



higher education  
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Department:  
Higher Education and Training  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# *Western Cape List of Occupations in High Demand*

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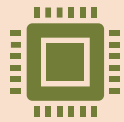
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Final results

# What is the List of Occupations in High Demand?

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# Purpose of the List of OIHD



**Signal the need for the development of new or alterations to qualifications,**



**Act as a signpost for enrolment planning, and**



**Inform career guidance for learners and work-seekers.**

# How do we identify occupations in high demand?

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# Four criteria for an occupation to be classified as being in high demand



## Employment growth

- *Secondary data analysis*



## Wage growth

- *Secondary data analysis*



## Vacancy growth

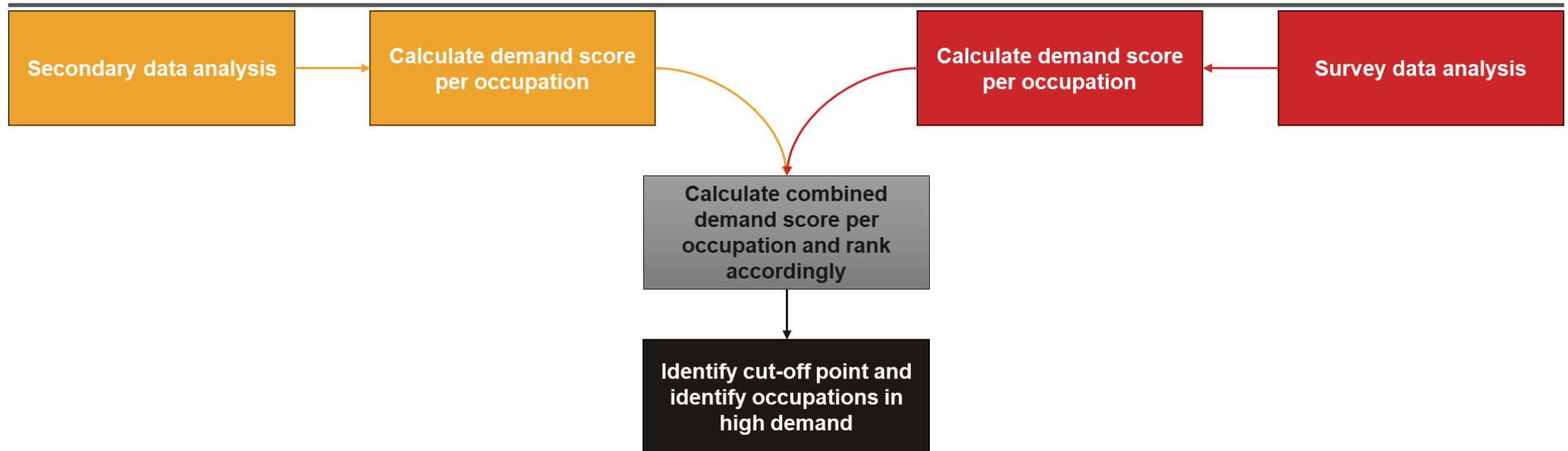
- *Secondary data analysis*



## High likelihood of seeing recruitment activity in the medium-term

- *Primary data collection (survey)*

# Approach to identifying occupations in highest demand



- As in previous iterations, approach still heavily inspired by UK's Migration Advisory Committee
- Most significant change from 2020 methodology is the use of a survey instead of a "Call for Evidence"

# **Context: The Western Cape economy and labour market**

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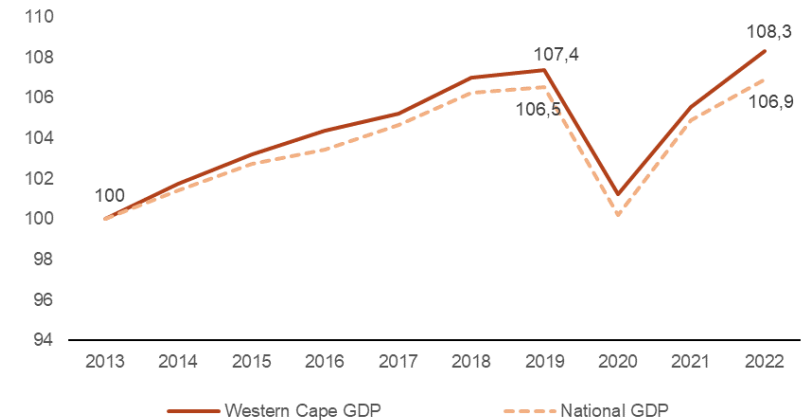


# The current context

- *Western Cape has grown faster than the rest of the country in terms of output and employment*

- Between 2019 and 2022, national real GDP grew by a mere 0.4% compared to average real growth of 0.9% in Western Cape.
- While employment in Western Cape has grown faster than the rest of the country over the last decade, the post-covid recovery has been a bit slower.
  - 2022 vs 2019
    - WC: 3.6% fewer people employed
    - SA: 1.5% more people employed

Western Cape and National real GDP (indexed, base year 2013)



Western Cape and National employed persons (indexed, base year 2013)

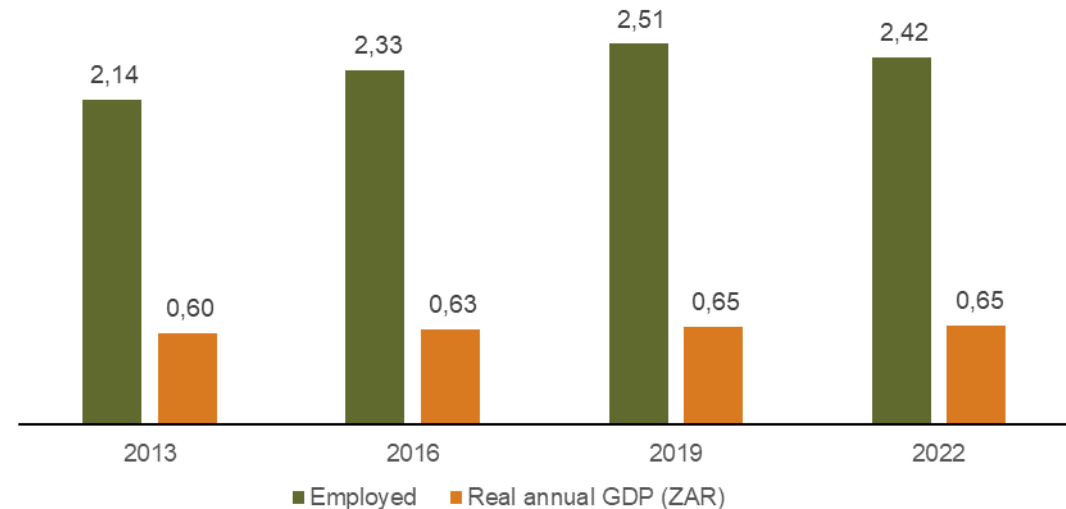


# The current context

- *Although recovering, employment and GDP were significantly impacted by COVID-pandemic*

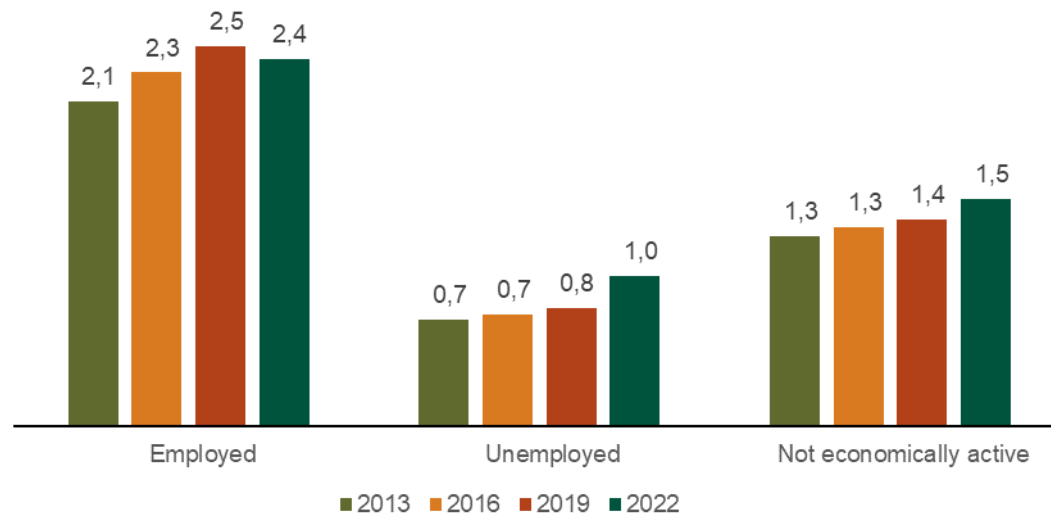
- Economic growth p.a.
  - 2013 – 2019: 1.2%
  - 2019 – 2022: 0.3%
- Employment growth p.a.
  - 2013 – 2019: 2.7%
  - 2019 – 2022: -1.2%

Western Cape GDP (in trillions) and number of employed persons (in millions)



***Although there has been recovery in the labour market and broader economy since the pandemic, overall labour market demand is low.***

# The number of unemployed and discouraged work seekers have increased substantially



## 2013 - 2019

- Employed: Up 0.4m
- Unemployed: Up 0.1m
- Discouraged work seekers: Up 0.1m

## 2019 - 2022

- Employed: Down 0.1m
- Unemployed: Up 0.2m
- Discouraged work seekers: Up 0.1m

***Over the last three years, the labour market has failed to absorb the increase in the labour force,***

***→ Oversupply***

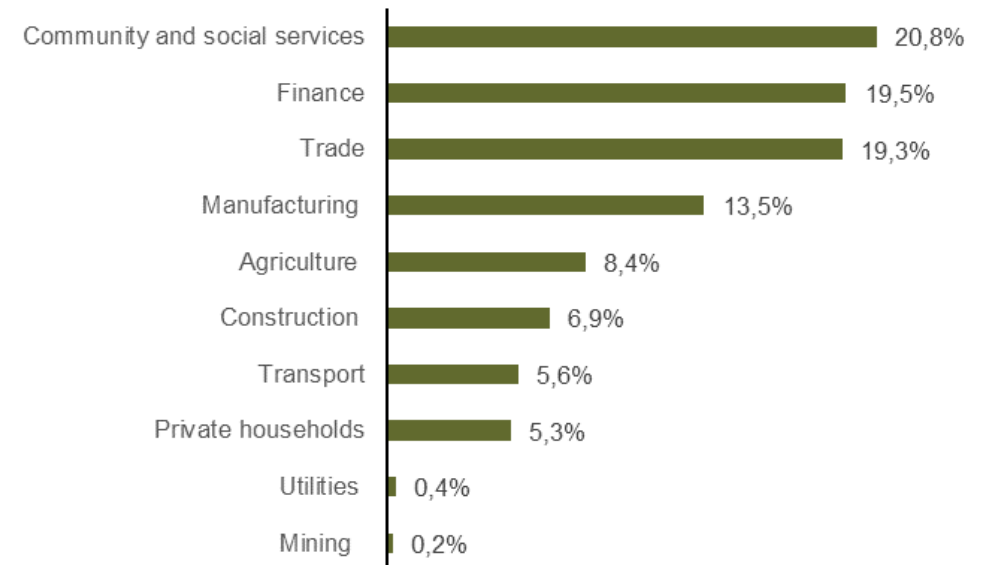
***→ Skills mismatch***

# Employment by industry

- Most employed individuals in the WC worked in community and social services, finance, and trade

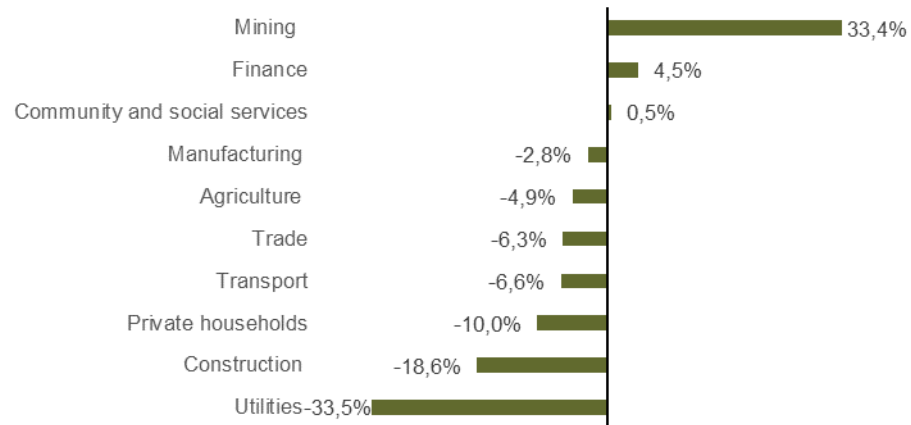
- A significant portion of the Western Cape's workforce (20.8%) works in community and social services, finance (19.5%) and trade (19.3%).
- Only 0.2% and 0.4%, worked in the utilities and mining sectors, respectively.

Western Cape 2022 employment by industry

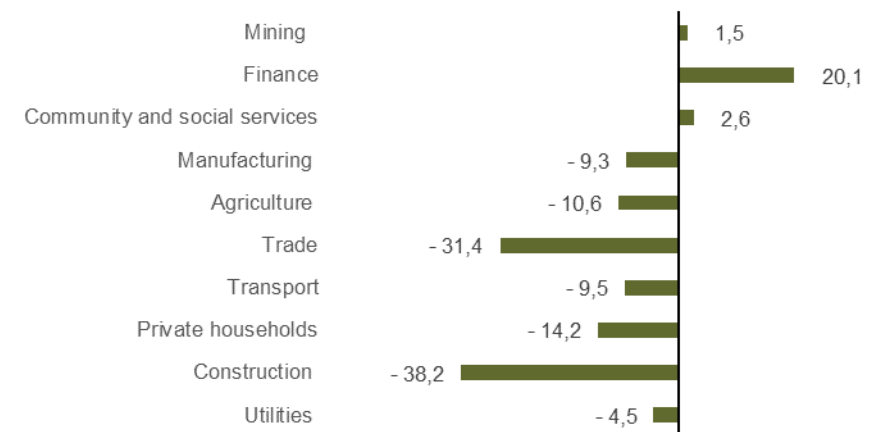


## In the WC only Mining, Finance, and Community and Social Services have shown employment growth since 2019

Western Cape percentage change in employed persons (2019 – 2022)



Western Cape change in employed persons (000s), 2019 – 2022



Largest contributors to the decrease in employment in the Western Cape:

- Construction: Net decrease of 38 244 people → 18.6%
- Trade: Net decrease of 31 419 people → 6.3%
- Private households: Net decrease of 14 163 → 10%

If not for Finance, particularly, the total employment decrease in the Western Cape would have exceeded 100 000.

# Analysis of secondary data

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# Quantitative analysis



**Aim: Rank  
occupations  
from highest  
to lowest  
demand**

- *Map SASCO codes to OFO codes*
- *Analyse Employment Pressure Data in QLFS*
- *Analyse Wage Pressure data in LMDS*
- *Analyse Vacancy Pressure data in CJ/PNET dataset*
- *Produce ranked list (3-digit).*

# Secondary data analysis

Dimension	Source	Variable (indicator)	Description
Employment pressure	Quarterly Labour Force Survey	Employment growth	Number of employed in 2022 relative to 2019
		Employment intensity	Average weekly hours in 2022 relative to 2019
		Employment duration	Average time employed in 2022 relative to 2019
Wage pressure	Labour Market Dynamics Survey	Mean wage growth	Average wage in 2022 relative to 2019
		Median wage growth	Median wage in 2022 relative to 2019
		Conditional mean wage growth	Conditional mean wage in 2022 relative to 2019
Vacancy pressure	PNET and Career Junction	Vacancies	Number of vacancies in 2022
		Vacancy growth	Vacancies in 2022 relative to 2019
		Renewal rate	Percentage of 2022 vacancies that had to be re-advertised
		Renewal rate growth	Renewal rate in 2022 relative to renewal rate in 2019

Step 1: Assign rank to each unit group for each indicator

Step 2: Calculate average rank across all indicators

- $Average\ rank\ (\bar{R}_j) = \frac{\sum_i w_i R_{ij}}{\sum_i w_i}$

Step 3: Calculate secondary data demand score for each unit group

- $Secondary\ data\ Demand\ Score_j(S_j) = 1 - \left( \frac{\bar{R}_j - \bar{R}^{min}}{\bar{R}^{max} - \bar{R}^{min}} \right)$

Step 4: Rank unit groups according to demand score



# Top 10 Minor Groups

OFO code	Minor group
2021-322	Nursing Midwifery Associate Professionals
2021-132	Manufacturing, Mining, Construction and Distribution Managers
2021-681	Food Processing and Related Trades Workers
2021-325	Other Health Associate Professionals
2021-422	Client Information Workers
2021-343	Artistic, Cultural and Culinary Associate Professionals
2021-441	Other Clerical Support Workers
2021-121	Business Services and Administration Managers
2021-342	Sports and Fitness Workers
2021-643	Painters, Building Structure Cleaners and Related Trades Workers

# Top 5 Minor Groups based on secondary data analysis

## 1) Nursing Midwifery Associate Professionals

Enrolled Nurse  
Mother Craft Nurse  
Assistant Midwife

## 2) Manufacturing, Mining, Construction and Distribution Managers

Manufacturer  
Manufacturing Operations Manager  
Engineering Manager  
Power Generation Operations Manager  
Manufacturing Quality Manager  
Quality Manager  
Metrologist  
Quality Systems Auditor  
Mining Manager  
Mineral Resources Manager  
Rock Engineering Manager  
Construction Project Manager  
Project Builder  
Supply and Distribution Manager  
Logistics Manager  
Road Transport Manager  
Warehouse Manager  
Fleet Manager  
Railway Station Manager  
Airport or Harbour Manager  
Grain Depot Manager  
Fuel Manager  
Maritime Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator

## 3) Food Processing and Related Trades Workers

Slaughterer  
Red Meat De-boner  
Butcher  
Fishmonger  
Poultry Slaughterer  
Confectionary Baker  
Pastry Cook  
Confectionery Maker  
Dairyman  
Fruit or Vegetable Preserver  
Oil Expeller  
Jam Maker  
Cheese Grader / Tester  
Food Taster / Grader  
Tea Taster / Grader  
Wine Taster / Grader  
Fruit and Vegetable Grader / Classer  
Livestock Product Analyst  
Cigar Maker  
Green Tobacco Storage Controller / Manager  
Tobacco Processing Machine Operator

## 4) Other Health Associate Professionals

Dental Assistant  
Oral Hygienist  
Health Information Manager  
Health Promotion Practitioner  
Dispensing Optician  
Massage Therapist  
Hydrotherapist  
Electrotherapist  
Physiotherapy Technician  
Clinical Associate  
Environmental and Occupational Health Inspector  
Marine Safety Officer  
Agricultural / Horticultural Produce Inspector  
Aquaculture Produce Analyst  
Safety Inspector  
Ammunition Technician  
Mine Health and Safety Inspector  
Magazine Master  
Ambulance Officer  
Intensive Care Ambulance Paramedic / Ambulance Paramedic  
Chiropractor  
Osteopath

## 5) Client Information Workers

Tourist Information Officer  
Travel Consultant  
Inbound Contact Centre Consultant  
Outbound Contact Centre Consultant  
Contact Centre Real Time Advisor  
Contact Centre Resource Planner  
Contact Centre Forecast Analyst  
Call or Contact Centre Agent  
Switchboard Operator  
Hotel or Motel Receptionist  
Enquiry Clerk  
Receptionist (General)  
Medical Receptionist  
Survey Interviewer  
Admissions Clerk  
Ship's Purser

# Analysis of survey data

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# Primary data collection and analysis



Aim: Collect views of employers regarding occupational demand

- *Develop online surveys*
- *Disseminate surveys to network*
- *Consolidate data as received*

# Survey description

Please list the specific occupations your organisation or the organisations you represent are likely to recruit for over the next three years.

- Column 1: Indicate the name of the specific occupation you will be recruiting for. BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE WITH THE NAME OF THE OCCUPATION (e.g. "Logistics Manager", rather than just "Manager" or "Welder" rather than just "Artisan")
- Column 2: Indicate your level of certainty that recruitment will take place on a scale of 1 – 4: 1. "possibly", 2. "probably", 3 "nearly certain", and 4 "definitely".

- **Date: 8 August 2023 – 1 October 2023 (8 weeks)**
- **Total survey responses: 353 (National: 1 730)**
- **Responses to demand question: 194 (National: 788)**

# Approach to analysing survey responses

Step 1: Map occupations specified in survey to the Organising Framework of Occupation classification

Step 2: Rank occupations according to the number of mentions and average level of certainty

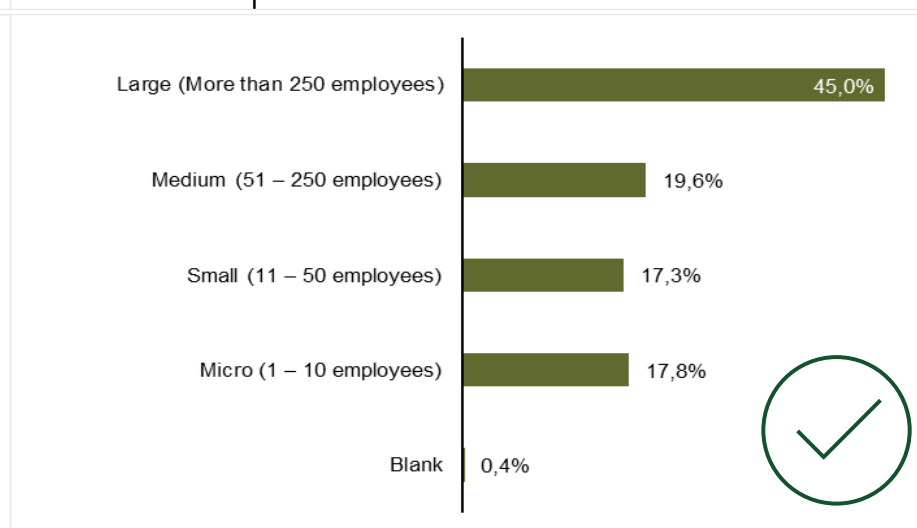
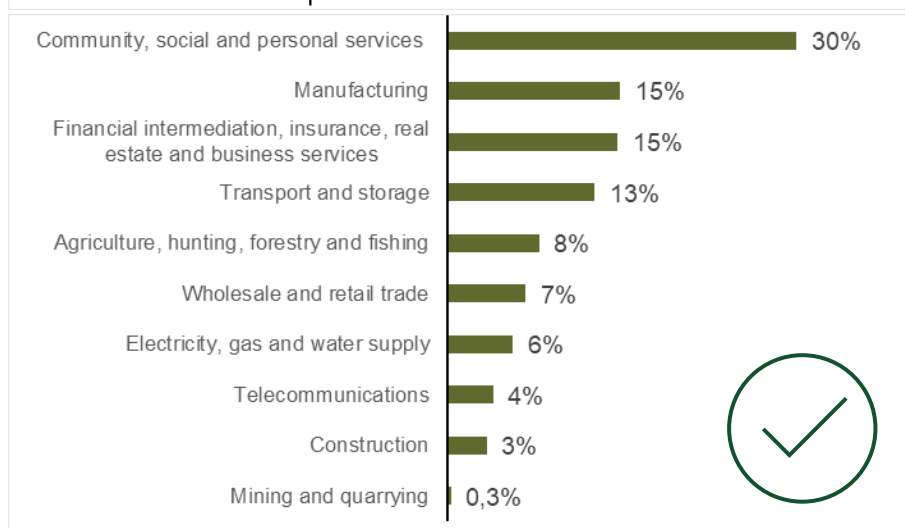
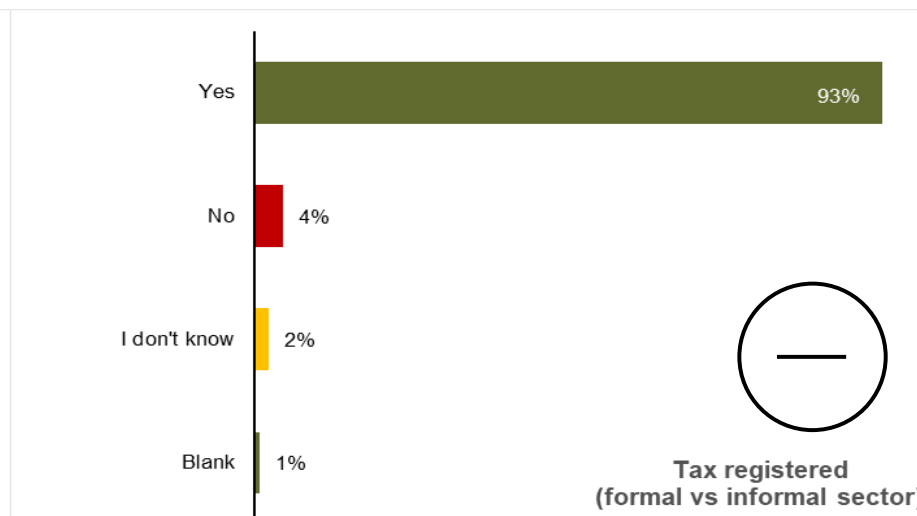
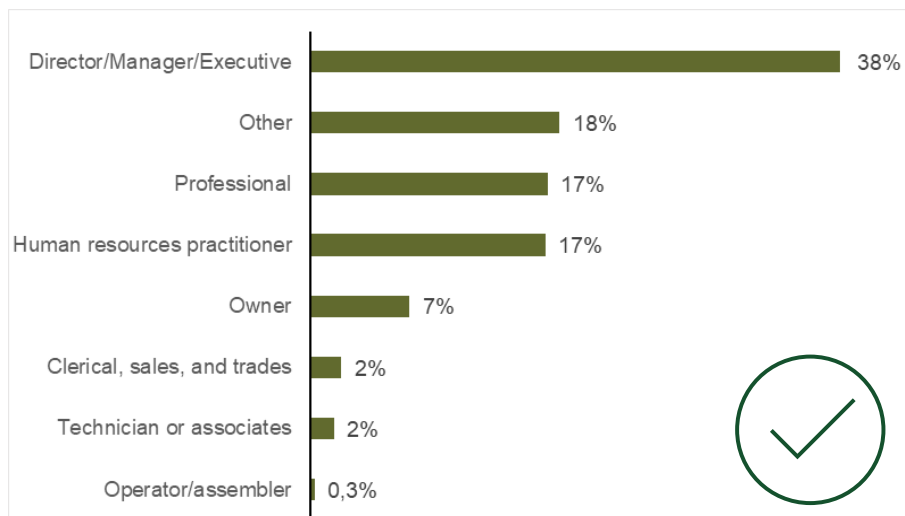
Step 3: Calculate mentions demand score ( $M_j$ )

- $M_j = 1 - \left( \frac{R_j^M}{R^{M,max}} \right)$

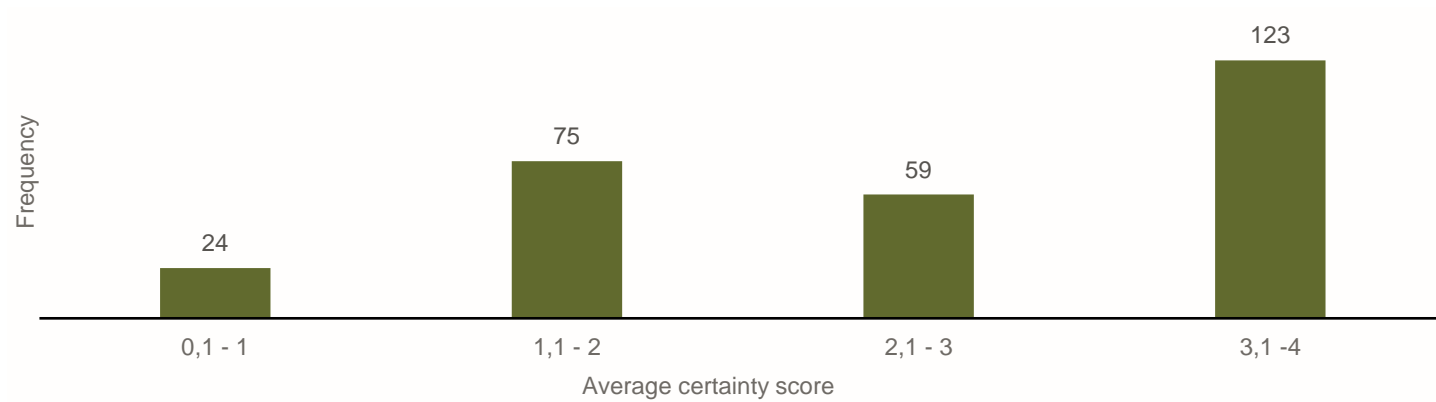
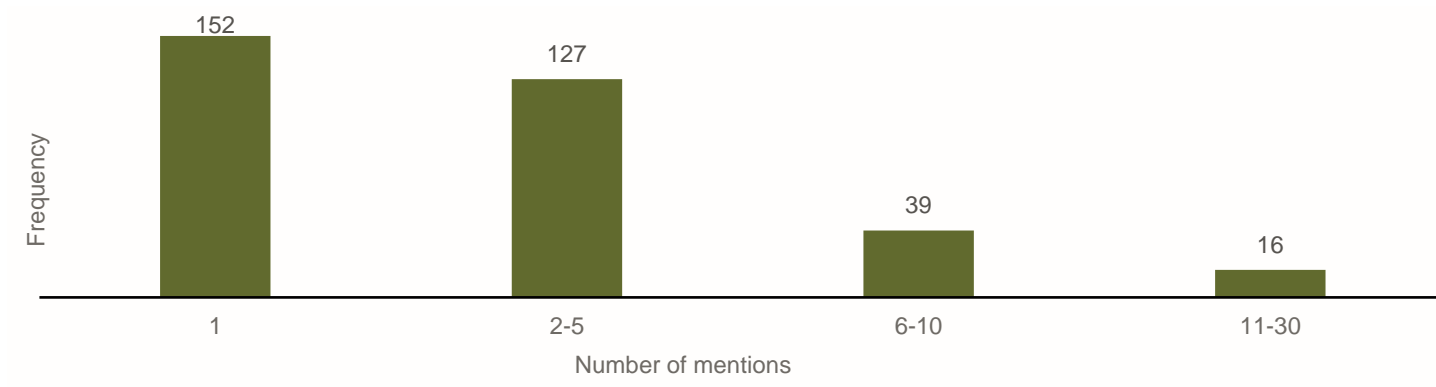
Step 4: Calculate certainty demand score ( $C_j$ )

- $C_j = 1 - \left( \frac{R_j^C}{R^{C,max}} \right)$

# Sample description



# Survey results frequency





# Final results

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# The list of Occupations in High Demand

What we have now:

- Occupations ranked based on secondary data according to demand → Demand score ( $S_j$ )
- Occupations ranked based on number of mentions → Demand score ( $M_j$ )
- Occupations ranked based on average demand rating → Demand score ( $C_j$ )

Next step:

- Rank occupations according to combined demand score → Weighted average score ( $D_j$ )

$$D_j = \frac{w_s S_j + w_m M_j + w_c C_j}{w_s + w_m + w_c}$$

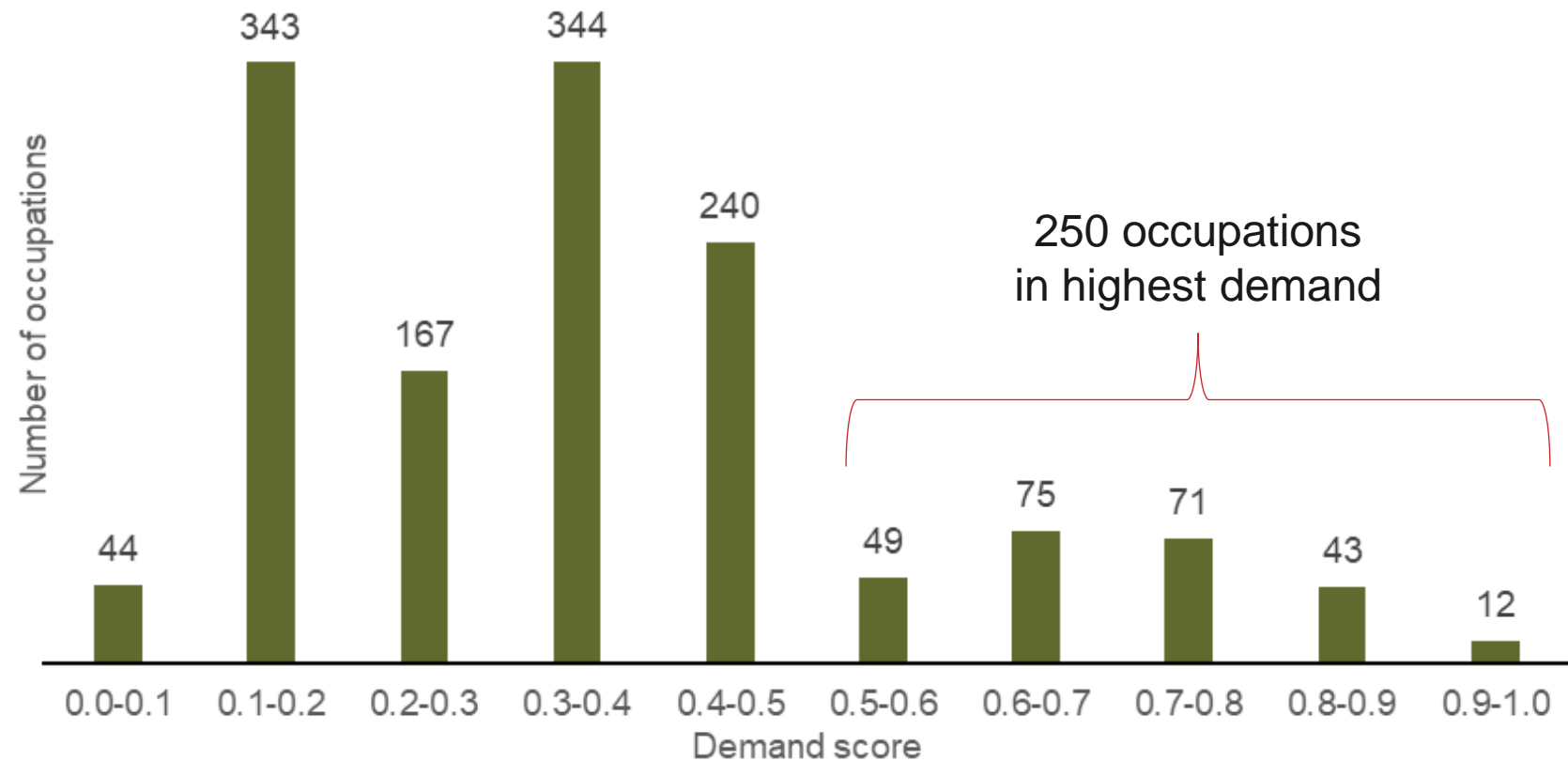
$$w_s = 1$$

$$w_m = 1$$

$$w_c = 0.1$$

*$w_c$  has small weight to small variance in responses*

# Demand score distribution



# Introducing the List of 245 OIHD

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*[Link to Excel Sheet with List of Occupations in High Demand](#)*



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