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Quarterly Labour Force Survey

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IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



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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 2024 (Q4: 2024).

2. Highlights of the results

Table A: Key labour market indicators

	Oct-Dec 2023	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand					Per cent	
	41 022	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Population 15–64 years							
Labour force	24 619	24 957	25 069	112	450	0,4	1,8
Employed	16 723	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 488	11 589	11 679	90	192	0,8	1,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 181	3 295	3 328	34	147	1,0	4,6
Agriculture	920	935	924	-11	4	-1,2	0,4
Private households	1 134	1 128	1 146	18	12	1,6	1,1
Unemployed	7 895	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2
Not economically active	16 403	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
Discouraged work-seekers	3 049	3 355	3 466	111	417	3,3	13,7
Other (not economically active)	13 354	13 119	13 026	-93	-328	-0,7	-2,5
Rates (%)							
Unemployment rate	32,1	32,1	31,9	-0,2	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	60,0	60,2	60,3	0,1	0,3		

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

The working-age population increased by 130 000 or 0,3% in the fourth quarter of 2024 compared with the third quarter of 2024. The number of employed persons increased by 132 000 to 17,1 million in Q4: 2024, while the number of unemployed persons decreased by 20 000 to 8,0 million compared with Q3: 2024, resulting in an increase of 112 000 (up by 0,4%) in the labour force. The number of discouraged work-seekers increased by 111 000 (up by 3,3%), while the number of people who were not economically active for reasons other than discouragement decreased by 93 000 (down by 0,7%) between the two quarters, resulting in a net increase of 18 000 in the not economically active population.

An increase in employment and a decrease in unemployment resulted in a decrease of 0,2 of a percentage point in the unemployment rate to 31,9% in the fourth quarter of 2024. The labour force participation rate increased by 0,1 of a percentage point to 60,3%, and the absorption rate increased by 0,2 of a percentage point to 41,1% between Q3: 2024 and Q4: 2024.

Employment gains were observed in the formal sector (up by 90 000), the informal sector (up by 34 000) and Private households (up by 18 000), while Agricultural sector employment decreased by 11 000 in Q4: 2024.

Compared with Q4: 2023, the working-age population increased by 539 000 or 1,3%. Total employment increased by 355 000 persons (or 2,1%), the number of unemployed persons increased by 96 000 (or 1,2%), and the number of persons who were not economically active increased by 89 000 (or 0,5%).

3. Employment

Figure 1: Quarter-to-quarter changes in employment, Q4: 2019 to Q4: 2024

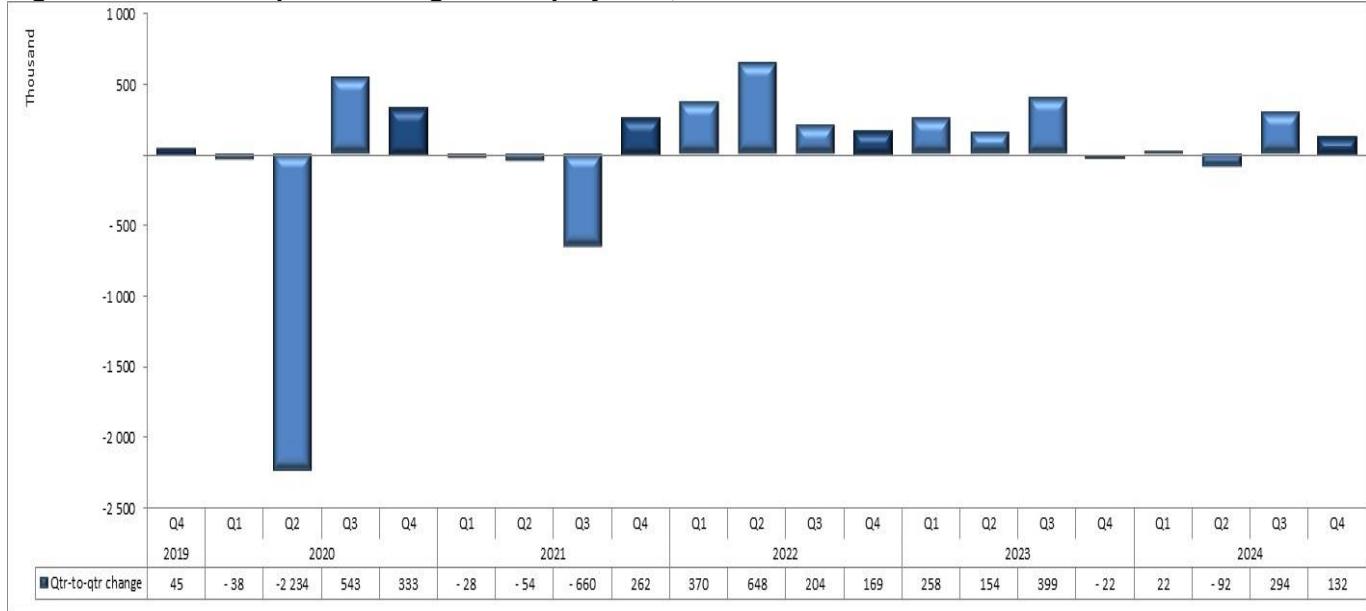


Figure 1 shows that, following an increase of 294 000 in the previous quarter, employment increased by 132 000 in the fourth quarter of 2024. As depicted in Figure 1, employment has been increasing in the fourth quarter of each year since 2019, except for the decrease observed in 2023.

Table B: Employment by industry

Industry	Oct-Dec 2023	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to- qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to- qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand					Per cent	
	16 723	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Total*							
Agriculture	920	935	924	-11	4	-1,2	0,4
Mining	446	484	466	-18	20	-3,8	4,5
Manufacturing	1 507	1 635	1 675	41	168	2,5	11,1
Utilities	123	127	111	-17	-12	-13,3	-9,8
Construction	1 322	1 381	1 359	-22	37	-1,6	2,8
Trade	3 362	3 469	3 421	-48	59	-1,4	1,8
Transport	1 023	1 047	1 064	17	41	1,7	4,0
Finance	2 964	2 716	2 948	232	-16	8,5	-0,5
Community and social services	3 913	4 021	3 959	-63	46	-1,6	1,2
Private households	1 134	1 128	1 146	18	12	1,6	1,1

*Note: Total includes 'Other' industries.

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

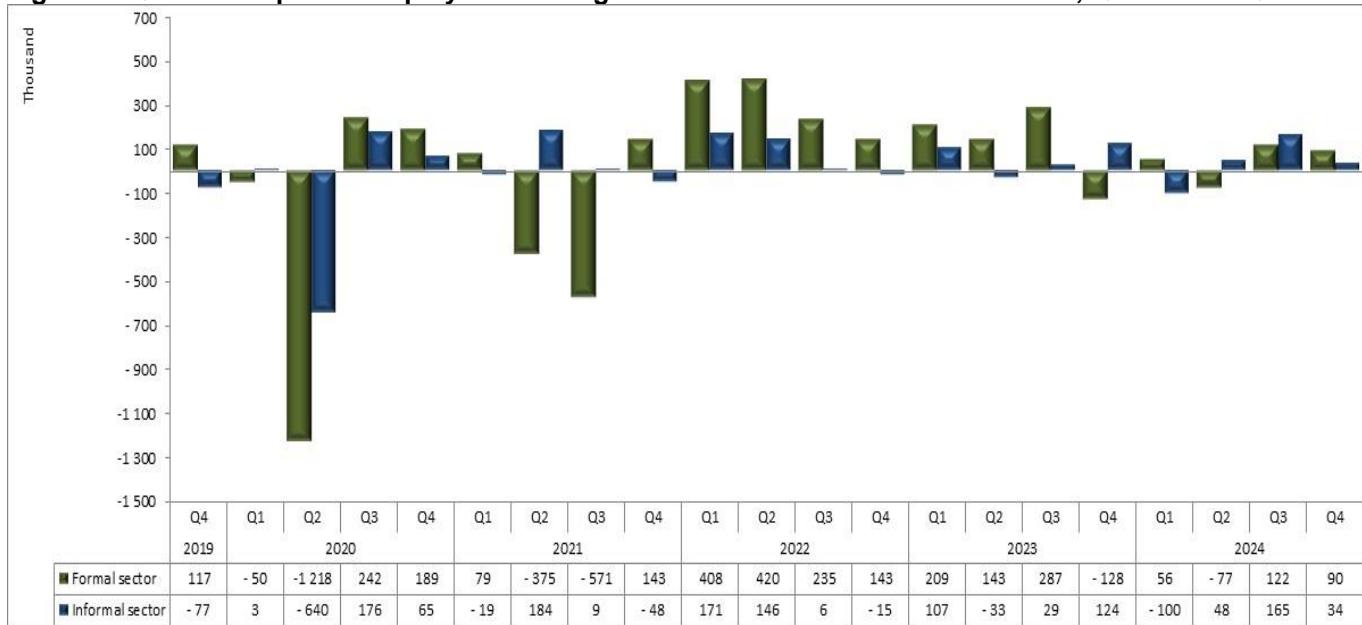
Note: Utilities refer to electricity, gas and water supply.

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

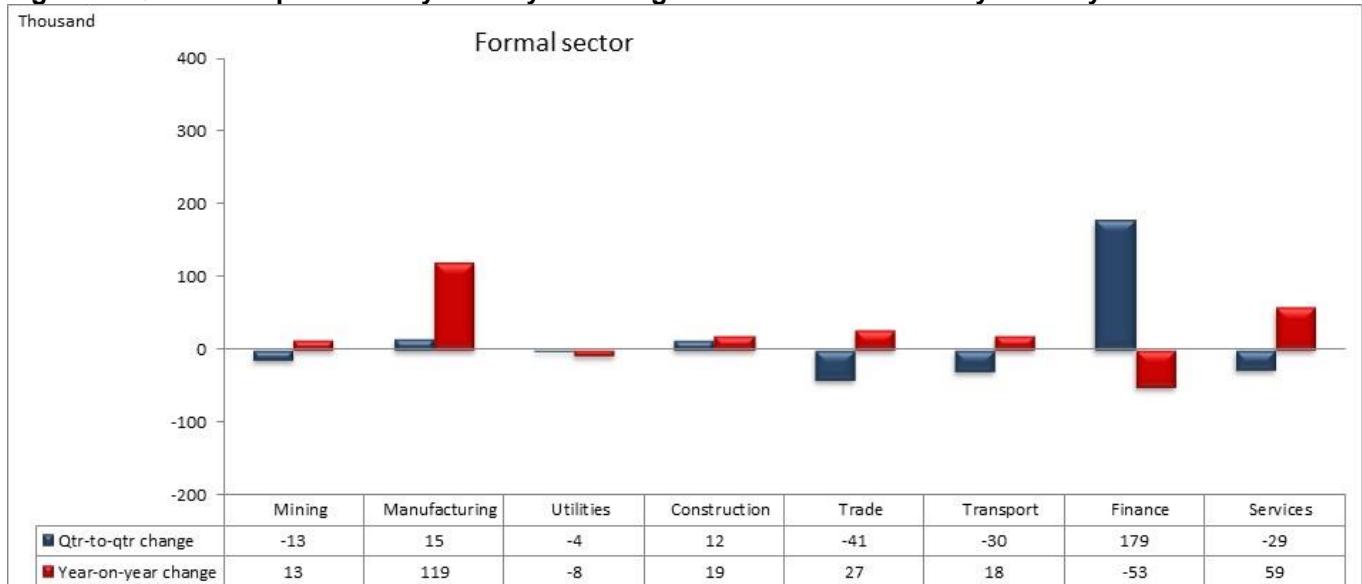
Finance refers to financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services.

Table B shows that between Q3: 2024 and Q4: 2024, the number of employed persons increased in four of the ten industries. The increases in employment were recorded in Finance (232 000), followed by Manufacturing (41 000), Private households (18 000) and Transport (17 000) industries. The largest decreases in employment were recorded in Community and social services (63 000), followed by Trade (48 000) and Construction (22 000) industries.

Compared with the same period last year, a net increase of 355 000 in total employment in Q4: 2024 was largely due to increases in the number of people employed in Manufacturing (168 000), Trade (59 000), Community and social services (46 000) and Transport (41 000) industries. The industries that recorded decreases were Finance (16 000) and Utilities (12 000).

Figure 2: Quarter-to-quarter employment changes in the formal and informal sectors, Q4: 2019 to Q4: 2024

Following an increase of 165 000 in Q3: 2024, informal sector employment increased by 34 000 in Q4: 2024. Employment in the formal sector increased by 90 000 in Q4: 2024 compared with Q3: 2024.

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

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

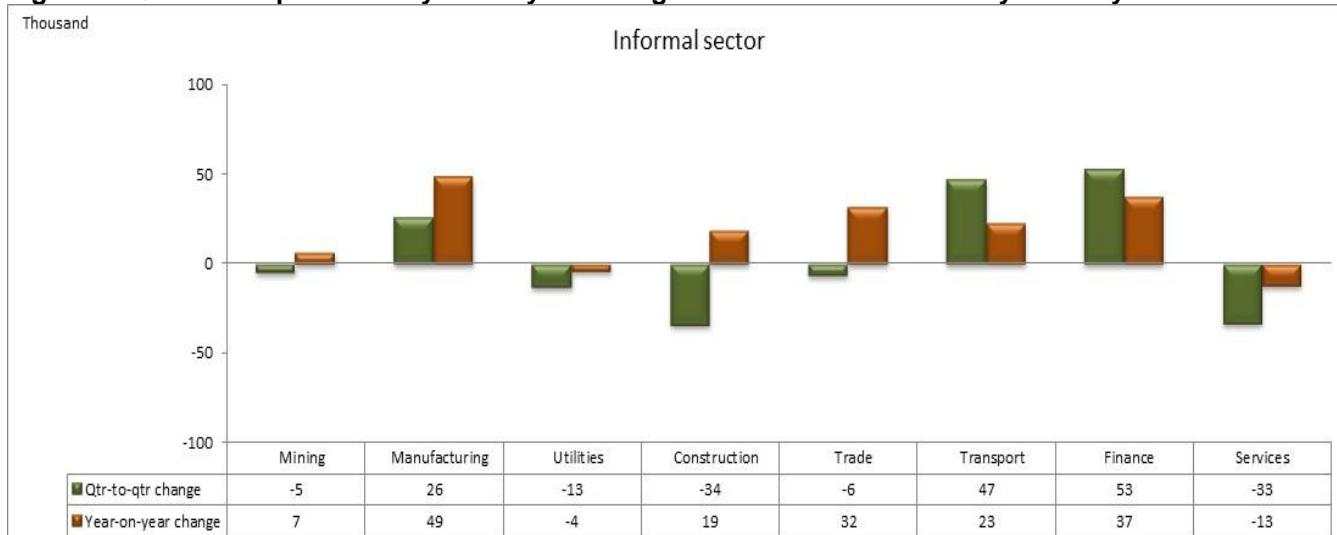
Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.

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

Services refers to community, personal and social services.

The fourth quarter of 2024 recorded formal sector employment increases in Finance (179 000), Manufacturing (15 000) and Construction (12 000) industries compared with the third quarter of 2024. During the same period, decreases in the formal sector employment were recorded in Trade (41 000), Transport (30 000), Community and social services (29 000), Mining (13 000) and Utilities (4 000).

Compared with a year ago, a net gain of 192 000 jobs in the formal sector employment was mainly driven by Manufacturing (119 000), Community and social services (59 000) and Trade (27 000) industries in Q4: 2024. Employment losses were observed in Finance (53 000) and Utilities (8 000) industries during the same period.

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

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

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

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

Services refers to community, personal and social services.

In the fourth quarter of 2024, informal sector employment increased by 34 000 persons compared with the previous quarter. Gains in the informal sector employment were driven by Finance (53 000), Transport (47 000) and Manufacturing (26 000) industries. Compared with Q4: 2023, the employment increase in the informal sector was mainly driven by Manufacturing (49 000), Finance (37 000) and Trade (32 000) industries. Losses in employment were recorded in the Community and social services (13 000) and Utilities (4 000) industries during the same period.

Table C: Employment by occupation

Occupation	Oct-Dec 2023	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand					Per cent	
Total*	16 723	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Manager	1 481	1 457	1 496	38	15	2,6	1,0
Professional	1 341	826	869	43	-472	5,2	-35,2
Technician	1 441	1 504	1 398	-106	-43	-7,0	-3,0
Clerk	1 727	1 841	1 897	56	170	3,0	9,8
Sales and services	2 862	2 992	2 949	-42	87	-1,4	3,0
Skilled agriculture	63	68	71	3	8	4,2	13,1
Craft and related trade	1 693	1 876	1 932	56	238	3,0	14,1
Plant and machine operator	1 323	1 401	1 389	-12	66	-0,8	5,0
Elementary	3 912	4 128	4 215	87	303	2,1	7,7
Domestic worker	876	854	861	8	-15	0,9	-1,7

*Note: Total includes 'Other' occupations.

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

Seven out of the ten occupational categories recorded employment gains in Q4: 2024 compared with Q3: 2024. Large increases in employment were observed in Elementary occupations (87 000), followed by Clerks and Craft and related trade (56 000 each), Professional (43 000) and Managerial (38 000) occupations. During the same period, employment losses were recorded in Technician occupations (106 000), followed by Sales and services (42 000) and Plant and machine operators (12 000) occupations.

Year-on-year gains in employment were mainly driven by Elementary occupations (303 000), followed by Craft and related trade (238 000) and Clerical (170 000) occupations. The losses in employment were recorded among Professionals (472 000), Technician (43 000) and Domestic worker (15 000) occupations.

Table D: Employment by province

Province	Oct-Dec 2023	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand					Per cent	
South Africa	16 723	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Western Cape	2 757	2 749	2 812	62	55	2,3	2,0
Eastern Cape	1 348	1 452	1 455	4	108	0,3	8,0
Northern Cape	327	337	355	18	28	5,2	8,5
Free State	742	775	750	-25	8	-3,3	1,1
KwaZulu-Natal	2 856	2 840	2 892	52	36	1,8	1,3
North West	912	956	935	-20	24	-2,1	2,6
Gauteng	5 034	5 037	5 081	45	47	0,9	0,9
Mpumalanga	1 250	1 241	1 255	13	4	1,1	0,4
Limpopo	1 498	1 559	1 543	-16	45	-1,0	3,0

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

Table D shows that the number of employed persons increased in six provinces between Q3: 2024 and Q4: 2024. Employment gains were recorded in Western Cape (62 000), KwaZulu-Natal (52 000), Gauteng (45 000), Northern Cape (18 000), Mpumalanga (13 000) and Eastern Cape (4 000). Employment decreases were recorded in Free State (25 000), North West (20 000) and Limpopo (16 000) during the same period.

Compared with Q4: 2023, the largest increases in employment were recorded in Eastern Cape (108 000), Western Cape (55 000), Gauteng (47 000) and Limpopo (45 000). Mpumalanga recorded the lowest increase in employment with 4 000 during the same period. Northern Cape had the largest year-on-year percentage change increase in employment of 8,5%.

3.1 Conditions of employment for employees

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

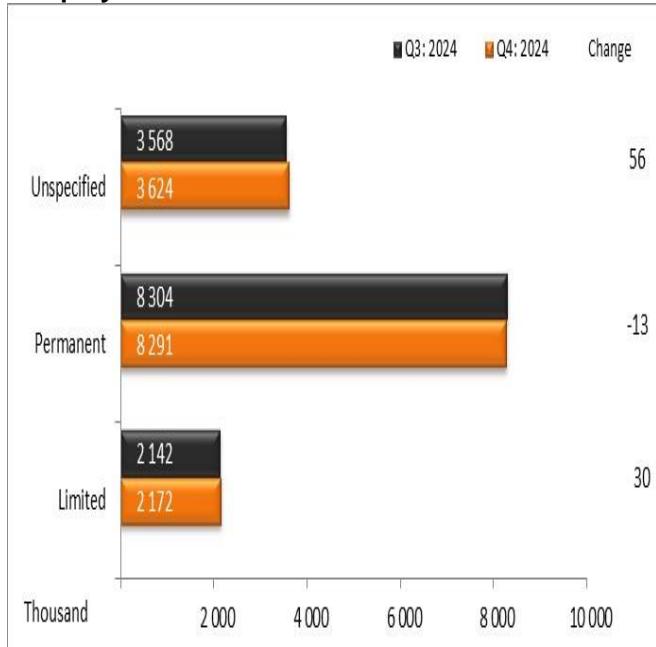
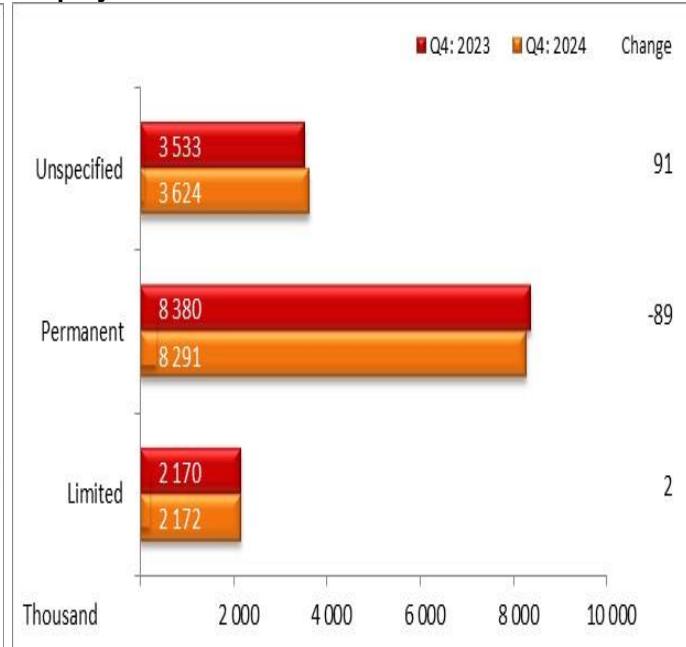


Figure 6: Year-on-year changes in nature of employment contract



Figures 5 and 6 show that the majority of employees had permanent employment contracts. Between the third and fourth quarters of 2024, the number of employees with contracts of a permanent nature decreased by 13 000, while the number of employees with contracts of unspecified duration increased by 56 000 and those with contracts of limited duration increased by 30 000.

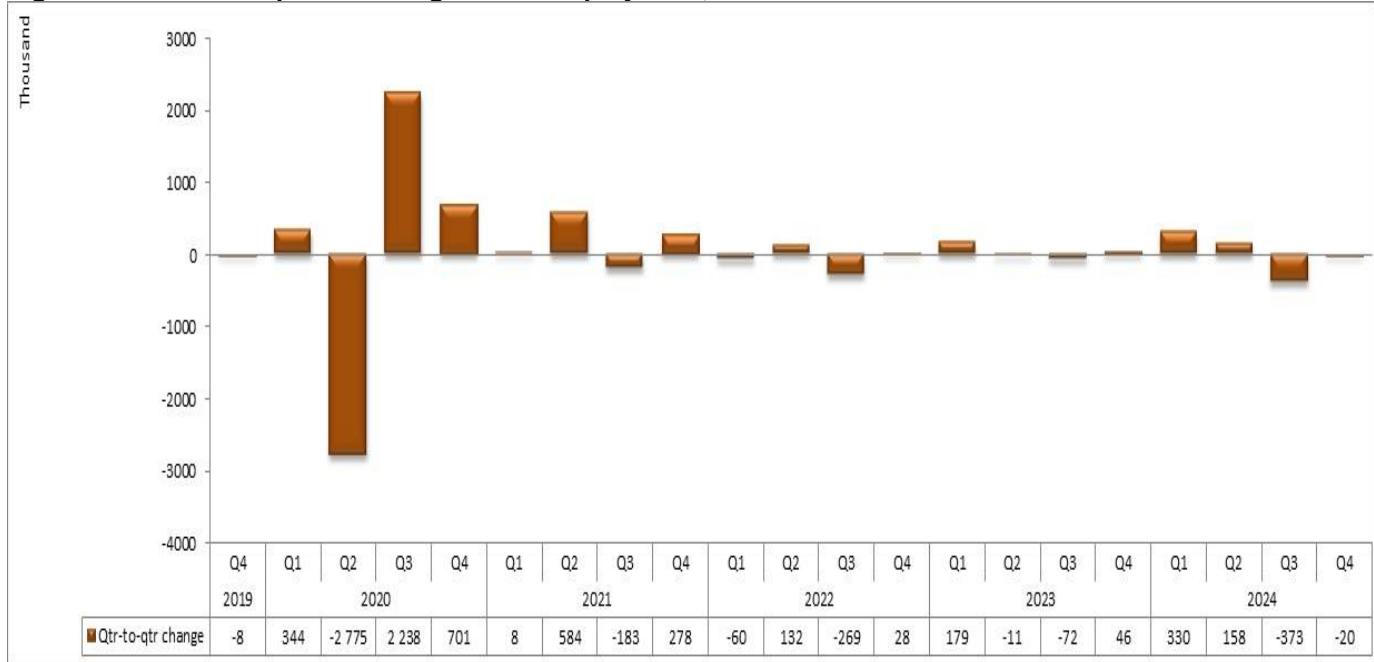
Year-on-year comparisons indicated that the number of employees increased among those with contracts of unspecified duration (91 000) and those with contracts of limited duration (2 000), while the number of employees with contracts of a permanent nature decreased by 89 000.

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

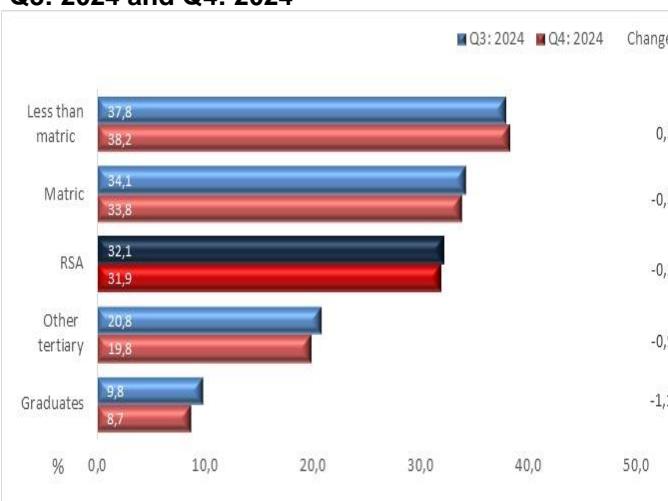
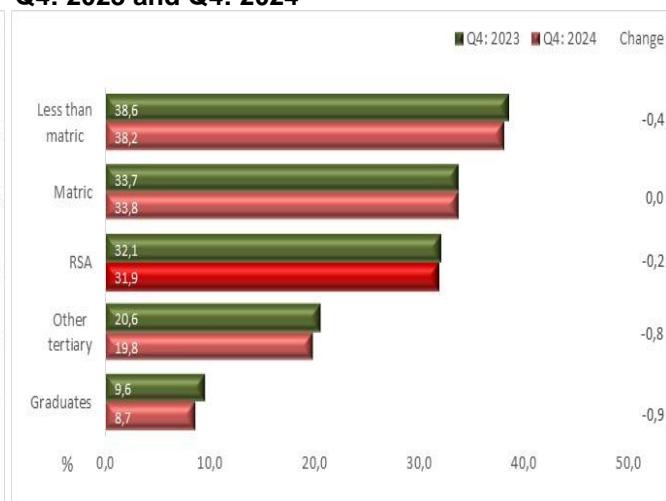
4.1 Unemployment

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

Figure 7: Quarter-to-quarter changes in unemployment, Q4: 2019 to Q4: 2024



Unemployed persons decreased by 20 000 in Q4: 2024 following a decrease of 373 000 in the previous quarter. Notable from Figure 7 is that this is the first time a decrease in unemployment was observed in the fourth quarter of the year since COVID-19 national lockdown.

Figure 8a: Unemployment rate by education level, Q3: 2024 and Q4: 2024**Figure 8b: Unemployment rate by education level, Q4: 2023 and Q4: 2024**

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

Figures 8a and 8b illustrate the significant impact of education on mitigating a nation's unemployment rate. Possessing a tertiary education, especially a degree, enhances one's likelihood of securing employment. In Q4: 2024, individuals with an educational attainment of less than matric recorded an unemployment rate of 38,2% (up by 0,3 of a percentage point), while graduates had a rate of 8,7% (down by 1,1 percentage points) compared with 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 among all education levels, except for those with matric where it remained unchanged.

Table E: Unemployment rate by province

	Official unemployment rate					Expanded unemployment rate				
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Oct-Dec 2023	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Per cent		Percentage points			Per cent		Percentage points		
South Africa	32,1	32,1	31,9	-0,2	-0,2	41,1	41,9	41,9	0,0	0,8
Western Cape	20,3	19,6	19,6	0,0	-0,7	25,6	25,6	24,8	-0,8	-0,8
Eastern Cape	41,9	37,2	36,6	-0,6	-5,3	47,1	47,4	47,6	0,2	0,5
Northern Cape	26,9	30,4	27,4	-3,0	0,5	42,9	43,1	39,7	-3,4	-3,2
Free State	37,0	36,0	37,9	1,9	0,9	43,9	43,3	44,2	0,9	0,3
KwaZulu-Natal	29,5	31,2	28,6	-2,6	-0,9	43,4	45,6	44,7	-0,9	1,3
North West	39,0	36,8	41,3	4,5	2,3	52,2	51,5	52,8	1,3	0,6
Gauteng	33,8	34,0	34,4	0,4	0,6	38,4	39,2	39,9	0,7	1,5
Mpumalanga	34,9	36,2	34,7	-1,5	-0,2	45,8	47,8	47,2	-0,6	1,4
Limpopo	30,3	32,6	31,9	-0,7	1,6	46,7	46,3	46,5	0,2	-0,2

The official unemployment rate decreased by 0,2 of a percentage point to 31,9% in Q4: 2024 compared with Q3: 2024. The official unemployment rate decreased in five of the nine provinces. The largest decreases were recorded in Northern Cape (3,0 percentage points), followed by KwaZulu-Natal (2,6 percentage points) and Mpumalanga (1,5 percentage points). Increases in the unemployment rate were recorded in North West (4,5 percentage points), Free State (1,9 percentage points) and Gauteng (0,4 of a percentage point), while Western Cape remained unchanged.

Year-on-year, the official unemployment rate decreased by 0,2 of a percentage point. The official unemployment rate decreased in four provinces. The decreases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Eastern Cape (5,3 percentage points), followed by KwaZulu-Natal (0,9 of a percentage point), Western Cape (0,7 of a percentage point) and Mpumalanga (0,2 of a percentage point). The increases in the unemployment rate were recorded in North West (2,3 percentage points), Limpopo (1,6 percentage points), Free State (0,9 of a percentage point), Gauteng (0,6 of a percentage point) and Northern Cape (0,5 of a percentage point).

The expanded unemployment rate remained unchanged in Q4: 2024 compared with Q3: 2024. The expanded unemployment rate increased in five of the nine provinces. The largest increases were recorded in North West (1,3 percentage points), followed by Free State (0,9 of a percentage point) and Gauteng (0,7 of a percentage point). Decreases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Northern Cape (3,4 percentage points), KwaZulu-Natal (0,9 of a percentage point), Western Cape (0,8 of a percentage point) and Mpumalanga (0,6 of a percentage point).

Compared with the same period last year, the expanded unemployment rate increased by 0,8 of a percentage point in Q4: 2024. Six out of the nine provinces recorded increases in the expanded unemployment rate. The largest increases in the expanded unemployment rate were recorded in Gauteng (1,5 percentage points), followed by Mpumalanga (1,4 percentage points) and KwaZulu-Natal (1,3 percentage points). Decreases in the expanded unemployment rate were recorded in Northern Cape (3,2 percentage points), Western Cape (0,8 of a percentage point) and Limpopo (0,2 of a percentage point).

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

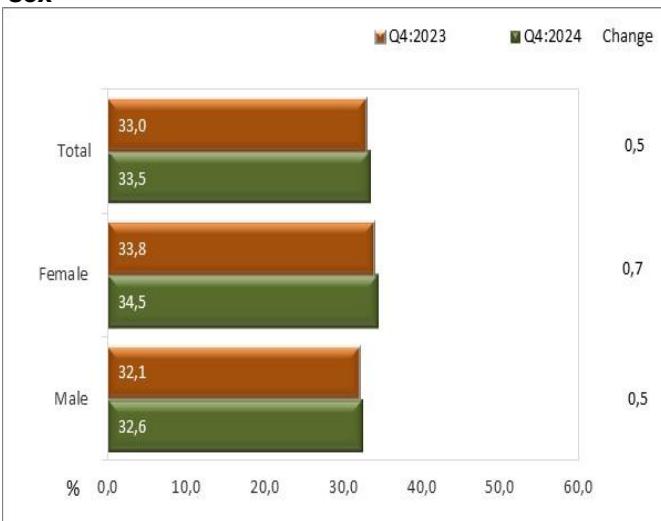
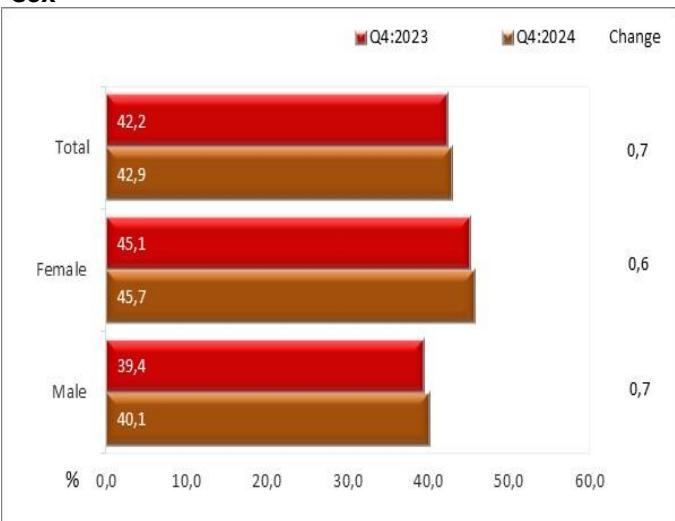


Figure 9b: NEET rate for youth aged 15–34 years by sex

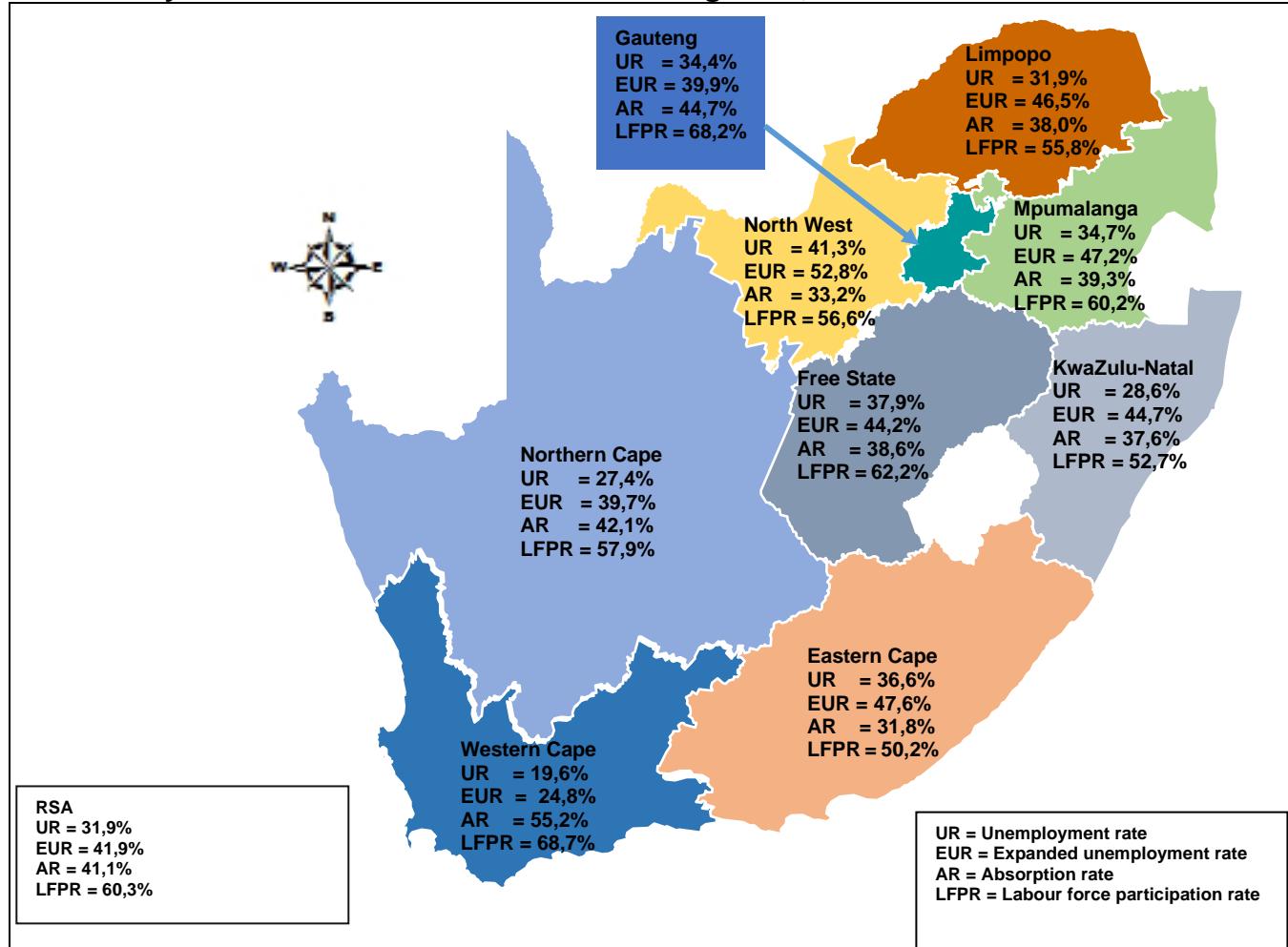


Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.

There were about 10,3 million young people aged 15–24 years in Q4: 2024, of which 33,5% were not in employment, education or training. This is 0,5 of a percentage point higher than the NEET rate in Q4: 2023. In this age group, the NEET rate for females increased by 0,7 of a percentage point and for males it increased by 0,5 of a percentage point. The NEET rate for females was higher than that of their male counterparts in both years (Figure 9a).

Compared with Q4: 2023, the percentage of young persons aged 15–34 years who were NEET increased by 0,7 of a percentage point from 42,2% to 42,9% in Q4: 2024. The NEET rate for males increased by 0,7 of a percentage point, and for females the rate increased by 0,6 of a percentage point. In both Q4: 2023 and Q4: 2024, more than four in every ten young people were not in employment, education or training (Figure 9b).

5. Summary of the labour market measures at a glance, Q4: 2024



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

6. Other labour market trends

6.1 Year-on-year changes

Figure 10: Year-on-year changes in total employment, Q4: 2016 to Q4: 2024

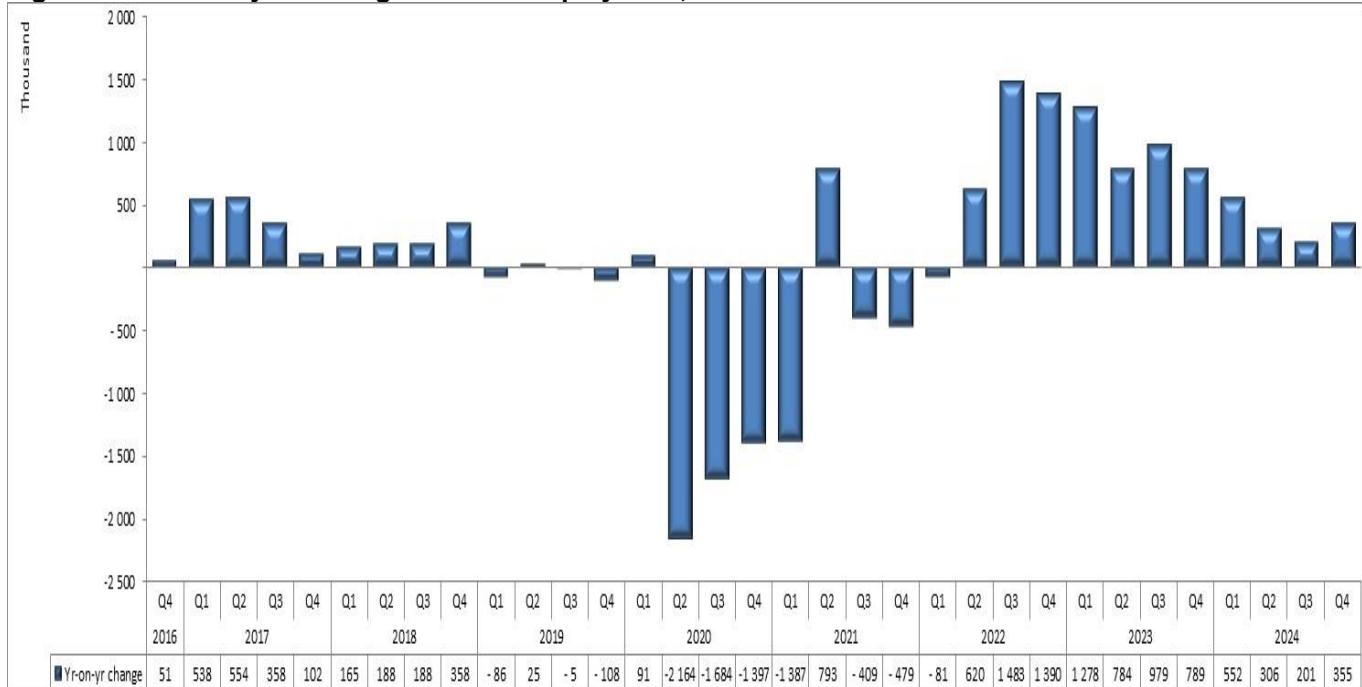


Figure 11: Year-on-year changes in formal sector employment, Q4: 2016 to Q4: 2024

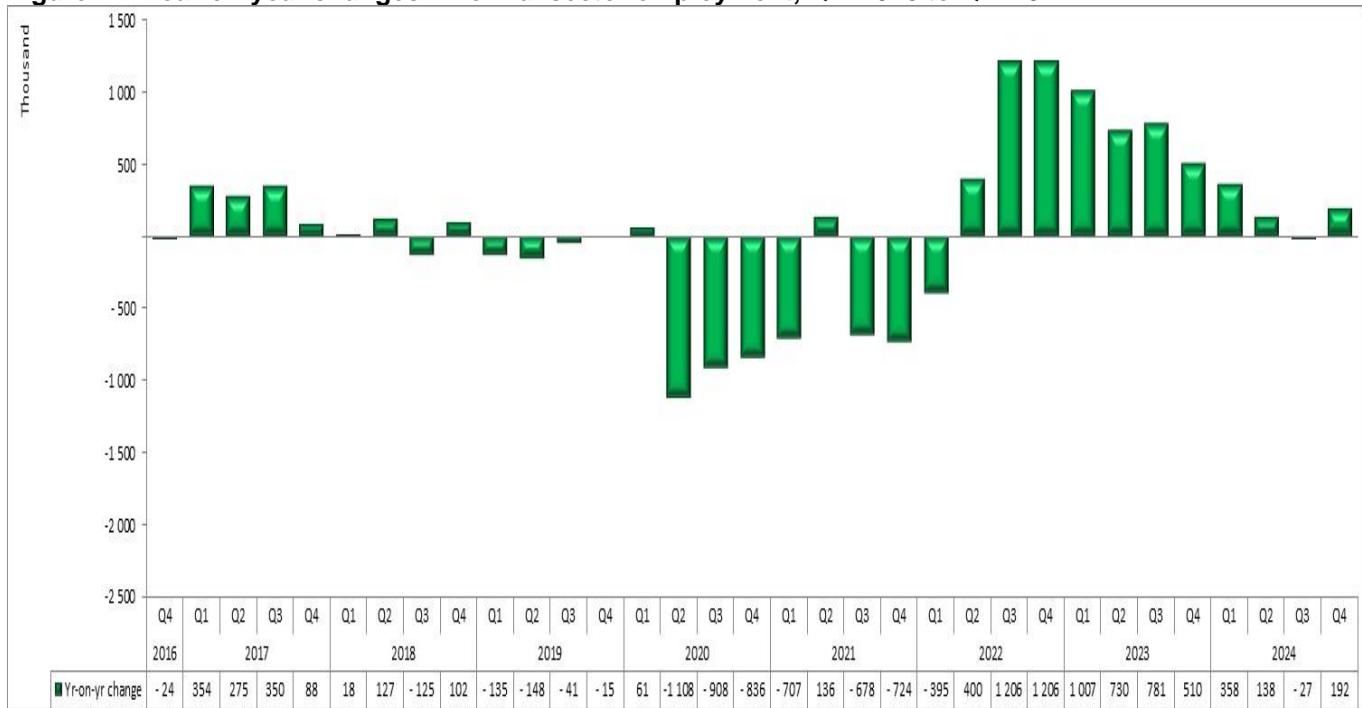
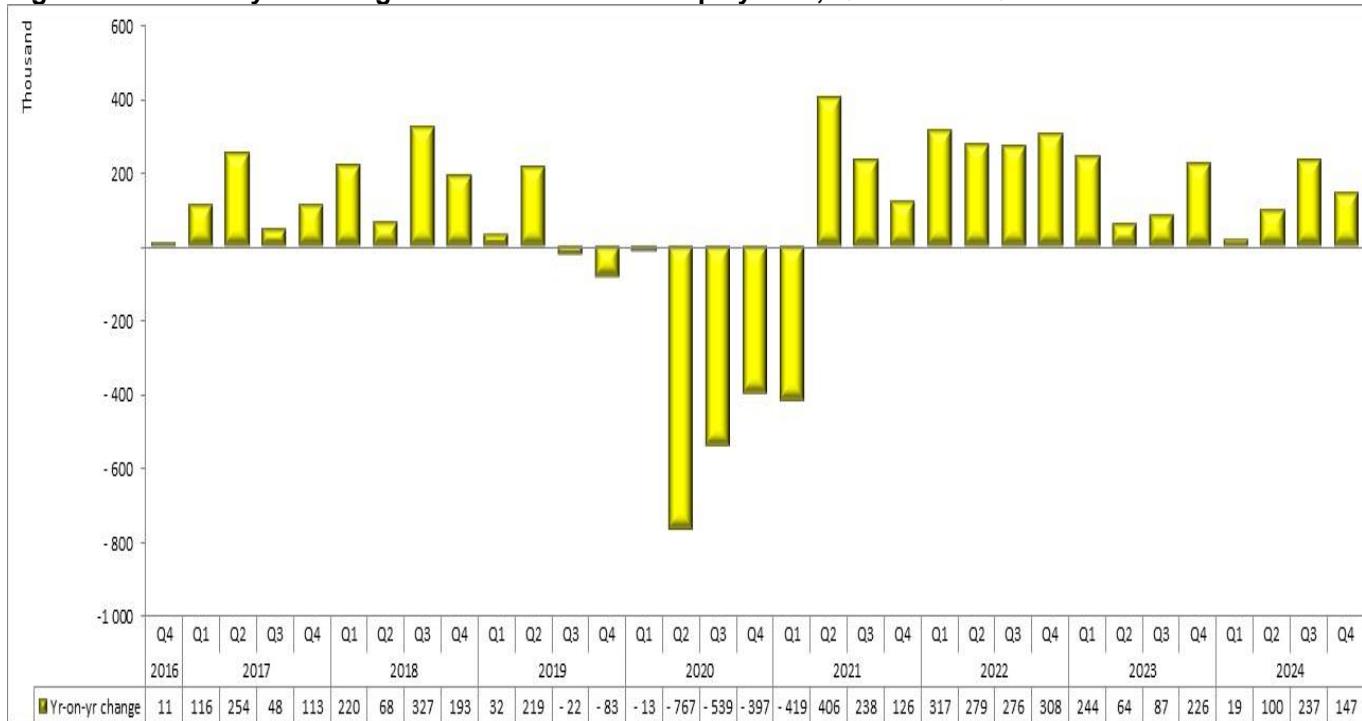


Figure 12: Year-on-year changes in informal sector employment, Q4: 2016 to Q4: 2024

6.2 Trends in unemployment rate

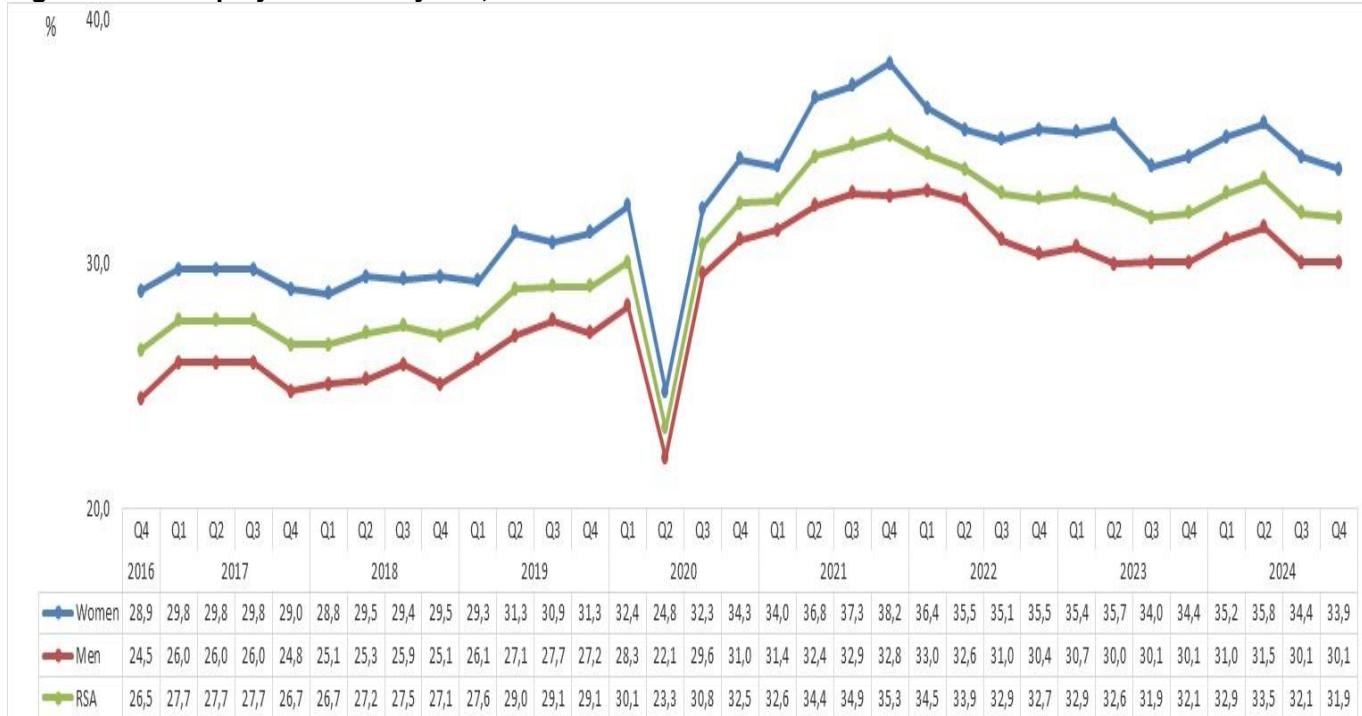
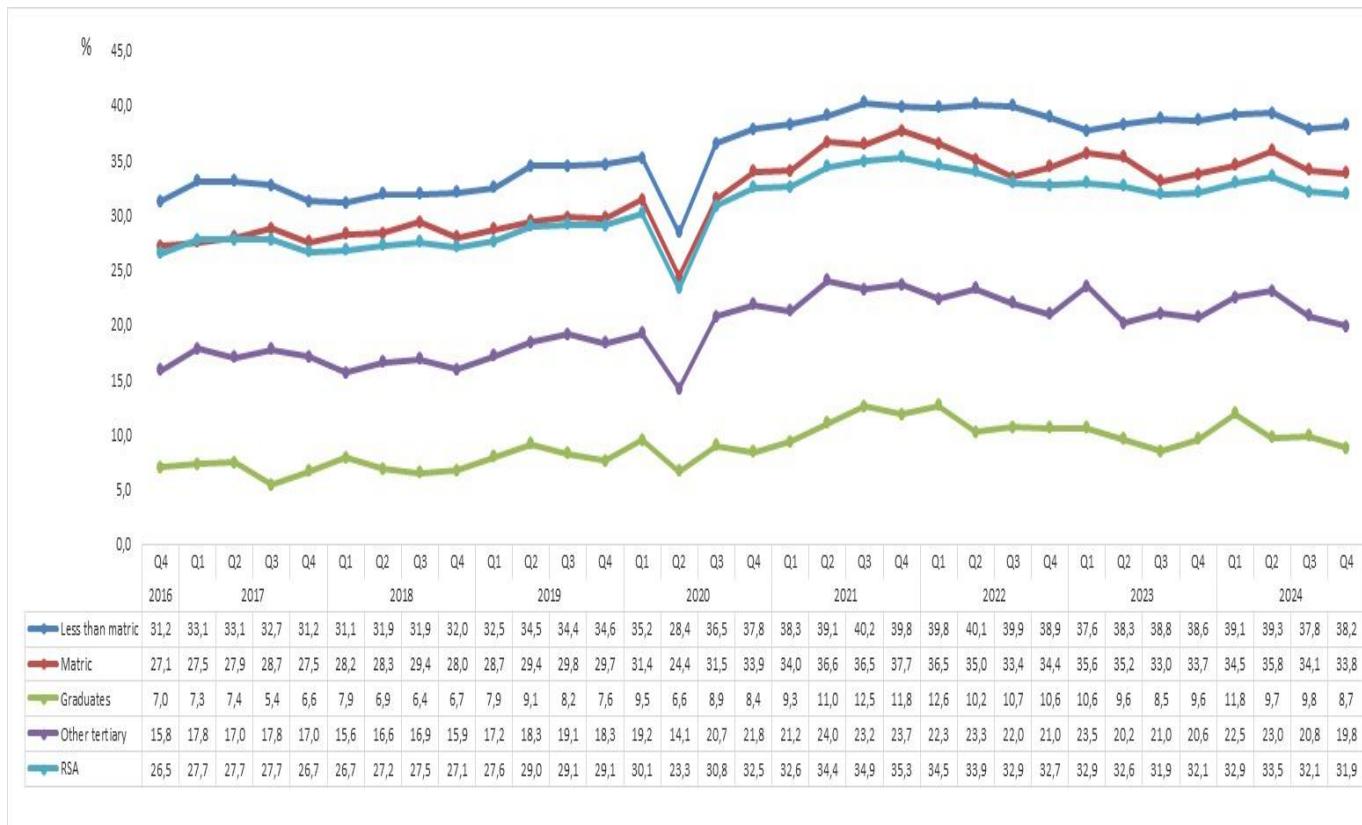
Figure 13: Unemployment rate by sex, Q4: 2016 to Q4: 2024

Figure 14: Unemployment rate by education status, Q4: 2016 to Q4: 2024

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

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

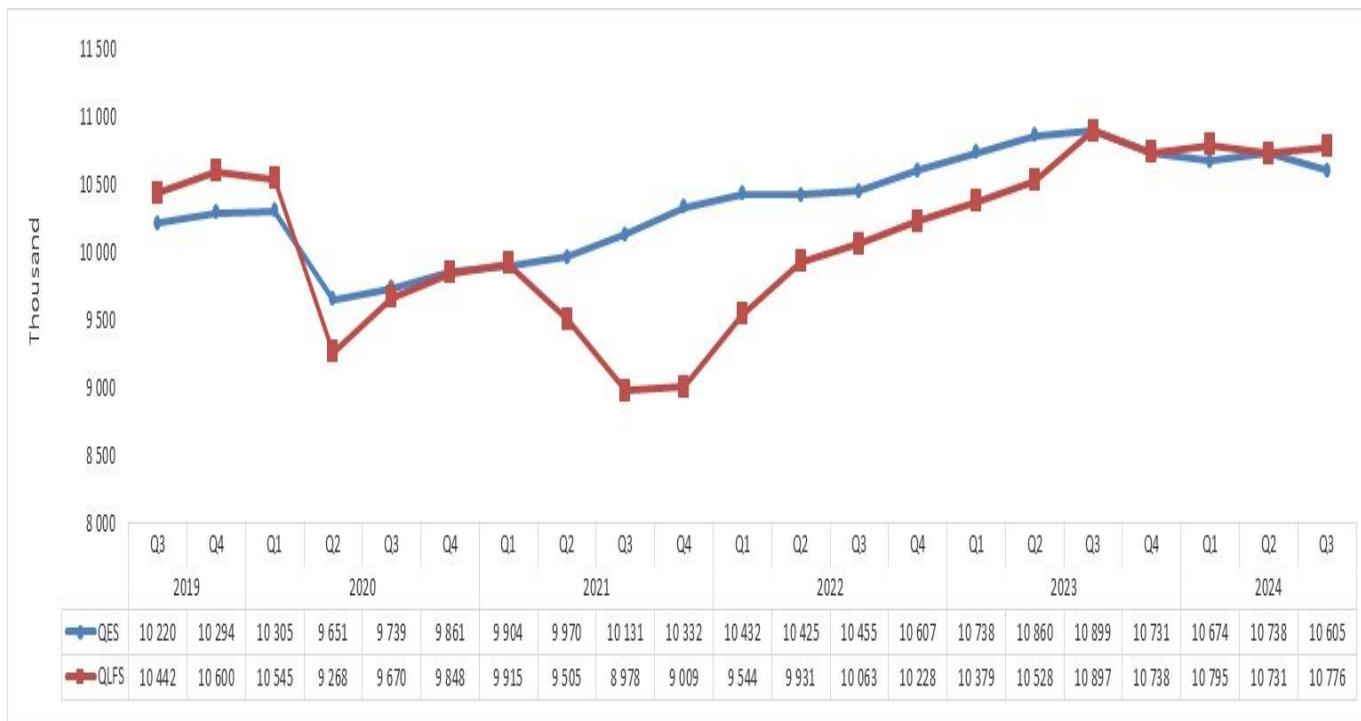
- description of the employed, e.g. their demographic profile, education level, hours of work, etc.; and
- unemployment and descriptors of the unemployed.

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

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

Table F: Key differences between the QLFS and the QES

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

Figure 15: Formal sector (non-agricultural) employment trends in QLFS and QES, Q3: 2019 to Q3: 2024 (employees only)

8. Technical notes

8.1 Response details

Table G: Response rates by province and metropolitan area

Province / metropolitan area	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024
National	87,8	88,2
Western Cape	84,1	86,0
Non-metro	88,4	90,6
City of Cape Town	82,0	83,7
Eastern Cape	95,3	96,2
Non-metro	96,3	96,9
Buffalo City	94,3	94,8
Nelson Mandela Bay	92,4	94,7
Northern Cape	84,7	83,5
Free State	92,4	92,9
Non-metro	94,7	94,9
Mangaung	86,2	88,1
KwaZulu-Natal	92,3	91,6
Non-metro	93,6	92,7
eThekweni	90,2	89,9
North West	90,7	92,3
Gauteng	76,1	76,7
Non-metro	84,0	84,9
Ekurhuleni	81,1	77,7
City of Johannesburg	67,8	69,4
City of Tshwane	82,6	83,2
Mpumalanga	94,5	95,3
Limpopo	97,8	97,9

8.2 Survey requirements and design

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

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

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

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

8.3 Sample rotation

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

8.4 Weighting

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

8.4.1 Non-response adjustment

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

8.4.2 Calibrated survey weights

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

8.5 Estimation

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

8.6 Reliability of the survey estimates

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

(i) Variance estimation

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

(ii) Coefficient of variation

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

(iii) P-value of an estimate of change

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

9. Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

Graduates includes those who have completed highest level of education in Post higher diploma, Post-graduate diploma, Bachelor's degree, honours degree and higher degrees.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Appendix 1

Table 1: Population of working age (15–64 years)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Women	20 664	20 729	20 795	20 859	20 920	61	256	0,3	1,2
Men	20 357	20 429	20 501	20 572	20 640	69	283	0,3	1,4
Population groups	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Black African	33 589	33 728	33 867	34 004	34 137	133	548	0,4	1,6
Coloured	3 596	3 601	3 606	3 611	3 616	4	19	0,1	0,5
Indian/Asian	1 049	1 051	1 053	1 055	1 058	2	8	0,2	0,8
White	2 787	2 778	2 769	2 760	2 750	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3
South Africa	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Western Cape	5 016	5 035	5 054	5 073	5 090	18	74	0,4	1,5
Eastern Cape	4 525	4 539	4 553	4 566	4 579	13	54	0,3	1,2
Northern Cape	836	838	840	841	843	2	7	0,2	0,8
Free State	1 937	1 938	1 939	1 940	1 941	1	5	0,0	0,2
KwaZulu-Natal	7 581	7 607	7 633	7 658	7 683	25	102	0,3	1,3
North West	2 780	2 789	2 799	2 808	2 817	9	37	0,3	1,3
Gauteng	11 190	11 232	11 275	11 317	11 358	41	168	0,4	1,5
Mpumalanga	3 146	3 157	3 168	3 178	3 189	10	42	0,3	1,3
Limpopo	4 010	4 023	4 036	4 049	4 061	12	51	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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Both sexes										
Population 15–64 yrs	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3	
Labour force	24 619	24 971	25 036	24 957	25 069	112	450	0,4	1,8	
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1	
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 488	11 544	11 467	11 589	11 679	90	192	0,8	1,7	
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 181	3 082	3 129	3 295	3 328	34	147	1,0	4,6	
Agriculture	920	941	896	935	924	-11	4	-1,2	0,4	
Private households	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	1 146	18	12	1,6	1,1	
Unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2	
Not economically active	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5	
Discouraged work-seekers	3 049	3 048	3 195	3 355	3 466	111	417	3,3	13,7	
Other (not economically active)	13 354	13 140	13 065	13 119	13 026	-93	-328	-0,7	-2,5	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	32,1	32,9	33,5	32,1	31,9	-0,2	-0,2			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3			
Labour force participation rate	60,0	60,7	60,6	60,2	60,3	0,1	0,3			
Women										
Population 15–64 yrs	20 664	20 729	20 795	20 859	20 920	61	256	0,3	1,2	
Labour force	11 325	11 529	11 595	11 505	11 557	53	232	0,5	2,1	
Employed	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	7 636	91	206	1,2	2,8	
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5 114	5 189	5 163	5 216	5 273	57	159	1,1	3,1	
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 149	1 119	1 140	1 191	1 211	20	62	1,7	5,4	
Agriculture	292	300	274	284	296	12	4	4,2	1,3	
Private households	874	867	871	854	856	2	-19	0,2	-2,1	
Unemployed	3 896	4 054	4 147	3 960	3 922	-38	26	-1,0	0,7	
Not economically active	9 339	9 200	9 200	9 354	9 363	9	24	0,1	0,3	
Discouraged work-seekers	1 629	1 668	1 713	1 829	1 869	40	240	2,2	14,7	
Other (not economically active)	7 710	7 532	7 487	7 526	7 494	-32	-216	-0,4	-2,8	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	34,4	35,2	35,8	34,4	33,9	-0,5	-0,5			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,0	36,1	35,8	36,2	36,5	0,3	0,5			
Labour force participation rate	54,8	55,6	55,8	55,2	55,2	0,0	0,4			

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Men									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 357	20 429	20 501	20 572	20 640	69	283	0,3	1,4
Labour force	13 294	13 441	13 441	13 452	13 512	60	218	0,4	1,6
Employed	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	9 442	41	148	0,4	1,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6 374	6 355	6 304	6 373	6 406	33	33	0,5	0,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 033	1 963	1 989	2 104	2 118	14	85	0,7	4,2
Agriculture	628	641	622	651	628	-23	0	-3,5	0,0
Private households	260	311	289	274	291	16	31	6,0	11,9
Unemployed	4 000	4 172	4 237	4 050	4 069	19	70	0,5	1,7
Not economically active	7 064	6 988	7 060	7 119	7 129	9	65	0,1	0,9
Discouraged work-seekers	1 420	1 379	1 482	1 526	1 597	70	177	4,6	12,4
Other (not economically active)	5 644	5 608	5 578	5 593	5 532	-61	-112	-1,1	-2,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,1	31,0	31,5	30,1	30,1	0,0	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,7	45,4	44,9	45,7	45,7	0,0	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	65,3	65,8	65,6	65,4	65,5	0,1	0,2		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.1: Labour force characteristics by population group									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Labour force	24 619	24 971	25 036	24 957	25 069	112	450	0,4	1,8
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2
Not economically active	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,1	32,9	33,5	32,1	31,9	-0,2	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	60,0	60,7	60,6	60,2	60,3	0,1	0,3		
Black African									
Population 15–64 yrs	33 589	33 728	33 867	34 004	34 137	133	548	0,4	1,6
Labour force	19 935	20 204	20 300	20 225	20 323	98	388	0,5	1,9
Employed	12 746	12 744	12 668	12 934	13 048	115	302	0,9	2,4
Unemployed	7 189	7 460	7 632	7 291	7 275	-17	85	-0,2	1,2
Not economically active	13 654	13 524	13 567	13 780	13 814	34	161	0,3	1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,1	36,9	37,6	36,1	35,8	-0,3	-0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,9	37,8	37,4	38,0	38,2	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	59,4	59,9	59,9	59,5	59,5	0,0	0,1		
Coloured									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 596	3 601	3 606	3 611	3 616	4	19	0,1	0,5
Labour force	2 186	2 228	2 197	2 188	2 237	49	50	2,2	2,3
Employed	1 711	1 716	1 685	1 726	1 737	11	26	0,7	1,5
Unemployed	475	511	513	462	500	37	25	8,1	5,2
Not economically active	1 410	1 374	1 409	1 423	1 379	-44	-31	-3,1	-2,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	21,7	23,0	23,3	21,1	22,3	1,2	0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,6	47,7	46,7	47,8	48,0	0,2	0,4		
Labour force participation rate	60,8	61,9	60,9	60,6	61,9	1,3	1,1		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Indian/Asian										
Population 15–64 yrs	1 049	1 051	1 053	1 055	1 058	2	8	0,2	0,8	
Labour force	609	620	641	669	661	-7	52	-1,1	8,6	
Employed	538	542	552	564	569	4	31	0,8	5,8	
Unemployed	71	78	89	104	92	-12	21	-11,3	30,0	
Not economically active	440	432	413	387	396	9	-44	2,4	-10,0	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	11,7	12,6	13,9	15,6	14,0	-1,6	2,3			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	51,3	51,5	52,4	53,5	53,8	0,3	2,5			
Labour force participation rate	58,0	58,9	60,8	63,3	62,5	-0,8	4,5			
White										
Population 15–64 yrs	2 787	2 778	2 769	2 760	2 750	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3	
Labour force	1 888	1 919	1 898	1 875	1 848	-27	-40	-1,5	-2,1	
Employed	1 728	1 743	1 748	1 723	1 724	1	-4	0,1	-0,2	
Unemployed	160	177	150	153	124	-29	-36	-18,8	-22,4	
Not economically active	899	859	871	884	902	18	3	2,1	0,4	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	8,5	9,2	7,9	8,2	6,7	-1,5	-1,8			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	62,0	62,7	63,1	62,4	62,7	0,3	0,7			
Labour force participation rate	67,7	69,1	68,6	68,0	67,2	-0,8	-0,5			

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.2: Labour force characteristics by age group									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
15–64 years									
Population 15–64 yrs	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Labour force	24 619	24 971	25 036	24 957	25 069	112	450	0,4	1,8
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2
Not economically active	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,1	32,9	33,5	32,1	31,9	-0,2	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	60,0	60,7	60,6	60,2	60,3	0,1	0,3		
15–24 years									
Population 15–24 yrs	10 247	10 255	10 262	10 273	10 286	13	39	0,1	0,4
Labour force	2 705	2 750	2 780	2 729	2 731	2	26	0,1	1,0
Employed	1 098	1 107	1 089	1 086	1 102	17	4	1,6	0,4
Unemployed	1 607	1 642	1 691	1 643	1 629	-14	22	-0,9	1,4
Not economically active	7 541	7 505	7 483	7 544	7 555	11	13	0,1	0,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	59,4	59,7	60,8	60,2	59,6	-0,6	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	10,7	10,8	10,6	10,6	10,7	0,1	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	26,4	26,8	27,1	26,6	26,6	0,0	0,2		
25–34 years									
Population 25–34 yrs	10 573	10 586	10 600	10 609	10 613	4	40	0,0	0,4
Labour force	7 819	8 002	7 935	7 881	7 783	-99	-36	-1,3	-0,5
Employed	4 766	4 749	4 630	4 699	4 719	20	-47	0,4	-1,0
Unemployed	3 053	3 253	3 306	3 182	3 064	-119	11	-3,7	0,4
Not economically active	2 754	2 584	2 665	2 728	2 830	103	76	3,8	2,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,0	40,7	41,7	40,4	39,4	-1,0	0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,1	44,9	43,7	44,3	44,5	0,2	-0,6		
Labour force participation rate	74,0	75,6	74,9	74,3	73,3	-1,0	-0,7		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
35–44 years									
Population 35–44 yrs	9 051	9 095	9 138	9 180	9 218	38	167	0,4	1,8
Labour force	7 196	7 225	7 251	7 263	7 328	65	132	0,9	1,8
Employed	5 200	5 178	5 169	5 303	5 334	31	134	0,6	2,6
Unemployed	1 996	2 047	2 082	1 960	1 994	34	-2	1,7	-0,1
Not economically active	1 855	1 870	1 888	1 916	1 890	-26	35	-1,4	1,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	27,7	28,3	28,7	27,0	27,2	0,2	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	57,4	56,9	56,6	57,8	57,9	0,1	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	79,5	79,4	79,3	79,1	79,5	0,4	0,0		
45–54 years									
Population 45–54 yrs	6 788	6 836	6 884	6 931	6 975	45	187	0,6	2,8
Labour force	5 012	5 062	5 127	5 122	5 224	101	212	2,0	4,2
Employed	3 988	4 009	4 065	4 105	4 148	44	161	1,1	4,0
Unemployed	1 024	1 053	1 063	1 018	1 075	58	51	5,7	5,0
Not economically active	1 776	1 774	1 757	1 808	1 752	-57	-25	-3,1	-1,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,4	20,8	20,7	19,9	20,6	0,7	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	58,7	58,7	59,0	59,2	59,5	0,3	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	73,8	74,0	74,5	73,9	74,9	1,0	1,1		
55–64 years									
Population 55–64 yrs	4 363	4 387	4 411	4 439	4 468	30	106	0,7	2,4
Labour force	1 887	1 932	1 943	1 961	2 003	42	116	2,1	6,2
Employed	1 672	1 701	1 701	1 754	1 775	20	103	1,2	6,2
Unemployed	215	230	242	207	228	22	13	10,6	6,3
Not economically active	2 476	2 455	2 468	2 478	2 465	-12	-11	-0,5	-0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	11,4	11,9	12,5	10,5	11,4	0,9	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,3	38,8	38,6	39,5	39,7	0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	43,2	44,0	44,1	44,2	44,8	0,6	1,6		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Labour force	24 619	24 971	25 036	24 957	25 069	112	450	0,4	1,8
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2
Not economically active	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
Discouraged work-seekers	3 049	3 048	3 195	3 355	3 466	111	417	3,3	13,7
Other (not economically active)	13 354	13 140	13 065	13 119	13 026	-93	-328	-0,7	-2,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,1	32,9	33,5	32,1	31,9	-0,2	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	60,0	60,7	60,6	60,2	60,3	0,1	0,3		
Western Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	5 016	5 035	5 054	5 073	5 090	18	74	0,4	1,5
Labour force	3 459	3 486	3 439	3 419	3 498	79	39	2,3	1,1
Employed	2 757	2 740	2 675	2 749	2 812	62	55	2,3	2,0
Unemployed	702	745	765	670	686	16	-16	2,4	-2,3
Not economically active	1 557	1 550	1 615	1 654	1 593	-61	35	-3,7	2,3
Discouraged work-seekers	162	125	146	169	111	-58	-51	-34,5	-31,6
Other (not economically active)	1 395	1 425	1 469	1 485	1 482	-3	87	-0,2	6,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,3	21,4	22,2	19,6	19,6	0,0	-0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	55,0	54,4	52,9	54,2	55,2	1,0	0,2		
Labour force participation rate	69,0	69,2	68,1	67,4	68,7	1,3	-0,3		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Western Cape – Non-metro										
Population 15–64 yrs	1 821	1 827	1 834	1 841	1 847	6	27	0,3	1,5	
Labour force	1 139	1 197	1 154	1 159	1 202	43	63	3,7	5,5	
Employed	969	999	925	993	1 030	37	61	3,7	6,2	
Unemployed	170	199	229	166	172	6	2	3,8	1,2	
Not economically active	682	630	680	682	646	-37	-36	-5,4	-5,3	
Discouraged work-seekers	124	91	113	121	71	-50	-53	-41,3	-42,7	
Other (not economically active)	558	539	568	561	575	13	17	2,4	3,0	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	14,9	16,6	19,9	14,3	14,3	0,0	-0,6			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	53,2	54,6	50,4	53,9	55,7	1,8	2,5			
Labour force participation rate	62,6	65,5	62,9	62,9	65,1	2,2	2,5			
Western Cape – City of Cape Town										
Population 15–64 yrs	3 196	3 208	3 220	3 232	3 243	11	48	0,4	1,5	
Labour force	2 320	2 288	2 285	2 260	2 296	36	-24	1,6	-1,0	
Employed	1 788	1 741	1 750	1 756	1 782	26	-6	1,5	-0,3	
Unemployed	532	547	536	504	514	10	-18	2,0	-3,5	
Not economically active	876	919	934	972	947	-24	71	-2,5	8,2	
Discouraged work-seekers	38	34	33	48	40	-8	2	-17,3	4,5	
Other (not economically active)	838	886	901	924	907	-16	70	-1,8	8,3	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	22,9	23,9	23,4	22,3	22,4	0,1	-0,5			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	55,9	54,3	54,3	54,3	54,9	0,6	-1,0			
Labour force participation rate	72,6	71,3	71,0	69,9	70,8	0,9	-1,8			

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Eastern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 525	4 539	4 553	4 566	4 579	13	54	0,3	1,2
Labour force	2 320	2 332	2 319	2 312	2 297	-16	-24	-0,7	-1,0
Employed	1 348	1 344	1 369	1 452	1 455	4	108	0,3	8,0
Unemployed	973	988	951	861	841	-20	-132	-2,3	-13,5
Not economically active	2 205	2 207	2 234	2 254	2 283	29	78	1,3	3,5
Discouraged work-seekers	162	224	300	334	355	21	193	6,3	118,8
Other (not economically active)	2 043	1 983	1 934	1 920	1 927	8	-115	0,4	-5,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,9	42,4	41,0	37,2	36,6	-0,6	-5,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	29,8	29,6	30,1	31,8	31,8	0,0	2,0		
Labour force participation rate	51,3	51,4	50,9	50,6	50,2	-0,4	-1,1		
Eastern Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 087	3 095	3 103	3 111	3 119	8	32	0,2	1,0
Labour force	1 438	1 437	1 434	1 412	1 372	-40	-66	-2,9	-4,6
Employed	761	744	768	793	774	-19	13	-2,4	1,7
Unemployed	677	693	666	619	598	-22	-79	-3,5	-11,7
Not economically active	1 649	1 658	1 669	1 699	1 747	48	98	2,8	6,0
Discouraged work-seekers	154	220	286	319	339	19	185	6,0	119,7
Other (not economically active)	1 494	1 438	1 383	1 379	1 408	29	-86	2,1	-5,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	47,1	48,2	46,5	43,9	43,6	-0,3	-3,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	24,7	24,1	24,8	25,5	24,8	-0,7	0,1		
Labour force participation rate	46,6	46,4	46,2	45,4	44,0	-1,4	-2,6		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City									
Population 15–64 yrs	555	557	559	561	563	2	8	0,4	1,5
Labour force	389	383	378	375	412	37	23	9,9	5,9
Employed	261	253	250	262	281	18	20	7,0	7,7
Unemployed	129	129	127	113	132	19	3	16,6	2,4
Not economically active	166	174	182	186	151	-35	-15	-18,9	-8,9
Discouraged work-seekers		3	2	4	5	2		44,1	
Other (not economically active)	166	171	179	183	146	-37	-20	-20,1	-12,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,0	33,8	33,7	30,1	31,9	1,8	-1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,0	45,5	44,7	46,7	49,8	3,1	2,8		
Labour force participation rate	70,1	68,7	67,5	66,8	73,2	6,4	3,1		
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15–64 yrs	883	887	890	894	897	3	14	0,4	1,6
Labour force	493	512	507	525	512	-13	20	-2,4	4,0
Employed	326	346	350	396	401	4	75	1,1	23,1
Unemployed	167	166	157	129	112	-17	-55	-13,2	-33,2
Not economically active	390	375	383	369	385	16	-6	4,3	-1,5
Discouraged work-seekers	8	1	11	11	12	0	3	3,6	39,6
Other (not economically active)	382	374	372	358	373	16	-9	4,4	-2,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,9	32,4	30,9	24,5	21,8	-2,7	-12,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,9	39,0	39,3	44,4	44,7	0,3	7,8		
Labour force participation rate	55,8	57,7	57,0	58,8	57,1	-1,7	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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Northern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	836	838	840	841	843	2	7	0,2	0,8
Labour force	447	462	461	484	488	4	41	0,9	9,2
Employed	327	331	314	337	355	18	28	5,2	8,5
Unemployed	120	131	147	147	134	-13	13	-9,1	11,1
Not economically active	389	376	378	357	354	-3	-35	-0,7	-8,9
Discouraged work-seekers	103	86	90	82	78	-4	-25	-5,4	-24,5
Other (not economically active)	286	289	289	275	277	2	-9	0,7	-3,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	26,9	28,3	32,0	30,4	27,4	-3,0	0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,1	39,5	37,4	40,1	42,1	2,0	3,0		
Labour force participation rate	53,5	55,1	54,9	57,6	57,9	0,3	4,4		
Free State									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 937	1 938	1 939	1 940	1 941	1	5	0,0	0,2
Labour force	1 178	1 197	1 194	1 212	1 207	-5	29	-0,4	2,5
Employed	742	742	745	775	750	-25	8	-3,3	1,1
Unemployed	436	455	449	436	457	20	21	4,7	4,8
Not economically active	759	741	745	729	735	6	-24	0,8	-3,2
Discouraged work-seekers	117	125	129	118	109	-9	-8	-7,8	-6,7
Other (not economically active)	642	616	615	611	626	15	-17	2,5	-2,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	37,0	38,0	37,6	36,0	37,9	1,9	0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,3	38,3	38,4	40,0	38,6	-1,4	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	60,8	61,8	61,6	62,4	62,2	-0,2	1,4		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Free State – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 380	1 381	1 382	1 383	1 383	1	3	0,0	0,2
Labour force	850	869	860	870	865	-5	15	-0,6	1,7
Employed	524	513	513	528	505	-23	-20	-4,4	-3,8
Unemployed	326	356	347	342	361	18	34	5,3	10,6
Not economically active	529	512	522	513	518	6	-11	1,1	-2,1
Discouraged work-seekers	68	75	87	82	78	-3	10	-3,8	14,5
Other (not economically active)	461	437	435	431	440	9	-21	2,0	-4,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,3	41,0	40,4	39,3	41,7	2,4	3,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,0	37,2	37,1	38,2	36,5	-1,7	-1,5		
Labour force participation rate	61,6	62,9	62,2	62,9	62,5	-0,4	0,9		
Free State – Mangaung									
Population 15–64 yrs	557	557	557	558	558	0	1	0,0	0,2
Labour force	327	328	335	342	342	0	14	0,0	4,4
Employed	217	229	233	248	245	-2	28	-0,9	12,8
Unemployed	110	99	102	94	96	2	-13	2,4	-12,3
Not economically active	229	229	223	216	216	0	-13	0,2	-5,7
Discouraged work-seekers	48	50	42	36	30	-6	-18	-16,7	-36,9
Other (not economically active)	181	179	180	180	186	6	5	3,6	2,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,5	30,1	30,5	27,5	28,2	0,7	-5,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,1	41,1	41,7	44,4	44,0	-0,4	4,9		
Labour force participation rate	58,8	58,8	60,1	61,3	61,2	-0,1	2,4		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
KwaZulu-Natal									
Population 15–64 yrs	7 581	7 607	7 633	7 658	7 683	25	102	0,3	1,3
Labour force	4 053	4 126	4 124	4 128	4 051	-77	-2	-1,9	-0,1
Employed	2 856	2 891	2 842	2 840	2 892	52	36	1,8	1,3
Unemployed	1 197	1 235	1 281	1 287	1 159	-128	-38	-10,0	-3,2
Not economically active	3 528	3 480	3 509	3 530	3 632	101	104	2,9	2,9
Discouraged work-seekers	790	771	825	881	962	81	172	9,2	21,8
Other (not economically active)	2 738	2 709	2 684	2 649	2 669	20	-69	0,8	-2,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	29,5	29,9	31,1	31,2	28,6	-2,6	-0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,7	38,0	37,2	37,1	37,6	0,5	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	53,5	54,2	54,0	53,9	52,7	-1,2	-0,8		
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 928	4 943	4 959	4 974	4 989	15	61	0,3	1,2
Labour force	2 431	2 496	2 499	2 465	2 444	-21	13	-0,8	0,5
Employed	1 593	1 618	1 590	1 519	1 559	40	-34	2,6	-2,1
Unemployed	838	877	908	945	885	-60	47	-6,4	5,6
Not economically active	2 497	2 448	2 460	2 509	2 545	35	48	1,4	1,9
Discouraged work-seekers	531	481	530	561	612	52	82	9,3	15,4
Other (not economically active)	1 967	1 967	1 930	1 949	1 932	-17	-34	-0,8	-1,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,5	35,1	36,4	38,4	36,2	-2,2	1,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,3	32,7	32,1	30,5	31,2	0,7	-1,1		
Labour force participation rate	49,3	50,5	50,4	49,5	49,0	-0,5	-0,3		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekwini									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 653	2 663	2 674	2 684	2 694	10	41	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 622	1 631	1 625	1 663	1 607	-56	-15	-3,4	-0,9
Employed	1 263	1 273	1 252	1 321	1 333	12	70	0,9	5,5
Unemployed	359	358	373	342	274	-68	-85	-19,8	-23,6
Not economically active	1 031	1 033	1 049	1 021	1 087	66	56	6,5	5,4
Discouraged work-seekers	259	290	295	320	350	29	90	9,1	34,8
Other (not economically active)	771	742	754	700	737	37	-34	5,2	-4,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	22,1	22,0	23,0	20,6	17,1	-3,5	-5,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,6	47,8	46,8	49,2	49,5	0,3	1,9		
Labour force participation rate	61,1	61,2	60,8	62,0	59,7	-2,3	-1,4		
North West									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 780	2 789	2 799	2 808	2 817	9	37	0,3	1,3
Labour force	1 493	1 511	1 511	1 511	1 593	82	100	5,4	6,7
Employed	912	899	887	956	935	-20	24	-2,1	2,6
Unemployed	582	612	624	555	658	102	76	18,4	13,1
Not economically active	1 287	1 279	1 288	1 297	1 224	-73	-63	-5,6	-4,9
Discouraged work-seekers	339	339	328	338	339	1	0	0,3	0,0
Other (not economically active)	947	939	959	958	885	-74	-63	-7,7	-6,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,0	40,5	41,3	36,8	41,3	4,5	2,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,8	32,2	31,7	34,0	33,2	-0,8	0,4		
Labour force participation rate	53,7	54,2	54,0	53,8	56,6	2,8	2,9		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng									
Population 15–64 yrs	11 190	11 232	11 275	11 317	11 358	41	168	0,4	1,5
Labour force	7 599	7 689	7 858	7 630	7 748	118	149	1,6	2,0
Employed	5 034	5 061	5 103	5 037	5 081	45	47	0,9	0,9
Unemployed	2 565	2 628	2 756	2 593	2 667	74	102	2,8	4,0
Not economically active	3 590	3 543	3 417	3 687	3 610	-78	19	-2,1	0,5
Discouraged work-seekers	502	534	461	572	602	30	100	5,3	20,0
Other (not economically active)	3 089	3 010	2 956	3 115	3 008	-108	-81	-3,5	-2,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,8	34,2	35,1	34,0	34,4	0,4	0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,0	45,1	45,3	44,5	44,7	0,2	-0,3		
Labour force participation rate	67,9	68,5	69,7	67,4	68,2	0,8	0,3		
Gauteng – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 480	1 486	1 492	1 498	1 504	6	23	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 019	1 017	1 020	1 016	1 049	33	31	3,3	3,0
Employed	627	612	611	626	607	-20	-20	-3,1	-3,2
Unemployed	392	405	409	390	443	53	51	13,6	12,9
Not economically active	461	469	472	482	454	-28	-7	-5,7	-1,6
Discouraged work-seekers	82	107	107	121	116	-5	35	-4,1	42,2
Other (not economically active)	380	362	365	360	338	-23	-42	-6,3	-11,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,5	39,8	40,1	38,4	42,2	3,8	3,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	42,3	41,2	41,0	41,8	40,3	-1,5	-2,0		
Labour force participation rate	68,8	68,5	68,4	67,8	69,8	2,0	1,0		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 810	2 821	2 832	2 843	2 853	10	43	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 771	1 830	1 875	1 826	1 820	-6	49	-0,3	2,8
Employed	1 228	1 231	1 249	1 242	1 255	13	26	1,0	2,2
Unemployed	543	600	626	585	566	-19	22	-3,3	4,1
Not economically active	1 039	991	957	1 016	1 033	17	-6	1,6	-0,6
Discouraged work-seekers	218	211	166	223	217	-6	-1	-2,8	-0,2
Other (not economically active)	821	780	792	793	816	23	-6	2,9	-0,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,7	32,8	33,4	32,0	31,1	-0,9	0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,7	43,6	44,1	43,7	44,0	0,3	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	63,0	64,9	66,2	64,3	63,8	-0,5	0,8		
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 151	4 166	4 182	4 197	4 212	15	61	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 855	2 883	3 009	2 810	2 965	155	110	5,5	3,9
Employed	1 909	1 947	1 978	1 862	1 935	73	26	3,9	1,4
Unemployed	946	937	1 031	948	1 030	82	84	8,6	8,9
Not economically active	1 296	1 283	1 173	1 387	1 247	-140	-49	-10,1	-3,8
Discouraged work-seekers	141	139	105	133	156	23	15	17,1	10,4
Other (not economically active)	1 154	1 144	1 067	1 254	1 091	-163	-64	-13,0	-5,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,1	32,5	34,3	33,7	34,7	1,0	1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,0	46,7	47,3	44,4	45,9	1,5	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	68,8	69,2	72,0	67,0	70,4	3,4	1,6		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng – City of Tshwane									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 748	2 759	2 769	2 779	2 789	10	41	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 954	1 958	1 954	1 977	1 913	-64	-41	-3,2	-2,1
Employed	1 270	1 271	1 265	1 307	1 285	-22	15	-1,7	1,1
Unemployed	684	687	689	671	628	-42	-55	-6,3	-8,1
Not economically active	794	801	815	802	876	74	82	9,2	10,3
Discouraged work-seekers	61	78	82	94	113	19	52	19,8	84,6
Other (not economically active)	733	723	733	708	763	55	30	7,8	4,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,0	35,1	35,3	33,9	32,8	-1,1	-2,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,2	46,1	45,7	47,0	46,1	-0,9	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	71,1	71,0	70,6	71,1	68,6	-2,5	-2,5		
Mpumalanga									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 146	3 157	3 168	3 178	3 189	10	42	0,3	1,3
Labour force	1 920	1 945	1 904	1 947	1 920	-27	1	-1,4	0,0
Employed	1 250	1 242	1 192	1 241	1 255	13	4	1,1	0,4
Unemployed	670	703	712	706	666	-40	-4	-5,7	-0,6
Not economically active	1 227	1 212	1 264	1 232	1 268	37	42	3,0	3,4
Discouraged work-seekers	313	321	358	347	374	27	61	7,7	19,4
Other (not economically active)	913	890	906	884	894	10	-19	1,1	-2,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,9	36,2	37,4	36,2	34,7	-1,5	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,7	39,3	37,6	39,0	39,3	0,3	-0,4		
Labour force participation rate	61,0	61,6	60,1	61,3	60,2	-1,1	-0,8		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Limpopo									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 010	4 023	4 036	4 049	4 061	12	51	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 149	2 223	2 225	2 314	2 267	-47	118	-2,0	5,5
Employed	1 498	1 495	1 526	1 559	1 543	-16	45	-1,0	3,0
Unemployed	651	728	699	755	724	-31	73	-4,1	11,3
Not economically active	1 861	1 800	1 811	1 735	1 794	59	-67	3,4	-3,6
Discouraged work-seekers	561	521	559	513	536	23	-25	4,4	-4,5
Other (not economically active)	1 300	1 279	1 252	1 222	1 258	37	-42	3,0	-3,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,3	32,7	31,4	32,6	31,9	-0,7	1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,4	37,2	37,8	38,5	38,0	-0,5	0,6		
Labour force participation rate	53,6	55,3	55,1	57,2	55,8	-1,4	2,2		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes									
Population 15–64 yrs	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Labour force	28 389	28 829	29 035	29 177	29 369	192	980	0,7	3,5
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 488	11 544	11 467	11 589	11 679	90	192	0,8	1,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 181	3 082	3 129	3 295	3 328	34	147	1,0	4,6
Agriculture	920	941	896	935	924	-11	4	-1,2	0,4
Private households	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	1 146	18	12	1,6	1,1
Unemployed	11 665	12 084	12 383	12 231	12 291	60	626	0,5	5,4
Not economically active	12 633	12 329	12 261	12 254	12 192	-62	-441	-0,5	-3,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,1	41,9	42,6	41,9	41,9	0,0	0,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	69,2	70,0	70,3	70,4	70,7	0,3	1,5		
Women									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 664	20 729	20 795	20 859	20 920	61	256	0,3	1,2
Labour force	13 429	13 725	13 815	13 890	13 942	52	513	0,4	3,8
Employed	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	7 636	91	206	1,2	2,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5 114	5 189	5 163	5 216	5 273	57	159	1,1	3,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 149	1 119	1 140	1 191	1 211	20	62	1,7	5,4
Agriculture	292	300	274	284	296	12	4	4,2	1,3
Private households	874	867	871	854	856	2	-19	0,2	-2,1
Unemployed	6 000	6 249	6 367	6 345	6 306	-39	307	-0,6	5,1
Not economically active	7 235	7 005	6 980	6 969	6 978	9	-257	0,1	-3,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	44,7	45,5	46,1	45,7	45,2	-0,5	0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,0	36,1	35,8	36,2	36,5	0,3	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	65,0	66,2	66,4	66,6	66,6	0,0	1,6		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.4: Labour force characteristics by sex – Expanded definition of unemployment (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Men									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 357	20 429	20 501	20 572	20 640	69	283	0,3	1,4
Labour force	14 960	15 104	15 220	15 287	15 427	140	467	0,9	3,1
Employed	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	9 442	41	148	0,4	1,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6 374	6 355	6 304	6 373	6 406	33	33	0,5	0,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 033	1 963	1 989	2 104	2 118	14	85	0,7	4,2
Agriculture	628	641	622	651	628	-23	0	-3,5	0,0
Private households	260	311	289	274	291	16	31	6,0	11,9
Unemployed	5 666	5 835	6 016	5 886	5 985	99	319	1,7	5,6
Not economically active	5 397	5 325	5 280	5 284	5 213	-71	-184	-1,3	-3,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	37,9	38,6	39,5	38,5	38,8	0,3	0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,7	45,4	44,9	45,7	45,7	0,0	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	73,5	73,9	74,2	74,3	74,7	0,4	1,2		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Labour force	28 389	28 829	29 035	29 177	29 369	192	980	0,7	3,5
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Unemployed	11 665	12 084	12 383	12 231	12 291	60	626	0,5	5,4
Not economically active	12 633	12 329	12 261	12 254	12 192	-62	-441	-0,5	-3,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,1	41,9	42,6	41,9	41,9	0,0	0,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	69,2	70,0	70,3	70,4	70,7	0,3	1,5		
Black African									
Population 15–64 yrs	33 589	33 728	33 867	34 004	34 137	133	548	0,4	1,6
Labour force	23 357	23 737	23 915	24 007	24 221	214	864	0,9	3,7
Employed	12 746	12 744	12 668	12 934	13 048	115	302	0,9	2,4
Unemployed	10 611	10 993	11 247	11 073	11 173	100	562	0,9	5,3
Not economically active	10 232	9 991	9 952	9 998	9 916	-82	-316	-0,8	-3,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	45,4	46,3	47,0	46,1	46,1	0,0	0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,9	37,8	37,4	38,0	38,2	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	69,5	70,4	70,6	70,6	71,0	0,4	1,5		
Coloured									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 596	3 601	3 606	3 611	3 616	4	19	0,1	0,5
Labour force	2 463	2 460	2 477	2 507	2 516	9	53	0,4	2,2
Employed	1 711	1 716	1 685	1 726	1 737	11	26	0,7	1,5
Unemployed	751	743	793	781	779	-2	28	-0,2	3,7
Not economically active	1 133	1 142	1 129	1 104	1 099	-5	-34	-0,5	-3,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,5	30,2	32,0	31,2	31,0	-0,2	0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,6	47,7	46,7	47,8	48,0	0,2	0,4		
Labour force participation rate	68,5	68,3	68,7	69,4	69,6	0,2	1,1		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Indian/Asian									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 049	1 051	1 053	1 055	1 058	2	8	0,2	0,8
Labour force	643	683	707	732	734	2	91	0,3	14,2
Employed	538	542	552	564	569	4	31	0,8	5,8
Unemployed	105	141	155	167	165	-2	60	-1,3	57,6
Not economically active	407	369	347	324	323	0	-83	-0,1	-20,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	16,3	20,7	21,9	22,9	22,5	-0,4	6,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	51,3	51,5	52,4	53,5	53,8	0,3	2,5		
Labour force participation rate	61,3	64,9	67,1	69,3	69,4	0,1	8,1		
White									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 787	2 778	2 769	2 760	2 750	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3
Labour force	1 926	1 949	1 936	1 932	1 898	-34	-29	-1,8	-1,5
Employed	1 728	1 743	1 748	1 723	1 724	1	-4	0,1	-0,2
Unemployed	198	207	188	209	174	-36	-24	-17,0	-12,3
Not economically active	861	829	833	828	853	25	-8	3,0	-0,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	10,3	10,6	9,7	10,8	9,2	-1,6	-1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	62,0	62,7	63,1	62,4	62,7	0,3	0,7		
Labour force participation rate	69,1	70,2	69,9	70,0	69,0	-1,0	-0,1		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
15–64 years									
Population 15–64 yrs	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3
Labour force	28 389	28 829	29 035	29 177	29 369	192	980	0,7	3,5
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Unemployed	11 665	12 084	12 383	12 231	12 291	60	626	0,5	5,4
Not economically active	12 633	12 329	12 261	12 254	12 192	-62	-441	-0,5	-3,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,1	41,9	42,6	41,9	41,9	0,0	0,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	69,2	70,0	70,3	70,4	70,7	0,3	1,5		
15–24 years									
Population 15–24 yrs	10 247	10 255	10 262	10 273	10 286	13	39	0,1	0,4
Labour force	3 559	3 646	3 704	3 702	3 708	6	149	0,2	4,2
Employed	1 098	1 107	1 089	1 086	1 102	17	4	1,6	0,4
Unemployed	2 461	2 539	2 615	2 616	2 605	-11	145	-0,4	5,9
Not economically active	6 688	6 608	6 558	6 571	6 578	7	-110	0,1	-1,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	69,1	69,6	70,6	70,7	70,3	-0,4	1,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	10,7	10,8	10,6	10,6	10,7	0,1	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	34,7	35,6	36,1	36,0	36,0	0,0	1,3		
25–34 years									
Population 25–34 yrs	10 573	10 586	10 600	10 609	10 613	4	40	0,0	0,4
Labour force	9 111	9 258	9 283	9 264	9 236	-28	125	-0,3	1,4
Employed	4 766	4 749	4 630	4 699	4 719	20	-47	0,4	-1,0
Unemployed	4 345	4 509	4 654	4 565	4 517	-48	172	-1,1	4,0
Not economically active	1 462	1 328	1 317	1 345	1 377	32	-85	2,4	-5,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	47,7	48,7	50,1	49,3	48,9	-0,4	1,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,1	44,9	43,7	44,3	44,5	0,2	-0,6		
Labour force participation rate	86,2	87,5	87,6	87,3	87,0	-0,3	0,8		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
35–44 years									
Population 35–44 yrs	9 051	9 095	9 138	9 180	9 218	38	167	0,4	1,8
Labour force	8 015	8 095	8 162	8 258	8 311	53	296	0,6	3,7
Employed	5 200	5 178	5 169	5 303	5 334	31	134	0,6	2,6
Unemployed	2 815	2 918	2 993	2 955	2 978	22	162	0,8	5,8
Not economically active	1 036	999	977	922	907	-15	-129	-1,6	-12,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,1	36,0	36,7	35,8	35,8	0,0	0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	57,4	56,9	56,6	57,8	57,9	0,1	0,5		
Labour force participation rate	88,6	89,0	89,3	90,0	90,2	0,2	1,6		
45–54 years									
Population 45–54 yrs	6 788	6 836	6 884	6 931	6 975	45	187	0,6	2,8
Labour force	5 601	5 688	5 745	5 771	5 892	121	290	2,1	5,2
Employed	3 988	4 009	4 065	4 105	4 148	44	161	1,1	4,0
Unemployed	1 613	1 679	1 681	1 666	1 743	77	130	4,6	8,0
Not economically active	1 187	1 148	1 139	1 160	1 084	-76	-103	-6,6	-8,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	28,8	29,5	29,3	28,9	29,6	0,7	0,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	58,7	58,7	59,0	59,2	59,5	0,3	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	82,5	83,2	83,5	83,3	84,5	1,2	2,0		
55–64 years									
Population 55–64 yrs	4 363	4 387	4 411	4 439	4 468	30	106	0,7	2,4
Labour force	2 103	2 141	2 141	2 182	2 223	41	120	1,9	5,7
Employed	1 672	1 701	1 701	1 754	1 775	20	103	1,2	6,2
Unemployed	431	440	440	428	448	20	17	4,8	4,0
Not economically active	2 260	2 246	2 270	2 256	2 245	-11	-14	-0,5	-0,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,5	20,5	20,6	19,6	20,2	0,6	-0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,3	38,8	38,6	39,5	39,7	0,2	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	48,2	48,8	48,5	49,2	49,7	0,5	1,5		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

	Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
South Africa										
Population 15–64 yrs	41 022	41 158	41 296	41 431	41 561	130	539	0,3	1,3	
Labour force	28 389	28 829	29 035	29 177	29 369	192	980	0,7	3,5	
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1	
Unemployed	11 665	12 084	12 383	12 231	12 291	60	626	0,5	5,4	
Not economically active	12 633	12 329	12 261	12 254	12 192	-62	-441	-0,5	-3,5	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	41,1	41,9	42,6	41,9	41,9	0,0	0,8			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	40,7	40,3	40,9	41,1	0,2	0,3			
Labour force participation rate	69,2	70,0	70,3	70,4	70,7	0,3	1,5			
Western Cape										
Population 15–64 yrs	5 016	5 035	5 054	5 073	5 090	18	74	0,4	1,5	
Labour force	3 708	3 709	3 677	3 696	3 741	45	34	1,2	0,9	
Employed	2 757	2 740	2 675	2 749	2 812	62	55	2,3	2,0	
Unemployed	951	969	1 003	947	929	-18	-21	-1,9	-2,2	
Not economically active	1 309	1 326	1 376	1 376	1 349	-27	41	-2,0	3,1	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	25,6	26,1	27,3	25,6	24,8	-0,8	-0,8			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	55,0	54,4	52,9	54,2	55,2	1,0	0,2			
Labour force participation rate	73,9	73,7	72,8	72,9	73,5	0,6	-0,4			
Western Cape – Non-metro										
Population 15–64 yrs	1 821	1 827	1 834	1 841	1 847	6	27	0,3	1,5	
Labour force	1 328	1 338	1 328	1 342	1 346	4	18	0,3	1,3	
Employed	969	999	925	993	1 030	37	61	3,7	6,2	
Unemployed	359	340	403	349	316	-33	-43	-9,4	-11,9	
Not economically active	493	489	506	499	501	3	9	0,5	1,8	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	27,0	25,4	30,4	26,0	23,5	-2,5	-3,5			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	53,2	54,6	50,4	53,9	55,7	1,8	2,5			
Labour force participation rate	72,9	73,2	72,4	72,9	72,9	0,0	0,0			

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Western Cape – City of Cape Town										
Population 15–64 yrs	3 196	3 208	3 220	3 232	3 243	11	48	0,4	1,5	
Labour force	2 379	2 370	2 349	2 354	2 395	41	16	1,7	0,7	
Employed	1 788	1 741	1 750	1 756	1 782	26	-6	1,5	-0,3	
Unemployed	592	629	600	598	613	15	21	2,6	3,6	
Not economically active	816	837	870	878	848	-30	32	-3,4	3,9	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	24,9	26,5	25,5	25,4	25,6	0,2	0,7			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	55,9	54,3	54,3	54,3	54,9	0,6	-1,0			
Labour force participation rate	74,5	73,9	73,0	72,8	73,9	1,1	-0,6			
Eastern Cape										
Population 15–64 yrs	4 525	4 539	4 553	4 566	4 579	13	54	0,3	1,2	
Labour force	2 546	2 638	2 723	2 762	2 775	13	229	0,5	9,0	
Employed	1 348	1 344	1 369	1 452	1 455	4	108	0,3	8,0	
Unemployed	1 199	1 294	1 354	1 310	1 320	9	121	0,7	10,1	
Not economically active	1 979	1 901	1 830	1 804	1 804	0	-175	0,0	-8,9	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	47,1	49,1	49,7	47,4	47,6	0,2	0,5			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	29,8	29,6	30,1	31,8	31,8	0,0	2,0			
Labour force participation rate	56,3	58,1	59,8	60,5	60,6	0,1	4,3			
Eastern Cape – Non-metro										
Population 15–64 yrs	3 087	3 095	3 103	3 111	3 119	8	32	0,2	1,0	
Labour force	1 649	1 731	1 814	1 827	1 807	-20	158	-1,1	9,6	
Employed	761	744	768	793	774	-19	13	-2,4	1,7	
Unemployed	888	987	1 046	1 034	1 033	-1	145	-0,1	16,4	
Not economically active	1 438	1 364	1 289	1 285	1 312	27	-126	2,1	-8,8	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	53,8	57,0	57,7	56,6	57,2	0,6	3,4			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	24,7	24,1	24,8	25,5	24,8	-0,7	0,1			
Labour force participation rate	53,4	55,9	58,5	58,7	57,9	-0,8	4,5			

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City									
Population 15–64 yrs	555	557	559	561	563	2	8	0,4	1,5
Labour force	390	390	385	384	425	41	35	10,7	9,1
Employed	261	253	250	262	281	18	20	7,0	7,7
Unemployed	129	137	135	122	145	23	15	18,6	11,8
Not economically active	165	167	174	177	138	-39	-27	-22,1	-16,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,1	35,0	35,0	31,7	34,0	2,3	0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,0	45,5	44,7	46,7	49,8	3,1	2,8		
Labour force participation rate	70,2	70,0	68,8	68,4	75,5	7,1	5,3		
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15–64 yrs	883	887	890	894	897	3	14	0,4	1,6
Labour force	507	516	524	551	543	-8	36	-1,5	7,1
Employed	326	346	350	396	401	4	75	1,1	23,1
Unemployed	182	170	174	155	142	-12	-39	-7,9	-21,6
Not economically active	376	370	366	343	354	11	-22	3,3	-5,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,8	33,0	33,2	28,1	26,2	-1,9	-9,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,9	39,0	39,3	44,4	44,7	0,3	7,8		
Labour force participation rate	57,4	58,2	58,9	61,7	60,5	-1,2	3,1		
Northern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	836	838	840	841	843	2	7	0,2	0,8
Labour force	572	568	570	592	588	-4	16	-0,7	2,8
Employed	327	331	314	337	355	18	28	5,2	8,5
Unemployed	246	237	256	255	234	-22	-12	-8,4	-4,8
Not economically active	264	270	270	249	254	5	-9	2,2	-3,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,9	41,7	44,9	43,1	39,7	-3,4	-3,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,1	39,5	37,4	40,1	42,1	2,0	3,0		
Labour force participation rate	68,4	67,8	67,9	70,4	69,8	-0,6	1,4		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

	Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Free State										
Population 15–64 yrs	1 937	1 938	1 939	1 940	1 941	1	5	0,0	0,2	
Labour force	1 323	1 352	1 358	1 367	1 344	-22	21	-1,6	1,6	
Employed	742	742	745	775	750	-25	8	-3,3	1,1	
Unemployed	581	609	613	591	595	3	13	0,5	2,3	
Not economically active	613	586	581	574	597	23	-17	4,0	-2,7	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	43,9	45,1	45,1	43,3	44,2	0,9	0,3			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,3	38,3	38,4	40,0	38,6	-1,4	0,3			
Labour force participation rate	68,3	69,7	70,1	70,4	69,3	-1,1	1,0			
Free State – Non-metro										
Population 15–64 yrs	1 380	1 381	1 382	1 383	1 383	1	3	0,0	0,2	
Labour force	938	965	967	979	968	-11	30	-1,2	3,1	
Employed	524	513	513	528	505	-23	-20	-4,4	-3,8	
Unemployed	414	451	455	451	463	12	49	2,6	11,9	
Not economically active	442	416	414	404	416	12	-26	3,0	-5,9	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	44,1	46,8	47,0	46,1	47,9	1,8	3,8			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	38,0	37,2	37,1	38,2	36,5	-1,7	-1,5			
Labour force participation rate	68,0	69,8	70,0	70,8	70,0	-0,8	2,0			
Free State – Mangaung										
Population 15–64 yrs	557	557	557	558	558	0	1	0,0	0,2	
Labour force	385	387	391	388	377	-11	-8	-2,8	-2,1	
Employed	217	229	233	248	245	-2	28	-0,9	12,8	
Unemployed	168	158	158	140	131	-9	-36	-6,1	-21,6	
Not economically active	172	170	166	170	181	11	10	6,5	5,6	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	43,5	40,9	40,5	36,1	34,9	-1,2	-8,6			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,1	41,1	41,7	44,4	44,0	-0,4	4,9			
Labour force participation rate	69,2	69,5	70,2	69,5	67,5	-2,0	-1,7			

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
KwaZulu-Natal										
Population 15–64 yrs	7 581	7 607	7 633	7 658	7 683	25	102	0,3	1,3	
Labour force	5 041	5 134	5 160	5 224	5 231	7	190	0,1	3,8	
Employed	2 856	2 891	2 842	2 840	2 892	52	36	1,8	1,3	
Unemployed	2 185	2 243	2 318	2 384	2 340	-45	154	-1,9	7,1	
Not economically active	2 540	2 473	2 472	2 433	2 451	18	-89	0,7	-3,5	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	43,4	43,7	44,9	45,6	44,7	-0,9	1,3			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,7	38,0	37,2	37,1	37,6	0,5	-0,1			
Labour force participation rate	66,5	67,5	67,6	68,2	68,1	-0,1	1,6			
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro										
Population 15–64 yrs	4 928	4 943	4 959	4 974	4 989	15	61	0,3	1,2	
Labour force	3 081	3 108	3 156	3 159	3 161	2	80	0,1	2,6	
Employed	1 593	1 618	1 590	1 519	1 559	40	-34	2,6	-2,1	
Unemployed	1 489	1 490	1 565	1 640	1 602	-37	114	-2,3	7,6	
Not economically active	1 847	1 835	1 803	1 815	1 827	12	-19	0,7	-1,1	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	48,3	47,9	49,6	51,9	50,7	-1,2	2,4			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,3	32,7	32,1	30,5	31,2	0,7	-1,1			
Labour force participation rate	62,5	62,9	63,6	63,5	63,4	-0,1	0,9			
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni										
Population 15–64 yrs	2 653	2 663	2 674	2 684	2 694	10	41	0,4	1,5	
Labour force	1 960	2 025	2 005	2 065	2 070	5	110	0,2	5,6	
Employed	1 263	1 273	1 252	1 321	1 333	12	70	0,9	5,5	
Unemployed	697	753	753	744	737	-7	40	-1,0	5,8	
Not economically active	693	638	669	619	624	5	-69	0,8	-10,0	
Rates (%)										
Unemployment rate	35,6	37,2	37,5	36,0	35,6	-0,4	0,0			
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,6	47,8	46,8	49,2	49,5	0,3	1,9			
Labour force participation rate	73,9	76,0	75,0	76,9	76,8	-0,1	2,9			

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
North West									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 780	2 789	2 799	2 808	2 817	9	37	0,3	1,3
Labour force	1 907	1 939	1 938	1 970	1 980	10	72	0,5	3,8
Employed	912	899	887	956	935	-20	24	-2,1	2,6
Unemployed	996	1 040	1 050	1 014	1 044	30	49	3,0	4,9
Not economically active	873	851	861	838	837	-1	-36	-0,1	-4,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	52,2	53,6	54,2	51,5	52,8	1,3	0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	32,8	32,2	31,7	34,0	33,2	-0,8	0,4		
Labour force participation rate	68,6	69,5	69,2	70,2	70,3	0,1	1,7		
Gauteng									
Population 15–64 yrs	11 190	11 232	11 275	11 317	11 358	41	168	0,4	1,5
Labour force	8 173	8 282	8 399	8 283	8 448	165	275	2,0	3,4
Employed	5 034	5 061	5 103	5 037	5 081	45	47	0,9	0,9
Unemployed	3 139	3 222	3 296	3 246	3 367	120	228	3,7	7,3
Not economically active	3 017	2 950	2 876	3 034	2 910	-124	-107	-4,1	-3,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,4	38,9	39,2	39,2	39,9	0,7	1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,0	45,1	45,3	44,5	44,7	0,2	-0,3		
Labour force participation rate	73,0	73,7	74,5	73,2	74,4	1,2	1,4		
Gauteng – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 480	1 486	1 492	1 498	1 504	6	23	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 107	1 131	1 142	1 148	1 180	31	72	2,7	6,5
Employed	627	612	611	626	607	-20	-20	-3,1	-3,2
Unemployed	481	519	531	522	573	51	92	9,8	19,2
Not economically active	373	355	350	350	324	-26	-49	-7,4	-13,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	43,4	45,9	46,5	45,4	48,6	3,2	5,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	42,3	41,2	41,0	41,8	40,3	-1,5	-2,0		
Labour force participation rate	74,8	76,1	76,5	76,6	78,4	1,8	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 metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 810	2 821	2 832	2 843	2 853	10	43	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 020	2 072	2 067	2 075	2 063	-12	43	-0,6	2,1
Employed	1 228	1 231	1 249	1 242	1 255	13	26	1,0	2,2
Unemployed	792	841	818	833	808	-25	16	-3,0	2,1
Not economically active	790	749	765	767	790	23	0	2,9	0,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,2	40,6	39,6	40,2	39,2	-1,0	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,7	43,6	44,1	43,7	44,0	0,3	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	71,9	73,4	73,0	73,0	72,3	-0,7	0,4		
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 151	4 166	4 182	4 197	4 212	15	61	0,4	1,5
Labour force	3 009	3 028	3 120	2 959	3 139	181	130	6,1	4,3
Employed	1 909	1 947	1 978	1 862	1 935	73	26	3,9	1,4
Unemployed	1 100	1 082	1 142	1 097	1 204	107	104	9,8	9,4
Not economically active	1 141	1 138	1 062	1 238	1 072	-166	-69	-13,4	-6,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,6	35,7	36,6	37,1	38,4	1,3	1,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,0	46,7	47,3	44,4	45,9	1,5	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	72,5	72,7	74,6	70,5	74,5	4,0	2,0		
Gauteng – City of Tshwane									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 748	2 759	2 769	2 779	2 789	10	41	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 036	2 051	2 070	2 101	2 066	-35	30	-1,7	1,5
Employed	1 270	1 271	1 265	1 307	1 285	-22	15	-1,7	1,1
Unemployed	766	780	805	795	781	-13	15	-1,7	2,0
Not economically active	712	707	699	678	723	45	11	6,6	1,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	37,6	38,0	38,9	37,8	37,8	0,0	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,2	46,1	45,7	47,0	46,1	-0,9	-0,1		
Labour force participation rate	74,1	74,4	74,8	75,6	74,1	-1,5	0,0		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Mpumalanga									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 146	3 157	3 168	3 178	3 189	10	42	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 306	2 343	2 325	2 378	2 375	-3	69	-0,1	3,0
Employed	1 250	1 242	1 192	1 241	1 255	13	4	1,1	0,4
Unemployed	1 056	1 101	1 133	1 137	1 120	-17	65	-1,5	6,1
Not economically active	840	814	843	800	814	13	-27	1,7	-3,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	45,8	47,0	48,7	47,8	47,2	-0,6	1,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,7	39,3	37,6	39,0	39,3	0,3	-0,4		
Labour force participation rate	73,3	74,2	73,4	74,8	74,5	-0,3	1,2		
Limpopo									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 010	4 023	4 036	4 049	4 061	12	51	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 812	2 865	2 885	2 904	2 885	-19	74	-0,6	2,6
Employed	1 498	1 495	1 526	1 559	1 543	-16	45	-1,0	3,0
Unemployed	1 314	1 370	1 359	1 345	1 342	-2	29	-0,2	2,2
Not economically active	1 198	1 158	1 152	1 145	1 176	31	-23	2,7	-1,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	46,7	47,8	47,1	46,3	46,5	0,2	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	37,4	37,2	37,8	38,5	38,0	-0,5	0,6		
Labour force participation rate	70,1	71,2	71,5	71,7	71,0	-0,7	0,9		

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Both sexes	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Agriculture	920	941	896	935	924	-11	4	-1,2	0,4
Mining	446	454	457	484	466	-18	20	-3,8	4,5
Manufacturing	1 507	1 606	1 655	1 635	1 675	41	168	2,5	11,1
Utilities	123	105	114	127	111	-17	-12	-13,3	-9,8
Construction	1 322	1 215	1 204	1 381	1 359	-22	37	-1,6	2,8
Trade	3 362	3 471	3 360	3 469	3 421	-48	59	-1,4	1,8
Transport	1 023	1 062	1 064	1 047	1 064	17	41	1,7	4,0
Finance	2 964	2 914	2 905	2 716	2 948	232	-16	8,5	-0,5
Community and social services	3 913	3 791	3 827	4 021	3 959	-63	46	-1,6	1,2
Private households	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	1 146	18	12	1,6	1,1
Other	10	6	10	4	5	1	-5	34,0	-49,1
Women	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	7 636	91	206	1,2	2,8
Agriculture	292	300	274	284	296	12	4	4,2	1,3
Mining	81	89	90	87	88	0	7	0,4	8,2
Manufacturing	497	562	605	616	642	26	145	4,2	29,3
Utilities	32	30	24	31	33	1	1	4,3	1,6
Construction	146	144	132	138	152	14	6	10,0	4,0
Trade	1 559	1 663	1 610	1 634	1 634	0	76	0,0	4,8
Transport	202	192	191	209	200	-9	-3	-4,5	-1,3
Finance	1 302	1 213	1 214	1 127	1 257	130	-45	11,5	-3,4
Community and social services	2 439	2 414	2 436	2 561	2 478	-84	39	-3,3	1,6
Private households	874	867	871	854	856	2	-19	0,2	-2,1
Other	4	1	0	1					
Men	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	9 442	41	148	0,4	1,6
Agriculture	628	641	622	651	628	-23	0	-3,5	0,0
Mining	364	365	367	397	378	-19	13	-4,7	3,7
Manufacturing	1 010	1 044	1 050	1 018	1 033	15	23	1,4	2,2
Utilities	90	76	90	96	78	-18	-13	-19,0	-13,9
Construction	1 176	1 072	1 072	1 243	1 207	-36	32	-2,9	2,7
Trade	1 804	1 809	1 750	1 834	1 787	-47	-17	-2,6	-0,9
Transport	821	869	874	838	864	27	44	3,2	5,3
Finance	1 662	1 701	1 690	1 589	1 691	102	29	6,4	1,8
Community and social services	1 474	1 377	1 391	1 460	1 481	21	7	1,4	0,5
Private households	260	311	289	274	291	16	31	6,0	11,9
Other	6	5	9	3	5	2	-1	88,1	-10,6

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province										
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Agriculture	920	941	896	935	924	-11	4	-1,2	0,4	
Western Cape	234	215	162	175	193	18	-41	10,3	-17,5	
Eastern Cape	96	99	113	124	90	-34	-6	-27,2	-6,3	
Northern Cape	58	54	33	39	52	13	-6	34,1	-9,8	
Free State	73	79	84	78	66	-12	-7	-15,0	-9,7	
KwaZulu-Natal	153	143	151	145	152	8	-1	5,4	-0,8	
North West	53	77	56	62	63	1	11	2,1	20,0	
Gauteng	38	47	33	47	49	1	11	2,4	27,8	
Mpumalanga	86	105	126	109	131	22	45	19,7	51,5	
Limpopo	129	123	136	156	128	-29	-1	-18,3	-0,8	
Mining	446	454	457	484	466	-18	20	-3,8	4,5	
Western Cape	4	6	10	11	10	-1	6	-6,3	161,5	
Eastern Cape	3	3	2	1	1	0	-2	37,6	-73,0	
Northern Cape	33	42	43	39	39	0	6	1,1	17,1	
Free State	19	18	16	21	20	-1	2	-4,9	9,6	
KwaZulu-Natal	7	3	6	4	4	0	-3	12,7	-43,0	
North West	106	112	113	125	107	-17	1	-13,8	1,0	
Gauteng	79	66	76	88	88	0	9	0,5	11,5	
Mpumalanga	74	72	70	70	70	0	-4	0,0	-5,9	
Limpopo	120	132	121	127	126	-1	6	-0,8	5,1	
Manufacturing	1 507	1 606	1 655	1 635	1 675	41	168	2,5	11,1	
Western Cape	304	310	314	321	307	-14	3	-4,3	1,0	
Eastern Cape	105	92	118	140	139	-1	34	-0,8	32,5	
Northern Cape	14	5	9	9	11	2	-3	16,5	-22,4	
Free State	51	60	61	52	46	-7	-5	-12,9	-10,3	
KwaZulu-Natal	328	379	382	344	368	24	40	6,9	12,1	
North West	42	44	47	46	45	0	3	-0,6	7,0	
Gauteng	507	538	557	540	568	27	61	5,1	12,0	
Mpumalanga	89	102	90	105	106	0	16	0,2	18,1	
Limpopo	67	76	77	77	86	10	19	12,5	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 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Utilities	123	105	114	127	111	-17	-12	-13,3	-9,8	
Western Cape	16	10	10	13	10	-3	-6	-20,0	-34,8	
Eastern Cape	4	4	6	12	9	-3	4	-28,2	100,8	
Northern Cape	1	1	3	6	5	0	4	-3,8	411,2	
Free State	8	3	6	6	5	-1	-3	-19,6	-41,7	
KwaZulu-Natal	13	11	10	10	5	-5	-8	-49,8	-59,0	
North West	4	7	5	6	6	0	2	0,2	63,7	
Gauteng	33	24	29	27	29	2	-4	5,7	-13,5	
Mpumalanga	31	29	27	25	26	1	-5	2,1	-16,3	
Limpopo	12	16	18	22	16	-6	3	-29,4	25,3	
Construction	1 322	1 215	1 204	1 381	1 359	-22	37	-1,6	2,8	
Western Cape	242	237	210	251	245	-6	4	-2,4	1,5	
Eastern Cape	127	105	108	127	126	-1	-1	-0,4	-1,0	
Northern Cape	26	21	21	26	19	-6	-7	-24,8	-26,8	
Free State	34	35	39	58	54	-3	20	-5,8	60,4	
KwaZulu-Natal	239	245	240	249	240	-10	1	-3,8	0,5	
North West	64	52	56	76	73	-3	10	-3,3	15,7	
Gauteng	312	290	302	323	340	17	28	5,3	8,8	
Mpumalanga	99	107	100	113	97	-15	-2	-13,7	-1,7	
Limpopo	179	123	130	159	164	5	-15	3,2	-8,6	
Trade	3 362	3 471	3 360	3 469	3 421	-48	59	-1,4	1,8	
Western Cape	510	521	493	525	509	-16	-1	-3,0	-0,2	
Eastern Cape	284	291	256	278	295	17	11	6,2	3,9	
Northern Cape	39	49	47	54	58	3	19	6,4	46,9	
Free State	150	163	146	151	144	-7	-6	-4,8	-4,1	
KwaZulu-Natal	568	581	572	590	595	5	27	0,9	4,8	
North West	177	193	191	222	203	-19	26	-8,5	14,8	
Gauteng	1 044	1 079	1 085	1 080	1 029	-50	-14	-4,7	-1,4	
Mpumalanga	276	253	237	235	241	6	-35	2,4	-12,6	
Limpopo	315	340	333	335	347	12	32	3,7	10,2	

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 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Transport	1 023	1 062	1 064	1 047	1 064	17	41	1,7	4,0	
Western Cape	148	170	158	162	184	22	36	13,7	24,4	
Eastern Cape	84	94	97	94	101	7	17	7,0	20,2	
Northern Cape	14	10	9	8	12	4	-2	54,8	-17,0	
Free State	34	35	33	39	38	0	4	-1,1	12,7	
KwaZulu-Natal	227	230	192	180	176	-4	-51	-2,1	-22,3	
North West	31	30	25	40	36	-5	4	-12,1	13,8	
Gauteng	365	382	415	392	377	-15	12	-3,8	3,3	
Mpumalanga	56	47	63	56	67	10	10	18,4	17,8	
Limpopo	64	65	73	76	74	-2	10	-2,3	16,0	
Finance	2 964	2 914	2 905	2 716	2 948	232	-16	8,5	-0,5	
Western Cape	544	546	574	530	587	57	43	10,8	7,9	
Eastern Cape	178	209	190	169	185	16	7	9,4	3,9	
Northern Cape	33	28	32	37	49	12	15	30,9	46,3	
Free State	85	76	92	87	94	7	9	8,1	10,2	
KwaZulu-Natal	461	418	424	398	424	26	-37	6,6	-8,1	
North West	136	120	127	103	128	25	-9	23,9	-6,4	
Gauteng	1 224	1 179	1 155	1 097	1 182	85	-42	7,8	-3,4	
Mpumalanga	156	174	129	140	148	8	-9	5,6	-5,5	
Limpopo	145	163	181	155	152	-3	7	-2,2	5,0	
Community and social services	3 913	3 791	3 827	4 021	3 959	-63	46	-1,6	1,2	
Western Cape	576	537	552	573	608	35	32	6,2	5,5	
Eastern Cape	372	370	384	415	397	-18	25	-4,3	6,8	
Northern Cape	84	96	94	99	90	-9	6	-9,1	7,4	
Free State	221	201	195	211	216	5	-5	2,3	-2,3	
KwaZulu-Natal	658	653	668	722	711	-11	53	-1,5	8,1	
North West	229	208	209	233	222	-11	-8	-4,9	-3,4	
Gauteng	1 119	1 103	1 116	1 115	1 067	-49	-52	-4,4	-4,7	
Mpumalanga	276	260	246	292	285	-7	9	-2,5	3,4	
Limpopo	378	362	361	360	363	2	-15	0,7	-3,9	

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

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

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Private households	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	1 146	18	12	1,6	1,1
Western Cape	179	188	190	190	158	-31	-21	-16,5	-11,7
Eastern Cape	94	76	94	92	113	20	19	22,1	20,6
Northern Cape	23	23	22	20	19	-1	-3	-5,8	-15,4
Free State	67	73	73	72	67	-6	0	-7,9	-0,1
KwaZulu-Natal	199	229	198	198	216	17	17	8,8	8,4
North West	69	55	58	43	52	9	-17	20,8	-24,7
Gauteng	307	348	327	324	349	25	41	7,6	13,4
Mpumalanga	106	93	104	95	85	-10	-21	-10,5	-20,0
Limpopo	90	94	95	93	88	-5	-2	-5,3	-2,4

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 3.3: Employed by sector and industry – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Total employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Formal and informal sector (non-agricultural)	14 669	14 625	14 596	14 883	15 008	124	339	0,8	2,3
Mining	446	454	457	484	466	-18	20	-3,8	4,5
Manufacturing	1 507	1 606	1 655	1 635	1 675	41	168	2,5	11,1
Utilities	123	105	114	127	111	-17	-12	-13,3	-9,8
Construction	1 322	1 215	1 204	1 381	1 359	-22	37	-1,6	2,8
Trade	3 362	3 471	3 360	3 469	3 421	-48	59	-1,4	1,8
Transport	1 023	1 062	1 064	1 047	1 064	17	41	1,7	4,0
Finance	2 964	2 914	2 905	2 716	2 948	232	-16	8,5	-0,5
Community and social services	3 913	3 791	3 827	4 021	3 959	-63	46	-1,6	1,2
Other	10	6	10	4	5	1	-5	34,0	-49,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 488	11 544	11 467	11 589	11 679	90	192	0,8	1,7
Mining	441	448	438	468	455	-13	13	-2,9	3,0
Manufacturing	1 308	1 389	1 430	1 412	1 427	15	119	1,1	9,1
Utilities	113	101	109	109	105	-4	-8	-3,3	-6,7
Construction	822	758	744	829	841	12	19	1,5	2,3
Trade	2 162	2 286	2 168	2 231	2 189	-41	27	-1,9	1,3
Transport	645	682	681	693	663	-30	18	-4,3	2,8
Finance	2 642	2 607	2 583	2 410	2 589	179	-53	7,4	-2,0
Community and social services	3 347	3 269	3 306	3 435	3 405	-29	59	-0,8	1,8
Other	8	4	9	4	5	1	-3	34,0	-39,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 181	3 082	3 129	3 295	3 328	34	147	1,0	4,6
Mining	4	7	19	16	11	-5	7	-30,7	156,9
Manufacturing	200	217	225	223	249	26	49	11,5	24,5
Utilities	10	5	5	19	6	-13	-4	-70,8	-44,6
Construction	499	457	461	552	518	-34	19	-6,2	3,8
Trade	1 200	1 186	1 192	1 238	1 232	-6	32	-0,5	2,6
Transport	378	380	383	354	401	47	23	13,3	6,1
Finance	322	307	322	306	359	53	37	17,4	11,5
Community and social services	566	522	521	587	553	-33	-13	-5,7	-2,3
Other	2	2	1						
Agriculture	920	941	896	935	924	-11	4	-1,2	0,4
Private households	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	1 146	18	12	1,6	1,1

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

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 488	11 544	11 467	11 589	11 679	90	192	0,8	1,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 181	3 082	3 129	3 295	3 328	34	147	1,0	4,6
Agriculture	920	941	896	935	924	-11	4	-1,2	0,4
Private households	1 134	1 178	1 160	1 128	1 146	18	12	1,6	1,1
Western Cape	2 757	2 740	2 675	2 749	2 812	62	55	2,3	2,0
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 985	1 976	1 994	2 039	2 111	72	126	3,5	6,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	359	360	329	346	350	4	-9	1,0	-2,6
Agriculture	234	215	162	175	193	18	-41	10,3	-17,5
Private households	179	188	190	190	158	-31	-21	-16,5	-11,7
Western Cape – Non-metro	969	999	925	993	1 030	37	61	3,7	6,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	590	596	579	620	656	36	65	5,8	11,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	95	120	107	130	132	2	37	1,5	39,1
Agriculture	224	203	150	168	177	10	-46	5,8	-20,8
Private households	60	79	88	75	64	-11	4	-14,3	7,3
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	1 788	1 741	1 750	1 756	1 782	26	-6	1,5	-0,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 394	1 380	1 415	1 419	1 455	37	61	2,6	4,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	264	240	222	216	217	2	-47	0,8	-17,6
Agriculture	10	13	12	7	16	8	5	112,4	53,5
Private households	119	109	102	114	94	-21	-25	-18,0	-21,2
Eastern Cape	1 348	1 344	1 369	1 452	1 455	4	108	0,3	8,0
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	848	885	874	968	955	-13	108	-1,3	12,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	310	284	287	267	297	30	-13	11,1	-4,3
Agriculture	96	99	113	124	90	-34	-6	-27,2	-6,3
Private households	94	76	94	92	113	20	19	22,1	20,6

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	761	744	768	793	774	-19	13	-2,4	1,7
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	410	425	399	455	449	-6	39	-1,2	9,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	206	190	204	173	183	9	-23	5,5	-11,4
Agriculture	84	86	108	108	75	-33	-9	-30,5	-10,2
Private households	61	44	57	57	67	10	6	17,8	9,4
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	261	253	250	262	281	18	20	7,0	7,7
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	179	182	181	177	170	-7	-9	-4,0	-5,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	60	45	41	51	72	20	12	39,9	20,2
Agriculture	9	10	5	13	12	-1	3	-9,3	30,6
Private households	12	16	24	21	27	6	14	30,4	114,6
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	326	346	350	396	401	4	75	1,1	23,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	258	278	294	336	336	0	78	0,0	30,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	44	49	42	42	42	0	-2	-0,6	-4,1
Agriculture	4	3	1	3	3	0	0	17,6	-10,3
Private households	20	17	13	15	19	4	-1	27,1	-3,8
Northern Cape	327	331	314	337	355	18	28	5,2	8,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	212	216	220	234	246	11	34	4,8	15,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	35	37	38	44	38	-6	3	-12,8	9,7
Agriculture	58	54	33	39	52	13	-6	34,1	-9,8
Private households	23	23	22	20	19	-1	-3	-5,8	-15,4
Free State	742	742	745	775	750	-25	8	-3,3	1,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	457	440	435	437	451	14	-6	3,2	-1,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	145	150	153	189	166	-22	22	-11,8	15,0
Agriculture	73	79	84	78	66	-12	-7	-15,0	-9,7
Private households	67	73	73	72	67	-6	0	-7,9	-0,1

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

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Free State – Non-metro	524	513	513	528	505	-23	-20	-4,4	-3,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	297	286	278	264	281	17	-16	6,4	-5,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	110	103	106	137	117	-20	8	-14,3	6,9
Agriculture	69	75	80	74	61	-13	-8	-17,3	-11,6
Private households	48	50	49	53	45	-8	-3	-14,4	-7,0
Free State – Mangaung	217	229	233	248	245	-2	28	-0,9	12,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	160	154	157	173	170	-3	10	-1,5	5,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	35	47	48	52	49	-3	14	-5,3	40,6
Agriculture	4	4	4	4	5	1	1	30,9	22,5
Private households	18	24	24	20	21	2	3	9,9	18,3
KwaZulu-Natal	2 856	2 891	2 842	2 840	2 892	52	36	1,8	1,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 888	1 907	1 860	1 880	1 902	21	14	1,1	0,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	616	613	633	617	622	5	7	0,8	1,1
Agriculture	153	143	151	145	152	8	-1	5,4	-0,8
Private households	199	229	198	198	216	17	17	8,8	8,4
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	1 593	1 618	1 590	1 519	1 559	40	-34	2,6	-2,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	951	974	965	909	958	49	7	5,4	0,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	384	376	385	366	337	-29	-47	-7,9	-12,3
Agriculture	145	139	141	134	145	11	0	8,2	-0,3
Private households	113	131	99	111	119	8	6	7,5	5,6
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	1 263	1 273	1 252	1 321	1 333	12	70	0,9	5,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	937	934	895	971	943	-28	6	-2,9	0,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	231	237	248	251	285	34	54	13,4	23,3
Agriculture	8	4	10	11	8	-3	-1	-29,2	-8,9
Private households	86	98	99	87	97	9	10	10,4	11,9

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

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
North West	912	899	887	956	935	-20	24	-2,1	2,6
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	629	622	614	661	649	-12	20	-1,8	3,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	160	144	159	189	170	-18	10	-9,8	6,5
Agriculture	53	77	56	62	63	1	11	2,1	20,0
Private households	69	55	58	43	52	9	-17	20,8	-24,7
Gauteng	5 034	5 061	5 103	5 037	5 081	45	47	0,9	0,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3 920	3 903	3 923	3 810	3 827	18	-93	0,5	-2,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	769	763	819	856	857	1	88	0,1	11,4
Agriculture	38	47	33	47	49	1	11	2,4	27,8
Private households	307	348	327	324	349	25	41	7,6	13,4
Gauteng – Non-metro	627	612	611	626	607	-20	-20	-3,1	-3,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	453	447	459	474	445	-29	-8	-6,1	-1,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	122	109	95	93	104	11	-18	11,5	-14,6
Agriculture	20	20	20	23	15	-8	-5	-33,5	-24,2
Private households	31	36	37	36	42	6	11	17,9	35,9
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1 228	1 231	1 249	1 242	1 255	13	26	1,0	2,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	959	972	993	955	960	5	1	0,5	0,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	192	193	196	205	216	11	24	5,6	12,7
Agriculture	5	4	3	7	10	3	5	37,6	110,9
Private households	73	62	58	75	69	-6	-4	-8,6	-5,8
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	1 909	1 947	1 978	1 862	1 935	73	26	3,9	1,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 471	1 451	1 449	1 338	1 395	57	-76	4,3	-5,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	322	329	383	384	377	-7	55	-1,7	17,3
Agriculture	2	8	2	5	15	10	14	179,1	904,2
Private households	115	158	143	135	148	13	33	9,7	28,9

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

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	1 270	1 271	1 265	1 307	1 285	-22	15	-1,7	1,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 036	1 033	1 023	1 043	1 028	-15	-9	-1,5	-0,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	134	132	145	174	160	-15	26	-8,4	19,2
Agriculture	11	15	9	12	8	-4	-3	-30,2	-29,3
Private households	89	92	88	78	90	12	1	15,0	1,2
Mpumalanga	1 250	1 242	1 192	1 241	1 255	13	4	1,1	0,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	725	723	660	685	669	-16	-55	-2,3	-7,6
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	333	322	302	352	369	17	36	4,9	10,9
Agriculture	86	105	126	109	131	22	45	19,7	51,5
Private households	106	93	104	95	85	-10	-21	-10,5	-20,0
Limpopo	1 498	1 495	1 526	1 559	1 543	-16	45	-1,0	3,0
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	825	870	886	875	869	-6	45	-0,7	5,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	455	408	408	435	458	23	3	5,4	0,7
Agriculture	129	123	136	156	128	-29	-1	-18,3	-0,8
Private households	90	94	95	93	88	-5	-2	-5,3	-2,4

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 3.5: Employed by sex and occupation – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Both sexes	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Manager	1 481	1 303	1 451	1 457	1 496	38	15	2,6	1,0
Professional	1 341	1 229	1 102	826	869	43	-472	5,2	-35,2
Technician	1 441	1 590	1 780	1 504	1 398	-106	-43	-7,0	-3,0
Clerk	1 727	1 808	1 705	1 841	1 897	56	170	3,0	9,8
Sales and services	2 862	2 746	2 584	2 992	2 949	-42	87	-1,4	3,0
Skilled agriculture	63	94	105	68	71	3	8	4,2	13,1
Craft and related trade	1 693	1 693	1 672	1 876	1 932	56	238	3,0	14,1
Plant and machine operator	1 323	1 568	1 308	1 401	1 389	-12	66	-0,8	5,0
Elementary	3 912	3 845	4 094	4 128	4 215	87	303	2,1	7,7
Domestic worker	876	869	843	854	861	8	-15	0,9	-1,7
Women	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	7 636	91	206	1,2	2,8
Manager	518	477	532	485	532	47	14	9,8	2,8
Professional	696	640	555	461	479	18	-217	4,0	-31,1
Technician	779	871	1 008	803	724	-79	-55	-9,9	-7,1
Clerk	1 219	1 253	1 219	1 321	1 380	59	161	4,5	13,2
Sales and services	1 403	1 307	1 208	1 511	1 457	-54	54	-3,5	3,9
Skilled agriculture	21	19	26	23	24	1	3	3,1	13,9
Craft and related trade	189	226	231	211	275	64	87	30,2	45,9
Plant and machine operator	146	193	156	181	192	11	46	6,2	31,5
Elementary	1 629	1 664	1 706	1 744	1 759	15	130	0,9	8,0
Domestic worker	830	826	807	805	813	8	-17	1,0	-2,1
Men	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	9 442	41	148	0,4	1,6
Manager	963	826	919	973	963	-9	0	-0,9	0,0
Professional	645	589	547	365	389	25	-255	6,7	-39,6
Technician	663	719	772	701	674	-26	12	-3,8	1,8
Clerk	508	555	486	520	517	-3	8	-0,6	1,7
Sales and services	1 459	1 438	1 377	1 481	1 492	11	33	0,8	2,3
Skilled agriculture	42	75	79	45	47	2	5	4,7	12,6
Craft and related trade	1 505	1 467	1 441	1 664	1 656	-8	152	-0,5	10,1
Plant and machine operator	1 177	1 375	1 152	1 220	1 197	-23	20	-1,9	1,7
Elementary	2 283	2 181	2 388	2 384	2 456	72	173	3,0	7,6
Domestic worker	46	43	36	49	48	-1	2	-1,3	4,6

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 3.6: Employed by sex and status in employment – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Employee	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,5	0,0
Employer	860	829	859	918	966	48	106	5,2	12,3
Own-account worker	1 687	1 712	1 777	1 907	1 932	25	245	1,3	14,5
Unpaid household member	92	98	97	108	92	-15	0	-14,3	0,2
Women	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	7 636	91	206	1,2	2,8
Employee	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2
Employer	216	222	222	218	245	27	29	12,3	13,7
Own-account worker	725	734	764	841	824	-16	99	-1,9	13,7
Unpaid household member	51	47	52	62	50	-12	-1	-19,8	-2,6
Men	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	9 442	41	148	0,4	1,6
Employee	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0
Employer	644	607	637	700	721	21	76	3,0	11,8
Own-account worker	962	978	1 013	1 067	1 108	41	146	3,9	15,1
Unpaid household member	41	51	45	46	43	-3	2	-7,0	3,7

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 3.7: Employed by sex and usual hours of work – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Working less than 15 hours per week	461	495	496	562	509	-53	48	-9,5	10,4
Working 15–29 hours per week	1 114	1 139	1 151	1 196	1 256	60	142	5,0	12,8
Working 30–39 hours per week	1 208	1 166	1 235	1 242	1 230	-13	22	-1,0	1,8
Working 40–45 hours per week	9 238	9 271	9 348	9 451	9 554	103	316	1,1	3,4
Working more than 45 hours per week	4 702	4 673	4 422	4 495	4 529	35	-173	0,8	-3,7
Women	7 429	7 476	7 448	7 545	7 636	91	206	1,2	2,8
Working less than 15 hours per week	235	256	252	292	260	-32	25	-11,0	10,7
Working 15–29 hours per week	708	699	710	726	782	56	73	7,7	10,4
Working 30–39 hours per week	678	657	702	725	684	-41	6	-5,6	0,9
Working 40–45 hours per week	4 249	4 276	4 253	4 270	4 386	116	137	2,7	3,2
Working more than 45 hours per week	1 558	1 588	1 532	1 532	1 523	-8	-35	-0,5	-2,2
Men	9 294	9 269	9 204	9 402	9 442	41	148	0,4	1,6
Working less than 15 hours per week	226	240	244	270	249	-21	23	-7,8	10,2
Working 15–29 hours per week	405	440	442	470	474	4	69	0,9	16,9
Working 30–39 hours per week	530	509	533	517	546	28	16	5,4	3,0
Working 40–45 hours per week	4 989	4 995	5 095	5 182	5 168	-14	179	-0,3	3,6
Working more than 45 hours per week	3 144	3 086	2 890	2 963	3 006	43	-138	1,4	-4,4

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									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Pension/retirement fund contribution									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,5	0,0
Yes	6 241	6 285	6 277	6 274	6 305	31	64	0,5	1,0
No	7 373	7 410	7 285	7 425	7 398	-27	25	-0,4	0,3
Don't know	469	410	356	314	384	70	-85	22,3	-18,1
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2
Yes	2 797	2 812	2 806	2 797	2 856	59	59	2,1	2,1
No	3 440	3 471	3 446	3 479	3 510	31	70	0,9	2,0
Don't know	200	189	158	148	150	3	-50	2,0	-24,8
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0
Yes	3 444	3 474	3 472	3 477	3 449	-28	5	-0,8	0,2
No	3 934	3 939	3 839	3 946	3 888	-58	-45	-1,5	-1,1
Don't know	269	221	198	167	234	67	-35	40,3	-13,1
Entitled to any paid leave									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,5	0,0
Yes	9 153	9 280	9 358	9 270	9 303	33	149	0,4	1,6
No	4 718	4 657	4 414	4 593	4 594	2	-123	0,0	-2,6
Don't know	213	169	147	151	191	40	-22	26,5	-10,4
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2
Yes	4 233	4 314	4 361	4 319	4 350	32	118	0,7	2,8
No	2 119	2 088	1 998	2 045	2 093	48	-25	2,3	-1,2
Don't know	86	71	51	60	73	13	-13	21,5	-15,6
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0
Yes	4 921	4 966	4 997	4 951	4 952	1	32	0,0	0,6
No	2 599	2 569	2 416	2 547	2 501	-46	-98	-1,8	-3,8
Don't know	126	99	96	91	118	27	-9	29,8	-6,9

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

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

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Entitled to paid sick leave									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,5	0,0
Yes	9 973	10 074	10 075	10 091	10 027	-64	54	-0,6	0,5
No	3 892	3 883	3 692	3 785	3 868	83	-24	2,2	-0,6
Don't know	219	148	151	137	192	55	-27	40,1	-12,3
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2
Yes	4 615	4 705	4 691	4 673	4 684	11	69	0,2	1,5
No	1 733	1 705	1 661	1 695	1 756	61	23	3,6	1,3
Don't know	90	62	58	56	77	21	-13	37,0	-14,4
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0
Yes	5 358	5 369	5 384	5 418	5 343	-75	-15	-1,4	-0,3
No	2 159	2 178	2 031	2 090	2 113	22	-46	1,1	-2,1
Don't know	129	86	93	81	115	34	-14	42,3	-10,8
Entitled to maternity/paternity leave									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,5	0,0
Yes	7 633	7 702	7 718	7 809	7 810	0	177	0,0	2,3
No	6 019	6 050	5 851	5 916	5 912	-4	-107	-0,1	-1,8
Don't know	432	354	349	288	366	78	-66	27,0	-15,3
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2
Yes	3 742	3 760	3 753	3 794	3 785	-9	42	-0,2	1,1
No	2 538	2 572	2 535	2 516	2 593	76	55	3,0	2,2
Don't know	157	140	122	114	139	25	-18	22,3	-11,7
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0
Yes	3 890	3 942	3 965	4 015	4 025	10	135	0,2	3,5
No	3 481	3 478	3 316	3 399	3 319	-80	-162	-2,4	-4,7
Don't know	274	214	228	174	227	52	-48	30,0	-17,3

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
UIF contribution										
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,5	0,0	
Yes	8 622	8 681	8 549	8 601	8 571	-30	-51	-0,3	-0,6	
No	5 102	5 109	5 069	5 124	5 184	61	82	1,2	1,6	
Don't know	359	316	301	289	332	43	-28	15,0	-7,7	
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2	
Yes	3 810	3 822	3 746	3 764	3 790	25	-21	0,7	-0,5	
No	2 465	2 490	2 536	2 527	2 589	62	124	2,5	5,0	
Don't know	162	160	128	132	137	5	-25	3,8	-15,2	
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0	
Yes	4 812	4 859	4 802	4 836	4 782	-55	-30	-1,1	-0,6	
No	2 637	2 618	2 533	2 596	2 595	-1	-42	-0,1	-1,6	
Don't know	197	157	173	156	194	38	-3	24,5	-1,5	
Medical aid benefits										
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,50	0,00	
Yes	4 057	4 213	4 268	4 304	4 228	-76	171	-1,8	4,2	
No	9 804	9 682	9 460	9 531	9 649	118	-155	1,2	-1,6	
Don't know	223	211	191	178	211	33	-12	18,3	-5,2	
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2	
Yes	1 890	1 969	2 016	1 967	1 955	-12	65	-0,6	3,4	
No	4 460	4 415	4 319	4 377	4 465	88	5	2,00	0,10	
Don't know	88	88	75	80	97	17	9	20,7	10,1	
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1	
Yes	2 167	2 244	2 251	2 337	2 273	-64	106	-2,7	4,9	
No	5 344	5 267	5 141	5 154	5 184	30	-160	0,6	-3,0	
Don't know	135	122	116	98	114	16	-21	16,3	-15,2	

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

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Income tax (PAYE/SITE) deduction									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,5	0,0
Yes	7 866	7 901	7 865	7 894	7 777	-117	-89	-1,50	-1,10
No	5 788	5 849	5 680	5 785	5 866	82	78	1,4	1,4
Don't know	430	356	374	335	445	110	15	32,9	3,5
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2
Yes	3 542	3 568	3 560	3 590	3 554	-36	11	-1,0	0,3
No	2 715	2 742	2 694	2 700	2 798	99	83	3,7	3,1
Don't know	180	162	156	135	164	30	-15	22,00	-8,60
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0
Yes	4 324	4 332	4 305	4 304	4 223	-81	-100	-1,9	-2,3
No	3 072	3 107	2 986	3 085	3 068	-17	-5	-0,6	-0,2
Don't know	250	194	218	200	280	80	30	40,2	12,1
Condition of employment									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	4	0,50	0,00
Written contract	11 473	11 510	11 453	11 459	11 462	4	-10	0	-0,1
Verbal agreement	2 611	2 596	2 465	2 555	2 625	70	14	2,8	0,5
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	79	1,4	1,2
Written contract	5 364	5 403	5 359	5 357	5 418	61	54	1,1	1,0
Verbal agreement	1 073	1 069	1 051	1 067	1 098	31	25	2,9	2,3
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0
Written contract	6 109	6 107	6 094	6 101	6 044	-57	-64	-0,90	-1,10
Verbal agreement	1 538	1 527	1 414	1 488	1 527	39	-11	2,6	-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 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Nature of contract/agreement (both sexes)									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	3	0,5	0,0
Limited duration	2 170	2 208	2 048	2 142	2 172	30	2	1,4	0,1
Permanent nature	8 380	8 449	8 358	8 304	8 291	-13	-89	-0,2	-1,1
Unspecified duration	3 533	3 448	3 513	3 568	3 624	56	91	1,6	2,6
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	78	1,4	1,2
Limited duration	1 093	1 113	1 043	1 115	1 121	6	28	0,5	2,6
Permanent nature	3 805	3 845	3 832	3 769	3 804	35	-1	0,9	0,0
Unspecified duration	1 539	1 514	1 534	1 539	1 591	52	52	3,4	3,4
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1,0
Limited duration	1 077	1 095	1 005	1 026	1 051	25	-26	2,4	-2,4
Permanent nature	4 575	4 604	4 526	4 534	4 488	-46	-87	-1,0	-1,9
Unspecified duration	1 994	1 934	1 979	2 029	2 033	4	39	0,2	2,0
Trade union membership (both sexes)									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	3	0,50	0,00
Yes	3 787	3 879	3 913	3 908	3 863	-45	76	-1,2	2,0
No	9 758	9 683	9 538	9 598	9 697	99	-61	1,0	-0,6
Don't know	539	544	467	507	528	21	-11	4,1	-2,0
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	78	1,4	1,2
Yes	1 765	1 740	1 801	1 784	1 771	-13	6	-0,7	0,3
No	4 457	4 503	4 408	4 424	4 529	105	72	2,40	1,60
Don't know	215	230	200	216	216	0	1	0	0,5
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1
Yes	2 022	2 139	2 112	2 124	2 092	-32	70	-1,5	3,5
No	5 300	5 180	5 129	5 174	5 168	-6	-132	-0,1	-2,5
Don't know	324	314	267	291	311	20	-13	6,9	-4,0

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

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

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (concluded)									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
How annual salary increment is negotiated									
Both sexes	14 084	14 106	13 919	14 013	14 087	74	3	0,5	0,0
Individual and employer	1 224	1 139	1 075	1 052	1 088	36	-136	3,40	-11,10
Union and employer	2 735	2 871	2 752	2 876	2 911	35	176	1,2	6,4
Bargaining council	1 360	1 352	1 393	1 421	1 432	11	72	0,8	5,3
Employer only	7 896	7 850	7 832	7 805	7 832	27	-64	0,3	-0,8
No regular increment	790	835	805	816	797	-19	7	-2,3	0,9
Other	79	59	62	43	28	-15	-51	-34,9	-64,6
Women	6 438	6 472	6 410	6 424	6 516	92	78	1,40	1,20
Individual and employer	559	511	499	449	473	24	-86	5,3	-15,4
Union and employer	1 224	1 256	1 194	1 257	1 292	35	68	2,8	5,6
Bargaining council	674	693	730	722	726	4	52	0,6	7,7
Employer only	3 603	3 593	3 600	3 609	3 628	19	25	0,5	0,7
No regular increment	343	394	364	372	389	17	46	4,60	13,40
Other	34	26	21	15	8	-7	-26	-46,7	-76,5
Men	7 646	7 634	7 509	7 589	7 571	-18	-75	-0,2	-1
Individual and employer	665	628	575	603	615	12	-50	2,0	-7,5
Union and employer	1 511	1 616	1 557	1 619	1 619	0	108	0,0	7,1
Bargaining council	685	658	663	699	706	7	21	1,0	3,1
Employer only	4 293	4 257	4 232	4 196	4 204	8	-89	0,2	-2,1
No regular increment	447	441	441	444	408	-36	-39	-8,1	-8,7
Other	45	32	40	28	19	-9	-26	-32,1	-57,8

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 3.9: Time-related underemployment – South Africa										
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Both sexes	678	722	677	783	788	5	110	0,6	16,3	
Women	386	387	378	434	409	-25	23	-5,7	6,0	
Men	292	334	299	349	379	29	87	8,4	29,9	
As percentage of the labour force (both sexes)	2,8	2,9	2,7	3,1	3,1	0,0	0,3			
Women	3,4	3,4	3,3	3,8	3,5	-0,3	0,1			
Men	2,2	2,5	2,2	2,6	2,8	0,2	0,6			
As percentage of total employment (both sexes)	4,1	4,3	4,1	4,6	4,6	0,0	0,5			
Women	5,2	5,2	5,1	5,8	5,4	-0,4	0,2			
Men	3,1	3,6	3,3	3,7	4,0	0,3	0,9			
Industry	678	722	677	783	788	5	110	0,6	16,3	
Agriculture	14	24	17	20	27	7	12	33,2	87,3	
Mining		1		1						
Manufacturing	20	38	27	41	43	2	23	3,9	114,2	
Utilities			1	3						
Construction	74	73	59	83	91	8	16	9,2	22,1	
Trade	133	128	119	136	104	-33	-29	-23,9	-21,9	
Transport	9	23	21	27	25	-1	17	-3,8	185,9	
Finance	67	60	61	72	89	17	22	23,7	32,5	
Community and social services	164	187	179	199	210	11	47	5,8	28,4	
Private households	195	187	194	201	200	-2	5	-0,8	2,3	
Occupation	678	722	677	783	788	5	110	0,6	16,3	
Manager	15	15	13	22	25	3	10	12,2	63,9	
Professional	11	15	7	9	9	-1	-2	-6,0	-19,9	
Technician	25	26	26	30	39	8	14	26,5	55,3	
Clerk	18	19	17	27	22	-4	5	-16,6	26,6	
Sales and services	91	98	73	103	87	-16	-4	-15,4	-4,3	
Skilled agriculture	3	3	7	5	7	3	4	59,5	133,5	
Craft and related trade	72	81	80	89	115	26	42	29,2	58,2	
Plant and machine operator	8	26	26	23	21	-2	13	-10,3	173,0	
Elementary	291	313	287	329	324	-5	34	-1,6	11,6	
Domestic worker	144	126	140	145	139	-6	-5	-4,1	-3,3	

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2	
Job losers	2 230	2 322	2 402	2 151	2 060	-92	-170	-4,3	-7,6	
Job leavers	267	240	237	202	220	19	-47	9,2	-17,7	
New entrants	3 366	3 526	3 523	3 479	3 421	-59	54	-1,7	1,6	
Re-entrants	329	346	315	379	401	22	72	5,9	21,9	
Other	1 702	1 792	1 907	1 799	1 889	90	187	5,0	11,0	
Unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2	
Long-term unemployment (1 year and more)	6 085	6 189	6 385	6 144	6 213	69	128	1,1	2,1	
Short-term unemployment (less than 1 year)	1 810	2 037	1 999	1 867	1 778	-89	-32	-4,7	-1,8	
Long-term unemployment (%)										
Proportion of the labour force	24,7	24,8	25,5	24,6	24,8	0,2	0,1			
Proportion of the unemployed	77,1	75,2	76,2	76,7	77,7	1,0	0,6			
Those who have worked in the past 5 years										
Previous occupation	2 827	2 908	2 954	2 732	2 681	-51	-146	-1,9	-5,2	
Manager	74	66	58	49	51	2	-23	4,1	-30,7	
Professional	70	61	73	48	54	6	-16	11,7	-22,4	
Technician	123	263	316	155	129	-27	6	-17,2	4,8	
Clerk	311	289	314	285	268	-17	-43	-6,1	-13,9	
Sales and services	603	497	403	556	552	-4	-52	-0,8	-8,6	
Skilled agriculture	7	8	12	7	11	4	4	60,8	63,1	
Craft and related trade	406	419	464	378	411	33	5	8,9	1,3	
Plant and machine operator	196	189	221	194	187	-7	-9	-3,7	-4,6	
Elementary	885	938	893	892	850	-42	-35	-4,7	-3,9	
Domestic worker	151	177	199	167	169	2	18	1,0	11,6	
Other	2									

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

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

Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed – South Africa (concluded)										
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Previous industry	2 827	2 908	2 954	2 732	2 681	-51	-146	-1,9	-5,2	
Agriculture	157	168	189	177	168	-9	11	-5,2	6,8	
Mining	59	82	65	67	48	-19	-11	-28,2	-18,7	
Manufacturing	274	271	255	252	239	-13	-34	-5,1	-12,6	
Utilities	13	13	23	20	19	-1	6	-6,3	43,0	
Construction	425	477	467	391	392	0	-33	0,1	-7,8	
Trade	577	562	549	537	556	18	-21	3,4	-3,6	
Transport	143	141	152	117	137	20	-6	17,1	-4,0	
Finance	347	339	371	338	362	24	15	7,0	4,2	
Community and social services	597	617	613	590	529	-60	-68	-10,2	-11,3	
Private households	231	236	271	242	232	-11	1	-4,4	0,4	
Other	5	1								

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

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

	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Not economically active									
Student	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
Homemaker	6 228	5 975	6 029	6 100	6 144	44	-84	0,7	-1,3
Illness/disability	2 464	2 321	2 263	2 248	2 243	-5	-221	-0,2	-9,0
Too old/young to work	1 701	1 643	1 658	1 619	1 533	-87	-168	-5,4	-9,9
Discouraged work-seekers	1 688	1 749	1 757	1 800	1 792	-8	104	-0,4	6,2
Other	3 049	3 048	3 195	3 355	3 466	111	417	3,3	13,7
	1 274	1 451	1 358	1 352	1 315	-38	41	-2,8	3,2
Inactivity rate by age (both sexes)									
15-24 yrs	40,0	39,3	39,4	39,8	39,7	-0,1	-0,3		
25-54 yrs	73,6	73,2	72,9	73,4	73,4	0,0	-0,2		
55-64 yrs	24,2	23,5	23,7	24,1	24,1	0,0	-0,1		
	56,8	56,0	55,9	55,8	55,2	-0,6	-1,6		
Inactivity rate by age (women)									
15-24 yrs	45,2	44,4	44,2	44,8	44,8	0,0	-0,4		
25-54 yrs	75,6	75,1	75,2	75,3	75,7	0,4	0,1		
55-64 yrs	30,3	29,2	29,0	29,9	29,8	-0,1	-0,5		
	62,2	62,0	62,3	62,3	61,3	-1,0	-0,9		
Inactivity rate by age (men)									
15-24 yrs	34,7	34,2	34,4	34,6	34,5	-0,1	-0,2		
25-54 yrs	71,6	71,3	70,7	71,5	71,2	-0,3	-0,4		
55-64 yrs	18,2	17,8	18,5	18,5	18,6	0,1	0,4		
	50,1	48,5	48,1	47,8	47,7	-0,1	-2,4		

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

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

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa									
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Age group of the employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
15-24 yrs	1 098	1 107	1 089	1 086	1 102	17	4	1,6	0,4
25-34 yrs	4 766	4 749	4 630	4 699	4 719	20	-47	0,4	-1,0
35-44 yrs	5 200	5 178	5 169	5 303	5 334	31	134	0,6	2,6
45-54 yrs	3 988	4 009	4 065	4 105	4 148	44	161	1,1	4,0
55-64 yrs	1 672	1 701	1 701	1 754	1 775	20	103	1,2	6,2
Age group of the unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2
15-24 yrs	1 607	1 642	1 691	1 643	1 629	-14	22	-0,9	1,4
25-34 yrs	3 053	3 253	3 306	3 182	3 064	-119	11	-3,7	0,4
35-44 yrs	1 996	2 047	2 082	1 960	1 994	34	-2	1,7	-0,1
45-54 yrs	1 024	1 053	1 063	1 018	1 075	58	51	5,7	5,0
55-64 yrs	215	230	242	207	228	22	13	10,6	6,3
Age group of the not economically active	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
15-24 yrs	7 541	7 505	7 483	7 544	7 555	11	13	0,1	0,2
25-34 yrs	2 754	2 584	2 665	2 728	2 830	103	76	3,8	2,8
35-44 yrs	1 855	1 870	1 888	1 916	1 890	-26	35	-1,4	1,9
45-54 yrs	1 776	1 774	1 757	1 808	1 752	-57	-25	-3,1	-1,4
55-64 yrs	2 476	2 455	2 468	2 478	2 465	-12	-11	-0,5	-0,4
Highest level of education of the employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
No schooling	173	184	180	179	190	11	17	6,4	9,8
Less than primary completed	682	666	643	647	662	15	-21	2,3	-3,0
Primary completed	498	470	470	522	491	-31	-6	-5,9	-1,2
Secondary not completed	5 051	5 071	5 100	5 251	5 188	-62	137	-1,2	2,7
Secondary completed	6 082	6 105	6 066	6 163	6 280	117	198	1,9	3,3
Tertiary	3 965	3 980	3 954	3 936	3 996	59	31	1,5	0,8
Other	272	268	239	248	271	23	-1	9,1	-0,4

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

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa (continued)

	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Highest level of education of the unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2
No schooling	65	54	56	57	65	7	0	12,5	-0,2
Less than primary completed	312	339	382	321	306	-16	-6	-4,9	-2,0
Primary completed	254	240	253	258	242	-17	-13	-6,4	-5,1
Secondary not completed	3 391	3 463	3 441	3 375	3 413	37	22	1,1	0,6
Secondary completed	3 098	3 220	3 387	3 192	3 203	11	105	0,3	3,4
Tertiary	727	858	817	748	697	-51	-30	-6,9	-4,1
Other	48	52	49	58	67	9	18	14,9	38,1
Highest level of education of the not economically active	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
No schooling	504	466	485	473	454	-19	-50	-4,0	-10,0
Less than primary completed	1 223	1 189	1 182	1 187	1 165	-22	-58	-1,9	-4,7
Primary completed	990	745	804	812	904	92	-86	11,4	-8,7
Secondary not completed	8 644	8 272	8 408	8 678	8 689	12	45	0,1	0,5
Secondary completed	4 025	4 517	4 381	4 290	4 244	-46	219	-1,1	5,5
Tertiary	787	780	762	781	803	22	16	2,8	2,0
Other	230	218	237	253	232	-21	2	-8,3	1,0
Employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Attending educational institution	318	322	273	309	301	-8	-17	-2,7	-5,3
Not attending educational institution	16 405	16 423	16 379	16 637	16 777	140	372	0,8	2,3
Unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2
Attending educational institution	165	133	119	144	147	3	-19	2,2	-11,3
Not attending educational institution	7 730	8 093	8 265	7 867	7 844	-23	114	-0,3	1,5
Not economically active	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
Attending educational institution	6 058	5 765	5 858	5 975	6 023	47	-35	0,8	-0,6
Not attending educational institution	10 345	10 423	10 401	10 498	10 469	-30	124	-0,3	1,2

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

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa (concluded)

	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Current marital status of the employed	16 723	16 745	16 652	16 946	17 078	132	355	0,8	2,1
Married	5 922	5 910	5 883	6 046	6 031	-14	109	-0,2	1,8
Living together like husband and wife	2 147	2 180	2 130	2 113	2 091	-22	-56	-1,0	-2,6
Widow/widower	397	399	399	406	390	-16	-7	-3,8	-1,7
Divorced or separated	497	514	500	516	486	-30	-11	-5,8	-2,2
Never married	7 761	7 741	7 741	7 866	8 079	213	319	2,7	4,1
Current marital status of the unemployed	7 895	8 226	8 384	8 011	7 991	-20	96	-0,2	1,2
Married	1 017	1 041	1 058	955	956	0	-61	0,0	-6,0
Living together like husband and wife	820	884	866	795	809	14	-11	1,8	-1,4
Widow/widower	76	60	72	70	71	0	-6	0,5	-7,5
Divorced or separated	101	124	124	103	114	11	14	10,6	13,7
Never married	5 881	6 116	6 264	6 086	6 041	-45	160	-0,7	2,7
Current marital status of the not economically active	16 403	16 188	16 260	16 474	16 492	18	89	0,1	0,5
Married	2 650	2 606	2 526	2 549	2 566	17	-84	0,7	-3,2
Living together like husband and wife	927	874	956	960	967	7	40	0,7	4,4
Widow/widower	548	585	566	574	605	31	57	5,4	10,4
Divorced or separated	267	274	284	279	286	8	19	2,7	7,1
Never married	12 011	11 848	11 928	12 112	12 068	-44	57	-0,4	0,5

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Both sexes	18 075	18 516	18 666	18 365	18 313	-52	238	-0,3	1,3	
Women	10 024	10 220	10 264	10 147	10 120	-27	96	-0,3	1,0	
Men	8 051	8 296	8 402	8 218	8 193	-25	142	-0,3	1,8	
Age group	18 075	18 516	18 666	18 365	18 313	-52	238	-0,3	1,3	
15-24 yrs	3 377	3 638	3 613	3 515	3 450	-64	73	-1,8	2,2	
25-34 yrs	5 412	5 497	5 606	5 516	5 505	-11	93	-0,2	1,7	
35-44 yrs	3 810	3 877	3 926	3 837	3 851	14	41	0,4	1,1	
45-54 yrs	2 792	2 819	2 812	2 818	2 815	-3	23	-0,1	0,8	
55-64 yrs	2 685	2 685	2 709	2 680	2 692	12	7	0,5	0,3	
Population groups	18 075	18 516	18 666	18 365	18 313	-52	238	-0,3	1,3	
Black/African	15 505	15 957	16 082	15 786	15 778	-8	273	-0,1	1,8	
Coloured	1 478	1 501	1 545	1 509	1 493	-15	16	-1,0	1,1	
Indian/Asian	383	377	365	371	351	-20	-32	-5,4	-8,4	
White	710	681	675	700	691	-8	-19	-1,2	-2,6	
South Africa	18 075	18 516	18 666	18 365	18 313	-52	238	-0,3	1,3	
Western Cape	1 678	1 732	1 787	1 748	1 706	-42	28	-2,4	1,7	
Eastern Cape	2 367	2 494	2 454	2 337	2 304	-33	-64	-1,4	-2,7	
Northern Cape	397	402	425	406	386	-20	-11	-5,0	-2,8	
Free State	879	908	895	865	882	17	3	2,0	0,4	
KwaZulu-Natal	3 461	3 507	3 547	3 549	3 549	0	88	0,0	2,5	
North West	1 463	1 508	1 529	1 447	1 462	16	0	1,1	0,0	
Gauteng	4 613	4 663	4 681	4 725	4 748	23	135	0,5	2,9	
Mpumalanga	1 389	1 436	1 489	1 456	1 445	-10	57	-0,7	4,1	
Limpopo	1 829	1 866	1 860	1 833	1 831	-2	2	-0,1	0,1	

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province										
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
South Africa										
Subsistence farming	2 380	2 473	2 244	1 883	2 269	386	-111	20,5	-4,7	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	4 505	4 288	4 446	4 277	3 878	-400	-627	-9,3	-13,9	
Produce other goods for household use	270	266	235	187	280	92	10	49,2	3,5	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	332	315	269	310	292	-18	-40	-5,8	-12,2	
Hunting or fishing for household use	32	47	27	40	25	-15	-7	-37,9	-21,9	
Involvement in at least one activity	6 158	6 076	5 884	5 606	5 623	16	-535	0,3	-8,7	
Employed	1 827	1 752	1 658	1 561	1 619	58	-208	3,7	-11,4	
Unemployed	1 518	1 499	1 515	1 410	1 351	-59	-167	-4,2	-11,0	
Not economically active	2 812	2 825	2 711	2 635	2 652	17	-160	0,7	-5,7	
Western Cape										
Subsistence farming	60	60	64	74	96	21	36	28,8	59,0	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	149	154	144	142	140	-2	-9	-1,5	-6,0	
Produce other goods for household use	3	1	.	1	1	0	-2	78,4	-66,5	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	1	3	.	.	3	.	2	.	203,6	
Hunting or fishing for household use	.	2	
Involvement in at least one activity	210	218	207	214	237	23	27	10,7	13,0	
Employed	123	107	107	119	136	17	14	14,6	11,3	
Unemployed	53	64	51	43	54	11	1	26,0	1,5	
Not economically active	34	47	50	52	47	-6	13	-10,6	37,2	
Eastern Cape										
Subsistence farming	692	691	622	412	620	208	-72	50,6	-10,4	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	821	877	987	1 005	869	-136	48	-13,6	5,9	
Produce other goods for household use	105	84	61	18	107	88	2	478,9	1,5	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	151	135	107	93	109	16	-42	17,3	-28,0	
Hunting or fishing for household use	5	8	4	3	3	0	-2	-7,7	-40,8	
Involvement in at least one activity	1 348	1 399	1 384	1 296	1 409	113	61	8,8	4,5	
Employed	315	311	295	269	298	28	-18	10,6	-5,6	
Unemployed	434	419	386	366	366	0	-67	0,1	-15,5	
Not economically active	599	670	703	661	745	85	146	12,8	24,4	

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 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (continued)										
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Northern Cape										
Subsistence farming	16	30	28	27	32	5	16	20,4	104,3	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	99	96	102	130	138	8	39	5,8	38,8	
Produce other goods for household use	0	3	2	2	2	0	2	12,6	463,7	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	0	6	1	5	2	-3	1	-59,3	317,0	
Hunting or fishing for household use	3	2	0	1	1	0	-2	17,0	-72,4	
Involvement in at least one activity	115	122	124	150	163	13	48	8,6	41,7	
Employed	29	31	32	39	52	13	23	34,4	82,0	
Unemployed	22	25	39	45	34	-12	12	-25,6	55,0	
Not economically active	65	67	54	66	77	11	13	16,9	19,5	
Free State										
Subsistence farming	106	91	82	90	142	52	36	58,2	34,1	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	47	62	75	86	60	-26	13	-29,9	27,4	
Produce other goods for household use	2	3	7	4	8	4	6	93,1	337,6	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	26	24	22	48	30	-17	4	-36,0	15,7	
Hunting or fishing for household use	7	14	5	10	6	-4	-1	-39,5	-16,9	
Involvement in at least one activity	160	169	156	190	204	13	44	7,0	27,2	
Employed	57	72	63	76	78	2	21	2,9	36,0	
Unemployed	47	50	48	52	61	9	14	17,1	30,0	
Not economically active	56	47	45	62	65	2	9	3,5	15,8	
KwaZulu-Natal										
Subsistence farming	1 024	989	898	818	937	119	-87	14,5	-8,5	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	1 734	1 634	1 744	1 610	1 425	-185	-310	-11,5	-17,9	
Produce other goods for household use	128	136	143	134	139	5	11	3,5	8,7	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	117	93	98	118	111	-7	-6	-5,6	-4,9	
Hunting or fishing for household use	9	6	11	19	9	-10	0	-52,4	-1,2	
Involvement in at least one activity	2 368	2 253	2 237	2 106	2 047	-59	-321	-2,8	-13,6	
Employed	663	649	612	563	586	23	-77	4,1	-11,6	
Unemployed	496	466	527	480	460	-20	-36	-4,3	-7,4	
Not economically active	1 210	1 138	1 098	1 064	1 002	-62	-208	-5,8	-17,2	

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 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
North West										
Subsistence farming	49	49	86	60	47	-13	-2	-21,2	-4,8	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	488	525	405	389	363	-26	-125	-6,7	-25,7	
Produce other goods for household use	8	7	2	5	1	-5	-7	-86,1	-90,9	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	5	6	8	1	1	-1	-4	-47,5	-84,4	
Hunting or fishing for household use	3	1	2							
Involvement in at least one activity	526	560	475	437	402	-35	-124	-8,1	-23,6	
Employed	142	131	98	99	97	-2	-45	-2,2	-32,0	
Unemployed	104	127	132	82	74	-8	-30	-9,9	-28,5	
Not economically active	281	302	245	256	232	-25	-49	-9,7	-17,5	
Gauteng										
Subsistence farming	40	33	38	53	38	-16	-3	-29,3	-6,4	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	195	109	79	100	92	-8	-103	-8,3	-52,9	
Produce other goods for household use	3	1		1	5	4	2	328,5	82,2	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	6	7	6	8	10	2	4	26,6	73,3	
Hunting or fishing for household use	1	8	2	1	2	1	1	41,8	94,6	
Involvement in at least one activity	237	150	118	156	135	-21	-102	-13,2	-42,9	
Employed	109	71	60	53	53	0	-55	0,5	-51,0	
Unemployed	70	42	32	57	44	-14	-26	-24,0	-37,5	
Not economically active	59	36	26	45	38	-7	-20	-15,5	-34,6	
Mpumalanga										
Subsistence farming	157	175	121	106	115	9	-43	8,6	-27,0	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	500	439	463	342	355	12	-145	3,6	-29,0	
Produce other goods for household use	20	22	17	21	15	-6	-5	-28,3	-26,0	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	6	7	5	8	11	3	5	42,8	72,8	
Hunting or fishing for household use	4	5	3	6	2	-3	-2	-62,8	-49,6	
Involvement in at least one activity	613	565	560	439	457	18	-156	4,1	-25,4	
Employed	195	164	175	140	130	-10	-65	-6,9	-33,3	
Unemployed	171	174	154	127	125	-2	-46	-1,7	-26,9	
Not economically active	247	227	231	172	202	30	-45	17,4	-18,3	

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: 2024

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (concluded)										
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	Qrt-to-qrt change	Year-on- year change	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent	
Limpopo										
Subsistence farming	234	354	307	243	242	-1	8	-0,5	3,3	
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	471	393	446	472	436	-36	-35	-7,6	-7,5	
Produce other goods for household use	1	10	4	1	3	2	2	124,0	147,3	
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	20	34	22	30	15	-15	-5	-51,0	-25,2	
Hunting or fishing for household use	1	2		1	2	2	2	183,6	326,1	
Involvement in at least one activity	579	640	624	617	568	-49	-12	-8,0	-2,0	
Employed	195	216	216	205	190	-15	-6	-7,3	-2,9	
Unemployed	122	132	147	156	133	-23	12	-14,7	9,5	
Not economically active	262	292	261	256	244	-11	-18	-4,5	-6,8	

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.

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	112	-129	353	0,36
Employed	0,8	0,8	132	-84	348	0,23
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,0	1,1	90	-99	280	0,35
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,3	2,2	34	-104	172	0,63
Agriculture	5,4	5,1	-11	-125	103	0,85
Private households	3,9	3,7	18	-53	90	0,61
Unemployed	2,0	1,9	-20	-259	220	0,87
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	18	-223	259	0,88
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	3,8	111	-50	271	0,18
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	-93	-317	131	0,42
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,6	-0,2	-1,0	0,6	0,59
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,8	0,2	-0,3	0,7	0,48
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,1	-0,5	0,7	0,78
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,8	53	-103	208	0,51
Employed	1,1	1,0	91	-53	235	0,22
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,4	1,4	57	-71	185	0,38
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	3,6	3,3	20	-63	104	0,64
Agriculture	10,5	7,9	12	-46	70	0,69
Private households	3,8	4,0	2	-53	57	0,94
Unemployed	2,2	2,1	-38	-185	109	0,61
Not economically active	1,0	1,0	9	-147	164	0,91
Discouraged work-seekers	4,2	4,3	40	-68	149	0,46
Other (not economically active)	1,0	1,0	-32	-174	110	0,66
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,8	1,7	-0,5	-1,6	0,6	0,38
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,1	1,0	0,3	-0,4	1,0	0,35
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,8	0,1	-0,7	0,8	0,81

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,6	60	-93	212	0,44
Employed	0,9	1,0	41	-111	193	0,60
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,3	1,4	33	-109	175	0,64
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,6	2,6	14	-89	117	0,79
Agriculture	4,7	6,0	-23	-100	54	0,56
Private households	7,1	7,1	16	-24	57	0,43
Unemployed	2,3	2,2	19	-126	164	0,80
Not economically active	1,3	1,2	9	-143	162	0,91
Discouraged work-seekers	4,4	4,1	70	-27	167	0,16
Other (not economically active)	1,3	1,2	-61	-200	78	0,39
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,0	2,0	0,0	-1,0	1,0	0,99
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,9	1,0	0,1	-0,7	0,8	0,90
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,6	0,1	-0,7	0,8	0,85

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	112	-129	353	0,36
Employed	0,8	0,8	132	-84	348	0,23
Unemployed	2,0	1,9	-20	-259	220	0,87
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	18	-223	259	0,88
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,6	-0,2	-1,0	0,6	0,59
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,8	0,2	-0,3	0,7	0,48
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,1	-0,5	0,7	0,78
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,7	98	-128	324	0,39
Employed	0,9	0,9	115	-79	308	0,25
Unemployed	2,1	2,0	-17	-242	209	0,89
Not economically active	1,1	1,1	34	-191	260	0,76
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,6	-0,3	-1,2	0,7	0,58
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,9	0,9	0,2	-0,4	0,8	0,52
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,7	0,1	-0,6	0,7	0,87
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,4	49	-27	124	0,21
Employed	2,0	1,8	11	-49	72	0,71
Unemployed	7,6	7,1	37	-27	101	0,25
Not economically active	2,1	2,2	-44	-120	31	0,25
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,2	6,4	1,2	-1,3	3,7	0,34
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,0	1,8	0,3	-1,4	1,9	0,77
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,4	1,3	-0,8	3,4	0,23

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	1,8	-7	-30	16	0,53
Employed	3,8	3,3	4	-37	46	0,83
Unemployed	19,1	18,4	-12	-46	22	0,50
Not economically active	3,9	3,0	9	-14	32	0,43
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	18,7	18,1	-1,6	-6,8	3,6	0,54
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,8	3,3	0,3	-3,6	4,3	0,87
Labour force participation rate	2,2	1,8	-0,8	-3,0	1,4	0,46
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,2	-27	-80	25	0,31
Employed	1,5	1,4	1	-50	52	0,96
Unemployed	13,0	11,9	-29	-56	-1	0,04
Not economically active	2,7	2,5	18	-34	71	0,49
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	12,6	11,7	-1,4	-2,8	0,0	0,05
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,5	1,4	0,3	-1,6	2,1	0,79
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,2	-0,8	-2,7	1,1	0,43

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	112	-129	353	0,36
Employed	0,8	0,8	132	-84	348	0,23
Unemployed	2,0	1,9	-20	-259	220	0,87
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	18	-223	259	0,88
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	3,8	111	-50	271	0,18
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	-93	-317	131	0,42
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,6	-0,2	-1,0	0,6	0,59
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,8	0,2	-0,3	0,7	0,48
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,1	-0,5	0,7	0,78
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,2	1,4	79	-11	168	0,08
Employed	1,7	1,6	62	-14	139	0,11
Unemployed	6,9	6,9	16	-51	84	0,63
Not economically active	2,5	3,0	-61	-151	29	0,18
Discouraged work-seekers	10,2	16,6	-58	-93	-23	0,00
Other (not economically active)	2,7	2,9	-3	-81	76	0,95
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,5	6,2	0,0	-1,7	1,7	0,98
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,7	1,6	1,0	-0,5	2,5	0,17
Labour force participation rate	1,2	1,4	1,3	-0,5	3,1	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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Western Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,0	2,7	43	-36	122	0,28
Employed	2,9	2,4	37	-8	81	0,11
Unemployed	14,3	15,0	6	-43	55	0,80
Not economically active	3,5	5,1	-37	-115	42	0,36
Discouraged work-seekers	12,5	17,6	-50	-81	-19	0,00
Other (not economically active)	4,3	6,1	13	-52	79	0,68
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	13,9	13,3	0,0	-3,4	3,4	1,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,9	2,4	1,8	-0,6	4,2	0,15
Labour force participation rate	2,0	2,7	2,1	-2,2	6,4	0,33
Western Cape – City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,7	1,6	36	-14	86	0,16
Employed	2,2	2,0	26	-39	91	0,43
Unemployed	7,9	7,6	10	-35	55	0,66
Not economically active	3,8	3,8	-24	-75	26	0,34
Discouraged work-seekers	17,9	32,9	-8	-22	6	0,24
Other (not economically active)	3,6	3,1	-16	-66	34	0,52
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,2	6,9	0,1	-1,9	2,1	0,93
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,2	2,0	0,6	-1,4	2,6	0,55
Labour force participation rate	1,7	1,6	0,9	-0,7	2,4	0,28

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,3	2,0	-16	-125	94	0,78
Employed	3,2	2,9	4	-74	81	0,92
Unemployed	3,4	4,7	-20	-90	50	0,58
Not economically active	2,3	2,1	29	-81	138	0,61
Discouraged work-seekers	12,1	9,9	21	-50	92	0,56
Other (not economically active)	3,0	1,9	8	-108	123	0,90
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,0	4,0	-0,6	-2,8	1,6	0,59
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,2	2,9	0,0	-1,7	1,7	1,00
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,0	-0,5	-2,9	1,9	0,69
Eastern Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,2	3,1	-40	-142	61	0,44
Employed	5,2	4,7	-19	-91	53	0,61
Unemployed	4,0	6,3	-22	-85	42	0,50
Not economically active	2,7	2,5	48	-54	150	0,35
Discouraged work-seekers	12,5	10,3	19	-49	88	0,58
Other (not economically active)	3,6	2,3	29	-75	132	0,58
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	5,1	-0,3	-3,5	2,9	0,87
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,2	4,7	-0,7	-3,0	1,6	0,57
Labour force participation rate	3,2	3,1	-1,4	-4,7	1,9	0,40

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,5	1,4	37	8	67	0,01
Employed	5,2	3,6	18	-2	39	0,08
Unemployed	8,4	5,6	19	0	38	0,05
Not economically active	7,1	3,7	-35	-65	-6	0,02
Discouraged work-seekers	60,6	38,3	2	1	3	0,00
Other (not economically active)	8,0	3,6	-37	-67	-7	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,0	6,0	1,8	-1,7	5,4	0,31
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,2	3,6	3,1	-0,6	6,8	0,10
Labour force participation rate	3,5	1,4	6,4	1,1	11,7	0,02
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,4	3,6	-13	-39	14	0,35
Employed	4,0	4,9	4	-15	24	0,67
Unemployed	9,2	8,2	-17	-41	7	0,16
Not economically active	6,2	4,8	16	-10	43	0,24
Discouraged work-seekers	41,4	41,7	0	-18	19	0,97
Other (not economically active)	7,3	4,8	16	-26	57	0,46
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,4	8,4	-2,7	-6,3	0,9	0,14
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,0	4,9	0,3	-1,9	2,5	0,78
Labour force participation rate	4,4	3,6	-1,6	-4,6	1,3	0,28

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Northern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,6	3,1	4	-26	34	0,78
Employed	8,1	5,0	18	-22	58	0,39
Unemployed	5,8	7,3	-13	-40	13	0,32
Not economically active	6,2	4,3	-3	-33	27	0,87
Discouraged work-seekers	11,8	19,4	-4	-27	18	0,70
Other (not economically active)	7,8	5,4	2	-33	36	0,92
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,9	7,9	-3,0	-8,8	2,8	0,31
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	8,1	5,0	2,0	-2,8	6,8	0,41
Labour force participation rate	4,6	3,1	0,4	-3,2	3,9	0,83
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	1,3	-5	-38	28	0,76
Employed	2,8	2,2	-25	-60	9	0,14
Unemployed	5,0	4,8	20	-22	63	0,35
Not economically active	2,5	2,2	6	-27	38	0,72
Discouraged work-seekers	14,5	16,2	-9	-24	6	0,24
Other (not economically active)	3,7	2,4	15	-16	47	0,35
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,6	4,1	1,9	-1,2	4,9	0,23
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	2,2	-1,3	-3,1	0,4	0,14
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,3	-0,3	-2,0	1,4	0,74

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Free State – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,8	1,5	-5	-29	19	0,69
Employed	3,4	3,0	-23	-54	8	0,15
Unemployed	6,3	5,4	18	-18	55	0,33
Not economically active	3,0	2,5	6	-19	30	0,65
Discouraged work-seekers	18,0	18,4	-3	-15	9	0,61
Other (not economically active)	3,7	2,9	9	-14	32	0,46
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,5	4,6	2,3	-1,4	6,1	0,22
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,4	3,0	-1,7	-4,0	0,6	0,14
Labour force participation rate	1,8	1,5	-0,4	-2,1	1,4	0,67
Free State – Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,8	2,6	0	-22	22	0,99
Employed	4,7	2,6	-2	-15	11	0,73
Unemployed	4,9	10,7	2	-21	25	0,85
Not economically active	4,4	4,1	0	-22	22	0,98
Discouraged work-seekers	24,3	33,4	-6	-16	3	0,21
Other (not economically active)	9,2	4,1	6	-15	28	0,56
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,3	8,8	0,7	-4,6	6,0	0,81
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,7	2,6	-0,4	-2,8	1,9	0,72
Labour force participation rate	2,8	2,6	0,0	-4,0	3,9	0,98

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	2,1	-77	-161	8	0,07
Employed	2,0	1,9	52	-24	127	0,18
Unemployed	6,0	5,7	-128	-228	-28	0,01
Not economically active	2,6	2,4	101	17	185	0,02
Discouraged work-seekers	9,6	9,3	81	0	162	0,05
Other (not economically active)	2,8	3,1	20	-74	115	0,67
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,5	4,2	-2,6	-4,6	-0,5	0,01
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,0	1,9	0,6	-0,4	1,5	0,27
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,1	-1,2	-2,3	-0,1	0,04
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,2	3,2	-21	-97	56	0,60
Employed	2,9	2,9	40	-23	103	0,22
Unemployed	7,6	7,1	-60	-153	32	0,20
Not economically active	3,2	3,1	35	-41	112	0,37
Discouraged work-seekers	13,6	13,5	52	-11	114	0,10
Other (not economically active)	3,6	4,0	-17	-99	66	0,69
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,2	4,9	-2,2	-5,1	0,8	0,16
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,9	2,9	0,7	-0,6	2,0	0,27
Labour force participation rate	3,2	3,2	-0,6	-2,1	1,0	0,48

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekwini						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,8	2,3	-56	-95	-17	0,01
Employed	2,9	2,3	12	-29	53	0,56
Unemployed	8,2	6,9	-68	-106	-29	0,00
Not economically active	4,5	3,4	66	27	105	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	11,7	10,0	29	-22	81	0,27
Other (not economically active)	3,6	4,2	37	-12	85	0,14
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,0	5,8	-3,5	-5,7	-1,4	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,9	2,3	0,3	-1,3	1,8	0,74
Labour force participation rate	2,8	2,3	-2,3	-3,8	-0,9	0,00
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,3	3,5	82	7	157	0,03
Employed	4,7	4,5	-20	-86	45	0,54
Unemployed	7,6	8,9	102	17	187	0,02
Not economically active	3,9	4,5	-73	-148	2	0,06
Discouraged work-seekers	11,2	10,8	1	-47	49	0,97
Other (not economically active)	3,4	3,8	-74	-133	-15	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,4	6,8	4,5	0,3	8,8	0,04
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,7	4,5	-0,8	-3,2	1,5	0,48
Labour force participation rate	3,3	3,5	2,7	0,1	5,4	0,05

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,2	1,1	118	-11	248	0,07
Employed	1,6	1,6	45	-85	174	0,50
Unemployed	4,1	3,5	74	-71	218	0,32
Not economically active	2,5	2,4	-78	-207	52	0,24
Discouraged work-seekers	9,2	9,0	30	-47	107	0,44
Other (not economically active)	2,2	2,0	-108	-221	6	0,06
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,4	2,9	0,4	-1,2	2,1	0,61
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,6	1,6	0,2	-0,9	1,4	0,69
Labour force participation rate	1,2	1,1	0,8	-0,3	1,9	0,17
Gauteng – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	5,4	5,2	33	-12	78	0,15
Employed	4,5	4,1	-20	-64	24	0,38
Unemployed	12,2	11,7	53	6	100	0,03
Not economically active	11,3	12,0	-28	-73	17	0,23
Discouraged work-seekers	27,8	31,8	-5	-21	11	0,55
Other (not economically active)	7,9	6,6	-23	-68	23	0,33
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	8,1	7,5	3,8	0,0	7,7	0,05
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,5	4,1	-1,5	-4,4	1,5	0,32
Labour force participation rate	5,4	5,2	2,0	-1,0	5,0	0,20

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	2,2	-6	-81	68	0,87
Employed	2,5	2,6	13	-47	72	0,67
Unemployed	6,4	8,5	-19	-96	58	0,63
Not economically active	3,9	3,9	17	-58	91	0,66
Discouraged work-seekers	12,1	8,8	-6	-44	32	0,75
Other (not economically active)	3,3	4,6	23	-38	84	0,46
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,2	7,0	-0,9	-4,4	2,5	0,60
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	2,6	0,3	-1,8	2,4	0,79
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,2	-0,5	-3,1	2,2	0,73
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,0	1,2	155	72	238	0,00
Employed	3,1	2,3	73	-27	174	0,15
Unemployed	6,8	3,8	82	-23	187	0,13
Not economically active	4,0	2,9	-140	-224	-57	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	18,2	13,0	23	-23	68	0,33
Other (not economically active)	4,1	3,2	-163	-239	-87	0,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,9	3,6	1,0	-2,4	4,4	0,57
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,1	2,3	1,6	-0,8	4,0	0,19
Labour force participation rate	2,0	1,2	3,5	1,5	5,4	0,00

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jul-Sep 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Gauteng – City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,0	2,4	-64	-113	-14	0,01
Employed	3,7	4,2	-22	-67	24	0,35
Unemployed	8,8	7,3	-42	-83	-1	0,04
Not economically active	4,8	5,3	74	24	123	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	18,8	25,0	19	-28	65	0,43
Other (not economically active)	4,1	3,7	55	17	94	0,01
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,8	6,9	-1,1	-2,8	0,7	0,22
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,7	4,2	-0,9	-2,6	0,7	0,26
Labour force participation rate	2,0	2,4	-2,5	-4,3	-0,8	0,01
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	2,5	-27	-98	44	0,46
Employed	3,1	3,7	13	-45	72	0,65
Unemployed	5,7	6,0	-40	-94	14	0,15
Not economically active	3,4	3,8	37	-34	108	0,31
Discouraged work-seekers	8,6	9,1	27	-21	75	0,27
Other (not economically active)	3,2	3,5	10	-44	64	0,72
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	5,3	-1,6	-3,9	0,7	0,17
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,1	3,7	0,3	-1,5	2,1	0,75
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,5	-1,0	-3,3	1,2	0,36

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,3	2,1	-47	-125	30	0,23
Employed	2,7	2,7	-16	-86	53	0,64
Unemployed	4,9	4,5	-31	-98	37	0,37
Not economically active	3,1	2,7	59	-18	137	0,13
Discouraged work-seekers	9,2	7,3	23	-23	69	0,34
Other (not economically active)	3,3	2,9	37	-22	95	0,22
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	3,8	-0,7	-3,2	1,9	0,60
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	2,7	-0,5	-2,2	1,2	0,55
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,1	-1,3	-3,2	0,6	0,17

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Both sexes	0,8	0,8	132	-84	348	0,23
Agriculture	5,4	5,1	-11	-125	103	0,85
Mining	6,8	8,1	-18	-65	28	0,44
Manufacturing	3,1	3,1	41	-60	141	0,43
Utilities	11,5	12,1	-17	-39	6	0,14
Construction	3,3	3,6	-22	-110	66	0,63
Trade	2,2	2,2	-48	-188	93	0,50
Transport	3,9	4,0	17	-58	93	0,65
Finance	2,7	2,6	232	118	347	0,00
Community and social services	1,8	2,0	-63	-184	59	0,31
Private households	3,9	3,7	18	-53	90	0,61
Women	1,1	1,0	91	-53	235	0,22
Agriculture	10,5	7,9	12	-46	70	0,69
Mining	14,2	14,7	0	-18	19	0,97
Manufacturing	4,4	4,2	26	-30	82	0,37
Utilities	19,5	19,9	1	-7	9	0,74
Construction	9,4	9,4	14	-16	43	0,36
Trade	3,0	3,0	0	-85	84	0,99
Transport	8,4	8,6	-9	-43	24	0,58
Finance	3,7	3,2	130	63	197	0,00
Community and social services	2,2	2,3	-84	-181	14	0,09
Private households	3,8	4,0	2	-53	57	0,94
Men	0,9	1,0	41	-111	193	0,60
Agriculture	4,7	6,0	-23	-100	54	0,56
Mining	7,7	8,7	-19	-59	22	0,37
Manufacturing	3,7	4,0	15	-57	86	0,69
Utilities	14,4	14,8	-18	-41	4	0,11
Construction	3,5	3,8	-36	-119	48	0,40
Trade	2,9	2,8	-47	-153	58	0,37
Transport	4,4	4,1	27	-44	98	0,46
Finance	3,2	3,3	102	11	193	0,03
Community and social services	2,7	3,0	21	-57	99	0,59
Private households	7,1	7,1	16	-24	57	0,43

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
South Africa	0,8	0,8	132	-84	348	0,23
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1,0	1,1	90	-99	280	0,35
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2,3	2,2	34	-104	172	0,63
Agriculture	5,4	5,1	-11	-125	103	0,85
Private households	3,9	3,7	18	-53	90	0,61
Western Cape	1,7	1,6	62	-14	139	0,11
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,3	1,9	72	-9	154	0,08
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,9	7,1	4	-36	43	0,86
Agriculture	15,3	10,0	18	-13	49	0,26
Private households	9,9	9,5	-31	-58	-5	0,02
Western Cape – Non-metro	2,9	2,4	37	-8	81	0,11
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,6	4,2	36	-20	92	0,21
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,5	8,5	2	-19	23	0,86
Agriculture	15,9	10,4	10	-19	39	0,51
Private households	12,6	13,1	-11	-29	8	0,26
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	2,2	2,0	26	-39	91	0,43
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,9	2,0	37	-25	98	0,24
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,7	10,0	2	-30	34	0,92
Agriculture	43,7	36,2	8	-3	19	0,14
Private households	14,2	13,3	-21	-39	-2	0,03
Eastern Cape	3,2	2,9	4	-74	81	0,92
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,1	3,6	-13	-68	42	0,65
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,0	6,5	30	-9	68	0,13
Agriculture	23,3	12,8	-34	-90	23	0,24
Private households	13,8	16,6	20	-2	43	0,07
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	5,2	4,7	-19	-91	53	0,61
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6,2	6,4	-6	-50	39	0,81
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	10,2	8,5	9	-19	38	0,52
Agriculture	25,7	12,2	-33	-89	23	0,25
Private households	16,2	19,2	10	-6	26	0,21

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	5,2	3,6	18	-2	39	0,08
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,5	5,7	-7	-30	16	0,54
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	19,5	10,6	20	2	39	0,03
Agriculture	58,5	57,5	-1	-5	3	0,55
Private households	31,7	49,7	6	-8	20	0,38
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	4,0	4,9	4	-15	24	0,67
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,6	4,8	0	-24	23	1,00
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	15,5	21,3	0	-17	16	0,98
Agriculture	66,7	50,3	0	-4	5	0,83
Private households	39,7	17,1	4	-3	11	0,25
Northern Cape	8,1	5,0	18	-22	58	0,39
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11,6	8,6	11	-4	27	0,16
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	12,3	14,5	-6	-13	2	0,16
Agriculture	27,9	16,5	13	-20	47	0,44
Private households	11,6	15,2	-1	-7	4	0,68
Free State	2,8	2,2	-25	-60	9	0,14
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,9	2,7	14	-23	51	0,45
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	11,1	7,8	-22	-53	8	0,15
Agriculture	6,0	8,1	-12	-22	-2	0,02
Private households	11,3	13,7	-6	-18	7	0,37
Free State – Non-metro	3,4	3,0	-23	-54	8	0,15
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	5,9	4,0	17	-17	51	0,34
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	13,8	10,0	-20	-43	4	0,10
Agriculture	5,0	6,7	-13	-23	-3	0,01
Private households	11,9	15,4	-8	-18	3	0,16
Free State – Mangaung	4,7	2,6	-2	-15	11	0,73
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,5	2,2	-3	-15	10	0,68
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	17,2	11,2	-3	-22	17	0,78
Agriculture	76,2	71,5	1	0	3	0,16
Private households	26,9	28,0	2	-5	9	0,58

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,0	1,9	52	-24	127	0,18
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,0	2,7	21	-46	89	0,53
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,3	4,7	5	-55	65	0,87
Agriculture	10,5	13,4	8	-22	38	0,61
Private households	7,1	8,1	17	-15	50	0,29
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	2,9	2,9	40	-23	103	0,22
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,6	4,0	49	-1	100	0,06
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,2	6,4	-29	-84	26	0,30
Agriculture	11,1	13,9	11	-19	40	0,47
Private households	9,5	9,2	8	-14	31	0,46
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	2,9	2,3	12	-29	53	0,56
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,0	3,6	-28	-73	17	0,22
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	9,5	7,1	34	11	56	0,00
Agriculture	31,9	48,5	-3	-8	1	0,17
Private households	10,5	14,1	9	-14	33	0,45
North West	4,7	4,5	-20	-86	45	0,54
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,6	4,6	-12	-61	36	0,62
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	10,9	9,1	-18	-44	7	0,16
Agriculture	17,0	15,3	1	-27	29	0,93
Private households	22,5	16,1	9	-9	27	0,33
Gauteng	1,6	1,6	45	-85	174	0,50
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,1	2,4	18	-109	145	0,78
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	4,5	4,6	1	-77	79	0,98
Agriculture	16,4	23,1	1	-21	23	0,92
Private households	8,0	6,8	25	-12	62	0,19
Gauteng – Non-metro	4,5	4,1	-20	-64	24	0,38
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6,5	7,7	-29	-81	23	0,27
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	12,1	13,6	11	-15	36	0,41
Agriculture	16,2	18,2	-8	-16	0	0,05
Private households	21,2	14,0	6	-3	16	0,20

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	2,5	2,6	13	-47	72	0,67
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,3	3,5	5	-51	61	0,86
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	9,3	8,9	11	-24	46	0,52
Agriculture	34,4	40,9	3	-5	10	0,50
Private households	15,1	14,6	-6	-26	13	0,51
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	3,1	2,3	73	-27	174	0,15
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,9	3,6	57	-29	143	0,19
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,7	6,9	-7	-63	49	0,82
Agriculture	62,6	60,7	10	-9	28	0,30
Private households	13,5	9,8	13	-13	39	0,33
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	3,7	4,2	-22	-67	24	0,35
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,8	6,0	-15	-77	47	0,63
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,8	10,0	-15	-47	18	0,38
Agriculture	46,7	49,2	-4	-10	3	0,28
Private households	15,2	16,6	12	-2	26	0,10
Mpumalanga	3,1	3,7	13	-45	72	0,65
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,5	3,9	-16	-64	33	0,53
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,3	5,8	17	-30	64	0,47
Agriculture	8,2	22,1	22	-33	76	0,44
Private households	12,5	8,6	-10	-25	5	0,20
Limpopo	2,7	2,7	-16	-86	53	0,64
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,9	3,4	-6	-60	47	0,82
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,0	6,5	23	-26	72	0,35
Agriculture	13,4	12,7	-29	-81	24	0,28
Private households	13,5	7,2	-5	-33	23	0,73

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 2024	Oct-Dec 2024				
Both sexes	0,8	0,8	132	-84	348	0,23
Manager	3,8	3,4	38	-61	138	0,45
Professional	4,5	4,5	43	-32	117	0,26
Technician	3,1	3,4	-106	-207	-4	0,04
Clerk	3,0	2,8	56	-47	159	0,29
Sales and services	2,0	2,1	-42	-158	73	0,47
Skilled agriculture	14,6	12,4	3	-20	25	0,80
Craft and related trade	2,8	2,8	56	-50	162	0,30
Plant and machine operator	3,8	3,3	-12	-105	82	0,81
Elementary	2,0	2,0	87	-91	265	0,34
Domestic worker	3,9	4,3	8	-48	63	0,78
Women	1,1	1,0	91	-53	235	0,22
Manager	5,8	5,0	47	-6	101	0,08
Professional	5,7	5,7	18	-32	69	0,48
Technician	3,9	4,0	-79	-142	-16	0,01
Clerk	3,2	3,0	59	-26	144	0,18
Sales and services	2,6	2,9	-54	-127	20	0,15
Skilled agriculture	24,9	20,2	1	-12	14	0,92
Craft and related trade	7,8	6,2	64	26	102	0,00
Plant and machine operator	10,1	7,9	11	-27	50	0,57
Elementary	2,8	2,7	15	-89	119	0,78
Domestic worker	3,9	4,2	8	-45	62	0,76
Men	0,9	1,0	41	-111	193	0,60
Manager	4,0	3,8	-9	-81	62	0,80
Professional	6,1	6,7	25	-25	74	0,33
Technician	4,5	4,4	-26	-93	40	0,44
Clerk	5,8	5,2	-3	-57	50	0,91
Sales and services	3,0	2,9	11	-77	99	0,80
Skilled agriculture	17,1	14,9	2	-16	20	0,82
Craft and related trade	3,1	3,1	-8	-106	89	0,87
Plant and machine operator	3,9	3,6	-23	-103	57	0,57
Elementary	2,3	2,6	72	-47	191	0,23
Domestic worker	16,5	18,3	-1	-19	18	0,95

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	450	71	829	0,02
Employed	0,7	0,8	355	52	657	0,02
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	0,9	1,1	192	-137	520	0,25
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,2	2,2	147	-44	338	0,13
Agriculture	4,2	5,1	4	-95	102	0,94
Private households	3,4	3,7	12	-86	111	0,81
Unemployed	1,7	1,9	96	-247	438	0,58
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	89	-290	468	0,65
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	3,8	417	144	690	0,00
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	-328	-609	-47	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	-0,2	-1,3	0,9	0,73
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,8	0,3	-0,4	1,1	0,38
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,3	-0,6	1,2	0,51
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,8	232	-24	489	0,08
Employed	1,0	1,0	206	0	413	0,05
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,3	1,4	159	-40	358	0,12
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	3,4	3,3	62	-50	174	0,28
Agriculture	7,0	7,9	4	-50	58	0,89
Private households	3,8	4,0	-19	-103	66	0,67
Unemployed	2,2	2,1	26	-186	237	0,81
Not economically active	1,0	1,0	24	-232	280	0,85
Discouraged work-seekers	4,4	4,3	240	70	410	0,01
Other (not economically active)	1,0	1,0	-216	-416	-16	0,04
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,8	1,7	-0,5	-2,0	1,0	0,54
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,0	1,0	0,6	-0,4	1,5	0,28
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,8	0,4	-0,8	1,7	0,48

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	218	1	434	0,05
Employed	0,8	1,0	148	-60	356	0,16
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,2	1,4	33	-199	264	0,78
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,5	2,6	85	-57	227	0,24
Agriculture	4,7	6,0	0	-82	81	0,99
Private households	7,2	7,1	31	-21	83	0,24
Unemployed	1,9	2,2	70	-143	282	0,52
Not economically active	1,2	1,2	65	-152	281	0,56
Discouraged work-seekers	4,2	4,1	177	24	329	0,02
Other (not economically active)	1,2	1,2	-112	-283	59	0,20
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	2,0	0,0	-1,4	1,4	0,97
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	1,0	0,1	-0,9	1,1	0,86
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,2	-0,9	1,2	0,76

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	450	71	829	0,02
Employed	0,7	0,8	355	52	657	0,02
Unemployed	1,7	1,9	96	-247	438	0,58
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	89	-290	468	0,65
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	-0,2	-1,3	0,9	0,73
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,8	0,3	-0,4	1,1	0,38
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,3	-0,6	1,2	0,51
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,7	388	34	741	0,03
Employed	0,8	0,9	302	19	586	0,04
Unemployed	1,9	2,0	85	-239	410	0,61
Not economically active	1,0	1,1	161	-193	514	0,37
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,6	-0,3	-1,6	1,0	0,68
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,9	0,3	-0,6	1,1	0,52
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,7	0,2	-0,9	1,2	0,73
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,4	50	-49	150	0,32
Employed	1,7	1,8	26	-55	106	0,53
Unemployed	5,7	7,1	25	-51	101	0,52
Not economically active	2,1	2,2	-31	-131	69	0,54
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	6,4	0,6	-2,3	3,5	0,68
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,7	1,8	0,5	-1,8	2,7	0,69
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,4	1,1	-1,7	3,8	0,45

Table 2.1B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,7	1,8	52	12	93	0,01
Employed	3,1	3,3	31	-20	82	0,24
Unemployed	11,2	18,4	21	-17	59	0,27
Not economically active	3,7	3,0	-44	-84	-4	0,03
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	11,0	18,1	2,3	-3,5	8,1	0,43
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,1	3,3	2,5	-2,4	7,4	0,31
Labour force participation rate	2,7	1,8	4,5	0,7	8,3	0,02
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,4	1,2	-40	-102	22	0,21
Employed	2,1	1,4	-4	-84	75	0,92
Unemployed	16,9	11,9	-36	-98	26	0,26
Not economically active	3,0	2,5	3	-59	66	0,92
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	16,8	11,7	-1,8	-5,0	1,5	0,29
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,1	1,4	0,7	-2,2	3,5	0,64
Labour force participation rate	1,4	1,2	-0,6	-2,8	1,7	0,63

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	450	71	829	0,02
Employed	0,7	0,8	355	52	657	0,02
Unemployed	1,7	1,9	96	-247	438	0,58
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	89	-290	468	0,65
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	3,8	417	144	690	0,00
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	-328	-609	-47	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	-0,2	-1,3	0,9	0,73
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,8	0,3	-0,4	1,1	0,38
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,3	-0,6	1,2	0,51
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,4	39	-68	146	0,48
Employed	1,6	1,6	55	-37	147	0,24
Unemployed	6,7	6,9	-16	-98	66	0,70
Not economically active	2,8	3,0	35	-72	142	0,52
Discouraged work-seekers	13,1	16,6	-51	-94	-8	0,02
Other (not economically active)	2,9	2,9	87	-2	175	0,05
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,1	6,2	-0,7	-2,8	1,4	0,51
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,6	1,6	0,3	-1,6	2,1	0,76
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,4	-0,2	-2,4	1,9	0,82

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Western Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,5	2,7	63	-22	147	0,15
Employed	2,8	2,4	61	2	119	0,04
Unemployed	11,1	15,0	2	-56	61	0,95
Not economically active	4,1	5,1	-36	-120	48	0,40
Discouraged work-seekers	14,8	17,6	-53	-92	-14	0,01
Other (not economically active)	5,1	6,1	17	-49	82	0,61
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,4	13,3	-0,6	-4,9	3,7	0,78
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	2,4	2,5	-0,7	5,7	0,13
Labour force participation rate	2,5	2,7	2,5	-2,1	7,1	0,29
Western Cape – City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,5	1,6	-24	-89	41	0,47
Employed	2,0	2,0	-6	-76	65	0,88
Unemployed	8,1	7,6	-18	-71	34	0,49
Not economically active	4,0	3,8	71	7	136	0,03
Discouraged work-seekers	29,1	32,9	2	-18	21	0,87
Other (not economically active)	3,7	3,1	70	10	130	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,3	6,9	-0,6	-2,7	1,6	0,61
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,0	2,0	-1,0	-3,2	1,2	0,37
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,6	-1,8	-3,8	0,2	0,08

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,0	2,0	-24	-131	84	0,66
Employed	3,0	2,9	108	16	199	0,02
Unemployed	3,8	4,7	-132	-222	-41	0,01
Not economically active	2,1	2,1	78	-30	185	0,16
Discouraged work-seekers	10,4	9,9	193	119	266	0,00
Other (not economically active)	2,2	1,9	-115	-214	-17	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,1	4,0	-5,3	-8,5	-2,1	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,0	2,9	2,0	0,0	4,0	0,05
Labour force participation rate	2,0	2,0	-1,1	-3,5	1,2	0,35
Eastern Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,6	3,1	-66	-158	25	0,15
Employed	4,9	4,7	13	-66	91	0,75
Unemployed	4,1	6,3	-79	-152	-6	0,03
Not economically active	2,3	2,5	98	7	190	0,04
Discouraged work-seekers	10,9	10,3	185	112	258	0,00
Other (not economically active)	2,3	2,3	-86	-166	-6	0,04
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	5,1	-3,5	-7,8	0,8	0,11
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,9	4,7	0,2	-2,4	2,7	0,90
Labour force participation rate	2,6	3,1	-2,6	-5,6	0,3	0,08

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,2	1,4	23	2	44	0,03
Employed	4,9	3,6	20	-6	46	0,13
Unemployed	5,9	5,6	3	-21	27	0,81
Not economically active	7,5	3,7	-15	-36	6	0,17
Discouraged work-seekers	.	38,3	5	1	9	0,01
Other (not economically active)	7,5	3,6	-20	-40	0	0,06
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,9	6,0	-1,1	-6,8	4,6	0,70
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,9	3,6	2,9	-1,8	7,6	0,23
Labour force participation rate	3,2	1,4	3,1	-0,8	6,9	0,12
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	5,1	3,6	20	-32	71	0,45
Employed	2,3	4,9	75	37	113	0,00
Unemployed	14,1	8,2	-55	-106	-5	0,03
Not economically active	6,4	4,8	-6	-57	45	0,82
Discouraged work-seekers	31,2	41,7	3	-3	10	0,32
Other (not economically active)	6,1	4,8	-9	-62	44	0,74
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,1	8,4	-12,1	-19,5	-4,7	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,3	4,9	7,8	3,5	12,1	0,00
Labour force participation rate	5,1	3,6	1,3	-4,4	7,1	0,65

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Northern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,5	3,1	41	32	50	0,00
Employed	6,0	5,0	28	4	51	0,02
Unemployed	8,7	7,3	13	-12	39	0,30
Not economically active	4,0	4,3	-35	-44	-26	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	10,9	19,4	-25	-58	8	0,14
Other (not economically active)	5,2	5,4	-9	-42	23	0,57
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,7	7,9	0,5	-4,8	5,8	0,87
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	6,0	5,0	3,0	0,2	5,8	0,04
Labour force participation rate	3,5	3,1	4,5	3,4	5,6	0,00
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,2	1,3	29	-17	75	0,22
Employed	2,5	2,2	8	-36	53	0,72
Unemployed	6,2	4,8	21	-12	54	0,21
Not economically active	3,4	2,2	-24	-71	22	0,30
Discouraged work-seekers	22,2	16,2	-8	-35	19	0,57
Other (not economically active)	2,6	2,4	-17	-55	21	0,39
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	4,1	0,9	-1,7	3,4	0,51
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	2,2	0,3	-2,0	2,6	0,78
Labour force participation rate	2,2	1,3	1,4	-1,0	3,7	0,27

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Free State – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,5	1,5	15	-22	52	0,44
Employed	3,2	3,0	-20	-57	18	0,30
Unemployed	7,2	5,4	34	3	66	0,03
Not economically active	4,0	2,5	-11	-48	26	0,55
Discouraged work-seekers	29,8	18,4	10	-13	33	0,39
Other (not economically active)	3,5	2,9	-21	-55	12	0,22
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,7	4,6	3,3	-0,1	6,7	0,05
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,2	3,0	-1,5	-4,3	1,2	0,27
Labour force participation rate	2,5	1,5	0,9	-1,8	3,6	0,51
Free State – Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	4,3	2,6	14	-13	41	0,29
Employed	3,7	2,6	28	5	51	0,02
Unemployed	12,3	10,7	-13	-22	-5	0,00
Not economically active	6,1	4,1	-13	-40	14	0,34
Discouraged work-seekers	33,6	33,4	-18	-32	-4	0,01
Other (not economically active)	2,1	4,1	5	-12	21	0,58
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,1	8,8	-5,4	-7,5	-3,2	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,7	2,6	4,9	0,8	9,0	0,02
Labour force participation rate	4,3	2,6	2,5	-2,4	7,3	0,32

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	2,1	-2	-182	178	0,98
Employed	2,2	1,9	36	-116	188	0,64
Unemployed	5,2	5,7	-38	-141	65	0,47
Not economically active	2,4	2,4	104	-76	283	0,26
Discouraged work-seekers	10,0	9,3	172	41	303	0,01
Other (not economically active)	2,7	3,1	-69	-225	88	0,39
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	4,2	-0,9	-3,1	1,2	0,40
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,2	1,9	0,0	-2,0	2,0	0,98
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,1	-0,7	-3,1	1,6	0,54
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,2	3,2	13	-132	158	0,86
Employed	3,7	2,9	-34	-166	98	0,61
Unemployed	6,9	7,1	47	-41	135	0,30
Not economically active	3,1	3,1	48	-97	193	0,52
Discouraged work-seekers	14,1	13,5	82	-16	180	0,10
Other (not economically active)	3,5	4,0	-34	-172	104	0,63
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	4,9	1,7	-1,5	5,0	0,30
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,7	2,9	-1,1	-3,7	1,6	0,43
Labour force participation rate	3,2	3,2	-0,3	-3,3	2,6	0,82

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekwini						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,2	2,3	-15	-122	92	0,78
Employed	1,8	2,3	70	-6	146	0,07
Unemployed	6,0	6,9	-85	-139	-31	0,00
Not economically active	3,5	3,4	56	-51	163	0,30
Discouraged work-seekers	9,9	10,0	90	3	177	0,04
Other (not economically active)	3,7	4,2	-34	-113	44	0,39
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,5	5,8	-5,1	-7,6	-2,5	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	2,3	1,9	-1,0	4,7	0,19
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,3	-1,5	-5,5	2,5	0,46
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,0	3,5	100	-67	266	0,24
Employed	3,8	4,5	24	-85	132	0,67
Unemployed	7,8	8,9	76	-73	225	0,32
Not economically active	3,5	4,5	-63	-229	104	0,46
Discouraged work-seekers	11,4	10,8	0	-118	118	1,00
Other (not economically active)	2,3	3,8	-63	-139	13	0,10
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,0	6,8	2,3	-4,5	9,2	0,50
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,8	4,5	0,4	-3,5	4,3	0,83
Labour force participation rate	3,0	3,5	2,8	-3,1	8,8	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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,1	1,1	149	-64	361	0,17
Employed	1,2	1,6	47	-127	221	0,60
Unemployed	3,1	3,5	102	-122	326	0,37
Not economically active	2,3	2,4	19	-193	232	0,86
Discouraged work-seekers	8,5	9,0	100	-32	233	0,14
Other (not economically active)	2,4	2,0	-81	-261	99	0,38
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,5	2,9	0,7	-1,7	3,0	0,58
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,2	1,6	-0,3	-1,8	1,3	0,75
Labour force participation rate	1,1	1,1	0,3	-1,6	2,2	0,75
Gauteng – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,6	5,2	31	-88	149	0,61
Employed	2,7	4,1	-20	-74	34	0,47
Unemployed	9,5	11,7	51	-69	170	0,40
Not economically active	7,9	12,0	-7	-126	111	0,90
Discouraged work-seekers	28,7	31,8	35	-44	113	0,39
Other (not economically active)	4,3	6,6	-42	-91	7	0,10
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,5	7,5	3,7	-3,9	11,4	0,34
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	4,1	-2,0	-5,6	1,6	0,28
Labour force participation rate	3,6	5,2	1,0	-7,0	8,9	0,81

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,5	2,2	49	-78	176	0,45
Employed	1,7	2,6	26	-35	88	0,40
Unemployed	7,1	8,5	22	-92	137	0,70
Not economically active	4,3	3,9	-6	-133	121	0,92
Discouraged work-seekers	11,2	8,8	-1	-69	68	0,99
Other (not economically active)	4,6	4,6	-6	-132	120	0,93
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,1	7,0	0,4	-4,2	5,0	0,86
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,7	2,6	0,3	-1,9	2,5	0,80
Labour force participation rate	2,5	2,2	0,8	-3,7	5,3	0,74
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,0	1,2	110	25	195	0,01
Employed	2,4	2,3	26	-62	115	0,56
Unemployed	4,8	3,8	84	-9	177	0,08
Not economically active	4,4	2,9	-49	-134	36	0,26
Discouraged work-seekers	16,1	13,0	15	-42	71	0,61
Other (not economically active)	5,0	3,2	-64	-173	45	0,25
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	3,6	1,6	-1,2	4,4	0,27
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	2,3	-0,1	-2,2	2,1	0,97
Labour force participation rate	2,0	1,2	1,6	-0,4	3,7	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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Gauteng – City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,2	2,4	-41	-144	63	0,44
Employed	2,5	4,2	15	-114	143	0,82
Unemployed	5,4	7,3	-55	-178	68	0,38
Not economically active	3,0	5,3	82	-22	185	0,12
Discouraged work-seekers	22,7	25,0	52	-7	111	0,09
Other (not economically active)	3,6	3,7	30	-39	100	0,39
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	6,9	-2,2	-8,1	3,8	0,48
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	4,2	-0,2	-4,8	4,5	0,95
Labour force participation rate	1,2	2,4	-2,5	-6,2	1,2	0,19
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,5	2,5	1	-90	91	0,99
Employed	3,0	3,7	4	-90	98	0,93
Unemployed	4,6	6,0	-4	-102	95	0,94
Not economically active	2,4	3,8	42	-49	133	0,36
Discouraged work-seekers	6,7	9,1	61	-19	141	0,14
Other (not economically active)	2,6	3,5	-19	-77	40	0,53
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,5	5,3	-0,2	-4,7	4,3	0,93
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,0	3,7	-0,4	-3,4	2,6	0,80
Labour force participation rate	1,5	2,5	-0,8	-3,6	2,1	0,58

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,8	2,1	118	-30	266	0,12
Employed	2,1	2,7	45	-50	139	0,35
Unemployed	6,2	4,5	73	-24	171	0,14
Not economically active	3,2	2,7	-67	-215	81	0,37
Discouraged work-seekers	9,1	7,3	-25	-135	85	0,65
Other (not economically active)	2,6	2,9	-42	-154	70	0,46
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	3,8	1,7	-1,5	4,8	0,29
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,1	2,7	0,6	-1,7	3,0	0,60
Labour force participation rate	2,8	2,1	2,2	-1,5	5,9	0,23

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Both sexes	0,7	0,8	355	52	657	0,02
Agriculture	4,2	5,1	4	-95	102	0,94
Mining	5,8	8,1	20	-60	100	0,62
Manufacturing	3,2	3,1	168	37	299	0,01
Utilities	10,9	12,1	-12	-49	25	0,53
Construction	3,4	3,6	37	-86	161	0,55
Trade	1,8	2,2	59	-124	241	0,53
Transport	3,6	4,0	41	-70	152	0,46
Finance	2,4	2,6	-16	-210	178	0,87
Community and social services	1,9	2,0	46	-153	245	0,65
Private households	3,4	3,7	12	-86	111	0,81
Women	1,0	1,0	206	0	413	0,05
Agriculture	7,0	7,9	4	-50	58	0,89
Mining	9,8	14,7	7	-23	36	0,66
Manufacturing	5,6	4,2	145	69	221	0,00
Utilities	20,8	19,9	1	-16	17	0,95
Construction	10,4	9,4	6	-34	45	0,77
Trade	2,6	3,0	76	-42	193	0,21
Transport	8,0	8,6	-3	-50	45	0,92
Finance	3,3	3,2	-45	-156	66	0,43
Community and social services	2,1	2,3	39	-113	191	0,61
Private households	3,8	4,0	-19	-103	66	0,67
Men	0,8	1,0	148	-60	356	0,16
Agriculture	4,7	6,0	0	-82	81	0,99
Mining	6,2	8,7	13	-59	85	0,71
Manufacturing	3,9	4,0	23	-85	130	0,68
Utilities	12,7	14,8	-13	-46	21	0,47
Construction	3,5	3,8	32	-84	147	0,59
Trade	2,4	2,8	-17	-145	112	0,80
Transport	4,0	4,1	44	-53	141	0,38
Finance	2,9	3,3	29	-116	174	0,69
Community and social services	3,0	3,0	7	-110	124	0,91
Private households	7,2	7,1	31	-21	83	0,24

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
South Africa	0,7	0,8	355	52	657	0,02
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	0,9	1,1	192	-137	520	0,25
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,2	2,2	147	-44	338	0,13
Agriculture	4,2	5,1	4	-95	102	0,94
Private households	3,4	3,7	12	-86	111	0,81
Western Cape	1,6	1,6	55	-37	147	0,24
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,8	1,9	126	8	244	0,04
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,8	7,1	-9	-76	57	0,78
Agriculture	9,1	10,0	-41	-80	-2	0,04
Private households	10,2	9,5	-21	-54	12	0,21
Western Cape – Non-metro	2,8	2,4	61	2	119	0,04
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,4	4,2	65	-24	155	0,15
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,5	8,5	37	6	69	0,02
Agriculture	9,3	10,4	-46	-85	-8	0,02
Private households	10,5	13,1	4	-19	28	0,72
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	2,0	2,0	-6	-76	65	0,88
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,9	2,0	61	-13	135	0,11
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,8	10,0	-47	-103	10	0,11
Agriculture	37,6	36,2	5	-5	16	0,30
Private households	14,5	13,3	-25	-48	-2	0,03
Eastern Cape	3,0	2,9	108	16	199	0,02
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,4	3,6	108	22	193	0,01
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,8	6,5	-13	-59	33	0,57
Agriculture	14,0	12,8	-6	-27	15	0,58
Private households	9,6	16,6	19	-15	54	0,27
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	4,9	4,7	13	-66	91	0,75
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,0	6,4	39	-35	113	0,30
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,1	8,5	-23	-63	16	0,24
Agriculture	14,1	12,2	-9	-27	10	0,36
Private households	12,0	19,2	6	-20	32	0,66

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	4,9	3,6	20	-6	46	0,13
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,0	5,7	-9	-34	15	0,47
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	11,1	10,6	12	-3	27	0,12
Agriculture	64,3	57,5	3	-6	12	0,53
Private households	32,1	49,7	14	-7	36	0,20
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	2,3	4,9	75	37	113	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,9	4,8	78	44	112	0,00
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,5	21,3	-2	-21	17	0,85
Agriculture	86,1	50,3	0	-7	6	0,91
Private households	15,9	17,1	-1	-7	5	0,80
Northern Cape	6,0	5,0	28	4	51	0,02
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,6	8,6	34	18	50	0,00
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	18,5	14,5	3	-6	13	0,50
Agriculture	10,6	16,5	-6	-22	11	0,51
Private households	13,8	15,2	-3	-11	4	0,37
Free State	2,5	2,2	8	-36	53	0,72
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,6	2,7	-6	-43	30	0,73
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,0	7,8	22	-1	45	0,06
Agriculture	10,0	8,1	-7	-24	10	0,41
Private households	10,5	13,7	0	-19	19	0,99
Free State – Non-metro	3,2	3,0	-20	-57	18	0,30
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,2	4,0	-16	-44	12	0,27
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,1	10,0	8	-14	29	0,48
Agriculture	10,4	6,7	-8	-24	8	0,34
Private households	12,5	15,4	-3	-20	14	0,69
Free State – Mangaung	3,7	2,6	28	5	51	0,02
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,6	2,2	10	-13	32	0,41
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	11,1	11,2	14	6	23	0,00
Agriculture	37,6	71,5	1	-3	5	0,67
Private households	19,9	28,0	3	-5	12	0,44

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,2	1,9	36	-116	188	0,64
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,9	2,7	14	-126	154	0,85
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,1	4,7	7	-63	76	0,85
Agriculture	13,2	13,4	-1	-32	30	0,94
Private households	9,4	8,1	17	-33	66	0,51
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	3,7	2,9	-34	-166	98	0,61
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,9	4,0	7	-101	116	0,89
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,3	6,4	-47	-93	-2	0,04
Agriculture	13,8	13,9	0	-30	29	0,98
Private households	13,3	9,2	6	-31	44	0,74
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	1,8	2,3	70	-6	146	0,07
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,3	3,6	6	-82	95	0,89
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,6	7,1	54	1	107	0,05
Agriculture	42,2	48,5	-1	-11	9	0,88
Private households	13,0	14,1	10	-22	43	0,53
North West	3,8	4,5	24	-85	132	0,67
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,5	4,6	20	-72	112	0,67
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	12,3	9,1	10	-33	54	0,64
Agriculture	18,1	15,3	11	-13	34	0,37
Private households	17,1	16,1	-17	-41	7	0,16
Gauteng	1,2	1,6	47	-127	221	0,60
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1,4	2,4	-93	-307	122	0,40
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,2	4,6	88	-16	192	0,10
Agriculture	21,6	23,1	11	-18	39	0,46
Private households	6,6	6,8	41	-10	92	0,11
Gauteng – Non-metro	2,7	4,1	-20	-74	34	0,47
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,7	7,7	-8	-87	70	0,83
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,6	13,6	-18	-51	16	0,30
Agriculture	28,2	18,2	-5	-19	9	0,49
Private households	8,0	14,0	11	-1	23	0,06

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 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1,7	2,6	26	-35	88	0,40
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,8	3,5	1	-78	80	0,98
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,4	8,9	24	-24	72	0,32
Agriculture	58,4	40,9	5	-4	15	0,29
Private households	18,2	14,6	-4	-34	26	0,78
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	2,4	2,3	26	-62	115	0,56
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,3	3,6	-76	-185	33	0,17
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,2	6,9	55	-22	133	0,16
Agriculture	98,2	60,7	14	-5	32	0,14
Private households	10,1	9,8	33	3	63	0,03
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	2,5	4,2	15	-114	143	0,82
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,7	6,0	-9	-158	140	0,91
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,6	10,0	26	-14	65	0,20
Agriculture	43,7	49,2	-3	-16	9	0,61
Private households	11,4	16,6	1	-21	23	0,92
Mpumalanga	3,0	3,7	4	-90	98	0,93
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,4	3,9	-55	-138	28	0,19
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,2	5,8	36	-35	108	0,32
Agriculture	8,6	22,1	45	-15	104	0,15
Private households	9,9	8,6	-21	-46	3	0,09
Limpopo	2,1	2,7	45	-50	139	0,35
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,3	3,4	45	-47	136	0,34
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,4	6,5	3	-80	86	0,94
Agriculture	10,7	12,7	-1	-42	40	0,96
Private households	8,3	7,2	-2	-22	18	0,83

Table 3.5B: Sampling variability for the employed by sex and occupation						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2023	Oct-Dec 2024				
Both sexes	0,7	0,8	355	52	657	0,02
Manager	3,2	3,4	15	-124	154	0,83
Professional	3,3	4,5	-472	-587	-356	0,00
Technician	3,4	3,4	-43	-171	85	0,51
Clerk	3,1	2,8	170	31	308	0,02
Sales and services	2,2	2,1	87	-84	258	0,32
Skilled agriculture	13,6	12,4	8	-14	30	0,46
Craft and related trade	3,0	2,8	238	91	386	0,00
Plant and machine operator	3,3	3,3	66	-55	188	0,28
Elementary	1,9	2,0	303	87	519	0,01
Domestic worker	3,8	4,3	-15	-102	72	0,74
Women	1,0	1,0	206	0	413	0,05
Manager	5,1	5,0	14	-62	90	0,71
Professional	4,7	5,7	-217	-303	-130	0,00
Technician	4,2	4,0	-55	-138	28	0,20
Clerk	3,7	3,0	161	44	278	0,01
Sales and services	2,9	2,9	54	-66	174	0,38
Skilled agriculture	22,0	20,2	3	-9	15	0,62
Craft and related trade	8,1	6,2	87	39	134	0,00
Plant and machine operator	10,3	7,9	46	2	90	0,04
Elementary	2,9	2,7	130	-2	262	0,05
Domestic worker	4,0	4,2	-17	-101	67	0,69
Men	0,8	1,0	148	-60	356	0,16
Manager	3,6	3,8	0	-91	92	0,99
Professional	4,4	6,7	-255	-330	-180	0,00
Technician	4,9	4,4	12	-70	93	0,78
Clerk	5,2	5,2	8	-61	77	0,81
Sales and services	2,9	2,9	33	-82	148	0,58
Skilled agriculture	16,4	14,9	5	-14	24	0,58
Craft and related trade	3,1	3,1	152	17	287	0,03
Plant and machine operator	3,3	3,6	20	-91	131	0,72
Elementary	2,3	2,6	173	21	326	0,03
Domestic worker	14,2	18,3	2	-19	23	0,84