

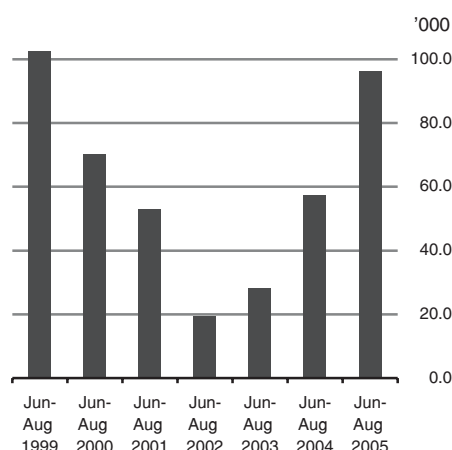


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

30 November 2005

Quarterly National Household Survey Quarter 3 2005

**Annual Increase in Employment in the
Third Quarters 1999 to 2005**



ILO Labour Force

	In Employment	Unemployed	Labour Force
	'000		
Jun-Aug 2004	1,893.6	93.9	1,987.5
Sep-Nov 2004	1,894.1	85.6	1,979.7
Dec-Feb 2004	1,908.3	82.1	1,990.5
Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8
Jun-Aug 2005	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5
<i>Change in quarter</i>	<i>+60.6</i>	<i>+11.1</i>	<i>+71.7</i>
<i>Change in year</i>	<i>+96.2</i>	<i>+2.8</i>	<i>+99.0</i>

Strong employment growth continues in third quarter

There were 1,989,800 persons in employment in the third quarter of 2005, an increase of 96,200 in the year. In absolute terms, this growth was slightly higher than the annual increase of 93,000 recorded in the previous quarter and thus the exceptionally strong annual employment growth rate of over 5% has been maintained over the two quarters. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

Full-time employment (+70,800) accounted for almost three-quarters of the annual increase. The number of women in employment increased by 48,200 (+6.1%), of which 18,000 was accounted for by a rise in the number of part-time workers. The number of males in employment increased by 48,000 (+4.4%) over the same period. *See table 1.*

There were 96,700 persons unemployed in the third quarter of 2005, representing an increase of 2,800 in the year. The rise in unemployment was dominated by the increase of 3,000 in the numbers in short-term unemployment, most of whom were women. *See tables 1, 17 & 18.*

The labour force grew by 99,000 or 5.0% in the year to the third quarter of 2005, to a total of 2,086,500. The labour force now accounts for 63.2% of all persons aged 15 and over, compared with 61.8% in the third quarter of 2004. The female participation rate continued to rise strongly, increasing from 51.0% to 52.9% over the year while the male participation rate also increased over the year from 72.8% to 73.7%. It is estimated that migration contributed close to 40,000 of the overall increase in the labour force. *See table 1.*

The latest available figures for all 25 EU member states, which are for the second quarter of 2005, show that between the second quarters of 2004 and 2005 Ireland's employment level grew by 5.1% and its labour force by 4.9%. The comparable figures for the EU-15 countries were 1.5% and 1.3% respectively. *See table 24.*

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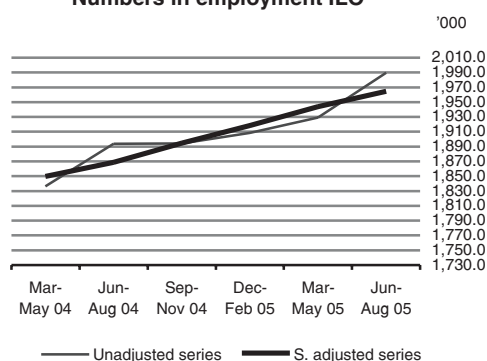
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Numbers in employment ILO



Impact of seasonality on headline figures

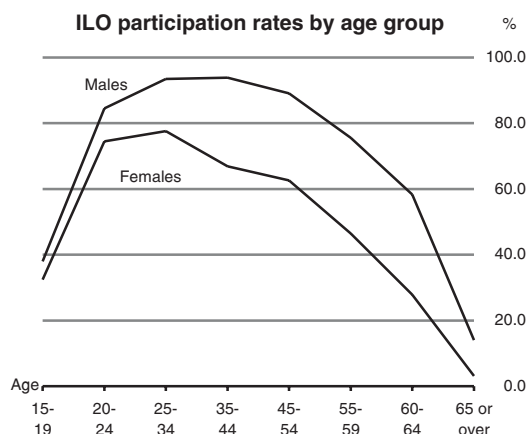
When seasonal factors are taken into account the number of persons in employment increased by just under 21,000 in the third quarter. This is somewhat lower than the average seasonally adjusted quarterly increase of 25,000 recorded over the three previous quarters. There was a slight quarterly decrease (-400) in the seasonally adjusted number of persons unemployed and the corresponding unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.3%. *See table 3.*

Migration and increased participation fuel labour force growth

Demographic factors, such as the increase in the population of working age and changes in its age structure, added an estimated 58,000 to the labour force over the year. Net migration is estimated to have accounted for approximately 70% (around 40,000) of this demographic increase.

The balance of 41,000 in the labour force increase was due to higher labour force participation rates. All age groups recorded increases in participation rates while female participation rates continued to rise sharply. There was an increase of almost 27,000 in the number of married women in the labour force with their participation rate rising by over two percentage points from 48.9% to 51.2%. *See tables 1, 9 & 15.*

The broadest survey-based labour supply indicator, S3, which includes persons outside the labour force who show some interest in obtaining work as well as the unemployed, decreased from 8.2% in the third quarter of 2004 to 7.9% in the third quarter of 2005. *See tables 1, 19 & 20.*



Services and Construction sectors growing strongly

Employment in the *Construction* (+30,400) and *Financial and other business services* (+20,200) sectors continued to grow very strongly in the year to the third quarter of 2005. All other areas in the services sector also recorded significant employment growth over the year. In contrast, there was a sharp fall of 11,000 in the numbers employed in *Other production industries* while there was little or no change in *Agriculture, forestry and fishing*. *See table 2b.*

Close to one in four of new migrants found employment in the *Construction* sector while increases were also recorded in *Other production industries*, *Wholesale & retail trade*, *Financial and other business services* and *Hotels and restaurants*. Around three quarters of the new migrants can be attributed to persons from the ten new EU member states.

All occupational categories with the exception of *Managers and administrators* (-4,200) increased in the year. The largest increases were in *Craft and related* (+22,800), *Clerical and secretarial* (+21,200) and *Sales* (+16,400). *See table 4.*

There were 1,654,700 employees in the third quarter of 2005, an annual increase of 92,800. This comprised an increase of 48,900 females and 44,000 males. The number of self-employed persons increased by 3,000 to 320,100 in the year while the number of persons assisting relatives increased slightly to 15,000. *See table 6.*

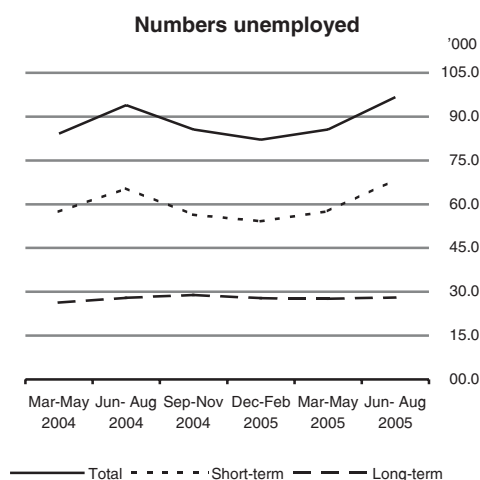
Employment rate increases for all age groups

The employment rate for persons aged 15-64 continued to rise in the year to the third quarter of 2005 from 67.2% to 68.8%. The rates for both males and females increased over the year, with the male rate rising from 77.1% to 78.2% and the female rate rising from 57.2% to 59.3%. Strong employment rate growth was particularly evident among the older age groups. The employment rate for males aged 60-64 increased from 53.7% to 57.0% while the rate for females in the 55-59 age group rose from 41.4% to 45.4% over the year. *See table 12.*

In absolute terms the most significant employment increase was evident in the 25-34 year age category which increased by over 36,000 in the twelve months to the third quarter of 2005. Males accounted for 21,500 of this increase. Other significant increases were evident in the 35-44 (+19,100), 45-54 (+12,300) and 60-64 (+10,500) year age categories. *See table 11.*

The number of persons in part-time employment increased by 25,400 in the year to the third quarter of 2005. Most (18,000) of this rise was accounted for by increased numbers of females taking up part-time work. Overall the sectors that showed the largest annual increases in part-time employment were the *Wholesale and retail* (+6,500), *Financial and other business services* (+5,600), *Education* (+3,700) and *Construction* (+2,400) sectors.

The average working week in the third quarter of 2005 was 37.2 hours showing no change from the figure recorded in the same quarter last year. The number of persons working *variable hours* decreased slightly to 217,300 over the year. *See table 5.*



Slight increase in numbers unemployed

There were 58,000 males and 38,800 females unemployed in the third quarter of 2005, representing annual increases of 2,600 and 300 for women and men respectively. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged over the quarter at 4.3% compared with 4.4% in the same quarter of 2004. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for men was 4.6% while that for women was 4.0%. *See tables 3 & 13.*

All of the overall increase in unemployment was accounted for by those whose duration of unemployment was less than a year (i.e. short-term unemployed). There was virtually no change in the number of long-term unemployed and the corresponding rate remained unchanged at 1.4%. *See tables 16, 17 & 18.*

Regional comparisons

Employment grew by 22,900 (+4.7%) in the Border, Midland and Western region and by 73,300 (+5.2%) in the Southern and Eastern region in the year to the third quarter of 2005. There was an increase of 4,300 in the numbers unemployed in the Southern and Eastern region while there was a fall of 1,400 in the Border, Midland and Western region. *See table 7a.*

The participation rate in the Southern and Eastern region increased from 62.2% to 63.9% between the third quarters of 2004 and 2005. The participation rate in the Border, Midland and Western region increased also, up from 60.4% to 61.3% over the same period.

At NUTS3 level employment grew in all regions with the Mid-East and the Mid-West showing the highest percentage increases (+6.1%) over the year. The number of persons in employment resident in the Dublin region increased by over 25,000 (+4.5%). *See table 7b.*

Principal Economic Status

The number of persons describing their usual situation as “at work” grew by 93,000 in the year to 1,890,600. This comprised an increase of 49,000 males and 44,000 females. This compares to an increase of 57,100 in the year to the third quarter of 2004. Meanwhile, the number of persons describing themselves as “unemployed” rose by 2,100 in the year to 119,800. *See table 21.*

The numbers recorded as “on home duties” fell by 18,800 to 545,800 in the year. *See table 21.*

The number of students showed a fall of 4,400 in the year to 346,000. In the third quarter of 2005 25.1% of students had a job compared to 23.8% for the same quarter last year and this represents an increase of 3,300 in the number of students with a job. *See table 22.*

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

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ILO Economic Status	Jun- Aug 03	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05
Males							
In labour force	1,123.0	1,119.6	1,156.0	1,145.2	1,149.8	1,163.3	1,204.3
In employment:	1,063.6	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3
full-time	991.1	1,000.2	1,030.4	1,027.7	1,028.5	1,039.4	1,071.0
part-time:	72.5	64.9	67.9	64.7	69.8	70.7	75.3
of which: part-time, not underemployed ¹	70.4	63.5	65.8	63.6	68.2	68.7	73.6
part-time, underemployed ¹	2.1	1.5	2.1	1.0	1.6	2.0	1.7
Unemployed:	59.4	54.4	57.7	52.8	51.5	53.2	58.0
seeking full-time work	55.0	52.1	54.4	50.8	48.9	50.5	54.3
seeking part-time work	4.4	2.3	3.3	2.0	2.6	2.7	3.6
Not in labour force	433.4	459.1	431.4	456.4	461.5	457.6	428.7
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	8.6	6.3	7.7	7.9	7.3	5.2	6.9
Others	424.8	452.8	423.8	448.5	454.2	452.3	421.8
Total males aged 15 or over	1,556.4	1,578.7	1,587.4	1,601.6	1,611.3	1,620.9	1,633.0
Unemployment rate %	5.3	4.9	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.8
Participation rate %	72.2	70.9	72.8	71.5	71.4	71.8	73.7
Females							
In labour force	812.3	800.8	831.5	834.5	840.7	851.5	882.2
In employment:	772.8	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1	843.5
full-time	534.6	524.8	545.8	549.8	552.5	558.1	576.0
part-time:	238.2	246.2	249.5	251.9	257.6	261.0	267.5
of which: part-time, not underemployed ¹	236.0	243.9	247.6	250.0	256.1	259.0	265.7
part-time, underemployed ¹	2.3	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.4	2.1	1.8
Unemployed:	39.4	29.8	36.2	32.8	30.6	32.4	38.8
seeking full-time work	27.9	19.6	25.7	21.4	20.2	20.4	25.9
seeking part-time work	11.5	10.2	10.5	11.4	10.4	12.0	12.9
Not in labour force	790.5	821.1	799.5	809.6	810.9	805.0	786.4
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	6.0	3.6	5.8	3.4	4.8	3.9	6.7
Others	784.5	817.5	793.7	806.3	806.2	801.2	779.6
Total females aged 15 or over	1,602.8	1,621.9	1,631.0	1,644.1	1,651.7	1,656.6	1,668.6
Unemployment rate %	4.9	3.7	4.3	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.4
Participation rate %	50.7	49.4	51.0	50.8	50.9	51.4	52.9
All persons							
In labour force	1,935.3	1,920.3	1,987.5	1,979.7	1,990.5	2,014.8	2,086.5
In employment:	1,836.4	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8
full-time	1,525.7	1,525.0	1,576.2	1,577.5	1,581.0	1,597.5	1,647.0
part-time:	310.7	311.1	317.4	316.5	327.4	331.7	342.8
of which: part-time, not underemployed ¹	306.4	307.4	313.4	313.6	324.3	327.7	339.3
part-time, underemployed ¹	4.3	3.7	4.0	2.9	3.0	4.0	3.5
Unemployed:	98.8	84.2	93.9	85.6	82.1	85.6	96.7
seeking full-time work	82.9	71.7	80.1	72.2	69.1	71.0	80.2
seeking part-time work	15.9	12.4	13.8	13.4	13.0	14.7	16.5
Not in labour force	1,223.9	1,280.3	1,230.9	1,266.0	1,272.5	1,262.6	1,215.1
Marginally attached to the Labour Force	14.6	10.0	13.4	11.3	12.1	9.1	13.6
Others	1,209.3	1,270.3	1,217.5	1,254.8	1,260.4	1,253.5	1,201.5
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,159.2	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7	3,262.9	3,277.4	3,301.6
Unemployment rate %	5.1	4.4	4.7	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.6
Participation rate %	61.3	60.0	61.8	61.0	61.0	61.5	63.2

¹ See Background Notes.

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

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Broad economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Jun- Aug 03	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05
Males							
A-B Agriculture	107.1	105.8	108.9	102.3	101.5	102.6	109.0
C-F Industry	405.6	404.5	423.7	429.6	431.8	436.1	447.0
G-Q Services	550.8	554.8	565.6	560.6	565.0	571.3	590.3
Females							
A-B Agriculture	14.3	11.1	10.9	10.2	11.0	11.1	10.6
C-F Industry	102.2	102.1	103.6	98.9	98.6	100.5	99.6
G-Q Services	656.3	657.8	680.8	692.6	700.5	707.6	733.2
All persons							
A-B Agriculture	121.4	117.0	119.9	112.5	112.5	113.7	119.6
C-F Industry	507.8	506.5	527.3	528.5	530.4	536.6	546.7
G-Q Services	1,207.2	1,212.7	1,246.5	1,253.2	1,265.4	1,278.9	1,323.5
Total persons	1,836.4	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8

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

'000

Economic sector (NACE Rev. 1)	Jun- Aug 03	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05
Males							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	107.1	105.8	108.9	102.3	101.5	102.6	109.0
C-E Other production industries	215.7	208.8	212.1	212.2	210.0	205.9	207.2
F Construction	189.9	195.7	211.6	217.4	221.8	230.2	239.8
G Wholesale and retail trade	131.5	131.3	137.0	134.6	134.3	133.2	142.1
H Hotels and restaurants	51.9	49.4	48.4	45.7	48.2	45.7	50.5
I Transport, storage and communication	84.2	87.2	89.4	90.5	90.4	91.1	91.2
J-K Financial and other business services	117.3	120.9	123.0	123.0	123.7	129.5	130.4
L Public administration and defence	53.3	48.8	48.2	46.7	48.5	48.8	50.0
M Education	34.5	33.2	35.1	35.0	34.6	35.8	35.0
N Health	33.5	33.8	33.7	33.4	32.9	33.5	32.8
O-Q Other services	44.6	50.3	50.8	51.6	52.4	53.7	58.2
Total males	1,063.6	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3
Females							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	14.3	11.1	10.9	10.2	11.0	11.1	10.6
C-E Other production industries	92.0	91.8	93.4	88.9	87.2	88.3	87.4
F Construction	10.2	10.3	10.1	10.0	11.4	12.2	12.2
G Wholesale and retail trade	129.5	128.9	133.2	130.9	133.3	133.7	144.5
H Hotels and restaurants	71.7	58.4	67.7	66.9	64.0	65.3	69.8
I Transport, storage and communication	28.6	26.0	25.4	25.2	25.3	27.1	27.3
J-K Financial and other business services	113.3	116.1	120.0	124.7	129.2	127.6	132.9
L Public administration and defence	40.5	40.7	45.3	47.6	47.9	49.4	51.0
M Education	75.6	84.7	77.3	83.5	85.2	87.3	84.8
N Health	140.3	143.3	148.4	149.1	152.6	154.5	158.7
O-Q Other services	56.7	59.7	63.6	64.7	63.0	62.7	64.2
Total females	772.8	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1	843.5
All persons							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	121.4	117.0	119.9	112.5	112.5	113.7	119.6
C-E Other production industries	307.7	300.6	305.6	301.1	297.3	294.2	294.6
F Construction	200.1	206.0	221.7	227.4	233.1	242.4	252.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	261.0	260.2	270.2	265.4	267.6	266.9	286.6
H Hotels and restaurants	123.7	107.8	116.1	112.6	112.3	111.0	120.4
I Transport, storage and communication	112.8	113.2	114.8	115.7	115.7	118.2	118.5
J-K Financial and other business services	230.6	237.0	243.1	247.7	252.9	257.1	263.3
L Public administration and defence	93.8	89.5	93.5	94.4	96.4	98.2	101.0
M Education	110.1	117.9	112.3	118.5	119.8	123.1	119.8
N Health	173.8	177.0	182.1	182.5	185.5	188.0	191.5
O-Q Other services	101.3	110.0	114.4	116.3	115.4	116.4	122.4
Total persons	1,836.4	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8

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

'000

ILO Economic Status/ NACE Economic Sector	Jun- Aug 03	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05
Males							
In labour force	1,103.6	1,129.2	1,136.5	1,146.9	1,158.1	1,173.3	1,184.3
In employment:	1,047.9	1,073.3	1,082.6	1,092.8	1,105.3	1,118.7	1,130.4
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.9	107.9	106.5	101.1	103.1	104.6	106.6
C-E Other production industries	212.9	210.2	209.9	213.0	209.9	207.2	205.4
F Construction	187.1	198.1	208.5	215.8	224.0	233.1	236.3
G Wholesale and retail trade	129.0	133.5	134.3	134.9	134.4	135.6	139.2
H Hotels and restaurants	50.4	49.8	47.0	46.2	48.7	46.0	49.1
I Transport, storage and communication	83.6	87.3	88.9	90.3	91.1	91.1	90.8
J-K Financial and other business services	116.1	119.8	121.8	123.6	125.5	128.3	129.2
L Public administration and defence	52.1	48.6	47.2	47.5	48.9	48.5	49.0
M Education	34.6	33.4	35.2	34.8	34.5	36.0	35.1
N Health	33.9	33.7	34.0	33.1	33.0	33.4	33.1
O-Q Other services	44.1	50.9	50.3	51.4	52.5	54.4	57.6
Unemployed	55.8	55.5	54.1	54.0	52.9	54.2	54.3
Unemployment rate %	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6
Participation rate %	70.9	71.4	71.5	71.7	72.0	72.3	72.4
Females							
In labour force	796.3	808.5	816.0	836.6	846.3	859.8	866.1
In employment:	761.5	776.5	785.0	802.2	814.1	825.1	833.0
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	13.9	10.9	10.6	10.6	11.1	10.8	10.3
C-E Other production industries	89.4	91.9	90.8	89.6	89.1	88.0	85.1
F Construction	10.0	10.2	9.9	10.3	11.5	12.0	11.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	126.0	130.6	129.7	132.5	133.5	135.5	140.6
H Hotels and restaurants	67.1	60.5	63.5	66.5	66.5	67.6	65.6
I Transport, storage and communication	28.3	26.5	25.2	24.9	25.2	27.7	27.1
J-K Financial and other business services	112.4	117.7	119.5	124.7	127.7	129.5	132.7
L Public administration and defence	39.9	40.6	44.6	47.6	48.6	49.4	50.3
M Education	79.8	82.9	81.6	82.7	83.4	85.5	89.5
N Health	139.4	143.9	147.3	149.6	152.5	155.3	157.4
O-Q Other services	55.5	60.4	62.3	63.8	64.4	63.5	63.0
Unemployed	35.0	32.0	32.1	32.9	32.5	34.8	34.4
Unemployment rate %	4.4	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.0	4.0
Participation rate %	49.6	49.8	50.0	51.0	51.3	51.8	51.9
All persons							
In labour force	1,901.8	1,937.5	1,954.5	1,981.9	2,003.9	2,033.1	2,052.4
In employment:	1,810.1	1,849.9	1,868.7	1,894.8	1,918.2	1,944.0	1,964.7
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	118.8	118.9	117.2	111.6	114.3	115.5	116.8
C-E Other production industries	301.7	301.9	300.1	303.1	299.7	295.1	289.6
F Construction	196.9	208.9	218.2	225.9	235.2	245.7	248.1
G Wholesale and retail trade	255.1	264.1	264.2	267.2	267.8	271.0	280.2
H Hotels and restaurants	117.5	111.2	110.6	112.9	114.2	114.5	114.9
I Transport, storage and communication	111.7	113.5	113.9	115.3	116.7	118.4	117.7
J-K Financial and other business services	228.5	237.5	241.1	248.5	253.5	257.8	261.3
L Public administration and defence	92.0	89.6	91.8	95.3	97.0	98.4	99.3
M Education	114.3	116.3	116.5	117.5	118.1	121.6	124.2
N Health	173.3	177.5	181.3	182.7	185.5	188.7	190.5
O-Q Other services	99.4	111.4	112.5	115.2	116.9	118.0	120.5
Unemployed	90.9	87.7	86.1	87.0	85.3	89.0	88.6
Unemployment rate %	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.3
Participation rate %	60.1	60.5	60.7	61.2	61.5	62.0	62.1

¹ See Background Notes.

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

'000

Broad occupational group	Jun- Aug 03	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05
Males							
1. Managers and administrators	219.6	227.1	227.7	221.8	220.7	218.6	216.7
2. Professional	104.6	108.4	107.5	110.2	108.3	112.5	109.5
3. Associate professional and technical	71.7	72.3	69.2	67.9	68.5	70.9	71.0
4. Clerical and secretarial	53.1	53.1	56.3	58.8	58.1	58.7	61.4
5. Craft and related	234.0	231.3	244.0	251.5	256.5	260.1	267.1
6. Personal and protective service	77.4	72.8	74.3	73.2	75.3	73.4	77.9
7. Sales	59.0	59.0	59.3	59.2	61.8	63.0	66.8
8. Plant and machine operatives	135.9	130.3	138.0	137.7	140.0	138.0	143.3
9. Other	108.1	111.0	122.0	112.1	109.0	114.9	132.7
Total males	1,063.6	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3
Females							
1. Managers and administrators	90.7	92.1	89.5	91.0	96.4	98.1	96.3
2. Professional	90.2	103.0	97.7	101.7	101.5	106.1	103.4
3. Associate professional and technical	95.3	94.8	96.1	98.5	97.8	100.5	100.0
4. Clerical and secretarial	168.6	167.6	171.2	174.7	181.1	177.7	187.5
5. Craft and related	14.5	12.4	13.0	11.2	12.3	11.7	12.6
6. Personal and protective service	117.6	112.6	124.1	122.6	124.0	125.0	133.9
7. Sales	95.7	93.3	100.6	99.5	101.0	101.4	109.5
8. Plant and machine operatives	34.9	29.1	32.6	31.6	29.7	29.7	28.8
9. Other	65.3	66.1	70.3	70.8	66.2	68.9	71.5
Total females	772.8	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1	843.5
All persons							
1. Managers and administrators	310.3	319.2	317.2	312.8	317.2	316.7	313.0
2. Professional	194.8	211.4	205.3	211.9	209.9	218.6	213.0
3. Associate professional and technical	167.0	167.1	165.4	166.4	166.3	171.5	170.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	221.8	220.7	227.6	233.5	239.2	236.3	248.8
5. Craft and related	248.5	243.6	256.9	262.8	268.8	271.9	279.7
6. Personal and protective service	195.1	185.4	198.4	195.9	199.3	198.4	211.8
7. Sales	154.7	152.3	159.9	158.7	162.8	164.4	176.3
8. Plant and machine operatives	170.8	159.4	170.7	169.2	169.7	167.7	172.0
9. Other	173.4	177.0	192.3	182.9	175.3	183.7	204.2
Total persons	1,836.4	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8

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

	'000						
Usual hours per week	Jun-Aug 03	Mar-May 04	Jun-Aug 04	Sep-Nov 04	Dec-Feb 05	Mar-May 05	Jun-Aug 05
Males							
1-9 hours	4.7	9.1	5.4	6.4	8.6	7.8	4.8
10-19	16.2	17.4	14.7	15.7	18.4	19.1	16.1
20-29	42.3	35.6	38.2	36.6	37.7	39.4	42.2
30-34	20.6	18.8	19.6	18.6	18.1	19.1	21.6
35-39	379.9	375.6	396.2	392.4	391.3	394.8	405.0
40-44	242.4	250.5	260.5	253.6	253.5	256.7	275.2
45 & over	201.1	198.9	193.7	195.7	196.0	203.1	213.2
Variable hours ¹	156.4	159.3	170.2	173.5	174.7	170.0	168.0
Total males	1,063.6	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>41.5</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>41.0</i>	<i>41.1</i>	<i>41.4</i>
Females							
1-9 hours	17.1	22.5	17.5	20.5	23.6	24.0	18.9
10-19	71.0	77.8	75.7	79.7	81.0	85.7	80.3
20-29	149.8	152.2	156.9	156.4	159.2	159.8	170.7
30-34	46.6	49.9	46.8	48.8	49.1	51.9	55.9
35-39	310.5	293.6	315.7	313.7	309.9	308.0	324.7
40-44	99.9	98.8	104.1	101.8	104.2	107.0	109.2
45 & over	33.2	32.6	31.3	31.2	32.2	33.4	34.5
Variable hours ¹	44.9	43.7	47.3	49.6	50.9	49.3	49.3
Total females	772.8	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1	843.5
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>32.4</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>32.0</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>32.1</i>
All persons							
1-9 hours	21.8	31.6	22.9	27.0	32.2	31.8	23.8
10-19	87.2	95.2	90.4	95.4	99.4	104.8	96.4
20-29	192.1	187.8	195.1	193.0	196.9	199.2	212.9
30-34	67.1	68.7	66.4	67.3	67.2	71.0	77.6
35-39	690.4	669.1	711.8	706.1	701.2	702.8	729.7
40-44	342.2	349.3	364.6	355.3	357.7	363.7	384.4
45 & over	234.2	231.5	225.0	226.9	228.2	236.5	247.7
Variable hours ¹	201.4	203.0	217.5	223.1	225.6	219.4	217.3
Total persons	1,836.4	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.0</i>	<i>37.2</i>	<i>37.1</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>37.2</i>

¹ Includes 'not stated'.

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

'000

Employment status	Jun-Aug 03	Mar-May 04	Jun-Aug 04	Sep-Nov 04	Dec-Feb 05	Mar-May 05	Jun-Aug 05
Males							
Self employed (with paid employees)	84.2	85.6	88.9	88.7	90.0	90.4	91.8
Self employed (with no paid employees)	169.5	177.0	176.4	172.8	177.5	177.2	178.0
Employee	800.9	796.2	825.0	823.5	824.1	835.9	869.0
Assisting relative	9.0	6.4	8.1	7.4	6.7	6.6	7.5
Total males	1,063.6	1,065.2	1,098.3	1,092.4	1,098.3	1,110.1	1,146.3
Females							
Self employed (with paid employees)	17.2	20.5	20.9	21.9	20.5	19.8	18.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	32.3	32.5	31.1	31.3	31.1	33.8	31.3
Employee	714.2	710.9	736.9	741.6	751.0	758.4	785.8
Assisting relative	9.2	7.1	6.5	6.9	7.5	7.2	7.5
Total females	772.8	771.0	795.3	801.7	810.1	819.1	843.5
All persons							
Self employed (with paid employees)	101.3	106.1	109.7	110.6	110.5	110.2	110.7
Self employed (with no paid employees)	201.8	209.5	207.4	204.1	208.6	211.0	209.4
Employee	1,515.2	1,507.1	1,561.9	1,565.1	1,575.1	1,594.2	1,654.7
Assisting relative	18.2	13.5	14.5	14.3	14.2	13.7	15.0
Total persons	1,836.4	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8

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

Region (NUTS2)	In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border, Midland and Western					
Jun-Aug 2003	462.6	26.4	489.0	5.4	58.8
Mar-May 2004	468.9	22.3	491.2	4.5	58.1
Jun-Aug 2004	489.8	25.2	515.1	4.9	60.4
Sep-Nov 2004	490.8	23.4	514.2	4.6	59.7
Dec-Feb 2005	490.0	22.2	512.2	4.3	59.2
Mar-May 2005	495.5	22.1	517.6	4.3	59.6
Jun-Aug 2005	512.7	23.8	536.4	4.4	61.3
Southern and Eastern					
Jun-Aug 2003	1,373.9	72.4	1,446.3	5.0	62.1
Mar-May 2004	1,367.3	61.9	1,429.2	4.3	60.7
Jun-Aug 2004	1,403.8	68.6	1,472.4	4.7	62.2
Sep-Nov 2004	1,403.3	62.2	1,465.5	4.2	61.5
Dec-Feb 2005	1,418.3	60.0	1,478.3	4.1	61.6
Mar-May 2005	1,433.7	63.5	1,497.2	4.2	62.2
Jun-Aug 2005	1,477.1	72.9	1,550.1	4.7	63.9
State					
Jun-Aug 2003	1,836.4	98.8	1,935.3	5.1	61.3
Mar-May 2004	1,836.2	84.2	1,920.3	4.4	60.0
Jun-Aug 2004	1,893.6	93.9	1,987.5	4.7	61.8
Sep-Nov 2004	1,894.1	85.6	1,979.7	4.3	61.0
Dec-Feb 2005	1,908.3	82.1	1,990.5	4.1	61.0
Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8	4.2	61.5
Jun-Aug 2005	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5	4.6	63.2

¹ See Background Notes.

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

Region (NUTS3)		In employment	Unemployed	In labour force	Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		'000	'000	'000	%	%
Border	Jun-Aug 2003	184.2	12.1	196.4	6.2	57.2
	Mar-May 2004	189.7	10.5	200.2	5.2	57.2
	Jun-Aug 2004	195.3	12.2	207.6	5.9	58.9
	Sep-Nov 2004	196.6	11.1	207.7	5.4	58.5
	Dec-Feb 2005	196.6	9.9	206.5	4.8	58.0
	Mar-May 2005	197.8	10.3	208.1	4.9	58.3
	Jun-Aug 2005	202.0	10.9	213.0	5.1	59.3
Midland	Jun-Aug 2003	102.6	5.5	108.2	5.1	60.4
	Mar-May 2004	102.9	5.0	107.9	4.6	59.2
	Jun-Aug 2004	108.3	5.7	114.0	5.0	61.9
	Sep-Nov 2004	107.4	4.7	112.1	4.2	60.2
	Dec-Feb 2005	109.9	3.9	113.8	3.5	60.6
	Mar-May 2005	110.1	4.5	114.6	4.0	61.0
	Jun-Aug 2005	113.7	4.9	118.6	4.1	62.6
West	Jun-Aug 2003	175.7	8.8	184.5	4.8	59.7
	Mar-May 2004	176.2	6.8	183.0	3.7	58.4
	Jun-Aug 2004	186.1	7.3	193.4	3.8	61.3
	Sep-Nov 2004	186.8	7.5	194.3	3.9	60.6
	Dec-Feb 2005	183.5	8.3	191.8	4.3	59.7
	Mar-May 2005	187.6	7.3	194.9	3.7	60.1
	Jun-Aug 2005	196.9	8.0	204.9	3.9	62.7
Dublin	Jun-Aug 2003	553.9	28.1	582.0	4.8	63.3
	Mar-May 2004	550.2	24.7	574.9	4.3	62.0
	Jun-Aug 2004	560.2	24.7	585.0	4.2	63.0
	Sep-Nov 2004	564.0	24.4	588.4	4.1	62.9
	Dec-Feb 2005	567.3	23.7	591.1	4.0	62.9
	Mar-May 2005	574.3	25.5	599.7	4.2	63.7
	Jun-Aug 2005	585.6	28.8	614.5	4.7	65.0
Mid-East	Jun-Aug 2003	203.4	8.9	212.3	4.2	64.6
	Mar-May 2004	204.2	6.7	210.9	3.2	62.8
	Jun-Aug 2004	210.9	8.2	219.0	3.7	64.6
	Sep-Nov 2004	212.0	6.2	218.2	2.9	63.7
	Dec-Feb 2005	216.2	6.0	222.2	2.7	64.3
	Mar-May 2005	217.3	6.0	223.4	2.7	64.2
	Jun-Aug 2005	223.8	8.6	232.4	3.7	66.1
Mid-West	Jun-Aug 2003	157.2	9.3	166.5	5.6	61.4
	Mar-May 2004	156.7	8.3	165.0	5.0	60.5
	Jun-Aug 2004	160.0	9.7	169.7	5.7	62.0
	Sep-Nov 2004	159.4	8.5	167.9	5.1	60.9
	Dec-Feb 2005	161.0	7.9	168.9	4.7	61.2
	Mar-May 2005	163.9	8.0	171.9	4.7	61.7
	Jun-Aug 2005	169.7	9.0	178.7	5.0	63.7
South-East	Jun-Aug 2003	195.3	13.1	208.3	6.3	61.5
	Mar-May 2004	192.2	10.5	202.6	5.2	58.9
	Jun-Aug 2004	195.9	13.0	208.9	6.2	60.2
	Sep-Nov 2004	195.2	11.6	206.8	5.6	59.1
	Dec-Feb 2005	198.9	11.3	210.2	5.4	59.5
	Mar-May 2005	200.3	12.0	212.3	5.6	59.9
	Jun-Aug 2005	206.4	14.8	221.2	6.7	61.8
South-West	Jun-Aug 2003	264.1	13.1	277.2	4.7	59.1
	Mar-May 2004	264.1	11.6	275.7	4.2	58.0
	Jun-Aug 2004	276.8	13.0	289.8	4.5	60.7
	Sep-Nov 2004	272.8	11.4	284.2	4.0	59.1
	Dec-Feb 2005	274.9	11.0	285.9	3.8	59.1
	Mar-May 2005	277.9	12.1	289.9	4.2	59.6
	Jun-Aug 2005	291.5	11.7	303.3	3.9	61.8
State	Jun-Aug 2003	1,836.4	98.8	1,935.3	5.1	61.3
	Mar-May 2004	1,836.2	84.2	1,920.3	4.4	60.0
	Jun-Aug 2004	1,893.6	93.9	1,987.5	4.7	61.8
	Sep-Nov 2004	1,894.1	85.6	1,979.7	4.3	61.0
	Dec-Feb 2005	1,908.3	82.1	1,990.5	4.1	61.0
	Mar-May 2005	1,929.2	85.6	2,014.8	4.2	61.5
	Jun-Aug 2005	1,989.8	96.7	2,086.5	4.6	63.2

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 8 Labour force participation rates (ILO) classified by sex, age group and marital status, June-August 2005

and marital status, June-August 2005									%
Marital status	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Single	38.0	84.5	92.4	87.8	77.5	57.1	44.2	19.0	73.1
Married	34.3	86.4	96.3	96.0	92.3	80.1	61.8	14.1	76.8
Separated or divorced	*	*	91.0	90.9	79.9	66.5	47.0	11.9	71.6
Widowed	*	*	*	96.1	71.2	61.1	49.5	7.2	23.6
Total males	38.0	84.5	93.5	93.9	89.1	75.6	58.3	14.0	73.7
Females									
Single	32.4	75.3	83.6	76.3	72.9	56.3	37.1	4.7	64.1
Married	50.9	54.5	69.2	64.6	60.6	44.2	25.9	3.4	51.2
Separated or divorced	*	*	58.8	67.3	66.1	53.5	41.4	3.9	58.7
Widowed	*	*	86.7	52.1	66.3	49.2	25.4	2.4	10.8
Total females	32.4	74.5	77.6	66.9	62.6	46.4	27.8	3.1	52.9
All persons									
Single	35.2	80.0	88.4	82.8	75.7	56.8	41.4	12.4	68.9
Married	40.9	62.5	80.9	80.3	76.7	62.6	44.7	9.5	64.1
Separated or divorced	*	*	68.2	74.8	70.7	58.6	43.7	7.7	63.2
Widowed	*	*	93.3	67.0	67.5	52.3	31.5	3.3	13.4
Total persons	35.2	79.5	85.6	80.4	75.9	61.2	43.1	7.9	63.2

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

	Age group								%
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total
Males									
Jun-Aug 2003	39.5	81.7	92.3	92.2	87.6	74.6	54.9	13.8	72.2
Mar-May 2004	27.0	76.1	92.5	93.1	89.1	75.5	54.9	13.7	70.9
Jun-Aug 2004	37.4	83.7	92.5	93.3	89.2	74.9	55.2	13.9	72.8
Sep-Nov 2004	29.1	77.7	92.6	93.5	89.1	74.8	56.9	13.6	71.5
Dec-Feb 2005	28.0	76.7	92.3	93.4	89.0	75.0	57.8	13.6	71.4
Mar-May 2005	27.9	75.8	92.8	93.8	89.4	73.8	60.0	14.6	71.8
Jun-Aug 2005	38.0	84.5	93.5	93.9	89.1	75.6	58.3	14.0	73.7
Females									
Jun-Aug 2003	33.2	73.0	75.4	66.0	57.0	41.6	24.9	3.0	50.7
Mar-May 2004	20.0	66.0	75.6	65.9	60.2	42.1	24.8	3.1	49.4
Jun-Aug 2004	30.7	73.9	75.6	65.0	60.8	42.6	22.0	3.0	51.0
Sep-Nov 2004	24.0	71.5	76.3	65.7	61.4	44.4	23.8	3.1	50.8
Dec-Feb 2005	22.4	68.6	76.8	66.3	62.4	45.3	25.9	3.2	50.9
Mar-May 2005	22.9	68.5	77.1	66.5	63.3	46.4	28.2	3.3	51.4
Jun-Aug 2005	32.4	74.5	77.6	66.9	62.6	46.4	27.8	3.1	52.9
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2003	36.4	77.4	83.9	79.1	72.3	58.3	40.0	7.7	61.3
Mar-May 2004	23.6	71.1	84.1	79.5	74.7	59.0	40.0	7.7	60.0
Jun-Aug 2004	34.2	78.8	84.0	79.1	75.1	58.9	38.7	7.8	61.8
Sep-Nov 2004	26.6	74.6	84.4	79.6	75.3	59.7	40.5	7.7	61.0
Dec-Feb 2005	25.3	72.6	84.6	79.8	75.7	60.3	41.9	7.8	61.0
Mar-May 2005	25.4	72.2	85.1	80.2	76.4	60.2	44.2	8.3	61.5
Jun-Aug 2005	35.2	79.5	85.6	80.4	75.9	61.2	43.1	7.9	63.2

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Jun-Aug 2003	61.7	137.8	294.2	263.6	215.1	79.0	44.7	26.9	1,123.0
Mar-May 2004	41.6	129.5	300.9	271.3	221.3	82.1	45.9	27.0	1,119.6
Jun-Aug 2004	57.5	142.7	303.9	272.9	222.9	81.9	46.6	27.6	1,156.0
Sep-Nov 2004	44.6	134.3	308.5	275.7	223.9	82.5	48.4	27.2	1,145.2
Dec-Feb 2005	42.6	132.0	312.5	277.2	224.9	83.5	49.6	27.5	1,149.8
Mar-May 2005	42.2	129.9	319.4	280.7	226.8	82.6	52.0	29.6	1,163.3
Jun-Aug 2005	57.5	145.7	326.0	282.6	227.6	85.1	51.2	28.5	1,204.3
Females									
Jun-Aug 2003	49.5	122.8	239.7	190.6	139.3	42.8	20.1	7.5	812.3
Mar-May 2004	29.4	111.2	245.8	192.5	149.1	44.6	20.5	7.8	800.8
Jun-Aug 2004	44.9	125.0	247.8	191.1	151.1	45.5	18.4	7.7	831.5
Sep-Nov 2004	35.1	122.7	253.3	194.2	153.4	47.9	20.1	7.9	834.5
Dec-Feb 2005	32.5	117.2	257.3	197.1	156.8	49.5	22.0	8.4	840.7
Mar-May 2005	33.1	116.5	260.3	198.0	159.8	51.1	24.2	8.5	851.5
Jun-Aug 2005	46.9	127.5	264.8	200.3	159.1	51.3	24.2	8.0	882.2
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2003	111.2	260.6	534.0	454.2	354.4	121.7	64.8	34.4	1,935.3
Mar-May 2004	71.0	240.8	546.7	463.8	370.3	126.6	66.4	34.7	1,920.3
Jun-Aug 2004	102.4	267.7	551.7	464.0	374.0	127.4	64.9	35.3	1,987.5
Sep-Nov 2004	79.7	257.0	561.8	469.9	377.3	130.3	68.5	35.1	1,979.7
Dec-Feb 2005	75.2	249.1	569.9	474.2	381.6	133.0	71.7	35.8	1,990.5
Mar-May 2005	75.3	246.4	579.8	478.7	386.7	133.7	76.1	38.1	2,014.8
Jun-Aug 2005	104.4	273.2	590.9	483.0	386.7	136.4	75.4	36.5	2,086.5

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

'000

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Jun-Aug 2003	52.8	125.7	277.9	252.7	207.1	76.7	44.0	26.7	1,063.6
Mar-May 2004	36.6	119.8	285.1	260.4	212.2	79.5	44.7	26.8	1,065.2
Jun-Aug 2004	49.5	130.7	288.6	263.2	213.9	79.7	45.3	27.3	1,098.3
Sep-Nov 2004	38.3	124.0	294.7	265.9	215.2	80.0	47.4	27.1	1,092.4
Dec-Feb 2005	37.9	122.2	298.0	267.2	216.5	80.6	48.4	27.3	1,098.3
Mar-May 2005	37.4	119.0	304.8	270.3	218.4	80.1	50.4	29.6	1,110.1
Jun-Aug 2005	50.0	133.7	310.1	273.4	218.7	82.0	50.1	28.5	1,146.3
Females									
Jun-Aug 2003	42.4	112.1	228.9	184.9	135.5	41.9	19.6	7.4	772.8
Mar-May 2004	25.8	104.5	237.2	186.3	145.5	43.9	20.2	7.6	771.0
Jun-Aug 2004	38.2	114.3	240.1	185.5	147.3	44.2	18.1	7.7	795.3
Sep-Nov 2004	30.8	114.6	244.7	187.9	149.2	46.7	19.9	7.9	801.7
Dec-Feb 2005	29.6	110.2	248.7	190.8	153.0	47.8	21.7	8.3	810.1
Mar-May 2005	29.6	109.1	251.6	191.9	155.2	49.7	23.6	8.4	819.1
Jun-Aug 2005	40.5	116.8	255.2	194.3	154.8	50.2	23.8	7.9	843.5
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2003	95.2	237.8	506.9	437.6	342.6	118.5	63.6	34.2	1,836.4
Mar-May 2004	62.4	224.2	522.3	446.7	357.7	123.5	64.9	34.5	1,836.2
Jun-Aug 2004	87.7	245.0	528.8	448.6	361.2	123.9	63.4	35.0	1,893.6
Sep-Nov 2004	69.1	238.7	539.4	453.8	364.4	126.6	67.2	34.9	1,894.1
Dec-Feb 2005	67.5	232.4	546.7	458.1	369.6	128.3	70.1	35.6	1,908.3
Mar-May 2005	67.1	228.1	556.4	462.2	373.6	129.8	74.0	38.0	1,929.2
Jun-Aug 2005	90.4	250.5	565.2	467.7	373.5	132.1	73.9	36.4	1,989.8

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

%

	Age group							Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	15-64
Males								
Jun-Aug 2003	33.8	74.5	87.2	88.4	84.3	72.4	54.0	76.1
Mar-May 2004	23.8	70.3	87.6	89.4	85.4	73.2	53.5	75.2
Jun-Aug 2004	32.3	76.7	87.8	89.9	85.6	72.9	53.7	77.1
Sep-Nov 2004	24.9	71.7	88.5	90.2	85.6	72.5	55.7	76.0
Dec-Feb 2005	24.9	71.0	88.0	90.0	85.7	72.4	56.4	76.0
Mar-May 2005	24.7	69.4	88.6	90.4	86.1	71.6	58.2	76.2
Jun-Aug 2005	33.0	77.6	88.9	90.8	85.6	72.9	57.0	78.2
Females								
Jun-Aug 2003	28.4	66.6	72.0	64.0	55.5	40.7	24.3	56.6
Mar-May 2004	17.6	62.0	73.0	63.7	58.8	41.5	24.4	55.8
Jun-Aug 2004	26.1	67.6	73.2	63.1	59.3	41.4	21.7	57.2
Sep-Nov 2004	21.1	66.8	73.7	63.6	59.7	43.3	23.6	57.2
Dec-Feb 2005	20.3	64.5	74.2	64.2	60.9	43.8	25.6	57.5
Mar-May 2005	20.5	64.2	74.5	64.4	61.5	45.1	27.5	58.0
Jun-Aug 2005	27.9	68.3	74.7	64.9	61.0	45.4	27.3	59.3
All persons								
Jun-Aug 2003	31.2	70.6	79.6	76.2	69.9	56.8	39.3	66.4
Mar-May 2004	20.7	66.2	80.3	76.5	72.1	57.6	39.1	65.5
Jun-Aug 2004	29.3	72.1	80.5	76.5	72.5	57.3	37.8	67.2
Sep-Nov 2004	23.1	69.3	81.1	76.9	72.7	58.0	39.7	66.7
Dec-Feb 2005	22.7	67.8	81.2	77.1	73.3	58.2	41.0	66.8
Mar-May 2005	22.7	66.8	81.6	77.4	73.8	58.5	42.9	67.1
Jun-Aug 2005	30.5	72.9	81.9	77.9	73.3	59.2	42.2	68.8

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

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

'000

		Age group							Total	
		15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64		65+
Males										
Jun-Aug 2003		8.9	12.2	16.3	10.9	8.1	2.3	0.7	*	59.4
Mar-May 2004		5.0	9.8	15.8	10.8	9.1	2.5	1.2	*	54.4
Jun-Aug 2004		7.9	12.0	15.3	9.8	9.0	2.2	1.3	0.3	57.7
Sep-Nov 2004		6.4	10.3	13.8	9.9	8.7	2.5	1.1	*	52.8
Dec-Feb 2005		4.7	9.7	14.5	9.9	8.3	2.9	1.2	*	51.5
Mar-May 2005		4.8	10.9	14.6	10.3	8.5	2.5	1.6	*	53.2
Jun-Aug 2005		7.5	12.0	16.0	9.3	9.0	3.1	1.1	*	58.0
Females										
Jun-Aug 2003		7.1	10.6	10.8	5.7	3.8	0.9	0.5	*	39.4
Mar-May 2004		3.6	6.8	8.5	6.2	3.5	0.6	0.3	*	29.8
Jun-Aug 2004		6.8	10.7	7.6	5.6	3.9	1.3	*	*	36.2
Sep-Nov 2004		4.3	8.1	8.6	6.3	4.2	1.2	*	*	32.8
Dec-Feb 2005		3.0	7.0	8.6	6.2	3.7	1.7	0.3	*	30.6
Mar-May 2005		3.5	7.4	8.7	6.2	4.6	1.4	0.6	*	32.4
Jun-Aug 2005		6.4	10.7	9.7	6.0	4.3	1.2	0.4	*	38.8
All persons										
Jun-Aug 2003		16.0	22.8	27.1	16.6	11.8	3.2	1.2	*	98.8
Mar-May 2004		8.6	16.5	24.4	17.1	12.6	3.2	1.5	0.3	84.2
Jun-Aug 2004		14.7	22.7	22.9	15.4	12.8	3.5	1.6	0.3	93.9
Sep-Nov 2004		10.6	18.4	22.4	16.2	12.9	3.7	1.3	*	85.6
Dec-Feb 2005		7.7	16.7	23.2	16.2	12.1	4.6	1.5	*	82.1
Mar-May 2005		8.3	18.3	23.3	16.5	13.0	3.9	2.1	*	85.6
Jun-Aug 2005		14.0	22.6	25.6	15.3	13.3	4.3	1.5	*	96.7

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

%

	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Males									
Jun-Aug 2003	14.4	8.8	5.5	4.1	3.7	2.9	1.6	*	5.3
Mar-May 2004	12.1	7.5	5.3	4.0	4.1	3.1	2.5	*	4.9
Jun-Aug 2004	13.8	8.4	5.0	3.6	4.0	2.7	2.8	1.0	5.0
Sep-Nov 2004	14.3	7.7	4.5	3.6	3.9	3.0	2.2	0.4	4.6
Dec-Feb 2005	11.1	7.4	4.6	3.6	3.7	3.5	2.5	0.4	4.5
Mar-May 2005	11.3	8.4	4.6	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.0	*	4.6
Jun-Aug 2005	13.1	8.2	4.9	3.3	3.9	3.7	2.1	*	4.8
Females									
Jun-Aug 2003	14.4	8.7	4.5	3.0	2.7	2.0	2.3	*	4.9
Mar-May 2004	12.2	6.1	3.5	3.2	2.4	1.4	1.7	*	3.7
Jun-Aug 2004	15.1	8.6	3.1	3.0	2.6	2.8	1.3	*	4.3
Sep-Nov 2004	12.2	6.6	3.4	3.2	2.7	2.5	1.1	*	3.9
Dec-Feb 2005	9.1	6.0	3.4	3.2	2.4	3.4	1.4	0.6	3.6
Mar-May 2005	10.6	6.3	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.3	1.5	3.8
Jun-Aug 2005	13.7	8.4	3.6	3.0	2.7	2.3	1.6	1.6	4.4
All persons									
Jun-Aug 2003	14.4	8.7	5.1	3.7	3.3	2.6	1.8	*	5.1
Mar-May 2004	12.1	6.9	4.5	3.7	3.4	2.5	2.3	0.8	4.4
Jun-Aug 2004	14.4	8.5	4.2	3.3	3.4	2.7	2.4	0.8	4.7
Sep-Nov 2004	13.4	7.1	4.0	3.4	3.4	2.8	1.9	0.3	4.3
Dec-Feb 2005	10.2	6.7	4.1	3.4	3.2	3.5	2.2	0.5	4.1
Mar-May 2005	11.0	7.4	4.0	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.8	0.3	4.2
Jun-Aug 2005	13.4	8.3	4.3	3.2	3.4	3.1	2.0	0.5	4.6

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

Married Females	Age group								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
Total married women ('000)									
Jun-Aug 2003	0.3	5.3	130.9	213.8	189.4	78.3	58.4	98.3	774.8
Mar-May 2004	0.6	4.8	128.8	219.0	192.3	81.7	58.5	99.2	784.9
Jun-Aug 2004	0.6	5.3	128.0	217.6	190.5	82.7	58.8	100.4	783.8
Sep-Nov 2004	0.5	5.4	129.3	218.2	190.1	83.2	59.1	99.9	785.8
Dec-Feb 2005	0.3	5.5	128.5	220.2	191.3	85.2	59.9	102.3	793.3
Mar-May 2005	0.3	5.6	130.3	220.1	191.6	83.5	61.4	102.7	795.6
Jun-Aug 2005	*	6.1	132.8	218.1	194.4	83.4	61.9	104.3	801.2
of which In labour force ('000)									
Jun-Aug 2003	*	2.2	84.2	134.6	104.5	31.1	13.5	3.0	373.3
Mar-May 2004	*	2.3	84.4	138.3	112.3	33.4	13.0	3.7	387.5
Jun-Aug 2004	*	2.4	83.0	136.5	112.2	33.5	12.2	3.8	383.6
Sep-Nov 2004	0.3	2.9	87.0	138.0	111.4	35.3	12.9	3.7	391.3
Dec-Feb 2005	*	2.8	88.6	140.8	114.5	36.8	14.7	3.9	402.3
Mar-May 2005	*	3.2	91.7	140.5	116.8	36.7	16.0	4.0	409.1
Jun-Aug 2005	*	3.3	91.9	140.8	117.9	36.9	16.0	3.5	410.4
of which In employment ('000)									
Jun-Aug 2003	*	2.1	81.4	131.2	102.5	30.5	13.3	3.0	364.1
Mar-May 2004	*	2.0	82.6	134.9	110.0	32.9	12.9	3.7	378.8
Jun-Aug 2004	*	2.1	81.3	132.9	110.1	32.7	12.1	3.8	375.0
Sep-Nov 2004	0.3	2.6	85.3	134.1	108.8	34.7	12.7	3.7	382.1
Dec-Feb 2005	*	2.6	86.2	136.8	112.0	36.0	14.5	3.9	392.2
Mar-May 2005	*	3.0	88.6	136.8	114.3	35.9	15.8	4.0	398.5
Jun-Aug 2005	*	3.1	89.4	137.2	115.4	36.1	15.9	3.5	400.6
Participation rates (%)									
Jun-Aug 2003	*	42.4	64.3	62.9	55.2	39.8	23.1	3.0	48.2
Mar-May 2004	*	47.5	65.5	63.1	58.4	40.8	22.2	3.8	49.4
Jun-Aug 2004	*	44.5	64.8	62.7	58.9	40.5	20.7	3.8	48.9
Sep-Nov 2004	*	53.0	67.3	63.2	58.6	42.4	21.8	3.7	49.8
Dec-Feb 2005	*	51.9	69.0	63.9	59.8	43.3	24.5	3.8	50.7
Mar-May 2005	*	56.4	70.4	63.8	61.0	44.0	26.1	3.9	51.4
Jun-Aug 2005	*	54.5	69.2	64.6	60.6	44.2	25.9	3.4	51.2

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

Period	Labour force	In employment	Unemployed	<i>of which</i> Long-term unemployed	Unemployment rate	Long-term unemployment rate
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%
April 1995	1,459.2	1,281.7	177.4	103.3	12.2	7.1
April 1996	1,507.5	1,328.5	179.0	103.3	11.9	6.9
April 1997	1,539.0	1,379.9	159.0	86.3	10.3	5.6
Sep-Nov 1997	1,638.9	1,467.7	171.2	90.6	10.4	5.5
Dec-Feb 1998	1,620.1	1,481.7	138.4	72.6	8.5	4.5
Mar-May 1998	1,620.4	1,494.0	126.4	63.6	7.8	3.9
Jun-Aug 1998	1,689.1	1,560.2	128.9	62.0	7.6	3.7
Sep-Nov 1998	1,653.3	1,547.1	106.2	51.9	6.4	3.1
Dec-Feb 1999	1,650.5	1,555.6	94.9	43.7	5.7	2.6
Mar-May 1999	1,685.9	1,589.1	96.9	41.5	5.7	2.5
Jun-Aug 1999	1,766.1	1,665.8	100.4	38.0	5.7	2.2
Sep-Nov 1999	1,735.7	1,647.4	88.3	36.4	5.1	2.1
Dec-Feb 2000	1,729.9	1,648.7	81.2	29.8	4.7	1.7
Mar-May 2000	1,745.9	1,671.4	74.5	27.7	4.3	1.6
Jun-Aug 2000	1,813.3	1,736.1	77.1	25.9	4.3	1.4
Sep-Nov 2000	1,781.0	1,712.6	68.4	24.3	3.8	1.4
Dec-Feb 2001	1,776.2	1,710.9	65.3	21.7	3.7	1.2
Mar-May 2001	1,787.0	1,721.9	65.1	20.8	3.6	1.2
Jun-Aug 2001	1,867.4	1,788.9	78.5	22.1	4.2	1.2
Sep-Nov 2001	1,831.6	1,759.9	71.8	21.4	3.9	1.2
Dec-Feb 2002	1,832.7	1,753.5	79.2	23.2	4.3	1.3
Mar-May 2002	1,840.9	1,763.9	77.0	21.7	4.2	1.2
Jun-Aug 2002	1,894.6	1,808.4	86.2	22.0	4.6	1.2
Sep-Nov 2002	1,866.3	1,782.3	84.1	24.9	4.5	1.3
Dec-Feb 2003	1,868.7	1,783.6	85.2	26.7	4.6	1.4
Mar-May 2003	1,875.5	1,793.4	82.1	27.2	4.4	1.5
Jun-Aug 2003	1,935.3	1,836.4	98.8	27.0	5.1	1.4
Sep-Nov 2003	1,914.8	1,828.9	85.9	26.2	4.5	1.4
Dec-Feb 2004	1,919.5	1,835.9	83.6	30.5	4.4	1.6
Mar-May 2004	1,920.3	1,836.2	84.2	26.3	4.4	1.4
Jun-Aug 2004	1,987.5	1,893.6	93.9	28.0	4.7	1.4
Sep-Nov 2004	1,979.7	1,894.1	85.6	28.9	4.3	1.5
Dec-Feb 2005	1,990.5	1,908.3	82.1	27.8	4.1	1.4
Mar-May 2005	2,014.8	1,929.2	85.6	27.6	4.2	1.4
Jun-Aug 2005	2,086.5	1,989.8	96.7	28.1	4.6	1.4

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

'000

Duration of unemployment(ILO)	Jun- Aug 03	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05
Males							
Less than 1 year	38.6	33.9	36.6	31.3	30.3	31.7	36.1
1 year and over	20.3	20.2	20.7	21.3	21.0	21.2	21.6
Not stated	0.6	0.3	0.4	*	*	0.3	0.3
Total males	59.4	54.4	57.7	52.8	51.5	53.2	58.0
Females							
Less than 1 year	32.6	23.5	28.8	25.2	23.8	26.1	32.3
1 year and over	6.8	6.2	7.3	7.5	6.7	6.3	6.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	39.4	29.8	36.2	32.8	30.6	32.4	38.8
All persons							
Less than 1 year	71.2	57.4	65.4	56.5	54.1	57.7	68.4
1 year and over	27.0	26.3	28.0	28.9	27.8	27.6	28.1
Not stated	0.6	0.4	0.4	*	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total persons	98.8	84.2	93.9	85.6	82.1	85.6	96.7

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

'000

	QNHS Jun-Aug 2004				QNHS Jun-Aug 2005			
	Age group			Total	Age group			Total
	15-24	25-44	45 or over		15-24	25-44	45 or over	
Males								
Less than 1 year	16.0	14.7	6.0	36.6	15.6	13.6	6.9	36.1
1 year and over	3.9	10.3	6.6	20.7	3.9	11.6	6.1	21.6
Not stated	*	*	*	0.4	*	*	*	0.3
Total males	19.9	25.0	12.7	57.7	19.5	25.2	13.2	58.0
Females								
Less than 1 year	14.7	10.4	3.7	28.8	15.5	13.0	3.7	32.3
1 year and over	2.7	2.9	1.7	7.3	1.6	2.7	2.2	6.5
Not stated	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total females	17.5	13.3	5.4	36.2	17.1	15.7	6.0	38.8
All persons								
Less than 1 year	30.7	25.0	9.7	65.4	31.1	26.6	10.6	68.4
1 year and over	6.6	13.2	8.2	28.0	5.5	14.3	8.3	28.1
Not stated	*	*	*	0.4	*	*	0.3	0.3
Total persons	37.4	38.3	18.1	93.9	36.6	40.9	19.2	96.7

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

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

	'000								
ILO Economic Status	Jun- Aug 03	Sep- Nov 03	Dec- Feb 04	Mar- May 04	Jun- Aug 04	Sep- Nov 04	Dec- Feb 05	Mar- May 05	Jun- Aug 05
In labour force	1,935.3	1,914.8	1,919.5	1,920.3	1,987.5	1,979.7	1,990.5	2,014.8	2,086.5
In employment:	1,836.4	1,828.9	1,835.9	1,836.2	1,893.6	1,894.1	1,908.3	1,929.2	1,989.8
full-time	1,525.7	1,524.1	1,527.1	1,525.0	1,576.2	1,577.6	1,581.0	1,597.5	1,647.0
part-time:	310.7	304.8	308.8	311.1	317.4	316.6	327.4	331.7	342.8
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	306.4	300.9	305.0	307.4	313.4	313.6	324.3	327.7	339.3
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	4.3	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.0	2.9	3.0	4.0	3.5
Unemployed:	98.8	85.9	83.6	84.2	93.9	85.6	82.1	85.6	96.7
seeking full-time work	82.9	70.9	70.8	71.7	80.1	72.2	69.1	71.0	80.2
seeking part-time work	15.9	15.0	12.8	12.4	13.8	13.4	13.0	14.7	16.5
Not in labour force	1,223.9	1,265.1	1,272.5	1,280.3	1,230.9	1,266.0	1,272.5	1,262.6	1,215.1
Marginally attached to the labour force:	14.6	10.9	12.2	10.0	13.4	11.3	12.1	9.1	13.6
Discouraged workers	11.2	8.3	9.4	8.1	10.8	8.4	9.3	7.0	10.9
Passive jobseekers	3.4	2.7	2.8	1.9	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.1	2.7
Others:	1,209.3	1,254.2	1,260.3	1,270.3	1,217.5	1,254.7	1,260.4	1,253.5	1,201.5
Persons not in education, who want work ¹	52.1	45.4	54.9	53.3	56.5	56.1	56.5	53.9	56.5
Persons in education, who want work ¹	30.8	31.6	29.7	35.3	25.0	27.8	29.4	31.8	24.9
All other persons	1,126.4	1,177.2	1,175.8	1,181.7	1,135.9	1,170.8	1,174.4	1,167.9	1,120.1
Total persons aged 15 or over	3,159.2	3,179.9	3,192.0	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7	3,262.9	3,277.4	3,301.6

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

Table 20 Indicators of potential labour supply

Quarter	S1	S2	S3
Jun-Aug 2000	4.9	8.1	8.3
Sep-Nov 2000	4.3	7.8	8.0
Dec-Feb 2001	4.2	7.4	7.5
Mar-May 2001	4.1	7.3	7.4
Jun-Aug 2001	4.7	7.8	8.0
Sep-Nov 2001	4.4	7.5	7.6
Dec-Feb 2002	4.8	7.8	8.0
Mar-May 2002	4.6	7.6	7.8
Jun-Aug 2002	5.0	7.9	8.0
Sep-Nov 2002	5.0	7.9	8.0
Dec-Feb 2003	5.0	8.1	8.3
Mar-May 2003	4.8	8.0	8.2
Jun-Aug 2003	5.7	8.3	8.5
Sep-Nov 2003	4.9	7.2	7.4
Dec-Feb 2004	4.8	7.6	7.8
Mar-May 2004	4.8	7.4	7.6
Jun-Aug 2004	5.2	8.0	8.2
Sep-Nov 2004	4.7	7.5	7.6
Dec-Feb 2005	4.6	7.3	7.5
Mar-May 2005	4.6	7.2	7.3
Jun-Aug 2005	5.1	7.7	7.9

%

NOTE: Definitions of indicators by reference to Table 19:

S1: Unemployed plus discouraged workers *as a percentage of the Labour Force* plus discouraged workers.S2: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work *as a percentage of the Labour Force* plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.S3: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work plus underemployed part-time workers *as a percentage of the Labour Force* plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.**Table 21 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by Principal Economic Status¹**

'000

Principal Economic Status	Jun-Aug 03	Mar-May 04	Jun-Aug 04	Sep-Nov 04	Dec-Feb 05	Mar-May 05	Jun-Aug 05
Males							
At work	1,019.6	1,038.5	1,052.1	1,066.9	1,068.5	1,080.6	1,101.1
Unemployed	83.7	81.1	80.5	78.0	78.9	77.1	80.6
Student	169.1	179.0	170.4	171.2	177.7	176.8	163.1
Home duties	7.9	4.5	4.6	5.2	5.4	5.1	6.0
Retired	205.0	206.9	208.3	208.6	210.1	208.7	210.9
Others	71.2	68.7	71.5	71.7	70.7	72.5	71.3
Total males	1,556.4	1,578.7	1,587.4	1,601.6	1,611.3	1,620.9	1,633.0
Females							
At work	720.9	731.9	745.5	761.1	767.2	776.8	789.5
Unemployed	38.5	31.6	37.2	34.0	31.2	32.5	39.1
Student	182.1	198.4	180.0	186.5	196.4	193.6	182.8
Home duties	557.4	551.9	560.0	553.3	546.5	539.4	539.8
Retired	68.1	70.3	68.8	70.5	71.4	72.2	74.8
Others	35.7	37.9	39.4	38.8	39.1	42.1	42.5
Total females	1,602.8	1,621.9	1,631.0	1,644.1	1,651.7	1,656.6	1,668.6
All persons							
At work	1,740.5	1,770.4	1,797.6	1,828.0	1,835.7	1,857.4	1,890.6
Unemployed	122.2	112.6	117.7	112.0	110.1	109.7	119.8
Student	351.2	377.4	350.4	357.7	374.1	370.4	346.0
Home duties	565.3	556.4	564.6	558.5	551.9	544.6	545.8
Retired	273.1	277.2	277.1	279.1	281.5	280.9	285.6
Others	106.9	106.6	110.9	110.5	109.7	114.6	113.8
Total persons	3,159.2	3,200.6	3,218.4	3,245.7	3,262.9	3,277.4	3,301.6

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

Table 22 Persons aged 15 years and over classified by ILO Economic Status and by Principal Economic Status, June-August 2005

'000

ILO Economic Status	Principal Economic Status						Total
	At work	Unemployed	Student	Home duties	Retired	Others	
Males							
In employment:	1,096.3	2.4	41.0	*	3.9	2.5	1,146.3
full-time	1,050.5	1.5	17.1	*	0.6	1.3	1,071.0
part-time:	45.9	0.9	23.9	*	3.3	1.2	75.3
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	44.4	0.8	23.8	*	3.3	1.2	73.6
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.4	*	*	*	*	*	1.7
Unemployed:	1.1	48.9	5.0	*	0.8	2.0	58.0
seeking full-time work	1.0	47.5	3.5	*	0.4	1.8	54.3
seeking part-time work	*	1.3	1.5	*	0.4	*	3.6
Marginally attached to the labour force	1.5	3.4	1.2	*	0.6	*	6.9
Others	2.2	26.0	115.9	5.5	205.6	66.6	421.8
Total males aged 15 or over	1,101.1	80.6	163.1	6.0	210.9	71.3	1,633.0
Females							
In employment:	784.0	1.7	45.7	8.7	0.8	2.6	843.5
full-time	560.2	0.9	12.1	1.2	*	1.6	576.0
part-time:	223.9	0.9	33.6	7.4	0.7	1.0	267.5
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	222.3	0.8	33.6	7.4	0.7	0.9	265.7
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	1.6	*	*	*	*	*	1.8
Unemployed:	0.5	20.9	6.4	9.9	0.3	0.7	38.8
seeking full-time work	0.5	17.0	4.3	3.7	*	0.3	25.9
seeking part-time work	*	3.9	2.1	6.2	*	0.4	12.9
Marginally attached to the labour force	2.3	1.6	1.3	1.0	*	0.4	6.7
Others	2.7	14.9	129.4	520.2	73.6	38.8	779.6
Total females aged 15 or over	789.5	39.1	182.8	539.8	74.8	42.5	1,668.6
All persons							
In employment:	1,880.4	4.1	86.7	8.9	4.7	5.1	1,989.8
full-time	1,610.6	2.3	29.1	1.4	0.7	2.8	1,647.0
part-time:	269.8	1.8	57.5	7.5	4.0	2.2	342.8
<i>of which: part-time, not underemployed</i>	266.7	1.6	57.4	7.4	4.0	2.2	339.3
<i>part-time, underemployed</i>	3.0	*	*	*	*	*	3.5
Unemployed:	1.6	69.8	11.5	10.2	1.0	2.7	96.7
seeking full-time work	1.4	64.5	7.9	3.8	0.5	2.1	80.2
seeking part-time work	*	5.2	3.6	6.4	0.6	0.6	16.5
Marginally attached to the labour force	3.8	5.0	2.5	1.0	0.7	0.7	13.6
Others	4.8	40.9	245.4	525.7	279.3	105.4	1201.5
Total persons aged 15 or over	1,890.6	119.8	346.0	545.8	285.6	113.8	3,301.6

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 23 Estimated *adult*¹ members of family units classified by composition of family unit, ILO Economic Status and sex, June-August 2005

'000

Composition of family unit	In employment			Unemployed			Not economically active			Total ²		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Husband and wife (or couple) without children:												
Wife/female partner aged under 45	93.2	89.1	182.3	2.4	2.7	5.1	3.3	8.0	11.3	98.9	99.8	198.7
Wife/female partner aged 45 to 64	65.3	45.8	111.1	2.1	1.4	3.5	44.1	63.0	107.1	111.5	110.2	221.7
Wife/female partner aged 65 or over	8.0	2.4	10.4	*	*	*	70.7	75.4	146.0	78.7	77.8	156.5
Total	166.5	137.3	303.8	4.6	4.1	8.8	118.0	146.4	264.4	289.2	287.8	577.0
Husband and wife (or couple) with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	167.4	108.7	276.1	5.1	3.2	8.3	7.8	69.0	76.8	180.3	181.0	361.2
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	10.1	4.9	15.0	0.6	*	0.8	1.4	6.7	8.1	12.1	11.9	23.9
All children aged 5 to 14	72.3	46.4	118.7	1.7	1.4	3.1	2.4	27.4	29.8	76.5	75.2	151.7
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	111.0	72.2	183.2	3.2	2.0	5.2	9.7	47.2	56.8	123.9	121.3	245.2
All children aged 15 or over	146.5	94.6	241.1	3.9	1.6	5.5	53.4	104.9	158.3	203.8	201.2	405.0
Total	507.3	326.8	834.1	14.5	8.5	23.0	74.6	255.3	330.0	596.4	590.6	1,187.0
Lone parent with children:												
At least 1 child aged under 5 and no child aged 15 or over	1.2	17.3	18.6	*	2.8	2.9	*	23.2	23.2	1.4	43.4	44.7
At least 1 child aged under 5 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	*	1.2	1.3	*	*	*	*	2.5	2.5	*	3.8	3.9
All children aged 5 to 14	0.9	12.7	13.5	*	1.2	1.3	0.3	8.6	8.9	1.3	22.5	23.8
No child aged under 5, at least 1 child aged 5 to 14 and at least 1 child aged 15 or over	1.9	16.2	18.1	*	1.0	1.1	0.4	8.5	8.9	2.5	25.7	28.1
All children aged 15 or over	7.8	25.8	33.6	0.4	0.9	1.3	8.3	43.6	51.9	16.5	70.3	86.8
Total	11.9	73.2	85.1	0.7	6.0	6.7	9.2	86.4	95.5	21.8	165.6	187.4
Total	685.7	537.2	1,222.9	19.9	18.6	38.5	201.8	488.1	689.9	907.4	1,043.9	1,951.3

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

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

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 24 Annual Labour Force Survey results classified by ILO Economic Status for persons aged 15 or over in EU member states

Region	Q2/2004					Q2/2005				
	Labour force	In employment	Unemployed	Participation rate	Unemployment rate	Labour force	In employment	Unemployed	Participation rate	Unemployment rate
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%
EU-25	213,351	193,874	19,477	56.6	9.1	215,962	196,801	19,202	56.9	8.9
EU-15	179,638	164,986	14,653	56.8	8.2	182,037	167,463	14,614	57.2	8.0
Eurozone ¹	142,856	130,004	12,852	55.6	9.0	145,232	132,394	12,838	56.1	8.8
Belgium	4,473	4,144	329	52.0	7.4	4,582	4,212	370	52.8	8.1
Czech Republic	5,101	4,682	419	59.0	8.2	5,153	4,751	402	59.2	7.8
Denmark	2,893	2,742	151	65.9	5.2	2,876	2,738	138	65.3	4.8
Germany ²	39,724	35,463	4,261	56.9	10.7	40,584	36,050	4,534	58.0	11.2
Estonia	661	595	66	58.8	10.0	663	609	54	58.8	8.1
Greece	4,823	4,331	493	53.3	10.2	4,848	4,382	467	53.3	9.6
Spain	20,093	17,866	2,227	55.5	11.1	20,840	18,895	1,945	56.7	9.3
France	26,707	24,388	2,319	55.9	8.7	26,926	24,611	2,315	56.0	8.6
Ireland	1,920	1,836	84	60.0	4.4	2,015	1,929	86	61.5	4.2
Italy	24,361	22,438	1,923	49.6	7.9	24,488	22,651	1,837	49.2	7.5
Cyprus	352	336	15	63.1	4.3	367	348	20	63.4	5.4
Latvia	1,133	1,021	112	57.7	9.9	1,132	1,028	104	57.6	9.2
Lithuania	1,621	1,437	184	57.4	11.4	1,610	1,473	137	56.7	8.5
Luxembourg ³	196	186	9	54.0	4.6	196	186	9	54.0	4.6
Hungary	4,135	3,894	241	49.5	5.8	4,190	3,891	299	50.0	7.1
Malta	157	146	11	49.5	7.0	161	148	13	49.7	8.1
Netherlands	8,496	8,101	395	64.9	4.6	8,530	8,121	409	65.1	4.8
Austria	3,932	3,742	190	58.6	4.8	4,010	3,800	210	59.2	5.2
Poland	16,907	13,682	3,225	54.4	19.1	17,019	13,947	3,072	54.5	18.1
Portugal	5,472	5,125	347	61.9	6.3	5,531	5,132	399	62.1	7.2
Slovenia	1,006	946	60	59.0	6.0	1,005	947	58	58.7	5.8
Slovak Republic	2,640	2,149	491	60.1	18.6	2,625	2,196	429	59.2	16.3
Finland	2,659	2,384	275	62.1	10.3	2,682	2,425	257	62.2	9.6
Sweden ²	4,620	4,311	309	62.5	6.7	4,529	4,219	310	60.9	6.8
United Kingdom	29,269	27,929	1,341	61.7	4.6	29,400	28,072	1,328	61.7	4.5

Source: Eurostat.

Note: Trends in some member states may be affected by changes in methodology.

Note: ¹ Eurozone consists of EU15 states with the exceptions of Denmark, Sweden and United Kingdom.

² Data for Germany and Sweden relates to Q105 as updated detail is not available at present.

³ Data for Luxembourg relates to Q404 as updated detail is not available at present.

Background Notes

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The labour force comprises persons employed plus unemployed.

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

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

Underemployment

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

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

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

Principal Economic Status Classification

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

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

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

NACE Industrial Classification

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

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

Occupations

Table 4 presents occupational data. The classification system used is based on the UK Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) with some modifications to reflect the Irish labour market. This classification was also used in the 2002 and 1996 Census of Population and has replaced the previous Census and Labour Force Survey occupations classification. The old and new classifications are not perfectly comparable. The 1996 Census of Population report on occupations (Census Volume 7) contains further information on comparing the classifications.

The data given in Table 4 is at a broad level, corresponding to SOC major groups. More detailed quarterly data is available on request from the CSO.

Family Units

Table 23 presents family data. The definition used is as follows:

Family Unit

A family unit consists of either:

1. a married couple, or
2. a married couple and one or more of their never-married children, or
3. one parent and one or more of his or her never-married children, or
4. a couple living together (with never-married children, if any) who are not married to each other, where it is clear that the couple form a “de facto” family unit.

Households may contain more than one family unit or may contain a family together with other persons not in a family unit as defined above.

However, there are problems identifying some unmarried parents with children as separate family units. This happens particularly where one unmarried parent with one or more children lives with his/her parent(s) and the information recorded in the survey on the relationship to the reference person does not clearly identify the parent/child relationships. In such cases, the unmarried parent and children may not be identified as a distinct family unit. As a result, the number of family units consisting of unmarried parents with children is probably understated to some degree.

Grossing Effect

The QNHS grossing procedure aligns the distribution of persons covered in the survey with independently determined population estimates at the level of sex, five-year age group and region. This means that the adjustment factors assigned to each spouse within a family unit will differ. Accordingly, some male and female estimates in family tables, which might be expected to be identical, differ slightly. Another factor effecting the slight difference is that, in a small number of cases, gender was incorrectly recorded or coded.

Labour Supply Indicators

Table 20 contains three indicators of potential labour supply. These indicators take into account, in addition to the unemployed, groups outside the labour force who have indicated some interest in obtaining a job. These extra groups include discouraged workers (who are not looking for work as they believe they are not qualified or that no work is available) and other groups who want work but do not meet all the ILO criteria to be classified as unemployed. Persons who indicated that they were not available or not looking for work because they were in education were not included in the calculation of any of these indicators. The indicators are available back to 1988, when the ILO classification was first included in LFS reports.

Comparing the LFS and the QNHS

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

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

Changes to Questions on Employment

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

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

The main effect of these changes has been to elicit more information about part-time employment, so that the estimates of part-time employment are higher in the QNHS than in the LFS.

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

Seasonality

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

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

**Seasonal Adjustment
Methodology**

The data from the QNHS was adjusted using the X-11-ARIMA procedure. This procedure is an adaptation of the U.S. Bureau of the Census X-11 seasonal adjustment programme developed by Statistics Canada.

The first task in the process is to identify whether the series being adjusted is best considered additive or multiplicative for seasonal adjustment purposes. All of the QNHS series analysed were found to be multiplicative.

Once the series has been identified as being either additive or multiplicative the method fits an ARIMA (Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average) model to the unadjusted series and then uses the model forecast to extend the unadjusted series. The extended series is then seasonally adjusted using the standard X-11 seasonal adjustment method. The extension of the series improves the estimation of the seasonal factors and reduces revisions to the seasonally adjusted series as new data becomes available. To be able to use X-11-ARIMA you must have at least 5 years data.

The essential difference between X-11 and X-11-ARIMA is the use of ARIMA (Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average) models to improve the adjustment at the end of the time series by extending the time series. In the ARIMA model identification phase an attempt to determine the type of underlying probabilistic process that governs the behaviour of the time series is made. The choice of ARIMA model in this process was restricted to the 5 pre-defined models which were identified by Statistics Canada as fitting the majority of well behaved time series.

**NUTS2 and NUTS3
regions**

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

**Border, Midland and
Western NUTS2 Region**

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

**Southern and Eastern
NUTS2 Region**

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

QNHS Social Modules

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

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

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

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

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q4 2004	Equality
Q3 2004	ICT household survey
Q2 2004	Union Membership
Q4 2003	Crime and Victimisation
Q3 2003	Housing
Q3 2003	ICT household survey
Q2 2003	Life long learning
Q4 2002	Childcare
Q3 2002	Teleworking
Q3 2002	Voter registration and participation
Q2 2002	Disability in the labour force (Annual update Q1 2004)
Q1 2002	Pension provision (Annual update Q1 2004)
Q3 2001	Health
Q2 2001	Length and pattern of working time
Q4 2000	Home computing
Q2 2000	Transition from school to working life
Q1 2000	Travel to work
Q1 1999	Recycling and energy conservation
Q4 1998	Crime and Victimisation
Q3 1998	Home computing
Q3 1998	Housing and households

Planned future modules are as follows:

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q2 2004	Work organisation and working time
Q3 2004	Travel to work
Q1 2005	Annual update module
Q2 2005	Reconciliation between work and family life
Q3 2005	ICT household survey
Q3 2005	Recycling and energy
Q4 2005	Pension provision
Q1 2006	Annual update module
Q2 2006	Transition from work into retirement
Q3 2006	ICT household survey
Q3 2006	Social capital and sport
Q4 2006	Health