

A Selection of Labor Force Survey Results

Year 2010 (March 21, 2010- March 20, 2011)

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, 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 with 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 basic 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 basic sample of the Labor Force Survey was designed based on the index information of the 2006 Population and Housing Census.

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 ¹during 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 (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.

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

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 (15-29 years old)

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

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

Underemployment rate

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

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

Labor Force Survey Results in the Year 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011)

Table 1 contains the major labor force indicators resulted from the survey in the in the Year 2010 (March 21, 2010 -March 20, 2011). Table 2 reflects the changes in the labor force indicators compared to the previous Year 2009 (March 21, 2009 - March 20, 2010). In addition, tables 3.4 and 5.6 provide similar comparisons at seasonal level in the year 2010 and the years 2009-2011 at provincial level respectively.

Table 1. Labor force indicators by sex, urban and rural areas; the Year 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011)						
Labor force indicator		Total country	Male	Female	Urban areas	Rural areas
Economic activity of population aged 10 and over	Rate	38/3	62/1	14/1	37/3	40/8
	Number	23875023	19525661	4349361	16869824	7005199
Unemployment rate of population aged 10 and over	Rate	13/5	11/9	20/5	15/3	9/1
	Number	3218329	2325976	892353	2578392	639937
Unemployment rate of population aged 15-24	Rate	28/7	25/5	41/3	34/0	18/4
	Number	1301335	922097	379238	1017408	283926
Unemployment rate of population aged 15-29	Rate	25/5	21/8	39/7	29/0	17/1
	Number	2196233	1482622	713610	1765440	430792
Employment share in agriculture sector	Rate	19/2	17/5	28/0	4/7	51/9
	Number	3969915	3003420	966494	669667	3300247
Employment share in manufacturing sector	Share	32/2	33/8	24/4	34/6	26/8
	Number	6652189	5807713	844475	4949001	1703187
Employment share in services sector	Share	48/6	48/8	47/6	60/7	21/4
	Number	10034517	8388479	1646038	8672690	1361826
Underemployment share of the population aged 10 and over		10/2	11/2	5/0	8/5	13/9
The contribution of the employed aged 15 and over with regular working hours of more than 49		40/4	45/4	15/3	42/3	35/9

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

A review of the economic participation rate (activity rate) reveals that 38.3% of the working age population (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 13.5% of the active population was unemployed. The results show that unemployment rate stand higher for women and urban areas than men and rural areas.

A review of underemployment rate shows that 10.2% of the population was underemployed. The results indicate that the underemployment rate 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 48.6% of the total, followed by manufacturing sector with 32.2% and agriculture sector with 19.2 %.

The unemployment rate of the economically active population aged 15-24 stood at 28.7 % while standing higher for women and urban areas than for men and rural areas.

The unemployment rate among the economically active population aged 15-29 indicates that 25.5% of the active population was unemployed. This indicator stands higher for women and urban areas than men and rural areas.

Review of contribution of the employed population aged 15 and over with the working hours over 49 shows that 40.4% 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 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011) compared to 2009 (percent)										
Labor force indicators	Total country		Male		Female		Urban Areas		Rural Areas	
	2009	Change	2009	Change	2009	Change	2009	Change	2009	Change
Economic participation rate	38/9	-0/6	62/8	-0/7	14/5	-0/4	37/7	-0/4	41/9	-1/1
Unemployment rate	11/9	1/6	10/8	1/1	16/8	3/7	13/5	1/8	8/3	0/8
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15-24	24/7	4/0	22/7	2/8	32/4	8/9	29/4	4/6	16/3	2/1
Unemployment rate among youths aged 15-29	22/1	3/4	19/7	2/1	31/0	8/7	25/1	3/9	15/4	1/7

This table shows the changes of major labor force indicators by sex, urban and rural areas in the year 2010(21 March 2010-20 March 2011) compared with the previous year 2010. The changes at the country level are as follows:

Economic participation rate (activity rate) in the year 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011) experienced a 0.6 % decrease compared to the year 2009 (21 March 2009-20 March 2010).

The unemployment rate in the year 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011) increased by 1.6% compared to the year 2009 (21 March 2009-20 March 2010).

The unemployment rate of youth aged 15-24 experienced a 4 % rise compared to the year 2009 (21 March 2009-20 March 2010).

The unemployment rate of youth aged 15-29 experienced a 3.4% rise compared to the year 2009 (21 March 2009-20 March 2010).

Figure1 shows total country economic Participation Rate in the years 2005 (21 March 2005-20 March 2006)- 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011).

Figure1. Total Country Economic Participation Rate in the years 2005 (21 March 2005-20 March 2006)- 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011).

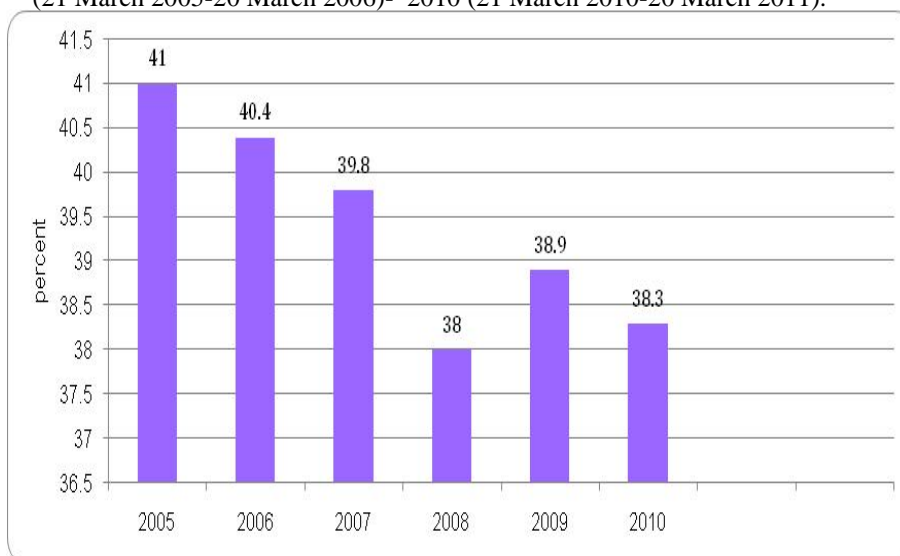


Figure 2 shows total country unemployment rate in the Years 2005 (21 March 2005-20 March 2006) - 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011).

Figure 2. Total Country Unemployment Rate in the Years 2005 (21 March 2005-20 March 2006)- 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011)

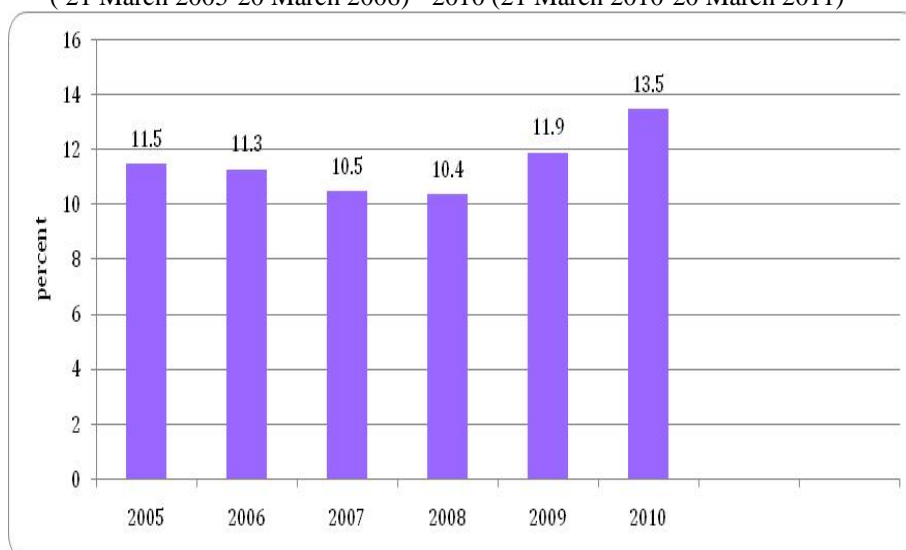


Figure 3 shows changes in unemployment rate over successive seasons during the Years 2005 (21 March 2005-20 March 2006)- 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011).

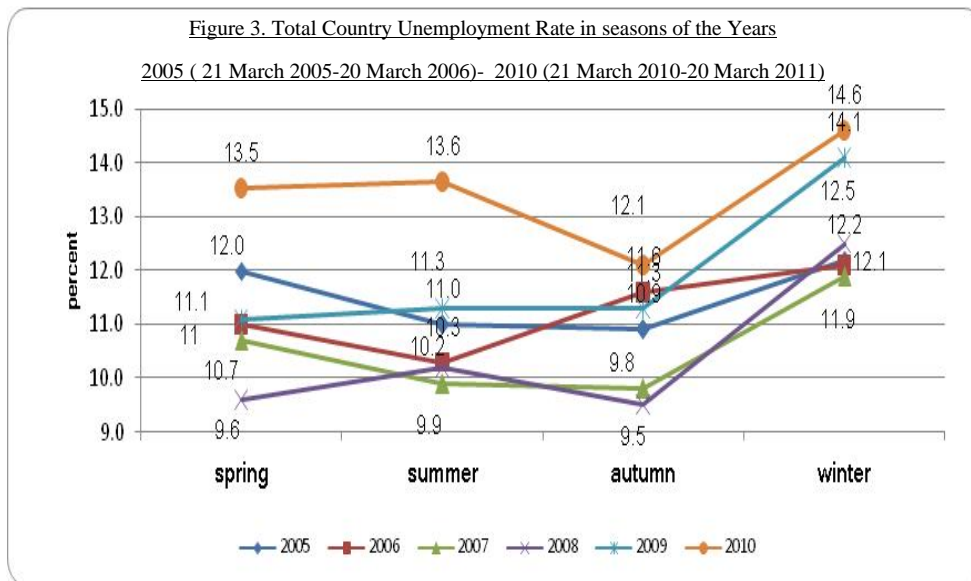


Table 3 shows the economic participation rate and unemployment rate over successive seasons in the year 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011) by province.

Table 3. Labor force indicators by province; 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011)

Province	Total		Spring		Summer		Autumn		Winter	
	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate	Economic participation rate	Unemployment rate
Total country	38.3	13.5	38.8	13.5	39.1	13.6	37.9	12.1	37.2	14.6
East Azarbayejan	43.5	11.7	44.9	10.8	46.5	11.0	40.5	10.1	42.0	15.0
West Azarbayejan	42.8	12.4	43.8	12.0	45.7	8.8	42.8	11.5	39.2	17.9
Ardebil	44.3	14.2	43.8	15.7	44.2	14.2	44.7	11.6	44.6	15.2
Esfahan	41.3	15.3	40.6	14.9	43.2	19.4	40.6	12.0	40.9	14.5
Ilam	38.8	15.8	37.7	14.2	41.0	18.3	39.1	15.7	37.2	14.6
Bushehr	34.7	13.3	35.8	14.7	35.2	15.3	34.2	12.8	33.8	10.1
Tehran	37.5	14.2	36.2	14.6	38.3	14.5	38.3	13.4	37.2	14.3
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	39.2	13.6	40.4	15.0	40.2	12.7	38.5	9.4	37.8	17.3
South Khorasan	37.9	9.1	39.9	11.1	37.5	7.1	38.6	9.8	35.6	8.1
Khorasan-e-Razavi	40.8	10.6	41.4	12.1	40.8	9.2	42.9	7.3	37.9	14.3
North Khorasan	33.6	7.6	34.4	5.5	31.8	7.6	34.4	6.2	34.0	11.0
Khuzestan	36.5	14.9	37.1	14.4	36.9	16.5	35.8	14.8	36.2	13.9
Zanjan	44.0	9.6	44.7	11.6	45.2	8.0	43.1	9.5	42.9	9.1
Semnan	35.2	12.0	37.0	11.5	36.0	10.4	34.9	13.5	33.1	12.5
Sistan & Baluchestan	29.9	12.1	30.9	11.6	30.0	14.0	29.7	11.3	29.0	11.6
Fars	36.9	20.5	39.3	18.0	38.7	22.0	33.7	18.1	36.1	23.9
Qazvin	38.2	11.2	39.6	14.2	37.1	9.9	38.1	8.3	38.0	12.2
Qom	35.5	10.4	35.6	12.5	35.7	9.7	35.6	9.1	35.1	10.3
Kordestan	40.6	15.1	41.2	11.7	41.7	12.5	40.8	13.0	38.8	23.7
Kerman	34.1	11.0	34.4	15.0	34.4	13.7	33.3	6.9	34.4	8.5
Kermanshah	35.1	14.5	36.2	14.0	35.4	12.6	35.9	14.4	33.0	17.0
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	30.2	13.2	30.1	12.1	30.1	15.5	30.4	13.1	30.4	12.2
Golestan	39.5	8.5	41.9	11.3	41.7	9.2	37.3	4.8	37.0	8.2
Gilan	41.5	16.7	43.1	14.4	42.5	15.5	40.5	18.9	39.7	18.1
Lorestan	36.3	17.3	38.5	16.8	35.9	16.7	34.9	17.8	35.9	18.1
Mazandaran	38.5	11.7	39.7	10.6	39.1	13.2	36.9	11.0	38.4	12.1
Markazi	37.0	9.7	36.9	10.6	37.3	8.5	37.2	10.2	36.4	9.5
Hormozgan	31.6	11.2	32.1	11.1	30.6	11.7	31.4	12.2	32.4	10.0
Hamedan	38.7	13.9	40.6	14.6	40.7	10.9	38.6	12.9	34.9	17.6
Yazd	37.0	9.4	39.0	12.1	36.0	9.2	37.1	9.4	36.0	6.6

Table 4 represents the share of each main activity over successive seasons in the year 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011) by province.

Table 4. Main Activity Groups by Province, 2010 (21 March 2010-20 March 2011)

Province	Spring			Summer			Autumn			Winter		
	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Service	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Services	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Services	Agriculture	Manufacturing	Services
Total country	21.3	31.4	47.3	21.1	31.5	47.5	18.1	32.9	49.0	16.2	33.1	50.7
East Azarbayejan	24.5	35.8	39.7	28.5	35.0	36.5	18.8	40.7	40.5	16.1	42.1	41.9
West Azarbayejan	35.6	24.1	40.3	39.5	23.9	36.6	33.8	27.1	39.1	31.3	23.7	45.0
Ardebil	38.9	23.5	37.6	38.4	26.9	34.7	36.4	25.3	38.4	38.4	23.7	37.9
Esfahan	11.7	40.5	47.8	12.9	41.4	45.6	11.5	39.8	48.6	9.7	42.5	47.8
Ilam	30.0	28.2	41.8	29.9	27.2	43.0	28.0	27.8	44.2	24.0	31.2	44.8
Bushehr	15.1	23.1	61.9	15.9	25.2	58.9	14.2	25.1	60.7	11.8	25.2	62.8
Tehran	2.2	37.4	60.5	1.4	36.7	62.0	1.5	36.7	61.8	1.3	37.1	61.6
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari	22.9	40.8	36.3	23.3	40.3	36.4	19.2	44.3	36.5	15.9	44.8	39.3
South Khorasan	33.9	35.5	30.6	27.5	36.8	35.7	27.7	37.5	34.8	29.2	37.3	33.5
Khorasan-e-Razavi	24.8	26.0	49.2	27.7	27.0	45.3	26.2	28.0	45.8	22.1	28.0	49.9
North Khorasan	38.8	27.9	33.3	36.8	28.2	35.0	37.3	27.4	35.4	36.0	21.4	42.6
Khuzestan	16.2	32.8	51.1	13.9	34.4	51.6	15.0	29.6	55.4	16.5	30.0	53.6
Zanjan	36.2	30.9	32.9	38.7	31.1	30.2	35.9	32.3	31.8	35.8	31.8	32.4
Semnan	14.2	36.6	49.2	10.8	38.8	50.5	11.9	39.0	49.1	11.7	40.4	48.0
Sistan & Baluchestan	22.1	36.2	41.8	19.6	36.3	44.1	20.9	38.6	40.5	17.9	41.3	40.7
Fars	27.0	28.7	44.4	23.7	27.4	48.9	21.6	28.6	49.8	19.3	27.5	53.2
Qazvin	23.5	37.7	38.8	22.6	38.8	38.6	22.2	36.8	41.0	20.4	34.0	45.6
Qom	4.7	38.2	57.1	5.8	38.2	56.0	6.0	38.6	55.4	5.4	40.7	53.9
Kordestan	31.7	25.9	42.5	33.9	22.8	43.4	27.8	26.5	45.7	29.7	17.8	52.5
Kerman	34.8	28.5	36.7	33.6	24.9	41.5	28.9	33.4	37.8	30.7	29.7	39.6
Kermanshah	33.8	21.3	45.0	31.5	23.3	45.2	29.7	24.4	45.9	13.7	20.7	65.6
Kohgiluyeh & Boyer-Ahmad	23.9	28.4	47.7	23.6	29.6	46.8	18.8	32.5	48.6	20.2	28.8	51.1
Golestan	31.8	27.7	40.5	36.0	25.0	39.0	31.3	29.0	39.7	28.1	30.7	41.2
Gilan	35.5	21.5	43.0	30.1	21.6	48.3	16.3	28.7	55.0	16.1	27.8	56.1
Lorestan	35.7	27.3	37.0	35.8	25.3	38.9	32.1	27.8	40.1	29.8	29.9	40.3
Mazandaran	27.2	25.4	47.4	24.3	26.6	49.1	17.6	31.0	51.5	15.1	36.7	48.2
Markazi	24.9	34.8	40.4	24.2	33.3	42.5	24.4	33.4	42.2	19.6	38.6	41.9
Hormozgan	15.6	26.6	57.9	16.6	26.5	56.9	15.9	27.0	57.1	13.5	26.5	60.0
Hamedan	27.1	27.9	45.0	29.2	28.9	41.9	24.7	31.1	44.2	24.6	26.2	49.2
Yazd	11.8	43.5	44.7	12.5	44.3	43.2	10.4	45.4	44.1	10.2	43.2	46.6

Table.5 Main Labor Force Activity Indicators by Province- Years 2009 (21 March 2009- 20 March 2010) -2010 (21 March 2010- 20 March 2011)				
Provinces	Economic Participation Rate		Unemployment rate	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
Total country	38.9	38.3	11.9	13.5
East Azarbayejan	45.5	43.5	10.0	11.7
West Azarbayejan	45.0	42.8	10.7	12.4
Ardebil	46.2	44.3	12.0	14.2
Esfahan	41.8	41.3	12.0	15.3
Ilam	39.9	38.8	12.6	15.8
Bushehr	36.6	34.7	11.7	13.3
Tehran	37.4	37.5	11.9	14.2
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiyari	39.1	39.2	16.4	13.6
South Khorasan	41.5	37.9	7.0	9.1
Khorasan-e-Razavi	41.5	40.8	11.2	10.6
North Khorasan	36.8	33.6	6.4	7.6
Khuzestan	37.6	36.5	13.1	14.9
Zanjan	44.9	44.0	8.4	9.6
Semnan	35.9	35.2	9.1	12.0
Sistan & Baluchestan	30.5	29.9	13.3	12.1
Fars	37.6	36.9	14.4	20.5
Qazvin	35.8	38.2	12.2	11.2
Qom	34.4	35.5	10.8	10.4
Kordestan	39.2	40.6	10.8	15.1
Kerman	34.6	34.1	11.9	11.0
Kermanshah	35.9	35.1	13.8	14.5
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	30.0	30.2	14.8	13.2
Golestan	40.0	39.5	7.1	8.5
Gilan	41.1	41.5	15.3	16.7
Lorestan	37.5	36.3	19.0	17.3
Mazandaran	36.7	38.5	8.1	11.7
Markazi	38.5	37.0	11.2	9.7
Hormozgan	31.8	31.6	6.9	11.2
Hamedan	41.2	38.7	18.0	13.9
Yazd	39.5	37.0	9.0	9.4

Tables 5 and 6 show some of the main labor force activity indicators during the years 2009 (21 March 2009- 20 March 2010) -2010 (21 March 2010- 20 March 2011) by province.

Table.6 Main Activity Groups by Province- Years 2009-2010						
Provinces	Agriculture		Manufacturing		Services	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
Total country	20/9	19.2	31/8	32.2	47/3	48.6
East Azarbayejan	26.1	22.3	39.5	38.2	34.4	39.5
West Azarbayejan	36.5	35.2	22.9	24.7	40.5	40.0
Ardebil	43.2	38.0	22.6	24.8	34.2	37.2
Esfahan	12.4	11.5	41.0	41.1	46.6	47.5
Ilam	32.7	28.0	23.5	28.6	43.9	43.4
Bushehr	13.8	14.2	24.5	24.7	61.7	61.1
Tehran	1.7	1.6	37.5	37.0	60.8	61.5
Chaharmahal & Bakhtiyari	21.1	20.5	39.1	42.5	39.8	37.1
South Khorasan	34.6	29.6	31.0	36.7	34.5	33.7
Khorasan-e-Razavi	24.6	25.4	29.0	27.2	46.4	47.4
North Khorasan	41.5	37.3	27.7	26.3	30.8	36.5
Khuzestan	19.1	15.4	29.9	31.7	51.0	52.9
Zanjan	35.9	36.7	32.1	31.5	32.0	31.8
Semnan	15.4	12.1	34.7	38.6	49.9	49.2
Sistan & Baluchestan	18.4	20.1	40.0	38.1	41.6	41.8
Fars	27.8	23.0	23.2	28.0	49.0	48.9
Qazvin	23.3	22.2	37.0	36.8	39.7	41.0
Qom	5.3	5.5	40.3	38.9	54.4	55.6
Kordestan	29.8	30.8	25.8	23.5	44.4	45.7
Kerman	36.3	31.9	25.8	29.2	37.9	38.9
Kermanshah	30.5	27.6	20.8	22.5	48.7	50.0
Kohgiluyeh & Boyerahmad	24.1	21.6	28.0	29.8	47.9	48.6
Golestan	32.7	31.9	28.1	28.0	39.2	40.1
Gilan	26.8	25.0	24.4	24.7	48.8	50.3
Lorestan	34.4	33.4	24.7	27.6	40.8	39.0
Mazandaran	22.7	21.1	30.2	29.9	47.2	49.0
Markazi	23.6	23.3	35.1	35.0	41.3	41.7
Hormozgan	17.0	15.4	27.5	26.6	55.4	58.0
Hamedan	28.4	26.5	28.3	28.6	42.8	44.9
Yazd	13.0	11.2	43.9	44.1	43.1	44.7