

A Selection of Labor Force Survey Results

The Year 1394 (March 21, 2015- March 19, 2016)



Statistical Centre of Iran

Introduction

The pair concepts of employment and unemployment are so basic to national economies that any rise in employment rate - which means a drop in unemployment - is reckoned as an indicator to the national development. Moreover, the unemployment rate is an indicator for appraising the economic conditions of the country. To quarterly and annually estimate the labor force indicators in Iran, the labor force survey is conducted on a seasonal basis across the nation by using Rotation Sampling. As the survey is over, the outcomes are compared with those of the previous rounds in order to observe the possible changes in indicators over seasons at the national, urban, rural and provincial levels. The survey was first conducted in 2005 and since then has regularly been taken in the middle month of every season. Another survey titled Household Employment and Unemployment Characteristics Survey (HEUCS) would be implemented before L.F.S. The HEUCS was first taken in 1994 and repeated in the years 1997 to 2000 once a year from October 23 to November 22. From 2001 to 2003, it used to be taken on a seasonal basis, middle month of every season, while in 2004 it was only executed from April 21 to May 21 and October 23 to November 22. To improve the HEUCS quality and its conformance with the international concepts, particularly those of the ILO, the survey plan was revised into the current Labor Force Survey.

The rotational nature of the survey requires drawing on a master sample— a sample out of which sub-samples might be taken to be used in different rounds of a certain survey or in different surveys. The master sample of the Labor Force Survey for the years 2005-2008 was taken from the 2002 National Establishments Census frame. Following preparation of the master sample, the listing of households on master sample clusters was prepared in winter 2005 to select the sample households based on the rotation pattern chosen for different rounds of the survey. The new master sample was designed and used based on the listing information of the 2006 Population and Housing Census as of 21 March 2009. The current master sample was taken from the 2011 National Population and Housing Census. Due to minor changes in population and housing units in the rural areas, no listing was made in the rural areas (unless in exceptional cases); accordingly listing forms of the 2011 National Housing and Population Census was used for rural areas. However, in order to prepare an appropriate and up- to- date frame in urban areas, some households were listed within the master sample clusters in winters 2012, 2013 and 2014. It is noteworthy that for completion of master sample in the next years in the same form sample, some of the households are listed in each of master sample clusters.

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Definitions and concepts

Economically active population

All people aged 10 or over (a specified minimum age) who according to the definition of work have been taking part in production of goods or services (employed) or have been able to take part in production of goods or services(unemployed) during the calendar week preceding the survey week (reference week) are considered as economically active population.

❖ Employed

All people aged 10 or over who according to the definition of work have worked for at least one hour during the reference week or have temporarily left their job for one reason or another, are reckoned as employed. The employed are divided into two major groups of wage/salary earners and the self-employed. Being temporarily absent from the job within the reference week, while having a formal attachment to the job by the wage/salary earners and continuation of the business by the self-employed, is considered employment. The following people are also considered employed due to their critical role in the national economic activity.

- ❖ Persons who, without receiving any remuneration, work for a member of their household that is a relative (unpaid family workers).
- ❖ Trainees who perform an activity in relation to the activity of the workshop during the training period. In other words, they directly contribute to the production of goods or services and their activity is considered “work”.
- ❖ Students who have worked during the reference week, according to the definition of work
- ❖ All people who are serving as permanent and temporary cadre in the armed forces (armed forces, cadre personnel, soldiers, commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers of the military forces and the police).

Unemployed

The unemployed are all people aged 10 or over who:

1. have no job during the reference week (not engaged in a wage/salary job or self-employment,)
2. are available to work during the reference week or the following week (available for a wage/salary job or self-employment,)
3. have been seeking job during the reference week and the preceding three weeks (have taken specific steps to seek paid employment or self-employment).

All people who because of expecting to start a job in near future or return to their former job have not been seeking a job - had no job but have been available to work - are also considered unemployed.

¹ According to the ILO standards

Underemployed

The underemployed are all employed people who have been present in or temporarily absent from the workplace and have worked less than 44 hours during the reference week due to economic reasons such as work recession, not finding a job with more hours, or non-work season, but have been willing and ready to do more work.

Indicators

Economic participation rate (activity rate)

The ratio of the active population (employed & unemployed) 10 years of age or over (or 15 years of age or over) to the working age population 10 years of age or over (15 years of age or over) multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Economic participation rate} = \frac{\text{Economically active population aged 10 or over (or aged 15 or over)}}{\text{Population aged 10 or over (or aged 15 or over)}} \times 100$$

Unemployment rate

The ratio of the unemployed population to the active population (employed & unemployed) multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Unemployment rate} = \frac{\text{Unemployed population}}{\text{Active population}} \times 100$$

Unemployment rate of the population aged 15-24 (or 15-29 years old)

The ratio of the unemployed population aged 15 -24 (or 15-29 years of age) to the economically active population at age 15-24 (or 15-29) multiplied by 100.

$$\text{Unemployment rate aged 15-24 (or 15-29)} = \frac{\text{Unemployed population aged 15-24 (or 15-29)}}{\text{Economically active population aged 15-24 (or 15-29)}} \times 100$$

Share of time related underemployment

The ratio of the underemployed population to the active population multiplied by 100

$$\text{Underemployment rate} = \frac{\text{Underemployed population.}}{\text{Employed population.}} \times 100$$

Findings

Table 1 contains the major labor force indicators resulted from the Labor Force Survey in the year 1394. Table 2 reflects the changes in the labor force indicators compared to the year 1393. In addition, tables 4, 6 provide the major labor force indicators for all seasons of the year 1394 and tables 3 and 5 present major labor force indicators for all seasons of the years 1393-1394 by province.

Labor force indicator		Total country	Male	Female	Urban areas	Rural areas
Economic activity of population aged 10 and over	Rate	38.2	63.2	13.3	37.5	40.0
	Number	24701177	20405386	4295791	17858718	6842458
Unemployment rate of population aged 10 and over	Rate	11.0	9.3	19.4	12.2	8.1
	Number	2729092	1894122	834970	2171695	557397
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15-24	Rate	26.1	22.3	42.8	29.3	20.0
	Number	765170	529673	235496	568612	196557
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15-29	Rate	23.3	19.1	40.2	25.5	17.6
	Number	1646380	1083980	562399	1300106	346274
Employment share in agriculture sector	Share	18.0	17.1	22.8	5.2	50.0
	Number	3961297	3171458	789839	821101	3140196
Employment share in manufacturing sector	Share	32.5	34.2	23.8	34.9	26.6
	Number	7147011	6323306	823704	5473895	1673115
Employment share in services sector	Share	49.4	48.7	53.4	59.9	23.4
	Number	10860392	9013426	1846966	9388859	1471533
Share of time-related underemployment		9.8	10.8	4.5	8.2	13.7
The contribution of the employed aged 15 and over with usual working 49 hours and over		38.0	42.7	13.1	39.3	34.8

Note: Difference in the total is due to rounding figures.

A review of the economic participation rate (activity rate) reveals that 38.2% of the population of working age (10 years and over) are economically active; i.e., they lie either in the employed or the unemployed group. In addition, the results indicate that the economic participation rate stands lower for women compared to men and urban areas in contrast to rural areas.

A review of the unemployment rate shows that 11% of the active population was unemployed. The results show that unemployment rate stands higher for women and urban areas than men and rural areas, respectively.

A review of underemployment indicator shows that 9.8% of the population was underemployed. The indicator stands higher for men compared to women and rural areas in contrast to urban areas.

A review of employment in major economic sectors indicates that the services sector holds the biggest share of employment with 49.4% of the total, followed by manufacturing sector with 32.5% and agriculture sector with 18.0%.

The unemployment rate of the economically active population aged 15-24 stood at 26.1%. This indicator is higher for women and urban areas than for men and rural areas.

The unemployment rate among economically active population aged 15-29 indicates that 23.3% of the active population was unemployed. This indicator stands higher for women and urban areas than men and rural areas.

A review of contribution of the employed population aged 15 and over with the usual working hours 49 and over shows that 38% of them work more than 49 hours a week. As a decent work indicator, it reveals that a great share of the employed population of the country works more than the standard hours.

Table 2. Changes of major labor force indicators by sex, urban and rural areas (the year 1394 compared with the year 1393) (percent)

Labor force indicators	Total country		Male		Female		Urban Areas		Rural Areas	
	The year 1393	Change	The year 1393	Change	The year 1393	Change	The year 1393	Change	The year 1393	Change
Economic participation rate (activity rate)	37.2	1.0	62.5	0.7	12.0	1.3	36.5	1.0	39.1	0.9
Unemployment rate	10.6	0.4	8.8	0.5	19.7	-0.3	11.6	0.6	7.9	0.2
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15-24	25.2	0.9	21.3	1.0	43.8	-1.0	28.5	0.8	18.8	1.2
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15-29	21.9	1.4	17.8	1.3	40.1	0.1	24.0	1.5	16.5	1.1

This table shows the changes of major labor force indicators by sex, urban and rural areas in the year 1393 and the changes of these indicators in the year 1394 compared with the previous year. The changes in the indicators at national level are as follows:

- _ Economic participation rate (activity rate) in the year 1394 experienced a 1.0% increase compared to the year 1393.
- _ The unemployment rate in the year 1394 increased by 0.4% compared to the year 1393.
- _ The unemployment rate of youth aged 15-24 experienced a 0.9% rise compared to the year 1393.
- _ The unemployment rate of youth aged 15-29 experienced a 1.4% increase compared to the year 1393.

Figure 1 shows economic participation rate for the years 1384-1394.

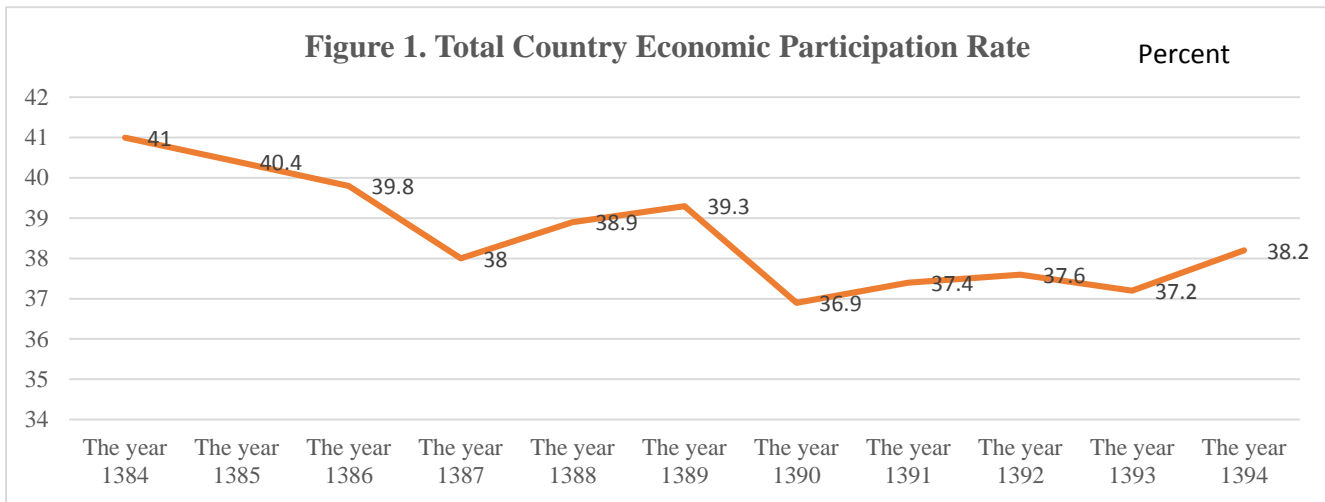


Figure 2 shows unemployment rate for the years 1384-1394.

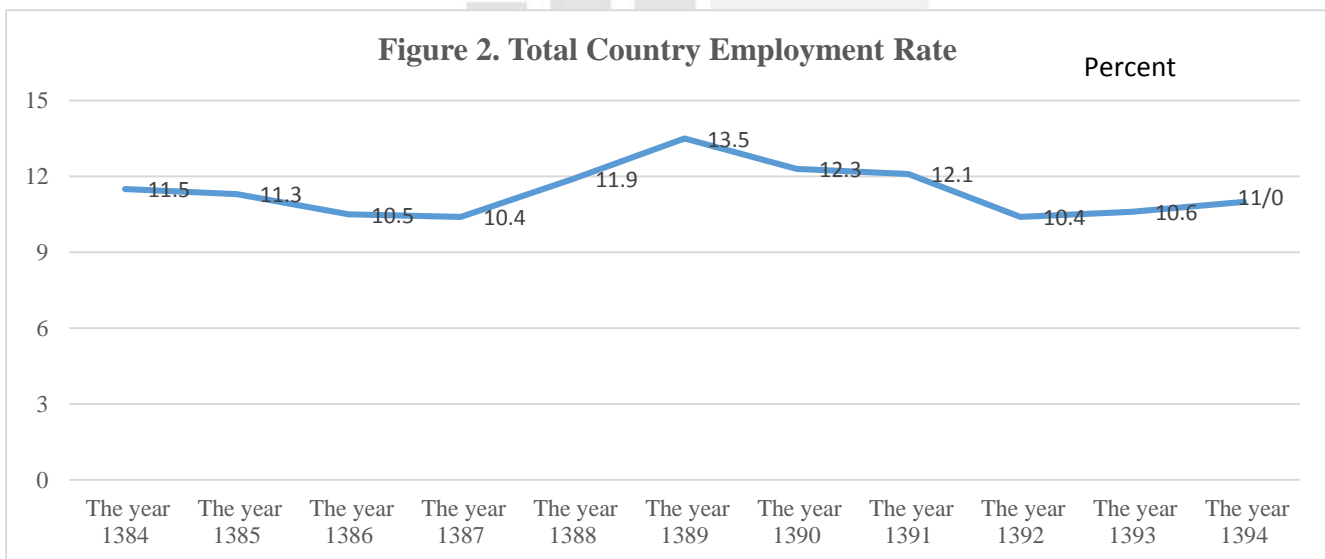
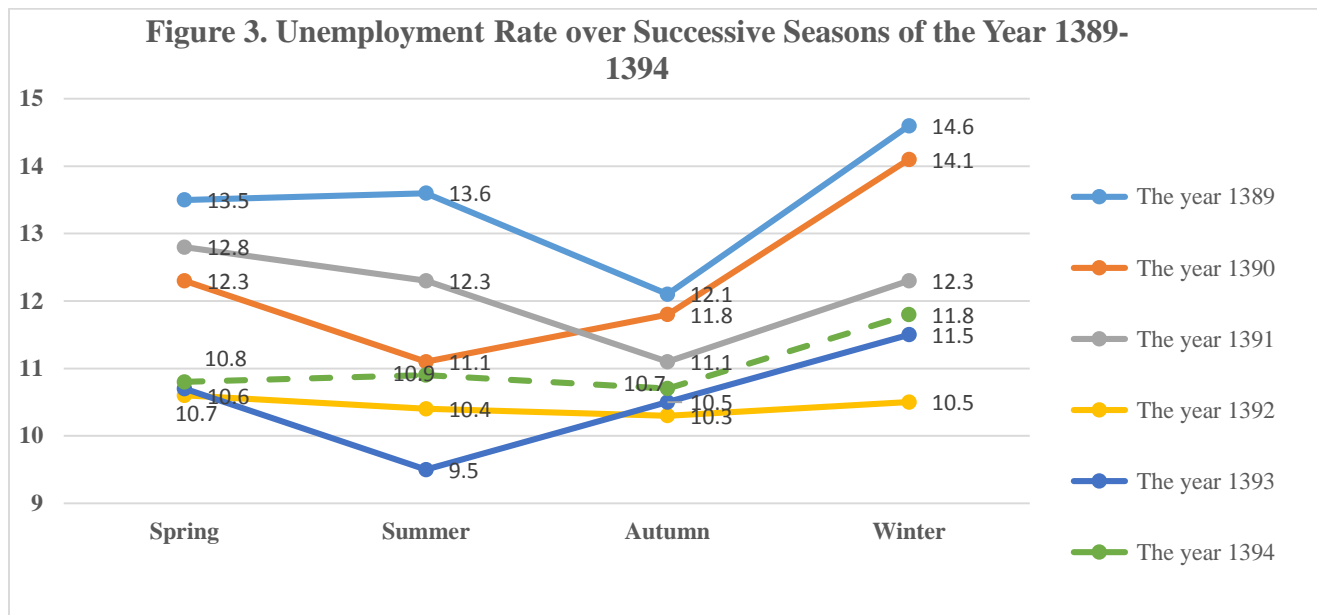


Figure 3 shows unemployment rate over successive seasons of the years 1389-1394.



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Table.3. Major labor force indicators by province- the years 1393-1394

Province	Economic participation rate		Unemployment rate	
	The year 1393	The year 1394	The year 1393	The year 1394
Total country	37.2	38.2	10.6	11.0
East Azarbayejan	41.4	39.3	7.8	7.3
West Azarbayejan	39.3	39.9	9.9	10.9
Ardebil	42.8	43.7	11.3	12.8
Esfahan	40.2	40.4	12.4	13.8
Alborz	36.0	37.5	11.7	12.4
Ilam	35.8	36.5	11.1	11.6
Bushehr	36.8	36.3	9.0	9.7
Tehran	36.4	37.1	8.3	8.1
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	37.1	36.1	15.0	16.4
South Khorasan	35.5	36.5	7.6	8.6
Khorasan-e-Razavi	38.2	40.1	10.8	13.3
North Khorasan	39.7	41.8	14.2	11.1
Khuzestan	35.3	37.5	9.9	10.9
Zanjan	38.1	39.9	9.8	9.6
Semnan	40.3	38.3	11.3	8.4
Sistan & Baluchestan	29.0	29.9	10.9	11.5
Fars	36.6	37.5	12.4	12.1
Qazvin	40.8	40.2	11.9	11.7
Qom	33.6	35.3	9.2	11.3
Kordestan	40.0	40.2	11.6	13.3
Kerman	33.5	35.2	6.9	7.9
Kermanshah	38.0	39.5	15.7	17.6
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	30.2	34.5	14.8	17.7
Golestan	35.7	37.6	12.4	11.8
Gilan	39.4	41.1	13.2	11.0
Lorestan	34.1	36.2	14.9	13.3
Mazandaran	39.1	41.0	12.7	12.1
Markazi	35.7	36.5	7.0	7.9
Hormozgan	34.9	37.2	10.3	11.9
Hamedan	38.2	36.8	7.7	8.5
Yazd	36.5	41.1	7.8	11.2

Table4. Labor force indicators by seasons and province; the year 1394

Province	Spring		Summer		Autumn		Winter	
	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate
Total country	38.0	10.8	38.9	10.9	38.1	10.7	37.7	11.8
East Azarbayejan	40.2	7.7	39.9	6.6	39.6	6.7	37.5	8.1
West Azarbayejan	40.7	10.7	42.8	11.0	39.9	9.5	36.1	12.5
Ardebil	43.6	10.5	43.1	11.6	44.3	12.4	44.0	16.7
Esfahan	41.1	13.6	41.7	13.3	39.5	13.2	39.4	15.0
Alborz	37.5	15.8	38.2	12.5	37.4	11.3	37.0	9.9
Ilam	37.3	12.2	35.1	12.6	36.7	11.5	36.9	10.1
Bushehr	37.3	9.6	34.7	8.8	35.8	11.3	37.3	9.0
Tehran	36.2	7.4	37.7	9.2	36.8	7.6	37.8	8.3
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	36.0	13.8	37.7	16.0	36.4	16.7	34.2	19.1
South Khorasan	35.8	9.1	37.5	7.2	37.9	8.5	34.9	9.8
Khorasan-e-Razavi	40.1	14.6	40.6	14.2	41.9	10.8	38.0	14.0
North Khorasan	41.9	9.5	43.6	11.1	41.6	11.2	40.3	12.5
Khuzestan	37.7	12.0	37.2	10.7	37.1	10.4	37.9	10.5
Zanjan	38.5	8.5	42.4	8.6	41.1	12.2	37.6	9.2
Semnan	39.7	10.7	39.5	8.3	37.9	7.2	36.1	7.4
Sistan & Baluchestan	29.7	12.5	29.5	11.8	30.3	11.1	30.3	10.8
Fars	37.7	12.6	38.0	11.2	37.0	11.9	37.5	12.9
Qazvin	40.3	11.9	41.3	12.4	39.9	10.6	39.2	11.9
Qom	32.6	9.9	36.0	12.0	36.7	12.0	35.8	11.1
Kordestan	40.7	9.8	39.8	9.4	39.1	12.5	41.2	21.2
Kerman	32.1	5.9	36.1	6.5	37.4	9.5	35.3	9.4
Kermanshah	39.6	13.7	40.4	15.2	38.9	18.6	39.1	23.1
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	33.2	16.0	32.5	13.9	34.6	17.0	37.5	22.9
Golestan	38.8	12.7	38.6	10.1	35.6	9.4	37.5	15.0
Gilan	42.0	10.0	44.2	11.2	39.4	13.4	38.9	9.6
Lorestan	35.6	10.7	36.9	13.4	37.0	14.3	35.4	14.5
Mazandaran	42.1	10.0	41.7	12.1	40.0	15.3	40.5	11.0
Markazi	36.6	10.3	37.3	7.4	36.7	5.0	35.5	9.0
Hormozgan	36.1	15.6	37.4	11.7	35.4	9.1	40.0	11.2
Hamedan	37.7	6.7	37.8	8.0	36.8	8.6	35.1	10.7
Yazd	38.2	7.9	42.4	11.8	42.1	12.4	41.6	12.3

Table.5. Share of main economic activity sectors by province- the years 1393-94						
Provinces	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Services	
	The year 1393	The year 1394	The year 1393	The year 1394	The year 1393	The year 1394
Total country	17.9	18.0	33.8	32.5	48.3	49.4
East Azarbayejan	22.0	22.2	38.8	38.4	39.2	39.4
West Azarbayejan	32.8	34.1	23.5	23.5	43.7	42.5
Ardebil	32.7	33.8	26.7	25.6	40.6	40.6
Esfahan	10.8	11.5	42.7	41.4	46.6	47.1
Alborz	2.8	3.1	45.8	44.6	51.3	52.3
Ilam	27.3	24.7	25.3	26.7	47.4	48.6
Bushehr	14.9	13.3	26.8	27.5	58.3	59.3
Tehran	1.1	1.2	37.1	35.5	61.8	63.3
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	15.3	15.4	43.8	41.3	40.9	43.3
South Khorasan	34.3	33.2	27.3	28.6	38.4	38.3
Khorasan-e-Razavi	21.8	23.4	33.4	30.6	44.8	46.0
North Khorasan	37.7	41.6	24.6	22.8	37.7	35.7
Khuzestan	17.7	17.5	31.5	31.2	50.8	51.4
Zanjan	30.5	31.8	31.6	31.8	37.9	36.5
Semnan	14.7	13.7	35.9	37.8	49.1	48.4
Sistan & Baluchestan	21.6	18.9	31.5	28.9	47.0	52.2
Fars	20.6	20.6	30.7	29.0	48.8	50.4
Qazvin	22.0	20.8	34.1	34.9	43.9	44.3
Qom	3.8	3.1	41.8	41.5	54.2	55.4
Kordestan	27.7	26.6	26.3	25.9	46.0	47.5
Kerman	31.8	34.2	29.3	26.8	38.9	39.0
Kermanshah	25.6	29.2	25.3	22.4	49.2	48.4
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	18.1	18.0	34.5	31.8	47.4	50.3
Golestan	28.8	27.6	29.5	28.7	41.7	43.8
Gilan	26.8	27.3	24.4	23.6	48.8	48.9
Lorestan	25.8	25.9	32.6	31.0	41.6	43.1
Mazandaran	19.2	20.2	32.3	29.8	48.5	50.0
Markazi	19.1	17.2	42.1	42.6	38.8	40.1
Hormozgan	19.1	18.7	27.0	31.4	53.9	49.9
Hamedan	27.5	24.7	32.4	31.4	40.1	43.9
Yazd	9.3	9.7	48.5	46.5	42.2	43.8

Table.6. Share of main economic activity sectors by seasons and province- the year 1394

Province	Spring			Summer		
	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Services	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Services
Total country	19.2	33.0	47.9	19.2	32.2	48.6
East Azarbayejan	25.7	39.0	35.2	25.4	35.9	38.6
West Azarbayejan	36.0	24.9	39.1	38.3	21.8	40.0
Ardebil	32.6	27.8	39.7	34.3	23.6	42.1
Esfahan	11.4	41.1	47.5	11.8	41.5	46.7
Alburz	3.0	43.9	53.1	3.4	46.0	50.6
Ilam	26.2	26.6	47.1	24.1	26.6	49.3
Bushehr	11.9	29.3	58.8	11.5	28.7	59.9
Tehran	1.5	37.1	61.4	1.6	34.9	63.5
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	17.6	39.5	42.9	16.2	42.4	41.4
South Khorasan	33.6	27.4	39.0	31.1	29.7	39.2
Khorasan-e-Razavi	21.0	32.7	46.3	23.0	30.0	47.0
North Khorasan	41.9	21.5	36.6	44.4	21.2	34.4
Khuzestan	17.4	30.8	51.8	16.7	32.6	50.7
Zanjan	33.4	29.7	37.0	34.0	30.4	35.6
Semnan	13.2	38.7	48.0	14.7	39.3	46.0
Sistan & Baluchestan	18.6	30.7	50.7	19.4	28.0	52.7
Fars	22.5	29.4	48.1	19.9	29.6	50.5
Qazvin	22.5	33.8	43.8	21.5	36.6	41.9
Qom	3.5	40.8	55.7	3.1	43.4	53.5
Kordestan	27.6	27.7	44.8	28.9	27.5	43.6
Kerman	35.3	27.5	37.2	34.6	27.3	38.0
Kermanshah	30.9	26.0	43.1	31.9	23.3	44.8
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	18.1	35.2	46.7	16.6	33.9	49.5
Golestan	30.7	25.9	43.4	29.7	29.4	40.9
Gilan	33.8	20.9	45.1	34.6	20.2	45.1
Lorestan	28.2	29.2	42.6	27.2	29.2	43.6
Mazandaran	23.8	30.4	45.8	23.2	29.2	47.6
Markazi	17.8	39.9	42.3	16.6	41.2	42.2
Hormozgan	15.8	33.8	50.4	18.0	30.3	51.7
Hamedan	28.9	32.2	38.9	27.3	32.7	40.0
Yazd	11.0	46.1	42.9	10.5	46.1	43.4

Table.6. Share of main economic activity sectors by seasons and province- the year1393-continued

Province	Autumn			Winter		
	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Services	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Services
Total country	17.6	32.6	49.8	16.1	32.4	51.5
East Azarbayejan	20.3	39.0	40.7	17.2	39.7	43.1
West Azarbayejan	30.6	25.2	44.2	30.8	21.9	47.2
Ardebil	34.4	24.7	40.9	34.0	26.2	39.8
Esfahan	12.0	39.8	48.2	10.9	43.3	45.9
Alborz	3.1	45.1	51.8	2.9	43.5	53.6
Ilam	24.2	26.4	49.4	24.3	27.0	48.7
Bushehr	14.1	28.8	57.1	15.5	23.3	61.2
Tehran	0.8	36.3	62.9	0.8	34.0	65.2
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	14.6	43.7	41.7	13.0	39.1	47.9
South Khorasan	36.1	28.3	35.5	31.8	28.8	39.4
Khorasan-e-Razavi	28.5	28.8	42.6	20.3	31.2	48.6
North Khorasan	40.2	24.1	35.7	39.6	24.3	36.1
Khuzestan	17.0	31.3	51.7	18.8	30.0	51.2
Zanjan	29.2	33.9	36.9	30.3	33.1	36.6
Semnan	13.6	37.9	48.4	13.4	35.0	51.6
Sistan & Baluchestan	19.0	27.9	53.1	18.7	29.2	52.2
Fars	19.9	28.5	51.7	20.1	28.5	51.4
Qazvin	21.6	34.0	44.4	17.4	35.1	47.5
Qom	2.9	40.0	57.1	3.1	41.7	55.0
Kordestan	26.2	26.4	47.4	23.4	21.7	54.9
Kerman	32.5	25.4	42.1	34.5	26.9	38.5
Kermanshah	29.7	20.0	50.3	23.6	19.7	56.7
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	19.1	31.2	49.7	18.0	27.2	54.7
Golestan	26.0	31.7	42.3	23.6	27.7	48.7
Gilan	19.3	25.1	55.2	19.6	28.9	51.3
Lorestan	26.5	31.2	42.3	21.8	34.4	43.8
Mazandaran	15.9	30.2	53.9	17.4	29.3	53.3
Markazi	17.0	46.6	36.4	17.7	42.8	39.6
Hormozgan	20.4	28.0	51.6	20.1	33.2	46.7
Hamedan	21.8	30.9	47.3	20.1	29.5	50.4
Yazd	9.3	45.2	45.5	8.1	48.6	43.4