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Quarterly Labour Force Survey

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IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



Contents

	Page
List of tables.....	iii
List of figures.....	iv
Appendices	v
1. Introduction	1
2. Highlights of the results	1
3. Employment.....	2
3.1 Conditions of employment for employees	6
4. Unemployment and not in employment, education or training (NEET)	7
4.1 Unemployment.....	7
4.2 Not in employment, education or training (NEET)	9
5. Summary of the labour market measures at a glance, Q3: 2024.....	10
6. Other labour market trends.....	11
6.1 Year-on-year changes	11
6.2 Trends in unemployment rate	12
7. The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) and the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES).....	13
8. Technical notes.....	15
8.1 Response details	15
8.2 Survey requirements and design	15
8.3 Sample rotation.....	16
8.4 Weighting.....	16
8.4.1 Non-response adjustment.....	16
8.4.2 Calibrated survey weights.....	16
8.5 Estimation	17
8.6 Reliability of the survey estimates	17
9. Definitions	17
Appendix 1	19
Appendix 2	84

List of tables

Table A: Key labour market indicators.....1

Table B: Employment by industry2

Table C: Employment by occupation4

Table D: Employment by province.....5

Table E: Unemployment rate by province8

Table F: Key differences between the QLFS and the QES14

Table G: Response rates by province and metropolitan area15

List of figures

Figure 1: Quarter-to-quarter changes in employment, Q3: 2019 to Q3: 2024	2
Figure 2: Quarter-to-quarter employment changes in the formal and informal sectors, Q3: 2019 to Q3: 2024.....	3
Figure 3: Quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year changes in the formal sector by industry	3
Figure 4: Quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year changes in the informal sector by industry	4
Figure 5: Quarter-to-quarter changes in nature of employment contract	6
Figure 6: Year-on-year changes in nature of employment contract	6
Figure 7: Quarter-to-quarter changes in unemployment, Q3: 2019 to Q3: 2024	7
Figure 8a: Unemployment rate by education level, Q2: 2024 and Q3: 2024	8
Figure 8b: Unemployment rate by education level, Q3: 2023 and Q3: 2024	8
Figure 9a: NEET rate for youth aged 15–24 years by sex	9
Figure 9b: NEET rate for youth aged 15–34 years by sex	9
Figure 10: Year-on-year changes in total employment, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024.....	11
Figure 11: Year-on-year changes in formal sector employment, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024.....	11
Figure 12: Year-on-year changes in informal sector employment, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024.....	12
Figure 13: Unemployment rate by sex, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024.....	12
Figure 14: Unemployment rate by education status, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024	13
Figure 15: Formal sector employment trends in QLFS and QES, Q2: 2019 to Q2: 2024	14

Appendices

Appendix 1

Table 1: Population of working age (15–64 years)	19
Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex – All population groups	20
Table 2.1: Labour force characteristics by population group	22
Table 2.2: Labour force characteristics by age group	24
Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro	26
Table 2.4: Labour force characteristics by sex – Expanded definition of unemployment	38
Table 2.5: Labour force characteristics by population group – Expanded definition of unemployment	40
Table 2.6: Labour force characteristics by age group – Expanded definition of unemployment	42
Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment	44
Table 3.1: Employed by industry and sex – South Africa	52
Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province	53
Table 3.3: Employed by sector and industry – South Africa	57
Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector	58
Table 3.5: Employed by sex and occupation – South Africa	63
Table 3.6: Employed by sex and status in employment – South Africa	64
Table 3.7: Employed by sex and usual hours of work – South Africa	65
Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa	66
Table 3.9: Time-related underemployment – South Africa	72
Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed – South Africa	73
Table 5: Characteristics of the not economically active – South Africa	75
Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa	76
Table 7: Profile of those not in employment, education or training – South Africa	79
Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province	80

Appendix 2

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex	84
Table 2.1A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group	86
Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province	88
Table 3.1A: Sampling variability for the employed by industry and sex	100
Table 3.4A: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector	101
Table 3.5A: Sampling variability for the employed by sex and occupation	105
Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex	106
Table 2.1B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group	108
Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province	110
Table 3.1B: Sampling variability for the employed by industry and sex	122
Table 3.4B: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector	123
Table 3.5B: Sampling variability for the employed by sex and occupation	127

1. Introduction

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household-based sample survey conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). It collects data on the labour market activities of individuals aged 15 years and older who live in South Africa. However, this report only covers labour market activities of persons aged 15–64 years.

This report presents key findings of the QLFS conducted from July to September 2024 (Q3: 2024).

2. Highlights of the results

Table A: Key labour market indicators

	Jul-Sep 2023	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand					Per cent	
Population 15–64 years	40 866	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	24 594	25 036	24 957	-79	363	-0,3	1,5
Employed	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 616	11 467	11 589	122	-27	1,1	-0,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 058	3 129	3 295	165	237	5,3	7,7
Agriculture	956	896	935	39	-21	4,4	-2,2
Private households	1 116	1 160	1 128	-32	12	-2,8	1,1
Unemployed	7 849	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Not economically active	16 292	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
Discouraged work-seekers	3 156	3 195	3 355	160	199	5,0	6,3
Other (not economically active)	13 136	13 065	13 119	54	-17	0,4	-0,1
Rates (%)							
Unemployment rate	31,9	33,5	32,1	-1,4	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	60,2	60,6	60,2	-0,4	0,0		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

The working-age population increased by 135 000 or 0,3% in the third quarter of 2024 compared with the second quarter of 2024. The number of employed persons increased by 294 000 to 16,9 million in Q3: 2024, while the number of unemployed persons decreased by 373 000 to 8,0 million compared with Q2: 2024, resulting in a decrease of 79 000 (down by 0,3%) in the labour force. The number of discouraged work-seekers increased by 160 000 (up by 5,0%), and the number of people who were not economically active for reasons other than discouragement increased by 54 000 (up by 0,4%) between the two quarters, resulting in a net increase of 214 000 in the not economically active population.

An increase in employment and a decrease in unemployment resulted in a decrease of 1,4 percentage points in the unemployment rate to 32,1% in the third quarter of 2024. The labour force participation rate decreased by 0,4 of a percentage point to 60,2%, while the absorption rate increased by 0,6 of a percentage point to 40,9% between Q2: 2024 and Q3: 2024.

Employment gains were observed in the informal sector (up by 165 000), the formal sector (up by 122 000) and Agricultural sector (up by 39 000), while Private households employment decreased by 32 000 in Q3: 2024.

Compared with Q3: 2023, the working-age population increased by 545 000 or 1,3%. Total employment increased by 201 000 persons (or 1,2%), the number of unemployed persons increased by 161 000 (or 2,1%), and the number of persons who were not economically active increased by 182 000 (or 1,1%).

3. Employment

Figure 1: Quarter-to-quarter changes in employment, Q3: 2019 to Q3: 2024

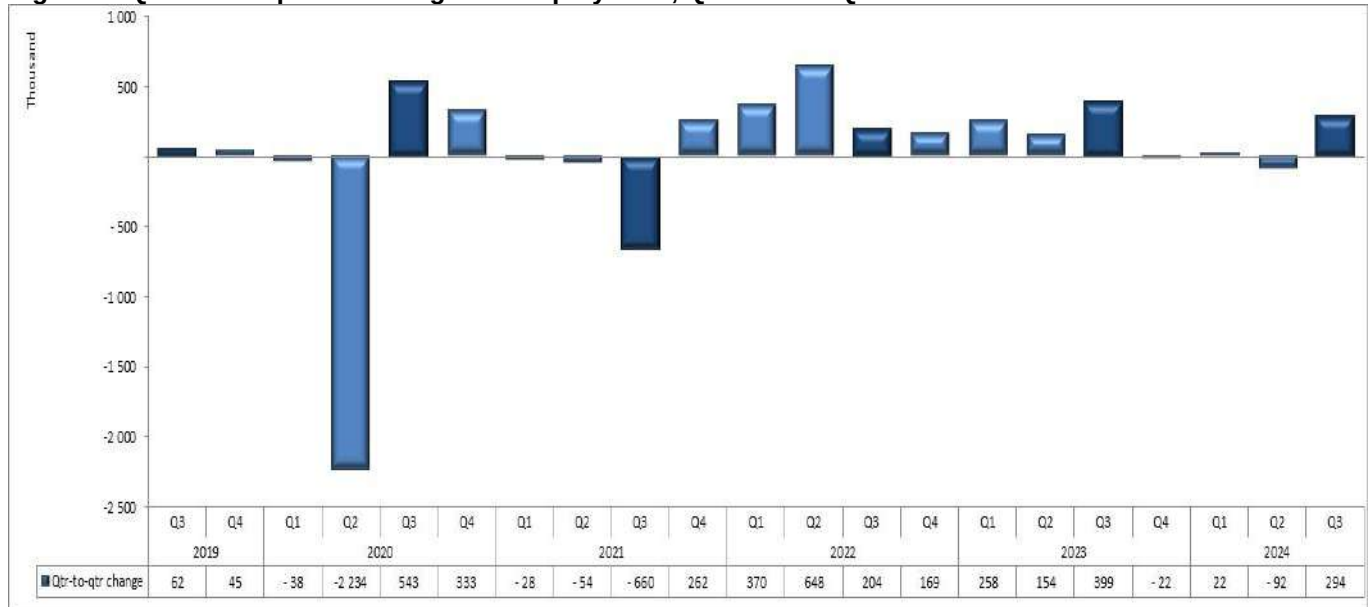


Figure 1 shows that, following a decrease of 92 000 in the previous quarter, employment increased by 294 000 in the third quarter of 2024. As depicted in Figure 1, employment has been increasing in the third quarter of each year since 2019, except for the decrease observed in 2021.

Table B: Employment by industry

Industry	Jul-Sep 2023	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
Total*	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Agriculture	956	896	935	39	-21	4,4	-2,2
Mining	409	457	484	27	75	6,0	18,4
Manufacturing	1 508	1 655	1 635	-20	127	-1,2	8,4
Utilities	113	114	127	13	14	11,7	12,7
Construction	1 357	1 204	1 381	176	24	14,7	1,7
Trade	3 390	3 360	3 469	109	79	3,2	2,3
Transport	966	1 064	1 047	-18	81	-1,7	8,3
Finance	2 836	2 905	2 716	-189	-120	-6,5	-4,2
Community and social services	4 084	3 827	4 021	194	-62	5,1	-1,5
Private households	1 116	1 160	1 128	-32	12	-2,8	1,1

*Note: Total includes 'Other' industries.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

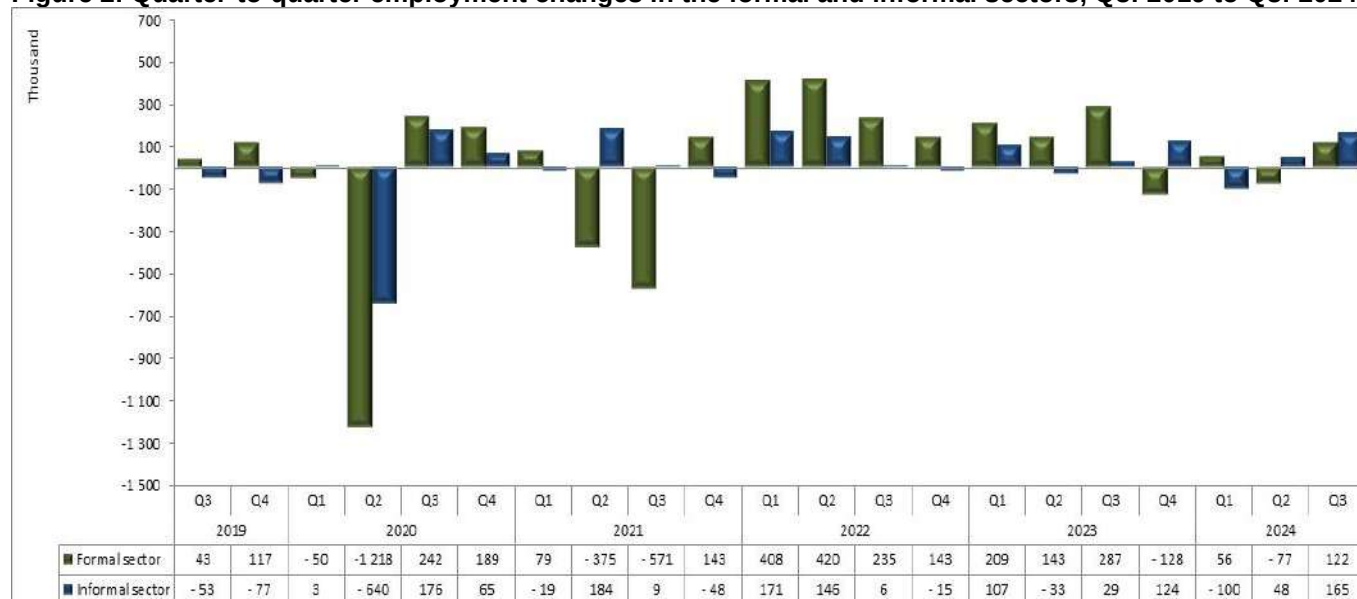
Note: Utilities refer to electricity, gas and water supply.

Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.

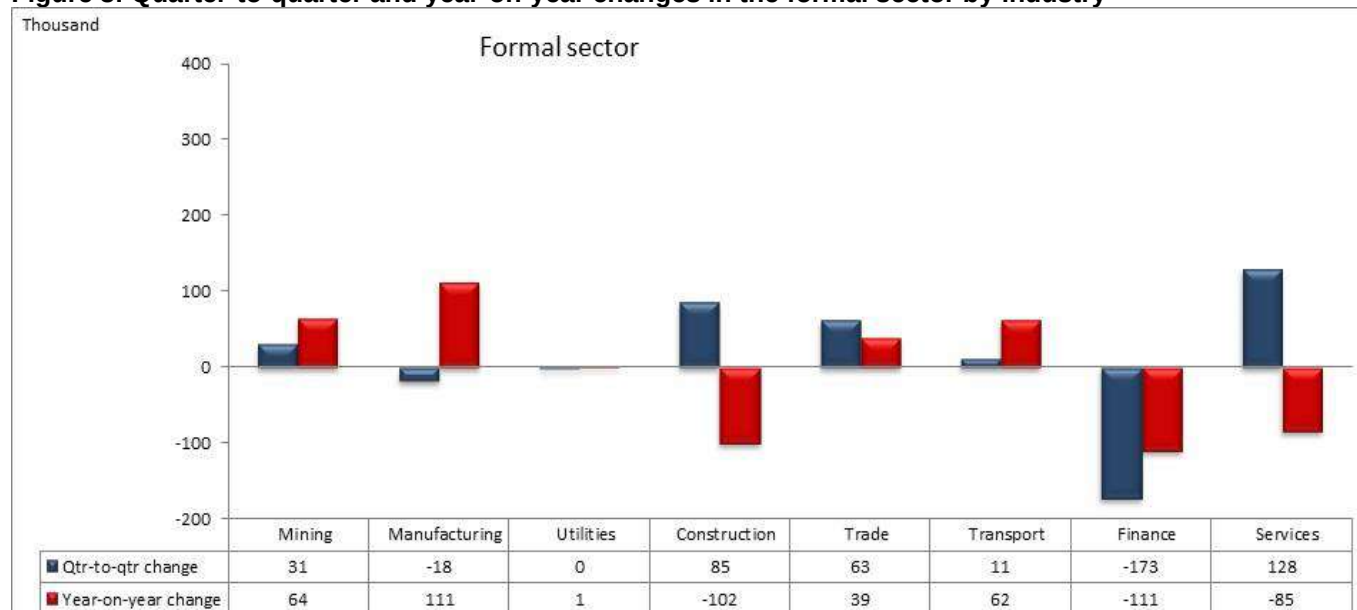
Finance refers to financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services.

Table B shows that between Q2: 2024 and Q3: 2024, the number of employed persons increased in six of the ten industries. The largest increases in employment were recorded in Community and social services (194 000), followed by Construction (176 000) and Trade (109 000) industries. Decreases in employment were recorded in Finance (189 000), Private households (32 000), Manufacturing (20 000) and Transport (18 000) industries.

Compared with the same period last year, a net increase of 201 000 in total employment in Q3: 2024 was largely due to increases in the number of people employed in Manufacturing (127 000), Transport (81 000), Trade (79 000) and Mining (75 000) industries. The industries that recorded decreases were Finance (120 000), Community and social services (62 000) and Agriculture (21 000).

Figure 2: Quarter-to-quarter employment changes in the formal and informal sectors, Q3: 2019 to Q3: 2024

Following an increase of 48 000 in Q2: 2024, informal sector employment increased by 165 000 in Q3: 2024. Employment in the formal sector increased by 122 000 in Q3: 2024 compared with Q2: 2024.

Figure 3: Quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year changes in the formal sector by industry

Note: Utilities refer to electricity, gas and water supply.

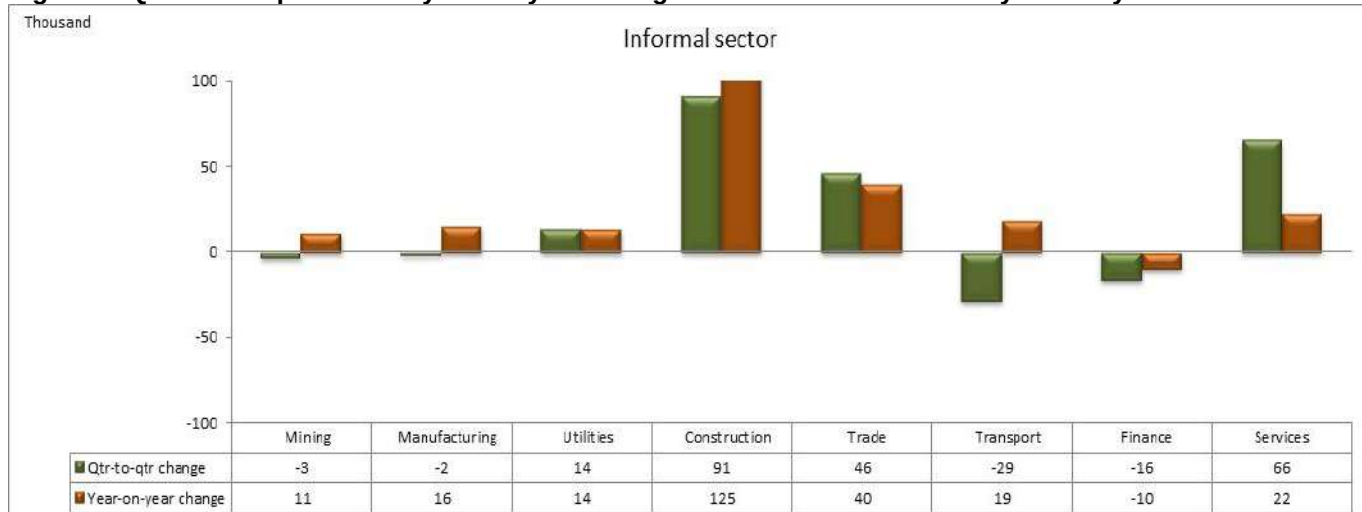
Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.

Finance refers to financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services.

Services refers to community, personal and social services.

The third quarter of 2024 recorded formal sector employment increases in Community and social services (128 000), Construction (85 000), Trade (63 000), Mining (31 000) and Transport (11 000) industries compared with the second quarter of 2024. During the same period, decreases in the formal sector employment were recorded in Finance (173 000) and Manufacturing (18 000), while Utilities remained unchanged.

Compared with a year ago, a net loss of 27 000 jobs in the formal sector employment was mainly driven by Finance (111 000), Construction (102 000) and Community and social services (85 000) industries in Q3: 2024. Employment gains were observed in Manufacturing (111 000), Mining (64 000), Transport (62 000), Trade (39 000) and Utilities (1 000) industries during the same period.

Figure 4: Quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year changes in the informal sector by industry

Note: Utilities refer to electricity, gas and water supply.

Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.

Finance refers to financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services.

Services refers to community, personal and social services.

In the third quarter of 2024, informal sector employment increased by 165 000 persons compared with the previous quarter. Gains in the informal sector employment were mainly driven by Construction (91 000), Community and social services (66 000) and Trade (46 000) industries. Compared with Q3: 2023, the employment increase in the informal sector was mainly driven by Construction (125 000), Trade (40 000) and Community and social services (22 000) industries. Loss in employment was recorded in the Finance (10 000) industry during the same period.

Table C: Employment by occupation

Occupation	Jul-Sep 2023	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
Total*	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Manager	1 105	1 451	1 457	6	353	0,4	31,9
Professional	1 354	1 102	826	-276	-528	-25,1	-39,0
Technician	1 444	1 780	1 504	-276	60	-15,5	4,1
Clerk	1 889	1 705	1 841	136	-48	8,0	-2,5
Sales and services	2 953	2 584	2 992	407	38	15,8	1,3
Skilled agriculture	76	105	68	-37	-8	-35,0	-10,3
Craft and related trade	1 717	1 672	1 876	204	159	12,2	9,2
Plant and machine operator	1 408	1 308	1 401	93	-7	7,1	-0,5
Elementary	3 935	4 094	4 128	33	193	0,8	4,9
Domestic worker	860	843	854	11	-6	1,3	-0,7

*Note: Total includes 'Other' occupations.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Seven out of the ten occupational categories recorded employment gains in Q3: 2024 compared with Q2: 2024. Large increases in employment were observed in Sales and services occupations (407 000), followed by Craft and related trade (204 000), Clerical (136 000) and Plant and machine operator (93 000) occupations. During the same period, employment losses were recorded in Professional and Technician occupations (276 000 each), followed by Skilled agriculture (37 000) occupations.

Year-on-year gains in employment were mainly driven by Managerial occupations (353 000), followed by Elementary (193 000) and Craft and related trade (159 000) occupations. The losses in employment were recorded among Professionals (528 000), Clerical (48 000), Skilled agriculture (8 000), Plant and machine operator (7 000) and Domestic worker (6 000) occupations.

Table D: Employment by province

Province	Jul-Sep 2023	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand					Per cent	
South Africa	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Western Cape	2 734	2 675	2 749	75	15	2,8	0,6
Eastern Cape	1 459	1 369	1 452	83	-7	6,1	-0,5
Northern Cape	328	314	337	23	9	7,4	2,6
Free State	727	745	775	30	48	4,1	6,6
KwaZulu-Natal	2 794	2 842	2 840	-2	46	-0,1	1,7
North West	942	887	956	69	14	7,7	1,4
Gauteng	5 019	5 103	5 037	-66	17	-1,3	0,3
Mpumalanga	1 202	1 192	1 241	49	39	4,1	3,2
Limpopo	1 539	1 526	1 559	33	21	2,2	1,3

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table D shows that the number of employed persons increased in seven provinces between Q2: 2024 and Q3: 2024. Employment gains were recorded in Eastern Cape (83 000), Western Cape (75 000), North West (69 000), Mpumalanga (49 000), Limpopo (33 000), Free State (30 000) and Northern Cape (23 000). Employment decreases were recorded in Gauteng (66 000) and KwaZulu-Natal (2 000) during the same period.

Compared with Q3: 2023, the largest increases in employment were recorded in Free State (48 000), KwaZulu-Natal (46 000) and Mpumalanga (39 000). Eastern Cape was the only province that recorded a loss in employment with a decrease of 7 000 during the same period. Free State had the largest year-on-year percentage change increase in employment of 6,6%.

3.1 Conditions of employment for employees

Figure 5: Quarter-to-quarter changes in nature of employment contract

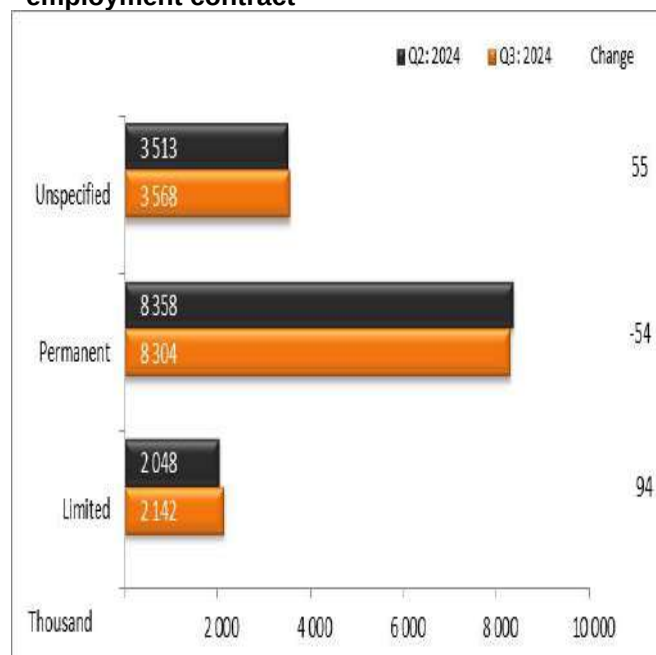


Figure 6: Year-on-year changes in nature of employment contract



Figures 5 and 6 show that the majority of employees had permanent employment contracts. Between the second and third quarter of 2024, the number of employees with contracts of permanent nature decreased by 54 000, while the number of employees with contracts of limited duration increased by 94 000 and those with contracts of unspecified duration increased by 55 000.

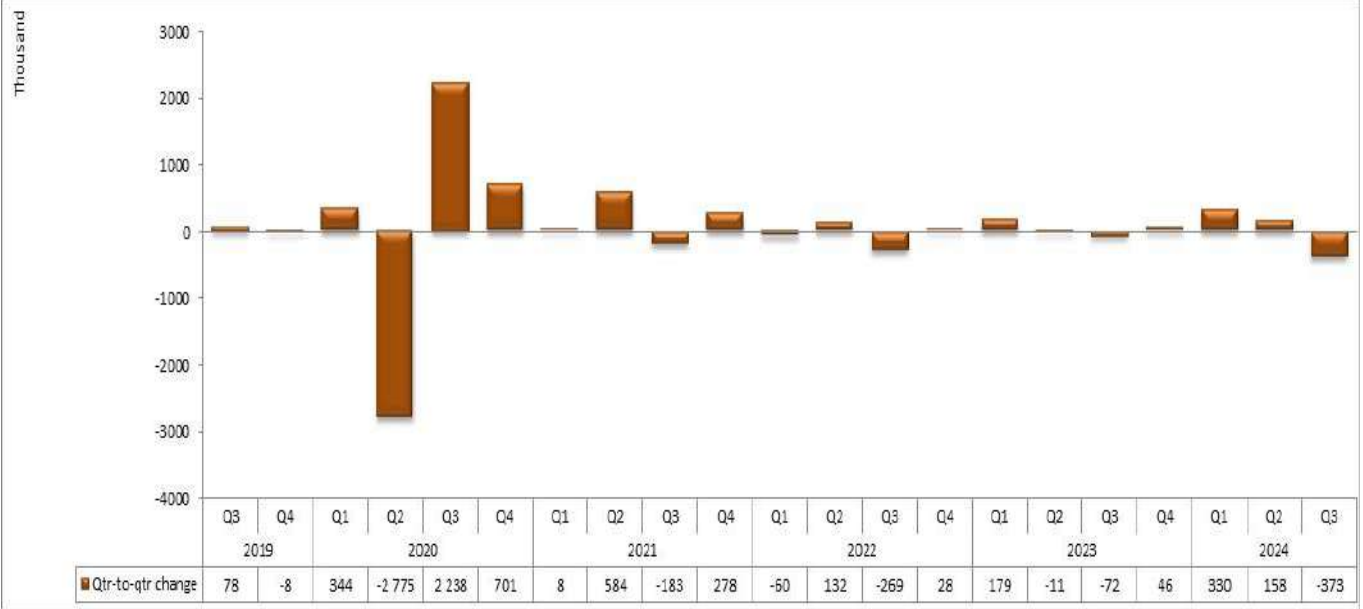
Year-on-year comparisons indicated that the number of employees decreased among all types of employment contracts, with the largest decrease among those with contracts of limited duration (144 000), followed by those with contracts of permanent nature (123 000) and unspecified duration (25 000).

4. Unemployment and not in employment, education or training (NEET)

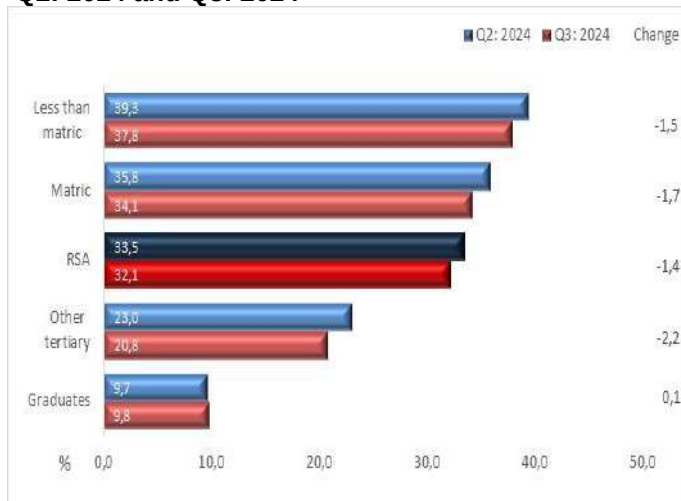
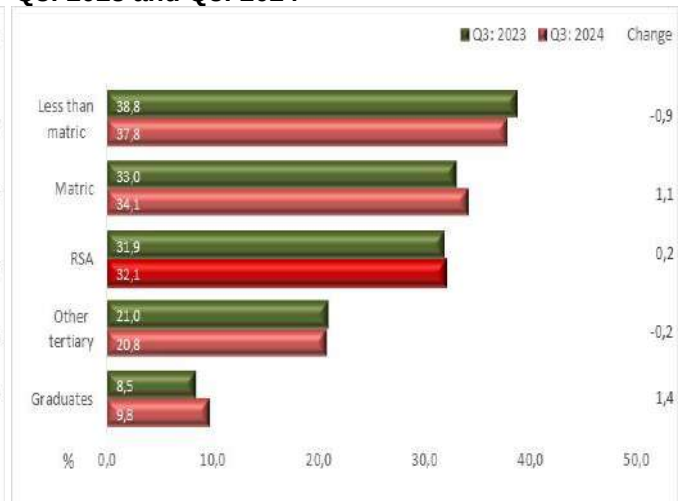
4.1 Unemployment

There are two definitions of unemployment that are used: the official and the expanded definition (refer to technical notes).

Figure 7: Quarter-to-quarter changes in unemployment, Q3: 2019 to Q3: 2024



Unemployed persons decreased by 373 000 in Q3: 2024 following an increase of 158 000 in the previous quarter. Notable from Figure 7 is that unemployment has decreased in the third quarter of each year since 2021.

Figure 8a: Unemployment rate by education level, Q2: 2024 and Q3: 2024**Figure 8b: Unemployment rate by education level, Q3: 2023 and Q3: 2024**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Figures 8a and 8b illustrate the significant impact of education on mitigating a nation's unemployment rate. In Q3: 2024, individuals with an educational attainment of less than matric recorded an unemployment rate of 37,8% (down by 1,5 percentage points), while graduates had a rate of 9,8% (up by 0,1 of a percentage point) compared with the previous quarter. Those with matric or lower educational qualifications exceeded the national unemployment rate, whereas individuals with other tertiary qualifications and graduates were below the national unemployment rate. Year-on-year comparisons indicated that the unemployment rate increased among those with matric and graduates, while the rate decreased for those with 'less than matric' and 'other tertiary' education levels.

Table E: Unemployment rate by province

	Official unemployment rate					Expanded unemployment rate				
	Jul-Sep 2023	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Jul-Sep 2023	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Per cent			Percentage points		Per cent			Percentage points	
South Africa	31,9	33,5	32,1	-1,4	0,2	41,2	42,6	41,9	-0,7	0,7
Western Cape	20,2	22,2	19,6	-2,6	-0,6	25,6	27,3	25,6	-1,7	0,0
Eastern Cape	38,8	41,0	37,2	-3,8	-1,6	43,9	49,7	47,4	-2,3	3,5
Northern Cape	26,3	32,0	30,4	-1,6	4,1	42,0	44,9	43,1	-1,8	1,1
Free State	38,5	37,6	36,0	-1,6	-2,5	44,7	45,1	43,3	-1,8	-1,4
KwaZulu-Natal	29,4	31,1	31,2	0,1	1,8	44,7	44,9	45,6	0,7	0,9
North West	38,6	41,3	36,8	-4,5	-1,8	51,2	54,2	51,5	-2,7	0,3
Gauteng	33,7	35,1	34,0	-1,1	0,3	39,4	39,2	39,2	0,0	-0,2
Mpumalanga	35,5	37,4	36,2	-1,2	0,7	46,7	48,7	47,8	-0,9	1,1
Limpopo	30,8	31,4	32,6	1,2	1,8	45,1	47,1	46,3	-0,8	1,2

The official unemployment rate decreased by 1,4 percentage points to 32,1% in Q3: 2024 compared with Q2: 2024. The official unemployment rate decreased in seven of the nine provinces. The largest decreases were recorded in North West (4,5 percentage points), followed by Eastern Cape (3,8 percentage points) and Western Cape (2,6 percentage points). Increases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Limpopo (1,2 percentage points) and KwaZulu-Natal (0,1 of a percentage point).

Year-on-year, the official unemployment rate increased by 0,2 of a percentage point. The official unemployment rate increased in five provinces. Increases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Northern Cape (4,1 percentage

points), followed by KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo (1,8 percentage points each), Mpumalanga (0,7 of a percentage point) and Gauteng (0,3 of a percentage point). The decreases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Free State (2,5 percentage points), North West (1,8 percentage points), Eastern Cape (1,6 percentage points) and Western Cape (0,6 of a percentage point).

The expanded unemployment rate decreased by 0,7 of a percentage point in Q3: 2024 compared with Q2: 2024. All provinces recorded a decrease in the expanded unemployment rate, except for KwaZulu-Natal where the rate increased by 0,7 of a percentage point, and Gauteng where the rate remained unchanged. The largest decreases were recorded in North West (2,7 percentage points), followed by Eastern Cape (2,3 percentage points), Northern Cape and Free State (1,8 percentage points each) and Western Cape (1,7 percentage points).

Compared with the same period last year, the expanded unemployment rate increased by 0,7 of a percentage point in Q3: 2024. Six out of the nine provinces recorded increases in the expanded unemployment rate. The largest increases in the expanded unemployment rate were recorded in Eastern Cape (3,5 percentage points), followed by Limpopo (1,2 percentage points) and Northern Cape and Mpumalanga (1,1 percentage points each). Decreases in the expanded unemployment rate were recorded in Free State (1,4 percentage points) and Gauteng (0,2 of a percentage point), while Western Cape remained unchanged.

4.2 Not in employment, education or training (NEET)

Some young people have been disengaged from the labour market and they are also not building on their skills base through education and training – they are not in employment, education or training (NEET). The NEET rate serves as an important additional labour market indicator for young people.

Figure 9a: NEET rate for youth aged 15–24 years by sex

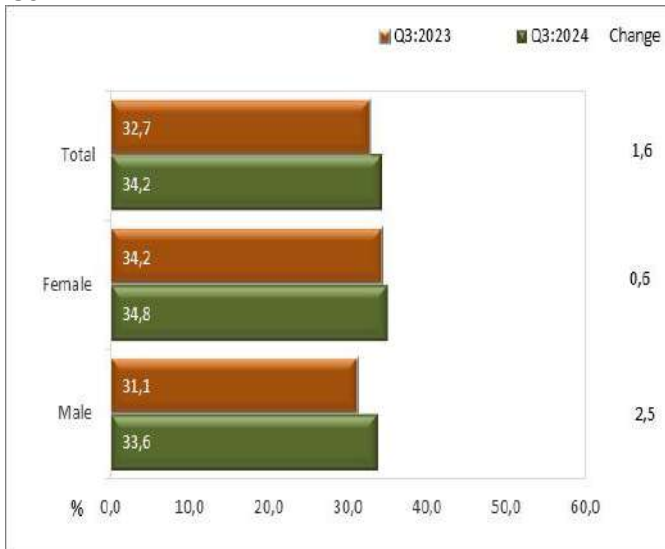
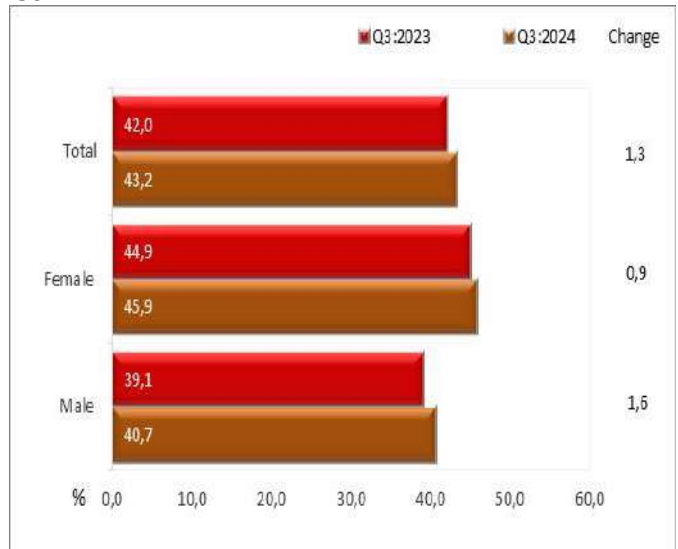


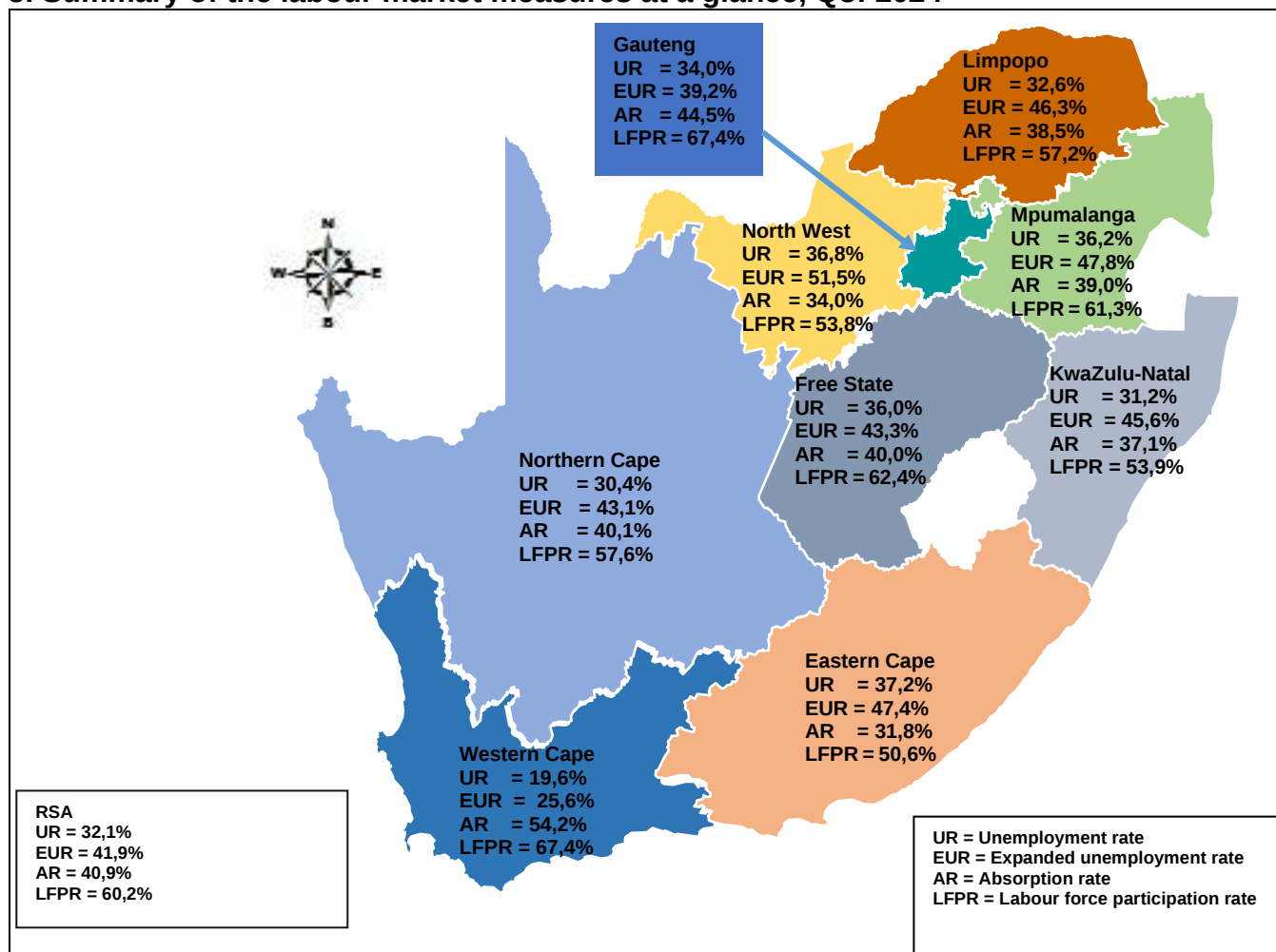
Figure 9b: NEET rate for youth aged 15–34 years by sex



There were about 10,3 million young people aged 15–24 years in Q3: 2024, of which 34,2% were not in employment, education or training. This is 1,6 percentage points higher than the NEET rate in Q3: 2023. In this age group, the NEET rate for males increased by 2,5 percentage points and for females it increased by 0,6 of a percentage point. The NEET rate for females was higher than that of their male counterparts in both years (Figure 9a).

Compared with Q3: 2023, the percentage of young persons aged 15–34 years who were NEET increased by 1,3 percentage points from 42,0% to 43,2% in Q3: 2024. The NEET rate for males increased by 1,6 percentage points, and for females the rate increased by 0,9 of a percentage point. In both Q3: 2023 and Q3: 2024, more than four in every ten young people were not in employment, education or training (Figure 9b).

5. Summary of the labour market measures at a glance, Q3: 2024



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

6. Other labour market trends

6.1 Year-on-year changes

Figure 10: Year-on-year changes in total employment, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024

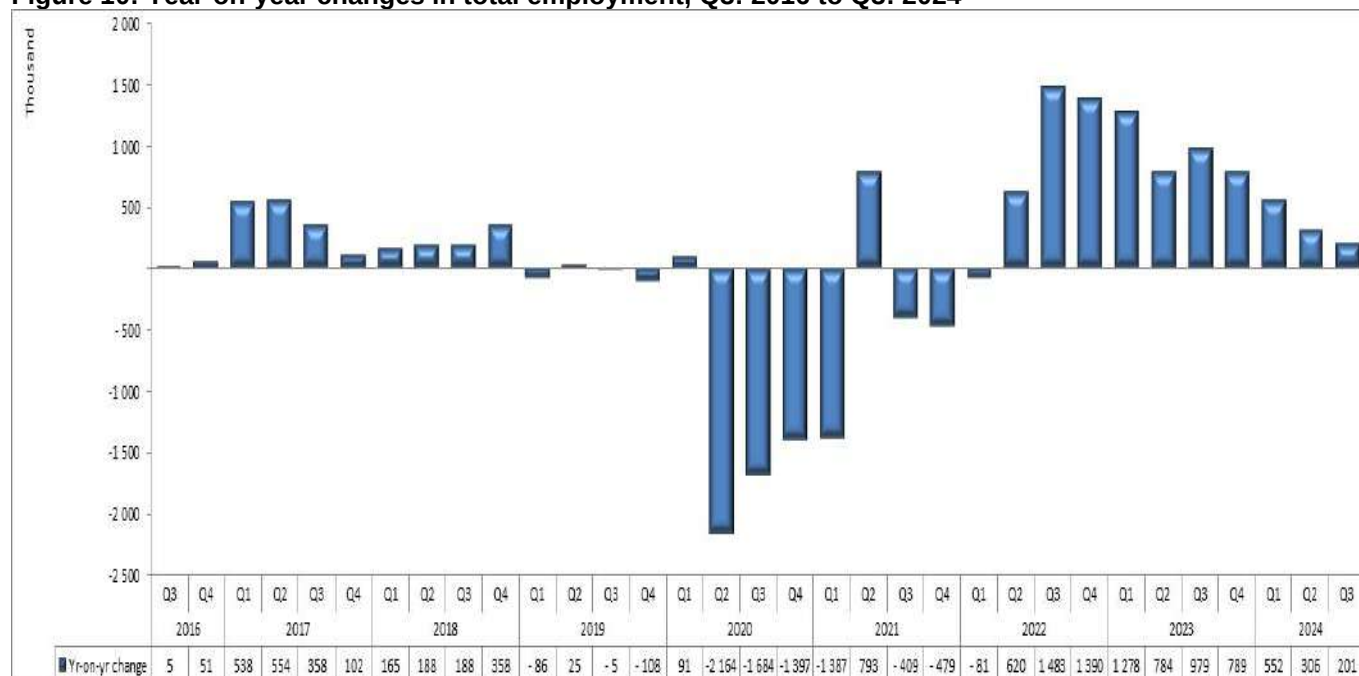


Figure 11: Year-on-year changes in formal sector employment, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024

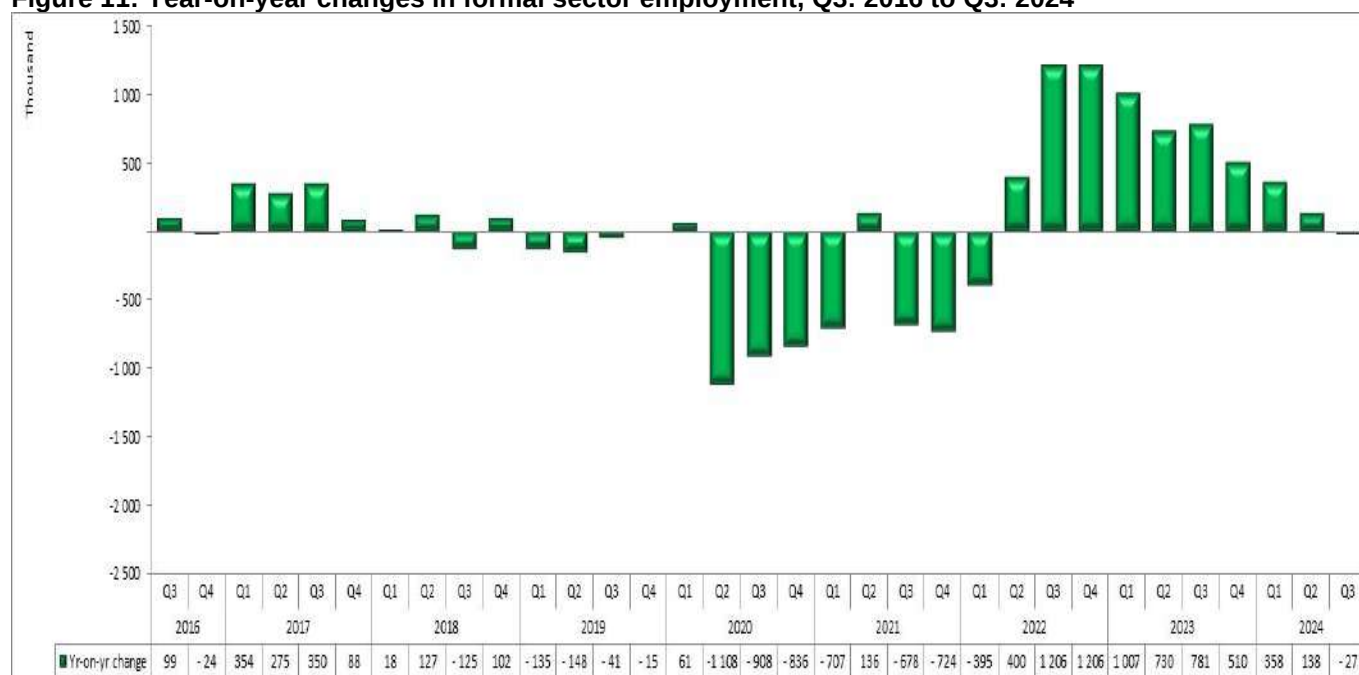
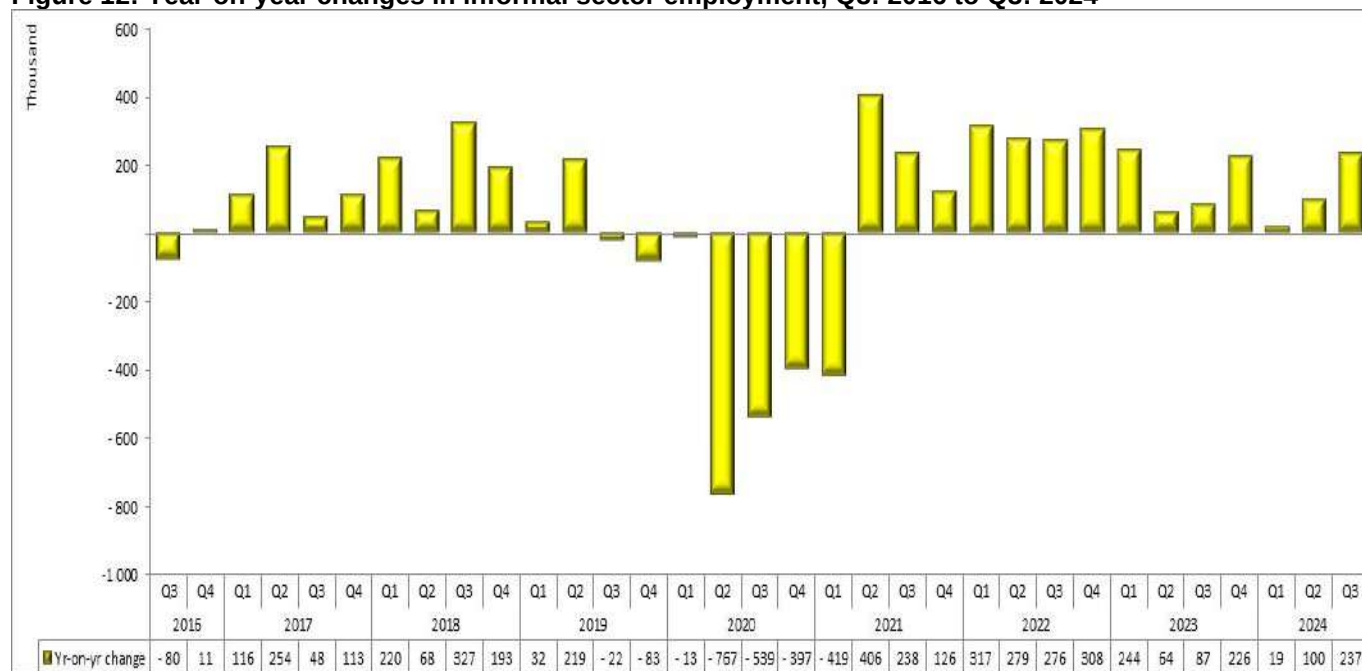


Figure 12: Year-on-year changes in informal sector employment, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024

6.2 Trends in unemployment rate

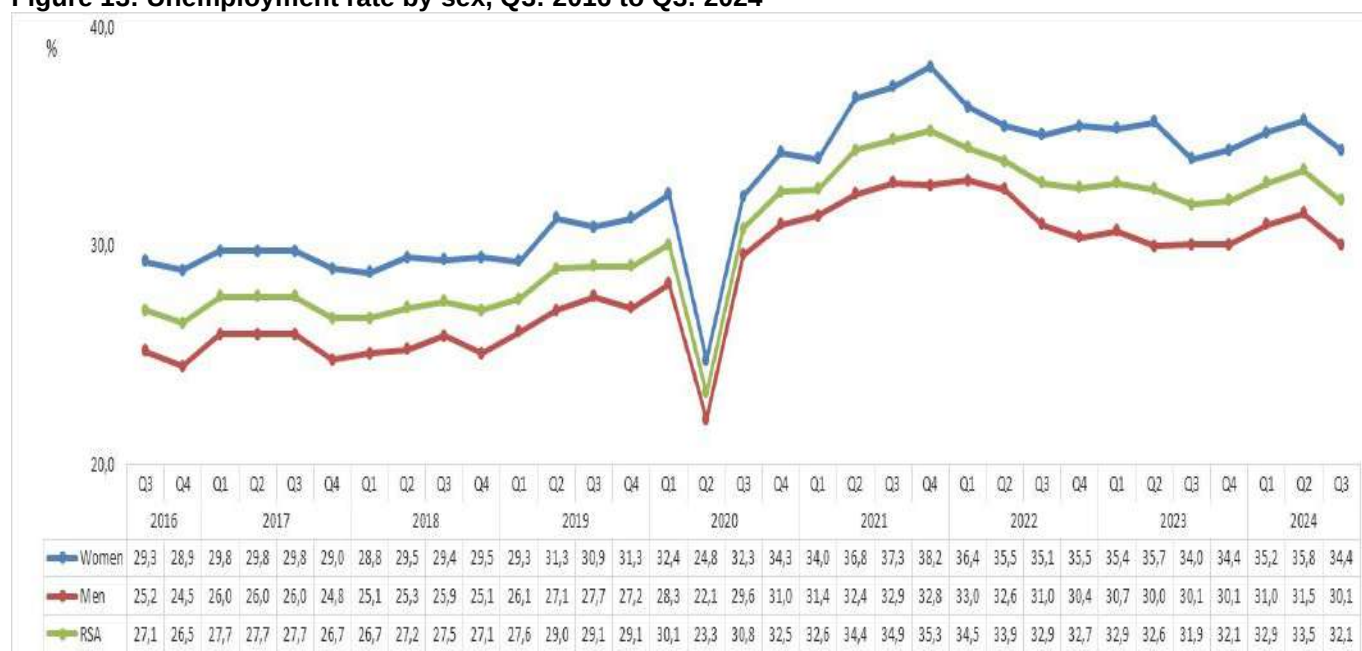
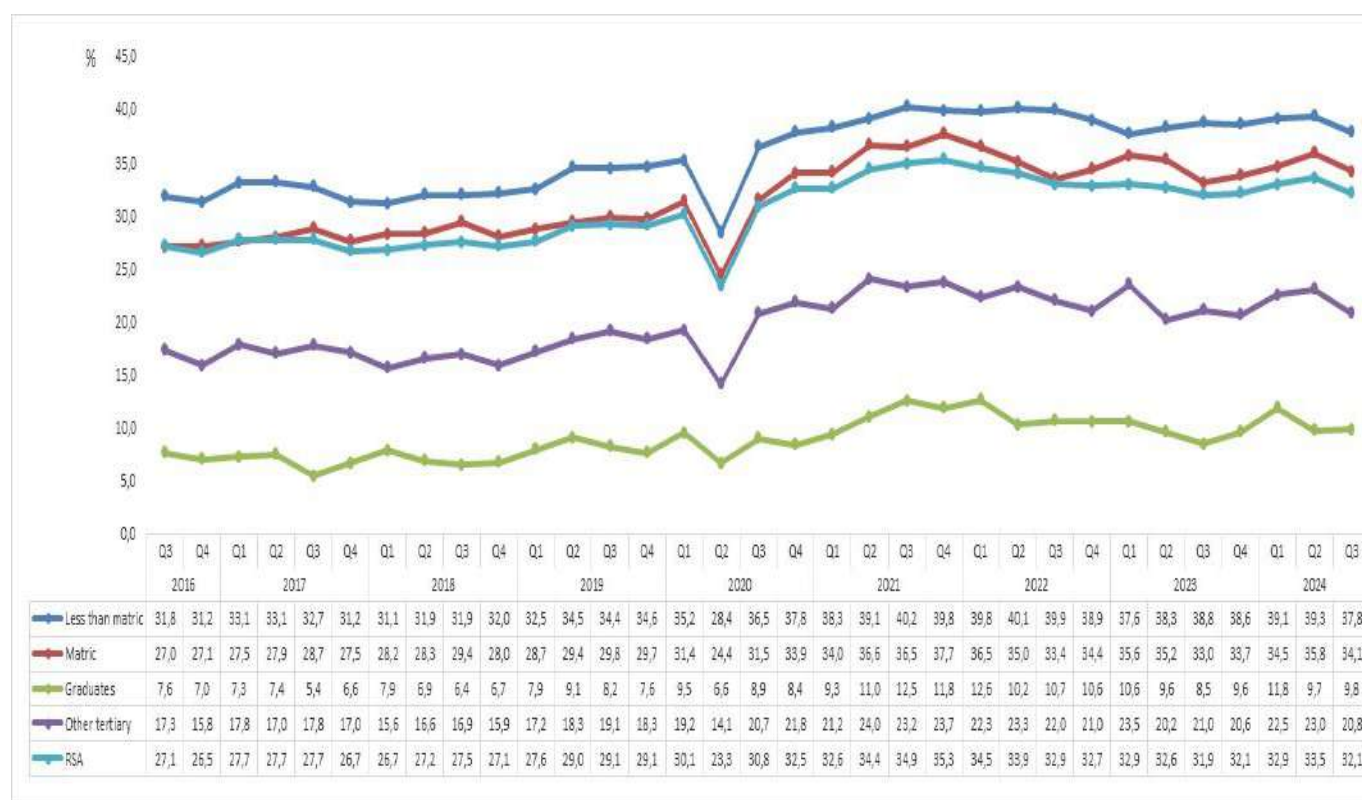
Figure 13: Unemployment rate by sex, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024

Figure 14: Unemployment rate by education status, Q3: 2016 to Q3: 2024

7. The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) and the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES)

Stats SA conducts two official sources of employment statistics surveys: QES (which is establishment based) and QLFS (which is household based). Each survey has its strengths and limitations. For example, QES cannot provide information on the following:

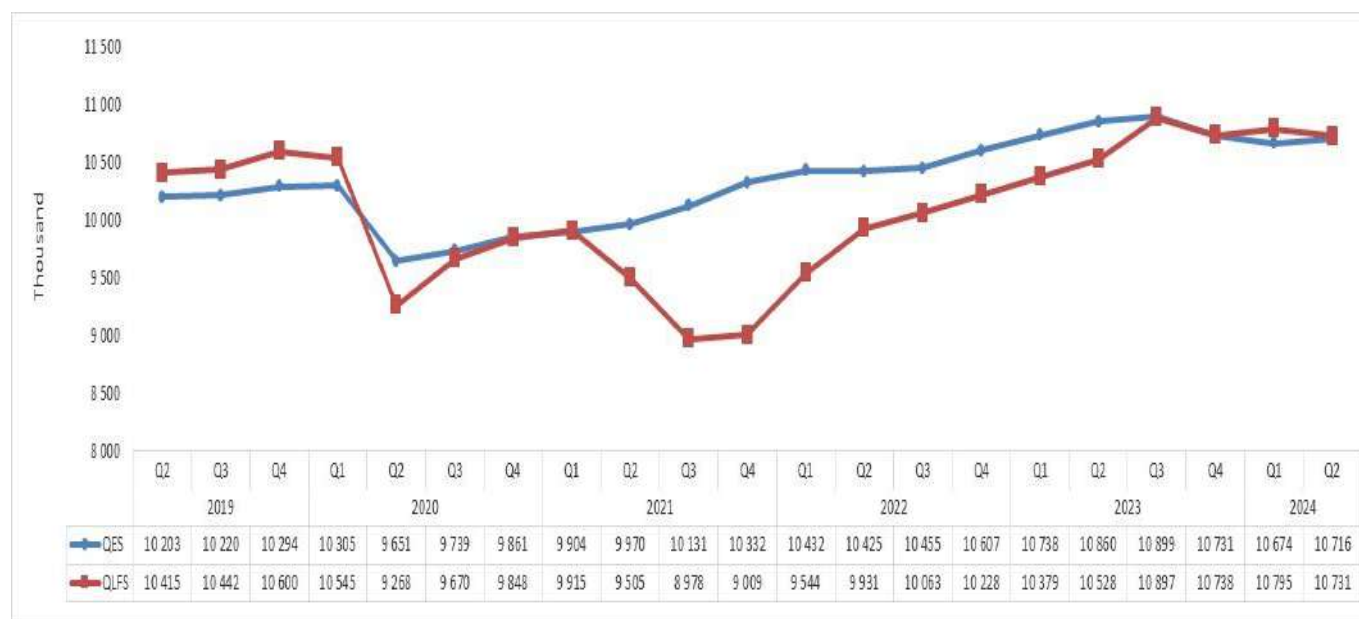
- description of the employed, e.g. their demographic profile, education level, hours of work, etc.; and
- unemployment and descriptors of the unemployed.

QLFS is a survey of households that collects information from approximately 30 000 dwelling units and collects data on the labour market activities of individuals, whereas QES is an enterprise-based survey that collects information from non-agricultural businesses and organisations from approximately 20 000 units. Numerous conceptual and methodological differences between the household- and enterprise-based surveys result in important distinctions in employment estimates derived from surveys. Among these are:

- The household-based survey includes agricultural workers, self-employed workers whose businesses are unincorporated, unpaid family workers, and private household workers among the employed; these groups are excluded from the enterprise-based QES survey.
- The household-based survey is limited to workers 15 years of age and older, whereas the enterprise-based survey is not limited by age.
- The household-based survey has no duplication of individuals because individuals are counted only once, even if they hold more than one job. In the enterprise-based survey, employees working at more than one job and thus appearing on more than one payroll are counted separately for each appearance.
- QLFS includes income tax, VAT and number of employees in determining the formal sector, while QES surveys enterprises with only VAT with annual turnover greater than R300 000.
- QLFS allows for proxy responses (a household member responding on behalf of the other). This can introduce misclassification of items, e.g. formal/informal classification.

Table F: Key differences between the QLFS and the QES

	QLFS	QES
Coverage	Private households and workers' hostels Non-institutional population (15 years and older) Total employment (including Informal sector, Private households, Agriculture and small businesses)	Payroll of VAT-registered businesses Employees only Formal sector, excluding Agriculture
Sample size	Quarterly sample of approximately 30 000 dwellings in which households reside	Quarterly sample of 20 000 non-agricultural formal-sector businesses
Reference period	One week prior to the interview	Payroll on the last day of the quarter
Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)	All industries	Excluding Agriculture and Private households
Formal sector definition (excluding Agriculture and Private households)	Employers and own-account workers registered for VAT or income tax Employees paying income tax and those not paying tax but working in firms with five or more workers	Employees on a payroll of VAT-registered businesses

Figure 15: Formal sector (non-agricultural) employment trends in QLFS and QES, Q2: 2019 to Q2: 2024 (employees only)

8. Technical notes

8.1 Response details

Table G: Response rates by province and metropolitan area

Province / metropolitan area	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024
National	88,6	87,8
Western Cape	85,2	84,1
Non-metro	89,2	88,4
City of Cape Town	83,2	82,0
Eastern Cape	96,3	95,3
Non-metro	97,3	96,3
Buffalo City	93,7	94,3
Nelson Mandela Bay	95,0	92,4
Northern Cape	84,4	84,7
Free State	93,5	92,4
Non-metro	95,8	94,7
Mangaung	87,7	86,2
KwaZulu-Natal	91,6	92,3
Non-metro	92,9	93,6
eThekweni	89,5	90,2
North West	91,3	90,7
Gauteng	78,8	76,1
Non-metro	87,2	84,0
Ekurhuleni	80,0	81,1
City of Johannesburg	72,4	67,8
City of Tshwane	83,3	82,6
Mpumalanga	95,1	94,5
Limpopo	97,5	97,8

8.2 Survey requirements and design

QLFS uses the Master Sample frame that has been developed as a general-purpose household survey frame that can be used by all other Stats SA household-based surveys having design requirements that are reasonably compatible with the QLFS. The 2013 Master Sample is based on information collected during the 2011 Census conducted by Stats SA. In preparation for Census 2011, the country was divided into 103 576 enumeration areas (EAs). Census EAs, together with auxiliary information for the EAs, were used as frame units or building blocks for formation of primary sampling units (PSUs) for the Master Sample. They covered the entire country and had other information that is crucial for stratification and creation of PSUs. There are 3 324 primary sampling units (PSUs) in the Master Sample, with an expected sample of approximately 33 000 dwelling units (DUs). The number of PSUs in the current Master Sample (3 324) reflects an 8,0% increase in the size of the Master Sample compared with the previous Master Sample in 2008 (which had 3 080 PSUs). The larger Master Sample of PSUs was selected to improve precision (smaller coefficients of variation, known as CVs) of the QLFS estimates.

The Master Sample is designed to be representative at provincial level and at metro/non-metro levels. Within metros, the sample is further distributed by geographical type. The three geography types used are Urban, Tribal and Farms. This implies, for example, that within a metropolitan area the sample is representative of different geography types that may exist within that metro.

It is divided equally into four subgroups or panels called rotation groups. Rotation groups are designed in such a way that each of these groups has the same distribution pattern as that which is observed in the whole sample. They are numbered from one (1) to four (4), and these numbers also correspond to the quarters of the year in which the sample will be rotated for the particular group.

A sample for the QLFS is based on a stratified two-stage design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of PSUs in the first stage, and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling in the second stage.

8.3 Sample rotation

For each quarter of the QLFS, a quarter of the sampled dwellings are rotated out of the sample. These dwellings are replaced by new dwellings from the same PSU or the next PSU on the list. Thus, sampled dwellings are expected to remain in the sample for four consecutive quarters. It should be noted that the sampling unit is the dwelling, and the unit of observation is the household. Therefore, if a household moves out of a dwelling after being in the sample for two quarters (for example) and a new household moves in, the new household will be enumerated for the next two quarters. If no household moves into the sampled dwelling, the dwelling will be classified as vacant (or unoccupied).

8.4 Weighting

Sample weights were constructed in order to account for: the original selection probabilities (design weights); adjustments for PSUs that were sub-sampled or segmented; excluded population from the sampling frame (EAs with insufficient DUs); non-response; weight trimming; benchmarking to known population estimates from the Demographic Analysis Chief Directorate within Stats SA.

8.4.1 Non-response adjustment

In general, imputation is used for item non-response (i.e. blanks within the questionnaire) and edit failures (i.e. invalid or inconsistent responses). Eligible households in sampled dwellings can be divided into two response categories: respondents and non-respondents. Weight adjustment is applied to account for the non-respondent households (e.g. refusal, no contact, etc.). Adjustment for total non-response was computed at two levels of non-response: PSU non-response and household non-response.

8.4.2 Calibrated survey weights

Calibrated sample weights are constructed such that all individuals within a household are assigned the same adjusted base weight. Adjusted base weights are calibrated such that the aggregate totals will match with independently derived population estimates (from the Stats SA Demographic Analysis Chief Directorate) for various age, race and gender groups at national level and individual metropolitan and non-metropolitan area levels within provinces. Calibrated weights are constructed using the constraint that each person within the same household, should have the same calibrated weight, with a lower bound on the calibrated weights set at 50.

8.5 Estimation

Final survey weights are used to obtain the estimates for various domains of interest, e.g. number of persons employed in Agriculture in Western Cape, the number of females employed in Manufacturing, etc.

8.6 Reliability of the survey estimates

Since estimates are based on sample data, they differ from figures that would have been obtained from complete enumeration of the population using the same instrument. Results are subject to both sampling and non-sampling errors. Non-sampling errors include biases from inaccurate reporting, processing, and tabulation, etc., as well as errors from non-responses and incomplete reporting. These types of errors cannot be measured readily. However, to some extent, non-sampling errors can be minimised through the procedures used for data collection, editing, quality control, and non-response adjustment. The variances of the survey estimates are used to measure sampling errors.

(i) Variance estimation

Most commonly used methods for estimating variances of survey estimates from complex surveys such as the QLFS are the Taylor-series Linearization, Jack-knife Replication, Balanced Repeated Replication (BRR), and Bootstrap methods (Wolter, 2007).¹ The Fay's BRR method has been used for variance estimation in the QLFS because of its simplicity.

(ii) Coefficient of variation

It is more useful in many situations to assess the size of standard error relative to magnitude of the characteristic being measured (the standard error is defined as the square root of the variance). The **coefficient of variation** (CV) provides such a measure. It is the **ratio of the standard error of the survey estimate to the value of the estimate itself expressed as a percentage**. It is very useful in comparing the precision of several different survey estimates, where their sizes or scales differ from one another.

(iii) P-value of an estimate of change

The p-value corresponding to an estimate of change is the probability of observing a value larger than the particular observed value under the hypothesis that there is no real change. If the p-value $< 0,01$, the difference is highly significant; if p-value is between 0,01 and 0,05, the difference is significant; and if p-value $> 0,05$, the difference is not significant.

9. Definitions

Discouraged work-seeker is a person who was not employed during the reference period, wanted to work, was available to work/start a business but did not take active steps to find work during the last four weeks, provided that the main reason given for not seeking work was any of the following: no jobs available in the area; unable to find work requiring his/her skills; lost hope of finding any kind of work.

Economic activities are those activities that contribute to the production of goods and services in the country. There are two types of economic activities, namely: (1) Market production activities (work done for others and usually associated with pay or profit); and (2) Non-market production activities (work done for the benefit of the household, e.g. subsistence farming).

Employed persons are those aged 15–64 years who, during the reference week, did any work for at least one hour, or had a job or business but were not at work (i.e. were temporarily absent).

Employment-to-population ratio (labour absorption rate) is the proportion of the working-age population that is employed.

¹Wolter, K.M. 2007. *Introduction to Variance Estimation*, 2nd Edition. New York: Springer-Verlag.

Informal employment identifies persons who are in precarious employment situations, irrespective of whether or not the entity for which they work is in the formal or informal sector. Persons in informal employment, therefore, comprise all persons in the informal sector, employees in the formal sector, and persons working in private households who are not entitled to or receive basic benefits such as pension or medical aid contributions from their employer, and who do not have a written contract of employment.

Informal sector: The informal sector has the following two components:

- i) employees working in establishments that employ fewer than five employees, who do not deduct income tax from their salaries/wages; and
- ii) employers, own-account workers and persons helping unpaid in their household business who are not registered for either income tax or value-added tax.

The **labour force** comprises all persons who are employed, plus all persons who are unemployed.

Labour force participation rate is the proportion of the working-age population that is either employed or unemployed.

Long-term unemployment: Persons in long-term unemployment are those individuals among the unemployed who were without work and trying to find a job or start a business for one year or more.

Not economically active: Persons aged 15–64 years who are neither employed nor unemployed in the reference week.

Persons in **underemployment (time-related)** are employed persons who were willing and available to work additional hours, whose total number of hours actually worked during the reference period were below 35 hours per week.

Under-utilised labour comprises three groups that are defined as follows: persons who are underemployed, persons who are unemployed, and persons who are discouraged.

Unemployed persons according to the **Official definition** are those (aged 15–64 years) who:

- a) were not employed in the reference week; **and**
- b) actively looked for work or tried to start a business in the four weeks preceding the survey interview; **and**
- c) were available for work, i.e. would have been able to start work or a business in the reference week; **or**
- d) had not actively looked for work in the past four weeks but had a job or business to start at a definite date in the future and were available.

Unemployed persons according to the **Expanded definition** are those (aged 15–64 years) who:

- a) fall under official unemployment (searched and available); **and**
- b) were available to work but are/or:
 - discouraged work-seekers
 - have other reasons for not searching

Unemployment rate is the proportion of the labour force that is unemployed.

The **working-age population** comprises all persons aged 15–64 years.

Appendix 1

Table 1: Population of working age (15–64 years)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Women	20 599	20 664	20 729	20 795	20 859	64	260	0,3	1,3
Men	20 287	20 357	20 429	20 501	20 572	71	285	0,3	1,4
Population groups	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Black African	33 451	33 589	33 728	33 867	34 004	137	553	0,4	1,7
Coloured	3 591	3 596	3 601	3 606	3 611	5	20	0,1	0,6
Indian/Asian	1 047	1 049	1 051	1 053	1 055	2	8	0,2	0,8
White	2 797	2 787	2 778	2 769	2 760	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3
South Africa	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Western Cape	4 997	5 016	5 035	5 054	5 073	19	75	0,4	1,5
Eastern Cape	4 512	4 525	4 539	4 553	4 566	13	55	0,3	1,2
Northern Cape	834	836	838	840	841	2	7	0,2	0,8
Free State	1 935	1 937	1 938	1 939	1 940	1	5	0,1	0,3
KwaZulu-Natal	7 556	7 581	7 607	7 633	7 658	25	102	0,3	1,4
North West	2 771	2 780	2 789	2 799	2 808	9	37	0,3	1,3
Gauteng	11 148	11 190	11 232	11 275	11 317	42	169	0,4	1,5
Mpumalanga	3 136	3 146	3 157	3 168	3 178	11	43	0,3	1,4
Limpopo	3 998	4 010	4 023	4 036	4 049	13	52	0,3	1,3

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex – All population groups									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	24 594	24 619	24 971	25 036	24 957	-79	363	-0,3	1,5
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 616	11 488	11 544	11 467	11 589	122	-27	1,1	-0,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 058	3 181	3 082	3 129	3 295	165	237	5,3	7,7
Agriculture	956	920	941	896	935	39	-21	4,4	-2,2
Private households	1 116	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	-32	12	-2,8	1,1
Unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
Discouraged work-seekers	3 156	3 049	3 048	3 195	3 355	160	199	5,0	6,3
Other (not economically active)	13 136	13 354	13 140	13 065	13 119	54	-17	0,4	-0,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,9	32,1	32,9	33,5	32,1	-1,4	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	60,2	60,0	60,7	60,6	60,2	-0,4	0,0		
Women									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 599	20 664	20 729	20 795	20 859	64	260	0,3	1,3
Labour force	11 375	11 325	11 529	11 595	11 505	-90	129	-0,8	1,1
Employed	7 509	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	97	36	1,3	0,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5 173	5 114	5 189	5 163	5 216	53	42	1,0	0,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 180	1 149	1 119	1 140	1 191	51	11	4,4	0,9
Agriculture	299	292	300	274	284	10	-15	3,8	-5,0
Private households	856	874	867	871	854	-18	-3	-2,0	-0,3
Unemployed	3 867	3 896	4 054	4 147	3 960	-187	93	-4,5	2,4
Not economically active	9 224	9 339	9 200	9 200	9 354	154	131	1,7	1,4
Discouraged work-seekers	1 699	1 629	1 668	1 713	1 829	116	130	6,8	7,6
Other (not economically active)	7 525	7 710	7 532	7 487	7 526	39	1	0,5	0,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,0	34,4	35,2	35,8	34,4	-1,4	0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,5	36,0	36,1	35,8	36,2	0,4	-0,3		
Labour force participation rate	55,2	54,8	55,6	55,8	55,2	-0,6	0,0		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex – All population groups (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Men									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 287	20 357	20 429	20 501	20 572	71	285	0,3	1,4
Labour force	13 218	13 294	13 441	13 441	13 452	11	234	0,1	1,8
Employed	9 236	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	197	166	2,1	1,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6 443	6 374	6 355	6 304	6 373	69	-70	1,1	-1,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 878	2 033	1 963	1 989	2 104	115	226	5,8	12,0
Agriculture	656	628	641	622	651	29	-6	4,6	-0,9
Private households	259	260	311	289	274	-15	15	-5,1	5,8
Unemployed	3 983	4 000	4 172	4 237	4 050	-186	68	-4,4	1,7
Not economically active	7 068	7 064	6 988	7 060	7 119	60	51	0,8	0,7
Discouraged work-seekers	1 457	1 420	1 379	1 482	1 526	44	69	3,0	4,7
Other (not economically active)	5 611	5 644	5 608	5 578	5 593	15	-18	0,3	-0,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,1	30,1	31,0	31,5	30,1	-1,4	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,5	45,7	45,4	44,9	45,7	0,8	0,2		
Labour force participation rate	65,2	65,3	65,8	65,6	65,4	-0,2	0,2		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.1: Labour force characteristics by population group									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	24 594	24 619	24 971	25 036	24 957	-79	363	-0,3	1,5
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,9	32,1	32,9	33,5	32,1	-1,4	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	60,2	60,0	60,7	60,6	60,2	-0,4	0,0		
Black African									
Population 15–64 yrs	33 451	33 589	33 728	33 867	34 004	137	553	0,4	1,7
Labour force	19 858	19 935	20 204	20 300	20 225	-75	367	-0,4	1,8
Employed	12 703	12 746	12 744	12 668	12 934	266	231	2,1	1,8
Unemployed	7 155	7 189	7 460	7 632	7 291	-341	136	-4,5	1,9
Not economically active	13 593	13 654	13 524	13 567	13 780	212	187	1,6	1,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,0	36,1	36,9	37,6	36,1	-1,5	0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,0	37,9	37,8	37,4	38,0	0,6	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	59,4	59,4	59,9	59,9	59,5	-0,4	0,1		
Coloured									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 591	3 596	3 601	3 606	3 611	5	20	0,1	0,6
Labour force	2 204	2 186	2 228	2 197	2 188	-9	-16	-0,4	-0,7
Employed	1 729	1 711	1 716	1 685	1 726	41	-4	2,4	-0,2
Unemployed	475	475	511	513	462	-51	-13	-9,9	-2,6
Not economically active	1 387	1 410	1 374	1 409	1 423	14	36	1,0	2,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	21,5	21,7	23,0	23,3	21,1	-2,2	-0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	48,2	47,6	47,7	46,7	47,8	1,1	-0,4		
Labour force participation rate	61,4	60,8	61,9	60,9	60,6	-0,3	-0,8		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.1: Labour force characteristics by population group (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Indian/Asian									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 047	1 049	1 051	1 053	1 055	2	8	0,2	0,8
Labour force	627	609	620	641	669	28	41	4,3	6,6
Employed	553	538	542	552	564	12	12	2,2	2,1
Unemployed	74	71	78	89	104	15	30	17,3	40,3
Not economically active	420	440	432	413	387	-26	-33	-6,2	-7,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	11,8	11,7	12,6	13,9	15,6	1,7	3,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,8	51,3	51,5	52,4	53,5	1,1	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	59,9	58,0	58,9	60,8	63,3	2,5	3,4		
White									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 797	2 787	2 778	2 769	2 760	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3
Labour force	1 905	1 888	1 919	1 898	1 875	-23	-29	-1,2	-1,5
Employed	1 760	1 728	1 743	1 748	1 723	-25	-37	-1,4	-2,1
Unemployed	145	160	177	150	153	3	8	1,7	5,6
Not economically active	892	899	859	871	884	13	-8	1,5	-0,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	7,6	8,5	9,2	7,9	8,2	0,3	0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	62,9	62,0	62,7	63,1	62,4	-0,7	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	68,1	67,7	69,1	68,6	68,0	-0,6	-0,1		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.2: Labour force characteristics by age group									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
15–64 years									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	24 594	24 619	24 971	25 036	24 957	-79	363	-0,3	1,5
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,9	32,1	32,9	33,5	32,1	-1,4	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	60,2	60,0	60,7	60,6	60,2	-0,4	0,0		
15–24 years									
Population 15–24 yrs	10 239	10 247	10 255	10 262	10 273	11	34	0,1	0,3
Labour force	2 736	2 705	2 750	2 780	2 729	-51	-7	-1,8	-0,3
Employed	1 150	1 098	1 107	1 089	1 086	-3	-64	-0,3	-5,6
Unemployed	1 586	1 607	1 642	1 691	1 643	-48	57	-2,8	3,6
Not economically active	7 503	7 541	7 505	7 483	7 544	61	41	0,8	0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	58,0	59,4	59,7	60,8	60,2	-0,6	2,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	11,2	10,7	10,8	10,6	10,6	0,0	-0,6		
Labour force participation rate	26,7	26,4	26,8	27,1	26,6	-0,5	-0,1		
25–34 years									
Population 25–34 yrs	10 559	10 573	10 586	10 600	10 609	9	50	0,1	0,5
Labour force	7 798	7 819	8 002	7 935	7 881	-54	83	-0,7	1,1
Employed	4 811	4 766	4 749	4 630	4 699	69	-112	1,5	-2,3
Unemployed	2 987	3 053	3 253	3 306	3 182	-123	196	-3,7	6,5
Not economically active	2 761	2 754	2 584	2 665	2 728	63	-34	2,4	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,3	39,0	40,7	41,7	40,4	-1,3	2,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,6	45,1	44,9	43,7	44,3	0,6	-1,3		
Labour force participation rate	73,8	74,0	75,6	74,9	74,3	-0,6	0,5		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.2: Labour force characteristics by age group (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
35–44 years									
Population 35–44 yrs	9 008	9 051	9 095	9 138	9 180	41	171	0,5	1,9
Labour force	7 182	7 196	7 225	7 251	7 263	13	81	0,2	1,1
Employed	5 099	5 200	5 178	5 169	5 303	134	204	2,6	4,0
Unemployed	2 083	1 996	2 047	2 082	1 960	-122	-123	-5,9	-5,9
Not economically active	1 826	1 855	1 870	1 888	1 916	29	90	1,5	4,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	29,0	27,7	28,3	28,7	27,0	-1,7	-2,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	56,6	57,4	56,9	56,6	57,8	1,2	1,2		
Labour force participation rate	79,7	79,5	79,4	79,3	79,1	-0,2	-0,6		
45–54 years									
Population 45–54 yrs	6 741	6 788	6 836	6 884	6 931	47	190	0,7	2,8
Labour force	5 005	5 012	5 062	5 127	5 122	-5	117	-0,1	2,3
Employed	4 016	3 988	4 009	4 065	4 105	40	88	1,0	2,2
Unemployed	989	1 024	1 053	1 063	1 018	-45	29	-4,2	2,9
Not economically active	1 736	1 776	1 774	1 757	1 808	52	72	2,9	4,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	19,8	20,4	20,8	20,7	19,9	-0,8	0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	59,6	58,7	58,7	59,0	59,2	0,2	-0,4		
Labour force participation rate	74,2	73,8	74,0	74,5	73,9	-0,6	-0,3		
55–64 years									
Population 55–64 yrs	4 338	4 363	4 387	4 411	4 439	27	100	0,6	2,3
Labour force	1 873	1 887	1 932	1 943	1 961	18	88	0,9	4,7
Employed	1 669	1 672	1 701	1 701	1 754	54	85	3,1	5,1
Unemployed	204	215	230	242	207	-36	3	-14,7	1,3
Not economically active	2 465	2 476	2 455	2 468	2 478	10	12	0,4	0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	10,9	11,4	11,9	12,5	10,5	-2,0	-0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,5	38,3	38,8	38,6	39,5	0,9	1,0		
Labour force participation rate	43,2	43,2	44,0	44,1	44,2	0,1	1,0		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	24 594	24 619	24 971	25 036	24 957	-79	363	-0,3	1,5
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
Discouraged work-seekers	3 156	3 049	3 048	3 195	3 355	160	199	5,0	6,3
Other (not economically active)	13 136	13 354	13 140	13 065	13 119	54	-17	0,4	-0,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,9	32,1	32,9	33,5	32,1	-1,4	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	60,2	60,0	60,7	60,6	60,2	-0,4	0,0		
Western Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 997	5 016	5 035	5 054	5 073	19	75	0,4	1,5
Labour force	3 427	3 459	3 486	3 439	3 419	-21	-8	-0,6	-0,2
Employed	2 734	2 757	2 740	2 675	2 749	75	15	2,8	0,6
Unemployed	693	702	745	765	670	-95	-23	-12,4	-3,4
Not economically active	1 571	1 557	1 550	1 615	1 654	39	83	2,4	5,3
Discouraged work-seekers	140	162	125	146	169	23	29	16,0	21,0
Other (not economically active)	1 431	1 395	1 425	1 469	1 485	16	54	1,1	3,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,2	20,3	21,4	22,2	19,6	-2,6	-0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	54,7	55,0	54,4	52,9	54,2	1,3	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	68,6	69,0	69,2	68,1	67,4	-0,7	-1,2		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Western Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 814	1 821	1 827	1 834	1 841	7	27	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 157	1 139	1 197	1 154	1 159	5	1	0,4	0,1
Employed	989	969	999	925	993	68	4	7,4	0,4
Unemployed	168	170	199	229	166	-63	-2	-27,7	-1,5
Not economically active	657	682	630	680	682	2	26	0,3	3,9
Discouraged work-seekers	100	124	91	113	121	8	21	7,5	21,2
Other (not economically active)	557	558	539	568	561	-6	4	-1,1	0,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	14,5	14,9	16,6	19,9	14,3	-5,6	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	54,5	53,2	54,6	50,4	53,9	3,5	-0,6		
Labour force participation rate	63,8	62,6	65,5	62,9	62,9	0,0	-0,9		
Western Cape – City of Cape Town									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 184	3 196	3 208	3 220	3 232	12	48	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 269	2 320	2 288	2 285	2 260	-25	-9	-1,1	-0,4
Employed	1 745	1 788	1 741	1 750	1 756	6	12	0,4	0,7
Unemployed	525	532	547	536	504	-32	-21	-5,9	-4,0
Not economically active	914	876	919	934	972	37	57	4,0	6,3
Discouraged work-seekers	40	38	34	33	48	15	8	45,1	20,4
Other (not economically active)	874	838	886	901	924	22	49	2,5	5,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	23,1	22,9	23,9	23,4	22,3	-1,1	-0,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	54,8	55,9	54,3	54,3	54,3	0,0	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	71,3	72,6	71,3	71,0	69,9	-1,1	-1,4		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Eastern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 512	4 525	4 539	4 553	4 566	13	55	0,3	1,2
Labour force	2 385	2 320	2 332	2 319	2 312	-7	-73	-0,3	-3,1
Employed	1 459	1 348	1 344	1 369	1 452	83	-7	6,1	-0,5
Unemployed	926	973	988	951	861	-90	-66	-9,4	-7,1
Not economically active	2 126	2 205	2 207	2 234	2 254	20	127	0,9	6,0
Discouraged work-seekers	157	162	224	300	334	34	177	11,4	113,2
Other (not economically active)	1 970	2 043	1 983	1 934	1 920	-14	-50	-0,7	-2,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,8	41,9	42,4	41,0	37,2	-3,8	-1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,3	29,8	29,6	30,1	31,8	1,7	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	52,9	51,3	51,4	50,9	50,6	-0,3	-2,3		
Eastern Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 079	3 087	3 095	3 103	3 111	8	32	0,3	1,1
Labour force	1 489	1 438	1 437	1 434	1 412	-22	-77	-1,5	-5,2
Employed	849	761	744	768	793	25	-56	3,2	-6,6
Unemployed	640	677	693	666	619	-47	-21	-7,1	-3,3
Not economically active	1 590	1 649	1 658	1 669	1 699	30	109	1,8	6,9
Discouraged work-seekers	149	154	220	286	319	33	170	11,7	114,3
Other (not economically active)	1 441	1 494	1 438	1 383	1 379	-3	-61	-0,2	-4,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	43,0	47,1	48,2	46,5	43,9	-2,6	0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	27,6	24,7	24,1	24,8	25,5	0,7	-2,1		
Labour force participation rate	48,4	46,6	46,4	46,2	45,4	-0,8	-3,0		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City									
Population 15–64 yrs	553	555	557	559	561	2	8	0,4	1,5
Labour force	372	389	383	378	375	-3	3	-0,7	0,9
Employed	253	261	253	250	262	12	9	4,8	3,5
Unemployed	118	129	129	127	113	-15	-6	-11,5	-4,7
Not economically active	181	166	174	182	186	5	5	2,6	2,8
Discouraged work-seekers			3	2	4	1		49,6	
Other (not economically active)	181	166	171	179	183	4	2	2,0	0,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,8	33,0	33,8	33,7	30,1	-3,6	-1,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,8	47,0	45,5	44,7	46,7	2,0	0,9		
Labour force participation rate	67,2	70,1	68,7	67,5	66,8	-0,7	-0,4		
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15–64 yrs	880	883	887	890	894	3	14	0,4	1,6
Labour force	524	493	512	507	525	18	1	3,6	0,1
Employed	357	326	346	350	396	46	40	13,2	11,2
Unemployed	168	167	166	157	129	-28	-39	-17,9	-23,3
Not economically active	356	390	375	383	369	-15	13	-3,8	3,7
Discouraged work-seekers	8	8	1	11	11	0	3	-2,8	45,3
Other (not economically active)	348	382	374	372	358	-14	10	-3,8	2,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,0	33,9	32,4	30,9	24,5	-6,4	-7,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,5	36,9	39,0	39,3	44,4	5,1	3,9		
Labour force participation rate	59,6	55,8	57,7	57,0	58,8	1,8	-0,8		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Northern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	834	836	838	840	841	2	7	0,2	0,8
Labour force	446	447	462	461	484	23	39	5,0	8,7
Employed	328	327	331	314	337	23	9	7,4	2,6
Unemployed	117	120	131	147	147	0	30	-0,2	25,7
Not economically active	389	389	376	378	357	-21	-32	-5,6	-8,2
Discouraged work-seekers	94	103	86	90	82	-7	-12	-8,1	-12,8
Other (not economically active)	294	286	289	289	275	-14	-20	-4,9	-6,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	26,3	26,9	28,3	32,0	30,4	-1,6	4,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,1	39,5	37,4	40,1	2,7	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	53,4	53,5	55,1	54,9	57,6	2,7	4,2		
Free State									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 935	1 937	1 938	1 939	1 940	1	5	0,1	0,3
Labour force	1 183	1 178	1 197	1 194	1 212	17	28	1,4	2,4
Employed	727	742	742	745	775	30	48	4,1	6,6
Unemployed	456	436	455	449	436	-13	-20	-2,9	-4,4
Not economically active	752	759	741	745	729	-16	-23	-2,2	-3,1
Discouraged work-seekers	110	117	125	129	118	-11	8	-8,9	7,3
Other (not economically active)	642	642	616	615	611	-5	-31	-0,7	-4,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,5	37,0	38,0	37,6	36,0	-1,6	-2,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,6	38,3	38,3	38,4	40,0	1,6	2,4		
Labour force participation rate	61,1	60,8	61,8	61,6	62,4	0,8	1,3		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Free State – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 379	1 380	1 381	1 382	1 383	1	4	0,1	0,3
Labour force	851	850	869	860	870	10	19	1,2	2,2
Employed	509	524	513	513	528	15	18	2,9	3,6
Unemployed	342	326	356	347	342	-5	0	-1,4	0,1
Not economically active	528	529	512	522	513	-9	-15	-1,8	-2,9
Discouraged work-seekers	66	68	75	87	82	-6	16	-6,5	24,3
Other (not economically active)	462	461	437	435	431	-4	-31	-0,9	-6,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	40,2	38,3	41,0	40,4	39,3	-1,1	-0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,9	38,0	37,2	37,1	38,2	1,1	1,3		
Labour force participation rate	61,7	61,6	62,9	62,2	62,9	0,7	1,2		
Free State – Mangaung									
Population 15–64 yrs	556	557	557	557	558	0	1	0,1	0,3
Labour force	332	327	328	335	342	7	9	2,1	2,8
Employed	218	217	229	233	248	15	30	6,5	13,7
Unemployed	114	110	99	102	94	-8	-20	-8,0	-17,8
Not economically active	224	229	229	223	216	-7	-8	-2,9	-3,6
Discouraged work-seekers	44	48	50	42	36	-6	-8	-13,8	-17,7
Other (not economically active)	180	181	179	180	180	-1	0	-0,4	-0,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,4	33,5	30,1	30,5	27,5	-3,0	-6,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,2	39,1	41,1	41,7	44,4	2,7	5,2		
Labour force participation rate	59,7	58,8	58,8	60,1	61,3	1,2	1,6		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
KwaZulu-Natal									
Population 15–64 yrs	7 556	7 581	7 607	7 633	7 658	25	102	0,3	1,4
Labour force	3 958	4 053	4 126	4 124	4 128	4	170	0,1	4,3
Employed	2 794	2 856	2 891	2 842	2 840	-2	46	-0,1	1,7
Unemployed	1 164	1 197	1 235	1 281	1 287	6	123	0,5	10,6
Not economically active	3 598	3 528	3 480	3 509	3 530	22	-67	0,6	-1,9
Discouraged work-seekers	915	790	771	825	881	56	-34	6,8	-3,8
Other (not economically active)	2 682	2 738	2 709	2 684	2 649	-34	-33	-1,3	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	29,4	29,5	29,9	31,1	31,2	0,1	1,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,0	37,7	38,0	37,2	37,1	-0,1	0,1		
Labour force participation rate	52,4	53,5	54,2	54,0	53,9	-0,1	1,5		
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 913	4 928	4 943	4 959	4 974	15	61	0,3	1,2
Labour force	2 384	2 431	2 496	2 499	2 465	-34	81	-1,4	3,4
Employed	1 574	1 593	1 618	1 590	1 519	-71	-55	-4,5	-3,5
Unemployed	809	838	877	908	945	37	136	4,1	16,8
Not economically active	2 529	2 497	2 448	2 460	2 509	50	-20	2,0	-0,8
Discouraged work-seekers	631	531	481	530	561	30	-71	5,7	-11,2
Other (not economically active)	1 898	1 967	1 967	1 930	1 949	19	51	1,0	2,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,9	34,5	35,1	36,4	38,4	2,0	4,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,0	32,3	32,7	32,1	30,5	-1,6	-1,5		
Labour force participation rate	48,5	49,3	50,5	50,4	49,5	-0,9	1,0		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 643	2 653	2 663	2 674	2 684	10	41	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 574	1 622	1 631	1 625	1 663	38	89	2,4	5,6
Employed	1 219	1 263	1 273	1 252	1 321	69	102	5,5	8,3
Unemployed	355	359	358	373	342	-31	-13	-8,3	-3,6
Not economically active	1 068	1 031	1 033	1 049	1 021	-28	-48	-2,7	-4,5
Discouraged work-seekers	284	259	290	295	320	26	36	8,7	12,8
Other (not economically active)	784	771	742	754	700	-54	-84	-7,1	-10,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	22,5	22,1	22,0	23,0	20,6	-2,4	-1,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,1	47,6	47,8	46,8	49,2	2,4	3,1		
Labour force participation rate	59,6	61,1	61,2	60,8	62,0	1,2	2,4		
North West									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 771	2 780	2 789	2 799	2 808	9	37	0,3	1,3
Labour force	1 533	1 493	1 511	1 511	1 511	0	-22	0,0	-1,5
Employed	942	912	899	887	956	69	14	7,7	1,4
Unemployed	591	582	612	624	555	-68	-36	-11,0	-6,1
Not economically active	1 237	1 287	1 279	1 288	1 297	9	59	0,7	4,8
Discouraged work-seekers	310	339	339	328	338	10	29	3,0	9,3
Other (not economically active)	928	947	939	959	958	-1	31	-0,1	3,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,6	39,0	40,5	41,3	36,8	-4,5	-1,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,0	32,8	32,2	31,7	34,0	2,3	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	55,3	53,7	54,2	54,0	53,8	-0,2	-1,5		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng									
Population 15–64 yrs	11 148	11 190	11 232	11 275	11 317	42	169	0,4	1,5
Labour force	7 576	7 599	7 689	7 858	7 630	-228	53	-2,9	0,7
Employed	5 019	5 034	5 061	5 103	5 037	-66	17	-1,3	0,3
Unemployed	2 557	2 565	2 628	2 756	2 593	-162	36	-5,9	1,4
Not economically active	3 571	3 590	3 543	3 417	3 687	270	116	7,9	3,2
Discouraged work-seekers	611	502	534	461	572	111	-39	24,2	-6,4
Other (not economically active)	2 960	3 089	3 010	2 956	3 115	159	155	5,4	5,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,7	33,8	34,2	35,1	34,0	-1,1	0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,0	45,0	45,1	45,3	44,5	-0,8	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	68,0	67,9	68,5	69,7	67,4	-2,3	-0,6		
Gauteng – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 474	1 480	1 486	1 492	1 498	6	24	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 005	1 019	1 017	1 020	1 016	-4	11	-0,4	1,1
Employed	582	627	612	611	626	15	44	2,5	7,6
Unemployed	423	392	405	409	390	-19	-34	-4,7	-8,0
Not economically active	469	461	469	472	482	10	13	2,1	2,8
Discouraged work-seekers	83	82	107	107	121	14	39	13,1	46,6
Other (not economically active)	386	380	362	365	360	-4	-26	-1,1	-6,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,1	38,5	39,8	40,1	38,4	-1,7	-3,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,5	42,3	41,2	41,0	41,8	0,8	2,3		
Labour force participation rate	68,2	68,8	68,5	68,4	67,8	-0,6	-0,4		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 800	2 810	2 821	2 832	2 843	11	43	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 764	1 771	1 830	1 875	1 826	-48	63	-2,6	3,6
Employed	1 244	1 228	1 231	1 249	1 242	-7	-2	-0,5	-0,2
Unemployed	520	543	600	626	585	-41	65	-6,6	12,4
Not economically active	1 036	1 039	991	957	1 016	59	-20	6,1	-1,9
Discouraged work-seekers	258	218	211	166	223	57	-35	34,6	-13,6
Other (not economically active)	778	821	780	792	793	1	15	0,2	2,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	29,5	30,7	32,8	33,4	32,0	-1,4	2,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	44,4	43,7	43,6	44,1	43,7	-0,4	-0,7		
Labour force participation rate	63,0	63,0	64,9	66,2	64,3	-1,9	1,3		
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 136	4 151	4 166	4 182	4 197	15	62	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 893	2 855	2 883	3 009	2 810	-199	-83	-6,6	-2,9
Employed	1 949	1 909	1 947	1 978	1 862	-116	-87	-5,9	-4,5
Unemployed	945	946	937	1 031	948	-83	4	-8,1	0,4
Not economically active	1 242	1 296	1 283	1 173	1 387	214	145	18,3	11,7
Discouraged work-seekers	183	141	139	105	133	28	-50	26,4	-27,1
Other (not economically active)	1 059	1 154	1 144	1 067	1 254	186	194	17,5	18,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,6	33,1	32,5	34,3	33,7	-0,6	1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,1	46,0	46,7	47,3	44,4	-2,9	-2,7		
Labour force participation rate	70,0	68,8	69,2	72,0	67,0	-5,0	-3,0		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng – City of Tshwane									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 738	2 748	2 759	2 769	2 779	10	41	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 914	1 954	1 958	1 954	1 977	23	63	1,2	3,3
Employed	1 245	1 270	1 271	1 265	1 307	42	62	3,3	5,0
Unemployed	669	684	687	689	671	-19	2	-2,7	0,3
Not economically active	824	794	801	815	802	-12	-22	-1,5	-2,7
Discouraged work-seekers	87	61	78	82	94	12	7	14,7	7,8
Other (not economically active)	737	733	723	733	708	-24	-29	-3,3	-3,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,9	35,0	35,1	35,3	33,9	-1,4	-1,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,5	46,2	46,1	45,7	47,0	1,3	1,5		
Labour force participation rate	69,9	71,1	71,0	70,6	71,1	0,5	1,2		
Mpumalanga									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 136	3 146	3 157	3 168	3 178	11	43	0,3	1,4
Labour force	1 863	1 920	1 945	1 904	1 947	43	84	2,3	4,5
Employed	1 202	1 250	1 242	1 192	1 241	49	39	4,1	3,2
Unemployed	661	670	703	712	706	-6	45	-0,8	6,8
Not economically active	1 272	1 227	1 212	1 264	1 232	-32	-41	-2,6	-3,2
Discouraged work-seekers	331	313	321	358	347	-10	17	-2,9	5,0
Other (not economically active)	941	913	890	906	884	-22	-57	-2,4	-6,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,5	34,9	36,2	37,4	36,2	-1,2	0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,3	39,7	39,3	37,6	39,0	1,4	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	59,4	61,0	61,6	60,1	61,3	1,2	1,9		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Limpopo									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 998	4 010	4 023	4 036	4 049	13	52	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 222	2 149	2 223	2 225	2 314	89	92	4,0	4,2
Employed	1 539	1 498	1 495	1 526	1 559	33	21	2,2	1,3
Unemployed	683	651	728	699	755	56	72	8,0	10,5
Not economically active	1 775	1 861	1 800	1 811	1 735	-77	-41	-4,2	-2,3
Discouraged work-seekers	488	561	521	559	513	-46	25	-8,2	5,0
Other (not economically active)	1 287	1 300	1 279	1 252	1 222	-31	-65	-2,5	-5,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,8	30,3	32,7	31,4	32,6	1,2	1,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,5	37,4	37,2	37,8	38,5	0,7	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	55,6	53,6	55,3	55,1	57,2	2,1	1,6		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.4: Labour force characteristics by sex – Expanded definition of unemployment									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	28 478	28 389	28 829	29 035	29 177	142	699	0,5	2,5
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 616	11 488	11 544	11 467	11 589	122	-27	1,1	-0,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 058	3 181	3 082	3 129	3 295	165	237	5,3	7,7
Agriculture	956	920	941	896	935	39	-21	4,4	-2,2
Private households	1 116	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	-32	12	-2,8	1,1
Unemployed	11 733	11 665	12 084	12 383	12 231	-152	498	-1,2	4,2
Not economically active	12 408	12 633	12 329	12 261	12 254	-7	-155	-0,1	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,2	41,1	41,9	42,6	41,9	-0,7	0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	69,7	69,2	70,0	70,3	70,4	0,1	0,7		
Women									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 599	20 664	20 729	20 795	20 859	64	260	0,3	1,3
Labour force	13 526	13 429	13 725	13 815	13 890	75	363	0,5	2,7
Employed	7 509	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	97	36	1,3	0,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5 173	5 114	5 189	5 163	5 216	53	42	1,0	0,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 180	1 149	1 119	1 140	1 191	51	11	4,4	0,9
Agriculture	299	292	300	274	284	10	-15	3,8	-5,0
Private households	856	874	867	871	854	-18	-3	-2,0	-0,3
Unemployed	6 017	6 000	6 249	6 367	6 345	-22	328	-0,3	5,4
Not economically active	7 073	7 235	7 005	6 980	6 969	-11	-104	-0,2	-1,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	44,5	44,7	45,5	46,1	45,7	-0,4	1,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,5	36,0	36,1	35,8	36,2	0,4	-0,3		
Labour force participation rate	65,7	65,0	66,2	66,4	66,6	0,2	0,9		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.4: Labour force characteristics by sex – Expanded definition of unemployment (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Men									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 287	20 357	20 429	20 501	20 572	71	285	0,3	1,4
Labour force	14 951	14 960	15 104	15 220	15 287	67	336	0,4	2,2
Employed	9 236	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	197	166	2,1	1,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6 443	6 374	6 355	6 304	6 373	69	-70	1,1	-1,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 878	2 033	1 963	1 989	2 104	115	226	5,8	12,0
Agriculture	656	628	641	622	651	29	-6	4,6	-0,9
Private households	259	260	311	289	274	-15	15	-5,1	5,8
Unemployed	5 715	5 666	5 835	6 016	5 886	-130	170	-2,2	3,0
Not economically active	5 335	5 397	5 325	5 280	5 284	4	-51	0,1	-1,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,2	37,9	38,6	39,5	38,5	-1,0	0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,5	45,7	45,4	44,9	45,7	0,8	0,2		
Labour force participation rate	73,7	73,5	73,9	74,2	74,3	0,1	0,6		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.5: Labour force characteristics by population group – Expanded definition of unemployment									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	28 478	28 389	28 829	29 035	29 177	142	699	0,5	2,5
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Unemployed	11 733	11 665	12 084	12 383	12 231	-152	498	-1,2	4,2
Not economically active	12 408	12 633	12 329	12 261	12 254	-7	-155	-0,1	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,2	41,1	41,9	42,6	41,9	-0,7	0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	69,7	69,2	70,0	70,3	70,4	0,1	0,7		
Black African									
Population 15–64 yrs	33 451	33 589	33 728	33 867	34 004	137	553	0,4	1,7
Labour force	23 378	23 357	23 737	23 915	24 007	92	629	0,4	2,7
Employed	12 703	12 746	12 744	12 668	12 934	266	231	2,1	1,8
Unemployed	10 675	10 611	10 993	11 247	11 073	-174	398	-1,5	3,7
Not economically active	10 073	10 232	9 991	9 952	9 998	45	-75	0,5	-0,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	45,7	45,4	46,3	47,0	46,1	-0,9	0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,0	37,9	37,8	37,4	38,0	0,6	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	69,9	69,5	70,4	70,6	70,6	0,0	0,7		
Coloured									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 591	3 596	3 601	3 606	3 611	5	20	0,1	0,6
Labour force	2 457	2 463	2 460	2 477	2 507	29	50	1,2	2,0
Employed	1 729	1 711	1 716	1 685	1 726	41	-4	2,4	-0,2
Unemployed	727	751	743	793	781	-12	53	-1,5	7,3
Not economically active	1 134	1 133	1 142	1 129	1 104	-25	-30	-2,2	-2,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	29,6	30,5	30,2	32,0	31,2	-0,8	1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	48,2	47,6	47,7	46,7	47,8	1,1	-0,4		
Labour force participation rate	68,4	68,5	68,3	68,7	69,4	0,7	1,0		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.5: Labour force characteristics by population group – Expanded definition of unemployment (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Indian/Asian									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 047	1 049	1 051	1 053	1 055	2	8	0,2	0,8
Labour force	697	643	683	707	732	25	35	3,5	5,0
Employed	553	538	542	552	564	12	12	2,2	2,1
Unemployed	144	105	141	155	167	13	23	8,2	16,2
Not economically active	350	407	369	347	324	-23	-27	-6,6	-7,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,7	16,3	20,7	21,9	22,9	1,0	2,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,8	51,3	51,5	52,4	53,5	1,1	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	66,5	61,3	64,9	67,1	69,3	2,2	2,8		
White									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 797	2 787	2 778	2 769	2 760	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3
Labour force	1 946	1 926	1 949	1 936	1 932	-4	-14	-0,2	-0,7
Employed	1 760	1 728	1 743	1 748	1 723	-25	-37	-1,4	-2,1
Unemployed	186	198	207	188	209	21	23	11,1	12,5
Not economically active	851	861	829	833	828	-5	-23	-0,6	-2,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	9,6	10,3	10,6	9,7	10,8	1,1	1,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	62,9	62,0	62,7	63,1	62,4	-0,7	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	69,6	69,1	70,2	69,9	70,0	0,1	0,4		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.6: Labour force characteristics by age group – Expanded definition of unemployment									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
15–64 years									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	28 478	28 389	28 829	29 035	29 177	142	699	0,5	2,5
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Unemployed	11 733	11 665	12 084	12 383	12 231	-152	498	-1,2	4,2
Not economically active	12 408	12 633	12 329	12 261	12 254	-7	-155	-0,1	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,2	41,1	41,9	42,6	41,9	-0,7	0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	69,7	69,2	70,0	70,3	70,4	0,1	0,7		
15–24 years									
Population 15–24 yrs	10 239	10 247	10 255	10 262	10 273	11	34	0,1	0,3
Labour force	3 554	3 559	3 646	3 704	3 702	-2	148	-0,1	4,2
Employed	1 150	1 098	1 107	1 089	1 086	-3	-64	-0,3	-5,6
Unemployed	2 404	2 461	2 539	2 615	2 616	1	213	0,0	8,8
Not economically active	6 686	6 688	6 608	6 558	6 571	12	-115	0,2	-1,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	67,6	69,1	69,6	70,6	70,7	0,1	3,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	11,2	10,7	10,8	10,6	10,6	0,0	-0,6		
Labour force participation rate	34,7	34,7	35,6	36,1	36,0	-0,1	1,3		
25–34 years									
Population 25–34 yrs	10 559	10 573	10 586	10 600	10 609	9	50	0,1	0,5
Labour force	9 168	9 111	9 258	9 283	9 264	-19	96	-0,2	1,0
Employed	4 811	4 766	4 749	4 630	4 699	69	-112	1,5	-2,3
Unemployed	4 357	4 345	4 509	4 654	4 565	-89	208	-1,9	4,8
Not economically active	1 391	1 462	1 328	1 317	1 345	28	-46	2,1	-3,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	47,5	47,7	48,7	50,1	49,3	-0,8	1,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,6	45,1	44,9	43,7	44,3	0,6	-1,3		
Labour force participation rate	86,8	86,2	87,5	87,6	87,3	-0,3	0,5		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.6: Labour force characteristics by age group – Expanded definition of unemployment (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
35–44 years									
Population 35–44 yrs	9 008	9 051	9 095	9 138	9 180	41	171	0,5	1,9
Labour force	8 051	8 015	8 095	8 162	8 258	96	207	1,2	2,6
Employed	5 099	5 200	5 178	5 169	5 303	134	204	2,6	4,0
Unemployed	2 952	2 815	2 918	2 993	2 955	-38	3	-1,3	0,1
Not economically active	957	1 036	999	977	922	-55	-36	-5,6	-3,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,7	35,1	36,0	36,7	35,8	-0,9	-0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	56,6	57,4	56,9	56,6	57,8	1,2	1,2		
Labour force participation rate	89,4	88,6	89,0	89,3	90,0	0,7	0,6		
45–54 years									
Population 45–54 yrs	6 741	6 788	6 836	6 884	6 931	47	190	0,7	2,8
Labour force	5 631	5 601	5 688	5 745	5 771	25	140	0,4	2,5
Employed	4 016	3 988	4 009	4 065	4 105	40	88	1,0	2,2
Unemployed	1 614	1 613	1 679	1 681	1 666	-14	52	-0,9	3,2
Not economically active	1 111	1 187	1 148	1 139	1 160	21	49	1,9	4,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	28,7	28,8	29,5	29,3	28,9	-0,4	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	59,6	58,7	58,7	59,0	59,2	0,2	-0,4		
Labour force participation rate	83,5	82,5	83,2	83,5	83,3	-0,2	-0,2		
55–64 years									
Population 55–64 yrs	4 338	4 363	4 387	4 411	4 439	27	100	0,6	2,3
Labour force	2 075	2 103	2 141	2 141	2 182	41	108	1,9	5,2
Employed	1 669	1 672	1 701	1 701	1 754	54	85	3,1	5,1
Unemployed	406	431	440	440	428	-12	22	-2,8	5,5
Not economically active	2 264	2 260	2 246	2 270	2 256	-14	-7	-0,6	-0,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	19,5	20,5	20,5	20,6	19,6	-1,0	0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,5	38,3	38,8	38,6	39,5	0,9	1,0		
Labour force participation rate	47,8	48,2	48,8	48,5	49,2	0,7	1,4		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 886	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	135	545	0,3	1,3
Labour force	28 478	28 389	28 829	29 035	29 177	142	699	0,5	2,5
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Unemployed	11 733	11 665	12 084	12 383	12 231	-152	498	-1,2	4,2
Not economically active	12 408	12 633	12 329	12 261	12 254	-7	-155	-0,1	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,2	41,1	41,9	42,6	41,9	-0,7	0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,0	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	0,6	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	69,7	69,2	70,0	70,3	70,4	0,1	0,7		
Western Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 997	5 016	5 035	5 054	5 073	19	75	0,4	1,5
Labour force	3 675	3 708	3 709	3 677	3 696	19	21	0,5	0,6
Employed	2 734	2 757	2 740	2 675	2 749	75	15	2,8	0,6
Unemployed	941	951	969	1 003	947	-56	6	-5,6	0,6
Not economically active	1 323	1 309	1 326	1 376	1 376	0	54	0,0	4,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	25,6	25,6	26,1	27,3	25,6	-1,7	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	54,7	55,0	54,4	52,9	54,2	1,3	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	73,5	73,9	73,7	72,8	72,9	0,1	-0,6		
Western Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 814	1 821	1 827	1 834	1 841	7	27	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 328	1 328	1 338	1 328	1 342	14	14	1,1	1,0
Employed	989	969	999	925	993	68	4	7,4	0,4
Unemployed	339	359	340	403	349	-54	10	-13,4	3,0
Not economically active	486	493	489	506	499	-8	13	-1,5	2,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	25,5	27,0	25,4	30,4	26,0	-4,4	0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	54,5	53,2	54,6	50,4	53,9	3,5	-0,6		
Labour force participation rate	73,2	72,9	73,2	72,4	72,9	0,5	-0,3		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Western Cape – City of Cape Town									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 184	3 196	3 208	3 220	3 232	12	48	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 347	2 379	2 370	2 349	2 354	5	7	0,2	0,3
Employed	1 745	1 788	1 741	1 750	1 756	6	12	0,4	0,7
Unemployed	602	592	629	600	598	-2	-4	-0,3	-0,7
Not economically active	837	816	837	870	878	7	41	0,8	4,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	25,7	24,9	26,5	25,5	25,4	-0,1	-0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	54,8	55,9	54,3	54,3	54,3	0,0	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	73,7	74,5	73,9	73,0	72,8	-0,2	-0,9		
Eastern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 512	4 525	4 539	4 553	4 566	13	55	0,3	1,2
Labour force	2 602	2 546	2 638	2 723	2 762	39	160	1,4	6,2
Employed	1 459	1 348	1 344	1 369	1 452	83	-7	6,1	-0,5
Unemployed	1 143	1 199	1 294	1 354	1 310	-44	168	-3,3	14,7
Not economically active	1 910	1 979	1 901	1 830	1 804	-26	-106	-1,4	-5,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	43,9	47,1	49,1	49,7	47,4	-2,3	3,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,3	29,8	29,6	30,1	31,8	1,7	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	57,7	56,3	58,1	59,8	60,5	0,7	2,8		
Eastern Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 079	3 087	3 095	3 103	3 111	8	32	0,3	1,1
Labour force	1 686	1 649	1 731	1 814	1 827	13	140	0,7	8,3
Employed	849	761	744	768	793	25	-56	3,2	-6,6
Unemployed	838	888	987	1 046	1 034	-12	196	-1,2	23,4
Not economically active	1 392	1 438	1 364	1 289	1 285	-5	-108	-0,4	-7,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	49,7	53,8	57,0	57,7	56,6	-1,1	6,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	27,6	24,7	24,1	24,8	25,5	0,7	-2,1		
Labour force participation rate	54,8	53,4	55,9	58,5	58,7	0,2	3,9		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City									
Population 15–64 yrs	553	555	557	559	561	2	8	0,4	1,5
Labour force	374	390	390	385	384	-1	11	-0,2	2,8
Employed	253	261	253	250	262	12	9	4,8	3,5
Unemployed	120	129	137	135	122	-13	2	-9,4	1,5
Not economically active	179	165	167	174	177	3	-2	1,5	-1,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,2	33,1	35,0	35,0	31,7	-3,3	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,8	47,0	45,5	44,7	46,7	2,0	0,9		
Labour force participation rate	67,6	70,2	70,0	68,8	68,4	-0,4	0,8		
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15–64 yrs	880	883	887	890	894	3	14	0,4	1,6
Labour force	542	507	516	524	551	27	9	5,1	1,8
Employed	357	326	346	350	396	46	40	13,2	11,2
Unemployed	185	182	170	174	155	-19	-30	-11,1	-16,4
Not economically active	338	376	370	366	343	-23	4	-6,4	1,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,2	35,8	33,0	33,2	28,1	-5,1	-6,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,5	36,9	39,0	39,3	44,4	5,1	3,9		
Labour force participation rate	61,6	57,4	58,2	58,9	61,7	2,8	0,1		
Northern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	834	836	838	840	841	2	7	0,2	0,8
Labour force	566	572	568	570	592	22	26	3,9	4,6
Employed	328	327	331	314	337	23	9	7,4	2,6
Unemployed	238	246	237	256	255	-1	17	-0,3	7,3
Not economically active	268	264	270	270	249	-21	-19	-7,7	-7,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,0	42,9	41,7	44,9	43,1	-1,8	1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,1	39,5	37,4	40,1	2,7	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	67,9	68,4	67,8	67,9	70,4	2,5	2,5		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Free State									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 935	1 937	1 938	1 939	1 940	1	5	0,1	0,3
Labour force	1 316	1 323	1 352	1 358	1 367	8	51	0,6	3,9
Employed	727	742	742	745	775	30	48	4,1	6,6
Unemployed	589	581	609	613	591	-22	3	-3,6	0,5
Not economically active	619	613	586	581	574	-7	-46	-1,2	-7,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	44,7	43,9	45,1	45,1	43,3	-1,8	-1,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,6	38,3	38,3	38,4	40,0	1,6	2,4		
Labour force participation rate	68,0	68,3	69,7	70,1	70,4	0,3	2,4		
Free State – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 379	1 380	1 381	1 382	1 383	1	4	0,1	0,3
Labour force	931	938	965	967	979	12	49	1,2	5,2
Employed	509	524	513	513	528	15	18	2,9	3,6
Unemployed	421	414	451	455	451	-3	30	-0,8	7,2
Not economically active	449	442	416	414	404	-11	-45	-2,6	-10,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	45,3	44,1	46,8	47,0	46,1	-0,9	0,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,9	38,0	37,2	37,1	38,2	1,1	1,3		
Labour force participation rate	67,5	68,0	69,8	70,0	70,8	0,8	3,3		
Free State – Mangaung									
Population 15–64 yrs	556	557	557	557	558	0	1	0,1	0,3
Labour force	385	385	387	391	388	-3	2	-0,9	0,6
Employed	218	217	229	233	248	15	30	6,5	13,7
Unemployed	167	168	158	158	140	-18	-27	-11,7	-16,4
Not economically active	171	172	170	166	170	4	-1	2,2	-0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	43,5	43,5	40,9	40,5	36,1	-4,4	-7,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,2	39,1	41,1	41,7	44,4	2,7	5,2		
Labour force participation rate	69,3	69,2	69,5	70,2	69,5	-0,7	0,2		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
KwaZulu-Natal									
Population 15–64 yrs	7 556	7 581	7 607	7 633	7 658	25	102	0,3	1,4
Labour force	5 051	5 041	5 134	5 160	5 224	64	173	1,2	3,4
Employed	2 794	2 856	2 891	2 842	2 840	-2	46	-0,1	1,7
Unemployed	2 257	2 185	2 243	2 318	2 384	66	127	2,9	5,6
Not economically active	2 504	2 540	2 473	2 472	2 433	-39	-71	-1,6	-2,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	44,7	43,4	43,7	44,9	45,6	0,7	0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,0	37,7	38,0	37,2	37,1	-0,1	0,1		
Labour force participation rate	66,9	66,5	67,5	67,6	68,2	0,6	1,3		
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 913	4 928	4 943	4 959	4 974	15	61	0,3	1,2
Labour force	3 135	3 081	3 108	3 156	3 159	3	24	0,1	0,8
Employed	1 574	1 593	1 618	1 590	1 519	-71	-55	-4,5	-3,5
Unemployed	1 561	1 489	1 490	1 565	1 640	75	79	4,8	5,1
Not economically active	1 778	1 847	1 835	1 803	1 815	12	37	0,7	2,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	49,8	48,3	47,9	49,6	51,9	2,3	2,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,0	32,3	32,7	32,1	30,5	-1,6	-1,5		
Labour force participation rate	63,8	62,5	62,9	63,6	63,5	-0,1	-0,3		
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 643	2 653	2 663	2 674	2 684	10	41	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 916	1 960	2 025	2 005	2 065	61	149	3,0	7,8
Employed	1 219	1 263	1 273	1 252	1 321	69	102	5,5	8,3
Unemployed	697	697	753	753	744	-8	48	-1,1	6,8
Not economically active	727	693	638	669	619	-51	-108	-7,6	-14,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,4	35,6	37,2	37,5	36,0	-1,5	-0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,1	47,6	47,8	46,8	49,2	2,4	3,1		
Labour force participation rate	72,5	73,9	76,0	75,0	76,9	1,9	4,4		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
North West									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 771	2 780	2 789	2 799	2 808	9	37	0,3	1,3
Labour force	1 928	1 907	1 939	1 938	1 970	32	41	1,7	2,1
Employed	942	912	899	887	956	69	14	7,7	1,4
Unemployed	986	996	1 040	1 050	1 014	-36	28	-3,5	2,8
Not economically active	842	873	851	861	838	-23	-4	-2,7	-0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	51,2	52,2	53,6	54,2	51,5	-2,7	0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,0	32,8	32,2	31,7	34,0	2,3	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	69,6	68,6	69,5	69,2	70,2	1,0	0,6		
Gauteng									
Population 15–64 yrs	11 148	11 190	11 232	11 275	11 317	42	169	0,4	1,5
Labour force	8 278	8 173	8 282	8 399	8 283	-115	5	-1,4	0,1
Employed	5 019	5 034	5 061	5 103	5 037	-66	17	-1,3	0,3
Unemployed	3 259	3 139	3 222	3 296	3 246	-49	-13	-1,5	-0,4
Not economically active	2 869	3 017	2 950	2 876	3 034	158	165	5,5	5,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,4	38,4	38,9	39,2	39,2	0,0	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,0	45,0	45,1	45,3	44,5	-0,8	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	74,3	73,0	73,7	74,5	73,2	-1,3	-1,1		
Gauteng – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 474	1 480	1 486	1 492	1 498	6	24	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 097	1 107	1 131	1 142	1 148	6	51	0,5	4,7
Employed	582	627	612	611	626	15	44	2,5	7,6
Unemployed	515	481	519	531	522	-9	7	-1,7	1,4
Not economically active	378	373	355	350	350	0	-28	0,0	-7,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	46,9	43,4	45,9	46,5	45,4	-1,1	-1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,5	42,3	41,2	41,0	41,8	0,8	2,3		
Labour force participation rate	74,4	74,8	76,1	76,5	76,6	0,1	2,2		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 800	2 810	2 821	2 832	2 843	11	43	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 047	2 020	2 072	2 067	2 075	9	28	0,4	1,4
Employed	1 244	1 228	1 231	1 249	1 242	-7	-2	-0,5	-0,2
Unemployed	804	792	841	818	833	15	30	1,9	3,7
Not economically active	752	790	749	765	767	2	15	0,3	2,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,3	39,2	40,6	39,6	40,2	0,6	0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	44,4	43,7	43,6	44,1	43,7	-0,4	-0,7		
Labour force participation rate	73,1	71,9	73,4	73,0	73,0	0,0	-0,1		
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 136	4 151	4 166	4 182	4 197	15	62	0,4	1,5
Labour force	3 091	3 009	3 028	3 120	2 959	-161	-132	-5,2	-4,3
Employed	1 949	1 909	1 947	1 978	1 862	-116	-87	-5,9	-4,5
Unemployed	1 142	1 100	1 082	1 142	1 097	-45	-45	-4,0	-3,9
Not economically active	1 045	1 141	1 138	1 062	1 238	176	193	16,6	18,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,9	36,6	35,7	36,6	37,1	0,5	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,1	46,0	46,7	47,3	44,4	-2,9	-2,7		
Labour force participation rate	74,7	72,5	72,7	74,6	70,5	-4,1	-4,2		
Gauteng – City of Tshwane									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 738	2 748	2 759	2 769	2 779	10	41	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 044	2 036	2 051	2 070	2 101	31	57	1,5	2,8
Employed	1 245	1 270	1 271	1 265	1 307	42	62	3,3	5,0
Unemployed	799	766	780	805	795	-11	-4	-1,3	-0,6
Not economically active	694	712	707	699	678	-21	-16	-3,0	-2,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,1	37,6	38,0	38,9	37,8	-1,1	-1,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,5	46,2	46,1	45,7	47,0	1,3	1,5		
Labour force participation rate	74,7	74,1	74,4	74,8	75,6	0,8	0,9		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Mpumalanga									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 136	3 146	3 157	3 168	3 178	11	43	0,3	1,4
Labour force	2 257	2 306	2 343	2 325	2 378	53	121	2,3	5,3
Employed	1 202	1 250	1 242	1 192	1 241	49	39	4,1	3,2
Unemployed	1 055	1 056	1 101	1 133	1 137	4	82	0,3	7,8
Not economically active	878	840	814	843	800	-42	-78	-5,0	-8,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	46,7	45,8	47,0	48,7	47,8	-0,9	1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,3	39,7	39,3	37,6	39,0	1,4	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	72,0	73,3	74,2	73,4	74,8	1,4	2,8		
Limpopo									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 998	4 010	4 023	4 036	4 049	13	52	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 803	2 812	2 865	2 885	2 904	19	101	0,7	3,6
Employed	1 539	1 498	1 495	1 526	1 559	33	21	2,2	1,3
Unemployed	1 265	1 314	1 370	1 359	1 345	-14	80	-1,0	6,4
Not economically active	1 194	1 198	1 158	1 152	1 145	-7	-49	-0,6	-4,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	45,1	46,7	47,8	47,1	46,3	-0,8	1,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,5	37,4	37,2	37,8	38,5	0,7	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	70,1	70,1	71,2	71,5	71,7	0,2	1,6		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.1: Employed by industry and sex – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Agriculture	956	920	941	896	935	39	-21	4,4	-2,2
Mining	409	446	454	457	484	27	75	6,0	18,4
Manufacturing	1 508	1 507	1 606	1 655	1 635	-20	127	-1,2	8,4
Utilities	113	123	105	114	127	13	14	11,7	12,7
Construction	1 357	1 322	1 215	1 204	1 381	176	24	14,7	1,7
Trade	3 390	3 362	3 471	3 360	3 469	109	79	3,2	2,3
Transport	966	1 023	1 062	1 064	1 047	-18	81	-1,7	8,3
Finance	2 836	2 964	2 914	2 905	2 716	-189	-120	-6,5	-4,2
Community and social services	4 084	3 913	3 791	3 827	4 021	194	-62	5,1	-1,5
Private households	1 116	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	-32	12	-2,8	1,1
Other	10	10	6	10	4	-6	-7	-60,8	-64,1
Women	7 509	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	97	36	1,3	0,5
Agriculture	299	292	300	274	284	10	-15	3,8	-5,0
Mining	59	81	89	90	87	-2	28	-2,4	47,8
Manufacturing	523	497	562	605	616	12	93	1,9	17,8
Utilities	35	32	30	24	31	7	-4	30,7	-11,0
Construction	173	146	144	132	138	6	-35	4,4	-20,0
Trade	1 587	1 559	1 663	1 610	1 634	24	48	1,5	3,0
Transport	184	202	192	191	209	18	25	9,5	13,3
Finance	1 239	1 302	1 213	1 214	1 127	-87	-112	-7,2	-9,1
Community and social services	2 547	2 439	2 414	2 436	2 561	125	14	5,1	0,6
Private households	856	874	867	871	854	-18	-3	-2,0	-0,3
Other	5	4	1	0	1	1	-4	126,8	-77,0
Men	9 236	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	197	166	2,1	1,8
Agriculture	656	628	641	622	651	29	-6	4,6	-0,9
Mining	350	364	365	367	397	29	47	8,0	13,4
Manufacturing	984	1 010	1 044	1 050	1 018	-32	34	-3,0	3,4
Utilities	78	90	76	90	96	6	18	6,6	23,5
Construction	1 185	1 176	1 072	1 072	1 243	171	58	15,9	4,9
Trade	1 804	1 804	1 809	1 750	1 834	84	31	4,8	1,7
Transport	781	821	869	874	838	-36	56	-4,1	7,2
Finance	1 597	1 662	1 701	1 690	1 589	-102	-8	-6,0	-0,5
Community and social services	1 537	1 474	1 377	1 391	1 460	69	-77	5,0	-5,0
Private households	259	260	311	289	274	-15	15	-5,1	5,8
Other	6	6	5	9	3	-6	-3	-70,6	-53,6

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Agriculture	956	920	941	896	935	39	-21	4,4	-2,2
Western Cape	238	234	215	162	175	13	-63	8,0	-26,5
Eastern Cape	136	96	99	113	124	10	-12	9,2	-9,2
Northern Cape	52	58	54	33	39	6	-14	17,1	-26,0
Free State	65	73	79	84	78	-6	13	-7,4	20,6
KwaZulu-Natal	150	153	143	151	145	-7	-5	-4,3	-3,4
North West	51	53	77	56	62	6	11	10,7	21,4
Gauteng	39	38	47	33	47	14	9	41,8	22,9
Mpumalanga	87	86	105	126	109	-17	23	-13,4	26,0
Limpopo	138	129	123	136	156	20	18	14,4	13,1
Mining	409	446	454	457	484	27	75	6,0	18,4
Western Cape	5	4	6	10	11	1	5	5,2	99,3
Eastern Cape		3	3	2	1	-1		-68,6	
Northern Cape	24	33	42	43	39	-4	15	-9,3	64,1
Free State	16	19	18	16	21	6	6	37,2	35,1
KwaZulu-Natal	8	7	3	6	4	-2	-4	-31,9	-54,2
North West	113	106	112	113	125	12	12	10,3	10,2
Gauteng	64	79	66	76	88	11	23	14,9	36,0
Mpumalanga	60	74	72	70	70	0	10	-0,6	17,0
Limpopo	119	120	132	121	127	5	8	4,5	6,6
Manufacturing	1 508	1 507	1 606	1 655	1 635	-20	127	-1,2	8,4
Western Cape	336	304	310	314	321	6	-15	2,0	-4,5
Eastern Cape	124	105	92	118	140	22	16	18,7	13,0
Northern Cape	15	14	5	9	9	0	-5	5,2	-36,4
Free State	51	51	60	61	52	-8	1	-14,0	2,3
KwaZulu-Natal	318	328	379	382	344	-38	26	-9,8	8,2
North West	36	42	44	47	46	-2	9	-3,3	26,2
Gauteng	462	507	538	557	540	-17	78	-3,0	16,9
Mpumalanga	93	89	102	90	105	15	13	17,2	13,5
Limpopo	72	67	76	77	77	0	4	-0,5	5,9

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Utilities	113	123	105	114	127	13	14	11,7	12,7
Western Cape	18	16	10	10	13	3	-5	32,9	-27,4
Eastern Cape	4	4	4	6	12	6	8	114,9	207,3
Northern Cape		1	1	3	6	3		93,2	
Free State	4	8	3	6	6	1	2	9,0	48,1
KwaZulu-Natal	9	13	11	10	10	0	2	1,7	17,9
North West	4	4	7	5	6	1	2	11,0	50,4
Gauteng	34	33	24	29	27	-2	-6	-7,4	-19,0
Mpumalanga	29	31	29	27	25	-2	-4	-6,4	-12,2
Limpopo	12	12	16	18	22	4	10	20,2	83,1
Construction	1 357	1 322	1 215	1 204	1 381	176	24	14,7	1,7
Western Cape	253	242	237	210	251	42	-1	20,0	-0,5
Eastern Cape	125	127	105	108	127	19	2	17,6	1,6
Northern Cape	34	26	21	21	26	5	-8	22,4	-24,1
Free State	33	34	35	39	58	18	25	45,9	74,1
KwaZulu-Natal	241	239	245	240	249	10	8	4,0	3,4
North West	68	64	52	56	76	20	8	36,8	12,0
Gauteng	347	312	290	302	323	20	-24	6,8	-7,0
Mpumalanga	101	99	107	100	113	13	12	13,2	11,5
Limpopo	156	179	123	130	159	29	3	22,6	1,9
Trade	3 390	3 362	3 471	3 360	3 469	109	79	3,2	2,3
Western Cape	483	510	521	493	525	32	41	6,5	8,6
Eastern Cape	281	284	291	256	278	22	-3	8,7	-1,0
Northern Cape	38	39	49	47	54	7	16	14,9	42,5
Free State	174	150	163	146	151	5	-23	3,5	-13,1
KwaZulu-Natal	578	568	581	572	590	18	12	3,1	2,0
North West	183	177	193	191	222	30	39	15,8	21,1
Gauteng	1 052	1 044	1 079	1 085	1 080	-6	28	-0,5	2,6
Mpumalanga	271	276	253	237	235	-2	-36	-0,8	-13,4
Limpopo	330	315	340	333	335	2	5	0,7	1,4

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Transport	966	1 023	1 062	1 064	1 047	-18	81	-1,7	8,3
Western Cape	163	148	170	158	162	4	-1	2,8	-0,6
Eastern Cape	77	84	94	97	94	-3	18	-3,3	23,0
Northern Cape	12	14	10	9	8	-2	-4	-17,9	-34,9
Free State	32	34	35	33	39	5	7	15,7	20,3
KwaZulu-Natal	183	227	230	192	180	-12	-3	-6,2	-1,8
North West	45	31	30	25	40	16	-5	63,6	-10,7
Gauteng	351	365	382	415	392	-23	40	-5,6	11,5
Mpumalanga	51	56	47	63	56	-6	5	-10,3	10,3
Limpopo	52	64	65	73	76	3	24	4,1	46,5
Finance	2 836	2 964	2 914	2 905	2 716	-189	-120	-6,5	-4,2
Western Cape	474	544	546	574	530	-44	56	-7,7	11,8
Eastern Cape	182	178	209	190	169	-21	-13	-11,2	-7,0
Northern Cape	31	33	28	32	37	5	7	16,7	22,4
Free State	74	85	76	92	87	-6	13	-6,0	17,9
KwaZulu-Natal	437	461	418	424	398	-26	-39	-6,1	-8,9
North West	131	136	120	127	103	-24	-29	-19,2	-21,7
Gauteng	1 218	1 224	1 179	1 155	1 097	-59	-121	-5,1	-9,9
Mpumalanga	138	156	174	129	140	10	2	8,1	1,3
Limpopo	152	145	163	181	155	-26	3	-14,1	2,1
Community and social services	4 084	3 913	3 791	3 827	4 021	194	-62	5,1	-1,5
Western Cape	601	576	537	552	573	20	-28	3,7	-4,7
Eastern Cape	426	372	370	384	415	30	-11	7,9	-2,5
Northern Cape	98	84	96	94	99	5	1	5,4	1,4
Free State	213	221	201	195	211	16	-2	8,2	-1,0
KwaZulu-Natal	660	658	653	668	722	54	63	8,1	9,5
North West	247	229	208	209	233	25	-14	11,8	-5,7
Gauteng	1 150	1 119	1 103	1 116	1 115	-1	-34	-0,1	-3,0
Mpumalanga	278	276	260	246	292	46	14	18,7	5,0
Limpopo	411	378	362	361	360	-1	-51	-0,3	-12,4

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Private households	1 116	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	-32	12	-2,8	1,1
Western Cape	163	179	188	190	190	0	26	0,0	16,1
Eastern Cape	105	94	76	94	92	-2	-13	-1,7	-12,1
Northern Cape	26	23	23	22	20	-2	-5	-9,5	-21,2
Free State	65	67	73	73	72	0	7	-0,5	10,4
KwaZulu-Natal	205	199	229	198	198	0	-7	0,0	-3,3
North West	63	69	55	58	43	-15	-20	-25,5	-31,2
Gauteng	297	307	348	327	324	-3	27	-0,9	9,2
Mpumalanga	94	106	93	104	95	-9	1	-8,4	0,5
Limpopo	97	90	94	95	93	-2	-4	-2,1	-3,9

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.3: Employed by sector and industry – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Total employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Formal and informal sector (non-agricultural)	14 674	14 669	14 625	14 596	14 883	287	210	2,0	1,4
Mining	409	446	454	457	484	27	75	6,0	18,4
Manufacturing	1 508	1 507	1 606	1 655	1 635	-20	127	-1,2	8,4
Utilities	113	123	105	114	127	13	14	11,7	12,7
Construction	1 357	1 322	1 215	1 204	1 381	176	24	14,7	1,7
Trade	3 390	3 362	3 471	3 360	3 469	109	79	3,2	2,3
Transport	966	1 023	1 062	1 064	1 047	-18	81	-1,7	8,3
Finance	2 836	2 964	2 914	2 905	2 716	-189	-120	-6,5	-4,2
Community and social services	4 084	3 913	3 791	3 827	4 021	194	-62	5,1	-1,5
Other	10	10	6	10	4	-6	-7	-60,8	-64,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 616	11 488	11 544	11 467	11 589	122	-27	1,1	-0,2
Mining	404	441	448	438	468	31	64	7,0	15,9
Manufacturing	1 300	1 308	1 389	1 430	1 412	-18	111	-1,3	8,5
Utilities	108	113	101	109	109	0	1	-0,3	0,5
Construction	930	822	758	744	829	85	-102	11,4	-10,9
Trade	2 192	2 162	2 286	2 168	2 231	63	39	2,9	1,8
Transport	631	645	682	681	693	11	62	1,6	9,8
Finance	2 521	2 642	2 607	2 583	2 410	-173	-111	-6,7	-4,4
Community and social services	3 519	3 347	3 269	3 306	3 435	128	-85	3,9	-2,4
Other	10	8	4	9	4	-5	-7	-55,8	-64,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 058	3 181	3 082	3 129	3 295	165	237	5,3	7,7
Mining	5	4	7	19	16	-3	11	-17,5	220,2
Manufacturing	207	200	217	225	223	-2	16	-1,0	7,5
Utilities	5	10	5	5	19	14	14	261,8	277,4
Construction	427	499	457	461	552	91	125	19,9	29,3
Trade	1 199	1 200	1 186	1 192	1 238	46	40	3,9	3,3
Transport	335	378	380	383	354	-29	19	-7,6	5,7
Finance	315	322	307	322	306	-16	-10	-5,0	-3,1
Community and social services	565	566	522	521	587	66	22	12,7	4,0
Other		2	2	1					
Agriculture	956	920	941	896	935	39	-21	4,4	-2,2
Private households	1 116	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	-32	12	-2,8	1,1

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 616	11 488	11 544	11 467	11 589	122	-27	1,1	-0,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 058	3 181	3 082	3 129	3 295	165	237	5,3	7,7
Agriculture	956	920	941	896	935	39	-21	4,4	-2,2
Private households	1 116	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	-32	12	-2,8	1,1
Western Cape	2 734	2 757	2 740	2 675	2 749	75	15	2,8	0,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 972	1 985	1 976	1 994	2 039	45	67	2,2	3,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	361	359	360	329	346	17	-15	5,2	-4,1
Agriculture	238	234	215	162	175	13	-63	8,0	-26,5
Private households	163	179	188	190	190	0	26	0,0	16,1
Western Cape – Non-metro	989	969	999	925	993	68	4	7,4	0,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	586	590	596	579	620	41	34	7,0	5,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	126	95	120	107	130	23	4	21,7	3,4
Agriculture	220	224	203	150	168	17	-52	11,4	-23,8
Private households	57	60	79	88	75	-13	18	-14,5	31,5
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	1 745	1 788	1 741	1 750	1 756	6	12	0,4	0,7
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 386	1 394	1 380	1 415	1 419	4	33	0,3	2,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	235	264	240	222	216	-6	-19	-2,8	-8,1
Agriculture	18	10	13	12	7	-4	-11	-36,4	-59,7
Private households	106	119	109	102	114	13	8	12,5	7,8
Eastern Cape	1 459	1 348	1 344	1 369	1 452	83	-7	6,1	-0,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	908	848	885	874	968	94	60	10,8	6,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	310	310	284	287	267	-20	-42	-6,9	-13,7
Agriculture	136	96	99	113	124	10	-12	9,2	-9,2
Private households	105	94	76	94	92	-2	-13	-1,7	-12,1

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	849	761	744	768	793	25	-56	3,2	-6,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	468	410	425	399	455	55	-13	13,9	-2,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	195	206	190	204	173	-30	-21	-14,8	-11,0
Agriculture	121	84	86	108	108	0	-13	0,2	-10,8
Private households	65	61	44	57	57	-1	-9	-1,2	-13,1
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	253	261	253	250	262	12	9	4,8	3,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	170	179	182	181	177	-4	7	-2,1	4,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	60	60	45	41	51	10	-9	25,7	-15,0
Agriculture	7	9	10	5	13	8	6	173,5	79,9
Private households	16	12	16	24	21	-3	5	-12,8	28,9
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	357	326	346	350	396	46	40	13,2	11,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	270	258	278	294	336	42	66	14,4	24,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	54	44	49	42	42	0	-12	-0,4	-22,2
Agriculture	8	4	3	1	3	2	-5	201,8	-66,1
Private households	24	20	17	13	15	2	-9	16,4	-36,7
Northern Cape	328	327	331	314	337	23	9	7,4	2,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	224	212	216	220	234	15	11	6,6	4,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	27	35	37	38	44	5	17	13,6	63,5
Agriculture	52	58	54	33	39	6	-14	17,1	-26,0
Private households	26	23	23	22	20	-2	-5	-9,5	-21,2
Free State	727	742	742	745	775	30	48	4,1	6,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	440	457	440	435	437	1	-3	0,3	-0,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	157	145	150	153	189	35	31	23,1	20,0
Agriculture	65	73	79	84	78	-6	13	-7,4	20,6
Private households	65	67	73	73	72	0	7	-0,5	10,4

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Free State – Non-metro	509	524	513	513	528	15	18	2,9	3,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	283	297	286	278	264	-14	-19	-5,2	-6,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	117	110	103	106	137	31	20	29,7	17,3
Agriculture	62	69	75	80	74	-6	12	-6,9	19,4
Private households	47	48	50	49	53	4	5	7,6	11,0
Free State – Mangaung	218	217	229	233	248	15	30	6,5	13,7
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	157	160	154	157	173	16	16	10,1	10,0
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	40	35	47	48	52	4	11	8,6	27,9
Agriculture	3	4	4	4	4	-1	1	-15,5	50,4
Private households	18	18	24	24	20	-4	2	-17,3	8,9
KwaZulu-Natal	2 794	2 856	2 891	2 842	2 840	-2	46	-0,1	1,7
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 927	1 888	1 907	1 860	1 880	20	-47	1,1	-2,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	512	616	613	633	617	-15	106	-2,4	20,6
Agriculture	150	153	143	151	145	-7	-5	-4,3	-3,4
Private households	205	199	229	198	198	0	-7	0,0	-3,3
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	1 574	1 593	1 618	1 590	1 519	-71	-55	-4,5	-3,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	973	951	974	965	909	-57	-64	-5,9	-6,6
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	340	384	376	385	366	-19	26	-5,0	7,7
Agriculture	138	145	139	141	134	-7	-4	-5,2	-2,9
Private households	124	113	131	99	111	12	-13	12,1	-10,8
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	1 219	1 263	1 273	1 252	1 321	69	102	5,5	8,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	954	937	934	895	971	76	17	8,5	1,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	172	231	237	248	251	4	79	1,6	46,1
Agriculture	12	8	4	10	11	1	-1	8,1	-9,4
Private households	81	86	98	99	87	-12	7	-12,0	8,2

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
North West	942	912	899	887	956	69	14	7,7	1,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	685	629	622	614	661	48	-24	7,8	-3,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	143	160	144	159	189	30	46	18,5	32,1
Agriculture	51	53	77	56	62	6	11	10,7	21,4
Private households	63	69	55	58	43	-15	-20	-25,5	-31,2
Gauteng	5 019	5 034	5 061	5 103	5 037	-66	17	-1,3	0,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3 923	3 920	3 903	3 923	3 810	-114	-114	-2,9	-2,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	761	769	763	819	856	37	95	4,5	12,4
Agriculture	39	38	47	33	47	14	9	41,8	22,9
Private households	297	307	348	327	324	-3	27	-0,9	9,2
Gauteng – Non-metro	582	627	612	611	626	15	44	2,5	7,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	418	453	447	459	474	15	56	3,3	13,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	103	122	109	95	93	-2	-10	-2,1	-9,4
Agriculture	18	20	20	20	23	4	5	17,8	30,2
Private households	43	31	36	37	36	-2	-7	-4,0	-16,3
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1 244	1 228	1 231	1 249	1 242	-7	-2	-0,5	-0,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	976	959	972	993	955	-38	-21	-3,8	-2,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	198	192	193	196	205	9	7	4,6	3,5
Agriculture	11	5	4	3	7	4	-4	151,1	-34,0
Private households	59	73	62	58	75	17	16	30,4	26,8
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	1 949	1 909	1 947	1 978	1 862	-116	-87	-5,9	-4,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 498	1 471	1 451	1 449	1 338	-111	-160	-7,7	-10,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	325	322	329	383	384	0	58	0,1	17,9
Agriculture	1	2	8	2	5	3	4	131,8	280,4
Private households	124	115	158	143	135	-8	11	-5,8	9,2

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	1 245	1 270	1 271	1 265	1 307	42	62	3,3	5,0
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 030	1 036	1 033	1 023	1 043	20	12	2,0	1,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	135	134	132	145	174	29	39	19,9	29,1
Agriculture	9	11	15	9	12	3	3	36,1	35,9
Private households	71	89	92	88	78	-11	7	-11,9	9,8
Mpumalanga	1 202	1 250	1 242	1 192	1 241	49	39	4,1	3,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	682	725	723	660	685	25	2	3,7	0,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	339	333	322	302	352	50	13	16,5	3,9
Agriculture	87	86	105	126	109	-17	23	-13,4	26,0
Private households	94	106	93	104	95	-9	1	-8,4	0,5
Limpopo	1 539	1 498	1 495	1 526	1 559	33	21	2,2	1,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	855	825	870	886	875	-11	20	-1,2	2,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	449	455	408	408	435	27	-14	6,5	-3,1
Agriculture	138	129	123	136	156	20	18	14,4	13,1
Private households	97	90	94	95	93	-2	-4	-2,1	-3,9

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.5: Employed by sex and occupation – South Africa

	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Manager	1 105	1 481	1 303	1 451	1 457	6	353	0,4	31,9
Professional	1 354	1 341	1 229	1 102	826	-276	-528	-25,1	-39,0
Technician	1 444	1 441	1 590	1 780	1 504	-276	60	-15,5	4,1
Clerk	1 889	1 727	1 808	1 705	1 841	136	-48	8,0	-2,5
Sales and services	2 953	2 862	2 746	2 584	2 992	407	38	15,8	1,3
Skilled agriculture	76	63	94	105	68	-37	-8	-35,0	-10,3
Craft and related trade	1 717	1 693	1 693	1 672	1 876	204	159	12,2	9,2
Plant and machine operator	1 408	1 323	1 568	1 308	1 401	93	-7	7,1	-0,5
Elementary	3 935	3 912	3 845	4 094	4 128	33	193	0,8	4,9
Domestic worker	860	876	869	843	854	11	-6	1,3	-0,7
Women	7 509	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	97	36	1,3	0,5
Manager	371	518	477	532	485	-47	113	-8,9	30,5
Professional	713	696	640	555	461	-94	-252	-16,9	-35,3
Technician	796	779	871	1 008	803	-205	7	-20,3	0,9
Clerk	1 329	1 219	1 253	1 219	1 321	102	-8	8,4	-0,6
Sales and services	1 443	1 403	1 307	1 208	1 511	303	67	25,1	4,7
Skilled agriculture	16	21	19	26	23	-3	7	-12,3	46,2
Craft and related trade	216	189	226	231	211	-19	-5	-8,4	-2,1
Plant and machine operator	155	146	193	156	181	25	26	16,3	16,6
Elementary	1 648	1 629	1 664	1 706	1 744	38	96	2,2	5,8
Domestic worker	820	830	826	807	805	-2	-15	-0,3	-1,8
Men	9 236	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	197	166	2,1	1,8
Manager	733	963	826	919	973	54	239	5,9	32,6
Professional	641	645	589	547	365	-182	-276	-33,3	-43,0
Technician	648	663	719	772	701	-71	53	-9,3	8,1
Clerk	560	508	555	486	520	34	-40	7,1	-7,1
Sales and services	1 510	1 459	1 438	1 377	1 481	104	-29	7,6	-1,9
Skilled agriculture	60	42	75	79	45	-34	-15	-42,7	-25,1
Craft and related trade	1 501	1 505	1 467	1 441	1 664	223	163	15,5	10,9
Plant and machine operator	1 253	1 177	1 375	1 152	1 220	67	-33	5,8	-2,6
Elementary	2 287	2 283	2 181	2 388	2 384	-4	97	-0,2	4,3
Domestic worker	40	46	43	36	49	13	9	35,0	22,7

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.6: Employed by sex and status in employment – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Employee	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Employer	707	860	829	859	918	59	211	6,9	29,9
Own-account worker	1 653	1 687	1 712	1 777	1 907	130	255	7,3	15,4
Unpaid household member	78	92	98	97	108	10	30	10,7	37,9
Women	7 509	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	97	36	1,3	0,5
Employee	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Employer	184	216	222	222	218	-4	34	-1,7	18,4
Own-account worker	728	725	734	764	841	77	112	10,0	15,4
Unpaid household member	42	51	47	52	62	10	20	18,7	47,0
Men	9 236	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	197	166	2,1	1,8
Employee	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Employer	523	644	607	637	700	63	177	9,8	33,9
Own-account worker	924	962	978	1 013	1 067	53	143	5,3	15,4
Unpaid household member	36	41	51	45	46	1	10	1,5	27,2

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.7: Employed by sex and usual hours of work – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Working less than 15 hours per week	530	461	495	496	562	66	32	13,4	6,0
Working 15–29 hours per week	1 174	1 114	1 139	1 151	1 196	45	22	3,9	1,9
Working 30–39 hours per week	1 213	1 208	1 166	1 235	1 242	7	30	0,6	2,4
Working 40–45 hours per week	9 274	9 238	9 271	9 348	9 451	103	177	1,1	1,9
Working more than 45 hours per week	4 553	4 702	4 673	4 422	4 495	73	-58	1,7	-1,3
Women	7 509	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	97	36	1,3	0,5
Working less than 15 hours per week	287	235	256	252	292	40	5	16,0	1,7
Working 15–29 hours per week	711	708	699	710	726	16	16	2,3	2,2
Working 30–39 hours per week	721	678	657	702	725	23	4	3,3	0,5
Working 40–45 hours per week	4 258	4 249	4 276	4 253	4 270	17	12	0,4	0,3
Working more than 45 hours per week	1 532	1 558	1 588	1 532	1 532	0	0	0,0	0,0
Men	9 236	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	197	166	2,1	1,8
Working less than 15 hours per week	243	226	240	244	270	26	27	10,6	11,1
Working 15–29 hours per week	464	405	440	442	470	28	6	6,4	1,3
Working 30–39 hours per week	492	530	509	533	517	-16	26	-3,0	5,2
Working 40–45 hours per week	5 017	4 989	4 995	5 095	5 182	87	165	1,7	3,3
Working more than 45 hours per week	3 021	3 144	3 086	2 890	2 963	73	-58	2,5	-1,9

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Pension/retirement fund contribution									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Yes	6 295	6 241	6 285	6 277	6 274	-3	-21	-0,1	-0,3
No	7 632	7 373	7 410	7 285	7 425	140	-207	1,9	-2,7
Don't know	380	469	410	356	314	-42	-66	-11,8	-17,4
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Yes	2 802	2 797	2 812	2 806	2 797	-8	-4	-0,3	-0,2
No	3 586	3 440	3 471	3 446	3 479	33	-107	1,0	-3,0
Don't know	166	200	189	158	148	-11	-18	-6,9	-11,1
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Yes	3 493	3 444	3 474	3 472	3 477	5	-16	0,1	-0,5
No	4 046	3 934	3 939	3 839	3 946	107	-100	2,8	-2,5
Don't know	215	269	221	198	167	-31	-48	-15,8	-22,4
Entitled to any paid leave									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Yes	9 504	9 153	9 280	9 358	9 270	-88	-235	-0,9	-2,5
No	4 616	4 718	4 657	4 414	4 593	179	-23	4,0	-0,5
Don't know	187	213	169	147	151	4	-37	2,5	-19,6
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Yes	4 413	4 233	4 314	4 361	4 319	-42	-94	-1,0	-2,1
No	2 067	2 119	2 088	1 998	2 045	47	-22	2,4	-1,0
Don't know	74	86	71	51	60	9	-14	18,3	-19,5
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Yes	5 092	4 921	4 966	4 997	4 951	-46	-141	-0,9	-2,8
No	2 549	2 599	2 569	2 416	2 547	132	-1	5,4	-0,1
Don't know	113	126	99	96	91	-6	-22	-5,8	-19,6

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Entitled to paid sick leave									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Yes	10 168	9 973	10 074	10 075	10 091	15	-77	0,2	-0,8
No	3 953	3 892	3 883	3 692	3 785	94	-168	2,5	-4,2
Don't know	187	219	148	151	137	-15	-50	-9,6	-26,6
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Yes	4 733	4 615	4 705	4 691	4 673	-18	-60	-0,4	-1,3
No	1 747	1 733	1 705	1 661	1 695	34	-52	2,1	-3,0
Don't know	73	90	62	58	56	-2	-17	-3,8	-23,6
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Yes	5 434	5 358	5 369	5 384	5 418	33	-16	0,6	-0,3
No	2 206	2 159	2 178	2 031	2 090	59	-115	2,9	-5,2
Don't know	113	129	86	93	81	-12	-32	-13,2	-28,5
Entitled to maternity/paternity leave									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Yes	7 741	7 633	7 702	7 718	7 809	91	68	1,2	0,9
No	6 187	6 019	6 050	5 851	5 916	65	-272	1,1	-4,4
Don't know	379	432	354	349	288	-61	-91	-17,5	-23,9
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Yes	3 780	3 742	3 760	3 753	3 794	41	14	1,1	0,4
No	2 631	2 538	2 572	2 535	2 516	-19	-114	-0,7	-4,4
Don't know	143	157	140	122	114	-8	-29	-6,7	-20,5
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Yes	3 961	3 890	3 942	3 965	4 015	50	54	1,3	1,4
No	3 557	3 481	3 478	3 316	3 399	84	-157	2,5	-4,4
Don't know	236	274	214	228	174	-53	-61	-23,3	-26,0

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
UIF contribution									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Yes	8 775	8 622	8 681	8 549	8 601	52	-174	0,6	-2,0
No	5 193	5 102	5 109	5 069	5 124	55	-69	1,1	-1,3
Don't know	339	359	316	301	289	-13	-51	-4,2	-14,9
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Yes	3 902	3 810	3 822	3 746	3 764	18	-137	0,5	-3,5
No	2 499	2 465	2 490	2 536	2 527	-8	28	-0,3	1,1
Don't know	153	162	160	128	132	5	-21	3,5	-13,5
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Yes	4 873	4 812	4 859	4 802	4 836	34	-37	0,7	-0,8
No	2 694	2 637	2 618	2 533	2 596	63	-97	2,50	-3,60
Don't know	186	197	157	173	156	-17	-30	-9,9	-16,1
Medical aid benefits									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Yes	4 107	4 057	4 213	4 268	4 304	36	197	0,8	4,8
No	9 969	9 804	9 682	9 460	9 531	71	-437	0,80	-4,40
Don't know	232	223	211	191	178	-13	-53	-6,7	-23,1
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Yes	1 941	1 890	1 969	2 016	1 967	-50	25	-2,5	1,3
No	4 527	4 460	4 415	4 319	4 377	58	-149	1,4	-3,3
Don't know	86	88	88	75	80	5	-6	7,2	-6,8
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,10	-2,10
Yes	2 165	2 167	2 244	2 251	2 337	86	172	3,8	7,9
No	5 442	5 344	5 267	5 141	5 154	13	-288	0,2	-5,3
Don't know	146	135	122	116	98	-18	-48	-15,6	-32,7

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Income tax (PAYE/SITE) deduction									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,70	-2,10
Yes	7 829	7 866	7 901	7 865	7 894	29	65	0,4	0,8
No	6 102	5 788	5 849	5 680	5 785	105	-318	1,8	-5,2
Don't know	376	430	356	374	335	-39	-42	-10,5	-11,1
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Yes	3 527	3 542	3 568	3 560	3 590	30	62	0,80	1,80
No	2 888	2 715	2 742	2 694	2 700	6	-189	0,2	-6,5
Don't know	139	180	162	156	135	-21	-4	-13,6	-2,8
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Yes	4 302	4 324	4 332	4 305	4 304	0	3	0,0	0,1
No	3 214	3 072	3 107	2 986	3 085	99	-129	3,3	-4,0
Don't know	238	250	194	218	200	-18	-38	-8,30	-15,90
Condition of employment									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Written contract	11 712	11 473	11 510	11 453	11 459	5	-253	0,0	-2,2
Verbal agreement	2 595	2 611	2 596	2 465	2 555	89	-41	3,6	-1,6
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,20	-2,00
Written contract	5 493	5 364	5 403	5 359	5 357	-2	-136	0,0	-2,5
Verbal agreement	1 061	1 073	1 069	1 051	1 067	16	6	1,5	0,5
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Written contract	6 219	6 109	6 107	6 094	6 101	7	-117	0,1	-1,9
Verbal agreement	1 534	1 538	1 527	1 414	1 488	73	-47	5,2	-3,0

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Nature of contract/agreement (both sexes)									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Limited duration	2 286	2 170	2 208	2 048	2 142	94	-144	4,6	-6,3
Permanent nature	8 427	8 380	8 449	8 358	8 304	-54	-123	-0,6	-1,5
Unspecified duration	3 593	3 533	3 448	3 513	3 568	55	-25	1,6	-0,7
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Limited duration	1 167	1 093	1 113	1 043	1 115	72	-52	6,9	-4,5
Permanent nature	3 839	3 805	3 845	3 832	3 769	-63	-70	-1,6	-1,8
Unspecified duration	1 548	1 539	1 514	1 534	1 539	5	-9	0,3	-0,6
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Limited duration	1 119	1 077	1 095	1 005	1 026	21	-93	2,1	-8,3
Permanent nature	4 588	4 575	4 604	4 526	4 534	8	-54	0,20	-1,20
Unspecified duration	2 046	1 994	1 934	1 979	2 029	50	-17	2,5	-0,8
Trade union membership (both sexes)									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,7	-2,1
Yes	3 820	3 787	3 879	3 913	3 908	-5	88	-0,1	2,3
No	9 929	9 758	9 683	9 538	9 598	60	-331	0,60	-3,30
Don't know	557	539	544	467	507	40	-50	8,6	-9
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Yes	1 719	1 765	1 740	1 801	1 784	-17	65	-0,9	3,8
No	4 621	4 457	4 503	4 408	4 424	16	-197	0,4	-4,3
Don't know	215	215	230	200	216	16	1	8,0	0,5
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,10	-2,10
Yes	2 102	2 022	2 139	2 112	2 124	12	22	0,6	1,0
No	5 309	5 300	5 180	5 129	5 174	45	-135	0,9	-2,5
Don't know	343	324	314	267	291	24	-52	9,0	-15,2

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
How annual salary increment is negotiated									
Both sexes	14 307	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	94	-294	0,70	-2,10
Individual and employer	1 154	1 224	1 139	1 075	1 052	-23	-102	-2,1	-8,8
Union and employer	2 802	2 735	2 871	2 752	2 876	124	74	4,5	2,6
Bargaining council	1 396	1 360	1 352	1 393	1 421	28	25	2,0	1,8
Employer only	8 145	7 896	7 850	7 832	7 805	-27	-340	-0,3	-4,2
No regular increment	764	790	835	805	816	11	52	1,40	6,80
Other	46	79	59	62	43	-19	-3	-30,6	-6,5
Women	6 554	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	14	-130	0,2	-2,0
Individual and employer	475	559	511	499	449	-50	-26	-10,0	-5,5
Union and employer	1 225	1 224	1 256	1 194	1 257	63	32	5,3	2,6
Bargaining council	714	674	693	730	722	-8	8	-1,1	1,1
Employer only	3 760	3 603	3 593	3 600	3 609	9	-151	0,3	-4,0
No regular increment	359	343	394	364	372	8	13	2,2	3,6
Other	21	34	26	21	15	-6	-6	-28,6	-28,6
Men	7 753	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	80	-164	1,1	-2,1
Individual and employer	679	665	628	575	603	28	-76	4,9	-11,2
Union and employer	1 578	1 511	1 616	1 557	1 619	62	41	4,0	2,6
Bargaining council	682	685	658	663	699	36	17	5,4	2,5
Employer only	4 385	4 293	4 257	4 232	4 196	-36	-189	-0,9	-4,3
No regular increment	405	447	441	441	444	3	39	0,7	9,6
Other	24	45	32	40	28	-12	4	-30,0	16,7

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 3.9: Time-related underemployment – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	737	678	722	677	783	106	47	15,7	6,3
Women	402	386	387	378	434	56	32	14,9	8,0
Men	335	292	334	299	349	50	14	16,8	4,3
As percentage of the labour force (both sexes)	3,0	2,8	2,9	2,7	3,1	0,4	0,1		
Women	3,5	3,4	3,4	3,3	3,8	0,5	0,3		
Men	2,5	2,2	2,5	2,2	2,6	0,4	0,1		
As percentage of total employment (both sexes)	4,4	4,1	4,3	4,1	4,6	0,5	0,2		
Women	5,3	5,2	5,2	5,1	5,8	0,7	0,5		
Men	3,6	3,1	3,6	3,3	3,7	0,4	0,1		
Industry	737	678	722	677	783	106	47	15,7	6,3
Agriculture	27	14	24	17	20	3	-7	19,1	-25,2
Mining	0	1			1		1		100,7
Manufacturing	28	20	38	27	41	14	13	53,3	46,0
Utilities	1			1	3	2	2	151,8	118,1
Construction	85	74	73	59	83	24	-2	41,5	-2,7
Trade	113	133	128	119	136	18	24	14,9	21,0
Transport	25	9	23	21	27	5	1	24,2	5,0
Finance	77	67	60	61	72	11	-5	18,4	-6,5
Community and social services	182	164	187	179	199	20	17	11,1	9,5
Private households	198	195	187	194	201	8	3	4,0	1,6
Occupation	737	678	722	677	783	106	47	15,7	6,3
Manager	13	15	15	13	22	9	9	69,1	67,2
Professional	16	11	15	7	9	2	-7	33,9	-41,8
Technician	35	25	26	26	30	4	-5	17,0	-13,0
Clerk	14	18	19	17	27	10	13	57,6	97,7
Sales and services	93	91	98	73	103	31	10	42,1	11,2
Skilled agriculture	6	3	3	7	5	-2	-1	-33,5	-22,7
Craft and related trade	77	72	81	80	89	8	12	10,4	15,1
Plant and machine operator	24	8	26	26	23	-3	-1	-11,6	-5,3
Elementary	319	291	313	287	329	42	11	14,7	3,3
Domestic worker	139	144	126	140	145	5	6	3,5	4,2

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Job losers	2 205	2 230	2 322	2 402	2 151	-251	-54	-10,4	-2,5
Job leavers	271	267	240	237	202	-36	-70	-15,0	-25,7
New entrants	3 293	3 366	3 526	3 523	3 479	-44	187	-1,2	5,7
Re-entrants	306	329	346	315	379	64	73	20,3	23,9
Other	1 774	1 702	1 792	1 907	1 799	-107	25	-5,6	1,4
Unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Long-term unemployment (1 year and more)	5 911	6 085	6 189	6 385	6 144	-241	233	-3,8	3,9
Short-term unemployment (less than 1 year)	1 939	1 810	2 037	1 999	1 867	-133	-72	-6,6	-3,7
Long-term unemployment (%)									
Proportion of the labour force	24,0	24,7	24,8	25,5	24,6	-0,9	0,6		
Proportion of the unemployed	75,3	77,1	75,2	76,2	76,7	0,5	1,4		
Those who have worked in the past 5 years									
Previous occupation	2 782	2 827	2 908	2 954	2 732	-222	-51	-7,5	-1,8
Manager	52	74	66	58	49	-9	-3	-16,0	-5,7
Professional	73	70	61	73	48	-25	-24	-34,0	-33,5
Technician	165	123	263	316	155	-161	-9	-50,9	-5,7
Clerk	294	311	289	314	285	-29	-9	-9,1	-3,0
Sales and services	546	603	497	403	556	153	10	37,8	1,9
Skilled agriculture	9	7	8	12	7	-5	-2	-39,0	-20,5
Craft and related trade	399	406	419	464	378	-86	-22	-18,6	-5,5
Plant and machine operator	175	196	189	221	194	-27	19	-12,2	11,1
Elementary	897	885	938	893	892	-1	-5	-0,1	-0,6
Domestic worker	171	151	177	199	167	-32	-4	-16,1	-2,2
Other	2	2							

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed – South Africa (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Previous industry	2 782	2 827	2 908	2 954	2 732	-222	-51	-7,5	-1,8
Agriculture	161	157	168	189	177	-12	16	-6,4	10,1
Mining	55	59	82	65	67	2	12	3,3	21,1
Manufacturing	248	274	271	255	252	-3	4	-1,0	1,8
Utilities	18	13	13	23	20	-3	2	-13,3	9,2
Construction	412	425	477	467	391	-75	-21	-16,1	-5,0
Trade	555	577	562	549	537	-11	-18	-2,1	-3,2
Transport	150	143	141	152	117	-35	-32	-22,9	-21,7
Finance	379	347	339	371	338	-33	-41	-9,0	-10,9
Community and social services	547	597	617	613	590	-24	43	-3,8	7,9
Private households	246	231	236	271	242	-28	-4	-10,4	-1,6
Other	12	5	1						

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 5: Characteristics of the not economically active – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
Student	6 192	6 228	5 975	6 029	6 100	71	-92	1,2	-1,5
Homemaker	2 395	2 464	2 321	2 263	2 248	-15	-147	-0,7	-6,1
Illness/disability	1 652	1 701	1 643	1 658	1 619	-39	-33	-2,3	-2,0
Too old/young to work	1 691	1 688	1 749	1 757	1 800	43	109	2,4	6,4
Discouraged work-seekers	3 156	3 049	3 048	3 195	3 355	160	199	5,0	6,3
Other	1 206	1 274	1 451	1 358	1 352	-6	146	-0,4	12,1
Inactivity rate by age (both sexes)	39,8	40,0	39,3	39,4	39,8	0,4	0,0		
15-24 yrs	73,3	73,6	73,2	72,9	73,4	0,5	0,1		
25-54 yrs	24,0	24,2	23,5	23,7	24,1	0,4	0,1		
55-64 yrs	56,8	56,8	56,0	55,9	55,8	-0,1	-1,0		
Inactivity rate by age (women)	44,8	45,2	44,4	44,2	44,8	0,6	0,0		
15-24 yrs	75,1	75,6	75,1	75,2	75,3	0,1	0,2		
25-54 yrs	29,6	30,3	29,2	29,0	29,9	0,9	0,3		
55-64 yrs	63,0	62,2	62,0	62,3	62,3	0,0	-0,7		
Inactivity rate by age (men)	34,8	34,7	34,2	34,4	34,6	0,2	-0,2		
15-24 yrs	71,5	71,6	71,3	70,7	71,5	0,8	0,0		
25-54 yrs	18,5	18,2	17,8	18,5	18,5	0,0	0,0		
55-64 yrs	49,2	50,1	48,5	48,1	47,8	-0,3	-1,4		

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Age group of the employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
15-24 yrs	1 150	1 098	1 107	1 089	1 086	-3	-64	-0,3	-5,6
25-34 yrs	4 811	4 766	4 749	4 630	4 699	69	-112	1,5	-2,3
35-44 yrs	5 099	5 200	5 178	5 169	5 303	134	204	2,6	4,0
45-54 yrs	4 016	3 988	4 009	4 065	4 105	40	88	1,0	2,2
55-64 yrs	1 669	1 672	1 701	1 701	1 754	54	85	3,1	5,1
Age group of the unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
15-24 yrs	1 586	1 607	1 642	1 691	1 643	-48	57	-2,8	3,6
25-34 yrs	2 987	3 053	3 253	3 306	3 182	-123	196	-3,7	6,5
35-44 yrs	2 083	1 996	2 047	2 082	1 960	-122	-123	-5,9	-5,9
45-54 yrs	989	1 024	1 053	1 063	1 018	-45	29	-4,2	2,9
55-64 yrs	204	215	230	242	207	-36	3	-14,7	1,3
Age group of the not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
15-24 yrs	7 503	7 541	7 505	7 483	7 544	61	41	0,8	0,5
25-34 yrs	2 761	2 754	2 584	2 665	2 728	63	-34	2,4	-1,2
35-44 yrs	1 826	1 855	1 870	1 888	1 916	29	90	1,5	4,9
45-54 yrs	1 736	1 776	1 774	1 757	1 808	52	72	2,9	4,2
55-64 yrs	2 465	2 476	2 455	2 468	2 478	10	12	0,4	0,5
Highest level of education of the employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
No schooling	189	173	184	180	179	-1	-11	-0,6	-5,7
Less than primary completed	673	682	666	643	647	4	-26	0,5	-3,9
Primary completed	481	498	470	470	522	52	41	11,1	8,5
Secondary not completed	5 100	5 051	5 071	5 100	5 251	151	151	3,0	3,0
Secondary completed	6 093	6 082	6 105	6 066	6 163	98	71	1,6	1,2
Tertiary	3 984	3 965	3 980	3 954	3 936	-18	-48	-0,5	-1,2
Other	224	272	268	239	248	9	24	3,8	10,6

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa (continued)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Highest level of education of the unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
No schooling	64	65	54	56	57	1	-6	2,2	-9,8
Less than primary completed	304	312	339	382	321	-60	17	-15,8	5,7
Primary completed	287	254	240	253	258	5	-29	2,2	-10,0
Secondary not completed	3 413	3 391	3 463	3 441	3 375	-65	-38	-1,9	-1,1
Secondary completed	3 007	3 098	3 220	3 387	3 192	-195	184	-5,8	6,1
Tertiary	725	727	858	817	748	-68	23	-8,4	3,2
Other	49	48	52	49	58	9	9	17,7	17,8
Highest level of education of the not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
No schooling	506	504	466	485	473	-12	-33	-2,4	-6,5
Less than primary completed	1 202	1 223	1 189	1 182	1 187	5	-15	0,5	-1,2
Primary completed	915	990	745	804	812	8	-103	0,9	-11,3
Secondary not completed	8 558	8 644	8 272	8 408	8 678	270	119	3,2	1,4
Secondary completed	4 148	4 025	4 517	4 381	4 290	-91	142	-2,1	3,4
Tertiary	781	787	780	762	781	18	-1	2,4	-0,1
Other	182	230	218	237	253	16	72	6,7	39,4
Employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Attending educational institution	329	318	322	273	309	37	-20	13,4	-5,9
Not attending educational institution	16 416	16 405	16 423	16 379	16 637	257	221	1,6	1,3
Unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Attending educational institution	111	165	133	119	144	25	33	20,6	29,4
Not attending educational institution	7 738	7 730	8 093	8 265	7 867	-398	129	-4,8	1,7
Not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
Attending educational institution	6 053	6 058	5 765	5 858	5 975	117	-77	2,0	-1,3
Not attending educational institution	10 239	10 345	10 423	10 401	10 498	97	259	0,9	2,5

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 3: 2024

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa (concluded)

	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Current marital status of the employed	16 745	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	294	201	1,8	1,2
Married	5 937	5 922	5 910	5 883	6 046	163	109	2,8	1,8
Living together like husband and wife	2 052	2 147	2 180	2 130	2 113	-17	61	-0,8	3,0
Widow/widower	405	397	399	399	406	7	1	1,7	0,1
Divorced or separated	477	497	514	500	516	16	38	3,2	8,0
Never married	7 874	7 761	7 741	7 741	7 866	125	-7	1,6	-0,1
Current marital status of the unemployed	7 849	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	-373	161	-4,5	2,1
Married	997	1 017	1 041	1 058	955	-102	-41	-9,7	-4,2
Living together like husband and wife	782	820	884	866	795	-71	13	-8,2	1,7
Widow/widower	93	76	60	72	70	-1	-23	-2,0	-24,4
Divorced or separated	123	101	124	124	103	-20	-20	-16,2	-16,1
Never married	5 854	5 881	6 116	6 264	6 086	-178	232	-2,8	4,0
Current marital status of the not economically active	16 292	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	214	182	1,3	1,1
Married	2 663	2 650	2 606	2 526	2 549	23	-114	0,9	-4,3
Living together like husband and wife	912	927	874	956	960	4	48	0,4	5,3
Widow/widower	584	548	585	566	574	8	-10	1,3	-1,8
Divorced or separated	256	267	274	284	279	-5	22	-1,7	8,7
Never married	11 877	12 011	11 848	11 928	12 112	184	236	1,5	2,0

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 7: Profile of those not in employment education or training – South Africa									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	17 978	18 075	18 516	18 666	18 365	-301	388	-1,6	2,2
Women	9 954	10 024	10 220	10 264	10 147	-117	193	-1,1	1,9
Men	8 024	8 051	8 296	8 402	8 218	-183	195	-2,2	2,4
Age group	17 978	18 075	18 516	18 666	18 365	-301	388	-1,6	2,2
15-24 yrs	3 344	3 377	3 638	3 613	3 515	-99	171	-2,7	5,1
25-34 yrs	5 390	5 412	5 497	5 606	5 516	-90	126	-1,6	2,3
35-44 yrs	3 867	3 810	3 877	3 926	3 837	-89	-30	-2,3	-0,8
45-54 yrs	2 713	2 792	2 819	2 812	2 818	6	105	0,2	3,9
55-64 yrs	2 664	2 685	2 685	2 709	2 680	-29	16	-1,1	0,6
Population groups	17 978	18 075	18 516	18 666	18 365	-301	388	-1,6	2,2
Black/African	15 489	15 505	15 957	16 082	15 786	-295	297	-1,8	1,9
Coloured	1 454	1 478	1 501	1 545	1 509	-36	55	-2,4	3,8
Indian/Asian	374	383	377	365	371	6	-3	1,6	-0,9
White	661	710	681	675	700	25	39	3,7	5,9
South Africa	17 978	18 075	18 516	18 666	18 365	-301	388	-1,6	2,2
Western Cape	1 703	1 678	1 732	1 787	1 748	-39	45	-2,2	2,6
Eastern Cape	2 250	2 367	2 494	2 454	2 337	-117	87	-4,8	3,9
Northern Cape	397	397	402	425	406	-20	9	-4,6	2,2
Free State	904	879	908	895	865	-29	-39	-3,3	-4,3
KwaZulu-Natal	3 543	3 461	3 507	3 547	3 549	2	6	0,1	0,2
North West	1 410	1 463	1 508	1 529	1 447	-83	37	-5,4	2,6
Gauteng	4 602	4 613	4 663	4 681	4 725	44	122	0,9	2,7
Mpumalanga	1 394	1 389	1 436	1 489	1 456	-33	62	-2,2	4,4
Limpopo	1 775	1 829	1 866	1 860	1 833	-27	58	-1,4	3,3

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Subsistence farming	2 137	2 380	2 473	2 244	1 883	-361	-254	-16,1	-11,9
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	4 921	4 505	4 288	4 446	4 277	-169	-644	-3,8	-13,1
Produce other goods for household use	204	270	266	235	187	-47	-16	-20,2	-8,1
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	250	332	315	269	310	41	60	15,1	24,1
Hunting or fishing for household use	35	32	47	27	40	13	5	47,3	13,9
Involvement in at least one activity	6 298	6 158	6 076	5 884	5 606	-277	-692	-4,7	-11,0
Employed	1 863	1 827	1 752	1 658	1 561	-96	-301	-5,8	-16,2
Unemployed	1 560	1 518	1 499	1 515	1 410	-105	-150	-6,9	-9,6
Not economically active	2 875	2 812	2 825	2 711	2 635	-76	-240	-2,8	-8,4
Western Cape									
Subsistence farming	57	60	60	64	74	11	17	16,6	29,8
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	176	149	154	144	142	-2	-34	-1,6	-19,3
Produce other goods for household use		3	1		1				
Construction or major repairs to own or household'		1	3						
Hunting or fishing for household use			2						
Involvement in at least one activity	229	210	218	207	214	7	-15	3,3	-6,5
Employed	119	123	107	107	119	13	0	11,7	0,1
Unemployed	67	53	64	51	43	-8	-25	-16,1	-36,6
Not economically active	42	34	47	50	52	3	10	5,1	22,9
Eastern Cape									
Subsistence farming	521	692	691	622	412	-210	-109	-33,7	-20,9
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	887	821	877	987	1 005	18	118	1,9	13,2
Produce other goods for household use	47	105	84	61	18	-42	-28	-69,6	-60,7
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	92	151	135	107	93	-14	1	-13,0	0,8
Hunting or fishing for household use	5	5	8	4	3	-1	-2	-29,1	-39,4
Involvement in at least one activity	1 266	1 348	1 399	1 384	1 296	-88	30	-6,3	2,4
Employed	317	315	311	295	269	-26	-48	-8,7	-15,1
Unemployed	380	434	419	386	366	-20	-13	-5,1	-3,5
Not economically active	569	599	670	703	661	-42	91	-6,0	16,0

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (continued)

	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Northern Cape									
Subsistence farming	15	16	30	28	27	-1	11	-4,3	74,3
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	128	99	96	102	130	28	3	27,5	2,1
Produce other goods for household use	2	0	3	2	2	0	0	13,2	-18,3
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	4	0	6	1	5	4	1	399,7	23,2
Hunting or fishing for household use	5	3	2	0	1	0	-5	49,0	-88,3
Involvement in at least one activity	143	115	122	124	150	26	7	21,3	5,0
Employed	47	29	31	32	39	7	-9	21,6	-18,6
Unemployed	28	22	25	39	45	7	17	17,6	61,2
Not economically active	67	65	67	54	66	13	-1	23,7	-1,9
Free State									
Subsistence farming	73	106	91	82	90	7	16	8,6	21,9
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	57	47	62	75	86	11	29	14,2	50,7
Produce other goods for household use	5	2	3	7	4	-3	-1	-39,0	-22,4
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	17	26	24	22	48	25	31	114,3	182,5
Hunting or fishing for household use	7	7	14	5	10	4	3	82,0	37,9
Involvement in at least one activity	140	160	169	156	190	35	51	22,2	36,4
Employed	47	57	72	63	76	13	29	20,2	61,2
Unemployed	47	47	50	48	52	5	5	9,7	11,0
Not economically active	45	56	47	45	62	17	17	38,1	37,2
KwaZulu-Natal									
Subsistence farming	917	1 024	989	898	818	-79	-98	-8,8	-10,7
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	1 947	1 734	1 634	1 744	1 610	-134	-337	-7,7	-17,3
Produce other goods for household use	116	128	136	143	134	-9	18	-6,1	15,7
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	85	117	93	98	118	19	33	19,6	38,7
Hunting or fishing for household use	11	9	6	11	19	8	7	67,5	64,9
Involvement in at least one activity	2 452	2 368	2 253	2 237	2 106	-130	-345	-5,8	-14,1
Employed	692	663	649	612	563	-49	-130	-8,1	-18,7
Unemployed	503	496	466	527	480	-47	-23	-8,9	-4,7
Not economically active	1 256	1 210	1 138	1 098	1 064	-34	-192	-3,1	-15,3

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates. Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (continued)

	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
North West									
Subsistence farming	84	49	49	86	60	-26	-24	-30,5	-29,1
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	504	488	525	405	389	-16	-115	-4,0	-22,9
Produce other goods for household use	5	8	7	2	5	3	1	124,6	14,3
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	10	5	6	8	1	-6	-8	-81,3	-85,3
Hunting or fishing for household use	1	3	1	2					
Involvement in at least one activity	545	526	560	475	437	-37	-107	-7,8	-19,7
Employed	137	142	131	98	99	0	-38	0,4	-28,0
Unemployed	129	104	127	132	82	-50	-47	-37,6	-36,3
Not economically active	278	281	302	245	256	12	-22	4,9	-7,9
Gauteng									
Subsistence farming	38	40	33	38	53	16	15	42,1	39,4
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	227	195	109	79	100	21	-127	26,8	-55,8
Produce other goods for household use	2	3	1		1		0		-21,7
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	8	6	7	6	8	2	0	34,4	1,6
Hunting or fishing for household use	1	1	8	2	1	0	0	-12,6	32,6
Involvement in at least one activity	271	237	150	118	156	38	-115	32,4	-42,4
Employed	131	109	71	60	53	-7	-78	-11,4	-59,6
Unemployed	67	70	42	32	57	26	-10	81,3	-14,8
Not economically active	72	59	36	26	45	19	-26	73,5	-36,7
Mpumalanga									
Subsistence farming	179	157	175	121	106	-15	-73	-12,4	-40,8
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	474	500	439	463	342	-121	-132	-26,1	-27,8
Produce other goods for household use	25	20	22	17	21	4	-4	21,4	-15,5
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	10	6	7	5	8	2	-2	38,6	-23,1
Hunting or fishing for household use	3	4	5	3	6	3	2	103,7	73,5
Involvement in at least one activity	607	613	565	560	439	-121	-168	-21,6	-27,7
Employed	174	195	164	175	140	-36	-35	-20,5	-20,0
Unemployed	189	171	174	154	127	-27	-62	-17,3	-32,7
Not economically active	243	247	227	231	172	-58	-71	-25,3	-29,2

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates. Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 3: 2024

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (concluded)									
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Limpopo									
Subsistence farming	252	234	354	307	243	-63	-9	-20,7	-3,6
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	520	471	393	446	472	27	-48	5,9	-9,2
Produce other goods for household use	3	1	10	4	1	-2	-2	-66,8	-57,7
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	25	20	34	22	30	8	5	36,5	20,9
Hunting or fishing for household use	1	1	2		1		0		-6,3
Involvement in at least one activity	647	579	640	624	617	-7	-30	-1,1	-4,6
Employed	197	195	216	216	205	-11	8	-5,0	4,0
Unemployed	149	122	132	147	156	9	8	6,2	5,4
Not economically active	301	262	292	261	256	-5	-46	-2,0	-15,1

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates.

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Appendix 2

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	-79	-277	118	0,43
Employed	0,8	0,8	294	75	513	0,01
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,0	1,0	122	-79	323	0,23
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,2	2,3	165	24	307	0,02
Agriculture	5,1	5,4	39	-59	137	0,44
Private households	3,3	3,9	-32	-99	34	0,34
Unemployed	2,0	2,0	-373	-602	-145	0,00
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	214	17	412	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	4,1	3,9	160	14	307	0,03
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	54	-141	249	0,59
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,6	-1,4	-2,2	-0,6	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,8	0,6	0,1	1,1	0,03
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,4	-0,9	0,1	0,11
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,8	-90	-228	47	0,20
Employed	1,0	1,1	97	-37	231	0,16
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,3	1,4	53	-69	175	0,39
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	3,5	3,6	51	-28	129	0,20
Agriculture	8,4	10,5	10	-49	69	0,73
Private households	3,5	3,8	-18	-66	31	0,48
Unemployed	2,2	2,2	-187	-322	-52	0,01
Not economically active	1,0	1,0	154	17	292	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	4,4	4,2	116	20	211	0,02
Other (not economically active)	1,0	1,0	39	-98	176	0,58
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,8	1,8	-1,3	-2,4	-0,3	0,01
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,0	1,1	0,4	-0,3	1,0	0,28
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,8	-0,6	-1,3	0,1	0,07

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,7	11	-122	144	0,87
Employed	0,9	0,9	197	48	346	0,01
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,2	1,3	69	-79	217	0,36
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,7	2,6	115	9	220	0,03
Agriculture	5,5	4,7	29	-32	89	0,35
Private households	7,1	7,1	-15	-55	26	0,47
Unemployed	2,3	2,3	-186	-336	-36	0,02
Not economically active	1,2	1,3	60	-74	193	0,38
Discouraged work-seekers	4,5	4,4	44	-53	142	0,37
Other (not economically active)	1,2	1,3	15	-104	134	0,80
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,0	2,0	-1,4	-2,4	-0,4	0,01
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,9	0,9	0,8	0,1	1,5	0,03
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,7	-0,2	-0,8	0,5	0,60

Table 2.1A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	-79	-277	118	0,43
Employed	0,8	0,8	294	75	513	0,01
Unemployed	2,0	2,0	-373	-602	-145	0,00
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	214	17	412	0,03
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,6	-1,4	-2,2	-0,6	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,8	0,6	0,1	1,1	0,03
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,4	-0,9	0,1	0,11
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,8	-75	-261	111	0,43
Employed	0,9	0,9	266	68	463	0,01
Unemployed	2,1	2,1	-341	-554	-127	0,00
Not economically active	1,1	1,1	212	26	398	0,03
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,7	1,6	-1,5	-2,5	-0,6	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,9	0,9	0,6	0,1	1,2	0,03
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,8	-0,5	-1,0	0,1	0,10
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,3	-9	-66	47	0,74
Employed	1,8	2,0	41	-18	100	0,17
Unemployed	6,6	7,6	-51	-96	-5	0,03
Not economically active	2,0	2,1	14	-42	71	0,62
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,0	7,2	-2,2	-4,2	-0,3	0,03
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	2,0	1,1	-0,6	2,7	0,19
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,3	-0,3	-1,9	1,2	0,67

Table 2.1A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	2,2	28	2	54	0,04
Employed	3,5	3,8	12	-19	44	0,44
Unemployed	14,0	19,1	15	-12	43	0,27
Not economically active	3,4	3,9	-26	-52	0	0,05
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	14,4	18,7	1,7	-2,2	5,6	0,39
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,5	3,8	1,1	-1,9	4,0	0,48
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,2	2,5	0,0	5,0	0,05
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,4	1,3	-23	-69	23	0,34
Employed	1,8	1,5	-25	-85	35	0,41
Unemployed	15,4	13,0	3	-38	44	0,90
Not economically active	3,0	2,7	13	-33	59	0,57
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	15,2	12,6	0,2	-1,9	2,4	0,83
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	1,5	-0,7	-2,9	1,5	0,53
Labour force participation rate	1,4	1,3	-0,6	-2,3	1,1	0,49

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	-79	-277	118	0,43
Employed	0,8	0,8	294	75	513	0,01
Unemployed	2,0	2,0	-373	-602	-145	0,00
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	214	17	412	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	4,1	3,9	160	14	307	0,03
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	54	-141	249	0,59
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,6	-1,4	-2,2	-0,6	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,8	0,6	0,1	1,1	0,03
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,4	-0,9	0,1	0,11
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,1	1,2	-21	-77	36	0,48
Employed	1,6	1,7	75	0	149	0,05
Unemployed	6,7	6,9	-95	-156	-35	0,00
Not economically active	2,3	2,5	39	-18	96	0,18
Discouraged work-seekers	15,0	10,2	23	-1	48	0,06
Other (not economically active)	2,5	2,7	16	-43	74	0,60
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,1	6,5	-2,7	-4,4	-0,9	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,6	1,7	1,3	-0,2	2,8	0,09
Labour force participation rate	1,1	1,2	-0,7	-1,8	0,5	0,25

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Western Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,7	2,0	5	-45	54	0,85
Employed	2,5	2,9	68	11	126	0,02
Unemployed	11,0	14,3	-63	-101	-26	0,00
Not economically active	2,9	3,5	2	-47	51	0,94
Discouraged work-seekers	15,1	12,5	8	-10	27	0,37
Other (not economically active)	3,8	4,3	-6	-50	37	0,77
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,3	13,9	-5,6	-8,7	-2,4	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	2,9	3,5	0,4	6,6	0,03
Labour force participation rate	1,7	2,0	0,0	-2,7	2,7	0,98
Western Cape – City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	1,7	-25	-60	10	0,15
Employed	2,2	2,2	6	-41	54	0,79
Unemployed	8,5	7,9	-32	-78	15	0,18
Not economically active	3,7	3,8	37	2	72	0,04
Discouraged work-seekers	42,6	17,9	15	-2	31	0,08
Other (not economically active)	3,7	3,6	22	-20	64	0,30
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,7	7,2	-1,1	-3,1	0,8	0,25
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,2	2,2	0,0	-1,5	1,5	1,00
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,7	-1,0	-2,1	0,0	0,06

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	2,3	-7	-93	79	0,88
Employed	3,4	3,2	83	1	165	0,05
Unemployed	4,2	3,4	-90	-163	-17	0,02
Not economically active	2,2	2,3	20	-66	106	0,65
Discouraged work-seekers	11,4	12,1	34	-23	92	0,24
Other (not economically active)	2,4	3,0	-14	-100	72	0,75
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,7	3,0	-3,8	-6,5	-1,0	0,01
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,4	3,2	1,7	-0,1	3,5	0,06
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,3	-0,3	-2,2	1,6	0,76
Eastern Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,2	3,2	-22	-99	55	0,57
Employed	5,5	5,2	25	-49	99	0,51
Unemployed	5,6	4,0	-47	-113	19	0,16
Not economically active	2,8	2,7	30	-47	107	0,44
Discouraged work-seekers	11,8	12,5	33	-24	91	0,25
Other (not economically active)	3,0	3,6	-3	-80	74	0,93
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,9	3,9	-2,6	-6,7	1,5	0,21
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,5	5,2	0,7	-1,7	3,1	0,55
Labour force participation rate	3,2	3,2	-0,8	-3,3	1,7	0,51

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	3,5	-3	-23	18	0,80
Employed	5,3	5,2	12	-14	38	0,36
Unemployed	8,0	8,4	-15	-40	11	0,26
Not economically active	4,6	7,1	5	-16	25	0,65
Discouraged work-seekers	94,1	60,6	1	-2	4	0,49
Other (not economically active)	4,7	8,0	4	-19	26	0,76
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,3	8,0	-3,7	-10,0	2,6	0,25
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,3	5,2	2,0	-2,6	6,6	0,40
Labour force participation rate	2,2	3,5	-0,7	-4,4	2,9	0,70
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	4,4	18	-15	51	0,29
Employed	3,3	4,0	46	21	71	0,00
Unemployed	6,5	9,2	-28	-44	-12	0,00
Not economically active	3,4	6,2	-15	-48	19	0,39
Discouraged work-seekers	52,8	41,4	0	-7	7	0,93
Other (not economically active)	4,6	7,3	-14	-44	16	0,35
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,6	6,4	-6,4	-8,7	-4,1	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,3	4,0	5,0	2,2	7,8	0,00
Labour force participation rate	2,6	4,4	1,8	-1,9	5,5	0,34

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Northern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,2	4,6	23	-7	53	0,13
Employed	6,1	8,1	23	0	46	0,05
Unemployed	8,7	5,8	0	-13	13	0,97
Not economically active	5,1	6,2	-21	-51	8	0,16
Discouraged work-seekers	11,2	11,8	-7	-30	16	0,53
Other (not economically active)	4,6	7,8	-14	-48	19	0,41
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,3	8,9	-1,6	-3,5	0,4	0,11
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	6,1	8,1	2,7	-0,1	5,4	0,05
Labour force participation rate	4,2	4,6	2,6	-0,9	6,1	0,14
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,6	1,5	17	-11	46	0,24
Employed	1,7	2,8	30	-12	73	0,16
Unemployed	5,0	5,0	-13	-60	33	0,58
Not economically active	2,6	2,5	-16	-44	12	0,27
Discouraged work-seekers	15,2	14,5	-11	-35	12	0,33
Other (not economically active)	3,5	3,7	-5	-36	27	0,78
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,7	4,6	-1,6	-5,2	1,9	0,37
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,7	2,8	1,5	-0,7	3,7	0,17
Labour force participation rate	1,6	1,5	0,9	-0,6	2,3	0,26

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Free State – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,0	1,8	10	-12	32	0,36
Employed	1,9	3,4	15	-13	44	0,30
Unemployed	4,3	6,3	-5	-34	24	0,75
Not economically active	3,3	3,0	-9	-32	13	0,40
Discouraged work-seekers	18,2	18,0	-6	-25	14	0,57
Other (not economically active)	4,2	3,7	-4	-32	24	0,79
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,9	5,5	-1,0	-4,1	2,1	0,51
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,9	3,4	1,1	-1,0	3,1	0,31
Labour force participation rate	2,0	1,8	0,7	-0,9	2,3	0,38
Free State – Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,8	2,8	7	-11	25	0,45
Employed	3,4	4,7	15	-17	47	0,35
Unemployed	16,2	4,9	-8	-45	28	0,66
Not economically active	4,2	4,4	-7	-24	11	0,47
Discouraged work-seekers	27,5	24,3	-6	-18	6	0,35
Other (not economically active)	6,4	9,2	-1	-15	13	0,92
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	13,5	6,3	-3,0	-13,0	7,0	0,55
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,4	4,7	2,7	-3,0	8,4	0,35
Labour force participation rate	2,8	2,8	1,2	-2,0	4,4	0,46

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	2,2	4	-81	88	0,93
Employed	2,3	2,0	-2	-112	108	0,97
Unemployed	7,0	6,0	6	-99	111	0,91
Not economically active	2,5	2,6	22	-63	106	0,62
Discouraged work-seekers	10,0	9,6	56	5	107	0,03
Other (not economically active)	2,8	2,8	-34	-118	49	0,42
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,7	4,5	0,1	-2,3	2,5	0,92
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,3	2,0	-0,2	-1,6	1,3	0,84
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,2	-0,1	-1,2	1,0	0,82
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,9	3,2	-34	-106	37	0,34
Employed	3,3	2,9	-71	-152	9	0,08
Unemployed	8,1	7,6	37	-42	116	0,36
Not economically active	3,0	3,2	50	-22	121	0,17
Discouraged work-seekers	14,3	13,6	30	-11	71	0,15
Other (not economically active)	3,6	3,6	19	-54	93	0,61
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,3	5,2	2,0	-0,9	4,9	0,17
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,3	2,9	-1,5	-3,2	0,1	0,07
Labour force participation rate	2,9	3,2	-0,9	-2,3	0,6	0,25

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,9	2,8	38	-10	87	0,12
Employed	3,3	2,9	69	-8	147	0,08
Unemployed	13,7	8,2	-31	-99	37	0,37
Not economically active	4,6	4,5	-28	-77	21	0,26
Discouraged work-seekers	11,0	11,7	26	-4	56	0,09
Other (not economically active)	3,7	3,6	-54	-96	-11	0,01
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	11,9	7,0	-2,4	-6,5	1,7	0,25
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,3	2,9	2,4	-0,5	5,3	0,10
Labour force participation rate	2,9	2,8	1,2	-0,6	3,0	0,20
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,3	3,3	0	-74	74	1,00
Employed	4,3	4,7	69	23	114	0,00
Unemployed	8,1	7,6	-68	-130	-7	0,03
Not economically active	5,1	3,9	9	-65	83	0,81
Discouraged work-seekers	14,8	11,2	10	-46	66	0,73
Other (not economically active)	3,3	3,4	-1	-62	60	0,98
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	6,4	-4,5	-7,3	-1,8	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,3	4,7	2,3	0,7	4,0	0,01
Labour force participation rate	4,3	3,3	-0,2	-2,8	2,5	0,90

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,0	1,2	-228	-335	-121	0,00
Employed	1,5	1,6	-66	-201	69	0,34
Unemployed	3,4	4,1	-162	-292	-33	0,01
Not economically active	2,3	2,5	270	164	377	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	11,1	9,2	111	51	172	0,00
Other (not economically active)	2,0	2,2	159	48	270	0,01
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,8	3,4	-1,1	-2,7	0,5	0,18
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,5	1,6	-0,8	-2,0	0,5	0,22
Labour force participation rate	1,0	1,2	-2,3	-3,2	-1,3	0,00
Gauteng – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,5	5,4	-4	-55	47	0,88
Employed	5,2	4,5	15	-39	70	0,58
Unemployed	12,1	12,2	-19	-74	36	0,49
Not economically active	9,7	11,3	10	-41	60	0,70
Discouraged work-seekers	27,0	27,8	14	-15	43	0,35
Other (not economically active)	5,5	7,9	-4	-47	38	0,85
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,1	8,1	-1,7	-6,5	3,1	0,48
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,2	4,5	0,9	-2,8	4,5	0,64
Labour force participation rate	4,5	5,4	-0,5	-3,9	2,8	0,76

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,3	2,2	-48	-112	16	0,14
Employed	2,5	2,5	-7	-86	72	0,87
Unemployed	6,5	6,4	-41	-121	39	0,31
Not economically active	4,6	3,9	59	-6	123	0,07
Discouraged work-seekers	16,8	12,1	57	21	94	0,00
Other (not economically active)	4,7	3,3	1	-58	60	0,96
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,0	5,2	-1,4	-5,4	2,6	0,50
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	2,5	-0,4	-3,2	2,4	0,78
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,2	-1,9	-4,2	0,3	0,09
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	2,0	-199	-259	-139	0,00
Employed	2,6	3,1	-116	-198	-34	0,01
Unemployed	5,1	6,8	-83	-155	-11	0,02
Not economically active	3,9	4,0	214	154	275	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	24,9	18,2	28	-7	63	0,12
Other (not economically active)	3,7	4,1	186	111	261	0,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,7	5,9	-0,5	-3,0	2,0	0,67
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,6	3,1	-2,9	-4,9	-1,0	0,00
Labour force participation rate	1,5	2,0	-5,0	-6,4	-3,6	0,00

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Gauteng – City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	2,0	23	-20	65	0,30
Employed	2,6	3,7	42	-20	103	0,18
Unemployed	6,0	8,8	-19	-70	33	0,47
Not economically active	3,0	4,8	-12	-55	30	0,57
Discouraged work-seekers	22,1	18,8	12	-4	28	0,15
Other (not economically active)	2,6	4,1	-24	-68	19	0,27
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	7,8	-1,4	-3,9	1,2	0,30
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,6	3,7	1,3	-0,9	3,5	0,24
Labour force participation rate	1,3	2,0	0,6	-1,0	2,1	0,48
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,8	2,2	43	-13	99	0,13
Employed	3,1	3,1	49	-3	101	0,07
Unemployed	6,2	5,7	-6	-66	54	0,85
Not economically active	2,7	3,4	-32	-88	24	0,26
Discouraged work-seekers	8,2	8,6	-10	-48	27	0,59
Other (not economically active)	3,1	3,2	-22	-59	15	0,24
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,4	4,8	-1,1	-3,8	1,5	0,40
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,1	3,1	1,4	-0,2	3,1	0,09
Labour force participation rate	1,8	2,2	1,2	-0,6	2,9	0,20

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,5	2,3	89	2	177	0,05
Employed	2,5	2,7	33	-23	90	0,25
Unemployed	5,9	4,9	56	-16	128	0,13
Not economically active	3,1	3,1	-77	-164	11	0,09
Discouraged work-seekers	8,9	9,2	-46	-122	30	0,23
Other (not economically active)	3,9	3,3	-31	-87	25	0,28
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,4	3,9	1,2	-1,2	3,6	0,32
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	2,7	0,7	-0,7	2,1	0,32
Labour force participation rate	2,5	2,3	2,0	-0,1	4,2	0,07

Table 3.1A: Sampling variability for the employed by industry and sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Both sexes	0,8	0,8	294	75	513	0,01
Agriculture	5,1	5,4	39	-59	137	0,44
Mining	6,4	6,8	27	-25	80	0,31
Manufacturing	3,0	3,1	-20	-110	70	0,66
Utilities	11,4	11,5	13	-10	37	0,27
Construction	3,4	3,3	176	92	261	0,00
Trade	2,1	2,2	109	-10	227	0,07
Transport	3,9	3,9	-18	-87	51	0,61
Finance	2,1	2,7	-189	-317	-61	0,00
Community and social services	1,9	1,8	194	67	321	0,00
Private households	3,3	3,9	-32	-99	34	0,34
Women	1,0	1,1	97	-37	231	0,16
Agriculture	8,4	10,5	10	-49	69	0,73
Mining	11,8	14,2	-2	-19	14	0,80
Manufacturing	4,6	4,4	12	-39	63	0,65
Utilities	24,7	19,5	7	-3	18	0,18
Construction	10,6	9,4	6	-25	36	0,71
Trade	3,0	3,0	24	-53	102	0,54
Transport	8,5	8,4	18	-14	51	0,27
Finance	3,2	3,7	-87	-165	-10	0,03
Community and social services	2,2	2,2	125	31	220	0,01
Private households	3,5	3,8	-18	-66	31	0,48
Men	0,9	0,9	197	48	346	0,01
Agriculture	5,5	4,7	29	-32	89	0,35
Mining	6,3	7,7	29	-23	82	0,27
Manufacturing	3,5	3,7	-32	-99	36	0,35
Utilities	13,1	14,4	6	-15	27	0,57
Construction	3,7	3,5	171	93	249	0,00
Trade	2,8	2,9	84	-4	173	0,06
Transport	4,4	4,4	-36	-100	28	0,27
Finance	2,5	3,2	-102	-195	-9	0,03
Community and social services	2,8	2,7	69	-6	145	0,07
Private households	7,1	7,1	-15	-55	26	0,47

Table 3.4 A: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
South Africa	0,8	0,8	294	75	513	0,01
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1,0	1,0	122	-79	323	0,23
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2,2	2,3	165	24	307	0,02
Agriculture	5,1	5,4	39	-59	137	0,44
Private households	3,3	3,9	-32	-99	34	0,34
Western Cape	1,6	1,7	75	0	149	0,05
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,1	2,3	45	-25	114	0,21
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,6	5,9	17	-24	58	0,41
Agriculture	9,2	15,3	13	-26	51	0,51
Private households	6,3	9,9	0	-33	33	1,00
Western Cape – Non-metro	2,5	2,9	68	11	126	0,02
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,3	3,6	41	3	78	0,04
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,1	8,5	23	-7	54	0,14
Agriculture	9,4	15,9	17	-21	55	0,37
Private households	10,1	12,6	-13	-25	0	0,05
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	2,2	2,2	6	-41	54	0,79
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,7	2,9	4	-54	63	0,89
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,9	7,7	-6	-32	20	0,65
Agriculture	42,2	43,7	-4	-12	3	0,27
Private households	8,3	14,2	13	-17	43	0,41
Eastern Cape	3,4	3,2	83	1	165	0,05
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,2	3,1	94	32	156	0,00
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,0	8,0	-20	-58	18	0,30
Agriculture	16,4	23,3	10	-64	85	0,78
Private households	16,7	13,8	-2	-19	15	0,86
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	5,5	5,2	25	-49	99	0,51
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5,8	6,2	55	5	106	0,03
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	9,2	10,2	-30	-55	-6	0,02
Agriculture	16,8	25,7	0	-73	74	1,00
Private households	20,9	16,2	-1	-14	13	0,92

Table 3.4A: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	5,3	5,2	12	-14	38	0,36
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6,2	2,5	-4	-31	24	0,79
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,3	19,5	10	-11	32	0,33
Agriculture	84,1	58,5	8	-1	18	0,09
Private households	40,2	31,7	-3	-11	5	0,48
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	3,3	4,0	46	21	71	0,00
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,9	2,6	42	20	65	0,00
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	16,2	15,5	0	-19	19	0,99
Agriculture	106,8	66,7	2	-3	7	0,50
Private households	28,3	39,7	2	-4	9	0,52
Northern Cape	6,1	8,1	23	0	46	0,05
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	8,0	11,6	15	-18	47	0,38
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,6	12,3	5	-7	18	0,40
Agriculture	31,6	27,9	6	-5	16	0,30
Private households	20,1	11,6	-2	-10	5	0,57
Free State	1,7	2,8	30	-12	73	0,16
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,3	3,9	1	-35	38	0,94
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	9,8	11,1	35	8	63	0,01
Agriculture	6,8	6,0	-6	-19	7	0,35
Private households	10,2	11,3	0	-11	11	0,95
Free State – Non-metro	1,9	3,4	15	-13	44	0,30
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,0	5,9	-14	-41	13	0,30
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	13,6	13,8	31	9	54	0,01
Agriculture	6,6	5,0	-6	-19	8	0,41
Private households	10,5	11,9	4	-5	13	0,43
Free State – Mangaung	3,4	4,7	15	-17	47	0,35
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5,6	3,5	16	-8	40	0,20
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,7	17,2	4	-12	21	0,63
Agriculture	51,4	76,2	-1	-2	1	0,33
Private households	22,4	26,9	-4	-10	2	0,19

Table 3.4A: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,3	2,0	-2	-112	108	0,97
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,2	3,0	20	-74	113	0,68
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	4,4	5,3	-15	-87	56	0,67
Agriculture	15,3	10,5	-7	-40	27	0,70
Private households	6,7	7,1	0	-25	25	1,00
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	3,3	2,9	-71	-152	9	0,08
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,6	4,6	-57	-111	-2	0,04
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,1	6,2	-19	-73	34	0,48
Agriculture	16,2	11,1	-7	-41	26	0,67
Private households	9,7	9,5	12	-12	36	0,32
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	3,3	2,9	69	-8	147	0,08
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,4	4,0	76	1	152	0,05
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,9	9,5	4	-43	51	0,87
Agriculture	35,0	31,9	1	-5	7	0,79
Private households	9,5	10,5	-12	-21	-3	0,01
North West	4,3	4,7	69	23	114	0,00
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,7	4,6	48	13	83	0,01
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	11,0	10,9	30	6	53	0,01
Agriculture	18,4	17,0	6	-13	25	0,53
Private households	22,0	22,5	-15	-32	3	0,10
Gauteng	1,5	1,6	-66	-201	69	0,34
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1,8	2,1	-114	-244	16	0,09
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,0	4,5	37	-40	113	0,35
Agriculture	21,7	16,4	14	0	28	0,04
Private households	6,8	8,0	-3	-37	31	0,87
Gauteng – Non-metro	5,2	4,5	15	-39	70	0,58
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6,0	6,5	15	-45	75	0,62
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	12,1	12,1	-2	-14	10	0,75
Agriculture	21,5	16,2	4	-2	9	0,23
Private households	15,7	21,2	-2	-11	8	0,77

Table 3.4A: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	2,5	2,5	-7	-86	72	0,87
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,3	3,3	-38	-103	27	0,26
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,1	9,3	9	-17	35	0,50
Agriculture	58,3	34,4	4	2	6	0,00
Private households	16,6	15,1	17	-2	37	0,08
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	2,6	3,1	-116	-198	-34	0,01
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,4	3,9	-111	-198	-25	0,01
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,6	7,7	0	-64	65	0,99
Agriculture	72,2	62,6	3	-4	10	0,36
Private households	10,4	13,5	-8	-26	10	0,37
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	2,6	3,7	42	-20	103	0,18
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,4	4,8	20	-40	80	0,51
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	10,8	6,8	29	1	57	0,04
Agriculture	62,6	46,7	3	-7	13	0,55
Private households	14,4	15,2	-11	-30	9	0,28
Mpumalanga	3,1	3,1	49	-3	101	0,07
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,8	4,5	25	-31	80	0,38
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,9	8,3	50	-11	111	0,11
Agriculture	8,7	8,2	-17	-28	-6	0,00
Private households	8,1	12,5	-9	-29	11	0,39
Limpopo	2,5	2,7	33	-23	90	0,25
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,5	2,9	-11	-44	22	0,52
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,0	5,0	27	-12	65	0,18
Agriculture	18,7	13,4	20	-8	47	0,17
Private households	12,2	13,5	-2	-22	18	0,85

Table 3.5A: Sampling variability for the employed by sex and occupation						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024				
Both sexes	0,8	0,8	294	75	513	0,01
Manager	3,3	3,8	6	-99	112	0,90
Professional	3,7	4,5	-276	-360	-192	0,00
Technician	2,9	3,1	-276	-380	-172	0,00
Clerk	2,9	3,0	136	43	230	0,01
Sales and services	2,2	2,0	407	302	513	0,00
Skilled agriculture	11,4	14,6	-37	-64	-10	0,01
Craft and related trade	2,9	2,8	204	111	296	0,00
Plant and machine operator	3,2	3,8	93	2	184	0,05
Elementary	1,8	2,0	33	-110	177	0,65
Domestic worker	3,7	3,9	11	-40	61	0,68
Women	1,0	1,1	97	-37	231	0,16
Manager	4,5	5,8	-47	-110	15	0,14
Professional	4,5	5,7	-94	-151	-37	0,00
Technician	3,3	3,9	-205	-275	-135	0,00
Clerk	3,4	3,2	102	22	181	0,01
Sales and services	3,1	2,6	303	220	385	0,00
Skilled agriculture	20,1	24,9	-3	-18	11	0,66
Craft and related trade	7,8	7,8	-19	-52	13	0,24
Plant and machine operator	7,2	10,1	25	-13	64	0,20
Elementary	2,6	2,8	38	-49	125	0,39
Domestic worker	3,7	3,9	-2	-50	46	0,93
Men	0,9	0,9	197	48	346	0,01
Manager	3,7	4,0	54	-19	127	0,15
Professional	5,2	6,1	-182	-234	-131	0,00
Technician	4,5	4,5	-71	-147	4	0,06
Clerk	5,4	5,8	34	-29	97	0,29
Sales and services	3,0	3,0	104	30	179	0,01
Skilled agriculture	13,3	17,1	-34	-55	-12	0,00
Craft and related trade	3,2	3,1	223	134	312	0,00
Plant and machine operator	3,5	3,9	67	-16	150	0,11
Elementary	2,3	2,3	-4	-109	100	0,93
Domestic worker	16,9	16,5	13	-2	27	0,09

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	363	-16	742	0,06
Employed	0,7	0,8	201	-144	547	0,25
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	0,9	1,0	-27	-337	283	0,86
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,1	2,3	237	43	430	0,02
Agriculture	4,2	5,4	-21	-115	74	0,67
Private households	3,5	3,9	12	-88	113	0,81
Unemployed	1,8	2,0	161	-201	524	0,38
Not economically active	1,0	0,9	182	-197	561	0,35
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	3,9	199	-75	472	0,15
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	-17	-312	279	0,91
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	0,2	-1,1	1,4	0,77
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,8	-0,1	-0,9	0,8	0,90
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,1	-0,8	1,0	0,86
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,8	129	-122	381	0,31
Employed	1,1	1,1	36	-197	269	0,76
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,5	1,4	42	-166	251	0,69
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	3,0	3,6	11	-92	114	0,83
Agriculture	7,5	10,5	-15	-75	45	0,63
Private households	4,1	3,8	-3	-88	83	0,95
Unemployed	2,1	2,2	93	-114	301	0,38
Not economically active	1,0	1,0	131	-121	382	0,31
Discouraged work-seekers	4,4	4,2	130	-42	302	0,14
Other (not economically active)	1,0	1,0	1	-204	206	0,99
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,7	1,8	0,4	-1,2	2,0	0,59
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,1	1,1	-0,3	-1,4	0,8	0,62
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,8	-0,1	-1,3	1,2	0,91

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,7	234	14	453	0,04
Employed	0,8	0,9	166	-48	379	0,13
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,0	1,3	-70	-266	127	0,49
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,8	2,6	226	81	371	0,00
Agriculture	4,1	4,7	-6	-67	55	0,86
Private households	7,4	7,1	15	-34	64	0,55
Unemployed	2,0	2,3	68	-161	297	0,56
Not economically active	1,2	1,3	51	-169	271	0,65
Discouraged work-seekers	4,2	4,4	69	-80	218	0,36
Other (not economically active)	1,2	1,3	-18	-188	153	0,84
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,7	2,0	0,0	-1,5	1,5	0,98
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,9	0,2	-0,9	1,2	0,74
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,7	0,2	-0,8	1,3	0,67

Table 2.1B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	363	-16	742	0,06
Employed	0,7	0,8	201	-144	547	0,25
Unemployed	1,8	2,0	161	-201	524	0,38
Not economically active	1,0	0,9	182	-197	561	0,35
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	0,2	-1,1	1,4	0,77
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,8	-0,1	-0,9	0,8	0,90
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,1	-0,8	1,0	0,86
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,8	367	10	723	0,04
Employed	0,8	0,9	231	-75	536	0,14
Unemployed	1,9	2,1	136	-207	479	0,44
Not economically active	1,1	1,1	187	-170	543	0,30
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,6	0,0	-1,4	1,4	0,98
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,9	0,1	-0,8	1,0	0,90
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,8	0,1	-0,9	1,2	0,83
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	1,3	-16	-90	58	0,67
Employed	1,9	2,0	-4	-99	91	0,94
Unemployed	4,0	7,6	-13	-88	63	0,74
Not economically active	2,3	2,1	36	-38	110	0,33
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	7,2	-0,4	-3,8	3,0	0,81
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,9	2,0	-0,4	-3,0	2,3	0,78
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,3	-0,8	-2,9	1,3	0,45

Table 2.1B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,4	2,2	41	5	78	0,03
Employed	4,9	3,8	12	-56	79	0,74
Unemployed	26,9	19,1	30	-28	88	0,31
Not economically active	3,5	3,9	-33	-70	3	0,08
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	27,4	18,7	3,7	-5,2	12,7	0,41
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,9	3,8	0,7	-5,7	7,1	0,84
Labour force participation rate	2,4	2,2	3,5	0,0	6,9	0,05
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,8	1,3	-29	-96	38	0,39
Employed	2,4	1,5	-37	-116	42	0,36
Unemployed	16,2	13,0	8	-54	71	0,80
Not economically active	3,8	2,7	-8	-74	59	0,81
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	16,3	12,6	0,6	-2,7	3,8	0,74
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	1,5	-0,5	-3,3	2,3	0,73
Labour force participation rate	1,8	1,3	-0,1	-2,5	2,3	0,91

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	363	-16	742	0,06
Employed	0,7	0,8	201	-144	547	0,25
Unemployed	1,8	2,0	161	-201	524	0,38
Not economically active	1,0	0,9	182	-197	561	0,35
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	3,9	199	-75	472	0,15
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	-17	-312	279	0,91
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	0,2	-1,1	1,4	0,77
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,8	-0,1	-0,9	0,8	0,90
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,1	-0,8	1,0	0,86
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,7	1,2	-8	-97	81	0,86
Employed	2,2	1,7	15	-92	123	0,78
Unemployed	7,4	6,9	-23	-113	66	0,61
Not economically active	3,7	2,5	83	-6	172	0,07
Discouraged work-seekers	12,8	10,2	29	-6	65	0,10
Other (not economically active)	3,3	2,7	54	-29	136	0,20
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,8	6,5	-0,6	-3,2	1,9	0,62
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,2	1,7	-0,5	-2,7	1,6	0,64
Labour force participation rate	1,7	1,2	-1,2	-3,0	0,6	0,20

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Western Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,9	2,0	1	-70	73	0,97
Employed	3,4	2,9	4	-69	76	0,92
Unemployed	7,3	14,3	-2	-47	42	0,91
Not economically active	5,1	3,5	26	-46	97	0,48
Discouraged work-seekers	14,5	12,5	21	-11	53	0,19
Other (not economically active)	5,0	4,3	4	-58	66	0,89
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,3	13,9	-0,2	-3,9	3,5	0,90
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,4	2,9	-0,6	-4,6	3,4	0,77
Labour force participation rate	2,9	2,0	-0,9	-4,8	3,1	0,67
Western Cape – City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	1,7	-9	-64	46	0,74
Employed	2,8	2,2	12	-74	97	0,79
Unemployed	9,5	7,9	-21	-99	57	0,60
Not economically active	5,2	3,8	57	2	112	0,04
Discouraged work-seekers	27,5	17,9	8	-8	24	0,32
Other (not economically active)	4,5	3,6	49	-8	107	0,09
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,7	7,2	-0,8	-4,2	2,6	0,63
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	2,2	-0,5	-3,1	2,2	0,74
Labour force participation rate	2,1	1,7	-1,4	-3,1	0,4	0,13

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,2	2,3	-73	-182	37	0,19
Employed	2,6	3,2	-7	-95	80	0,87
Unemployed	4,3	3,4	-66	-139	7	0,08
Not economically active	2,5	2,3	127	18	237	0,02
Discouraged work-seekers	12,8	12,1	177	108	247	0,00
Other (not economically active)	2,5	3,0	-50	-180	79	0,45
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,2	3,0	-1,6	-4,1	0,8	0,20
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,6	3,2	-0,6	-2,5	1,4	0,58
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,3	-2,2	-4,6	0,2	0,07
Eastern Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,9	3,2	-77	-167	13	0,10
Employed	3,8	5,2	-56	-123	12	0,10
Unemployed	5,3	4,0	-21	-82	40	0,50
Not economically active	2,8	2,7	109	19	200	0,02
Discouraged work-seekers	13,3	12,5	170	102	238	0,00
Other (not economically active)	2,9	3,6	-61	-173	50	0,28
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	3,9	0,9	-2,3	4,0	0,59
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,8	5,2	-2,1	-4,3	0,1	0,06
Labour force participation rate	2,9	3,2	-3,0	-5,9	-0,1	0,05

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	5,1	3,5	3	-37	43	0,87
Employed	5,0	5,2	9	-29	47	0,65
Unemployed	11,3	8,4	-6	-34	23	0,70
Not economically active	10,5	7,1	5	-35	45	0,80
Discouraged work-seekers	.	60,6	4	-1	8	0,10
Other (not economically active)	10,5	8,0	2	-37	40	0,94
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,3	8,0	-1,8	-8,6	5,0	0,61
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,0	5,2	0,9	-6,0	7,8	0,80
Labour force participation rate	5,1	3,5	-0,4	-7,6	6,8	0,91
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	4,2	4,4	1	-48	49	0,98
Employed	4,3	4,0	40	-2	81	0,06
Unemployed	10,0	9,2	-39	-68	-11	0,01
Not economically active	6,1	6,2	13	-35	62	0,60
Discouraged work-seekers	41,1	41,4	3	-11	18	0,64
Other (not economically active)	6,0	7,3	10	-44	63	0,72
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,6	6,4	-7,5	-12,0	-3,0	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,3	4,0	3,8	-0,9	8,5	0,11
Labour force participation rate	4,2	4,4	-0,8	-6,3	4,6	0,76

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Northern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,5	4,6	39	2	75	0,04
Employed	6,1	8,1	9	-29	47	0,66
Unemployed	9,2	5,8	30	7	53	0,01
Not economically active	4,0	6,2	-32	-68	4	0,08
Discouraged work-seekers	10,3	11,8	-12	-35	10	0,29
Other (not economically active)	4,3	7,8	-20	-71	32	0,45
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,2	8,9	4,1	-1,0	9,2	0,11
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	6,1	8,1	0,7	-3,8	5,2	0,76
Labour force participation rate	3,5	4,6	4,2	-0,1	8,5	0,06
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	1,5	28	-28	84	0,32
Employed	2,8	2,8	48	-7	103	0,09
Unemployed	4,4	5,0	-20	-73	33	0,46
Not economically active	3,3	2,5	-23	-79	33	0,41
Discouraged work-seekers	20,5	14,5	8	-19	35	0,55
Other (not economically active)	3,3	3,7	-31	-84	21	0,24
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,6	4,6	-2,5	-6,5	1,4	0,20
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	2,8	2,4	-0,5	5,2	0,10
Labour force participation rate	2,1	1,5	1,3	-1,6	4,2	0,37

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Free State – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,6	1,8	19	-28	66	0,43
Employed	3,6	3,4	18	-30	67	0,46
Unemployed	5,6	6,3	0	-50	51	0,99
Not economically active	4,2	3,0	-15	-62	31	0,52
Discouraged work-seekers	32,5	18,0	16	-5	36	0,13
Other (not economically active)	3,9	3,7	-31	-73	10	0,14
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,6	5,5	-0,8	-6,0	4,3	0,76
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,6	3,4	1,2	-2,3	4,7	0,49
Labour force participation rate	2,6	1,8	1,2	-2,2	4,6	0,48
Free State – Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,3	2,8	9	-21	40	0,55
Employed	4,3	4,7	30	4	56	0,03
Unemployed	5,1	4,9	-20	-38	-3	0,02
Not economically active	4,9	4,4	-8	-39	23	0,61
Discouraged work-seekers	15,8	24,3	-8	-25	9	0,36
Other (not economically active)	6,0	9,2	0	-31	31	0,99
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,4	6,3	-6,9	-11,3	-2,6	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,3	4,7	5,2	0,5	10,0	0,03
Labour force participation rate	3,3	2,8	1,5	-4,0	7,1	0,58

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,3	2,2	170	-22	361	0,08
Employed	2,1	2,0	46	-104	197	0,54
Unemployed	6,0	6,0	123	-26	273	0,11
Not economically active	2,5	2,6	-67	-259	124	0,49
Discouraged work-seekers	9,5	9,6	-34	-169	100	0,62
Other (not economically active)	3,0	2,8	-33	-196	130	0,69
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,5	4,5	1,8	-1,2	4,8	0,24
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,1	2,0	0,1	-1,9	2,1	0,91
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,2	1,5	-1,0	4,0	0,24
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,7	3,2	81	-50	212	0,23
Employed	3,1	2,9	-55	-171	61	0,35
Unemployed	6,4	7,6	136	32	241	0,01
Not economically active	2,6	3,2	-20	-151	111	0,77
Discouraged work-seekers	12,8	13,6	-71	-162	20	0,13
Other (not economically active)	3,8	3,6	51	-95	197	0,49
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,0	5,2	4,4	0,9	8,0	0,02
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,1	2,9	-1,5	-3,9	0,9	0,21
Labour force participation rate	2,7	3,2	1,0	-1,6	3,7	0,44

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	4,0	2,8	89	-53	231	0,22
Employed	2,7	2,9	102	6	197	0,04
Unemployed	13,2	8,2	-13	-120	94	0,81
Not economically active	5,8	4,5	-48	-190	95	0,51
Discouraged work-seekers	11,8	11,7	36	-64	137	0,47
Other (not economically active)	4,4	3,6	-84	-158	-10	0,03
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,1	7,0	-2,0	-7,4	3,4	0,47
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	2,9	3,1	-0,5	6,7	0,09
Labour force participation rate	4,0	2,8	2,4	-3,0	7,8	0,38
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,4	3,3	-22	-182	137	0,78
Employed	3,2	4,7	14	-112	139	0,83
Unemployed	7,4	7,6	-36	-159	87	0,57
Not economically active	4,2	3,9	59	-100	219	0,46
Discouraged work-seekers	12,2	11,2	29	-82	140	0,61
Other (not economically active)	2,8	3,4	31	-53	114	0,47
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,1	6,4	-1,8	-8,2	4,6	0,58
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,2	4,7	0,0	-4,5	4,5	0,99
Labour force participation rate	3,4	3,3	-1,5	-7,3	4,2	0,60

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,1	1,2	53	-176	283	0,65
Employed	1,3	1,6	17	-194	228	0,87
Unemployed	2,9	4,1	36	-212	284	0,77
Not economically active	2,4	2,5	116	-114	346	0,32
Discouraged work-seekers	8,6	9,2	-39	-177	99	0,58
Other (not economically active)	2,1	2,2	155	-25	335	0,09
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,3	3,4	0,2	-2,5	3,0	0,87
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,3	1,6	-0,5	-2,4	1,4	0,59
Labour force participation rate	1,1	1,2	-0,6	-2,6	1,5	0,60
Gauteng – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,5	5,4	11	-109	130	0,86
Employed	4,9	4,5	44	-25	113	0,21
Unemployed	10,3	12,2	-34	-135	67	0,51
Not economically active	7,5	11,3	13	-106	132	0,83
Discouraged work-seekers	27,0	27,8	39	-29	107	0,27
Other (not economically active)	4,8	7,9	-26	-90	39	0,44
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,0	8,1	-3,8	-10,6	3,1	0,28
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,9	4,5	2,3	-2,3	7,0	0,32
Labour force participation rate	3,5	5,4	-0,4	-8,4	7,6	0,93

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,2	2,2	63	-45	171	0,25
Employed	1,8	2,5	-2	-73	69	0,96
Unemployed	5,4	6,4	65	-24	153	0,15
Not economically active	3,8	3,9	-20	-128	88	0,72
Discouraged work-seekers	11,8	12,1	-35	-128	58	0,46
Other (not economically active)	3,1	3,3	15	-64	94	0,70
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,8	5,2	2,5	-1,2	6,2	0,18
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	2,5	-0,7	-3,3	1,8	0,56
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,2	1,3	-2,6	5,1	0,52
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	2,0	-83	-216	50	0,22
Employed	2,7	3,1	-87	-242	68	0,27
Unemployed	4,4	6,8	4	-136	143	0,96
Not economically active	4,9	4,0	145	12	278	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	18,9	18,2	-50	-116	17	0,15
Other (not economically active)	4,5	4,1	194	63	326	0,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,7	5,9	1,1	-3,5	5,7	0,64
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	3,1	-2,8	-6,5	1,0	0,15
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,0	-3,0	-6,2	0,2	0,07

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Gauteng – City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,5	2,0	63	-47	174	0,26
Employed	1,9	3,7	62	-57	180	0,31
Unemployed	5,3	8,8	2	-164	168	0,98
Not economically active	3,6	4,8	-22	-132	88	0,69
Discouraged work-seekers	15,1	18,8	7	-32	46	0,73
Other (not economically active)	3,5	4,1	-29	-112	54	0,49
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,3	7,8	-1,0	-8,3	6,2	0,78
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,9	3,7	1,5	-2,7	5,8	0,48
Labour force participation rate	1,5	2,0	1,2	-2,7	5,2	0,54
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,5	2,2	84	-12	179	0,09
Employed	3,0	3,1	39	-67	144	0,47
Unemployed	5,1	5,7	45	-68	157	0,43
Not economically active	2,2	3,4	-41	-136	55	0,41
Discouraged work-seekers	8,2	8,6	17	-69	103	0,71
Other (not economically active)	2,7	3,2	-57	-136	22	0,16
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	4,8	0,8	-4,5	6,0	0,77
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,0	3,1	0,7	-2,6	4,0	0,68
Labour force participation rate	1,5	2,2	1,8	-1,2	4,9	0,24

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	2,3	92	-42	226	0,18
Employed	2,4	2,7	21	-79	120	0,69
Unemployed	6,5	4,9	72	-33	176	0,18
Not economically active	2,6	3,1	-41	-175	93	0,55
Discouraged work-seekers	7,7	9,2	25	-87	136	0,67
Other (not economically active)	2,5	3,3	-65	-178	47	0,25
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	3,9	1,9	-1,8	5,5	0,31
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	2,7	0,0	-2,5	2,5	0,99
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,3	1,6	-1,8	4,9	0,35

Table 3.1B: Sampling variability for the employed by industry and sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Both sexes	0,7	0,8	201	-144	547	0,25
Agriculture	4,2	5,4	-21	-115	74	0,67
Mining	6,3	6,8	75	7	143	0,03
Manufacturing	3,0	3,1	127	-1	254	0,05
Utilities	13,2	11,5	14	-26	54	0,48
Construction	3,7	3,3	24	-106	153	0,72
Trade	1,9	2,2	79	-121	278	0,44
Transport	3,9	3,9	81	-27	188	0,14
Finance	2,4	2,7	-120	-332	92	0,27
Community and social services	1,9	1,8	-62	-267	143	0,55
Private households	3,5	3,9	12	-88	113	0,81
Women	1,1	1,1	36	-197	269	0,76
Agriculture	7,5	10,5	-15	-75	45	0,63
Mining	13,7	14,2	28	1	55	0,04
Manufacturing	5,0	4,4	93	23	163	0,01
Utilities	21,9	19,5	-4	-23	16	0,70
Construction	8,9	9,4	-35	-75	6	0,10
Trade	2,8	3,0	48	-78	173	0,45
Transport	8,2	8,4	25	-25	74	0,33
Finance	3,3	3,7	-112	-232	7	0,07
Community and social services	2,1	2,2	14	-132	160	0,85
Private households	4,1	3,8	-3	-88	83	0,95
Men	0,8	0,9	166	-48	379	0,13
Agriculture	4,1	4,7	-6	-67	55	0,86
Mining	6,6	7,7	47	-19	113	0,17
Manufacturing	3,9	3,7	34	-74	142	0,54
Utilities	15,5	14,4	18	-18	54	0,32
Construction	4,0	3,5	58	-64	180	0,35
Trade	2,5	2,9	31	-110	172	0,67
Transport	4,2	4,4	56	-41	153	0,26
Finance	3,0	3,2	-8	-153	137	0,92
Community and social services	3,0	2,7	-77	-194	40	0,20
Private households	7,4	7,1	15	-34	64	0,55

Table 3.4B: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
South Africa	0,7	0,8	201	-144	547	0,25
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	0,9	1,0	-27	-337	283	0,86
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,1	2,3	237	43	430	0,02
Agriculture	4,2	5,4	-21	-115	74	0,67
Private households	3,5	3,9	12	-88	113	0,81
Western Cape	2,2	1,7	15	-92	123	0,78
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,0	2,3	67	-46	180	0,24
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,0	5,9	-15	-71	41	0,61
Agriculture	7,1	15,3	-63	-107	-19	0,01
Private households	10,2	9,9	26	1	51	0,04
Western Cape – Non-metro	3,4	2,9	4	-69	76	0,92
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,1	3,6	34	-29	96	0,29
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	11,7	8,5	4	-25	34	0,78
Agriculture	6,6	15,9	-52	-93	-12	0,01
Private households	10,1	12,6	18	-3	39	0,10
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	2,8	2,2	12	-74	97	0,79
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,9	2,9	33	-66	132	0,51
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	10,6	7,7	-19	-66	28	0,43
Agriculture	48,4	43,7	-11	-28	7	0,23
Private households	15,0	14,2	8	-4	20	0,19
Eastern Cape	2,6	3,2	-7	-95	80	0,87
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,6	3,1	60	-13	134	0,11
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,8	8,0	-42	-100	15	0,14
Agriculture	12,0	23,3	-12	-47	22	0,48
Private households	8,4	13,8	-13	-41	16	0,38
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	3,8	5,2	-56	-123	12	0,10
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,4	6,2	-13	-68	42	0,64
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,5	10,2	-21	-72	29	0,40
Agriculture	12,9	25,7	-13	-46	20	0,43
Private households	10,5	16,2	-9	-32	15	0,47

Table 3.4B: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	5,0	5,2	9	-29	47	0,65
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,4	2,5	7	-26	41	0,67
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	15,5	19,5	-9	-34	16	0,48
Agriculture	55,6	58,5	6	-3	14	0,18
Private households	27,9	31,7	5	-3	12	0,22
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	4,3	4,0	40	-2	81	0,06
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,0	2,6	66	30	102	0,00
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,7	15,5	-12	-22	-2	0,02
Agriculture	37,2	66,7	-5	-13	2	0,15
Private households	14,0	39,7	-9	-24	6	0,24
Northern Cape	6,1	8,1	9	-29	47	0,66
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,0	11,6	11	-18	39	0,46
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	15,7	12,3	17	8	26	0,00
Agriculture	10,7	27,9	-14	-40	13	0,32
Private households	15,5	11,6	-5	-16	5	0,29
Free State	2,8	2,8	48	-7	103	0,09
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,4	3,9	-3	-51	44	0,89
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	10,0	11,1	31	-17	80	0,20
Agriculture	12,0	6,0	13	-1	27	0,06
Private households	12,8	11,3	7	-10	24	0,43
Free State – Non-metro	3,6	3,4	18	-30	67	0,46
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,4	5,9	-19	-63	25	0,39
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	10,4	13,8	20	-25	66	0,38
Agriculture	12,4	5,0	12	0	24	0,05
Private households	14,5	11,9	5	-10	21	0,51
Free State – Mangaung	4,3	4,7	30	4	56	0,03
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,7	3,5	16	-3	35	0,10
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	24,9	17,2	11	-6	29	0,20
Agriculture	32,5	76,2	1	-6	8	0,72
Private households	26,1	26,9	2	-5	8	0,65

Table 3.4B: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,1	2,0	46	-104	197	0,54
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,6	3,0	-47	-187	93	0,51
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,4	5,3	106	28	183	0,01
Agriculture	11,6	10,5	-5	-34	24	0,73
Private households	7,7	7,1	-7	-50	36	0,75
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	3,1	2,9	-55	-171	61	0,35
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,8	4,6	-64	-168	40	0,23
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,6	6,2	26	-36	88	0,40
Agriculture	12,1	11,1	-4	-31	23	0,77
Private households	9,4	9,5	-13	-46	19	0,41
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	2,7	2,9	102	6	197	0,04
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,4	4,0	17	-78	111	0,73
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,7	9,5	79	34	125	0,00
Agriculture	37,8	31,9	-1	-12	10	0,84
Private households	13,0	10,5	7	-22	35	0,65
North West	3,2	4,7	14	-112	139	0,83
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,2	4,6	-24	-126	79	0,65
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	10,8	10,9	46	-6	98	0,08
Agriculture	17,2	17,0	11	-16	38	0,43
Private households	15,7	22,5	-20	-47	8	0,16
Gauteng	1,3	1,6	17	-194	228	0,87
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1,5	2,1	-114	-321	94	0,28
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,2	4,5	95	-12	201	0,08
Agriculture	15,0	16,4	9	-9	27	0,33
Private households	7,4	8,0	27	-31	86	0,36
Gauteng – Non-metro	4,9	4,5	44	-25	113	0,21
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,3	6,5	56	-9	120	0,09
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	14,1	12,1	-10	-39	19	0,52
Agriculture	17,4	16,2	5	-3	14	0,23
Private households	17,5	21,2	-7	-26	12	0,47

Table 3.4B: Sampling variability for the employed by province and sector (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1,8	2,5	-2	-73	69	0,96
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,3	3,3	-21	-117	75	0,67
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,0	9,3	7	-48	62	0,81
Agriculture	36,8	34,4	-4	-9	1	0,16
Private households	14,5	15,1	16	-10	42	0,23
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	2,7	3,1	-87	-242	68	0,27
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,9	3,9	-160	-307	-14	0,03
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,7	7,7	58	-22	138	0,15
Agriculture	90,6	62,6	4	-3	11	0,28
Private households	14,3	13,5	11	-28	50	0,57
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	1,9	3,7	62	-57	180	0,31
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,1	4,8	12	-101	126	0,83
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,3	6,8	39	7	72	0,02
Agriculture	31,1	46,7	3	-10	16	0,64
Private households	9,4	15,2	7	-20	34	0,61
Mpumalanga	3,0	3,1	39	-67	144	0,47
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,3	4,5	2	-82	87	0,95
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,1	8,3	13	-60	87	0,72
Agriculture	11,0	8,2	23	1	44	0,04
Private households	13,5	12,5	1	-30	31	0,97
Limpopo	2,4	2,7	21	-79	120	0,69
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,2	2,9	20	-63	103	0,64
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,6	5,0	-14	-70	43	0,63
Agriculture	14,9	13,4	18	-32	68	0,48
Private households	7,2	13,5	-4	-38	30	0,83

Table 3.5B: Sampling variability for the employed by sex and occupation						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Jul-Sep 2024				
Both sexes	0,7	0,8	201	-144	547	0,25
Manager	3,8	3,8	353	223	482	0,00
Professional	4,0	4,5	-528	-656	-399	0,00
Technician	3,6	3,1	60	-70	189	0,37
Clerk	2,6	3,0	-48	-195	100	0,52
Sales and services	2,1	2,0	38	-136	213	0,67
Skilled agriculture	12,8	14,6	-8	-35	20	0,58
Craft and related trade	3,0	2,8	159	15	302	0,03
Plant and machine operator	3,1	3,8	-7	-135	122	0,92
Elementary	1,7	2,0	193	-16	402	0,07
Domestic worker	4,0	3,9	-6	-93	81	0,89
Women	1,1	1,1	36	-197	269	0,76
Manager	5,4	5,8	113	47	180	0,00
Professional	5,2	5,7	-252	-342	-162	0,00
Technician	4,2	3,9	7	-77	91	0,87
Clerk	3,1	3,2	-8	-120	105	0,89
Sales and services	2,7	2,6	67	-42	177	0,23
Skilled agriculture	24,6	24,9	7	-6	21	0,30
Craft and related trade	7,2	7,8	-5	-49	40	0,84
Plant and machine operator	9,4	10,1	26	-17	68	0,23
Elementary	2,4	2,8	96	-24	216	0,12
Domestic worker	4,2	3,9	-15	-99	69	0,73
Men	0,8	0,9	166	-48	379	0,13
Manager	4,4	4,0	239	146	333	0,00
Professional	4,8	6,1	-276	-353	-198	0,00
Technician	4,7	4,5	53	-33	138	0,23
Clerk	5,2	5,8	-40	-125	45	0,36
Sales and services	2,9	3,0	-29	-157	99	0,66
Skilled agriculture	14,3	17,1	-15	-39	8	0,21
Craft and related trade	3,2	3,1	163	29	297	0,02
Plant and machine operator	3,3	3,9	-33	-153	88	0,59
Elementary	2,3	2,3	97	-52	247	0,20
Domestic worker	15,1	16,5	9	-11	29	0,37