

# Annual Bulletin of Labour Force – 2002

(With Provincial Level Data)



Department of Census & Statistics

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**Introduction :** The Annual Bulletin of Labour Force 2002 is based on the data collected in all four quarters of 2002 (combined annual sample). The household survey operations that were suspended in the Northern and the Eastern provinces in the recent past were re-commenced in 2002 and a separate bulletin has already been published for these two provinces. Annual bulletin of labour force 2002 excludes data pertaining to the Northern and the Eastern provinces.

## 1. Labour force participation at National level

**Table 1: Labour force participation rate by age & sex - 2002.**

Age group	Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>All age</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>33.6</b>
15-19	24.7	30.1	19.0
20-24	67.5	83.9	51.4
25-29	69.8	94.7	48.2
30-39	70.0	96.9	45.4
40+	53.5	76.1	32.3

? The participation rate increased by 1.5 percentage points compared with the 2001.

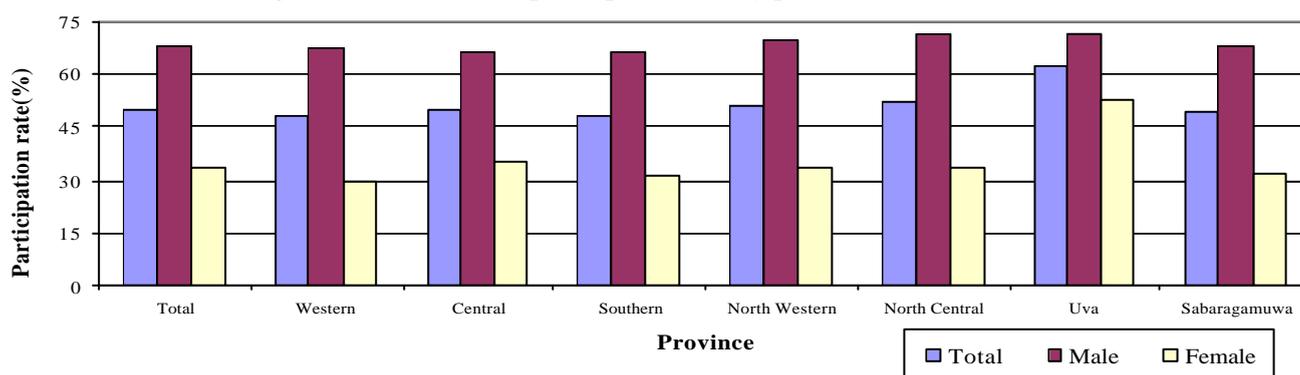
? Males in the 30-39 age group and females in the 20-24 group reported highest participation in labour force in 2002

**Table 2 – Labour force participation rate by sex**

Year	Labour force participation rate		
	Total	Male	Female
1992	48.2	64.3	31.1
1993	49.1	65.3	33.1
1994	48.7	65.4	32.0
1995	47.9	64.4	31.7
1996	48.7	65.9	31.6
1997	48.7	65.7	32.0
1998	51.7	67.5	36.4
1999	50.7	67.7	34.1
2000	50.3	67.2	33.9
2001	48.8	66.2	31.9
2002	50.3	67.9	33.6

### 1.1 Labour Force Participation in the Provinces

**Figure 1 – Labour force participation rate by province & sex - 2002**



**Table 3: Labour Force & Labour Force participation rate by province & sex-2002**

Province	Participation rate		
	Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>33.6</b>
Western	47.9	67.1	29.9
Central	50.0	66.0	35.4
Southern	48.2	66.1	31.3
North Western	51.2	69.4	33.5
North Central	52.6	71.2	33.9
Uva	62.2	71.9	53.0
Sabaragamuwa	49.9	67.8	32.0

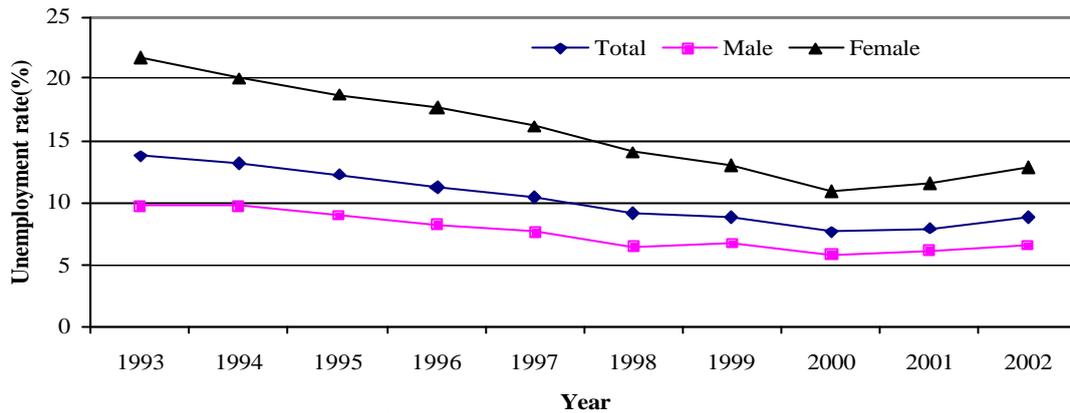
? The highest participation in labour force is reported in Uva province for both males & females.

? The highest female labour force participation is also reported in Uva province, which is well over 50 percent. Central province can be ranked next to Uva province with respect to female labour force participation.

? More urbanised and more developed Western province has reported less participation in the labour force as compared with the other provinces.

## 2. Unemployment - National Level

Figure 2: Unemployment rate over time

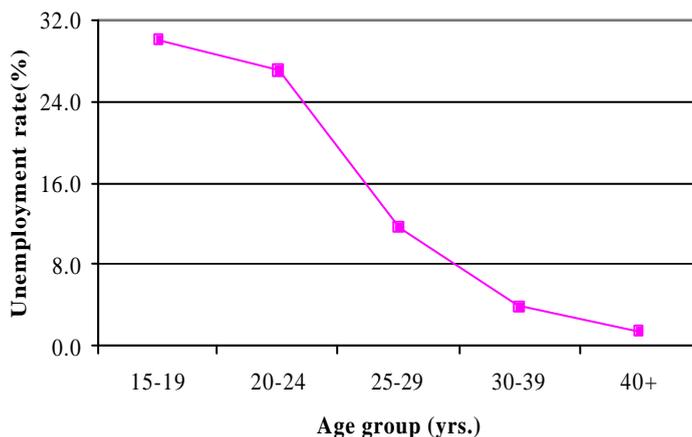


- ⊙ The overall unemployment rate is 8.8 in the year 2002.
- ⊙ Female unemployment rate increased by 1.4 percentage points while male unemployment rate increased by 0.4 percentage points in 2002 from 2001.
- ⊙ It is observed that the past declining trend of unemployment has reversed after the year 2000.

Table 4: Unemployed population & Unemployment rate by age & sex -2002

Age group	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Rate(%)	Number	Rate(%)	Number	Rate(%)
<b>All ages</b>	<b>625956</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>310416</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>315541</b>	<b>12.9</b>
15 -19	123738	30.1	68653	26.9	55085	35.4
20 -24	293898	27.0	151647	22.7	142251	33.9
25 -29	103336	11.6	41736	7.4	61601	18.7
30 -39	68718	4.0	25565	2.2	43153	7.2
40+	34386	1.6	21300	1.0	13085	1.4

Figure 3: Unemployment rate by age group - 2002



- ⊙ The relatively high unemployment rate prevalent among the youth (both male and female) in the ages 15 - 24 yrs, tends to decline rapidly after the age of 25 yrs.

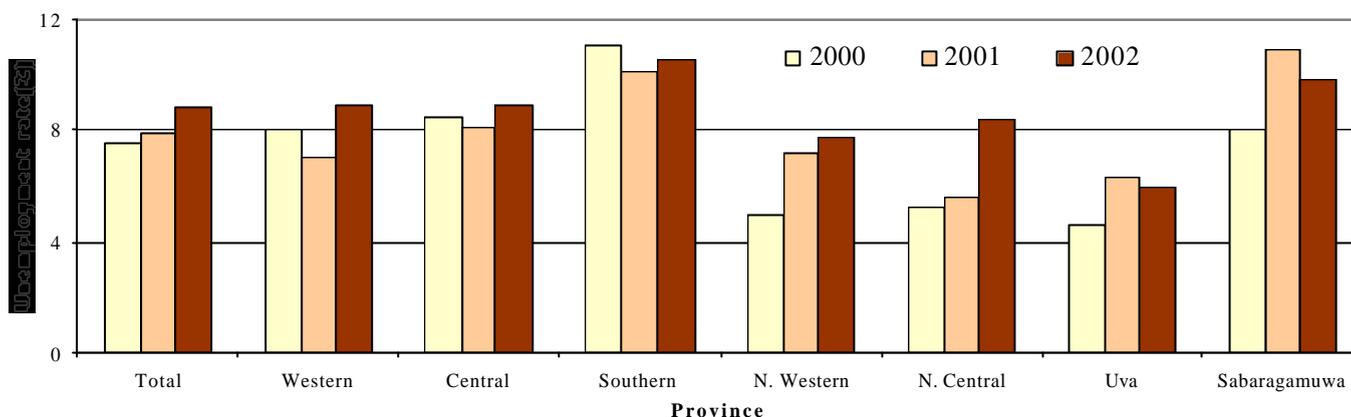
Table 5: Distribution of unemployed population by whether they had vocational training & residential sector - 2002

Sector	Total	Had training	Did not have training
Total	100.0	28.4	71.6
Urban	100.0	35.2	64.8
Rural	100.0	27.5	72.5

- ⊙ Percentage of the persons who have received vocational training in the urban sector is higher than rural sector. This may be due to the availability of more vocational training facilities in the urban sector as compared to rural sector.

## 2.1 Unemployment in the Provinces

Figure 4 - Unemployment rate by province



? Different provinces have contributed differently to the rise in the unemployment rate from 2000 - 2002. Uva & Sabaragamuwa provinces have reported an increase in unemployment from 2000 to 2001 and then a decline. Western, Central and Southern provinces show a decline from 2000 to 2001 and then an increase after 2001. Rates of North Western and North Central provinces reported a continuous increase to 2002. Highest relative increase in unemployment is reported from North Central province which is an agricultural dominated, under developed area.

Table 6: Unemployment rate by province & sex -2002

Province	Sex		
	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>12.9</b>
Western	8.9	7.5	11.8
Central	8.9	6.5	12.9
Southern	10.6	7.4	17.0
North Western	7.8	5.5	12.3
North Central	8.4	4.9	16.0
Uva	6.0	3.9	8.7
Sabaragamuwa	9.8	7.4	14.9

? The unemployment rate across the provinces ranges from 10.6 percent to 6.0 percent in 2002. The highest rate (10.6) is reported in the Southern Province while the lowest rate (6.0) is reported in Uva province. The general pattern of higher employment among the females is also observed in Table 6. Relative disadvantage suffered by females, with respect to unemployment is highest in the North Central province in year 2002.

Table 7: Unemployment rate by level of education and province

Province	Total	Grade 5 -9	G.C.E. O/L	G.C.E. A/L & above
Total	8.8	7.9	13.3	16.8
Western	8.9	7.8	10.6	12.2
Central	8.9	9.2	15.0	18.2
Southern	10.6	10.9	15.3	21.9
North Western	7.8	6.8	12.7	19.3
North Central	8.4	6.2	14.9	25.4
Uva	6.0	4.8	13.7	18.2
Sabaragamuwa	9.8	8.1	18.6	25.7

⊙ Over 25 percent of the persons with education G.C.E. Advanced Level and above, who are in labour force are reported to be unemployed in Sabaragamuwa, North-Central and Southern Provinces in year 2002.

(Note: Unemployment rate cannot be estimated with a reasonable reliability for levels of education below Grade 5 by province.)

### 3. Employment

**Table 8: Percentage distribution of employed population by industry & province – 2002.**

Province	Industry											
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Total	100.0	34.5	16.5	4.4	14.7	4.7	2.6	8.0	3.5	4.4	4.9	1.9
Western	100.0	8.5	25.6	5.0	21.5	7.0	5.0	10.7	4.0	7.5	3.5	1.7
Central	100.0	46.4	9.3	3.1	12.4	4.3	2.0	7.2	4.2	3.6	6.9	0.7
Southern	100.0	39.5	15.4	5.9	12.2	4.6	1.8	7.1	4.0	3.3	5.3	0.9
North Western	100.0	36.8	18.0	4.7	13.1	3.4	1.5	8.4	3.1	2.8	6.9	1.4
North Central	100.0	57.2	7.2	3.8	9.3	2.3	1.0	9.8	2.2	2.4	3.3	1.5
Uva	100.0	69.4	5.7	2.2	8.6	2.1	0.9	3.1	2.8	2.0	1.7	1.5
Sabaragamuwa	100.0	40.1	13.5	4.5	11.9	4.6	1.5	5.6	3.5	2.8	6.8	6.2

©The total number of employed population is 6,519,415 in the year 2002. Of this number 4,395,164 (67.4%) are males and 2,124,250 are (32.6%) females.

©The distribution pattern by industry group in Southern & North Western provinces is almost similar. The proportion engaged in Agriculture, Manufacturing and Trade industry groups is almost same in these two provinces.

©Uva & North Central provinces have reported a relatively higher percentage of persons engaged in Agriculture industry as compared with other provinces.

#### Industry group

1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)

2 Manufacturing (D)

3 Construction (F)

4 Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) Hotels and Restaurants (H)

5 Transport, Storage and Communication (I)

6 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities (J,K)

7 Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)

8 Education (M)

9 Health and Social work (N) Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities (O)

Private Households with Employed Persons (P)

10 Miscellaneous Labour work

11 Other

Mining & Quarrying (C)

Electricity, Gas and Water supply (E)

Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (Q)

Industries not adequately described

\* Classification categories of industries have been revised based on ISIC - Rev. 3, commencing from 2002 first quarter.

**Table 9: Percentage distribution of Employed Population by Occupation & Province 2002.**

Province	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
Total	100.0	1.3	5.4	4.9	4.4	6.2	7.8	24.2	14.3	5.7	24.7	1.0
Western	100.0	2.7	8.0	7.6	8.0	6.2	11.5	5.5	21.1	7.6	21.0	1.0
Central	100.0	*	5.2	4.9	3.3	4.4	7.2	25.3	9.7	4.3	34.3	0.7
Southern	100.0	*	4.8	4.2	3.3	10.1	5.9	26.2	13.1	4.2	27.1	0.7
North Western	100.0	*	4.5	4.0	2.3	6.5	5.6	30.5	15.2	7.3	22.0	1.5
North Central	100.0	*	3.2	2.7	2.2	4.7	5.9	52.0	8.4	4.7	13.2	1.9
Uva	100.0	*	3.4	1.9	2.2	3.8	5.0	51.9	5.5	2.7	22.6	0.6
Sabaragamuwa	100.0	*	3.4	2.9	2.3	6.2	7.0	24.0	12.7	5.5	33.1	1.3

\* Statistically reliable estimates cannot be provided

Note: It is to be noted here that these occupation groups are based on ISCO - 88, but they are not necessarily the **Major Groups** of ISCO - 88 classification

#### Occupation group

1 Senior Officials and Managers

2 Professionals

3 Technical and Associate Professionals

4 Clerks

5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises

6 Sale and Service workers

7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers

8 Craft and Related workers

9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers

10 Elementary occupations

0 Unidentified

- © Of the total employed persons nearly 50 percent fall in to the occupations associated either with agricultural or with unskilled elementary occupational activities. (occupation groups 7 and 10)
- © More than 30 percent employed persons in Central & Sabaragamuwa provinces are reported as elementary occupational workers (unskilled labourers). These provinces are dominated with tea and rubber cultivation.
- © 32 percent of the employed persons in the Western province have worked either as sales & service workers or as craft & related workers. (occupation groups 6 and 8)