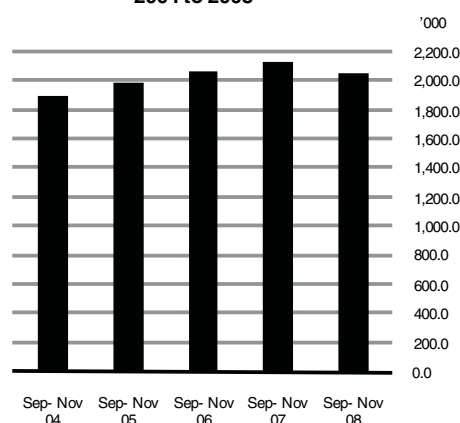




Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

27 February 2009

**Numbers in employment (ILO),
in the Fourth Quarters
2004 to 2008**



Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 4 2008

ILO¹ Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
	'000		
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
Jun-Aug 2008	2,120.8	160.6	2,281.4
Sep-Nov 2008	2,052.0	170.6	2,222.7
<i>Change in quarter</i>	-68.8	+10.0	-58.7
<i>Change in year</i>	-86.9	+69.6	-17.2

¹ International Labour Office Classification.

Employment falls by 4.1%

In the fourth quarter of 2008 there were 2,052,000 persons in employment, an annual decrease of 86,900 or 4.1%. This is the largest annual decrease in employment since the labour force survey was first undertaken in 1975. This compares with an annual decrease in employment of 1.2% in the previous quarter and growth of 3.2% in the year to the fourth quarter of 2007. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

The overall employment rate among persons aged 15-64 fell to 65.8%, down from 69.0% in Q4 2007. This brings the employment rate back to a level comparable to that last recorded in the first half of 2004. *See table 12 and graph on bottom of page 2.*

There was an annual decrease of 68,800 or 5.7% in the number of men in employment, while the number of women in employment decreased by over 18,000 or 2.0%. Nearly 70% of the fall in male employment is attributable to a decline of 47,700 in the number of males employed in the *Construction* sector. *See table 2b.*

There were 170,600 persons unemployed in the fourth quarter of 2008 representing an increase of 69,600 (+68.9%) in the year. Male unemployment increased by 54,200 (+85.2%), with the number of unemployed females increasing by 15,400 (+41.1%). When seasonal factors are taken into account there was a quarterly increase of 24,000 in the numbers unemployed with the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increasing from 6.4% to 7.7% between the third and fourth quarters of 2008. *See tables 1 & 3.*

The total number of persons in the labour force in the fourth quarter of 2008 was 2,222,700, representing a decrease of 17,200 or 0.8% over the year. This is the first annual decline in the size of the labour force since 1989. This compares with an annual increase in labour force growth of 3.6% or 77,500 for the fourth quarter of 2007. The overall participation rate declined from 63.9% in Q4 2007 to 62.8% in Q4 2008. The male participation rate decreased from 73.4% to 72.2% in the year while the female participation rate declined from 54.5% to 53.7% over the same period. *See tables 1 & 9.*

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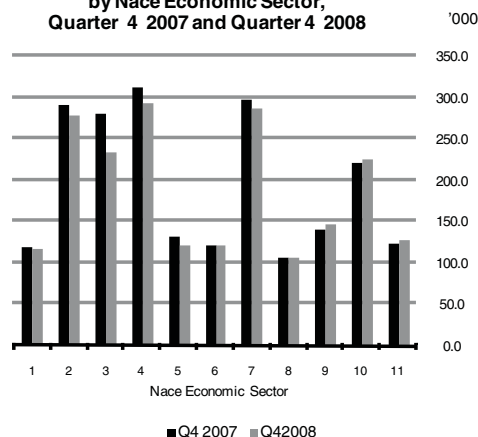
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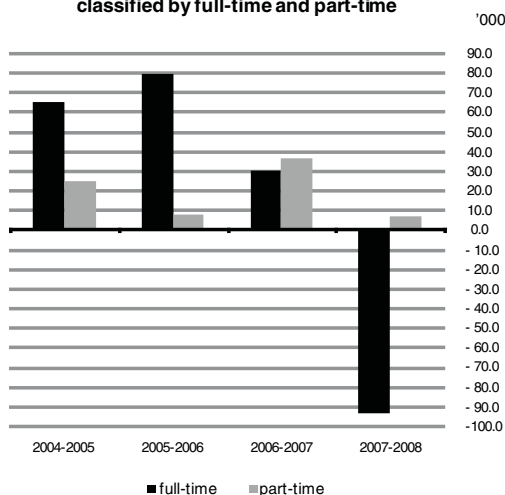
Persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by Nace Economic Sector, Quarter 4 2007 and Quarter 4 2008



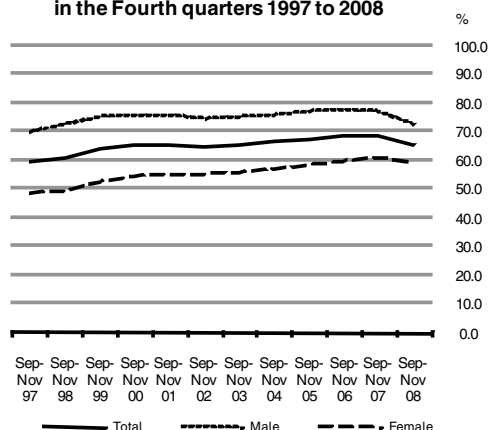
KEY

- 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 trends in the Fourth Quarters 2004 to 2008 classified by full-time and part-time



Employment rates for persons aged 15-64 classified by sex, in the Fourth quarters 1997 to 2008



The largest decline in employment was recorded in the *Construction* sector where the numbers employed fell by 45,900 (-16.5%) over the year. Annual decreases in employment were also recorded in the *Wholesale and retail trade* (-18,200), *Other production industries* (-12,400), *Financial and other business services* (-11,600), *Hotels and restaurants* (-10,500) and *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* (-2,700) sectors. Sectors showing an increase in employment over the year included *Education* (+6,300), *Health* (+3,500) and *Other services* (+3,100). See table 2b and graph opposite.

The latest available figures for all EU-27 member states, which are for the third quarter of 2008, show that between the third quarters of 2007 and 2008 Ireland's employment level fell by 1.2% while its labour force grew by 1.2%. This compares with employment growth of 1.0% and labour force growth of 0.9% in the EU-27 countries. Ireland's unemployment rate (7.0%) was higher than the EU-27 average unemployment rate of 6.8%. See table 25.

Full-time employment declines by almost 94,000 over the year

Full-time employment fell by 93,900 on an annual basis with declines in both male (-76,600) and female (-17,300) full-time employment. The largest decreases in full-time employment occurred in the *Construction* (-48,800), *Other production industries* (-15,500) and *Wholesale and retail trade* (-14,000) sectors. See table 1, 2b and graph below.

There was an increase of 7,000 in the numbers employed part-time all of which was attributable to males (+7,800). The increases in male part-time employment was spread across a number of sectors. See table 1.

The majority of occupational categories showed a decline in employment over the year. The largest decreases were in the *Other* (-41,000), *Craft and related* (-38,600) and *Clerical and secretarial* (-12,400) categories. See table 4.

Number of unemployed increases to over 170,000

There were 117,800 males and 52,900 females unemployed in the fourth quarter of 2008, bringing the total number of unemployed up to 170,600, an increase of 69,600 (+68.9%) in the year. The number of unemployed males increased by 54,200, with female unemployment increasing by 15,400. See tables 1 & 13.

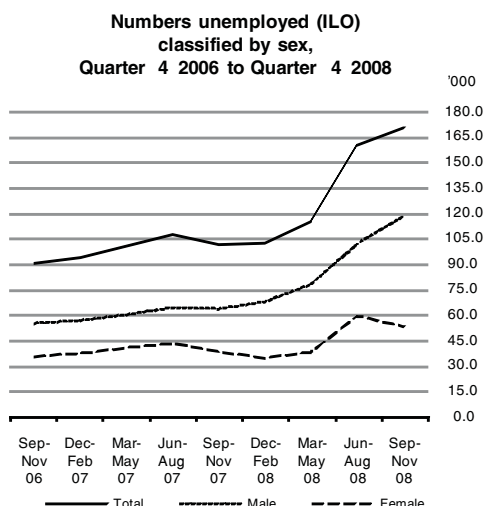
On a seasonally adjusted basis, the male and female unemployment rates stood at 9.2% and 5.4% respectively. The overall seasonally adjusted rate was 7.7% in Q4 2008, up from 6.4% in Q3. See table 3.

Male short-term unemployment increased by 42,600 while male long-term unemployment increased by 10,800. Female short-term and long-term unemployment increased by 12,300 and 2,000 respectively. All age groups showed an increase in unemployment with those aged 25-44 showing the largest increase (+33,500). The long-term unemployment rate was 1.8% compared to a rate of 1.2% in Q4 2007. See tables 16, 17, 18 and graph on page 3.

Number of employees decreases by over 75,000

There were 1,685,800 employees in the fourth quarter of 2008 representing an annual decrease of 75,200. The number of male employees fell by 58,000 with females employees declining by 17,100. Sectors which had the largest decreases in employees were *Construction* (-43,600), *Other production industries* (-15,100) and *Wholesale and retail trade* (-14,700). See table 6.

The estimated number of self employed persons was 352,300 in Q4 2008 representing a decrease of 9,300 over the year. In the year to Q4 2007 the number of self-employed persons increased by 39,100. See table 6.



Decline in labour force driven by falling participation

There were 2,222,700 persons in the labour force in the fourth quarter of 2008, an annual decrease of 0.8% (-17,200). All of the annual decline is attributable to a decline in participation in the labour market of over 34,000. This is shown by the fall in the participation rate, from 63.9% in Q4 2007 to 62.8% in Q4 2008. See tables 1, 8 & 9.

In addition to changes in participation, the labour force is also affected by changes in the number of persons of working age in the state (demographic effects). The increase due to demographic effects has fallen from a level of almost 63,000 in Q4 2007 to just under 17,000 in Q4 2008. In recent years demographic growth has primarily been driven by net inward migration and the significant slowdown in net inward migration is the primary cause of the fall in demographic increase.

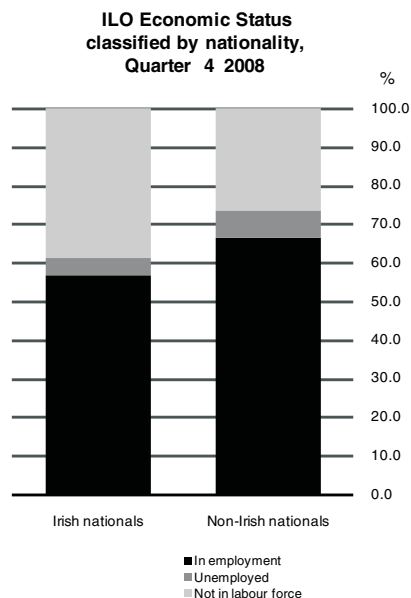
The broadest survey-based labour supply indicator, S3, which included persons outside the labour force who show some interest in obtaining work as well as the unemployed increased from 7.3% in the fourth quarter of 2007 to 10.9% in the fourth quarter of 2008. See tables 19 & 20.

Number of non-Irish nationals in the labour force declines

Broad indicative estimates of the labour force status of non-Irish nationals are presented in the annex. There were an estimated 476,100 non-Irish nationals aged 15 years and over in the State in the fourth quarter of 2008. Of these 349,300 were in the labour force, a decrease of 5,400 in the year to Q4 2008. An increase of 49,700 had been recorded in the year to Q4 2007. See table A1 in the annex.

According to ILO criteria, 316,000 non-Irish nationals were in employment, a decrease of 18,700 over the year. A further 33,300 were unemployed, an increase of 13,300 in the year to Q4 2008. Nationals of the EU accession states showed a decline in employment of 16,800 and an increase in unemployment of 7,500 over the year. The unemployment rate for non-Irish nationals was 9.5% compared with an unemployment rate of 7.3% for Irish nationals. See table A1 in the annex and graph opposite.

In the fourth quarter of 2008 non-Irish nationals accounted for over 15% of all persons aged 15 and over in employment. Over 34% of workers in *Hotels and restaurants*, 18.8% in *Other production industries* and 16.7% in *Wholesale and retail trade* sectors were non-Irish nationals. The largest decreases in employment for non-Irish nationals occurred in the *Construction* (-10,100), *Hotels and restaurants* (-7,400) and *Wholesale and retail trade* (-5,100) sectors. See table A2 in the annex.



Number of people not in the labour force grows by 48,500 in the year

In the year to Q4 2008 the number of people defined as not in the labour force grew by 48,500, an increase of 3.8%, while in the year to Q4 2007 the number of people not in the labour force increased by 11,300. See table 1.

Regional Comparisons

Employment fell by 36,100 (-6.5%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 50,800 (-3.2%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the fourth quarter of 2008. There were increases of 24,800 (+91.2%) and 44,900 (+60.8%) in the numbers unemployed in the Border, Midland and Western and Southern and Eastern regions. See table 7a.

The participation rates in the Border, Midland and Western and Southern and Eastern regions were 60.9% and 63.5% respectively. See table 7a.

At NUTS3 level, employment fell in all regions with the Midland (-8.5%) and Border (-6.4%) regions showing the largest annual decreases. There was an annual decrease of 19,800 (-3.2%) in the numbers in employment in the Dublin region. 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” fell by 77,500 in the year to 1,981,900. This compares with an increase of 55,600, in the year to the fourth quarter of 2007. Meanwhile the number describing themselves as “unemployed” rose by 74,300 in the year to 197,800 and the number describing themselves as “retired” increased by 12,400 to 312,900. *See table 21.*

The number of students increased by 8,500 in the year to 367,200. The number of students in employment fell by 10,300 over the year with the student employment rate falling from 18.3% to 15.1%. *See tables 21 & 22.*

Forthcoming methodological changes in the QNHS Labour market estimates

In Q1 2009 two methodological changes will be introduced to the published labour market estimates.

1. Introduction of calendar quarters:

Since the introduction of the quarterly national household survey in Q4 1997 all data collection and estimates have been based on seasonal quarters. As of Q1 2009 data collection and estimates will be based on calendar quarters. This change will bring labour market time-series into line with other quarterly statistical series and EU practice. The summary table below outlines the nature of the change:

Quarter	Seasonal Quarter (Old)	Calendar Quarter (New)
Quarter 1	December-February	January-March
Quarter 2	March-May	April-June
Quarter 3	June-August	July-September
Quarter 4	September-November	October-December

The CSO will produce full backdated time-series of all major indicators from Q4 1997 to date on the calendar quarter basis with the publication of the Q1 2009 labour market estimates. Initial analysis indicates that the impact of this change, particularly on trends is minimal.

2. Introduction of NACE Rev. 2 classification of economic activity:

The current classification of economic activity used within the labour force estimates (as used in tables 2a, 2b and table A2 in the Annex of this release) is NACE Rev 1.1. An updated classification has now been developed (NACE Rev. 2) and will be implemented for QNHS labour market releases from Q1 2009 in line with EU requirements. A backdated time-series based on the NACE Rev. 2 classification will be made available from 2004 to date. Estimates based on the NACE Rev. 1.1 classification will no longer be available from Q1 2009.

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

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ILO Economic Status	Sep- Nov 06	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
Males							
In labour force	1,248.2	1,286.9	1,277.7	1,276.5	1,264.9	1,292.0	1,263.1
In employment:	1,193.1	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9	1,190.5	1,145.3
full-time	1,116.9	1,131.5	1,128.7	1,120.8	1,096.7	1,093.3	1,052.1
part-time:	76.2	91.3	85.4	87.8	90.2	97.2	93.2
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	74.8	88.9	83.3	86.0	87.5	91.8	87.2
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	1.4	2.4	2.2	1.8	2.7	5.4	6.0
Unemployed:	55.1	64.1	63.6	67.9	78.0	101.5	117.8
seeking full-time work	52.6	59.9	59.8	65.0	74.5	96.6	113.2
seeking part-time work	2.5	4.2	3.8	2.9	3.5	5.0	4.5
Not in labour force	451.1	443.5	463.9	475.1	474.4	451.5	487.2
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	5.8	7.6	6.6	7.8	7.0	8.3	7.0
Others	445.3	436.0	457.3	467.3	467.4	443.2	480.3
Total males aged 15 or over	1,699.3	1,730.5	1,741.5	1,751.6	1,739.3	1,743.5	1,750.3
Unemployment rate %	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.3	6.2	7.9	9.3
Participation rate %	73.5	74.4	73.4	72.9	72.7	74.1	72.2
Females							
In labour force	914.2	966.4	962.3	960.6	959.1	989.4	959.6
In employment:	879.0	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6	930.3	906.7
full-time	607.2	629.4	625.7	624.3	622.2	634.8	608.4
part-time:	271.8	293.8	299.1	302.2	299.4	295.6	298.3
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	269.5	291.0	296.9	300.3	297.0	288.4	290.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	2.3	2.8	2.2	1.9	2.4	7.1	8.3
Unemployed:	35.2	43.1	37.5	34.2	37.5	59.1	52.9
seeking full-time work	22.9	30.3	22.7	22.4	25.7	43.9	38.7
seeking part-time work	12.3	12.9	14.7	11.8	11.8	15.2	14.2
Not in labour force	804.7	782.1	803.3	811.8	811.7	792.8	828.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	4.2	7.8	4.9	3.6	3.7	6.3	5.0
Others	800.5	774.3	798.4	808.2	808.0	786.4	823.4
Total females aged 15 or over	1,718.9	1,748.5	1,765.5	1,772.4	1,770.8	1,782.2	1,787.9
Unemployment rate %	3.9	4.5	3.9	3.6	3.9	6.0	5.5
Participation rate %	53.2	55.3	54.5	54.2	54.2	55.5	53.7
All persons							
In labour force	2,162.4	2,253.3	2,239.9	2,237.2	2,223.9	2,281.4	2,222.7
In employment:	2,072.1	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5	2,120.8	2,052.0
full-time	1,724.1	1,760.9	1,754.4	1,745.1	1,718.9	1,728.0	1,660.5
part-time:	348.0	385.2	384.5	390.0	389.6	392.8	391.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	344.2	379.9	380.1	386.3	384.5	380.2	377.2
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	3.8	5.3	4.4	3.7	5.1	12.6	14.3
Unemployed:	90.3	107.3	101.0	102.1	115.5	160.6	170.6
seeking full-time work	75.5	90.2	82.5	87.4	100.2	140.4	151.9
seeking part-time work	14.8	17.1	18.5	14.7	15.2	20.2	18.7
Not in labour force	1,255.8	1,225.6	1,267.1	1,286.8	1,286.1	1,244.3	1,315.6
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	10.0	15.4	11.5	11.4	10.7	14.6	11.9
Others	1,245.8	1,210.2	1,255.7	1,275.5	1,275.4	1,229.7	1,303.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,418.2	3,478.9	3,507.1	3,524.0	3,510.1	3,525.7	3,538.3
Unemployment rate %	4.2	4.8	4.5	4.6	5.2	7.0	7.7
Participation rate %	63.3	64.8	63.9	63.5	63.4	64.7	62.8

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Sep- Nov 06	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
Males							
A-B Agriculture	103.7	104.7	106.2	108.0	106.6	104.4	102.8
C-F Industry	482.3	486.4	474.2	467.9	447.4	450.2	418.9
G-Q Services	607.0	631.7	633.6	632.8	632.9	635.9	623.6
Females							
A-B Agriculture	10.9	12.0	12.4	13.9	14.7	14.1	13.2
C-F Industry	97.2	98.5	95.5	93.6	94.0	99.3	92.5
G-Q Services	770.9	812.7	816.9	818.9	812.9	817.0	801.0
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	114.7	116.7	118.7	122.0	121.3	118.4	116.0
C-F Industry	579.5	584.9	569.7	561.5	541.4	549.5	511.4
G-Q Services	1,377.9	1,444.4	1,450.5	1,451.7	1,445.8	1,452.9	1,424.6
Total persons	2,072.1	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5	2,120.8	2,052.0

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

'000

Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Sep- Nov 06	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	103.7	104.7	106.2	108.0	106.6	104.4	102.8
C-E Other production industries	210.9	217.2	208.8	207.8	206.3	208.0	201.1
F Construction	271.4	269.2	265.5	260.1	241.0	242.2	217.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	147.1	155.5	156.2	155.1	157.1	149.7	142.8
H Hotels and restaurants	51.9	56.7	56.0	54.0	53.9	54.0	52.9
I Transport, storage and communication	89.6	94.2	93.3	97.8	91.9	93.9	96.3
J-K Financial and other business services	141.2	144.8	147.1	146.5	148.0	150.7	144.6
L Public administration and defence	50.7	53.1	52.1	52.5	51.6	53.7	54.1
M Education	37.5	34.1	35.5	36.8	38.1	36.5	38.4
N Health	35.9	39.8	39.9	38.0	38.3	39.4	40.8
O-Q Other services	53.2	53.5	53.6	52.1	53.9	58.0	53.7
Total males	1,193.1	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9	1,190.5	1,145.3
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.9	12.0	12.4	13.9	14.7	14.1	13.2
C-E Other production industries	83.9	84.5	81.9	79.3	80.1	84.3	77.2
F Construction	13.3	14.0	13.5	14.3	13.9	15.0	15.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	140.7	154.9	155.4	156.5	153.5	158.6	150.6
H Hotels and restaurants	72.1	81.6	76.4	76.9	74.7	78.9	68.9
I Transport, storage and communication	27.2	27.5	27.5	25.6	27.2	28.1	25.4
J-K Financial and other business services	134.9	149.4	150.1	151.3	148.3	141.6	140.9
L Public administration and defence	51.9	55.9	52.9	50.4	51.4	54.3	51.5
M Education	100.6	95.0	103.6	102.9	103.9	98.3	107.0
N Health	174.9	179.6	181.3	186.1	185.6	187.2	184.1
O-Q Other services	68.5	68.6	69.7	69.1	68.2	69.9	72.7
Total females	879.0	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6	930.3	906.7
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	114.7	116.7	118.7	122.0	121.3	118.4	116.0
C-E Other production industries	294.9	301.7	290.7	287.1	286.4	292.3	278.3
F Construction	284.6	283.2	279.0	274.4	255.0	257.3	233.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	287.8	310.4	311.6	311.6	310.7	308.3	293.4
H Hotels and restaurants	124.0	138.4	132.3	131.0	128.6	133.0	121.8
I Transport, storage and communication	116.8	121.7	120.8	123.4	119.2	122.0	121.7
J-K Financial and other business services	276.2	294.2	297.1	297.8	296.3	292.3	285.5
L Public administration and defence	102.5	109.1	105.0	102.9	103.0	108.0	105.6
M Education	138.1	129.2	139.1	139.7	142.0	134.8	145.4
N Health	210.7	219.3	221.3	224.1	223.9	226.6	224.8
O-Q Other services	121.8	122.1	123.3	121.1	122.1	128.0	126.4
Total persons	2,072.1	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5	2,120.8	2,052.0

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

'000

ILO Economic Status/ NACE Economic Sector	Sep- Nov 06	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
Males							
In labour force	1,250.3	1,267.3	1,280.7	1,282.0	1,275.2	1,272.1	1,266.1
In employment:	1,194.0	1,209.5	1,215.5	1,211.8	1,193.4	1,177.5	1,147.0
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.3	102.9	106.9	107.9	107.7	103.0	103.3
C-E Other production industries	210.8	214.5	209.0	209.0	207.5	205.1	201.7
F Construction	270.5	264.9	265.3	259.5	245.8	238.2	218.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	147.0	153.8	155.9	156.9	157.1	148.4	142.5
H Hotels and restaurants	52.8	55.7	56.8	54.4	53.7	53.1	53.6
I Transport, storage and communication	89.7	93.7	93.5	97.3	92.7	93.3	96.6
J-K Financial and other business services	141.4	143.8	147.2	147.8	147.6	149.7	144.7
L Public administration and defence	50.9	52.7	52.1	52.3	52.3	53.3	54.0
M Education	37.5	35.4	35.5	36.1	37.4	38.0	38.5
N Health	35.7	39.4	39.5	38.7	38.4	39.0	40.3
O-Q Other services	53.3	52.8	53.7	52.7	53.9	57.1	53.8
Unemployed	55.5	60.3	63.7	70.8	80.0	95.3	117.3
Unemployment rate %	4.4	4.8	5.0	5.5	6.3	7.5	9.2
Participation rate %	73.7	73.2	73.6	73.4	73.1	72.9	72.4
Females							
In labour force	915.9	951.8	964.0	967.3	965.3	974.7	961.1
In employment:	880.2	912.6	926.2	930.4	926.9	919.5	908.3
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.4	11.8	12.9	14.0	14.2	13.9	13.8
C-E Other production industries	85.2	82.1	83.2	80.5	80.0	81.9	78.4
F Construction	13.6	13.8	13.7	14.4	13.9	14.7	15.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	141.5	150.8	156.3	157.1	156.3	154.3	151.5
H Hotels and restaurants	72.8	77.7	77.7	78.7	75.4	75.0	70.4
I Transport, storage and communication	27.8	26.9	28.3	25.1	27.5	27.5	26.2
J-K Financial and other business services	135.4	149.9	150.8	150.3	148.0	142.2	141.7
L Public administration and defence	52.0	53.8	53.1	51.6	52.0	52.1	51.7
M Education	98.8	101.0	101.6	100.8	102.1	104.4	104.9
N Health	175.3	178.4	181.8	185.6	186.7	186.1	184.7
O-Q Other services	67.3	68.1	68.4	69.9	69.2	69.5	71.3
Unemployed	35.1	37.8	37.2	37.7	39.9	51.7	52.2
Unemployment rate %	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.1	5.3	5.4
Participation rate %	53.4	54.3	54.7	54.6	54.5	54.5	53.9
All persons							
In labour force	2,166.6	2,216.5	2,245.3	2,250.4	2,241.7	2,243.2	2,228.1
In employment:	2,074.2	2,122.5	2,143.0	2,142.7	2,120.2	2,097.3	2,055.6
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	116.0	114.9	120.3	121.6	121.6	117.1	117.5
C-E Other production industries	296.5	295.6	292.7	289.7	288.0	285.9	280.6
F Construction	284.2	278.7	279.3	273.9	259.4	253.0	233.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	288.9	303.7	313.0	313.0	314.6	301.8	294.9
H Hotels and restaurants	125.3	133.0	134.0	133.2	130.0	127.8	123.7
I Transport, storage and communication	117.1	121.2	121.3	122.6	120.1	121.4	122.2
J-K Financial and other business services	276.8	293.1	297.5	298.3	296.6	291.3	285.7
L Public administration and defence	102.7	106.9	105.1	104.0	104.1	105.7	105.6
M Education	136.3	135.9	137.2	136.9	139.8	142.0	143.3
N Health	211.2	217.6	221.8	224.2	225.0	225.0	225.2
O-Q Other services	120.9	120.4	122.4	122.2	123.6	126.2	125.5
Unemployed	91.0	98.2	101.5	108.2	119.7	146.7	170.7
Unemployment rate %	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.8	5.4	6.4	7.7
Participation rate %	63.6	63.7	64.2	63.7	63.7	63.6	63.1

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Sep- Nov 06	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	215.4	219.4	213.1	225.6	226.4	220.1	217.2
2. Professional	122.7	117.1	120.7	120.3	124.4	126.3	126.0
3. Associate professional and technical	73.8	78.3	79.1	79.2	79.3	84.3	82.5
4. Clerical and secretarial	61.2	65.9	62.3	62.1	60.1	63.9	60.2
5. Craft and related	283.8	295.0	290.1	281.9	267.7	274.7	252.4
6. Personal and protective service	86.2	87.7	88.9	86.3	87.6	91.3	88.9
7. Sales	66.5	72.8	73.6	74.5	74.1	68.1	68.7
8. Plant and machine operatives	145.7	153.1	151.1	155.5	149.6	145.2	143.1
9. Other	137.7	133.5	135.4	123.3	117.8	116.6	106.2
Total males	1,193.1	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9	1,190.5	1,145.3
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	93.6	101.7	98.0	103.7	106.3	112.3	107.5
2. Professional	123.5	115.9	121.9	122.7	123.4	119.0	127.5
3. Associate professional and technical	106.8	111.2	112.8	118.9	115.5	111.9	112.2
4. Clerical and secretarial	186.1	199.4	197.8	193.2	194.7	199.2	187.5
5. Craft and related	10.5	12.9	12.6	12.9	12.0	12.7	11.7
6. Personal and protective service	147.2	156.1	157.6	157.3	155.9	162.0	156.3
7. Sales	111.2	117.6	115.9	116.1	114.3	114.4	109.9
8. Plant and machine operatives	27.0	28.7	27.2	26.4	24.9	25.7	25.0
9. Other	73.1	79.6	80.9	75.3	74.5	73.1	69.1
Total females	879.0	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6	930.3	906.7
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	309.0	321.2	311.1	329.3	332.7	332.4	324.7
2. Professional	246.2	233.1	242.6	243.0	247.7	245.3	253.5
3. Associate professional and technical	180.6	189.5	191.9	198.2	194.8	196.3	194.7
4. Clerical and secretarial	247.3	265.3	260.1	255.2	254.9	263.1	247.7
5. Craft and related	294.3	307.9	302.7	294.7	279.6	287.4	264.1
6. Personal and protective service	233.3	243.8	246.4	243.6	243.5	253.4	245.2
7. Sales	177.8	190.4	189.5	190.6	188.4	182.5	178.6
8. Plant and machine operatives	172.8	181.8	178.3	181.9	174.6	170.8	168.1
9. Other	210.8	213.1	216.3	198.6	192.3	189.7	175.3
Total persons	2,072.1	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5	2,120.8	2,052.0

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

'000

Usual hours of work per week	Sep- Nov 06	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
Males							
1-9 hours	6.0	5.3	7.7	7.9	9.1	6.8	7.9
10-19	19.1	19.4	20.5	23.0	22.9	19.4	24.2
20-29	44.9	50.9	49.4	48.1	50.8	54.5	52.7
30-34	20.0	25.7	23.9	24.1	23.2	25.5	25.8
35-39	433.4	443.2	427.1	417.8	415.0	422.9	391.0
40-44	293.6	301.5	299.6	305.4	292.1	293.6	291.2
45 & over	192.6	214.3	203.9	204.1	197.2	193.4	179.4
Variable hours ¹	183.5	162.6	182.0	178.1	176.5	174.3	173.2
Total males	1,193.1	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9	1,190.5	1,145.3
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>40.6</i>	<i>40.7</i>	<i>40.5</i>	<i>40.4</i>	<i>40.3</i>	<i>40.4</i>	<i>40.0</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	24.2	22.9	27.4	29.7	29.3	22.5	25.9
10-19	85.8	91.9	98.8	99.6	97.7	89.1	95.0
20-29	175.8	181.6	183.6	181.7	184.8	185.7	189.4
30-34	57.1	67.7	65.8	68.8	66.7	73.4	69.9
35-39	335.2	350.9	339.3	334.7	337.5	351.5	326.0
40-44	116.3	120.2	117.1	120.9	118.1	117.9	119.3
45 & over	30.9	35.2	34.2	33.0	30.7	28.9	26.7
Variable hours ¹	53.8	52.7	58.5	58.1	56.8	61.3	54.5
Total females	879.0	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6	930.3	906.7
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>31.4</i>	<i>31.4</i>	<i>31.3</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>31.1</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	30.2	28.2	35.0	37.7	38.5	29.2	33.8
10-19	104.9	111.3	119.3	122.6	120.6	108.5	119.2
20-29	220.7	232.4	233.0	229.7	235.6	240.2	242.1
30-34	77.1	93.4	89.7	92.9	89.9	99.0	95.7
35-39	768.6	794.1	766.4	752.5	752.4	774.4	717.1
40-44	409.9	421.7	416.7	426.4	410.3	411.5	410.5
45 & over	223.5	249.6	238.1	237.2	228.0	222.4	206.0
Variable hours ¹	237.3	215.4	240.5	236.2	233.4	235.6	227.7
Total persons	2,072.1	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5	2,120.8	2,052.0
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>36.6</i>	<i>36.7</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>36.3</i>	<i>36.1</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>35.9</i>

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

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

'000

Employment status	Sep- Nov 06	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	92.1	100.1	102.9	103.7	98.1	97.0	95.8
Self employed (with no paid employees)	179.6	189.7	197.1	196.3	189.4	188.0	193.3
Employee	917.1	925.2	907.3	902.2	892.7	897.3	849.3
Assisting relative	4.3	7.8	6.8	6.5	6.7	8.1	6.9
Total males	1,193.1	1,222.8	1,214.1	1,208.7	1,186.9	1,190.5	1,145.3
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	19.4	22.2	22.1	21.8	20.9	21.9	22.5
Self employed (with no paid employees)	31.4	36.4	39.6	40.4	39.8	40.4	40.7
Employee	820.6	854.8	853.6	856.2	852.8	860.6	836.5
Assisting relative	7.6	9.9	9.4	8.1	8.2	7.5	7.0
Total females	879.0	923.2	924.8	926.4	921.6	930.3	906.7
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	111.4	122.2	125.0	125.4	119.0	119.0	118.3
Self employed (with no paid employees)	211.1	226.1	236.6	236.7	229.2	228.4	234.0
Employee	1,737.7	1,780.0	1,761.0	1,758.4	1,745.5	1,757.8	1,685.8
Assisting relative	11.9	17.7	16.3	14.6	14.8	15.6	14.0
Total persons	2,072.1	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5	2,120.8	2,052.0

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

Region (NUTS2)	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border, Midland and Western					
Sep-Nov 2006	530.4	24.6	555.0	4.4	61.3
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
Jun-Aug 2008	541.8	47.4	589.2	8.0	62.8
Sep-Nov 2008	520.8	52.0	572.8	9.1	60.9
Southern and Eastern					
Sep-Nov 2006	1,541.7	65.7	1,607.4	4.1	64.0
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
Jun-Aug 2008	1,579.0	113.2	1,692.2	6.7	65.4
Sep-Nov 2008	1,531.2	118.7	1,649.9	7.2	63.5
State					
Sep-Nov 2006	2,072.1	90.3	2,162.4	4.2	63.3
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
Jun-Aug 2008	2,120.8	160.6	2,281.4	7.0	64.7
Sep-Nov 2008	2,052.0	170.6	2,222.7	7.7	62.8

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Region (NUTS3)		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border	Sep-Nov 2006	215.3	11.8	227.1	5.2	60.8
	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	215.8	19.3	235.1	8.2	60.7
	Sep-Nov 2008	209.5	20.0	229.5	8.7	59.1
Midland	Sep-Nov 2006	119.6	3.8	123.4	3.1	61.9
	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	120.3	11.2	131.5	8.5	62.9
	Sep-Nov 2008	115.9	12.9	128.8	10.0	61.5
West	Sep-Nov 2006	195.5	9.0	204.5	4.4	61.6
	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	205.6	17.0	222.6	7.6	65.2
	Sep-Nov 2008	195.4	19.1	214.5	8.9	62.7
Dublin	Sep-Nov 2006	613.1	27.1	640.2	4.2	65.5
	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	617.5	41.7	659.1	6.3	66.7
	Sep-Nov 2008	601.7	45.1	646.8	7.0	65.0
Mid-East	Sep-Nov 2006	240.6	7.2	247.8	2.9	65.7
	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	253.2	16.9	270.1	6.3	67.2
	Sep-Nov 2008	245.3	15.9	261.2	6.1	65.1
Mid-West	Sep-Nov 2006	170.2	8.6	178.8	4.8	62.2
	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	169.3	14.9	184.2	8.1	62.2
	Sep-Nov 2008	167.2	15.4	182.7	8.5	61.6
South-East	Sep-Nov 2006	217.9	11.2	229.1	4.9	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	227.1	18.8	245.9	7.7	63.6
	Sep-Nov 2008	220.4	21.1	241.5	8.7	62.2
South-West	Sep-Nov 2006	299.9	11.6	311.5	3.7	62.2
	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	312.1	20.9	332.9	6.3	64.6
	Sep-Nov 2008	296.6	21.2	317.7	6.7	61.5
State	Sep-Nov 2006	2,072.1	90.3	2,162.4	4.2	63.3
	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
	Jun-Aug 2008	2,120.8	160.6	2,281.4	7.0	64.7
	Sep-Nov 2008	2,052.0	170.6	2,222.7	7.7	62.8

¹ See Background Notes.

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

and marital status, September-November 2008										%
Marital status	Age group								Total	
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+		
Males										
Single	23.0	78.6	90.9	86.0	73.1	59.8	41.4	21.1	69.4	
Married	*	80.4	95.9	94.8	92.9	81.1	62.9	15.3	77.0	
Separated or divorced	*	*	88.2	83.5	79.9	67.5	52.0	14.9	66.9	
Widowed	*	*	*	89.3	83.4	62.6	44.9	8.4	24.1	
Total males	23.0	78.6	92.4	92.1	88.9	76.8	58.6	15.3	72.2	
Females										
Single	22.6	69.5	81.4	76.3	77.8	61.6	37.6	4.5	61.9	
Married	*	51.2	70.5	66.9	65.3	49.5	29.5	5.5	54.1	
Separated or divorced	*	*	54.0	69.0	69.1	57.9	34.5	11.3	58.5	
Widowed	*	*	69.8	55.8	66.3	45.9	35.3	2.3	11.6	
Total females	22.7	68.8	76.6	68.9	67.3	51.0	31.3	4.1	53.7	
All persons										
Single	22.8	74.0	86.5	81.7	75.1	60.4	40.0	13.7	65.9	
Married	*	57.6	81.7	80.9	79.5	65.4	46.9	11.0	65.7	
Separated or divorced	*	*	65.9	73.8	72.9	61.9	42.4	13.1	61.7	
Widowed	*	*	76.3	67.1	70.6	51.1	37.5	3.5	14.2	
Total persons	22.9	73.6	84.5	80.6	78.1	64.0	45.0	9.1	62.8	

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

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

	Age group								%
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Sep-Nov 2006	30.7	81.3	92.9	93.8	89.0	77.0	59.0	15.1	73.5
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
Jun-Aug 2008	33.1	84.2	92.8	93.1	89.2	77.0	59.3	16.7	74.1
Sep-Nov 2008	23.0	78.6	92.4	92.1	88.9	76.8	58.6	15.3	72.2
Females									
Sep-Nov 2006	23.5	71.4	78.0	67.1	65.4	48.3	28.7	3.9	53.2
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
Jun-Aug 2008	33.3	73.6	78.7	69.4	66.3	51.4	33.3	4.2	55.5
Sep-Nov 2008	22.7	68.8	76.6	68.9	67.3	51.0	31.3	4.1	53.7
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2006	27.2	76.4	85.5	80.6	77.3	62.8	44.0	8.8	63.3
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
Jun-Aug 2008	33.2	78.9	85.8	81.4	77.8	64.2	46.4	9.8	64.7
Sep-Nov 2008	22.9	73.6	84.5	80.6	78.1	64.0	45.0	9.1	62.8

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2006	45.1	142.5	351.5	298.9	235.9	87.9	55.3	31.2	1,248.2
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
Jun-Aug 2008	47.9	139.4	366.0	308.0	244.5	90.2	60.1	36.0	1,292.0
Sep-Nov 2008	33.1	127.1	367.2	306.5	245.2	90.4	60.1	33.4	1,263.1
Females									
Sep-Nov 2006	33.2	123.2	286.7	209.1	171.5	53.9	26.5	10.1	914.2
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
Jun-Aug 2008	46.4	123.1	309.6	225.2	180.9	59.6	33.4	11.3	989.4
Sep-Nov 2008	31.6	114.0	302.8	224.8	184.3	59.2	31.6	11.1	959.6
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2006	78.3	265.6	638.2	507.9	407.4	141.8	81.8	41.3	2,162.4
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
Jun-Aug 2008	94.3	262.5	675.5	533.1	425.4	149.7	93.5	47.3	2,281.4
Sep-Nov 2008	64.8	241.2	670.0	531.3	429.5	149.7	91.7	44.5	2,222.7

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2006	39.4	134.1	334.0	287.4	227.3	85.2	54.6	31.1	1,193.1
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
Jun-Aug 2008	37.6	116.7	337.4	288.3	230.0	86.4	58.4	35.7	1,190.5
Sep-Nov 2008	24.9	102.3	329.5	283.4	228.4	85.4	58.1	33.3	1,145.3
Females									
Sep-Nov 2006	29.5	116.2	275.9	201.6	167.0	52.5	26.2	10.0	879.0
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
Jun-Aug 2008	36.2	109.4	292.5	215.5	175.1	57.6	32.7	11.3	930.3
Sep-Nov 2008	25.9	102.7	287.5	215.3	176.6	56.9	30.6	11.0	906.7
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2006	68.9	250.4	609.9	489.0	394.3	137.7	80.8	41.2	2,072.1
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
Jun-Aug 2008	73.8	226.1	629.9	503.8	405.1	143.9	91.1	47.0	2,120.8
Sep-Nov 2008	50.9	205.1	617.1	498.7	405.0	142.3	88.7	44.3	2,052.0

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

	Age group							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	15-64
Males								
Sep-Nov 2006	26.8	76.6	88.2	90.2	85.7	74.6	58.2	77.9
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
Jun-Aug 2008	26.0	70.5	85.6	87.1	83.9	73.7	57.5	75.6
Sep-Nov 2008	17.3	63.3	82.9	85.2	82.8	72.5	56.7	72.6
Females								
Sep-Nov 2006	20.9	67.4	75.1	64.7	63.7	47.0	28.4	59.6
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
Jun-Aug 2008	25.9	65.4	74.4	66.5	64.1	49.6	32.6	60.7
Sep-Nov 2008	18.6	62.0	72.8	66.0	64.5	49.0	30.3	59.0
All persons								
Sep-Nov 2006	23.9	72.0	81.7	77.6	74.8	61.0	43.4	68.8
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
Jun-Aug 2008	26.0	68.0	80.0	76.9	74.1	61.8	45.2	68.2
Sep-Nov 2008	17.9	62.6	77.9	75.7	73.7	60.8	43.6	65.8

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

Table 13 Number of persons unemployed (ILO) classified by sex and age group '000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2006	5.7	8.3	17.5	11.4	8.6	2.7	*	*	55.1
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
Jun-Aug 2008	10.2	22.7	28.6	19.7	14.5	3.8	1.8	*	101.5
Sep-Nov 2008	8.2	24.8	37.7	23.1	16.8	5.1	1.9	*	117.8
Females									
Sep-Nov 2006	3.7	6.9	10.8	7.5	4.5	1.4	*	*	35.2
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
Jun-Aug 2008	10.3	13.7	17.0	9.6	5.8	2.0	*	*	59.1
Sep-Nov 2008	5.7	11.3	15.2	9.5	7.7	2.3	1.0	*	52.9
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2006	9.4	15.2	28.3	18.9	13.1	4.1	1.0	*	90.3
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
Jun-Aug 2008	20.5	36.4	45.6	29.3	20.3	5.8	2.4	*	160.6
Sep-Nov 2008	13.9	36.1	52.9	32.6	24.5	7.4	2.9	*	170.6

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

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

%

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Sep-Nov 2006	12.6	5.8	5.0	3.8	3.7	3.1	*	*	4.4
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
Jun-Aug 2008	21.4	16.3	7.8	6.4	5.9	4.2	2.9	*	7.9
Sep-Nov 2008	24.7	19.5	10.3	7.5	6.9	5.6	3.2	*	9.3
Females									
Sep-Nov 2006	11.2	5.6	3.8	3.6	2.6	2.6	*	*	3.8
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	*	*	3.9
Jun-Aug 2008	22.1	11.1	5.5	4.3	3.2	3.3	*	*	6.0
Sep-Nov 2008	18.1	9.9	5.0	4.2	4.2	3.9	3.2	*	5.5
All persons									
Sep-Nov 2006	12.0	5.7	4.4	3.7	3.2	2.9	1.3	*	4.2
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
Jun-Aug 2008	21.8	13.9	6.8	5.5	4.8	3.9	2.6	*	7.0
Sep-Nov 2008	21.5	15.0	7.9	6.1	5.7	4.9	3.2	*	7.7

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

Married Females	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Total married women ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2006	*	5.8	141.8	226.7	199.9	83.8	68.9	107.6	835.1
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
Jun-Aug 2008	*	7.4	150.7	230.5	204.2	87.9	71.8	116.5	869.4
Sep-Nov 2008	*	6.4	154.7	232.5	202.7	89.0	72.1	114.1	872.2
of which In labour force ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2006	*	3.3	99.4	146.2	126.7	38.9	19.0	5.4	439.2
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
Jun-Aug 2008	*	3.5	107.5	154.8	131.5	43.6	23.3	6.9	471.4
Sep-Nov 2008	*	3.3	109.1	155.5	132.5	44.1	21.3	6.2	472.2
of which In employment ('000)									
Sep-Nov 2006	*	2.8	97.0	142.4	123.8	38.1	18.8	5.3	428.5
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
Jun-Aug 2008	*	2.9	102.6	148.9	128.5	42.2	23.0	6.9	455.3
Sep-Nov 2008	*	3.0	105.9	149.8	128.0	42.6	20.7	6.2	456.5
Participation rates (%)									
Sep-Nov 2006	*	57.8	70.1	64.5	63.4	46.4	27.6	5.0	52.6
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
Jun-Aug 2008	*	47.6	71.3	67.2	64.4	49.6	32.5	5.9	54.2
Sep-Nov 2008	*	51.2	70.5	66.9	65.3	49.5	29.5	5.5	54.1

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

Table 16 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by labour force, employment, unemployment and long-term unemployment (ILO)

Period	Labour force	In employment	Unemployed	<i>of which</i> Long-term unemployed	Unemployment rate	Long-term unemployment rate
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
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
Jun-Aug 2008	2,281.4	2,120.8	160.6	37.4	7.0	1.6
Sep-Nov 2008	2,222.7	2,052.0	170.6	40.5	7.7	1.8

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Sep- Nov 06	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
Males							
Less than 1 year	34.9	42.5	42.7	46.0	52.5	71.5	85.3
1 year and over	19.9	21.3	20.6	21.5	25.1	28.0	31.4
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	2.0	1.1
Total males	55.1	64.1	63.6	67.9	78.0	101.5	117.8
Females							
Less than 1 year	28.1	34.7	30.3	27.8	29.9	47.4	42.6
1 year and over	7.1	8.5	7.1	6.3	7.6	9.4	9.1
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	2.2	1.2
Total females	35.2	43.1	37.5	34.2	37.5	59.1	52.9
All persons							
Less than 1 year	63.0	77.2	73.0	73.8	82.4	119.0	127.9
1 year and over	27.1	29.7	27.7	27.8	32.7	37.4	40.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	4.2	2.2
Total persons	90.3	107.3	101.0	102.1	115.5	160.6	170.6

* 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 Sept-Nov 2007				QNHS Sept-Nov 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	14.2	21.4	7.2	42.7	26.0	44.1	15.2	85.3
1 year and over	4.0	11.1	5.5	20.6	6.6	16.1	8.7	31.4
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.1
Total males	18.2	32.7	12.7	63.6	33.0	60.8	24.0	117.8
Females								
Less than 1 year	10.1	15.5	4.7	30.3	14.1	20.6	8.0	42.6
1 year and over	1.6	3.8	1.7	7.1	2.2	3.9	2.9	9.1
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.2
Total females	11.7	19.3	6.5	37.5	17.1	24.7	11.1	52.9
All persons								
Less than 1 year	24.2	36.8	11.9	73.0	40.1	64.6	23.1	127.9
1 year and over	5.5	15.0	7.2	27.7	8.8	20.0	11.7	40.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	1.1	*	*	2.2
Total persons	29.8	52.0	19.2	101.0	50.0	85.5	35.1	170.6

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

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

	'000								
ILO Economic Status	Sep- Nov 06	Dec- Feb 07	Mar- May 07	Jun- Aug 07	Sep- Nov 07	Dec- Feb 08	Mar- May 08	Jun- Aug 08	Sep- Nov 08
In labour force	2,162.4	2,174.7	2,201.9	2,253.3	2,239.9	2,237.2	2,223.9	2,281.4	2,222.7
In employment:	2,072.1	2,081.3	2,101.6	2,146.0	2,138.9	2,135.1	2,108.5	2,120.8	2,052.0
full-time	1,724.1	1,726.7	1,723.2	1,760.9	1,754.4	1,745.1	1,718.9	1,728.0	1,660.5
part-time:	348.0	354.6	378.5	385.2	384.5	390.0	389.6	392.8	391.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i> ¹	344.2	351.6	373.0	379.9	380.1	386.3	384.5	380.2	377.2
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> ¹	3.8	3.0	5.5	5.3	4.4	3.7	5.1	12.6	14.3
Unemployed:	90.3	93.4	100.3	107.3	101.0	102.1	115.5	160.6	170.6
seeking full-time work	75.5	78.4	81.8	90.2	82.5	87.4	100.2	140.4	151.9
seeking part-time work	14.8	14.9	18.5	17.1	18.5	14.7	15.2	20.2	18.7
Not in labour force	1,255.8	1,262.7	1,253.3	1,225.6	1,267.1	1,286.8	1,286.1	1,244.3	1,315.6
Marginally attached to the labour force:	10.0	16.5	11.0	15.4	11.5	11.4	10.7	14.6	11.9
Discouraged workers	7.5	13.4	8.5	12.1	9.5	9.3	8.6	11.7	9.7
Passive jobseekers	2.5	3.1	2.6	3.4	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.9	2.2
Others:	1,245.8	1,246.2	1,242.3	1,210.2	1,255.7	1,275.5	1,275.4	1,229.7	1,303.7
Persons not in education, who want work ²	60.0	61.2	56.7	55.6	52.4	53.9	52.1	61.2	51.4
Persons in education, who want work ²	32.0	31.2	32.3	18.8	25.8	24.7	31.6	23.4	25.6
All other persons	1,153.8	1,153.7	1,153.3	1,135.8	1,177.5	1,196.9	1,191.8	1,145.1	1,226.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,418.2	3,437.4	3,455.2	3,478.9	3,507.1	3,524.0	3,510.1	3,525.7	3,538.3

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Table 20 Indicators of potential labour supply

Quarter	S1	S2	S3
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
Jun-Aug 2008	7.5	10.0	10.6
Sep-Nov 2008	8.1	10.2	10.9

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	Sep-Nov 06	Jun-Aug 07	Sep-Nov 07	Dec-Feb 08	Mar-May 08	Jun-Aug 08	Sep-Nov 08
Males							
At work	1,163.9	1,175.1	1,181.4	1,177.5	1,153.6	1,143.4	1,113.8
Unemployed	79.9	84.4	87.1	95.5	99.8	119.4	147.4
Student	163.6	165.3	167.5	170.1	173.7	169.5	174.7
Home duties	5.4	7.2	8.3	7.4	6.6	6.3	6.2
Retired	211.1	216.6	216.7	218.0	220.2	219.1	223.8
Others	75.3	81.8	80.5	83.2	85.3	85.8	84.3
Total males	1,699.3	1,730.5	1,741.5	1,751.6	1,739.3	1,743.5	1,750.3
Females							
At work	839.8	865.4	878.0	878.4	877.0	880.6	868.1
Unemployed	34.1	41.6	36.3	36.7	36.4	46.9	50.3
Student	185.5	182.4	191.1	194.6	191.6	179.1	192.5
Home duties	540.5	522.3	523.2	523.0	526.1	533.0	539.5
Retired	75.9	87.9	83.8	87.8	88.4	91.3	89.1
Others	43.1	48.8	53.1	51.9	51.3	51.4	48.4
Total females	1,718.9	1,748.5	1,765.5	1,772.4	1,770.8	1,782.2	1,787.9
All persons							
At work	2,003.8	2,040.6	2,059.4	2,055.8	2,030.6	2,024.0	1,981.9
Unemployed	114.0	126.0	123.5	132.1	136.2	166.3	197.8
Student	349.1	347.8	358.7	364.7	365.4	348.6	367.2
Home duties	546.0	529.5	531.6	530.4	532.7	539.3	545.7
Retired	287.0	304.5	300.5	305.8	308.6	310.3	312.9
Others	118.4	130.6	133.6	135.1	136.6	137.2	132.8
Total persons	3,418.2	3,478.9	3,507.1	3,524.0	3,510.1	3,525.7	3,538.3

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

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

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,108.6	4.1	24.7	*	4.8	2.9	1,145.3
full-time	1,043.5	2.3	3.0	*	1.2	1.8	1,052.1
part-time:	65.1	1.8	21.7	*	3.6	1.0	93.2
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	60.1	1.1	21.4	*	3.5	*	87.2
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	4.9	*	*	*	*	*	6.0
Unemployed:	2.1	109.5	2.5	*	1.0	2.4	117.8
seeking full-time work	2.1	107.2	*	*	*	2.2	113.2
seeking part-time work	*	2.3	1.7	*	*	*	4.5
Marginally attached to the labour force	*	5.0	*	*	*	*	7.0
Others	2.4	28.9	147.1	5.7	217.5	78.6	480.3
Total males aged 15 or over	1,113.8	147.4	174.7	6.2	223.8	84.3	1,750.3
Females							
In employment:	862.5	1.7	30.8	7.6	1.1	3.1	906.7
full-time	601.3	*	2.7	1.4	*	2.1	608.4
part-time:	261.1	*	28.1	6.3	1.1	1.0	298.3
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	253.2	*	28.0	6.3	1.1	1.0	290.0
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	8.0	*	*	*	*	*	8.3
Unemployed:	1.0	31.8	4.2	14.7	*	*	52.9
seeking full-time work	*	28.5	1.1	7.5	*	*	38.7
seeking part-time work	*	3.3	3.2	7.2	*	*	14.2
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.2	1.1	*	1.2	*	*	5.0
Others	3.5	15.7	156.6	516.0	87.7	44.0	823.4
Total females aged 15 or over	868.1	50.3	192.5	539.5	89.1	48.4	1,787.9
All persons							
In employment:	1,971.0	5.7	55.5	7.9	5.9	6.0	2,052.0
full-time	1,644.9	3.1	5.7	1.6	1.3	4.0	1,660.5
part-time:	326.2	2.6	49.8	6.3	4.6	2.0	391.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed¹</i>	313.3	1.7	49.4	6.3	4.6	1.9	377.2
<i>part-time, underemployed¹</i>	12.9	*	*	*	*	*	14.3
Unemployed:	3.1	141.3	6.7	15.0	1.2	3.3	170.6
seeking full-time work	2.9	135.7	1.9	7.8	*	3.0	151.9
seeking part-time work	*	5.6	4.8	7.2	*	*	18.7
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.9	6.2	1.4	1.2	*	*	11.9
Others	5.9	44.5	303.7	521.7	305.2	122.7	1,303.7
Total persons aged 15 or over	1,981.9	197.8	367.2	545.7	312.9	132.8	3,538.3

¹ See Background Notes.

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

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

Highest education level attained	September-November 2007					September-November 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	115.7	11.6	127.3	9.1	57.4	98.6	16.3	115.0	14.2	55.6
Lower secondary	212.4	18.2	230.7	7.9	72.5	185.7	31.1	216.8	14.3	69.2
Higher secondary	324.2	16.8	341.0	4.9	85.5	307.8	33.0	340.8	9.7	84.1
Post leaving cert	129.7	4.5	134.1	3.4	92.6	119.3	13.8	133.1	10.4	93.2
Third level non degree	109.4	3.3	112.7	2.9	92.4	112.7	7.7	120.4	6.4	92.4
Third level degree or above	239.6	6.2	245.9	2.5	92.5	244.6	10.5	255.2	4.1	92.2
Other	47.5	2.8	50.3	5.6	86.9	43.3	5.2	48.5	10.7	85.5
Total males aged 15 to 64	1,178.5	63.4	1,241.9	5.1	81.2	1,112.1	117.6	1,229.7	9.6	80.3
Females aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	49.9	3.6	53.5	6.7	29.6	45.2	3.3	48.5	6.8	28.3
Lower secondary	103.8	6.1	109.9	5.6	42.3	91.2	8.4	99.6	8.4	40.0
Higher secondary	253.9	12.6	266.5	4.7	64.5	246.2	15.9	262.1	6.1	63.2
Post leaving cert	92.0	4.0	95.9	4.2	72.4	90.4	6.3	96.7	6.5	71.2
Third level non degree	131.4	3.3	134.7	2.4	80.9	134.0	6.5	140.5	4.6	79.1
Third level degree or above	253.1	6.1	259.2	2.4	86.1	258.8	10.5	269.3	3.9	84.7
Other	28.8	1.8	30.6	5.9	64.7	29.8	2.1	31.9	6.6	62.9
Total females aged 15 to 64	912.9	37.4	950.4	3.9	63.3	895.7	52.8	948.5	5.6	62.5
All persons aged 15 to 64										
Primary or below	165.6	15.2	180.8	8.4	44.9	143.8	19.6	163.5	12.0	43.2
Lower secondary	316.2	24.4	340.6	7.2	58.9	277.0	39.5	316.4	12.5	56.2
Higher secondary	578.1	29.4	607.5	4.8	74.8	554.0	48.8	602.9	8.1	73.5
Post leaving cert	221.6	8.4	230.1	3.7	83.0	209.7	20.1	229.8	8.7	82.5
Third level non degree	240.8	6.6	247.4	2.7	85.8	246.7	14.2	260.8	5.4	84.7
Third level degree or above	492.7	12.3	505.1	2.4	89.1	503.4	21.0	524.4	4.0	88.2
Other	76.3	4.6	80.9	5.7	77.0	73.1	7.2	80.3	9.0	74.8
Total persons aged 15 to 64	2,091.4	100.9	2,192.3	4.6	72.4	2,007.7	170.4	2,178.2	7.8	71.4

Table 24 Estimated *adult*¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, September-November 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	118.5	113.8	232.3	7.6	4.5	12.1	5.9	12.6	18.5	132.0	130.9	262.9
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	84.2	64.8	149.0	4.9	2.6	7.5	51.0	71.9	123.0	140.1	139.3	279.4
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	11.1	4.7	15.7	*	*	*	80.9	85.7	166.6	92.1	90.4	182.5
Total	213.7	183.3	397.0	12.7	7.0	19.7	137.9	170.2	308.1	364.3	360.6	724.8
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	194.5	135.8	330.3	16.7	5.2	21.9	10.6	78.8	89.4	221.8	219.8	441.6
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	10.1	5.0	15.1	*	*	1.3	1.5	7.0	8.5	12.5	12.4	24.9
All children aged 5 to 14	78.5	56.5	135.0	5.7	2.5	8.2	5.5	29.6	35.2	89.8	88.7	178.5
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	104.7	73.4	178.2	7.7	3.9	11.5	9.9	42.7	52.5	122.3	120.0	242.2
All children aged 15 or over ³	133.0	91.5	224.5	6.2	2.7	8.9	45.4	88.1	133.5	184.7	182.2	366.9
Total	520.9	362.2	883.1	37.2	14.7	51.9	73.0	246.2	319.2	631.0	623.1	1,254.1
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	*	16.3	17.2	*	2.1	2.2	*	24.6	24.9	1.3	43.0	44.4
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.0	1.2	*	*	*	*	2.2	2.3	*	3.3	3.6
All children aged 5 to 14	1.5	15.7	17.2	*	1.3	1.5	*	10.4	10.5	1.7	27.4	29.2
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	2.3	18.1	20.4	*	1.6	1.8	*	9.2	10.0	3.4	28.8	32.2
All children aged 15 or over ³	7.7	26.1	33.8	*	1.5	2.2	8.8	44.1	52.8	17.2	71.6	88.8
Total	12.7	77.2	89.9	1.2	6.6	7.8	10.1	90.4	100.5	24.0	174.2	198.1
Total	747.3	622.7	1,370.0	51.0	28.3	79.3	221.0	506.8	727.8	1,019.3	1,157.8	2,177.1

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

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

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

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

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

Region	Q3/2007					Q3/2008				
	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	237,681.9	221,312.2	16,369.5	57.7	6.9	239,864.4	223,615.9	16,248.2	58.0	6.8
EU-15	189,599.3	176,720.9	12,878.3	58.3	6.8	191,562.1	178,271.2	13,290.7	58.6	6.9
Eurozone ²	151,886.7	141,039.2	10,847.4	57.2	7.1	153,408.7	142,344.4	11,064.2	57.5	7.2
Eurozone ³	152,450.3	141,576.7	10,873.5	57.2	7.1	153,977.7	142,889.3	11,088.4	57.5	7.2
Belgium	4,727.6	4,385.3	342.2	53.4	7.2	4,838.0	4,464.6	373.4	54.3	7.7
Bulgaria	3,550.6	3,315.5	235.1	53.5	6.6	3,602.4	3,417.3	185.1	54.4	5.1
Czech Republic	5,208.8	4,941.9	266.9	58.8	5.1	5,238.7	5,014.8	223.9	58.5	4.3
Denmark	2,921.7	2,805.8	115.9	65.9	4.0	2,968.5	2,868.3	100.1	66.3	3.4
Germany	42,123.9	38,600.1	3,523.8	59.8	8.4	42,352.3	39,350.1	3,002.2	60.3	7.1
Estonia	690.8	662.1	28.7	60.7	4.2	704.4	660.5	43.9	61.9	6.2
Greece	4,926.8	4,539.3	387.5	53.5	7.9	4,944.9	4,589.8	355.1	53.5	7.2
Spain	22,302.5	20,510.6	1,791.9	58.4	8.0	22,945.1	20,346.3	2,598.8	59.2	11.3
France	28,060.2	25,880.3	2,179.9	57.1	7.8	28,234.2	26,205.1	2,029.1	57.2	7.2
Ireland	2,253.3	2,146.0	107.3	64.8	4.8	2,281.4	2,120.8	160.6	64.7	7.0
Italy	24,817.7	23,417.1	1,400.6	49.0	5.6	25,045.3	23,517.9	1,527.3	49.1	6.1
Cyprus	395.4	379.8	15.6	64.7	3.9	396.0	381.9	14.1	64.1	3.6
Latvia	1,201.5	1,130.8	70.7	61.2	5.9	1,219.9	1,132.5	87.3	62.3	7.2
Lithuania	1,623.7	1,560.2	63.5	57.0	3.9	1,634.8	1,537.6	97.2	57.4	5.9
Luxembourg	213.3	204.8	8.5	56.4	4.0	213.3	202.5	10.8	56.5	5.1
Hungary	4,254.2	3,947.4	306.8	50.7	7.2	4,252.0	3,924.3	327.7	50.6	7.7
Malta	168.2	157.7	10.5	49.2	6.2	173.0	163.0	10.1	50.0	5.8
Netherlands	8,767.9	8,512.5	255.4	66.3	2.9	8,843.6	8,624.0	219.6	66.6	2.5
Austria	4,291.1	4,095.1	196.0	62.1	4.6	4,297.7	4,138.4	159.3	61.8	3.7
Poland	16,963.5	15,432.3	1,531.2	54.1	9.0	17,122.4	15,990.0	1,132.4	54.6	6.6
Portugal	5,644.7	5,200.3	444.4	62.9	7.9	5,629.5	5,195.8	433.7	62.5	7.7
Romania	10,304.8	9,690.7	614.1	56.5	6.0	10,178.2	9,627.2	551.0	55.8	5.4
Slovenia	1,052.4	1,006.2	46.2	60.5	4.4	1,066.0	1,022.7	43.3	60.7	4.1
Slovak Republic	2,668.7	2,366.7	301.9	59.0	11.3	2,714.5	2,472.9	241.5	59.7	8.9
Finland	2,705.3	2,541.6	163.7	61.9	6.1	2,717.4	2,566.4	151.0	61.8	5.6
Sweden	4,907.8	4,638.6	269.2	64.5	5.5	4,954.3	4,673.9	280.4	64.6	5.7
United Kingdom	30,935.5	29,243.5	1,692.0	62.8	5.5	31,296.6	29,407.3	1,889.3	63.0	6.0

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) and Slovenia. Slovenia joined the Eurozone on 1st January 2007.

³ Eurozone consists of EU15 states (with the exceptions of Denmark, Sweden and United Kingdom), Slovenia, Malta and Cyprus. Cyprus and Malta joined the Eurozone on 1st January 2008.

Annex

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

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

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

Economic Status, September 2007 and 2008						'000
Nationality	ILO Economic Status				Total	
	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Not economically active		
Q4 2008						
Irish nationals ¹	1,736.0	137.3	1,873.4	1,188.8	3,062.2	
Non-Irish nationals	316.0	33.3	349.3	126.8	476.1	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	51.8	5.0	56.8	39.5	96.4	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	33.7	3.5	37.1	11.7	48.8	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	150.9	16.9	167.8	31.0	198.8	
<i>Other</i>	79.6	7.9	87.5	44.6	132.1	
Total persons	2,052.0	170.6	2,222.7	1,315.6	3,538.3	
Q4 2007						
Irish nationals ¹	1,804.2	81.1	1,885.2	1,153.8	3,039.0	
Non-Irish nationals	334.7	20.0	354.7	113.4	468.1	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	51.4	4.1	55.5	36.3	91.8	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	34.5	1.2	35.8	8.4	44.2	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	167.7	9.4	177.1	25.9	203.0	
<i>Other</i>	81.0	5.3	86.3	42.7	129.1	
Total persons	2,138.9	101.0	2,239.9	1,267.1	3,507.1	
Year on year changes						
Irish nationals ¹	- 68.2	+ 56.2	- 11.8	+ 35.0	+ 23.2	
Non-Irish nationals	- 18.7	+ 13.3	- 5.4	+ 13.4	+ 8.0	
<i>of which:</i>						
<i>United Kingdom</i>	+ 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 1.3	+ 3.2	+ 4.6	
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	- 0.8	+ 2.3	+ 1.3	+ 3.3	+ 4.6	
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	- 16.8	+ 7.5	- 9.3	+ 5.1	- 4.2	
<i>Other</i>	- 1.4	+ 2.6	+ 1.2	+ 1.9	+ 3.0	
Total persons	- 86.9	+ 69.6	- 17.2	+ 48.5	+ 31.2	

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

Data may be subject to future revision.

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

Table A2 Estimated number of persons aged 15 years and over in employment (ILO) classified by nationality and NACE Economic Sector, September-November, 2007 and 2008

Nationality	NACE Economic Sector											Total
	A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	C-E Other production industries	F Construction	G Wholesale and retail trade	H Hotels and restaurants	I Transport, storage and communication	J-K Financial and other business services	L Public administration and defence	M Education	N Health	O-Q Other services	
Q4 2008												
Irish nationals ¹	106.7	226.0	195.2	244.5	79.9	106.0	239.6	102.8	135.3	192.9	107.2	1,736.0
Non-Irish nationals	9.3	52.3	37.9	48.9	41.9	15.8	45.9	2.8	10.1	31.9	19.2	316.0
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.3	7.4	5.3	6.7	2.4	3.1	9.8	2.1	3.5	6.5	3.8	51.8
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	3.9	1.4	2.3	4.2	2.9	9.8	*	2.2	3.3	3.0	33.7
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	6.5	32.5	25.9	29.4	20.3	6.9	15.3	*	1.7	4.6	7.7	150.9
<i>Other</i>	1.0	8.6	5.4	10.5	15.0	2.9	10.9	*	2.7	17.5	4.8	79.6
Total persons	116.0	278.3	233.1	293.4	121.8	121.7	285.5	105.6	145.4	224.8	126.4	2,052.0
Q4 2007												
Irish nationals ¹	111.2	239.3	231.0	257.6	83.0	104.8	251.1	102.9	129.8	189.5	103.9	1,804.2
Non-Irish nationals	7.4	51.4	48.0	54.0	49.3	16.0	46.0	2.1	9.3	31.8	19.3	334.7
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1.9	7.1	6.4	8.1	2.3	2.9	8.0	1.0	3.7	5.9	4.0	51.4
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	3.8	1.5	3.1	4.6	2.6	10.4	*	2.1	2.9	2.6	34.5
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	3.8	32.0	35.1	31.1	27.4	7.7	17.4	*	1.0	5.0	6.8	167.7
<i>Other</i>	1.2	8.5	5.0	11.6	15.1	2.8	10.2	*	2.6	18.0	5.8	81.0
Total persons	118.7	290.7	279.0	311.6	132.3	120.8	297.1	105.0	139.1	221.3	123.3	2,138.9
Year on year changes												
Irish nationals ¹	- 4.5	- 13.3	- 35.8	- 13.1	- 3.1	+ 1.2	- 11.5	- 0.1	+ 5.5	+ 3.4	+ 3.3	- 68.2
Non-Irish nationals	+ 1.9	+ 0.9	- 10.1	- 5.1	- 7.4	- 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.7	+ 0.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 18.7
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>United Kingdom</i>	- 0.6	+ 0.3	- 1.1	- 1.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.8	+ 1.1	- 0.2	+ 0.6	- 0.2	+ 0.4
<i>EU15 excl. Irl. & UK</i>	*	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 0.4	+ 0.3	- 0.6	*	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	- 0.8
<i>Accession states EU15 to EU27</i>	+ 2.7	+ 0.5	- 9.2	- 1.7	- 7.1	- 0.8	- 2.1	*	+ 0.7	- 0.4	+ 0.9	- 16.8
<i>Other</i>	- 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	- 1.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	*	+ 0.1	- 0.5	- 1.0	- 1.4
Total persons	- 2.7	- 12.4	- 45.9	- 18.2	- 10.5	+ 0.9	- 11.6	+ 0.6	+ 6.3	+ 3.5	+ 3.1	- 86.9

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	<p>A two-stage sample design is used. This comprises a first stage sample of 2,600 blocks (or small areas) selected at county level to proportionately represent eight strata reflecting population density. Each block was selected to contain, on average, 75 dwellings and the sample of blocks is fixed for a period of about five years. In the second stage of sampling, 15 households are surveyed in each block to give a total quarterly sample of 39,000 households.</p> <p>Households are asked to take part in the survey for five consecutive quarters and are then replaced by other households in the same block. Thus, one fifth of the households in the survey are replaced each quarter and the QNHS sample involves an overlap of 80% between consecutive quarters and 20% between the same quarter in consecutive years.</p> <p>The survey results are weighted to agree with population estimates broken down by age, sex and region. The population estimates for April of each year are published in a separate release.</p>
Usual residence and de facto population concepts	Up to and including Q1 2006 the annual population estimates have been calculated using the de facto definition of population (i.e. all persons present in the state). From Q2 2006 onwards a new concept of usual residence will be used, i.e. all persons usually resident and present in the state plus absent persons who are usually resident in Ireland but are temporarily away from home and outside the state.
ILO Labour Force Classification	<p>The primary classification used for the QNHS results is the ILO (International labour Office) labour force classification. Labour Force Survey data on this basis have been published since 1988. The ILO classification distinguishes the following main subgroups of the population aged 15 or over:</p> <p>In Employment: Persons who worked in the week before the survey for one hour or more for payment or profit, including work on the family farm or business and all persons who had a job but were not at work because of illness, holidays etc. in the week.</p> <p>Unemployed: Persons who, in the week before the survey, were without work and available for work within the next two weeks, and had taken specific steps, in the preceding four weeks, to find work.</p> <p>Inactive Population (not in labour force): All other persons.</p> <p>The labour force comprises persons employed plus unemployed.</p>

**Participation,
Employment and
Unemployment Rates**

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

**Duration of
Unemployment**

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

Underemployment

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

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

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

**Part-time
Underemployment**

In June-August 2008 the question used to measure ‘part-time underemployment’ was replaced with two new questions, which aim to capture the exact same concept as before, but in simpler language. This change was made in response to concerns about the quality of the ‘part-time underemployment’ indicator, evidenced by its almost static nature since the survey began, and also feedback from the field force about the complexity of the original question.

This change has introduced a break in the ‘At work, part-time, underemployed’ series, between June-August 2008 and all previous quarters.

This indicator should be considered tentative until such time as a stable time-series has been established. The performance of this indicator will be monitored over the coming year, and it is possible that additional changes may be required.

**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.

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, 2002 and most recently 2006. 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 some of the social modules published to date in the QNHS

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q2 2008	Educational attainment
Q3 2007	Health status and health service utilisation
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
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 and households
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
Q2 2006	Transition from work into retirement
Q3 2006	Social participation
Q1 2007	Annual modules update
Q1 2008	Working conditions and agency work
Q1 2008	Annual modules update

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.