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Department:
Statistics South Africa
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MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Quarterly Employment Statistics (QES) – Q3:2024

Total employment decreased by 133 000 or 1,2% quarter-on-quarter, from 10 738 000 in June 2024 to 10 605 000 in September 2024. This was largely due to a decrease in the following industries: community services (-131 000 or -4,3%), business services (-15 000 or -0,6%), manufacturing (-4 000 or -0,3%), transport (-3 000 or -0,6%), mining (-2 000 or -0,4%) and electricity (-1 000 or -1,6%). However, there was an increase in the following industries: trade (19 000 or 0,8%) and construction (4 000 or 0,7%).

Total employment decreased by 294 000 or 2,7% year-on-year between September 2023 and September 2024.

Full-time employment decreased by 14 000 or 0,1% quarter-on-quarter, from 9 468 000 in June 2024 to 9 454 000 in September 2024. This was largely due to a decrease in the following industries: business services (-22 000 or -1,0%), manufacturing (-5 000 or -0,4%), community services (-3 000 or -0,1%), mining (-2 000 or -0,4%) and transport (-2 000 or -0,4%). However, there was an increase in the following industries: trade (17 000 or 0,8%) and construction (3 000 or 0,6%). Electricity industry showed no change.

Full-time employment decreased by 44 000 or 0,5% year-on-year between September 2023 and September 2024.

Part-time employment decreased by 119 000 or 9,4% quarter-on-quarter, from 1 270 000 in June 2024 to 1 151 000 in September 2024. This was due to a decrease in the following industries: community services (-128 000 or -20,3%), electricity industry (-1 000 or 50,0%) and transport (-1 000 or -5,0%). However, there was an increase in the following industries: business services (7 000 or 3,2%), trade (2 000 or 0,8%), construction (1 000 or 1,5%) and manufacturing (1 000 or 1,2%).

Part-time employment decreased by 250 000 or 17,8% year-on-year between September 2023 and September 2024.

Gross earnings paid to employees increased by R12,2 billion or 1,3% from R954,1 billion in June 2024 to R966,3 billion in September 2024. This was largely due to an increase in the following industries: business services, community service, mining and electricity. However, there was a decrease in the following industries: trade, transport, manufacturing and construction.

The year-on-year Gross earnings increased by R24,9 billion or 2,6% between September 2023 and September 2024.

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Basic salary/wages paid to employees increased by R6,7 billion or 0,8% from R871,6 billion in June 2024 to R878,2 billion in September 2024. This was largely due to an increase in the following industries: trade, mining, manufacturing, business services, construction, electricity and transport. However, there was a decrease in the community services industry.

The year-on-year Basic salary/wages increased by R28,7 billion or 3,4% between September 2023 and September 2024.

Bonus paid to employees increased by R6,9 billion or 12,9% from R53,8 billion in June 2024 to R60,7 billion in September 2024. This was largely due to an increase in the following industries: business services and community services. However, there was a decrease in the following industries: trade, manufacturing, construction, transport and electricity.

The year-on-year bonus payments decreased by R4,5 billion or 6,8% between September 2023 and September 2024.

Overtime paid to employees decreased by R1,4 billion or 4,8% from R28,7 billion in June 2024 to R27,3 billion in September 2024. This was largely due to a decrease in the following industries: manufacturing, trade, business services, transport and electricity. However, there was an increase in the following industries: community services and construction.

The year-on-year overtime payments increased by R0,6 billion or 2,4% between September 2023 and September 2024.

Average monthly earnings paid to employees increased by 2,6% from R27 511 in May 2024 to R28 220 in August 2024. Year-on-year, average monthly earnings paid to employees increased by 6,6% between August 2023 and August 2024.

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