



**QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE  
SRI LANKA LABOUR FORCE  
SURVEY**

**Quarterly Report – 2010**

**First Quarter**

**DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS & STATISTICS  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING**

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## *Preface*

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*In the past, information on labour force characteristics, employment and unemployment etc. were collected through labour force and socio - economic surveys conducted at five yearly time intervals. However, the employment and unemployment data are required at very short intervals to monitor the programs made in the employment generating policies of the government. Therefore, to satisfy this need, the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) designed a labour force survey on a quarterly basis, to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka on a continuous basis. This survey was commenced from the first quarter of 1990 and this report is the seventy seventh in the series of quarterly reports published so far.*

*Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes were made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data. The significant revisions were made on the labour force survey questionnaire in 2006, and the revised version was introduced for the survey conducted in 2006 first quarter, and it has been using up to now.*

*The field work of the survey for the first quarter 2010 was done in January, February and March in year 2010. Even though it was planned to conduct the survey in Northern province, the survey was not conducted fully due to the prevailing uncertain conditions in districts of Northern province. However for comparison purposes related tabulations have been done (i) excluding Northern and Eastern provinces and (ii) excluding Northern province, separately in this report.*

*A nationally representative annual sample of about 22,500 housing units have been selected for the survey in 2010. However as mentioned above, the survey was not conducted properly in Northern province as scheduled, so this report is based on a quarterly sample of 5,060 housing units, excluding Northern province providing national level estimates with a stipulated standard errors of labour force characteristics as reported in the reference period of the first quarter 2010.*

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21.07.2010.*

## *Acknowledgements*

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*This report is seventy seventh in the series of the Quarterly Labour Force Survey which was commenced from the first quarter 1990 and is being continued by the Department of the Census and statistics.*

*The Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey programme was implemented by Sample Surveys Division under the supervision of Mr. G.Y.L. Fernando, Director (2) and the overall direction was made by Mr.W.W.M.A.S.Premakumara, Director, Sample Surveys Division.*

*Field operation activities were organized by Mr. R.A.P. Kumarasinghe, Statistician of the Sample Surveys Division.*

*The supervision activities were carried out by Mr. Lucky Thangarathnam, Senior Statisticians, and Mr. R.A.P. Kumarasinghe, Mr. I.L.Sherifdeen, Mr. P.A.Subawickrama, Mrs. Chandani Wijebandara and Mr. W. Gnanathilaka, Statisticians, of the sample surveys division and Heads of statistics divisions in each district.*

*The computer data processing and final tabulations were done by Mrs. W.A.S.M.P. Gunasekara, Mr.T. Thirugnanatheepan Statistical Officers and Mr. M.B.M. Shiras, Statistical Assistant of the Sample Surveys Division, under the supervision of Mr. P.A. Subawickrama, Statistician using Microcomputers.*

*Developing of sample selection programme and it's related computer software was done by Mr. K.M.R. Wickramasinghe, System Analyst/ Programmer of the sample survey division.*

*This publication was organized and prepared by Mr. Priyadarshana Dharmawardana, Senior Statistician and Mrs. Chandani Wijebandara, Statistician Sample Surveys Division, assisted by Mrs. W.A.S.M.P. Gunasekara, Statistical officer.*

*The Data Processing Division, under the direction of Mr. S.A.S. Bandulasena, Deputy Director and under the supervision of Mr. Migara Fernando and Mr. Wasantha Weerasiri, Senior System Analyst/Programmers, was responsible for the survey data entry and preparation of data entry and computer edits programmes. Data entry was decentralized and manual editing, coding & data entry were done by responsible officers at district kachcheries in districts Gampaha, Kalutara, Kandy, Matale, Galle, Matara, Kurunegala, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Badulla, Ratnapura & Kegalle.*

*District field staff of the Department who worked on the survey deserve a special word of thanks. They include District Deputy Directors/ 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. W.C. Weerawansa, Senior Statistician.*

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

**Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey**  
**Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics**  
**2010 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**  
**(Excluding Northern province)**

**10 years & over population**

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (10 years & over)	16850938	7858341	8992597	2093489	14757448
Labour force in this age group	8129954	5288361	2841593	897030	7232925
Labour force participation rate	48.2	67.3	31.6	42.8	49.0
Employed population	7725753	5108289	2617464	860197	6865556
Employment rate	95.0	96.6	92.1	95.9	94.9
Unemployed population	404201	180072	224129	36832	367369
Unemployment rate	5.0	3.4	7.9	4.1	5.1
Not in labour force	8720984	2569980	6151004	1196460	7524524

**15 years & over population**

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (15 years & over)	15102796	7004712	8098084	1872633	13230163
Labour force in this age group	8120442	5282150	2838292	897030	7223413
Labour force participation rate	53.8	75.4	35.0	47.9	54.6
Employed population	7717134	5102971	2614164	860197	6856937
Employment rate	95.0	96.6	92.1	95.9	94.9
Unemployed population	403308	179179	224129	36832	366476
Unemployment rate	5.0	3.4	7.9	4.1	5.1
Not in labour force	6982354	1722562	5259792	975603	6006751

**20 years & over population**

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (20 years & over)	13426300	6232013	7194286	1666510	11759789
Labour force in this age group	7846745	5106069	2740676	875022	6971724
Labour force participation rate	58.4	81.9	38.1	52.5	59.3
Employed population	7498847	4957229	2541618	842780	6656067
Employment rate	95.6	97.1	92.7	96.3	95.5
Unemployed population	347898	148839	199058	32242	315656
Unemployment rate	4.4	2.9	7.3	3.7	4.5
Not in labour force	5579554	1125945	4453610	791488	4788066

**Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey**  
**Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics**  
**2010 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

(Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces)

**10 years & over population**

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (10 years & over)	15639788	7295649	8344139	1870854	13768934
Labour force in this age group	7677804	4946122	2731682	825762	6852042
Labour force participation rate	49.1	67.8	32.7	44.1	49.8
Employed population	7287198	4771572	2515626	791087	6496111
Employment rate	94.9	96.5	92.1	95.8	94.8
Unemployed population	390606	174550	216056	34675	355931
Unemployment rate	5.1	3.5	7.9	4.2	5.2
Not in labour force	7961984	2349527	5612457	1045093	6916892

**15 years & over population**

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (15 years & over)	14057240	6518039	7539201	1680233	12377007
Labour force in this age group	7668292	4939911	2728381	825762	6842530
Labour force participation rate	54.6	75.8	36.2	49.1	55.3
Employed population	7278579	4766254	2512325	791087	6487493
Employment rate	94.9	96.5	92.1	95.8	94.8
Unemployed population	389713	173657	216056	34675	355038
Unemployment rate	5.1	3.5	7.9	4.2	5.2
Not in labour force	6388948	1578128	4810820	854471	5534477

**20 years & over population**

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (20 years & over)	12559389	5837099	6722290	1507676	11051713
Labour force in this age group	7416662	4779073	2637589	807155	6609508
Labour force participation rate	59.1	81.9	39.2	53.5	59.8
Employed population	7081237	4635756	2445481	777070	6304167
Employment rate	95.5	97.0	92.7	96.3	95.4
Unemployed population	335425	143317	192108	30084	305341
Unemployment rate	4.5	3.0	7.3	3.7	4.6
Not in labour force	5142726	1058026	4084701	700521	4442205

**Selected Labour Force indicators**  
( 2000 - 2010 1<sup>st</sup> quarter )

	Year										
	2000#	2001#	2002#	2003*	2004**	2005***	2006 #	2007#	2008*	2009*	2010Q1*
<b>Labour force participation rate</b>											
<i>by sex</i>											
Both sexes	50.3	48.8	50.3	48.9	48.6	48.3	51.2	49.8	49.5	48.7	48.2
Male	67.2	66.2	67.9	67.2	66.7	67.1	68.1	67.8	67.8	66.6	67.3
Female	33.9	31.9	33.6	31.4	31.5	30.9	35.7	33.4	33.2	32.8	31.6
<i>by residential sector</i>											
Total	50.3	48.8	50.3	48.9	48.6	48.3	51.2	49.8	49.5	48.7	48.2
Urban	44.9	44.2	46.0	44.4	44.9	45.5	45.3	45.0	45.9	43.5	42.8
Rural	51.2	49.6	50.9	49.6	49.2	48.7	52.1	50.4	50.0	49.4	49.0
<b>Unemployment rate</b>											
<i>by sex</i>											
Both sexes	7.6	7.9	8.8	8.4	8.3	7.7	6.5	6.0	5.4	5.8	5.0
Male	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.0	5.5	4.7	4.3	3.7	4.3	3.4
Female	11.1	11.5	12.9	13.2	12.8	11.9	9.7	9.0	8.4	8.6	7.9
<i>by selected age groups(yr)</i>											
20 - 29	17.4	18.4	20.1	19.4	19.2	17.2	15.9	15.0	13.7	15.4	14.3
20 - 24	23.0	24.4	27.0	26.4	25.9	24.6	21.0	21.1	18.1	21.4	19.7
25 - 29	10.9	11.3	11.6	11.4	11.4	9.5	11.0	9.4	9.5	10.3	9.7
<i>by selected educational levels</i>											
G.C.E.(A/L) & above											
Both sexes	14.9	15.3	16.8	16.5	16.8	13.8	11.6	11.8	10.5	11.2	12.0
Male	8.8	10.1	10.8	10.4	10.5	8.9	6.9	6.6	6.0	7.0	8.0
Female	21.5	21.5	23.0	23.3	23.8	19.1	16.8	17.5	15.3	15.5	16.7
<b>Employed population</b>											
<i>by sex</i>											
Both sexes	6310247	6235588	6519415	7012755	7440226	7518007	7105322	7041874	7648305	7602414	7725753
Male	4241546	4248877	4395164	4833483	5087861	5134765	4610643	4653067	5033449	4963176	5108289
Female	2068701	1986711	2124250	2179272	2352365	2383241	2494679	2388807	2614856	2639238	2617464
<i>by industry (percentage)</i>											
Total	6310247	6235588	6519415	7012755	7394029	7518007	7105322	7041874	7648305	7602414	7725753
%	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)
Agriculture	2274153	2033343	2247602	2384397	2474725	2306039	2287268	2202098	2489731	2475921	2600463
%	(36.0)	(32.6)	(34.5)	(34.0)	(33.5)	(30.7)	(32.2)	(31.3)	(32.6)	(32.6)	(33.7)
Industry	1490795	1491408	1459194	1611493	1781447	1928014	1889953	1873857	2004880	1910318	1911428
%	(23.6)	(23.9)	(22.4)	(23.0)	(24.1)	(25.6)	(26.6)	(26.6)	(26.2)	(25.1)	(24.7)
Services	2545299	2710837	2812619	3016866	3137857	3283954	2928101	2965919	3153693	3216175	3213861
%	(40.3)	(43.5)	(43.1)	(43.0)	(42.4)	(43.7)	(41.2)	(42.1)	(41.2)	(42.3)	(41.6)
<i>by no. of hours worked per week (percentage)</i>											
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 •	7.2	4.3	5.6	7.5	5.2	4.7	6.7	6.5	7.2	7.9	3.7
1 - 9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.9	1.5	2.2	2.3	1.3
10 - 39	32.7	28.2	32.0	32.6	28.7	27.6	28.6	28.3	28.9	28.8	28.6
40+	58.2	66.1	60.9	58.1	64.5	66.2	62.8	63.7	61.7	61.0	66.5

• Has a job but not at work during the reference week

\*Excluding Northern province

\*\*\*All the districts are included

\*\* Excluding Mullativu & Kilinochchi districts

# Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

**Selected Labour Force indicators (Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces)**  
**( 2000 - 2010 1<sup>st</sup> quarter )**

	Year											2010Q1*
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010Q1	
<b>Labour force participation rate</b>												
<i>by sex</i>												
Both sexes	50.3	48.8	50.3	49.7	49.6	49.3	51.2	49.8	50.2	49.2	49.1	48.2
Male	67.2	66.2	67.9	67.5	67.2	67.3	68.1	67.8	67.9	66.7	67.8	67.3
Female	33.9	31.9	33.6	32.6	33.0	32.6	35.7	33.4	34.3	33.7	32.7	31.6
<i>by residential sector</i>												
Total	50.3	48.8	50.3	49.7	49.6	49.3	51.2	49.8	50.2	49.2	49.1	48.2
Urban	44.9	44.2	46.0	45.1	45.6	46.2	45.3	45.0	46.3	43.9	44.1	42.8
Rural	51.2	49.6	50.9	50.3	50.3	49.7	52.1	50.4	50.7	49.8	49.8	49.0
<b>Unemployment rate</b>												
<i>by sex</i>												
Both sexes	7.6	7.9	8.8	8.1	8.1	7.2	6.5	6.0	5.2	5.7	5.1	5.0
Male	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.0	5.3	4.7	4.3	3.6	4.3	3.5	3.4
Female	11.1	11.5	12.9	12.3	12.1	10.7	9.7	9.0	8.0	8.2	7.9	7.9
<i>by selected age groups(yr)</i>												
20 - 29	17.4	18.4	20.1	19.1	18.6	16.0	15.9	15.0	13.2	15.1	14.5	14.3
20 - 24	23.0	24.4	27.0	25.8	25.2	22.4	21.0	21.1	17.8	21.0	20.1	19.7
25 - 29	10.9	11.3	11.6	11.4	11.1	9.4	11.0	9.4	9.0	10.1	9.8	9.7
<i>by selected educational levels</i>												
G.C.E.(A/L) & above												
Both sexes	14.9	15.3	16.8	16.0	15.7	12.2	11.6	11.8	9.9	10.8	11.9	12.0
Male	8.8	10.1	10.8	10.1	9.6	7.9	6.9	6.6	5.6	6.6	7.8	8.0
Female	21.5	21.5	23.0	22.4	22.5	17.1	16.8	17.5	14.4	15.1	16.4	16.7
<b>Employed population</b>												
<i>by sex</i>												
Both sexes	6310247	6235588	6519415	6609466	6704006	6788119	7105322	7041874	7174706	7139537	7287198	7725753
Male	4241546	4248877	4395164	4496136	4512082	4546397	4610643	4653067	4663277	4609198	4771572	5108289
Female	2068701	1986711	2124250	2113330	2191924	2241722	2494679	2388807	2511429	2530339	2515626	2617464
<i>by industry (percentage)</i>												
Total	6310247	6235588	6519415	6609466	6704006	6788119	7105322	7041874	7174706	7139537	7287198	7725753
%	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	(100.0)	100	100	100
Agriculture	2274153	2033343	2247602	2223691	2215282	2059293	2287268	2202098	2344415	2318621	2455665	2600463
%	(36.0)	(32.6)	(34.5)	(33.6)	(33.0)	(30.3)	(32.2)	(31.3)	(32.7)	32.5	33.7	34
Industry	1490795	1491408	1459194	1539035	1663383	1787274	1889953	1873857	1888004	1822685	1835359	1911428
%	(23.6)	(23.9)	(22.4)	(23.3)	(24.8)	(26.3)	(26.6)	(26.6)	(26.3)	25.5	25.2	25
Services	2545299	2710837	2812619	2846740	2825341	2941552	2928101	2965919	2942288	2998231	2996174	3213861
%	(40.3)	(43.5)	(43.1)	(43.1)	(42.1)	(43.3)	(41.2)	(42.1)	(41.0)	42.0	41.1	42
<i>by no. of hours worked per week (percentage)</i>												
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 •	7.2	4.3	5.6	7.3	5.3	4.9	6.7	6.5	7.4	7.9	3.8	3.7
1 - 9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.5	2.2	2.4	1.3	1.3
10 - 39	32.7	28.2	32.0	32.9	28.4	27.9	28.6	28.3	29.2	29.0	28.8	28.6
40+	58.2	66.1	60.9	58.0	64.7	65.7	62.8	63.7	61.2	60.8	66.0	66.5

• Has a job but not at work during the reference week

\* Including Eastern province

Note: However it is to be noted that the difference between corresponding figures in any given two quarters may not necessarily be statistically significant.

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*Appendix 1: Explanatory Notes*

*Appendix 2: Alternative estimates of employment, unemployment and labour force characteristics*

*Appendix 3: Survey schedule*

# Introduction

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey is 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.

The field work of the survey for the first quarter 2010 was done in January, February and March in year 2010. Even though it was planned to conduct the survey in Northern province, the survey was not conducted fully due to unsettled conditions in districts of Northern province, therefore this bulletin consists of summary statistics excluding Northern province.

## Labour force participation rate

Labour Force: Number of persons (age 10 & above) who were employed or unemployed during the reference week

Labour force participation rate: Labour force expressed as a percentage of population age 10 yr. & over

**Table 1: Economically active population by sex and sector - first Quarter 2010**

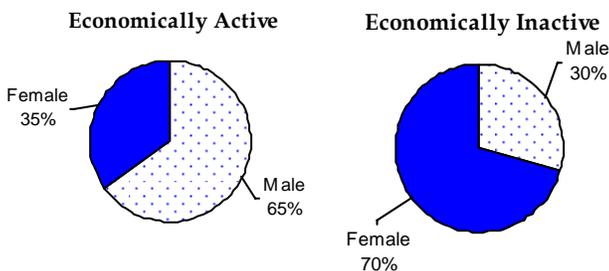
Sector	Economically active population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Total	8129954	100.0	5288361	65.0	2841593	35.0
Urban	897030	100.0	624123	69.6	272906	30.4
Rural	6824882	100.0	4442029	65.1	2382853	34.9
Estate	408043	100.0	222209	54.5	185834	45.5

**Table 2: Economically Inactive population by sex and sector - first Quarter 2010**

Sector	Economically inactive population					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Total	8720984	100.0	2569980	29.5	6151004	70.5
Urban	1196460	100.0	328148	27.4	868312	72.6
Rural	7201920	100.0	2125758	29.5	5076162	70.5
Estate	322604	100.0	116075	36.0	206530	64.0

The survey results revealed that (Table 1), the estimated economically active population (or labour force) was about 8.1 million in first quarter 2010. Of which 65.0 percent were males and 35.0 percent were females. Out of the economically inactive population 29.5 percent were males and 70.5 percent were females (Table 2).

**Figure 1: Distribution of Economically active/Inactive population**



**Table 3: Labour Force Participation Rate by sex & year**

Year	Labour force participation rate		
	Total	Male	Female
2000	50.3	67.2	33.9
2001	48.8	66.2	31.9
2002	50.3	67.9	33.6
2003	49.7	67.5	32.6
2004	49.6	67.2	33.0
2005	49.3	67.3	32.6
2006	51.2	68.1	35.7
2007	49.8	67.8	33.4
2008	50.2	67.9	34.3
2009	49.9	67.4	34.3
2010Q1	49.1	67.8	32.7

Note: Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

Table 3 provides the information on labour force participation rates since year 2000. As can be seen from this table, male participation rate for the first quarter 2010 was about 67.8 percent and it was 32.7 percent for females. It was important to note that, male participation to the labour force was as twice as that of females.

**Table 4: Labour Force Participation Rate by age group & by sex - first Quarter 2010**

Age group	Sex		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	48.2	67.3	31.6
15 - 19	16.3	22.8	10.8
20 - 24	55.7	75.8	40.0
25 - 29	66.2	92.8	42.8
30 - 34	66.9	95.4	40.1
35 - 39	68.9	96.7	46.2
40 - 44	71.7	95.7	50.2
45 - 49	70.8	94.9	49.4
50 - 54	68.1	91.8	48.0
55 - 59	57.4	78.6	36.6
60+	27.3	44.7	12.8

The distribution of labour force participation rate by age groups and by sex depicts more male participation compared to female in all age groups.

Highest male participation rate was reported from age group (35 - 39) while in female highest participation rate was reported from age group (40 - 44).

## Employment

*Employed: Persons who are engaged in some kind of work for pay or profit or family gain during the reference week.*

**Table 5 : Distribution of Employed population by main industry, (first quarter 2009 – first Quarter 2010)**

Year	Total	Major industry group		
		Agriculture	Industries	Services
Jan-Feb-Mar	7709784	2613350	1894279	3202155
1st Qtr - 2009	100.0	33.9	24.6	41.5
April-May-June	7465030	2382913	1913893	3168224
2nd Qtr - 2009	100.0	31.9	25.6	42.4
July-Aug-Sept.	7641730	2426113	1912169	3303448
3rd Qtr - 2009	100.0	31.7	25.0	43.2
Oct-Nov-Dec	7592833	2481308	1920825	3190700
4th Qtr - 2009	100.0	32.7	25.3	42.0
Jan-Feb-Mar	7725753	2600463	1911428	3213861
1st Qtr - 2010	100.0	33.7	24.7	41.6

**Note: The tabulation groups based on ISIC (Rev.3) are indicated as A,B,C.....Q..**

### Agriculture

1. Agriculture (A)
2. Forestry and Fishery (B)

### Industries

1. Manufacturing (D)
2. Construction (F)
3. Mining & Quarrying (C)
4. Electricity, Gas and Water supply (E)

### Services

1. Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G)
2. Hotels and Restaurants (H)
3. Transport, Storage and Communication (I)
4. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities (J,K)
5. Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)
6. Education (M)
7. Health and Social work (N)
8. Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities (O)
9. Private Households with Employed Persons (P)
10. Miscellaneous Labour work
11. Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (Q)

Table 5 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by main industry from first quarter 2009 to first quarter 2010. The total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka was estimated as about 7.7 million in first quarter 2010. Of which, about 41.6 percent engaged in services sector, 33.7 percent in agriculture sector, and 24.7 percent in Industries sector.

**Table 6 : Percentage distribution of employed population by employment status and Agriculture/ Non- Agriculture sector – first Quarter 2010**

Employment Status	Total		Sector			
			Agriculture		Non Agriculture	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7725753	100.0	2600463	33.7	5125290	66.3
Employee	4291504	100.0	750051	17.5	3541453	82.5
Public	1094226	100.0	104727	9.6	989498	90.4
Private	3197279	100.0	645324	20.2	2551955	79.8
Employer	184841	100.0	38463	20.8	146378	79.2
Own account worker	2426459	100.0	1206988	49.7	1219470	50.3
Contributing family worker	822949	100.0	604960	73.5	217988	26.5

Table 6 shows that, comparatively higher percentage of employees both in private & public sector engage in non-agricultural activities. Also more employers were in non agriculture sector than in agriculture sector. But most of the contributing family workers were concentrated in agriculture sector.

**Table 7 : Distribution of Employed population by main industry & sex – first Quarter 2010**

Major industry group	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	33.7	31.0	38.8
Industry	24.7	24.3	25.6
Services	41.6	44.7	35.6

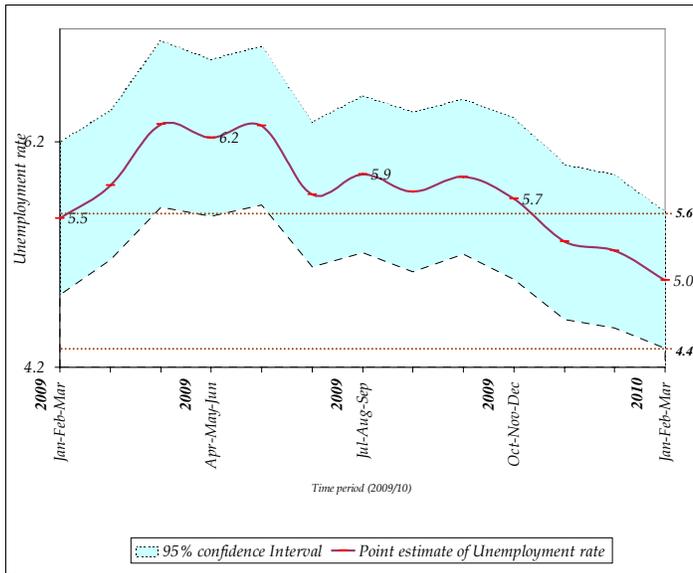
Table 7 depicts the distribution of male and female employed population by main industries. Highest employment concentrated in service sector for both male and female. Further among employed women about 38.8 percent was in agriculture sector while this share was 31.0 percent for males.

## Unemployment

**Unemployment Rate : The number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force**

**Unemployed : Persons who are seeking and available for work, but had no employment during the reference period**

**Figure 2 : Unemployment rates and it's 95% confidence intervals (2009 January - 2010 March)**



The number of unemployed persons was estimated as about 404,000 during the first quarter 2010.

The unemployment rate for the first quarter 2010 was reported as 5.0 percent.

As seen in figure 2, it is very important to note that, there were no statistically significant difference between the unemployment rates reported in different time periods of 2009/2010, except 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2009, when sampling error<sup>(1)</sup> was considered.

**Table 8: Unemployment rate by level of education - first Quarter 2010**

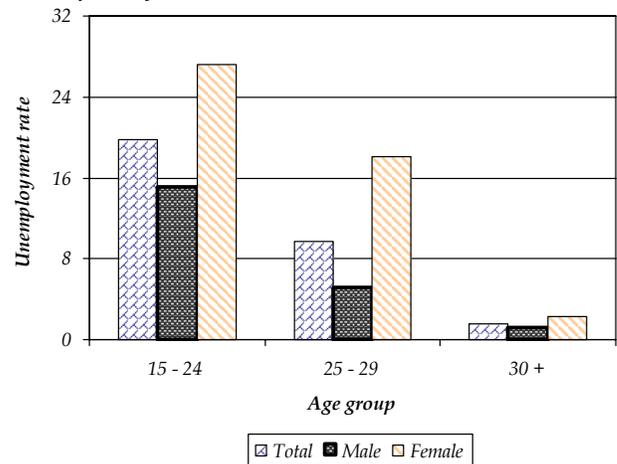
Level of Education	Unemployment rate		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	5.0	3.4	7.9
Below G.C.E. (O/L)	2.7	2.0	4.2
G.C.E. (O/L)	7.0	5.6	9.6
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	12.0	8.0	16.7



**Table 9: Unemployment rate by age group and sex - first Quarter 2010**

Age group	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Total	5.0	3.4	7.9
15 - 24	19.8	15.1	27.2
25 - 29	9.7	5.2	18.1
30 +	1.6	1.2	2.3

**Figure 3 : Unemployment rate by age group and sex - first quarter 2010**



As can be seen from table 9, overall unemployment rate reported for female was 7.9 percent and it was 3.4 percent for male. Youth unemployment rate 15 - 24 yrs reported for first quarter 2010 was 19.8. Highest unemployment rate was reported from age group 15 - 24 yrs, for both males (15.1) and females (27.2). Further the survey results revealed that the unemployment was severe among females than that of males, in all age groups.

The highest unemployment rate was reported from the G.C.E(A/L) and above group which was about 12.0 percent. There were 8.0 percent and 16.7 percent for males and females respectively. This shows the problem of unemployment is more acute in the case of educated females than educated males (Table 8).

<sup>(1)</sup> Sampling error :

When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, estimates differ from the true population values they represent. This difference, or sampling error, occurs by chance, and its variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. **For more details, please refer the explanatory note on the labour force link in the DCS website.**

**TABLE 1 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION, 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
1990	11573941	6001148	51.9	5047354	84.1	953794	15.9	5572793
1991	11795793	5877198	49.8	5015517	85.3	861680	14.7	5918596
1992	12058463	5808062	48.2	4962105	85.4	845957	14.6	6250400
1993	12278055	6032383	49.1	5201474	86.2	830910	13.8	6245675
1994	12492850	6078863	48.7	5281272	86.9	797591	13.1	6413985
1995	12736185	6106138	47.9	5357117	87.7	749021	12.3	6630048
1996	12831240	6241889	48.6	5537285	88.7	704604	11.3	6589365
1997	12870791	6266160	48.7	5607881	89.5	658279	10.5	6604630
1998	12881790	6660520	51.7	6049238	90.8	611285	9.2	6221274
1999	13169250	6673487	50.7	6082641	91.2	590846	8.9	6495782
2000	13564660	6827312	50.3	6310145	92.4	517168	7.6	6737345
2001	13870479	6772834	48.8	6235588	92.1	537246	7.9	7097644
2002	14201396	7145382	50.3	6519415	91.2	625967	8.8	7056014
*2003	15651479	7653716	48.9	7012755	91.6	640961	8.4	7997763
** 2004	16593431	8061354	48.6	7394029	91.7	667324	8.3	8532077
*** 2005	16870976	8141347	48.3	7518007	92.3	623341	7.7	8729628
# 2006	14833801	7598762	51.2	7105322	93.5	493440	6.5	7235040
# 2007	15047882	7488896	49.8	7041874	94.0	447021	6.0	7558986
* 2008	16319065	8081702	49.5	7648305	94.6	433397	5.4	8237363
# 2008	15078016	7568715	50.2	7174706	94.8	394009	5.2	7509301
* 2009	16578628	8073668	48.7	7602414	94.2	471254	5.8	8504961
# 2009	15397595	7572388	49.2	7139537	94.3	432852	5.7	7825206
* 2010 Q1	16850938	8129954	48.2	7725753	95.0	404201	5.0	8720984
# 2010 Q1	15639788	7677804	49.1	7287198	94.9	390606	5.1	7961984

**Note: The normal Labour Force Survey programme was not implemented in 2005 due to the Tsunami - 2004. However a special labour force survey was conducted in August 2005 and the estimates based on this special survey are given under year 2005.**

(Up to 2002 fourth quarter, both Northern & Eastern provinces are excluded from the estimates.)

\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\* - All the districts are included

# - Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

**TABLE 1A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION, 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - MALE**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1993	6109486	3989443	65.3	3601779	90.3	387663	9.7	2120044
*1994	6228064	4072937	65.4	3678648	90.3	394289	9.7	2155127
*1995	6318003	4068608	64.4	3700951	91.0	367656	9.0	2249395
*1996	6373670	4200886	65.9	3857147	91.8	343741	8.2	2172784
*1997	6372365	4184248	65.6	3862087	92.3	322168	7.7	2188110
*1998	6344453	4281996	67.5	4004504	93.5	277491	6.5	2062456
*1999	6506662	4402713	67.7	4107497	93.3	295217	6.7	2103953
*2000	6702871	4501597	67.2	4241477	94.2	260120	5.8	2201274
*2001	6837264	4529016	66.2	4248877	93.8	280139	6.2	2308248
*2002	6935012	4705586	67.9	4395164	93.4	310421	6.6	2229427
**2003	7657368	5144206	67.2	4833483	94.0	310723	6.0	2513162
***2004	8049643	5372897	66.7	5049426	94.0	323471	6.0	2676746
****2005	8103016	5436362	67.1	5134765	94.5	301597	5.5	2666654
* 2006	7098813	4837308	68.1	4610643	95.3	226664	4.7	2261505
* 2007	7174676	4862788	67.8	4653067	95.7	209721	4.3	2311888
** 2008	7713680	5227427	67.8	5033449	96.3	193978	3.7	2486253
*2008	7122164	4838462	67.9	4663277	96.4	175184	3.6	2283702
** 2009	7783492	5186457	66.6	4963176	95.7	223281	4.3	2597035
*2009	7221475	4815541	66.7	4609198	95.7	206343	4.3	2405934
* 2010 Q1	7858341	5288361	67.3	5108289	96.6	180072	3.4	2569980
# 2010 Q1	7295649	4946122	67.8	4771572	96.5	174550	3.5	2349527

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 1B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION, 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER - FEMALE**

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1993	6168572	2042941	33.1	1599695	78.3	443247	21.7	4125631
*1994	6264782	2005927	32.0	1602625	79.9	403302	20.1	4258857
*1995	6418183	2037530	31.7	1656166	81.3	381364	18.7	4380652
*1996	6457583	2041002	31.6	1680138	82.3	360864	17.7	4416583
*1997	6498427	2081906	32.0	1745794	83.9	336112	16.1	4416521
*1998	6537344	2378526	36.4	2044732	86.0	333795	14.0	4158818
*1999	6662613	2270782	34.1	1975153	87.0	295629	13.0	4392047
*2000	6861794	2325716	33.9	2068667	89.0	257048	11.0	4536078
*2001	7033214	2243818	31.9	1986711	88.5	257107	11.5	4789396
*2002	7266384	2439796	33.6	2124250	87.1	315546	12.9	4826588
**2003	7994111	2509510	31.4	2179272	86.8	330238	13.2	5484600
***2004	8543788	2688457	31.5	2344604	87.2	343853	12.8	5855331
**** 2005	8767960	2704985	30.9	2383241	88.1	321744	11.9	6062975
* 2006	7734989	2761454	35.7	2494679	90.3	266775	9.7	4973535
* 2007	7873206	2626108	33.4	2388807	91.0	237300	9.0	5247098
** 2008	8605385	2854275	33.2	2614856	91.6	239419	8.4	5751110
*2008	7955852	2730253	34.3	2511429	92.0	218825	8.0	5225599
** 2009	8795136	2887211	32.8	2639238	91.4	247973	8.6	5907926
*2009	8176119	2756847	33.7	2530339	91.8	226508	8.2	5419272
* 2010 Q1	8992597	2841593	31.6	2617464	92.1	224129	7.9	6151004
# 2010 Q1	8344139	2731682	32.7	2515626	92.1	216056	7.9	5612457

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 2 - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - BOTH SEXES**  
(2010 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
<b>ALL AGES</b>	16850938	8129954	48.2	7725753	95.0	404201	5.0	8720984
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	1676497	273697	16.3	218287	79.8	55410	20.2	1402799
20 - 24 YRS	1465527	816485	55.7	655702	80.3	160783	19.7	649042
25 - 29 YRS	1447777	958978	66.2	866393	90.3	92585	9.7	488799
30 - 39 YRS	2870458	1947030	67.8	1891798	97.2	55231	2.8	923428
40 + YRS	7642537	4124252	54.0	4084954	99.0	39298	1.0	3518285

\* Reliable estimates cannot be provided.

**TABLE 2A - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - MALE**

(20010 1<sup>st</sup> quarter)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	7858341	5288361	67.3	5108289	96.6	180072	3.4	2569980
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	772699	176081	22.8	145741	82.8	30340	17.2	596618
20 - 24 YRS	641415	486496	75.8	416896	85.7	69601	14.3	154918
25 - 29 YRS	679002	629859	92.8	596934	94.8	32925	5.2	49143
30 - 39 YRS	1340963	1287175	96.0	1262672	98.1	24504	1.9	53788
40 + YRS	3570634	2702538	75.7	2680728	99.2	21810	0.8	868095

**TABLE 2B - LABOUR FORCE STATUS (CURRENT) OF THE HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER ,BY AGE - FEMALE**

(20010 1<sup>st</sup> quarter)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD POP: (10 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
ALL AGES	8992597	2841593	31.6	2617464	92.1	224129	7.9	6151004
10 - 14 YRS	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
15 - 19 YRS	903798	97616	10.8	72545	74.3	25070	25.7	806182
20 - 24 YRS	824113	329989	40.0	238806	72.4	91183	27.6	494124
25 - 29 YRS	768775	329119	42.8	269459	81.9	59660	18.1	439656
30 - 39 YRS	1529495	659855	43.1	629127	95.3	30728	4.7	869640
40 + YRS	4071903	1421713	34.9	1404226	98.8	17488	1.2	2650190

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

**TABLE 3 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.1	5.7	11.9	13.7	27.0	40.7
*1991	100.0	0.7	5.4	12.7	13.7	26.8	40.7
*1992	100.0	0.5	5.1	13.4	14.1	27.0	39.9
*1993	100.0	0.4	5.2	12.7	14.2	26.7	40.7
*1994	100.0	0.4	4.9	12.3	13.9	28.2	40.3
*1995	100.0	0.3	4.9	11.6	14.1	26.5	42.7
*1996	100.0	0.4	5.3	12.1	13.7	28.1	40.4
*1997	100.0	0.3	5.1	11.9	13.3	27.2	42.1
*1998	100.0	0.8	5.9	12.1	12.5	26.7	42.1
*1999	100.0	0.9	5.8	11.8	12.2	26.1	43.3
*2000	100.0	0.5	5.2	12.2	12.3	26.0	43.8
*2001	100.0	0.4	4.3	12.1	12.0	25.4	45.8
*2002	100.0	0.3	4.4	12.2	12.1	26.2	44.8
**2003	100.0	0.3	4.2	11.6	12.2	26.3	45.4
*** 2004	100.0	0.4	4.1	11.8	12.2	25.5	46.0
**** 2005	100.0	0.1	3.6	11.3	12.9	25.6	46.5
*2006	100.0	0.3	4.0	10.2	12.0	24.2	49.2
*2007	100.0	0.2	3.6	9.8	12.0	23.9	50.5
*2008	100.0	0.2	3.4	9.8	11.6	23.8	51.2
**2008	100.0	0.3	3.5	9.8	11.6	23.8	50.9
*2009	100.0	0.3	3.3	8.5	11.4	24.3	52.2
**2009	100.0	0.3	3.4	8.5	11.5	24.3	51.9
*2010 Q1	100.0	0.1	2.7	8.4	11.2	24.4	53.2
**2010Q1	100.0	0.1	2.8	8.5	11.2	24.5	52.9

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 3A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.0	5.7	11.7	13.3	26.3	42.1
*1991	100.0	0.6	5.2	12.6	13.2	25.7	42.8
*1992	100.0	0.4	4.7	13.2	13.9	26.2	41.6
*1993	100.0	0.4	4.8	11.5	14.8	26.2	42.2
*1994	100.0	0.4	4.7	11.9	13.5	27.2	42.2
*1995	100.0	0.3	4.8	11.0	14.0	26.0	43.8
*1996	100.0	0.4	5.0	11.7	13.4	27.8	41.7
*1997	100.0	0.3	4.8	11.1	13.0	27.1	43.6
*1998	100.0	0.7	5.6	11.9	12.3	26.2	43.3
*1999	100.0	0.7	5.8	11.8	11.8	25.7	44.1
*2000	100.0	0.4	5.2	12.0	12.3	25.4	44.7
*2001	100.0	0.3	4.1	12.0	12.1	25.0	46.4
*2002	100.0	0.3	4.2	11.8	11.8	26.2	45.8
**2003	100.0	0.3	3.9	11.4	12.7	25.7	46.1
***2004	100.0	0.3	3.9	11.5	12.6	25.0	46.6
****2005	100.0	0.2	4.1	11.1	13.3	25.2	46.1
* 2006	100.0	0.3	4.0	10.2	12.2	23.9	49.4
* 2007	100.0	0.2	3.7	9.6	12.7	23.7	50.1
*2008	100.0	0.3	3.4	9.6	11.9	23.9	51.0
**2008	100.0	0.3	3.7	9.7	11.9	23.9	50.5
*2009	100.0	0.3	3.3	8.3	11.7	24.2	52.3
**2009	100.0	0.3	3.5	8.4	11.8	24.2	51.9
*2010 Q1	100.0	0.1	2.7	8.1	11.6	24.7	52.8
**2010Q1	100.0	0.1	2.9	8.2	11.7	24.7	52.5

**TABLE 3B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

Year	All Ages	Age Groups					
		10 - 14 YRS	15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	1.2	5.6	12.4	14.5	28.4	38.0
*1991	100.0	0.9	6.0	13.0	14.6	29.1	36.4
*1992	100.0	0.8	5.9	13.9	14.4	29.2	35.8
*1993	100.0	0.4	5.9	15.4	12.9	27.7	37.7
*1994	100.0	0.5	5.3	13.2	14.8	30.4	35.9
*1995	100.0	0.4	5.0	12.9	14.3	27.3	40.1
*1996	100.0	0.5	6.0	13.1	14.2	28.8	37.4
*1997	100.0	0.3	5.7	13.7	14.0	27.6	38.7
*1998	100.0	1.0	6.4	12.4	12.8	27.6	39.7
*1999	100.0	1.1	5.9	11.7	12.9	27.1	41.4
*2000	100.0	0.7	5.3	12.6	12.1	27.4	41.9
*2001	100.0	0.5	4.7	12.4	11.8	26.2	44.5
*2002	100.0	0.5	4.7	13.1	12.6	26.2	42.9
**2003	100.0	0.4	4.7	12.2	11.2	27.6	43.9
***2004	100.0	0.5	4.6	12.3	11.3	26.6	44.7
****2005	100.0	0.1	2.5	11.9	12.0	26.4	47.2
* 2006	100.0	0.3	4.1	10.3	11.7	24.8	48.8
* 2007	100.0	0.3	3.4	10.1	10.7	24.2	51.3
*2008	100.0	0.2	3.2	10.1	11.0	23.8	51.7
**2008	100.0	0.2	3.2	10.1	11.0	23.8	51.7
*2009	100.0	0.4	3.2	8.9	10.9	24.5	52.2
**2009	100.0	0.3	3.3	8.9	11.0	24.5	52.0
*2010 Q1	100.0	0.1	2.7	8.8	10.4	23.9	54.1
**2010Q1	100.0	0.1	2.8	9.1	10.3	24.0	53.6

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 4 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & Below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE & above
*1990	100.0	31.9	45.1	16.0	7.0
*1991	100.0	31.6	44.8	15.6	7.9
*1992	100.0	29.9	44.9	16.5	8.7
*1993	100.0	28.5	45.1	16.9	9.5
*1994	100.0	28.2	45.4	17.5	8.8
*1995	100.0	26.8	44.9	18.0	10.3
*1996	100.0	29.5	43.3	16.9	10.3
*1997	100.0	27.9	44.0	17.6	10.5
*1998	100.0	26.8	45.0	17.2	11.0
*1999	100.0	25.4	45.7	18.0	10.9
*2000	100.0	25.1	46.3	16.7	11.9
*2001	100.0	22.7	46.1	17.7	13.5
*2002	100.0	24.6	45.6	15.8	14.0
**2003	100.0	24.5	46.2	15.9	13.3
***2004	100.0	24.3	44.7	16.8	14.2
**** 2005	100.0	20.6	45.8	18.2	15.4
* 2006	100.0	22.2	46.9	16.7	14.2
* 2007	100.0	21.1	47.8	15.6	15.5
*2008	100.0	20.3	48.0	15.8	16.0
**2008	100.0	21.9	47.4	15.4	15.3
*2009	100.0	20.4	47.7	15.6	16.3
**2009	100.0	21.1	47.3	15.5	16.1
*2010 Q1	100.0	20.2	48.3	15.5	16.0
**2010Q1	100.0	21.0	47.9	15.4	15.7

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 4A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & Below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE & above
*1990	100.0	29.6	48.3	16.1	5.9
*1991	100.0	28.0	49.0	15.5	7.5
*1992	100.0	27.4	48.2	17.0	7.4
*1993	100.0	25.4	49.8	17.2	7.7
*1994	100.0	25.5	49.6	17.7	7.2
*1995	100.0	25.1	48.2	18.3	8.4
*1996	100.0	27.7	47.1	16.8	8.4
*1997	100.0	26.5	47.2	17.5	8.7
*1998	100.0	25.3	48.5	17.0	9.2
*1999	100.0	24.0	49.4	17.7	9.0
*2000	100.0	24.1	49.6	16.6	9.8
*2001	100.0	21.5	49.3	17.8	11.4
*2002	100.0	23.5	49.1	16.0	11.4
**2003	100.0	23.8	49.2	16.2	10.8
***2004	100.0	22.6	48.3	17.3	11.8
**** 2005	100.0	19.9	49.6	18.0	12.5
* 2006	100.0	21.0	50.4	16.6	12.1
* 2007	100.0	20.1	51.3	15.6	13.0
*2008	100.0	19.4	51.3	16.1	13.2
**2008	100.0	21.1	50.7	15.6	12.6
*2009	100.0	19.5	51.3	15.7	13.4
**2009	100.0	20.3	50.8	15.6	13.2
*2010 Q1	100.0	19.0	51.9	15.6	13.5
**2010Q1	100.0	20.0	51.2	15.5	13.3

**TABLE 4B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

Year	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & Below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE & above
*1990	100.0	37.0	38.1	15.6	9.3
*1991	100.0	39.6	35.8	15.9	8.8
*1992	100.0	35.7	37.0	15.5	11.9
*1993	100.0	35.6	34.7	16.3	13.5
*1994	100.0	34.5	35.8	17.2	12.6
*1995	100.0	30.8	37.3	17.5	14.3
*1996	100.0	33.7	34.4	17.1	14.7
*1997	100.0	31.0	37.0	17.6	14.4
*1998	100.0	29.9	38.2	17.7	14.3
*1999	100.0	28.3	38.0	18.7	15.0
*2000	100.0	27.3	39.6	17.1	16.1
*2001	100.0	25.5	39.2	17.3	18.0
*2002	100.0	27.0	38.3	15.3	19.4
**2003	100.0	26.1	39.6	15.5	18.9
***2004	100.0	27.9	36.9	15.8	19.4
**** 2005	100.0	22.1	37.6	18.6	21.7
* 2006	100.0	24.3	40.4	17.0	18.2
* 2007	100.0	23.0	41.1	15.5	20.4
*2008	100.0	21.9	41.8	15.3	21.0
**2008	100.0	23.6	40.9	14.9	20.6
*2009	100.0	22.0	41.2	15.3	21.6
**2009	100.0	22.4	40.8	15.2	21.6
*2010 Q1	100.0	22.4	41.6	15.3	20.7
**2010Q1	100.0	22.9	41.2	15.4	20.5

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 5 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS  
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL EMPLOYED	EMPLOYEE			EMPLOYER	OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
		TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE			
*1990	100.0	55.2	21.5	33.7	1.8	29.2	13.8
*1991	100.0	62.4	22.9	39.5	2.2	25.4	10.0
*1992	100.0	60.1	20.0	40.0	1.6	27.1	11.2
*1993	100.0	60.0	17.4	42.8	2.0	27.4	10.4
*1994	100.0	60.7	16.4	44.3	2.3	27.2	9.8
*1995	100.0	59.8	15.6	44.3	2.5	28.3	9.4
*1996	100.0	60.8	15.0	45.8	2.3	26.8	10.0
*1997	100.0	59.4	15.1	44.3	2.3	28.8	9.4
*1998	100.0	55.6	14.5	41.2	1.9	28.9	13.6
*1999	100.0	57.5	14.4	43.1	2.0	28.3	12.2
*2000	100.0	56.3	13.4	42.9	2.3	28.4	13.0
*2001	100.0	58.6	13.9	44.7	2.3	28.5	10.6
*2002	100.0	57.9	13.4	44.5	2.8	28.6	10.7
**2003	100.0	57.9	13.5	44.4	2.6	29.6	9.9
***2004	100.0	59.4	13.0	46.4	2.9	28.3	9.4
**** 2005	100.0	59.3	13.3	46.1	3.1	29.7	7.9
* 2006	100.0	55.6	13.4	42.1	3.1	30.8	10.5
*2007	100.0	56.5	13.8	42.7	2.8	30.4	10.3
*2008	100.0	56.0	14.9	41.1	3.0	30.2	10.8
**2008	100.0	56.4	15.2	41.2	2.9	30.2	10.4
*2009	100.0	57.3	15.2	42.1	2.7	29.0	11.0
**2009	100.0	57.6	15.5	42.1	2.6	29.2	10.6
*2010 Q1	100.0	55.0	13.5	41.5	2.4	31.6	11.0
**2010Q1	100.0	55.5	14.2	41.4	2.4	31.4	10.7

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 5A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	EMPLOYEE					OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE	EMPLOYER		
*1990	100.0	55.2	19.7	35.5	2.3	34.6	7.9
*1991	100.0	61.5	20.3	41.2	2.9	29.8	5.9
*1992	100.0	58.7	18.4	40.3	2.0	32.2	7.2
*1993	100.0	57.7	15.6	42.0	2.6	33.0	6.7
*1994	100.0	59.3	15.9	43.4	2.9	32.0	5.9
*1995	100.0	58.4	14.6	43.7	3.1	33.5	5.1
*1996	100.0	59.5	14.1	45.4	3.2	31.2	6.1
*1997	100.0	58.3	14.4	43.9	3.0	33.2	5.5
*1998	100.0	55.8	14.1	41.7	2.5	34.8	6.8
*1999	100.0	57.7	13.8	43.9	2.7	33.5	6.2
*2000	100.0	56.6	12.6	44.0	3.1	33.8	6.5
*2001	100.0	57.9	12.9	45.0	3.1	33.4	5.5
*2002	100.0	57.5	12.6	44.8	3.7	34.0	4.8
**2003	100.0	57.4	12.6	44.9	3.4	34.5	4.8
***2004	100.0	58.9	11.9	47.0	3.9	32.7	4.5
**** 2005	100.0	59.9	11.7	48.1	4.1	32.9	3.2
* 2006	100.0	56.0	12.3	43.8	4.4	35.2	4.4
* 2007	100.0	57.2	12.1	45.1	3.9	34.5	4.4
*2008	100.0	56.7	13.3	43.4	4.2	34.6	4.5
**2008	100.0	57.5	13.7	43.8	4.0	34.1	4.3
*2009	100.0	58.5	13.3	45.2	3.7	33.2	4.6
**2009	100.0	59.0	13.6	45.4	3.6	33.0	4.5
*2010 Q1	100.0	55.6	11.9	43.7	3.3	36.6	4.5
**2010Q1	100.0	56.4	12.7	43.7	3.2	36.1	4.3

**TABLE 5B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	EMPLOYEE					OWN ACCOUNT WORKER	UNPAID FAMILY WORKER
	TOTAL EMPLOYED	TOTAL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE	EMPLOYER		
*1990	100.0	55.1	25.3	29.8	0.6	17.9	26.5
*1991	100.0	64.5	28.6	35.9	0.7	16.0	18.9
*1992	100.0	63.4	24.1	39.4	0.7	14.8	21.0
*1993	100.0	65.6	21.0	44.6	0.7	15.0	18.7
*1994	100.0	64.2	17.7	46.5	0.9	16.1	18.8
*1995	100.0	63.2	17.6	45.5	1.1	16.7	19.1
*1996	100.0	63.9	17.0	46.8	0.5	16.7	18.9
*1997	100.0	61.8	16.7	45.2	0.9	19.0	18.3
*1998	100.0	55.2	15.2	40.1	0.6	17.2	27.0
*1999	100.0	57.2	15.6	41.5	0.6	17.5	24.8
*2000	100.0	55.5	15.0	40.5	0.8	17.2	26.5
*2001	100.0	60.1	15.9	44.1	0.5	18.1	21.3
*2002	100.0	58.8	15.1	43.7	0.8	17.4	23.0
**2003	100.0	59.0	15.7	43.3	0.9	18.8	21.3
***2004	100.0	60.6	15.5	45.1	0.9	18.7	19.8
**** 2005	100.0	58.3	16.6	41.6	0.9	22.7	18.2
* 2006	100.0	54.8	15.6	39.2	0.8	22.7	21.7
* 2007	100.0	55.1	17.1	38.0	0.7	22.5	21.7
*2008	100.0	54.7	17.9	36.8	0.7	22.2	22.4
**2008	100.0	54.3	18.2	36.2	0.7	22.8	22.2
*2009	100.0	55.2	18.6	36.5	0.9	21.4	22.5
**2009	100.0	54.9	19.0	35.9	0.9	22.0	22.3
*2010 Q1	100.0	53.8	16.5	37.3	0.8	22.2	23.2
**2010Q1	100.0	53.9	17.0	36.9	0.8	22.3	23.1

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 6 - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision)**

Year	Industry group														
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
*2002	<b>6519415</b>	2247602	1072720	386475	838796	117556	309553	168973	524724	227785	82260	110390	93252	317121	22208
**2003	<b>7012755</b>	2384397	1156682	454810	867131	121627	363393	191390	541070	262440	98107	110827	75858	333477	51548
***2004	<b>7394029</b>	2474725	1307357	474090	910770	120552	417340	175633	535064	273628	103966	122395	68813	323277	86419
****2005	<b>7518007</b>	2306039	1385374	542639	904008	138924	484999	233736	512819	297437	129237	133537	53314	324440	71504
* 2006	<b>7105322</b>	2287268	1363092	526861	954981	129351	430331	221146	400504	276783	109660	123900	80247	179941	21255
* 2007	<b>7041874</b>	2202098	1331368	542489	932094	118516	456804	215217	433013	259489	115943	104601	87381	219692	23168
* 2008	<b>7174706</b>	2344415	1354897	533106	924468	103814	425972	236024	462634	298810	110933	128812	84097	153297	13428
** 2008	<b>7648305</b>	2489731	1414483	590397	984326	110317	447604	241474	512048	325633	120987	141853	84960	170572	13920
* 2009	<b>7139537</b>	2318621	1301267	521417	913387	133182	419627	220979	487438	300143	128490	104603	96132	190672	3579
** 2009	<b>7602414</b>	2475921	1348084	562234	977138	141599	445111	226660	524390	336012	136619	123090	96367	205432	3757
*2010 Q1	7287198	2455665	1321300	514058	949791	131997	451129	230911	472188	281645	105949	118008	75626	178931	
**2010Q1	7725753	2600463	1356464	554964	1011680	137028	471071	236696	536740	307503	118075	121978	75626	196150	1313

**Industry group**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)   | 8 Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L)   |
| 2 Manufacturing (D)  | 9 Education (M)  |
| 3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,<br>Electricity,Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)                           | 10 Health and Social work (N)  |
| 4 Wholesale and Retail Trade,Repair of Motor Vehicles,<br>Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11 Other Community,Social and Personal Service Activities<br>Extra Teritorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5 Hotels and Restaurants (H)   | 12 Private Households with Employed Persons ( P)   |
| 6 Transport, Storage and Communication (I)   | 13 Miscellaneous Labour work   |
| 7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,<br>Renting and Business Activities (J,K)                       | 14 Industries not adequately described   |

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Cofficient of variation) values are high.

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.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu,Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 6A - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision) - Male**

	Total	Industry group							
		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	Other
*2002	<b>4395164</b>	1397423	569761	373516	656505	115203	387301	70813	824642
**2003	<b>4833483</b>	1529117	624791	436404	681185	138146	405572	98074	920194
***2004	<b>5049426</b>	1559301	710910	456049	721800	122372	392949	102645	983400
****2005	<b>5134765</b>	1482610	749993	519197	702048	171330	376877	83551	1049159
* 2006	<b>4610643</b>	1342214	683873	507192	717258	156022	294597	86521	822966
* 2007	<b>4653067</b>	1321995	703080	523470	688653	151782	308080	79092	876915
*2008	<b>4663277.5</b>	1388714	716259	510488	680091	162634	344695	87931	772466
** 2008	<b>5033448.7</b>	1510401	749653	565666	725049	167414	385219	98596	831450
* 2009	<b>4609197.5</b>	1382024	677262	501657	669223	145341	346799	90983	795909
** 2009	<b>4963175.7</b>	1510834	701206	541934	715499	149890	377259	107615	858938
*2010 Q1	<b>4771572</b>	1471193	695093	490896	704291	166378	352556	86363	804802
**2010Q1	<b>5108289</b>	1585286	709465	531082	754416	169811	410783	97862	849583

**Industry group**

- 1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)
- 2 Manufacturing (D)
- 3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,  
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)
- 4 Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,  
Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G)
- 7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,  
Renting and Business Activities (J,K)
- 8 Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)
- 9 Education (M)

**Other**

- Hotels and Restaurants (H)
- Transport, Storage and Communication (I)
- Health and Social work (N)
- Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities
- Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q)
- Private Households with Employed Persons (P)
- Miscellaneous Labour work
- 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.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 6B - Currently Employed person by Industry group (Based on ISIC Third Revision) - Female**

	Total	Industry group							
		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	Other
*2002	<b>2124250</b>	850179	502959	12959	182291	53770	137423	156972	227697
**2003	<b>2179272</b>	855280	531891	18407	185946	53243	135498	164365	234642
***2004	<b>2344604</b>	915424	596447	18041	188970	53261	142116	170983	259362
****2005	<b>2383241</b>	823429	635382	23442	201959	62405	135942	213886	286796
* 2006	<b>2494679</b>	945054	679218	19669	237723	65125	105908	190262	251720
* 2007	<b>2388807</b>	880103	628288	19019	243441	63435	124933	180397	249190
* 2008	<b>2511429</b>	955701	638638	22619	244376	73390	117939	210878	247887
** 2008	<b>2614856</b>	979331	664830	24731	259277	74060	126829	227037	258762
* 2009	<b>2530339</b>	936596	624006	19761	244164	75638	140638	209160	280376
** 2009	<b>2639238</b>	965086	646877	20300	261639	76770	147132	228396	293037
*2010 Q1	<b>2515626</b>	984473	626207	23162	245500	64533	119631	195282	256838
**2010Q1	<b>2617464</b>	1015177	646999	23882	257264	66885	125957	209641	271658

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

**Industry group**

- 1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)
- 2 Manufacturing (D)
- 3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,  
Electricity, Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)
- 4 Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles,  
Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G)
- 7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,  
Renting and Business Activities (J,K)
- 8 Public Administration and Defence, Compulsory Social Security (L)
- 9 Education (M)

**Other**

- Hotels and Restaurants (H)
- Transport, Storage and Communication (I)
- Health and Social work (N)
- Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities
- Extra Territorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q)
- Private Households with Employed Persons (P)
- Miscellaneous Labour work
- 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.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 7 - Currently Employed person by Occupation group (Based on ISCO 88)**

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	<b>6519415</b>	85553	352238	316763	283719	406992	510148	1579024	935477	373588	1608511	67402
**2003	<b>7012755</b>	88043	367654	341634	303828	328796	628729	1634289	1084436	419540	1735336	80470
***2004	<b>7394029</b>	99839	404410	366488	322697	420343	671461	1513636	1124715	460589	1951081	58770
****2005	<b>7518007</b>	120491	471200	403904	300322	515909	574416	1561884	1216224	531439	1760335	61883
* 2006	<b>7105322</b>	128944	376469	362275	276587	526322	513217	1590110	1214163	501561	1576960	38715
* 2007	<b>7041874</b>	123290	366668	381596	283703	494515	508488	1503669	1201598	563927	1574113	40306
* 2008	<b>7174706</b>	121463	415993	398489	299331	477055	546087	1603701	1165096	526921	1576276	44295
** 2008	<b>7648305</b>	126636	448659	424802	308632	498271	604974	1699212	1255470	555896	1673147	52607
* 2009	<b>7139537</b>	117080	421793	372116	304686	471279	550658	1607477	1106431	500259	1619891	67867
** 2009	<b>7602414</b>	119190	458305	392898	313734	509501	606492	1705701	1175137	530788	1717903	72765
*2010 Q1	<b>7287198</b>	127166	405244	361350	280048	488862	514500	1726066	1086466	510071	1715942	71482
**2010Q1	<b>7725753</b>	127737	434675	375325	290545	541347	577323	1803750	1155186	529418	1814477	75971

**Occupation group**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Senior Officials and Managers           | 7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers   |
| 2 Professionals                           | 8 Craft and Related workers                  |
| 3 Technical and Associate Professionals   | 9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers |
| 4 Clerks                                  | 10 Elementary occupations                    |
| 5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises | 0 Unidentified                               |
| 6 Sales and Service workers               |  |

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

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 7A - Currently Employed person by Occupation group - Male (Based on ISCO 88)**

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	<b>4395164</b>	67276	146656	215548	151511	318172	379695	1024190	596472	335568	1097444	62633
**2003	<b>4833483</b>	71574	161375	236263	167584	260270	464633	1109200	711720	368452	1205366	77047
***2004	<b>4993403</b>	75416	174521	250898	174982	341828	498477	1004912	726641	426469	1319258	
****2005	<b>5134765</b>	87788	187002	266866	159566	406137	418628	1013877	801448	484351	1249168	59935
* 2006	<b>4610643</b>	101399	146344	238819	143606	419443	314226	966263	743733	444703	1055753	36354
* 2007	<b>4653067</b>	91026	147844	258111	138384	379768	318994	925933	779097	504603	1070890	38418
* 2008	<b>4663277</b>	90314	154443	275928	161252	364206	339828	975507	731382	478825	1050236	41356
** 2008	<b>5033449</b>	94075	168152	296103	167400	380629	385895	1049917	799554	503286	1139158	49280
* 2009	<b>4609198</b>	94072	150660	241033	151532	350875	354709	995412	704257	450086	1056823	59738
** 2009	<b>4963176</b>	95394	168781	254607	156245	375649	396056	1070983	758317	477738	1145231	64176
*2010 Q1	<b>4771572</b>	98838	145156	242420	162819	347760	353254	1079243	700749	451123	1123862	66350
**2010Q1	<b>5108289</b>	99408	156892	253805	167967	389973	402689	1136035	756256	469597	1204827	70839

**Occupation group**

1 Senior Officials and Managers

2 Professionals

3 Technical and Associate Professionals

4 Clerks

5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises

6 Sale and Service workers

7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers

8 Craft and Related workers

9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers

10 Elementary occupations

0 Unidentified

▨ These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

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

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 7B - Currently Employed person by Occupation group - Female (Based on ISCO 88)**

Year	Total	Occupation group										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	0
*2002	<b>2124250</b>	18277	205582	101215	132209	88819	130453	554835	339005	38020	511066	4769
**2003	<b>2179272</b>	16469	206279	105370	136245	68526	164096	525090	372716	51088	529971	3423
***2004	<b>2341857</b>	24423	229889	115590	147715	78515	172984	508724	398074	34120	631823	
****2005	<b>2383241</b>	32702	284198	137038	140756	109772	155788	548007	414776	47088	511167	1949
* 2006	<b>2494679</b>	27544	230126	123456	132981	106879	198990	623847	470430	56858	521207	2360
* 2007	<b>2388807</b>	32265	218824	123485	145319	114747	189494	577736	422502	59324	503223	1888
* 2008	<b>2511429</b>	31148	261549	122561	138079	112849	206258	628193	433715	48095	526040	2940
** 2008	<b>2614856</b>	32560	280507	128699	141231	117642	219079	649295	455917	52609	533989	3327
* 2009	<b>2530339</b>	23008	271134	131083	153154	120404	195949	612065	402173	50172	563067	8129
** 2009	<b>2639238</b>	23796	289523	138291	157489	133852	210437	634719	416820	53050	572671	8590
*2010 Q1	<b>2515626</b>	28328	260088	118931	117230	141103	161246	646824	385718	58948	592079	5132
**2010Q1	<b>2617464</b>	28328	277782	121520	122578	151373	174635	667715	398930	59820	609651	5132

**Occupation group**

1 Senior Officials and Managers

2 Professionals

3 Technical and Associate Professionals

4 Clerks

5 Proprietors and Managers of Enterprises

6 Sale and Service workers

7 Skilled Agricultural and Fishery workers

8 Craft and Related workers

9 Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers

10 Elementary occupations

0 Unidentified

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

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

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 8 - CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PERSONS BY HOURS PER WEEK ACTUALLY WORKED AT THE MAIN JOB AND MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GROUP (PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

(2010 1<sup>st</sup> quarter)

MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GROUP	TOTAL	0 *	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & OVER
Total	100.0	3.7	1.3	4.2	9.2	15.2	34.7	31.8
1	100.0	5.2	2.6	7.3	14.9	20.9	30.8	18.3
2	100.0	2.5	*	3.0	8.7	10.0	39.1	35.6
3	100.0	6.3	*	*	9.8	10.5	38.5	30.4
4	100.0	*	*	*	5.1	10.4	28.8	52.1
5	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	22.5	67.3
6	100.0	*	..	*	*	8.8	29.5	54.2
7	100.0	*	..	*	*	*	56.6	30.1
8	100.0	*	..	*	*	*	52.5	39.6
9	100.0	*	*	*	*	60.5	20.0	*
10	100.0	..	*	*	*	*	46.1	42.8
11	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	33.7	38.6
12	100.0	..	..	*	*	*	*	55.0
13	100.0	*	..	*	*	15.6	44.7	*
14	100.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	*

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

.. Negligible

**Industry group**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)   | 8. Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L)  |
| 2. Manufacturing (D)  | 9. Education (M)   |
| 3. Construction, Minning & Quarrying ,<br>Electricity,Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)                          | 10. Health and Social work (N)   |
| 4. Wholesale and Retail Trade,Repair of Motor Vehicles,<br>Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11.Other Community,Social and Personal Service Activities<br>Extra Teritorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5. Hotels and Restaurants (H)   | 12. Private Households with Employed Persons ( P)  |
| 6. Transport, Storage and Communication (I)   | 13. Miscellaneous Labour work  |
| 7. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,<br>Renting and Business Activities (J,K)                       | 14.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 9 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40 + YRS
*1990	100.0	20.3	40.3	19.3	13.2	7.1
*1991	100.0	19.3	42.2	16.7	15.8	6.0
*1992	100.0	19.2	40.9	20.4	13.4	6.1
*1993	100.0	20.4	38.5	18.9	15.5	6.8
*1994	100.0	22.4	41.2	15.6	15.5	5.5
*1995	100.0	21.1	38.2	20.1	15.1	5.5
*1996	100.0	24.0	39.3	18.1	14.3	4.3
*1997	100.0	22.5	41.5	19.0	12.7	4.3
*1998	100.0	21.9	40.8	17.6	13.6	6.0
*1999	100.0	23.9	40.5	17.2	12.5	5.9
*2000	100.0	19.5	44.4	18.4	11.9	5.8
*2001	100.0	21.2	45.4	17.8	10.4	5.1
*2002	100.0	19.8	47.1	16.6	11.0	5.5
**2003	100.0	19.9	45.8	17.2	11.6	5.6
***2004	100.0	18.1	45.9	17.4	11.7	6.8
**** 2005	100.0	19.5	44.8	16.4	12.2	7.1
* 2006	100.0	17.5	39.3	21.5	11.9	9.8
* 2007	100.0	15.7	41.2	19.7	13.1	10.4
* 2008	100.0	15.9	38.4	20.9	13.7	11.2
** 2008	100.0	15.8	38.4	21.5	13.6	10.6
* 2009	100.0	14.6	37.1	21.0	15.2	12.1
** 2009	100.0	14.5	37.5	21.3	15.1	11.6
*2010 Q1	100.0	13.9	39.4	22.8	13.9	10.1
**2010Q1	100.0	13.7	39.9	23.0	13.7	9.7

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 9A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	23.8	41.2	16.1	9.6	9.2
*1991	100.0	23.0	42.6	15.1	11.7	7.7
*1992	100.0	21.8	42.7	18.5	10.0	7.1
*1993	100.0	24.0	39.5	16.0	12.7	8.0
*1994	100.0	24.3	40.8	13.3	13.4	8.6
*1995	100.0	22.3	38.2	19.0	12.9	7.6
*1996	100.0	27.2	39.6	16.9	10.9	5.4
*1997	100.0	25.0	41.5	17.2	11.5	4.8
*1998	100.0	27.7	39.6	16.5	9.5	6.7
*1999	100.0	27.6	40.6	14.3	9.3	8.2
*2000	100.0	24.0	46.4	15.2	9.1	5.3
*2001	100.0	25.4	46.3	15.0	7.1	6.2
*2002	100.0	22.2	49.1	13.5	8.3	6.9
**2003	100.0	22.7	47.6	14.8	8.3	6.6
***2004	100.0	20.8	45.4	15.4	10.1	8.3
**** 2005	100.0	21.8	44.3	15.0	12.5	6.3
* 2006	100.0	21.2	40.1	18.4	8.3	11.9
*2007	100.0	19.9	40.7	16.0	10.2	13.1
*2008	100.0	19.8	37.5	18.2	9.7	14.9
** 2008	100.0	19.4	37.8	19.5	9.4	13.9
*2009	100.0	18.2	35.2	19.0	12.6	15.0
** 2009	100.0	17.9	36.4	18.9	12.4	14.4
*2010 Q1	100.0	17.5	38.2	18.0	13.7	12.6
**2010Q1	100.0	16.9	38.8	18.4	13.7	12.2

**TABLE 9B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY AGE GROUPS  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	AGE GROUPS				
		15 - 19 YRS	20 - 24 YRS	25 - 29 YRS	30 - 39 YRS	40+ YRS
*1990	100.0	17.0	39.4	22.2	16.6	5.0
*1991	100.0	16.3	42.0	18.0	19.2	4.6
*1992	100.0	16.7	39.1	22.2	16.9	5.3
*1993	100.0	12.8	34.1	23.7	21.8	7.7
*1994	100.0	16.7	37.6	21.4	20.6	3.9
*1995	100.0	19.9	38.3	21.2	17.2	3.4
*1996	100.0	21.0	39.0	19.2	17.4	3.2
*1997	100.0	20.1	41.6	20.7	13.8	3.8
*1998	100.0	17.1	41.8	18.6	17.0	5.4
*1999	100.0	20.2	40.5	20.0	15.6	3.7
*2000	100.0	15.1	42.3	21.5	14.8	6.3
*2001	100.0	16.7	44.5	20.9	14.1	3.8
*2002	100.0	17.5	45.1	19.5	13.7	4.2
**2003	100.0	17.2	44.1	19.4	14.7	4.6
***2004	100.0	15.7	46.4	19.3	13.3	5.3
**** 2005	100.0	17.3	45.3	17.6	11.9	7.8
*2006	100.0	14.4	38.7	24.2	14.9	7.9
*2007	100.0	11.9	41.5	23.0	15.6	8.0
*2008	100.0	12.7	39.1	23.1	16.9	8.2
** 2008	100.0	12.9	38.9	23.2	17.0	8.0
*2009	100.0	11.4	38.8	22.8	17.5	9.5
** 2009	100.0	11.5	38.5	23.5	17.5	9.0
*2010 Q1	100.0	11.1	40.3	26.6	14.0	8.1
**2010Q1	100.0	11.2	40.7	26.6	13.7	7.8

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

**TABLE 10 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
(PERCENTAGE) - BOTH SEXES**

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		GRADE 5 & BELOW	GRADES 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE & ABOVE
*1990	100.0	8.5	49.7	26.5	15.4
*1991	100.0	9.0	45.7	30.3	15.1
*1992	100.0	9.2	50.5	27.0	13.7
*1993	100.0	8.3	44.9	28.7	18.0
*1994	100.0	8.6	44.9	28.3	18.2
*1995	100.0	5.5	47.1	29.1	18.4
*1996	100.0	7.9	47.1	26.1	19.0
*1997	100.0	5.7	44.7	28.2	21.4
*1998	100.0	5.8	44.2	27.1	22.9
*1999	100.0	4.4	41.9	29.2	24.5
*2000	100.0	3.1	45.6	26.0	25.3
*2001	100.0	3.6	40.7	27.3	28.4
*2002	100.0	4.7	40.7	25.2	29.4
**2003	100.0	4.8	40.2	26.1	28.9
***2004	100.0	5.4	36.6	26.2	31.7
**** 2005	100.0	4.5	37.2	28.6	29.7
* 2006	100.0	4.6	41.9	26.6	26.9
* 2007	100.0	4.4	41.0	22.0	32.6
* 2008	100.0	4.2	41.2	22.8	31.8
** 2008	100.0	4.5	39.3	23.4	32.8
* 2009	100	4.4	40.3	22.7	32.6
** 2009	100.0	4.3	39.9	23.1	32.7
*2010 Q1	100.0	3.1	34.0	22.8	40.1
**2010Q1	100.0	3.0	33.7	22.2	41.1

 These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**TABLE 10A - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
(PERCENTAGE) - MALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		GRADE 5 & BELOW	GRADES 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE & ABOVE
*1990	100.0	10.6	57.7	23.3	8.4
*1991	100.0	11.2	53.2	25.0	10.5
*1992	100.0	9.9	57.4	25.1	7.9
*1993	100.0	11.4	47.7	28.0	12.9
*1994	100.0	11.4	50.3	27.0	11.3
*1995	100.0	5.3	54.4	29.4	10.9
*1996	100.0	8.7	56.9	23.8	10.6
*1997	100.0	7.0	54.5	25.0	13.5
*1998	100.0	6.7	54.8	24.7	13.9
*1999	100.0	4.8	48.3	29.1	17.8
*2000	100.0	3.9	54.7	26.0	15.4
*2001	100.0	4.4	50.9	25.2	19.5
*2002	100.0	5.6	50.1	24.7	19.6
**2003	100.0	5.5	47.3	27.7	19.5
***2004	100.0	7.0	44.0	27.4	21.6
**** 2005	100.0	5.2	44.9	29.1	20.8
* 2006	100.0	6.2	48.9	26.6	18.3
* 2007	100.0	5.8	49.5	24.5	20.3
*2008	100.0	5.3	52.2	21.7	20.8
** 2008	100.0	5.3	49.7	23.1	21.9
*2009	100.0	4.5	49.7	24.6	21.3
** 2009	100.0	4.4	48.0	25.3	22.3
*2010 Q1	100.0	4.8	37.6	26.3	31.3
**2010Q1	100.0	4.6	36.8	25.9	32.7

**TABLE 10B - HISTORICAL TABLE OF CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
(PERCENTAGE) - FEMALE**

YEAR	TOTAL	LEVEL OF EDUCATION			
		GRADE 5 & BELOW	GRADES 6 - 10	GCE(O/L) NCGE	GCE(A/L) HNCE & ABOVE
*1990	100.0	6.4	42.2	29.5	21.9
*1991	100.0	7.1	39.6	34.5	18.8
*1992	100.0	8.5	43.6	28.9	19.4
*1993	100.0	5.7	42.5	29.4	22.5
*1994	100.0	6.9	39.6	29.6	24.9
*1995	100.0	5.7	40.0	28.8	25.5
*1996	100.0	7.1	37.6	28.3	27.0
*1997	100.0	4.5	35.3	31.3	28.9
*1998	100.0	5.1	35.4	29.1	30.5
*1999	100.0	4.0	35.5	29.3	31.2
*2000	100.0	2.3	36.3	26.1	35.3
*2001	100.0	2.6	29.7	29.7	38.0
*2002	100.0	3.9	31.4	25.6	39.1
**2003	100.0	4.0	33.5	24.6	37.8
***2004	100.0	3.9	29.7	25.0	41.3
**** 2005	100.0	4.0	29.9	28.1	38.0
* 2006	100.0	3.1	35.9	26.7	34.3
* 2007	100.0	3.2	33.5	19.8	43.4
*2008	100.0	3.3	32.3	23.7	40.7
** 2008	100.0	3.8	31.0	23.6	41.6
*2009	100.0	4.4	31.8	20.9	42.9
** 2009	100.0	4.3	32.5	21.1	42.1
*2010 Q1	100.0	1.8	31.0	19.9	47.2
**2010Q1	100.0	1.8	31.1	19.2	47.9

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

**TABLE 11 - CURRENTLY UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY SEX AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT**

Sex	Total	(2010 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter) Duration		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	404201	124396	83375	196430
%	100.0	30.8	20.6	48.6
Male	180072	66707	37643	75722
%	100.0	37.0	20.9	42.1
Female	224129	57689	45731	120709
%	100.0	25.7	20.4	53.9

## STANDARD ERROR AND COEFFICIENT OF VARIATION OF SELECTED VARIABLES

	(2010 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter)					
	Estimated Value	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)	Estimated Value (Ratio)	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)
<b>General labour force characteristics</b>						
Population ( 10 years & over)	16850938	217676	1.29	-	-	-
Employed Population	7725753	132996	1.72	-	-	-
Unemployed Population	404201	25359	6.27	-	-	-
Employment Rate	-	-	-	95.0	0.307	0.323
Unemployment Rate	-	-	-	5.0	0.307	6.171
Labour Force	8129954	135564	1.67	-	-	-
Not in Labour Force	8720984	151452	1.74	-	-	-
<b>Employed persons by major industry Groups</b>						
1	2600463	109866	4.22	-	-	-
2	1356464	59524	4.39	-	-	-
3	554964	31897	5.75	-	-	-
4	1011680	47134	4.66	-	-	-
5	137028	15810	11.54	-	-	-
6	471071	28278	6.00	-	-	-
7	236696	21429	9.05	-	-	-
8	536740	38496	7.17	-	-	-
9	307503	23663	7.70	-	-	-
10	118075	13275	11.24	-	-	-
11	121978	13135	10.77	-	-	-
12	75626	11722	15.50	-	-	-
13	196150	22144	11.29	-	-	-
14	1313	1313	100.00	-	-	-
<b>Unemployed persons by level of education</b>						
Below grade 5	12269	3602	29.35	-	-	-
Grade 5 - 9/Year 6 - 10	136031	15168	11.15	-	-	-
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	89673	11067	12.34	-	-	-
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	166227	15911	9.57	-	-	-

**Industry group**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)   | 8. Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L)   |
| 2. Manufacturing (D)  | 9. Education (M)  |
| 3. Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,<br>Electricity,Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)                           | 10. Health and Social work (N)  |
| 4. Wholesale and Retail Trade,Repair of Motor Vehicles,<br>Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11. Other Community,Social and Personal Service Activities<br>Extra Teritorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5. Hotels and Restaurants (H)   | 12. Private Households with Employed Persons ( P)   |
| 6. Transport, Storage and Communication (I)   | 13. Miscellaneous Labour work   |
| 7. Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,<br>Renting and Business Activities (J,K)                       | 14. Industries not adequately described   |

## Explanatory Notes

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### Coverage

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.

This quarterly survey of households is conducted through a scientifically selected sample designed to represent the civilian non-institutional population. Respondents are interviewed to obtain information about the employment status etc. of each member of the household 10 years of age and older.

The field work of the survey is done during the third week of the each month, Monday through Sunday. This is known as the " survey week" . The inquiry relates to activity or status are referred in the preceding week of the survey week; referred to as the "reference week".

The concepts and definitions underlying labour force data are as follows.

### Concepts and definitions

1. **Labour force** : The labour force is composed of the economically active population 10 years of age and over.
2. **The Economically Active Population** : is defined as those persons who are/were employed or unemployed during the reference period of the survey.
3. **Employed** : Persons, who during the reference period, worked as paid employees, employers, own account workers (self employed), or unpaid family workers are said to be employed. This includes persons with a job but not at work during the reference period.
4. **Unemployed** : Persons who are seeking and available for work, but had no employment during the reference period.
5. **Currently Economically Active** : A person who was employed or unemployed during the current reference period is considered to be currently economically active.
6. **Not in the Labour Force (not economically active)** : Persons who were neither working nor available/looking for work are classified as "not in the labour force". Persons are not in the labour force for such reasons as: full time care of the household, full - time students, retired or old age, infirmed or disabled, or are not interested in working for one reason or another. Current and Usual definitions apply.

## 7. *Criteria for classification of underemployment*

In order to classify an employed persons as visibly underemployed,

### *(i) If the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her main activity*

In Sri Lanka scenario, 35 hours per week is taken as the cut-off point applicable to all workers, except government teachers. As in practice, though teachers do have a normal duration of work which is below the general cut-off point, they should be on a full time schedule according to the nature of their job. Further, those who do have a secondary job, or those who are employers, were considered as having worked the normal duration in their respective activity.

Therefore, if the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her activity (as described above), then the person is further questioned to ascertain whether he/She is prepared and available for further work if provided. Such persons are considered underemployed in their respective employment.

### *(ii) If the person has worked more than the normal duration in his/her activity*

If the person has worked even more than 35 hours as usually, but he has worked less than 35 hours actually in the reference period, only due to the off season or bad weather, such persons were also further questioned to check their underemployment situation, considering them as a special category.

## 8. *Informal Sector Employment*

In order to classify a person to be employed in informal sector employment, following information were used.

- (i) Registration of the organization
- (ii) Accounts keeping practices of the organization
- (iii) Total number of regular employees of the organization.

## **Reliability of the estimates**

Statistics based on the quarterly labour force data are subject to both sampling and non - sampling errors. When a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent.

The exact differences, or sampling error, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 95 percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.96 standard errors from the " true" population value, because of sampling error. Analyses relating to the Labour Force Survey are generally conducted at the 95 percent level of confidence.

For example, the confidence interval for the quarterly unemployment rate is on the order of

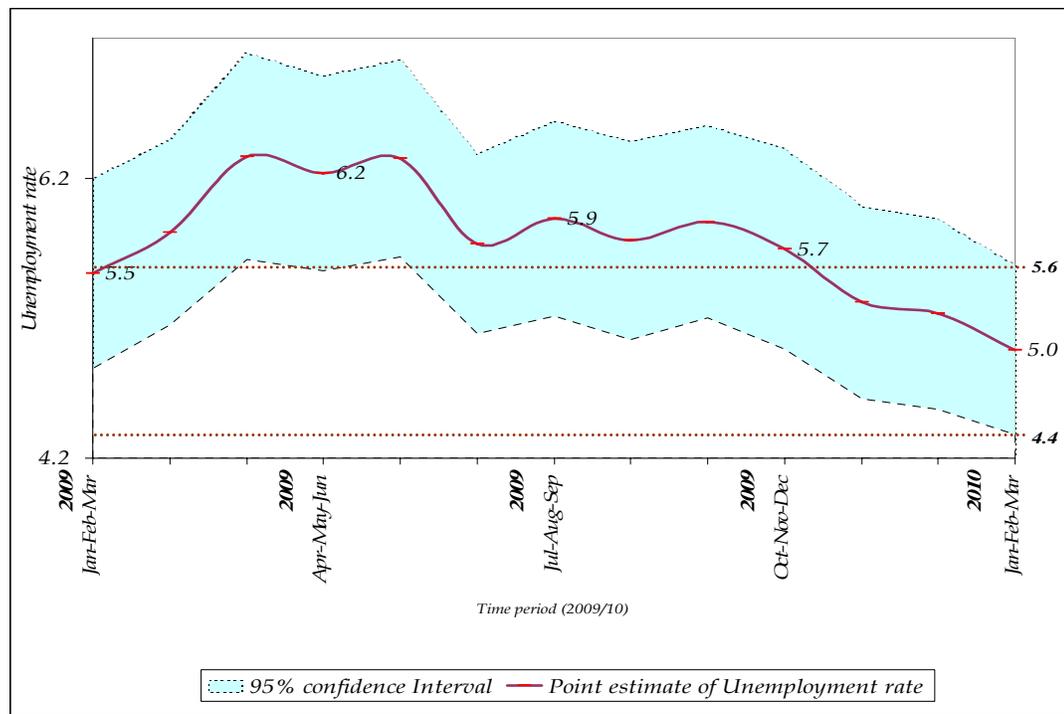
Estimated value *(of the unemployment rate)*  $\pm$  (standard error) \* ( 1.96)

6.4  $\pm$  (0.4) \* (1.96)  
(6.4  $\pm$  0.784)

This means, the 95 percent confidence interval on the quarterly unemployment rate could range from (5.6 to 7.2) . This implies that there is about 95 percent chance that the "true" unemployment rate lies within this interval. This range includes all the values range from 5.6 to 7.2 . When the comparison of this estimate is done between two quarters, if any of the value within the 95 percent confidence interval of one quarter overlaps with the confidence interval of the other , it means that the estimates of this two quarters *are not significantly different*.

Therefore, in each quarterly labour force report, a separate table is given including approximate standard errors for some selected variables, so that users could understand this statistical scenario clearly.

### Unemployment rates and it's lower and upper limits (2009 January - 2010 March)



As seen in figure , it is very important to note that, there were no statistically significant difference between the unemployment rates reported in different time periods of 2009/2010, except 2nd quarter of 2009, when sampling error was considered.

### Change in survey schedule

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes have been made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data.

Beginning in January 2006, some improvements were made to the labour force survey schedule in order to fulfill the requirements of it's users and also to provide additional information for the planning purposes. This revision was made focusing on literacy, household economic activities, and informal sector employment and under employment etc.

**Note :**

It is important to note that, all the data published here are the estimates based on a sample survey and these are subject to sampling errors. These sampling errors can be statistically evaluated from the survey results. Therefore, sampling error is normally measured in terms of the standard error of the particular variable. Standard error could be used to calculate the confidence limits with a prescribed accuracy where the true value of the estimates lies.

Further reliability of the estimates can be expressed in terms of Coefficient of Variation (CV). The CV is a relative measure of the sampling error and is calculated as sampling error divided by the expected value of the given characteristic.

In view of this, following table is given to show the estimates for some selected variables, its standard error, CV and 95% Confidence interval.

It is also important to note that all the estimates we publish in this report are subject to sampling error and one should be cautious in the interpretation of results, especially with respect to the trends over time.

**Estimate of Confidence Intervals for some selected characteristics**

Year	Labour Force					Employed				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2003 *	7653717	83576	1.09	7489909	7817525	7012756	77834	1.11	6860202	7165310
2004 **	8061354	79707	0.99	7905128	8217579	7394029	74648	1.01	7247719	7540340
2005***	8141347	233233	2.86	7684210	8598485	7518007	219889	2.92	7087025	7948988
2006#	7598762	65349	0.86	7470593	7726931	7105322	63609	0.90	6980566	7230078
2007#	7488896	58056	0.78	7375030	7602761	7041874	56401	0.80	6931254	7152495
2008#	7568715	59889	0.79	7451255	7686176	7174706	57976	0.81	7060997	7288416
2008*	8081702	62761	0.78	7958614	8204789	7648305	60235	0.79	7530171	7766438
2009#	8073598	62298	0.77	7951419	8195778	7602344	60103	0.79	7484471	7720218
2009*	7572363	60302	0.80	7454091	7690634	7139511	58209	0.82	7025344	7253678
2010Q1#	8129954	135564	1.67	7863532	8396376	7725753	132996	1.72	7464378	7987128
2010Q1*	7677804	132459	1.73	7417416	7938191	7287198	129686	1.78	7032262	7542134

Year	Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		Rate	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2003 *	640961	20755	3.2	600281	681641	8.4	0.2	2.99	7.9	8.9
2004 **	667324	18385	2.8	631290	703358	8.3	0.2	2.55	7.9	8.7
2005***	623341	39397	6.3	546123	700558	7.7	0.4	5.76	6.8	8.5
2006#	493440	15000	3.0	464020	522859	6.5	0.2	2.96	6.1	6.9
2007#	447021	13838	3.1	419880	474162	6.0	0.2	3.01	5.6	6.3
2008#	394009	13117	3.3	368282	419736	5.2	0.2	3.22	4.9	5.5
2008*	433397	14105	3.3	405734	461060	5.4	0.2	3.12	5.0	5.7
2009#	471254	14863	3.2	442104	500404	5.8	0.2	3.04	5.5	6.2
2009*	432852	14260	3.3	404884	460820	5.7	0.2	3.18	5.4	6.1
2010Q1#	404201	25359	6.3	354364	454038	5.0	0.3	6.17	4.4	5.6
2010Q1*	390606	25112	6.4	341241	439970	5.1	0.3	6.31	4.5	5.7

\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu and Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*- All the districts are included

# - Excluding Northern & Eastern provinces

## Alternative Estimates of Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics

◆ Official employment, unemployment and labour force characteristics are estimated at the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey, based on the internationally comparable concepts and definitions recommended by the ILO. However the validity of the concepts and definitions used at the survey is questioned very often in some forums, for the appropriateness of these concepts and definitions in the Sri Lankan context.

The concepts and definitions, which were found to be controversial are as below.

### (1) Number of Hours of Work :

A person who work **at least one hour** during the reference week, is considered **employed**, under these definitions.

### (2) Working Age Population :

All persons of **age 10 years and over** are considered to be in the working age.

### (3) Employment Status :

All, a) Paid employees, (those who work for wages/salaries).

b) Employers (who have at least one paid employee under them).

c) Own account workers (who carry out the economic activity without having any paid employees).

d) Unpaid family workers (who make their contribution to the economic activities carried out by their own household, without wages/salaries).

The validity of the above concepts and definitions is raised due to the following reasons.

(1) **Number of hours of Work** : Some point out that **one hour per week** is too low, to consider a person to be employed.

(2) **Working age Population** : Some point out that persons in the age group 10-14 yrs. are too young to consider to be in the working age.

(3) **Employment Status** : Some point out that 'unpaid family workers' may work in the family enterprise **without payment** because they have no other work, and so it is not appropriate to consider them as **employed**.

An attempt has been made to produce '**Alternative estimates of Employment, Unemployment and Labour Force Characteristics**,' by revising the original concepts and definitions so that the above issues are addressed as explained below.

The revisions made are,

### (1) Number of Hours of Work :

Persons who work **20 hours or more per week only** are considered to be employed.

### (2) Working Age Population :

Persons who are **over 15 yrs of age only** are considered to be in the working age.

### (3) Unpaid Family Worker :

Unpaid family workers are **not** considered as employed. Those unpaid family workers who were reported to be seeking some other work are considered as **unemployed** and the rest of the unpaid family workers are considered as **economically inactive** (not in the labour force) so only, **a) paid employees b) employers and c) own account workers are considered to be employed**.

Following tables are based on the above alternative concepts and definitions.

TABLE 1 - LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF HOUSEHOLD POPULATION 15 YEARS &amp; OVER (ALTERNATIVE ESTIMATES)

YEAR	HOUSEHOLD POPULATION (15 YEARS & OVER)	LABOUR FORCE						NOT IN LABOUR FORCE NUMBER
		TOTAL LABOUR FORCE	LABOUR FORCE PARTICI: RATE(%)	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		
				NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	NUMBER	RATE (% TO TOTAL LABOUR FORCE)	
*1999	11582873	5632621	48.6	4974104	88.3	658517	11.7	5950382
*2000	11978962	5738351	47.9	5124615	89.3	613736	10.7	6241526
*2001	12258565	5893030	48.1	5292093	89.8	600937	10.2	6365944
*2002	12612657	6162963	48.9	5482779	89.0	680184	11.0	6450265
**2003	13839853	6547396	47.3	5849585	89.3	697811	10.7	7292837
***2004	14670217	7051951	48.1	6327524	89.7	724427	10.3	7618797
****2005	13630354	6565951	48.2	5964493	90.8	601458	9.2	7064403
*2006	13261409	6467138	48.8	5975069	92.4	492069	7.6	6794271
*2007	13459252	6425260	47.7	5979061	93.1	446199	6.9	7033992
*2008	13557956	6393192	47.2	5999538	93.8	393654	6.2	7164764
**2008	14626581	6859040	46.9	6425997	93.7	433042	6.3	7767541
*2009	13853482	6380349	46.1	5947497	93.2	432852	6.8	7473133
**2009	14876264	6836598	46.0	6365344	93.1	471254	6.9	8039665
*2010Q1	14057240	6577175	46.8	6187462	94.1	389713	5.9	7480065
**2010Q1	15102796	6996750	46.3	6593442	94.2	403308	5.8	8106046

TABLE 2 - HISTORICAL TABLE OF NUMBER AND RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT BY AGE (ALTERNATIVE ESTIMATES)

YEAR	AGE GROUP											
	TOTAL		15 - 19		20 - 24		25 - 29		30 - 39		40 & ABOVE	
	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE	NO.	RATE
**1999	658517	11.7	158129	41.3	269327	31.9	113285	15.4	81121	5.7	36655	1.6
**2000	613736	10.7	126288	36.5	266306	30.7	117768	15.7	71019	4.9	32354	1.4
**2001	601026	10.2	130397	40.2	271672	30.5	105295	14.0	63668	4.4	29905	1.2
**2002	680184	11.0	136693	41.1	317071	32.7	113919.98	14.5	75086	4.9	37414	1.5
***2003	697811	10.7	141608.9	40.4	314693	32.2	121632	14.5	80467	4.8	39410	1.5
****2004	724427	10.3	134848	38.0	332229	31.2	122725	13.4	84461	4.8	50165	1.7
*****2005	601458	9.2	122670	39.7	268331	28.4	99649	11.3	70764	4.4	40044	1.4
**2006	492069	7.6	86180	29.7	193481	24.0	105966	12.5	58443	3.8	47999	1.6
**2007	446199	6.9	69856	27.7	183617	24.0	87993	10.7	58252	3.8	46480	1.5
**2008	393654	6.2	62422	27.4	151228	20.4	82204	10.4	53900	3.5	43899	1.4
***2008	433042	6.3	68487	27.1	166409	20.8	93202	10.9	58838	3.6	46107	1.4
**2009	432852	6.8	63376	28.0	160563	24.5	90834	11.7	65666	4.2	52413	1.7
***2009	471254	6.9	68447	27.3	176801	24.9	100508	11.9	70988	4.2	54511	1.6
*2010Q1	389713	5.9	54288	28.3	153397	23.4	88702	11.2	54028	3.4	39298	1.2
**2010Q1	403308	5.8	55410	26.4	160783	22.9	92585	10.9	55231	3.2	39298	1.1

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu, Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included

**Table 3 - Currently Employed persons by Industry group (No. and percentage) (Based on ISIC Third Revision) - (Alternative estimates)**

Year	Industry group														
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>*2002</b>															
No.	<b>5487325</b>	1559133	983601	264384	723210	104151	292951	164062	518764	211281	80915	96911	91085	283032	113845
%	<b>100.0</b>	28.4	17.9	4.8	13.2	1.9	5.3	3.0	9.5	3.9	1.5	1.8	1.7	5.2	2.1
<b>**2003</b>															
No.	<b>5860182</b>	1682994	1038390	343650	744153	104923	344294	176993	510486	233874	91213	94491	74181	293951	126590
%	<b>100.0</b>	28.7	17.7	5.9	12.7	1.8	5.9	3.0	8.7	4.0	1.6	1.6	1.3	5.0	2.2
<b>***2004</b>															
No.	<b>6337164</b>	1792810	1191379	439936	794793	108521	402536	170027	526501	257965	102328	108076	65639	293621	83032
%	<b>100.0</b>	28.3	18.8	6.9	12.5	1.7	6.4	2.7	8.3	4.1	1.6	1.7	1.0	4.6	1.3
<b>****2005</b>															
No.	<b>5971029</b>	1573306	1147255	476851	739850	108424	422920	204139	465608	245956	118065	105175	47645	253367	62468
%	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26.3</b>	19.2	8.0	12.4	1.8	7.1	3.4	7.8	4.1	2.0	1.8	0.8	4.2	1.0
<b>*2006</b>															
No.	<b>5978575</b>	1570682	1221566	492116	822922	111890	416188	214276	397926	254378	105956	110924	78341	160429	20981
%	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26.3</b>	20.4	8.2	13.8	1.9	7.0	3.6	6.7	4.3	1.8	1.9	1.3	2.7	0.4
<b>*2007</b>															
No.	<b>5979061</b>	1543596	1182348	507060	807657	100638	441290	209288	428978	242713	112778	94647	82955	202406	22706
%	<b>100.0</b>	25.8	19.8	8.5	13.5	1.7	7.4	3.5	7.2	4.1	1.9	1.6	1.4	3.4	0.4
<b>*2008</b>															
No.	<b>5999538</b>	1609009	1205793	496771	790533	90257	403186	228957	456435	268121	106630	114215	80651	136037	12944
%	<b>100.0</b>	26.8	20.1	8.3	13.2	1.5	6.7	3.8	7.6	4.5	1.8	1.9	1.3	2.3	0.2
<b>**2008</b>															
No.	<b>6425997.5</b>	1732266	1257331	550875	842615.7	95772.7	423760.3	234407	505254	293699	116026	126616	81347	152592.9	13436
%	<b>100.0</b>	27.0	19.6	8.6	13.1	1.5	6.6	3.6	7.9	4.6	1.8	2.0	1.3	2.4	0.2
<b>*2009</b>															
No.	<b>5947497</b>	1564800	1154758	484131	775679	114969	401454	209011	478742	281272	124932	91098	92713	170430	3507
%	<b>100.0</b>	26.3	19.4	8.1	13.0	1.9	6.7	3.5	8.0	4.7	2.1	1.5	1.6	2.9	0.1
<b>**2009</b>															
No.	<b>6365344</b>	1699505	1196383	522005	830954	122469	426494	214438	515695	316534	132843	107364	92949	184026	3685
%	<b>100.0</b>	26.7	18.8	8.2	13.1	1.9	6.7	3.4	8.1	5.0	2.1	1.7	1.5	2.9	0.1
<b>*2010Q1</b>															
No.	<b>6187462</b>	1705514	1213290	486081	818899	114327	442023	223970	470016	260264	103438	107939	72437	169265	..
%	<b>100.0</b>	27.6	19.6	7.9	13.2	1.8	7.1	3.6	7.6	4.2	1.7	1.7	1.2	2.7	..
<b>**2010Q1</b>															
No.	<b>6593442</b>	1831234	1241753	526987	878184	118045	461965	229756	534568	286123	115563	111909	72437	183605	1313
%	<b>100.0</b>	27.8	18.8	8.0	13.3	1.8	7.0	3.5	8.1	4.3	1.8	1.7	1.1	2.8	0.0

**Industry group**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Agriculture Forestry and Fishery (A,B)   | 8 Public Administration and Defence,Compulsory Social Security (L)   |
| 2 Manufacturing (D)  | 9 Education (M)  |
| 3 Construction, Mining & Quarrying ,<br>Electricity,Gas and Water supply (C,E,F)                           | 10 Health and Social work (N)  |
| 4 Wholesale and Retail Trade,Repair of Motor Vehicles,<br>Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods (G) | 11 Other Community,Social and Personal Service Activities<br>Extra Teritorial Organizations & bodies (O,Q) |
| 5 Hotels and Restaurants (H)   | 12 Private Households with Employed Persons ( P)   |
| 6 Transport, Storage and Communication (I)   | 13 Miscellaneous Labour work   |
| 7 Financial Intermediation and Real Estate,<br>Renting and Business Activities (J,K)                       | 14 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.

\* - Excluding Northern and Eastern provinces

\*\* - Including Eastern province but Excluding Northern province

\*\*\* - Excluding Mulathivu,Kilinochchi districts.

\*\*\*\* - All the districts are included