



Quarterly Labour Force Survey Q4:2019



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Statistician-General

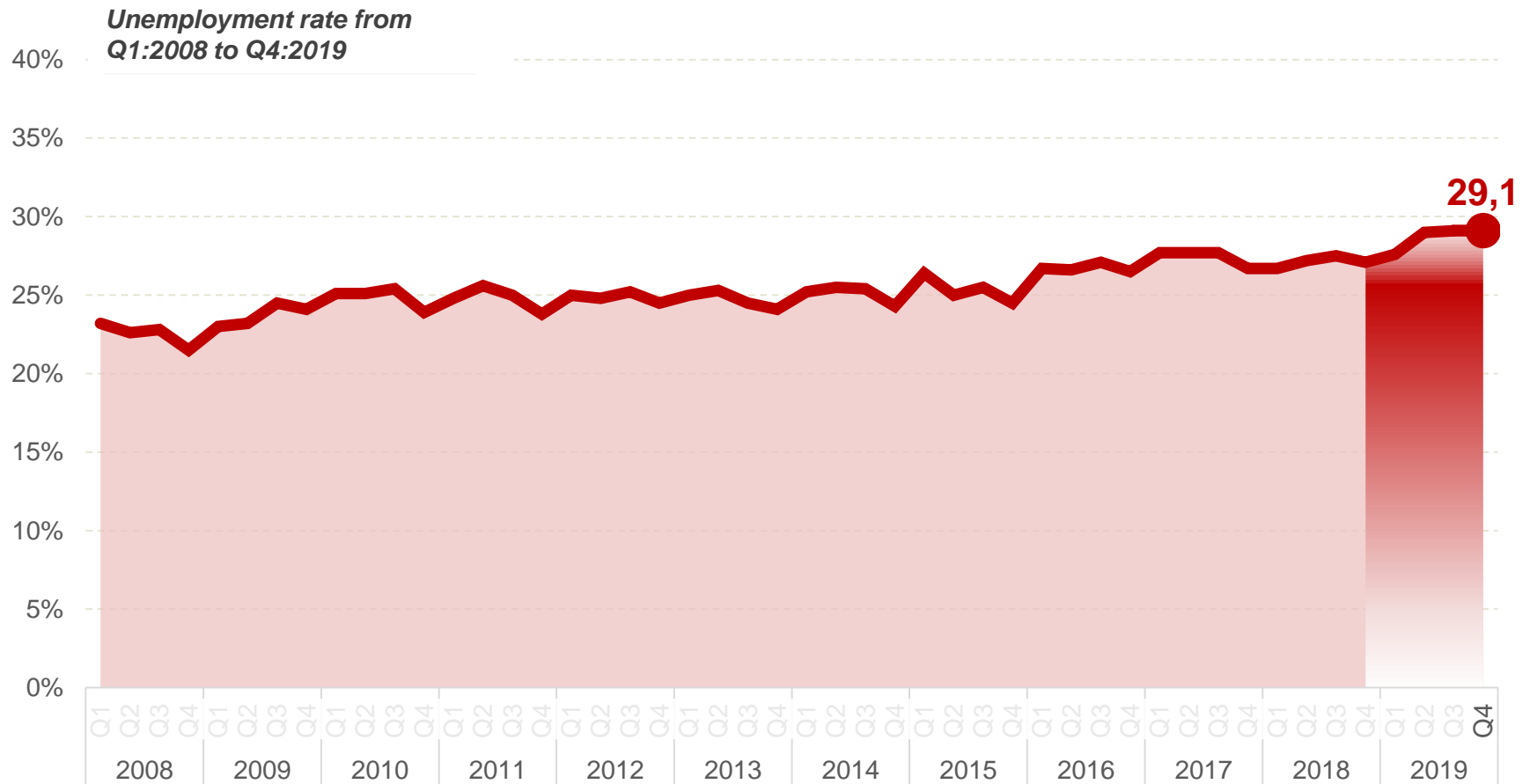
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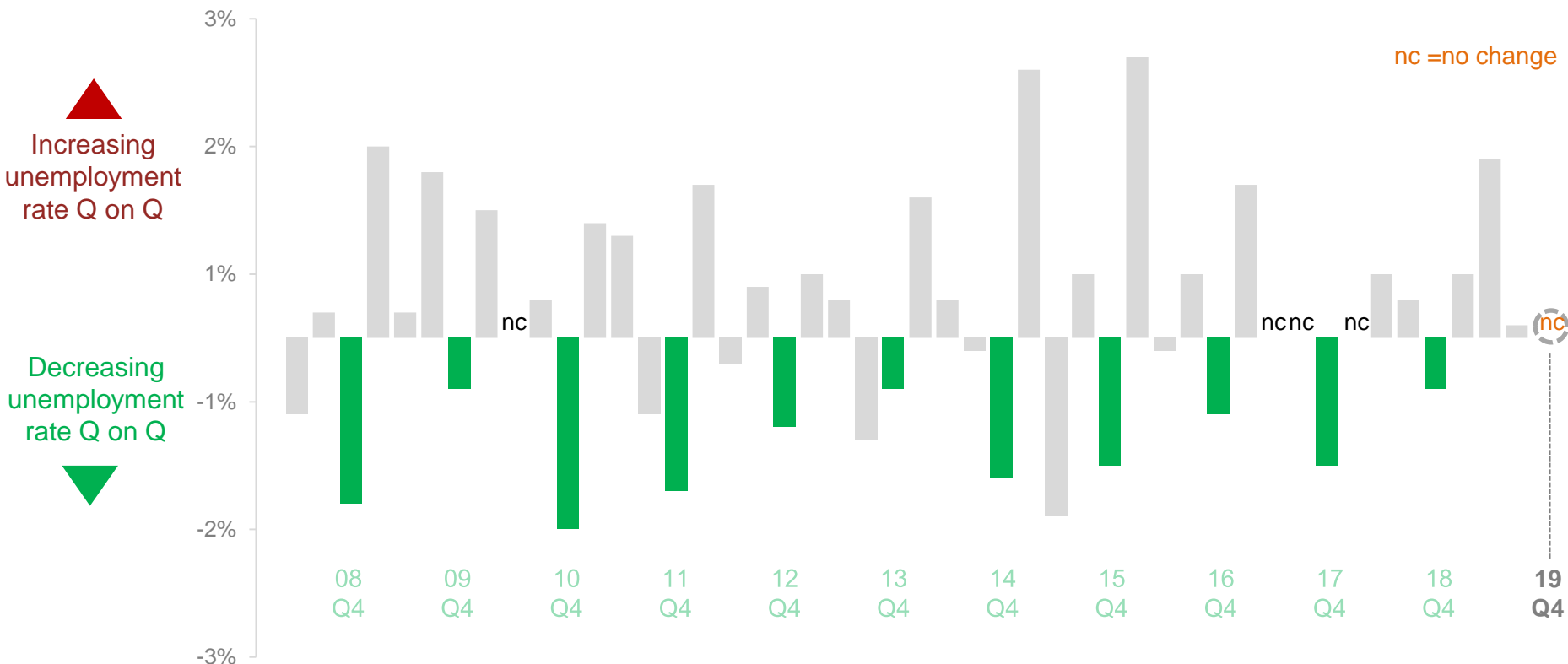
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South Africa's unemployment rate remained unchanged at 29,1% in Q4:2019 compared to Q3:2019.



There was no change recorded in the unemployment rate between Q3:2019 and Q4:2019. This is the first time since 2008 that the unemployment rate has not decreased in the 4th quarter.

**Change in unemployment rate
q/q**



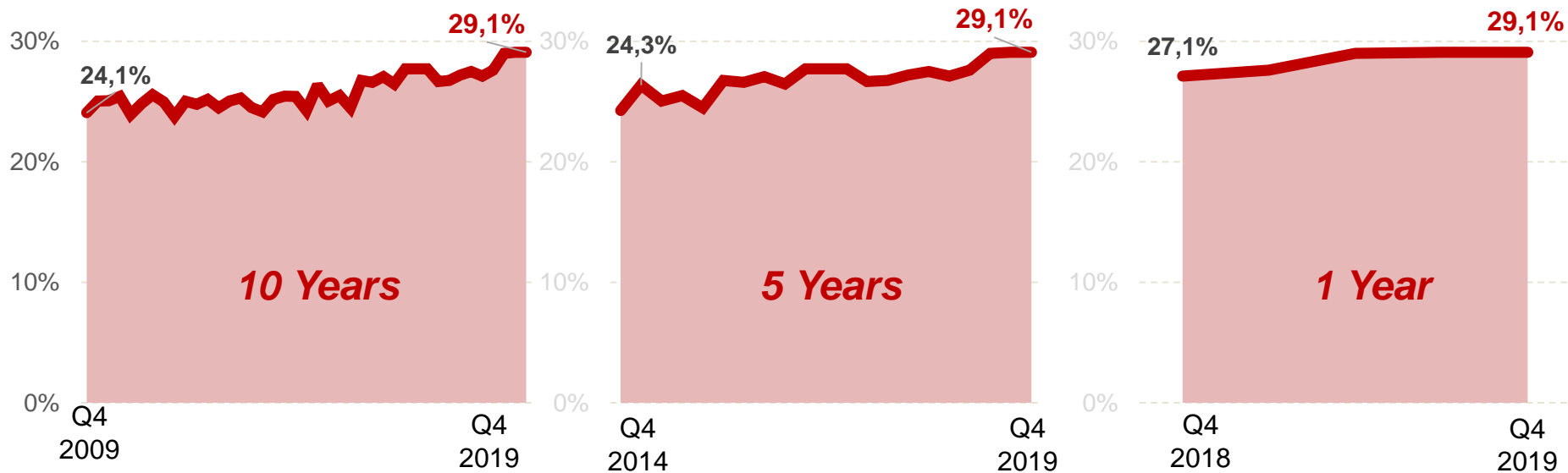
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The unemployment rate has **increased** over time. Between Q3:2019 and Q4:2019, unemployment rate remained unchanged.

Unemployment rate from Q4:2009 to Q4:2019



Unemployment rate increased by **5,0 percentage points** between Q4:2009 and Q4:2019

Unemployment increased by **4,8 percentage points** from 24,3% in Q4:2014 to 29,1% in Q4:2019

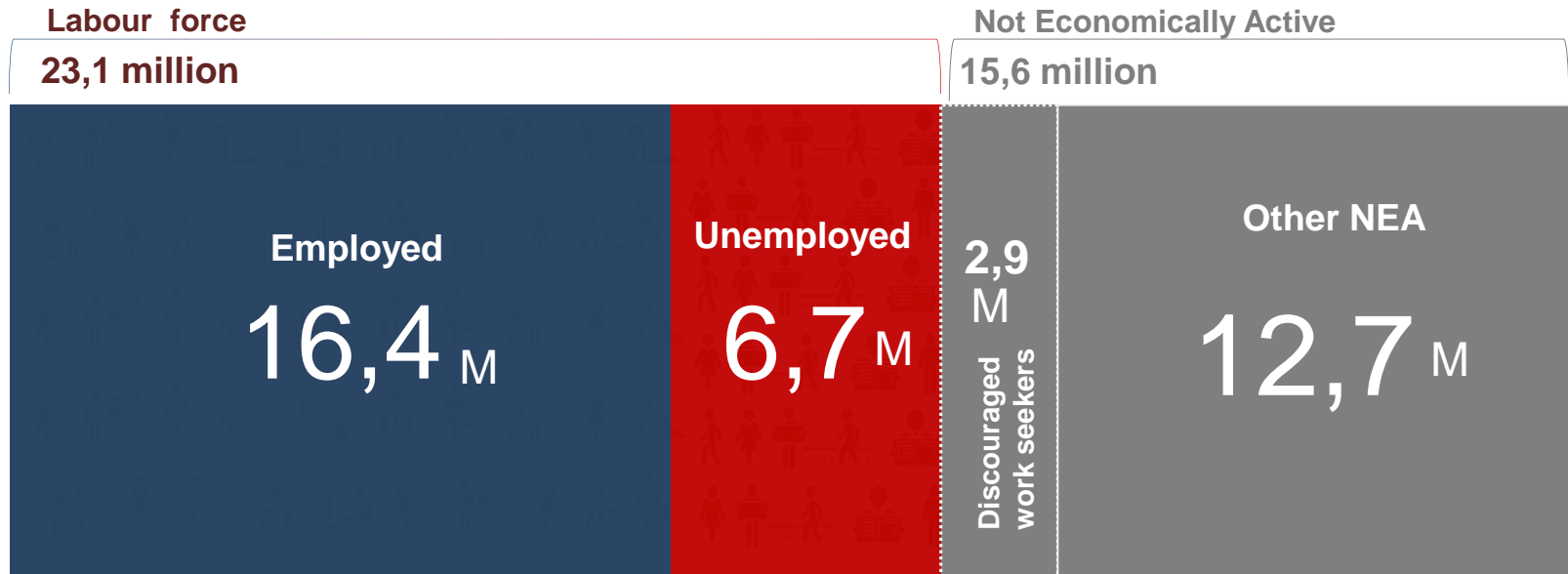
Unemployment rate increased by **2,0 percentage points** compared to the same period last year

The working age population (15-64 years) in Q4:2019 was 38,7 million



38,7 million

People of working age in South Africa (15 – 64 - year olds)



South Africa's official unemployment rate stands at

29,1%

remained unchanged between Q3:2019 and Q4:2019

ILO hierarchy – Employed first then unemployed and the remainder is NEA (including discouraged job-seekers). 3 mutually exclusive groups. Cannot be in two groups at the same time.

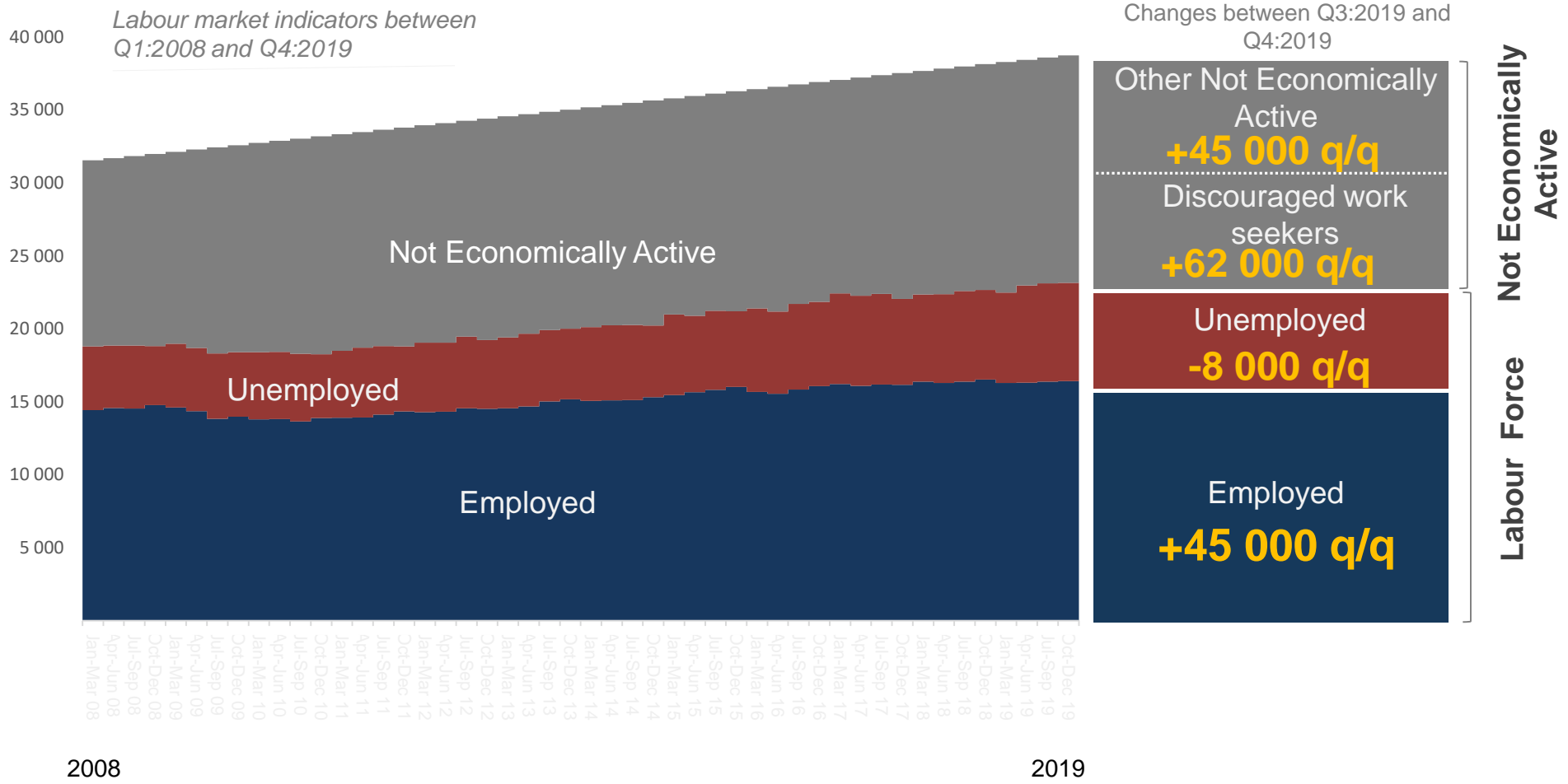


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The working age population (15 – 64 years) increased by 145 000 people between Q3:2019 and Q4:2019



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Q4:2019

EMPLOYMENT & LABOUR MARKET RATES



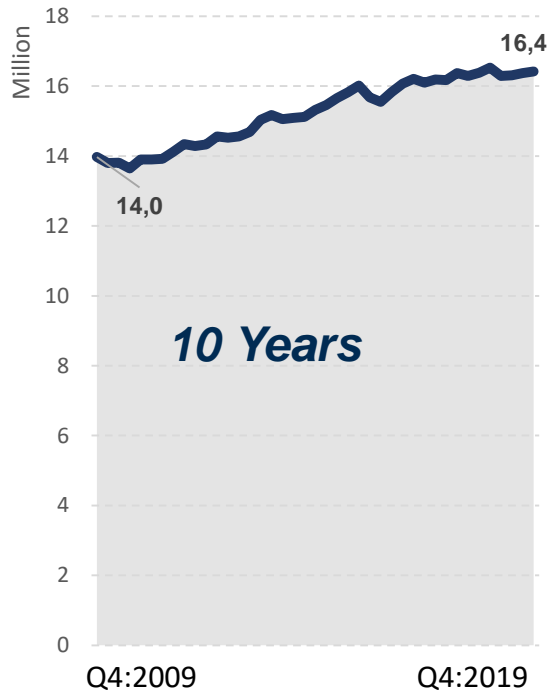
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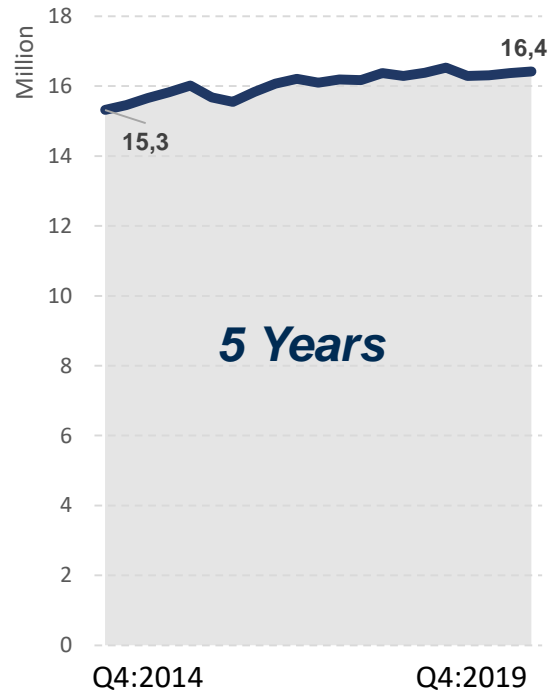


The number of employed persons increased by 45 000 to 16,4 million between Q3:2019 and Q4:2019

Number of employed
From Q4:2009 to Q4:2019



The number of employed people increased by **2,4 million** from **14,0 million** in Q4:2009 to **16,4 million** in Q4:2019



The number of employed people increased by **1,1 million** from **15,3 million** in Q4:2014 to **16,4 million** in Q4:2019



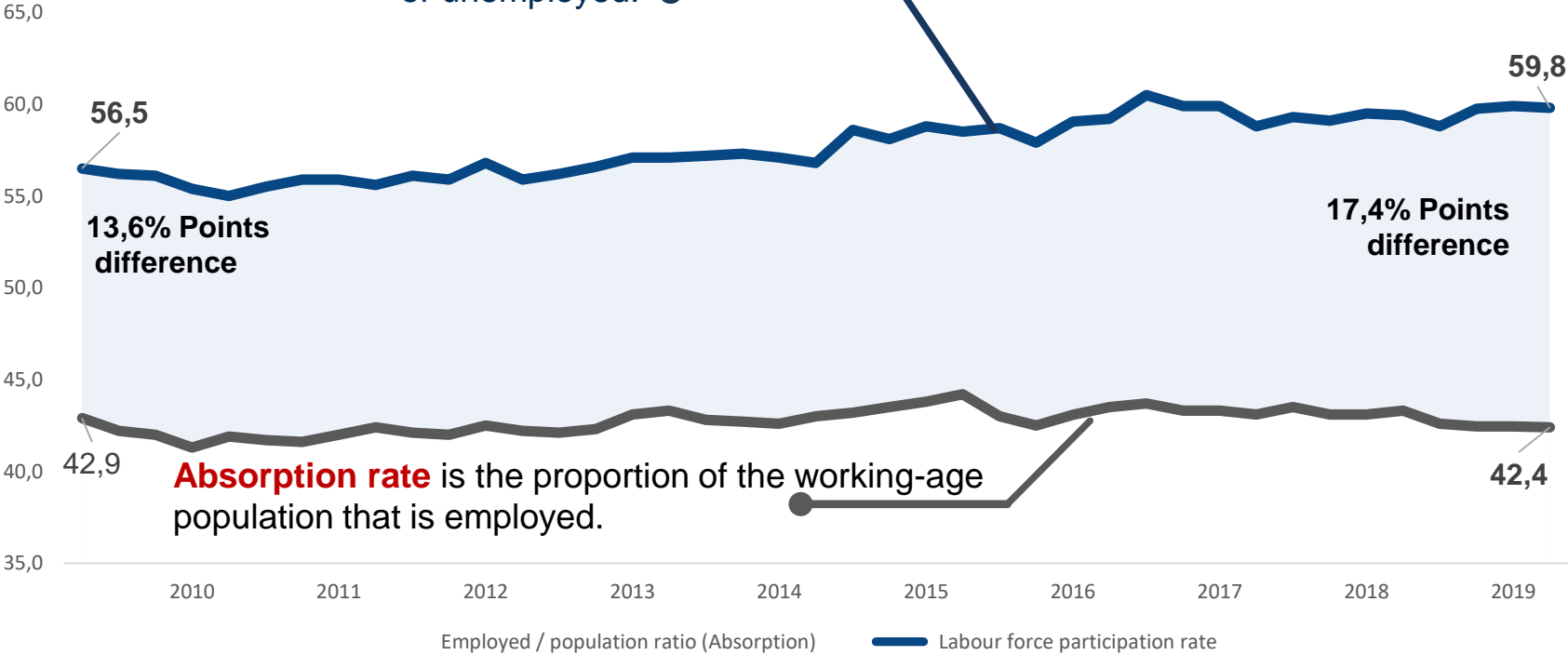
The number of employed people decreased by **108 000** from **16,529 million** in Q4:2018 to **16,420 million** in Q4:2019

The Labour force participation rate increased by 3,3 percentage points from 56,5% in Q4:2009 to 59,8% in Q4:2019

Labour force participation and absorption rate, 2009-2019

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

Absorption rate is the proportion of the working-age population that is employed.



Labour market rates vary significantly depending on education level

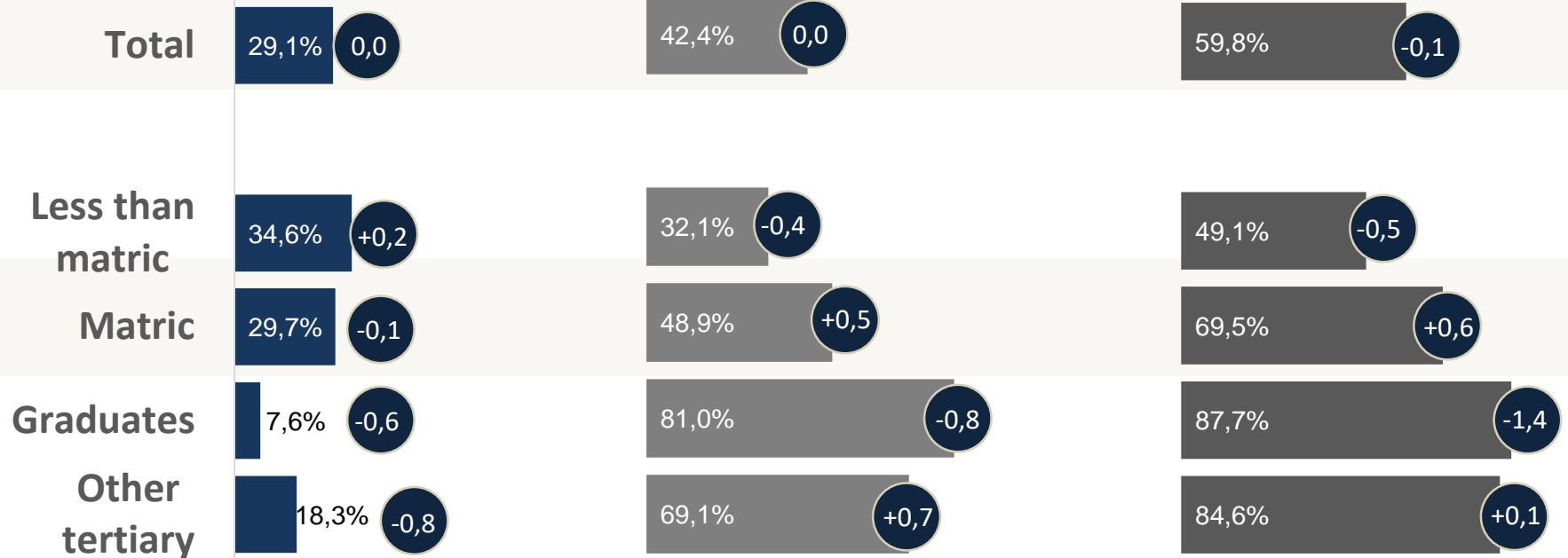
Labour market rates by education level, Q4:2019

Change: Percentage points Q3:2019 to Q4:2019

Unemployment rate

Absorption rate

Participation rate



The unemployment rate for those aged 25-34 (35,6%) is more than double that of the 45-54 (17,5%) year olds.

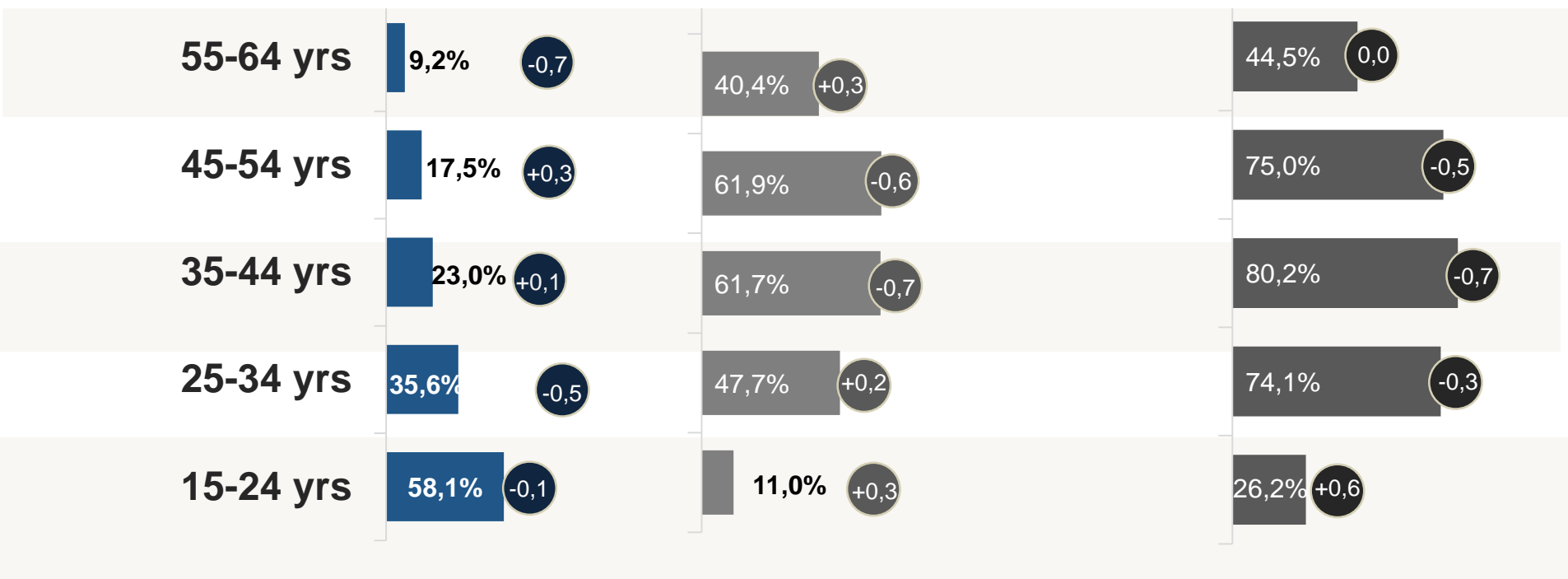
Labour market rates by age group, Q4:2019

Change: Percentage points Q3:2019 to Q4:2019

Unemployment rate


Absorption rate

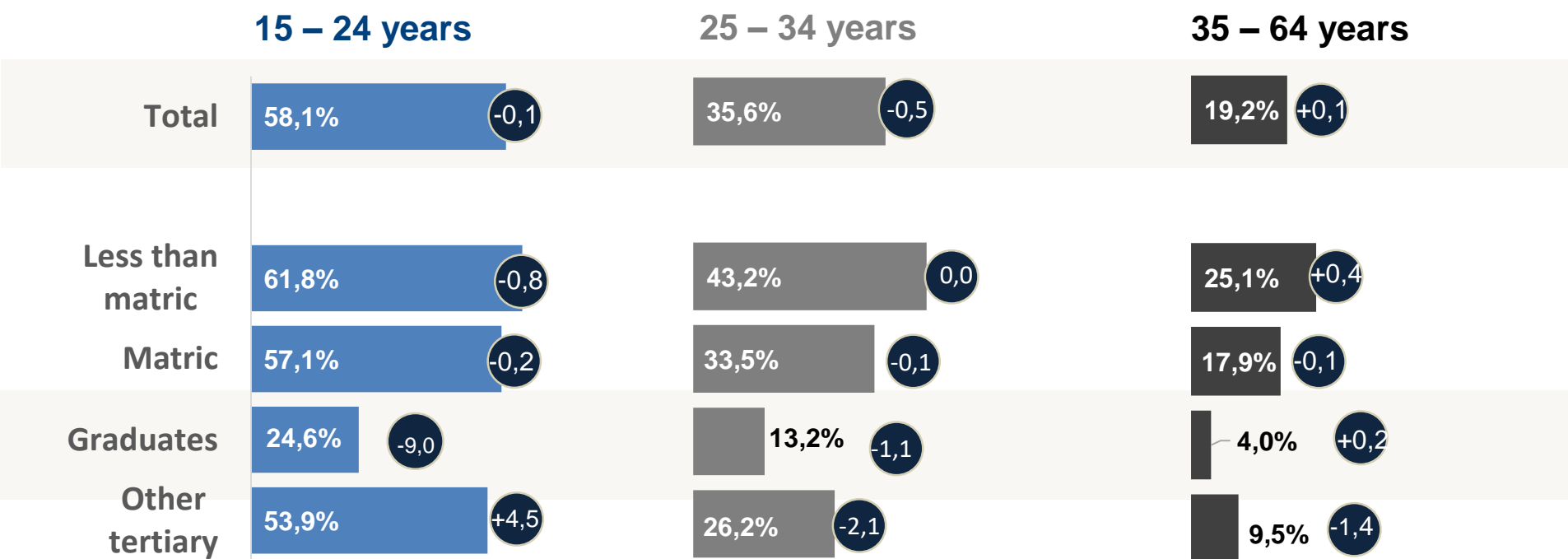
Participation rate



The unemployment rate among the youth is higher irrespective of education level.

Unemployment rate by education level and age group, Q4:2019

 Change: Percentage points Q3:2019 to Q4:2019



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PROFILE OF THOSE NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING (NEET)

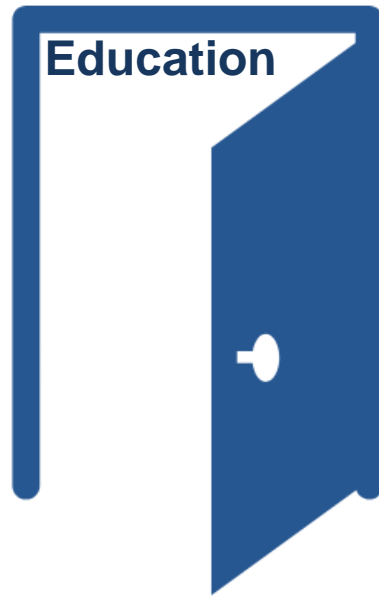


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Not in employment, education or training (NEET)

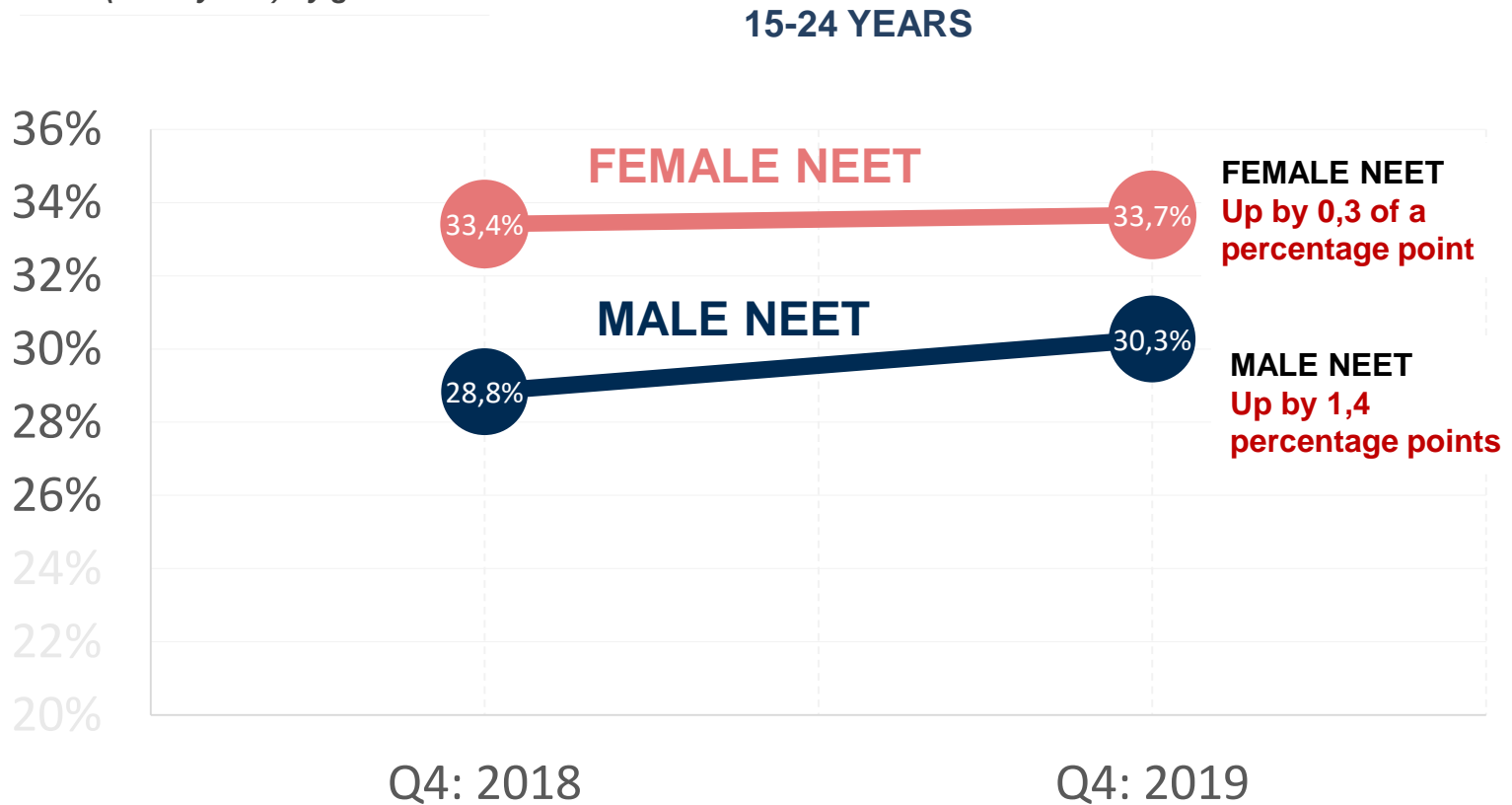


Those young people (15-34 years) who are categorised as NEET are considered to be *disengaged* from both work and education.

Youth NEET rate is calculated as the total number of youth who are NEET as a proportion of the total youth-specific working-age population

Approximately 3,3 million (32,0%) out of 10,3 million young people aged 15-24 years were not in employment, education or training (NEET). The overall NEET rate increased by 0,9 of a percentage point in Q4:2019 compared to Q4:2018.

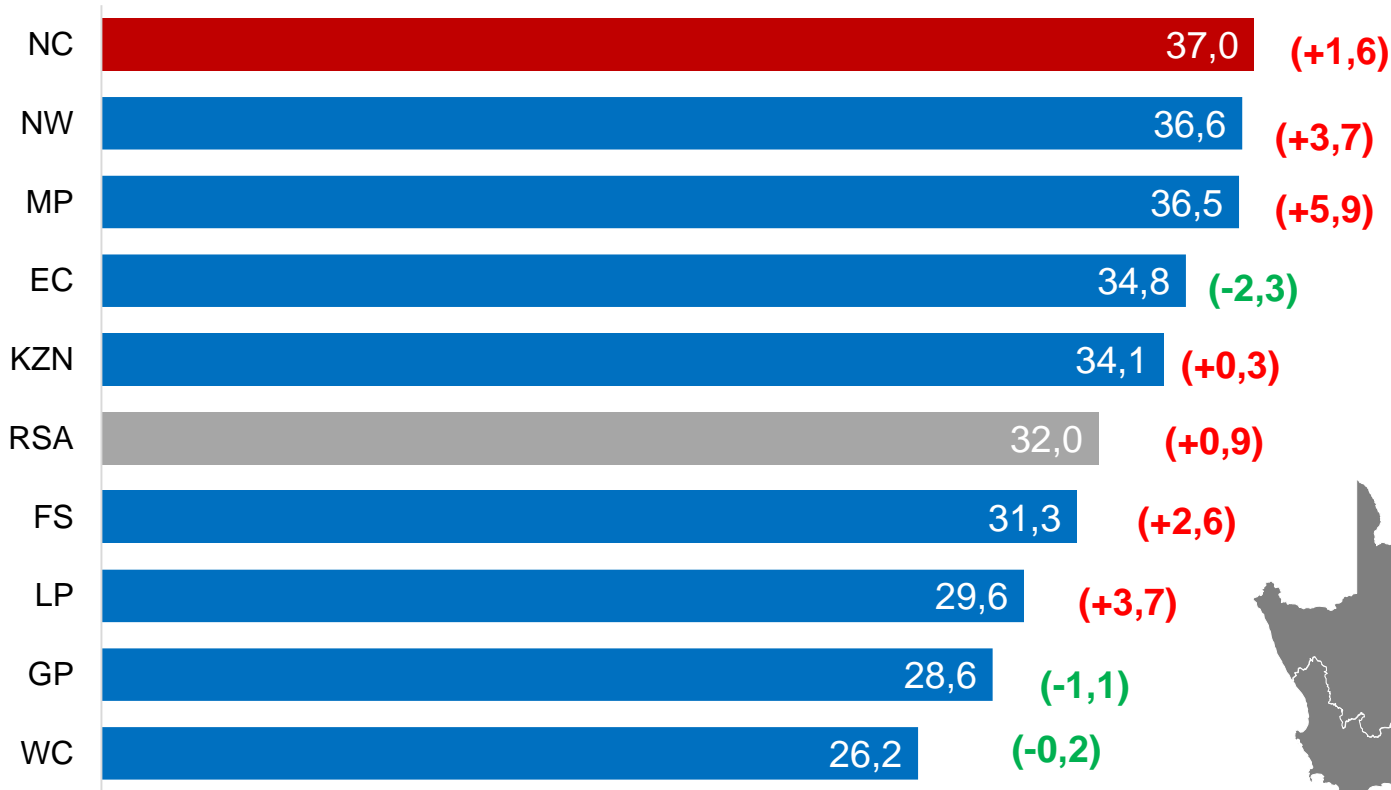
NEET (15-24 years) by gender



NC recorded the highest rate of young people **aged 15-24 years** not in employment, education or training in Q4:2019.

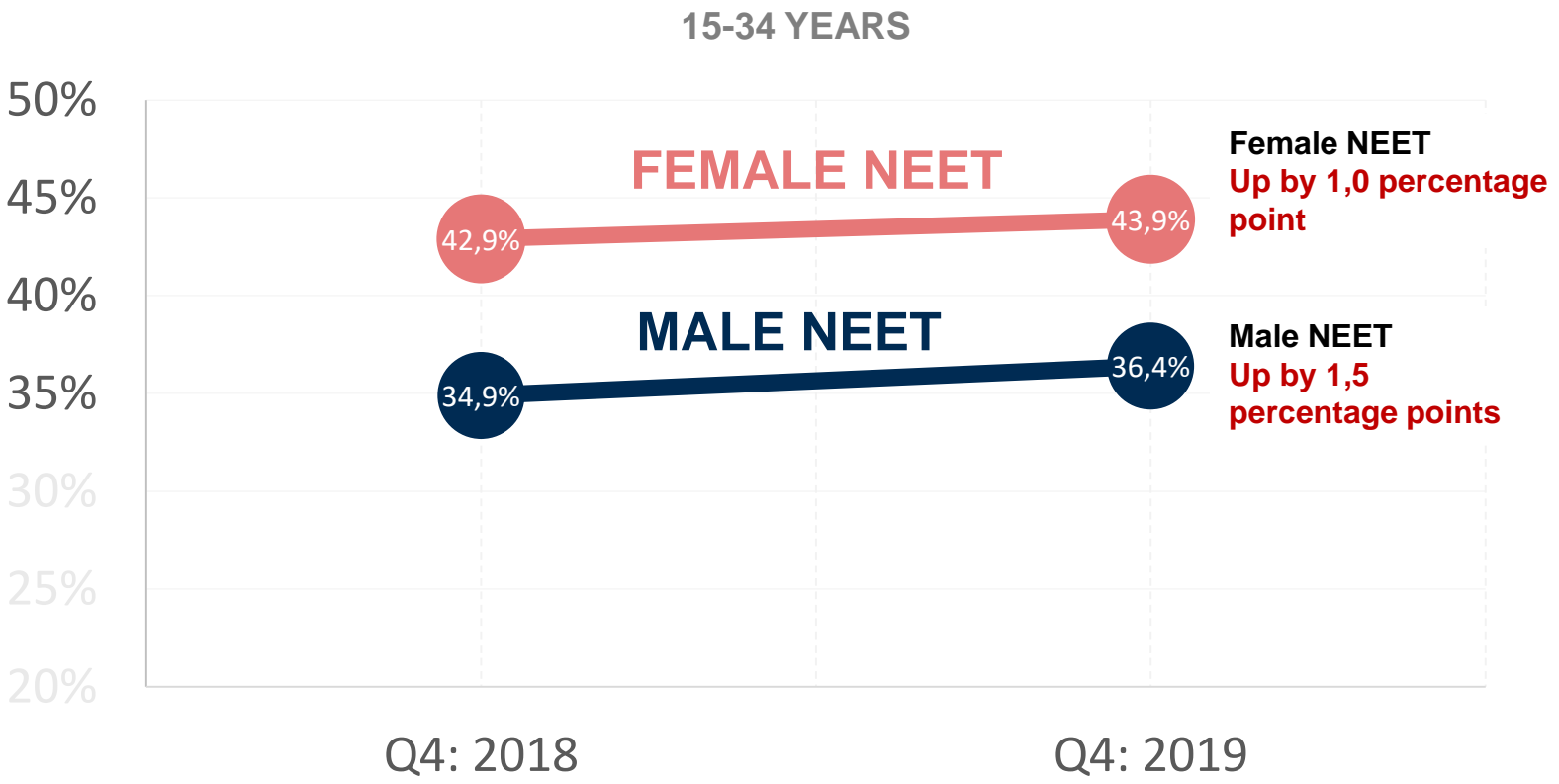
Provincial NEET rate (Year on Year Change Q4:2018 – Q4:2019)

() Y/Y Change



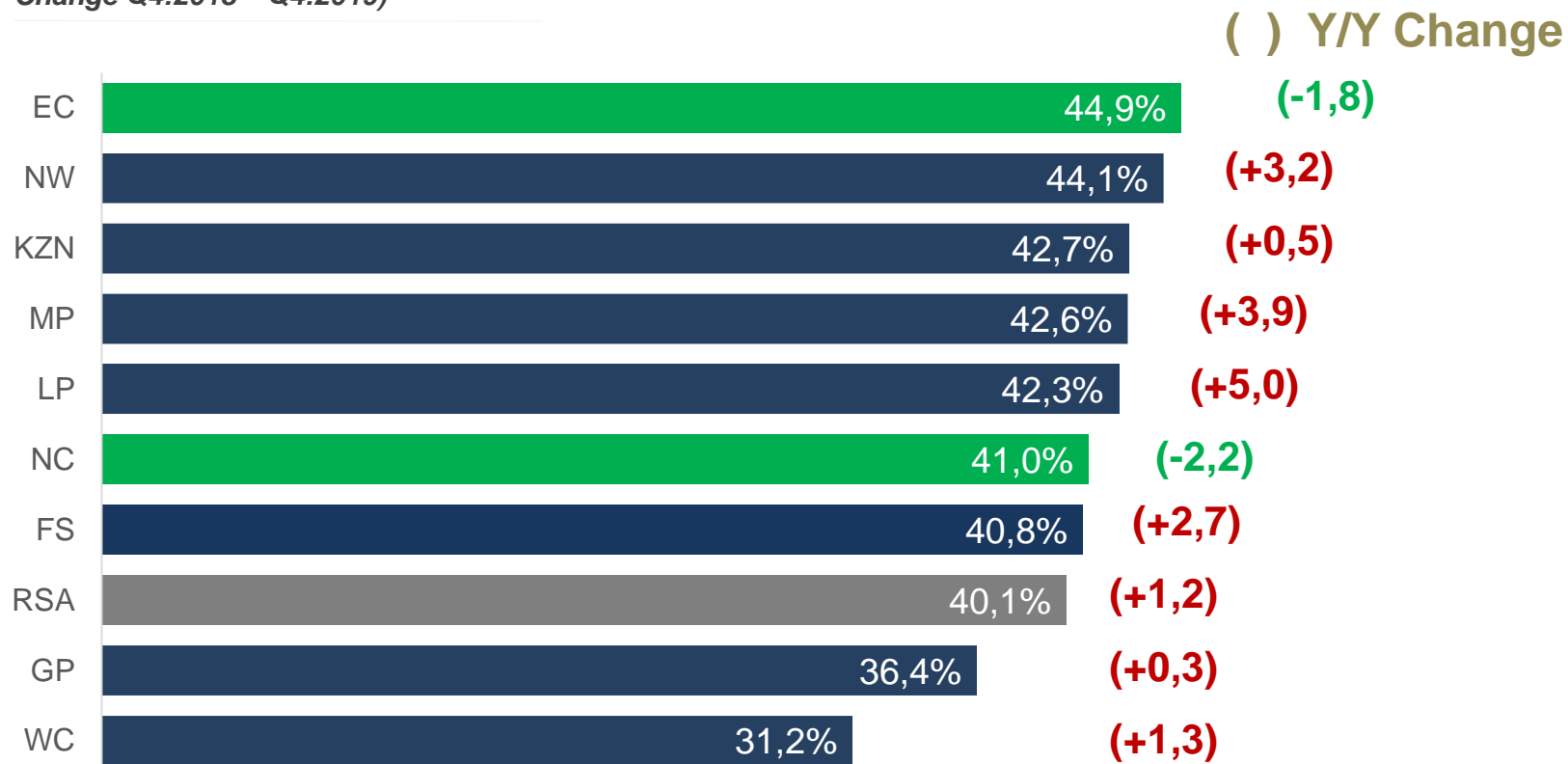
Approximately 8,2 million (40,1%) out of 20,4 million young people aged 15-34 years were not in employment, education or training (NEET). The overall NEET rate increased by 1,2 percentage points y/y.

NEET (15-34 years) by gender



GP and WC recorded the lowest NEET rate of young people aged 15-34 years, below the national average (40,1%). The rate increased in all provinces with the exception of EC and NC.

Provincial NEET rate (Year – on – Year
Change Q4:2018 – Q4:2019)



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Q4:2019

EMPLOYMENT

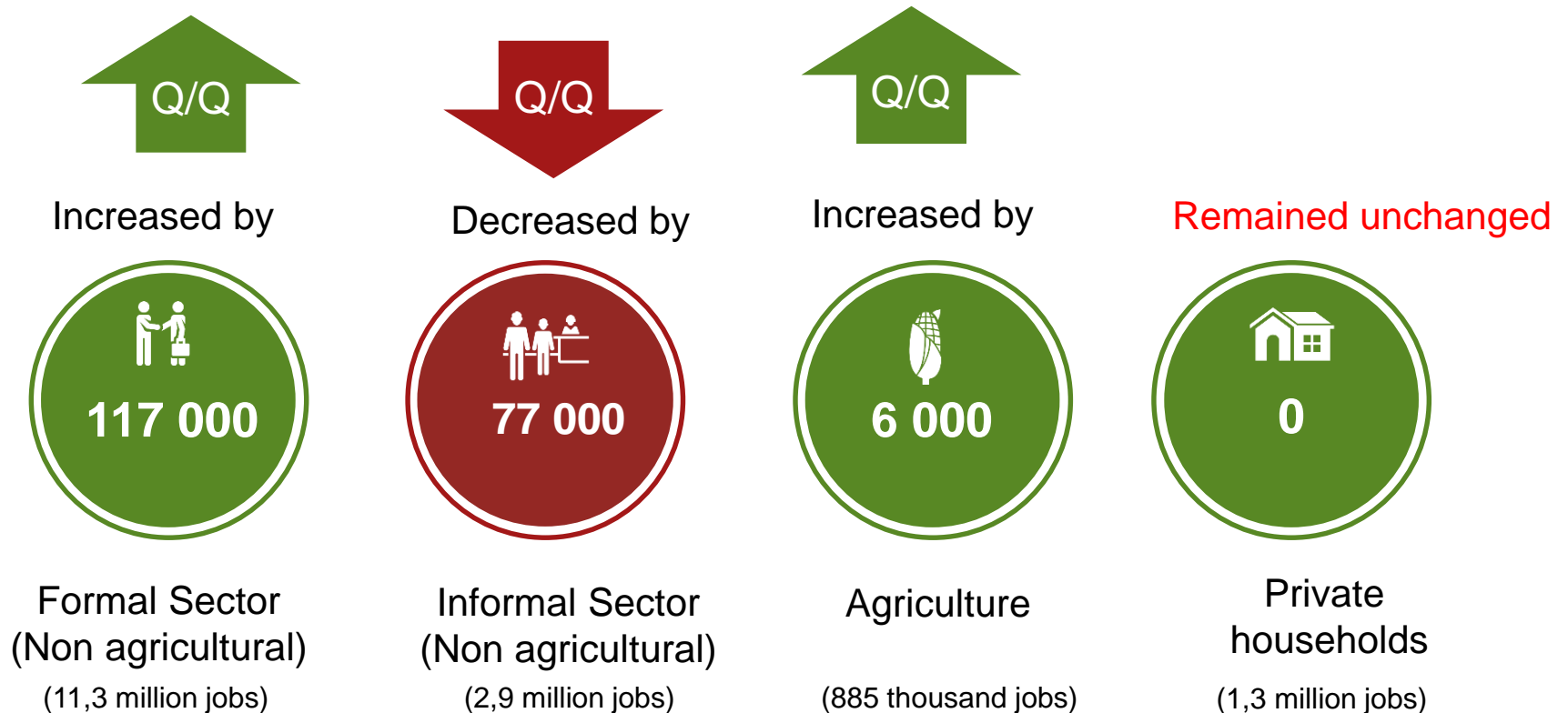


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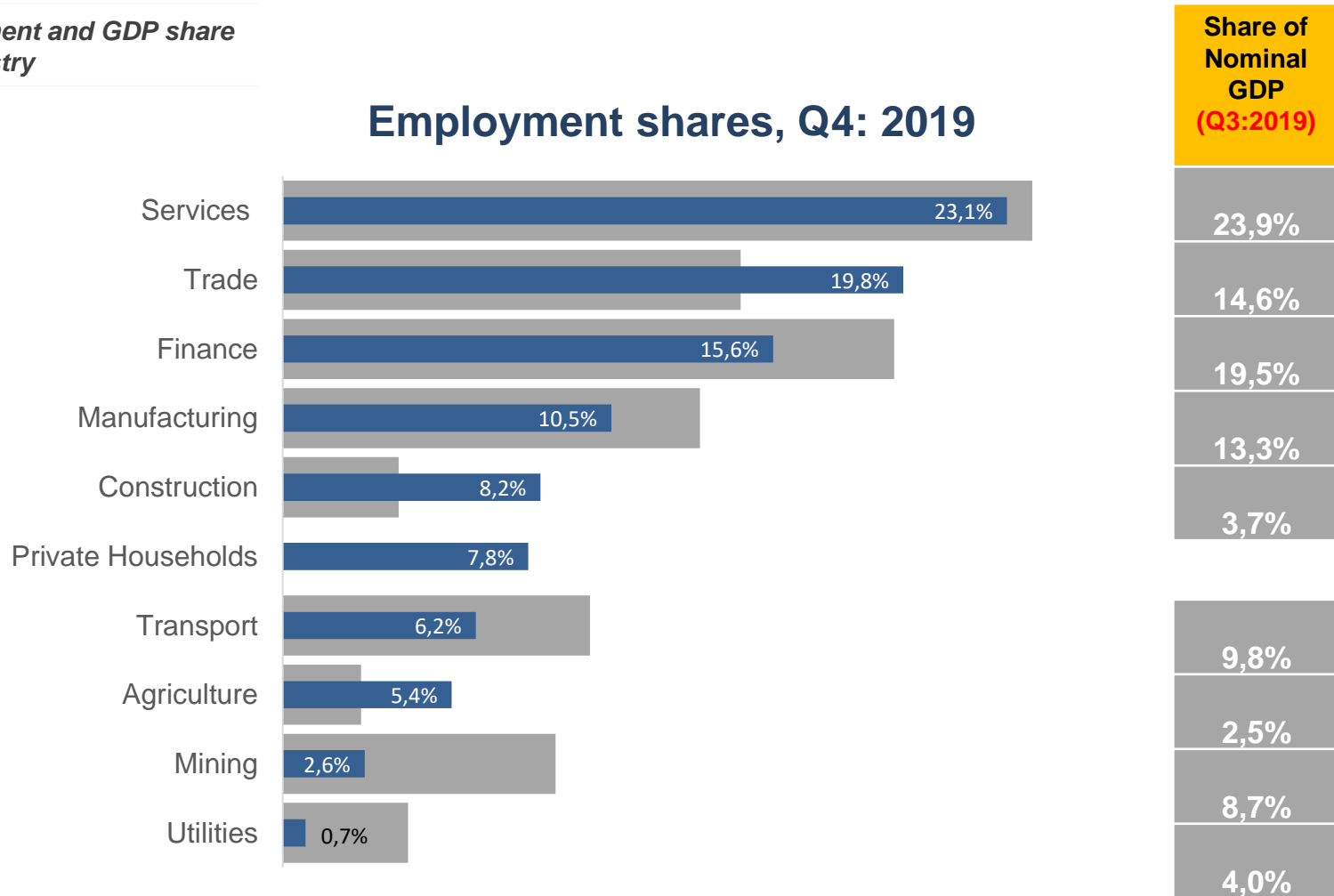
The number of persons employed increased by 45 000 in Q4:2019 to 16,4 million q/q.



Trade, construction and agriculture have higher employment shares relative to their GDP contribution.

Employment and GDP share per industry

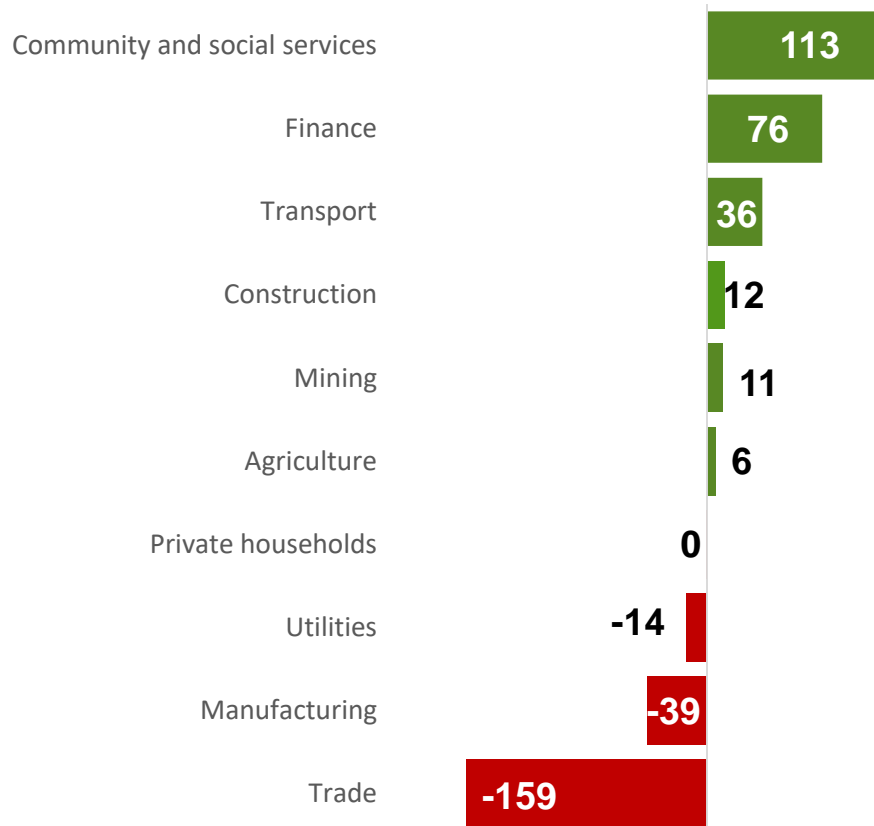
Employment shares, Q4: 2019



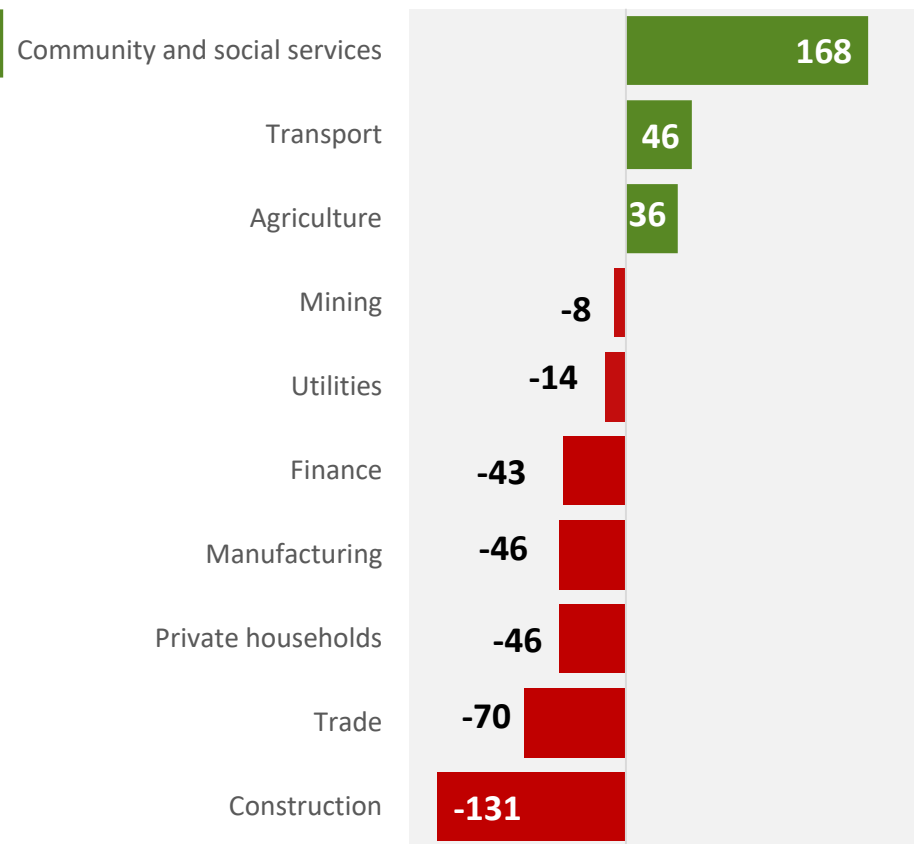
Employment gains were observed in Services, Finance, Transport and Construction (q/q). Largest declines were observed in Manufacturing and Trade.

Employment changes by industry

Quarter-on-quarter change ('000)

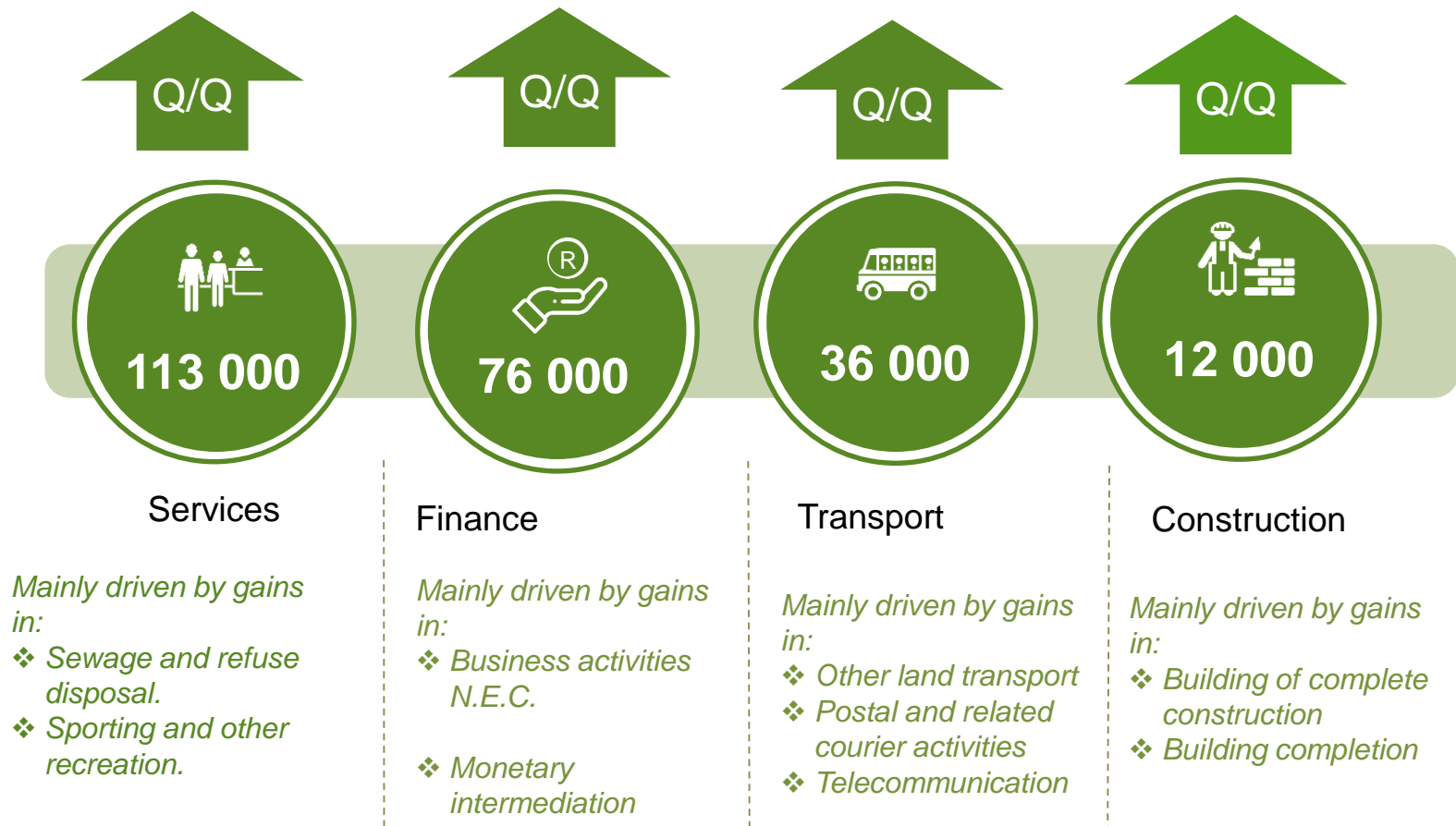


Year-on-year change ('000)



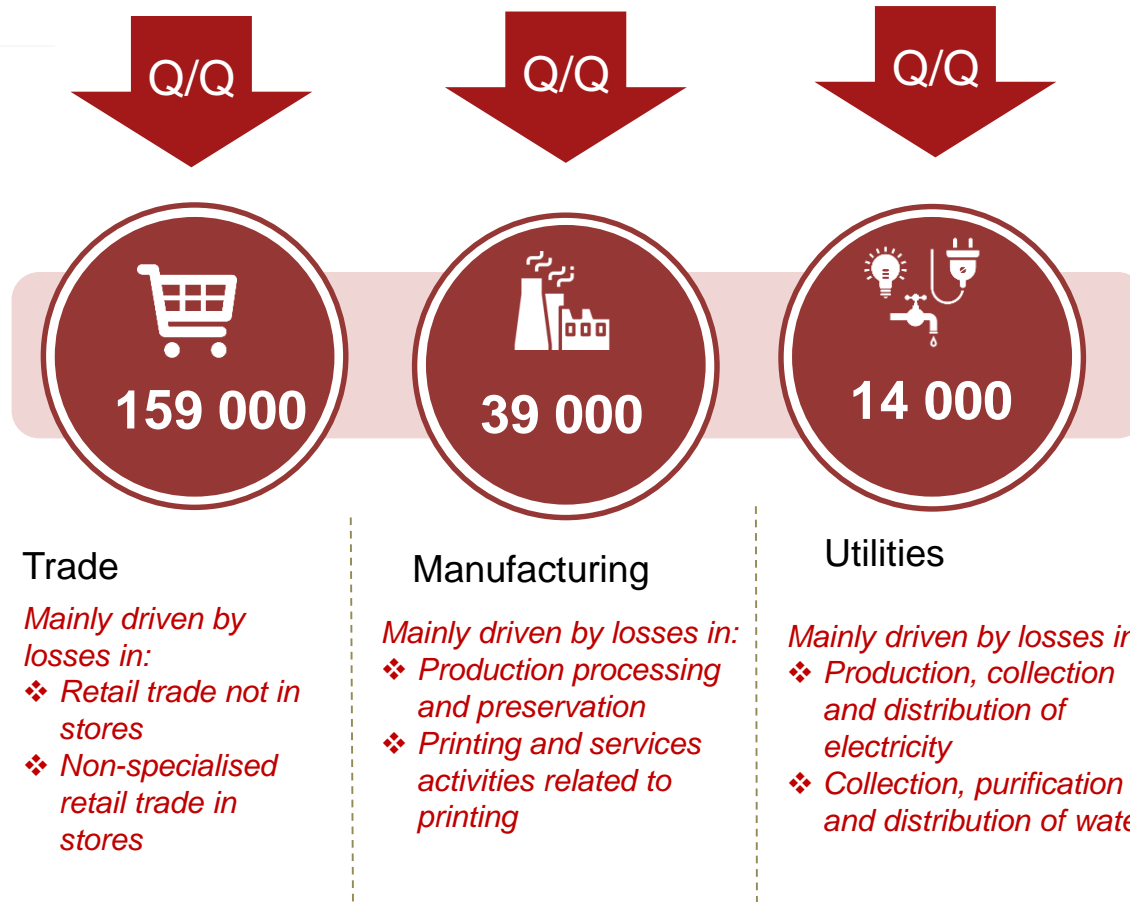
Employment gains were mainly driven by Services (113 000), Finance (76 000), Transport (36 000) and Construction (12 000).

**Quarter-on-quarter
employment changes:
Gains**



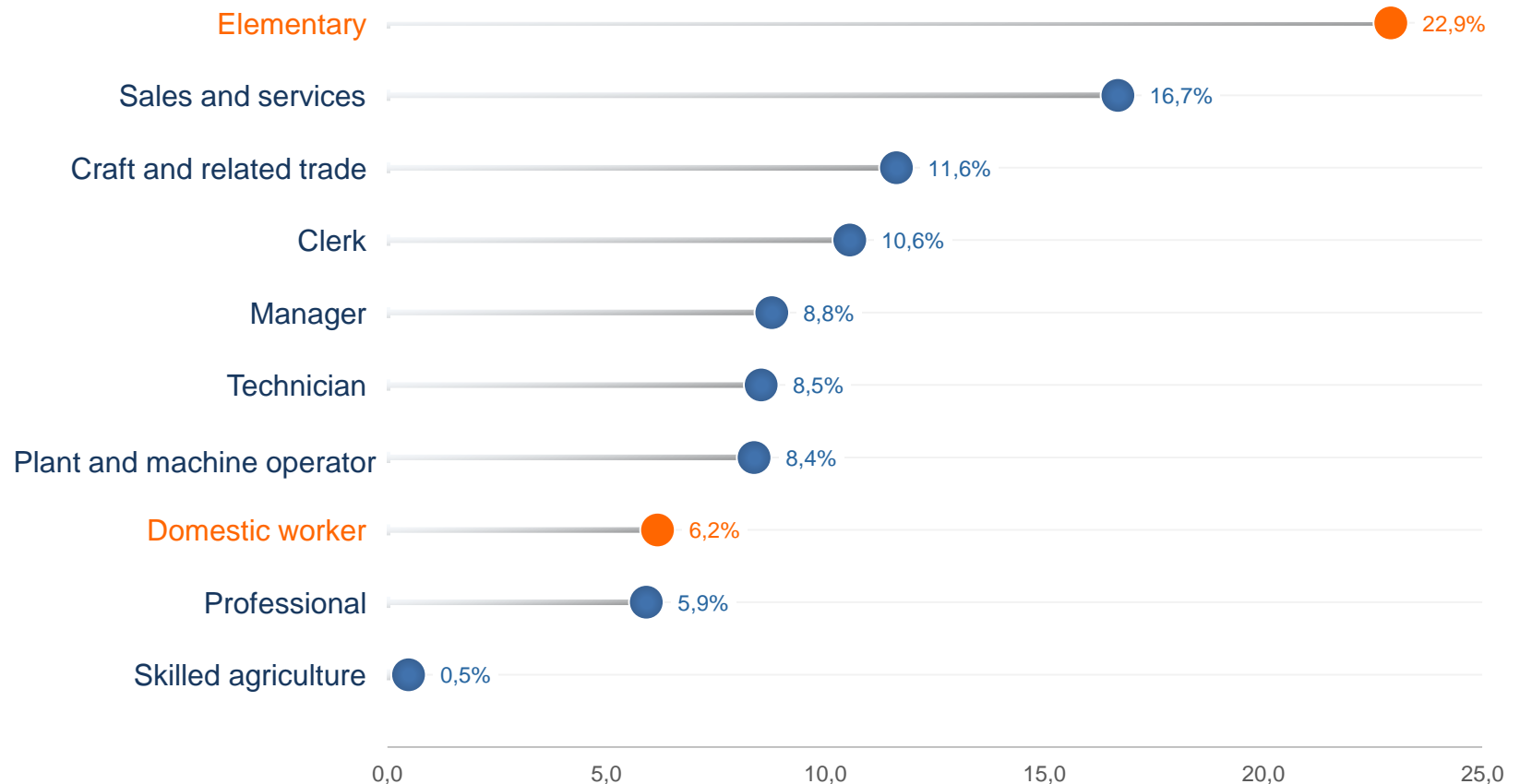
Employment losses were mainly driven by Trade, Manufacturing and Utilities.

*Quarter-on-quarter
employment changes:
Losses*

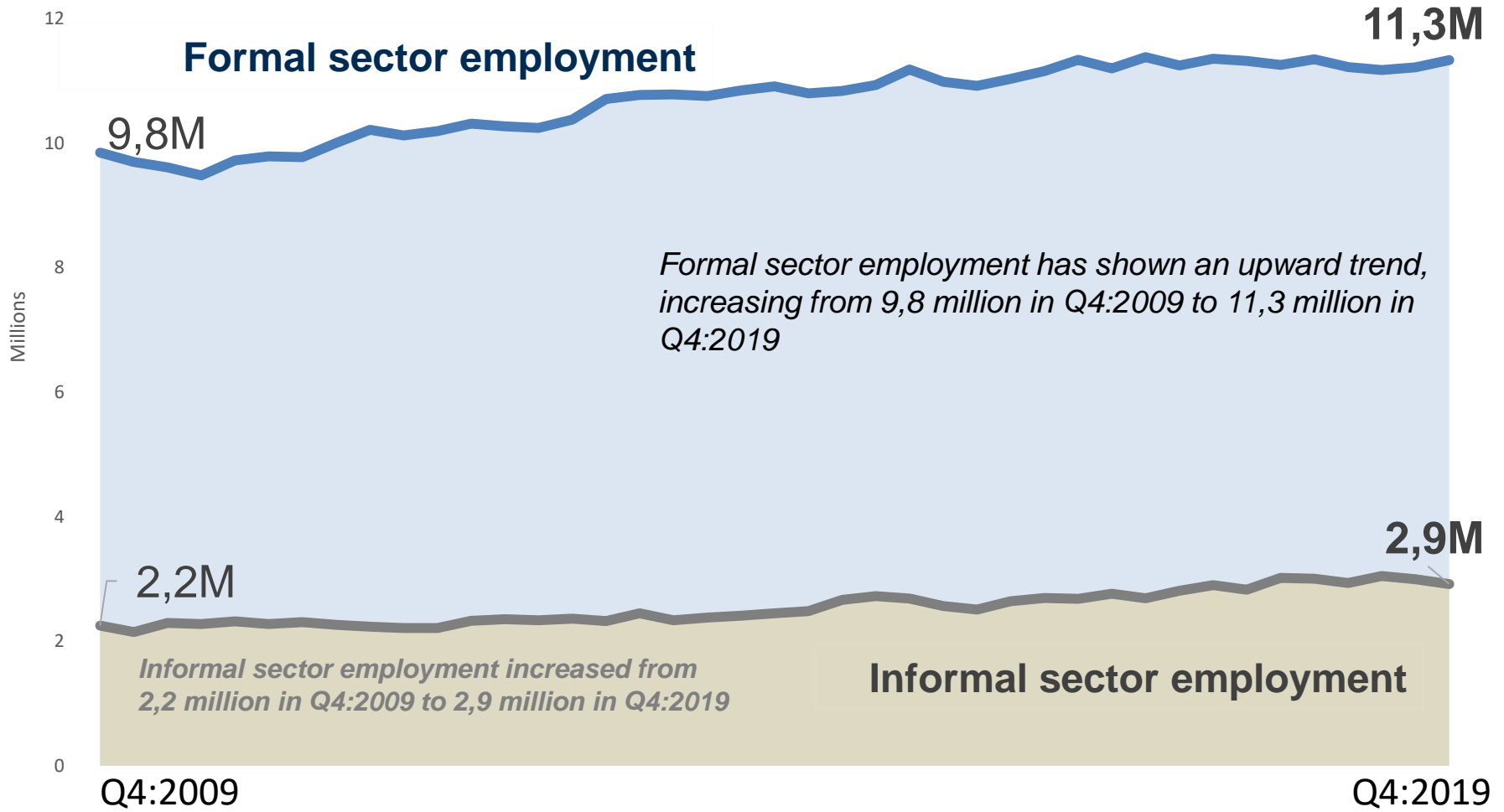


Close to a third (29,1%) of all people employed in Q4:2019 were employed in elementary and domestic work occupations.

Employment share by occupation, Q4:2019



The formal sector in South Africa accounts for 69,0% of total employment.



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Q4:2019

UNEMPLOYMENT



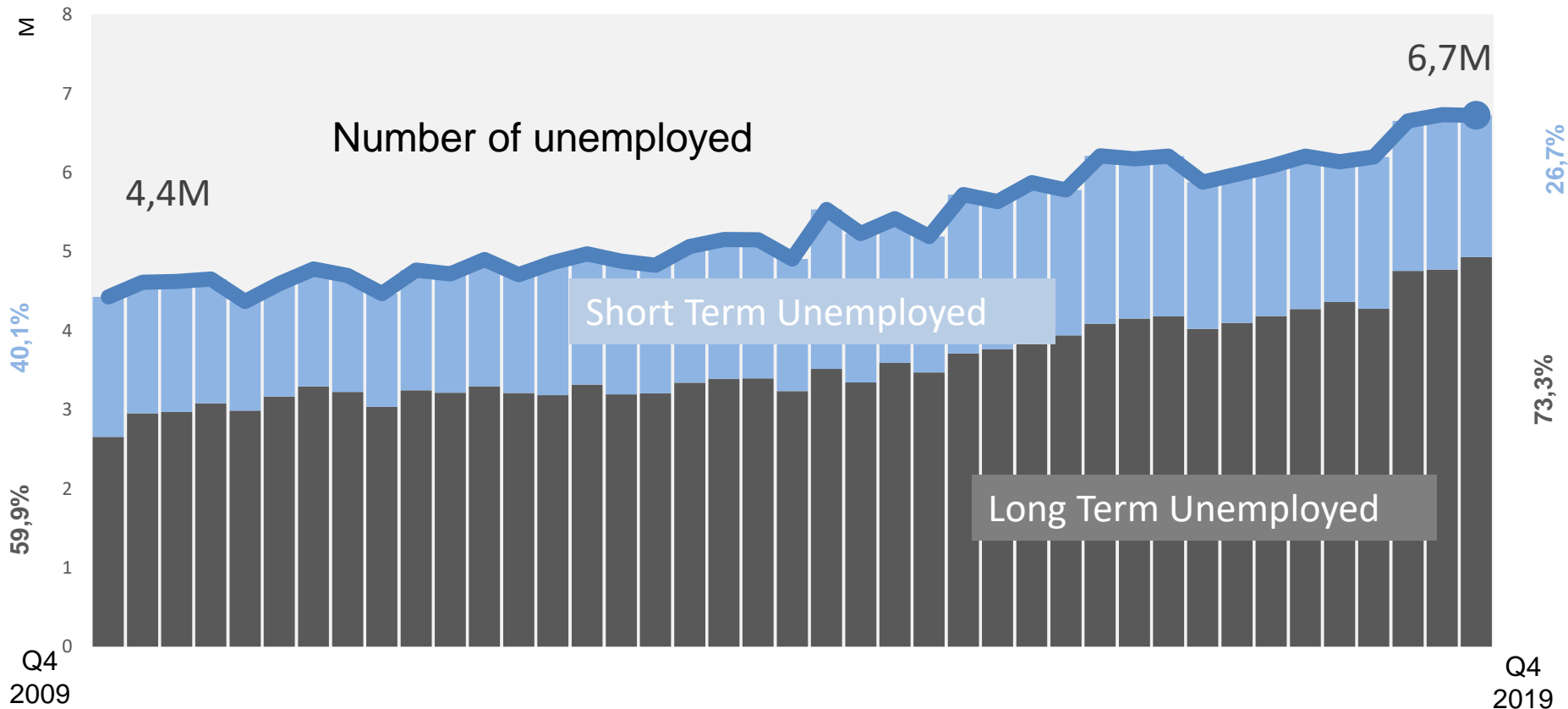
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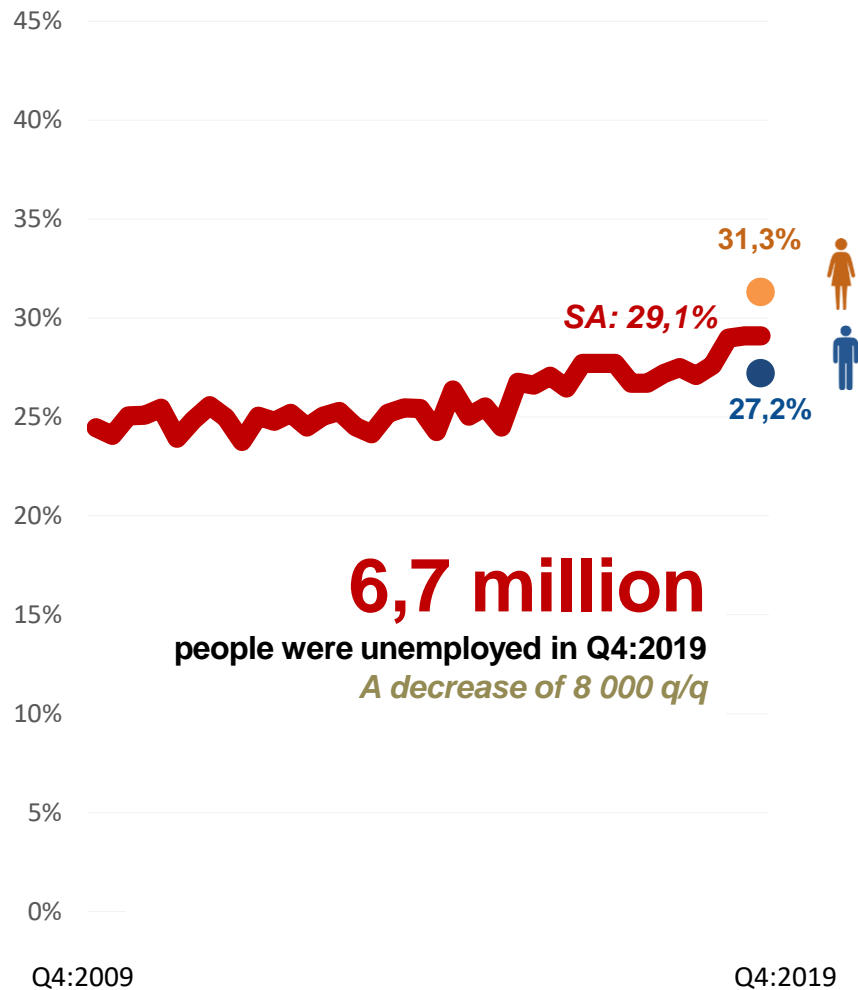
The number of unemployed people in South Africa increased from 4,4 million in Q4:2009 to 6,7 million in Q4:2019. The proportion of those in long-term unemployment increased from 59,9% in Q4:2009 to **73,3%** in Q4:2019

Number of unemployed for one year or longer



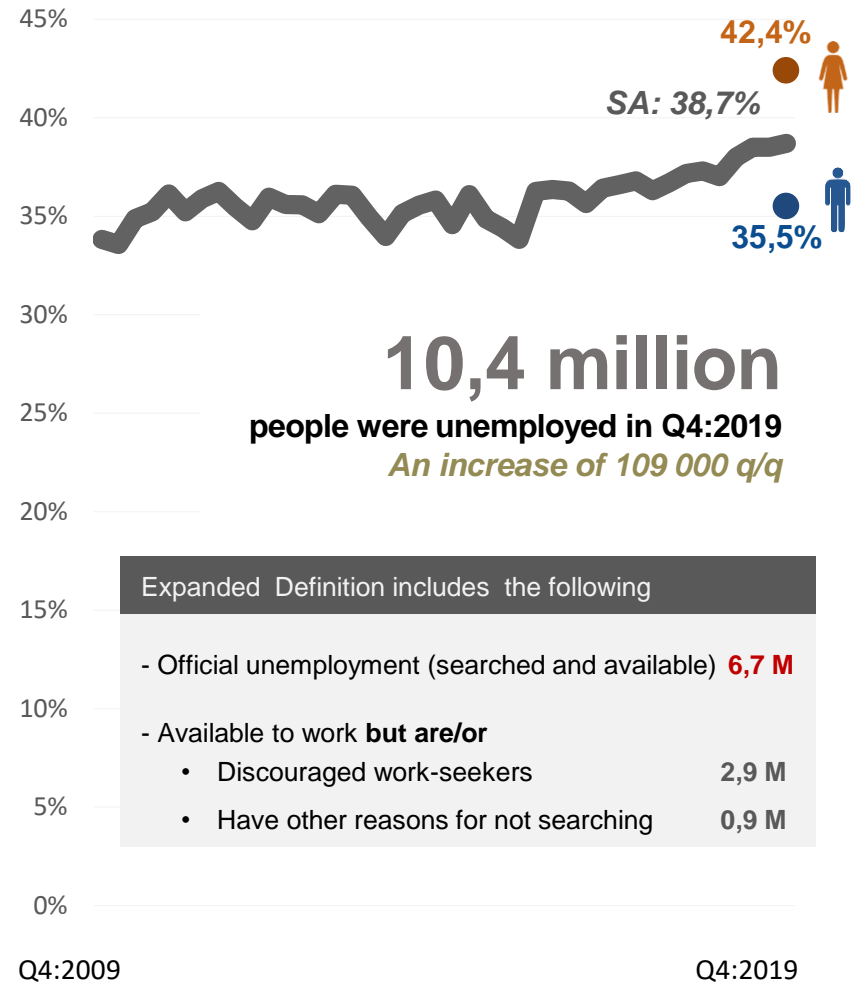
Official Unemployment Rate

29,1% (Remained unchanged Q/Q)



Expanded Unemployment Rate

38,7% (+0,2 % Point Change Q/Q)



Expanded Definition includes the following

- Official unemployment (sought and available) **6,7 M**
- Available to work **but are/or**
 - Discouraged work-seekers **2,9 M**
 - Have other reasons for not searching **0,9 M**



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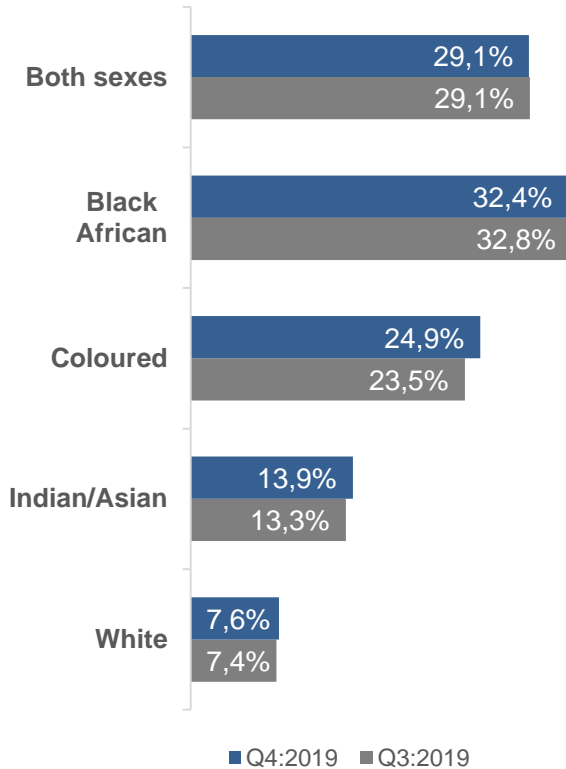
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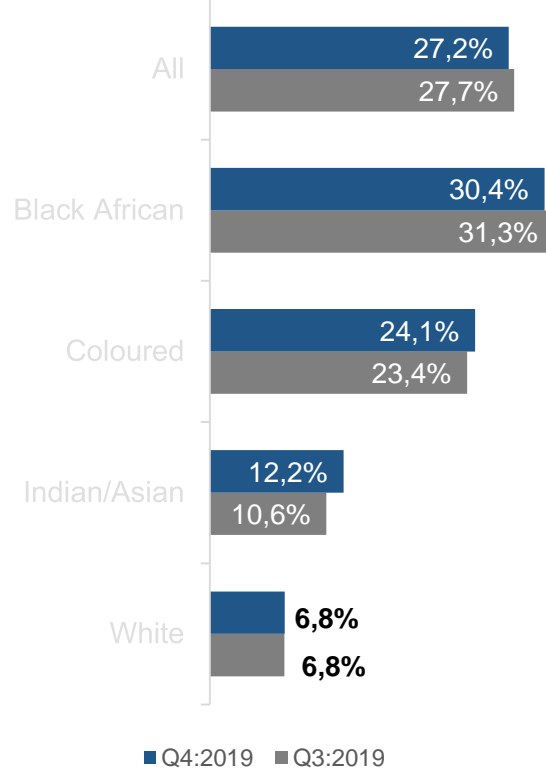
Black African women are the most vulnerable with an unemployment rate of over 30%.

OFFICIAL unemployment rate by population group and sex

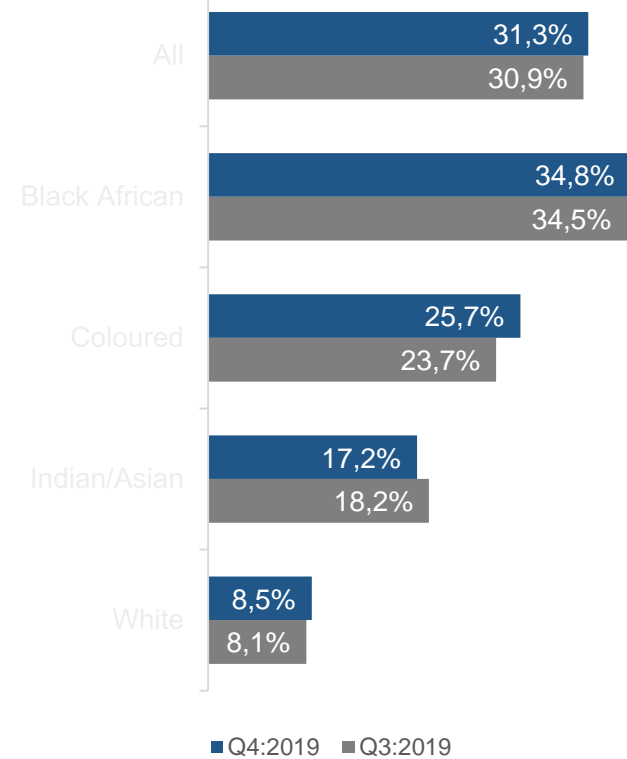
Unemployment Rate by Population Group



Male Unemployment Rate By Population Group



Female Unemployment Rate by Population Group



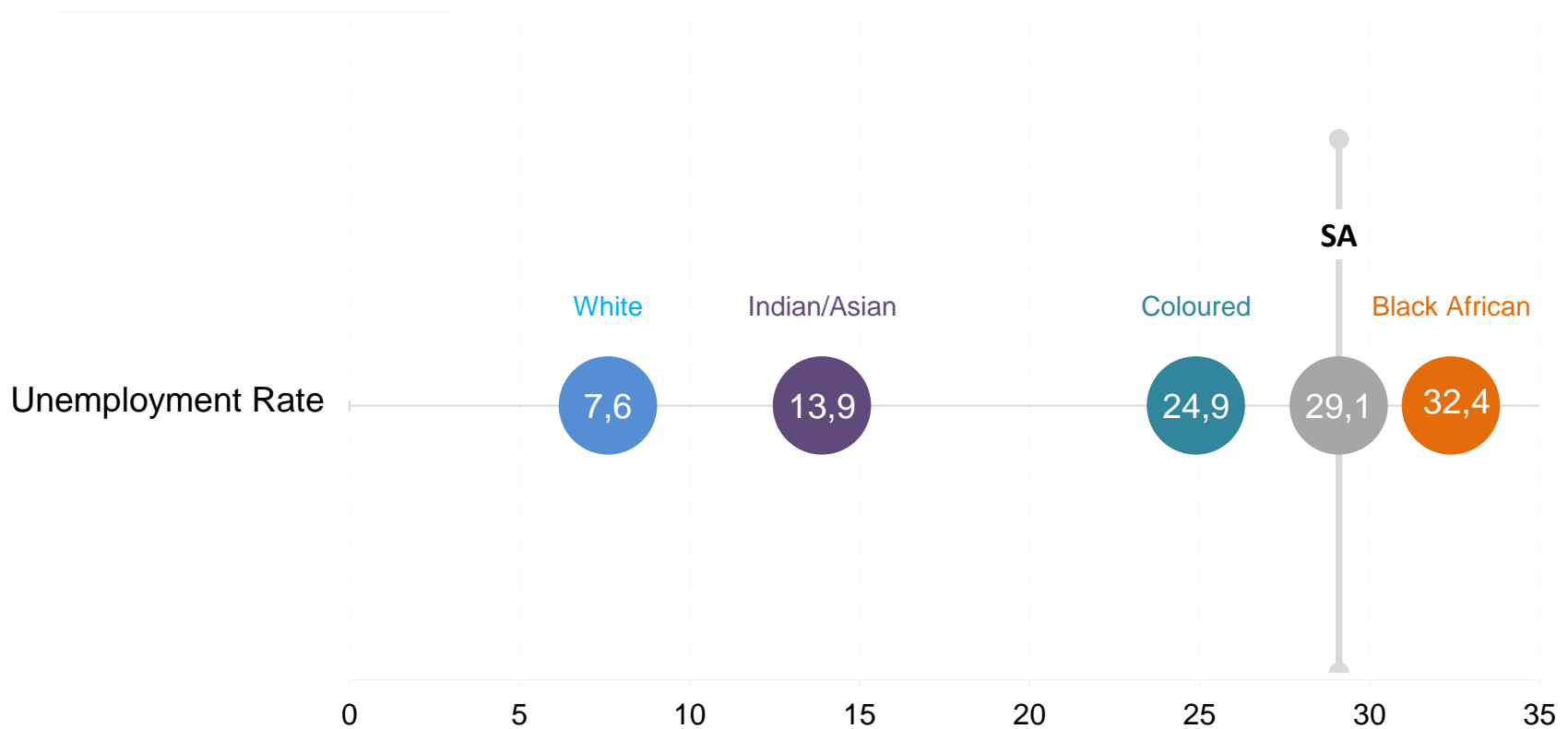
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Unemployment amongst the Black African population group remains higher than the national average and other population groups.

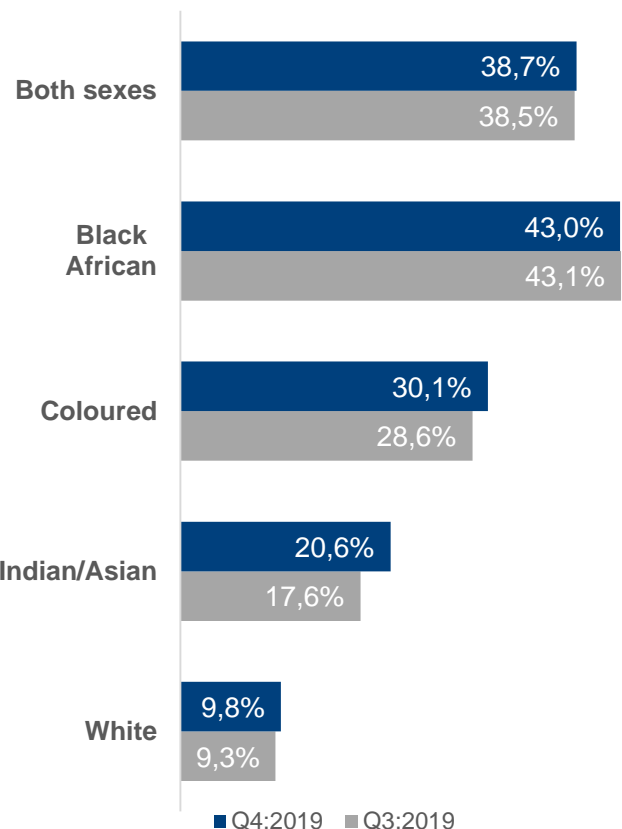
OFFICIAL unemployment rate
by population group



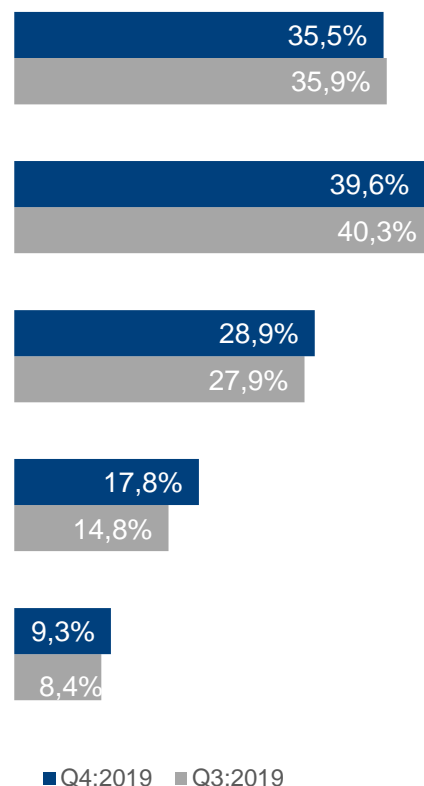
Irrespective of gender, the black African and coloured population groups remain vulnerable in the labour market

EXPANDED unemployment rate by population group and gender

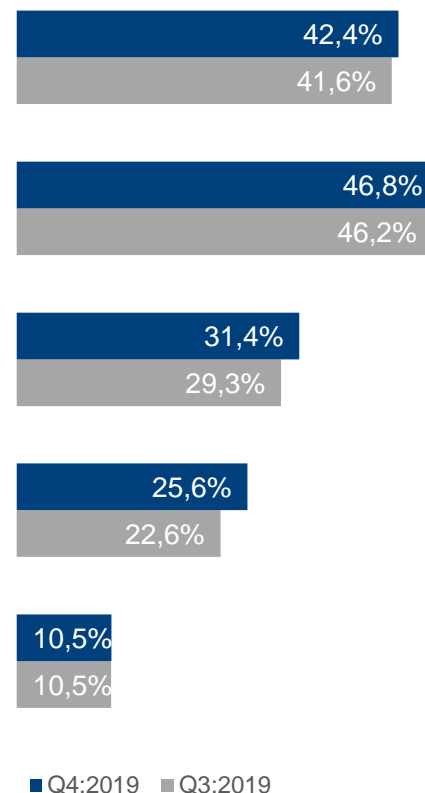
Expanded unemployment rate by population group



Male expanded unemployment rate



Female expanded unemployment rate



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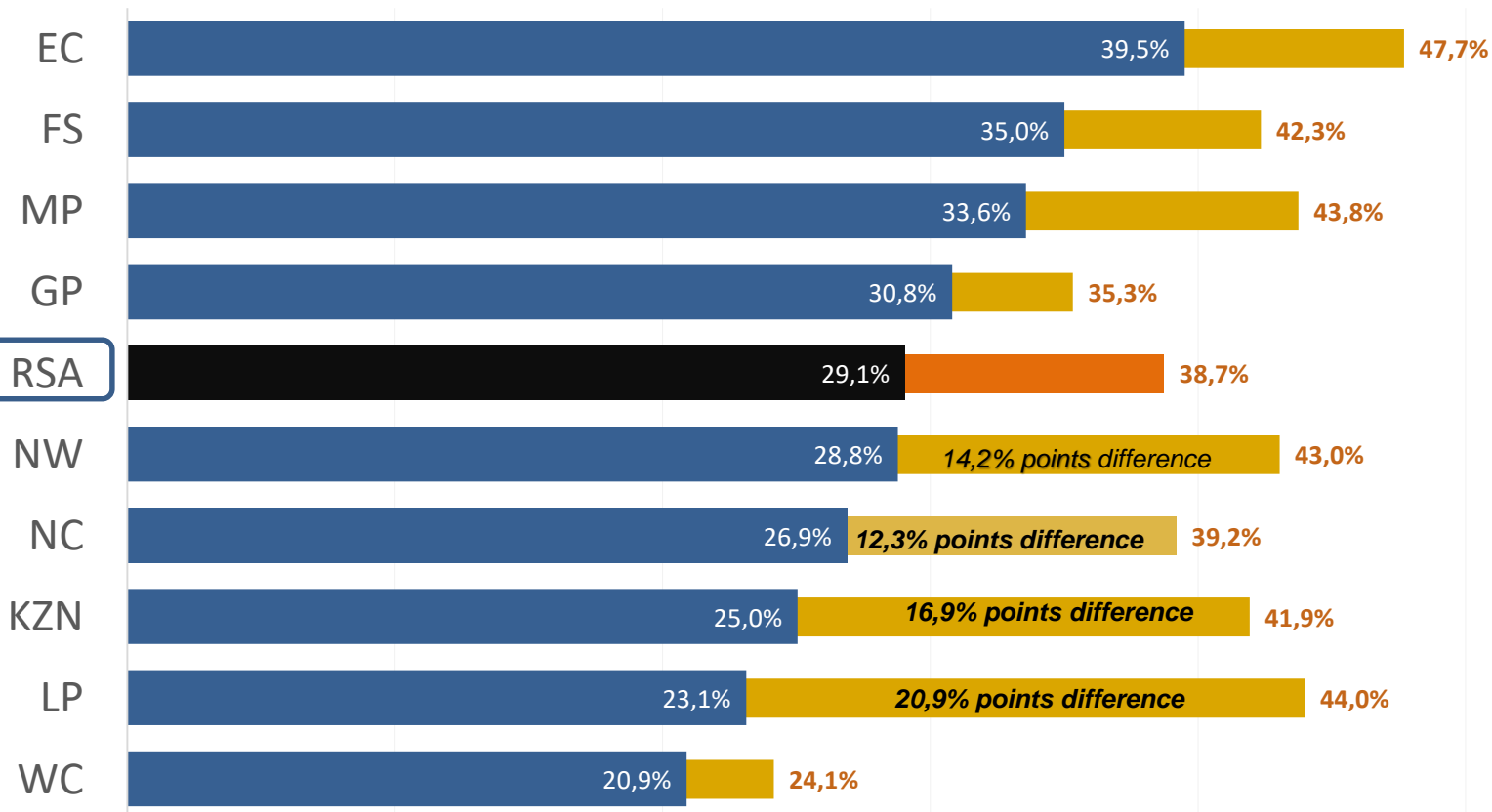


EC recorded the highest official and expanded unemployment rates. LP, KZN and NW provinces all have more than 14 % points difference between their expanded and official unemployment rates

Provincial unemployment rate:
Official vs Expanded Q4:2019

Official

Expanded



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UNDERSTANDING NON-ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE (NEA)



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15,6 million people aged 15 – 64 years were not economically active.

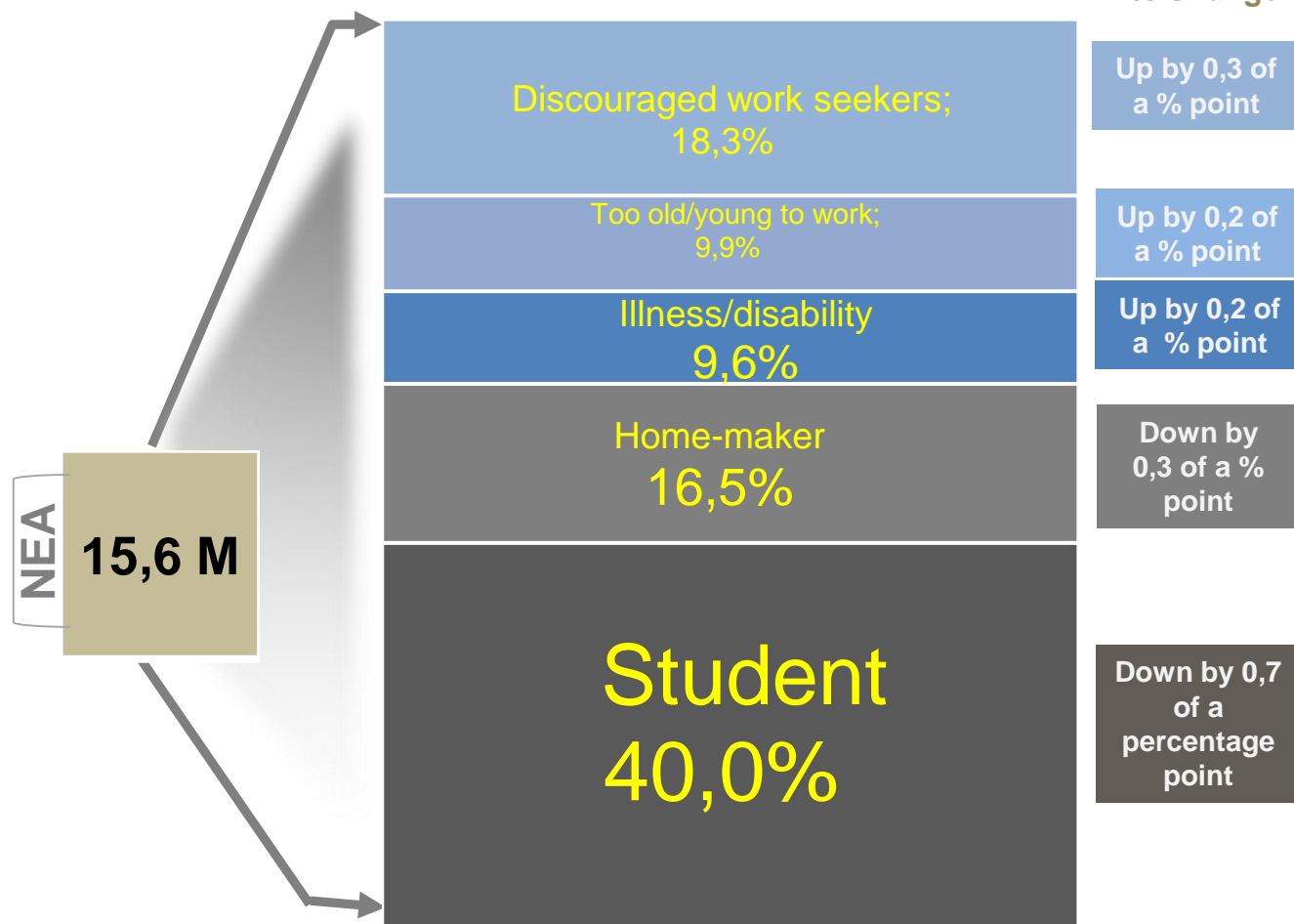
This is an increase of 107 000 q/q

Reasons why – Not economically active (NEA)

5 main reasons for NEA

Q3:2019 to Q4:2019
% Change

Q3:2019 to Q4:2019
Change in levels



Quarter-on-quarter changes	
	Thousand
Student	-73
Homemaker	-29
Illness/disability	47
Too young/too old to work	49
Discouraged work seekers	62
Other	52



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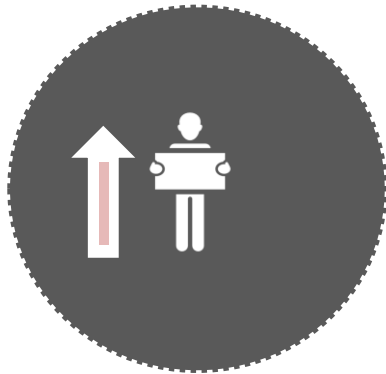
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Recap

Q4:2019

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Unemployment rate (29,1%) and Absorption rate (42,4%) remained unchanged

Labour force participation rate decreased by 0,1 of a percentage point

EMPLOYMENT GAINS



Employment gains were recorded mainly in **Services (113 000)**, Finance (76 000) and Transport (36 000).

EMPLOYMENT LOSSES



Largest employment losses were observed in **Trade (159 000)**, Manufacturing (39 000) and Utilities (14 000)

YOUTH



Of the 10,3 million persons aged 15-24 years, **32,0%** were not in employment, education or training.

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Q4:2019

Ndzi hela kwala!



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