



# SURVEY OF LIVING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS (POVERTY SURVEY)

## Unemployment Increases Slightly

### INTRODUCTION

The first data set that has been released by the Statistics Department from the survey conducted as part of the Poverty Assessment study shows that there has been a slight increase in the unemployment rate from the time the census was conducted last year.

The increase in unemployment from 6.7% in May 2001 to 7.8% in July 2002 is due to three main factors. School leavers are available to work and search for jobs starting in July, employment levels tend to be lower in July than in May as the tourist industry slows and the slow down in the Anguillian economy.

### MORE FEMALES THAN MALES

Females have been affected more than males by the increased unemployment and youth more than the prime age working population. Unemployment rates among females rose from 7% in May 2001 to 9% in July 2002.

#### Overall Population Rates

	May 2001	July 2002
Females	7%	9%
Males	6%	6%

Male unemployment rates remained virtually unchanged at 6%. Unemployment rates among youth rose from 21% to 29% and were even higher among female youth. Their unemployment rates reached 37% in July of this year. In contrast the unemployment rate among those 35 to 49 years of age was only 4.6% in July 2002 showing virtually no change from May 2001.

Females in this age group also had a relatively low unemployment rate of 4.7% a slight increase compared to last year when it stood at 3.7%.

Employment levels among males remained virtually unchanged over the period and even increased among those aged 20 years or older. However female employment levels declined 5.4%.

Those females most affected by the decline in employment were those under 35 years of age.

### TOURISM SECTOR

Employment ratios show that females are more likely to be employed by the tourist sector while males dominate the construction sector.

Tourism employment tends to be slow in July compared to May and this sector has been more affected than construction by the economic slow down.

While the tourism sector, made up of Trade, Hotels and Restaurants, remain the major industry of employment in Anguilla, employment by this sector has declined from 39% of all employment in 2001 to 36% this year.

Female employment has declined more than males in this sector from 48% to 41%. Not all industry sectors reduced their employment levels. There was growth during the past year in the construction and manufacturing sectors.

## **THE SURVEY OF LIVING CONDITIONS**

The Survey of Living Conditions was considered to be very successful mainly due to the cooperation of householders and the hard work of the interviewers who collected the information for the survey.

The information was mostly collected within the two-week period allowed and all was collected prior to the week of Carnival allowing the interviewers to have a deserved rest. Of the 684 households included in the survey only 3 have refused to cooperate to date.

## **DATA COLLECTED**

Householders' expenditures and sources of income were collected, as well as Labour Force information. These data are being processed and will be published shortly on the Government web site under [www.gov.ai/statistics](http://www.gov.ai/statistics). Tables can also be viewed at the Statistics Office in the Old Court House Building or sent by e-mail to data users.

The Statistics Department would like to thank all those householders who were included in the survey for their time and assistance in making the survey such a success.

More information can be obtained by phoning the Statistics Department at 497-3986.