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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 or older who live in South Africa.

Starting in 2005, Stats SA undertook a major revision of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) which had been conducted twice per year since 2000. This revision resulted in changes to the survey methodology, the survey questionnaire, the frequency of data collection and data releases, and the survey data capture and processing systems. The redesigned labour market survey is the QLFS, which is now the principal vehicle for disseminating labour market information on a quarterly basis.

This report presents the key findings of the QLFS conducted in July–September, 2008 (Q3:2008). This report also discusses the methodology used to derive the link factors which will be available at www.statssa.gov.za/qlfs/index.asp. Revised labour market indicators (March series) are already available¹ and link factors for the September series will be published in March 2009. The questions in the LFS that have not been included in the core QLFS questionnaire are currently under review and may be included as an annual supplement, subject to stakeholder consultations.

2. Key changes in reporting

- The QLFS cut-off for inclusion in the working age population is now set at 15–64 years to improve international comparability. This revision has little or no impact on the data presented in this report.
- The QLFS employment indicators include only those engaged in market production activities. The number of persons engaged in non-market production activities² such as subsistence farming and collecting wood/dung and fetching water etc., is reported separately for users who require greater detail.
- Discouraged work-seekers are persons who did not have work, but wanted to work and were available to work but did not seek work or try to start a business in the reference period because: they had lost hope of finding work; or they did not have the requisite skills or qualifications; or they believed that no jobs were available in the area.
- The informal sector (excluding agriculture) comprises two broad groups³. The first group consists of employers, own-account workers and persons helping unpaid in their household business, whose business is not registered for either VAT or income tax. The second group are employees working in establishments that employ less than five employees and do not deduct income tax from their salaries/wages.
- Informal employment indicators relate to persons who work in precarious employment situations, irrespective of whether or not the entity for which they work is in the formal or informal sector. In the South African context, persons in informal employment consist of those in the informal sector, plus employees in the formal sector, and persons working in private households: who do not have a written contract of employment, and whose employers do not contribute to a pension or medical aid plan on their behalf. In effect, persons identified as being in informal employment are not entitled to all of these benefits.
- Underemployment refers to employed persons who worked less than 35 hours in the reference week but were willing and available to work longer hours.
- Underutilised labour comprises underemployed persons, plus unemployed persons, plus discouraged work-seekers.
- Within the unemployed, five categories have been identified as follows:
 - New entrants into the labour market
 - Job-losers
 - Job-leavers
 - Re-entrants

¹ www.statssa.gov.za

² Non-market production activities are production activities for own final use

³ The definition of the informal sector is subject to review pending the outcome of final consultations with the ILO

- o Last worked more than five years prior to the interview

3. Highlights of the results

Table A: Key labour market indicators

Key indicators	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent
Population 15–64 yrs	30 705	30 801	96	0,3
Labour force	17 844	17 777	-67	-0,4
Employed (Market production activities)	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	9 415	9 439	24	0,3
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2 340	2 175	-165	-7,1
Agriculture	790	767	-23	-2,9
Private households	1 185	1 274	89	7,5
Unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Not economically active	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
Discouraged work-seekers	1 079	1 071	-8	-0,7
Other (not economically active)	11 783	11 953	170	1,4
Rates	Percent		Percentage points	
Unemployment rate	23,1	23,2	0,1	-
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	44,7	44,3	-0,4	-
Labour force participation rate	58,1	57,7	-0,4	-

Note: Employed persons are those engaged in market production activities only.

Table A shows that the working age population rose from 30,7 million in the second quarter of 2008 (Q2:2008) to 30,8 million in the third quarter of 2008 (Q3:2008) – an increase of 96 thousand persons, and equivalent to a rise of 0,3% over the period.

Over the same period, the labour force (i.e. the sum of the employed and the unemployed) decreased by 0,4% to 17,8 million in Q3:2008.

In Q3:2008, the number of employed persons was 0,5% lower than in Q2:2008 (a decline of 74 thousand). This was largely on account of a fall in informal sector employment (non-agricultural) from 2,3 million in Q2:2008 to 2,2 million in Q3:2008 – down 165 thousand (7,1%). Formal sector employment gains of 24 thousand (up 0,3%) in Q3:2008, were therefore more than offset by the employment contraction in the informal sector.

Following the quarterly decline of 77 thousand among persons who were unemployed, in Q2:2008, the third quarter results indicate that the number of unemployed persons rose by 8 thousand to 4,1 million on account of an increase among men (up 62 thousand) (Table B).

The number of not economically active persons rose by 163 thousand from 12,9 million in Q2:2008 to 13,0 million in Q3:2008 – a quarterly increase of 1,3%. This increase suggests that some persons who had previously been employed in the second quarter may have become not economically active during the third quarter of the year.

The unemployment rate was 23,1% in Q2:2008 and 23,2% in Q3:2008. However, the stability in the unemployment rate masks a decline among women (down from 26,8% in the second quarter to 26,3% in the third quarter), and an increase among men (up from 19,9% in the second quarter to 20,6% in the third quarter).

Table A also shows that the percentage of persons in the South African working age population with jobs was stable - at 44,7% in Q2:2008 and 44,3% in Q3:2008. In similar vein, the labour force declined by 67

thousand, such that the participation rate was 58,1% in the second quarter and 57,7% in the third quarter.

Table B: Key labour market indicators by sex

	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Per cent
Employed				
Male	7 696	7 621	-75	-1,0
Female	6 033	6 034	1	0,0
Total	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Unemployed				
Male	1 910	1 972	62	3,2
Female	2 204	2 150	-54	-2,5
Total	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Labour force				
Male	9 606	9 593	-13	-0,1
Female	8 237	8 184	-53	-0,6
Total	17 844	17 777	-67	-0,4
Not economically active				
Male	5 015	5 081	66	1,3
Female	7 846	7 943	97	1,2
Total	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
Unemployment rate	Percent		Percentage points	
Male	19,9	20,6	0,7	-
Female	26,8	26,3	-0,5	-
Average	23,1	23,2	0,1	-

Note: Employed persons are those engaged in market production activities only.

4. Employment in market production activities

4.1. Industry and occupation

Table C: Employment by industry

Industry	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Jul–Sep 2008
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	% share
Agriculture	790	767	-23	-2,9	5,6
Mining	346	314	-32	-9,2	2,3
Manufacturing	1 968	1 917	-51	-2,6	14,0
Utilities	97	99	2	2,1	0,7
Construction	1 138	1 102	-36	-3,2	8,1
Trade	3 105	3 176	71	2,3	23,3
Transport	774	769	-5	-0,6	5,6
Finance	1 687	1 632	-55	-3,3	12,0
Community and social services	2 635	2 603	-32	-1,2	19,1
Private households	1 185	1 274	89	7,5	9,3
Total	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5	100,0

Note: Employed persons are those engaged in market production activities only.

Table C shows that in Q3:2008 the trade industry provided the largest number of jobs (3,2 million or 23,3% of total employment) and that private households and the trade industry accounted for the largest quarterly increases in employment. In addition, the third quarter expansion in employment in private households (up 89 thousand) and trade (up 71 thousand), was more than offset by a contraction in all the other sectors (except the utilities), reversing all of the quarterly employment gains that had occurred in the second quarter.

Table D: Employment by occupation

Occupation	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Jul–Sep 2008
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	% share
Manager	993	1 054	61	6,1	7,7
Professional	789	727	-62	-7,9	5,3
Technician	1 454	1 485	31	2,1	10,9
Clerk	1 450	1 462	12	0,8	10,7
Sales and services	1 749	1 780	31	1,8	13,0
Skilled agriculture	95	99	4	4,2	0,7
Craft	1 946	1 881	-65	-3,3	13,8
Plant/machine operator	1 161	1 208	47	4,0	8,8
Elementary	3 137	2 960	-177	-5,6	21,7
Domestic worker	953	996	43	4,5	7,3
Other		1	-1		0,0
Total	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5	100,0

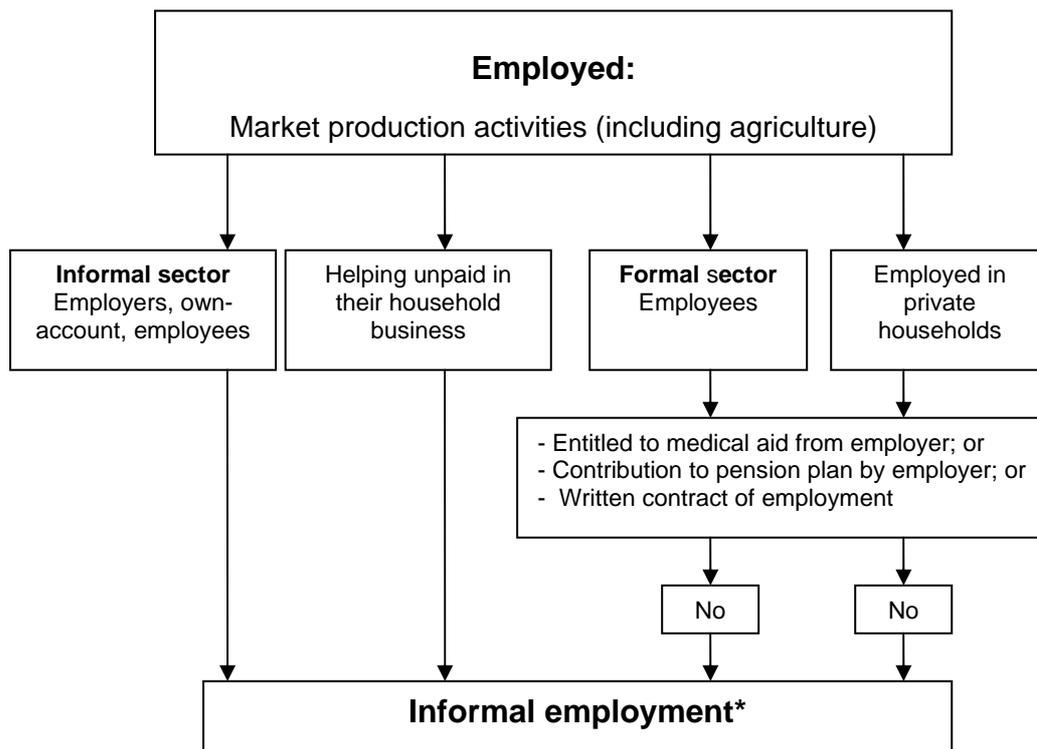
Note: Employed persons are those engaged in market production activities only.

Table D shows that in both quarters, persons engaged in elementary work accounted for the largest share of total employment (21,7% in Q3:2008) and that the decline in employment in this occupation category by 177 thousand also contributed the most to the quarterly decline in employment in Q3:2008. The second largest quarterly decline in Q3:2008 occurred among craft workers (down 65 thousand), followed by professionals (down 62 thousand).

4.2. Informal employment

The distinction between the formal and informal sector on the one hand and formal and informal employment on the other, has become increasingly important in recent years. It is widely recognised, internationally, that growing numbers of employed persons who work in formal sector establishments do not have access to basic benefits. The focus on informal employment is therefore to identify persons who work in precarious employment situations, irrespective of whether or not the entity for which they work is in the formal or informal sector. Against this background, Figure 1 shows that in the South African context, persons in informal employment consist of those in the informal sector; plus employees in the formal sector and persons working in private households: who do not have a written contract of employment, and whose employers do not contribute to a medical aid plan or a pension on their behalf. In effect, persons identified as being in informal employment are not entitled to all of these benefits.

Figure 1: Deriving informal employment in the QLFS



* Excludes employers and own-account workers who are in the formal sector that do not have either medical aid or pension plans.

Table E: Informal employment by sex

	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change	JulSep 2008
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	% share
Both sexes					
Formal employment	8 157	8 263	106	1,3	60,5
Informal employment	4 915	4 694	-221	-4,5	34,4
Other employment*	657	698	41	6,2	5,1
Total	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5	100,0
Men					
Formal employment	4 805	4 824	19	0,4	63,3
Informal employment	2 432	2 287	-145	-6,0	30,0
Other employment*	459	510	51	11,1	6,7
Total	7 696	7 621	-75	-1,0	100,0
Women					
Formal employment	3 352	3 439	87	2,6	57,0
Informal employment	2 484	2 407	-77	-3,1	39,9
Other employment*	197	189	-8	-4,1	3,1
Total	6 033	6 035	1	0,0	100,0

Note: Other employment refers to employers and own-account workers who are not in the informal sector. For this group, the notion of their employer contributing to medical aid or pension plans or having written contracts of employment is not relevant.

Table E shows that the working conditions of more than one in every three employed persons (34,4% in Q3:2008) satisfied the criteria for their inclusion in the measure of informal employment. They were either working in the informal sector, working in private households, or they were employees in formal sector establishments without basic benefits such as medical aid or pension plan arrangements to which their employer contributed. In addition, they also did not have a written contract of employment from their employer. Table E also shows that whereas 39,9% of employed women lacked adequate employment conditions; among men, relatively fewer (30,0%) were in a similar situation.

4.3. Comparison of formal sector employment in the QLFS and QES

This section compares the employment estimates of Q2:2008 from the Quarterly Employment Survey with the corresponding estimates from Q2:2008 of the QLFS (See Table F).

In all countries that measure employment in these two ways, the estimates of employment derived from household surveys and establishment surveys differ. In the South African context, a survey of registered businesses obviously yields employment estimates only for registered businesses, which in turn means that the QES can provide estimates of employment only for the formal sector. The QLFS, however, being a survey of households, provides estimates of employment in both the formal and informal sectors.

The difference in type of respondents in the QES and QLFS means that differences in estimates of formal sector employment between the QES and QLFS are to be expected. The reasons for these differences include:

- In the QLFS, the determination that someone is employed in the formal sector is based on answers provided by survey respondents. Where proxy respondents are providing the information, they may not be sufficiently informed.
- The estimates of employment by industry obtained from the QLFS are based on responses to survey questions, and are dependent on the respondents' knowledge of the industry of the business in which they are employed. On the other hand, the estimates of employment by industry from the QES (and other establishment surveys) are based on the industry classification of the responding businesses on Stats SA's business register. The industry codes on the business register are based on detailed knowledge of the main activities of the businesses.
- Both the QLFS and QES are sample surveys and are, therefore, subject to sampling variability. Even in the absence of all other sources of difference, this would result in differences in the two estimates.
- In the QES, employers working in the enterprise who are not remunerated through the firm's payroll are not included in the count of employment in the firm.
- The reference periods for the two surveys differ. The QES refers to average employment over a quarter while the QLFS refers to average employment in the middle two weeks of each month in the quarter. During periods of rapid change in employment levels this difference in reference periods will contribute to the difference in employment between the two surveys.

Table F: Formal sector employment according to the QLFS and the QES of April–June 2008

Industry	QLFS	QES	Difference	QLFS	QES
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	% share	% share
Mining	341	517	176	3,9	6,1
Manufacturing	1 661	1 317	-344	18,9	15,6
Utilities	95	59	-36	1,1	0,7
Construction	740	474	-266	8,4	5,6
Trade	1 831	1 727	-104	20,9	20,4
Transport	495	363	-132	5,6	4,3
Finance (including business services)	1 378	1 906	528	15,7	22,5
Community services (excluding domestic workers)	2 235	2 105	-130	25,5	24,9
Total	8 776	8 467	-309	100,0	100,0

Note: Total excludes: agriculture, private households, other and unspecified

5. Underutilised labour

The unemployment rate is widely used to gauge the performance of the labour market and the economy as a whole. However, the ILO suggests that "...the problem in developing countries is not so much unemployment but rather the lack of decent and productive work, which results in various forms of labour underutilisation"⁴. In light of this, and to provide a comprehensive picture of the employment constraints in the South African labour market, Stats SA measures underutilised labour as the sum of persons who are underemployed (time-related), plus those who are unemployed, plus those who are discouraged, according to the following definitions:

1. Persons in **time-related underemployment** are employed persons who were willing and available to work additional hours, whose total number of hours actually worked during the reference period was below 35 hours per week. At this juncture, no attempt is made to measure other forms of underemployment such as occupation or income related underemployment, as a result, this component of underutilised labour is perhaps underestimated.
2. **Unemployed** persons are persons aged 15–64 years who were not employed during the reference week but were available for work and: had actively looked for work in the past four weeks (ending with the reference week); or 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.
3. **Discouraged work-seekers** are persons who wanted to work but did not seek work or try to start a business during the reference period because: they had lost hope of finding work; or they were unable to find work requiring their skills; or they felt that no jobs were available in the area.

Table G: Underutilised labour in the context of the working-age population

	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Jul–Sep 2008
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	% share
a) Time-related underemployment	2 095	2 019	-76	-3,6	30,7
b) Unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2	54,1
c) Discouraged work-seekers	1 079	1 071	-8	-0,7	15,2
d) Underutilised labour (a+b+c)	7 288	7 212	-76	-1,0	100,0
e) Other employed persons	11 634	11 636	2	0,0	-
f) Other not economically active	11 783	11 953	170	1,4	-
g) Working-age (d+e+f)	30 705	30 801	96	0,3	-
	Percent		Percentage points		
Underutilised labour as % of the working-age (d / g x 100)	23,7	23,4	-0,3	-	-

Underutilised labour declined for the second consecutive quarter. In Q3:2008 7,2 million persons in the working age population were underutilised – down from 7,3 million in Q2:2008 and as many as 7,7 million in Q1:2008. This translates into a decline of 278 thousand persons in Q2:2008 and an additional 76 thousand persons in Q3:2008. In Q3:2008, the contraction was due solely to a decline of 76 thousand persons in time-related underemployment, since the decline in the number of discouraged work-seekers (down 8 thousand) was matched by an equivalent increase in the number of unemployed persons (up 8 thousand).

⁴ Key Indicators of the Labour Market www.ilo.org/kilm

6. The unemployed population

Unemployed persons are persons aged 15–64 years who were not employed during the reference week but were available for work and: had actively looked for work in the past four weeks (ending with the reference week); or 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.

Table H: Unemployed by sex

	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change
Unemployed	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Men	1 910	1 972	62	3,2
Women	2 204	2 150	-54	-2,5
Total	4 114	4 122	8	0,2

Table H shows that the number of unemployed persons was virtually unchanged in Q3:2008 compared with Q2:2008. The quarterly decline in unemployment among women in Q3:2008 (down 54 thousand) was more than offset by an increase of 62 thousand among men.

6.1. Other characteristics of the unemployed

A useful dimension to the unemployment picture combines the reasons given by unemployed persons for not working during the reference week with their circumstances prior to becoming unemployed as follows:

- **New entrants** into unemployment are persons who were unemployed during the reference period that had never worked before.
- **Job losers** are unemployed persons who had been working during the 5 years prior to becoming unemployed and: they had lost their job; or they had been laid off; or the business in which they had previously worked had been sold or had closed down.
- **Unemployed job leavers** are those among the unemployed who had been working during the 5 years prior to becoming unemployed and had stopped working at their last job for any of the following reasons:
 - Caring for own children/relatives;
 - Pregnancy;
 - Other family/community responsibilities;
 - Going to school;
 - Changed residence;
 - Retired; or
 - Other reasons
- **Unemployed re-entrants to the labour force** are unemployed persons who had worked before, and whose main activity before looking for work was either managing a home or going to school.
- **Last worked more than five years prior to the interview.** A recall period of five years was set to ensure greater reliability of the information collected from respondents.

Table I: Characteristics of the unemployed

Unemployed	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Jul-Sep 2008
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	% share
Job-losers	1 172	1 268	96	8,2	30,8
Job-leavers	402	386	-16	-4,0	9,4
New entrants	1 746	1 745	-1	-0,1	42,3
Re-entrants	253	185	-68	-26,9	4,5
Worked 5yrs or more in the past	541	538	-3	-0,6	13,0
Total	4 114	4 122	8	0,2	100,0

Table I shows that new-entrants account for the single largest share of total unemployment (42,3% in Q3:2008) and the quarterly increase among job-losers (up by 96 thousand) was largely offset by a decrease of 68 thousand among re-entrants and a decrease of 16 thousand among job-leavers.

Figure 2: Characteristics of the unemployed by sex, Q3:2008



Figure 2 highlights the gender differences among unemployed persons as follows:

- Among unemployed men, 38,0% were new-entrants to the labour force and an additional 37,4% were job-losers.
- In contrast, among unemployed women 46,3% were new-entrants to the labour force and an additional 24,7% were job-losers.
- Compared to unemployed men, higher percentages of unemployed women were job-leavers (10,5%) and re-entrants (5,5%)

6.2. Long-term unemployment

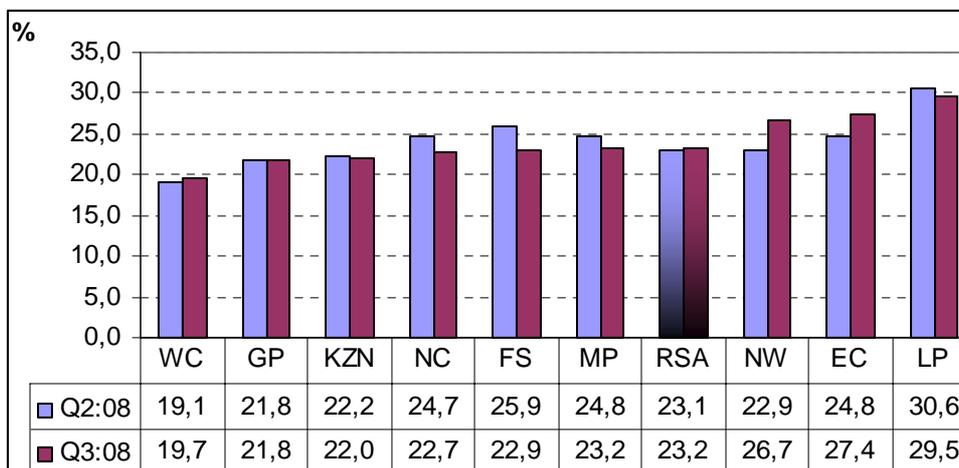
The length of time that an unemployed person has been looking for work or trying to start a business is an important indicator of labour market performance and that person’s prospects. The longer the duration of job-search, the worse the unemployment situation becomes for people who have been seeking work without success – particularly in countries where the social grant system is partial or non-existent.

Table J: Long-term unemployment

	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Unemployed				
Long-term unemployment (1 year or longer)	2 405	2 415	10	0,4
Short-term unemployment (less than 1 year)	1 710	1 707	-3	-0,2
Total	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Long-term unemployment	Percent		Percentage points	
Proportion of the labour force ⁵	13,5	13,6	0,1	.
Proportion of the unemployed	58,5	58,6	0,1	.

Table J shows that more than half of all unemployed persons (58,6% in Q3:2008) had been looking for work or trying to start a business for one year or longer.

Figure 3: Unemployment rate by province



There was a quarterly decline in the unemployment rate in five of the nine provinces in Q3:2008 (Figure 3). However, the increase in provinces such as North West (up 3,8 percentage points) and Eastern Cape (up 2,6 percentage points) resulted in the national average of 23,2% being virtually unchanged from Q2:2008 (23,1%).

The unemployment rate among the African/Black population group was 27,0% in Q2:2008 and 27,4% in Q3:2008 (See Figure 4). Among all the other population groups, the unemployment rate declined in Q3:2008 – from 19,5% to 19,1% among coloureds, from 12,7% to 11,7% among Indians; and from 4,6% to 4,1% among whites.

⁵ Also referred to as the long-term unemployment rate

Figure 4: Unemployment rate by population group, Q3:2008

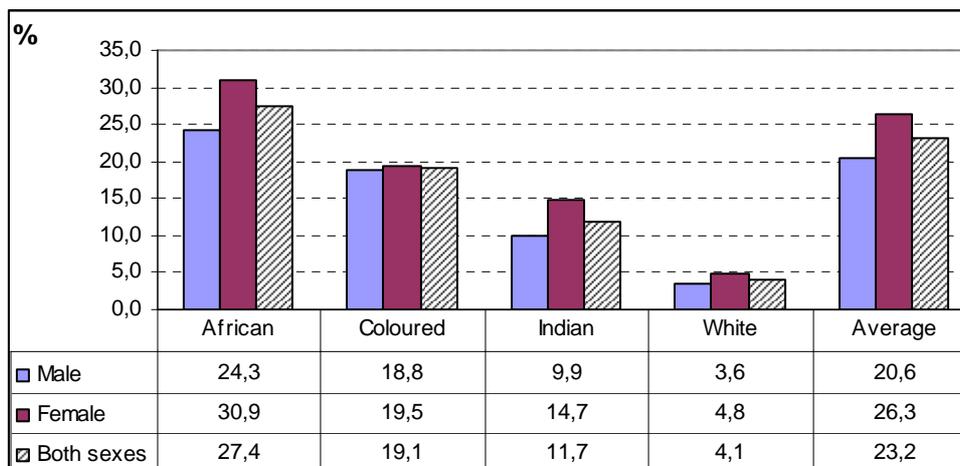


Figure 4 shows that in the third quarter, the unemployment rate among African/Black women (30,9%) was more than seven times that of white men (3,6%).

7. Characteristics of the not economically active population

Table K: The not economically active population

Not economically active	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Jul–Sep 2008
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	% share
Student	5 670	5 718	48	0,8	43,9
Home-maker	2 496	2 579	83	3,3	19,8
Illness/disability	1 794	1 822	28	1,6	14,0
Too old/young to work	978	1 014	36	3,7	7,8
Discouraged	1 079	1 071	-8	-0,7	8,2
Other	845	820	-25	-3,0	6,3
Total	12 861	13 024	163	1,3	100,0

The not economically active population increased from 12,9 million in Q2:2008 to 13,0 million in Q3:2008. This was equivalent to an increase of 163 thousand persons in Q3:2008. Table K shows that in Q3:2008, students accounted for the largest number of not economically active persons (5,7 million or 43,9% of the total) followed by home-makers (2,6 million or 19,8% of the total). And notably, these two groups contributed the most to the increase of 163 thousand among the not economically active.

8. Non-market production activities (household production for own final use)

As noted earlier, persons engaged in non-market production activities (i.e. household production for own final use) are not included as employed in the QLFS employment indicators⁶, instead their job search and availability status enables their categorisation into unemployed or not economically active.

⁶ For more details see Guide to the QLFS at www.statssa.gov.za/qlfs/index.asp

Table L shows that in both Q2:2008 and Q3:2008, as many as 3,9 million persons were engaged in at least one non-market production activity. Those involved in fetching water and collecting wood/dung for household use accounted for the largest number of persons, followed by subsistence agriculture.

Table L: Engagement in non-market production activities by type of activity

Non-market production activities	Apr–Jun 2008	Jul–Sep 2008	Q:2 to Q:3 change	Q:2 to Q:3 change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Subsistence farming	1 324	1 214	-110	-8,3
Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	3 118	3 260	142	4,6
Producing other goods for household use	93	66	-27	-29,0
Construction or major repairs to own house etc.	237	222	-15	-6,3
Hunting or fishing for household use	19	15	-4	-21,1
Involvement in at least one activity*	3 920	3 920	0	0,0
Unemployed	730	692	-38	-5,2
Not economically active	3 190	3 228	38	1,2

*Non-market production activities do not add up to a total since persons could have been engaged in more than one activity.

Among those engaged in at least one non-market production activity, in both quarters the vast majority were not economically active.

Figure 5: Involvement in at least one non-market activity by province, Q3:2008

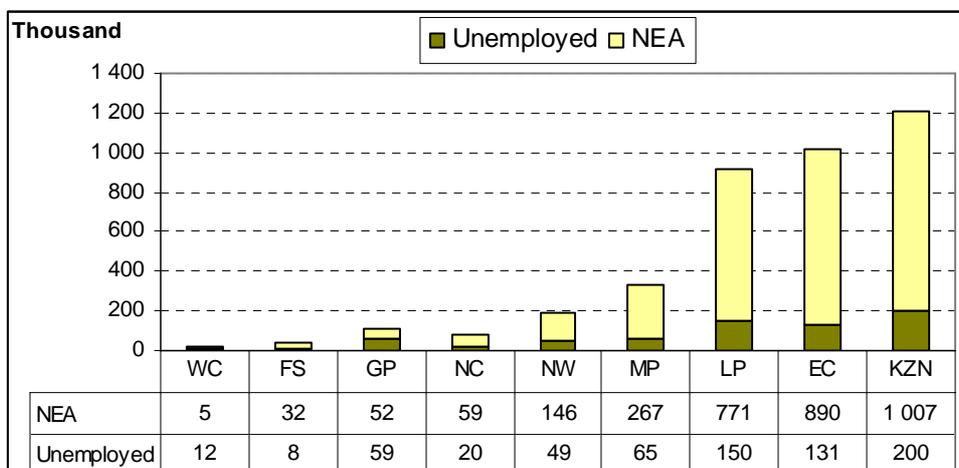


Figure 5 shows that non-market production activities are predominantly a feature of the situation in KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape and Limpopo, and that persons who engage in such activities are predominantly classified as not economically active.



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9. Link factors

Revised labour market indicators have already been published to enable historical continuity with the LFS March series. These historical series are based on link factors computed on the basis of the overlap between the LFS conducted in March 2008 and the QLFS conducted in Jan–March 2008. A similar process will be undertaken to link the QLFS conducted in July–September 2008 with the LFS conducted in September 2008.

9.1. Revision of historical data

The purpose of historical revision is to make the LFS estimates from 2000 to 2007 comparable with the QLFS data starting in 2008. Being “comparable” means that measures of change that cross the 2007/2008 threshold are valid.

Revising historical LFS data means that the revised LFS data for, say, March 2002 represent Stats SA’s best estimate of what the QLFS would have shown had it been conducted in 2002.

The historical revision is carried out in two stages. In the first stage a set of high-level variables is chosen. For a number of vectors derived from these variables, ratios of the QLFS estimate to the LFS estimate are calculated. One set of ratios is obtained from the LFS (March 2008) and the QLFS (Q1: 2008) and a second set from the LFS (September 2008) and the QLFS (Q3: 2008). The two sets of link factors obtained from this process are then used to adjust the corresponding vectors derived from LFS estimates under the constraint that the vectors are consistent with the population estimates. In addition, the vectors must be internally consistent e.g. the total number of employed persons by occupation must be the same as the total number of employed persons by industry. In the second stage, the historical LFS data files are then re-weighted using the above vectors as control totals. Historically revised LFS data are then tabulated from these re-weighted files.

10. Technical notes

10.1. Response details

Table (i): Response rates by province

Province	Jul–Sep 2008
	Percent
Western Cape	86,3
Eastern Cape	97,1
Northern Cape	88,4
Free State	94,2
KwaZulu-Natal	96,3
North West	95,3
Gauteng	89,5
Mpumalanga	96,9
Limpopo	98,0
South Africa	93,4

10.2. Survey requirements and design

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey frame has been developed as a general purpose household survey frame that can be used by all other household surveys irrespective of the sample size requirement of the survey. The sample size for the QLFS is roughly 30 000 dwellings per quarter.

The sample is based on information collected during the 2001 Population Census conducted by Stats SA. In preparation for the 2001 census, the country was divided into 80 787 enumeration areas (EAs). Stats SA's household-based surveys use a Master Sample of Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) which comprises of EAs that are drawn from across the country.

The sample is designed to be representative at the provincial level and within provinces at the metro/non-metro level. Within the metros, the sample is further distributed by geography type. The four geography types are: urban formal, urban informal, farms and tribal. This implies, for example, that within a metropolitan area the sample is representative at the different geography types that may exist within that metro.

The current sample size is 3 080 PSUs. It is divided equally into four sub-groups or panels called rotation groups. The rotation groups are designed in such a way that each of these groups has the same distribution pattern as that which is observed in the whole sample. They are numbered from one to four and these numbers also correspond to the quarters of the year in which the sample will be rotated for the particular group.

The sample for the redesigned Labour Force Survey (i.e. the QLFS) is based on a stratified two-stage design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of primary sampling units (PSUs) in the first stage, and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling in the second stage.

10.3. Sample rotation

Each quarter, $\frac{1}{4}$ of the sampled dwellings rotate out of the sample and are replaced by new dwellings from the same PSU or the next PSU on the list. Thus, sampled dwellings will 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, say two quarters and a new household moves in then 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 (unoccupied).

10.4. Weighting

The sampling weights for the data collected from the sampled households are constructed so that the responses could be properly expanded to represent the entire civilian population of South Africa. The weights are the result of calculations involving several factors, including original selection probabilities, adjustment for non-response, and benchmarking to known population estimates from the Demographic Division of Stats SA.

10.5. Non-response adjustment

In general, imputation is used for item non-response (i.e. blanks within the questionnaire); edit failure (i.e. invalid or inconsistent responses). The eligible households in the sampled dwellings can be divided into two response categories: respondents and non-respondents and weight adjustment is applied to account for the non-respondent households (e.g. refusal, no contact, etc.).

10.6. Final survey weights

The final survey weights are constructed using regression estimation to calibrate to the known population counts at the national level population estimates (which are supplied by the Demography Division) cross-classified by 5-year age groups, gender and race, and provincial population estimates by broad age groups. The 5-year age groups are: 0–4, 5–9, 10–14, 55–59, 60–64, and 65 and over. The provincial

level age groups are: 0–14, 15–34, 35–64, and 65 years and over. The calibrated weights are constructed such that all persons in a household would have the same final weight.

10.7. Estimation

The final survey weights are used to obtain the estimates for various domains of interest, e.g. number of persons employed in agriculture in the province of Western Cape, number of females employed in manufacturing, etc.

10.8. Reliability of the survey estimates

Because 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-response and incomplete reporting. These types of errors cannot be measured readily. However, to the extent possible, 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. The variance estimation methodology is discussed below.

(i) Variance estimation

The most commonly used methods for estimating variances of survey estimates from complex surveys, such as the QLFS, are the Taylor-series Linearization, Jackknife Replication, Balanced Repeated Replication (BRR), and Bootstrap methods (Wolter, 2007)⁷. 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 the standard error relative to the 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 scale differ from one another.

(iii) P-value

If p-value <0.01 then the difference is highly significant; if p-value is between 0.01 and 0.05 then the difference is significant; and if p-value >0.05 then the difference is not significant

11. Definitions

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

⁷ Wolter, K. M. (2007), *Introduction to Variance Estimation, 2nd Edition*, Springer-Verlag: New York.

Economic activities are those that contribute to the production of goods and services in the country. There are two types of economic activities, and they are: (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 (temporarily absent).

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

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 consist of all persons in the informal sector; employees in the formal sector; and persons working in private households who are not entitled to basic benefits such as pension or medical aid contributions from their employer, and who do not have a written contract of employment.

Informal sector: (This definition is subject to review pending final consultations with the ILO). The informal sector has the following two components:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Underutilised labour comprises three groups as follows: persons who are underemployed, persons who are unemployed, and persons who are discouraged.

Unemployed persons are those (aged 15–64 years) who:

- a) Were not employed in the reference week.
- b) Actively looked for work or tried to start a business in the four weeks preceding the survey interview.
- c) Were available for work i.e. would have been able to start work or a business in the reference week.

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

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

Table 1: Population of working age (15-64 years)				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Both sexes	30 705	30 801	96	0,3
Women	16 084	16 127	43	0,3
Men	14 621	14 674	53	0,4
All population groups	30 705	30 801	96	0,3
Black/African	23 784	23 872	88	0,4
Coloured	2 934	2 945	11	0,4
Indian/Asian	874	878	4	0,5
White	3 113	3 106	-7	-0,2
South Africa	30 705	30 801	96	0,3
Western Cape	3 450	3 462	12	0,3
Eastern Cape	3 949	3 961	12	0,3
Northern Cape	703	704	1	0,1
Free State	1 854	1 857	3	0,2
KwaZulu Natal	6 273	6 295	22	0,4
North West	2 167	2 171	4	0,2
Gauteng	7 076	7 095	19	0,3
Mpumalanga	2 180	2 188	8	0,4
Limpopo	3 053	3 068	15	0,5

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

Table 2: Labour force characteristics by sex - All population groups				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Both sexes				.
Population 15-64 yrs	30 705	30 801	96	0,3
Labour Force	17 844	17 777	-67	-0,4
Employed	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	9 415	9 439	24	0,3
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2 340	2 175	-165	-7,1
Agriculture	790	767	-23	-2,9
Private households	1 185	1 274	89	7,5
Unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Not economically active	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
Discouraged work-seekers	1 079	1 071	-8	-0,7
Other(not economically active)	11 783	11 953	170	1,4
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	23,1	23,2	0,1	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	44,7	44,3	-0,4	
Labour force participation rate	58,1	57,7	-0,4	
Women				
Population 15-64 yrs	16 084	16 127	43	0,3
Labour Force	8 237	8 184	-53	-0,6
Employed	6 033	6 034	1	0,0
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3 767	3 777	10	0,3
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	1 084	994	-90	-8,3
Agriculture	253	257	4	1,6
Private households	928	1 006	78	8,4
Unemployed	2 204	2 150	-54	-2,5
Not economically active	7 846	7 943	97	1,2
Discouraged work-seekers	663	652	-11	-1,7
Other(not economically active)	7 183	7 291	108	1,5
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	26,8	26,3	-0,5	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	37,5	37,4	-0,1	
Labour force participation rate	51,2	50,7	-0,5	
Men				
Population 15-64 yrs	14 621	14 674	53	0,4
Labour Force	9 606	9 593	-13	-0,1
Employed	7 696	7 621	-75	-1,0
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	5 648	5 662	14	0,2
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	1 256	1 181	-75	-6,0
Agriculture	537	510	-27	-5,0
Private households	256	267	11	4,3
Unemployed	1 910	1 972	62	3,2
Not economically active	5 015	5 081	66	1,3
Discouraged work-seekers	416	420	4	1,0
Other(not economically active)	4 599	4 662	63	1,4
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	19,9	20,6	0,7	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	52,6	51,9	-0,7	
Labour force participation rate	65,7	65,4	-0,3	

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				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
South Africa				
Population 15-64 yrs	30 705	30 801	96	0,3
Labour Force	17 844	17 777	-67	-0,4
Employed	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Not economically active	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	23,1	23,2	0,1	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	44,7	44,3	-0,4	
Labour force participation rate	58,1	57,7	-0,4	
Black/African				
Population 15-64 yrs	23 784	23 872	88	0,4
Labour Force	13 238	13 172	-66	-0,5
Employed	9 662	9 567	-95	-1,0
Unemployed	3 576	3 604	28	0,8
Not economically active	10 546	10 700	154	1,5
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	27,0	27,4	0,4	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	40,6	40,1	-0,5	
Labour force participation rate	55,7	55,2	-0,5	
Coloured				
Population 15-64 yrs	2 934	2 945	11	0,4
Labour Force	1 909	1 906	-3	-0,2
Employed	1 538	1 541	3	0,2
Unemployed	372	365	-7	-1,9
Not economically active	1 025	1 039	14	1,4
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	19,5	19,2	-0,3	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	52,4	52,3	-0,1	
Labour force participation rate	65,1	64,7	-0,4	
Indian/Asian				
Population 15-64 yrs	874	878	4	0,5
Labour Force	534	547	13	2,4
Employed	466	483	17	3,6
Unemployed	68	64	-4	-5,9
Not economically active	340	331	-9	-2,6
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	12,7	11,7	-1,0	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	53,3	55,0	1,7	
Labour force participation rate	61,1	62,3	1,2	
White				
Population 15-64 yrs	3 113	3 106	-7	-0,2
Labour Force	2 163	2 152	-11	-0,5
Employed	2 064	2 063	-1	0,0
Unemployed	99	89	-10	-10,1
Not economically active	951	954	3	0,3
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	4,6	4,1	-0,5	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	66,3	66,4	0,1	
Labour force participation rate	69,5	69,3	-0,2	

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 province				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
South Africa				
Population 15-64 yrs	30 705	30 801	96	0,3
Labour Force	17 844	17 777	-67	-0,4
Employed	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Not economically active	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	23,1	23,2	0,1	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	44,7	44,3	-0,4	
Labour force participation rate	58,1	57,7	-0,4	
Western Cape				
Population 15-64 yrs	3 450	3 462	12	0,3
Labour Force	2 338	2 322	-16	-0,7
Employed	1 891	1 865	-26	-1,4
Unemployed	447	457	10	2,2
Not economically active	1 112	1 140	28	2,5
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	19,1	19,7	0,6	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	54,8	53,9	-0,9	
Labour force participation rate	67,8	67,1	-0,7	
Eastern Cape				
Population 15-64 yrs	3 949	3 961	12	0,3
Labour Force	1 812	1 811	-1	-0,1
Employed	1 363	1 315	-48	-3,5
Unemployed	450	496	46	10,2
Not economically active	2 137	2 150	13	0,6
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	24,8	27,4	2,6	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	34,5	33,2	-1,3	
Labour force participation rate	45,9	45,7	-0,2	
Northern Cape				
Population 15-64 yrs	703	704	1	0,1
Labour Force	394	398	4	1,0
Employed	297	308	11	3,7
Unemployed	97	90	-7	-7,2
Not economically active	309	306	-3	-1,0
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	24,6	22,6	-2,0	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	42,2	43,8	1,6	
Labour force participation rate	56,0	56,5	0,5	
Free State				
Population 15-64 yrs	1 854	1 857	3	0,2
Labour Force	1 122	1 092	-30	-2,7
Employed	831	842	11	1,3
Unemployed	291	250	-41	-14,1
Not economically active	732	764	32	4,4
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	25,9	22,9	-3,0	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	44,8	45,3	0,5	
Labour force participation rate	60,5	58,8	-1,7	

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

Table 2.2: Labour force characteristics by province (concluded)				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
KwaZulu Natal				
Population 15-64 yrs	6 273	6 295	22	0,4
Labour Force	3 359	3 312	-47	-1,4
Employed	2 614	2 583	-31	-1,2
Unemployed	745	729	-16	-2,1
Not economically active	2 914	2 984	70	2,4
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	22,2	22,0	-0,2	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	41,7	41,0	-0,7	
Labour force participation rate	53,5	52,6	-0,9	
North West				
Population 15-64 yrs	2 167	2 171	4	0,2
Labour Force	1 168	1 185	17	1,5
Employed	900	868	-32	-3,6
Unemployed	268	317	49	18,3
Not economically active	999	987	-12	-1,2
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	22,9	26,8	3,9	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	41,5	40,0	-1,5	
Labour force participation rate	53,9	54,6	0,7	
Gauteng				
Population 15-64 yrs	7 076	7 095	19	0,3
Labour Force	5 195	5 194	-1	0,0
Employed	4 061	4 063	2	0,0
Unemployed	1 134	1 131	-3	-0,3
Not economically active	1 881	1 901	20	1,1
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	21,8	21,8	0,0	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	57,4	57,3	-0,1	
Labour force participation rate	73,4	73,2	-0,2	
Mpumalanga				
Population 15-64 yrs	2 180	2 188	8	0,4
Labour Force	1 197	1 202	5	0,4
Employed	900	924	24	2,7
Unemployed	297	279	-18	-6,1
Not economically active	983	985	2	0,2
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	24,8	23,2	-1,6	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	41,3	42,2	0,9	
Labour force participation rate	54,9	55,0	0,1	
Limpopo				
Population 15-64 yrs	3 053	3 068	15	0,5
Labour Force	1 259	1 260	1	0,1
Employed	874	888	14	1,6
Unemployed	385	372	-13	-3,4
Not economically active	1 794	1 807	13	0,7
Rates (%)				
Unemployment rate	30,6	29,5	-1,1	
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	28,6	28,9	0,3	
Labour force participation rate	41,2	41,1	-0,1	

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

Table 3.1: Employed by industry and sex - South Africa				
Market production activities	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Both sexes	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Agriculture	790	767	-23	-2,9
Mining	346	314	-32	-9,2
Manufacturing	1 968	1 917	-51	-2,6
Utilities	97	99	2	2,1
Construction	1 138	1 102	-36	-3,2
Trade	3 105	3 176	71	2,3
Transport	774	769	-5	-0,6
Finance	1 687	1 632	-55	-3,3
Community and social services	2 635	2 603	-32	-1,2
Private households	1 185	1 274	89	7,5
Other	*	*	*	*
Women	6 033	6 034	1	0,0
Agriculture	253	257	4	1,6
Mining	34	33	-1	-2,9
Manufacturing	658	608	-50	-7,6
Utilities	24	29	5	20,8
Construction	120	110	-10	-8,3
Trade	1 562	1 577	15	1,0
Transport	172	149	-23	-13,4
Finance	743	725	-18	-2,4
Community and social services	1 535	1 538	3	0,2
Private households	928	1 006	78	8,4
Other	*	*	*	*
Men	7 696	7 621	-75	-1,0
Agriculture	537	510	-27	-5,0
Mining	312	281	-31	-9,9
Manufacturing	1 310	1 309	-1	-0,1
Utilities	73	69	-4	-5,5
Construction	1 018	992	-26	-2,6
Trade	1 542	1 598	56	3,6
Transport	602	620	18	3,0
Finance	944	908	-36	-3,8
Community and social services	1 100	1 065	-35	-3,2
Private households	256	267	11	4,3
Other	*	*	*	*

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

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province				
Market production activities	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Agriculture	790	767	-23	-2,9
Western Cape	162	119	-43	-26,5
Eastern Cape	84	74	-10	-11,9
Northern Cape	48	64	16	33,3
Free State	80	83	3	3,8
KwaZulu Natal	165	151	-14	-8,5
North West	46	59	13	28,3
Gauteng	63	65	2	3,2
Mpumalanga	75	82	7	9,3
Limpopo	65	69	4	6,2
Mining	346	314	-32	-9,2
Western Cape	*	*	*	*
Eastern Cape	*	*	*	*
Northern Cape	14	15	1	7,1
Free State	27	27	0	0,0
KwaZulu Natal	*	*	*	*
North West	160	135	-25	-15,6
Gauteng	29	28	-1	-3,4
Mpumalanga	65	54	-11	-16,9
Limpopo	38	45	7	18,4
Manufacturing	1 968	1 917	-51	-2,6
Western Cape	330	329	-1	-0,3
Eastern Cape	174	191	17	9,8
Northern Cape	14	15	1	7,1
Free State	90	77	-13	-14,4
KwaZulu Natal	428	397	-31	-7,2
North West	82	74	-8	-9,8
Gauteng	698	682	-16	-2,3
Mpumalanga	84	83	-1	-1,2
Limpopo	70	68	-2	-2,9
Utilities	97	99	2	2,1
Western Cape	12	12	0	0,0
Eastern Cape	*	*	*	*
Northern Cape	*	*	*	*
Free State	*	*	*	*
KwaZulu Natal	16	14	-2	-12,5
North West	*	*	*	*
Gauteng	36	31	-5	-13,9
Mpumalanga	15	18	3	20,0
Limpopo	*	*	*	*
Construction	1 138	1 102	-36	-3,2
Western Cape	179	186	7	3,9
Eastern Cape	112	98	-14	-12,5
Northern Cape	15	21	6	40,0
Free State	53	58	5	9,4
KwaZulu Natal	219	224	5	2,3
North West	56	58	2	3,6
Gauteng	337	292	-45	-13,4
Mpumalanga	76	81	5	6,6
Limpopo	91	85	-6	-6,6

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

Table 3.2: Employed by industry and province (concluded)				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Trade	3 105	3 176	71	2,3
Western Cape	391	430	39	10,0
Eastern Cape	318	309	-9	-2,8
Northern Cape	55	58	3	5,5
Free State	208	196	-12	-5,8
KwaZulu Natal	583	617	34	5,8
North West	189	182	-7	-3,7
Gauteng	921	910	-11	-1,2
Mpumalanga	232	250	18	7,8
Limpopo	207	224	17	8,2
Transport	774	769	-5	-0,6
Western Cape	95	91	-4	-4,2
Eastern Cape	84	72	-12	-14,3
Northern Cape	10	12	2	20,0
Free State	41	43	2	4,9
KwaZulu Natal	171	169	-2	-1,2
North West	35	28	-7	-20,0
Gauteng	254	276	22	8,7
Mpumalanga	39	44	5	12,8
Limpopo	46	34	-12	-26,1
Finance	1 687	1 632	-55	-3,3
Western Cape	259	256	-3	-1,2
Eastern Cape	139	104	-35	-25,2
Northern Cape	23	26	3	13,0
Free State	64	73	9	14,1
KwaZulu Natal	296	264	-32	-10,8
North West	72	69	-3	-4,2
Gauteng	695	704	9	1,3
Mpumalanga	84	84	0	0,0
Limpopo	55	54	-1	-1,8
Community and social services	2 635	2 603	-32	-1,2
Western Cape	341	325	-16	-4,7
Eastern Cape	341	321	-20	-5,9
Northern Cape	81	65	-16	-19,8
Free State	174	186	12	6,9
KwaZulu Natal	497	475	-22	-4,4
North West	160	165	5	3,1
Gauteng	679	710	31	4,6
Mpumalanga	144	141	-3	-2,1
Limpopo	219	214	-5	-2,3
Private households	1 185	1 274	89	7,5
Western Cape	119	115	-4	-3,4
Eastern Cape	106	140	34	32,1
Northern Cape	35	31	-4	-11,4
Free State	93	91	-2	-2,2
KwaZulu Natal	230	265	35	15,2
North West	93	92	-1	-1,1
Gauteng	346	363	17	4,9
Mpumalanga	85	87	2	2,4
Limpopo	78	90	12	15,4

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

Table 3.3: Employed by sector and industry - South Africa				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Total employed	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Formal and informal sector (Non-agricultural)	11 755	11 614	-141	-1,2
Mining	346	314	-32	-9,2
Manufacturing	1 968	1 917	-51	-2,6
Utilities	97	99	2	2,1
Construction	1 138	1 102	-36	-3,2
Trade	3 105	3 176	71	2,3
Transport	774	769	-5	-0,6
Finance	1 687	1 632	-55	-3,3
Community and social services	2 635	2 603	-32	-1,2
Other	*	*	*	*
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	9 415	9 439	24	0,3
Mining	344	312	-32	-9,3
Manufacturing	1 731	1 695	-36	-2,1
Utilities	96	95	-1	-1,0
Construction	809	812	3	0,4
Trade	2 026	2 122	96	4,7
Transport	558	569	11	2,0
Finance	1 522	1 509	-13	-0,9
Community and social services	2 325	2 323	-2	-0,1
Other	*	*	*	*
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2 340	2 175	-165	-7,1
Mining	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	237	222	-15	-6,3
Utilities	*	*	*	*
Construction	329	290	-39	-11,9
Trade	1 079	1 053	-26	-2,4
Transport	217	200	-17	-7,8
Finance	165	123	-42	-25,5
Community and social services	310	280	-30	-9,7
Other	*	*	*	*
Agriculture	790	767	-23	-2,9
Private households	1 185	1 274	89	7,5

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

Table 3.4: Employed by province and sector				
Market production activities	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
South Africa	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	9 415	9 439	24	0,3
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2 340	2 175	-165	-7,1
Agriculture	790	767	-23	-2,9
Private households	1 185	1 274	89	7,5
Western Cape	1 891	1 865	-26	-1,4
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1 434	1 457	23	1,6
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	175	174	-1	-0,6
Agriculture	162	119	-43	-26,5
Private households	119	115	-4	-3,4
Eastern Cape	1 363	1 315	-48	-3,5
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	840	806	-34	-4,0
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	333	296	-37	-11,1
Agriculture	84	74	-10	-11,9
Private households	106	140	34	32,1
Northern Cape	297	308	11	3,7
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	179	185	6	3,4
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	34	28	-6	-17,6
Agriculture	48	64	16	33,3
Private households	35	31	-4	-11,4
Free State	831	842	11	1,3
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	506	540	34	6,7
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	152	127	-25	-16,4
Agriculture	80	83	3	3,8
Private households	93	91	-2	-2,2
KwaZulu Natal	2 614	2 583	-31	-1,2
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1 688	1 674	-14	-0,8
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	531	493	-38	-7,2
Agriculture	165	151	-14	-8,5
Private households	230	265	35	15,2
North West	900	868	-32	-3,6
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	633	605	-28	-4,4
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	128	112	-16	-12,5
Agriculture	46	59	13	28,3
Private households	93	92	-1	-1,1
Gauteng	4 061	4 063	2	0,0
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3 111	3 134	23	0,7
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	541	500	-41	-7,6
Agriculture	63	65	2	3,2
Private households	346	363	17	4,9
Mpumalanga	900	924	24	2,7
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	533	547	14	2,6
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	207	207	0	0,0
Agriculture	75	82	7	9,3
Private households	85	87	2	2,4
Limpopo	874	888	14	1,6
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	492	491	-1	-0,2
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	240	237	-3	-1,3
Agriculture	65	69	4	6,2
Private households	78	90	12	15,4

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

Table 3.5: Employed by sex and occupation - South Africa				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Both sexes	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Manager	993	1 054	61	6,1
Professional	789	727	-62	-7,9
Technician	1 454	1 485	31	2,1
Clerk	1 450	1 462	12	0,8
Sales and services	1 749	1 780	31	1,8
Skilled agriculture	95	99	4	4,2
Craft and related trade	1 946	1 881	-65	-3,3
Plant and machine operator	1 161	1 208	47	4,0
Elementary	3 137	2 960	-177	-5,6
Domestic worker	953	996	43	4,5
Other	*	*	*	*
Women	6 033	6 034	1	0,0
Manager	308	309	1	0,3
Professional	352	357	5	1,4
Technician	806	829	23	2,9
Clerk	984	1 009	25	2,5
Sales and services	849	843	-6	-0,7
Skilled agriculture	20	30	10	50,0
Craft and related trade	315	280	-35	-11,1
Plant and machine operator	174	188	14	8,0
Elementary	1 308	1 227	-81	-6,2
Domestic worker	917	962	45	4,9
Other	*	*	*	*
Men	7 696	7 621	-75	-1,0
Manager	685	745	60	8,8
Professional	437	370	-67	-15,3
Technician	648	656	8	1,2
Clerk	465	453	-12	-2,6
Sales and services	900	937	37	4,1
Skilled agriculture	75	70	-5	-6,7
Craft and related trade	1 631	1 600	-31	-1,9
Plant and machine operator	987	1 021	34	3,4
Elementary	1 829	1 734	-95	-5,2
Domestic worker	36	34	-2	-5,6
Other	*	*	*	*

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

Table 3.6: Formal and informal employment				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Employed (Both sexes)	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Formal employment	8 157	8 263	106	1,3
Informal employment	4 915	4 694	-221	-4,5
Other employment	657	698	41	6,2
Employed (Women)	6 033	6 034	1	0,0
Formal employment	3 352	3 439	87	2,6
Informal employment	2 484	2 407	-77	-3,1
Other employment	197	189	-8	-4,1
Employed (Men)	7 696	7 621	-75	-1,0
Formal employment	4 805	4 824	19	0,4
Informal employment	2 432	2 287	-145	-6,0
Other employment	459	510	51	11,1
Formal employment	8 157	8 263	106	1,3
15-24 yrs	967	910	-57	-5,9
25-34 yrs	2 894	2 967	73	2,5
35-44 yrs	2 207	2 232	25	1,1
45-54 yrs	1 487	1 537	50	3,4
55-64 yrs	602	616	14	2,3
Informal employment	4 915	4 694	-221	-4,5
15-24 yrs	712	669	-43	-6,0
25-34 yrs	1 643	1 562	-81	-4,9
35-44 yrs	1 212	1 182	-30	-2,5
45-54 yrs	919	876	-43	-4,7
55-64 yrs	429	405	-24	-5,6
Formal employment	8 157	8 263	106	1,3
No schooling	163	192	29	17,8
Less than primary completed	498	517	19	3,8
Primary completed	297	281	-16	-5,4
Secondary not completed	2 309	2 378	69	3,0
Secondary completed	2 890	2 880	-10	-0,3
Tertiary	1 904	1 939	35	1,8
Other	97	77	-20	-20,6
Informal employment	4 915	4 694	-221	-4,5
No schooling	413	380	-33	-8,0
Less than primary completed	949	904	-45	-4,7
Primary completed	438	428	-10	-2,3
Secondary not completed	2 099	1 987	-112	-5,3
Secondary completed	803	793	-10	-1,2
Tertiary	143	135	-8	-5,6
Other	71	66	-5	-7,0

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

Table 3.6: Formal and informal employment (concluded)				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Formal employment	8 157	8 263	106	1,3
Agriculture	346	366	20	5,8
Mining	335	305	-30	-9,0
Manufacturing	1 515	1 480	-35	-2,3
Utilities	93	89	-4	-4,3
Construction	446	494	48	10,8
Trade	1 552	1 647	95	6,1
Transport	433	448	15	3,5
Finance	1 284	1 286	2	0,2
Community and social services	2 148	2 145	-3	-0,1
Other	*	*	*	*,*
Informal employment	4 915	4 694	-221	-4,5
Agriculture	396	359	-37	-9,3
Mining	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	386	366	-20	-5,2
Utilities	*	*	*	*
Construction	624	544	-80	-12,8
Trade	1 380	1 337	-43	-3,1
Transport	282	265	-17	-6,0
Finance	261	208	-53	-20,3
Community and social services	399	355	-44	-11,0
Private households	1 176	1 246	70	6,0
Other	*	*	*	*
Formal employment	8 157	8 263	106	1,3
Manager	588	605	17	2,9
Professional	638	595	-43	-6,7
Technician	1 205	1 254	49	4,1
Clerk	1 275	1 295	20	1,6
Sales and services	1 074	1 087	13	1,2
Skilled agriculture	32	34	2	6,3
Craft and related trade	1 083	1 073	-10	-0,9
Plant and machine operator	842	894	52	6,2
Elementary	1 419	1 425	6	0,4
Informal employment	4 915	4 694	-221	-4,5
Manager	100	104	4	4,0
Professional	55	55	0	0,0
Technician	183	154	-29	-15,8
Clerk	164	154	-10	-6,1
Sales and services	624	640	16	2,6
Skilled agriculture	33	38	5	15,2
Craft and related trade	811	752	-59	-7,3
Plant and machine operator	306	302	-4	-1,3
Elementary	1 686	1 499	-187	-11,1
Domestic worker	952	996	44	4,6

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

Table 3.7: Employed by sex and status in employment - South Africa				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Both sexes	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Employee	11 583	11 527	-56	-0,5
Employer	735	763	28	3,8
Own-account worker	1 286	1 237	-49	-3,8
Unpaid household member	125	127	2	1,6
Women	6 033	6 034	1	0,0
Employee	5 048	5 105	57	1,1
Employer	185	176	-9	-4,9
Own-account worker	711	663	-48	-6,8
Unpaid household member	89	91	2	2,2
Men	7 696	7 621	-75	-1,0
Employee	6 534	6 422	-112	-1,7
Employer	551	588	37	6,7
Own-account worker	575	575	0	0,0
Unpaid household member	37	36	-1	-2,7

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

Table 3.8: Employed by sex and usual hours of work - South Africa				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Both sexes	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Working less than 15 hours per week	314	300	-14	-4,5
Working 15-29 hours per week	820	811	-9	-1,1
Working 30-39 hours per week	1 024	1 039	15	1,5
Working 40-45 hours per week	6 880	6 965	85	1,2
Working more than 45 hours per week	4 691	4 540	-151	-3,2
Women	6 033	6 034	1	0,0
Working less than 15 hours per week	196	201	5	2,6
Working 15-29 hours per week	539	550	11	2,0
Working 30-39 hours per week	633	642	9	1,4
Working 40-45 hours per week	2 947	3 011	64	2,2
Working more than 45 hours per week	1 717	1 630	-87	-5,1
Men	7 696	7 621	-75	-1,0
Working less than 15 hours per week	118	99	-19	-16,1
Working 15-29 hours per week	280	261	-19	-6,8
Working 30-39 hours per week	391	397	6	1,5
Working 40-45 hours per week	3 933	3 954	21	0,5
Working more than 45 hours per week	2 974	2 910	-64	-2,2

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

Table 3.9: Time-related underemployment - South Africa				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Both sexes	2 095	2 019	-76	-3,6
Women	982	971	-11	-1,1
Men	1 113	1 048	-65	-5,8
As percentage of the labour force (Both sexes)	11,7	11,4	-0,3	
Women	11,9	11,9	0,0	
Men	11,6	10,9	-0,7	
As percentage of total employment (Both sexes)	15,3	14,8	-0,5	
Women	16,3	16,1	-0,2	
Men	14,5	13,8	-0,7	
Industry	2 095	2 019	-76	-3,6
Agriculture	151	128	-23	-15,2
Mining	22	17	-5	-22,7
Manufacturing	249	235	-14	-5,6
Utilities	*	*	*	*
Construction	221	221	0	0,0
Trade	518	503	-15	-2,9
Transport	95	80	-15	-15,8
Finance	197	197	0	0,0
Community and social services	333	314	-19	-5,7
Private households	304	318	14	4,6
Occupation	2 095	2 019	-76	-3,6
Manager	70	78	8	11,4
Professional	70	74	4	5,7
Technician	182	171	-11	-6,0
Clerk	161	152	-9	-5,6
Sales and services	256	257	1	0,4
Skilled agriculture	11	9	-2	-18,2
Craft and related trade	325	307	-18	-5,5
Plant and machine operator	146	132	-14	-9,6
Elementary	657	603	-54	-8,2
Domestic worker	218	235	17	7,8

*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 3.10: Underutilisation of labour				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Both sexes	7 288	7 212	-76	-1,0
Underemployed	2 095	2 019	-76	-3,6
Unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Discouraged work-seekers	1 079	1 071	-8	-0,7
Women	3 849	3 773	-76	-2,0
Underemployed	982	971	-11	-1,1
Unemployed	2 204	2 150	-54	-2,5
Discouraged work-seekers	663	652	-11	-1,7
Men	3 439	3 440	1	0,0
Underemployed	1 113	1 048	-65	-5,8
Unemployed	1 910	1 972	62	3,2
Discouraged work-seekers	416	420	4	1,0
As percentage of total working age (Both sexes)	23,7	23,4	-0,3	
Women	23,9	23,4	-0,5	
Men	23,5	23,4	-0,1	

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

Table 4: Characteristics of the unemployed - South Africa				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Job losers	1 172	1 268	96	8,2
Job leavers	402	386	-16	-4,0
New entrants	1 746	1 745	-1	-0,1
Re-entrants	253	185	-68	-26,9
Other	541	538	-3	-0,6
Unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Long-term unemployment (1 year and more)	2 405	2 415	10	0,4
Short-term unemployment (less than 1 year)	1 710	1 707	-3	-0,2
Long-term unemployment (%)				
Proportion of the labour force	13,5	13,6	0,1	
Proportion of the unemployed	58,5	58,6	0,1	
Those who have worked in the past 5 years				
Previous occupation	1 827	1 839	12	0,7
Manager	28	36	8	28,6
Professional	27	27	0	0,0
Technician	89	81	-8	-9,0
Clerk	183	178	-5	-2,7
Sales and services	278	262	-16	-5,8
Skilled agriculture	*	*	*	*
Craft and related trade	297	331	34	11,4
Plant and machine operator	130	143	13	10,0
Elementary	593	576	-17	-2,9
Domestic worker	197	196	-1	-0,5
Other	*	*	*	*
Previous industry	1 827	1 839	12	0,7
Agriculture	117	116	-1	-0,9
Mining	27	26	-1	-3,7
Manufacturing	230	274	44	19,1
Utilities	9	11	2	22,2
Construction	289	275	-14	-4,8
Trade	448	457	9	2,0
Transport	86	95	9	10,5
Finance	203	169	-34	-16,7
Community and social services	171	172	1	0,6
Private households	247	240	-7	-2,8
Other	*	*	*	100,0

*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 5: Characteristics of the not economically active - South Africa				
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Not economically active	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
Student	5 670	5 718	48	0,8
Home-maker	2 496	2 579	83	3,3
Illness/disability	1 794	1 822	28	1,6
Too old/young to work	978	1 014	36	3,7
Discouraged work seekers	1 079	1 071	-8	-0,7
Other	845	820	-25	-3,0
Inactivity rate by age (Both sexes)	41,9	42,3	0,4	
15-24 yrs	69,2	69,8	0,6	
25-54 yrs	24,6	24,8	0,2	
55-64 yrs	56,0	56,8	0,8	
Inactivity rate by age (Women)	48,8	49,3	0,5	
15-24 yrs	72,0	72,7	0,7	
25-54 yrs	33,8	34,1	0,3	
55-64 yrs	66,4	67,4	1,0	
Inactivity rate by age (Men)	34,3	34,6	0,3	
15-24 yrs	66,3	67,0	0,7	
25-54 yrs	14,2	14,3	0,1	
55-64 yrs	43,0	43,4	0,4	

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

Table 6: Socio-demographic characteristics - South Africa

	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
Age group of the employed	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
15-24 yrs	1 698	1 602	-96	-5,7
25-34 yrs	4 655	4 663	8	0,2
35-44 yrs	3 620	3 618	-2	-0,1
45-54 yrs	2 614	2 630	16	0,6
55-64 yrs	1 142	1 142	0	0,0
Age group of the unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
15-24 yrs	1 362	1 400	38	2,8
25-34 yrs	1 686	1 652	-34	-2,0
35-44 yrs	682	722	40	5,9
45-54 yrs	290	269	-21	-7,2
55-64 yrs	94	80	-14	-14,9
Age group of the not economically active	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
15-24 yrs	6 861	6 950	89	1,3
25-34 yrs	1 935	1 970	35	1,8
35-44 yrs	1 219	1 212	-7	-0,6
45-54 yrs	1 273	1 289	16	1,3
55-64 yrs	1 573	1 604	31	2,0
Highest level of education of the employed	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
No schooling	582	580	-2	-0,3
Less than primary completed	1 465	1 444	-21	-1,4
Primary completed	743	720	-23	-3,1
Secondary not completed	4 521	4 492	-29	-0,6
Secondary completed	3 928	3 921	-7	-0,2
Tertiary	2 313	2 341	28	1,2
Other	177	157	-20	-11,3
Highest level of education of the unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
No schooling	112	93	-19	-17,0
Less than primary completed	399	396	-3	-0,8
Primary completed	235	236	1	0,4
Secondary not completed	1 879	1 906	27	1,4
Secondary completed	1 261	1 264	3	0,2
Tertiary	192	199	7	3,6
Other	37	28	-9	-24,3
Highest level of education of the not economically active	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
No schooling	871	894	23	2,6
Less than primary completed	1 871	1 941	70	3,7
Primary completed	1 043	1 116	73	7,0
Secondary not completed	6 837	6 865	28	0,4
Secondary completed	1 866	1 799	-67	-3,6
Tertiary	273	301	28	10,3
Other	101	108	7	6,9
Current marital status of the employed	13 729	13 655	-74	-0,5
Married	5 566	5 603	37	0,7
Living together like husband and wife	1 588	1 514	-74	-4,7
Widow/widower	467	491	24	5,1
Divorced or separated	488	500	12	2,5
Never married	5 621	5 547	-74	-1,3
Current marital status of the unemployed	4 114	4 122	8	0,2
Married	669	641	-28	-4,2
Living together like husband and wife	443	452	9	2,0
Widow/widower	63	55	-8	-12,7
Divorced or separated	88	85	-3	-3,4
Never married	2 852	2 889	37	1,3
Current marital status of the not economically active	12 861	13 024	163	1,3
Married	2 656	2 705	49	1,8
Living together like husband and wife	706	711	5	0,7
Widow/widower	603	634	31	5,1
Divorced or separated	232	233	1	0,4
Never married	8 664	8 741	77	0,9

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

Table 7: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province					
Market production activities		Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
		Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
South Africa	Subsistence farming	1 324	1 214	-110	-8,3
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	3 118	3 260	142	4,6
	Produce other goods for household use	93	66	-27	-29,0
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	237	222	-15	-6,3
	Hunting or fishing for household use	19	15	-4	-21,1
	Involvement in at least one activity	3 920	3 920	0	0,0
	Unemployed	730	692	-38	-5,2
	Not economically active	3 190	3 228	38	1,2
Eastern Cape	Subsistence farming	447	453	6	1,3
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	836	796	-40	-4,8
	Produce other goods for household use	*	*	*	*
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	62	66	4	6,5
	Hunting or fishing for household use	*	*	*	*
	Involvement in at least one activity	1 112	1 021	-91	-8,2
	Unemployed	135	131	-4	-3,0
	Not economically active	977	890	-87	-8,9
Northern Cape	Subsistence farming	*	*	*	*
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	87	76	-11	-12,6
	Produce other goods for household use	*	*	*	*
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	*	*	*	*
	Hunting or fishing for household use	*	*	*	*
	Involvement in at least one activity	90	79	-11	-12,2
	Unemployed	23	20	-3	-13,0
	Not economically active	67	59	-8	-11,9
Free State	Subsistence farming	26	23	-3	-11,5
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	12	14	2	16,7
	Produce other goods for household use	*	*	*	*
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	*	*	*	*
	Hunting or fishing for household use	*	*	*	*
	Involvement in at least one activity	41	41	0	0,0
	Unemployed	13	8	-5	-38,5
	Not economically active	28	32	4	14,3

*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.

Western Cape had values lower than 10 000

Table 7: Involvement in non-market activities and labour market status by province (concluded)					
		Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	Qrt to Qrt change	Qrt to Qrt change
		Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent
KwaZulu Natal	Subsistence farming	439	441	2	0,5
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	1 003	1 014	11	1,1
	Produce other goods for household use	36	38	2	5,6
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	133	117	-16	-12,0
	Hunting or fishing for household use	*	*	*	*
	Involvement in at least one activity	1 220	1 207	-13	-1,1
	**Unemployed	207	200	-7	-3,4
	**Not economically active	1 014	1 007	-7	-0,7
North West	Subsistence farming	61	53	-8	-13,1
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	190	178	-12	-6,3
	Produce other goods for household use	*	*	*	*
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	*	*	*	*
	Hunting or fishing for household use	*	*	*	*
	Involvement in at least one activity	211	194	-17	-8,1
	**Unemployed	48	49	1	2,1
	**Not economically active	162	146	-16	-9,9
Gauteng	Subsistence farming	95	69	-26	-27,4
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	16	36	20	125,0
	Produce other goods for household use	14	2	-12	-85,7
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	*	*	*	*
	Hunting or fishing for household use	*	*	*	*
	Involvement in at least one activity	127	110	-17	-13,4
	**Unemployed	71	59	-12	-16,9
	**Not economically active	56	52	-4	-7,1
Mpumalanga	Subsistence farming	113	102	-11	-9,7
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	246	243	-3	-1,2
	Produce other goods for household use	25	14	-11	-44,0
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	22	22	0	0,0
	Hunting or fishing for household use	*	*	*	*
	Involvement in at least one activity	341	331	-10	-2,9
	**Unemployed	83	65	-18	-21,7
	**Not economically active	258	267	9	3,5
Limpopo	Subsistence farming	132	62	-70	-53,0
	Fetching water or collecting wood/dung	719	891	172	23,9
	Produce other goods for household use	*	*	*	*
	Construction or major repairs to own or household'	*	*	*	*
	Hunting or fishing for household use	*	*	*	*
	Involvement in at least one activity	766	920	154	20,1
	**Unemployed	143	150	7	4,9
	**Not economically active	623	771	148	23,8

*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: Coefficient of variation for labour force characteristics by sex			
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	P-Value for Diff Q3-Q2
Both sexes			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.4	0.4	0.40
Employed	0.6	0.6	0.35
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	0.9	0.8	0.75
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2.2	2.2	0.00
Agriculture	5.6	5.2	0.55
Private households	2.6	2.6	0.00
Unemployed	1.7	1.8	0.91
Not economically active	0.6	0.6	0.04
Discouraged work-seekers	3.8	4.2	0.87
Other(not economically active)	0.6	0.6	0.03
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	1.6	1.6	0.72
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0.6	0.6	0.14
Labour force participation rate	0.4	0.4	0.12
Women			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.5	0.7	0.37
Employed	0.8	0.8	0.99
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1.1	1.3	0.84
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	3.1	2.6	0.00
Agriculture	6.9	7.0	0.85
Private households	5.9	2.6	0.00
Unemployed	2.0	2.3	0.24
Not economically active	0.7	0.7	0.11
Discouraged work-seekers	3.8	4.4	0.70
Other(not economically active)	0.7	0.8	0.07
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	1.8	1.9	0.32
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0.8	0.8	0.77
Labour force participation rate	0.7	0.7	0.21
Men			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.5	0.4	0.78
Employed	0.7	0.7	0.18
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1.1	1.0	0.78
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	3.1	3.1	0.06
Agriculture	6.9	5.7	0.41
Private households	5.9	5.8	0.45
Unemployed	2.3	2.3	0.21
Not economically active	0.9	0.8	0.18
Discouraged work-seekers	5.1	5.5	0.88
Other(not economically active)	0.9	0.8	0.18
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	2.3	2.2	0.17
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0.7	0.7	0.07
Labour force participation rate	0.5	0.4	0.33

Appendix 2.1: Coefficient of variation for labour force characteristics by population group			
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	P-Value for Diff Q3-Q2
South Africa			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.4	0.4	0.40
Employed	0.6	0.6	0.35
Unemployed	1.7	1.8	0.91
Not economically active	0.6	0.6	0.04
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	1.6	1.6	0.72
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0.6	0.6	0.14
Labour force participation rate	0.4	0.4	0.12
Black/African			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.5	0.5	0.35
Employed	0.8	0.7	0.20
Unemployed	1.9	1.9	0.67
Not economically active	0.7	0.7	0.03
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	1.7	1.7	0.44
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0.8	0.7	0.08
Labour force participation rate	0.5	0.5	0.11
Coloured			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.9	1.0	0.85
Employed	1.9	1.7	0.87
Unemployed	5.7	5.8	0.75
Not economically active	1.7	1.8	0.45
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	5.9	5.8	0.76
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1.9	1.7	0.91
Labour force participation rate	0.9	1.0	0.57
Indian/Asian			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	1.5	1.9	0.16
Employed	2.3	2.3	0.04
Unemployed	13.5	7.3	0.69
Not economically active	2.3	3.1	0.33
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	13.3	7.4	0.53
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2.4	2.3	0.07
Labour force participation rate	1.5	1.9	0.25
White			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	1.1	1.1	0.69
Employed	1.3	1.1	0.97
Unemployed	11.0	10.0	0.44
Not economically active	2.6	2.4	0.90
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	11.0	9.8	0.44
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1.3	1.1	0.88
Labour force participation rate	1.1	1.1	0.84

Appendix 2.2: Coefficient of variation for labour force characteristics by province			
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	P-Value for Diff Q3-Q2
South Africa			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.4	0.4	0.40
Employed	0.6	0.6	0.35
Unemployed	1.7	1.8	0.91
Not economically active	0.6	0.6	0.04
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	1.6	1.6	0.72
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	0.6	0.6	0.14
Labour force participation rate	0.4	0.4	0.12
Western Cape			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.9	0.9	0.45
Employed	1.4	1.5	0.32
Unemployed	4.5	4.6	0.72
Not economically active	1.9	1.9	0.20
Rates (%)			0.00
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.6	0.61
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1.4	1.5	0.22
Labour force participation rate	0.9	0.9	0.27
Eastern Cape			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	2.6	2.5	0.97
Employed	2.8	2.4	0.25
Unemployed	5.4	9.1	0.16
Not economically active	2.2	2.1	0.69
Rates (%)			
Unemployment rate	4.5	7.3	0.14
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2.8	2.4	0.21
Labour force participation rate	2.6	2.5	0.84
Northern Cape			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	1.9	3.0	0.70
Employed	3.0	4.3	0.30
Unemployed	7.8	6.7	0.38
Not economically active	2.4	3.9	0.78
Rates (%)			0.00
Unemployment rate	7.5	7.4	0.27
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3.0	4.3	0.32
Labour force participation rate	1.9	3.0	0.74
Free State			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	1.4	1.6	0.04
Employed	1.8	2.0	0.43
Unemployed	4.2	4.3	0.00
Not economically active	1.4	2.4	0.02
Rates (%)			0.00
Unemployment rate	4.0	3.9	0.00
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2.0	2.0	0.48
Labour force participation rate	1.4	1.6	0.03

Appendix 2.2: Coefficient of variation for labour force characteristics by province (Concluded)			
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	P-Value for Diff Q3-Q2
KwaZulu Natal			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	1.2	1.4	0.26
Employed	2.0	1.5	0.45
Unemployed	4.2	4.4	0.64
Not economically active	2.1	1.5	0.10
Rates (%)			0.00
Unemployment rate	4.2	3.8	0.86
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1.8	1.5	0.32
Labour force participation rate	1.2	1.4	0.16
North West			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	2.4	2.8	0.34
Employed	3.9	3.9	0.05
Unemployed	5.8	5.0	0.01
Not economically active	2.9	3.3	0.47
Rates (%)			0.00
Unemployment rate	6.8	5.3	0.01
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3.9	3.9	0.04
Labour force participation rate	2.4	2.8	0.41
Gauteng			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	0.9	0.9	0.97
Employed	1.1	1.3	0.97
Unemployed	3.9	3.2	0.90
Not economically active	2.5	2.3	0.64
Rates (%)			0.00
Unemployment rate	3.5	3.2	0.91
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	1.1	1.3	0.84
Labour force participation rate	0.9	0.9	0.73
Mpumalanga			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	2.1	1.6	0.71
Employed	3.1	2.4	0.29
Unemployed	5.0	5.0	0.28
Not economically active	2.5	2.0	0.90
Rates (%)			0.00
Unemployment rate	5.3	5.0	0.25
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	3.1	2.4	0.36
Labour force participation rate	2.1	1.6	0.92
Limpopo			
Population 15-64 yrs			
Labour Force	2.3	2.4	0.97
Employed	2.7	2.5	0.36
Unemployed	5.0	5.1	0.49
Not economically active	1.6	1.7	0.52
Rates (%)			0.00
Unemployment rate	4.1	3.9	0.38
Employed / population ratio (Absorption)	2.7	2.5	0.53
Labour force participation rate	2.3	2.4	0.81

Appendix 3.1: Coefficient of variation for the employed by industry and sex			
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	P-Value for Diff Q3-Q2
Both sexes	0.6	0.6	0.35
Agriculture	5.6	5.2	0.55
Mining	9.1	7.0	0.08
Manufacturing	2.2	2.7	0.30
Utilities	10.8	11.5	0.87
Construction	3.4	2.9	0.32
Trade	1.7	1.8	0.21
Transport	3.6	4.0	0.85
Finance	2.9	2.8	0.16
Community and social services	1.8	1.9	0.44
Private households	2.6	2.6	0.00
Other			
Women	0.8	0.8	0.99
Agriculture	6.3	7.0	0.85
Mining	13.3	14.7	0.84
Manufacturing	3.6	4.3	0.07
Utilities	18.6	19.3	0.31
Construction	8.1	7.6	0.29
Trade	2.2	2.1	0.68
Transport	6.5	8.1	0.06
Finance	3.4	3.7	0.48
Community and social services	2.0	2.1	0.92
Private households	2.7	2.6	0.00
Other			
Men	0.7	0.7	
Agriculture	6.9	5.7	0.18
Mining	9.7	7.6	0.41
Manufacturing	2.5	3.0	0.05
Utilities	12.3	12.0	0.97
Construction	3.4	3.0	0.63
Trade	2.5	2.6	0.45
Transport	4.1	4.3	0.20
Finance	3.6	3.4	0.46
Community and social services	2.8	2.9	0.20
Private households	5.9	5.8	0.21
Other			

Appendix 3.4: Coefficient of variation for the employed by province and sector			
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	P-Value for Diff Q3-Q2
South Africa	0.6	0.6	0.35
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	0.9	0.8	0.75
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	2.2	2.2	0.00
Agriculture	5.6	5.2	0.55
Private households	2.6	2.6	0.00
Western Cape	1.4	1.5	0.32
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	2.0	2.0	0.38
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7.0	8.5	0.93
Agriculture	9.2	10.0	0.01
Private households	6.2	8.0	0.57
Eastern Cape	2.8	2.4	0.25
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3.9	3.2	0.40
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7.0	8.2	0.05
Agriculture	21.7	19.1	0.30
Private households	11.7	9.8	0.00
Northern Cape	3.0	4.3	0.30
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4.8	4.2	0.48
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	10.0	13.2	0.19
Agriculture	13.4	20.6	0.07
Private households	11.6	10.7	0.23
Free State	2.0	2.0	0.43
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3.2	4.1	0.04
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6.3	6.6	0.06
Agriculture	8.1	10.6	0.69
Private households	9.1	6.8	0.82
KwaZulu Natal	1.8	1.5	0.45
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3.1	2.9	0.72
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	4.4	4.5	0.14
Agriculture	19.8	15.2	0.58
Private households	5.8	5.3	0.01
North West	3.9	3.9	0.05
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4.3	3.3	0.14
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	7.9	8.9	0.11
Agriculture	19.3	25.6	0.23
Private households	9.2	9.6	0.86
Gauteng	1.1	1.3	0.97
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	1.6	1.8	0.57
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	5.0	4.9	0.12
Agriculture	15.8	17.7	0.84
Private households	5.3	5.6	0.23
Mpumalanga	3.1	2.4	0.29
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	3.7	3.6	0.39
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6.2	6.1	0.98
Agriculture	8.9	8.2	0.23
Private households	10.2	9.0	0.75
Limpopo	2.7	2.5	0.36
Formal sector (Non-agricultural)	4.8	4.6	0.96
Informal sector (Non-agricultural)	6.2	5.6	0.84
Agriculture	9.5	13.1	0.55
Private households	8.4	7.1	0.06

Appendix 3.5: Coefficient of variation for the employed by sex and occupation			
	Apr-Jun 2008	Jul-Sep 2008	P-Value for Diff Q3-Q2
Both sexes	0.6	0.6	0.35
Manager	3.1	2.8	0.03
Professional	4.1	3.8	0.04
Technician	2.5	2.5	0.39
Clerk	2.8	2.4	0.73
Sales and services	2.2	2.1	0.40
Skilled agriculture	8.6	10.5	0.71
Craft and related trade	2.1	2.2	0.15
Plant and machine operator	2.7	3.0	0.21
Elementary	2.0	1.9	0.00
Domestic worker	2.6	2.7	0.07
Other			
Women	0.8	0.8	0.99
Manager	5.7	4.8	0.93
Professional	5.4	4.9	0.79
Technician	2.9	3.0	0.41
Clerk	2.8	2.9	0.38
Sales and services	3.1	3.1	0.83
Skilled agriculture	15.7	20.3	0.14
Craft and related trade	5.2	5.6	0.08
Plant and machine operator	6.3	7.6	0.35
Elementary	2.3	2.4	0.01
Domestic worker	2.7	2.7	0.05
Other			
Men	0.7	0.7	0.18
Manager	3.1	3.2	0.01
Professional	5.2	5.0	0.00
Technician	3.7	3.8	0.74
Clerk	4.9	4.4	0.56
Sales and services	3.1	2.8	0.15
Skilled agriculture	10.7	11.0	0.57
Craft and related trade	2.2	2.3	0.45
Plant and machine operator	2.9	2.9	0.28
Elementary	2.8	2.3	0.06
Domestic worker	15.5	14.1	0.70
Other			