



2023 FIRST QUARTER QUARTERLY LABOUR FORCE SURVEY REPORT



April 2023

The 2023 First Quarter, Quarterly Labour Force Survey report was produced by the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT).

Additional information about the 2023 First Quarter, Quarterly Labour Force Survey report may be obtained from:

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1.0 Introduction

Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a national household based survey conducted in both rural and urban areas across all provinces in Zimbabwe.

2.0 Objectives of the Survey

The primary objectives of the Quarterly Labour Force Survey are to establish:

- a) Employment status of the labour force
- b) Employment in the informal sector
- c) Income levels
- d) Labour migration
- e) Labour underutilisation
- f) Unemployment level
- g) Youth not in employment, education or training

3.0 Survey Methodology

A two stage sample design was used. The first stage was selection of enumeration areas using probability proportional to size. The second stage entailed selection of households in the selected enumeration areas using systematic random sampling technique. A total of 12,500 households were selected from 500 enumeration areas. The response rate was 95.2 percent.

4.0 Definitions of Key Labour Market Indicators

- a. Working Age Population refers to persons age 15 years and above
- b. *Labour Force = Employed Persons + Unemployed Persons*

- c. Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

$$LFPR = \frac{\text{Labour Force}}{\text{Working Age Population}} \times 100$$

Where: *Labour Force = Employed Persons + Unemployed Persons*

- c. Employment-to-Population Ratio (EPR)

$$EPR = \frac{\text{Number of employed persons in working age population}}{\text{Working age population}} \times 100$$

d. Employment by Industry

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

e. Employment by occupation

This indicator disaggregates employed persons into 10 major groups of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08) and expresses each group as a percentage of total employment.

f. Employment in the informal economy

Employment in the informal economy covers two concepts; informal sector and informal employment. Employment in informal sector is determined by the characteristics of an enterprise in which a person is employed. An establishment is considered to be in the informal sector if it 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 who work their own informal sector enterprises; unpaid contributing family workers irrespective of whether they work in formal or informal sector enterprises 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.

g. Unemployment Rate

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

h. Youth Not in Employment, Education or Training

$$NEET = \frac{N_y - (N_{ye} + N_{yt})}{N_y} \times 100$$

Where: N_y is Total Number of youth

N_{ye} is Number of youth in employment

N_{yt} is Number of youth not in employment but in education or training)

Africa Union definition of youth: 15-34 years

United Nations definition of youth: 15-24 years

i. Expanded unemployment rate

$$= \frac{(\textit{Total number of unemployed persons} + \textit{PLF})}{(\textit{Labour Force} + \textit{PLF})} \times 100$$

Where *PLF* is Potential Labour Force

5.0 Summary of 2023 First Quarter QLFS Findings

Tables 1a and 1b show key findings obtained from 2023 first quarter QLFS in comparison with 2022 fourth quarter and 2022 first quarter QLFS results respectively.

Table 1a: Key findings (Quarter to Quarter)

Indicator	4 th Quarter 2022		1st Quarter 2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Labour Force				
Working Age Population (15 years and above)	9,175,641		9,054,007	
Labour Force (15 years and above)	3,861,073		3,975,746	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)		42.1		43.9
Total Employed	3,122,352		3,207,535	
Employment to Population Ratio (EPR)		34		35.4
Sector of Employment				
Formal (non-agriculture)	896,767	28.7	912,036	28.4
Informal (non-agriculture)	1,437,755	46	1,298,828	40.5
Agriculture	604,051	19.3	800,087	24.9
Activities of Households as an Employer	183,780	5.9	196,584	6.1
Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	738,721	19.1	768,211	19.3
Youth (15-24 years)	268,284	36.2	276,674	34.4
Youth (15-34 years)	477,891	26.6	506,325	26.1
Expanded/Relaxed Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	2,694,535	46.3	2,811,350	46.7
Youth (15-24 years)	924,412	66.2	992,454	65.3
Youth (15-34 years)	1,641,561	55.5	1,790,514	55.6
Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)				
Youth (15-24 years) NEET	1,258,232	45.6	1,418,658	51.6
Youth (15-34 years) NEET	2,233,527	48.6	2,440,075	51.9

Table 1b : Key findings (Year on Year)

Indicator	1st Quarter 2022		1st Quarter 2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Labour Force				
Working Age Population (15 years and above)	9,282,347		9,054,007	
Labour Force (15 years and above)	4,057,096		3,975,746	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)		43.7		43.9
Total Employed	3,274,645		3,207,535	
Employment to Population Ratio (EPR)		35.3		35.4
Sector of Employment				
Formal (non-agriculture)	913,989	27.9	912,036	28.4
Informal (non-agriculture)	1,463,209	44.7	1,298,828	40.5
Agriculture	769,311	23.5	800,087	24.9
Activities of Households as an Employer	128,136	3.9	196,584	6.1
Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	782,451	19.3	768,211	19.3
Youth (15-24 years)	298,998	35.4	276,674	34.4
Youth (15-34 years)	533,097	27.3	506,325	26.1
Expanded/Relaxed Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	2,907,330	47.0	2,811,350	46.7
Youth (15-24 years)	1,070,764	66.3	992,454	65.3
Youth (15-34 years)	1,875,841	56.9	1,790,514	55.6
Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)				
Youth (15-24 years) NEET	1,508,148	51.8	1,418,658	51.6
Youth (15-34 years) NEET	2,518,978	52.2	2,440,075	51.9

Figure 1: Labour Force Participation Rates by Province and Sex

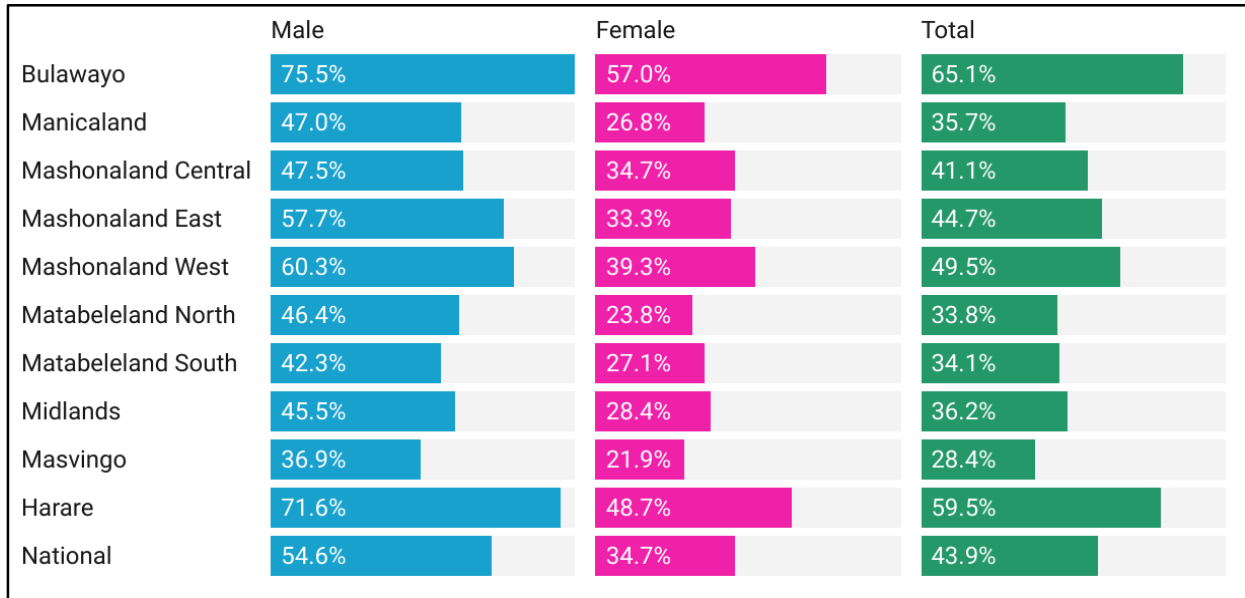


Figure 2: Percentage Change in Labour Force Participation Rates

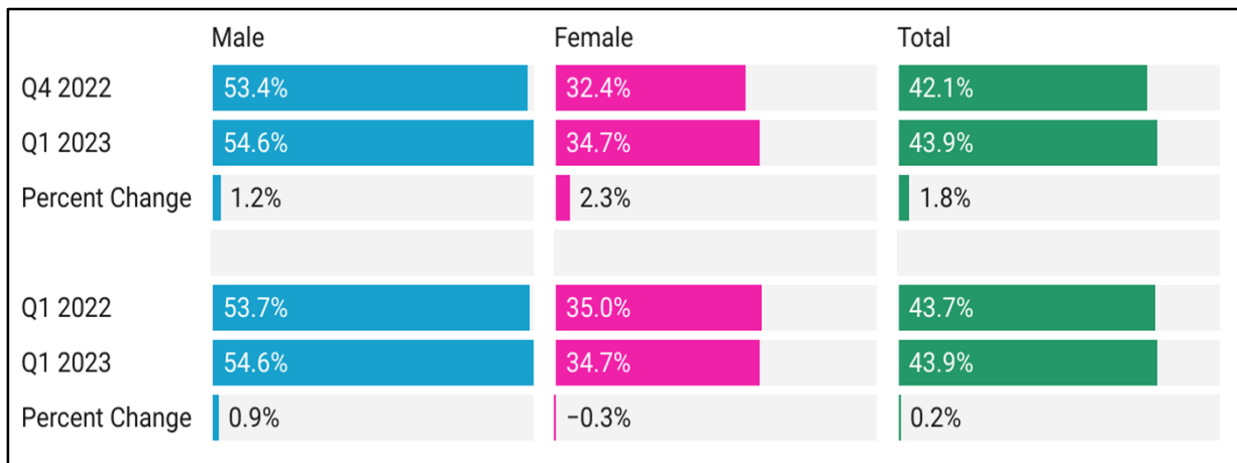


Figure 3: Labour Force Participation Rates by Sex and Urban/Rural Areas

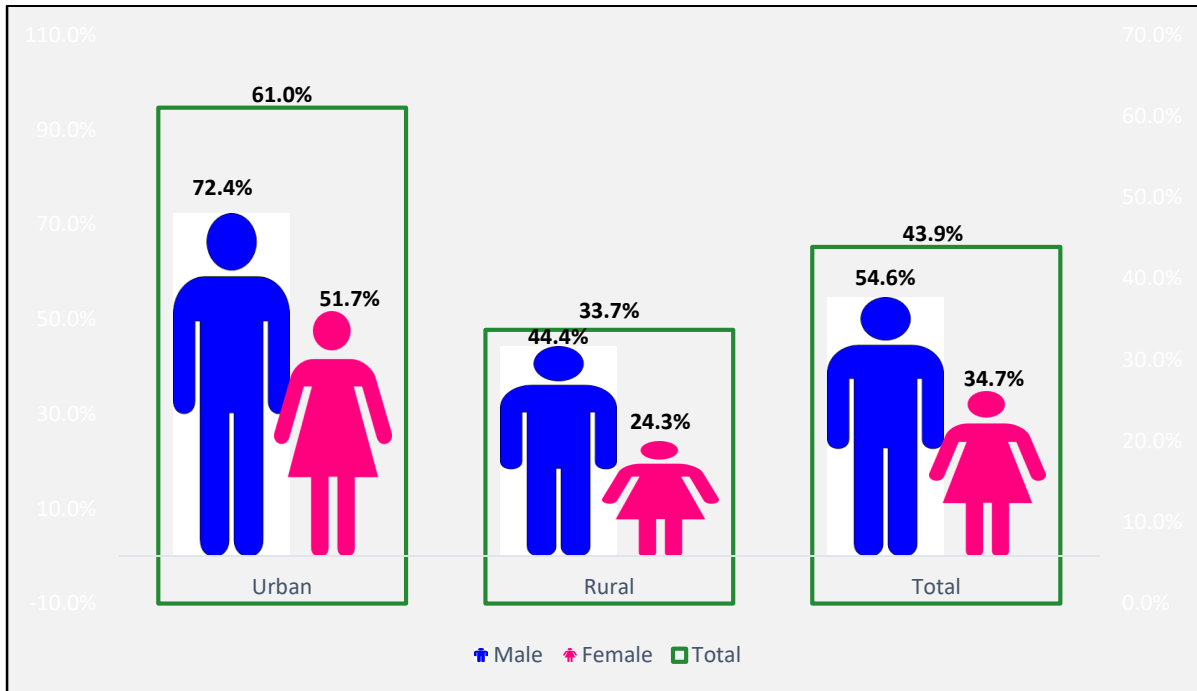


Figure 4: Labour Force Participation Rates by Age Group and Sex

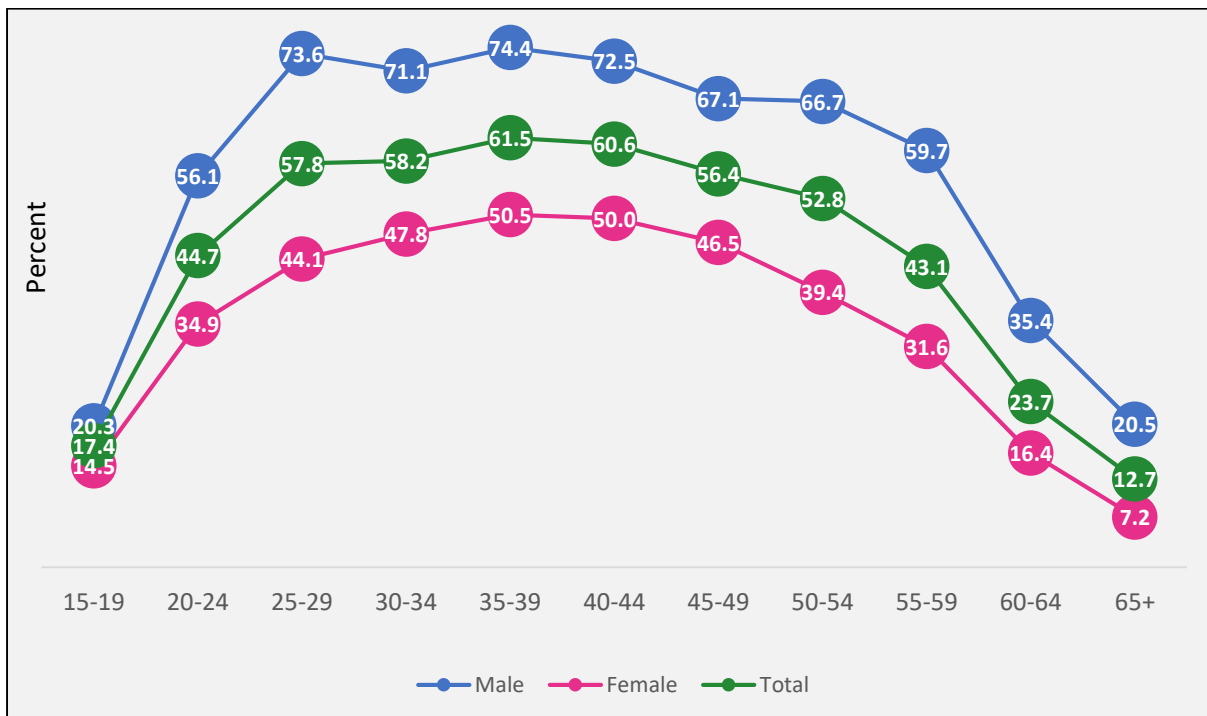


Figure 5: Employment to Population Ratio by Province and Sex

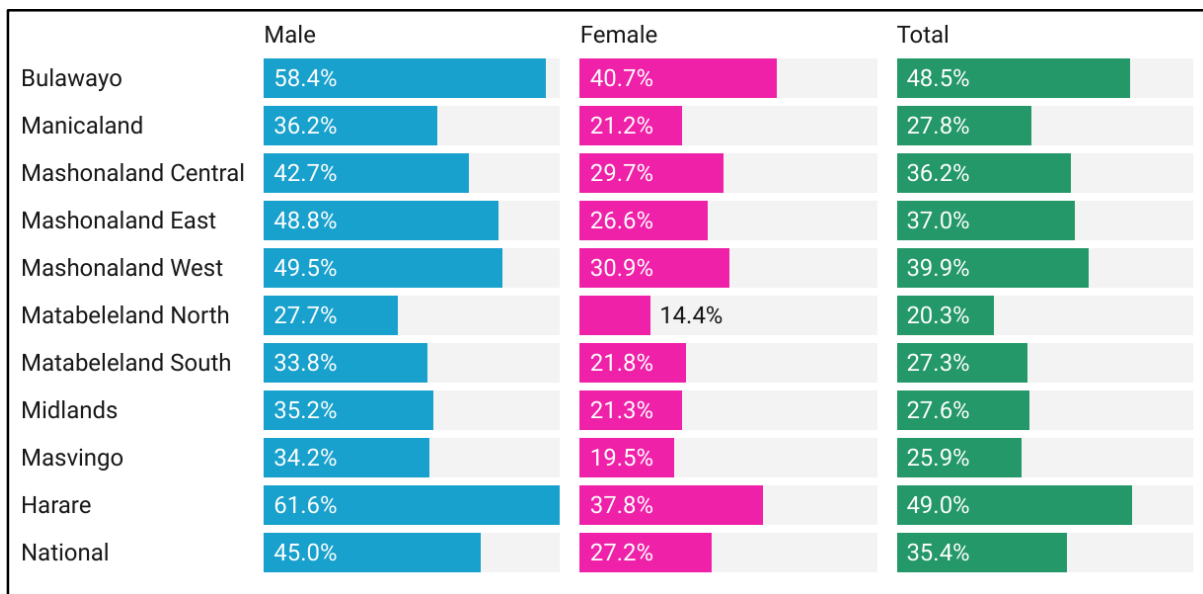


Figure 6: Percentage Change in Employment to Population Ratio by Sex

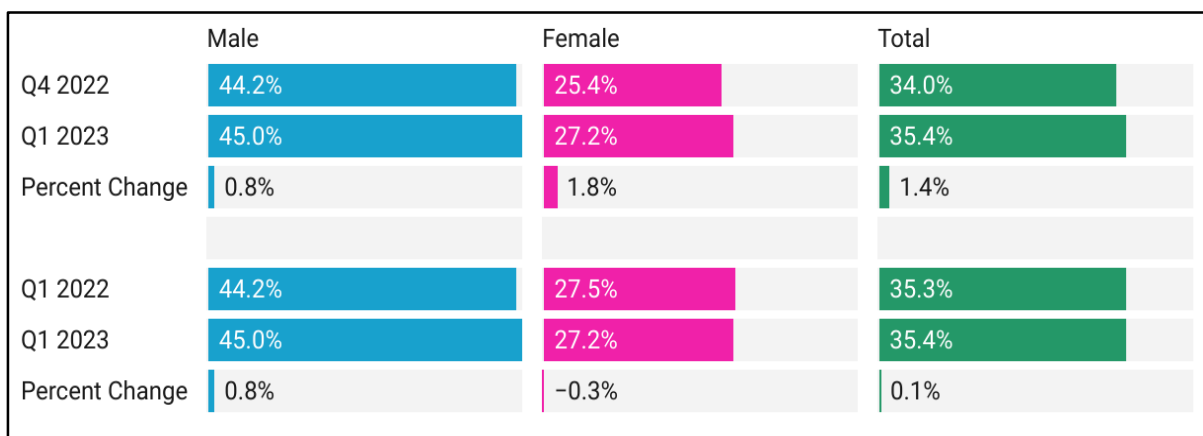


Figure 7: Employment to Population Ratio by Age Group and Sex

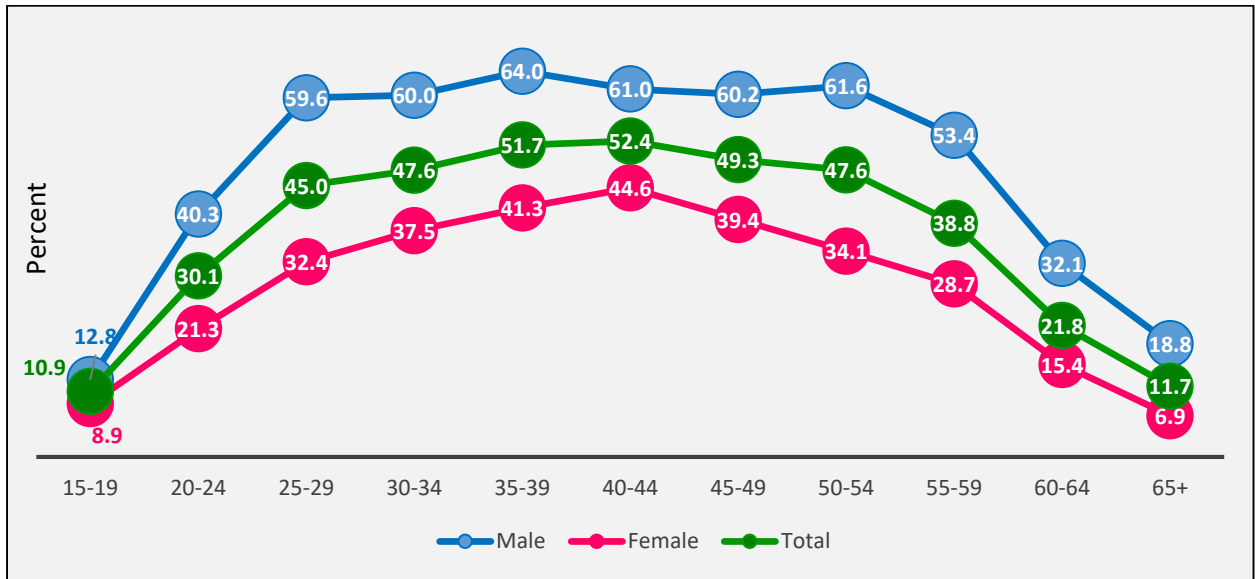


Figure 8: Employment to Population Ratio by Sex and Urban/Rural Areas

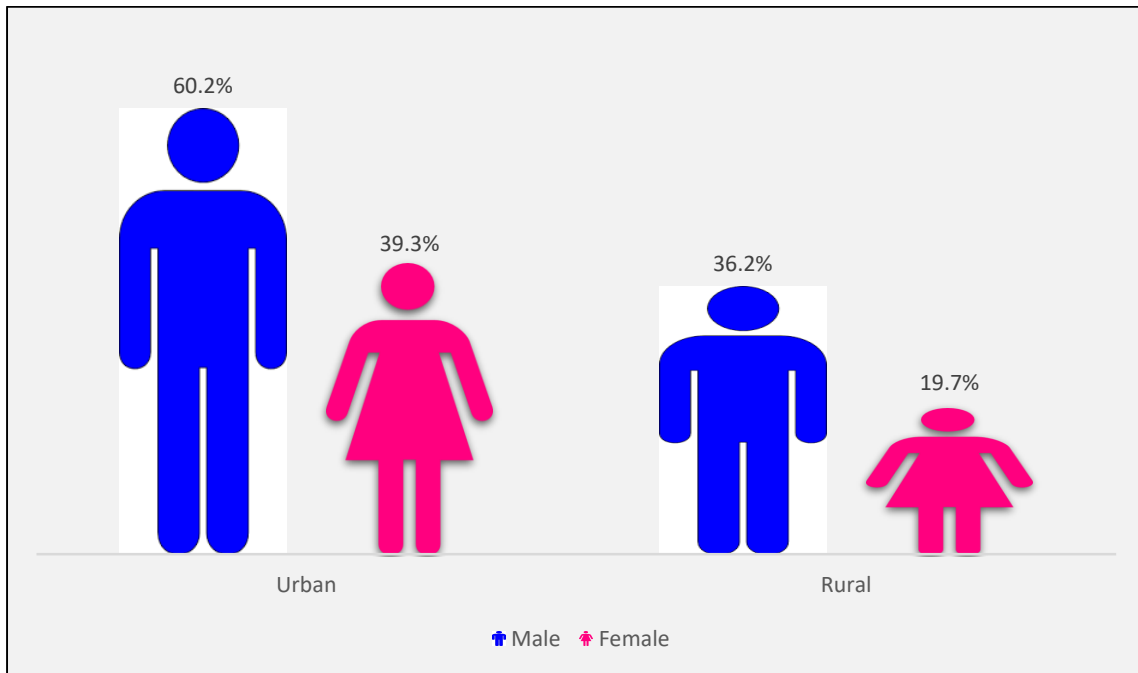


Figure 9: Labour Force Participation Rates and Employment to Population Ratio Trends

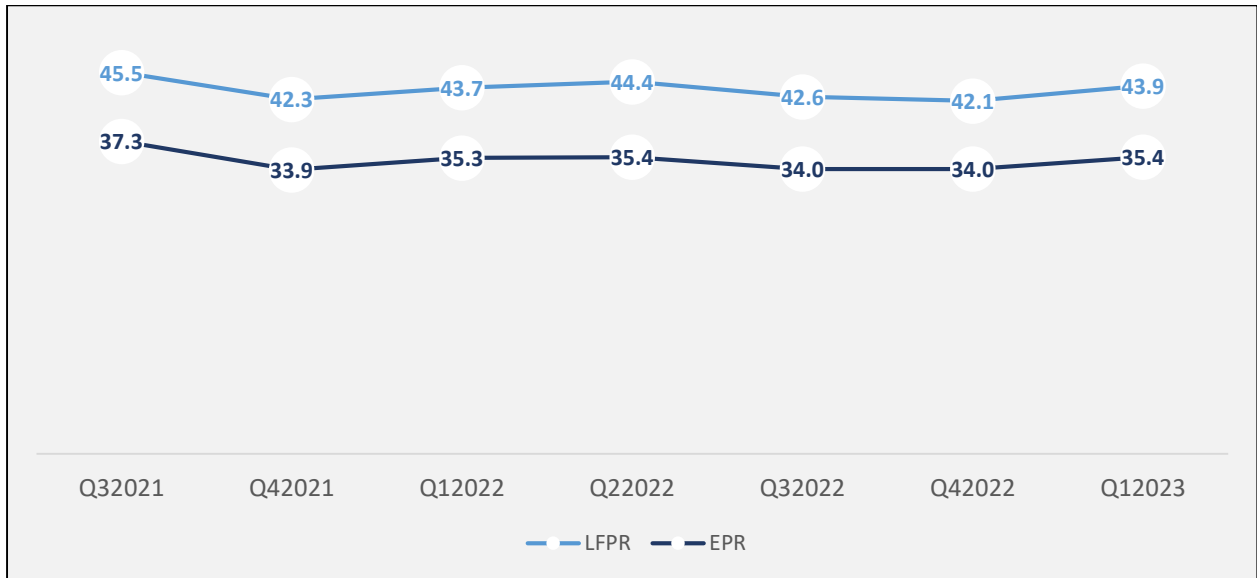


Figure 10: Distribution of Employed Population, 15 Years and Above, by Sector of Employment and Sex

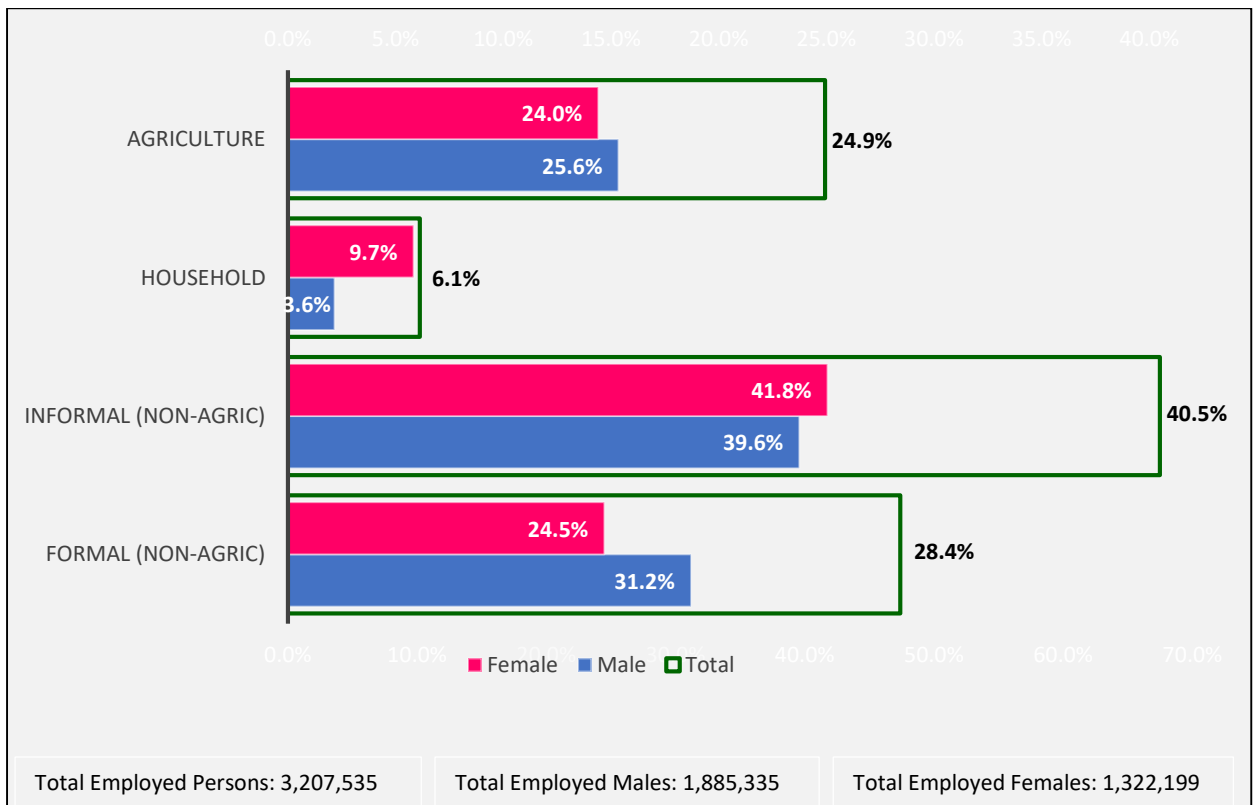


Figure 11: Percentage Change in Employed Population, 15 Years and Above, by Sector of Employment

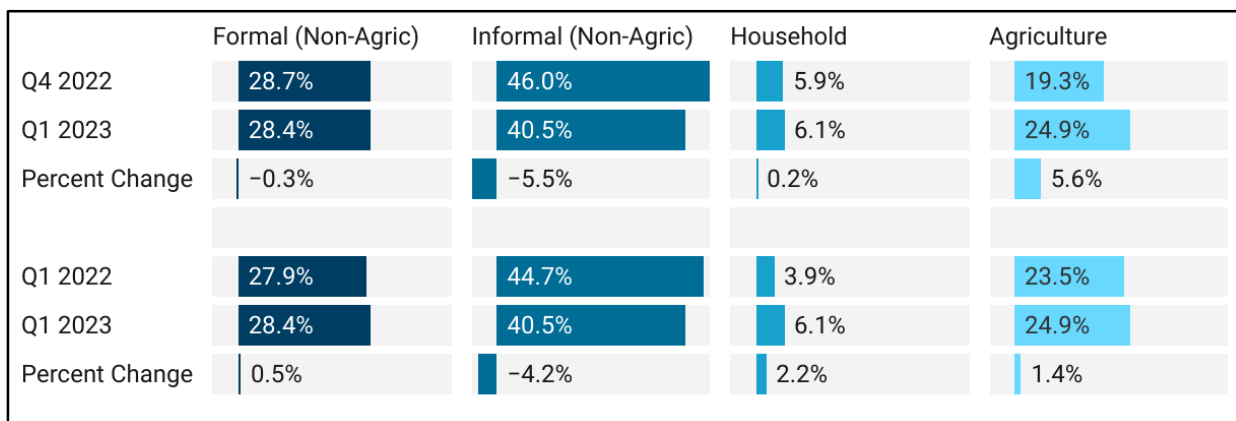
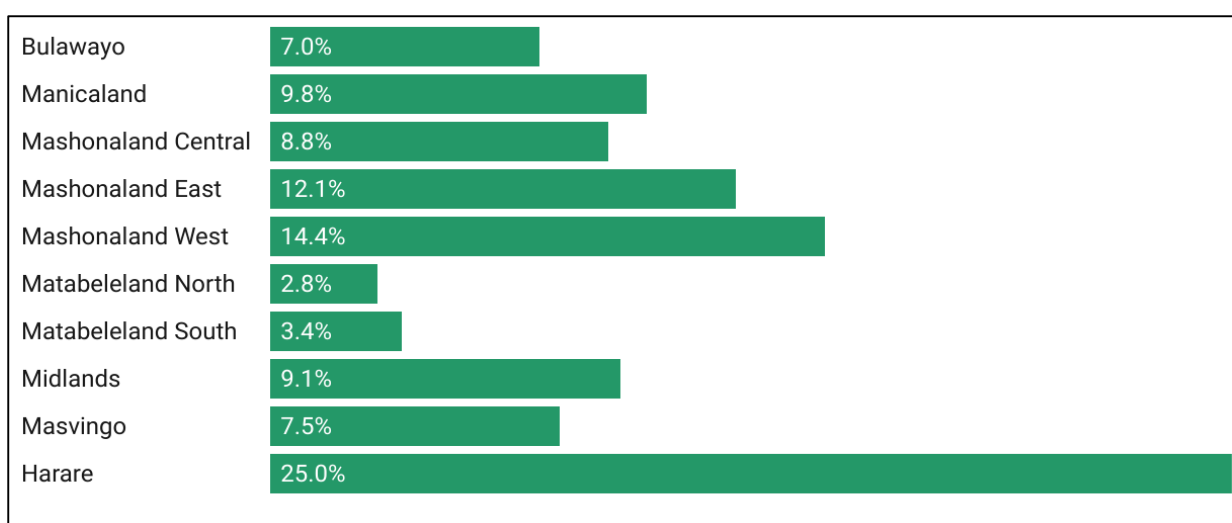
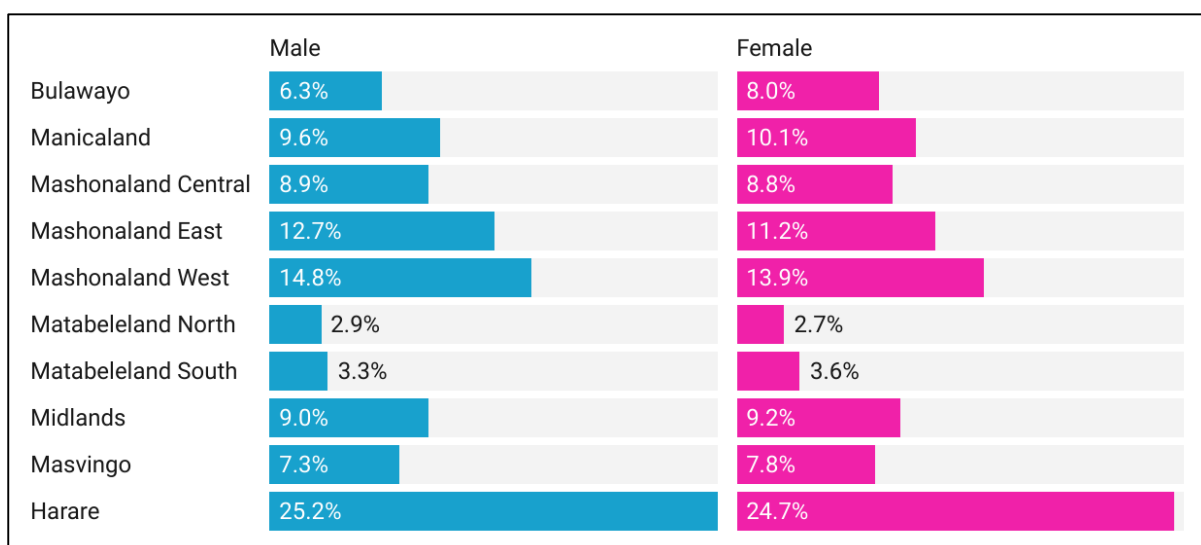


Figure 12: Distribution of Employed Population, 15 Years and Above by Province



Total Employed Persons: 3,207,535

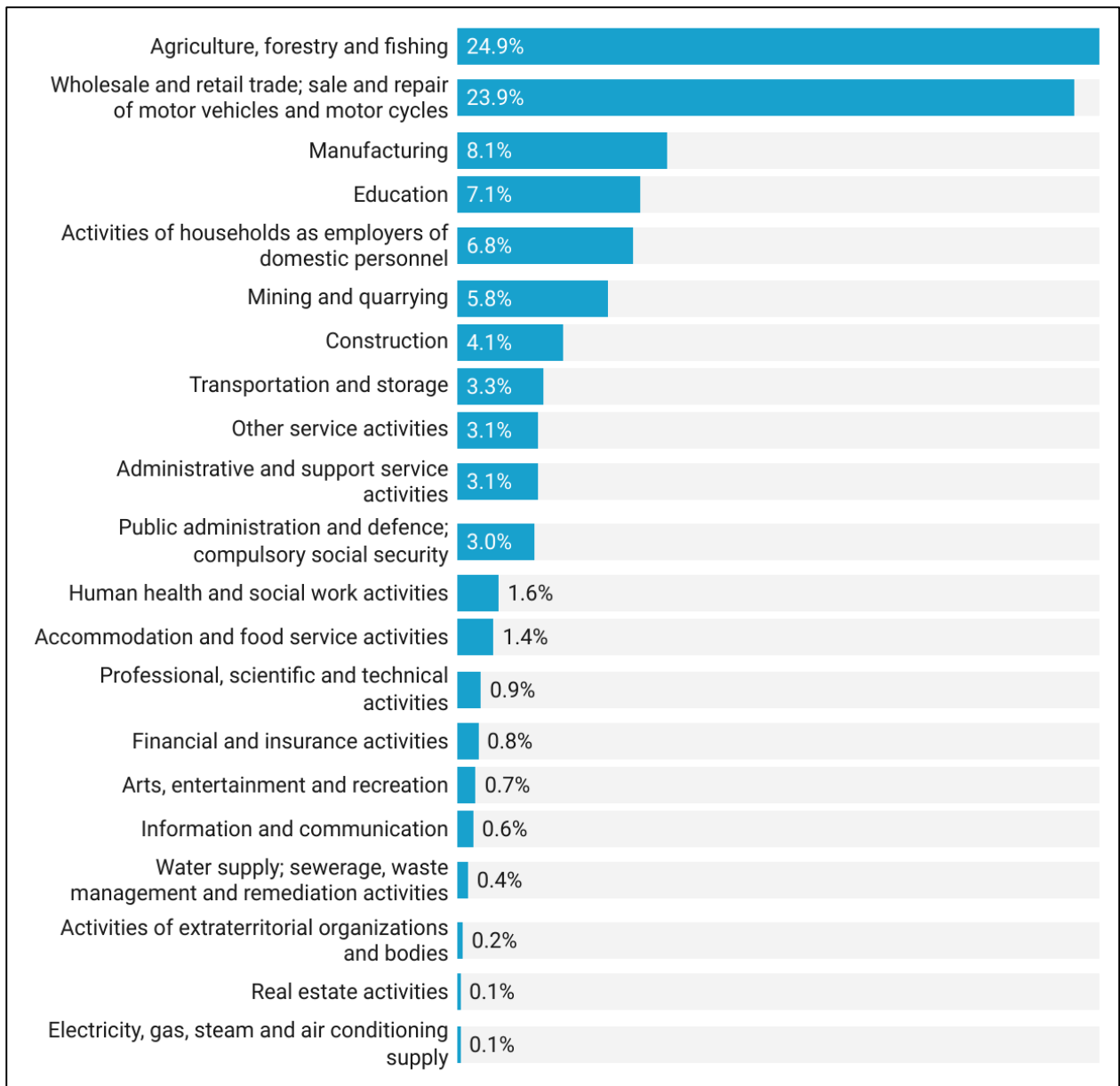
Figure 13: Distribution of Employed Population, 15 Years and Above by Province and Sex



Total Employed Males: 1,885,335

Total Employed Females: 1,322,199

Figure 14: Distribution of Employed Population, 15 Years and Above, by Industry



Total Employed Persons: 3,207,535

Figure 15: Distribution of Employed Population, 15 Years and Above, by Status in Employment

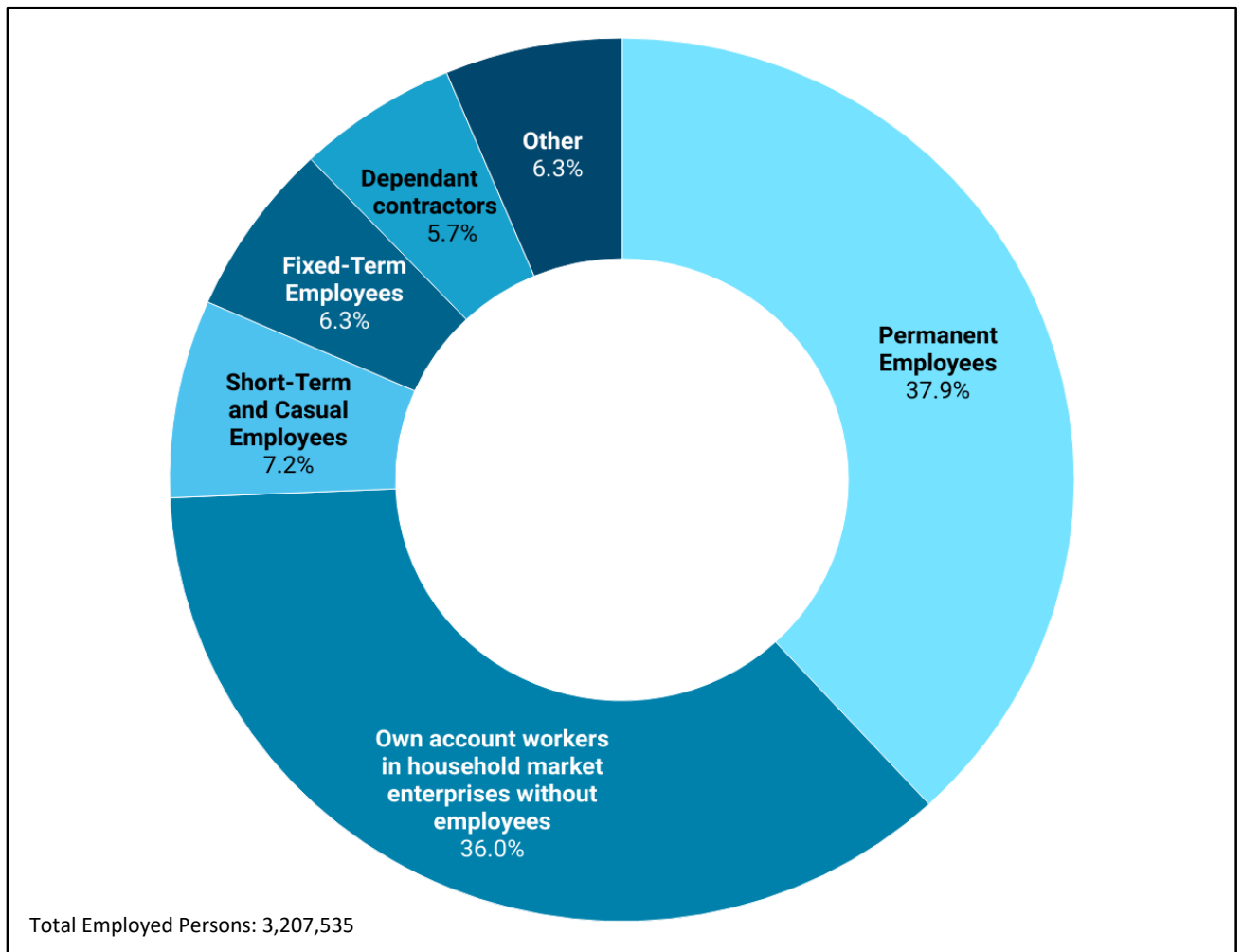
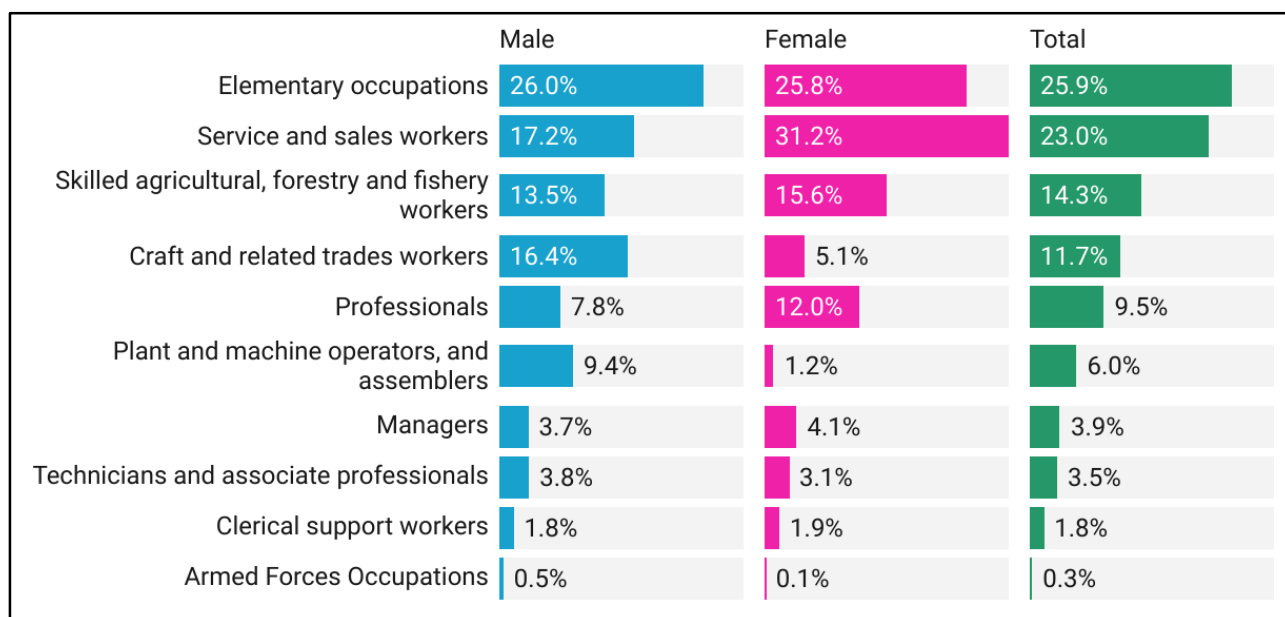


Figure 16: Distribution of Employed Population, 15 Years and Above, by Occupation and Sex

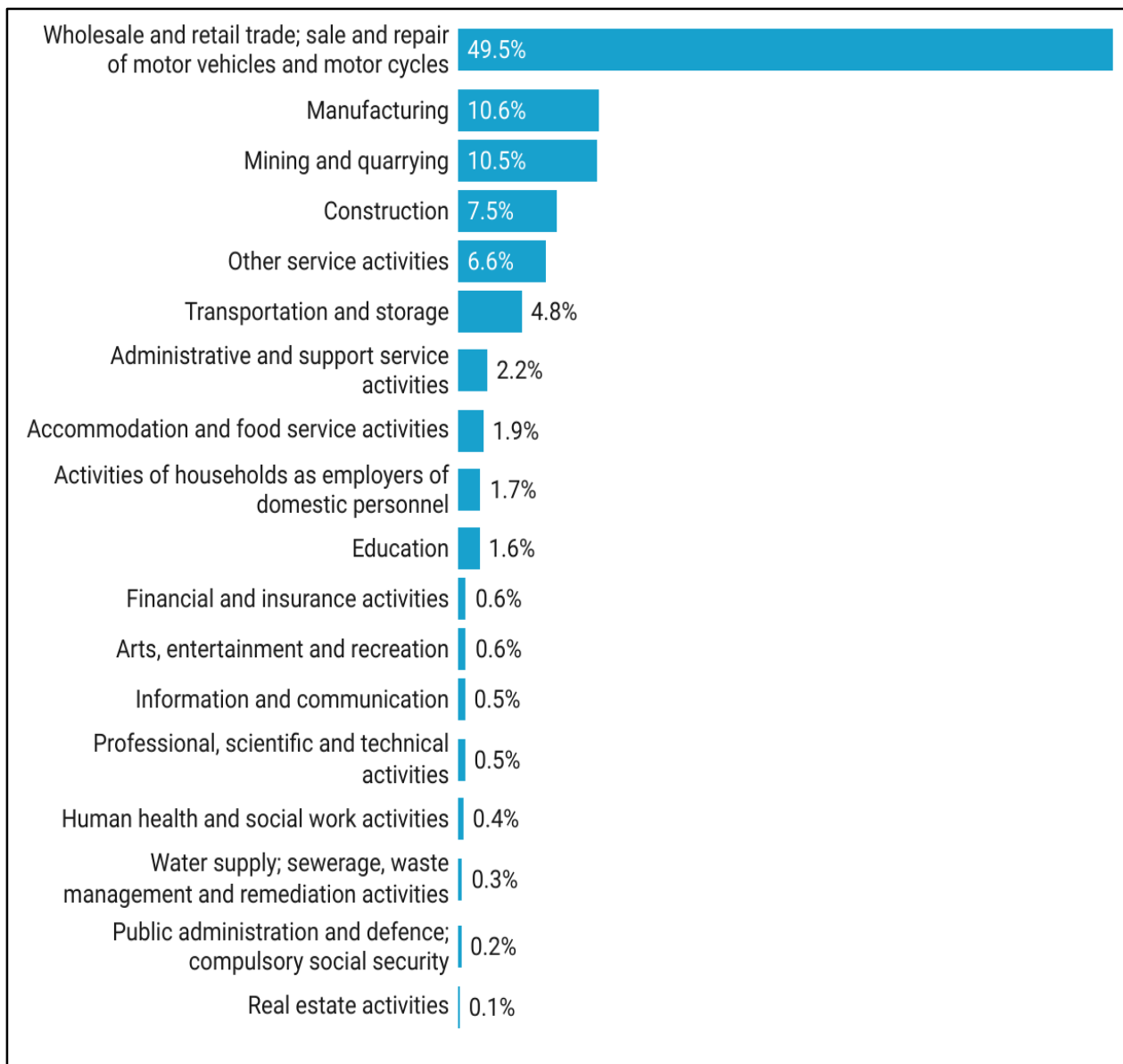


Total Employed Persons: 3,207,535

Total Employed Males: 1,885,335

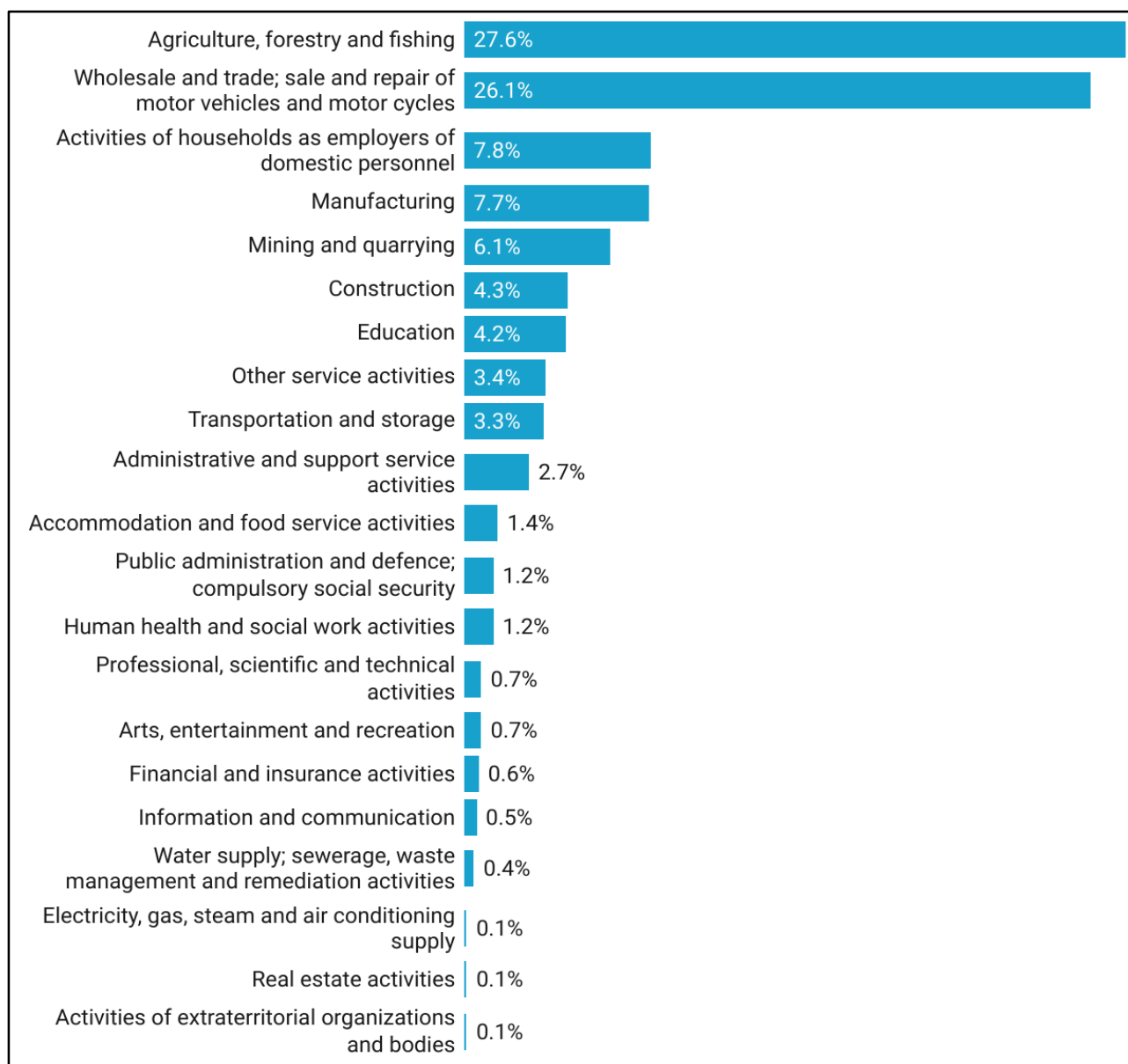
Total Employed Females: 1,322,199

Figure 17: Distribution of Employed Population, 15 Years and above, in Informal Sector (Non-Agriculture) by Industry



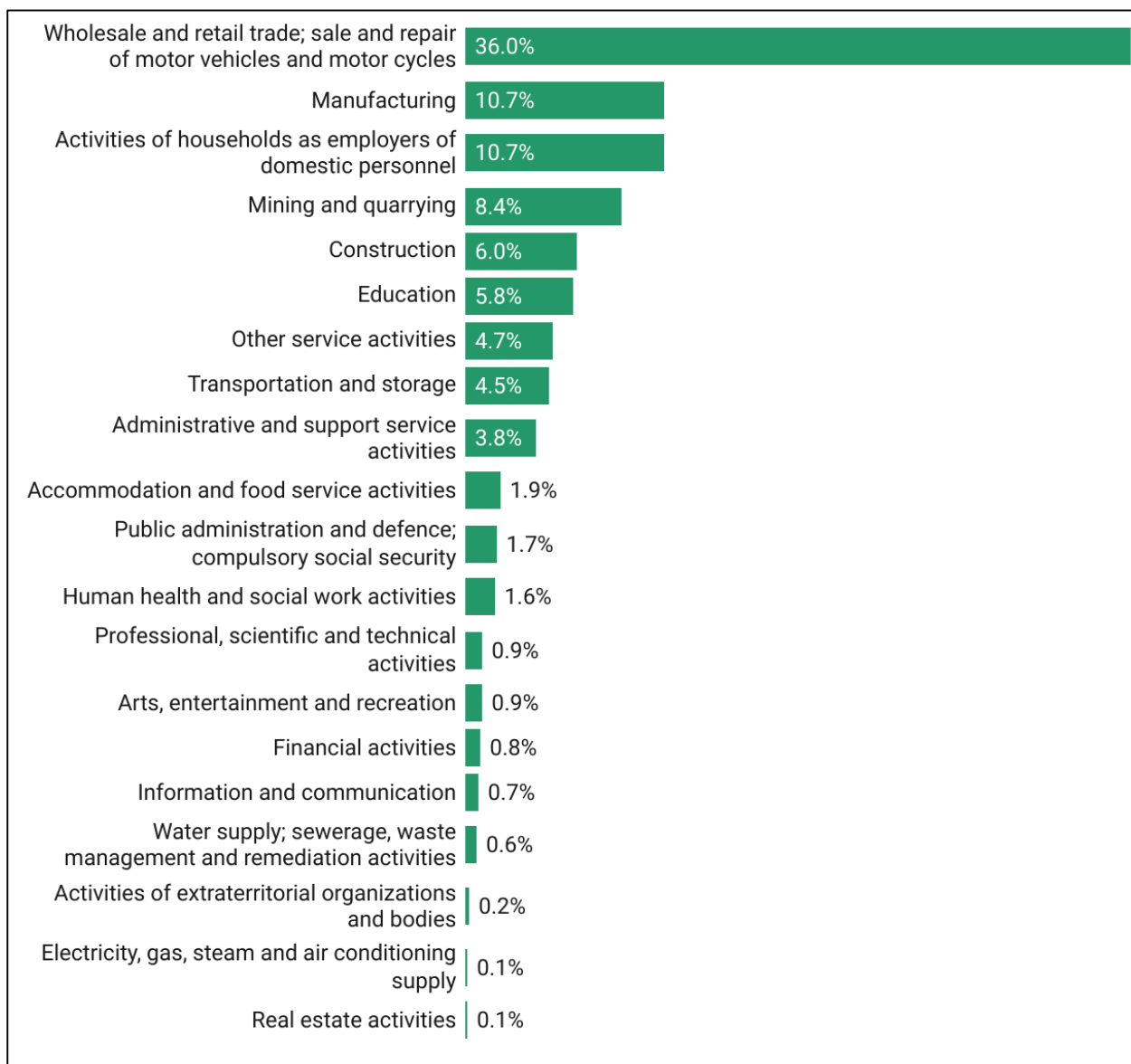
Total Employed in Informal Sector (Non-Agriculture): 1,298,828

Figure 18: Distribution of Informally Employed Persons, 15 Years and Above, by Industry



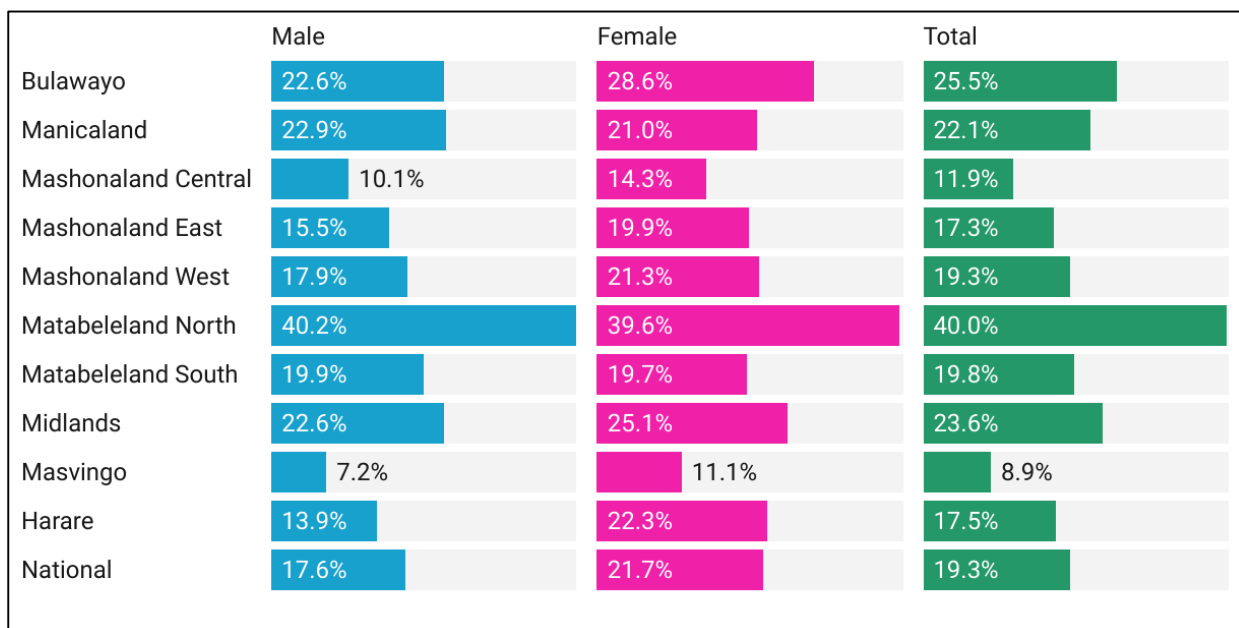
Total Employed in Informal Sector: 2,814,191

Figure 19: Informally Employed Persons, 15 Years and Above, in the Non-Agriculture Sectors by Industry



Total Informally Employed in Non-Agriculture Sectors: 2,038,734

Figure 20: Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex



Total unemployed males: 401,775 Total unemployed females: 366,436 Total unemployed persons: 768,211

Figure 21: Percentage Change in Unemployment Rates by Province

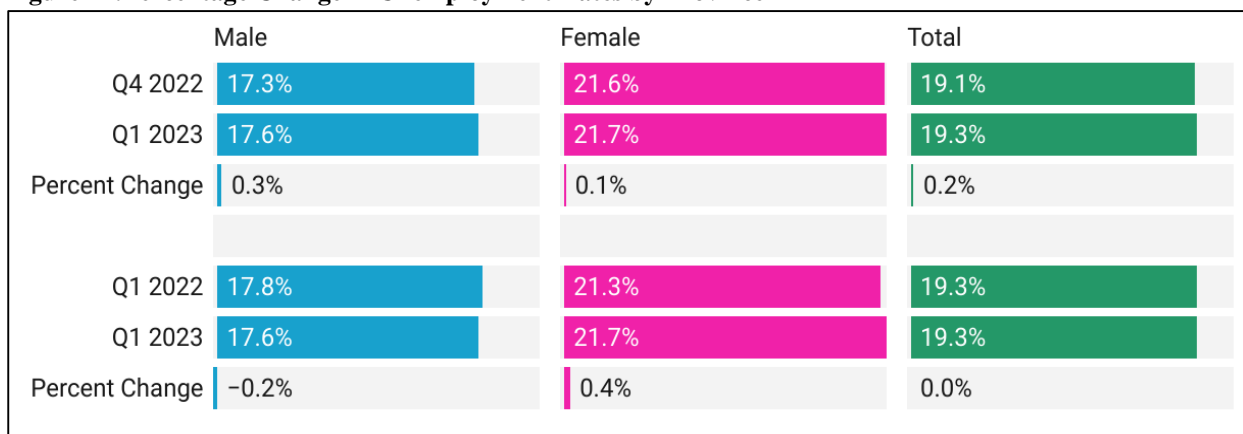
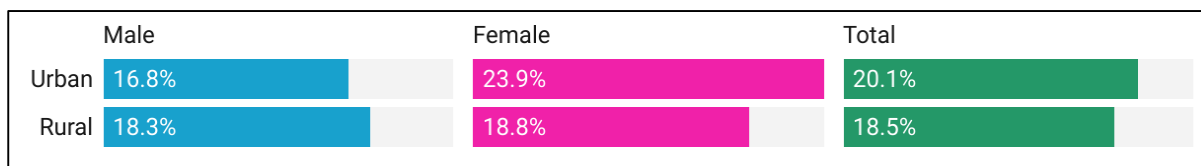
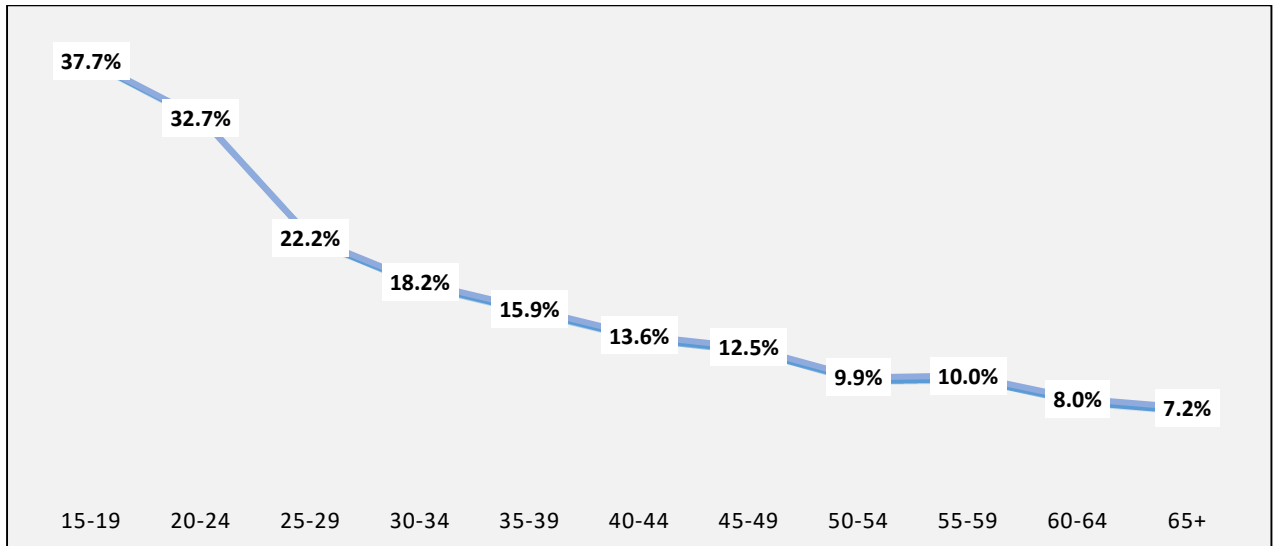


Figure 22: Unemployment Rates by Sex and Urban/Rural Areas



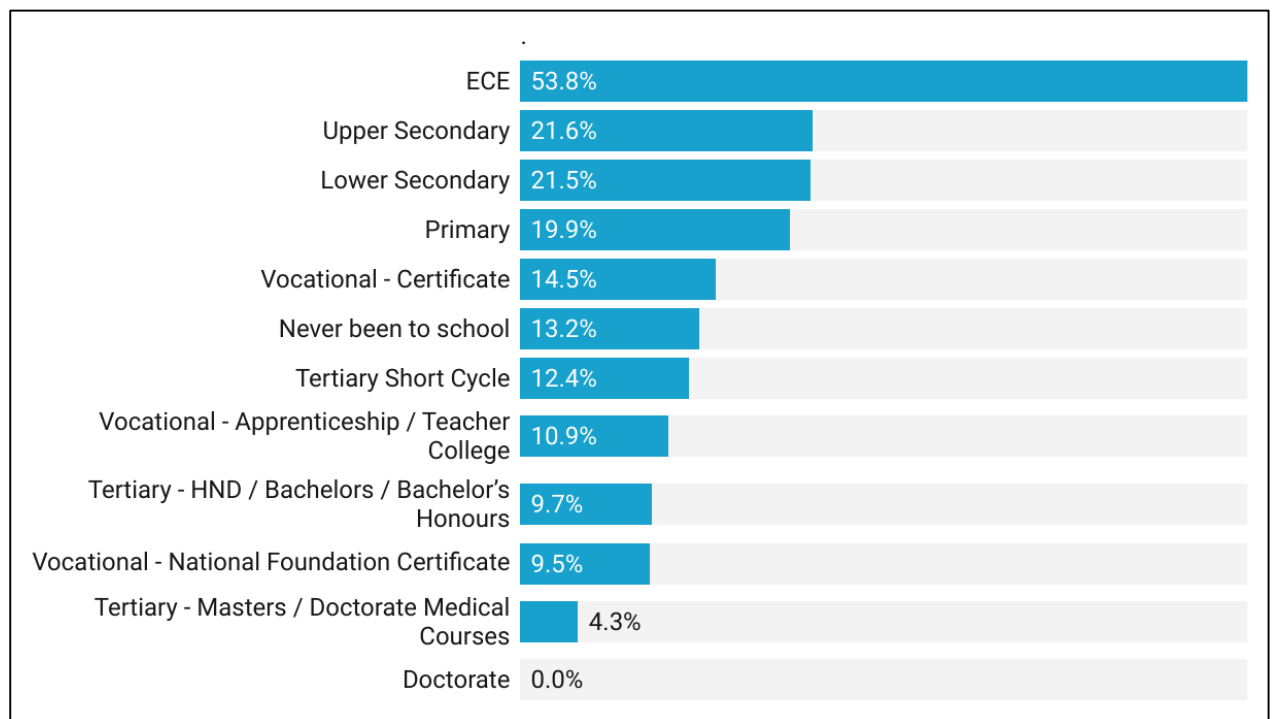
Total unemployed males: 401,775 Total unemployed females: 366,436 Total unemployed persons: 768,211

Figure 23: Unemployment Rates by Age Group and Sex



Total unemployed persons: 768,211

Figure 24: Unemployment Rates by Highest Level of Education Completed and Sex



Total unemployed persons: 768,211

Figure 25: Unemployment Rate Trend

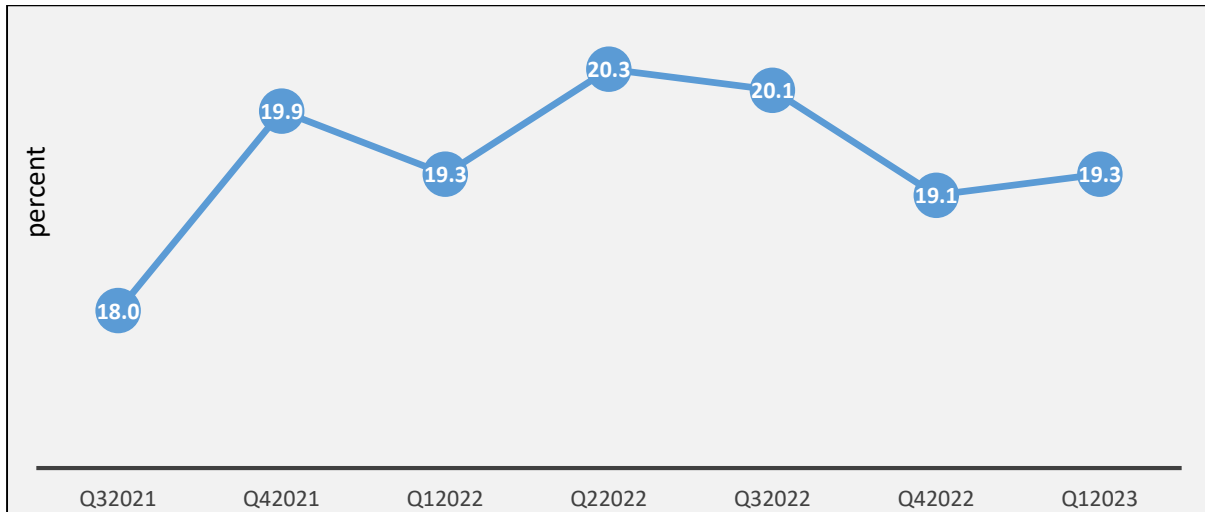
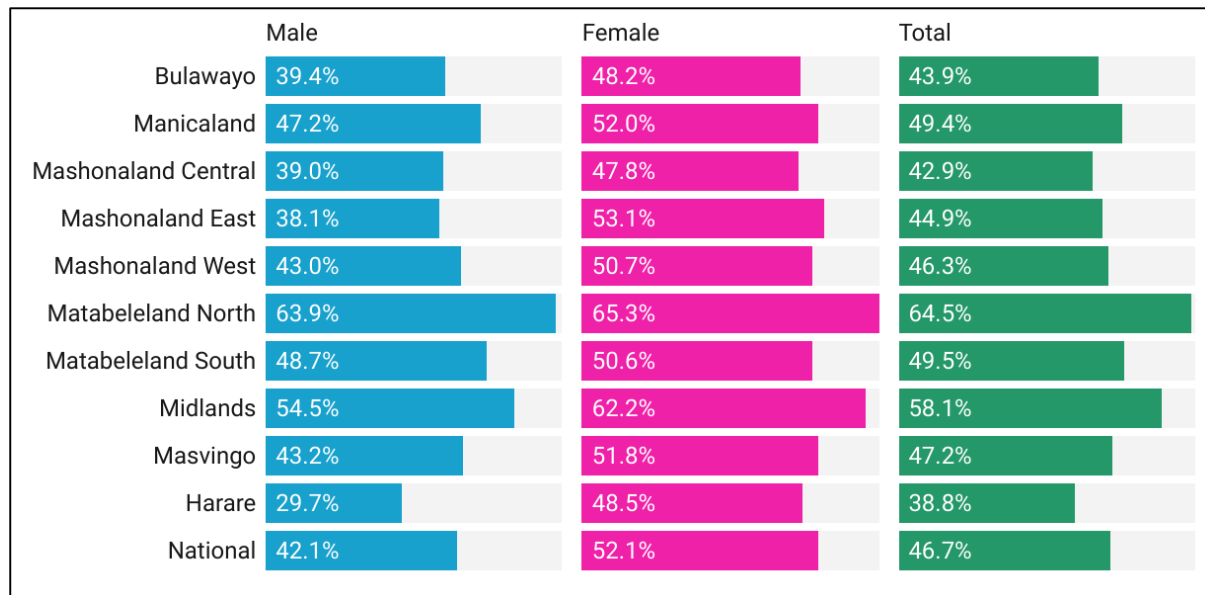
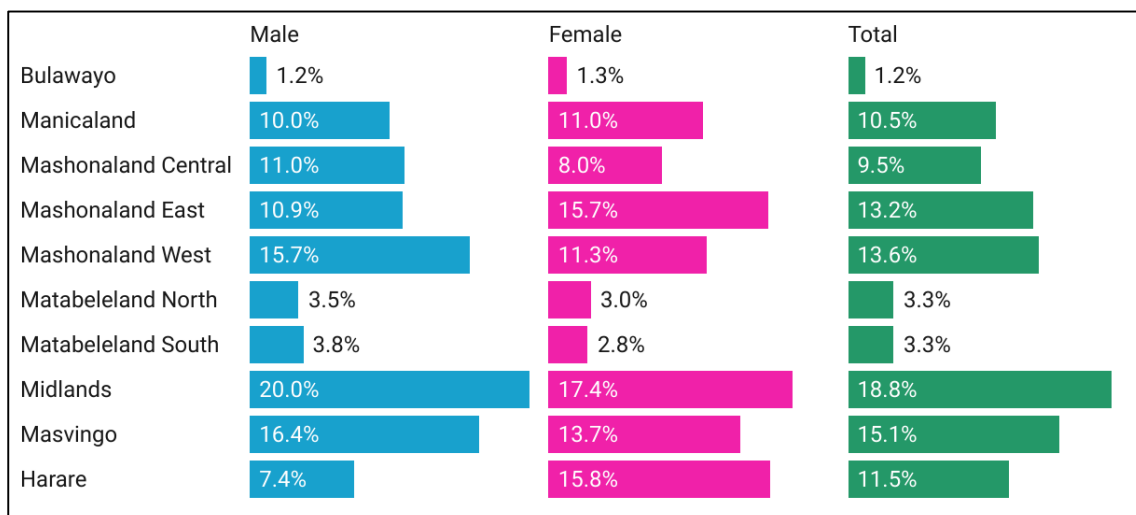


Figure 26: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex



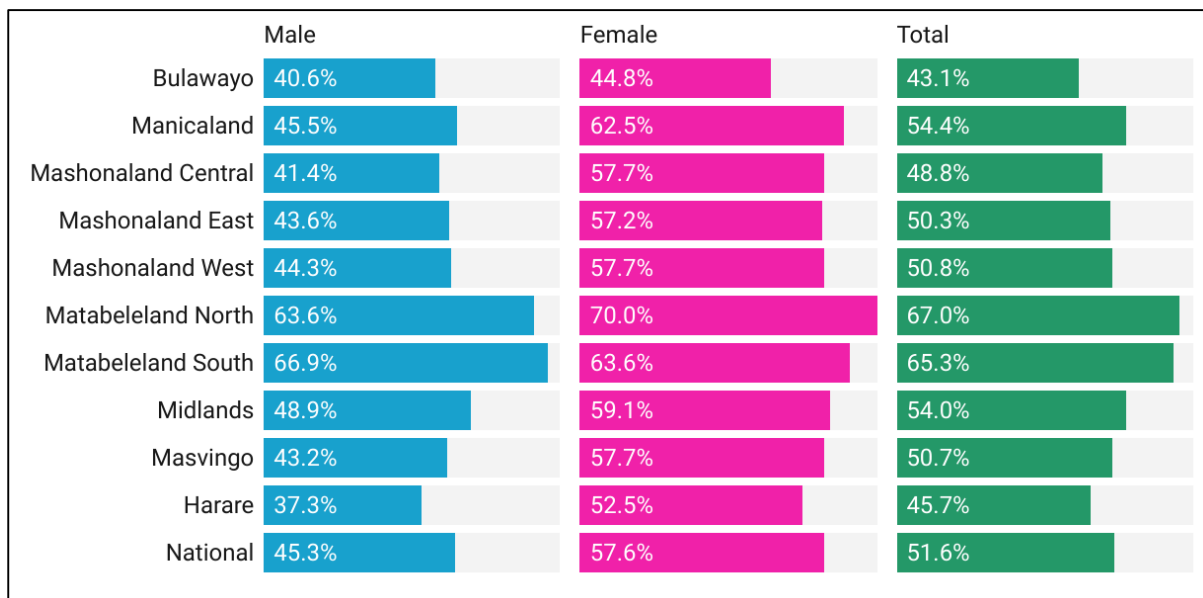
Unemployed (expanded): Male 1,370,724 Female 1,440,626 Total 2,811,350

Figure 27: Distribution of Discouraged Job Seekers by Province and Sex



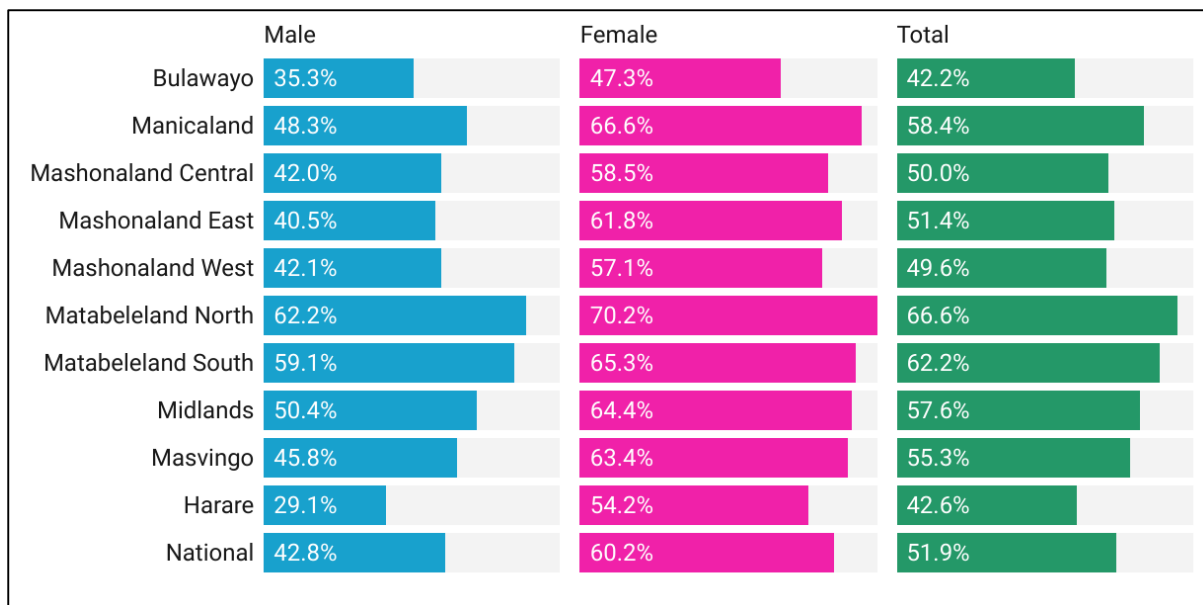
Discouraged job seekers: Male 432,728 Female 417,181 Total 849,909

Figure 28: Proportion of Youth (15-24 Years) Not in Education, Employment or Training



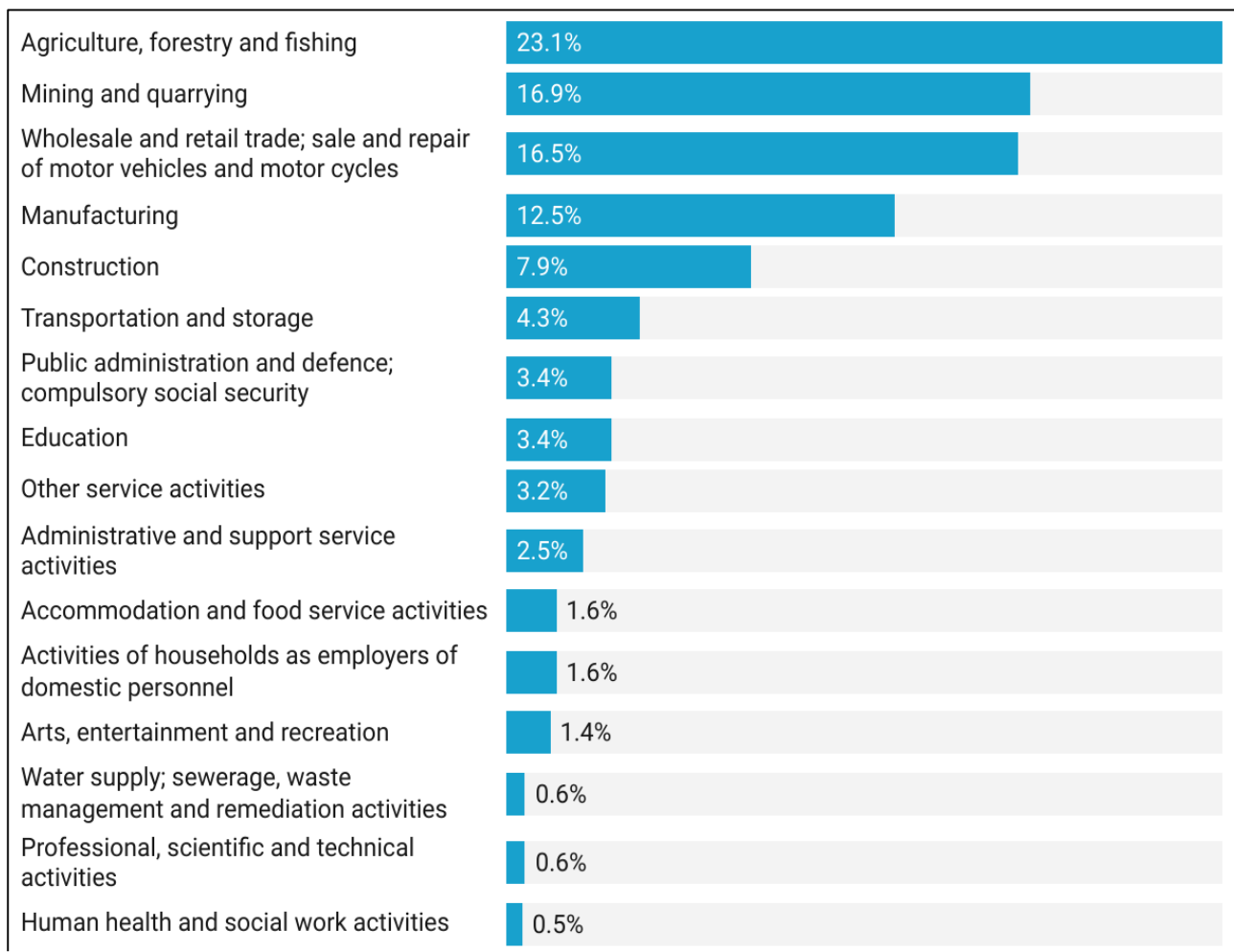
Youth NEET (15 -24): Male 606,252 Female 812,407 Total 1,418,658

Figure 29: Proportion of Youth (15-34 Years) Not in Education, Employment or Training by Province and Sex



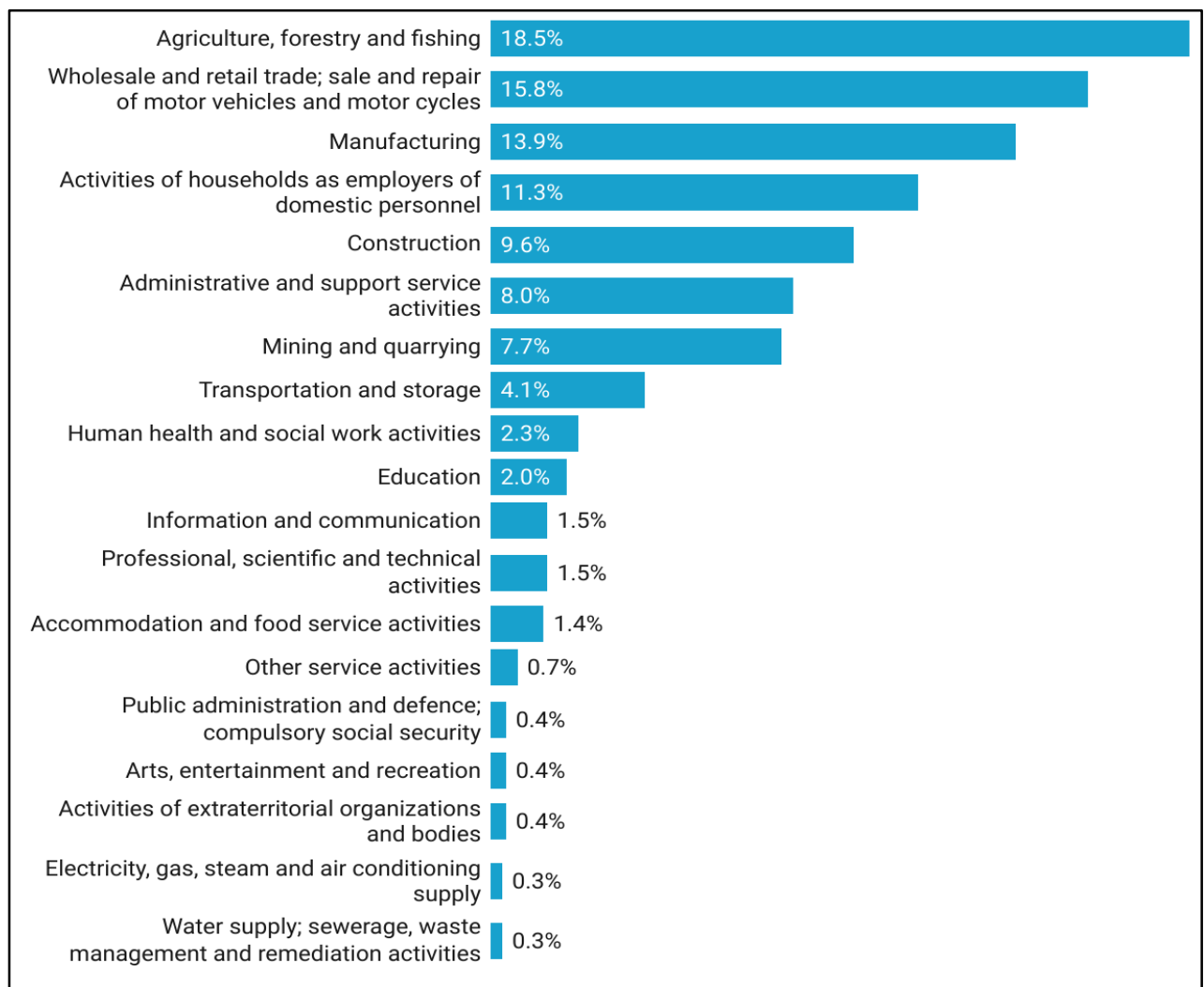
Youth NEET (15 -34): Male 953,403 Female 1,486,672 Total 2,440,075

Figure 30: Distribution of Employed Persons Who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Industry



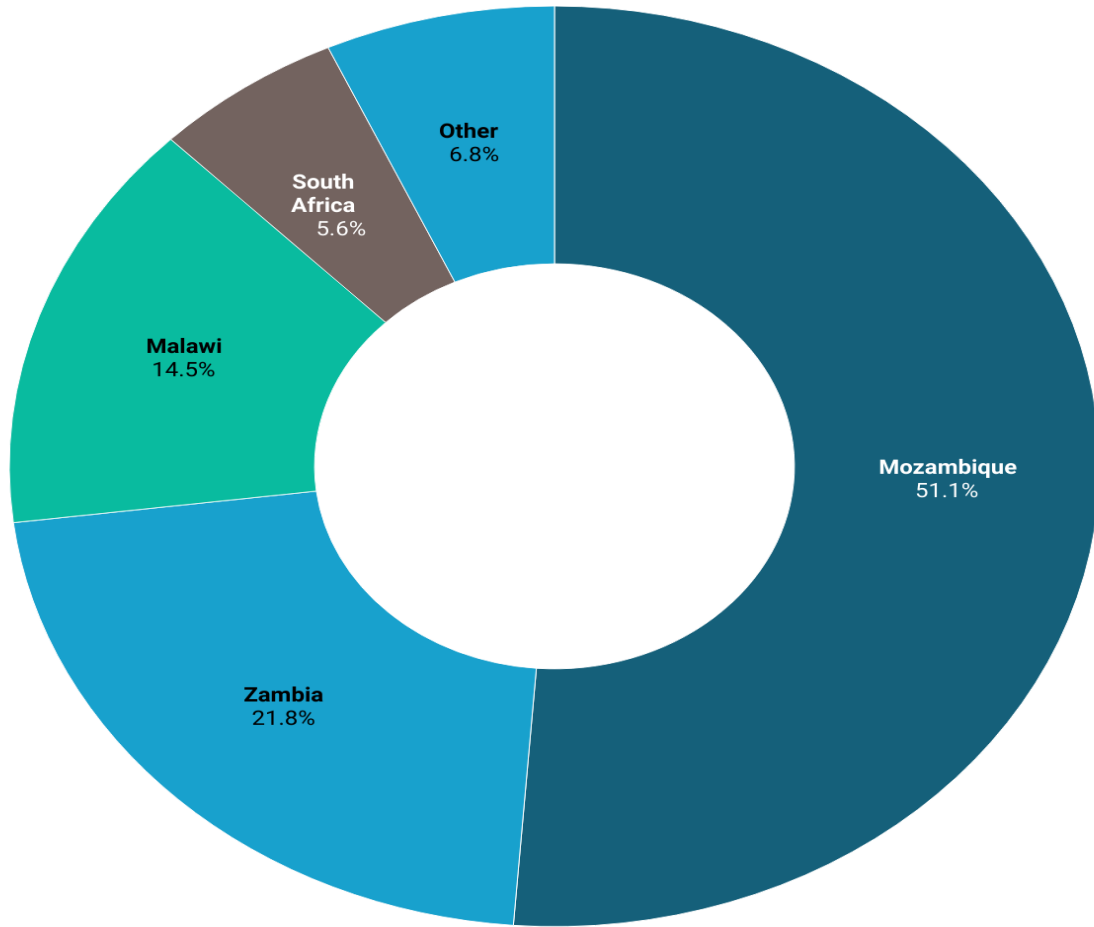
Total persons who reported work related injuries: 64,858

Figure 31: Distribution of Persons who lost their Jobs 3 Months Preceding the Survey by Industry



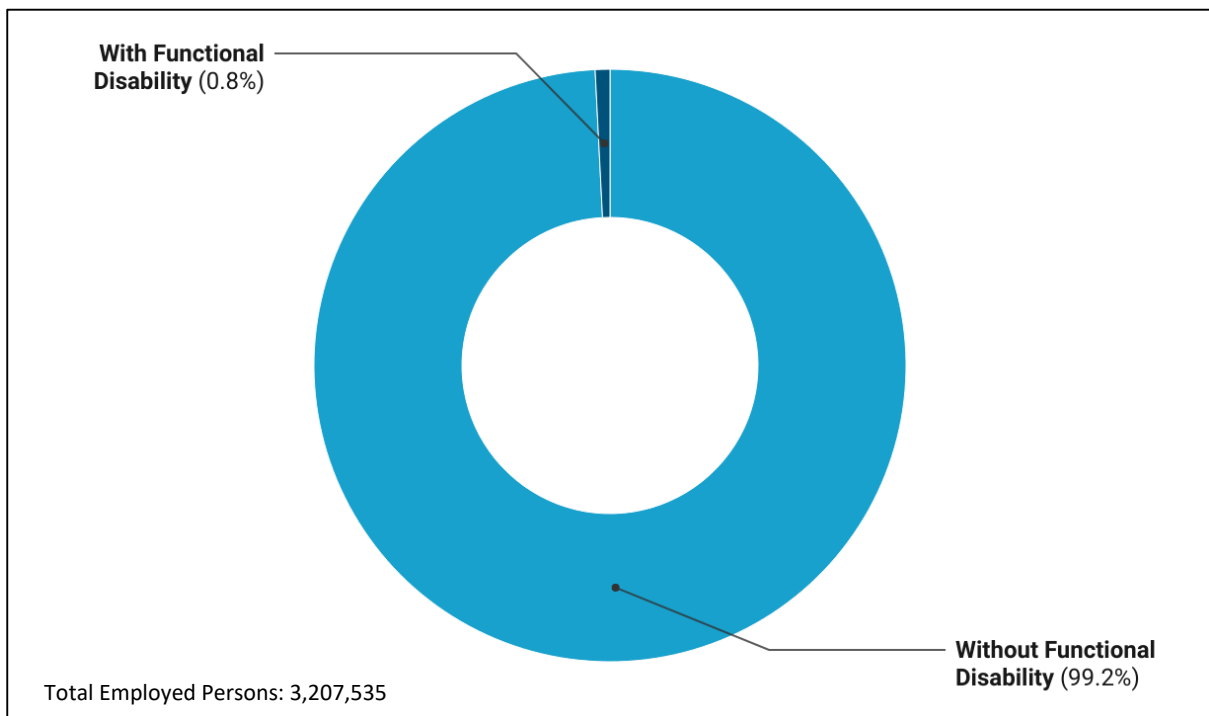
Total Persons who lost jobs in the 3 months preceding survey: 100,944

Figure 32: Distribution of Labour Migrants by Country of Origin



Total labour migrants: 31,197

Figure 33: Distribution of Employed Persons with at Least One Form of Disability



Total Employed Persons: 3,207,535