

2025 TIME USE SURVEY

Results Presentation

Presented by
CLAPTON MUNONGERWA
Labour Statistics Manager



About Time Use Survey

ICATUS 2016

Conducted in line with International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics (ICATUS, 2016)

24hr Recall

Collected information on all activities carried out by respondents during a 24hr recall period, beginning at 4 am preceding day to 4 am on day of interview.

Simultaneous Activities

Information on simultaneous activities was also collected,
The current report only analysed the main activity and subsequent thematic reports will dwell on secondary activities

Survey Objectives



Generate data on time spent on paid and unpaid work, including household and caregiving activities, to inform gender-responsive economic and social policies;



Provide indicators to monitor work–life balance and the distribution of time between productive and reproductive roles;



Support measurement of unpaid care and domestic work in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5.4.1, which focuses on recognizing and valuing unpaid work;



Produce statistics that are comparable with international standards, including the ICATUS (2016) and recommendations of the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS);



Contribute to national evidence-based planning and policy monitoring under frameworks such as Zimbabwe's National Development Strategy (NDS2), the African Union Agenda 2063, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

<https://zimstat.co.zw/labour-statistic/>

Classification of Activities



Data were initially collected for 45 detailed activity codes consistent with ICATUS 2016.



These were aggregated into 9 major activity categories

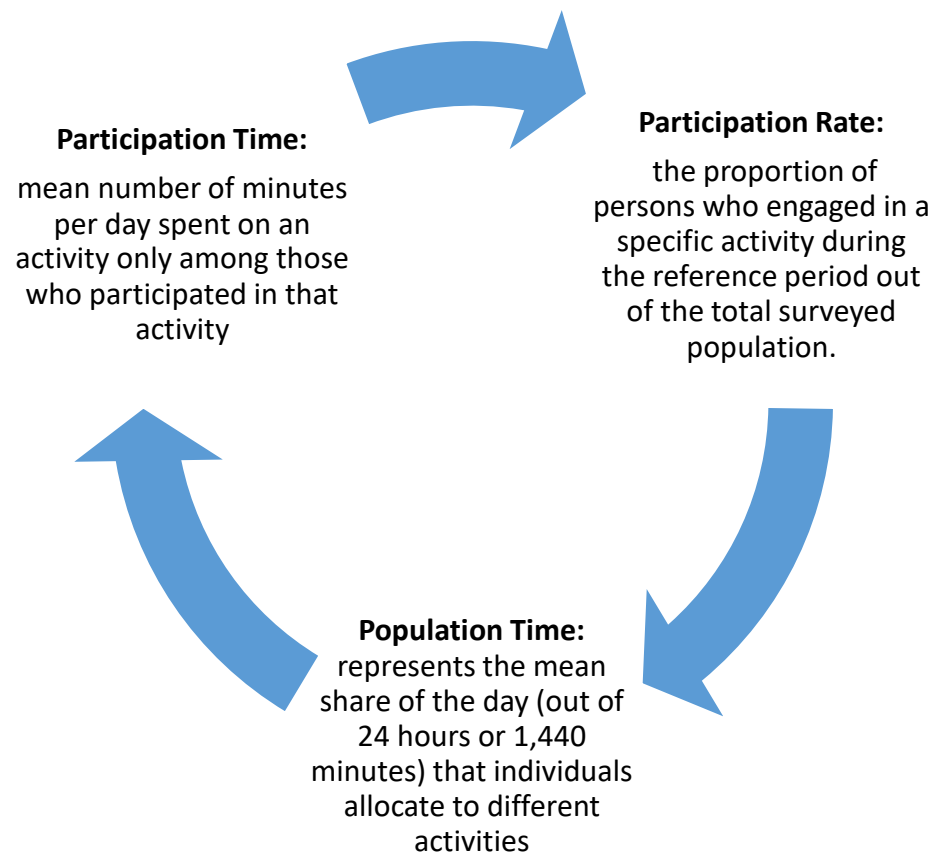


The 9 major categories were further aggregated into 4 activity classes

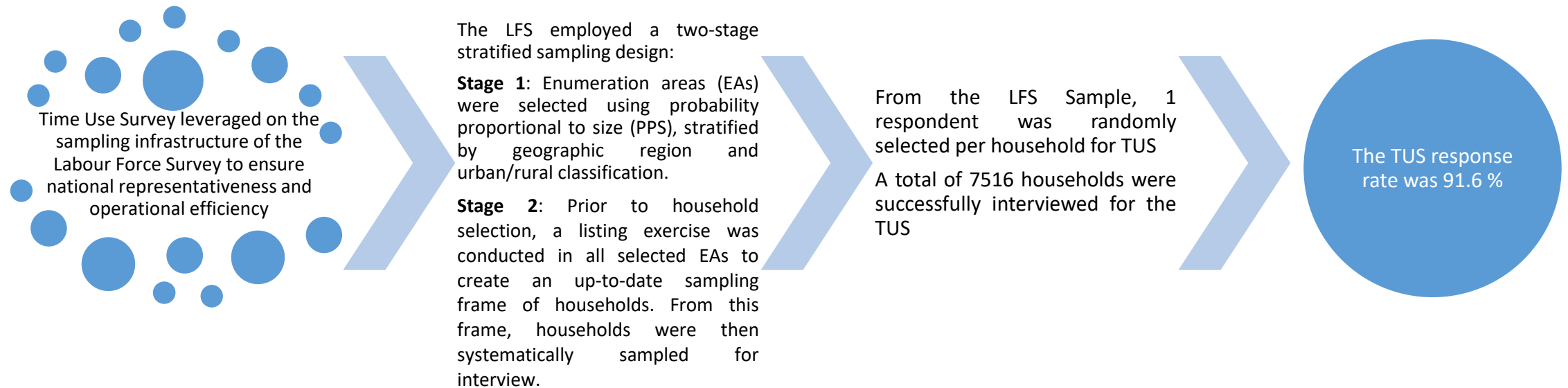
ICATUS Code	Major Activity Category	Activity Class
1	Employment and related activities	Contracted
2	Production of goods for own final use	Contracted
3	Unpaid domestic services for household and family members	Committed
4	Unpaid caregiving services for household and family members	Committed
5	Unpaid volunteer, trainee and other unpaid work	Committed
6	Learning	Contracted
7	Socializing and communicating, community participation and religious practice	Free time
8	Culture, leisure, mass media and sports practices	Free time
9	Self-care and maintenance (such as sleeping, eating, bathing, and personal hygiene)	Necessary time

<https://zimstat.co.zw/labour-statistic/>

Key Concepts



Methodology





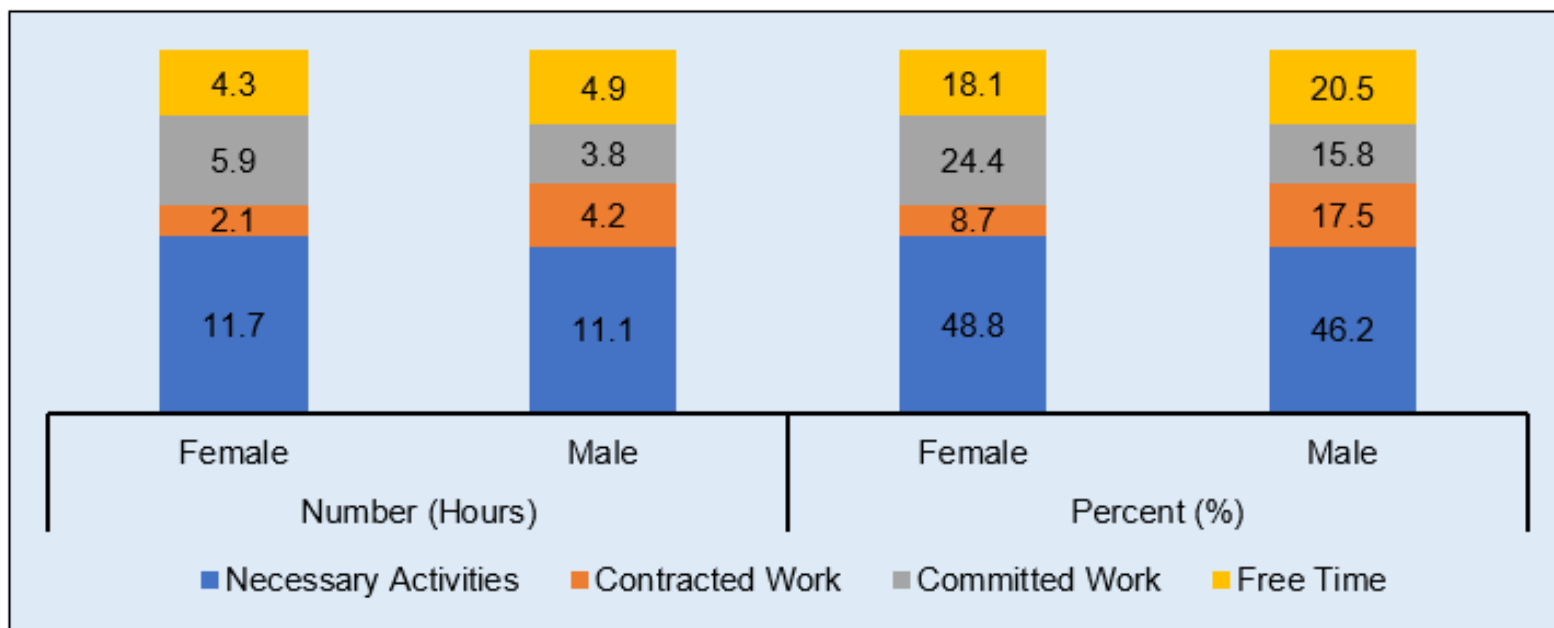
Summary of Survey Findings

<https://zimstat.co.zw/labour-statistic/>

Time Spent by Population on Activity Class by Sex

On average, females spent 1.5 times more than males in committed work (domestic and unpaid care work) at 5.9 hours against 3.8 hours

The proportion of time spent by males on average per day in contracted work (employment, learning and own use production of goods) was double that of females (17.5% against 8.7%)

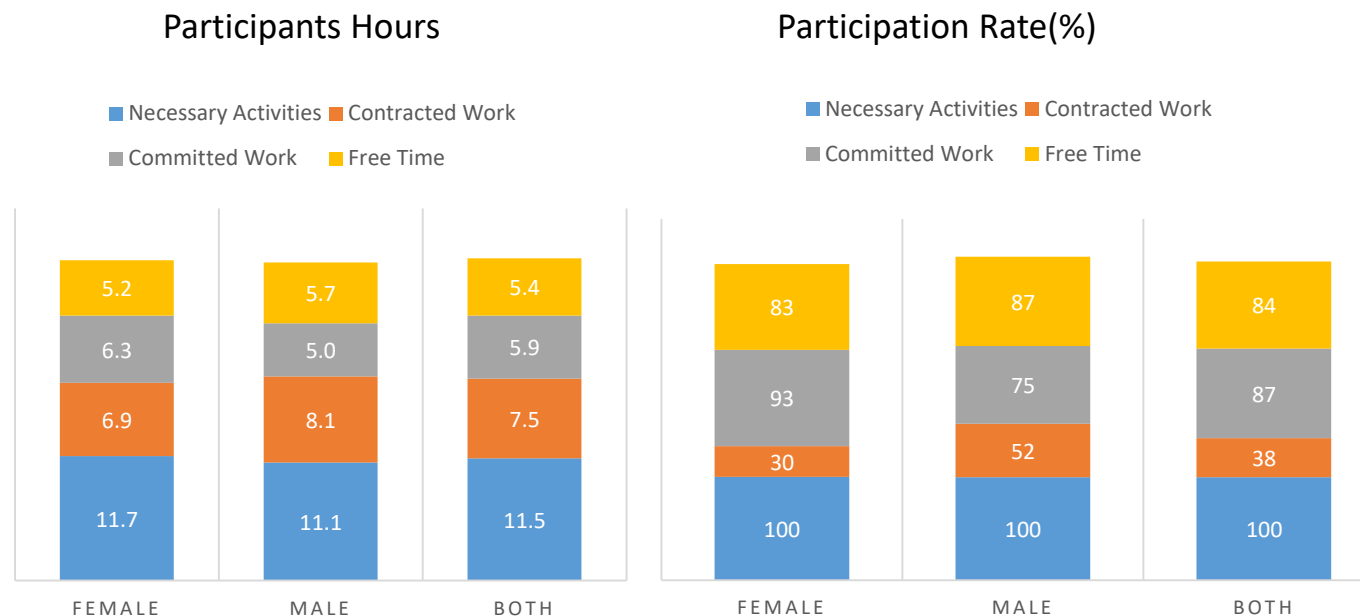


Participation Time and Rate by Activity Class and Sex

Males spent less time (11.1 hours) on necessary activities (including sleeping, bathing, eating and personal hygiene) than females (11.7 hours)

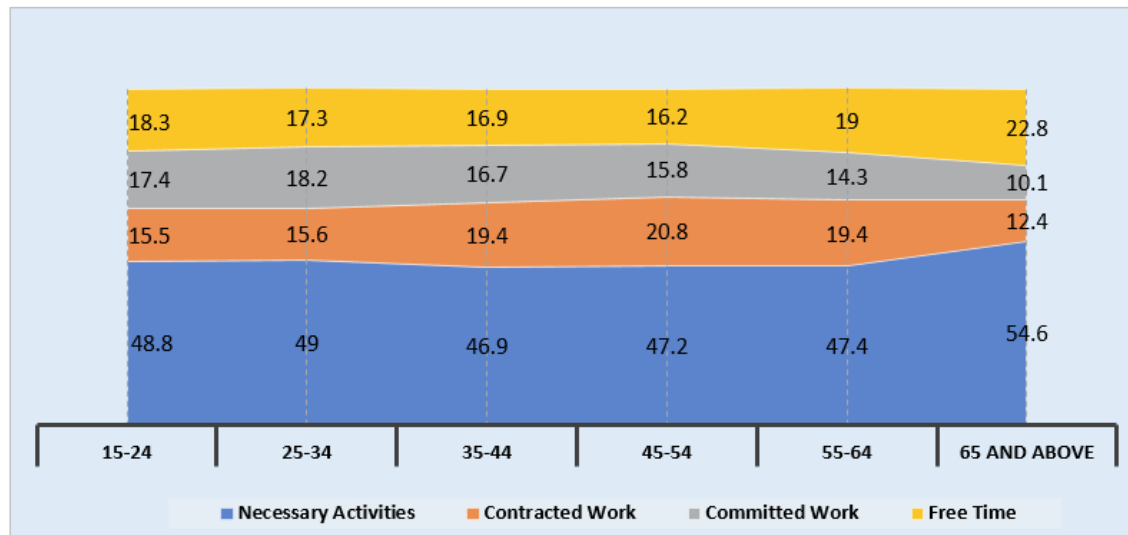
In contrast, males took more time on average (5.7 hours) compared to females (5.2 hours) in Free Time activities (Socializing and communicating, community participation and religious practice, culture, leisure, mass media and sports practices.)

About 52 percent of males participated in contracted work while for females the proportion was 30 percent.

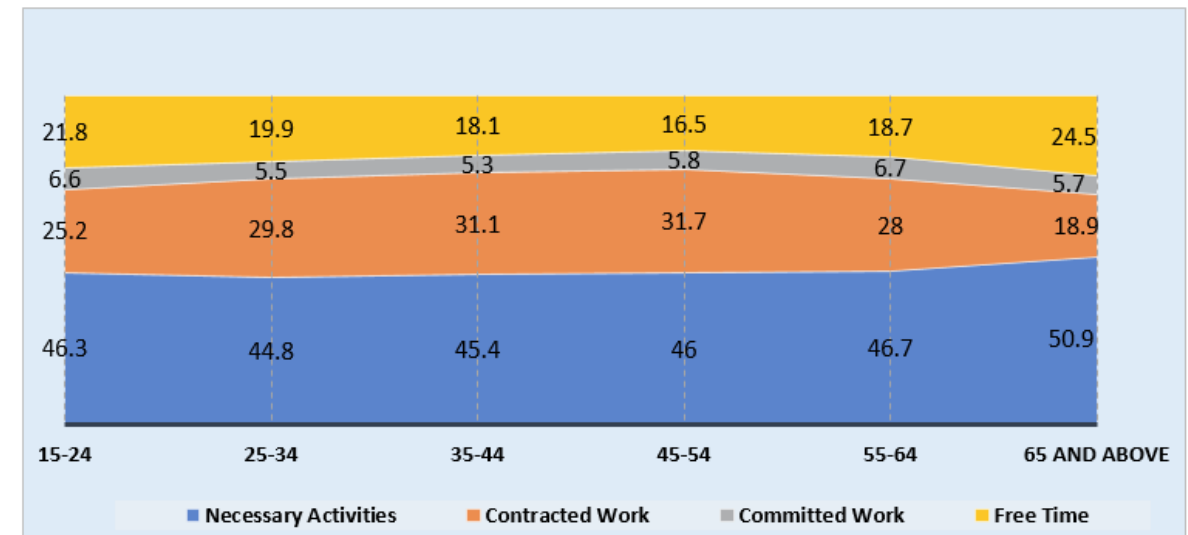


Distribution of Time Spent by Population on Activity Class by Sex and Age Group (%)

a) Female



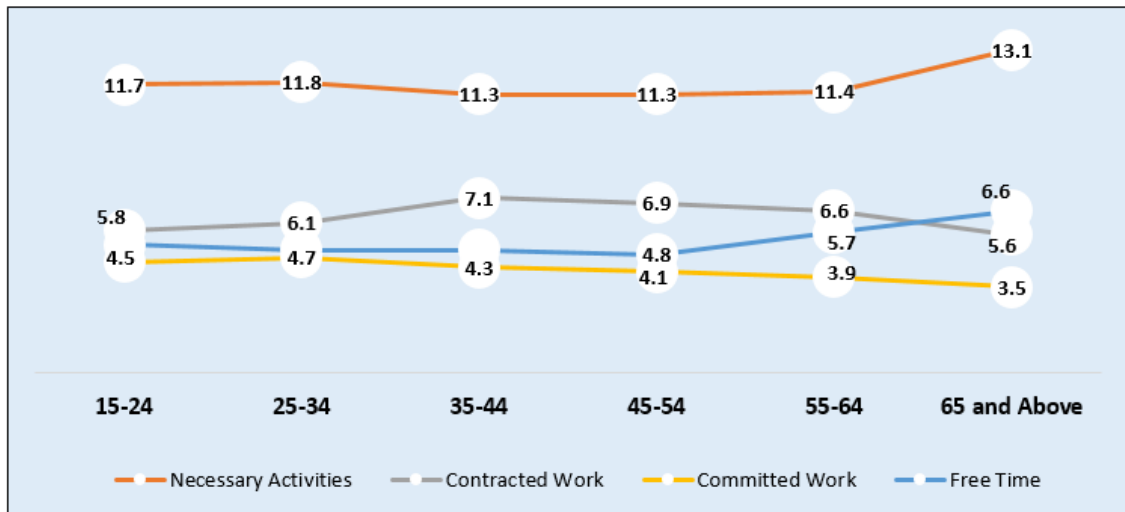
b) Male



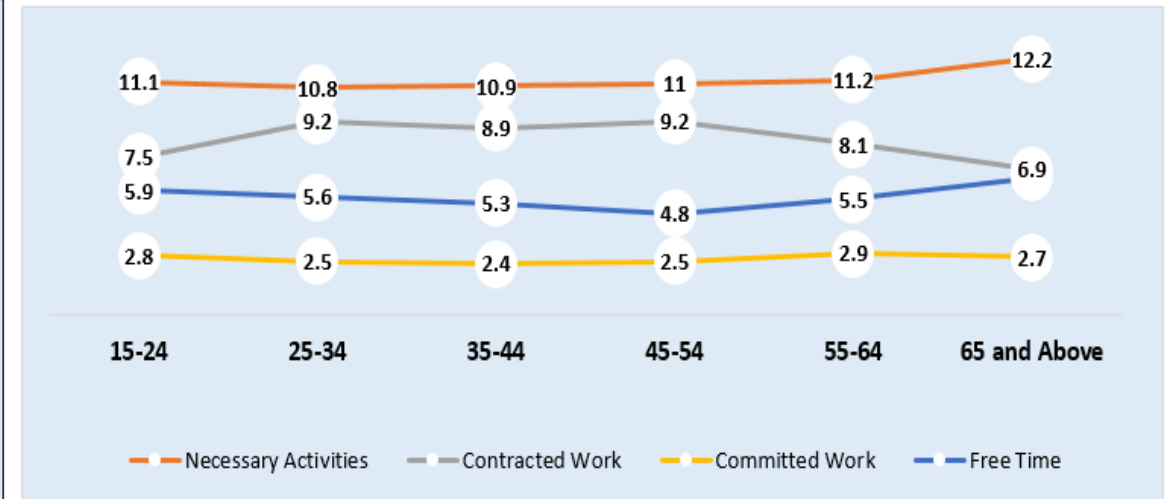
Across all age groups, both females and males spent a higher proportion of time per day in necessary activities. For females, more time was spent in contracted work than in committed in most age-groups except for the 15-24 and 25-34 years age group.

Participation Time per Activity Class by Age group and Sex (Hours)

a) Female



b) Male

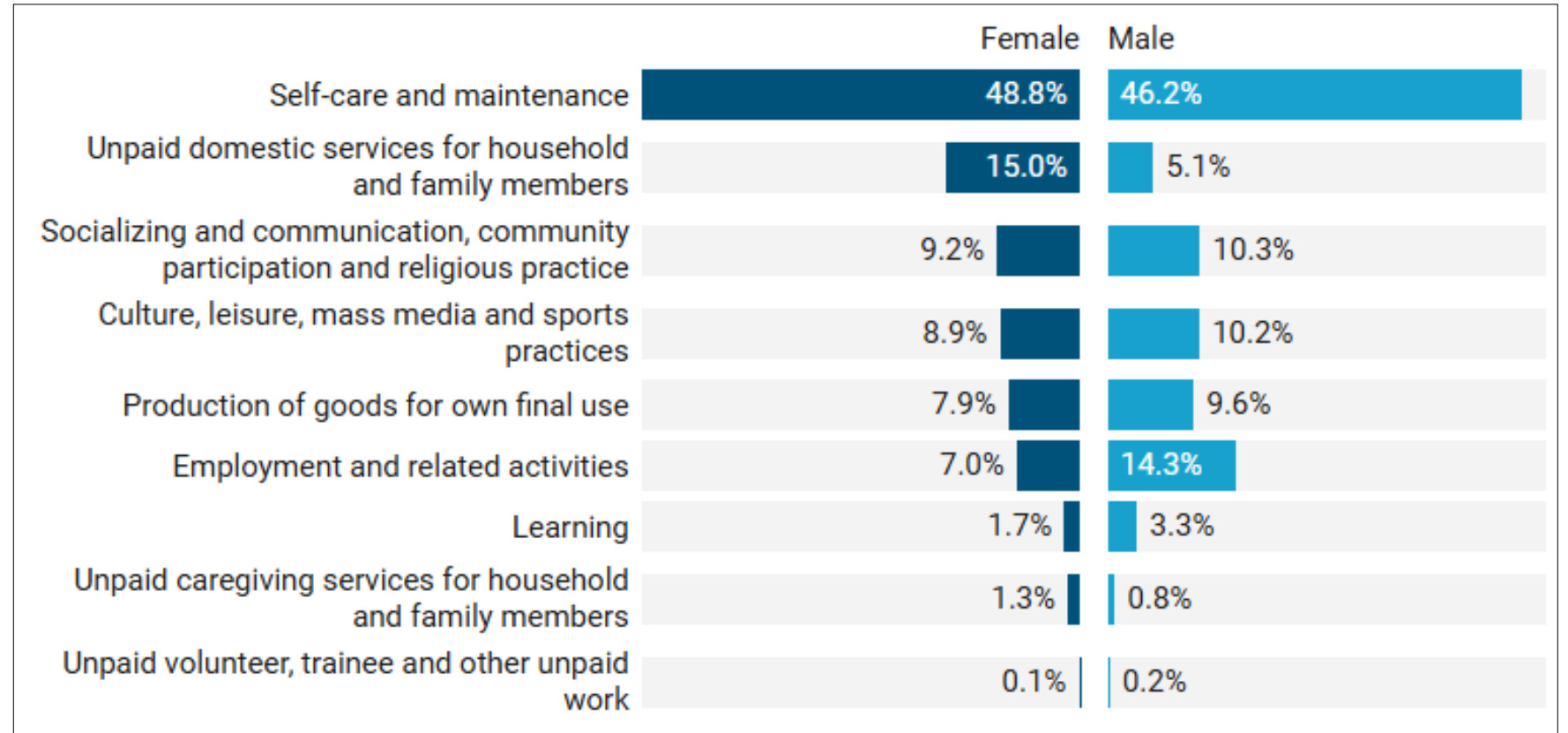


For females, the highest participation in contracted work was in the 35-44 year age group at 7.1 hours. For male participants, the total amount of time taken in free time activities ranged from 4.8 hours in age group 45-54 years to 6.9 hours in the age group 65 and above

Time spent by Population on 9 Major Activities by Sex

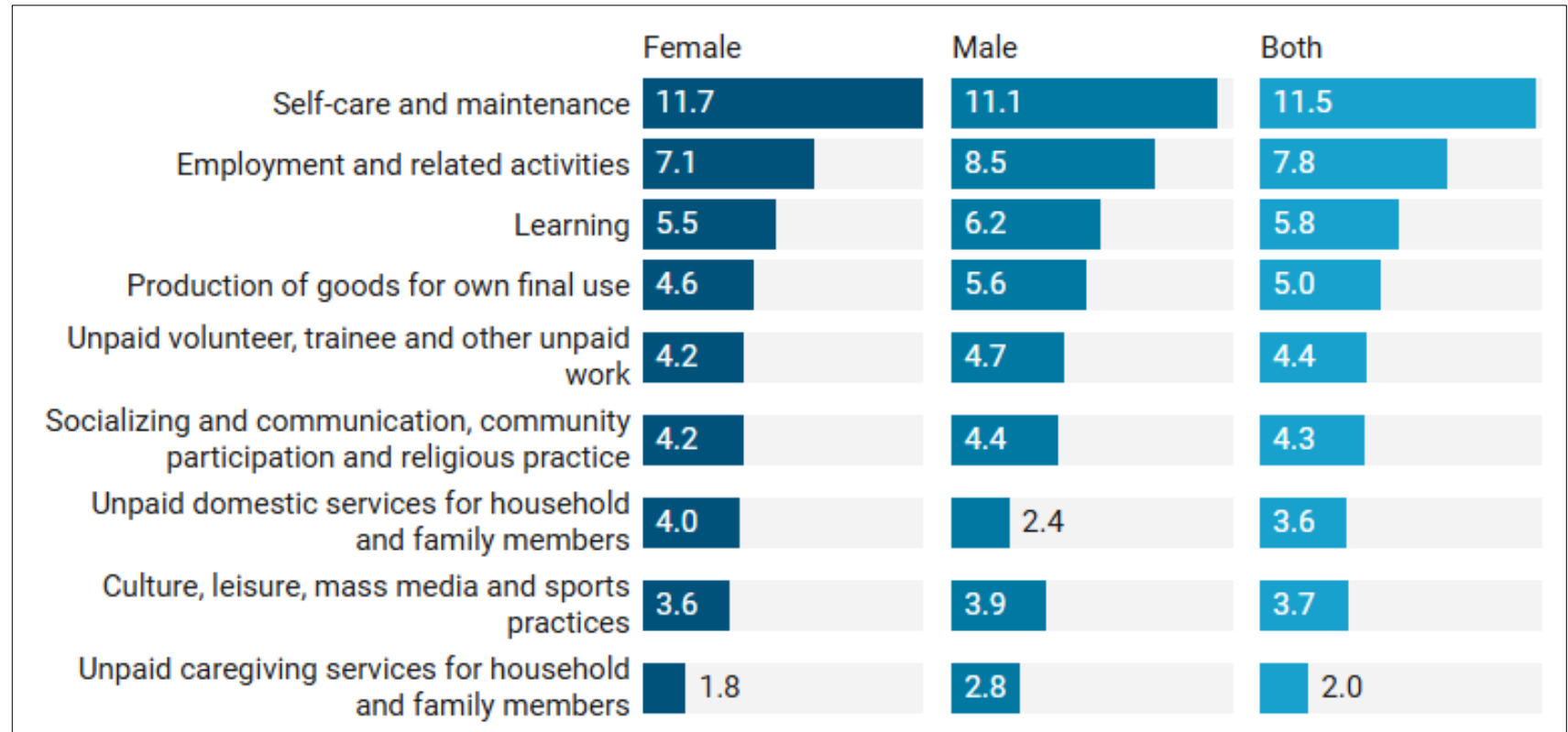
Females spent half the amount of time spent by males on employment and related activities (7% against 14.3%).

On the other hand, females spent three times more than males on unpaid domestic services for household and family members at 15 percent compared to 5.1 percent for males.



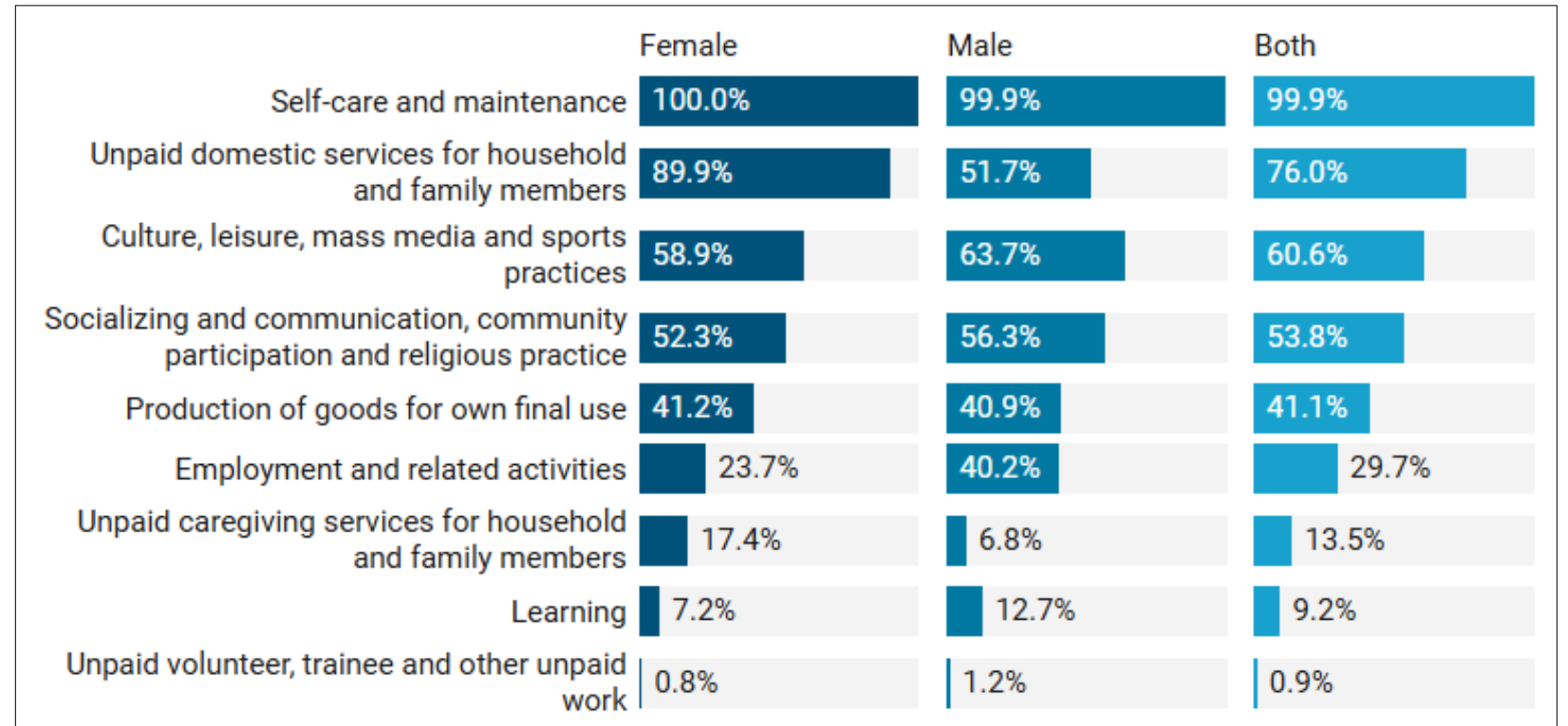
Participation Time on 9 Major Activities by Sex (Hours)

In employment and related activities, female participants spent less time (7.1 hours) on average compared to 8.5 hours for males. Regarding production of goods for own final use, female participants spent 4.6 hours while males spent 5.6 hours.



Participation Rate by 9 Major Activity (Hours)

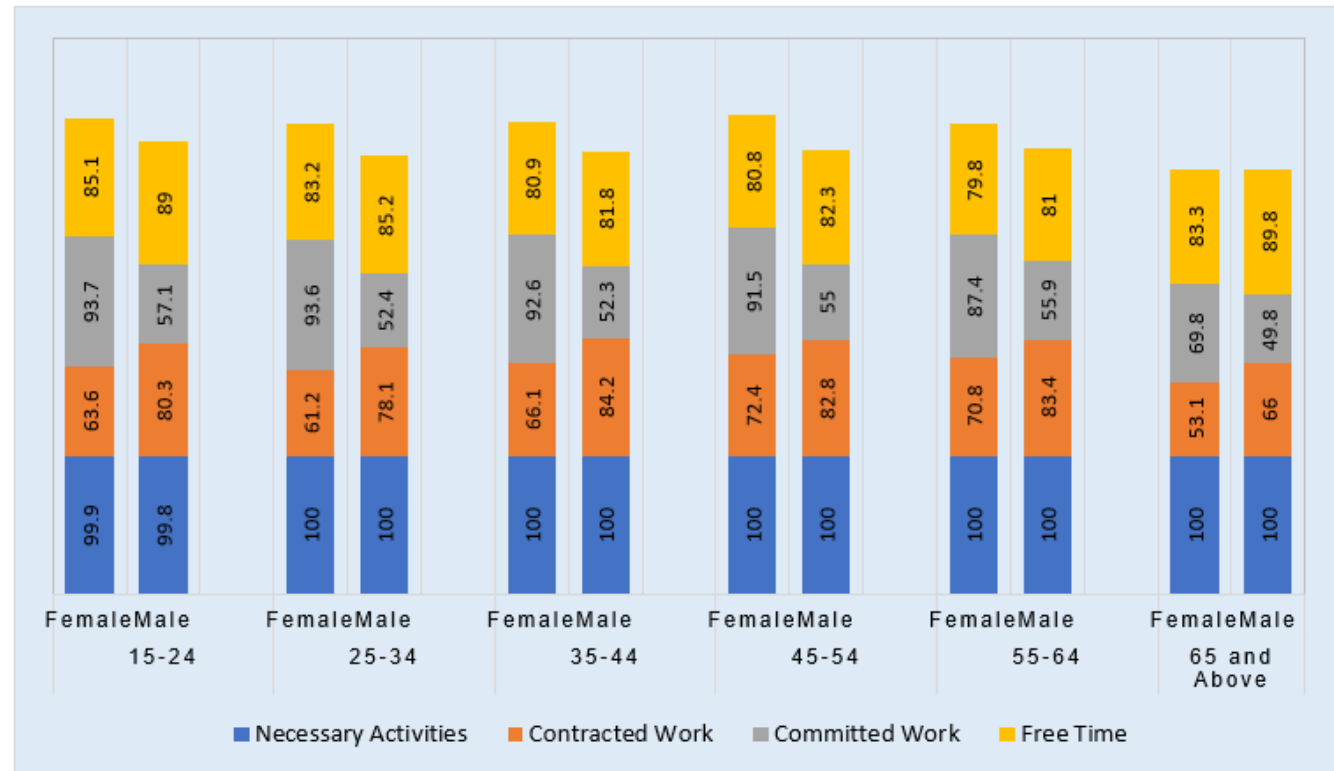
Apart from self-care and maintenance, the largest participation rate for females was in “Unpaid domestic services for household and family members” (89.9%) while for males it was in “Culture, leisure, mass media and sports practices” (63.7%)



Participation Rate per Activity Class by Sex and Age group (%)

The highest participation rate for both males and females in all age groups was in necessary activities (sleeping bathing eating etc.).

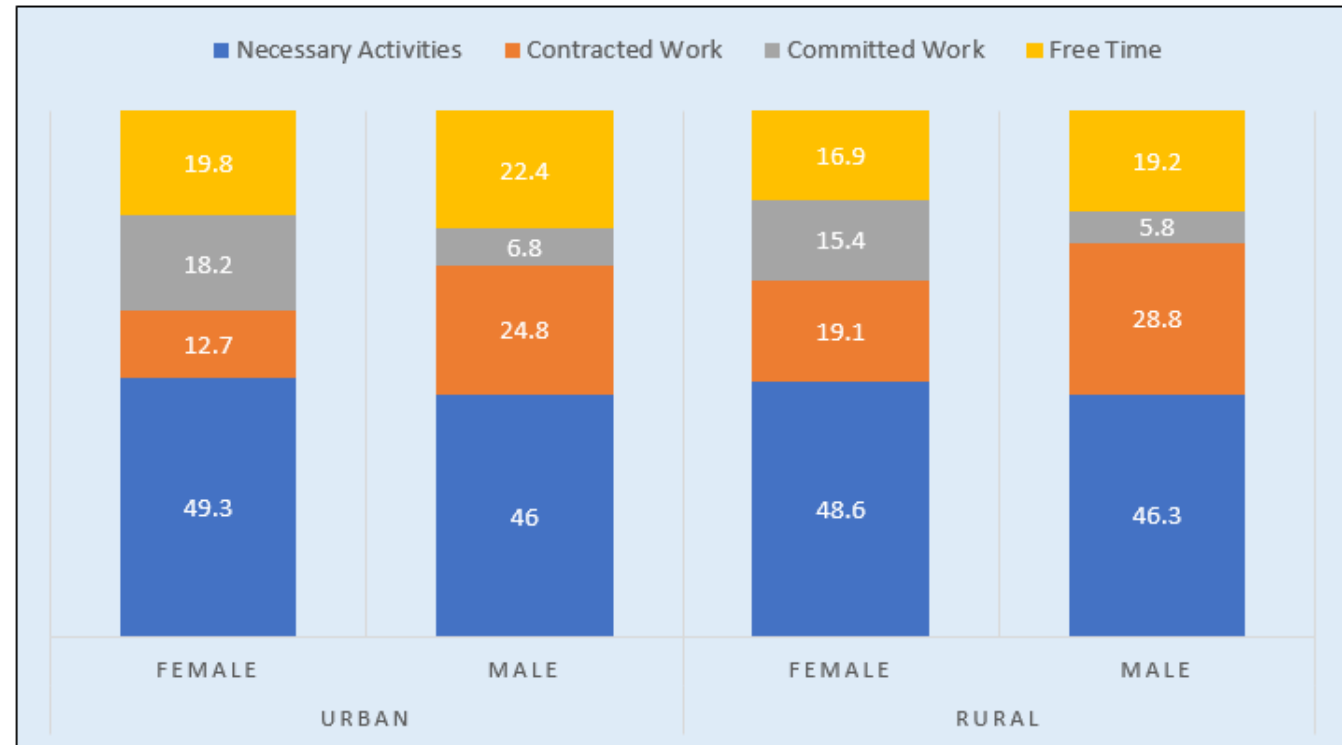
For males, participation rate in committed activities ranged from 49.8 percent in the 65 and above age group to 57.1 percent in the 15-24 age group whilst participation for females in the same activity class ranged from 69.8 percent in the 65 and above age group to 93.7 percent in the 15-24 age group.



Proportion of Time Spent per Day by Population on Activity Class by Sex and Rural/Urban Area (%)

For females in urban areas, the proportion of committed work per day was higher (18.2%) than that of their rural counterparts (15.4%).

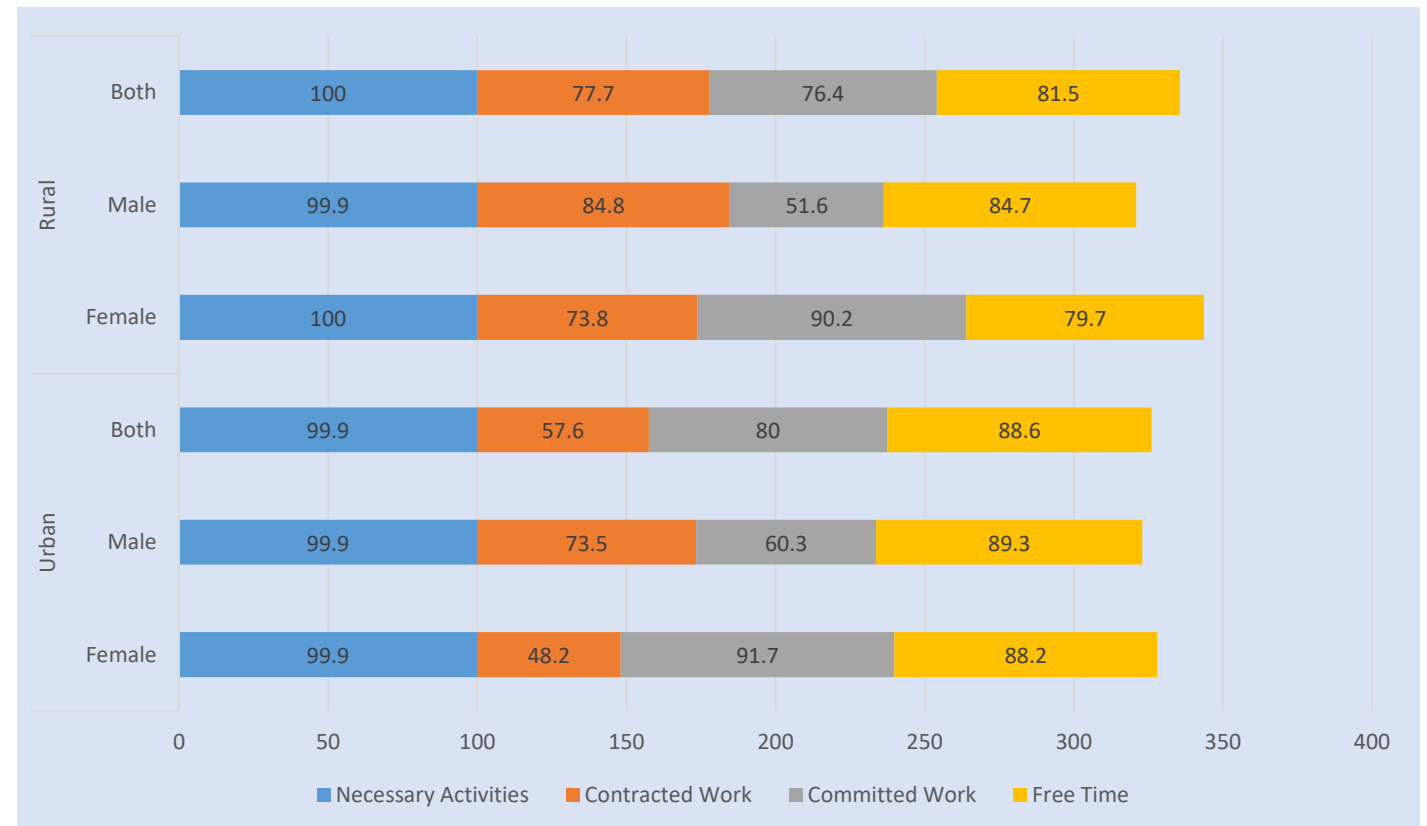
In general, both males and females in urban areas spent relatively more time on free time activities (socialising, religious activities, social media, leisure etc.) than those in rural areas.



Participation Rate per Activity Class by Sex and Rural/Urban Area (%)

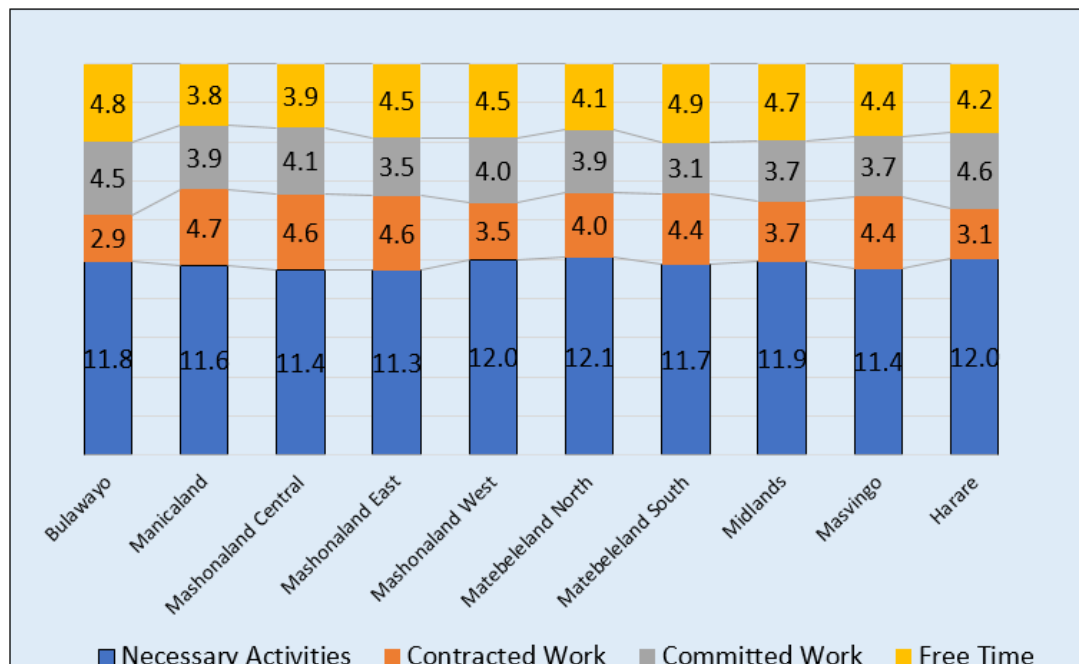
The participation rate for rural people in contracted work (employment, own use production of goods and learning), at 77.7 percent, was higher than that of urban people (57.6 %) in the same activity.

Almost all people in both rural and urban participated in at least one form of necessary activities.

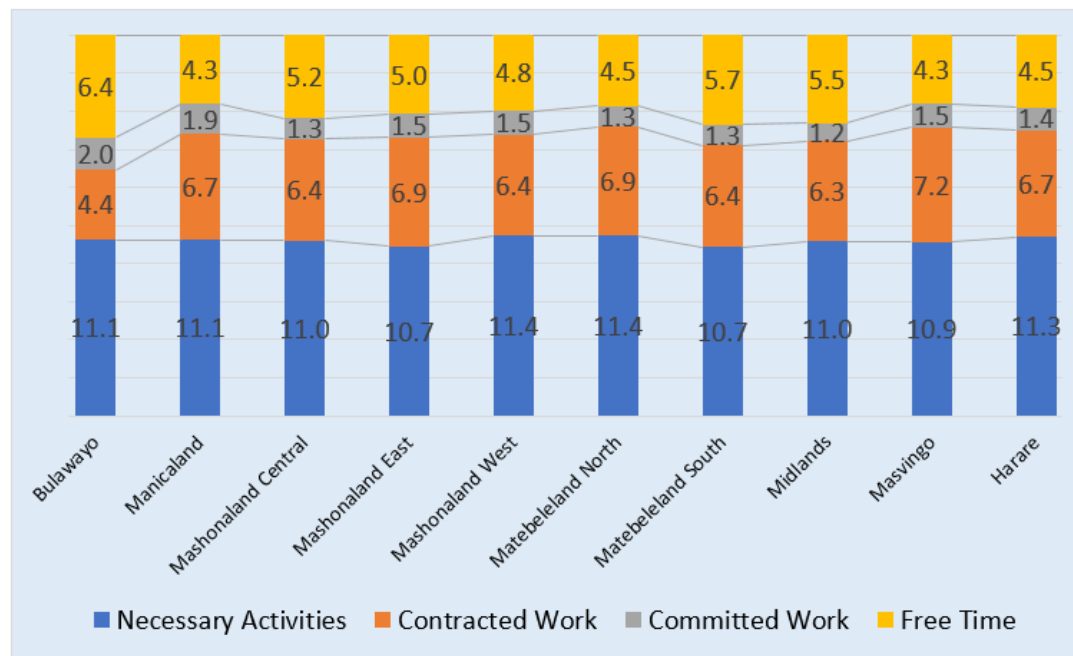


Time Spent by Population on Activity Class by Province and Sex (Hours)

a) Females



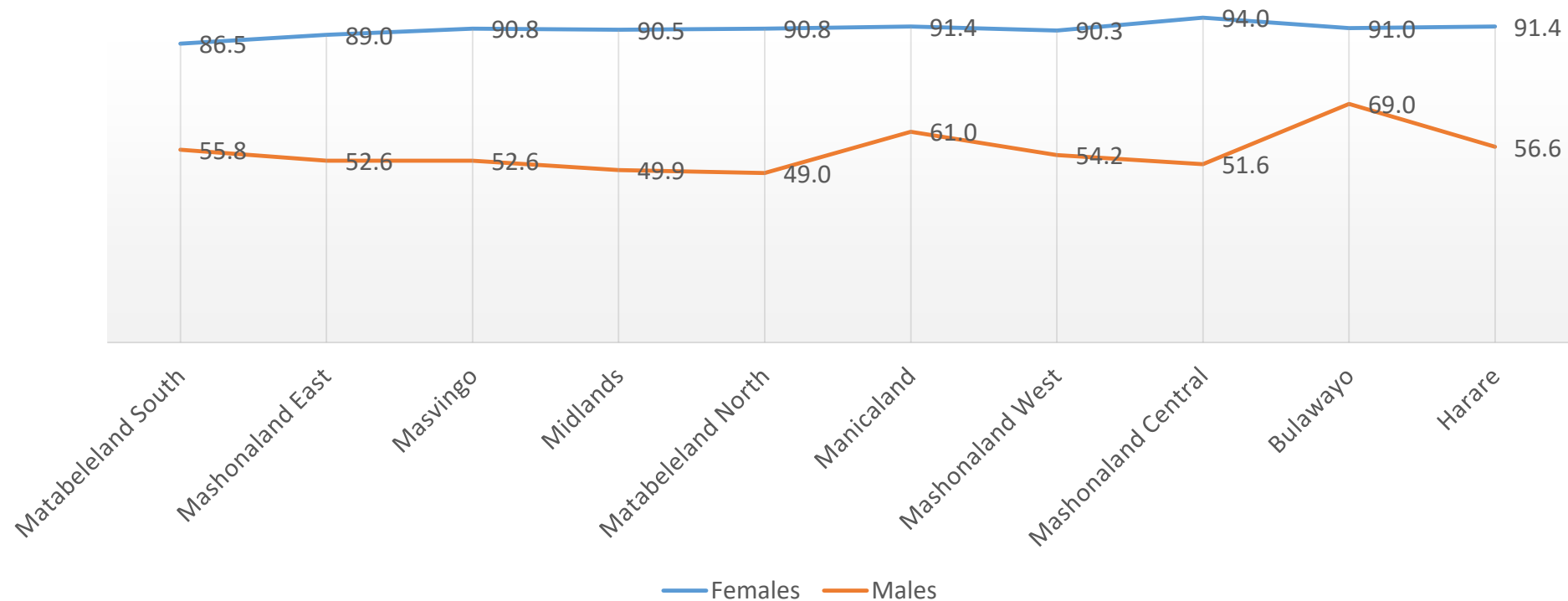
b) Males



The highest time spent per day on free time activities (socializing, religious and cultural activities and sports practice) was in Bulawayo province for both females and males at 4.8 and 6.4 hours respectively. For females, Harare recorded time spent on committed work at 4.6 hours

In all provinces, males consistently spent more time per day on contracted work than committed work.

Participation Rate in Unpaid Domestic and Care Work by Sex and Province (%)

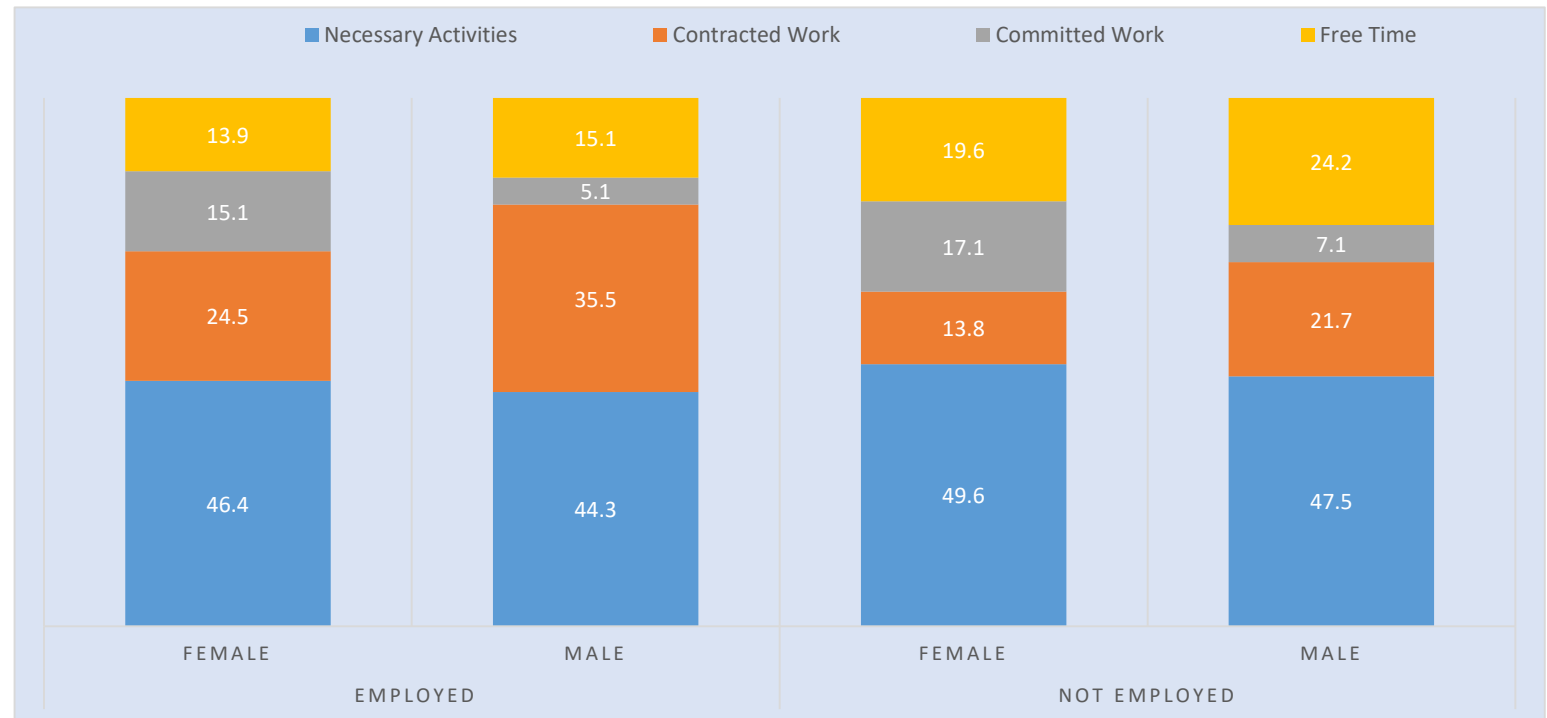


Females participated more in unpaid domestic and care work than males across all provinces. Mashonaland Central province had the largest participation rate for females at 94 percent.

Proportion of Time Spent per day by Population on Activity Class by Sex and Labour Force Status (%)

Employed females allocated three times more time (15.1%) to committed work than males (5.1%).

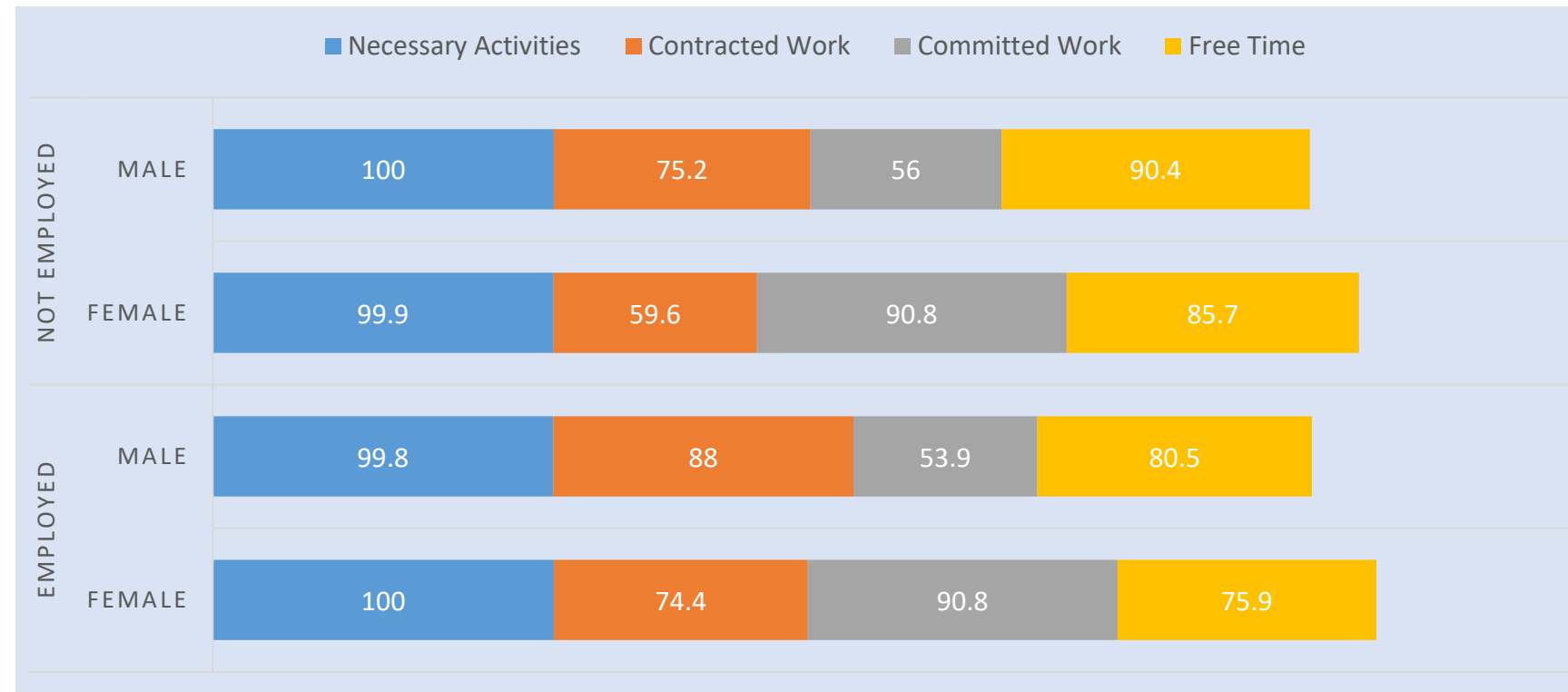
Females and males who were not employed devoted more time than the employed on free time activities such as socializing, leisure and religious and cultural activities.



Participation Rate per Activity Class by Sex and Labour Force Status (%)

Employed males participated more (88%) in contracted work compared to employed females (74.4%).

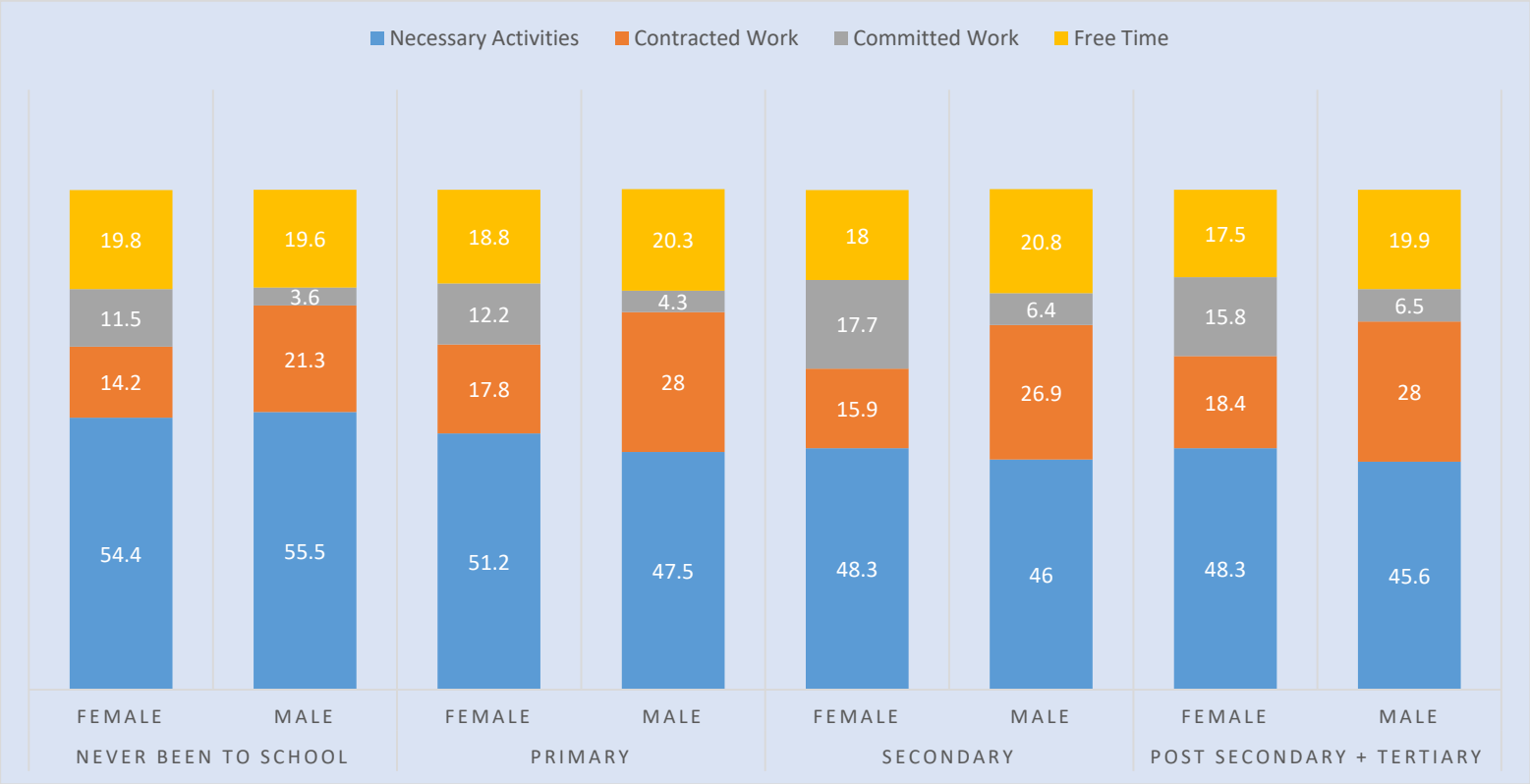
Females who were employed had the same participation rate with those who were not employed in committed work (unpaid domestic and care work) (90.8%)



Distribution of Time Spent by Population on Activity Class per day by Sex and Education Level (%)

Both females and males who had never been to school had the highest proportion of time per day allocated to necessary activities such as sleep, eating and bathing at 54.4 and 55.5 percent respectively.

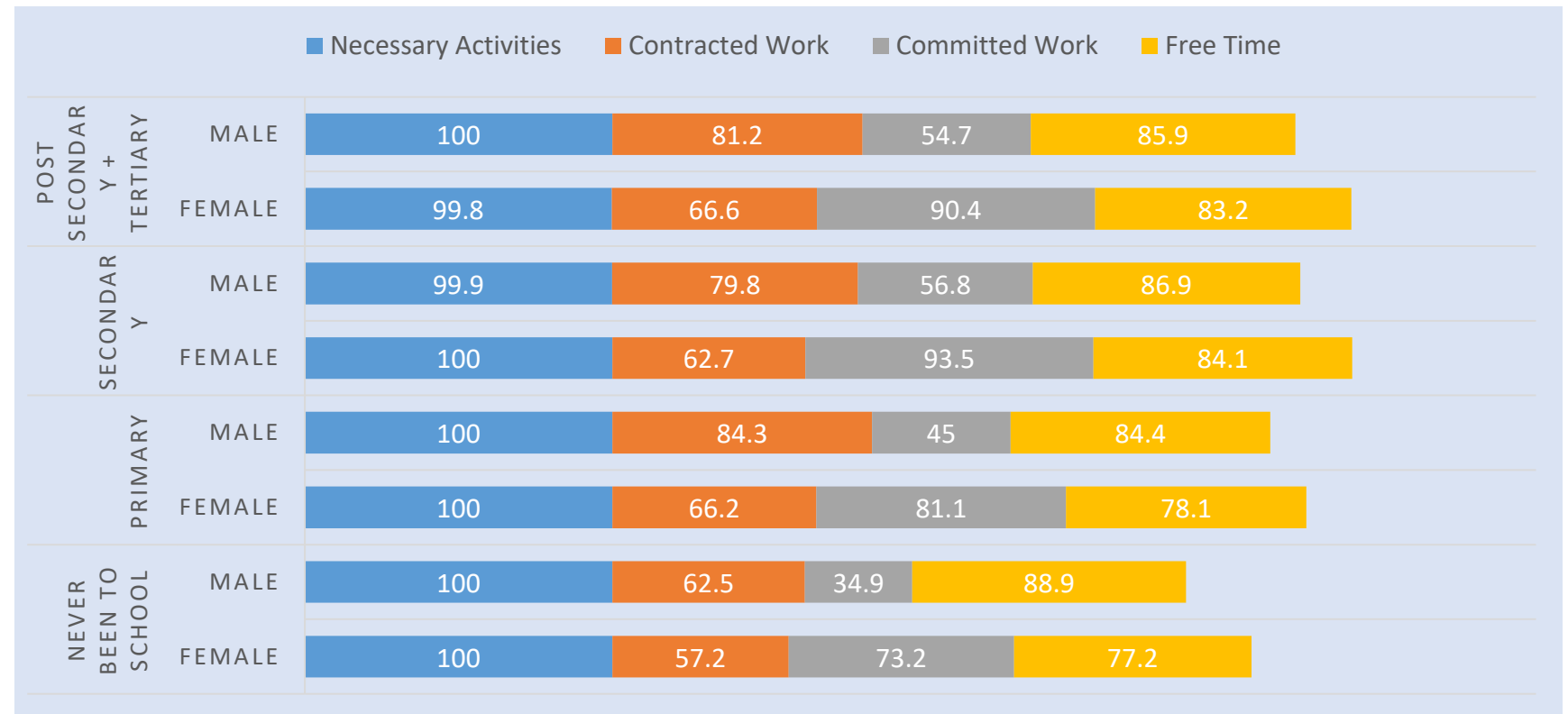
The highest proportion of free time on average per day for males was among those who had completed secondary school as their highest level of education at 20.8 percent. For females it was among those who had never been to school at 19.8 percent.



Participation Rate per Activity Class by Sex and Education Level (%)

Females who had secondary education as highest level of education recorded the highest participation rate among all females in free time and committed work activities at 84.1 and 93.5 percent respectively.

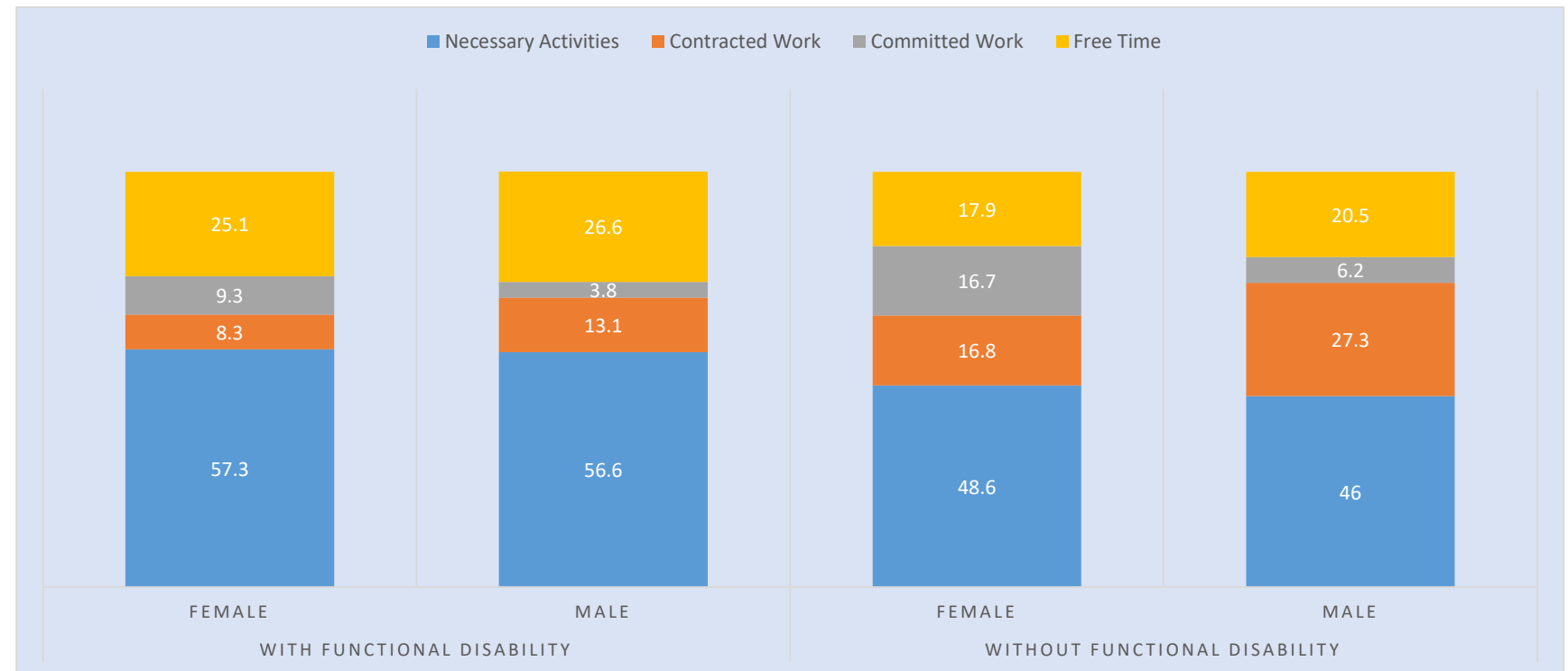
The lowest participation rate in committed work activities among females was for those who had never been to school at 73.2 percent



Distribution of Time Spent per day by Population on Activity Class by Sex and Functional Disability Status (%)

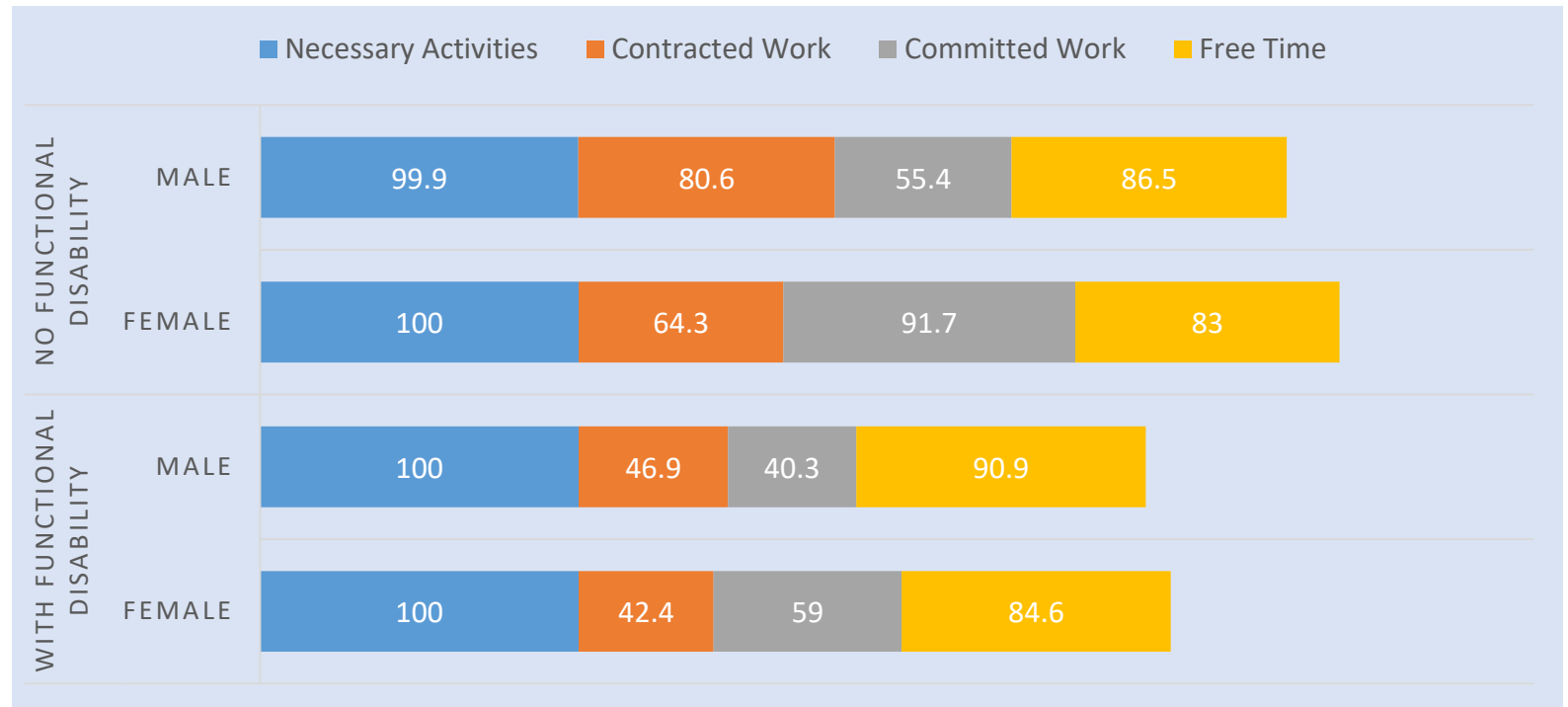
Persons with at least one form of functional disability allocated more time in necessary activities and free time activities than those without functional disability.

Conversely, persons without functional disabilities spent more time in committed and contracted work than those with at least one form of functional disability



Participation Rate per Activity Class by Sex and Functional Disability Status

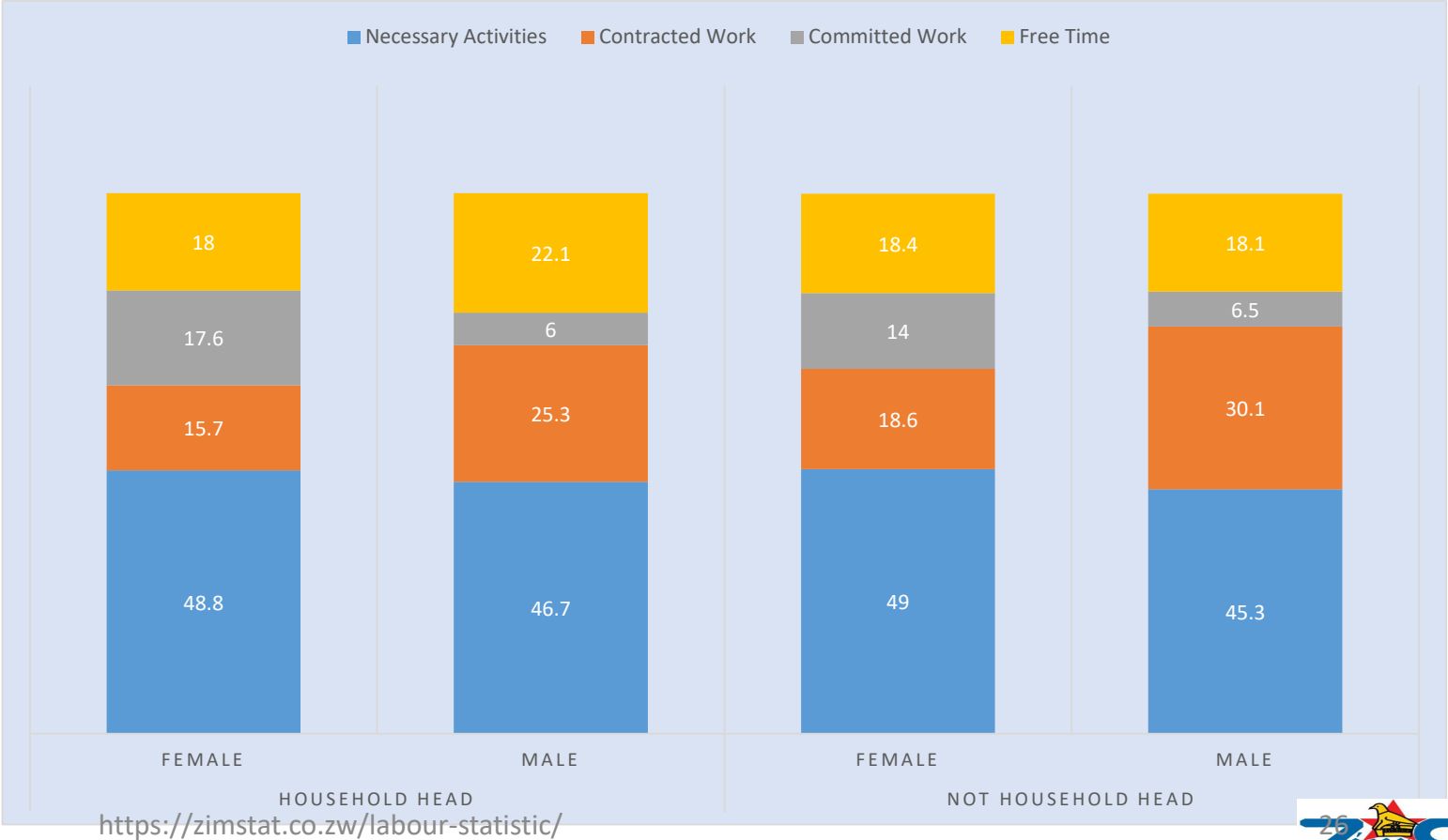
Apart from necessary activities, both females and males with at least one form of functional disabilities had the highest participation rate in free time activities at 84.6 and 90.9 percent respectively.



Distribution of Time Spent by Population on Activity Class per day by Sex and Household Head Status (%)

Non-household head females spent the least proportion of their day on committed work (14%) whilst those who were household heads spent the least proportion on contracted work (15.7%).

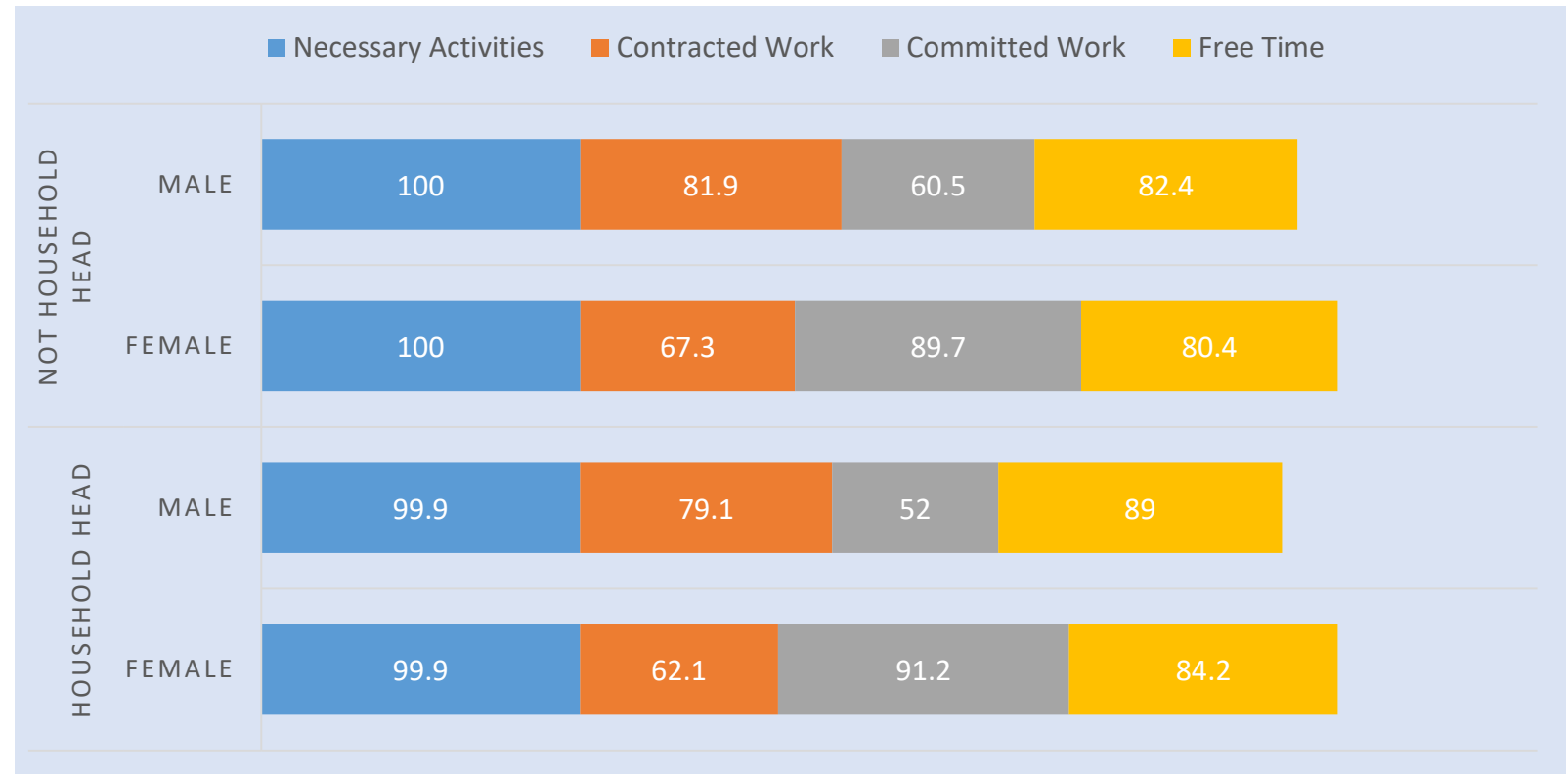
Male household heads had a higher proportion of free time activities than females at 22.1 against 18 percent respectively.



Participation Rate per Activity Class by Sex and Household Status

Female household heads participation in committed work was higher (91.2%) compared to their non-household head counter parts at 89.7 percent.

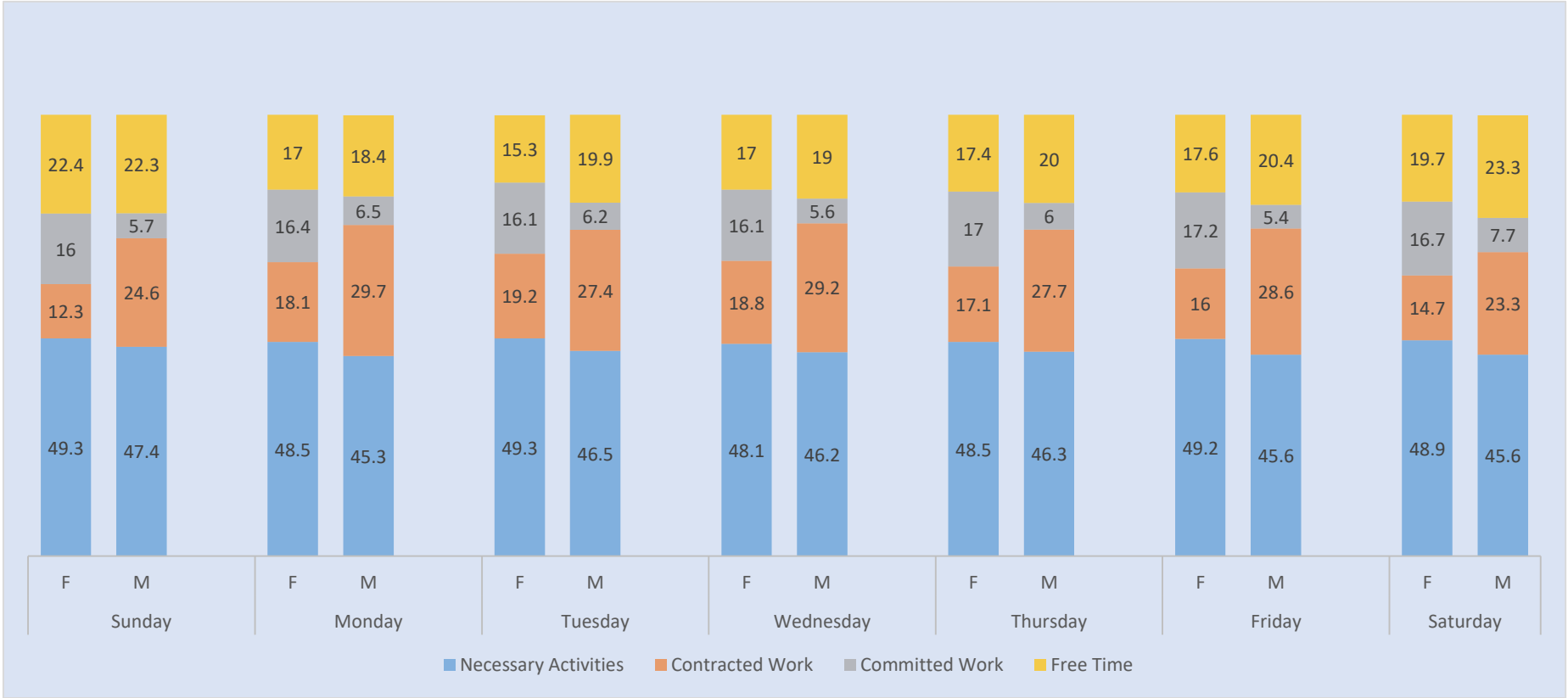
The participation rate of household head males in committed work was 52 percent while that of male non-household heads was 60.5 percent



Distribution of Time by Population on Activity Class per day by Sex and Day of the Week (%)

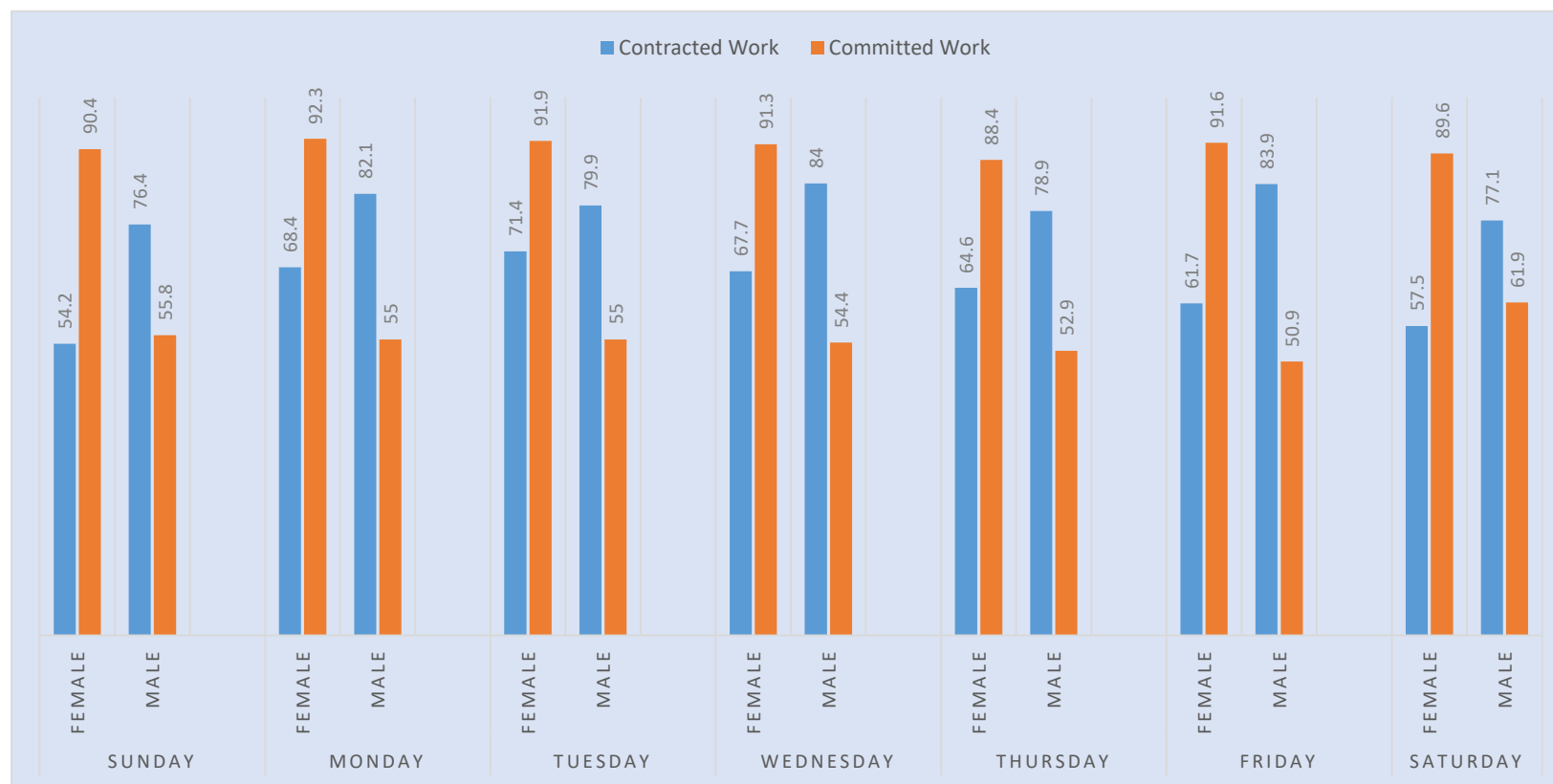
On average, in all the days of the week, females and males spent most of their time in necessary activities.

Regarding Free Time Activities (religious and cultural practices, socializing and leisure), the highest proportion of time per day for females was on a Sunday while for males it was Saturday.



Participation Rate per Activity Class by Sex and Day of the Week

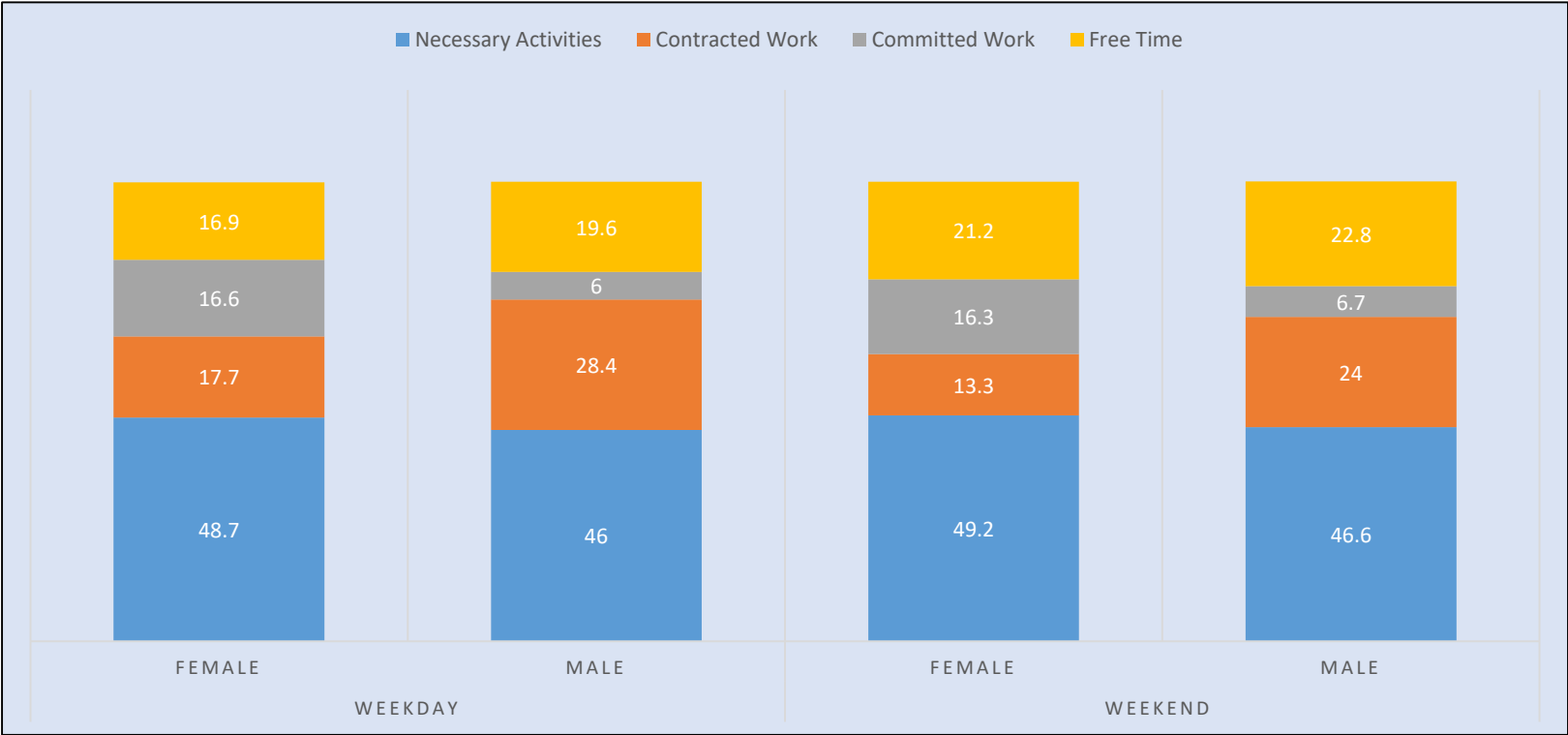
For males, participation in contracted work was consistently higher than in committed work while for females participation in committed work was consistently higher than in contracted work through out the week.



Distribution of Time Spent by Population on Activity Class per Day by Sex and Weekdays/ Weekend (%)

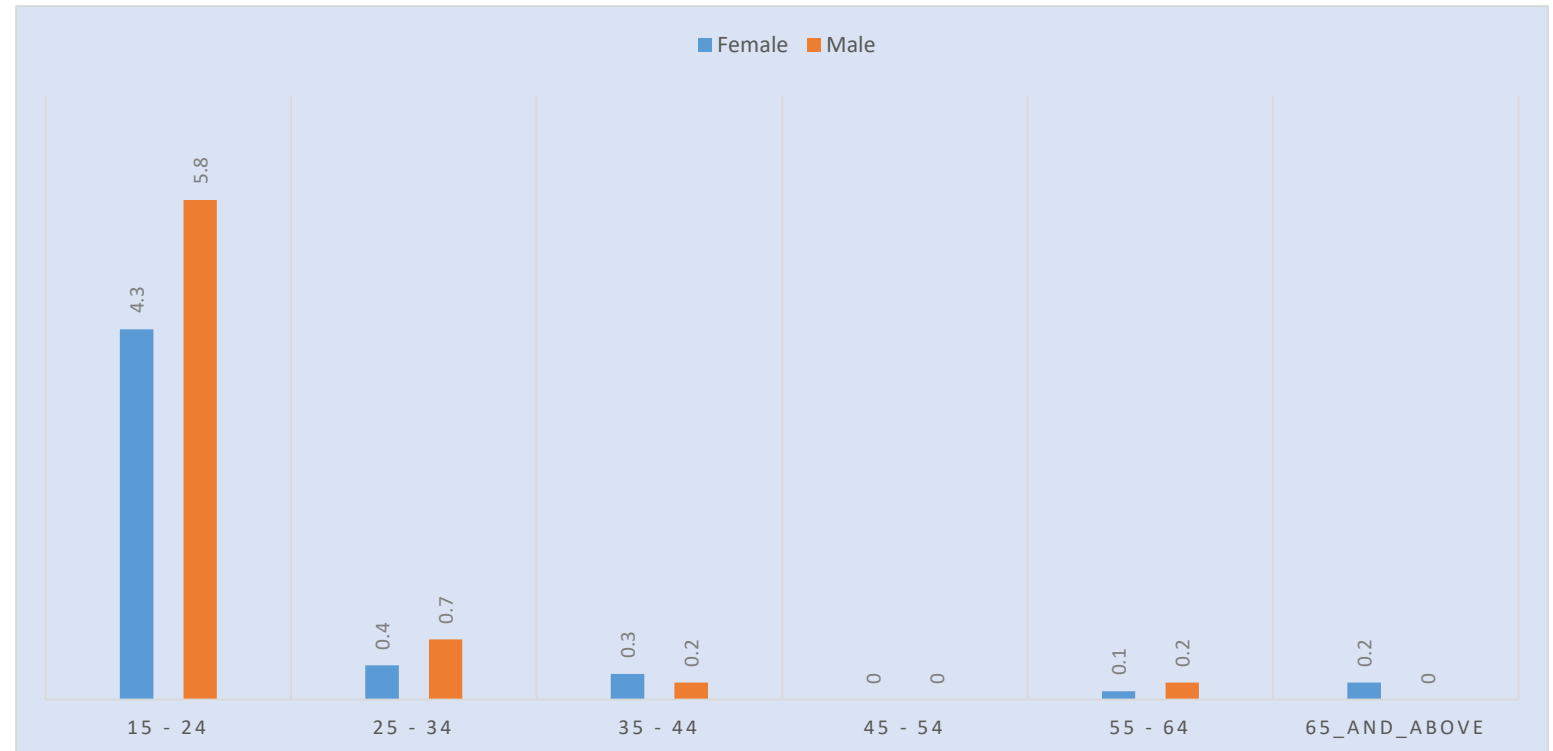
Females spent more time on necessary activities during weekends (49.2%) compared to weekdays (48.7%).

Additionally, males spent more time on committed (6.7 %) during weekends compared to weekdays (6%).



Share of Population Time Spent on Learning and Human Capital Formation per day by Age Group and Sex (%)

Across all age groups the 15-24 age group had the highest time spent in learning and human capital formation related activities for both females and males



Work-Life Balance (WLB) by Sex (Broad Definition)

Work-life balance (broad definition) refers to the proportion of time allocated to work (both contracted and committed) relative to the total time spent on necessary and leisure activities. A lower value implies a more balanced work-life ratio.

The work-life balance ratio was constant at 0.5 across sex.

WLB Ratio of 0.5 implies that for every hour spent in personal time by both males and females, half an hour (30 minutes) was spent in work-related activities

	Female	Male	Both
Total Work	7.9	8.0	8.0
Combined personal time + free time	16.1	16.0	16.0
WLB Ratio	0.5	0.5	0.5

Work-Life Balance by Sex (Strict Definition)

Work-life balance (strict definition) relates to the time allocated to contracted and committed work as a proportion of free time activities. It is the ratio of total work time to free time (socialising, leisure, relaxing, religious and cultural etc.).

Females' work-life balance ratio (1.83) was higher compared to males (1.62), indicating that females allocated a larger share of time on work-related activities than free time compared to males.

A strict WLB indicator of 1.83 shows that for every 1 hour spent in free time, 1.83 hours would be spent in work-related activities

	Female	Male	Both
Total Work	7.9	8.0	8.0
Free time	4.3	4.9	4.6
WLB Ratio	1.83	1.62	1.75

Work–Life Balance by Area and Sex (Strict Definition)

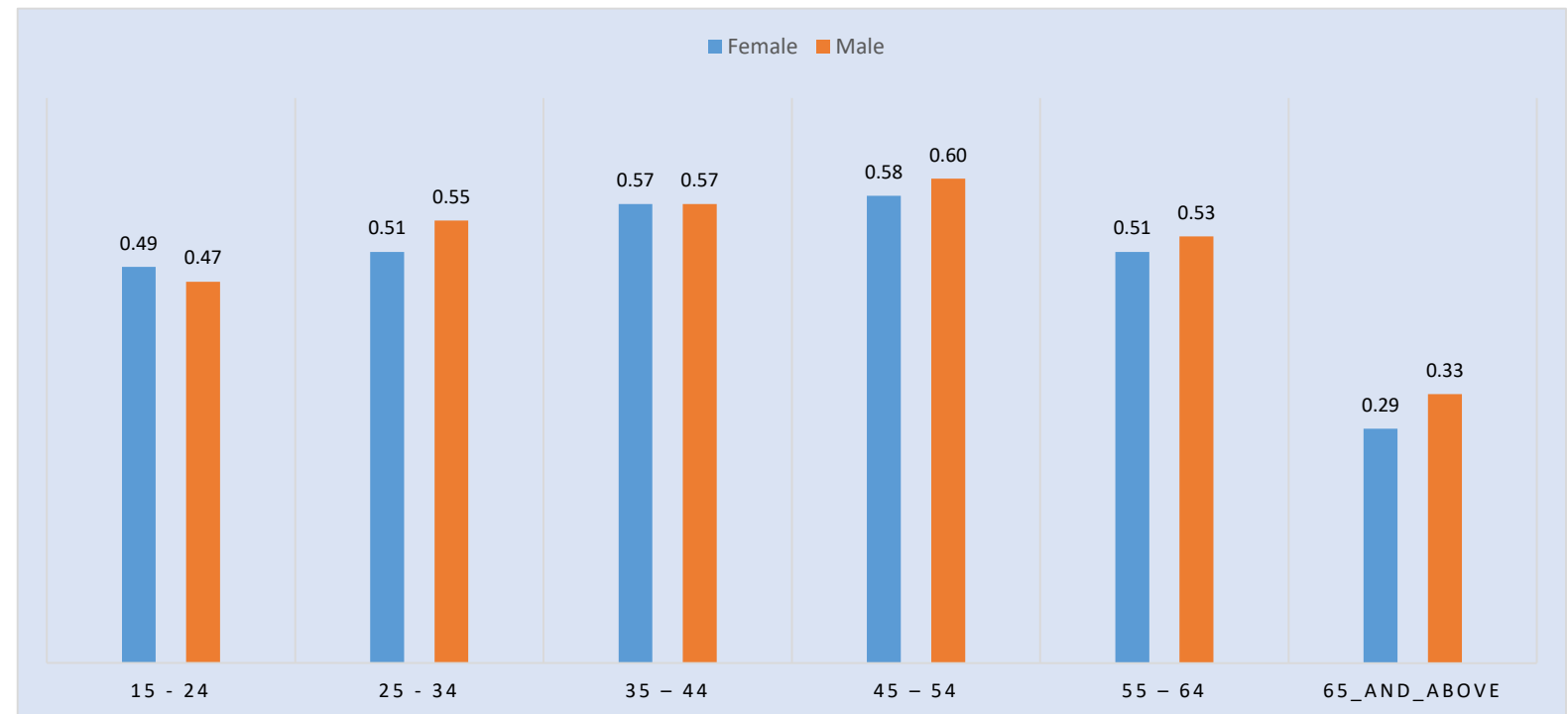
Males in urban areas experienced less work-life balance (1.41) than those in rural areas (1.8).

Females in urban areas had a work life balance ratio of 1.56 which was less than 2.04 for females in rural areas. This implies that per every hour spent in free time, females in rural areas engaged in more work hours (contracted and committed) than those in urban areas.

	Urban			Rural		
	Female	Male	Both	Female	Male	Both
Total Work (hours)	7.4	7.6	7.5	8.3	8.3	8.3
Free Time (hours)	4.8	5.4	5.0	4.1	4.6	4.3
WLB Ratio	1.56	1.41	1.50	2.04	1.80	1.95

Work–Life Balance (Broad Definition) by Age Group and Sex

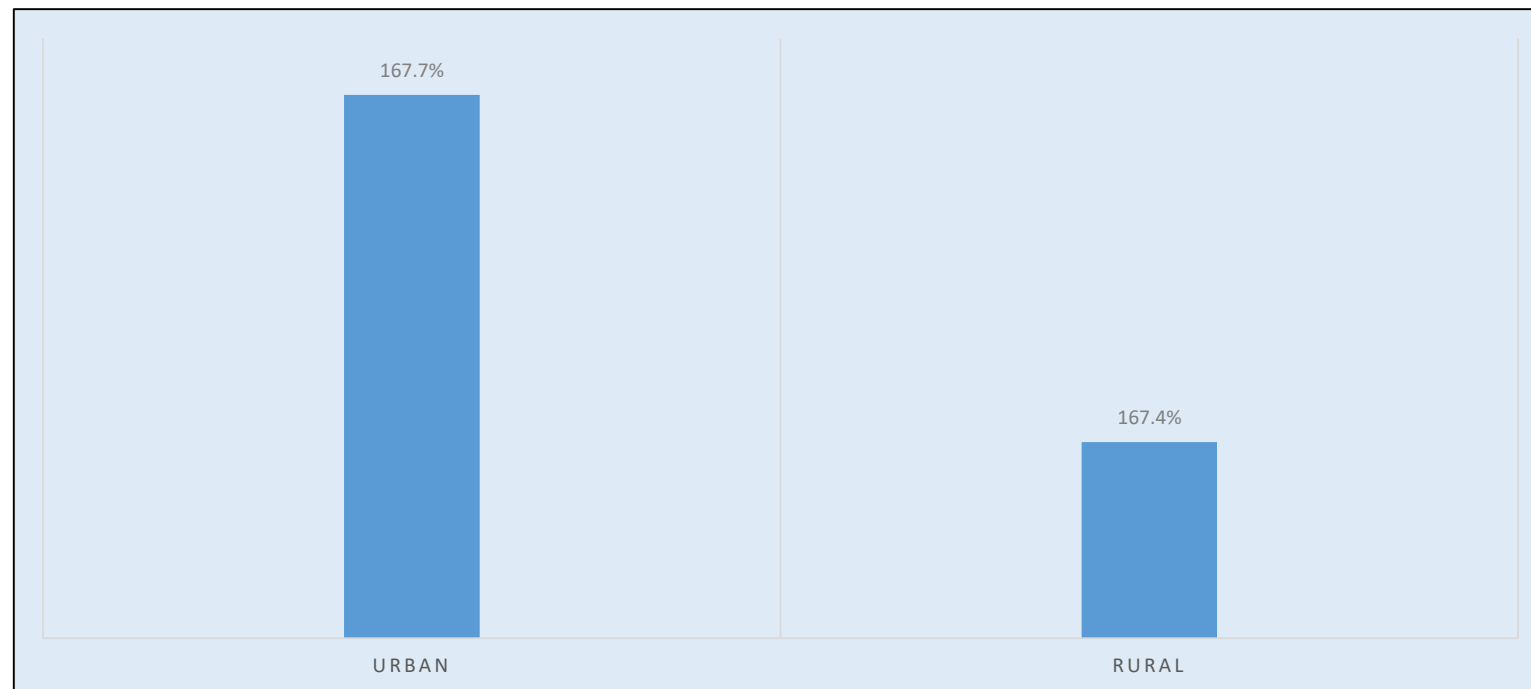
Across all age groups, females and males work life balance peaked at the age group 45 to 54 with 0.58 and 0.60 respectively. This means for every hour spent in free non-work activities (necessary activities and free time), 34.8 minutes and 36.0 minutes were in work related activities.



Gender Gap in Unpaid Work by Rural/Urban Area

Gender gap in unpaid care work refers to the percentage difference in the amount of time spent by women and men on a specific activity, calculated relative to men's time, and it indicates how much more or less time women spend on that activity compared to men. Unpaid care work refers to domestic, unpaid care and volunteer work.

In urban areas the ratio was higher (167.7%) than in rural areas (167.4%) .

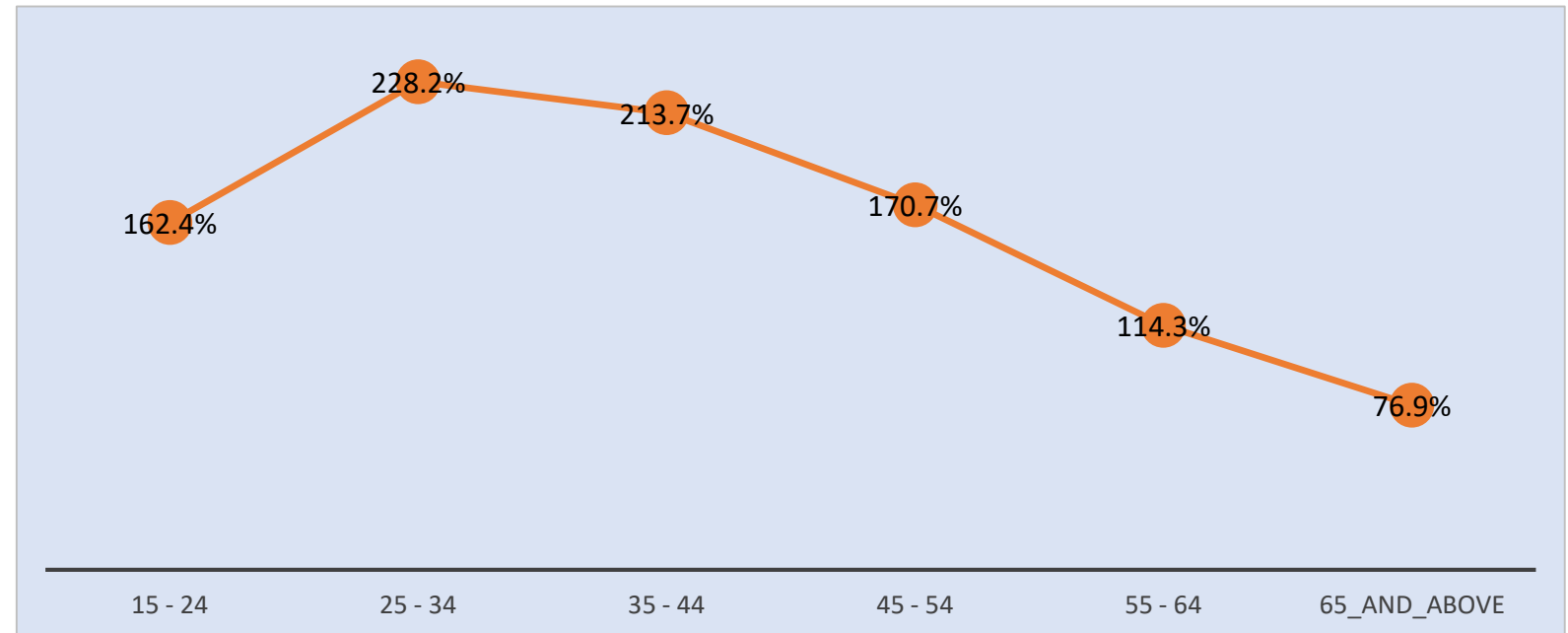


Gender Gap in Unpaid Work by Age Group and Sex

Gender gap in unpaid work peaked at age group 25 to 34 (228%) and reached its lowest in the 65 and above age group at 76.9 percent

This implies that for age group 25 to 34, females spend 228 percent more time than males in domestic chores, unpaid care work and volunteer work.

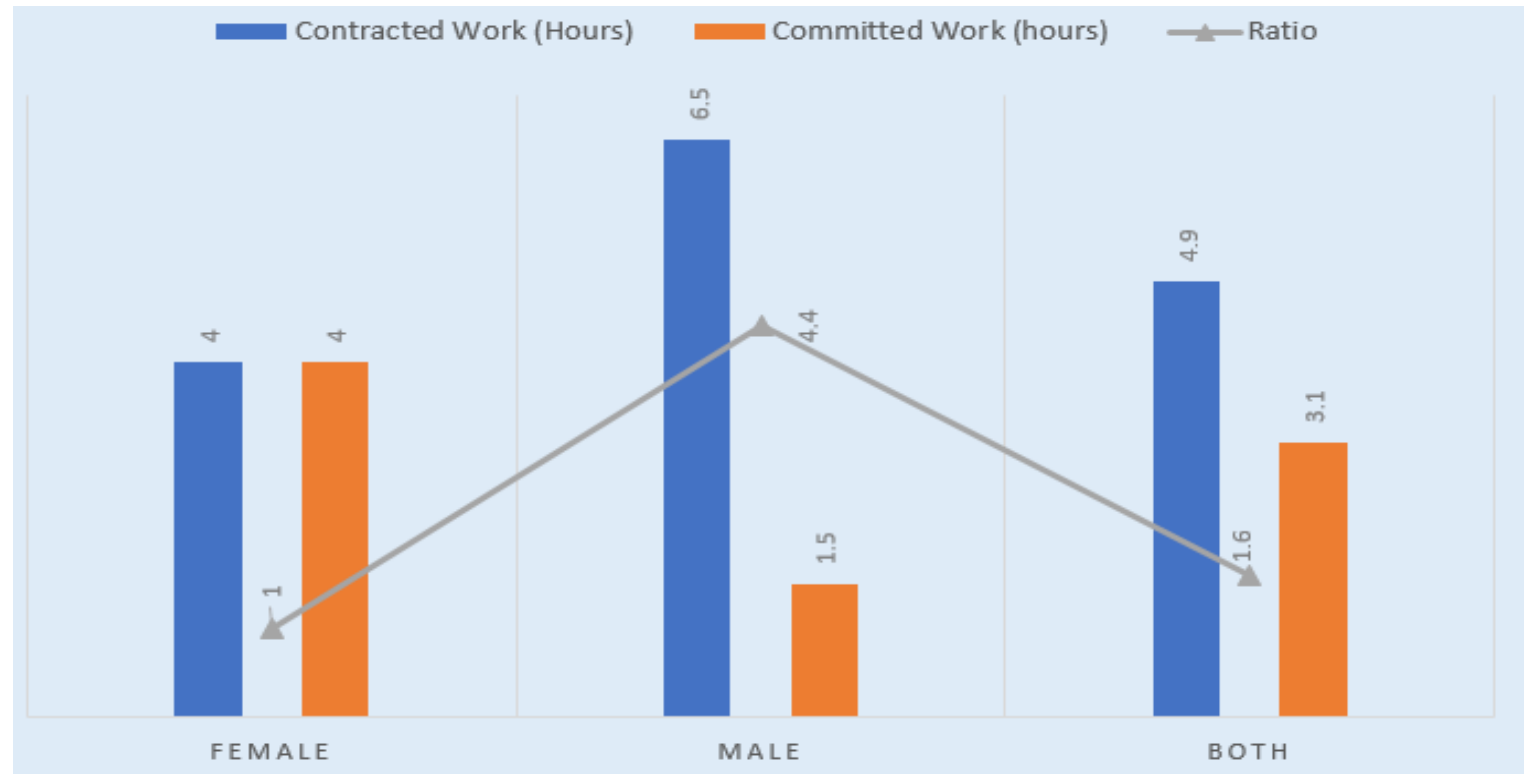
If men spend 1 hour on unpaid care work, women spend 3.28 hours on the same activity



Work Intensity Ratio by Sex

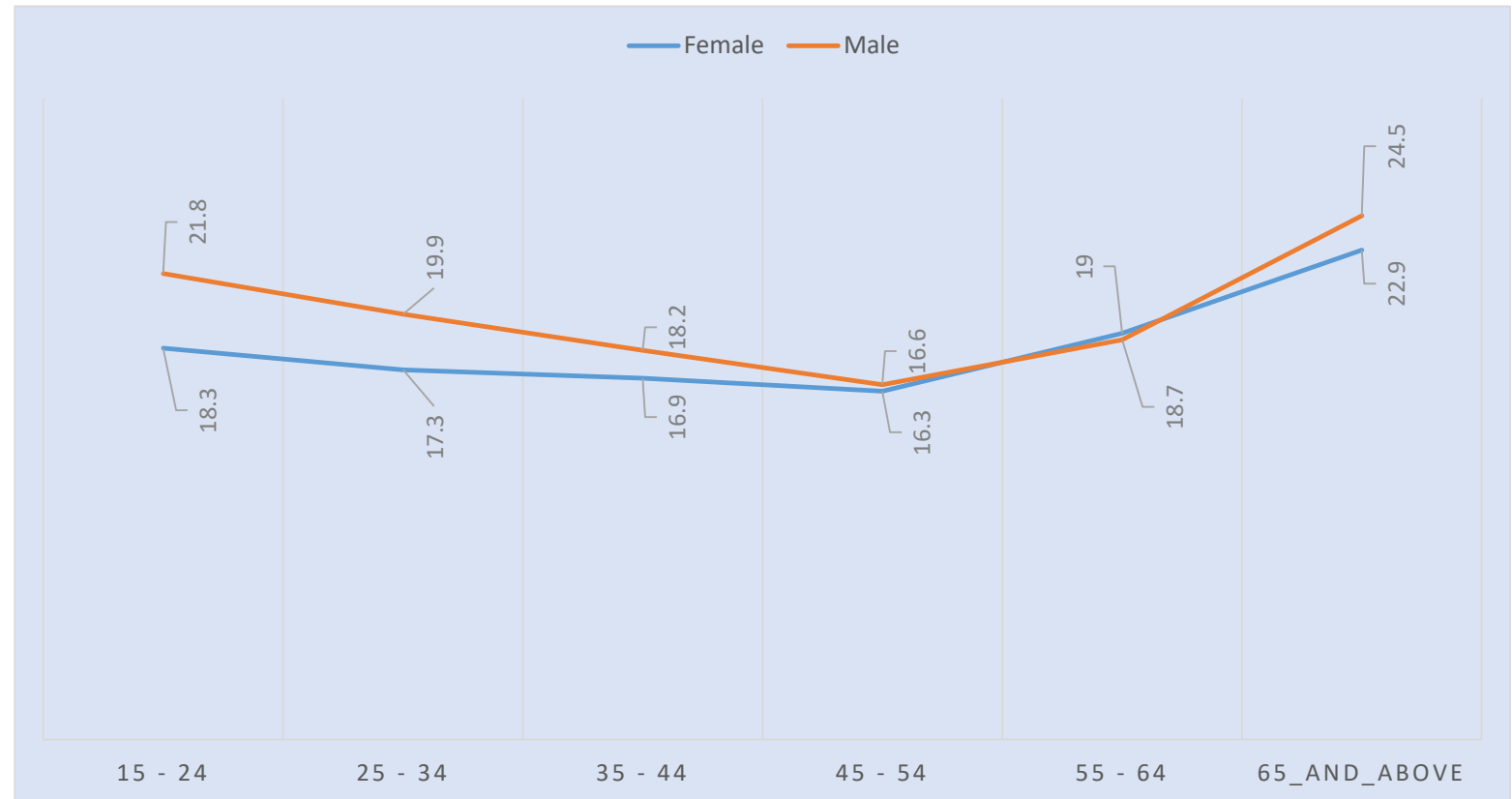
Work intensity ratio refers to the proportion of time spent on contracted work (employment, own use production of goods and learning) relative to time spent in committed work (household chores and unpaid care activities)

For males, each hour of committed work corresponded to 4.4 hours of contracted work per day. Overall, for every hour spent on committed work, females and males spent 1.6 hours on contracted work



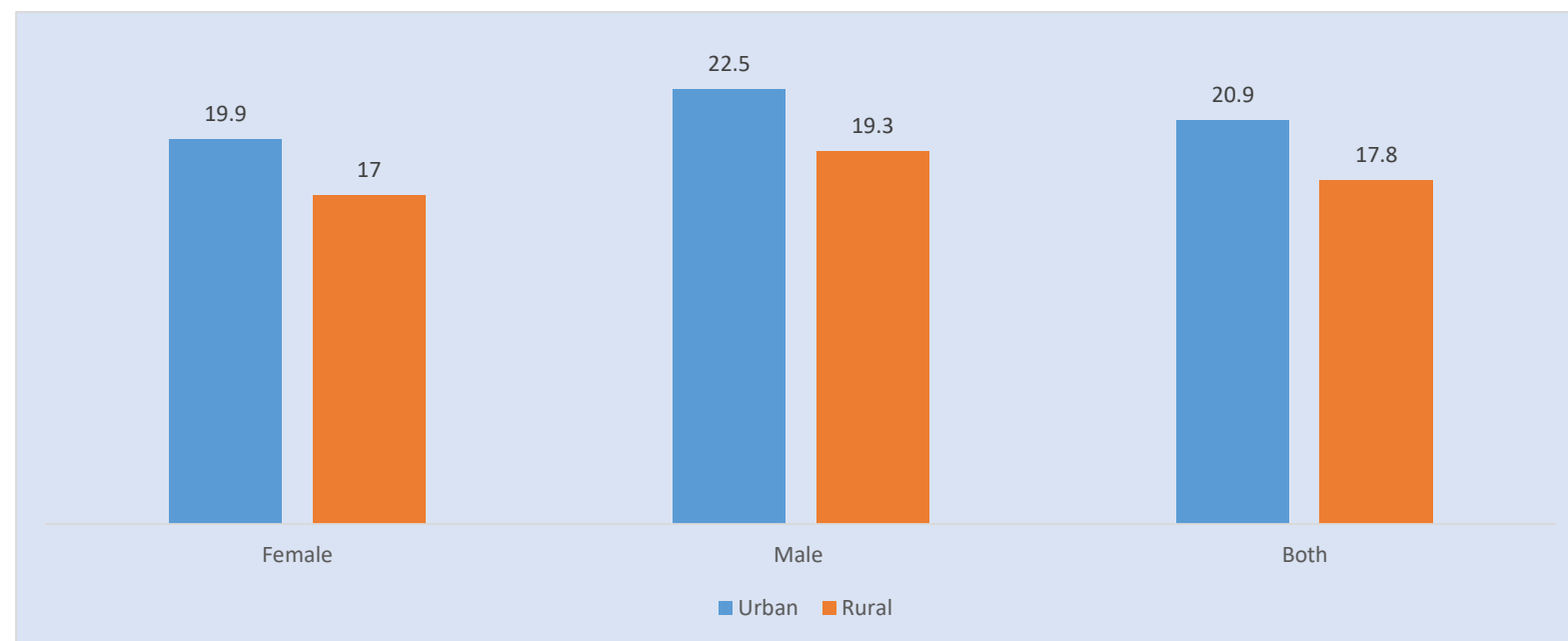
Leisure Time Share by Age Group and Sex (%)

Leisure time for female was consistently lower than that of males for all age groups except for the 55-64 year age group with 18.7 and 19 percent for females and males respectively.



Leisure Time Share by Rural/ Urban Area and Sex (%)

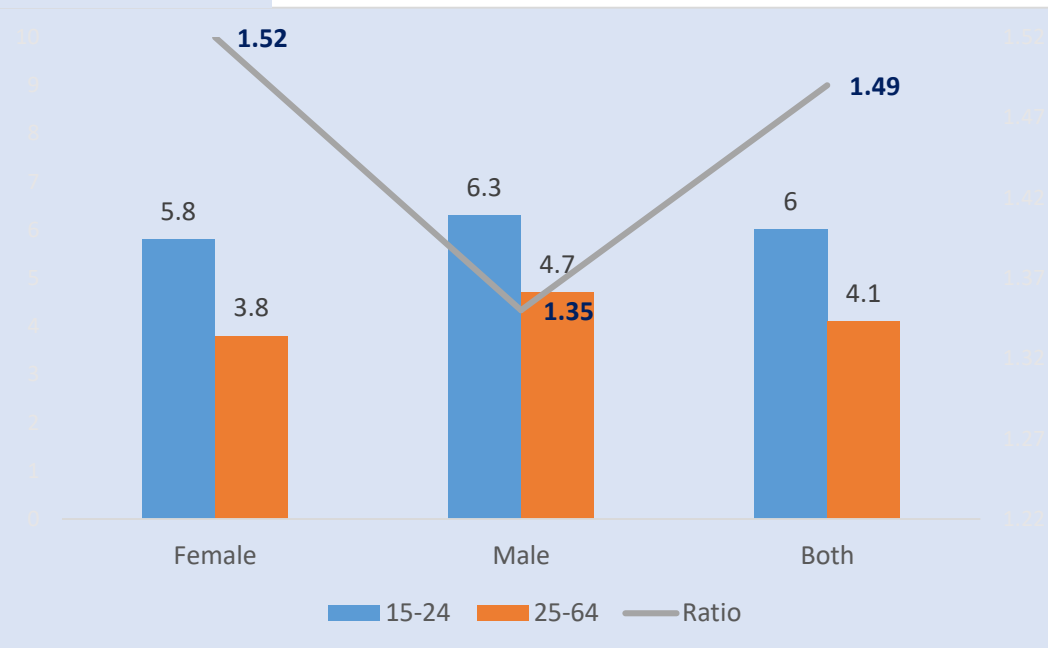
Females and males in rural areas generally had a lower share of their day dedicated to leisure compared to their urban counterparts



Youth Study Time Ratio

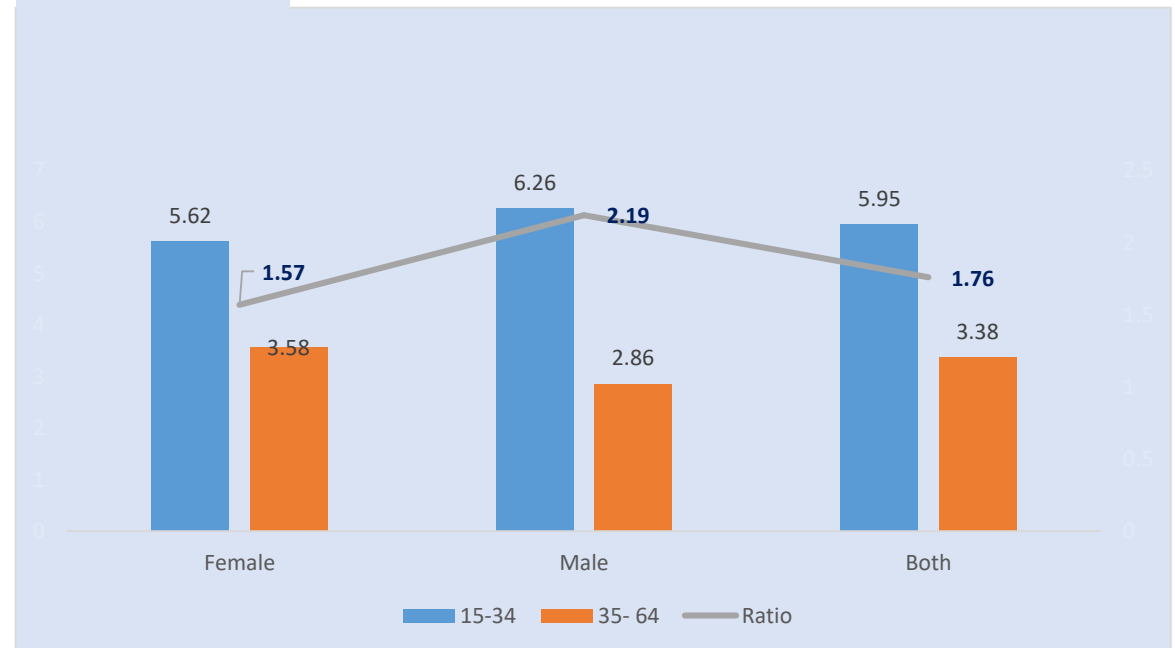
The youth study ratio measures the intensity of study or learning engagement among young persons compared to adults. Learning activities include: school attendance, homework or study, skills training, tertiary education or any learning-related activity classified under ICATUS

15 – 24 Years



Among the 15-24 age group, the youth study ratio was higher for females (1.52) than for males (1.35)

15 – 34 Years



Conversely, youth study ratio for age group 15-34 was dominated by males at 2.19 compared to females at 1.57



Thank You

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