

Table 13 : Employment distribution by major occupational groups and by districts, 2004

Agriculture			Elementary Occupation			Craft & Related workers		
District	(%)	Rank	District	%	Rank	District	%	Rank
Total	20.60		Total	26.51		Total	15.28	
Monaragala	62.36	1	Nuwara Eliya	55.06	1	Gampaha	23.77	1
Anuradhapura	53.81	2	Ratnapura	51.59	2	Puttalam	19.05	2
Mannar	41.24	3	Matale	36.82	3	Ratnapura	18.97	3
Ratnapura	39.57	4	Vavuniya	35.42	4	Kalutara	18.32	4
Hambantota	39.41	5	Badulla	30.49	5	Kurunegala	17.81	5
Ampara	38.36	6	Puttalam	29.31	6	Bataloa	17.04	6
Polonnaruwa	32.01	7	Kandy	28.70	7	Colombo	16.94	7
Matara	30.84	8	Galle	27.47	8	Hambantota	16.86	8
Badulla	28.98	9	Kegalle	26.51	9	Kandy	15.59	9
Jaffna	28.61	10	Matara	26.27	10	Kegalle	15.28	10
Trincomalee	25.79	11	Kalutara	25.63	11	Jaffna	14.80	11
Nuwara Eliya	22.98	12	Kurunegala	24.34	12	Galle	14.14	12
Bataloa	22.21	13	Trincomalee	24.18	13	Matale	14.02	13
Matale	20.67	14	Bataloa	23.36	14	Polonnaruwa	13.78	14
Kegalle	20.57	15	Mannar	22.74	15	Ampara	12.53	15
Puttalam	19.71	16	Jaffna	22.47	16	Vavuniya	11.83	16
Kurunegala	17.78	17	Gampaha	20.87	17	Trincomalee	11.08	17
Galle	15.44	18	Colombo	19.72	18	Matara	10.53	18
Kandy	14.84	19	Polonnaruwa	18.87	19	Anuradhapura	9.82	19
Vavuniya	12.95	20	Hambantota	17.12	20	Monaragala	8.80	20
Kalutara	11.14	21	Ampara	14.81	21	Mannar	8.52	21
Gampaha	3.76	22	Monaragala	12.99	22	Badulla	5.42	22
Colombo	0.85	23	Anuradhapura	11.67	23	Nuwara Eliya	5.41	23

Excluding Mullaitivu & Kilinochchi districts

3.4 Employed distribution by agriculture/ non- agriculture sector and by hours of worked

The distribution of the number of persons employed in agriculture and non agriculture sector by number of hours worked is shown in table 14.

It can be seen that, 10 percent of rural sector employed engaged in agriculture oriented activities are found to have worked less than 22 hours per week. Another 19 percent seems to have work 22 - 35 hours per week.

When compared with persons who are employed in agriculture activities in the urban and rural sectors, the rural sector has a higher percentage of persons working less than 36 hours per week. However, more than 50 percent of the employed rural workforce have worked more than 35 hours, while this percentage for urban sector is around 76 percent. This difference may be attributed to the rural structure, with less opportunities for education, entry in to the labour market being at very young ages, and therefore relatively high proportion of young people working for shorter duration (some times as unpaid family workers) leading to higher estimates of persons working shorter duration in rural sector relative to the urban sector.