

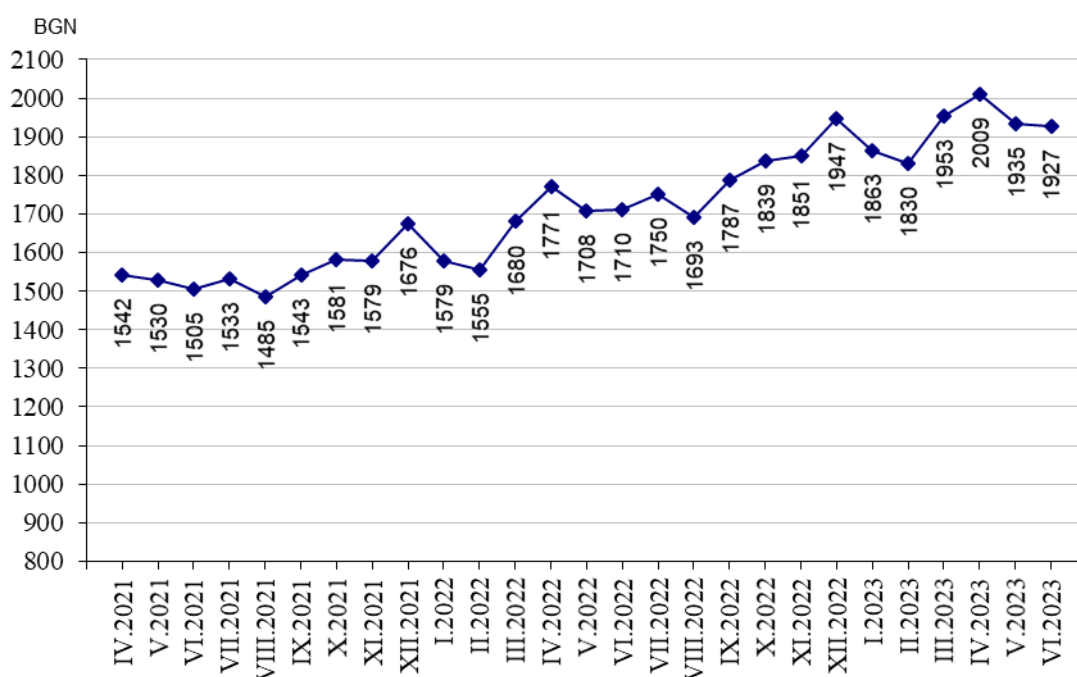
EMPLOYEES UNDER LABOUR CONTRACT AND GROSS AVERAGE WAGES AND SALARIES, SECOND QUARTER OF 2023

The **number of employees** under labour contract at the end of June 2023 increased by 25.2 thousand, or 1.1%, as compared to the end of March 2023 and reached 2.33 million according to the preliminary data of the National Statistical Institute (NSI). The highest increase was observed in economic activities: ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - by 29.1%, ‘Agriculture, forestry and fishing’ - by 3.8% and ‘Real estate activities’ - by 1.8%. The highest decrease of the number of employees by 1.6% was recorded in economic activity ‘Education’.

In the structure of employees by economic activities, the biggest relative share of employees was in ‘Manufacturing’ - 19.9% and ‘Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles’ - 16.6%.

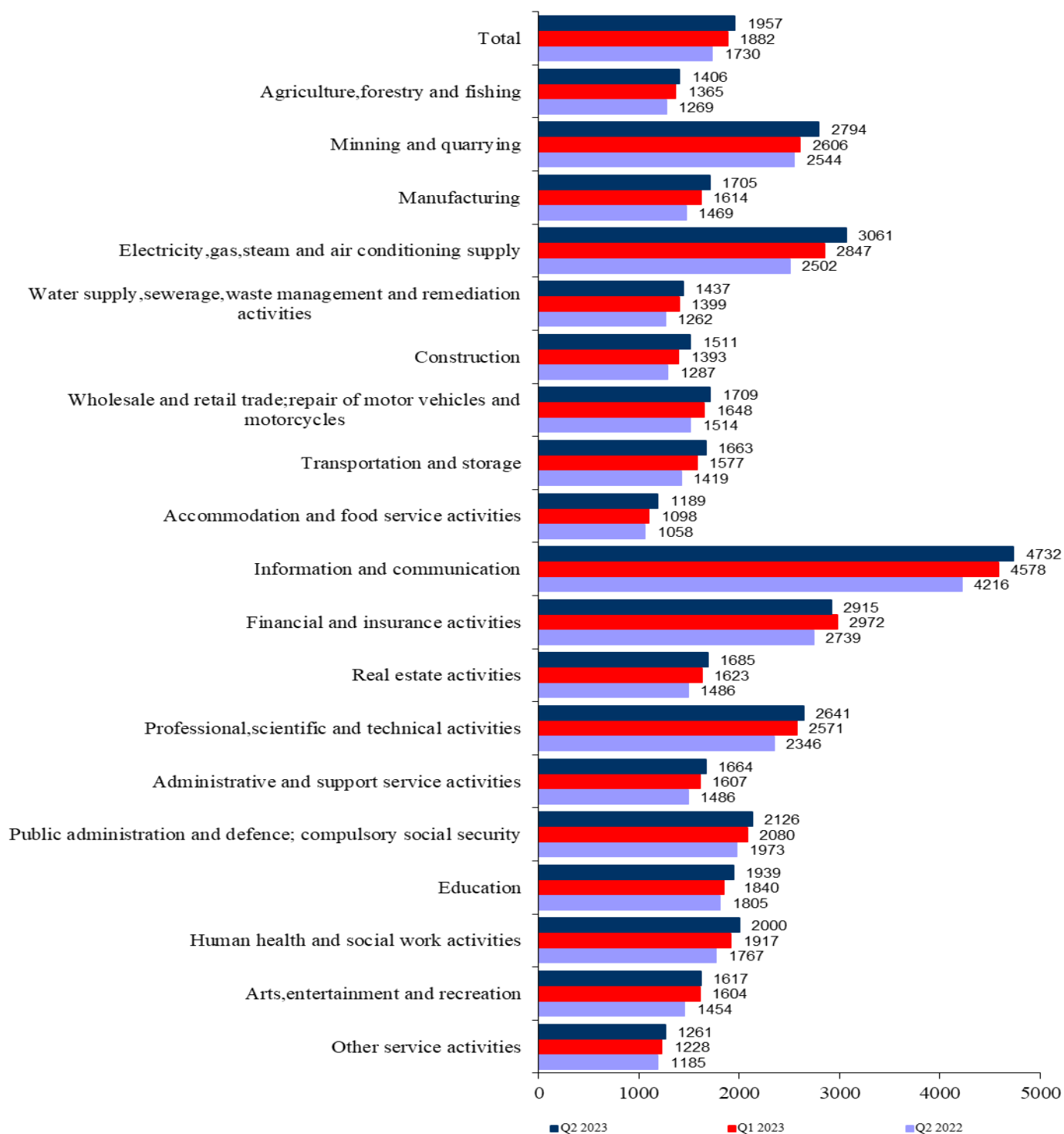
At the end of June 2023, as compared to June 2022, the number of employees under labour contract increased by 24.2 thousand, or 1.0%. The highest increase in absolute figures was observed in economic activities ‘Human health and social work activities’ - 16.5 thousand, ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - 6.5 thousand and ‘Information and communication’ - 5.2 thousand, and the highest decrease was in ‘Manufacturing’ - 7.1 thousand and in ‘Administrative and support service activities’ - 6.2 thousand. In percentages, the highest increase at the end of June 2023 as compared to June 2022 was in economic activity ‘Human health and social work activities’ - by 10.0%, ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - by 5.8% and in ‘Information and communication’ - by 4.5%, as the highest decrease was reported in ‘Administrative and support service activities’ - by 5.1% and in ‘Manufacturing’ - by 1.5%.

The **average gross monthly wages and salaries** of the employees under labour contract in April was 2 009 BGN, in May - 1 935 BGN and in June 2023 - 1 927 BGN.



In the second quarter of 2023, in comparison with the first quarter of 2023, the average monthly wages and salaries increased by 4.0% and reached 1 957 BGN. The highest increase in wages and salaries were reported in ‘Construction’ - by 8.5%, ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - by 8.3 and in ‘Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’ - by 7.5%.

Figure 2. Gross average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities (BGN)



Compared to the second quarter of 2022, the average monthly wages and salaries in the second quarter of 2023 rose by 13.1%. The highest growth rates were recorded in economic activities: ‘Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’ - by 22.3%, in ‘Construction’- by 17.4% and in ‘Transportation and storage’ - by 17.2%.

The economic activities with the highest wages and salaries in the second quarter of 2023 were:

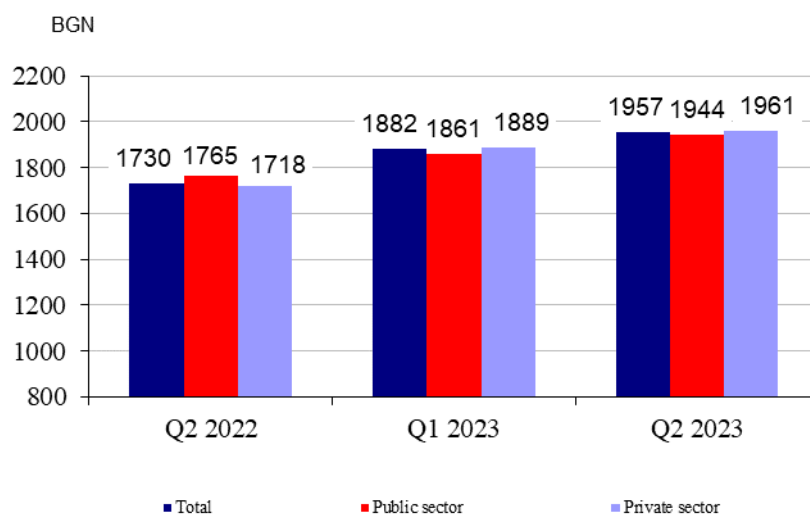
- ‘Information and communication’ - 4 732 BGN;
- ‘Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’ - 3 061 BGN;
- ‘Financial and insurance activities’ - 2 915 BGN.

The lowest wages and salaries were recorded in:

- ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - 1 189 BGN;
- ‘Other service activities’ - 1 261 BGN;
- ‘Agriculture, forestry and fishing’ - 1 406 BGN.

In comparison with a year earlier, the average monthly wages and salaries in the public sector grew by 10.1%, while in the private sector - by 14.1%.

Figure 3. Gross average monthly wages and salaries by kind of ownership





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 a sample survey that 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 can be found on the NSI official website:

http://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/metadata/Labour_Method_1.1_EN.pdf;

<http://www.nsi.bg/en/content/6398/short-term-statistics>.



Annex

Table 1

Employees under labour contract at the end of the month by economic activities in 2023¹

(Number)

Economic activities	2023		
	April	May	June
Total	2305386	2314800	2332558
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	68510	71664	70848
Mining and quarrying	18955	18848	18827
Manufacturing	467417	465198	463513
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	29011	28872	28911
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	36571	36649	36693
Construction	125623	126168	126410
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	383743	383781	387215
Transportation and storage	142148	142233	142474
Accommodation and food service activities	96197	104898	120251
Information and communication	121243	121081	121168
Financial and insurance activities	55826	55812	56005
Real estate activities	21581	21755	21897
Professional, scientific and technical activities	84578	83952	83818
Administrative and support service activities	116292	116062	116786
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	113639	113673	113869
Education	170934	170320	168515
Human health and social work activities	180774	181598	182764
Arts, entertainment and recreation	35925	35894	36416
Other service activities	36419	36342	36178

¹ Preliminary data.



Table 2

Gross average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities in 2023¹

(BGN)

Economic activities	2023		
	April	May	June
Total	2009	1935	1927
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1371	1377	1467
Mining and quarrying	3153	2582	2647
Manufacturing	1712	1696	1709
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	3109	2981	3093
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1453	1442	1417
Construction	1507	1509	1517
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1735	1701	1690
Transportation and storage	1678	1663	1648
Accommodation and food service activities	1184	1197	1185
Information and communication	4924	4567	4706
Financial and insurance activities	2985	2885	2876
Real estate activities	1675	1669	1710
Professional, scientific and technical activities	2724	2602	2596
Administrative and support service activities	1721	1651	1619
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2518	1929	1931
Education	1923	2024	1870
Human health and social work activities	2026	1990	1984
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1679	1613	1561
Other service activities	1272	1260	1251

¹ Preliminary data.