

Labour Force Survey January 2005

The Statistical Institute of Jamaica recently released for the first time in three years a Labour Force Survey for the first quarter of the year. This survey represents trends and characteristics that have not been seen for a while.

In January 2005, the Labour Force was estimated at 1,180,400 of which 656,200 were males and 524,200 were females. The working age population i.e. the population 14 years and over, was 1,861,400 comprising 906,600 males and 954,800 females for the same period.

The number of employed persons in January 2005 was 1,054,400 of which 610,700 were males and 443,700 were females. This represents marginal declines when compared with October 2004 when employment was 1,058,700 for both sexes, 613,900 for males and 444,800 for females.

The unemployment rate was estimated at 10.7 percent in January 2005, male unemployment rate was 6.9 percent and female unemployment rate was 15.4 percent. The corresponding rates in October 2004 were 11.4, 8.1 and 15.7 percent respectively.

In January 2005, the job-seeking rate, which is the percentage of the Labour Force actively seeking work, was 5.2 percent for both sexes, 3.7 percent for males and 7.3 percent for females.

The percentage of the population 14 years and over who were Outside the Labour Force, in January 2005, was 36.6 percent for both sexes, 27.6 percent for males and 45.1 percent for females.

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