

EMPLOYEES UNDER LABOUR CONTRACT AND GROSS AVERAGE WAGES AND SALARIES, FOURTH QUARTER OF 2022

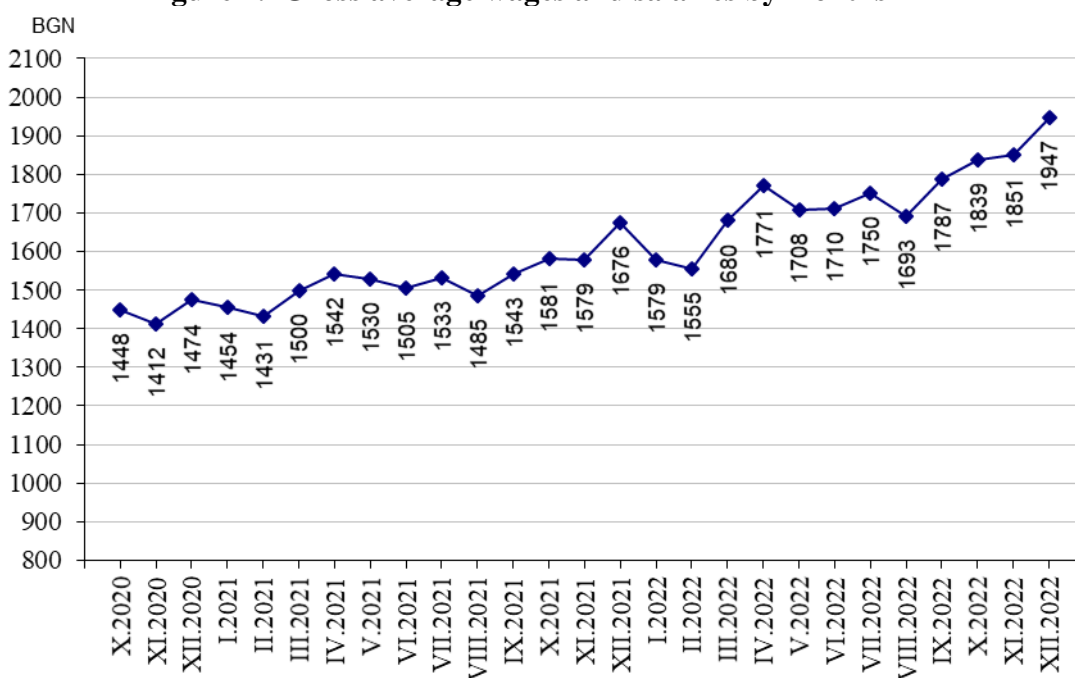
The **number of employees** under labour contract at the end of December 2022 decreased by 16.5 thousand, or 0.7%, as compared to the end of September 2022 and reached 2.26 million according to the preliminary data of the National Statistical Institute. The highest decrease was observed in economic activities: ‘Administrative and support service activities’ - by 5.9%, ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - by 5.8% and ‘Agriculture, forestry and fishing’ - by 4.5%. The highest increase in the number of employees was recorded in economic activities: ‘Education’ - by 1.2% and ‘Arts, entertainment and recreation’ - by 1.1%.

In the structure of employees by economic activities, the biggest relative share of employees was in ‘Manufacturing’ - 20.5% and ‘Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles’ - 16.8%.

At the end of December 2022, as compared to December 2021, the number of employees under labour contract decreased by 5.6 thousand, or 0.2%. The highest decrease in absolute figures was observed in economic activities ‘Manufacturing’ - 6.5 thousand, ‘Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles’ - 5.1 thousand and ‘Construction’ - 3.9 thousand, and the highest increase was in ‘Information and communication’ - 6.1 thousand and in ‘Human health and social work activities’ - 3.7 thousand. In percentages, the highest decrease at the end of December 2022 as compared to December 2021 was in economic activity ‘Construction’ - by 3.1%, ‘Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’ - by 2.3% and in ‘Manufacturing’ - by 1.4%, as the highest increase was reported in ‘Real estate activities’ - by 5.7% and in ‘Information and communication’ - by 5.4%.

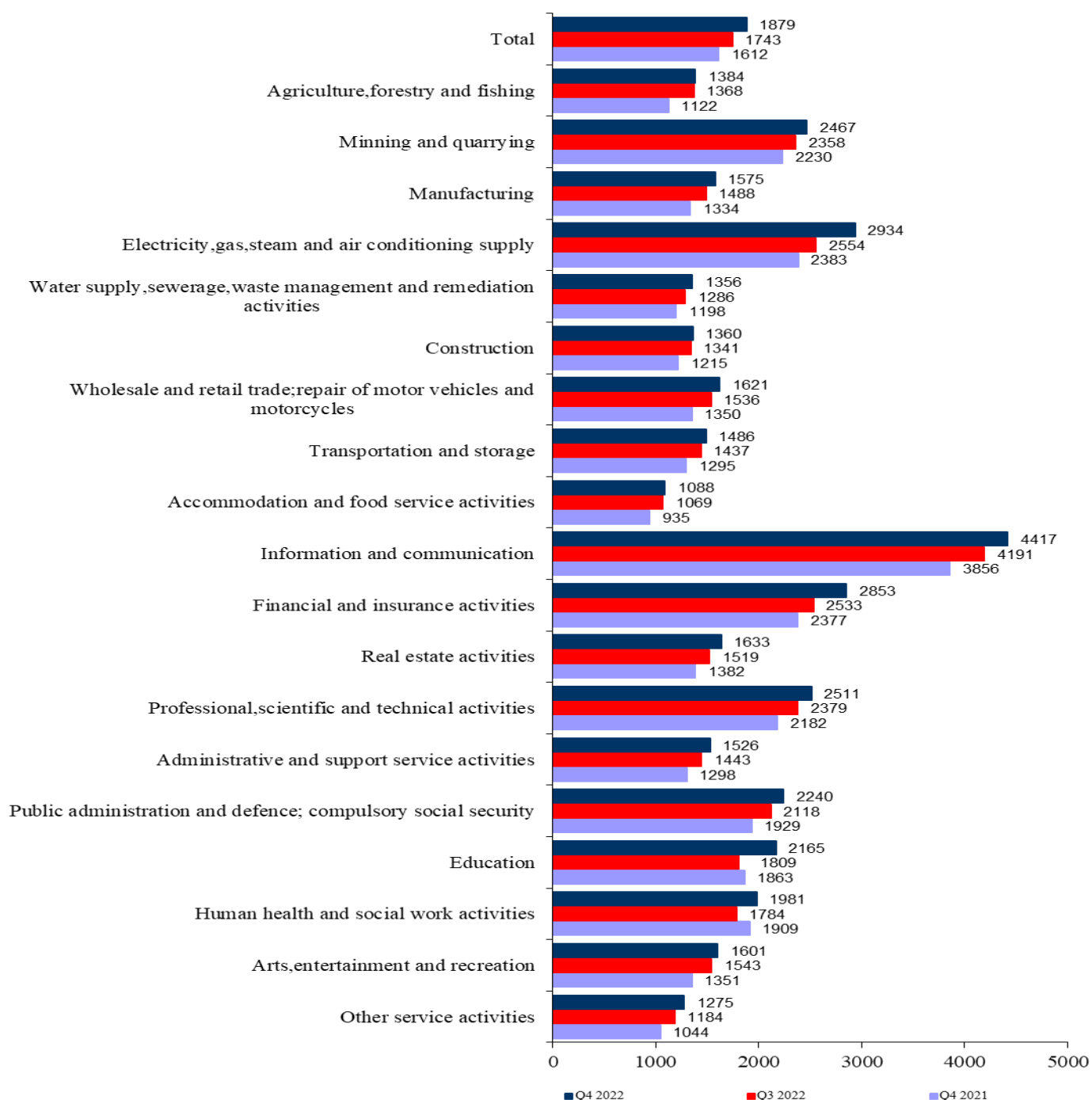
The **average monthly wages and salaries** of the employees under labour contract in October was 1 839 BGN, in November - 1 851 BGN and in December 2022 - 1 947 BGN.

Figure 1. Gross average wages and salaries by months



In the fourth quarter of 2022, in comparison with the third quarter of 2022, the average monthly wages and salaries increased by 7.8% and reached 1 879 BGN. The highest increase in wages and salaries was reported in ‘Education’ - by 19.7%, ‘Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’ - by 14.9%, in ‘Financial and insurance activities’ - by 12.6% and in ‘Human health and social work activities’ - by 11.0%.

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



Compared to the fourth quarter of 2021, the average monthly wages and salaries in the fourth quarter of 2022 rose by 16.6%. The highest growth rates were recorded in economic activities: ‘Agriculture, forestry and fishing’ - by 23.4%, in ‘Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’- by 23.1% and in ‘Other service activities’ - by 22.1%.

The economic activities with the highest wages and salaries in the fourth quarter of 2022 were:

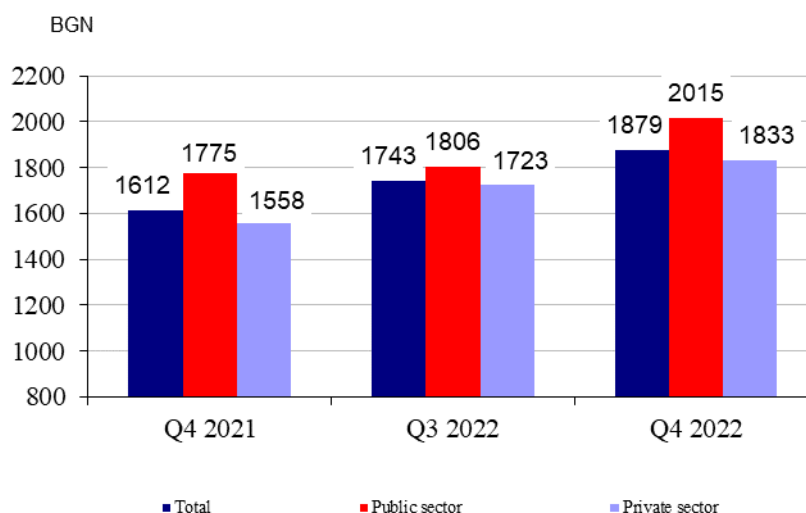
- ‘Information and communication’ - 4 417 BGN
- ‘Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’ - 2 934 BGN
- ‘Financial and insurance activities’ - 2 853 BGN.

The lowest wages and salaries were recorded in:

- ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - 1 088 BGN
- ‘Other service activities’ - 1 275 BGN
- ‘Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities’ - 1 356 BGN.

In comparison with a year earlier, the average monthly wages and salaries in the public sector grew by 13.5%, while in the private sector - by 17.7%.

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 the 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 2022¹

(Number)

Economic activities	2022		
	October	November	December
Total	2267987	2272489	2259847
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	69126	67752	67134
Mining and quarrying	19114	18903	18881
Manufacturing	466378	467016	464381
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	28686	28656	28541
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	36549	36590	36497
Construction	121734	122767	121697
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	378500	381077	380208
Transportation and storage	140404	140269	139264
Accommodation and food service activities	88336	87881	88923
Information and communication	117871	118325	118264
Financial and insurance activities	55486	55634	55660
Real estate activities	20922	20913	20839
Professional, scientific and technical activities	82046	82280	82118
Administrative and support service activities	121314	121092	114542
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	113702	113820	113506
Education	169738	170489	170004
Human health and social work activities	167144	167902	167819
Arts, entertainment and recreation	34694	34950	35568
Other service activities	36243	36173	36001

¹ Preliminary data.



Table 2

Gross average monthly wages and salaries of the employees under labour contract by economic activities in 2022¹

(BGN)

Economic activities	2022		
	October	November	December
Total	1839	1851	1947
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1327	1343	1486
Mining and quarrying	2312	2520	2572
Manufacturing	1525	1607	1594
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	2617	2922	3265
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1283	1397	1389
Construction	1367	1396	1318
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1578	1632	1652
Transportation and storage	1439	1479	1540
Accommodation and food service activities	1072	1067	1124
Information and communication	4274	4305	4669
Financial and insurance activities	2566	2869	3122
Real estate activities	1520	1621	1760
Professional, scientific and technical activities	2391	2497	2645
Administrative and support service activities	1454	1496	1632
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2694	1918	2107
Education	2182	1999	2314
Human health and social work activities	1859	1984	2098
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1540	1569	1692
Other service activities	1206	1268	1351

¹ Preliminary data.