

**Ministry**

**Employment & Labour**

**Republic of South Africa**

Private Bag X499, PRETORIA, 0001. Laboria House 215 Schoeman Street, PRETORA Tel: (012) 392 9620 Fax: 012 320 1942

Private Bag X9090, CAPE TOWN, 8000. 120 Plein Street, 12th Floor, CAPE TOWN Tel: (021) 466 7160 Fax 021 432 2830

[www.labour.gov.za](http://www.labour.gov.za)

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES**

**WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 30 [CW34E]**

***Vulnerable workers granted permanent employment***

**30. Mr W A S Aucamp (Northern Cape: DA) to ask the Minister of Employment and Labour:**

(a) What percentage of vulnerable workers were granted permanent employment in the (i) 2013/14, (ii) 2014/15, (iii) 2015/16, (iv) 2016/17, (v) 2017/18 and (vii) 2018/19 financial years, (b) how many workers (i) lost their jobs and (ii) which sectors had the biggest losses, (c) what is the percentage of female employees who were employed for the said period compared to males, (d) which sector had the majority of female employees, (e) which provinces (i) had the highest rate of unemployed persons, (ii) had a decline in unemployment and/or (iii) remained stable for the said period? CW34E

**REPLY:**

The honourable member should be appraised that the Department of Employment and Labour uses the official statistics as produced by Statistics South Africa. Thus, the response below is based on StatsSA data from the Quarterly Labour Force Survey. All reports are accessible through the StatsSA website.

(a) What percentage of vulnerable workers were granted permanent employment in the (i) 2013/14, (ii) 2014/15, (iii) 2015/16, (iv) 2016/17, (v) 2017/18 and (vii) 2018/19 financial years

According to Statistics South Africa results, the following proportions are disaggregated by gender. The statistics are published per quarter.

Table 1:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Conditions of employment (Nature of contract/ agreement by gender) | Oct-Dec 2013 | Oct-Dec 2014 | Oct-Dec 2015 | Oct-Dec 2016 | Oct-Dec 2017 | Oct-Dec 2018 | Oct-Dec 2019 |
|  | Thousand | Thousand | Thousand | Thousand | Thousand | Thousand | Thousand |
| **Women (Total)** | 5 840 | 5 926 | 6 182 | 6 168 | 6 194 | 6 360 | 6 313 |
| Limited duration | 906 | 972 | 914 | 993 | 962 | 1 001 | 944 |
| Permanent nature | 3 491 | 3 590 | 3 716 | 3 645 | 3 641 | 3 753 | 3 781 |
| **% Permanent nature** | **59.7%** | **60.5%** | **60.1%** | **59.0%** | **59.7%** | **59.0%** | **59.8%** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Men (Total)** | **7 196** | **7 310** | **7 556** | **7 477** | **7 584** | **7 631** | **7 555** |
| Limited duration | 1 069 | 1 037 | 1 045 | 897 | 936 | 959 | 902 |
| Permanent nature | 4 555 | 4 688 | 4 692 | 4 714 | 4 799 | 4 752 | 4 714 |
| **% Permanent nature** | **63%** | **64%** | **62%** | **63%** | **63%** | **62%** | **62,3%** |

Source: Statistics South Africa: Quarterly Labour Force Survey (Excluding unspecified duration)

(b) How many workers?

1. lost their jobs

Table 2:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Oct-Dec 2013** | **Oct-Dec 2014** | **Oct-Dec 2015** | **Oct-Dec 2016** | **Oct-Dec 2017** | **Oct-Dec 2018** | **Oct-Dec 2019** |
|  | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** |  |
| **Number jobs lost** | 1 545 | 1 642 | 1 664 | 1 839 | 1 886 | 1 805 | 1 989 |

Source: Statistics South Africa: Quarterly Labour Force Survey

1. Which sectors had the biggest losses?

The sectors where the biggest losses occurred are the Trade and Construction industries over time.

Table 3:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Oct-Dec 2013** | **Oct-Dec 2014** | **Oct-Dec 2015** | **Oct-Dec 2016** | **Oct-Dec 2017** | **Oct-Dec 2018** | **Oct-Dec 2019** |
|  | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** |
| **Industry (Total)** | **2 114** | **2 182** | **2 186** | **2 499** | **2 492** | **2 379** | **2 596** |
| Agriculture | 79 | 134 | 117 | 123 | 135 | 115 | 147 |
| Mining | 39 | 32 | 42 | 54 | 36 | 47 | 38 |
| Manufacturing | 274 | 271 | 259 | 286 | 252 | 245 | 302 |
| Utilities | 7 | 18 | 16 | 14 | 20 | 12 | 15 |
| Construction | **314** | **347** | **355** | **429** | **401** | **399** | **409** |
| Trade | **506** | **508** | **518** | **522** | **579** | **576** | **578** |
| Transport | 111 | 111 | 98 | 128 | 102 | 115 | 134 |
| Finance | 301 | 302 | 262 | 346 | 368 | 327 | 376 |
| Community and social services | 271 | 269 | 302 | 348 | 355 | 319 | 364 |
| Private households | 211 | 190 | 216 | 249 | 245 | 223 | 231 |
| Other | 2 |  |  | 0 |  | - | 1 |

Source: Statistics South Africa: Quarterly Labour Force Survey

c) What is the percentage of female employees who were employed for the said period compared to males

**Table 4:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sex** | **Oct-Dec 2013** | **Oct-Dec 2014** | **Oct-Dec 2015** | **Oct-Dec 2016** | **Oct-Dec 2017** | **Oct-Dec 2018** | **Oct-Dec 2019** |
|  | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** |  |
| Women | 6 670 | 6 676 | 6 995 | 7 031 | 7 071 | 7 250 | 7 220 |
| Men | 8 507 | 8 643 | 8 643 | 9 023 | 9 100 | 9 279 | 9 201 |
| Total | 15 177 | 15 319 | 15 638 | 16 054 | 16 171 | 16 529 | 16 421 |
| **% Female employees** | **43,9** | **43,6** | **44,7** | **43,8** | **43,7** | **43,9** | **44,0** |

Source: Statistics South Africa: Quarterly Labour Force Survey

d) which sector had the majority of female employees?

**Table 5:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sex** | **Oct-Dec 2013** | **Oct-Dec 2014** | **Oct-Dec 2015** | **Oct-Dec 2016** | **Oct-Dec 2017** | **Oct-Dec 2018** | **Oct-Dec 2019** |
|  | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** | **Thousand** |
| **Women** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Formal sector (Non-agricultural) | **4 485** | **4 582** | **4 665** | **4 754** | **4 730** | **4 820** | **4 883** |
| Informal sector (Non-agricultural) | 971 | 924 | 1 019 | 977 | 1 084 | 1 113 | 1 064 |
| Agriculture | 210 | 228 | 288 | 305 | 267 | 285 | 302 |
| Private households | 1 004 | 942 | 1 023 | 995 | 990 | 1 032 | 971 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Source: Statistics South Africa: Quarterly Labour Force Survey

**(e) Which provinces (Table 6):**

(i) had the highest rate of unemployed persons: From 2013-2016, it was the Free State province then the Eastern Cape from 2017-2019.

1. had a decline in unemployment: and/or : Varies in each quarter

(iii) remained stable for the said period? None. Unemployment rate fluctuated across all provinces in every quarter**.**

**Table 6: Unemployment rate (official definition) by province**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Province** | **Oct-Dec 2013** | **Oct-Dec 2014** | **Oct-Dec 2015** | **Oct-Dec 2016** | **Oct-Dec 2017** | **Oct-Dec 2018** | **Oct-Dec 2019** |
|  | **%** | **%** | **%** | **%** | **%** | **%** | **%** |
| Western Cape | 21.0 | 22.9 | 19.4 | 20.5 | 19.5 | 19,3 | 20,9 |
| Eastern Cape | 27.8 | 29.1 | 27.4 | 28.4 | **35.1** | **36,1** | **39,5** |
| Northern Cape | 24.9 | 28.7 | 25.8 | 32.0 | 27.1 | 25,0 | 26,9 |
| Free State | **33.0** | **32.2** | **29.8** | **34.7** | 32.6 | 32,9 | 35,0 |
| KwaZulu-Natal | 19.9 | 20.8 | 20.5 | 23.9 | 24.1 | 25,6 | 25,.0 |
| North West | 27.3 | 25.2 | 23.9 | 26.5 | 23.9 | 26,6 | 28,8 |
| Gauteng | 25.2 | 24.6 | 27.6 | 28.6 | 29.1 | 29,0 | 30,8 |
| Mpumalanga | 27.2 | 26.6 | 25.7 | 31.0 | 28.9 | 32,0 | 33,6 |
| Limpopo | 16.9 | 15.9 | 19.8 | 19.3 | 19.6 | 16,5 | 23,1 |

Source: Statistics South Africa: Quarterly Labour Force Survey