

2022 FIRST QUARTER LABOUR FORCE SURVEY RESULTS



July, 2022

2022 First Quarter Quarterly Labour Force Survey report is produced by the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT).

Additional information about the 2022 First Quarter Quarterly Labour Force Survey report may be obtained from:

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Table of Contents

List of Tables	iii
List of Figures	iv
Acronyms and Abbreviations	vi
2022 FIRST QUARTER QUARTERLY LABOUR FORCE KEY FINDINGS	vii
1. Introduction	1
2. Objectives of the Survey.....	1
3. Survey Methodology	1
4. Key Labour Market Indicators Derived from the QLFS and Definition of Terms	2
5. 2022 First Quarter QLFS Findings	5

List of Tables

Table 1: Households Covered and Response Rates by Province.....	8
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List of Figures

Figure 1: Labour Force Participation Rates by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	8
Figure 2: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Labour Force Participation Rates by Province	9
Figure 3: Labour Force Participation Rates by Area and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	10
Figure 4: Labour Force Participation Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS..	10
Figure 5: Employment to Population Ratio by Province and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS ..	11
Figure 6: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Employment to Population Ratio by Province	12
Figure 6: Employment to Population Ratio by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS ..	13
Figure 7: Employment to Population Ratio by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS ..	13
Figure 8: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Sector of Employment, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	14
Figure 9: Comparing Distribution of the Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Sector of Employment, 2021 Fourth and 2022 First Quarter QLFS	15
Figure 10: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	15
Figure 11: Comparing Distribution of the Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Province, 2021 Fourth and 2022 First Quarters QLFS	16
Figure 12: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	16
Figure 13: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Income Band in ZWL\$ Dollars, 2022 First Quarter QLFS.....	17
Figure 14: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Average Income and Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	17
Figure 15: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Status in Employment, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	18
Figure 16: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Occupation, 2022 First Quarter QLFS.....	19
Figure 17: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above in the Informal Sector by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	19
Figure 18: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons 15 Years and Above Informally Employed by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	20
Figure 19: Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	20
Figure 20: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Unemployment Rates by Province	21
Figure 21: Unemployment Rates by Area and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	21
Figure 22: Unemployment Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	22
Figure 23: Unemployment Rates by Highest Level of Education Completed and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	23
Figure 24: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	24

Figure 25: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Expanded Unemployment Rates by Province	24
Figure 26: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS .	25
Figure 27: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Area, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	25
Figure 28: Proportion (%) of Youth (15-24) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	26
Figure 29: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Youth (15-24) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training.....	27
Figure 30: Proportion (%) of Youth (15-34) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	28
Figure 31: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Youth (15-34) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training.....	29
Figure 32: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Province, 2022 First Quarter QLFS.....	30
Figure 33: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Area, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	31
Figure 32: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	31
Figure 33: Proportion (%) of Persons who lost their Jobs 3 Months Preceding the Survey by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	32
Figure 34: Proportion (%) of Persons who lost their Jobs 3 Months Preceding the Survey by Industry and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	32
Figure 35: Proportion (%) of Labour Migrants by Country of Origin, 2022 First Quarter QLFS	33
Figure 36: Proportion (%) of Labour Migrants by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS.....	33
Figure 37: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons with At Least One Form of Disability, 2022 Fourth Quarter QLFS	34

Acronyms and Abbreviations

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
EPR	Employment to Population Ratio
ICLS	International Conference of Labour Statisticians
ILO	International Labour Organisation
LFPR	Labour Force Participation Rate
NDS1	National Development Strategy 1
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
QLFS	Quarterly Labour Force Survey
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
ZIMSTAT	Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency
ZWL\$	Zimbabwe Dollar

Foreword

The Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT) conducts Quarterly Labour Force Surveys (QLFSs) as a way of ensuring timely provision of high frequency labour market statistics that informs planning and decision making. This report presents the 2022 first quarter QLFS results.

The QLFS provides key labour market indicators which include but not limited to levels of employment both formal and informal, unemployment and some labour underutilization indicators, income levels, labour migration and job losses. These statistics are useful in providing information for policy formulation on employment, human capital development strategies, macroeconomic development, incomes support and social programmes. The survey findings also feed into the compilation of the quarterly Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the economy.

The Labour market statistics herein are derived on the basis of the 2013 Labour force framework adopted at the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) that provided new guidelines for measuring and compiling statistics on work, employment and labour underutilization.

It is also noteworthy to note that results of the Quarterly Labour Force Surveys are susceptible to seasonal variations. As such, long term trend analysis of the results will be done through analysis of year on year quarterly changes.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to our technical partner, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for continuously giving guidance when reviewing the QLFS questionnaire.

As a Statistical Agency we remain indebted to all households that participated in the survey for their invaluable time and effort. The competency, dedication and hard work exuded by ZIMSTAT staff is second to none and much appreciated.

I have no doubt that the results of this survey will be fully utilised in the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of national development plans and strategies.

Taguma Mahonde

DIRECTOR - GENERAL

2022 FIRST QUARTER QUARTERLY LABOUR FORCE KEY FINDINGS

1. Introduction

Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a national household based sample survey which was conducted in private households both in rural and urban areas across all provinces of Zimbabwe. The survey produces key labour market indicators which include to levels of formal and informal employment, unemployment and other labour underutilisation indicators, labour migrants as well as job losses.

2. Objectives of the Survey

The primary objective of the survey is to provide in-depth information on the labour force status as well as socio-economic indicators useful in monitoring living conditions.

Specifically the survey provides information on:

- a) The number of people classified according to their activity status in line with the 19th ICLS resolution in terms of the measurement of work statistics;
- b) Informal sector and informal employment;
- c) Labour migration;
- d) Labour market indicators necessary to monitor the implementation of Zimbabwe's macro-economic policies such as the National Development Strategy 1 and other related strategies;
- e) Key labour market indicators for Zimbabwe that are comparable with other SADC and African countries in line with international standards established by the ILO; and
- f) Indicators that allow monitoring of the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

3. Survey Methodology

A two stage sample design was used for sample selection. The first stage was the selection of enumeration areas using the probability proportional to size criteria. The second stage entailed selection of households in the selected enumeration areas using random systematic sampling technique. A total of 500 enumeration areas and 12,500 households were selected for the survey. The survey had a national response rate of 93 percent.

4. Key Labour Market Indicators Derived from the QLFS and Definition of Terms

i) The Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

The LFPR is defined as the sum of the employed and unemployed population expressed as a percentage of the working age population.

Computation

$$\text{LFPR} = \frac{(\text{Employed persons} + \text{Unemployed persons})}{\text{Working Age Population}} \times 100$$

ii) Employment-to-Population Ration (EPR)

The EPR is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the working age population.

Computation

$$\text{EPR} = \frac{\text{number of employed persons in the working age population}}{\text{Total number of persons in the working age population}} \times 100$$

iii) Status in Employment

Indicators of status in employment distinguish between the two main categories of the employed: (1) employees (also known as wage and salaried workers) and (2) the self-employed. The self-employed are further disaggregated into (a) employers, (b) own-account workers, (c) members of producers' cooperatives, and (d) contributing family workers. Each of these categories is expressed as a proportion of the total number of employed persons.

iv) Employment by sector

This indicator disaggregates employed persons into the 21 sections of the International Standard Classification of all Economic activities (ISIC Revision 4) and expresses each sector as a percentage of total employment.

v) Employment by occupation

This indicator disaggregates employed persons into the 9 major groups of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08) and expresses each group as a percentage of total employment.

vi) Employment in the informal economy

Employment in the informal economy covers two concepts; informal sector and informal employment. Employment in the informal sector is determined by the characteristics of the enterprise in which a person is employed. A production unit is considered to be in the informal sector if the establishment is not registered with the Registrar of Companies.

Informal employment is determined by the characteristics of the job a person holds. Informal employment includes the following jobs; own account workers and employers employed in their own informal sector enterprises; unpaid contributing family workers irrespective of whether they work in formal or informal sector enterprises; members of informal producers' cooperative, and paid employees not entitled to any of the following: contribution to pension fund by employer, paid annual leave, paid sick leave and written contract with employer.

vii) Unemployment

Persons in unemployment are defined as persons who during the reference period; were without paid work, were seeking for work and were available to start working.

Computation

$$\text{Unemployment Rate} = \frac{\text{Total number of unemployed persons}}{\text{Labour force}} \times 100$$

viii) Youth unemployment rate

This indicator is computed for two different youth categories; youths 15-24 years and youths 15-34 years in line with the United Nations and African Union definitions of youths, respectively.

Computation

$$\text{Youth Unemployment Rate} = \frac{\text{Total number of unemployed youths}}{\text{Youths Labour force}} \times 100$$

ix) Youth Not in Employment, Education or Training

The NEET is defined as the percentage of youth (15-24 years or 15-34 years old) who are not in employment and not in education or training. The indicator is calculated as follows:

Computation

$$\text{NEET} = \frac{[\text{Number of youth} - (\text{Number of youth in employment} + \text{Number of youth not in employment but in education or training})]}{\text{Total number of youths}} \times 100$$

x) Work related income

Average income received per month per sector is computed for employed persons in their main jobs.

xi) Expanded unemployment rate

Expanded unemployment rate is basically the combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (PLF), where potential labour force consist of working age persons who during the reference period; were without paid work and either were seeking for work but were not available to start working or were available to start working but were not seeking for work.

Computation

$$\text{Expanded unemployment rate} = \frac{(\text{Total number of unemployed persons} + \text{PLF})}{\text{Labour force} + \text{PLF}} \times 100$$

5. 2022 First Quarter QLFS Findings

Table 1 below gives some key findings obtained from the survey in comparison with 2021 fourth quarter survey results.

Table 1: Key Findings

	4 th Quarter 2021		1 st Quarter 2022	
Indicator	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Working Age Population (15 years and above)	8,957,612		9,282,347	
Labour Force (15 years and above)	3,787,269		4,057,096	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)		42.3		43.7
Total Employed	3,035,419		3,274,645	
Employment to Population Ratio (EPR)		33.9		35.3
Sector of Employment				
Formal (non-agriculture)	876,034	28.9	913,989	27.9
Informal (non-agriculture)	1,408,032	46.4	1,463,209	44.7
Agriculture	617,055	20.3	769,311	23.5
Household	134,298	4.4	128,136	3.9
Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	751,850	19.9	782,451	19.3
Youth (15-24 years)	283,984	35.2	298,998	35.4
Youth (15-34 years)	520,948	27.6	533,097	27.3
Expanded/Relaxed Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	2,714,724	47.2	2,907,330	47.0
Youth (15-24 years)	975,828	65.1	1,070,764	66.3
Youth (15-34 years)	1,749,590	56.1	1,875,841	56.9
Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)				
Youth (15-24 years) NEET	1,331,174	46.8	1,508,148	51.8
Youth (15-34 years) NEET	2,327,221	49.4	2,518,978	52.2

Executive Summary

The working age population was estimated at 9 million constituting 59 percent of the total population. The total labour force obtained from the survey was 3.8 million giving a total Labour Force Participation Rate of 44 percent.

Around 3.2 million of the working age population were currently employed. The national Employment to Population Ratio (EPR) stood at 35 percent. Harare had the highest proportion of the employed population at around 25 percent followed by Mashonaland West at 14 percent. Matabeleland North with 3 percent had the least proportion.

Twenty-eight percent of the employed population was in the formal sector while forty-five percent were in the informal sector. Of those in employment 24 percent and 4 percent were in the agriculture and household sectors, respectively. Eighty-eight percent of the employed population were informally employed.

The wholesale trade; retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles industry had the largest proportion of the employed population at 26 percent followed by agriculture, forestry and fishing with 24 percent.

Seventy-seven percent of the employed persons earned income of RTGS\$20,000 and below during the month of January 2022.

Nineteen percent of persons 15 years and above were unemployed. Among males the rate was 18 percent while for females it was 21 percent. Matabeleland North province had the highest unemployment rate of 37 percent. The age groups (15-19) years had the highest unemployment rate of 39 percent followed by those aged (20-24) years at 34 percent.

Youth (15-24) years had a national unemployment rate of 35 percent. The national unemployment rate for youth (15-34) years was 27 percent. Unemployment rate was highest among those who had completed upper secondary at 28 percent followed by those with lower secondary at 22 percent.

The expanded national unemployment rate for persons 15 years and above was 47 percent. It was higher for females at 52 percent than males with 43 percent. Matabeleland North had the highest expanded unemployment rate of 65 percent.

The age group (15-19) years had the highest expanded unemployment rate of 72 percent. Youths (15-24) years had a national expanded unemployment rate of 66 percent while the national expanded unemployment rate for youths (15-34) years was 57 percent.

The expanded unemployment rate was higher among those staying in the rural areas at 53 percent than those in urban area at 40 percent.

The national proportion of youths (15-24) and (15-34) years who were Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) was estimated at 52 percent, respectively.

Two percent of the currently employed population reported suffering from work related injuries/illnesses or both in the last twelve months preceding the survey. Harare Province had the highest proportion, 31 percent of employed persons who reported having suffered both work related illnesses and injury. Around 55 percent of those who reported having suffered work related illnesses or injuries resided in urban areas. Most workers were injured in the manufacturing and agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors at 19 percent, respectively

The survey revealed that there were 27 thousand labour migrants of whom the majority 45 percent came from Mozambique followed by 20 percent who came from Zambia.

One percent of the employed population had at least one form of functional disability.

Table 1: Households Covered and Response Rates by Province, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

Province	Sampled	Occupied	Interviewed	Household completion rate	Household response rate
Zimbabwe	12,500	11,937	11,101	88.8	93.0
Bulawayo	950	908	815	85.8	89.8
Manicaland	1,475	1,406	1,372	93.0	97.6
Mashonaland Central	1,225	1,191	1,134	92.6	95.2
Mashonaland East	1,325	1,260	1,151	86.9	91.3
Mashonaland West	1,325	1,289	1,246	94.0	96.7
Matabeleland North	975	953	899	92.2	94.3
Matabeleland South	875	844	817	93.4	96.8
Midlands	1,375	1,294	1,218	88.6	94.1
Masvingo	1,325	1,238	1,172	88.5	94.7
Harare	1,650	1,554	1,277	77.4	82.2
Area					
Urban	4,061	3,822	3,387	83.4	88.6
Rural	8,439	8,115	7,714	91.4	95.1

Figure 1: Labour Force Participation Rates by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

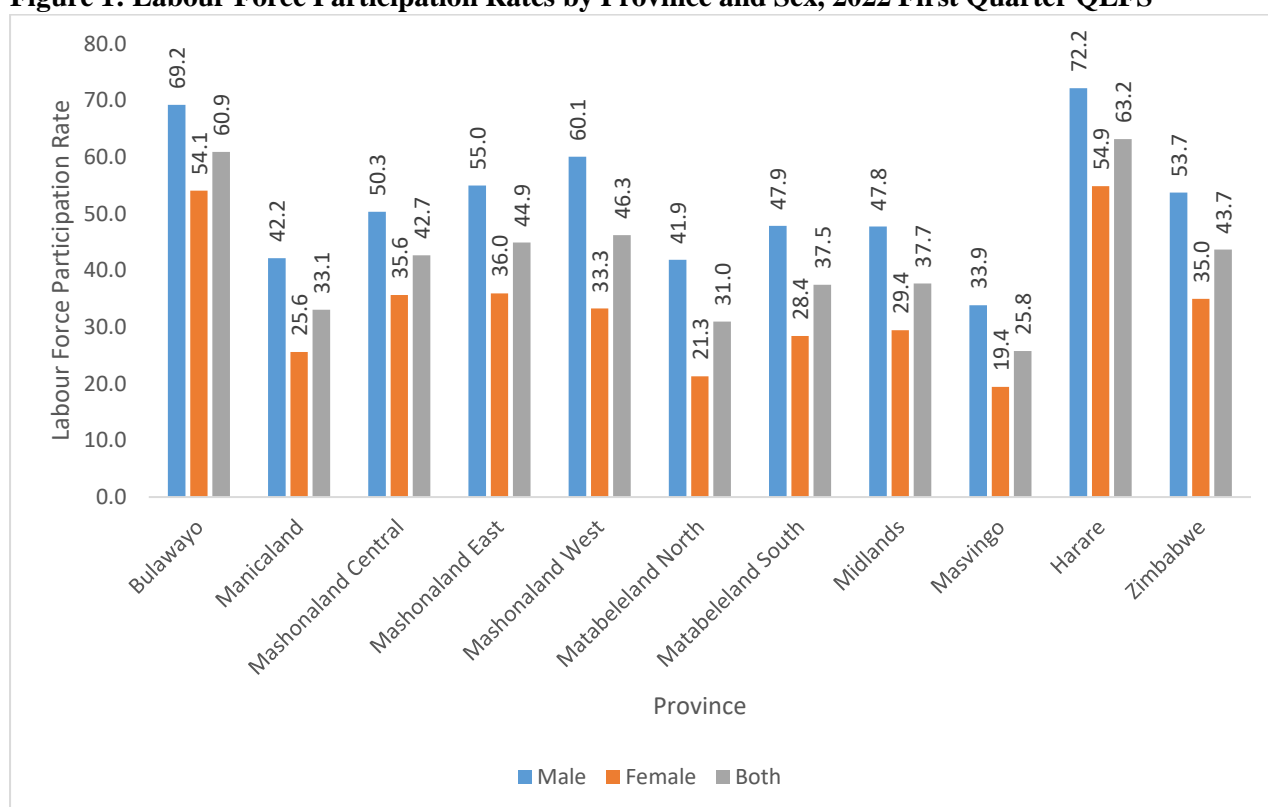


Figure 2: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Labour Force Participation Rates by Province

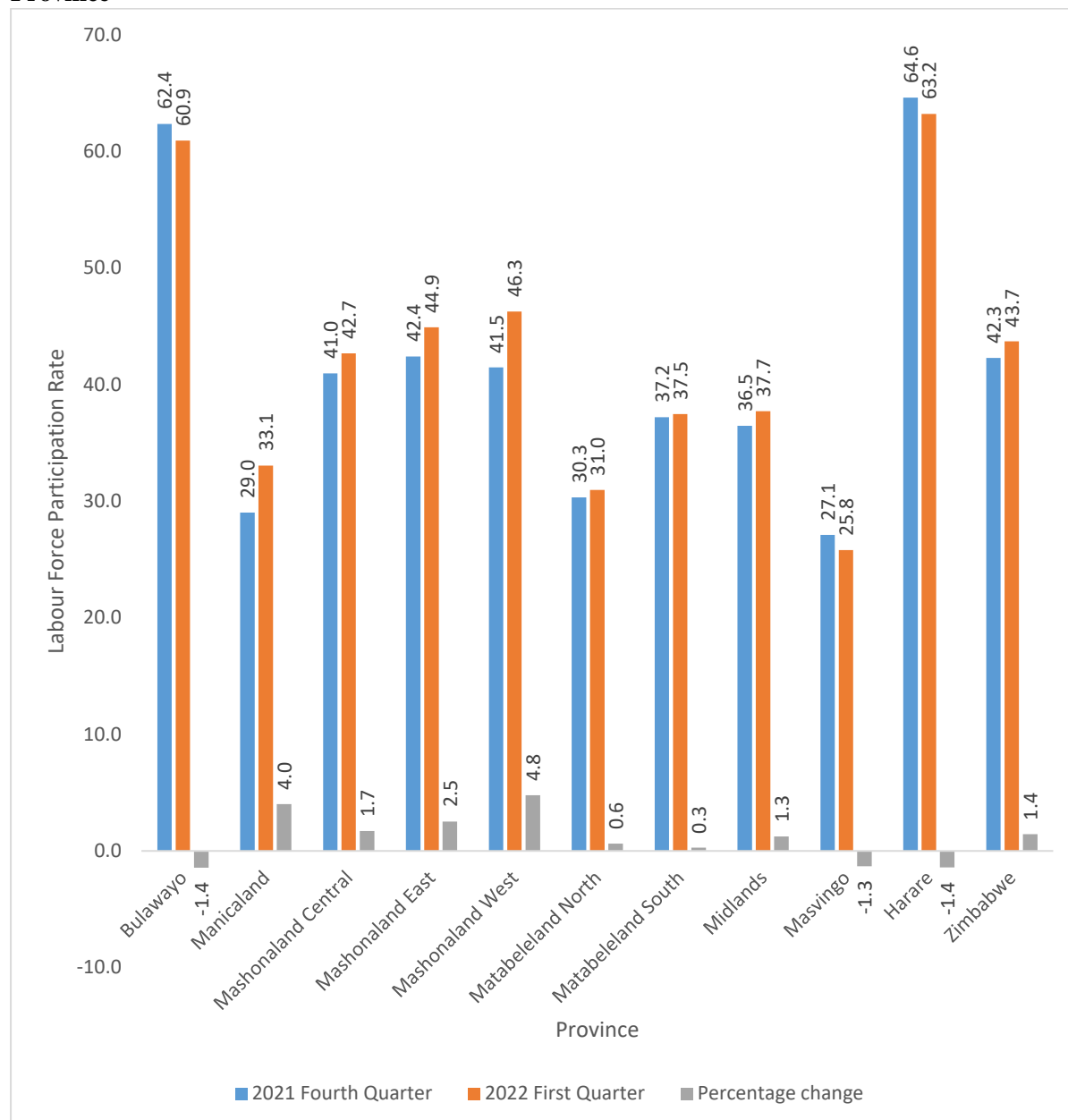


Figure 3: Labour Force Participation Rates by Area and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

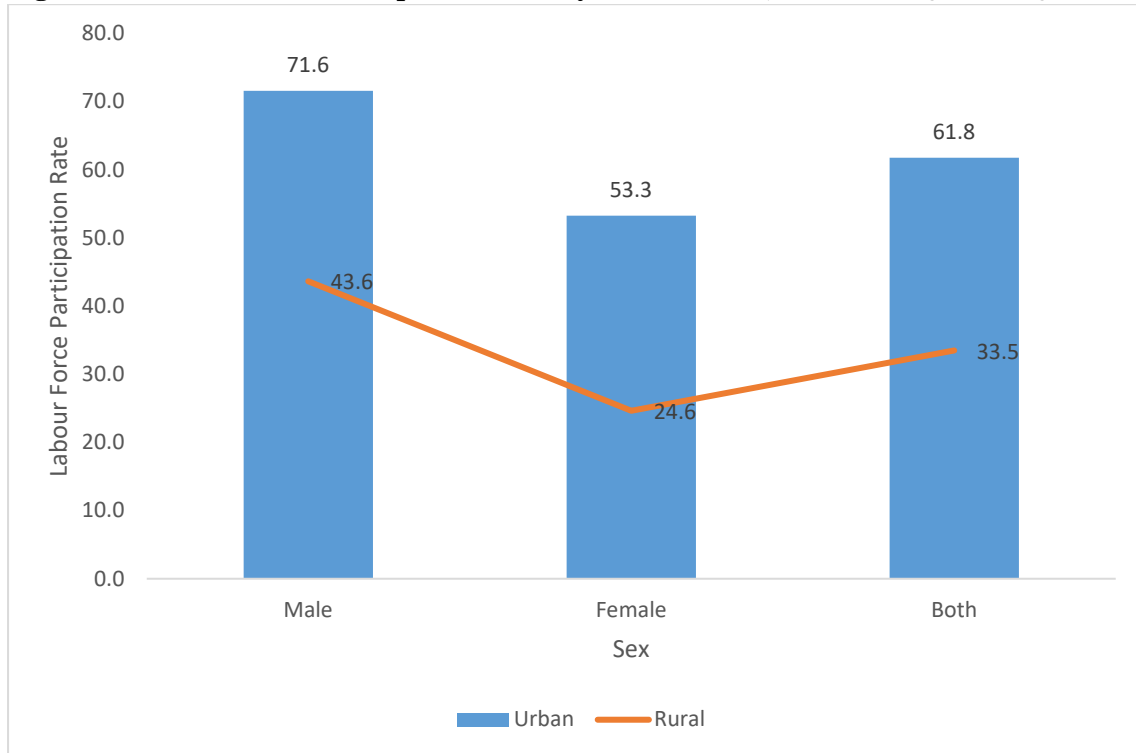


Figure 4: Labour Force Participation Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

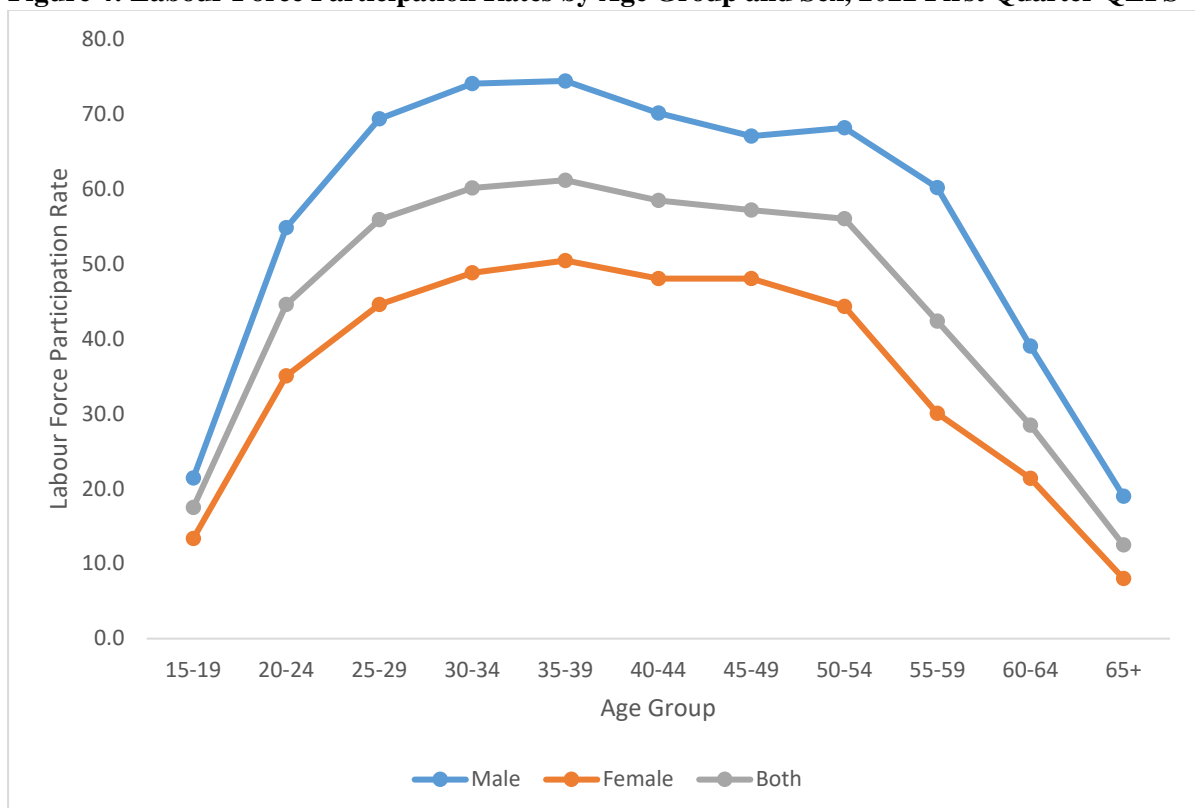


Figure 5: Employment to Population Ratio by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

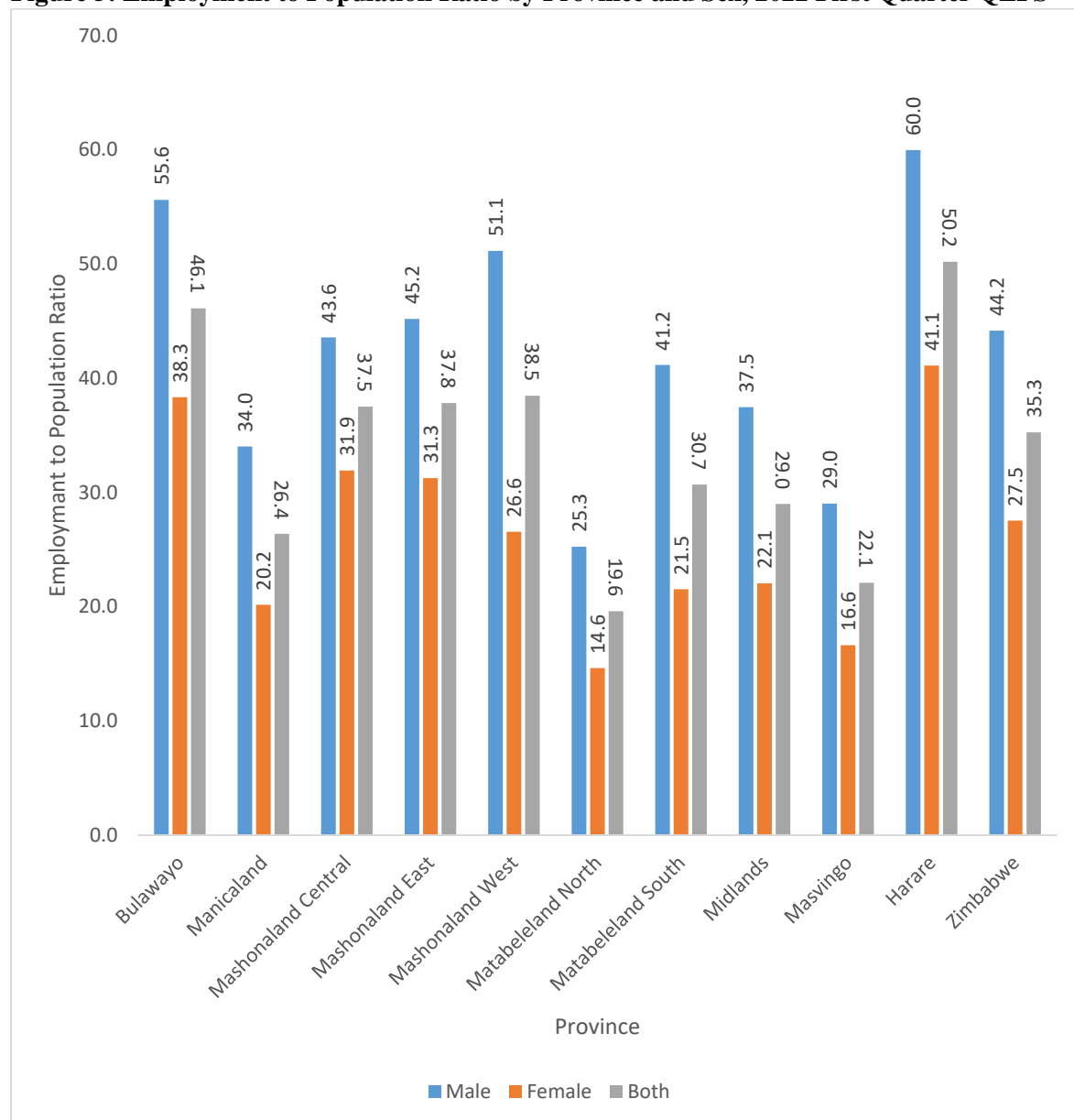


Figure 6: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Employment to Population Ratio by Province

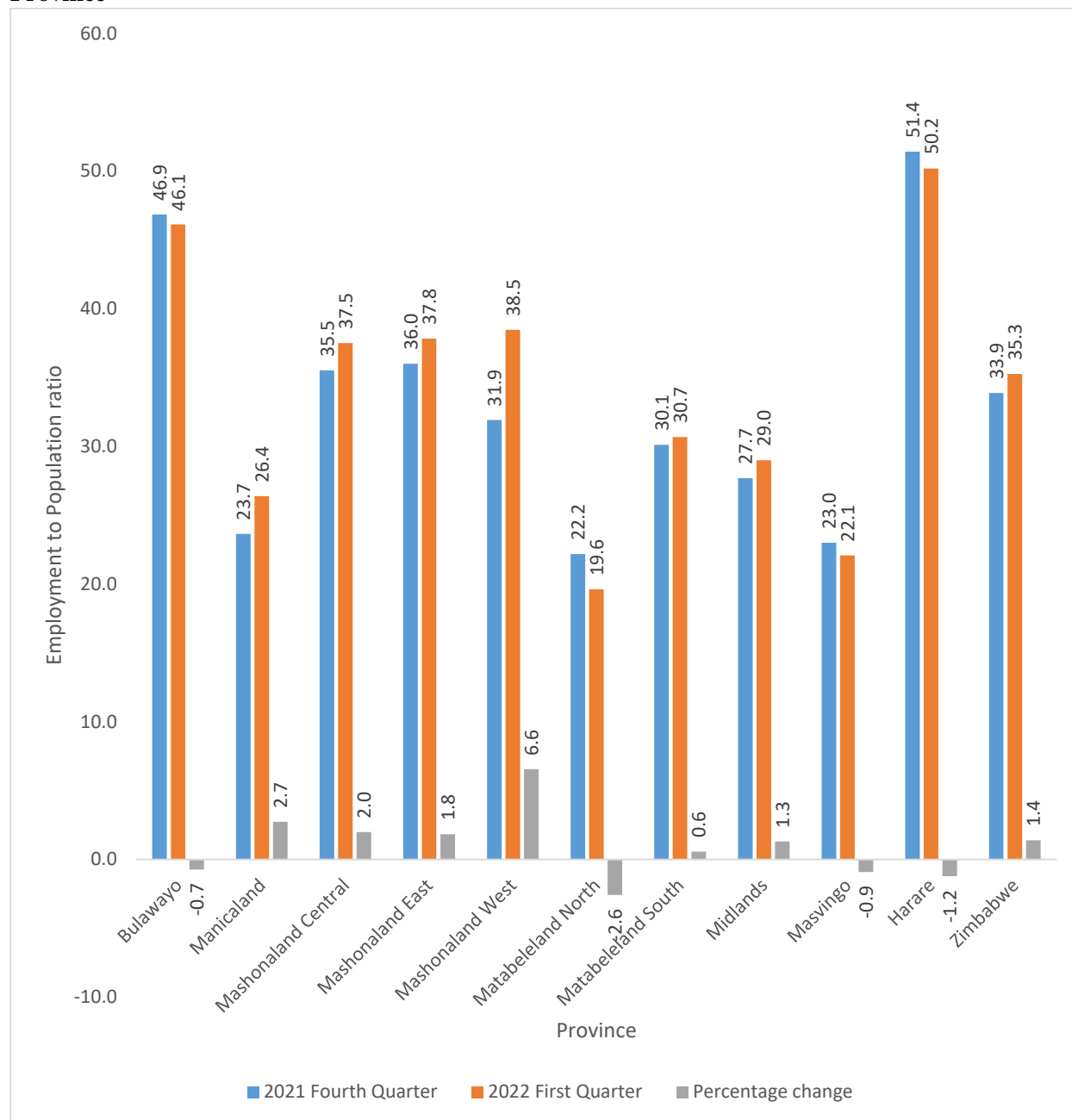


Figure 6: Employment to Population Ratio by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

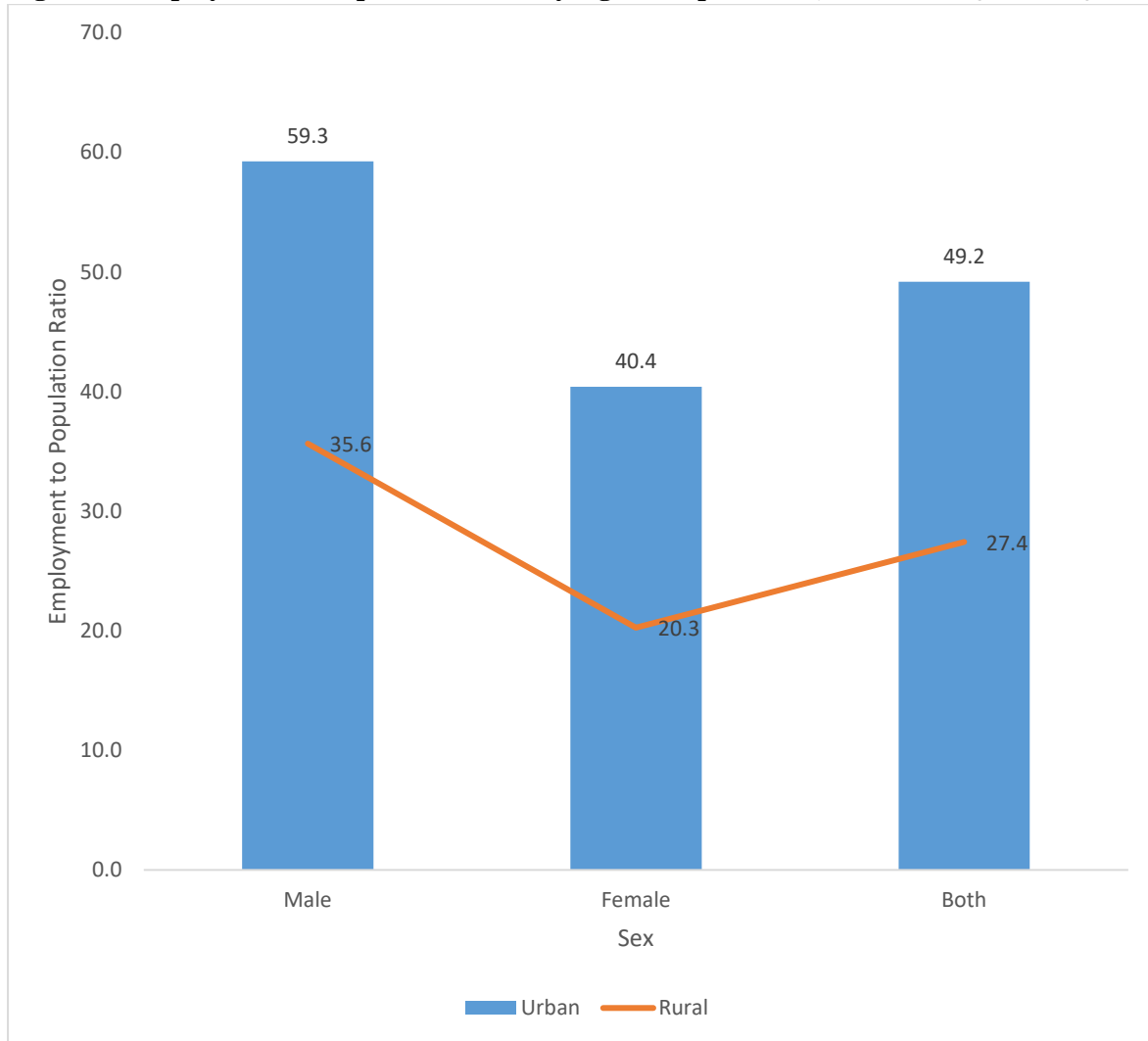


Figure 7: Employment to Population Ratio by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

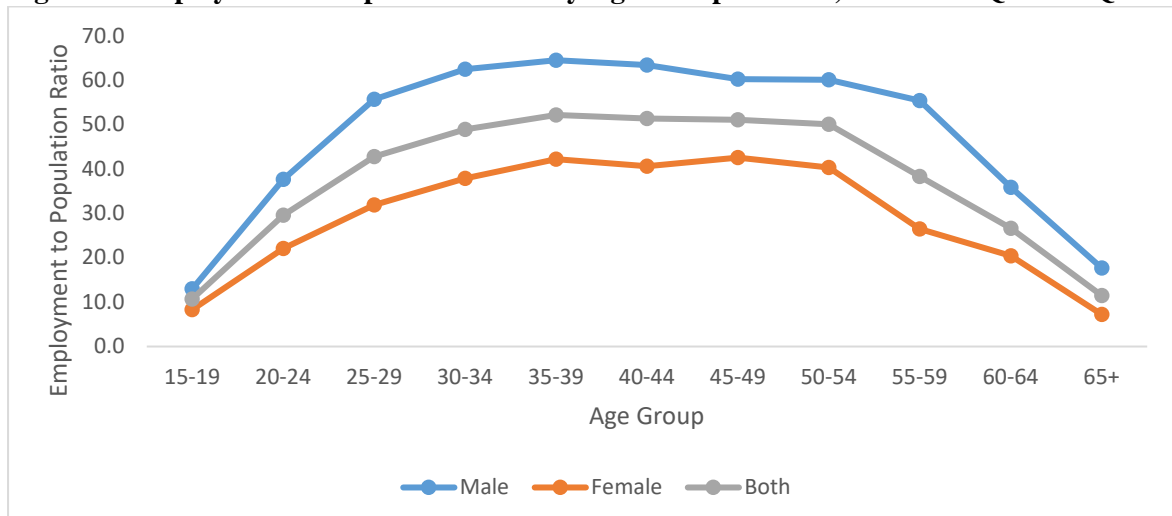


Figure 8: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Sector of Employment, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

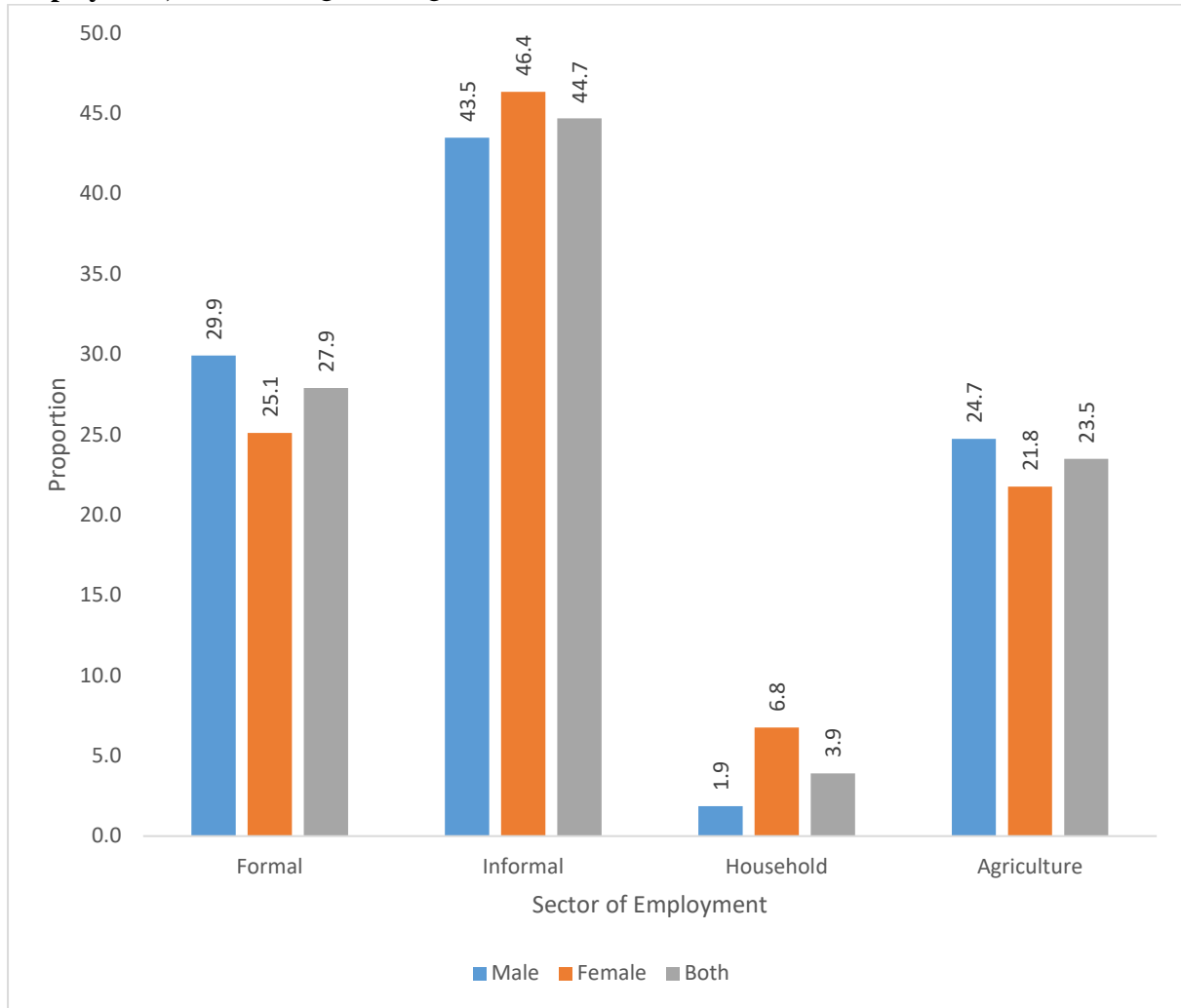


Figure 9: Comparing Distribution of the Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Sector of Employment, 2021 Fourth and 2022 First Quarter QLFS

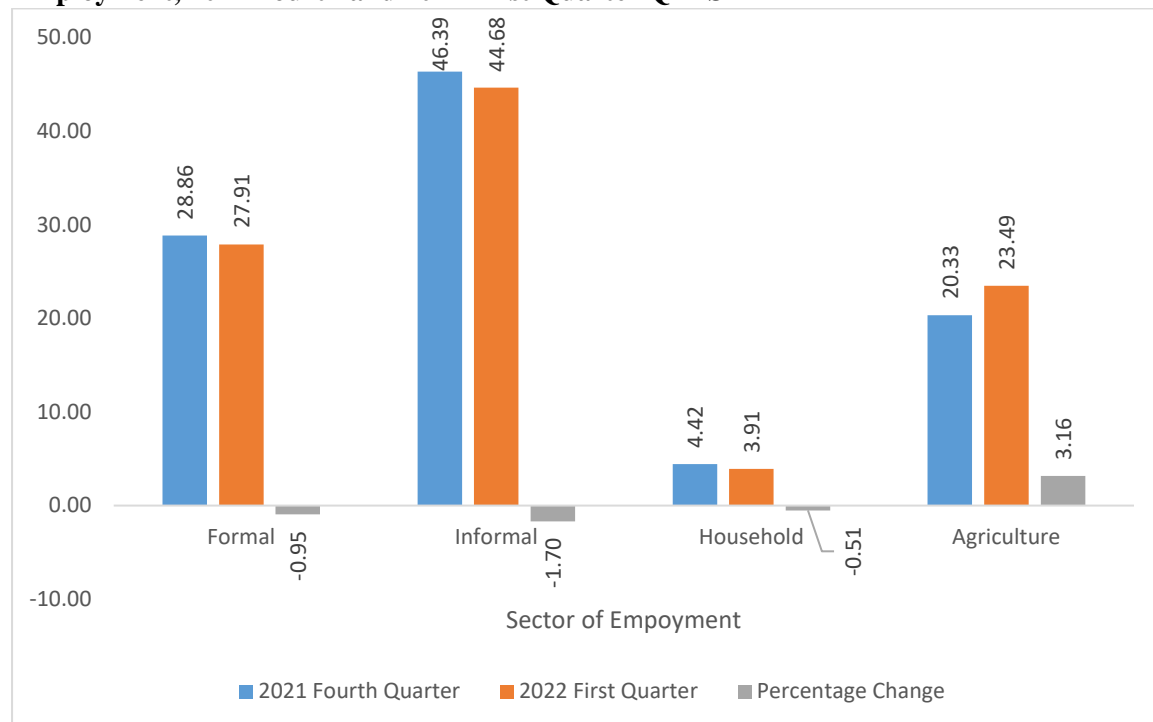


Figure 10: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

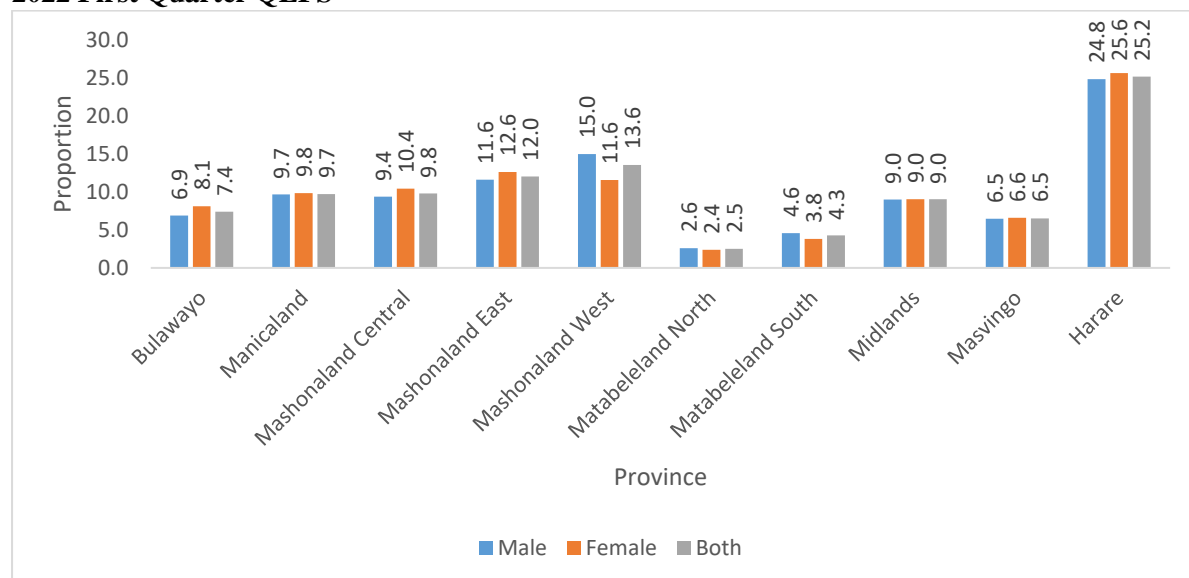


Figure 11: Comparing Distribution of the Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Province, 2021 Fourth and 2022 First Quarters QLFS

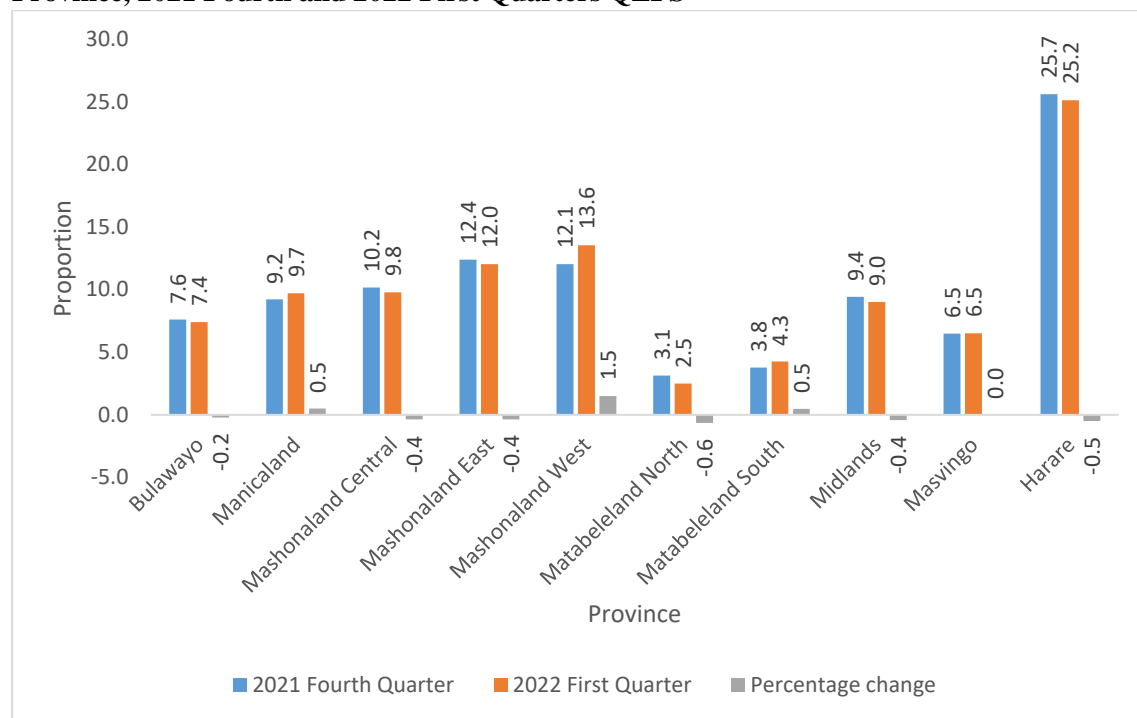


Figure 12: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

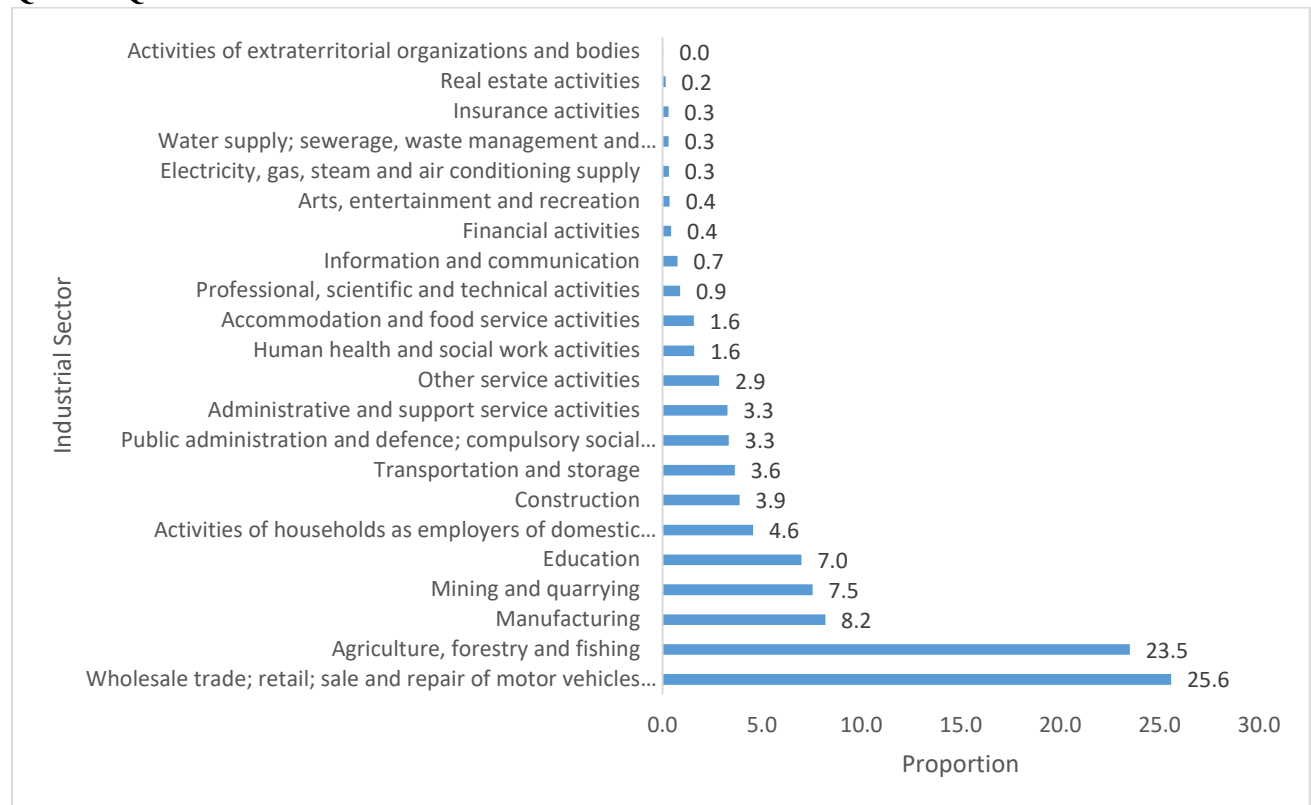


Figure 13: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Income Band in ZWL\$ Dollars, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

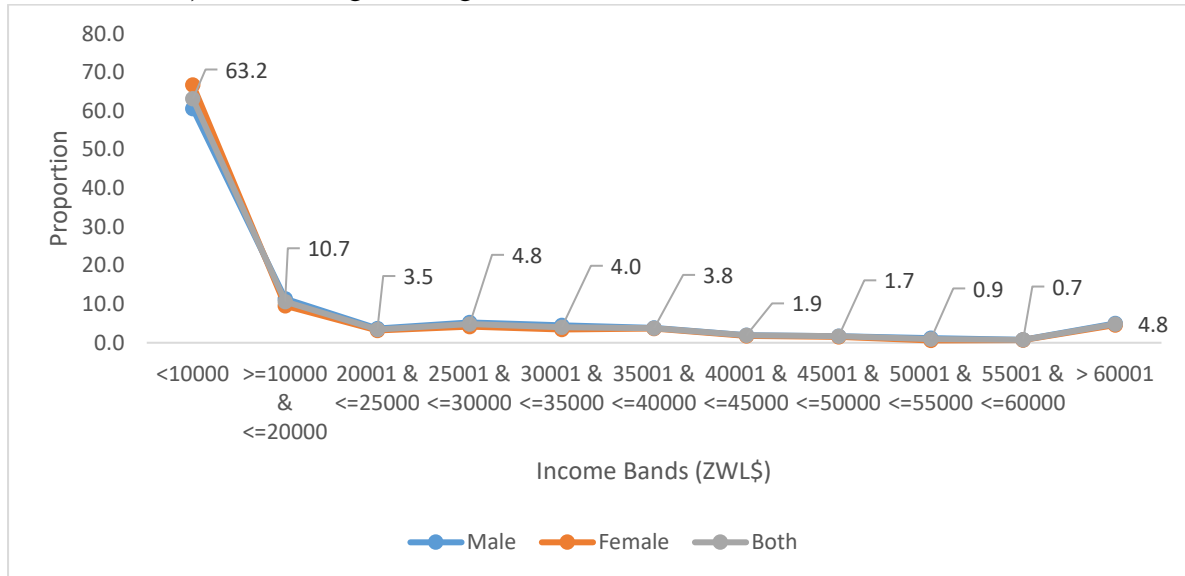


Figure 14: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Average Income and Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

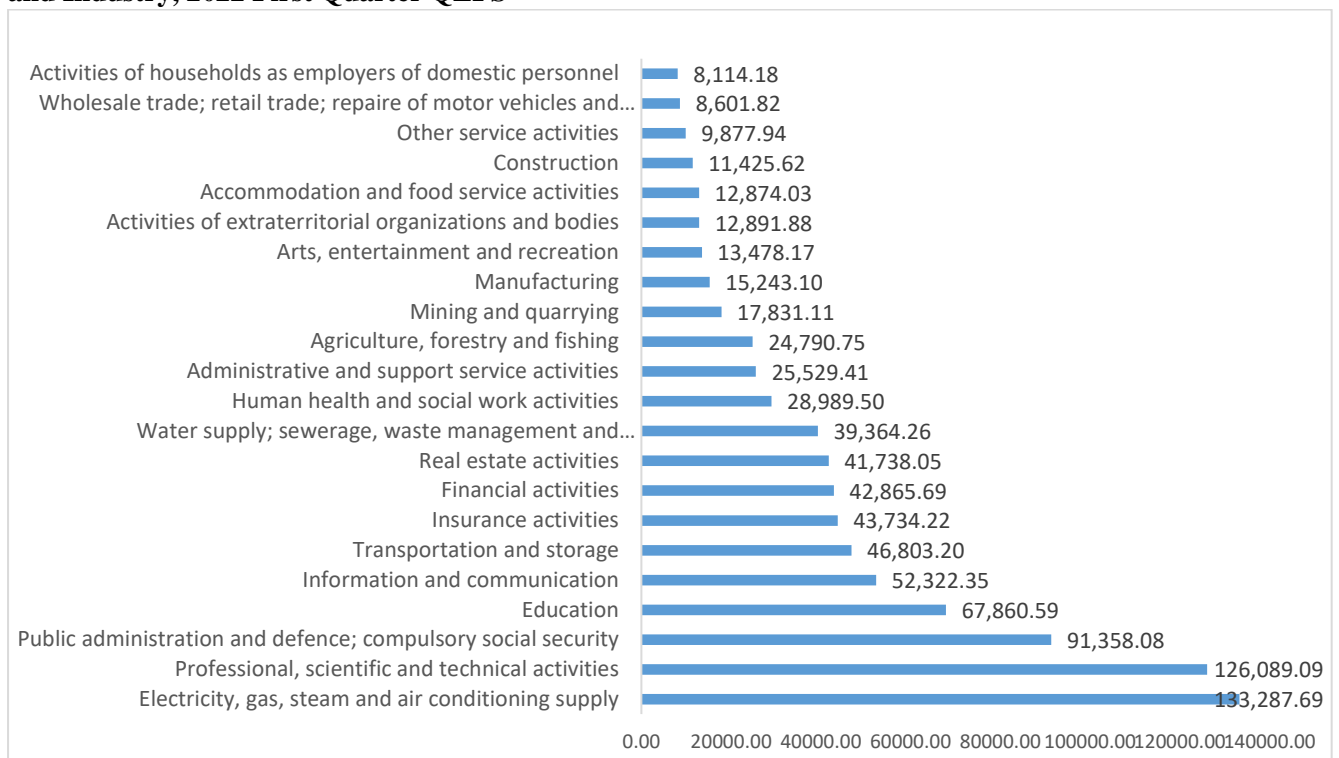


Figure 15: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Status in Employment, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

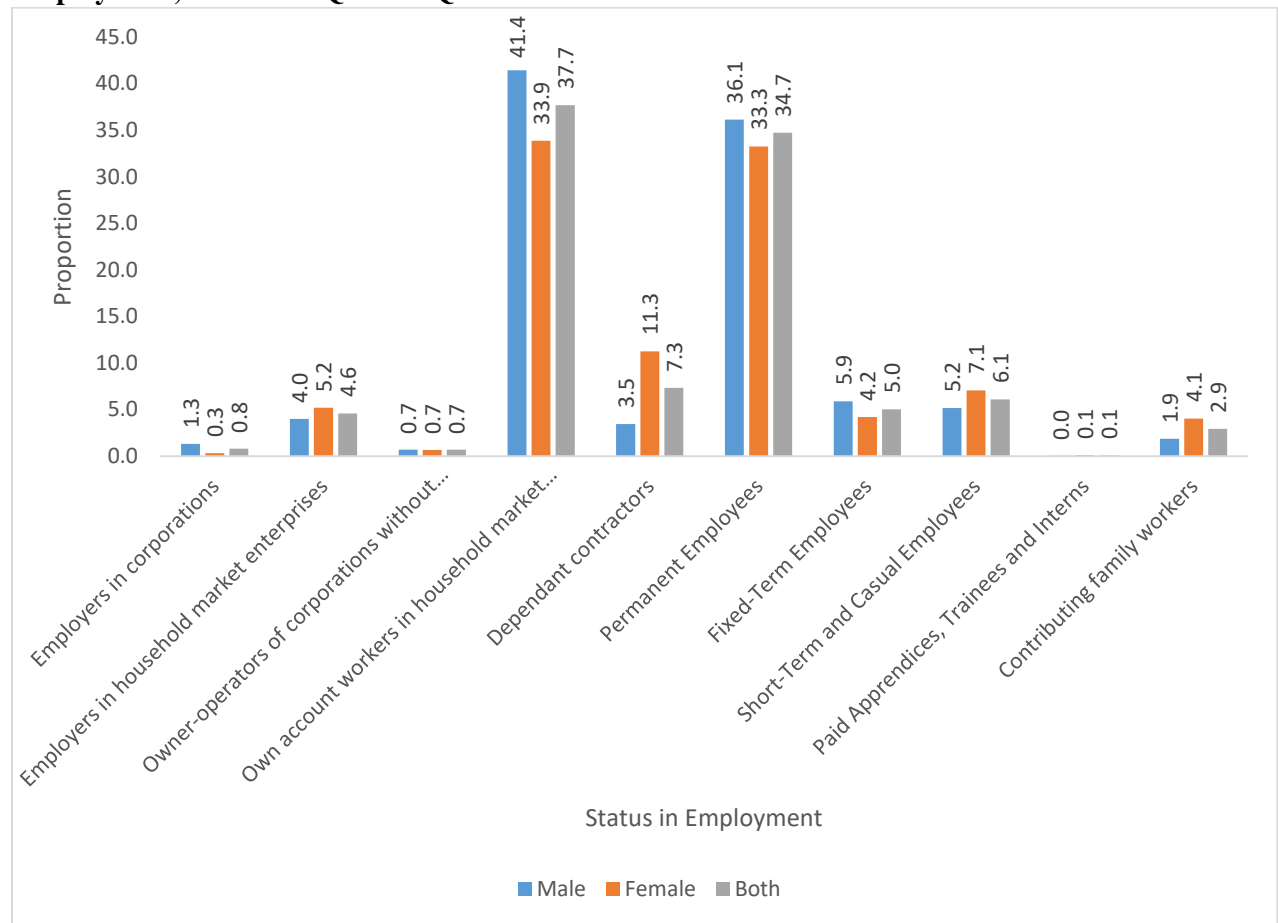


Figure 16: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Occupation, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

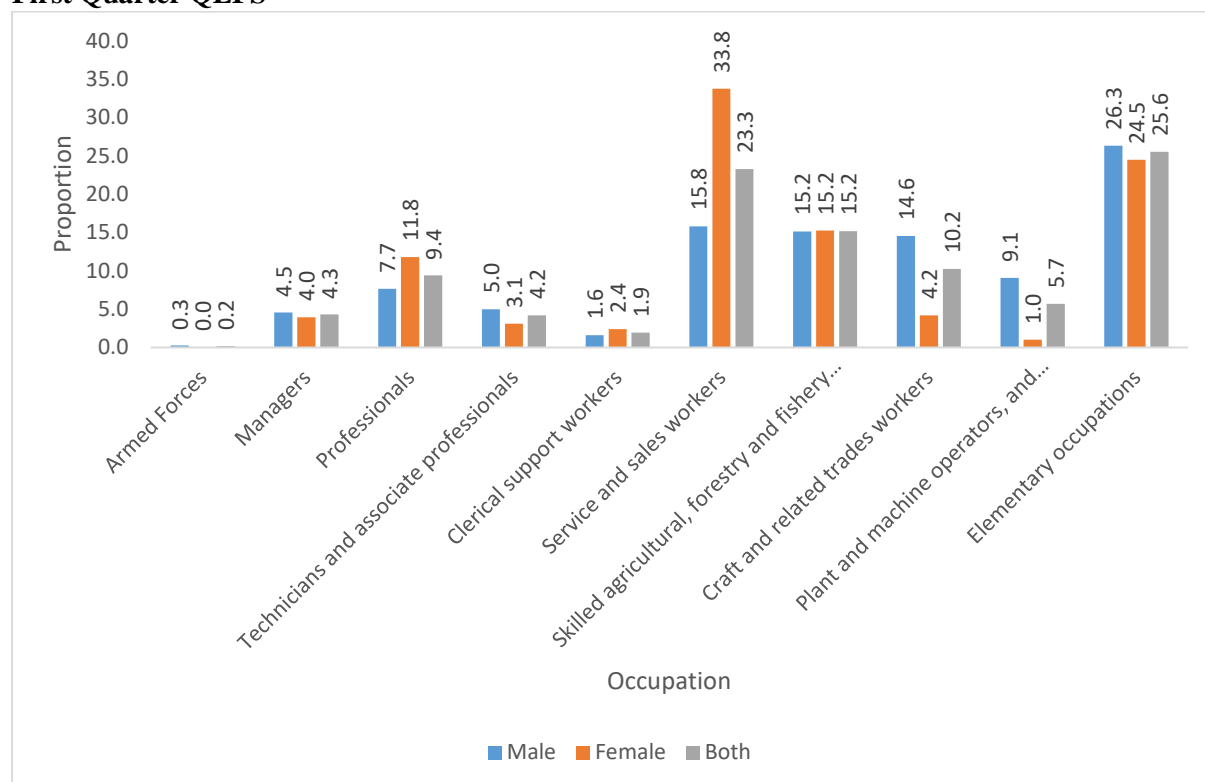


Figure 17: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above in the Informal Sector by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

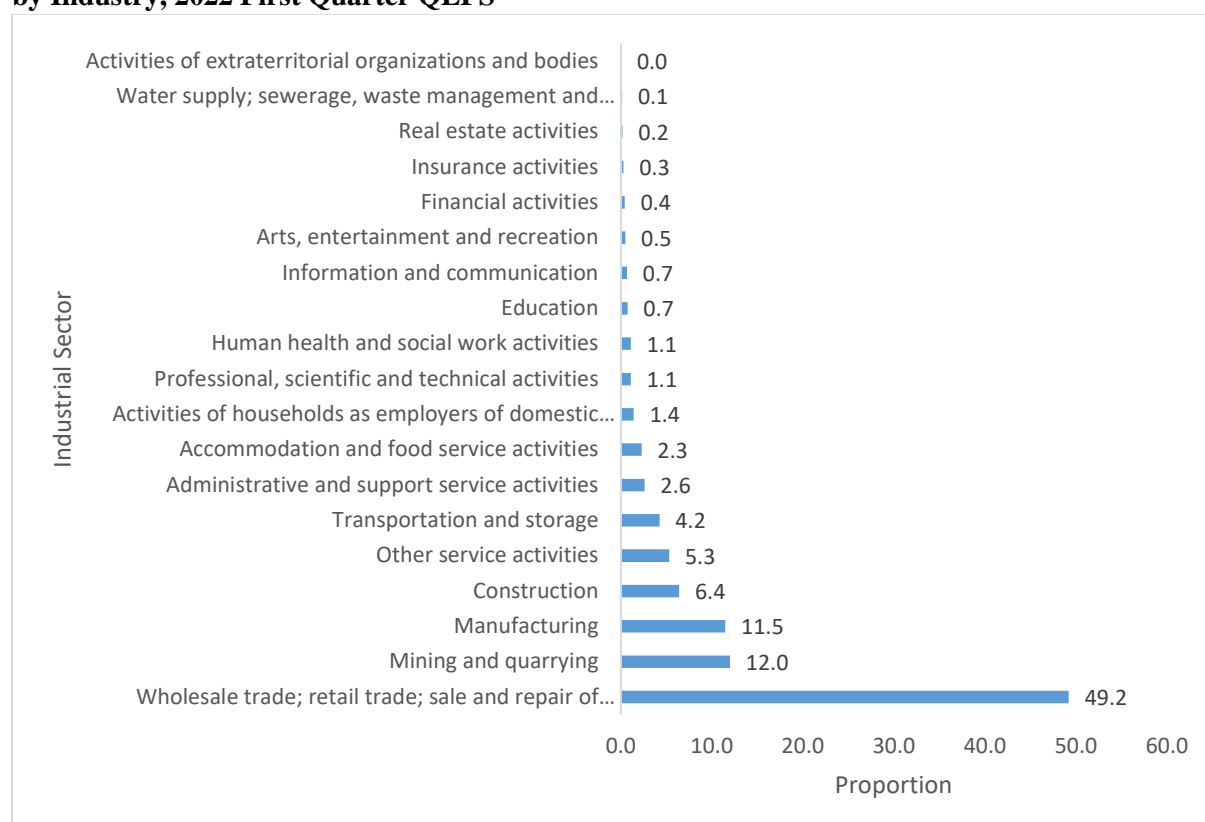


Figure 18: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons 15 Years and Above Informally Employed by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

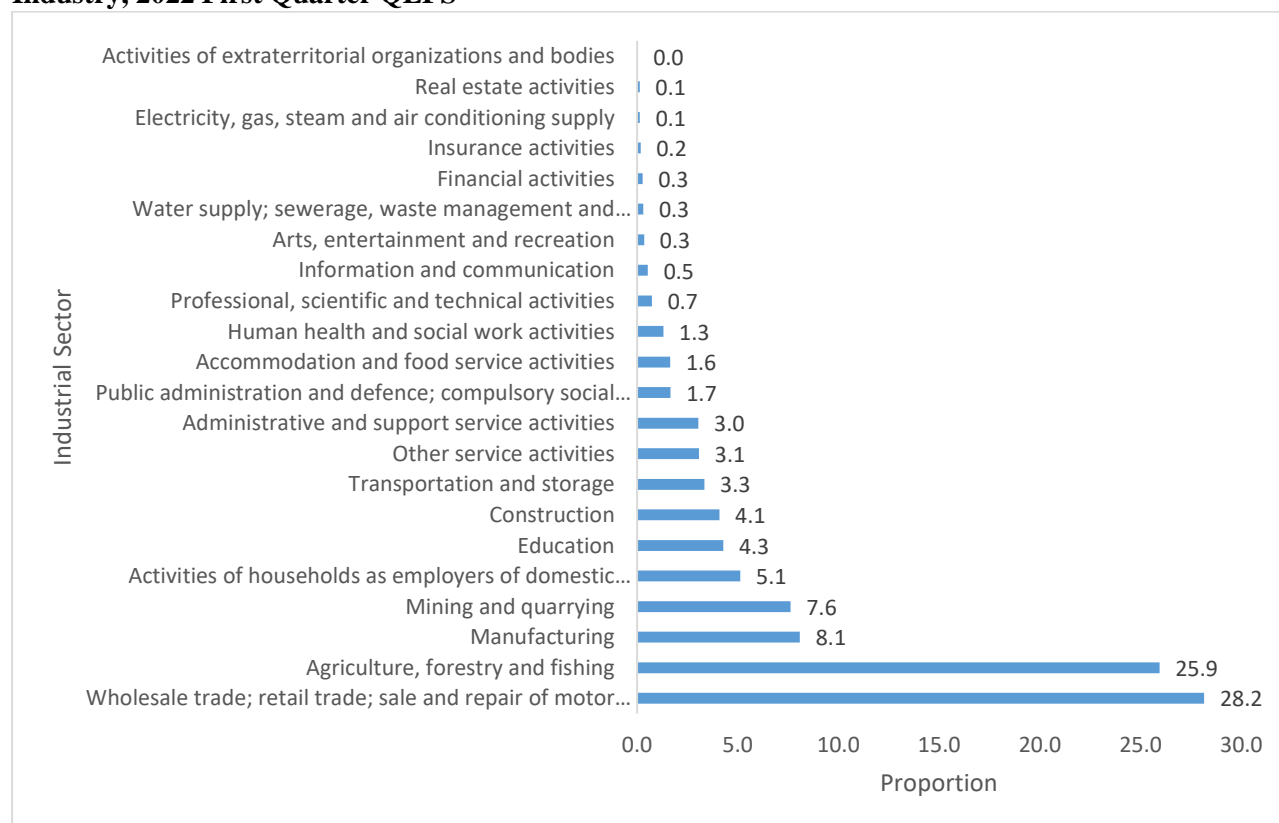


Figure 19: Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

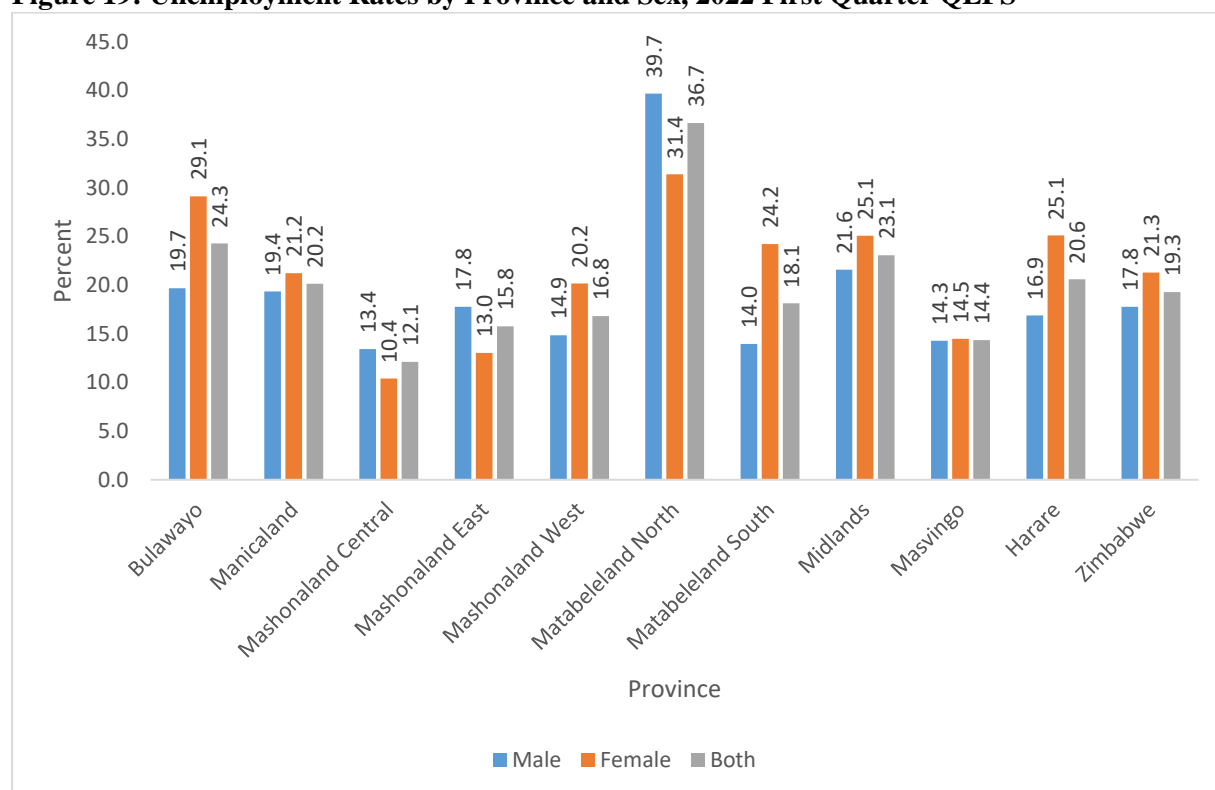


Figure 20: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Unemployment Rates by Province

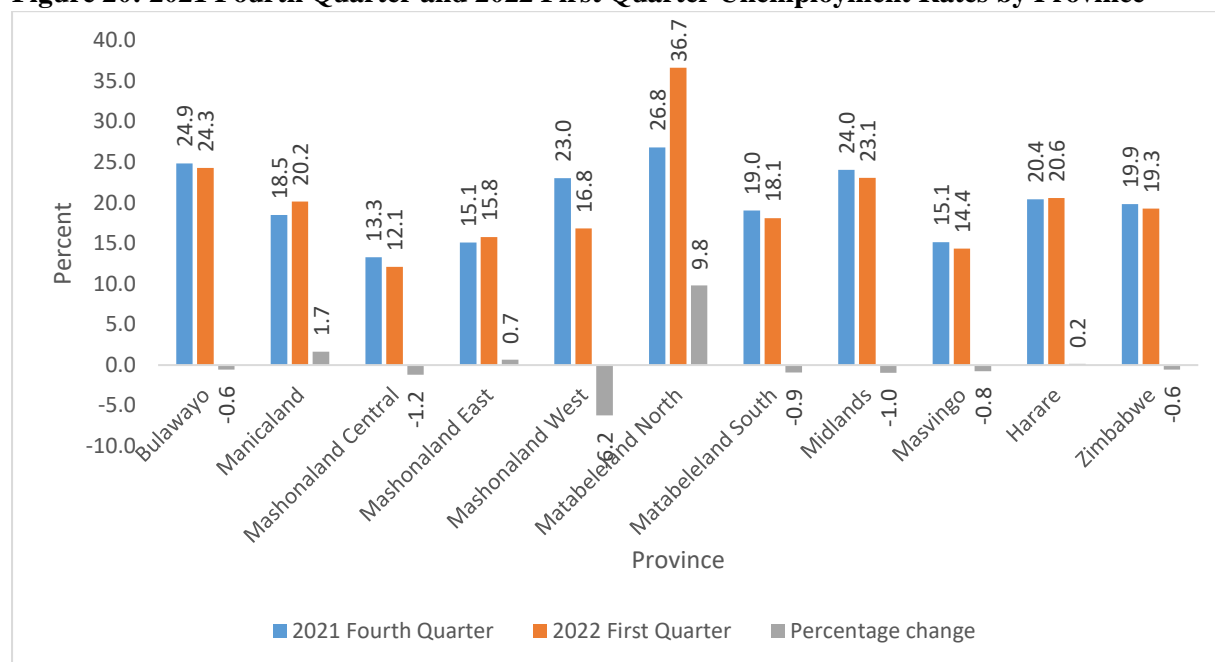


Figure 21: Unemployment Rates by Area and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

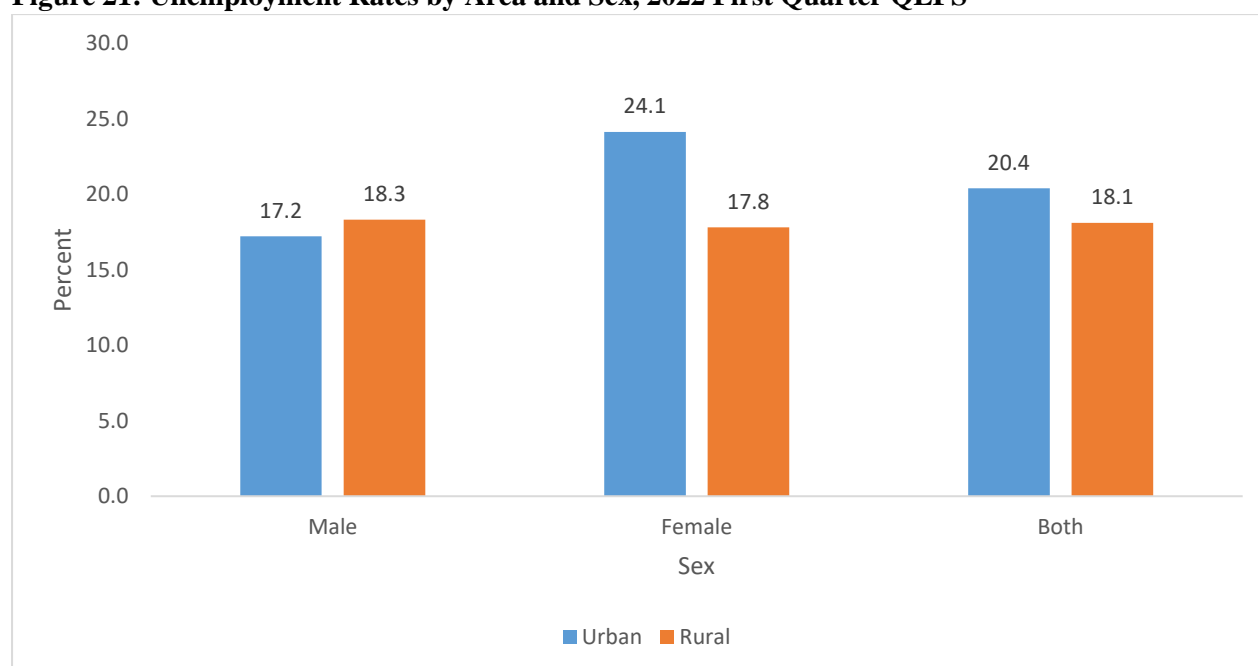


Figure 22: Unemployment Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

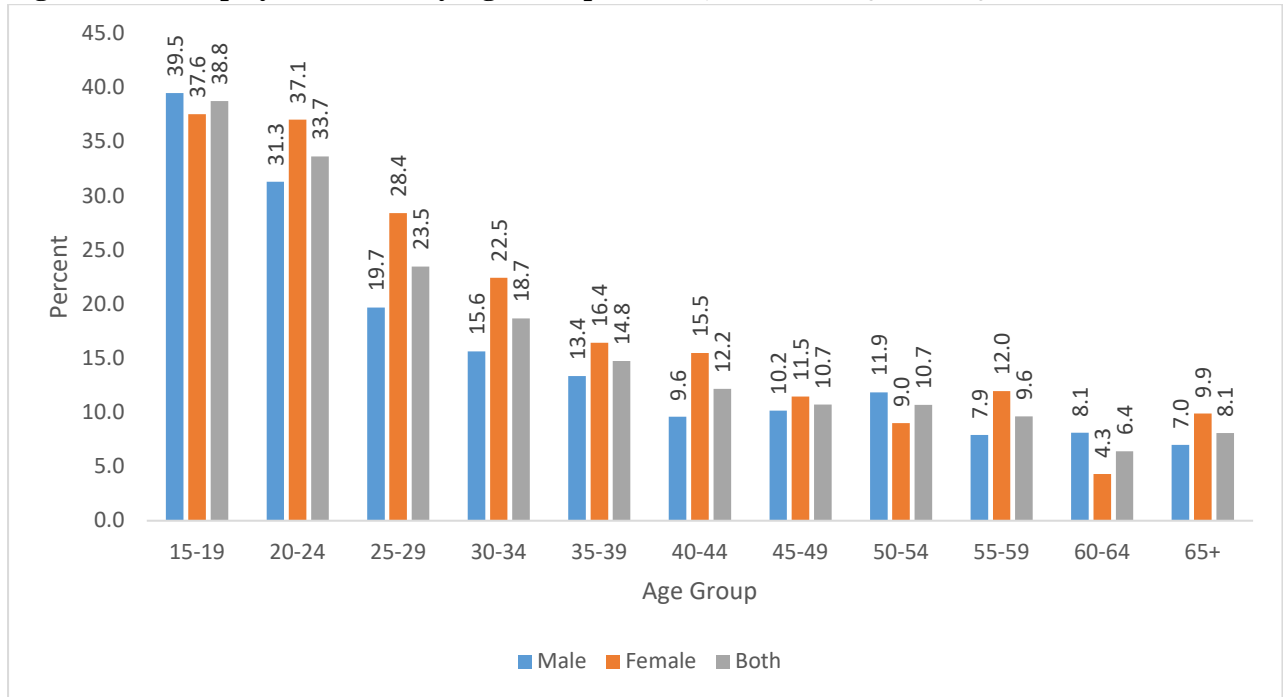


Figure 23: Unemployment Rates by Highest Level of Education Completed and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

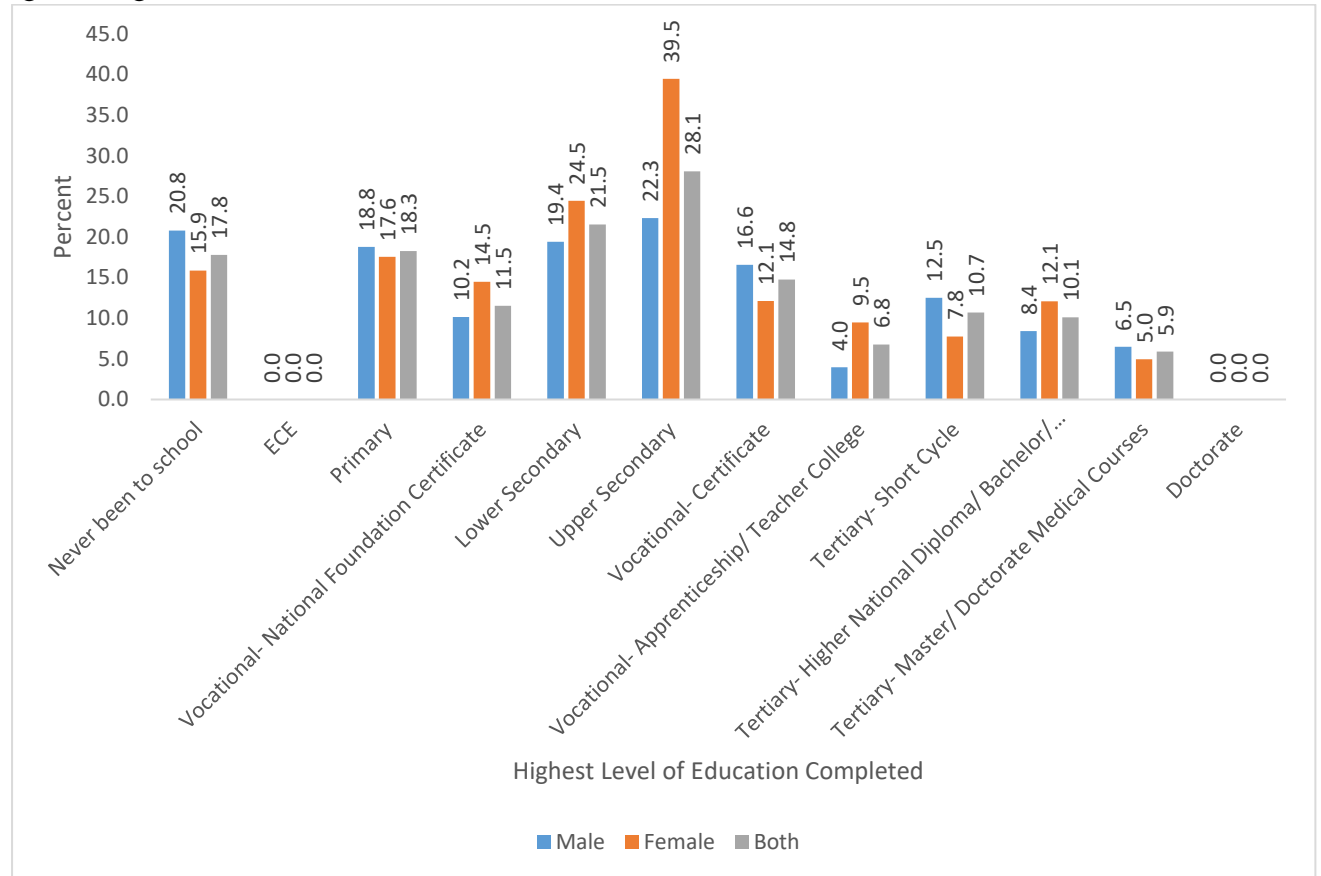


Figure 24: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

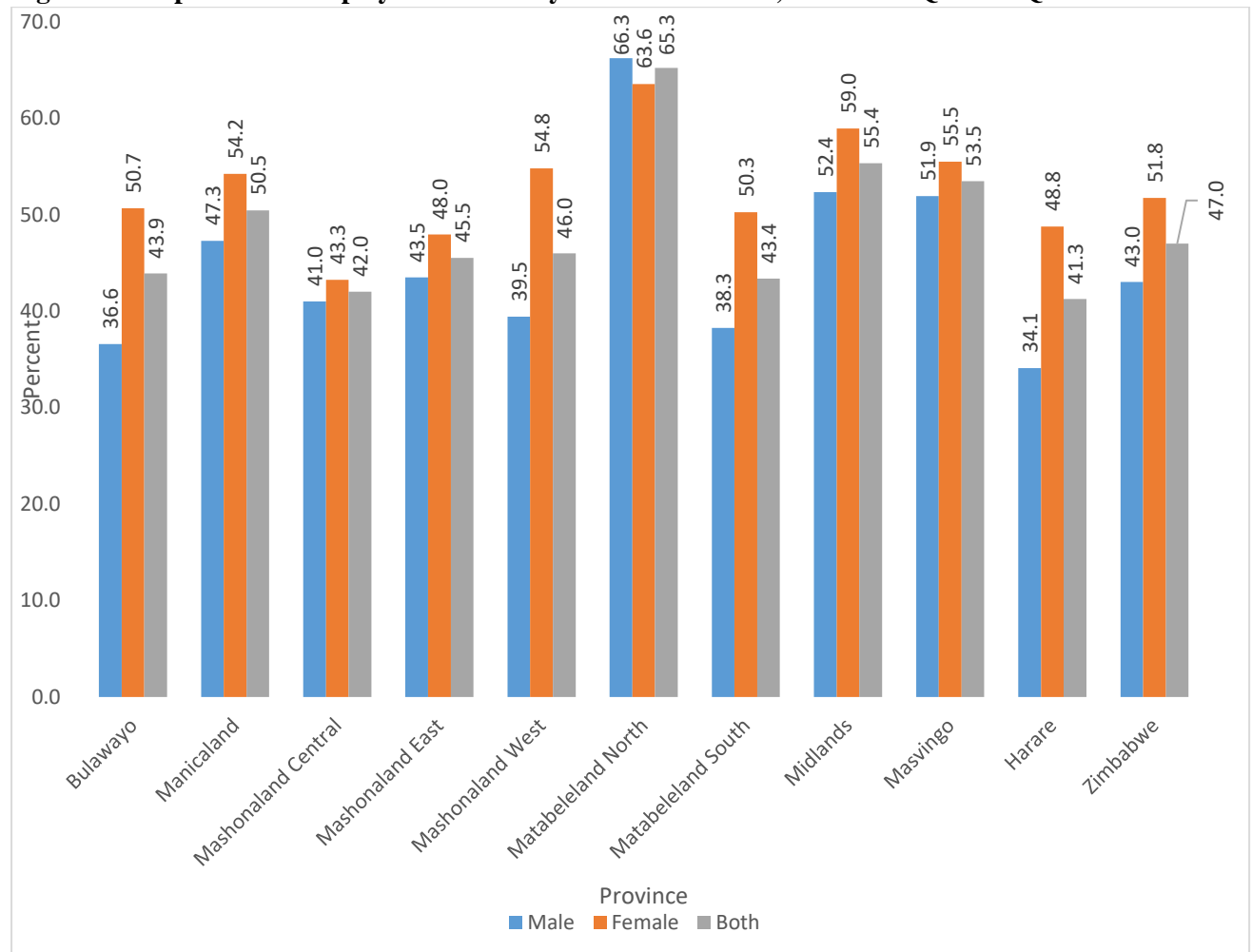


Figure 25: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Expanded Unemployment Rates by Province

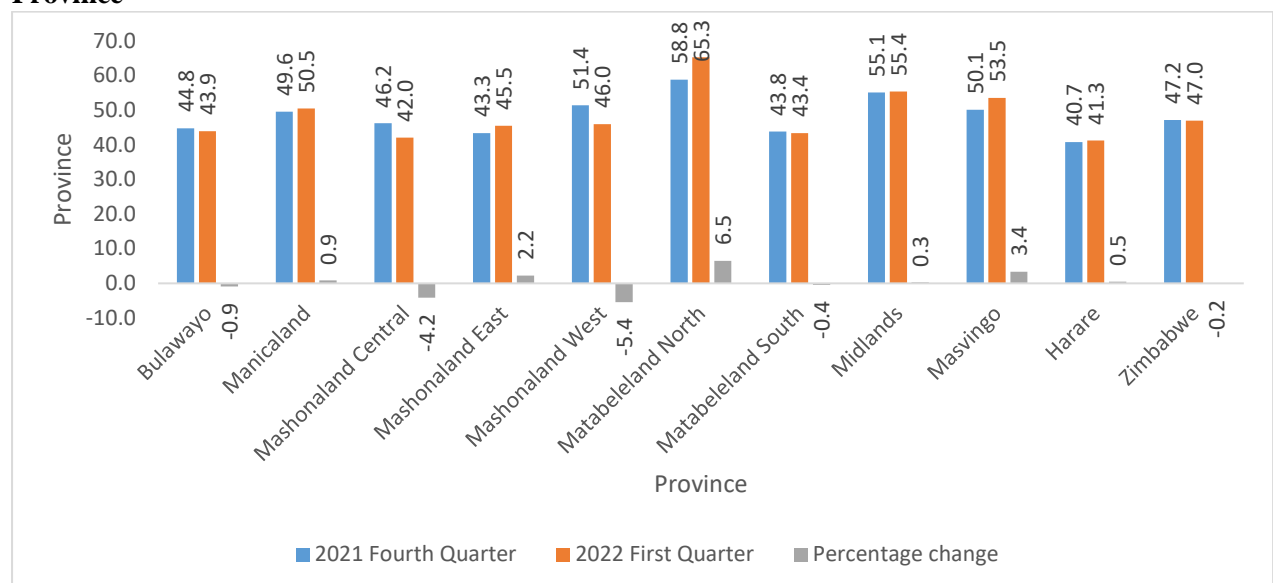


Figure 26: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

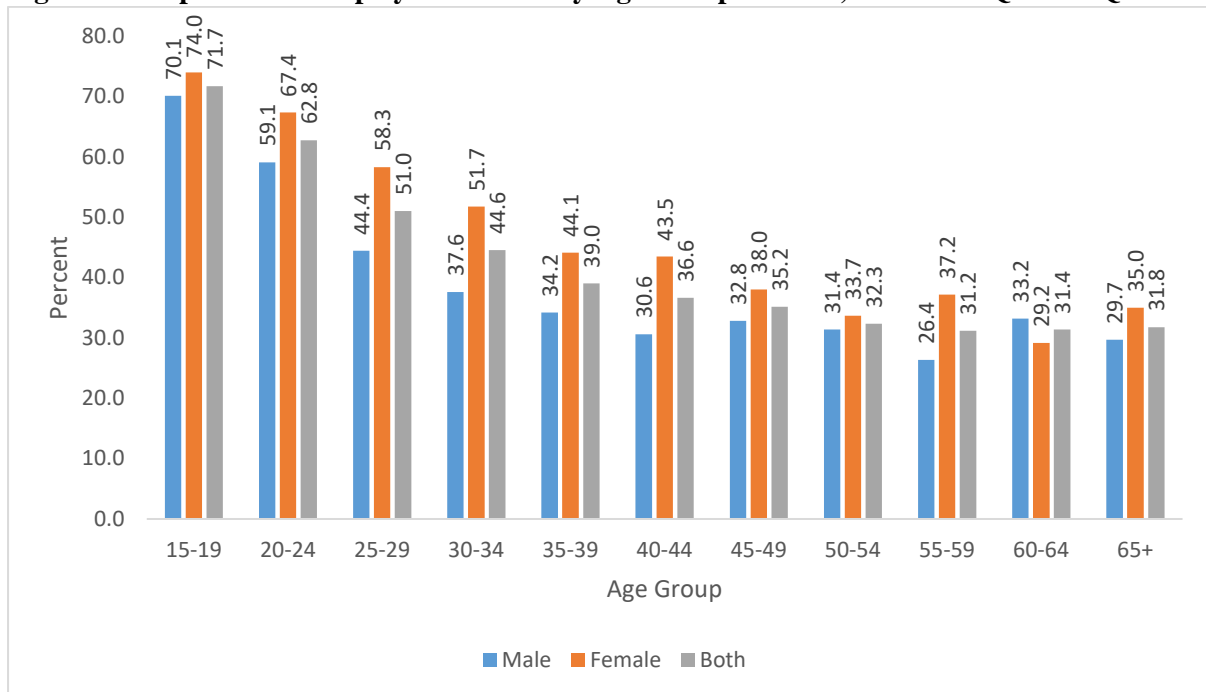


Figure 27: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Area, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

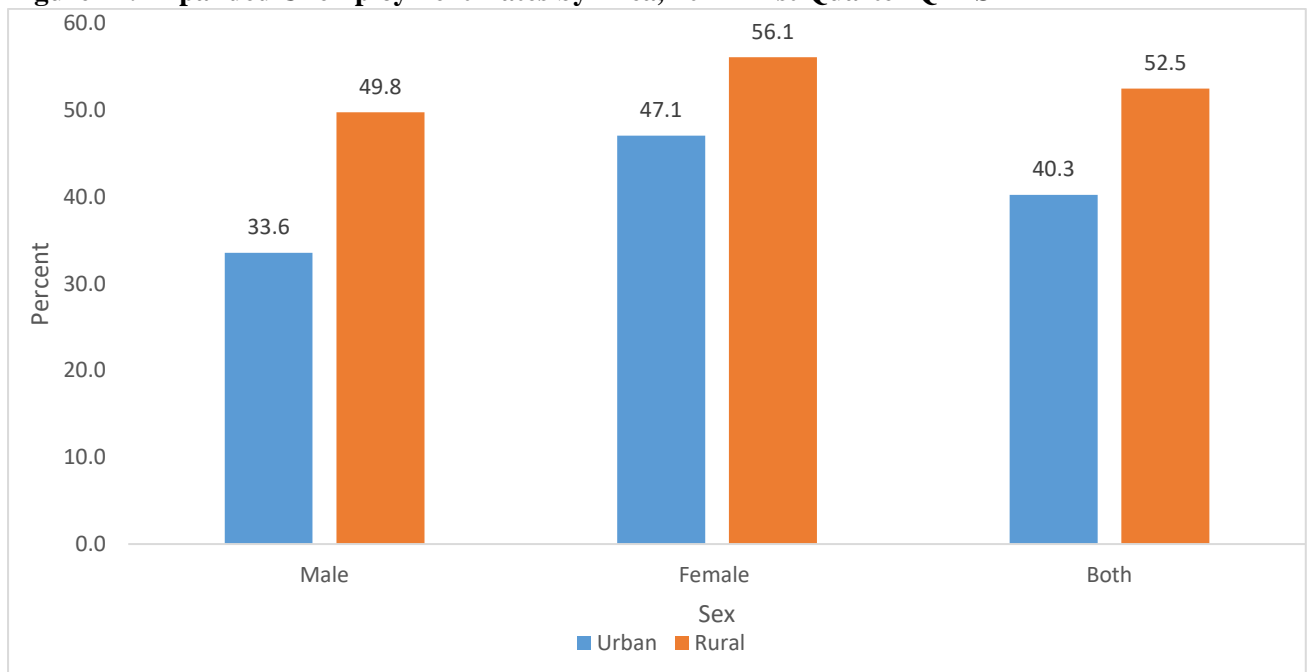


Figure 28: Proportion (%) of Youth (15-24) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

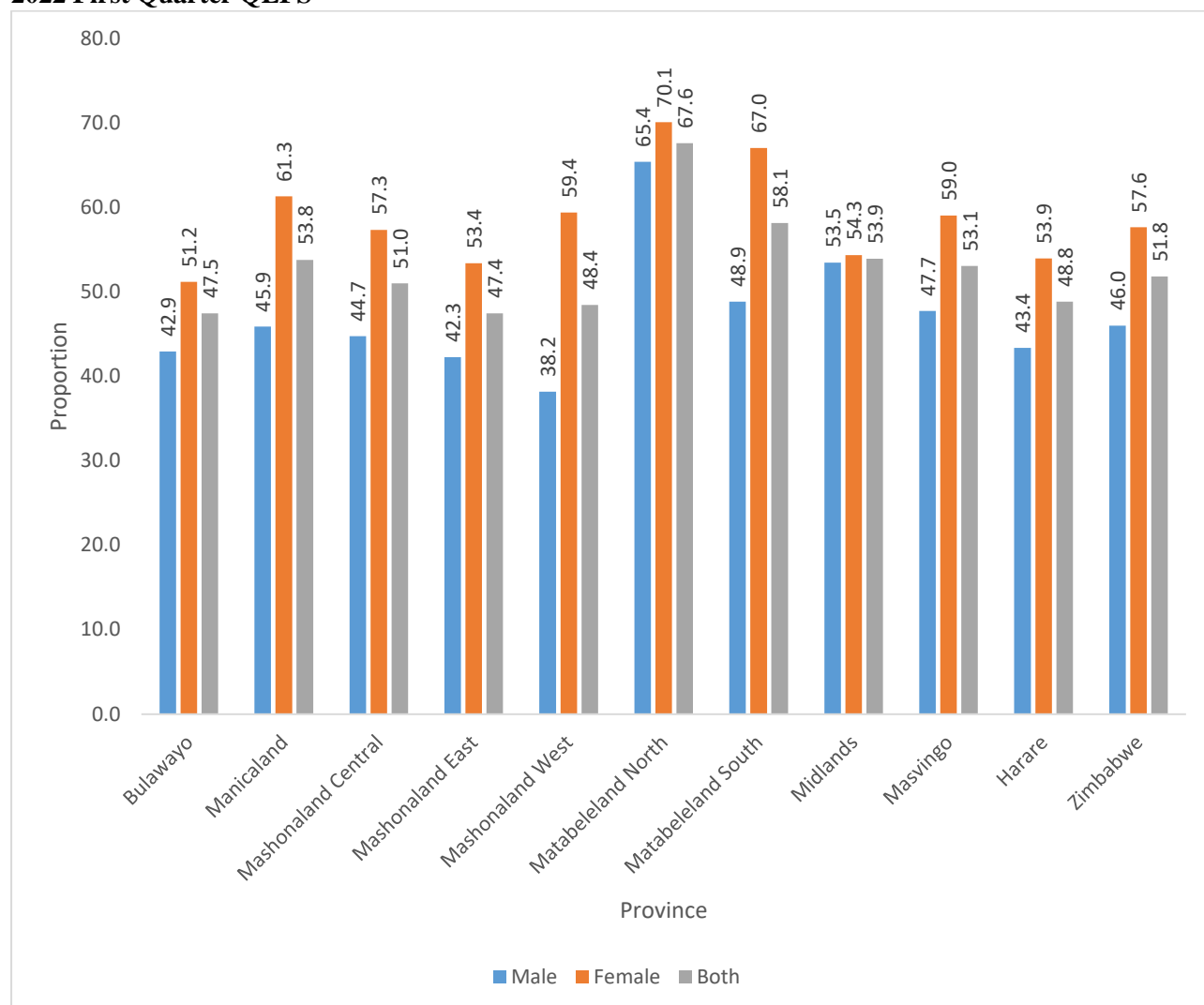


Figure 29: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Youth (15-24) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training

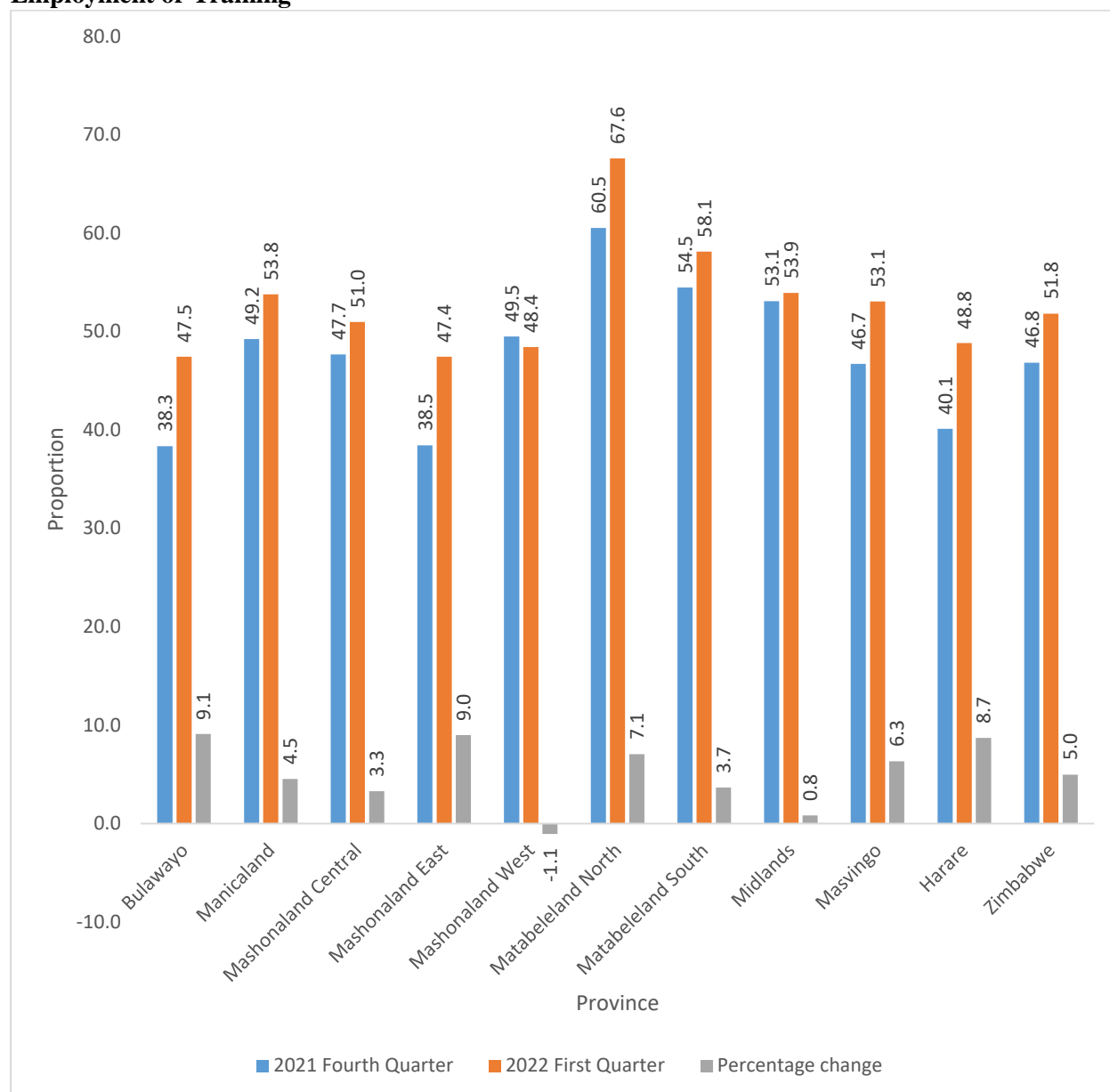


Figure 30: Proportion (%) of Youth (15-34) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

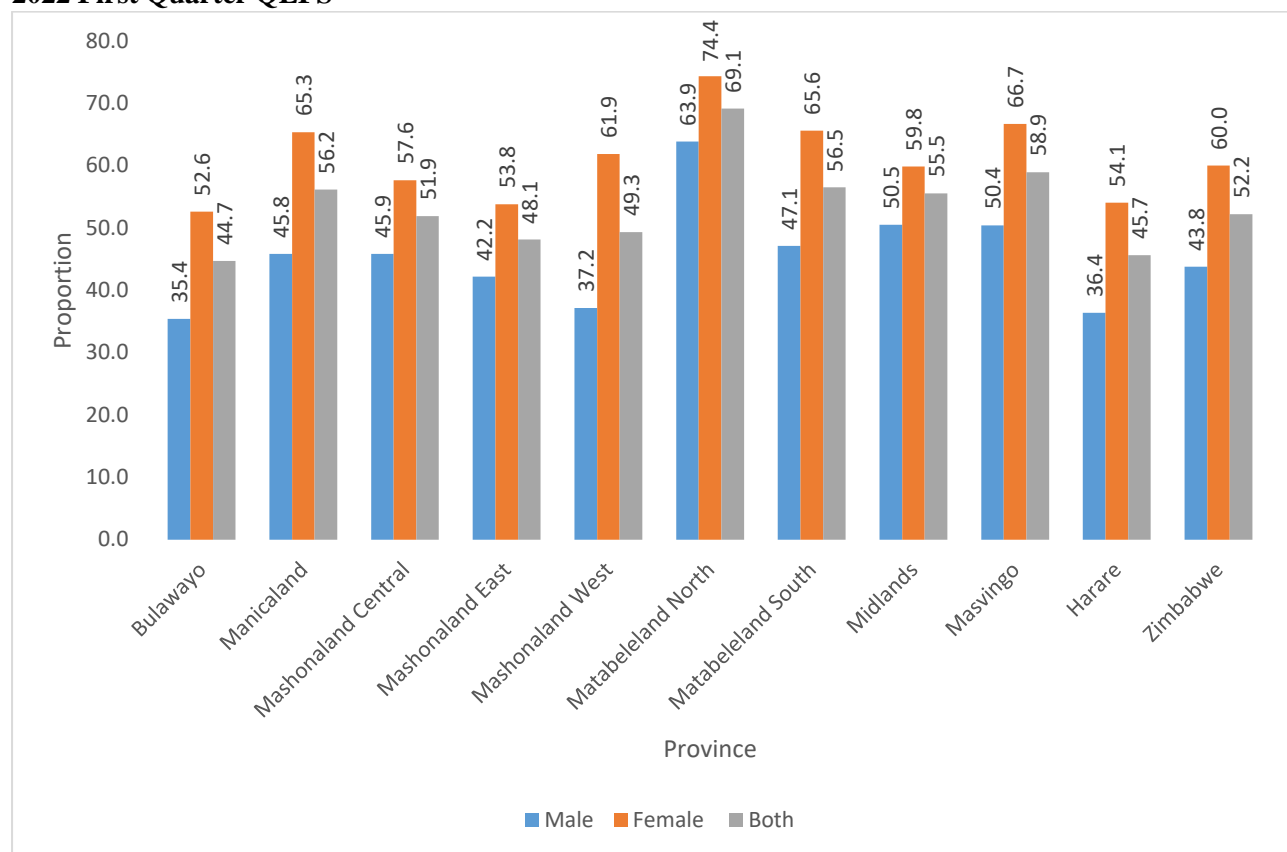


Figure 31: 2021 Fourth Quarter and 2022 First Quarter Youth (15-34) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training

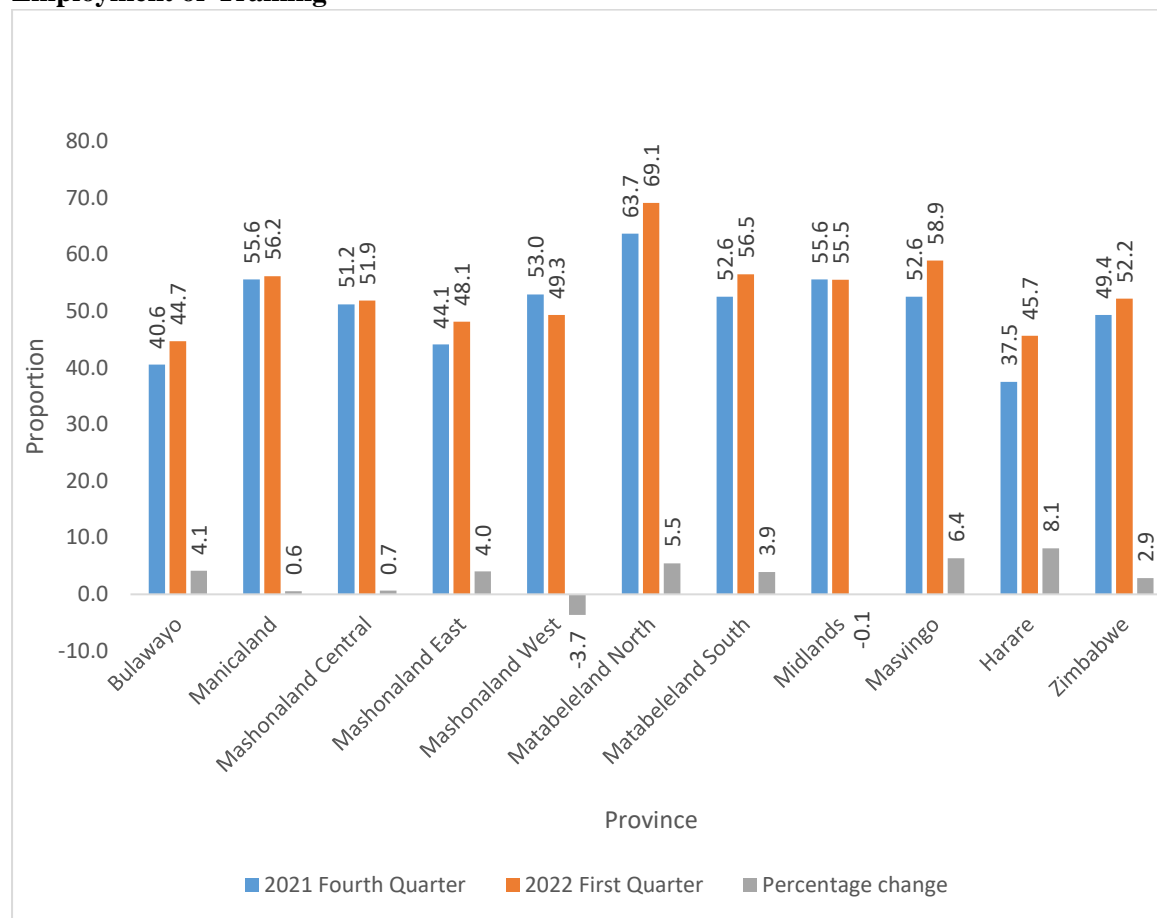


Figure 32: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Province, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

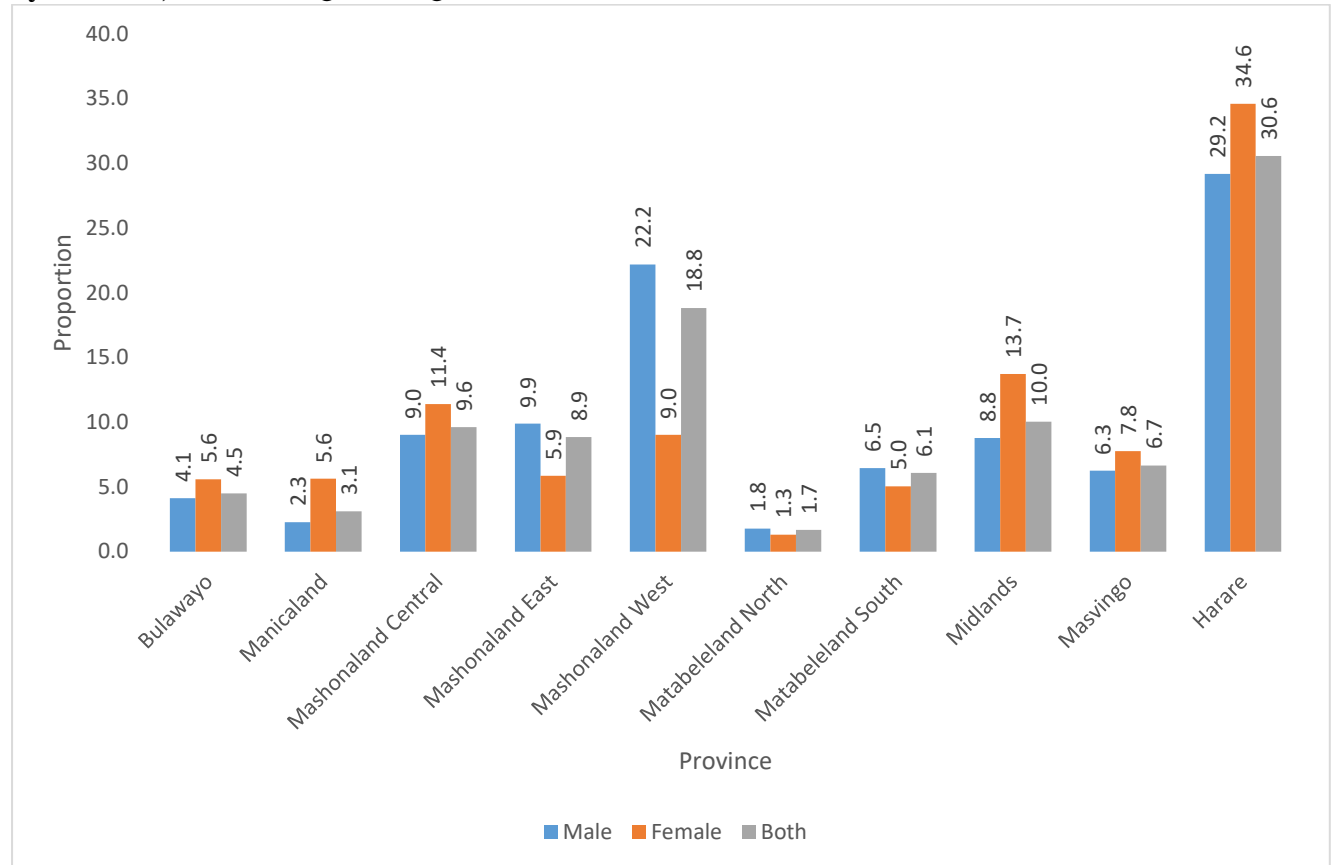


Figure 33: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Area, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

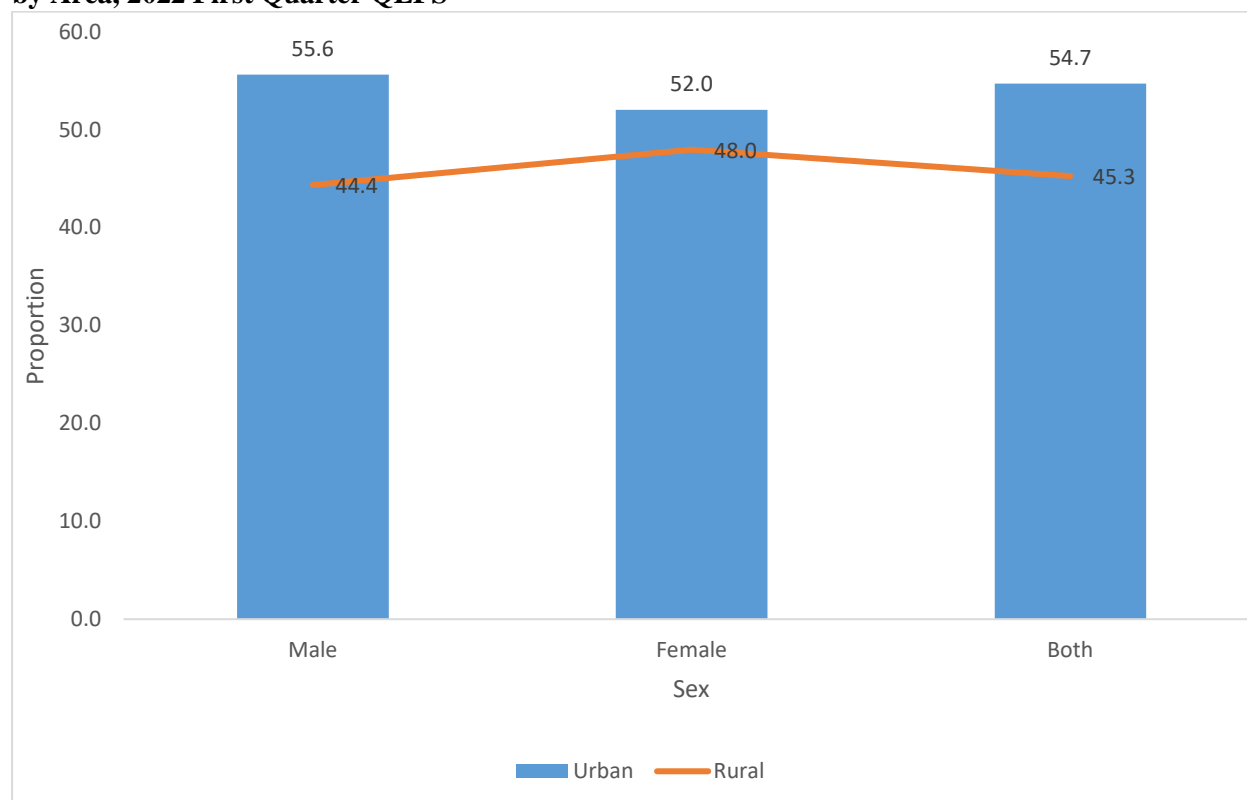


Figure 32: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

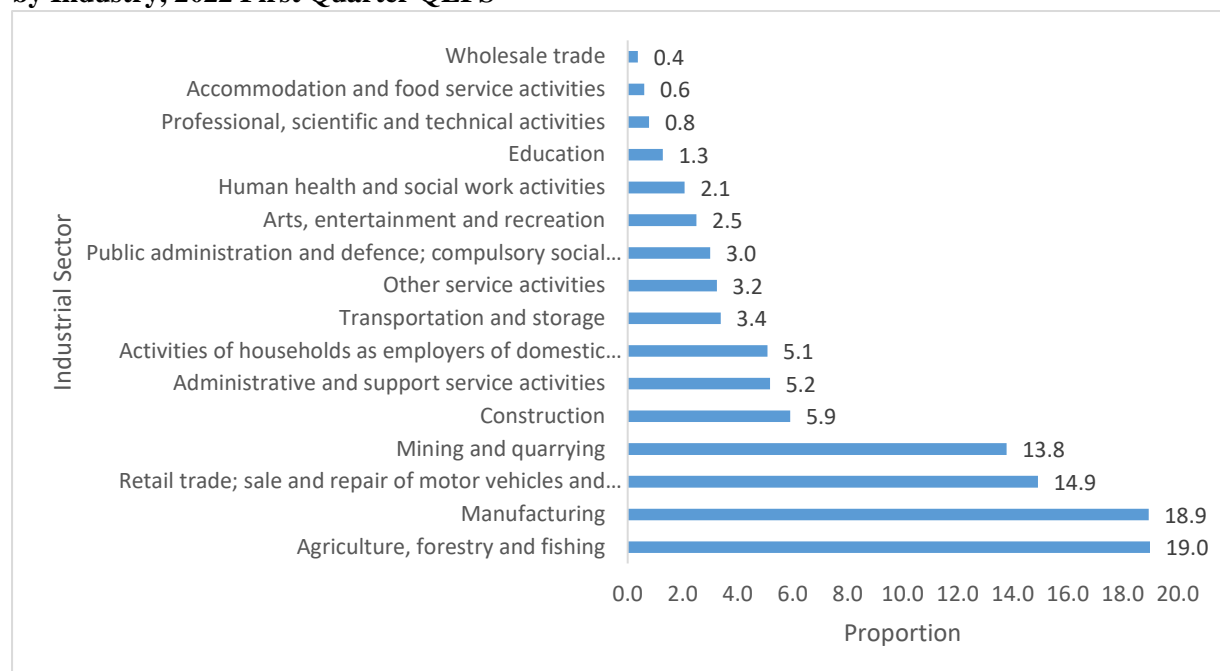


Figure 33: Proportion (%) of Persons who lost their Jobs 3 Months Preceding the Survey by Province and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

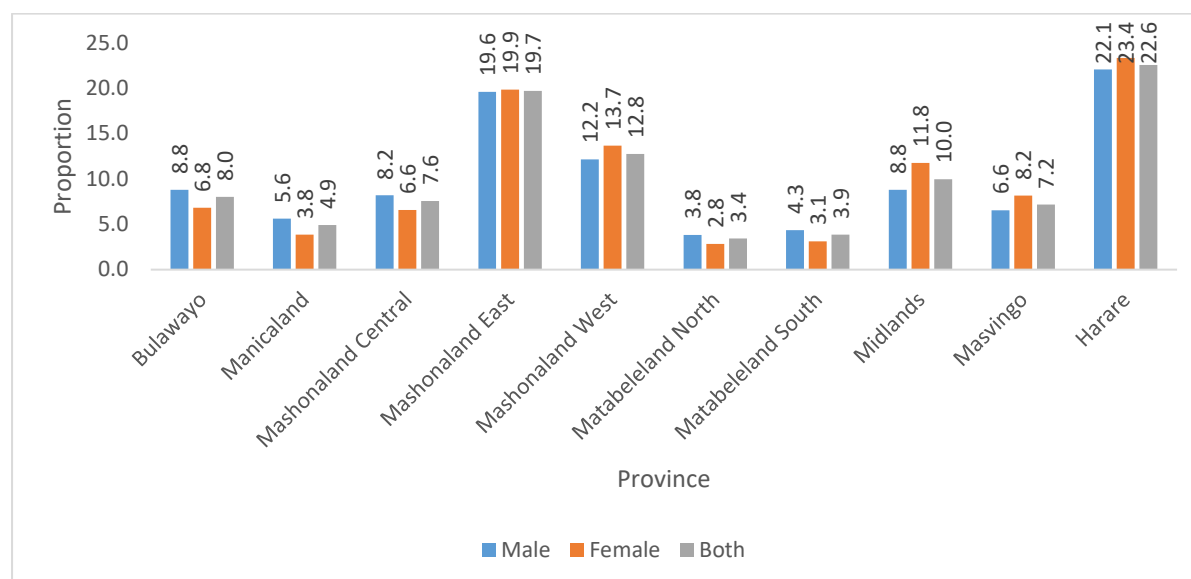


Figure 34: Proportion (%) of Persons who lost their Jobs 3 Months Preceding the Survey by Industry and Sex, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

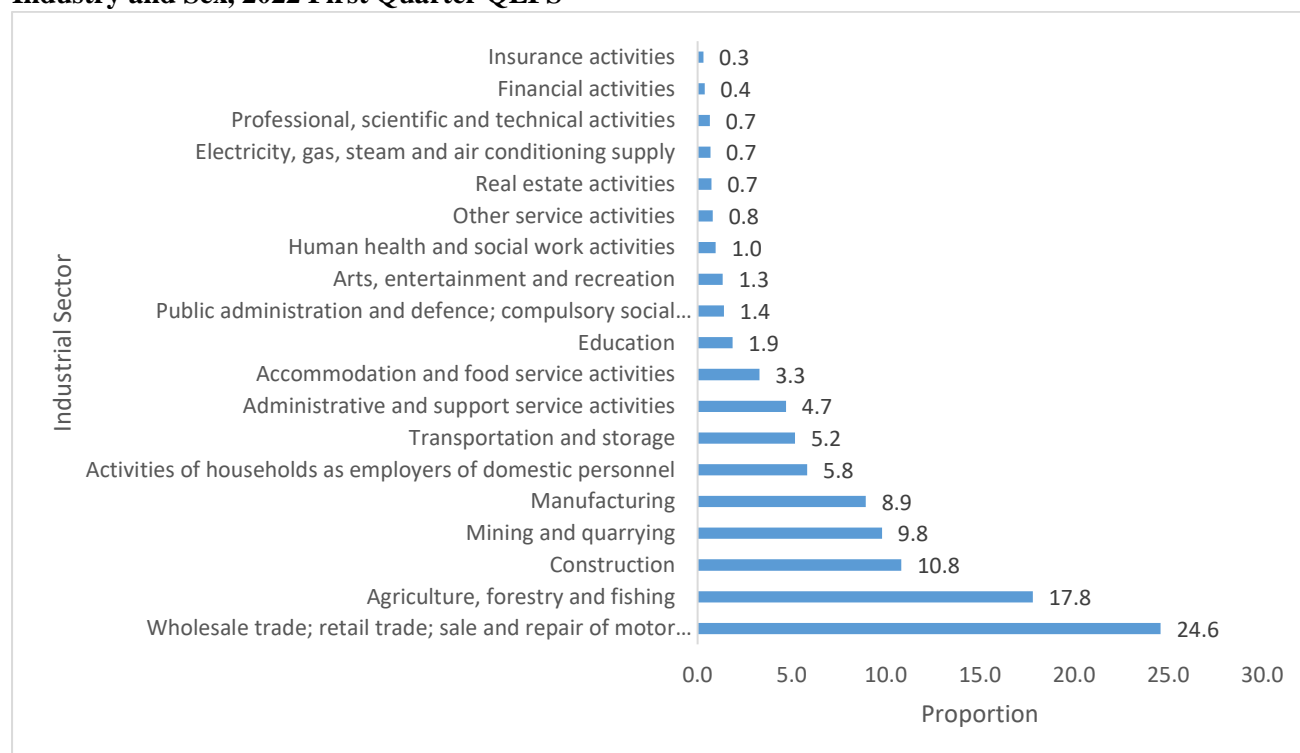


Figure 35: Proportion (%) of Labour Migrants by Country of Origin, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

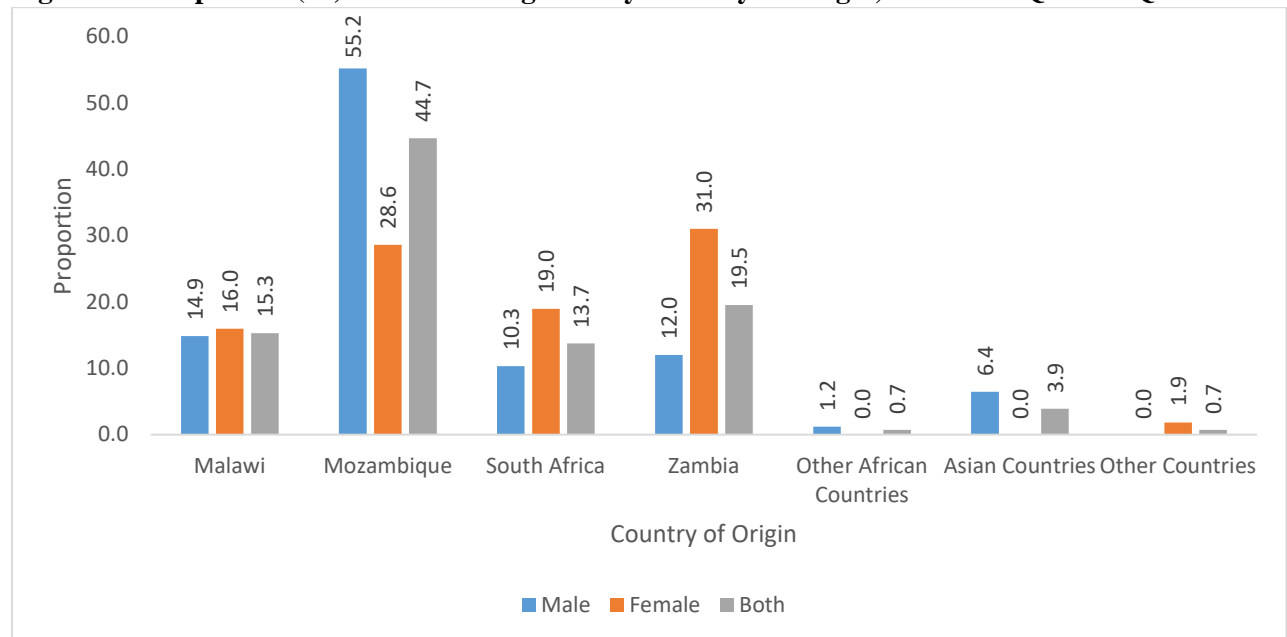


Figure 36: Proportion (%) of Labour Migrants by Industry, 2022 First Quarter QLFS

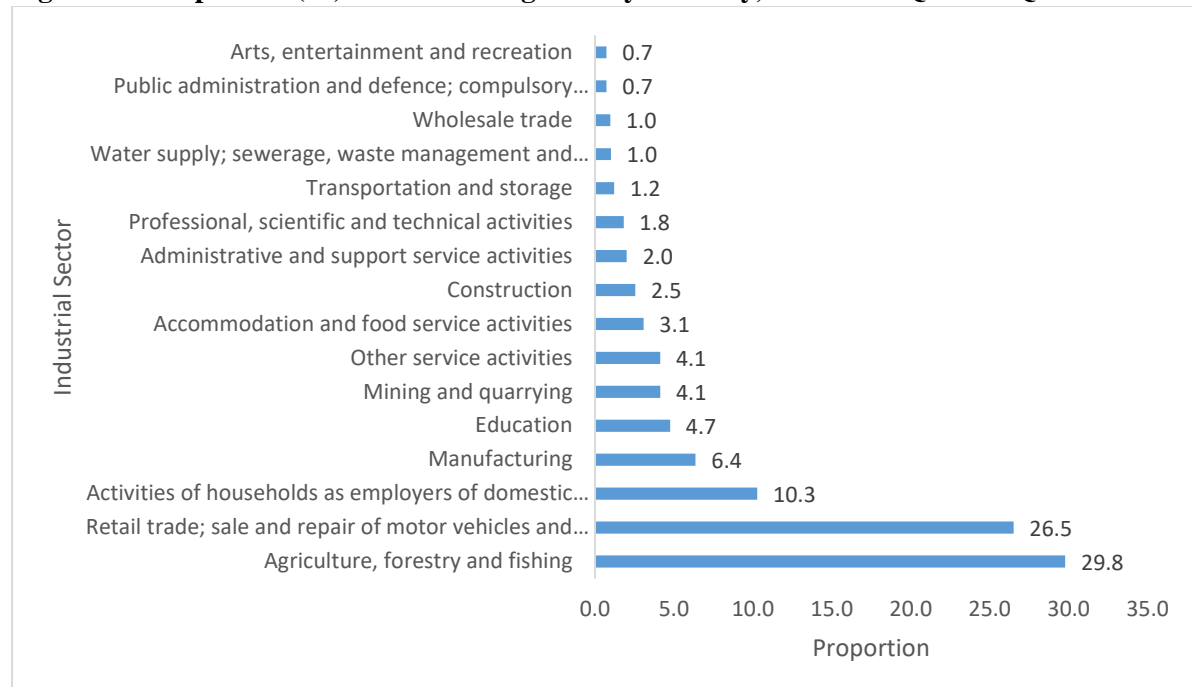


Figure 37: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons with At Least One Form of Disability, 2022 Fourth Quarter QLFS

