Structure of the Labor force

The results of Labor Force Survey in September 2016 showed that there are population, aged 15 years and over, of about 55.69 million persons. Of these 38.28 million were in the labor force or available for work (37.87 million were employed, 0.34 million were unemployed and 70 thousand were seasonally inactive labor force), while 17.41 million were not in the labor force or not available for work, such as housewives, students or elderly.

Employed of the Labor force

There were 37.87 million employed persons, which 12.52 and 25.35 million were in agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, respectively. Comparing with September in 2015, it was shown that the number of employed persons in agriculture sector decreased by 0.61 million, but non-agriculture sector increased by 0.16 million (from 25.19 million to 25.35 million). This increment was found in various industries e.g. 0.11 million in wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, 90 thousand in financial and insurance activities and human health and social work activities and 30 thousand in manufacturing and accommodation and food service activities. However, a decrease in some other industries was found e.g., 90 thousand in construction, 70 thousand in public administration defence and compulsory social security, 30 thousand in education, 10 thousand in real estate activities and the rest shared in the other industries.

Underemployment workers

Considering the number of underemployed workers and available for additional work, there were 0.22 million or 0.6% of the total employed persons.

Table 1 Comparison aged 15 years and over by labor force status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labor force status</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>Sep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons 15 years and over</td>
<td>55.29</td>
<td>55.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Total labor force</td>
<td>38.94</td>
<td>38.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 employed</td>
<td>38.49</td>
<td>38.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 unemployed</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 seasonally</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 Comparison of number of by industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>38.49</td>
<td>38.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Agricultural</td>
<td>13.51</td>
<td>13.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Agriculture, forestry and fishing</td>
<td>13.51</td>
<td>13.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Non-Agricultural</td>
<td>24.98</td>
<td>25.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Manufacturing</td>
<td>6.35</td>
<td>6.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Construction</td>
<td>2.06</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles</td>
<td>6.04</td>
<td>6.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Transportation and storage</td>
<td>1.21</td>
<td>1.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Accommodation and food service activities</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>2.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Financial and insurance activities</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>0.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Real estate activities</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Public administration defence and compulsory social security</td>
<td>1.53</td>
<td>1.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Education</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>1.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Human health and social work activities</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Other service activities</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>0.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Others</td>
<td>1.85</td>
<td>1.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Considered underemployment rate by sex, it was shown that the overall underemployment rate of male was higher than female.

In September 2016, number of underemployment of male was higher than female (155 thousand and 65 thousand respectively).

And underemployment rate of male was 0.8% and female was 0.4%.

Unemployment

-Number and Rate of unemployment

In September 2016, the total number of unemployed persons were 0.33 million or 0.9% of the total labor force and increased of 34 thousand (from 300 thousand to 334 thousand) comparing to the same period as in 2015. And, showed a decreased of 26 thousand (from 360 thousand to 334 thousand) in August 2016.

Comparing to the unemployment rate to the same period as in 2015 increased from 0.8% to 0.9% and did not change comparing to August in 2016.

Unemployment rate by sex

Comparing to the unemployment rate by sex in September 2016, it was found that, unemployment rate of male was higher than female (0.9% and 0.8% respectively)
Regarding the unemployment rates by age groups, there were 4.1% in a youth group (aged 15-24 years) and 0.5% in adults group (age 25 years and over).

The unemployment rate in the youth group decreased from 4.3% to 4.1% comparing to the same period as in 2015, and decreased from 5.3% to 4.1% comparing to August in 2016. In adults group increased from 0.3% to 0.5% comparing to the same period as in 2015.

For level of educational attainment of unemployed persons in September 2016, it was found that most of them had higher level (1.37 thousand or 1.7%), followed by those with lower secondary level (6.5 thousand or 1.1%), upper secondary level (56 thousand or 0.9%), primary level (46 thousand or 0.5%) and no schooling and incomplete primary level (29 thousand or 0.3%).

Comparing to the same period in 2015, the result showed that the number of unemployed persons with higher level increased of 18 thousand, lower secondary level of 13 thousand, no schooling and incomplete primary level of 5 thousand and upper secondary level of 3 thousand. However, those with primary level decreased of 6 thousand.

Out of 334 thousand, there were 166 thousand having never worked (80 thousand were male and 86 thousand were female) and 168 thousand had ever, among these, the number of unemployed persons who ever worked increased by 6 thousand (from 162 thousand to 168 thousand), comparing to the same period as in 2015. It was found that 168 thousand distributed in 3 sectors i.e. 79 thousand in services and trade, 67 thousand in manufacturing and 22 thousand in agriculture.
The number of unemployed persons who never worked 166 thousand, it was found that most of them had higher level of 101 thousand, followed by those with lower secondary level of 30 thousand, upper secondary level of 28 thousand, primary level of 4 thousand and no schooling and incomplete primary level of 3 thousand.

The number of unemployed persons who ever worked 168 thousand, it was found that most of them had primary level of 42 thousand, followed by those with higher level of 36 thousand, lower secondary level of 35 thousand, upper secondary level of 28 thousand and no schooling and incomplete primary level of 26 thousand.

### Number of unemployed and unemployment rate by region

Concerning the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate by region, it was found that those in the Central was the highest with (9.6 thousand or 0.8%), followed by the Northeast (79 thousand or 0.8%), Bangkok (56 thousand or 1.1%), the North (52 thousand or 0.8%) and the South (51 thousand or 1.0%).

Comparing to the same period as in 2015, the unemployment of the whole kingdom increased of 34 thousand. However, concerning by region, it increases in the Northeast, Bangkok, the North, the South, but decrease in the Central.