

Employment Survey

October - December / 2009

No. 10

Total labour force was 322 000 in October-December 2009, with 312 000 being employed and 9 900 being unemployed. Among the unemployed, 10.7% were fresh labour force entrants searching for their first job.

Labour Force Participation Rate, Unemployment Rate and Underemployment Rate (%)

Indicator	October - December / 2008	September - November / 2009	October - December / 2009
Labour force participation rate	72.9	71.2	71.0
Male	79.2	77.6	77.5
Female	67.0	65.3	65.1
Unemployment rate	3.3	3.3	3.1
Underemployment rate	1.7	1.9	1.9

Labour force participation rate was 71.0%, down by 0.2 and 1.9 percentage points respectively over the previous period (September-November 2009) and the corresponding period of 2008.

The unemployment rate was 3.1%, a decrease of 0.2 percentage point when compared with both the previous period and the same period of 2008.

The underemployment rate remained unchanged from the previous period at 1.9%, but rose by 0.2 percentage point year-on-year.

Note:

In line with the new Labour Relations Law, stipulating the minimum age of 16 for entering into an employment contract, DSEC raised the lower age boundary in defining the labour force from 14 years old to 16 years old. Data of the above analysis have been adjusted accordingly.

Concepts:

Labour force: *Individuals aged 16 or over who are available to participate in the production of goods and/or services during the reference period. It comprises the employed population and unemployed population.*

Labour force participation rate: *The proportion of the economically active population to the Macao population aged 16 or over.*

Unemployment rate: *Percentage share of the number of the unemployed to the total labour force.*

Underemployment rate: *Percentage share of the number of the underemployed to the total labour force.*

Please contact the Statistics and Census Service for other definitions and concepts.

Coverage:

The survey covers all individuals living in land-based domestic living quarters in the Macao Peninsula and the islands of Taipa and Coloane, but excludes those residing in collective living quarters, such as military camps, hospitals, prisons, dormitories and elderly homes.