

## Employment

*Because it is difficult to undertake household surveys during a pandemic, the Quarterly Labour Force Survey has been delayed until late October. As a result, there are no official figures for second quarter employment.*

That said, a special Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) grant for employees who were unable to work due to regulations has been granted to around a third of the formal private labour force. The average value of the grant was R3 500. It was terminated from 15 August, however, although applications and payments continue for an additional month. Various surveys have indicated that when the grant stops, many companies will initiate retrenchments. Those figures will, however, likely only show up in the third quarter of 2020.

Beyond the workers covered by the UIF grant, informal workers – both employees and self-employed – and domestic workers have likely lost significant numbers of jobs. The self-employed are only eligible for the special COVID-19 social grant, however, which provides just R350 a month. In theory, domestic workers should benefit from the UIF grant, but only around a tenth actually received it.