



QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE

**SRI LANKA LABOUR FORCE
SURVEY**

THIRD QUARTER - 2008

DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS & STATISTICS

Preface

In the past, information on labour force characteristics, employment and unemployment etc. were collected through labour force and socio - economic surveys conducted at five yearly time intervals. However, the employment and unemployment data are required at very short intervals to monitor the programs made in the employment generating policies of the government. Therefore, to satisfy this need, the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) designed a labour force survey on a quarterly basis, to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka on a continuous basis. This survey was commenced from the first quarter of 1990 and this report is the seventy first in the series of quarterly reports published so far.

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes were made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data. The significant revisions were made on the labour force survey questionnaire in 2006, and the revised version was introduced for the survey conducted in 2006 first quarter, and it will be used in future as well.

The field work of the survey for the third quarter 2008 was done in July, August and September in year 2008. Even though it was planned to conduct the survey in Northern and Eastern provinces, the survey was not conducted fully due to the prevailing uncertain conditions in districts of Northern province. In third quarter 2008 the survey was conducted in the Eastern province, hence this report consists of data including Eastern province. However for comparison purposes related tabulations have been done (i) excluding Northern and Eastern provinces and (ii) excluding Northern province, separately in this report.

A nationally representative annual sample of about 22,500 housing units have been selected for the survey in 2008. However as mentioned above, the survey was not conducted properly in Northern province as scheduled, so this report is based on a quarterly sample of 5,060 housing units, excluding Northern province providing national level estimates with a stipulated standard errors of labour force characteristics as reported in the reference period of the third quarter 2008.

*D.B.P.Suranjana Vidyaratna
Director General of Census & statistics*

*Department of Census & Statistics,
15/12, Maitland Crescent,
Colombo 7.
13.01.2009.*

Acknowledgements

This report is seventy first in the series of the Quarterly Labour Force Survey which was commenced from the first quarter 1990 and is being continued by the Department of the Census and statistics.

Sample Survey Division implemented the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey programme, under the direction of Mr. G.Y.L. Fernando, Director (Sample Surveys).

Planning and the execution of the survey was done by the staff of the Sample Surveys Division under the supervision of Mr.L.J.S. de Silva Wijeratne, Deputy Director.

Field operation activities were organized by Mr. R.A.P. Kumarasinghe, Statistician of the Sample Surveys Division.

The supervision activities were carried out by Mr. Lucky Thangarathnam, Senior Statisticians, and Mr. R.A.P. Kumarasinghe, Mr. I.L.Sherifdeen, Mr. P.A.Subawickrama, Mrs. Chandani Wijebandara and Mr. W. Gnanathilaka, Statisticians, of the sample surveys division and Heads of statistics divisions in each district.

The computer data processing and final tabulations were done by Mrs. W.A.S.M.P. Gunasekara, Mr.T. Thirugnanatheepan Statistical Officers and Mr. M.B.M. Shiras, Statistical Assistant of the Sample Surveys Division, under the supervision of Mr. P.A. Subawickrama, Statistician using Microcomputers.

Developing of sample selection programme and it's related computer software was done by Mr. K.M.R. Wickramasinghe, System Analyst/ Programmer of the sample survey division.

This publication was organized and prepared by Mrs. Chandani Wijebandara, Statistician Sample Surveys Division, assisted by Mrs. W.A.S.M.P. Gunasekara, Statistical officer.

The Data Processing Division, under the direction of Mrs. S.V. Nanayakkara, Director (Data Processing) and under the supervision of Mr. Migara Fernando and Mr. Wasantha Weerasiri, Senior System Analyst/Programmers, was responsible for the survey data entry and preparation of data entry and computer edits programmes.

District field staff of the Department who worked on the survey deserve a special word of thanks. They include District Deputy Directors/ Senior Statisticians/ Statisticians and field Statistical Officers, who worked hard at the data collection stage, to make this survey a success.

Printing of the report was done at the Printing Division, under the supervision of Mr. W.C. Weerawansa, Senior Statistician.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to all the respondents of the survey for their valuable co-operation.

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey
Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics
2008 3rd quarter
(Excluding Northern province)

10 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (10 years & over)	16271497	7679508	8591989	2034952	14236545
Labour force in this age group	8184379	5302790	2881589	924119	7260260
Labour force participation rate	50.3	69.1	33.5	45.4	51.0
Employed population	7735132	5094909	2640222	880503	6854629
Employment rate	94.5	96.1	91.6	95.3	94.4
Unemployed population	449248	207881	241367	43617	405631
Unemployment rate	5.5	3.9	8.4	4.7	5.6
Not in labour force	8087117	2376718	5710400	1110833	6976285

15 years & over population

Population (15 years & over)	14613809	6865603	7748206	1846756	12767053
Labour force in this age group	8164904	5291556	2873348	924119	7240785
Labour force participation rate	55.9	77.1	37.1	50.0	56.7
Employed population	7715656	5083675	2631981	880503	6835153
Employment rate	94.5	96.1	91.6	95.3	94.4
Unemployed population	449248	207881	241367	43617	405631
Unemployment rate	5.5	3.9	8.4	4.7	5.6
Not in labour force	6448905	1574047	4874857	922637	5526268

20 years & over population

Population (20 years & over)	12981556	6027966	6953590	1656483	11325073
Labour force in this age group	7820768	5050096	2770671	891768	6928999
Labour force participation rate	60.2	83.8	39.8	53.8	61.2
Employed population	7443192	4885944	2557248	852864	6590328
Employment rate	95.2	96.7	92.3	95.6	95.1
Unemployed population	377575	164152	213423	38904	338671
Unemployment rate	4.8	3.3	7.7	4.4	4.9
Not in labour force	5160788	977870	4182918	764715	4396074

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey
Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics
2008 3rd quarter

(Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces)

10 years & over population

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (10 years & over)	14851328	7018006	7833322	1750138	13101189
Labour force in this age group	7587847	4853178	2734669	816351	6771496
Labour force participation rate	51.1	69.2	34.9	46.6	51.7
Employed population	7192034	4669346	2522687	782086	6409948
Employment rate	94.8	96.2	92.2	95.8	94.7
Unemployed population	395813	183831	211982	34264	361548
Unemployment rate	5.2	3.8	7.8	4.2	5.3
Not in labour force	7263481	2164828	5098653	933788	6329693

15 years & over population

Population (15 years & over)	13361231	6289594	7071637	1590445	11770786
Labour force in this age group	7572460	4845088	2727371	816351	6756109
Labour force participation rate	56.7	77.0	38.6	51.3	57.4
Employed population	7176647	4661257	2515390	782086	6394561
Employment rate	94.8	96.2	92.2	95.8	94.6
Unemployed population	395813	183831	211982	34264	361548
Unemployment rate	5.2	3.8	7.8	4.2	5.4
Not in labour force	5788771	1444505	4344266	774094	5014677

20 years & over population

Population (20 years & over)	11894773	5527421	6367352	1431375	10463398
Labour force in this age group	7255250	4621767	2633482	785401	6469849
Labour force participation rate	61.0	83.6	41.4	54.9	61.8
Employed population	6923317	4478537	2444779	755849	6167468
Employment rate	95.4	96.9	92.8	96.2	95.3
Unemployed population	331933	143230	188703	29552	302381
Unemployment rate	4.6	3.1	7.2	3.8	4.7
Not in labour force	4639523	905653	3733870	645974	3993549

**Selected Labour Force indicators
(2000 - 2008 Third quarter)**

	Year										
	2000 [#]	2001 [#]	2002 [#]	2003 [*]	2004 ^{**}	2005 ^{***}	2006 [#]	2007 [#]	2008Q1 [*]	2008 Q2 [*]	2008 Q3 [*]
Labour force participation rate											
<i>by sex</i>											
Both sexes	50.3	48.8	50.3	48.9	48.6	48.3	51.2	49.8	49.1	49.0	50.3
Male	67.2	66.2	67.9	67.2	66.7	67.1	68.1	67.8	66.9	67.6	69.0
Female	33.9	31.9	33.6	31.4	31.5	30.9	35.7	33.4	33.0	32.1	33.5
<i>by residential sector</i>											
Total	50.3	48.8	50.3	48.9	48.6	48.3	51.2	49.8	49.1	49.0	50.3
Urban	44.9	44.2	46.0	44.4	44.9	45.5	45.3	45.0	45.6	45.9	45.4
Rural	51.2	49.6	50.9	49.6	49.2	48.7	52.1	50.4	49.6	49.4	51.0
Unemployment rate											
<i>by sex</i>											
Both sexes	7.6	7.9	8.8	8.4	8.3	7.7	6.5	6.0	5.1	5.5	5.5
Male	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.0	5.5	4.7	4.3	3.2	3.8	3.9
Female	11.1	11.5	12.9	13.2	12.8	11.9	9.7	9.0	8.6	8.6	8.4
<i>by selected age groups(yr)</i>											
20 - 29	17.4	18.4	20.1	19.4	19.2	17.2	15.9	15.0	13.4	13.3	14.0
20 - 24	23.0	24.4	27.0	26.4	25.9	24.6	21.0	21.1	18.4	17.2	18.2
25 - 29	10.9	11.3	11.6	11.4	11.4	9.5	11.0	9.4	8.7	9.5	10.2
<i>by selected educational levels</i>											
G.C.E.(A/L) & above											
Both sexes	14.9	15.3	16.8	16.5	16.8	13.8	11.6	11.8	11.1	9.5	11.8
Male	8.8	10.1	10.8	10.4	10.5	8.9	6.9	6.6	6.9	4.5	6.9
Female	21.5	21.5	23.0	23.3	23.8	19.1	16.8	17.5	15.8	14.6	17.4
Employed population											
<i>by sex</i>											
Both sexes	6310247	6235588	6519415	7012755	7440226	7518007	7105322	7041874	7581163	7563981	7735132
Male	4241546	4248877	4395164	4833483	5087861	5134765	4610643	4653067	5004644	5051817	5094909
Female	2068701	1986711	2124250	2179272	2352365	2383241	2494679	2388807	2576519	2512164	2640222
<i>by industry (percentage)</i>											
Total	6310247	6235588	6519415	7012755	7394029	7518007	7105322	7041874	7581163	7563981	7735132
%	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)
Agriculture	2274153	2033343	2247602	2384397	2474725	2306039	2287268	2202098	2410307	2264792	2665917
%	(36.0)	(32.6)	(34.5)	(34.0)	(33.5)	(30.7)	(32.2)	(31.3)	(31.8)	(29.9)	(34.5)
Industry	1490795	1491408	1459194	1611493	1781447	1928014	1889953	1873857	1989655	2068786	2000537
%	(23.6)	(23.9)	(22.4)	(23.0)	(24.1)	(25.6)	(26.6)	(26.6)	(26.2)	(27.4)	(25.9)
Services	2545299	2710837	2812619	3016866	3137857	3283954	2928101	2965919	3181201	3230403	3068678
%	(40.3)	(43.5)	(43.1)	(43.0)	(42.4)	(43.7)	(41.2)	(42.1)	(42.0)	(42.7)	(39.7)
<i>by no. of hours worked per week (percentage)</i>											
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 •	7.2	4.3	5.6	7.5	5.2	4.7	6.7	6.5	4.0	11.1	6.7
1 - 9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.9	1.5	1.8	2.9	1.7
10 - 39	32.7	28.2	32.0	32.6	28.7	27.6	28.6	28.3	30.7	29.8	26.6
40+	58.2	66.1	60.9	58.1	64.5	66.2	62.8	63.7	63.6	56.3	65.0

•Has a job but not at work during the reference week

* Excluding Northern province

***All the districts are included

** Excluding Mullativu & Kilinochchi districts

Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Selected Labour Force indicators
(2000 - 2008 Third quarter)

	Year												
	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	2005*	2006*	2007*	2008Q1*	2008Q2*	2007Q3*	2008Q3*	2008 Q3#
Labour force participation rate													
<i>by sex</i>													
Both sexes	50.3	48.8	50.3	49.7	49.6	49.3	51.2	49.8	49.8	49.6	50.2	51.1	50.3
Male	67.2	66.2	67.9	67.5	67.2	67.3	68.1	67.8	67.3	67.8	68.4	69.1	69.0
Female	33.9	31.9	33.6	32.6	33.0	32.6	35.7	33.4	34.2	33.1	33.8	34.9	33.5
<i>by residential sector</i>													
Total	50.3	48.8	50.3	49.7	49.6	49.3	51.2	49.8	49.8	49.6	50.2	51.1	50.3
Urban	44.9	44.2	46.0	45.1	45.6	46.2	45.3	45.0	45.9	46.1	45.8	46.6	45.4
Rural	51.2	49.6	50.9	50.3	50.3	49.7	52.1	50.4	50.3	50.0	50.7	51.7	51.0
Unemployment rate													
<i>by sex</i>													
Both sexes	7.6	7.9	8.8	8.1	8.1	7.2	6.5	6.0	5.1	5.3	5.6	5.2	5.5
Male	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.0	5.3	4.7	4.3	3.3	3.6	4.1	3.8	3.9
Female	11.1	11.5	12.9	12.3	12.1	10.7	9.7	9.0	8.2	8.4	8.5	7.8	8.4
<i>by selected age groups(yr)</i>													
20 - 29	17.4	18.4	20.1	19.1	18.6	16.0	15.9	15.0	13.4	13.0	14.0	14.1	14.0
20 - 24	23.0	24.4	27.0	25.8	25.2	22.4	21.0	21.1	18.4	17.4	22.4	18.0	18.2
25 - 29	10.9	11.3	11.6	11.4	11.1	9.4	11.0	9.4	8.7	8.8	6.5	9.3	10.2
<i>by selected educational levels</i>													
G.C.E.(A/L) & above													
Both sexes	14.9	15.3	16.8	16.0	15.7	12.2	11.6	11.8	11.0	9.1	10.5	10.4	11.8
Male	8.8	10.1	10.8	10.1	9.6	7.9	6.9	6.6	6.9	4.0	5.6	6.1	6.9
Female	21.5	21.5	23.0	22.4	22.5	17.1	16.8	17.5	15.6	14.2	15.5	15.2	17.4
Employed population													
<i>by sex</i>													
Both sexes	6310247	6235588	6519415	6609466	6704006	6788119	7105322	7041874	7148318	7106439	7102425	7192034	7735132
Male	4241546	4248877	4395164	4496136	4512082	4546397	4610643	4653067	4653378	4693465	4653944	4669346	5094909
Female	2068701	1986711	2124250	2113330	2191924	2241722	2494679	2388807	2494940	2412974	2448481	2522687	2640222
<i>by industry (percentage)</i>													
Total	6310247	6235588	6519415	6609466	6704006	6788119	7105322	7041874	7148318	7106439	7102425	7192034	7735132
%	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)
Agriculture	2274153	2033343	2247602	2223691	2215282	2059293	2287268	2202098	2272031	2140712	2129201	2494966	2665917
%	(36.0)	(32.6)	(34.5)	(33.6)	(33.0)	(30.3)	(32.2)	(31.3)	(31.8)	(30.1)	(30.0)	(34.7)	(34.5)
Industry	1490795	1491408	1459194	1539035	1663383	1787274	1889953	1873857	1890286	1935656	1920033	1878184	2000537
%	(23.6)	(23.9)	(22.4)	(23.3)	(24.8)	(26.3)	(26.6)	(26.6)	(26.4)	(27.2)	(27.0)	(26.1)	(25.9)
Services	2545299	2710837	2812619	2846740	2825341	2941552	2928101	2965919	2986000	3030071	3053191	2818883	3068678
%	(40.3)	(43.5)	(43.1)	(43.1)	(42.1)	(43.3)	(41.2)	(42.1)	(41.8)	(42.6)	(43.0)	(39.2)	(39.7)
<i>by no. of hours worked per week (percentage)</i>													
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 •	7.2	4.3	5.6	7.3	5.3	4.9	6.7	6.5	4.1	11.4	7.0	6.7	6.7
1 - 9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.9	3.0	1.6	1.8	1.7
10 - 39	32.7	28.2	32.0	32.9	28.4	27.9	28.6	28.3	31.1	30.1	27.1	26.6	26.6
40+	58.2	66.1	60.9	58.0	64.7	65.7	62.8	63.7	62.9	55.5	64.3	64.8	65.0

•Has a job but not at work during the reference week

* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Excluding Northern province

Note: However it is to be noted that the difference between corresponding figures in any given two quarters may not necessarily be statistically significant.

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Appendix 1: Explanatory Notes

Appendix 2: Alternative estimates of employment, unemployment and labour force characteristics

Appendix 3: Survey schedule

Introduction

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey was designed to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka. This survey is being conducted quarterly, since the first quarter of 1990.

The field work of the survey for the third quarter 2008 was done in July, August and September in year 2008. Even though it was planned to conduct the survey in Northern and Eastern provinces, the survey was not conducted fully due to the prevailing uncertain conditions in districts of Northern province. In third quarter 2008 the survey was conducted also in the Eastern province, hence this bulletin consists of summary statistics computed by including Eastern province in table 'Selected Labour Force Indicators' (page 4).

Labour force participation rate

Labour Force: Number of persons who were employed or unemployed during the reference week

Labour force participation rate: Labour force expressed as a percentage of population age 10 yr. & over

Table 1: Economically active population by sex and sector- Third Quarter 2008

Sector	Economically active population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Total	7587847	100.0	4853178	64.0	2734669	36.0
Urban	816351	100.0	578599	70.9	237752	29.1
Rural	6771496	100.0	4274579	63.1	2496917	36.9

* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

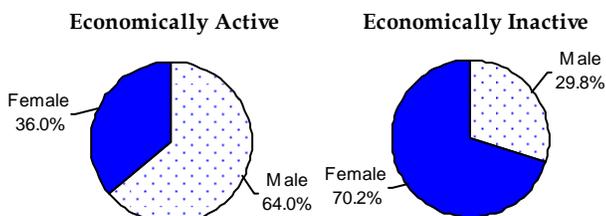
Table 2: Economically Inactive population by sex and sector- Third Quarter 2008

Sector	Economically inactive population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Total	7264483	100.0	2165830	29.8	5098653	70.2
Urban	933788	100.0	276925	29.7	656863	70.3
Rural	6330695	100.0	1888905	29.8	4441790	70.2

* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

The survey results revealed that (Table 1), the estimated economically active population (or labour force) was about 7.6 million in third quarter 2008. Of which 64.0 percent were males and 36.0 percent were females. Of the economically inactive population 29.8 percent were males and 70.2 percent were females (Table 2).

Figure 1: Distribution of Economically active/Inactive population



* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Table 3: Labour Force Participation Rate by sex & year

Year	Labour force participation rate		
	Total	Male	Female
2000	50.3	67.2	33.9
2001	48.8	66.2	31.9
2002	50.3	67.9	33.6
2003	49.7	67.5	32.6
2004	49.6	67.2	33.0
2005	49.3	67.3	32.6
2006	51.2	68.1	35.7
2007	49.8	67.8	33.4
2008 Q1	49.8	67.3	34.2
2008 Q2	49.6	67.8	33.1
2008 Q3	51.1	69.1	34.9

* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Table 3 provides the information on labour force participation rates since year 2000. As can be seen from this table, male participation rate for the third quarter 2008 is about 69.1 percent and it is 34.9 percent for females. It is important to note that, male participation to the labour force is as twice as that of females.

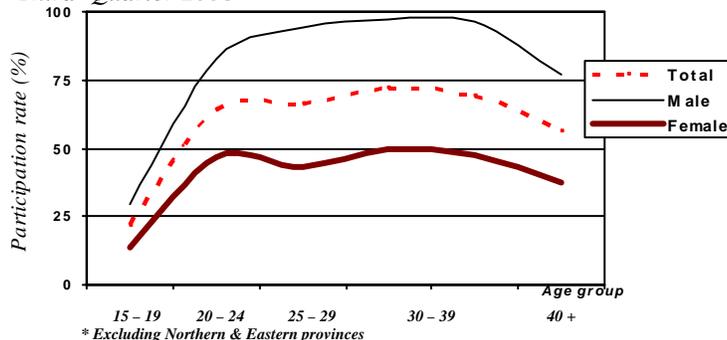
Table 4: Labour Force Participation Rate by age group & by sex - Third Quarter 2008

Age group	Sex		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	51.1	69.1	34.9
15 - 19	21.6	29.3	13.3
20 - 24	63.7	82.4	46.8
25 - 29	66.2	94.1	43.2
30 - 39	70.4	96.5	48.5
40+	55.9	77.0	37.2

* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Table 4 provides the labour force participation rates by sex and age group. Both males and females in the age group of (30 - 39) yrs shows the highest labour force participation rates 96.5% and 48.5% respectively.

Figure 2: Labour Force Participation Rate by age group & sex - Third Quarter 2008



* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Employment

Employed: Persons who are engaged in some kind of work for pay or profit or family gain during the reference week.

Table 5 : Distribution of Employed population by main industry, (Third quarter 2007 – Third Quarter 2008)

Year	Total	Major industry group		
		Agriculture	Industries	Services
July-Aug-Sept. 3 rd Qtr - 2007	7102425 (100.0)	2129201 (30.0)	1920033 (27.0)	3053191 (43.0)
Oct-Nov-Dec 4 th Qtr - 2007	7176679 (100.0)	2366192 (33.0)	1835126 (25.6)	2975360 (41.5)
Jan-Feb-Mar 1 st Qtr - 2008	7148318 (100.0)	2272031 (31.8)	1890286 (26.4)	2986000 (41.8)
April-May-June 2 nd Qtr - 2008	7106439 (100.0)	2140712 (30.1)	1935656 (27.2)	3030071 (42.6)
July-Aug-Sept. 3 rd Qtr - 2008	7192034 (100.0)	2494966 (34.7)	1878184 (26.1)	2818883 (39.2)

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q.

** Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces*

Agriculture

1. Agriculture (A)
2. Forestry and Fishery (B)

Industries

1. Manufacturing (D)
2. Construction (F)
3. Mining & Quarrying (C)
4. Electricity, Gas and Water supply (E)

Services

1. Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G)
2. Hotels and Restaurants (H)
3. Transport, Storage and Communication (I)
4. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities (J,K)
5. Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)
6. Education (M)
7. Health and Social work (N)
8. Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities (O)
9. Private Households with Employed Persons (P)
10. Miscellaneous Labour work
11. Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (Q)
12. Industries not adequately described

Table 5 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by main industry from third quarter 2007 to third quarter 2008. The total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated as about 7.2 million in third quarter 2008. Of which, about 39.2 percent engaged in services sector employment, and 34.7% in agriculture sector.

When the distribution of employment between third quarter 2007 to third quarter 2008 is compared agriculture sector shows a marked increase in its relative importance, and for the service sector it is the opposite.

Table 6 : Percentage distribution of employed population by employment status and Agriculture/ non- agriculture sector - Third quarter 2008.

Employment Status	Total		Sector			
	No.	%	Agriculture		Non Agriculture	
			No.	%	No.	%
Total	7192034	100.0	2494966	34.7	4697067	65.3
Employee	4016567	100.0	822867	20.5	3193699	79.5
Public	1060436	100.0	168249	15.9	892187	84.1
Private	2956131	100.0	654618	22.1	2301512	77.9
Employer	190679	100.0	35788	18.8	154892	81.2
Own account worker	2161342	100.0	1052182	48.7	1109160	51.3
Unpaid family worker	823446	100.0	584130	70.9	239316	29.1

** Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces*

Table 6 shows that, about 79.5 percent of total paid employees are engaged in non-agricultural sector activities, while this percentage is only 20.5 percent for the agriculture sector. Further, about 78 percent of private sector paid employees are involved in non-agricultural activities, while this share is 22 percent regarding the agricultural activities.

It is important to see that, about 71 percent of unpaid family workers are in the agriculture sector, and the balance, 29 percent are in the non-agriculture sector.

Note (1): Please see the explanatory note under 'labour force' link in the DCS web site www.statistics.gov.lk for detailed concepts & definitions.

Table 7 : Distribution of Employed population by main industry & by sex - Third Quarter 2008

Major industry group	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Total	100.0	64.9	35.1
Agriculture	100.0	58.9	41.1
Industry	100.0	65.9	34.1
Services	100.0	69.6	30.4

** Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces*

It is seen in the above table that, about 70 percent of services sector employment are males.

Table 8 : "Informal sector" employment by Agriculture/ Non-agriculture sector - Third Quarter 2008

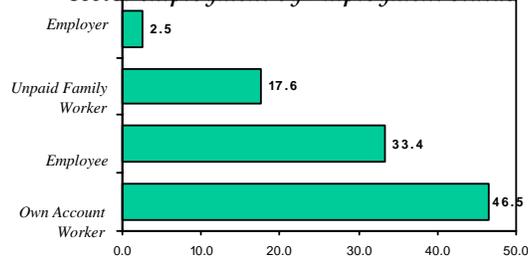
Sector	Total	Agriculture	Non-agriculture
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Formal	39.6	17.2	51.6
Informal	60.4	82.8	48.4

** Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces*

It is also important to see the distribution of the employed population according to the formal and informal sector classification. Table 8 shows that, 60.4 percent of the total employment is in the informal sector. Further 83 percent of the agriculture sector employment is in informal sector, while it is about 48 percent for non agriculture sector.

Further, 46.5 percent of those employed in the informal sector are own account workers, while 33 percent of them are paid employees. (Figure 3).

Figure 3 : Percentage Distribution of informal sector employment by Employment status



** Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces*

Underemployment ⁽¹⁾

Table 9 : Underemployment rate by sex - Third Quarter 2008

Rate	Sex		Economic sector		Total
	Male	Female	Agriculture	Non-agriculture	
Underemployment rate	3.2	4.7	5.4	2.8	3.7

** Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces*

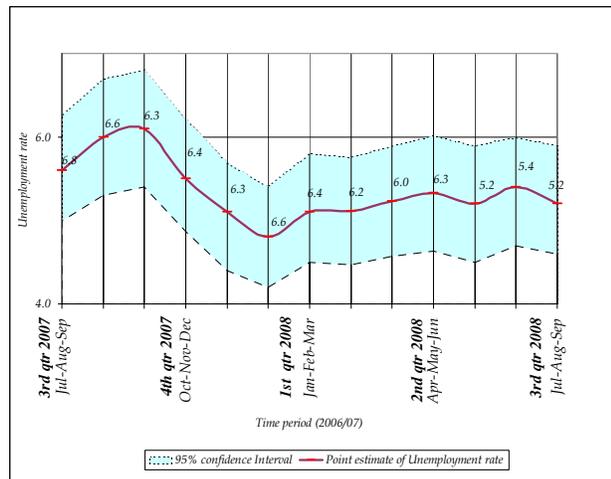
Table 9 reveals that, underemployment rate is higher for females than males. And also it is higher in the agriculture sector than as that of in non-agriculture sector.

Unemployment

Unemployment Rate : The number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force

Unemployed : Persons who are seeking and available for work, but had no employment during the reference period

Figure 4 : Unemployment rates and it's 95% confidence intervals (2007 Jul -Sep/2008 Jul -Sep)



* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

The number of unemployed persons is estimated as about 396,000 during the third quarter 2008.

The unemployment rate for the third quarter 2008 is reported as 5.2 percent.

As seen in figure 4, it is very important to note that, there is no statistically significant difference between the unemployment rates reported in different time periods of 2007/2008, when *sampling error*⁽²⁾ is considered.

Table 10 : Unemployment rate by level of education Third Quarter 2008

Level of Education	Unemployment rate		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	5.2	3.8	7.8
Below G.C.E. (O/L)	3.4	2.9	4.4
G.C.E. (O/L)	7.9	5.9	11.5
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	10.4	6.1	15.2

* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

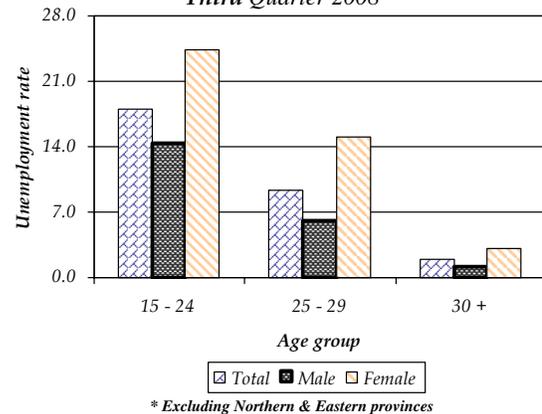


Table 11: Unemployment rate by age group and sex - Third Quarter 2008

Age group	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Total	5.2	3.8	7.8
15 - 24	18.0	14.4	24.4
25 - 29	9.3	6.1	15.1
30 +	1.9	1.2	3.1

* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Figure 5 : Unemployment rate by age group and sex - Third Quarter 2008



* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

As can be seen from table 11, the unemployment rate reported for females is 7.8 percent and 3.8 percent for males. Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 yrs) reported for third quarter 2008 is 18.0. Highest unemployment rate is reported from age group (15 - 24 yrs), for both males (14.4) females (24.4). It is clear for all age groups, the unemployment is severe among females than that of males..

Survey results reveal that, the highest unemployment rate is reported from the G.C.E(A/L) and above group which is about 10.4 percent. That is 6.1 percent and 15.2 percent for males and females respectively. This shows that the problem of unemployment is more acute in the case of educated females than educated males (Table 10).

Table 12: Literacy rate by sex & sector

Sex & sector	3 rd quarter 2007	3 rd quarter 2008
Total	91.6	90.5
Male	92.6	92.2
Female	90.6	89.1
Urban	93.2	91.7
Rural	92.2	91.4
Estate	77.1	73.2

* Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Literacy ⁽³⁾

Table 12 shows that, during the third quarter of 2008, the literacy rate is about 90.5. The survey reports that male literacy rate (92.2) is higher than that of females' (89.1). Further, the survey results reveal that literacy level of estate sector (73.2) is relatively lower than the urban (91.7) and rural (91.4) sectors.

⁽²⁾ *Sampling error :*

When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, estimates differ from the true population values they represent. This difference, or sampling error, occurs by chance, and its variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. **For more details, please refer the explanatory note on the labour force link in the DCS website.**

⁽³⁾ Please see the explanatory note under 'labour force' link in the DCS web site www.statistics.gov.lk for detailed concepts & definitions.

**TABLE 1 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION,
10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
1990	11573941	6001148	51.9	5047354	84.1	953794	15.9	5572793
1991	11795793	5877198	49.8	5015517	85.3	861680	14.7	5918596
1992	12058463	5808062	48.2	4962105	85.4	845957	14.6	6250400
1993	12278055	6032383	49.1	5201474	86.2	830910	13.8	6245675
1994	12492850	6078863	48.7	5281272	86.9	797591	13.1	6413985
1995	12736185	6106138	47.9	5357117	87.7	749021	12.3	6630048
1996	12831240	6241889	48.6	5537285	88.7	704604	11.3	6589365
1997	12870791	6266160	48.7	5607881	89.5	658279	10.5	6604630
1998	12881790	6660520	51.7	6049238	90.8	611285	9.2	6221274
1999	13169250	6673487	50.7	6082641	91.2	590846	8.9	6495782
2000	13564660	6827312	50.3	6310145	92.4	517168	7.6	6737345
2001	13870479	6772834	48.8	6235588	92.1	537246	7.9	7097644
2002	14201396	7145382	50.3	6519415	91.2	625967	8.8	7056014
*2003	15651479	7653716	48.9	7012755	91.6	640961	8.4	7997763
** 2004	16593431	8061354	48.6	7394029	91.7	667324	8.3	8532077
*** 2005	16870976	8141347	48.3	7518007	92.3	623341	7.7	8729628
# 2006	14833801	7598762	51.2	7105322	93.5	493440	6.5	7235040
# 2007	15047882	7488896	49.8	7041874	94.0	447021	6.0	7558986
# 2008 Q1	15112014	7530722	49.8	7148318	94.9	382403	5.1	7581292
# 2008 Q2	15140987	7506155	49.6	7106439	94.7	399716	5.3	7634832
* 2008 Q2	16331615	8000628	49.0	7563981	94.5	436647	5.5	8330987
# 2008 Q3	14852330	7587847	51.1	7192034	94.8	395813	5.2	7264483
* 2008 Q3	16272499	8184379	50.3	7735132	94.5	449248	5.5	8088119

**Note: The normal Labour Force Survey programme was not implemented in 2005 due to the Tsunami - 2004.
However a special labour force survey was conducted in August 2005 and the estimates based on this
special survey are given under year 2005.**

(Up to 2002 fourth quarter, both Northern & Eastern provinces are excluded from the estimates.)

* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

*** - All the districts are included

- Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

**TABLE 1A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION,
10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - MALE**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1993	6109486	3989443	65.3	3601779	90.3	387663	9.7	2120044
*1994	6228064	4072937	65.4	3678648	90.3	394289	9.7	2155127
*1995	6318003	4068608	64.4	3700951	91.0	367656	9.0	2249395
*1996	6373670	4200886	65.9	3857147	91.8	343741	8.2	2172784
*1997	6372365	4184248	65.6	3862087	92.3	322168	7.7	2188110
*1998	6344453	4281996	67.5	4004504	93.5	277491	6.5	2062456
*1999	6506662	4402713	67.7	4107497	93.3	295217	6.7	2103953
*2000	6702871	4501597	67.2	4241477	94.2	260120	5.8	2201274
*2001	6837264	4529016	66.2	4248877	93.8	280139	6.2	2308248
*2002	6935012	4705586	67.9	4395164	93.4	310421	6.6	2229427
**2003	7657368	5144206	67.2	4833483	94.0	310723	6.0	2513162
***2004	8049643	5372897	66.7	5049426	94.0	323471	6.0	2676746
****2005	8103016	5436362	67.1	5134765	94.5	301597	5.5	2666654
* 2006	7098813	4837308	68.1	4610643	95.3	226664	4.7	2261505
* 2007	7174676	4862788	67.8	4653067	95.7	209721	4.3	2311888
* 2008 Q1	7154286	4811750	67.3	4653378	96.7	158372	3.3	2342536
** 2008 Q1	7728048	5172463	66.9	5004644	96.8	167820	3.2	2555585
* 2008 Q2	7186821	4870550	67.8	4693465	96.4	177086	3.6	2316271
** 2008 Q2	7764706	5250669	67.6	5051817	96.2	198852	3.8	2514037
* 2008 Q3	7019008	4853178	69.1	4669346	96.2	183831	3.8	2165830
** 2008 Q3	7680510	5302790	69.0	5094909	96.1	207881	3.9	2377720

**TABLE 1B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION,
10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - FEMALE**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1993	6168572	2042941	33.1	1599695	78.3	443247	21.7	4125631
*1994	6264782	2005927	32.0	1602625	79.9	403302	20.1	4258857
*1995	6418183	2037530	31.7	1656166	81.3	381364	18.7	4380652
*1996	6457583	2041002	31.6	1680138	82.3	360864	17.7	4416583
*1997	6498427	2081906	32.0	1745794	83.9	336112	16.1	4416521
*1998	6537344	2378526	36.4	2044732	86.0	333795	14.0	4158818
*1999	6662613	2270782	34.1	1975153	87.0	295629	13.0	4392047
*2000	6861794	2325716	33.9	2068667	89.0	257048	11.0	4536078
*2001	7033214	2243818	31.9	1986711	88.5	257107	11.5	4789396
*2002	7266384	2439796	33.6	2124250	87.1	315546	12.9	4826588
**2003	7994111	2509510	31.4	2179272	86.8	330238	13.2	5484600
***2004	8543788	2688457	31.5	2344604	87.2	343853	12.8	5855331
**** 2005	8767960	2704985	30.9	2383241	88.1	321744	11.9	6062975
* 2006	7734989	2761454	35.7	2494679	90.3	266775	9.7	4973535
* 2007	7873206	2626108	33.4	2388807	91.0	237300	9.0	5247098
* 2008 Q1	7957728	2718972	34.2	2494940	91.8	224031	8.2	5238756
** 2008 Q1	8546439	2818727	33.0	2576519	91.4	242208	8.6	5727712
* 2008 Q2	7954166	2635605	33.1	2412974	91.6	222630	8.4	5318561
** 2008 Q2	8566909	2749960	32.1	2512164	91.4	237796	8.6	5816949
* 2008 Q3	7833322	2734669	34.9	2522687	92.2	211982	7.8	5098653
** 2008 Q3	8591989	2881589	33.5	2640222	91.6	241367	8.4	5710400

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

TABLE 2 - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - BOTH SEXES
(2008 3rd quarter)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	16272499	8184379	50.3	7735132	94.5	449248	5.5	8088119
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	1632253	344136	21.1	272464	79.2	71672	20.8	1288117
20 - 24 YRS	1434842	888212	61.9	726232	81.76	161980	18.2	546631
25 - 29 YRS	1547229	1002572	64.8	900543	89.8	102030	10.2	544657
30 - 39 YRS	2787679	1938660	69.5	1870430	96.5	68230	3.5	849019
40 + YRS	7211805	3991324	55.3	3945988	98.9	45335	1.1	3220482

* Reliable estimates cannot be provided.

Note : Including Eastern provice

TABLE 2A - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - MALE

(2008 3rd quarter)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	7680510	5302790	69.0	5094909	96.1	207881	3.9	2377720
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	837637	241460	28.8	197731	81.9	43728	18.1	596178
20 - 24 YRS	674890	554241	82.1	477603	86.2	76638	13.8	120649
25 - 29 YRS	689013	648776	94.2	606332	93.5	42443	6.5	40237
30 - 39 YRS	1274058	1233858	96.8	1212483	98.3	21375	1.7	40200
40 + YRS	3390006	2613222	77.1	2589526	99.1	23696	0.9	776784

TABLE 2B - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - FEMALE

(2008 3rd quarter)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	8591989	2881589	33.5	2640222	91.6	241367	8.4	5710400
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	794616	102677	12.9	74733	72.8	27944	27.2	691939
20 - 24 YRS	759953	333971	43.9	248629	74.4	85342	25.6	425982
25 - 29 YRS	858216	353797	41.2	294210	83.2	59586	16.8	504420
30 - 39 YRS	1513621	704802	46.6	657947	93.4	46855	6.6	808819
40 + YRS	3821800	1378102	36.1	1356462	98.4	21640	1.6	2443698

* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell sizes.

Note : Including Eastern province

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

**TABLE 3 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.1	5.7	11.9	13.7	27.0	40.7
*1991	100.0	0.7	5.4	12.7	13.7	26.8	40.7
*1992	100.0	0.5	5.1	13.4	14.1	27.0	39.9
*1993	100.0	0.4	5.2	12.7	14.2	26.7	40.7
*1994	100.0	0.4	4.9	12.3	13.9	28.2	40.3
*1995	100.0	0.3	4.9	11.6	14.1	26.5	42.7
*1996	100.0	0.4	5.3	12.1	13.7	28.1	40.4
*1997	100.0	0.3	5.1	11.9	13.3	27.2	42.1
*1998	100.0	0.8	5.9	12.1	12.5	26.7	42.1
*1999	100.0	0.9	5.8	11.8	12.2	26.1	43.3
*2000	100.0	0.5	5.2	12.2	12.3	26.0	43.8
*2001	100.0	0.4	4.3	12.1	12.0	25.4	45.8
*2002	100.0	0.3	4.4	12.2	12.1	26.2	44.8
**2003	100.0	0.3	4.2	11.6	12.2	26.3	45.4
*** 2004	100.0	0.4	4.1	11.8	12.2	25.5	46.0
**** 2005	100.0	0.1	3.6	11.3	12.9	25.6	46.5
*2006	100.0	0.3	4.0	10.2	12.0	24.2	49.2
*2007	100.0	0.2	3.6	9.8	12.0	23.9	50.5
* 2008 Q1	100.0	0.2	2.8	9.8	11.6	24.5	51.2
** 2008 Q1	100.0	0.2	2.9	9.9	11.7	24.6	50.7
* 2008 Q2	100.0	0.2	3.4	10.3	11.6	24.2	50.4
** 2008 Q2	100.0	0.3	3.6	10.4	11.5	24.2	50.1
* 2008 Q3	100.0	0.2	3.5	9.5	11.6	23.8	51.4
** 2008 Q3	100.0	0.3	3.5	9.4	11.6	24.2	51.0

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

**TABLE 3A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.0	5.7	11.7	13.3	26.3	42.1
*1991	100.0	0.6	5.2	12.6	13.2	25.7	42.8
*1992	100.0	0.4	4.7	13.2	13.9	26.2	41.6
*1993	100.0	0.4	4.8	11.5	14.8	26.2	42.2
*1994	100.0	0.4	4.7	11.9	13.5	27.2	42.2
*1995	100.0	0.3	4.8	11.0	14.0	26.0	43.8
*1996	100.0	0.4	5.0	11.7	13.4	27.8	41.7
*1997	100.0	0.3	4.8	11.1	13.0	27.1	43.6
*1998	100.0	0.7	5.6	11.9	12.3	26.2	43.3
*1999	100.0	0.7	5.8	11.8	11.8	25.7	44.1
*2000	100.0	0.4	5.2	12.0	12.3	25.4	44.7
*2001	100.0	0.3	4.1	12.0	12.1	25.0	46.4
*2002	100.0	0.3	4.2	11.8	11.8	26.2	45.8
**2003	100.0	0.3	3.9	11.4	12.7	25.7	46.1
***2004	100.0	0.3	3.9	11.5	12.6	25.0	46.6
****2005	100.0	0.2	4.1	11.1	13.3	25.2	46.1
* 2006	100.0	0.3	4.0	10.2	12.2	23.9	49.4
* 2007	100.0	0.2	3.7	9.6	12.7	23.7	50.1
* 2008 Q1	100.0	0.2	2.8	9.4	11.8	24.8	50.9
** 2008 Q1	100.0	0.2	3.0	9.6	12.0	24.8	50.4
* 2008 Q2	100.0	0.4	3.4	10.1	12.1	24.2	50.0
** 2008 Q2	100.0	0.4	3.6	10.3	11.9	24.2	49.7
* 2008 Q3	100.0	0.2	3.9	9.5	11.9	23.3	51.2
** 2008 Q3	100.0	0.2	3.9	9.4	11.9	23.8	50.8

**TABLE 3B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.2	5.6	12.4	14.5	28.4	38.0
*1991	100.0	0.9	6.0	13.0	14.6	29.1	36.4
*1992	100.0	0.8	5.9	13.9	14.4	29.2	35.8
*1993	100.0	0.4	5.9	15.4	12.9	27.7	37.7
*1994	100.0	0.5	5.3	13.2	14.8	30.4	35.9
*1995	100.0	0.4	5.0	12.9	14.3	27.3	40.1
*1996	100.0	0.5	6.0	13.1	14.2	28.8	37.4
*1997	100.0	0.3	5.7	13.7	14.0	27.6	38.7
*1998	100.0	1.0	6.4	12.4	12.8	27.6	39.7
*1999	100.0	1.1	5.9	11.7	12.9	27.1	41.4
*2000	100.0	0.7	5.3	12.6	12.1	27.4	41.9
*2001	100.0	0.5	4.7	12.4	11.8	26.2	44.5
*2002	100.0	0.5	4.7	13.1	12.6	26.2	42.9
**2003	100.0	0.4	4.7	12.2	11.2	27.6	43.9
***2004	100.0	0.5	4.6	12.3	11.3	26.6	44.7
****2005	100.0	0.1	2.5	11.9	12.0	26.4	47.2
* 2006	100.0	0.3	4.1	10.3	11.7	24.8	48.8
* 2007	100.0	0.3	3.4	10.1	10.7	24.2	51.3
* 2008 Q1	100.0	0.2	2.7	10.4	11.1	23.7	51.8
** 2008 Q1	100.0	0.2	2.7	10.7	11.2	24.0	51.3
* 2008 Q2	100.0		3.5	10.6	10.7	24.2	51.1
** 2008 Q2	100.0		3.5	10.5	10.7	24.2	51.0
* 2008 Q3	100.0	0.3	2.8	9.6	11.0	24.7	51.6
** 2008 Q3	100.0	0.3	2.8	9.4	11.1	24.9	51.4

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

**TABLE 4 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L.)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L.)/ HNCE and above
*1990	100.0	31.9	45.1	16.0	7.0
*1991	100.0	31.6	44.8	15.6	7.9
*1992	100.0	29.9	44.9	16.5	8.7
*1993	100.0	28.5	45.1	16.9	9.5
*1994	100.0	28.2	45.4	17.5	8.8
*1995	100.0	26.8	44.9	18.0	10.3
*1996	100.0	29.5	43.3	16.9	10.3
*1997	100.0	27.9	44.0	17.6	10.5
*1998	100.0	26.8	45.0	17.2	11.0
*1999	100.0	25.4	45.7	18.0	10.9
*2000	100.0	25.1	46.3	16.7	11.9
*2001	100.0	22.7	46.1	17.7	13.5
*2002	100.0	24.6	45.6	15.8	14.0
**2003	100.0	24.5	46.2	15.9	13.3
***2004	100.0	24.3	44.7	16.8	14.2
**** 2005	100.0	20.6	45.8	18.2	15.4
* 2006	100.0	22.2	46.9	16.7	14.2
* 2007	100.0	21.1	47.8	15.6	15.5
*2008 Q1	100.0	19.4	47.8	16.4	16.4
**2008 Q1	100.0	19.7	47.3	16.7	16.3
*2008 Q2	100.0	19.0	47.8	16.1	17.1
**2008 Q2	100.0	19.7	47.3	15.9	17.0
*2008 Q2	100.0	22.0	47.8	14.9	15.3
**2008 Q2	100.0	22.3	47.5	14.8	15.4

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

**TABLE 4A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE and above
*1990	100.0	29.6	48.3	16.1	5.9
*1991	100.0	28.0	49.0	15.5	7.5
*1992	100.0	27.4	48.2	17.0	7.4
*1993	100.0	25.4	49.8	17.2	7.7
*1994	100.0	25.5	49.6	17.7	7.2
*1995	100.0	25.1	48.2	18.3	8.4
*1996	100.0	27.7	47.1	16.8	8.4
*1997	100.0	26.5	47.2	17.5	8.7
*1998	100.0	25.3	48.5	17.0	9.2
*1999	100.0	24.0	49.4	17.7	9.0
*2000	100.0	24.1	49.6	16.6	9.8
*2001	100.0	21.5	49.3	17.8	11.4
*2002	100.0	23.5	49.1	16.0	11.4
**2003	100.0	23.8	49.2	16.2	10.8
***2004	100.0	22.6	48.3	17.3	11.8
**** 2005	100.0	19.9	49.6	18.0	12.5
* 2006	100.0	21.0	50.4	16.6	12.1
* 2007	100.0	20.1	51.3	15.6	13.0
* 2008 Q1	100.0	18.7	50.7	16.7	13.9
** 2008 Q1	100.0	19.2	50.2	16.9	13.6
* 2008 Q2	100.0	18.4	51.5	16.4	13.6
** 2008 Q2	100.0	19.2	50.9	16.3	13.6
* 2008 Q3	100.0	20.5	51.3	15.1	13.1
** 2008 Q3	100.0	21.1	50.8	15.0	13.1

**TABLE 4B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Below Grade 5	Grades 5 - 9/ Years 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE and above
*1990	100.0	37.0	38.1	15.6	9.3
*1991	100.0	39.6	35.8	15.9	8.8
*1992	100.0	35.7	37.0	15.5	11.9
*1993	100.0	35.6	34.7	16.3	13.5
*1994	100.0	34.5	35.8	17.2	12.6
*1995	100.0	30.8	37.3	17.5	14.3
*1996	100.0	33.7	34.4	17.1	14.7
*1997	100.0	31.0	37.0	17.6	14.4
*1998	100.0	29.9	38.2	17.7	14.3
*1999	100.0	28.3	38.0	18.7	15.0
*2000	100.0	27.3	39.6	17.1	16.1
*2001	100.0	25.5	39.2	17.3	18.0
*2002	100.0	27.0	38.3	15.3	19.4
**2003	100.0	26.1	39.6	15.5	18.9
***2004	100.0	27.9	36.9	15.8	19.4
**** 2005	100.0	22.1	37.6	18.6	21.7
* 2006	100.0	24.3	40.4	17.0	18.2
* 2007	100.0	23.0	41.1	15.5	20.4
* 2008 Q1	100.0	20.7	42.4	15.9	21.0
** 2008 Q1	100.0	20.6	41.7	16.1	21.6
* 2008 Q2	100.0	20.1	40.6	15.4	23.9
** 2008 Q2	100.0	20.8	40.1	15.3	23.8
* 2008 Q3	100.0	24.7	41.4	14.5	19.5
** 2008 Q3	100.0	24.7	41.3	14.4	19.6

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

**TABLE 5 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL EMPLOYED	EMPLOYEE			EMPLOYER	OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
		TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE			
*1990	100.0	55.2	21.5	33.7	1.8	29.2	13.8
*1991	100.0	62.4	22.9	39.5	2.2	25.4	10.0
*1992	100.0	60.1	20.0	40.0	1.6	27.1	11.2
*1993	100.0	60.0	17.4	42.8	2.0	27.4	10.4
*1994	100.0	60.7	16.4	44.3	2.3	27.2	9.8
*1995	100.0	59.8	15.6	44.3	2.5	28.3	9.4
*1996	100.0	60.8	15.0	45.8	2.3	26.8	10.0
*1997	100.0	59.4	15.1	44.3	2.3	28.8	9.4
*1998	100.0	55.6	14.5	41.2	1.9	28.9	13.6
*1999	100.0	57.5	14.4	43.1	2.0	28.3	12.2
*2000	100.0	56.3	13.4	42.9	2.3	28.4	13.0
*2001	100.0	58.6	13.9	44.7	2.3	28.5	10.6
*2002	100.0	57.9	13.4	44.5	2.8	28.6	10.7
**2003	100.0	57.9	13.5	44.4	2.6	29.6	9.9
***2004	100.0	59.4	13.0	46.4	2.9	28.3	9.4
**** 2005	100.0	59.3	13.3	46.1	3.1	29.7	7.9
* 2006	100.0	55.6	13.4	42.1	3.1	30.8	10.5
*2007	100.0	56.5	13.8	42.7	2.8	30.4	10.3
* 2008 Q1	100.0	55.3	14.9	40.4	3.1	31.7	9.9
** 2008 Q1	100.0	56.1	15.4	40.7	3.1	31.3	9.5
* 2008 Q2	100.0	56.3	15.3	41.0	3.1	30.2	10.4
** 2008 Q2	100.0	56.5	15.5	41.0	3.0	30.4	10.1
* 2008 Q3	100.0	55.8	14.7	41.1	2.7	30.1	11.4
** 2008 Q3	100.0	56.3	15.2	41.1	2.6	30.0	11.2

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

**TABLE 5A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	EMPLOYEE						OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE	EMPLOYER			
*1990	100.0	55.2	19.7	35.5	2.3	34.6	7.9	
*1991	100.0	61.5	20.3	41.2	2.9	29.8	5.9	
*1992	100.0	58.7	18.4	40.3	2.0	32.2	7.2	
*1993	100.0	57.7	15.6	42.0	2.6	33.0	6.7	
*1994	100.0	59.3	15.9	43.4	2.9	32.0	5.9	
*1995	100.0	58.4	14.6	43.7	3.1	33.5	5.1	
*1996	100.0	59.5	14.1	45.4	3.2	31.2	6.1	
*1997	100.0	58.3	14.4	43.9	3.0	33.2	5.5	
*1998	100.0	55.8	14.1	41.7	2.5	34.8	6.8	
*1999	100.0	57.7	13.8	43.9	2.7	33.5	6.2	
*2000	100.0	56.6	12.6	44.0	3.1	33.8	6.5	
*2001	100.0	57.9	12.9	45.0	3.1	33.4	5.5	
*2002	100.0	57.5	12.6	44.8	3.7	34.0	4.8	
**2003	100.0	57.4	12.6	44.9	3.4	34.5	4.8	
***2004	100.0	58.9	11.9	47.0	3.9	32.7	4.5	
**** 2005	100.0	59.9	11.7	48.1	4.1	32.9	3.2	
* 2006	100.0	56.0	12.3	43.8	4.4	35.2	4.4	
* 2007	100.0	57.2	12.1	45.1	3.9	34.5	4.4	
* 2008 Q1	100.0	56.3	13.4	43.0	4.3	35.6	3.7	
** 2008 Q1	100.0	57.3	13.8	43.4	4.2	34.9	3.6	
* 2008 Q2	100.0	56.1	13.1	43.0	4.3	34.8	4.8	
** 2008 Q2	100.0	56.6	13.4	43.3	4.2	34.6	4.5	
* 2008 Q3	100.0	56.5	13.5	43.0	3.7	34.8	5.1	
** 2008 Q3	100.0	57.4	14.1	43.3	3.6	34.2	4.9	

**TABLE 5B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	EMPLOYEE						OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE	EMPLOYER			
*1990	100.0	55.1	25.3	29.8	0.6	17.9	26.5	
*1991	100.0	64.5	28.6	35.9	0.7	16.0	18.9	
*1992	100.0	63.4	24.1	39.4	0.7	14.8	21.0	
*1993	100.0	65.6	21.0	44.6	0.7	15.0	18.7	
*1994	100.0	64.2	17.7	46.5	0.9	16.1	18.8	
*1995	100.0	63.2	17.6	45.5	1.1	16.7	19.1	
*1996	100.0	63.9	17.0	46.8	0.5	16.7	18.9	
*1997	100.0	61.8	16.7	45.2	0.9	19.0	18.3	
*1998	100.0	55.2	15.2	40.1	0.6	17.2	27.0	
*1999	100.0	57.2	15.6	41.5	0.6	17.5	24.8	
*2000	100.0	55.5	15.0	40.5	0.8	17.2	26.5	
*2001	100.0	60.1	15.9	44.1	0.5	18.1	21.3	
*2002	100.0	58.8	15.1	43.7	0.8	17.4	23.0	
**2003	100.0	59.0	15.7	43.3	0.9	18.8	21.3	
***2004	100.0	60.6	15.5	45.1	0.9	18.7	19.8	
**** 2005	100.0	58.3	16.6	41.6	0.9	22.7	18.2	
* 2006	100.0	54.8	15.6	39.2	0.8	22.7	21.7	
* 2007	100.0	55.1	17.1	38.0	0.7	22.5	21.7	
* 2008 Q1	100.0	53.5	17.9	35.6	0.8	24.3	21.4	
** 2008 Q1	100.0	53.9	18.6	35.3	0.8	24.2	21.1	
* 2008 Q2	100.0	56.7	19.5	37.2	0.7	21.2	21.4	
** 2008 Q2	100.0	56.2	19.6	36.5	0.6	22.0	21.2	
* 2008 Q3	100.0	54.7	17.1	37.6	0.7	21.3	23.3	
** 2008 Q3	100.0	54.2	17.4	36.8	0.7	21.8	23.3	

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Table 6 - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision)

Year	Industry group														
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
*2002	6519415	2247602	1072720	386475	838796	117556	309553	168973	524724	227785	82260	110390	93252	317121	22208
**2003	7012755	2384397	1156682	454810	867131	121627	363393	191390	541070	262440	98107	110827	75858	333477	51548
***2004	7394029	2474725	1307357	474090	910770	120552	417340	175633	535064	273628	103966	122395	68813	323277	86419
****2005	7518007	2306039	1385374	542639	904008	138924	484999	233736	512819	297437	129237	133537	53314	324440	71504
* 2006	7105322	2287268	1363092	526861	954981	129351	430331	221146	400504	276783	109660	123900	80247	179941	21255
* 2007	7041874	2202098	1331368	542489	932094	118516	456804	215217	433013	259489	115943	104601	87381	219692	23168
*2007 Q3	7102425	2129201	1332642	587391	924242	131550	470735	212378	469799	278965	121828	94259	101925	217543	29966
* 2008 Q1	7148318	2272031	1333614	556673	971416	94090	434491	236150	447941	309461	107791	116178	84320	168158	16006
** 2008 Q1	7581163	2410307	1380262	609393	1022321	99912	448687	241606	495690	339813	122626	132780	85506	176255	16006
* 2008 Q2	7106439	2140712	1370523	565133	950696	126347	411182	239763	469237	304486	109760	140874	85156	169792	22778
** 2008 Q2	7563981	2264792	1436663	632123	1019356	133299	429728	246851	506103	338723	115224	148499	85156	183692	23773
* 2008 Q3	7192034	2494966	1369603	508581	882118	91500	397869	245521	464741	262336	113462	125077	88311	138075	9874
** 2008 Q3	7735131.6	2665917	1441044	559493	943285	95262	429608	252808	539115	285497	127138	129418	90576	166099	9874

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Industry group

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B) | 8 Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L) |
| 2 Manufacturing (D) | 9 Education (M) |
| 3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,
Electricity,Gas and Water supply (C,E,F) | 10 Health and Social work (N) |
| 4 Wholesale and Retail Trade,Repair of Motor Vehicles,
Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11 Other Community,Social and Personal Service Activities
Extra Teritorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5 Hotels and Restaurants (H) | 12 Private Households with Employed Persons (P) |
| 6 Transport, Storage and Communication (I) | 13 Miscellaneous Labour work |
| 7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,
Renting and Business Activities (J,K) | 14 Industries not adequately described |

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV),some of these groups have been combined.

- * - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces
- ** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province
- *** - Excluding Mulathivu,Kilinochchi districts.
- **** - All the districts are included

Table 6A - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision) - Male

	Total	Industry group							
		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	Other
*2002	4395164	1397423	569761	373516	656505	115203	387301	70813	824642
**2003	4833483	1529117	624791	436404	681185	138146	405572	98074	920194
***2004	5049426	1559301	710910	456049	721800	122372	392949	102645	983400
****2005	5134765	1482610	749993	519197	702048	171330	376877	83551	1049159
* 2006	4610643	1342214	683873	507192	717258	156022	294597	86521	822966
* 2007	4653067	1321995	703080	523470	688653	151782	308080	79092	876915
* 2008 Q1	4653378	1309526	696741	528719	721993	163720	336242	100003	796433
** 2008 Q1	5004643.7	1437756	726914	580275	763557	168199	371532	111055	845357
* 2008 Q2	4693465	1322889	748520	534099	700939	155999	337791	83588	809639
** 2008 Q2	5051817	1427767	789274	597266	752035	163086	369860	99814	852714
* 2008 Q3	4669346	1468888	745169	493056	656043	175730	347636	81740	701084
** 2008 Q3	5094909	1608106	783235	542619	706274	181814	409599	89423	773840

Industry group

1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)

2 Manufacturing (D)

3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)

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

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

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

9 Education (M)

Other

Hotels and Restaurants (H)

Transport, Storage and Communication (I)

Health and Social work (N)

Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities

Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q)

Private Households with Employed Persons (P)

Miscellaneous Labour work

Industries not adequately described

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV), some of these groups have been combined.

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

Table 6B - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision) - Female

	Total	Industry group							
		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	Other
*2002	2124250	850179	502959	12959	182291	53770	137423	156972	227697
**2003	2179272	855280	531891	18407	185946	53243	135498	164365	234642
***2004	2344604	915424	596447	18041	188970	53261	142116	170983	259362
****2005	2383241	823429	635382	23442	201959	62405	135942	213886	286796
* 2006	2494679	945054	679218	19669	237723	65125	105908	190262	251720
* 2007	2388807	880103	628288	19019	243441	63435	124933	180397	249190
*2008 Q1	2494940	962505	636873	27954	249422	72429	111699	209458	224600
**2008 Q1	2576519	972551	653348	29119	258764	73407	124158	228758	236415
* 2008 Q2	2412974	817823	622003	31033	249757	83765	131446	220898	256250
** 2008 Q2	2512164	837025	647389	34857	267321	83765	136243	238909	266656
* 2008 Q3	2522687	1026078	624434	15525	226074	69791	117105	180596	263085
** 2008 Q3	2640222	1057811	657810	16873	237010	70994	129516	196074	274135

Industry group

1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)

2 Manufacturing (D)

3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)

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

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

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

9 Education (M)

Other

Hotels and Restaurants (H)

Transport, Storage and Communication (I)

Health and Social work (N)

Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities

Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q)

Private Households with Employed Persons (P)

Miscellaneous Labour work

Industries not adequately described

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV), some of these groups have been combined.

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Table 6C: Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group - Both sexes

Major Industry group	Year																					
	*1992	*1993	*1994	*1995	*1996	*1997	*1998	*1999	*2000	*2001	*2002	**2003	***2004	****2005	* 2006	* 2007	* 2008 Q1	** 2008 Q1	* 2008 Q2	** 2008 Q2	* 2008 Q3	** 2008 Q3
Total	4924130	5201904	5281279	5357120	5536216	5607868	6049388	6082449	6310247	6235588	6519415	7012755	7394029	7518007	7105322	7041874	7148318	7581163	7106439	7563981	7192034	7735132
Agriculture	2078560	2159187	2084733	1966793	2071764	2031902	2378572	2208066	2274153	2033343	2247602	2384397	2474725	2306039	2287268	2202098	2272031	2410307	2140712	2264792	2494966	2665917
Industry	991492	1024524	1046282	1188271	1217977	1354952	1325735	1330134	1490795	1491408	1459194	1611493	1781447	1928014	1889953	1873857	1890286	1989655	1935656	2068786	1878184	2000537
Services	1854078	2018193	2150265	2202056	2246475	2221014	2345081	2544249	2545299	2710837	2812619	3016866	3137857	3283954	2928101	2965919	2986000	3181201	3030071	3230403	2818883	3068678

Table 6D: Historical table of employed population by major industry group (percentage) - Both sexes

Major Industry group	Year																					
	*1992	*1993	*1994	*1995	*1996	*1997	*1998	*1999	*2000	*2001	*2002	**2003	***2004	****2005	* 2006	* 2007	* 2008 Q1	** 2008 Q1	* 2008 Q2	** 2008 Q2	* 2008 Q3	** 2008 Q3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	42.2	41.5	39.5	36.7	37.4	36.2	39.3	36.3	36.0	32.6	34.5	34.0	33.5	30.7	32.2	31.3	31.8	31.8	30.1	29.9	34.7	34.5
Industry	20.1	19.7	19.8	22.2	22.0	24.2	21.9	21.9	23.6	23.9	22.4	23.0	24.1	25.6	26.6	26.6	26.4	26.2	27.2	27.4	26.1	25.9
Services	37.7	38.8	40.7	41.1	40.6	39.6	38.8	41.8	40.3	43.5	43.1	43.0	42.4	43.7	41.2	42.1	41.8	42.0	42.6	42.7	39.2	39.7

Agriculture

1. Agriculture (A)
2. Forestry and Fishery (B)

Industries

1. Manufacturing (D)
2. Construction
3. Mining & Quarrying
4. Electricity, Gas and Water supply

Services

1. Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods
2. Hotels and Restaurants
3. Transport, Storage and Communication
4. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities
5. Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security
6. Education
7. Health and Social work
8. Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities
9. Private Households with Employed Persons
10. Miscellaneous Labour work
11. Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies
12. Industries not adequately described

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

Table 7 - Currently Employed person by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 88)

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	6519415	85553	352238	316763	283719	406992	510148	1579024	935477	373588	1608511	67402
**2003	7012755	88043	367654	341634	303828	328796	628729	1634289	1084436	419540	1735336	80470
***2004	7394029	99839	404410	366488	322697	420343	671461	1513636	1124715	460589	1951081	58770
****2005	7518007	120491	471200	403904	300322	515909	574416	1561884	1216224	531439	1760335	61883
* 2006	7105322	128944	376469	362275	276587	526322	513217	1590110	1214163	501561	1576960	38715
* 2007	7041874	123290	366668	381596	283703	494515	508488	1503669	1201598	563927	1574113	40306
* 2008 Q1	7148318	151623	439056	348344	294057	524467	540306	1548040	1237723	504050	1518186	42464
** 2008 Q1	7581163	159993	474528	375456	302713	539184	594945	1627322	1306537	526473	1629923	44088
* 2008 Q2	7106439	124968	434132	440749	297005	480804	586528	1458314	1201509	539434	1502739	40259
** 2008 Q2	7563981	130632	475761	453289	305482	506181	644063	1550560	1321933	555338	1573280	47462
* 2008 Q3	7192034	119130	376260	367037	302692	450619	551294	1715908	1133935	522270	1608123	44767
** 2008 Q3	7735132	122560	406646	409137	315128	465549	617272	1834749	1215769	567481	1718450	62389

Occupation group

1 Senior Officials and Managers

2 Professionals

3 Technical and Associate Professionals

4 Clerks

5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises

6 Sales 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

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

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

Table 7A - Currently Employed person by Occupation group - Male (Based on ISCO 88)

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	4395164	67276	146656	215548	151511	318172	379695	1024190	596472	335568	1097444	62633
**2003	4833483	71574	161375	236263	167584	260270	464633	1109200	711720	368452	1205366	77047
***2004	4993403	75416	174521	250898	174982	341828	498477	1004912	726641	426469	1319258	
****2005	5134765	87788	187002	266866	159566	406137	418628	1013877	801448	484351	1249168	59935
* 2006	4610643	101399	146344	238819	143606	419443	314226	966263	743733	444703	1055753	36354
* 2007	4653067	91026	147844	258111	138384	379768	318994	925933	779097	504603	1070890	38418
*2008 Q1	4653378	111003	181353	243950	149953	396360	350133	918620	803759	464493	993854	39900
**2008 Q1	5004644	116226	193384	259531	153595	406317	398562	991332	857796	486916	1099461	41524
*2008 Q2	4693465	91843	150522	311246	147087	371670	366463	929796	780578	486729	1018405	39126
**2008 Q2	5051817	96664	169591	321776	152848	392585	407377	1005239	873808	501108	1084491	46329
*2008 Q3	4669346	95158	143442	254903	170363	352987	338016	1023056	678117	474075	1099804	39424
**2008 Q3	5094909	97924	157785	289334	180541	367189	391242	1112067	736785	509078	1196686	56279

Table 7B - Currently Employed person by Occupation group - Female (Based on ISCO 88)

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	2124250	18277	205582	101215	132209	88819	130453	554835	339005	38020	511066	4769
**2003	2179272	16469	206279	105370	136245	68526	164096	525090	372716	51088	529971	3423
***2004	2341857	24423	229889	115590	147715	78515	172984	508724	398074	34120	631823	
****2005	2383241	32702	284198	137038	140756	109772	155788	548007	414776	47088	511167	1949
* 2006	2494679	27544	230126	123456	132981	106879	198990	623847	470430	56858	521207	2360
* 2007	2388807	32265	218824	123485	145319	114747	189494	577736	422502	59324	503223	1888
*2008 Q1	2494940	40621	257704	104395	144105	128107	190173	629419	433965	39557	524332	2564
**2008 Q1	2576519	43767	281144	115925	149117	132868	196383	635991	448741	39557	530463	2564
*2008 Q2	2412974	33125	283609	129503	149918	109134	220065	528517	420930	52705	484334	1133
**2008 Q2	2512164	33968	306171	131513	152634	113595	236686	545320	448124	54230	488790	1133
*2008 Q3	2522687	23972	232818	112134	132329	97632	213277	692852	455817	48194	508319	5342
**2008 Q3	2640222	24636	248861	119804	134588	98360	226031	722682	478984	58403	521765	6110

Occupation group

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Senior Officials and Managers | 7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers |
| 2 Professionals | 8 Craft and Related workers |
| 3 Technical and Associate Professionals | 9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers |
| 4 Clerks | 10 Elementary occupations |
| 5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises | 0 Unidentified |
| 6 Sale and Service workers | |

- * - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces
- ** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province
- *** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.
- **** - All the districts are included



These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

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

TABLE 8 - CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY HOURS PER WEEK ACTUALLY WORKED AT THE MAIN JOB AND MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GROUP (PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES

MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GROUP	TOTAL	0#	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & OVER
Total	100.0	6.7	1.7	4.7	8.7	13.2	35.5	29.5
1	100.0	8.5	*	7.6	13.4	17.7	32.4	17.2
2	100.0	5.6	*	3.5	7.6	10.9	39.6	32.0
3	100.0	9.2	*	*	10.9	9.1	38.4	29.1
4	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	29.4	51.4
5	100.0	*	..	*	*	*	36.1	51.8
6	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	31.1	50.9
7	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	54.5	35.0
8	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	53.1	34.4
9	100.0	22.1	*	*	*	42.6	13.6	*
10	100.0	*	..	*	*	*	42.6	41.6
11	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	30.1	32.4
12	100.0	*	*	*	..	*	*	55.7
13	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	40.0	*
14	*	*	*	*	..

Has a job but not at work during the reference week

.. Negligible

* These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

Industry group

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B) | 8. Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L) |
| 2. Manufacturing (D) | 9. Education (M) |
| 3. Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F) | 10. Health and Social work (N) |
| 4. Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,
Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11. Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities
Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5. Hotels and Restaurants (H) | 12. Private Households with Employed Persons (P) |
| 6. Transport, Storage and Communication (I) | 13. Miscellaneous Labour work |
| 7. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,
Renting and Business Activities (J,K) | 14. Industries not adequately described |

Note i: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV), some of these groups have been combined.

Note ii : Including Eastern province

**TABLE 9 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40 + YRS
*1990	100.0	20.3	40.3	19.3	13.2	7.1
*1991	100.0	19.3	42.2	16.7	15.8	6.0
*1992	100.0	19.2	40.9	20.4	13.4	6.1
*1993	100.0	20.4	38.5	18.9	15.5	6.8
*1994	100.0	22.4	41.2	15.6	15.5	5.5
*1995	100.0	21.1	38.2	20.1	15.1	5.5
*1996	100.0	24.0	39.3	18.1	14.3	4.3
*1997	100.0	22.5	41.5	19.0	12.7	4.3
*1998	100.0	21.9	40.8	17.6	13.6	6.0
*1999	100.0	23.9	40.5	17.2	12.5	5.9
*2000	100.0	19.5	44.4	18.4	11.9	5.8
*2001	100.0	21.2	45.4	17.8	10.4	5.1
*2002	100.0	19.8	47.1	16.6	11.0	5.5
**2003	100.0	19.9	45.8	17.2	11.6	5.6
***2004	100.0	18.1	45.9	17.4	11.7	6.8
**** 2005	100.0	19.5	44.8	16.4	12.2	7.1
* 2006	100.0	17.5	39.3	21.5	11.9	9.8
* 2007	100.0	15.7	41.2	19.7	13.1	10.4
* 2008 Q1	100.0	15.5	41.3	20.6	13.3	9.3
** 2008 Q1	100.0	15.1	41.5	20.6	13.2	9.5
* 2008 Q2	100.0	15.9	38.4	20.0	12.3	13.4
** 2008 Q2	100.0	16.3	37.5	20.9	12.6	12.7
* 2008 Q3	100.0	16.1	36.0	21.6	15.2	11.1
** 2008 Q3	100.0	16.0	36.1	22.7	15.2	10.1

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

**TABLE 9A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	23.8	41.2	16.1	9.6	9.2
*1991	100.0	23.0	42.6	15.1	11.7	7.7
*1992	100.0	21.8	42.7	18.5	10.0	7.1
*1993	100.0	24.0	39.5	16.0	12.7	8.0
*1994	100.0	24.3	40.8	13.3	13.4	8.6
*1995	100.0	22.3	38.2	19.0	12.9	7.6
*1996	100.0	27.2	39.6	16.9	10.9	5.4
*1997	100.0	25.0	41.5	17.2	11.5	4.8
*1998	100.0	27.7	39.6	16.5	9.5	6.7
*1999	100.0	27.6	40.6	14.3	9.3	8.2
*2000	100.0	24.0	46.4	15.2	9.1	5.3
*2001	100.0	25.4	46.3	15.0	7.1	6.2
*2002	100.0	22.2	49.1	13.5	8.3	6.9
**2003	100.0	22.7	47.6	14.8	8.3	6.6
***2004	100.0	20.8	45.4	15.4	10.1	8.3
**** 2005	100.0	21.8	44.3	15.0	12.5	6.3
* 2006	100.0	21.2	40.1	18.4	8.3	11.9
*2007	100.0	19.9	40.7	16.0	10.2	13.1
* 2008 Q1	100.0	15.9	43.8	15.6	11.1	13.5
** 2008 Q1	100.0	16.5	43.0	16.2	10.5	13.8
* 2008 Q2	100.0	23.1	31.8	19.5	6.9	18.6
** 2008 Q2	100.0	22.2	32.5	21.1	6.6	17.7
* 2008 Q3	100.0	22.1	35.2	19.5	10.3	12.9
** 2008 Q3	100.0	21.0	36.9	20.4	10.3	11.4

**TABLE 9B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	17.0	39.4	22.2	16.6	5.0
*1991	100.0	16.3	42.0	18.0	19.2	4.6
*1992	100.0	16.7	39.1	22.2	16.9	5.3
*1993	100.0	12.8	34.1	23.7	21.8	7.7
*1994	100.0	16.7	37.6	21.4	20.6	3.9
*1995	100.0	19.9	38.3	21.2	17.2	3.4
*1996	100.0	21.0	39.0	19.2	17.4	3.2
*1997	100.0	20.1	41.6	20.7	13.8	3.8
*1998	100.0	17.1	41.8	18.6	17.0	5.4
*1999	100.0	20.2	40.5	20.0	15.6	3.7
*2000	100.0	15.1	42.3	21.5	14.8	6.3
*2001	100.0	16.7	44.5	20.9	14.1	3.8
*2002	100.0	17.5	45.1	19.5	13.7	4.2
**2003	100.0	17.2	44.1	19.4	14.7	4.6
***2004	100.0	15.7	46.4	19.3	13.3	5.3
**** 2005	100.0	17.3	45.3	17.6	11.9	7.8
*2006	100.0	14.4	38.7	24.2	14.9	7.9
*2007	100.0	11.9	41.5	23.0	15.6	8.0
*2008 Q1	100.0	15.2	39.4	24.1	14.9	6.4
** 2008 Q1	100.0	14.2	40.5	23.7	15.1	6.5
* 2008 Q2	100.0	10.2	43.7	20.4	16.7	9.2
** 2008 Q2	100.0	11.3	41.7	20.8	17.6	8.6
* 2008 Q3	100.0	11.0	36.7	23.4	19.4	9.5
** 2008 Q3	100.0	11.6	35.4	24.7	19.4	9.0

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

**TABLE 10 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		BELOW GRADE 5	GRADES 5 - 9/ YEARS 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE AND ABOVE
*1990	100.0	8.5	49.7	26.5	15.4
*1991	100.0	9.0	45.7	30.3	15.1
*1992	100.0	9.2	50.5	27.0	13.7
*1993	100.0	8.3	44.9	28.7	18.0
*1994	100.0	8.6	44.9	28.3	18.2
*1995	100.0	5.5	47.1	29.1	18.4
*1996	100.0	7.9	47.1	26.1	19.0
*1997	100.0	5.7	44.7	28.2	21.4
*1998	100.0	5.8	44.2	27.1	22.9
*1999	100.0	4.4	41.9	29.2	24.5
*2000	100.0	3.1	45.6	26.0	25.3
*2001	100.0	3.6	40.7	27.3	28.4
*2002	100.0	4.7	40.7	25.2	29.4
**2003	100.0	4.8	40.2	26.1	28.9
***2004	100.0	5.4	36.6	26.2	31.7
**** 2005	100.0	4.5	37.2	28.6	29.7
* 2006	100.0	4.6	41.9	26.6	26.9
* 2007	100.0	4.4	41.0	22.0	32.6
* 2008 Q1	100.0	3.6	37.6	21.0	37.9
**2008 Q1	100.0	4.5	36.6	21.2	37.7
* 2008 Q2	100.0	6.1	39.8	23.6	30.5
**2008 Q2	100.0	6.5	38.9	23.8	30.8
* 2008 Q3	100.0	4.8	39.6	23.2	32.4
**2008 Q3	100.0	4.4	37.0	23.2	35.3

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

TABLE 10A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION (PERCENTAGE) - MALE

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		BELOW GRADE 5	GRADES 5 - 9/ YEARS 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE AND ABOVE
*1990	100.0	10.6	57.7	23.3	8.4
*1991	100.0	11.2	53.2	25.0	10.5
*1992	100.0	9.9	57.4	25.1	7.9
*1993	100.0	11.4	47.7	28.0	12.9
*1994	100.0	11.4	50.3	27.0	11.3
*1995	100.0	5.3	54.4	29.4	10.9
*1996	100.0	8.7	56.9	23.8	10.6
*1997	100.0	7.0	54.5	25.0	13.5
*1998	100.0	6.7	54.8	24.7	13.9
*1999	100.0	4.8	48.3	29.1	17.8
*2000	100.0	3.9	54.7	26.0	15.4
*2001	100.0	4.4	50.9	25.2	19.5
*2002	100.0	5.6	50.1	24.7	19.6
**2003	100.0	5.5	47.3	27.7	19.5
***2004	100.0	7.0	44.0	27.4	21.6
**** 2005	100.0	5.2	44.9	29.1	20.8
* 2006	100.0	6.2	48.9	26.6	18.3
* 2007	100.0	5.8	49.5	24.5	20.3
* 2008 Q1	100.0	2.5	46.2	21.1	30.2
**2008 Q1	100.0	3.2	45.8	21.0	29.9
* 2008 Q2	100.0	9.7	51.7	23.6	15.0
**2008 Q2	100.0	10.0	49.4	24.5	16.1
* 2008 Q3	100.0	6.1	48.1	24.1	21.7
**2008 Q3	100.0	5.4	44.6	26.2	23.8

TABLE 10B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION (PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		BELOW GRADE 5	GRADES 5 - 9/ YEARS 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE AND ABOVE
*1990	100.0	6.4	42.2	29.5	21.9
*1991	100.0	7.1	39.6	34.5	18.8
*1992	100.0	8.5	43.6	28.9	19.4
*1993	100.0	5.7	42.5	29.4	22.5
*1994	100.0	6.9	39.6	29.6	24.9
*1995	100.0	5.7	40.0	28.8	25.5
*1996	100.0	7.1	37.6	28.3	27.0
*1997	100.0	4.5	35.3	31.3	28.9
*1998	100.0	5.1	35.4	29.1	30.5
*1999	100.0	4.0	35.5	29.3	31.2
*2000	100.0	2.3	36.3	26.1	35.3
*2001	100.0	2.6	29.7	29.7	38.0
*2002	100.0	3.9	31.4	25.6	39.1
**2003	100.0	4.0	33.5	24.6	37.8
***2004	100.0	3.9	29.7	25.0	41.3
**** 2005	100.0	4.0	29.9	28.1	38.0
* 2006	100.0	3.1	35.9	26.7	34.3
* 2007	100.0	3.2	33.5	19.8	43.4
*2008 Q1	100.0	4.3	31.5	20.8	43.3
**2008 Q1	100.0	5.5	30.2	21.4	43.0
* 2008 Q2	100.0	3.2	30.4	23.5	42.8
**2008 Q2	100.0	3.6	30.2	23.2	43.0
* 2008 Q3	100.0	3.8	32.2	22.4	41.6
**2008 Q3	100.0	3.7	30.5	20.6	45.3

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

TABLE 11 - CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY SEX AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

(2008 3rd quarter)

Sex	Total	Duration		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	446634	180590	89158	176886
%	100.0	40.4	20.0	39.6
Male	207881	102987	39510	65383
%	100.00	49.54	19.01	31.45
Female	238754	77603	49648	111503
%	100.0	32.5	20.8	46.7

Note : Including Eastern province

TABLE 12 : STANDARD ERROR AND COEFFICIENT OF VARIATION OF SELECTED VARIABLES

 (2008 3rd quarter)

	Estimated Value	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)	Estimated Value (Ratio)	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)
General labour force characteristics						
Population (10 years & over)	16272499	212778	1.308	-	-	-
Employed Population	7735132	131576	1.701	-	-	-
Unemployed Population	449248	28250	6.288	-	-	-
Employment Rate	-	-	-	94.5	0.333	0.352
Unemployment Rate	-	-	-	5.5	0.333	6.061
Labour Force	8184379	136260	1.665	-	-	-
Not in Labour Force	8088119	138005	1.706	-	-	-
Employed persons by major industry Groups						
1	2665917	117845	4.42	-	-	-
2	1441044	64210	4.46	-	-	-
3	559493	31875	5.70	-	-	-
4	943285	45758	4.85	-	-	-
5	95262	12776	13.41	-	-	-
6	429608	25546	5.95	-	-	-
7	252808	21783	8.62	-	-	-
8	539115	35473	6.58	-	-	-
9	285497	22812	7.99	-	-	-
10	127138	14165	11.14	-	-	-
11	129418	13050	10.08	-	-	-
12	90576	11707	12.92	-	-	-
13	166099	21194	12.76	-	-	-
14	9874	3227	32.68	-	-	-
Unemployed persons by level of education						
Below grade 5	19968	4515	22.6	-	-	-
Grade 5 - 9/Year 6 - 10	166317	16083	9.7	-	-	-
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	104287	13102	12.6	-	-	-
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	158675	16118	10.2	-	-	-

Industry group

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B) | 8. Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L) |
| 2. Manufacturing (D) | 9. Education (M) |
| 3. Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F) | 10. Health and Social work (N) |
| 4. Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,
Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11. Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities
Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5. Hotels and Restaurants (H) | 12. Private Households with Employed Persons (P) |
| 6. Transport, Storage and Communication (I) | 13. Miscellaneous Labour work |
| 7. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,
Renting and Business Activities (J,K) | 14. Industries not adequately described |

Note : Including Eastern province

Explanatory Notes

Coverage

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey was designed to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka. This survey is being conducted quarterly, since the first quarter of 1990.

This quarterly survey of households is conducted through a scientifically selected sample designed to represent the civilian non-institutional population. Respondents are interviewed to obtain information about the employment status etc. of each member of the household 10 years of age and older.

The field work of the survey is done during the third week of the each month, Monday through Sunday. This is known as the "survey week". The inquiry relates to activity or status are referred in the preceding week of the survey week; referred to as the "reference week".

The concepts and definitions underlying labour force data are as follows.

Concepts and definitions

1. **Labour force** : The labour force is composed of the economically active population 10 years of age and over.
2. **The Economically Active Population** : is defined as those persons who are/were employed or unemployed during the reference period of the survey.
3. **Employed** : Persons, who during the reference period, worked as paid employees, employers, own account workers (self employed), or unpaid family workers are said to be employed. This includes persons with a job but not at work during the reference period.
4. **Unemployed** : Persons who are seeking and available for work, but had no employment during the reference period.
5. **Currently Economically Active** : A person who was employed or unemployed during the current reference period is considered to be currently economically active.
6. **Not in the Labour Force (not economically active)** : Persons who were neither working nor available/looking for work are classified as "not in the labour force". Persons are not in the labour force for such reasons as: full time care of the household, full - time students, retired or old age, infirmed or disabled, or are not interested in working for one reason or another. Current and Usual definitions apply.

7. *Criteria for classification of underemployment*

In order to classify an employed persons as visibly underemployed,

(i) If the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her main activity

In Sri Lanka scenario, 35 hours per week is taken as the cut-off point applicable to all workers, except government teachers. As in practice, though teachers do have a normal duration of work which is below the general cut-off point, they should be on a full time schedule according to the nature of their job. Further, those who do have a secondary job, or those who are employers, were considered as having worked the normal duration in their respective activity.

Therefore, if the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her activity (as described above), then the person is further questioned to ascertain whether he/She is prepared and available for further work if provided. Such persons are considered underemployed in their respective employment.

(ii) If the person has worked more than the normal duration in his/her activity

If the person has worked even more than 35 hours as usually, but he has worked less than 35 hours actually in the reference period, only due to the off season or bad weather, such persons were also further questioned to check their underemployment situation, considering them as a special category.

8. *Informal Sector Employment*

In order to classify a person to be employed in informal sector employment, following information were used.

- (i) Registration of the organization
- (ii) Accounts keeping practices of the organization
- (iii) Total number of regular employees of the organization.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the quarterly labour force data are subject to both sampling and non - sampling errors. When a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent.

The exact differences, or sampling error, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 95 percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.96 standard errors from the " true" population value, because of sampling error. Analyses relating to the Labour Force Survey are generally conducted at the 95 percent level of confidence.

For example, the confidence interval for the quarterly unemployment rate is on the order of ,

Estimated value *(of the unemployment rate)* \pm (standard error) * (1.96)

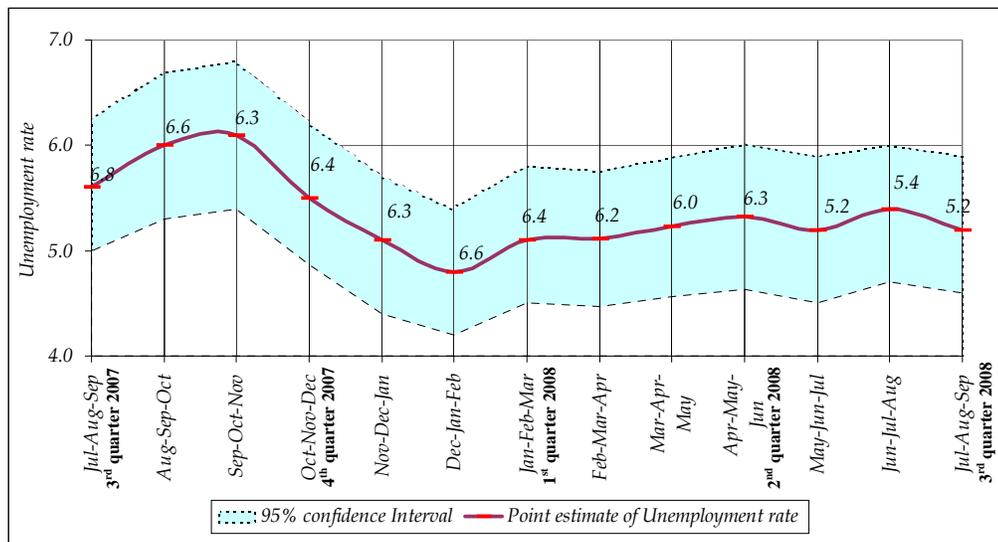
6.4 \pm (0.4) * (1.96)

(6.4 \pm 0.784)

This means, the 95 percent confidence interval on the quarterly unemployment rate could range from (5.6 to 7.2). This implies that there is about 95 percent chance that the "true" unemployment rate lies within this interval. This range includes all the values range from 5.6 to 7.2. When the comparison of this estimate is done between two quarters, if any of the value within the 95 percent confidence interval of one quarter overlaps with the confidence interval of the other it means that the estimates of this two quarters *are not significantly different*.

Therefore, in each quarterly labour force report, a separate table is given including approximate standard errors for some selected variables, so that users could understand this statistical scenario clearly.

Unemployment rates and it's lower and upper limits (2007April - 2008 June)



As shown in the given figure, it is very clear that, there is no statistical significant differences between the quarterly unemployment rates reported in 2006, (since all the 95 percent confidence intervals overlap) when sampling error is considered.

Change in survey schedule

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes have been made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data.

Beginning in January 2006, some improvements were made to the labour force survey schedule in order to fulfill the requirements of its users and also to provide additional information for the planning purposes. This revision was made focusing on literacy, household economic activities, and informal sector employment and under employment etc.

Note :

It is important to note that, all the data published here are the estimates based on a sample survey and these are subject to sampling errors. These sampling errors can be statistically evaluated from the survey results. Therefore, sampling error is normally measured in terms of the standard error of the particular variable. Standard error could be used to calculate the confidence limits with a prescribed accuracy where the true value of the estimates lies.

Further reliability of the estimates can be expressed in terms of Coefficient of Variation (CV). The CV is a relative measure of the sampling error and is calculated as sampling error divided by the expected value of the given characteristic.

In view of this, following table is given to show the estimates for some selected variables, its standard error, CV and 95% Confidence interval.

It is also important to note that all the estimates we publish in this report are subject to sampling error and one should be cautious in the interpretation of results, especially with respect to the trends over time.

Estimate of Confidence Intervals for some selected characteristics

Year	Labour Force					Employed				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2003 *	7653717	83576	1.09	7489909	7817525	7012756	77834	1.11	6860202	7165310
2004 **	8061354	79707	0.99	7905128	8217579	7394029	74648	1.01	7247719	7540340
2005***	8141347	233233	2.86	7684210	8598485	7518007	219889	2.92	7087025	7948988
2006#	7598762	65349	0.86	7470593	7726931	7105321.98	63609	0.90	6980566	7230078
2007#	7488896	58056	0.78	7375030	7602761	7041874	56401	0.80	6931254	7152495
2008 Q1#	7530722	111233	1.48	7312064	7749379	7148318	107700	1.51	6936604	7360032
2008 Q1*	7991191	115483	1.45	7764232	8218149	7581163	111389	1.47	7362250	7800076
2008 Q2#	7506155	119538	1.59	7271177	7741133	7106439	116089	1.63	6878239	7334639
2008 Q2*	8000628	124818	1.56	7755332	8245925	7563981	120656	1.60	7326864	7801098
2008 Q3#	7587847	132076	1.74	7328204.96	7847488	7192034	128216	1.78	6939980	7444088
2008 Q3*	8184379	136260	1.66	7916582	8452176	7735132	131576	1.70	7476539	7993724

Year	Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		Rate	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2003 *	640961	20755	3.24	600281	681641	8.4	0.2	2.99	7.9	8.9
2004 **	667324	18385	2.76	631290	703358	8.3	0.2	2.55	7.9	8.7
2005***	623341	39397	6.32	546123	700558	7.7	0.4	5.76	6.8	8.5
2006#	493440	15000	3.04	464020	522859	6.5	0.2	2.96	6.1	6.9
2007#	447021	13838	3.10	419880	474162	6.0	0.2	3.01	5.6	6.3
2008 Q1#	382403	26561	6.95	330191	434616	5.1	0.3	6.73	4.4	5.7
2008 Q1*	410028	27299	0.07	356378	463678	5.1	0.3	6.43	4.5	5.8
2008 Q2#	399716	27151	6.79	346345	453086	5.3	0.4	6.60	4.6	6.0
2008 Q2*	436647	28221	6.46	381187	492108	5.5	0.3	6.25	4.8	6.1
2008 Q3#	395813	25505	6.44	345674	445952	5.2	0.3	6.25	4.6	5.9
2008 Q3*	449248	28250	6.29	393727	504769	5.5	0.3	6.06	4.8	6.1

* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

** - Excluding Mulathivu and Kilinochchi districts.

***- All the districts are included

- Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Alternative Estimates of Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics

◆ Official employment, unemployment and labour force characteristics are estimated at the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey, based on the internationally comparable concepts and definitions recommended by the ILO. However the validity of the concepts and definitions used at the survey is questioned very often in some forums, for the appropriateness of these concepts and definitions in the Sri Lankan context.

The concepts and definitions, which were found to be controversial are as below.

(1) Number of Hours of Work :

A person who work **at least one hour** during the reference week, is considered **employed**, under these definitions.

(2) Working Age Population :

All persons of **age 10 years and over** are considered to be in the working age.

(3) Employment Status :

All, a) Paid employees, (those who work for wages/salaries).

b) Employers (who have at least one paid employee under them).

c) Own account workers (who carry out the economic activity without having any paid employees).

d) Unpaid family workers (who make their contribution to the economic activities carried out by their own household, without wages/salaries).

The validity of the above concepts and definitions is raised due to the following reasons.

(1) **Number of hours of Work** : Some point out that **one hour per week** is too low, to consider a person to be employed.

(2) **Working age Population** : Some point out that persons in the age group 10-14 yrs. are too young to consider to be in the working age.

(3) **Employment Status** : Some point out that 'unpaid family workers' may work in the family enterprise **without payment** because they have no other work, and so it is not appropriate to consider them as **employed**.

An attempt has been made to produce '**Alternative estimates of Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics**,' by revising the original concepts and definitions so that the above issues are addressed as explained below.

The revisions made are,

(1) Number of Hours of Work :

Persons who work **20 hours or more per week only** are considered to be employed.

(2) Working Age Population :

Persons who are **over 15 yrs of age only** are considered to be in the working age.

(3) Unpaid Family Worker :

Unpaid family workers are **not** considered as employed. Those unpaid family workers who were reported to be seeking some other work are considered as **unemployed** and the rest of the unpaid family workers are considered as **economically inactive** (not in the labour force) so only, **a) paid employees b) employers and c) own account workers are considered to be employed**.

Following tables are based on the above alternative concepts and definitions.

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (15 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1998	11281913	5567813	49.4	4870332	87.5	697481	12.5	5714099
*1999	11582873	5632621	48.6	4974104	88.3	658517	11.7	5950382
*2000	11978962	5738351	47.9	5124615	89.3	613736	10.7	6241526
*2001	12258565	5893030	48.1	5292093	89.8	600937	10.2	6365944
*2002	12612657	6162963	48.9	5482779	89.0	680184	11.0	6450265
**2003	13839853	6547396	47.3	5849585	89.3	697811	10.7	7292837
***2004	14670217	7051951	48.1	6327524	89.7	724427	10.3	7618797
****2005	13630354	6565951	48.2	5964493	90.8	601458	9.2	7064403
*2006	13261409	6467138	48.8	5975069	92.4	492069	7.6	6794271
*2007	13459252	6425260	47.7	5979061	93.1	446199	6.9	7033992
*2008Q1	13571366	6445247	47.5	6062843	94.1	382403	5.9	7126119
**2008Q1	14572207	6872908	47.2	6462880	94.0	410028	6.0	7699299
*2008Q2	13654581	6296840	46.1	5898543	93.7	398298	6.3	7357741
**2008Q2	14653880	6750252	46.1	6315023	93.6	435229	6.4	7903628
*2008Q3	14852330	6425020	43.3	6029207	93.8	395813	6.2	8427310
**2008Q3	16272499	6960301	42.8	6511054	93.5	449248	6.5	9312197

TABLE 2 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF NUMBER AND RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT BY AGE (ALTERNATIVE ESTIMATES)

YEAR	AGE GROUP											
	TOTAL		15 - 19		20 - 24		25 - 29		30 - 39		40 & ABOVE	
	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE
*1999	658517	11.7	158129	41.3	269327	31.9	113285	15.4	81121	5.7	36655	1.6
*2000	613736	10.7	126288	36.5	266306	30.7	117768	15.7	71019	4.9	32354	1.4
*2001	601026	10.2	130397	40.2	271672	30.5	105295	14.0	63668	4.4	29905	1.2
*2002	680184	11.0	136693	41.1	317071	32.7	113919.98	14.5	75086	4.9	37414	1.5
**2003	697811	10.7	141608.9	40.4	314693	32.2	121632	14.5	80467	4.8	39410	1.5
***2004	724427	10.3	134848	38.0	332229	31.2	122725	13.4	84461	4.8	50165	1.7
****2005	601458	9.2	122670	39.7	268331	28.4	99649	11.3	70764	4.4	40044	1.4
*2006	492069	7.6	86180	29.7	193481	24.0	105966	12.5	58443	3.8	47999	1.6
*2007	446199	6.9	69856	27.7	183617	24.0	87993	10.7	58252	3.8	46480	1.5
*2008 Q1	382456	5.1	59171	23.0	157764	18.4	78682	8.7	51042	2.8	35745	1.0
**2008 Q1	410028	6.0	62114	27.4	170302	20.9	84430	9.9	54230	3.2	38951	1.2
*2008 Q2	398298	6.3	63372	27.9	152944	20.2	79619	10.4	49071	3.2	53292	1.8
**2008 Q2	435229	6.4	70907	27.4	163152	19.9	90996	11.1	54795	3.4	55380	1.7
*2008 Q3	395813	6.2	63880	27.5	142429	19.7	85378	10.6	60244	4.0	43883	1.4
**2008 Q3	449248	6.5	71672	28.1	161980	20.9	102030	11.5	68230	4.1	45335	1.3

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilimochechi districts.

**** - All the districts are included

Table 3 - Currently Employed persons by Industry group (No. and percentage) (Based on ISIC Third Revision) -

Year	Industry group														
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
*2002															
No.	5487325	1559133	983601	264384	723210	104151	292951	164062	518764	211281	80915	96911	91085	283032	113845
%	100.0	28.4	17.9	4.8	13.2	1.9	5.3	3.0	9.5	3.9	1.5	1.8	1.7	5.2	2.1
**2003															
No.	5860182	1682994	1038390	343650	744153	104923	344294	176993	510486	233874	91213	94491	74181	293951	126590
%	100.0	28.7	17.7	5.9	12.7	1.8	5.9	3.0	8.7	4.0	1.6	1.6	1.3	5.0	2.2
***2004															
No.	6337164	1792810	1191379	439936	794793	108521	402536	170027	526501	257965	102328	108076	65639	293621	83032
%	100.0	28.3	18.8	6.9	12.5	1.7	6.4	2.7	8.3	4.1	1.6	1.7	1.0	4.6	1.3
****2005															
No.	5971029	1573306	1147255	476851	739850	108424	422920	204139	465608	245956	118065	105175	47645	253367	62468
%	100.0	26.3	19.2	8.0	12.4	1.8	7.1	3.4	7.8	4.1	2.0	1.8	0.8	4.2	1.0
*2006															
No.	5978575	1570682	1221566	492116	822922	111890	416188	214276	397926	254378	105956	110924	78341	160429	20981
%	100.0	26.3	20.4	8.2	13.8	1.9	7.0	3.6	6.7	4.3	1.8	1.9	1.3	2.7	0.4
*2007															
No.	5979061	1543596	1182348	507060	807657	100638	441290	209288	428978	242713	112778	94647	82955	202406	22706
%	100.0	25.8	19.8	8.5	13.5	1.7	7.4	3.5	7.2	4.1	1.9	1.6	1.4	3.4	0.4
*2008 Q1															
No.	6062843	1584152	1196666	538721	858302	84125	411614	229172	445743	259434	106378	98990	80825	152716	16006
%	100.0	26.1	19.7	8.9	14.2	1.4	6.8	3.8	7.4	4.3	1.8	1.6	1.3	2.5	0.3
**2008 Q1															
No.	6462880	1705503	1236875	590380	904555	89277	424833	234628	493491	289786	120509	114883	81340	160814	16006
%	100.0	26.4	19.1	9.1	14.0	1.4	6.6	3.6	7.6	4.5	1.9	1.8	1.3	2.5	0.2
*2008 Q2															
No.	5898543	1465069	1194617	496671	792643	107925	388878	228930	457208	273884	107376	129524	83534	150574	21709
%	100.0	24.8	20.3	8.4	13.4	1.8	6.6	3.9	7.8	4.6	1.8	2.2	1.4	2.6	0.4
**2008 Q2															
No.	6315023	1571033	1255795	558977	854110	112717	407423	236018	494075	306143	111938	137149	83534	163409	22703
%	100.0	24.9	19.9	8.9	13.5	1.8	6.5	3.7	7.8	4.8	1.8	2.2	1.3	2.6	0.4
*2008 Q3															
No.	6029207	1729980	1232247	488463	752082	82277	377495	239495	456376	246785	107991	104073	81365	120705	9874
%	100.0	28.7	20.4	8.1	12.5	1.4	6.3	4.0	7.6	4.1	1.8	1.7	1.3	2.0	0.2
**2008 Q3															
No.	6511054	1868520	1291401	537454	804989	85173	409233	246781	528370	267780	121666	108414	83631	147767	9874
%	100.0	28.7	19.8	8.3	12.4	1.3	6.3	3.8	8.1	4.1	1.9	1.7	1.3	2.3	0.2

Industry group

1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)	8 Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L)
2 Manufacturing (D)	9 Education (M)
3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying , Electricity,Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)	10 Health and Social work (N)
4 Wholesale and Retail Trade,Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G)	11 Other Community,Social and Personal Service Activities Extra Teritorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q)
5 Hotels and Restaurants (H)	12 Private Households with Employed Persons (P)
6 Transport, Storage and Communication (I)	13 Miscellaneous Labour work
7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities (J,K)	14 Industries not adequately described

Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q. Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV),some of these groups have been combined.

* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

** - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

*** - Excluding Mulathivu,Kilinochchi districts.

**** - All the districts are included