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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 January to March 2024 (Q1: 2024).

2. Highlights of the results

Table A: Key labour market indicators

	Jan-Mar 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
Population 15–64 years	40 604	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	24 125	24 619	24 971	352	846	1,4	3,5
Employed	16 192	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 186	11 488	11 544	56	358	0,5	3,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 062	3 181	3 082	-100	19	-3,1	0,6
Agriculture	888	920	941	21	54	2,3	6,1
Private households	1 056	1 134	1 178	44	122	3,9	11,5
Unemployed	7 933	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Not economically active	16 479	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
Discouraged work-seekers	3 276	3 049	3 048	-1	-229	0,0	-7,0
Other (not economically active)	13 202	13 354	13 140	-214	-62	-1,6	-0,5
Rates (%)							
Unemployment rate	32,9	32,1	32,9	0,8	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	59,4	60,0	60,7	0,7	1,3		

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

Working-age population increased by 137 000 or 0,3% in the first quarter of 2024 compared to the fourth quarter of 2023. The number of employed persons increased by 22 000 to 16,7 million in Q1: 2024, and the number of unemployed persons increased by 330 000 to 8,2 million compared to Q4: 2023, resulting in an increase of 352 000 (up by 1,4%) in the labour force. The number of discouraged work-seekers decreased by 1 000, and the number of people who were not economically active for reasons other than discouragement decreased by 214 000 (down by 1,6%) between the two quarters, resulting in a net decrease of 215 000 in the not economically active population.

An increase in employment and unemployment resulted in an increase of 0,8 of a percentage point in the unemployment rate to 32,9% in the first quarter of 2024. The labour force participation rate increased by 0,7 of a percentage point to 60,7%, while the absorption rate decreased by 0,1 of a percentage point to 40,7%, between Q4: 2023 and Q1: 2024.

Employment gains were observed in the formal sector (up by 56 000), Private households (up by 44 000) and the Agricultural sector (up by 21 000), while informal sector employment decreased by 100 000 in Q1: 2024.

Compared to Q1: 2023, the working-age population increased by 555 000 or 1,4%. Total employment increased by 552 000 persons (or 3,4%) and the number of unemployed persons increased by 293 000 (or 3,7%), while the number of persons who were not economically active decreased by 291 000 (or 1,8%).

3. Employment

Figure 1: Quarter-to-quarter changes in employment, Q1: 2019 to Q1: 2024

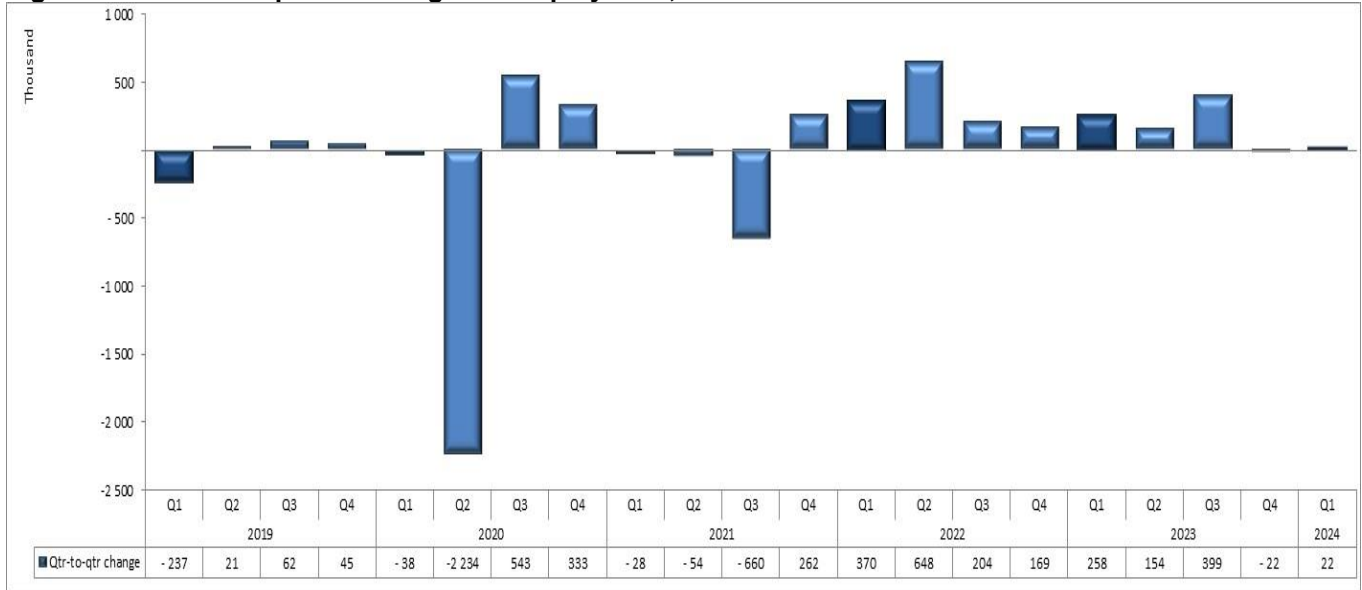


Figure 1 shows that, following a decrease of 22 000 in the previous quarter, employment increased by 22 000 in the first quarter of 2024. As depicted in Figure 1, employment has been increasing in the first quarter of each year, for the past three years.

Table B: Employment by industry

Industry	Jan-Mar 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
Total*	16 192	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Agriculture	888	920	941	21	54	2,3	6,1
Mining	413	446	454	9	42	1,9	10,1
Manufacturing	1 654	1 507	1 606	99	-48	6,6	-2,9
Utilities	135	123	105	-17	-30	-14,1	-21,9
Construction	1 201	1 322	1 215	-106	15	-8,0	1,2
Trade	3 269	3 362	3 471	109	202	3,2	6,2
Transport	992	1 023	1 062	39	69	3,8	7,0
Finance	2 667	2 964	2 914	-50	247	-1,7	9,2
Community and social services	3 902	3 913	3 791	-122	-111	-3,1	-2,8
Private households	1 056	1 134	1 178	44	122	3,9	11,5

*Note: Total includes 'Other' industries.

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

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

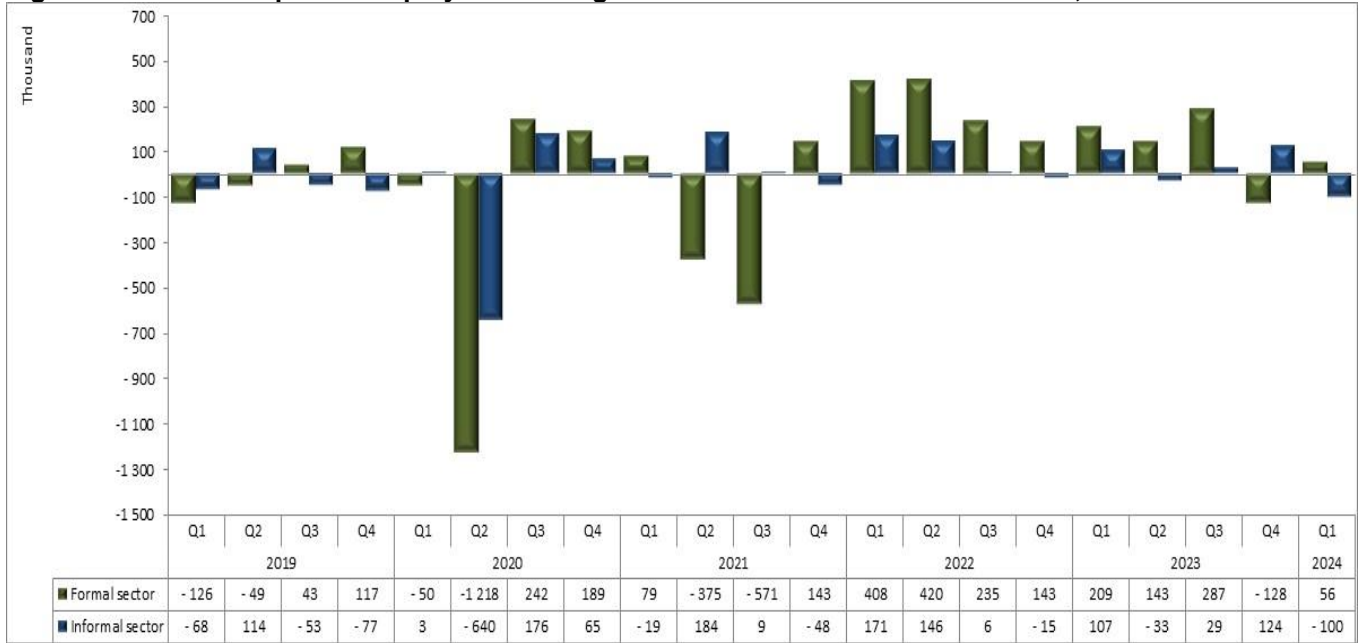
Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.

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

Table B shows that between Q4: 2023 and Q1: 2024, the number of employed persons increased in six of the ten industries. The largest increases in employment were recorded in Trade (109 000), followed by Manufacturing (99 000), Private households (44 000) and Transport (39 000). Decreases in employment were recorded in Community and social services (122 000), Construction (106 000), Finance (50 000) and Utilities (17 000) industries.

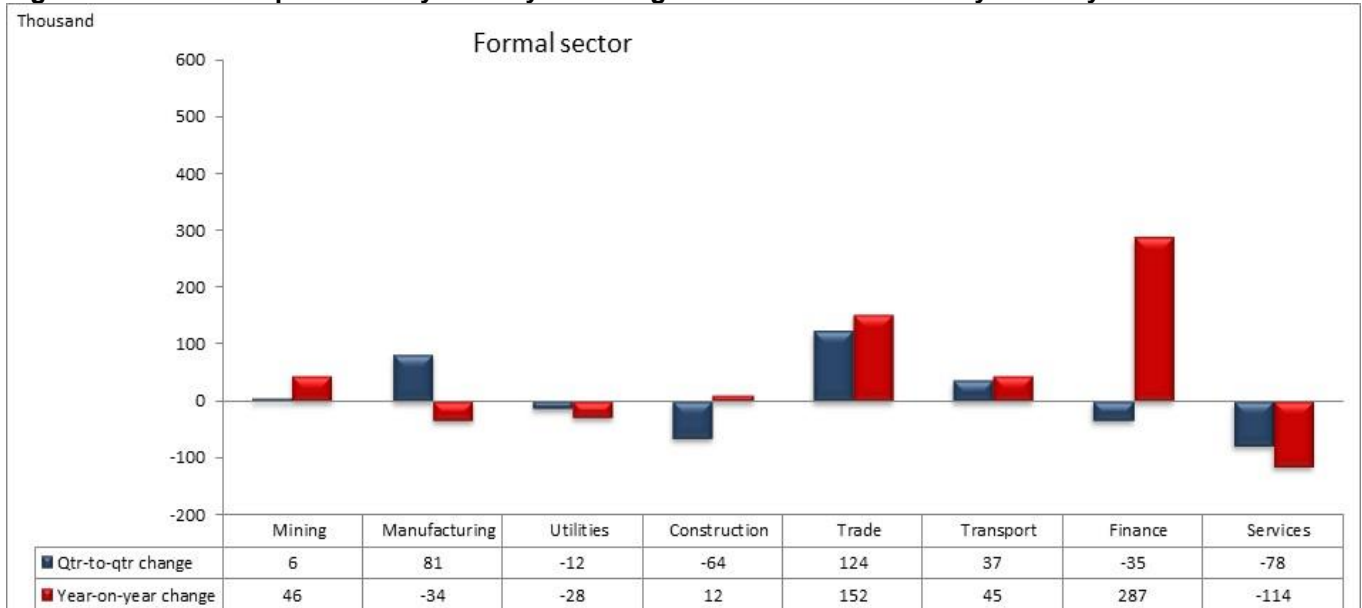
Compared to the same period last year, a net increase of 552 000 in total employment in Q1: 2024 was largely due to increases in the number of people employed in Finance (247 000), Trade (202 000) and Private households (122 000) industries. The industries that recorded decreases were Community and social services (111 000), Manufacturing (48 000) and Utilities (30 000).

Figure 2: Quarter-to-quarter employment changes in the formal and informal sectors, Q1: 2019 to Q1: 2024



Following an increase of 124 000 in Q4: 2023, informal sector employment decreased by 100 000 in Q1: 2024. Employment in the formal sector increased by 56 000 in Q1: 2024 compared to Q4: 2023.

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

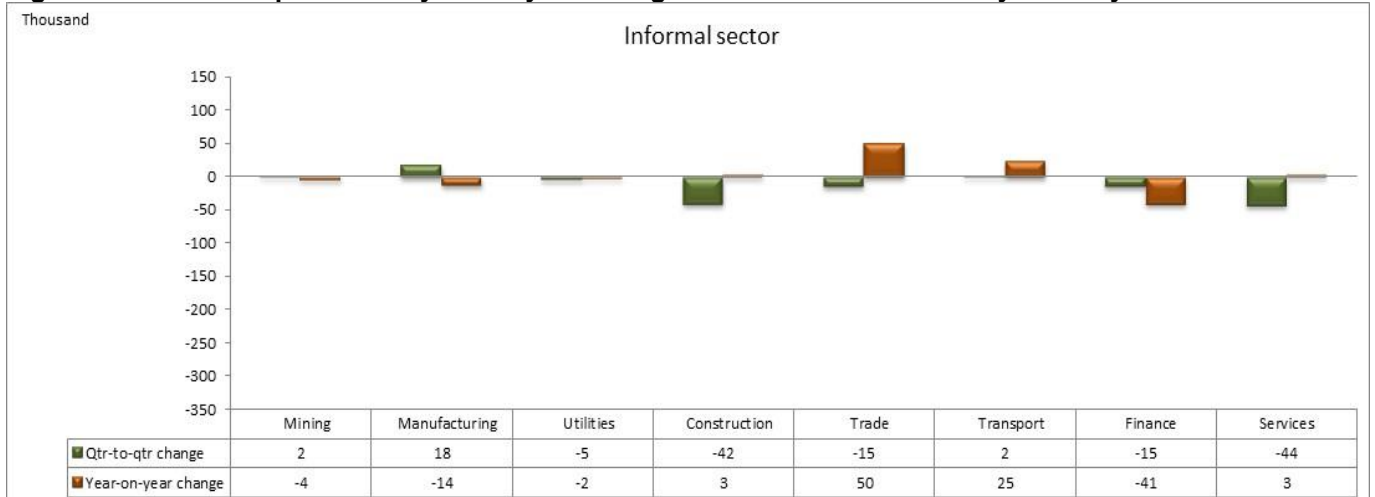


*Note: Utilities refers to electricity, gas and water supply.
 Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.
 Finance refers to financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services.
 Services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

The first quarter of 2024 recorded formal sector employment increases in Trade (124 000), Manufacturing (81 000), Transport (37 000) and Mining (6 000) industries compared to the fourth quarter of 2023. During the same period, decreases in the formal sector employment were recorded in Community and social services (78 000), Construction (64 000), Finance (35 000) and Utilities (12 000).

Compared to a year ago, a net gain of 358 000 jobs in the formal sector employment was mainly driven by Finance (287 000) and Trade (152 000) industries in Q1: 2024. Employment losses were observed in Community and social services (114 000), Manufacturing (34 000) and Utilities (28 000) industries during the same period.

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



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

In the first quarter of 2024, informal sector employment decreased by 100 000 persons compared to the previous quarter. Losses in the informal sector employment were mainly driven by Community and social services (44 000) and Construction (42 000) industries. Compared to Q1: 2023, the employment increase in the informal sector was mainly driven by Trade (50 000) and Transport (25 000) industries. Losses in employment were recorded in Finance (41 000), Manufacturing (14 000), Mining (4 000) and Utilities (2 000) industries.

Table C: Employment by occupation

Occupation	Jan-Mar 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
Total*	16 192	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Manager	1 356	1 481	1 303	-178	-53	-12,0	-3,9
Professional	1 218	1 341	1 229	-112	11	-8,3	0,9
Technician	1 476	1 441	1 590	149	114	10,3	7,7
Clerk	1 747	1 727	1 808	81	61	4,7	3,5
Sales and services	2 706	2 862	2 746	-117	40	-4,1	1,5
Skilled agriculture	68	63	94	31	26	48,7	37,8
Craft and related trade	1 724	1 693	1 693	0	-31	0,0	-1,8
Plant and machine operator	1 274	1 323	1 568	245	294	18,5	23,0
Elementary	3 824	3 912	3 845	-66	21	-1,7	0,6
Domestic worker	797	876	869	-7	72	-0,8	9,1

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

Four out of the ten occupational categories recorded employment gains in Q1: 2024 compared to Q4: 2023. Large increases in employment were observed in Plant and machine operator occupations (245 000), followed by Technician (149 000) and Clerical (81 000) occupations. During the same period, employment decreases were recorded in Managerial occupations (178 000), followed by Sales and services (117 000), Professional (112 000), Elementary (66 000) and Domestic worker (7 000) occupations, while Craft and related trade remained unchanged.

Year-on-year gains in employment were mainly driven by Plant and machine operator occupations (294 000), followed by Technician (114 000) occupations. The only losses in employment were recorded among Managerial (53 000) and Craft and related trade (31 000) occupations.

Table D: Employment by province

Province	Jan-Mar 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand				Per cent		
South Africa	16 192	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Western Cape	2 658	2 757	2 740	-17	82	-0,6	3,1
Eastern Cape	1 421	1 348	1 344	-4	-77	-0,3	-5,4
Northern Cape	339	327	331	4	-8	1,3	-2,4
Free State	790	742	742	0	-48	0,0	-6,0
KwaZulu-Natal	2 594	2 856	2 891	35	297	1,2	11,4
North West	877	912	899	-13	22	-1,4	2,5
Gauteng	4 984	5 034	5 061	26	76	0,5	1,5
Mpumalanga	1 141	1 250	1 242	-8	101	-0,7	8,8
Limpopo	1 388	1 498	1 495	-3	107	-0,2	7,7

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

Table D shows that the number of employed persons increased in three provinces between Q4: 2023 and Q1: 2024. Employment gains were recorded in KwaZulu-Natal (35 000), Gauteng (26 000) and Northern Cape (4 000). Employment decreases were recorded in Western Cape (17 000), followed by North West (13 000), Mpumalanga (8 000), Eastern Cape (4 000) and Limpopo (3 000) during the same period, while Free State remained unchanged.

Compared to Q1: 2023, the largest increases in employment were recorded in KwaZulu-Natal (297 000), Limpopo (107 000) and Mpumalanga (101 000). Eastern Cape, Free State and Northern Cape were the only provinces that recorded losses in employment with a decrease of 77 000, 48 000 and 8 000 respectively, during the same period. KwaZulu-Natal had the largest year-on-year percentage change increase in employment of 11,4%.

3.1 Conditions of employment for employees

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

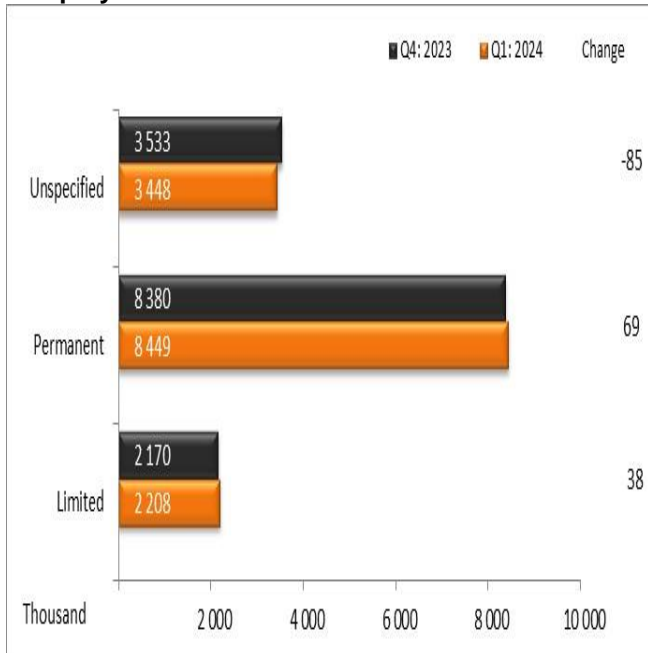
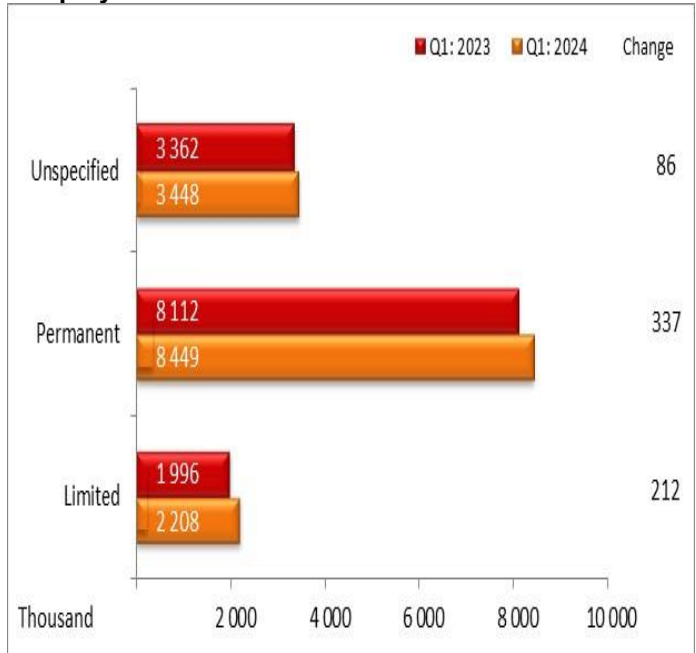


Figure 6: Year-on-year changes in nature of employment contract



Figures 5 and 6 show that the majority of employees had permanent employment contracts. Between the fourth quarter of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024, the number of employees decreased among those with contracts of unspecified duration (85 000), while the number of employees increased among those with contracts of permanent nature (69 000) and limited duration (38 000).

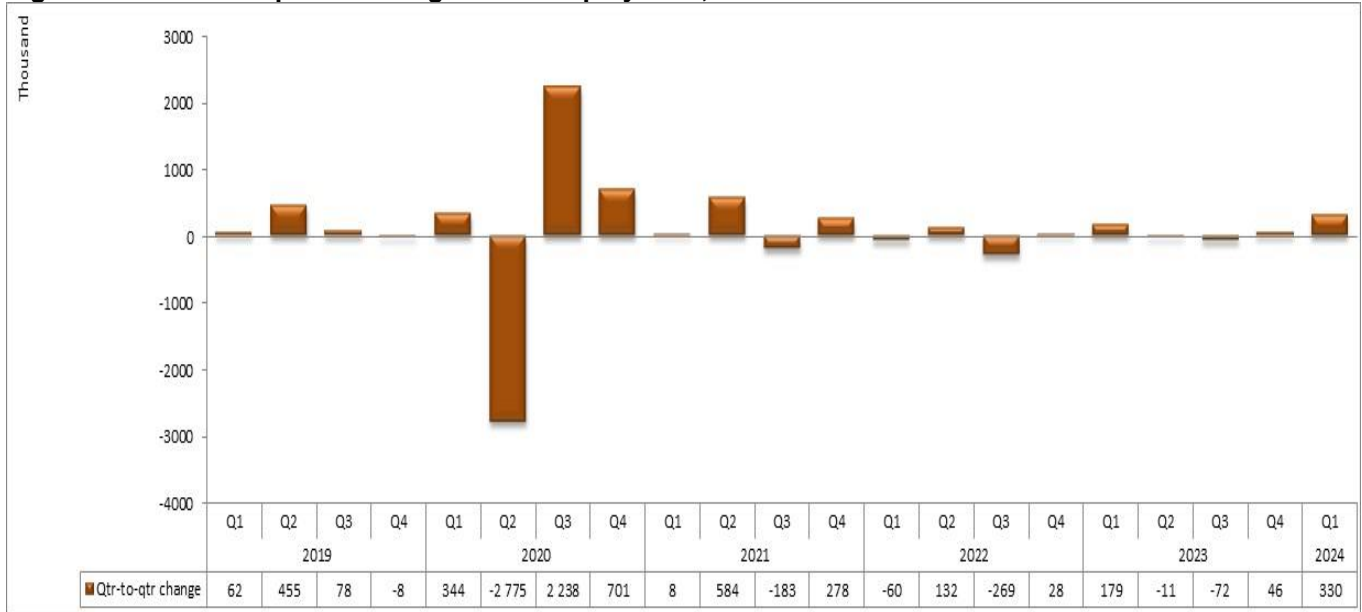
Year-on-year comparisons indicated that the number of employees increased for all contract types. The biggest increase was among those with contracts of a permanent nature (337 000), followed by those with contracts of limited duration (212 000) and unspecified duration (86 000).

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

4.1 Unemployment

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

Figure 7: Quarter-to-quarter changes in unemployment, Q1: 2019 to Q1: 2024



Unemployed persons increased by 330 000 in Q1: 2024 following an increase of 46 000 in the previous quarter. Notable from Figure 7 is that this is the largest increase in unemployment in the first quarter since the COVID-19 national lockdown in Q2: 2020. However, it should be noted that unemployment has always increased in the first quarter of each year since the inception of the survey, except for the decline in 2022.

Figure 8a: Unemployment rate by education level, Q4: 2023 and Q1: 2024

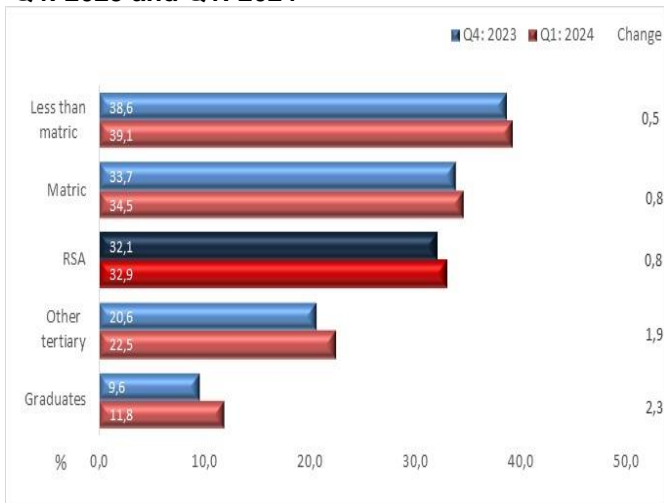
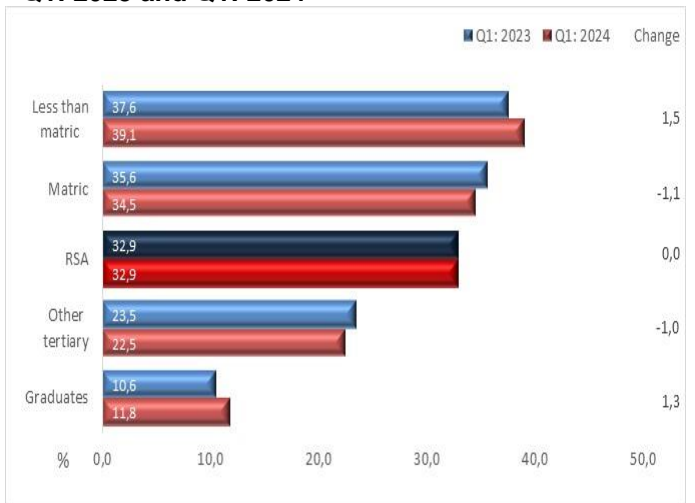


Figure 8b: Unemployment rate by education level, Q1: 2023 and Q1: 2024



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 Q1: 2024, individuals with an educational attainment less than matric recorded an unemployment rate of 39,1% (up by 0,5 of a percentage point), while graduates had a rate of 11,8% (up by 2,3 percentage points) compared to the previous quarter. Unemployment rates for those with matric or lower educational qualifications exceeded the national rate, whereas individuals with other tertiary qualifications and graduates had rates below the national unemployment rate. Year-on-year comparisons indicated that the unemployment rate increased among graduates and those with education levels below matric while the rate decreased for other tertiary and matric.

Table E: Unemployment rate by province

	Official unemployment rate					Expanded unemployment rate				
	Jan-Mar 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Jan-Mar 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Per cent			Percentage points		Per cent			Percentage points	
South Africa	32,9	32,1	32,9	0,8	0,0	42,4	41,1	41,9	0,8	-0,5
Western Cape	21,6	20,3	21,4	1,1	-0,2	25,9	25,6	26,1	0,5	0,2
Eastern Cape	40,0	41,9	42,4	0,5	2,4	45,3	47,1	49,1	2,0	3,8
Northern Cape	26,6	26,9	28,3	1,4	1,7	42,6	42,9	41,7	-1,2	-0,9
Free State	34,4	37,0	38,0	1,0	3,6	39,7	43,9	45,1	1,2	5,4
KwaZulu-Natal	30,9	29,5	29,9	0,4	-1,0	47,3	43,4	43,7	0,3	-3,6
North West	38,0	39,0	40,5	1,5	2,5	54,0	52,2	53,6	1,4	-0,4
Gauteng	34,3	33,8	34,2	0,4	-0,1	39,6	38,4	38,9	0,5	-0,7
Mpumalanga	38,5	34,9	36,2	1,3	-2,3	49,7	45,8	47,0	1,2	-2,7
Limpopo	33,6	30,3	32,7	2,4	-0,9	48,6	46,7	47,8	1,1	-0,8

The official unemployment rate increased by 0,8 of a percentage point to 32,9% in Q1: 2024 compared to Q4: 2023. The official unemployment rate increased in all provinces. The largest increases were recorded in Limpopo (2,4 percentage points), followed by North West (1,5 percentage points), Northern Cape (1,4 percentage points), Mpumalanga (1,3 percentage points) and Western Cape (1,1 percentage points).

Year-on-year, the official unemployment rate remained unchanged. The official unemployment rate decreased in five provinces. The largest decrease in the unemployment rate was recorded in Mpumalanga (2,3 percentage points), followed by KwaZulu-Natal (1,0 percentage point). The largest increases in the unemployment rate were recorded in

Free State (3,6 percentage points), followed by North West (2,5 percentage points) and Eastern Cape (2,4 percentage points).

The expanded unemployment rate increased by 0,8 of a percentage point in Q1: 2024 compared to Q4: 2023. All provinces recorded an increase in the expanded unemployment rate, except for Northern Cape, where the rate decreased by 1,2 percentage points. The largest increase was recorded in Eastern Cape (2,0 percentage points), followed by North West (1,4 percentage points), Mpumalanga and Free State (1,2 percentage points each) and Limpopo (1,1 percentage points).

Compared to the same period last year, the expanded unemployment rate decreased by 0,5 percentage points in Q1: 2024. Six out of the nine provinces recorded decreases in the expanded unemployment rate. The largest decrease in the expanded unemployment rate was recorded in KwaZulu-Natal (3,6 percentage points), followed by Mpumalanga (2,7 percentage points). The only increases in the expanded unemployment rate were recorded in Free State (5,4 percentage points), Eastern Cape (3,8 percentage points) and Western Cape (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

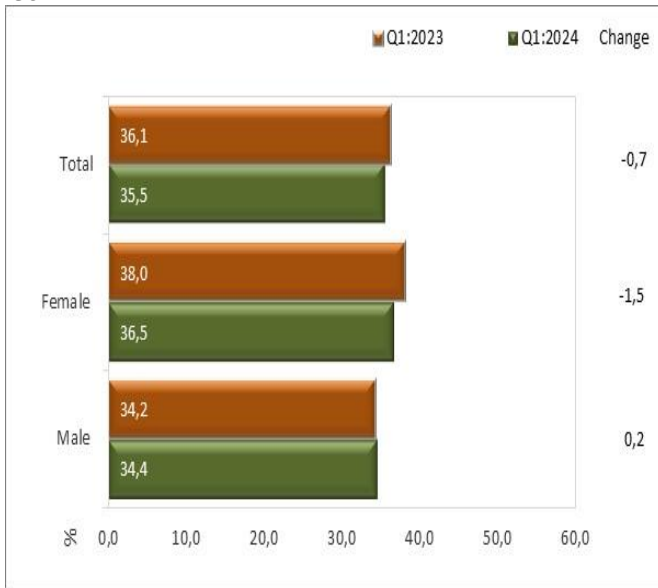
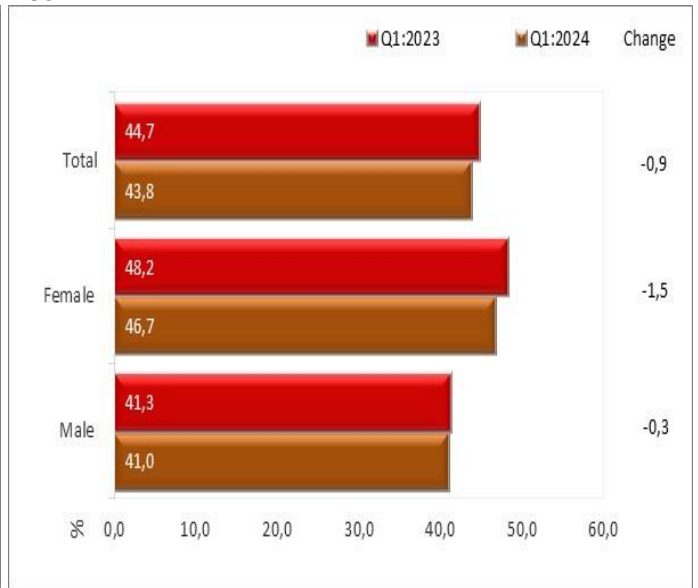


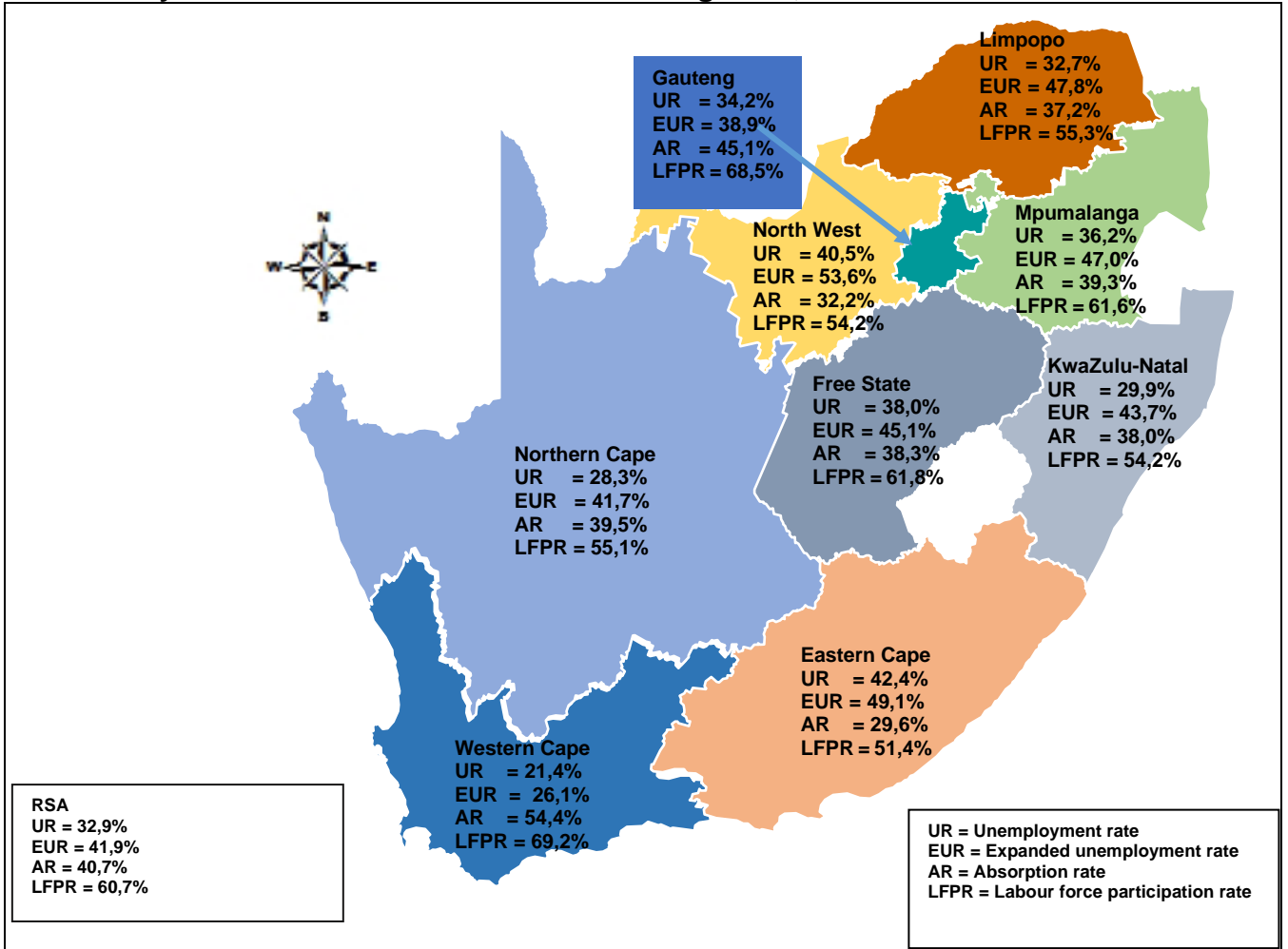
Figure 9b: NEET rate for youth aged 15–34 years by sex



There were about 10,3 million young people aged 15–24 years in Q1: 2024, of which 35,5% were not in employment, education or training. This is 0,7 of a percentage point lower than the NEET rate in Q1: 2023. In this age group, the NEET rate for females decreased by 1,5 percentage points while for males it increased by 0,2 of a percentage point. The NEET rate for females was higher than that of their male counterparts in both years (Figure 9a).

Compared to Q1: 2023, the percentage of young persons aged 15–34 years who were NEET decreased by 0,9 of a percentage point from 44,7% to 43,8% in Q1: 2024. The NEET rate for females decreased by 1,5 percentage points, and for males the rate decreased by 0,3 of a percentage point. In both Q1: 2023 and Q1: 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, Q1: 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, Q1: 2016 to Q1: 2024

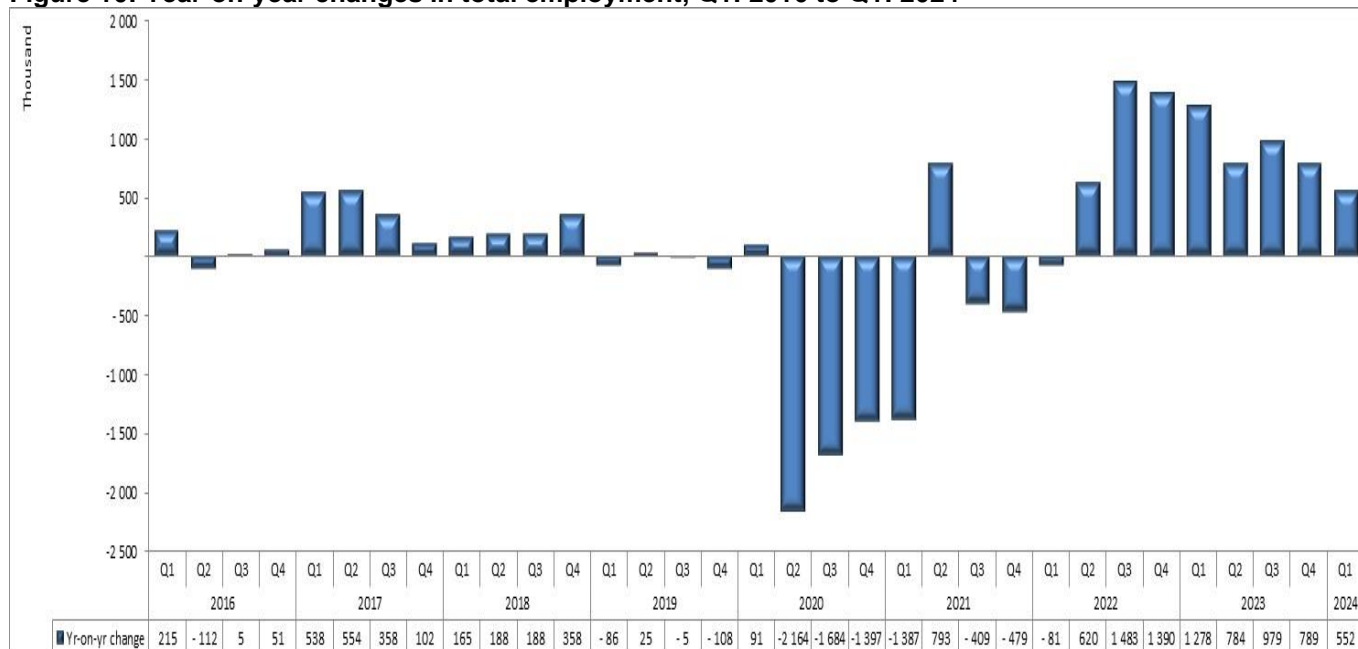


Figure 11: Year-on-year changes in formal sector employment, Q1: 2016 to Q1: 2024

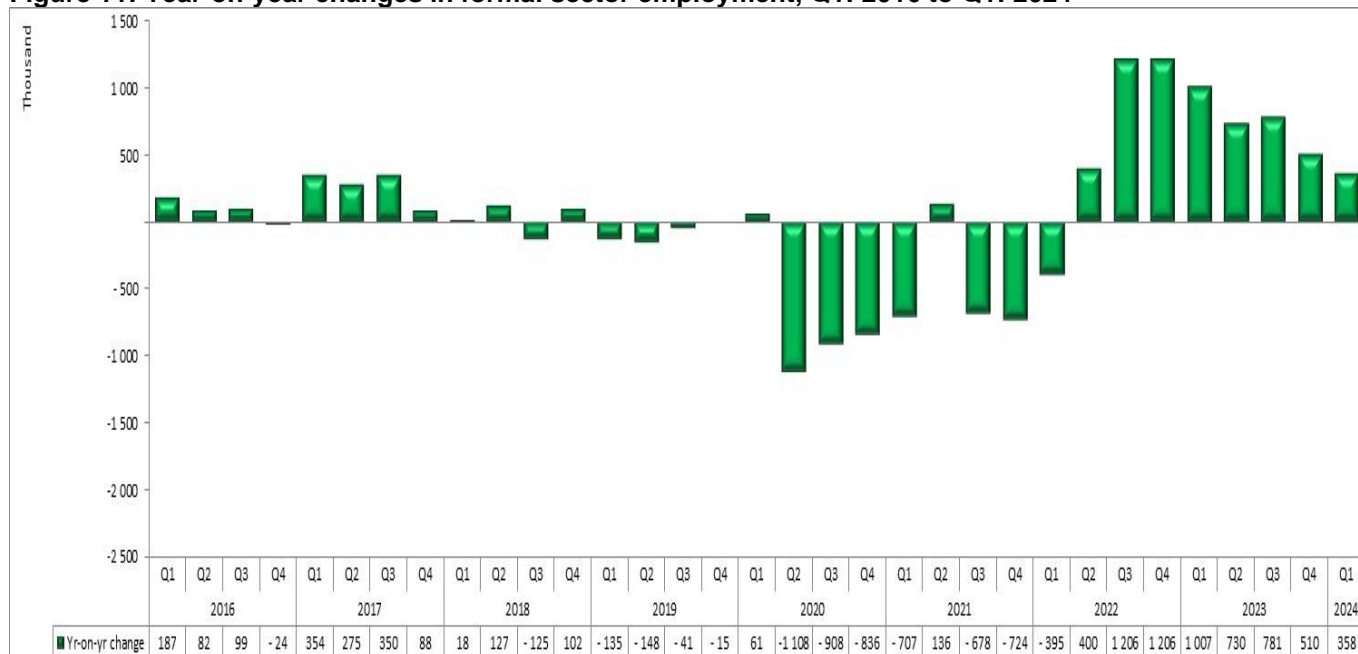
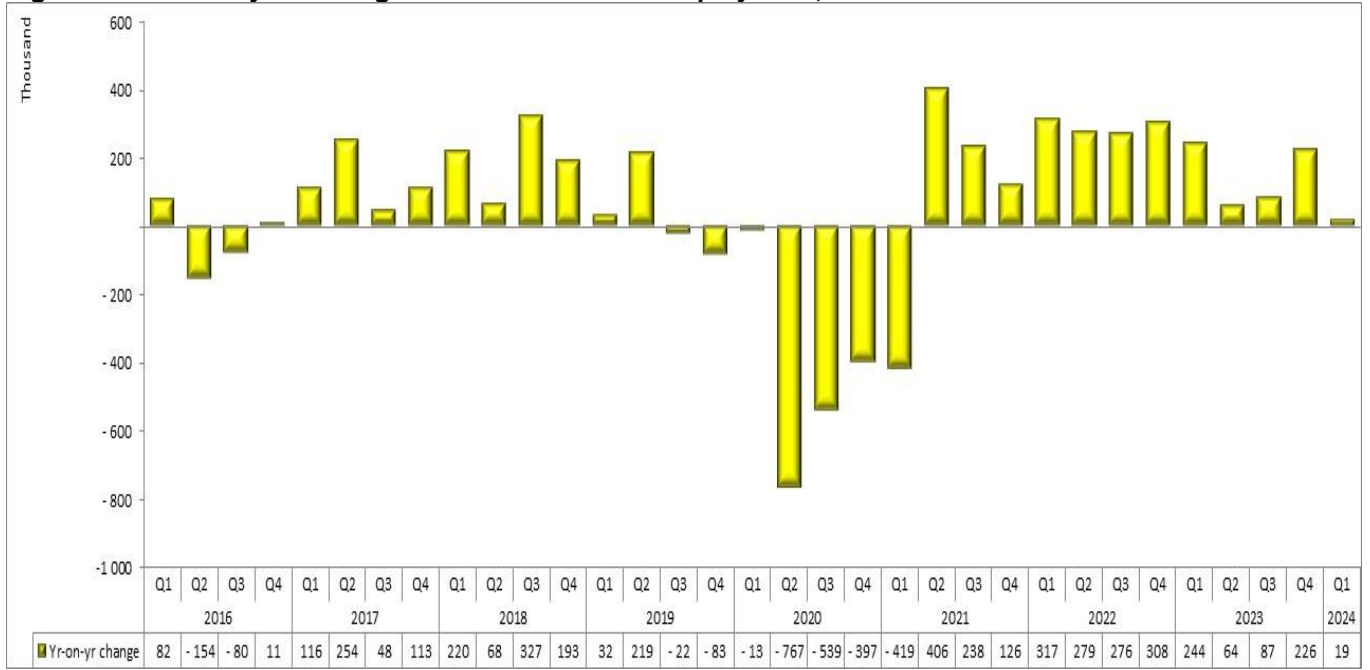


Figure 12: Year-on-year changes in informal sector employment, Q1: 2016 to Q1: 2024



6.2 Trends in unemployment rate

Figure 13: Unemployment rate by sex, Q1: 2016 to Q1: 2024

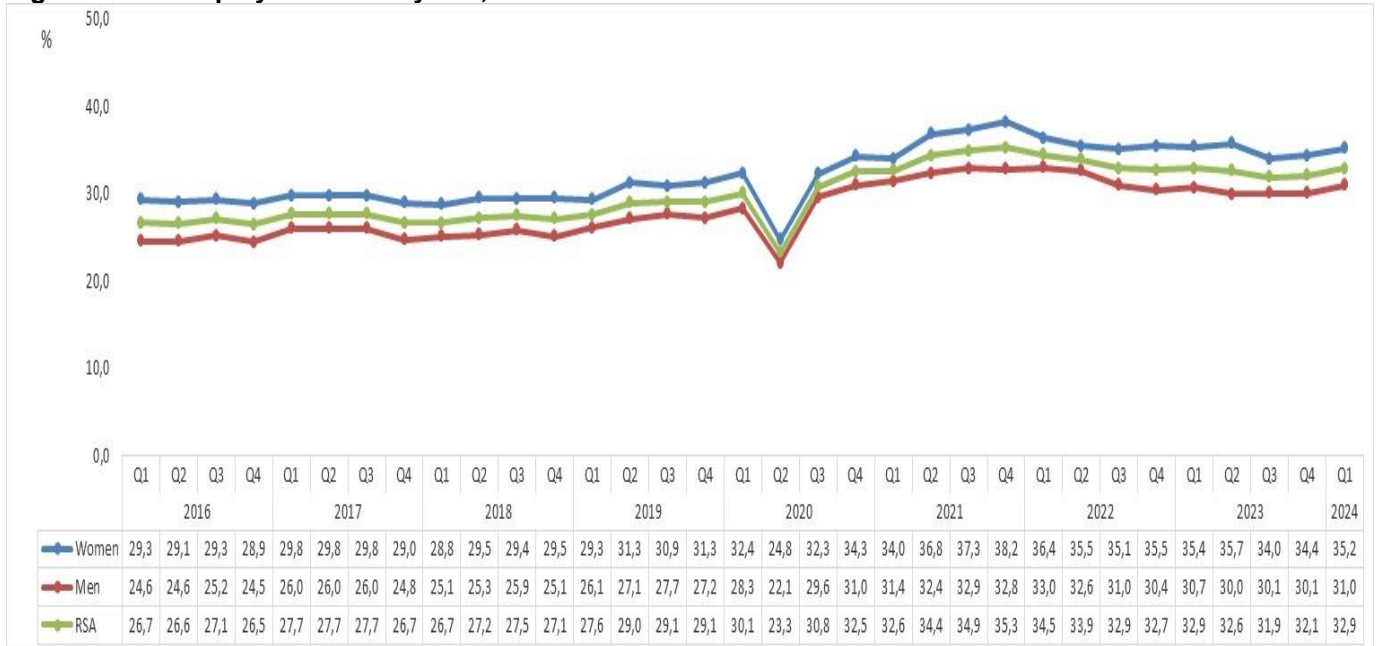
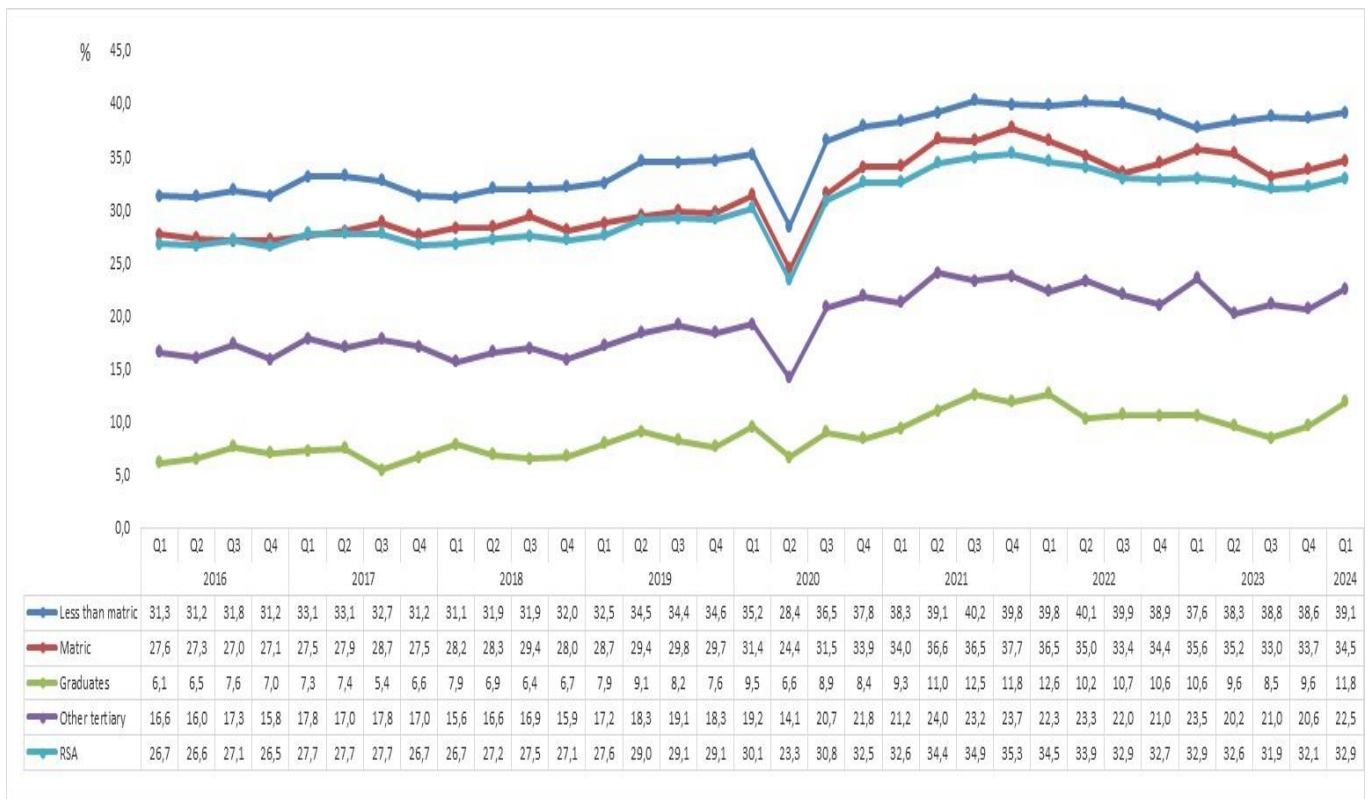


Figure 14: Unemployment rate by education status, Q1: 2016 to Q1: 2024



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.

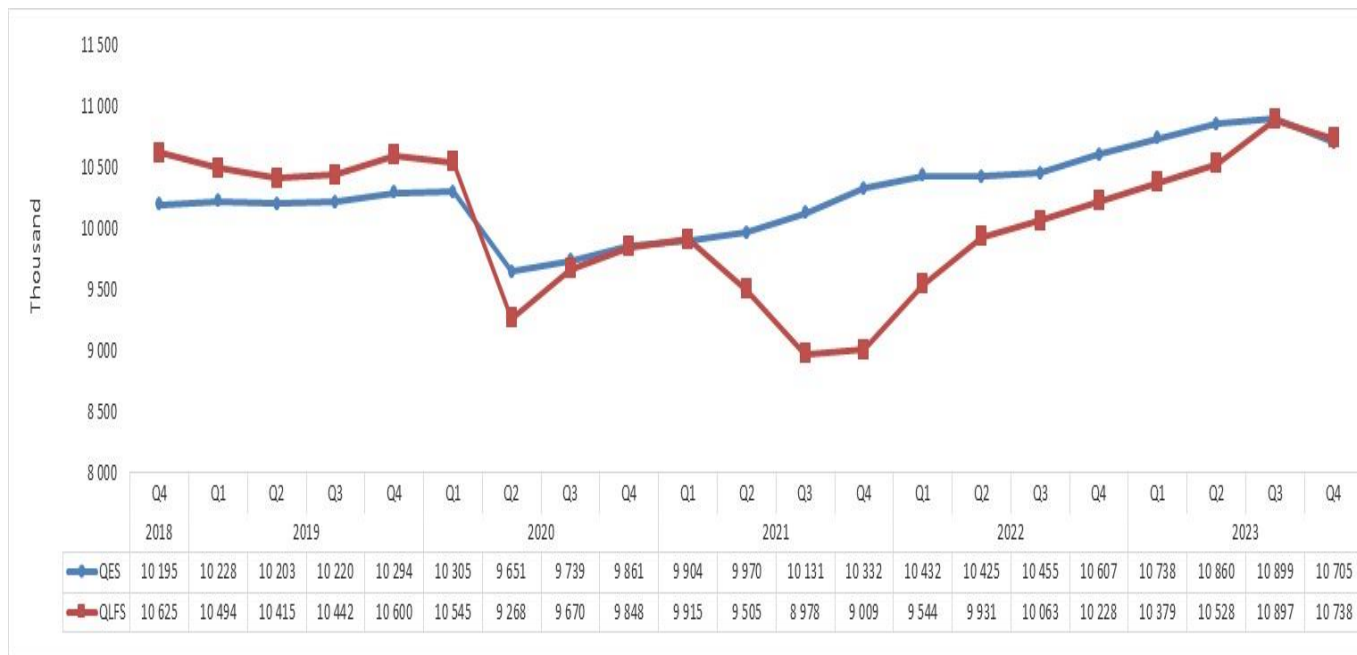
QLFS is a survey of households that collects information from approximately 30 000 dwelling units and collects data on the labour market activities of individuals, whereas QES is an enterprise-based survey that collects information from non-agricultural businesses and organisations from approximately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

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

Table F: Key differences between the QLFS and the QES

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

Figure 15: Formal sector (non-agricultural) employment trends in QLFS and QES, Q4: 2018 to Q4: 2023 (employees only)



8. Technical notes

8.1 Response details

Table G: Response rates by province and metropolitan area

Province / Metropolitan Area	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024
National	88,8	88,7
Western Cape	85,0	85,6
Non Metro	89,0	90,2
City of Cape Town	83,1	83,4
Eastern Cape	95,7	96,5
Non Metro	96,4	97,3
Buffalo City	93,7	94,2
Nelson Mandela Bay	94,8	95,4
Northern Cape	86,9	86,0
Free State	94,0	93,5
Non Metro	96,1	94,9
Mangaung	88,8	90,0
KwaZulu-Natal	90,9	92,4
Non Metro	93,5	94,4
eThekweni	86,9	89,4
North West	92,1	89,9
Gauteng	79,3	78,5
Non Metro	85,5	85,2
Ekurhuleni	79,4	79,7
City of Johannesburg	74,0	71,7
City of Tshwane	84,6	84,8
Mpumalanga	94,8	94,4
Limpopo	97,8	97,4

8.2 Survey requirements and design

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

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

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

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

8.3 Sample rotation

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

8.4 Weighting

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

8.4.1 Non-response adjustment

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

8.4.2 Calibrated survey weights

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

8.5 Estimation

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

8.6 Reliability of the survey estimates

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

(i) Variance estimation

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

(ii) Coefficient of variation

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

(iii) P-value of an estimate of change

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

9. Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- a) Fall under official unemployment (sought and available); **and**
- b) Were available to work but are/or:
 - Discouraged work-seekers
 - Have other reasons for not searching

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

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

Appendix 1

Table 1: Population of working age (15–64 years)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Women	20 463	20 532	20 599	20 664	20 729	65	266	0,3	1,3
Men	20 140	20 214	20 287	20 357	20 429	71	289	0,4	1,4
Population groups	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Black/African	33 165	33 309	33 451	33 589	33 728	139	563	0,4	1,7
Coloured	3 580	3 586	3 591	3 596	3 601	5	21	0,1	0,6
Indian/Asian	1 043	1 045	1 047	1 049	1 051	2	8	0,2	0,8
White	2 815	2 806	2 797	2 787	2 778	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3
South Africa	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Western Cape	4 958	4 978	4 997	5 016	5 035	19	77	0,4	1,5
Eastern Cape	4 483	4 498	4 512	4 525	4 539	14	56	0,3	1,2
Northern Cape	831	833	834	836	838	2	7	0,2	0,9
Free State	1 932	1 934	1 935	1 937	1 938	1	6	0,1	0,3
KwaZulu-Natal	7 503	7 529	7 556	7 581	7 607	26	104	0,3	1,4
North West	2 751	2 761	2 771	2 780	2 789	9	38	0,3	1,4
Gauteng	11 060	11 104	11 148	11 190	11 232	43	172	0,4	1,6
Mpumalanga	3 113	3 124	3 136	3 146	3 157	11	44	0,3	1,4
Limpopo	3 971	3 984	3 998	4 010	4 023	13	52	0,3	1,3

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

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex – All population groups									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	24 125	24 268	24 594	24 619	24 971	352	846	1,4	3,5
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 186	11 329	11 616	11 488	11 544	56	358	0,5	3,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 062	3 029	3 058	3 181	3 082	-100	19	-3,1	0,6
Agriculture	888	894	956	920	941	21	54	2,3	6,1
Private households	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	1 178	44	122	3,9	11,5
Unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
Discouraged work-seekers	3 276	3 182	3 156	3 049	3 048	-1	-229	0,0	-7,0
Other (not economically active)	13 202	13 296	13 136	13 354	13 140	-214	-62	-1,6	-0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,9	32,6	31,9	32,1	32,9	0,8	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	59,4	59,6	60,2	60,0	60,7	0,7	1,3		
Women									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 463	20 532	20 599	20 664	20 729	65	266	0,3	1,3
Labour force	10 999	11 143	11 375	11 325	11 529	205	530	1,8	4,8
Employed	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	7 476	46	375	0,6	5,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4 972	4 968	5 173	5 114	5 189	75	216	1,5	4,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 045	1 080	1 180	1 149	1 119	-30	74	-2,6	7,1
Agriculture	301	279	299	292	300	8	-1	2,8	-0,3
Private households	782	833	856	874	867	-7	86	-0,8	10,9
Unemployed	3 899	3 983	3 867	3 896	4 054	158	155	4,1	4,0
Not economically active	9 464	9 389	9 224	9 339	9 200	-139	-264	-1,5	-2,8
Discouraged work-seekers	1 712	1 657	1 699	1 629	1 668	39	-43	2,4	-2,5
Other (not economically active)	7 752	7 732	7 525	7 710	7 532	-179	-220	-2,3	-2,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,4	35,7	34,0	34,4	35,2	0,8	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,7	34,9	36,5	36,0	36,1	0,1	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	53,8	54,3	55,2	54,8	55,6	0,8	1,8		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex – All population groups (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	20 140	20 214	20 287	20 357	20 429	71	289	0,4	1,4
Labour force	13 126	13 125	13 218	13 294	13 441	147	316	1,1	2,4
Employed	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	9 269	-25	178	-0,3	2,0
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6 214	6 361	6 443	6 374	6 355	-19	141	-0,3	2,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 017	1 949	1 878	2 033	1 963	-70	-54	-3,5	-2,7
Agriculture	586	615	656	628	641	13	55	2,1	9,3
Private households	274	261	259	260	311	51	36	19,7	13,3
Unemployed	4 034	3 939	3 983	4 000	4 172	172	138	4,3	3,4
Not economically active	7 015	7 089	7 068	7 064	6 988	-76	-27	-1,1	-0,4
Discouraged work-seekers	1 564	1 526	1 457	1 420	1 379	-41	-185	-2,9	-11,8
Other (not economically active)	5 450	5 563	5 611	5 644	5 608	-35	158	-0,6	2,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,7	30,0	30,1	30,1	31,0	0,9	0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,1	45,4	45,5	45,7	45,4	-0,3	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	65,2	64,9	65,2	65,3	65,8	0,5	0,6		

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.1: Labour force characteristics by population group									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	24 125	24 268	24 594	24 619	24 971	352	846	1,4	3,5
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,9	32,6	31,9	32,1	32,9	0,8	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	59,4	59,6	60,2	60,0	60,7	0,7	1,3		
Black/African									
Population 15–64 yrs	33 165	33 309	33 451	33 589	33 728	139	563	0,4	1,7
Labour force	19 328	19 554	19 858	19 935	20 204	269	877	1,3	4,5
Employed	12 133	12 358	12 703	12 746	12 744	-1	611	0,0	5,0
Unemployed	7 194	7 195	7 155	7 189	7 460	270	265	3,8	3,7
Not economically active	13 838	13 755	13 593	13 654	13 524	-130	-314	-1,0	-2,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	37,2	36,8	36,0	36,1	36,9	0,8	-0,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,6	37,1	38,0	37,9	37,8	-0,1	1,2		
Labour force participation rate	58,3	58,7	59,4	59,4	59,9	0,5	1,6		
Coloured									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 580	3 586	3 591	3 596	3 601	5	21	0,1	0,6
Labour force	2 247	2 210	2 204	2 186	2 228	41	-19	1,9	-0,8
Employed	1 743	1 727	1 729	1 711	1 716	5	-27	0,3	-1,5
Unemployed	503	483	475	475	511	36	8	7,7	1,6
Not economically active	1 333	1 375	1 387	1 410	1 374	-36	40	-2,6	3,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	22,4	21,9	21,5	21,7	23,0	1,3	0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	48,7	48,2	48,2	47,6	47,7	0,1	-1,0		
Labour force participation rate	62,8	61,6	61,4	60,8	61,9	1,1	-0,9		

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	1 043	1 045	1 047	1 049	1 051	2	8	0,2	0,8
Labour force	635	626	627	609	620	11	-16	1,7	-2,5
Employed	545	522	553	538	542	4	-3	0,7	-0,6
Unemployed	91	104	74	71	78	7	-13	9,8	-14,0
Not economically active	408	419	420	440	432	-9	24	-2,0	5,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	14,3	16,6	11,8	11,7	12,6	0,9	-1,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,2	49,9	52,8	51,3	51,5	0,2	-0,7		
Labour force participation rate	60,9	59,9	59,9	58,0	58,9	0,9	-2,0		
White									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 815	2 806	2 797	2 787	2 778	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3
Labour force	1 915	1 878	1 905	1 888	1 919	31	4	1,6	0,2
Employed	1 771	1 739	1 760	1 728	1 743	14	-29	0,8	-1,6
Unemployed	144	139	145	160	177	17	32	10,4	22,5
Not economically active	900	928	892	899	859	-40	-41	-4,5	-4,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	7,5	7,4	7,6	8,5	9,2	0,7	1,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	62,9	62,0	62,9	62,0	62,7	0,7	-0,2		
Labour force participation rate	68,0	66,9	68,1	67,7	69,1	1,4	1,1		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.2: Labour force characteristics by age group									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
15–64 years									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	24 125	24 268	24 594	24 619	24 971	352	846	1,4	3,5
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,9	32,6	31,9	32,1	32,9	0,8	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	59,4	59,6	60,2	60,0	60,7	0,7	1,3		
15–24 years									
Population 15–24 yrs	10 232	10 234	10 239	10 247	10 255	8	23	0,1	0,2
Labour force	2 823	2 786	2 736	2 705	2 750	45	-73	1,6	-2,6
Employed	1 069	1 095	1 150	1 098	1 107	9	38	0,8	3,6
Unemployed	1 754	1 691	1 586	1 607	1 642	35	-111	2,2	-6,4
Not economically active	7 409	7 448	7 503	7 541	7 505	-37	96	-0,5	1,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	62,1	60,7	58,0	59,4	59,7	0,3	-2,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	10,4	10,7	11,2	10,7	10,8	0,1	0,4		
Labour force participation rate	27,6	27,2	26,7	26,4	26,8	0,4	-0,8		
25–34 years									
Population 25–34 yrs	10 520	10 542	10 559	10 573	10 586	14	66	0,1	0,6
Labour force	7 674	7 685	7 798	7 819	8 002	184	328	2,3	4,3
Employed	4 550	4 629	4 811	4 766	4 749	-17	199	-0,4	4,4
Unemployed	3 124	3 056	2 987	3 053	3 253	200	129	6,6	4,1
Not economically active	2 846	2 857	2 761	2 754	2 584	-170	-262	-6,2	-9,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	40,7	39,8	38,3	39,0	40,7	1,7	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,3	43,9	45,6	45,1	44,9	-0,2	1,6		
Labour force participation rate	72,9	72,9	73,8	74,0	75,6	1,6	2,7		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.2: Labour force characteristics by age group (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	8 916	8 963	9 008	9 051	9 095	43	179	0,5	2,0
Labour force	6 996	7 066	7 182	7 196	7 225	29	229	0,4	3,3
Employed	5 047	5 069	5 099	5 200	5 178	-22	130	-0,4	2,6
Unemployed	1 949	1 996	2 083	1 996	2 047	51	98	2,6	5,0
Not economically active	1 920	1 897	1 826	1 855	1 870	14	-50	0,8	-2,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	27,9	28,3	29,0	27,7	28,3	0,6	0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	56,6	56,6	56,6	57,4	56,9	-0,5	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	78,5	78,8	79,7	79,5	79,4	-0,1	0,9		
45–54 years									
Population 45–54 yrs	6 641	6 692	6 741	6 788	6 836	48	195	0,7	2,9
Labour force	4 868	4 941	5 005	5 012	5 062	50	194	1,0	4,0
Employed	3 951	3 958	4 016	3 988	4 009	21	58	0,5	1,5
Unemployed	916	984	989	1 024	1 053	29	136	2,8	14,9
Not economically active	1 774	1 750	1 736	1 776	1 774	-2	0	-0,1	0,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	18,8	19,9	19,8	20,4	20,8	0,4	2,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	59,5	59,1	59,6	58,7	58,7	0,0	-0,8		
Labour force participation rate	73,3	73,8	74,2	73,8	74,0	0,2	0,7		
55–64 years									
Population 55–64 yrs	4 295	4 316	4 338	4 363	4 387	24	92	0,6	2,2
Labour force	1 764	1 790	1 873	1 887	1 932	45	167	2,4	9,5
Employed	1 574	1 595	1 669	1 672	1 701	30	127	1,8	8,1
Unemployed	190	195	204	215	230	15	40	7,1	21,3
Not economically active	2 530	2 526	2 465	2 476	2 455	-20	-75	-0,8	-3,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	10,8	10,9	10,9	11,4	11,9	0,5	1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,7	37,0	38,5	38,3	38,8	0,5	2,1		
Labour force participation rate	41,1	41,5	43,2	43,2	44,0	0,8	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									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	24 125	24 268	24 594	24 619	24 971	352	846	1,4	3,5
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
Discouraged work-seekers	3 276	3 182	3 156	3 049	3 048	-1	-229	0,0	-7,0
Other (not economically active)	13 202	13 296	13 136	13 354	13 140	-214	-62	-1,6	-0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,9	32,6	31,9	32,1	32,9	0,8	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	59,4	59,6	60,2	60,0	60,7	0,7	1,3		
Western Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 958	4 978	4 997	5 016	5 035	19	77	0,4	1,5
Labour force	3 388	3 426	3 427	3 459	3 486	26	98	0,8	2,9
Employed	2 658	2 711	2 734	2 757	2 740	-17	82	-0,6	3,1
Unemployed	730	715	693	702	745	43	15	6,1	2,1
Not economically active	1 571	1 552	1 571	1 557	1 550	-8	-21	-0,5	-1,3
Discouraged work-seekers	123	105	140	162	125	-37	2	-22,7	1,7
Other (not economically active)	1 448	1 446	1 431	1 395	1 425	29	-23	2,1	-1,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	21,6	20,9	20,2	20,3	21,4	1,1	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	53,6	54,5	54,7	55,0	54,4	-0,6	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	68,3	68,8	68,6	69,0	69,2	0,2	0,9		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	1 800	1 807	1 814	1 821	1 827	7	28	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 162	1 158	1 157	1 139	1 197	58	36	5,1	3,1
Employed	953	951	989	969	999	29	45	3,0	4,8
Unemployed	209	207	168	170	199	29	-10	17,0	-4,7
Not economically active	638	649	657	682	630	-51	-8	-7,6	-1,3
Discouraged work-seekers	88	83	100	124	91	-33	3	-26,3	3,7
Other (not economically active)	550	565	557	558	539	-19	-11	-3,4	-2,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	17,9	17,9	14,5	14,9	16,6	1,7	-1,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	53,0	52,6	54,5	53,2	54,6	1,4	1,6		
Labour force participation rate	64,5	64,1	63,8	62,6	65,5	2,9	1,0		
Western Cape – City of Cape Town									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 158	3 171	3 184	3 196	3 208	12	49	0,4	1,6
Labour force	2 226	2 268	2 269	2 320	2 288	-32	62	-1,4	2,8
Employed	1 704	1 760	1 745	1 788	1 741	-46	37	-2,6	2,2
Unemployed	522	508	525	532	547	14	25	2,7	4,8
Not economically active	932	903	914	876	919	44	-13	5,0	-1,4
Discouraged work-seekers	35	22	40	38	34	-4	-1	-11,3	-3,3
Other (not economically active)	898	881	874	838	886	48	-12	5,7	-1,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	23,4	22,4	23,1	22,9	23,9	1,0	0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	54,0	55,5	54,8	55,9	54,3	-1,6	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	70,5	71,5	71,3	72,6	71,3	-1,3	0,8		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	4 483	4 498	4 512	4 525	4 539	14	56	0,3	1,2
Labour force	2 367	2 393	2 385	2 320	2 332	12	-35	0,5	-1,5
Employed	1 421	1 444	1 459	1 348	1 344	-4	-77	-0,3	-5,4
Unemployed	946	949	926	973	988	15	42	1,6	4,5
Not economically active	2 116	2 105	2 126	2 205	2 207	2	91	0,1	4,3
Discouraged work-seekers	142	111	157	162	224	62	82	38,2	57,5
Other (not economically active)	1 974	1 994	1 970	2 043	1 983	-60	9	-2,9	0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	40,0	39,7	38,8	41,9	42,4	0,5	2,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	31,7	32,1	32,3	29,8	29,6	-0,2	-2,1		
Labour force participation rate	52,8	53,2	52,9	51,3	51,4	0,1	-1,4		
Eastern Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 062	3 070	3 079	3 087	3 095	8	33	0,3	1,1
Labour force	1 422	1 489	1 489	1 438	1 437	-1	15	-0,1	1,0
Employed	774	824	849	761	744	-17	-30	-2,2	-3,9
Unemployed	648	665	640	677	693	16	45	2,3	6,9
Not economically active	1 639	1 581	1 590	1 649	1 658	9	19	0,6	1,1
Discouraged work-seekers	122	101	149	154	220	66	98	42,9	80,3
Other (not economically active)	1 517	1 480	1 441	1 494	1 438	-57	-80	-3,8	-5,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	45,6	44,7	43,0	47,1	48,2	1,1	2,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	25,3	26,8	27,6	24,7	24,1	-0,6	-1,2		
Labour force participation rate	46,5	48,5	48,4	46,6	46,4	-0,2	-0,1		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	549	551	553	555	557	2	8	0,4	1,5
Labour force	367	383	372	389	383	-6	15	-1,7	4,2
Employed	265	266	253	261	253	-7	-12	-2,9	-4,5
Unemployed	102	118	118	129	129	1	27	0,7	26,8
Not economically active	181	168	181	166	174	9	-7	5,2	-3,9
Discouraged work-seekers	5	0			3	3	-2		-34,0
Other (not economically active)	177	168	181	166	171	5	-5	3,3	-3,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	27,8	30,7	31,8	33,0	33,8	0,8	6,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	48,3	48,2	45,8	47,0	45,5	-1,5	-2,8		
Labour force participation rate	66,9	69,6	67,2	70,1	68,7	-1,4	1,8		
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15–64 yrs	873	876	880	883	887	3	14	0,4	1,6
Labour force	577	521	524	493	512	19	-65	3,9	-11,3
Employed	381	354	357	326	346	20	-35	6,3	-9,3
Unemployed	196	166	168	167	166	-1	-30	-0,7	-15,3
Not economically active	296	356	356	390	375	-16	79	-4,0	26,8
Discouraged work-seekers	16	10	8	8	1	-7	-15	-87,1	-93,2
Other (not economically active)	280	346	348	382	374	-9	94	-2,2	33,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,9	32,0	32,0	33,9	32,4	-1,5	-1,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,7	40,4	40,5	36,9	39,0	2,1	-4,7		
Labour force participation rate	66,1	59,4	59,6	55,8	57,7	1,9	-8,4		

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	831	833	834	836	838	2	7	0,2	0,9
Labour force	462	441	446	447	462	15	0	3,3	-0,1
Employed	339	322	328	327	331	4	-8	1,3	-2,4
Unemployed	123	118	117	120	131	11	8	8,8	6,3
Not economically active	368	392	389	389	376	-13	8	-3,4	2,0
Discouraged work-seekers	98	102	94	103	86	-17	-12	-16,1	-12,1
Other (not economically active)	270	290	294	286	289	3	20	1,2	7,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	26,6	26,9	26,3	26,9	28,3	1,4	1,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	38,7	39,4	39,1	39,5	0,4	-1,3		
Labour force participation rate	55,7	52,9	53,4	53,5	55,1	1,6	-0,6		
Free State									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 932	1 934	1 935	1 937	1 938	1	6	0,1	0,3
Labour force	1 203	1 153	1 183	1 178	1 197	19	-6	1,6	-0,5
Employed	790	730	727	742	742	0	-48	0,0	-6,0
Unemployed	413	423	456	436	455	19	41	4,3	10,0
Not economically active	729	781	752	759	741	-18	12	-2,4	1,6
Discouraged work-seekers	81	120	110	117	125	9	44	7,3	54,7
Other (not economically active)	648	661	642	642	616	-26	-32	-4,1	-5,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,4	36,7	38,5	37,0	38,0	1,0	3,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,9	37,8	37,6	38,3	38,3	0,0	-2,6		
Labour force participation rate	62,3	59,6	61,1	60,8	61,8	1,0	-0,5		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	1 377	1 378	1 379	1 380	1 381	1	4	0,1	0,3
Labour force	851	815	851	850	869	19	18	2,2	2,2
Employed	549	503	509	524	513	-11	-36	-2,1	-6,5
Unemployed	302	312	342	326	356	30	54	9,1	17,9
Not economically active	526	563	528	529	512	-18	-14	-3,4	-2,7
Discouraged work-seekers	45	83	66	68	75	6	30	9,4	65,4
Other (not economically active)	481	480	462	461	437	-24	-44	-5,2	-9,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,5	38,3	40,2	38,3	41,0	2,7	5,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	36,5	36,9	38,0	37,2	-0,8	-2,7		
Labour force participation rate	61,8	59,2	61,7	61,6	62,9	1,3	1,1		
Free State – Mangaung									
Population 15–64 yrs	555	556	556	557	557	0	2	0,1	0,3
Labour force	352	338	332	327	328	0	-25	0,1	-7,0
Employed	241	228	218	217	229	11	-12	5,2	-4,9
Unemployed	112	111	114	110	99	-11	-13	-10,0	-11,5
Not economically active	203	218	224	229	229	0	26	0,0	12,9
Discouraged work-seekers	36	37	44	48	50	2	15	4,4	41,0
Other (not economically active)	168	180	180	181	179	-2	12	-1,2	7,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	31,7	32,7	34,4	33,5	30,1	-3,4	-1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,3	40,9	39,2	39,1	41,1	2,0	-2,2		
Labour force participation rate	63,4	60,8	59,7	58,8	58,8	0,0	-4,6		

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	7 503	7 529	7 556	7 581	7 607	26	104	0,3	1,4
Labour force	3 757	3 829	3 958	4 053	4 126	73	370	1,8	9,8
Employed	2 594	2 642	2 794	2 856	2 891	35	297	1,2	11,4
Unemployed	1 162	1 187	1 164	1 197	1 235	38	73	3,2	6,3
Not economically active	3 746	3 701	3 598	3 528	3 480	-48	-266	-1,3	-7,1
Discouraged work-seekers	976	927	915	790	771	-19	-204	-2,4	-21,0
Other (not economically active)	2 771	2 774	2 682	2 738	2 709	-29	-62	-1,1	-2,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	30,9	31,0	29,4	29,5	29,9	0,4	-1,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,6	35,1	37,0	37,7	38,0	0,3	3,4		
Labour force participation rate	50,1	50,9	52,4	53,5	54,2	0,7	4,1		
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 881	4 897	4 913	4 928	4 943	15	62	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 244	2 277	2 384	2 431	2 496	65	252	2,7	11,2
Employed	1 374	1 411	1 574	1 593	1 618	26	244	1,6	17,8
Unemployed	869	866	809	838	877	39	8	4,7	0,9
Not economically active	2 638	2 620	2 529	2 497	2 448	-49	-190	-2,0	-7,2
Discouraged work-seekers	662	640	631	531	481	-49	-181	-9,3	-27,3
Other (not economically active)	1 976	1 980	1 898	1 967	1 967	0	-9	0,0	-0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,7	38,0	33,9	34,5	35,1	0,6	-3,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	28,2	28,8	32,0	32,3	32,7	0,4	4,5		
Labour force participation rate	46,0	46,5	48,5	49,3	50,5	1,2	4,5		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 622	2 632	2 643	2 653	2 663	10	42	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 513	1 552	1 574	1 622	1 631	8	118	0,5	7,8
Employed	1 220	1 231	1 219	1 263	1 273	9	52	0,7	4,3
Unemployed	293	321	355	359	358	-1	65	-0,3	22,2
Not economically active	1 109	1 081	1 068	1 031	1 033	2	-76	0,2	-6,9
Discouraged work-seekers	314	287	284	259	290	31	-24	11,9	-7,5
Other (not economically active)	795	794	784	771	742	-29	-52	-3,8	-6,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	19,4	20,7	22,5	22,1	22,0	-0,1	2,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,5	46,8	46,1	47,6	47,8	0,2	1,3		
Labour force participation rate	57,7	58,9	59,6	61,1	61,2	0,1	3,5		
North West									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 751	2 761	2 771	2 780	2 789	9	38	0,3	1,4
Labour force	1 414	1 394	1 533	1 493	1 511	17	96	1,2	6,8
Employed	877	881	942	912	899	-13	22	-1,4	2,5
Unemployed	538	513	591	582	612	30	74	5,2	13,8
Not economically active	1 337	1 367	1 237	1 287	1 279	-8	-58	-0,6	-4,4
Discouraged work-seekers	394	395	310	339	339	0	-54	0,1	-13,8
Other (not economically active)	943	972	928	947	939	-8	-4	-0,9	-0,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,0	36,8	38,6	39,0	40,5	1,5	2,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	31,9	31,9	34,0	32,8	32,2	-0,6	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	51,4	50,5	55,3	53,7	54,2	0,5	2,8		

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	11 060	11 104	11 148	11 190	11 232	43	172	0,4	1,6
Labour force	7 589	7 605	7 576	7 599	7 689	90	100	1,2	1,3
Employed	4 984	4 988	5 019	5 034	5 061	26	76	0,5	1,5
Unemployed	2 604	2 617	2 557	2 565	2 628	63	24	2,5	0,9
Not economically active	3 472	3 499	3 571	3 590	3 543	-47	71	-1,3	2,1
Discouraged work-seekers	582	527	611	502	534	32	-48	6,4	-8,3
Other (not economically active)	2 890	2 972	2 960	3 089	3 010	-79	120	-2,6	4,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	34,3	34,4	33,7	33,8	34,2	0,4	-0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,1	44,9	45,0	45,0	45,1	0,1	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	68,6	68,5	68,0	67,9	68,5	0,6	-0,1		
Gauteng – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 462	1 468	1 474	1 480	1 486	6	24	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 000	991	1 005	1 019	1 017	-1	17	-0,1	1,7
Employed	607	596	582	627	612	-14	5	-2,3	0,8
Unemployed	393	394	423	392	405	13	12	3,3	3,1
Not economically active	462	478	469	461	469	7	7	1,6	1,4
Discouraged work-seekers	113	98	83	82	107	25	-6	30,2	-5,5
Other (not economically active)	350	380	386	380	362	-17	13	-4,6	3,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,3	39,8	42,1	38,5	39,8	1,3	0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,5	40,6	39,5	42,3	41,2	-1,1	-0,3		
Labour force participation rate	68,4	67,5	68,2	68,8	68,5	-0,3	0,1		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	2 778	2 789	2 800	2 810	2 821	11	44	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 762	1 763	1 764	1 771	1 830	59	69	3,3	3,9
Employed	1 173	1 193	1 244	1 228	1 231	3	58	0,2	4,9
Unemployed	589	569	520	543	600	56	11	10,4	1,8
Not economically active	1 016	1 026	1 036	1 039	991	-48	-25	-4,7	-2,5
Discouraged work-seekers	237	228	258	218	211	-7	-26	-3,1	-11,0
Other (not economically active)	779	798	778	821	780	-42	1	-5,1	0,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,4	32,3	29,5	30,7	32,8	2,1	-0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	42,2	42,8	44,4	43,7	43,6	-0,1	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	63,4	63,2	63,0	63,0	64,9	1,9	1,5		
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 104	4 120	4 136	4 151	4 166	15	62	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 874	2 897	2 893	2 855	2 883	28	9	1,0	0,3
Employed	1 934	1 928	1 949	1 909	1 947	37	13	2,0	0,7
Unemployed	940	969	945	946	937	-9	-3	-1,0	-0,4
Not economically active	1 230	1 223	1 242	1 296	1 283	-13	53	-1,0	4,3
Discouraged work-seekers	153	129	183	141	139	-3	-14	-1,8	-9,3
Other (not economically active)	1 077	1 094	1 059	1 154	1 144	-10	67	-0,9	6,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	32,7	33,5	32,6	33,1	32,5	-0,6	-0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,1	46,8	47,1	46,0	46,7	0,7	-0,4		
Labour force participation rate	70,0	70,3	70,0	68,8	69,2	0,4	-0,8		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	2 717	2 727	2 738	2 748	2 759	10	42	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 953	1 955	1 914	1 954	1 958	4	5	0,2	0,3
Employed	1 270	1 271	1 245	1 270	1 271	1	1	0,1	0,1
Unemployed	683	684	669	684	687	3	4	0,5	0,6
Not economically active	764	773	824	794	801	6	37	0,8	4,8
Discouraged work-seekers	80	73	87	61	78	17	-2	27,2	-2,5
Other (not economically active)	684	700	737	733	723	-10	39	-1,4	5,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,0	35,0	34,9	35,0	35,1	0,1	0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,8	46,6	45,5	46,2	46,1	-0,1	-0,7		
Labour force participation rate	71,9	71,7	69,9	71,1	71,0	-0,1	-0,9		
Mpumalanga									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 113	3 124	3 136	3 146	3 157	11	44	0,3	1,4
Labour force	1 854	1 881	1 863	1 920	1 945	26	91	1,3	4,9
Employed	1 141	1 158	1 202	1 250	1 242	-8	101	-0,7	8,8
Unemployed	713	723	661	670	703	34	-10	5,1	-1,4
Not economically active	1 259	1 243	1 272	1 227	1 212	-15	-47	-1,2	-3,7
Discouraged work-seekers	347	351	331	313	321	8	-26	2,6	-7,4
Other (not economically active)	912	893	941	913	890	-23	-21	-2,5	-2,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,5	38,4	35,5	34,9	36,2	1,3	-2,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,7	37,1	38,3	39,7	39,3	-0,4	2,6		
Labour force participation rate	59,6	60,2	59,4	61,0	61,6	0,6	2,0		

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 (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Limpopo									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 971	3 984	3 998	4 010	4 023	13	52	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 091	2 146	2 222	2 149	2 223	74	132	3,4	6,3
Employed	1 388	1 469	1 539	1 498	1 495	-3	107	-0,2	7,7
Unemployed	703	677	683	651	728	77	25	11,8	3,6
Not economically active	1 880	1 839	1 775	1 861	1 800	-61	-80	-3,3	-4,3
Discouraged work-seekers	533	545	488	561	521	-40	-12	-7,1	-2,2
Other (not economically active)	1 347	1 294	1 287	1 300	1 279	-21	-68	-1,6	-5,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	33,6	31,6	30,8	30,3	32,7	2,4	-0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	35,0	36,9	38,5	37,4	37,2	-0,2	2,2		
Labour force participation rate	52,7	53,9	55,6	53,6	55,3	1,7	2,6		

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									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Both sexes									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	28 130	28 218	28 478	28 389	28 829	440	699	1,6	2,5
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 186	11 329	11 616	11 488	11 544	56	358	0,5	3,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 062	3 029	3 058	3 181	3 082	-100	19	-3,1	0,6
Agriculture	888	894	956	920	941	21	54	2,3	6,1
Private households	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	1 178	44	122	3,9	11,5
Unemployed	11 937	11 872	11 733	11 665	12 084	419	147	3,6	1,2
Not economically active	12 474	12 527	12 408	12 633	12 329	-303	-145	-2,4	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,4	42,1	41,2	41,1	41,9	0,8	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	69,3	69,3	69,7	69,2	70,0	0,8	0,7		
Women									
Population 15–64 yrs	20 463	20 532	20 599	20 664	20 729	65	266	0,3	1,3
Labour force	13 195	13 291	13 526	13 429	13 725	296	530	2,2	4,0
Employed	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	7 476	46	375	0,6	5,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4 972	4 968	5 173	5 114	5 189	75	216	1,5	4,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	1 045	1 080	1 180	1 149	1 119	-30	74	-2,6	7,1
Agriculture	301	279	299	292	300	8	-1	2,8	-0,3
Private households	782	833	856	874	867	-7	86	-0,8	10,9
Unemployed	6 094	6 130	6 017	6 000	6 249	250	155	4,2	2,6
Not economically active	7 268	7 241	7 073	7 235	7 005	-231	-264	-3,2	-3,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	46,2	46,1	44,5	44,7	45,5	0,8	-0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,7	34,9	36,5	36,0	36,1	0,1	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	64,5	64,7	65,7	65,0	66,2	1,2	1,7		

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	20 140	20 214	20 287	20 357	20 429	71	289	0,4	1,4
Labour force	14 935	14 928	14 951	14 960	15 104	144	169	1,0	1,1
Employed	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	9 269	-25	178	-0,3	2,0
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6 214	6 361	6 443	6 374	6 355	-19	141	-0,3	2,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2 017	1 949	1 878	2 033	1 963	-70	-54	-3,5	-2,7
Agriculture	586	615	656	628	641	13	55	2,1	9,3
Private households	274	261	259	260	311	51	36	19,7	13,3
Unemployed	5 843	5 742	5 715	5 666	5 835	169	-9	3,0	-0,1
Not economically active	5 206	5 286	5 335	5 397	5 325	-73	119	-1,3	2,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,1	38,5	38,2	37,9	38,6	0,7	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,1	45,4	45,5	45,7	45,4	-0,3	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	74,2	73,8	73,7	73,5	73,9	0,4	-0,3		

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									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	28 130	28 218	28 478	28 389	28 829	440	699	1,6	2,5
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Unemployed	11 937	11 872	11 733	11 665	12 084	419	147	3,6	1,2
Not economically active	12 474	12 527	12 408	12 633	12 329	-303	-145	-2,4	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,4	42,1	41,2	41,1	41,9	0,8	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	69,3	69,3	69,7	69,2	70,0	0,8	0,7		
Black/African									
Population 15–64 yrs	33 165	33 309	33 451	33 589	33 728	139	563	0,4	1,7
Labour force	23 007	23 157	23 378	23 357	23 737	380	731	1,6	3,2
Employed	12 133	12 358	12 703	12 746	12 744	-1	611	0,0	5,0
Unemployed	10 873	10 799	10 675	10 611	10 993	381	119	3,6	1,1
Not economically active	10 159	10 152	10 073	10 232	9 991	-241	-168	-2,4	-1,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	47,3	46,6	45,7	45,4	46,3	0,9	-1,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,6	37,1	38,0	37,9	37,8	-0,1	1,2		
Labour force participation rate	69,4	69,5	69,9	69,5	70,4	0,9	1,0		
Coloured									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 580	3 586	3 591	3 596	3 601	5	21	0,1	0,6
Labour force	2 484	2 462	2 457	2 463	2 460	-3	-24	-0,1	-1,0
Employed	1 743	1 727	1 729	1 711	1 716	5	-27	0,3	-1,5
Unemployed	740	735	727	751	743	-8	3	-1,0	0,4
Not economically active	1 096	1 124	1 134	1 133	1 142	8	45	0,7	4,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	29,8	29,9	29,6	30,5	30,2	-0,3	0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	48,7	48,2	48,2	47,6	47,7	0,1	-1,0		
Labour force participation rate	69,4	68,7	68,4	68,5	68,3	-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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	1 043	1 045	1 047	1 049	1 051	2	8	0,2	0,8
Labour force	685	684	697	643	683	40	-2	6,2	-0,3
Employed	545	522	553	538	542	4	-3	0,7	-0,6
Unemployed	140	162	144	105	141	36	1	34,7	0,5
Not economically active	358	362	350	407	369	-38	11	-9,3	3,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,5	23,6	20,7	16,3	20,7	4,4	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	52,2	49,9	52,8	51,3	51,5	0,2	-0,7		
Labour force participation rate	65,7	65,4	66,5	61,3	64,9	3,6	-0,8		
White									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 815	2 806	2 797	2 787	2 778	-9	-37	-0,3	-1,3
Labour force	1 954	1 916	1 946	1 926	1 949	23	-5	1,2	-0,3
Employed	1 771	1 739	1 760	1 728	1 743	14	-29	0,8	-1,6
Unemployed	183	177	186	198	207	9	24	4,5	13,0
Not economically active	861	890	851	861	829	-33	-32	-3,8	-3,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	9,4	9,2	9,6	10,3	10,6	0,3	1,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	62,9	62,0	62,9	62,0	62,7	0,7	-0,2		
Labour force participation rate	69,4	68,3	69,6	69,1	70,2	1,1	0,8		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.6: Labour force characteristics by age group – Expanded definition of unemployment									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
15–64 years									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	28 130	28 218	28 478	28 389	28 829	440	699	1,6	2,5
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Unemployed	11 937	11 872	11 733	11 665	12 084	419	147	3,6	1,2
Not economically active	12 474	12 527	12 408	12 633	12 329	-303	-145	-2,4	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,4	42,1	41,2	41,1	41,9	0,8	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	69,3	69,3	69,7	69,2	70,0	0,8	0,7		
15–24 years									
Population 15–24 yrs	10 232	10 234	10 239	10 247	10 255	8	23	0,1	0,2
Labour force	3 714	3 666	3 554	3 559	3 646	87	-68	2,5	-1,8
Employed	1 069	1 095	1 150	1 098	1 107	9	38	0,8	3,6
Unemployed	2 645	2 571	2 404	2 461	2 539	78	-106	3,2	-4,0
Not economically active	6 518	6 568	6 686	6 688	6 608	-80	91	-1,2	1,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	71,2	70,1	67,6	69,1	69,6	0,5	-1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	10,4	10,7	11,2	10,7	10,8	0,1	0,4		
Labour force participation rate	36,3	35,8	34,7	34,7	35,6	0,9	-0,7		
25–34 years									
Population 25–34 yrs	10 520	10 542	10 559	10 573	10 586	14	66	0,1	0,6
Labour force	9 067	9 098	9 168	9 111	9 258	147	191	1,6	2,1
Employed	4 550	4 629	4 811	4 766	4 749	-17	199	-0,4	4,4
Unemployed	4 517	4 469	4 357	4 345	4 509	164	-8	3,8	-0,2
Not economically active	1 453	1 444	1 391	1 462	1 328	-134	-125	-9,1	-8,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	49,8	49,1	47,5	47,7	48,7	1,0	-1,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,3	43,9	45,6	45,1	44,9	-0,2	1,6		
Labour force participation rate	86,2	86,3	86,8	86,2	87,5	1,3	1,3		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.6: Labour force characteristics by age group – Expanded definition of unemployment (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	8 916	8 963	9 008	9 051	9 095	43	179	0,5	2,0
Labour force	7 892	7 921	8 051	8 015	8 095	80	204	1,0	2,6
Employed	5 047	5 069	5 099	5 200	5 178	-22	130	-0,4	2,6
Unemployed	2 844	2 852	2 952	2 815	2 918	102	73	3,6	2,6
Not economically active	1 024	1 041	957	1 036	999	-37	-25	-3,6	-2,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,0	36,0	36,7	35,1	36,0	0,9	0,0		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	56,6	56,6	56,6	57,4	56,9	-0,5	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	88,5	88,4	89,4	88,6	89,0	0,4	0,5		
45–54 years									
Population 45–54 yrs	6 641	6 692	6 741	6 788	6 836	48	195	0,7	2,9
Labour force	5 474	5 541	5 631	5 601	5 688	87	214	1,6	3,9
Employed	3 951	3 958	4 016	3 988	4 009	21	58	0,5	1,5
Unemployed	1 523	1 583	1 614	1 613	1 679	66	156	4,1	10,2
Not economically active	1 167	1 151	1 111	1 187	1 148	-39	-19	-3,3	-1,6
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	27,8	28,6	28,7	28,8	29,5	0,7	1,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	59,5	59,1	59,6	58,7	58,7	0,0	-0,8		
Labour force participation rate	82,4	82,8	83,5	82,5	83,2	0,7	0,8		
55–64 years									
Population 55–64 yrs	4 295	4 316	4 338	4 363	4 387	24	92	0,6	2,2
Labour force	1 983	1 992	2 075	2 103	2 141	38	158	1,8	8,0
Employed	1 574	1 595	1 669	1 672	1 701	30	127	1,8	8,1
Unemployed	408	397	406	431	440	9	32	2,0	7,7
Not economically active	2 312	2 323	2 264	2 260	2 246	-14	-66	-0,6	-2,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	20,6	19,9	19,5	20,5	20,5	0,0	-0,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,7	37,0	38,5	38,3	38,8	0,5	2,1		
Labour force participation rate	46,2	46,2	47,8	48,2	48,8	0,6	2,6		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on- year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
South Africa									
Population 15–64 yrs	40 604	40 746	40 886	41 022	41 158	137	555	0,3	1,4
Labour force	28 130	28 218	28 478	28 389	28 829	440	699	1,6	2,5
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Unemployed	11 937	11 872	11 733	11 665	12 084	419	147	3,6	1,2
Not economically active	12 474	12 527	12 408	12 633	12 329	-303	-145	-2,4	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,4	42,1	41,2	41,1	41,9	0,8	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	40,1	41,0	40,8	40,7	-0,1	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	69,3	69,3	69,7	69,2	70,0	0,8	0,7		
Western Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 958	4 978	4 997	5 016	5 035	19	77	0,4	1,5
Labour force	3 589	3 628	3 675	3 708	3 709	1	120	0,0	3,3
Employed	2 658	2 711	2 734	2 757	2 740	-17	82	-0,6	3,1
Unemployed	931	917	941	951	969	18	38	1,9	4,1
Not economically active	1 370	1 350	1 323	1 309	1 326	18	-43	1,4	-3,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	25,9	25,3	25,6	25,6	26,1	0,5	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	53,6	54,5	54,7	55,0	54,4	-0,6	0,8		
Labour force participation rate	72,4	72,9	73,5	73,9	73,7	-0,2	1,3		
Western Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 800	1 807	1 814	1 821	1 827	7	28	0,4	1,5
Labour force	1 286	1 303	1 328	1 328	1 338	10	52	0,8	4,1
Employed	953	951	989	969	999	29	45	3,0	4,8
Unemployed	333	352	339	359	340	-19	7	-5,3	2,1
Not economically active	514	504	486	493	489	-4	-25	-0,7	-4,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	25,9	27,0	25,5	27,0	25,4	-1,6	-0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	53,0	52,6	54,5	53,2	54,6	1,4	1,6		
Labour force participation rate	71,5	72,1	73,2	72,9	73,2	0,3	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 and metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	3 158	3 171	3 184	3 196	3 208	12	49	0,4	1,6
Labour force	2 302	2 325	2 347	2 379	2 370	-9	68	-0,4	3,0
Employed	1 704	1 760	1 745	1 788	1 741	-46	37	-2,6	2,2
Unemployed	598	565	602	592	629	37	31	6,2	5,2
Not economically active	856	846	837	816	837	21	-19	2,6	-2,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	26,0	24,3	25,7	24,9	26,5	1,6	0,5		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	54,0	55,5	54,8	55,9	54,3	-1,6	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	72,9	73,3	73,7	74,5	73,9	-0,6	1,0		
Eastern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 483	4 498	4 512	4 525	4 539	14	56	0,3	1,2
Labour force	2 599	2 547	2 602	2 546	2 638	91	39	3,6	1,5
Employed	1 421	1 444	1 459	1 348	1 344	-4	-77	-0,3	-5,4
Unemployed	1 178	1 103	1 143	1 199	1 294	95	116	8,0	9,9
Not economically active	1 884	1 951	1 910	1 979	1 901	-78	17	-3,9	0,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	45,3	43,3	43,9	47,1	49,1	2,0	3,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	31,7	32,1	32,3	29,8	29,6	-0,2	-2,1		
Labour force participation rate	58,0	56,6	57,7	56,3	58,1	1,8	0,1		
Eastern Cape – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 062	3 070	3 079	3 087	3 095	8	33	0,3	1,1
Labour force	1 621	1 627	1 686	1 649	1 731	82	111	5,0	6,8
Employed	774	824	849	761	744	-17	-30	-2,2	-3,9
Unemployed	846	803	838	888	987	99	141	11,2	16,6
Not economically active	1 441	1 443	1 392	1 438	1 364	-74	-77	-5,2	-5,4
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	52,2	49,3	49,7	53,8	57,0	3,2	4,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	25,3	26,8	27,6	24,7	24,1	-0,6	-1,2		
Labour force participation rate	52,9	53,0	54,8	53,4	55,9	2,5	3,0		

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	549	551	553	555	557	2	8	0,4	1,5
Labour force	377	385	374	390	390	0	13	0,0	3,5
Employed	265	266	253	261	253	-7	-12	-2,9	-4,5
Unemployed	111	120	120	129	137	7	25	5,7	22,8
Not economically active	172	166	179	165	167	2	-5	1,3	-2,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	29,6	31,1	32,2	33,1	35,0	1,9	5,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	48,3	48,2	45,8	47,0	45,5	-1,5	-2,8		
Labour force participation rate	68,6	70,0	67,6	70,2	70,0	-0,2	1,4		
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15–64 yrs	873	876	880	883	887	3	14	0,4	1,6
Labour force	601	534	542	507	516	9	-85	1,8	-14,1
Employed	381	354	357	326	346	20	-35	6,3	-9,3
Unemployed	220	180	185	182	170	-11	-50	-6,3	-22,6
Not economically active	271	342	338	376	370	-6	99	-1,5	36,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,6	33,7	34,2	35,8	33,0	-2,8	-3,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,7	40,4	40,5	36,9	39,0	2,1	-4,7		
Labour force participation rate	68,9	61,0	61,6	57,4	58,2	0,8	-10,7		
Northern Cape									
Population 15–64 yrs	831	833	834	836	838	2	7	0,2	0,9
Labour force	591	568	566	572	568	-5	-24	-0,8	-4,0
Employed	339	322	328	327	331	4	-8	1,3	-2,4
Unemployed	252	246	238	246	237	-9	-15	-3,6	-6,1
Not economically active	240	264	268	264	270	6	31	2,4	12,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	42,6	43,3	42,0	42,9	41,7	-1,2	-0,9		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,8	38,7	39,4	39,1	39,5	0,4	-1,3		
Labour force participation rate	71,2	68,3	67,9	68,4	67,8	-0,6	-3,4		

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	1 932	1 934	1 935	1 937	1 938	1	6	0,1	0,3
Labour force	1 309	1 303	1 316	1 323	1 352	28	42	2,1	3,2
Employed	790	730	727	742	742	0	-48	0,0	-6,0
Unemployed	520	573	589	581	609	28	90	4,8	17,3
Not economically active	623	630	619	613	586	-27	-37	-4,4	-5,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,7	44,0	44,7	43,9	45,1	1,2	5,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	40,9	37,8	37,6	38,3	38,3	0,0	-2,6		
Labour force participation rate	67,8	67,4	68,0	68,3	69,7	1,4	1,9		
Free State – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 377	1 378	1 379	1 380	1 381	1	4	0,1	0,3
Labour force	916	918	931	938	965	26	49	2,8	5,3
Employed	549	503	509	524	513	-11	-36	-2,1	-6,5
Unemployed	367	415	421	414	451	38	84	9,1	23,0
Not economically active	461	460	449	442	416	-25	-45	-5,8	-9,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	40,1	45,2	45,3	44,1	46,8	2,7	6,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	39,9	36,5	36,9	38,0	37,2	-0,8	-2,7		
Labour force participation rate	66,5	66,6	67,5	68,0	69,8	1,8	3,3		
Free State – Mangaung									
Population 15–64 yrs	555	556	556	557	557	0	2	0,1	0,3
Labour force	393	385	385	385	387	2	-6	0,5	-1,6
Employed	241	228	218	217	229	11	-12	5,2	-4,9
Unemployed	153	158	167	168	158	-9	5	-5,6	3,5
Not economically active	162	171	171	172	170	-2	8	-0,9	5,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,8	40,9	43,5	43,5	40,9	-2,6	2,1		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	43,3	40,9	39,2	39,1	41,1	2,0	-2,2		
Labour force participation rate	70,8	69,3	69,3	69,2	69,5	0,3	-1,3		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	7 503	7 529	7 556	7 581	7 607	26	104	0,3	1,4
Labour force	4 919	4 955	5 051	5 041	5 134	92	215	1,8	4,4
Employed	2 594	2 642	2 794	2 856	2 891	35	297	1,2	11,4
Unemployed	2 324	2 313	2 257	2 185	2 243	57	-82	2,6	-3,5
Not economically active	2 584	2 575	2 504	2 540	2 473	-67	-111	-2,6	-4,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	47,3	46,7	44,7	43,4	43,7	0,3	-3,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	34,6	35,1	37,0	37,7	38,0	0,3	3,4		
Labour force participation rate	65,6	65,8	66,9	66,5	67,5	1,0	1,9		
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 881	4 897	4 913	4 928	4 943	15	62	0,3	1,3
Labour force	3 024	3 056	3 135	3 081	3 108	27	85	0,9	2,8
Employed	1 374	1 411	1 574	1 593	1 618	26	244	1,6	17,8
Unemployed	1 649	1 645	1 561	1 489	1 490	1	-159	0,1	-9,7
Not economically active	1 858	1 841	1 778	1 847	1 835	-12	-23	-0,6	-1,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	54,5	53,8	49,8	48,3	47,9	-0,4	-6,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	28,2	28,8	32,0	32,3	32,7	0,4	4,5		
Labour force participation rate	61,9	62,4	63,8	62,5	62,9	0,4	1,0		
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 622	2 632	2 643	2 653	2 663	10	42	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 895	1 899	1 916	1 960	2 025	65	130	3,3	6,9
Employed	1 220	1 231	1 219	1 263	1 273	9	52	0,7	4,3
Unemployed	675	668	697	697	753	56	78	8,0	11,5
Not economically active	727	734	727	693	638	-55	-89	-7,9	-12,2
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	35,6	35,2	36,4	35,6	37,2	1,6	1,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,5	46,8	46,1	47,6	47,8	0,2	1,3		
Labour force participation rate	72,3	72,1	72,5	73,9	76,0	2,1	3,7		

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	2 751	2 761	2 771	2 780	2 789	9	38	0,3	1,4
Labour force	1 905	1 893	1 928	1 907	1 939	32	33	1,7	1,8
Employed	877	881	942	912	899	-13	22	-1,4	2,5
Unemployed	1 029	1 012	986	996	1 040	44	11	4,5	1,1
Not economically active	846	868	842	873	851	-22	5	-2,5	0,5
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	54,0	53,5	51,2	52,2	53,6	1,4	-0,4		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	31,9	31,9	34,0	32,8	32,2	-0,6	0,3		
Labour force participation rate	69,3	68,6	69,6	68,6	69,5	0,9	0,2		
Gauteng									
Population 15–64 yrs	11 060	11 104	11 148	11 190	11 232	43	172	0,4	1,6
Labour force	8 248	8 212	8 278	8 173	8 282	109	34	1,3	0,4
Employed	4 984	4 988	5 019	5 034	5 061	26	76	0,5	1,5
Unemployed	3 264	3 224	3 259	3 139	3 222	83	-42	2,6	-1,3
Not economically active	2 812	2 892	2 869	3 017	2 950	-67	138	-2,2	4,9
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	39,6	39,3	39,4	38,4	38,9	0,5	-0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	45,1	44,9	45,0	45,0	45,1	0,1	0,0		
Labour force participation rate	74,6	74,0	74,3	73,0	73,7	0,7	-0,9		
Gauteng – Non-metro									
Population 15–64 yrs	1 462	1 468	1 474	1 480	1 486	6	24	0,4	1,6
Labour force	1 118	1 093	1 097	1 107	1 131	24	13	2,1	1,1
Employed	607	596	582	627	612	-14	5	-2,3	0,8
Unemployed	511	496	515	481	519	38	8	7,9	1,5
Not economically active	344	376	378	373	355	-18	11	-4,8	3,3
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	45,7	45,4	46,9	43,4	45,9	2,5	0,2		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	41,5	40,6	39,5	42,3	41,2	-1,1	-0,3		
Labour force participation rate	76,5	74,4	74,4	74,8	76,1	1,3	-0,4		

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 2.7: Labour force characteristics by province metro – Expanded definition of unemployment (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	2 778	2 789	2 800	2 810	2 821	11	44	0,4	1,6
Labour force	2 020	2 016	2 047	2 020	2 072	52	51	2,6	2,5
Employed	1 173	1 193	1 244	1 228	1 231	3	58	0,2	4,9
Unemployed	848	822	804	792	841	49	-7	6,2	-0,8
Not economically active	757	773	752	790	749	-41	-8	-5,2	-1,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	41,9	40,8	39,3	39,2	40,6	1,4	-1,3		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	42,2	42,8	44,4	43,7	43,6	-0,1	1,4		
Labour force participation rate	72,7	72,3	73,1	71,9	73,4	1,5	0,7		
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg									
Population 15–64 yrs	4 104	4 120	4 136	4 151	4 166	15	62	0,4	1,5
Labour force	3 042	3 046	3 091	3 009	3 028	19	-13	0,6	-0,4
Employed	1 934	1 928	1 949	1 909	1 947	37	13	2,0	0,7
Unemployed	1 108	1 118	1 142	1 100	1 082	-19	-26	-1,7	-2,3
Not economically active	1 062	1 074	1 045	1 141	1 138	-3	76	-0,3	7,1
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	36,4	36,7	36,9	36,6	35,7	-0,9	-0,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	47,1	46,8	47,1	46,0	46,7	0,7	-0,4		
Labour force participation rate	74,1	73,9	74,7	72,5	72,7	0,2	-1,4		
Gauteng – City of Tshwane									
Population 15–64 yrs	2 717	2 727	2 738	2 748	2 759	10	42	0,4	1,5
Labour force	2 068	2 058	2 044	2 036	2 051	15	-16	0,7	-0,8
Employed	1 270	1 271	1 245	1 270	1 271	1	1	0,1	0,1
Unemployed	797	787	799	766	780	14	-17	1,9	-2,1
Not economically active	649	670	694	712	707	-5	58	-0,6	9,0
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	38,6	38,3	39,1	37,6	38,0	0,4	-0,6		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	46,8	46,6	45,5	46,2	46,1	-0,1	-0,7		
Labour force participation rate	76,1	75,5	74,7	74,1	74,4	0,3	-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 (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	3 113	3 124	3 136	3 146	3 157	11	44	0,3	1,4
Labour force	2 268	2 293	2 257	2 306	2 343	37	75	1,6	3,3
Employed	1 141	1 158	1 202	1 250	1 242	-8	101	-0,7	8,8
Unemployed	1 127	1 135	1 055	1 056	1 101	45	-26	4,3	-2,3
Not economically active	845	832	878	840	814	-26	-32	-3,1	-3,7
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	49,7	49,5	46,7	45,8	47,0	1,2	-2,7		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	36,7	37,1	38,3	39,7	39,3	-0,4	2,6		
Labour force participation rate	72,8	73,4	72,0	73,3	74,2	0,9	1,4		
Limpopo									
Population 15–64 yrs	3 971	3 984	3 998	4 010	4 023	13	52	0,3	1,3
Labour force	2 702	2 819	2 803	2 812	2 865	54	164	1,9	6,1
Employed	1 388	1 469	1 539	1 498	1 495	-3	107	-0,2	7,7
Unemployed	1 314	1 351	1 265	1 314	1 370	57	57	4,3	4,3
Not economically active	1 269	1 165	1 194	1 198	1 158	-41	-111	-3,4	-8,8
Rates (%)									
Unemployment rate	48,6	47,9	45,1	46,7	47,8	1,1	-0,8		
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	35,0	36,9	38,5	37,4	37,2	-0,2	2,2		
Labour force participation rate	68,0	70,8	70,1	70,1	71,2	1,1	3,2		

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									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Agriculture	888	894	956	920	941	21	54	2,3	6,1
Mining	413	444	409	446	454	9	42	1,9	10,1
Manufacturing	1 654	1 558	1 508	1 507	1 606	99	-48	6,6	-2,9
Utilities	135	129	113	123	105	-17	-30	-14,1	-21,9
Construction	1 201	1 304	1 357	1 322	1 215	-106	15	-8,0	1,2
Trade	3 269	3 361	3 390	3 362	3 471	109	202	3,2	6,2
Transport	992	986	966	1 023	1 062	39	69	3,8	7,0
Finance	2 667	2 599	2 836	2 964	2 914	-50	247	-1,7	9,2
Community and social services	3 902	3 965	4 084	3 913	3 791	-122	-111	-3,1	-2,8
Private households	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	1 178	44	122	3,9	11,5
Other	15	12	10	10	6	-4	-9	-36,1	-58,5
Women	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	7 476	46	375	0,6	5,3
Agriculture	301	279	299	292	300	8	-1	2,8	-0,3
Mining	80	68	59	81	89	8	8	9,4	10,5
Manufacturing	559	503	523	497	562	65	3	13,1	0,5
Utilities	32	37	35	32	30	-2	-3	-7,7	-8,0
Construction	167	154	173	146	144	-2	-23	-1,7	-13,9
Trade	1 507	1 544	1 587	1 559	1 663	104	156	6,7	10,3
Transport	190	209	184	202	192	-10	3	-4,9	1,4
Finance	1 125	1 132	1 239	1 302	1 213	-89	87	-6,9	7,7
Community and social services	2 349	2 395	2 547	2 439	2 414	-24	65	-1,0	2,8
Private households	782	833	856	874	867	-7	86	-0,8	10,9
Other	7	6	5	4	1	-3	-6	-70,8	-82,4
Men	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	9 269	-25	178	-0,3	2,0
Agriculture	586	615	656	628	641	13	55	2,1	9,3
Mining	332	375	350	364	365	1	33	0,3	10,0
Manufacturing	1 095	1 055	984	1 010	1 044	34	-51	3,3	-4,7
Utilities	103	92	78	90	76	-15	-27	-16,3	-26,3
Construction	1 034	1 151	1 185	1 176	1 072	-104	38	-8,8	3,7
Trade	1 762	1 817	1 804	1 804	1 809	5	46	0,3	2,6
Transport	803	776	781	821	869	49	67	6,0	8,3
Finance	1 542	1 467	1 597	1 662	1 701	39	159	2,4	10,3
Community and social services	1 553	1 570	1 537	1 474	1 377	-98	-176	-6,6	-11,3
Private households	274	261	259	260	311	51	36	19,7	13,3
Other	8	6	6	6	5	-1	-3	-10,0	-37,7

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	888	894	956	920	941	21	54	2,3	6,1
Western Cape	251	200	238	234	215	-19	-36	-8,0	-14,2
Eastern Cape	90	121	136	96	99	3	9	3,0	10,3
Northern Cape	41	38	52	58	54	-3	14	-6,0	33,3
Free State	82	71	65	73	79	5	-3	7,1	-3,8
KwaZulu-Natal	143	148	150	153	143	-11	-1	-7,0	-0,5
North West	45	39	51	53	77	25	32	46,6	71,1
Gauteng	32	28	39	38	47	9	15	23,1	46,7
Mpumalanga	81	101	87	86	105	18	24	21,1	29,9
Limpopo	124	149	138	129	123	-6	-1	-4,4	-0,6
Mining	413	444	409	446	454	9	42	1,9	10,1
Western Cape	2	5	5	4	6	2	4	61,5	204,1
Eastern Cape	1	1		3	3	0	3	0,8	408,4
Northern Cape	18	25	24	33	42	8	24	24,8	134,8
Free State	22	21	16	19	18	-1	-4	-5,2	-19,7
KwaZulu-Natal	7	9	8	7	3	-5	-5	-64,4	-63,1
North West	123	129	113	106	112	6	-11	5,7	-8,7
Gauteng	74	69	64	79	66	-13	-8	-17,0	-11,0
Mpumalanga	65	66	60	74	72	-2	8	-2,2	11,6
Limpopo	101	117	119	120	132	13	31	10,6	30,7
Manufacturing	1 654	1 558	1 508	1 507	1 606	99	-48	6,6	-2,9
Western Cape	360	345	336	304	310	6	-50	1,9	-13,9
Eastern Cape	146	127	124	105	92	-13	-54	-12,2	-36,7
Northern Cape	17	12	15	14	5	-9	-12	-63,3	-69,2
Free State	57	51	51	51	60	9	3	17,3	5,0
KwaZulu-Natal	340	323	318	328	379	51	39	15,5	11,4
North West	43	42	36	42	44	2	1	4,8	2,3
Gauteng	540	501	462	507	538	31	-2	6,2	-0,4
Mpumalanga	96	81	93	89	102	12	6	13,9	5,8
Limpopo	56	76	72	67	76	9	21	14,0	37,6

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 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	135	129	113	123	105	-17	-30	-14,1	-21,9
Western Cape	16	17	18	16	10	-6	-6	-37,2	-37,1
Eastern Cape	8	4	4	4	4	0	-3	1,8	-42,5
Northern Cape	1	1		1	1	0	1	37,1	132,3
Free State	4	5	4	8	3	-6	-1	-66,3	-33,5
KwaZulu-Natal	14	18	9	13	11	-2	-3	-14,9	-23,8
North West	4	9	4	4	7	3	3	82,0	71,3
Gauteng	42	33	34	33	24	-9	-18	-26,9	-42,2
Mpumalanga	33	29	29	31	29	-2	-4	-5,7	-11,6
Limpopo	14	12	12	12	16	3	2	27,5	17,2
Construction	1 201	1 304	1 357	1 322	1 215	-106	15	-8,0	1,2
Western Cape	169	244	253	242	237	-4	68	-1,7	40,2
Eastern Cape	134	141	125	127	105	-23	-30	-17,8	-22,0
Northern Cape	25	31	34	26	21	-5	-4	-18,4	-14,9
Free State	44	52	33	34	35	1	-9	4,2	-19,8
KwaZulu-Natal	225	231	241	239	245	6	20	2,6	9,0
North West	64	49	68	64	52	-12	-12	-18,1	-19,1
Gauteng	338	317	347	312	290	-22	-47	-7,0	-14,0
Mpumalanga	79	98	101	99	107	7	28	7,6	35,5
Limpopo	123	142	156	179	123	-57	0	-31,6	0,0
Trade	3 269	3 361	3 390	3 362	3 471	109	202	3,2	6,2
Western Cape	525	520	483	510	521	11	-4	2,1	-0,8
Eastern Cape	312	297	281	284	291	7	-21	2,6	-6,7
Northern Cape	48	43	38	39	49	10	1	25,3	2,6
Free State	164	161	174	150	163	14	-1	9,1	-0,6
KwaZulu-Natal	528	545	578	568	581	14	53	2,4	10,1
North West	171	182	183	177	193	17	22	9,5	13,1
Gauteng	1 006	1 092	1 052	1 044	1 079	35	73	3,4	7,2
Mpumalanga	233	251	271	276	253	-23	20	-8,2	8,8
Limpopo	282	270	330	315	340	25	58	7,8	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 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	992	986	966	1 023	1 062	39	69	3,8	7,0
Western Cape	137	172	163	148	170	22	33	14,5	24,0
Eastern Cape	86	82	77	84	94	10	7	12,0	8,6
Northern Cape	14	11	12	14	10	-4	-3	-27,3	-24,5
Free State	38	36	32	34	35	1	-4	2,2	-9,7
KwaZulu-Natal	191	177	183	227	230	3	38	1,3	20,0
North West	37	43	45	31	30	-2	-8	-5,1	-20,7
Gauteng	364	353	351	365	382	17	18	4,7	4,8
Mpumalanga	59	58	51	56	47	-10	-12	-16,9	-20,7
Limpopo	65	55	52	64	65	1	0	2,3	0,4
Finance	2 667	2 599	2 836	2 964	2 914	-50	247	-1,7	9,2
Western Cape	491	453	474	544	546	2	55	0,3	11,1
Eastern Cape	166	155	182	178	209	31	43	17,3	25,6
Northern Cape	42	31	31	33	28	-5	-14	-16,1	-33,9
Free State	82	74	74	85	76	-10	-6	-11,2	-7,7
KwaZulu-Natal	353	354	437	461	418	-43	65	-9,3	18,4
North West	112	108	131	136	120	-16	8	-12,1	7,3
Gauteng	1 142	1 161	1 218	1 224	1 179	-45	37	-3,6	3,2
Mpumalanga	136	120	138	156	174	18	39	11,6	28,7
Limpopo	142	142	152	145	163	18	21	12,8	14,7
Community and social services	3 902	3 965	4 084	3 913	3 791	-122	-111	-3,1	-2,8
Western Cape	564	587	601	576	537	-39	-27	-6,8	-4,7
Eastern Cape	397	416	426	372	370	-1	-27	-0,4	-6,8
Northern Cape	109	108	98	84	96	12	-13	14,3	-12,0
Free State	231	205	213	221	201	-20	-29	-9,1	-12,8
KwaZulu-Natal	593	634	660	658	653	-5	60	-0,8	10,2
North West	222	223	247	229	208	-21	-14	-9,2	-6,3
Gauteng	1 134	1 134	1 150	1 119	1 103	-16	-31	-1,4	-2,7
Mpumalanga	266	260	278	276	260	-15	-6	-5,5	-2,1
Limpopo	387	399	411	378	362	-16	-25	-4,2	-6,5

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

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

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	1 178	44	122	3,9	11,5
Western Cape	140	165	163	179	188	9	48	5,1	34,6
Eastern Cape	81	99	105	94	76	-18	-5	-18,8	-6,2
Northern Cape	24	23	26	23	23	1	0	2,9	-1,8
Free State	65	54	65	67	73	7	8	10,1	13,0
KwaZulu-Natal	199	201	205	199	229	29	29	14,8	14,6
North West	54	57	63	69	55	-15	0	-20,9	0,6
Gauteng	304	295	297	307	348	40	44	13,1	14,4
Mpumalanga	93	94	94	106	93	-14	0	-12,8	-0,4
Limpopo	96	106	97	90	94	4	-2	4,0	-2,2

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

Table 3.3: Employed by sector and industry – South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Formal and informal sector (non-agricultural)	14 248	14 358	14 674	14 669	14 625	-44	377	-0,3	2,6
Mining	413	444	409	446	454	9	42	1,9	10,1
Manufacturing	1 654	1 558	1 508	1 507	1 606	99	-48	6,6	-2,9
Utilities	135	129	113	123	105	-17	-30	-14,1	-21,9
Construction	1 201	1 304	1 357	1 322	1 215	-106	15	-8,0	1,2
Trade	3 269	3 361	3 390	3 362	3 471	109	202	3,2	6,2
Transport	992	986	966	1 023	1 062	39	69	3,8	7,0
Finance	2 667	2 599	2 836	2 964	2 914	-50	247	-1,7	9,2
Community and social services	3 902	3 965	4 084	3 913	3 791	-122	-111	-3,1	-2,8
Other	15	12	10	10	6	-4	-9	-36,1	-58,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 186	11 329	11 616	11 488	11 544	56	358	0,5	3,2
Mining	402	431	404	441	448	6	46	1,4	11,4
Manufacturing	1 423	1 371	1 300	1 308	1 389	81	-34	6,2	-2,4
Utilities	128	120	108	113	101	-12	-28	-10,7	-21,7
Construction	747	808	930	822	758	-64	12	-7,8	1,6
Trade	2 133	2 204	2 192	2 162	2 286	124	152	5,7	7,1
Transport	637	675	631	645	682	37	45	5,8	7,0
Finance	2 319	2 290	2 521	2 642	2 607	-35	287	-1,3	12,4
Community and social services	3 383	3 418	3 519	3 347	3 269	-78	-114	-2,3	-3,4
Other	13	11	10	8	4	-4	-8	-48,9	-66,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 062	3 029	3 058	3 181	3 082	-100	19	-3,1	0,6
Mining	11	12	5	4	7	2	-4	54,8	-39,3
Manufacturing	231	187	207	200	217	18	-14	8,8	-5,9
Utilities	7	9	5	10	5	-5	-2	-52,0	-26,7
Construction	454	496	427	499	457	-42	3	-8,5	0,6
Trade	1 136	1 157	1 199	1 200	1 186	-15	50	-1,2	4,4
Transport	355	310	335	378	380	2	25	0,4	6,9
Finance	348	309	315	322	307	-15	-41	-4,7	-11,7
Community and social services	519	547	565	566	522	-44	3	-7,8	0,6
Other	3	2		2	2	0	-1	30,7	-19,9
Agriculture	888	894	956	920	941	21	54	2,3	6,1
Private households	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	1 178	44	122	3,9	11,5

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	11 186	11 329	11 616	11 488	11 544	56	358	0,5	3,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	3 062	3 029	3 058	3 181	3 082	-100	19	-3,1	0,6
Agriculture	888	894	956	920	941	21	54	2,3	6,1
Private households	1 056	1 093	1 116	1 134	1 178	44	122	3,9	11,5
Western Cape	2 658	2 711	2 734	2 757	2 740	-17	82	-0,6	3,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 971	2 030	1 972	1 985	1 976	-8	5	-0,4	0,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	296	316	361	359	360	1	65	0,4	21,9
Agriculture	251	200	238	234	215	-19	-36	-8,0	-14,2
Private households	140	165	163	179	188	9	48	5,1	34,6
Western Cape – Non-metro	953	951	989	969	999	29	45	3,0	4,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	561	630	586	590	596	6	36	1,0	6,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	101	80	126	95	120	25	19	26,5	18,8
Agriculture	235	189	220	224	203	-21	-33	-9,4	-13,9
Private households	56	52	57	60	79	19	23	32,0	41,5
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	1 704	1 760	1 745	1 788	1 741	-46	37	-2,6	2,2
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 411	1 399	1 386	1 394	1 380	-15	-31	-1,0	-2,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	194	237	235	264	240	-24	46	-9,1	23,5
Agriculture	15	11	18	10	13	2	-3	23,6	-19,2
Private households	84	113	106	119	109	-10	25	-8,4	30,0
Eastern Cape	1 421	1 444	1 459	1 348	1 344	-4	-77	-0,3	-5,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	882	878	908	848	885	37	3	4,4	0,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	368	346	310	310	284	-26	-84	-8,5	-22,9
Agriculture	90	121	136	96	99	3	9	3,0	10,3
Private households	81	99	105	94	76	-18	-5	-18,8	-6,2

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	774	824	849	761	744	-17	-30	-2,2	-3,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	433	459	468	410	425	14	-8	3,5	-1,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	214	204	195	206	190	-17	-24	-8,1	-11,3
Agriculture	81	105	121	84	86	3	6	3,4	7,1
Private households	47	56	65	61	44	-17	-4	-28,5	-7,6
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	265	266	253	261	253	-7	-12	-2,9	-4,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	182	168	170	179	182	3	0	1,7	0,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	66	73	60	60	45	-15	-20	-24,5	-31,1
Agriculture	4	6	7	9	10	1	6	10,3	141,9
Private households	14	18	16	12	16	3	2	24,9	15,0
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	381	354	357	326	346	20	-35	6,3	-9,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	267	251	270	258	278	20	11	7,6	3,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	89	69	54	44	49	5	-40	11,6	-44,9
Agriculture	5	9	8	4	3	-1	-2	-25,5	-46,9
Private households	20	25	24	20	17	-3	-3	-16,6	-17,1
Northern Cape	339	322	328	327	331	4	-8	1,3	-2,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	246	235	224	212	216	4	-29	2,1	-11,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	29	26	27	35	37	3	8	7,3	26,5
Agriculture	41	38	52	58	54	-3	14	-6,0	33,3
Private households	24	23	26	23	23	1	0	2,9	-1,8
Free State	790	730	727	742	742	0	-48	0,0	-6,0
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	490	456	440	457	440	-17	-50	-3,7	-10,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	153	149	157	145	150	5	-3	3,7	-1,8
Agriculture	82	71	65	73	79	5	-3	7,1	-3,8
Private households	65	54	65	67	73	7	8	10,1	13,0

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	549	503	509	524	513	-11	-36	-2,1	-6,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	317	288	283	297	286	-11	-31	-3,6	-9,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	108	105	117	110	103	-7	-5	-6,1	-4,3
Agriculture	79	69	62	69	75	5	-4	7,5	-5,2
Private households	45	41	47	48	50	1	4	2,3	9,4
Free State – Mangaung	241	228	218	217	229	11	-12	5,2	-4,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	173	168	157	160	154	-6	-19	-3,9	-10,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	45	44	40	35	47	12	2	34,5	3,9
Agriculture	3	2	3	4	4	0	1	0,3	30,0
Private households	20	13	18	18	24	6	4	31,0	21,2
KwaZulu-Natal	2 594	2 642	2 794	2 856	2 891	35	297	1,2	11,4
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 789	1 838	1 927	1 888	1 907	20	118	1,0	6,6
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	462	455	512	616	613	-3	150	-0,5	32,5
Agriculture	143	148	150	153	143	-11	-1	-7,0	-0,5
Private households	199	201	205	199	229	29	29	14,8	14,6
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	1 374	1 411	1 574	1 593	1 618	26	244	1,6	17,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	858	892	973	951	974	23	116	2,4	13,5
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	273	267	340	384	376	-9	103	-2,3	37,8
Agriculture	137	139	138	145	139	-6	2	-4,3	1,6
Private households	108	114	124	113	131	18	23	15,7	21,2
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	1 220	1 231	1 219	1 263	1 273	9	52	0,7	4,3
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	932	946	954	937	934	-3	2	-0,4	0,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	190	188	172	231	237	6	47	2,4	24,9
Agriculture	7	9	12	8	4	-4	-3	-53,2	-42,3
Private households	92	88	81	86	98	12	6	13,7	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.

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	877	881	942	912	899	-13	22	-1,4	2,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	612	634	685	629	622	-7	10	-1,2	1,7
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	165	152	143	160	144	-16	-21	-9,8	-12,5
Agriculture	45	39	51	53	77	25	32	46,6	71,1
Private households	54	57	63	69	55	-15	0	-20,9	0,6
Gauteng	4 984	4 988	5 019	5 034	5 061	26	76	0,5	1,5
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3 745	3 802	3 923	3 920	3 903	-17	159	-0,4	4,2
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	904	862	761	769	763	-6	-141	-0,8	-15,6
Agriculture	32	28	39	38	47	9	15	23,1	46,7
Private households	304	295	297	307	348	40	44	13,1	14,4
Gauteng – Non-metro	607	596	582	627	612	-14	5	-2,3	0,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	438	444	418	453	447	-6	9	-1,4	2,1
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	104	90	103	122	109	-12	5	-10,1	5,2
Agriculture	15	10	18	20	20	-1	4	-3,6	27,7
Private households	50	52	43	31	36	5	-14	15,8	-27,8
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1 173	1 193	1 244	1 228	1 231	3	58	0,2	4,9
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	877	894	976	959	972	13	95	1,4	10,8
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	232	237	198	192	193	1	-39	0,5	-16,8
Agriculture	5	7	11	5	4	0	-1	-9,2	-19,2
Private households	59	55	59	73	62	-11	3	-15,2	4,8
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	1 934	1 928	1 949	1 909	1 947	37	13	2,0	0,7
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 410	1 437	1 498	1 471	1 451	-20	41	-1,4	2,9
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	409	368	325	322	329	8	-80	2,4	-19,5
Agriculture	2	3	1	2	8	7	6	454,4	324,0
Private households	113	121	124	115	158	43	45	37,4	39,3

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	1 270	1 271	1 245	1 270	1 271	1	1	0,1	0,1
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1 020	1 028	1 030	1 036	1 033	-4	13	-0,3	1,3
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	159	167	135	134	132	-2	-27	-1,6	-17,2
Agriculture	9	9	9	11	15	3	5	26,5	56,0
Private households	82	67	71	89	92	3	10	3,8	12,4
Mpumalanga	1 141	1 158	1 202	1 250	1 242	-8	101	-0,7	8,8
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	663	648	682	725	723	-2	60	-0,2	9,0
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	304	316	339	333	322	-11	17	-3,4	5,7
Agriculture	81	101	87	86	105	18	24	21,1	29,9
Private households	93	94	94	106	93	-14	0	-12,8	-0,4
Limpopo	1 388	1 469	1 539	1 498	1 495	-3	107	-0,2	7,7
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	788	808	855	825	870	46	82	5,5	10,4
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	381	406	449	455	408	-47	28	-10,3	7,2
Agriculture	124	149	138	129	123	-6	-1	-4,4	-0,6
Private households	96	106	97	90	94	4	-2	4,0	-2,2

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

Table 3.5: Employed by sex and occupation – South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Manager	1 356	1 153	1 105	1 481	1 303	-178	-53	-12,0	-3,9
Professional	1 218	1 261	1 354	1 341	1 229	-112	11	-8,3	0,9
Technician	1 476	1 472	1 444	1 441	1 590	149	114	10,3	7,7
Clerk	1 747	1 857	1 889	1 727	1 808	81	61	4,7	3,5
Sales and services	2 706	2 824	2 953	2 862	2 746	-117	40	-4,1	1,5
Skilled agriculture	68	51	76	63	94	31	26	48,7	37,8
Craft and related trade	1 724	1 633	1 717	1 693	1 693	0	-31	0,0	-1,8
Plant and machine operator	1 274	1 263	1 408	1 323	1 568	245	294	18,5	23,0
Elementary	3 824	3 982	3 935	3 912	3 845	-66	21	-1,7	0,6
Domestic worker	797	844	860	876	869	-7	72	-0,8	9,1
Women	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	7 476	46	375	0,6	5,3
Manager	440	378	371	518	477	-40	37	-7,8	8,5
Professional	560	601	713	696	640	-56	80	-8,1	14,3
Technician	847	792	796	779	871	93	25	11,9	2,9
Clerk	1 242	1 254	1 329	1 219	1 253	34	11	2,8	0,9
Sales and services	1 282	1 391	1 443	1 403	1 307	-96	26	-6,8	2,0
Skilled agriculture	11	8	16	21	19	-2	8	-11,7	70,6
Craft and related trade	222	200	216	189	226	37	4	19,8	2,0
Plant and machine operator	163	139	155	146	193	46	29	31,7	17,9
Elementary	1 585	1 598	1 648	1 629	1 664	35	79	2,1	5,0
Domestic worker	748	794	820	830	826	-4	78	-0,5	10,4
Men	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	9 269	-25	178	-0,3	2,0
Manager	916	776	733	963	826	-137	-90	-14,2	-9,8
Professional	659	660	641	645	589	-55	-69	-8,6	-10,5
Technician	629	680	648	663	719	56	90	8,4	14,2
Clerk	506	602	560	508	555	47	50	9,2	9,9
Sales and services	1 424	1 433	1 510	1 459	1 438	-21	14	-1,4	1,0
Skilled agriculture	57	43	60	42	75	33	18	79,0	31,5
Craft and related trade	1 503	1 433	1 501	1 505	1 467	-38	-36	-2,5	-2,4
Plant and machine operator	1 111	1 124	1 253	1 177	1 375	199	264	16,9	23,8
Elementary	2 239	2 384	2 287	2 283	2 181	-101	-57	-4,4	-2,6
Domestic worker	49	50	40	46	43	-3	-6	-6,9	-11,6

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									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Employee	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Employer	942	926	707	860	829	-31	-113	-3,6	-12,0
Own-account worker	1 667	1 665	1 653	1 687	1 712	25	46	1,5	2,7
Unpaid household member	114	99	78	92	98	6	-16	6,3	-14,1
Women	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	7 476	46	375	0,6	5,3
Employee	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Employer	213	235	184	216	222	7	9	3,0	4,4
Own-account worker	688	675	728	725	734	9	46	1,3	6,8
Unpaid household member	59	51	42	51	47	-4	-12	-7,8	-20,3
Men	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	9 269	-25	178	-0,3	2,0
Employee	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Employer	729	691	523	644	607	-38	-122	-5,9	-16,7
Own-account worker	979	990	924	962	978	16	-1	1,6	-0,1
Unpaid household member	55	49	36	41	51	10	-4	23,8	-7,4

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

Table 3.7: Employed by sex and usual hours of work – South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Working less than 15 hours per week	582	481	530	461	495	35	-86	7,5	-14,8
Working 15–29 hours per week	1 165	1 165	1 174	1 114	1 139	25	-26	2,3	-2,3
Working 30–39 hours per week	1 090	1 196	1 213	1 208	1 166	-42	76	-3,5	7,0
Working 40–45 hours per week	9 008	9 142	9 274	9 238	9 271	33	263	0,4	2,9
Working more than 45 hours per week	4 347	4 359	4 553	4 702	4 673	-29	326	-0,6	7,5
Women	7 101	7 160	7 509	7 429	7 476	46	375	0,6	5,3
Working less than 15 hours per week	293	266	287	235	256	21	-38	8,9	-12,8
Working 15–29 hours per week	732	707	711	708	699	-10	-34	-1,4	-4,6
Working 30–39 hours per week	611	671	721	678	657	-21	47	-3,1	7,7
Working 40–45 hours per week	4 061	4 100	4 258	4 249	4 276	26	215	0,6	5,3
Working more than 45 hours per week	1 403	1 412	1 532	1 558	1 588	29	184	1,9	13,1
Men	9 091	9 186	9 236	9 294	9 269	-25	178	-0,3	2,0
Working less than 15 hours per week	288	215	243	226	240	14	-49	6,1	-16,9
Working 15–29 hours per week	433	458	464	405	440	35	7	8,6	1,7
Working 30–39 hours per week	480	525	492	530	509	-21	29	-4,0	6,1
Working 40–45 hours per week	4 946	5 042	5 017	4 989	4 995	6	49	0,1	1,0
Working more than 45 hours per week	2 944	2 946	3 021	3 144	3 086	-58	142	-1,9	4,8

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 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Pension/retirement fund contribution									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Yes	6 211	6 039	6 295	6 241	6 285	44	74	0,7	1,2
No	6 861	7 184	7 632	7 373	7 410	37	549	0,5	8,0
Don't know	398	432	380	469	410	-59	12	-12,5	3,0
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Yes	2 750	2 651	2 802	2 797	2 812	14	62	0,5	2,3
No	3 230	3 375	3 586	3 440	3 471	32	241	0,9	7,5
Don't know	162	173	166	200	189	-11	27	-5,5	16,9
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Yes	3 461	3 388	3 493	3 444	3 474	30	12	0,9	0,4
No	3 631	3 809	4 046	3 934	3 939	5	308	0,1	8,5
Don't know	237	259	215	269	221	-47	-15	-17,6	-6,5
Entitled to any paid leave									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Yes	8 978	9 007	9 504	9 153	9 280	126	302	1,4	3,4
No	4 309	4 422	4 616	4 718	4 657	-61	348	-1,3	8,1
Don't know	184	228	187	213	169	-43	-14	-20,4	-7,8
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Yes	4 067	4 074	4 413	4 233	4 314	81	247	1,9	6,1
No	1 993	2 037	2 067	2 119	2 088	-31	95	-1,5	4,8
Don't know	81	88	74	86	71	-15	-11	-17,8	-13,0
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Yes	4 911	4 933	5 092	4 921	4 966	45	55	0,9	1,1
No	2 316	2 384	2 549	2 599	2 569	-30	253	-1,1	10,9
Don't know	102	139	113	126	99	-28	-4	-22,1	-3,6

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

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Entitled to paid sick leave									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Yes	9 742	9 838	10 168	9 973	10 074	101	332	1,0	3,4
No	3 549	3 593	3 953	3 892	3 883	-9	334	-0,2	9,4
Don't know	179	224	187	219	148	-70	-30	-32,1	-17,0
Women									
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Yes	4 453	4 443	4 733	4 615	4 705	90	252	2,0	5,7
No	1 610	1 670	1 747	1 733	1 705	-28	94	-1,6	5,9
Don't know	78	86	73	90	62	-28	-16	-30,6	-20,5
Men									
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Yes	5 290	5 395	5 434	5 358	5 369	11	80	0,2	1,5
No	1 939	1 923	2 206	2 159	2 178	19	239	0,9	12,4
Don't know	100	139	113	129	86	-43	-14	-33,2	-14,3
Entitled to maternity/paternity leave									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Yes	7 414	7 441	7 741	7 633	7 702	69	288	0,9	3,9
No	5 720	5 803	6 187	6 019	6 050	31	330	0,5	5,8
Don't know	336	411	379	432	354	-78	17	-18,1	5,2
Women									
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Yes	3 576	3 582	3 780	3 742	3 760	17	184	0,5	5,1
No	2 445	2 473	2 631	2 538	2 572	34	127	1,4	5,2
Don't know	120	144	143	157	140	-17	20	-10,9	16,6
Men									
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Yes	3 838	3 859	3 961	3 890	3 942	52	104	1,3	2,7
No	3 275	3 330	3 557	3 481	3 478	-4	203	-0,1	6,2
Don't know	216	267	236	274	214	-61	-3	-22,2	-1,2

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

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

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Yes	8 303	8 534	8 775	8 622	8 681	59	378	0,7	4,6
No	4 842	4 765	5 193	5 102	5 109	7	267	0,1	5,5
Don't know	325	357	339	359	316	-43	-9	-12,1	-2,9
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Yes	3 626	3 740	3 902	3 810	3 822	12	196	0,3	5,4
No	2 374	2 295	2 499	2 465	2 490	25	116	1,0	4,9
Don't know	141	165	153	162	160	-3	19	-1,6	13,3
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Yes	4 676	4 794	4 873	4 812	4 859	47	182	1,0	3,9
No	2 468	2 470	2 694	2 637	2 618	-19	151	-0,7	6,1
Don't know	185	193	186	197	157	-41	-28	-20,7	-15,2
Medical aid benefits									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Yes	4 095	4 027	4 107	4 057	4 213	156	118	3,8	2,9
No	9 138	9 387	9 969	9 804	9 682	-122	544	-1,2	6,0
Don't know	237	242	232	223	211	-12	-26	-5,4	-11,2
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Yes	1 895	1 848	1 941	1 890	1 969	79	74	4,2	3,9
No	4 150	4 248	4 527	4 460	4 415	-44	265	-1,0	6,4
Don't know	97	103	86	88	88	0	-8	0,4	-8,7
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Yes	2 200	2 179	2 165	2 167	2 244	77	44	3,6	2,0
No	4 988	5 139	5 442	5 344	5 267	-77	279	-1,4	5,6
Don't know	140	139	146	135	122	-12	-18	-9,2	-12,9

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)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Income tax (PAYE/SITE) deduction									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Yes	7 510	7 521	7 829	7 866	7 901	34	391	0,4	5,2
No	5 588	5 687	6 102	5 788	5 849	62	261	1,1	4,7
Don't know	372	448	376	430	356	-74	-16	-17,2	-4,4
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Yes	3 356	3 303	3 527	3 542	3 568	26	212	0,7	6,3
No	2 645	2 697	2 888	2 715	2 742	27	97	1,0	3,7
Don't know	141	199	139	180	162	-18	21	-9,9	15,3
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Yes	4 154	4 218	4 302	4 324	4 332	9	178	0,2	4,3
No	2 943	2 990	3 214	3 072	3 107	34	164	1,1	5,6
Don't know	232	249	238	250	194	-56	-38	-22,4	-16,3
Condition of employment									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	635	0,2	4,7
Written contract	11 177	11 350	11 712	11 473	11 510	37	333	0,3	3,0
Verbal agreement	2 294	2 306	2 595	2 611	2 596	-15	302	-0,6	13,2
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	35	331	0,5	5,4
Written contract	5 197	5 235	5 493	5 364	5 403	39	206	0,7	4,0
Verbal agreement	944	964	1 061	1 073	1 069	-4	125	-0,4	13,2
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-13	305	-0,2	4,2
Written contract	5 980	6 115	6 219	6 109	6 107	-2	127	0,0	2,1
Verbal agreement	1 349	1 342	1 534	1 538	1 527	-11	178	-0,7	13,2

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

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent	Per cent
Nature of contract/agreement (both sexes)									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	636	0,2	4,7
Limited duration	1 996	2 163	2 286	2 170	2 208	38	212	1,8	10,6
Permanent nature	8 112	8 136	8 427	8 380	8 449	69	337	0,8	4,2
Unspecified duration	3 362	3 357	3 593	3 533	3 448	-85	86	-2,4	2,6
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	34	330	0,5	5,4
Limited duration	1 042	1 104	1 167	1 093	1 113	20	71	1,8	6,8
Permanent nature	3 625	3 591	3 839	3 805	3 845	40	220	1,1	6,1
Unspecified duration	1 474	1 504	1 548	1 539	1 514	-25	40	-1,6	2,7
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-12	305	-0,2	4,2
Limited duration	954	1 059	1 119	1 077	1 095	18	141	1,7	14,8
Permanent nature	4 487	4 545	4 588	4 575	4 604	29	117	0,6	2,6
Unspecified duration	1 888	1 852	2 046	1 994	1 934	-60	46	-3,0	2,4
Trade union membership (both sexes)									
Both sexes	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	636	0,2	4,7
Yes	3 927	3 816	3 820	3 787	3 879	92	-48	2,4	-1,2
No	9 079	9 250	9 929	9 758	9 683	-75	604	-0,8	6,7
Don't know	464	590	557	539	544	5	80	0,9	17,2
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	34	330	0,5	5,4
Yes	1 723	1 684	1 719	1 765	1 740	-25	17	-1,4	1,0
No	4 231	4 265	4 621	4 457	4 503	46	272	1,0	6,4
Don't know	188	250	215	215	230	15	42	7,0	22,3
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-12	305	-0,2	4,2
Yes	2 205	2 131	2 102	2 022	2 139	117	-66	5,8	-3,0
No	4 848	4 985	5 309	5 300	5 180	-120	332	-2,3	6,8
Don't know	276	340	343	324	314	-10	38	-3,1	13,8

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 3.8: Conditions of employment – South Africa (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	13 470	13 656	14 307	14 084	14 106	22	636	0,2	4,7
Individual and employer	1 068	980	1 154	1 224	1 139	-85	71	-6,9	6,6
Union and employer	2 944	2 887	2 802	2 735	2 871	136	-73	5,0	-2,5
Bargaining council	1 324	1 360	1 396	1 360	1 352	-8	28	-0,6	2,1
Employer only	7 294	7 684	8 145	7 896	7 850	-46	556	-0,6	7,6
No regular increment	785	668	764	790	835	45	50	5,7	6,4
Other	54	77	46	79	59	-20	5	-25,3	9,3
Women	6 142	6 199	6 554	6 438	6 472	34	330	0,5	5,4
Individual and employer	466	393	475	559	511	-48	45	-8,6	9,7
Union and employer	1 235	1 233	1 225	1 224	1 256	32	21	2,6	1,7
Bargaining council	668	691	714	674	693	19	25	2,8	3,7
Employer only	3 388	3 518	3 760	3 603	3 593	-10	205	-0,3	6,1
No regular increment	365	327	359	343	394	51	29	14,9	7,9
Other	20	38	21	34	26	-8	6	-23,5	30,0
Men	7 329	7 456	7 753	7 646	7 634	-12	305	-0,2	4,2
Individual and employer	603	588	679	665	628	-37	25	-5,6	4,1
Union and employer	1 709	1 654	1 578	1 511	1 616	105	-93	6,9	-5,4
Bargaining council	656	669	682	685	658	-27	2	-3,9	0,3
Employer only	3 907	4 166	4 385	4 293	4 257	-36	350	-0,8	9,0
No regular increment	420	341	405	447	441	-6	21	-1,3	5,0
Other	34	39	24	45	32	-13	-2	-28,9	-5,9

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

Table 3.9: Time-related underemployment – South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	799	716	737	678	722	44	-77	6,5	-9,7
Women	448	378	402	386	387	1	-61	0,3	-13,7
Men	351	338	335	292	334	43	-16	14,7	-4,6
As percentage of the labour force (both sexes)	3,3	2,9	3,0	2,8	2,9	0,1	-0,4		
Women	4,1	3,4	3,5	3,4	3,4	0,0	-0,7		
Men	2,7	2,6	2,5	2,2	2,5	0,3	-0,2		
As percentage of total employment (both sexes)	4,9	4,4	4,4	4,1	4,3	0,2	-0,6		
Women	6,3	5,3	5,3	5,2	5,2	0,0	-1,1		
Men	3,9	3,7	3,6	3,1	3,6	0,5	-0,3		
Industry	799	716	737	678	722	44	-77	6,5	-9,7
Agriculture	33	21	27	14	24	10	-9	67,2	-28,4
Mining	1	1	0	1					
Manufacturing	38	34	28	20	38	18	1	91,9	1,9
Utilities		1	1						
Construction	105	107	85	74	73	-2	-32	-2,1	-30,7
Trade	113	106	113	133	128	-4	16	-3,3	14,1
Transport	20	14	25	9	23	14	4	160,7	19,1
Finance	100	74	77	67	60	-7	-40	-10,7	-40,3
Community and social services	196	171	182	164	187	23	-9	14,3	-4,5
Private households	194	187	198	195	187	-8	-7	-4,4	-3,8
Occupation	799	716	737	678	722	44	-77	6,5	-9,7
Manager	15	6	13	15	15	-1	0	-3,4	-0,3
Professional	15	6	16	11	15	4	0	35,5	-2,9
Technician	44	35	35	25	26	2	-17	6,6	-39,5
Clerk	27	16	14	18	19	2	-8	9,3	-29,4
Sales and services	102	90	93	91	98	6	-4	7,0	-3,8
Skilled agriculture	4	2	6	3	3	-1	-2	-16,8	-36,5
Craft and related trade	86	100	77	72	81	8	-6	11,6	-6,4
Plant and machine operator	22	21	24	8	26	18	4	237,8	18,1
Elementary	340	315	319	291	313	22	-27	7,7	-7,8
Domestic worker	144	125	139	144	126	-18	-18	-12,2	-12,5

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

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

Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed - South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Job losers	2 033	2 114	2 205	2 230	2 322	92	289	4,1	14,2
Job leavers	198	238	271	267	240	-28	41	-10,4	20,9
New entrants	3 647	3 522	3 293	3 366	3 526	160	-120	4,7	-3,3
Re-entrants	293	288	306	329	346	17	53	5,1	18,2
Other	1 762	1 759	1 774	1 702	1 792	90	30	5,3	1,7
Unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Long-term unemployment (1 year and more)	6 121	6 127	5 911	6 085	6 189	104	68	1,7	1,1
Short-term unemployment (less than 1 year)	1 811	1 795	1 939	1 810	2 037	226	225	12,5	12,4
Long-term unemployment (%)									
Proportion of the labour force	25,4	25,2	24,0	24,7	24,8	0,1	-0,6		
Proportion of the unemployed	77,2	77,3	75,3	77,1	75,2	-1,9	-2,0		
Those who have worked in the past 5 years									
Previous occupation	2 524	2 640	2 782	2 827	2 908	81	383	2,9	15,2
Manager	74	59	52	74	66	-8	-8	-10,7	-11,1
Professional	59	57	73	70	61	-9	2	-12,4	3,2
Technician	139	136	165	123	263	140	124	114,1	89,3
Clerk	302	279	294	311	289	-22	-13	-7,0	-4,4
Sales and services	548	568	546	603	497	-106	-51	-17,6	-9,3
Skilled agriculture	3	7	9	7	8	1	5	13,4	147,9
Craft and related trade	363	372	399	406	419	14	57	3,4	15,6
Plant and machine operator	163	172	175	196	189	-7	26	-3,5	16,3
Elementary	724	836	897	885	938	53	214	6,0	29,5
Domestic worker	146	155	171	151	177	26	31	16,9	21,3
Other	3	1	2	2					

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

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

Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed – South Africa (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Previous industry	2 524	2 640	2 782	2 827	2 908	81	383	2,9	15,2
Agriculture	144	162	161	157	168	11	24	7,0	16,5
Mining	43	37	55	59	82	22	39	37,8	90,8
Manufacturing	228	255	248	274	271	-3	43	-1,0	19,1
Utilities	11	13	18	13	13	0	2	-1,7	16,4
Construction	368	390	412	425	477	53	110	12,4	29,8
Trade	516	542	555	577	562	-15	46	-2,5	9,0
Transport	133	165	150	143	141	-2	8	-1,3	6,3
Finance	362	322	379	347	339	-8	-23	-2,2	-6,3
Community and social services	501	534	547	597	617	20	117	3,4	23,3
Private households	213	221	246	231	236	6	24	2,4	11,1
Other	7	1	12	5	1	-4	-6	-86,7	-90,2

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 5: Characteristics of the not economically active – South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
Student	5 993	6 097	6 192	6 228	5 975	-252	-17	-4,1	-0,3
Home-maker	2 565	2 525	2 395	2 464	2 321	-143	-244	-5,8	-9,5
Illness/disability	1 623	1 669	1 652	1 701	1 643	-57	20	-3,4	1,2
Too old/young to work	1 762	1 753	1 691	1 688	1 749	61	-13	3,6	-0,8
Discouraged work seekers	3 276	3 182	3 156	3 049	3 048	-1	-229	0,0	-7,0
Other	1 259	1 252	1 206	1 274	1 451	178	192	14,0	15,3
Inactivity rate by age (Both sexes)	40,6	40,4	39,8	40,0	39,3	-0,7	-1,3		
15-24 yrs	72,4	72,8	73,3	73,6	73,2	-0,4	0,8		
25-54 yrs	25,1	24,8	24,0	24,2	23,5	-0,7	-1,6		
55-64 yrs	58,9	58,5	56,8	56,8	56,0	-0,8	-2,9		
Inactivity rate by age (Women)	46,2	45,7	44,8	45,2	44,4	-0,8	-1,8		
15-24 yrs	74,4	74,8	75,1	75,6	75,1	-0,5	0,7		
25-54 yrs	31,7	30,9	29,6	30,3	29,2	-1,1	-2,5		
55-64 yrs	65,3	64,4	63,0	62,2	62,0	-0,2	-3,3		
Inactivity rate by age (Men)	34,8	35,1	34,8	34,7	34,2	-0,5	-0,6		
15-24 yrs	70,4	70,8	71,5	71,6	71,3	-0,3	0,9		
25-54 yrs	18,5	18,8	18,5	18,2	17,8	-0,4	-0,7		
55-64 yrs	51,0	51,3	49,2	50,1	48,5	-1,6	-2,5		

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

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

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Age group of the employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
15-24 yrs	1 069	1 095	1 150	1 098	1 107	9	38	0,8	3,6
25-34 yrs	4 550	4 629	4 811	4 766	4 749	-17	199	-0,4	4,4
35-44 yrs	5 047	5 069	5 099	5 200	5 178	-22	130	-0,4	2,6
45-54 yrs	3 951	3 958	4 016	3 988	4 009	21	58	0,5	1,5
55-64 yrs	1 574	1 595	1 669	1 672	1 701	30	127	1,8	8,1
Age group of the unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
15-24 yrs	1 754	1 691	1 586	1 607	1 642	35	-111	2,2	-6,4
25-34 yrs	3 124	3 056	2 987	3 053	3 253	200	129	6,6	4,1
35-44 yrs	1 949	1 996	2 083	1 996	2 047	51	98	2,6	5,0
45-54 yrs	916	984	989	1 024	1 053	29	136	2,8	14,9
55-64 yrs	190	195	204	215	230	15	40	7,1	21,3
Age group of the not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
15-24 yrs	7 409	7 448	7 503	7 541	7 505	-37	96	-0,5	1,3
25-34 yrs	2 846	2 857	2 761	2 754	2 584	-170	-262	-6,2	-9,2
35-44 yrs	1 920	1 897	1 826	1 855	1 870	14	-50	0,8	-2,6
45-54 yrs	1 774	1 750	1 736	1 776	1 774	-2	0	-0,1	0,0
55-64 yrs	2 530	2 526	2 465	2 476	2 455	-20	-75	-0,8	-3,0
Highest level of education of the employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
No schooling	179	183	189	173	184	11	5	6,1	2,8
Less than primary completed	687	692	673	682	666	-16	-21	-2,3	-3,1
Primary completed	523	494	481	498	470	-28	-53	-5,6	-10,2
Secondary not completed	4 988	5 066	5 100	5 051	5 071	20	83	0,4	1,7
Secondary completed	5 842	5 860	6 093	6 082	6 105	23	263	0,4	4,5
Tertiary	3 749	3 859	3 984	3 965	3 980	15	231	0,4	6,2
Other	224	193	224	272	268	-3	45	-1,2	20,0

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

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
No schooling	55	64	64	65	54	-11	-1	-17,2	-2,7
Less than primary completed	258	290	304	312	339	28	81	8,9	31,5
Primary completed	266	284	287	254	240	-15	-26	-5,8	-9,8
Secondary not completed	3 268	3 338	3 413	3 391	3 463	72	195	2,1	6,0
Secondary completed	3 231	3 187	3 007	3 098	3 220	122	-11	3,9	-0,3
Tertiary	798	708	725	727	858	131	59	18,0	7,4
Other	56	50	49	48	52	4	-4	7,7	-7,4
Highest level of education of the not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
No schooling	528	484	506	504	466	-39	-63	-7,7	-11,9
Less than primary completed	1 143	1 190	1 202	1 223	1 189	-34	46	-2,7	4,0
Primary completed	822	892	915	990	745	-245	-76	-24,7	-9,3
Secondary not completed	8 609	8 555	8 558	8 644	8 272	-372	-337	-4,3	-3,9
Secondary completed	4 401	4 381	4 148	4 025	4 517	493	116	12,2	2,6
Tertiary	782	783	781	787	780	-6	-2	-0,8	-0,2
Other	193	193	182	230	218	-12	25	-5,3	12,7
Employed	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Attending educational institution	272	307	329	318	322	4	50	1,2	18,4
Not attending educational institution	15 920	16 039	16 416	16 405	16 423	18	503	0,1	3,2
Unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Attending educational institution	157	140	111	165	133	-33	-25	-19,7	-15,7
Not attending educational institution	7 775	7 782	7 738	7 730	8 093	363	318	4,7	4,1
Not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
Attending educational institution	5 742	5 957	6 053	6 058	5 765	-293	23	-4,8	0,4
Not attending educational institution	10 737	10 521	10 239	10 345	10 423	77	-314	0,7	-2,9

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

Table 6: Sociodemographic characteristics – South Africa (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 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	16 192	16 346	16 745	16 723	16 745	22	552	0,1	3,4
Married	5 908	5 818	5 937	5 922	5 910	-12	2	-0,2	0,0
Living together like husband and wife	2 001	1 997	2 052	2 147	2 180	33	180	1,6	9,0
Widow/widower	388	398	405	397	399	2	11	0,5	2,9
Divorced or separated	417	447	477	497	514	17	96	3,4	23,0
Never married	7 478	7 685	7 874	7 761	7 741	-19	263	-0,2	3,5
Current marital status of the unemployed	7 933	7 921	7 849	7 895	8 226	330	293	4,2	3,7
Married	960	974	997	1 017	1 041	24	81	2,3	8,4
Living together like husband and wife	808	808	782	820	884	63	76	7,7	9,4
Widow/widower	80	99	93	76	60	-16	-19	-20,9	-24,1
Divorced or separated	125	114	123	101	124	24	-1	23,4	-0,8
Never married	5 960	5 928	5 854	5 881	6 116	235	156	4,0	2,6
Current marital status of the not economically active	16 479	16 478	16 292	16 403	16 188	-215	-291	-1,3	-1,8
Married	2 768	2 768	2 663	2 650	2 606	-44	-162	-1,6	-5,8
Living together like husband and wife	935	938	912	927	874	-53	-61	-5,7	-6,5
Widow/widower	631	608	584	548	585	37	-45	6,8	-7,2
Divorced or separated	280	273	256	267	274	7	-6	2,5	-2,2
Never married	11 864	11 891	11 877	12 011	11 848	-163	-16	-1,4	-0,1

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

Table 7: Profile of those not in employment education or training - South Africa									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Both sexes	18 512	18 303	17 978	18 075	18 516	441	4	2,4	0,0
Women	10 354	10 263	9 954	10 024	10 220	196	-134	2,0	-1,3
Men	8 158	8 040	8 024	8 051	8 296	245	138	3,0	1,7
Age group	18 512	18 303	17 978	18 075	18 516	441	4	2,4	0,0
15-24 yrs	3 697	3 496	3 344	3 377	3 638	262	-59	7,8	-1,6
25-34 yrs	5 583	5 527	5 390	5 412	5 497	85	-87	1,6	-1,6
35-44 yrs	3 834	3 846	3 867	3 810	3 877	67	43	1,8	1,1
45-54 yrs	2 680	2 718	2 713	2 792	2 819	27	139	1,0	5,2
55-64 yrs	2 718	2 716	2 664	2 685	2 685	0	-33	0,0	-1,2
Population groups	18 512	18 303	17 978	18 075	18 516	441	4	2,4	0,0
Black/African	16 035	15 771	15 489	15 505	15 957	452	-79	2,9	-0,5
Coloured	1 430	1 463	1 454	1 478	1 501	24	71	1,6	5,0
Indian/Asian	375	404	374	383	377	-6	2	-1,6	0,5
White	672	665	661	710	681	-29	10	-4,0	1,4
South Africa	18 512	18 303	17 978	18 075	18 516	441	4	2,4	0,0
Western Cape	1 720	1 678	1 703	1 678	1 732	54	12	3,2	0,7
Eastern Cape	2 260	2 221	2 250	2 367	2 494	127	234	5,4	10,4
Northern Cape	393	404	397	397	402	6	9	1,4	2,4
Free State	834	908	904	879	908	29	74	3,3	8,9
KwaZulu-Natal	3 741	3 715	3 543	3 461	3 507	46	-234	1,3	-6,3
North West	1 502	1 481	1 410	1 463	1 508	45	6	3,1	0,4
Gauteng	4 647	4 558	4 602	4 613	4 663	50	16	1,1	0,3
Mpumalanga	1 487	1 470	1 394	1 389	1 436	47	-51	3,4	-3,5
Limpopo	1 928	1 870	1 775	1 829	1 866	37	-62	2,0	-3,2

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
South Africa									
Subsistence farming	2 510	2 098	2 137	2 380	2 473	93	-37	3,9	-1,5
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	4 490	4 615	4 921	4 505	4 288	-217	-202	-4,8	-4,5
Produce other goods for household use	328	395	204	270	266	-5	-63	-1,7	-19,1
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	353	281	250	332	315	-18	-38	-5,3	-10,7
Hunting or fishing for household use	33	38	35	32	47	16	14	49,5	42,3
Involvement in at least one activity	6 076	5 945	6 298	6 158	6 076	-82	0	-1,3	0,0
Employed	1 677	1 613	1 863	1 827	1 752	-75	75	-4,1	4,5
Unemployed	1 473	1 437	1 560	1 518	1 499	-19	26	-1,3	1,8
Not economically active	2 926	2 896	2 875	2 812	2 825	13	-102	0,4	-3,5
Western Cape									
Subsistence farming	54	64	57	60	60	0	6	0,4	11,2
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	158	138	176	149	154	6	-3	3,8	-2,0
Produce other goods for household use	1			3	1	-1	0	-51,4	-0,6
Construction or major repairs to own or household'		1		1	3	2		176,6	
Hunting or fishing for household use					2				
Involvement in at least one activity	213	198	229	210	218	8	5	3,9	2,1
Employed	90	92	119	123	107	-15	17	-12,6	18,8
Unemployed	62	62	67	53	64	11	2	20,3	2,9
Not economically active	61	44	42	34	47	13	-14	38,3	-23,3
Eastern Cape									
Subsistence farming	720	493	521	692	691	-1	-29	-0,1	-4,0
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	887	886	887	821	877	56	-10	6,8	-1,2
Produce other goods for household use	122	146	47	105	84	-21	-39	-20,3	-31,6
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	163	76	92	151	135	-16	-28	-10,8	-17,4
Hunting or fishing for household use	4	13	5	5	8	3	3	65,3	78,6
Involvement in at least one activity	1 398	1 229	1 266	1 348	1 399	51	1	3,7	0,1
Employed	319	321	317	315	311	-5	-9	-1,5	-2,7
Unemployed	393	357	380	434	419	-15	26	-3,4	6,5
Not economically active	685	551	569	599	670	70	-16	11,7	-2,3

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

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Northern Cape									
Subsistence farming	22	22	15	16	30	14	8	88,8	35,7
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	123	136	128	99	96	-4	-28	-3,6	-22,3
Produce other goods for household use	2	2	2	0	3	2	1	660,1	24,7
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	0	1	4	0	6	5	5	1199,6	1165,7
Hunting or fishing for household use	2	4	5	3	2	-1	0	-30,8	3,3
Involvement in at least one activity	138	149	143	115	122	7	-16	6,2	-11,4
Employed	31	37	47	29	31	2	0	8,0	-1,1
Unemployed	47	34	28	22	25	3	-22	13,8	-47,1
Not economically active	60	78	67	65	67	2	7	2,9	11,3
Free State									
Subsistence farming	86	74	73	106	91	-14	5	-13,4	6,2
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	59	55	57	47	62	14	2	30,1	3,9
Produce other goods for household use	10	11	5	2	3	2	-7	89,7	-67,1
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	21	20	17	26	24	-2	3	-8,0	12,5
Hunting or fishing for household use	5	5	7	7	14	7	10	106,6	218,3
Involvement in at least one activity	150	134	140	160	169	9	19	5,4	12,4
Employed	68	47	47	57	72	15	5	26,1	6,7
Unemployed	38	46	47	47	50	2	12	5,2	31,8
Not economically active	45	41	45	56	47	-9	2	-15,7	4,6
KwaZulu-Natal									
Subsistence farming	1 002	885	917	1 024	989	-36	-13	-3,5	-1,3
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	1 642	1 791	1 947	1 734	1 634	-101	-9	-5,8	-0,5
Produce other goods for household use	156	199	116	128	136	8	-20	6,3	-12,9
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	120	128	85	117	93	-24	-27	-20,2	-22,4
Hunting or fishing for household use	14	12	11	9	6	-3	-8	-30,2	-54,5
Involvement in at least one activity	2 160	2 256	2 452	2 368	2 253	-115	93	-4,9	4,3
Employed	540	545	692	663	649	-14	109	-2,1	20,3
Unemployed	457	475	503	496	466	-30	9	-6,0	2,0
Not economically active	1 163	1 236	1 256	1 210	1 138	-72	-25	-5,9	-2,2

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

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (continued)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
North West									
Subsistence farming	68	43	84	49	49	0	-19	-0,3	-27,5
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	464	499	504	488	525	37	61	7,5	13,1
Produce other goods for household use	8	6	5	8	7	-2	-2	-18,3	-20,2
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	1	2	10	5	6	1	5	18,9	1025,9
Hunting or fishing for household use			1	3	1	-2		-73,7	
Involvement in at least one activity	514	527	545	526	560	33	45	6,3	8,8
Employed	129	130	137	142	131	-11	2	-7,8	1,4
Unemployed	74	72	129	104	127	24	54	22,7	73,2
Not economically active	312	325	278	281	302	21	-10	7,4	-3,3
Gauteng									
Subsistence farming	73	59	38	40	33	-7	-40	-18,1	-54,8
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	125	118	227	195	109	-86	-16	-44,3	-12,7
Produce other goods for household use	5	4	2	3	1	-2	-5	-77,6	-87,6
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	15	14	8	6	7	1	-7	26,4	-50,9
Hunting or fishing for household use	3		1	1	8	7	5	701,9	188,9
Involvement in at least one activity	197	171	271	237	150	-87	-48	-36,8	-24,1
Employed	100	66	131	109	71	-37	-29	-34,3	-28,7
Unemployed	50	49	67	70	42	-27	-8	-39,4	-15,3
Not economically active	47	56	72	59	36	-22	-11	-38,3	-23,7
Mpumalanga									
Subsistence farming	136	158	179	157	175	18	39	11,2	28,4
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	497	497	474	500	439	-61	-58	-12,1	-11,7
Produce other goods for household use	20	23	25	20	22	1	1	5,6	6,7
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	7	6	10	6	7	1	0	10,5	5,4
Hunting or fishing for household use	4		3	4	5	0	0	10,4	10,4
Involvement in at least one activity	600	618	607	613	565	-48	-35	-7,8	-5,8
Employed	177	172	174	195	164	-30	-13	-15,7	-7,4
Unemployed	191	202	189	171	174	3	-17	1,8	-8,9
Not economically active	231	244	243	247	227	-20	-4	-8,2	-1,9

For all values of 10 000 or lower, the sample size is too small for reliable estimates. Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 1: 2024

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (concluded)									
	Jan-Mar 2023	Apr-Jun 2023	Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent
Limpopo									
Subsistence farming	348	301	252	234	354	119	6	50,8	1,7
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	535	494	520	471	393	-79	-142	-16,7	-26,6
Produce other goods for household use	3	4	3	1	10	9	7	812,0	239,0
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	26	34	25	20	34	14	8	70,4	32,0
Hunting or fishing for household use	2	3	1	1	2	1	0	167,2	-19,1
Involvement in at least one activity	705	663	647	579	640	61	-65	10,5	-9,2
Employed	222	203	197	195	216	20	-7	10,4	-3,0
Unemployed	161	140	149	122	132	10	-29	8,5	-18,1
Not economically active	322	320	301	262	292	30	-29	11,6	-9,1

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

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

Appendix 2

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	352	141	563	0,00
Employed	0,7	0,7	22	-184	227	0,84
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	0,9	1,0	56	-150	262	0,59
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,2	2,1	-100	-250	50	0,19
Agriculture	4,2	5,3	21	-52	94	0,57
Private households	3,4	3,6	44	-27	115	0,22
Unemployed	1,7	1,9	330	106	555	0,00
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-215	-426	-4	0,05
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	4,0	-1	-148	145	0,99
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	-214	-407	-21	0,03
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	0,8	0,1	1,7	0,03
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,7	-0,1	-0,6	0,4	0,74
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,1	1,2	0,01
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,7	205	47	362	0,01
Employed	1,0	1,0	46	-92	185	0,51
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,3	1,4	75	-53	203	0,25
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	3,4	3,5	-30	-118	59	0,51
Agriculture	7,0	7,2	8	-29	45	0,67
Private households	3,8	3,8	-7	-68	55	0,83
Unemployed	2,2	2,2	158	20	296	0,03
Not economically active	1,0	0,9	-139	-297	18	0,08
Discouraged work-seekers	4,4	4,2	39	-61	140	0,44
Other (not economically active)	1,0	1,0	-179	-324	-33	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,8	1,9	0,8	-0,3	1,8	0,14
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,0	1,0	0,1	-0,6	0,8	0,75
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,7	0,8	0,1	1,6	0,04

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	147	15	280	0,03
Employed	0,8	0,9	-25	-173	123	0,74
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,2	1,2	-19	-161	124	0,80
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,5	2,7	-70	-178	38	0,20
Agriculture	4,7	6,2	13	-45	71	0,66
Private households	7,2	7,2	51	16	86	0,01
Unemployed	1,9	2,1	172	26	318	0,02
Not economically active	1,2	1,2	-76	-208	56	0,26
Discouraged work-seekers	4,2	4,6	-41	-128	46	0,36
Other (not economically active)	1,2	1,2	-35	-156	86	0,57
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,9	0,9	0,0	2,0	0,06
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,9	-0,3	-1,0	0,4	0,45
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,5	-0,2	1,1	0,14

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	352	141	563	0,00
Employed	0,7	0,7	22	-184	227	0,84
Unemployed	1,7	1,9	330	106	555	0,00
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-215	-426	-4	0,05
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	0,8	0,1	1,7	0,03
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,7	-0,1	-0,6	0,4	0,74
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,1	1,2	0,01
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,7	269	73	465	0,01
Employed	0,8	0,9	-1	-194	192	0,99
Unemployed	1,9	2,0	270	52	489	0,02
Not economically active	1,0	1,0	-130	-326	66	0,19
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,6	0,8	-0,1	1,8	0,07
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,9	-0,1	-0,7	0,4	0,58
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,7	0,5	0,0	1,1	0,06
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,3	41	-19	102	0,18
Employed	1,7	1,8	5	-47	56	0,86
Unemployed	5,7	5,5	36	-12	85	0,14
Not economically active	2,1	2,1	-36	-97	25	0,24
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	5,1	1,3	-0,7	3,2	0,21
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,7	1,8	0,1	-1,4	1,5	0,93
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,3	1,1	-0,6	2,7	0,22

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,7	3,3	11	-32	53	0,62
Employed	3,1	3,8	4	-37	44	0,86
Unemployed	11,2	14,1	7	-15	28	0,53
Not economically active	3,7	4,7	-9	-51	34	0,69
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	11,0	13,6	0,9	-2,4	4,2	0,58
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,1	3,8	0,3	-3,6	4,1	0,90
Labour force participation rate	2,7	3,3	0,9	-3,2	4,9	0,66
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,4	1,5	31	-11	73	0,15
Employed	2,1	2,0	14	-37	66	0,58
Unemployed	16,9	16,3	17	-27	60	0,45
Not economically active	3,0	3,3	-40	-82	2	0,06
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	16,8	16,0	0,7	-1,5	3,0	0,52
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,1	2,0	0,7	-1,1	2,6	0,44
Labour force participation rate	1,4	1,5	1,4	-0,2	2,9	0,08

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	352	141	563	0,00
Employed	0,7	0,7	22	-184	227	0,84
Unemployed	1,7	1,9	330	106	555	0,00
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-215	-426	-4	0,05
Discouraged work-seekers	3,9	4,0	-1	-148	145	0,99
Other (not economically active)	0,9	0,9	-214	-407	-21	0,03
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,4	1,6	0,8	0,1	1,7	0,03
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,7	0,7	-0,1	-0,6	0,4	0,74
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,1	1,2	0,01
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,0	26	-35	88	0,40
Employed	1,6	1,5	-17	-95	62	0,68
Unemployed	6,7	7,1	43	-15	101	0,14
Not economically active	2,8	2,2	-8	-69	54	0,81
Discouraged work-seekers	13,1	12,4	-37	-86	12	0,14
Other (not economically active)	2,9	2,4	29	-37	95	0,38
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,1	6,5	1,1	-0,6	2,7	0,20
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,6	1,5	-0,6	-2,1	1,0	0,50
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,0	0,2	-1,0	1,5	0,67

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Western Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,5	1,4	58	14	102	0,01
Employed	2,8	2,2	29	-18	77	0,23
Unemployed	11,1	10,5	29	-5	63	0,10
Not economically active	4,1	2,6	-51	-95	-8	0,02
Discouraged work-seekers	14,8	14,5	-33	-75	10	0,14
Other (not economically active)	5,1	3,8	-19	-61	23	0,37
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,4	10,2	1,7	-1,1	4,5	0,24
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	2,2	1,4	-1,2	4,0	0,29
Labour force participation rate	2,5	1,4	2,9	0,5	5,4	0,02
Western Cape – City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	1,4	-32	-76	13	0,16
Employed	2,0	2,1	-46	-114	22	0,18
Unemployed	8,1	8,9	14	-32	61	0,55
Not economically active	4,0	3,4	44	-1	88	0,05
Discouraged work-seekers	29,1	25,5	-4	-28	19	0,72
Other (not economically active)	3,7	3,4	48	-7	104	0,09
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,3	8,1	1,0	-1,2	3,1	0,38
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,0	2,1	-1,6	-3,8	0,5	0,13
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,4	-1,3	-2,7	0,1	0,07

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,0	2,0	12	-77	100	0,80
Employed	3,0	3,6	-4	-91	83	0,93
Unemployed	3,8	4,3	15	-54	85	0,66
Not economically active	2,1	2,2	2	-86	90	0,96
Discouraged work-seekers	10,4	12,3	62	14	110	0,01
Other (not economically active)	2,2	2,5	-60	-145	26	0,17
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,1	3,8	0,5	-2,3	3,2	0,75
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,0	3,6	-0,2	-2,1	1,7	0,86
Labour force participation rate	2,0	2,0	0,1	-1,9	2,1	0,92
Eastern Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	2,9	-1	-80	78	0,98
Employed	4,9	6,0	-17	-99	66	0,69
Unemployed	4,1	5,1	16	-47	78	0,62
Not economically active	2,3	2,5	9	-69	88	0,82
Discouraged work-seekers	10,9	12,5	66	18	114	0,01
Other (not economically active)	2,3	3,1	-57	-134	21	0,15
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	4,9	1,1	-3,1	5,4	0,60
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,9	6,0	-0,6	-3,3	2,1	0,65
Labour force participation rate	2,6	2,9	-0,2	-2,7	2,4	0,90

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,2	3,8	-6	-31	18	0,60
Employed	4,9	4,3	-7	-26	11	0,43
Unemployed	5,9	10,2	1	-18	20	0,92
Not economically active	7,5	8,4	9	-16	33	0,49
Discouraged work-seekers	.	85,9	3	-2	8	0,25
Other (not economically active)	7,5	7,4	5	-17	28	0,63
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,9	8,0	0,8	-3,1	4,7	0,69
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,9	4,3	-1,5	-4,9	1,8	0,38
Labour force participation rate	3,2	3,8	-1,4	-5,8	2,9	0,52
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	5,1	3,7	19	-14	53	0,26
Employed	2,3	4,4	20	-2	43	0,07
Unemployed	14,1	11,5	-1	-25	23	0,92
Not economically active	6,4	5,0	-16	-49	18	0,36
Discouraged work-seekers	31,2	101,4	-7	-11	-3	0,00
Other (not economically active)	6,1	4,9	-9	-40	23	0,59
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,1	9,4	-1,5	-4,9	1,8	0,37
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,3	4,4	2,1	-0,3	4,7	0,09
Labour force participation rate	5,1	3,7	1,9	-1,8	5,7	0,31

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Northern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,5	4,3	15	-3	33	0,10
Employed	6,0	5,4	4	-18	27	0,71
Unemployed	8,7	7,1	11	-4	25	0,14
Not economically active	4,0	5,3	-13	-31	5	0,15
Discouraged work-seekers	10,9	10,4	-17	-27	-6	0,00
Other (not economically active)	5,2	4,4	3	-20	27	0,77
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,7	6,6	1,4	-1,9	4,7	0,40
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	6,0	5,4	0,4	-2,3	3,1	0,75
Labour force participation rate	3,5	4,3	1,6	-0,5	3,8	0,13
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	1,8	19	-31	69	0,45
Employed	2,5	2,2	0	-30	30	0,99
Unemployed	6,2	4,0	19	-30	68	0,45
Not economically active	3,4	2,9	-18	-68	32	0,48
Discouraged work-seekers	22,2	17,4	9	-22	39	0,58
Other (not economically active)	2,6	3,6	-26	-63	10	0,16
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	3,1	1,0	-2,1	4,0	0,52
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	2,2	0,0	-1,6	1,6	0,99
Labour force participation rate	2,2	1,8	1,0	-1,6	3,5	0,47

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Free State – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,5	2,4	19	-20	57	0,34
Employed	3,2	2,9	-11	-38	16	0,42
Unemployed	7,2	5,0	30	-10	70	0,14
Not economically active	4,0	4,0	-18	-56	21	0,37
Discouraged work-seekers	29,8	20,0	6	-19	32	0,62
Other (not economically active)	3,5	3,1	-24	-47	-2	0,04
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,7	3,7	2,7	-0,9	6,1	0,14
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,2	2,9	-0,8	-2,8	1,1	0,40
Labour force participation rate	2,5	2,4	1,3	-1,5	4,1	0,36
Free State – Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,3	2,0	0	-31	32	0,98
Employed	3,7	2,5	11	-2	25	0,10
Unemployed	12,3	5,0	-11	-41	19	0,47
Not economically active	6,1	2,8	0	-31	31	0,99
Discouraged work-seekers	33,6	31,7	2	-15	19	0,80
Other (not economically active)	2,1	9,9	-2	-31	27	0,88
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,1	4,3	-3,4	-9,8	3,1	0,30
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,7	2,5	2,0	-0,4	4,5	0,11
Labour force participation rate	4,3	2,0	0,0	-5,5	5,6	0,99

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	2,1	73	-52	199	0,25
Employed	2,2	2,1	35	-58	128	0,46
Unemployed	5,2	6,7	38	-71	147	0,49
Not economically active	2,4	2,5	-48	-173	78	0,46
Discouraged work-seekers	10,0	11,1	-19	-90	53	0,61
Other (not economically active)	2,7	2,6	-29	-142	83	0,61
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	5,2	0,4	-1,7	2,5	0,71
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,2	2,1	0,3	-0,9	1,6	0,59
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,1	0,7	-0,9	2,4	0,35
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,2	2,9	65	-48	177	0,26
Employed	3,7	3,1	26	-51	103	0,51
Unemployed	6,9	8,2	39	-56	134	0,42
Not economically active	3,1	3,0	-49	-162	63	0,39
Discouraged work-seekers	14,1	16,3	-49	-108	9	0,10
Other (not economically active)	3,5	3,3	0	-100	100	1,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,3	6,2	0,6	-2,2	3,5	0,65
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,7	3,1	0,4	-1,1	2,0	0,60
Labour force participation rate	3,2	2,9	1,2	-1,1	3,4	0,32

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	3,2	8	-48	65	0,77
Employed	1,8	2,6	9	-42	61	0,72
Unemployed	6,0	11,5	-1	-55	54	0,97
Not economically active	3,5	5,1	2	-55	58	0,95
Discouraged work-seekers	9,9	12,0	31	-9	71	0,13
Other (not economically active)	3,7	4,5	-29	-81	23	0,27
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,5	9,3	-0,1	-3,1	2,8	0,91
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,8	2,6	0,2	-1,8	2,1	0,86
Labour force participation rate	2,2	3,2	0,1	-2,0	2,2	0,94
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,0	3,7	17	-39	73	0,54
Employed	3,8	3,7	-13	-71	46	0,67
Unemployed	7,8	7,1	30	-41	101	0,41
Not economically active	3,5	4,3	-8	-64	48	0,78
Discouraged work-seekers	11,4	12,9	0	-55	55	1,00
Other (not economically active)	2,3	3,2	-8	-61	44	0,76
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,0	4,8	1,5	-2,5	5,6	0,45
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,8	3,7	-0,6	-2,7	1,5	0,60
Labour force participation rate	3,0	3,7	0,5	-1,6	2,4	0,67

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,1	1,0	90	-8	188	0,07
Employed	1,2	1,6	26	-93	146	0,66
Unemployed	3,1	3,3	63	-67	194	0,34
Not economically active	2,3	2,3	-47	-146	51	0,34
Discouraged work-seekers	8,5	9,4	32	-23	87	0,26
Other (not economically active)	2,4	2,1	-79	-179	20	0,12
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,5	2,9	0,4	-1,1	2,0	0,58
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,2	1,6	0,1	-1,0	1,1	0,91
Labour force participation rate	1,1	1,0	0,6	-0,3	1,4	0,22
Gauteng – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,6	5,1	-1	-46	43	0,95
Employed	2,7	4,7	-14	-54	25	0,48
Unemployed	9,5	10,7	13	-25	51	0,51
Not economically active	7,9	11,1	7	-37	52	0,75
Discouraged work-seekers	28,7	33,0	25	-9	58	0,15
Other (not economically active)	4,3	7,6	-17	-53	18	0,34
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,5	7,1	1,3	-1,9	4,5	0,42
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	4,7	-1,1	-3,8	1,5	0,40
Labour force participation rate	3,6	5,1	-0,3	-3,4	2,6	0,81

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,5	2,5	59	26	92	0,00
Employed	1,7	2,7	3	-46	51	0,91
Unemployed	7,1	5,6	56	7	106	0,03
Not economically active	4,3	4,6	-48	-82	-15	0,01
Discouraged work-seekers	11,2	11,3	-7	-35	22	0,64
Other (not economically active)	4,6	4,9	-42	-69	-14	0,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,1	4,3	2,1	-0,6	4,8	0,12
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,7	2,7	-0,1	-1,8	1,7	0,94
Labour force participation rate	2,5	2,5	1,9	0,7	3,0	0,00
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,0	1,3	28	-46	102	0,46
Employed	2,4	3,0	37	-52	127	0,41
Unemployed	4,8	5,2	-9	-113	94	0,86
Not economically active	4,4	2,8	-13	-87	61	0,74
Discouraged work-seekers	16,1	16,4	-3	-32	27	0,86
Other (not economically active)	5,0	3,2	-10	-96	76	0,82
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	5,3	-0,6	-3,9	2,6	0,69
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	3,0	0,7	-1,4	2,9	0,50
Labour force participation rate	2,0	1,3	0,4	-1,4	2,2	0,64

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Gauteng – City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,2	1,4	4	-32	40	0,83
Employed	2,5	3,2	1	-48	50	0,98
Unemployed	5,4	6,5	3	-47	53	0,90
Not economically active	3,0	3,5	6	-29	42	0,72
Discouraged work-seekers	22,7	20,7	17	0	33	0,05
Other (not economically active)	3,6	4,0	-10	-41	20	0,51
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	6,0	0,1	-2,3	2,5	0,94
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	3,2	-0,1	-1,9	1,6	0,87
Labour force participation rate	1,2	1,4	-0,1	-1,4	1,2	0,85
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	1,7	26	-27	78	0,34
Employed	3,0	3,2	-8	-74	58	0,81
Unemployed	4,6	5,2	34	-24	92	0,25
Not economically active	2,4	2,8	-15	-68	38	0,58
Discouraged work-seekers	6,7	7,3	8	-24	40	0,62
Other (not economically active)	2,6	3,2	-23	-77	31	0,40
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,5	4,9	1,3	-1,6	4,1	0,38
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,0	3,2	-0,4	-2,5	1,7	0,71
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,7	0,6	-1,1	2,3	0,48

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,8	2,1	74	1	147	0,05
Employed	2,1	2,1	-3	-65	59	0,92
Unemployed	6,2	6,0	77	22	132	0,01
Not economically active	3,2	2,6	-61	-134	12	0,10
Discouraged work-seekers	9,1	7,2	-40	-102	23	0,21
Other (not economically active)	2,6	3,1	-21	-90	48	0,55
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	4,6	2,4	0,4	4,6	0,02
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,1	2,1	-0,2	-1,8	1,4	0,80
Labour force participation rate	2,8	2,1	1,7	-0,2	3,5	0,07

Table 3.1A: Sampling variability for the employed by industry and sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Both sexes	0,7	0,7	22	-184	227	0,84
Agriculture	4,2	5,3	21	-52	94	0,57
Mining	5,8	6,2	9	-35	52	0,70
Manufacturing	3,2	3,3	99	10	187	0,03
Utilities	10,9	11,2	-17	-43	8	0,19
Construction	3,4	3,5	-106	-195	-18	0,02
Trade	1,8	2,0	109	-19	237	0,10
Transport	3,6	3,7	39	-37	115	0,31
Finance	2,4	2,3	-50	-174	74	0,43
Community and social services	1,9	1,8	-122	-249	5	0,06
Private households	3,4	3,6	44	-27	115	0,22
Women	1,0	1,0	46	-92	185	0,51
Agriculture	7,0	7,2	8	-29	45	0,67
Mining	9,8	12,6	8	-11	27	0,43
Manufacturing	5,6	5,3	65	7	123	0,03
Utilities	20,8	23,2	-2	-14	9	0,68
Construction	10,4	10,2	-2	-29	24	0,86
Trade	2,6	2,8	104	22	186	0,01
Transport	8,0	7,4	-10	-40	20	0,51
Finance	3,3	3,2	-89	-167	-11	0,03
Community and social services	2,1	1,9	-24	-117	69	0,61
Private households	3,8	3,8	-7	-68	55	0,83
Men	0,8	0,9	-25	-173	123	0,74
Agriculture	4,7	6,2	13	-45	71	0,66
Mining	6,2	6,4	1	-40	42	0,96
Manufacturing	3,9	3,5	34	-36	103	0,34
Utilities	12,7	13,9	-15	-35	6	0,15
Construction	3,5	3,6	-104	-188	-20	0,02
Trade	2,4	2,4	5	-80	90	0,91
Transport	4,0	4,4	49	-21	119	0,17
Finance	2,9	2,9	39	-53	132	0,40
Community and social services	3,0	3,0	-98	-175	-20	0,01
Private households	7,2	7,2	51	16	86	0,01

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
South Africa	0,7	0,7	22	-184	227	0,84
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	0,9	1,0	56	-150	262	0,59
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	2,2	2,1	-100	-250	50	0,19
Agriculture	4,2	5,3	21	-52	94	0,57
Private households	3,4	3,6	44	-27	115	0,22
Western Cape	1,6	1,5	-17	-95	62	0,68
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,8	2,4	-8	-106	90	0,87
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,8	7,9	1	-57	60	0,96
Agriculture	9,1	9,9	-19	-43	5	0,13
Private households	10,2	10,6	9	-16	35	0,48
Western Cape – Non-metro	2,8	2,2	29	-18	77	0,23
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6,4	4,6	6	-50	62	0,83
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	9,5	14,5	25	-16	66	0,23
Agriculture	9,3	10,1	-21	-44	2	0,07
Private households	10,5	12,6	19	0	39	0,05
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	2,0	2,1	-46	-114	22	0,18
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,9	2,8	-15	-98	69	0,73
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	9,8	9,5	-24	-66	18	0,26
Agriculture	37,6	44,5	2	-4	9	0,47
Private households	14,5	16,0	-10	-27	7	0,24
Eastern Cape	3,0	3,6	-4	-91	83	0,93
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,4	4,3	37	-44	118	0,37
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,8	8,0	-26	-66	14	0,20
Agriculture	14,0	15,7	3	-23	29	0,83
Private households	9,6	13,9	-18	-39	4	0,11
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	4,9	6,0	-17	-99	66	0,69
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6,0	7,9	14	-59	88	0,70
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,1	8,9	-17	-44	11	0,23
Agriculture	14,1	14,6	3	-22	28	0,83
Private households	12,0	15,7	-17	-35	0	0,05

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	4,9	4,3	-7	-26	11	0,43
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	7,0	6,5	3	-18	25	0,78
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	11,1	18,7	-15	-30	1	0,06
Agriculture	64,3	87,4	1	-5	7	0,77
Private households	32,1	37,3	3	-4	11	0,42
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	2,3	4,4	20	-2	43	0,07
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,9	4,7	20	-7	47	0,16
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	4,5	25,4	5	-19	29	0,68
Agriculture	86,1	103,3	-1	-2	1	0,25
Private households	15,9	33,1	-3	-13	7	0,51
Northern Cape	6,0	5,4	4	-18	27	0,71
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	9,6	8,2	4	-11	20	0,56
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	18,5	9,3	3	-7	12	0,59
Agriculture	10,6	18,9	-3	-27	20	0,77
Private households	13,8	19,4	1	-6	7	0,84
Free State	2,5	2,2	0	-30	30	0,99
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,6	4,6	-17	-48	15	0,29
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,0	7,9	5	-16	26	0,62
Agriculture	10,0	14,5	5	-21	31	0,70
Private households	10,5	10,4	7	-5	19	0,27
Free State – Non-metro	3,2	2,9	-11	-38	16	0,42
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,2	6,3	-11	-41	19	0,48
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,1	10,4	-7	-24	11	0,46
Agriculture	10,4	15,2	5	-21	31	0,70
Private households	12,5	10,4	1	-6	9	0,77
Free State – Mangaung	3,7	2,5	11	-2	25	0,10
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	6,6	6,2	-6	-16	4	0,22
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	11,1	10,8	12	1	23	0,04
Agriculture	37,6	24,7	0	-1	1	0,99
Private households	19,9	23,7	6	-4	15	0,24

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,2	2,1	35	-58	128	0,46
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,9	2,9	20	-78	117	0,69
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,1	5,1	-3	-53	47	0,90
Agriculture	13,2	15,3	-11	-34	13	0,36
Private households	9,4	7,4	29	2	57	0,04
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	3,7	3,1	26	-51	103	0,51
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,9	3,9	23	-49	95	0,53
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,3	6,8	-9	-53	35	0,70
Agriculture	13,8	15,7	-6	-29	16	0,58
Private households	13,3	10,2	18	-4	39	0,10
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	1,8	2,6	9	-42	61	0,72
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	3,3	4,2	-3	-68	61	0,92
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,6	7,6	6	-18	29	0,63
Agriculture	42,2	41,1	-4	-11	2	0,17
Private households	13,0	10,8	12	-6	29	0,19
North West	3,8	3,7	-13	-71	46	0,67
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,5	4,1	-7	-64	49	0,80
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	12,3	10,4	-16	-57	26	0,46
Agriculture	18,1	13,6	25	10	40	0,00
Private households	17,1	20,0	-15	-26	-3	0,02
Gauteng	1,2	1,6	26	-93	146	0,66
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	1,4	1,8	-17	-124	90	0,76
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	4,2	4,2	-6	-96	84	0,90
Agriculture	21,6	16,5	9	-6	23	0,23
Private households	6,6	7,5	40	-6	87	0,09
Gauteng – Non-metro	2,7	4,7	-14	-54	25	0,48
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,7	6,3	-6	-37	24	0,68
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,6	13,0	-12	-46	21	0,47
Agriculture	28,2	17,9	-1	-10	9	0,88
Private households	8,0	30,5	5	-15	25	0,63

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1,7	2,7	3	-46	51	0,91
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,8	2,8	13	-17	44	0,40
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	6,4	9,3	1	-36	38	0,96
Agriculture	58,4	63,5	0	-7	6	0,89
Private households	18,2	17,6	-11	-23	1	0,06
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	2,4	3,0	37	-52	127	0,41
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,3	3,6	-20	-105	65	0,64
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	8,2	6,6	8	-63	78	0,83
Agriculture	98,2	29,7	7	3	10	0,00
Private households	10,1	9,0	43	10	76	0,01
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	2,5	3,2	1	-48	50	0,98
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	2,7	3,5	-4	-53	46	0,89
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,6	6,0	-2	-24	20	0,85
Agriculture	43,7	39,8	3	-5	11	0,46
Private households	11,4	17,3	3	-20	27	0,78
Mpumalanga	3,0	3,2	-8	-74	58	0,81
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,4	4,5	-2	-73	70	0,97
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	7,2	6,6	-11	-55	33	0,62
Agriculture	8,6	10,6	18	2	35	0,03
Private households	9,9	9,9	-14	-36	9	0,23
Limpopo	2,1	2,1	-3	-65	59	0,92
Formal sector (non-agricultural)	4,3	3,1	46	-16	107	0,14
Informal sector (non-agricultural)	5,4	3,7	-47	-93	-1	0,05
Agriculture	10,7	23,3	-6	-46	35	0,78
Private households	8,3	8,2	4	-16	23	0,71

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
	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Both sexes	0,7	0,7	22	-184	227	0,84
Manager	3,2	3,0	-178	-257	-98	0,00
Professional	3,3	3,5	-112	-204	-20	0,02
Technician	3,4	2,8	149	50	248	0,00
Clerk	3,1	2,9	81	-24	185	0,13
Sales and services	2,2	2,2	-117	-237	4	0,06
Skilled agriculture	13,6	13,4	31	3	58	0,03
Craft and related trade	3,0	2,6	0	-103	102	0,99
Plant and machine operator	3,3	3,4	245	167	322	0,00
Elementary	1,9	1,9	-66	-231	98	0,43
Domestic worker	3,8	3,8	-7	-68	53	0,81
Women	1,0	1,0	46	-92	185	0,51
Manager	5,1	4,2	-40	-88	7	0,09
Professional	4,7	4,7	-56	-111	-2	0,04
Technician	4,2	3,9	93	26	160	0,01
Clerk	3,7	3,2	34	-52	120	0,44
Sales and services	2,9	3,0	-96	-174	-17	0,02
Skilled agriculture	22,0	28,6	-2	-15	10	0,69
Craft and related trade	8,1	7,0	37	-1	76	0,06
Plant and machine operator	10,3	7,8	46	16	77	0,00
Elementary	2,9	2,7	35	-66	135	0,50
Domestic worker	4,0	4,0	-4	-65	56	0,89
Men	0,8	0,9	-25	-173	123	0,74
Manager	3,6	3,5	-137	-202	-73	0,00
Professional	4,4	4,6	-55	-122	12	0,11
Technician	4,9	3,9	56	-8	119	0,08
Clerk	5,2	4,9	47	-9	103	0,10
Sales and services	2,9	2,9	-21	-100	58	0,60
Skilled agriculture	16,4	14,7	33	10	56	0,01
Craft and related trade	3,1	2,9	-38	-134	59	0,44
Plant and machine operator	3,3	3,4	199	125	272	0,00
Elementary	2,3	2,5	-101	-214	12	0,08
Domestic worker	14,2	16,5	-3	-18	11	0,67

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	846	569	1123	0,00
Employed	0,8	0,7	552	249	856	0,00
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,1	1,0	358	46	669	0,03
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,0	2,1	19	-148	187	0,82
Agriculture	5,4	5,3	54	-41	149	0,27
Private households	3,2	3,6	122	26	218	0,01
Unemployed	1,9	1,9	293	-6	592	0,06
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-291	-568	-14	0,04
Discouraged work-seekers	3,7	4,0	-229	-439	-19	0,03
Other (not economically active)	0,8	0,9	-62	-307	182	0,62
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,6	0,0	-1,0	1,2	0,91
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,7	0,8	0,1	1,6	0,03
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	1,3	0,6	1,9	0,00
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,7	530	337	723	0,00
Employed	1,1	1,0	375	182	568	0,00
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,6	1,4	216	30	403	0,02
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	3,2	3,5	74	-23	171	0,14
Agriculture	8,7	7,2	-1	-58	56	0,97
Private households	3,5	3,8	86	12	159	0,02
Unemployed	2,1	2,2	155	-23	334	0,09
Not economically active	1,0	0,9	-264	-457	-70	0,01
Discouraged work-seekers	4,1	4,2	-43	-180	94	0,53
Other (not economically active)	1,0	1,0	-220	-410	-31	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,8	1,9	-0,2	-1,7	1,1	0,69
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,1	1,0	1,4	0,4	2,3	0,01
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,7	1,8	0,9	2,8	0,00

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,6	316	112	520	0,00
Employed	0,9	0,9	178	-40	396	0,11
Formal sector (non-agriculture)	1,3	1,2	141	-73	355	0,20
Informal sector (non-agriculture)	2,5	2,7	-54	-191	82	0,43
Agriculture	4,9	6,2	55	-25	134	0,18
Private households	6,7	7,2	36	-22	94	0,22
Unemployed	2,2	2,1	138	-58	333	0,17
Not economically active	1,2	1,2	-27	-231	177	0,79
Discouraged work-seekers	4,3	4,6	-185	-315	-56	0,01
Other (not economically active)	1,2	1,2	158	-6	322	0,06
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,9	1,9	0,3	-1,1	1,7	0,66
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,9	0,9	0,3	-0,8	1,3	0,67
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,6	0,6	-0,4	1,6	0,22

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	846	569	1123	0,00
Employed	0,8	0,7	552	249	856	0,00
Unemployed	1,9	1,9	293	-6	592	0,06
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-291	-568	-14	0,04
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,6	0,0	-1,0	1,2	0,91
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,7	0,8	0,1	1,6	0,03
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	1,3	0,6	1,9	0,00
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,7	877	628	1126	0,00
Employed	0,9	0,9	611	331	891	0,00
Unemployed	2,0	2,0	265	-15	545	0,06
Not economically active	1,0	1,0	-314	-563	-65	0,01
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,6	1,6	-0,3	-1,6	1,0	0,64
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,9	0,9	1,2	0,4	2,0	0,01
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,7	1,6	0,9	2,4	0,00
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,0	1,3	-19	-87	48	0,58
Employed	1,9	1,8	-27	-101	47	0,47
Unemployed	7,0	5,5	8	-56	72	0,81
Not economically active	1,7	2,1	40	-27	108	0,24
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,6	5,1	0,6	-2,1	3,2	0,69
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,9	1,8	-1,0	-3,1	1,0	0,32
Labour force participation rate	1,0	1,3	-0,9	-2,8	1,0	0,35

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,4	3,3	-16	-64	33	0,52
Employed	2,8	3,8	-3	-52	46	0,90
Unemployed	12,2	14,1	-13	-46	21	0,45
Not economically active	3,7	4,7	24	-25	73	0,33
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	11,6	13,6	-1,7	-6,8	3,4	0,51
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	3,8	-0,7	-5,4	4,0	0,77
Labour force participation rate	2,4	3,3	-2,0	-6,6	2,7	0,40
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,4	1,5	4	-68	76	0,92
Employed	2,0	2,0	-29	-118	60	0,53
Unemployed	13,1	16,3	32	-36	101	0,35
Not economically active	3,0	3,3	-41	-113	31	0,26
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	13,4	16,0	1,7	-1,8	5,2	0,35
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,0	2,0	-0,2	-3,4	3,0	0,91
Labour force participation rate	1,4	1,5	1,1	-1,5	3,6	0,42

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	846	569	1123	0,00
Employed	0,8	0,7	552	249	856	0,00
Unemployed	1,9	1,9	293	-6	592	0,06
Not economically active	0,9	0,9	-291	-568	-14	0,04
Discouraged work-seekers	3,7	4,0	-229	-439	-19	0,03
Other (not economically active)	0,8	0,9	-62	-307	182	0,62
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	1,5	1,6	0,0	-1,0	1,2	0,91
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	0,8	0,7	0,8	0,1	1,6	0,03
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	1,3	0,6	1,9	0,00
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,0	98	16	180	0,02
Employed	2,1	1,5	82	-57	222	0,25
Unemployed	6,6	7,1	15	-93	124	0,78
Not economically active	2,7	2,2	-21	-103	61	0,62
Discouraged work-seekers	11,0	12,4	2	-29	33	0,90
Other (not economically active)	2,6	2,4	-23	-102	56	0,57
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,4	6,5	-0,2	-3,4	3,1	0,92
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,1	1,5	0,8	-2,0	3,6	0,56
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,0	0,9	-0,8	2,6	0,28

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Western Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,7	1,4	36	-7	78	0,10
Employed	2,4	2,2	45	-12	103	0,12
Unemployed	12,4	10,5	-10	-57	37	0,68
Not economically active	3,2	2,6	-8	-50	34	0,71
Discouraged work-seekers	10,8	14,5	3	-18	24	0,76
Other (not economically active)	3,5	3,8	-11	-60	37	0,65
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	11,5	10,2	-1,4	-5,3	2,6	0,50
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	2,2	1,7	-1,5	4,9	0,30
Labour force participation rate	1,7	1,4	1,0	-1,4	3,3	0,41
Western Cape – City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,7	1,4	62	-15	139	0,11
Employed	2,9	2,1	37	-94	168	0,58
Unemployed	7,8	8,9	25	-74	124	0,62
Not economically active	4,1	3,4	-13	-90	64	0,74
Discouraged work-seekers	27,7	25,5	-1	-24	22	0,92
Other (not economically active)	3,6	3,4	-12	-83	59	0,74
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,7	8,1	0,5	-4,1	5,0	0,84
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,9	2,1	0,3	-3,8	4,5	0,88
Labour force participation rate	1,7	1,4	0,8	-1,6	3,3	0,49

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,6	2,0	-35	-139	69	0,51
Employed	2,7	3,6	-77	-183	29	0,15
Unemployed	4,7	4,3	42	-56	140	0,40
Not economically active	1,8	2,2	91	-14	195	0,09
Discouraged work-seekers	11,9	12,3	82	25	138	0,01
Other (not economically active)	2,1	2,5	9	-97	114	0,87
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	3,8	2,4	-1,3	6,1	0,20
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,7	3,6	-2,1	-4,4	0,3	0,08
Labour force participation rate	1,6	2,0	-1,4	-3,7	0,9	0,23
Eastern Cape – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,3	2,9	15	-77	107	0,75
Employed	4,1	6,0	-30	-128	68	0,55
Unemployed	5,5	5,1	45	-30	120	0,24
Not economically active	2,0	2,5	19	-74	111	0,69
Discouraged work-seekers	13,8	12,5	98	42	154	0,00
Other (not economically active)	2,4	3,1	-80	-174	15	0,10
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,5	4,9	2,6	-2,5	7,8	0,31
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,1	6,0	-1,2	-4,4	1,9	0,44
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,9	0,1	-3,0	3,0	0,99

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,6	3,8	15	-16	46	0,33
Employed	4,4	4,3	-12	-27	3	0,13
Unemployed	10,0	10,2	27	-8	63	0,13
Not economically active	5,2	8,4	-7	-38	24	0,66
Discouraged work-seekers	44,0	85,9	-2	-8	5	0,62
Other (not economically active)	5,2	7,4	-5	-33	23	0,70
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	9,5	8,0	6,0	-1,2	13,3	0,10
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	4,4	4,3	-2,8	-5,7	-0,1	0,04
Labour force participation rate	2,6	3,8	1,8	-3,8	7,4	0,54
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,0	3,7	-65	-106	-25	0,00
Employed	5,3	4,4	-35	-76	5	0,09
Unemployed	12,1	11,5	-30	-81	21	0,25
Not economically active	5,9	5,0	79	39	120	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	12,9	101,4	-15	-17	-12	0,00
Other (not economically active)	6,0	4,9	94	53	134	0,00
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,6	9,4	-1,5	-9,3	6,3	0,70
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,3	4,4	-4,7	-9,3	0,0	0,05
Labour force participation rate	3,0	3,7	-8,4	-13,0	-3,8	0,00

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Northern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,3	4,3	0	-32	31	0,98
Employed	5,0	5,4	-8	-28	12	0,42
Unemployed	7,2	7,1	8	-15	31	0,51
Not economically active	4,1	5,3	8	-24	39	0,64
Discouraged work-seekers	10,7	10,4	-12	-30	6	0,20
Other (not economically active)	3,8	4,4	20	-5	44	0,12
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,6	6,6	1,7	-2,0	5,4	0,36
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,0	5,4	-1,3	-3,7	1,1	0,28
Labour force participation rate	3,3	4,3	-0,6	-4,3	3,2	0,78
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,5	1,8	-6	-59	46	0,81
Employed	2,3	2,2	-48	-86	-10	0,01
Unemployed	5,1	4,0	41	-3	86	0,07
Not economically active	2,4	2,9	12	-40	64	0,65
Discouraged work-seekers	13,8	17,4	44	0	88	0,05
Other (not economically active)	2,2	3,6	-32	-81	16	0,19
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,4	3,1	3,6	0,8	6,5	0,01
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,3	2,2	-2,6	-4,5	-0,6	0,01
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,8	-0,5	-3,2	2,2	0,71

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Free State – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,9	2,4	18	-33	70	0,48
Employed	2,8	2,9	-36	-67	-5	0,02
Unemployed	6,6	5,0	54	16	93	0,01
Not economically active	3,1	4,0	-14	-66	37	0,58
Discouraged work-seekers	23,4	20,0	30	2	57	0,04
Other (not economically active)	2,8	3,1	-44	-80	-8	0,02
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,5	3,7	5,5	2,4	8,5	0,00
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,8	2,9	-2,7	-5,0	-0,5	0,02
Labour force participation rate	1,9	2,4	1,1	-2,6	4,9	0,54
Free State – Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,7	2,0	-25	-33	-16	0,00
Employed	3,8	2,5	-12	-34	11	0,31
Unemployed	6,7	5,0	-13	-36	10	0,27
Not economically active	3,0	2,8	26	18	35	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	9,2	31,7	15	-20	49	0,40
Other (not economically active)	3,1	9,9	12	-21	44	0,48
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,8	4,3	-1,6	-8,1	5,0	0,64
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,8	2,5	-2,2	-6,3	1,8	0,28
Labour force participation rate	1,7	2,0	-4,6	-6,1	-3,1	0,00

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,1	2,1	370	211	529	0,00
Employed	2,4	2,1	297	166	427	0,00
Unemployed	6,4	6,7	73	-61	208	0,28
Not economically active	2,1	2,5	-266	-425	-107	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	8,0	11,1	-204	-329	-80	0,00
Other (not economically active)	2,8	2,6	-62	-203	79	0,39
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,2	5,2	-1,0	-3,8	1,8	0,49
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,4	2,1	3,4	1,7	5,2	0,00
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,1	4,1	2,1	6,3	0,00
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,4	2,9	252	128	376	0,00
Employed	3,3	3,1	244	160	328	0,00
Unemployed	7,9	8,2	8	-105	122	0,89
Not economically active	2,9	3,0	-190	-314	-66	0,00
Discouraged work-seekers	11,2	16,3	-181	-280	-81	0,00
Other (not economically active)	3,6	3,3	-9	-125	106	0,87
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,5	6,2	-3,6	-7,1	0,0	0,05
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,3	3,1	4,5	2,9	6,3	0,00
Labour force participation rate	3,4	2,9	4,5	2,0	7,1	0,00

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,8	3,2	118	11	225	0,03
Employed	3,5	2,6	52	-51	156	0,32
Unemployed	9,5	11,5	65	-8	138	0,08
Not economically active	2,4	5,1	-76	-183	31	0,16
Discouraged work-seekers	7,3	12,0	-24	-98	50	0,53
Other (not economically active)	4,2	4,5	-52	-141	36	0,24
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	10,1	9,3	2,6	-1,7	6,9	0,23
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,5	2,6	1,3	-2,7	5,2	0,53
Labour force participation rate	1,8	3,2	3,5	-0,5	7,5	0,09
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,7	3,7	96	-23	215	0,11
Employed	5,3	3,7	22	-82	127	0,68
Unemployed	9,2	7,1	74	-24	172	0,14
Not economically active	3,9	4,3	-58	-177	61	0,34
Discouraged work-seekers	9,2	12,9	-54	-118	9	0,09
Other (not economically active)	3,7	3,2	-4	-103	95	0,94
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	7,7	4,8	2,5	-3,2	8,2	0,39
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	5,3	3,7	0,3	-3,4	4,1	0,85
Labour force participation rate	3,7	3,7	2,8	-1,5	7,0	0,21

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,1	1,0	100	-34	234	0,14
Employed	1,4	1,6	76	-103	256	0,40
Unemployed	2,9	3,3	24	-160	208	0,80
Not economically active	2,3	2,3	71	-63	205	0,30
Discouraged work-seekers	10,9	9,4	-48	-158	61	0,39
Other (not economically active)	2,2	2,1	120	-21	261	0,10
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	2,4	2,9	-0,1	-2,4	2,1	0,90
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,4	1,6	0,0	-1,6	1,6	0,99
Labour force participation rate	1,1	1,0	-0,1	-1,4	1,1	0,80
Gauteng – Non-metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	3,1	5,1	17	-49	84	0,61
Employed	3,6	4,7	5	-65	75	0,89
Unemployed	8,7	10,7	12	-74	99	0,78
Not economically active	6,7	11,1	7	-60	73	0,85
Discouraged work-seekers	27,0	33,0	-6	-78	66	0,87
Other (not economically active)	5,1	7,6	13	-43	68	0,65
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	6,6	7,1	0,5	-6,8	7,8	0,89
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,6	4,7	-0,3	-5,0	4,4	0,89
Labour force participation rate	3,1	5,1	0,1	-4,4	4,5	0,98

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,3	2,5	69	3	134	0,04
Employed	1,9	2,7	58	-14	129	0,11
Unemployed	5,6	5,6	11	-45	67	0,70
Not economically active	3,9	4,6	-25	-90	40	0,45
Discouraged work-seekers	15,2	11,3	-26	-75	23	0,30
Other (not economically active)	4,1	4,9	1	-86	87	0,98
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,0	4,3	-0,6	-3,6	2,3	0,66
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,9	2,7	1,4	-1,1	3,9	0,28
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,5	1,5	-0,9	3,8	0,22
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,0	1,3	9	-64	82	0,80
Employed	3,1	3,0	13	-116	141	0,85
Unemployed	5,2	5,2	-3	-128	121	0,96
Not economically active	4,7	2,8	53	-20	126	0,15
Discouraged work-seekers	25,5	16,4	-14	-75	46	0,65
Other (not economically active)	4,4	3,2	67	-7	142	0,08
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,8	5,3	-0,2	-4,4	4,0	0,92
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	3,1	3,0	-0,4	-3,5	2,7	0,80
Labour force participation rate	2,0	1,3	-0,8	-2,6	1,0	0,36

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Gauteng – City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,5	1,4	5	-62	72	0,88
Employed	1,5	3,2	1	-75	76	0,98
Unemployed	5,0	6,5	4	-82	90	0,93
Not economically active	3,9	3,5	37	-30	104	0,28
Discouraged work-seekers	20,2	20,7	-2	-31	27	0,89
Other (not economically active)	3,7	4,0	39	-28	106	0,26
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	3,9	6,0	0,1	-3,8	4,0	0,95
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	1,5	3,2	-0,7	-3,4	2,1	0,63
Labour force participation rate	1,5	1,4	-0,9	-3,4	1,5	0,46
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	1,4	1,7	91	21	161	0,01
Employed	2,5	3,2	101	26	175	0,01
Unemployed	4,9	5,2	-10	-62	42	0,71
Not economically active	2,1	2,8	-47	-117	23	0,19
Discouraged work-seekers	6,1	7,3	-26	-72	20	0,27
Other (not economically active)	2,2	3,2	-21	-82	40	0,49
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	4,2	4,9	-2,3	-5,0	0,4	0,09
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,5	3,2	2,6	0,3	5,1	0,03
Labour force participation rate	1,4	1,7	2,0	-0,2	4,3	0,07

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour Force	2,5	2,1	132	29	235	0,01
Employed	2,9	2,1	107	35	179	0,00
Unemployed	6,3	6,0	25	-51	102	0,52
Not economically active	2,8	2,6	-80	-183	23	0,13
Discouraged work-seekers	9,5	7,2	-12	-82	58	0,74
Other (not economically active)	2,4	3,1	-68	-153	17	0,12
Rates (%)						
Unemployment rate	5,0	4,6	-0,9	-3,6	1,8	0,53
Employed/population ratio (absorption)	2,9	2,1	2,2	0,4	4,0	0,02
Labour force participation rate	2,5	2,1	2,6	0,0	5,2	0,05

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Both sexes	0,8	0,7	552	249	856	0,00
Agriculture	5,4	5,3	54	-41	149	0,27
Mining	8,0	6,2	42	-35	119	0,29
Manufacturing	3,1	3,3	-48	-169	73	0,43
Utilities	11,7	11,2	-30	-65	6	0,10
Construction	3,3	3,5	15	-93	123	0,79
Trade	2,2	2,0	202	11	393	0,04
Transport	3,7	3,7	69	-36	175	0,20
Finance	2,4	2,3	247	101	392	0,00
Community and social services	1,9	1,8	-111	-287	65	0,22
Private households	3,2	3,6	122	26	218	0,01
Women	1,1	1,0	375	182	568	0,00
Agriculture	8,7	7,2	-1	-58	56	0,97
Mining	14,9	12,6	8	-16	33	0,50
Manufacturing	5,2	5,3	3	-66	72	0,94
Utilities	24,3	23,2	-3	-22	16	0,79
Construction	8,8	10,2	-23	-63	16	0,25
Trade	2,7	2,8	156	35	277	0,01
Transport	9,1	7,4	3	-40	45	0,91
Finance	3,4	3,2	87	-5	179	0,06
Community and social services	2,3	1,9	65	-69	199	0,34
Private households	3,5	3,8	86	12	159	0,02
Men	0,9	0,9	178	-40	396	0,11
Agriculture	4,9	6,2	55	-25	134	0,18
Mining	8,2	6,4	33	-37	103	0,35
Manufacturing	3,6	3,5	-51	-149	48	0,31
Utilities	11,5	13,9	-27	-56	2	0,07
Construction	3,4	3,6	38	-61	137	0,45
Trade	3,0	2,4	46	-81	174	0,48
Transport	3,9	4,4	67	-27	161	0,16
Finance	2,7	2,9	159	45	274	0,01
Community and social services	2,8	3,0	-176	-290	-62	0,00
Private households	6,7	7,2	36	-22	94	0,22

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
South Africa	0,8	0,7	552	249	856	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1,1	1,0	358	46	669	0,03
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,0	2,1	19	-148	187	0,82
Agriculture	5,4	5,3	54	-41	149	0,27
Private households	3,2	3,6	122	26	218	0,01
Western Cape	2,1	1,5	82	-57	222	0,25
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,4	2,4	5	-144	153	0,95
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,2	7,9	65	-5	134	0,07
Agriculture	6,5	9,9	-36	-74	2	0,07
Private households	9,7	10,6	48	15	82	0,01
Western Cape – Non-metro	2,4	2,2	45	-12	103	0,12
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,3	4,6	36	-40	112	0,36
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	11,2	14,5	19	-24	62	0,39
Agriculture	6,7	10,1	-33	-69	4	0,08
Private households	14,8	12,6	23	-2	48	0,07
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	2,9	2,1	37	-94	168	0,58
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,2	2,8	-31	-163	102	0,65
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,3	9,5	46	-9	101	0,10
Agriculture	34,1	44,5	-3	-16	10	0,65
Private households	13,0	16,0	25	4	47	0,02
Eastern Cape	2,7	3,6	-77	-183	29	0,15
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,6	4,3	3	-98	104	0,95
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,1	8,0	-84	-132	-37	0,00
Agriculture	14,3	15,7	9	-36	54	0,68
Private households	7,8	13,9	-5	-25	15	0,62
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	4,1	6,0	-30	-128	68	0,55
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,2	7,9	-8	-93	77	0,85
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,4	8,9	-24	-60	12	0,19
Agriculture	15,4	14,6	6	-37	48	0,79
Private households	10,6	15,7	-4	-15	8	0,55

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	4,4	4,3	-12	-27	3	0,13
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,1	6,5	0	-32	33	0,98
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	12,9	18,7	-20	-44	3	0,09
Agriculture	48,3	87,4	6	-8	20	0,41
Private households	20,6	37,3	2	-6	10	0,64
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	5,3	4,4	-35	-76	5	0,09
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,1	4,7	11	-34	55	0,64
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,5	25,4	-40	-59	-21	0,00
Agriculture	56,5	103,3	-2	-6	1	0,20
Private households	13,4	33,1	-3	-17	10	0,61
Northern Cape	5,0	5,4	-8	-28	12	0,42
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,2	8,2	-29	-55	-3	0,03
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	19,8	9,3	8	-6	22	0,28
Agriculture	14,0	18,9	14	0	27	0,05
Private households	16,3	19,4	0	-12	11	0,95
Free State	2,3	2,2	-48	-86	-10	0,01
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,8	4,6	-50	-103	3	0,07
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,2	7,9	-3	-35	30	0,86
Agriculture	8,9	14,5	-3	-25	19	0,78
Private households	8,7	10,4	8	-8	24	0,30
Free State – Non-metro	2,8	2,9	-36	-67	-5	0,02
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,4	6,3	-31	-80	18	0,21
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,9	10,4	-5	-32	23	0,74
Agriculture	8,7	15,2	-4	-26	18	0,71
Private households	9,3	10,4	4	-8	16	0,49
Free State – Mangaung	3,8	2,5	-12	-34	11	0,31
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,4	6,2	-19	-39	2	0,07
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	11,9	10,8	2	-16	20	0,85
Agriculture	76,5	24,7	1	-2	4	0,58
Private households	19,4	23,7	4	-6	15	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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,4	2,1	297	166	427	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,1	2,9	118	-30	265	0,12
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,4	5,1	150	70	230	0,00
Agriculture	19,3	15,3	-1	-49	48	0,98
Private households	7,4	7,4	29	-8	67	0,13
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	3,3	3,1	244	160	328	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,3	3,9	116	29	203	0,01
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	8,0	6,8	103	41	165	0,00
Agriculture	20,2	15,7	2	-46	50	0,93
Private households	11,9	10,2	23	-8	54	0,15
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	3,5	2,6	52	-51	156	0,32
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,3	4,2	2	-119	123	0,98
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,3	7,6	47	-3	98	0,07
Agriculture	23,0	41,1	-3	-7	1	0,14
Private households	7,6	10,8	6	-14	27	0,54
North West	5,3	3,7	22	-82	127	0,68
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,2	4,1	10	-80	100	0,82
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,6	10,4	-21	-66	25	0,37
Agriculture	18,6	13,6	32	9	56	0,01
Private households	14,1	20,0	0	-29	30	0,98
Gauteng	1,4	1,6	76	-103	256	0,40
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,0	1,8	159	-21	338	0,08
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,0	4,2	-141	-222	-60	0,00
Agriculture	15,6	16,5	15	-1	31	0,07
Private households	6,6	7,5	44	-21	108	0,19
Gauteng – Non-metro	3,6	4,7	5	-65	75	0,89
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3,9	6,3	9	-53	72	0,77
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	10,4	13,0	5	-27	38	0,74
Agriculture	19,3	17,9	4	-5	13	0,34
Private households	16,2	30,5	-14	-43	15	0,35

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	1,9	2,7	58	-14	129	0,11
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,7	2,8	95	41	149	0,00
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5,8	9,3	-39	-84	6	0,09
Agriculture	46,7	63,5	-1	-6	4	0,72
Private households	11,1	17,6	3	-12	18	0,71
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	3,1	3,0	13	-116	141	0,85
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,6	3,6	41	-101	184	0,57
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7,1	6,6	-80	-128	-31	0,00
Agriculture	10,0	29,7	6	1	11	0,01
Private households	13,7	9,0	45	4	85	0,03
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	1,5	3,2	1	-75	76	0,98
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2,5	3,5	13	-59	85	0,73
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	9,2	6,0	-27	-63	8	0,13
Agriculture	33,7	39,8	5	-6	16	0,35
Private households	9,7	17,3	10	-29	49	0,61
Mpumalanga	2,5	3,2	101	26	175	0,01
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,0	4,5	60	-2	122	0,06
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,4	6,6	17	-32	67	0,49
Agriculture	10,4	10,6	24	-8	56	0,14
Private households	10,8	9,9	0	-29	28	0,98
Limpopo	2,9	2,1	107	35	179	0,00
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4,7	3,1	82	16	149	0,02
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6,4	3,7	28	-20	75	0,26
Agriculture	23,3	23,3	-1	-25	23	0,95
Private households	10,6	8,2	-2	-19	15	0,81

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
	Jan-Mar 2023	Jan-Mar 2024				
Both sexes	0,8	0,7	552	249	856	0,00
Manager	3,0	3,0	-53	-161	56	0,34
Professional	3,9	3,5	11	-119	141	0,87
Technician	3,1	2,8	114	-5	233	0,06
Clerk	2,9	2,9	61	-73	194	0,37
Sales and services	2,0	2,2	40	-113	193	0,61
Skilled agriculture	13,4	13,4	26	-4	56	0,10
Craft and related trade	2,9	2,6	-31	-155	92	0,62
Plant and machine operator	3,4	3,4	294	173	414	0,00
Elementary	2,2	1,9	21	-177	220	0,83
Domestic worker	3,2	3,8	72	-2	147	0,06
Women	1,1	1,0	375	182	568	0,00
Manager	4,9	4,2	37	-17	92	0,18
Professional	5,6	4,7	80	-2	162	0,05
Technician	3,9	3,9	25	-66	116	0,59
Clerk	3,3	3,2	11	-94	116	0,84
Sales and services	2,7	3,0	26	-82	134	0,64
Skilled agriculture	33,8	28,6	8	-5	21	0,24
Craft and related trade	8,1	7,0	4	-42	51	0,85
Plant and machine operator	8,9	7,8	29	-7	65	0,11
Elementary	3,1	2,7	79	-47	204	0,22
Domestic worker	3,5	4,0	78	6	150	0,04
Men	0,9	0,9	178	-40	396	0,11
Manager	3,6	3,5	-90	-174	-6	0,04
Professional	4,5	4,6	-69	-153	14	0,10
Technician	5,1	3,9	90	4	175	0,04
Clerk	4,9	4,9	50	-22	122	0,17
Sales and services	2,7	2,9	14	-84	112	0,78
Skilled agriculture	13,8	14,7	18	-9	45	0,18
Craft and related trade	2,9	2,9	-36	-150	79	0,54
Plant and machine operator	3,6	3,4	264	152	377	0,00
Elementary	2,7	2,5	-57	-201	86	0,43
Domestic worker	13,8	16,5	-6	-25	13	0,56