

# STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TONGA

## Population Census 2006

### Press release No. 14

#### 1. Labour force participation rate and employment–population ratio

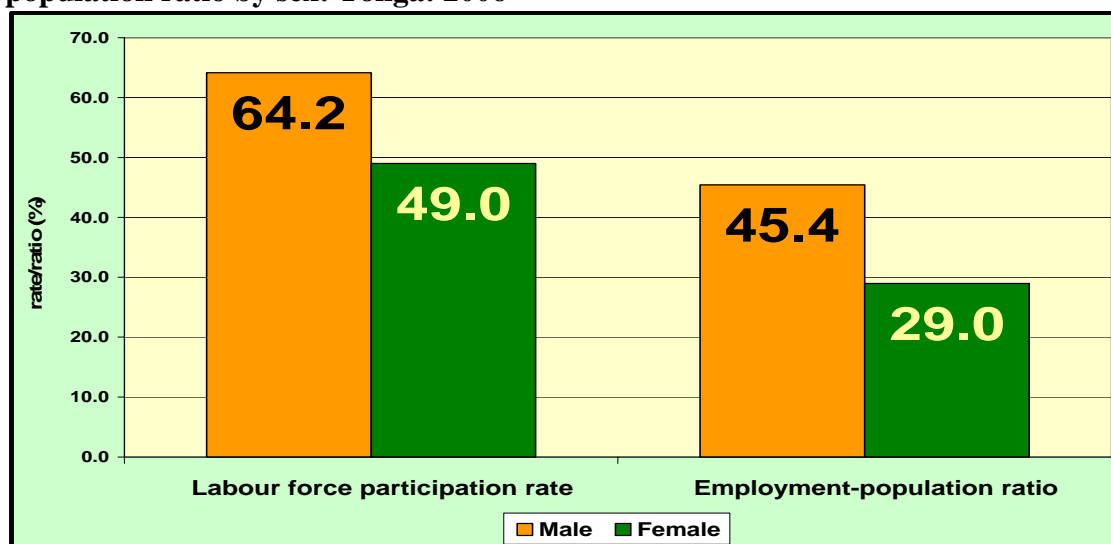
The labour force participation rate is the number of people in the labour force by a given age and sex and/or place of rural–urban residence, divided by the corresponding total population with the same characteristics, multiplied by 100.

The employment–population ratio is the number of people employed in cash work by a given age and sex and/or place of rural–urban residence, divided by the corresponding total population with the same characteristics, multiplied by 100.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the labour force participation rate and the employment–population ratio for the total population aged 15 years and older by sex, and Table 1 distributes the same indicators by urban and rural areas.

The labour force participation rates were higher for males than for females, and also higher for rural than urban populations. In contrast, the employment–population ratio was higher for the urban than the rural population.

**Figure 1: Population 15 years and older by labor force participation rate and employment–population ratio by sex: Tonga: 2006**



**Table 1: Population aged 15 and older by sex, urban–rural residence, labour force participation rate, and employment–population ratio, Tonga: 2006**

	Labour force participation rate	Employment-population ratio
<b>Tonga</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>37.2</b>
Males	64.2	45.4
Females	49	29
<b>Urban</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>40.7</b>
Males	60.3	50.3
Females	43.6	31.4
<b>Rural</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>36</b>
Males	65.4	43.9
Females	50.8	28.2

The *labour force participation rate* and the *employment–population ratio* were higher for males than for females at all ages. The *labour force* participation rate for females did not exceed 70% at any age, while that of males was 86% at ages 40–44.

In terms of *employment–population ratio* almost 70% of all males aged 40–44 were employed as paid workers. This was less than half of all females at the same age. The highest percentage of female paid workers was with 44% at ages 40–44.

A general pattern was the very low participation rates at ages 15–19 years, and the relatively high participation rates at ages 60 years and older, indicating that many older people keep providing economically for themselves and their household/families.

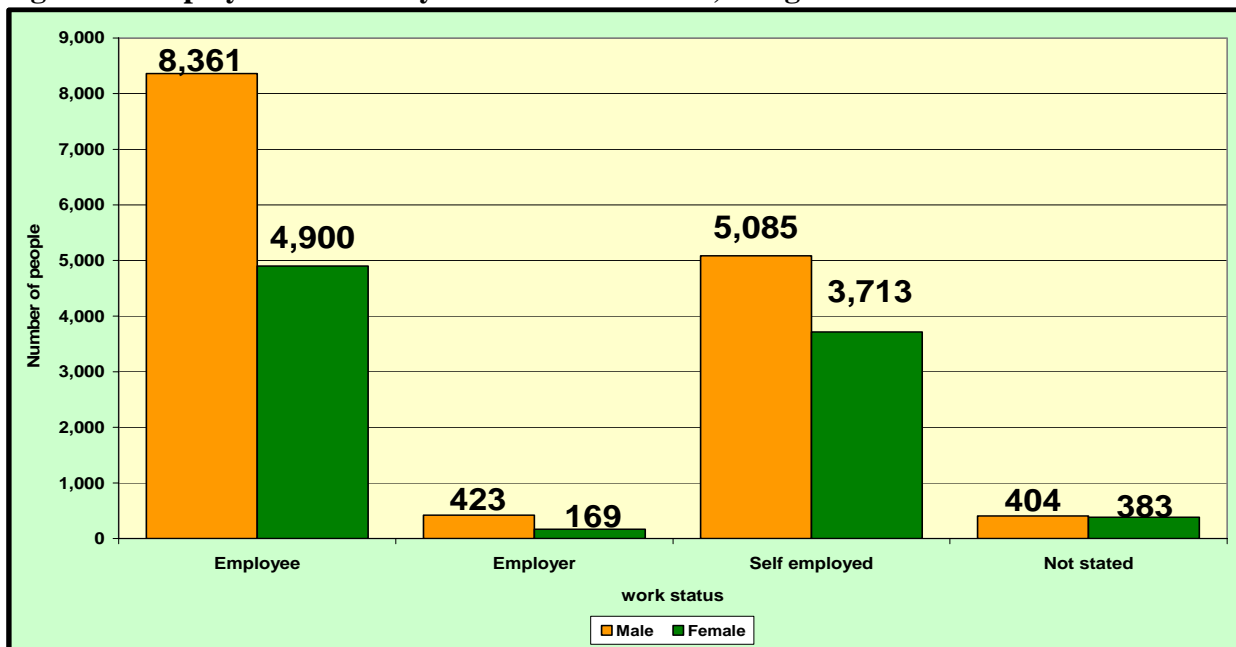
The employment-population ratios are distributed into 2 categories. It shows participation rates that include all people that work for cash (whether contract worker or self employed), and another category that only includes paid workers, person who worked for wages, salary, contract, commission or were operating a business. (Hence excluding self employed people that do farming, fishing or produce handicrafts for sale).

It can be seen that participation rates were less than 50% of males at any age, and less than 30% for females at any age. The highest participation rates for males were at age group 40-44 years (48%) and for females at age group 25-29 years (29%).

## 2. Employed workers by work status

About 57% of all paid workers were employees: 8,361 males and 4,900 females (Fig. 2).

**Figure 2: Employed workers by work status and sex, Tonga: 2006**



There were only 592 employers, which is 3% of all paid workers. Another 8,798 (38%) people were self employed; 5,085 males and 3,713 females. In any of the work status categories, there were considerably more male than female employed workers in 2006.

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