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Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey Annual Report - 2024

Department of Census and Statistics
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development



Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey

Annual Report - 2024

(With Provincial and District level data)

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Preface

Labour Force Survey (LFS) is one of the most important regular surveys conducted by the Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka to obtain structure and characteristics of the labour force, employment and unemployment. The total sample size for the annual survey results for 2024 report were based on 25,750 housing units which were selected using a known probability sampling technique. The field data collection was done by deploying well-trained permanent field staff of the department using tablet computers with Computer Assisted Personnel Interviewing Technique (CAPI). Since the field work is not an easy task, their contribution should be especially appreciated. However, transformation of data collection method from paper based method (PAPI) to CAPI gave lot of improvements for the survey since 2017.

Before 1990, the LFS was conducted once in every five years. However, due to the high demand for the quarterly results, especially to compile quarterly GDP estimates the survey results were produced quarterly and final annual reports for each year were produced compiling annual survey data since 1990. This is the 18th report in the Annual Report series.

It is important to mention here that new modules namely computer literacy, household economic activities and informal sector employment were added to LFS since 2006 as per the demand of such information from various data users. I hope the information in this report is very valuable and useful to make evidence based decision making for various users to provide best solutions for the labour market issues in the country.

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Acknowledgements

This “Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey, 2024” with provincial and district level data is based on the total annual sample of 25,750 housing units, covering all districts of the country.

Overall coordination of the survey was done by Ms. K.M.D.S.D.Karunaratne who was worked as Additional Director General I (statistics) in 2024. Planning and execution of the survey was done by staff of the Sample Survey Division under the guidance of Mr. S.H.Mansoor, Director (Statistics) and under the direction of Mr. W.Gnanathilaka and Dr(Ms). M.D.D.D.Deepawansa, Deputy Directors.

The survey activities were organized and supervised by Ms. H.M.D.Sepalika, Mr. T.D.M.S.D.Perera, Ms. U.S.Dilrukshi, Mr. L.S.N.Perera, Ms. M.W.L.C.M.Chandrarathne, Ms. M.M.G.D.Manamperi, Ms. R.P.M.Subhashini, Mr. H.M.S.C.Bandara, Ms. C.R.Liyanage and Ms. A.H.L.T.Sandaruwini, Statisticians of the Sample Surveys Division.

The computer data processing and final tabulations were done by Mr. A.M.A.E.Atapattu Statistical Officer of the Sample Surveys Division, under the supervision of Mr. T.D.M.S.D.Perera, Statistician. The Statistical Officers, Statistical Assistants, Development Officers, Information and Communication Technology Assistants, Data Entry Officers/Coding Clerks and of the Sample Survey Division are acknowledged for their valuable contribution during the whole survey process.

The Information & Communication Technology Division, Mr. K.L.C.S.Weerasooriya, Additional Director General (ICT) and Mr. E.M.D.Ekanayake, Director (ICT) were responsible for implementing CAPI methodology and preparation of data collection and computer edits programmes. Maintaining of sample selection programme and its related computer software was done by Mr. P.D.D.Peiris, Director (ICT).

This publication was organized and prepared by Ms. M.W.L.C.M.Chandrarathne Statistician assisted by Mr. A.M.A.E.Atapattu Statistical Officer under the guidance of Dr(Ms). M.D.D.D.Deepawansa Deputy Director (Statistics), Sample Surveys Division.

District staff of the Department who worked on the survey deserves a special word of thanks, The Deputy Directors/ Senior Statisticians/ Statisticians supervised the survey and field Statistical Officers, worked hard at the data collection stage, to make this survey a success. Printing of the report was done by the staff of Printing Division, under the supervision of Mr. M.L.K.P.Kumara, Statistician and under the direction of Ms. K.M.D.S.D.Karunaratne, Director General.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to all the respondents of the survey for their valuable cooperation.

SUMMARY STATISTICS

Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey - 2024 Summary Statistics on Labour Force Characteristics

15 years & over population

Indicator	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (15 years & over)	17,547,864	8,195,169	9,352,695	3,016,333	14,531,530
Labour force in this age group	8,315,702	5,525,402	2,790,299	1,337,711	6,977,991
Labour force participation rate	47.4	67.4	29.8	44.3	48.0
Employed population	7,949,751	5,358,554	2,591,197	1,287,721	6,662,030
Employment rate	95.6	97.0	92.9	96.3	95.5
Unemployed population	365,951	166,849	199,102	49,990	315,961
Unemployment rate	4.4	3.0	7.1	3.7	4.5
Not in labour force	9,232,162	2,669,766	6,562,395	1,678,622	7,553,540

18 years & over population

Indicator	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (18 years & over)	16,445,173	7,640,039	8,805,135	2,834,058	13,611,115
Labour force in this age group	8,287,162	5,503,835	2,783,326	1,332,953	6,954,208
Labour force participation rate	50.4	72.0	31.6	47.0	51.1
Employed population	7,929,803	5,343,037	2,586,766	1,283,601	6,646,202
Employment rate	95.7	97.1	92.9	96.3	95.6
Unemployed population	357,359	160,799	196,560	49,352	308,007
Unemployment rate	4.3	2.9	7.1	3.7	4.4
Not in labour force	8,158,012	2,136,203	6,021,809	1,501,105	6,656,907

20 years & over population

Indicator	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Population (20 years & over)	15,741,211	7,293,127	8,448,084	2,716,226	13,024,985
Labour force in this age group	8,175,536	5,425,343	2,750,193	1,314,990	6,860,546
Labour force participation rate	51.9	74.4	32.6	48.4	52.7
Employed population	7,848,394	5,283,434	2,564,961	1,269,919	6,578,476
Employment rate	96.0	97.4	93.3	96.6	95.9
Unemployed population	327,142	141,910	185,232	45,071	282,071
Unemployment rate	4.0	2.6	6.7	3.4	4.1
Not in labour force	7,565,675	1,867,784	5,697,891	1,401,236	6,164,439

Selected Labour Force Indicators ...

Indicator	Year							
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Labour force participation rate								
By Gender								
Total	54.1	51.8	52.3	50.6	49.9	49.8	48.6	47.4
Male	74.5	73.0	73.0	71.9	71.0	70.5	68.6	67.4
Female	36.6	33.6	34.5	32.0	31.8	32.1	31.3	29.8
By residential sector								
Total	54.1	51.8	52.3	50.6	49.9	49.8	48.6	47.4
Urban	50.5	49.6	50.2	47.0	46.9	47.2	46.0	44.3
Rural	54.8	52.3	52.7	51.3	50.5	50.3	49.1	48.0
Unemployment Rate								
By Gender								
Total	4.2	4.4	4.8	5.5	5.1	4.7	4.7	4.4
Male	2.9	3.0	3.3	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.0
Female	6.5	7.1	7.4	8.5	7.9	6.5	7.0	7.1
By selected age Group (Year)								
20 – 29	13.5	15.0	15.3	18.1	18.3	16.2	17.0	16.1
20 – 24	17.8	20.1	20.3	25.2	26.8	21.8	21.6	20.7
25 – 29	9.5	10.4	11.0	12.0	11.4	11.7	13.0	12.5
By selected educational level								
A/L & above								
Total	8.1	9.1	8.5	9.8	9.1	7.8	8.0	7.8
Male	5.0	5.1	5.0	6.2	6.2	5.5	5.8	5.4
Female	11.3	13.2	11.9	13.6	12.2	10.1	10.2	10.3
Employed population								
By Gender								
Total	8,208,179	8,015,166	8,180,693	7,999,093	8,113,507	8,147,731	8,009,916	7,949,751
Male	5,279,158	5,300,310	5,368,896	5,372,947	5,414,280	5,373,965	5,307,563	5,358,554
Female	2,929,021	2,714,855	2,811,796	2,626,146	2,699,228	2,773,766	2,702,354	2,591,197
By industry (Percentage)								
Total	8,208,179	8,015,166	8,180,693	7,999,093	8,113,507	8,147,731	8,009,916	7,949,751
%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	2,140,185	2,043,698	2,071,940	2,169,679	2,213,015	2,158,559	2,088,344	2,066,651
%	26.1	25.5	25.3	27.1	27.3	26.5	26.1	26.0
Industry	2,331,494	2,239,262	2,258,421	2,152,746	2,109,482	2,158,199	2,043,154	2,031,417
%	28.4	27.9	27.6	26.9	26.0	26.5	25.5	25.6
Services	3,736,500	3,732,206	3,850,332	3,676,668	3,791,011	3,830,973	3,878,418	3,851,683
%	45.5	46.6	47.1	46.0	46.7	47.0	48.4	48.5
By no. of hours worked per week (percentage)								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0*	4.7	5.6	6.4	14.6	9.6	5.8	4.2	2.5
1 – 9	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.4	1.8
10 – 39	26.1	25.7	26.8	27.1	29.6	31.9	31.2	28.3
40 & above	67.5	66.9	65.1	56.2	58.7	60.3	62.1	67.4

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

Content

	Page
Preface	I
Acknowledgement	II
Summary Statistics.....	III
Introduction	1
1.1 General Background	1
1.2 Coverage of the survey	1
1.3 Field Work.....	2
1.4 Survey Schedule and CAPI Programme.....	2
1.5 New Concepts and Classifications.....	2
1.6 Field Supervision	2
Survey Methodology & Estimation Procedure	3
2.1 Sampling plan and the sampling frame	3
2.2 Sample size	3
2.3 Sample Allocation	3
2.4 Selection of Primary Sampling Units (PSU).....	3
2.5 Selection of Secondary Sampling Units (SSU).....	3
2.6 Estimation procedure	5
Economically Active/ Inactive Population	7
3.1 Economically active population.....	8
3.2 Distribution of economically active population.....	8
3.3 Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR).....	9
3.4 Economically inactive population	11
3.5 Characteristics of the “economically inactive” population	12
3.6 Economically inactive rate	13
3.7 Potential labour force	13
3.8 Discouraged job seekers.....	14
Employment	15
4.1 Employment by major industry group	16
4.2 Employment by status of employment.....	18
4.3 Employment by level of education	19
4.4 Employment by occupation.....	19
4.5 Average gross wage/salary & income.....	20
4.6 Employment to Population Ratio.....	22

Unemployment	23
5.1 Unemployment rate by sector and gender.....	24
5.2 Annual unemployment rates.....	25
5.3 Unemployment rate by province	26
5.4 Youth unemployment in Sri Lanka	27
5.5 Ratio of the youth unemployment rate to the adult unemployment rate.....	28
5.6 Youth unemployment as a proportion of total unemployment.....	28
5.7 Youth unemployment as a proportion of total youth population.....	29
5.8 The youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) group	29
Underemployment	32
6.1 Criteria for classification of underemployment	33
6.2 Distribution of underemployment rate	33
6.3 Underemployment / unemployment by province and district	34
Informal Sector Employment	36
7.1 The informal economy.....	37
7.2 Distribution of informal / formal sector employment.....	37
7.3 Distribution of Informal Sector Employment.....	39
Total Jobs in Sri Lanka with Secondary Employment	40
8.1 Secondary Employment in Sri Lanka.....	41
8.2 Total Jobs in Sri Lanka.....	43
Informal Employment in Sri Lanka	45
9.1 Concept of Informal Employment & Conceptual Framework	46
9.2 Distribution of Informal / Formal Employment	47
Literacy	50
10.1 Distribution of Literacy Rate	51
Computer Literacy	53
11.1 Household Computer Ownership.....	54
11.2 Computer Literacy and Digital literacy	54
11.3 Source of Computer Training	56
11.4 Internet and E-mail use.....	57
Statistical Appendix	58
Special Statistical Appendix	84

Unemployment.....	23
Table 5.1: Unemployed number and unemployment rate by gender and sector - 2024.....	24
Table 5.2: Unemployment rates, 2017 - 2024.....	24
Table 5.3: Unemployment rate by district - 2024.....	24
Table 5.4: Unemployment rate by age group and gender - 2024.....	25
Table 5.5: Unemployment rate by level of education - 2024.....	25
Table 5.5a: Unemployment of the Graduates – 2024 (Age 20 & above).....	25
Table 5.6: Unemployment rate and percentage distribution of employment status for each province - 2024.....	27
Table 5.7: Youth unemployment rate by Province, 2020 - 2024.....	27
Table 5.8: Youth unemployment rate by level of education, 2020 - 2024	28
Table 5.9: Ratio of the youth unemployment rate to the adult unemployment rate by gender, 2020 – 2024.....	28
Table 5.10: Youth unemployment as a proportion of total unemployment by gender and level of education - 2024	29
Table 5.11: Youth unemployment as a proportion of total youth population by gender and level of education - 2024	29
Table 5.12: Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by gender, 2020 - 2024	30
Table 5.13: NEET rate (NEET group as a percentage to total youth) by gender 2020 - 2024.....	30
Table 5.14: NEET rate (NEET group as a percentage to total youth) by level of education and gender – 2024.....	30
Underemployment	32
Table 6.1: Underemployment rate by major industry group - 2024	33
Table 6.2: Underemployment rate by gender 2019 - 2024	33
Table 6.3: Underemployment rate by level of education and gender - 2024	34
Table 6.4: Underemployment rate/ Unemployment rate / Percentage of informal sector employment by district - 2024.....	34
Informal Sector Employment.....	36
Table 7.1: Composition of Informal / Formal sector employment by economic sector – 2024	37
Table7.2: Distribution of informal / formal sector employment by gender - 2024.....	37
Table7.3: Distribution of informal / formal sector employment by level of education – 2024	38
Table7.4: Distribution of Informal / Formal sector employment by employment status - 2024.....	38
Table7.5: Distribution of informal / formal sector employment by main occupation - 2024.....	38
Table7.6: Distribution of Informal sector employment in Non - Agriculture sector by district - 2024 ...	39
Total Jobs in Sri Lanka with Secondary Employment	40
Table 8.1: Distribution of employed population & total jobs by main and secondary job (2020 – 2024)	41
Table 8.2: Distribution of employed population by main and secondary job and by sector – 2024	41
Table 8.3: Percentage distribution of secondary employment by employment status & gender – 2024	42
Table 8.4: Distribution of secondary employment by occupation group – 2024	42

Table 8.5: Contribution of secondary employment to the Informal / Formal sector by major industry groups – 2024	42
Table 8.6: Distribution of total jobs by sector – 2024	43
Table 8.7: Distribution of total jobs by level of education – 2024	43
Table 8.8: Distribution of total jobs by age groups – 2024.....	44
Table 8.9: Distribution of total jobs by major industry groups – 2024.....	44
Informal Employment in Sri Lanka.....	45
Table 9.1: Conceptual framework informal employment – 2024	46
Table 9.2: Composition of informal / formal employment by economic sector – 2024.....	47
Table 9.3: Distribution of informal / formal employment by gender - 2024	47
Table 9.4: Distribution of informal / formal employment by level of education - 2024.....	47
Table 9.5: Distribution of informal / formal employment by employment status - 2024.....	47
Table 9.6: Distribution of informal / formal employment by occupation - 2024.....	48
Table 9.7: Composition of employment in non-agriculture sector – 2024.....	48
Table 9.8: Composition of employment in non-agriculture sector by sex – 2024	48
Table 9.9: Percentage of informal employment in non-agriculture sector by district - 2024.....	48
Table 9.10: Distribution of informal employees by job important characteristics - 2024	49
Literacy	50
Table10.1: Literacy rate by sector & gender 2020 - 2024.....	51
Table10.2: Literacy rates by district & gender - 2024.....	51
Table10.3: Literacy rates by age group & gender - 2024	52
Computer Literacy	53
Table11.1: Percentage of computer owned households by sector, province and survey year, 2022 - 2024	54
Table11.2: Computer literacy rate by sector, province and survey year, 2022 - 2024.....	55
Table 11.3: Computer literacy rate by gender, age, level of education and language literacy, 2022 - 2024	55
Table11.4: Computer literacy among computer aware employed population (aged 15 – 69 years) by occupation, 2022 - 2024.....	56
Table 11.5: Computer literacy among unemployed population (aged 15 – 69 years) by age groups, 2022 - 2024.....	56
Table11.6: Computer literacy rate and Digital literacy rate by gender, sector and age groups – 2024	56
Table 11.7: Percentage distribution of computer literate household population (aged 5 – 69 years) by sources of receiving computer knowledge* and sector – 2024	57
Table 11.8: Percentage distribution of Internet and E-mail using household population (aged 5 – 69 years) by Sex, Sector and Age group, 2022 - 2024.....	57
Table 11.9: Percentage distribution of device used to connect to internet/ email to all devices used by Sex, Sector and Age group – 2024.....	57
Statistical Appendix	58
Special Statistical Appendix.....	84

List of Figures

Introduction	1
Survey Methodology & Estimation Procedure	3
Economically Active/ Inactive Population.....	7
Figure 3.1: Economically active population by gender and sector - 2024	8
Figure 3.2: Percentage distribution of working age population by economic status and gender - 2024	8
Figure 3.3: Labour Force participation rate by gender and level of education – 2024	10
Figure 3.4: Labour Force participation rate by gender and age group - 2024.....	10
Figure 3.5: Annual labour force participation rates 2018 – 2024.....	11
Figure 3.6: Economically inactive population by gender – 2024.....	11
Figure 3.7: Economically active and inactive population by age group - 2024.....	12
Figure 3.8: Reasons of being economically inactive - 2024	13
Figure 3.9: Discouraged Job seekers by gender - 2024	14
Employment.....	15
Figure 4.2: Employed population by major industry group – 2024	16
Figure 4.1: Employed population by major industry group, 2018 – 2024.....	16
Figure 4.3: Share of agriculture, industry & service sectors to the total employment by province – 2024	17
Figure 4.4: Employment status by gender - 2024.....	18
Figure 4.5: Employed population by employment status - 2024.....	18
Figure 4.6: Employed population by major industry group and employment status - 2024.....	19
Figure 4.7: Employed population by level of education, 2018 – 2024.....	19
Figure 4.8: Average gross wage / salary by major industry group - 2024	21
Figure 4.9: Mean & median monthly salary of paid employees - district level – 2024	21
Unemployment.....	23
Figure 5.1: Unemployment rate by gender & sector - 2024	24
Figure 5.2: Unemployment rate by age group and gender - 2024	25
Figure 5.3: Unemployment rate by gender, 2017 – 2024.....	25
Figure 5.4: Unemployment rates, 2017 - 2024	26
Figure 5.5: Unemployment rate by province - 2024	26
Figure 5.6: Share of contributing family workers to the employment for each province - 2024	26
Figure 5.7: Youth unemployment rate, 2020 - 2024	27
Figure 5.8: Youth unemployment rate by gender, 2020 - 2024	28
Figure 5.9: Youth unemployment as a proportion of total unemployment by province - 2024.....	28
Figure 5.10: Distribution of youth population by different economic conditions - 2024	30
Underemployment	32
Figure 6.1: Underemployment rate by major industry group - 2024.....	33
Figure 6.2: Underemployment, Unemployment rates by province - 2024	34

Informal Sector Employment.....	36
Figure 7.1: Distribution of informal / formal sector employment by economic sector - 2024.....	37
Figure 7.2: Distribution of informal sector employment by selected industry groups - 2024	39
Total Jobs in Sri Lanka with Secondary Employment	40
Figure 8.1: Distribution of employed population by considering secondary job by major industry groups – 2024	41
Figure 8.2: Distribution of employed population by considering main job by major industry groups – 2024	41
Figure 8.3: Percentage distribution of secondary employment by employment status by gender – 2024	42
Figure 8.4: Distribution of secondary employment by level of education – 2024	42
Figure 8.5: Contribution of secondary employment to the informal / formal sector by major industry groups – 2024	43
Figure 8.6: Percentage distribution of jobs in Sri Lanka by gender – 2024	43
Figure 8.7: Distribution of jobs by major industry groups – 2024.....	44
Informal Employment in Sri Lanka.....	45
Figure 9.1: Conceptual framework (17th ICLS Guidelines).....	46
Figure 9.2: Distribution of total employment, informal employment, informal sector – 2024.....	47
Figure 9.3: Distribution of informal / formal employment by economic sector - 2024.....	47
Figure 9.4: Distribution of informal employment in non-agriculture sector by district - 2024.....	49
Literacy	50
Figure 10.1: Literacy rates by district - 2024.....	51
Figure 10.2: Literacy rates by age group & gender - 2024	52
Computer Literacy	53
Figure 11.1: Percentage of desktop or laptop computer owned households by province, 2022 - 2024	54
Figure 11.2: Distribution of computer literacy rate by educational attainment and language literacy, 2022 - 2024.....	55
Figure 11.3: Percentage distribution of internet and e-mail using household population (aged 5 – 69 years) by age group – 2024	57
Statistical Appendix	58
Special Statistical Appendix.....	84

List of Maps

Map (1): Sample allocation by district – 2024	4
Map (2): Labour force participation rate by district – 2024	11
Map (6): Percentage distribution of employed population in service sector by districts – 2024.....	31
Map (5): Percentage distribution of employed population in industry sector by districts – 2024	31
Map (4): Percentage distribution of employed population in agriculture sector by districts – 2024.....	31
Map (3): Unemployment rate by district – 2024.....	31
Map (7): Underemployment rate by district - 2024	35
Map (8): Participation rate of informal sector in non-agriculture sector by districts – 2024	39
Map (9): Literacy rate by district – 2024	52

Appendix

	Page
Statistical Appendix	58 - 82
Special Statistical Appendix	83 - 91
Explanatory Notes	78
Standard Error and Coefficient of Variation table	88
Alternative Estimates	89

List of Tables in Statistical Appendix

Table 1 - Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Both sexes	59
Table 1A - Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Male	59
Table 1B - Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Female.....	59
Table 2 - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age - Both sexes	60
Table 2A - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age - Male.....	60
Table 2B - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age - Female.....	60
Table 3 - Historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (percentage) - Both sexes.....	61
Table 3A - Historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (percentage) - Male.....	61
Table 3B - historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (percentage) - Female.....	61
Table 4 - Historical table of currently employed persons by level of education (percentage) - Both sexes	62
Table 4A - Historical table of currently employed persons by level of education (percentage) - Male ..	62
Table 4B - Historical table of currently employed persons by level of education (percentage) - Female	62
Table 5 - Historical table of currently employed persons by employment status (percentage) - Both sexes	63
Table 5A - Historical table of currently employed persons by employment status (percentage) - Male	63
Table 5B - Historical table of currently employed persons by employment status (percentage) - Female	63
Table 6 - currently employed person by industry group (based on ISIC fourth revision) - Both sexes ..	64
Table 6A- currently employed person by industry group (based on ISIC fourth revision) - Male	65
Table 6B - Currently employed person by industry group (based on ISIC fourth revision) - Female	65
Table 6C - Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group - Both sexes ...	66
Table 6D - Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group (percentage) - Both sexes	66
Table 7 - Currently employed person by occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Both sexes	67
Table 7A - Currently employed person by occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Male	68
Table 7B - Currently employed person by occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Female.....	68
Table 8 - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job and major industrial group (percentage) - Both sexes	69
Table 9 - Historical table of currently unemployed persons by age groups (Percentage) - Both sexes.	70
Table 9A - Historical table of currently unemployed persons by age groups (Percentage) - Male	70
Table 9B - Historical table of currently unemployed persons by age groups (Percentage) - Female	70

Table 10 - Historical table of currently unemployed persons by level of education (Percentage) - Both sexes	71
Table 10A - Historical table of currently unemployed persons by level of education (Percentage) - Male	71
Table 10 B - Historical table of currently unemployed persons by level of education (Percentage) - Female	71
Table 11 - Currently unemployed persons by sex and duration of unemployment.....	72
Table 12 - Labour force status (Current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over by district - Both sexes.....	72
Table 12A - Labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over by district - Male	73
Table 12B - labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over by district – Female.....	74
Table 13 - Employment by major industry group by districts - Both sexes.....	75
Table 13A - Employment by major industry group by districts – Male	76
Table 13B - Employment by major industry group by districts - Female	76
Table 14 - Currently employed person by occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) by province - Both sexes	77
Table 15 - Currently employed person by industry group (Based on ISIC fourth revision) by province - Both sexes.....	78
Table 16 - Currently employed person by employment status by province - Both sexes	79
Table 16A - Currently employed person by employment status by province – Male.....	79
Table 16B - Currently employed person by employment status by province -Female.....	79
Table 17 - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job by district - Both sexes.....	80
Table 17A - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job by district – Male	81
Table 17B - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job by district - Female	81
Table 18 - Unemployment rate by level of education by province - Both sexes	82
Table 19 - Unemployment rate by age group by province - Both sexes	82
Table 20 - Employment in formal/ informal employment by status in employment - Both sexes	83

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

1.1 General Background

In the past, information on labour force characteristics, employment, and unemployment etc. were collected through the labour force and socio-economic surveys conducted at five year time intervals. But the government required the employment and unemployment data at very short intervals to monitor the progress of the employment generating policies of the country. Therefore, to cater the demand, the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) designed a Labour Force Survey (LFS) 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 commenced from the first quarter 1990 with USAID technical assistance and is being continued by the DCS.

Since 1990, DCS was able to continue this survey quarterly, except in second quarter in 2001 due to heavy work load of the Census of Population and Housing in 2001. Again, in 2005 due to Tsunami, LFS was not implemented on quarterly basis as scheduled. Because the staff of DCS were involved the activities of "Census of Tsunami", which was conducted in February 2005 to provide the information on impact of Tsunami. Also the sample frame, used for Household survey program had to be updated with the results of the "Listing operation" conducted in Tsunami affected districts. Hence in 2005 August LFS was conducted as a special survey at one point of time. Yet again in 4th quarter 2011 & 1st quarter 2012 the survey could not be conducted, due to the activities of Census of Population and Housing in 2011. However, except these conditions the DCS was able to continue the survey successfully since 1990. The information collected from LFS use to derive labour market indicators to monitor the current performance of the economy and also they are used to evaluate government policies and programs, and hence, LFS plays an important role focusing several perspectives.

A reweighting was applied to data series from 2011 – 2015 and was published in 2016 Annual report and by a special Bulletin. In 2017 Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) was introduced for the survey. At the end of year 2017 CAPI method was fully implemented throughout the country and the Department Officers allocated to each DS Division used tablet computers to collect data of Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey.

1.2 Coverage of the survey

LFS was conducted throughout the island during the first quarter of 1990. Thereafter, till year 2003 Northern and Eastern provinces were not covered from the survey due to the prevailed situation in those areas. In 2003, DCS was able to conduct the survey in Eastern province and in 2004 and 2005; the survey covered all 25 districts. Though it was planned to conduct LFS covering whole Island, it was not able to cover districts of Northern & Eastern provinces completely in 2006, 2007 years. Since completed schedules received from those districts were not sufficient enough to give reliable estimates. Therefore, Northern and Eastern provinces were not included in annual estimates of 2006 & 2007. From year 2008 onward the survey covered whole country except Northern Province until 2011. From 2011 the survey covers all provinces of the country. However, due to the heavy work load of the Census of Population and Housing – 2012, the survey could not be conducted in 4th quarter 2011 and 1st quarter 2012. From 2013 onward, the survey covered whole country and conducted in all four quarters of every year.

This 2024 report is based on an annual sample of 25,750 housing units, also provides national, provincial and district level estimates with a stipulated standard errors of labour force statistics as reported in the relevant reference period of each month of the year 2024. This survey covers persons living in housing units only and, it excludes the institutional population.

1.3 Field Work

The field work of the survey for the year 2024 was conducted from January to December. The census blocks prepared at 2012 population census were used as primary sampling units. Listing operation for primary sampling unit update was conducted, at this survey.

In 2017, CAPI was introduced in 1st quarter and the field staff was trained. Eventually, at the end of year 2017 CAPI method was established in all districts for data collection and manual editing also had done where necessary.

The field staff of the DCS involved in survey data collection activities specially trained for CAPI method. A Deputy Director/Senior Statistician/Statistician attached to each District Secretariat are responsible for coordination and supervision activities at district level.

1.4 Survey Schedule and CAPI Programme

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning. However, some changes have been made over the years in 2006, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017 & 2018 to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data.

The revisions focused on literacy, computer literacy, household economic activities, informal sector, employment and underemployment. However, the comparability of data has maintained.

1.5 New Concepts and Classifications

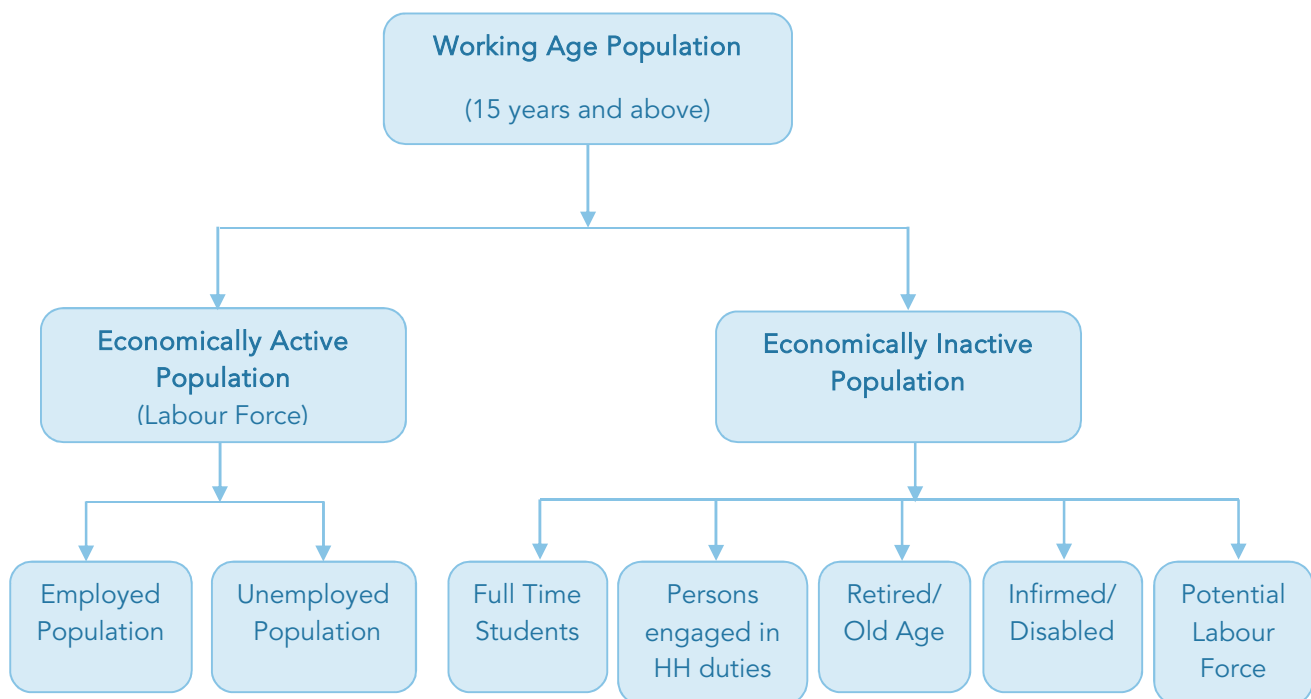
From 2013, onward the working age population is considered as aged 15 and above persons. Before 2013 this was considered as age 10 years above.

From 2013 onward, the survey uses Sri Lanka Standard Classification of Occupation - 2008 (SLSCO - 08) to classify occupations. This Classification is derived from the International Standard Classification of Occupation - 2008 (ISCO - 08). Also, the survey uses Sri Lanka Standard Industry Classification Rev. 4 (SLSIC Rev.4) derived from the International Standard Industry Classification Rev.4 (ISIC Rev.4) for Industry classification.

1.6 Field Supervision

Regular field supervisions were carried out throughout the year to check the concepts and definitions are being used by the enumerators accurately.

Diagram 1: Components of Economically Active and Economically Inactive Population



¹ See the Attached Questionnaire

CHAPTER TWO

Survey Methodology & Estimation Procedure

2.1 Sampling plan and the sampling frame

Two stage stratified sampling procedure is adopted to select a sample of 25,750 housing units to be enumerated at the survey. The sampling frame prepared for 2012 Census of Population and Housing is used as the sampling frame for the sample selection of LFS in 2024.

2.2 Sample size

At the beginning in 1990, the sample size was 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 in 1996 and continued thereafter. In 1992, 1997 and in 2004 an annual sample of 20,000 housing units was selected to give reliable estimates by district level. However, in order to provide district level estimates precisely, it was decided to use 20,000 – 25,000 housing units as the annual sample from 2006 to 2010. In 2024 25,750 Housing units were selected for the sample.

2.3 Sample Allocation

In 2024, 2575 Primary Sampling Units (PSU's) were allocated to each district and to each sector (Urban, Rural and Estate) by using the Neymann allocation method which considers the variance of unemployment rate as usually. The allocated sample for each district then equally distributed for 12 months. Table 2.1 gives the sample distributions by district for year 2024.

The survey was conducted from January till December in 2024.

Table 2.1: Sample allocation by district - 2024

District	No. of Housing Units	District	No. of Housing Units
Total	25,750	Mullaitivu	420
Colombo	2,520	Kilinochchi	480
Gampaha	2,600	Batticaloa	720
Kalutara	1,320	Ampara	840
Kandy	1,800	Trincomalee	540
Matale	680	Kurunegala	1,840
Nuwara Eliya	800	Puttalam	880
Galle	1,360	Anuradhapura	960
Matara	1,080	Polonnaruwa	600
Hambantota	940	Badulla	960
Jaffna	720	Monaragala	600
Mannar	410	Rathnapura	1,200
Vavuniya	480	Kegalle	1,000

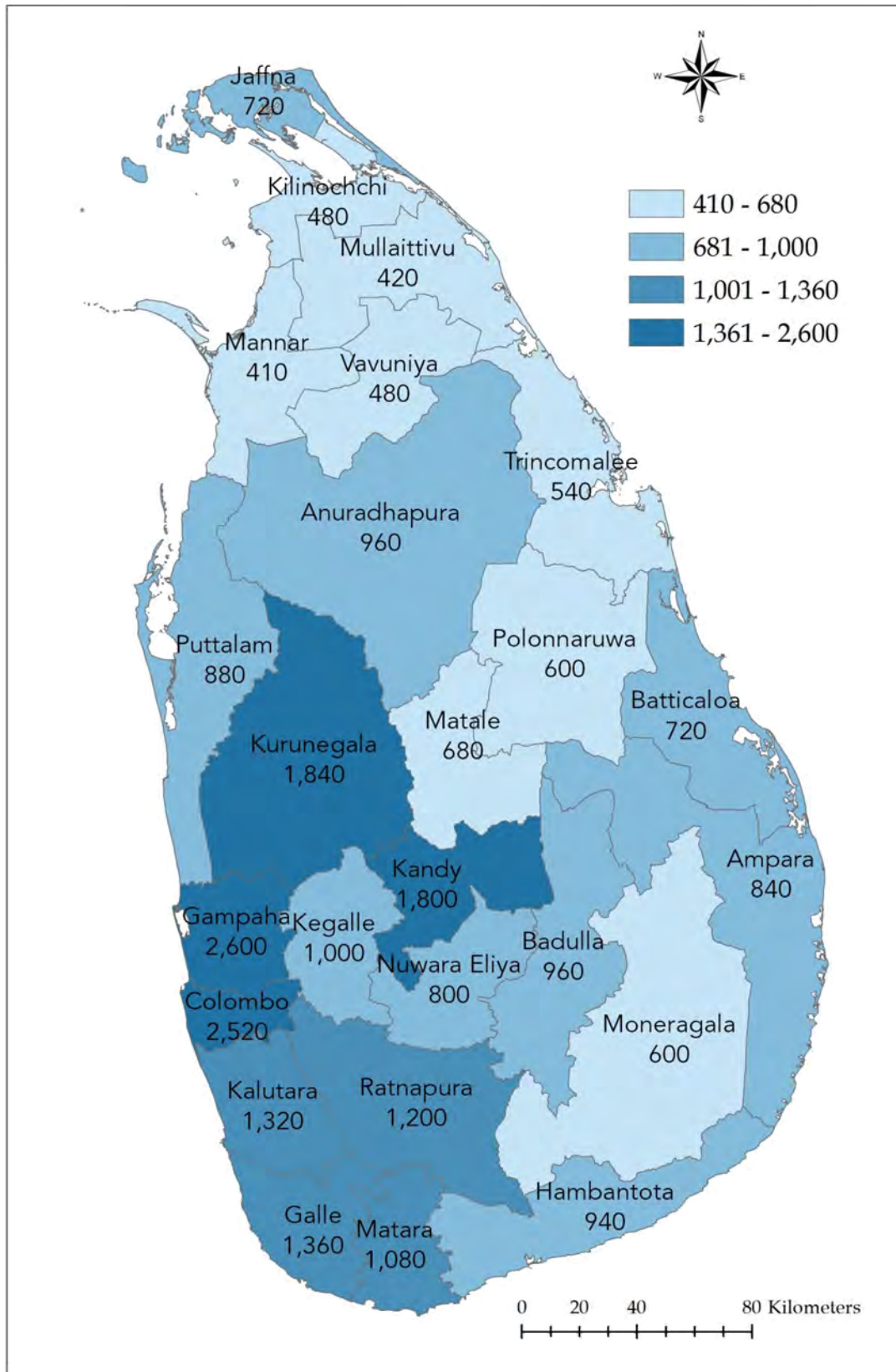
2.4 Selection of Primary Sampling Units (PSU)

Primary sampling units are the **census blocks** prepared at the Census of Population and Housing - 2012.

2.5 Selection of Secondary Sampling Units (SSU)

Secondary Sampling Units are the **housing units** in the selected 2575 primary sampling units (census blocks). From each selected primary sampling unit, 10 housing units (SSU) are selected for the survey using systematic random sampling method.

Map (1): Sample allocation by district – 2024



2.6 Estimation procedure

Let \hat{X}_{jk} be the estimate of any given characteristic for j^{th} district for the k^{th} month.

This could be given by,

$$\hat{X}_{jk} = \frac{1}{m_{jk(u)}} \sum_{h(u)=1}^{m_{jk(u)}} \frac{1}{P_{h(u)}} \frac{N_{h(u)}}{n_{h(u)}} \sum_{i(u)=1}^{n_{h(u)}} X_{hi(u)} + \frac{1}{m_{jk(r)}} \sum_{h(r)=1}^{m_{jk(r)}} \frac{1}{P_{h(r)}} \frac{N_{h(r)}}{n_{h(r)}} \sum_{i(r)=1}^{n_{h(r)}} X_{hi(r)} + \frac{1}{m_{jk(e)}} \sum_{h(e)=1}^{m_{jk(e)}} \frac{1}{P_{h(e)}} \frac{N_{h(e)}}{n_{h(e)}} \sum_{i(e)=1}^{n_{h(e)}} X_{hi(e)}$$

Where

$m_{jk(u)}$ = Number of census blocks selected from the urban sector of the j^{th} district for the k^{th} survey month.

$P_{h(u)}$ = Selection probability of the h^{th} census block in the urban sector.

$$P_{h(u)} = \frac{S_{jh(u)}}{\sum_{h=1}^{M_{jh(u)}} S_{jh(u)}}$$

$S_{jh(u)}$ = Measure of size (number of housing units) of the h^{th} census block in the urban sector of the j^{th} district.

$M_{jh(u)}$ = Total number of census blocks in urban sector of the j^{th} district.

$N_{h(u)}$ = Total number of housing units listed in the h^{th} census block in the urban sector.

$n_{h(u)}$ = Number of housing units selected from the h^{th} census block in the urban sector.

$X_{hi(u)}$ = The observed value for the i^{th} sample household in the h^{th} census block in the urban sector.

$m_{jk(r)}$, $P_{h(r)}$, $S_{jh(r)}$, $M_{jh(r)}$, $N_{h(r)}$, $n_{h(r)}$, and $X_{hi(r)}$ are corresponding terms for the rural sector and

$m_{jk(e)}$, $P_{h(e)}$, $S_{jh(e)}$, $M_{jh(e)}$, $N_{h(e)}$, $n_{h(e)}$, and $X_{hi(e)}$ are corresponding terms for the estate sector.

The estimate for the total value of a characteristic for the country for month k ,

$$\hat{X}_k = \sum_{j=1}^{25} \hat{X}_{jk} \quad \text{—————} \quad \textcircled{1}$$

The estimate for the total value of a characteristic for the j^{th} district, based on all 12 rounds.

$$\hat{X}_j = \frac{1}{12} \sum_{k=1}^{12} \hat{X}_{jk} \quad \text{—————} \quad \textcircled{2}$$

The total estimate for the total value of a characteristic for the urban sector for the country, based on all 12 rounds.

$$\hat{X}_u = \frac{1}{12} \sum_{k=1}^{12} \sum_{j=1}^{25} \hat{X}_{jk(u)} \quad \text{—————} \quad \textcircled{3}$$

Where

$$\hat{X}_{jk(u)} = \frac{1}{m_{jk(u)}} \sum_{h(u)=1}^{m_{jk(u)}} \frac{1}{P_{h(u)}} \frac{N_{h(u)}}{n_{h(u)}} \sum_{i(u)=1}^{n_{h(u)}} X_{hi(u)}$$

Similarly \hat{X}_r and \hat{X}_e , Rural and Estate sector estimates for the country can be obtained.

2.7 Adjustment for unit non-response

The occurrence of unit non-response was determined by examining the final result code recorded under control data section of the schedule. Based on the final result codes the households were grouped into the following categories, which were used as a basis for adjusting for the unit non-response.

Category and description	Result code
1. Schedule completed	1
2. Housing unit demolished or vacant	3
3. Unable to complete schedule, refusal, temporarily away etc.	2,4,5,6,7

Category 1 and 2

These were considered as fully accounted for as a schedule was completed to the extent required by the situation at the time of interview and therefore no adjustment was necessary.

Category 3

This is incomplete therefore, a non-response adjustment was made for this category. The assumption made here for the adjustment of non-response was the proportion of households in category 3 is the same as the corresponding proportion for sample households in category 1. This assumption is applied on a block-by-block basis separately for urban, rural and estate sectors. The block weight before adjusting for unit non-response was

$$W'_h = \frac{1}{m_{jk}} \sum_{h=1}^{m_{jk}} \frac{1}{P_h} \frac{N_h}{n_h}$$

Where, N_h = Total number of housing units listed in block h.

n_h = Number of housing units selected in block h.

The revised weight should take the form

$$W_h = W'_h \cdot \left(\frac{n^1_h - n_{h2}}{n_{h1}} \right)$$

Where, n_{h1} = Number of sample households in category 1.

n_{h2} = Number of sample households in category 2.

n^1_h = Total number of households in all categories (category 1, 2 and 3) = (n_h)

CHAPTER THREE

Economically Active/ Inactive Population

Labour force or synonymously currently economically active population is one of the most widely used measures of the labour market. It measures employment and unemployment situation of the economy and the current employment characteristics of the population.

Working Age Population: All persons of age 15 years and above are considered to be in the working age population (from year 2013 onward).

Economically Active Population: All persons who are/were employed or unemployed during the reference period of the survey are referred to as economically active (the reference period is "previous one week" for currently economically active population).

Economically Inactive Population: All persons who neither worked nor available/looking for work during the reference period.

Labour Force: The labour force is composed of currently economically active population 15 years of age and over.

HIGHLIGHTS

Estimated Household Population (15 year & over)

Sri Lanka	17,547,864
Male	8,195,169
Female	9,352,695

Labour Force (LF)

Sri Lanka	8,315,702
Male	5,525,402
Female	2,790,299

LF Participation Rate

Sri Lanka	47.4
Male	67.4
Female	29.8

3.1 Economically active population

The "economically active population" is defined broadly as comprising of all persons above a specific age (15 years and above) of either gender who furnish the supply of labour for the production of economic goods and services during a specified time (reference period). The currently economically active population or the 'labour force' is usually recognized as the sum of 'employed' and 'unemployed' population.

3.2 Distribution of economically active population

In 2024, estimated economically active population is around 8.3 million, and of that about 66.4 percent are male. That is about 5.5 million (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: Economically active / inactive population by gender – 2024

Gender	Economically active		Economically inactive	
	No.	%	No.	%
Total	8,315,702	100.0	9,232,162	100.0
Male	5,525,402	66.4	2,669,766	28.9
Female	2,790,299	33.6	6,562,395	71.1

Majority among the economically inactive population are females (71.1%). That is about 6.6 million.

Table 3.2: Economically active population by gender and sector - 2024

Sector	Total	Gender		
		Male	Female	
Total	No.	8,315,702	5,525,402	2,790,299
	%	100.0	66.4	33.6
Urban	No.	1,337,711	905,717	431,994
	%	100.0	67.7	32.3
Rural	No.	6,615,813	4,400,365	2,215,447
	%	100.0	66.5	33.5
Estate	No.	362,178	219,320	142,858
	%	100.0	60.6	39.4

Distribution of economically active population by gender and sectors are given by Table 3.2 and Figure 3.1. According to the Table 3.2, in Urban sector 67.7 percent of economically active

population is male. The corresponding figure for Rural sector is 66.5 percent. Also percentage of economically active female population in Urban and Rural sectors are reported as 32.3 percent and 33.5 percent respectively and in the Estate sector, this value is 39.4 percent. The female participation is higher in the Estate sector compared to Urban and Rural Sectors.

Figure 3.1: Economically active population by gender and sector - 2024

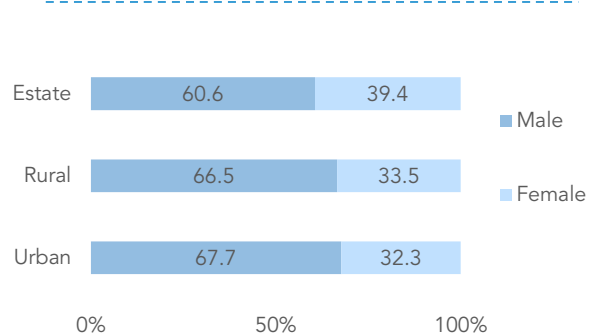


Figure 3.2: Percentage distribution of working age population by economic status and gender - 2024

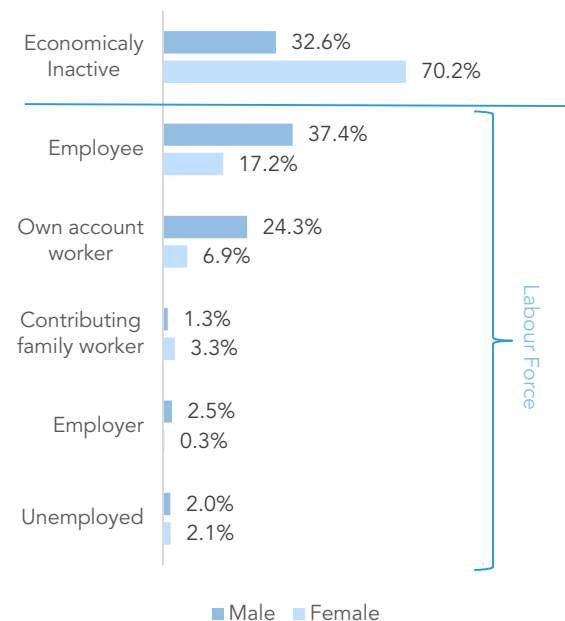


Figure 3.2 illustrates the distribution of age 15 and above population by gender and their economic status. Considering the economic status by gender, majority of female population is in economically inactive group (70.2%) while majority of male population is in employee group (37.4%).

Table 3.3: Percentage distribution of economically active population by gender and district - 2024

District	Economically active population (%)		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	100.0	66.4	33.6
Colombo	100.0	66.5	33.5
Gampaha	100.0	67.0	33.0
Kalutara	100.0	68.9	31.1
Kandy	100.0	63.3	36.7
Matale	100.0	66.2	33.8
Nuwara Eliya	100.0	61.7	38.3
Galle	100.0	61.1	38.9
Matara	100.0	69.6	30.4
Hambantota	100.0	67.7	32.3
Jaffna	100.0	74.2	25.8
Mannar	100.0	71.7	28.3
Vavuniya	100.0	60.1	39.9
Mullaitivu	100.0	74.0	26.0
Kilinochchi	100.0	71.2	28.8
Batticaloa	100.0	71.8	28.2
Ampara	100.0	76.6	23.4
Trincomalee	100.0	83.2	16.8
Kurunegala	100.0	62.2	37.8
Puttalam	100.0	68.8	31.2
Anuradhapura	100.0	65.4	34.6
Polonnaruwa	100.0	73.4	26.6
Badulla	100.0	64.9	35.1
Monaragala	100.0	66.1	33.9
Rathnapura	100.0	66.3	33.7
Kegalle	100.0	60.8	39.2

As shown in Table 3.3 percentage of economically active female population is high in agriculture predominant districts. For example, Nuwara Eliya (38.3%), Badulla (35.1%) and Anuradhapura (34.6%). The lowest percentage (16.8%) of economically active female population is reported from Trincomalee district.

3.3 Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

This is defined as the percentage of the currently "economically active population" or the "labour force" to the total working age population. Following Table 3.4 shows the distribution of labour force participation rate by age groups, gender and by sectors.

Table 3.4: Labour force participation rates by age groups, gender and sector - 2024

Age group/sector	Labour force participation rate (%)		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	47.4	67.4	29.8
15 - 19	7.8	11.1	4.4
20 - 24	43.9	57.7	30.8
25 - 29	65.9	87.1	46.6
30 - 39	66.9	94.1	43.6
40 +	48.0	70.8	28.7
Urban	44.3	64.1	27.0
15 - 19	7.6	10.6	4.6
20 - 24	39.3	47.0	31.1
25 - 29	63.9	84.7	44.1
30 - 39	68.1	94.7	44.9
40 +	43.0	66.0	23.7
Rural	47.8	68.3	30.0
15 - 19	7.5	11.1	4.0
20 - 24	44.3	59.3	30.3
25 - 29	66.2	87.5	47.3
30 - 39	66.1	94.1	42.5
40 +	48.9	72.1	29.3
Estate	52.2	65.5	39.7
15 - 19	12.4	12.9	11.9
20 - 24	54.0	74.0	38.3
25 - 29	68.3	90.0	44.2
30 - 39	77.4	90.2	63.8
40 +	52.3	65.6	40.3
Labour force participation rate by standardized age groups			
	Total	Male	Female
Total (15 & over)	47.4	67.4	29.8
15 - 24	23.8	31.5	16.3
25 - 34	66.3	90.2	45.2
35 - 54	66.5	93.8	42.9
55 - 64	50.7	75.0	29.3
65 +	20.2	33.7	9.5
15 - 64	53.6	74.6	34.7
25 - 54	66.5	92.7	43.6

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

As shown in Table 3.4 labour force participation rate (LFPR) for Sri Lanka is 47.4 percent. Corresponding figures for males and females are 67.4 and 29.8 percent respectively.

Comparing the LFPR among age groups it is seen that the LFPR increases up to the age group of 30-39 years and decreases thereafter. The highest LFPR (66.9) is reported from the age group 30-39 years.

ILO recommended standardized age groups are also shown in Table 3.4. These values provide more information for international comparison and provide labour market behavior of different age categories of the population. In 2024 labour force participation rate of the prime working age (age 25-54 years) is 66.5 percent. This rate for males is 92.7% and for females it is 43.6%.

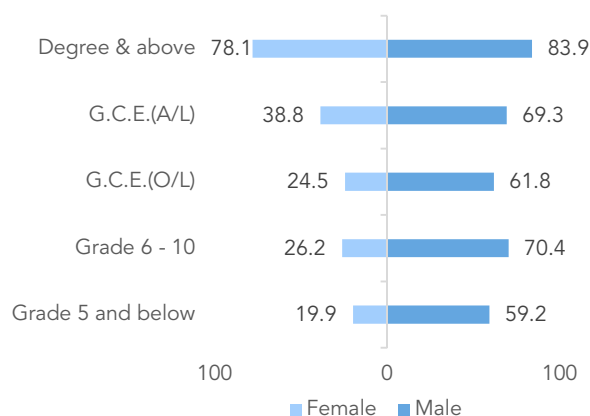
As shown in Table 3.4 gender, age group and Sector level LFPR depict that Estate sector female labour force participation rate are comparatively higher than that of Urban and Rural sectors. The highest value is reported for the age group 30-39 years, which was reported as 63.8 percent, much higher compared to rates in Urban (44.9%) & Rural (42.5%).

Table 3.5: Labour force participation rates by gender and district - 2024

District	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total	47.4	67.4	29.8
Colombo	46.5	65.6	29.5
Gampaha	46.3	66.1	28.8
Kalutara	48.3	68.7	29.2
Kandy	47.6	65.9	32.2
Matale	48.1	67.8	30.7
Nuwara Eliya	48.4	64.5	34.5
Galle	48.8	65.6	34.8
Matara	43.0	64.2	24.4
Hambantota	48.7	67.8	30.7
Jaffna	38.7	64.5	18.0
Mannar	50.0	74.7	27.3
Vavuniya	58.2	75.7	43.2
Mullaitivu	45.0	73.5	21.4
Kilinochchi	42.2	66.4	22.2
Batticaloa	40.4	64.3	20.8
Ampara	36.5	61.8	15.6
Trincomalee	36.7	64.4	11.7
Kurunegala	52.5	71.9	36.4
Puttalam	48.0	72.1	27.6
Anuradhapura	51.2	72.9	32.7
Polonnaruwa	43.6	67.9	22.0
Badulla	51.3	70.0	34.3
Monaragala	54.6	72.6	36.8
Rathnapura	50.9	68.3	33.9
Kegalle	49.1	65.5	35.4

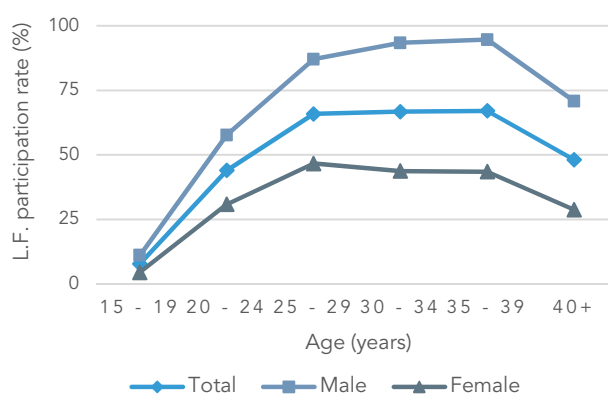
Labour force participation rate by district is given in Table 3.5. The highest LFPR (58.2%) is reported from Vavuniya district. The highest female LFPR is reported from Vavuniya district (43.2%), while the lowest female LFPR is reported from Trincomalee district (11.7%).

Figure 3.3: Labour Force participation rate by gender and level of education – 2024



As can be seen in Figure 3.3 clear differences can be observed in LFPR by sex. However when the level of education is considered, the difference is minimum for the degree and above level of education.

Figure 3.4: Labour Force participation rate by gender and age group - 2024



As shown in Table 3.5, the Female LFPR is high in Agriculture predominant districts. Also it is clear that male LFPR is higher than that of female in all districts. Some district in Northern and Eastern provinces show comparatively lower LFPR rates due to lower female labour force participation. This distribution is clearly shown in Map-2.

Map (2): Labour force participation rate by district – 2024

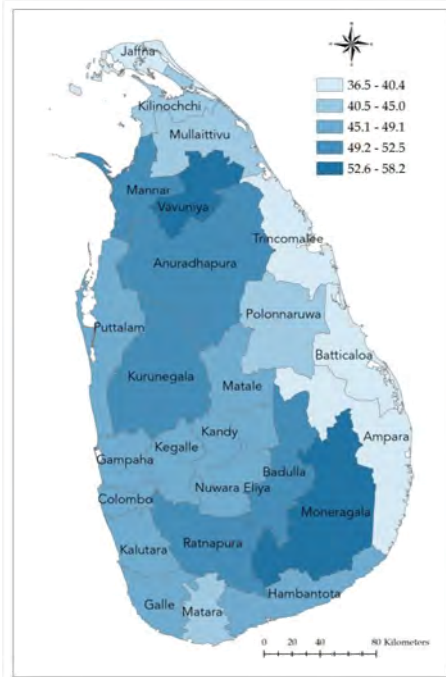
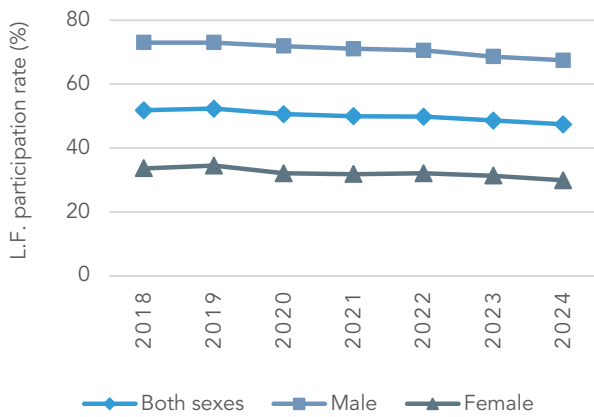


Figure 3.5: Annual labour force participation rates 2018 – 2024



3.4 Economically inactive population

The persons who are not economically active during the reference period and those who are mainly engaged in studies, household duties, retired or old, disabled persons etc. are defined as ‘Economically Inactive Population’. The survey results reveal that, 52.6 percent of (9.2 million) working age population are in the economically inactive group, comprising with 28.9 percent of males and 71.1 percent of females.

Economically inactive rate for the country is the proportion of economically inactive population to the total working age population.

Table 3.6: Economically inactive population by gender and sector - 2024

Sector	Total		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	9,232,162	100.0	2,669,766	28.9	6,562,395	71.1
Urban	1,678,622	100.0	507,817	30.3	1,170,806	69.7
Rural	7,221,428	100.0	2,046,576	28.3	5,174,852	71.7
Estate	332,112	100.0	115,374	34.7	216,738	65.3

Table 3.6 & Figure 3.6 show that, the number of inactive female is higher than that of male in general and in all the sectors.

Figure 3.6: Economically inactive population by gender – 2024

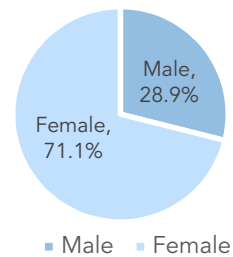


Table 3.7: Economically inactive population by level of education - 2024

Level of education	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Grade 5 and below	17.2	16.7	17.4
Grade 6 - 10	41.1	41.1	41.0
G.C.E.(O/L)	24.1	25.7	23.4
G.C.E.(A/L) & above	17.7	16.5	18.1

Table 3.7 shows the percentage distribution of economically inactive population by level of education. The highest percentage of economically inactive population is reported from the group with level of education grade 6 – 10 for both sexes, while the lowest reported from the group grade 5 and below.

Table 3.8: Economically inactive population by age group and gender - 2024

Age group	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
15 - 19	18.1	30.0	13.2
20 - 24	8.7	11.1	7.7
25 - 29	4.4	2.8	5.1
30 - 34	4.2	1.3	5.4
35 - 39	4.5	1.2	5.9
40 - 44	5.4	1.4	7.1
45 - 49	5.3	1.3	6.9
50 - 54	5.7	2.3	7.0
55 - 59	6.8	4.4	7.7
60 - 64	8.7	8.3	8.9
65+	28.2	35.9	25.0

Table 3.8 shows the distribution of economically inactive population by age group and gender. This shows that economically inactive males as well as females are highly concentrated in young (15 – 19 years) and older (65+ years) age groups. Percentages of inactive males are lower in middle age groups, from 30 – 49, however this situation is different for female.

Figure 3.7: Economically active and inactive population by age group - 2024

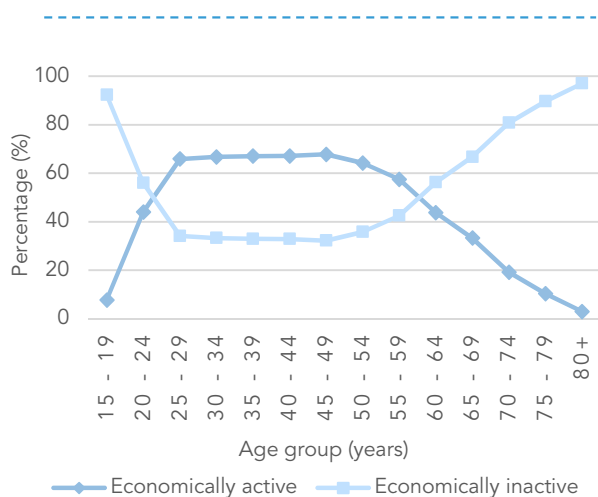


Figure 3.7 shows the distribution of the percentage of economically active and inactive population by age group.

The survey results show that the population from age group 25 to 59 years are more economically active. Also the results reveal that persons even at older ages (age 70 and above) some are economically active.

3.5 Characteristics of the “economically inactive” population

Table 3.9: Reasons for being economically inactive by gender - 2024

Reason	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
All Economically inactive	100.0	100.0	100.0
Engaged in studies	22.8	37.7	16.8
Engaged in housework	43.1	4.9	58.6
Retired/Old age	22.5	35.9	17.0
Physically illness/Disabled	9.4	17.1	6.2
Other	2.3	4.4	1.4

The main reason reported for the majority among female (58.6%) to be economically inactive is that their involvement in housework activities. However, that percentage is only 4.9 percent for male. The highest reported reason for inactivity among male, (37.7%) is “engaged in studies”. Figure 3.8 clearly shows this distribution.

Table 3.10: Percentage distribution of inactive population by stated reason, age group and gender - 2024

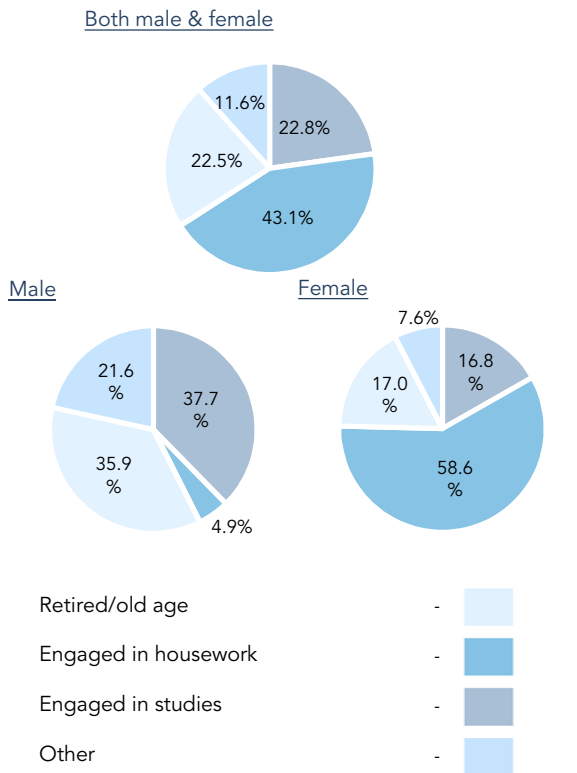
Reason for inactive	Age group			
	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 54	55 & over
Male				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Engaged in studies	88.5	29.9	0.8	..
Engaged in housework	4.5	21.4	16.6	2.4
Retired/Old age	..	..	14.1	72.1
Physically illness/Disabled	2.1	24.2	53.4	24.6
Other	4.9	24.5	15.1	1.0
Female				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Engaged in studies	76.7	6.8	0.1	..
Engaged in housework	18.5	87.2	93.7	48.9
Retired/Old age	..	..	0.8	40.3
Physically illness/Disabled	1.5	2.7	4.5	10.6
other	3.2	3.3	1.0	0.2

.. Not reported.

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

Reported reasons for being economically inactive are different for males and females for different age groups. Among both male and female majority of youths (15 – 24) are inactive due to “Engage in Studies”.

Figure 3.8:
Reasons of being economically inactive - 2024



3.6 Economically inactive rate

Table 3.11: Distribution of economically inactive rate by standardized age groups - 2024

Selected age groups	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total (15 & over)	52.6	32.6	70.2
15 - 24	76.2	68.5	83.7
25 - 34	33.7	9.8	54.8
35 - 54	33.5	6.2	57.1
55 - 64	49.3	25.0	70.7
65 +	79.8	66.3	90.5
15 – 64	46.4	25.4	65.3
25 – 54	33.5	7.3	56.4

The economically inactive rate for prime age group (25 – 54) is about 33.5 percent and it is 7.3 percent for males and 56.4 percent for females. Youth (15 – 24) economically inactive rate is 76.2 percent and this is 68.5 percent for males and 83.7 percent for females. Economically inactive rates are always higher for females in all the age groups (Table 3.11), compared to those of males.

3.7 Potential labour force ¹

Potential labour force is a new criterion identified in order to capture situations of inadequate absorption of labour, beyond those captured by unemployment (ILO, 2013).

The draft 19th ICLS resolution introduced a definition of *potential labour force*. It is proposed that the definition cover persons who have indicated some interest in employment, distinguishing three mutually exclusive groups:

- (a) *Unavailable jobseekers*, referring to persons without employment who are seeking employment but are not available;
- (b) *Available potential jobseekers*, referring to persons without employment who are not seeking employment but are available; and
- (c) *Willing potential jobseekers*, comprising persons without employment who are neither seeking nor available for employment but who want to be employed.

However, for Sri Lanka it is not possible to provide information for above three groups a, b, and c separately but it is possible to estimate the number of persons who are in the inactive group showing some interest in finding a job. This criteria considers the inactive persons who declared that they want a job. Within the total potential labour force there can be persons,

- Who put pressure on the labour market (by actively seeking an employment) but who, because they are not immediately available, are excluded from unemployment.
- Who are not seeking an employment due to indefinite lay-off or discouragement, and it also comprises persons facing a variety of obstacles to seeking employment, including personal and family-related factors in addition to the socio-economic context.
- Who imply that the expression of interest in the labour market is generally in the form of an expressed desire for employment.

¹ ILO. (2013). *Report II, ICLS Statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization*. Geneva: international labour office.

Table 3.12: Potential labour force by year and gender, 2021 - 2024

Year	Gender		
	Total	Male	Female
2021			
Number	227,858	93,147	134,710
Rate (% to inactive Pop.)	2.7	4.1	2.1
2022			
Number	184,998	61,285	123,714
Rate (% to inactive Pop.)	2.1	2.6	2.0
2023			
Number	244,468	93,869	150,599
Rate (% to inactive Pop.)	2.7	3.7	2.4
2024			
Number	178,486	66,260	112,226
Rate (% to inactive Pop.)	1.9	2.5	1.7

The Table 3.12 shows that in 2024 about 0.2 million are in potential labour force. That is 1.9 percent of inactive population, who show some interest in getting an employment, but are not identified as unemployed.

3.8 Discouraged job seekers

Discouraged job seekers are the persons in the economically inactive group who are known to be as inactive because of these reasons;

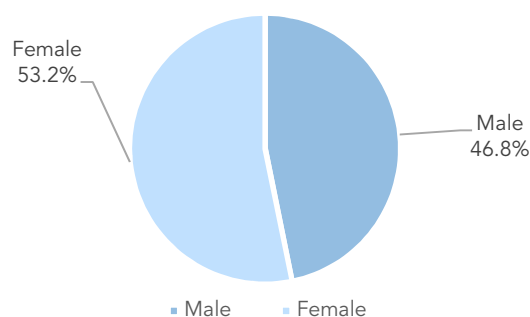
- ✓ Does not believe that he/ she gets a suitable job
- ✓ Unable to find any work
- ✓ Does not possess skills or training required for a job
- ✓ Personal difficulties faced while finding a job

Above reasons are considered to define discouraged job seekers. In 2024 the estimated number of discouraged job seekers is 68,164 and it is about 0.7 percent of inactive population. In number majority of discouraged job seekers are females.

Table 3.13: Discouraged job seekers by gender - 2024

Gender	Discourage job seekers		
	No.	Percentage	Percentage to inactive
Total	68,164	100.0	0.7
Male	31,890	46.8	1.2
Female	36,274	53.2	0.6

Figure 3.9: Discouraged Job seekers by gender - 2024



The Table 3.13 and Figure 3.9 show that the majority among discouraged job seekers are female when the number of persons are considered. When the percentage to inactive population is considered higher male percentage is reported compared to female percentage.

CHAPTER FOUR

Employment

Employment data plays an important role as a viable social indicator of understanding the economy of the country. Furthermore, statistics on employment identify the number of people, who are employed, the sorts of work they do, their qualifications towards the job and their working patterns.

Availability of accurate employment statistics is vital for the policy makers to implement job creation policies and programmers properly.

Employed

During the reference period, persons, who worked as paid employees, employers, own account workers or contributing family workers are said to be employed. This also includes persons with a job but not at work during the reference period.

Reference Period: Previous week of the survey week

HIGHLIGHTS

Labour Force

Sri Lanka	8,315,702
Male	5,525,402
Female	2,790,299

Employed Population

Sri Lanka	7,949,751
Male	5,358,554
Female	2,591,197

Employment Rate

Sri Lanka	95.6
Male	97.0
Female	92.9

4.1 Employment by major industry group

The survey results reveal that, about 7.9 million persons are being employed during the year 2024. Out of these employed persons, about 5.4 million (67.4%) are males and 2.6 million (32.6%) are females.

Table 4.1 and Figure 4.1 show the distribution of employed population from 2018 – 2024. From 2018 till 2021 the share of agriculture employment shows an increase, but from 2021 to 2024 there is a decrease and share of employment in agricultural sector surpasses the share of industry sector employment. While industry sector show slight decreases from 2018 to 2024, but service sector show slight increases from 2018 to 2024. Figure 4.1 shows that clearly.

Figure 4.1: Employed population by major industry group, 2018 – 2024

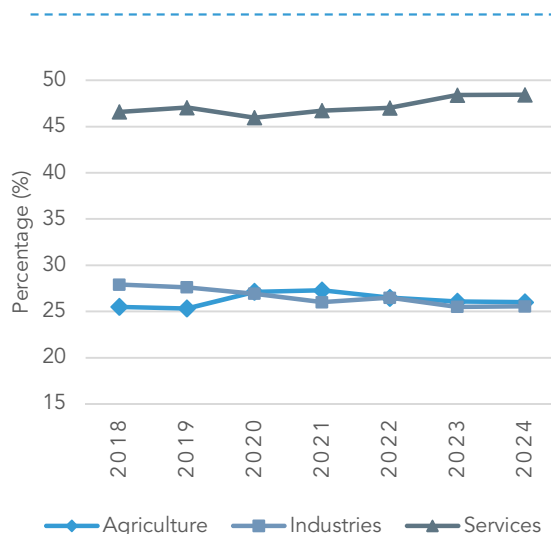
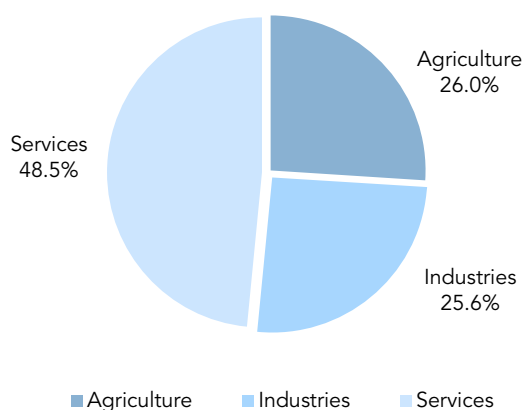


Table 4.1: Employed population by major industry group, 2018 - 2024

Year	Total employed		Major industry group					
			Agriculture		Industries		Services	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2018	8,015,166	100.0	2,043,698	25.5	2,239,262	27.9	3,732,206	46.6
2019	8,180,693	100.0	2,071,940	25.3	2,258,421	27.6	3,850,332	47.1
2020	7,999,093	100.0	2,169,679	27.1	2,152,746	26.9	3,676,668	46.0
2021	8,113,507	100.0	2,213,015	27.3	2,109,482	26.0	3,791,011	46.7
2022	8,147,731	100.0	2,158,559	26.5	2,158,199	26.5	3,830,973	47.0
2023	8,009,916	100.0	2,088,344	26.1	2,043,154	25.5	3,878,418	48.4
2024	7,949,751	100.0	2,066,651	26.0	2,031,417	25.6	3,851,683	48.5

Figure 4.2: Employed population by major industry group – 2024



As shown in Figure 4.2, out of the total employed population, the highest share is reported from the 'Services' sector (48.5%). The estimated share of 'Agriculture' sector and 'Industries' sector employments are 26.0 and 25.6 percent respectively.

Table 4.2: Percentage distribution of employed population by major industry group for each district – 2024

District	Total	Major industry group		
		Agriculture (%)	Industries (%)	Services (%)
Total	100.0	26.0	25.6	48.5
Colombo	100.0	1.3	25.6	73.0
Gampaha	100.0	4.3	35.5	60.2
Kalutara	100.0	9.8	39.1	51.1
Kandy	100.0	18.9	24.5	56.5
Matale	100.0	34.4	23.6	42.0
Nuwara Eliya	100.0	56.0	13.3	30.7
Galle	100.0	26.0	26.9	47.1
Matara	100.0	29.3	23.4	47.2
Hambantota	100.0	40.1	21.4	38.5
Jaffna	100.0	23.4	24.7	51.9
Mannar	100.0	52.7	12.1	35.3
Vavuniya	100.0	34.0	17.3	48.7
Mullaitivu	100.0	51.9	18.7	29.4
Kilinochchi	100.0	31.3	25.1	43.6
Batticaloa	100.0	27.5	22.2	50.3
Ampara	100.0	36.9	20.6	42.5
Trincomalee	100.0	31.7	20.4	47.9
Kurunegala	100.0	28.4	27.2	44.4
Puttalam	100.0	27.7	29.2	43.1
Anuradhapura	100.0	52.0	12.6	35.4
Polonnaruwa	100.0	44.4	18.8	36.8
Badulla	100.0	47.7	15.9	36.3
Monaragala	100.0	53.3	14.2	32.6
Rathnapura	100.0	38.3	29.0	32.7
Kegalle	100.0	22.9	30.3	46.8

Table 4.2 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by major industry groups for each district. The data shows some significant variations in the share of agriculture employment among districts. It distributes from 1.3 percent in Colombo district to 56.0 percent in Nuwara Eliya district. Further Monaragala (53.3%), Mannar (52.7%), Anuradhapura (52.0%) and Mullaitivu (51.9%) districts are highly concentrated with agricultural employment. Colombo district shows the highest employment contribution to the 'Services' sector (73.0%), followed by Gampaha (60.2%) district.

Also for the year 2024, the survey results reveal that 'wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles' and 'transport & storage' and 'public administration & defense compulsory social security' and 'Education' are the major Industry categories in the Service sector.

Kalutara district (39.1%) shows the highest share of employment in the industries sector, and Gampaha district (35.5%) shows the second highest.

Figure 4.3: Share of agriculture, industry & service sectors to the total employment by province – 2024

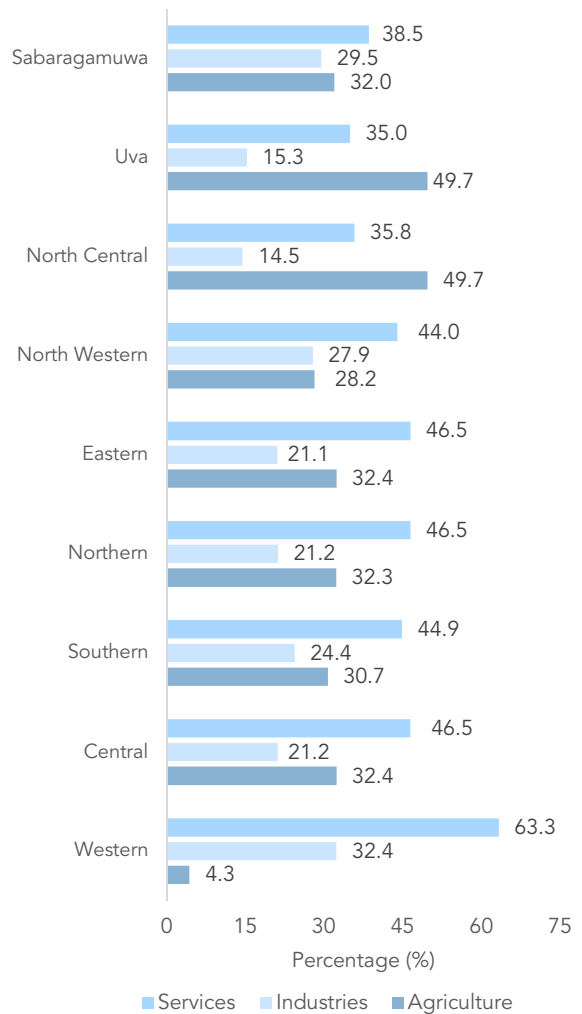


Figure 4.3 illustrates the distribution of employed population by Province level and by major industry sectors; agriculture, industry & service.

4.2 Employment by status of employment

Table 4.3: Percentage distribution of employed population by employment status for each district - 2024

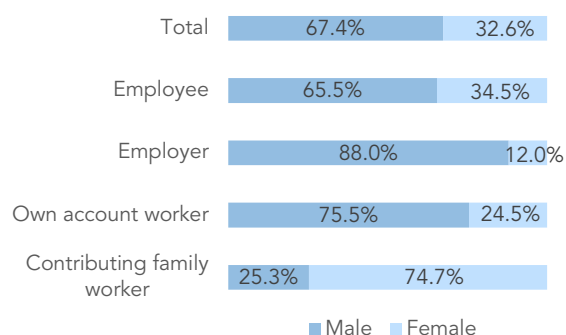
District	Employee	Self employed		
		Employer	Own account worker (O.A.W.)	Contributing family worker
Total	58.8	2.9	33.1	5.2
Colombo	68.0	6.4	22.9	2.8
Gampaha	67.6	4.4	25.6	2.4
Kalutara	68.1	1.6	27.7	2.5
Kandy	61.0	4.2	29.6	5.2
Matale	50.6	1.3	42.4	5.7
Nuwara Eliya	68.3	2.1	24.4	5.2
Galle	61.2	2.3	31.1	5.4
Matara	64.4	1.6	31.1	2.9
Hambantota	47.0	1.7	44.7	6.6
Jaffna	68.2	2.0	28.0	1.9
Mannar	47.8	1.5	46.0	4.6
Vavunia	46.9	1.5	48.1	3.4
Mullativu	52.7	4.7	38.9	3.8
Kilinochchi	65.0	2.9	29.9	2.3
Batticaloa	65.3	3.1	29.6	2.0
Ampara	53.9	1.5	40.2	4.3
Trincomalee	67.4	1.1	30.1	1.4
Kurunegala	50.4	2.2	40.4	7.0
Puttalam	55.0	4.5	33.5	7.0
Anuradhapura	36.8	1.7	49.4	12.2
Polonnaruwa	40.4	1.0	49.6	9.0
Badulla	50.6	0.7	37.5	11.2
Monaragala	35.0	1.1	51.7	12.2
Rathnapura	56.7	2.8	34.9	5.6
Kegalle	66.3	1.3	28.8	3.6

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

Table 4.3 shows the percentage distribution of employed population by employment status at the district level.

The employed population by status of employment has two vital categories; waged and salaried workers (employees) and the self-employed. Self-employed can be further categorized in to three groups employers, own account workers and contributing family workers. Status of employment describes the working behavior and conditions of work. Such as high proportion of self-employed is an indication of large agriculture sector, while high proportion of employees is an indication of economic development.

Figure 4.4: Employment status by gender - 2024

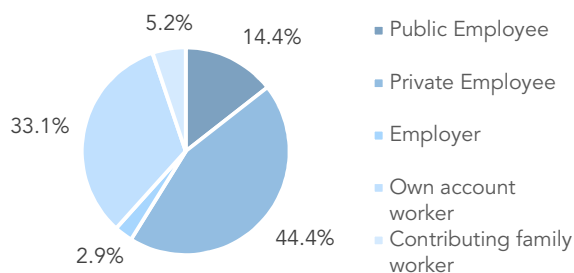


When a household member is engaging in a family business or farming and the other members who engage in this activity without any payment are identified as contributing family workers. Figure 4.4 clearly shows that this is more common among female. About 74.7% of contributing family workers are female.

Table 4.4: Employed population by employment status and by gender - 2024

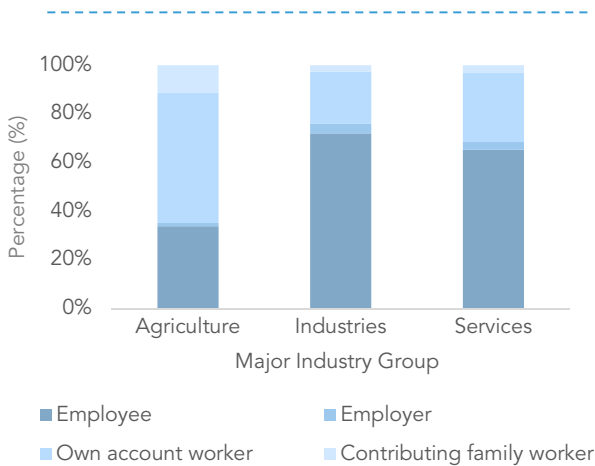
Employment status	Total		Gender			
	No	%	Male		Female	
			No	%	No	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	5,358,554	100.0	2,591,197	100.0
Employee	4,675,651	58.8	3,063,874	57.2	1,611,777	62.2
Public	1,148,575	14.4	598,634	11.2	549,940	21.2
Private	3,527,077	44.4	2,465,240	46.0	1,061,836	41.0
Employer	229,192	2.9	201,640	3.8	27,552	1.1
Own account worker	2,632,721	33.1	1,988,650	37.1	644,070	24.9
Contributing family worker	412,187	5.2	104,389	1.9	307,798	11.9

Figure 4.5: Employed population by employment status - 2024



The estimated total public sector employment for Sri Lanka in 2024 is about 1.1 million (Table 4.4). Among the employed female, the percentage of paid employees, those who are engaged in the public sector is 21.2 percent, and among employed male this is 11.2 percent. The share of contributing family workers to the total employment is 5.2 percent, and it is 11.9 percent for females, which is much higher compared to that of males (1.9%).

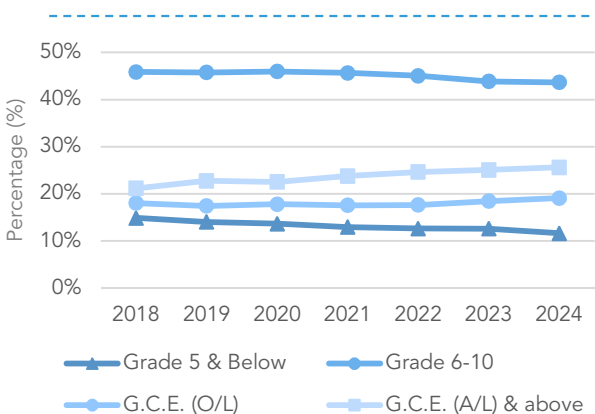
Figure 4.6:
Employed population by major industry group and employment status - 2024



The Figure 4.6 shows the percentage distribution of employment by Industry groups & by employment status. Agriculture sector is different from other two sectors, where higher percentages of own account workers and contributing family workers can be observed compared to Industry & Service sectors.

4.3 Employment by level of education

Figure 4.7:
Employed population by level of education, 2018 – 2024



According to the Figure 4.7, the level of education among employed has been increasing over the previous years. However, still considerable part of employment population has grade 5 or below level of education.

4.4 Employment by occupation

Table 4.5: Employed population by occupation & gender - 2024

Occupation	Total	Gender		% Contribution of females to the total employment
		Male	Female	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	32.6
Managers, Senior Officials and Legislators	4.3	4.7	3.5	26.5
Professionals	7.4	4.1	14.2	62.6
Technical & Associate Professionals	8.6	8.4	9.1	34.3
Clerks and Clerical support workers	3.6	2.5	5.7	52.1
Services and Sales workers	12.3	12.6	11.7	31.0
Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery workers	15.2	17.7	10.2	21.9
Craft and Related Trades workers	13.6	14.3	12.1	29.2
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	9.9	11.5	6.4	21.2
Elementary occupations	24.6	23.5	26.9	35.6
Armed Forces occupations & Unidentified occupations	0.5	0.7	0.1	7.8

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

Survey covers only the household population, hence the occupations of the institutional population specially Armed Forces do not represent fully in these categories.

Table 4.5 shows the proportion of men and women employed in different occupational categories. Table 4.5 also shows the contribution of females to the total employment within each occupational group. Overall female contribution is 32.6 percent. Among the professional's female contribution is about 62.6 percent. This group generally consist of teachers, nurses, doctors, etc.

4.5 Average gross wage/salary & income

The Labour force survey collects information on salaries or wages from monthly or daily wage/salary earners (paid employees) and also the information on gross monthly income of employers and own account workers.

Table 4.6: Mean & median monthly gross salary by gender - 2024

Measurement	Monthly earners (wage/salary) (Rs.)			Daily earners (wage/salary) (Rs.)		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
	Mean	58,292	63,000	51,728	33,523	36,845	21,486
Median	48,000	50,000	45,000	30,000	35,000	20,000

The Table 4.6 shows the estimated mean and median monthly gross wage/salary separately for monthly wage/salary earners and daily wage/salary earners. It can be seen that female values are comparatively lower than those of male.

Table 4.7: Mean & median monthly gross salary by sector - 2024

Measurement	Monthly earners (wage/salary) (Rs.)			Daily earners (wage/salary) (Rs.)		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
	Mean	58,292	76,480	53,071	33,523	37,965	32,952
Median	48,000	54,600	45,280	30,000	36,000	30,000

Table 4.7.1: Mean & median monthly gross salary by sector - 2024

Measurement	Monthly earners (wage/salary) (Rs.)			Daily earners (wage/salary) (Rs.)		
	Urban	Rural		Urban	Rural	
		Rural only	Estate		Rural only	Estate
Mean	76,480	54,187	31,576	37,965	33,751	27,139
Median	54,600	47,200	28,000	36,000	30,000	23,500

The above are the residential sectors and the majority of Estate sector employment may work within the sector compared to other two sectors.

Table 4.8: Mean & median monthly income by sector (for own account workers and employers) - 2024

Measurement	Monthly income (Rs.)		
	Urban	Rural	Estate
All			
Mean	85,593	39,857	37,993
Median	50,000	30,000	30,000
Employer			
Mean	193,436	99,492	..
Median	115,000	75,000	..
Own Account Worker			
Mean	59,113	35,893	35,564
Median	50,000	30,000	30,000

.. Cell count is not enough to provide reliable estimates.

The estimated mean and median values for monthly wages/salaries and self-reported individual income for employers and own account workers by sector are depicted in Table 4.7, Table 4.7.1, Table 4.8 & Table 4.8.1.

Table 4.8.1: Mean & median monthly income by sector (own account worker & employers), 2022 - 2024

Year	Measurement	Monthly Income(Rs.)		
		Urban	Rural	Estate
2022	Mean	59,508	37,171	29,168
	Median	40,000	25,000	20,000
2023	Mean	90,408	37,384	48,621
	Median	45,000	25,000	25,000
2024	Mean	85,593	39,857	37,993
	Median	50,000	30,000	30,000

Estimated results further reveal existing wage gaps between sectors and between employment status.

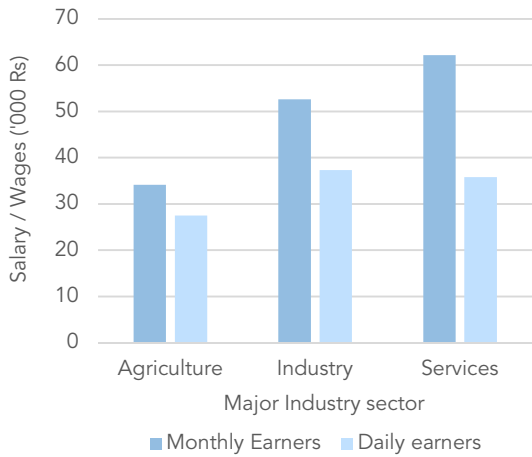
Table 4.9: Mean & median monthly gross salary by major industry group - 2024

Measurement	Agriculture	Industry	Service
Monthly wage/salary earners (Rs.)			
Mean	34,150	52,581	62,176
Median	28,000	44,000	50,000
Daily wage/salary earners (Rs.)			
Mean	27,453	37,347	35,800
Median	24,700	36,000	31,000

The Table 4.9 shows mean and median wages/salaries estimated for major industry groups separately for monthly wage/salary earners and daily wage/salary earners.

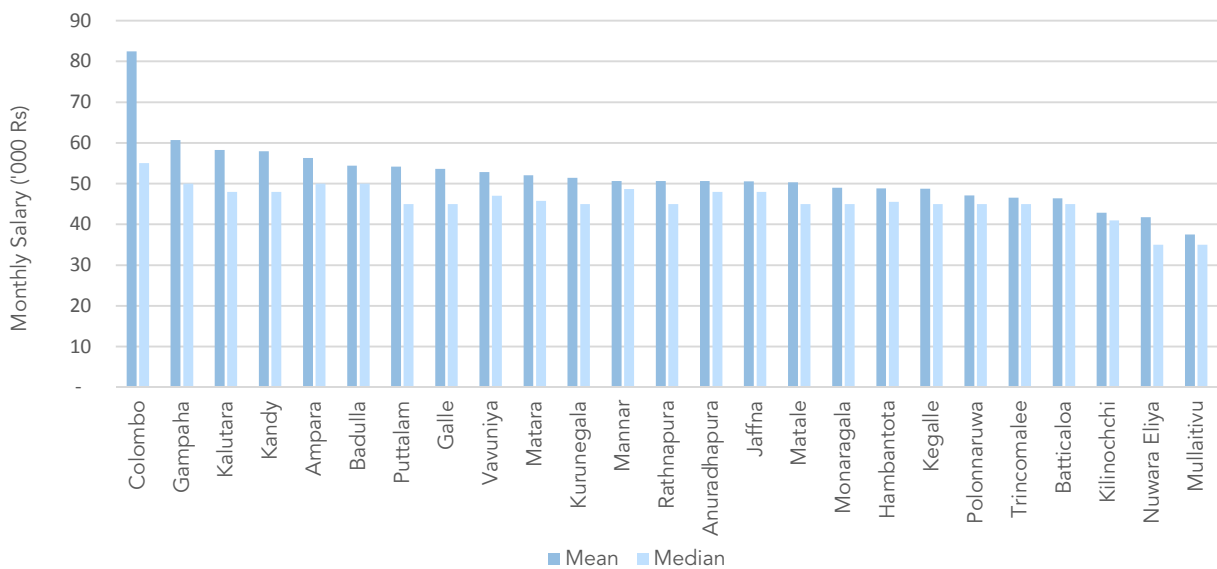
Distribution of the mean values of the gross salary of the monthly earners by district reveals some interesting features (Figure 4.9). When the monthly paid employees are considered, Colombo district shows the highest mean monthly salary followed by Gampaha district and third is Kalutara district.

Figure 4.8:
Average gross wage / salary by major industry group - 2024



As given in figure 4.8 average wage/salary distribution of monthly earners and the daily earners by major industry groups, the average monthly salary of the monthly earners in services sector, is much higher than the other two sectors, however this difference cannot be observed when the daily earners are considered.

Figure 4.9:
Mean & median monthly salary of paid employees - district level – 2024



4.6 Employment to Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio is defined as the proportion employed to the country's working-age population. It provides the information on the ability of an economy to create employment. On the other hand employment-to-population ratio helps to comprehend and compare labour markets in different countries.

Table 4.10: Employment to population ratio by sector and gender - 2024

Sector	Gender		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	45.3	65.4	27.7
Urban	42.7	62.5	25.2
Rural	45.7	66.1	27.8
Estate	49.4	63.2	36.5

Table 4.10 reveals that the employment-to-population ratio for the country is 45.3 percent in 2024. This value in the Estate sector is higher compared to the values of other two sectors. Also the Estate sector shows the highest ratio for female while the lowest is reported from Urban sector.

Table 4.11: Employment to population ratio by standardized age group & gender - 2024

Age group	Gender		
	Total	Male	Female
15 and over	45.3	65.4	27.7
Youth (15 – 24)	18.5	26.0	11.3
Adult (25 & over)	51.4	75.0	31.2
Prime age(25 – 54)	64.2	90.8	41.0

Overall employment to population ratio for Sri Lanka is 45.3 percent and it is 64.2 percent for the prime age (25 – 54 years) group. Youth (15 – 24 years) employment to population ratio is about 18.5 percent.

The survey results further shows that one out of every two persons in working age population is contributing to the production of goods and services and when male & female are considered separately male rates are two times higher than female.

Table 4.12: Employment to population ratio, 2018 - 2024

Year	Employment to population ratio		
	Total	Male	Female
2018	49.5	70.8	31.2
2019	49.8	70.5	31.9
2020	47.8	69.0	29.3
2021	47.4	68.4	29.3
2022	47.5	67.9	30.0
2023	46.3	66.1	29.1
2024	45.3	65.4	27.7

CHAPTER FIVE

Unemployment

The unemployment rate is one of the most widely cited and closely monitored economic indicators.

Unemployment is a key measure of economic health. It is a major factor in determining how healthy an economy is; if the economy maximized efficiency, everyone would be employed at some wage. An individual unemployed is both unproductive and a drain on society's resources. Unemployment is a powerful statistic that shapes government policies and personal decisions². Generally, lower unemployment rates share a good economic health of a country.

However, the unemployment rates of many developing countries are lower than those of industrialized countries. Hence, some studies explain the unemployment measure as only one aspect of the employment problem of a given country that of total lack of work.

Unemployed

Persons available and/or looking for work, and who did not work and taken steps to find a job during last four weeks and ready to accept a job given a work opportunity within next two weeks are defined as unemployed.

HIGHLIGHTS

Labour Force

Sri Lanka	8,315,702
Male	5,525,402
Female	2,790,299

Unemployed Population

Sri Lanka	365,951
Male	166,849
Female	199,102

Unemployment Rate

Sri Lanka	4.4
Male	3.0
Female	7.1

² Classical and Keynesian economic explanations for unemployment, Michael Griffiths (2007)

5.1 Unemployment rate by sector and gender

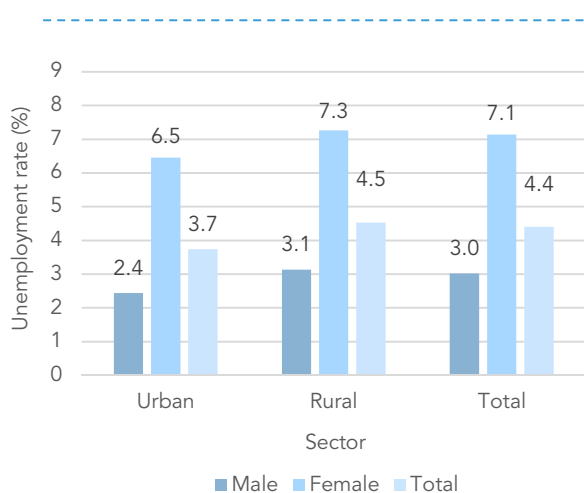
The number of unemployed persons is estimated as 365,951 during the year 2024. Out of this total, 45.6 percent are males and 54.4 percent are females.

Table 5.1: Unemployed number and unemployment rate by gender and sector - 2024

Gender	Unemployed	Total	Sector		
			Urban	Rural	Estate
Total	Number	365,951	49,990	296,551	19,410
	Rate	4.4	3.7	4.5	5.4
Male	Number	166,849	22,112	136,892	7,845
	Rate	3.0	2.4	3.1	3.6
Female	Number	199,102	27,878	159,659	11,565
	Rate	7.1	6.5	7.2	8.1

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

Figure 5.1: Unemployment rate by gender & sector - 2024



According to the Table 5.1 and Figure 5.1, unemployment rate reported for the year 2024 is 4.4 at national level and, the rates for the Urban, Rural and Estate sectors are 3.7, 4.5 and 5.4 percent respectively. It could also be seen that, at the national level, the unemployment rate for females (7.1%) is much higher than that of the male unemployment rate (3.0%).

Table 5.2: Unemployment rates, 2017 - 2024

Year	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
2017	4.2	2.9	6.5
2018	4.4	3.0	7.1
2019	4.8	3.3	7.4
2020	5.5	4.0	8.5
2021	5.1	3.7	7.9
2022	4.7	3.7	6.5
2023	4.7	3.6	7.0
2024	4.4	3.0	7.1

All over the period for 2017 to 2024 female unemployment remains higher than that of males.

Table 5.3: Unemployment rate by district - 2024

District	Un-emp rate (%)	District	Un-emp rate (%)
Total	4.4	Mullaitivu	3.3
Colombo	3.4	Kilinochchi	5.0
Gampaha	3.1	Batticaloa	4.6
Kalutara	5.0	Ampara	4.5
Kandy	6.0	Trincomalee	2.0
Matale	4.5	Kurunegala	4.6
Nuwara Eliya	4.1	Puttalam	2.4
Galle	6.3	Anuradhapura	3.9
Matara	6.1	Polonnaruwa	2.6
Hambantota	5.5	Badulla	4.5
Jaffna	3.6	Monaragala	7.0
Mannar	1.8	Rathnapura	4.2
Vavuniya	2.3	Kegalle	5.6

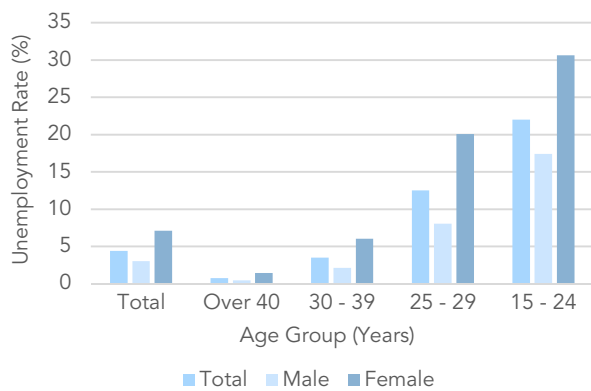
These figures are to be treated with caution as the corresponding CV (Coefficient of variation) values are high.

When consider the district level distribution the highest unemployment rate is recorded from Monaragala district (7.0%), followed by Galle district (6.3%).

Table 5.4: Unemployment rate by age group and gender - 2024

Age group (Years)	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total	4.4	3.0	7.1
15 - 24	22.0	17.4	30.6
25 - 29	12.5	8.1	20.1
30 - 39	3.5	2.1	6.1
Over 40	0.8	0.5	1.4

Figure 5.2: Unemployment rate by age group and gender - 2024



The Table 5.4 and Figure 5.2 depict that for all age groups, female unemployment rates are higher than those of male. Overall youth (age 15-24) unemployment rate is 22.0 percent. For both male and female youth reported the highest unemployment rate. The majority among unemployed are the new entrants to job market or new job seekers, who are in age group 15 – 24 years. The unemployment rate declines with the age. However it should be considered that among the youth (15 - 24) only a 23.8 percent enter to the labour force. Among them about 22.0 percent is unemployed.

Table 5.5: Unemployment rate by level of education - 2024

Level of Education	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total	4.4	3.0	7.1
Grade 5 & Below	0.5	0.3	1.2
Grade 6-10	2.8	2.1	4.5
G.C.E. (O/L)	5.7	4.2	8.9
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	7.8	5.4	10.3

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

As given in Table 5.5, the highest unemployment rate is reported from educated group G.C.E.(A/L) and above which is reported as 7.8 percent. It is 5.4 percent and 10.3 percent for male and female respectively. As reported in previous years of survey the problem of unemployment is more acute in the case of educated females than educated males.

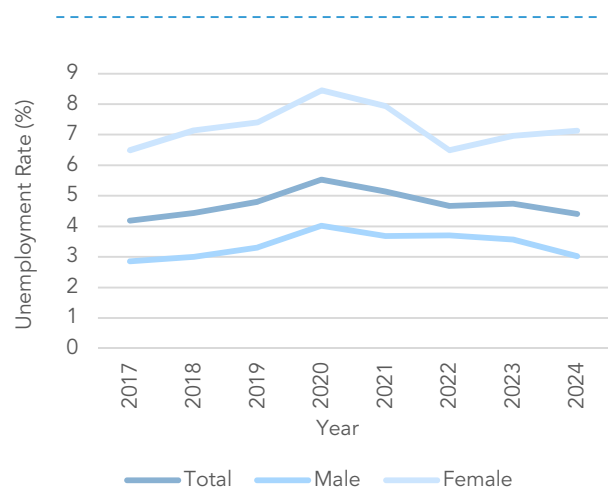
Table 5.5a: Unemployment of the Graduates – 2024 (Age 20 & above)

Type of the degree	Total	Percentage
Total no. of unemployed graduates	42,254	100.0
Art degree	20,398	48.3
Other degrees	21,856	51.7

In 2024, the estimated unemployment among the persons aged 20 years and above and who are graduates is given in the Table 5.5a. Among the unemployed graduates, about 48.3 percent are Art degree holders while the other 51.7 percent consist with other degree holders.

5.2 Annual unemployment rates

Figure 5.3: Unemployment rate by gender, 2017 – 2024



Unemployment rates from 2017 show that the rate is stagnant between 4 to 6 percent. However, it is very important to notice that, the changes are not statistically significant between some consecutive years, when sampling error³ is considered.

³ Please see the explanatory notes as in the appendix for more detail.

Figure 5.4:
Unemployment rates, 2017 - 2024

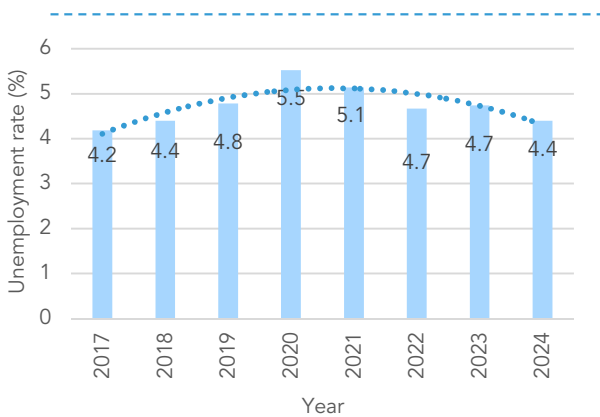
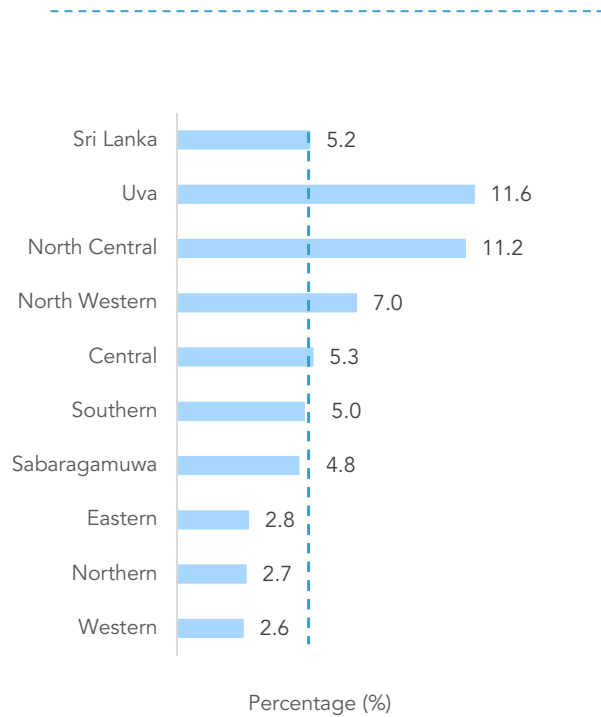


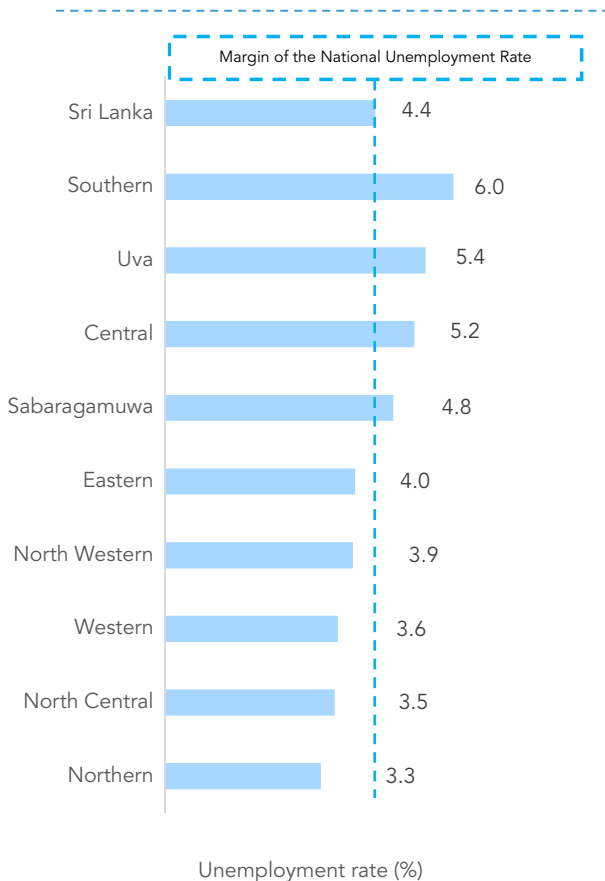
Figure 5.6:
Share of contributing family workers to the employment for each province - 2024



5.3 Unemployment rate by province

The following figure shows the unemployment situation in year 2024 by provinces. The highest unemployment rate is reported from the Southern province (6.0%) followed by Uva province (5.4%). The lowest unemployment rate is reported from the North Central province and Northern province (3.3%).

Figure 5.5:
Unemployment rate by province - 2024



Considering the Figure 5.5, Figure 5.6 and Table 5.6 North Central province which is predominantly agricultural farming area show lower unemployment rate and high contribution of own account workers and contributing family workers. In contrast, Western, Northern and Eastern provinces show lower percentages of contributing family workers.

Table 5.6: Unemployment rate and percentage distribution of employment status for each province - 2024

Province	Unemployment rate	Employment status				
		Total	Paid employee	Employer	Own Account Worker	Contributing Family Worker
Total	4.4	100.0	58.8	2.9	33.1	5.2
Western	3.6	100.0	67.8	4.6	25.0	2.6
Central	5.2	100.0	61.1	3.0	30.5	5.3
Southern	6.0	100.0	58.4	1.9	34.7	5.0
Northern	3.3	100.0	59.7	2.2	35.4	2.7
Eastern	4.0	100.0	61.1	2.0	34.1	2.8
North Western	3.9	100.0	51.9	2.9	38.2	7.0
North Central	3.5	100.0	37.8	1.5	49.4	11.2
Uva	5.4	100.0	44.9	0.9	42.6	11.6
Sabaragamuwa	4.8	100.0	60.7	2.2	32.4	4.8

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

The Unemployment rate and participation in Agricultural activities may have some relationship, since when there are Agricultural activities, persons join the labour force as contributing family workers specially the females.

5.4 Youth unemployment in Sri Lanka

Generally developing countries face major challenges regarding the quality of available work for youths (age between 15 – 24 years).

Youth unemployment is the percentage of the unemployed population in the age group 15 – 24 years to the currently “economically active population” or “labour force” in the age group of 15 – 24 years. The youth unemployment rate is 23.0 percent in 2023.

Youth unemployment rate by some demographic characteristics such as province, gender, level of education are discussed below.

Table 5.7: Youth unemployment rate by Province, 2020 - 2024

Province	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	26.5	26.5	22.7	23.0	22.0
Western	23.5	21.7	20.3	18.7	17.9
Central	36.4	30.4	31.4	31.7	27.3
Southern	35.8	33.4	27.8	33.3	33.2
Northern	20.6	16.9	15.5	14.9	11.6
Eastern	19.1	21.8	13.9	16.8	16.9
North Western	18.7	21.5	19.4	16.7	17.9
North Central	23.6	27.8	24.5	27.8	22.3
Uva	32.6	38.3	24.3	34.4	29.8
Sabaragamuwa	30.8	35.7	26.3	22.0	25.6

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

Table 5.7 shows that the Southern province is having the highest youth unemployment rate in year 2024. It is about 33.2 percent and followed by Uva province (29.8%) in 2024.

Figure 5.7: Youth unemployment rate, 2020 - 2024

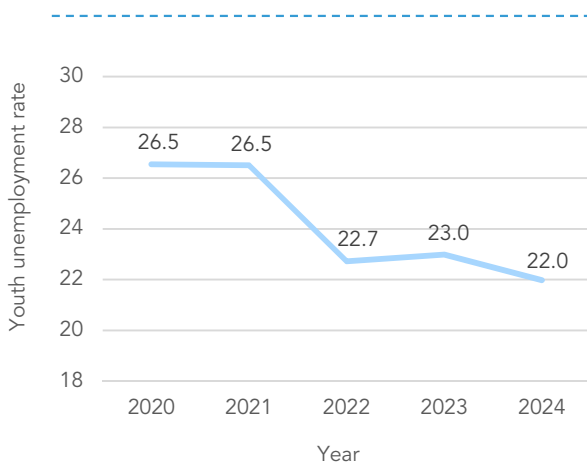


Figure 5.8:
Youth unemployment rate by gender, 2020 - 2024

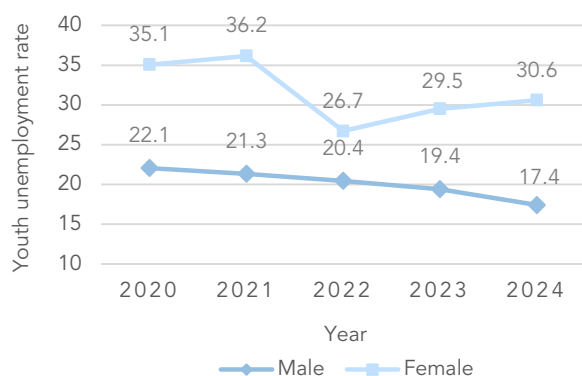


Figure 5.8 depicts that female youth unemployment rate is always higher than males.

Table 5.8: Youth unemployment rate by level of education, 2020 - 2024

Level of Education	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	26.5	26.5	22.7	23.0	22.0
Grade 5 & Below	16.7	10.4	16.6	7.6	..
Grade 6-10	20.7	17.8	17.5	16.5	15.7
G.C.E. (O/L)	25.9	26.9	24.6	25.1	22.6
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	36.6	39.3	28.6	29.8	30.0

.. Youth unemployment not reported.

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

Youth unemployment rate is higher among the educated group with G.C.E.(A/L) & above.

The new youth cohorts who are entering to labour force after completing their higher education show higher unemployment rates.

5.5 Ratio of the youth unemployment rate to the adult unemployment rate

The former complements the ratio of youth-to-adult unemployment rate is reflecting to what degree the unemployment problem is a youth-specific problem as opposed to a general problem. In a country where the youth unemployment rate is high and the ratio of the youth unemployment rate to the adult unemployment rate is close to one, it may be concluded that the problem of unemployment is not specific to youth, but is country-wide. However, unemployment rates of youth are typically higher than those of adults, reflected by youth-to-adult unemployment rates that exceed

one. (ILO Key Indicators of the Labour Market, Eighth edition Geneva, International Labour Office, 2014).

Table 5.9: Ratio of the youth unemployment rate to the adult unemployment rate by gender, 2020 – 2024

Gender	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	9.1	9.6	8.3	8.1	8.4
Male	12.2	12.3	10.4	10.0	11.1
Female	6.9	7.6	6.3	6.5	6.6

Table 5.9 shows that ratio of the youth unemployment rate to the adult unemployment from 2020 to 2024. This ratio is always lower for females than males. The ratio is always above one, hence this shows that youth unemployment is significantly higher than adult unemployment.

5.6 Youth unemployment as a proportion of total unemployment

If, in addition to a high youth unemployment rate, the proportion of youth unemployment in total unemployment is high, this would also indicate an unequal distribution of the problem of unemployment. In this case, employment policies might usefully be directed towards easing the entry of young people into the world of work. (ILO Key Indicators of the Labour Market, Eighth edition Geneva, International Labour Office, 2014)

Figure 5.9:
Youth unemployment as a proportion of total unemployment by province - 2024

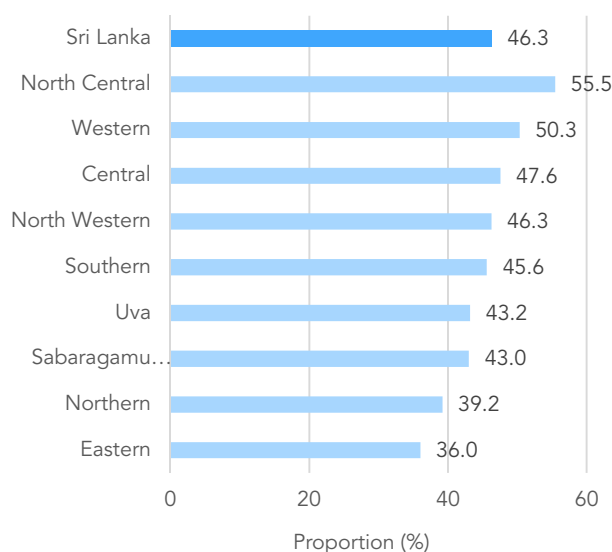


Figure 5.9 shows Youth unemployment as a proportion of total unemployment by Province and for the country. This rate for Sri Lanka is 46.3 percent, which shows that half of unemployment population of the country is youth. Also these reveal that North Central, Western and Central, provinces have higher proportion than the national proportion. Which are 55.5, 50.3 and 47.6 percent respectively.

Table 5.10: Youth unemployment as a proportion of total unemployment by gender and level of education - 2024

Measurement	Proportion of Youth unemployment
Gender	
Male	52.6
Female	41.0
Level of Education	
Grade 5 & Below	..
Grade 6-10	47.7
G.C.E. (O/L)	55.4
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	42.0
.. Youth unemployment not reported.	

According to 2024 findings, males shows a higher proportion of youth unemployment as a proportion to the total unemployment compared to that of female.

Further the highest proportion of youth unemployment is reported from G.C.E. (O/L) group in level of education and it is 55.4 percent. Also G.C.E. (A/L) & above and Grade 6-10 groups shows 47.7 percent and 42.0 percent respectively.

5.7 Youth unemployment as a proportion of total youth population

The proportion of youth unemployed in the youth population places the youth unemployment challenge into perspective by showing what share of the youth population, unemployment actually touches. Youth who are looking for work might have great difficulty finding it but when this group only represents less than 5 percent of the total youth population then policy-makers may choose to address it with less urgency. (ILO Key Indicators of the Labour Market, Eighth edition Geneva, International Labour Office, 2014).

Table 5.11: Youth unemployment as a proportion of total youth population by gender and level of education - 2024

Level of Education	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total	5.2	5.5	5.0
Grade 5 & Below	..	..	..
Grade 6-10	3.7	4.6	2.6
G.C.E. (O/L)	4.3	5.0	3.6
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	9.7	9.0	10.2
.. Youth unemployment not reported.			

Table 5.11 depicts that youth unemployment to the total youth population for Sri Lanka and it is 5.2 for the year 2024. This proportion is 5.5 and 5.0 for males and females respectively. The most considerable thing is that the highest proportion of youth unemployment to youth population, 9.7 percent is shown among educated youth group (G.C.E. (A/L) & above group) and it is 9.0 percent and 10.2 percent for male and female respectively.

5.8 The youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) group

The NEET rate is useful as it;

- Considers all young people who are not employed and inactive in the age group (15 – 24 years)
- Gives an indication of youth potential and potential youth labour-market problems in relation to the whole youth population
- Helps in the wider understanding of the youth labour market (in combination with the youth unemployment rate, employment rate, and labour force participation rate).

(Statistics New Zealand (2011). Introducing the youth not in employment, education, or training indicator. Wellington: Statistics New Zealand)

Although NEET data has its benefits, it should still be treated carefully. NEET rates capture the non-utilised labour potential of the population and can also be used to identify individuals who may be at risk of future difficulties. However, it does not measure the characteristics behind the NEET group, such as diverse experiences, problems and difficulties, needs, or distinct choices made. NEET statistics simply measure what people are not doing, not what they are doing. A measure of NEET provides another piece of the youth labour-market picture.

The youth NEET rate is calculated as follows.

(Number of unemployed youth + number of youth not in the labour force – Number of unemployed youth and youth not in the labour force who are in education or training) / (Total number of youth)*100

Table 5.12: Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by gender, 2020 - 2024

Gender	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	685,424	625,985	585,661	596,844	558,360
Male	240,425	227,606	213,432	223,410	190,509
Female	444,998	398,379	372,229	373,434	367,851

Table 5.12 depicts that female youth not in employment, education or training is higher than male youth in all years 2020 to 2024. The total NEET has gradually declined across the five years.

Table 5.13: NEET rate (NEET group as a percentage to total youth) by gender 2020 - 2024

Gender	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	21.5	19.4	18.1	18.2	17.2
Male	15.3	14.4	13.5	13.7	11.9
Female	27.5	24.2	22.3	22.6	22.4

Table 5.13 shows that around one in five youth are NEET in 2024, with nearly one in four among females. NEET rate is significantly higher for female compared to male.

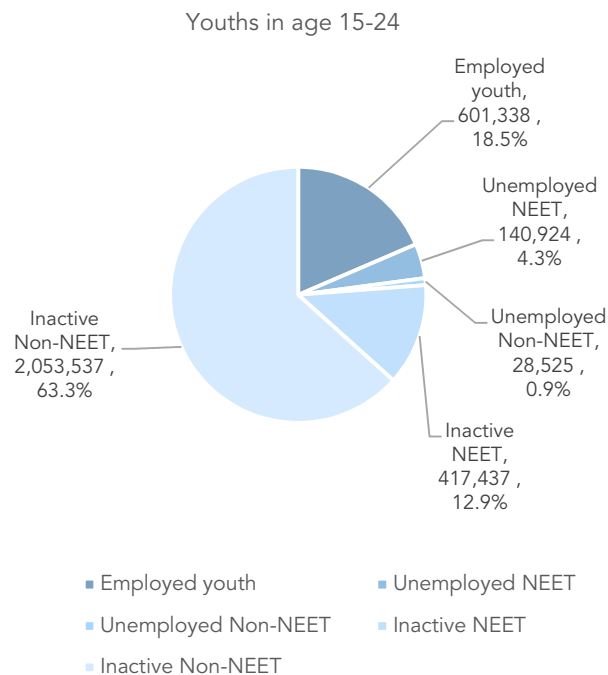
Table 5.14: NEET rate (NEET group as a percentage to total youth) by level of education and gender – 2024

Level of Education	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total	17.2	11.9	22.4
Grade 5 & Below	66.1	51.9	82.7
Grade 6-10	17.2	11.0	24.8
G.C.E. (O/L)	14.4	10.8	17.8
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	18.9	12.9	22.9

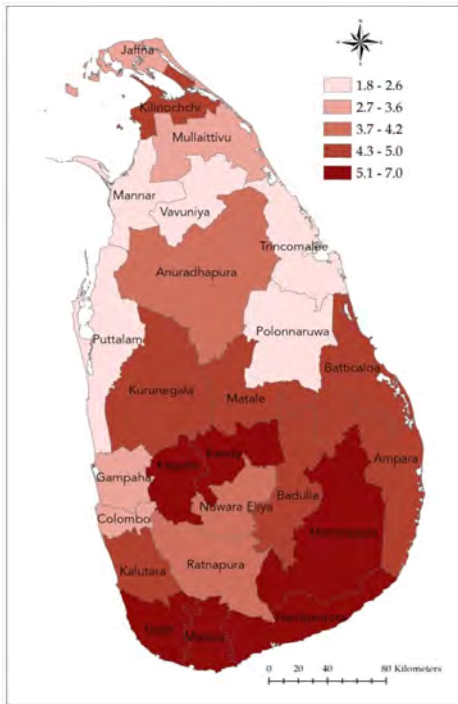
According to the Table 5.14, female NEET rate is higher than that of male for all education groups. Less educated youth are having the highest NEET rate. Among them female youth with Grade 5 and below level of education are having the highest NEET rate, 66.1 percent. The lowest NEET rate is reported for the group with G.C.E. (O/L) level of education and it is true for both male and female. Total youth population is about 3.2 million. The

Figure 5.10 shows the distribution of total youth (15 – 24) population by different economic conditions in 2024.

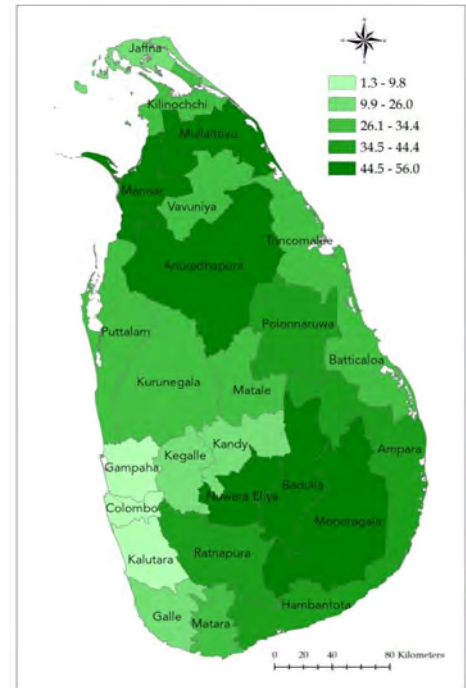
Figure 5.10:
Distribution of youth population by different economic conditions - 2024



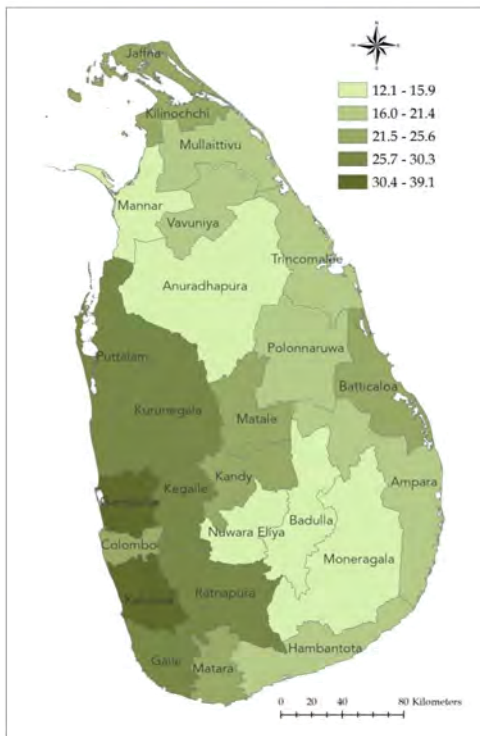
Map (3): Unemployment rate by district – 2024



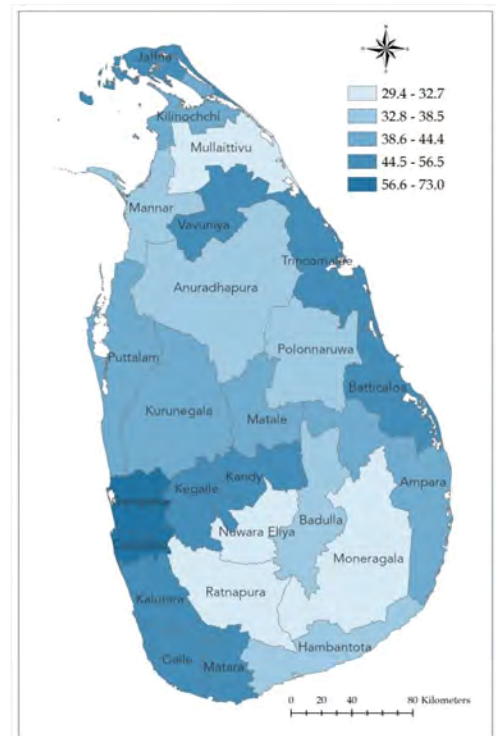
Map (4): Percentage distribution of employed population in agriculture sector by districts – 2024



Map (5): Percentage distribution of employed population in industry sector by districts – 2024



Map (6): Percentage distribution of employed population in service sector by districts – 2024



CHAPTER SIX

Underemployment

The importance of the concept of Under-employment has long been recognized. At the international level, the concept was accepted at the Sixth International Conference of Labour Statisticians ICLS (1948). According to the 1966 ICLS resolution, “underemployment” exists when a person’s employment is inadequate, in relation to specified norms or alternative employment, account being taken of his occupational skill (training and working experience).

Under-employment can be distinguished in to two principal forms known as visible and invisible.

Visible under-employment

This reflects an insufficiency in the volume of employment. Also this is called time-related underemployment.

Invisible under-employment

Characterized by low income, underutilization of skill, low productivity and other factors

The 1982 ICLS resolution recognized, however, that “for operational reasons the statistical measurement of underemployment may be limited to visible underemployment”. It refined the definition and introduced an approach to combine the measurement of visible underemployment with that of unemployment. Underemployment has particular relevance in developing countries, notably in connection with agriculture. It has been observed that measurement of underemployment has mostly been recommended for describing the employment situation in developing countries. Further time-related underemployment reflects the underutilization of the productive capacity of the labour force of the country.

HIGHLIGHTS

Underemployment Rate (%)

Sri Lanka	2.2
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By Gender

Male	2.0
------	-----

Female	2.5
--------	-----

By Economic Sector

Agriculture	3.0
-------------	-----

Industry	2.6
----------	-----

Services	1.4
----------	-----

6.1 Criteria for classification of underemployment

In order to classify an employed persons as visibly underemployed or time-related underemployed.

- **If the person has worked less than the normal duration in his/her main activity and engaged in a secondary activity**

Until 2012, only the time spent on main activity was considered to decide cutoff time limit. However, from 2013 onward this has been changed and time spent on both main and secondary activities were considered to decide cutoff time limit.

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 fulltime schedule according to the nature of their job.

Therefore, if the person has worked less than the cut-off duration in his/her main & secondary activities (as described above), then the person is further questioned to ascertain whether he/she is prepared and available for further work if provided. Such available persons are considered as visibly under employed.

- **If the person has worked more than the normal duration in his/her main & secondary activities**

If the person has worked even more than 35 hours 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.

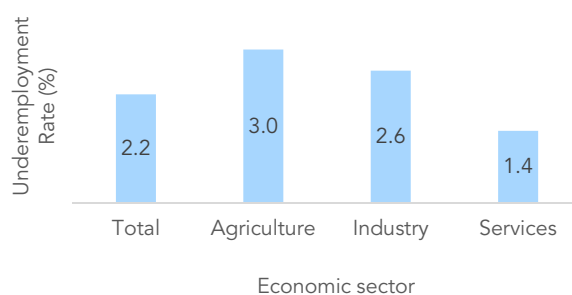
Applying above mentioned criteria, an attempt has been made to estimate visible underemployment and also the "underemployment rate" which is defined as the number of underemployed persons as a percentage of employed persons is calculated.

6.2 Distribution of underemployment rate

Table 6.1: Underemployment rate by major industry group - 2024

Major industry group	Underemployment rate (%)
Total	2.2
Agriculture	3.0
Industry	2.6
Services	1.4

Figure 6.1: Underemployment rate by major industry group - 2024



As given in Figure 6.1 underemployment rates by economic sector reveals a considerable difference among sectors. Agriculture sector reports the highest rate (3.0%) and service sector reports the lowest rate (1.4%). The results reveal that when the total population is considered 2.2 percent of employed population is under-utilized with respect to time and this is more prevalent in Agriculture sector.

Table 6.2: Underemployment rate by gender 2019 - 2024

Year	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
2020	2.6	2.3	3.3
2021	2.5	2.1	3.3
2022	2.7	2.3	3.4
2023	3.7	3.4	4.4
2024	2.2	2.0	2.5

Table 6.2 shows that the female underemployment is higher than that of male, for all these periods from 2020 to 2024.

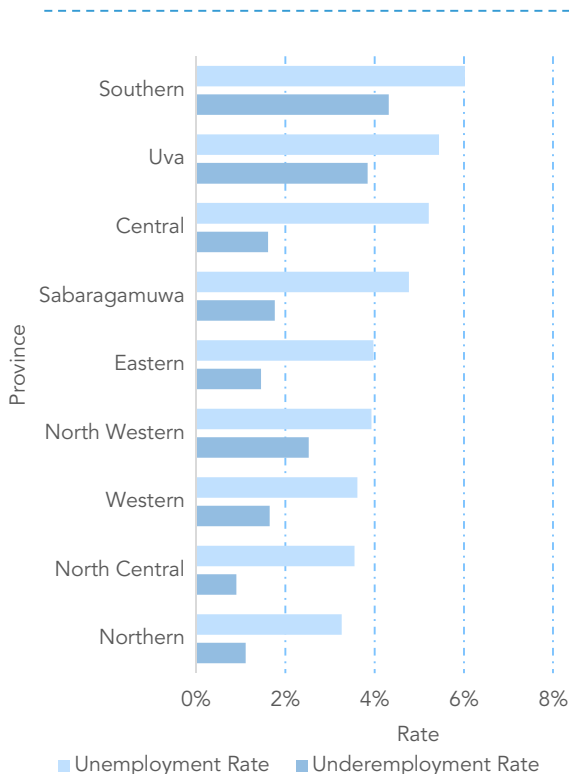
Table 6.3: Underemployment rate by level of education and gender - 2024

Level of Education	Total	Gender	
		Male	Female
Total	2.2	2.0	2.5
Grade 5 and below	2.9	2.6	3.6
Grade 6 - 10	2.5	2.4	2.6
G.C.E.(O/L)	2.0	1.5	3.2
G.C.E.(A/L) & above	1.4	1.1	1.7

As given in the Table 6.3, the highest underemployment rate reported from the group with level of education grade 5 and below. The highest underemployment among male and female are also reported from grade 5 and below.

6.3 Underemployment / unemployment by province and district

Figure 6.2: Underemployment, Unemployment rates by province - 2024



Both unemployment & underemployment are indicators of labour under-utilization and provides information on prevailing labour market slack. The distribution of unemployment rate and underemployment rate by province is shown in

Figure 6.2. The highest underemployment rate reported from Southern province and highest unemployment rate is also reported from Southern province.

The Table 6.4 shows the distribution of underemployment rate, unemployment rate and percentage of informal sector employment. When regional labour market policies are defined these related conditions should be considered.

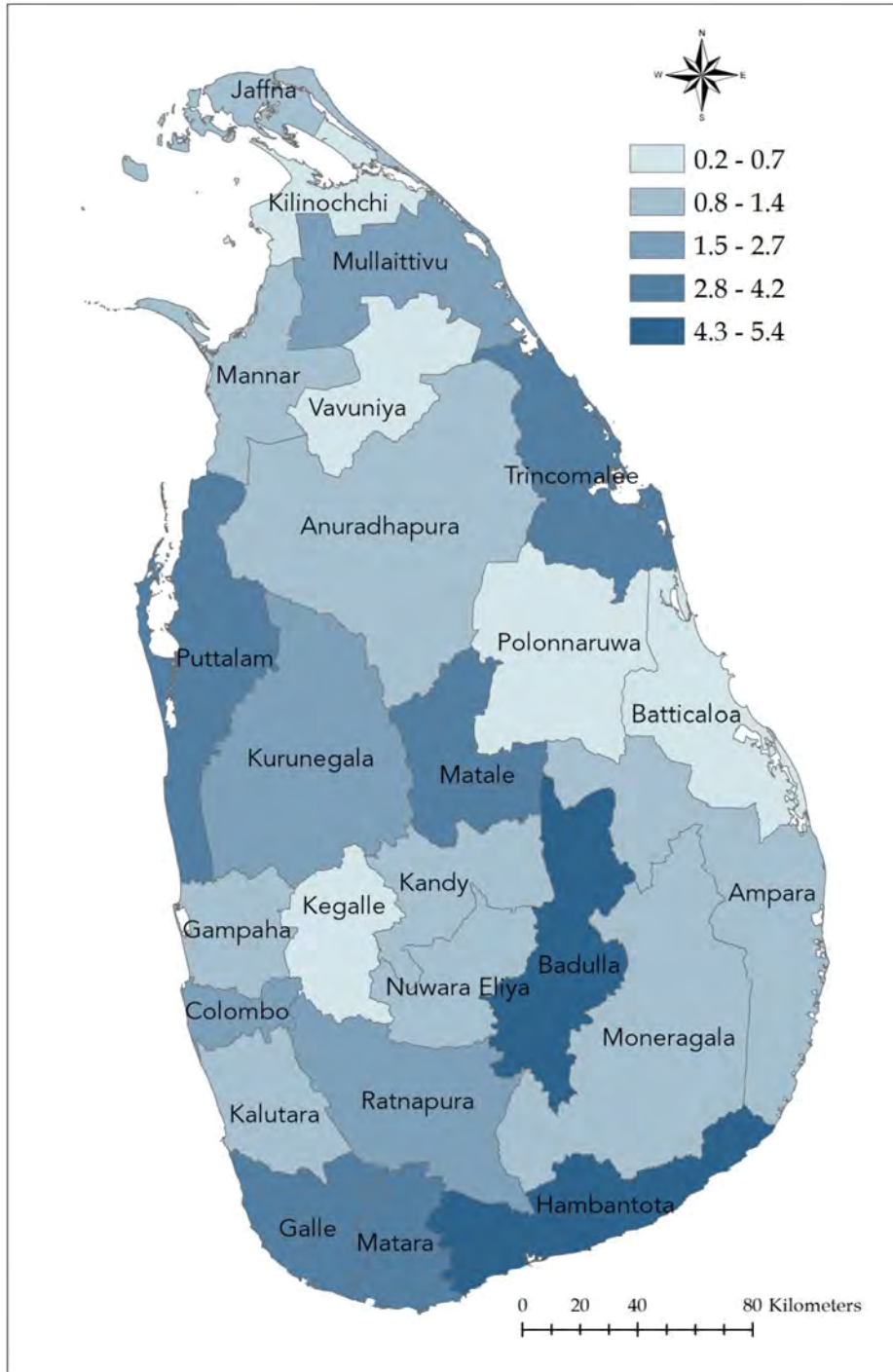
The statistics shows that in some districts where informal sector employment is high the underemployment rate is also high.

Table 6.4: Underemployment rate/ Unemployment rate / Percentage of informal sector employment by district - 2024

District	Underemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate	Percentage of Informal Sector Employment
All Island	2.2	4.4	56.9
Colombo	2.2	3.4	38.8
Gampaha	1.2	3.1	38.2
Kalutara	1.4	5.0	47.1
Kandy	1.1	6.0	51.7
Matale	3.3	4.5	62.9
Nuwara Eliya	1.4	4.1	48.7
Galle	4.2	6.3	60.4
Matara	3.8	6.1	61.2
Hambantota	5.1	5.5	68.2
Jaffna	1.4	3.6	63.2
Mannar	1.1	1.8	73.4
Vavuniya	0.2	2.3	72.3
Mullaitivu	2.7	3.3	79.1
Kilinochchi	0.4	5.0	66.2
Batticaloa	0.3	4.6	64.9
Ampara	1.2	4.5	67.9
Trincomalee	3.6	2.0	57.5
Kurunegala	2.1	4.6	65.2
Puttalam	3.5	2.4	73.5
Anuradhapura	1.2	3.9	72.9
Polonnaruwa	0.2	2.6	67.9
Badulla	5.4	4.5	65.3
Monaragala	1.2	7.0	73.2
Rathnapura	2.5	4.2	65.0
Kegalle	0.7	5.6	56.0

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

Map (7): Underemployment rate by district - 2024



CHAPTER SEVEN

Informal Sector Employment

The Informal Sector represents an important segment of the economy and the labour market in many countries, especially developing countries; thus, measurement of the informal sector is important in their own right as well as contributing towards exhaustive estimates of GDP. Further informal sector plays a major role in employment creation, production and income generation.

Since its first appearance in the early 1970's the term "informal sector" has become so popular and nowadays it is used with different meanings for different purposes. Originally it referred to a concept for data analysis and policy making. Now it's sometimes used in a much broader sense to refer to a concept for the collection of data on activities not covered by the existing, conventional source of statistics.

Key aspects of identifying informal sector

- *Registration of the organization (If the institutions registered in Employment Provident Fund or in Department of Inland Revenue, then that is considered as formal)*
or
- *Accounts keeping practices of the organization (If the institutions keep formal accounts, then that is considered as formal)*
or
- *Total number of regular employees of the organization (If the no. of regular employees greater than or equal 10, that is considered as formal).*

All other institutions which do not satisfy any one of above conditions are considered as informal sector.

HIGHLIGHTS

Employment Contribution to Informal Sector (%)

Sri Lanka	56.9
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By Gender

Male	61.4
Female	47.7

By Economic Sector

Agriculture	88.4
Non-Agriculture	45.9

7.1 The informal economy

A review of national statistical definitions of the informal sector in different countries shows that they do not always fully correspond to the international definition adopted by the 15th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (15th ICLS) and the System of National Accounts (SNA) 1993.

The international comparability of data on the informal sector is affected by national differences in data sources, in the geographical coverage of surveys, in the branches of economic activity covered etc. Therefore, a criterion which is to define the informal sector varies among countries. However, most of the countries tend to collect informal sector information, especially those using labour force or other household surveys for the measurement of employment in the informal sector, were advised by the experts to use the criteria of registration of the organization, accounts keeping system and size of their organization.

In such situation, Department of Census and Statistics observed the necessity of having informal sector information, and therefore, after carefully reviewing of LFS schedule with the assistance of the ESCAP regional advisor on Economic Statistics, relevant questions were included to the schedule aiming to collect the information relating to the informal sector from 2006 onwards.

In 2013, new questions were introduced to the survey in order to improve statistics on informal sector employment in the country. However, definition of the informal sector is same as in 2006.

7.2 Distribution of informal / formal sector employment

Table 7.1: Composition of Informal / Formal sector employment by economic sector – 2024

Informal / formal sector		Economic sector		
		Total	Agricultural	Non agricultural
Total	No.	7,949,751	2,066,651	5,883,100
	%	100.0	100.0	100.0
Formal sector	No.	3,423,526	239,224	3,184,302
	%	43.1	11.6	54.1
Informal sector	No.	4,526,224	1,827,427	2,698,798
	%	56.9	88.4	45.9

Figure 7.1: Distribution of informal / formal sector employment by economic sector - 2024

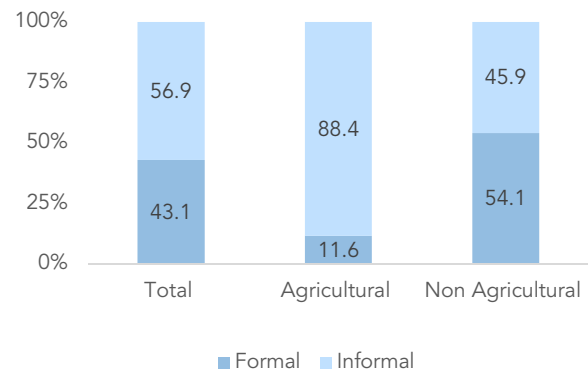


Table 7.1 and Figure 7.1 show that, in Sri Lanka the contribution of informal sector employment to the total employment is about 56.9 percent. The survey results also reveal that 88.4 percent of agricultural employment comprises with informal sector employment, and agriculture formal sector employment is 11.6 percent. Formal sector agricultural employment mainly comprises with employment in Estate sector, owned by government or corporate sector. However, in non-agricultural sector percentage of formal sector employment is higher than informal sector employment.

Table 7.2: Distribution of informal / formal sector employment by gender - 2024

Gender	Total		Sector			
			Formal		Informal	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	3,423,526	43.1	4,526,224	56.9
Male	5,358,554	100.0	2,067,661	38.6	3,290,893	61.4
Female	2,591,197	100.0	1,355,866	52.3	1,235,331	47.7

According to the Table 7.2, among employed male majority are working in the informal sector, that percentage is 61.4 percent and for female this percentage is 47.7 percent. Female formal sector participation is higher compared to that of male, when the percentage is considered.

Table7.3: Distribution of informal / formal sector employment by level of education – 2024

Level of education	Total		Sector			
			Formal		Informal	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	3,423,526	43.1	4,526,224	56.9
Grade 5 and below	923,763	100.0	165,472	17.9	758,291	82.1
Grade 6 - 10	3,469,664	100.0	968,819	27.9	2,500,845	72.1
G.C.E.(O/L)	1,519,303	100.0	732,763	48.2	786,541	51.8
G.C.E.(A/L) & above	2,037,020	100.0	1,556,473	76.4	480,547	23.6

Table 7.3, gives clear evidence for the relationship between level of education and informal sector participation. When level of education increases informal sector participation decreases and this is opposite for formal sector.

Table7.4: Distribution of Informal / Formal sector employment by employment status - 2024

Status of employment	Total		Sector			
			Formal		Informal	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	3,423,526	100.0	4,526,224	100.0
Employees	4,675,651	58.8	2,980,330	87.1	1,695,321	37.5
Employer	229,192	2.9	128,835	3.8	100,357	2.2
Own account worker	2,632,721	33.1	258,290	7.5	2,374,431	52.5
Contributing family worker	412,187	5.2	56,072	1.6	356,115	7.9

The Table 7.4 shows the distribution of employed population by status of employment and by formal/informal sector. The composition of the employment by status of employment is different for two sectors informal & formal. In informal sector highest percentage is reported the own account worker category (52.5%), in contrast to formal sector where highest percentage is employees (87.1%).

Table7.5: Distribution of informal / formal sector employment by main occupation - 2024

Occupation	Total		Sector			
			Formal		Informal	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	3,423,526	43.1	4,526,224	56.9
1.Managers, Senior Officials and Legislators						
Chief executive, Senior Official, Legislators	23,376	100.0	22,984	98.3	392	1.7
Administrative & Commercial Managers	89,193	100.0	86,085	96.5	3,109	3.5
Production and Specialized services Managers	117,781	100.0	95,415	81.0	22,367	19.0
Hospitality, Shop and Related services Managers	109,436	100.0	63,391	57.9	46,045	42.1
2.Professionals	589,418	100.0	507,589	86.1	81,829	13.9
3.Technical & Associate Professionals	686,022	100.0	559,994	81.6	126,028	18.4
4.Clerks and Clerical support workers	283,293	100.0	266,602	94.1	16,690	5.9
5.Services and Sales workers	978,857	100.0	475,927	48.6	502,930	51.4
6.Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery workers	1,212,157	100.0	39,644	3.3	1,172,514	96.7
7.Craft and Related Trades workers	1,077,931	100.0	254,739	23.6	823,192	76.4
8.Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	783,781	100.0	372,157	47.5	411,625	52.5
9.Elementary occupations	1,957,410	100.0	638,616	32.6	1,318,794	67.4
10.Armed Forces occupations & Unidentified occupations	41,094	100.0	40,385	98.3	710	1.7

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

The Table 7.5 disaggregates total employment into formal/informal and into occupation groups as identified in SLSCO-08. It is clear that some occupation categories are highly consist with informal sector occupation.

ISCO – 08

From 2013 onward, the survey uses SLSCO – 08, based on International Standard Classification of Occupation – 2008 (ISCO – 08) for occupation classification. The classifications is mainly based two concepts ' the kind of work performed or job' and 'skills'.

7.3 Distribution of Informal Sector Employment

In general, agriculture sector in developing countries highly concentrate with informal sector employment. However, the geographical distribution of non-agricultural employment is heterogeneous. Hence, it is important to see the geographical distribution of informal sector employment in non-agricultural sector.

Table 7.6: Distribution of Informal sector employment in Non - Agriculture sector by district - 2024

District	%	District	%
Total	45.9	Mullaitivu	59.8
Colombo	38.3	Kilinochchi	51.2
Gampaha	36.0	Batticaloa	54.5
Kalutara	42.5	Ampara	51.7
Kandy	44.6	Trincomalee	42.8
Matale	47.1	Kurunegala	53.6
Nuwara Eliya	45.1	Puttalam	65.6
Galle	49.8	Anuradhapura	45.0
Matara	49.8	Polonnaruwa	44.0
Hambantota	48.5	Badulla	45.2
Jaffna	53.8	Monaragala	48.1
Mannar	47.6	Rathnapura	52.2
Vavuniya	59.1	Kegalle	49.3

Non-agricultural sector comprises with industry and service sector activities. The distribution of informal sector employment in non-agriculture by district is given in Table 7.6. In 2024 about 45.9 percent of non-agricultural sector employment comprises with informal sector activities. The existing differences of percentages among the districts may be due to the disparities in regional distribution of non-agricultural industries. Puttalam district share 65.6 percent of their non-agriculture employment in informal sector (Map 8).

Map (8): Participation rate of informal sector in non-agriculture sector by districts – 2024

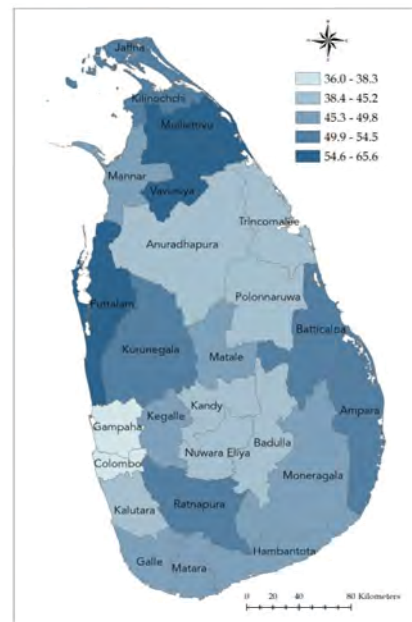
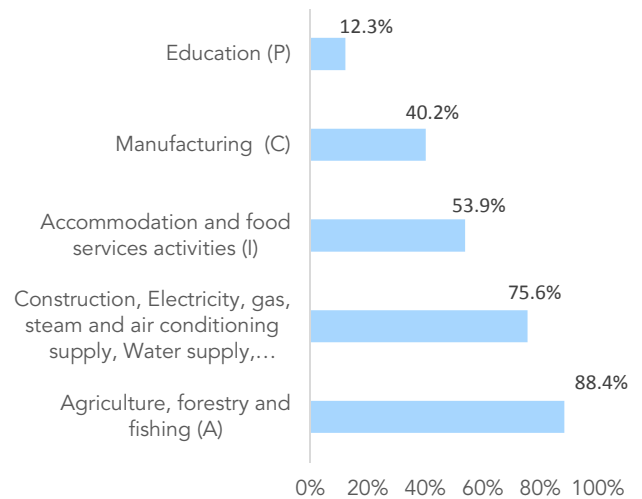


Figure 7.2: Distribution of informal sector employment by selected industry groups - 2024



Looking at the Informal sector employment by selected industry groups (Figure 7.2), 88.4 percent of total agricultural employment is in the informal sector. The percentage of "Construction, electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities, one of the major group in industries is 75.6. "Education" group consist with comparatively a lower percentage of informal sector employment (12.3%).

CHAPTER EIGHT

Total Jobs in Sri Lanka with Secondary Employment

Multiple jobholding arises when individuals work in more than one job at the same time. The term 'Secondary Employment' comes with the multiple jobholding. This has been increased considerably in transition & industrialized countries in recent decades. Statistical information on multiple jobholding is limited in developing countries also in Sri Lanka when comparing with some other developing/developed countries. However at present, developing countries also collect information on multiple jobs due its importance at the statistical estimations on entire labour market. Also multiple jobholding directly affects the country's job market. Therefore it is vital to have detail statistics on multiple job holding in Sri Lanka.

Multiple Job Holders

Multiple jobholders are persons who work more than one job at the same period of time (during survey reference period).

Secondary Job Holders

Those who have engaged in a secondary activity other than the main activity during the survey reference period are considered as secondary job holders.

HIGHLIGHTS

Employed Population

Sri Lanka	7,949,751
Male	5,358,554
Female	2,591,197

Secondary Employed Population

Sri Lanka	400,250
Male	315,666
Female	84,584

Total Jobs

Sri Lanka	8,350,001
Male	5,674,219
Female	2,675,781

8.1 Secondary Employment in Sri Lanka

Department of Census and Statistics released statistical data on multiple job holders for the first time in 2014. Individuals may have multiple jobs at the same time; however, due to practical problems labour force survey collects data only on two jobs, main and secondary. This part of chapter discusses secondary employment.

Table 8.1: Distribution of employed population & total jobs by main and secondary job (2020 – 2024)

Year	Employment				Jobs		
	Total	%	Main job only	%	Main and Secondary	%	Total
2020	7,999,093	100.0	7,485,352	93.6	513,741	6.4	8,512,834
2021	8,113,507	100.0	7,623,957	94.0	489,550	6.0	8,603,057
2022	8,147,731	100.0	7,661,571	94.0	486,160	6.0	8,633,890
2023	8,009,916	100.0	7,498,263	93.6	511,653	6.4	8,521,570
2024	7,949,751	100.0	7,549,501	95.0	400,250	5.0	8,350,001

The survey results show that 400,250 (5.0%) of total employed, persons hold secondary jobs during the survey year 2024. Out of these secondary employed persons, 315,666 were males and 84,584 were females. Table 8.1 also illustrates that the 95.0 percent of employed population have been engaged in main job only. Considering main and secondary employment together, about 8.4 million total number of jobs are estimated at the survey year 2024.

Table 8.2: Distribution of employed population by main and secondary job and by sector – 2024

Sector	Employed population	%	Main job only		Main and Secondary jobs	
				%		%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	7,549,501	95.0	400,250	5.0
Urban	1,287,721	100.0	1,261,057	97.9	26,664	2.1
Rural	6,319,262	100.0	5,952,745	94.2	366,517	5.8
Estate	342,768	100.0	335,699	97.9	7,069	2.1

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

Table 8.2 shows the distribution of main and secondary job population among sectors. Highest rate of secondary job was reported from Rural

sector (5.8%) among all sectors whereas rates of Urban and Estate sectors are 2.1 percent.

Out of the total secondary jobs, highest share is reported from Agriculture sector (65.8%) whereas Services and Industries sectors shares 22.5 and 11.7 percent respectively (Figure 8.1). When the employed population in main job is considered, services sector illustrates the highest share (48.5%) whereas Agriculture and Industry sectors shares 26.0 and 25.6 percent respectively (Figure 8.2). These results show that many of the jobs in secondary employment are agriculture activities.

Figure 8.1: Distribution of employed population by considering secondary job by major industry groups – 2024

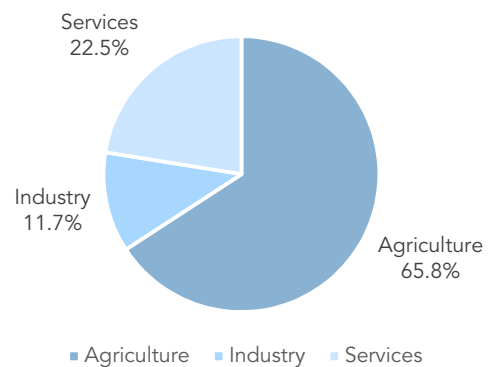


Figure 8.2: Distribution of employed population by considering main job by major industry groups – 2024

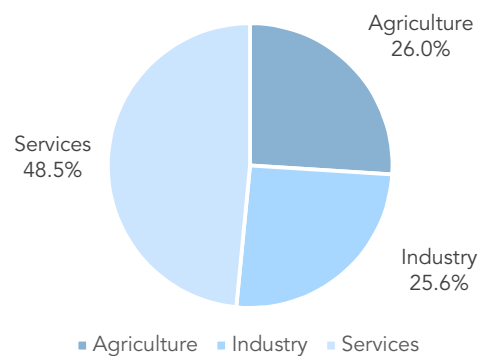


Table 8.3: Percentage distribution of secondary employment by employment status & gender – 2024

Employment Status	Total No.	Total	Male	Female
Total	400,250	100.0	78.9	21.1
Employee	65,686	100.0	84.3	15.7
Employer	5,328	100.0	90.0	10.0
Own Account Worker	283,372	100.0	83.8	16.2
Contributing Family Worker	45,863	100.0	39.5	60.5

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

Figure 8.3:
Percentage distribution of secondary employment by employment status by gender – 2024

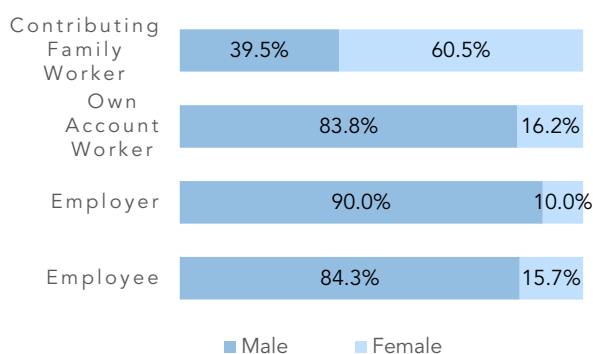
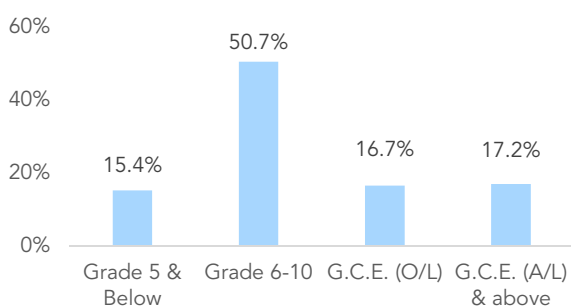


Table 8.3 & Figure 8.3 show the distribution of secondary employment by employment status. Share of contributing family workers is 60.5 percent for females, which is much higher compared to the contribution of male (39.5%) in the same category. In other three categories the percentages are much higher for males than females.

Figure 8.4:
Distribution of secondary employment by level of education – 2024



Those who have grade 6 to 10 level of education show highest percentage (50.7%) among secondary employed population (Figure 8.4).

Table 8.4: Distribution of secondary employment by occupation group – 2024

Occupation Group	Secondary Employed Population	
	No	%
Total	400,250	100.0
Managers, Senior Officials and Legislators	4,574	1.1
Professionals	25,282	6.3
Technicians and Associate Professionals	11,719	2.9
Clerks and Clerical Support workers	3,054	0.8
Services and Sales workers	15,131	3.8
Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery workers	210,341	52.6
Craft and Related Trade workers	30,493	7.6
Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers	23,461	5.9
Elementary occupations	76,194	19.0
Armed Forces occupations and undefined occupations	..	..

.. Not reported.

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

Table 8.4 shows the categorization of the secondary employed population by major occupation groups. The choice of multiple jobholding vary among different workers in different occupation groups. Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery workers are the highest percentage (52.6%) reported among secondary occupation.

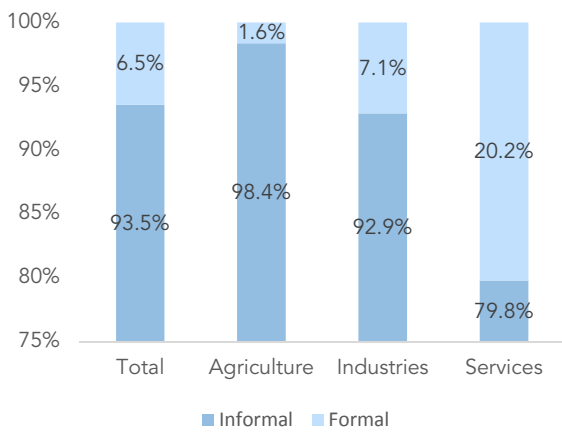
Table 8.5: Contribution of secondary employment to the Informal / Formal sector by major industry groups – 2024

Formal/ Informal Sector	Major Industry groups			
	Total	Agriculture	Industries	Services
Total	400,250	263,387	46,982	89,880
%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Formal	25,845	4,321	3,343	18,181
%	6.5	1.6	7.1	20.2
Informal	374,405	259,066	43,639	71,700
%	93.5	98.4	92.9	79.8

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

Table 8.5 and Figure 8.5 show that, the share of informal sector employment to the total secondary employment is 93.5 percent in Sri Lanka. When considering the secondary employment in agriculture sector almost all are in informal sector (98.4%). Also the share of informal sector is very high in both Industries and services group.

Figure 8.5:
Contribution of secondary employment to the informal / formal sector by major industry groups – 2024



8.2 Total Jobs in Sri Lanka

To calculate total jobs, main and secondary employments are considered. Total number of jobs is estimated by adding the total number of main jobs (Total employment) and the total number of secondary jobs.

As gives in Table 8.1, the total estimated jobs in Sri Lanka in the survey year 2024, is about 8,350,001.

Figure 8.6:
Percentage distribution of jobs in Sri Lanka by gender – 2024

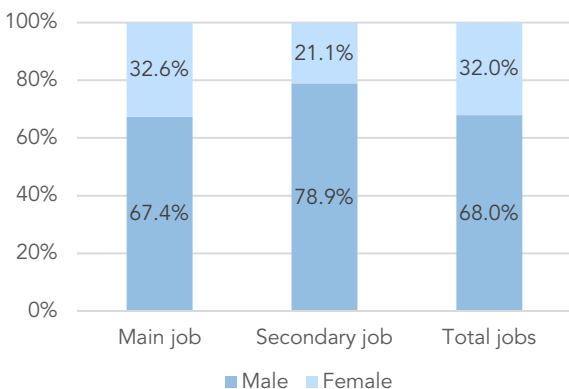


Figure 8.6 shows the contribution of male and female to the jobs in Sri Lanka separately for main, secondary and total jobs. The share of male in total jobs (68.0%) is more than twice that of females (32.0%).

Table 8.6: Distribution of total jobs by sector – 2024

Sector	Main Jobs	%	Secondary Jobs	%	Total jobs	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	400,250	100.0	8,350,001	100.0
Urban	1,287,721	16.2	26,664	6.7	1,314,385	15.7
Rural	6,319,262	79.5	366,517	91.6	6,685,779	80.1
Estate	342,768	4.3	7,069	1.8	349,837	4.2

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

Table 8.6 shows the distribution of jobs by residential sector separately for main, secondary and total jobs. It is estimated that 80.1% of total jobs are supplied by rural sector individuals.

Table 8.7: Distribution of total jobs by level of education – 2024

Level of Education	Main Jobs	%	Secondary Jobs	%	Total Jobs	%
Total	7,949,751	100	400,250	100	8,350,001	100
Grade 5 & Below	923,763	11.6	61,687	15.4	985,450	11.8
Grade 6-10	3,469,664	43.6	202,888	50.7	3,672,552	44.0
G.C.E. (O/L)	1,519,303	19.1	66,968	16.7	1,586,271	19.0
G.C.E. (A/L) & above	2,037,020	25.6	68,707	17.2	2,105,727	25.2

As given in Table 8.7 about 55.8 percent of total jobs are supplied by the individuals with less than G.C.E. (O/L) level of education.

Table 8.8: Distribution of total jobs by age groups – 2024

Age group (Yrs)	Main Jobs	%	Secondary Jobs	%	Total jobs	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	400,250	100.0	8,350,001	100.0
15 - 19	101,356	1.3	584	0.1	101,941	1.2
20 - 24	499,982	6.3	6,511	1.6	506,493	6.1
25 - 29	694,055	8.7	13,887	3.5	707,942	8.5
30 - 39	1,569,319	19.7	60,903	15.2	1,630,221	19.5
40 & above	5,085,039	64.0	318,365	79.5	5,403,404	64.7

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

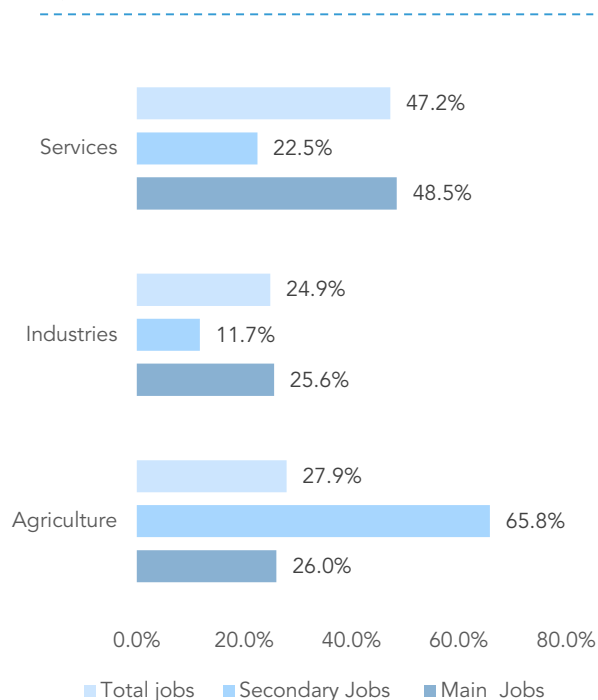
The Table 8.8 shows that about 64.7 percent of total jobs is supplied by the individuals with age 40 and above. The youth (15-24 years) labour supply for the total jobs is about 7.3 percent.

Table 8.9: Distribution of total jobs by major industry groups – 2024

Industry groups	Main Jobs	%	Secondary Jobs	%	Total jobs	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	400,250	100.0	8,350,001	100.0
Agriculture	2,066,651	26.0	263,387	65.8	2,330,038	27.9
Industries	2,031,417	25.6	46,982	11.7	2,078,399	24.9
Services	3,851,683	48.5	89,880	22.5	3,941,563	47.2

Table 8.9 and Figure 8.7 show the distribution of main, secondary and total jobs by major industry groups. Distribution of total number of jobs by industry groups is very important, especially when the productivities are calculated for total labour market.

Figure 8.7: Distribution of jobs by major industry groups – 2024



CHAPTER NINE

Informal Employment in Sri Lanka

Informal employment accounts for a substantial portion of employment in many developing countries. It encompasses persons in employment who, by law or in practice, are not subject to national labour legislation and income tax or entitled to social protection and employment benefits. Informal employment can exist in both the informal and the formal sector of the economy.

(Measuring informality: a statistical manual on the informal sector and informal employment/International Labour Office. - Geneva: ILO, 2013)

Sri Lanka Quarterly Labour Force Survey questionnaire was revised in year 2006 so as to include questions to identify informal sector and informal employment. In 2013 new changes were made to study informal employment for declaration of the jobs or the employees in detail. A statistical definition for informal employment has finalized in 2017 and throughout this chapter, characteristics of informal employment is discussed broadly.

Key aspects of identifying Informal employment

- 1) *All unpaid family workers*
- 2) *All employers and own account workers in informal sector*
- 3) *All paid employees who do not have a permanent employer*
- 4) *All paid employees whose employers are not contributing to pension scheme or provident fund on their behalf.*

HIGHLIGHTS

Informal Employment (%)

Sri Lanka	66.5
-----------	------

By Gender

Male	70.2
Female	58.8

By Economic Sector

Agriculture	92.2
Non-Agriculture	57.5

Informal Employment in Formal Sector Enterprises	22.2
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9.1 Concept of Informal Employment & Conceptual Framework

Goal Eight of seventeen SDG goals directly focuses an informal economy, specially in informal employment.

The 17th ICLS (International Conference of Labour Statisticians) Guidelines specifically say that “the operational criteria for defining informal jobs of employees are to be determined in accordance with national circumstances and data availability.” Some countries (especially developing countries) may choose to develop a measure that includes informal jobs of own-account workers, employers etc. while other countries (especially developed countries) may wish to limit the measurement of informal employment to employee jobs only.

Also in 17th ICLS, Jobs (main job and secondary job) rather than employed persons were taken as the units of observation in informal employment. But in Sri Lankan scenario, main job of an employed person only to be considered to build the definition of informal employment.

However this can be further improved using information of the secondary employment.

Figure 9.1 gives the conceptual framework of Informal Employment⁴.

In Figure 9.1 below type of production unit (rows in the table) is defined in terms of legal organization and other enterprise-related characteristics (classifications are done according to the informal sector definition of Sri Lanka), while type of job (columns) is defined in terms of status in employment and other job-related characteristics. The main occupation is used to calculate informal employment.

Figure 9.1: Conceptual framework (17th ICLS Guidelines)

Production units by type	Jobs by status in employment								
	Own-account workers		Employers		Contributing family workers	Employees		Members of producers' cooperatives	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Formal sector enterprises					1	2			
Informal sector enterprises	3		4		5	6	7	8	
Households						10			

For Sri Lanka, yet the “Household” sector has not defined. Further the category “Members of Producer’s cooperative” has not defined separately. Therefore the conceptual framework of Figure 9.1 is reduced to Table 9.1. By adding the cell values from 1 to 6, a value for the informal employment can be calculated.

Table 9.1: Conceptual framework informal employment – 2024

	Jobs by status in employment						
	Own-account workers		Employers		Contributing family workers	Employees	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal		Informal	Formal
Formal sector enterprises					56,072	704,284	
Informal sector enterprises	2,374,431		100,357		356,115	1,695,321	

The estimated total number of informal employment is about 5,286,581 This is about 66.5% of the total employment. When compared to informal sector employment which is about 56.9% of total employment. This shows that informal employment is higher than informal sector employment.

⁴ Reference for ICLS 17th

9.2 Distribution of Informal / Formal Employment

Table 9.2: Composition of informal / formal employment by economic sector – 2024

Informal / Formal Employment	Economic Sector		
	Total	Agricultural	Non Agricultural
Total	No. 7,949,751	2,066,651	5,883,100
	% 100.0	100.0	100.0
Formal Employment	No. 2,663,170	160,600	2,502,570
	% 33.5	7.8	42.5
Informal Employment	No. 5,286,581	1,906,050	3,380,530
	% 66.5	92.2	57.5

Table 9.2 and Figure 9.3 show that in Agriculture sector 92.2 percent is informal employment while this percentage is 57.5 in Non- agriculture sector.

Figure 9.2: Distribution of total employment, informal employment, informal sector – 2024

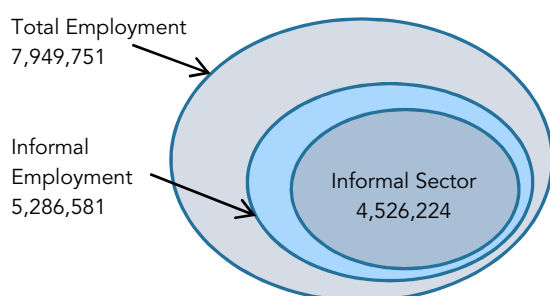


Figure 9.3: Distribution of informal / formal employment by economic sector - 2024

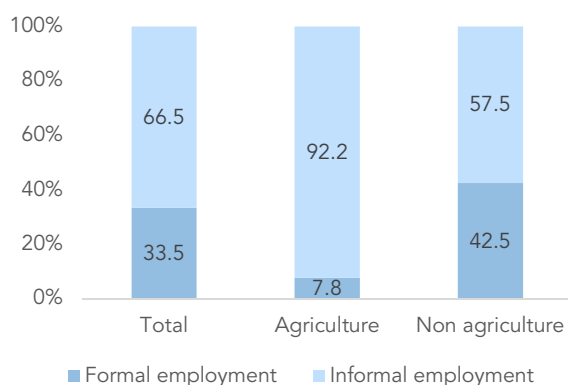


Table 9.3: Distribution of informal / formal employment by gender - 2024

Gender	Total		Employment			
	No.	%	Formal Employment		Informal Employment	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	2,663,170	33.5	5,286,581	66.5
Male	5,358,554	100.0	1,596,474	29.8	3,762,080	70.2
Female	2,591,197	100.0	1,066,696	41.2	1,524,501	58.8

As given in Table 9.3 when male/ female employment distribution is considered 70.2 percent of employed males are in informal employment, while this percentage is 58.8 percent for female.

Table 9.4: Distribution of informal / formal employment by level of education - 2024

Level of Education	Total		Employment			
	No.	%	Formal Employment		Informal Employment	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	2,663,170	33.5	5,286,581	66.5
Grade 5 & Below	923,763	100.0	94,294	10.2	829,469	89.8
Grade 6 - 10	3,469,664	100.0	633,267	18.3	2,836,397	81.7
G.C.E.(O/L)	1,519,303	100.0	552,799	36.4	966,505	63.6
G.C.E.(A/L) & above	2,037,020	100.0	1,382,810	67.9	654,210	32.1

Informal employment is higher among persons with lower level of education compared to that of persons with higher level of education.

Table 9.5: Distribution of informal / formal employment by employment status - 2024

Status of Education	Total		Employment			
	No.	%	Formal Employment		Informal Employment	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	2,663,170	100.0	5,286,581	100.0
Employees	4,675,651	58.8	2,276,046	85.5	2,399,606	45.4
Employer	229,192	2.9	128,835	4.8	100,357	1.9
Own account worker	2,632,721	33.1	258,290	9.7	2,374,431	44.9
Contributing family worker	412,187	5.2	0	0.0	412,187	7.8

According to the informal employment definition all of the contributing family workers are considered as informal employment. Table 9.5 shows 45.4 percent of informal employment are employees and 44.9 percent are own account workers.

Table 9.6: Distribution of informal / formal employment by occupation - 2024

Occupation	Total		Employment			
			Formal Employment		Informal Employment	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	2,663,170	33.5	5,286,581	66.5
1.Managers, Senior Officials and Legislators						
Chief Executive, Senior Official, Legislators	23,376	100.0	21,703	92.8	1,673	7.2
Administrative & Commercial Managers	89,193	100.0	81,653	91.5	7,540	8.5
Production and Specialized services Managers	117,781	100.0	90,987	77.3	26,794	22.7
Hospitality, Shop and Related services Managers	109,436	100.0	59,945	54.8	49,491	45.2
2.Professionals	589,418	100.0	470,550	79.8	118,868	20.2
3.Technical & Associate Professionals	686,022	100.0	489,078	71.3	196,943	28.7
4.Clerks and Clerical support workers	283,293	100.0	221,946	78.3	61,347	21.7
5.Services and Sales workers	978,857	100.0	329,964	33.7	648,893	66.3
6.Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery workers	1,212,157	100.0	31,635	2.6	1,180,522	97.4
7.Craft and Related Trades workers	1,077,931	100.0	163,503	15.2	914,428	84.8
8.Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	783,781	100.0	285,351	36.4	498,430	63.6
9.Elementary occupations	1,957,410	100.0	378,131	19.3	1,579,279	80.7
10.Armed Forces occupations & Unidentified occupations	41,094	100	38,723	94.2	2,371	5.8

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

The Table 9.6 disaggregates Formal/Informal employment into occupation groups as identified in SLSCO-08. It is clear that some occupation categories are highly consisted with informal employment, such as Skilled Agricultural Forestry and Fishery workers, Craft and Related Trades workers, Elementary occupations and etc. While

some occupations have comparatively lower percentage of informal employment.

Table 9.7: Composition of employment in non-agriculture sector – 2024

Informal / Formal Sector	Non-agriculture Sector		
	Total	Formal Employment	Informal Employment
Total	No. 5,883,100	2,502,570	3,380,530
	%	100.0	42.5
Formal Sector	No. 3,184,302	2,502,570	681,733
	%	100.0	78.6
Informal Sector	No. 2,698,798	0	2,698,798
	%	100.0	0.0

About 57.5 percent of non-agriculture sector employment is informal employment. This percentage for male is 61.4% and for female it is 49.6% (Table 9.8).

Table 9.8: Composition of employment in non-agriculture sector by sex – 2024

Sex	Non-agriculture Sector		
	Total	Formal Employment	Informal Employment
Total	No. 5,883,100	2,502,570	3,380,530
	%	100.0	42.5
Male	No. 3,912,458	1,509,274	2,403,184
	%	100.0	38.6
Female	No. 1,970,642	993,296	977,347
	%	100.0	50.4

Table 9.9: Percentage of informal employment in non-agriculture sector by district - 2024

District	%	District	%
Total	57.5	Mullaitivu	75.1
Colombo	51.2	Kilinochchi	59.0
Gampaha	46.2	Batticaloa	64.2
Kalutara	55.6	Ampara	60.7
Kandy	58.0	Trincomalee	56.5
Matale	59.3	Kurunegala	65.8
Nuwara Eliya	57.5	Puttalam	73.4
Galle	63.5	Anuradhapura	56.0
Matara	60.9	Polonnaruwa	55.0
Hambantota	60.0	Badulla	58.1
Jaffna	62.0	Monaragala	58.7
Mannar	54.1	Rathnapura	64.5
Vavuniya	68.0	Kegalle	58.4

Except Gampaha, all other district more than fifty percent of employment are informal employment in non-agriculture sector, while in Mullativu district this percentage is 75.1 percent. This information is clearly depicted in Figure 9.4.

Figure 9.4:
Distribution of informal employment in non-agriculture sector by district - 2024

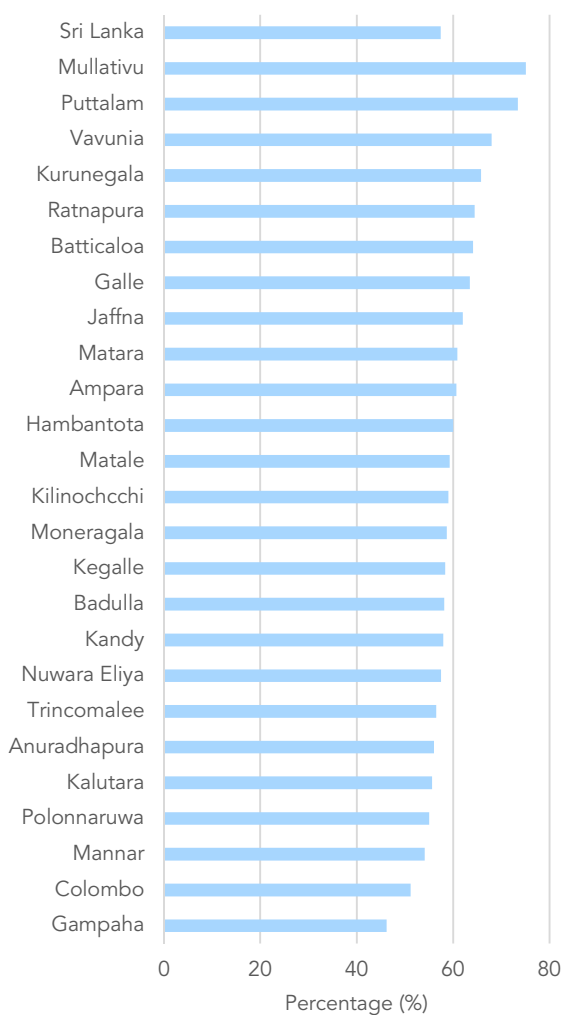


Table 9.10: Distribution of informal employees by job important characteristics - 2024

All Employees	Informal Employment		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	2,399,606	1,785,097	614,509
Permanent	130,722	95,431	35,291
Self-stated job category			
Temporary	1,154,597	809,651	344,947
Casual	340,150	240,926	99,225
No permanent employer	774,136	639,089	135,047

Employees with permanent employer	Informal Employment		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	1,625,470	1,146,008	479,462
Entitled for annual paid leave or leave encashment			
Yes	83,236	54,129	29,107
No	1,465,727	1,040,172	425,556
Do not know	76,506	51,707	24,800
Have an appointment letter (written contract) from your employer			
Total	1,625,470	1,146,008	479,462
Yes	144,739	90,585	54,154
No	1,412,848	1,005,811	407,037
Do not know	67,884	49,612	18,271

As given in Table 9.10 among informal employee's majority reported that their employment is "Temporary". About 0.8 million informal employees do not have a permanent employer. Majority of informal employees with a permanent employment do not entitle for annual paid leave or leave encashment. Also majority of them do not have an appointment letter from their employer.

CHAPTER TEN

Literacy

In order to provide information for educational planners, especially in developing countries, literacy is an important variable regarding the issues such as improvement of the educational system and to increase the educational related programs etc.

As labour force surveys are often conducted at a higher frequency than the other surveys, it was decided to include the questions on literacy in order to provide quarterly/Annual estimates for the data users and for the policy makers. LFS therefore estimates literacy by considering the language literacy skills for Sinhala, Tamil and English. If a person (age 10 and above) is literate in any one of the language then he/she is considered as literate.

Who is literate?

- *A person who can both read and write with understanding a short statement is considered as "Literate".*
- *A person who can read and write only his name, figures or memorized phrase, are not considered as "Literate".*

HIGHLIGHTS

Literacy Rate (%)

Sri Lanka	93.3
-----------	------

By Gender

Male	94.0
------	------

Female	92.6
--------	------

By Sector

Urban	95.8
-------	------

Rural	93.3
-------	------

Estate	82.6
--------	------

10.1 Distribution of Literacy Rate

Table 10.1: Literacy rate by sector & gender 2020 - 2024

Year	Sri Lanka	Sector			Gender	
		Urban	Rural	Estate	Male	Female
2020	93.0	95.4	92.9	85.4	93.8	92.2
2021	93.3	95.7	93.3	82.5	94.3	92.3
2022	93.1	95.4	93.2	82.2	93.9	92.4
2023	93.2	95.3	93.4	81.3	94.0	92.6
2024	93.3	95.8	93.3	82.6	94.0	92.6

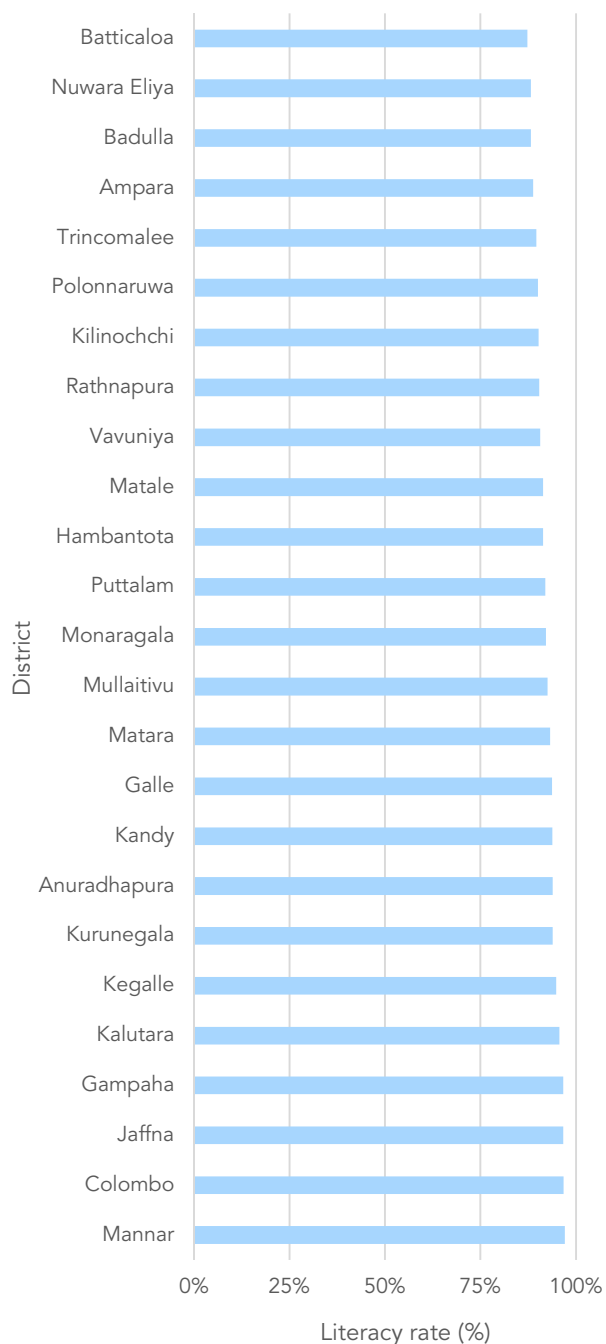
Literacy rate for the population aged 10 years and over is 93.3 percent in 2024. It means that about 93.3 percent of 10 years and above population can both read and write with understanding a short statement at least in any of three languages Sinhala, Tamil or English. Urban sector literacy rate is higher than Rural and Estate sector. Also male literacy is slightly higher when compared with that of the female.

Table 10.2: Literacy rates by district & gender - 2024

District	Literacy rate (%)		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	93.3	94.0	92.6
Colombo	96.7	96.9	96.5
Gampaha	96.7	96.3	97.0
Kalutara	95.6	96.5	94.8
Kandy	93.8	94.5	93.2
Matale	91.4	91.4	91.4
Nuwara Eliya	88.2	92.1	84.9
Galle	93.8	94.2	93.4
Matara	93.2	94.1	92.4
Hambantota	91.4	91.4	91.3
Jaffna	96.7	96.6	96.7
Mannar	97.1	97.6	96.6
Vavuniya	90.6	92.4	89.0
Mullaitivu	92.6	94.2	91.3
Kilinochchi	90.2	91.1	89.5
Batticaloa	87.3	88.2	86.5
Ampara	88.8	91.0	87.0
Trincomalee	89.6	90.7	88.6
Kurunegala	93.9	94.6	93.3
Puttalam	92.0	92.2	91.8
Anuradhapura	93.9	95.1	92.9
Polonnaruwa	90.0	90.4	89.7
Badulla	88.2	91.7	85.1
Monaragala	92.2	93.7	90.6
Rathnapura	90.4	90.5	90.3
Kegalle	94.8	94.6	95.0

Table 10.2 provides district pattern of the literacy levels by gender.

Figure 10.1: Literacy rates by district - 2024



According to the Table 10.2 Mannar districts shows the highest literacy rate (97.1%), the lowest literacy rate is reported from Batticaloa district.

Table 10.3: Literacy rates by age group & gender - 2024

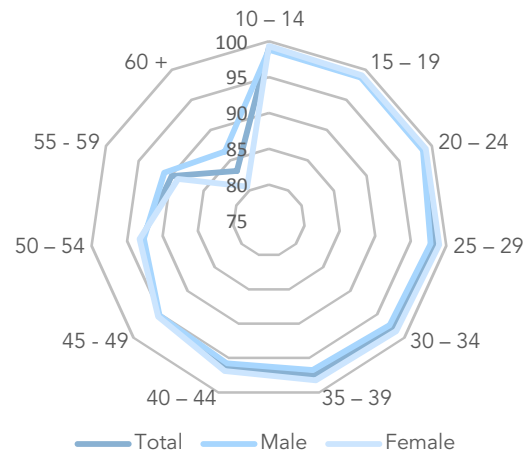
Age group	Literacy rate (%)		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	93.3	94.0	92.6
10 – 14	99.1	98.9	99.3
15 – 19	98.9	98.8	99.1
20 – 24	98.9	98.6	99.1
25 – 29	98.4	97.8	99.0
30 – 34	98.0	97.3	98.5
35 – 39	97.6	96.7	98.3
40 – 44	96.4	95.8	96.9
45 - 49	95.3	95.2	95.5
50 – 54	93.0	92.6	93.2
55 - 59	89.9	91.1	88.9
60 +	83.2	86.4	80.6

Lowest literacy rate (83.2%) is reported in population over 60 years while highest (99.1%) is reported among aged 10 – 14 years.

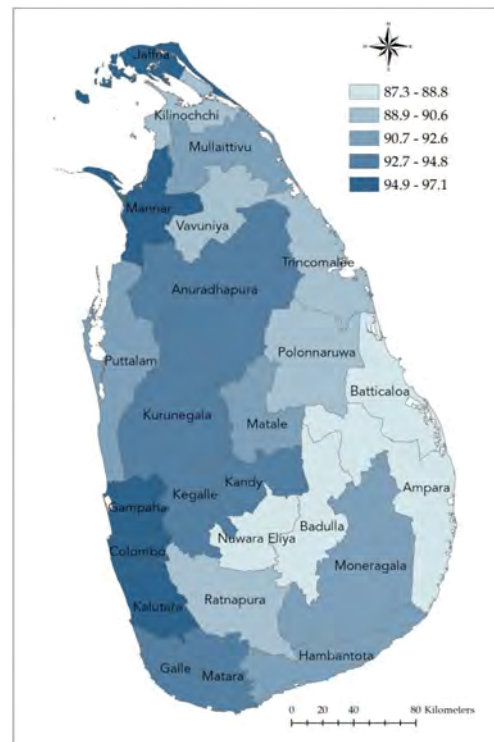
Younger cohorts show higher literacy rates and this indicates the achievement of primary education of the country. This is clearly depicted in the Figure 10.2. Also higher literacy among female in younger age groups (below age 54 years) compared to male literacy in same age groups show very important pattern. As such, it shows the absence of gender discrimination in achieving education of the country.

Map 9 shows the district level literacy rates, higher literacy rates observed in the Western area of the country.

Figure 10.2: Literacy rates by age group & gender - 2024



Map (9): Literacy rate by district – 2024



CHAPTER ELEVEN

Computer Literacy

Timely and accurate information on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) itself is essential for justification and proper direction of the Government efforts, private sector investments, to study the changing pattern of the demand for internet services and for continuous progress monitoring on ICT achievements.

For this computer literacy data can contribute immensely to an understanding of the demand and supply of skills in the global, knowledge based economy. Also statistics on the availability of a computer/laptop in households and usage of internet and email that exist between demographic and geographic groups provides more insight for the scattering of ICT facilities.

To cater the relevant data need Department of Census & Statistics has conducted Computer Literacy Surveys in 2004, 2006/07 and 2009 to measure household characteristics of the usage of computers. Since 2014, new chapter is included to labour force survey report to disseminate computer literacy information annually.

What is the computer literacy?

A person (aged 5-69) is considered as a computer literate person if he/she could use computer on his/her own. For example, even if a 5 years old child can play a computer game then he/she is considered as a computer literate person.

HIGHLIGHTS

Computer Literacy Rate (%)

Sri Lanka	35.9
-----------	------

By Gender

Male	37.3
------	------

Female	34.6
--------	------

By Language Literacy

Sinhala	41.9
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Tamil	42.5
-------	------

English	74.0
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11.1 Household Computer Ownership

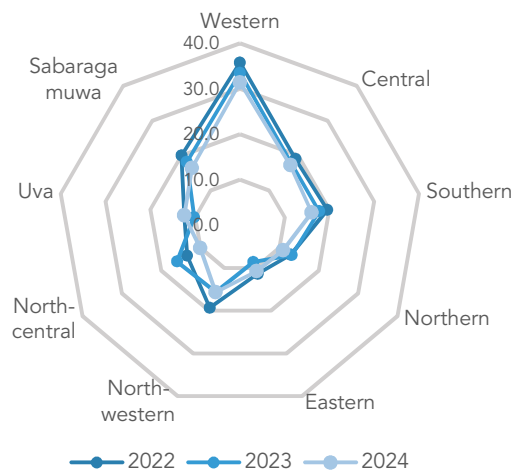
If a desktop or laptop is available at a household then that household is considered as a computer owned household. Table 11.1 shows the percentage distribution of computer owned households by Sector and Province. In 2024, at least one computer is available in 19.1 percent of households in the country. That is one out of every five households owns either a desktop or a laptop computer. This percentage is 34.6 percent in Urban sector and Rural and Estate sector show 16.7 percent and 1.5 percent respectively. When the provinces are considered the highest availability is in the Western province (31.4%) while the lowest availability is reported from the North Central (10.1%).

Table 11.1: Percentage of computer owned households by sector, province and survey year, 2022 - 2024

Sector/ Province	Desktop(%)			Desktop or Laptop(%)		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Sri Lanka	6.3	5.7	4.7	21.9	20.2	19.1
Urban	9.6	8.0	8.1	36.1	34.0	34.6
Rural	5.9	5.5	4.2	20.0	18.1	16.7
Estate	0.7	1.6	0.3	3.1	4.6	1.5
Province						
Western	9.5	8.5	7.4	35.8	33.5	31.4
Central	4.8	4.8	3.5	19.0	17.6	17.2
Southern	6.2	5.4	4.0	19.5	17.7	16.0
Northern	1.6	3.3	2.5	12.9	13.2	11.0
Eastern	3.7	1.6	2.5	11.4	8.6	10.7
North Western	6.4	4.8	3.5	19.3	15.7	15.7
North Central	3.6	4.7	2.9	13.4	16.0	10.1
Uva	3.3	3.7	3.2	12.4	10.2	12.4
Sabaragamuwa	7.9	7.7	6.5	20.0	18.2	16.5

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

Figure 11.1: Percentage of desktop or laptop computer owned households by province, 2022 - 2024



Percentage of availability of desktop or laptop computer at a household vary between 19% - 22% between 2022 to 2024 period.

11.2 Computer Literacy and Digital literacy

Definition for Computer literacy:

A person (aged 5-69) is considered as a computer literate person if he/she could use computer on his/her own. For example, even if a 5 years old child can play a computer game, then he/she is considered as a computer literate person.

Definition for computer literacy rate:

Computer Literate population expressed as a percentage to the total population, (aged 5 – 69 years) within the respective domain.

Definition for Digital literacy:

A person (aged 5-69) is considered as a digital literate person if he/she could use computer, lap top, tablet or smartphone on his/her own.

Definition for Digital literacy rate:

Digital Literate population expressed as a percentage to the total population, (aged 5 – 69 years) within the respective domain.

Table 11.2: Computer literacy rate by sector, province and survey year, 2022 - 2024

Sector/Province	Computer literacy rate (%)		
	2022	2023	2024
Sri Lanka	36.0	39.0	35.9
Sector			
Urban	48.9	52.9	47.3
Rural	34.6	37.1	34.5
Estate	11.5	17.9	14.9
Province			
Western	47.5	49.9	46.0
Central	33.7	37.0	34.0
Southern	33.9	39.6	34.3
Northern	31.4	38.2	35.9
Eastern	30.2	34.3	30.3
North Western	33.1	31.7	31.3
North Central	24.0	29.3	24.2
Uva	24.1	26.5	25.5
Sabaragamuwa	35.3	37.0	36.3

Percentage of Computer Literate population (Computer Literacy) over the survey periods has been fluctuating. Overall Computer Literacy reported in 2024 for Sri Lanka is 35.9 percent.

The survey results show an decrease of 3.1 percentage points from 2023 to 2024. Urban sector shows the highest computer literacy rate (47.3%) among residential sectors in 2024. Computer literacy rate for Rural and Estate sectors are 34.5 percent and 14.9 percent respectively.

Among the provinces the highest level of computer literacy is reported from the Western province (46.0%). The lowest computer literacy is reported from the North Central province (24.2%).

As given in Table 11.3 the Computer literacy among males (37.3%) is higher than that of females (34.6%) in 2024. Young youths (aged 15 – 19 years) show the highest computer literacy rate (75.0%) among all other age groups.

The survey results reveal that higher the level of education higher the computer literacy. The group with A/L or above level of education shows the highest computer literacy rate (75.6%). Also computer literacy is higher among those who are literate in English language (74.0%) in 2024.

Table 11.3: Computer literacy rate by gender, age, level of education and language literacy, 2022 - 2024

Gender, Age group, Education attainment and Language literacy	Computer literacy rate (%)		
	2022	2023	2024
Sri Lanka	36.0	39.0	35.9
By Sex			
Male	37.3	40.9	37.3
Female	34.8	37.2	34.6
By Age group (years)			
5 - 9	15.5	15.5	13.6
10 - 14	49.0	56.3	47.9
15 - 19	74.8	79.4	75.0
20 - 24	69.3	74.7	70.2
25 - 29	59.3	64.1	59.4
30 - 34	47.4	52.8	51.0
35 - 39	38.4	39.8	40.6
40 - 49	25.7	29.4	26.2
50 - 59	14.8	16.6	16.2
60 - 69	7.5	8.3	7.4
By Educational attainment			
No schooling	3.1	1.8	2.4
Below grade 6	12.9	14.3	10.8
Grade 6-10	24.8	27.7	23.6
G.C.E (O/L)	49.1	51.9	47.5
G.C.E. (A/L) or above	77.8	80.1	75.6
By Language literacy			
Sinhala	42.3	45.4	41.9
Tamil	41.5	48.0	42.5
English	77.1	77.4	74.0

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

Figure 11.2: Distribution of computer literacy rate by educational attainment and language literacy, 2022 - 2024

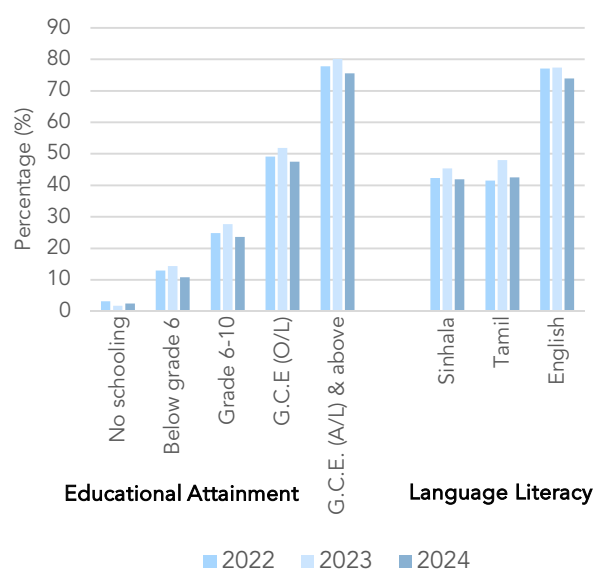


Table 11.4: Computer literacy among computer aware employed population (aged 15 – 69 years) by occupation, 2022 - 2024

Occupation group	Computer literacy (%)		
	2022	2023	2024
Sri Lanka	68.5	72.4	70.3
Managers, Senior Officials and Legislators	87.2	90.9	87.3
Professionals	93.8	96.0	94.3
Technicians and Associate Professionals	92.2	94.0	91.5
Clerks and Clerical support workers	93.4	94.1	93.1
Services and Sales workers	58.2	61.4	59.2
Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery workers	24.8	26.2	22.4
Craft and Related Trades workers	42.0	50.5	43.6
Plant and Machine operators and Assemblers	40.8	45.7	42.0
Elementary occupations	37.2	39.0	32.2
Armed Forces Occupations & unidentified occupations	70.3	96.4	90.0

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

Computer literacy among the employed population who are aware of computer in Sri Lanka is around 70.3% in 2024. The positions such as Senior officials and Managers (87.3%), Professionals (94.3%), Technical and Associate professionals (91.5%), Clerks and Clerical support workers (93.1%) have higher computer literacy rates. Also, even among the individuals engage in elementary occupations 32.2 percent are computer literate in 2024.

Table 11.5: Computer literacy among unemployed population (aged 15 – 69 years) by age groups, 2022 - 2024

Age group (years)	Percentage of computer literate population among unemployment (%)		
	2022	2023	2024
Sri Lanka	67.2	70.3	67.6
15 - 19	52.8	61.8	61.9
20 - 24	77.3	82.7	75.5
25 - 29	78.4	83.7	81.2
30 - 39	66.6	65.3	56.4
40 – 69	32.5	28.3	28.5

Among the unemployed, aged (25-29) group shows highest computer literate population percentage (81.2%) in 2024. Annual results reveal that among unemployed many have at least some ICT skills. Even among the group aged 40-69 every one out of four is computer literate (28.5%) in 2024 (Table 11.5).

Table 11.6: Computer literacy rate and Digital literacy rate by gender, sector and age groups – 2024

Gender, Sector, Age group	Computer Literacy	Digital Literacy
Sri Lanka	35.9	65.0
By Sex		
Male	37.3	67.2
Female	34.6	62.9
Sector		
Urban	47.3	75.6
Rural	34.5	63.7
Estate	14.9	44.6
By Age group (years)		
5 - 9	13.6	48.3
10 - 14	47.9	76.7
15 - 19	75.0	91.6
20 - 24	70.2	93.7
25 - 29	59.4	90.5
30 - 34	51.0	87.1
35 - 39	40.6	79.9
40 - 49	26.2	66.1
50 - 59	16.2	44.2
60 - 69	7.4	25.2

When the digital literacy is considered 65.0% (aged 5 -69) has digital literacy. Digital literacy is higher than computer literacy for all disaggregated levels, showing the drift from Personal Computer to Smartphones/ Tablets (Table 11.6).

11.3 Source of Computer Training

Table 11.7 shows that the majority of those who are computer literate have received training from School/University. The training received through Government training centers are comparatively low.

Table 11.7: Percentage distribution of computer literate household population (aged 5 – 69 years) by sources of receiving computer knowledge* and sector – 2024

Source of receiving computer knowledge	Total (%)	Residential sector (%)		
		Urban	Rural	Estate
Private training course	19.4	18.2	19.9	13.6
School/University	63.4	61.5	63.7	77.7
Govt. training centers	7.1	6.1	7.5	7.7
Employment activities	20.8	26.4	19.4	7.0
Work place	14.3	19.1	13.0	5.3
Family members	31.1	33.6	30.9	10.0
Friends/ Relatives	30.4	30.3	30.7	16.3
Self	39.5	49.7	36.9	19.8
Other	9.2	10.2	9.0	4.8

* Multiple choice answers

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

11.4 Internet and E-mail use

Table 11.8: Percentage distribution of Internet and E-mail using household population (aged 5 – 69 years) by Sex, Sector and Age group, 2022 - 2024

Gender, Sector, Age group (years)	Household Population (aged 5-69)					
	Internet (%)			E-mail (%)		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Sri Lanka	48.3	51.2	54.6	17.6	18.6	19.3
By Sex						
Male	51.0	53.8	57.2	19.4	20.7	21.0
Female	46.0	48.8	52.2	16.1	16.6	17.7
By Sector						
Urban	62.2	66.9	67.1	25.6	29.8	30.4
Rural	46.6	48.8	52.8	16.6	16.8	17.6
Estate	27.1	32.4	37.7	5.3	6.5	5.4
By Age Groups						
5 - 14	40.3	41.3	45.1	5.1	4.1	4.1
15 - 19	77.8	78.5	79.2	29.2	28.3	28.9
20 - 24	83.1	87.2	88.4	43.6	47.3	47.7
25 - 29	79.3	82.4	84.9	38.8	42.3	41.8
30 - 34	70.3	74.5	79.6	29.6	32.6	35.3
35 - 39	61.8	64.7	71.9	23.2	24.1	27.5
40 - 49	44.8	50.2	55.5	15.3	16.7	17.3
50 - 59	24.6	29.6	34.4	8.3	10.0	10.8
60 - 69	12.7	15.4	17.8	3.7	4.2	4.5

The Table 11.8 depicts that 54.6 percent of the population aged 5 to 69 years use the internet facility at least once during twelve months in 2024 and 19.3 percent of the household population aged 5 – 69 years have used E-mail facility at least once during the last 12 months period in 2024. The survey results further reveal that in the Urban sector, where the facilities are largely available, shows the highest usage of both e-mail and

internet compared to other two sectors. Also persons in age group 20 - 24 indicate a higher internet and email usage compared to the persons in other age groups.

Figure 11.3: Percentage distribution of internet and e-mail using household population (aged 5 – 69 years) by age group – 2024

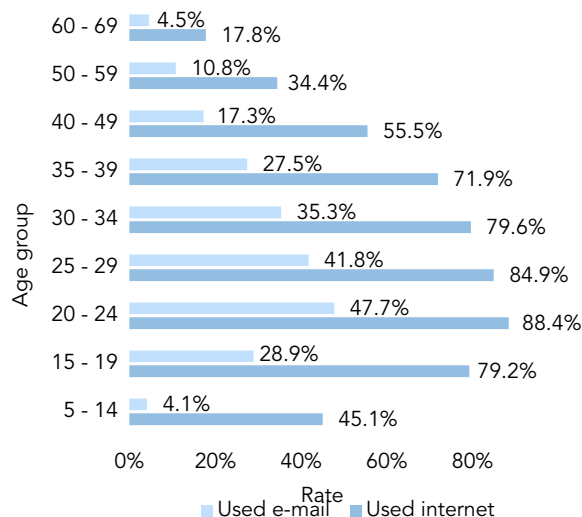


Table 11.9: Percentage distribution of device used to connect to internet/ email to all devices used by Sex, Sector and Age group – 2024

Gender, Sector, Age group	Total (%)	Device use to connect to internet/ email (%)			
		Desktop / Laptop	Smart phone	Tablet computer	Mobile phone
Sri Lanka	100.0	17.0	80.3	1.3	1.4
By Sex					
Male	100.0	17.8	79.4	1.5	1.4
Female	100.0	16.3	81.2	1.2	1.4
By Sector					
Urban	100.0	22.5	74.2	2.2	1.1
Rural	100.0	15.9	81.7	1.0	1.4
Estate	100.0	3.6	92.6	1.5	2.4
By Age group (years)					
5 - 9	100.0	7.9	90.7	0.6	0.7
10 - 14	100.0	15.3	82.7	1.1	0.9
15 - 19	100.0	18.3	79.2	1.2	1.3
20 - 24	100.0	20.5	76.4	1.4	1.7
25 - 29	100.0	20.2	76.8	1.5	1.4
30 - 34	100.0	19.5	77.1	1.8	1.6
35 - 39	100.0	17.1	80.1	1.1	1.7
40 - 49	100.0	14.9	82.4	1.3	1.4
50 - 59	100.0	15.6	81.6	1.4	1.4
60 - 69	100.0	11.7	86.0	1.4	0.9

* Multiple choice answers

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

Statistical Appendix

Table 1 - Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Both sexes

Year	Household population (15 years & over)	Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate(%)	Labour force				Not in labour force number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
2017	15,843,735	8,566,686	54.1	8,208,179	95.8	358,507	4.2	7,277,049
2018	16,196,232	8,387,759	51.8	8,015,166	95.6	372,593	4.4	7,808,473
2019	16,424,016	8,592,010	52.3	8,180,693	95.2	411,318	4.8	7,832,006
2020	16,739,396	8,466,606	50.6	7,999,093	94.5	467,513	5.5	8,272,790
2021	17,133,659	8,553,290	49.9	8,113,507	94.9	439,783	5.1	8,580,369
2022	17,161,973	8,547,062	49.8	8,147,731	95.3	399,332	4.7	8,614,911
2023	17,306,492	8,408,331	48.6	8,009,916	95.3	398,415	4.7	8,898,161
2024	17,547,864	8,315,702	47.4	7,949,751	95.6	365,951	4.4	9,232,162

Table 1A - Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Male

Year	Household population (15 years & over)	Total labour force	Labour force number rate(%)	Labour force				Not in labour force number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
2017	7,292,047	5,434,510	74.5	5,279,158	97.1	155,352	2.9	1,857,537
2018	7,488,320	5,464,236	73.0	5,300,310	97.0	163,926	3.0	2,024,084
2019	7,610,113	5,554,192	73.0	5,368,896	96.7	185,296	3.3	2,055,920
2020	7,788,634	5,598,004	71.9	5,372,947	96.0	225,057	4.0	2,190,629
2021	7,915,659	5,621,223	71.0	5,414,280	96.3	206,943	3.7	2,294,436
2022	7,914,636	5,580,786	70.5	5,373,965	96.3	206,822	3.7	2,333,850
2023	8,024,760	5,503,595	68.6	5,307,563	96.4	196,032	3.6	2,521,164
2024	8,195,169	5,525,402	67.4	5,358,554	97.0	166,849	3.0	2,669,766

Table 1B - Historical table of labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over - Female

Year	Household population (15 years & over)	Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate(%)	Labour force				Not in labour force number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
2017	8,551,688	3,132,176	36.6	2,929,021	93.5	203,155	6.5	5,419,512
2018	8,707,912	2,923,523	33.6	2,714,855	92.9	208,667	7.1	5,784,390
2019	8,813,903	3,037,818	34.5	2,811,796	92.6	226,022	7.4	5,776,085
2020	8,950,763	2,868,602	32.0	2,626,146	91.5	242,456	8.5	6,082,161
2021	9,218,000	2,932,067	31.8	2,699,228	92.1	232,840	7.9	6,285,933
2022	9,247,337	2,966,276	32.1	2,773,766	93.5	192,510	6.5	6,281,061
2023	9,281,733	2,904,736	31.3	2,702,354	93.0	202,382	7.0	6,376,997
2024	9,352,695	2,790,299	29.8	2,591,197	92.9	199,102	7.1	6,562,395

Table 2 - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age - Both sexes

Age	Household pop: (15 years & over)	Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate(%)	Labour force				Not in labour force number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
All ages	17,547,864	8,315,702	47.4	7,949,751	95.6	365,951	4.4	9,232,162
15 - 19 Yrs	1,806,652	140,166	7.8	101,356	72.3	38,809	27.7	1,666,487
20 - 24 Yrs	1,435,109	630,621	43.9	499,982	79.3	130,640	20.7	804,487
25 - 29 Yrs	1,204,069	793,360	65.9	694,055	87.5	99,305	12.5	410,709
30 - 39 Yrs	2,432,137	1,626,548	66.9	1,569,319	96.5	57,229	3.5	805,590
40 + Yrs	10,669,896	5,125,007	48.0	5,085,039	99.2	39,968	0.8	5,544,889

Table 2A - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age - Male

Age	Household pop: (15 years & over)	Total labour force	labour force partici: rate(%)	Labour force				Not in labour force number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
All ages	8,195,169	5,525,402	67.4	5,358,554	97.0	166,849	3.0	2,669,766
15 - 19 Yrs	902,041	100,059	11.1	75,120	75.1	24,939	24.9	801,982
20 - 24 Yrs	700,505	404,101	57.7	341,199	84.4	62,902	15.6	296,404
25 - 29 Yrs	572,872	498,932	87.1	458,759	91.9	40,173	8.1	73,939
30 - 39 Yrs	1,121,574	1,055,055	94.1	1,032,420	97.9	22,636	2.1	66,518
40 + Yrs	4,898,177	3,467,255	70.8	3,451,056	99.5	16,199	0.5	1,430,922

Table 2B - Labour force status (current) of the household population 15 years of age and over, by age - Female

Age	Household pop: (15 years & over)	Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate(%)	Labour force				Not in labour force number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
All ages	9,352,695	2,790,299	29.8	2,591,197	92.9	199,102	7.1	6,562,395
15 - 19 Yrs	904,611	40,107	4.4	26,236	65.4	13,870	34.6	864,504
20 - 24 Yrs	734,604	226,520	30.8	158,783	70.1	67,738	29.9	508,083
25 - 29 Yrs	631,197	294,428	46.6	235,296	79.9	59,132	20.1	336,769
30 - 39 Yrs	1,310,564	571,492	43.6	536,899	93.9	34,594	6.1	739,071
40 + Yrs	5,771,719	1,657,752	28.7	1,633,983	98.6	23,769	1.4	4,113,967

Table 3 - Historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (percentage) - Both sexes

Year	All ages	Age groups				
		15 - 19 Yrs	20 - 24 Yrs	25 - 29 Yrs	30 - 39 Yrs	40+ Yrs
2017	100.0	2.1	7.6	9.2	23.4	57.7
2018	100.0	1.8	7.2	9.0	22.6	59.4
2019	100.0	1.9	7.1	9.3	22.6	59.1
2020	100.0	1.7	6.8	9.2	22.0	60.2
2021	100.0	1.4	6.3	9.4	21.1	61.8
2022	100.0	1.3	6.5	9.0	21.4	61.8
2023	100.0	1.2	6.4	8.4	20.3	63.7
2024	100.0	1.3	6.3	8.7	19.7	64.0

Table 3A - Historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (percentage) - Male

Year	All ages	Age groups				
		15 - 19 Yrs	20 - 24 Yrs	25 - 29 Yrs	30 - 39 Yrs	40+ Yrs
2017	100.0	2.3	7.5	9.4	23.5	57.3
2018	100.0	2.0	7.3	9.4	22.6	58.7
2019	100.0	2.1	7.2	9.4	22.3	59.0
2020	100.0	1.9	7.0	9.1	21.8	60.3
2021	100.0	1.6	6.4	9.4	20.5	62.0
2022	100.0	1.3	6.4	9.1	21.2	62.0
2023	100.0	1.4	6.4	8.4	20.0	63.9
2024	100.0	1.4	6.4	8.6	19.3	64.4

Table 3B - historical table of currently employed persons by age groups (percentage) - Female

Year	All ages	Age groups				
		15 - 19 Yrs	20 - 24 Yrs	25 - 29 Yrs	30 - 39 Yrs	40+ Yrs
2017	100.0	1.7	7.8	9.0	23.2	58.3
2018	100.0	1.4	6.9	8.3	22.7	60.7
2019	100.0	1.4	7.0	9.1	23.1	59.4
2020	100.0	1.4	6.5	9.3	22.6	60.1
2021	100.0	1.1	6.0	9.3	22.3	61.4
2022	100.0	1.1	6.8	8.9	21.8	61.4
2023	100.0	0.8	6.4	8.4	20.9	63.4
2024	100.0	1.0	6.1	9.1	20.7	63.1

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
2017	100.0	15.8	46.1	17.3	20.8
2018	100.0	14.9	45.9	18.1	21.2
2019	100.0	14.0	45.8	17.4	22.8
2020	100.0	13.7	46.0	17.8	22.5
2021	100.0	13.0	45.7	17.6	23.8
2022	100.0	12.7	45.1	17.6	24.6
2023	100.0	12.6	43.9	18.5	25.1
2024	100.0	11.6	43.6	19.1	25.6

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
2017	100.0	15.7	49.8	17.6	16.9
2018	100.0	14.7	49.7	18.8	16.7
2019	100.0	14.1	49.6	18.0	18.2
2020	100.0	13.8	49.8	18.3	18.1
2021	100.0	13.0	49.6	18.6	18.8
2022	100.0	13.0	49.1	18.5	19.4
2023	100.0	12.9	48.0	19.2	19.9
2024	100.0	12.0	47.7	19.9	20.5

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
2017	100.0	16.1	39.4	16.8	27.7
2018	100.0	15.2	38.4	16.5	29.9
2019	100.0	13.8	38.4	16.3	31.6
2020	100.0	13.4	38.1	16.8	31.7
2021	100.0	12.8	37.8	15.5	33.8
2022	100.0	12.0	37.2	16.1	34.7
2023	100.0	12.0	35.8	17.0	35.3
2024	100.0	10.8	35.3	17.6	36.3

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			
2017	100.0	57.7	14.4	43.3	3.0	31.3	8.0
2018	100.0	57.8	14.5	43.3	2.8	32.3	7.2
2019	100.0	57.9	14.9	43.0	2.6	32.5	7.0
2020	100.0	57.5	14.8	42.7	2.5	33.2	6.8
2021	100.0	57.3	15.2	42.0	2.7	33.4	6.6
2022	100.0	58.0	15.1	42.9	2.9	33.1	5.9
2023	100.0	59.0	14.6	44.5	2.6	32.8	5.5
2024	100.0	58.8	14.4	44.4	2.9	33.1	5.2

Table 5A - Historical table of currently employed persons by employment status (percentage) - Male

Year	Total employed	Employee			Employer	Own account worker	Unpaid family worker
		Total	Public	Private			
2017	100.0	58.8	12.3	46.4	4.1	34.5	2.6
2018	100.0	57.8	12.0	45.8	3.7	36.0	2.5
2019	100.0	57.7	12.2	45.5	3.5	36.5	2.3
2020	100.0	56.7	12.0	44.7	3.4	37.5	2.4
2021	100.0	56.6	12.1	44.4	3.7	37.3	2.4
2022	100.0	57.0	11.9	45.1	3.9	37.2	2.0
2023	100.0	57.6	11.5	46.1	3.5	36.8	2.1
2024	100.0	57.2	11.2	46.0	3.8	37.1	1.9

Table 5B - Historical table of currently employed persons by employment status (percentage) - Female

Year	Total employed	Employee			Employer	Own account worker	Unpaid family worker
		Total	Public	Private			
2017	100.0	55.7	18.0	37.7	1.1	25.6	17.7
2018	100.0	57.8	19.3	38.5	1.0	24.9	16.3
2019	100.0	58.3	19.9	38.4	0.8	24.8	16.1
2020	100.0	59.0	20.5	38.5	0.8	24.4	15.8
2021	100.0	58.7	21.5	37.2	0.8	25.4	15.2
2022	100.0	60.0	21.3	38.7	1.0	25.4	13.6
2023	100.0	61.9	20.6	41.2	0.9	25.0	12.2
2024	100.0	62.2	21.2	41.0	1.1	24.9	11.9

Table 6 - currently employed person by industry group (based on ISIC fourth revision) - Both sexes

Year	Total	Industry group																
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other
2020	7,999,093	2,169,679	56,856	1,397,689	698,201	1,095,384	523,654	217,281	57,828	183,474	85,990	164,829	447,051	402,808	156,424	123,220	167,255	51,470
2021	8,113,507	2,213,015	54,586	1,362,311	692,585	1,153,516	481,703	214,497	72,881	182,313	80,762	136,073	490,106	423,135	174,539	128,418	201,726	51,342
2022	8,147,731	2,158,559	58,979	1,408,819	690,401	1,142,754	486,346	235,544	71,054	182,379	87,337	146,494	456,844	461,829	169,298	162,099	157,590	71,404
2023	8,009,916	2,088,344	64,606	1,377,686	600,862	1,127,497	504,645	277,739	78,347	176,891	89,946	135,523	438,156	429,311	185,014	209,128	160,913	65,308
2024	7,949,751	2,066,651	60,445	1,366,492	604,479	1,175,059	521,450	259,043	80,357	158,144	85,106	147,556	419,058	422,348	183,209	200,086	138,315	61,951

Note: These Industry groups are based on ISIC - Rev. 4

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)

2 Mining & quarrying (B)

3 Manufacturing (C)

6 Construction, electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D,E,F)

7 Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)

8 Transportation and storage (H)

9 Accommodation and food services activities (I)

10 Information and communication (J)

11 Financial and insurance activities (K)

13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)

14 Administrative and support service activities (N)

15 Public administration and defense compulsory social security (O)

16 Education (P)

17 Human health and social work activities (Q)

19 Other service activities (S)

20 Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)

Other

12 Real estate activities (L)

18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)

21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

Table 6A- currently employed person by industry group (based on ISIC fourth revision) - Male

Year	Total	Industry group																
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other
2020	5,372,947	1,404,424	54,650	769,527	670,928	800,735	504,586	143,909	43,545	108,800	55,021	119,004	284,605	120,956	58,231	94,149	101,098	38,778
2021	5,414,280	1,423,619	53,512	775,837	663,925	834,545	465,940	136,349	51,631	108,793	49,777	96,394	290,754	127,846	63,616	96,710	134,475	40,557
2022	5,373,965	1,422,010	58,657	758,623	658,525	831,372	466,203	141,812	48,341	100,235	55,248	104,400	271,425	139,674	61,720	123,033	79,292	53,396
2023	5,307,563	1,418,583	62,801	731,875	574,746	823,014	480,265	167,045	60,945	97,742	57,625	92,927	270,067	127,997	59,902	167,068	62,929	52,031
2024	5,358,554	1,446,096	59,637	737,824	573,276	861,799	498,811	167,564	56,051	89,841	55,073	104,679	253,211	138,581	56,349	158,330	54,071	47,360

Table 6B - Currently employed person by industry group (based on ISIC fourth revision) - Female

Year	Total	Industry Group																
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	Other
2020	2,626,146	765,256	2,206	628,162	27,273	294,649	19,068	73,372	14,282	74,674	30,969	45,826	162,446	281,852	98,193	29,071	66,157	12,692
2021	2,699,228	789,396	1,074	586,474	28,660	318,971	15,763	78,147	21,250	73,519	30,985	39,679	199,352	295,289	110,923	31,708	67,251	10,785
2022	2,773,766	736,549	322	650,196	31,877	311,382	20,144	93,732	22,712	82,144	32,089	42,094	185,419	322,155	107,578	39,066	78,298	18,009
2023	2,702,354	669,761	1,805	645,812	26,116	304,483	24,381	110,694	17,401	79,150	32,321	42,595	168,089	301,314	125,112	42,060	97,984	13,277
2024	2,591,197	620,555	809	628,668	31,203	313,260	22,639	91,479	24,306	68,303	30,034	42,877	165,847	283,767	126,859	41,756	84,244	14,591

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

Note: These Industry groups are based on ISIC - Rev. 4

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)

2 Mining & quarrying (B)

3 Manufacturing (C)

6 Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E,F)

7 Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)

8 Transportation and storage (H)

9 Accommodation and food services activities (I)

10 Information and communication (J)

11 Financial and insurance activities (K)

13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)

14 Administrative and support service activities (N)

15 Public administration and defense compulsory social security (O)

16 Education (P)

17 Human health and social work activities (Q)

19 Other service activities (S)

20 Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)

Other

Other

12 Real estate activities (L)

18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)

21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

Table 6C - Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group - Both sexes

Major industry group	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	7,999,093	8,113,507	8,147,731	8,009,916	7,949,751
Agriculture	2,169,679	2,213,015	2,158,559	2,088,344	2,066,651
Industry	2,152,746	2,109,482	2,158,199	2,043,154	2,031,417
Services	3,676,668	3,791,011	3,830,973	3,878,418	3,851,683

Table 6D - Historical table of currently employed population by major industry group (percentage) - Both sexes

Major industry group	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	27.1	27.3	26.5	26.1	26.0
Industry	26.9	26.0	26.5	25.5	25.6
Services	46.0	46.7	47.0	48.4	48.5

Note: These Industry groups are based on ISIC - Rev. 4

Agriculture

1. Agriculture forestry and fishery (A)

Industries

1. Mining & quarrying (B)
2. Manufacturing (C)
3. Construction, electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E,F)

Services

1. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)
2. Transportation and storage (H)
3. Accommodation and food services activities (I)
4. Information and communication (J)
5. Financial and insurance activities (K)
6. Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)
7. Administrative and support service activities (N)
8. Public administration and defense compulsory social security (O)
9. Education (P)
10. Human health and social work activities (Q)
11. Other service activities (S)
12. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)
13. Real estate activities (L) Arts, entertainment and recreation (R) Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

Table 7 - Currently employed person by occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Both sexes

Year	Total	Occupation group									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
2020	7,999,093	512,087	531,298	695,206	306,448	756,851	1,373,582	1,222,380	729,394	1,833,523	38,325
2021	8,113,507	324,769	576,124	681,988	282,448	947,824	1,308,645	1,142,171	816,954	2,000,483	32,101
2022	8,147,731	340,894	596,432	688,341	296,177	901,590	1,310,662	1,173,642	786,507	2,007,366	46,120
2023	8,009,916	320,025	587,902	690,537	262,986	984,747	1,211,408	1,105,729	759,785	2,056,729	30,068
2024	7,949,751	339,787	589,418	686,022	283,293	978,857	1,212,157	1,077,931	783,781	1,957,410	41,094

Occupation group

1	Managers, senior officials and legislators	6	Skilled agriculture forestry and fishery workers
2	Professionals	7	Craft and related trades workers
3	Technicians and associate professionals	8	Plant and machine operators and assemblers
4	Clerks and clerical support workers	9	Elementary occupations
5	Services and sales workers	0	Armed forces occupations & unidentified occupations

Table 7A - Currently employed person by occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Male

Year	Total	Occupation group									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
2020	5,372,947	373,757	191,282	452,640	140,458	540,840	984,507	883,796	617,644	1,154,222	33,801
2021	5,414,280	261,533	211,883	440,246	133,690	639,288	981,016	843,075	644,676	1,228,363	30,511
2022	5,373,965	264,794	215,652	437,218	141,818	606,381	956,970	835,321	622,142	1,252,138	41,531
2023	5,307,563	252,648	226,462	422,132	118,267	673,020	926,474	770,046	599,409	1,290,760	28,345
2024	5,358,554	249,813	220,360	450,587	135,584	674,946	947,298	763,680	617,928	1,260,484	37,874

Table 7B - Currently employed person by occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) - Female

Year	Total	Occupation group									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
2020	2,626,146	138,329	340,016	242,566	165,990	216,011	389,075	338,584	111,750	679,301	4,524
2021	2,699,228	63,236	364,242	241,742	148,758	308,536	327,629	299,096	172,278	772,120	1,590
2022	2,773,766	76,101	380,779	251,123	154,359	295,209	353,692	338,321	164,364	755,227	4,589
2023	2,702,354	67,378	361,440	268,406	144,719	311,727	284,934	335,682	160,376	765,969	1,723
2024	2,591,197	89,974	369,058	235,434	147,709	303,911	264,859	314,251	165,854	696,926	3,221

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

Occupation group

1	Managers, senior officials and legislators	6	Skilled agriculture forestry and fishery workers
2	Professionals	7	Craft and related trades workers
3	Technicians and associate professionals	8	Plant and machine operators and assemblers
4	Clerks and clerical support workers	9	Elementary occupations
5	Services and sales workers	0	Armed forces occupations & unidentified occupations

Table 8 - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job and major industrial group (percentage) - Both sexes

Major industrial group	Total	0 *	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & Over
Total	100.0	2.5	1.8	4.8	8.7	14.7	36.4	31.0
1	100.0	3.6	3.5	9.5	16.9	21.6	27.8	17.1
2	100.0	3.1	0.4	2.8	3.7	7.3	38.2	44.4
3	100.0	2.1	1.4	4.0	7.3	10.8	39.7	34.7
6	100.0	4.5	1.5	4.8	11.1	16.2	40.2	21.7
7	100.0	1.0	0.8	2.6	3.8	7.8	33.5	50.5
8	100.0	1.3	1.2	2.7	4.9	9.3	31.8	48.8
9	100.0	1.9	0.9	3.2	6.3	13.0	30.0	44.6
10	100.0	..	..	2.6	2.3	5.9	50.8	38.5
11	100.0	0.6	0.4	0.9	1.5	4.0	65.8	26.7
13	100.0	2.9	1.3	1.4	4.0	9.6	60.2	20.7
14	100.0	0.8	0.9	0.7	4.3	3.6	46.7	43.0
15	100.0	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	3.0	64.0	30.2
16	100.0	4.1	2.5	3.4	7.6	46.2	30.3	5.8
17	100.0	0.8	0.6	1.2	1.8	5.4	48.2	42.0
19	100.0	3.2	2.9	5.0	8.9	14.6	29.5	35.9
20	100.0	1.2	1.5	10.3	12.5	13.9	28.2	32.4
Other	100.0	2.8	6.0	2.6	6.7	14.0	40.7	27.2

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

.. Not reported

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

Industry group

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)

2 Mining & quarrying (B)

3 Manufacturing (C)

6 Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E,F)

7 Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)

8 Transportation and storage (H)

9 Accommodation and food services activities (I)

10 Information and communication (J)

11 Financial and insurance activities (K)

13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)

14 Administrative and support service activities (N)

15 Public administration and defense compulsory social security (O)

16 Education (P)

17 Human health and social work activities (Q)

19 Other service activities (S)

20 Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)

Other

Other

12 Real estate activities (L)

18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)

21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

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
2017	100.0	12.8	37.7	22.2	14.8	12.4
2018	100.0	14.1	38.9	22.5	15.0	9.5
2019	100.0	13.0	36.0	22.8	14.3	13.8
2020	100.0	13.5	39.3	21.5	13.8	12.0
2021	100.0	8.9	42.5	22.2	15.2	11.1
2022	100.0	9.6	37.2	24.4	14.1	14.7
2023	100.0	10.0	35.5	25.3	14.2	15.1
2024	100.0	10.6	35.7	27.1	15.6	10.9

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
2017	100.0	18.1	40.3	19.7	10.8	11.1
2018	100.0	20.5	40.9	17.5	10.7	10.5
2019	100.0	18.3	38.9	19.5	8.3	15.0
2020	100.0	18.8	41.0	18.6	11.9	9.7
2021	100.0	12.3	45.0	20.0	12.1	10.6
2022	100.0	12.9	38.9	21.2	12.1	14.8
2023	100.0	13.8	36.6	21.5	12.2	15.8
2024	100.0	14.9	37.7	24.1	13.6	9.7

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
2017	100.0	8.8	35.7	24.2	17.9	13.5
2018	100.0	9.1	37.3	26.5	18.4	8.7
2019	100.0	8.7	33.6	25.5	19.3	12.9
2020	100.0	8.5	37.7	24.1	15.6	14.1
2021	100.0	5.8	40.3	24.2	18.0	11.6
2022	100.0	6.1	35.2	27.7	16.3	14.6
2023	100.0	6.2	34.4	28.9	16.0	14.4
2024	100.0	7.0	34.0	29.7	17.4	11.9

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
2017	100.0	3.1	30.3	24.7	41.9
2018	100.0	2.2	30.5	21.4	45.8
2019	100.0	2.9	31.4	23.9	41.9
2020	100.0	2.2	32.6	23.5	41.7
2021	100.0	1.4	29.6	24.9	44.1
2022	100.0	1.8	32.1	23.6	42.6
2023	100.0	1.8	31.1	23.6	43.6
2024	100.0	1.4	26.9	25.0	46.8

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
2017	100.0	2.0	37.5	30.0	30.5
2018	100.0	3.1	43.1	25.0	28.9
2019	100.0	2.9	42.2	27.0	28.0
2020	100.0	2.3	41.5	27.7	28.5
2021	100.0	1.8	36.0	29.9	32.3
2022	100.0	2.2	40.1	28.0	29.6
2023	100.0	2.3	39.3	25.1	33.4
2024	100.0	1.0	33.2	28.0	37.8

Table 10 B - 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
2017	100.0	3.9	24.8	20.7	50.7
2018	100.0	1.5	20.6	18.7	59.2
2019	100.0	2.9	22.5	21.4	53.3
2020	100.0	2.2	24.2	19.7	53.9
2021	100.0	1.0	23.9	20.5	54.6
2022	100.0	1.3	23.5	18.8	56.4
2023	100.0	1.4	23.1	22.1	53.4
2024	100.0	1.7	21.5	22.4	54.4

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	Duration		
		Less than 6 months	6 to less than 12 months	12+ months
Both sexes	365,951	148,761	100,978	116,211
%	100.0	40.7	27.6	31.8
Male	166,849	73,308	43,035	50,505
%	100.0	43.9	25.8	30.3
Female	199,102	75,453	57,943	65,706
%	100.0	37.9	29.1	33.0

Table 12 - Labour force status (Current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over by district - Both sexes

District	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)	
Total	17,547,864	8,315,702	47.4	7,949,751	95.6	365,951	4.4	9,232,162
Colombo	1,975,821	919,428	46.5	888,403	96.6	31,025	3.4	1,056,392
Gampaha	1,967,012	911,361	46.3	883,117	96.9	28,244	3.1	1,055,651
Kalutara	1,038,344	501,426	48.3	476,358	95.0	25,068	5.0	536,918
Kandy	1,189,370	566,529	47.6	532,307	94.0	34,222	6.0	622,841
Matale	408,835	196,715	48.1	187,767	95.5	8,947	4.5	212,120
Nuwara Eliya	618,655	299,210	48.4	286,958	95.9	12,252	4.1	319,446
Galle	909,235	443,325	48.8	415,414	93.7	27,911	6.3	465,910
Matara	703,604	302,214	43.0	283,758	93.9	18,456	6.1	401,390
Hambantota	547,164	266,606	48.7	251,977	94.5	14,629	5.5	280,558
Jaffna	511,322	197,966	38.7	190,757	96.4	7,209	3.6	313,356
Mannar	91,505	45,795	50.0	44,992	98.2	803	1.8	45,710
Vavunia	147,091	85,599	58.2	83,656	97.7	1,943	2.3	61,492
Mullativu	80,157	36,077	45.0	34,881	96.7	1,196	3.3	44,080
Kilinochchi	103,953	43,866	42.2	41,671	95.0	2,195	5.0	60,087
Batticaloa	443,817	179,489	40.4	171,211	95.4	8,278	4.6	264,329
Ampara	583,640	212,894	36.5	203,235	95.5	9,659	4.5	370,746
Trincomalee	326,599	120,024	36.7	117,593	98.0	2,431	2.0	206,574
Kurunegala	1,344,036	705,946	52.5	673,191	95.4	32,755	4.6	638,090
Puttalam	671,251	322,163	48.0	314,480	97.6	7,683	2.4	349,088
Anuradhapura	722,887	369,889	51.2	355,362	96.1	14,527	3.9	352,998
Polonnaruwa	350,450	152,883	43.6	148,862	97.4	4,021	2.6	197,567
Badulla	725,876	372,023	51.3	355,195	95.5	16,828	4.5	353,853
Moneragala	398,971	217,760	54.6	202,469	93.0	15,291	7.0	181,211
Ratnapura	970,214	494,018	50.9	473,363	95.8	20,655	4.2	476,196
Kegalle	718,055	352,497	49.1	332,773	94.4	19,724	5.6	365,558

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

Table 12A - Labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over by district - Male

District	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)	
Total	8,195,169	5,525,402	67.4	5,358,554	97.0	166,849	3.0	2,669,766
Colombo	932,658	611,729	65.6	598,916	97.9	12,813	2.1	320,928
Gampaha	922,875	610,450	66.1	597,755	97.9	12,694	2.1	312,426
Kalutara	502,676	345,242	68.7	331,762	96.1	13,480	3.9	157,434
Kandy	544,137	358,446	65.9	341,552	95.3	16,894	4.7	185,691
Matale	191,936	130,218	67.8	127,252	97.7	2,965	2.3	61,718
Nuwara Eliya	286,349	184,727	64.5	179,198	97.0	5,528	3.0	101,623
Galle	413,335	270,990	65.6	257,214	94.9	13,776	5.1	142,345
Matara	327,877	210,475	64.2	201,921	95.9	8,554	4.1	117,402
Hambantota	266,061	180,435	67.8	172,263	95.5	8,172	4.5	85,625
Jaffna	228,043	146,986	64.5	144,695	98.4	2,292	1.6	81,057
Mannar	43,912	32,820	74.7	32,296	98.4	524	1.6	11,092
Vavunia	67,946	51,447	75.7	50,303	97.8	1,144	2.2	16,499
Mullativu	36,300	26,695	73.5	26,208	98.2	486	1.8	9,605
Kilinochchi	47,055	31,248	66.4	30,319	97.0	929	3.0	15,808
Batticaloa	200,358	128,908	64.3	126,834	98.4	2,073	1.6	71,450
Ampara	263,797	163,036	61.8	159,577	97.9	3,458	2.1	100,762
Trincomalee	155,169	99,904	64.4	98,396	98.5	1,508	1.5	55,265
Kurunegala	610,439	438,806	71.9	422,165	96.2	16,642	3.8	171,632
Puttalam	307,207	221,546	72.1	217,331	98.1	4,215	1.9	85,661
Anuradhapura	331,882	241,890	72.9	235,939	97.5	5,951	2.5	89,992
Polonnaruwa	165,062	112,158	67.9	108,836	97.0	3,322	3.0	52,904
Badulla	345,165	241,472	70.0	233,610	96.7	7,861	3.3	103,694
Moneragala	198,363	143,980	72.6	137,351	95.4	6,629	4.6	54,383
Ratnapura	479,422	327,495	68.3	319,682	97.6	7,813	2.4	151,927
Kegalle	327,145	214,302	65.5	207,177	96.7	7,125	3.3	112,843

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

Table 12B - labour force status (current) of the household population, 15 years of age and over by district – Female

District	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)	
Total	9,352,695	2,790,299	29.8	2,591,197	92.9	199,102	7.1	6,562,395
Colombo	1,043,163	307,699	29.5	289,487	94.1	18,212	5.9	735,464
Gampaha	1,044,137	300,911	28.8	285,362	94.8	15,549	5.2	743,226
Kalutara	535,668	156,184	29.2	144,596	92.6	11,588	7.4	379,484
Kandy	645,233	208,083	32.2	190,755	91.7	17,328	8.3	437,150
Matale	216,899	66,497	30.7	60,515	91.0	5,982	9.0	150,402
Nuwara Eliya	332,306	114,483	34.5	107,760	94.1	6,723	5.9	217,823
Galle	495,900	172,335	34.8	158,199	91.8	14,135	8.2	323,565
Matara	375,726	91,739	24.4	81,837	89.2	9,901	10.8	283,988
Hambantota	281,103	86,171	30.7	79,714	92.5	6,457	7.5	194,933
Jaffna	283,278	50,980	18.0	46,062	90.4	4,918	9.6	232,299
Mannar	47,594	12,975	27.3	12,697	97.9	279	2.1	34,619
Vavunia	79,146	34,152	43.2	33,353	97.7	799	2.3	44,993
Mullativu	43,857	9,383	21.4	8,673	92.4	709	7.6	34,475
Kilinochchi	56,898	12,618	22.2	11,353	90.0	1,265	10.0	44,279
Batticaloa	243,460	50,581	20.8	44,377	87.7	6,204	12.3	192,879
Ampara	319,843	49,858	15.6	43,657	87.6	6,201	12.4	269,985
Trincomalee	171,430	20,120	11.7	19,197	95.4	923	4.6	151,309
Kurunegala	733,597	267,140	36.4	251,026	94.0	16,113	6.0	466,458
Puttalam	364,044	100,617	27.6	97,149	96.6	3,468	3.4	263,426
Anuradhapura	391,005	127,999	32.7	119,423	93.3	8,577	6.7	263,006
Polonnaruwa	185,388	40,725	22.0	40,026	98.3	699	1.7	144,662
Badulla	380,710	130,551	34.3	121,585	93.1	8,967	6.9	250,159
Moneragala	200,607	73,779	36.8	65,118	88.3	8,662	11.7	126,828
Ratnapura	490,792	166,523	33.9	153,681	92.3	12,842	7.7	324,269
Kegalle	390,910	138,195	35.4	125,597	90.9	12,599	9.1	252,715

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

Table 13 - Employment by major industry group by districts - Both sexes

District	Total		Agriculture		Industry		Services	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Total	7,949,751	100.0	2,066,651	26.0	2,031,417	25.6	3,851,683	48.5
Colombo	888,403	100.0	11,657	1.3	227,800	25.6	648,946	73.0
Gampaha	883,117	100.0	38,341	4.3	313,277	35.5	531,499	60.2
Kalutara	476,358	100.0	46,833	9.8	186,317	39.1	243,208	51.1
Kandy	532,307	100.0	100,700	18.9	130,647	24.5	300,960	56.5
Matale	187,767	100.0	64,675	34.4	44,251	23.6	78,841	42.0
Nuwara Eliya	286,958	100.0	160,834	56.0	38,122	13.3	88,002	30.7
Galle	415,414	100.0	108,207	26.0	111,682	26.9	195,524	47.1
Matara	283,758	100.0	83,260	29.3	66,452	23.4	134,045	47.2
Hambantota	251,977	100.0	100,998	40.1	53,880	21.4	97,098	38.5
Jaffna	190,757	100.0	44,638	23.4	47,029	24.7	99,090	51.9
Mannar	44,992	100.0	23,690	52.7	5,440	12.1	15,862	35.3
Vavuniya	83,656	100.0	28,474	34.0	14,480	17.3	40,703	48.7
Mullaitivu	34,881	100.0	18,092	51.9	6,525	18.7	10,265	29.4
Kilinochchi	41,671	100.0	13,028	31.3	10,473	25.1	18,170	43.6
Batticaloa	171,211	100.0	47,101	27.5	38,016	22.2	86,094	50.3
Ampara	203,235	100.0	74,941	36.9	41,892	20.6	86,402	42.5
Trincomalee	117,593	100.0	37,303	31.7	23,966	20.4	56,325	47.9
Kurunegala	673,191	100.0	191,083	28.4	183,412	27.2	298,696	44.4
Puttalam	314,480	100.0	87,037	27.7	91,759	29.2	135,684	43.1
Anuradhapura	355,362	100.0	184,706	52.0	44,874	12.6	125,782	35.4
Polonnaruwa	148,862	100.0	66,053	44.4	28,047	18.8	54,762	36.8
Badulla	355,195	100.0	169,518	47.7	56,610	15.9	129,067	36.3
Monaragala	202,469	100.0	107,852	53.3	28,704	14.2	65,913	32.6
Rathnapura	473,363	100.0	181,434	38.3	137,067	29.0	154,863	32.7
Kegalle	332,773	100.0	76,195	22.9	100,694	30.3	155,884	46.8

Table 13A - Employment by major industry group by districts – Male

District	Total		Agriculture		Industry		Services	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Total	5,358,554	100.0	1,446,096	27.0	1,370,736	25.6	2,541,721	47.4
Colombo	598,916	100.0	9,600	1.6	153,201	25.6	436,115	72.8
Gampaha	597,755	100.0	28,244	4.7	207,936	34.8	361,576	60.5
Kalutara	331,762	100.0	30,722	9.3	131,981	39.8	169,059	51.0
Kandy	341,552	100.0	58,997	17.3	81,289	23.8	201,266	58.9
Matale	127,252	100.0	47,287	37.2	29,467	23.2	50,499	39.7
Nuwara Eliya	179,198	100.0	90,104	50.3	24,786	13.8	64,308	35.9
Galle	257,214	100.0	67,935	26.4	71,973	28.0	117,307	45.6
Matara	201,921	100.0	68,002	33.7	44,993	22.3	88,926	44.0
Hambantota	172,263	100.0	78,366	45.5	35,080	20.4	58,817	34.1
Jaffna	144,695	100.0	37,303	25.8	43,428	30.0	63,963	44.2
Mannar	32,296	100.0	17,807	55.1	3,694	11.4	10,795	33.4
Vavuniya	50,303	100.0	17,889	35.6	10,012	19.9	22,402	44.5
Mullaitivu	26,208	100.0	15,434	58.9	4,483	17.1	6,291	24.0
Kilinochchi	30,319	100.0	11,692	38.6	7,031	23.2	11,595	38.2
Batticaloa	126,834	100.0	42,230	33.3	25,313	20.0	59,291	46.7
Ampara	159,577	100.0	65,727	41.2	32,055	20.1	61,795	38.7
Trincomalee	98,396	100.0	34,378	34.9	18,943	19.3	45,075	45.8
Kurunegala	422,165	100.0	132,055	31.3	110,037	26.1	180,073	42.7
Puttalam	217,331	100.0	60,155	27.7	64,750	29.8	92,425	42.5
Anuradhapura	235,939	100.0	128,506	54.5	31,051	13.2	76,382	32.4
Polonnaruwa	108,836	100.0	57,826	53.1	16,793	15.4	34,217	31.4
Badulla	233,610	100.0	107,225	45.9	40,538	17.4	85,847	36.7
Monaragala	137,351	100.0	77,137	56.2	20,777	15.1	39,437	28.7
Rathnapura	319,682	100.0	116,147	36.3	106,019	33.2	97,516	30.5
Kegalle	207,177	100.0	45,329	21.9	55,106	26.6	106,742	51.5

Table 13B - Employment by major industry group by districts - Female

District	Total		Agriculture		Industry		Services	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Total	2,591,197	100.0	620,555	23.9	660,680	25.5	1,309,962	50.6
Colombo	289,487	100.0	2,056	0.7	74,599	25.8	212,832	73.5
Gampaha	285,362	100.0	10,098	3.5	105,342	36.9	169,923	59.5
Kalutara	144,596	100.0	16,111	11.1	54,335	37.6	74,149	51.3
Kandy	190,755	100.0	41,704	21.9	49,358	25.9	99,694	52.3
Matale	60,515	100.0	17,389	28.7	14,784	24.4	28,342	46.8
Nuwara Eliya	107,760	100.0	70,730	65.6	13,336	12.4	23,694	22.0
Galle	158,199	100.0	40,272	25.5	39,710	25.1	78,217	49.4
Matara	81,837	100.0	15,259	18.6	21,459	26.2	45,119	55.1
Hambantota	79,714	100.0	22,632	28.4	18,801	23.6	38,281	48.0
Jaffna	46,062	100.0	7,335	15.9	3,601	7.8	35,126	76.3
Mannar	12,697	100.0	5,884	46.3	1,746	13.8	5,067	39.9
Vavuniya	33,353	100.0	10,584	31.7	4,468	13.4	18,301	54.9
Mullaitivu	8,673	100.0	2,658	30.6	2,042	23.5	3,974	45.8
Kilinochchi	11,353	100.0	1,336	11.8	3,442	30.3	6,575	57.9
Batticaloa	44,377	100.0	4,871	11.0	12,703	28.6	26,803	60.4
Ampara	43,657	100.0	9,214	21.1	9,837	22.5	24,607	56.4
Trincomalee	19,197	100.0	2,925	15.2	5,023	26.2	11,249	58.6
Kurunegala	251,026	100.0	59,028	23.5	73,375	29.2	118,623	47.3
Puttalam	97,149	100.0	26,882	27.7	27,009	27.8	43,258	44.5
Anuradhapura	119,423	100.0	56,200	47.1	13,823	11.6	49,400	41.4
Polonnaruwa	40,026	100.0	8,226	20.6	11,255	28.1	20,545	51.3
Badulla	121,585	100.0	62,293	51.2	16,072	13.2	43,220	35.5
Monaragala	65,118	100.0	30,715	47.2	7,926	12.2	26,476	40.7
Rathnapura	153,681	100.0	65,287	42.5	31,048	20.2	57,346	37.3
Kegalle	125,597	100.0	30,867	24.6	45,587	36.3	49,142	39.1

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

Table 14 - Currently employed person by occupation group (Based on ISCO 08) by province - Both sexes

Province	Total	Occupation group									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
Total	7,949,751	339,787	589,418	686,022	283,293	978,857	1,212,157	1,077,931	783,781	1,957,410	41,094
Western	2,247,878	170,332	226,223	262,775	130,572	304,011	66,576	351,605	308,667	409,144	17,973
Central	1,007,033	33,086	73,839	77,140	25,570	139,553	137,601	105,385	97,685	315,441	1,734
Southern	951,148	29,705	65,243	81,207	29,667	109,123	173,348	141,946	74,746	240,737	5,426
Northern	395,958	8,973	34,313	35,558	5,402	48,539	90,177	52,001	27,513	93,482	..
Eastern	492,039	11,614	37,963	41,201	13,642	70,194	89,865	66,736	31,326	128,083	1,416
North Western	987,671	45,610	51,548	83,863	30,349	95,103	161,563	171,316	98,428	245,223	4,669
North Central	504,223	8,310	26,788	23,173	8,109	62,548	193,736	43,615	34,948	97,525	5,472
Uva	557,664	11,801	33,028	17,472	13,262	60,746	167,690	43,160	32,114	176,747	1,644
Sabaragamuwa	806,137	20,356	40,474	63,634	26,720	89,041	131,602	102,166	78,355	251,028	2,760

.. Not reported

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

Occupation group

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Managers, senior officials and legislators | 6 Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers |
| 2 Professionals | 7 Craft and related trades workers |
| 3 Technicians and associate Professionals | 8 Plant and machine operators and assemblers |
| 4 Clerks and clerical support workers | 9 Elementary occupations |
| 5 Services and sales workers | 0 Armed forces occupations & unidentified occupations |

Note: It is to be noted here that these occupation groups are based on ISCO - 08

Table 15 - Currently employed person by industry group (Based on ISIC fourth revision) by province - Both sexes

Province	Total	Industry group																
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	other
Total	7,949,751	2,066,651	60,445	1,366,492	604,479	1,175,059	521,450	259,043	80,357	158,144	85,106	147,556	419,058	422,348	183,209	200,086	138,315	61,951
Western	2,247,878	96,831	4,721	539,776	182,896	410,863	221,928	97,408	49,793	74,764	44,582	61,181	106,536	116,811	64,907	82,787	66,443	25,650
Central	1,007,033	326,210	2,522	139,585	70,913	151,528	60,160	31,234	8,210	13,875	7,522	15,109	49,490	55,792	21,692	35,918	9,072	8,200
Southern	951,148	292,466	3,797	152,037	76,181	120,105	54,046	37,539	5,007	15,721	5,808	18,658	56,503	54,625	27,329	15,962	9,762	5,601
Northern	395,958	127,922	255	38,438	45,253	49,809	23,299	5,348	1,393	5,436	4,319	4,989	26,879	29,035	10,259	7,463	13,459	2,402
Eastern	492,039	159,344	4,055	54,823	44,996	68,226	26,061	15,459	2,195	7,226	5,646	11,018	34,374	37,412	9,093	8,428	2,651	1,032
North Western	987,671	278,120	4,380	188,824	81,967	158,326	58,804	27,162	5,079	15,095	9,116	13,612	45,013	46,066	13,809	19,576	14,959	7,764
North Central	504,223	250,758	1,452	46,647	24,823	50,041	16,212	13,613	1,559	6,057	2,520	7,440	38,514	21,538	9,329	7,835	1,493	4,393
Uva	557,664	277,370	2,664	53,497	29,153	58,140	22,243	15,663	1,061	6,608	1,537	6,290	26,193	28,709	11,438	7,155	6,751	3,192
Sabaragamuwa	806,137	257,629	36,601	152,863	48,297	108,020	38,697	15,618	6,059	13,362	4,056	9,259	35,557	32,362	15,352	14,962	13,725	3,718

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

Industry group

1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)

2 Mining & quarrying (B)

3 Manufacturing (C)

6 Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D,E,F)

7 Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)

8 Transportation and storage (H)

9 Accommodation and food services activities (I)

10 Information and communication (J)

11 Financial and insurance activities (K)

13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)

14 Administrative and support service activities (N)

15 Public administration and defense compulsory social security (O)

16 Education (P)

17 Human health and social work activities (Q)

19 Other service activities (S)

20 Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)

Other

Other

12 Real estate activities (L)

18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)

21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)

Note: These Industry groups are based on ISIC - Rev. 4

Table 16 - Currently employed person by employment status by province - Both sexes

Province	Total	Employee			Employer	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker
		Total	Public	Private			
Total	7,949,751	4,675,651	1,148,575	3,527,077	229,192	2,632,721	412,187
Western	2,247,878	1,525,077	299,673	1,225,405	102,827	561,641	58,333
Central	1,007,033	615,650	154,432	461,218	30,709	307,257	53,416
Southern	951,148	555,398	152,255	403,143	18,350	330,137	47,263
Northern	395,958	236,313	69,042	167,271	8,613	140,322	10,710
Eastern	492,039	300,667	97,250	203,417	9,733	167,859	13,780
North Western	987,671	512,133	120,550	391,583	29,090	377,292	69,156
North Central	504,223	190,831	74,413	116,418	7,518	249,234	56,640
Uva	557,664	250,508	81,099	169,409	4,788	237,812	64,556
Sabaragamuwa	806,137	489,073	99,861	389,212	17,564	261,166	38,334

Table 16A - Currently employed person by employment status by province – Male

Province	Total	Employee			Employer	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker
		Total	Public	Private			
Total	5,358,554	3,063,874	598,634	2,465,240	201,640	1,988,650	104,389
Western	1,528,434	995,772	153,194	842,578	92,410	422,878	17,373
Central	648,003	380,329	76,736	303,592	25,947	228,841	12,886
Southern	631,398	358,257	73,395	284,862	14,839	247,800	10,502
Northern	283,820	164,394	32,187	132,207	8,091	105,309	6,026
Eastern	384,808	239,653	60,733	178,920	9,733	129,558	5,864
North Western	639,496	322,880	61,034	261,846	25,736	278,849	12,032
North Central	344,775	124,315	44,828	79,487	6,230	197,672	16,558
Uva	370,962	163,558	45,320	118,238	4,376	186,996	16,031
Sabaragamuwa	526,859	314,717	51,206	263,511	14,277	190,747	7,118

Table 16B - Currently employed person by employment status by province -Female

Province	Total	Employee			Employer	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker
		Total	Public	Private			
Total	2,591,197	1,611,777	549,940	1,061,836	27,552	644,070	307,798
Western	719,444	529,305	146,479	382,827	10,416	138,763	40,959
Central	359,030	235,322	77,696	157,626	4,763	78,416	40,530
Southern	319,750	197,141	78,860	118,281	3,511	82,337	36,762
Northern	112,138	71,919	36,855	35,064	523	35,013	4,683
Eastern	107,231	61,014	36,518	24,497	..	38,301	7,916
North Western	348,175	189,254	59,516	129,737	3,354	98,443	57,124
North Central	159,449	66,517	29,585	36,931	1,287	51,562	40,083
Uva	186,702	86,950	35,778	51,172	411	50,816	48,525
Sabaragamuwa	279,277	174,356	48,655	125,701	3,287	70,419	31,216

.. Not reported

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

Table 17 - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job by district - Both sexes

District	Total	0*	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & over
Total	100.0	2.5	1.8	4.8	8.7	14.7	36.4	31.0
Colombo	100.0	1.5	1.0	2.6	5.1	10.5	46.3	33.1
Gampaha	100.0	1.9	1.0	1.8	4.4	9.6	37.2	44.1
Kalutara	100.0	1.0	0.3	3.7	7.9	13.9	41.2	32.1
Kandy	100.0	3.4	0.5	2.8	8.5	13.0	31.1	40.7
Matale	100.0	5.4	3.9	6.8	10.9	15.2	32.5	25.4
Nuwara Eliya	100.0	0.4	1.1	2.0	6.8	12.7	49.6	27.3
Galle	100.0	4.5	4.5	8.6	11.0	11.8	28.0	31.5
Matara	100.0	2.4	2.3	4.7	9.3	20.3	34.7	26.3
Hambantota	100.0	1.7	2.7	6.0	15.7	20.3	36.5	17.2
Jaffna	100.0	1.5	1.7	2.7	6.3	16.3	49.4	22.2
Mannar	100.0	5.3	3.5	4.0	10.7	24.3	31.2	20.9
Vavuniya	100.0	1.8	1.2	11.7	21.4	19.8	25.6	18.6
Mullaitivu	100.0	3.1	0.2	1.9	6.9	31.3	44.9	11.7
Kilinochchi	100.0	2.1	..	..	2.1	21.3	53.1	21.4
Batticaloa	100.0	0.3	1.8	3.7	6.8	16.7	34.1	36.5
Ampara	100.0	0.2	1.0	3.8	10.9	18.6	44.3	21.1
Trincomalee	100.0	0.6	1.9	4.3	7.7	19.2	41.0	25.3
Kurunegala	100.0	5.1	4.3	8.4	11.0	14.9	29.8	26.5
Puttalam	100.0	2.4	1.1	5.2	9.7	16.2	37.8	27.6
Anuradhapura	100.0	3.8	2.2	6.5	10.0	17.7	23.8	36.1
Polonnaruwa	100.0	3.2	6.2	10.1	8.6	9.9	23.1	39.0
Badulla	100.0	3.7	1.6	7.9	10.8	19.4	36.3	20.4
Monaragala	100.0	3.3	1.7	8.1	9.8	13.3	32.8	30.9
Rathnapura	100.0	2.1	2.0	6.3	12.2	15.7	33.4	28.4
Kegalle	100.0	0.5	0.5	2.4	8.0	20.2	37.9	30.3

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

.. Not reported

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

Table 17A - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job by district – Male

District	Total	0*	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & over
Total	100.0	2.5	1.5	4.1	7.6	12.8	36.1	35.4
Colombo	100.0	1.5	0.8	2.1	4.2	8.1	44.6	38.7
Gampaha	100.0	1.9	0.7	1.4	4.0	8.5	36.1	47.5
Kalutara	100.0	1.3	0.2	3.0	6.9	13.3	38.8	36.4
Kandy	100.0	3.1	0.3	2.3	6.9	8.6	29.3	49.5
Matale	100.0	5.9	2.3	5.6	9.9	14.0	32.9	29.4
Nuwara Eliya	100.0	0.6	0.7	1.3	5.3	11.7	49.9	30.6
Galle	100.0	5.2	3.8	7.2	10.3	10.0	26.1	37.3
Matara	100.0	2.9	2.0	4.6	9.0	19.5	33.9	28.1
Hambantota	100.0	1.8	2.5	4.6	15.3	21.3	35.7	18.9
Jaffna	100.0	0.7	1.2	2.3	5.8	14.8	49.0	26.3
Mannar	100.0	7.4	4.1	3.1	10.9	16.4	34.7	23.4
Vavuniya	100.0	1.4	0.8	3.5	19.9	21.4	30.0	22.9
Mullaitivu	100.0	3.1	0.3	1.0	3.5	32.3	47.3	12.6
Kilinochchi	100.0	2.0	..	..	1.2	22.3	51.0	23.5
Batticaloa	100.0	0.4	1.5	2.5	4.5	13.4	33.4	44.4
Ampara	100.0	0.2	1.0	2.9	11.8	15.6	46.5	22.0
Trincomalee	100.0	0.7	1.7	2.8	6.8	19.4	42.3	26.4
Kurunegala	100.0	5.7	3.3	8.3	9.9	12.4	29.3	31.1
Puttalam	100.0	1.6	0.8	4.4	8.4	14.6	38.7	31.6
Anuradhapura	100.0	3.8	1.3	5.3	9.5	14.6	23.6	41.8
Polonnaruwa	100.0	3.9	7.3	10.7	9.0	9.5	19.8	39.8
Badulla	100.0	3.6	1.5	8.1	8.0	15.8	38.3	24.6
Monaragala	100.0	2.6	0.9	8.1	7.4	11.2	34.0	35.8
Rathnapura	100.0	2.4	1.4	4.1	10.2	13.5	34.3	34.1
Kegalle	100.0	0.1	0.5	2.4	6.2	17.4	37.6	35.7

Table 17B - Currently employed persons by hours per week actually worked at the main job by district - Female

District	Total	0*	1 - 9	10 - 19	20 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 & over
Total	100.0	2.4	2.6	6.4	11.0	18.6	37.1	21.8
Colombo	100.0	1.4	1.4	3.6	7.0	15.3	50.0	21.5
Gampaha	100.0	1.9	1.6	2.6	5.3	11.9	39.6	37.1
Kalutara	100.0	0.2	0.4	5.2	10.3	15.4	46.5	22.0
Kandy	100.0	4.1	0.7	3.6	11.3	20.9	34.3	25.0
Matale	100.0	4.3	7.3	9.3	13.1	17.7	31.5	16.8
Nuwara Eliya	100.0	..	1.8	3.4	9.4	14.5	49.2	21.8
Galle	100.0	3.3	5.7	11.0	12.2	14.8	31.0	22.0
Matara	100.0	1.2	3.0	4.9	10.0	22.2	36.8	21.9
Hambantota	100.0	1.5	3.3	8.9	16.5	18.2	38.1	13.5
Jaffna	100.0	3.9	3.4	4.0	7.7	21.0	50.7	9.4
Mannar	100.0	..	2.0	6.5	10.4	44.4	22.3	14.4
Vavunia	100.0	2.4	1.7	24.0	23.7	17.4	18.9	11.9
Mullaitivu	100.0	3.4	..	4.6	17.1	28.4	37.5	8.9
Kilinochchi	100.0	2.5	..	..	4.4	18.8	58.6	15.6
Batticaloa	100.0	..	2.9	7.2	13.5	26.1	36.3	14.0
Ampara	100.0	..	1.3	7.2	7.5	29.8	36.4	17.9
Trincomalee	100.0	..	2.8	12.2	12.3	18.7	34.5	19.6
Kurunegala	100.0	4.0	5.9	8.7	13.0	19.1	30.5	18.9
Puttalam	100.0	4.1	1.7	7.1	12.7	19.9	35.8	18.6
Anuradhapura	100.0	3.6	3.9	8.7	10.9	23.9	24.0	24.9
Polonnaruwa	100.0	1.1	3.2	8.3	7.7	10.7	32.3	36.7
Badulla	100.0	3.8	1.9	7.4	16.0	26.2	32.5	12.3
Moneragala	100.0	4.8	3.3	8.3	14.8	17.8	30.3	20.7
Ratnapura	100.0	1.7	3.2	10.7	16.3	20.2	31.4	16.5
Kegalle	100.0	1.3	0.6	2.4	11.1	24.9	38.3	21.4

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

.. Not reported

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

Table 18 - Unemployment rate by level of education by province - Both sexes

Province	Total	Level of education			
		Grade 5 & Below	Grades 6 - 10	GCE (O.L)/ NCGE	GCE (A.L)/ HNCE & above
Total	4.4	0.5	2.8	5.7	7.8
Western	3.6	..	1.9	4.9	5.0
Central	5.2	0.2	3.4	7.4	9.6
Southern	6.0	1.3	4.3	6.3	11.0
Northern	3.3	..	1.2	5.2	7.7
Eastern	4.0	1.0	2.2	4.6	9.3
North Western	3.9	1.0	2.0	6.0	7.6
North Central	3.5	..	2.1	6.4	7.3
Uva	5.4	1.0	4.5	6.5	12.1
Sabaragamuwa	4.8	..	3.3	5.2	10.5

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

.. Net reported

Table 19 - Unemployment rate by age group by province - Both sexes

Province	Total	Age group			
		15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 & over
Total	4.4	27.7	20.7	12.5	1.4
Western	3.6	27.4	16.1	7.5	1.3
Central	5.2	32.7	25.9	16.3	1.5
Southern	6.0	38.9	32.1	16.2	2.1
Northern	3.3	7.2	12.5	12.6	0.6
Eastern	4.0	15.7	17.1	13.8	1.3
North Western	3.9	26.3	15.4	11.7	1.5
North Central	3.5	29.1	20.5	9.0	1.1
Uva	5.4	31.3	29.5	17.1	1.7
Sabaragamuwa	4.8	29.9	25.0	16.8	1.4

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

Table 20 - Employment in formal/ informal employment by status in employment - Both sexes

Status of Employment	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total employment	8,113,507	8,147,731	8,009,916	7,949,751
Total informal employment	5,478,420	5,471,252	5,424,906	5,286,581
Informal employees	2,328,383	2,395,916	2,471,850	2,399,606
Informal employees in the informal sector	1,639,716	1,658,348	1,747,585	1,695,321
Informal employees in the formal sector	688,666	737,568	724,265	704,284
Informal entrepreneurs (employers + own account workers)	2,611,440	2,593,262	2,508,957	2,474,788
Contributing family workers	538,597	482,075	444,100	412,187
Contributing family workers in the informal sector	484,571	427,080	390,653	356,115
Contributing family workers in the formal sector	54,026	54,994	53,446	56,072
Total formal employment	2,635,087	2,676,478	2,585,010	2,663,170
Formal employees	2,317,189	2,332,509	2,257,861	2,276,046
Formal employees in the formal sector	2,317,189	2,332,509	2,257,861	2,276,046
Formal employees in the informal sector	-	-	-	-
Formal entrepreneurs (employers + own account workers)	317,898	343,970	327,149	387,124
Total employment in non-agricultural sector	5,900,492	5,989,172	5,921,572	5,883,100
Total informal employment	3,446,921	3,498,521	3,495,721	3,380,530
Informal employees	1,814,064	1,817,995	1,875,159	1,830,177
Informal employees in the informal sector	1,186,257	1,152,536	1,219,735	1,198,425
Informal employees in the formal sector	627,807	665,459	655,424	631,751.4
Informal entrepreneurs (employers + own account workers)	1,437,749	1,486,425	1,432,815	1,374,145
Contributing family workers	195,108	194,101	187,747	176,209
Contributing family workers in the informal sector	147,273	144,099	139,095	126,228
Contributing family workers in the formal sector	47,835	50,002	48,653	49,981
Total formal employment	2,453,572	2,490,651	2,425,851	2,502,570
Formal employees	2,160,276	2,174,032	2,124,616	2,145,633
Formal employees in the formal sector	2,160,276	2,174,032	2,124,616	2,145,633
Formal employees in the informal sector	-	-	-	-
Formal entrepreneurs (employers + own account workers)	293,295	316,619	301,234	356,937

Special Statistical Appendix

EXPLANATORY NOTES

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 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 15 years of age and older.

The field work of the survey is done during the third week of 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 as the "reference week/reference period".

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

Concepts & Definitions

1. **Labour force:** The labour force is composed of the currently economically active population 15 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, or unpaid family workers are said to be employed. This includes persons with a job but not at work during the reference period.
 - a. Paid employees, (those who work for wages/salaries).
 - b. Employers (entrepreneurs those who have at least one paid employee under them).
 - c. Own account workers (entrepreneurs those who don't have any paid employee).
 - d. Contributing family workers (who make their contribution to the economic activities carried out by their own household, without wages/salaries).
- 3 **Unemployed:** Persons who are seeking and available for work, but had no employment during the reference period.
- 4 **Currently Economically Active:** A person who was employed or unemployed during the current reference (one week) period is considered to be currently economically active.
- 5 **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.
- 6 **Criteria for classification of underemployment:** In order to classify 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.

Until 2012, only the time spent on main activity was considered to decide cutoff time limit. However, from 2013 onward this has being changed and time spent on both main and secondary activities were considered to decide cutoff time limit.

7 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

8 NEET

Youths (age 15-24 population) not in employment, education or training.

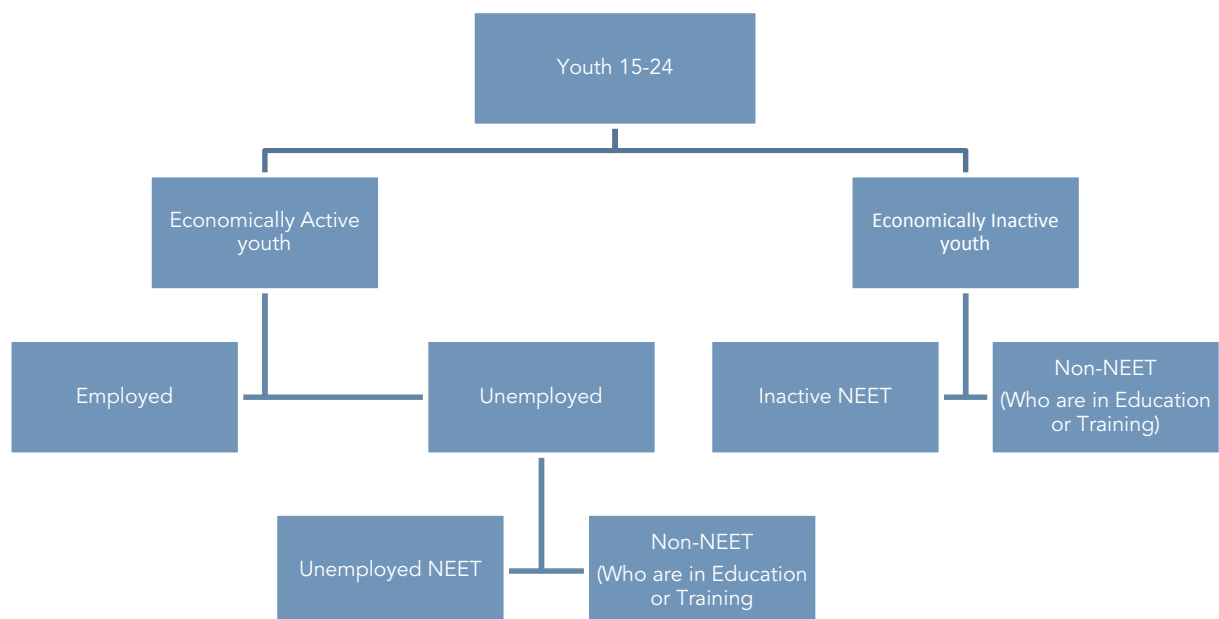


Chart 01: Distribution of youth population by various economic conditions

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

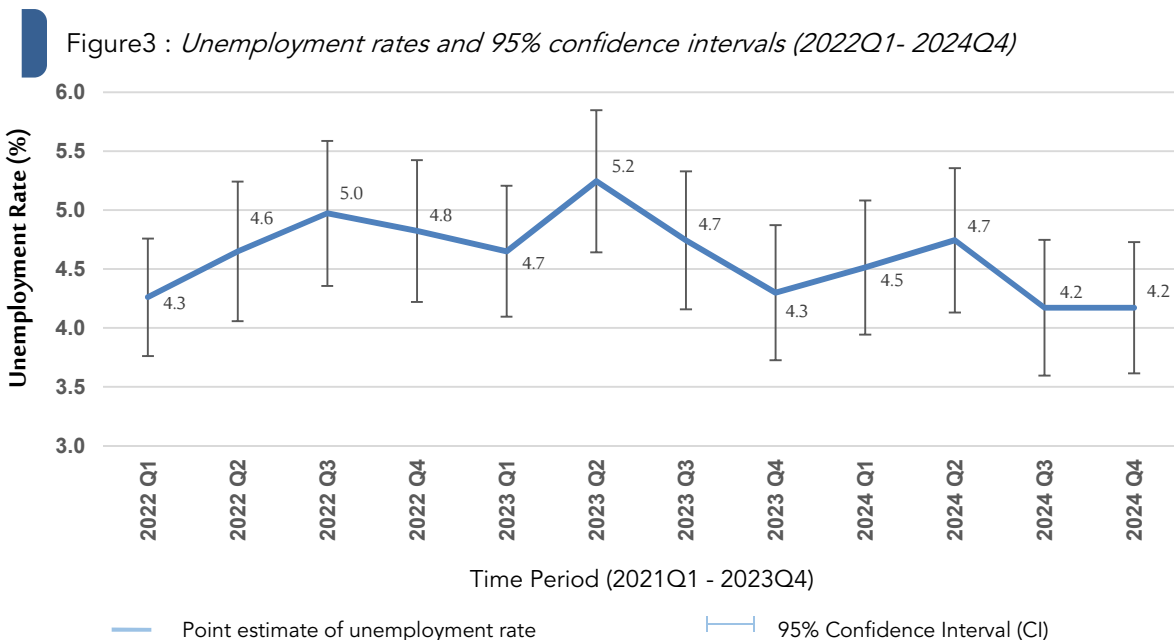
Estimated value *(of the unemployment rate)* ± (standard error) * (1.96)

6.4 ± (0.4) * (1.96)
(6.4 ± 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.

Distribution of unemployment rates and 95% confidence intervals (2022Q1 -2024Q4)



As seen in Figure, it is very important to note that, there were no statistically significant differences between the unemployment rates reported in different time periods of 2021/2023, 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. In January 2006, some improvements were made to the labour force survey schedule in order to fulfill the requirements of data users and also to provide additional information for planning purposes. The revision was made focusing on literacy, household economic activities, and informal sector employment and under employment etc.

From January , 2013 onwards, the lower bound of working age populations is considered as age 15, hence age 15 and over population is considered as working age population .The survey schedule is updated to obtain more precise information on following age, informal employment, informal sector, secondary occupation, wages & income , unemployment & trainings.

New Industry & Occupation classifications

From January 2013 onward the survey uses new industry & occupation classifications, such as

SLIC Rev 4 - Sri Lanka Standard Industry Classification based on International Standard Industry classification - Rev.4 (ISIC Rev 4)

SLSCO 08 - Sri Lanka Standard Classification of Occupation -2008 based on International Standard Classification of Occupation-2008 (ISCO 2008)

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, it's 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
2017	8,566,686	49,822	0.58	8,468,989	8,664,382	8,208,179	48,420	0.59	8,113,231	8,303,126
2018	8,387,759	57,008	0.68	8,275,971	8,499,546	8,015,166	55,036	0.69	7,907,245	8,123,087
2019	8,592,010	54,293	0.63	8,485,546	8,698,475	8,180,693	52,108	0.64	8,078,513	8,282,872
2020	8,466,606	58,917	0.70	8,351,075	8,582,137	7,999,093	56,610	0.71	7,888,086	8,110,101
2021	8,553,290	58,311	0.68	8,438,947	8,667,633	8,113,507	56,072	0.69	8,003,555	8,223,460
2022	8,547,062	58,034	0.68	8,433,262	8,660,862	8,147,731	56,377	0.69	8,037,181	8,258,281
2023	8,408,331	60,811	0.72	8,289,086	8,527,576	8,009,916	58,584	0.73	7,895,039	8,124,794
2024	8,315,702	59,437	0.71	8,199,151	8,432,253	7,949,751	57,380	0.72	7,837,234	8,062,267

Year	Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	No.	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.		Rate	Standard error	C.V (%)	95% C.I.	
				Lower	Upper				Lower	Upper
2017	358,507	11,347	3.17	336,256	380,758	4.2	0.1	3.08	3.9	4.4
2018	372,593	11,350	3.05	350,337	394,849	4.4	0.1	2.94	4.2	4.7
2019	411,318	12,814	3.12	386,191	436,444	4.8	0.1	3.00	4.5	5.1
2020	467,513	14,029	3.00	440,004	495,022	5.5	0.2	2.88	5.2	5.8
2021	439,783	13,930	3.17	412,468	467,097	5.1	0.2	3.05	4.8	5.4
2022	399,332	13,022	3.26	373,797	424,867	4.7	0.1	3.17	4.4	5.0
2023	398,415	13,036	3.27	372,852	423,978	4.7	0.1	3.15	4.4	5.0
2024	365,951	12,835	3.51	340,782	391,120	4.4	0.1	3.39	4.1	4.7

Standard error (Page 1)

Standard error and coefficient of variation of selected variables

	Estimated Value	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)	Estimated Value (Ratio)	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation (%)
General labour force characteristics						
Population (15 years & over)	17,547,864	87,718	0.50			
Employed Population	7,949,751	57,380	0.72			
Unemployed Population	365,951	12,835	3.51			
Employment Rate				95.6	0.1	0.16
Unemployment Rate				4.4	0.1	3.39
Labour Force	8,315,702	59,437	0.71			
Not in Labour Force	9,232,162	63,508	0.69			
Employed persons by major industry Groups						
1	2,066,651	43,459	2.10			
2	60,445	7,310	12.09			
3	1,366,492	26,836	1.96			
6	604,479	16,180	2.68			
7	1,175,059	25,338	2.16			
8	521,450	13,996	2.68			
9	259,043	11,267	4.35			
10	80,357	5,828	7.25			
11	158,144	8,008	5.06			
13	85,106	5,937	6.98			
14	147,556	7,636	5.18			
15	419,058	13,676	3.26			
16	422,348	13,420	3.18			
17	183,209	8,780	4.79			
19	200,086	9,752	4.87			
20	138,315	8,341	6.03			
Other	61,951	4,844	7.82			
Unemployed persons by level of education						
Below grade 5	5,046	1,360	26.95			
Grade 5 - 9/Year 6 - 10	98,261	5,708	5.81			
G.C.E.(O/L)/N.C.G.E.	91,405	5,195	5.68			
G.C.E.(A/L)/H.N.C.E. & above	171,238	6,719	3.92			
Industry group						
1	Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A)					
2	Mining & quarrying (B)					
3	Manufacturing (C)					
6	Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D, E,F)					
7	Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G)					
8	Transportation and storage (H)					
9	Accommodation and food services activities (I)					
10	Information and communication (J)					
11	Financial and insurance activities (K)					
13	Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)					
14	Administrative and support service activities (N)					
15	Public administration and defense compulsory social security (O)					
16	Education (P)					
17	Human health and social work activities (Q)					
19	Other service activities (S)					
20	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T)					
Other	Other					
	12 Real estate activities (L)					
	18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R)					
	21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U)					

ALTERNATIVE ESTIMATES

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, before 2013. However, this was changed as age 15 and over from 2013 onward.
- (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) Contributing 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 pointed out that one hour per week is too low, to consider a person to be employed.
- (2) **Working Age Population** : Some pointed out those persons in the age group 10-14 yrs. are too young to be considered in the working age. (From 2013 onward the working age population is considered as age 15 and over).
- (3) **Employment Status** : Some pointed out that 'contributing 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) **Contributing Family Worker** : Contributing family workers are **not** considered as employed. They 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.

Alternative estimates (page 2)

Table 1 - Labour force status of household population 15 years & over (Alternative estimates)

Year	Household population (15 years & over)	Total labour force	Labour force partici: rate(%)	Labour force				Not in labour force number
				Employed		Unemployed		
				Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	Number	Rate (% to total labour force)	
2017	15,843,735	7,474,883	47.2	7,116,376	95.2	358,507	4.8	8,368,851
2018	16,196,232	7,428,999	45.9	7,056,406	95.0	372,593	5.0	8,767,233
2019	16,424,016	7,609,700	46.3	7,198,383	94.6	411,318	5.4	8,814,316
2020	16,739,396	7,438,037	44.4	6,970,524	93.7	467,513	6.3	9,301,359
2021	17,133,659	7,471,067	43.6	7,031,284	94.1	439,783	5.9	9,662,592
2022	17,161,973	7,497,884	43.7	7,098,552	94.7	399,332	5.3	9,664,089
2023	17,306,492	7,380,485	42.6	6,982,070	94.6	398,415	5.4	9,926,008
2024	17,547,864	7,445,218	42.4	7,079,267	95.1	365,951	4.9	10,102,646

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
2017	358,507	4.8	46,016	25.1	135,121	19.7	79,727	10.4	53,053	3.0	44,590	1.1
2018	372,593	5.0	52,624	30.4	144,824	22.1	84,000	11.3	55,853	3.3	35,291	0.8
2019	411,318	5.4	53,652	29.3	148,046	22.4	93,793	11.8	59,009	3.4	56,818	1.3
2020	467,513	6.3	62,910	38.0	183,722	27.5	100,359	13.0	64,493	3.9	56,029	1.3
2021	439,783	5.9	39,102	30.8	187,104	29.7	97,631	12.5	66,973	4.2	48,972	1.1
2022	399,332	5.3	38,456	32.0	148,378	23.8	97,317	12.6	56,437	3.5	58,743	1.3
2023	398,415	5.4	39,737	33.5	141,290	24.0	100,763	14.2	56,381	3.7	60,244	1.4
2024	365,951	4.9	38,809	32.7	130,640	22.4	99,305	13.5	57,229	3.8	39,968	0.9

Table 3 - Currently employed person by industry group (Based on ISIC fourth revision) (Alternative estimates) - Both sexes

Year	Total	Industry group																	
		1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	other	
2020	No.	6,970,524	1,592,043	51,906	1,276,171	660,251	970,228	494,638	186,117	55,187	174,496	82,307	157,459	433,734	370,960	152,648	114,254	153,050	45,075
	%	100.0	22.8	0.7	18.3	9.5	13.9	7.1	2.7	0.8	2.5	1.2	2.3	6.2	5.3	2.2	1.6	2.2	0.6
2021	No.	7,031,284	1,645,518	47,771	1,236,731	643,441	1,015,162	452,687	183,091	71,279	177,033	76,063	129,244	476,399	373,300	168,807	109,266	181,500	43,994
	%	100.0	23.4	0.7	17.6	9.2	14.4	6.4	2.6	1.0	2.5	1.1	1.8	6.8	5.3	2.4	1.6	2.6	0.6
2022	No.	7,098,552	1,624,304	54,869	1,273,780	626,142	1,021,153	450,290	195,864	69,084	179,777	81,766	135,361	449,381	429,513	164,503	142,340	135,921	64,505
	%	100.0	22.9	0.8	17.9	8.8	14.4	6.3	2.8	1.0	2.5	1.2	1.9	6.3	6.1	2.3	2.0	1.9	0.9
2023	No.	6,982,070	1,565,483	60,338	1,242,417	539,663	994,013	476,430	239,278	77,115	174,986	84,258	126,467	435,718	403,080	181,525	182,460	141,912	56,928
	%	100.0	22.4	0.9	17.8	7.7	14.2	6.8	3.4	1.1	2.5	1.2	1.8	6.2	5.8	2.6	2.6	2.0	0.8
2024	No.	7,079,267	1,617,302	58,145	1,249,437	561,979	1,050,283	499,891	230,156	78,001	156,020	81,737	144,857	415,785	396,749	179,543	182,482	121,181	55,717
	%	100.0	22.8	0.8	17.6	7.9	14.8	7.1	3.3	1.1	2.2	1.2	2.0	5.9	5.6	2.5	2.6	1.7	0.8

Note: These Industry groups are based on ISIC - Rev. 4

Industry group

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing (A) | 15 Public administration and defense compulsory social security (O) |
| 2 Mining & quarrying (B) | 16 Education (P) |
| 3 Manufacturing (C) | 17 Human health and social work activities (Q) |
| 6 Construction, Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (D,E,F) | 19 Other service activities (S) |
| 7 Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles(G) | 20 Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services - producing activities of households for own use (T) |
| 8 Transportation and storage (H) | Other |
| 9 Accommodation and food services activities (I) | |
| 10 Information and communication (J) | Other |
| 11 Financial and insurance activities (K) | 12 Real estate activities (L) |
| 13 Professional, scientific and technical activities (M) | 18 Arts, entertainment and recreation (R) |
| 14 Administrative and support service activities (N) | 21 Activities of extra territorial organizations & bodies (U) |



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Confidential

The Information collected in this survey will be strictly confidential and individual level information will not be divulged to any person or agency.

Year	Month		Name of the District	Serial No. of Housing Unit		

SRI LANKA LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2024

SURVEY SCHEDULE

Department of Census & Statistics

Sri Lanka

IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

1. Address (Where it belongs) :-
.....
.....
2. Province :-
.....
3. District :-
.....
4. DS Division :-
.....
5. GN Division Number :- Name :-
.....
6. Sector :-
.....
7. Name of M.C./U.C./P.S. :-
.....
8. Name of Ward/ Village/Estate :-
.....
9. C.B.No :- Sample Series No :-
.....
10. Survey Quarter :-
.....

11. Number of Household :- No :-
.....
12. Name of Head of Household :-
.....
.....
13. Respondent's Name :-
.....
- Signature :- Telephone No :-
.....
14. Interviewer's Name :-
.....
- Signature :- Date :-
.....
15. Supervisor's Name :-
.....
- Signature :- Date :-
.....

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Year		Month		Sector	District		D.S.Division No		Special Census Block No (PSU)			Housing unit Sample code No (within Census Block)		Household No (within Housing Unit)		Household Serial No (Within District)		

Concept and definitions:

1. **Labour Force** : The labour force is composed of the economically active population 15 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**: A person (during the reference period) worked as played employee, employers, own account workers (self employed), or unpaid family worker is said to be employed. This includes a person with a job but were absent from that job during that period on a temporary basis such as persons who during the reference period were sick , on vacation, maternity leave, strike or temporarily laid off.
4. **Unemployed** : Persons available and /or looking for work , and who did not work but taken steps during last 4 weeks to find a job and ready to accept a job if given a work opportunity within next two weeks .
5. **Reference Period** :
Current Reference Period : The week preceding the week of the survey; i.e. last week.
6. **Not in the Labour Force (not economically active)** : A person who was neither working nor available / looking for a job 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. **Underemployment** : is defined based on hours of working in his occupation/Economic activity. i.e. The persons who are willing and able to work beyond the total hours work.
8. **Informal Sector** : If the institute of the employed person is not officially registered, and if the institute does not keep formal accounts and if the institute has less than 10 regular employees then the institute is define as an informal sector institute.

Controlling Information

Interviewer's Visits	First	Second	Third
1. Date			
2. Result*			
3. Time taken to complete schedule	Minutes <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Minutes <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Minutes <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

* Result Code

Completed	1
Deferred	2
Housing unit not available currently **	3
Not competent respondent at home	4
Refused	5
Housing unit is temporarily closed	6
Other (Specify)	7

** Specify the reasons for not available particular housing unit now

- (i) Being empty
- (ii) Not used by non-seasons
- (iii) Unable to live
- (iv) Demolished

4. If the housing unit is consolidated,
No. of H.U.'s listed for this unit.

5. If the housing unit is divided,
No. of H.U.'s in this unit as at present.

6. Office use only

Code of Final Result

Completed	1
Not completed	2
Non related unit	3

CODES FOR PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Column - 3 Relationship to Head of Household

Head of Household.....	1
Wife / Husband	2
Son / Daughter.....	3
Parents.....	4
Other Relative.....	5
Domestic Servant.....	6
Boarder.....	7
Other.....	8

Column - 4 Gender

Male.....	1
Female.....	2

Column - 7 Ethnic Group

Sinhala.....	1
Sri Lankan Tamil.....	2
Indian Tamil.....	3
Sri Lankan Moor.....	4
Malay.....	5
Burger.....	6
Other.....	9

Column - 8 Religion

Buddhist	1
Hindu.....	2
Islam.....	3
Roman Catholic. }	4
Other Christians }	
Other.....	9

Column - 9 Marital Status

Never Married.....	1
Married.....	2
Widowed.....	3
Divorced.....	4
Separated.....	5

Column - 10 Educational Attainment

Studying / Studied Grade 1	00
Passed Grade - 1.....	01
Passed Grade - 2.....	02
Passed Grade - 3	03
Passed Grade - 4.....	04
Passed Grade - 5.....	05
Passed Grade - 6.....	06
Passed Grade - 7.....	07
Passed Grade - 8.....	08
Passed Grade - 9.....	09
Passed Grade - 10.....	10
Passed G.C.E.(O/L) / N.C.G.E.....	11
Passed Grade - 12.....	12
Passed G.C.E.(A/L) / H.N.C.E.....	13
Passed G.A.Q./G.S.Q.....	14
Degree.....	15
Post Graduate Degree / Diploma.....	16
Special educational Institutions.....	17
No Schooling.....	19

Column - 10a Basic Degree

Arts	01	Indigenous Medicine	10
Law	02	Paramedical Studies (1)	11
Management	03	Engineering	12
Commerce	04	Fashion Design/ Transport &	
Medicine	05	Logistic Management	13
Dental Surgery	06	Architecture/ Quantity	
Veterinary Medicine	07	Surveying (2)	14
Agriculture	08	Computer Science/IT (3)	15
Science	09	Other	19

Column - 11 Attendance at Schooling or other Educational Institution

School	1
University.....	2
Other Educational Institution	3
Vocational / Technical institution.....	4
Does not attend	5

Column - 12, 13, 14 Literacy

Able to read and write	1
Unable to read and write	2

For Question No.2 in the Labour Force Part

Inquire whether (S)he was engaged in following activities
Except which are mentioned in question No.2

* Activities as (Ploughing, Sowing, with regard to transplanting Rice, harvesting paddy, cultivation crops, spraying weedicide Pesticide, fertilizing ... etc.)

*All above activities with regarding(vegetable/ permanent crops/ Fruits/ flower(commercial purposes)

*Livestock operations/ feeding and milking animals, churning Milk, grassing, bee keeping

*Making clothes, sowing pieces of cloths or leather, knitting Embroidery, mat and rope making, ginning, spinning and weaving

*Making foods/ ice packets for selling purposes

*Selecting fish, making dried fish

*Copra making, coir preparing, coir yarn spinning, cadjan Weaving, coconut husk crushing, cinnamon crushing
Beedi making

Serial Number	Name of the Individuals who usually live here including those who are temporarily absent(include boarders, lodgers, servants, etc. and exclude temporary visitors)	For all person						15 Years and above
		Disability						Education/ Training
		Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?	Do you have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid?	Do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?	Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?	Do you have difficulty with self-care?	Using your usual language, do you have difficulty communicating?	Do you attend any formal/ informal education/ training in previous 12 months? (If currently attend any formal/ informal education/ training mention "Yes") 1.Yes 2. No
1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
01								
02								
03								
04								
05								
06								
07								
08								
09								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								

Column 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 – Disability Conditions	
No difficulties	1
Have minor difficulties	2
Have major difficulties	3
Cannot do anything	4

Information on Labour Force (Age 15 years and above) exclude persons who are presently abroad

01. (a) Name of the Person (b) Serial No.	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....	..... .....
02. Were you Engaged, last week, even for a few hours in paid employment, own account profitable work or contributing family work as an economic activity (including employer) (If it is not possible to identify the person as being engaged in a specific economic activity, inquire whether (S)he was engaged in an activity specified in page 4 of the questionnaire	Yes No 1 2 → Go to Q 4	Yes No 1 2 → Go to Q 4	Yes No 1 2 → Go to Q 4	Yes No 1 2 → Go to Q 4
03. During last week on what activity you were engaged in? 1. The main economic activity 2. Another economic activity 3. The main economic activity and Another economic activity	1 } 2 } Go to Q 7 3 }	1 } 2 } Go to Q 7 3 }	1 } 2 } Go to Q 7 3 }	1 } 2 } Go to Q 7 3 }
04. Even if you were not engaged in any of the above economic activity during last week, did you have an economic activity to be engaged in?	Yes No 1 2 → Go to Q 6	Yes No 1 2 → Go to Q 6	Yes No 1 2 → Go to Q 6	Yes No 1 2 → Go to Q 6
05. Why were you not involving work during last week? (circle the most appropriate code) 1. Off season/Bad weather 2. Temporary stopping economic activity (disorganization, suspension of work , mechanical/ electrical breakdown, Shortage of raw material/ equipment/ workers, financial difficulties, strikes, no works 3. Sick/Injury/personal 4. Leave/holiday/ vacation/educational leave or training 5. Personal/ family needs 9. Others (specify)	1 } 2 } Go to Q 7 3 } 4 } 5 } 9 }	1 } 2 } Go to Q 7 3 } 4 } 5 } 9 }	1 } 2 } Go to Q 7 3 } 4 } 5 } 9 }	1 } 2 } Go to Q 7 3 } 4 } 5 } 9 }
06. (a) Were you engaged in one or more of the following activities during last week? (Purchasing firewood is not relevant here. If firewood/ Water is only brought from outside, specify the time spent)	Yes No 1 → Go to Q 6(b) 2 → Go to Q 47	Yes No 1 → Go to Q 6(b) 2 → Go to Q 47	Yes No 1 → Go to Q 6(b) 2 → Go to Q 47	Yes No 1 → Go to Q 6(b) 2 → Go to Q 47
(b) Activities 1. bringing firewood for home(own) consumption 2. Bringing water from outside for home(own) consumption 3. Engaging in a repairing working in own house or building	Time spent (hrs.) 1 } 2 } Go to Q 47 3 }	Time spent (hrs.) 1 } 2 } Go to Q 47 3 }	Time spent (hrs.) 1 } 2 } Go to Q 47 3 }	Time spent (hrs.) 1 } 2 } Go to Q 47 3 }

Serial No.				
07. What is the main economic activity, you are engaged in ? Describe the main activities relevant to this economic activity (occupation)	* [] [] [] [] []	* [] [] [] [] []	* [] [] [] [] []	* [] [] [] [] []
08. What is the main production activity/ service/activity which is relevant to the work you are engaged in, at your institution or enterprise/ your place of work? (Industry)	* [] [] [] [] []	* [] [] [] [] []	* [] [] [] [] []	* [] [] [] [] []
08A. What is the District your institution or enterprise locate?	* [] []	* [] []	* [] []	* [] []
09. Status in Employment 1. Employee 2. Employer 3. Own account worker 4. Contributing Family Worker	1 } 2 } →Go To Q 15 3 } 4 }	1 } 2 } →Go To Q 15 3 } 4 }	1 } 2 } →Go To Q 15 3 } 4 }	1 } 2 } →Go To Q 15 3 } 4 }
Only for paid Employees (If Q.9=1)	Only for Q 9=1	Only for Q 9=1	Only for Q 9=1	Only for Q 9=1
10. Is your employment permanent/ temporary/ casual ? 1. Permanent 2. Temporary 3. Casual 4. No permanent employer	1 } 2 } 3 } 4 } → Go to Q 15	1 } 2 } 3 } 4 } → Go to Q 15	1 } 2 } 3 } 4 } → Go to Q 15	1 } 2 } 3 } 4 } → Go to Q 15
11. Is your employer contributing to a pension scheme or provident fund on your behalf ? Yes No..... Do not know.....	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }
12. Are you entitled for annual paid leave or leave encashment? Yes No..... Do not know.....	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }
13. Do you have an appointment letter (written contract) from your employer ? Yes No..... Do not know.....	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }	1 } 2 } 3 }
14. To which sector the institution where you work belongs? 1. Government..... 2. Semi Government 3. Private.....	1 } 2 } } Go to Q 20 3 }	1 } 2 } } Go to Q 20 3 }	1 } 2 } } Go to Q 20 3 }	1 } 2 } } Go to Q 20 3 }

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Serial No.				
20. What is the number of hours you usually worked at this occupation work per week?	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Hours	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Hours	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Hours	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Hours
21. What is the number of hours you actually worked at this occupation during the reference period ?	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Hours	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Hours	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Hours	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Hours
22. If Q 21 < Q 20 then go to Q 23. Otherwise go to Q 24	If Q21 < Q 20 then go to Q 23. Otherwise go to Q 24	If Q21 < Q 20 then go to Q 23. Otherwise go to Q 24	If Q21 < Q 20 then go to Q 23. Otherwise go to Q 24	If Q21 < Q 20 then go to Q 23. Otherwise go to Q 24
23. What is the reason for working fewer hours than usual ?				
1. Off season/ Bad weather	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2. Temporary stopping economic activities in the organization (disorganization, suspension of work, mechanical, electrical breakdown, }.... Shortage of raw material, financial difficulties, strikes	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3. Could not find more work	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4. Temporary lay-off (lack of work)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5. Job started/ ended within preference period	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
6. Temporary dismissed by employer	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
7. Sick / injury/ personal	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
8. Leave/ holyday/ vacation/ educational leave or training	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
9. Other (specify)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
24. Were you engaged in a secondary occupation / economic activity in the last week ?	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No	Yes No
	<input type="text"/> → Go to Q 40	<input type="text"/> → Go to Q 40	<input type="text"/> → Go to Q 40	<input type="text"/> → Go to Q 40
25. What was your secondary occupation ? Describe the main activities relevant to this activity.	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> *
26. What is the main production/ service/ activity which is relevant to the Secondary work you are engaged in, at your institution or enterprise/ your place of work ?	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> *	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> *

* Office use only

Serial No.				
27. Status of secondary Occupation 1. Employee 2. Employer 3. Own account worker 4. Contributing Family Worker	1 2 3 4 } Go to Q 33	1 2 3 4 } Go to Q 33	1 2 3 4 } Go to Q 33	1 2 3 4 } Go to Q 33
Only for paid employees If Q 27 = 1	If Q 27 = 1	If Q 27 = 1	If Q 27 = 1	If Q 27 = 1
28. Is your employment permanent/ temporary/ casual ? 1. Permanent 2. Temporary 3. Casual 4. No permanent employer	1 2 3 4 → Go to Q 33	1 2 3 4 → Go to Q 33	1 2 3 4 → Go to Q 33	1 2 3 4 → Go to Q 33
29. Is your employer contributing to a pension scheme or provident fund on your behalf ? Yes No..... Do not know.....	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3
30. Are you entitled for annual paid leave or leave encashment? Yes No..... Do not know.....	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3
31. Do you have an appointment letter (written contract) from your employer ? Yes No..... Do not know.....	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3
32. To which sector the institution where you work belongs? 1. Government..... 2. Semi Government 3. Private.....	1 2 3 } →Go to O 38.	1 2 3 } →Go to O 38.	1 2 3 } →Go to O 38.	1 2 3 } →Go to O 38.
33. Is your institution of work/ your business or enterprise (agricultural/ non-agricultural) registered under employees provident fund or Inland Revenue Department ? yes No Do not	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3

Serial No.				
34. How does your institution/business or enterprise (agricultural/ non- agricultural) Maintain account recording system? 1. Formal..... 2. Informal..... 3. No account recording system..... 4. Do not know.....	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
35. What is the total number of regular employees, employed at your Institution? 1. Less than 5 2. 5 to 9 3. 10 to 15 4. 16 to 49 5. 50 to 99 6. 100 or more 7. No paid employees/ regular employees 8. Working for household	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
36. What is the legal status of your institution/ business or enterprise? 1. Publicly Listed/ Limited liability/ Registered corporative 2. Individual business/ partnership with members of household 3. Ordinary partnershin with members of other household 9. Other (specify)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
37. Does the products/ services of your institute sell or barter 1. Yes 2. No 3. Do not know	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>
38. What is the number of hours you usually work per week?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> Hours	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> Hours	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> Hours	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> Hours
39. What is the number of hours you actually worked at this occupation during the reference period ?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> Hours	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> Hours	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> Hours	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> Hours

For all persons who are employed and age 15 and above

Serial No.									
40.									
(a) Total No. of hours in Q 20 and Q 38 (state).....	}	Less than 35	→Go to Q41	Less than 35	→Go to Q41	Less than 35	→Go to Q41	Less than 35	→Go to Q 41
		35 & over	→Go to Q 40(b)	35 & over	→Go to Q 40(b)	35 & over	→Go to Q 40(b)	35 & over	→Go to Q 40(b)
(b) Total No. of hours in Q 21 and Q 39 (state).....	}	Less than 35	→Go to Q 40(c)	Less than 35	→Go to Q 40(c)	Less than 35	→Go to Q 40(c)	Less than 35	→Go to Q 40(c)
		35 & over	→Go to Q 45	35 & over	→Go to Q 45	35 & over	→Go to Q 45	35 & over	→Go to Q 45
(c)	}	Q 23 code 1	→ Go to Q 41	Q 23 code 1	→ Go to Q 41	Q 23 code 1	→ Go to Q 41	Q 23 code 1	→ Go to Q 41
		Q 23 code 2 - 9	→ Go to Q 45	Q 23 code 2 - 9	→ Go to Q 45	Q 23 code 2 - 9	→ Go to Q 45	Q 23 code 2 - 9	→ Go to Q 45
41. Would you like to work, if you are given an opportunity to work during a longer period (than you usually work hours)									
(i) in the present occupation/ economic activity.									
(ii) in another occupation in addition to the present occupation									
(iii) engaging yourself fully in another occupation									
Yes		1		1		1		1	
No		2	→ Go to Q 45	2	→ Go to Q 45	2	→ Go to Q 45	2	→ Go to Q 45
42. If so, how would you like to work?									
1. In the present occupation		1		1		1		1	
2. In another occupation in addition to the present occupation		2		2		2		2	
3. Fully in another occupation		3		3		3		3	
4. Any of the above		4		4		4		4	
43. How many extra hours you would be able to work, in addition to those you usually work per week ?			Hours		Hours		Hours		Hours
44. As mentioned above, are you ready to work on these extra hours, if you get an opportunity within next two weeks?									
Yes		1		1		1		1	
No		2		2		2		2	

For all employed persons aged 15 and above

Serial Number						
45. Are you an employee in the main occupation?	Yes	1		1		
	No	2	→ Go to (c)	2	→ Go to (c)	
	For month salary earners:					
	(a) (i) Gross salary for last month (Rs.) (including all allowances)					
(ii) Additional earnings during last month (Rs.) (overtime payment etc.)						
(iii) Income in kind (if there is any) (Rs.)						
For daily wage earners :						
(b) (i) Daily wage (Rs.)						
(ii) Number of days worked last month						
(iii) Total income (Rs.)						
(iv) Income in kind (if there is any) (Rs.)						
For employers and own account workers :						
(excluding contributing family workers)						
(c) (i) Monthly income (Rs.)						
46. Are you an employee in the secondary occupation?	Yes	1		1		
	No	2	→ Go to (c)	2	→ Go to (c)	
	No secondary occupation		3	→ Go to Q 62	3	→ Go to Q 62
	For month salary earners:					
(a) (i) Gross salary for last month (Rs.) (including all allowances)						
(ii) Additional earnings during last month (Rs.) (overtime payment etc.)						
(iii) Income in kind (if there is any) (Rs.)						
For daily wage earners :						
(b) (i) Daily wage (Rs.)						
(ii) Number of days worked last month						
(iii) Total income (Rs.)						
(iv) Income in kind (if there is any) (Rs.)						
For employers and own account workers :						
(excluding contributing family workers)						
(c) (i) Monthly income (Rs.)						
		Go to Q 62		Go to Q 62		

For all persons aged 15 and above other than Employed persons (persons answered 1 or 2 for Q6 (a))

Serial No.							
47. Would you expected to do a paid job or to start a self employment?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1		<input type="checkbox"/> 1		<input type="checkbox"/> 1	
	No	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 → Go to Q 52		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 → Go to Q 52		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 → Go to Q 52	
Already got a job and ready to go / already made arrangements for self employment activity		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 → Go to Q 53		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 → Go to Q 53		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 → Go to Q 53	
48. Did you take any steps during the last 4 weeks to find a job or to start a self employment?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1		<input type="checkbox"/> 1		<input type="checkbox"/> 1	
	No	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 → Go to Q 50		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 → Go to Q 50		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 → Go to Q 50	
49. What are the steps taken? (Encircle most relevant codes up to a maximum of 3) 1. Registered for a government job 2. Registered in private sector Institutions/Internet 3. Replying for advertisements in government gazette/news papers/ Publishing advertisements 4. Inquiring from persons with public sector/ private sector job contacts/ Friends/ relations 5. Taking action to find financial and other resources to start a self Employment 9. Other (specify).....		<input type="checkbox"/> 1	} Go to Q 51	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	} Go to Q 51	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	} Go to Q 51
		<input type="checkbox"/> 2		<input type="checkbox"/> 2		<input type="checkbox"/> 2	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3		<input type="checkbox"/> 3		<input type="checkbox"/> 3	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 4		<input type="checkbox"/> 4		<input type="checkbox"/> 4	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 5		<input type="checkbox"/> 5		<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 9			
50. What was the main reason for not taking any action to find a job during the last 4 weeks (circle the most appropriate code) 1. Awaiting results of the examination/interview held for a job 2. Does not believe that (S)he gets a suitable job 3. Unable to find any work 4. Does not possess skills or training required for a job 5. Personal difficulties faced while finding a job 6. Household work 7. Educational activities 9. Other (specify).....		<input type="checkbox"/> 1		<input type="checkbox"/> 1		<input type="checkbox"/> 1	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 2		<input type="checkbox"/> 2		<input type="checkbox"/> 2	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3		<input type="checkbox"/> 3		<input type="checkbox"/> 3	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 4		<input type="checkbox"/> 4		<input type="checkbox"/> 4	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 5		<input type="checkbox"/> 5		<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 6		<input type="checkbox"/> 6		<input type="checkbox"/> 6	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 7		<input type="checkbox"/> 7		<input type="checkbox"/> 7	
		<input type="checkbox"/> 9		<input type="checkbox"/> 9		<input type="checkbox"/> 9	
		

Serial No.					
51. Are you ready to accept a job, if offered within next two weeks/ to start a self employment within next two weeks?	Yes No	1 → Go to Q 53 2	1 → Go to Q 53 2	1 → Go to Q 53 2	1 → Go to Q 53 2
52. What is the reason for not accepting the job in Q51 ? 1. Educational or vocational training activities 2. Household activities 3. Retired/Old age 4. Physically illness/ disabled 9. Other (specify)		1 } 2 } →Go to Q 62 3 } 4 } 9 }	1 } 2 } →Go to Q 62 3 } 4 } 9 }	1 } 2 } →Go to Q 62 3 } 4 } 9 }	1 } 2 } →Go to Q 62 3 } 4 } 9 }
53. Do you expect a self-employment or a paid employment? 1. Self employment 2. Paid employment 3 .Any employment		1 → Go to Q 55 2 3 → Go to Q 57	1 → Go to Q 55 2 3 → Go to Q 57	1 → Go to Q 55 2 3 → Go to Q 57	1 → Go to Q 55 2 3 → Go to Q 57
54. Would you expect your job in the public sector? private sector or semi government sector? 1. Public sector 2. Semi Government sector 3. Private sector 4. Any sector		1 } 2 } → Go to Q 56 3 } 4 }	1 } 2 } → Go to Q 56 3 } 4 }	1 } 2 } → Go to Q 56 3 } 4 }	1 } 2 } → Go to Q 56 3 } 4 }
55. (a) If you are interested in starting a self employment, do you expect any help from the Government/ Other institution for basic needs ? (b) What type of assistance do you expect? (maximum 3 options only) 1. Getting a loan facility 2. An institution/ a person to seek the necessary knowledge 3. Facilities to sell the production 4. Capital resources such as land/machinery 5. Not decided yet 9. Other (specify)	Yes No	1 → Go to (b) 2 → Go to Q 56 1 2 3 4 5 9	1 → Go to (b) 2 → Go to Q 56 1 2 3 4 5 9	1 → Go to (b) 2 → Go to Q 56 1 2 3 4 5 9	1 → Go to (b) 2 → Go to Q 56 1 2 3 4 5 9
56. Describe the nature of the occupation/ economic activity/ self employment that you like to be engaged in					
		Code [] [] [] [] *	Code [] [] [] [] *	Code [] [] [] [] *	Code [] [] [] [] *

* For office use only

Serial No.																																												
57. What is the minimum monthly salary/income that you expect through the employment/business? (Rs.)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>											<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>											<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>											<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>										
58. How long have you been looking for work? 1. Less than 6 months 2. Between 6 - 12 months 3. One year or more	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 60px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td></tr> </table>	1	2	3	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 60px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td></tr> </table>	1	2	3	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 60px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td></tr> </table>	1	2	3	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 60px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td></tr> </table>	1	2	3																												
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59. Have you ever been engaged in a paid job or self employment or family work continuously for 2 weeks? Yes No	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2 → Go to Q 62</td></tr> </table>	1	2 → Go to Q 62	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2 → Go to Q 62</td></tr> </table>	1	2 → Go to Q 62	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2 → Go to Q 62</td></tr> </table>	1	2 → Go to Q 62	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2 → Go to Q 62</td></tr> </table>	1	2 → Go to Q 62																																
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60. What are your main activities of that job/work? 60a. Occupation 60b. Industry	<p style="text-align: center;">* Code</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>						<p style="text-align: center;">* Code</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>						<p style="text-align: center;">* Code</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>						<p style="text-align: center;">* Code</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>																									
61. Status of your Occupation 1. Employee 2. Employer 3. Own account worker 4. Contributing Family Worker	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 60px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">} Go to Q 62</p>	1	2	3	4	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 60px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">} Go to Q 62</p>	1	2	3	4	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 60px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">} Go to Q 62</p>	1	2	3	4	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 60px;"> <tr><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">} Go to Q 62</p>	1	2	3	4																								
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For all persons aged 15 and above

Serial No.													
62. Have you successfully completed a formal professional/ technical training, relevant to an occupation/ self-employment	Yes	1											
	No	2	→ Go to Q 64		2	→ Go to Q 64		2	→ Go to Q 64		2	→ Go to Q 64	
63. (a) Training (1)													
(i) Name of the training (state the highest stage passed, if relevant)													
(ii) Field of training				*			*			*			*
(iii) Nature of the certificate received:		Non NVQ	NVQ 1-4	NVQ 5-7	Non NVQ	NVQ 1-4	NVQ 5-7	Non NVQ	NVQ 1-4	NVQ 5-7	Non NVQ	NVQ 1-4	NVQ 5-7
1. General Certificate		1	2		1	2		1	2		1	2	
2. Diploma Certificate		3		4	3		4	3		4	3		4
3. Higher Diploma or above Higher Diploma Certificate		5		6	5		6	5		6	5		6
(iv) Institution (the institution that offered the qualification)				*			*			*			*
(v) Duration : (in months) (if not defined mention 00)													
(a) Training (2)													
(i) Name of the training (state the highest stage passed, if relevant)													
(ii) Field of training				*			*			*			*
(iii) Nature of the certificate received:		Non NVQ	NVQ 1-4	NVQ 5-7	Non NVQ	NVQ 1-4	NVQ 5-7	Non NVQ	NVQ 1-4	NVQ 5-7	Non NVQ	NVQ 1-4	NVQ 5-7
1. General Certificate		1	2		1	2		1	2		1	2	
2. Diploma Certificate		3		4	3		4	3		4	3		4
3. Higher Diploma or above Higher Diploma Certificate		5		6	5		6	5		6	5		6
(iv) Institution (the institution that offered the qualification)				*			*			*			*
(v) Duration : (in months) (if not defined mention 00)				End			End			End			End
64. What was the reason for not having such a formal professional/ technical training (circle the most appropriate code)													
1. Thinking that the current higher educational qualifications are sufficient For having a job		1			1			1			1		
2. Does not feel the need of having such training to find a job.....		2			2			2			2		
3. Financial difficulties to get a suitable formal training.....		3			3			3			3		
4. Unavailability of training projects or institutions to get a proper training In their living area		4			4			4			4		
5. No confidence about the institutions in their area.....		5			5			5			5		
6. Currently having a training/ studying at school		6			6			6			6		
7. Does not feel the need.....		7			7			7			7		
8. No training provided from the working institute.....		8			8			8			8		
9. Could not receive training due to job activities.....		9			9			9			9		
10. Other (specify).....		10			10			10			10		

* for office use only

Digital Literacy (For all persons aged 5 and above)

Person serial number and name according to labour force schedule	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
C 01. Do you have the following digital devices (Communication devices), If yes, then how many? (1)Desktop (2)Laptop (3)Tablet (4)Mobile Phone (Smart) (5)Mobile Phone (Non -Smart) (6)Other	Device available Yes No 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	Number	Device available Yes No 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	Number
C 02. Are you aware about the activities done by the computer? Yes No What purposes? (Maximum 3 options) (1) Educational activities (2) Economic activities (3) Entertainment activities (4) Internet/ E-mail facilities (5) Other (specify)	1 2 → Go to C 05 1 2 3 4 9	1 2 → Go to C 05 1 2 3 4 9	1 2 → Go to C 05 1 2 3 4 9	1 2 → Go to C 05 1 2 3 4 9
C 03. Can you do some activity using a computer? Yes No What purposes? (Maximum 3 options) (1) Educational activities (2) Economic activities (3) Entertainment activities (4) Internet/ E-mail facilities (5) Other (specify)	1 2 → Go to C 05 1 2 3 4 9	1 2 → Go to C 05 1 2 3 4 9	1 2 → Go to C 05 1 2 3 4 9	1 2 → Go to C 05 1 2 3 4 9
C 04. How did you get computer knowledge? (Maximum 5 options) (1) Followed a private computer course (6) From family members (2) School/ University (7) From friends/relations (3) Government resource centers (8) Self study (4) Job related activities (9) Using media (5) Training given from the office (10)Other	1 6 2 7 3 8 4 9 5 10	1 6 2 7 3 8 4 9 5 10	1 6 2 7 3 8 4 9 5 10	1 6 2 7 3 8 4 9 5 10
C 05. Can you do some activity using a smart phone/Tablet? Yes No	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
C 06. Did you use email at least once during last 12 months? Yes No	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
C 07. Did you use internet at least once during last 12 months? Yes No	1 2 → Go to next person	1 2 → Go to next person	1 2 → Go to next person	1 2 → Go to next person
C 08. Which device did you use to connect to internet/ email? (Maximum 4 options) (1) Computer (Desktop/Laptop) (3) Tablet (2) Smart Phone (4) Mobile Phone	1 → Go to 3 2 C 09 4	1 → Go to 3 2 C 09 4	1 → Go to 3 2 C 09 4	1 → Go to 3 2 C 09 4
C 09. Where did you use internet during last 12 months? (Maximum 3 options) (1) At office (5) School/ University (2) At home (6) Government provided (3) At friend's/relative's home "Nenasala", "Vidatha", (4) At a private institute "Vishwaghana",	1 4 2 5 3 6	1 4 2 5 3 6	1 4 2 5 3 6	1 4 2 5 3 6

2024


Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey Annual Report

The Vision of DCS





“To be the leader in the region in producing timely statistical information to achieve the country’s development goals.”

The Mission of DCS

“Making contribution in the socioeconomic development of the country by providing accurate timely statistics, more Effectively by means of new technology, and utilising the services of dedicated staff under a strategic leadership to become a prosperous nation in the globalised environment.”

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