EMPLOYEES UNDER LABOUR CONTRACT AND GROSS AVERAGE WAGES AND SALARIES, THIRD QUARTER OF 2019
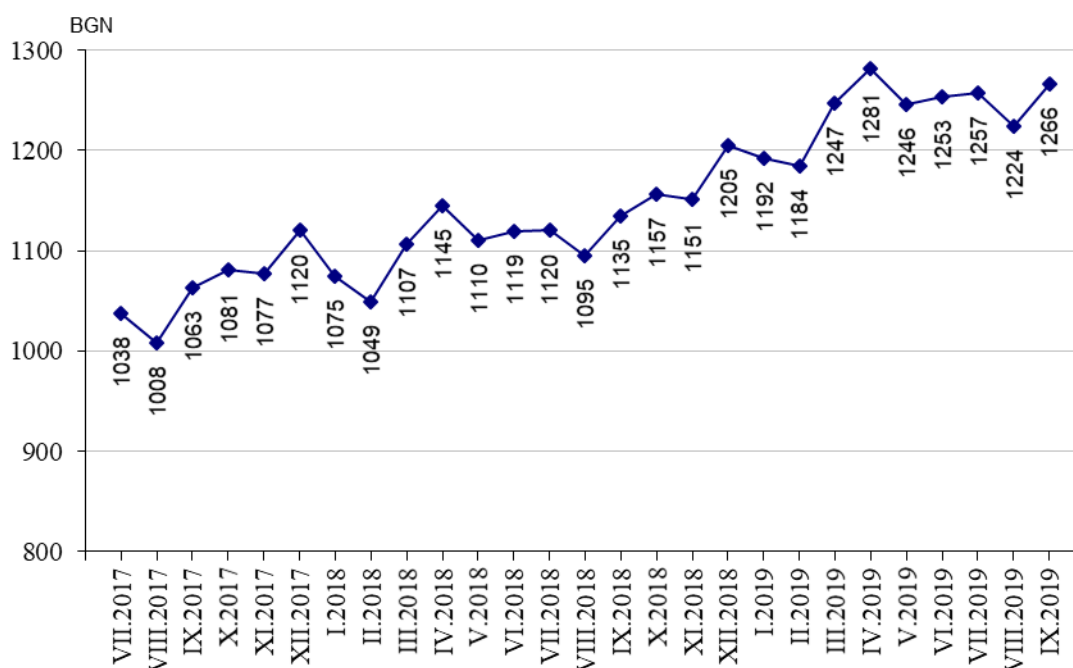
According to the preliminary data of the National Statistical Institute (NSI) at the end of September 2019 the **number of employees** under labour contract decreased by 39.1 thousand or 1.7% as compared to the end of June 2019 and reached 2.31 million. The highest decrease was observed in economic activities: 'Accommodation and food service activities' - 15.7%, 'Real estate activities' - 4.1% and in 'Administrative and support service activities' - by 2.2%. The highest increase of the number of employees was recorded in 'Education' - by 1.3%.

In the structure of employees by economic activities the biggest relative share of employees was in 'Manufacturing' - 21.4% and 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' - 17.1%.

At the end of September 2019 as compared to September 2018 the number of employees under labour contract decreased by 5.2 thousand or 0.2%. The highest decrease in absolute figures was observed in economic activities 'Manufacturing' - 12.9 thousand, 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' - 2.4 thousand, and 'Other service activities' - 1.9 thousand and the highest increase - in 'Information and communication'- 6.6 thousand. In percentages the highest decrease at the end of September 2019 as compared to September 2018 was in economic activity 'Other service activities' - by 5.1% and 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' - by 3.2%, as the highest increase was reported in 'Information and communication' - by 7.5%.

The **average monthly wages and salaries** of the employees under labour contract in July was 1 257 BGN, in August - 1 224 BGN and in September 2019 - 1 266 BGN.
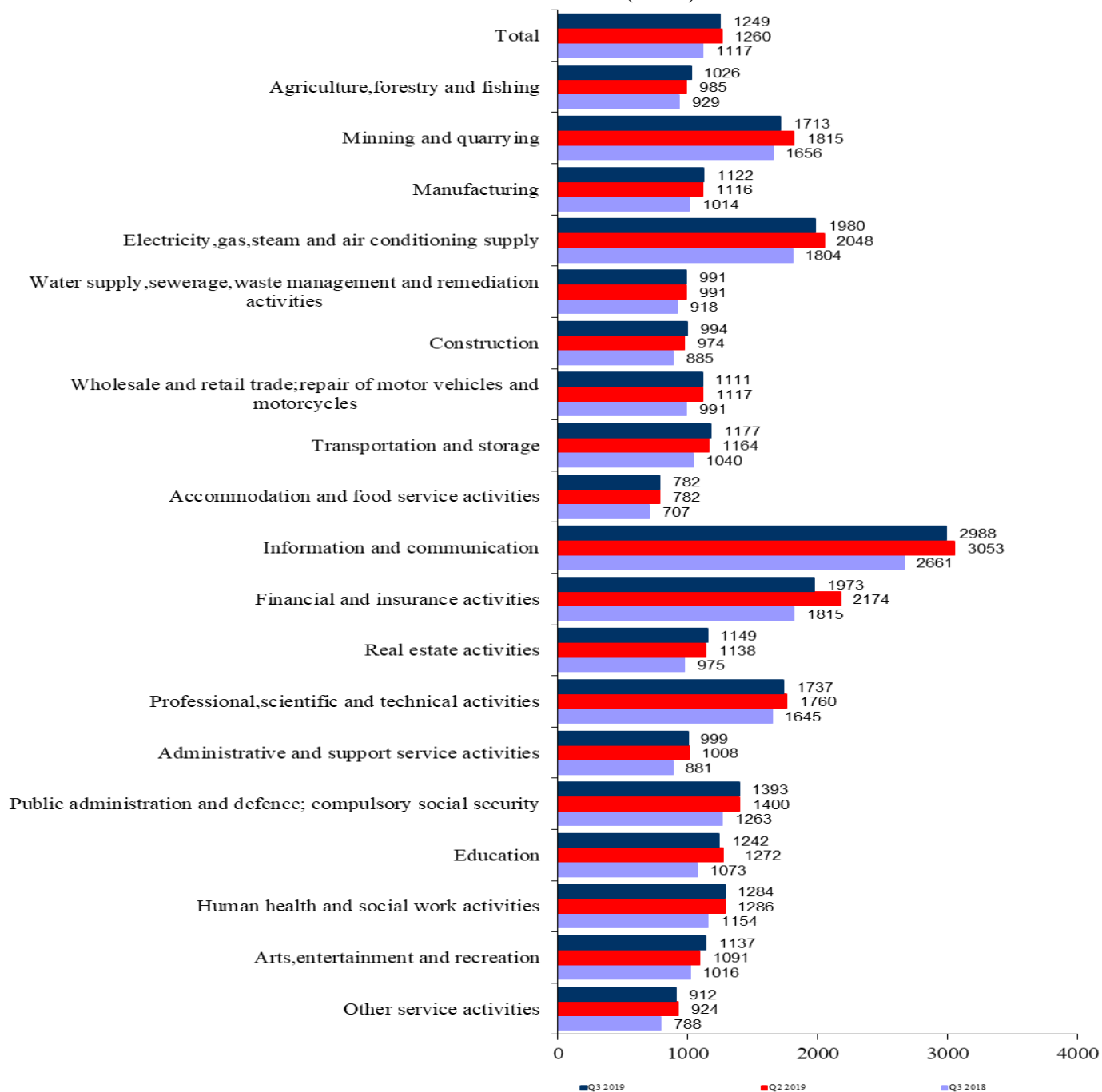
Figure 1. Gross average wages and salaries by months

In the third quarter of 2019 in comparison with the second quarter of 2019 the average monthly wages and salaries decreased by 0.9% getting 1 249 BGN. The highest decrease in wages and salaries was reported in 'Financial and insurance activities' - by 9.2%, and in 'Mining and quarrying'- by 5.6% and 'Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply' - by 3.3%.

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

Economic activity	Q3 2019	Q2 2019	Q3 2018
Total	1249	1260	1117
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1026	985	929
Minning and quarrying	1713	1815	1656
Manufacturing	1122	1116	1014
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1980	2048	1804
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	991	991	918
Construction	994	974	885
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1111	1117	991
Transportation and storage	1177	1164	1040
Accommodation and food service activities	782	782	707
Information and communication	2988	3053	2661
Financial and insurance activities	1973	2174	1815
Real estate activities	1149	1138	975
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1737	1760	1645
Administrative and support service activities	999	1008	881
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1393	1400	1263
Education	1242	1272	1073
Human health and social work activities	1284	1286	1154
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1137	1091	1016
Other service activities	912	924	788

Compared to the third quarter of 2018 the average monthly wages and salaries in the third quarter of 2019 rose by 11.8%. The highest growth rates were recorded in economic activities: 'Real estate activities' - 17.8%, 'Education' - 15.8% and 'Other service activities' - 15.7%.

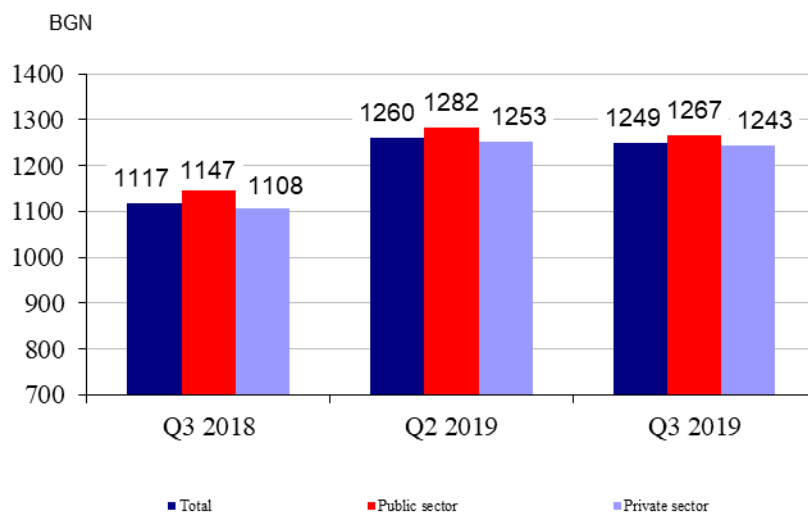The economic activities with the highest wages and salaries in the third quarter of 2019 were:

- 'Information and communication' - 2 988 BGN
- 'Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply' - 1 980 BGN
- 'Financial and insurance activities' - 1 973 BGN.

The lowest wages and salaries were recorded in:

- 'Accommodation and food service activities' - 782 BGN
- 'Other service activities' - 912 BGN
- 'Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities' - 991 BGN.

In comparison with a year earlier the average monthly wages and salaries in public sector grew by 10.5% while in private sector - by 12.2%.

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 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 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 2019[1]

(Number)

Economic activities	2019		
	July	August	September
Total	**2358490**	**2340854**	**2312298**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	73873	73297	72213
Mining and quarrying	20924	21003	20969
Manufacturing	500768	496328	494466
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	29940	29920	29844
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	37184	36992	36933
Construction	131179	131630	131124
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	401927	399694	394495
Transportation and storage	143047	142814	142029
Accommodation and food service activities	145137	138517	117921
Information and communication	95237	95257	95359
Financial and insurance activities	58378	58254	57364
Real estate activities	23223	22924	21977
Professional, scientific and technical activities	81173	80830	79868
Administrative and support service activities	122746	121806	119791
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	114476	114498	114814
Education	159708	158651	165846
Human health and social work activities	146537	146025	146413
Arts, entertainment and recreation	36348	36081	35231
Other service activities	36685	36333	35641

[1] Preliminary data.

Table 2

Gross average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities in 2019[1]

(BGN)

Economic activities	2019		
	July	August	September
Total	**1257**	**1224**	**1266**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1018	992	1066
Mining and quarrying	1746	1633	1760
Manufacturing	1117	1107	1140
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1926	1930	2083
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	980	986	1008
Construction	975	1004	1004
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1109	1104	1119
Transportation and storage	1175	1168	1187
Accommodation and food service activities	774	766	808
Information and communication	3010	2921	3033
Financial and insurance activities	2024	1939	1954
Real estate activities	1144	1138	1165
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1751	1714	1744
Administrative and support service activities	1013	978	1005
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1618	1279	1284
Education	1215	1185	1323
Human health and social work activities	1281	1274	1297
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1192	1089	1130
Other service activities	916	897	924

[1] Preliminary data.