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Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISibalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002
www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

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Quarterly Labour Force Survey

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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 October to December 2023 (Q4: 2023).

2. Highlights of the results

Table A: Key labour market indicators

	Oct-Dec 2022	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
Population 15–64 yrs	40 462	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	23 688	24 594	24 619	25	931	0,1	3,9
Employed	15 934	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	10 977	11 616	11 488	-128	510	-1,1	4,6
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 955	3 058	3 181	124	226	4,0	7,6
Agriculture	860	956	920	-35	60	-3,7	7,0
Private households	1 142	1 116	1 134	18	-8	1,7	-0,7
Unemployed	7 753	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Not economically active	16 774	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
Discouraged work-seekers	3 363	3 156	3 049	-107	-314	-3,4	-9,3
Other (not economically active)	13 412	13 136	13 354	218	-57	1,7	-0,4
Rates (%)							
Unemployment rate	32,7	31,9	32,1	0,2	-0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	58,5	60,2	60,0	-0,2	1,5		

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

Working-age population increased by 136 000 or 0,3% in the fourth quarter of 2023 compared to the third quarter of 2023. The number of employed persons decreased by 22 000 to 16,7 million in Q4: 2023, while the number of unemployed persons increased by 46 000 to 7,9 million compared to Q3: 2023, resulting in an increase of 25 000 (up by 0,1%) in the labour force. The number of discouraged work-seekers decreased by 107 000 (down by 3,4%), while the number of people who were not economically active for reasons other than discouragement increased by 218 000 (up by 1,7%) between the two quarters, resulting in a net increase of 111 000 in the not economically active population.

An increase in unemployment and a decrease in employment resulted in an increase of 0,2 of a percentage point in the unemployment rate to 32,1% in the fourth quarter. The labour force participation rate and absorption rate decreased by 0,2 of a percentage point each, between Q3: 2023 and Q4: 2023 to 60,0% and 40,8% respectively.

Employment losses were observed in the formal sector (down by 128 000) and the Agricultural sector (down by 35 000), while informal sector and Private households employment increased by 124 000 and 18 000 respectively in Q4: 2023.

Compared to Q4:2022, the working-age population increased by 559 000 or 1,4%. Total employment increased by 789 000 persons (or 4,9%) and the number of unemployed persons increased by 142 000 (or 1,8%), while the number of persons who were not economically active decreased by 371 000 (or 2,2%).

3. Employment

Figure 1: Quarter-to-quarter changes in employment, Q4: 2017 to Q4: 2023

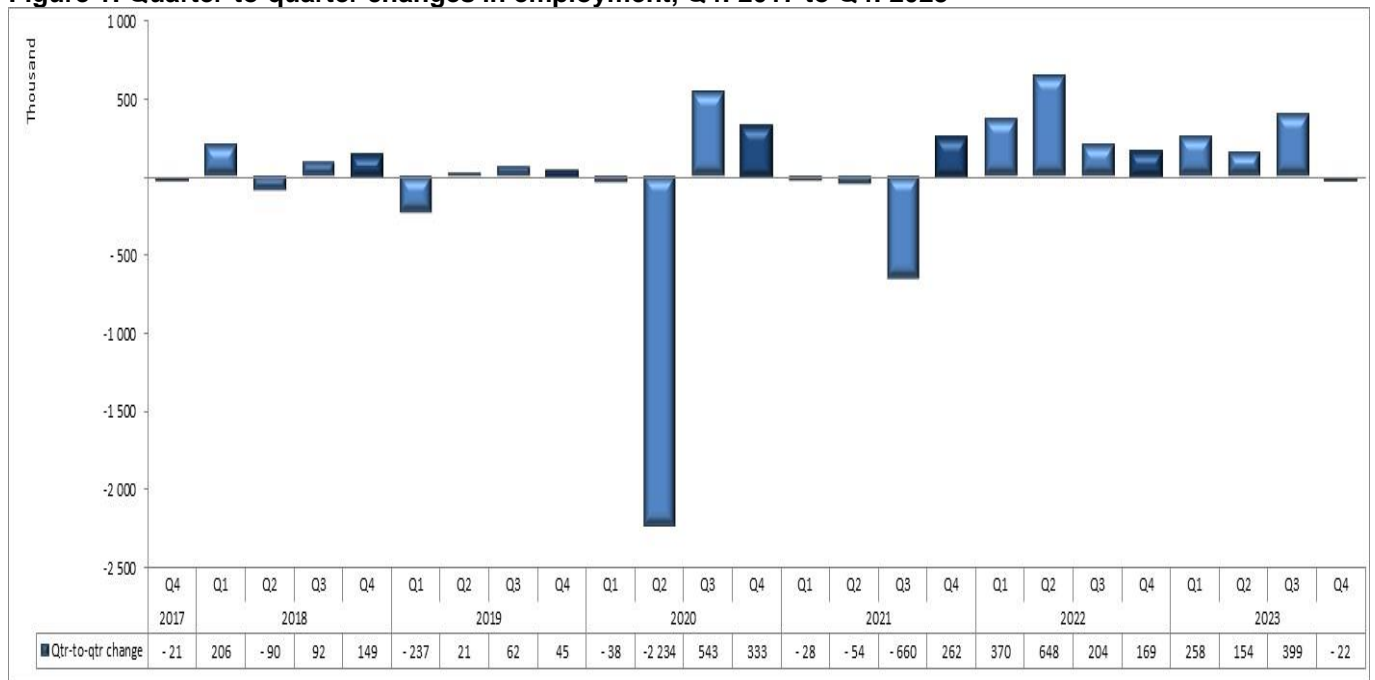


Figure 1 shows that, following eight consecutive increases, employment decreased by 22 000 in the fourth quarter of 2023. As depicted in Figure 1, employment has been increasing in the fourth quarter of each year since the inception of the survey in 2008, except for declines in 2012, 2017 and 2023.

Table B: Employment by industry

Industry	Oct-Dec 2022	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
Total*	15 934	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Agriculture	860	956	920	-35	60	-3,7	7,0
Mining	436	409	446	37	9	9,0	2,1
Manufacturing	1 656	1 508	1 507	-1	-149	0,0	-9,0
Utilities	124	113	123	9	-2	8,4	-1,3
Construction	1 212	1 357	1 322	-36	110	-2,6	9,1
Trade	3 297	3 390	3 362	-28	65	-0,8	2,0
Transport	982	966	1 023	57	40	5,9	4,1
Finance	2 484	2 836	2 964	128	480	4,5	19,3
Community and social services	3 727	4 084	3 913	-171	186	-4,2	5,0
Private households	1 142	1 116	1 134	18	-8	1,7	-0,7

*Note: Total includes 'Other' industries.

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

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

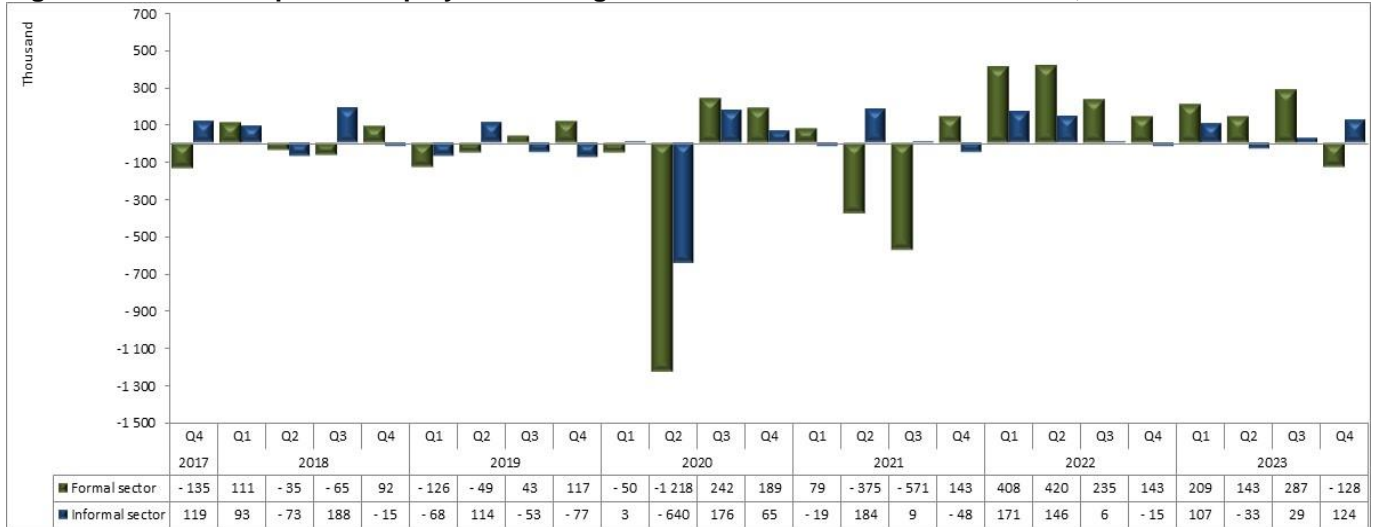
Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.

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

Table B shows that between Q3: 2023 and Q4: 2023, the number of employed persons decreased in five of the ten industries. The largest decreases in employment were recorded in Community and social services (171 000), followed by Construction (36 000), Agriculture (35 000) and Trade (28 000). Increases in employment were recorded in Finance (128 000), Transport (57 000), Mining (37 000), Private households (18 000) and Utilities (9 000) industries.

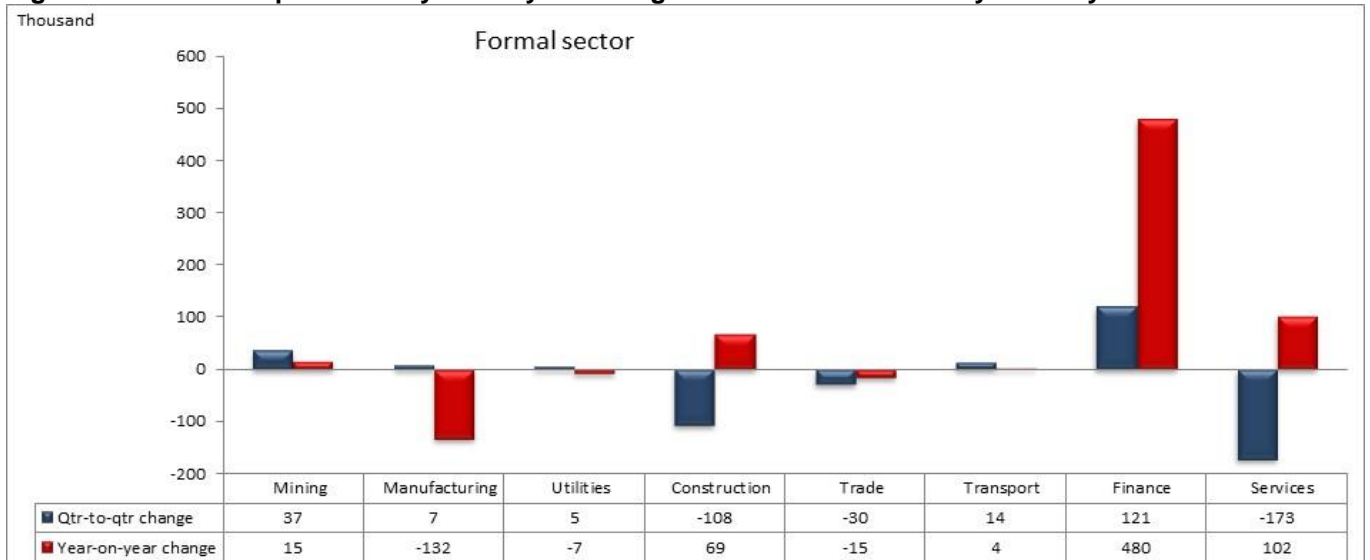
Compared to the same period last year, a net increase of 789 000 in total employment in Q4: 2023 was largely due to increases in the number of people employed in Finance (480 000), Community and social services (186 000) and Construction (110 000) industries. The industries that recorded decreases were Manufacturing (149 000), Private households (8 000) and Utilities (2 000).

Figure 2: Quarter-to-quarter employment changes in the formal and informal sectors, Q4: 2017 to Q4: 2023



Following an increase of 29 000 in Q3: 2023, informal sector employment increased by 124 000 in Q4: 2023. Employment in the formal sector decreased by 128 000 in Q4: 2023 compared to Q3: 2023.

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



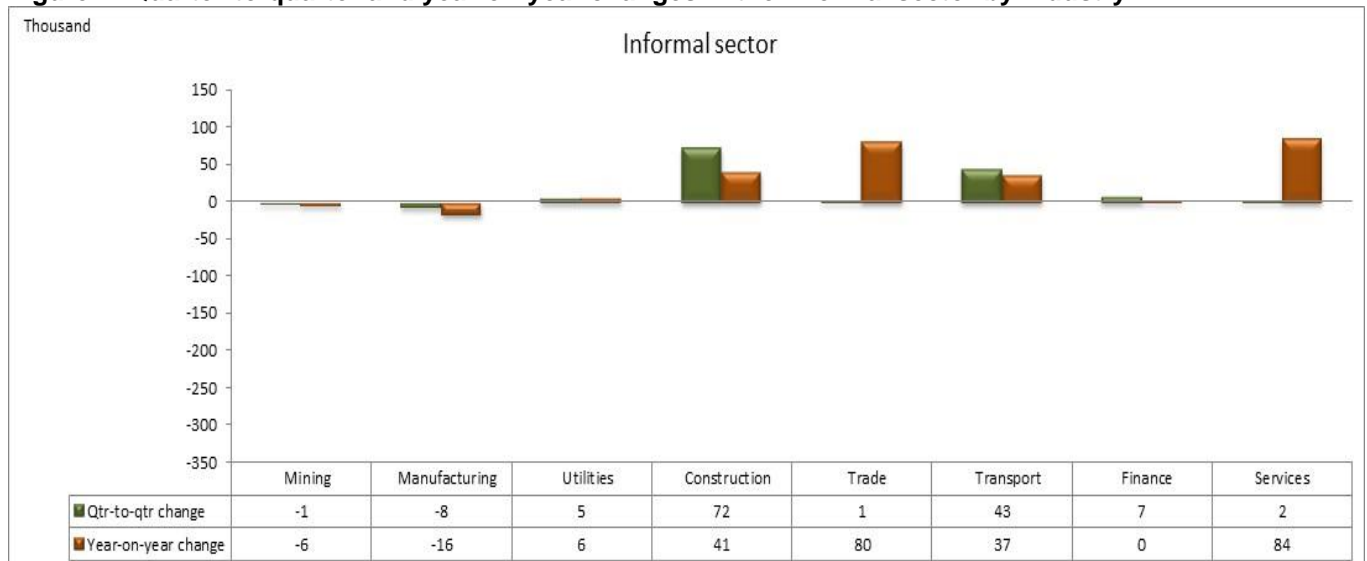
*Note: Utilities refers to electricity, gas and water supply.
Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.
Finance refers to financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services.
Services refers to community, personal and social services.*

The fourth quarter of 2023 recorded formal sector employment decreases in Community and social services (173 000), Construction (108 000) and Trade (30 000) industries compared to the third quarter of 2023. During the same period, increases in the formal sector employment were recorded in Finance (121 000), Mining (37 000), Transport (14 000), Manufacturing (7 000) and Utilities (5 000).

Compared to a year ago, a net gain of 510 000 jobs in the formal sector employment was mainly driven by Finance (480 000), Community and social services (102 000) and Construction (69 000) industries in Q4: 2023. Employment

losses were observed in Manufacturing (132 000), Trade (15 000) and Utilities (7 000) industries during the same period.

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



Note: Utilities refers 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 fourth quarter of 2023, informal sector employment increased by 124 000 persons compared to the previous quarter. Gains in the informal sector employment were mainly driven by Construction (72 000) and Transport (43 000) industries. Compared to Q4: 2022, the employment increase in the informal sector was mainly driven by Community and social services (84 000), Trade (80 000), Construction (41 000) and Transport (37 000) industries. Losses in employment were recorded in Manufacturing (16 000) and Mining (6 000) industries, while Finance remained virtually unchanged.

Table C: Employment by occupation

Occupation	Oct-Dec 2022	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
Total*	15 934	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Manager	1 537	1 105	1 481	376	-57	34,0	-3,7
Professional	1 077	1 354	1 341	-13	263	-1,0	24,4
Technician	1 477	1 444	1 441	-3	-36	-0,2	-2,4
Clerk	1 591	1 889	1 727	-162	136	-8,6	8,6
Sales and services	2 625	2 953	2 862	-91	237	-3,1	9,0
Skilled agriculture	88	76	63	-13	-25	-17,3	-28,8
Craft and related trade	1 664	1 717	1 693	-24	29	-1,4	1,7
Plant and machine operator	1 281	1 408	1 323	-85	42	-6,0	3,3
Elementary	3 722	3 935	3 912	-23	189	-0,6	5,1
Domestic worker	863	860	876	17	13	2,0	1,5

*Note: Total includes 'Other' occupations.
 Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

Eight out of the ten occupational categories recorded employment losses in Q4: 2023 compared to Q3: 2023. Large decreases in employment were observed in Clerical occupations (162 000), followed by Sales and services (91 000) and Plant and machine operator (85 000) occupations. During the same period, employment increases were recorded in Managerial occupations (376 000) and Domestic worker (17 000) occupations.

Year-on-year gains in employment were mainly driven by Professional occupations (263 000), followed by Sales and services (237 000), Elementary (189 000) and Clerical (136 000) occupations. The only losses in employment were recorded among Managerial (57 000), Technician (36 000) and Skilled agriculture (25 000) occupations.

Table D: Employment by province

Province	Oct-Dec 2022	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
South Africa	15 934	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Western Cape	2 596	2 734	2 757	23	161	0,8	6,2
Eastern Cape	1 380	1 459	1 348	-111	-32	-7,6	-2,3
Northern Cape	336	328	327	-2	-9	-0,5	-2,6
Free State	794	727	742	15	-52	2,0	-6,6
KwaZulu-Natal	2 541	2 794	2 856	62	315	2,2	12,4
North West	881	942	912	-30	31	-3,2	3,5
Gauteng	4 905	5 019	5 034	15	130	0,3	2,6
Mpumalanga	1 186	1 202	1 250	48	64	4,0	5,4
Limpopo	1 317	1 539	1 498	-40	182	-2,6	13,8

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

Table D shows that the number of employed persons decreased in four provinces between Q3: 2023 and Q4: 2023. Employment losses were recorded in Eastern Cape (111 000), Limpopo (40 000), North West (30 000) and Northern Cape (2 000). Large employment increases were recorded in KwaZulu-Natal (62 000), followed by Mpumalanga (48 000) and Western Cape (23 000) during the same period. Eastern Cape recorded the biggest quarter-to-quarter percentage change decrease in employment of 7,6%.

Compared to Q4: 2022, the largest increases in employment were recorded in KwaZulu-Natal (315 000), Limpopo (182 000), Western Cape (161 000) and Gauteng (130 000). Free State, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape were the only provinces that recorded losses in employment with a decrease of 52 000, 32 000 and 9 000 respectively, during the same period. Limpopo had the largest year-on-year percentage change increase in employment of 13,8%.

3.1 Conditions of employment for employees

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

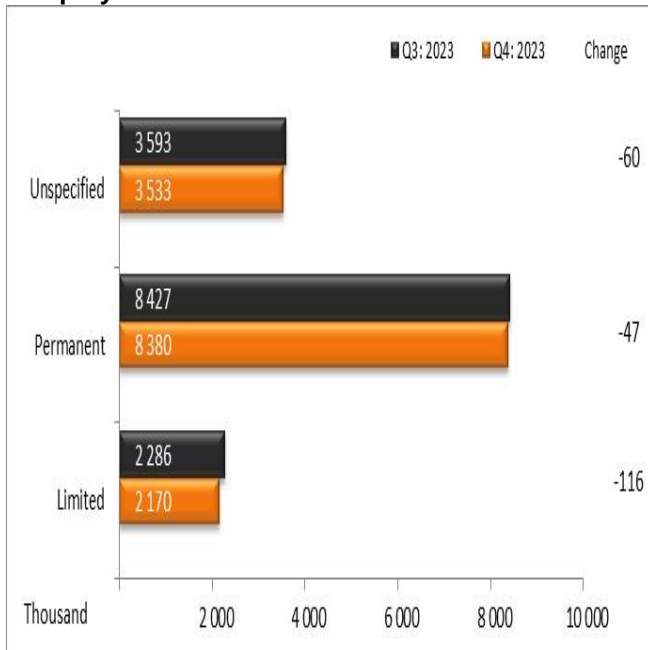
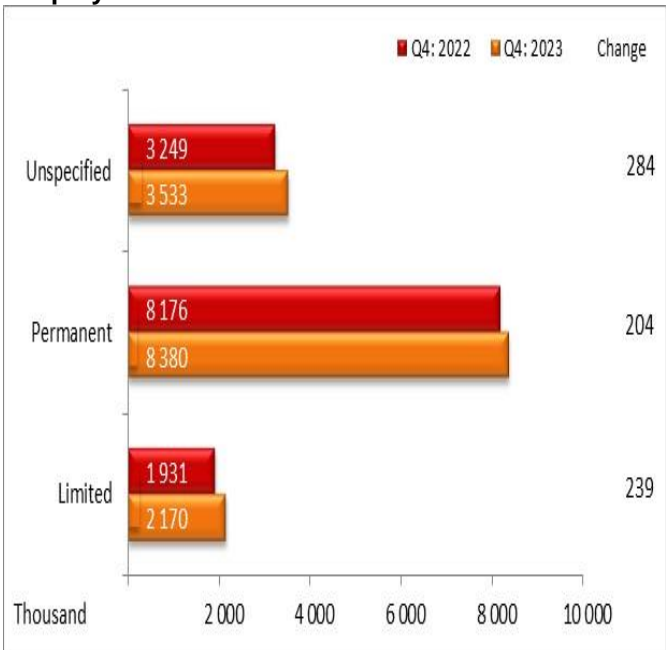


Figure 6: Year-on-year changes in nature of employment contract



Figures 5 and 6 show majority of employees had permanent employment contracts. Between the third and the fourth quarters of 2023, the number of employees decreased among those with contracts of limited duration (116 000), unspecified duration (60 000) and permanent nature (47 000).

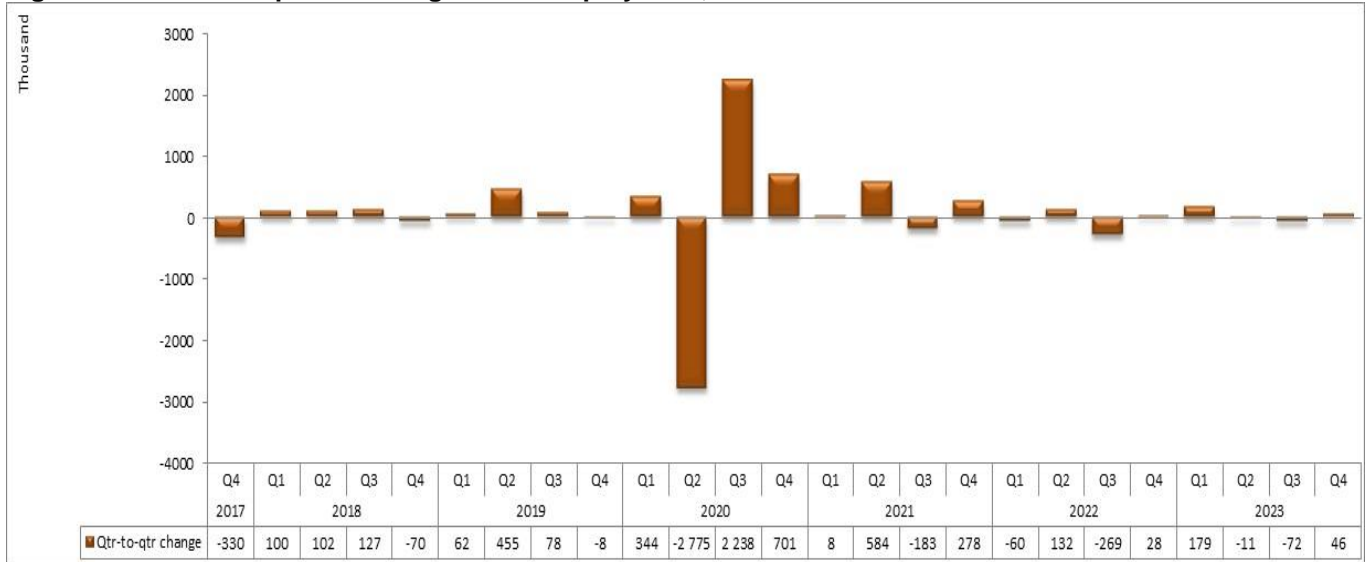
Year-on-year comparisons indicated that the number of employees increased for all contract types. The biggest increase was among those with contracts of unspecified duration (284 000), followed by those with contracts of limited duration (239 000) and permanent nature (204 000).

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

4.1 Unemployment

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

Figure 7: Quarter-to-quarter changes in unemployment, Q4: 2017 to Q4: 2023



Unemployed persons increased by 46 000 in Q4: 2023 following a decrease of 72 000 in the previous quarter. Notable from Figure 7 is that, this is the fourth consecutive increase in unemployment in the fourth quarter since the COVID-19 national lockdown in 2020. However, it should be noted that prior to the national lockdown, unemployment had always decreased in the fourth quarter of each year since the inception of the survey.

Figure 8a: Unemployment rate by education level, Q3: 2023 and Q4: 2023

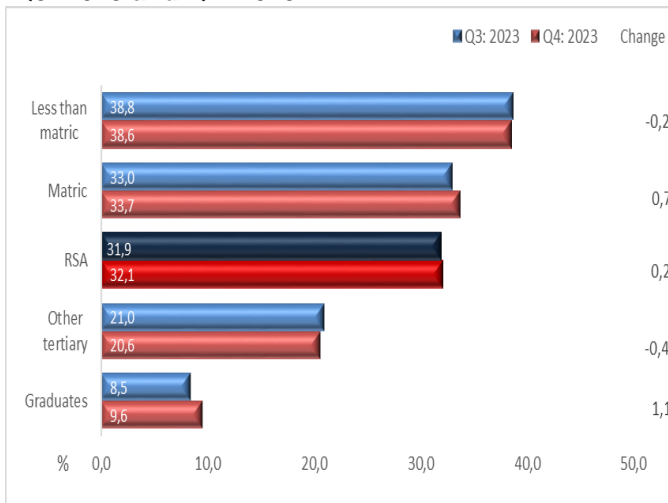
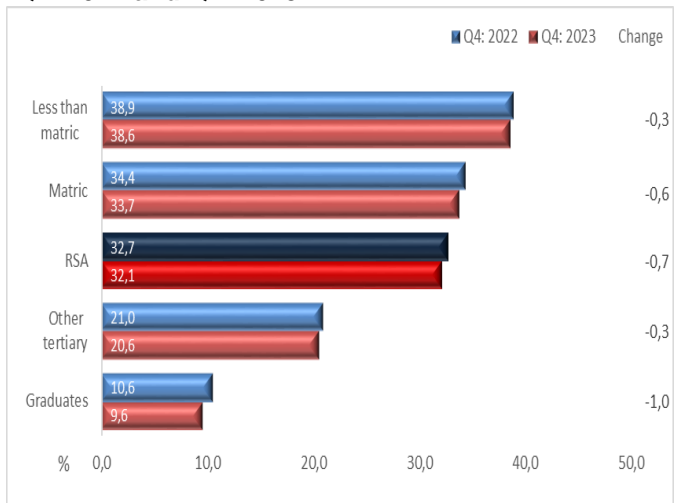


Figure 8b: Unemployment rate by education level, Q4: 2022 and Q4: 2023



Figures 8a and 8b illustrate the significant impact of education on mitigating a nation's unemployment rate. Possessing a tertiary education, especially a degree, enhances one's likelihood of securing employment. In Q4:2023, individuals with an educational attainment less than matric recorded an unemployment rate of 38,6% (down by 0,2 of a percentage point), while graduates had a rate of 9,6% (up by 1,1 percentage points) compared to the previous quarter. Unemployment rates for those with matric or lower educational qualifications exceeded the national rate, whereas individuals with other tertiary qualifications and graduates had rates below the national unemployment rate. Year-on-year comparisons indicated that the unemployment rate decreased for all education levels, with a substantial decline observed among graduates (down by 1,0 percentage point).

Table E: Unemployment rate by province

	Official unemployment rate					Expanded unemployment rate				
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Oct-Dec 2022	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Per cent			Percentage points		Per cent			Percentage points	
South Africa	32,7	31,9	32,1	0,2	-0,6	42,6	41,2	41,1	-0,1	-1,5
Western Cape	22,5	20,2	20,3	0,1	-2,2	26,8	25,6	25,6	0,0	-1,2
Eastern Cape	42,1	38,8	41,9	3,1	-0,2	47,1	43,9	47,1	3,2	0,0
Northern Cape	22,1	26,3	26,9	0,6	4,8	44,0	42,0	42,9	0,9	-1,1
Free State	34,6	38,5	37,0	-1,5	2,4	39,6	44,7	43,9	-0,8	4,3
KwaZulu-Natal	31,4	29,4	29,5	0,1	-1,9	47,9	44,7	43,4	-1,3	-4,5
North West	37,0	38,6	39,0	0,4	2,0	52,3	51,2	52,2	1,0	-0,1
Gauteng	34,0	33,7	33,8	0,1	-0,2	39,4	39,4	38,4	-1,0	-1,0
Mpumalanga	36,1	35,5	34,9	-0,6	-1,2	48,2	46,7	45,8	-0,9	-2,4
Limpopo	31,8	30,8	30,3	-0,5	-1,5	49,6	45,1	46,7	1,6	-2,9

The official unemployment rate increased by 0,2 of a percentage point to 32,1% in Q4: 2023 compared to Q3: 2023. The official unemployment rate increased in six provinces. The largest increases were recorded in Eastern Cape (3,1 percentage points), followed by Northern Cape (0,6 of a percentage point). Free State (1,5 percentage points), Mpumalanga (0,6 of a percentage point) and Limpopo (0,5 of a percentage point) recorded decreases in the official unemployment rate.

Year-on-year, the official unemployment rate decreased by 0,6 of a percentage point. The official unemployment rate decreased in six provinces. The largest decrease in the unemployment rate was recorded in Western Cape (2,2 percentage points), followed by KwaZulu-Natal (1,9 percentage points), Limpopo (1,5 percentage points) and Mpumalanga (1,2 percentage points). Increases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Northern Cape (4,8 percentage points), Free State (2,4 percentage points) and North West (2,0 percentage points).

The expanded unemployment rate decreased by 0,1 of a percentage point in Q4: 2023 compared to Q3: 2023. Four provinces recorded a decrease in the expanded unemployment rate while Western Cape remained unchanged. The decreases were recorded in KwaZulu-Natal (1,3 percentage points), followed by Gauteng (1,0 percentage point), Mpumalanga (0,9 of a percentage point) and Free State (0,8 of a percentage point).

Compared to the same period last year, the expanded unemployment rate decreased by 1,5 percentage points in Q4: 2023. Seven out of the nine provinces recorded decreases in the expanded unemployment rate while Eastern Cape remained unchanged. The largest decrease in the expanded unemployment rate was recorded in KwaZulu-Natal (4,5 percentage points), followed by Limpopo (2,9 percentage points), Mpumalanga (2,4 percentage points) and Western Cape (percentage points). The only increases in the expanded unemployment rate was recorded in Free State (percentage points).

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

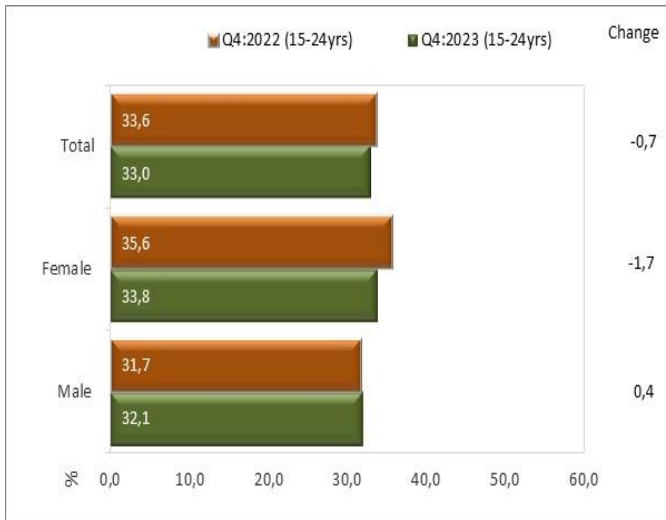
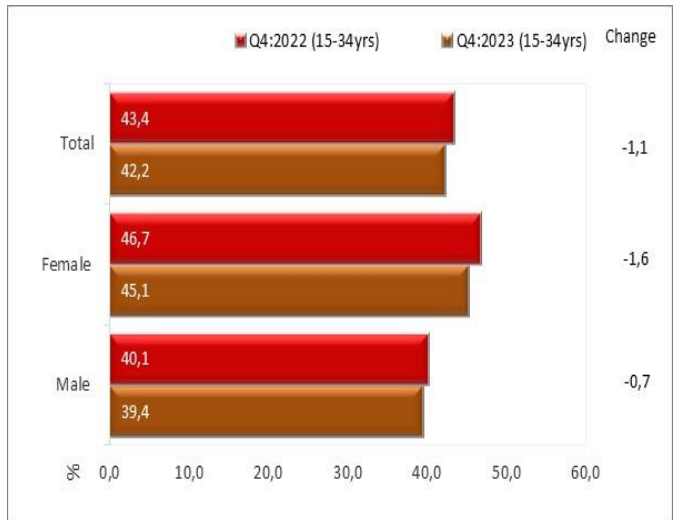


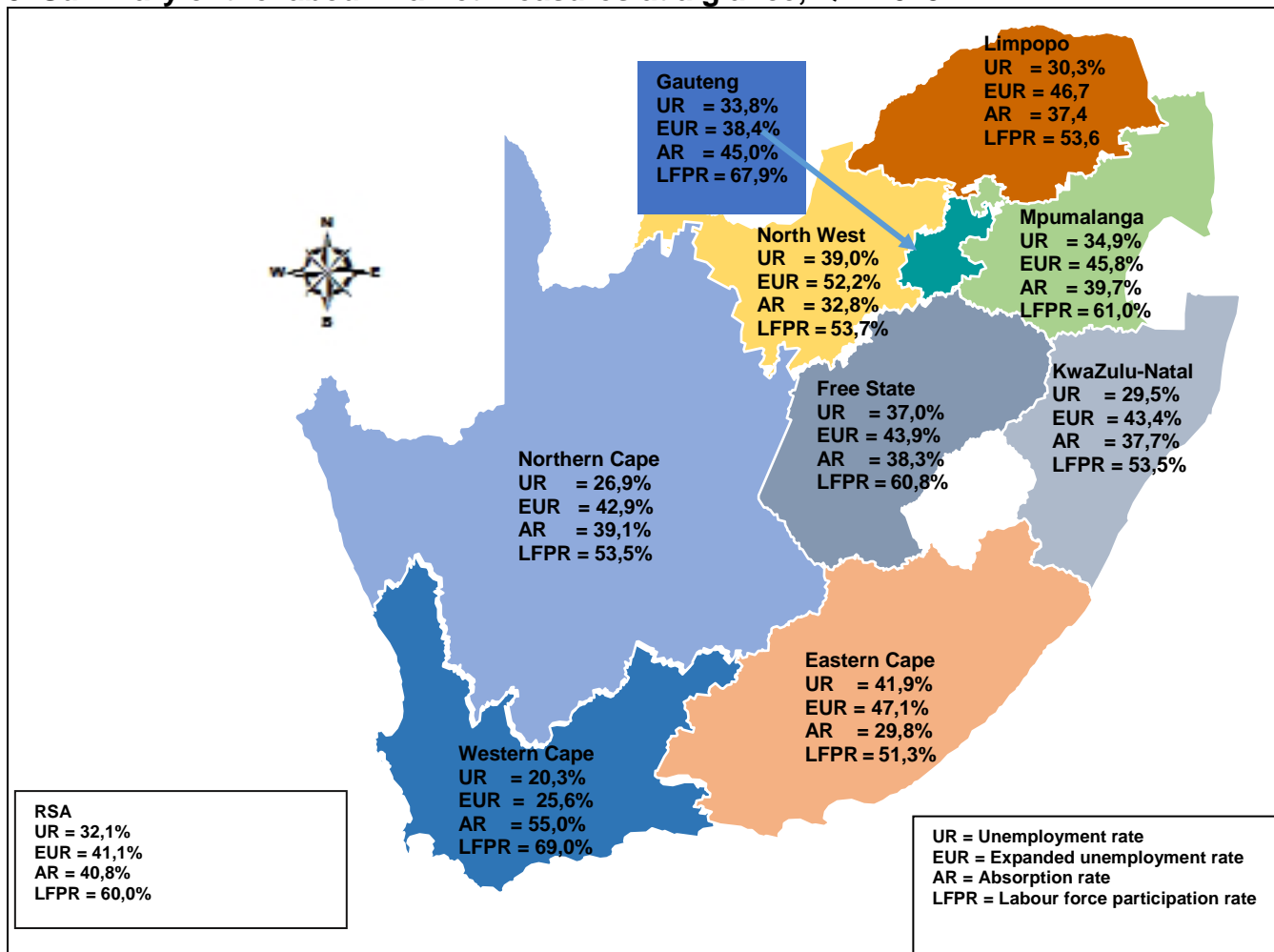
Figure 9b: NEET rate for youth aged 15–34 years by sex



There were about 10,2 million young people aged 15–24 years in Q4: 2023, of which 33,0% were not in employment, education or training. This is 0,7 of a percentage point lower than the NEET rate in Q4: 2022. In this age group, the NEET rate for females decreased by 1,7 percentage points while for males it increased by 0,4 of a percentage point. The NEET rate for females was higher than that of their male counterparts in both years (Figure 9a).

Compared to Q4: 2022, the percentage of young persons aged 15–34 years who were NEET decreased by 1,1 percentage points from 43,4% to 42,2% in Q4: 2023. The NEET rate for females decreased by 1,6 percentage points, and for males the rate decreased by 0,7 of a percentage point. In both Q4: 2022 and Q4: 2023, 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, Q4: 2023



Risenga Maluleke
 Statistician-General

6. Other labour market trends

6.1 Year-on-year changes

Figure 10: Year-on-year changes in total employment, Q4: 2015 to Q4: 2023

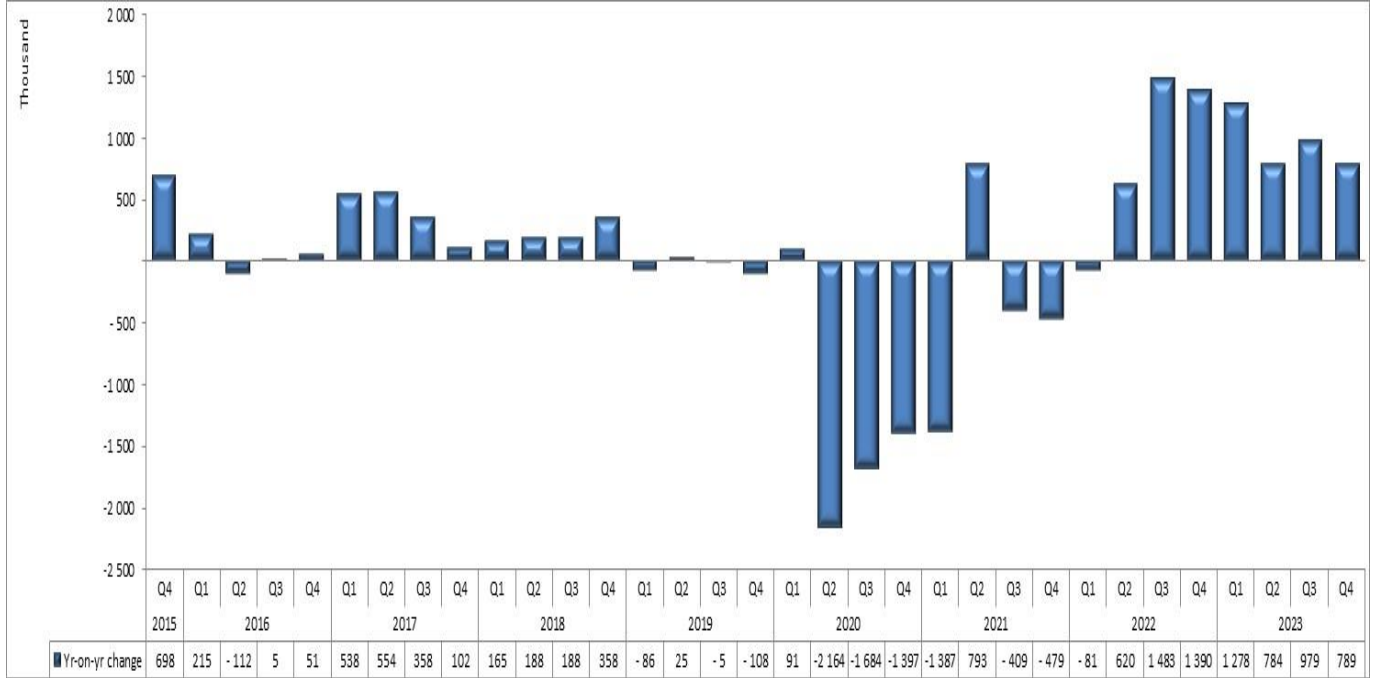


Figure 11: Year-on-year changes in formal sector employment, Q4: 2015 to Q4: 2023

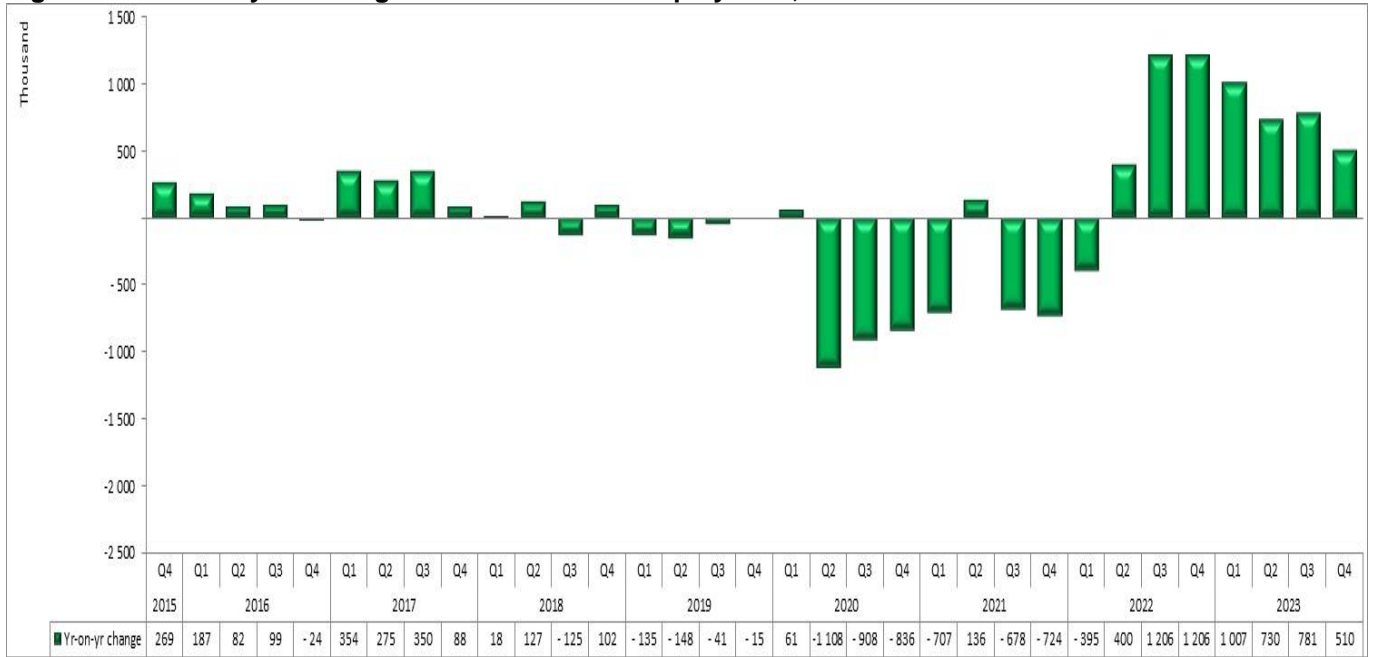
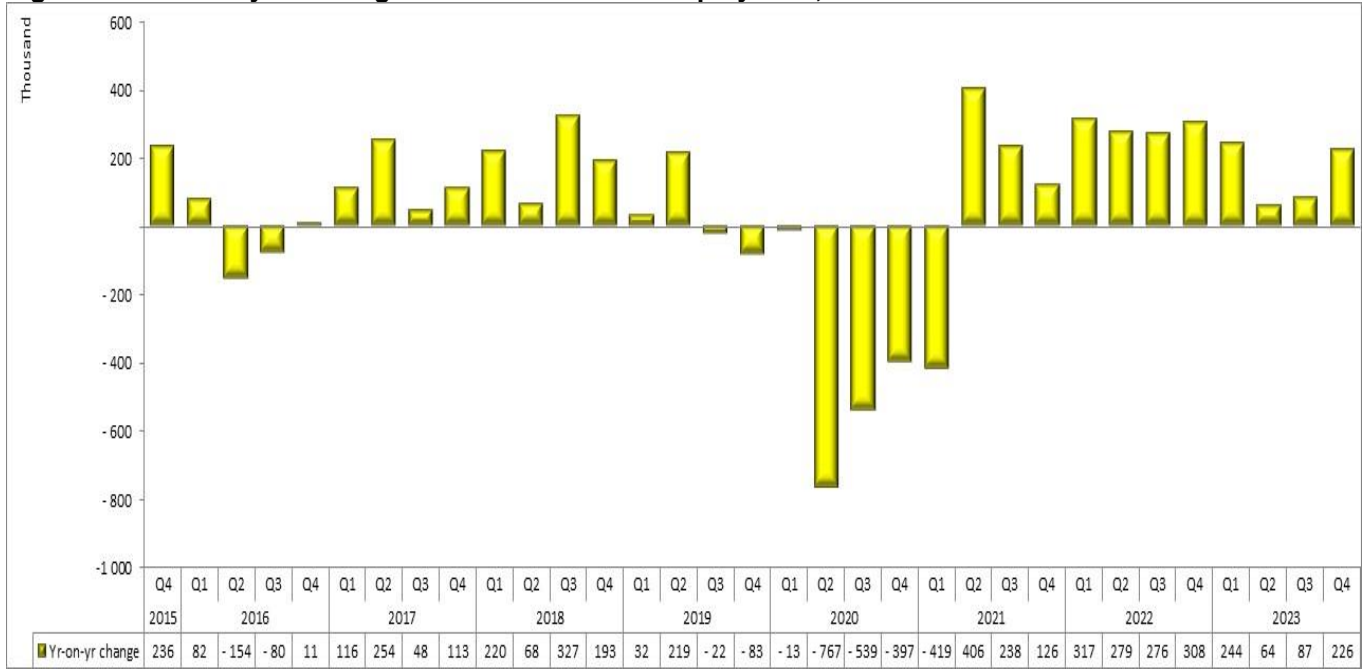


Figure 12: Year-on-year changes in informal sector employment, Q4: 2015 to Q4: 2023



6.2 Trends in unemployment rate

Figure 13: Unemployment rate by sex, Q4: 2015 to Q4: 2023

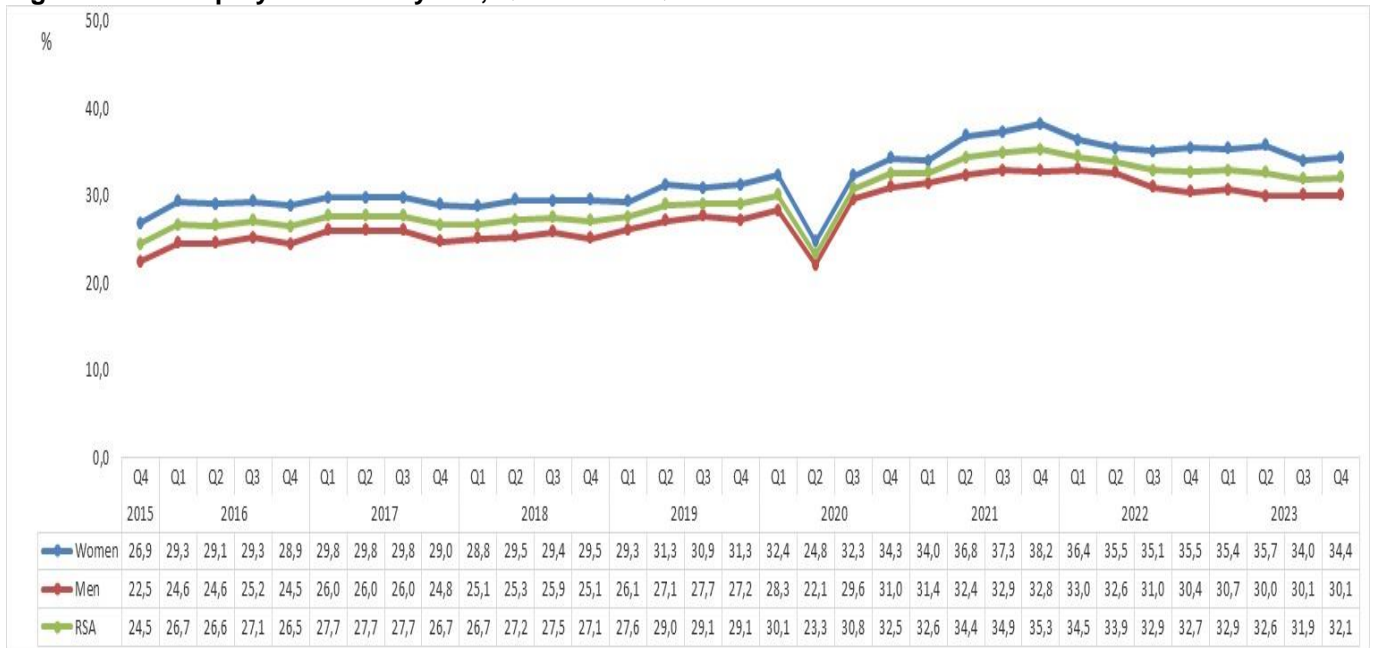
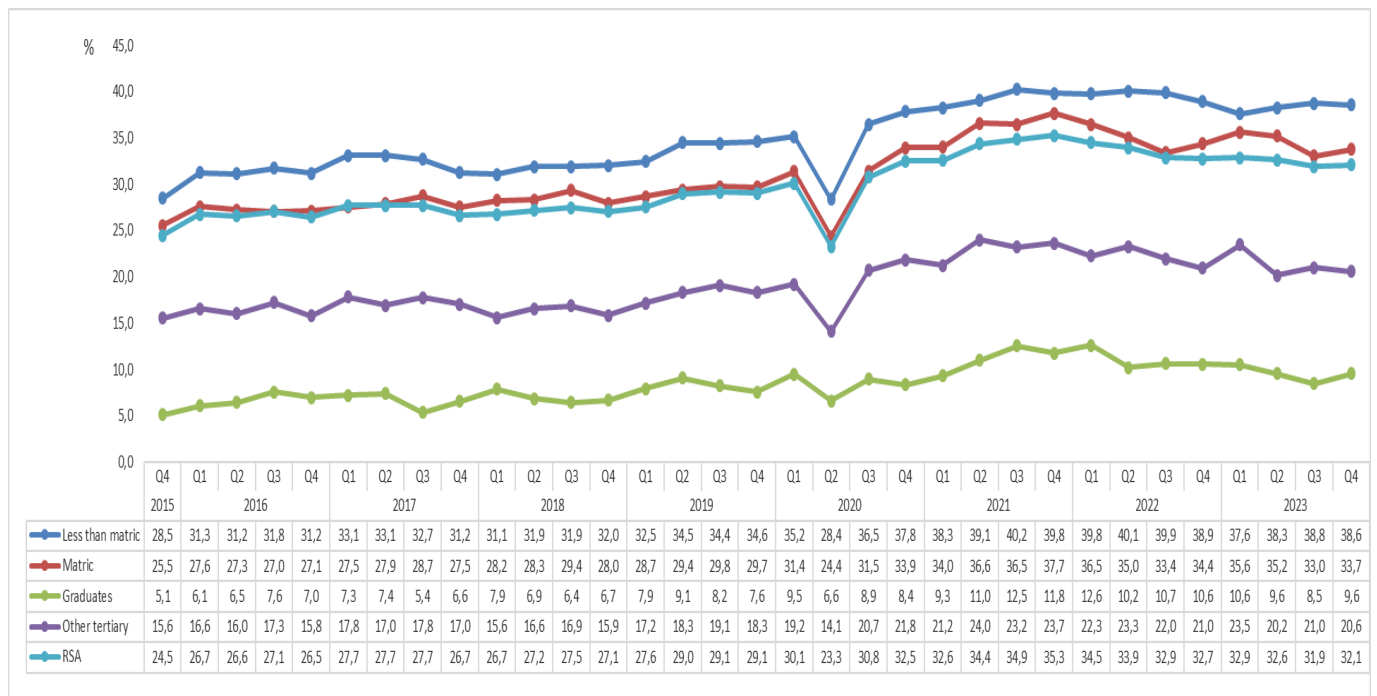


Figure 14: Unemployment rate by education status, Q4: 2015 to Q4: 2023



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.

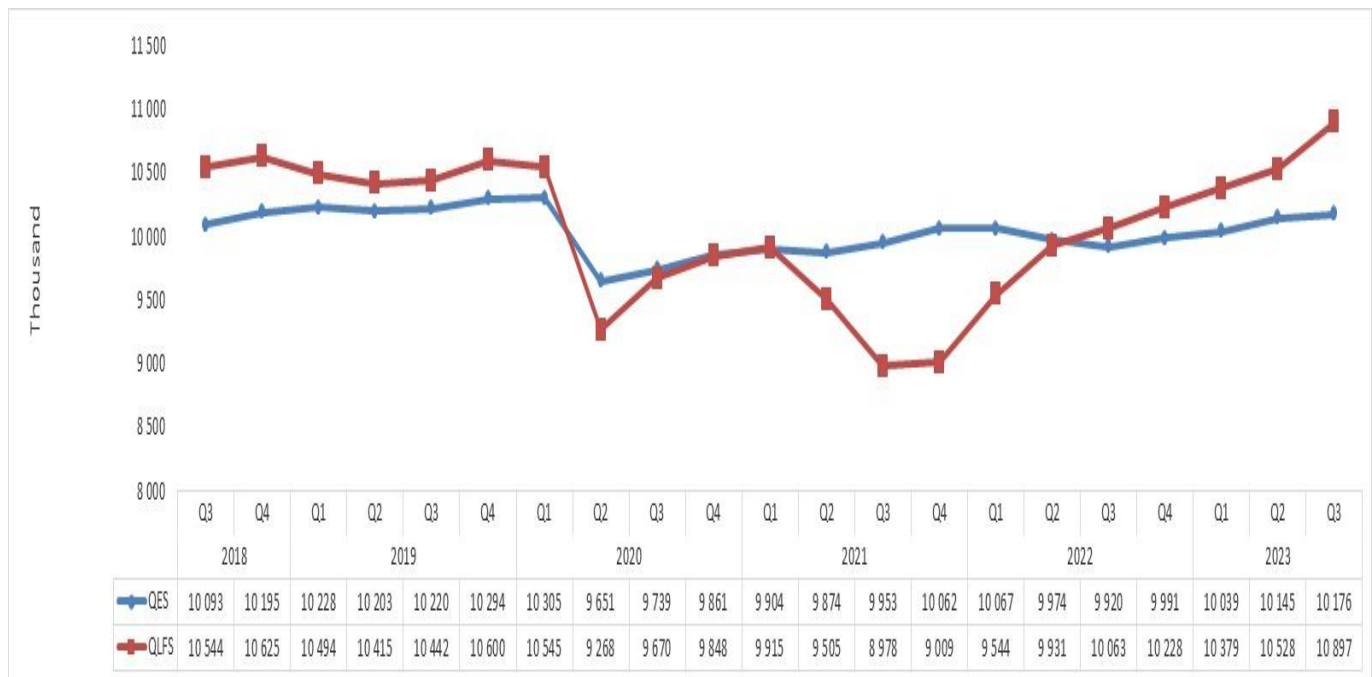
QLFS is a survey of households that collects information from approximately 30 000 dwelling units and collects data on the labour market activities of individuals, whereas QES is an enterprise-based survey that collects information from non-agricultural businesses and organisations from approximately 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:

- 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.
- Household-based survey is limited to workers 15 years of age and older, whereas the enterprise-based survey is not limited by age.
- 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, Q3: 2018 to Q3: 2023 (employees only)



8. Technical notes

8.1 Response details

Table G: Response rates by province and metropolitan area

Province / Metropolitan Area	Response Rates
National	88.8
Western Cape	85.0
Non Metro	89.0
City of Cape Town	83.1
Eastern Cape	95.7
Non Metro	96.4
Buffalo City	93.7
Nelson Mandela Bay	94.8
Northern Cape	86.9
Free State	94.0
Non Metro	96.1
Mangaung	88.8
KwaZulu-Natal	90.9
Non Metro	93.5
eThekweni	86.9
North West	92.1
Gauteng	79.3
Non Metro	85.5
Ekurhuleni	79.4
City of Johannesburg	74.0
City of Tshwane	84.6
Mpumalanga	94.8
Limpopo	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 to 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. 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 (sought 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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Women	20 395	20 463	20 532	20 599	20 664	65	269	0,3	1,3
Men	20 067	20 140	20 214	20 287	20 357	71	290	0,3	1,4
Population groups	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Black/African	33 022	33 165	33 309	33 451	33 589	138	567	0,4	1,7
Coloured	3 574	3 580	3 586	3 591	3 596	5	22	0,1	0,6
Indian/Asian	1 041	1 043	1 045	1 047	1 049	2	8	0,2	0,8
White	2 825	2 815	2 806	2 797	2 787	-9	-38	-0,3	-1,3
South Africa	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Western Cape	4 939	4 958	4 978	4 997	5 016	19	78	0,4	1,6
Eastern Cape	4 469	4 483	4 498	4 512	4 525	14	56	0,3	1,3
Northern Cape	829	831	833	834	836	2	7	0,2	0,9
Free State	1 931	1 932	1 934	1 935	1 937	1	6	0,1	0,3
KwaZulu-Natal	7 477	7 503	7 529	7 556	7 581	25	104	0,3	1,4
North West	2 742	2 751	2 761	2 771	2 780	9	38	0,3	1,4
Gauteng	11 017	11 060	11 104	11 148	11 190	42	173	0,4	1,6
Mpumalanga	3 102	3 113	3 124	3 136	3 146	11	44	0,3	1,4
Limpopo	3 958	3 971	3 984	3 998	4 010	13	53	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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	23 688	24 125	24 268	24 594	24 619	25	931	0,1	3,9
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	10 977	11 186	11 329	11 616	11 488	-128	510	-1,1	4,6
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 955	3 062	3 029	3 058	3 181	124	226	4,0	7,6
Agriculture	860	888	894	956	920	-35	60	-3,7	7,0
Private households	1 142	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	18	-8	1,7	-0,7
Unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
Discouraged work-seekers	3 363	3 276	3 182	3 156	3 049	-107	-314	-3,4	-9,3
Other (not economically active)	13 412	13 202	13 296	13 136	13 354	218	-57	1,7	-0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,7	32,9	32,6	31,9	32,1	0,2	-0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	58,5	59,4	59,6	60,2	60,0	-0,2	1,5		
Women									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 395	20 463	20 532	20 599	20 664	65	269	0,3	1,3
Labour force	10 817	10 999	11 143	11 375	11 325	-51	508	-0,4	4,7
Employed	6 980	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	-80	449	-1,1	6,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4 838	4 972	4 968	5 173	5 114	-59	276	-1,1	5,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 001	1 045	1 080	1 180	1 149	-31	148	-2,6	14,7
Agriculture	282	301	279	299	292	-7	10	-2,4	3,7
Private households	859	782	833	856	874	18	16	2,1	1,8
Unemployed	3 837	3 899	3 983	3 867	3 896	29	59	0,8	1,5
Not economically active	9 578	9 464	9 389	9 224	9 339	115	-239	1,3	-2,5
Discouraged work-seekers	1 760	1 712	1 657	1 699	1 629	-70	-131	-4,1	-7,5
Other (not economically active)	7 818	7 752	7 732	7 525	7 710	185	-108	2,5	-1,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,5	35,4	35,7	34,0	34,4	0,4	-1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,2	34,7	34,9	36,5	36,0	-0,5	1,8		
Labour force participation rate	53,0	53,8	54,3	55,2	54,8	-0,4	1,8		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	20 067	20 140	20 214	20 287	20 357	71	290	0,3	1,4
Labour force	12 871	13 126	13 125	13 218	13 294	75	423	0,6	3,3
Employed	8 955	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	58	340	0,6	3,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6 139	6 214	6 361	6 443	6 374	-69	235	-1,1	3,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 954	2 017	1 949	1 878	2 033	155	78	8,2	4,0
Agriculture	578	586	615	656	628	-28	50	-4,3	8,6
Private households	283	274	261	259	260	0	-23	0,2	-8,2
Unemployed	3 917	4 034	3 939	3 983	4 000	17	83	0,4	2,1
Not economically active	7 196	7 015	7 089	7 068	7 064	-5	-132	-0,1	-1,8
Discouraged work-seekers	1 602	1 564	1 526	1 457	1 420	-38	-183	-2,6	-11,4
Other (not economically active)	5 594	5 450	5 563	5 611	5 644	33	50	0,6	0,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,4	30,7	30,0	30,1	30,1	0,0	-0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	44,6	45,1	45,4	45,5	45,7	0,2	1,1		
Labour force participation rate	64,1	65,2	64,9	65,2	65,3	0,1	1,2		

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	23 688	24 125	24 268	24 594	24 619	25	931	0,1	3,9
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,7	32,9	32,6	31,9	32,1	0,2	-0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	58,5	59,4	59,6	60,2	60,0	-0,2	1,5		
Black/African									
Population 15–64 yrs	33 022	33 165	33 309	33 451	33 589	138	567	0,4	1,7
Labour force	18 953	19 328	19 554	19 858	19 935	77	982	0,4	5,2
Employed	11 977	12 133	12 358	12 703	12 746	43	769	0,3	6,4
Unemployed	6 977	7 194	7 195	7 155	7 189	34	213	0,5	3,0
Not economically active	14 069	13 838	13 755	13 593	13 654	61	-415	0,4	-3,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,8	37,2	36,8	36,0	36,1	0,1	-0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,3	36,6	37,1	38,0	37,9	-0,1	1,6		
Labour force participation rate	57,4	58,3	58,7	59,4	59,4	0,0	2,0		
Coloured									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 574	3 580	3 586	3 591	3 596	5	22	0,1	0,6
Labour force	2 195	2 247	2 210	2 204	2 186	-18	-9	-0,8	-0,4
Employed	1 666	1 743	1 727	1 729	1 711	-18	45	-1,0	2,7
Unemployed	529	503	483	475	475	0	-54	0,0	-10,2
Not economically active	1 379	1 333	1 375	1 387	1 410	23	30	1,7	2,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	24,1	22,4	21,9	21,5	21,7	0,2	-2,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,6	48,7	48,2	48,2	47,6	-0,6	1,0		
Labour force participation rate	61,4	62,8	61,6	61,4	60,8	-0,6	-0,6		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	1 041	1 043	1 045	1 047	1 049	2	8	0,2	0,8
Labour force	634	635	626	627	609	-18	-25	-2,9	-4,0
Employed	543	545	522	553	538	-15	-5	-2,7	-0,9
Unemployed	92	91	104	74	71	-3	-21	-4,2	-22,4
Not economically active	407	408	419	420	440	20	34	4,8	8,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	14,4	14,3	16,6	11,8	11,7	-0,1	-2,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,1	52,2	49,9	52,8	51,3	-1,5	-0,8		
Labour force participation rate	60,9	60,9	59,9	59,9	58,0	-1,9	-2,9		
White									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 825	2 815	2 806	2 797	2 787	-9	-38	-0,3	-1,3
Labour force	1 905	1 915	1 878	1 905	1 888	-16	-17	-0,9	-0,9
Employed	1 749	1 771	1 739	1 760	1 728	-32	-21	-1,8	-1,2
Unemployed	156	144	139	145	160	15	4	10,4	2,5
Not economically active	920	900	928	892	899	7	-20	0,8	-2,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	8,2	7,5	7,4	7,6	8,5	0,9	0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	61,9	62,9	62,0	62,9	62,0	-0,9	0,1		
Labour force participation rate	67,4	68,0	66,9	68,1	67,7	-0,4	0,3		

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	23 688	24 125	24 268	24 594	24 619	25	931	0,1	3,9
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,7	32,9	32,6	31,9	32,1	0,2	-0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	58,5	59,4	59,6	60,2	60,0	-0,2	1,5		
15–24 years									
Population 15–24 yrs	10 229	10 232	10 234	10 239	10 247	8	18	0,1	0,2
Labour force	2 634	2 823	2 786	2 736	2 705	-31	71	-1,1	2,7
Employed	1 027	1 069	1 095	1 150	1 098	-52	71	-4,5	6,9
Unemployed	1 606	1 754	1 691	1 586	1 607	21	1	1,3	0,0
Not economically active	7 595	7 409	7 448	7 503	7 541	38	-54	0,5	-0,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	61,0	62,1	60,7	58,0	59,4	1,4	-1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	10,0	10,4	10,7	11,2	10,7	-0,5	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	25,7	27,6	27,2	26,7	26,4	-0,3	0,7		
25–34 years									
Population 25–34 yrs	10 499	10 520	10 542	10 559	10 573	14	74	0,1	0,7
Labour force	7 594	7 674	7 685	7 798	7 819	21	225	0,3	3,0
Employed	4 564	4 550	4 629	4 811	4 766	-45	202	-0,9	4,4
Unemployed	3 030	3 124	3 056	2 987	3 053	66	23	2,2	0,8
Not economically active	2 905	2 846	2 857	2 761	2 754	-7	-151	-0,3	-5,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,9	40,7	39,8	38,3	39,0	0,7	-0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,5	43,3	43,9	45,6	45,1	-0,5	1,6		
Labour force participation rate	72,3	72,9	72,9	73,8	74,0	0,2	1,7		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	8 869	8 916	8 963	9 008	9 051	43	182	0,5	2,1
Labour force	6 926	6 996	7 066	7 182	7 196	14	270	0,2	3,9
Employed	5 015	5 047	5 069	5 099	5 200	101	185	2,0	3,7
Unemployed	1 911	1 949	1 996	2 083	1 996	-87	85	-4,2	4,5
Not economically active	1 944	1 920	1 897	1 826	1 855	29	-88	1,6	-4,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	27,6	27,9	28,3	29,0	27,7	-1,3	0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	56,5	56,6	56,6	56,6	57,4	0,8	0,9		
Labour force participation rate	78,1	78,5	78,8	79,7	79,5	-0,2	1,4		
45–54 years									
Population 45–54 yrs	6 591	6 641	6 692	6 741	6 788	47	197	0,7	3,0
Labour force	4 827	4 868	4 941	5 005	5 012	7	185	0,1	3,8
Employed	3 849	3 951	3 958	4 016	3 988	-28	139	-0,7	3,6
Unemployed	978	916	984	989	1 024	35	46	3,6	4,7
Not economically active	1 764	1 774	1 750	1 736	1 776	40	12	2,3	0,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,3	18,8	19,9	19,8	20,4	0,6	0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	58,4	59,5	59,1	59,6	58,7	-0,9	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	73,2	73,3	73,8	74,2	73,8	-0,4	0,6		
55–64 years									
Population 55–64 yrs	4 274	4 295	4 316	4 338	4 363	24	89	0,6	2,1
Labour force	1 707	1 764	1 790	1 873	1 887	14	179	0,7	10,5
Employed	1 480	1 574	1 595	1 669	1 672	3	192	0,2	13,0
Unemployed	228	190	195	204	215	11	-13	5,4	-5,5
Not economically active	2 566	2 530	2 526	2 465	2 476	10	-91	0,4	-3,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	13,3	10,8	10,9	10,9	11,4	0,5	-1,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,6	36,7	37,0	38,5	38,3	-0,2	3,7		
Labour force participation rate	40,0	41,1	41,5	43,2	43,2	0,0	3,2		

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	23 688	24 125	24 268	24 594	24 619	25	931	0,1	3,9
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
Discouraged work-seekers	3 363	3 276	3 182	3 156	3 049	-107	-314	-3,4	-9,3
Other (not economically active)	13 412	13 202	13 296	13 136	13 354	218	-57	1,7	-0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,7	32,9	32,6	31,9	32,1	0,2	-0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	58,5	59,4	59,6	60,2	60,0	-0,2	1,5		
Western Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 939	4 958	4 978	4 997	5 016	19	78	0,4	1,6
Labour force	3 348	3 388	3 426	3 427	3 459	32	111	0,9	3,3
Employed	2 596	2 658	2 711	2 734	2 757	23	161	0,8	6,2
Unemployed	752	730	715	693	702	9	-50	1,4	-6,6
Not economically active	1 591	1 571	1 552	1 571	1 557	-14	-34	-0,9	-2,1
Discouraged work-seekers	106	123	105	140	162	22	56	15,8	53,2
Other (not economically active)	1 485	1 448	1 446	1 431	1 395	-36	-90	-2,5	-6,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	22,5	21,6	20,9	20,2	20,3	0,1	-2,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,6	53,6	54,5	54,7	55,0	0,3	2,4		
Labour force participation rate	67,8	68,3	68,8	68,6	69,0	0,4	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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	1 793	1 800	1 807	1 814	1 821	7	28	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 143	1 162	1 158	1 157	1 139	-18	-4	-1,6	-0,4
Employed	932	953	951	989	969	-20	37	-2,0	4,0
Unemployed	212	209	207	168	170	2	-42	1,0	-19,7
Not economically active	649	638	649	657	682	25	32	3,8	5,0
Discouraged work-seekers	74	88	83	100	124	24	50	24,0	67,2
Other (not economically active)	575	550	565	557	558	1	-18	0,2	-3,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	18,5	17,9	17,9	14,5	14,9	0,4	-3,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,0	53,0	52,6	54,5	53,2	-1,3	1,2		
Labour force participation rate	63,8	64,5	64,1	63,8	62,6	-1,2	-1,2		
Western Cape – City of Cape Town									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 146	3 158	3 171	3 184	3 196	12	50	0,4	1,6
Labour force	2 205	2 226	2 268	2 269	2 320	51	115	2,2	5,2
Employed	1 664	1 704	1 760	1 745	1 788	43	123	2,5	7,4
Unemployed	540	522	508	525	532	8	-8	1,5	-1,5
Not economically active	941	932	903	914	876	-39	-66	-4,2	-7,0
Discouraged work-seekers	32	35	22	40	38	-2	6	-4,8	20,3
Other (not economically active)	910	898	881	874	838	-37	-72	-4,2	-7,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	24,5	23,4	22,4	23,1	22,9	-0,2	-1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,9	54,0	55,5	54,8	55,9	1,1	3,0		
Labour force participation rate	70,1	70,5	71,5	71,3	72,6	1,3	2,5		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	4 469	4 483	4 498	4 512	4 525	14	56	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 384	2 367	2 393	2 385	2 320	-65	-64	-2,7	-2,7
Employed	1 380	1 421	1 444	1 459	1 348	-111	-32	-7,6	-2,3
Unemployed	1 004	946	949	926	973	46	-32	5,0	-3,2
Not economically active	2 085	2 116	2 105	2 126	2 205	79	120	3,7	5,8
Discouraged work-seekers	172	142	111	157	162	6	-10	3,6	-5,7
Other (not economically active)	1 913	1 974	1 994	1 970	2 043	73	130	3,7	6,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,1	40,0	39,7	38,8	41,9	3,1	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	30,9	31,7	32,1	32,3	29,8	-2,5	-1,1		
Labour force participation rate	53,3	52,8	53,2	52,9	51,3	-1,6	-2,0		
Eastern Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 053	3 062	3 070	3 079	3 087	8	34	0,3	1,1
Labour force	1 451	1 422	1 489	1 489	1 438	-51	-13	-3,4	-0,9
Employed	770	774	824	849	761	-87	-9	-10,3	-1,2
Unemployed	681	648	665	640	677	37	-4	5,7	-0,5
Not economically active	1 602	1 639	1 581	1 590	1 649	59	46	3,7	2,9
Discouraged work-seekers	159	122	101	149	154	5	-5	3,4	-2,9
Other (not economically active)	1 444	1 517	1 480	1 441	1 494	54	51	3,7	3,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	46,9	45,6	44,7	43,0	47,1	4,1	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	25,2	25,3	26,8	27,6	24,7	-2,9	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	47,5	46,5	48,5	48,4	46,6	-1,8	-0,9		

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 (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	547	549	551	553	555	2	8	0,4	1,5
Labour force	344	367	383	372	389	17	45	4,7	13,2
Employed	223	265	266	253	261	7	38	2,9	16,9
Unemployed	121	102	118	118	129	10	7	8,6	6,2
Not economically active	203	181	168	181	166	-15	-37	-8,5	-18,2
Discouraged work-seekers	3	5	0						
Other (not economically active)	200	177	168	181	166	-15	-34	-8,5	-17,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,2	27,8	30,7	31,8	33,0	1,2	-2,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	48,3	48,2	45,8	47,0	1,2	6,2		
Labour force participation rate	62,9	66,9	69,6	67,2	70,1	2,9	7,2		
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15–64 yrs	869	873	876	880	883	3	14	0,4	1,6
Labour force	589	577	521	524	493	-32	-97	-6,0	-16,4
Employed	387	381	354	357	326	-31	-61	-8,7	-15,8
Unemployed	203	196	166	168	167	-1	-35	-0,3	-17,5
Not economically active	280	296	356	356	390	35	111	9,8	39,5
Discouraged work-seekers	11	16	10	8	8	1	-2	7,9	-22,6
Other (not economically active)	269	280	346	348	382	34	113	9,9	42,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,4	33,9	32,0	32,0	33,9	1,9	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	44,5	43,7	40,4	40,5	36,9	-3,6	-7,6		
Labour force participation rate	67,8	66,1	59,4	59,6	55,8	-3,8	-12,0		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	829	831	833	834	836	2	7	0,2	0,9
Labour force	431	462	441	446	447	2	17	0,3	3,8
Employed	336	339	322	328	327	-2	-9	-0,5	-2,6
Unemployed	95	123	118	117	120	3	25	2,8	26,6
Not economically active	398	368	392	389	389	0	-9	0,0	-2,3
Discouraged work-seekers	130	98	102	94	103	9	-27	9,1	-20,5
Other (not economically active)	269	270	290	294	286	-8	17	-2,9	6,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	22,1	26,6	26,9	26,3	26,9	0,6	4,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,5	40,8	38,7	39,4	39,1	-0,3	-1,4		
Labour force participation rate	51,9	55,7	52,9	53,4	53,5	0,1	1,6		
Free State									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 931	1 932	1 934	1 935	1 937	1	6	0,1	0,3
Labour force	1 214	1 203	1 153	1 183	1 178	-6	-36	-0,5	-3,0
Employed	794	790	730	727	742	15	-52	2,0	-6,6
Unemployed	419	413	423	456	436	-20	16	-4,5	3,9
Not economically active	717	729	781	752	759	7	42	0,9	5,8
Discouraged work-seekers	69	81	120	110	117	7	48	6,1	69,8
Other (not economically active)	648	648	661	642	642	0	-6	0,0	-0,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,6	34,4	36,7	38,5	37,0	-1,5	2,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,1	40,9	37,8	37,6	38,3	0,7	-2,8		
Labour force participation rate	62,9	62,3	59,6	61,1	60,8	-0,3	-2,1		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	1 376	1 377	1 378	1 379	1 380	1	4	0,1	0,3
Labour force	863	851	815	851	850	-1	-13	-0,1	-1,5
Employed	556	549	503	509	524	15	-31	3,0	-5,7
Unemployed	307	302	312	342	326	-16	19	-4,6	6,1
Not economically active	513	526	563	528	529	1	17	0,3	3,3
Discouraged work-seekers	31	45	83	66	68	3	38	4,4	121,8
Other (not economically active)	482	481	480	462	461	-1	-21	-0,3	-4,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,6	35,5	38,3	40,2	38,3	-1,9	2,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,4	39,9	36,5	36,9	38,0	1,1	-2,4		
Labour force participation rate	62,7	61,8	59,2	61,7	61,6	-0,1	-1,1		
Free State – Mangaung									
Population 15–64 yrs	555	555	556	556	557	0	2	0,1	0,3
Labour force	350	352	338	332	327	-5	-23	-1,5	-6,6
Employed	238	241	228	218	217	0	-21	-0,2	-8,8
Unemployed	112	112	111	114	110	-5	-2	-4,1	-2,0
Not economically active	205	203	218	224	229	5	25	2,4	12,2
Discouraged work-seekers	38	36	37	44	48	4	10	8,6	27,2
Other (not economically active)	167	168	180	180	181	2	15	0,9	8,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,0	31,7	32,7	34,4	33,5	-0,9	1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,0	43,3	40,9	39,2	39,1	-0,1	-3,9		
Labour force participation rate	63,1	63,4	60,8	59,7	58,8	-0,9	-4,3		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	7 477	7 503	7 529	7 556	7 581	25	104	0,3	1,4
Labour force	3 702	3 757	3 829	3 958	4 053	95	351	2,4	9,5
Employed	2 541	2 594	2 642	2 794	2 856	62	315	2,2	12,4
Unemployed	1 161	1 162	1 187	1 164	1 197	33	36	2,9	3,1
Not economically active	3 775	3 746	3 701	3 598	3 528	-70	-247	-1,9	-6,5
Discouraged work-seekers	997	976	927	915	790	-125	-208	-13,7	-20,8
Other (not economically active)	2 777	2 771	2 774	2 682	2 738	56	-39	2,1	-1,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,4	30,9	31,0	29,4	29,5	0,1	-1,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,0	34,6	35,1	37,0	37,7	0,7	3,7		
Labour force participation rate	49,5	50,1	50,9	52,4	53,5	1,1	4,0		
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 866	4 881	4 897	4 913	4 928	15	62	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 209	2 244	2 277	2 384	2 431	47	222	2,0	10,0
Employed	1 310	1 374	1 411	1 574	1 593	18	283	1,2	21,6
Unemployed	899	869	866	809	838	29	-61	3,6	-6,8
Not economically active	2 657	2 638	2 620	2 529	2 497	-32	-159	-1,3	-6,0
Discouraged work-seekers	688	662	640	631	531	-101	-157	-16,0	-22,9
Other (not economically active)	1 969	1 976	1 980	1 898	1 967	69	-2	3,6	-0,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	40,7	38,7	38,0	33,9	34,5	0,6	-6,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	26,9	28,2	28,8	32,0	32,3	0,3	5,4		
Labour force participation rate	45,4	46,0	46,5	48,5	49,3	0,8	3,9		

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 (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	2 611	2 622	2 632	2 643	2 653	10	42	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 493	1 513	1 552	1 574	1 622	48	129	3,0	8,7
Employed	1 231	1 220	1 231	1 219	1 263	44	33	3,6	2,6
Unemployed	262	293	321	355	359	4	97	1,2	36,9
Not economically active	1 118	1 109	1 081	1 068	1 031	-38	-87	-3,5	-7,8
Discouraged work-seekers	310	314	287	284	259	-25	-50	-8,6	-16,2
Other (not economically active)	809	795	794	784	771	-13	-37	-1,7	-4,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	17,6	19,4	20,7	22,5	22,1	-0,4	4,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,1	46,5	46,8	46,1	47,6	1,5	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	57,2	57,7	58,9	59,6	61,1	1,5	3,9		
North West									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 742	2 751	2 761	2 771	2 780	9	38	0,3	1,4
Labour force	1 397	1 414	1 394	1 533	1 493	-40	96	-2,6	6,9
Employed	881	877	881	942	912	-30	31	-3,2	3,5
Unemployed	516	538	513	591	582	-10	65	-1,6	12,6
Not economically active	1 344	1 337	1 367	1 237	1 287	49	-58	4,0	-4,3
Discouraged work-seekers	353	394	395	310	339	30	-14	9,5	-3,8
Other (not economically active)	992	943	972	928	947	20	-44	2,1	-4,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	37,0	38,0	36,8	38,6	39,0	0,4	2,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,1	31,9	31,9	34,0	32,8	-1,2	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	51,0	51,4	50,5	55,3	53,7	-1,6	2,7		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	11 017	11 060	11 104	11 148	11 190	42	173	0,4	1,6
Labour force	7 428	7 589	7 605	7 576	7 599	23	171	0,3	2,3
Employed	4 905	4 984	4 988	5 019	5 034	15	130	0,3	2,6
Unemployed	2 523	2 604	2 617	2 557	2 565	8	42	0,3	1,6
Not economically active	3 589	3 472	3 499	3 571	3 590	19	2	0,5	0,0
Discouraged work-seekers	599	582	527	611	502	-109	-98	-17,9	-16,3
Other (not economically active)	2 990	2 890	2 972	2 960	3 089	129	99	4,3	3,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,0	34,3	34,4	33,7	33,8	0,1	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	44,5	45,1	44,9	45,0	45,0	0,0	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	67,4	68,6	68,5	68,0	67,9	-0,1	0,5		
Gauteng – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 456	1 462	1 468	1 474	1 480	6	24	0,4	1,6
Labour force	990	1 000	991	1 005	1 019	13	29	1,3	3,0
Employed	572	607	596	582	627	45	54	7,7	9,5
Unemployed	417	393	394	423	392	-31	-25	-7,4	-6,0
Not economically active	467	462	478	469	461	-7	-5	-1,6	-1,1
Discouraged work-seekers	111	113	98	83	82	-1	-29	-1,2	-26,1
Other (not economically active)	356	350	380	386	380	-6	24	-1,7	6,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,1	39,3	39,8	42,1	38,5	-3,6	-3,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,3	41,5	40,6	39,5	42,3	2,8	3,0		
Labour force participation rate	67,9	68,4	67,5	68,2	68,8	0,6	0,9		

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 (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	2 766	2 778	2 789	2 800	2 810	11	44	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 704	1 762	1 763	1 764	1 771	8	67	0,4	3,9
Employed	1 181	1 173	1 193	1 244	1 228	-16	47	-1,3	3,9
Unemployed	523	589	569	520	543	23	20	4,5	3,9
Not economically active	1 062	1 016	1 026	1 036	1 039	3	-23	0,3	-2,2
Discouraged work-seekers	211	237	228	258	218	-41	7	-15,8	3,3
Other (not economically active)	851	779	798	778	821	44	-30	5,7	-3,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,7	33,4	32,3	29,5	30,7	1,2	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	42,7	42,2	42,8	44,4	43,7	-0,7	1,0		
Labour force participation rate	61,6	63,4	63,2	63,0	63,0	0,0	1,4		
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 088	4 104	4 120	4 136	4 151	15	63	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 761	2 874	2 897	2 893	2 855	-38	95	-1,3	3,4
Employed	1 862	1 934	1 928	1 949	1 909	-40	47	-2,0	2,6
Unemployed	899	940	969	945	946	1	47	0,1	5,2
Not economically active	1 327	1 230	1 223	1 242	1 296	54	-32	4,3	-2,4
Discouraged work-seekers	202	153	129	183	141	-41	-60	-22,7	-29,9
Other (not economically active)	1 126	1 077	1 094	1 059	1 154	95	29	9,0	2,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,6	32,7	33,5	32,6	33,1	0,5	0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,5	47,1	46,8	47,1	46,0	-1,1	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	67,5	70,0	70,3	70,0	68,8	-1,2	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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	2 706	2 717	2 727	2 738	2 748	10	42	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 973	1 953	1 955	1 914	1 954	40	-19	2,1	-1,0
Employed	1 289	1 270	1 271	1 245	1 270	25	-19	2,0	-1,4
Unemployed	684	683	684	669	684	15	-1	2,2	-0,1
Not economically active	733	764	773	824	794	-30	62	-3,7	8,4
Discouraged work-seekers	76	80	73	87	61	-26	-15	-30,0	-19,9
Other (not economically active)	656	684	700	737	733	-4	77	-0,5	11,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,7	35,0	35,0	34,9	35,0	0,1	0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,6	46,8	46,6	45,5	46,2	0,7	-1,4		
Labour force participation rate	72,9	71,9	71,7	69,9	71,1	1,2	-1,8		
Mpumalanga									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 102	3 113	3 124	3 136	3 146	11	44	0,3	1,4
Labour force	1 855	1 854	1 881	1 863	1 920	56	65	3,0	3,5
Employed	1 186	1 141	1 158	1 202	1 250	48	64	4,0	5,4
Unemployed	669	713	723	661	670	9	1	1,3	0,1
Not economically active	1 247	1 259	1 243	1 272	1 227	-46	-20	-3,6	-1,6
Discouraged work-seekers	360	347	351	331	313	-18	-47	-5,3	-12,9
Other (not economically active)	887	912	893	941	913	-28	26	-3,0	3,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,1	38,5	38,4	35,5	34,9	-0,6	-1,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,2	36,7	37,1	38,3	39,7	1,4	1,5		
Labour force participation rate	59,8	59,6	60,2	59,4	61,0	1,6	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 (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	3 958	3 971	3 984	3 998	4 010	13	53	0,3	1,3
Labour force	1 929	2 091	2 146	2 222	2 149	-73	220	-3,3	11,4
Employed	1 317	1 388	1 469	1 539	1 498	-40	182	-2,6	13,8
Unemployed	613	703	677	683	651	-32	38	-4,7	6,3
Not economically active	2 028	1 880	1 839	1 775	1 861	86	-167	4,8	-8,2
Discouraged work-seekers	577	533	545	488	561	72	-17	14,8	-2,9
Other (not economically active)	1 451	1 347	1 294	1 287	1 300	13	-151	1,0	-10,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,8	33,6	31,6	30,8	30,3	-0,5	-1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	33,3	35,0	36,9	38,5	37,4	-1,1	4,1		
Labour force participation rate	48,7	52,7	53,9	55,6	53,6	-2,0	4,9		

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	27 784	28 130	28 218	28 478	28 389	-89	605	-0,3	2,2
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	10 977	11 186	11 329	11 616	11 488	-128	510	-1,1	4,6
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 955	3 062	3 029	3 058	3 181	124	226	4,0	7,6
Agriculture	860	888	894	956	920	-35	60	-3,7	7,0
Private households	1 142	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	18	-8	1,7	-0,7
Unemployed	11 849	11 937	11 872	11 733	11 665	-67	-184	-0,6	-1,6
Not economically active	12 678	12 474	12 527	12 408	12 633	225	-45	1,8	-0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,6	42,4	42,1	41,2	41,1	-0,1	-1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	68,7	69,3	69,3	69,7	69,2	-0,5	0,5		
Women									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 395	20 463	20 532	20 599	20 664	65	269	0,3	1,3
Labour force	13 063	13 195	13 291	13 526	13 429	-98	366	-0,7	2,8
Employed	6 980	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	-80	449	-1,1	6,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4 838	4 972	4 968	5 173	5 114	-59	276	-1,1	5,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 001	1 045	1 080	1 180	1 149	-31	148	-2,6	14,7
Agriculture	282	301	279	299	292	-7	10	-2,4	3,7
Private households	859	782	833	856	874	18	16	2,1	1,8
Unemployed	6 083	6 094	6 130	6 017	6 000	-18	-83	-0,3	-1,4
Not economically active	7 332	7 268	7 241	7 073	7 235	162	-97	2,3	-1,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	46,6	46,2	46,1	44,5	44,7	0,2	-1,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,2	34,7	34,9	36,5	36,0	-0,5	1,8		
Labour force participation rate	64,0	64,5	64,7	65,7	65,0	-0,7	1,0		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	20 067	20 140	20 214	20 287	20 357	71	290	0,3	1,4
Labour force	14 721	14 935	14 928	14 951	14 960	9	239	0,1	1,6
Employed	8 955	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	58	340	0,6	3,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6 139	6 214	6 361	6 443	6 374	-69	235	-1,1	3,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 954	2 017	1 949	1 878	2 033	155	78	8,2	4,0
Agriculture	578	586	615	656	628	-28	50	-4,3	8,6
Private households	283	274	261	259	260	0	-23	0,2	-8,2
Unemployed	5 767	5 843	5 742	5 715	5 666	-49	-101	-0,9	-1,7
Not economically active	5 346	5 206	5 286	5 335	5 397	62	52	1,2	1,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,2	39,1	38,5	38,2	37,9	-0,3	-1,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	44,6	45,1	45,4	45,5	45,7	0,2	1,1		
Labour force participation rate	73,4	74,2	73,8	73,7	73,5	-0,2	0,1		

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	27 784	28 130	28 218	28 478	28 389	-89	605	-0,3	2,2
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Unemployed	11 849	11 937	11 872	11 733	11 665	-67	-184	-0,6	-1,6
Not economically active	12 678	12 474	12 527	12 408	12 633	225	-45	1,8	-0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,6	42,4	42,1	41,2	41,1	-0,1	-1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	68,7	69,3	69,3	69,7	69,2	-0,5	0,5		
Black/African									
Population 15–64 yrs	33 022	33 165	33 309	33 451	33 589	138	567	0,4	1,7
Labour force	22 718	23 007	23 157	23 378	23 357	-21	639	-0,1	2,8
Employed	11 977	12 133	12 358	12 703	12 746	43	769	0,3	6,4
Unemployed	10 741	10 873	10 799	10 675	10 611	-64	-130	-0,6	-1,2
Not economically active	10 305	10 159	10 152	10 073	10 232	159	-73	1,6	-0,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	47,3	47,3	46,6	45,7	45,4	-0,3	-1,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,3	36,6	37,1	38,0	37,9	-0,1	1,6		
Labour force participation rate	68,8	69,4	69,5	69,9	69,5	-0,4	0,7		
Coloured									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 574	3 580	3 586	3 591	3 596	5	22	0,1	0,6
Labour force	2 444	2 484	2 462	2 457	2 463	6	19	0,2	0,8
Employed	1 666	1 743	1 727	1 729	1 711	-18	45	-1,0	2,7
Unemployed	778	740	735	727	751	24	-27	3,3	-3,4
Not economically active	1 130	1 096	1 124	1 134	1 133	-1	3	-0,1	0,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,8	29,8	29,9	29,6	30,5	0,9	-1,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,6	48,7	48,2	48,2	47,6	-0,6	1,0		
Labour force participation rate	68,4	69,4	68,7	68,4	68,5	0,1	0,1		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	1 041	1 043	1 045	1 047	1 049	2	8	0,2	0,8
Labour force	679	685	684	697	643	-54	-36	-7,8	-5,3
Employed	543	545	522	553	538	-15	-5	-2,7	-0,9
Unemployed	136	140	162	144	105	-39	-31	-27,2	-23,0
Not economically active	362	358	362	350	407	56	45	16,0	12,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,1	20,5	23,6	20,7	16,3	-4,4	-3,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,1	52,2	49,9	52,8	51,3	-1,5	-0,8		
Labour force participation rate	65,2	65,7	65,4	66,5	61,3	-5,2	-3,9		
White									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 825	2 815	2 806	2 797	2 787	-9	-38	-0,3	-1,3
Labour force	1 943	1 954	1 916	1 946	1 926	-19	-17	-1,0	-0,9
Employed	1 749	1 771	1 739	1 760	1 728	-32	-21	-1,8	-1,2
Unemployed	194	183	177	186	198	12	4	6,5	2,0
Not economically active	881	861	890	851	861	10	-20	1,2	-2,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	10,0	9,4	9,2	9,6	10,3	0,7	0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	61,9	62,9	62,0	62,9	62,0	-0,9	0,1		
Labour force participation rate	68,8	69,4	68,3	69,6	69,1	-0,5	0,3		

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	27 784	28 130	28 218	28 478	28 389	-89	605	-0,3	2,2
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Unemployed	11 849	11 937	11 872	11 733	11 665	-67	-184	-0,6	-1,6
Not economically active	12 678	12 474	12 527	12 408	12 633	225	-45	1,8	-0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,6	42,4	42,1	41,2	41,1	-0,1	-1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	68,7	69,3	69,3	69,7	69,2	-0,5	0,5		
15–24 years									
Population 15–24 yrs	10 229	10 232	10 234	10 239	10 247	8	18	0,1	0,2
Labour force	3 553	3 714	3 666	3 554	3 559	5	6	0,1	0,2
Employed	1 027	1 069	1 095	1 150	1 098	-52	71	-4,5	6,9
Unemployed	2 525	2 645	2 571	2 404	2 461	57	-65	2,4	-2,6
Not economically active	6 676	6 518	6 568	6 686	6 688	2	12	0,0	0,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	71,1	71,2	70,1	67,6	69,1	1,5	-2,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	10,0	10,4	10,7	11,2	10,7	-0,5	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	34,7	36,3	35,8	34,7	34,7	0,0	0,0		
25–34 years									
Population 25–34 yrs	10 499	10 520	10 542	10 559	10 573	14	74	0,1	0,7
Labour force	9 034	9 067	9 098	9 168	9 111	-57	76	-0,6	0,8
Employed	4 564	4 550	4 629	4 811	4 766	-45	202	-0,9	4,4
Unemployed	4 471	4 517	4 469	4 357	4 345	-12	-126	-0,3	-2,8
Not economically active	1 465	1 453	1 444	1 391	1 462	71	-3	5,1	-0,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	49,5	49,8	49,1	47,5	47,7	0,2	-1,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,5	43,3	43,9	45,6	45,1	-0,5	1,6		
Labour force participation rate	86,0	86,2	86,3	86,8	86,2	-0,6	0,2		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	8 869	8 916	8 963	9 008	9 051	43	182	0,5	2,1
Labour force	7 826	7 892	7 921	8 051	8 015	-36	189	-0,4	2,4
Employed	5 015	5 047	5 069	5 099	5 200	101	185	2,0	3,7
Unemployed	2 812	2 844	2 852	2 952	2 815	-136	4	-4,6	0,1
Not economically active	1 043	1 024	1 041	957	1 036	79	-7	8,2	-0,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,9	36,0	36,0	36,7	35,1	-1,6	-0,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	56,5	56,6	56,6	56,6	57,4	0,8	0,9		
Labour force participation rate	88,2	88,5	88,4	89,4	88,6	-0,8	0,4		
45–54 years									
Population 45–54 yrs	6 591	6 641	6 692	6 741	6 788	47	197	0,7	3,0
Labour force	5 462	5 474	5 541	5 631	5 601	-29	139	-0,5	2,5
Employed	3 849	3 951	3 958	4 016	3 988	-28	139	-0,7	3,6
Unemployed	1 613	1 523	1 583	1 614	1 613	-1	0	-0,1	0,0
Not economically active	1 129	1 167	1 151	1 111	1 187	76	58	6,9	5,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	29,5	27,8	28,6	28,7	28,8	0,1	-0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	58,4	59,5	59,1	59,6	58,7	-0,9	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	82,9	82,4	82,8	83,5	82,5	-1,0	-0,4		
55–64 years									
Population 55–64 yrs	4 274	4 295	4 316	4 338	4 363	24	89	0,6	2,1
Labour force	1 908	1 983	1 992	2 075	2 103	28	195	1,4	10,2
Employed	1 480	1 574	1 595	1 669	1 672	3	192	0,2	13,0
Unemployed	428	408	397	406	431	26	3	6,3	0,7
Not economically active	2 366	2 312	2 323	2 264	2 260	-4	-106	-0,2	-4,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	22,4	20,6	19,9	19,5	20,5	1,0	-1,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,6	36,7	37,0	38,5	38,3	-0,2	3,7		
Labour force participation rate	44,6	46,2	46,2	47,8	48,2	0,4	3,6		

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	40 462	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	136	559	0,3	1,4
Labour force	27 784	28 130	28 218	28 478	28 389	-89	605	-0,3	2,2
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Unemployed	11 849	11 937	11 872	11 733	11 665	-67	-184	-0,6	-1,6
Not economically active	12 678	12 474	12 527	12 408	12 633	225	-45	1,8	-0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,6	42,4	42,1	41,2	41,1	-0,1	-1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,4	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	-0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	68,7	69,3	69,3	69,7	69,2	-0,5	0,5		
Western Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 939	4 958	4 978	4 997	5 016	19	78	0,4	1,6
Labour force	3 548	3 589	3 628	3 675	3 708	33	159	0,9	4,5
Employed	2 596	2 658	2 711	2 734	2 757	23	161	0,8	6,2
Unemployed	952	931	917	941	951	10	-1	1,0	-0,2
Not economically active	1 391	1 370	1 350	1 323	1 309	-14	-82	-1,1	-5,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	26,8	25,9	25,3	25,6	25,6	0,0	-1,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,6	53,6	54,5	54,7	55,0	0,3	2,4		
Labour force participation rate	71,8	72,4	72,9	73,5	73,9	0,4	2,1		
Western Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 793	1 800	1 807	1 814	1 821	7	28	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 272	1 286	1 303	1 328	1 328	0	56	0,0	4,4
Employed	932	953	951	989	969	-20	37	-2,0	4,0
Unemployed	341	333	352	339	359	20	18	5,8	5,3
Not economically active	520	514	504	486	493	7	-28	1,4	-5,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	26,8	25,9	27,0	25,5	27,0	1,5	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,0	53,0	52,6	54,5	53,2	-1,3	1,2		
Labour force participation rate	71,0	71,5	72,1	73,2	72,9	-0,3	1,9		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	3 146	3 158	3 171	3 184	3 196	12	50	0,4	1,6
Labour force	2 276	2 302	2 325	2 347	2 379	33	104	1,4	4,6
Employed	1 664	1 704	1 760	1 745	1 788	43	123	2,5	7,4
Unemployed	611	598	565	602	592	-10	-20	-1,7	-3,2
Not economically active	870	856	846	837	816	-21	-54	-2,5	-6,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	26,9	26,0	24,3	25,7	24,9	-0,8	-2,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,9	54,0	55,5	54,8	55,9	1,1	3,0		
Labour force participation rate	72,3	72,9	73,3	73,7	74,5	0,8	2,2		
Eastern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 469	4 483	4 498	4 512	4 525	14	56	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 610	2 599	2 547	2 602	2 546	-55	-64	-2,1	-2,5
Employed	1 380	1 421	1 444	1 459	1 348	-111	-32	-7,6	-2,3
Unemployed	1 230	1 178	1 103	1 143	1 199	56	-32	4,9	-2,6
Not economically active	1 859	1 884	1 951	1 910	1 979	69	120	3,6	6,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	47,1	45,3	43,3	43,9	47,1	3,2	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	30,9	31,7	32,1	32,3	29,8	-2,5	-1,1		
Labour force participation rate	58,4	58,0	56,6	57,7	56,3	-1,4	-2,1		
Eastern Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 053	3 062	3 070	3 079	3 087	8	34	0,3	1,1
Labour force	1 656	1 621	1 627	1 686	1 649	-37	-7	-2,2	-0,4
Employed	770	774	824	849	761	-87	-9	-10,3	-1,2
Unemployed	885	846	803	838	888	50	2	6,0	0,3
Not economically active	1 398	1 441	1 443	1 392	1 438	45	40	3,3	2,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	53,5	52,2	49,3	49,7	53,8	4,1	0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	25,2	25,3	26,8	27,6	24,7	-2,9	-0,5		
Labour force participation rate	54,2	52,9	53,0	54,8	53,4	-1,4	-0,8		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	547	549	551	553	555	2	8	0,4	1,5
Labour force	353	377	385	374	390	16	37	4,4	10,5
Employed	223	265	266	253	261	7	38	2,9	16,9
Unemployed	130	111	120	120	129	9	-1	7,5	-0,5
Not economically active	194	172	166	179	165	-14	-29	-7,9	-14,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,8	29,6	31,1	32,2	33,1	0,9	-3,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	48,3	48,2	45,8	47,0	1,2	6,2		
Labour force participation rate	64,5	68,6	70,0	67,6	70,2	2,6	5,7		
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15–64 yrs	869	873	876	880	883	3	14	0,4	1,6
Labour force	602	601	534	542	507	-34	-94	-6,3	-15,7
Employed	387	381	354	357	326	-31	-61	-8,7	-15,8
Unemployed	215	220	180	185	182	-3	-33	-1,8	-15,5
Not economically active	267	271	342	338	376	38	109	11,2	40,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,7	36,6	33,7	34,2	35,8	1,6	0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	44,5	43,7	40,4	40,5	36,9	-3,6	-7,6		
Labour force participation rate	69,2	68,9	61,0	61,6	57,4	-4,2	-11,8		
Northern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	829	831	833	834	836	2	7	0,2	0,9
Labour force	599	591	568	566	572	6	-27	1,0	-4,5
Employed	336	339	322	328	327	-2	-9	-0,5	-2,6
Unemployed	264	252	246	238	246	8	-18	3,2	-6,8
Not economically active	230	240	264	268	264	-4	34	-1,5	14,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	44,0	42,6	43,3	42,0	42,9	0,9	-1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,5	40,8	38,7	39,4	39,1	-0,3	-1,4		
Labour force participation rate	72,3	71,2	68,3	67,9	68,4	0,5	-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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	1 931	1 932	1 934	1 935	1 937	1	6	0,1	0,3
Labour force	1 315	1 309	1 303	1 316	1 323	7	8	0,6	0,6
Employed	794	790	730	727	742	15	-52	2,0	-6,6
Unemployed	521	520	573	589	581	-7	60	-1,3	11,6
Not economically active	616	623	630	619	613	-6	-2	-1,0	-0,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,6	39,7	44,0	44,7	43,9	-0,8	4,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,1	40,9	37,8	37,6	38,3	0,7	-2,8		
Labour force participation rate	68,1	67,8	67,4	68,0	68,3	0,3	0,2		
Free State – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 376	1 377	1 378	1 379	1 380	1	4	0,1	0,3
Labour force	918	916	918	931	938	8	20	0,8	2,2
Employed	556	549	503	509	524	15	-31	3,0	-5,7
Unemployed	362	367	415	421	414	-8	52	-1,8	14,3
Not economically active	458	461	460	449	442	-7	-16	-1,5	-3,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,5	40,1	45,2	45,3	44,1	-1,2	4,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,4	39,9	36,5	36,9	38,0	1,1	-2,4		
Labour force participation rate	66,7	66,5	66,6	67,5	68,0	0,5	1,3		
Free State – Mangaung									
Population 15–64 yrs	555	555	556	556	557	0	2	0,1	0,3
Labour force	397	393	385	385	385	0	-12	-0,1	-3,1
Employed	238	241	228	218	217	0	-21	-0,2	-8,8
Unemployed	159	153	158	167	168	0	9	0,1	5,5
Not economically active	158	162	171	171	172	1	14	0,4	8,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	40,0	38,8	40,9	43,5	43,5	0,0	3,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,0	43,3	40,9	39,2	39,1	-0,1	-3,9		
Labour force participation rate	71,6	70,8	69,3	69,3	69,2	-0,1	-2,4		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	7 477	7 503	7 529	7 556	7 581	25	104	0,3	1,4
Labour force	4 873	4 919	4 955	5 051	5 041	-10	169	-0,2	3,5
Employed	2 541	2 594	2 642	2 794	2 856	62	315	2,2	12,4
Unemployed	2 332	2 324	2 313	2 257	2 185	-72	-147	-3,2	-6,3
Not economically active	2 604	2 584	2 575	2 504	2 540	35	-64	1,4	-2,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	47,9	47,3	46,7	44,7	43,4	-1,3	-4,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,0	34,6	35,1	37,0	37,7	0,7	3,7		
Labour force participation rate	65,2	65,6	65,8	66,9	66,5	-0,4	1,3		
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 866	4 881	4 897	4 913	4 928	15	62	0,3	1,3
Labour force	3 013	3 024	3 056	3 135	3 081	-54	68	-1,7	2,3
Employed	1 310	1 374	1 411	1 574	1 593	18	283	1,2	21,6
Unemployed	1 703	1 649	1 645	1 561	1 489	-72	-215	-4,6	-12,6
Not economically active	1 852	1 858	1 841	1 778	1 847	69	-6	3,9	-0,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	56,5	54,5	53,8	49,8	48,3	-1,5	-8,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	26,9	28,2	28,8	32,0	32,3	0,3	5,4		
Labour force participation rate	61,9	61,9	62,4	63,8	62,5	-1,3	0,6		
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 611	2 622	2 632	2 643	2 653	10	42	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 859	1 895	1 899	1 916	1 960	44	101	2,3	5,4
Employed	1 231	1 220	1 231	1 219	1 263	44	33	3,6	2,6
Unemployed	629	675	668	697	697	0	68	0,0	10,8
Not economically active	752	727	734	727	693	-34	-59	-4,6	-7,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,8	35,6	35,2	36,4	35,6	-0,8	1,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,1	46,5	46,8	46,1	47,6	1,5	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	71,2	72,3	72,1	72,5	73,9	1,4	2,7		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	2 742	2 751	2 761	2 771	2 780	9	38	0,3	1,4
Labour force	1 845	1 905	1 893	1 928	1 907	-21	62	-1,1	3,3
Employed	881	877	881	942	912	-30	31	-3,2	3,5
Unemployed	964	1 029	1 012	986	996	9	31	0,9	3,2
Not economically active	896	846	868	842	873	30	-23	3,6	-2,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	52,3	54,0	53,5	51,2	52,2	1,0	-0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,1	31,9	31,9	34,0	32,8	-1,2	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	67,3	69,3	68,6	69,6	68,6	-1,0	1,3		
Gauteng									
Population 15–64 yrs	11 017	11 060	11 104	11 148	11 190	42	173	0,4	1,6
Labour force	8 092	8 248	8 212	8 278	8 173	-105	81	-1,3	1,0
Employed	4 905	4 984	4 988	5 019	5 034	15	130	0,3	2,6
Unemployed	3 187	3 264	3 224	3 259	3 139	-120	-48	-3,7	-1,5
Not economically active	2 925	2 812	2 892	2 869	3 017	147	92	5,1	3,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,4	39,6	39,3	39,4	38,4	-1,0	-1,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	44,5	45,1	44,9	45,0	45,0	0,0	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	73,4	74,6	74,0	74,3	73,0	-1,3	-0,4		
Gauteng – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 456	1 462	1 468	1 474	1 480	6	24	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 107	1 118	1 093	1 097	1 107	11	1	1,0	0,1
Employed	572	607	596	582	627	45	54	7,7	9,5
Unemployed	534	511	496	515	481	-34	-54	-6,6	-10,0
Not economically active	350	344	376	378	373	-5	23	-1,3	6,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	48,3	45,7	45,4	46,9	43,4	-3,5	-4,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,3	41,5	40,6	39,5	42,3	2,8	3,0		
Labour force participation rate	76,0	76,5	74,4	74,4	74,8	0,4	-1,2		

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	2 766	2 778	2 789	2 800	2 810	11	44	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 941	2 020	2 016	2 047	2 020	-27	79	-1,3	4,1
Employed	1 181	1 173	1 193	1 244	1 228	-16	47	-1,3	3,9
Unemployed	759	848	822	804	792	-12	33	-1,4	4,3
Not economically active	826	757	773	752	790	38	-35	5,0	-4,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,1	41,9	40,8	39,3	39,2	-0,1	0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	42,7	42,2	42,8	44,4	43,7	-0,7	1,0		
Labour force participation rate	70,2	72,7	72,3	73,1	71,9	-1,2	1,7		
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 088	4 104	4 120	4 136	4 151	15	63	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 970	3 042	3 046	3 091	3 009	-81	39	-2,6	1,3
Employed	1 862	1 934	1 928	1 949	1 909	-40	47	-2,0	2,6
Unemployed	1 109	1 108	1 118	1 142	1 100	-42	-8	-3,6	-0,8
Not economically active	1 118	1 062	1 074	1 045	1 141	96	24	9,2	2,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	37,3	36,4	36,7	36,9	36,6	-0,3	-0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,5	47,1	46,8	47,1	46,0	-1,1	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	72,7	74,1	73,9	74,7	72,5	-2,2	-0,2		
Gauteng – City of Tshwane									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 706	2 717	2 727	2 738	2 748	10	42	0,4	1,6
Labour force	2 074	2 068	2 058	2 044	2 036	-8	-38	-0,4	-1,8
Employed	1 289	1 270	1 271	1 245	1 270	25	-19	2,0	-1,4
Unemployed	785	797	787	799	766	-33	-19	-4,1	-2,4
Not economically active	632	649	670	694	712	18	80	2,6	12,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	37,9	38,6	38,3	39,1	37,6	-1,5	-0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,6	46,8	46,6	45,5	46,2	0,7	-1,4		
Labour force participation rate	76,6	76,1	75,5	74,7	74,1	-0,6	-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 metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	3 102	3 113	3 124	3 136	3 146	11	44	0,3	1,4
Labour force	2 288	2 268	2 293	2 257	2 306	49	18	2,1	0,8
Employed	1 186	1 141	1 158	1 202	1 250	48	64	4,0	5,4
Unemployed	1 102	1 127	1 135	1 055	1 056	1	-46	0,1	-4,2
Not economically active	814	845	832	878	840	-38	26	-4,3	3,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	48,2	49,7	49,5	46,7	45,8	-0,9	-2,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,2	36,7	37,1	38,3	39,7	1,4	1,5		
Labour force participation rate	73,8	72,8	73,4	72,0	73,3	1,3	-0,5		
Limpopo									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 958	3 971	3 984	3 998	4 010	13	53	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 613	2 702	2 819	2 803	2 812	8	198	0,3	7,6
Employed	1 317	1 388	1 469	1 539	1 498	-40	182	-2,6	13,8
Unemployed	1 297	1 314	1 351	1 265	1 314	49	17	3,9	1,3
Not economically active	1 344	1 269	1 165	1 194	1 198	4	-146	0,4	-10,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	49,6	48,6	47,9	45,1	46,7	1,6	-2,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	33,3	35,0	36,9	38,5	37,4	-1,1	4,1		
Labour force participation rate	66,0	68,0	70,8	70,1	70,1	0,0	4,1		

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Agriculture	860	888	894	956	920	-35	60	-3,7	7,0
Mining	436	413	444	409	446	37	9	9,0	2,1
Manufacturing	1 656	1 654	1 558	1 508	1 507	-1	-149	0,0	-9,0
Utilities	124	135	129	113	123	9	-2	8,4	-1,3
Construction	1 212	1 201	1 304	1 357	1 322	-36	110	-2,6	9,1
Trade	3 297	3 269	3 361	3 390	3 362	-28	65	-0,8	2,0
Transport	982	992	986	966	1 023	57	40	5,9	4,1
Finance	2 484	2 667	2 599	2 836	2 964	128	480	4,5	19,3
Community and social services	3 727	3 902	3 965	4 084	3 913	-171	186	-4,2	5,0
Private households	1 142	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	18	-8	1,7	-0,7
Other	15	15	12	10	10	-1	-5	-5,5	-31,6
Women	6 980	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	-80	449	-1,1	6,4
Agriculture	282	301	279	299	292	-7	10	-2,4	3,7
Mining	87	80	68	59	81	22	-5	37,1	-6,3
Manufacturing	573	559	503	523	497	-26	-76	-5,0	-13,2
Utilities	35	32	37	35	32	-3	-3	-8,6	-7,5
Construction	174	167	154	173	146	-27	-27	-15,4	-15,8
Trade	1 492	1 507	1 544	1 587	1 559	-28	67	-1,8	4,5
Transport	177	190	209	184	202	18	26	9,6	14,5
Finance	1 003	1 125	1 132	1 239	1 302	63	299	5,0	29,7
Community and social services	2 289	2 349	2 395	2 547	2 439	-108	149	-4,3	6,5
Private households	859	782	833	856	874	18	16	2,1	1,8
Other	10	7	6	5	4	0	-6	-9,5	-58,3
Men	8 955	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	58	340	0,6	3,8
Agriculture	578	586	615	656	628	-28	50	-4,3	8,6
Mining	350	332	375	350	364	15	15	4,2	4,2
Manufacturing	1 083	1 095	1 055	984	1 010	26	-73	2,6	-6,8
Utilities	89	103	92	78	90	13	1	16,1	1,2
Construction	1 038	1 034	1 151	1 185	1 176	-9	137	-0,8	13,2
Trade	1 806	1 762	1 817	1 804	1 804	0	-2	0,0	-0,1
Transport	806	803	776	781	821	39	15	5,0	1,8
Finance	1 480	1 542	1 467	1 597	1 662	65	182	4,1	12,3
Community and social services	1 437	1 553	1 570	1 537	1 474	-63	37	-4,1	2,6
Private households	283	274	261	259	260	0	-23	0,2	-8,2
Other	4	8	6	6	6	0	1	-2,3	32,4

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	860	888	894	956	920	-35	60	-3,7	7,0
Western Cape	223	251	200	238	234	-4	11	-1,8	5,0
Eastern Cape	89	90	121	136	96	-40	7	-29,4	7,9
Northern Cape	52	41	38	52	58	5	6	10,0	11,1
Free State	90	82	71	65	73	9	-17	13,5	-18,5
KwaZulu-Natal	130	143	148	150	153	4	24	2,5	18,1
North West	44	45	39	51	53	2	8	3,3	18,8
Gauteng	33	32	28	39	38	-1	5	-1,5	14,5
Mpumalanga	92	81	101	87	86	0	-5	-0,5	-5,8
Limpopo	107	124	149	138	129	-9	21	-6,8	19,9
Mining	436	413	444	409	446	37	9	9,0	2,1
Western Cape	6	2	5	5	4	-2	-2	-28,6	-32,0
Eastern Cape	1	1	1		3		2		135,3
Northern Cape	19	18	25	24	33	10	15	41,7	80,5
Free State	26	22	21	16	19	3	-7	17,3	-28,7
KwaZulu-Natal	7	7	9	8	7	-1	0	-9,5	1,7
North West	137	123	129	113	106	-7	-31	-6,0	-22,4
Gauteng	57	74	69	64	79	15	22	22,6	38,4
Mpumalanga	72	65	66	60	74	15	2	24,4	3,2
Limpopo	111	101	117	119	120	1	8	0,7	7,3
Manufacturing	1 656	1 654	1 558	1 508	1 507	-1	-149	0,0	-9,0
Western Cape	356	360	345	336	304	-32	-53	-9,6	-14,8
Eastern Cape	167	146	127	124	105	-19	-62	-15,4	-37,1
Northern Cape	11	17	12	15	14	-1	3	-4,6	29,0
Free State	67	57	51	51	51	0	-16	-0,6	-24,4
KwaZulu-Natal	296	340	323	318	328	10	32	3,2	10,7
North West	42	43	42	36	42	6	0	17,2	-0,1
Gauteng	554	540	501	462	507	44	-47	9,6	-8,5
Mpumalanga	105	96	81	93	89	-3	-16	-3,7	-15,2
Limpopo	56	56	76	72	67	-5	11	-7,4	19,0

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 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	124	135	129	113	123	9	-2	8,4	-1,3
Western Cape	15	16	17	18	16	-2	1	-10,8	5,7
Eastern Cape	4	8	4	4	4	0	0	9,8	-1,8
Northern Cape	2	1	1		1		-1		-43,8
Free State	3	4	5	4	8	4	5	104,1	149,5
KwaZulu-Natal	14	14	18	9	13	4	-1	44,5	-8,5
North West	4	4	9	4	4	0	-1	-8,0	-18,3
Gauteng	31	42	33	34	33	0	2	-1,1	5,8
Mpumalanga	32	33	29	29	31	2	-2	7,2	-4,9
Limpopo	17	14	12	12	12	0	-5	3,2	-27,8
Construction	1 212	1 201	1 304	1 357	1 322	-36	110	-2,6	9,1
Western Cape	197	169	244	253	242	-11	45	-4,4	22,6
Eastern Cape	122	134	141	125	127	3	6	2,2	4,6
Northern Cape	23	25	31	34	26	-7	4	-22,0	15,6
Free State	47	44	52	33	34	1	-13	2,2	-28,0
KwaZulu-Natal	237	225	231	241	239	-3	1	-1,1	0,6
North West	55	64	49	68	64	-4	9	-6,4	16,0
Gauteng	344	338	317	347	312	-35	-32	-10,0	-9,3
Mpumalanga	80	79	98	101	99	-2	20	-2,0	24,5
Limpopo	107	123	142	156	179	23	72	15,0	67,1
Trade	3 297	3 269	3 361	3 390	3 362	-28	65	-0,8	2,0
Western Cape	507	525	520	483	510	27	4	5,6	0,7
Eastern Cape	309	312	297	281	284	3	-25	1,1	-8,2
Northern Cape	55	48	43	38	39	1	-16	3,1	-28,3
Free State	174	164	161	174	150	-24	-24	-13,8	-13,9
KwaZulu-Natal	531	528	545	578	568	-10	37	-1,8	6,9
North West	164	171	182	183	177	-6	13	-3,5	7,7
Gauteng	1 032	1 006	1 092	1 052	1 044	-8	12	-0,8	1,1
Mpumalanga	247	233	251	271	276	4	28	1,5	11,4
Limpopo	278	282	270	330	315	-15	37	-4,5	13,4

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	982	992	986	966	1 023	57	40	5,9	4,1
Western Cape	135	137	172	163	148	-15	13	-9,2	9,7
Eastern Cape	67	86	82	77	84	7	17	9,5	24,9
Northern Cape	18	14	11	12	14	2	-4	21,4	-21,6
Free State	41	38	36	32	34	2	-7	5,5	-17,0
KwaZulu-Natal	186	191	177	183	227	43	41	23,7	22,0
North West	40	37	43	45	31	-14	-9	-31,1	-22,0
Gauteng	362	364	353	351	365	13	3	3,8	0,8
Mpumalanga	69	59	58	51	56	6	-13	10,9	-18,2
Limpopo	64	65	55	52	64	12	-1	23,4	-1,2
Finance	2 484	2 667	2 599	2 836	2 964	128	480	4,5	19,3
Western Cape	474	491	453	474	544	71	70	14,9	14,8
Eastern Cape	146	166	155	182	178	-4	32	-2,1	21,6
Northern Cape	28	42	31	31	33	3	5	9,5	18,2
Free State	63	82	74	74	85	12	22	15,7	34,7
KwaZulu-Natal	329	353	354	437	461	24	132	5,6	40,2
North West	98	112	108	131	136	5	38	3,7	39,3
Gauteng	1 084	1 142	1 161	1 218	1 224	6	139	0,5	12,9
Mpumalanga	130	136	120	138	156	18	27	13,2	20,6
Limpopo	130	142	142	152	145	-7	15	-4,9	11,2
Community and social services	3 727	3 902	3 965	4 084	3 913	-171	186	-4,2	5,0
Western Cape	535	564	587	601	576	-24	41	-4,1	7,7
Eastern Cape	373	397	416	426	372	-54	-1	-12,7	-0,2
Northern Cape	106	109	108	98	84	-14	-22	-14,1	-20,7
Free State	209	231	205	213	221	8	12	3,7	6,0
KwaZulu-Natal	589	593	634	660	658	-2	69	-0,2	11,7
North West	231	222	223	247	229	-18	-1	-7,2	-0,5
Gauteng	1 057	1 134	1 134	1 150	1 119	-31	62	-2,7	5,8
Mpumalanga	268	266	260	278	276	-3	8	-0,9	3,0
Limpopo	360	387	399	411	378	-34	18	-8,2	5,0

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 3.2: Employed by industry and province (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	1 142	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	18	-8	1,7	-0,7
Western Cape	145	140	165	163	179	16	34	9,6	23,3
Eastern Cape	101	81	99	105	94	-12	-7	-11,1	-7,0
Northern Cape	21	24	23	26	23	-3	1	-12,3	5,5
Free State	74	65	54	65	67	1	-7	1,8	-9,6
KwaZulu-Natal	219	199	201	205	199	-6	-20	-3,0	-9,0
North West	65	54	57	63	69	7	4	10,4	5,8
Gauteng	342	304	295	297	307	11	-35	3,6	-10,2
Mpumalanga	89	93	94	94	106	12	17	12,4	19,3
Limpopo	85	96	106	97	90	-6	5	-6,7	6,2

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 3.3: Employed by sector and industry – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Formal and informal sector (non-agricultural)	13 933	14 248	14 358	14 674	14 669	-5	736	0,0	5,3
Mining	436	413	444	409	446	37	9	9,0	2,1
Manufacturing	1 656	1 654	1 558	1 508	1 507	-1	-149	0,0	-9,0
Utilities	124	135	129	113	123	9	-2	8,4	-1,3
Construction	1 212	1 201	1 304	1 357	1 322	-36	110	-2,6	9,1
Trade	3 297	3 269	3 361	3 390	3 362	-28	65	-0,8	2,0
Transport	982	992	986	966	1 023	57	40	5,9	4,1
Finance	2 484	2 667	2 599	2 836	2 964	128	480	4,5	19,3
Community and social services	3 727	3 902	3 965	4 084	3 913	-171	186	-4,2	5,0
Other	15	15	12	10	10	-1	-5	-5,5	-31,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	10 977	11 186	11 329	11 616	11 488	-128	510	-1,1	4,6
Mining	427	402	431	404	441	37	15	9,3	3,5
Manufacturing	1 440	1 423	1 371	1 300	1 308	7	-132	0,6	-9,2
Utilities	120	128	120	108	113	5	-7	4,2	-6,2
Construction	753	747	808	930	822	-108	69	-11,6	9,2
Trade	2 177	2 133	2 204	2 192	2 162	-30	-15	-1,3	-0,7
Transport	641	637	675	631	645	14	4	2,2	0,6
Finance	2 162	2 319	2 290	2 521	2 642	121	480	4,8	22,2
Community and social services	3 245	3 383	3 418	3 519	3 347	-173	102	-4,9	3,1
Other	13	13	11	10	8	-2	-4	-20,7	-33,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 955	3 062	3 029	3 058	3 181	124	226	4,0	7,6
Mining	10	11	12	5	4	-1	-6	-13,6	-56,8
Manufacturing	216	231	187	207	200	-8	-16	-3,7	-7,6
Utilities	4	7	9	5	10	5	6	99,3	141,0
Construction	458	454	496	427	499	72	41	17,0	8,9
Trade	1 120	1 136	1 157	1 199	1 200	1	80	0,1	7,2
Transport	341	355	310	335	378	43	37	12,9	10,8
Finance	322	348	309	315	322	7	0	2,1	0,1
Community and social services	482	519	547	565	566	2	84	0,3	17,4
Other	2	3	2		2		0		-20,4
Agriculture	860	888	894	956	920	-35	60	-3,7	7,0
Private households	1 142	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	18	-8	1,7	-0,7

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 3.4: Employed by province and sector									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	10 977	11 186	11 329	11 616	11 488	-128	510	-1,1	4,6
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 955	3 062	3 029	3 058	3 181	124	226	4,0	7,6
Agriculture	860	888	894	956	920	-35	60	-3,7	7,0
Private households	1 142	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	18	-8	1,7	-0,7
Western Cape	2 596	2 658	2 711	2 734	2 757	23	161	0,8	6,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 963	1 971	2 030	1 972	1 985	13	22	0,7	1,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	265	296	316	361	359	-2	94	-0,5	35,4
Agriculture	223	251	200	238	234	-4	11	-1,8	5,0
Private households	145	140	165	163	179	16	34	9,6	23,3
Western Cape – Non-metro	932	953	951	989	969	-20	37	-2,0	4,0
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	567	561	630	586	590	4	24	0,7	4,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	83	101	80	126	95	-31	12	-24,6	14,4
Agriculture	212	235	189	220	224	4	12	1,7	5,6
Private households	70	56	52	57	60	3	-10	5,1	-14,1
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	1 664	1 704	1 760	1 745	1 788	43	123	2,5	7,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 396	1 411	1 399	1 386	1 394	9	-2	0,6	-0,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	182	194	237	235	264	29	82	12,5	45,1
Agriculture	11	15	11	18	10	-8	-1	-44,2	-5,7
Private households	75	84	113	106	119	13	44	12,1	57,9
Eastern Cape	1 380	1 421	1 444	1 459	1 348	-111	-32	-7,6	-2,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	839	882	878	908	848	-60	9	-6,6	1,0
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	351	368	346	310	310	0	-41	0,1	-11,6
Agriculture	89	90	121	136	96	-40	7	-29,4	7,9
Private households	101	81	99	105	94	-12	-7	-11,1	-7,0

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 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	770	774	824	849	761	-87	-9	-10,3	-1,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	400	433	459	468	410	-57	10	-12,3	2,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	223	214	204	195	206	12	-17	5,9	-7,4
Agriculture	80	81	105	121	84	-37	3	-30,9	3,9
Private households	66	47	56	65	61	-4	-5	-6,5	-8,2
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	223	265	266	253	261	7	38	2,9	16,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	155	182	168	170	179	10	25	5,6	16,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	48	66	73	60	60	-1	12	-1,0	24,5
Agriculture	5	4	6	7	9	2	5	24,9	99,4
Private households	16	14	18	16	12	-3	-3	-21,7	-21,2
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	387	381	354	357	326	-31	-61	-8,7	-15,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	284	267	251	270	258	-12	-26	-4,5	-9,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	80	89	69	54	44	-10	-36	-19,3	-45,1
Agriculture	4	5	9	8	4	-5	-1	-55,6	-15,8
Private households	18	20	25	24	20	-4	2	-16,4	9,6
Northern Cape	336	339	322	328	327	-2	-9	-0,5	-2,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	230	246	235	224	212	-12	-18	-5,3	-7,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	33	29	26	27	35	8	2	30,0	6,1
Agriculture	52	41	38	52	58	5	6	10,0	11,1
Private households	21	24	23	26	23	-3	1	-12,3	5,5
Free State	794	790	730	727	742	15	-52	2,0	-6,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	471	490	456	440	457	17	-14	3,9	-2,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	160	153	149	157	145	-13	-15	-8,0	-9,4
Agriculture	90	82	71	65	73	9	-17	13,5	-18,5
Private households	74	65	54	65	67	1	-7	1,8	-9,6

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 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	556	549	503	509	524	15	-31	3,0	-5,7
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	301	317	288	283	297	14	-5	4,9	-1,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	107	108	105	117	110	-7	3	-6,0	2,6
Agriculture	86	79	69	62	69	7	-17	11,6	-19,7
Private households	61	45	41	47	48	1	-13	2,1	-20,6
Free State – Mangaung	238	241	228	218	217	0	-21	-0,2	-8,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	169	173	168	157	160	3	-9	2,2	-5,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	53	45	44	40	35	-6	-18	-13,9	-33,8
Agriculture	4	3	2	3	4	2	0	60,7	9,3
Private households	13	20	13	18	18	0	5	1,1	43,3
KwaZulu-Natal	2 541	2 594	2 642	2 794	2 856	62	315	2,2	12,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 780	1 789	1 838	1 927	1 888	-40	107	-2,1	6,0
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	412	462	455	512	616	104	204	20,3	49,6
Agriculture	130	143	148	150	153	4	24	2,5	18,1
Private households	219	199	201	205	199	-6	-20	-3,0	-9,0
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	1 310	1 374	1 411	1 574	1 593	18	283	1,2	21,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	829	858	892	973	951	-22	122	-2,3	14,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	247	273	267	340	384	45	137	13,2	55,4
Agriculture	126	137	139	138	145	7	19	5,3	14,9
Private households	108	108	114	124	113	-12	5	-9,3	5,0
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	1 231	1 220	1 231	1 219	1 263	44	33	3,6	2,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	951	932	946	954	937	-17	-14	-1,8	-1,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	164	190	188	172	231	59	67	34,4	40,8
Agriculture	4	7	9	12	8	-4	5	-29,6	129,9
Private households	111	92	88	81	86	5	-25	6,7	-22,6

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 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	881	877	881	942	912	-30	31	-3,2	3,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	615	612	634	685	629	-56	15	-8,1	2,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	156	165	152	143	160	17	4	11,9	2,5
Agriculture	44	45	39	51	53	2	8	3,3	18,8
Private households	65	54	57	63	69	7	4	10,4	5,8
Gauteng	4 905	4 984	4 988	5 019	5 034	15	130	0,3	2,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3 595	3 745	3 802	3 923	3 920	-3	325	-0,1	9,0
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	934	904	862	761	769	8	-165	1,0	-17,7
Agriculture	33	32	28	39	38	-1	5	-1,5	14,5
Private households	342	304	295	297	307	11	-35	3,6	-10,2
Gauteng – Non-metro	572	607	596	582	627	45	54	7,7	9,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	399	438	444	418	453	35	54	8,4	13,6
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	106	104	90	103	122	19	15	18,3	14,5
Agriculture	18	15	10	18	20	3	2	14,2	12,9
Private households	49	50	52	43	31	-12	-18	-27,3	-36,5
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1 181	1 173	1 193	1 244	1 228	-16	47	-1,3	3,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	864	877	894	976	959	-17	95	-1,7	11,0
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	243	232	237	198	192	-6	-52	-3,1	-21,2
Agriculture	7	5	7	11	5	-6	-2	-56,9	-31,9
Private households	68	59	55	59	73	14	5	23,1	7,5
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	1 862	1 934	1 928	1 949	1 909	-40	47	-2,0	2,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 320	1 410	1 437	1 498	1 471	-27	151	-1,8	11,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	405	409	368	325	322	-4	-83	-1,2	-20,6
Agriculture	1	2	3	1	2	0	0	5,7	28,3
Private households	136	113	121	124	115	-9	-21	-7,0	-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 3.4: Employed by province and sector (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	1 289	1 270	1 271	1 245	1 270	25	-19	2,0	-1,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 012	1 020	1 028	1 030	1 036	6	24	0,6	2,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	180	159	167	135	134	-1	-46	-0,7	-25,5
Agriculture	7	9	9	9	11	3	4	34,2	60,7
Private households	90	82	67	71	89	18	-1	24,7	-1,6
Mpumalanga	1 186	1 141	1 158	1 202	1 250	48	64	4,0	5,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	702	663	648	682	725	42	22	6,2	3,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	303	304	316	339	333	-6	30	-1,7	9,8
Agriculture	92	81	101	87	86	0	-5	-0,5	-5,8
Private households	89	93	94	94	106	12	17	12,4	19,3
Limpopo	1 317	1 388	1 469	1 539	1 498	-40	182	-2,6	13,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	783	788	808	855	825	-31	41	-3,6	5,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	341	381	406	449	455	6	114	1,4	33,3
Agriculture	107	124	149	138	129	-9	21	-6,8	19,9
Private households	85	96	106	97	90	-6	5	-6,7	6,2

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 3.5: Employed by sex and occupation – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Manager	1 537	1 356	1 153	1 105	1 481	376	-57	34,0	-3,7
Professional	1 077	1 218	1 261	1 354	1 341	-13	263	-1,0	24,4
Technician	1 477	1 476	1 472	1 444	1 441	-3	-36	-0,2	-2,4
Clerk	1 591	1 747	1 857	1 889	1 727	-162	136	-8,6	8,6
Sales and services	2 625	2 706	2 824	2 953	2 862	-91	237	-3,1	9,0
Skilled agriculture	88	68	51	76	63	-13	-25	-17,3	-28,8
Craft and related trade	1 664	1 724	1 633	1 717	1 693	-24	29	-1,4	1,7
Plant and machine operator	1 281	1 274	1 263	1 408	1 323	-85	42	-6,0	3,3
Elementary	3 722	3 824	3 982	3 935	3 912	-23	189	-0,6	5,1
Domestic worker	863	797	844	860	876	17	13	2,0	1,5
Women	6 980	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	-80	449	-1,1	6,4
Manager	525	440	378	371	518	146	-7	39,4	-1,4
Professional	496	560	601	713	696	-17	200	-2,4	40,4
Technician	838	847	792	796	779	-17	-60	-2,2	-7,1
Clerk	1 131	1 242	1 254	1 329	1 219	-110	88	-8,3	7,7
Sales and services	1 232	1 282	1 391	1 443	1 403	-40	171	-2,8	13,8
Skilled agriculture	18	11	8	16	21	5	3	32,2	13,7
Craft and related trade	211	222	200	216	189	-27	-23	-12,7	-10,7
Plant and machine operator	152	163	139	155	146	-9	-6	-5,9	-3,7
Elementary	1 554	1 585	1 598	1 648	1 629	-19	75	-1,1	4,8
Domestic worker	817	748	794	820	830	10	13	1,3	1,6
Men	8 955	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	58	340	0,6	3,8
Manager	1 012	916	776	733	963	230	-49	31,3	-4,9
Professional	581	659	660	641	645	4	63	0,6	10,9
Technician	639	629	680	648	663	14	24	2,2	3,7
Clerk	460	506	602	560	508	-52	49	-9,2	10,6
Sales and services	1 393	1 424	1 433	1 510	1 459	-51	66	-3,4	4,8
Skilled agriculture	70	57	43	60	42	-18	-28	-30,4	-40,0
Craft and related trade	1 453	1 503	1 433	1 501	1 505	3	52	0,2	3,6
Plant and machine operator	1 129	1 111	1 124	1 253	1 177	-76	47	-6,0	4,2
Elementary	2 168	2 239	2 384	2 287	2 283	-4	114	-0,2	5,3
Domestic worker	47	49	50	40	46	6	0	15,7	-0,5

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Employee	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Employer	882	942	926	707	860	153	-22	21,7	-2,5
Own-account worker	1 595	1 667	1 665	1 653	1 687	35	92	2,1	5,8
Unpaid household member	101	114	99	78	92	14	-9	17,9	-9,1
Women	6 980	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	-80	449	-1,1	6,4
Employee	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Employer	198	213	235	184	216	31	17	17,0	8,7
Own-account worker	622	688	675	728	725	-3	103	-0,5	16,6
Unpaid household member	61	59	51	42	51	9	-11	21,1	-17,2
Men	8 955	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	58	340	0,6	3,8
Employee	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Employer	684	729	691	523	644	122	-39	23,3	-5,7
Own-account worker	973	979	990	924	962	38	-11	4,1	-1,1
Unpaid household member	40	55	49	36	41	5	1	14,1	3,4

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 3.7: Employed by sex and usual hours of work – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Working less than 15 hours per week	525	582	481	530	461	-70	-65	-13,1	-12,3
Working 15–29 hours per week	1 062	1 165	1 165	1 174	1 114	-60	52	-5,1	4,9
Working 30–39 hours per week	1 018	1 090	1 196	1 213	1 208	-4	190	-0,4	18,7
Working 40–45 hours per week	8 920	9 008	9 142	9 274	9 238	-36	318	-0,4	3,6
Working more than 45 hours per week	4 410	4 347	4 359	4 553	4 702	150	293	3,3	6,6
Women	6 980	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	-80	449	-1,1	6,4
Working less than 15 hours per week	264	293	266	287	235	-52	-29	-18,2	-11,0
Working 15–29 hours per week	688	732	707	711	708	-2	21	-0,3	3,0
Working 30–39 hours per week	587	611	671	721	678	-43	91	-5,9	15,5
Working 40–45 hours per week	4 020	4 061	4 100	4 258	4 249	-8	229	-0,2	5,7
Working more than 45 hours per week	1 421	1 403	1 412	1 532	1 558	26	137	1,7	9,7
Men	8 955	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	58	340	0,6	3,8
Working less than 15 hours per week	262	288	215	243	226	-17	-36	-7,1	-13,7
Working 15–29 hours per week	374	433	458	464	405	-58	32	-12,6	8,4
Working 30–39 hours per week	431	480	525	492	530	38	99	7,7	23,0
Working 40–45 hours per week	4 899	4 946	5 042	5 017	4 989	-28	90	-0,6	1,8
Working more than 45 hours per week	2 989	2 944	2 946	3 021	3 144	124	155	4,1	5,2

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Yes	6 215	6 211	6 039	6 295	6 241	-53	26	-0,8	0,4
No	6 730	6 861	7 184	7 632	7 373	-259	644	-3,4	9,6
Don't know	411	398	432	380	469	89	58	23,3	14,0
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Yes	2 792	2 750	2 651	2 802	2 797	-4	6	-0,2	0,2
No	3 131	3 230	3 375	3 586	3 440	-147	309	-4,1	9,9
Don't know	176	162	173	166	200	34	25	20,7	14,0
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Yes	3 424	3 461	3 388	3 493	3 444	-49	20	-1,4	0,6
No	3 599	3 631	3 809	4 046	3 934	-112	335	-2,8	9,3
Don't know	236	237	259	215	269	54	33	25,3	14,0
Entitled to any paid leave									
Both sexes	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Yes	8 827	8 978	9 007	9 504	9 153	-351	326	-3,7	3,7
No	4 345	4 309	4 422	4 616	4 718	102	373	2,2	8,6
Don't know	184	184	228	187	213	25	29	13,6	15,5
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Yes	4 055	4 067	4 074	4 413	4 233	-180	178	-4,1	4,4
No	1 962	1 993	2 037	2 067	2 119	52	157	2,5	8,0
Don't know	82	81	88	74	86	12	5	15,9	5,5
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Yes	4 773	4 911	4 933	5 092	4 921	-171	148	-3,4	3,1
No	2 383	2 316	2 384	2 549	2 599	50	216	2,0	9,1
Don't know	102	102	139	113	126	14	24	12,1	23,4

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 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Yes	9 635	9 742	9 838	10 168	9 973	-195	338	-1,9	3,5
No	3 551	3 549	3 593	3 953	3 892	-61	340	-1,5	9,6
Don't know	170	179	224	187	219	32	49	17,3	29,0
Women									
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Yes	4 415	4 453	4 443	4 733	4 615	-119	200	-2,5	4,5
No	1 610	1 610	1 670	1 747	1 733	-14	123	-0,8	7,6
Don't know	73	78	86	73	90	16	17	22,3	23,2
Men									
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Yes	5 220	5 290	5 395	5 434	5 358	-76	138	-1,4	2,6
No	1 941	1 939	1 923	2 206	2 159	-47	218	-2,1	11,2
Don't know	97	100	139	113	129	16	32	14,0	33,3
Entitled to maternity/paternity leave									
Both sexes	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Yes	7 353	7 414	7 441	7 741	7 633	-109	280	-1,4	3,8
No	5 652	5 720	5 803	6 187	6 019	-168	367	-2,7	6,5
Don't know	351	336	411	379	432	53	81	14,0	23,1
Women									
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Yes	3 580	3 576	3 582	3 780	3 742	-38	162	-1,0	4,5
No	2 388	2 445	2 473	2 631	2 538	-93	150	-3,5	6,3
Don't know	130	120	144	143	157	14	27	10,0	21,0
Men									
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Yes	3 773	3 838	3 859	3 961	3 890	-71	117	-1,8	3,1
No	3 264	3 275	3 330	3 557	3 481	-75	217	-2,1	6,7
Don't know	221	216	267	236	274	39	54	16,4	24,3

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 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Yes	8 170	8 303	8 534	8 775	8 622	-153	452	-1,7	5,5
No	4 877	4 842	4 765	5 193	5 102	-91	225	-1,8	4,6
Don't know	310	325	357	339	359	20	50	6,0	16,1
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Yes	3 561	3 626	3 740	3 902	3 810	-91	249	-2,3	7,0
No	2 400	2 374	2 295	2 499	2 465	-34	65	-1,4	2,7
Don't know	137	141	165	153	162	9	25	5,8	18,6
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Yes	4 609	4 676	4 794	4 873	4 812	-62	203	-1,3	4,4
No	2 477	2 468	2 470	2 694	2 637	-57	161	-2,1	6,5
Don't know	173	185	193	186	197	11	24	6,1	14,1
Medical aid benefits									
Both sexes	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Yes	4 123	4 095	4 027	4 107	4 057	-50	-66	-1,2	-1,6
No	9 019	9 138	9 387	9 969	9 804	-165	785	-1,7	8,7
Don't know	215	237	242	232	223	-9	8	-4,0	3,7
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Yes	1 928	1 895	1 848	1 941	1 890	-52	-38	-2,7	-2,0
No	4 075	4 150	4 248	4 527	4 460	-67	385	-1,5	9,4
Don't know	95	97	103	86	88	2	-8	2,2	-8,0
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Yes	2 195	2 200	2 179	2 165	2 167	2	-28	0,1	-1,3
No	4 944	4 988	5 139	5 442	5 344	-98	400	-1,8	8,1
Don't know	119	140	139	146	135	-11	16	-7,6	13,1

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 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Yes	7 396	7 510	7 521	7 829	7 866	37	470	0,5	6,4
No	5 544	5 588	5 687	6 102	5 788	-314	244	-5,2	4,4
Don't know	416	372	448	376	430	54	13	14,2	3,2
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Yes	3 279	3 356	3 303	3 527	3 542	15	263	0,4	8,0
No	2 636	2 645	2 697	2 888	2 715	-173	79	-6,0	3,0
Don't know	183	141	199	139	180	41	-3	29,7	-1,6
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Yes	4 117	4 154	4 218	4 302	4 324	22	207	0,5	5,0
No	2 908	2 943	2 990	3 214	3 072	-141	165	-4,4	5,7
Don't know	234	232	249	238	250	12	17	5,2	7,1
Condition of employment									
Both sexes	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-224	727	-1,6	5,4
Written contract	11 016	11 177	11 350	11 712	11 473	-239	457	-2,0	4,1
Verbal agreement	2 340	2 294	2 306	2 595	2 611	15	271	0,6	11,6
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	339	-1,8	5,6
Written contract	5 090	5 197	5 235	5 493	5 364	-129	274	-2,3	5,4
Verbal agreement	1 008	944	964	1 061	1 073	12	65	1,2	6,5
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Written contract	5 926	5 980	6 115	6 219	6 109	-110	183	-1,8	3,1
Verbal agreement	1 332	1 349	1 342	1 534	1 538	3	205	0,2	15,4

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 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-223	728	-1,6	5,5
Limited duration	1 931	1 996	2 163	2 286	2 170	-116	239	-5,1	12,4
Permanent nature	8 176	8 112	8 136	8 427	8 380	-47	204	-0,6	2,5
Unspecified duration	3 249	3 362	3 357	3 593	3 533	-60	284	-1,7	8,7
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	340	-1,8	5,6
Limited duration	968	1 042	1 104	1 167	1 093	-74	125	-6,3	12,9
Permanent nature	3 664	3 625	3 591	3 839	3 805	-34	141	-0,9	3,8
Unspecified duration	1 465	1 474	1 504	1 548	1 539	-9	74	-0,6	5,1
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Limited duration	962	954	1 059	1 119	1 077	-42	115	-3,8	12,0
Permanent nature	4 512	4 487	4 545	4 588	4 575	-13	63	-0,3	1,4
Unspecified duration	1 784	1 888	1 852	2 046	1 994	-52	210	-2,5	11,8
Trade union membership (both sexes)									
Both sexes	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-223	728	-1,6	5,5
Yes	3 901	3 927	3 816	3 820	3 787	-33	-114	-0,9	-2,9
No	8 979	9 079	9 250	9 929	9 758	-171	779	-1,7	8,7
Don't know	476	464	590	557	539	-18	63	-3,2	13,2
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	340	-1,8	5,6
Yes	1 731	1 723	1 684	1 719	1 765	46	34	2,7	2,0
No	4 153	4 231	4 265	4 621	4 457	-164	304	-3,5	7,3
Don't know	214	188	250	215	215	0	1	0,0	0,5
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Yes	2 170	2 205	2 131	2 102	2 022	-80	-148	-3,8	-6,8
No	4 826	4 848	4 985	5 309	5 300	-9	474	-0,2	9,8
Don't know	262	276	340	343	324	-19	62	-5,5	23,7

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 (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	13 356	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	-223	728	-1,6	5,5
Individual and employer	1 132	1 068	980	1 154	1 224	70	92	6,1	8,1
Union and employer	3 001	2 944	2 887	2 802	2 735	-67	-266	-2,4	-8,9
Bargaining council	1 186	1 324	1 360	1 396	1 360	-36	174	-2,6	14,7
Employer only	7 276	7 294	7 684	8 145	7 896	-249	620	-3,1	8,5
No regular increment	698	785	668	764	790	26	92	3,4	13,2
Other	64	54	77	46	79	33	15	71,7	23,4
Women	6 098	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	-116	340	-1,8	5,6
Individual and employer	493	466	393	475	559	84	66	17,7	13,4
Union and employer	1 257	1 235	1 233	1 225	1 224	-1	-33	-0,1	-2,6
Bargaining council	603	668	691	714	674	-40	71	-5,6	11,8
Employer only	3 392	3 388	3 518	3 760	3 603	-157	211	-4,2	6,2
No regular increment	319	365	327	359	343	-16	24	-4,5	7,5
Other	35	20	38	21	34	13	-1	61,9	-2,9
Men	7 258	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	-107	388	-1,4	5,3
Individual and employer	639	603	588	679	665	-14	26	-2,1	4,1
Union and employer	1 745	1 709	1 654	1 578	1 511	-67	-234	-4,2	-13,4
Bargaining council	583	656	669	682	685	3	102	0,4	17,5
Employer only	3 883	3 907	4 166	4 385	4 293	-92	410	-2,1	10,6
No regular increment	379	420	341	405	447	42	68	10,4	17,9
Other	29	34	39	24	45	21	16	87,5	55,2

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 3.9: Time-related underemployment – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	704	799	716	737	678	-59	-27	-8,0	-3,8
Women	394	448	378	402	386	-16	-8	-3,9	-2,1
Men	310	351	338	335	292	-43	-18	-12,9	-5,9
As percentage of the labour force (both sexes)	3,0	3,3	2,9	3,0	2,8	-0,2	-0,2		
Women	3,6	4,1	3,4	3,5	3,4	-0,1	-0,2		
Men	2,4	2,7	2,6	2,5	2,2	-0,3	-0,2		
As percentage of total employment (both sexes)	4,4	4,9	4,4	4,4	4,1	-0,3	-0,3		
Women	5,7	6,3	5,3	5,3	5,2	-0,1	-0,5		
Men	3,5	3,9	3,7	3,6	3,1	-0,5	-0,4		
Industry	704	799	716	737	678	-59	-27	-8,0	-3,8
Agriculture	19	33	21	27	14	-12	-5	-46,8	-26,9
Mining	1	1	1	0	1	0	-1	69,2	-42,7
Manufacturing	23	38	34	28	20	-8	-3	-29,2	-13,2
Utilities			1	1					
Construction	74	105	107	85	74	-11	0	-13,0	0,2
Trade	120	113	106	113	133	20	13	18,0	10,5
Transport	18	20	14	25	9	-16	-10	-64,7	-51,7
Finance	75	100	74	77	67	-10	-8	-12,7	-11,0
Community and social services	182	196	171	182	164	-18	-18	-9,8	-9,8
Private households	191	194	187	198	195	-3	5	-1,6	2,4
Occupation	704	799	716	737	678	-59	-27	-8,0	-3,8
Manager	20	15	6	13	15	2	-5	14,4	-26,2
Professional	6	15	6	16	11	-5	5	-31,7	79,8
Technician	36	44	35	35	25	-10	-11	-29,1	-31,5
Clerk	22	27	16	14	18	4	-4	30,2	-19,6
Sales and services	97	102	90	93	91	-2	-6	-1,8	-6,3
Skilled agriculture	3	4	2	6	3	-3	0	-47,2	5,5
Craft and related trade	74	86	100	77	72	-5	-2	-6,0	-2,7
Plant and machine operator	13	22	21	24	8	-17	-6	-68,9	-42,4
Elementary	296	340	315	319	291	-28	-5	-8,9	-1,8
Domestic worker	135	144	125	139	144	5	9	3,3	6,3

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 4: Characteristics of the unemployed - South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Job losers	2 044	2 033	2 114	2 205	2 230	25	186	1,1	9,1
Job leavers	204	198	238	271	267	-4	64	-1,4	31,2
New entrants	3 529	3 647	3 522	3 293	3 366	74	-162	2,2	-4,6
Re-entrants	231	293	288	306	329	23	98	7,7	42,3
Other	1 746	1 762	1 759	1 774	1 702	-72	-44	-4,1	-2,5
Unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Long-term unemployment (1 year and more)	6 072	6 121	6 127	5 911	6 085	175	13	3,0	0,2
Short-term unemployment (less than 1 year)	1 681	1 811	1 795	1 939	1 810	-128	129	-6,6	7,7
Long-term unemployment (%)									
Proportion of the labour force	25,6	25,4	25,2	24,0	24,7	0,7	-0,9		
Proportion of the unemployed	78,3	77,2	77,3	75,3	77,1	1,8	-1,2		
Those who have worked in the past 5 years									
Previous occupation	2 479	2 524	2 640	2 782	2 827	45	348	1,6	14,0
Manager	58	74	59	52	74	22	16	41,7	27,2
Professional	56	59	57	73	70	-3	14	-4,4	24,7
Technician	126	139	136	165	123	-42	-3	-25,5	-2,5
Clerk	292	302	279	294	311	17	19	5,7	6,4
Sales and services	538	548	568	546	603	58	65	10,6	12,1
Skilled agriculture	8	3	7	9	7	-2	-1	-21,6	-9,4
Craft and related trade	334	363	372	399	406	6	72	1,6	21,4
Plant and machine operator	162	163	172	175	196	21	34	12,1	20,7
Elementary	742	724	836	897	885	-12	143	-1,4	19,2
Domestic worker	161	146	155	171	151	-19	-10	-11,4	-6,0
Other	2	3	1	2	2	0	0	-1,3	28,8

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)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Previous industry	2 479	2 524	2 640	2 782	2 827	45	348	1,6	14,0
Agriculture	132	144	162	161	157	-4	25	-2,2	19,0
Mining	45	43	37	55	59	4	14	7,0	31,9
Manufacturing	224	228	255	248	274	26	49	10,4	22,0
Utilities	23	11	13	18	13	-5	-10	-28,5	-42,5
Construction	344	368	390	412	425	13	80	3,1	23,3
Trade	507	516	542	555	577	22	70	3,9	13,8
Transport	128	133	165	150	143	-7	15	-4,5	12,0
Finance	310	362	322	379	347	-32	37	-8,5	12,0
Community and social services	535	501	534	547	597	50	62	9,2	11,6
Private households	229	213	221	246	231	-15	1	-6,2	0,6
Other	2	7	1	12	5	-7	3	-58,9	160,1

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									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
Student	6 225	5 993	6 097	6 192	6 228	35	2	0,6	0,0
Home-maker	2 597	2 565	2 525	2 395	2 464	69	-133	2,9	-5,1
Illness/disability	1 660	1 623	1 669	1 652	1 701	49	41	2,9	2,5
Too old/young to work	1 793	1 762	1 753	1 691	1 688	-3	-105	-0,2	-5,9
Discouraged work seekers	3 363	3 276	3 182	3 156	3 049	-107	-314	-3,4	-9,3
Other	1 136	1 259	1 252	1 206	1 274	68	137	5,6	12,1
Inactivity rate by age (Both sexes)	41,5	40,6	40,4	39,8	40,0	0,2	-1,5		
15-24 yrs	74,3	72,4	72,8	73,3	73,6	0,3	-0,7		
25-54 yrs	25,5	25,1	24,8	24,0	24,2	0,2	-1,3		
55-64 yrs	60,0	58,9	58,5	56,8	56,8	0,0	-3,2		
Inactivity rate by age (Women)	47,0	46,2	45,7	44,8	45,2	0,4	-1,8		
15-24 yrs	76,2	74,4	74,8	75,1	75,6	0,5	-0,6		
25-54 yrs	31,7	31,7	30,9	29,6	30,3	0,7	-1,4		
55-64 yrs	67,4	65,3	64,4	63,0	62,2	-0,8	-5,2		
Inactivity rate by age (Men)	35,9	34,8	35,1	34,8	34,7	-0,1	-1,2		
15-24 yrs	72,3	70,4	70,8	71,5	71,6	0,1	-0,7		
25-54 yrs	19,3	18,5	18,8	18,5	18,2	-0,3	-1,1		
55-64 yrs	51,0	51,0	51,3	49,2	50,1	0,9	-0,9		

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 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Age group of the employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
15-24 yrs	1 027	1 069	1 095	1 150	1 098	-52	71	-4,5	6,9
25-34 yrs	4 564	4 550	4 629	4 811	4 766	-45	202	-0,9	4,4
35-44 yrs	5 015	5 047	5 069	5 099	5 200	101	185	2,0	3,7
45-54 yrs	3 849	3 951	3 958	4 016	3 988	-28	139	-0,7	3,6
55-64 yrs	1 480	1 574	1 595	1 669	1 672	3	192	0,2	13,0
Age group of the unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
15-24 yrs	1 606	1 754	1 691	1 586	1 607	21	1	1,3	0,0
25-34 yrs	3 030	3 124	3 056	2 987	3 053	66	23	2,2	0,8
35-44 yrs	1 911	1 949	1 996	2 083	1 996	-87	85	-4,2	4,5
45-54 yrs	978	916	984	989	1 024	35	46	3,6	4,7
55-64 yrs	228	190	195	204	215	11	-13	5,4	-5,5
Age group of the not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
15-24 yrs	7 595	7 409	7 448	7 503	7 541	38	-54	0,5	-0,7
25-34 yrs	2 905	2 846	2 857	2 761	2 754	-7	-151	-0,3	-5,2
35-44 yrs	1 944	1 920	1 897	1 826	1 855	29	-88	1,6	-4,5
45-54 yrs	1 764	1 774	1 750	1 736	1 776	40	12	2,3	0,7
55-64 yrs	2 566	2 530	2 526	2 465	2 476	10	-91	0,4	-3,5
Highest level of education of the employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
No schooling	171	179	183	189	173	-16	2	-8,6	1,1
Less than primary completed	675	687	692	673	682	9	7	1,4	1,1
Primary completed	474	523	494	481	498	16	23	3,4	4,9
Secondary not completed	4 847	4 988	5 066	5 100	5 051	-49	204	-1,0	4,2
Secondary completed	5 847	5 842	5 860	6 093	6 082	-10	235	-0,2	4,0
Tertiary	3 696	3 749	3 859	3 984	3 965	-19	269	-0,5	7,3
Other	225	224	193	224	272	47	47	21,2	21,0

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

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
No schooling	65	55	64	64	65	1	0	1,7	0,2
Less than primary completed	289	258	290	304	312	8	23	2,6	8,0
Primary completed	255	266	284	287	254	-32	0	-11,3	-0,1
Secondary not completed	3 310	3 268	3 338	3 413	3 391	-22	81	-0,6	2,5
Secondary completed	3 060	3 231	3 187	3 007	3 098	91	38	3,0	1,2
Tertiary	720	798	708	725	727	2	7	0,3	1,0
Other	56	56	50	49	48	-1	-7	-2,0	-13,1
Highest level of education of the not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
No schooling	486	528	484	506	504	-2	18	-0,3	3,8
Less than primary completed	1 256	1 143	1 190	1 202	1 223	21	-33	1,8	-2,6
Primary completed	991	822	892	915	990	75	-1	8,2	-0,1
Secondary not completed	8 855	8 609	8 555	8 558	8 644	86	-210	1,0	-2,4
Secondary completed	4 270	4 401	4 381	4 148	4 025	-123	-245	-3,0	-5,7
Tertiary	742	782	783	781	787	5	45	0,7	6,1
Other	175	193	193	182	230	48	55	26,6	31,2
Employed	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Attending educational institution	262	272	307	329	318	-11	56	-3,3	21,3
Not attending educational institution	15 672	15 920	16 039	16 416	16 405	-11	733	-0,1	4,7
Unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Attending educational institution	158	157	140	111	165	54	8	49,0	5,0
Not attending educational institution	7 596	7 775	7 782	7 738	7 730	-8	134	-0,1	1,8
Not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
Attending educational institution	6 066	5 742	5 957	6 053	6 058	5	-8	0,1	-0,1
Not attending educational institution	10 708	10 737	10 521	10 239	10 345	106	-363	1,0	-3,4

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

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	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	15 934	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	-22	789	-0,1	4,9
Married	5 654	5 908	5 818	5 937	5 922	-15	268	-0,2	4,7
Living together like husband and wife	2 091	2 001	1 997	2 052	2 147	95	56	4,6	2,7
Widow/widower	359	388	398	405	397	-8	37	-2,0	10,4
Divorced or separated	455	417	447	477	497	19	42	4,1	9,3
Never married	7 375	7 478	7 685	7 874	7 761	-113	385	-1,4	5,2
Current marital status of the unemployed	7 753	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	46	142	0,6	1,8
Married	1 027	960	974	997	1 017	20	-10	2,0	-1,0
Living together like husband and wife	839	808	808	782	820	39	-19	5,0	-2,3
Widow/widower	78	80	99	93	76	-17	-2	-17,9	-2,5
Divorced or separated	121	125	114	123	101	-23	-21	-18,4	-17,0
Never married	5 687	5 960	5 928	5 854	5 881	27	193	0,5	3,4
Current marital status of the not economically active	16 774	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	111	-371	0,7	-2,2
Married	2 797	2 768	2 768	2 663	2 650	-13	-147	-0,5	-5,3
Living together like husband and wife	981	935	938	912	927	15	-54	1,6	-5,5
Widow/widower	630	631	608	584	548	-36	-82	-6,2	-13,0
Divorced or separated	288	280	273	256	267	11	-20	4,3	-7,0
Never married	12 080	11 864	11 891	11 877	12 011	134	-69	1,1	-0,6

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

Table 7: Profile of those not in employment education or training - South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Both sexes	18 304	18 512	18 303	17 978	18 075	98	-229	0,5	-1,3
Women	10 242	10 354	10 263	9 954	10 024	70	-218	0,7	-2,1
Men	8 062	8 158	8 040	8 024	8 051	27	-11	0,3	-0,1
Age group	18 304	18 512	18 303	17 978	18 075	98	-229	0,5	-1,3
15-24 yrs	3 440	3 697	3 496	3 344	3 377	33	-63	1,0	-1,8
25-34 yrs	5 546	5 583	5 527	5 390	5 412	21	-135	0,4	-2,4
35-44 yrs	3 805	3 834	3 846	3 867	3 810	-57	5	-1,5	0,1
45-54 yrs	2 725	2 680	2 718	2 713	2 792	80	67	2,9	2,5
55-64 yrs	2 788	2 718	2 716	2 664	2 685	21	-104	0,8	-3,7
Population groups	18 304	18 512	18 303	17 978	18 075	98	-229	0,5	-1,3
Black/African	15 745	16 035	15 771	15 489	15 505	16	-240	0,1	-1,5
Coloured	1 487	1 430	1 463	1 454	1 478	24	-9	1,6	-0,6
Indian/Asian	373	375	404	374	383	9	10	2,4	2,7
White	700	672	665	661	710	49	10	7,5	1,4
South Africa	18 304	18 512	18 303	17 978	18 075	98	-229	0,5	-1,3
Western Cape	1 746	1 720	1 678	1 703	1 678	-26	-68	-1,5	-3,9
Eastern Cape	2 253	2 260	2 221	2 250	2 367	118	114	5,2	5,1
Northern Cape	397	393	404	397	397	-1	0	-0,1	0,0
Free State	805	834	908	904	879	-25	74	-2,8	9,2
KwaZulu-Natal	3 654	3 741	3 715	3 543	3 461	-81	-192	-2,3	-5,3
North West	1 438	1 502	1 481	1 410	1 463	53	25	3,8	1,7
Gauteng	4 682	4 647	4 558	4 602	4 613	11	-69	0,2	-1,5
Mpumalanga	1 447	1 487	1 470	1 394	1 389	-5	-58	-0,4	-4,0
Limpopo	1 883	1 928	1 870	1 775	1 829	54	-55	3,1	-2,9

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
South Africa									
Subsistence farming	2 450	2 510	2 098	2 137	2 380	243	-70	11,4	-2,9
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	4 348	4 490	4 615	4 921	4 505	-416	157	-8,5	3,6
Produce other goods for household use	323	328	395	204	270	66	-53	32,5	-16,4
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	367	353	281	250	332	83	-35	33,1	-9,5
Hunting or fishing for household use	27	33	38	35	32	-3	4	-9,4	15,1
Involvement in at least one activity	5 962	6 076	5 945	6 298	6 158	-140	195	-2,2	3,3
Employed	1 588	1 677	1 613	1 863	1 827	-35	239	-1,9	15,1
Unemployed	1 436	1 473	1 437	1 560	1 518	-42	83	-2,7	5,8
Not economically active	2 939	2 926	2 896	2 875	2 812	-63	-127	-2,2	-4,3
Western Cape									
Subsistence farming	100	54	64	57	60	3	-40	5,2	-40,0
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	164	158	138	176	149	-27	-16	-15,5	-9,5
Produce other goods for household use	3	1			3		0		-1,3
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	2		1		1		-1		-54,1
Hunting or fishing for household use	2								
Involvement in at least one activity	271	213	198	229	210	-19	-62	-8,4	-22,7
Employed	115	90	92	119	123	4	8	3,0	7,0
Unemployed	83	62	62	67	53	-14	-30	-21,3	-35,8
Not economically active	74	61	44	42	34	-8	-40	-19,9	-54,2
Eastern Cape									
Subsistence farming	647	720	493	521	692	172	45	33,0	7,0
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	1 015	887	886	887	821	-67	-195	-7,5	-19,2
Produce other goods for household use	93	122	146	47	105	58	12	124,2	12,5
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	147	163	76	92	151	59	5	64,1	3,1
Hunting or fishing for household use	8	4	13	5	5	0	-3	-5,4	-38,4
Involvement in at least one activity	1 444	1 398	1 229	1 266	1 348	83	-96	6,5	-6,6
Employed	324	319	321	317	315	-2	-9	-0,5	-2,8
Unemployed	429	393	357	380	434	54	4	14,3	1,0
Not economically active	690	685	551	569	599	30	-91	5,3	-13,2

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 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Northern Cape									
Subsistence farming	20	22	22	15	16	0	-4	2,7	-21,8
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	88	123	136	128	99	-28	12	-22,2	13,4
Produce other goods for household use	1	2	2	2	0	-2	-1	-83,7	-67,0
Construction or major repairs to own or household'		0	1	4	0	-3		-88,0	
Hunting or fishing for household use	0	2	4	5	3	-3	2	-50,6	478,4
Involvement in at least one activity	102	138	149	143	115	-28	13	-19,6	12,9
Employed	24	31	37	47	29	-19	5	-39,9	20,7
Unemployed	26	47	34	28	22	-6	-5	-22,7	-17,7
Not economically active	52	60	78	67	65	-3	13	-4,1	24,9
Free State									
Subsistence farming	92	86	74	73	106	32	13	43,8	14,3
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	52	59	55	57	47	-10	-5	-17,1	-9,5
Produce other goods for household use	10	10	11	5	2	-3	-8	-65,7	-81,8
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	8	21	20	17	26	9	19	56,3	243,4
Hunting or fishing for household use	1	5	5	7	7	0	5	0,3	378,2
Involvement in at least one activity	143	150	134	140	160	21	18	14,7	12,3
Employed	59	68	47	47	57	10	-2	22,0	-2,9
Unemployed	41	38	46	47	47	0	6	-0,1	14,8
Not economically active	43	45	41	45	56	10	13	22,6	31,1
KwaZulu-Natal									
Subsistence farming	954	1 002	885	917	1 024	108	71	11,7	7,4
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	1 455	1 642	1 791	1 947	1 734	-213	280	-10,9	19,2
Produce other goods for household use	180	156	199	116	128	12	-52	10,2	-29,0
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	149	120	128	85	117	32	-32	37,6	-21,4
Hunting or fishing for household use	9	14	12	11	9	-2	0	-20,5	-0,3
Involvement in at least one activity	1 996	2 160	2 256	2 452	2 368	-83	373	-3,4	18,7
Employed	475	540	545	692	663	-30	187	-4,3	39,5
Unemployed	408	457	475	503	496	-7	88	-1,5	21,6
Not economically active	1 112	1 163	1 236	1 256	1 210	-46	97	-3,7	8,7

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 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
North West									
Subsistence farming	56	68	43	84	49	-35	-6	-41,3	-11,4
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	488	464	499	504	488	-16	0	-3,2	0,0
Produce other goods for household use	14	8	6	5	8	4	-6	75,3	-41,5
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	3	1	2	10	5	-5	2	-50,5	70,6
Hunting or fishing for household use				1	3	1		110,3	
Involvement in at least one activity	538	514	527	545	526	-18	-11	-3,4	-2,1
Employed	128	129	130	137	142	5	14	3,5	11,2
Unemployed	88	74	72	129	104	-25	16	-19,7	17,8
Not economically active	322	312	325	278	281	2	-41	0,8	-12,8
Gauteng									
Subsistence farming	68	73	59	38	40	2	-28	5,4	-40,5
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	128	125	118	227	195	-32	67	-13,9	52,0
Produce other goods for household use	2	5	4	2	3	1	1	84,1	39,8
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	14	15	14	8	6	-2	-8	-25,9	-58,6
Hunting or fishing for household use		3		1	1	0		-3,3	
Involvement in at least one activity	195	197	171	271	237	-33	42	-12,4	21,6
Employed	95	100	66	131	109	-23	14	-17,3	14,4
Unemployed	64	50	49	67	70	2	6	3,5	9,7
Not economically active	36	47	56	72	59	-13	22	-18,3	61,1
Mpumalanga									
Subsistence farming	166	136	158	179	157	-21	-8	-11,9	-5,1
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	428	497	497	474	500	26	72	5,4	16,8
Produce other goods for household use	15	20	23	25	20	-5	5	-18,1	33,1
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	3	7	6	10	6	-4	3	-36,4	84,1
Hunting or fishing for household use	3	4		3	4	1	1	27,9	55,7
Involvement in at least one activity	554	600	618	607	613	6	59	1,0	10,6
Employed	158	177	172	174	195	20	37	11,6	23,2
Unemployed	149	191	202	189	171	-18	23	-9,5	15,2
Not economically active	248	231	244	243	247	4	-1	1,7	-0,3

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.
Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 4: 2023

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2022	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Limpopo									
Subsistence farming	347	348	301	252	234	-18	-112	-7,1	-32,4
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	529	535	494	520	471	-49	-58	-9,4	-10,9
Produce other goods for household use	5	3	4	3	1	-2	-4	-61,6	-78,0
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	42	26	34	25	20	-5	-22	-20,8	-52,6
Hunting or fishing for household use	4	2	3	1	1	0	-3	-37,7	-85,4
Involvement in at least one activity	720	705	663	647	579	-67	-141	-10,4	-19,5
Employed	210	222	203	197	195	-1	-15	-0,7	-7,1
Unemployed	148	161	140	149	122	-27	-26	-18,0	-17,7
Not economically active	362	322	320	301	262	-39	-99	-13,0	-27,5

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	25	-216	266	0,84
Employed	0,7	0,7	-22	-228	185	0,84
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	0,9	0,9	-128	-335	79	0,22
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,1	2,2	124	-9	256	0,07
Agriculture	4,2	4,2	-35	-103	33	0,31
Private households	3,5	3,4	18	-47	84	0,58
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	46	-166	259	0,67
Not economically active	1,0	0,9	111	-130	352	0,37
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	3,9	-107	-292	77	0,25
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	218	34	403	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,4	0,2	-0,6	0,9	0,67
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,7	-0,2	-0,7	0,3	0,46
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,1	-0,7	0,5	0,64
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,8	-51	-216	115	0,55
Employed	1,1	1,0	-80	-224	65	0,28
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,5	1,3	-59	-195	76	0,39
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	3,0	3,4	-31	-108	46	0,43
Agriculture	7,5	7,0	-7	-47	33	0,73
Private households	4,1	3,8	18	-38	74	0,53
Unemployed	2,1	2,2	29	-107	165	0,67
Not economically active	1,0	1,0	115	-50	281	0,17
Discouraged work-seekers	4,4	4,4	-70	-200	60	0,29
Other (not economically active)	1,0	1,0	185	46	324	0,01
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,7	1,8	0,4	-0,6	1,4	0,43
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,1	1,0	-0,5	-1,2	0,2	0,16
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,8	-0,4	-1,2	0,4	0,31

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,6	75	-61	212	0,28
Employed	0,8	0,8	58	-79	195	0,40
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,0	1,2	-69	-211	73	0,34
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,8	2,5	155	59	250	0,00
Agriculture	4,1	4,7	-28	-78	22	0,27
Private households	7,4	7,2	0	-36	37	0,98
Unemployed	2,0	1,9	17	-123	158	0,81
Not economically active	1,2	1,2	-5	-141	132	0,95
Discouraged work-seekers	4,2	4,2	-38	-136	61	0,45
Other (not economically active)	1,2	1,2	33	-81	147	0,57
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,7	1,6	0,0	-1,0	0,9	0,93
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,8	0,1	-0,6	0,8	0,71
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,6	0,1	-0,5	0,8	0,67

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	25	-216	266	0,84
Employed	0,7	0,7	-22	-228	185	0,84
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	46	-166	259	0,67
Not economically active	1,0	0,9	111	-130	352	0,37
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,4	0,2	-0,6	0,9	0,67
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,7	-0,2	-0,7	0,3	0,46
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,1	-0,7	0,5	0,64
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,7	77	-145	300	0,50
Employed	0,8	0,8	43	-141	227	0,65
Unemployed	1,9	1,9	34	-160	228	0,73
Not economically active	1,1	1,0	61	-162	283	0,59
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,5	0,0	-0,8	0,8	0,94
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,8	0,0	-0,6	0,5	0,92
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,7	0,0	-0,7	0,7	0,97
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	1,3	-18	-80	44	0,57
Employed	1,9	1,7	-18	-88	52	0,61
Unemployed	4,0	5,7	0	-57	57	1,00
Not economically active	2,3	2,1	23	-39	85	0,46
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	5,3	0,2	-2,3	2,7	0,88
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,9	1,7	-0,6	-2,5	1,4	0,57
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,3	-0,6	-2,3	1,1	0,50

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,4	2,7	-18	-42	5	0,13
Employed	4,9	3,1	-15	-56	26	0,47
Unemployed	26,9	11,2	-3	-49	43	0,89
Not economically active	3,5	3,7	20	-3	44	0,09
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	27,4	11,0	-0,2	-7,4	7,0	0,96
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,9	3,1	-1,5	-5,4	2,4	0,44
Labour force participation rate	2,4	2,7	-1,9	-4,1	0,4	0,11
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,8	1,4	-16	-70	38	0,55
Employed	2,4	2,1	-32	-94	31	0,32
Unemployed	16,2	16,9	15	-23	54	0,44
Not economically active	3,8	3,0	7	-47	61	0,80
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	16,3	16,8	0,9	-1,2	2,9	0,40
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	2,1	-0,9	-3,2	1,3	0,42
Labour force participation rate	1,8	1,4	-0,4	-2,3	1,6	0,71

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	25	-216	266	0,84
Employed	0,7	0,7	-22	-228	185	0,84
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	46	-166	259	0,67
Not economically active	1,0	0,9	111	-130	352	0,37
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	3,9	-107	-292	77	0,25
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	218	34	403	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,4	0,2	-0,6	0,9	0,67
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,7	-0,2	-0,7	0,3	0,46
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,1	-0,7	0,5	0,64
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,7	1,3	32	-49	114	0,44
Employed	2,2	1,6	23	-70	115	0,63
Unemployed	7,4	6,7	9	-64	83	0,80
Not economically active	3,7	2,8	-14	-95	68	0,74
Discouraged work-seekers	12,8	13,1	22	-11	56	0,20
Other (not economically active)	3,3	2,9	-36	-110	39	0,35
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,8	6,1	0,1	-2,0	2,1	0,94
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,2	1,6	0,3	-1,6	2,1	0,79
Labour force participation rate	1,7	1,3	0,4	-1,2	2,0	0,64

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Western Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,9	2,5	-18	-80	44	0,56
Employed	3,4	2,8	-20	-75	35	0,48
Unemployed	7,3	11,1	2	-36	40	0,93
Not economically active	5,1	4,1	25	-37	87	0,43
Discouraged work-seekers	14,5	14,8	24	-6	54	0,12
Other (not economically active)	5,0	5,1	1	-51	53	0,97
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,3	10,4	0,4	-2,6	3,4	0,80
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,4	2,8	-1,3	-4,4	1,8	0,40
Labour force participation rate	2,9	2,5	-1,2	-4,7	2,2	0,48
Western Cape – City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	1,5	51	1	100	0,05
Employed	2,8	2,0	43	-31	117	0,25
Unemployed	9,5	8,1	8	-55	70	0,81
Not economically active	5,2	4,0	-39	-88	11	0,13
Discouraged work-seekers	27,5	29,1	-2	-16	13	0,80
Other (not economically active)	4,5	3,7	-37	-89	16	0,17
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,7	7,3	-0,2	-2,9	2,6	0,90
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	2,0	1,1	-1,2	3,5	0,33
Labour force participation rate	2,1	1,5	1,3	-0,2	2,9	0,10

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	2,0	-65	-152	22	0,14
Employed	2,6	3,0	-111	-169	-54	0,00
Unemployed	4,3	3,8	46	-18	111	0,16
Not economically active	2,5	2,1	79	-9	166	0,08
Discouraged work-seekers	12,8	10,4	6	-21	32	0,68
Other (not economically active)	2,5	2,2	73	-5	151	0,07
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,2	3,1	3,1	1,2	5,0	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,6	3,0	-2,6	-3,8	-1,3	0,00
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,0	-1,6	-3,5	0,3	0,11
Eastern Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,9	2,6	-51	-123	21	0,17
Employed	3,8	4,9	-87	-134	-41	0,00
Unemployed	5,3	4,1	37	-16	89	0,17
Not economically active	2,8	2,3	59	-13	131	0,11
Discouraged work-seekers	13,3	10,9	5	-21	31	0,70
Other (not economically active)	2,9	2,3	54	-8	115	0,09
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	3,9	4,1	1,7	6,5	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,8	4,9	-2,9	-4,4	-1,4	0,00
Labour force participation rate	2,9	2,6	-1,8	-4,1	0,6	0,14

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	5,1	3,2	17	-12	47	0,25
Employed	5,0	4,9	7	-6	20	0,27
Unemployed	11,3	5,9	10	-20	40	0,51
Not economically active	10,5	7,5	-15	-45	14	0,31
Discouraged work-seekers	.	.	0	0	0	.
Other (not economically active)	10,5	7,5	-15	-45	14	0,31
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,3	5,9	1,2	-4,7	7,0	0,69
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,0	4,9	1,1	-1,2	3,5	0,34
Labour force participation rate	5,1	3,2	2,9	-2,5	8,2	0,29
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,2	5,1	-32	-71	8	0,12
Employed	4,3	2,3	-31	-63	1	0,06
Unemployed	10,0	14,1	-1	-24	23	0,96
Not economically active	6,1	6,4	35	-5	75	0,09
Discouraged work-seekers	41,1	31,2	1	-6	7	0,86
Other (not economically active)	6,0	6,1	34	-5	73	0,08
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,6	9,1	1,9	-1,7	5,6	0,30
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,3	2,3	-3,7	-7,3	0,0	0,05
Labour force participation rate	4,2	5,1	-3,8	-8,3	0,7	0,10

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Northern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,5	3,5	2	-19	22	0,88
Employed	6,1	6,0	-2	-14	10	0,77
Unemployed	9,2	8,7	3	-17	23	0,75
Not economically active	4,0	4,0	0	-20	21	0,99
Discouraged work-seekers	10,3	10,9	9	-14	31	0,45
Other (not economically active)	4,3	5,2	-8	-34	17	0,52
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,2	9,7	0,6	-2,9	4,2	0,73
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	6,1	6,0	-0,3	-1,7	1,1	0,69
Labour force participation rate	3,5	3,5	0,1	-2,4	2,5	0,95
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	2,2	-6	-55	44	0,82
Employed	2,8	2,5	15	-17	46	0,37
Unemployed	4,4	6,2	-20	-60	19	0,31
Not economically active	3,3	3,4	7	-42	56	0,78
Discouraged work-seekers	20,5	22,2	7	-28	41	0,70
Other (not economically active)	3,3	2,6	0	-37	38	0,99
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,6	4,8	-1,5	-3,9	0,9	0,21
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	2,5	0,7	-0,9	2,4	0,38
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,2	-0,3	-2,9	2,2	0,80

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Free State – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	2,5	-1	-32	31	0,97
Employed	3,6	3,2	15	-11	41	0,25
Unemployed	5,6	7,2	-16	-47	16	0,33
Not economically active	4,2	4,0	1	-30	33	0,93
Discouraged work-seekers	32,5	29,8	3	-16	22	0,76
Other (not economically active)	3,9	3,5	-1	-32	29	0,93
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,6	5,7	-1,8	-4,8	1,2	0,23
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,6	3,2	1,1	-0,8	2,9	0,26
Labour force participation rate	2,6	2,5	-0,1	-2,4	2,2	0,94
Free State – Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,3	4,3	-5	-43	33	0,79
Employed	4,3	3,7	0	-20	19	0,97
Unemployed	5,1	12,3	-5	-28	19	0,70
Not economically active	4,9	6,1	5	-33	43	0,78
Discouraged work-seekers	15,8	33,6	4	-25	33	0,80
Other (not economically active)	6,0	2,1	2	-20	23	0,88
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,4	9,1	-0,9	-4,9	3,2	0,67
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,3	3,7	-0,1	-3,5	3,3	0,95
Labour force participation rate	3,3	4,3	-1,0	-7,8	5,9	0,78

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,3	2,1	95	-43	233	0,18
Employed	2,1	2,2	62	-27	151	0,17
Unemployed	6,0	5,2	33	-66	133	0,51
Not economically active	2,5	2,4	-70	-208	68	0,32
Discouraged work-seekers	9,5	10,0	-125	-251	0	0,05
Other (not economically active)	3,0	2,7	56	-36	148	0,23
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,5	4,0	0,1	-1,7	2,0	0,89
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,1	2,2	0,7	-0,5	1,9	0,25
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,1	1,1	-0,8	2,9	0,25
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,7	3,2	47	-43	138	0,30
Employed	3,1	3,7	18	-54	91	0,62
Unemployed	6,4	6,9	29	-34	93	0,37
Not economically active	2,6	3,1	-32	-123	58	0,49
Discouraged work-seekers	12,8	14,1	-101	-193	-8	0,03
Other (not economically active)	3,8	3,5	69	-16	154	0,11
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,0	5,3	0,5	-1,6	2,6	0,62
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,1	3,7	0,3	-1,2	1,7	0,72
Labour force participation rate	2,7	3,2	0,8	-1,0	2,7	0,39

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,0	2,2	48	-57	153	0,37
Employed	2,7	1,8	44	-7	95	0,09
Unemployed	13,2	6,0	4	-73	81	0,92
Not economically active	5,8	3,5	-38	-143	68	0,48
Discouraged work-seekers	11,8	9,9	-25	-111	62	0,58
Other (not economically active)	4,4	3,7	-13	-48	21	0,46
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,1	4,5	-0,4	-4,0	3,2	0,82
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	1,8	1,5	-0,5	3,4	0,14
Labour force participation rate	4,0	2,2	1,6	-2,4	5,6	0,44
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,4	3,0	-40	-115	34	0,29
Employed	3,2	3,8	-30	-90	30	0,32
Unemployed	7,4	7,8	-10	-60	41	0,70
Not economically active	4,2	3,5	49	-25	124	0,19
Discouraged work-seekers	12,2	11,4	30	-16	75	0,20
Other (not economically active)	2,8	2,3	20	-30	70	0,43
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,1	6,0	0,4	-2,3	3,1	0,78
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,2	3,8	-1,2	-3,4	1,0	0,27
Labour force participation rate	3,4	3,0	-1,6	-4,3	1,1	0,23

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,1	1,1	23	-88	133	0,68
Employed	1,3	1,2	15	-101	131	0,80
Unemployed	2,9	3,1	8	-115	131	0,90
Not economically active	2,4	2,3	19	-91	130	0,73
Discouraged work-seekers	8,6	8,5	-109	-187	-31	0,01
Other (not economically active)	2,1	2,4	129	40	217	0,01
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,3	2,5	0,0	-1,4	1,4	1,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,3	1,2	0,0	-1,1	1,0	0,95
Labour force participation rate	1,1	1,1	-0,1	-1,0	0,9	0,92
Gauteng – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,5	3,6	13	-23	49	0,47
Employed	4,9	2,7	45	4	85	0,03
Unemployed	10,3	9,5	-31	-89	27	0,29
Not economically active	7,5	7,9	-7	-44	29	0,69
Discouraged work-seekers	27,0	28,7	-1	-25	24	0,94
Other (not economically active)	4,8	4,3	-6	-34	21	0,64
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,0	6,5	-3,6	-8,4	1,2	0,14
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,9	2,7	2,9	0,1	5,6	0,04
Labour force participation rate	3,5	3,6	0,6	-1,8	3,1	0,61

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	2,5	8	-71	86	0,85
Employed	1,8	1,7	-16	-67	36	0,55
Unemployed	5,4	7,1	23	-40	86	0,47
Not economically active	3,8	4,3	3	-75	81	0,94
Discouraged work-seekers	11,8	11,2	-41	-86	4	0,08
Other (not economically active)	3,1	4,6	44	-20	108	0,18
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,8	5,1	1,2	-1,5	3,9	0,39
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	1,7	-0,7	-2,6	1,1	0,44
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,5	0,0	-2,8	2,8	0,98
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	2,0	-38	-103	27	0,25
Employed	2,7	2,4	-40	-123	43	0,35
Unemployed	4,4	4,8	1	-61	64	0,97
Not economically active	4,9	4,4	54	-11	119	0,11
Discouraged work-seekers	18,9	16,1	-41	-96	13	0,13
Other (not economically active)	4,5	5,0	95	39	152	0,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,7	3,9	0,5	-1,7	2,7	0,66
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	2,4	-1,1	-3,1	0,9	0,27
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,0	-1,2	-2,8	0,4	0,14

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Gauteng – City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	1,2	40	13	68	0,01
Employed	1,9	2,5	25	-22	73	0,29
Unemployed	5,3	5,4	15	-46	76	0,63
Not economically active	3,6	3,0	-30	-58	-2	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	15,1	22,7	-26	-51	-2	0,04
Other (not economically active)	3,5	3,6	-4	-21	13	0,65
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,3	4,8	0,0	-2,8	2,9	0,98
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,9	2,5	0,8	-1,0	2,5	0,39
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,2	1,2	0,2	2,2	0,02
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	1,5	56	15	97	0,01
Employed	3,0	3,0	48	2	93	0,04
Unemployed	5,1	4,6	9	-35	53	0,70
Not economically active	2,2	2,4	-46	-87	-5	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	8,2	6,7	-18	-54	19	0,34
Other (not economically active)	2,7	2,6	-28	-76	20	0,25
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	4,5	-0,6	-2,7	1,5	0,59
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,0	3,0	1,4	-0,1	2,8	0,06
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,5	1,6	0,3	2,9	0,02

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	2,8	-73	-144	-2	0,04
Employed	2,4	2,1	-40	-91	10	0,12
Unemployed	6,5	6,2	-32	-99	35	0,34
Not economically active	2,6	3,2	86	15	157	0,02
Discouraged work-seekers	7,7	9,1	72	0	145	0,05
Other (not economically active)	2,5	2,6	13	-34	61	0,59
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	4,0	-0,5	-2,9	1,9	0,70
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	2,1	-1,1	-2,4	0,1	0,08
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,8	-2,0	-3,8	-0,2	0,03

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Both sexes	0,7	0,7	-22	-228	185	0,84
Agriculture	4,2	4,2	-35	-103	33	0,31
Mining	6,3	5,8	37	-1	75	0,06
Manufacturing	3,0	3,2	-1	-87	86	0,99
Utilities	13,2	10,9	9	-17	35	0,47
Construction	3,7	3,4	-36	-136	65	0,49
Trade	1,9	1,8	-28	-146	90	0,64
Transport	3,9	3,6	57	-20	133	0,14
Finance	2,4	2,4	128	8	247	0,04
Community and social services	1,9	1,9	-171	-298	-43	0,01
Private households	3,5	3,4	18	-47	84	0,58
Women	1,1	1,0	-80	-224	65	0,28
Agriculture	7,5	7,0	-7	-47	33	0,73
Mining	13,7	9,8	22	7	37	0,00
Manufacturing	5,0	5,6	-26	-75	22	0,28
Utilities	21,9	20,8	-3	-18	12	0,69
Construction	8,9	10,4	-27	-55	2	0,06
Trade	2,8	2,6	-28	-111	55	0,50
Transport	8,2	8,0	18	-15	51	0,29
Finance	3,3	3,3	63	-13	138	0,10
Community and social services	2,1	2,1	-108	-199	-17	0,02
Private households	4,1	3,8	18	-38	74	0,53
Men	0,8	0,8	58	-79	195	0,40
Agriculture	4,1	4,7	-28	-78	22	0,27
Mining	6,6	6,2	15	-20	49	0,40
Manufacturing	3,9	3,9	26	-44	96	0,47
Utilities	15,5	12,7	13	-7	32	0,20
Construction	4,0	3,5	-9	-102	84	0,85
Trade	2,5	2,4	0	-82	82	1,00
Transport	4,2	4,0	39	-26	104	0,24
Finance	3,0	2,9	65	-27	157	0,17
Community and social services	3,0	3,0	-63	-142	17	0,12
Private households	7,4	7,2	0	-36	37	0,98

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
South Africa	0,7	0,7	-22	-228	185	0,84
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	0,9	0,9	-128	-335	79	0,22
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2,1	2,2	124	-9	256	0,07
Agriculture	4,2	4,2	-35	-103	33	0,31
Private households	3,5	3,4	18	-47	84	0,58
Western Cape	2,2	1,6	23	-70	115	0,63
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,0	2,8	13	-88	114	0,80
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,0	7,8	-2	-53	49	0,95
Agriculture	7,1	9,1	-4	-30	21	0,75
Private households	10,2	10,2	16	-2	34	0,09
Western Cape – Non-metro	3,4	2,8	-20	-75	35	0,48
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5,1	6,4	4	-52	61	0,88
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	11,7	9,5	-31	-66	4	0,08
Agriculture	6,6	9,3	4	-19	27	0,75
Private households	10,1	10,5	3	-11	17	0,69
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	2,8	2,0	43	-31	117	0,25
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,9	2,9	9	-72	89	0,83
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	10,6	9,8	29	-7	65	0,11
Agriculture	48,4	37,6	-8	-19	3	0,15
Private households	15,0	14,5	13	1	25	0,04
Eastern Cape	2,6	3,0	-111	-169	-54	0,00
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,6	3,4	-60	-104	-16	0,01
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,8	5,8	0	-35	35	0,98
Agriculture	12,0	14,0	-40	-79	-1	0,05
Private households	8,4	9,6	-12	-32	9	0,26
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	3,8	4,9	-87	-134	-41	0,00
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5,4	6,0	-57	-90	-25	0,00
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,5	8,1	12	-20	43	0,47
Agriculture	12,9	14,1	-37	-76	1	0,06
Private households	10,5	12,0	-4	-23	15	0,66

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	5,0	4,9	7	-6	20	0,27
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	9,4	7,0	10	-10	29	0,33
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	15,5	11,1	-1	-11	10	0,91
Agriculture	55,6	64,3	2	-2	6	0,40
Private households	27,9	32,1	-3	-10	3	0,30
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	4,3	2,3	-31	-63	1	0,06
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5,0	2,9	-12	-35	11	0,30
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,7	4,5	-10	-22	1	0,07
Agriculture	37,2	86,1	-5	-10	1	0,08
Private households	14,0	15,9	-4	-8	0	0,05
Northern Cape	6,1	6,0	-2	-14	10	0,77
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	8,0	9,6	-12	-31	7	0,23
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	15,7	18,5	8	-1	17	0,09
Agriculture	10,7	10,6	5	0	11	0,07
Private households	15,5	13,8	-3	-13	7	0,55
Free State	2,8	2,5	15	-17	46	0,37
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,4	3,6	17	-7	42	0,17
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	10,0	6,0	-13	-43	17	0,41
Agriculture	12,0	10,0	9	-2	20	0,13
Private households	12,8	10,5	1	-10	12	0,83
Free State – Non-metro	3,6	3,2	15	-11	41	0,25
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5,4	4,2	14	-2	30	0,08
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	10,4	7,1	-7	-33	19	0,60
Agriculture	12,4	10,4	7	-3	18	0,17
Private households	14,5	12,5	1	-9	11	0,84
Free State – Mangaung	4,3	3,7	0	-20	19	0,97
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	7,7	6,6	3	-16	23	0,72
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	24,9	11,1	-6	-21	9	0,46
Agriculture	32,5	37,6	2	-3	6	0,47
Private households	26,1	19,9	0	-5	5	0,94

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,1	2,2	62	-27	151	0,17
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,6	2,9	-40	-145	66	0,46
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	4,4	5,1	104	46	161	0,00
Agriculture	11,6	13,2	4	-27	35	0,81
Private households	7,7	9,4	-6	-43	31	0,75
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	3,1	3,7	18	-54	91	0,62
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,8	4,9	-22	-87	42	0,50
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,6	6,3	45	4	85	0,03
Agriculture	12,1	13,8	7	-23	38	0,64
Private households	9,4	13,3	-12	-38	15	0,39
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	2,7	1,8	44	-7	95	0,09
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,4	3,3	-17	-100	65	0,68
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,7	8,6	59	19	100	0,01
Agriculture	37,8	42,2	-4	-6	-1	0,01
Private households	13,0	13,0	5	-21	32	0,69
North West	3,2	3,8	-30	-90	30	0,32
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,2	4,5	-56	-113	2	0,06
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	10,8	12,3	17	-25	59	0,42
Agriculture	17,2	18,1	2	-16	19	0,85
Private households	15,7	17,1	7	-14	27	0,54
Gauteng	1,3	1,2	15	-101	131	0,80
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1,5	1,4	-3	-115	109	0,96
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	4,2	4,2	8	-67	83	0,84
Agriculture	15,0	21,6	-1	-15	14	0,94
Private households	7,4	6,6	11	-22	44	0,52
Gauteng – Non-metro	4,9	2,7	45	4	85	0,03
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,3	4,7	35	5	65	0,02
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	14,1	8,6	19	-8	46	0,18
Agriculture	17,4	28,2	3	-7	12	0,61
Private households	17,5	8,0	-12	-25	2	0,09

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1,8	1,7	-16	-67	36	0,55
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,3	2,8	-17	-63	29	0,47
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,0	6,4	-6	-42	30	0,74
Agriculture	36,8	58,4	-6	-13	0	0,07
Private households	14,5	18,2	14	0	28	0,06
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	2,7	2,4	-40	-123	43	0,35
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,9	2,3	-27	-114	60	0,54
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,7	8,2	-4	-56	49	0,88
Agriculture	90,6	98,2	0	-4	4	0,97
Private households	14,3	10,1	-9	-30	13	0,42
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	1,9	2,5	25	-22	73	0,29
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,1	2,7	6	-36	48	0,78
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,3	7,6	-1	-31	29	0,95
Agriculture	31,1	43,7	3	-4	10	0,43
Private households	9,4	11,4	18	1	34	0,04
Mpumalanga	3,0	3,0	48	2	93	0,04
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,3	4,4	42	2	82	0,04
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,1	7,2	-6	-36	25	0,71
Agriculture	11,0	8,6	0	-17	16	0,96
Private households	13,5	9,9	12	-9	32	0,26
Limpopo	2,4	2,1	-40	-91	10	0,12
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,2	4,3	-31	-75	13	0,16
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,6	5,4	6	-36	49	0,77
Agriculture	14,9	10,7	-9	-33	14	0,44
Private households	7,2	8,3	-6	-17	4	0,21

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
	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023				
Both sexes	0,7	0,7	-22	-228	185	0,84
Manager	3,8	3,2	376	287	465	0,00
Professional	4,0	3,3	-13	-111	85	0,79
Technician	3,6	3,4	-3	-105	99	0,96
Clerk	2,6	3,1	-162	-251	-72	0,00
Sales and services	2,1	2,2	-91	-216	34	0,15
Skilled agriculture	12,8	13,6	-13	-35	9	0,24
Craft and related trade	3,0	3,0	-24	-121	72	0,62
Plant and machine operator	3,1	3,3	-85	-164	-6	0,04
Elementary	1,7	1,9	-23	-163	118	0,75
Domestic worker	4,0	3,8	17	-40	74	0,56
Women	1,1	1,0	-80	-224	65	0,28
Manager	5,4	5,1	146	95	198	0,00
Professional	5,2	4,7	-17	-84	50	0,61
Technician	4,2	4,2	-17	-83	49	0,61
Clerk	3,1	3,7	-110	-186	-34	0,01
Sales and services	2,7	2,9	-40	-122	42	0,33
Skilled agriculture	24,6	22,0	5	-5	16	0,34
Craft and related trade	7,2	8,1	-27	-62	7	0,12
Plant and machine operator	9,4	10,3	-9	-40	21	0,55
Elementary	2,4	2,9	-19	-98	61	0,64
Domestic worker	4,2	4,0	10	-44	65	0,70
Men	0,8	0,8	58	-79	195	0,40
Manager	4,4	3,6	230	167	293	0,00
Professional	4,8	4,4	4	-63	71	0,90
Technician	4,7	4,9	14	-48	77	0,65
Clerk	5,2	5,2	-52	-109	6	0,08
Sales and services	2,9	2,9	-51	-138	37	0,26
Skilled agriculture	14,3	16,4	-18	-36	0	0,05
Craft and related trade	3,2	3,1	3	-87	94	0,94
Plant and machine operator	3,3	3,3	-76	-150	-1	0,05
Elementary	2,3	2,3	-4	-107	99	0,94
Domestic worker	15,1	14,2	6	-7	20	0,36

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	931	590	1272	0,00
Employed	0,8	0,7	789	489	1088	0,00
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,1	0,9	510	208	813	0,00
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,3	2,2	226	50	402	0,01
Agriculture	4,4	4,2	60	-36	156	0,22
Private households	3,1	3,4	-8	-106	91	0,88
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	142	-165	449	0,36
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-371	-712	-31	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	3,6	3,9	-314	-576	-52	0,02
Other (not economically active)	0,8	0,9	-57	-333	218	0,68
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	-0,7	-1,7	0,4	0,23
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,7	1,4	0,7	2,1	0,00
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	1,5	0,6	2,3	0,00
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,8	508	306	711	0,00
Employed	1,1	1,0	449	258	641	0,00
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,4	1,3	276	100	451	0,00
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	3,5	3,4	148	49	246	0,00
Agriculture	6,6	7,0	10	-39	60	0,68
Private households	3,2	3,8	16	-72	103	0,73
Unemployed	2,0	2,2	59	-123	241	0,53
Not economically active	0,9	1,0	-239	-442	-37	0,02
Discouraged work-seekers	4,0	4,4	-131	-299	36	0,12
Other (not economically active)	0,9	1,0	-108	-293	77	0,25
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,7	1,8	-1,1	-2,5	0,4	0,14
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,1	1,0	1,7	0,8	2,7	0,00
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,8	1,8	0,8	2,8	0,00

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,6	423	194	651	0,00
Employed	0,9	0,8	340	130	549	0,00
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,2	1,2	235	23	446	0,03
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,7	2,5	78	-55	212	0,25
Agriculture	4,9	4,7	50	-27	127	0,21
Private households	7,5	7,2	-23	-77	31	0,40
Unemployed	2,3	1,9	83	-125	291	0,43
Not economically active	1,3	1,2	-132	-361	96	0,26
Discouraged work-seekers	4,3	4,2	-183	-336	-30	0,02
Other (not economically active)	1,2	1,2	50	-135	235	0,59
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,9	1,6	-0,3	-1,7	1,0	0,63
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,9	0,8	1,0	0,0	2,1	0,05
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,6	1,2	0,0	2,3	0,04

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	931	590	1272	0,00
Employed	0,8	0,7	789	489	1088	0,00
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	142	-165	449	0,36
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-371	-712	-31	0,03
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	-0,7	-1,7	0,4	0,23
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,7	1,4	0,7	2,1	0,00
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	1,5	0,6	2,3	0,00
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,7	982	683	1280	0,00
Employed	1,0	0,8	769	500	1038	0,00
Unemployed	1,9	1,9	213	-69	494	0,14
Not economically active	1,0	1,0	-415	-714	-117	0,01
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,5	-0,8	-2,0	0,5	0,23
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,0	0,8	1,7	0,9	2,5	0,00
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,7	2,0	1,1	2,9	0,00
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,6	1,3	-9	-108	90	0,87
Employed	1,8	1,7	45	-40	131	0,30
Unemployed	7,0	5,7	-54	-135	27	0,19
Not economically active	2,6	2,1	30	-69	130	0,55
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,1	5,3	-2,4	-5,6	0,9	0,15
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	1,7	1,0	-1,4	3,4	0,42
Labour force participation rate	1,6	1,3	-0,6	-3,4	2,2	0,66

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	2,7	-25	-78	27	0,34
Employed	2,8	3,1	-5	-50	40	0,83
Unemployed	13,8	11,2	-21	-49	8	0,16
Not economically active	4,1	3,7	34	-19	86	0,21
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	12,7	11,0	-2,8	-6,9	1,4	0,19
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	3,1	-0,9	-5,2	3,4	0,69
Labour force participation rate	2,6	2,7	-2,9	-7,9	2,1	0,26
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,4	1,4	-17	-94	60	0,66
Employed	1,8	2,1	-21	-108	66	0,64
Unemployed	14,1	16,9	4	-64	71	0,91
Not economically active	2,8	3,0	-20	-98	57	0,60
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	13,9	16,8	0,3	-3,2	3,8	0,88
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	2,1	0,1	-3,0	3,2	0,96
Labour force participation rate	1,4	1,4	0,3	-2,5	3,1	0,83

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	931	590	1272	0,00
Employed	0,8	0,7	789	489	1088	0,00
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	142	-165	449	0,36
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-371	-712	-31	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	3,6	3,9	-314	-576	-52	0,02
Other (not economically active)	0,8	0,9	-57	-333	218	0,68
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	-0,7	-1,7	0,4	0,23
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,7	1,4	0,7	2,1	0,00
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	1,5	0,6	2,3	0,00
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,6	1,3	111	-12	234	0,08
Employed	1,8	1,6	161	29	293	0,02
Unemployed	6,0	6,7	-50	-157	57	0,36
Not economically active	3,3	2,8	-34	-156	89	0,59
Discouraged work-seekers	16,1	13,1	56	15	97	0,01
Other (not economically active)	3,0	2,9	-90	-208	28	0,14
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	6,1	-2,2	-5,1	0,8	0,15
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	1,6	2,4	-0,3	5,1	0,08
Labour force participation rate	1,6	1,3	1,2	-1,3	3,6	0,35

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Western Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,5	2,5	-4	-81	72	0,91
Employed	2,4	2,8	37	-33	107	0,29
Unemployed	10,5	11,1	-42	-90	6	0,09
Not economically active	4,5	4,1	32	-45	109	0,41
Discouraged work-seekers	18,6	14,8	50	11	89	0,01
Other (not economically active)	4,1	5,1	-18	-86	51	0,61
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,1	10,4	-3,6	-7,4	0,2	0,06
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	2,8	1,3	-2,6	5,1	0,52
Labour force participation rate	2,5	2,5	-1,2	-5,5	3,0	0,57
Western Cape – City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,0	1,5	115	16	215	0,02
Employed	2,4	2,0	123	11	236	0,03
Unemployed	7,3	8,1	-8	-104	88	0,87
Not economically active	4,8	4,0	-66	-166	34	0,20
Discouraged work-seekers	31,6	29,1	6	-7	20	0,35
Other (not economically active)	4,3	3,7	-72	-172	27	0,16
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,4	7,3	-1,6	-5,6	2,5	0,44
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	2,0	3,0	-0,5	6,6	0,09
Labour force participation rate	2,0	1,5	2,5	-0,6	5,7	0,12

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	2,0	-64	-198	70	0,35
Employed	2,9	3,0	-32	-138	73	0,55
Unemployed	4,6	3,8	-32	-121	57	0,48
Not economically active	2,4	2,1	120	-14	254	0,08
Discouraged work-seekers	15,3	10,4	-10	-62	42	0,71
Other (not economically active)	2,2	2,2	130	16	244	0,03
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,6	3,1	-0,2	-3,2	2,8	0,89
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,9	3,0	-1,1	-3,4	1,3	0,36
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,0	-2,1	-5,1	0,9	0,17
Eastern Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,1	2,6	-13	-129	104	0,83
Employed	4,4	4,9	-9	-106	88	0,86
Unemployed	6,3	4,1	-4	-74	67	0,92
Not economically active	2,8	2,3	46	-70	163	0,43
Discouraged work-seekers	16,4	10,9	-5	-56	46	0,86
Other (not economically active)	2,6	2,3	51	-44	146	0,29
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	3,9	0,2	-4,0	4,3	0,94
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,4	4,9	-0,6	-3,7	2,6	0,73
Labour force participation rate	3,1	2,6	-0,9	-4,7	2,9	0,63

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	4,3	3,2	45	19	72	0,00
Employed	4,1	4,9	38	15	61	0,00
Unemployed	10,5	5,9	7	-30	45	0,69
Not economically active	7,3	7,5	-37	-63	-10	0,01
Discouraged work-seekers	60,7	.	-3	-6	1	0,10
Other (not economically active)	7,0	7,5	-34	-60	-8	0,01
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,6	5,9	-2,2	-10,6	6,2	0,61
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,1	4,9	6,2	2,0	10,3	0,00
Labour force participation rate	4,3	3,2	7,2	2,4	12,0	0,00
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,6	5,1	-97	-159	-34	0,00
Employed	4,8	2,3	-61	-97	-25	0,00
Unemployed	4,4	14,1	-35	-76	5	0,09
Not economically active	5,5	6,4	111	49	173	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	26,1	31,2	-2	-11	6	0,57
Other (not economically active)	5,1	6,1	113	56	170	0,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,4	9,1	-0,5	-5,5	4,6	0,86
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,8	2,3	-7,6	-11,8	-3,5	0,00
Labour force participation rate	2,6	5,1	-12,0	-19,1	-5,0	0,00

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Northern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	4,5	3,5	17	-28	61	0,46
Employed	4,2	6,0	-9	-37	20	0,55
Unemployed	11,0	8,7	25	-5	56	0,10
Not economically active	4,9	4,0	-9	-54	35	0,68
Discouraged work-seekers	10,9	10,9	-27	-69	16	0,23
Other (not economically active)	4,1	5,2	17	-15	50	0,30
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,4	9,7	4,8	-0,5	10,2	0,08
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,2	6,0	-1,4	-4,8	2,0	0,42
Labour force participation rate	4,5	3,5	1,5	-3,8	6,9	0,57
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,9	2,2	-36	-99	27	0,26
Employed	2,5	2,5	-52	-96	-9	0,02
Unemployed	4,8	6,2	16	-38	71	0,55
Not economically active	3,2	3,4	42	-21	105	0,19
Discouraged work-seekers	10,8	22,2	48	1	95	0,04
Other (not economically active)	3,5	2,6	-6	-66	54	0,85
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	4,8	2,5	-1,0	5,9	0,16
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	2,5	-2,8	-5,1	-0,6	0,01
Labour force participation rate	1,9	2,2	-2,1	-5,3	1,2	0,22

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Free State – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,3	2,5	-13	-65	40	0,63
Employed	3,0	3,2	-31	-72	9	0,13
Unemployed	6,0	7,2	19	-30	67	0,45
Not economically active	3,9	4,0	17	-35	69	0,52
Discouraged work-seekers	23,3	29,8	38	5	71	0,03
Other (not economically active)	4,2	3,5	-21	-76	35	0,46
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,9	5,7	2,7	-1,7	7,2	0,23
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,0	3,2	-2,4	-5,4	0,6	0,11
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,5	-1,1	-4,9	2,7	0,56
Free State – Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,3	4,3	-23	-57	11	0,18
Employed	4,3	3,7	-21	-36	-6	0,01
Unemployed	7,2	12,3	-2	-27	22	0,86
Not economically active	5,6	6,1	25	-9	59	0,15
Discouraged work-seekers	4,9	33,6	10	-23	44	0,54
Other (not economically active)	6,2	2,1	15	-9	38	0,22
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,3	9,1	1,6	-2,9	6,1	0,49
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,3	3,7	-3,9	-6,6	-1,2	0,00
Labour force participation rate	3,3	4,3	-4,4	-10,5	1,7	0,16

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	2,1	351	148	554	0,00
Employed	2,3	2,2	315	165	466	0,00
Unemployed	5,9	5,2	36	-100	172	0,60
Not economically active	2,1	2,4	-247	-450	-44	0,02
Discouraged work-seekers	8,2	10,0	-208	-386	-29	0,02
Other (not economically active)	2,3	2,7	-39	-180	101	0,58
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	4,0	-1,8	-4,6	0,9	0,19
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,3	2,2	3,7	1,7	5,7	0,00
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,1	4,0	1,3	6,7	0,00
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,2	3,2	222	33	411	0,02
Employed	3,8	3,7	283	156	410	0,00
Unemployed	7,1	6,9	-61	-190	68	0,36
Not economically active	2,6	3,1	-159	-348	29	0,10
Discouraged work-seekers	11,3	14,1	-157	-320	5	0,06
Other (not economically active)	2,8	3,5	-2	-124	119	0,97
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	5,3	-6,2	-10,2	-2,3	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,8	3,7	5,4	2,8	8,0	0,00
Labour force participation rate	3,2	3,2	3,9	0,1	7,8	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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,3	2,2	129	51	208	0,00
Employed	2,7	1,8	33	-49	114	0,43
Unemployed	9,4	6,0	97	53	141	0,00
Not economically active	3,1	3,5	-87	-166	-9	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	8,7	9,9	-50	-124	23	0,18
Other (not economically active)	4,4	3,7	-37	-113	39	0,34
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,7	4,5	4,6	1,7	7,4	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	1,8	0,5	-2,6	3,6	0,76
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,2	4,0	1,0	7,0	0,01
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,3	3,0	96	1	191	0,05
Employed	5,7	3,8	31	-81	142	0,59
Unemployed	8,6	7,8	65	-26	156	0,16
Not economically active	3,4	3,5	-58	-152	37	0,23
Discouraged work-seekers	9,3	11,4	-14	-80	53	0,69
Other (not economically active)	3,1	2,3	-44	-129	41	0,31
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,0	6,0	2,0	-4,1	8,1	0,52
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,7	3,8	0,7	-3,4	4,7	0,75
Labour force participation rate	3,3	3,0	2,8	-0,7	6,2	0,12

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,0	1,1	171	4	338	0,05
Employed	1,6	1,2	130	-37	297	0,13
Unemployed	3,4	3,1	42	-150	233	0,67
Not economically active	2,1	2,3	2	-166	169	0,99
Discouraged work-seekers	9,7	8,5	-98	-191	-4	0,04
Other (not economically active)	1,8	2,4	99	-66	264	0,24
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,0	2,5	-0,2	-2,4	2,0	0,85
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,6	1,2	0,5	-1,0	2,0	0,54
Labour force participation rate	1,0	1,1	0,5	-1,0	2,0	0,52
Gauteng – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,1	3,6	29	-36	95	0,38
Employed	3,5	2,7	54	-3	112	0,07
Unemployed	9,4	9,5	-25	-128	78	0,63
Not economically active	6,6	7,9	-5	-71	60	0,87
Discouraged work-seekers	15,4	28,7	-29	-65	7	0,12
Other (not economically active)	4,9	4,3	24	-16	64	0,24
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,9	6,5	-3,7	-11,8	4,5	0,38
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,5	2,7	3,0	-0,9	7,0	0,13
Labour force participation rate	3,1	3,6	0,9	-3,6	5,3	0,70

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	2,5	67	-15	149	0,11
Employed	2,5	1,7	47	-28	121	0,22
Unemployed	5,8	7,1	20	-59	99	0,61
Not economically active	3,4	4,3	-23	-105	59	0,58
Discouraged work-seekers	11,8	11,2	7	-24	38	0,66
Other (not economically active)	3,5	4,6	-30	-112	52	0,47
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	5,1	0,0	-3,9	3,9	0,99
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	1,7	1,0	-1,7	3,7	0,47
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,5	1,4	-1,5	4,4	0,34
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,7	2,0	95	-20	209	0,11
Employed	3,3	2,4	47	-65	160	0,41
Unemployed	6,6	4,8	47	-67	161	0,42
Not economically active	3,6	4,4	-32	-146	83	0,59
Discouraged work-seekers	23,1	16,1	-60	-133	13	0,11
Other (not economically active)	3,0	5,0	29	-97	154	0,65
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,2	3,9	0,6	-3,0	4,2	0,76
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,3	2,4	0,5	-2,3	3,2	0,74
Labour force participation rate	1,7	2,0	1,3	-1,5	4,0	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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Gauteng – City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,9	1,2	-19	-85	46	0,56
Employed	2,7	2,5	-19	-99	61	0,65
Unemployed	6,0	5,4	-1	-86	85	0,99
Not economically active	5,1	3,0	62	-4	127	0,07
Discouraged work-seekers	23,4	22,7	-15	-48	17	0,36
Other (not economically active)	4,0	3,6	77	12	141	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,1	4,8	0,3	-3,6	4,3	0,88
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	2,5	-1,4	-4,3	1,5	0,34
Labour force participation rate	1,9	1,2	-1,8	-4,3	0,6	0,14
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,7	1,5	65	-8	137	0,08
Employed	2,6	3,0	64	-17	145	0,12
Unemployed	4,9	4,6	1	-68	70	0,98
Not economically active	2,6	2,4	-20	-93	52	0,58
Discouraged work-seekers	8,1	6,7	-47	-110	16	0,15
Other (not economically active)	3,0	2,6	26	-48	101	0,49
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,2	4,5	-1,2	-4,6	2,3	0,50
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,6	3,0	1,5	-1,1	4,1	0,26
Labour force participation rate	1,7	1,5	1,2	-1,1	3,5	0,31

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,0	2,8	220	107	333	0,00
Employed	2,6	2,1	182	101	263	0,00
Unemployed	4,5	6,2	38	-50	127	0,40
Not economically active	1,9	3,2	-167	-280	-54	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	6,7	9,1	-17	-124	91	0,76
Other (not economically active)	2,2	2,6	-151	-228	-74	0,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	4,0	-1,5	-4,9	1,9	0,39
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,6	2,1	4,1	2,1	6,1	0,00
Labour force participation rate	2,0	2,8	4,8	2,0	7,7	0,00

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Both sexes	0,8	0,7	789	489	1088	0,00
Agriculture	4,4	4,2	60	-36	156	0,22
Mining	7,0	5,8	9	-50	68	0,76
Manufacturing	3,1	3,2	-149	-278	-20	0,02
Utilities	13,2	10,9	-2	-36	33	0,93
Construction	3,2	3,4	110	7	213	0,04
Trade	2,0	1,8	65	-110	240	0,46
Transport	3,5	3,6	40	-58	139	0,42
Finance	2,4	2,4	480	305	656	0,00
Community and social services	1,9	1,9	186	1	372	0,05
Private households	3,1	3,4	-8	-106	91	0,88
Women	1,1	1,0	449	258	641	0,00
Agriculture	6,6	7,0	10	-39	60	0,68
Mining	14,3	9,8	-5	-32	21	0,69
Manufacturing	4,0	5,6	-76	-143	-8	0,03
Utilities	22,3	20,8	-3	-22	17	0,80
Construction	8,7	10,4	-27	-70	15	0,21
Trade	2,8	2,6	67	-41	175	0,23
Transport	8,9	8,0	26	-17	68	0,23
Finance	3,4	3,3	299	194	403	0,00
Community and social services	2,4	2,1	149	15	283	0,03
Private households	3,2	3,8	16	-72	103	0,73
Men	0,9	0,8	340	130	549	0,00
Agriculture	4,9	4,7	50	-27	127	0,21
Mining	6,8	6,2	15	-33	63	0,55
Manufacturing	3,7	3,9	-73	-180	34	0,18
Utilities	13,4	12,7	1	-25	27	0,94
Construction	3,4	3,5	137	43	232	0,01
Trade	2,7	2,4	-2	-134	130	0,98
Transport	3,8	4,0	15	-71	101	0,74
Finance	3,1	2,9	182	50	313	0,01
Community and social services	2,9	3,0	37	-77	151	0,52
Private households	7,5	7,2	-23	-77	31	0,40

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
South Africa	0,8	0,7	789	489	1088	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1,1	0,9	510	208	813	0,00
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,3	2,2	226	50	402	0,01
Agriculture	4,4	4,2	60	-36	156	0,22
Private households	3,1	3,4	-8	-106	91	0,88
Western Cape	1,8	1,6	161	29	293	0,02
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,6	2,8	22	-101	145	0,73
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,0	7,8	94	34	154	0,00
Agriculture	6,3	9,1	11	-37	59	0,65
Private households	11,8	10,2	34	-14	82	0,17
Western Cape – Non-metro	2,4	2,8	37	-33	107	0,29
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,4	6,4	24	-50	97	0,53
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	13,1	9,5	12	-12	36	0,32
Agriculture	6,4	9,3	12	-35	59	0,62
Private households	19,4	10,5	-10	-44	24	0,57
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	2,4	2,0	123	11	236	0,03
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,1	2,9	-2	-95	92	0,97
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,5	9,8	82	27	137	0,00
Agriculture	34,0	37,6	-1	-11	10	0,91
Private households	13,9	14,5	44	9	78	0,01
Eastern Cape	2,9	3,0	-32	-138	73	0,55
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,7	3,4	9	-80	97	0,85
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,1	5,8	-41	-84	3	0,07
Agriculture	12,9	14,0	7	-29	43	0,70
Private households	10,7	9,6	-7	-35	21	0,62
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	4,4	4,9	-9	-106	88	0,86
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,1	6,0	10	-65	85	0,80
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	10,1	8,1	-17	-54	21	0,39
Agriculture	13,2	14,1	3	-31	38	0,86
Private households	13,0	12,0	-5	-29	18	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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	4,1	4,9	38	15	61	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,3	7,0	25	-6	55	0,11
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	17,7	11,1	12	-8	32	0,24
Agriculture	87,1	64,3	5	0	9	0,03
Private households	14,1	32,1	-3	-13	6	0,48
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	4,8	2,3	-61	-97	-25	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,1	2,9	-26	-62	9	0,15
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,2	4,5	-36	-47	-25	0,00
Agriculture	42,8	86,1	-1	-10	9	0,89
Private households	31,2	15,9	2	-10	13	0,76
Northern Cape	4,2	6,0	-9	-37	20	0,55
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,5	9,6	-18	-47	11	0,23
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,1	18,5	2	-10	13	0,73
Agriculture	7,2	10,6	6	-6	18	0,34
Private households	17,3	13,8	1	-10	12	0,84
Free State	2,5	2,5	-52	-96	-9	0,02
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,1	3,6	-14	-58	31	0,55
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,6	6,0	-15	-45	15	0,33
Agriculture	8,2	10,0	-17	-33	0	0,05
Private households	11,8	10,5	-7	-27	12	0,48
Free State – Non-metro	3,0	3,2	-31	-72	9	0,13
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,7	4,2	-5	-42	33	0,81
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	10,7	7,1	3	-23	28	0,83
Agriculture	8,5	10,4	-17	-33	-1	0,04
Private households	12,7	12,5	-13	-31	6	0,18
Free State – Mangaung	4,3	3,7	-21	-36	-6	0,01
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,8	6,6	-9	-31	13	0,43
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	14,3	11,1	-18	-34	-2	0,03
Agriculture	30,9	37,6	0	-2	2	0,74
Private households	30,3	19,9	5	-2	13	0,13

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,3	2,2	315	165	466	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,7	2,9	107	-35	250	0,14
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,4	5,1	204	118	290	0,00
Agriculture	18,1	13,2	24	-34	81	0,42
Private households	7,5	9,4	-20	-70	31	0,44
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	3,8	3,7	283	156	410	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,6	4,9	122	10	233	0,03
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	11,2	6,3	137	71	203	0,00
Agriculture	18,6	13,8	19	-38	76	0,52
Private households	11,3	13,3	5	-32	43	0,78
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	2,7	1,8	33	-49	114	0,43
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,0	3,3	-14	-104	76	0,76
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,1	8,6	67	11	123	0,02
Agriculture	50,5	42,2	5	-3	13	0,23
Private households	9,9	13,0	-25	-59	9	0,15
North West	5,7	3,8	31	-81	142	0,59
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,8	4,5	15	-98	127	0,80
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,4	12,3	4	-41	49	0,87
Agriculture	28,4	18,1	8	-8	25	0,31
Private households	12,5	17,1	4	-22	30	0,77
Gauteng	1,6	1,2	130	-37	297	0,13
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,0	1,4	325	142	509	0,00
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,8	4,2	-165	-264	-67	0,00
Agriculture	20,3	21,6	5	-19	28	0,69
Private households	5,6	6,6	-35	-80	10	0,13
Gauteng – Non-metro	3,5	2,7	54	-3	112	0,07
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,2	4,7	54	-1	110	0,06
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	15,1	8,6	15	-15	46	0,33
Agriculture	23,4	28,2	2	-17	21	0,81
Private households	22,6	8,0	-18	-41	6	0,14

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	2,5	1,7	47	-28	121	0,22
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,2	2,8	95	11	180	0,03
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,3	6,4	-52	-102	-1	0,05
Agriculture	45,0	58,4	-2	-10	5	0,56
Private households	11,1	18,2	5	-14	24	0,59
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	3,3	2,4	47	-65	160	0,41
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,4	2,3	151	13	290	0,03
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,9	8,2	-83	-143	-24	0,01
Agriculture	100,8	98,2	0	-3	4	0,86
Private households	8,2	10,1	-21	-47	6	0,13
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	2,7	2,5	-19	-99	61	0,65
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,3	2,7	24	-47	96	0,50
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	14,3	7,6	-46	-96	4	0,07
Agriculture	56,9	43,7	4	-7	16	0,46
Private households	10,0	11,4	-1	-24	21	0,90
Mpumalanga	2,6	3,0	64	-17	145	0,12
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,1	4,4	22	-49	94	0,54
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,4	7,2	30	-24	84	0,28
Agriculture	12,0	8,6	-5	-34	24	0,72
Private households	10,7	9,9	17	-12	46	0,24
Limpopo	2,6	2,1	182	101	263	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,6	4,3	41	-53	135	0,39
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,1	5,4	114	60	167	0,00
Agriculture	10,8	10,7	21	1	41	0,04
Private households	9,3	8,3	5	-11	21	0,52

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
	Oct-Dec 2022	Oct-Dec 2023				
Both sexes	0,8	0,7	789	489	1088	0,00
Manager	3,2	3,2	-57	-200	87	0,44
Professional	3,9	3,3	263	145	381	0,00
Technician	3,0	3,4	-36	-157	85	0,56
Clerk	2,6	3,1	136	1	271	0,05
Sales and services	2,1	2,2	237	74	400	0,01
Skilled agriculture	12,2	13,6	-25	-52	1	0,06
Craft and related trade	2,9	3,0	29	-103	161	0,67
Plant and machine operator	3,5	3,3	42	-72	155	0,47
Elementary	2,0	1,9	189	-8	387	0,06
Domestic worker	3,2	3,8	13	-73	99	0,77
Women	1,1	1,0	449	258	641	0,00
Manager	4,4	5,1	-7	-81	66	0,84
Professional	5,0	4,7	200	121	279	0,00
Technician	4,0	4,2	-60	-147	27	0,18
Clerk	3,1	3,7	88	-24	199	0,12
Sales and services	3,0	2,9	171	54	287	0,00
Skilled agriculture	23,5	22,0	3	-12	17	0,73
Craft and related trade	8,1	8,1	-23	-65	20	0,30
Plant and machine operator	9,8	10,3	-6	-42	30	0,76
Elementary	3,1	2,9	75	-53	203	0,25
Domestic worker	3,2	4,0	13	-71	98	0,76
Men	0,9	0,8	340	130	549	0,00
Manager	3,9	3,6	-49	-150	51	0,34
Professional	5,3	4,4	63	-21	147	0,14
Technician	4,4	4,9	24	-64	112	0,59
Clerk	5,1	5,2	49	-25	122	0,19
Sales and services	2,6	2,9	66	-37	170	0,21
Skilled agriculture	14,0	16,4	-28	-51	-5	0,02
Craft and related trade	3,1	3,1	52	-70	173	0,40
Plant and machine operator	3,5	3,3	47	-55	149	0,36
Elementary	2,3	2,3	114	-19	248	0,09
Domestic worker	17,3	14,2	0	-21	20	0,98