



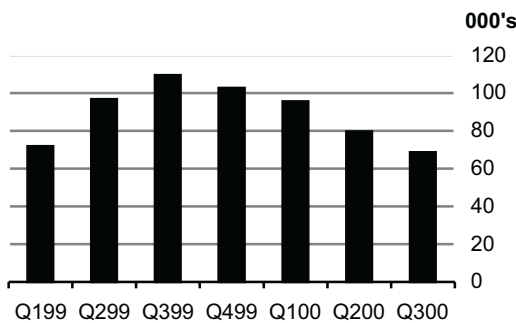
**Central Statistics Office**  
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

**Based on the 1996 Census of Population figures**  
**For figures based on the 2002 Census of Population see the revised QNHS series.**

28 November 2000

## Quarterly National Household Survey Third Quarter 2000

**Annual Employment Growth**



**ILO Labour Force**

	'000		
	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
<b>Jun-Aug 1998</b>	1,559.7	128.9	1,688.6
<b>Jun-Aug 1999</b>	1,669.2	101.1	1,770.3
<b>Sep-Nov 1999</b>	1,647.4	88.7	1,736.1
<b>Dec-Feb 2000</b>	1,650.6	81.5	1,732.1
<b>Mar-May 2000</b>	1,670.7	74.9	1,745.6
<b>Jun-Aug 2000</b>	1,737.9	77.7	1,815.6
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+67.1</i>	<i>+2.8</i>	<i>+70.0</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+68.7</i>	<i>-23.3</i>	<i>+45.4</i>

### Employment growth continues to moderate

There were 1,737,900 persons in employment in the June-August quarter of 2000, an increase of 68,700 on the corresponding quarter of 1999. The annual increase was almost 11,000 less than that recorded in the previous quarter and over 40,000 less than the record growth of 110,000 between summer 1998 and 1999. *See graph.*

This year's summer employment figure of 1,737,900 is the highest on record. It represents a seasonal peak in a range of sectors, notably manufacturing industry and the wholesale and retail trade. Overall, employment was up by 67,100 on the previous quarter. *See table 2b.*

A seasonal rise of 2,800 in the number of people looking for work brought unemployment to 77,700 in the third quarter of 2000. This was 23,300 lower than the figure one year previously, when slightly more than 100,000 people were unemployed. The unemployment rate in the third quarter was 4.3%. *See table 1.*

There were 1,815,600 persons in the labour force in the third quarter of 2000. This was 45,400 higher than in the corresponding quarter of 1999 and means that 61% of all persons aged 15 or over were in the labour force. The participation rate for males was 73.1% and, for females 49.4%. *See table 1.*

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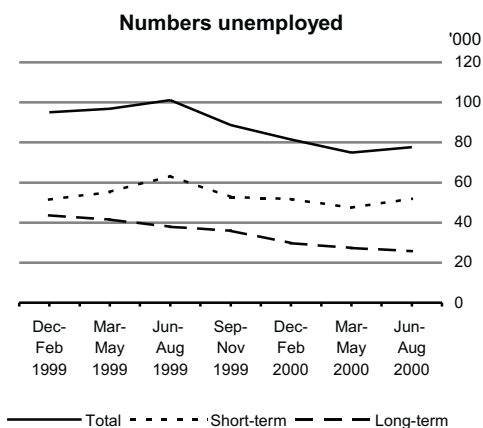
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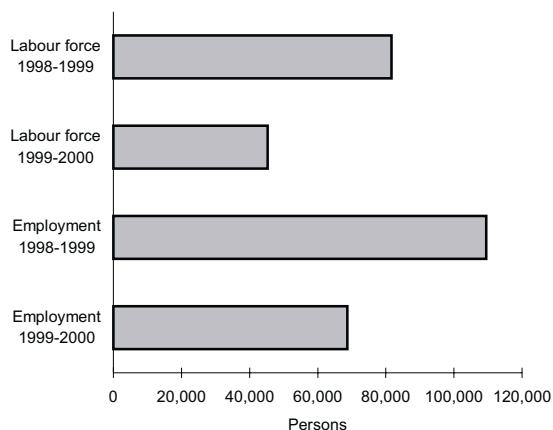
### Quarterly rise of 2,800 in unemployment

In line with the seasonal peak in employment, there were also more young people looking for work in the summer months. The number of unemployed persons aged 15 to 24 grew from 21,900 in the second quarter to 29,500 in quarter three, an increase of 7,600. For those aged 25 or over, unemployment fell by 4,700 in the quarter. Overall, this brought the number of people unemployed up to 77,700, a quarterly increase of 2,800 persons. *See tables 1 and 8.*

The unemployment rate remained at 4.3% in the June-August quarter. This compares with 5.7% in the same quarter of 1999, when there were 101,100 persons unemployed.

Long-term unemployment (persons unemployed for a year or more) fell by 12,200 in the year, to 25,700 persons. The number of persons unemployed for a year or less, at 51,900, was 11,100 lower than in 1999. *See table 7.*

### Employment and labour force growth, 1998-2000



### Labour force growth slower than in 1999

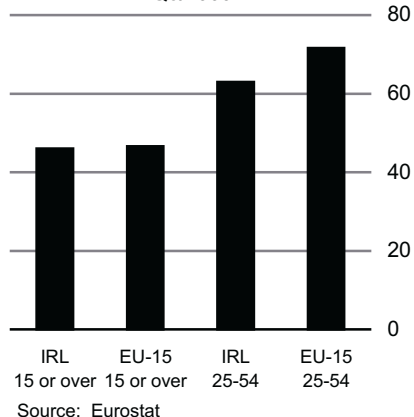
Labour force growth peaked in the second half of 1999 and has subsequently shown a marked slowdown. Between the summer quarters of 1998 and 1999, the labour force grew by 81,700 persons; the corresponding increase between 1999 and 2000 was 45,400 persons. *See graph.*

There have been sustained increases in labour force participation rates in recent years. Most notably, these have involved more people under 25, including students, taking up jobs and an increasing number of married females returning to the labour force. Ireland's growing population and the increase in participation rates have both contributed to the growing labour force. However, although labour force participation rates are still increasing, their impact now is less than before.

It is estimated that the increasing population of working age added 33,800 to the labour force between summer 1998 and summer 1999, with the balance of 47,900 being due to higher labour force participation. Between 1999 and 2000, the contribution due to population growth was similar, at 35,400, but the increase in participation had a smaller impact, adding 9,900 persons to the labour force.

The labour force represented 61% of all persons aged 15 or over in June-August 2000, compared with 60.5% in 1999 and 58.5% in 1998. The participation rate for males increased from 72.8% to 73.1% in the past year, and for females, from 48.5% to 49.4%. *See table 1.*

### Female labour force participation, Q3/1999



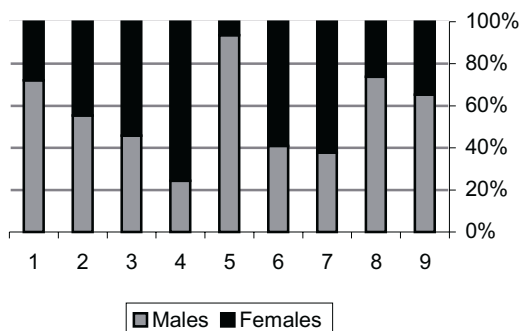
The broadest indicator of further potential labour supply – S3, which includes persons outside the labour force who show some interest in obtaining work – has fallen from 10.3% in quarter three of 1999 to 8.6% in the same quarter of this year. *See table 11.*

Compared with the rest of the EU, the latest comparable labour force survey figures – which are for spring 1999 – show that Ireland's female labour force participation rate of 46% is close to the EU-15 average of 46.6%. For women aged 25 to 54 – the age group most likely to be in the labour force – the female participation rate was 63.1%, compared with 71.6% for the EU-15. *See graph.*

### Large growth in construction, wholesaling and retailing

All sectors except agriculture, forestry and fishing increased in the year. The fastest growing sectors were construction (+24,600), the wholesale and retail sector (+17,000) and education and health (+13,500). The biggest growth area for males was construction (+24,500). For females the biggest growth areas were education and health (+11,500) and the wholesale and retail sector (+11,400). *See table 2a.*

**Gender breakdown of occupations**



- 1. Managers and administrators
- 2. Professional
- 3. Associate professional and technical
- 4. Clerical and secretarial
- 5. Craft and related
- 6. Personal and protective service
- 7. Sales
- 8. Plant and machine operatives
- 9. Other

### Increases in all occupational categories

All occupational categories increased between summer 1999 and 2000. For males, the number of plant and machinery operatives grew by 12,300 and the number of craft and related workers by 11,300. The number of male managers and administrators fell by 5,000 due to the fall in the agriculture sector. For females the greatest annual increases were for personal and protective service workers (+8,100), sales workers (+8,000) and managers and administrators (+7,500).

Men continue to outnumber women by nearly three to one in management and administration jobs while there are over three times as many female as there are male clerical and secretarial workers. *See Table 2b.*

### Almost all of annual growth in full-time jobs

Full-time employment grew by 67,900 in the year, accounting for almost all of the annual growth. The number of males in full-time jobs grew by 40,000 and the number of females by 27,800. The number in part-time employment, at 277,900 persons, changed only very slightly in the year. However, there were different trends for men and women with 6,500 fewer men and 7,200 more women in part-time employment. Three quarters of those in part-time employment are female. *See table 1.*

Over 33% of women work for less than 35 hours a week compared to 7.2% of men. The number of persons working between 35 and 39 hours a week increased by 62,800 and the numbers working 40 to 44 hours grew by 7,600 in the year to quarter three of 2000. The numbers working 45 hours or more decreased by 4,600 and the numbers working variable hours decreased by 8,100. *See table 3.*

The average working week was 38.4 hours in quarter three of 2000 compared with 38.5 hours in 1999 and 39 hours in 1998. For men the average working week was 42.4 hours and for women it was 33.3 hours. *See table 3.*

### Regional comparisons

Employment grew by 19,600 (+4.8%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 49,100 (+3.9%) in the Southern and Eastern region between summer 1999 and 2000. Unemployment also fell in both regions: by 5,000 in the Border, Midlands and West and by 18,300 in the Eastern and Southern region. *See table 4a.*

At NUTS 3 level, the annual employment growth was spread across all regions. The largest annual increase, of 23,400 persons, was in Dublin. The number of unemployed fell in the year in all regions except the West where it increased slightly. The unemployment rate was lowest in the Dublin region at 3.4% and highest in the Border and Midlands regions at 5.9% and 5.7% respectively. *See table 4b.*

### Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as at work grew by 70,300 to 1,624,300 in the year to quarter three of 2000. The increase was fairly evenly split between males (+34,700) and females (+35,700). The numbers describing themselves as unemployed fell by 9,600 to 113,900. *See table 12.*

The number of students with a job increased by 35,300 in the summer quarter, when 97,300 (or 28.6%) of the 340,100 students were in employment. Over 40% of these were in full-time jobs. *See tables 12 and 13.*

**Table 1 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and ILO economic status**

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ILO economic status	Jun- Aug 98	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00
<b>Males</b>						
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,014.2</b>	<b>1,048.3</b>	<b>1,030.5</b>	<b>1,029.3</b>	<b>1,034.9</b>	<b>1,069.7</b>
In employment :	934.9	989.5	977.5	979.8	989.9	1,023.0
full-time	865.0	914.8	908.5	910.2	918.2	954.8
part-time :	69.9	74.7	69.0	69.7	71.7	68.2
of which : <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> *	65.4	71.8	66.3	67.9	70.0	66.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> *	4.5	2.9	2.7	1.8	1.7	1.6
Unemployed :	79.3	58.8	53.0	49.5	44.9	46.6
seeking full-time work	75.4	55.6	50.2	47.3	42.6	43.7
seeking part-time work	3.9	3.2	2.8	2.2	2.3	3.0
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>403.0</b>	<b>391.3</b>	<b>418.1</b>	<b>425.6</b>	<b>422.7</b>	<b>394.4</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	11.8	10.6	9.4	9.6	7.8	8.9
Others	391.2	380.8	408.7	416.0	414.9	385.5
<b>Total males aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,417.2</b>	<b>1,439.6</b>	<b>1,448.6</b>	<b>1,455.0</b>	<b>1,457.5</b>	<b>1,464.0</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>70.7</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>73.1</b>
<b>Females</b>						
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>674.4</b>	<b>722.0</b>	<b>705.6</b>	<b>702.8</b>	<b>710.8</b>	<b>745.9</b>
In employment :	624.8	679.7	669.9	670.8	680.8	714.8
full-time	441.4	477.3	469.0	467.3	471.9	505.1
part-time :	183.4	202.5	200.8	203.5	208.9	209.7
of which : <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> *	180.2	200.4	198.8	201.7	207.0	208.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> *	3.2	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.7
Unemployed :	49.6	42.2	35.7	32.0	30.0	31.1
seeking full-time work	34.1	27.8	22.8	19.5	18.7	19.7
seeking part-time work	15.5	14.5	13.0	12.6	11.3	11.4
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>792.4</b>	<b>766.9</b>	<b>793.6</b>	<b>800.0</b>	<b>794.3</b>	<b>765.0</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	9.0	7.2	6.6	6.2	4.4	5.6
Others	783.4	759.7	786.9	793.8	789.9	759.4
<b>Total females aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,466.8</b>	<b>1,488.8</b>	<b>1,499.2</b>	<b>1,502.8</b>	<b>1,505.0</b>	<b>1,510.9</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>49.4</b>
<b>All persons</b>						
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,688.6</b>	<b>1,770.3</b>	<b>1,736.1</b>	<b>1,732.1</b>	<b>1,745.6</b>	<b>1,815.6</b>
In employment :	1,559.7	1,669.2	1,647.4	1,650.6	1,670.7	1,737.9
full-time	1,306.4	1,392.1	1,377.5	1,377.5	1,390.1	1,460.0
part-time :	253.3	277.2	269.9	273.1	280.6	277.9
of which : <i>part-time, not underemployed</i> *	245.6	272.2	265.2	269.5	277.0	274.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i> *	7.7	4.9	4.7	3.6	3.6	3.3
Unemployed :	128.9	101.1	88.7	81.5	74.9	77.7
seeking full-time work	109.5	83.4	73.0	66.8	61.3	63.3
seeking part-time work	19.4	17.7	15.7	14.8	13.6	14.4
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>1,195.4</b>	<b>1,158.2</b>	<b>1,211.6</b>	<b>1,225.7</b>	<b>1,217.0</b>	<b>1,159.3</b>
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	20.8	17.7	16.0	15.8	12.2	14.5
Others	1,174.6	1,140.5	1,195.7	1,209.9	1,204.7	1,144.8
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>2,884.0</b>	<b>2,928.4</b>	<b>2,947.8</b>	<b>2,957.8</b>	<b>2,962.6</b>	<b>2,975.0</b>
<b>Unemployment rate %</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Participation rate %</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>58.6</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>61.0</b>

\* See Background Notes

**Table 2a Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and NACE economic sector**

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Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Jun- Aug 98	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00
<b>Males</b>						
A-B Agriculture,forestry and fishing	120.2	126.7	124.4	118.8	116.3	116.6
C-E Other production industries	218.5	222.3	214.6	213.2	213.1	223.1
F Construction	127.2	143.7	148.0	151.9	159.2	168.2
G Wholesale and retail trade	121.0	125.7	122.9	124.8	125.7	131.3
H Hotels and restaurants	43.3	45.1	41.9	43.5	44.0	47.1
I Transport, storage and communication	68.8	74.0	74.7	75.7	75.5	77.7
J-K Financial and other business services	91.2	104.3	103.1	104.1	107.1	107.9
L Public administration and defence	44.6	47.4	46.7	45.9	45.8	47.0
M-N Education and health	59.2	57.7	58.2	58.7	60.6	59.7
O Other services	40.9	42.6	43.1	43.1	42.7	44.4
<b>Total males</b>	<b>934.9</b>	<b>989.5</b>	<b>977.5</b>	<b>979.8</b>	<b>989.9</b>	<b>1,023.0</b>
<b>Females</b>						
A-B Agriculture,forestry and fishing	15.3	15.5	15.6	15.0	14.6	14.1
C-E Other production industries	95.6	99.0	99.4	100.3	96.8	103.3
F Construction	5.7	7.2	6.8	7.8	7.2	7.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	103.4	110.7	106.3	108.6	110.1	122.1
H Hotels and restaurants	65.1	71.6	63.2	61.9	65.0	71.1
I Transport, storage and communication	22.7	25.9	25.2	25.5	25.2	28.2
J-K Financial and other business services	90.7	103.7	102.2	102.7	105.0	111.0
L Public administration and defence	27.8	30.4	31.6	30.9	32.0	31.7
M-N Education and health	149.7	161.3	167.6	168.0	174.0	172.8
O Other services	48.7	54.3	52.0	50.2	50.8	53.2
<b>Total females</b>	<b>624.8</b>	<b>679.7</b>	<b>669.9</b>	<b>670.8</b>	<b>680.8</b>	<b>714.8</b>
<b>All persons</b>						
A-B Agriculture,forestry and fishing	135.5	142.3	140.0	133.8	130.9	130.7
C-E Other production industries	314.1	321.3	314.0	313.5	309.9	326.4
F Construction	132.9	150.9	154.8	159.7	166.3	175.5
G Wholesale and retail trade	224.4	236.4	229.3	233.5	235.8	253.4
H Hotels and restaurants	108.4	116.7	105.1	105.4	109.0	118.3
I Transport, storage and communication	91.5	99.9	99.9	101.2	100.8	105.9
J-K Financial and other business services	181.9	208.0	205.3	206.8	212.1	218.8
L Public administration and defence	72.4	77.8	78.3	76.8	77.8	78.8
M-N Education and health	209.0	219.0	225.8	226.7	234.7	232.5
O Other services	89.7	97.0	95.1	93.2	93.4	97.6
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>1,559.7</b>	<b>1,669.2</b>	<b>1,647.4</b>	<b>1,650.6</b>	<b>1,670.7</b>	<b>1,737.9</b>

**Table 2b Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and occupation**

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Broad Occupational Group	Jun- Aug 98	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00
<b>Males</b>						
1. Managers and administrators	214.6	224.4	226.2	222.0	219.6	219.4
2. Professional	81.9	85.9	87.5	87.8	90.6	91.8
3. Associate professional and technical	57.1	59.5	59.9	60.6	62.4	65.2
4. Clerical and secretarial	51.7	55.1	51.2	51.1	50.0	52.5
5. Craft and related	192.3	206.0	209.3	211.8	213.3	217.3
6. Personal and protective service	65.9	69.4	66.8	68.8	69.3	71.9
7. Sales	48.9	54.8	52.1	53.5	54.4	55.2
8. Plant and machine operatives	124.7	131.0	127.2	128.4	134.1	143.3
9. Other	97.8	103.4	97.3	95.8	96.1	106.4
<b>Total males</b>	<b>934.9</b>	<b>989.5</b>	<b>977.5</b>	<b>979.8</b>	<b>989.9</b>	<b>1,023.0</b>
<b>Females</b>						
1. Managers and administrators	69.4	76.9	75.2	77.5	81.4	84.4
2. Professional	63.6	71.7	75.3	75.4	75.9	73.9
3. Associate professional and technical	69.5	74.6	74.4	74.7	76.8	77.0
4. Clerical and secretarial	145.1	156.6	153.4	152.5	154.4	162.6
5. Craft and related	16.6	16.6	16.6	15.8	14.6	14.9
6. Personal and protective service	83.1	95.6	93.0	92.6	96.4	103.7
7. Sales	76.4	82.9	79.5	79.6	82.3	90.9
8. Plant and machine operatives	44.1	46.0	47.1	48.0	45.8	51.0
9. Other	57.1	58.7	55.4	54.6	53.1	56.5
<b>Total females</b>	<b>624.8</b>	<b>679.7</b>	<b>669.9</b>	<b>670.8</b>	<b>680.8</b>	<b>714.8</b>
<b>All persons</b>						
1. Managers and administrators	284.1	301.3	301.5	299.5	301.1	303.8
2. Professional	145.5	157.7	162.7	163.2	166.5	165.7
3. Associate professional and technical	126.5	134.1	134.3	135.3	139.2	142.1
4. Clerical and secretarial	196.8	211.7	204.7	203.6	204.4	215.1
5. Craft and related	208.9	222.6	225.9	227.5	227.9	232.3
6. Personal and protective service	148.9	165.0	159.8	161.4	165.7	175.6
7. Sales	125.3	137.7	131.6	133.1	136.7	146.0
8. Plant and machine operatives	168.7	177.0	174.3	176.4	180.0	194.3
9. Other	154.9	162.0	152.7	150.4	149.2	162.8
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>1,559.7</b>	<b>1,669.2</b>	<b>1,647.4</b>	<b>1,650.6</b>	<b>1,670.7</b>	<b>1,737.9</b>

**Table 3 Persons in employment (ILO) classified by sex and usual hours of work**

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Usual hours per week	Jun-Aug 98	Jun-Aug 99	Sep-Nov 99	Dec-Feb 00	Mar-May 00	Jun-Aug 00
<b>Males</b>						
1-9 hours	3.9	4.6	7.8	8.2	7.8	3.9
10-19	15.3	15.3	16.8	18.4	20.1	14.0
20-29	39.1	38.9	36.7	36.1	36.7	37.1
30-34	19.0	18.9	17.2	17.0	17.9	18.2
35-39	226.3	274.4	277.8	278.6	289.3	310.9
40-44	244.5	248.3	240.5	243.4	238.9	256.2
45 & over	237.1	222.1	216.3	216.2	209.6	216.9
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	149.6	167.1	164.5	161.8	169.7	165.7
<b>Total males</b>	<b>934.9</b>	<b>989.5</b>	<b>977.5</b>	<b>979.8</b>	<b>989.9</b>	<b>1,023.0</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>43.1</i>	<i>42.5</i>	<i>42.2</i>	<i>42.1</i>	<i>42.0</i>	<i>42.4</i>
<b>Females</b>						
1-9 hours	12.9	13.2	19.4	19.2	19.3	13.1
10-19	54.4	56.4	60.8	63.2	64.7	61.0
20-29	104.5	119.7	117.7	120.1	120.9	129.7
30-34	33.3	33.6	33.2	31.9	31.7	34.4
35-39	210.3	240.4	241.0	241.1	243.2	266.7
40-44	125.3	125.9	114.4	110.2	112.2	125.6
45 & over	41.7	40.3	38.7	41.7	41.8	40.8
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	42.3	50.3	44.8	43.4	47.0	43.6
<b>Total females</b>	<b>624.8</b>	<b>679.7</b>	<b>669.9</b>	<b>670.8</b>	<b>680.8</b>	<b>714.8</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>33.5</i>	<i>33.3</i>	<i>32.8</i>	<i>32.7</i>	<i>32.8</i>	<i>33.3</i>
<b>All persons</b>						
1-9 hours	16.9	17.8	27.1	27.4	27.1	17.0
10-19	69.8	71.7	77.6	81.6	84.8	75.0
20-29	143.6	158.5	154.4	156.2	157.6	166.8
30-34	52.2	52.6	50.5	48.9	49.6	52.6
35-39	436.6	514.8	518.8	519.7	532.4	577.6
40-44	369.8	374.2	354.8	353.6	351.2	381.8
45 & over	278.8	262.3	255.0	257.9	251.5	257.7
Variable hours <sup>1</sup>	191.9	217.4	209.2	205.2	216.6	209.3
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>1,559.7</b>	<b>1,669.2</b>	<b>1,647.4</b>	<b>1,650.6</b>	<b>1,670.7</b>	<b>1,737.9</b>
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>39.0</i>	<i>38.5</i>	<i>38.1</i>	<i>38.1</i>	<i>38.0</i>	<i>38.4</i>

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

**Table 4a Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS2 regions<sup>1</sup> and ILO economic status**

Region	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation Rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
<b>Border, Midland and Western</b>					
LFS April 1997	351.3	41.3	392.6	10.5	53.2
Mar-May 1998	363.0	33.4	396.3	8.4	52.7
Jun-Aug 1998	378.6	33.6	412.3	8.2	54.7
Sep-Nov 1998	374.3	30.2	404.5	7.5	53.5
Dec-Feb 1999	377.4	28.0	405.5	6.9	53.3
Mar-May 1999	390.1	28.9	418.9	6.9	54.9
Jun-Aug 1999	407.0	29.6	436.6	6.8	56.9
Sep-Nov 1999	401.5	27.7	429.1	6.4	55.6
Dec-Feb 2000	404.0	26.2	430.2	6.1	55.6
Mar-May 2000	409.8	24.9	434.7	5.7	55.9
Jun-Aug 2000	426.6	24.6	451.2	5.5	57.6
<b>Eastern and Southern</b>					
LFS April 1997	1,028.6	117.7	1,146.3	10.3	55.2
Mar-May 1998	1,131.5	93.2	1,224.7	7.6	57.8
Jun-Aug 1998	1,181.0	95.4	1,276.2	7.5	59.9
Sep-Nov 1998	1,170.4	75.8	1,246.2	6.1	58.2
Dec-Feb 1999	1,177.5	67.1	1,244.6	5.4	58.0
Mar-May 1999	1,201.1	68.0	1,269.1	5.4	59.0
Jun-Aug 1999	1,262.2	71.4	1,333.6	5.4	61.7
Sep-Nov 1999	1,245.9	61.1	1,307.0	4.7	60.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,246.6	55.4	1,301.9	4.3	59.6
Mar-May 2000	1,260.9	50.0	1,310.9	3.8	60.0
Jun-Aug 2000	1,311.3	53.1	1,364.4	3.9	62.3
<b>State</b>					
LFS April 1997	1,379.9	159.0	1,539.0	10.3	54.7
Mar-May 1998	1,494.5	126.6	1,621.1	7.8	56.5
Jun-Aug 1998	1,559.7	128.9	1,688.6	7.6	58.5
Sep-Nov 1998	1,544.7	106.0	1,650.7	6.4	57.0
Dec-Feb 1999	1,555.0	95.1	1,650.1	5.8	56.7
Mar-May 1999	1,591.1	96.9	1,688.1	5.7	57.9
Jun-Aug 1999	1,669.2	101.1	1,770.3	5.7	60.5
Sep-Nov 1999	1,647.4	88.7	1,736.1	5.1	58.9
Dec-Feb 2000	1,650.6	81.5	1,732.1	4.7	58.6
Mar-May 2000	1,670.7	74.9	1,745.6	4.3	58.9
Jun-Aug 2000	1,737.9	77.7	1,815.6	4.3	61.0

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes



**Table 4b Persons aged 15 years and over classified by NUTS3 regions<sup>1</sup> and ILO economic status**

Region		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
<b>Border</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	151.0	15.7	166.7	9.4	53.2
	Jun-Aug 1999	161.7	15.3	177.0	8.6	55.6
	Sep-Nov 1999	158.0	14.7	172.7	8.5	54.0
	Dec-Feb 2000	158.6	12.5	171.1	7.3	53.5
	Mar-May 2000	161.7	11.5	173.1	6.6	54.1
	Jun-Aug 2000	167.1	10.5	177.6	5.9	55.2
<b>Midlands</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	79.3	7.1	86.5	8.3	54.9
	Jun-Aug 1999	84.3	6.3	90.6	7.0	56.4
	Sep-Nov 1999	83.9	5.3	89.2	5.9	55.0
	Dec-Feb 2000	82.9	5.8	88.7	6.6	55.1
	Mar-May 2000	85.2	4.9	90.2	5.5	55.9
	Jun-Aug 2000	87.6	5.3	92.9	5.7	57.4
<b>West</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	148.3	10.8	159.1	6.8	56.2
	Jun-Aug 1999	161.0	8.0	169.0	4.7	58.6
	Sep-Nov 1999	159.6	7.7	167.3	4.6	57.7
	Dec-Feb 2000	162.6	7.9	170.4	4.6	58.3
	Mar-May 2000	162.9	8.5	171.5	5.0	57.8
	Jun-Aug 2000	171.8	8.8	180.7	4.9	60.3
<b>Dublin</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	501.7	39.1	540.8	7.2	62.5
	Jun-Aug 1999	528.6	24.9	553.5	4.5	63.7
	Sep-Nov 1999	525.3	21.8	547.1	4.0	62.3
	Dec-Feb 2000	528.1	21.6	549.7	3.9	62.4
	Mar-May 2000	533.8	19.0	552.8	3.4	62.7
	Jun-Aug 2000	552.0	19.2	571.2	3.4	64.7
<b>Mid-East</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	162.6	11.7	174.2	6.7	62.1
	Jun-Aug 1999	177.3	9.2	186.4	4.9	64.4
	Sep-Nov 1999	175.2	7.8	182.9	4.3	62.5
	Dec-Feb 2000	176.3	7.4	183.6	4.0	62.3
	Mar-May 2000	177.6	6.9	184.5	3.7	62.4
	Jun-Aug 2000	186.4	7.4	193.7	3.8	64.6
<b>Mid-West</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	135.9	9.6	145.5	6.6	58.2
	Jun-Aug 1999	147.4	8.8	156.2	5.6	61.5
	Sep-Nov 1999	143.4	7.7	151.1	5.1	59.2
	Dec-Feb 2000	143.8	6.4	150.2	4.3	58.4
	Mar-May 2000	144.9	6.1	151.0	4.0	58.7
	Jun-Aug 2000	149.6	6.7	156.4	4.3	60.8
<b>South-East</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	155.9	16.8	172.7	9.7	56.5
	Jun-Aug 1999	170.1	14.7	184.8	7.9	59.2
	Sep-Nov 1999	166.8	12.0	178.8	6.7	57.1
	Dec-Feb 2000	165.6	10.2	175.9	5.8	56.0
	Mar-May 2000	166.9	8.5	175.4	4.9	56.2
	Jun-Aug 2000	175.0	9.6	184.6	5.2	58.9
<b>South-West</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	224.9	18.2	243.0	7.5	56.7
	Jun-Aug 1999	238.8	13.9	252.7	5.5	57.9
	Sep-Nov 1999	235.2	11.8	247.0	4.8	56.5
	Dec-Feb 2000	232.8	9.8	242.6	4.0	55.3
	Mar-May 2000	237.7	9.5	247.1	3.8	56.5
	Jun-Aug 2000	248.3	10.2	258.5	3.9	59.0
<b>State</b>						
	Jun-Aug 1998	1,559.7	128.9	1,688.6	7.6	58.5
	Jun-Aug 1999	1,669.2	101.1	1,770.3	5.7	60.5
	Sep-Nov 1999	1,647.4	88.7	1,736.1	5.1	58.9
	Dec-Feb 2000	1,650.6	81.5	1,732.1	4.7	58.6
	Mar-May 2000	1,670.7	74.9	1,745.6	4.3	58.9
	Jun-Aug 2000	1,737.9	77.7	1,815.6	4.3	61.0

<sup>1</sup> See Background Notes

**Table 5 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, June-August 2000**

Marital Status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
<b>Males</b>									
Single	45.3	85.8	93.1	86.7	74.1	58.1	45.8	16.6	72.0
Married	*	84.9	96.5	95.9	90.4	77.2	57.4	13.9	76.6
Separated or divorced	*	*	89.6	90.9	82.4	63.6	37.9	14.6	74.1
Widowed	*	*	42.3	83.9	81.4	66.9	56.2	6.8	24.2
<b>Total males</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>85.8</b>	<b>94.2</b>	<b>93.8</b>	<b>87.6</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>73.1</b>
<b>Females</b>									
Single	38.6	77.3	85.9	80.7	72.4	48.3	32.5	4.2	64.0
Married	*	54.5	65.9	59.1	48.9	32.6	18.0	3.1	45.5
Separated or divorced	*	*	68.6	68.0	62.9	44.2	27.7	7.0	59.4
Widowed	*	*	70.2	66.4	50.4	35.2	17.6	2.3	9.5
<b>Total females</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>76.6</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>34.9</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>49.4</b>
<b>All persons</b>									
Single	42.0	81.7	89.9	84.1	73.4	54.5	41.1	11.0	68.3
Married	*	61.9	79.4	77.1	69.7	55.4	38.3	9.3	61.1
Separated or divorced	*	*	73.5	75.7	70.8	52.8	32.1	11.1	64.9
Widowed	*	*	65.5	71.3	58.6	43.6	26.3	3.1	12.4
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>61.0</b>

\* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

**Table 6 Unemployment rates (ILO) classified by sex and age group**

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
<b>Males</b>									
Jun-Aug 1998	14.3	11.0	7.2	6.9	7.5	5.8	4.0	1.1	7.8
Jun-Aug 1999	10.7	7.9	4.8	5.1	5.4	4.3	2.8	0.4	5.6
Sep-Nov 1999	9.6	7.6	4.4	4.8	5.0	3.9	3.2	0.9	5.1
Dec-Feb 2000	9.5	5.6	4.8	4.5	4.8	3.4	2.3	1.2	4.8
Mar-May 2000	9.8	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.2	2.9	2.1	0.1	4.3
Jun-Aug 2000	10.3	5.4	4.0	3.8	3.9	2.8	2.3	0.3	4.4
<b>Females</b>									
Jun-Aug 1998	15.9	9.9	6.2	5.9	6.2	4.0	3.1	0.0	7.4
Jun-Aug 1999	12.7	8.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.1	1.7	5.9
Sep-Nov 1999	9.2	6.6	4.5	4.3	4.7	3.8	3.1	1.1	5.1
Dec-Feb 2000	9.8	5.9	3.8	4.4	3.8	3.0	1.7	2.3	4.6
Mar-May 2000	10.3	5.5	3.7	3.6	3.5	2.8	1.6	1.3	4.2
Jun-Aug 2000	10.9	5.7	3.6	3.0	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.0	4.2
<b>All persons</b>									
Jun-Aug 1998	15.0	10.5	6.8	6.5	7.1	5.3	3.8	0.9	7.6
Jun-Aug 1999	11.6	8.2	4.7	4.8	5.0	4.3	3.2	0.7	5.7
Sep-Nov 1999	9.4	7.1	4.4	4.6	4.9	3.9	3.1	0.9	5.1
Dec-Feb 2000	9.6	5.8	4.4	4.4	4.4	3.3	2.1	1.4	4.7
Mar-May 2000	10.0	4.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	2.9	1.9	0.4	4.3
Jun-Aug 2000	10.5	5.6	3.8	3.5	3.4	2.8	2.3	0.7	4.3

**Table 7 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex and duration of unemployment (ILO)**

<sup>1</sup> 000

Duration	Quarterly National Household Survey								
	Jun-Aug 98	Sep-Nov 98	Dec-Feb 99	Mar-May 99	Jun-Aug 99	Sep-Nov 99	Dec-Feb 00	Mar-May 00	Jun-Aug 00
<b>Males</b>									
Less than 1 year	34.5	27.8	27.1	28.2	31.0	27.0	27.2	24.1	26.6
1 year and over	44.5	37.9	32.4	30.8	27.7	26.0	22.2	20.7	19.9
Not stated	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2
<b>Total males</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>58.8</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>46.6</b>
<b>Females</b>									
Less than 1 year	32.3	26.0	23.9	26.8	32.0	25.8	24.5	23.3	25.2
1 year and over	17.2	13.8	11.2	10.8	10.2	10.0	7.5	6.7	5.9
Not stated	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total females</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>31.1</b>
<b>All persons</b>									
Less than 1 year	66.8	53.8	51.0	55.0	63.0	52.7	51.7	47.3	51.9
1 year and over	61.7	51.7	43.6	41.6	37.9	36.0	29.7	27.4	25.7
Not stated	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>128.9</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>96.9</b>	<b>101.1</b>	<b>88.7</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>74.9</b>	<b>77.7</b>

**Table 8 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by sex, age group and duration of unemployment (ILO)**

<sup>1</sup> 000

Duration	QNHS Jun-Aug 1999				QNHS Jun-Aug 2000			
	Age group			Total	Age group			Total
15-24	25-44	45 or over	15-24		25-44	45 or over		
<b>Males</b>								
Less than 1 year	15.1	10.8	5.1	31.0	12.8	9.9	3.9	26.6
1 year and over	4.2	14.0	9.5	27.7	2.8	10.2	6.9	19.9
Not stated	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2
<b>Total males</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>58.8</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>46.6</b>
<b>Females</b>								
Less than 1 year	16.0	11.6	4.4	32.0	11.9	10.0	3.4	25.2
1 year and over	2.8	5.1	2.3	10.2	2.0	2.9	0.9	5.9
Not stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total females</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>31.1</b>
<b>All persons</b>								
Less than 1 year	31.1	22.4	9.5	63.0	24.6	19.9	7.4	51.9
1 year and over	7.0	19.1	11.8	37.9	4.8	13.1	7.8	25.7
Not stated	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>38.1</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>101.1</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>77.7</b>

**Table 9 Labour force, unemployed and long-term unemployed (ILO)**

Period	Labour force	Unemployed	<i>of which</i>	Unemployment rate	Long-term unemployment rate
			Long term unemployed		
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
April 1988	1,327.7	217.0	137.8	16.3	10.4
April 1989	1,307.8	196.8	128.0	15.0	9.8
April 1990	1,332.1	172.4	110.2	12.9	8.3
April 1991	1,354.4	198.5	119.7	14.7	8.8
April 1992	1,371.8	206.6	116.5	15.1	8.5
April 1993	1,403.2	220.1	125.4	15.7	8.9
April 1994	1,431.6	211.0	128.2	14.7	9.0
April 1995	1,459.2	177.4	103.3	12.2	7.1
April 1996	1,507.5	179.0	103.3	11.9	6.9
April 1997	1,539.0	159.0	86.3	10.3	5.6
Sep-Nov 1997	1,643.9	171.6	90.2	10.4	5.5
Dec-Feb 1998	1,621.6	138.6	72.6	8.5	4.5
Mar-May 1998	1,621.1	126.6	63.5	7.8	3.9
Jun-Aug 1998	1,688.6	128.9	61.7	7.6	3.7
Sep-Nov 1998	1,650.7	106.0	51.7	6.4	3.1
Dec-Feb 1999	1,650.1	95.1	43.6	5.8	2.6
Mar-May 1999	1,688.1	96.9	41.6	5.7	2.5
Jun-Aug 1999	1,770.3	101.1	37.9	5.7	2.1
Sep-Nov 1999	1,736.1	88.7	36.0	5.1	2.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,732.1	81.5	29.7	4.7	1.7
Mar-May 2000	1,745.6	74.9	27.4	4.3	1.6
Jun-Aug 2000	1,815.6	77.7	25.7	4.3	1.4

**Table 10 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by detailed ILO economic status**

<sup>1</sup> 000

ILO economic status	Quarterly National Household Survey								
	Jun- Aug 98	Sep- Nov 98	Dec- Feb 99	Mar- May 99	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00
<b>In labour force</b>	<b>1,688.6</b>	<b>1,650.7</b>	<b>1,650.1</b>	<b>1,688.1</b>	<b>1,770.3</b>	<b>1,736.1</b>	<b>1,732.1</b>	<b>1,745.6</b>	<b>1,815.6</b>
In employment :	1,559.7	1,544.7	1,555.0	1,591.1	1,669.2	1,647.4	1,650.6	1,670.7	1,737.9
full-time	1,306.4	1,295.5	1,305.5	1,324.6	1,392.1	1,377.5	1,377.5	1,390.1	1,460.0
part-time :	253.3	249.2	249.5	266.5	277.2	269.9	273.1	280.6	277.9
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed</i>	245.6	241.7	242.9	260.6	272.2	265.2	269.5	277.0	274.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	7.7	7.5	6.6	5.9	4.9	4.7	3.6	3.6	3.3
Unemployed :	128.9	106.0	95.1	96.9	101.1	88.7	81.5	74.9	77.7
seeking full-time work	109.5	89.4	80.7	80.1	83.4	73.0	66.8	61.3	63.3
seeking part-time work	19.4	16.6	14.4	16.8	17.7	15.7	14.8	13.6	14.4
<b>Not in labour force</b>	<b>1,195.4</b>	<b>1,247.1</b>	<b>1,257.9</b>	<b>1,227.4</b>	<b>1,158.2</b>	<b>1,211.6</b>	<b>1,225.7</b>	<b>1,217.0</b>	<b>1,159.3</b>
Marginally attached to the labour force :	20.8	17.1	19.3	16.7	17.7	16.0	15.8	12.2	14.5
Discouraged workers	16.2	13.3	14.1	12.6	13.2	13.1	12.8	9.6	11.5
Passive jobseekers	4.6	3.8	5.2	4.1	4.5	2.9	3.0	2.6	3.0
Others :	1,174.6	1,230.0	1,238.5	1,210.7	1,140.5	1,195.7	1,209.9	1,204.7	1,144.8
Persons not in education, who want work <sup>1</sup>	55.6	52.6	57.7	61.8	67.0	64.3	61.5	63.0	66.8
Persons in education, who want work <sup>1</sup>	36.4	36.1	35.3	46.6	32.7	39.0	39.3	51.5	33.7
All other persons	1,082.6	1,141.2	1,145.5	1,102.3	1,040.7	1,092.4	1,109.0	1,090.3	1,044.4
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>2,884.0</b>	<b>2,897.7</b>	<b>2,908.0</b>	<b>2,915.5</b>	<b>2,928.4</b>	<b>2,947.8</b>	<b>2,957.8</b>	<b>2,962.6</b>	<b>2,975.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Persons who want work are those who are looking for work but are not available and those who say they want a job but are not looking for work.

**Table 11 Indicators of potential labour supply**

Period	S1	S2	S3
1994	15.9	19.8	21.5
1995	13.1	17.2	18.9
1996	12.7	16.0	17.5
1997	11.3	15.7	17.0
Sep-Nov 1997	11.1	14.1	15.6
Dec-Feb 1998	9.3	12.6	13.7
Mar-May 1998	8.6	12.1	12.7
Jun-Aug 1998	8.5	11.6	12.1
Sep-Nov 1998	7.2	10.2	10.6
Dec-Feb 1999	6.6	10.0	10.4
Mar-May 1999	6.4	9.9	10.3
Jun-Aug 1999	6.4	10.0	10.3
Sep-Nov 1999	5.8	9.3	9.6
Dec-Feb 2000	5.4	8.8	9.0
Mar-May 2000	4.8	8.2	8.4
Jun-Aug 2000	4.9	8.4	8.6

%

NOTE : Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 10 :

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

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

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

**Table 12 Population aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status<sup>1</sup>**

'000

Principal Economic Status	Quarterly National Household Survey					
	Jun-Aug 98	Jun-Aug 99	Sep-Nov 99	Dec-Feb 00	Mar-May 00	Jun-Aug 00
<b>Males</b>						
At work	895.5	938.0	948.0	952.6	957.2	972.7
Unemployed	108.5	86.4	80.4	79.7	74.9	74.6
Student	164.9	163.1	172.4	173.2	175.5	161.5
Home duties	7.5	9.5	8.8	8.5	8.6	8.6
Retired	187.5	185.5	183.7	187.0	187.5	190.9
Others	53.4	57.1	55.2	53.9	53.8	55.8
<b>Total males</b>	<b>1,417.2</b>	<b>1,439.6</b>	<b>1,448.6</b>	<b>1,455.0</b>	<b>1,457.5</b>	<b>1,464.0</b>
<b>Females</b>						
At work	572.7	616.0	623.4	626.7	630.9	651.7
Unemployed	44.9	37.1	35.5	37.3	34.9	39.3
Student	173.3	173.0	186.7	191.1	199.1	178.6
Home duties	579.1	570.6	563.5	560.4	552.8	554.2
Retired	66.3	60.2	61.4	61.1	60.7	60.8
Others	30.4	31.9	28.7	26.1	26.6	26.4
<b>Total females</b>	<b>1,466.8</b>	<b>1,488.8</b>	<b>1,499.2</b>	<b>1,502.8</b>	<b>1,505.0</b>	<b>1,510.9</b>
<b>All persons</b>						
At work	1,468.2	1,554.0	1,571.4	1,579.3	1,588.1	1,624.3
Unemployed	153.4	123.5	115.9	117.0	109.8	113.9
Student	338.2	336.2	359.2	364.4	374.6	340.1
Home duties	586.7	580.1	572.2	568.9	561.4	562.8
Retired	253.8	245.7	245.1	248.1	248.2	251.7
Others	83.8	89.0	83.9	80.0	80.4	82.1
<b>Total persons</b>	<b>2,884.0</b>	<b>2,928.4</b>	<b>2,947.8</b>	<b>2,957.8</b>	<b>2,962.6</b>	<b>2,975.0</b>

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

**Table 13 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status, June-August 2000**

' 000

ILO economic status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
<b>Males</b>							
In employment :	968.3	2.8	46.6	0.4	3.1	1.7	1,023.0
full-time	928.6	1.8	22.2	0.3	0.6	1.3	954.8
part-time :	39.7	1.1	24.4	0.1	2.5	0.4	68.2
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed</i>	38.5	0.8	24.3	0.1	2.5	0.4	66.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6
Unemployed :	1.0	39.2	4.8	0.1	0.8	0.7	46.6
seeking full-time work	1.0	38.3	3.3	0.1	0.4	0.5	43.7
seeking part-time work	0.0	0.9	1.4	0.0	0.4	0.1	3.0
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.6	5.7	1.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	8.9
Others	1.9	26.8	109.2	8.0	186.6	53.1	385.5
<b>Total males aged 15 or over</b>	<b>972.7</b>	<b>74.6</b>	<b>161.5</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>190.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>1,464.0</b>
<b>Females</b>							
In employment :	646.3	2.5	50.7	13.5	0.5	1.4	714.8
full-time	482.7	1.4	17.9	2.2	0.2	0.7	505.1
part-time :	163.6	1.2	32.7	11.3	0.3	0.6	209.7
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed</i>	162.1	1.0	32.7	11.3	0.3	0.6	208.0
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
Unemployed :	0.8	16.5	5.1	8.3	0.1	0.2	31.1
seeking full-time work	0.8	12.8	3.0	2.9	0.1	0.1	19.7
seeking part-time work	0.1	3.7	2.2	5.3	0.1	0.1	11.4
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.6	1.4	0.8	1.6	0.1	0.2	5.6
Others	2.9	18.9	121.9	530.9	60.1	24.7	759.4
<b>Total females aged 15 or over</b>	<b>651.7</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>178.6</b>	<b>554.2</b>	<b>60.8</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>1,510.9</b>
<b>All persons</b>							
In employment :	1,614.6	5.3	97.3	13.9	3.6	3.1	1,737.9
full-time	1,411.3	3.1	40.1	2.5	0.8	2.0	1,460.0
part-time :	203.2	2.2	57.1	11.4	2.8	1.1	277.9
<i>of which : part-time, not underemployed</i>	200.6	1.9	56.9	11.4	2.8	1.0	274.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	2.7	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3
Unemployed :	1.8	55.8	9.9	8.4	1.0	0.8	77.7
seeking full-time work	1.7	51.1	6.3	3.0	0.5	0.6	63.3
seeking part-time work	0.1	4.7	3.6	5.4	0.5	0.2	14.4
Marginally attached to the labour force	3.1	7.1	1.8	1.6	0.5	0.4	14.5
Others	4.8	45.7	231.1	538.8	246.6	77.7	1,144.8
<b>Total persons aged 15 or over</b>	<b>1,624.3</b>	<b>113.9</b>	<b>340.1</b>	<b>562.8</b>	<b>251.7</b>	<b>82.1</b>	<b>2,975.0</b>

**Table 14 Total employment and private sector employment (ILO)**

<sup>1</sup> 000

	LFS		Quarterly National Household Survey											
	April 1996	April 1997	Sep- Nov 97	Dec- Feb 98	Mar- May 98	Jun- Aug 98	Sep- Nov 98	Dec- Feb 99	Mar- May 99	Jun- Aug 99	Sep- Nov 99	Dec- Feb 00	Mar- May 00	Jun- Aug 00
1. Total employment (ILO)	1,329	1,380	1,472	1,483	1,495	1,560	1,545	1,555	1,591	1,669	1,647	1,651	1,671	1,738
2. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	141	142	135	134	135	136	136	137	136	142	140	134	131	131
3. Non-agricultural employment (1-2)	1,188	1,238	1,337	1,349	1,360	1,424	1,409	1,418	1,455	1,527	1,507	1,517	1,540	1,607
4. State-sponsored employment schemes <sup>1</sup>	40	41	40	40	41	41	40	41	41	40	38	39	39	38
5. Non-agricultural employment, excluding schemes (3-4)	1,148	1,197	1,297	1,309	1,319	1,383	1,369	1,377	1,414	1,487	1,469	1,478	1,501	1,569
6. Public sector employment <sup>1</sup>	301	297	296	301	300	304	301	306	306	309	297	304 <sup>2</sup>	305 <sup>2</sup>	304 <sup>3</sup>
7. Private sector employment (5-6)	847	900	1,001	1,008	1,019	1,079	1,068	1,071	1,108	1,178	1,172	1,174	1,196	1,265

<sup>1</sup> Based on administrative data. Public sector employment estimate excludes Telecom Eireann from Q3/1999.

<sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>3</sup> Provisional



## Background Notes

<b>Purpose of Survey</b>	The Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) began in September 1997, replacing the annual April Labour Force Survey (LFS). The purpose of the survey is the production of quarterly labour force estimates and occasional reports on special social topics. The survey meets the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98, adopted in March 1998, which requires the introduction of quarterly labour force surveys in EU Member States.
<b>Reference Period</b>	Information is collected continuously throughout the year, with 3,000 households surveyed each week to give a total sample of 39,000 households in each quarter. The reference quarters for survey results are: Q1 - December to February, Q2 - March to May, Q3 - June to August and Q4 - September to November.
<b>Data Collection</b>	Information is collected on laptop computers, using computer-assisted personal interview (CAPI) software.
<b>Sample Design</b>	<p>A two-stage sample design is used. This comprises a first stage sample of 2,600 blocks (or small areas) selected at county level to proportionately represent eight strata reflecting population density. Each block was selected to contain, on average, 75 dwellings and the sample of blocks is fixed for a period of about five years. In the second stage of sampling, 15 households are surveyed in each block to give a total quarterly sample of 39,000 households.</p> <p>Households are asked to take part in the survey for five consecutive quarters and are then replaced by other households in the same block. Thus, one fifth of the households in the survey are replaced each quarter and the QNHS sample involves an overlap of 80% between consecutive quarters and 20% between the same quarter in consecutive years.</p> <p>The survey results are weighted to agree with population estimates broken down by age, sex and region. The population estimates for April of each year are published in a separate release.</p>
<b>ILO Labour Force Classification</b>	<p>The primary classification used for the QNHS results is the ILO labour force classification. Labour Force Survey data on this basis have been published since 1988. The ILO classification distinguishes the following main subgroups of the population aged 15 or over:</p> <p><b>In Employment:</b> Persons who worked in the week before the survey for one hour or more for payment or profit, including work on the family farm or business and all persons who had a job but were not at work because of illness, holidays etc. in the week.</p> <p><b>Unemployed:</b> Persons who, in the week before the survey, were without work and available for work and had taken specific steps, in the preceding four weeks, to find work.</p> <p><b>Inactive Population (not in labour force):</b> All other persons.</p> <p>The labour force comprises persons employed plus unemployed.</p>
<b>Participation and Unemployment Rates</b>	The rates given in this release are based on the ILO classification. The Participation Rate is the number of persons in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 or over. The Unemployment Rate is the number of unemployed expressed as a percentage of the total labour force.
<b>Duration of Unemployment</b>	The duration of unemployment is the length of time since a person last had a job or began looking for work, whichever is more recent. The long-term unemployment rate is the number of persons unemployed for one year or more expressed as a percentage of the total labour force.

**Underemployment**

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

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

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

**Principal Economic Status Classification**

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

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

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

**NACE Industrial Classification**

The QNHS sectoral employment figures are based on the EU NACE classification as defined in Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3037/90. Ten NACE sub-categories are distinguished in Table 2a of this release. About half of these categories correspond exactly or very closely with the sectoral breakdown formerly used in the LFS. However, there are some discontinuities between the old and new series. The CSO can provide tables showing the correspondence between the two classifications, using LFS data, to interested users.

The QNHS sectoral series in Table 2a, in each quarter up to quarter one of 1999, were revised following improvements to the activity and occupation coding procedures in the survey. This had a marginal effect on the allocation of the employment figures between sectors but did not alter the main trends at sectoral level.

**Occupations**

Table 2b presents occupational data. The classification system used is based on the UK Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) with some modifications to reflect the Irish labour market. This classification was also used in the 1996 Census of Population and has replaced the previous Census and Labour Force Survey occupations classification. The old and new classifications are not perfectly comparable. The 1996 Census of Population report on occupations (Census Volume 7) contains further information on comparing the classifications.

The data given in Table 2b is at a broad level, corresponding to SOC major groups. More detailed quarterly data is available on request from the CSO.

**NESF Recommendations on Unemployment Statistics**

In May 1997, the National Economic and Social Forum (NESF) published its report on unemployment statistics (Forum Report No. 13) which included a range of recommendations on unemployment statistics. The CSO broadly supported the recommendations and, using them as a basis, proposed a new form of presentation for labour force statistics to the *Strategy Group on Employment and Unemployment (SGEU)*. The group endorsed the CSO's proposal and it was agreed by Government in December, 1997.

The new presentation is reflected in the prominence given to the ILO-based measures of employment and unemployment and in the introduction of a number of new summary labour market indicators.

**Labour Supply Indicators**

Table 11 contains three indicators of potential labour supply. These indicators take into account, in addition to the unemployed, groups outside the labour force who have indicated some interest in obtaining a job. These extra groups include discouraged workers (who are not looking for work as they believe they are not qualified or that no work is available) and other groups who want work but do not meet all the ILO criteria to be classified as unemployed. Persons who indicated that they were not available or not looking for work because they were in education were not included in the calculation of any of these indicators. The indicators are available back to 1988, when the ILO classification was first included in LFS reports.

A further indicator, the percentage of households with children under 15 which have no person in employment, has been calculated for the years 1988 to 1997 and is available on request. This indicator will be published in due course in conjunction with a comprehensive analysis of quarterly household and family statistics from the QNHS.

**Comparing the LFS and the QNHS**

The LFS was conducted each year in April and involved the completion of a written questionnaire in each of the sample households. The QNHS, on the other hand, involves continuous surveying (of 3,000 households each week) so that the results reflect the average situation over the course of three months. The LFS paper questionnaires have been replaced by laptop computers, allowing some key questions (such as existence of a job in the week before the survey, full-time versus part-time jobs) to be refined and improved. The main factors affecting comparability of the two surveys are:

- Seasonal effects on numbers employed and unemployed
- The change from a point-in-time to a continuous survey (survey reference period)
- Changes in the questionnaire, which has increased the observed level of labour force participation, particularly in part-time jobs.

The changes made to the questionnaire and their effect on the survey results are described below.

**Changes to Questions on Employment**

The LFS question relating to ILO employment was a multiple choice question about the person's employment situation last week in which one of the response categories was "*Worked for at least 1 hour...*". This was replaced in the QNHS by the following three direct questions:

*"In the week ending Sunday dd/mm/yyyy did you do any work for payment or profit, even if it was for one hour?"*

*"Even though you did not do paid work in the week ending dd/mm/yyyy, did you have a job or business from which you were away and to which you expect to return?"*

*"Or, did you do any work for a business owned by another family member?"*

The second and third questions were only asked if the previous answer was "*No*". The main effect of these questions has been to elicit more information about part-time employment, so that the estimates of part-time employment are higher in the QNHS than in the LFS.

Information on full-time and part-time jobs is also collected using a more direct approach in the QNHS. The relevant LFS question distinguished four response categories, relating to occasional and regular as well as to full-time and part-time jobs. These concepts are now asked separately and the question on full-time or part-time work is as follows:

*"Thinking about the hours of work in the job, would you describe it as full-time or part-time?"*

This change has also increased the proportion of respondents indicating part-time involvement in the workforce. The effect of these changes is to cause a once-off discontinuity between the LFS and QNHS results.

**Effect of Questionnaire Changes, 1997-1998**

The Principal Economic Status (PES) results, which are broadly comparable between the LFS and QNHS, showed an annual increase of 88,300 in the At Work category between spring 1997 and 1998. This is below the increase of 114,600 observed in the ILO numbers in employment, which included almost 20,000 more students and about 5,000 more women working in the home who also had a job. The CSO is attributing 20,000 of the observed annual increase in ILO employment in the year to March-May 1998 to the improved coverage of part-time employment, giving an underlying change for the year of 95,000. Breaking this down for males and females, male employment is estimated to have increased by 52,000 and female employment by 43,000 between spring 1997 and 1998.

**Seasonality**

Seasonal factors do not affect annual comparisons of LFS/QNHS results. However, they do affect the sub-annual comparisons and the effects of seasonal variation in labour supply and demand are evident from the QNHS results.

Seasonal factors are most clearly visible in the results for the June-August quarter, when the number of persons in employment is at its highest. Unemployment also increases in that quarter, when more people are available and looking for work. Other summer seasonal effects can be seen in the sectoral employment figures (with strong results for retailing, hotels and restaurants) and in the lower number of students in summer. There is also evidence that employment and unemployment are both lower in the winter months.

However, it will not be possible to accurately calculate seasonal factors until the survey has been conducted for a number of years.

**NUTS2 and NUTS3 regions**

The regional classifications in this release are based on the NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units) classification used by Eurostat. The NUTS3 regions correspond to the eight Regional Authorities established under the Local Government Act, 1991 (Regional Authorities) (Establishment) Order, 1993, which came into operation on 1 January 1994. The NUTS2 regions, which were proposed by Government and agreed by Eurostat in 1999, are groupings of the NUTS3 regions. The composition of the regions is set out below.

**Border, Midlands and Western NUTS2 Region**

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

**Eastern and Southern NUTS2 Region**

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