



Labour Force Survey 2nd Quarter 2021 Statistical Snapshot



Saint Lucia Central Statistical Office

<https://stats.gov.lc>



Cautionary Note for 2nd Quarter 2021 Labour Force Survey

Information contained in this report is the result of the Household Labour Force Survey, conducted during the second quarter of 2021, from April to June, and is aimed at providing information about the level of participation of household members in the labour force and the size of the labour force, aged 15 years and above, engaged in economic activities.

It must be noted that the Central Statistical Office (CSO) always strives to ensure that our procedures and processes for the implementation of the Labour Force Survey are in keeping with proven methodologies. Therefore, the results represent the collated responses of a sample of households interviewed during the period in question and not the opinion of the Central Statistical Office. Results from sample surveys are always estimates, not precise figures.

The results for this period do not correspond to the regular survey which normally runs for a quarter and may have lost comparability with previous records in the statistical series. The current situation with COVID-19 has negatively impacted the collection of data for the quarter. Thus, the results predominantly reflect developments in the labour market from April to June. There were higher levels of refusals, as well as, interviews that were not conducted and this has resulted in a sampling error which has increased from +/-2.5% to +/-3.6% for the period under review (2ND Qtr.).

Despite the current setbacks, the CSO has made every attempt to provide you with accurate and reliable data based solely on what was obtained at that time and any use of the results needs to take into consideration the aforementioned limitations.



MAIN LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

The quarterly assessment of the labour force survey results provides a statistical snapshot of the labour market for the period under review (April to June 2021). The survey allows for quantitative analysis of the data on some key labour market indicators (table 1) which are needed to aid government and related stakeholders in formulating appropriate measures and policies to improve the labour market conditions of Saint Lucia.

Table 1: Labour Market Main Indicators, 2nd Qtr. 2021

Labour Force Indicators	2nd Qtr. 2021
Estimated Household Population	170399
Population 15 years and over	144,601
Labour Force	101541
of which - Male	50837
of which- Female	50703
Employed Labour Force	78054
of which -Male	40195
of which -Female	37858
Employment Rate %	76.9
Persons who want work	
(i) The Unemployed	23487
of which - Male	10642
of which- Female	12845
(ii) Non-Seekers	2511
Unemployment Rate %	23.1%
of which - Male	20.9%
of which- Female	25.3%
Youth Unemployment Rate %	42.0%
Relaxed Unemployment Rate %	25.6%
Non-Job Seeking Rate %	2.5%
Population under 15 years (%)	15.1%
Labour Force as a Percentage of Total Population	59.6%
Labour Force as a Percentage of Population 15 years and over OR Labour Force Participation Rate	70.2%

Source: Central Statistical Office

.. Not available for a specific reference period

Labour Force Participation Rate = Labour Force X 100 / Population 15 years and over

Unemployment Rate = Unemployed X 100 / Labour Force

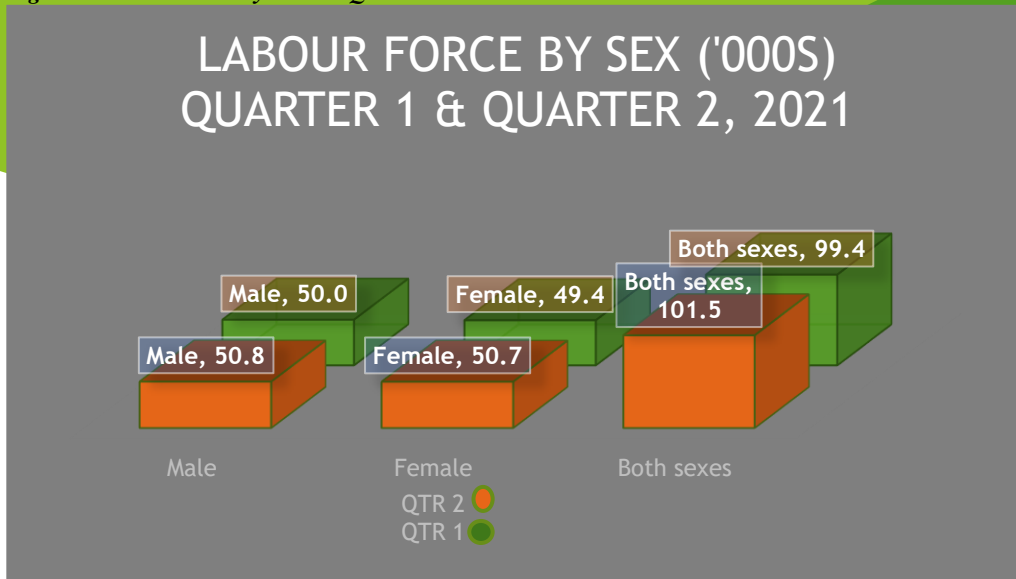
Relaxed Unemployment Rate - This includes all persons whether seeking or not seeking work who want work and are available for work, whether or not they are discouraged

Standard Unemployment Rate - This includes only persons seeking work, wanting, and available for work



Labour Force

Figure 1 Labour Force by Sex 2nd Qtr. 2021



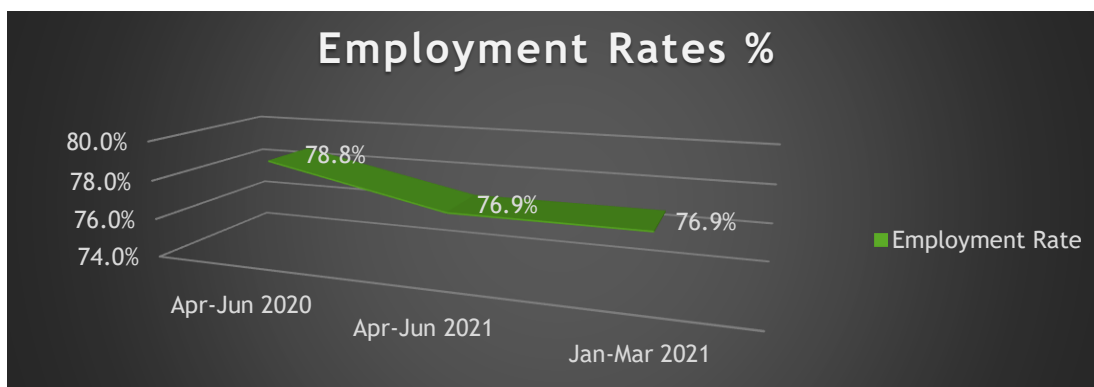
The data discerned no significant increase in the overall performance of the labour force figures as compared to the previous quarter (1st Qtr.) The female categories noted an increase of 0.28% from quarter 1 to quarter 2, while the numbers for the male gender remained unchanged (figure 1).

Changes in the Labour Force:

2nd Qtr. 2021 Male 50.05% Female 49.95%
 1st Qtr. 2021 Male 50.29% Female 49.67%

Employment

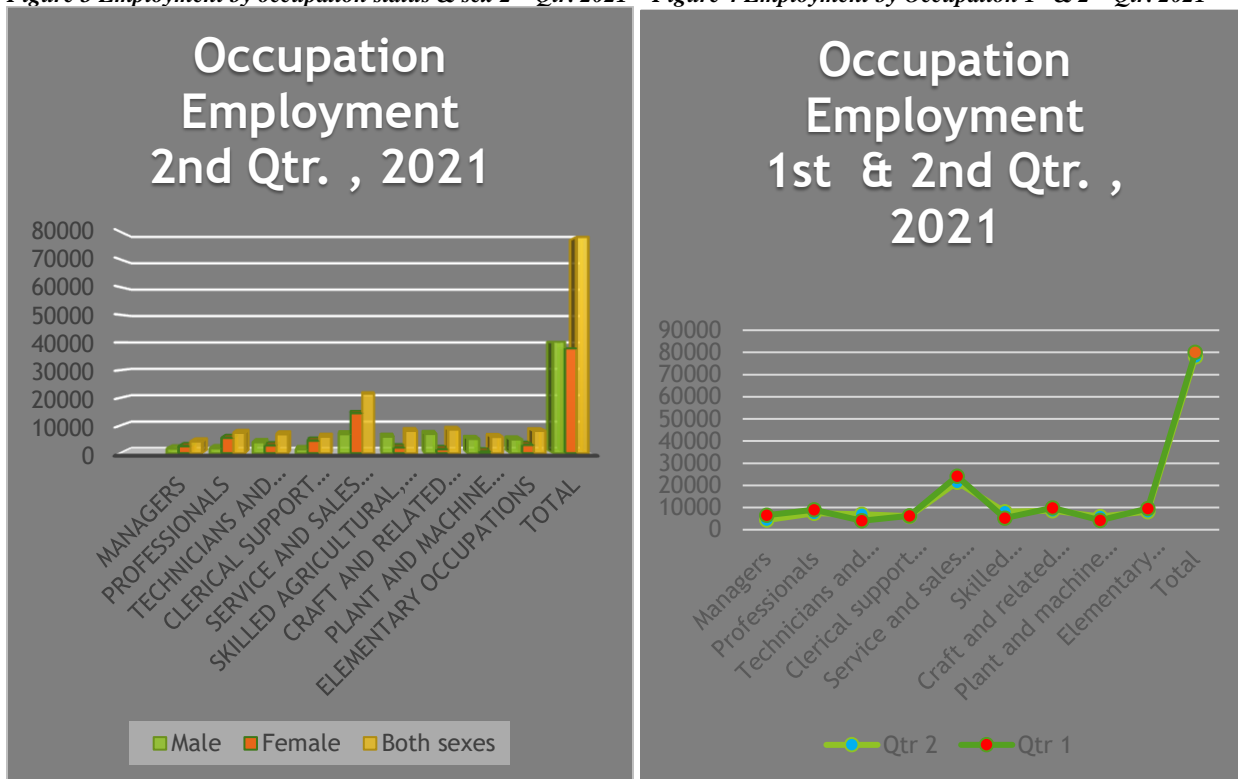
Over the past two quarters of 2021, the employment rate of 76.9% experienced no noteworthy changes from quarter 1 to quarter 2. However, the year-to-year period (Qtr. 2 2020 & Qtr. 2 2021) discerned a difference of 1.9% employment rate between the two periods. Figure 2 Unemployment Rates





Meanwhile, the occupation shares of employment (figure 2) illustrate **Service and sales workers** significantly leading the category of employment at (21,476) with females gaining 24 percent of the distribution while males earned 17 percent. This occupational group includes categories of workers such as cooks, attendance, waiters, sales workers, etc. Further employment observation noted “**Craft and related trades workers**” exhibited (8,596) and **Skilled agricultural, forestry, and fishery workers** (8,158) respectively. This demonstrated a reduction figure as compared to the previous period (Qtr. 1). Figures 3 and 4 below showcase the respective occupational categories for further analysis.

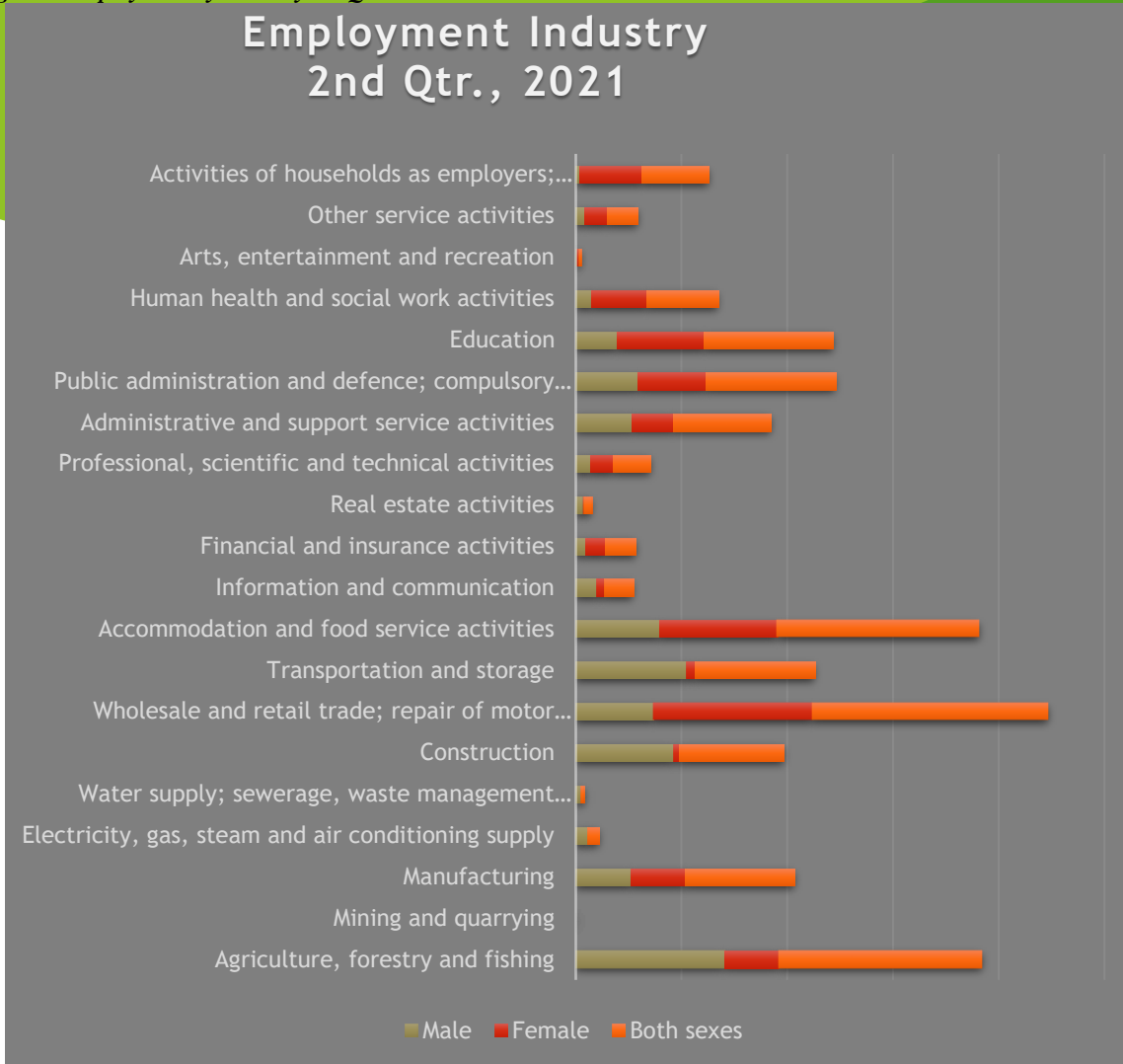
Figure 3 Employment by occupation status & sex 2nd Qtr. 2021 Figure 4 Employment by Occupation 1st & 2nd Qtr. 2021



The period saw further signs of notable changes in some major sectors, case in point **Managers** and **Sales & Service Workers** both experienced a decline of 2.7% while **Professional** observed a reduction of 1.7% from the previous quarter output. Consequently, having an impact on the overall performance of the occupational sector. Overall, the employment sector experienced a decline of 2.2%. The key contributors were **Mining and quarrying, Arts, entertainment and recreation, transportation and storage, and Construction**. On the other hand, some industries revealed growth, such as **Education, Agriculture Forestry & Fishing, Real Estate Activities** to name a few.

Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (14.3%), Agriculture, forestry, and fishing (12.3%), and Accommodation and food service activities (12.2%) dominated the industrial sector demonstrating the largest shares of the employment sectors. Figure 5 shows the division of the employed population under the broad categories of economic activity.

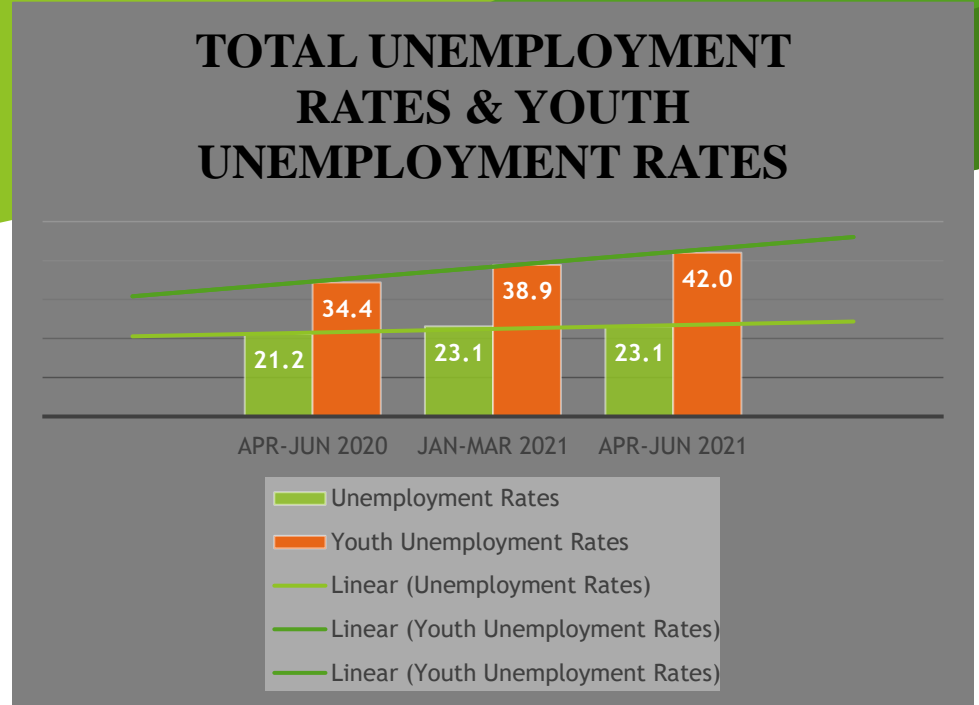
Figure 5 Employment by Industry 2nd Qtr. 2021



UNEMPLOYMENT

By contrast, the unemployment rate remains at 23.1 % for the period April to June 2021 (see figure 6), with no changes experienced as compared with the previous quarter of 2021. Conversely, the youth unemployment rate stood at 42.0% yielding an increase of 3.1% from quarter 1. Additional details are provided in Figure 6.

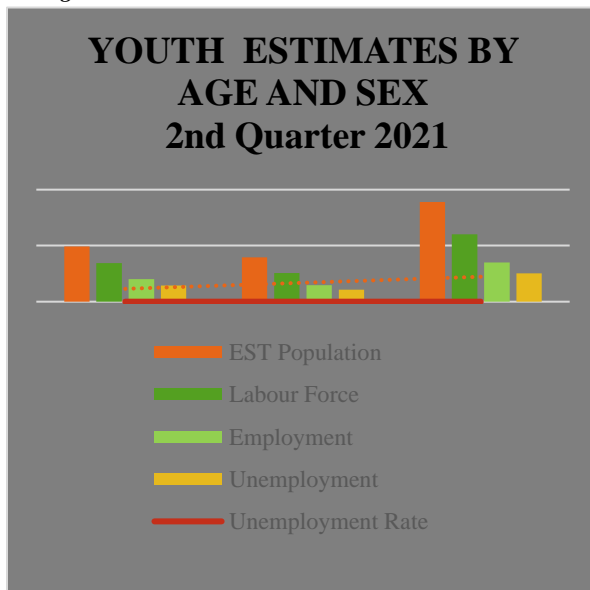
Figure 6: Unemployment Rates



The estimates provided in Table 2 highlights the key statistical data on the youth population. In this context, “Youth” is defined as individuals 15 to 29 years of age. In every aspect of the data, the figures are higher for males as compared to females. While the female unemployment rate of 42.1% is higher by 0.11% than male unemployment which stands at 41.99%.

Figure 7: Youth Estimates

Table 2: Youth Estimates by sex 2nd Qtr. 2021



GROUP	Male	Female	Total
Population	19749	15828	35577
Labour Force	13811	10241	24052
Employment	8011	5929	13941
Unemployment	5800	4311	10111
Unemployment Rate	42.0%	42.1%	42.0%
Labour Force Participation Rate	75.30%	66.0%	70.40%



The labour force participation rate (LFPR) currently holds at 70.4%. The men's participation in the labour force was at 75.3% while women observed 66.0% for the quarter under review, a difference of 9.3% between the two genders. The most outstanding figures for the LFPR lies within the age cohort 35-39, 40-44 and 30-34 respectively. Adults over 65 years of age and young adults ages 15-19 experiences the lowest LFPR (Figure 8)

Figure 8: Labour Force Rates by Age Groups

