

Lanka's 2018, 4Q economically active population up to 8.5 mn

By the fourth quarter of 2018, the estimated economically active population was about 8.5 million. Of which 64.6 per cent were males and 35.4 per cents were females.

The economically inactive population was about 7.7 million. Out of the economically inactive population 25.8 percent were males and 74.2 percent were females, the quarterly report of Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey published by the Department of Census and Statistics stated.

The report also shows that male participation to the labour force is always higher than that of female.

The distribution of Labour Force Participation Rate by age group and by

Table 1: Economically active population by gender and sector - Fourth Quarter 2018

Sector	Economically active population (in million)					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
All Lanka	8,477,354	100.0	5,475,647	64.6	3,001,707	35.4
Urban	1,408,412	100.0	882,968	62.7	525,444	37.3
Rural	7,068,942	100.0	4,592,679	64.9	2,476,263	35.1
Exports	257,493	100.0	167,745	65.1	89,748	34.9

Table 2: Economically inactive population by gender and sector - Fourth Quarter 2018

Sector	Economically inactive population (in million)					
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
All Lanka	7,746,131	100.0	2,001,421	25.8	5,744,710	74.2
Urban	1,308,918	100.0	528,092	40.3	779,826	59.7
Rural	6,437,213	100.0	1,473,329	22.9	4,963,884	77.1
Exports	259,124	100.0	84,452	32.6	174,672	67.4

gender depicts high male participation compared to female in all age groups. The highest participation rate for male is reported from age group 45—49 years (96.7%), while that for female is reported from 40-45 age group (51.2%).

During fourth quarter of

Table 3: LFPR by gender and year - All Island

Year	Total	Male	Female
2014	57.2	74.8	34.6
2015	63.8	74.7	35.8
2016	64.1	75.1	36.0
2017	64.1	74.5	36.6
2018 Q1	64.0	74.8	36.0
2018 Q2	64.1	74.8	36.4
2018 Q3	62.0	73.4	35.5
2018 Q4	61.1	72.5	32.5
2019 Q1	63.8	72.7	34.0
2019 Q2	62.2	73.2	34.3

2018, the total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka is estimated at about 8.1 million. Of which, about 46.7 percent engaged in Service sector, 27.7 percent in Industries sector and 25.6 percent in Agriculture sector.