



# STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

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## News Release

### The Labour Force Survey in July 2022<sup>1</sup>

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Highlights.

In July 2022, there were 1,268,000 employed persons, an increase of 53,000 compared to the similar quarter of 2021. There were 42,000 more employed females, representing 79.2 per cent of the total increase in employment. More females were employed in the occupation group 'Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers' and the industry group 'Real Estate and Other Business Services'. The unemployment rate was 6.6 per cent in July 2022, 1.9 percentage points lower than in July of the previous year.

#### Larger increase in the labour force for females.

The number of persons in the Labour Force was 1,357,700 in July 2022, representing an increase of 30,200 (2.3%) compared to 1,327,500 in July 2021. The male labour force had a relatively small increase of 2,800 persons to 726,000, while the female labour force increased by 27,400 (4.5%) to 631,700.

#### Larger increase in employment for females.

There were 1,268,000 persons in the Employed Labour Force in July 2022, 53,000 (4.4%) more persons when compared to July 2021. The number of employed males increased by 11,000 (1.6%) to 688,500. The number of employed females increased by 42,000 (7.8%) to 579,500, accounting for 79.2 per cent of the increase in the employed labour force. There was 18,800 more employed youth (aged 14 to 24), with females 20 to 24 years accounting for 83.3 per cent or 15,100.

#### Largest increase in employment by occupation group was in "Clerks".

The occupation groups 'Clerks' and 'Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers' combined accounted for the majority of the increase in the employed labour force. There were 132,200 persons employed in the occupation group 'Clerks' in July 2022, an increase of 25,400 or 23.8 per cent compared to July 2021. Females represented 16,100 (63.4%) of the increase in this occupation group. There were 290,700 persons employed in the occupation group 'Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers', an increase of 21,400 or 7.9 per cent. Females represented 84.6 per cent of the increase in this group. The largest increase in male employment (9,300 or 33.3%) was in the occupation group 'Clerks' followed by 'Craft and Related Trades Workers' (6,600 or 4.8%).

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<sup>1</sup> This report presents the key findings of the July 2022 Labour Force Survey which was conducted during the period July–September 2022 with the reference week June 19 - 25, 2022. Data for 2021 through 2022 have been compiled using new End of Year 2019 population estimates.

### **Females accounted for most of the increase in “Real Estate and Other Business Services” and “Accommodation and Food Services”.**

The largest increase in employment by industry group was in ‘Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities’ (21,700 persons or 18.9%), moving to 136,800 in July 2022. Females accounted for more than three-quarters of the increase in this group. The second highest increase by industry group was in ‘Accommodation and Food Service Activities’, with an increase of 12,400 persons to 109,700 in July 2022. Females accounted for the majority of the increase (90.3%) in this industry group. The largest increase in male employment was in the industry group ‘Construction’, which increased by 6,700 or 5.8 per cent.

### **Decrease in the number of unemployed persons.**

In July 2022, the number of unemployed persons was 89,700, a decrease of 22,800 (20.3%) compared to July 2021. The number of unemployed males decreased by 8,100 (17.7%) to 37,600. There were 52,100 unemployed females, 14,700 (22.0%) fewer than in July 2021. The number of unemployed youths (aged 14 to 24) decreased by 13,700 (28.4%) to 34,600.

### **Unemployment rate decreased.**

The Unemployment Rate in July 2022 was 6.6 per cent, 1.9 percentage points lower than the 8.5 per cent recorded in July 2021. The male unemployment rate decreased by 1.1 percentage points from 6.3 per cent to 5.2 per cent, while the female unemployment rate declined by 2.8 percentage points from 11.1 per cent to 8.2 per cent.

### **Larger decline in female youth unemployment rates.**

The youth unemployment rate (persons aged 14-24 years) was 16.7 per cent in July 2022, 7.2 percentage points lower than in July 2021. The unemployment rate for male youth declined by 1.1 percentage points to 17.3 per cent, while the decrease for female youth declined by 14.8 percentage points from 30.8 per cent to 16.0 per cent.

### **Larger decrease in the number of females outside the labour force.**

In July 2022, there were 739,600 persons classified as Outside the Labour Force, a decrease of 27,900 (3.6%) compared to 767,500 in July 2021. There was a decrease of 1,700 males and 26,200 females.

See the website ([www.statinja.gov.jm](http://www.statinja.gov.jm)) for more information on the July 2022 Labour Force Survey

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