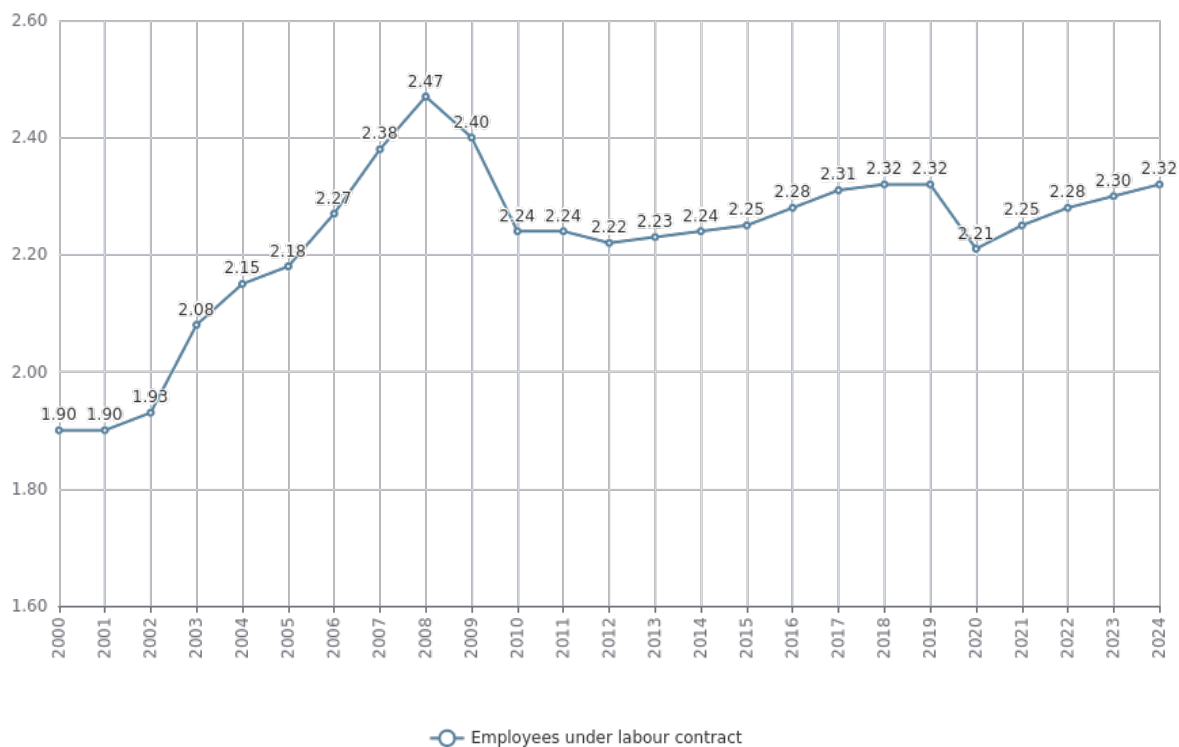




ANNUAL STATISTICS ON EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR COSTS - 2024 - FINAL DATA

The **number of employees** under labour contract in 2024 increased by 21.0 thousand, or by 0.9%, as compared to 2023 and reached 2.32 million according to the final data of the National Statistical Institute (NSI).

Figure 1. Employees under labour contract - annual average number (million)

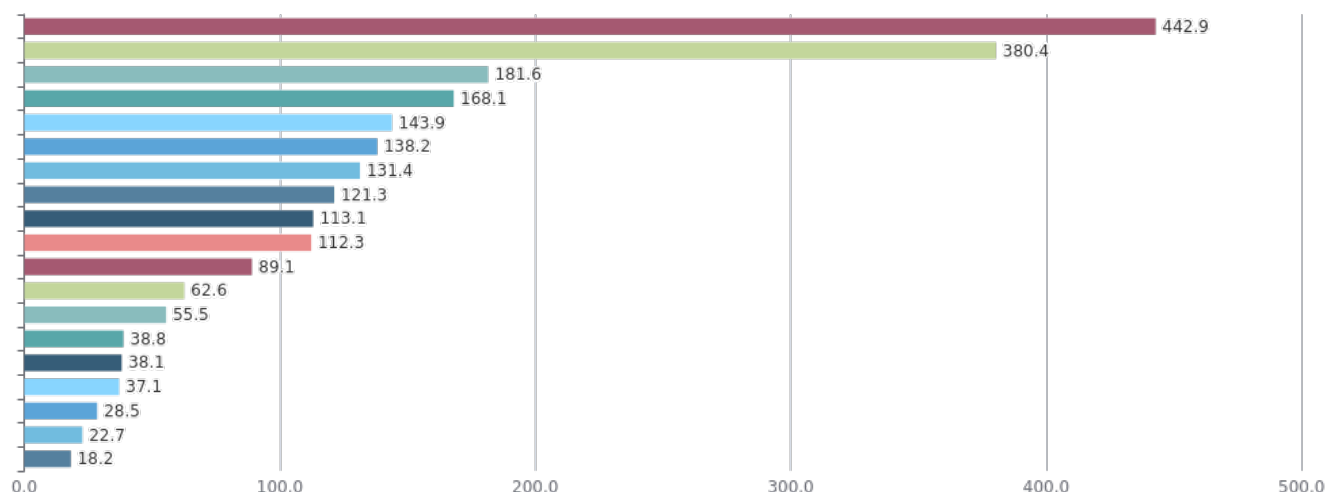


The highest increase compared to the previous year was observed in the following economic activities: 'Human health and social work activities' - by 11.3 thousand, 'Accommodation and food service activities' - by 7.3 thousand, and 'Construction' - by 6.7 thousand. The highest decrease in the number of employees - by 16.4 thousand, was recorded in 'Manufacturing', followed by 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' - by 2.9 thousand.

In percentages, the highest increase in 2024, as compared to 2023, was registered in the economic activity 'Human health and social work activities' - by 6.6% and in 'Accommodation and food service activities' - by 6.4%, and the highest decrease was reported in 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' - by 4.4%.

2024

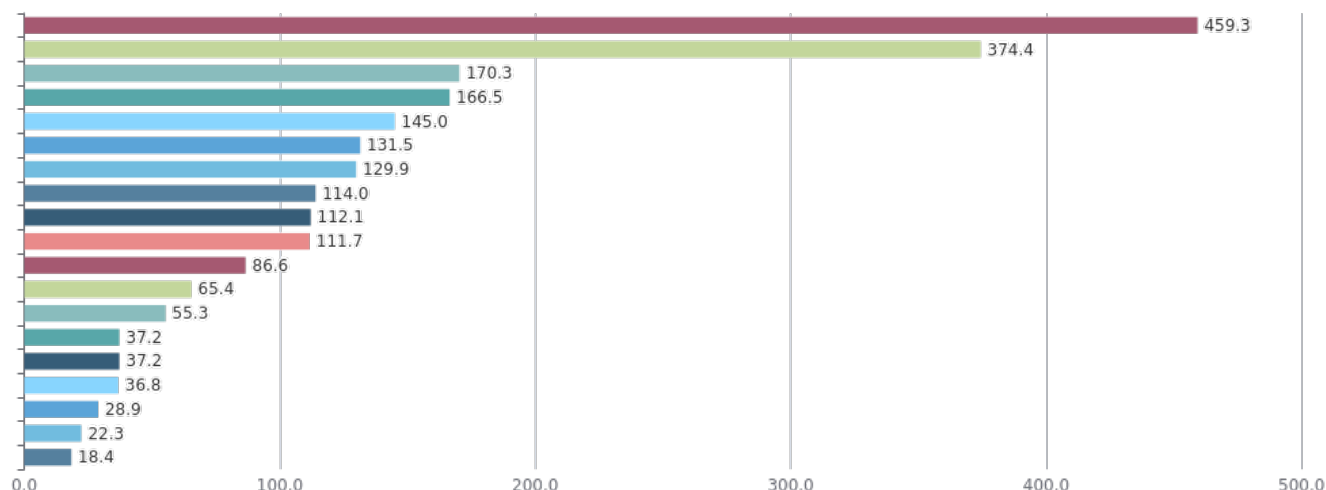
Figure 2. Employees under labour contract by economic activities - annual average number (in thousands)



Mining and quarrying Real estate activities Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
 Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities Other service activities Arts, entertainment and recreation
 Financial and insurance activities Agriculture, forestry and fishing Professional, scientific and technical activities
 Public administration and defence; compulsory social security Administrative and support service activities Accommodation and food service activities
 Information and communication Construction Transportation and storage Education Human health and social work activities
 Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles Manufacturing

2023

Figure 2. Employees under labour contract by economic activities - annual average number (in thousands)

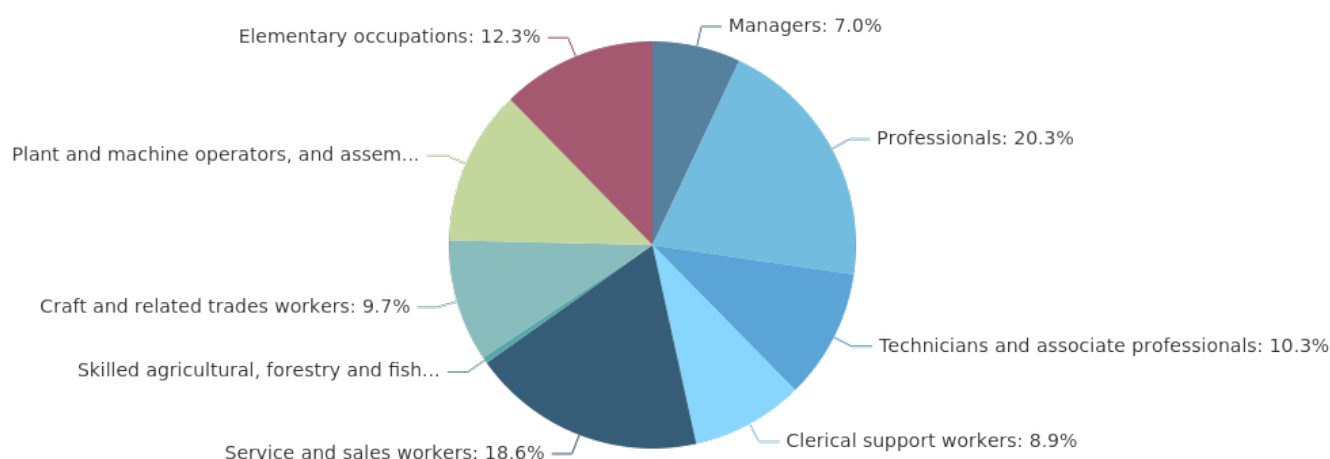


Mining and quarrying Real estate activities Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
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 Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles Manufacturing

By occupations, according to the International Standard classification of Occupations (ISCO-08), the major groups, with the highest share of the number of employees, were: 'Professionals' - 20.3% (457.6 thousand), followed by 'Service and sales workers' - 18.6% (419.6 thousand) and 'Plant and machine operators, and assemblers' - 12.3% (277.3 thousand). 'Managers' represented 7.0% (158.0 thousand) of all employees, as the employees in 'Elementary occupations' were 12.3% (276.0 thousand). With the lowest share were the 'Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers' - 0.5% or 10.5 thousand.

2024

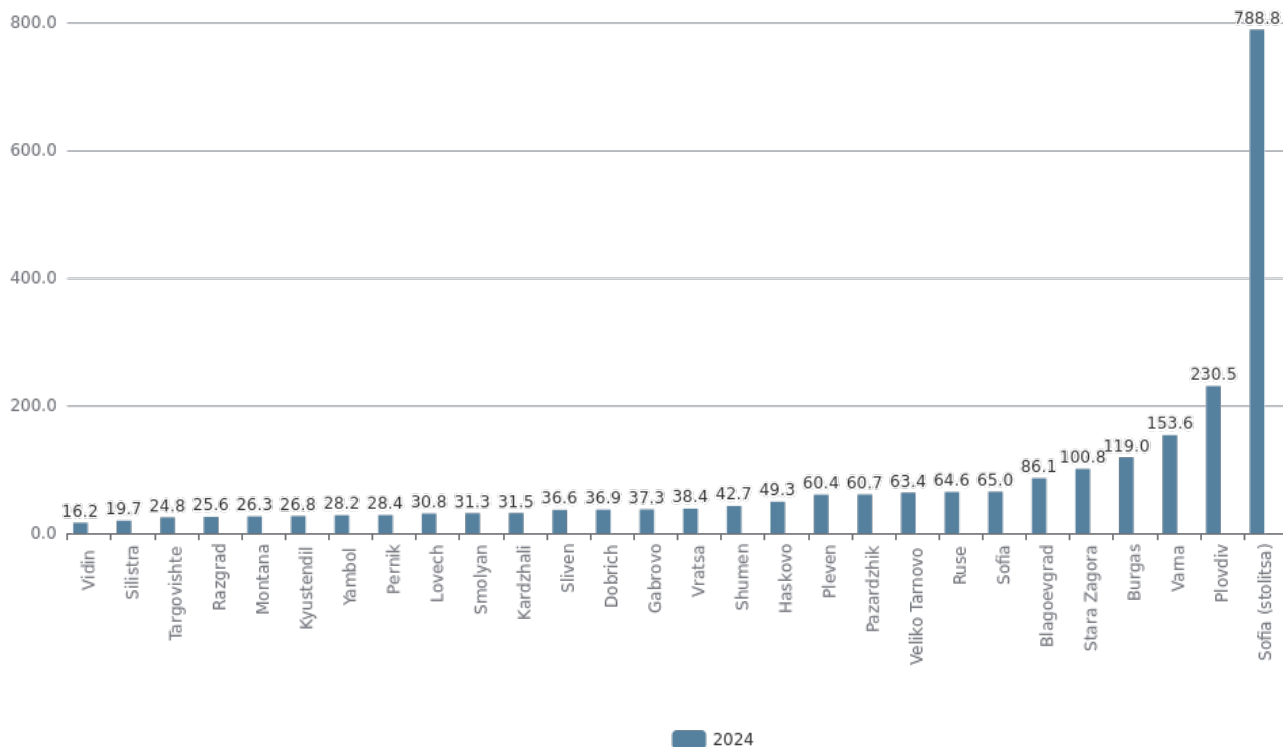
Figure 3. Structure of employees in 2024 by (ISCO-08) major groups



Managers Professionals Technicians and associate professionals Clerical support workers Service and sales workers
 Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers Craft and related trades workers Plant and machine operators, and assemblers
 Elementary occupations

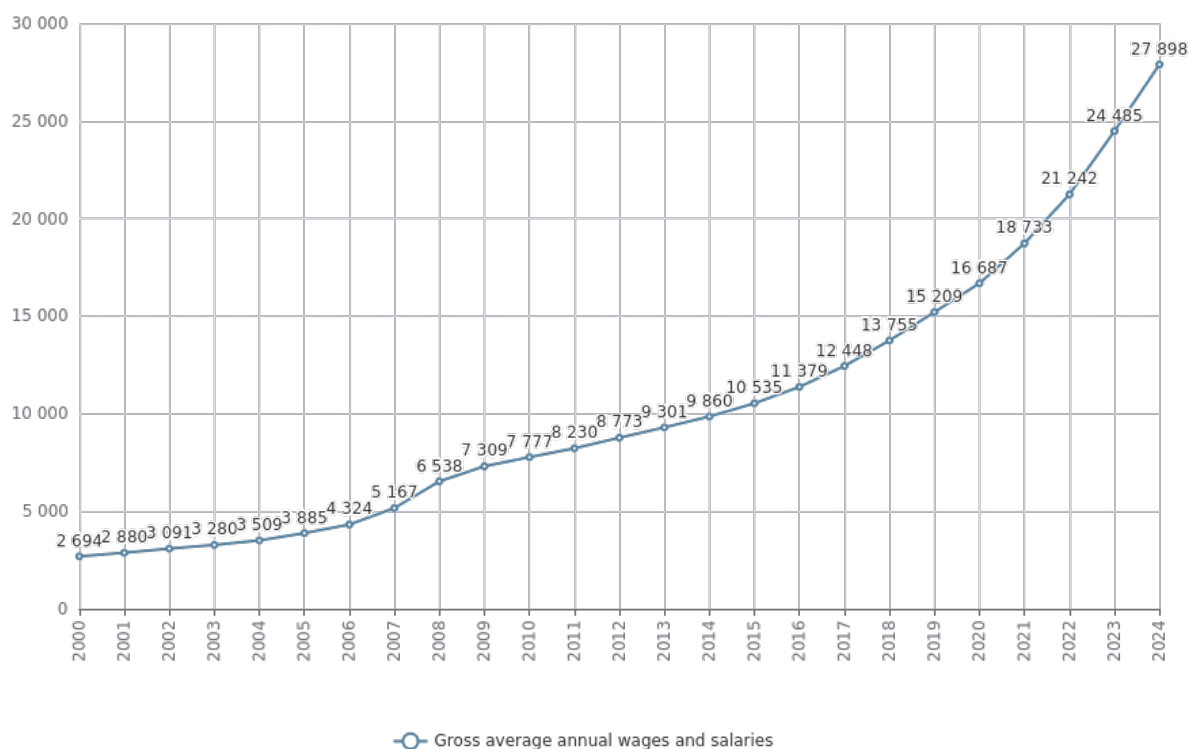
In 2024, in the districts Sofia (stolitsa), Plovdiv and Varna worked nearly half of the employees under labour contract in the country. In Sofia (stolitsa) worked 33.9% (788.8 thousand) employees, in Plovdiv - 9.9% (230.5 thousand) and in Varna - 6.6% (153.6 thousand). With the lowest number of employees were the districts Vidin - 16.2 thousand, Silistra - 19.7 thousand and Targovishte - 24.8 thousand.

Figure 4. Employees under labour contract by districts in 2024 - annual average number (in thousands)



The **average annual gross wages and salaries** of the employees under labour contract in 2024 amounted to 27 898 BGN and increased by 13.9% compared to 2023.

Figure 5. Gross average annual wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract (BGN)



The highest growth rates were recorded in the economic activities: 'Construction' - by 22.6%, 'Arts, entertainment and recreation' - by 17.1% and 'Transportation and storage' - by 16.9%.

The economic activities with the highest wages and salaries in 2024 were:

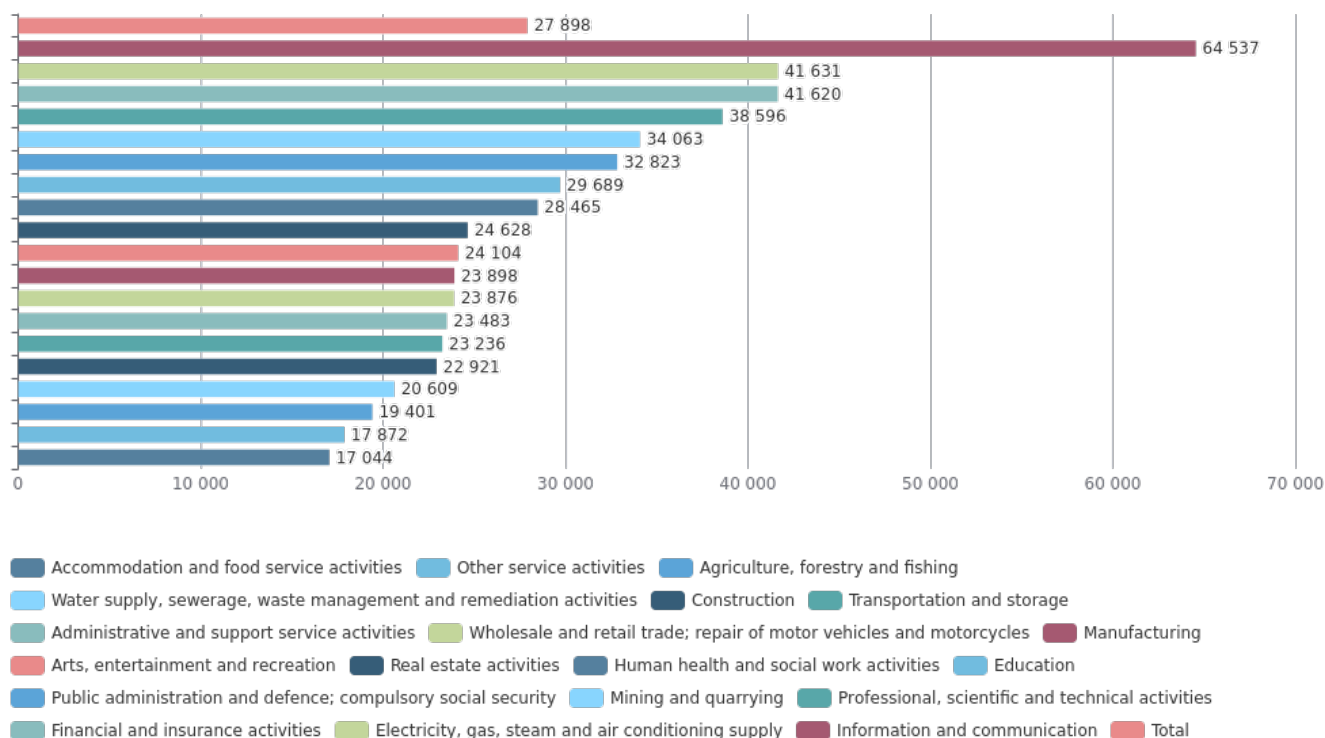
- 'Information and communication' - 64 537 BGN;
- 'Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply' - 41 631 BGN;
- 'Financial and insurance activities' - 41 620 BGN.

The lowest wages and salaries were recorded in:

- 'Accommodation and food service activities' - 17 044 BGN;
- 'Other service activities' - 17 872 BGN;
- 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' - 19 401 BGN.

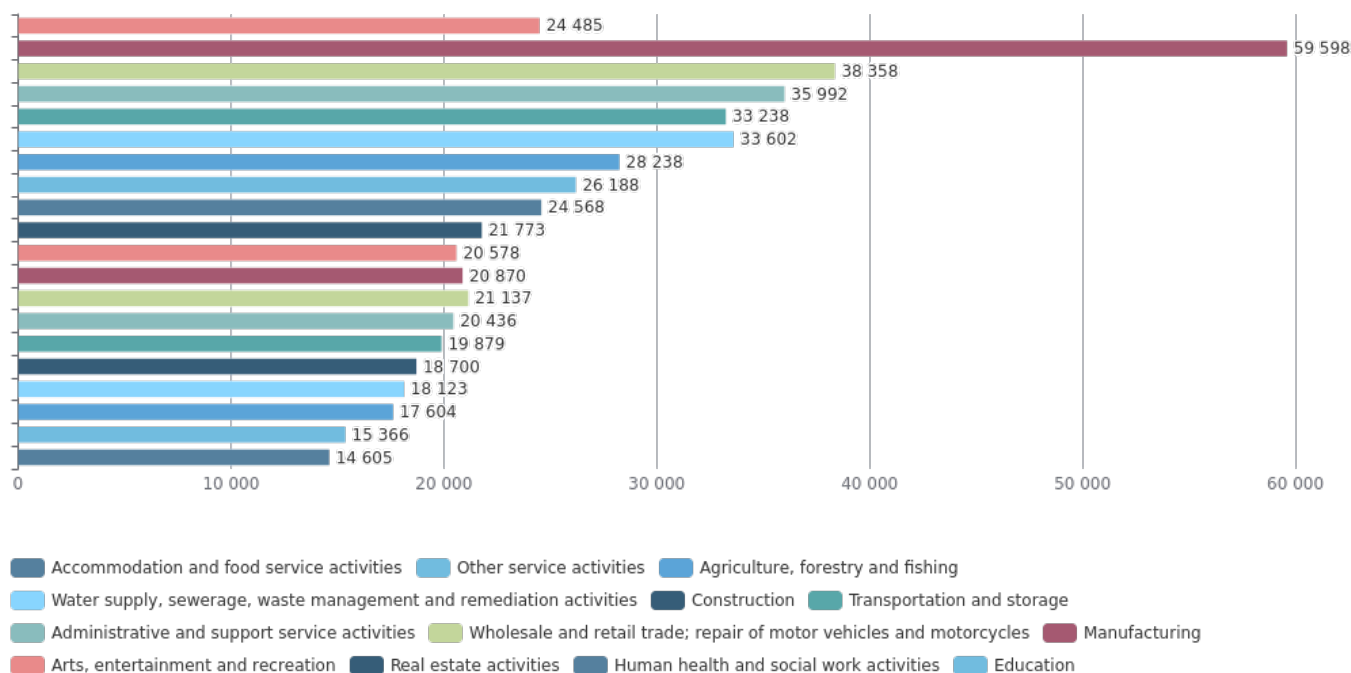
2024

Figure 6. Gross average annual wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities (BGN)



2023

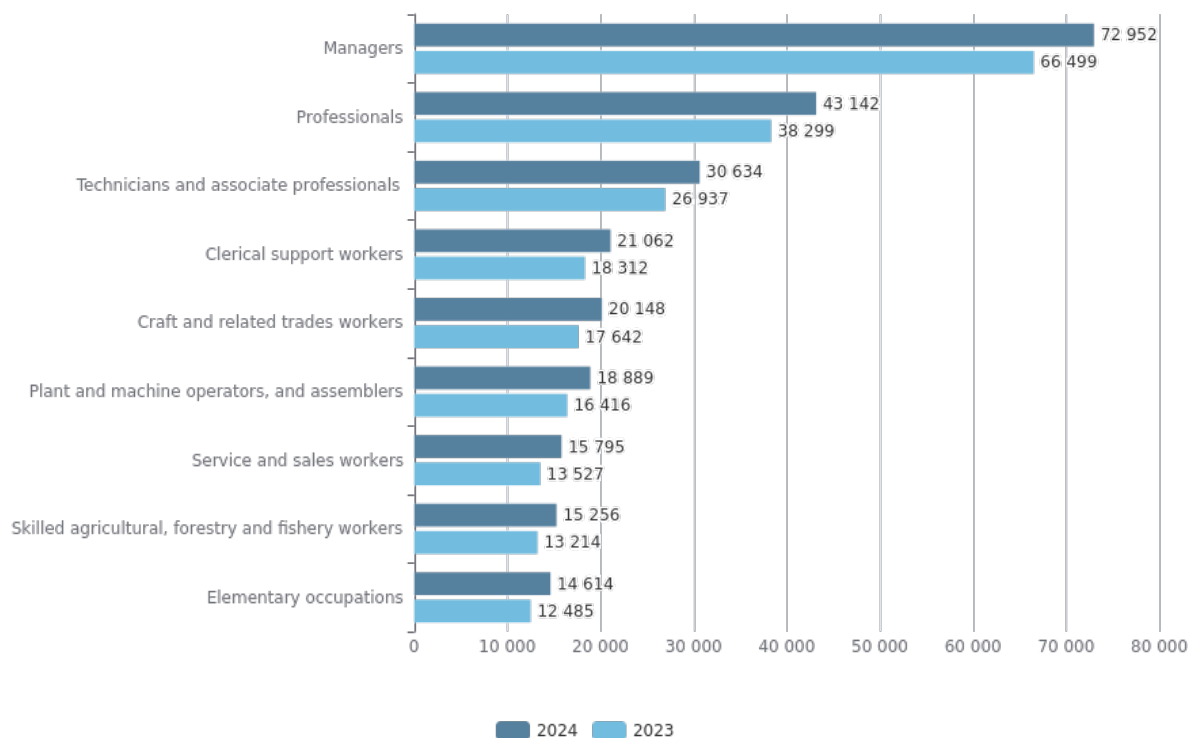
Figure 6. Gross average annual wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities (BGN)



Public administration and defence; compulsory social security Mining and quarrying Professional, scientific and technical activities
Financial and insurance activities Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply Information and communication Total

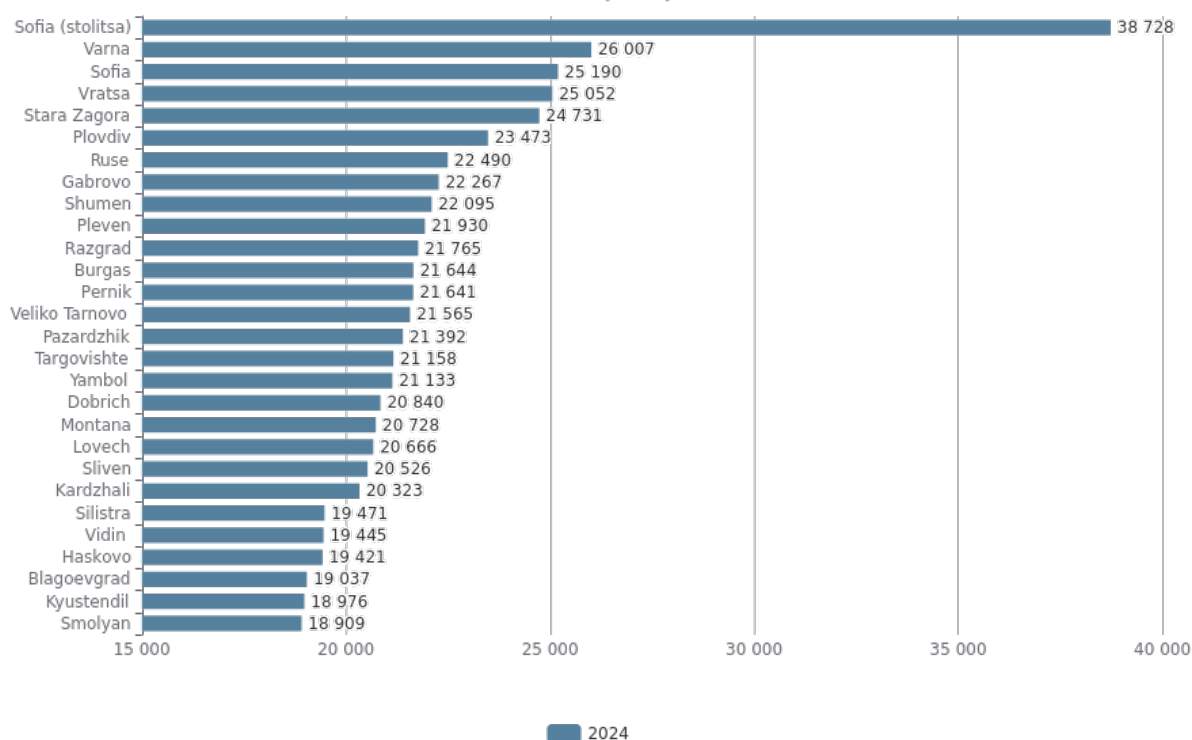
By occupations, according to the International Standard classification of Occupations (ISCO-08), the major groups with the highest gross annual wages and salaries were: 'Managers' - 72 952 BGN (9.7% increase compared to 2023), followed by 'Professionals' - 43 142 BGN (12.6% increase compared to 2023) and 'Technicians and associate professionals' - 30 634 BGN (13.7% increase compared to 2023). With the lowest annual wages and salaries were the employees in 'Elementary occupations' - 14 614 BGN, it increased by 17.1% compared to the previous year.

Figure 7. Gross average annual wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by occupations - major groups ISCO-08 (BGN)



By districts, in 2024, Sofia (stolitsa) was with the highest annual wages and salaries - 38 728 BGN, followed by Varna and Sofia - 26 007 and 25 190 BGN respectively. The districts with the lowest wages and salaries were: Smolyan - 18 909 BGN, Kyustendil - 18 976 BGN and Blagoevgrad - 19 037 BGN.

Figure 8. Gross average annual wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by districts in 2024 (BGN)



Methodological notes

The source of information is the annual survey on number of employees, wages and salaries and other labour costs. The survey is exhaustive for all public and private sector enterprises.

Employees are all persons who have a labour contract (fixed or payment; full-time or part-time) with their employer by virtue of the Labour Code or the Civil Servants Act and who receive remuneration in cash or in kind for certain quality and quantity of work done.

The average annual wages and salaries are calculated through dividing the total amount of wages and salaries costs which accrued during the reference year by the average annual number of employees under labour contract excluding those on maternity leaves.

More methodological information on the annual survey and more data can be found on NSI's official website and in Information System INFOSTAT.