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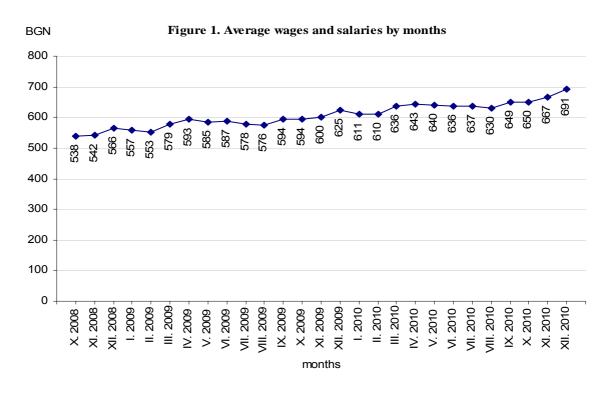
EMPLOYEES UNDER LABOUR CONTRACT AND AVERAGE WAGES AND SALARIES, FOURTH QUARTER OF 2010

According to the preliminary data of the National Statistical Institute (NSI) at the end of December 2010 the number of employees under labour contract decreased by 50 thousands or 2.3% as compared to the end of September 2010 and reached 2.15 millions. The highest decrease of employees was mainly in seasonal economic activities "Accommodation and food service activities" - 17.4%, "Agriculture, forestry and fishing" - 14.3% and "Construction" - 6.9%. The highest increase was observed in economic activity "Administrative and support service activities" - 6.2%.

In the structure of employees by economic activities the biggest relative share of employees was in "Manufacturing" - 23.4% and "Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles" - 18.5%, where the number of employees at the end of December 2010 compared to September 2010 decreased by 2.3 and 1.0% respectively.

At the end of December 2010 as compared to December 2009 the number of employees under labour contract was declined by 106 thousands or 4.7%. The highest decrease in absolute figures was observed in economic activities "Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles" - 29 thousands, "Construction" - 26 thousands and "Manufacturing" - 20 thousands. In percentages the highest decrease was in "Construction" - 16.1%, "Accommodation and food service activities" - 12.9% and "Professional, scientific and technical activities" - 10.3%.

The average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract in October, November and December 2010 was 650, 667 and 691 levs respectively.



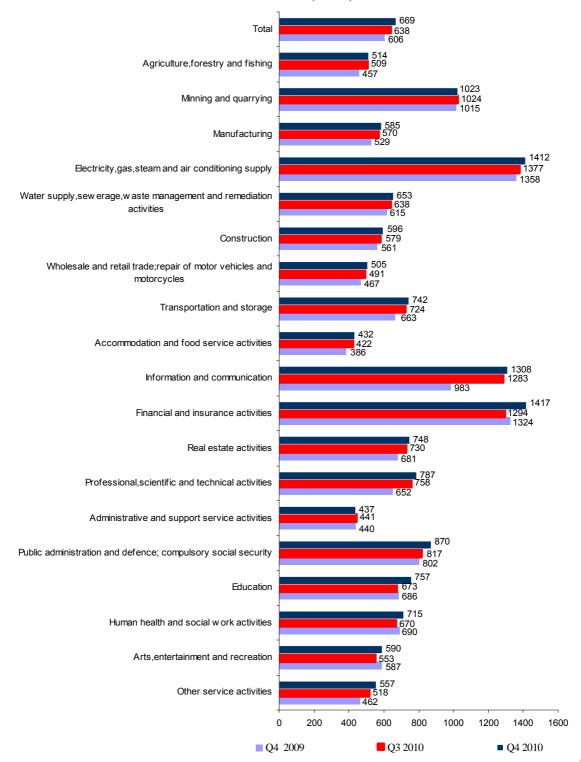




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In the fourth quarter of 2010 in comparison with the third quarter of 2010 the average monthly wages and salaries increased by 4.9% getting 669 levs. The highest decrease in wages and salaries was reported in "Education" – 12.5%, "Financial and insurance activities" - 9.5% and "Other service activities" - 7.5%.

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







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Decrease in average monthly wages and salaries in fourth quarter of 2010 as compared to the third quarter of 2010 was observed in economic activities: "Administrative and support service activities" - 0.9% and "Mining and quarrying" - 0.1%.

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2009 the average monthly wages and salaries in the fourth quarter of 2010 rose by 10.4%. The highest growth rates were recorded in economic activities: "Information and communication" - 33.1%, "Professional, scientific and technical activities" - 20.7% and "Other service activities" - 20.6%.

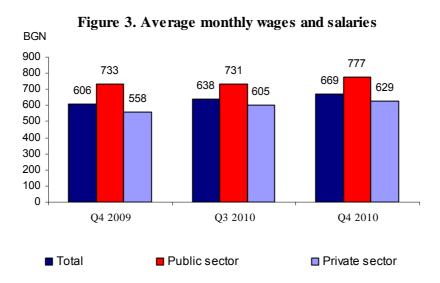
The economic activities with the highest wages and salaries in the fourth quarter of 2010 were:

- ➤ "Financial and insurance activities" 1 417 levs
- ➤ "Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply" 1 412 levs
- ➤ "Information and communication" 1 308 levs

The lowest wages and salaries were recorded in:

- ➤ "Accommodation and food service activities" 432 levs
- ➤ "Administrative and support service activities" 437 levs
- ➤ "Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles"- 505 levs.

In comparison with a year earlier the average monthly wages and salaries in public sector grew by 6.0%, while in private sector - by 12.7%.







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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/otrasalen.php?otr=51.





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Annex

Table 1 Employees under labour contract at the end of the month by economic activities in ${\bf 2010}^1$

| | (Numbers) | | |
|--|-----------|----------|----------|
| Economic activity | October | November | December |
| Total | 2180432 | 2170241 | 2147792 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 62717 | 60081 | 55351 |
| Mining and quarrying | 25781 | 25778 | 25471 |
| Manufacturing | 511222 | 509205 | 502065 |
| Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply | 32555 | 32383 | 32132 |
| Water supply, sewerage, waste management and | | | |
| remediation activities | 32263 | 32327 | 32258 |
| Construction | 141923 | 139388 | 134305 |
| Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and | | | |
| motorcycles | 400901 | 400371 | 397804 |
| Transportation and storage | 127124 | 126581 | 125918 |
| Accommodation and food service activities | 84869 | 81667 | 81681 |
| Information and communication | 56695 | 56773 | 56534 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 52577 | 52726 | 52748 |
| Real estate activities | 18285 | 18228 | 18399 |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities | 62012 | 61780 | 61510 |
| Administrative and support service activities | 104736 | 104996 | 104933 |
| Public administration and defence; compulsory social | | | |
| security | 117513 | 117779 | 117314 |
| Education | 166461 | 167205 | 166142 |
| Human health and social work activities | 127361 | 127726 | 127453 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation | 27226 | 27065 | 27606 |
| Other service activities | 28211 | 28182 | 28168 |

¹Preliminary data.





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 $\begin{tabular}{l} \textbf{Table 2} \\ \textbf{Average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities} \\ \textbf{in 2010}^1 \\ \end{tabular}$

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

Other service activities

Arts, entertainment and recreation

¹Preliminary data.