

## CHAPTER 2 - Survey Methodology

### 2.1 Sampling plan and the sampling frame

A two stage stratified sampling procedure was adopted to select a sample of 22,000 housing units to be enumerated in the survey. The master sampling frame prepared for 2001 - Census of Population and Housing was used as the sampling frame for the selection of sample for the labour force survey 2006.

### 2.2 Sample size

The quarterly survey was conducted since 1990 using a sample of 2,000 housing units per quarter in areas other than North and East, and the sample size was increased to 4,000 housing units per quarter 1996 and continued thereafter. However, in 1992 and 1997, an annual sample of 20,000 housing units was selected to give reliable estimates of district level. In 2004 again 20,000 housing units were selected for the survey. However, in order to provide district level estimates precisely, it was decided to use 20,000 - 25,000 housing units as the annual sample. As such, in 2006, the annual sample of 22,000 housing units was selected.

### 2.3 Sample Allocation

Allocation of 2,000 Primary Sampling Units (PSU's) for the districts and sectors were done using the Neymann Allocation procedure. In other words, the allocation of PSU's to strata was disproportionate, designed to produce estimates of acceptable reliability for each area for which separate estimates were needed. Then The district sample was equally distributed among the 12 monthly rounds. Table 1 gives the sample distributions by district for year 2006.

Table 1: Sample allocation by district - 2006

District	Housing Units	District	Housing Units
<b>Total</b>	22,000	Mulatiwe	360
Colombo	2,030	Killinochchi	360
Gampaha	1,920	Batticaloa	480
Kalutara	1,210	Ampara	840
Kandy	1,400	Trncomalee	360
Matale	610	Kurunegala	1,680
Nuwara-eliya	580	Puttlam	840
Galle	1,200	Anuradhapura	960
Matara	960	Polonnaruwa	480
Hambantota	840	Badulla	860
Jaffna	720	Moneragala	480
Mannar	360	Ratnapura	1,160
Vavuiya	360	Kegalle	950

### 2.4 Selection of Primary Sampling Units (PSU)

Primary sampling units are the **census blocks** prepared for the Census of Population and Housing - 2001. The sample frame, which is a collection of all census blocks in the domain, was used for the selection of primary sampling units. A sample of 2,200 primary sampling units was selected from the sampling frame for the 2006 labour force survey.

### 2.5 Selection of Secondary Sampling Units (SSU)

Secondary Sampling Units are the **housing units** in the selected 2,200 primary sampling units (census blocks). From each primary sampling unit 10 housing units (SSU) were selected for the survey.