

Chapter 4

Labour Force and Employment



4.1 Employment Situation of Young People

Table 4.1a: Economic Activities of Population Aged 14-29⁽¹⁾ (2003)

'000 persons

Statistical Index	Total	Male	Female
Labour Force ⁽²⁾ (Aged 14-29)	48.0	21.7	26.3
Employed Population ⁽³⁾ (Aged 14-29)	44.0	19.1	24.9
Of Which: Underemployed Population ⁽⁴⁾	0.7	0.4	0.3
Unemployed Population ⁽⁵⁾ (Aged 14-29)	4.0	2.6	1.4
			%
Labour Force Participation Rate ⁽⁶⁾ (Aged 14-29)	46.0	43.9	47.9
Unemployment Rate ⁽⁷⁾ (Aged 14-29)	8.4	12.1	5.3
Underemployment Rate ⁽⁸⁾ (Aged 14-29)	1.4	1.9	1.0

Source: Statistics and Census Bureau, 2004.

Note: (1) The survey has been conducted by random sampling. Subjects included all people living within housing units on Macao Peninsula, Taipa and Coloane, but excluding marine population and persons living in collective living quarters (such as military barracks, hospitals, prisons, student dormitories and elderly homes).

According to Macao's labour laws, under certain circumstances, the legal working age is 14 or above. The above table therefore provides figures for the labour force aged 14-29.

(2) Labour force: this refers to the total number of people aged 14 or above who were available to participate in the production of goods or provision of services during the reference period. This comprises the employed population and unemployed population.

(3) Employed population: this refers to the total number of people aged 14 or above who had worked for at least 1 hour during the reference period in return for remuneration, profits or family gains in cash or in kind. This also includes those individuals who are employed but are absent from work and still maintain formal employment relationship with the employer, or owners of businesses, who for some special reasons do not go to work on a temporary basis.

(4) Underemployed population: refers to those people in the employed population, who regardless of their occupation, involuntarily worked less than 35 hours during the reference period, and were available to take on more work or were currently looking for additional work.

(5) Unemployed population: this refers to the total number of people who are aged 14 or above and fulfilled all of the following conditions during the reference period: had no work or any employment relationship with an employer; were available for paid work or operating his/her own business; and have been looking for work for the past 30 days.

(6) Labour force participation rate: refers to the proportion of labour force in the resident population aged 14 and above.

(7) Unemployment rate: the percentage of unemployed people in the labour force.

(8) Underemployment rate: the percentage of underemployed people in the labour force.

In 2003, amongst the youth population i.e. aged 14-29, for every 1,000 men, there were 439 who were available to participate in economic activities, while the participation rate for women was 479 per 1000 in the same age range.

Statistics on the unemployment situation show that for every 1,000 working men in the labour force aged 14-29, 121 were unemployed, while the number of unemployed women per 1000 working women in the same age range was 53.

As for underemployment, 19 out of 1,000 working men aged between 14 and 29 were underemployed, while the underemployment rate for working women was 10 per 1000 in the same age range.

Table 4.1b: Unemployment Rate in Labour Force Aged 14-29⁽¹⁾ by Age Group (2003)

%

Age Group	Unemployment Rate
14-19	21.8
20-24	9.6
25-29	4.8

Source: Statistics and Census Bureau (2004).

Note: (1) The survey has been conducted by random sampling. Subjects included all people living within housing units on Macao Peninsula, Taipa and Coloane, but excluding marine population and persons living in collective living quarters (such as military barracks, hospitals, prisons, student dormitories and elderly homes).

According to Macao's labour laws, under certain circumstances, the legal working age is 14 or above. The above table therefore provides figures for the labour force aged 14-29.

Labour force: this refers to the total number of people aged 14 or above who were available to participate in the production of goods or provision of services during the reference period. This comprises the employed population and unemployed population.

Unemployment rate: the percentage of unemployed people in the labour force.

In the youth labour force i.e. aged 14-29, the unemployment rates for the three age groups i.e. 14-19, 20-24, and 25-29 were 21.8%, 9.6% and 4.8% respectively.

4.2 Average Income of Young People

Table 4.2: Median Monthly Employment Earnings of Employed Population Aged 14-29⁽¹⁾ by Age Group (2003)

Age Group	Median Employment Earnings
Overall (total of aged 14-29)	4,403
14-19	2,531
20-24	3,734
25-29	5,691

Source: Statistics and Census Bureau, 2004.

Note: (1) The survey has been conducted by random sampling. Subjects included all people living within housing units on Macao Peninsula, Taipa and Coloane, but excluding marine population and persons living in collective living quarters (such as military barracks, hospitals, prisons, student dormitories and elderly homes).

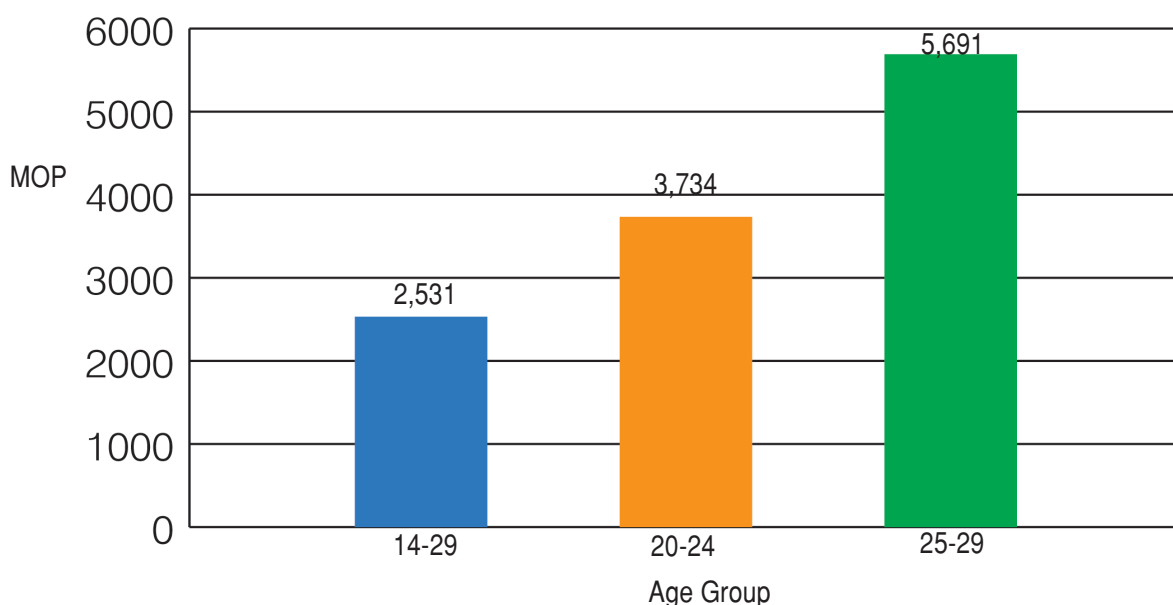
According to Macao's labour laws, under certain circumstances, the legal working age is 14 or above. The above table therefore provides figures for the labour force aged 14-29.

Employed population: this refers to the total number of people aged 14 or above who had worked for at least 1 hour during the reference period in return for remuneration, profits or family gains in cash or in kind. This also includes those individuals who are employed but are absent from work and still maintain formal employment relationship with the employer, or owners of businesses, who for some special reasons do not go to work on a temporary basis.

Employment earnings: For employees, this has the same definition as "remuneration". For non-employees, this refers to the gross value of production minus production expenditure and asset depreciation.

In 2003, for the youth employed population i.e. employed individuals aged 14-29, the overall median monthly employment earnings was 4,403 Macao patacas (MOP). The median figures for the age groups of 14-19, 20-24 and 25-29 were MOP 2,531, 3,734 and 5,691 respectively.

Figure 11: Median Monthly Employment Earnings of Employed Population Aged 14-29 by Age Group (2003)



4.3 Composition of Youth Labour Force and their Skills

Table 4.3: Distribution of the Employed Population Aged 14-29 by Occupation and Employment Status ⁽¹⁾ (2003) %

Occupation	Total	Employment Status	
		Employee	Non-employee
Professionals	4.5	4.5	0
Technicians and Associate Professionals	12.9	12.7	0.2
Clerks	30.4	30.1	0.2
Workers in Services and Sales and Similar Fields	23.2	22.2	1.0
Craftsmen and Similar Workers	5.4	5.3	0.1
Plant and Machine Operators, Drivers and Assemblers	12.8	12.7	0.1
Unskilled Workers	8.5	8.4	0.1
Others	2.3	1.8	0.6
Total	100.0	97.7	2.3

Source: Statistics and Census Bureau, 2004.

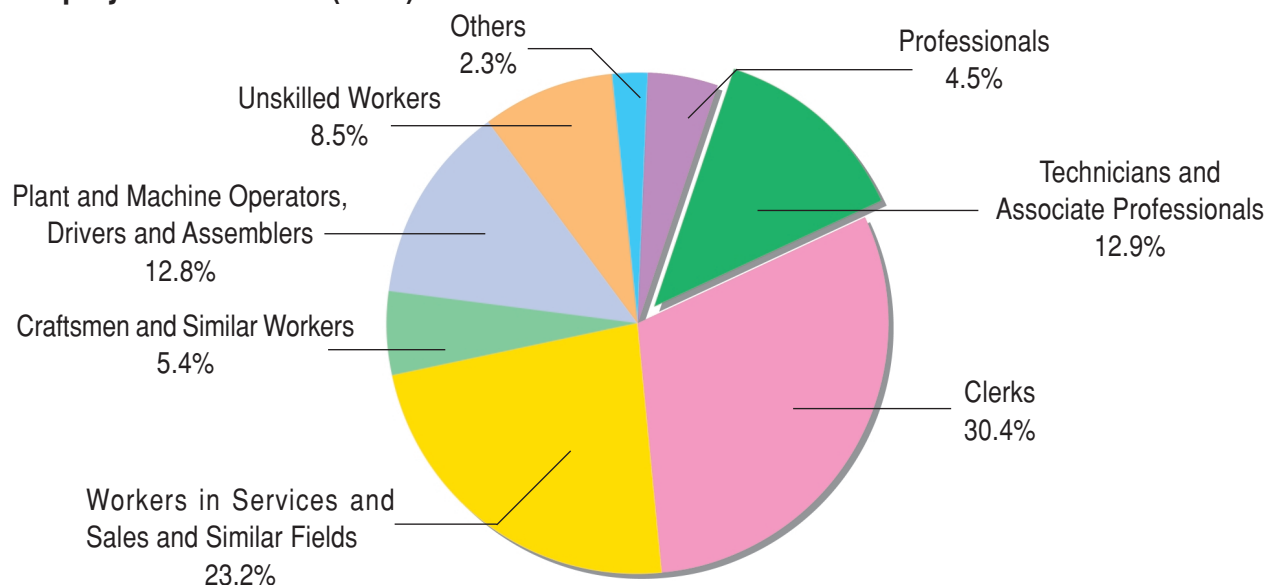
Note: (1) The survey has been conducted by random sampling. Subjects included all people living within housing units on Macao Peninsula, Taipa and Coloane, but excluding marine population and persons living in collective living quarters (such as military barracks, hospitals, prisons, student dormitories and elderly homes).

According to Macao's labour laws, under certain circumstances, the legal working age is 14 or above. The above table therefore provides figures for the labour force aged 14-29.

Employed population: this refers to the total number of people aged 14 or above who had worked for at least 1 hour during the reference period in return for remuneration, profits or family gains in cash or in kind. This also includes those individuals who are employed but are absent from work and still maintain formal employment relationship with the employer, or owners of businesses, who for some special reasons do not go to work on a temporary basis.

According to an employment survey conducted in 2003, amongst the employed population aged 14-29 in Macao, 97.7% were employees, while 2.3% were non-employees. A breakdown by job nature indicated the majority were clerical workers (30.4%), while the second largest group was workers in services, sales and similar fields (23.2%).

Figure 12: Distribution of the Employed Population Aged 14-29 by Occupation and Employment Status ⁽¹⁾ (2003)



4.4 Relationship Between Educational Attainment and Income

Table 4.4: Monthly Median Employment Earnings for Employed Population Aged 14-29 by Educational Attainment ⁽¹⁾ (2003)

Educational Attainment	Median Employment Earnings
Overall (Total Population Aged 14-29)	4,403
Never Attended School/Pre-school Education	3,275
Primary Education	3,550
Secondary Education	3,734
Higher Education	7,691

MOP

Source: Statistics and Census Bureau, 2004.

Note: (1) The survey has been conducted by random sampling. Subjects included all people living within housing units on Macao Peninsula, Taipa and Coloane, but excluding marine population and persons living in collective living quarters (such as military barracks, hospitals, prisons, student dormitories and elderly homes). According to Macao's labour laws, under certain circumstances, the legal working age is 14 or above. The above table therefore provides figures for the labour force aged 14-29. Employed population: this refers to the total number of people aged 14 or above who had worked for at least 1 hour during the reference period in return for remuneration, profits or family gains in cash or in kind. This also includes those individuals who are employed but are absent from work and still maintain formal employment relationship with the employer, or owners of businesses, who for some special reasons do not go to work on a temporary basis. Employment earnings: For employees, this has the same definition as "remuneration". For non-employees, this refers to the gross value of production minus production expenditure and asset depreciation.

According to the 2003 employment survey, the overall median monthly employment earnings of age groups between 14-29 in Macao was MOP 4,403. A further analysis by educational attainment of the workers showed that the median monthly earnings was MOP 3,275 for those who have never attended school or with only pre-school education, whilst the respective figures for those individuals with only primary education, secondary education, and higher education were MOP 3,550, 3,734 and 7,691 respectively. The difference between the highest and lowest median monthly earnings was MOP 4,416.

Figure 13: Monthly Median Employment Earnings for Employed Population Aged 14-29 by Educational Attainment ⁽¹⁾ (2003)

