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Quarterly Labour Force Survey

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1. Introduction

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household-based sample survey conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). It collects data on the labour market activities of individuals aged 15 years and older who live in South Africa. However, this report only covers labour market activities of persons aged 15–64 years. The QLFS questionnaire was revised in Q3: 2025 in order to adhere to the most recent international labour statistics standards. These standards required additional questions and review of some questions based on the latest International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) resolutions (*i.e. 19th ICLS on Statistics on work, employment and labour underutilisation, 20th ICLS on Statistics on work relationships as well as 21st ICLS on statistics on informal economy*).

This report presents key findings of the QLFS conducted from April to June 2026 (Q2: 2026) based on the Q3: 2025 updated questionnaire. These updates are part of Stats SA's ongoing efforts to ensure that South Africa's labour statistics remain relevant and internationally comparable. While these revisions strengthen how certain aspects of the labour market are captured, they do not affect the measurement or definition of employment and unemployment. Therefore, headline unemployment figures remain comparable and consistent with previous quarters. The report now includes other labour underutilisation indicators in addition to unemployment, primarily because unemployment is not the only measure of labour underutilisation. The concept of the Not Economically Active population has been changed to "Outside the Labour Force" with additional terms on "Potential labour force". The definitions of the formal/informal sector and formal/informal employment have undergone significant revisions; as a result, the Q2:2026 estimates on informality cannot be compared with the previous estimates other than the results of Q3:2025, Q4:2025 and Q1:2026. (Please refer to concepts and definitions on page 16).

2. Highlights of the results

Table A: Key labour market indicators

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Thousand					%	
Population 15-64 years	41 822	42 189	42 310	121	488	0,3	1,2
Labour Force	25 174	24 891	25 220	329	46	1,3	0,2
Employed	16 807	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Formal sector*		12 113	12 073	-41		-0,3	
Informal sector*		3 540	3 574	34		1,0	
Household sector	1 106	1 101	1 092	-9	-14	-0,8	-1,3
Unemployed	8 367	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Outside the Labour Force	16 648	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
Potential Labour Force	4 299	4 851	4 571	-280	272	-5,8	6,3
Available job-seekers	4 280	4 802	4 527	-276	246	-5,7	5,8
Discouraged job-seekers	3 445	3 893	3 665	-227	221	-5,8	6,4
Other (available job-seekers)	836	910	861	-49	26	-5,3	3,1
Unavailable job-seekers	19	49	44	-4	25	-8,6	134,0
Other (Outside the labour force)	12 348	12 447	12 519	72	171	0,6	1,4
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)							
Labour force participation rate	60,2	59,0	59,6	0,6	-0,6		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	40,2	39,7	39,6	-0,1	-0,6		
Inactivity rate	39,8	41,0	40,4	-0,6	0,6		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)							
LU1- Unemployment rate	33,2	32,7	33,6	0,9	0,4		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	36,1	35,9	36,6	0,7	0,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	43,0	43,7	43,8	0,1	0,8		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	45,4	46,3	46,3	0,0	0,9		

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

** Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution*

on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

The working-age population grew by 121 000 (0,3%) in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the previous quarter. During the same period, the number of employed individuals decreased by 16 000 to 16,7 million, while the number of unemployed persons grew by 345 000 to reach 8,5 million. Consequently, the labour force increased by 329 000 (1,3%) between the first quarter of 2026 and the second quarter of 2026. Employment in the formal and household sectors declined by 41 000 and 9 000 persons respectively, while the informal sector grew by 34 000.

Between Q1: 2026 and Q2: 2026, the number of persons outside the labour force decreased by 208 000 (1,2%) to 17,1 million. This drop was driven by a loss of 280 000 among those classified as potential labour force. The number of available job-seekers declined by 276 000 (5,7%), and unavailable job-seekers declined by 4 000, leading to a net decrease of 280 000 in the potential labour force. Among available job-seekers, discouraged work-seekers decreased by 227 000 (5,8%), and other available job-seekers decreased by 49 000, resulting in an overall decrease of 276 000 in this category.

A decrease in employment and an increase in unemployment resulted in an increase of 0,9 of a percentage point in the unemployment rate to 33,6% in the second quarter of 2026. The labour force participation rate increased by 0,6 of a percentage point to 59,6%, while the absorption rate decreased by 0,1 of a percentage point to 39,6% between Q1: 2026 and Q2: 2026.

In addition to the unemployment rate (LU1), other indicators of labour underutilisation were measured: the combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment (LU2), as well as the combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (LU3). The analysis also looked at the composite measure of labour underutilisation (LU4) that combines unemployment, time-related underemployment, and potential labour force. It is crucial that these indicators are understood as complementary and that they highlight persons in different situations with different degrees of attachment to the labour market.

The combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment (LU2) was recorded at 36,6% and the combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (LU3) stood at 43,8% in the second quarter of 2026. The labour underutilisation rate (which is the composite measure of labour underutilisation) remained unchanged at 46,3% compared with Q1: 2026, but it increased by 0,9 of a percentage point in Q2:2026 compared with the same quarter of the previous year.

Compared with Q2: 2025, the working-age population increased by 488 000 (or 1,2%). Total employment decreased by 68 000 persons (or 0,4%), while the number of unemployed persons increased by 114 000 (or 1,4%), and the number of persons who were outside the labour force increased by 442 000 (or 2,7%) during the same period.

3. Employment

Figure 1: Quarter-to-quarter changes in employment, Q2: 2021 to Q2: 2026

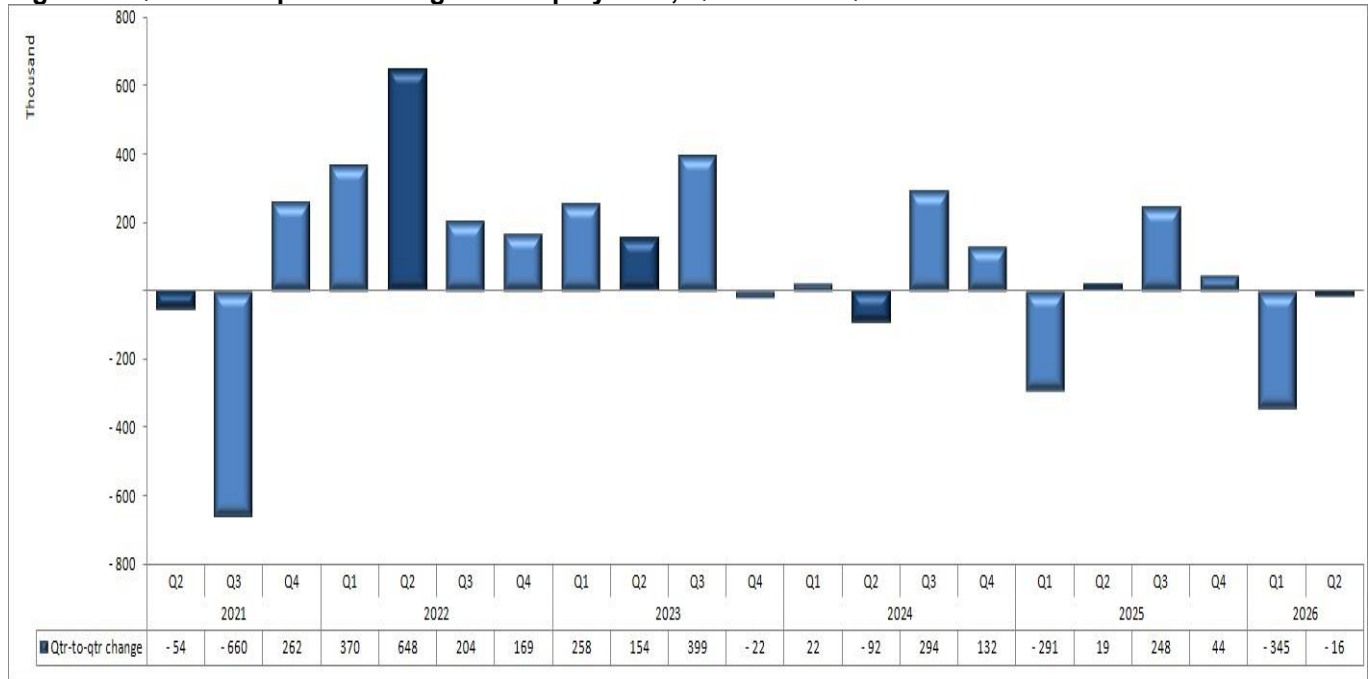


Figure 1 shows that following a decrease of 345 000 in the previous quarter, employment decreased by 16 000 in the second quarter of 2026. Employment has fluctuated in the second quarter of each year since the survey's inception.

Table B: Employment by industry

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	Qtr-to-Qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-Qtr change	Year-on-year change
Industry	Thousand						
Total*	16 807	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Agriculture	906	960	944	-15	39	-1,6	4,3
Mining	434	476	450	-26	16	-5,5	3,8
Manufacturing	1 672	1 587	1 571	-15	-100	-1,0	-6,0
Utilities	139	113	103	-10	-36	-8,9	-26,1
Construction	1 259	1 314	1 354	39	94	3,0	7,5
Trade	3 315	3 320	3 389	70	74	2,1	2,2
Transport	1 115	1 111	1 108	-2	-7	-0,2	-0,6
Finance	2 983	2 939	2 950	11	-33	0,4	-1,1
Community and social services	3 872	3 828	3 771	-57	-101	-1,5	-2,6
Private households	1 106	1 101	1 092	-9	-14	-0,8	-1,3

*Note: Total includes 'Other' industries.

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

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

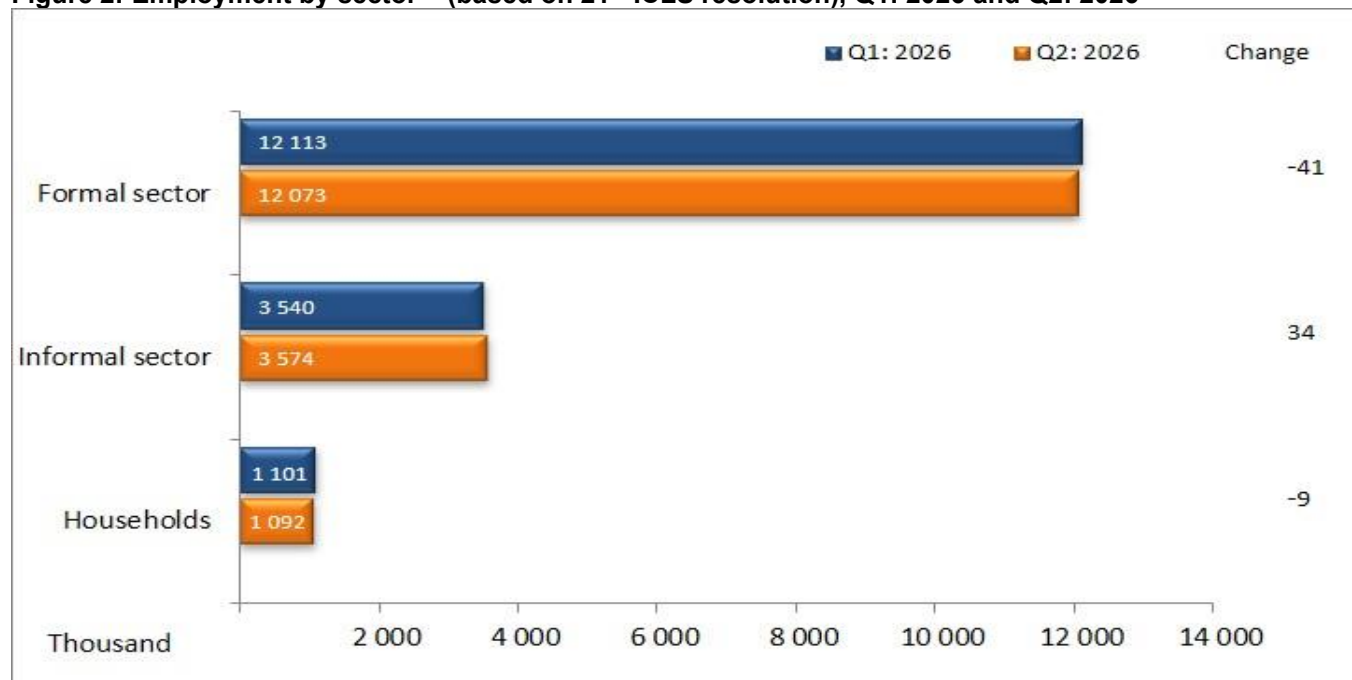
Trade refers to wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants.

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

Table B shows that between Q1: 2026 and Q2: 2026, the number of employed persons decreased in seven of the ten industries. The largest decreases in employment were recorded in the Community and social services industry (57 000), followed by the Mining (26 000), Agriculture and Manufacturing (15 000 each) and Utilities (10 000) industries. Increases in employment were recorded in Trade (70 000), followed by the Construction (39 000) and Finance (11 000) industries.

Compared with the same period last year, a net decrease of 68 000 in total employment was largely due to decreases in the number of persons employed in the Community and social services (101 000), Manufacturing (100 000), Utilities (36 000) and Finance (33 000) industries. Gains in employment were recorded in Construction (94 000), followed by the Trade (74 000), Agriculture (39 000) and Mining (16 000) industries.

Figure 2: Employment by sector – (based on 21st ICLS resolution), Q1: 2026 and Q2: 2026



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

** Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.*

Figure 2 illustrates the results of Q1: 2026 and Q2: 2026 employment by sector based on the 21st ICLS resolution which recommends the three sector categories, namely the formal sector (including Agriculture), informal sector (including Agriculture) and households' sector. Between Q1: 2026 and Q2: 2026, employment in the informal sector increased by 34 000 persons, while the formal and households sectors decreased by 41 000 and 9 000 persons, respectively.

Table C: Employment by occupation

Occupation	Apr-Jun 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	Qtr-to-Qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-Qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand					%	
Total*	16 807	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Manager	1 507	1 499	1 459	-40	-49	-2,7	-3,2
Professional	983	950	916	-34	-67	-3,6	-6,8
Technician	1 565	1 484	1 460	-25	-105	-1,7	-6,7
Clerk	1 813	1 791	1 788	-3	-26	-0,2	-1,4
Sales and services	2 875	2 934	3 037	103	162	3,5	5,6
Skilled agriculture	47	95	81	-13	34	-14,0	72,9
Craft and related trade	1 858	1 851	1 930	78	71	4,2	3,8
Plant and machine operator	1 396	1 459	1 381	-78	-15	-5,3	-1,1
Elementary	3 923	3 844	3 846	2	-77	0,0	-2,0
Domestic worker	839	844	831	-14	-8	-1,6	-1,0

*Note: Total includes 'Other' occupations.

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

Seven out of ten occupational categories recorded employment losses in Q2: 2026 compared with Q1: 2026. Decreases in employment were observed in Plant and machine operators occupations (78 000), followed by Managers (40 000), Professionals (34 000), Technicians (25 000), Domestic workers (14 000), Skilled agriculture (13 000) and Clerical (3 000) occupations. During the same period, employment gains were recorded in Sales and services occupations (103 000), followed by Craft and related trade (78 000) and Elementary (2 000) occupations.

Year-on-year losses in employment were mainly driven by Technician occupations (105 000), followed by Elementary (77 000), Professional (67 000) and Managerial (49 000) occupations. Gains in employment were recorded among Sales and services (162 000), Craft and related trade (71 000) and Skilled agriculture (34 000) occupations.

Table D: Employment by province

Province	Apr-Jun 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	Qtr-to-Qtr change	Year-on-year change	Qtr-to-Qtr change	Year-on-year change
	Thousand					%	
South Africa	16 807	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Western Cape	2 744	2 883	2 835	-48	91	-1,7	3,3
Eastern Cape	1 462	1 333	1 346	13	-116	1,0	-7,9
Northern Cape	314	308	309	1	-5	0,4	-1,5
Free State	766	760	769	9	3	1,2	0,4
KwaZulu-Natal	2 702	2 722	2 725	3	22	0,1	0,8
North West	895	894	878	-15	-17	-1,7	-1,8
Gauteng	5 186	5 116	5 094	-22	-92	-0,4	-1,8
Mpumalanga	1 223	1 229	1 270	41	47	3,3	3,9
Limpopo	1 515	1 509	1 512	3	-3	0,2	-0,2

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

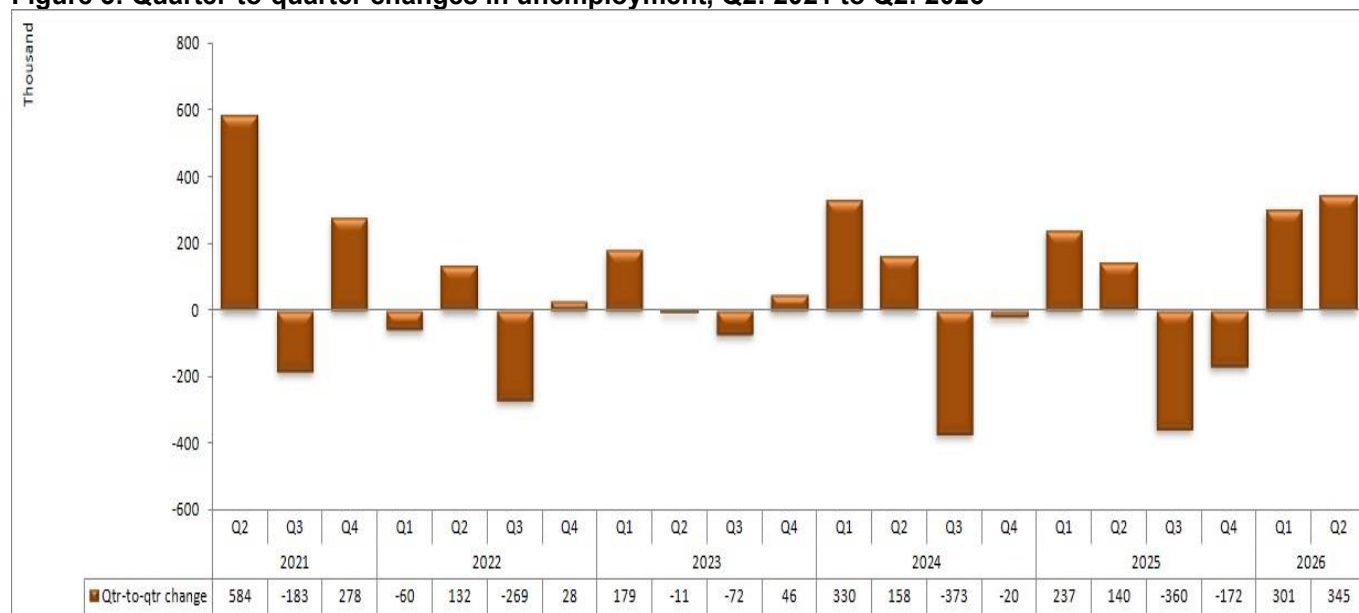
Table D shows that the number of employed persons decreased in three provinces between Q1: 2026 and Q2: 2026. Employment losses were recorded in Western Cape (48 000), Gauteng (22 000) and North West (15 000). During the same period, the largest employment gains were recorded in Mpumalanga (41 000), Eastern Cape (13 000) and Free State (9 000).

Compared with Q2: 2025, the largest decreases in employment were recorded in Eastern Cape (116 000), followed by Gauteng (92 000) and North West (17 000). Increases in employment were recorded in Western Cape (91 000), Mpumalanga (47 000), KwaZulu-Natal (22 000) and Free State (3 000).

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

4.1 Unemployment

Figure 3: Quarter-to-quarter changes in unemployment, Q2: 2021 to Q2: 2026



The number of unemployed persons increased by 345 000 in Q2: 2026 following an increase of 301 000 in the previous quarter. Notably, Figure 3 shows that unemployment increased in the second quarter of each year, except for the decrease observed in 2023.

Figure 4a: Unemployment rate by education level, Q1: 2026 and Q2: 2026

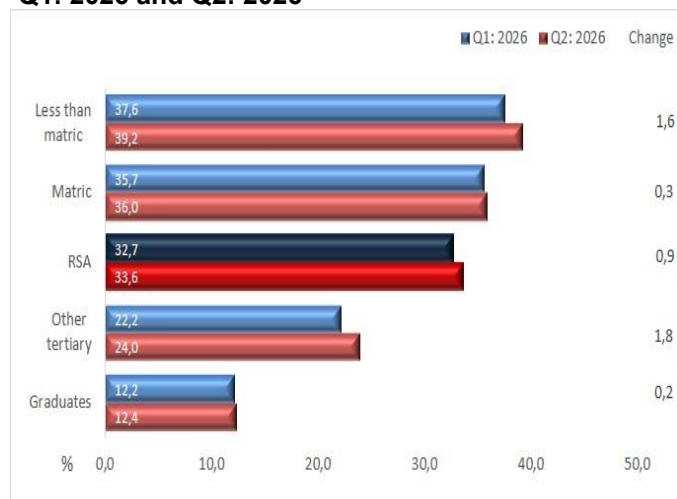
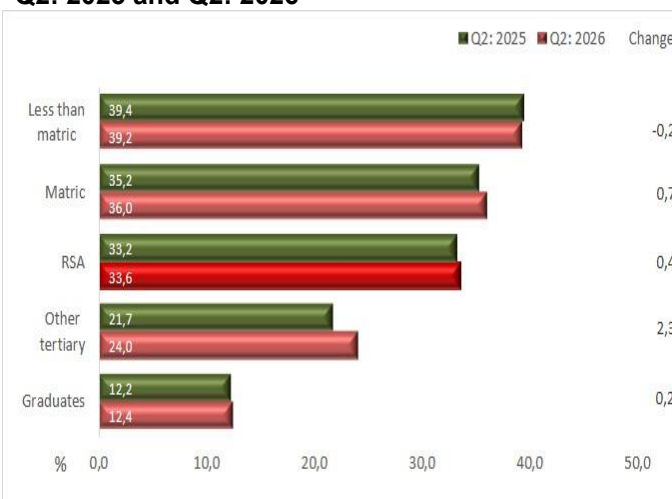


Figure 4b: Unemployment rate by education level, Q2: 2025 and Q2: 2026



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

Figures 4a and 4b shows that in Q2: 2026, individuals without matric recorded an unemployment rate of 39,2% (up by 1,6 percentage points), while graduates had a rate of 12,4% (up by 0,2 of a percentage point) compared with the previous quarter. Unemployment rates for those with matric and less than matric exceeded the national rate, whereas individuals with other tertiary qualifications and graduates had rates below the national unemployment rate. Year-on-year comparisons indicated that the unemployment rate decreased among those without matric but increased among matriculants, graduates, and those with other tertiary education levels.

Table E: Unemployment rate by province

	Official unemployment rate					Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (LU3)				
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	Qtr-to-Qtr change	Year-on-year change	Apr-Jun 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	Qtr-to-Qtr change	Year-on-year change
	%			Percentage points		%			Percentage points	
South Africa	33,2	32,7	33,6	0,9	0,4	43,0	43,7	43,8	0,1	0,8
Western Cape	21,1	19,6	19,5	-0,1	-1,6	27,0	24,8	26,1	1,3	-0,9
Eastern Cape	39,5	44,6	47,5	2,9	8,0	47,7	54,4	54,1	-0,3	6,4
Northern Cape	32,7	30,4	28,7	-1,7	-4,0	47,0	47,0	47,1	0,1	0,1
Free State	38,5	37,8	37,3	-0,5	-1,2	43,8	44,3	44,0	-0,3	0,2
KwaZulu-Natal	33,4	31,2	32,5	1,3	-0,9	47,9	47,2	47,8	0,6	-0,1
North West	40,1	35,3	38,1	2,8	-2,0	54,7	54,8	56,0	1,2	1,3
Gauteng	33,8	34,1	34,6	0,5	0,8	39,2	40,6	40,5	-0,1	1,3
Mpumalanga	34,0	36,3	36,6	0,3	2,6	48,4	49,6	48,3	-1,3	-0,1
Limpopo	35,0	31,7	32,0	0,3	-3,0	47,7	47,0	46,7	-0,3	-1,0

The official unemployment rate increased by 0,9 of a percentage point to 33,6% in Q2: 2026 compared with Q1: 2026. The official unemployment rate increased in six of the nine provinces. The largest increases were recorded in Eastern Cape (2,9 percentage points), followed by North West (2,8 percentage points) and KwaZulu-Natal (1,3 percentage points). Decreases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Northern Cape (1,7 percentage points), Free State (0,5 of a percentage point) and Western Cape (0,1 of a percentage point).

Year-on-year, the official unemployment rate increased by 0,4 of a percentage point. Increases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Eastern Cape (8,0 percentage points), followed by Mpumalanga (2,6 percentage points) and Gauteng (0,8 of a percentage point). The largest decreases in the unemployment rate were recorded in Northern Cape (4,0 percentage points), Limpopo (3,0 percentage points) and North West (2,0 percentage points).

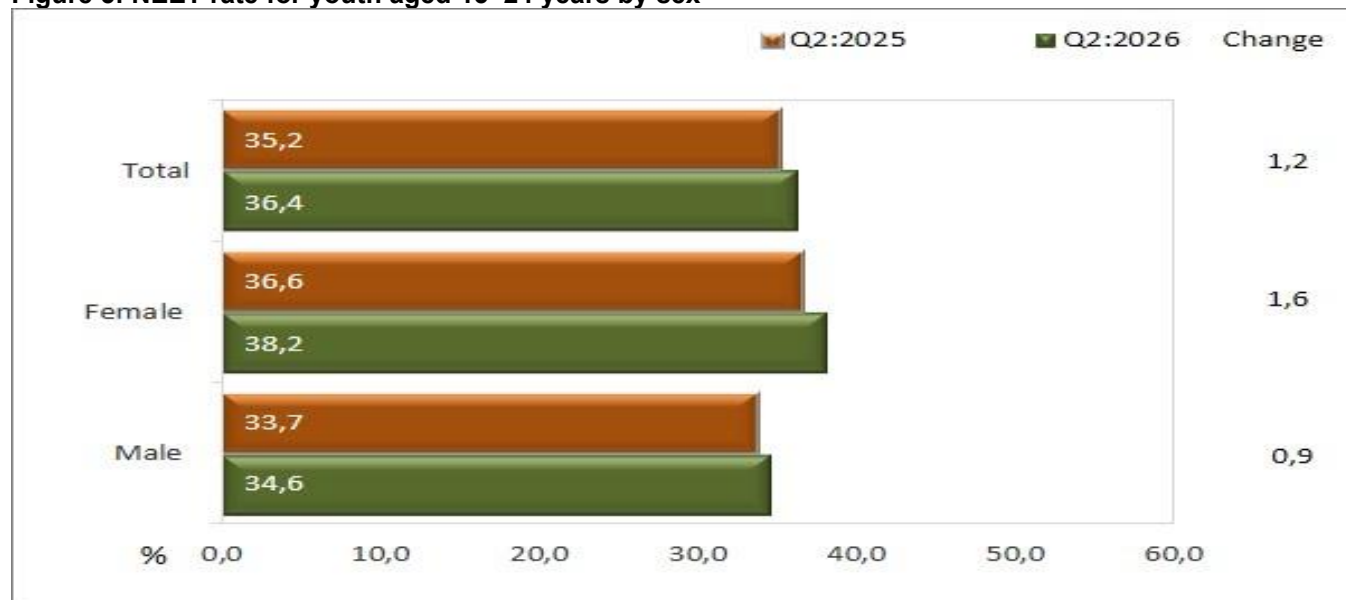
The combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force increased by 0,1 of a percentage point in Q2: 2026 compared with Q1: 2026. Increases were recorded in Western Cape (1,3 percentage points), followed by North West (1,2 percentage points), KwaZulu-Natal (0,6 of a percentage point) and Northern Cape (0,1 of a percentage point). Decreases were observed in Mpumalanga (1,3 percentage points), followed by Eastern Cape, Free State and Limpopo (0,3 of a percentage point each) and Gauteng (0,1 of a percentage point).

Compared with the same period last year, the combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force increased by 0,8 of a percentage point in Q2: 2026. Increases in the combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force were recorded in Eastern Cape (6,4 percentage points), followed by North West and Gauteng (1,3 percentage points each), Free State (0,2 of a percentage point) and Northern Cape (0,1 of a percentage point). Decreases in the combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force were recorded in Limpopo (1,0 percentage point), Western Cape (0,9 of a percentage point), KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga (0,1 of a percentage point each).

4.2 Not in employment, education or training (NEET)

Some young persons 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 persons.

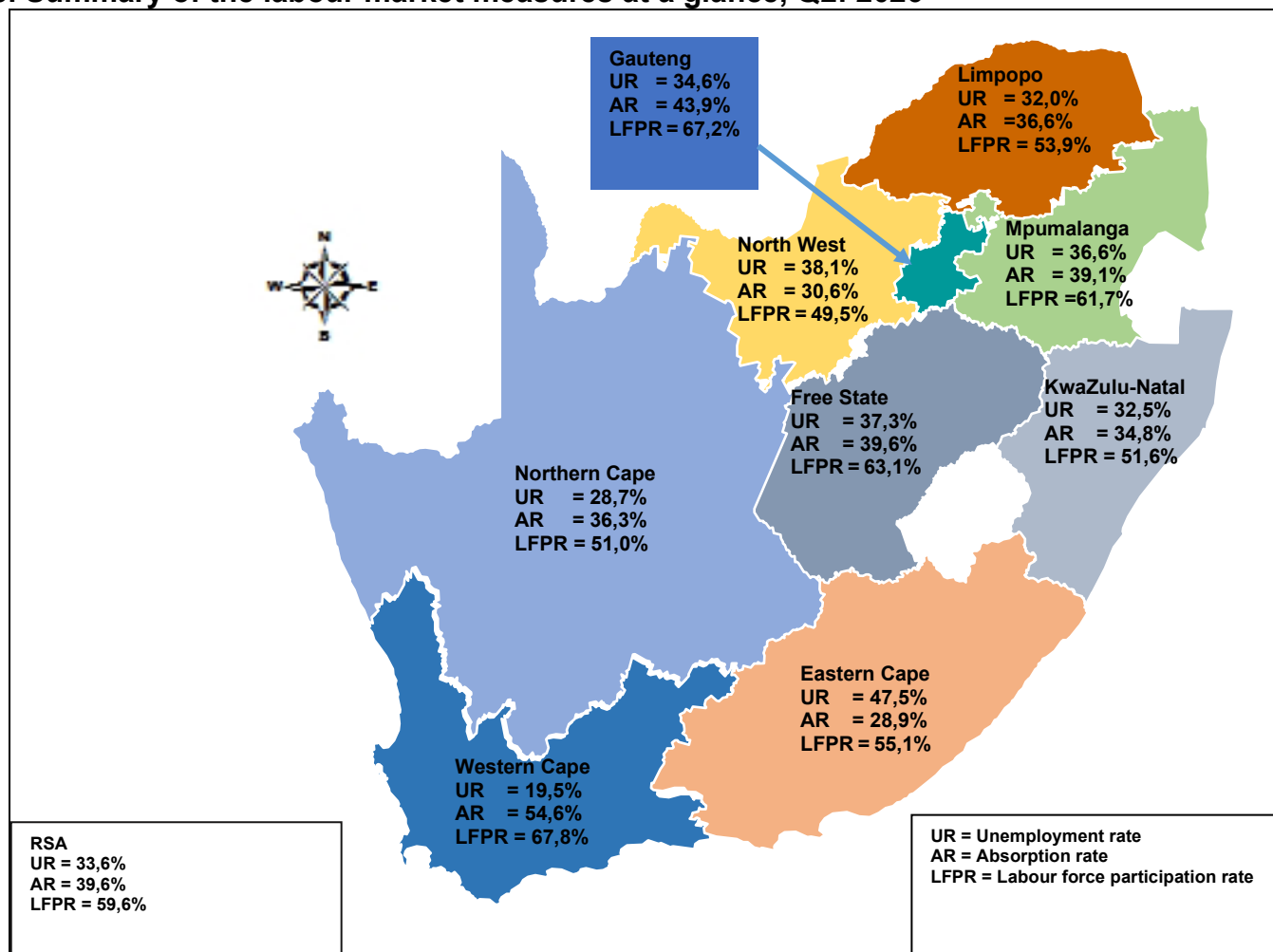
Figure 5: NEET rate for youth aged 15–24 years by sex



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

There were about 10,4 million young persons aged 15–24 years in Q2: 2026, of which 36,4% were not in employment, education or training. This is 1,2 percentage points higher than the NEET rate in Q2: 2025. In this age group, the NEET rate for females increased by 1,6 percentage points and the rate for males increased by 0,9 of a percentage point. The NEET rate for females was higher than that of their male counterparts in both years.

5. Summary of the labour market measures at a glance, Q2: 2026

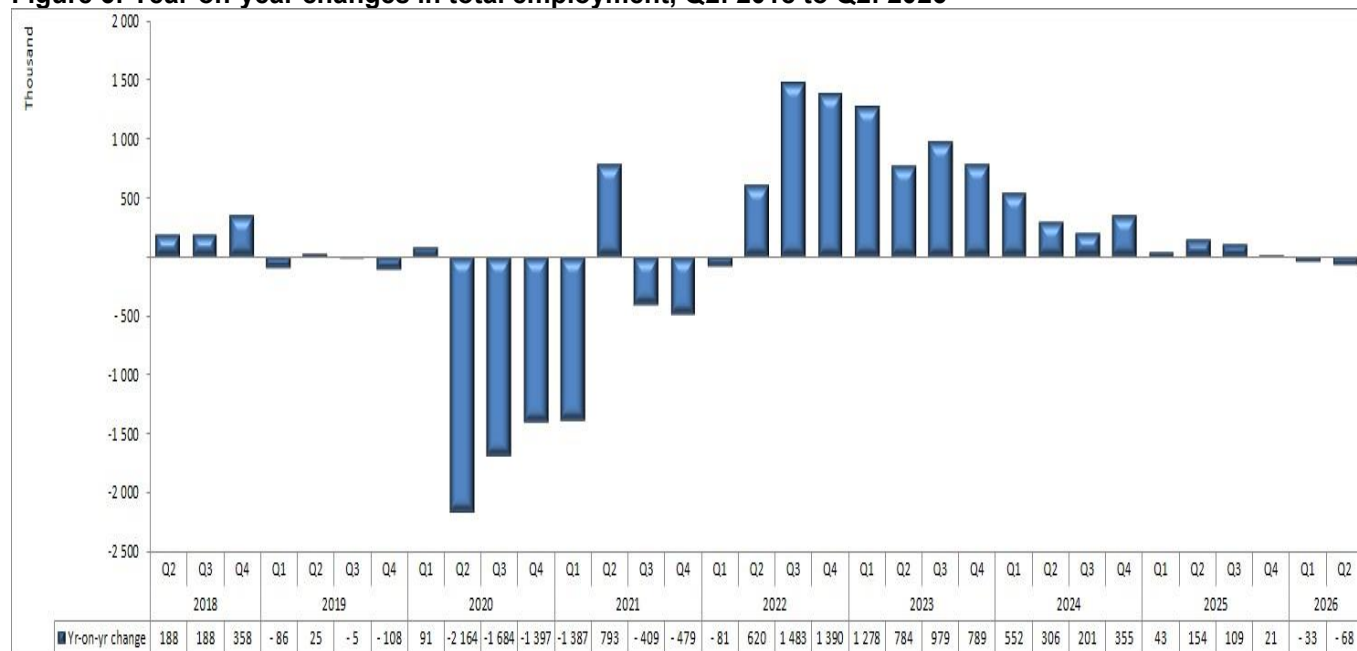


Risenga Maluleke
 Statistician-General

6. Other labour market trends

6.1 Year-on-year changes

Figure 6: Year-on-year changes in total employment, Q2: 2018 to Q2: 2026



6.2 Trends in the unemployment rate

Figure 7: Unemployment rate by sex, Q2: 2018 to Q2: 2026

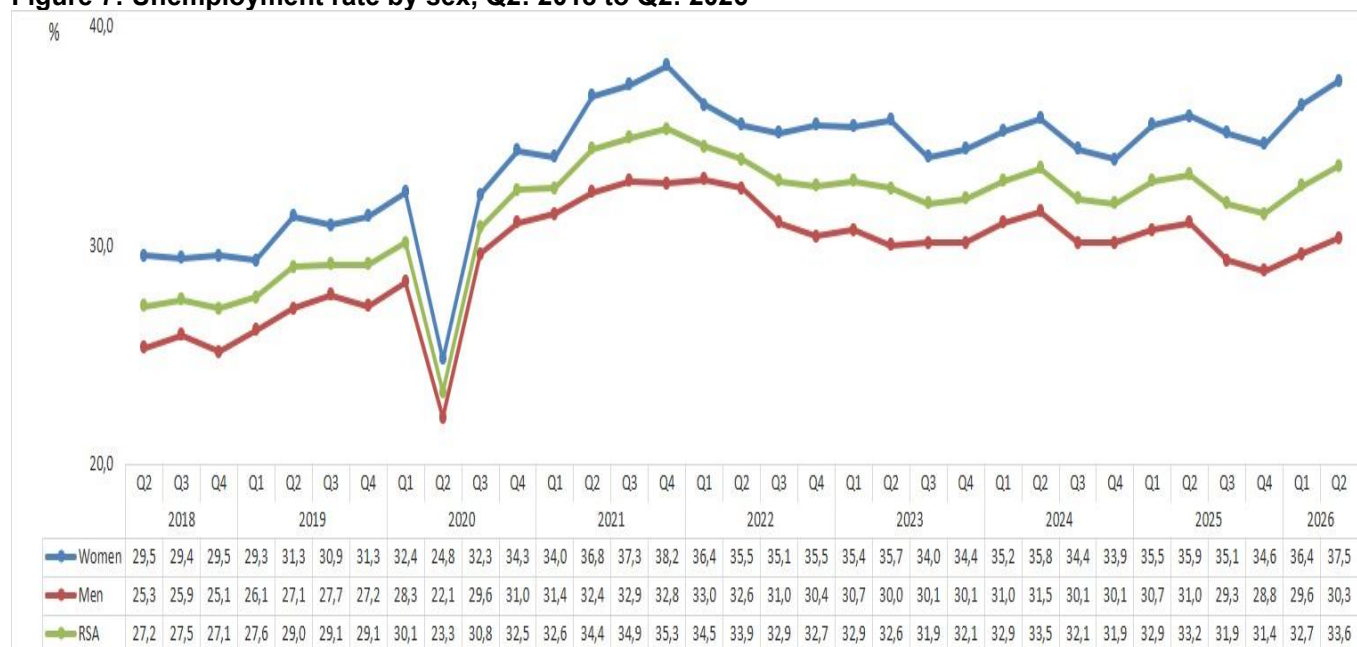
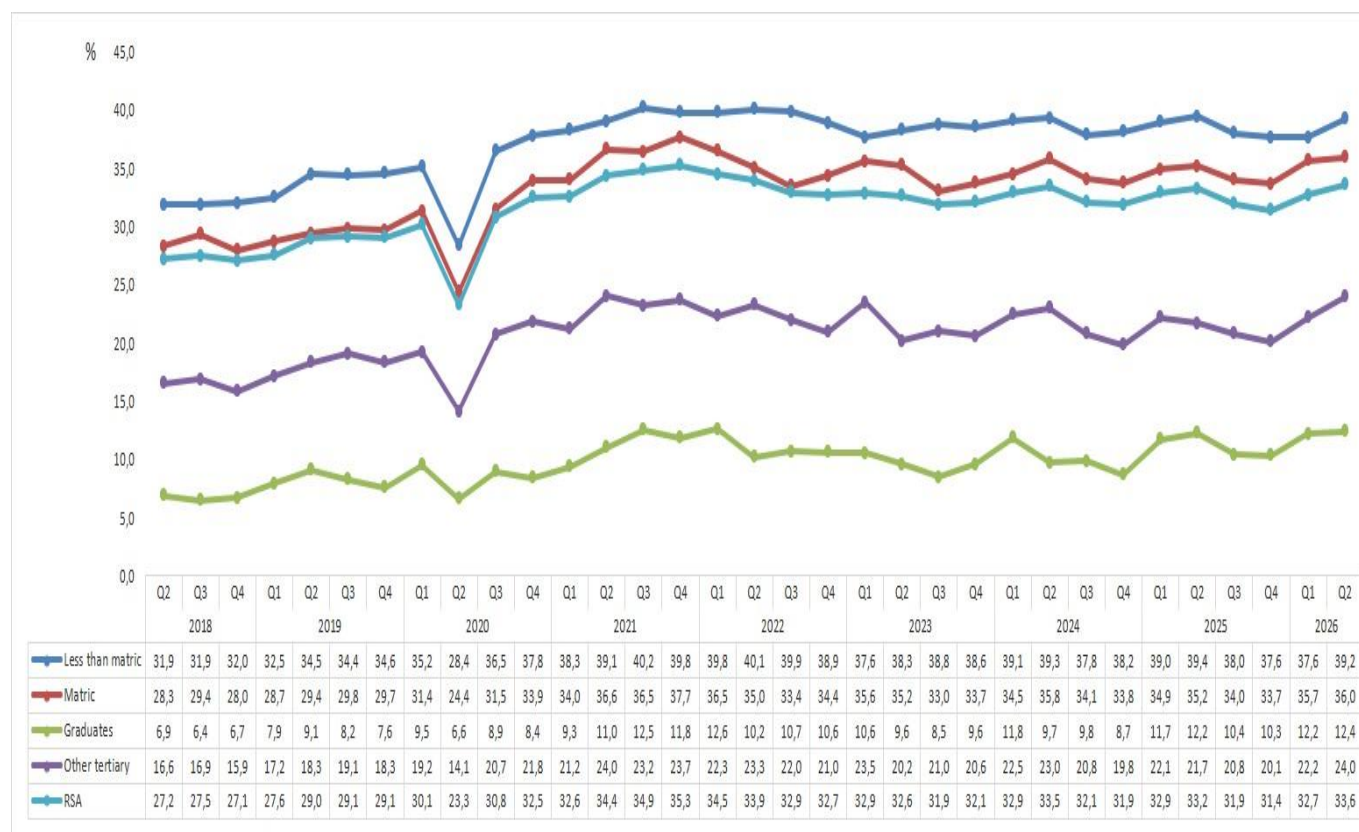


Figure 8: Unemployment rate by education status, Q2: 2018 to Q2: 2026

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 which 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 which collects information from non-agricultural businesses and organisations from approximately 20 000 units. Numerous conceptual and methodological differences between the household- and enterprise-based surveys result in important distinctions in employment estimates derived from surveys. Among these are:

- The household-based survey includes agricultural workers, self-employed workers whose businesses are unincorporated, unpaid family workers, and private household workers among the employed; these groups are excluded from the enterprise-based QES survey.
- The household-based survey is limited to workers 15 years of age and older, whereas the enterprise-based survey is not limited by age.
- The household-based survey has no duplication of individuals because individuals are counted only once, even if they hold more than one job. In the enterprise-based survey, employees working at more than one job and thus appearing on more than one payroll are counted separately for each appearance.
- QLFS includes registration of the business for VAT or income tax or keeping accounts for tax purposes is the key criterion or registered with Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), while QES surveys includes formal sector 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	Registration for VAT or income tax or Registered with Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) Or keeping accounts for tax purposes	Employees on a payroll of VAT-registered businesses

8. Technical notes

8.1 Response details

Table G: Response rates by province and metropolitan area

Province / metropolitan area	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026
National	87,3	86,9
Western Cape	83,2	80,9
Non-metro	89,3	88,2
City of Cape Town	80,3	77,4
Eastern Cape	95,0	95,0
Non-metro	95,6	95,5
Buffalo City	95,9	95,2
Nelson Mandela Bay	92,4	93,2
Northern Cape	89,1	79,6
Free State	92,0	92,2
Non-metro	94,2	94,7
Mangaung	86,6	86,3
KwaZulu-Natal	91,5	92,0
Non-metro	92,2	92,9
eThekweni	90,3	90,6
North West	87,8	89,5
Gauteng	76,2	76,3
Non-metro	84,1	85,8
Ekurhuleni	79,4	76,7
City of Johannesburg	68,0	69,8
City of Tshwane	81,6	81,7
Mpumalanga	94,5	94,9
Limpopo	97,4	96,6

8.2 Survey requirements and design

QLFS uses the master sample frame (MSF) 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 Census 2011 conducted by Stats SA. In preparation for Census 2011, the country was divided into 103 576 enumeration areas (EAs). Census EAs, together with auxiliary information for the EAs, were used as frame units or building blocks for formation of primary sampling units (PSUs) for the master sample. They covered the entire country and had other information that is crucial for stratification and creation of PSUs. There are 3 324 primary sampling units (PSUs) in the master sample, with an expected sample of approximately 33 000 dwelling units (DUs). The number of PSUs in the current master sample (3 324) reflects an 8,0% increase in the size of the master sample compared with the previous master sample in 2008 (which had 3 080 PSUs). The larger master sample of PSUs was selected to improve precision (smaller coefficients of variation, known as CVs) of the QLFS estimates.

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

It is divided equally into four subgroups or panels called rotation groups. Rotation groups are designed in such a way that each of these groups have 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.

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

9. Concepts and definitions

Available potential job-seekers: Persons outside the labour force who did not carry out activities to seek employment but wanted employment and were currently available.

Contributing- family workers: Are workers who help, without receiving regular pay, in a job or market-oriented enterprise held or operated by a household or family member.

Dependent contractor: These are workers who have contractual arrangements of a commercial nature (but not a contract of employment) to provide goods or services for or through another economic unit on which they are dependent for the organization and execution of the work, income or access to the market.

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.

Employees: are workers employed for pay, on a formal or informal basis, who do not hold controlling ownership of the economic unit in which they are employed. They are remunerated in cash or in kind in return for time worked, or, in some cases, for each task or piece of work done or for services provided including sales (by the piece or commission).

Employers in corporations: are independent workers who, on their own-account or in partnership with others, own and control the activities of an incorporated enterprise that regularly employs one or more employees.

Employers in household market enterprises: are independent workers who, on their own account or in partnership with others, own and control the activities of an unincorporated market enterprise that regularly employs one or more employees.

Employers: are independent workers who own the economic unit in which they work and control its activities on their own account or in partnership with others, and in this capacity regularly employ one or more employees.

Fixed-term employees: are employees who are employed on a time-limited basis for a period of three months or more and who are guaranteed a minimum number of hours or amount of work.

Formal sector: Comprising economic unit that is formally recognized as distinct producer of goods and services for the consumption of others;

Formal sector has the following components

- being owned or controlled by the government; or
- being recognized as separate legal entities from their owners or
- Registration for VAT or Income tax or
- Keeping accounts for tax purposes or
- Registered in a governmentally established system of registration (i.e CIPC);

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 paid leave and sick leave.

Informal sector: comprising economic unit whose production is mainly intended for the market with the purpose of generating income and profit, but that is not formally recognized as producers of goods and services distinct from the own-use production of the owner-operators' household.

The informal sector does **not** comply with any of the following components:

- being owned or controlled by the government; or
- being recognized as separate legal entities from their owners or
- Registration for VAT or Income tax or
- Keeping accounts for tax purposes or
- Registered in a governmentally established system of registration (i.e CIPC);

Independent workers without employees: are independent workers who operate an economic unit, alone or in partnership with others, that does not employ any employees on a regular basis. The economic unit which they operate may be incorporated or unincorporated.

Institutional sector of employment refers to the kind of economic unit in which the person is employed, as defined by its legal organisation, principal functions, behaviour and objectives. It is a characteristic of the economic unit in which the person is employed.

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.

Labour underutilisation refers to mismatches between labour supply and demand which translates into an unmet need for employment among the population. The measure of Labour underutilisation includes: Time-related underemployment, Unemployment, and Potential labour force.

Outside the Labour Force (*previously Not economically Active*): Persons aged 15–64 years who are neither employed nor unemployed in the reference period.

Own-account workers in household market enterprises without employees: are independent workers who operate an unincorporated household market enterprise, alone or with one or more partners or contributing family workers and do not regularly employ any employees.

Owner-operators of corporations without employees: are independent workers who hold a job in an incorporated enterprise in which they hold controlling ownership of the enterprise, alone or together with one or more partners and /or with family members and does not employ any employees on a regular basis.

Paid apprentices and interns are employees who work for pay in an economic unit to acquire workplace experience or skills in a trade or profession. They may be formal or informal and may or may not receive a certification for the training experience.

Permanent employees (or with contracts without limit of time): are employees who are employed on an ongoing or indefinite basis and guaranteed a minimum number of hours or amount of work. It includes recently appointed employees with jobs that are subject to an initial trial period but who are expected to continue indefinitely.

Potential Labour Force: The potential labour force includes persons who are not in the labour force, but are either available for work but not actively seeking employment or actively seeking employment but not currently available to work.

(a) carried out activities to “seek employment”, were not “currently available” but would become available within a short subsequent period (i.e. unavailable jobseekers); or

(b) did not carry out activities to “seek employment”, but wanted employment and were “currently available” (i.e. available potential jobseekers).

Short-term and casual employees: are employees with short-term employment arrangements and/or without a guaranteed minimum number of hours or amount of work per pay period. It excludes paid apprentices, interns, trainees with short-term employment arrangements.

Status in employment: Status in employment refers to the type of work relationship a person has in his/her job, taking into account the kind of economic risk and degree of authority that the person experiences in their job.

Time related underemployment: Time-related underemployment refers to the number of employed persons whose hours of work in the reference period are insufficient in relation to a more desirable employment situation in which the person is willing and available to engage.

Unavailable jobseekers: Persons outside the labour force who carried out activities to seek employment, were not currently available but would become available within a short subsequent period.

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.

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.

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

Willing non-jobseekers: Persons not in employment who wanted employment but did not seek employment and were not currently available.

Working age population: The working age population consists of all individuals aged 15 years and older who are considered capable of working regardless of their employment status.

Appendix 1

Table 1: Population of working age (15-64 years)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	41 822	41 948	42 068	42 189	42 310	121	488	0,3	1,2
Women	21 043	21 103	21 158	21 214	21 270	56	227	0,3	1,1
Men	20 778	20 846	20 910	20 975	21 040	65	262	0,3	1,3
Population groups	41 822	41 948	42 068	42 189	42 310	121	488	0,3	1,2
Black/African	34 403	34 532	34 656	34 779	34 903	124	500	0,4	1,5
Coloured	3 624	3 629	3 633	3 637	3 641	4	16	0,1	0,4
Indian/Asian	1 062	1 064	1 066	1 068	1 069	2	8	0,2	0,7
White	2 733	2 724	2 715	2 706	2 697	-9	-35	-0,3	-1,3
South Africa	41 822	41 948	42 068	42 189	42 310	121	488	0,3	1,2
Western Cape	5 126	5 143	5 160	5 176	5 193	17	67	0,3	1,3
Eastern Cape	4 605	4 618	4 629	4 641	4 653	12	48	0,3	1,0
Northern Cape	846	847	849	850	852	1	6	0,2	0,7
Free State	1 943	1 944	1 944	1 944	1 945	0	2	0,0	0,1
KwaZulu Natal	7 732	7 756	7 779	7 802	7 825	23	93	0,3	1,2
North West	2 834	2 843	2 851	2 860	2 868	8	34	0,3	1,2
Gauteng	11 440	11 480	11 518	11 557	11 595	39	156	0,3	1,4
Mpumalanga	3 209	3 219	3 228	3 237	3 247	9	38	0,3	1,2
Limpopo	4 086	4 098	4 110	4 121	4 133	12	46	0,3	1,1

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

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex - All population groups

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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									
Population 15-64 years	41 822	41 948	42 068	42 189	42 310	121	488	0,3	1,2
Labour Force	25 174	25 062	24 935	24 891	25 220	329	46	1,3	0,2
Employed	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Formal sector		11 983	12 303	12 113	12 073	-41		-0,3	
Informal sector		3 961	3 667	3 540	3 574	34		1,0	
Household sector	1 106	1 111	1 129	1 101	1 092	-9	-14	-0,8	-1,3
Unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
Potential Labour Force	4 299	4 529	4 611	4 851	4 571	-280	272	-5,8	6,3
Available potential job-seekers	4 280	4 446	4 569	4 802	4 527	-276	246	-5,7	5,8
Discouraged job-seekers	3 445	3 481	3 714	3 893	3 665	-227	221	-5,8	6,4
Other (available potential job-seekers)	836	965	855	910	861	-49	26	-5,3	3,1
Unavailable job-seekers	19	83	42	49	44	-4	25	-8,6	134,0
Other (Outside the labour force)	12 348	12 357	12 522	12 447	12 519	72	171	0,6	1,4
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	60,2	59,7	59,3	59,0	59,6	0,6	-0,6		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	40,2	40,7	40,6	39,7	39,6	-0,1	-0,6		
Inactivity rate	39,8	40,3	40,7	41,0	40,4	-0,6	0,6		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	33,2	31,9	31,4	32,7	33,6	0,9	0,4		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	36,1	34,9	34,3	35,9	36,6	0,7	0,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	43,0	42,4	42,1	43,7	43,8	0,1	0,8		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	45,4	44,9	44,5	46,3	46,3	0,0	0,9		

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex - All population groups (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Women									
Population 15-64 years	21 043	21 103	21 158	21 214	21 270	56	227	0,3	1,1
Labour Force	11 549	11 450	11 419	11 418	11 667	249	119	2,2	1,0
Employed	7 400	7 429	7 470	7 264	7 294	30	-106	0,4	-1,4
Formal sector		5 318	5 465	5 350	5 344	-6		-0,1	
Informal sector		1 292	1 161	1 096	1 138	41		3,8	
Household sector	840	819	844	818	812	-6	-28	-0,7	-3,3
Unemployed	4 149	4 020	3 949	4 154	4 373	219	224	5,3	5,4
Outside the Labour Force	9 494	9 653	9 739	9 796	9 602	-193	108	-2,0	1,1
Potential Labour Force	2 432	2 554	2 569	2 723	2 529	-195	96	-7,1	4,0
Available potential job-seekers	2 424	2 504	2 541	2 693	2 504	-190	80	-7,0	3,3
Discouraged job-seekers	1 912	1 884	1 982	2 112	1 975	-137	63	-6,5	3,3
Other (available potential job-seekers)	511	621	558	581	529	-53	17	-9,1	3,4
Unavailable job-seekers	9	49	28	30	25	-5	16	-16,5	181,3
Other (Outside the Labour Force)	7 062	7 099	7 171	7 072	7 074	1	12	0,0	0,2
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	54,9	54,3	54,0	53,8	54,9	1,1	0,0		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	35,2	35,2	35,3	34,2	34,3	0,1	-0,9		
Inactivity rate	45,1	45,7	46,0	46,2	45,1	-1,1	0,0		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	35,9	35,1	34,6	36,4	37,5	1,1	1,6		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	39,2	38,6	37,9	40,3	41,0	0,7	1,8		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	47,1	46,9	46,6	48,6	48,6	0,0	1,5		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	49,8	49,8	49,3	51,8	51,5	-0,3	1,7		

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex - All population groups (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Men									
Population 15-64 years	20 778	20 846	20 910	20 975	21 040	65	262	0,3	1,3
Labour Force	13 625	13 613	13 516	13 473	13 553	80	-73	0,6	-0,5
Employed	9 407	9 625	9 629	9 490	9 445	-45	38	-0,5	0,4
Formal sector		6 665	6 838	6 763	6 728	-35		-0,5	
Informal sector		2 668	2 506	2 443	2 436	-7		-0,3	
Household sector	266	292	285	283	280	-3	14	-1,2	5,2
Unemployed	4 218	3 987	3 887	3 983	4 108	125	-110	3,1	-2,6
Outside the Labour Force	7 153	7 233	7 395	7 502	7 487	-15	334	-0,2	4,7
Potential Labour Force	1 867	1 975	2 043	2 128	2 042	-85	175	-4,0	9,4
Available potential job-seekers	1 857	1 941	2 028	2 109	2 023	-86	166	-4,1	9,0
Discouraged job-seekers	1 532	1 597	1 732	1 781	1 690	-90	158	-5,1	10,3
Other (available potential job-seekers)	324	344	296	328	333	4	8	1,3	2,5
Unavailable job-seekers	10	34	15	18	19	1	9	4,3	91,7
Other (Outside the Labour Force)	5 286	5 258	5 352	5 375	5 445	71	159	1,3	3,0
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	65,6	65,3	64,6	64,2	64,4	0,2	-1,2		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	45,3	46,2	46,0	45,2	44,9	-0,3	-0,4		
Inactivity rate	34,4	34,7	35,4	35,8	35,6	-0,2	1,2		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	31,0	29,3	28,8	29,6	30,3	0,7	-0,7		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	33,4	31,9	31,2	32,1	32,7	0,6	-0,7		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	39,3	38,3	38,1	39,2	39,4	0,2	0,1		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	41,4	40,5	40,2	41,4	41,5	0,1	0,1		

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 2.1: Labour force characteristics by population group									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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									
Population 15-64 years	41 822	41 948	42 068	42 189	42 310	121	488	0,3	1,2
Labour Force	25 174	25 062	24 935	24 891	25 220	329	46	1,3	0,2
Employed	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	60,2	59,7	59,3	59,0	59,6	0,6	-0,6		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	40,2	40,7	40,6	39,7	39,6	-0,1	-0,6		
Inactivity rate	39,8	40,3	40,7	41,0	40,4	-0,6	0,6		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	33,2	31,9	31,4	32,7	33,6	0,9	0,4		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	36,1	34,9	34,3	35,9	36,6	0,7	0,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	43,0	42,4	42,1	43,7	43,8	0,1	0,8		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	45,4	44,9	44,5	46,3	46,3	0,0	0,9		
Black/African									
Population 15-64 years	34 403	34 532	34 656	34 779	34 903	124	500	0,4	1,5
Labour Force	20 434	20 370	20 179	20 172	20 497	325	63	1,6	0,3
Employed	12 848	13 082	13 058	12 823	12 795	-28	-53	-0,2	-0,4
Unemployed	7 586	7 289	7 121	7 349	7 702	353	116	4,8	1,5
Outside the Labour Force	13 969	14 162	14 476	14 607	14 406	-201	437	-1,4	3,1
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	59,4	59,0	58,2	58,0	58,7	0,7	-0,7		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	37,3	37,9	37,7	36,9	36,7	-0,2	-0,6		
Inactivity rate	40,6	41,0	41,8	42,0	41,3	-0,7	0,7		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	37,1	35,8	35,3	36,4	37,6	1,2	0,5		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	40,2	39,1	38,5	40,0	40,8	0,8	0,6		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	47,0	46,4	46,3	47,8	48,0	0,2	1,0		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	49,6	49,1	49,0	50,7	50,6	-0,1	1,0		

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 (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Coloured									
Population 15-64 years	3 624	3 629	3 633	3 637	3 641	4	16	0,1	0,4
Labour Force	2 215	2 167	2 215	2 221	2 173	-48	-42	-2,2	-1,9
Employed	1 683	1 687	1 746	1 691	1 663	-29	-21	-1,7	-1,2
Unemployed	532	479	469	530	510	-20	-22	-3,7	-4,1
Outside the Labour Force	1 409	1 462	1 418	1 415	1 468	52	58	3,7	4,1
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	61,1	59,7	61,0	61,1	59,7	-1,4	-1,4		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	46,4	46,5	48,1	46,5	45,7	-0,8	-0,7		
Inactivity rate	38,9	40,3	39,0	38,9	40,3	1,4	1,4		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	24,0	22,1	21,2	23,9	23,5	-0,4	-0,5		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	26,2	24,8	23,4	26,1	26,1	0,0	-0,1		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	34,6	33,4	31,7	33,5	34,8	1,3	0,2		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	36,4	35,6	33,6	35,5	37,1	1,6	0,7		
Indian/Asian									
Population 15-64 years	1 062	1 064	1 066	1 068	1 069	2	8	0,2	0,7
Labour Force	621	593	620	614	672	59	51	9,5	8,3
Employed	527	510	529	530	573	43	46	8,2	8,7
Unemployed	94	83	91	84	99	15	5	18,2	5,7
Outside the Labour Force	441	471	445	454	397	-57	-44	-12,5	-9,9
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	58,5	55,7	58,2	57,5	62,9	5,4	4,4		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	49,7	48,0	49,7	49,7	53,6	3,9	3,9		
Inactivity rate	41,5	44,3	41,8	42,5	37,1	-5,4	-4,4		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	15,1	13,9	14,7	13,6	14,7	1,1	-0,4		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	16,1	15,5	15,0	14,5	15,8	1,3	-0,3		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	21,2	24,0	23,6	22,2	20,0	-2,2	-1,2		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	22,1	25,4	23,9	22,9	21,0	-1,9	-1,1		

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

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 2: 2026

Table 2.1: Labour force characteristics by population group (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
White									
Population 15-64 years	2 733	2 724	2 715	2 706	2 697	-9	-35	-0,3	-1,3
Labour Force	1 904	1 932	1 920	1 884	1 878	-6	-26	-0,3	-1,4
Employed	1 748	1 776	1 765	1 710	1 707	-3	-41	-0,2	-2,3
Unemployed	156	157	155	174	170	-4	14	-2,1	9,2
Outside the Labour Force	829	791	795	822	820	-2	-9	-0,3	-1,1
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	69,7	71,0	70,7	69,6	69,6	0,0	-0,1		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	64,0	65,2	65,0	63,2	63,3	0,1	-0,7		
Inactivity rate	30,3	29,0	29,3	30,4	30,4	0,0	0,1		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	8,2	8,1	8,1	9,2	9,1	-0,1	0,9		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	9,5	8,8	8,9	10,6	10,3	-0,3	0,8		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	11,3	10,3	10,0	12,0	11,4	-0,6	0,1		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	12,6	10,9	10,8	13,3	12,6	-0,7	0,0		

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

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
15-64 years									
Population 15-64 years	41 822	41 948	42 068	42 189	42 310	121	488	0,3	1,2
Labour Force	25 174	25 062	24 935	24 891	25 220	329	46	1,3	0,2
Employed	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	60,2	59,7	59,3	59,0	59,6	0,6	-0,6		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	40,2	40,7	40,6	39,7	39,6	-0,1	-0,6		
Inactivity rate	39,8	40,3	40,7	41,0	40,4	-0,6	0,6		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	33,2	31,9	31,4	32,7	33,6	0,9	0,4		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	36,1	34,9	34,3	35,9	36,6	0,7	0,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	43,0	42,4	42,1	43,7	43,8	0,1	0,8		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	45,4	44,9	44,5	46,3	46,3	0,0	0,9		
15-24 years									
Population 15-24 yrs	10 312	10 325	10 337	10 349	10 361	12	49	0,1	0,5
Labour Force	2 758	2 833	2 657	2 681	2 808	127	50	4,7	1,8
Employed	1 043	1 177	1 143	1 049	1 044	-5	1	-0,5	0,1
Unemployed	1 715	1 657	1 513	1 632	1 764	132	49	8,1	2,8
Outside the Labour Force	7 554	7 491	7 680	7 668	7 553	-115	-1	-1,5	0,0
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	26,7	27,4	25,7	25,9	27,1	1,2	0,4		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	10,1	11,4	11,1	10,1	10,1	0,0	0,0		
Inactivity rate	73,3	72,6	74,3	74,1	72,9	-1,2	-0,4		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	62,2	58,5	57,0	60,9	62,8	1,9	0,6		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	64,4	60,7	58,8	62,5	64,7	2,2	0,3		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	71,8	69,3	68,3	71,9	72,4	0,5	0,6		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	73,4	70,9	69,6	73,1	73,8	0,7	0,4		

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 (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
25-34 years									
Population 25-34 years	10 621	10 622	10 619	10 616	10 613	-3	-8	0,0	-0,1
Labour Force	7 823	7 765	7 745	7 644	7 741	97	-83	1,3	-1,1
Employed	4 656	4 787	4 707	4 543	4 508	-35	-148	-0,8	-3,2
Unemployed	3 167	2 978	3 038	3 101	3 233	132	66	4,3	2,1
Outside the Labour Force	2 798	2 857	2 874	2 972	2 872	-99	74	-3,3	2,7
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	73,7	73,1	72,9	72,0	72,9	0,9	-0,8		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	43,8	45,1	44,3	42,8	42,5	-0,3	-1,3		
Inactivity rate	26,3	26,9	27,1	28,0	27,1	-0,9	0,8		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	40,5	38,4	39,2	40,6	41,8	1,2	1,3		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	43,0	41,1	41,7	43,5	43,9	0,4	0,9		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	49,5	48,2	49,1	50,7	51,1	0,4	1,6		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	51,6	50,5	51,2	53,1	52,9	-0,2	1,3		
35-44 years									
Population 35-44 yrs	9 295	9 332	9 366	9 400	9 435	34	140	0,4	1,5
Labour Force	7 326	7 250	7 294	7 295	7 309	14	-17	0,2	-0,2
Employed	5 222	5 234	5 294	5 208	5 175	-33	-48	-0,6	-0,9
Unemployed	2 104	2 017	2 000	2 088	2 134	47	30	2,2	1,4
Outside the Labour Force	1 969	2 082	2 072	2 105	2 126	20	157	1,0	8,0
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	78,8	77,7	77,9	77,6	77,5	-0,1	-1,3		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	56,2	56,1	56,5	55,4	54,8	-0,6	-1,4		
Inactivity rate	21,2	22,3	22,1	22,4	22,5	0,1	1,3		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	28,7	27,8	27,4	28,6	29,2	0,6	0,5		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	31,3	30,8	30,2	31,7	32,4	0,7	1,1		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	37,4	37,1	37,0	38,2	38,6	0,4	1,2		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	39,6	39,6	39,3	40,9	41,4	0,5	1,8		

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)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
45-54 years									
Population 45-54 years	7 065	7 109	7 149	7 190	7 231	41	166	0,6	2,3
Labour Force	5 241	5 195	5 168	5 205	5 311	106	70	2,0	1,3
Employed	4 119	4 102	4 115	4 150	4 223	73	104	1,8	2,5
Unemployed	1 123	1 093	1 052	1 055	1 088	33	-34	3,1	-3,1
Outside the Labour Force	1 824	1 914	1 982	1 985	1 920	-65	96	-3,3	5,3
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	74,2	73,1	72,3	72,4	73,5	1,1	-0,7		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	58,3	57,7	57,6	57,7	58,4	0,7	0,1		
Inactivity rate	25,8	26,9	27,7	27,6	26,5	-1,1	0,7		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	21,4	21,0	20,4	20,3	20,5	0,2	-0,9		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	25,2	24,8	24,0	24,6	24,7	0,1	-0,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	30,7	30,9	31,0	31,4	30,3	-1,1	-0,4		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	34,0	34,3	34,2	35,1	34,0	-1,1	0,0		
55-64 years									
Population 55-64 yrs	4 528	4 562	4 598	4 634	4 671	37	142	0,8	3,1
Labour Force	2 025	2 019	2 072	2 066	2 051	-15	26	-0,7	1,3
Employed	1 766	1 755	1 840	1 805	1 789	-16	22	-0,9	1,3
Unemployed	259	263	232	261	263	2	4	0,6	1,4
Outside the Labour Force	2 503	2 543	2 526	2 568	2 619	51	116	2,0	4,6
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	44,7	44,3	45,1	44,6	43,9	-0,7	-0,8		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	39,0	38,5	40,0	38,9	38,3	-0,6	-0,7		
Inactivity rate	55,3	55,7	54,9	55,4	56,1	0,7	0,8		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	12,8	13,0	11,2	12,6	12,8	0,2	0,0		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	16,1	16,1	14,7	16,4	16,1	-0,3	0,0		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	22,2	22,2	21,3	22,1	22,0	-0,1	-0,2		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	25,1	24,9	24,4	25,4	25,0	-0,4	-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

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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									
Population 15-64 years	41 822	41 948	42 068	42 189	42 310	121	488	0,3	1,2
Labour Force	25 174	25 062	24 935	24 891	25 220	329	46	1,3	0,2
Employed	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	60,2	59,7	59,3	59,0	59,6	0,6	-0,6		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	40,2	40,7	40,6	39,7	39,6	-0,1	-0,6		
Inactivity rate	39,8	40,3	40,7	41,0	40,4	-0,6	0,6		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	33,2	31,9	31,4	32,7	33,6	0,9	0,4		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	36,1	34,9	34,3	35,9	36,6	0,7	0,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	43,0	42,4	42,1	43,7	43,8	0,1	0,8		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	45,4	44,9	44,5	46,3	46,3	0,0	0,9		
Western Cape									
Population 15-64 years	5 126	5 143	5 160	5 176	5 193	17	67	0,3	1,3
Labour Force	3 479	3 505	3 548	3 587	3 520	-67	40	-1,9	1,2
Employed	2 744	2 814	2 907	2 883	2 835	-48	91	-1,7	3,3
Unemployed	735	692	641	703	685	-19	-51	-2,7	-6,9
Outside the Labour Force	1 647	1 638	1 612	1 590	1 673	84	27	5,3	1,6
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	67,9	68,1	68,8	69,3	67,8	-1,5	-0,1		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	53,5	54,7	56,3	55,7	54,6	-1,1	1,1		
Inactivity rate	32,1	31,9	31,2	30,7	32,2	1,5	0,1		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	21,1	19,7	18,1	19,6	19,5	-0,1	-1,6		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	23,6	22,0	20,4	22,6	22,8	0,2	-0,8		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	27,0	25,8	23,7	24,8	26,1	1,3	-0,9		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	29,3	27,9	25,9	27,6	29,2	1,6	-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)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Western Cape - Non metro									
Population 15-64 years	1 860	1 866	1 872	1 878	1 884	6	24	0,3	1,3
Labour Force	1 150	1 174	1 184	1 218	1 161	-57	11	-4,7	0,9
Employed	958	987	1 012	1 021	992	-29	34	-2,8	3,5
Unemployed	192	187	173	197	169	-28	-23	-14,3	-12,1
Outside the Labour Force	710	692	688	660	723	63	13	9,5	1,9
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	61,8	62,9	63,3	64,8	61,6	-3,2	-0,2		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	51,5	52,9	54,0	54,4	52,6	-1,8	1,1		
Inactivity rate	38,2	37,1	36,7	35,2	38,4	3,2	0,2		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	16,7	15,9	14,6	16,2	14,5	-1,7	-2,2		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	19,7	18,5	17,3	19,3	17,9	-1,4	-1,8		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	29,4	28,1	27,1	27,3	29,3	2,0	-0,1		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	32,0	30,3	29,4	30,0	32,1	2,1	0,1		
Western Cape - City of Cape Town									
Population 15-64 years	3 266	3 277	3 288	3 298	3 309	11	43	0,3	1,3
Labour Force	2 329	2 331	2 364	2 369	2 359	-10	30	-0,4	1,3
Employed	1 786	1 826	1 895	1 863	1 843	-19	57	-1,0	3,2
Unemployed	543	505	469	506	516	9	-27	1,9	-5,0
Outside the Labour Force	937	946	924	929	950	21	13	2,2	1,4
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	71,3	71,1	71,9	71,8	71,3	-0,5	0,0		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	54,7	55,7	57,6	56,5	55,7	-0,8	1,0		
Inactivity rate	28,7	28,9	28,1	28,2	28,7	0,5	0,0		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	23,3	21,6	19,8	21,4	21,9	0,5	-1,4		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	25,6	23,8	22,0	24,3	25,1	0,8	-0,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	25,6	24,5	21,7	23,3	24,3	1,0	-1,3		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	27,8	26,6	23,8	26,2	27,4	1,2	-0,4		

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

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Eastern Cape									
Population 15-64 years	4 605	4 618	4 629	4 641	4 653	12	48	0,3	1,0
Labour Force	2 418	2 393	2 393	2 405	2 565	160	147	6,6	6,1
Employed	1 462	1 408	1 377	1 333	1 346	13	-116	1,0	-7,9
Unemployed	956	985	1 016	1 072	1 219	147	263	13,7	27,5
Outside the Labour Force	2 187	2 224	2 236	2 236	2 088	-148	-99	-6,6	-4,5
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	52,5	51,8	51,7	51,8	55,1	3,3	2,6		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	31,7	30,5	29,7	28,7	28,9	0,2	-2,8		
Inactivity rate	47,5	48,2	48,3	48,2	44,9	-3,3	-2,6		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	39,5	41,2	42,5	44,6	47,5	2,9	8,0		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	43,5	44,1	44,7	48,4	50,8	2,4	7,3		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	47,7	50,2	51,4	54,4	54,1	-0,3	6,4		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	51,1	52,7	53,2	57,6	57,0	-0,6	5,9		
Eastern Cape - Non Metro									
Population 15-64 years	3 134	3 141	3 148	3 154	3 161	7	27	0,2	0,9
Labour Force	1 453	1 517	1 507	1 520	1 625	105	172	6,9	11,9
Employed	760	768	731	708	707	-1	-53	-0,1	-6,9
Unemployed	693	749	776	812	918	105	225	13,0	32,5
Outside the Labour Force	1 681	1 624	1 640	1 634	1 536	-98	-145	-6,0	-8,6
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	46,4	48,3	47,9	48,2	51,4	3,2	5,0		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	24,3	24,5	23,2	22,5	22,4	-0,1	-1,9		
Inactivity rate	53,6	51,7	52,1	51,8	48,6	-3,2	-5,0		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	47,7	49,4	51,5	53,4	56,5	3,1	8,8		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	50,8	52,8	53,2	57,6	60,4	2,8	9,6		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	56,4	59,4	61,2	63,1	63,2	0,1	6,8		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	59,0	62,1	62,6	66,4	66,5	0,1	7,5		

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)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Eastern Cape - Buffalo City									
Population 15-64 years	567	569	571	573	575	2	8	0,3	1,3
Labour Force	394	376	385	366	385	19	-9	5,2	-2,3
Employed	282	276	286	261	268	7	-14	2,5	-4,9
Unemployed	113	101	99	105	118	12	5	11,8	4,3
Outside the Labour Force	173	193	186	207	190	-17	17	-8,3	9,6
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	69,5	66,1	67,4	63,9	67,0	3,1	-2,5		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	49,6	48,5	50,1	45,6	46,6	1,0	-3,0		
Inactivity rate	30,5	33,9	32,6	36,1	33,0	-3,1	2,5		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	28,6	26,7	25,7	28,7	30,5	1,8	1,9		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	33,8	27,3	29,3	35,3	35,1	-0,2	1,3		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	31,0	30,6	28,4	36,7	35,3	-1,4	4,3		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	36,1	31,2	31,8	42,5	39,5	-3,0	3,4		
Eastern Cape - Nelson Mandela Bay									
Population 15-64 years	904	907	910	913	917	3	13	0,4	1,4
Labour Force	571	500	501	518	554	36	-16	7,0	-2,8
Employed	420	364	360	364	371	7	-49	1,9	-11,7
Unemployed	151	135	141	154	183	29	33	18,9	21,8
Outside the Labour Force	333	407	410	395	362	-33	29	-8,3	8,7
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	63,1	55,1	55,0	56,7	60,5	3,8	-2,6		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	46,5	40,2	39,5	39,8	40,5	0,7	-6,0		
Inactivity rate	36,9	44,9	45,0	43,3	39,5	-3,8	2,6		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	26,4	27,1	28,2	29,8	33,1	3,3	6,7		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	31,5	30,2	30,9	30,8	33,4	2,6	1,9		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	35,0	32,4	34,3	38,7	38,1	-0,6	3,1		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	39,5	35,3	36,7	39,6	38,4	-1,2	-1,1		

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)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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									
Population 15-64 years	846	847	849	850	852	1	6	0,2	0,7
Labour Force	466	464	462	442	434	-8	-32	-1,9	-7,0
Employed	314	319	337	308	309	1	-5	0,4	-1,5
Unemployed	152	145	125	134	125	-10	-28	-7,2	-18,2
Outside the Labour Force	380	383	387	408	418	10	38	2,4	10,1
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	55,1	54,8	54,4	52,0	51,0	-1,0	-4,1		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	37,1	37,7	39,7	36,2	36,3	0,1	-0,8		
Inactivity rate	44,9	45,2	45,6	48,0	49,0	1,0	4,1		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	32,7	31,2	27,1	30,4	28,7	-1,7	-4,0		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	35,8	35,0	30,0	34,1	33,0	-1,1	-2,8		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	47,0	46,5	42,9	47,0	47,1	0,1	0,1		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	49,4	49,4	45,2	49,9	50,3	0,4	0,9		
Free State									
Population 15-64 years	1 943	1 944	1 944	1 944	1 945	0	2	0,0	0,1
Labour Force	1 245	1 226	1 227	1 221	1 227	6	-18	0,5	-1,4
Employed	766	782	771	760	769	9	3	1,2	0,4
Unemployed	479	444	456	461	458	-4	-21	-0,8	-4,4
Outside the Labour Force	698	718	717	723	718	-5	20	-0,7	2,8
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	64,1	63,1	63,1	62,8	63,1	0,3	-1,0		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	39,4	40,2	39,7	39,1	39,6	0,5	0,2		
Inactivity rate	35,9	36,9	36,9	37,2	36,9	-0,3	1,0		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	38,5	36,2	37,2	37,8	37,3	-0,5	-1,2		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	42,2	39,7	40,9	41,4	41,0	-0,4	-1,2		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	43,8	42,7	44,1	44,3	44,0	-0,3	0,2		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	47,2	45,8	47,3	47,5	47,3	-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)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Free State - Non Metro									
Population 15-64 years	1 385	1 385	1 385	1 386	1 386	0	1	0,0	0,1
Labour Force	877	891	892	902	895	-7	17	-0,8	2,0
Employed	514	540	548	537	547	9	32	1,8	6,3
Unemployed	363	351	344	364	348	-16	-15	-4,5	-4,1
Outside the Labour Force	507	494	493	484	491	7	-16	1,5	-3,2
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	63,4	64,3	64,4	65,1	64,6	-0,5	1,2		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	37,1	39,0	39,6	38,8	39,4	0,6	2,3		
Inactivity rate	36,6	35,7	35,6	34,9	35,4	0,5	-1,2		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	41,4	39,4	38,6	40,4	38,9	-1,5	-2,5		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	44,9	42,8	42,2	43,3	42,4	-0,9	-2,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	46,5	44,8	44,9	45,8	45,1	-0,7	-1,4		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	49,7	47,9	48,2	48,5	48,2	-0,3	-1,5		
Free State - Mangaung									
Population 15-64 years	558	559	559	559	559	0	0	0,0	0,1
Labour Force	368	336	335	320	332	13	-35	4,0	-9,6
Employed	252	242	223	223	223	0	-29	-0,1	-11,6
Unemployed	116	93	112	97	110	13	-6	13,2	-5,3
Outside the Labour Force	191	223	224	239	227	-13	36	-5,2	18,8
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	65,8	60,1	59,9	57,2	59,4	2,2	-6,4		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	45,1	43,4	39,9	39,9	39,8	-0,1	-5,3		
Inactivity rate	34,2	39,9	40,1	42,8	40,6	-2,2	6,4		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	31,5	27,8	33,5	30,3	33,0	2,7	1,5		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	35,7	31,4	37,2	36,0	37,1	1,1	1,4		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	37,5	37,3	41,9	40,3	41,2	0,9	3,7		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	41,3	40,4	45,2	45,1	44,8	-0,3	3,5		

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)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
KwaZulu-Natal									
Population 15-64 years	7 732	7 756	7 779	7 802	7 825	23	93	0,3	1,2
Labour Force	4 058	4 035	4 010	3 956	4 035	79	-24	2,0	-0,6
Employed	2 702	2 757	2 716	2 722	2 725	3	22	0,1	0,8
Unemployed	1 356	1 278	1 294	1 234	1 310	76	-46	6,1	-3,4
Outside the Labour Force	3 674	3 721	3 769	3 846	3 790	-56	116	-1,5	3,2
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	52,5	52,0	51,5	50,7	51,6	0,9	-0,9		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	35,0	35,5	34,9	34,9	34,8	-0,1	-0,2		
Inactivity rate	47,5	48,0	48,5	49,3	48,4	-0,9	0,9		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	33,4	31,7	32,3	31,2	32,5	1,3	-0,9		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	36,3	35,1	34,8	35,2	35,8	0,6	-0,5		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	47,9	46,6	47,1	47,2	47,8	0,6	-0,1		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	50,1	49,3	49,1	50,3	50,4	0,1	0,3		
KwaZulu-Natal - Non Metro									
Population 15-64 years	5 018	5 032	5 046	5 059	5 073	14	55	0,3	1,1
Labour Force	2 420	2 365	2 338	2 335	2 398	63	-22	2,7	-0,9
Employed	1 503	1 551	1 448	1 462	1 435	-27	-68	-1,9	-4,5
Unemployed	917	814	891	873	963	91	46	10,4	5,0
Outside the Labour Force	2 598	2 667	2 707	2 724	2 674	-50	77	-1,8	2,9
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	48,2	47,0	46,3	46,2	47,3	1,1	-0,9		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	30,0	30,8	28,7	28,9	28,3	-0,6	-1,7		
Inactivity rate	51,8	53,0	53,7	53,8	52,7	-1,1	0,9		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	37,9	34,4	38,1	37,4	40,2	2,8	2,3		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	40,9	38,1	41,2	41,8	43,8	2,0	2,9		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	51,8	50,1	52,5	52,4	54,3	1,9	2,5		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	54,1	52,9	54,9	55,7	57,1	1,4	3,0		

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

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
KwaZulu-Natal - eThekweni									
Population 15-64 years	2 714	2 724	2 733	2 743	2 752	9	38	0,3	1,4
Labour Force	1 638	1 670	1 671	1 621	1 636	16	-2	1,0	-0,1
Employed	1 199	1 206	1 268	1 259	1 290	30	90	2,4	7,5
Unemployed	439	464	403	362	347	-15	-92	-4,1	-21,0
Outside the Labour Force	1 076	1 054	1 062	1 122	1 116	-6	40	-0,5	3,7
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	60,3	61,3	61,2	59,1	59,5	0,4	-0,8		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	44,2	44,3	46,4	45,9	46,9	1,0	2,7		
Inactivity rate	39,7	38,7	38,8	40,9	40,5	-0,4	0,8		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	26,8	27,8	24,1	22,3	21,2	-1,1	-5,6		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	29,4	30,9	26,0	25,7	24,2	-1,5	-5,2		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	42,1	41,5	39,2	39,6	37,8	-1,8	-4,3		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	44,2	44,0	40,7	42,3	40,2	-2,1	-4,0		
North West									
Population 15-64 years	2 834	2 843	2 851	2 860	2 868	8	34	0,3	1,2
Labour Force	1 493	1 513	1 500	1 382	1 419	37	-74	2,7	-4,9
Employed	895	937	973	894	878	-15	-17	-1,7	-1,8
Unemployed	599	576	527	489	541	53	-57	10,8	-9,6
Outside the Labour Force	1 341	1 330	1 352	1 477	1 448	-29	107	-2,0	8,0
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	52,7	53,2	52,6	48,3	49,5	1,2	-3,2		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	31,6	33,0	34,1	31,2	30,6	-0,6	-1,0		
Inactivity rate	47,3	46,8	47,4	51,7	50,5	-1,2	3,2		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	40,1	38,1	35,1	35,3	38,1	2,8	-2,0		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	40,8	39,3	38,1	37,7	40,6	2,9	-0,2		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	54,7	52,5	50,9	54,8	56,0	1,2	1,3		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	55,3	53,4	53,2	56,5	57,7	1,2	2,4		

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

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Gauteng									
Population 15-64 years	11 440	11 480	11 518	11 557	11 595	39	156	0,3	1,4
Labour Force	7 831	7 823	7 739	7 760	7 791	30	-40	0,4	-0,5
Employed	5 186	5 237	5 183	5 116	5 094	-22	-92	-0,4	-1,8
Unemployed	2 645	2 586	2 556	2 644	2 697	53	52	2,0	1,9
Outside the Labour Force	3 608	3 657	3 779	3 796	3 805	8	196	0,2	5,4
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	68,5	68,1	67,2	67,2	67,2	0,0	-1,3		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	45,3	45,6	45,0	44,3	43,9	-0,4	-1,4		
Inactivity rate	31,5	31,9	32,8	32,8	32,8	0,0	1,3		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	33,8	33,1	33,0	34,1	34,6	0,5	0,8		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	36,0	35,5	35,4	36,6	36,7	0,1	0,7		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	39,2	39,6	39,4	40,6	40,5	-0,1	1,3		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	41,2	41,8	41,6	42,9	42,4	-0,5	1,2		
Gauteng - Non Metro									
Population 15-64 years	1 515	1 521	1 526	1 532	1 537	5	22	0,4	1,4
Labour Force	1 081	1 062	1 037	1 026	1 034	8	-47	0,7	-4,4
Employed	650	702	707	719	705	-14	55	-1,9	8,4
Unemployed	431	359	330	308	329	21	-102	6,9	-23,7
Outside the Labour Force	434	459	489	505	503	-2	69	-0,4	16,0
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	71,4	69,8	68,0	67,0	67,3	0,3	-4,1		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	42,9	46,2	46,3	46,9	45,9	-1,0	3,0		
Inactivity rate	28,6	30,2	32,0	33,0	32,7	-0,3	4,1		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	39,9	33,9	31,8	30,0	31,8	1,8	-8,1		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	41,4	37,8	33,6	31,3	33,5	2,2	-7,9		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	45,5	41,7	39,6	38,8	40,2	1,4	-5,3		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	46,9	45,1	41,1	40,0	41,7	1,7	-5,2		

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

Table 2.3: Labour force characteristics by province and metro (continued)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Gauteng - Ekurhuleni									
Population 15-64 years	2 874	2 884	2 894	2 903	2 913	10	40	0,3	1,4
Labour Force	1 838	1 819	1 838	1 822	1 878	56	40	3,1	2,2
Employed	1 200	1 235	1 248	1 231	1 228	-3	28	-0,2	2,4
Unemployed	638	584	590	591	650	59	12	9,9	1,9
Outside the Labour Force	1 036	1 065	1 055	1 081	1 035	-46	-1	-4,3	-0,1
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	63,9	63,1	63,5	62,8	64,5	1,7	0,6		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	41,8	42,8	43,1	42,4	42,2	-0,2	0,4		
Inactivity rate	36,1	36,9	36,5	37,2	35,5	-1,7	-0,6		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	34,7	32,1	32,1	32,4	34,6	2,2	-0,1		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	36,0	33,5	32,9	33,4	35,2	1,8	-0,8		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	42,7	42,2	41,5	42,8	42,7	-0,1	0,0		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	43,8	43,4	42,2	43,6	43,2	-0,4	-0,6		
Gauteng - City of Johannesburg									
Population 15-64 years	4 242	4 256	4 270	4 284	4 298	14	56	0,3	1,3
Labour Force	2 983	3 001	2 891	2 967	2 977	11	-5	0,4	-0,2
Employed	2 000	1 963	1 915	1 938	1 910	-28	-90	-1,4	-4,5
Unemployed	983	1 037	976	1 029	1 068	39	84	3,8	8,6
Outside the Labour Force	1 259	1 255	1 379	1 317	1 321	3	62	0,2	4,9
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	70,3	70,5	67,7	69,3	69,3	0,0	-1,0		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	47,1	46,1	44,8	45,2	44,4	-0,8	-2,7		
Inactivity rate	29,7	29,5	32,3	30,7	30,7	0,0	1,0		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	33,0	34,6	33,8	34,7	35,9	1,2	2,9		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	35,9	37,0	37,4	39,1	39,5	0,4	3,6		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	37,3	39,2	38,9	39,8	40,1	0,3	2,8		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	40,0	41,5	42,2	43,9	43,5	-0,4	3,5		

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)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Gauteng - City of Tshwane									
Population 15-64 years	2 809	2 819	2 828	2 838	2 847	9	38	0,3	1,4
Labour Force	1 929	1 941	1 972	1 945	1 901	-44	-28	-2,3	-1,5
Employed	1 336	1 336	1 313	1 229	1 251	22	-85	1,8	-6,4
Unemployed	593	605	659	717	651	-66	57	-9,2	9,7
Outside the Labour Force	880	878	856	893	946	53	66	6,0	7,5
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	68,7	68,9	69,7	68,5	66,8	-1,7	-1,9		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	47,6	47,4	46,4	43,3	43,9	0,6	-3,7		
Inactivity rate	31,3	31,1	30,3	31,5	33,2	1,7	1,9		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	30,8	31,2	33,4	36,8	34,2	-2,6	3,4		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	33,0	33,7	35,7	38,6	35,8	-2,8	2,8		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	35,0	36,3	38,1	40,7	38,8	-1,9	3,8		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	37,1	38,7	40,2	42,4	40,2	-2,2	3,1		
Mpumalanga									
Population 15-64 years	3 209	3 219	3 228	3 237	3 247	9	38	0,3	1,2
Labour Force	1 853	1 889	1 895	1 929	2 004	75	151	3,9	8,1
Employed	1 223	1 246	1 283	1 229	1 270	41	47	3,3	3,9
Unemployed	631	643	611	700	734	34	103	4,9	16,4
Outside the Labour Force	1 356	1 330	1 333	1 308	1 243	-66	-113	-5,0	-8,3
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	57,8	58,7	58,7	59,6	61,7	2,1	3,9		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	38,1	38,7	39,8	38,0	39,1	1,1	1,0		
Inactivity rate	42,2	41,3	41,3	40,4	38,3	-2,1	-3,9		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	34,0	34,0	32,3	36,3	36,6	0,3	2,6		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	37,6	38,6	35,7	39,4	40,2	0,8	2,6		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	48,4	47,5	46,3	49,6	48,3	-1,3	-0,1		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	51,2	51,1	49,0	52,1	51,2	-0,9	0,0		

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)

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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									
Population 15-64 years	4 086	4 098	4 110	4 121	4 133	12	46	0,3	1,1
Labour Force	2 329	2 214	2 160	2 208	2 225	18	-104	0,8	-4,4
Employed	1 515	1 555	1 552	1 509	1 512	3	-3	0,2	-0,2
Unemployed	814	659	609	699	713	14	-101	2,1	-12,4
Outside the Labour Force	1 757	1 884	1 949	1 913	1 907	-6	150	-0,3	8,5
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)									
Labour force participation rate	57,0	54,0	52,6	53,6	53,9	0,3	-3,1		
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	37,1	37,9	37,8	36,6	36,6	0,0	-0,5		
Inactivity rate	43,0	46,0	47,4	46,4	46,1	-0,3	3,1		
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)									
LU1- Unemployment rate	35,0	29,8	28,2	31,7	32,0	0,3	-3,0		
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	39,4	34,4	33,3	35,6	35,2	-0,4	-4,2		
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	47,7	45,1	46,1	47,0	46,7	-0,3	-1,0		
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	51,3	48,7	50,0	50,1	49,1	-1,0	-2,2		

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

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Agriculture	906	920	950	960	944	-15	39	-1,6	4,3
Mining	434	449	444	476	450	-26	16	-5,5	3,8
Manufacturing	1 672	1 610	1 548	1 587	1 571	-15	-100	-1,0	-6,0
Utilities	139	109	134	113	103	-10	-36	-8,9	-26,1
Construction	1 259	1 390	1 425	1 314	1 354	39	94	3,0	7,5
Trade	3 315	3 424	3 326	3 320	3 389	70	74	2,1	2,2
Transport	1 115	1 113	1 140	1 111	1 108	-2	-7	-0,2	-0,6
Finance	2 983	2 930	2 962	2 939	2 950	11	-33	0,4	-1,1
Community and social services	3 872	3 988	4 034	3 828	3 771	-57	-101	-1,5	-2,6
Private households	1 106	1 111	1 129	1 101	1 092	-9	-14	-0,8	-1,3
Other	4	11	7	6	5	-2	0	-25,6	6,0
Women	7 400	7 429	7 470	7 264	7 294	30	-106	0,4	-1,4
Agriculture	257	272	281	277	292	15	35	5,6	13,6
Mining	73	72	81	91	89	-2	16	-2,3	21,3
Manufacturing	570	543	543	531	552	21	-18	4,0	-3,2
Utilities	43	30	34	22	25	4	-18	17,5	-41,4
Construction	143	142	148	137	134	-3	-8	-2,1	-5,8
Trade	1 527	1 606	1 559	1 549	1 589	40	62	2,6	4,1
Transport	183	201	195	173	187	14	4	7,9	2,3
Finance	1 333	1 264	1 260	1 277	1 299	22	-35	1,7	-2,6
Community and social services	2 429	2 478	2 522	2 387	2 313	-74	-116	-3,1	-4,8
Private households	840	819	844	818	812	-6	-28	-0,7	-3,3
Other	1	3	3	4	2	-2	1	-53,9	98,0

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 (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Men	9 407	9 625	9 629	9 490	9 445	-45	38	-0,5	0,4
Agriculture	648	648	669	683	652	-31	4	-4,5	0,6
Mining	360	377	363	385	361	-24	1	-6,2	0,3
Manufacturing	1 102	1 066	1 006	1 056	1 019	-37	-82	-3,5	-7,5
Utilities	96	79	100	91	78	-14	-18	-15,2	-19,1
Construction	1 117	1 248	1 276	1 177	1 219	42	103	3,6	9,2
Trade	1 788	1 818	1 766	1 770	1 800	30	12	1,7	0,7
Transport	932	912	946	937	921	-16	-11	-1,7	-1,2
Finance	1 650	1 666	1 702	1 663	1 652	-11	2	-0,7	0,1
Community and social services	1 444	1 510	1 513	1 441	1 459	18	15	1,2	1,1
Private households	266	292	285	283	280	-3	14	-1,2	5,2
Other	4	8	4	3	3	0	-1	12,6	-15,7

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Agriculture	906	920	950	960	944	-15	39	-1,6	4,3
Western Cape	202	190	215	249	228	-22	26	-8,7	12,6
Eastern Cape	99	104	83	97	95	-2	-4	-2,2	-4,1
Northern Cape	38	42	59	38	44	6	5	14,6	13,6
Free State	85	71	92	91	71	-20	-14	-22,2	-16,6
KwaZulu-Natal	118	122	139	123	126	3	8	2,7	7,2
North West	67	70	65	64	55	-9	-12	-13,6	-17,6
Gauteng	25	39	42	34	50	16	25	46,1	99,7
Mpumalanga	126	113	114	107	100	-7	-26	-6,4	-20,7
Limpopo	146	170	142	157	176	19	30	12,3	20,9
Mining	434	449	444	476	450	-26	16	-5,5	3,8
Western Cape	3	6	5	5	5	-1	2	-10,7	76,0
Eastern Cape	1								
Northern Cape	32	35	28	31	26	-5	-6	-17,3	-20,0
Free State	25	26	26	28	21	-7	-4	-25,4	-14,7
KwaZulu-Natal	6	10	10	7	6	-1	0	-14,3	8,2
North West	98	99	100	104	112	8	14	7,7	13,8
Gauteng	93	101	100	110	113	3	20	2,3	21,8
Mpumalanga	50	58	63	69	71	2	20	2,2	40,6
Limpopo	126	115	113	121	97	-24	-30	-19,8	-23,4

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Manufacturing	1 672	1 610	1 548	1 587	1 571	-15	-100	-1,0	-6,0
Western Cape	301	296	320	300	308	8	7	2,8	2,3
Eastern Cape	146	118	112	109	126	17	-20	15,3	-13,8
Northern Cape	15	18	8	11	10	0	-5	-1,3	-32,8
Free State	52	47	47	48	52	4	-1	7,6	-1,1
KwaZulu-Natal	355	364	344	351	347	-4	-8	-1,1	-2,3
North West	45	63	67	64	68	4	24	6,2	52,8
Gauteng	548	526	491	538	493	-45	-55	-8,3	-9,9
Mpumalanga	99	83	66	74	89	15	-10	20,2	-10,0
Limpopo	110	95	93	92	78	-14	-32	-15,4	-29,4
Utilities	139	109	134	113	103	-10	-36	-8,9	-26,1
Western Cape	12	9	13	13	9	-4	-3	-33,5	-28,2
Eastern Cape	9	4	10	6	7	1	-2	23,6	-20,7
Northern Cape	4	4	5	3	2	-1	-2	-27,6	-45,4
Free State	2	2	2	1	1	-1	-1	-40,7	-55,9
KwaZulu-Natal	19	7	12	8	9	0	-10	4,4	-54,1
North West	3	3	3	5	3	-1	1	-26,2	25,5
Gauteng	41	36	36	27	28	1	-13	5,6	-31,0
Mpumalanga	33	31	35	32	30	-2	-3	-6,2	-10,3
Limpopo	16	13	17	18	14	-4	-2	-24,4	-15,5

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Construction	1 259	1 390	1 425	1 314	1 354	39	94	3,0	7,5
Western Cape	224	259	267	258	232	-26	8	-10,1	3,4
Eastern Cape	132	117	117	110	127	17	-5	15,7	-3,8
Northern Cape	19	25	22	21	21	-1	2	-3,4	8,9
Free State	45	60	55	37	58	21	13	57,7	29,4
KwaZulu-Natal	212	235	235	211	225	14	13	6,5	6,0
North West	74	62	73	73	65	-8	-9	-10,8	-12,6
Gauteng	325	372	400	372	374	2	49	0,5	14,9
Mpumalanga	97	101	113	98	100	2	3	2,4	3,2
Limpopo	131	158	143	136	153	18	22	13,1	16,7
Trade	3 315	3 424	3 326	3 320	3 389	70	74	2,1	2,2
Western Cape	535	559	557	573	576	3	41	0,6	7,7
Eastern Cape	292	273	296	268	255	-12	-37	-4,7	-12,5
Northern Cape	57	52	56	48	46	-3	-11	-5,2	-19,5
Free State	144	152	157	152	153	1	9	0,5	6,2
KwaZulu-Natal	533	548	501	549	540	-9	7	-1,6	1,3
North West	159	170	172	157	169	11	10	7,2	6,1
Gauteng	1 062	1 059	986	951	1 023	72	-38	7,6	-3,6
Mpumalanga	223	265	286	274	277	2	54	0,9	24,1
Limpopo	311	346	315	348	351	3	40	1,0	12,7

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Transport	1 115	1 113	1 140	1 111	1 108	-2	-7	-0,2	-0,6
Western Cape	181	199	191	188	169	-19	-12	-9,9	-6,8
Eastern Cape	105	86	81	91	75	-16	-30	-18,1	-28,6
Northern Cape	6	7	10	11	14	2	7	17,9	109,5
Free State	29	42	36	35	41	6	11	18,4	39,0
KwaZulu-Natal	181	196	221	216	241	25	60	11,4	33,0
North West	44	28	28	35	26	-10	-18	-27,0	-41,4
Gauteng	430	409	430	411	396	-15	-34	-3,6	-8,0
Mpumalanga	67	62	55	71	83	12	16	16,7	23,3
Limpopo	71	84	88	53	65	12	-6	23,4	-8,7
Finance	2 983	2 930	2 962	2 939	2 950	11	-33	0,4	-1,1
Western Cape	550	569	573	588	591	3	41	0,5	7,5
Eastern Cape	187	193	172	174	193	18	5	10,5	2,8
Northern Cape	34	29	37	36	35	0	1	-1,0	3,2
Free State	99	94	80	91	105	13	6	14,5	5,7
KwaZulu-Natal	441	395	416	444	429	-15	-12	-3,4	-2,7
North West	121	130	143	116	91	-24	-29	-21,2	-24,4
Gauteng	1 223	1 210	1 202	1 186	1 180	-6	-43	-0,5	-3,5
Mpumalanga	166	179	184	165	167	2	1	1,2	0,7
Limpopo	163	131	156	139	160	21	-3	15,0	-2,0

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Community and social services	3 872	3 988	4 034	3 828	3 771	-57	-101	-1,5	-2,6
Western Cape	571	558	609	546	543	-3	-28	-0,5	-4,9
Eastern Cape	386	421	413	387	382	-5	-4	-1,3	-1,1
Northern Cape	90	88	94	87	93	6	3	6,7	2,9
Free State	214	222	205	202	190	-11	-24	-5,7	-11,1
KwaZulu-Natal	654	676	648	622	622	0	-32	0,1	-4,9
North West	235	256	254	219	223	4	-12	2,0	-5,0
Gauteng	1 111	1 139	1 166	1 175	1 136	-38	25	-3,3	2,3
Mpumalanga	275	271	275	254	259	5	-16	2,0	-5,9
Limpopo	336	357	371	338	323	-15	-12	-4,3	-3,7
Private households	1 106	1 111	1 129	1 101	1 092	-9	-14	-0,8	-1,3
Western Cape	165	164	153	162	175	14	10	8,5	6,0
Eastern Cape	106	92	93	92	87	-5	-18	-5,1	-17,3
Northern Cape	17	21	18	22	19	-2	2	-10,1	12,2
Free State	71	65	72	74	78	5	7	6,4	10,0
KwaZulu-Natal	184	202	191	190	180	-10	-4	-5,5	-2,2
North West	49	57	68	57	66	9	17	16,1	33,7
Gauteng	324	342	330	310	295	-15	-29	-4,9	-8,9
Mpumalanga	85	83	92	86	95	9	10	10,9	11,5
Limpopo	104	87	113	109	96	-13	-9	-12,1	-8,2

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.3: Employed by sector and industry - South Africa

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Total employed	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Formal and informal sector*		15 944	15 970	15 653	15 647	-7		0,0	
Agriculture		920	950	960	944	-15		-1,6	
Mining		449	444	476	450	-26		-5,5	
Manufacturing		1 610	1 548	1 587	1 571	-15		-1,0	
Utilities		109	134	113	103	-10		-8,9	
Construction		1 390	1 425	1 314	1 354	39		3,0	
Trade		3 424	3 326	3 320	3 389	70		2,1	
Transport		1 113	1 140	1 111	1 108	-2		-0,2	
Finance		2 930	2 962	2 939	2 950	11		0,4	
Community and social services		3 988	4 034	3 828	3 771	-57		-1,5	
Other		11	7	6	5	-2		-25,6	
Formal sector*		11 983	12 303	12 113	12 073	-41		-0,3	
Agriculture		575	683	677	675	-2		-0,3	
Mining		434	435	470	441	-30		-6,3	
Manufacturing		1 300	1 297	1 316	1 290	-25		-1,9	
Utilities		106	131	110	101	-9		-8,4	
Construction		711	738	714	733	20		2,7	
Trade		2 136	2 138	2 145	2 185	40		1,9	
Transport		678	703	679	724	45		6,6	
Finance		2 547	2 618	2 627	2 629	3		0,1	
Community and social services		3 490	3 553	3 371	3 290	-81		-2,4	
Other		6	6	5	5	0		-2,1	

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.3: Employed by sector and industry - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Informal sector*		3 961	3 667	3 540	3 574	34		1,0	
Agriculture		346	267	283	269	-13		-4,6	
Mining		15	9	6	9	4		63,7	
Manufacturing		309	252	271	281	10		3,7	
Utilities		3	3	3	2	-1		-30,4	
Construction		679	686	601	621	20		3,3	
Trade		1 288	1 188	1 175	1 204	30		2,5	
Transport		435	438	432	385	-47		-10,9	
Finance		383	343	312	321	9		2,8	
Community and social services		498	481	457	482	25		5,4	
Other		6	1	2					
Household sector	1 106	1 111	1 129	1 101	1 092	-9	-14	-0,8	-1,3

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.4: Employed by province, metro and sector									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Formal sector*		11 983	12 303	12 113	12 073	-41		-0,3	
Informal sector*		3 961	3 667	3 540	3 574	34		1,0	
Household sector	1 106	1 111	1 129	1 101	1 092	-9		-0,8	
Western Cape	2 744	2 814	2 907	2 883	2 835	-48	91	-1,7	3,3
Formal sector*		2 165	2 274	2 254	2 179	-75		-3,3	
Informal sector*		484	480	467	480	13		2,8	
Household sector	165	164	153	162	175	14		8,5	
Western Cape - Non-Metro	958	987	1 012	1 021	992	-29	34	-2,8	3,5
Formal sector*		741	783	785	731	-54		-6,9	
Informal sector*		188	169	173	188	15		8,5	
Household sector	56	59	59	63	73	10		16,5	
Western Cape - City of Cape Town	1 786	1 826	1 895	1 863	1 843	-19	57	-1,0	3,2
Formal sector*		1 424	1 491	1 469	1 448	-21		-1,5	
Informal sector*		297	310	294	293	-2		-0,5	
Household sector	110	105	94	99	102	3		3,5	
Eastern Cape	1 462	1 408	1 377	1 333	1 346	13	-116	1,0	-7,9
Formal sector*		946	957	884	927	43		4,8	
Informal sector*		371	327	357	332	-25		-7,1	
Household sector	106	92	93	92	87	-5		-5,1	

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.4: Employed by province, metro and sector (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Eastern Cape - Non-Metro	760	768	731	708	707	-1	-53	-0,1	-6,9
Formal sector*		472	442	391	416	25		6,4	
Informal sector*		236	228	254	235	-18		-7,2	
Household sector	59	60	62	64	56	-7		-11,7	
Eastern Cape - Buffalo City	282	276	286	261	268	7	-14	2,5	-4,9
Formal sector*		185	218	191	203	12		6,3	
Informal sector*		78	51	54	48	-6		-11,8	
Household sector	21	14	17	16	17	1		5,7	
Eastern Cape - Nelson Mandela bay	420	364	360	364	371	7	-49	1,9	-11,7
Formal sector*		289	298	302	308	6		1,9	
Informal sector*		57	47	49	49	-1		-1,3	
Household sector	25	18	14	12	14	2		14,7	
Northern Cape	314	319	337	308	309	1	-5	0,4	-1,5
Formal sector*		255	287	251	235	-16		-6,2	
Informal sector*		44	32	36	55	19		53,4	
Household sector	17	21	18	22	19	-2		-10,1	
Free State	766	782	771	760	769	9	3	1,2	0,4
Formal sector*		553	541	526	526	0		0,0	
Informal sector*		164	159	161	165	4		2,8	
Household sector	71	65	72	74	78	5		6,4	

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.4: Employed by province, metro and sector (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Free State - Non-Metro	514	540	548	537	547	9	32	1,8	6,3
Formal sector*		373	380	376	378	1		0,4	
Informal sector*		120	117	116	114	-2		-1,4	
Household sector	56	46	51	45	55	10		21,8	
Free State - Mangaung	252	242	223	223	223	0	-29	-0,1	-11,6
Formal sector*		180	161	149	148	-1		-0,8	
Informal sector*		44	42	45	51	6		13,6	
Household sector	15	18	20	29	24	-5		-17,7	
KwaZulu Natal	2 702	2 757	2 716	2 722	2 725	3	22	0,1	0,8
Formal sector*		1 781	1 832	1 897	1 951	54		2,8	
Informal sector*		774	693	634	593	-40		-6,3	
Household sector	184	202	191	190	180	-10		-5,5	
KwaZulu Natal - Non-Metro	1 503	1 551	1 448	1 462	1 435	-27	-68	-1,9	-4,5
Formal sector*		982	957	981	1 003	22		2,2	
Informal sector*		463	399	370	333	-37		-10,0	
Household sector	97	106	92	111	99	-12		-10,7	
KwaZulu Natal - eThekweni	1 199	1 206	1 268	1 259	1 290	30	90	2,4	7,5
Formal sector*		799	875	916	948	32		3,5	
Informal sector*		311	294	264	261	-3		-1,2	
Household sector	87	96	99	79	81	1		1,9	

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.4: Employed by province, metro and sector (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	895	937	973	894	878	-15	-17	-1,7	-1,8
Formal sector*		649	657	634	602	-33		-5,1	
Informal sector*		231	248	202	210	8		3,9	
Household sector	49	57	68	57	66	9		16,1	
Gauteng	5 186	5 237	5 183	5 116	5 094	-22	-92	-0,4	-1,8
Formal sector*		3 871	3 943	3 910	3 941	31		0,8	
Informal sector*		1 023	911	895	858	-38		-4,2	
Household sector	324	342	330	310	295	-15		-4,9	
Gauteng - Non-Metro	650	702	707	719	705	-14	55	-1,9	8,4
Formal sector*		555	572	585	572	-13		-2,2	
Informal sector*		108	98	100	92	-8		-8,2	
Household sector	36	40	37	34	41	8		22,7	
Gauteng - Ekurhuleni	1 200	1 235	1 248	1 231	1 228	-3	28	-0,2	2,4
Formal sector*		969	990	988	984	-4		-0,4	
Informal sector*		211	207	197	199	2		1,1	
Household sector	58	54	51	46	45	-1		-1,6	
Gauteng - City of Johannesburg	2 000	1 963	1 915	1 938	1 910	-28	-90	-1,4	-4,5
Formal sector*		1 341	1 328	1 340	1 360	20		1,5	
Informal sector*		473	439	449	416	-33		-7,3	
Household sector	142	149	147	149	133	-15		-10,2	

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.4: Employed by province, metro and sector (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Gauteng - City of Tshwane	1 336	1 336	1 313	1 229	1 251	22	-85	1,8	-6,4
Formal sector*		1 006	1 053	997	1 026	28		2,8	
Informal sector*		231	166	149	150	1		0,6	
Household sector	87	99	95	82	75	-7		-8,6	
Mpumalanga	1 223	1 246	1 283	1 229	1 270	41	47	3,3	3,9
Formal sector*		838	839	831	803	-29		-3,4	
Informal sector*		326	353	313	372	60		19,2	
Household sector	85	83	92	86	95	9		10,9	
Limpopo	1 515	1 555	1 552	1 509	1 512	3	-3	0,2	-0,2
Formal sector*		925	973	925	908	-16		-1,8	
Informal sector*		542	466	475	508	33		6,9	
Household sector	104	87	113	109	96	-13		-12,1	

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

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.5: Employed by sex and occupation - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Manager	1 507	1 453	1 433	1 499	1 459	-40	-49	-2,7	-3,2
Professional	983	909	952	950	916	-34	-67	-3,6	-6,8
Technician	1 565	1 488	1 575	1 484	1 460	-25	-105	-1,7	-6,7
Clerk	1 813	1 856	1 820	1 791	1 788	-3	-26	-0,2	-1,4
Sales and services	2 875	3 073	3 079	2 934	3 037	103	162	3,5	5,6
Skilled agriculture	47	97	60	95	81	-13	34	-14,0	72,9
Craft and related trade	1 858	1 991	1 943	1 851	1 930	78	71	4,2	3,8
Plant and machine operator	1 396	1 413	1 427	1 459	1 381	-78	-15	-5,3	-1,1
Elementary	3 923	3 903	3 916	3 844	3 846	2	-77	0,0	-2,0
Domestic worker	839	848	855	844	831	-14	-8	-1,6	-1,0
Other		25	39	3	12	8		248,8	
Women	7 400	7 429	7 470	7 264	7 294	30	-106	0,4	-1,4
Manager	501	508	497	518	514	-3	14	-0,6	2,8
Professional	563	495	550	513	532	19	-31	3,8	-5,5
Technician	784	726	807	760	737	-22	-47	-3,0	-6,0
Clerk	1 299	1 341	1 312	1 264	1 241	-23	-58	-1,8	-4,5
Sales and services	1 422	1 550	1 546	1 447	1 473	26	51	1,8	3,6
Skilled agriculture	11	25	24	22	23	1	12	2,3	105,8
Craft and related trade	258	257	234	211	232	21	-26	10,0	-10,1
Plant and machine operator	166	180	165	175	195	20	29	11,2	17,5
Elementary	1 593	1 539	1 509	1 562	1 552	-10	-41	-0,6	-2,6
Domestic worker	802	798	813	791	787	-3	-14	-0,4	-1,8
Other		10	14	2	7	5		267,4	

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.5: Employed by sex and occupation - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Men	9 407	9 625	9 629	9 490	9 445	-45	38	-0,5	0,4
Manager	1 007	945	937	981	944	-37	-62	-3,7	-6,2
Professional	420	414	402	437	384	-54	-36	-12,3	-8,6
Technician	781	762	768	725	722	-2	-58	-0,3	-7,4
Clerk	514	515	508	527	546	19	32	3,7	6,3
Sales and services	1 452	1 523	1 533	1 487	1 564	77	112	5,2	7,7
Skilled agriculture	36	72	36	72	58	-14	23	-19,0	62,8
Craft and related trade	1 601	1 734	1 709	1 641	1 698	57	97	3,5	6,1
Plant and machine operator	1 230	1 233	1 263	1 283	1 186	-97	-44	-7,6	-3,6
Elementary	2 330	2 363	2 407	2 282	2 293	12	-36	0,5	-1,6
Domestic worker	37	50	42	54	44	-10	6	-19,1	16,7
Other		15	25	1	5	3		224,4	

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.6: Employed by sex and status in employment 19th ICLS (ICSE-93) - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Employee	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Employer	947	776	805	819	795	-24	-152	-2,9	-16,0
Own-account worker	1 926	2 069	1 931	1 995	2 047	52	121	2,6	6,3
Unpaid household member	97	117	94	106	81	-25	-15	-23,3	-16,0
Women	7 400	7 429	7 470	7 264	7 294	30	-106	0,4	-1,4
Employee	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Employer	220	172	164	179	159	-20	-61	-11,3	-27,6
Own-account worker	781	816	748	758	807	49	26	6,4	3,3
Unpaid household member	49	57	45	51	45	-6	-3	-11,3	-7,0
Men	9 407	9 625	9 629	9 490	9 445	-45	38	-0,5	0,4
Employee	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Employer	728	603	640	640	636	-4	-91	-0,6	-12,6
Own-account worker	1 145	1 254	1 183	1 237	1 240	3	95	0,3	8,3
Unpaid household member	48	60	50	55	36	-19	-12	-34,3	-25,0

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.6b: Employed by sex and status in employment (ICSE-18 Type of authority) - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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		17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16		-0,1	
Employers		788	825	838	808	-30		-3,6	
Independent workers without employees		1 738	1 611	1 692	1 817	125		7,4	
Dependent contractors		642	540	503	457	-46		-9,1	
Employees		13 826	14 084	13 682	13 628	-54		-0,4	
Contributing family workers		61	39	40	28	-11		-28,3	
Women		7 429	7 470	7 264	7 294	30		0,4	
Employers		179	177	191	168	-23		-12,1	
Independent workers without employees		704	640	660	723	63		9,5	
Dependent contractors		208	176	164	168	3		2,1	
Employees		6 311	6 460	6 229	6 224	-5		-0,1	
Contributing family workers		28	17	20	12	-8		-40,6	
Men		9 625	9 629	9 490	9 445	-45		-0,5	
Employers		608	648	647	640	-7		-1,1	
Independent workers without employees		1 034	971	1 032	1 094	62		6,0	
Dependent contractors		434	363	339	289	-49		-14,5	
Employees		7 516	7 624	7 453	7 405	-49		-0,7	
Contributing family workers		33	22	19	16	-3		-15,4	

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.6c: Employed by sex and status in employment (ICSE-18 detailed) - South Africa

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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		17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16		-0,1	
Employers in corporations		195	173	198	171	-27		-13,5	
Employers in household market units		593	652	640	637	-3		-0,5	
Owners-operators of corporations without employees		96	78	61	71	10		16,3	
Own-account workers in household market units		1 642	1 533	1 631	1 746	115		7,1	
Dependent contractors		642	540	503	457	-46		-9,1	
Permanent employees		11 616	12 022	11 845	11 979	134		1,1	
Fixed-term employees		1 559	1 491	1 326	1 204	-121		-9,2	
Short term and casual employees		291	291	282	220	-62		-22,0	
Paid apprentices, trainees and interns		87	66	71	62	-9		-12,2	
Employees not elsewhere classified		274	214	159	163	4		2,4	
Contributing family workers		61	39	40	28	-11		-28,3	
Women		7 429	7 470	7 264	7 294	30		0,4	
Employers in corporations		49	55	59	46	-13		-22,6	
Employers in household market units		131	122	132	122	-10		-7,3	
Owners-operators of corporations without employees		28	21	24	23	-1		-5,0	
Own-account workers in household market units		676	620	636	700	64		10,1	
Dependent contractors		208	176	164	168	3		2,1	
Permanent employees		5 257	5 478	5 362	5 447	85		1,6	
Fixed-term employees		796	747	655	591	-64		-9,8	
Short term and casual employees		99	121	108	97	-11		-10,0	
Paid apprentices, trainees and interns		50	40	41	29	-12		-28,2	
Employees not elsewhere classified		108	73	64	60	-4		-6,2	
Contributing family workers		28	17	20	12	-8		-40,6	

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.6c: Employed by sex and status in employment (ICSE-18 detailed) - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Men		9 625	9 629	9 490	9 445	-45		-0,5	
Employers in corporations		146	118	139	126	-13		-9,6	
Employers in household market units		462	530	508	515	7		1,3	
Owners-operators of corporations without employees		67	57	37	48	11		30,0	
Own-account workers in household market units		967	914	994	1 045	51		5,1	
Dependent contractors		434	363	339	289	-49		-14,5	
Permanent employees		6 359	6 544	6 483	6 532	49		0,8	
Fixed-term employees		762	744	670	613	-57		-8,5	
Short term and casual employees		192	170	175	123	-51		-29,4	
Paid apprentices, trainees and interns		37	25	30	33	3		9,5	
Employees not elsewhere classified		166	141	95	103	8		8,1	
Contributing family workers		33	22	19	16	-3		-15,4	

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.7: Employed by sex and usual hours of work - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Working less than 15 hours per week	496	585	433	461	456	-6	-40	-1,3	-8,1
Working 15-29 hours per week	1 179	1 111	1 073	1 095	1 138	43	-41	4,0	-3,5
Working 30-39 hours per week	1 079	1 176	1 168	1 097	1 091	-7	11	-0,6	1,1
Working 40-45 hours per week	9 402	9 556	9 858	9 542	9 525	-18	122	-0,2	1,3
Working more than 45 hours per week	4 650	4 626	4 566	4 559	4 530	-29	-120	-0,6	-2,6
Women	7 400	7 429	7 470	7 264	7 294	30	-106	0,4	-1,4
Working less than 15 hours per week	283	327	219	241	249	8	-34	3,4	-12,1
Working 15-29 hours per week	729	647	650	671	675	4	-55	0,6	-7,5
Working 30-39 hours per week	597	657	701	629	598	-31	1	-4,9	0,2
Working 40-45 hours per week	4 248	4 352	4 453	4 259	4 299	40	51	0,9	1,2
Working more than 45 hours per week	1 542	1 446	1 445	1 465	1 473	8	-69	0,6	-4,5
Men	9 407	9 625	9 629	9 490	9 445	-45	38	-0,5	0,4
Working less than 15 hours per week	212	258	214	221	207	-14	-6	-6,3	-2,7
Working 15-29 hours per week	450	464	424	424	463	39	13	9,3	3,0
Working 30-39 hours per week	482	519	466	468	492	24	10	5,2	2,1
Working 40-45 hours per week	5 154	5 204	5 405	5 284	5 225	-58	71	-1,1	1,4
Working more than 45 hours per week	3 108	3 180	3 120	3 094	3 057	-37	-51	-1,2	-1,7

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

Note: 'Employment' refers to market production activities.

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment based on ICSE-93 - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Pension/retirement fund contribution									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Yes	6 194	6 180	6 337	6 423	6 367	-55	174	-0,9	2,8
No	7 236	7 433	7 487	6 994	7 005	12	-230	0,2	-3,2
Don't know	407	481	445	418	442	25	35	5,9	8,7
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Yes	2 825	2 837	2 907	2 873	2 916	44	91	1,5	3,2
No	3 340	3 325	3 424	3 240	3 196	-43	-144	-1,3	-4,3
Don't know	185	222	183	163	170	7	-15	4,3	-8,1
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Yes	3 368	3 343	3 430	3 550	3 451	-99	82	-2,8	2,4
No	3 896	4 108	4 064	3 754	3 809	55	-87	1,5	-2,2
Don't know	222	258	262	255	272	18	50	7,0	22,7
Entitled to any paid leave									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Yes	9 219	9 166	9 562	9 481	9 334	-147	114	-1,6	1,2
No	4 437	4 722	4 498	4 204	4 297	93	-139	2,2	-3,1
Don't know	181	205	209	149	184	35	3	23,7	1,8
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Yes	4 311	4 260	4 438	4 323	4 297	-26	-14	-0,6	-0,3
No	1 967	2 021	1 997	1 892	1 927	34	-41	1,8	-2,1
Don't know	73	104	79	61	59	-1	-13	-1,9	-18,1
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Yes	4 909	4 906	5 124	5 158	5 037	-122	128	-2,4	2,6
No	2 469	2 702	2 501	2 312	2 371	59	-99	2,5	-4,0
Don't know	108	101	130	88	124	36	16	41,3	15,2

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

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 2: 2026

Table 3.8: Conditions of employment based on ICSE-93 - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Entitled to paid sick leave									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Yes	9 982	10 078	10 483	10 326	10 269	-57	287	-0,6	2,9
No	3 687	3 820	3 569	3 364	3 364	0	-324	0,0	-8,8
Don't know	167	196	217	144	183	39	16	26,8	9,5
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Yes	4 619	4 648	4 841	4 665	4 727	61	108	1,3	2,3
No	1 661	1 645	1 584	1 554	1 496	-58	-165	-3,8	-9,9
Don't know	71	92	89	56	60	4	-11	7,9	-15,1
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Yes	5 364	5 430	5 642	5 661	5 542	-118	179	-2,1	3,3
No	2 026	2 175	1 985	1 809	1 868	58	-159	3,2	-7,8
Don't know	96	104	128	88	122	34	27	38,7	27,7
Entitled to maternity/paternity leave									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Yes	7 725	7 892	8 131	8 094	8 001	-93	276	-1,1	3,6
No	5 762	5 807	5 697	5 394	5 416	22	-346	0,4	-6,0
Don't know	349	394	441	346	398	52	48	15,1	13,9
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Yes	3 773	3 874	3 971	3 889	3 903	13	129	0,3	3,4
No	2 447	2 343	2 369	2 263	2 250	-14	-197	-0,6	-8,1
Don't know	130	168	174	123	131	8	0	6,4	0,4
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Yes	3 951	4 019	4 160	4 205	4 098	-106	147	-2,5	3,7
No	3 315	3 464	3 328	3 131	3 167	36	-149	1,2	-4,5
Don't know	219	226	268	223	267	44	48	19,8	21,9

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 2: 2026

Table 3.8b: Conditions of employment based on ICSE-93 - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
UIF contribution									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Yes	8 532	8 737	8 937	8 808	8 823	15	291	0,2	3,4
No	4 993	4 993	4 962	4 749	4 667	-82	-325	-1,7	-6,5
Don't know	312	364	370	277	325	48	13	17,2	4,3
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Yes	3 760	3 833	3 923	3 752	3 903	151	143	4,0	3,8
No	2 447	2 367	2 423	2 382	2 261	-122	-186	-5,1	-7,6
Don't know	143	184	168	141	119	-22	-24	-15,6	-17,0
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Yes	4 772	4 904	5 014	5 055	4 920	-136	148	-2,7	3,1
No	2 546	2 626	2 539	2 367	2 407	40	-139	1,7	-5,5
Don't know	168	179	203	136	206	70	38	51,1	22,4
Medical aid benefits									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Yes	4 191	4 292	4 364	4 454	4 322	-132	131	-3,0	3,1
No	9 451	9 525	9 640	9 154	9 196	42	-255	0,5	-2,7
Don't know	194	276	265	226	297	72	103	31,7	53,0
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Yes	1 961	2 046	2 065	2 035	1 990	-45	29	-2,2	1,5
No	4 302	4 199	4 322	4 140	4 175	34	-127	0,8	-3,0
Don't know	88	140	126	100	118	18	30	17,6	34,6
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Yes	2 230	2 246	2 299	2 419	2 332	-87	102	-3,6	4,6
No	5 149	5 327	5 317	5 014	5 021	7	-128	0,1	-2,5
Don't know	107	136	140	125	179	54	73	43,0	68,1

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

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

Table 3.8b: Conditions of employment based on ICSE-93 - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Income tax (PAYE/ SITE) deduction									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Yes	7 630	7 951	8 128	8 238	8 145	-94	514	-1,1	6,7
No	5 774	5 698	5 697	5 188	5 233	45	-542	0,9	-9,4
Don't know	432	444	444	408	438	30	6	7,2	1,4
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Yes	3 492	3 622	3 735	3 693	3 712	20	220	0,5	6,3
No	2 673	2 550	2 590	2 406	2 401	-6	-273	-0,2	-10,2
Don't know	185	213	188	176	170	-7	-15	-3,7	-8,2
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Yes	4 138	4 329	4 392	4 545	4 432	-113	294	-2,5	7,1
No	3 101	3 148	3 107	2 781	2 832	51	-269	1,8	-8,7
Don't know	247	231	256	232	268	36	21	15,6	8,7
Condition of employment									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Written contract	11 364	11 548	11 849	11 525	11 458	-67	95	-0,6	0,8
Verbal agreement	2 473	2 545	2 420	2 309	2 357	48	-116	2,1	-4,7
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Written contract	5 350	5 382	5 528	5 289	5 292	2	-58	0,0	-1,1
Verbal agreement	1 001	1 003	985	986	991	5	-10	0,5	-1,0
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Written contract	6 014	6 166	6 321	6 236	6 167	-69	153	-1,1	2,5
Verbal agreement	1 472	1 542	1 434	1 322	1 366	43	-106	3,3	-7,2

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 3.8c: Conditions of employment based on ICSE-93 - South Africa

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Nature of contract/agreement (Both sexes)									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 814	-20	-22	-0,1	-0,2
For a specified period of time		1 869	1 770	1 570	1 425	-145		-9,3	
Until the date a task is completed		340	298	229	217	-12		-5,1	
Permanent or until retirement		7 881	8 128	8 086	8 163	77		1,0	
Ongoing with no specified end date		3 902	3 994	3 860	3 922	63		1,6	
Don't know		101	79	90	87	-3		-3,0	
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
For a specified period of time		920	888	773	700	-73		-9,4	
Until the date a task is completed		95	83	70	61	-9		-12,6	
Permanent or until retirement		3 616	3 740	3 643	3 710	66		1,8	
Ongoing with no specified end date		1 697	1 776	1 757	1 780	23		1,3	
Don't know		56	26	32	32	0		0,6	
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 531	-27	45	-0,4	0,6
For a specified period of time		949	882	797	725	-72		-9,1	
Until the date a task is completed		245	215	159	156	-3		-1,8	
Permanent or until retirement		4 264	4 387	4 442	4 453	11		0,3	
Ongoing with no specified end date		2 205	2 218	2 103	2 142	40		1,9	
Don't know		44	53	58	55	-3		-5,0	
Trade union membership (Both sexes)									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Yes	3 998	3 908	3 973	3 935	3 994	59	-4	1,5	-0,1
No	9 292	9 564	9 709	9 369	9 240	-129	-52	-1,4	-0,6
Don't know	546	622	587	530	580	51	34	9,6	6,3

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

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

Table 3.8c: Conditions of employment based on ICSE-93 - South Africa (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Yes	1 822	1 773	1 828	1 797	1 815	19	-7	1,0	-0,4
No	4 278	4 329	4 426	4 271	4 228	-43	-50	-1,0	-1,2
Don't know	250	283	259	208	239	32	-11	15,2	-4,5
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Yes	2 176	2 135	2 145	2 139	2 179	40	3	1,9	0,1
No	5 014	5 235	5 283	5 098	5 012	-86	-2	-1,7	0,0
Don't know	296	339	328	322	341	19	45	6,0	15,4
How annual salary increment is negotiated									
Both sexes	13 836	14 093	14 269	13 834	13 815	-19	-21	-0,1	-0,2
Individual and employer	1 010	1 066	1 116	1 006	1 009	3	-1	0,3	-0,1
Union and employer	2 890	2 838	2 769	2 719	2 817	98	-73	3,6	-2,5
Bargaining council	1 359	1 274	1 436	1 431	1 365	-67	6	-4,6	0,4
Employer only	7 752	7 931	7 929	7 751	7 809	58	57	0,7	0,7
No regular increment	773	930	968	879	786	-92	13	-10,5	1,7
Other	52	54	50	48	29	-19	-23	-39,5	-44,2
Women	6 351	6 385	6 513	6 276	6 283	7	-68	0,1	-1,1
Individual and employer	429	452	471	430	439	9	10	2,0	2,4
Union and employer	1 270	1 223	1 201	1 179	1 229	49	-41	4,2	-3,2
Bargaining council	713	684	738	737	682	-55	-31	-7,4	-4,3
Employer only	3 564	3 581	3 645	3 545	3 577	31	12	0,9	0,3
No regular increment	351	421	438	369	347	-22	-4	-5,9	-1,2
Other	23	23	21	15	9	-5	-14	-36,7	-59,6

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 3.8c: Conditions of employment based on ICSE-93 - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Men	7 486	7 709	7 755	7 558	7 532	-26	46	-0,3	0,6
Individual and employer	581	614	646	575	570	-5	-11	-0,9	-1,9
Union and employer	1 621	1 614	1 568	1 540	1 588	49	-32	3,2	-2,0
Bargaining council	646	590	698	694	682	-12	37	-1,7	5,7
Employer only	4 188	4 350	4 285	4 206	4 232	26	44	0,6	1,1
No regular increment	422	510	530	510	439	-71	17	-13,8	4,1
Other	29	31	29	33	20	-14	-9	-40,8	-31,8

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

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

Table 3.9: Time-related underemployment - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	710	747	705	795	740	-56	30	-7,0	4,2
Women	382	397	378	447	413	-34	30	-7,7	7,9
Men	328	350	327	349	327	-21	-1	-6,1	-0,2
As percentage of the labour force (Both sexes)	2,8	3,0	2,8	3,2	2,9	-0,3	0,1		
Women	3,3	3,5	3,3	3,9	3,5	-0,4	0,2		
Men	2,4	2,6	2,4	2,6	2,4	-0,2	0,0		
As percentage of total employment (Both sexes)	4,2	4,4	4,1	4,7	4,4	-0,3	0,2		
Women	5,2	5,3	5,1	6,2	5,7	-0,5	0,5		
Men	3,5	3,6	3,4	3,7	3,5	-0,2	0,0		

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 3.9: Time-related underemployment - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Industry	710	747	705	795	740	-56	30	-7,0	4,2
Agriculture	18	21	22	32	25	-7	7	-22,3	36,4
Mining		1		2					
Manufacturing	23	38	31	27	40	13	17	47,9	75,8
Utilities					2				
Construction	68	86	83	83	90	6	22	7,7	31,5
Trade	136	142	102	123	116	-7	-20	-5,9	-14,8
Transport	33	23	20	32	22	-10	-10	-31,2	-32,1
Finance	74	72	75	71	91	19	16	27,3	22,3
Community and social services	181	193	177	211	174	-37	-7	-17,4	-3,9
Private households	177	170	196	213	181	-33	4	-15,3	2,1
Other		1							
Occupation	710	747	705	795	740	-56	30	-7,0	4,2
Manager	23	17	23	34	15	-19	-8	-55,3	-33,8
Professional	14	9	12	7	13	6	-1	76,8	-9,2
Technician	41	35	36	35	40	6	0	16,5	-0,7
Clerk	15	19	16	34	22	-12	7	-34,8	45,4
Sales and services	83	96	90	91	95	4	12	3,9	14,4
Skilled agriculture	2	5	7	11	2	-8	1	-76,9	26,9
Craft and related trade	87	110	92	86	86	0	-1	0,1	-0,7
Plant and machine operator	26	26	17	25	27	2	1	7,7	3,7
Elementary	295	311	270	313	316	2	21	0,7	7,1
Domestic worker	124	117	142	158	122	-36	-2	-22,8	-1,4
Other		1	1						

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

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

Table 3 10: Formal and informal employment									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Employed (Both sexes)		17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16		-0,1	
Formal employment*		11 032	11 377	11 336	11 321	-14		-0,1	
Informal employment*		6 023	5 722	5 419	5 417	-1		0,0	
Employed (Women)		7 429	7 470	7 264	7 294	30		0,4	
Formal employment*		4 934	5 081	4 963	4 996	33		0,7	
Informal employment*		2 495	2 389	2 302	2 298	-3		-0,1	
Employed (Men)		9 625	9 629	9 490	9 445	-45		-0,5	
Formal employment*		6 098	6 295	6 373	6 325	-48		-0,7	
Informal employment*		3 528	3 333	3 117	3 119	2		0,1	
Formal employment*		11 032	11 377	11 336	11 321	-14		-0,1	
15-24 yrs		603	566	550	561	10		1,9	
25-34 yrs		2 992	3 010	2 980	2 938	-42		-1,4	
35-44 yrs		3 440	3 623	3 642	3 600	-42		-1,1	
45-54 yrs		2 801	2 894	2 924	2 976	51		1,8	
55-64 yrs		1 197	1 284	1 239	1 247	8		0,6	
Informal employment*		6 023	5 722	5 419	5 417	-1		0,0	
15-24 yrs		574	578	498	484	-15		-3,0	
25-34 yrs		1 795	1 697	1 563	1 570	7		0,5	
35-44 yrs		1 794	1 671	1 566	1 575	9		0,6	
45-54 yrs		1 301	1 221	1 226	1 247	22		1,8	
55-64 yrs		559	556	566	542	-24		-4,3	

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.

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3 10: Formal and informal employment (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Formal employment*		11 032	11 377	11 336	11 321	-14		-0,1	
No schooling		67	88	74	85	11		14,6	
Less than primary completed		276	299	309	283	-26		-8,4	
Primary completed		188	217	207	199	-9		-4,2	
Secondary not completed		2 720	2 804	2 853	2 851	-2		-0,1	
Secondary completed		4 372	4 427	4 440	4 444	4		0,1	
Tertiary		3 241	3 371	3 302	3 310	9		0,3	
Other		168	171	150	149	-1		-0,8	
Informal employment*		6 023	5 722	5 419	5 417	-1		0,0	
No schooling		86	81	70	79	9		12,7	
Less than primary completed		359	287	307	289	-19		-6,0	
Primary completed		248	226	211	210	0		-0,2	
Secondary not completed		2 414	2 196	2 208	2 059	-148		-6,7	
Secondary completed		2 009	2 011	1 807	1 922	115		6,4	
Tertiary		766	819	739	758	19		2,6	
Other		141	101	77	100	23		29,3	

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.

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.10b: Formal and informal employment (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Formal employment*		11 032	11 377	11 336	11 321	-14		-0,1	
Agriculture		401	490	487	456	-31		-6,4	
Mining		400	417	445	415	-30		-6,8	
Manufacturing		1 245	1 194	1 229	1 206	-23		-1,9	
Utilities		98	119	102	95	-7		-7,3	
Construction		634	729	711	716	6		0,8	
Trade		2 331	2 317	2 351	2 375	24		1,0	
Transport		600	623	640	678	37		5,8	
Finance		2 173	2 191	2 271	2 279	9		0,4	
Community and social services		2 954	3 038	2 875	2 868	-6		-0,2	
Private households		195	251	221	228	8		3,4	
Other		13	36	5	15	10		652,2	
Informal employment*		6 023	5 722	5 419	5 417	-1		0,0	
Agriculture		519	460	473	489	16		3,3	
Mining		49	26	31	35	4		13,8	
Manufacturing		365	355	358	366	8		2,3	
Utilities		12	14	11	8	-3		-25,0	
Construction		756	695	604	637	34		5,6	
Trade		1 093	1 008	968	1 014	45		4,7	
Transport		513	517	470	431	-39		-8,4	
Finance		757	770	668	671	3		0,4	
Community and social services		1 035	996	953	903	-50		-5,3	
Private households		916	878	880	864	-16		-1,9	
Other		23	9	5	1	-1		-36,8	

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.

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 3.10b: Formal and informal employment (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Formal employment*		11 032	11 377	11 336	11 321	-14		-0,1	
Manager		957	958	954	954	0		0,0	
Professional		766	788	812	788	-24		-3,0	
Technician		1 248	1 318	1 259	1 209	-49		-3,9	
Clerk		1 513	1 513	1 522	1 490	-32		-2,1	
Sales and services		2 097	2 121	2 090	2 185	95		4,6	
Skilled agriculture		38	32	38	41	3		8,8	
Craft and related trade		1 242	1 260	1 258	1 260	2		0,2	
Plant and machine operator		878	920	976	913	-62		-6,4	
Elementary		2 120	2 234	2 248	2 280	32		1,4	
Domestic worker		162	202	178	190	12		6,6	
Informal employment*		6 023	5 722	5 419	5 417	-1		0,0	
Manager		496	476	545	505	-40		-7,4	
Professional		143	163	138	128	-10		-7,3	
Technician		240	258	226	250	25		10,9	
Clerk		342	307	269	298	28		10,4	
Sales and services		976	959	844	852	8		0,9	
Skilled agriculture		59	27	56	40	-17		-29,3	
Craft and related trade		749	683	594	670	76		12,8	
Plant and machine operator		536	507	483	468	-15		-3,1	
Elementary		1 783	1 682	1 596	1 566	-30		-1,9	
Domestic worker		685	653	666	641	-25		-3,8	

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.

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed - South Africa

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Job losers	2 106	1 961	2 006	2 109	2 136	27	31	1,3	1,5
Job leavers	244	247	184	235	212	-23	-32	-9,8	-13,2
New entrants	3 611	3 472	3 317	3 375	3 770	395	159	11,7	4,4
Re-entrants	323	281	325	307	293	-14	-30	-4,7	-9,3
Other	2 083	2 047	2 003	2 110	2 070	-40	-13	-1,9	-0,6
Unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Long-term unemployment (1 year and more)	6 411	6 163	6 247	6 301	6 604	303	193	4,8	3,0
Short-term unemployment (less than 1 year)	1 956	1 845	1 588	1 836	1 877	41	-79	2,3	-4,0
Long-term unemployment (%)									
Proportion of the labour force	25,5	24,6	25,1	25,3	26,2	0,9	0,7		
Proportion of the unemployed	76,6	77,0	79,7	77,4	77,9	0,5	1,3		
Those who have worked in the past 5 years									
Previous occupation	2 673	2 489	2 515	2 651	2 641	-10	-32	-0,4	-1,2
Manager	56	47	57	61	55	-6	-1	-10,1	-2,6
Professional	75	51	57	70	70	0	-4	0,0	-5,8
Technician	117	136	142	149	160	10	43	6,7	36,8
Clerk	304	279	270	283	300	17	-4	5,9	-1,3
Sales and services	511	479	512	541	575	34	64	6,4	12,5
Skilled agriculture	11	8	11	7	6	0	-5	-6,2	-42,4
Craft and related trade	391	324	346	363	363	0	-29	-0,1	-7,3
Plant and machine operator	186	181	158	175	171	-4	-14	-2,0	-7,7
Elementary	873	837	793	842	809	-33	-64	-3,9	-7,4
Domestic worker	149	141	160	160	131	-28	-18	-17,7	-12,1
Other		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.

Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	2 673	2 489	2 515	2 651	2 641	-10	-32	-0,4	-1,2
Agriculture	170	163	162	194	169	-25	-1	-12,9	-0,6
Mining	63	37	41	32	45	13	-18	40,1	-29,0
Manufacturing	256	239	215	231	205	-26	-51	-11,4	-19,9
Utilities	11	18	14	15	14	0	3	-2,5	30,6
Construction	379	327	336	357	344	-13	-35	-3,7	-9,1
Trade	578	537	536	550	548	-3	-30	-0,5	-5,2
Transport	143	141	149	137	146	9	3	6,2	2,2
Finance	341	340	352	365	415	50	74	13,8	21,6
Community and social services	504	462	495	546	558	12	54	2,3	10,7
Private households	229	217	210	222	197	-26	-32	-11,6	-14,0
Other		5	6	2	1	-1		-41,4	

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 5: Characteristics of Outside the Labour Force - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
Student	6 090	6 038	6 281	6 017	6 119	101	29	1,7	0,5
Home-maker	2 373	2 417	2 403	2 370	2 376	6	3	0,2	0,1
Illness/disability	1 600	1 724	1 668	1 687	1 743	56	143	3,3	9,0
Too old/young to work	1 762	1 801	1 770	1 811	1 787	-24	25	-1,3	1,4
Discouraged job-seekers	3 445	3 481	3 714	3 893	3 665	-227	221	-5,8	6,4
Other	1 379	1 426	1 298	1 520	1 400	-119	22	-7,9	1,6
Inactivity rate by age (Both sexes)	39,8	40,3	40,7	41,0	40,4	-0,6	0,6		
15-24 years	73,3	72,6	74,3	74,1	72,9	-1,2	-0,4		
25-54 years	24,4	25,3	25,5	26,0	25,4	-0,6	1,0		
55-64 years	55,3	55,7	54,9	55,4	56,1	0,7	0,8		
Inactivity rate by age (Women)	45,1	45,7	46,0	46,2	45,1	-1,1	0,0		
15-24 years	75,4	75,0	76,8	76,4	74,8	-1,6	-0,6		
25-54 years	30,3	31,5	31,2	31,5	30,4	-1,1	0,1		
55-64 years	62,0	62,2	62,6	62,7	63,4	0,7	1,4		
Inactivity rate by age (Men)	34,4	34,7	35,4	35,8	35,6	-0,2	1,2		
15-24 years	71,1	70,1	71,8	71,8	71,0	-0,8	-0,1		
25-54 years	18,6	19,3	20,0	20,5	20,4	-0,1	1,8		
55-64 years	47,0	47,8	45,5	46,5	47,2	0,7	0,2		

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 6: Socio-demographic characteristics - South Africa

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
15-24 years	1 043	1 177	1 143	1 049	1 044	-5	1	-0,5	0,1
25-34 years	4 656	4 787	4 707	4 543	4 508	-35	-148	-0,8	-3,2
35-44 years	5 222	5 234	5 294	5 208	5 175	-33	-48	-0,6	-0,9
45-54 years	4 119	4 102	4 115	4 150	4 223	73	104	1,8	2,5
55-64 years	1 766	1 755	1 840	1 805	1 789	-16	22	-0,9	1,3
Age group of the unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
15-24 years	1 715	1 657	1 513	1 632	1 764	132	49	8,1	2,8
25-34 years	3 167	2 978	3 038	3 101	3 233	132	66	4,3	2,1
35-44 years	2 104	2 017	2 000	2 088	2 134	47	30	2,2	1,4
45-54 years	1 123	1 093	1 052	1 055	1 088	33	-34	3,1	-3,1
55-64 years	259	263	232	261	263	2	4	0,6	1,4
Age group of Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
15-24 years	7 554	7 491	7 680	7 668	7 553	-115	-1	-1,5	0,0
25-34 years	2 798	2 857	2 874	2 972	2 872	-99	74	-3,3	2,7
35-44 years	1 969	2 082	2 072	2 105	2 126	20	157	1,0	8,0
45-54 years	1 824	1 914	1 982	1 985	1 920	-65	96	-3,3	5,3
55-64 years	2 503	2 543	2 526	2 568	2 619	51	116	2,0	4,6
Highest level of education of the employed	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
No schooling	153	154	169	144	164	20	11	13,7	7,2
Less than primary completed	603	635	586	616	572	-44	-31	-7,2	-5,1
Primary completed	432	436	443	418	409	-9	-23	-2,2	-5,2
Secondary not completed	5 087	5 134	5 000	5 061	4 911	-151	-176	-3,0	-3,5
Secondary completed	6 230	6 381	6 439	6 247	6 366	119	137	1,9	2,2
Tertiary	4 016	4 007	4 190	4 040	4 068	28	52	0,7	1,3
Other	287	309	272	227	249	21	-38	9,4	-13,3

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 6: Socio-demographic characteristics - South Africa (continued)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Highest level of education of the unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
No schooling	52	66	52	44	54	10	2	21,9	3,3
Less than primary completed	298	282	280	256	269	13	-29	5,2	-9,8
Primary completed	234	240	202	206	208	2	-26	1,1	-11,2
Secondary not completed	3 493	3 292	3 195	3 253	3 376	123	-116	3,8	-3,3
Secondary completed	3 385	3 294	3 274	3 462	3 574	112	189	3,2	5,6
Tertiary	844	766	769	856	919	62	75	7,3	8,9
Other	61	68	63	59	81	22	20	37,0	32,7
Highest level of education of Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
No schooling	495	470	454	477	458	-19	-37	-4,0	-7,5
Less than primary completed	1 098	1 161	1 115	1 117	1 131	13	32	1,2	2,9
Primary completed	875	920	981	853	857	4	-18	0,5	-2,0
Secondary not completed	8 562	8 844	8 963	8 691	8 823	132	261	1,5	3,1
Secondary completed	4 604	4 446	4 538	5 107	4 750	-357	146	-7,0	3,2
Tertiary	805	834	844	837	838	1	33	0,2	4,1
Other	209	213	240	217	234	17	25	7,9	11,9
Employed	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Attending educational institution	343	339	302	282	302	19	-41	6,8	-12,0
Not attending educational institution	16 464	16 716	16 797	16 472	16 437	-35	-27	-0,2	-0,2
Unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Attending educational institution	143	117	117	122	104	-18	-39	-14,9	-27,5
Not attending educational institution	8 225	7 890	7 718	8 015	8 378	363	153	4,5	1,9
Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
Attending educational institution	5 949	5 977	5 994	5 759	5 859	99	-90	1,7	-1,5
Not attending educational institution	10 699	10 909	11 140	11 538	11 231	-307	532	-2,7	5,0

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

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

Table 6b: Socio-demographic characteristics - South Africa (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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
Current marital status of the employed	16 807	17 055	17 099	16 754	16 739	-16	-68	-0,1	-0,4
Married	5 826	5 766	5 834	5 690	5 600	-89	-226	-1,6	-3,9
Living together like husband and wife	2 111	2 110	2 240	2 145	2 185	40	74	1,9	3,5
Widow/widower	373	381	366	375	361	-15	-13	-3,9	-3,4
Divorced or separated	470	479	460	470	447	-23	-23	-4,8	-4,9
Never married	8 026	8 318	8 199	8 075	8 146	71	119	0,9	1,5
Current marital status of the unemployed	8 367	8 007	7 836	8 137	8 481	345	114	4,2	1,4
Married	958	994	912	965	960	-5	2	-0,5	0,2
Living together like husband and wife	821	751	729	771	770	-1	-51	-0,1	-6,2
Widow/widower	72	62	57	76	54	-22	-18	-28,9	-25,5
Divorced or separated	118	113	124	120	113	-7	-5	-5,8	-4,6
Never married	6 398	6 087	6 014	6 205	6 585	379	187	6,1	2,9
Current marital status of Outside the Labour Force	16 648	16 886	17 134	17 298	17 090	-208	442	-1,2	2,7
Married	2 563	2 586	2 451	2 438	2 462	24	-100	1,0	-3,9
Living together like husband and wife	982	982	1 068	1 056	1 022	-35	39	-3,3	4,0
Widow/widower	580	537	554	545	562	17	-18	3,1	-3,1
Divorced or separated	273	317	308	290	278	-12	6	-4,2	2,1
Never married	12 250	12 464	12 752	12 968	12 765	-203	516	-1,6	4,2

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

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

Table 7: Profile of Youth (15-24 years) not in Employment Education or Training (NEET) - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	3 625	3 497	3 515	3 891	3 772	-119	146	-3,1	4,0
Women	1 880	1 828	1 850	2 022	1 973	-49	92	-2,4	4,9
Men	1 745	1 669	1 665	1 869	1 799	-70	54	-3,7	3,1
Population groups	3 625	3 497	3 515	3 891	3 772	-119	146	-3,1	4,0
Black/African	3 152	3 069	3 096	3 431	3 313	-118	161	-3,4	5,1
Coloured	331	310	306	308	326	18	-4	5,9	-1,4
Indian/Asian	48	45	43	35	44	9	-3	27,2	-7,3
White	95	73	70	117	88	-29	-7	-24,6	-6,9
South Africa	3 625	3 497	3 515	3 891	3 772	-119	146	-3,1	4,0
Western Cape	361	344	321	357	358	0	-3	0,1	-0,9
Eastern Cape	477	481	465	538	488	-51	11	-9,4	2,3
Northern Cape	90	81	87	100	96	-4	6	-4,1	6,6
Free State	171	163	163	186	166	-20	-4	-10,8	-2,6
KwaZulu-Natal	733	715	733	816	785	-31	51	-3,8	7,0
North West	333	314	319	345	351	7	18	2,0	5,4
Gauteng	777	778	805	843	851	8	74	0,9	9,5
Mpumalanga	316	277	284	339	326	-13	10	-3,9	3,1
Limpopo	368	345	338	366	351	-15	-16	-4,1	-4,5

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 7b: NEET Rate Among Youth (15-24 years) Not in Employment, Education or Training - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Both sexes	35,2	33,9	34,0	37,6	36,4	-1,2	1,2		
Women	36,6	35,5	35,9	39,2	38,2	-1,0	1,6		
Men	33,7	32,2	32,1	36,0	34,6	-1,4	0,9		
Population group	35,2	33,9	34,0	37,6	36,4	-1,2	1,2		
Black/African	36,1	35,0	35,3	39,0	37,6	-1,4	1,5		
Coloured	38,6	36,1	35,8	36,1	38,3	2,2	-0,3		
Indian/Asian	24,2	23,1	21,8	17,5	22,2	4,7	-2,0		
White	18,4	14,2	13,6	22,9	17,3	-5,6	-1,1		
South Africa	35,2	33,9	34,0	37,6	36,4	-1,2	1,2		
Western Cape	32,2	30,3	29,3	32,5	32,3	-0,2	0,1		
Eastern Cape	34,5	35,6	35,0	39,5	37,4	-2,1	2,9		
Northern Cape	42,6	40,5	44,5	48,8	47,6	-1,2	5,0		
Free State	34,1	32,5	33,0	37,0	32,1	-4,9	-2,0		
KwaZulu-Natal	36,4	35,7	36,0	40,7	38,9	-1,8	2,5		
North West	42,8	39,9	39,7	44,4	44,6	0,2	1,8		
Gauteng	32,5	31,5	32,1	33,4	33,5	0,1	1,0		
Mpumalanga	37,7	34,4	35,2	42,0	39,8	-2,2	2,1		
Limpopo	34,1	31,9	31,7	34,4	33,0	-1,4	-1,1		

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

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

Table 7c: Profile of Youth (15-34 years) not in Employment Education or Training (NEET) - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	9 200	8 947	9 069	9 567	9 518	-49	318	-0,5	3,5
Women	4 907	4 803	4 878	5 104	4 432	-673	-475	-13,2	-9,7
Men	4 293	4 144	4 190	4 463	5 086	623	793	14,0	18,5
Population groups	9 200	8 947	9 069	9 567	9 518	-49	318	-0,5	3,5
Black/African	8 167	7 975	8 126	8 559	8 519	-41	352	-0,5	4,3
Coloured	699	660	640	670	692	22	-7	3,3	-1,0
Indian/Asian	136	143	140	111	116	5	-20	4,4	-14,5
White	198	169	163	226	191	-36	-7	-15,8	-3,6
South Africa	9 200	8 947	9 069	9 567	9 518	-49	318	-0,5	3,5
Western Cape	791	755	721	782	776	-6	-15	-0,8	-1,9
Eastern Cape	1 154	1 194	1 190	1 259	1 284	26	131	2,0	11,3
Northern Cape	217	214	218	228	226	-2	9	-0,8	4,1
Free State	423	405	433	451	415	-36	-7	-8,0	-1,7
KwaZulu-Natal	2 008	1 962	2 011	2 133	2 108	-24	101	-1,1	5,0
North West	742	691	687	765	768	3	26	0,3	3,4
Gauteng	2 142	2 085	2 144	2 185	2 216	31	75	1,4	3,5
Mpumalanga	775	747	751	822	798	-23	23	-2,9	3,0
Limpopo	950	895	913	942	926	-16	-24	-1,7	-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 7d: NEET Rate Among Youth (15-34 years) Not in Employment, Education or Training - South Africa									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change	Qrt to Qrt change	Year on year change
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Both sexes	43,9	42,7	43,3	45,6	45,4	-0,3	1,4		
Women	47,2	46,2	46,9	49,1	48,9	-0,2	1,6		
Men	40,7	39,3	39,7	42,3	41,9	-0,3	1,2		
Population groups	43,9	42,7	43,3	45,6	45,4	-0,3	1,4		
Black/African	46,0	44,9	45,7	48,1	47,8	-0,3	1,8		
Coloured	40,9	38,6	37,5	39,3	40,6	1,3	-0,4		
Indian/Asian	31,6	33,2	32,6	25,9	27,0	1,2	-4,5		
White	19,0	16,3	15,7	21,9	18,5	-3,4	-0,4		
South Africa	43,9	42,7	43,3	45,6	45,4	-0,3	1,4		
Western Cape	33,6	32,0	30,5	33,1	32,8	-0,3	-0,8		
Eastern Cape	45,8	47,4	47,3	50,1	51,1	1,1	5,3		
Northern Cape	50,6	50,0	50,9	53,1	52,7	-0,4	2,1		
Free State	43,2	41,5	44,5	46,5	42,9	-3,6	-0,3		
KwaZulu-Natal	47,7	46,6	47,7	50,6	49,9	-0,6	2,2		
North West	52,4	48,7	48,4	53,9	54,0	0,1	1,6		
Gauteng	41,1	39,9	41,0	41,7	42,2	0,5	1,1		
Mpumalanga	46,4	44,7	45,0	49,2	47,8	-1,4	1,4		
Limpopo	44,2	41,7	42,7	44,1	43,4	-0,7	-0,8		

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 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	2 007	2 014	2 364	2 348	1 933	-416	-74	-17,7	-3,7
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	3 766	4 383	3 982	3 958	3 837	-121	71	-3,1	1,9
Produce other goods for household use	293	358	296	318	284	-34	-9	-10,6	-3,1
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	306	301	265	324	285	-40	-21	-12,3	-7,0
Hunting or fishing for household use	39	32	32	40	23	-17	-16	-42,3	-41,7
Involvement in at least one activity	5 300	5 934	5 688	5 615	5 220	-394	-80	-7,0	-1,5
Employed	1 448	1 524	1 492	1 421	1 337	-84	-111	-5,9	-7,7
Unemployed	1 263	1 506	1 323	1 354	1 325	-29	62	-2,2	4,9
Outside the Labour Force	2 590	2 904	2 873	2 840	2 559	-282	-31	-9,9	-1,2
Western Cape									
Subsistence farming	82	73	75	71	45	-26	-37	-36,7	-45,5
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	117	99	119	143	144	0	26	0,3	22,3
Produce other goods for household use		11	4	1					
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	10	3			6		-5		-45,0
Hunting or fishing for household use				2					
Involvement in at least one activity	208	180	185	208	190	-18	-18	-8,6	-8,7
Employed	95	95	92	110	107	-3	12	-2,6	12,8
Unemployed	49	43	36	46	36	-10	-13	-22,0	-26,7
Outside the Labour Force	64	42	58	52	47	-5	-17	-9,7	-27,0
Eastern Cape									
Subsistence farming	417	477	596	504	424	-80	6	-15,9	1,5
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	771	913	813	733	612	-121	-159	-16,5	-20,6
Produce other goods for household use	48	50	8	17	6	-11	-42	-66,5	-88,3
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	92	99	67	110	75	-35	-17	-32,0	-18,1
Hunting or fishing for household use	9	9	12	7	5	-2	-4	-30,9	-45,9
Involvement in at least one activity	1 120	1 210	1 243	1 108	921	-187	-198	-16,8	-17,7
Employed	235	182	195	173	147	-26	-88	-14,9	-37,5
Unemployed	325	419	421	380	358	-22	33	-5,9	10,3
Outside the Labour Force	560	609	627	555	416	-139	-143	-25,0	-25,6

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.

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 2: 2026

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

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	32	14	10	7	11	4	-20	52,4	-63,9
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	128	123	135	159	157	-2	29	-1,1	22,7
Produce other goods for household use	4	4		1					
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	0	4	3	6	1	-5	1	-81,9	580,4
Hunting or fishing for household use	2	1	1	1	2	0	-1	42,7	-25,7
Involvement in at least one activity	153	136	143	164	164	0	11	0,1	7,1
Employed	36	33	34	34	30	-4	-6	-11,0	-17,2
Unemployed	33	31	27	32	24	-8	-8	-24,3	-24,9
Outside the Labour Force	84	71	82	98	109	12	25	12,0	29,9
Free State									
Subsistence farming	110	106	120	97	87	-10	-23	-10,6	-21,0
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	64	105	49	31	42	11	-23	34,8	-35,2
Produce other goods for household use	5	5	1	2	1	-1	-5	-71,7	-90,5
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	35	30	14	18	11	-6	-23	-36,6	-67,6
Hunting or fishing for household use	6	9	8	6	6	1	0	14,9	6,1
Involvement in at least one activity	175	207	165	137	128	-9	-47	-6,5	-26,9
Employed	85	82	62	59	46	-13	-39	-22,5	-45,9
Unemployed	53	63	50	39	49	10	-4	25,7	-6,6
Outside the Labour Force	37	62	53	38	33	-6	-4	-14,6	-12,0
KwaZulu-Natal									
Subsistence farming	912	880	979	1 092	934	-158	23	-14,4	2,5
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	1 437	1 474	1 490	1 540	1 530	-10	93	-0,6	6,5
Produce other goods for household use	188	254	251	267	240	-27	52	-10,0	27,5
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	116	102	132	157	179	22	63	14,0	54,7
Hunting or fishing for household use	10	10	9	17	5	-11	-4	-67,4	-42,9
Involvement in at least one activity	2 058	2 162	2 116	2 249	2 150	-99	92	-4,4	4,5
Employed	542	541	523	557	513	-43	-29	-7,8	-5,3
Unemployed	468	511	425	441	437	-4	-31	-1,0	-6,6
Outside the Labour Force	1 048	1 110	1 168	1 251	1 200	-52	151	-4,1	14,4

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.

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 2: 2026

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

	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	61	39	67	69	38	-31	-22	-44,4	-36,8
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	381	460	403	432	426	-7	45	-1,6	11,7
Produce other goods for household use	4	1	4	6	4	-2	0	-27,6	11,3
Construction or major repairs to own or household'		2		1					
Hunting or fishing for household use									
Involvement in at least one activity	414	487	445	472	454	-18	40	-3,9	9,8
Employed	78	122	135	98	108	9	30	9,6	38,8
Unemployed	58	55	42	36	55	19	-3	53,3	-5,7
Outside the Labour Force	278	311	267	338	292	-47	14	-13,8	4,9
Gauteng									
Subsistence farming	34	49	34	56	37	-19	3	-34,6	9,0
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	68	239	140	97	67	-30	-1	-30,7	-1,6
Produce other goods for household use	6	2	1	3	4	1	-2	25,9	-29,0
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	12	13	7	10	4	-6	-8	-62,3	-68,6
Hunting or fishing for household use	6			4	4	0	-2	-9,6	-39,9
Involvement in at least one activity	116	291	175	160	107	-53	-10	-33,3	-8,2
Employed	59	113	80	73	43	-31	-17	-41,9	-28,1
Unemployed	39	99	48	54	42	-12	4	-21,8	9,8
Outside the Labour Force	19	78	47	33	22	-11	3	-33,0	17,7
Mpumalanga									
Subsistence farming	120	160	189	154	127	-27	7	-17,3	5,9
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	408	452	420	407	441	34	33	8,3	8,2
Produce other goods for household use	28	24	20	18	25	7	-3	38,5	-9,5
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	4	5	9	7	6	0	2	-1,9	58,7
Hunting or fishing for household use	1	0	2	1					
Involvement in at least one activity	505	580	585	531	557	26	52	4,8	10,4
Employed	122	151	156	135	164	29	43	21,2	35,1
Unemployed	131	172	139	170	173	3	42	2,1	32,2
Outside the Labour Force	252	258	290	226	220	-7	-32	-2,9	-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.

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 2: 2026

Table 8: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (concluded)									
	Apr-Jun 2025	Jul-Sep 2025	Oct-Dec 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026	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	239	218	293	297	229	-69	-10	-23,1	-4,2
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	392	517	414	417	419	2	27	0,6	6,9
Produce other goods for household use	10	7	6	3	4	1	-6	36,6	-56,9
Construction or major repairs to own or household'	38	44	34	16	3	-14	-35	-84,5	-93,3
Hunting or fishing for household use	5	3		3	1	-2	-5	-69,8	-85,6
Involvement in at least one activity	552	680	631	586	550	-36	-3	-6,1	-0,5
Employed	196	203	215	181	179	-2	-17	-1,1	-8,9
Unemployed	109	112	136	156	150	-6	42	-3,6	38,4
Outside the Labour Force	247	365	281	249	221	-28	-27	-11,4	-10,8

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

Appendix 2

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,6	329	58	600	0,02
Employed	0,8	0,7	-16	-235	204	0,89
Formal sector*	1,1	1,0	-41	-245	163	0,69
Informal sector*	2,3	2,2	34	-118	186	0,66
Household sector	3,3	3,6	-9	-83	65	0,81
Unemployed	1,9	1,7	345	82	607	0,01
Outside the Labour Force	1,0	0,9	-208	-479	63	0,13
Potential Labour Force	3,2	3,0	-280	-477	-83	0,01
Available job-seekers	3,2	3,1	-276	-472	-79	0,01
Discouraged job-seekers	3,9	3,7	-227	-397	-57	0,01
Other Potential Labour Force	5,0	5,4	-49	-157	60	0,38
Unavailable job-seekers	18,2	18,8	-4	-26	18	0,71
Other (Outside the Labour Force)	1,0	0,9	72	-140	285	0,50
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,6	0,6	0,0	1,3	0,06
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,8	0,7	-0,2	-0,7	0,4	0,57
Inactivity rate	1,0	0,9	-0,6	-1,3	0,0	0,06
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	0,9	0,1	1,8	0,03
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,3	1,2	0,7	-0,2	1,5	0,11
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	0,9	0,9	0,1	-0,5	0,8	0,67
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	0,9	0,8	0,0	-0,7	0,6	0,89

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,0	0,9	249	73	425	0,01
Employed	1,1	1,2	30	-110	170	0,68
Formal sector*	1,4	1,5	-6	-139	127	0,93
Informal sector*	3,5	3,5	41	-33	116	0,28
Household sector	3,7	3,9	-6	-67	56	0,86
Unemployed	2,3	2,0	219	56	382	0,01
Outside the Labour Force	1,1	1,0	-193	-369	-17	0,03
Potential Labour Force	3,4	3,3	-195	-336	-53	0,01
Available job-seekers	3,5	3,4	-190	-331	-49	0,01
Discouraged job-seekers	4,3	4,0	-137	-254	-19	0,02
Other Potential Labour Force	5,3	5,9	-53	-125	20	0,15
Unavailable job-seekers	23,7	23,0	-5	-23	13	0,58
Other (Outside the Labour Force)	1,2	1,1	1	-140	143	0,98
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,0	0,9	1,0	0,2	1,9	0,02
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,1	1,2	0,1	-0,6	0,7	0,88
Inactivity rate	1,1	1,0	-1,0	-1,9	-0,2	0,02
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,7	1,6	1,1	0,0	2,2	0,05
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,6	1,4	0,7	-0,4	1,8	0,20
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	1,0	1,1	0,0	-0,9	0,9	0,98
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	1,0	1,0	-0,3	-1,2	0,7	0,57

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 2A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,6	80	-88	247	0,35
Employed	0,9	0,8	-45	-205	114	0,58
Formal sector*	1,3	1,2	-35	-180	110	0,64
Informal sector*	2,6	2,5	-7	-133	118	0,91
Household sector	7,2	8,0	-3	-44	37	0,87
Unemployed	2,1	2,1	125	-38	288	0,13
Outside the Labour Force	1,3	1,2	-15	-182	153	0,86
Potential Labour Force	3,5	3,6	-85	-200	29	0,14
Available job-seekers	3,6	3,6	-86	-201	29	0,14
Discouraged job-seekers	4,1	4,2	-90	-194	13	0,09
Other Potential Labour Force	7,5	7,5	4	-63	71	0,90
Unavailable job-seekers	26,1	24,7	1	-11	13	0,90
Other (Outside the Labour Force)	1,4	1,3	71	-64	205	0,30
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,6	0,2	-0,6	1,0	0,66
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,9	0,8	-0,4	-1,1	0,4	0,36
Inactivity rate	1,3	1,2	-0,2	-1,0	0,6	0,66
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,8	1,8	0,8	-0,3	1,8	0,16
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,6	1,6	0,6	-0,5	1,6	0,28
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	1,3	1,2	0,3	-0,6	1,2	0,56
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	1,2	1,1	0,1	-0,8	1,0	0,77

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,6	329	58	600	0,02
Employed	0,8	0,7	-16	-235	204	0,89
Unemployed	1,9	1,7	345	82	607	0,01
Outside the Labour Force	1,0	0,9	-208	-479	63	0,13
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,6	0,6	0,0	1,3	0,06
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,8	0,7	-0,2	-0,7	0,4	0,57
Inactivity rate	1,0	0,9	-0,6	-1,3	0,0	0,06
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	0,9	0,1	1,8	0,03
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,3	1,2	0,7	-0,2	1,5	0,11
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	0,9	0,9	0,1	-0,5	0,8	0,67
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	0,9	0,8	0,0	-0,7	0,6	0,89
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,7	325	66	585	0,01
Employed	0,9	0,8	-28	-228	173	0,79
Unemployed	2,0	1,8	353	97	608	0,01
Outside the Labour Force	1,1	1,0	-201	-461	58	0,13
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,7	0,7	0,0	1,5	0,06
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,9	0,8	-0,2	-0,8	0,4	0,47
Inactivity rate	1,1	1,0	-0,7	-1,5	0,0	0,06
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	1,1	0,2	2,1	0,02
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,3	1,2	0,8	-0,2	1,7	0,11
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	0,9	0,9	0,2	-0,6	0,9	0,67
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	0,9	0,8	-0,1	-0,8	0,6	0,79

Table 2.1A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,7	2,0	-48	-118	21	0,17
Employed	2,8	2,5	-29	-101	44	0,44
Unemployed	7,1	6,9	-20	-65	26	0,40
Outside the Labour Force	2,6	2,9	52	-17	122	0,14
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,7	2,0	-1,4	-3,3	0,5	0,15
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,8	2,5	-0,8	-2,8	1,2	0,41
Inactivity rate	2,6	2,9	1,4	-0,5	3,3	0,15
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	7,0	6,2	-0,4	-2,4	1,6	0,71
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	6,5	5,2	0,1	-1,8	1,9	0,94
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,9	4,2	1,3	-1,4	3,9	0,35
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	4,7	4,0	1,6	-1,0	4,2	0,23
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,8	3,7	59	22	95	0,00
Employed	3,7	3,7	43	16	71	0,00
Unemployed	11,6	15,4	15	-13	43	0,28
Outside the Labour Force	5,1	6,3	-57	-93	-20	0,00
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	3,8	3,7	5,4	2,0	8,8	0,00
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,7	3,7	4,0	1,4	6,5	0,00
Inactivity rate	5,1	6,3	-5,4	-8,8	-2,0	0,00
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	10,0	13,8	1,1	-2,6	4,8	0,57
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	9,9	12,9	1,3	-2,4	4,9	0,50
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	7,4	9,1	-2,1	-5,6	1,3	0,22
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	7,5	8,9	-1,9	-5,3	1,4	0,25

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,7	1,5	-6	-56	44	0,80
Employed	2,0	2,0	-3	-66	60	0,93
Unemployed	10,7	10,8	-4	-43	36	0,86
Outside the Labour Force	3,9	3,5	-2	-52	48	0,93
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,7	1,5	0,0	-1,9	1,8	0,99
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,0	2,0	0,1	-2,2	2,4	0,93
Inactivity rate	3,9	3,5	0,0	-1,8	1,9	0,99
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	10,6	10,9	-0,2	-2,3	1,9	0,88
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	9,3	10,9	-0,3	-2,4	1,8	0,78
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	10,8	9,6	-0,6	-2,9	1,8	0,62
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	9,3	9,7	-0,7	-3,0	1,5	0,53

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,6	329	58	600	0,02
Employed	0,8	0,7	-16	-235	204	0,89
Unemployed	1,9	1,7	345	82	607	0,01
Outside the Labour Force	1,0	0,9	-208	-479	63	0,13
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,6	0,6	0,0	1,3	0,06
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,8	0,7	-0,2	-0,7	0,4	0,57
Inactivity rate	1,0	0,9	-0,6	-1,3	0,0	0,06
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	0,9	0,1	1,8	0,03
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,3	1,2	0,7	-0,2	1,5	0,11
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	0,9	0,9	0,1	-0,5	0,8	0,67
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	0,9	0,8	0,0	-0,7	0,6	0,89
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,1	1,2	-67	-138	4	0,06
Employed	1,5	1,5	-48	-116	20	0,16
Unemployed	5,3	5,8	-19	-79	41	0,54
Outside the Labour Force	2,6	2,4	84	13	155	0,02
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,1	1,2	-1,5	-2,9	-0,1	0,03
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,5	1,5	-1,1	-2,4	0,2	0,10
Inactivity rate	2,6	2,4	1,5	0,1	2,9	0,03
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,0	5,5	-0,2	-1,7	1,4	0,84
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,6	4,4	0,2	-1,5	1,9	0,83
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,3	3,5	1,3	-0,4	3,0	0,13
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	4,0	3,4	1,6	-0,3	3,5	0,10

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Western Cape - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	2,7	-57	-116	2	0,06
Employed	2,8	2,7	-29	-80	22	0,26
Unemployed	13,7	17,2	-28	-77	21	0,26
Outside the Labour Force	4,8	4,3	63	4	122	0,04
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,6	2,7	-3,2	-6,4	-0,1	0,04
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,8	2,7	-1,7	-4,4	1,0	0,22
Inactivity rate	4,8	4,3	3,2	0,1	6,4	0,04
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	12,5	15,6	-1,6	-5,4	2,1	0,39
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	11,6	12,5	-1,4	-5,8	3,1	0,55
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	7,7	5,4	2,0	-1,8	5,9	0,30
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	7,5	5,8	2,1	-2,3	6,6	0,35
Western Cape - City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,0	1,1	-10	-52	32	0,64
Employed	1,7	2,0	-19	-65	26	0,40
Unemployed	5,1	5,5	9	-26	44	0,60
Outside the Labour Force	2,7	2,7	21	-21	63	0,33
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,0	1,1	-0,5	-1,8	0,7	0,41
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,7	2,0	-0,8	-2,2	0,6	0,28
Inactivity rate	2,7	2,7	0,5	-0,7	1,8	0,41
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,1	5,5	0,5	-0,9	1,9	0,50
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,5	4,3	0,9	-0,3	2,1	0,16
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,7	4,7	0,9	-0,6	2,5	0,24
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	4,2	4,2	1,3	-0,2	2,7	0,09

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	2,1	160	54	266	0,00
Employed	3,7	3,1	13	-58	84	0,72
Unemployed	5,7	4,9	147	17	277	0,03
Outside the Labour Force	2,2	2,6	-148	-254	-42	0,01
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,1	3,3	1,0	5,6	0,00
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,7	3,1	0,2	-1,3	1,7	0,80
Inactivity rate	2,2	2,6	-3,3	-5,6	-1,0	0,00
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,7	3,6	3,0	-0,8	6,7	0,12
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,0	3,3	2,4	-1,0	5,8	0,17
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	3,1	2,5	-0,3	-3,1	2,5	0,84
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,7	2,3	-0,6	-3,1	1,9	0,64
Eastern Cape - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	2,9	105	6	204	0,04
Employed	5,4	4,8	-1	-56	55	0,98
Unemployed	6,6	6,1	105	-20	231	0,10
Outside the Labour Force	2,4	3,1	-98	-197	1	0,05
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,6	2,9	3,2	0,1	6,4	0,05
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	5,4	4,8	-0,1	-1,8	1,7	0,94
Inactivity rate	2,4	3,1	-3,2	-6,4	-0,1	0,05
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,1	4,2	3,0	-2,0	8,1	0,23
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,2	3,7	2,9	-1,4	7,1	0,19
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	3,3	2,9	0,1	-3,4	3,6	0,96
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,8	2,6	0,2	-2,7	3,0	0,92

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Eastern Cape - Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,6	2,0	19	4	33	0,01
Employed	5,0	4,6	7	-19	32	0,61
Unemployed	13,8	9,5	12	-13	37	0,33
Outside the Labour Force	2,8	4,1	-17	-32	-3	0,02
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,6	2,0	3,1	0,6	5,6	0,02
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	5,0	4,6	1,0	-3,4	5,4	0,66
Inactivity rate	2,8	4,1	-3,1	-5,6	-0,6	0,02
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	13,2	9,3	1,8	-4,7	8,3	0,59
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	11,5	7,3	-0,2	-8,6	8,2	0,97
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	9,4	8,4	-1,4	-9,5	6,7	0,73
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	8,7	7,9	-3,0	-12,6	6,6	0,54
Eastern Cape - Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	5,6	4,4	36	-1	73	0,05
Employed	7,6	5,3	7	-30	44	0,71
Unemployed	16,9	8,0	29	2	56	0,03
Outside the Labour Force	7,3	6,8	-33	-70	4	0,08
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	5,6	4,4	3,7	-0,3	7,7	0,07
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	7,6	5,3	0,6	-3,4	4,7	0,76
Inactivity rate	7,3	6,8	-3,7	-7,7	0,3	0,07
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	15,1	6,5	3,3	-2,0	8,6	0,22
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	13,6	6,2	2,6	-2,2	7,3	0,29
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	10,2	4,9	-0,6	-5,5	4,3	0,82
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	9,5	4,7	-1,2	-5,9	3,4	0,60

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Northern cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	6,0	3,3	-8	-38	21	0,58
Employed	8,9	4,7	1	-35	38	0,94
Unemployed	3,9	6,0	-10	-30	11	0,35
Outside the Labour Force	6,5	3,5	10	-20	40	0,52
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	6,0	3,3	-1,1	-4,6	2,4	0,55
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	8,9	4,7	0,1	-4,2	4,4	0,97
Inactivity rate	6,5	3,5	1,1	-2,4	4,6	0,55
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	7,5	6,1	-1,6	-6,8	3,5	0,53
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	6,3	6,3	-1,1	-7,1	4,9	0,72
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	5,9	4,5	0,1	-3,9	4,1	0,96
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	5,2	4,1	0,4	-4,4	5,3	0,86
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,4	2,1	6	-36	47	0,78
Employed	4,7	5,0	9	-24	42	0,58
Unemployed	5,0	5,3	-4	-36	29	0,83
Outside the Labour Force	4,1	3,6	-5	-47	36	0,80
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,4	2,1	0,3	-1,9	2,4	0,79
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	4,7	5,0	0,5	-1,2	2,2	0,58
Inactivity rate	4,1	3,6	-0,3	-2,4	1,9	0,79
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,4	6,0	-0,5	-2,6	1,6	0,66
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	5,2	5,5	-0,4	-2,5	1,7	0,69
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	5,1	5,4	-0,3	-2,4	1,9	0,80
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	5,0	5,1	-0,3	-2,4	1,9	0,82

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Free State - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,7	2,8	-7	-41	27	0,69
Employed	5,9	6,7	9	-20	39	0,52
Unemployed	6,0	6,7	-16	-46	14	0,28
Outside the Labour Force	5,1	5,1	7	-27	41	0,68
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,7	2,8	-0,5	-2,9	1,9	0,68
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	5,9	6,7	0,7	-1,4	2,8	0,53
Inactivity rate	5,1	5,1	0,5	-1,9	2,9	0,68
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	6,4	7,6	-1,5	-4,3	1,2	0,28
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	6,4	7,2	-0,9	-3,6	1,8	0,51
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	6,5	7,1	-0,7	-3,6	2,1	0,61
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	6,5	6,9	-0,2	-3,1	2,6	0,88
Free State - Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	5,1	2,3	13	-12	37	0,31
Employed	7,7	5,7	0	-16	15	0,98
Unemployed	7,3	5,9	13	-1	26	0,07
Outside the Labour Force	6,8	3,3	-13	-37	12	0,31
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	5,1	2,3	2,3	-2,1	6,6	0,31
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	7,7	5,7	0,0	-2,8	2,7	0,98
Inactivity rate	6,8	3,3	-2,3	-6,6	2,1	0,31
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	8,5	7,5	2,7	0,0	5,4	0,05
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	7,8	5,2	1,1	-1,6	3,8	0,42
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	5,7	4,4	1,0	-0,9	2,9	0,31
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	5,7	3,7	-0,3	-2,9	2,2	0,80

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	1,9	79	-55	213	0,25
Employed	2,2	1,9	3	-85	91	0,94
Unemployed	6,5	5,0	76	-17	168	0,11
Outside the Labour Force	2,7	2,0	-56	-190	78	0,41
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,6	1,9	0,9	-0,9	2,6	0,33
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,2	1,9	-0,1	-1,2	1,1	0,91
Inactivity rate	2,7	2,0	-0,9	-2,6	0,9	0,33
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,6	3,8	1,3	-0,4	3,0	0,14
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,0	3,2	0,6	-1,2	2,4	0,50
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,4	2,0	0,6	-0,9	2,0	0,44
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,5	2,1	0,1	-1,2	1,3	0,88
KwaZulu-Natal - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,5	2,9	63	-29	156	0,18
Employed	3,0	3,1	-27	-97	43	0,44
Unemployed	7,5	6,3	91	20	161	0,01
Outside the Labour Force	3,0	2,6	-50	-142	43	0,29
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	3,5	2,9	1,1	-0,7	2,9	0,23
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,0	3,1	-0,6	-2,0	0,8	0,38
Inactivity rate	3,0	2,6	-1,1	-2,9	0,7	0,23
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,0	4,4	2,8	0,5	5,1	0,02
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,4	3,6	1,9	-0,1	4,0	0,07
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,9	2,5	2,0	0,0	4,0	0,05
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	3,1	2,4	1,3	-0,6	3,2	0,17

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
KwaZulu-Natal - eThekweni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,1	2,0	16	-81	112	0,75
Employed	3,2	2,1	30	-21	82	0,25
Unemployed	13,0	7,4	-15	-76	46	0,63
Outside the Labour Force	5,9	3,0	-6	-103	91	0,90
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	4,1	2,0	0,4	-3,2	3,9	0,84
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,2	2,1	0,9	-0,9	2,8	0,32
Inactivity rate	5,9	3,0	-0,4	-3,9	3,2	0,84
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	10,0	6,4	-1,1	-3,8	1,5	0,40
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	8,5	5,3	-1,5	-5,2	2,3	0,44
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,2	2,8	-1,8	-3,7	0,2	0,07
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	4,0	3,6	-2,0	-3,4	-0,6	0,00
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,2	4,6	37	-66	141	0,48
Employed	4,0	4,3	-15	-68	37	0,56
Unemployed	10,7	9,6	53	-53	159	0,33
Outside the Labour Force	3,9	4,5	-29	-133	75	0,58
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	4,2	4,6	1,2	-2,5	4,8	0,53
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	4,0	4,3	-0,6	-2,5	1,2	0,50
Inactivity rate	3,9	4,5	-1,2	-4,8	2,5	0,53
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	7,8	6,5	2,8	-2,5	8,1	0,30
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	6,8	6,0	2,8	-2,0	7,7	0,25
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,9	2,8	1,2	-1,3	3,6	0,35
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,6	2,6	1,2	-1,0	3,5	0,28

Table 2.3A: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Qtr-to-qtr change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,4	1,2	30	-112	173	0,68
Employed	1,6	1,6	-22	-157	113	0,74
Unemployed	2,9	3,2	53	-82	187	0,44
Outside the Labour Force	2,9	2,4	8	-134	151	0,91
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,4	1,2	0,0	-1,2	1,3	0,95
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,6	1,6	-0,3	-1,5	0,8	0,57
Inactivity rate	2,9	2,4	0,0	-1,3	1,2	0,95
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	2,3	2,7	0,5	-0,9	2,0	0,47
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	2,1	2,3	0,1	-1,4	1,7	0,86
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	1,8	2,0	-0,2	-1,5	1,2	0,80
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	1,8	1,9	-0,5	-1,9	0,8	0,46
Gauteng - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,7	4,8	8	-17	33	0,55
Employed	4,3	3,4	-14	-46	19	0,41
Unemployed	11,2	13,8	21	-18	61	0,29
Outside the Labour Force	9,5	9,9	-2	-27	23	0,86
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	4,7	4,8	0,3	-1,4	1,9	0,75
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	4,3	3,4	-1,1	-3,2	1,1	0,33
Inactivity rate	9,5	9,9	-0,3	-1,9	1,4	0,75
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	8,1	9,9	1,8	-1,5	5,2	0,28
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	8,9	8,5	2,2	-0,6	5,0	0,12
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	5,5	3,3	1,4	-1,4	4,1	0,33
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	5,8	3,8	1,7	-0,8	4,2	0,19

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Gauteng - Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	2,0	56	-41	152	0,25
Employed	2,5	3,1	-3	-58	52	0,92
Unemployed	7,0	4,3	59	-9	126	0,09
Outside the Labour Force	4,3	3,6	-46	-143	50	0,35
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,6	2,0	1,7	-1,6	5,0	0,31
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,5	3,1	-0,2	-2,1	1,6	0,80
Inactivity rate	4,3	3,6	-1,7	-5,0	1,6	0,31
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,3	4,1	2,2	-0,3	4,6	0,09
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	5,0	3,7	1,9	-0,6	4,3	0,14
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,7	3,3	-0,1	-2,1	1,8	0,88
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,5	3,2	-0,4	-2,2	1,5	0,69
Gauteng - City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,8	1,9	11	-81	102	0,82
Employed	3,6	3,3	-28	-141	85	0,63
Unemployed	4,8	5,2	39	-51	128	0,40
Outside the Labour Force	6,3	4,3	3	-88	95	0,94
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,8	1,9	0,0	-2,1	2,2	0,98
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,6	3,3	-0,8	-3,4	1,8	0,55
Inactivity rate	6,3	4,3	0,0	-2,2	2,1	0,98
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,0	4,8	1,2	-1,8	4,1	0,44
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	3,4	4,1	0,4	-2,8	3,5	0,82
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,0	4,7	0,3	-2,6	3,2	0,82
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	3,7	4,0	-0,4	-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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Gauteng - City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,6	2,0	-44	-84	-4	0,03
Employed	2,5	2,2	22	-17	61	0,27
Unemployed	4,3	5,9	-66	-128	-4	0,04
Outside the Labour Force	3,4	4,0	53	13	94	0,01
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,6	2,0	-1,8	-3,2	-0,4	0,01
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,5	2,2	0,6	-0,7	2,0	0,37
Inactivity rate	3,4	4,0	1,8	0,4	3,2	0,01
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	3,8	4,6	-2,6	-5,3	0,1	0,06
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	3,7	4,1	-2,9	-5,7	-0,1	0,04
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	3,4	3,0	-1,9	-4,0	0,2	0,08
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	3,4	2,7	-2,1	-4,5	0,2	0,07
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,8	1,6	75	12	138	0,02
Employed	2,6	2,6	41	-21	103	0,20
Unemployed	5,6	4,4	34	-21	90	0,23
Outside the Labour Force	2,6	2,6	-66	-128	-3	0,04
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,8	1,6	2,1	0,2	4,1	0,03
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,6	2,6	1,1	-0,8	3,1	0,24
Inactivity rate	2,6	2,6	-2,1	-4,1	-0,2	0,03
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,7	3,9	0,3	-2,2	2,9	0,79
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,3	3,6	0,7	-2,2	3,6	0,63
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,7	2,2	-1,3	-3,6	1,0	0,26
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,5	2,2	-0,9	-3,6	1,7	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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	2,4	18	-85	121	0,73
Employed	3,0	2,5	3	-76	82	0,93
Unemployed	6,9	4,9	14	-86	115	0,78
Outside the Labour Force	3,0	2,9	-6	-109	97	0,91
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,6	2,4	0,3	-2,2	2,8	0,83
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,0	2,5	0,0	-1,9	1,9	0,98
Inactivity rate	3,0	2,9	-0,3	-2,8	2,2	0,83
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,6	3,5	0,4	-3,3	4,1	0,83
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,4	3,3	-0,4	-3,6	2,8	0,80
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,9	2,0	-0,3	-2,6	2,0	0,78
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,6	2,0	-0,9	-2,9	1,0	0,36

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Both sexes	0,8	0,7	-16	-235	204	0,89
Agriculture	5,3	3,9	-15	-89	58	0,68
Mining	9,5	8,9	-26	-65	12	0,18
Manufacturing	3,3	3,6	-15	-101	71	0,73
Utilities	10,9	13,4	-10	-36	16	0,44
Construction	3,7	3,4	39	-43	122	0,35
Trade	2,2	2,1	70	-62	202	0,30
Transport	3,5	3,7	-2	-72	68	0,95
Finance	2,3	2,3	11	-103	125	0,85
Community and social services	2,1	2,0	-57	-186	73	0,39
Private households	3,3	3,6	-9	-83	65	0,81
Women	1,1	1,2	30	-110	170	0,68
Agriculture	8,0	7,1	15	-26	57	0,46
Mining	13,7	14,5	-2	-25	21	0,86
Manufacturing	5,7	5,8	21	-31	74	0,42
Utilities	22,7	26,3	4	-9	16	0,56
Construction	9,3	9,6	-3	-28	22	0,82
Trade	2,9	2,9	40	-45	124	0,35
Transport	9,0	8,4	14	-16	43	0,36
Finance	3,1	3,3	22	-58	102	0,58
Community and social services	2,3	2,4	-74	-163	14	0,10
Private households	3,7	3,9	-6	-67	56	0,86
Men	0,9	0,8	-45	-205	114	0,58
Agriculture	5,6	3,9	-31	-92	30	0,32
Mining	10,7	9,3	-24	-61	13	0,21
Manufacturing	3,6	3,7	-37	-106	33	0,30
Utilities	13,0	15,7	-14	-34	6	0,17
Construction	3,9	3,6	42	-38	123	0,30
Trade	3,0	2,8	30	-60	120	0,51
Transport	3,6	3,8	-16	-73	42	0,59
Finance	2,8	2,7	-11	-97	75	0,80
Community and social services	3,2	2,7	18	-60	96	0,65
Private households	7,2	8,0	-3	-44	37	0,87

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
South Africa	0,8	0,7	-16	-235	204	0,89
Formal sector*	1,1	1,0	-41	-245	163	0,69
Informal sector*	2,3	2,2	34	-118	186	0,66
Households	3,3	3,6	-9	-83	65	0,81
Western Cape	1,5	1,5	-48	-116	20	0,16
Formal sector*	2,3	2,6	-75	-164	13	0,10
Informal sector*	8,0	7,2	13	-51	77	0,68
Households	10,6	11,2	14	-31	59	0,55
Western Cape – Non-metro	2,8	2,7	-29	-80	22	0,26
Formal sector*	3,4	4,9	-54	-125	18	0,14
Informal sector*	16,3	13,8	15	-40	69	0,60
Households	18,9	16,5	10	-2	23	0,10
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	1,7	2,0	-19	-65	26	0,40
Formal sector*	3,0	3,2	-21	-72	29	0,41
Informal sector*	8,5	7,7	-2	-36	33	0,93
Households	12,0	15,8	3	-40	47	0,88
Eastern Cape	3,7	3,1	13	-58	84	0,72
Formal sector*	4,6	3,5	43	-26	112	0,22
Informal sector*	6,6	6,8	-25	-69	18	0,25
Households	10,5	9,4	-5	-23	14	0,61
Eastern Cape – Non-metro	5,4	4,8	-1	-56	55	0,98
Formal sector*	7,4	5,2	25	-22	72	0,30
Informal sector*	8,5	9,0	-18	-55	19	0,33
Households	11,9	12,6	-7	-23	8	0,35
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	5,0	4,6	7	-19	32	0,61
Formal sector*	10,1	5,3	12	-23	47	0,50
Informal sector*	11,7	9,5	-6	-21	8	0,40
Households	30,3	14,2	1	-8	10	0,84

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Eastern Cape – Nelson Mandela Bay	7,6	5,3	7	-30	44	0,71
Formal sector*	7,3	7,2	6	-31	42	0,76
Informal sector*	14,2	13,4	-1	-17	15	0,94
Households	28,2	23,5	2	-2	6	0,34
Northern Cape	8,9	4,7	1	-35	38	0,94
Formal sector*	11,1	7,7	-16	-54	23	0,43
Informal sector*	16,9	19,4	19	-5	43	0,11
Households	20,5	16,2	-2	-9	4	0,51
Free State	4,7	5,0	9	-24	42	0,58
Formal sector*	5,6	6,0	0	-36	37	0,99
Informal sector*	11,4	8,6	4	-24	33	0,76
Households	12,2	8,2	5	-12	21	0,57
Free State – Non-metro	5,9	6,7	9	-20	39	0,52
Formal sector*	6,9	8,1	1	-29	32	0,93
Informal sector*	15,6	12,2	-2	-29	26	0,91
Households	15,0	10,3	10	-1	21	0,09
Free State – Mangaung	7,7	5,7	0	-16	15	0,98
Formal sector*	9,5	6,0	-1	-22	19	0,91
Informal sector*	6,6	3,9	6	1	11	0,03
Households	20,8	12,9	-5	-17	7	0,40
KwaZulu-Natal	2,2	1,9	3	-85	91	0,94
Formal sector*	3,3	3,0	54	-26	134	0,19
Informal sector*	4,5	5,2	-40	-99	18	0,18
Households	9,7	12,6	-10	-39	18	0,47
KwaZulu-Natal – Non-metro	3,0	3,1	-27	-97	43	0,44
Formal sector*	3,6	3,9	22	-49	92	0,55
Informal sector*	7,0	7,6	-37	-86	12	0,14
Households	12,2	13,3	-12	-31	7	0,21

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
KwaZulu-Natal – eThekweni	3,2	2,1	30	-21	82	0,25
Formal sector*	5,6	4,6	32	-6	71	0,10
Informal sector*	4,7	6,7	-3	-35	28	0,84
Households	16,1	22,6	1	-20	23	0,89
North West	4,0	4,3	-15	-68	37	0,56
Formal sector*	4,4	6,0	-33	-78	13	0,16
Informal sector*	7,7	9,1	8	-26	42	0,65
Households	14,4	16,1	9	-10	28	0,34
Gauteng	1,6	1,6	-22	-157	113	0,74
Formal sector*	2,4	2,0	31	-81	143	0,59
Informal sector*	4,5	4,7	-38	-109	34	0,30
Households	5,3	5,8	-15	-48	17	0,36
Gauteng – Non-metro	4,3	3,4	-14	-46	19	0,41
Formal sector*	4,5	3,5	-13	-52	26	0,51
Informal sector*	15,3	12,1	-8	-29	13	0,44
Households	19,9	12,7	8	3	12	0,00
Gauteng – Ekurhuleni	2,5	3,1	-3	-58	52	0,92
Formal sector*	3,5	4,0	-4	-62	54	0,89
Informal sector*	9,3	8,7	2	-24	28	0,87
Households	12,5	11,9	-1	-11	10	0,89
Gauteng – City of Johannesburg	3,6	3,3	-28	-141	85	0,63
Formal sector*	6,1	4,7	20	-60	100	0,63
Informal sector*	6,6	7,5	-33	-94	29	0,30
Households	6,3	9,6	-15	-42	12	0,26
Gauteng – City of Tshwane	2,5	2,2	22	-17	61	0,27
Formal sector*	2,9	2,9	28	-10	66	0,14
Informal sector*	9,7	10,7	1	-18	20	0,93
Households	12,2	12,3	-7	-22	8	0,36

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Mpumalanga	2,6	2,6	41	-21	103	0,20
Formal sector*	3,8	4,9	-29	-100	43	0,43
Informal sector*	6,2	6,3	60	17	103	0,01
Households	10,6	5,9	9	-8	26	0,28
Limpopo	3,0	2,5	3	-76	82	0,93
Formal sector*	3,3	3,9	-16	-67	34	0,52
Informal sector*	7,2	4,7	33	-33	98	0,32
Households	10,5	10,2	-13	-32	6	0,18

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Jan-Mar 2026	Apr-Jun 2026				
Both sexes	0,8	0,7	-16	-235	204	0,89
Manager	3,6	3,5	-40	-136	56	0,41
Professional	4,7	4,6	-34	-119	51	0,43
Technician	3,1	3,1	-25	-123	73	0,62
Clerk	2,6	2,8	-3	-103	96	0,95
Sales and services	2,3	1,9	103	-8	215	0,07
Skilled agriculture	11,2	12,0	-13	-38	12	0,30
Craft and related trade	3,1	2,7	78	-27	183	0,14
Plant and machine operator	3,3	3,7	-78	-172	17	0,11
Elementary	1,9	1,9	2	-136	139	0,98
Domestic worker	3,6	3,5	-14	-74	47	0,65
Women	1,1	1,2	30	-110	170	0,68
Manager	6,0	5,2	-3	-65	59	0,92
Professional	6,3	5,7	19	-36	75	0,49
Technician	4,3	4,2	-22	-93	48	0,53
Clerk	3,4	3,5	-23	-99	54	0,56
Sales and services	2,9	3,0	26	-58	110	0,54
Skilled agriculture	22,2	21,3	1	-11	12	0,93
Craft and related trade	7,4	7,3	21	-12	55	0,21
Plant and machine operator	9,2	9,1	20	-16	55	0,28
Elementary	2,8	2,9	-10	-92	72	0,81
Domestic worker	3,7	3,7	-3	-64	57	0,91
Men	0,9	0,8	-45	-205	114	0,58
Manager	3,7	3,7	-37	-103	30	0,28
Professional	5,2	6,0	-54	-111	4	0,07
Technician	4,5	4,6	-2	-76	71	0,95
Clerk	4,8	5,3	19	-36	74	0,49
Sales and services	3,1	2,8	77	0	155	0,05
Skilled agriculture	13,5	15,0	-14	-36	9	0,23
Craft and related trade	3,2	2,8	57	-41	155	0,25
Plant and machine operator	3,6	4,0	-97	-179	-15	0,02
Elementary	2,3	2,4	12	-96	119	0,83
Domestic worker	15,3	16,6	-10	-28	8	0,27

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Both sexes						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	46	-331	423	0,81
Employed	0,8	0,7	-68	-382	246	0,67
Formal sector*		1,0				
Informal sector*		2,2				
Household sector		3,6				
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	114	-216	444	0,50
Outside the Labour Force	0,9	0,9	442	65	819	0,02
Potential Labour Force	3,1	3,0	272	-14	557	0,06
Available job-seekers	3,1	3,1	246	-40	533	0,09
Discouraged job-seekers	3,7	3,7	221	-42	484	0,10
Other Potential Labour Force	6,0	5,4	26	-88	139	0,66
Unavailable job-seekers	26,0	18,8	25	7	44	0,01
Other (Outside the Labour Force)	0,9	0,9	171	-112	453	0,24
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,6	-1,5	0,3	0,20
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,8	0,7	-0,6	-1,4	0,1	0,10
Inactivity rate	0,9	0,9	0,6	-0,3	1,5	0,20
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	0,4	-0,7	1,5	0,48
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,3	1,2	0,5	-0,6	1,6	0,37
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	0,9	0,9	0,8	-0,1	1,8	0,08
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	0,9	0,8	0,9	0,0	1,9	0,06

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Women						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,8	0,9	119	-126	363	0,34
Employed	1,1	1,2	-106	-331	120	0,36
Formal sector*		1,5				
Informal sector*		3,5				
Household sector		3,9				
Unemployed	2,1	2,0	224	18	430	0,03
Outside the Labour Force	1,0	1,0	108	-137	353	0,39
Potential Labour Force	3,4	3,3	96	-73	266	0,26
Available job-seekers	3,4	3,4	80	-90	250	0,35
Discouraged job-seekers	4,0	4,0	63	-87	213	0,41
Other Potential Labour Force	6,1	5,9	17	-57	92	0,64
Unavailable job-seekers	34,4	23,0	16	3	29	0,01
Other (Outside the Labour Force)	1,1	1,1	12	-188	212	0,91
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,8	0,9	0,0	-1,2	1,1	0,96
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,1	1,2	-0,9	-1,9	0,2	0,11
Inactivity rate	1,0	1,0	0,0	-1,1	1,2	0,96
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,7	1,6	1,6	0,0	3,1	0,05
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,6	1,4	1,8	0,2	3,3	0,02
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	1,2	1,1	1,5	0,1	2,9	0,03
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	1,1	1,0	1,7	0,3	3,1	0,02

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

Table 2B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by sex (concluded)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Men						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	-73	-298	153	0,53
Employed	0,9	0,8	38	-171	247	0,72
Formal sector*		1,2				
Informal sector*		2,5				
Household sector		8,0				
Unemployed	2,1	2,1	-110	-333	113	0,33
Outside the Labour Force	1,2	1,2	334	109	560	0,00
Potential Labour Force	3,9	3,6	175	0	351	0,05
Available job-seekers	3,9	3,6	166	-10	342	0,06
Discouraged job-seekers	4,4	4,2	158	-4	320	0,06
Other Potential Labour Force	8,8	7,5	8	-59	75	0,81
Unavailable job-seekers	37,9	24,7	9	-3	21	0,13
Other (Outside the Labour Force)	1,3	1,3	159	-23	340	0,09
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-1,2	-2,2	-0,1	0,03
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,9	0,8	-0,4	-1,4	0,6	0,45
Inactivity rate	1,2	1,2	1,2	0,1	2,2	0,03
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,9	1,8	-0,6	-2,1	0,8	0,37
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,7	1,6	-0,6	-2,1	0,8	0,39
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	1,3	1,2	0,2	-1,1	1,4	0,81
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	1,3	1,1	0,1	-1,2	1,5	0,83

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	46	-331	423	0,81
Employed	0,8	0,7	-68	-382	246	0,67
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	114	-216	444	0,50
Outside the Labour Force	0,9	0,9	442	65	819	0,02
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,6	-1,5	0,3	0,20
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,8	0,7	-0,6	-1,4	0,1	0,10
Inactivity rate	0,9	0,9	0,6	-0,3	1,5	0,20
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	0,4	-0,7	1,5	0,48
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,3	1,2	0,5	-0,6	1,6	0,37
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	0,9	0,9	0,8	-0,1	1,8	0,08
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	0,9	0,8	0,9	0,0	1,9	0,06
Black/African						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,7	0,7	63	-292	419	0,73
Employed	0,9	0,8	-53	-330	225	0,71
Unemployed	1,9	1,8	116	-207	439	0,48
Outside the Labour Force	1,0	1,0	437	81	792	0,02
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,7	0,7	-0,7	-1,7	0,4	0,20
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,9	0,8	-0,7	-1,5	0,1	0,09
Inactivity rate	1,0	1,0	0,7	-0,4	1,7	0,20
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	0,5	-0,8	1,7	0,48
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,4	1,2	0,5	-0,7	1,8	0,39
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	0,9	0,9	0,9	-0,1	2,0	0,07
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	0,9	0,8	1,0	-0,1	2,0	0,06

Table 2.1B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by population group (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Coloured						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,5	2,0	-42	-131	46	0,35
Employed	1,6	2,5	-21	-108	67	0,64
Unemployed	5,6	6,9	-22	-79	36	0,46
Outside the Labour Force	2,3	2,9	58	-30	147	0,20
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,5	2,0	-1,4	-3,9	1,0	0,25
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,6	2,5	-0,8	-3,2	1,6	0,53
Inactivity rate	2,3	2,9	1,4	-1,0	3,9	0,25
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,8	6,2	-0,5	-3,0	1,9	0,67
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,1	5,2	0,0	-2,6	2,6	0,98
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	3,1	4,2	0,2	-2,6	3,1	0,87
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,7	4,0	0,6	-2,3	3,6	0,67
Indian/Asian						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,2	3,7	51	4	99	0,03
Employed	3,4	3,7	46	5	88	0,03
Unemployed	10,5	15,4	5	-30	41	0,77
Outside the Labour Force	4,6	6,3	-44	-91	4	0,07
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	3,2	3,7	4,4	-0,1	8,8	0,05
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,4	3,7	3,9	0,1	7,8	0,05
Inactivity rate	4,6	6,3	-4,4	-8,8	0,1	0,05
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	9,5	13,8	-0,4	-5,3	4,6	0,89
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	8,9	12,9	-0,3	-5,3	4,6	0,89
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	6,8	9,1	-1,2	-5,6	3,3	0,61
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	7,3	8,9	-1,1	-5,9	3,6	0,64

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
White						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,6	1,5	-26	-109	56	0,53
Employed	1,9	2,0	-41	-129	48	0,37
Unemployed	13,0	10,8	14	-38	67	0,59
Outside the Labour Force	3,8	3,5	-9	-91	73	0,83
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,6	1,5	-0,1	-3,1	3,0	0,97
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,9	2,0	-0,7	-3,9	2,6	0,69
Inactivity rate	3,8	3,5	0,1	-3,0	3,1	0,97
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	12,7	10,9	0,9	-1,8	3,6	0,53
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	11,0	10,9	0,8	-2,4	3,9	0,63
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	12,2	9,6	0,1	-3,2	3,3	0,97
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	10,9	9,7	0,0	-3,6	3,5	0,98

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
South Africa						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	0,6	0,6	46	-331	423	0,81
Employed	0,8	0,7	-68	-382	246	0,67
Unemployed	1,8	1,7	114	-216	444	0,50
Outside the Labour Force	0,9	0,9	442	65	819	0,02
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	0,6	0,6	-0,6	-1,5	0,3	0,20
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0,8	0,7	-0,6	-1,4	0,1	0,10
Inactivity rate	0,9	0,9	0,6	-0,3	1,5	0,20
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	1,5	1,4	0,4	-0,7	1,5	0,48
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	1,3	1,2	0,5	-0,6	1,6	0,37
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	0,9	0,9	0,8	-0,1	1,8	0,08
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	0,9	0,8	0,9	0,0	1,9	0,06
Western Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,2	1,2	40	-52	133	0,39
Employed	1,5	1,5	91	-23	205	0,12
Unemployed	4,4	5,8	-51	-120	18	0,15
Outside the Labour Force	2,5	2,4	27	-66	119	0,57
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,2	1,2	-0,1	-1,9	1,7	0,91
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,5	1,5	1,1	-1,2	3,3	0,35
Inactivity rate	2,5	2,4	0,1	-1,7	1,9	0,91
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,1	5,5	-1,7	-3,7	0,4	0,11
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	3,3	4,4	-0,9	-2,8	1,1	0,37
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,0	3,5	-0,9	-3,3	1,6	0,48
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	3,3	3,4	-0,2	-2,4	2,1	0,88

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Western Cape - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,6	2,7	11	-50	71	0,73
Employed	2,8	2,7	34	-39	107	0,36
Unemployed	12,4	17,2	-23	-57	10	0,17
Outside the Labour Force	4,2	4,3	13	-47	74	0,66
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,6	2,7	-0,2	-3,4	3,0	0,89
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,8	2,7	1,1	-2,8	5,0	0,56
Inactivity rate	4,2	4,3	0,2	-3,0	3,4	0,89
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	11,2	15,6	-2,2	-5,3	1,0	0,18
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	9,7	12,5	-1,7	-5,3	1,9	0,34
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	6,5	5,4	-0,1	-3,9	3,7	0,95
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	5,8	5,8	0,2	-4,1	4,4	0,94
Western Cape - City of Cape Town						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,3	1,1	30	-43	103	0,42
Employed	1,8	2,0	57	-34	149	0,22
Unemployed	4,2	5,5	-27	-87	32	0,37
Outside the Labour Force	3,2	2,7	13	-60	86	0,72
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,3	1,1	0,0	-2,3	2,2	0,98
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,8	2,0	1,0	-1,8	3,8	0,47
Inactivity rate	3,2	2,7	0,0	-2,2	2,3	0,98
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,0	5,5	-1,5	-4,1	1,2	0,27
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	2,9	4,3	-0,5	-2,7	1,7	0,68
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	5,0	4,7	-1,4	-4,6	1,9	0,41
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	4,1	4,2	-0,4	-2,9	2,2	0,76

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Eastern Cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,0	2,1	147	4	290	0,04
Employed	2,6	3,1	-116	-211	-21	0,02
Unemployed	4,1	4,9	263	135	390	0,00
Outside the Labour Force	2,2	2,6	-99	-243	44	0,17
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,0	2,1	2,6	-0,5	5,7	0,10
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,6	3,1	-2,8	-4,9	-0,8	0,01
Inactivity rate	2,2	2,6	-2,6	-5,7	0,5	0,10
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	3,2	3,6	8,0	4,5	11,5	0,00
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	3,1	3,3	7,3	3,9	10,7	0,00
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,5	2,5	6,4	3,6	9,2	0,00
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,4	2,3	5,9	3,1	8,6	0,00
Eastern Cape - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,8	2,9	172	46	298	0,01
Employed	3,5	4,8	-53	-126	21	0,16
Unemployed	5,2	6,1	225	100	350	0,00
Outside the Labour Force	2,5	3,1	-145	-271	-19	0,02
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,8	2,9	5,0	1,1	9,0	0,01
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,5	4,8	-1,9	-4,2	0,5	0,11
Inactivity rate	2,5	3,1	-5,0	-9,0	-1,1	0,01
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	3,6	4,2	8,8	3,9	13,7	0,00
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	3,6	3,7	9,7	5,0	14,3	0,00
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,3	2,9	6,8	3,3	10,4	0,00
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,4	2,6	7,6	4,2	10,9	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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Eastern Cape - Buffalo City						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,7	2,0	-9	-53	35	0,69
Employed	6,7	4,6	-14	-47	20	0,41
Unemployed	8,4	9,5	5	-18	28	0,68
Outside the Labour Force	10,6	4,1	17	-28	61	0,46
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	4,7	2,0	-2,5	-10,2	5,3	0,53
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	6,7	4,6	-3,1	-8,9	2,8	0,31
Inactivity rate	10,6	4,1	2,5	-5,3	10,2	0,53
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	8,8	9,3	1,9	-2,5	6,4	0,39
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	5,5	7,3	1,2	-3,2	5,7	0,58
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	10,3	8,4	4,3	-2,9	11,5	0,24
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	6,6	7,9	3,5	-3,9	10,9	0,36
Eastern Cape - Nelson Mandela Bay						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,9	4,4	-16	-71	39	0,56
Employed	4,6	5,3	-49	-100	2	0,06
Unemployed	7,9	8,0	33	20	46	0,00
Outside the Labour Force	5,0	6,8	29	-26	84	0,30
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,9	4,4	-2,7	-8,7	3,4	0,39
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	4,6	5,3	-6,0	-11,6	-0,4	0,04
Inactivity rate	5,0	6,8	2,7	-3,4	8,7	0,39
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	8,1	6,5	6,7	3,9	9,5	0,00
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	7,8	6,2	1,9	-1,0	4,8	0,20
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	8,9	4,9	3,1	-1,6	7,8	0,19
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	8,1	4,7	-1,1	-5,7	3,5	0,63

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Northern cape						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,9	3,3	-32	-75	11	0,14
Employed	6,3	4,7	-5	-31	22	0,73
Unemployed	7,5	6,0	-28	-64	8	0,13
Outside the Labour Force	6,0	3,5	38	-5	81	0,08
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	4,9	3,3	-4,2	-9,3	0,9	0,11
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	6,3	4,7	-0,8	-3,9	2,3	0,61
Inactivity rate	6,0	3,5	4,2	-0,9	9,3	0,11
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	6,6	6,1	-3,9	-9,9	2,0	0,19
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	5,7	6,3	-2,8	-9,4	3,8	0,41
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	5,4	4,5	0,1	-5,0	5,3	0,96
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	5,1	4,1	0,9	-4,6	6,3	0,76
Free State						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,9	2,1	-18	-94	58	0,64
Employed	3,3	5,0	3	-75	81	0,94
Unemployed	5,3	5,3	-21	-66	24	0,36
Outside the Labour Force	3,3	3,6	20	-56	96	0,61
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,9	2,1	-1,0	-4,9	2,9	0,62
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,3	5,0	0,1	-3,9	4,2	0,95
Inactivity rate	3,3	3,6	1,0	-2,9	4,9	0,62
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,7	6,0	-1,2	-5,0	2,7	0,55
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,4	5,5	-1,2	-5,4	3,0	0,57
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,0	5,4	0,2	-3,8	4,3	0,92
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	3,8	5,1	0,1	-4,2	4,4	0,97

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Free State - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,1	2,8	17	-51	86	0,62
Employed	4,4	6,7	32	-43	108	0,40
Unemployed	5,1	6,7	-15	-48	18	0,38
Outside the Labour Force	3,7	5,1	-16	-84	52	0,64
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,1	2,8	1,2	-3,7	6,1	0,63
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	4,4	6,7	2,3	-3,1	7,7	0,40
Inactivity rate	3,7	5,1	-1,2	-6,1	3,7	0,63
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,0	7,6	-2,5	-7,2	2,3	0,31
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,9	7,2	-2,5	-7,7	2,7	0,34
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,7	7,1	-1,4	-6,7	4,0	0,61
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	4,7	6,9	-1,5	-7,1	4,2	0,61
Free State - Mangaung						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,7	2,3	-35	-69	-1	0,04
Employed	4,1	5,7	-29	-53	-5	0,02
Unemployed	14,7	5,9	-6	-37	25	0,70
Outside the Labour Force	7,1	3,3	36	2	70	0,04
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	3,7	2,3	-6,4	-12,5	-0,3	0,04
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	4,1	5,7	-5,3	-9,5	-1,0	0,02
Inactivity rate	7,1	3,3	6,4	0,3	12,5	0,04
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	12,0	7,5	1,5	-5,2	8,2	0,66
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	9,7	5,2	1,4	-6,2	9,0	0,72
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	6,8	4,4	3,8	-1,1	8,6	0,13
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	5,6	3,7	3,5	-2,1	9,1	0,22

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
KwaZulu-Natal						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,9	1,9	-24	-195	148	0,79
Employed	2,1	1,9	22	-97	142	0,71
Unemployed	5,8	5,0	-46	-210	119	0,58
Outside the Labour Force	2,1	2,0	116	-55	288	0,18
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,9	1,9	-0,9	-3,1	1,3	0,41
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,1	1,9	-0,1	-1,7	1,4	0,87
Inactivity rate	2,1	2,0	0,9	-1,3	3,1	0,41
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,6	3,8	-0,9	-4,1	2,2	0,56
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,1	3,2	-0,4	-3,7	2,9	0,80
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,2	2,0	-0,1	-2,4	2,1	0,92
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,2	2,1	0,3	-2,3	2,8	0,84
KwaZulu-Natal - Non-Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,8	2,9	-22	-173	129	0,78
Employed	2,9	3,1	-68	-165	29	0,17
Unemployed	6,8	6,3	46	-87	180	0,50
Outside the Labour Force	2,6	2,6	77	-75	228	0,32
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,8	2,9	-1,0	-3,9	2,0	0,53
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,9	3,1	-1,7	-3,6	0,3	0,09
Inactivity rate	2,6	2,6	1,0	-2,0	3,9	0,53
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	5,0	4,4	2,3	-1,7	6,2	0,26
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,6	3,6	2,9	-0,9	6,6	0,13
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,6	2,5	2,6	-0,2	5,3	0,06
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,7	2,4	3,0	0,4	5,6	0,03

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
KwaZulu-Natal - eThekweni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,2	2,0	-2	-87	84	0,97
Employed	2,8	2,1	90	19	162	0,01
Unemployed	10,8	7,4	-92	-188	4	0,06
Outside the Labour Force	3,3	3,0	40	-46	125	0,36
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,2	2,0	-0,9	-4,0	2,2	0,57
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,8	2,1	2,7	0,0	5,3	0,05
Inactivity rate	3,3	3,0	0,9	-2,2	4,0	0,57
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	9,4	6,4	-5,6	-10,6	-0,6	0,03
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	7,9	5,3	-5,2	-11,0	0,6	0,08
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,0	2,8	-4,2	-8,1	-0,3	0,03
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	3,7	3,6	-3,9	-9,0	1,2	0,13
North West						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	4,1	4,6	-74	-251	103	0,41
Employed	3,6	4,3	-17	-115	82	0,74
Unemployed	10,5	9,6	-57	-203	89	0,44
Outside the Labour Force	4,5	4,5	107	-70	284	0,23
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	4,1	4,6	-3,2	-9,4	3,0	0,31
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,6	4,3	-0,9	-4,4	2,5	0,59
Inactivity rate	4,5	4,5	3,2	-3,0	9,4	0,31
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	7,3	6,5	-2,0	-8,5	4,6	0,56
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	7,1	6,0	-0,3	-6,4	5,9	0,93
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	3,1	2,8	1,3	-2,8	5,3	0,54
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	3,1	2,6	2,4	-1,6	6,4	0,23

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Gauteng						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,1	1,2	-40	-235	155	0,68
Employed	1,5	1,6	-92	-281	97	0,34
Unemployed	3,1	3,2	52	-108	211	0,52
Outside the Labour Force	2,4	2,4	196	1	391	0,05
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,1	1,2	-1,3	-3,0	0,4	0,14
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1,5	1,6	-1,4	-3,0	0,2	0,09
Inactivity rate	2,4	2,4	1,3	-0,4	3,0	0,14
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	2,6	2,7	0,8	-1,0	2,7	0,37
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	2,5	2,3	0,8	-1,1	2,7	0,42
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,0	2,0	1,2	-0,6	3,1	0,19
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,1	1,9	1,2	-0,8	3,1	0,24
Gauteng - Non Metro						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	3,7	4,8	-47	-95	1	0,05
Employed	6,1	3,4	55	-29	139	0,20
Unemployed	6,1	13,8	-102	-176	-28	0,01
Outside the Labour Force	9,2	9,9	69	21	117	0,00
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	3,7	4,8	-4,1	-7,2	-1,0	0,01
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	6,1	3,4	3,0	-2,6	8,5	0,29
Inactivity rate	9,2	9,9	4,1	1,0	7,2	0,01
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	6,0	9,9	-8,1	-15,5	-0,6	0,03
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	6,0	8,5	-7,9	-14,7	-1,2	0,02
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	5,2	3,3	-5,3	-10,2	-0,4	0,04
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	5,1	3,8	-5,2	-10,1	-0,3	0,04

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Gauteng - Ekurhuleni						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,3	2,0	40	-68	149	0,47
Employed	2,2	3,1	28	-73	130	0,58
Unemployed	6,0	4,3	12	-68	92	0,77
Outside the Labour Force	4,1	3,6	-1	-110	108	0,99
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,3	2,0	0,5	-3,2	4,3	0,79
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,2	3,1	0,4	-3,1	3,9	0,82
Inactivity rate	4,1	3,6	-0,5	-4,3	3,2	0,79
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,4	4,1	-0,1	-3,9	3,7	0,96
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,5	3,7	-0,8	-5,0	3,4	0,71
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	3,0	3,3	0,0	-3,8	3,8	1,00
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	3,0	3,2	-0,6	-4,7	3,5	0,77
Gauteng - City of Johannesburg						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	1,4	1,9	-5	-142	131	0,94
Employed	2,5	3,3	-90	-215	35	0,16
Unemployed	4,5	5,2	84	-14	182	0,09
Outside the Labour Force	3,3	4,3	62	-74	198	0,37
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	1,4	1,9	-1,0	-4,2	2,1	0,52
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,5	3,3	-2,7	-5,6	0,2	0,07
Inactivity rate	3,3	4,3	1,0	-2,1	4,2	0,52
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,2	4,8	2,9	0,0	5,8	0,05
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,3	4,1	3,6	0,3	6,9	0,03
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	3,8	4,7	2,8	-0,6	6,2	0,11
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	4,0	4,0	3,4	-0,2	7,1	0,07

Table 2.3B: Sampling variability for labour force characteristics by province (continued)						
	Coefficient of variation		Year-on-year change	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	P-value
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Gauteng - City of Tshwane						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,9	2,0	-28	-110	54	0,50
Employed	3,0	2,2	-85	-153	-18	0,01
Unemployed	8,7	5,9	57	-9	123	0,09
Outside the Labour Force	6,3	4,0	66	-16	148	0,12
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,9	2,0	-1,9	-4,8	1,0	0,20
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,0	2,2	-3,6	-6,0	-1,2	0,00
Inactivity rate	6,3	4,0	1,9	-1,0	4,8	0,20
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	6,9	4,6	3,5	0,7	6,3	0,01
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	5,8	4,1	2,7	0,3	5,1	0,03
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	4,8	3,0	3,8	0,7	6,8	0,02
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	4,3	2,7	3,1	0,3	5,8	0,03
Mpumalanga						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,0	1,6	151	73	228	0,00
Employed	3,5	2,6	47	-56	150	0,37
Unemployed	4,6	4,4	103	16	190	0,02
Outside the Labour Force	2,7	2,6	-113	-190	-35	0,00
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,0	1,6	4,0	1,6	6,4	0,00
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3,5	2,6	1,0	-2,2	4,2	0,53
Inactivity rate	2,7	2,6	-4,0	-6,4	-1,6	0,00
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,8	3,9	2,6	-1,8	7,0	0,25
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	4,6	3,6	2,6	-1,6	6,7	0,22
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	3,1	2,2	-0,2	-4,1	3,8	0,94
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,9	2,2	0,0	-3,9	3,8	0,98

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Limpopo						
Population 15–64 yrs						
Labour force	2,5	2,4	-104	-237	30	0,13
Employed	2,7	2,5	-3	-98	93	0,96
Unemployed	5,4	4,9	-101	-191	-11	0,03
Outside the Labour Force	3,3	2,9	150	16	284	0,03
Key rates in relation to the working-age population (%)						
Labour force participation rate	2,5	2,4	-3,1	-6,4	0,1	0,06
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2,7	2,5	-0,5	-2,8	1,8	0,68
Inactivity rate	3,3	2,9	3,1	-0,1	6,4	0,06
Labour underutilisation indicators (%)						
LU1 - Unemployment rate	4,0	3,5	-2,9	-5,8	0,0	0,05
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	3,8	3,3	-4,2	-7,5	-1,0	0,01
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	2,3	2,0	-1,0	-3,4	1,5	0,43
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilisation	2,3	2,0	-2,1	-4,4	0,2	0,07

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Both sexes	0,8	0,7	-68	-382	246	0,67
Agriculture	5,8	3,9	39	-67	144	0,47
Mining	9,4	8,9	16	-37	70	0,54
Manufacturing	3,1	3,6	-100	-241	41	0,16
Utilities	12,1	13,4	-36	-78	5	0,09
Construction	3,5	3,4	94	-24	212	0,12
Trade	2,2	2,1	74	-126	274	0,47
Transport	3,5	3,7	-7	-109	96	0,89
Finance	2,9	2,3	-33	-233	167	0,75
Community and social services	2,0	2,0	-101	-312	110	0,35
Private households	3,7	3,6	-14	-130	101	0,81
Women	1,1	1,2	-106	-331	120	0,36
Agriculture	10,5	7,1	35	-27	97	0,27
Mining	15,4	14,5	16	-13	44	0,29
Manufacturing	4,7	5,8	-18	-97	61	0,65
Utilities	19,2	26,3	-18	-39	3	0,10
Construction	9,7	9,6	-8	-47	31	0,68
Trade	2,9	2,9	62	-65	189	0,34
Transport	8,6	8,4	4	-36	45	0,84
Finance	3,7	3,3	-35	-152	83	0,56
Community and social services	2,4	2,4	-116	-275	43	0,15
Private households	4,1	3,9	-28	-125	69	0,57
Men	0,9	0,8	38	-171	247	0,72
Agriculture	5,3	3,9	4	-66	74	0,92
Mining	10,3	9,3	1	-44	46	0,97
Manufacturing	3,5	3,7	-82	-182	17	0,11
Utilities	14,0	15,7	-18	-55	18	0,32
Construction	3,7	3,6	103	-11	216	0,08
Trade	3,0	2,8	12	-125	149	0,86
Transport	3,7	3,8	-11	-99	77	0,80
Finance	3,3	2,7	2	-128	131	0,98
Community and social services	3,0	2,7	15	-98	129	0,79
Private households	6,7	8,0	14	-42	69	0,62

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
South Africa	0,8	0,7	-68	-382	246	0,67
Formal sector*		1,0				
Informal sector*		2,2				
Households		3,6				
Western Cape	1,5	1,5	91	-23	205	0,12
Formal sector*		2,6				
Informal sector*		7,2				
Households		11,2				
Western Cape – Non-Metro	2,8	2,7	34	-39	107	0,36
Formal sector*		4,9				
Informal sector*		13,8				
Households		16,5				
Western Cape – City of Cape Town	1,8	2,0	57	-34	149	0,22
Formal sector*		3,2				
Informal sector*		7,7				
Households		15,8				
Eastern Cape	2,6	3,1	-116	-211	-21	0,02
Formal sector*		3,5				
Informal sector*		6,8				
Households		9,4				
Eastern Cape – Non-Metro	3,5	4,8	-53	-126	21	0,16
Formal sector*		5,2				
Informal sector*		9,0				
Households		12,6				
Eastern Cape – Buffalo City	6,7	4,6	-14	-47	20	0,41
Formal sector*		5,3				
Informal sector*		9,5				
Households		14,2				

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Eastern Cape - Nelson Mandela bay	4,6	5,3	-49	-100	2	0,06
Formal sector*		7,2				
Informal sector*		13,4				
Households		23,5				
Northern Cape	6,3	4,7	-5	-31	22	0,73
Formal sector*		7,7				
Informal sector*		19,4				
Households		16,2				
Free State	3,3	5,0	3	-75	81	0,94
Formal sector*		6,0				
Informal sector*		8,6				
Households		8,2				
Free State - Non-Metro	4,4	6,7	32	-43	108	0,40
Formal sector*		8,1				
Informal sector*		12,2				
Households		10,3				
Free State - Mangaung	4,1	5,7	-29	-53	-5	0,02
Formal sector*		6,0				
Informal sector*		3,9				
Households		12,9				
KwaZulu-Natal	2,1	1,9	22	-97	142	0,71
Formal sector*		3,0				
Informal sector*		5,2				
Households		12,6				
KwaZulu-Natal - Non-Metro	2,9	3,1	-68	-165	29	0,17
Formal sector*		3,9				
Informal sector*		7,6				
Households		13,3				

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
KwaZulu-Natal - eThekweni	2,8	2,1	90	19	162	0,01
Formal sector*		4,6				
Informal sector*		6,7				
Households		22,6				
North West	3,6	4,3	-17	-115	82	0,74
Formal sector*		6,0				
Informal sector*		9,1				
Households		16,1				
Gauteng	1,5	1,6	-92	-281	97	0,34
Formal sector*		2,0				
Informal sector*		4,7				
Households		5,8				
Gauteng - Non-Metro	6,1	3,4	55	-29	139	0,20
Formal sector*		3,5				
Informal sector*		12,1				
Households		12,7				
Gauteng - Ekurhuleni	2,2	3,1	28	-73	130	0,58
Formal sector*		4,0				
Informal sector*		8,7				
Households		11,9				
Gauteng - City of Johannesburg	2,5	3,3	-90	-215	35	0,16
Formal sector*		4,7				
Informal sector*		7,5				
Households		9,6				
Gauteng - City of Tshwane	3,0	2,2	-85	-153	-18	0,01
Formal sector*		2,9				
Informal sector*		10,7				
Households		12,3				

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Mpumalanga	3,5	2,6	47	-56	150	0,37
Formal sector*		4,9				
Informal sector*		6,3				
Households		5,9				
Limpopo	2,7	2,5	-3	-98	93	0,96
Formal sector*		3,9				
Informal sector*		4,7				
Households		10,2				

* Definition of sector from Q3:2025 is based on the latest standard, i.e. 21st ICLS resolution concerning statistics on informal economy. Therefore, estimates of Q3:2025 to Q2:2026 are not comparable with the previously produced estimates based on the old standards (i.e. 15th ICLS resolution on statistics of employment in the informal sector). However, estimates for the previous quarters on sector using the old definitions are available upon request.

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
	Apr-Jun 2025	Apr-Jun 2026				
Both sexes	0,8	0,7	-68	-382	246	0,67
Manager	3,8	3,5	-49	-189	92	0,50
Professional	5,2	4,6	-67	-176	41	0,22
Technician	3,0	3,1	-105	-233	23	0,11
Clerk	3,0	2,8	-26	-164	112	0,71
Sales and services	2,3	1,9	162	2	322	0,05
Skilled agriculture	14,5	12,0	34	11	58	0,00
Craft and related trade	2,7	2,7	71	-51	194	0,25
Plant and machine operator	3,4	3,7	-15	-128	98	0,79
Elementary	2,0	1,9	-77	-271	116	0,43
Domestic worker	4,2	3,5	-8	-101	85	0,86
Women	1,1	1,2	-106	-331	120	0,36
Manager	5,9	5,2	14	-57	85	0,70
Professional	5,6	5,7	-31	-110	47	0,43
Technician	3,5	4,2	-47	-130	36	0,27
Clerk	3,5	3,5	-58	-174	58	0,32
Sales and services	3,0	3,0	51	-72	173	0,42
Skilled agriculture	31,9	21,3	12	-1	24	0,06
Craft and related trade	6,4	7,3	-26	-74	23	0,29
Plant and machine operator	8,4	9,1	29	-9	67	0,14
Elementary	3,1	2,9	-41	-166	84	0,52
Domestic worker	4,1	3,7	-14	-107	78	0,76
Men	0,9	0,8	38	-171	247	0,72
Manager	4,2	3,7	-62	-168	43	0,25
Professional	6,6	6,0	-36	-93	21	0,21
Technician	4,2	4,6	-58	-152	36	0,22
Clerk	5,0	5,3	32	-45	110	0,41
Sales and services	3,3	2,8	112	-13	236	0,08
Skilled agriculture	16,3	15,0	23	1	44	0,04
Craft and related trade	3,0	2,8	97	-18	213	0,10
Plant and machine operator	3,6	4,0	-44	-151	62	0,41
Elementary	2,3	2,4	-36	-178	106	0,62
Domestic worker	17,5	16,6	6	-12	25	0,51