

## Employment, unemployment and wages in Kerala

**Table 1**  
**Distribution of employment (workers) in Kerala 2017-18, Usual Status (ps + ss)**

<b>Broad Industry Division</b>		<b>Rural (in %)</b>	<b>Urban (in %)</b>	<b>Rural+ Urban (in %)</b>
A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	26.65	10.91	19.85
B	Mining and quarrying	0.36	0.12	0.26
<b>Primary</b>		<b>27.01</b>	<b>11.03</b>	<b>20.11</b>
C	Manufacturing	10.23	12.73	11.31
D	Electricity, gas, etc	0.36	0.44	0.40
E	Water supply, waste management, etc	0.11	0.43	0.25
F	Construction	19.68	18.36	19.11
<b>Secondary</b>		<b>30.38</b>	<b>31.96</b>	<b>31.07</b>
G	Trade, repair of motor vehicles	12.26	16.33	14.02
H	Transportation and storage	8.90	9.60	9.21
I	Accommodation and food service	2.79	2.68	2.74
J	Information and communication	0.97	2.14	1.47
K	Financial and insurance	2.13	4.08	2.97
L	Real estate	0.18	0.26	0.22
M	Professional, scientific and technical	0.76	2.05	1.32
N	Administrative and support service	1.30	2.19	1.68
O	Public administration and defence	1.93	2.35	2.11
P	Education	4.60	5.43	4.96
Q	Human health and social work	2.85	4.25	3.46
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.44	0.81	0.60
S	Other services	2.53	2.92	2.70
T	Activities of households	0.95	1.94	1.38
<b>Tertiary</b>		<b>42.59</b>	<b>57.03</b>	<b>48.82</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: NSO (2019), *Periodic Labour Force Survey 2017–2018*.

**Table 2****Distribution of workers in usual status (ps + ss) in Kerala (2017-18)**

Category	Category of Employment			
	Self-Employed (in %)	Regular Wage/Salary (in %)	Casual Labour (in %)	All (in %)
	<b>Rural</b>			
Male	40.7	24.7	34.6	100.0
Female	30.5	41.3	28.2	100.0
Person	38.0	29.2	32.9	100.0
	<b>Urban</b>			
Male	40.9	31.3	27.8	100.0
Female	28.5	55.7	15.8	100.0
Person	37.6	37.8	24.6	100.0
	<b>Rural +Urban</b>			
Male	40.8	27.5	31.7	100.0
Female	29.6	47.5	22.9	100.0
Person	37.8	32.9	29.3	100.0

Source: NSO (2019), *Periodic Labour Force Survey 2017—2018*.

**Table 3****Unemployment Rate in Kerala (2017--18) as per Usual Status (ps + ss)**

Category	Kerala (age group) (in %)		India (age group) (%)	
	15--29 years	15 years & above	15--29 years	15 years & above
	<b>Rural</b>			
Male	20.5	5.9	17.4	5.7
Female	61.7	19.6	13.6	3.8
Person	32.5	10.0	16.6	5.3
<b>Urban</b>				
Male	27.4	6.6	18.7	6.9
Female	65.2	27.4	27.2	10.8
Person	41.5	13.2	20.6	7.7
<b>Rural + Urban</b>				
Male	23.3	6.2	17.8	6.1
Female	63.4	23.2	17.9	5.6
Person	36.3	11.4	17.8	6.0

Source: NSO (2019), *Periodic Labour Force Survey 2017—2018*.

**Table 4**  
**Unemployment rate of educated in Kerala (2017--18)**  
**as per Usual Status (ps + ss) Rural + Urban (%)**

Category	Kerala			India		
	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person
Secondary	4.3	19.7	7.8	5.7	6.3	5.7
Higher secondary	10.5	46.6	22.6	9.4	15.4	10.3
Diploma/certificate course	18.6	27.1	21.6	18.8	24.6	19.8
Graduate	15.6	46.7	30.6	14.7	27.5	17.2
Post graduate and above	18.4	29.0	24.5	10.4	24.3	14.6
Secondary and above	11.0	35.3	19.8	9.9	18.5	11.4

*Source: NSO (2019), Periodic Labour Force Survey 2017—2018.*

**Table 5**

**Worker population ratio (WPR) according to usual status (2017-18)**

<b>Age group</b>	<b>All India (Rural+Urban)</b>			<b>Kerala (Rural+Urban)</b>		
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Person</b>
15-29 years	48.3	13.5	31.4	40.1	8.6	23.8
15-59 years	74.9	23.8	49.5	73.4	24	46.8
15 years and above	71.2	22	46.8	65.8	20.4	41.2
All ages	52.1	16.5	34.7	50.5	16.4	32.4

Source: GoK (2021), Economic Review 2020, Volume 2: KSPB

**Table 6**  
**Average wage earnings (Rs) per day from casual labour work other than public works**  
**in current weekly status (CWS) in India and Kerala (April-June 2019)**

Category	Kerala		India	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Rural	732.17	388.32	297.44	199.24
Urban	680.32	372.25	367.65	244.15

Source: GoK (2021), Economic Review 2020, Volume 2: KSPB

**Table 7**  
**Average gross earnings during the 30 days from self-employment among self-employed persons in CWS in India and Kerala (in Rs) (April-June 2019)**

Category	Kerala		India	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Rural	14,691.94	5,981.29	9,543.22	4,334.78
Urban	15,940.48	6,431.70	18,001.24	6,754.80

Source: GoK (2021), Economic Review 2020, Volume 2: KSPB