



**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE**

**SRI LANKA**

**LABOUR FORCE SURVEY**

**2002**

*(WITH DISTRICT LEVEL DATA)*

Department of Census & Statistics

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE**

**SRI LANKA**

**LABOUR FORCE SURVEY**

**2002**

CONFIDENTIAL COPY  
LOANED TO  
D. C. & S. STAFF

ISBN 955 - 577 - 427 - 7

Published in 2003

## Preface

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey was designed to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka. This survey is being conducted quarterly, since the first quarter of 1990. Accordingly a sample of about 16,000 was covered in the 4 quarters of the survey in the year 2002. This annual report for the year 2002 with some selected data at the district level is based on the total annual sample of the year 2002. Data contained in this report excludes the Northern and the Eastern Province. A bulletin based on data collected in the districts under the Northern and eastern provinces in 2002 has already been published.

Planning and the execution of the survey was done by the staff of the Sample Surveys Division under the direction of Mr.G.Y.L.Fernando, Director (Sample Surveys) and under the supervision of Messers. J.A.P. Balasuriya and M.A.N.Fernando and Mrs.E.A.G.Perera, Senior Statisticians

The computer data processing was done by Mrs.W.A.S.M.P.Gunasekera and Mrs.Chitra Nakandala, Statistical Officers, of Sample Surveys Division, under the direction of Mrs.Dharma Dissanayaka, Senior Statistician and under the supervision of Mr.P.A.Subawickrama, Statistician using Microcomputers.

This publication was organized and prepared by Mrs.Dharma Dissanayake, Senior Statistician under the direction of Mr.G.Y.L.Fernando, Director (Sample Surveys). The tabulation required for this publication were done by Mrs.W.A.S.M.P.Gunasekera Statistical Officer and type setting of the report was done by Mr.M.R.Razick, Typist.

The Data Processing Division, under the direction of Mrs.S.V.Nanayakkara, Director (Data Processing) and under the supervision of Mr.W.Sumanasiri, Deputy Director and Mr.Migara Fernando, Systems Analyst/Programmer was responsible for the survey data entry and preparation of computer edit and final tabulation programs.

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

Printing of the report was done at the Printing Division, under the supervision of Mr.Samarasinghe Hettiarachchi, Senior Statistician.

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



**A.G.W.Nanayakkara**  
Director-General

25<sup>th</sup> November 2003  
Department of Census and Statistics,  
15/12, Maitland Crescent,  
Colombo 7.

# Table of Contents

Preface	Page
Table of Contents	No.
<b>1. Introduction</b>	1
<b>2. Labour Force</b>	1
2.1 Labour force by Age & Sex	1
2.2 Labour force participation by sector	1
2.3 Labour force & District	2
2.3.1 Labour force and Labour Force Participation Rate by District	2
2.3.2 Labour force and Labour Force Participation Rate by District and Sex	3
Graph -1 Labour Force Participation Rate by District	4
Graph -2 Labour Force Participation Rate by District and Sex	4
<b>3. Employment</b>	5
3.1 Employment & Industry	5
3.1.1 Employment by Industry & Sex (Table-5 & 6)	5
3.1.1 Employment by Industry & Sex	6
3.1.2 Employment by Industry & District (Contd.)	7
3.1 Employment by Occupation	8
3.2.1 Employment by Occupation & Sex (Table 9 & 10)	8
3.2.2. Employment by Occupation & District (Table 11)	9
3.2.2. Employment by Occupation & District (Table 12)	10
3.2.1 Employment by Occupation & Sex	11
3.2.2. Employment by Occupation & District	11-12
3.1 Employment by Employment Status	13
3.3.1 Employment status & Sex	13
3.3.2 Employment status & Residential Sector	13
3.1 Employment by hours worked in main job per week	14
3.4.1 Employment status & hours worked in main job per week	14
3.4.2 Employment status & hours worked in main job by residential sector	14
3.4.3 Employment status & hours worked in main job by sex	15
3.4.4 Hours worked in main job by Occupation Group	16

3.1	Employment by Secondary Occupation	17
3.5.1	Distribution of main and Secondary Occupations	17
3.5.2	Employment status of Secondary Occupation	17
3.5.3	Classification of Secondary job by the main job	18
3.5.4	Hours worked in the Secondary Occupation	19
3.5.5	Secondary Occupation & Residential Sector	19
<b>4.</b>	<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1	Unemployment by Age & Se	20
4.2	Unemployment & Level of Education	21
4.2.1	Unemployment by Sex & Level of Education	21
4.2.2	Unemployment by Province, Level of Education & Sex	22
4.2	Unemployment by District & Sex	23-25
4.2	Unemployment by Residential Sector & Sex	25
	Graph – 3 Unemployment Rate by District (both sexes)	26
	Graph – 4 Unemployment Rate by District & Sex	26
4.2	Unemployment Population by desired job	27
4.5.1	Desired job & Level of Education	27
4.5.2	Desired job & Sex	27
4.2	Unemployment Population by Vocational Training	28
4.6.1	Vocational Training & Residential Sector	28
4.6.2	Vocational Training & Sex	29
4.7	Unemployed Population by reason for not seeking work	29
<b>5.</b>	<b>Technical Notes</b>	

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey is conducted on a quarterly basis and quarterly sample is adequate to provide estimates of the labour force characteristics quarterly at national level only. This publication is based on the annual sample covered in the four quarters of 2002 and so district level estimates of few selected labour force characteristics are given here. Again due to the limitations on sample size, these district level estimates also may not be obtained with further disaggregation by demographic variables such as (i) age (ii) level of education etc. Data presented in this publication is confined to districts other than the districts in the Northern and the Eastern provinces. Sri Lanka Labour Force survey was conducted also in the North and the East in 2002 and a separate bulletin has already been published with data for these two provinces.

## 2. LABOUR FORCE

### 2.1 Labour Force by Age and Sex

**Table 1 Labour Force & Labour Force Participation rate by Age and Sex**

Age group	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
All ages	7145267	50.3	4705513	67.9	2439758	33.6
10 – 14	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 – 19	410799	24.7	255262	30.1	155537	19.0
20 – 24	1088769	67.5	668524	83.9	420248	51.4
25 – 29	890631	69.8	561132	94.7	329499	48.2
30 – 39	1776376	70.0	1175921	96.9	600456	45.4
40 +	2955795	53.5	2032162	76.1	923634	32.3

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

Of the total labour force more than 50 percent belongs to the 20–39 yr. age group while about 40 percent falls into 40 yr. and above age group. The proportion of economically active females in 20–24 yr. age group and 25–29 yr. age group is higher than that of males. Proportion of economically active males in 40yr. and above age group is higher than that of females.

### 2.2 Labour force Participation by Sector

**Table 2 Labour force Participation Rate by Sector & Sex**

Sex	Total	Urban	*Rural
<b>Both sexes</b>	50.3	46.0	51.0
<b>Male</b>	67.9	65.5	68.2
<b>Female</b>	33.6	27.7	34.4

\* Including Estate Sector

Table 2 presents the data on participation of the labour force in two sectors. Usually the employment opportunities are created and concentrated heavily in favour of urban areas. But above data reveals that females in the rural sector actively participate in the labour force than the more developed urban sector. This is due to the participation of females in the agricultural activities mostly prevalent in the rural sector.

## 2.3 Labour Force & District

### 2.3.1 Labour Force & Labour Force Participation Rate:

**Table 3 Labour Force & Labour Force Participation rate by District:**

District	Number	Participation rate:
<b>Total</b>	<b>7145382</b>	<b>50.3</b>
Colombo	877499	46.6
Gampaha	901843	49.4
Kaluthara	464337	47.8
Kandy	469369	46.3
Matale	176617	52.6
Nuwara Eliya	296492	55.5
Galle	424590	48.9
Matara	312896	47.2
Hambantota	232356	48.3
Kurunegala	706333	52.5
Puttlam	304678	48.3
Anuradhapura	346337	54.9
Polonnaruwa	145934	47.7
Badulla	459703	63.0
Moneragala	208800	60.7
Ratnapura	454043	50.5
Kegalle	363565	49.2

Labour Force participation rate varies by district in a range of 46.3 percent in Kandy district to 63.0 percent in Badulla district. It is rather difficult to see any district pattern in the variation of participation rate by district. But it could be observed that participation rate is based on the regional economic activities of those areas.

According to district variation Badulla, Monaragala and Nuwara Eliya districts recorded highest participation rates respectively (63.0, 60.7 and 55.5). As a result of heavy concentration of crop cultivation in Badulla and cane sugar cultivation in Monaragala district persons in these areas marked higher participation to the labour force. Monaragala district which is treated as under developed area also reported 60.7 percent of participation rate.

Colombo, Gampaha and Kalutara districts which are more urbanized and relatively more developed districts of the country have reported less participation to the labour force than rural areas. The lowest participation rate is reported in Kandy District. This low participation in Kandy District has no possible explanation, as Kandy cannot be catogorised a highly urbanised district as a whole.

The two agricultural dominated districts of the North Central Province have reported different values of participation. Anuradhapura district has reported nearly 55 percent participation rate while Polonnaruwa have reported 44.7 percent only.

### 2.3.2 Labour Force & Labour Force Participation Rate by District & Sex

**Table 4 Labour Force & Labour Force Participation rate by District and Sex:**

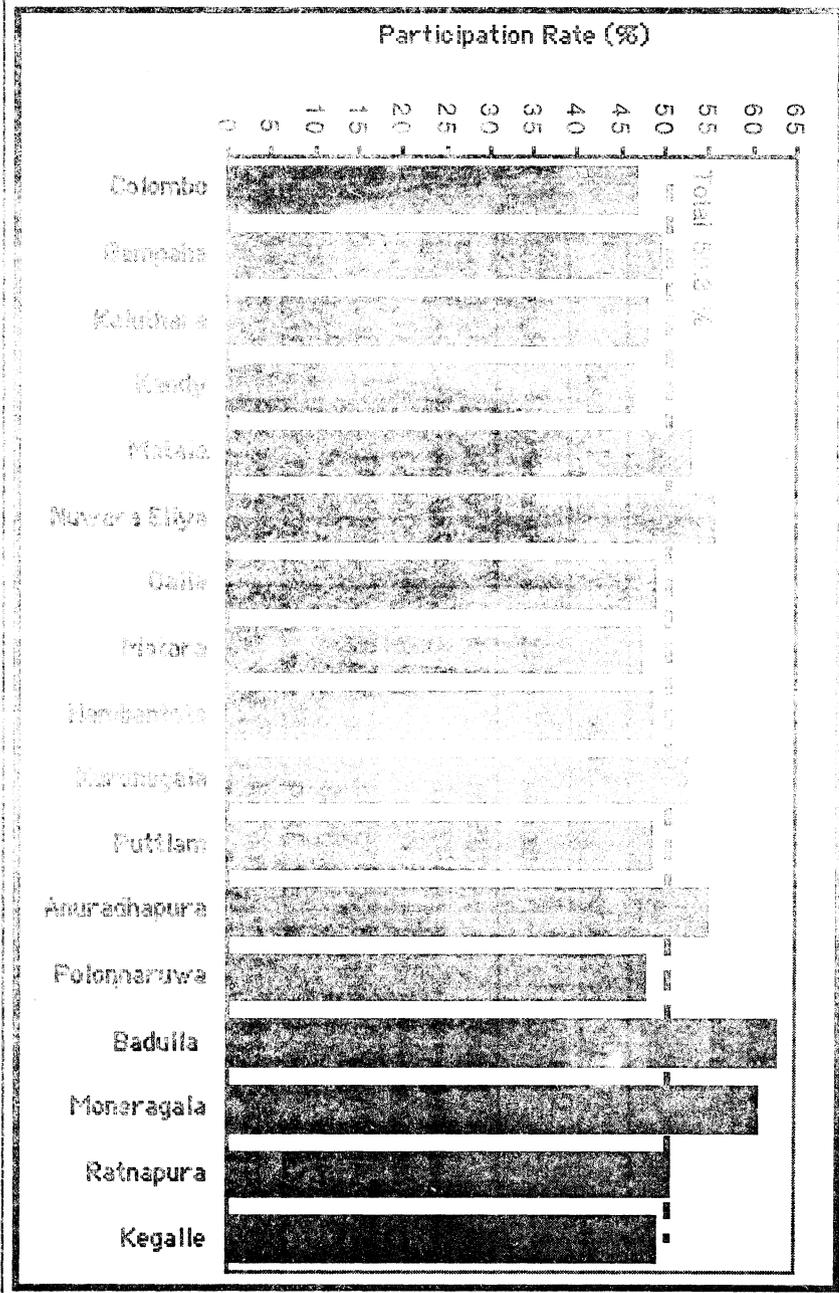
District	Male		Female	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
<b>Total</b>	<b>4705586</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>2439796</b>	<b>33.6</b>
Colombo	597381	65.8	280108	28.7
Gampaha	607581	69.0	294262	31.1
Kaluthara	315785	66.0	148441	30.1
Kandy	313945	65.8	155424	28.9
Matale	113859	69.9	62757	36.3
Nuwara Eliya	166768	63.8	129724	47.5
Galle	281303	66.1	143287	32.4
Matara	202209	64.4	110686	31.7
Hambantota	163038	68.3	69318	28.7
Kurunegala	463950	69.9	242383	35.6
Puttlam	211656	68.4	93021	28.9
Anuradhapura	223833	70.3	122504	39.2
Polonnaruwa	110214	72.9	35720	23.1
Badulla	260781	73.0	198923	58.0
Moneragala	117260	69.6	91540	52.2
Ratnapura	308949	68.5	145094	32.4
Kegalle	247073	67.0	116492	31.4

The male and female participation rates varies among the districts, irrespective of the overall participation rate. Males and females in Badulla district reported highest participation in the labour force in 2002. But in the case of Polonnaruwa district males and females participation highlighted different pattern. The highest male participation rate and lowest female participation rate reported in this District.

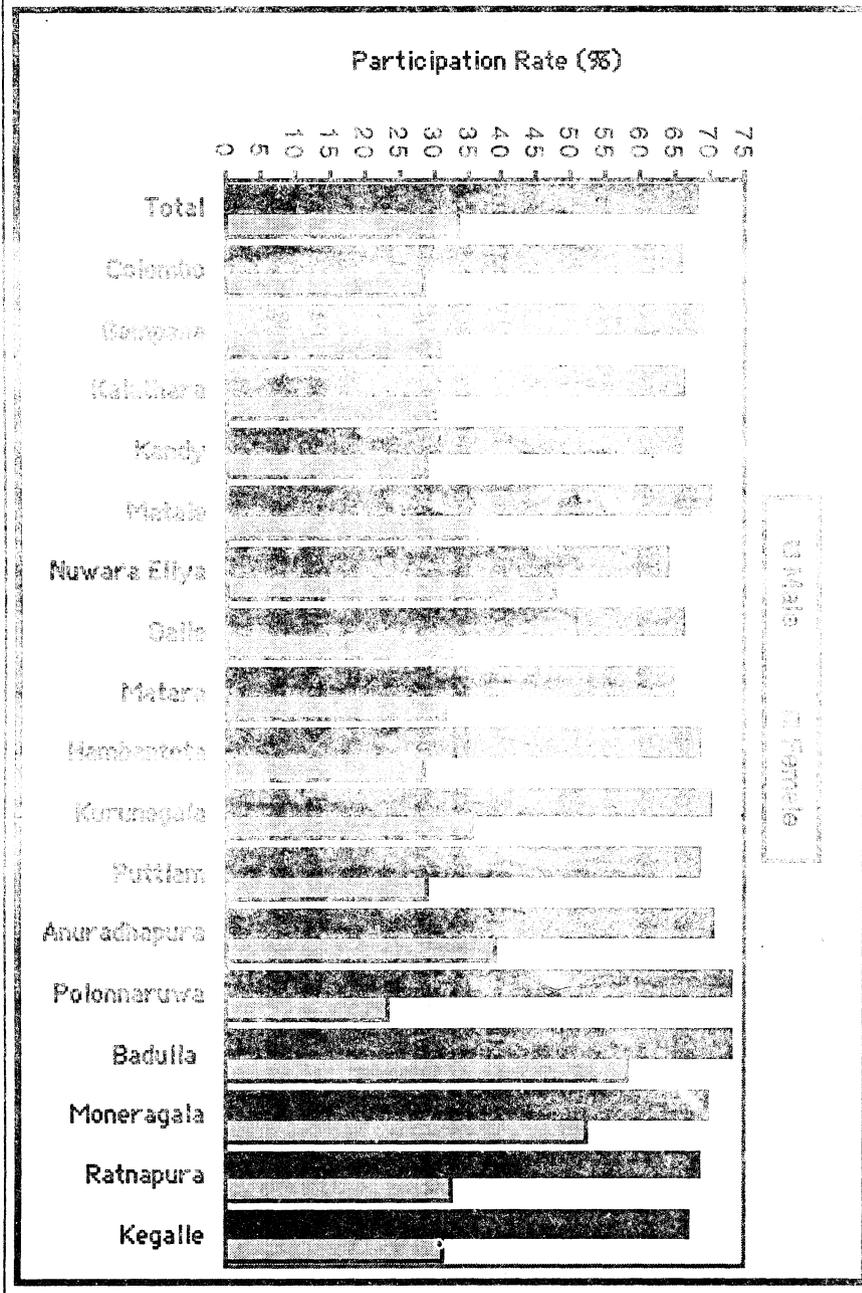
Many females of Badulla and Moneragala districts may be actively participated in the labour force as unskilled labours because the crop cultivation is their main income source. In addition to these activities females in the Moneragala district usually engaged in the sugar cane cultivation.

However, the sex differential by district highlighted that male participation rate varies in a range of (63.8% to 73.0%) while female participation varies in a wide range (23.1% to 53.3%) among the districts.

Graph 1 - Labour force participation rate by district (both sexes)



Graph 2 - Labour force participation rate by district and sex



### 3. EMPLOYMENT

#### 3.1 Employment by Industry

##### 3.1.1 Employment by Industry and Sex:

**Table 5 Distribution of Employed Population by Industry and Sex**

Sex	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>6519414</b>	<b>2247607</b>	<b>1072720</b>	<b>286543</b>	<b>838796</b>	<b>117557</b>	<b>309552</b>	<b>168973</b>	<b>524724</b>	<b>227785</b>	<b>82259</b>	<b>108458</b>	<b>93252</b>	<b>317121</b>	<b>124072</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>4395164</b>	<b>1397428</b>	<b>569761</b>	<b>279607</b>	<b>656505</b>	<b>90108</b>	<b>293368</b>	<b>115203</b>	<b>387301</b>	<b>70813</b>	<b>34137</b>	<b>85082</b>	<b>29059</b>	<b>273918</b>	<b>112880</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>2124250</b>	<b>850179</b>	<b>502959</b>	<b>6936</b>	<b>182291</b>	<b>27449</b>	<b>16184</b>	<b>53770</b>	<b>137423</b>	<b>156972</b>	<b>48122</b>	<b>23376</b>	<b>64193</b>	<b>43203</b>	<b>11192</b>

**Table 6 Percentage Distribution of Employed Population by Industry and Sex**

Sex	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>2.6</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>

**Industry Groups:**

1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)
2. Manufacturing (D)
3. Construction (F)
4. Wholesale & Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motor Cycles & personal & Household goods (G)
5. Hotels and Restaurant (H)
6. Transport, Storage & Communication (I)

7. Financial Intermediation & Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities (J,K)
8. Public Administration & Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)
9. Education (M)
10. Health & Social work (N)
11. Other Community, Social & personal service Activities (O)
12. Private Households with employed persons (P)
13. Miscellaneous Labour Work

**Others:**

14. Mining & Quarrying (C)  
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply (E)  
Extra Territorial Organisations & bodies (Q)  
Industries not adequately described.

### 3.1.1 Employment by Industry & Sex (reference tables 5 & 6)

About 35 percent employed persons are agriculture related workers while another 30 percent belongs to manufacturing and trade sectors together.

The table further shows the sex difference of employed persons. The proportion of females engaged in the major industrial categories agriculture, manufacturing, education, health and social work and private households respectively is higher than that of males. Total number of females in above mentioned industries is also higher than male numbers except agriculture sector.

### 3.1.2 Employment by Industry & District (reference table 7 & 8)

**Table 7 Distribution of employed population Industry and district**

Table Total	Industry Group					
	Total	1	2	4	8	Others
	6519415	2247602	1072720	838796	524724	1835573
Colombo	798018	18504	174314	190728	80738	333734
Gampaha	827823	70502	256471	134043	97176	269631
Kaluthara	418605	84571	91835	60921	41657	139621
Kandy	414978	116570	46972	55572	35505	160359
Matale	163249	70200	23834	16158	16820	36237
Nuwara Eliya	280481	212080	9254	14660	9098	35389
Galle	387159	122069	68377	48570	34223	113920
Matara	278617	122905	42098	24932	15430	73252
Hambantota	201525	97237	23447	19244	11550	50047
Kuruegala	650802	240864	113325	68433	60232	167948
Putlam	281708	102189	54714	40710	17794	66301
Anuradhapura	321776	189066	19435	23712	35778	53785
Polonnaruwa	128919	68730	13173	12808	8305	25903
Badulla	430689	296663	28508	32739	12160	60619
Monaragala	197850	139694	*	16727	*	26877
Ratnapura	412057	194291	36226	42814	16386	122300
Kegalle	325158	101468	63329	36027	24725	99609

(\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.)

#### Industry Groups

1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)
2. Manufacturing (D)
4. Wholesale & Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motor Cycles & personal & Household goods (G)
8. Public Administration & Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)

#### Others

3. Construction (F)
5. Hotels and Restaurant (H)
6. Transport, Storage & Communication (I)
7. Financial Intermediation & Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities (J,K)
9. Education (M)
10. Health & Social work (N)
11. Other Community, Social & personal service Activities (O)

12. Private Households with employed persons (P)
13. Miscellaneous Labour Work
14. Mining & Quarrying (C)
- Electricity, Gas and Water Supply (E)
- Extra Territorial Organisations & bodies (Q)
- Industries not adequately described.

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

**Table 8 Percentage distribution of Employed Population by Industry & District**

District	Industry Group					
	Total	1	2	4	8	Others
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>28.2</b>
<b>Colombo</b>	100.0	2.3	21.8	23.9	10.1	41.8
<b>Gampaha</b>	100.0	8.5	31.0	16.2	11.7	32.6
<b>Kaluthara</b>	100.0	20.2	21.9	14.6	10.0	33.3
<b>Kandy</b>	100.0	28.1	11.3	13.4	8.6	38.6
<b>Matale</b>	100.0	43.0	14.6	9.9	10.3	22.2
<b>Nuwara Eliya</b>	100.0	75.6	3.3	5.2	3.2	12.6
<b>Galle</b>	100.0	31.5	17.7	12.5	8.8	29.4
<b>Matara</b>	100.0	44.1	15.1	8.9	5.5	26.3
<b>Hambantota</b>	100.0	48.3	11.6	9.5	5.7	24.8
<b>Kuruegala</b>	100.0	37.0	17.4	10.5	9.3	25.8
<b>Putlam</b>	100.0	36.3	19.4	14.5	6.3	23.5
<b>Anuradhapura</b>	100.0	58.8	6.0	7.4	11.1	16.7
<b>Polonnaruwa</b>	100.0	53.3	10.2	9.9	6.4	20.1
<b>Badulla</b>	100.0	68.9	6.6	7.6	2.8	14.1
<b>Monaragala</b>	100.0	70.6	*	8.5	*	13.6
<b>Ratnapura</b>	100.0	47.2	8.8	10.4	4.0	29.7
<b>Kegalle</b>	100.0	31.2	19.5	11.1	7.6	30.6

(\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.)

**Industry Groups**

1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)
2. Manufacturing (D)
4. Wholesale & Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motor Cycles & personal & Household goods (G)
8. Public Administration & Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)

**Others**

3. Construction (F)
5. Hotels and Restaurant (H)
6. Transport, Storage & Communication (I)
7. Financial Intermediation & Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities (J,K)
9. Education (M)
10. Health & Social work (N)
11. Other Community, Social & personal service Activities (O)

12. Private Households with employed persons (P)
13. Miscellaneous Labour Work
14. Mining & Quarrying (C)
- Electricity, Gas and Water Supply (E)
- Extra Territorial Organisations & bodies (Q)
- Industries not adequately described.

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

Relatively more urbanized districts in Western Province are dominated with manufacturing and Trade sector industries. 40 percent and 47 percent of the employees in Colombo and Gampaha districts respectively fall under above mentioned two industry groups together. Proportion in Kalutara district is 37 percent. Kegalle, Puttlam and Galle District also report high proportion of employed persons in these two industry groups taken together.

Agriculture is the most prominent major industry group in all other districts except the districts in Western Province.

### 3.2 Employment by Occupation:

#### 3.2.1 Occupation and Sex:

**Table 9 Distribution of Employed Population by Occupation and Sex**

Sex	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6519415</b>	<b>85553</b>	<b>352238</b>	<b>316763</b>	<b>283719</b>	<b>406992</b>	<b>510148</b>	<b>1579024</b>	<b>935477</b>	<b>373588</b>	<b>1608511</b>	<b>67402</b>
<b>Male</b>	4395164	67276	146656	215548	151511	318172	379695	1024190	596472	335568	1097444	62633
<b>Female</b>	2124250	18277	205582	101215	132209	88819	130453	554835	339005	38020	511066	4769

**Table 10 Percentage Distribution of Employed Population by Occupation and Sex**

Sex	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Male</b>	100.0	1.5	3.3	4.9	3.4	7.2	8.6	23.3	13.6	7.6	25.0	1.4
<b>Female</b>	100.0	0.9	9.7	4.8	6.2	4.2	6.1	26.1	16.0	1.8	24.0	0.2

#### Occupation Groups:

- 1 Senior Officials & Managers
- 2 Professionals
- 3 Technical & Associated Professionals
- 4 Clerks
- 5 Proprietors
- 6 Sales Workers
- 7 Agricultural workers
- 8 Craft & Related Workers
- 9 Plant & Machine Operators
- 10 Elementary Occupations
- 0 Unidentified

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

### 3.2.2 Employment by Occupation & District

**Table 11 Distribution of Employed Population by Occupation & District**

District	Occupation Group								
	Total	2	3	5	6	7	8	10	Other
<b>Total</b>	<b>6519415</b>	<b>352238</b>	<b>316763</b>	<b>406992</b>	<b>510148</b>	<b>1579024</b>	<b>935477</b>	<b>1608511</b>	<b>810262</b>
Colombo	798018	78777	75345	78496	64922	14288	148273	156047	181869
Gampaha	827823	64248	51630	19738	132854	52467	208239	149639	149009
Kaluthara	418605	20962	27688	28921	36339	44937	74544	122749	62464
Kandy	414978	30218	25218	27704	36862	81099	45379	115605	52894
Matale	163249	*	7690	*	18627	58459	27770	29128	13600
Nuwara Eliya	280481	*	9584	8472	6740	77912	9796	149937	10325
Galle	387159	19432	19152	54149	22843	68330	56662	110703	35889
Matara	278617	13723	10066	27902	14595	72065	35028	81292	23948
Hambantota	201525	8464	7162	5309	14068	86621	21965	42906	15031
Kurunegala	650802	30579	24024	44833	28661	220769	97904	120990	83043
Puttlam	281708	10931	13465	15473	23947	64090	43540	84321	25942
Anuradhapura	321776	11271	10059	13943	21570	170478	26626	39662	28168
Polonnaruwa	128919	*	*	*	*	64095	11219	19962	16173
Badulla	430689	15058	7427	16342	21106	192707	24781	124796	28473
Moneragala	197850	*	*	*	10458	133526	10078	16995	8896
Ratnapura	412057	12522	9564	30212	18579	116627	39971	158489	26091
Kegalle	325158	12418	12148	19531	33065	60556	53701	85289	48450

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

Note (1) : Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV) some of these groups have been combined.

(2): It is to be noted here that these occupation groups are based on ISCO- 88, but they are not necessarily the Major Groups of ISCO – 88 classification.

**Occupation Groups:**

- 2 Professionals
- 3 Technical & Associated Professionals
- 5 Proprietors
- 6 Sales Workers
- 7 Agricultural workers
- 8 Craft & Related Workers
- 10 Elementary Occupations

**Others**

- 1 Senior Officials & Managers
- 4 Clerks
- 9 Plant & Machine Operators
- 0 Unidentified

### 3.2.2 Employment by Occupation & District

**Table 12 Percentage distribution of employed population by occupation & district**

District	Total	2	3	5	6	7	8	10	Other
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>Colombo</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>22.7</b>
<b>Gampaha</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>18.0</b>
<b>Kaluthara</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>15.0</b>
<b>Kandy</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>12.8</b>
<b>Matale</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Nuwara Eliya</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>3.7</b>
<b>Galle</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>Matara</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>8.7</b>
<b>Hambantota</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>7.5</b>
<b>Kurunegala</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>12.8</b>
<b>Puttlam</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>Anuradhapura</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>8.8</b>
<b>Polonnaruwa</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Badulla</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<b>Moneragala</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Ratnapura</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>6.3</b>
<b>Kegalle</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>15.0</b>

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided due to small cell size.

Note (1): Due to the limitations on reliability (based on CV) some of these groups have been combined.

(2): It is to be noted here that these occupation groups are based on ISCO- 88, but they are not necessarily the Major Groups of ISCO – 88 classification.

**Occupation Groups:**

- 2 Professionals
- 3 Technical & Associated Professionals
- 5 Proprietors
- 6 Sales Workers
- 7 Agricultural workers
- 8 Craft & Related Workers
- 10 Elementary Occupations

**Others**

- 1 Senior Officials & Managers
- 4 Clerks
- 9 Plant & Machine Operators
- 0 Unidentified

### 3.2.1 Employment by Occupation and Sex: (reference tables 9 & 10)

Nearly 50 percent of employed persons can be categorized under "Agriculture" and "Elementary Occupation" groups taken together. Number of females in the "professionals" group exceed the number of males. It is to be noted that teachers, nurses are also considered under this group. Proportion of females in "Craft and related workers" group is 16.0 percent, while corresponding proportion for males is only 13.6 percent. Many young females involved in manufacturing sector work such as garment factories are counted under this group.

### 3.2.2 Employment by Occupation and District (reference tables 11,12 & 13)

Usually employment activities vary among the districts and based on the regional socio economic activities of those areas. The percentage distribution by district and three main occupational groups can be ranked again as follows.

**Table 13 Ranking of District by the Proportion of Employed population by major occupation groups :**

Rank	Agriculture	Percentage	Rank	Elementary Occupations	Percentage	Rank	Craft & related workers	Percentage
1	Monaragala	67.5	1	Nuwara Eliya	53.5	1	Gampaha	25.2
2	Anuradhapura	53.0	2	Ratnapura	38.5	2	Colombo	18.6
3	Polonnaruwa	50.0	3	Puttlam	29.9	3	Kalutara	17.8
4	Badulla	44.7	4	Kaluthara	29.3	4	Matale	17.0
5	Hambantota	43.0	5	Matara	29.2	5	Kegalle	16.5
6	Matale	35.8	6	Badulla	29.0	6	Puttalam	15.5
7	Kurunegala	34.0	7	Galle	28.6	7	Kurunegala	15.0
8	Ratnapura	28.3	8	Kandy	27.9	8	Galle	14.6
9	Nuwara Eliya	27.8	9	Kegalle	26.2	9	Matara	12.6
10	Matara	26.0	10	Hambantota	21.3	10	Hambantota	10.9
11	Puttlam	22.8	11	Colombo	19.6	11	Kandy	10.9
12	Kandy	19.5	12	Kurunegala	18.6	12	Ratnapura	9.2
13	Kegalle	18.6	13	Gampaha	18.1	13	Polonnaruwa	8.7
14	Galle	17.6	14	Matale	17.8	14	Anuradhapura	8.3
15	Kaluthara	10.7	15	Polonnaruwa	15.5	15	Badulla	5.8
16	Gampaha	6.3	16	Anuradhapura	12.3	16	Monaragala	5.1
17	Colombo	1.8	17	Monaragala	8.6	17	Nuwara Eliya	3.5

Rank one being given to the district with the highest proportion of employed persons for the given major occupation group.

Agriculture is the most dominant occupation group in many districts. According to the ranking order Monaragala occupies the highest position under agricultural occupations. Many persons in this district worked as own account workers or unpaid family workers in their own chena cultivation or other fields. Only 9.0 percent in of persons in Monaragala District have worked as labourers (elementary occupations) because casual labour work (elementary occupations) in the agriculture sector is not very much prevalent. Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa districts can be ranked next with the percentages of 53 percent and 50 percent respectively. These districts mostly cultivated under major irrigation systems in the two seasons of the year. Majority of persons are engaged in their own agricultural paddy fields and 12 percent and 15 percent of them worked as unskilled labourers (elementary occupations) in Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa respectively because of the availability of agricultural labour work.

The more developed three districts of Western Province have reported lowest percentages of gricultural activities. On the other hand relatively high proportion of craft and related workers are residing in these three districts. Lowest proportion of craft and related workers are reported in Badulla, Monaragala and Nuwara Eliya districts respectively.

The distribution pattern of employed persons in Colombo district is different from others. Nearly 40 percent persons of Colombo district have worked as unskilled labourers (Elementary Occupations) and craft and related workers. Another 35 percent of persons count under white collar jobs like Senior Officials and Managers, Technical and associated Professionals and Clerks.

The distribution pattern of Nuwara Eliya district which is heavily concentrated with plantation Industry, different than other districts. As a result of the socio economic conditions in this area about 54 percent of persons are unskilled labourers especially working in the estate sector.

### 3.3 Employment by Employment Status

#### 3.3.1 Employment Status & Sex:

**Table 14 Employed Population by Employment Status and Sex**

Employment Status	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>6519296</b>	<b>4395095</b>	<b>2124217</b>
Employee Total	3775044	2526017	1249041
Employee (Public)	875575	555397	320178
Employee (Private)	2899469	1970621	928863
Employer	181516	164371	17145
Own account worker	1864067	1494133	369935
Unpaid family worker	698669	210574	488095

Of the total employed persons nearly 60 percent are employees. Of them 45 percent are private sector employees. Proportion of female employees engaged in government sector jobs is higher than males. 23 percent of employed females are unpaid family workers while corresponding proportion for males is 5 percent only.

**Table 15 Percentage distribution of employed population by employment status and sex.**

Employment Status	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Employee Total	57.9	57.5	58.8
Employee (Public)	13.4	12.6	15.1
Employee (Private)	44.5	44.8	43.7
Employer	2.8	3.7	0.8
Own account worker	28.6	34.0	17.4
Unpaid family worker	10.7	4.8	23.0

#### 3.3.2 Employment status and Residential Sector

**Table 16 Employed Population by employment status and residential sector**

Employment Status	Total	Urban	* Rural
<b>Total</b>	<b>6519296</b>	<b>761089</b>	<b>5758207</b>
Employee (Total)	3775044	525187	3249857
Employee (Public)	875575	136295	739280
Employee (Private)	2899469	388892	2510577
Employer	181516	59019	122496
Own Account worker	1864067	151190	1712877
Unpaid family worker	698669	25693	672976

\* Including Estate Sector

Only 14 percent of employed persons are residing in the urban sector.

**Table 17 Percentage distribution of employed population by Employment status and residential sector**

Employment status	Total	Urban	* Rural
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Employee (Total)	57.9	69.0	56.4
Employee (Public)	13.4	17.9	12.8
Employee (Private)	44.5	51.1	43.6
Employer	2.8	7.8	2.1
Own Account worker	28.6	19.9	29.8
Unpaid family worker	10.7	3.4	11.7

\* Including Estate Sector

Proportion of employees and employers in the urban sector is higher than that of the rural sector while proportion of own account workers and unpaid family workers in the rural sector is higher than that of the

### 3.4 Employment by hours worked in main job per week

#### 3.4.1 Employment status & hours worked in main job per week

**Table 18 Percentage distribution of employed population by employment status and hours worked per week in main occupation**

Employment Status	Hours worked							
	Total	0*	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
Employee (Public)	100.0	4.6	0.5	1.4	4.1	14.2	49.9	25.2
Employee (Private)	100.0	5.7	1.0	3.9	9.0	13.0	39.2	28.1
Employer	100.0	3.4	0.8	2.6	6.5	11.0	25.0	50.6
Own Account worker	100.0	5.8	2.1	7.0	15.2	17.6	23.4	29.0
Unpaid family worker	100.0	6.1	3.1	10.6	23.4	21.0	19.1	16.7
Total	100.0	5.6	1.5	5.1	11.6	15.3	33.6	27.4

\* has a job but not at work during the reference week

Of the total employed persons 34 percent have worked 40 – 49 hours per week. Another 27 percent have worked more than 49 hours.

Of the public sector employees 50 percent have worked usual time of work of 8 hours per day in 5 working days. (40–49 hours) 25 percent of them have worked more than usual time of their major occupation. This could be attributed to over time work.

About 40 percent employees belonging to private sector have occupied their activities 40–49 hours while 28 percent of them have worked more than 50 hours per week.

Nearly 75 percent of employers who may be managing their enterprises as well, have spent over 40 hours per week in their work.

#### 3.4.2 Employment status & hours worked in main job by residential sector:

**Table 19 Percentage distribution of employed population by hours worked per week, employment status and residential sector**

Sector	Hours worked							
	Total	0*	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50+
<b>Urban</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>45.1</b>
Employee (Public)	100.0	5.3	0.4	1.4	3.0	14.2	41.6	34.1
Employee (Private)	100.0	4.4	0.6	2.3	5.1	7.0	34.6	46.1
Employer	100.0	2.6	-	2.4	3.5	7.7	19.8	63.9
Own Account worker	100.0	8.6	2.1	4.3	8.2	9.3	21.8	45.5
Unpaid family worker	100.0	1.9	3.0	8.5	14.8	9.7	20.7	41.5
<b>**Rural</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>25.0</b>
Employee (Public)	100.0	4.5	0.6	1.4	4.4	14.2	51.4	23.6
Employee (Private)	100.0	5.9	1.1	4.1	9.6	14.0	40.0	25.3
Employer	100.0	3.8	1.1	2.7	7.9	12.6	27.5	44.2
Own Account worker	100.0	5.6	2.1	7.2	15.8	18.3	23.5	27.5
Unpaid family worker	100.0	6.2	3.1	10.7	23.7	21.4	19.1	15.8

\* has a job but not at work during the reference work \*\* including Estate Sector.

In all categories of employment states proportion of persons who have worked 50 and more hours is greater in the urban sector than rural sector.

### 3.4.3 Employment Status, Hours Worked in main job & Sex

**Table 20 Distribution of employed population by employment status hours worked and sex**

Employment Status	Hours worked							
	Total	0*	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
<b>Male</b>								
Total	100.0	5.4	1.2	4.4	9.9	14.1	33.7	31.2
Employee Public	100.0	2.8	0.7	1.0	3.1	8.9	50.5	33.1
Employee Private	100.0	6.2	1.0	3.9	9.0	13.1	37.5	29.2
Employer	100.0	3.1	0.7	2.3	5.8	9.5	25.6	52.9
Own Account worker	100.0	5.6	1.5	5.7	12.9	17.3	25.3	31.7
Unpaid family worker	100.0	5.7	2.8	10.3	17.7	18.7	20.5	24.3
<b>Female</b>								
Total	100.0	5.8	2.1	6.6	15.1	17.7	33.3	19.4
Employee Public	100.0	7.8	0.2	2.1	6.0	23.4	48.7	11.6
Employee Private	100.0	4.6	1.2	3.8	9.0	12.9	42.9	25.7
Employer	100.0	6.8	1.2	5.8	12.5	25.7	19.4	28.6
Own Account worker	100.0	6.6	4.4	12.0	24.3	18.9	15.8	18.0
Unpaid family worker	100.0	6.2	3.3	10.7	25.8	22.0	18.5	13.4

\* Has a job but not at work during the reference week.

Above table presents the sex differentials of employed persons by working hours and employment status. Of all persons about 33 percent of both males and females have worked 40-49 hours per week. Proportion of males who have worked over 30 - 49 hours is 31 percent while the corresponding proportion for females is only 19 percent.

Of the total employees of government sector about 50 percent of both males and females have worked usual working time of 40 hours or 41 - 49 hours per week. 33 percent of male employees of the government sector have worked more than 49 hours while the corresponding proportion for female employees is only 12 percent.

38 percent of the male employees in the private sector occupied their jobs for 40-49 hours per week while corresponding proportion for females is 43 percent. proportion of working hours exceeding 49 hours in this sector is 29 percent and 26 percent for males and females respectively.

Proportion of female unpaid family workers who have worked 40 hours or above is less than males who worked same number of hours. Corresponding proportion are 45 percent and 32 percent respectively. Proportion of males own account workers who have worked more than 40 hours is also more males than females.

### 3.4.4 Hours Worked in main job by Occupation Group

**Table 21 Percentage distribution of employed persons by hours worked and occupation group**

Occupation Group	Hours worked							
	Total	0*	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50+
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>27.4</b>
Senior Officials & Managers	100.0	1.2	0.4	0.4	3.3	6.4	48.0	40.2
Professionals	100.0	9.3	1.2	3.5	10.0	30.4	31.8	13.9
Technical & Associated Professionals	100.0	2.5	0.8	1.8	3.5	7.0	53.5	30.9
Clerks	100.0	2.6	0.9	1.6	3.0	8.4	60.7	22.8
Proprietors	100.0	3.0	0.7	2.8	8.5	10.3	22.3	52.4
Sales Workers	100.0	3.2	1.3	2.9	7.1	9.8	23.4	52.3
Agricultural workers	100.0	6.5	2.5	9.3	20.7	21.6	23.7	15.8
Craft & Related Workers	100.0	6.3	1.2	5.2	10.7	12.2	37.1	27.5
Plant & Machine Operators	100.0	5.3	0.5	2.8	5.3	7.9	34.7	43.4
Elementary Occupations	100.0	6.4	1.6	4.8	11.2	16.2	38.4	21.4
Unidentified	100.0	3.6	-	1.2	1.1	1.1	24.9	68.0

\* has a job but not at work during the reference week.

According to the table 21 proprietors and Sales and Service workers were engaged in their business activities during longer hours than other occupational groups. About 52 percent of them have worked more than 50 hours per week.

Usual time of office hours is 40 hours per week. Above data shows that the about 85 percent persons in office type jobs viz. Senior Officials, Technical and Associated professionals and Clerks were occupied in more than 40 hours in their occupations, on the average.

The distribution pattern of working hours for Professionals is different from other jobs. About 60 percent of them have worked in their main job 30-49 hours per week. Only 14 percent have worked more than 50 hours. Teachers are counted under "Professionals" and the number of working hours is less for teachers. This may be the reason for the above.

The persons living with Agricultural related activities show a different type of working pattern. Many persons in this industry engaged in their activities between 20 to 49 hours per week. 60 percent of unskilled labourers (those engaged in elementary occupations) have worked more than 40 hours per week.

65 percent of persons who belongs to craft and related activity groups, such as garment or other manufacturing industries have engaged in their activities over 40 hours per week, on the average.

### 3.5 EMPLOYMENT BY SECONDARY OCCUPATION

#### 3.5.1 Distribution of Main and Secondary Occupations:

**Table 22** Distribution of employed persons (who are reported to have a secondary occupation) by their main occupation and secondary occupation respectively.

Occupation group	Main Occupation		Secondary Occupation	
	Number	%	Number	%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>683368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>683368</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Senior Officials & Managers	3738	0.5	1329	0.2
Professionals	30754	4.5	14349	2.1
Technical & Associated Professionals	18338	2.7	7898	1.2
Clerks	10873	1.6	2052	0.3
Proprietors	42851	6.3	31611	4.6
Sales Workers	26630	3.9	23046	3.4
Agricultural workers	298447	43.7	406379	59.5
Craft & Related Workers	66226	9.7	57295	8.4
Plant & Machine Operators	32766	4.8	16662	2.4
Elementary Occupations	152135	22.3	122489	17.9
Unidentified	610	0.1	258	0.0

Total number of persons who were reported to have secondary job is 683368.

The definition of major and secondary occupation is based on the number of hours of work in each occupation. The activity which he/she spends longer time is considered as the main job and other activity is considered as the secondary job.

The distribution of the persons by their secondary job is presented in table 22. An important feature is, of the total number of employed persons, 60 percent are engaged in Agricultural activities as their secondary source of income.

#### 3.5.2 Employment status of Secondary Occupation

**Table 23** Percentage distribution of employed population who have secondary occupation by employment status of the secondary occupation and sex

Employment Status	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Employee	21.5	22.8	16.1
Employer	3.3	3.7	1.8
Own Account Worker	58.4	64.7	32.9
Unpaid Family Worker	16.3	8.8	49.3

Of the total employed persons having secondary occupation 547,355 are males (80%) and only 136,014 (20%) are females.

Majority of them are own Account Workers. Of all males 65 percent are own Account workers while reported to proportion for females is 33 percent. Nearly 50 percent of the working females have worked as unpaid family workers in their family enterprises (Agriculture /Non-Agriculture) in addition to their main occupation. 16 percent of females have worked as employees in the secondary occupation while this proportion for males is 23 percent.

### 3.5.3 Classification of Secondary Job by the main Job:

**Table 24** Distribution of employed persons who have secondary occupation by their main and secondary occupation group

Main Occupation	Secondary Occupation											
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>-</b>
1	100.0	*	*	-	*	-	9.8	68.8	-	-	-	-
2	100.0	*	32.5	*	*	5.8	3.5	47.2	5.3	-	-	-
3	100.0	-	*	*	-	8.9	1.3	73.9	8.0	*	-	-
4	100.0	-	9.7	*	*	7.6	5.1	62.6	*	*	3.2	-
5	100.0	*	2.1	3.0	-	18.2	3.6	65.2	2.2	4.5	-	-
6	100.0	*	-	*	-	4.3	3.0	68.6	6.9	7.7	7.6	-
7	100.0	-	*	1.1	*	4.8	3.6	42.6	12.2	3.0	32.0	0.1
8	100.0	-	*	*	-	*	4.2	75.6	8.3	*	9.4	-
9	100.0	-	-	*	*	3.8	4.3	72.5	6.0	2.2	8.0	-
10	100.0	-	*	*	*	1.2	2.3	80.2	4.8	1.3	9.7	-
0	100.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	-	-	-	-

Reliable estimate cannot be provided due to small cell size

**Occupation Groups:**

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 Senior Officials & Managers          | 6 Sales Workers             |
| 2 Professionals                        | 7 Agricultural workers      |
| 3 Technical & Associated Professionals | 8 Craft & Related Workers   |
| 4 Clerks                               | 9 Plant & Machine Operators |
| 5 Proprietors                          | 10 Elementary Occupations   |
|  | 0 Unidentified              |

The distribution pattern of professionals who are having a secondary occupation is different from others. Of the professionals, 47 percent have agricultural activity and 33 percent of them have another professional type job as their secondary income source. Teachers conducting tuition classes and doctors doing private medical practice are some examples of secondary occupation of professional nature.

Of the persons having agriculture activities as their main income source, 76 percent of them again reported agriculture related activities and unskilled labour works together as their secondary income source. The farmers usually cultivate not only one crop but also 2 or more crops. As an example they spend more time in paddy cultivation while growing chilies vegetable or onion as extra crops. In this case his major occupation is paddy cultivation while secondary job is other crops cultivation. Some times in addition to the work in their own paddy field farmers earn income by labour work in other places. (agriculture or non agriculture labourwork.). However, the entire phenomenon in agriculture sector is that activities of the agricultural workers is limited to the agricultural frame.

### 3.5.4 Hours worked in the Secondary Occupation

**Table 25 Percentage distribution of employed persons having secondary job by hours worked in Secondary Occupation and Occupation Group.**

Secondary Occupation	Hours							
	Total	*0	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Senior Officials & Managers	100.0	-	20.6	48.0	23.8	7.0	-	-
Professionals	100.0	-	24.3	37.6	30.0	4.9	3.2	-
Technical & Associated Professionals	100.0	-	13.3	3.88	19.9	27.9	-	-
Clerks	100.0	-	46.8	38.7	14.5	-	-	-
Proprietors	100.0	1.0	12.3	19.9	34.5	11.9	12.7	7.8
Sales Workers	100.0	1.8	21.2	20.9	17.4	15.7	9.8	13.2
Agricultural workers	100.0	2.6	15.9	35.7	32.0	8.9	4.2	0.7
Craft & Related Workers	100.0	4.9	11.2	25.3	32.1	15.1	7.5	4.0
Plant & Machine Operators	100.0	2.8	12.7	29.9	27.5	9.3	13.9	3.9
Elementary Occupations	100.0	3.9	7.8	36.0	33.0	12.8	4.7	1.9
Unidentified	100.0	-	-	-	-	100.0	-	-

\* has a job but not at work during the reference week.

According to table 25 majority of persons having secondary occupation have worked between 10-30 hours in their secondary occupation. Of the total persons having a secondary occupation (683368) the proportion in this category is 65 percent.

Table 25 further indicates that the difference of the hours worked in each occupation category. Most of the professionals and office workers have worked less than 30 hours per week in these jobs.

Hours worked in the secondary job as Proprietors or Sales and Service workers is different from other occupations. A relatively higher proportion of them have worked longer time duration in their business or enterprise.

### 3.5.5 Secondary Occupation and Residential Sector

**Table: 26 Employed persons who have secondary job by occupational group of secondary job and residential sector**

Occupation Group	Total	Urban	* Rural
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Senior Officials & Managers	0.2	2.7	0.1
Professionals	2.1	20.3	1.5
Technical & Associated Professionals	1.2	6.4	1.0
Clerks	0.3	3.4	0.2
Proprietors	4.6	14.8	4.2
Sales Workers	3.4	14.4	3.0
Agricultural workers	59.4	7.6	61.0
Craft & Related Workers	8.4	12.7	8.2
Plant & Machine Operators	2.4	6.2	2.3
Elementary Occupations	17.9	9.1	18.2
Unidentified	0.1	2.3	0.1

\* Including Estate Sector.

Of the total employed persons having a secondary job only 20529 (20%) residing in the urban sector and 662839(80%) in rural sector.

Sectorial distribution of above persons given in table 26 shows that 20 percent of the persons in urban sector have done professional type jobs (teachers, doctors etc.) as their secondary job while 29 percent of them are either proprietors of their enterprises or sales and service workers. Another 13 percent of them are craft and related workers.

Distribution pattern of secondary job workers in the rural sector is quite different from the urban sector. 61 percent of them are Agricultural workers while 18 percent are upationsOc occupational workers (unskilled labourers). These kind of jobs are easily available in rural areas.

## 4. UNEMPLOYMENT

### 4.1 Unemployment by age group & Sex

**Table 27 Unemployment Rate by age group & Sex**

Age Group	Total	Male	Female
All ages	8.8	6.6	12.9
10-14	*	*	*
15 - 19	30.1	26.9	35.4
20 - 24	27.0	22.7	33.8
25 - 29	11.6	7.4	18.7
30 - 39	3.9	2.2	7.2
40+	1.2	1.0	1.4

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

According to table 27 the unemployment rate among 15-19 and 20-24, taken A is was about 2 to 3 times that of the overall in the year 2002. When between age groups it can be seen that the male unemployment rate shows sharp decline after the age 24 years.

But the female unemployment rate shows a different pattern than age specific male unemployment rate. For females of age 25-29 years it is 18.7 percent while the corresponding rate for males is 7.4 percent for the only.

**Table 28 Distribution of Unemployed Population by age group and Sex.**

Age group	Total	Male	Female
Total	625967	310421	315546
10 - 14	*	*	*
15 - 19	123740	68654	55086
20 - 24	293903	151650	142253
25 - 29	103338	41736	61602
30 - 39	68719	25565	43154
40 +	34386	21301	13085

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

**Table 29 Percentage Distribution of unemployed Population by Age & Sex.**

Age Group	Total	Male	Female
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
10 - 14	*	*	*
15 - 19	19.8	22.1	17.5
20 - 24	47.0	48.9	45.1
25 - 29	16.5	13.4	19.5
30 - 39	11.0	8.2	13.7
40 +	5.5	6.9	4.1

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

Table 28 presents the information on unemployed population classified by age & sex. More than 80 percent of all unemployed persons is found among the three age groups 15-19, 20-24 and 25-29. A greater difference between males and females is highlighted in the 30-39 age group. Of the total unemployed in this age group 63 percent are females and only 37 percent are males. But for the older age groups (40 & above) 62 percent are males while only 38 percent are females.

## 4.2 Unemployment and Level of Education

### 4.2.1 Unemployment by Sex and Level of Education

**Table 30 Unemployment rate by Sex and Level of Education**

Sex	Total	Below Grade 5	Grade 5 - 9	G.C.E. (O/L)	G.C.E. (A/L) & above
<b>Both Sexes</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>16.8</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>10.8</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>23.0</b>

A consistently observed characteristic feature of the unemployment by level of education and sex is the high rate of unemployment among educated females. The sex differential by level of education has persisted irrespective of whether the overall unemployment rate was rising or falling.

**Table 31 Distribution of Unemployed population by Sex and Level of Education**

Sex	Total	Below Grade 5	Grade 5 - 9	G.C.E. (O/L)	G.C.E. (A/L) & above
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>625957</b>	<b>29719</b>	<b>255235</b>	<b>157059</b>	<b>183943</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>310416</b>	<b>17339</b>	<b>155569</b>	<b>76597</b>	<b>60910</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>315541</b>	<b>12381</b>	<b>99666</b>	<b>80462</b>	<b>123033</b>

**Table 32 Percentage Distribution of Unemployed population by Sex and Level of Education**

Sex	Total	Below Grade 5	Grade 5 - 9	G.C.E. (O/L)	G.C.E. (A/L) & above
<b>Both Sexes</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>29.4</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>19.6</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>39.0</b>

The bulk of the unemployed males is found in the grade 5-9 group (50 percent). Of the total unemployed persons in grade 5-9 group, 61 percent are males. But in the case of females it highlighted a different pattern. Table 32 shows that 39 percent unemployed females is found in the A.L. and above category. In other words, of the total unemployed persons with education G.C.E. A/L and above, about 67 percent are females.

## 4.2.2 Unemployment by Province, Level of Education and Sex

**Table 33 Unemployment rate by Province,  
Level of Education and Sex**

Province	Total	Grade 5 - 9	G.C.E. (O/L)	G.C.E. (A/L) & above
<b>Both sexes</b>				
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>16.8</b>
Western	8.9	7.8	10.6	12.2
Central	8.9	9.2	15.0	18.2
Southern	10.6	10.9	15.3	21.9
North Western	7.8	6.8	12.7	19.3
North Central	8.4	6.2	14.9	25.4
Uva	6.0	4.8	13.7	18.2
Sabaragamuwa	9.8	8.1	18.6	25.7
<b>Male</b>				
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>10.8</b>
Western	7.5	7.1	8.9	9.7
Central	6.5	7.7	10.2	10.4
Southern	7.4	8.5	11.2	12.9
North Western	5.5	5.8	10.0	10.6
North Central	4.9	4.7	9.0	10.6
Uva	3.9	3.7	6.9	12.5
Sabaragamuwa	7.4	7.2	13.8	15.9
<b>Female</b>				
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>23.0</b>
Western	11.8	9.8	14.5	15.3
Central	12.9	12.9	24.4	26.4
Southern	17.0	17.6	21.9	30.0
North Western	12.3	9.4	17.8	28.0
North Central	16.0	10.1	25.2	37.4
Uva	8.7	6.5	22.4	21.6
Sabaragamuwa	14.9	10.9	27.1	35.5

Note : - Unemployment rate cannot be estimated with a reasonable reliability for level of education below grade 5 by province.

According to the table 33 unemployment heavily varies among the provinces by level of education and sex. This table further indicates that educated persons in North Central and Sabaragamuwa provinces are mostly affected by unemployment than other provinces. Southern Province also faced the same problem next in the order of severity. Among the educated females greater incident of unemployment is highlighted in North Central, Sabaragamuwa and Southern provinces. Usually educated females wait for longer periods than men for suitable job.

However, unemployment prevailing among the educated persons may be the cause for severe socio-political problems as experienced in the recent past.

### 4.3 Unemployment by District & Sex

**Table 34 Unemployment Rate by District & Sex**

District	Both Sexes	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>12.9</b>
Colombo	9.1	7.2	13.0
Gampaha	8.2	7.7	9.2
Kaluthara	9.8	7.7	14.5
Kandy	11.6	8.2	18.5
Matale	7.6	5.4	11.5
Nuwara Eliya	5.4	4.2	6.9
Galle	8.8	7.5	11.4
Matara	11.0	6.8	18.6
Hambantota	13.3	7.9	25.8
Kurunegala	7.9	5.5	12.5
Puttlam	7.5	5.7	11.7
Anuradhapura	7.1	3.7	13.3
Polonnaruwa	11.7	7.2	25.4
Badulla	6.3	4.4	8.8
Moneragala	5.2	2.7	8.5
Ratnapura	9.2	6.9	14.3
Kegalle	10.6	8.2	15.7

Male unemployment rate varies from the lowest of 3.7 percent to the highest of 8.2 percent. Female rate varies in a wider range, from 6.9 percent lowest to 25.8 percent highest.

A significant aspect of the male unemployment rate by district is indicated in the districts belonging to Central Province. The two districts belonging to Central Province, have reported highest and lowest male unemployment rate of the country. As described in the earlier Kandy District that cannot be treated as an under developed district in the country, highlighted the highest male unemployment rate while Nuwara Eliya district reported the lowest. Kegalle also reported 8.2 percent rate of male unemployment rate. North Central province which consists of two districts highlighted a different pattern of male and female unemployment.. Male and female rates of Polonnaruwa was about two times that of corresponding rates in Anuradhapura district.

Although the overall female unemployment rate was reported as 12.9 percent in 2002 it varies widely among the districts as mentioned above. A relatively low percentage of unemployment rate is reported among the females in Nuwara Eliya district. Females in Hambantota district and Polonnaruwa again faced severe problem of unemployment during the year 2002.

The rate of unemployment varies from the lowest of 5.4 percent in Nuwara Eliya district to the highest of 13.3 percent in Hambantota district. According to unemployment rate values, all district can be ranked as follows:-

**Table 35 Ranking of Districts by the Unemployment Rate.**

Unemployment rate as a Range (%)	Rank	District	Unemployment Rate
5 - <7	1	Monaragala	5.2
	2	Nuwara Eliya	5.4
	3	Badulla	6.3
7 - <8	4	Anuradhapura	7.1
	5	Puttlam	7.5
	6	Matale	7.6
	7	Kurunegala	7.9
8 - <10	8	Gampaha	8.2
	9	Galle	8.8
	10	Colombo	9.1
	11	Ratnapura	9.2
	12	Kalutara	9.8
10 - <14	13	Kegalle	10.6
	14	Matara	11.0
	15	Polonnaruwa	11.7
	16	Kandy	11.6
	17	Hambantota	13.3

(Rank "1" being given to the district with the lowest unemployment rate)

Districts like Nuwara Eliya and Badulla are concentrated with crop cultivation low unemployment rate are recorded in these districts than more urbanized districts. The length of time, which young persons wait for formal type jobs is likely to be less in those districts. In the estate sector, mainly elementary occupations are available for unskilled labour work.

The second group of districts with the rate of unemployment between 7 to 8 are predominated with the paddy cultivation except Matale district. Matale is famous for highland crop and vegetable cultivation while Kurunegala and Puttlam belong to coconut triangle of the country. Many persons in these districts have employment opportunities of in agricultural activities.

The third group of districts except Galle and Matara with prevailing unemployment rate between 8-10 can be described as more urbanized and policy favoured districts. However, it can be interpreted that more rural agricultural areas have reported less unemployment than industrialized areas. The pattern of labour force participation follows the same trend among the districts.

The fourth group of districts may be treated as under-developed and under privileged areas. But considering Kandy district a less developed District in the Country is a problem. Of the districts in Central Province Labour Force participation rate of Kandy district is less than other districts. It should be subject to more analysis to investigate the unemployment problem in Kandy district. In the last district level publication of Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey in 1997 reported 15.5 percent unemployment rate in Kandy District. It was the highest rate among the districts in 1997. The two districts Matara and Hambantota belonging to Southern Province is famous for the intelligent and educated persons. Most of such persons in these areas have faced problems of occupation, land and their basic living conditions. In addition to frustration these problems cause unsettled social and political condition in the country in the past. However, Hambantota is one of the least developed region is well known. In recent times it has been the home for the intervention of some foreign sponsored projects like IRDP. Since the beginning of the 1990s government programs for the Southern province development created to promote and manage developmental activities in the Southern Province. Even in the year 2000 Southern Province reported 11.1 percent rate of unemployment and it is 10.6 percent in the year 2002. Polonnaruwa which is concentrated with heavy paddy cultivation under major irrigation systems reported 11.7 percent rate of unemployment. Of the two districts in North Central Province participation in labour force and unemployment characteristics of this district is different from Anuradhapura.

#### 4.4 Unemployment by Residential Sector & Sex

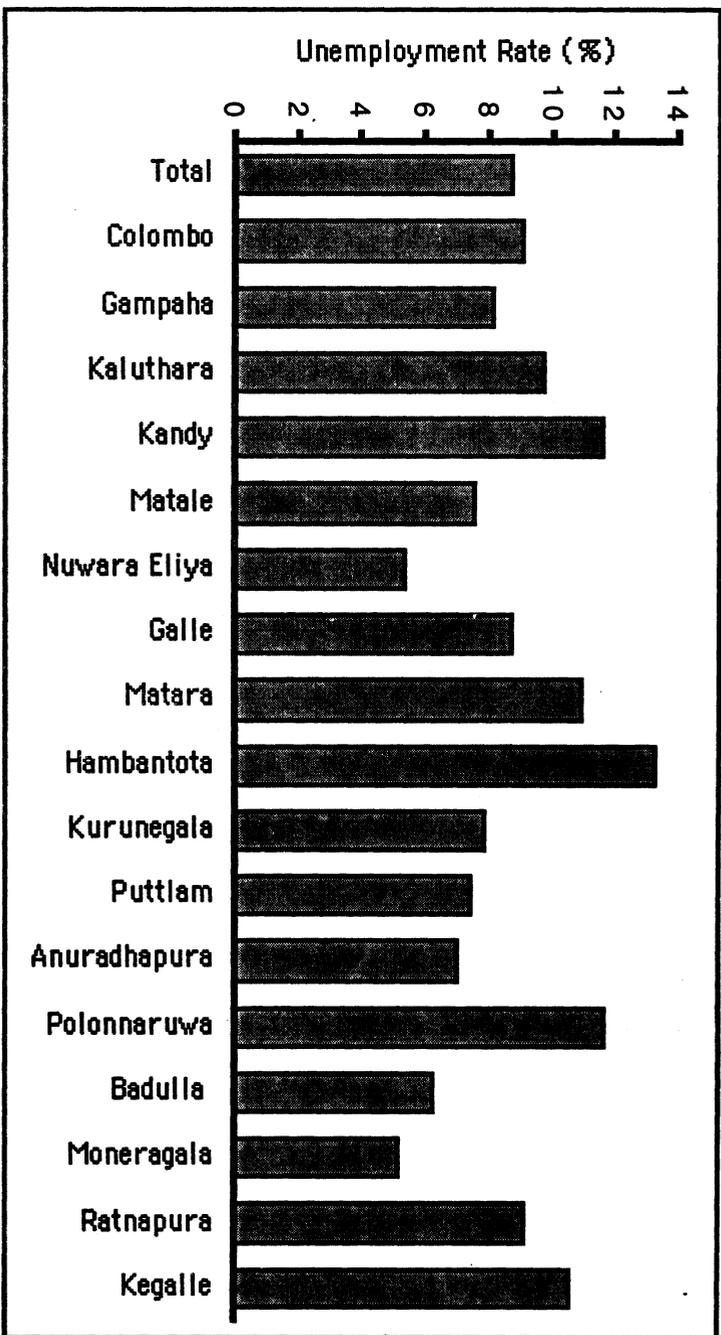
**Table 36 Unemployment Rate by Residential Sector & Sex**

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Urban</b>	<b>*Rural</b>
<b>Both sexes</b>	8.8	8.4	8.8
<b>Male</b>	6.6	6.5	6.6
<b>Female</b>	12.9	12.7	13.0

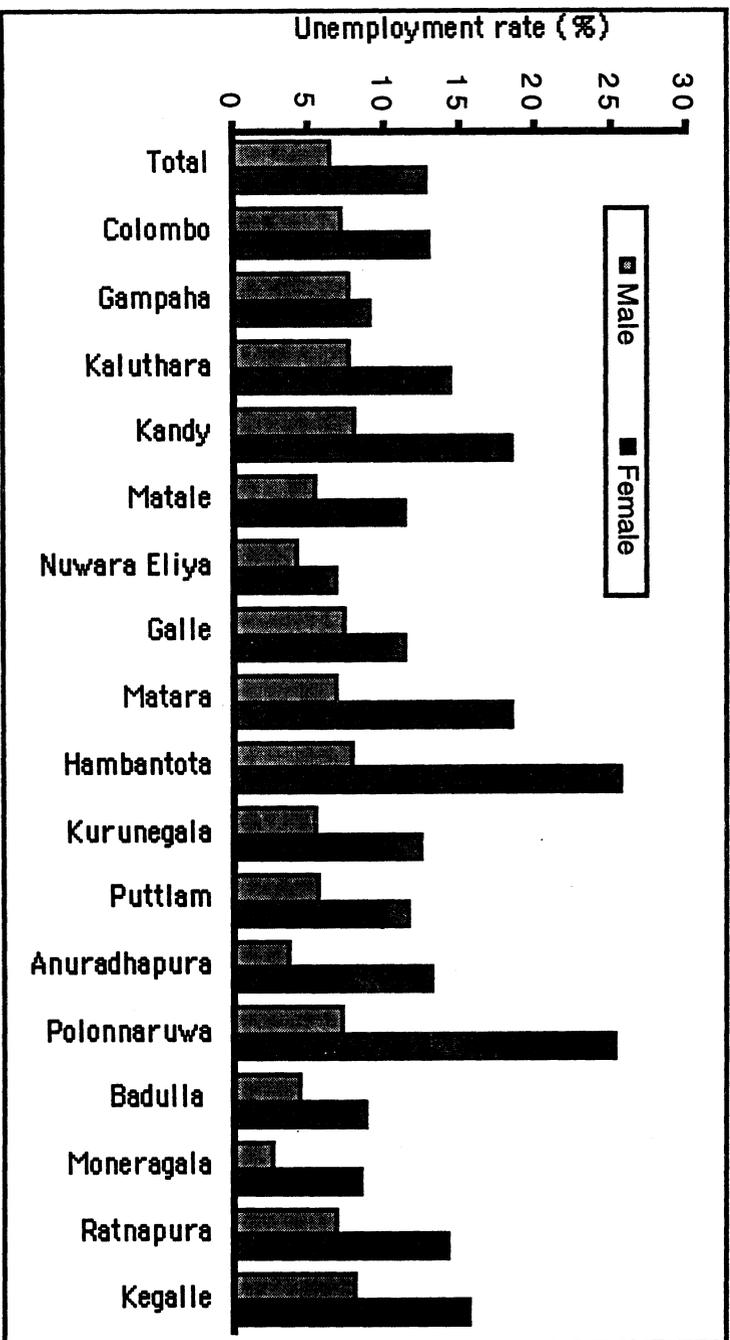
\* Including Estate Sector.

No marked difference in unemployment rate can be observed by sector of residence or by sex in the year 2002.

Graph 3 - Unemployment rate by district (Both sexes)



Graph 4 - Unemployment rate by district and sex



## 4.5 Unemployed population by desired job

### 4.5.1 Desired job and level of Education:

**Table 37 Percentage distribution of unemployed persons by Level of education and Desired Job**

Occupation	Total	Below Grade 5	Grade 5-9	G.C.E. (O/L)	G.C.E. (A/L) & Above
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Senior Officials & Managers	0.3	-	-	-	1.1
Professionals	8.9	-	-	7.5	21.6
Technical & Associated Professionals	3.9	-	-	5.6	5.4
Clerks	23.8	-	7.0	32.0	43.5
Proprietors & Sales Workers	5.8	10.2	10.8	7.5	2.3
Agricultural Workers	0.3	-	-	-	-
Craft & Related Workers	13.7	18.8	22.7	11.0	3.8
Plant & Machine Operators	5.3	1.9	9.8	4.0	0.8
Elementary Occupations	13.0	44.3	22.0	7.2	0.7
Any Job	24.9	24.8	27.8	25.1	20.7

It is seen here that within the higher level of education the job seeker is likely to desire less and less for agricultural or manual type jobs and to desire more and more for office type jobs (professional and clerical). 18 percent of less educated persons have expected craft and related jobs such as garment or manufacturing industry work. Proportions desired for clerical jobs by OL and AL & above qualified persons are 32.0 percent and 43 percent respectively. Proportion desired for professional jobs by AL and above qualified persons is 22 percent.

### 4.5.2 Desired job and Sex:

**Table. 38 Percentage distribution of unemployed population by desired occupation and sex**

Occupation	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Senior Officials & Managers	*	*	*
Professionals	8.9	4.0	13.7
Technical & Associated Professionals	3.9	3.5	4.3
Clerks	23.8	17.3	30.3
Proprietors & Sales Workers	5.8	7.3	4.4
Agriculturalers	*	*	*
Craft & Related Workers	13.7	12.6	14.7
Plant & Machine Operators	5.3	8.8	1.9
Elementary Occupations	13.0	17.3	8.8
Any Job	24.9	28.3	21.6

\* reliable estimates cannot be estimated due to small cell sizes.

Table 38 shows that 24 percent of unemployed persons have preferred clerical related occupations while 25 percent of them have preferred any kind of job. The persons who wish to do any kind of job can be interpreted as the highly affected persons by the unemployment. They are ready to do any type of job irrespective of their level of education.

Sex differentials by desired job reveal that majority of females preferred office type jobs like (clerical, professional, teaching Nursing etc.). Corresponding proportions are 44.0 percent for females while it is 21.3 percent for males. The data further indicate that nearly 15 percent of females preferred manual jobs like craft and related (garment or manufacturing industry related).

Another significant aspect is that 17.3 unemployed males preferred even elementary occupations as a solution to their unemployment problem. At the present stage of Sri Lankan economy a high proportion of the available jobs are likely to be in agriculture related elementary occupations and in craft and related occupations (jobs in garment factories and other manufacturing industries).

#### 4.6 Unemployed Population by Vocational Training :

The government and private sector employers do not have clear information on the characteristics, qualifications and training experience of the man power that is looking for jobs. Labour force Survey has collected following information on type of training of unemployed persons.

##### 4.6.1 Vocational Training by Sex

**Table 39 Percentage distribution of unemployed population who had having training by Sex**

Type of Training	Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Computer operating and data entry	27.6	21.3	32.8
System analys/ Computer programming	6.3	5.3	7.1
Garment / Textile related training.	10.5	5.0	15.1
Heavy vehicle driving	6.6	13.2	1.0
Clerical related training	4.8	0.4	8.4
Management/Accounting related	3.7	2.3	4.9
Pattern making	6.2	4.8	7.4
Masonry / Carpentry	3.6	7.9	-
Plumbing /Pipefitting	2.5	5.4	-
Electronic Telegraphic	2.9	6.1	0.2
Motormechanic related	2.0	4.4	-
Training not elsewhere classified	23.3	23.9	23.1

Total number of unemployed persons who have had vocational training is 177684 in 2002. Of this number 80518 are males and 97166 are females. First, above data indicate that nearly 35 percent of trained persons have got some kind of computer related training. This group of persons consist with 6.3 percent of persons of system analysis and 28 percent of persons having training on computer operating / data entry.

Table 39 further reveals the sex differences of the trained persons. Proportion of females who have got computer training is higher than males. Corresponding proportions for females and males are 40 percent and 27 percent respectively. Percentage of females who have got garment textile related training is 15.0 percent while 13.0 percent males have got heavy vehicle driving training. 8.4 percent of females had clerical related training.

However, these information revealed that persons having training on both office type jobs and manual type jobs are still suffering of the problem of unemployment.

#### 4.6.2 Vocational Training & Residential Sector:

Of the total number of unemployed persons who had vocational training 24724 is residing in the urban sector while 152959 are residing in the rural sector.

**Table 40 Percentage distribution of unemployed population by type of training and residential sector.**

Type of Training	Total	Urban	Rural
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Computer operating and data entry	27.6	28.6	27.4
System analyze/ Computer programming	6.3	20.6	3.9
Garment / Textile related training.	10.5	6.0	11.2
Heavy vehicle driving	6.6	1.0	7.5
Clerical related training	4.8	2.1	5.2
Management/Accounting related	3.7	6.6	3.2
Pattern making	6.2	1.5	6.9
Masonry / Carpentry	3.6	0.2	4.1
Plumbing /Pipefitting	2.5	2.5	2.4
Electronic Telegraphic	2.9	1.1	3.2
Motormechnic related	2.0	3.4	1.8
Training not elsewhere classified	23.3	26.1	23.1

Table 40 presents the sectoral difference of the unemployed persons who have vocational training. It further shows that nearly 50 percent of unemployed persons in the urban sector had same kind of computer training. The proportion of persons having high level of computer training (system analysis / programming) is 21 percent in the urban sector while partition in the rural sector is 4 percent only. Availability of higher standard training facilities in the urban sector may be the cause for this disparity. The proportion of persons having training in computer data entry is about the same in both sectors.

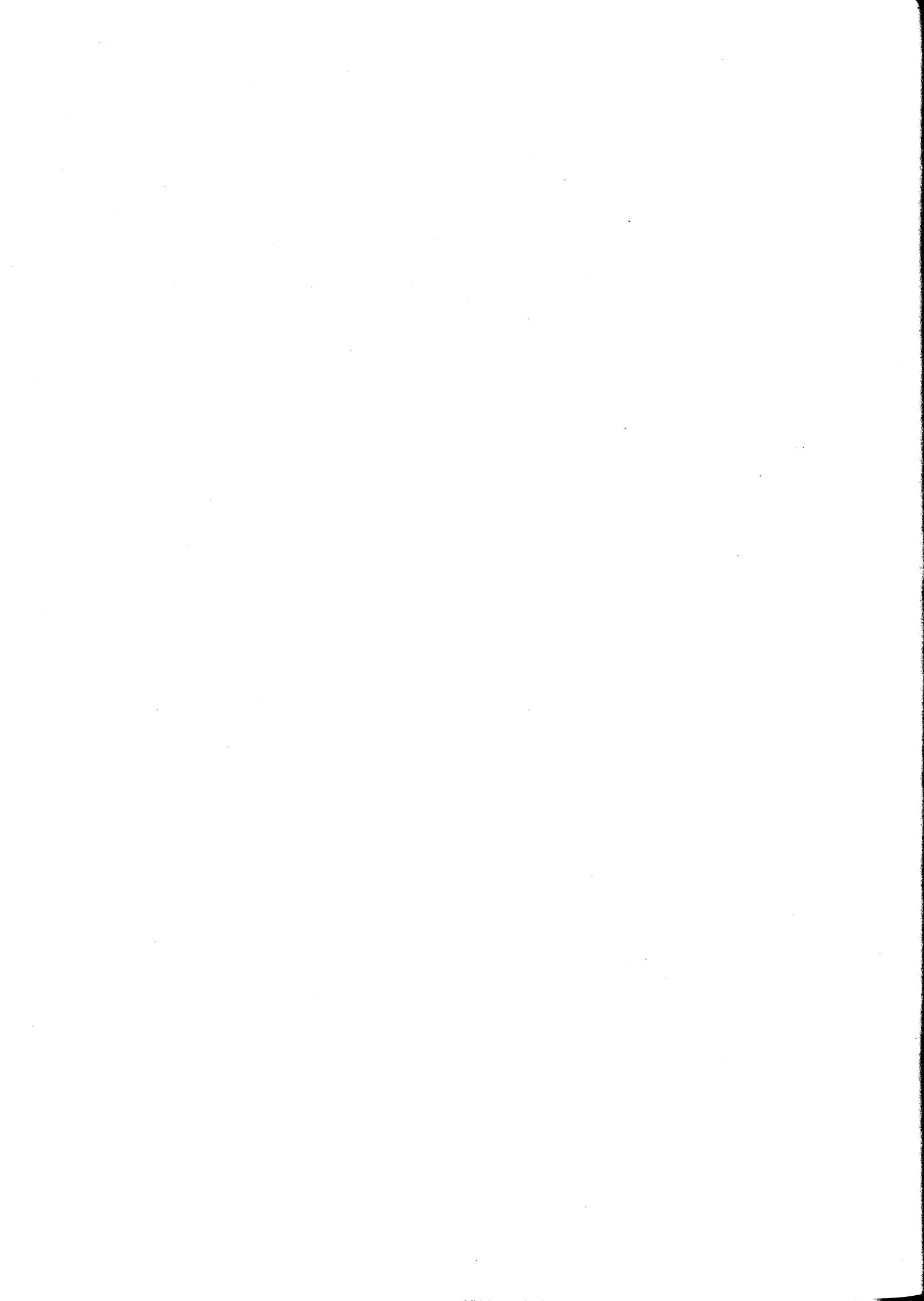
The job seekers who are having training on garment / Textile related industry work is 6.0 percent and 11.2 percent in the urban and rural sectors respectively. Above data reveals that the persons having manual type job training is higher in the rural sector (Garment/Textile related trainers and driving). On the other hand office type job trainees is higher in the urban sector than rural sector (Management/Accounting).

#### 4.7 Unemployed Population by Reasons for not seeking work :

**Table 41 Percentage Distribution of unemployed persons by Reason for not seeking work by Sector**

Reason	Total	Urban	Rural
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Discourage not able to get a job	40.0	48.8	39.7
No suitable work available	20.0	4.9	20.7
Has not skills or training	17.9	15.2	18.0
Other	22.0	31.0	21.6

According to above table nearly 50 percent of unemployed persons in the urban sector have frustrated and discouraged after searching suitable job during long period. Nearly 21 percent persons of the rural sector have not got suitable work. They may be more educated persons who have not received qualified job suitable their level of education. Corresponding proportion in urban sector is not high (5.0%) 18 percent of total persons have answered they do not have any training or skills to get qualified job.



## Appendix - 1

### Technical Notes

#### A. Introduction

The data is derived from household interviews obtained from a sample of the population 10 years of age and older. The survey is conducted quarterly by the Department of Census & Statistics and provides comprehensive data on the Labour Force, the Employed, the Unemployed and includes such characteristics as age, sex, occupation, and industry attachment. The survey also provides information on hours worked, and reasons for unemployment and nonparticipation in the labour force. The surveys conducted by trained interviewers form a total annual sample of about 16000 household. The data collected are based on the respondent's activity or status during the preceding week and previous 12 months period.

#### B. Collection and Coverage

Data are collected quarterly during a similar time period in each quarter through a scientifically selected sample designed to represent the non-institutional household population. About 4000 households are visited each quarter. Respondents are interviewed to obtain information about each member of the household 10 years of age or older. The inquiry relates to the pervious calendar week of the interview to obtain "current" information, and to the previous 12 calendar months to obtain "usual" activity information.

Inmates of institutions, military camps, and are not surveyed.

#### C. Concepts and Definitions:

The concepts and definitions underlying the labour force data from this survey differ somewhat from those in previous labour force surveys. Therefore, comparisons of data should be made carefully taking into account the concepts and definitions that follow:

**Labour Force:** The Labour Force is composed of the economically active population aged 10 years and over.

**Economically Active Population:** The economically active population is defined as those persons who are/were employed or unemployed during the reference period of the survey.

**Employed:** Employed persons are all household members who during the reference period worked as paid employees, employers, own account workers (self-employed) or unpaid family workers, in family enterprises. Also, included are persons who had a job but were temporarily absent from work because of such things as vacation, illness, bad weather, and labour management disputes etc. It should be noted that if a person has one or more jobs, that person is counted only once.

**Unemployed:** Persons who were available and/or looking for work, and had no employment during the reference period, are considered to be unemployed.

**Reference Period:** In this survey there are two reference periods, "current" and "usual". The "current" reference period is the week preceding the week of data collection, i.e. last week.

The "usual" reference period is the preceding 12 months, i.e., the past 12 months.

**Currently Economically Active:** A person who was employed or unemployed is considered to be currently economically active.

**Usually Economically Active:** A person whose major activity during the past 12 months was employment and/or unemployed is considered to have been usually economically active. Twenty-six weeks or more is the measure that determines the major activity of the respondent for the year.

**Currently Employed:** A person who works for pay, profit, or unpaid family gain for one(1) hour or more during the past week is considered to have been employed during that period. This includes persons whether paid or not, with a job but not at work for the various cited above.

**Usually Employed:** A person whose major economic activity during the past 12 months was employment is considered to have been usually employed.

**Currently Unemployed:** A person who did no work but who was looking or available for work during the past week is considered to have been currently unemployed.

**Not in Labour Force (Not Economically Active):** Persons who were neither working nor available/looking for work are classified as not in the labour force. This group includes persons engaged in own house work, going to school, unable to work because of long term infirmities, retired, and others. Others include persons voluntarily idle.

#### **MEASURES OF THE LABOUR FORCE:**

**The working age population** is the total non-institutional household population aged 10 years or over.

**The participation rate** is the proportion of the labour force that is in the working age population.

**The labour force** is the number of persons classified as employed or unemployed according to the criterion described above.

**The unemployed rate** represents the number of unemployed persons as a percent of the labour force.

These measures can be computed for age, sex, educational attainment and other personal or economic characteristics.

**Occupation, Industry and Employment Status:** These apply to the job held by the currently employed during the survey week. For persons with more than one job, it is usually the main job that is described. However, classifications are also made for the secondary job. Occupations are classified according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO), ILO, 1988. Industry is classified according to ILO's International Standard Industrial Classification. The employment - status classification specifies employment in the public or private sectors, and further breaks down into employees (wage and salary workers), employers, own account workers (self-employed), and unpaid family workers.

**Hours of Work** refer to hours actually worked during the week. If the hours actually worked are less than the hours usually worked, respondents are asked the reasons for working fewer hours, which include the following: illness or injury, strike, vacation, reduction in economic activity, off season inactivity, bad weather, mechanical or electrical failure, and shortage of raw materials.

**A Household** consists of all persons, related or not, who occupy a housing unit, which covers a house, an apartment, a group of rooms when occupied as separate living quarters. Domestic servants, Boarders, and lodgers who live and have their meals or share other essentials of living with the family are also related as members of the household. Persons, who usually live here but are temporary away are included as members of household, but persons who have usual residence elsewhere, but are present at the time of the interview, are excluded.

**Geographic Data:** Data is available at national and provincial levels, and further broken down by urban and rural categories. URBAN areas are those that have an administrative structure of a Municipal Council, an Urban Council. Rural areas are those not classified as urban.

#### **D. SAMPLE DESIGN**

The Survey is conducted quarterly to produce estimates of employment, unemployment, labour force participation and basic demographic characteristics. The scope of coverage includes all households in Sri Lanka.

The list of housing units created for Population Census - 2001 were taken as sample frame. Sample lists were selected from the above frame taken as Primary Sampling Unit (PSU). A systematic Sample of 10 housing units per PSU was selected on final sampling units.

The total annual sample size is 16,000 housing units, distributed as 400 PSUs per each quarter and 10 housing units (SSUs) per PSU. The allocation to the domains aims at ensuring approximately equal of reliability from domain to domain.

The 1600 Census Block were selected by PPS systematic Sampling. A listing operation was conducted in each selected PSU to provide a frame for the second stage of selection. The selection of housing units within PSU was systematic with random start.

ISBN 955 - 577 - 427 - 7