

The demand for labour in the first quarter of 2020

10.06.2020


39.0%

decrease in the number of job vacancies compared to the fourth quarter of 2019

At the end of the first quarter of 2020, the number of job vacancies in Poland, in entities of the national economy or in their local units employing at least 1 person, was 76.5 thousand and was 48.9 thousand or 39.0% lower than at the end of the fourth quarter of 2019. As compared to the end of the first quarter of 2019, the number of vacancies was lower by 65.9 thousand or 46.3%. At the end of the first quarter of 2020, there were still 16.2 thousand unfilled newly created jobs.

The Survey on the demand for labour is conducted by a representative method on a quarterly basis, using the Z-05 reporting form. It covers units employing at least one person. Reporting units should be understood as entities of the national economy or their local units.

The Survey on the demand for labour for the first quarter of 2020 indicates that, out of 644.1 thousand units, the majority were private sector units (90.8%). In terms of their size expressed by the number of employed persons, the most numerous were units with up to 9 employed persons – they accounted for 64.7%.

In the first quarter of 2020, there were 35.0% fewer new jobs than in the corresponding period of the previous year. Moreover, 95.5% more jobs were liquidated than in the previous quarter and 35.2% more than in the first quarter of 2019. These changes are disproportionate to those previously observed. As in March this year the SARS-CoV-2 virus began to spread in Poland, it can be concluded that the collected data reflect the reactions of business entities to the epidemic situation at the time.

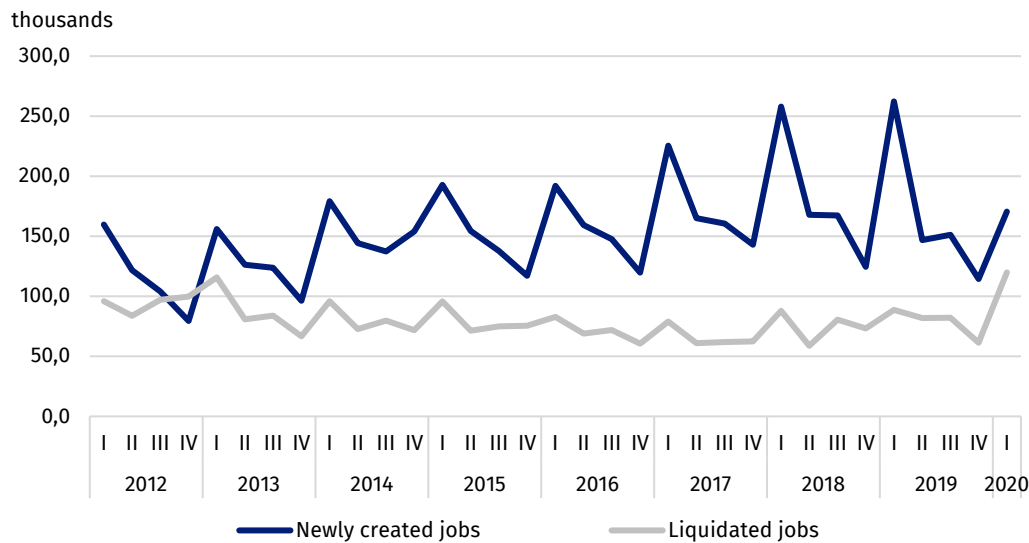
In the first quarter of 2020, fewer new jobs were created and more jobs were liquidated than a year ago

Table 1. Jobs in Poland – basic results of the survey

JOBS	2019		2020
	Quarter 1	Quarter 4	Quarter 1
as of the end of the quarter (in thousands)			
Vacancies	142.5	125.4	76.5
Vacancies – newly created jobs	30.7	28.4	16.2
during the quarter (in thousands)			
Newly created	262.3	114.4	170.6
Liquidated	88.7	61.3	119.9

Chart 1. Newly created and liquidated jobs in Poland

As of the end of the quarter



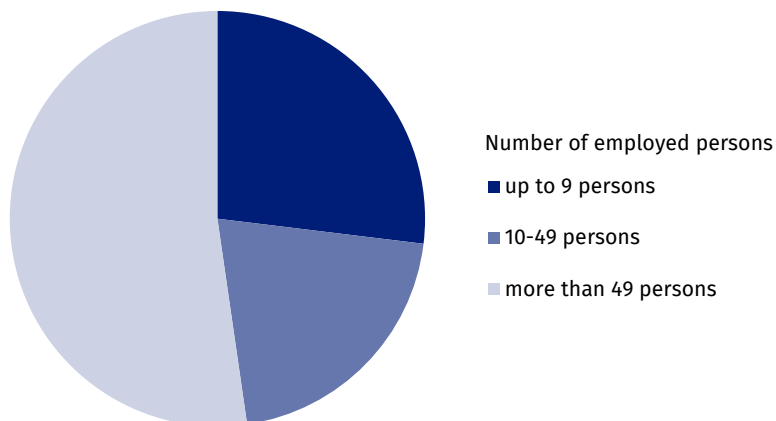
An increase or decrease in the number of newly created and liquidated jobs is affected by many factors, and from March 2020 also by the threat of COVID-19 disease. The analysis of the presented series of data shows that in Poland creating and liquidating jobs fluctuate throughout the year. In the case of newly created jobs, their number was the highest in the first quarters and usually the lowest in the fourth quarters. The increasing trend in the number of newly created jobs has continued since 2012 – the number reached the highest level in 2019. However, in the first quarter of 2020, when the SARS-CoV-2 virus causing COVID-19 disease began to spread, there was a significant decrease in the number of newly created jobs compared to the same quarter of 2019. Consequently, the number of newly created jobs reached the level of the year 2014.

From 2013 to 2019, most liquidated jobs occurred in the first quarter, but from year to year it was increasing. The year 2020 started differently – in the first quarter the number of liquidated jobs decreased and was close to that in the first quarter of 2013. It is also noted that, until the end of 2019 the differences between the minimum and maximum number of liquidated jobs were increasing over subsequent years.

At the end of the first quarter of 2020, only 24.7 thousand units or 3.8% of their total number had job vacancies at their disposal. The ownership and size structure of units reporting job vacancies reflects the structure of the whole population. The vast majority, that is 83.3% belonged to the private sector. Units with up to 9 employed persons constituted just over half (51.7%) of the total number of units.

Job vacancies

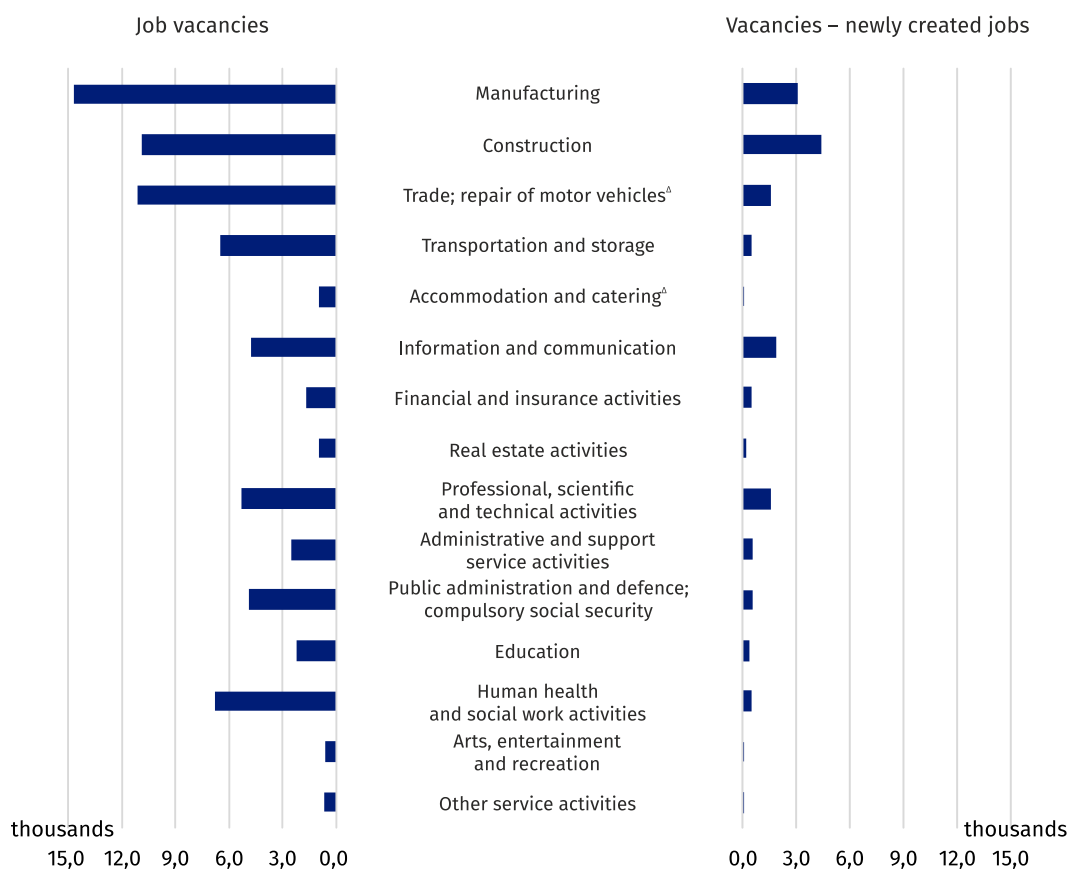
Chart 2. The structure of job vacancies in Poland by size of units as of the end of the first quarter of 2020



Job vacancies as of the end of the first quarter of 2020 were concentrated mainly in the private sector (77.9%). Most of them were reported in units with the number of employed persons larger than 49 (52.2%)

The number of reported job vacancies as of the end of the first quarter of 2020 was 76.5 thousand, of which 59.6 thousand in the private sector. Vacancies occurred mainly in units with more than 49 employed persons.

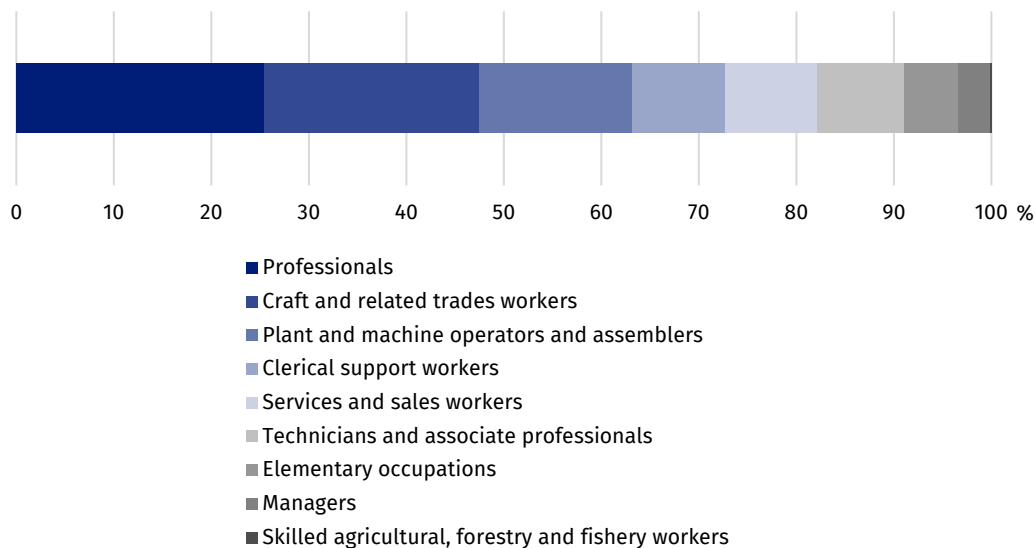
Chart 3. Job vacancies and vacancies – newly created jobs in Poland by selected PKD 2007 (NACE Rev.2) sections as of the end of the first quarter of 2020



As in the previous quarters, most job vacancies were in units conducting activities in the field of manufacturing (19.2%)

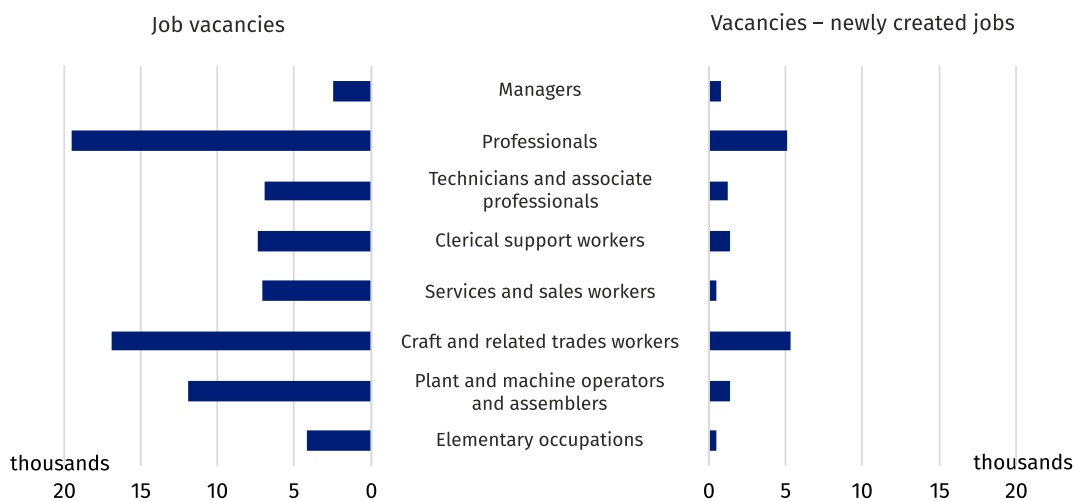
In the first quarter of 2020, most job vacancies were in units conducting activities in the field of manufacturing (19.2% of the total number of job vacancies), then in trade; repair of motor vehicles^Δ (14.5%) and in construction (14.2%).

Chart 4. The structure of job vacancies in Poland by major occupational groups as of the end of the first quarter of 2020



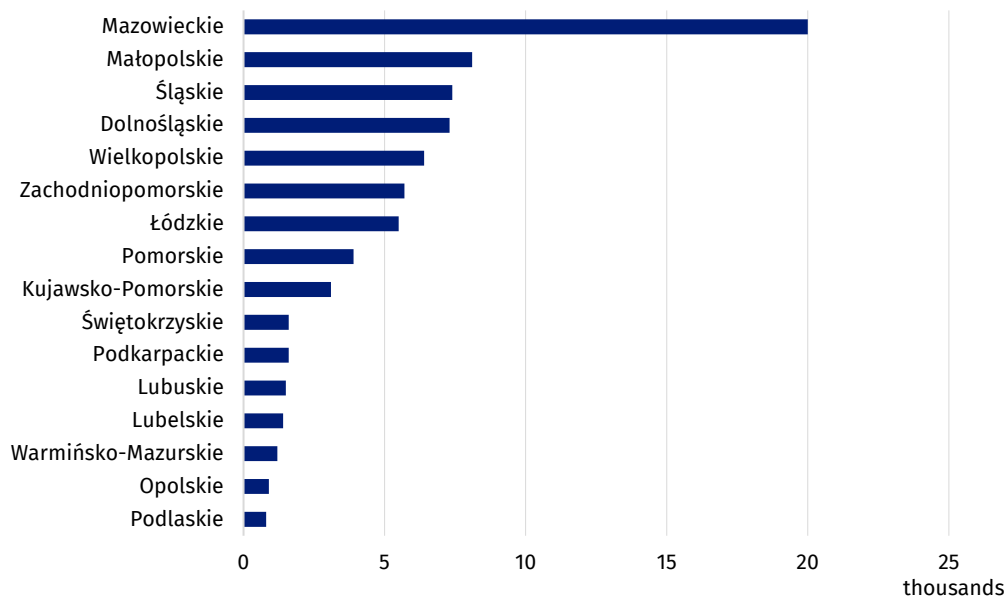
Units that had job vacancies were most often looking for professionals (25.5% of the total number of job vacancies). Significant shares were constituted also by job vacancies for craft and related trades workers (22.1%), plant and machine operators and assemblers (15.6%) and clerical support workers (9.6%).

Chart 5. Job vacancies and vacancies – newly created jobs in Poland by occupations as of the end of the first quarter of 2020



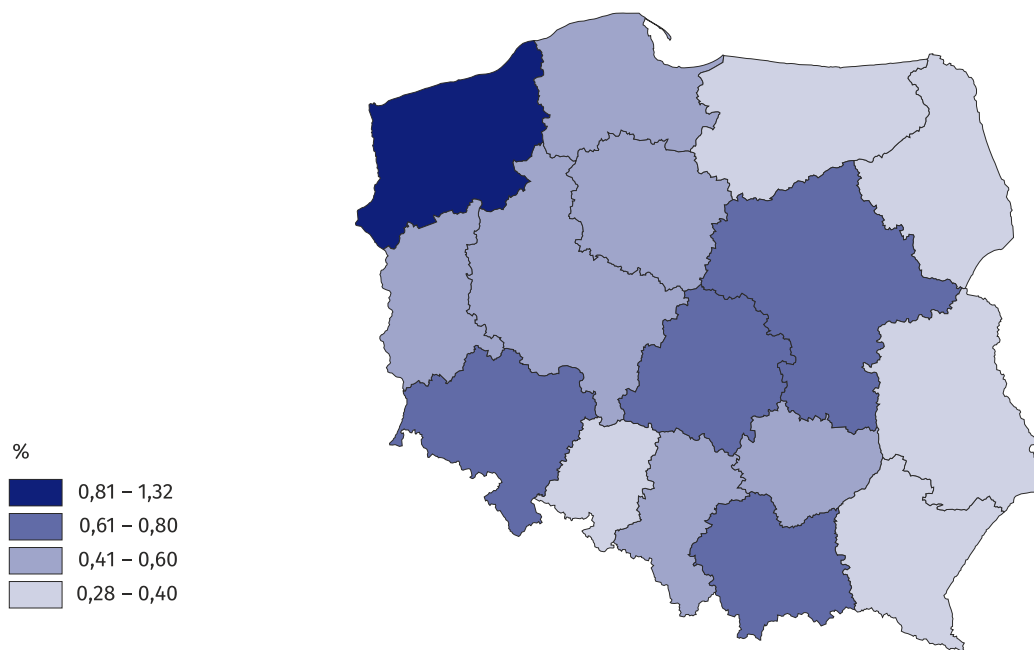
In the first quarter of 2020, unfilled jobs were offered primarily to professionals (25.5%)

Chart 6. Job vacancies by voivodships as of the end of the first quarter of 2020



At the end of the first quarter of 2020, the following voivodships had the largest number of vacancies: Mazowieckie (26.2% of job vacancies in Poland), Małopolskie (10.6%) and Śląskie (9.7%), whereas the smallest numbers of vacancies were recorded in the voivodships: Warmińsko-Mazurskie (1.6%), Opolskie (1.2%) and Podlaskie (1.0%).

Map 1. Job vacancy rate by voivodships as of the end of the first quarter of 2020



The job vacancy rate – the proportion of total posts that are vacant, expressed as a percentage of the sum of the number of occupied posts and the number of job vacancies

The job vacancy rate in Poland in the first quarter of 2020 was 0.61%

In the first quarter of 2020, the lowest job vacancy rate was in the Podlaskie Voivodship – 0.28%, while the highest in the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodship – 1.32%

Newly created jobs

In the first quarter of 2020, 170.6 thousand new jobs were created in Poland. It was 35.0% fewer as compared to the first quarter of 2019. The largest number of new jobs were created in the group of units with up to 9 employed persons – 69.9 thousand (41.0%). Their number in units with more than 49 employed persons amounted to 44.6 thousand (26.1%) and in units with 10 to 49 employed persons – 56.1 thousand (32.9%).

In the first quarter of 2020, the majority of new jobs were created in the private sector (91.3%)

New jobs, as in all quarters of 2019, were generated mainly in units conducting activities in the field of trade; repair of motor vehicles^Δ – 36.5 thousand (21.4%). However, this share was 7.2% lower than for instance in the first quarter of 2019. In manufacturing 28.3 thousand new jobs (16.6%) were created, in construction – 27.3 thousand (16.0%). The fewest new jobs were created in units conducting activities in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply – 0.5 thousand (0.3%). Not many new jobs were also created in: mining and quarrying – 0.7 thousand (0.4%), real estate activities – 1.8 thousand (1.1%), agriculture, forestry and fishing – 1.9 thousand (1.1%) and arts, entertainment and recreation – 1.9 thousand (1.1%).

In the first quarter of 2020, more than one fifth of new jobs were generated in the Mazowieckie Voivodship – 36.3 thousand. Jobs created either in the Małopolskie or the Śląskie voivodships, accounted for around 10% of the total number of jobs created in Poland, while in the voivodships: Podlaskie, Świętokrzyskie and Warmińsko-Mazurskie – less than 2%. At the end of the first quarter of 2020, there were 16.2 thousand (9.5%) unfilled newly created jobs, mainly in the private sector – 14.8 thousand (91.4%). They occurred mainly in units with more than 49 employed persons – 7.4 thousand (45.9%) and in those with 10 to 49 persons – 5.3 thousand (32.9%).

As compared to the previous quarter, the number of vacant newly created jobs decreased by 12.2 thousand (43.0%), and in comparison with the first quarter of 2019 decreased by 14.5 thousand (47.3%).

Newly created jobs were not filled mainly in units running activities in the field of construction – 4.4 thousand (27.0%), manufacturing – 3.1 thousand (19.1%) and information and communication – 1.9 thousand (11.8%). They were intended mainly for craft and related trades workers – 5.3 thousand (32.8%), professionals – 5.1 thousand (31.6%) and clerical support workers – 1,4 thousand (8.4%).

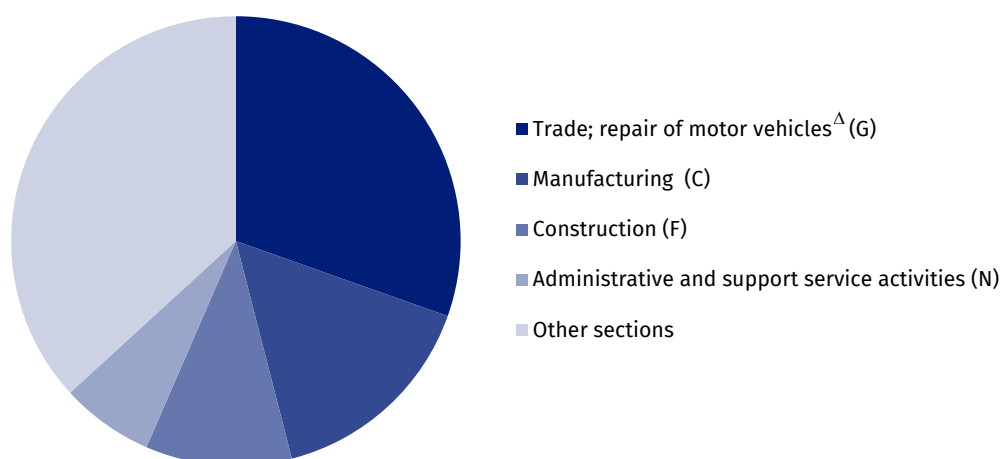
The largest number of vacant newly created jobs, that is 23.3% (3.8 thousand) were in the Mazowieckie Voivodship, then in the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodship – 3.0 thousand (18.6%) and the Dolnośląskie Voivodship – 2.3 thousand (14.2%). Not many, that is fewer than 0.1 thousand new jobs were created in both the Podlaskie Voivodship and the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodship.

Liquidated jobs

In the first quarter of 2020, 119.9 thousand jobs were liquidated in Poland, that is 35.2% more than in the first quarter of 2019. They were liquidated most often in units with up to 9 employed persons – 50.3 thousand (42.0%), as well as in units with 10 to 49 employed persons – 46.1 thousand (38.4%). Jobs liquidated in the first quarter of 2020 (119.9 thousand) accounted for 38.2% of all jobs liquidated in the previous year.

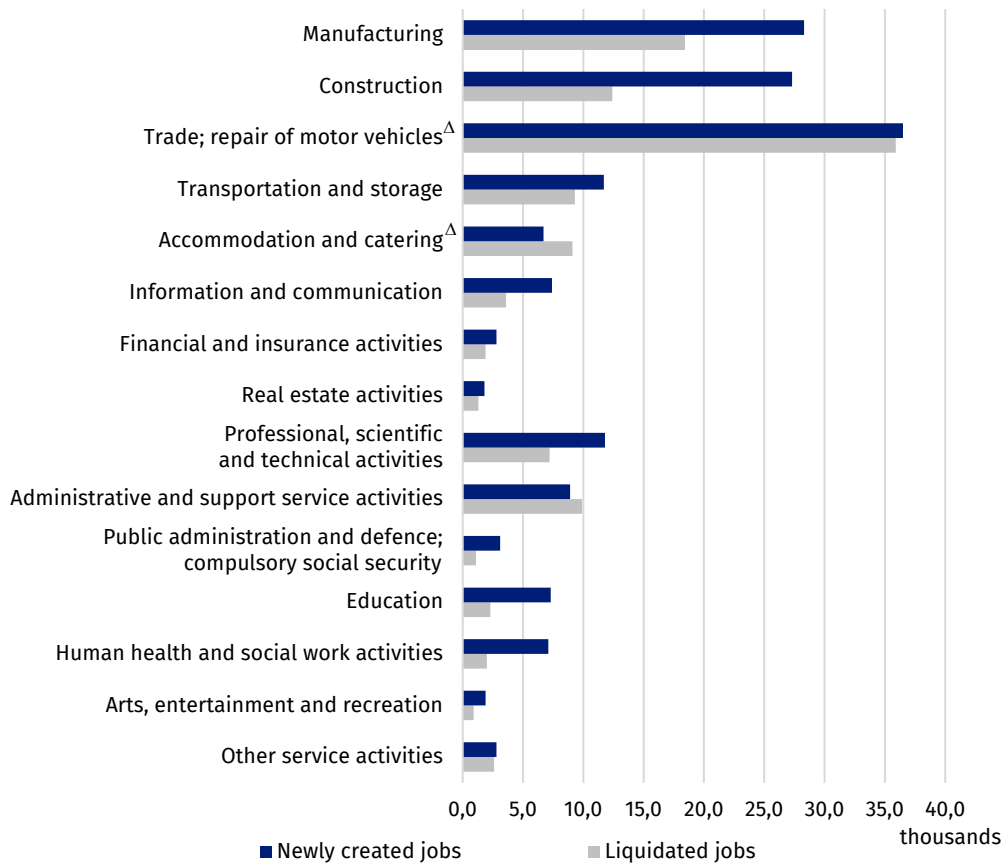
In the first quarter of 2020, jobs were liquidated mainly in the private sector (96.3%)

Chart 7. The structure of liquidated jobs in Poland by PKD 2007 (NACE Rev.2) sections in the first quarter of 2020



In the first quarter of 2020, jobs were liquidated most often in units conducting activities in the field of trade; repair of motor vehicles^Δ (29.9%)

Chart 8. Newly created and liquidated jobs in Poland in selected PKD 2007 (NACE Rev.2) sections in the first quarter of 2020



Jobs were liquidated most often in units conducting activities in the field of trade; repair of motor vehicles^Δ (29,9% of all liquidated jobs) and manufacturing (15.3%). The fewest jobs were liquidated in units conducting activities within mining and quarrying — 0,1% of the total number of liquidated jobs.

In this news release abbreviated names of NACE, Rev. 2 sections were used. Abbreviations are marked with a 'Δ' symbol. Full names are available on the Eurostat website at: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/classifications>

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Terms used in official statistics

[Demand for labour](#)

[Vacancies](#)

[Newly created jobs](#)