

## EMPLOYEES UNDER LABOUR CONTRACT AND AVERAGE WAGES AND SALARIES, FIRST QUARTER OF 2009<sup>1</sup>

Preliminary data for first quarter of 2009 indicated that the number of employees under labour contract at the end of March 2009 decreased by 1.0% as compared to the end of December 2008 and reached to 2.41 millions. The highest decrease was reported in economic activities “Other service activities” – 12.6%, ‘Financial and insurance activities” – 8.7% and “Accommodation and food service activities” – 3.4%. An increase in number of employees under labour contract is registered in: “Agriculture, forestry and fishing”<sup>2</sup> - 10.7%, “Administrative and support service activities” - 8.3% and “Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities” - 6.5%.

The relative share of employees in the structure of employees by economic activities is biggest in “Manufacturing” - 23.8% and “Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles” – 18.2%, where the number of employees at the end of March 2009 compared to December 2008 decreased by 3.3 and 2.0% respectively.

At the end of March 2009 as compared to March 2008 the number of employees under labour contract was down by 1.5%. The highest decrease was observed in economic activities “Other service activities” – 9.3%, “Manufacturing” – 7.4% and “Education” – 5.7% (*Table 1*).

The average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract in March 2009 increased in nominal terms with 13 levs compared to December 2008.

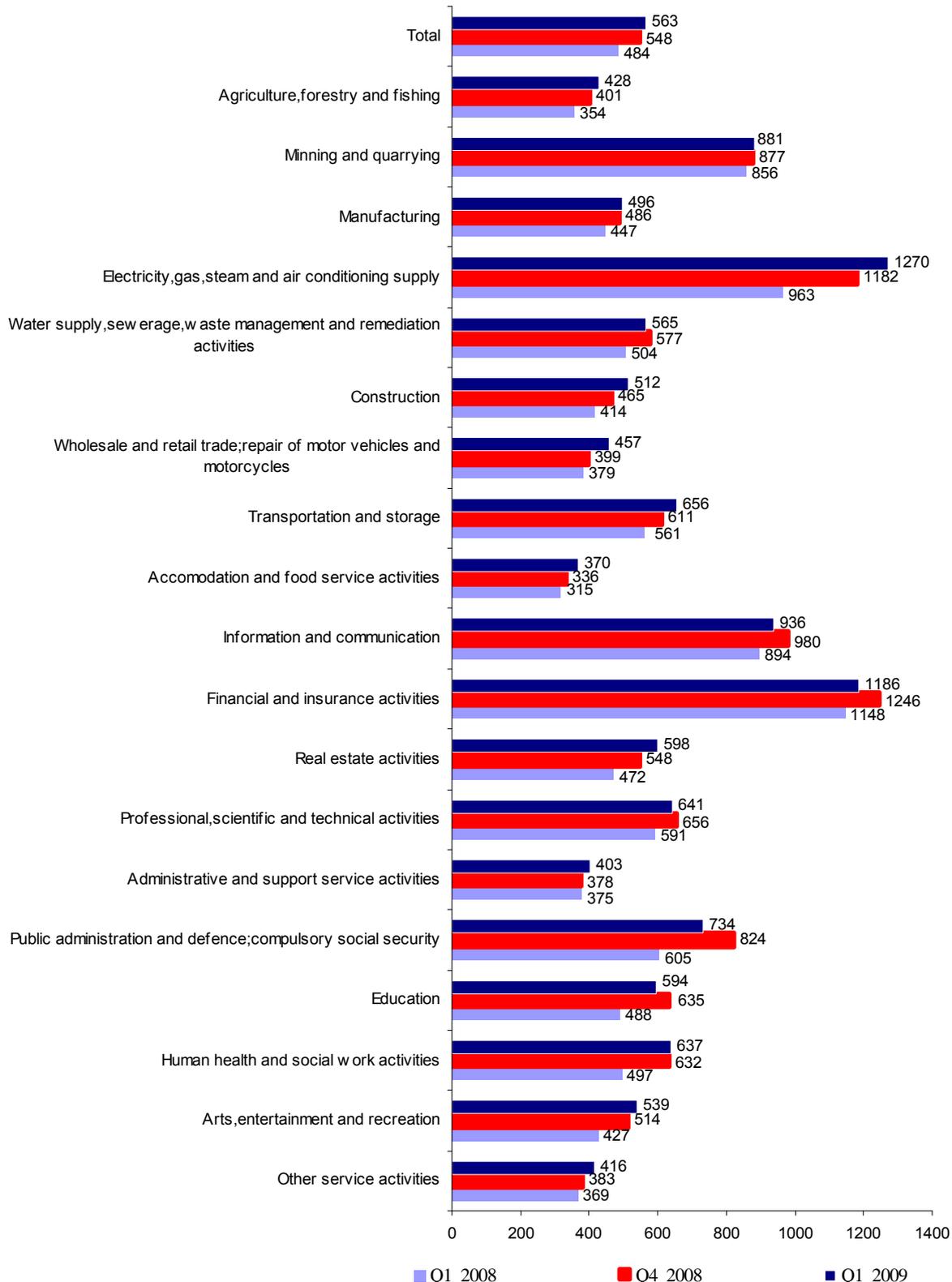


<sup>1</sup> Since first quarter of 2009 the data are published according to the new classification of economic activities NACE rev. 2. Reclassified data for 2008 are available on the NSI official web page ([http://www.nsi.bg/Labour\\_e/Labour\\_e.htm](http://www.nsi.bg/Labour_e/Labour_e.htm))

<sup>2</sup> The employees’ increase in “Agriculture, forestry and fishing” is due to changes in economic activity of some enterprises in 2009.

In first quarter of 2009 in comparison with the fourth quarter of 2008 the average monthly wages and salaries grew by 2.7% getting 563 levs. The highest increase in wages and salaries was reported in: “Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles” - 14.5%, “Construction” - 10.1%, “Accommodation and food service activities” - 10.1% and “Real estate activities” - 9.1%, while a drop was observed in “Public administration and defence compulsory social security” - 10.9% and “Education” – 6.5%.

### Average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities (BGN)



Compared to the first quarter of 2008 the average monthly wages and salaries in first quarter of 2009 rose by 16.3%. The highest growth rates were recorded in economic activities: “Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply” - 31.9% and “Human health and social work activities” - 28.2%, while the lowest were in “Financial and insurance activities” - 3.3% and “Mining and quarrying” - 2.9%.

The economic activities with the highest wages and salaries in first quarter of 2009 were:

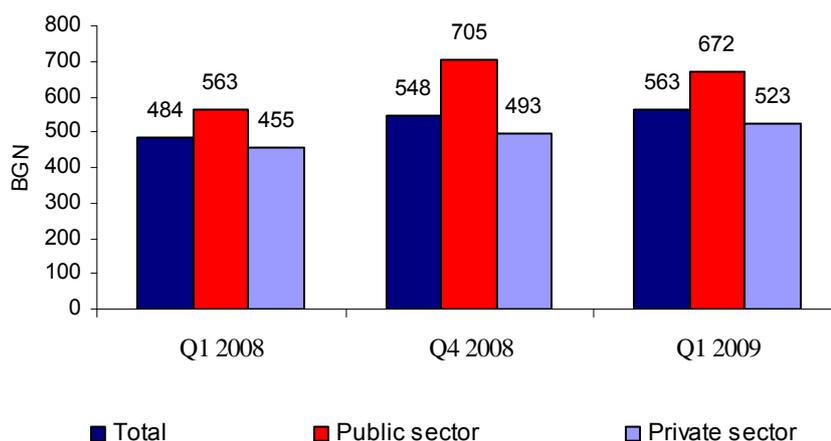
- “Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply” – 1 270 levs
- “Financial and insurance activities” - 1 186 levs
- „ Information and communication” – 936 levs

The lowest wages and salaries in quarter one of 2009 were recorded in:

- „ Accommodation and food service activities” - 370 levs
- „ Administrative and support service activities” - 403 levs
- „ Other service activities” - 416 levs.

Compared with a year earlier the average monthly wages and salaries in public sector grew by 19.4%, while in private sector by 14.9%.

**Average monthly wages and salaries**



### **Methodological notes**

The source of information is the Quarterly Survey on employees, hours worked, wages and salaries, and other expenditures paid by the employer. It is sample survey which main purpose is to make a study of the current state and dynamics of some main aspects of labour market. The sample used for the survey is a stratified random sample without replacement. Stratification criteria used include: economic activity (NACE rev.2), size of the enterprise (according to the number of employees) and regional breakdown (28 districts, NUTS3).

More methodological information on the quarterly survey and data could be found on NSI official web page – [http://www.nsi.bg/Labour\\_e/Labour\\_e.htm](http://www.nsi.bg/Labour_e/Labour_e.htm).

**Table 1**

Employees under labour contract at the end of the month by economic activities in 2009\*

Economic activity	January	February	(Numbers) March
<b>Total</b>	<b>2437868</b>	<b>2428217</b>	<b>2412868</b>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	57155	57305	61957
Mining and quarrying	27645	27562	27339
Manufacturing	591958	584101	573207
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	32955	32974	33001
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	35715	36093	36019
Construction	204696	201516	198936
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	443782	442432	438983
Transportation and storage	139718	139510	138009
Accommodation and food service activities	104573	104421	102728
Information and communication	57055	56660	56253
Financial and insurance activities	50556	50246	49905
Real estate activities	19171	19057	18949
Professional, scientific and technical activities	72823	72603	72118
Administrative and support service activities	106539	107270	108370
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	129533	131036	131574
Education	176618	176838	176947
Human health and social work activities	129517	130390	130805
Arts, entertainment and recreation	29456	29691	29562
Other service activities	28403	28512	28206

\*Preliminary data

**Table 2**

Average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities in 2009\*

Economic activity	January	February	(BGN) March
<b>Total</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>579</b>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	416	423	443
Mining and quarrying	820	810	1013
Manufacturing	493	491	504
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1172	1184	1453
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	542	559	594
Construction	496	509	531
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	460	452	460
Transportation and storage	680	638	650
Accommodation and food service activities	370	367	374
Information and communication	969	885	953
Financial and insurance activities	1221	1143	1194
Real estate activities	592	598	603
Professional, scientific and technical activities	622	651	650
Administrative and support service activities	410	391	408
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	689	703	808
Education	587	592	602
Human health and social work activities	619	634	657
Arts, entertainment and recreation	540	528	549
Other service activities	409	414	424

\*Preliminary data