



# Economic and Social News

**Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board**

962 Krung Kasem Road, Pomprab, Bangkok 10100

Tel 0-2628-2847 Fax 0-2628-2846 www.nesdb.go.th e-mail : pr@nesdb.go.th

## Thailand's Social Development in Q4/2016 and Overall Situations in 2016

The Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) released the official report on Thailand's social development in the fourth quarter of 2016 and overall situations throughout the year, of which key positive developments were increases in both income and labour productivity, declining number of patients diagnosed with diseases under Surveillance, improvement in security of life and property, increases in saving for retirement among the Thai people, and a decline in consumers' complaints. However, there were still some major pressing issues requiring close monitoring including unemployment and employment issues, the need to have the Thai education system's quality urgently improved, patients diagnosed with influenza and Non-Communicable diseases (NCDs), alcohol consumptions among youth, road traffic accidents, and the implementation of universal design in the society. Details of the key social situations are described as follows.

**Employment declined, with a slight increase in unemployment rate. Income and labour productivity increased.**

Employment in the agricultural sector declined in Q4/2016 as cultivation had to be postponed due to damaged farming areas caused by the floods. Employment in the non-agricultural sector also declined, but only in the manufacturing and transportation sectors, whilst it increased in construction, wholesale and retail, as well as hotel and restaurant sectors. Thus, the overall unemployment rate in Q4/2016 was recorded at 0.97 percent, with a slight increase in the average working hours in the private sector from 47.1 hours/week last year to 48.9 hours/week this year, reflecting the sign of economic recovery. As for 2016, the unemployment rate was slightly higher than that of 2015 at 0.99 percent, while wages and salaries, excluding overtime pay and other benefits increased by 1.8 percent and so did labour productivity by 4.1 percent, dividing into a 2.7 percent increase in the non-agricultural sector and a 5.1 percent increase in the agricultural sector.

Anticipated issues that may impact employment and labour income in 2017 are as follows:

1. Employment in the agricultural sector: despite the weather seems to have resumed its normality, the devastating impacts from the floods occurred between December 2016 to January 2017 still remained, causing damages to the general public and farmers totaling up to 1,095,302 Rais of agricultural lands, 96,114 Sq.M. of fishery and 8,882,014 of live stocks. Thus, further assistance is still required to help those affected. Furthermore, even though the overall amount of water stored in all dams nationwide as a reserve for the drought season is at its normal level the same as 2013, the water level in some of the dams is,

however, below its normal level, including Lam Pao Dam, Lamtakong Dam, Lam Phra Phloeng Dam and Pa Sak Jolasid Dam, which may result in insufficient amount of water needed for agricultural activities. However, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives has already come up with some measures designed to keep up with such issues, including, artificial rain, water reserve and management as well as cultivation plan for the drought season.

2. Unemployment: Even though the unemployment rate was still considerably low in 2016 with the approximated rate of 1.0 percent, the trend was on the continual rise since 2013-2015 from 0.8 percent, 0.9 percent and 0.9 percent respectively. In January 2017, the unemployment rate was recorded at 1.2 percent. Furthermore, it has been forecasted that there would be approximately .55 million new graduates who are ready to enter the labour market in 2017, of which 61 percent are those with tertiary educational attainment.

**Labour Force Survey in Q4/ 2016**

	2015			2016		
	Q3	Q4	Year	Q3	Q4	Year
Total labor force (Millions)	38.7	37.8	38.5	38.7	37.9	38.3
1. Employed (Millions)	38.3	38.4	38.0	38.3	37.4	37.7
(%YoY)	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-2.5	-0.9
1.1 Agriculture (%YoY)	-3.8	-0.7	-3.6	-2.3	-6.0	-4.3
1.2 Non-agriculture (%YoY)	1.7	0.8	1.6	0.9	-0.7	0.8
2. Unemployed (Millions)	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Unemployment rate (%)	0.92	0.80	0.88	0.94	0.97	1.0
3. Seasonally inactive labor force (Millions)	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Share to labor force (%)	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.5
Source: National Statistical Office						

However, the economy has been forecasted to be growing at the rate of 3.0-4.0 percent in 2017, with expansions in nearly all sectors, especially in the private investment. Exports are also believed to have its growth improved after facing with some sluggishness in the past 2-3 years. Thus, such anticipated economic expansions are believed to result in increases in job offers and employment opportunities for the new comers.

3. Labour market's adaptation to the digital era 4.0: Such revolution will have entrepreneurs adapted in various aspects, including increases in the use of advanced machines in their productions for higher efficiency and less reliance on labours as well as financing and marketing that need to be easier accessed by customers/clients and are more flexible. This will inevitably result in changes in labour demand, both in terms of qualifications and compensations. Currently, the government has set some development goals to have Thai people become "Productive Manpower" through its well-designed and well-thought-out international standard manpower development and training measures and programs in accord with the government's commitment to push forward the country towards Thailand 4.0 goal.

**Improvement of the quality of the Thai's education system to effectively prepare school-age children and young people to be ready for Thailand 4.0.** In 2015, it was reported that only 80 percent of Thai people received formal education, with an average 8.5 years of schooling which was still below that of required for the basic education level. Moreover, the ONET scores also revealed that despite having higher average scores achieved

in 2015, compared to 2014, the 2015's scores of the core subjects were still below 50 percent. At the international scale, when comparing PISA and TIMSS scores, it was found that Thailand was still ranked near the bottom range. Consequently, the government has designed numerous measures aimed to have the quality of the education system improved in all aspects, including the promotion of integrated learning process of STEMs and better education achievement in the PISA scores, with additional 100 scores being achieved in all aspects, as specified in the drafted National Education System Plan 2017-2036. Furthermore, it is crucially important to have Thai people developed to be equipped with the ability to think and analyze, based on symmetric information and correct rationales, skills required for future jobs in the global market, problem solving skills required for the more complex business world, creativity, as well as ability to employ innovation and technology in businesses.

**The overall number of patients diagnosed with diseases under surveillance decreased, but more attention needed to be place on monitoring those diagnosed with influenza as it has consistently risen.** The number of patients diagnosed with diseases under surveillance decreased in Q4/2017 by 3.8 percent, compared to Q4/2016, with those diagnosed with dengue fever drastically reduced by 70.5 percent as mainly a result of the government's strict and close monitoring and prevention which successfully led to the disease being less spread. In terms of the whole 2016, the total number of patients diagnosed with diseases under surveillance increased from 2015 by 15.8 percent. The majority of such high increase was those diagnosed with influenza that rose 3 folds, as patients have consistently been discovered since late 2016. The Department of Communicable Disease Control has forecasted that influenza outbreak is to be expected in 2017 with the total estimated number of patients around 320,000 people, doubling the number of the previous year. Additionally, the spreading of bird flu needs to be closely watched, while Zika virus situation also needs to be carefully monitored. Throughout 2016, Thailand had continuously conducted numerous strict monitoring, preventative and control measures of Zika virus, resulting in declining newly diagnosed patients with such virus. However, such measures will still need to be concentrated continually throughout 2017, especially among the vulnerable group of infected pregnant women.

**Non-Communicable diseases (NCDs) were still a pressing health related issue of which the situation seemed to intensify.** Patients diagnosed with NCDs in 2015 continually increased from 2014. Those with cancer and tumours of all types demonstrated the most striking hike of 23.9 percent, followed by 23.1 percent increases among those with Ischaemic heart disease, 20.8 percent of stroke, 19.6 percent of diabetes, and 10.9 percent of high blood pressure. Also, the number of deaths was on the rise, with cancer and tumours of all types still being the number one leading cause of death. Many control and preventative measures have consistently been in place, however, NCDs situations have not yet been improved. Thus, all associated parties will need to seriously tackle the problem in a more

integrative manner, in order to get the general public to become more health-conscious by adjusting their behaviours in consumption, exercise and avoiding risky behaviours, so that the number of patients and premature deaths can be prevented.

**Expenditure on alcohol consumption decreased, but increasing consumption of such goods among youths seemed to be on the rise, of which a close monitor is needed.** The expenditure on alcoholic consumption in Q4/2016 valued approximately at about 38,415 million baht, a significant decline by 10.8 percent from Q4/2015. On the contrary, expenditure on cigarette consumption was 13,844 million baht, a notable rise by 6.5 percent reduction from Q4/2015. However, according to the survey conducted by the National Statistical Office, it showed that alcohol consumption among Thai people seemed to continuously be on the rise from 30 percent (15.36 million people) in 2007 to 34 percent (18.64 million people) in 2015. Such the alarming trend was apparent among the 15-24 year old youth group, of which the consumption rose from 22.2 percent in 2007 to 29.5 percent in 2015. Furthermore, 39.9 percent of alcohol consumers were regular drinkers, which is defined as those who drink more than once a week, and 12.0 percent were those aged 15-24 years old, reflecting that alcohol consumption is still a pressing issue that needs to be seriously tackled by all who are involved. The government has been continuously exerting effort in trying to control alcohol access among youth as well as to lower of alcohol consumers through various rules and measures, such as campaigning, law enforcement to control alcohol beverage serving in entertainment facilities as well as the enactment of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, B.E. 2551 (2008).

**Violence against children and women was majorly done by people they trusted.** According to the statistical data on children and women who were victims of violence seeking assistance at the One-Stop Crisis Centre of the Ministry of Public Health, it was revealed that between 2007-2015 the total number of violence victims who were children and women was rounded up to about 207,891 cases, divided into 105,622 cases against children and 102,269 cases against women. In 2016, the number of distressed children and women seeking assistance from the center was 20,018 cases. Negligence by family members and the lack of proper care were the main causes of sexual abuses among children, which were mostly done by those who were close to and trusted by the victims, such as boyfriends followed by friends. As for women victims, the main causes were relationships in their families, infidelity, jealousy and disputes and those who committed such violence were usually spouses, followed by boyfriends. The government has implemented various preventative, monitoring and corrective measures for this issue, including the set-up of the One-Stop Crisis Centre for distressed child and woman victims of violence, development of complaint notification and screening system, preliminary assistance provision, an integrated referral system of abused children and the enforcement of the Gender Equality Act B.E. 2558.

**The overall number of crime cases dropped as a result of the continuous crime prevention and suppression by the authority.** The number of crime cases recorded in 2016 declined from that of 2015 by 6.3 percent, with cases against life, body and sex dropping by 19.8 percent, followed by that of against belongings of 18.2 percent and narcotics of 3.1 percent. However, the crime cases in Q4/2016 rose by 6.2 percent compared to Q4/2015, with narcotics cases increasing by 14.8 percent while cases against life, body and sex and cases against belongings saw the drops of 34.4 percent and 18.7 percent respectively. Thus, the general public's safety increased due to the government's emphasis on preventative and corrective measures aimed to deal with drug and narcotic problems through the Public-Private Collaboration mechanism that draws on involvement and contribution of all related parties, making it easy to reach out to local communities. Furthermore, the government's active strategy on crime preventative measures focused on participation from local communities and the general public also played a great role in such successful reduction in crime cases. However, more strict law enforcement is still needed to be in place, as well as effective campaigns to raise awareness and immunity to drugs and knowledge management to the general public and targeted vulnerable groups so that they can avoid becoming victims of any crimes.

**Effort to reduce road traffic accidents through the development of multimodal public transport that is both safe and high in quality.** The total number of road traffic accidents and deaths in Q4/2016 increased by 21.6 percent and 29.3 percent respectively, whilst the value of damages took a different opposite direction as it declined by 72.7 percent. Throughout 2016, the total number of road traffic accidents and deaths increased by 20.7 percent and 31.5 percent respectively. Road traffic accidents caused by public passenger vans sharply increased by 11.2 percent. During the New Year of 2016, the number of accidents and deaths rose by 16 percent and 25.8 percent respectively, and recklessness among vans' drivers was one of the main reason behind such figures, despite the government's strict operations under the integrated road traffic accident prevention and reduction during the 2017's New Year plan. Thus, the government has been hastily trying to improve the standards and quality of the mass transit system to ensure increased safety for the general public, including drivers' monitoring, back-up drivers, rest time specification, GPS installation, and the promotion to have 20-seat minibuses in operation by 1 July 2017, in replacement of public vans, as well as the development of quality multimodal public transport that is sufficient for the public's demand and needs. Relate law enforcement also needs to be in place and exercised religiously as a means to urge drives and road users to be more considerate and take safety into account.

**Saving for retirement increased.** The number of insured persons in the social security system in 2017 totaled up to 14.0 million, a slight 1.8 percent increase from that of 2015, of which 2.24 million insured persons were self-employed persons under Section 40. Furthermore,

the number of the National Saving Fund's members also went up to 0.52 million people, a pleasant increase of 31.6 percent from 2016. The majority of the members are usually farmers, vendors and unemployed individuals, with the age ranges between 30-50 years old. However, the initial saving has been delayed for some members that may not be sufficient for their retirement. At the same time, there were approximately 18 million employed persons, equivalence of more than 50 percent of the workforce, still did not have any proper income security for retirement, especially those in the informal sector. Thus, people need to be made aware of and understand the importance of saving, so that more Thai people will take part in any forms of systematic saving fund, increase their saving as well as properly manage their retirement income in order to have sufficient income that lasts throughout their retirement.

**Consumers' complaints declined, but more protection still needed especially for ICT products.** The number of complaints lodged by the general public to both the Office of the Consumer Protection Board and the Office of The National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission declined by 5.5 percent and 9.6 percent respectively, compared to Q4/2015. However, compared to the entire 2015 year, the number of complaints increased in 2016 by 4.1 percent as direct sales and direct marketing increased, followed by false advertise and online advertisement. The anticipated value of B2C e-commerce in 2016 was estimated to be at 729,292.32 million Baht, a significant increase of 43 percent from 2015, while the complaints from telecommunication businesses were also expected to increase by 52.9 percent in 2015. The growth of online businesses had not yet met their full potentials, mainly due to consumers' concerns about safety and expensive freights. Thus, related laws and regulations need to be in place for consumers' protection and provision on enabling environments are also needed.

**Current Electronic waste (e-waste) management's state** The amount of e-waste has been increased by 2.3 percent between 2015 and 2016. From the statistical information in 2016, there were 2.69 million littered televisions in 2015 which has increased to 2.79 million in 2016. In addition, there were 10.34 million wasted mobile phones in 2015. This number has slightly grown up to 10.91 million in 2016. While wasted personal computer (PC) has risen from 2.42 million to 2.63 million in 2015 and 2016 respectively. At present most e-waste in Thailand is usually handled by waste buyers and small enterprises. The Department of Disease Control estimates that roughly 100 communities spreading around Thailand sorts their waste into different categories. These are plans that government will implement to tackle the hazardous waste in 2017: (1) Urban Hazardous Waste Management, where the Department of Local Administration are responsible for gathering hazardous waste in each province and a permitted private company is responsible for transporting to eliminating sites. (2) National Municipal Solid Waste Management Master Plan (2016-2021) requires no less than thirty per cent of solid waste is collected and dispatched properly and no less than fifty per cent of solid and hazardous waste at the origin is able to be separated by the Department of Local Administration. (3) Action Plan for "Zero-waste Thailand" underlining public-private collaboration idea in 2016-2017 requires every community has to create at least one

hazardous waste accumulating spot. Moreover, the government plans to push for two regulations and strategies: (1) strategic plan for e-waste management integration (2014-2021); and (2) E-waste Management Act of... At the same time, every sector needs to help one another to establish awareness of effect from e-waste and cooperate to build consciousness to solve e-waste problem.

### **Article: “Universal Design: Concrete Just Society”**

Universal Design is the concept of creating a livable society to support human values, citizens to be at their most self-reliance and emphasize on the change to an aging society where there are a larger number of the chronically ill, the handicapped, and the disabled. The important concrete steps are (1) for buildings and public places, 5 basic facilities, such as slopes, parking areas, bathrooms, signs and information services are provided. Currently 22,259 out of 43,025 official places have already accomplished. Other projects includes universal design community model contributing to everyone, etc. (2) for public transport system, the government has a pilot project highlights the idea of “convenient, safe, new-era of public transport and caring for people with disabilities,” designs and organizes facilities in the skytrain (BTS) and subway (MRT) stations and notes to ask for cooperation from agencies, surveys facilities for people with disabilities at 1,234 bus stops, pedestrians and slopes at bridge-foot of twenty main roads, collaborates with agencies to adjust roads and bridges for low-floor buses, manage to have taxis for wheelchairs, etc. On 28th February 2017, the cabinet agreed on strategic plan to improve facilities for the disabled and elderly in the transportation sector by conducting a study of transportation adjustment and improvement in five areas--such as the bus stop at Victory Monument, Bangkok bus terminal on Boromarajonani Road, fast-train station in Nakhon Prathom, and Don Muang Airport, to develop a handbook to help each type of the disabled and the elderly; also created a translated handbook or a language sign for staff at the terminal; (3) for information and communication aspect, supporting provision of Thai Telecommunication Relay Service (TTRS), creating a website for the blind and a website that acts as an facility-information center in order to provide information about services, etc. (4) for educational aspect, training still limits to specific groups, especially at the basic educational level, thus no environment has been adjusted. As for higher education level, the environment has already been modified to support everyone; yet, equipment and teaching methods for every group of people remains unclear. (5) for public health and aid tools aspect, not only pushing for facility availability in hospitals, but also pushing for monitoring system, building standard investigation, supporting for medical appliance and right to medical access.

However, access to public building and services at the satisfied level is still limited. Access to hospitals is at the highest level, followed by communication devices, online media and televisions. This trend conforms to the monitor and evaluation report of the fourth Quality of People with Disabilities’ Life Improvement Plan in 2012-2016 (first half), which found that the disabled can reach government agencies and local administration at medium

level, while in the technological aspect, informational facilities, equipment and disability assisting devices and buses are still insufficient to access, yet aircraft and trains are the least accessible. The universal design has some limitations relating to the attitudes toward additional expenses that restrain thorough management. In addition, citizens are lack of the consciousness, thus affects the accessibility or obstruction and unable to access. Because of the lack of specifying standards and inspecting occasionally leads to inapplicable use, insufficient numbers of trained staff to support, and participation of people with disabilities are restricted, following processes should be proceeded:

1. Develop standardized system and inspection mechanisms by establishing a clear standardized system for construction and identifying the design that supports everyone in production standards.

2. Build correct knowledge and attitude through campaigning and publicizing, fostering notion of usefulness and necessity, inserting the materials in school lessons and relating vocational curriculum.

3. Assimilate every sector by creating plan to cooperate and support one another, since the universal design needs a long-term, linking plan.

4. Encourage business sector to provide facilities and innovate products and services for every group of people by publicizing and certifying places or products or services that creates for everyone which would provide additional alternatives and increase the number of consumers. Support product's design competition and inform the business sector to enhance their products' and services' quality and improve their competitiveness.

5. Develop and gather regulations in order to have conformed and similar standardized processes, to build understanding among citizens and to use them conveniently.

### **Important Social Implementations in 2016**

In 2016, the implementation progress of social development included improving human qualities- developing job skills and increasing income, solving debt issue, improving learning process, promoting healthy living and preventing diseases, and ensuring social security- eliminating human trafficking, supporting savings for retirement, ensuring stable housing for the seniors along with providing welfare for the poor.

#### **Human Quality Aspect**

1. **Created jobs and Generated income:** Enhanced career and income for skilled labors by improving career capabilities and raise income level following labor standards in 5 industries 20 branches. These branches included 4 groups of electricity and electronics, 4 groups of auto parts, 4 groups of vehicle, 4 groups of logistics and 4 groups of jewelry industry. It aimed to drive motivation for improving self-capacities



as well as receiving fairer income. “Productive Manpower” training aimed to increase effective manpower and raise income for farmers, elders and individuals with disabilities. Promoted new pattern of agricultural products through the ‘1 Tambon 1 SME’ project in order to help farmers adding value to products through sustainability. Established ‘Queen Sirikit Employment Service Center’ to promote elderly and disabled workers. In addition, the measure also granted companies and partnerships double tax deductions for expense paid for elderly employees.

2. **Solved informal debt problem for People with low income:** Provided opportunities for informal debt collectors to apply for business owner registration as well as access for individuals who need loan servicing through the Piko Finance. The government also approved the draft on ‘Financial Inclusion System Development 2017-2021’ as a method to clearly develop financial inclusion system. People with low income were able to access quality public financial service and welfare thoroughly. Debtors should receive financial discipline creation and job training to avoid getting into debt again. Moreover, ‘The Act Prohibiting the Collection of Interest at an Excessive Rate 2017’ was made effective.
3. **Improved Learning Process:** the policy ‘decrease study hours, increase knowledge hours’ supported children’ physical activities in order to improve their learning processes, fast-thinking and calculation techniques using conceptual skill. **Using technology to develop capabilities** is essential in 21st century such as developing an application for learning English called ‘Echo English’, establishing community digital center as a learning center so that everyone was able to earn knowledge and skills. Besides, **improved administrative system** that allowed every sector to be responsible for education management. The act included minimizing small schools so that the amounts of schools were suitable for each region. Communities agreed and turned closed small schools into community learning centers. They also improved schools located in the center area to provide good quality and act like magnets--attracting students from small schools. In 2016, 294 magnet schools were developed which students from 474 small schools nearby joined. Currently, 57 schools have already closed and 417 are under the process. **Solved teacher's debt problem** by halting prosecutions, suspending interest payments. This implement benefited 51,370 teachers. There were 200,000 teachers joining the project aimed to reduce debt burden (financial amount didn’t exceed 700,000 baht with 4% interest). Another attempt to boost motivation for teachers who were members of the Office of the Welfare Promotion for Teachers and Educational Personnel by helping members who were 75 years or older or whose membership was 40 years or more. In addition, they didn’t have to pay for funeral expense monthly. As a result, 75,000 teachers benefited from this implementation.

4. **Supported Health and Prevented Disease:** the government approved the draft of the Sugary Drinks Tax Bill along with the Tobacco Products Control Act to reduce consumption on products causing health problems. Campaigns promoting healthy living and physical activities intended to prevent obesity and non-communicable disease such as regular exercise, charity contest (biking, mini-marathon) were managed. Developed epidemic surveillance system by creating mechanism for preventing and controlling diseases and health hazard. In order to keep up with emerging infectious diseases and reemerging infectious diseases, Emergency Operation Center and Incidence Command System were set up and ready to work 24 hours.

#### **Social Stability Aspect**

1. **Thailand was upgraded to 'Tier 2 Watch List' from solving human trafficking issue:** The government made significant efforts to eliminate trafficking. These included putting emphasis on integrating operation from all levels starting from the origins to the destinations, enforcing the law to charge culprits and complicit government officials human trafficking. They also protected victims and risk groups particularly forced labors and debt bondages including enacting important legislations, for instance, Human Trafficking Criminal Procedure 2016 Act and Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking 2017 Act. These mechanisms would help solving human trafficking issue effectively.
2. **Generated Guaranteed Income:** The National Pension Fund Act which provided savings for formal labors age 15-60 years was pushed so that the labors would have sufficient savings for living after retirement. Furthermore, the ministerial regulation was also pushed to increase counterpart funds for the National Saving Funds from no more than 1,200 baht/year to 2,500/year. It intended to motivate informal labors to save for retirement.
3. **Ensured Stable Accommodation for Elderly People:** There was a measure to build accommodations on state property land for elderly people in 4 provinces, namely, Chonburi, Nakhon Nayok, Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai. In addition, 'Home Loans for the Seniors' project enabled the Government Savings Bank and the Government Housing Bank to offer loans for elderly people who were 60 years old or older.
4. **Provided Welfare for The Poor:** By registering for the public welfare, individuals who earned less than 100,000 per year and age over 18 years old would receive public welfare in the future. This method would help serve the need of low-income people for lifting truly their living standards. The first session was held from July 15-August 15 2016 which 8.3 million people came to registered. The next session will be opened this April.

The National Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board

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## Key Social Indicators

Components	2015	2016	2015				2016			
	Year	Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1. Employment <sup>1/</sup>										
Workforce (Thousands)	38,548	38,266.6	38,279	38,404	38,767	38,744	38,312	38,160	38,683	37,911
%YOY	- 0.07	-0.7	-0.45	-0.10	-0.1	0.4	0.1	-0.6	-0.2	-2.1
Employed person (Thousands)	38,016	37,692.7	37,612	37,752	38,330	38,371	37,684	37,394	38,263	37,430
%YOY	-0.16	-0.9	-0.53	-0.17	-0.2	0.3	0.2	-0.9	-0.2	-2.5
Unemployed person (Thousands)	340.6	377.5	361.3	336.1	356.0	308.8	369.9	411.1	362.5	366.3
Unemployment rate (%)	0.88	1.0	0.94	0.88	0.92	0.8	0.97	1.08	0.94	0.97
Underemployed person (Thousands)	272.5	274.9	281.2	277.2	250.9	280.8	292.9	351.8	217.3	237.4
2. Health and illness										
Number of patients under disease surveillance (cases) <sup>2/</sup>										
- Measles	1,015 (-14.3)	1,688 (66.3)	224	236	276	279	221	271	466	730
- Meningococcal Meningitis	25 (78.6)	17 (-32.0)	4	6	9	6	6	5	4	2
- Japanese encephalitis	632 (6.4)	772 (22.1)	164	144	178	146	179	187	231	175
- Cholera	108 (800.0)	51 (-52.7)	2	2	4	100	41	2	7	1
- Hand, food and mouth	41,392 (-37.1)	79,910 (93.1)	9,217	7,771	14,594	9,810	10,066	19,012	39,589	11,243
- Dysentery	7,042 (-13.1)	6,726 (-4.4)	1,804	1,956	1,774	1,508	1,820	1,841	1,887	1,178
- Pneumonia	216,959 (8.0)	245,211 (13.1)	56,556	42,176	57,754	60,473	65,661	45,244	72,851	61,455
- Leptospirosis	2,151 (-49.4)	2,295 (6.7)	283	393	723	752	446	401	671	777
- Dengue fever	144,952 (53.6)	63,931 (-55.9)	7,538	24,409	60,768	52,237	14,840	7,874	25,744	15,473
- Influenza	77,926 (52.1)	169,362 (117.3)	24,206	10,840	18,397	24,483	43,634	14,135	58,535	53,058
- Rabies	5 (-16.6)	13 (-160)	1	1	2	1	4	2	5	2
Rate per 100,000 population of death with major chronic non-communicable diseases										
- High blood pressure	12.1 (10.8)	n.a.	No quarterly data available							
- Ischaemic heart disease	29.9 (7.5)	n.a.								
- Cerebrovascular disease	43.3 (11.9)	n.a.								
- Diabetes	19.4 (10.9)	n.a.								
- Cancer and tumors	113.7 (5.5)	n.a.								
3. Social security										
- Patients from road accidents (cases)	6,271	8,259	1,623	1,533	1,322	1,793	1,871	1,494	2,502	2,392
- Crime against person (cases)	25,602	20,218	6,210	6,724	5,947	6,721	5,659	5,294	4,879	4,386
- Property crimes (cases)	48,770	38,964	11,214	12,850	12,926	11,780	10,236	8,957	10,188	9,583
- คดีอาชญาพิตติ (ราย)	279,266	270,595	83,963	67,015	64,375	63,913	64,753	59,104	69,551	74,532
4. Consumer protection <sup>3/</sup>										
4.1 Number of complaints (cases)										
- Advertisement	2,875	2,637	632	753	742	748	727	795	509	606
- Label	2,552	2,010	572	726	614	640	704	559	387	360
- Contract	1,119	1,628	260	272	253	334	457	373	298	500
- Law	6	37	4	1	1	0	25	12	-	0
- Direct sales and direct marketing	566	1,097	54	159	177	176	120	244	550	183
4.2 Hot line 1166 (cases)	49,708	47,329	12,293	12,300	12,865	12,250	11,666	10,555	12,438	12,670

Source: 1/ Labor force survey report, National Statistical Office, Ministry of Information and Communication Technology

2/ Bureau of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Health

3/ Office of the Consumer Protection Board, Office of the Prime Minister