The 2013 labour force characterised the Agricultural sector as the top employer in Namibia, accounting for 216,356 total number of employed workforce in the economy with 31.3 per cent employment rate. The sector registered a lower index both year-on-year and month-on-month, as the overall sub-sectors in the month of March registered declines. An index of 66.0 points in March 2014 compared to an index of 132.0 points of March 2013, and below the March 2010 (100) base month.

Month-on-month, the agriculture sector as measured by the livestock marketed index decelerated to 66.0 points as compared to that of 87.0 points recorded in the preceding month (February 2014). Similarly, on a yearly basis, the sector under-performed, declining from a high of 132 points in March 2013.

The composite livestock marketing index consists of four components: cattle and small stock sold to export abattoirs and butchers, cattle and Small Stock exported on-the-hoof and pigs.

The index for Cattle and Small Stock on hoof (live export) - stood at 439 and 379 in May 2013. In order to improve readability; we have limited the index value to 400.

The index of Cattle marketed to export abattoirs and butchers decreased to 80.0 points in March 2014, compared to 93.0 registered in the preceding month, and the reference month, March 2010 point (100). Cattle exported on hoof declined, recording 61.0 points compared to 167 points recorded in the same month of 2013, and 64 points of the previous month.

Small stock exported on hoof decelerated to 113 points compared to 173 points of the preceding month. However, when compared to the previous month (74 point), the index of the number of Small Stock marketed to abattoirs and butchers stabilised recording a 74 point, though below the reference month of 2010 (100). The marketing of pigs also showed a negative performance year-on-year and month-on-month.