

Table A.6
Labour Market: Selected Indicators

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008e
	(number of positions/persons)				
Vacancies Reported by Industry¹					
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishery	1,373	40,438	188,104	226,759	275,548
Mining and quarrying	41	150	861	1,163	1,450
Manufacturing	17,769	112,542	348,302	275,155	327,798
Construction	3,505	48,524	129,586	117,217	107,421
Services	18,624	63,441	154,902	204,599	346,763
<i>Electricity, gas and water supply</i>	198	859	2,227	1,477	2,047
<i>Wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants</i>	5,221	23,921	67,956	66,600	99,317
<i>Transport, storage and communication</i>	1,046	3,892	8,287	12,578	15,264
<i>Financial intermediation, real estate, renting and business services</i>	6,162	13,874	26,642	50,235	125,821
<i>Public administration, defence and compulsory social security</i>	1,224	2,497	3,539	11,287	11,132
<i>Community, social and personal service activities</i>	4,773	18,398	46,251	62,422	93,182
Others not elsewhere classified	8,663	39,405	12,920	289	0
Total vacancies	49,975	304,500	834,675	825,182	1,058,980
Retrenchment by Industry					
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishery	608	243	312	255	398
Mining and quarrying	120	355	78	61	89
Manufacturing	12,333	11,802	8,890	9,970	11,014*
Construction	1,041	411	603	291	199
Services	5,854	3,298	5,477	3,458	4,769
<i>Electricity, gas and water supply</i>	0	0	65	5	77
<i>Wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants</i>	1,402	1,294	2,327	1,929	2,052
<i>Transport, storage and communication</i>	2,287	802	1,521	322	773
<i>Financial intermediation, real estate, renting and business services</i>	1,361	463	983	761	1,008
<i>Community, social and personal service activities</i>	804	739	581	441	859
Total retrenchments	19,956	16,109	15,360	14,035	16,469
Employment by Industry² ('000 persons)					
Agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishery	1,406.9	1,401.3	1,392.4	1,389.8	1,388.7
Mining and quarrying	42.6	42.7	42.6	42.9	42.8
Manufacturing	2,972.4	3,133.2	3,227.2	3,296.6	3,337.6
Construction	767.3	759.6	755.2	757.3	758.4
Services	5,274.5	5,555.9	5,741.7	5,911.4	5,997.1
<i>Electricity, gas and water supply</i>	89.9	93.0	95.0	96.8	97.6
<i>Transport, storage and communication</i>	594.3	630.6	646.4	660.0	670.1
<i>Wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants</i>	1,729.6	1,861.5	1,930.4	1,957.7	1,979.6
<i>Finance, insurance, real estate and business services</i>	695.0	734.4	767.5	789.7	796.8
<i>Government services</i>	1,098.6	1,118.4	1,152.5	1,225.6	1,247.0
<i>Other services</i>	1,067.1	1,118.1	1,150.0	1,181.6	1,205.8
Total employment	10,463.7	10,892.8	11,159.0	11,398.0	11,524.7
Unemployment rate² (% of labour force)	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.7

e Estimates

¹ Refers to vacancies reported by employers through the Electronic Labour Exchange (ELX). From 2005 onwards, companies were required to first post vacancies with the ELX before they could apply to hire foreign workers

² Refers to estimates by Economic Planning Unit

* Excludes 7,564 retrenched workers from a company that was taken over, and rehired immediately by the new owner

Source: Economic Planning Unit and Ministry of Human Resources