

Quarterly wage rate index – 4th Quarter, 2010

1. Introduction

As from the first quarter of 2007, a new series of the quarterly wage rate index, based on the occupational structure of the working population in September 2006 has been introduced. An Economic and Social Indicator (ESI) entitled “Wage Rate Index” giving movements in the index for the four quarters of a year is published around the end of the first quarter of the following year. The ESI for 2010 will be released in April 2011.

To satisfy the requirements of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) towards graduation of Mauritius to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS), the index for a particular quarter is being posted on the website of the Central Statistics Office within the following quarter.

2. Definition of Wage rate index

The wage rate index measures changes in the price of labour, i.e. changes in the average rates actually paid by employers to their employees for work during normal working hours.

3. Key points

3.1 Change from third quarter 2010 to fourth quarter 2010.

- (a) The overall wage rate index increased by 0.2 index point or 0.1%.
- (b) Most industry groups have registered increases in their wage rates whilst a few has registered decreases resulting in a net increase in the overall index.
- (c) Main increases were registered in the following industry groups:

(i)	Real estate, renting and business activities	.....	7.2%
(ii)	Financial Intermediation	.....	2.5%
(iii)	Other community, social and personal services	.....	2.5%
(iv)	Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor Vehicles, motorcycles, personal & household Goods	.....	2.4%

- (d) Main decrease was registered in the following industry group:

(i)	Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	-9.1%
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3.2 Change from fourth quarter 2009 to fourth quarter 2010.

(a) The overall index increased by 4.7%. Apart from the industry group 'Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles, personal & household goods' which has registered a decrease of 0.2% in the wage rate index, all industry groups have shown increases in the wage rates with percentage increases ranging from 0.3% to 14.5%.

(b) Main increases were registered in the following industry groups:

(i)	Real estate, renting and business activities	.....	14.5%
(ii)	Manufacturing, mining & quarrying	.....	8.3%
(iii)	Construction	.....	6.5%
(iv)	Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	.....	6.4%
(v)	Other community, social and personal services	.....	5.5%

4. Note

In addition to changes in basic salaries and wages, the index is also affected by changes in the mix of employees of various categories or with various lengths of service, e.g. intake of new recruits and promotion of staff to higher grades.

Wage rate index by industry group, 1st to 4th quarter 2009 & 2010
(Base : September 2006 = 100)

Industry group	Weights	2009				2010				% change	
		Index Qr 1	Index Qr 2	Index Qr 3	Index Qr 4	Index Q1	Index Q2	Index Q3 ²	Index Q4	from Qr 3 2010 to Qr 4 2010	from Qr 4 2009 to Qr 4 2010
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	61	115.5	119.3	153.8	145.7	134.5	133.6	170.5	155.0	-9.1	6.4
Manufacturing, mining & quarrying	170	121.5	122.5	126.1	125.7	127.5	131.1	133.7	136.1	1.8	8.3
Electricity and water	20	119.9	119.7	138.2	135.3	135.6	136.9	138.7	141.7	2.2	4.7
Construction	37	117.6	122.2	128.1	131.0	129.4	137.6	138.7	139.5	0.6	6.5
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles, personal & household goods	69	128.5	134.7	130.6	132.1	133.5	132.3	128.7	131.8	2.4	-0.2
Hotels and restaurants	64	123.3	127.1	134.8	139.4	140.2	137.3	141.4	144.1	1.9	3.4
Transport, storage & communications	91	125.9	126.4	132.4	135.0	138.4	138.9	139.1	139.4	0.2	3.3
Financial intermediation	61	117.7	117.2	120.4	123.7	125.3	126.5	126.8	130.0	2.5	5.1
Real estate, renting and business activities	54	130.9	132.3	143.2	147.8	155.0	154.8	157.8	169.2	7.2	14.5
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	170	137.2	136.9	140.5	140.8	143.7	146.9	146.8	146.5	-0.2	4.0
Education	124	138.1	137.7	140.4	142.3	143.5	143.6	147.8	142.7	-3.5	0.3
Health & social work	59	136.6	128.8	136.8	136.2	138.3	140.2	139.9	141.0	0.8	3.5
Other community, social and personal services	20	128.2	131.8	130.7	133.1	134.1	133.7	137.0	140.4	2.5	5.5
All sectors	1,000	128.0	128.8	135.0	136.0	137.2	138.6	142.2	142.4	0.1	4.7
<i>of which General Government^{1/}</i>	333	137.7	136.0	140.0	140.1	142.4	144.3	144.7	143.1	-1.1	2.1

^{1/} Ministries, government departments and agencies operating under them; municipalities; district councils and Rodrigues Regional Assembly

² Revised

Breakdown for 'Manufacturing, mining & quarrying'

Manufacturing, mining & quarrying	170	121.5	122.5	126.1	125.7	127.5	131.1	133.7	136.1	1.8	8.3
<i>Food (excluding sugar)</i>	39	116.0	114.9	118.6	122.3	120.6	126.3	126.1	128.6	2.0	5.2
<i>Sugar</i>	9	124.4	123.2	145.0	145.8	137.3	144.5	178.3	172.1	-3.5	18.0
<i>Textiles</i>	70	125.4	127.1	128.7	125.6	129.0	132.9	134.5	137.4	2.2	9.4
<i>Other</i>	52	120.0	121.9	124.9	125.0	128.9	130.0	130.8	134.0	2.4	7.2