



# **Quarterly employment statistics**

## **December 2005**

### **Part 1: Estimation of number of employees and their earnings**

**The Quarterly Employment Statistics (QES) survey replaces the Survey of Employment and Earnings (SEE), which was discontinued as from June 2005.**

**The SEE has covered both employing and non-employing value-added tax (VAT) registered businesses with an annual turnover of R300 000 or more. The QES survey covers employing enterprises registered for income tax (IT). This results in better coverage of small businesses that were not necessarily registered for VAT. The omission of non-employing businesses for the calculation of average monthly earnings is in accordance with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definitions and concepts.**

**Estimates for average monthly earnings were published for the first time in October 2005.**

**Information regarding employers, employees and the self-employed can be obtained from the six-monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS), conducted among 30 000 households countrywide.**

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## Key estimates

**Table A – Number of employees as at the end of September 2005 and December 2005 and gross earnings for the quarters ended September 2005 and December 2005**

Main estimates	Quarter ended December 2004	Quarter ended September 2005*	Quarter ended December 2005	Percentage change between the quarters ended September 2005 and December 2005	Percentage change between the quarters ended December 2004 and December 2005
Number of employees ('000)	7 097	7 165	7 255	1,3	2,2
Gross earnings (R'000)	159 739 000	156 320 000	170 732 000	9,2	6,9

\*Revised estimates

## Key findings for the quarter ended December 2005

**Employment in the formal non-agricultural business sector increased between the quarters ended September 2005 and December 2005.**

The December 2005 Quarterly Employment Statistics (QES) survey showed that the number of people employed in the formal non-agricultural business sector of the South African economy increased by about 90 000 persons or 1,3% from September 2005 (an estimated 7 165 000 employees) to December 2005 (an estimated 7 255 000 employees).

**Gross earnings paid to employees in the formal non-agricultural business sector increased between the quarters ended September 2005 and December 2005.**

According to the December 2005 Quarterly Employment Statistics (QES) survey gross earnings paid to employees during the quarter ended December 2005 (October 2005 to December 2005) amounted to R170 732 million. This represents a quarterly increase of R14 412 million or 9,2% compared with the quarter ended September 2005.

**Employment in the formal non-agricultural business sector increased between the quarters ended December 2004 and December 2005.**

According to the December 2005 Quarterly Employment Statistics (QES) survey an estimated 7 255 000 number of people were employed in the formal non-agricultural business sector of the South African economy. This reflected an annual increase of about 158 000 persons or 2,2% compared with December 2004 (an estimated 7 097 000 employees).

**Gross earnings paid to employees in the formal non-agricultural business sector increased between the quarters ended December 2004 and December 2005.**

The gross earnings paid to employees during the quarter ended December 2005 (October 2005 to December 2005) amounted to R170 732 million. This reflects an annual increase of R10 993 million or 6,9% compared with December 2004 (October 2004 to December 2004).

**Table B – Estimates of number of employees and gross earnings within 95% confidence limits**

Quarter	Number of employees			RSE	Gross earnings (R'000)			RSE
	Lower limit	Estimate	Upper limit		Lower limit	Estimate	Upper limit	
December 2004	6 876 482	7 098 849	7 321 217	1,6	157 520 401	159 739 199	161 957 999	0,7
September 2005*	6 988 789	7 164 809	7 340 828	1,3	152 781 994	156 320 471	159 858 948	1,2
December 2005	7 055 418	7 254 929	7 454 437	1,4	166 505 958	170 731 386	174 956 815	1,3

\*Revised estimates

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## Notes

<b>Forthcoming issues</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Expected release date</b>
	March 2006	27 June 2006
<b>Purpose of the survey</b>	The Quarterly Employment Statistics (QES) survey is a quarterly survey covering a sample of approximately 24 000 private and public enterprises in the formal non-agricultural business sector of the South African economy. The information received is used to estimate key economic statistics on employment and gross earnings, and is used as an input to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).	
<b>Response rates</b>	The percentage response for December 2005 was 89,4%.	

**Table 1 - Total (all formal non-agricultural industries)**

**1.1 Number of employees**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total number of employees</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	7 097 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	6 945 000	-152 000	-2,1	-	-
Jun	7 078 000	133 000	1,9	-	-
Sep*	7 165 000	87 000	1,2	-	-
Dec	7 255 000	90 000	1,3	158 000	2,2

\*Revised estimates

**1.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total gross earnings</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	159 739 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	146 446 000	-13 293 000	-8,3	-	-
Jun	151 650 000	5 204 000	3,6	-	-
Sep*	156 320 000	4 670 000	3,1	-	-
Dec	170 732 000	14 412 000	9,2	10 993 000	6,9

\*Revised estimates

**Table 2 – Mining and quarrying industry**

Data obtained from Department of Minerals and Energy (DME). See explanatory notes: paragraph 5.

**2.1 Number of employees**

Year and quarter	Total number of employees	Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters	Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters	Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year	Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year
2004 Dec	456 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	449 000	-7 000	-1,5	-	-
Jun	444 000	-5 000	-1,1	-	-
Sep	444 000	0	0,0	-	-
Dec	434 000	-10 000	-2,3	-22 000	-4,8

**2.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

Year and quarter	Total gross earnings	Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters	Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters	Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year	Percentage change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year
2004 Dec	8 830 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	8 435 000	-395 000	-4,5	-	-
Jun	8 450 000	15 000	0,2	-	-
Sep*	9 280 000	830 000	9,8	-	-
Dec	9 623 000	343 000	3,7	793 000	9,0

\*Revised estimates

**Table 3 – Manufacturing industry**

**3.1 Number of employees**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total number of employees</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	1 178 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	1 176 000	-2 000	-0,2	-	-
Jun	1 182 000	6 000	0,5	-	-
Sep*	1 189 000	7 000	0,6	-	-
Dec	1 199 000	10 000	0,8	21 000	1,8

\*Revised estimates

**3.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total gross earnings</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	26 212 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	23 044 000	-3 168 000	-12,1	-	-
Jun	22 940 000	-104 000	-0,5	-	-
Sep*	23 837 000	897 000	3,9	-	-
Dec	27 555 000	3 718 000	15,6	1 343 000	5,1

\*Revised estimates

**Table 4 – Electricity, gas and water supply industry**

**4.1 Number of employees**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total number of employees</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	42 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	44 000	2 000	4,8	-	-
Jun	44 000	0	0,0	-	-
Sep	45 000	1 000	2,3	-	-
Dec	45 000	0	0,0	3 000	7,1

**4.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total gross earnings</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	2 000 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	1 825 000	-175 000	-8,8	-	-
Jun	2 700 000	875 000	47,9	-	-
Sep*	1 944 000	-756 000	-28,0	-	-
Dec	2 372 000	428 000	22,0	372 000	18,6

\*Revised estimates



**Table 5 – Construction industry**

**5.1 Number of employees**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total number of employees</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	373 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	375 000	2 000	0,5	-	-
Jun	432 000	57 000	15,2	-	-
Sep*	439 000	7 000	1,6	-	-
Dec	450 000	11 000	2,5	77 000	20,6

\*Revised estimates

**5.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total gross earnings</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	5 844 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	4 664 000	-1 180 000	-20,2	-	-
Jun	5 619 000	955 000	20,5	-	-
Sep*	5 779 000	160 000	2,8	-	-
Dec	6 934 000	1 155 000	20,0	1 090 000	18,7

\*Revised estimates

**Table 6 – Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles and personal and household goods: hotels and restaurants industry**

**6.1 Number of employees**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total number of employees</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	1 388 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	1 347 000	-41 000	-3,0	-	-
Jun	1 373 000	26 000	1,9	-	-
Sep*	1 381 000	8 000	0,6	-	-
Dec	1 431 000	50 000	3,6	43 000	3,1

\*Revised estimates

**6.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total gross earnings</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	22 629 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	19 319 000	-3 310 000	-14,6	-	-
Jun	19 748 000	429 000	2,2	-	-
Sep*	20 768 000	1 020 000	5,2	-	-
Dec	23 482 000	2 714 000	13,1	853 000	3,8

\*Revised estimates

**Table 7 – Transport, storage and communication industry**

**7.1 Number of employees**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total number of employees</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	313 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	312 000	-1 000	-0,3	-	-
Jun	320 000	8 000	2,6	-	-
Sep*	322 000	2 000	0,6	-	-
Dec	318 000	-4 000	-1,2	5 000	1,6

\*Revised estimates

**7.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total gross earnings</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	10 196 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	9 461 000	-735 000	-7,2	-	-
Jun	10 233 000	772 000	8,2	-	-
Sep*	10 123 000	-110 000	-1,1	-	-
Dec	10 539 000	416 000	4,1	343 000	3,4

\*Revised estimates

**Table 8 – Financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services industry**

**8.1 Number of employees**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total number of employees</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	1 565 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	1 449 000	-116 000	-7,4	-	-
Jun	1 478 000	29 000	2,0	-	-
Sep*	1 524 000	46 000	3,1	-	-
Dec	1 554 000	30 000	2,0	-11 000	-0,7

\*Revised estimates

**8.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total gross earnings</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	35 483 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	33 935 000	-1 548 000	-4,4	-	-
Jun	34 331 000	396 000	1,2	-	-
Sep*	36 368 000	2 037 000	5,9	-	-
Dec	38 822 000	2 454 000	6,7	3 339 000	9,4

\*Revised estimates

**Table 9 – Community, social and personal services industry**

**9.1 Number of employees**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total number of employees</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in the number of employees between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	1 782 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	1 793 000	11 000	0,6	-	-
Jun	1 805 000	12 000	0,7	-	-
Sep*	1 821 000	16 000	0,9	-	-
Dec	1 824 000	3 000	0,2	42 000	2,4

\*Revised estimates

**9.2 Gross earnings (R'000)**

<b>Year and quarter</b>	<b>Total gross earnings</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current and the previous quarters</b>	<b>Change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>	<b>Percentage change in gross earnings between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year</b>
2004 Dec	48 545 000	-	-	-	-
2005 Mar	45 763 000	-2 782 000	-5,7	-	-
Jun	47 629 000	1 866 000	4,1	-	-
Sep*	48 221 000	592 000	1,2	-	-
Dec	51 405 000	3 184 000	6,6	2 860 000	5,9

\*Revised estimates

**Annual and quarterly changes in the level of employment at December 2005**

The *mining and quarrying industry* reported an annual decrease of 22 000 employees (or -4,8%) compared with December 2004 and a quarterly decrease of 10 000 employees (or -2,3%) at December 2005 compared with September 2005.

Data obtained from Department of Minerals and Energy (DME). **See explanatory notes: paragraph 5.**

The *manufacturing industry* reported an annual increase of 21 000 employees (or +1,8%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of 10 000 employees (or +0,8%) at December 2005 compared with the quarter ended September 2005, reported by this industry, may be due to increases in employment in the manufacture of footwear; canned, preserved, processed and dehydrated fruit and vegetables (except soup), including fruit juices, juice extracts and potato flour meal; lifting and handling equipment; structural metal products; and saw milling and planning of wood.

The *electricity, gas and water supply industry* reported an annual increase of 3 000 employees (or +7,1%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

No significant change in employment was reported in this industry between December 2005 and September 2005.

The *construction industry* reported an annual increase of 77 000 employees (or +20,6%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of 11 000 employees (or +2,5%) at December 2005 compared with September 2005, reported by this industry, may be due to increases in employment in construction of other building; construction of civil engineering structures; other building installation not elsewhere classified; and renting of construction or demolition equipment with operators.

The *wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants industry* reported an annual increase of 43 000 employees (or +3,1%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of 50 000 employees (or +3,6%) at December 2005 compared with September 2005, reported by this industry, may be due to increases in employment in the retail trade in reading matter and stationary; restaurants or tearooms with liquor license; restaurants or tearooms without liquor license; general wholesale trade; and retail trade in household furniture, appliances, articles and equipment.

The *transport, storage and communication industry* reported an annual increase of 5 000 employees (or +1,6%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly decrease of 4 000 employees (or -1,2%) at December 2005 compared with September 2005, reported by this industry, may be due to retrenchments in air transport; and contracts that ended in the other supporting transport activities.

The *financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services industry* reported an annual decrease of 11 000 employees (or -0,7%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of 30 000 employees (or +2,0%) at December 2005 compared with September 2005, reported by this industry, may be due to increases in employment in property owning and letting; other research not elsewhere classified; software consultancy and supply; and in other business activities not elsewhere classified.

The *community social and personal services industry* reported an annual increase of 42 000 employees (or +2,4%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of 3 000 employees (or +0,2%) at December 2005 compared with September 2005, reported by this industry, may be due to increases in temporary employment in the education by technikons; employment in the local authority activities as a means of job creation; and contract workers in the motion picture, radio, television and other entertainment activities.

**Gross earnings paid to employees for the quarter ended December 2005**

Gross earnings paid to employees in the *mining and quarrying industry* reflected an annual increase of R793 million (or +9,0%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

A quarterly increase of R343 million (or +3,7%) at December 2005 compared with September 2005 was reported in this industry.

Data obtained from Department of Minerals and Energy (DME). **See explanatory notes: paragraph 5.**

Gross earnings paid to employees in the *manufacturing industry* reflected an annual increase of R1 343 million (or +5,1%) for the quarter ended December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of R3 718 million (or +15,6%) at December 2005 compared with the quarter ended September 2005 may be due to annual and performance bonuses, salary increases and commissions paid during the fourth quarter of 2005.

Gross earnings paid to employees in the *electricity, gas and water supply industry* reflected an annual increase of R372 million (or +18,6%) for the quarter ended December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of R428 million (or +22,0%) at December 2005 compared with the quarter ended September 2005 may be due to performance bonuses that were paid to employees in this industry during November 2005.

Gross earnings paid to employees in the *construction industry* reflected an annual increase of R1 090 million (or +18,7%) for the quarter ended December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of R1 155 million (or +20,0%) at December 2005 compared with the quarter ended September 2005 may be due to annual and performance bonuses and more overtime payments paid to employees during the fourth quarter of 2005.

Gross earnings paid to employees in the *wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants industry* reflected an annual increase of R853 million (or +3,8%) for the quarter ended December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of R2 714 million (or +13,1%) at December 2005 compared with the quarter ended September 2005 may be due to annual bonuses and overtime payments paid to employees in this industry during the fourth quarter of 2005.

Gross earnings paid to employees in the *transport, storage and communication industry* reflected an annual increase of R343 million (or +3,4%) for the quarter ended December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of R416 million (or +4,1%) at December 2005 compared with the quarter ended September 2005 may be due to annual bonuses and overtime payments paid to employees during the fourth quarter of 2005.

Gross earnings paid to employees in the *financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services industry* reflected an annual increase of R3 339 million (or +9,4%) for the quarter ended December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of R2 454 million (or +6,7%) at December 2005 compared with the quarter ended September 2005 may be due to annual bonuses and overtime payments paid to employees during the fourth quarter of 2005.

Gross earnings paid to employees in the *community, social and personal services industry* reflected an annual increase of R2 860 million (or +5,9%) at December 2005 compared with December 2004.

The quarterly increase of R3 184 million (or +6,6%) at December 2005 compared with the quarter ended September 2005 may be due to salary increases, annual and performance bonuses paid and overtime payments paid to employees during the fourth quarter of 2005.

## Additional information

### Technical notes

#### 1) Confidence intervals

**The estimated population value will be contained within the interval between the lower and upper 95% confidence limits.**

The 95% confidence intervals of a population parameter (gross salaries and wages) is obtained as follows:

Lower limit

= lower 95% confidence limit of a population parameter

= estimate – 1,96\*Standard Error (estimate)

and

Upper limit

= upper 95% confidence limit of a population parameter

= estimate + 1,96\*Standard Error (estimate)

$$1.1) \text{ Standard Error (SE)} = \frac{\text{upper limit} - \text{lower limit}}{2 \times 1,96}$$

$$1.2) \text{ Relative Standard Error (RSE)} = \frac{\text{SE (estimate)}}{\text{estimate}} \times 100$$



**Table C: Estimates of number of employees by industry within 95% confidence limits**

Industry	Quarter ended September 2005*				Quarter ended December 2005			
	Lower limit	Estimate	Upper limit	RSE	Lower limit	Estimate	Upper limit	RSE
Mining and quarrying	444 199	444 199	444 199	**	433 881	433 881	433 881	**
Manufacturing	1 155 682	1 188 695	1 221 708	<b>1,4</b>	1 162 790	1 199 018	1 235 246	<b>1,5</b>
Electricity, gas and water supply	42 309	44 927	47 546	<b>3,0</b>	41 308	45 479	49 649	<b>4,7</b>
Construction	371 355	438 675	505 994	<b>7,8</b>	362 959	449 982	537 004	<b>9,9</b>
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants	1 315 657	1 381 041	1 446 425	<b>2,4</b>	1 357 620	1 430 550	1 503 480	<b>2,6</b>
Transport, storage and communication	294 368	321 973	349 577	<b>4,4</b>	290 798	318 220	345 642	<b>4,4</b>
Financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services	1 383 136	1 524 009	1 664 882	<b>4,7</b>	1 395 693	1 554 226	1 712 759	<b>5,2</b>
Community, social and personal services	1 788 049	1 821 290	1 854 531	<b>0,9</b>	1 789 555	1 823 573	1 857 590	<b>1,0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 988 789</b>	<b>7 164 809</b>	<b>7 340 828</b>	<b>1,3</b>	<b>7 055 418</b>	<b>7 254 929</b>	<b>7 454 437</b>	<b>1,4</b>

\*Revised estimates

\*\*Data obtained from the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy (see explanatory notes: paragraph 5)

**Table D: Estimates of gross earnings (R'000) by industry within 95% confidence limits**

Industry	Quarter ended September 2005*				Quarter ended December 2005			
	Lower limit	Estimate	Upper limit	RSE	Lower limit	Estimate	Upper limit	RSE
Mining and quarrying	9 280 445	9 280 445	9 280 445	**	9 623 299	9 623 299	9 623 299	**
Manufacturing	23 478 681	23 837 208	24 195 736	<b>0,8</b>	27 102 141	27 554 784	28 007 427	<b>0,8</b>
Electricity, gas and water supply	1 923 850	1 944 089	1 964 329	<b>0,5</b>	2 346 427	2 372 052	2 397 676	<b>0,6</b>
Construction	4 937 706	5 778 916	6 620 127	<b>7,4</b>	5 607 039	6 934 146	8 261 252	<b>9,8</b>
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants	19 813 058	20 768 128	21 723 197	<b>2,3</b>	22 177 968	23 481 644	24 785 320	<b>2,8</b>
Transport, storage and communication	9 715 873	10 123 476	10 531 079	<b>2,1</b>	9 997 176	10 538 639	11 080 102	<b>2,6</b>
Financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services	33 129 609	36 367 670	39 605 730	<b>4,5</b>	35 081 982	38 822 319	42 562 656	<b>4,9</b>
Community, social and personal services	47 612 865	48 220 538	48 828 211	<b>0,6</b>	50 759 668	51 404 505	52 049 341	<b>0,6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>152 781 994</b>	<b>156 320 471</b>	<b>159 858 948</b>	<b>1,2</b>	<b>166 505 958</b>	<b>170 731 386</b>	<b>174 956 815</b>	<b>1,3</b>

\*Revised estimates

\*\*Data obtained from the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy (see explanatory notes: paragraph 5)

## Explanatory notes

- Introduction** This publication contains results of the quarterly employment statistics survey of enterprises in the formal non-agricultural business sector of the South African economy. The survey is designed to obtain information regarding the number of persons employed in the business as at the end of the reference quarter; and gross earnings paid; bonuses paid; overtime payments; and severance, termination and redundancy payments paid to employees during the reference quarter.
- Scope of the survey**
1. This survey covers employment statistics of the following industries according to the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, January 1993:
    - mining and quarrying industry;
    - manufacturing industry;
    - electricity, gas and water supply industry;
    - construction industry;
    - wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants industry;
    - transport, storage and communication industry;
    - financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services industry; and
    - community, social and personal services industry.
- Classification**
2. The Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, January 1993, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC), with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are only presented at the SIC major division (one digit) level. **Each enterprise is classified to the industry which reflects the predominant activity of the enterprise.**
- Statistical unit**
3. The statistical unit for the collection of information is an enterprise. An enterprise is a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.
  4. This survey is conducted by mail each quarter from a sample of approximately 24 000 private businesses and public institutions.
  5. Stats SA receives information regarding the mining and quarrying industry from the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy. The information for the latest quarter is preliminary and will be revised by the Minerals Bureau as soon as they receive more information from the different mines.
- Reliability of estimates**
6. Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises, and errors made with the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors to a minimum by designing the questionnaire carefully, undertaking pilot studies, editing the data and efficient operating procedures. Fluctuations may occur in consecutive quarters as a result of seasonal and economic factors.
- Standard errors**
7. The estimates in this publication are based on a sample drawn from units in the surveyed population. As a result of the entire population not being surveyed, the published estimates are subject to sampling error. The most common way of quantifying such sampling error is to calculate the standard error for the published estimate or statistic.
- Revised figures**
8. Figures for the quarters published in this release are preliminary and may be revised in subsequent publications.

**Related publications**

9. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA:

*Bulletin of Statistics.*  
*Labour Force Survey.*  
*SA Statistics.*  
*Quarterly employment statistics (Estimation of average monthly earnings).*

**Pre-release policy**

10. Stats SA's pre-release policy may be inspected at its website, [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

**Abbreviations and symbols**

BSF	Business Sampling Frame
DME	Department of Minerals and Energy
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IBR	Integrated Business Register
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IT	Income Tax
LFS	Labour Force Survey
QES	Quarterly Employment Statistics
RSE	Relative Standard Error
SARS	South African Revenue Services
SE	Standard Error
SEE	Survey of Employment and Earnings
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
SNA	System of National Accounts
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
VAT	Value Added Tax
*	Revised figures

## Glossary

<b>Annual percentage change</b>	An annual percentage change is the change in the employment or the gross earnings of the given quarter compared with the employment or gross earnings of the corresponding quarter of the previous year.
<b>Casual employees</b>	Casual employees are employees who fall neither within the 'permanent employee' category nor within that of a 'temporary employees'. Such employees are typically daily or hourly. Employers can dispense with their services at a very short notice, usually not exceeding a period of one week. Casual employees are not entitled to benefits such as paid leave and medical aid contributions paid by employers.
<b>Enterprises</b>	Enterprises are legal units, or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.
<b>Formal sector</b>	The formal sector includes all businesses that are registered in any way.
<b>Full-time employees</b>	Full-time employees are those permanent, temporary and casual employees who normally work the agreed number of hours in their particular occupation or, if the agreed number of hours does not apply, who normally work 40 hours or more per week. This excludes the self-employed and working proprietors. (Refer to notes on number of employees below.)
<b>Gross earnings</b>	Gross earnings are payments for ordinary-time, standard or agreed hours during the reference period for all permanent, temporary, casual, managerial and executive employees before taxation and other deductions for the three months. This includes salaries and wages; commission if a retainer, wage or salary was also paid; employer's contribution to pension, provident, medical aid, sick pay and other funds; allowances; etc., but excludes earnings of sole proprietors or partners of unincorporated businesses; commission where a retainer, wage or salary was not paid; payments to subcontractors and consultants who are not part of the enterprise; performance and others bonuses; overtime payments; and severance, termination and redundancy payments. Gross earnings are the total sum of the earnings for the three months of the reference quarter (e.g. gross earnings of quarter ended September is the sum of total earnings of July, August and September).
<b>Industries</b>	Industries consist of groups of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kind of activity. The definition of industries is based on the System of National Accounts (SNA) and is in line with that in the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities, Fifth Edition, and Report No. 09-09-02 of January 1993 (SIC).
<b>Informal sector</b>	The informal sector consists of those businesses that are not registered in any way. They are generally small in nature, and are seldom run from business premises. Instead, they are generally run from homes, street pavements and other informal arrangements.
<b>Number of employees</b>	The number of employees is the number of people employed by the business, who received payment (in salaries; wages; commission, in addition to a retainer, salary or wage; piece rates; or payments in kind) for any part of the reference quarter. This excludes independent contractors and consultants; working proprietors; sole and joint owners; and employees paid on a commission basis where a retainer, salary or wage was not paid. Number of employees refers to the number of people employed at the end of the reference period (e.g. number of employees as at the quarter ended December refers to the number of employees as at the end of the month of December).

<b>Ordinary-time hours</b>	Ordinary-time hours are those hours actually worked during normal periods of work. These hours include hours of paid leave taken during the reference period (e.g. sick leave, annual leave) and hours of normal shift work. Ordinary-time hours paid for exclude overtime hours worked, hours relating to payment in advance and hours relating to back pay.
<b>Overtime hours paid for</b>	Overtime hours paid for are those hours worked in excess of ordinary-time hours, standard or agreed hours of work that were paid for in the reference period.
<b>Overtime payment</b>	Overtime payment refers to payment for hours worked and paid for in excess of ordinary-time hours, standard or agreed hours worked for the reference period. Penalty payments that relate to overtime are also included.
<b>Part-time employees</b>	Part-time employees are those permanent, temporary or casual employees who are not full-time employees as defined above or who normally work less than 40 hours per week. This excludes the self-employed at work or with an enterprise but temporarily not at work.
<b>Performance and other bonuses</b>	<p>Performance and other bonuses cover seasonal, end-of-year and one-time bonuses and additional payments supplementary to normal payments.</p> <p>Performance and other bonuses include profit sharing bonuses, merit bonuses, incentive bonuses, total amounts of payments that were paid during the reference period but relate to other pay periods, e.g. thirteenth cheques. Performance and other bonuses exclude reimbursements for expenses incurred whilst conducting employer's business.</p>
<b>Permanent employees</b>	Permanent employees are employees appointed on an open-ended contract with no stipulated termination date, and who are entitled to benefits such as paid leave and medical aid contributions paid by employers. This excludes the self-employed at work.
<b>Quarterly percentage change</b>	A quarterly percentage change is the change in the employment or the gross earnings of the given quarter compared with the employment or the gross earnings of the previous quarter expressed as a percentage.
<b>Reference quarter</b>	Reference quarter/period for this survey refers to the three months up to the end of March, June, September or December.
<b>Severance, termination and redundancy payments</b>	Severance, termination and redundancy payments include payments of accumulated leave made to employees who finished work during the reference quarter as well as payments intended to compensate for loss of employment.
<b>Temporary employees</b>	Temporary employees are employees appointed on a short-term contract basis for periods normally not exceeding one year. Such contract would typically stipulate a termination date, but could be renewed by mutual agreement between the employer and the employee. This excludes the self-employed with an enterprise but temporarily not at work.

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