

Analytical Summary of the Labour Force Sample Survey Results

PREFACE

Due to the central role of labour market statistics in a country's socio-economic planning process, the Qatar Statistics Authority carried out a national labour force sample survey in respect of the last week of October 2007 to provide measures of the size and structure of the labour force in Qatar. The survey provides important information on the relation between the labour market and the socio-demographic and economic characteristics of the population, such as education and occupation. This information is essential for the design and evaluation of government policies and programs, such as macro-economic planning and human resources development planning.

This publication provides tables of the more essential results and a summary analysis. It is an advance release of a more detailed report that will include a full set of tables and a detailed analysis.

The October 2007 Labour Force Survey followed a design and methods, concepts and classifications in accordance to the recommendations of the International Labour Organization. Moreover, it is based on a sound scientific sample design, which allowed the calculation of reliable estimates of the population parameters.

We would like to extend our appreciation to all sample households for their co-operation and positive response which made this task a success. We also thank all those who worked on this survey, whether from inside or outside the Qatar Statistics Authority.

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President, Qatar Statistics Authority

Summary analysis of results

Overview

This report presents labour force data – economically active population, employment, and unemployment – from the 2007 Labour Force Survey (LFS). The survey covers all Qatari and non-Qatari households, including both regular households and collective households. Estimates are based on a probability sample of 6104 households and 35413 persons. More details of methods, concepts, etc are given in the publication of results for the 2007 Labour Force Survey.

The 2007 Qatar Labour Force Survey provides a wealth of important labour statistics that will greatly assist in the monitoring of the work force and in planning for its development. The survey estimated that there were 831.9 thousand people economically active in the last week of October 2007 out of a working age population (15 years and above) of 977.0 thousand. There were 63.6 thousand economically active Qataris (7.6 percent of the total labour force) and 768.3 thousand economically active non-Qataris (92.3 percent of the total).

Most of the economically active were male (87.6 percent), with an even higher proportion of non-Qataris being male (89.4 percent). 64.5 percent of the Qatari labour force was male.

Most Qataris (54.7 thousand or 88.6 percent of the Qatari employed) worked in the public sector (government departments and government companies), while most non-Qataris (600.6 thousand or 78.4 percent of non-Qatari employed) worked in the private sectors (excluding mixed, domestic and diplomatic sectors). (These statistics are based on an analysis of the number of economically active people excluding new entrant unemployed but this is a very close estimate of the number of employed since there were almost no unemployed with previous jobs.)

Economically active population

The October 2007 survey estimated that the total population of Qatar was 1,166.6 thousand of which:

- a) 189.6 thousand children aged less than 15 years;
- b) 145.1 thousand economically inactive people aged 15 years and above;
- c) 827.6 thousand employed people aged 15 years and above; and
- d) 4.3 thousand unemployed people aged 15 years and above.

There were 831.9 thousand people in the labour force (employed and unemployed combined) in Qatar out of a total working age population (population aged 15 years and above) of 977.0 thousand – a Labour Force Participation Rate of 85.1 percent, compared with 74.0 percent in 2001 and 80.4 percent in March 2006. For Qatari males, Qatari females, non-Qatari males and non-Qatari females, the comparable LFPRs are 64.7, 34.6, 97.7, and 56.0 percent.

The LFPR for different age groups shows the normal pattern of low LFPR for the young building up to a peak in the prime working age group of 30-34 years (and then decreasing in the older age groups.

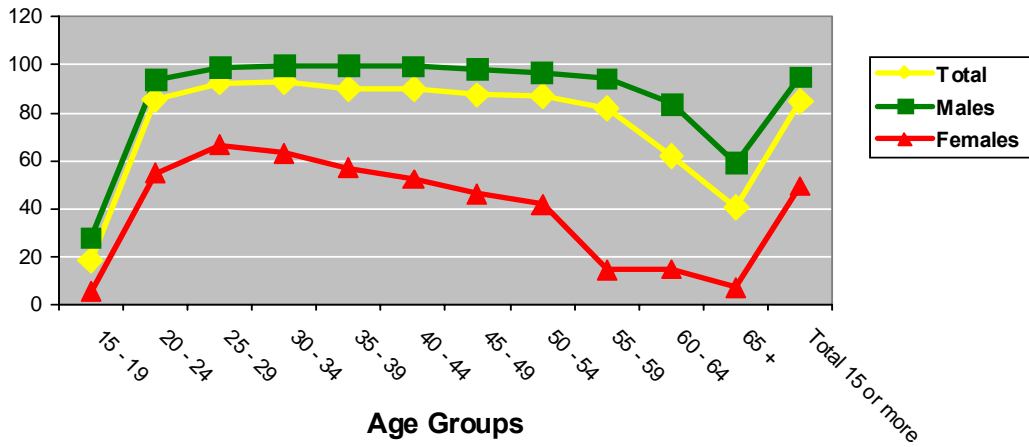
The results show that for every Qatari person who is economically active there are 12.1 non-Qatari people who are economically active.

Table A: Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPRs) in age groups by nationality and sex, October 2007

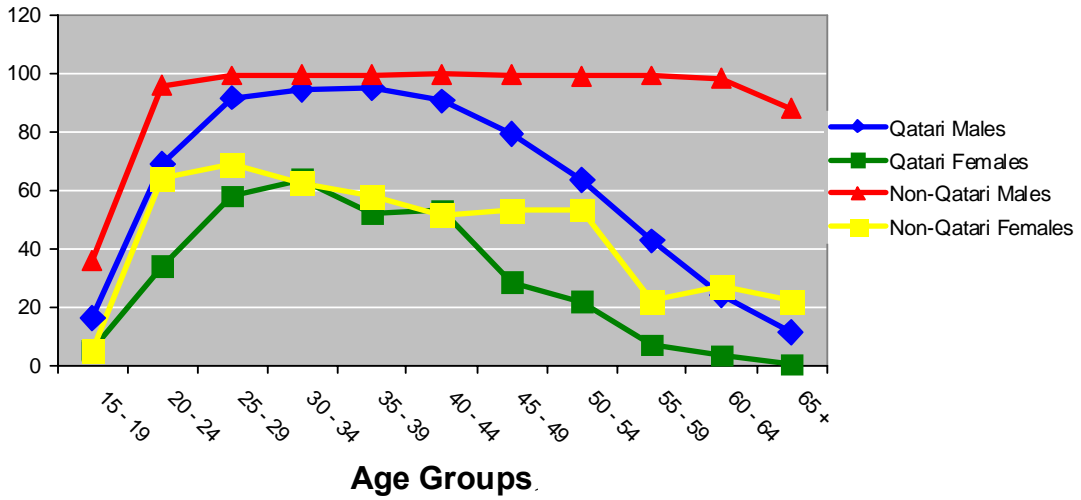
Age groups	Labour force participation rates (a)		
	Total	Males	Females
Total			
15-19	18.3	27.8	5.4
20-24	85.4	93.8	54.7
25-29	92.6	99.2	66.7
30-34	93.0	99.7	63.1
35-39	90.2	99.7	56.9
40-44	89.9	99.4	52.2
45-49	87.4	98.4	46.1
50-54	87.3	96.9	42.0
55-59	82.0	94.4	14.4
60-64	62.1	83.7	14.8
65 or more	40.3	59.1	6.9
Total 15 or more	85.1	94.9	49.3
Qataris			
15-19	11.3	16.5	5.5
20-24	51.9	69.4	34.2
25-29	75.2	91.9	58.2
30-34	78.8	94.6	63.9
35-39	73.1	95.4	52.4
40-44	70.6	90.8	53.4
45-49	53.3	79.5	29.0
50-54	41.6	63.7	22.1
55-59	24.6	43.0	7.4
60-64	12.9	24.1	3.6
65 or more	6.0	11.7	0.6
Total 15 or more	49.4	64.7	34.6
Non-Qataris			
15-19	24.4	36.1	5.2
20-24	90.8	96.1	64.4
25-29	94.4	99.6	69.3
30-34	94.2	99.9	62.9
35-39	92.1	99.9	58.2
40-44	92.3	100.0	51.8
45-49	92.2	99.9	53.4
50-54	93.6	99.4	53.7
55-59	93.0	99.7	22.5
60-64	83.4	98.5	27.4
65 or more	74.7	88.2	22.6
Total 15 or more	90.6	97.7	56.0

(a) Ratio of economically active population to total population in each age group.

Graph 1: Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPRs) in Age Groups, Total and by Sex, October 2007



Graph 2: Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPRs) in Age Groups, by Nationality and Sex, October 2007



Current employment¹

A person is classified as currently employed if they did at least one hour's work in the survey reference week, or if he has a job attachment and was temporarily absent from work.

A total of 827.6 thousand people were classified as employed in respect of the survey reference week (last week of October 2007). This total includes 766.0 thousand non-Qataris (92.6 percent of total employed). Given that the total adult population aged 15 years and over is 977.0 thousand, this means that 84.7 percent of the adult population were employed the survey week. Ratio of employed males to total male labour force reached 94.7%, while ratio of employed females reached 48% of total females 15 years and above.

Hours of work

The survey results show that currently employed population worked 50 hours in their main job during the survey week. Men tended to work shorter hours on average (50 hours) than women (52 hours). Non-Qatari men (53 hours) tended to work longer hours than Qatari men (38 hours). Similarly, non-Qatari women worked 58 hours in their main jobs while Qatari women worked 37 hours. These averages reflect the occupations and institutional sectors in which each of these groups generally work.

Unemployment

The 2007 unemployment rate is 0.5 percent, a decrease from the 2001 rate of 3.9 percent and 0.9 percent in March 2006, where total unemployment were only 4.3 thousand people who were classified as "currently unemployed" in the survey week – that is they were not employed in the survey week, were available for work, and were actively seeking work during the last month. This is an unemployment rate of 0.5 percent, 0.2 percent for males and 2.6 percent for females. As one might expect, the unemployment rate for non-Qataris was lower (0.3 percent)

¹ In 2007 as in 2001 and 2006, all (but a very few) of the unemployment had not previously worked and were entering the labour market for the first time. Consequently, the statistics shown in this bulletin for the economically active population (excluding new entrant unemployed) may also be used as statistics on the employed.

**Table B: Unemployment Rates among economically active population
(15 years and above) by nationality and sex, October 2007**

	Unemployment rates (a)		
	Total	Males	Females
Total	0.5	0.2	2.6
Qatari	3.2	1.7	6.0
Non-Qatari	0.3	0.1	1.7

(a) Ratio of unemployed population to the economically active population.

Economically Inactive population

There were 145.1 thousand people considered to be currently economically inactive (that is they were not employed or unemployed in the last week in October 2007). Survey results show that most inactive males were students (28.3 thousand or 72.9 percent of all inactive males) and most inactive females were housewives (73.6 thousand or 69.2 percent of all inactive females).

Survey results of male inactive population show that students were proportionally more, where that ratio was 43.9 for Qataris and 36.1% for Non-Qataris.

Key Tables

NOTE: The following key tables have not been adjusted to suppress estimates that are subject to high levels of sampling error; therefore estimates for very small groups of the population should be used with caution. More detailed tables will be available in the main bulletin of results and also available electronically.

Activity status of population:

1. Population (15 Years & above) by Relation to Labour Force, Nationality & Sex
2. Population (15 Years & above) by Relation to Labour Force and Age Groups
3. Male Population (15 Years & above) by Relation to Labour Force and Age Groups
4. Female Population (15 Years & above) by Relation to Labour Force and Age Groups

Economically active population:

5. Economically Active Population (15 Years and above) by Nationality (Qatari, Non-Qatari), Sex & Employment Status
6. Economically Active Population (15 Years and above) by Nationality (Qatari, Non-Qatari), Sex & Occupation
7. Economically Active Population (15 Years and above) by Nationality (Qatari, Non-Qatari), Sex & Educational Status
8. Economically Active Population (15 Years and above) by Nationality (Qatari, Non-Qatari), Sex & Economic Activity
9. Economically Active Population (15 Years and above) by Nationality (Qatari, Non-Qatari), Sex & Sector

Wages:

10. Paid Employees (15 Years & above) and Average Monthly Wage (Q.R.) by Sex and Occupation
11. Paid Employees (15 Years & above) and Average Monthly Wage (Q.R.) by Sex and Economic Activity
12. Paid Employees (15 Years & above) and Average Monthly Wage (Q.R.) by Sex and Sector

Hours:

13. Employed Persons (15 Years & above) and Average Work Hours by Nationality, Sex & Employment status
14. Employed Persons (15 Years & above) and Average Work Hours by Nationality, Sex & Occupation
15. Employed Persons (15 Years & above) and Average Work Hours by Nationality, Sex & Economic Activity

Unemployed population:

16. Unemployed Persons (15 Years & above) by Nationality, Sex & Age Group (*)

(*) = Based on few observations. Please use with caution.