

# Quarterly Employment Statistics, Q1:2021

# QES Background

01

QES is an enterprise-based sample survey

02

QES collects information on employing businesses registered for VAT with annual turnover greater than R300 000

R300 000

03

Samples are drawn from private non-agricultural businesses e.g. factories, offices, stores as well as national, provincial and local government entities

04

Sample size of approximately 20 000 was selected

# QES Coverage

## INCLUDES



## EXCLUDES



\* Administrative data from DMR



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# QES Variables

*Estimates are published on a quarter lag (SDDS)*

*Number of employees*

as at the **last month** of the  
reference quarter



*Average monthly  
earnings*

for **the middle month** of the  
reference quarter

*Gross earnings*

for the **three months** of the  
reference quarter

# Results for Q1:2021



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# EMPLOYMENT RESULTS

Number of persons employed  
in Q1:2021

# 9 644 000

Q/Q

-0,1%

There was a quarterly decrease of **9 000** jobs (or **-0,1%**) in the Q1:2021 compared with Q4:2020.

Y/Y

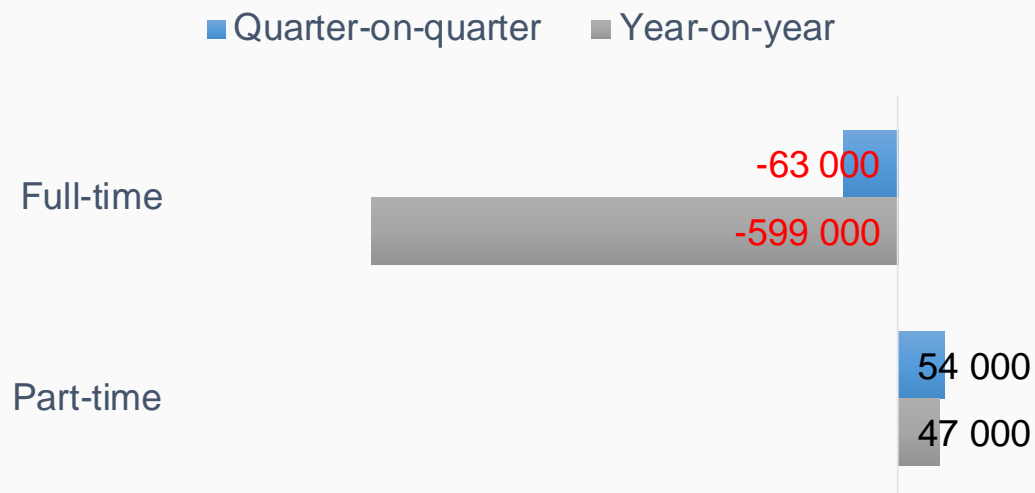
-5,4%

Jobs **decreased** by **552 000** (or **-5,4%**) in the reference quarter compared with the same quarter of 2020 (Q1:2020).

# EMPLOYMENT RESULTS

Number of persons employed Full-time: 8 566 000

Number of persons employed Part-time: 1 078 000



Full-time jobs **decreased** quarter-on-quarter by **63 000** and year-on-year full-time jobs **decreased** by **599 000**.

Part-time jobs **increased** quarter-on-quarter by **54 000** and year-on-year part-time jobs **increased** by **47 000**.

There was a quarterly net decrease of **9 000** jobs in Q1:2021. Most job losses were reported in full-time employment with a net decrease of **63 000** while part-time jobs increased by **54 000**

Quarter-on-quarter employment change

Quarter-on-quarter Industry	Number of employees		
	Full-time	Part-time	All employees
Trade	-28 000	-12 000	-40 000
Business services	-15 000	-4 000	-19 000
Construction	-4 000	-1 000	-5 000
Electricity	-1 000	0	-1 000
Transport	0	0	0
Manufacturing	2 000	2 000	4 000
Mining*	5 000		5 000
Community services	-22 000	69 000	47 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>-63 000</b>	<b>54 000</b>	<b>-9 000</b>

\*Data for mining industry is not available separately for part-time



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Year-on-year QES reported a net loss of **552 000** in employment in Q1:2021 compared with Q1:2020.

Year-on-year employment change

Year-on-year Industry	Number of employees		
	Full-time	Part-time	All employees
Business services	-177 000	-15 000	-192 000
Trade	-144 000	-18 000	-162 000
Manufacturing	-97 000	2 000	-95 000
Construction	-78 000	0	-78 000
Transport	-50 000	0	-50 000
Electricity	-3 000	-1 000	-4 000
Mining*	3 000		3 000
Community services	-53 000	79 000	26 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>-599 000</b>	<b>47 000</b>	<b>-552 000</b>

\*Data for mining industry is not available separately for part-time



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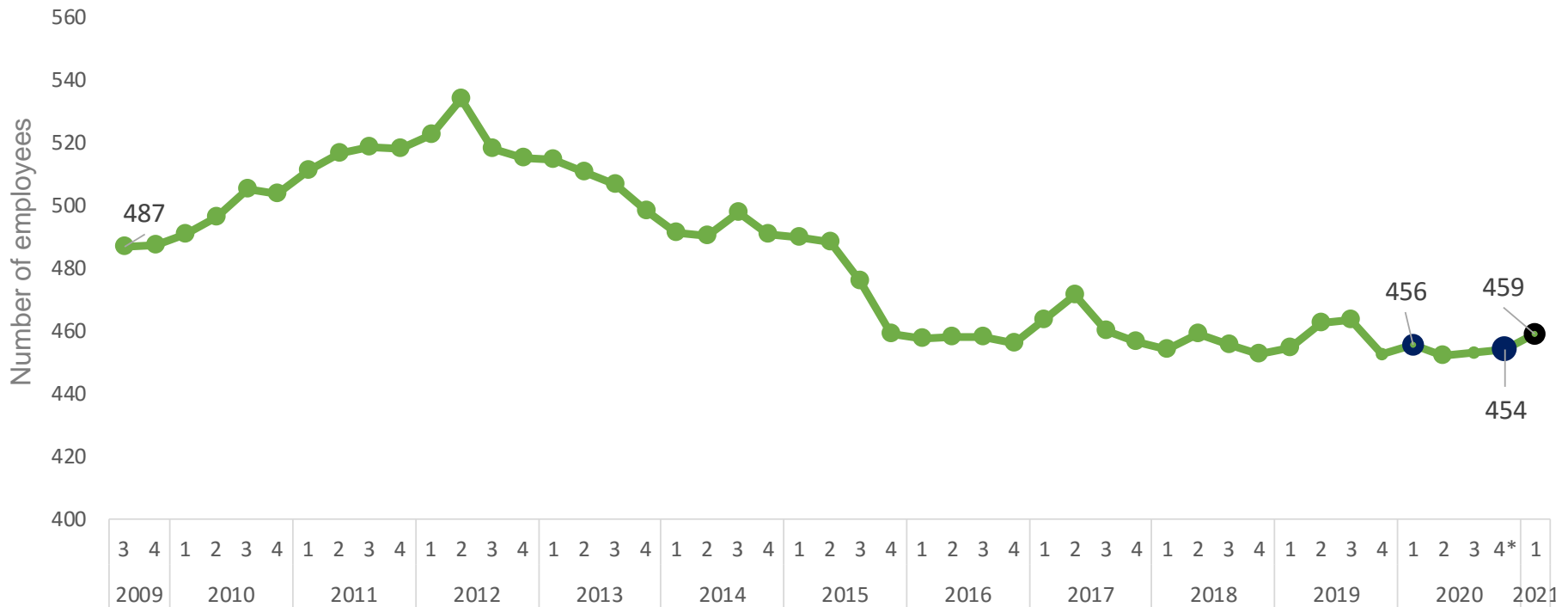
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The mining industry reported net increase of **5 000** jobs in the first quarter of 2021.

Year-on-year the industry increased by **3 000** when comparing Q1:2020 with Q1:2021.

Mining and quarrying industry, Q3:2009 to Q1:2021



\* Revised estimates



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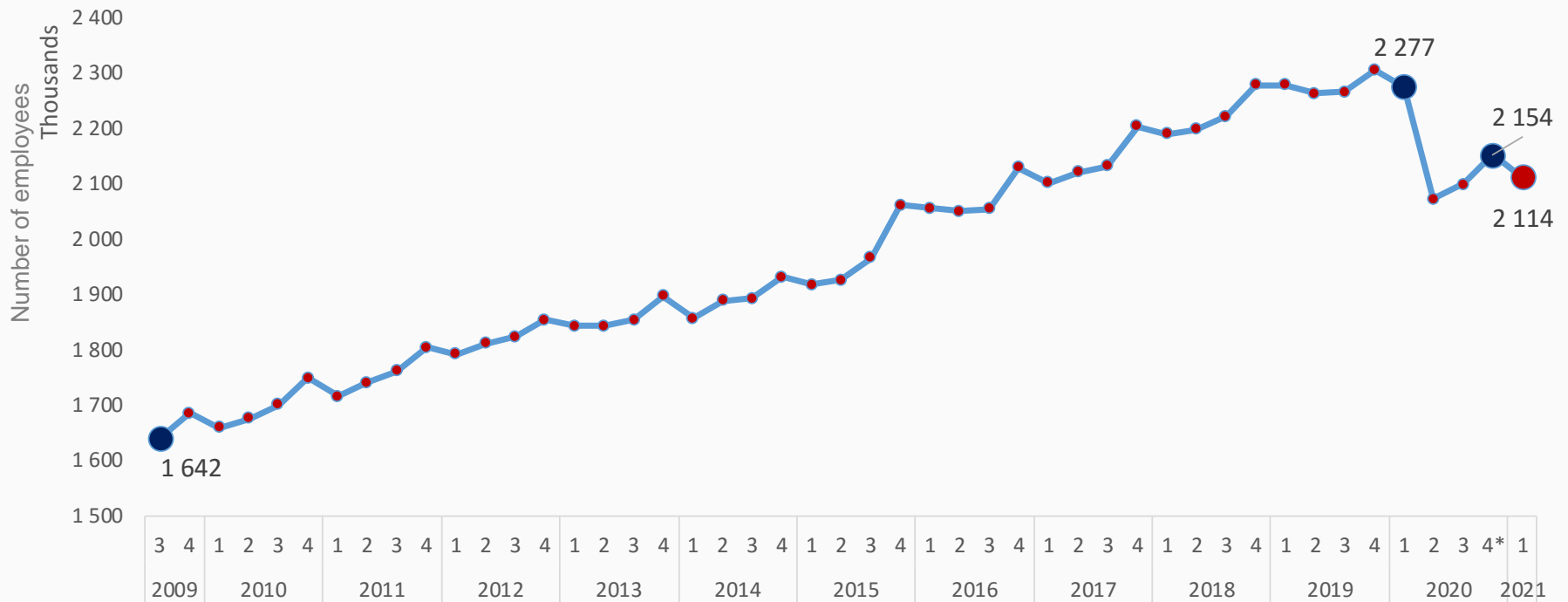
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The trade industry lost **40 000** jobs in the first quarter of 2021 compared to Q4:2020.

Year-on-year the industry lost **162 000** jobs compared with same quarter of 2020.

Trade industry, Q3:2009 to Q1:2021



\* Revised estimates



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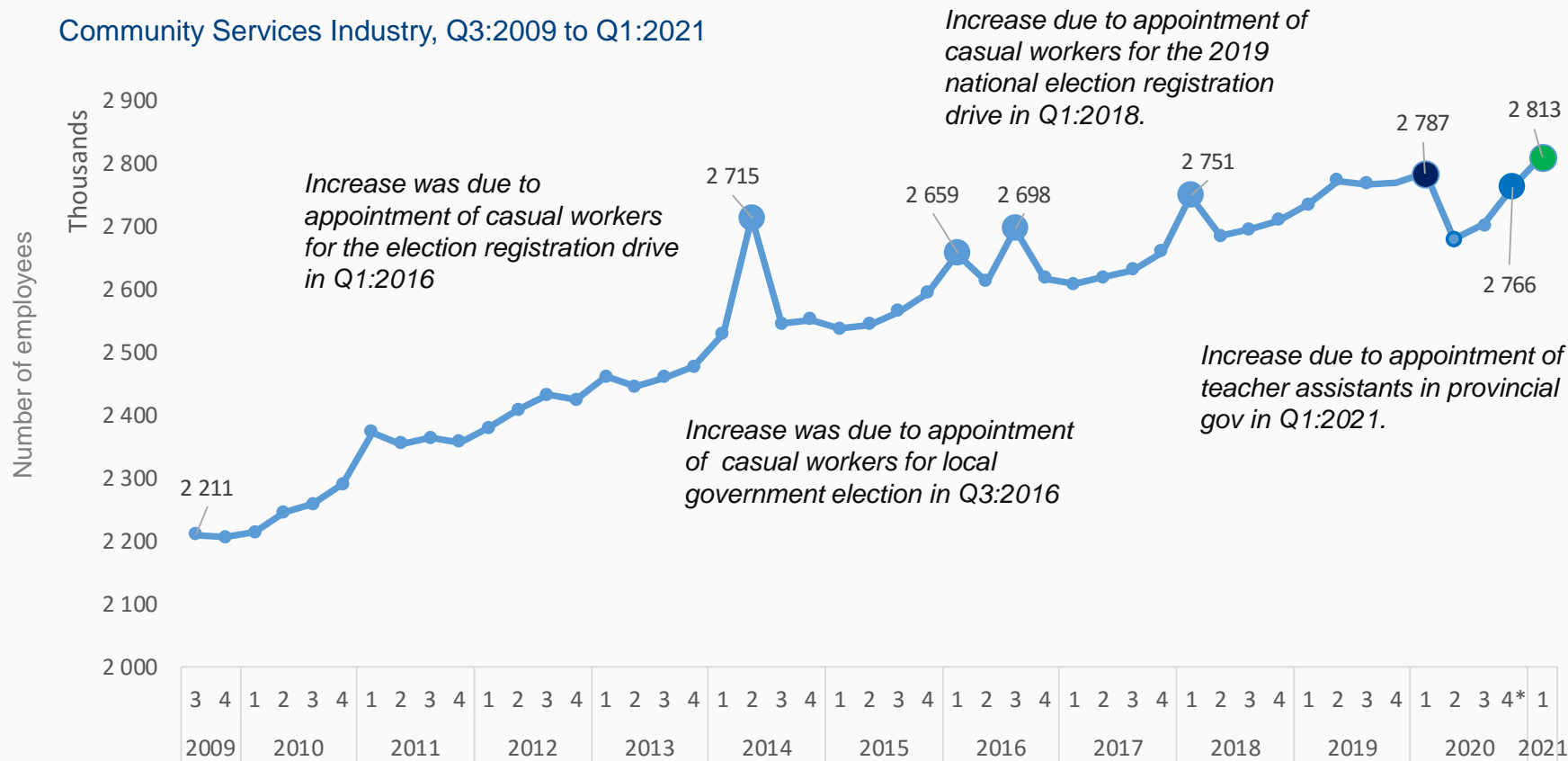
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The community services industry reported a **net gain** of **47 000** jobs in the first quarter compared to Q4:2020.

Year-on-year the industry **increased** by **26 000** jobs compared with same quarter of the previous year (i.e. Q1:2020).

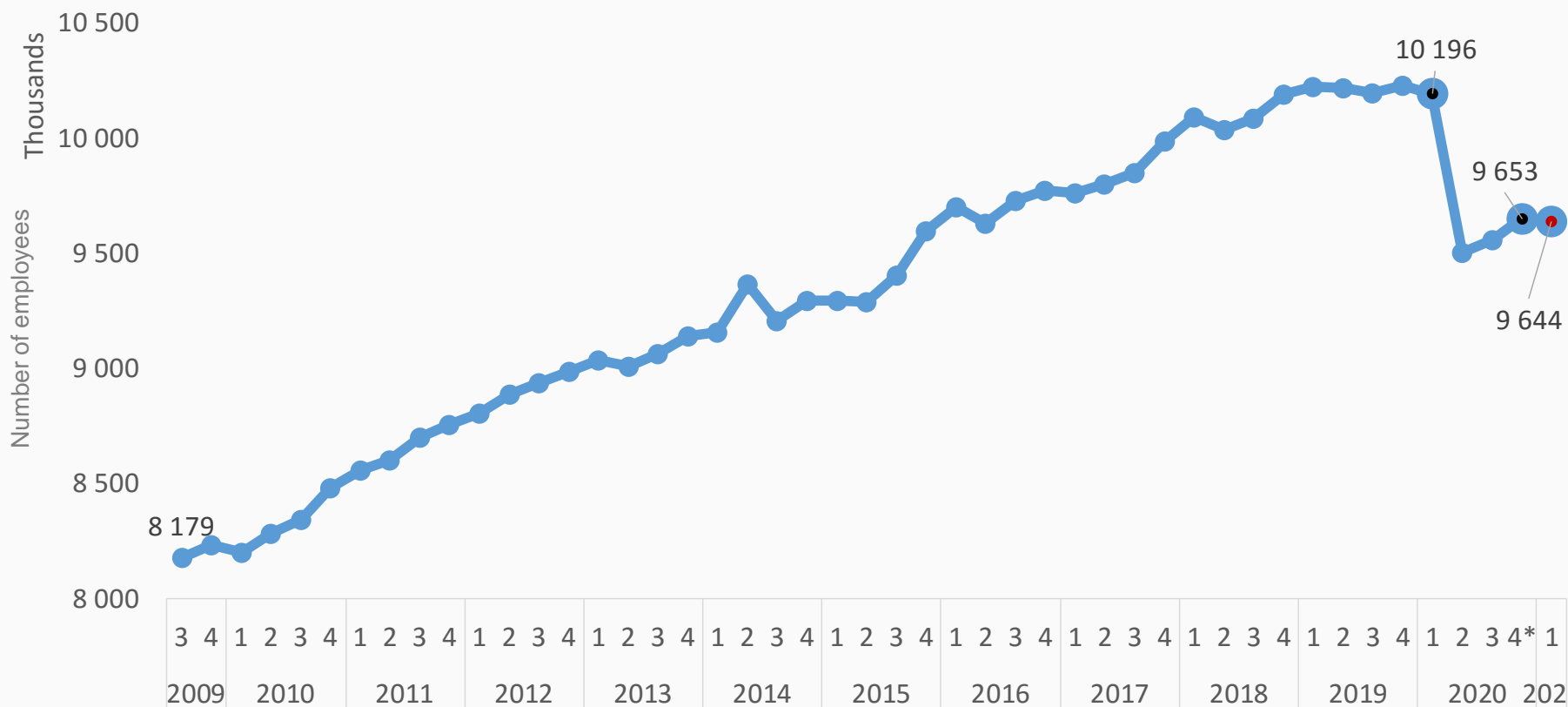
Community Services Industry, Q3:2009 to Q1:2021



\* Revised estimates

The total number of persons employed **decreased** from **9 653 000** in Q4:2020 to **9 644 000** in Q1:2021

Number of employees time-series from Q3:2009 to Q1:2021



\* Revised estimates



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# Gross Earnings decreased by **R26,8** billion to **R715,3** billion in Q1:2021

Basic salary/wages

R647,2 bn

-0,6%



**R4,1**  
billion

Bonus and overtime payments

R68,1 bn

-25,0%



**R22,7**  
billion

Gross earnings decreased by **R26,8** billion (or **-3,6%**) in the first quarter of 2021 compared to Q4:2020. Decreases in gross earnings were due to decreases in both basic salaries/wages and bonuses and overtime payments by **R4,1** billion and **R22,7** billion respectively.

**Quarter-on-quarter** changes in gross earnings

Quarter-on-quarter Industry	Gross earnings (R' 000)		
	Basic Salary/Wages	Bonus & Overtime Payments	Total Gross Earnings
Manufacturing	-1 568 000	-4 597 000	-6 165 000
Community services	413 000	-6 155 000	-5 742 000
Trade	721 000	-5 513 000	-4 792 000
Transport	-137 000	-3 442 000	-3 579 000
Business services	-3 063 000	-206 000	-3 269 000
Construction	-815 000	-1 635 000	-2 450 000
Electricity	-127 000	-1 190 000	-1 317 000
Mining*	508 000		508 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>-4 068 000</b>	<b>-22 738 000</b>	<b>-26 806 000</b>

\*Due to rounding, figures may not add up.

\*Data for mining industry is not available separately for bonuses & overtime payments

Year-on-year gross earnings decreased by **R14,1** billion (or **-1,9%** ). Decrease was due to basic salary payments made by **R19,6** billion; whilst bonus and overtime payments increased by **R5,5** billion.

**Year-on-year** changes in Gross Earnings

Year-on-year Industry	Gross earnings (R' 000)		
	Basic Salary/Wages	Bonus & Overtime Payments	Total Gross Earnings
Business services	-7 540 000	2 690 000	-4 850 000
Construction	-4 568 000	-4 000	-4 572 000
Trade	-4 932 000	1 240 000	-3 692 000
Transport	-3 532 000	21 000	-3 511 000
Manufacturing	-3 721 000	985 000	-2 736 000
Electricity	130 000	117 000	247 000
Mining*	1 960 000		1 960 000
Community services	2 591 000	495 000	3 086 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>-19 612 000</b>	<b>5 544 000</b>	<b>-14 068 000</b>

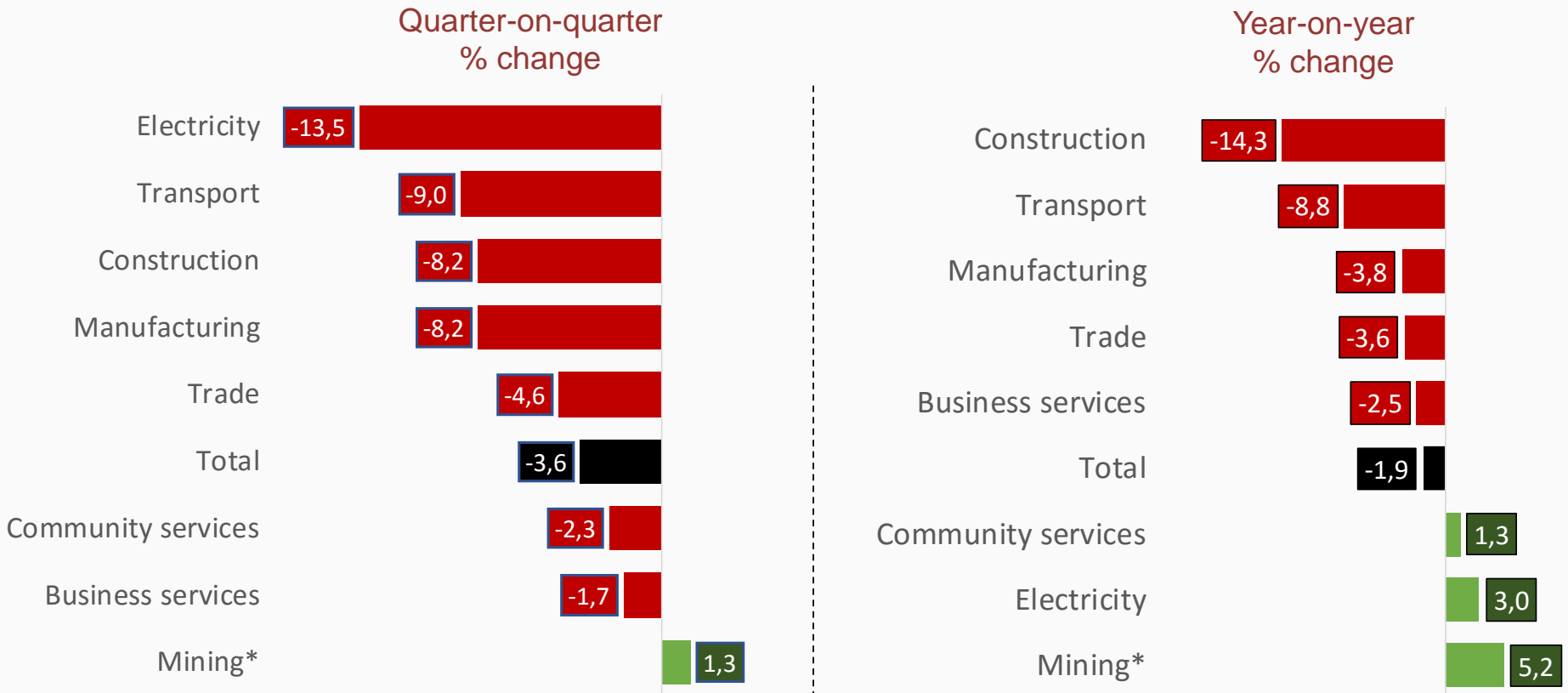
\*Due to rounding, figures may not add up.

\*Data for mining industry is not available separately for bonuses & overtime payments



There was a quarterly **decrease** of **3,6%** in gross earnings in the first quarter of 2021 compared to Q4:2020. Year-on-year **decrease** of **1,9%** in earnings was reported in the first quarter of 2021 compared with first quarter of the previous year.

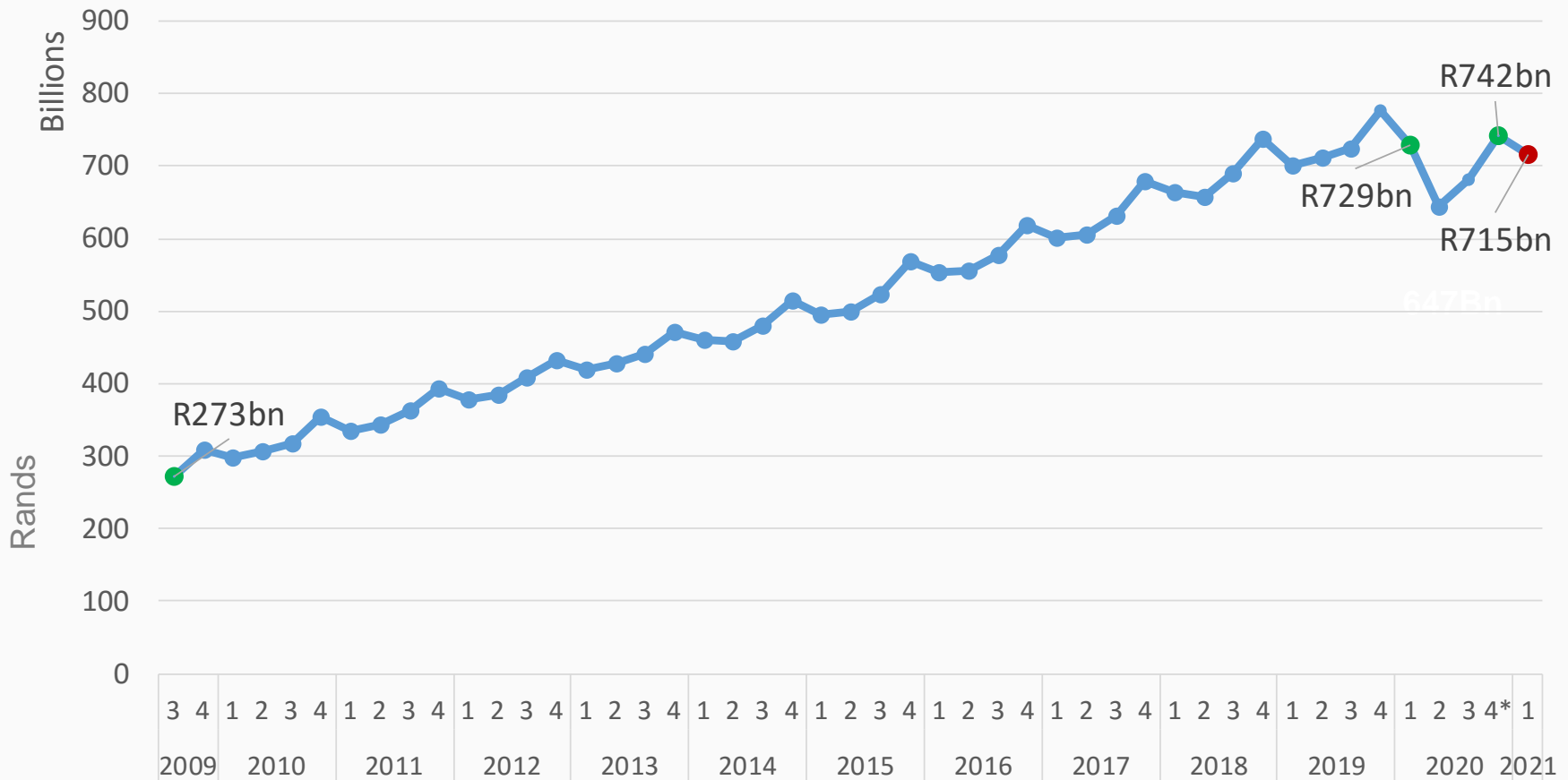
Quarterly and annual percentage change in gross earnings paid in the reference quarter.



\* Administrative data from DMR

# Time series of gross earnings paid from Q3:2009 to Q1:2021

Gross Earnings, Q3:2009 to Q1:2021



\* Revised estimates



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A stack of several South African coins, likely 20-cent pieces, is the central focus. The coins are stacked vertically, with the top one clearly visible. The background is a soft-focus collage of various South African banknotes in different colors (green, blue, orange, red).

# Average Monthly Earnings (AME) February 2021



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AME including bonuses and overtime payments **increased** in February 2021 to **R23 122**. This is a **0,0%** change from **R23 119** in November 2020. Year-on-year AME increased by **3,2%**.

Average monthly earnings (AME)

**R23 122**

Q/Q

**0,0%**

Y/Y

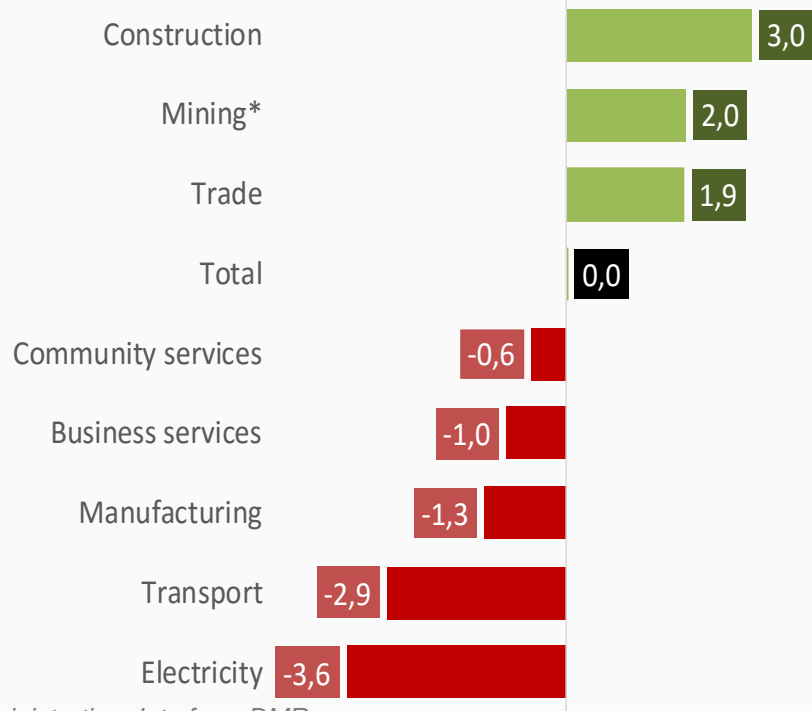
**3,2%**

Three out of eight industries reported **increases** in average monthly earnings in the first quarter compared with Q4:2020. All three industries increased above industry average of **0,0%** quarter-on-quarter.

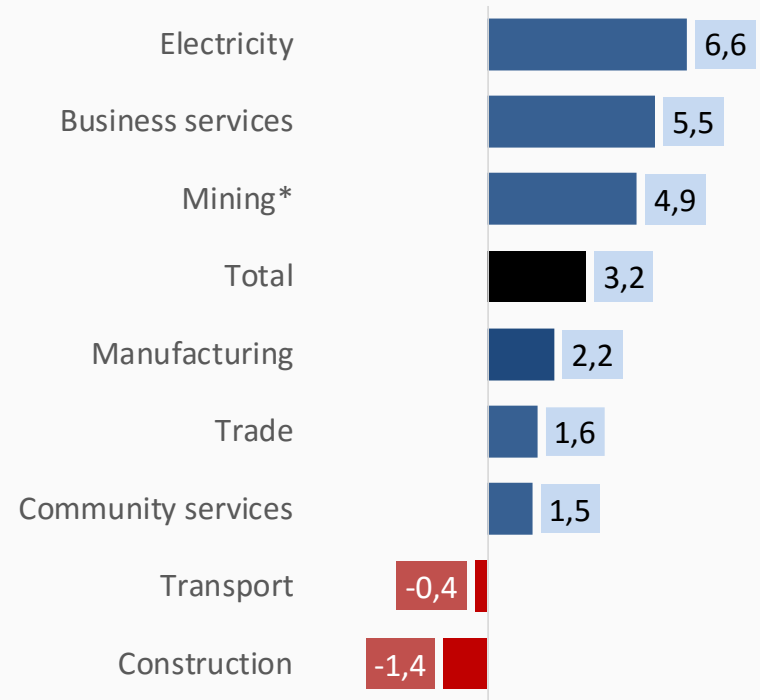
Year-on-year the Electricity industry reported an **increase** of **6,6%** in AME while the Construction industry **declined** by **-1,4%**.

Average monthly earnings (AME)

Quarter-on-quarter (%)



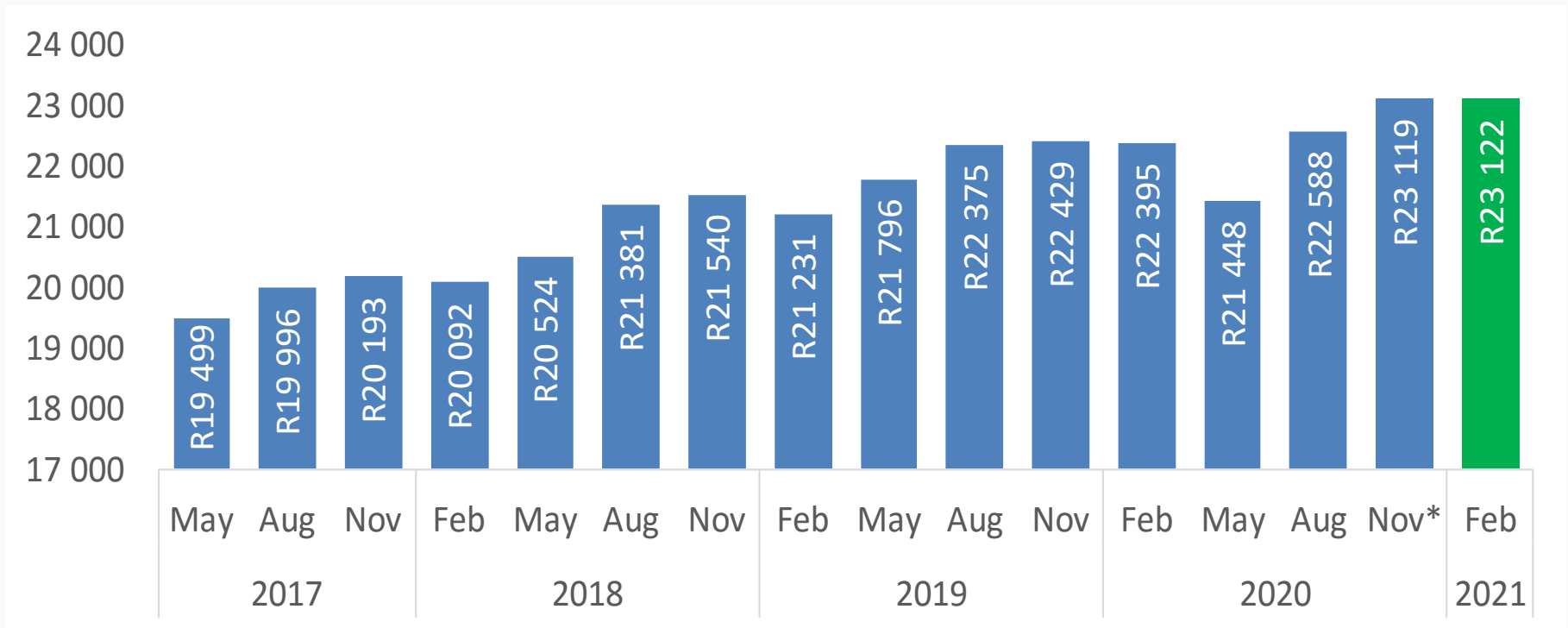
Year-on-year (%)



\* Administrative data from DMR

# Average monthly earnings were measured at **R23 122** in the formal non-agricultural sector of the economy in February 2021.

Average Monthly Earnings, Q2:2017 to Q1:2021



\* Revised estimates



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# Recap

QES  
Q1:2021

## Number of employees



Number of employees **decreased** by **9 000** Q/Q & **decreased** by **552 000** Y/Y

## Full time jobs



Full-time jobs **decreased** by **63 000** Q/Q & **decreased** by **599 000** Y/Y

## Part time jobs



Part-time jobs **increased** by **54 000** Q/Q and Y/Y **gained** **47 000**

## Gross earnings



Gross earnings **decreased** by **R26,8** billion Q/Q & **decreased** by **R14,1** billion Y/Y

## Bonus and overtime



Bonus and overtime payments **decreased** by **R22,7** billion Q/Q & **increased** by **R5,5** billion Y/Y

## Average monthly earnings



Average monthly earnings reported **0,0%** Q/Q & **increased** by **3,2%** Y/Y

# Ndzi Hela Kwala



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