

EMPLOYEES UNDER LABOUR CONTRACT AND GROSS AVERAGE WAGES AND SALARIES, FIRST QUARTER OF 2021

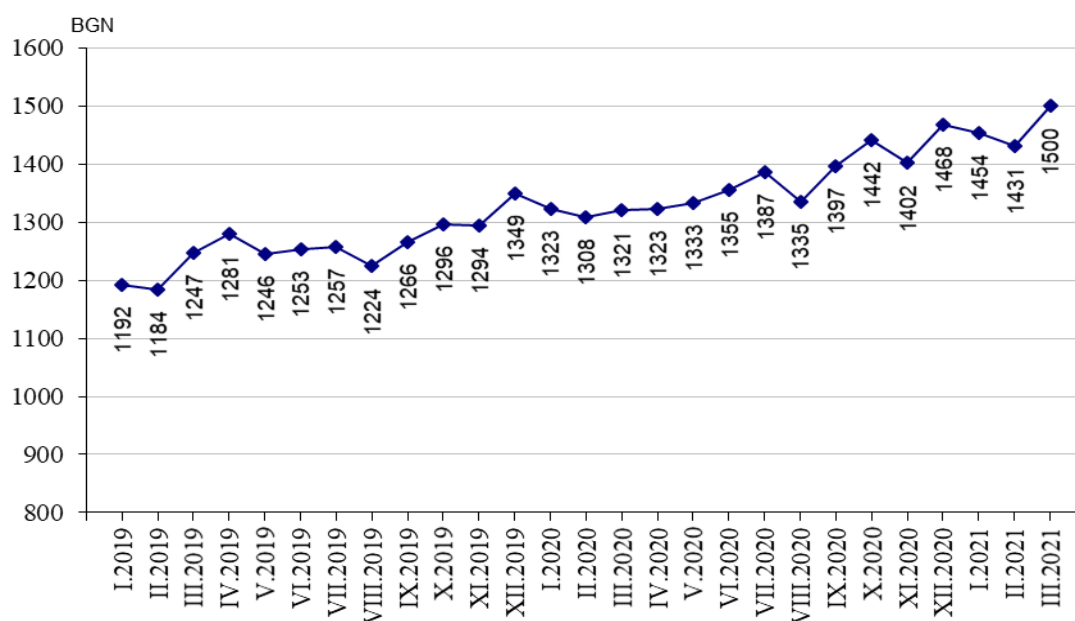
According to the preliminary data of the National Statistical Institute (NSI) at the end of March 2021 the **number of employees** under labour contract increased by 34.4 thousand or 1.5% as compared to the end of December 2020 and reached 2.26 million. The highest increase was observed in economic activities: 'Information and communication' - by 6.0%, 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing' - by 5.2%, and in 'Accommodation and food service activities' - by 4.4%. The highest decrease of the number of employees was recorded in economic activities: 'Mining and quarrying' - by 6.0% and 'Administrative and support service activities' - by 2.2%.

In the structure of employees by economic activities the biggest relative share of employees was in 'Manufacturing' - 21.2% and 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' - 17.0%.

At the end of March 2021 as compared to March 2020 the number of employees under labour contract decreased by 0.8 thousand. The highest decrease in absolute figures was observed in economic activities 'Manufacturing' - 7.5 thousand, 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' - 5.6 thousand, and 'Administrative and support service activities' - 5.2 thousand and the highest increase was in 'Human health and social work activities' - 8.4 thousand and 'Information and communication' - 7.1 thousand. In percentages the highest decrease at the end of March 2021 as compared to March 2020 was in economic activity 'Mining and quarrying' - by 8.3%, 'Real estate activities' - by 7.6%, and in 'Administrative and support service activities' - by 4.4%, as the highest increase was reported in 'Information and communication' - by 7.0% and in 'Human health and social work activities' - by 5.6%.

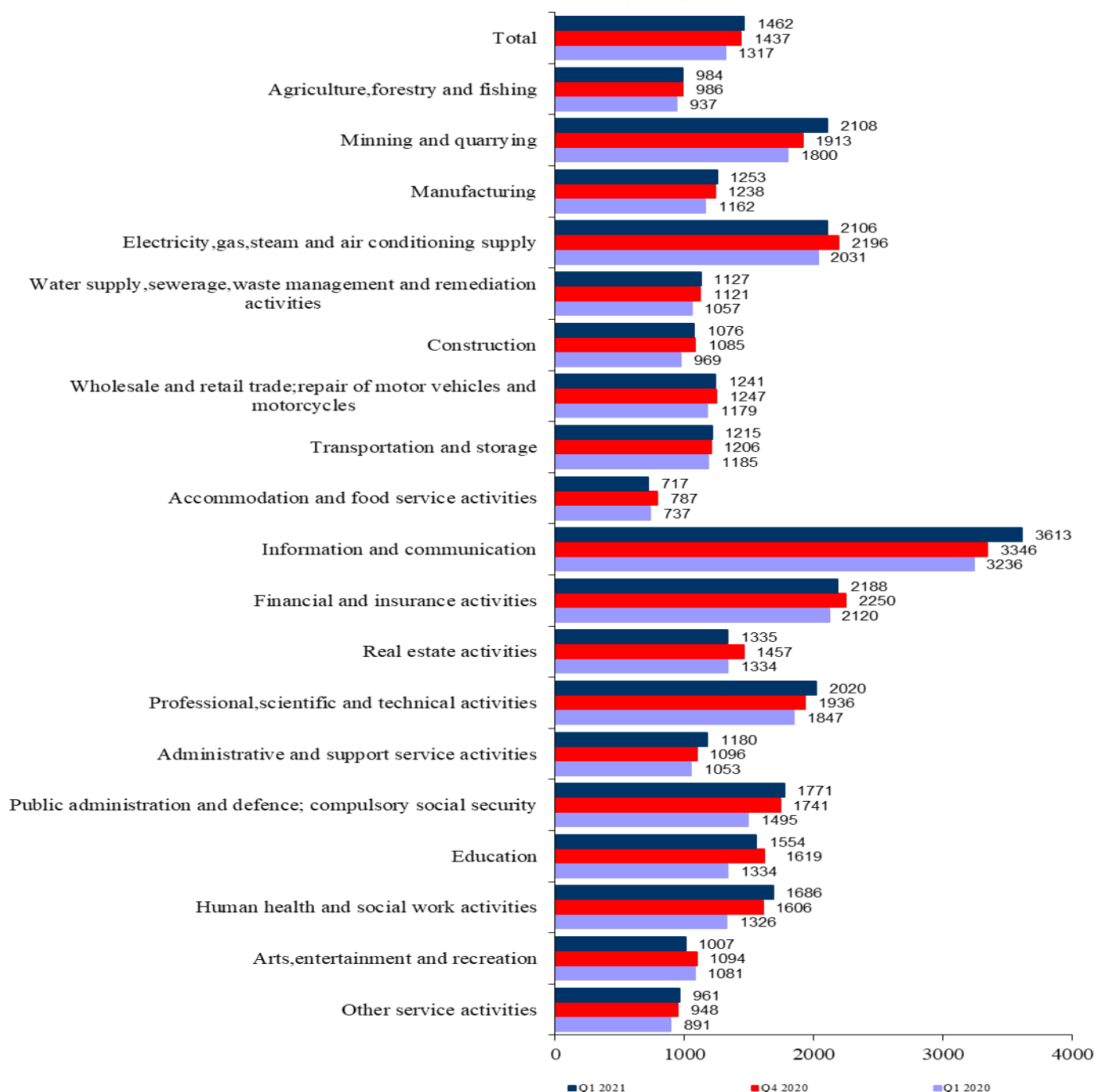
The **average monthly wages and salaries** of the employees under labour contract in January was 1 454 BGN, in February - 1 431 BGN and in March 2021 - 1 500 BGN.

Figure 1. Gross average wages and salaries by months



In the first quarter of 2021 in comparison with the fourth quarter of 2020 the average monthly wages and salaries increased by 1.7% getting 1 462 BGN. The highest increase in wages and salaries was reported in ‘Mining and quarrying’ - by 10.2%, ‘Information and communication’ - by 8.0% and in ‘Administrative and support service activities’ - by 7.7%. The highest decrease was in the economic activities ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - by 8.9%, ‘Real estate activities’ - by 8.4% and ‘Arts, entertainment and recreation’ - by 8.0%.

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



Compared to the first quarter of 2020 the average monthly wages and salaries in the first quarter of 2021 rose by 11.0%. The highest growth rates were recorded in economic activities: ‘Human health and social work activities’ - by 27.1%, ‘Public administration and defence; compulsory social security’ - by 18.5% and ‘Mining and quarrying’ - by 17.1%. The highest decrease was in the economic activities ‘Arts, entertainment and recreation’ - by 6.8% and ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - by 2.7%.

The economic activities with the highest wages and salaries in the first quarter of 2021 were:

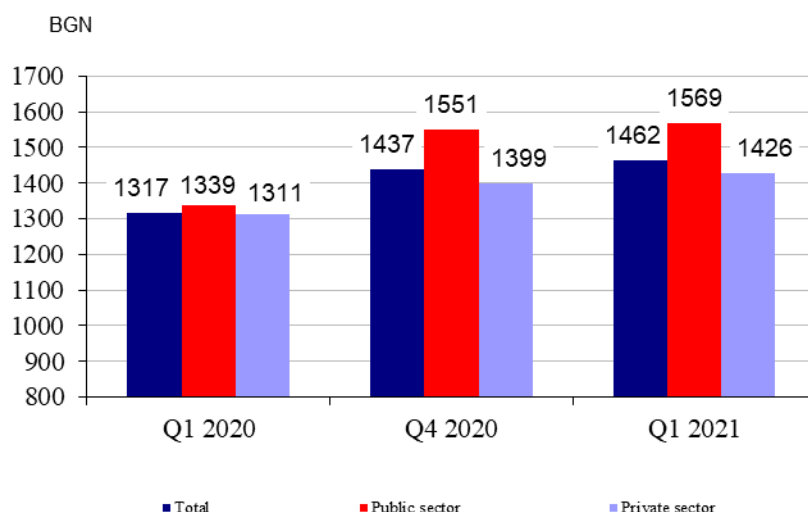
- ‘Information and communication’ - 3 613 BGN
- ‘Financial and insurance activities’ - 2 188 BGN
- ‘Mining and quarrying’ - 2 108 BGN.

The lowest wages and salaries were recorded in:

- ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - 717 BGN
- ‘Other service activities’ - 961 BGN
- ‘Agriculture, forestry and fishing’ - 984 BGN.

In comparison with a year earlier the average monthly wages and salaries in public sector grew by 17.2% while in private sector - by 8.8%.

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 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 2021¹

(Number)

Economic activities	2021		
	January	February	March
Total	2243459	2250859	2262665
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	66610	67284	68962
Mining and quarrying	19399	19298	19295
Manufacturing	475059	477043	479383
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	29699	29781	29808
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	37122	37013	36976
Construction	128212	128855	129169
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	380530	382231	383645
Transportation and storage	140660	141311	141846
Accommodation and food service activities	80931	80222	82483
Information and communication	107365	107946	108718
Financial and insurance activities	56024	56030	56089
Real estate activities	20203	20162	20140
Professional, scientific and technical activities	80484	80653	80821
Administrative and support service activities	114238	114054	113734
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	113912	114273	114714
Education	168500	168937	168810
Human health and social work activities	155844	156698	158848
Arts, entertainment and recreation	33336	33592	33783
Other service activities	35331	35476	35441

¹ Preliminary data.

Table 2

Gross average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities in 2021¹

Economic activities	(BGN)		
	2021		
	January	February	March
Total	1454	1431	1500
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	988	967	997
Mining and quarrying	2243	1885	2195
Manufacturing	1252	1244	1263
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	2097	2064	2157
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1115	1132	1135
Construction	1052	1069	1106
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1214	1234	1276
Transportation and storage	1229	1191	1225
Accommodation and food service activities	662	672	815
Information and communication	3586	3425	3828
Financial and insurance activities	2125	2097	2343
Real estate activities	1285	1266	1453
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1979	1981	2100
Administrative and support service activities	1162	1152	1226
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1979	1654	1683
Education	1548	1574	1540
Human health and social work activities	1613	1669	1774
Arts, entertainment and recreation	909	984	1128
Other service activities	953	956	975

¹ Preliminary data.