	4.3	63.0	909.7	37.5	947.2	4.0	63.0
All persons aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	177.4	16.4	193.8	8.5	45.3	157.7	15.7	173.4	9.1	43.8
Lower secondary	310.0	24.4	334.4	7.3	59.0	304.0	30.2	334.2	9.0	58.1
Higher secondary	565.5	27.0	592.5	4.6	75.0	569.7	33.2	602.8	5.5	74.3
Post leaving cert	226.7	9.5	236.2	4.0	84.4	218.8	10.6	229.3	4.6	82.8
Third level non degree	230.3	8.6	238.9	3.6	86.1	246.8	9.2	256.0	3.6	84.8
Third level degree or above	472.1	10.0	482.1	2.1	88.9	491.5	12.1	503.6	2.4	88.6
Other	76.2	3.8	80.0	4.8	80.4	73.3	4.4	77.7	5.7	79.0
Total persons aged 15 to 64	2,058.2	99.8	2,158.0	4.6	72.3	2,061.6	115.4	2,177.0	5.3	71.9

Table 24 Estimated *adult*¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, March-May 2008

'000

Composition of family unit	In employment			Unemployed			Not economically active			Total ²		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Husband and wife (or couple) without children:												
Wife/female partner aged under 45	114.9	109.8	224.7	4.7	3.6	8.3	4.8	12.4	17.2	124.5	125.7	250.2
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	85.7	66.1	151.7	3.3	1.8	5.1	46.1	67.5	113.6	135.1	135.4	270.5
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	12.6	5.0	17.5	*	*	*	77.6	84.0	161.6	90.3	89.0	179.3
Total	213.2	180.8	394.0	8.2	5.4	13.6	128.5	163.9	292.4	349.9	350.1	700.0
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	187.3	127.0	314.3	9.1	3.5	12.6	9.9	75.5	85.4	206.3	206.1	412.4
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	9.8	5.0	14.8	*	*	*	1.6	6.9	8.4	12.2	12.0	24.1
All children aged 5 to 14	80.5	56.2	136.7	3.4	2.2	5.5	5.2	29.6	34.8	89.0	87.9	176.9
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	103.8	72.6	176.5	4.6	2.2	6.7	9.5	40.3	49.8	117.8	115.2	233.0
All children aged 15 or over ³	138.7	95.7	234.4	3.9	1.8	5.7	46.5	89.9	136.4	189.1	187.4	376.5
Total	520.2	356.5	876.7	21.6	9.8	31.4	72.6	242.2	314.9	614.4	608.6	1,222.9
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.2	16.7	17.9	*	1.8	1.9	*	24.2	24.5	1.5	42.7	44.2
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.1	1.3	*	*	*	*	1.9	1.9	*	3.0	3.2
All children aged 5 to 14	1.3	17.1	18.4	*	1.6	1.8	*	8.9	9.3	1.8	27.6	29.4
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.2	17.9	20.1	*	1.6	1.7	*	9.7	10.3	2.9	29.2	32.1
All children aged 15 or over ³	9.0	26.3	35.4	*	*	1.5	8.3	44.6	52.9	17.9	71.9	89.8
Total	13.8	79.1	93.0	1.1	5.9	6.9	9.5	89.4	98.9	24.3	174.4	198.7
Total	747.2	616.4	1,363.6	30.8	21.1	51.9	210.6	495.5	706.1	988.6	1,133.0	2,121.6

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

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

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

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

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

Region	Q1/2007					Q1/2008				
	Labour force	In employment	Unemployed	Participation rate	Unemployment rate	Labour force	In employment	Unemployed	Participation rate	Unemployment rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%
EU-27	232,970.5	214,969.5	18,000.7	56.9	7.7	236,456.8	219,828.8	16,628.0	57.3	7.0
EU-15	185,996.3	172,071.1	13,925.1	57.6	7.5	189,197.7	175,898.6	13,299.0	58.1	7.0
Eurozone ²	148,474.6	136,628.0	11,846.7	56.5	8.0	150,537.8	139,220.6	11,317.1	56.9	7.5
Belgium	4,723.1	4,347.8	375.3	53.7	7.9	4,786.5	4,449.5	337.0	53.9	7.0
Bulgaria	3,408.1	3,135.4	272.7	51.3	8.0	3,518.7	3,289.9	228.8	53.2	6.5
Czech Republic	5,177.0	4,865.0	312.0	58.7	6.0	5,202.9	4,958.4	244.5	58.4	4.7
Denmark	2,918.4	2,789.3	129.1	65.9	4.4	2,913.7	2,816.1	97.6	65.3	3.3
Germany	41,400.3	37,490.9	3,909.4	58.8	9.4	41,751.7	38,342.2	3,409.4	59.4	8.2
Estonia	683.3	647.0	36.3	60.1	5.3	685.2	656.5	28.7	60.2	4.2
Greece	4,906.6	4,461.0	445.7	53.4	9.1	4,918.2	4,511.6	406.5	53.3	8.3
Spain	21,925.3	20,069.2	1,856.1	57.9	8.5	22,576.5	20,402.3	2,174.2	58.6	9.6
France	27,677.8	25,268.0	2,409.8	56.5	8.7	27,894.4	25,829.6	2,064.9	56.7	7.4
Ireland	2,174.7	2,081.3	93.4	63.3	4.3	2,237.2	2,135.1	102.1	63.5	4.6
Italy	24,402.4	22,846.4	1,556.0	48.4	6.4	24,931.8	23,170.5	1,761.3	49.1	7.1
Cyprus	388.1	369.3	18.8	64.0	4.8	397.9	379.8	18.1	64.3	4.5
Latvia	1,164.2	1,084.4	79.8	59.3	6.9	1,217.5	1,137.8	79.7	62.2	6.5
Lithuania	1,587.3	1,507.7	79.6	55.8	5.0	1,587.8	1,510.3	77.5	55.7	4.9
Luxembourg	212.1	202.5	9.7	56.0	4.6	206.4	197.6	8.8	55.0	4.3
Hungary	4,221.8	3,905.5	316.3	50.3	7.5	4,176.8	3,844.2	332.6	49.7	8.0
Malta	164.9	153.7	11.2	50.3	6.8	167.9	157.8	10.1	48.8	6.0
Netherlands	8,693.8	8,361.5	332.2	65.9	3.8	8,776.2	8,501.5	274.7	66.2	3.1
Austria	4,139.5	3,948.5	191.0	60.1	4.6	4,191.1	4,016.0	175.2	60.4	4.2
Poland	16,733.5	14,839.3	1,894.2	53.2	11.3	16,875.8	15,515.0	1,360.8	53.7	8.1
Portugal	5,605.6	5,135.7	469.9	62.6	8.4	5,618.0	5,191.0	427.0	62.5	7.6
Romania	9,796.4	9,105.9	690.4	53.7	7.0	9,735.3	9,118.6	616.7	53.3	6.3
Slovenia	1,014.9	957.6	57.3	58.7	5.6	1,022.3	970.6	51.7	58.6	5.1
Slovak Republic	2,634.7	2,327.6	307.0	58.6	11.7	2,671.0	2,391.3	279.8	59.1	10.5
Finland	2,613.4	2,415.2	198.2	60.0	7.6	2,649.8	2,473.7	176.0	60.4	6.6
Sweden	4,755.7	4,432.4	323.2	62.8	6.8	4,822.0	4,520.2	301.8	63.2	6.3
United Kingdom	29,847.6	28,221.4	1,626.1	62.0	5.4	30,924.2	29,341.7	1,582.5	62.6	5.1

Source: Eurostat and Quarterly National Household Survey.

Note: ¹ Trends in some member states may be affected by changes in methodology.² Eurozone consists of EU15 states with the exceptions of Denmark, Sweden and United Kingdom.

Annex

Estimates of the Population aged 15 years and over classified by nationality and labour force status

The following tables provide estimates of the labour force classified by nationality. The figures are considered 'broadly indicative' as the very large migration flows in recent years present a significant measurement challenge in a general purpose household survey such as the QNHS. The main concerns, which are based on international experience, centre around the extent to which the survey captures minority communities in a proportionate and representative manner. Notwithstanding these concerns, the CSO believes that the estimates presented in the following tables provide a broadly accurate picture of the current situation and recent trends.

Table A1 Estimated number of persons aged 15 years and over classified by nationality and ILO Economic Status, March-May, 2007 and 2008

Economic Status, March-May, 2007 and 2008						'000
Nationality	ILO Economic Status				Total	
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Not economically active		
Q2 2008						
Irish nationals ¹	1,770.7	90.7	1,861.4	1,164.7	3,026.1	
Non-Irish nationals	337.8	24.8	362.5	121.4	484.0	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	54.5	4.2	58.7	41.0	99.7	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	31.2	1.8	33.1	10.2	43.3	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	167.2	11.6	178.8	29.3	208.1	
<i>Other</i>	84.8	7.2	92.0	41.0	132.9	
Total persons	2,108.5	115.5	2,223.9	1,286.1	3,510.1	
Q2 2007						
Irish nationals ¹	1,785.3	79.8	1,865.1	1,151.1	3,016.2	
Non-Irish nationals	316.3	20.5	336.8	102.3	439.0	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	53.5	3.0	56.4	34.1	90.6	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	35.6	2.2	37.8	10.3	48.1	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	152.8	9.1	161.9	19.0	180.9	
<i>Other</i>	74.5	6.2	80.7	38.8	119.5	
Total persons	2,101.6	100.3	2,201.9	1,253.3	3,455.2	
Year on year changes						
Irish nationals ¹	- 14.6	+ 10.9	- 3.7	+ 13.6	+ 9.9	
Non-Irish nationals	+ 21.5	+ 4.3	+ 25.7	+ 19.1	+ 45.0	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	+ 1.0	+ 1.2	+ 2.3	+ 6.9	+ 9.1	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	- 4.4	- 0.4	- 4.7	- 0.1	- 4.8	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	+ 14.4	+ 2.5	+ 16.9	+ 10.3	+ 27.2	
<i>Other</i>	+ 10.3	+ 1.0	+ 11.3	+ 2.2	+ 13.4	
Total persons	+ 6.9	+ 15.2	+ 22.0	+ 32.8	+ 54.9	

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

Data may be subject to future revision.

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

Table A2 Estimated number of persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by nationality and NACE Economic Sector, March-May, 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
Q2 2008												
Irish nationals ¹	111.6	230.8	213.6	251.9	80.1	104.1	248.6	101.0	132.4	192.0	104.6	1,770.7
Non-Irish nationals	9.6	55.6	41.4	58.8	48.5	15.1	47.7	2.0	9.7	31.9	17.6	337.8
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.8	6.9	6.1	8.8	3.3	3.2	9.5	1.3	3.8	5.8	3.9	54.5
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	3.8	1.6	3.2	3.8	1.9	10.1	*	2.1	2.0	1.6	31.2
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	5.6	36.7	27.7	33.8	24.9	6.8	17.0	*	1.4	5.5	7.7	167.2
<i>Other</i>	1.6	8.2	13.0	16.6	16.6	3.1	11.1	*	2.3	18.6	4.3	84.8
Total persons	121.3	286.4	255.0	310.7	128.6	119.2	296.3	103.0	142.0	223.9	122.1	2,108.5
Q2 2007												
Irish nationals ¹	106.2	241.5	233.4	250.0	85.2	106.7	243.9	99.9	128.7	185.7	104.2	1,785.3
Non-Irish nationals	7.6	53.7	48.4	44.5	47.1	15.4	42.0	1.7	11.0	27.5	17.4	316.3
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.5	7.7	7.3	7.4	3.4	3.4	8.4	1.1	4.3	5.5	3.6	53.5
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	3.5	1.9	3.3	5.2	2.3	10.1	*	2.4	2.5	3.3	35.6
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	4.1	32.5	34.6	24.4	25.7	6.5	13.2	*	1.0	4.0	6.5	152.8
<i>Other</i>	1.2	10.1	4.6	9.4	12.8	3.2	10.3	*	3.3	15.5	4.0	74.5
Total persons	113.8	295.2	281.8	294.5	132.3	122.2	285.9	101.6	139.7	213.2	121.6	2,101.6
Year on year changes												
Irish nationals ¹	+ 5.4	- 10.7	- 19.8	+ 1.9	- 5.1	- 2.6	+ 4.7	+ 1.1	+ 3.7	+ 6.3	+ 0.4	- 14.6
Non-Irish nationals	+ 2.0	+ 1.9	- 7.0	+ 14.3	+ 1.4	- 0.3	+ 5.7	+ 0.3	- 1.3	+ 4.4	+ 0.2	+ 21.5
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	+ 0.3	- 0.8	- 1.2	+ 1.4	- 0.1	- 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 0.2	- 0.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	+ 0.3	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 1.4	- 0.4	0.0	*	- 0.3	- 0.5	- 1.7	- 4.4
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	+ 1.5	+ 4.2	- 6.9	+ 9.4	- 0.8	+ 0.3	+ 3.8	*	+ 0.4	+ 1.5	+ 1.2	+ 14.4
<i>Other</i>	+ 0.4	- 1.9	+ 1.3	+ 3.6	+ 3.8	- 0.1	+ 0.8	*	- 1.0	+ 3.1	+ 0.3	+ 10.3
Total persons	+ 7.5	- 8.8	- 26.8	+ 16.2	- 3.7	- 3.0	+ 10.4	+ 1.4	+ 2.3	+ 10.7	+ 0.5	+ 6.9

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

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

Background Notes

Purpose of Survey The Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) began in September 1997, replacing the annual April Labour Force Survey (LFS). The purpose of the survey is the production of quarterly labour force estimates and occasional reports on special social topics. The survey meets the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98, adopted in March 1998, which requires the introduction of quarterly labour force surveys in EU Member States.

Reference Period Information is collected continuously throughout the year, with 3,000 households surveyed each week to give a total sample of 39,000 households in each quarter. The reference quarters for survey results are: Q1 - December to February, Q2 - March to May, Q3 - June to August and Q4 - September to November.

Data Collection Information is collected on laptop computers, using computer-assisted personal interview (CAPI) software.

Sample Design A two-stage sample design is used. This comprises a first stage sample of 2,600 blocks (or small areas) selected at county level to proportionately represent eight strata reflecting population density. Each block was selected to contain, on average, 75 dwellings and the sample of blocks is fixed for a period of about five years. In the second stage of sampling, 15 households are surveyed in each block to give a total quarterly sample of 39,000 households.

Households are asked to take part in the survey for five consecutive quarters and are then replaced by other households in the same block. Thus, one fifth of the households in the survey are replaced each quarter and the QNHS sample involves an overlap of 80% between consecutive quarters and 20% between the same quarter in consecutive years.

The survey results are weighted to agree with population estimates broken down by age, sex and region. The population estimates for April of each year are published in a separate release.

Usual residence and de facto population concepts Up to and including Q1 2006 the annual population estimates have been calculated using the de facto definition of population (i.e. all persons present in the state). From Q2 2006 onwards a new concept of usual residence will be used, i.e. all persons usually resident and present in the state plus absent persons who are usually resident in Ireland but are temporarily away from home and outside the state.

ILO Labour Force Classification The primary classification used for the QNHS results is the ILO (International labour Office) labour force classification. Labour Force Survey data on this basis have been published since 1988. The ILO classification distinguishes the following main subgroups of the population aged 15 or over:

In Employment: Persons who worked in the week before the survey for one hour or more for payment or profit, including work on the family farm or business and all persons who had a job but were not at work because of illness, holidays etc. in the week.

Unemployed: Persons who, in the week before the survey, were without work and available for work within the next two weeks, and had taken specific steps, in the preceding four weeks, to find work.

Inactive Population (not in labour force): All other persons.

The labour force comprises persons employed plus unemployed.

**Participation,
Employment and
Unemployment Rates**

The rates given in this release are based on the ILO classification. The Participation Rate is the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 or over. The Employment Rate is the number of employed aged 15 to 64 expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 to 64. The Unemployment Rate is the number of unemployed expressed as a percentage of the total labour force.

**Duration of
Unemployment**

The duration of unemployment is the length of time since a person last had a job or began looking for work, whichever is more recent. The long-term unemployment rate is the number of persons unemployed for one year or more expressed as a percentage of the total labour force.

Underemployment

In the LFS and in the first two quarters of the QNHS, a person who had a part-time job was classified as underemployed if he/she was looking and available for another part-time job or a full-time job.

Since the March-May 1998 quarter, the category “underemployed” has been based on a new question relating to the respondent’s satisfaction with his/her current hours. Thus, a respondent who works in a part-time job is classified as “underemployed” if he/she is looking and available for another job and has explicitly stated that the hours worked currently are “too few”.

This change has affected comparability (but only within the “At work, part-time” category) between the December-February 1997/98 and subsequent quarters.

**Principal Economic
Status Classification**

Results are also available using the Principal Economic Status (PES) classification which was used in the Labour Force Survey and the Census of Population. The PES classification is based on a single question in which respondents are asked what is their usual situation with regard to employment and given the following response categories:

- At work
- Unemployed
- Student
- Engaged on home duties
- Retired
- Other.

This PES question is asked before the sequence of questions used to derive ILO status.

**NACE Industrial
Classification**

The QNHS sectoral employment figures are based on the EU NACE (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**

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

**Southern and Eastern
NUTS2 Region**

Dublin	Dublin City Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal South Dublin
Mid-East	Kildare Meath Wicklow
Mid-West	Clare Limerick City Limerick County North Tipperary
South-East	Carlow Kilkenny South Tipperary Waterford City Waterford County Wexford
South-West	Cork City Cork County Kerry

QNHS Social Modules

While the main purpose of the QNHS is the production of quarterly labour force estimates, there is also a provision for the collection of data on social topics through the inclusion of special survey modules. The selection of the major national modules undertaken to date has been largely based on the results of a canvas of users (over 100 organisations) that was conducted by the CSO in 1996 and most recently 2002. The results of the canvas are presented to the National Statistics Board and they are asked to indicate their priorities for the years ahead.

The schedule for social modules in any given year is based on the following structure:

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

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

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q2 2007	Union membership
Q1 2007	Work-related accidents and illness (Q1 2003-Q1 2007)
Q1 2007	ICT (information and communications technology) household survey
Q4 2006	Crime and victimisation
Q3 2006	Sport and physical exercise
Q1 2006	ICT 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
Q2 2005	Educational attainment
Q1 2005	Childcare
Q4 2004	Equality
Q3 2004	ICT household survey
Q2 2004	Union membership
Q2 2004	Work organisation and working time
Q4 2003	Crime and victimisation
Q3 2003	Housing
Q3 2003	ICT household survey
Q2 2003	Life long learning
Q4 2002	Childcare
Q3 2002	Teleworking

Social modules yet to be published:

Reference Quarter	Social Module
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: 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.