

### 3.2 Employment by Employment Status

As can be seen from the distribution of employed population by employment status, following table indicates that, out of the total employed persons, nearly 60 percent belong to the 'Employee' category.

This classification also reveals that nearly 20 percent of employed females are unpaid family workers while same percentage for males is only 4.5 percent. On the other hand, 33 percent of employed males are own account workers, and same percentage for females is about 19 percent. This situation confirms that, the percentage share of unpaid family workers is higher among females, and this is different for own account workers. It is also clear that percentage of female employees those who are engaged in the public sector activities are higher than that of males.

**Table 9 : Percentage distribution of employed population by employment status and sex, 2004**

Employment status	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Total	7394559	100.0	5049648	100.0	2344911	100.0
<b>Employee (total)</b>	<b>4395124</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>2973570</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>1421554</b>	<b>60.6</b>
Employee (public)	963852	13.0	600381	11.9	363471	15.5
Employee (private)	3431272	46.4	2373189	46.9	1058083	45.1
<b>Employer</b>	<b>216019</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>194773</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>21246</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Own account worker</b>	<b>2090660</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>1652322</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>438339</b>	<b>18.7</b>
<b>Unpaid family worker</b>	<b>692756</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>228983</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>463772</b>	<b>19.8</b>

*Excluding Mullaitivu & Kilinochchi districts*

**Table 10 : Currently employed persons by employment status and major Industrial sector, 2004**

Employment status	Major Industrial sector					
	Total		Agricultural sector		Non-agricultural sector	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	7394029	100.0	2474725	33.5	4919304	66.5
Employee	4394594	100.0	914262	20.8	3480333	79.2
Employer	216019	100.0	40028	18.5	175991	81.5
Own account worker	2090660	100.0	1012428	48.4	1078232	51.6
Unpaid family worker	692756	100.0	508007	73.3	184748	26.7

*Excluding Mullaitivu & Kilinochchi districts*

Table 10 shows the employment status distribution between agricultural and non-agricultural sector. Of the total estimated employees, 67 percent were engaged in the Non-agricultural work, while remaining 33 percent were engaged in Agricultural work.

It confirms that, nearly 73 percent of unpaid family workers are involved in the agriculture sector activities while the remaining 27 percent of them are in the non-agricultural sector. The situation of employees is different in this regard; nearly 21 percent of employees are in the agriculture sector and same percentage is 79 percent in Non-agriculture sector.