

**2023 THIRD QUARTER
QUARTERLY LABOUR FORCE
SURVEY REPORT**



OCTOBER 2023

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

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

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1.0 Introduction

Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household-based survey conducted in both rural and urban areas across all provinces in Zimbabwe. The Survey is conducted in line with recommendations and guidelines of the 19th and 20th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) as well as International Labour Organisation (ILO) Statistical Manual on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment (2013).

2.0 Survey Objectives

Objectives of the Quarterly Labour Force Survey are to establish:

- a) Employment level
- b) Employment status of the labour force
- c) Employment in the informal economy
- d) Income levels
- e) Labour migration
- f) Labour underutilisation

3.0 Survey Methodology

A two-stage sample design was used for the Survey. The first stage was selection of enumeration areas using the probability proportional to size method. The second stage entailed selection of households in selected enumeration areas using the systematic random sampling technique. A total of 12,500 households were selected from 500 enumeration areas. The Survey response rate was 95.5 percent.

4.0 Definitions of Key Labour Market Indicators

- a. Working Age Population refers to persons aged 15 and above
- b. *Labour Force = Employed Persons + Unemployed Persons*
- c. Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

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

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

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

e. Employment by Industry

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

f. 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.

g. Employment in informal economy

Employment in informal economy covers two concepts namely;

- i. employment in informal sector,
- ii. informal employment.

Employment in informal sector is determined by the characteristics of an enterprise in which a person is employed. An economic unit is considered to be in informal sector if it is not registered with the Registrar of Companies.

Informal employment is determined by characteristics of the job a person holds. Informal employment includes the following jobs:

- i. own account workers and employers who work in their own informal sector enterprises,
- ii. unpaid contributing family workers irrespective of whether they work in formal or informal sector enterprises and
- iii. 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.

h. Unemployment Rate

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

- i. Youth Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)

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

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 is 15-34 years

United Nations definition of youth is 15-24 years

- j. Expanded unemployment rate

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

Where PLF is Potential Labour Force

- k. Time-Related Underemployment

Refers to all persons in employment who wanted to work additional hours, whose working time in all jobs was less than 40 hours per week, and who were available to work additional hours given an opportunity for more work.

5.0 Summary of 2023 Second Quarter, QLFS Findings

Table 1 shows summary of key findings of the 2023 third quarter QLFS in comparison with 2022 third quarter, QLFS results respectively.

Table 1: Key findings

Indicator	3 rd Quarter 2022		3 rd Quarter 2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Labour Force				
Working Age Population (15 years and above)	9,190,909		8,955,312	
Labour Force (15 years and above)	3,913,966		3,950,618	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)		42.6		44.1
Total Employed	3,125,361		3,121,007	
Employment to Population Ratio (EPR)		34.40		34.9
Sector of Employment				
Formal (non-agriculture)	907,943	29.1	924,559	29.6
Informal (non-agriculture)	1,500,534	48.0	1,454,395	46.6
Agriculture	546,399	17.5	562,845	18.0
Activities of Households as an Employer	170,483	5.5	179,208	5.7
Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	788,606	20.1	829,611	21.0
Youth (15-24 years)	275,963	36.2	290,959	38.1
Youth (15-34 years)	503,211	27.6	557,781	28.7
Expanded/Relaxed Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	2,877,080	47.8	2,861,059	47.8
Youth (15-24 years)	969,129	66.7	969,915	67.2
Youth (15-34 years)	1,735,904	56.8	1,797,655	58.0
Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)				
Youth (15-24 years) NEET	1,385,443	46.8	1,266,745	47.1
Youth (15-34 years) NEET	2,274,913	48.7	2,296,845	50.2

Figure 1: Labour Force Participation Rates by Province and Sex

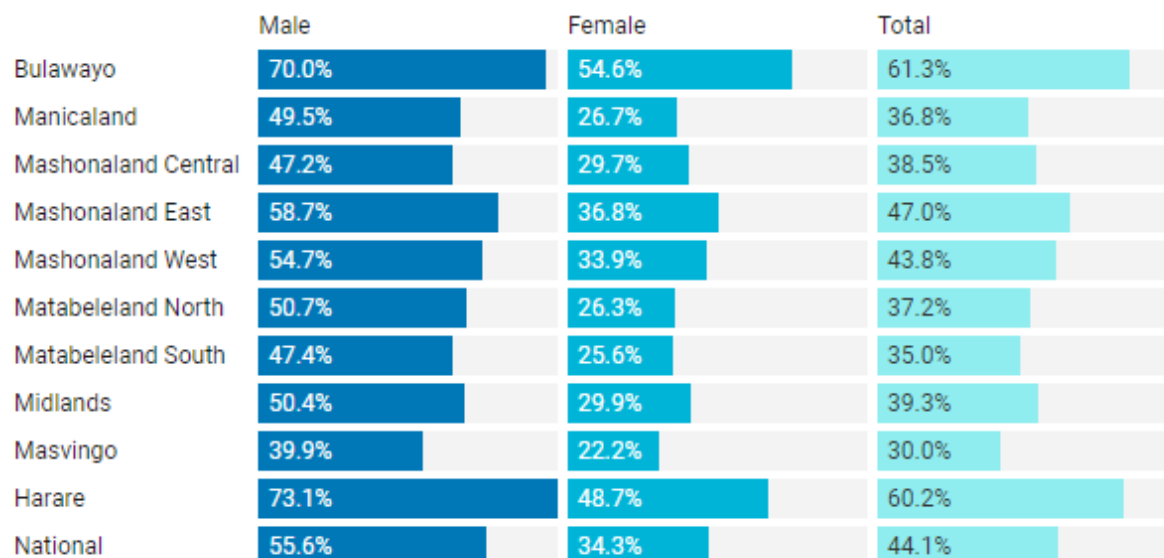


Figure 2: Quarterly and Annual Percentage Changes in Labour Force Participation Rates

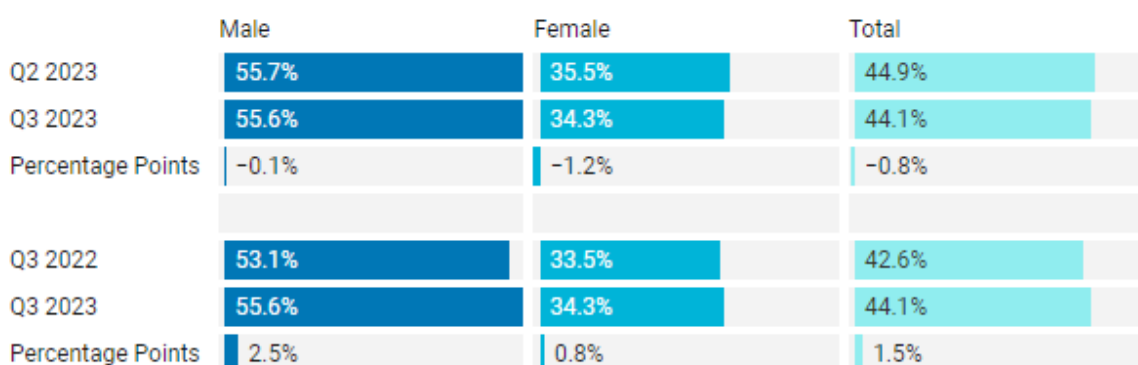


Figure 3: Labour Force Participation Rates by Urban/Rural Areas and Sex

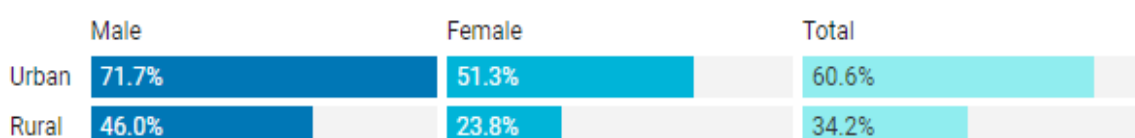


Figure 4: Labour Force Participation Rates by Age Group and Sex

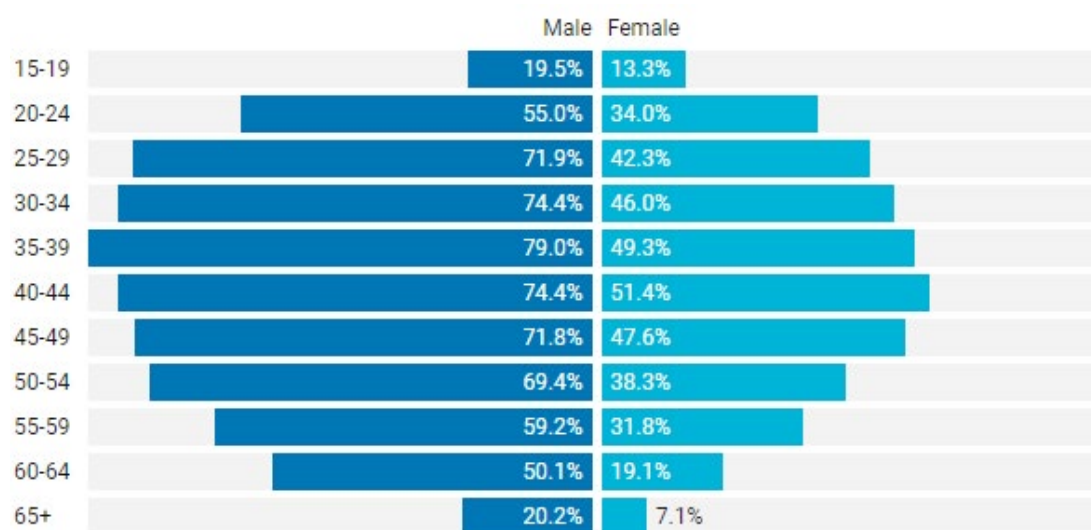


Figure 5: Employment to Population Ratio by Province and Sex

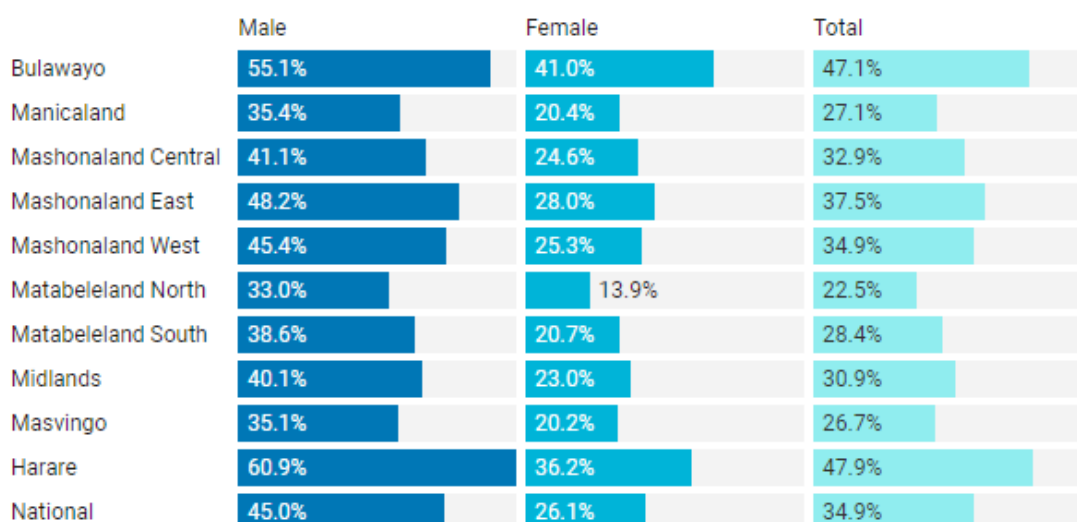


Figure 6: Quarterly and Annual Percentage Changes in Employment to Population Ratio by Sex

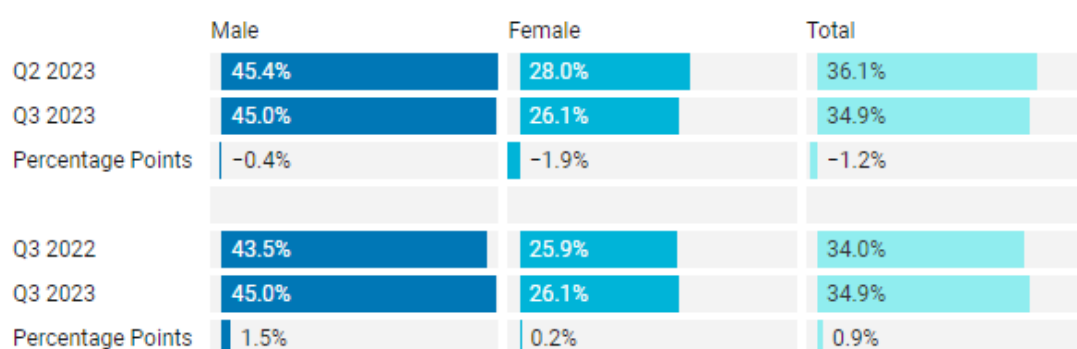


Figure 7: Employment to Population Ratio by Age Group and Sex

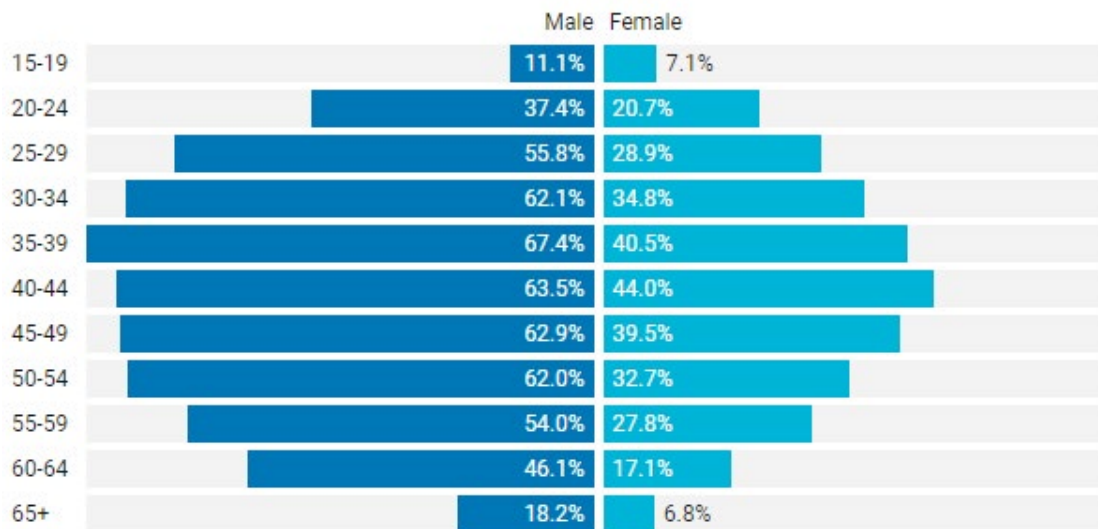


Figure 8: Employment to Population Ratio by Urban/Rural Areas and Sex

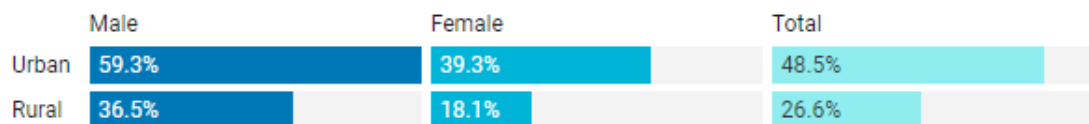
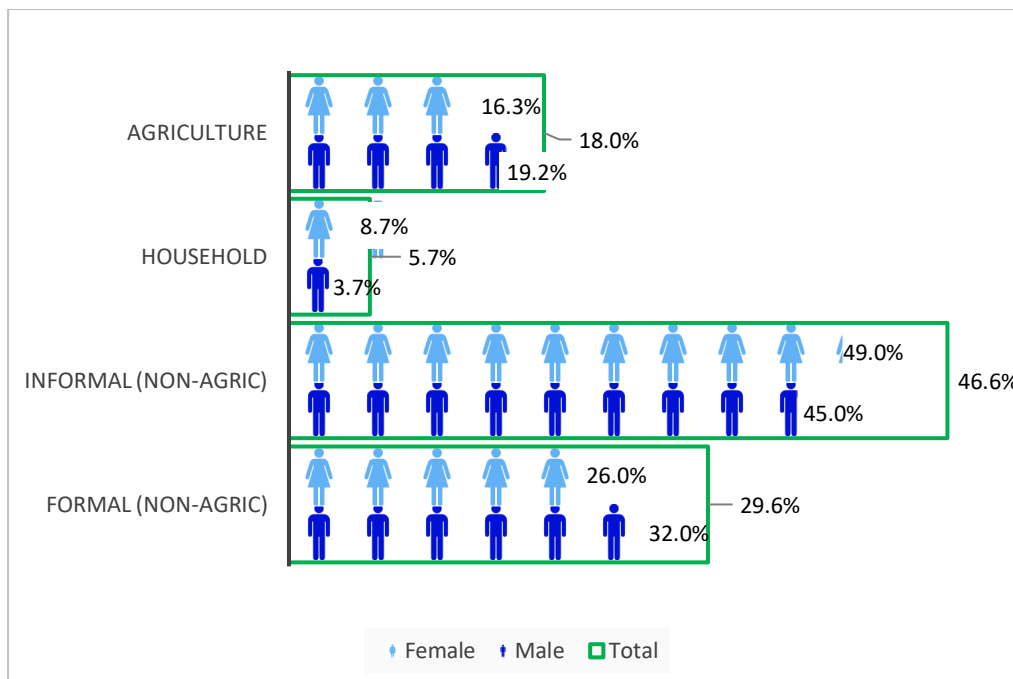


Figure 9 Distribution of Employed Population by Sector of Employment and Sex



Total employment: 3,121,007 | Employed Males: 1,863,487 | Employed Females: 1,257,520

Figure 10: Quarterly and Annual Percentage Changes in Employed Population by Sector of Employment

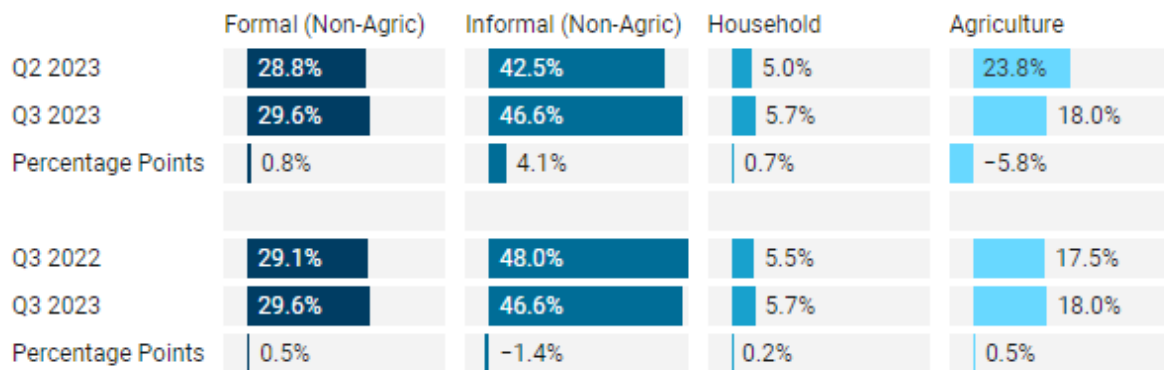


Figure 11: Distribution of Employed Population by Province

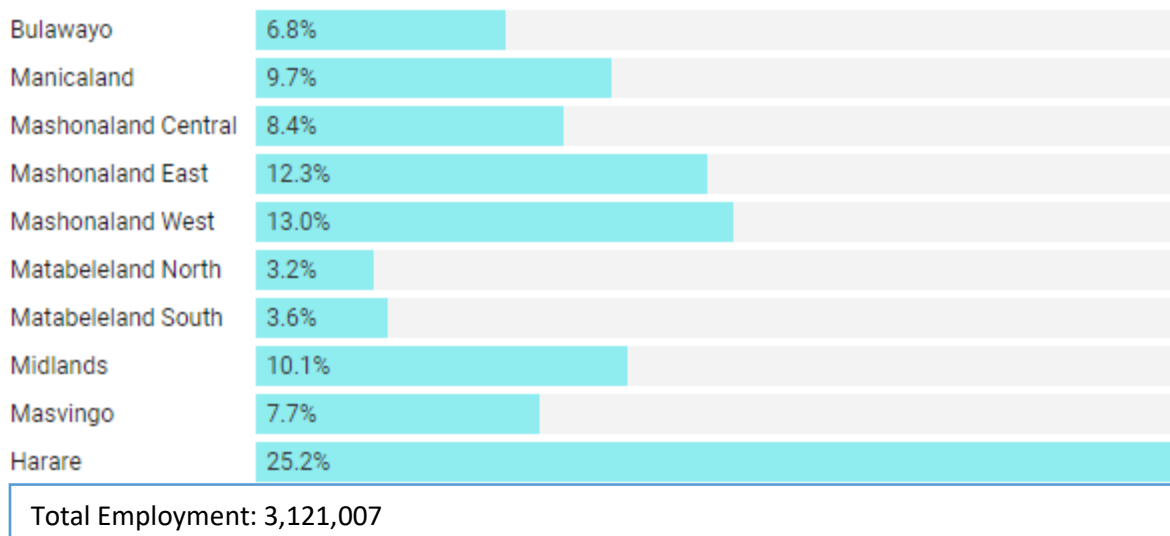
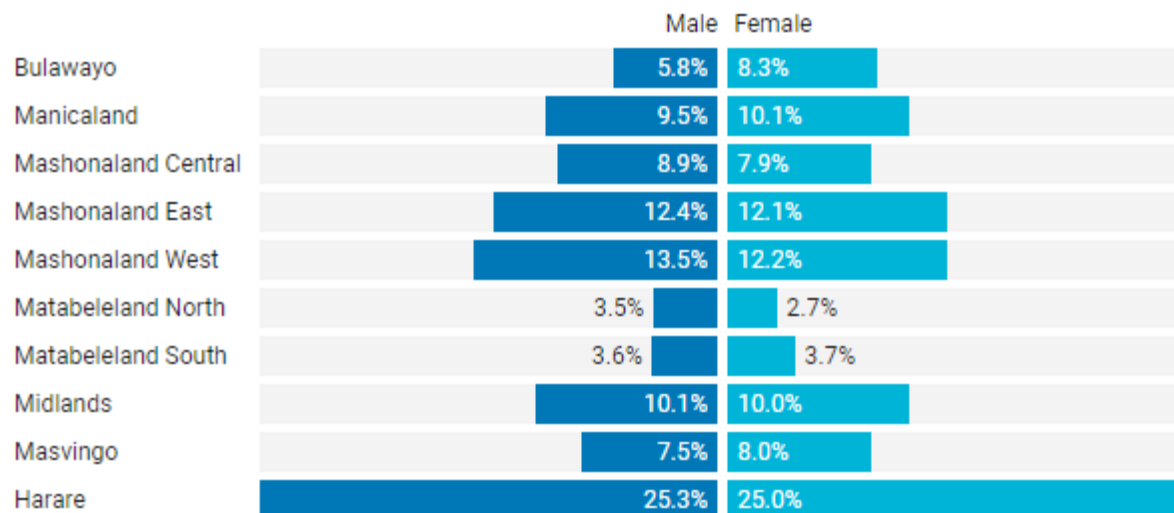


Figure 12: Distribution of Employed Population, 15 Years by Province and Sex



Employed Males: 1,863,487 | Employed Females: 1,257,520

Figure 13: Distribution of Employed Population by Industry

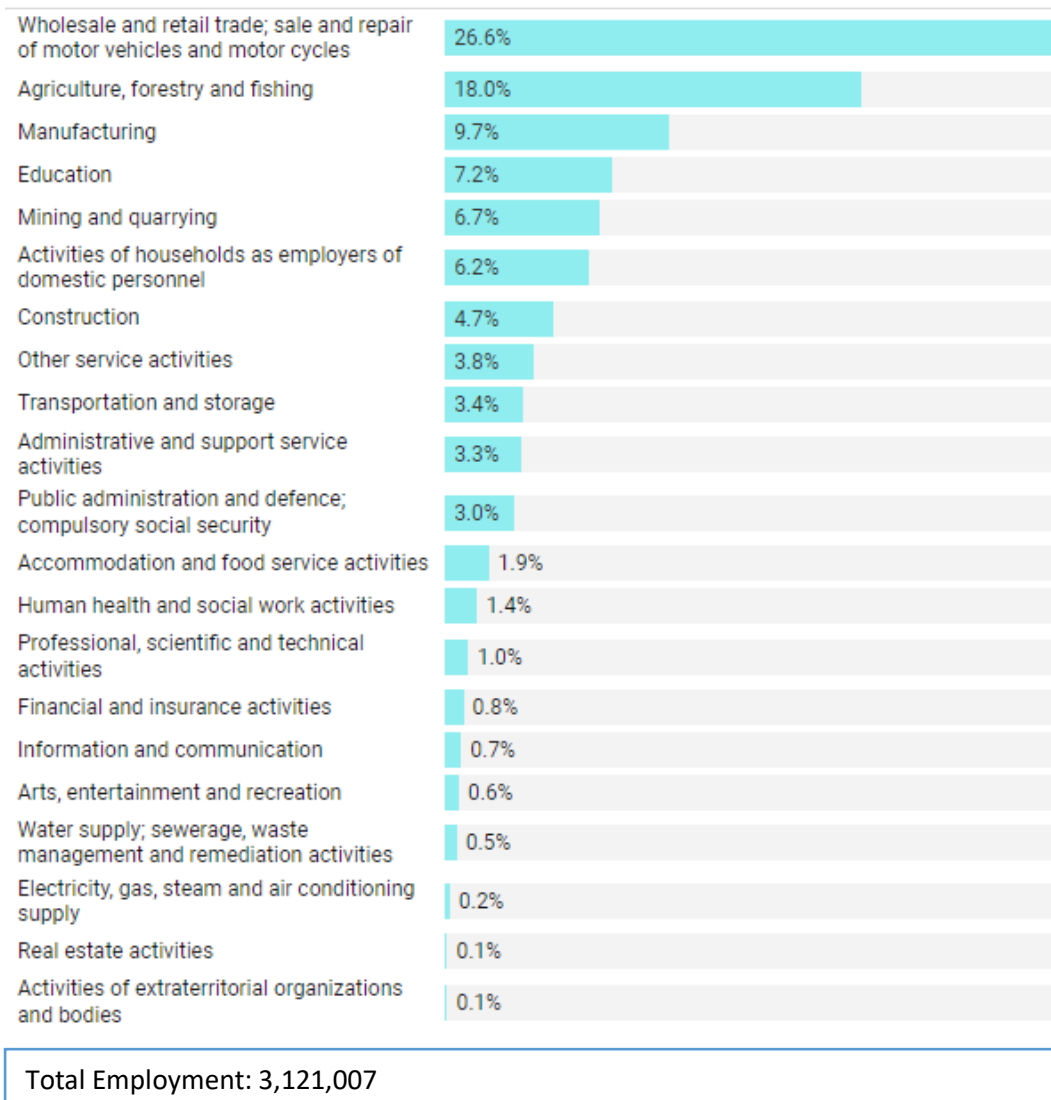


Figure 14: Distribution of Employed Population by Status in Employment and Sex

	Male	Female	Total
Own account workers in household market enterprises without employees	35.7%	46.6%	40.1%
Permanent Employees	40.2%	35.8%	38.4%
Fixed-Term Employees	6.8%	4.0%	5.7%
Short-Term and Casual Employees	6.7%	4.0%	5.6%
Dependent contractors	4.7%	5.0%	4.8%
Employers in household market enterprises	3.8%	2.7%	3.4%
Contributing family workers	0.9%	1.5%	1.2%
Employers in corporations	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%
Owner-operators of corporations without employees	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%
Paid Apprentices, Trainees and Interns	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
Total:	1,863,487	1,257,520	3,121.007

Figure 15: Distribution of Employed Population by Occupation and Sex

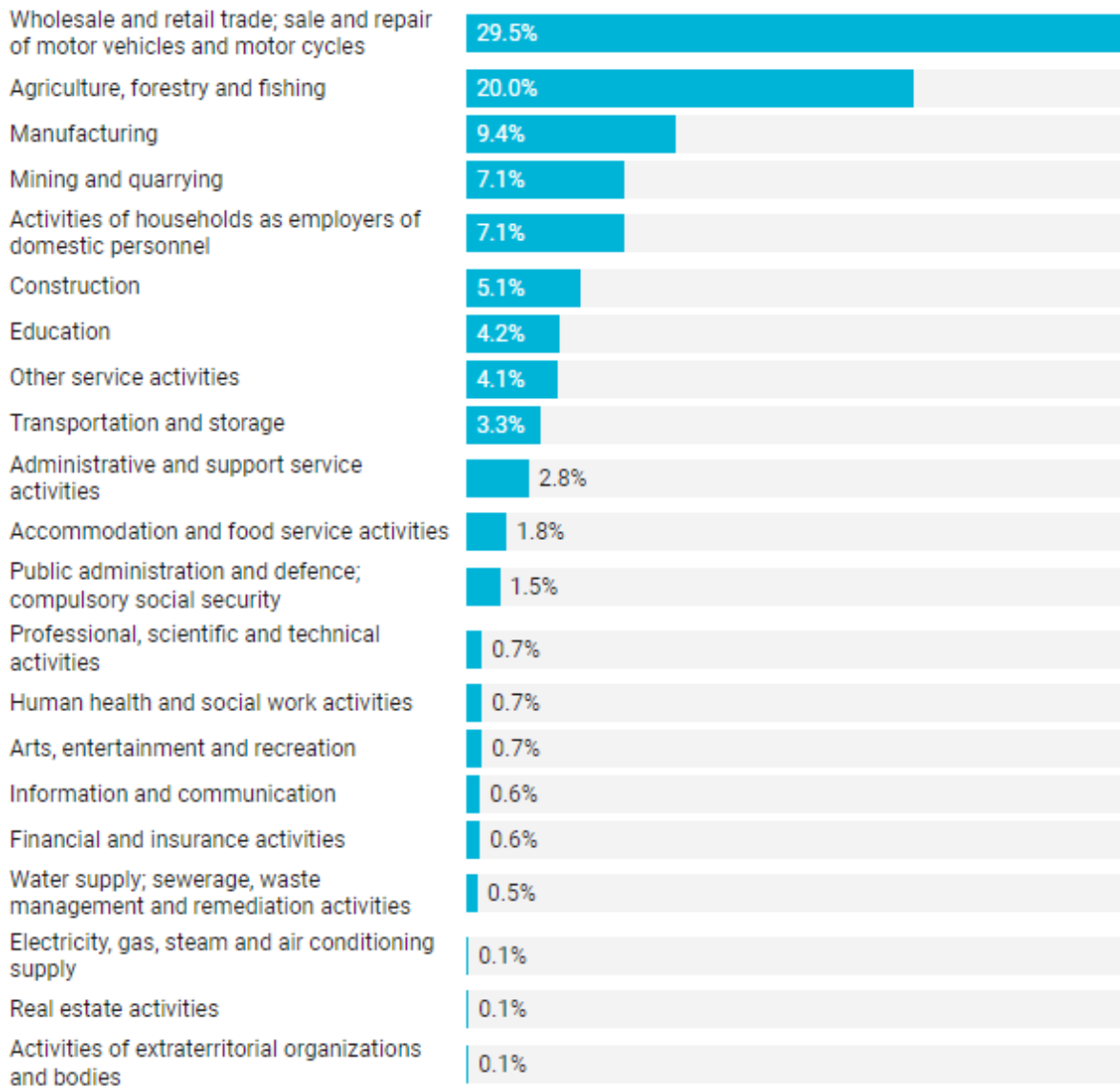
	Male	Female	Total
Elementary occupations	26.7%	24.8%	25.9%
Service and sales workers	17.5%	36.8%	25.3%
Craft and related trades workers	18.3%	4.5%	12.8%
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	10.3%	12.1%	11.0%
Professionals	7.5%	12.0%	9.3%
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	10.5%	1.3%	6.8%
Technicians and associate professionals	3.9%	3.1%	3.6%
Managers	3.5%	3.1%	3.3%
Clerical support workers	1.5%	2.1%	1.8%
Other	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
Total:	1,863,487	1,257,520	3,121,007

Figure 16: Distribution of Employed Population in Informal Sector (Non-Agriculture) by Industry

Wholesale and retail trade; sale and repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles	48.3%
Manufacturing	12.3%
Mining and quarrying	10.7%
Construction	7.8%
Other service activities	6.9%
Transportation and storage	4.6%
Accommodation and food service activities	2.2%
Administrative and support service activities	1.9%
Education	1.0%
Activities of households as employers of domestic personnel	0.9%
Professional, scientific and technical activities	0.7%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.6%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.5%
Information and communication	0.5%
Human health and social work activities	0.5%
Financial and insurance activities	0.4%
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.1%
Real estate activities	0.1%

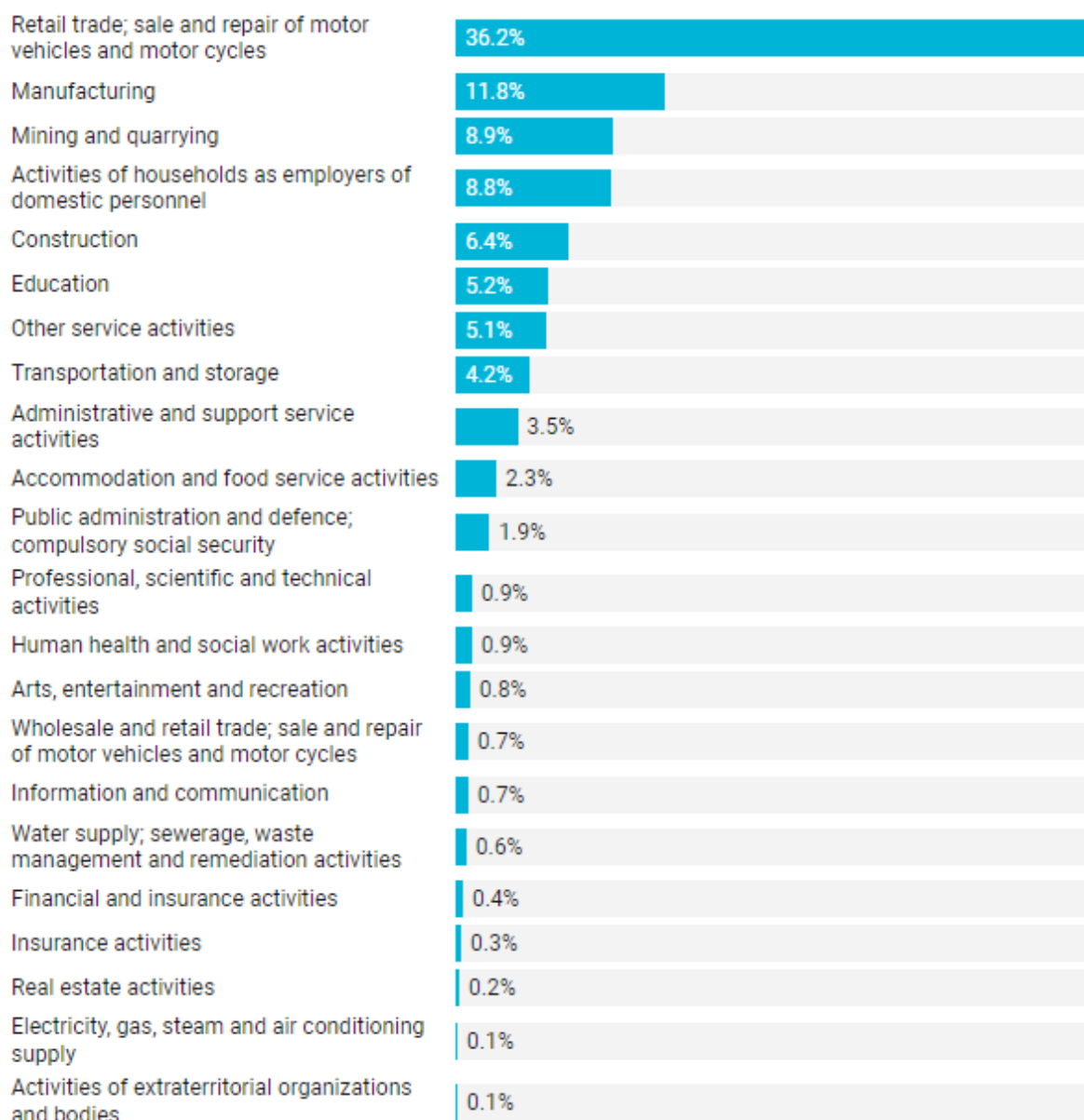
Total employed in Informal Sector: 1,454,395

Figure 17: Distribution of Informally Employed Persons by Industry



Total Informally Employed Persons: 2,709,262

Figure 18: Informally Employed Persons in Non-Agriculture Sectors by Industry



Total Informally Employed Persons in Non-Agriculture Sectors: 2,168,659

Figure 19: Distribution of Employed Persons with at Least One Form of Disability by Sex



Figure 20: Employed Population in Time-related Underemployment by Industry

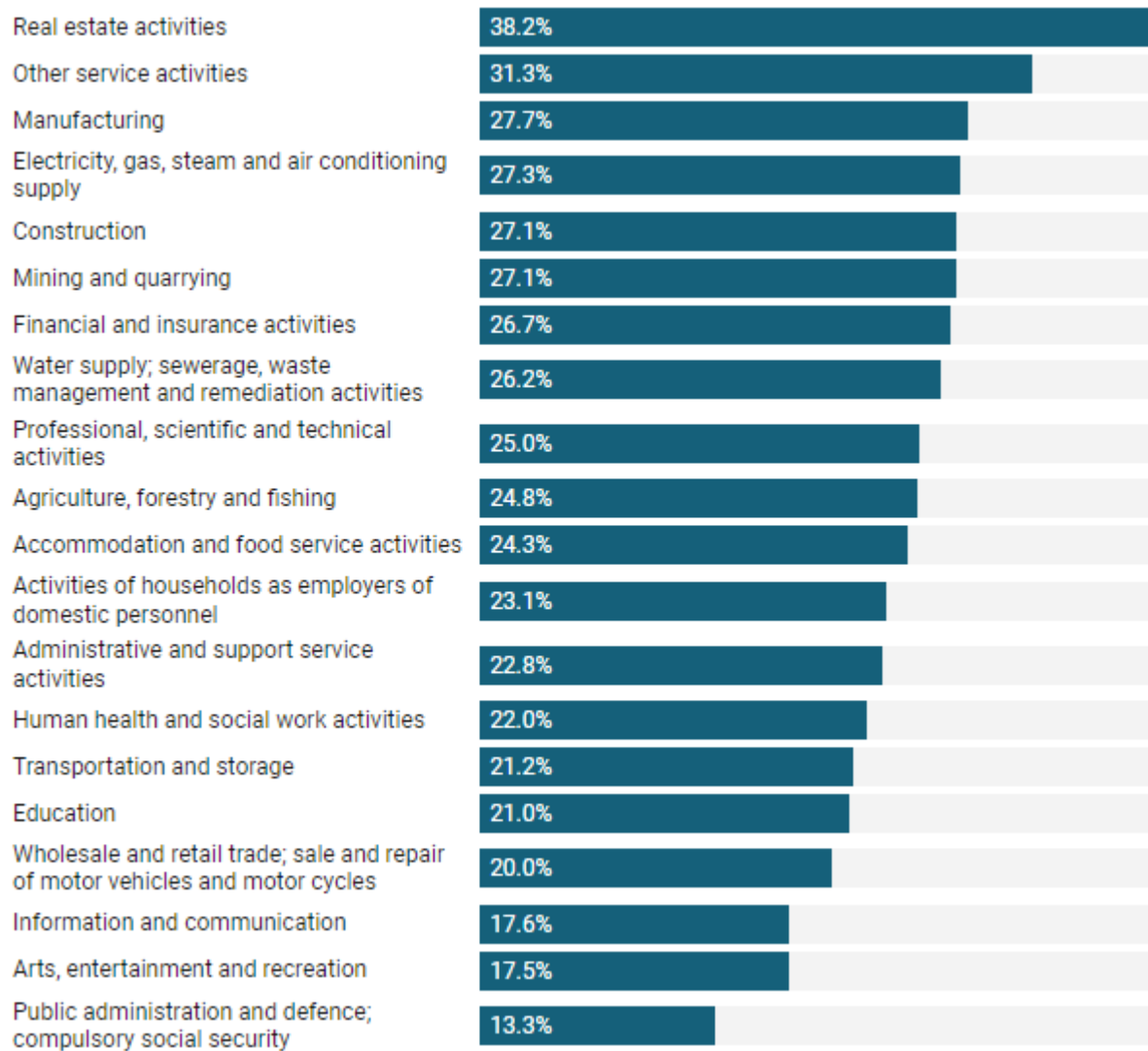


Figure 20: Distribution of Employed Persons by Income Band in ZWL

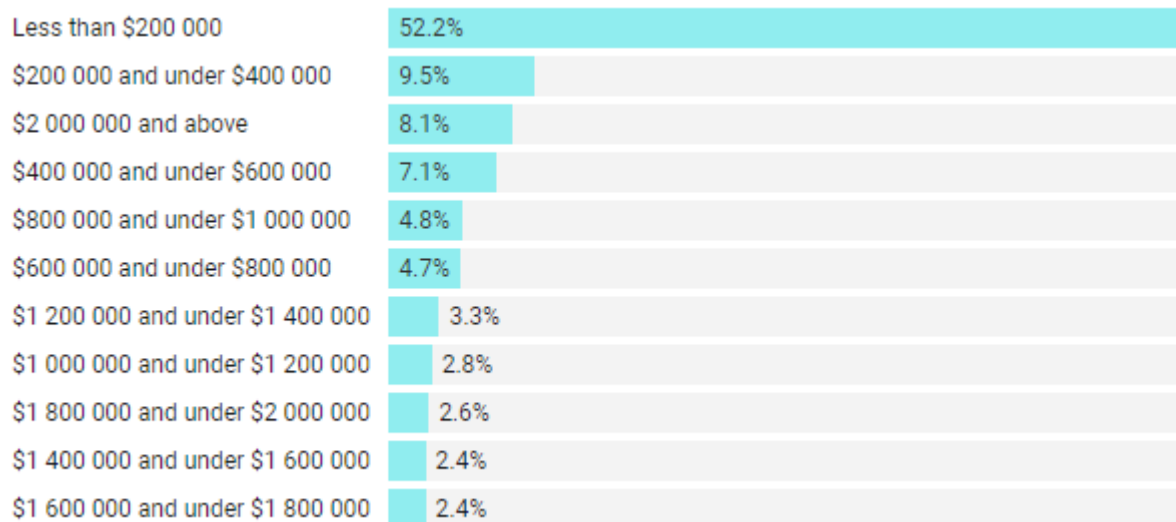
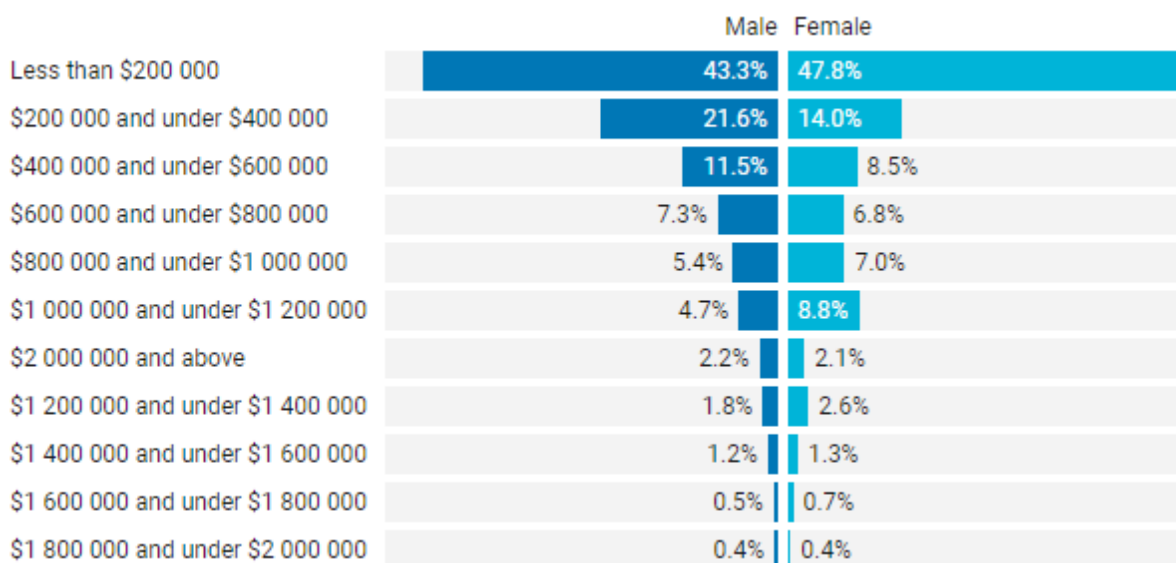


Figure 21: Distribution of Paid Employees by Sex and Income Band in ZWL



Employed Males: 1.863.487 Employed Females: 1.257.520

Figure 22: Average Income for Employed Persons by Industry



Figure 23: Distribution of Employed Population by Hours of Work and Sex

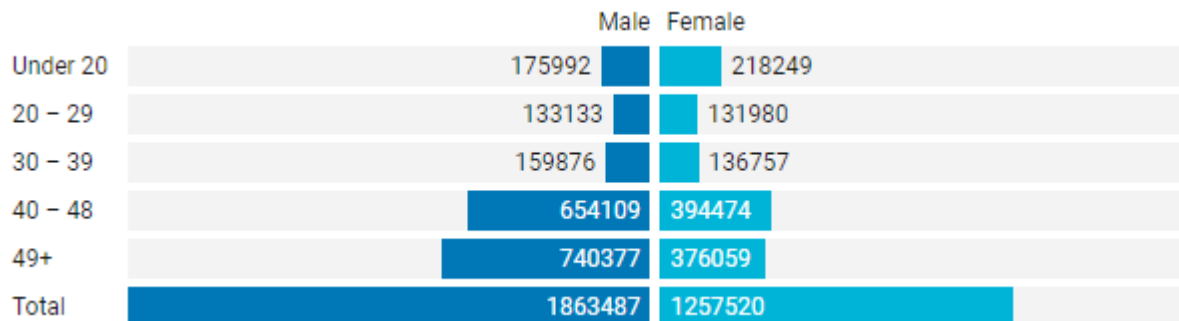


Figure 24: Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex

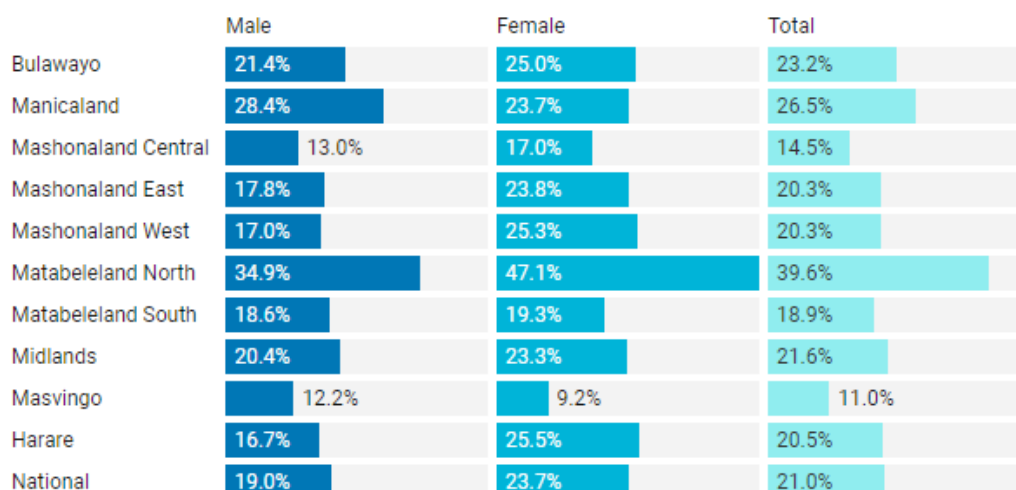


Figure 25: Quarterly and Annual Percentage Changes in Unemployment Rates by Sex

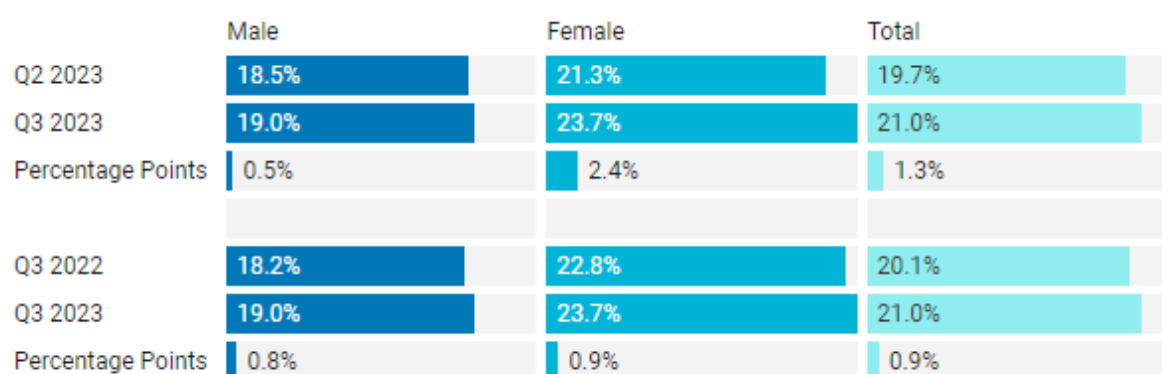


Figure 26: Unemployment Rates by Urban/Rural Area and Sex

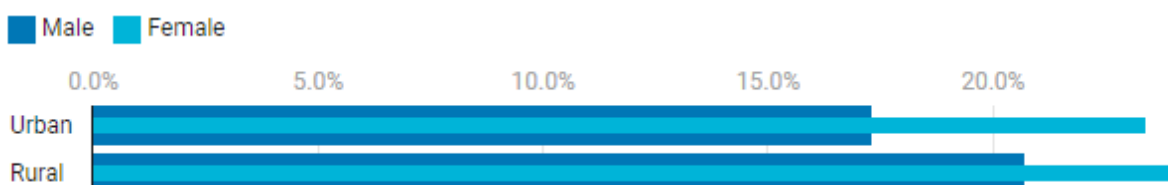


Figure 27: Unemployment Rates by Age Group and Sex

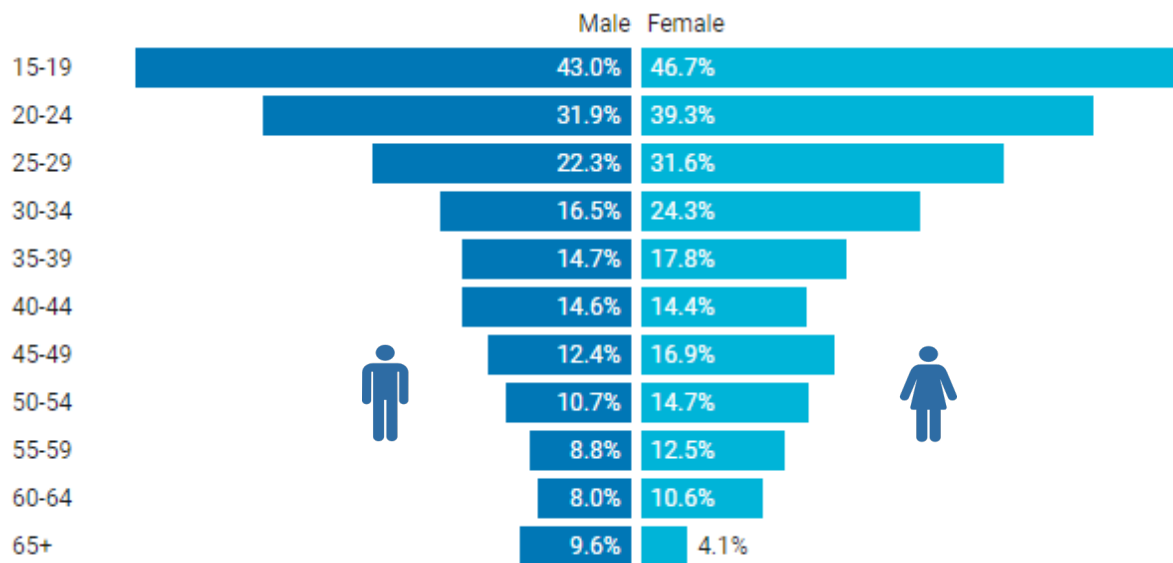


Figure 28: Unemployment Rates by Highest Level of Education Completed

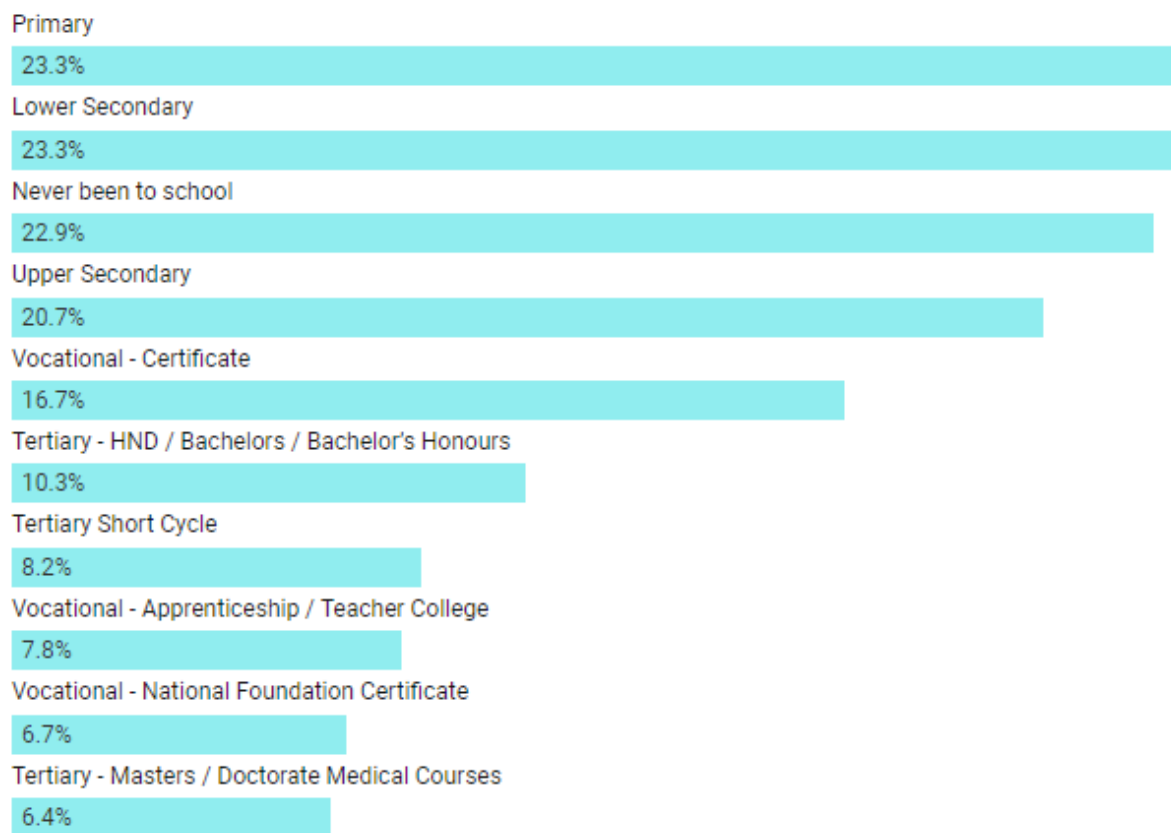


Figure 29: Unemployment Rate Trend

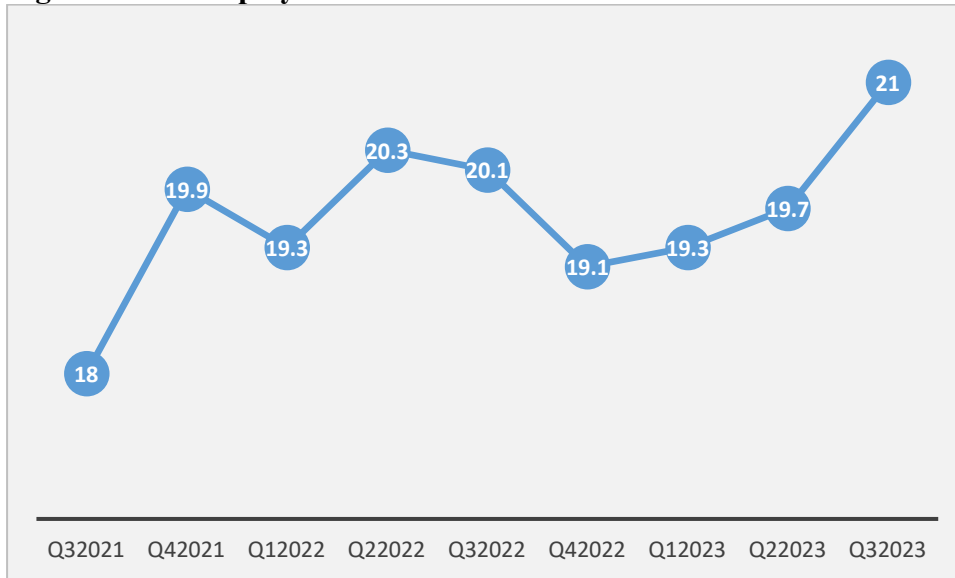


Figure 30: Unemployment Rate for Persons with Functional Disability by Sex

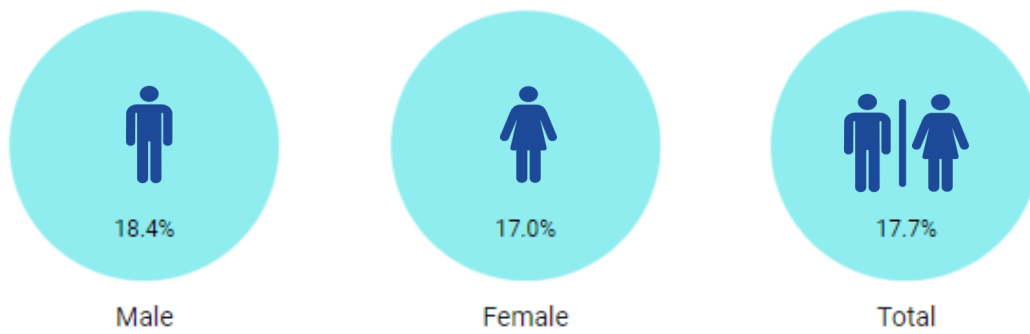


Figure 31: Expanded Unemployment Rate by Province and Sex

	Male	Female	Total
Bulawayo	38.1%	43.2%	40.7%
Manicaland	53.2%	54.6%	53.8%
Mashonaland Central	42.3%	56.4%	48.6%
Mashonaland East	41.6%	51.8%	46.2%
Mashonaland West	45.6%	59.8%	52.0%
Matabeleland North	55.7%	71.7%	62.9%
Matabeleland South	42.9%	48.0%	45.2%
Midlands	47.6%	58.2%	52.5%
Masvingo	43.9%	46.7%	45.1%
Harare	32.3%	50.0%	40.7%
National	42.9%	53.7%	47.8%

Figure 32: Distribution of Discouraged Job Seekers by Age Group and Sex

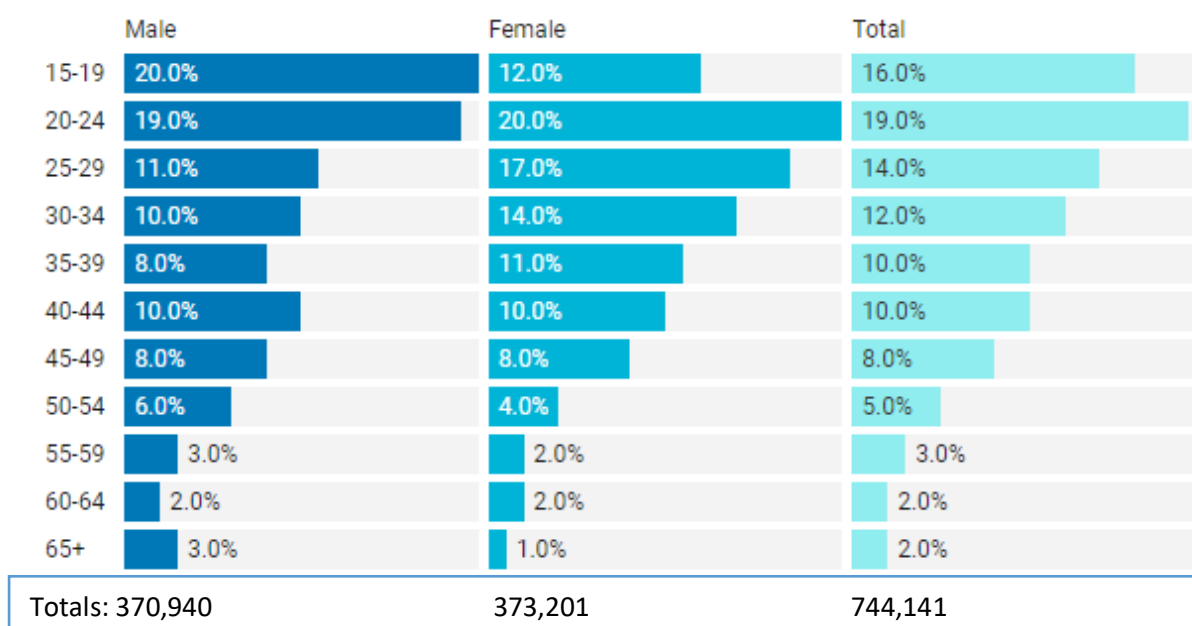


Figure 33: Proportion of Youth (15-24 Years) Not in Education, Employment or Training and Sex

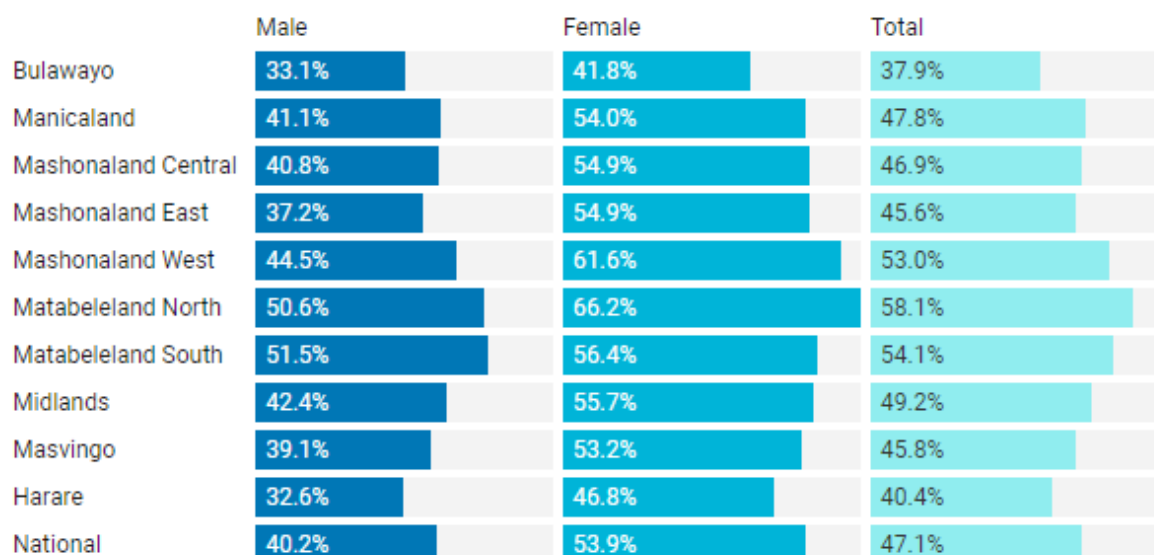


Figure 34: Proportion of Youth (15-34 Years) Not in Education, Employment or Training by Province and Sex

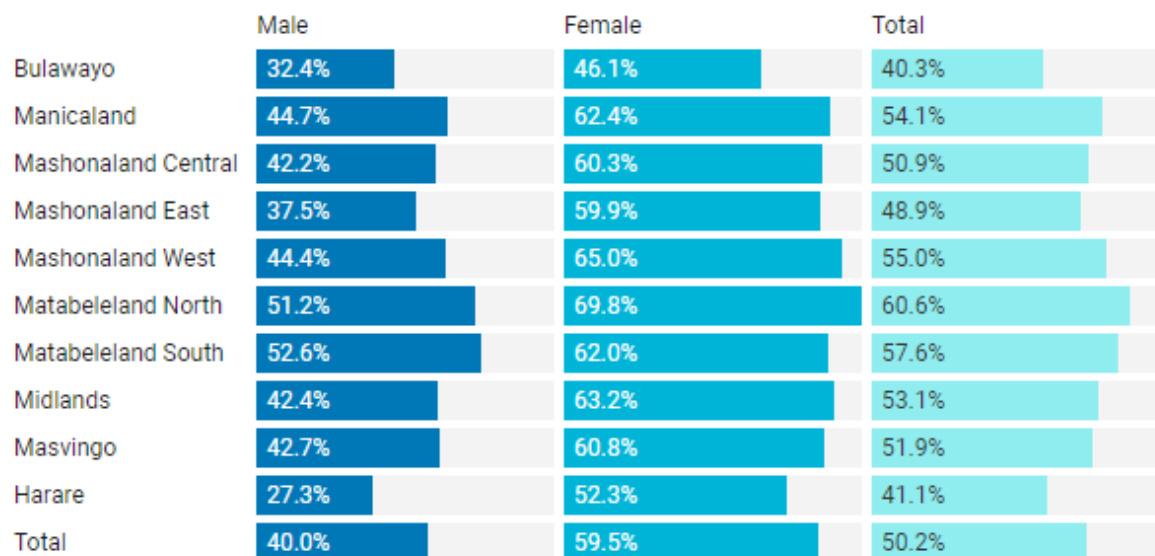
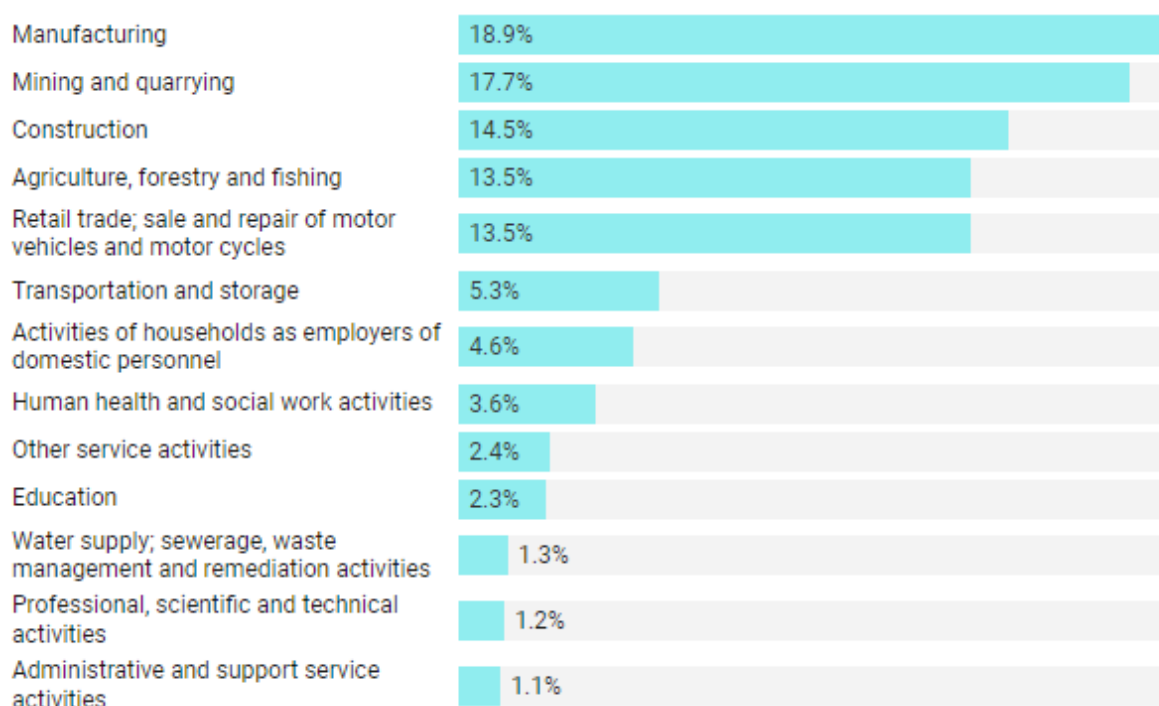
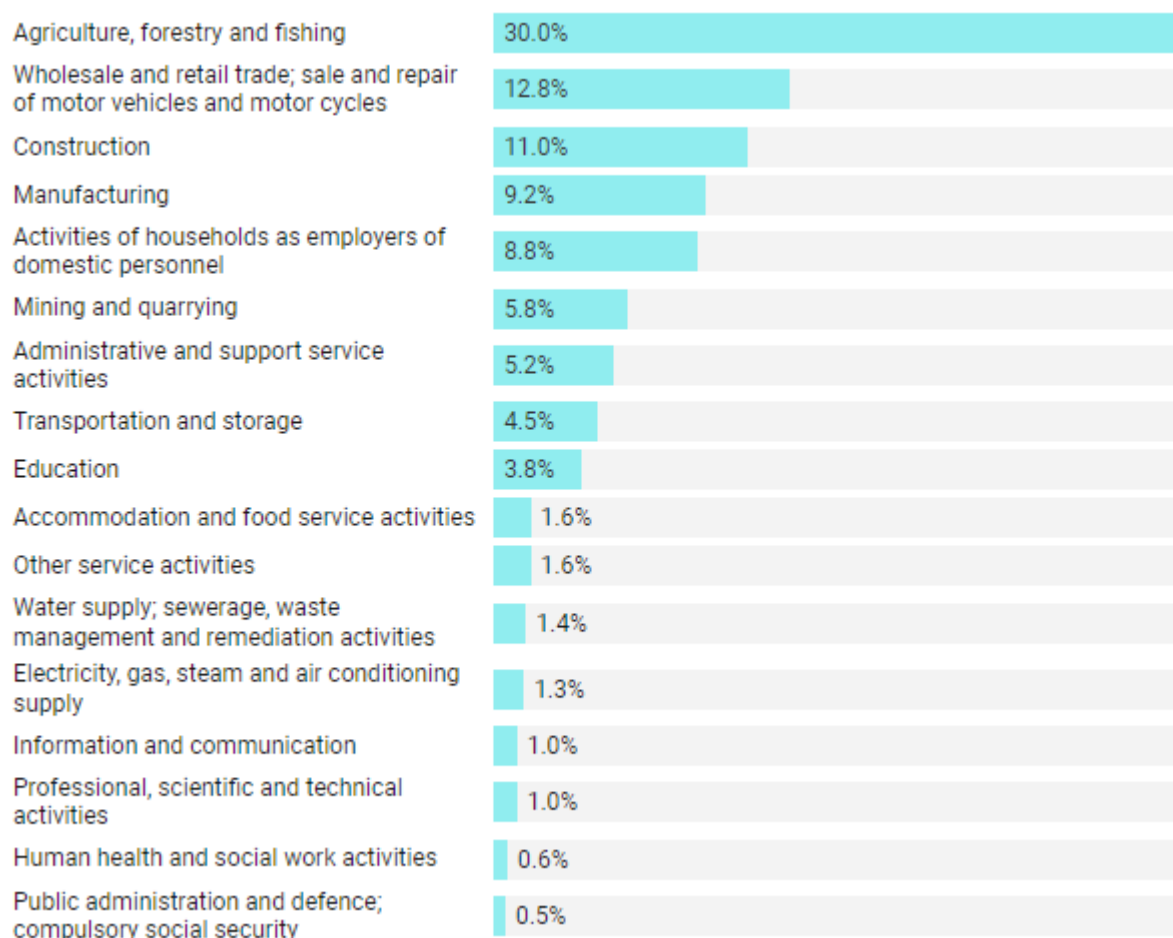


Figure 35: Distribution of Employed Persons Who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Industry



Total Employed Persons who reported work related illnesses/injuries: 32,632

Figure 36: Distribution of Persons who lost Jobs 3 Months Preceding the Survey by Industry



Total population that lost jobs within the 3 months preceding the survey: 74,140

Figure 37: Distribution of Labour Migrants by Country of Origin

