

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

The labour force in April 2005 was 1,193,300. Of this amount 664,000 were males and 529,300 females. The employed labour force of 1,047,200 persons accounted for 87.8 per cent of the total. The males in the employed labour force numbered 605,700 representing 91.2 per cent and the females 441,500 or 83.4 per cent. The overall unemployment rate was 12.2 per cent, with male unemployment at 8.8 per cent and female at 16.6 per cent.

The employed labour force decreased by 7,200, 0.7 per cent below the January 2005 figure, while for April 2005 there was an increase of 0.7 per cent over the April 2004 figure of 1,040,300. The corresponding employment rates were 87.8 percent in April 2005, 89.3 in January 2005 and 87.0 percent in April 2004.

Between April 2004 and April 2005 the number of unemployed persons declined by 8,900 or 5.7 per cent (from 155,000 to 146,100). Female unemployment decreased by 12,900 while male unemployment increased by 4000 for the same period.

The job-seeking rate is the percentage of the labour force actively seeking work. In April 2005 the job-seeking rate was 6.1 percent, 4.6 percent for males and 8.0 percent for females.

All persons 14 years and over who were not classified as employed or unemployed, are considered to be 'Outside the Labour Force'. Persons outside the labour force include persons who were not 'Looking for Work' and were not 'Available for Work', did not 'Wish to Work' or were 'Incapable of Working'.

The number of persons 'Outside the Labour Force' increased by 10,500 or 1.6 per cent, moving from 659,800 to 670,300 persons during the period April 2004 to April 2005. The percentage of the population 14 years and over "Outside of the Labour Force" in April 2005 was 36.0 per cent. This was a marginal increase over the April 2004 figure of 35.6 per cent. Approximately 63.6 per cent of the persons outside the labour force in April 2005 were females.

Additional information may be obtained from the Library located at 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10.