



# LABOUR MARKET MONOGRAPH

2019–2020 NSDP Baseline Survey



Copyright © 2021 Vanuatu National Statistics Office

All rights for commercial, for-profit and not-for-profit reproduction or translation, in any form, rest with the Vanuatu National Statistics Office.

No part of this publication may be adapted, reproduced or translated, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means (electronic, photocopying or otherwise), except for the purposes of training, private study, review or research. Any reproduction, translation or adaptation or other above-mentioned allowed purposes must fully acknowledge the Vanuatu National Statistics Office.

Report Produced and Published by the Vanuatu National Statistics Office

Private Mail Bag 9019, Port Vila, Vanuatu  
Phone: (+678) 22111, 22110, 33040  
Email: stats@vanuatu.gov.vu  
Website: www.vnsso.gov.vu

Layout and design 2021: Pandanus Consulting  
Cover image courtesy of imagicity.com

## FOREWORD

Vanuatu implemented its fourth collection of household income and expenditure information as the core component of the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) Baseline Survey during the 12-month period from February 2019 to February 2020. The survey intended to provide baseline statistics for the Vanuatu NSDP, including key information on the national labour market. Vanuatu was among the first Pacific countries to implement the labour force module as part of this expanded Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), which is in line with the latest international standards on labour force statistics, and provides core data on the labour force.

Detailed information on the labour force is not updated quarterly or even annually in Vanuatu as it is in other countries, with specialized surveys of labour activity difficult to finance. Use of the expanded HIES to address needs of the People's Plan opened another opportunity for the VNSO to collect critical labour statistics linked to policy. The VNSO's 10-Year Data Collection Plan establishes a priority for a more in-depth labour force survey to be undertaken, however, attempts to finance the project have not yet succeeded. The data collected from the NSDP Baseline Survey yielded good quality data that is useful for targeted labour statistics.

This Labour Force Monograph presents the analysis of characteristics of demographics, economic activity, and labour force of Vanuatu, as captured before the outbreak of the COVID-19 global pandemic and effects of Tropical Cyclone Harold. The labour force survey is an essential tool to inform a wide range of national economic and social policies. Reporting Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators 8.5.2 (unemployment rate), SDG 9.2.2 (manufacturing employment), NSDP indicator ECO 4.6.1 (labour force participation), SDG 8.6.1 (youth NEET rate), and other SDG decent work indicators, the findings from this survey can also inform decision-making, reporting, and evaluation of the NSDP and SDGs.

The Government of Vanuatu and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management are proud to publish this Labour Market Monograph and remain committed to producing quality labour statistics available for all users.

Sincerely,



**Hon. Johnny Koanapo RASOU**

Minister of Finance and Economic Management  
Republic of Vanuatu



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The implementation of the NSDP Baseline Survey was a multi-agency national project. The Vanuatu National Statistical Office (VNSO) would like to extend our sincere thanks to all organizations and individuals who have contributed to making this survey a success in particular the Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination for playing a central role informing the content of the questionnaire.

We acknowledge and thank the Government of India for their support in financing this important collection of national data through the India-UN Development Partnership Fund. The NSDP Baseline Survey was among the first initiatives receiving support from the fund established by India in order to support, “Southern-owned and led, demand-driven, and transformational sustainable development projects across the developing world.” Our gratitude is extended to the UNDP Pacific for their role in facilitating and managing fund expenditure for the duration of the project period.

We acknowledge the technical support from the Pacific Community Statistics for Development Division (SPC SDD), specifically on sampling, questionnaire design and data processing, among them the late Mr Pierre Wong, Mr Bertrand Buffiere, Mr Toga Raikoti, Mr Michael Sharp, and Mr Luis de la Rua. We also acknowledge the International Labour Organization (ILO) for providing its technical support, including training on latest international standards on labour statistics, classifications, and definitions, particularly Mr Tite Habiyakare, Ms Yamei Du, Mr Felix Weidenkaff and Mr Christian Viegelahn.

We acknowledge with gratitude the great effort from the Survey Coordinator, Mr Harry Nalau, and our dedicated field staff for their perseverance in getting high response rates and maintaining data quality, and finally, we acknowledge the 4,549 households and their members that participated in the survey and provided valuable information to the Government of Vanuatu.

Please familiarize yourselves with the other analysis output from the NSDP Baseline Survey, in particular the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) Report, the Poverty Analysis Report, the Food Security Report, and the Well-being Report. Labour statistics are integrated into all of the NSDP Baseline Survey reporting to provide additional lenses to the issues of employment and productivity in Vanuatu.

Sincerely,



**Mr. KAP Calo Andy**  
Government Statistician  
Vanuatu National Statistics Office



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>Executive summary</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Demographic and socio-economic characteristics</b>	<b>12</b>
	2.1. Demographic characteristics of the population	12
<b>3</b>	<b>Labour force and labour force participation rate</b>	<b>15</b>
	3.1. Economic activity rate	15
	3.2. Labour force by educational attainment	18
	3.3. The population outside the labour force	20
<b>4</b>	<b>Employment</b>	<b>21</b>
	4.1. Employment and its main classifications	21
	4.2. Employment by economic activities	26
	4.3. Employment by status in employment	27
<b>5</b>	<b>Unemployment and labour underutilization</b>	<b>29</b>
	5.1. Unemployment rate	29
	5.2. Labour underutilization	31
	5.3. Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)	32
<b>6</b>	<b>Informal sector and informal employment</b>	<b>33</b>
	6.1. Employment in the informal sector	33
	6.2. Informal employment	35
<b>7</b>	<b>Hours of work</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Wages</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Main activity and subsistence work</b>	<b>43</b>
	9.1. Main activity status	43
	9.2. Main activity status and labour force status	47
	9.3. Subsistence work and household care	48
<b>10</b>	<b>Employment in sectors impacted by COVID-19</b>	<b>52</b>
	10.1. Sectoral overview of employment in the context of COVID-19	52
	10.2. Employment of vulnerable groups: women and youth	55
	<b>References</b>	<b>57</b>
	<b>Appendices</b>	<b>58</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1	Key Figure	8
Table 1.2	Selected indicators of the labour force by sex	9
Table 1.3	Selected indicators of the labour force by regions	10
Table 2.1	Population by sex, age, education and disability status	12
Table 2.2	Population by regions, age and education	13
Table 3.1	Working-age population and labour force by sex	15
Table 3.2	Working-age population and labour force by regions	16
Table 3.3	Working-age population outside the labour force by age groups, and by educational attainment	20
Table 4.1	Employment by sex	21
Table 4.2	Employment by regions	23
Table 4.3	Population in employment, unemployment or outside the labour force, by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019	25
Table 5.1	Unemployment by sex	29
Table 5.2	Unemployment by regions	30
Table 5.3	Labour underutilization by sex	31
Table 5.4	Labour underutilization by regions	32
Table 5.5	Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by sex	32
Table 5.6	Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by regions	32
Table 6.1	Profile of employment in the informal sector	34
Table 6.2	Profile of informal employment	36
Table 6.3	Joint distribution of employment in the informal sector and informal employment, Vanuatu, 2019	38
Table 6.4	Top three occupations which have highest numbers of employed persons with a formal job in the informal sector	38
Table 7.1	Average actual hours of work per week by sex	39
Table 7.2	Average hours of work per week by regions	39
Table 7.3	Distribution of hours of work per week by sex	40
Table 7.4	Distribution of hours of work per week by regions	40
Table 8.1	Average monthly wage distribution, main job, by sex	41
Table 8.2	Average monthly wage distribution, main job, by regions	41
Table 9.1	Main activity status by sex (% in the working-age population)	43
Table 9.2	Main activity status by age groups (% in the working-age population)	45
Table 9.3	Main activity status by regions (% in the working-age population)	46
Table 9.4a	Main activity status by labour force status classification (% in the working-age population)	47
Table 9.4b	Main activity status by labour force status classification (% in the working-age population)	47
Table 9.5	Subsistence work and household care by sex (% in the working-age population)	49
Table 9.6	Subsistence work and household care by regions (% in the working-age population)	50
Table 10.1	Employment by sector, COVID-19 disruption risk and share of informal employment	53
Table 10.2	Employment in the tourism sector by sub-sector by sex	53
Table 10.3	Employment in the tourism sector by sub-sectors by regions	54
Table 10.4	Employment in the COVID-19 affected sectors by sex, and by main age groups	55
Table 10.5	Employment in the Covid-19 affected sectors as a share of total employment by sex, and by main age groups	56
Table A.3.1	Sample size by sex	64
Table A.3.2	Sample size by regions	65
Table A.3.3	Sampling errors – employed population	67
Table A.3.4	Sampling errors – labour force participation rate	65
Table A.3.5	Sampling errors – unemployment rate	68
Table A.3.6	Sampling errors – time-related underemployment rate	69
Table A.3.7	Sampling errors – youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)	70
Table A.3.8	Sampling errors – potential labour force	71
Table A.3.9	Sampling errors – informal sector working population	71
Table A.3.10	Sampling errors – informal employment population	72
Table A.4.1	Key indicators of the labour market (KILM) by sex and age group	73
Table A.4.2	Key indicators of the labour market (KILM) by regions	74
Table A.4.3	Main activity status by sex (number)	76
Table A.4.4	Main activity status by regions (number)	76
Table A.4.5	Subsistence work and household care by sex (number)	77
Table A.4.6	Subsistence work and household care by regions (number)	78
Table A.4.7	Summary of SDG indicators from labour force module of HIES 2019-2020	79

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1	Population pyramid by age, Vanuatu, 2019	14
Figure 3.1	Labour force participation rate (%) by sex and age group, Vanuatu, 2019	17
Figure 3.2	Labour force participation rate (%) by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019	18
Figure 3.3	Distribution of labour force by educational attainment (%), Vanuatu, 2019	18
Figure 3.4	Labour force by sex and educational attainment (%), Vanuatu, 2019	19
Figure 3.5	Labour force participation rate (%) by educational attainment and sex, Vanuatu, 2019	19
Figure 4.1	Share of population in employment, unemployment or outside the labour force (%) as of working-age population, by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019	25
Figure 4.2	Employment by economic sector (% distribution), Vanuatu, 2019	26
Figure 4.3	Employment by economic sector and sex, Vanuatu, 2019	26
Figure 4.4	Status in employment by sex, Vanuatu, 2019	27
Figure 4.5	Distribution of labour force (%) by main activity status, sex and regions	27
Figure 5.1	Unemployed persons aged 15 years and above and unemployment rate (%), by age group and sex, Vanuatu, 2019	30
Figure 5.2	Unemployment rate (%) by sex, geographic coverage and educational attainment, Vanuatu, 2019	31
Figure 6.1	Employment in the informal sector by sex, age group, educational attainment, and economic sector, Vanuatu, 2019	35
Figure 6.2	Informal employment sector by sex, age group, educational attainment, and economic sector, Vanuatu, 2019	37
Figure 7.1	Actual hours of work per week by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019	39
Figure 8.1	Average monthly wage (in Vanuatu Vatu) distribution by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019	42
Figure 9.1	Main activity status by sex, Vanuatu, 2019	44
Figure 9.2	Main activity status by age group, Vanuatu, 2019	45
Figure 9.3	Main activity status by geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019	46
Figure 9.4	Numbers of male and female involved in subsistence work and household care by age group, Vanuatu, 2019	51
Figure 9.5	Numbers of male and female involved in subsistence work and household/family care combined by age group, Vanuatu, 2019	51
Figure 10.1	Number of male and female employed in high-risk sectors	56
Figure A.1	Components of labour underutilization relating to insufficient labour absorption	59

## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>COVID-19</b>	Coronavirus Disease 2019
<b>EPR</b>	Employment to Population Ratio
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>HIES</b>	Household Income Expenditure Survey
<b>ICLS</b>	International Conference of Labour Statisticians
<b>ICSE-93</b>	Revision of the International Classification of Status in Employment 1993
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>ISCO-08</b>	International Standard Classification of Occupations 2008
<b>ISIC Rev.4</b>	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities Revision 4
<b>KILM</b>	Key Indicators of Labour Market
<b>LFPR</b>	Labour Force Participation Rate
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>WAP</b>	Working-age Population



# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Vanuatu implemented its fourth household income and expenditure survey (HIES) during a 12-month period from February 2019 to February 2020. The survey intended to provide all major baseline data for the Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP), including on the Vanuatu labour market.

In 2019 the ILO and SPC Statistics for Development Division (SPC/SDD) developed a standard labour force module for inclusion in all HIES implemented in the Pacific island countries. The module was approved by the Pacific Statistics Methods Board (PSMB) in May 2019. Vanuatu was among the first countries to implement the labour force module, which is in line with the latest international standards on labour force statistics, and provides core data on the labour force.

This labour force module reports key characteristics on the country's employment-related statistics, with an aim to present a comprehensive labour market and socio-economic background. In light of the COVID-19 crisis, the 2019 HIES results can be used as the critical baseline data to inform policymakers on economic recovery strategies.

## Summary of key labour market indicators

The total population in Vanuatu is estimated to be 295,495 persons, of whom, 150,681 are male and 144,814 are female. 183,460 persons are at their working age (aged 15 and above), representing 62.1 percent of the total population. 92,177 persons are in the labour force, marking an average labour force participating rate (LFPR) of 50.2 percent. The LFPR for male is 54.2 percent, and the LFPR for female is 46.3 percent.

Among the labour force, 84,859 are in employment. Youth (aged 15-24) make up 15.1 percent of the total employed population. Meanwhile, 66.9 percent of employed persons are informally employed. The average unemployment rate is 7.9 percent, with male unemployment rate 6.7 percent, and female 9.4 percent. The Youth unemployment rate is 18.0 percent.

Key labour force indicators are presented in Table 1.1, Table 1.2, and Table 1.3.

**Table 1.1 Key Figure**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Working-age population	92,311	91,149	183,460
Labour force	50,010	42,167	92,177
Employment	46,637	38,223	84,859
Labour force participation rate (%)	54.2	46.3	50.2
Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment (%)	4.1	5.1	4.5
Unemployment rate (%)	6.7	9.4	7.9

By age			
15-24	16.1	20.1	18.0
25-64	5.2	7.2	6.1
65+	0.9	1.4	1.1
<i>By disability status (% distribution)</i>			
With any disability	6.8	9.5	8.1
No disability	5.3	6.6	5.8
Composite rate of labour underutilization (%)	29.6	29.6	29.6
Youth unemployment rate, aged 15-24 (%)	16.1	20.1	18.0
Informal employment rate (%)	65.5	68.7	66.9

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 1.2 Selected indicators of the labour force by sex**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Population, aged 15+	92,311	91,149	183,460
Labour force	50,010	42,167	92,177
<i>By education (% distribution)</i>			
Less than primary or none	3.6	4.1	3.8
Completed primary	71.8	70.7	71.3
Completed secondary	19.4	21.0	20.1
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	4.6	3.7	4.2
Level not stated	0.5	0.6	0.6
Labour force participation rate (%)	54.2	46.3	50.2
Employment	46,637	38,223	84,859
<i>By economic industry (% distribution)</i>			
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	42.1	31.3	37.3
Industry	11.5	5.7	8.9
Services	43.1	57.1	49.4
Economic activity not classified	3.3	5.9	4.4
<i>By employment status (% distribution)</i>			
Employees	50.0	42.7	46.7
Employers	4.0	1.6	2.9
Own-account workers	40.6	48.3	44.0
Contributing family workers	1.7	1.8	1.8
Workers not classifiable by status	3.7	5.6	4.6
Share of informal employment (%)	65.5	68.7	66.9

Labour underutilization	17,017	14,759	31,775
Time-related underemployment	8,342	5,286	13,627
Unemployment	3,373	3,944	7,317
Potential labour force	4,413	4,629	9,042
Labour underutilization rate (%)	29.6	29.6	29.6
Time-related underemployment rate	16.7	12.5	14.8
Unemployment rate	6.7	9.4	7.9
Potential labour force rate	8.1	9.9	8.9

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Note: percentages might not add up to 100 percent due to rounding. This applies to all tables throughout this report.

Time-related underemployment	321	1,357	2,486	1,777	2,317	1,577	3,506	287	13,627
Unemployment	103	81	1,603	262	928	962	3,088	290	7,317
Potential labour force	101	392	2,709	2,220	767	356	880	1,616	9,042
Labour underutilization rate (%)	23.6	27.4	51.0	41.4	31.1	11.2	34.0	27.4	29.6
Time-related underemployment rate	15.1	21.6	23.4	22.0	19.1	6.2	16.6	4.5	14.8
Unemployment rate	4.8	1.3	15.1	3.3	7.7	3.8	14.6	4.5	7.9
Potential labour force rate	4.5	5.9	20.3	21.6	6.0	1.4	4.0	20.2	8.9

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 1.3 Selected indicators of the labour force by regions**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
Population, aged 15+	6,576	10,549	26,056	20,312	25,914	41,371	31,590	21,092	183,460
Labour force	2,125	6,275	10,621	8,068	12,115	25,491	21,089	6,393	92,177
<i>By education (% distribution)</i>									
Less than primary or none	9.8	0.8	6.8	9.3	1.3	1.1	1.4	16.6	3.8
Completed primary	73.9	63.5	76.8	77.6	87.6	59.4	74.2	67.3	71.3
Completed secondary	14.4	28.5	15.5	10.5	10.0	29.6	20.1	15.1	20.1
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	0.9	6.0	0.6	1.0	1.0	9.4	3.6	1.0	4.2
Level not stated	1.1	1.1	0.3	1.5	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.6
Labour force participation rate (%)	32.3	59.5	40.8	39.7	46.8	61.6	66.8	30.3	50.2
Employment	2,023	6,194	9,018	7,805	11,187	24,528	18,001	6,102	84,859
<i>By economic industry (% distribution)</i>									
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	61.4	10.4	62.6	69.7	71.7	3.6	36.4	52.4	37.3
Industry	8.1	14.6	3.0	5.8	2.6	12.1	10.1	11.1	8.9
Services	27.2	73.6	29.3	18.5	22.1	80.8	47.5	30.8	49.4
Economic activity not classified	3.4	1.5	5.2	6.0	3.6	3.5	6.0	5.7	4.4
<i>By employment status (% distribution)</i>									
Employees	23.4	78.9	38.2	14.7	20.1	69.8	46.2	32.5	46.7
Employers	3.5	3.7	3.5	4.9	1.3	2.5	2.8	4.1	2.9
Own-account workers	66.3	16.6	50.2	67.8	74.1	19.7	47.3	58.0	44.0
Contributing family workers	1.4	0.0	2.2	1.1	1.2	2.3	2.0	2.1	1.8
Workers not classifiable by status	5.5	0.8	6.0	11.5	3.2	5.8	1.7	3.3	4.6
Share of informal employment (%)	88.6	46.3	80.4	91.8	87.8	38.7	73.6	84.8	66.9
Labour underutilization	525	1,829	6,799	4,259	4,012	2,895	7,474	2,193	29,986

# 2 DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Chapter 2 presents the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the Vanuatu population. It contains the statistics of the total population in the country, population by different age groups, education attainment, and disability incidence by sex (table 2.1) and by regions (table 2.2).

## 2.1. Demographic characteristics of the population

Vanuatu has a resident population of 295,495 in 2019, of whom, 150,681 are male, and 144,814 are female (Table 2.1). Most populations (73.7 percent) live in rural areas, while only 26.3 percent live in urban areas (Luganville and Port Vila in Table 2.2).

In terms of educational attainment, Table 2.1 indicates 191,796 persons (64.9 percent) have completed primary level, 32,106 persons (10.9 percent) have completed secondary education, and 4,889 persons (1.7 percent) have reached the tertiary level. Males have relatively higher education attainment than females at the tertiary level; 1.9 percent of males reached the tertiary level, while only 1.4 percent of females reached the same level.

With regards to the overall incidence of disability in Vanuatu, 16,410 persons (6.4 percent) were reported as having some sort of disability in 2019; with males reporting a slightly higher incidence of disability (6.8 percent) than females (5.9 percent).

**Table 2.1 Population by sex, age, education and disability status**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Total population	150,681	144,814	295,495
<i>By 5-year age group</i>			
0-4	19,771	17,707	37,478
5-9	20,072	18,743	38,815
10-14	18,528	17,214	35,742
15-19	14,340	14,140	28,480
20-24	11,941	13,241	25,182
25-29	11,816	12,438	24,254
30-34	10,682	11,134	21,816
35-39	8,586	8,583	17,169
40-44	7,874	7,520	15,394

45-49	6,558	6,025	12,583
50-54	5,847	5,256	11,103
55-59	4,540	3,984	8,524
60-64	3,269	3,186	6,455
65+	6,857	5,643	12,500
<i>By education attainment</i>			
Less than primary or none	22,125	21,494	43,618
Completed primary	97,555	94,241	191,796
Completed secondary	16,114	15,993	32,106
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	2,897	1,993	4,889
Level not stated	11,991	11,094	23,085
<i>By disability status aged 5 years and over (?)</i>			
With any disability	8,958	7,452	16,410
No disability	121,952	119,655	241,607

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 2.2 Population by regions, age and education**

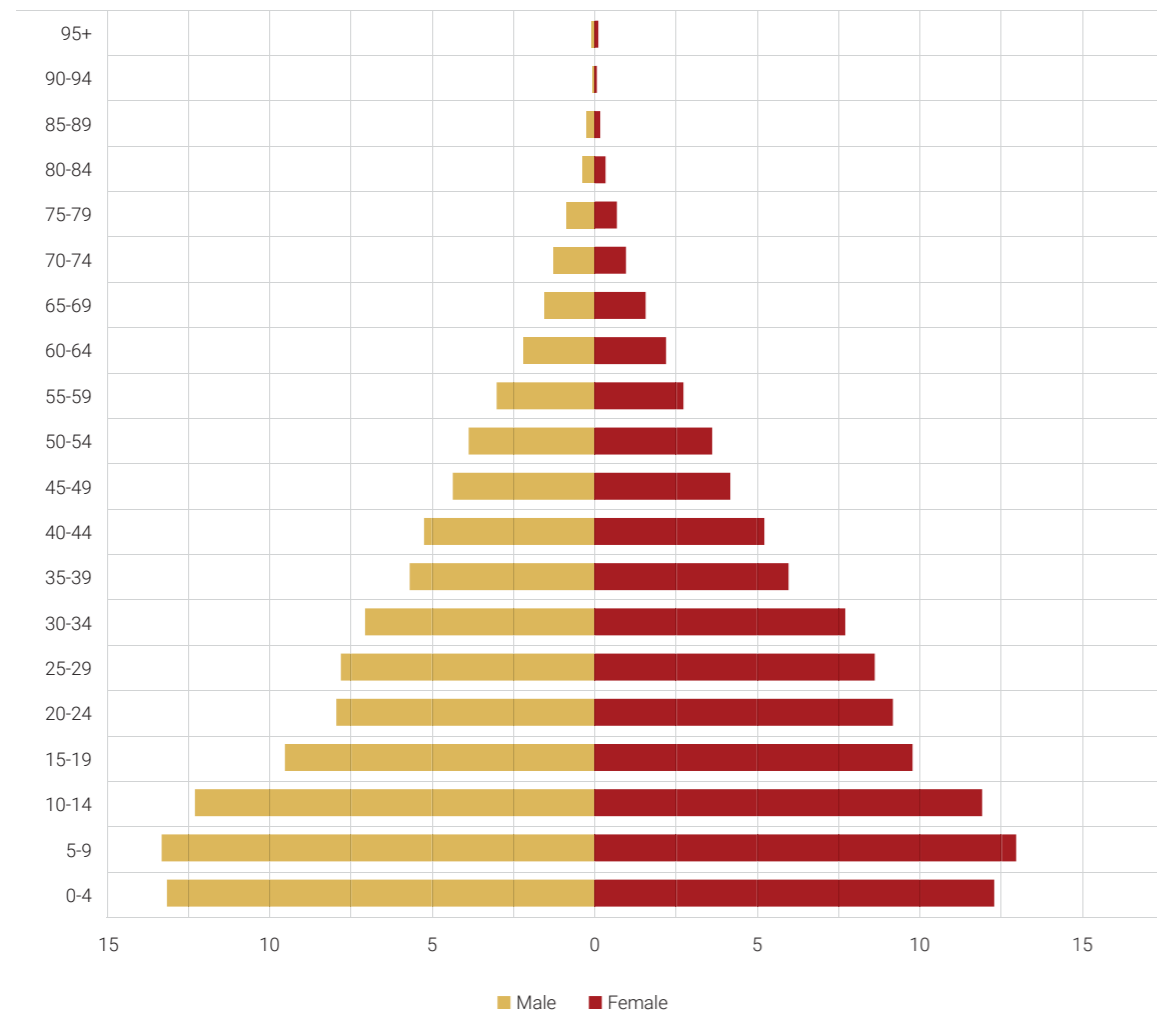
	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
Total population	11,024	16,359	43,217	34,557	42,884	61,385	47,754	38,315	295,495
<i>By 5-year age group</i>									
0-4	1,504	1,937	5,996	4,469	5,178	7,723	5,338	5,333	37,478
5-9	1,533	1,924	6,029	5,024	6,009	6,766	5,592	5,938	38,815
10-14	1,411	1,948	5,137	4,752	5,783	5,526	5,233	5,952	35,742
15-19	1,162	1,403	4,323	3,622	4,378	5,014	4,025	4,553	28,480
20-24	940	1,597	4,132	2,659	3,153	6,130	3,864	2,707	25,182
25-29	816	1,547	3,432	2,306	2,614	6,375	4,899	2,265	24,254
30-34	768	1,104	3,063	2,172	2,756	5,467	4,098	2,388	21,816
35-39	614	957	2,511	1,804	2,483	4,097	3,099	1,604	17,169
40-44	490	782	2,288	1,655	2,248	3,555	2,668	1,708	15,394
45-49	433	794	1,579	1,379	1,825	3,040	2,204	1,329	12,583
50-54	399	730	1,322	1,301	1,614	2,689	1,899	1,149	11,103
55-59	295	635	944	987	1,341	1,706	1,720	896	8,524
60-64	210	356	798	751	1,031	1,284	1,227	798	6,455
65+	449	645	1,663	1,676	2,471	2,013	1,888	1,695	12,500
<i>By education attainment</i>									
Less than primary or none	2,264	1,554	7,046	6,454	4,580	5,748	5,540	10,432	43,618

Completed primary	7,170	10,375	28,959	23,167	32,743	34,920	32,065	22,398	191,796
Completed secondary	563	2,795	3,381	1,999	2,551	12,593	6,039	2,186	32,106
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	19	424	145	192	205	2,922	894	88	4,889
Level not stated	1,009	1,211	3,686	2,745	2,805	5,202	3,215	3,212	23,085

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

The distribution of the total population by 5-year age band is based on the actual data collected in the HIES. Figure 2.1 indicates the size distribution of the age categories by males and females, respectively.

Figure 2.1 Population pyramid by age, Vanuatu, 2019



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

The population pyramid shows that Vanuatu has a young population, with a large base and a small top. The demographic structure of the country is still at the early dividend stage<sup>1</sup>, while this means a relatively low share of the working-age population at the present, it also suggests a growing labour force in the future.

<sup>1</sup> Early dividend stage refers to a country with total fertility rate below 4 and increasing working-age population share (ILO, 2018).

## 3 LABOUR FORCE AND LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

Chapter 3 presents statistics of the working-age population, labour force, and population outside of the labour force by sex (Table 3.1) and by regions (Table 3.2). This chapter also reveals information about the labour force by age groups and by educational attainment. The labour force comprises all persons aged 15 years and above who were found either in employment (with a job for pay or as self-employed in a business), or as unemployed.

### 3.1. Economic activity rate

The total working-age population (age 15+) in Vanuatu is 183,460, representing 62.1 percent of the total population, of whom 92,177 are in the labour force (previously known as the economically active population).

Table 3.1 shows the overall labour force participation rate (LFPR) in Vanuatu is 50.2 percent, with males (54.2 percent) LFPR higher than females (46.3 percent).

Table 3.2 shows Shefa (66.8 percent), Port Vila (61.6 percent), and Luganville have the highest LFPR in the country, while Tefea (30.3 percent) and Torba (32.3 percent) have the lowest LFPR in the country.

Table 3.1 Working-age population and labour force by sex

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Working-age population, aged 15+	92,311	91,149	183,460
Labour force	50,010	42,167	92,177
<i>By age group</i>			
15-24	8,021	7,590	15,612
25-64	40,012	33,355	73,366
65+	1,977	1,222	3,199
<i>By education attainment</i>			
Less than primary or none	1,812	1,725	3,537
Completed primary	35,909	29,799	65,708
Completed secondary	9,713	8,837	18,550
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	2,303	1,570	3,873
Level not stated	273	237	510
Outside labour force	42,301	48,982	91,283



Labour force participation rate (%)	54.2	46.3	50.2
<b>By age group</b>			
15-24	30.5	27.7	29.1
25-64	67.6	57.4	62.5
65+	28.8	21.7	25.6
<b>By education attainment</b>			
Less than primary or none	29.9	22.4	25.7
Completed primary	53.8	45.9	49.9
Completed secondary	60.6	55.4	58.0
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	79.5	78.8	79.2
Level not stated	46.9	35.4	40.7

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 3.2 Working-age population and labour force by regions**

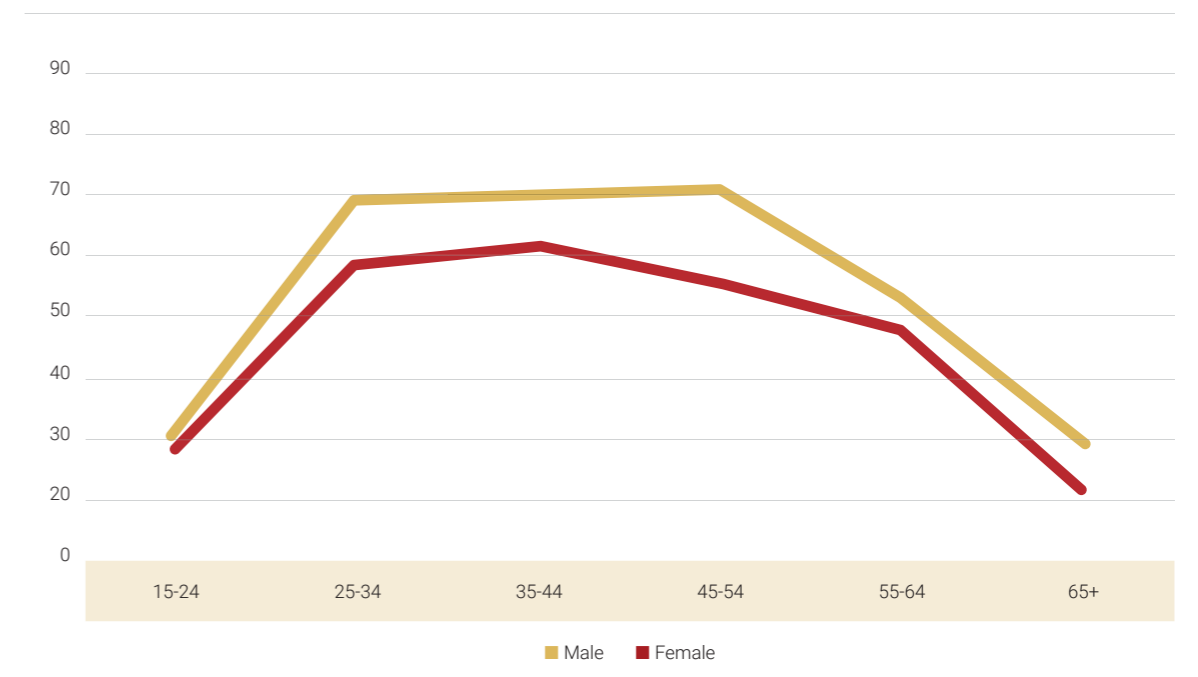
	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
Working-age population, aged 15+	6,576	10,549	26,056	20,312	25,914	41,371	31,590	21,092	183,460
Labour force	2,125	6,275	10,621	8,068	12,115	25,491	21,089	6,393	92,177
<b>By age group</b>									
15-24	394	1,039	2,343	1,450	2,092	3,588	3,784	922	15,612
25-64	16,52	5,040	7,952	6,216	9,520	21,052	16,746	5,188	73,366
65+	79	196	326	401	504	851	559	282	3,199
<b>By education attainment</b>									
Less than primary or none	208	50	725	750	155	289	300	1,060	3,537
Completed primary	15,70	3,987	8,161	6,264	10,616	15,153	15,657	4,299	65,708
Completed secondary	306	1,790	1,646	848	1208	7,540	4,245	966	18,550
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	19	376	61	83	116	2,388	762	67	3,873
Level not stated	22	72	28	122	20	121	125	0	510
Outside labour force	4,451	4,274	15,434	12,244	13,799	15,880	10,502	14,699	91,283
Labour force participation rate (%)	32.3	59.5	40.8	39.7	46.8	61.6	66.8	30.3	50.2
<b>By age group</b>									
15-24	18.7	34.6	27.7	23.1	27.8	32.2	48.0	12.7	29.1
25-64	41.0	73.0	49.9	50.3	59.8	74.6	76.8	42.7	62.5
65+	17.7	30.5	19.6	23.9	20.4	42.3	29.6	16.6	25.6
<b>By education attainment</b>									
Less than primary or none	19.1	37.9	25.9	28.0	22.9	52.1	37.7	21.1	25.7

Completed primary	33.0	56.3	41.6	41.1	47.3	60.3	66.3	31.4	49.9
Completed secondary	54.3	64.2	48.7	42.4	47.6	60.3	70.5	44.4	58.0
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	100.0	88.7	42.4	43.4	56.3	81.7	85.2	76.5	79.2
Level not stated	16.2	60.5	20.6	63.2	39.8	51.6	45.3	0.0	40.7

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

The LFPR in Vanuatu has an inverse-U shape (Figure 3.1), and it signifies the labour force is concentrated among persons between 25 and 55. Male has higher LFPR than female in all age groups.

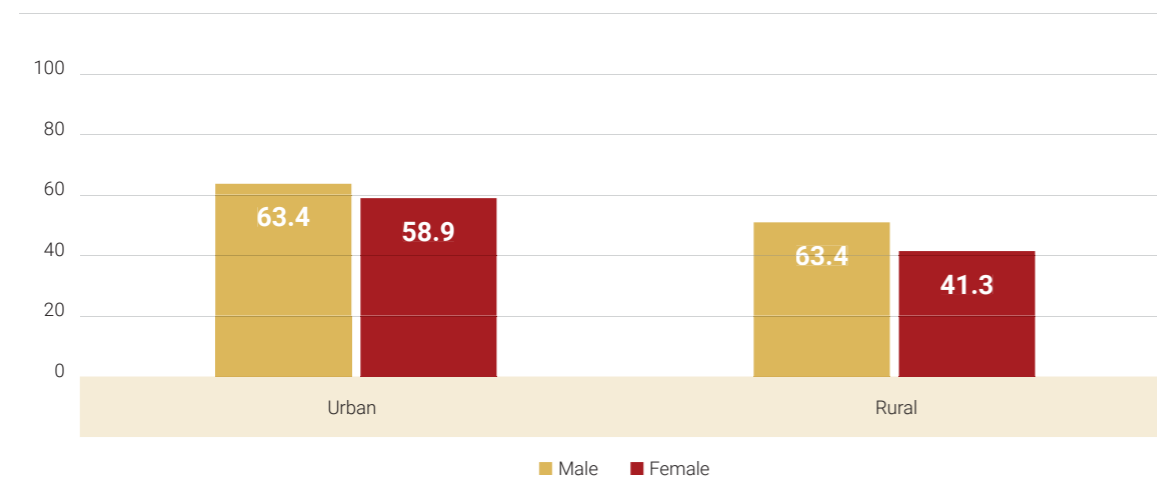
**Figure 3.1 Labour force participation rate (%) by sex and age group, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

The LFPR in urban areas is 61.2 percent, which is considerably higher than in rural areas (45.9 percent). Different geographic coverage also shows salient gender gaps in labour force participation. In urban areas, 63.4 percent of male participates in labour force, comparing to 58.9 percent of female. In rural areas, 50.5 percent of male participates in labour force, while only 41.3 percent of females are engaged in labour market oriented activities for pay or profit (Figure 3.2). Many of these women may however still be involved in other economic activities to produce goods mainly for the household or family consumption, and this is tentatively captured in chapter nine.

**Figure 3.2 Labour force participation rate (%) by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019**

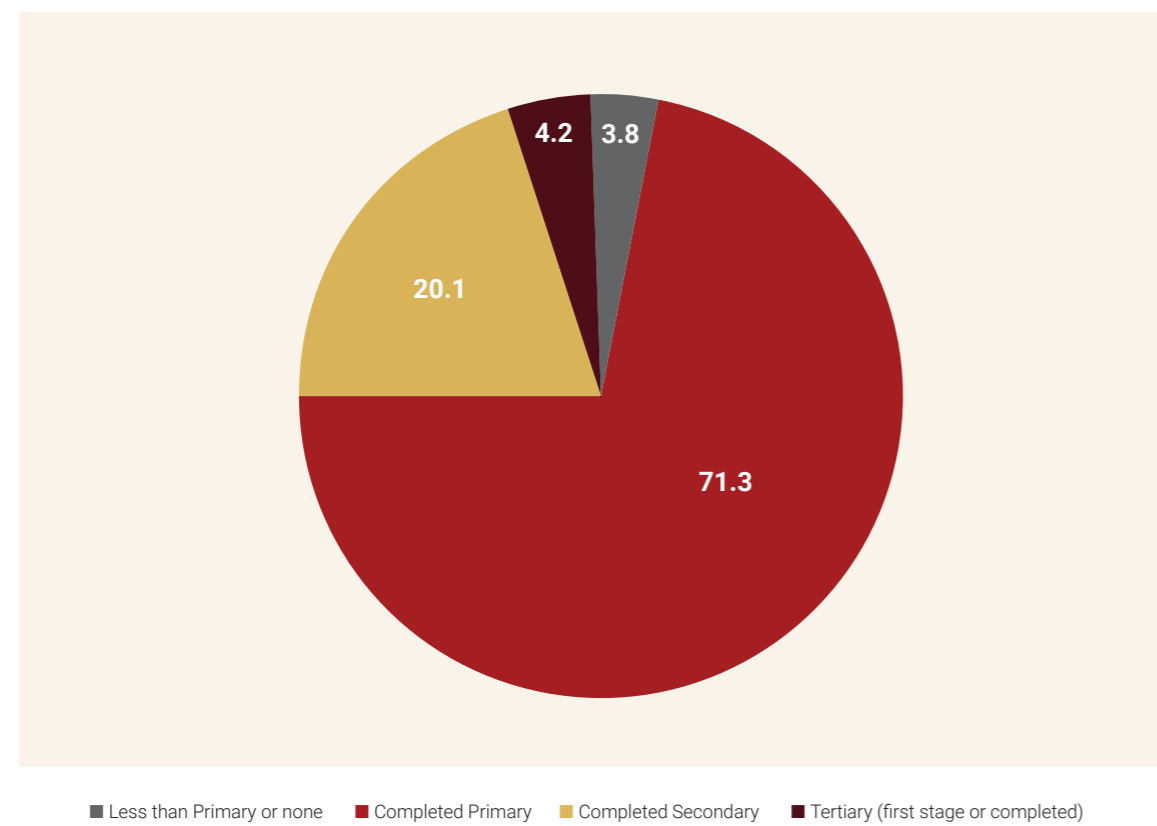


Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

### 3.2. Labour force by educational attainment

Among the labour force population, three quarters only received primary education or less (75.1 percent), 20.1 percent have completed secondary education and only 4.2 percent reached tertiary education (Figure 3.3).

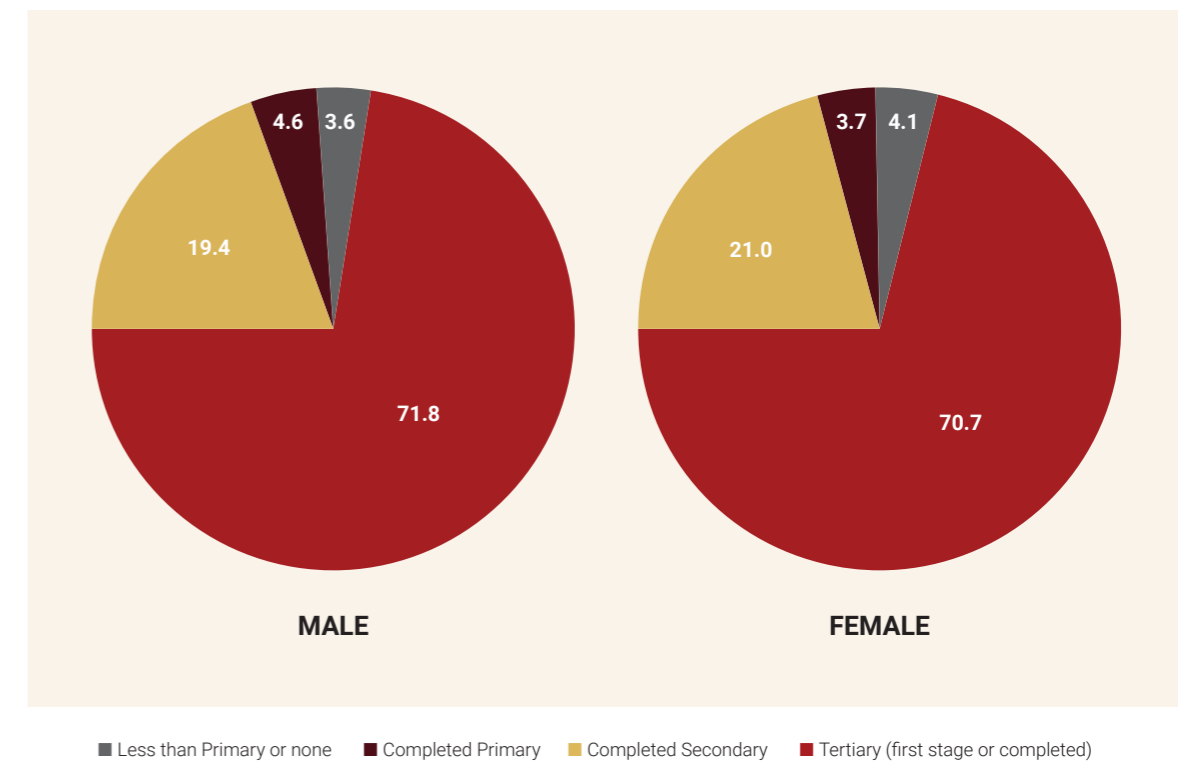
**Figure 3.3 Distribution of labour force by educational attainment (%), Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Figure 3.4 shows there is no striking gender gap in terms of educational attainment in labour force. Overall, 95.8 percent of males in labour force has completed at least primary education, comparing to 95.3 percent of female. Meanwhile, 4.6 percent of the male labour force has reached tertiary education, and is slightly higher than the share of the female labour force (3.7 percent).

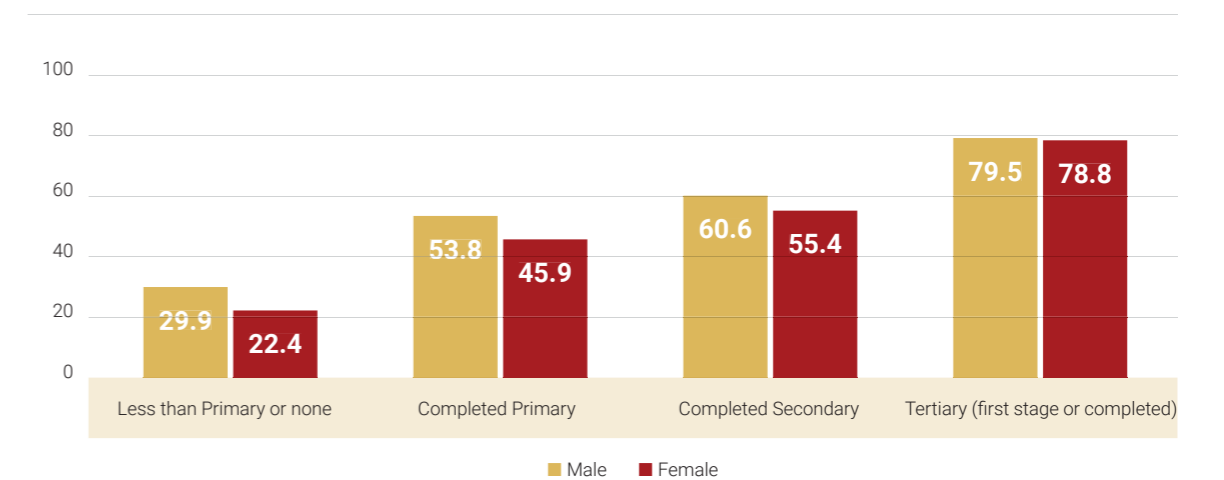
**Figure 3.4 Labour force by sex and educational attainment (%), Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

However, the LFPR varies by educational attainment and sex. The higher the educational attainment is, the higher the LFPR is - with 79.2 percent for tertiary level, 58 percent for secondary level, 49.9 percent for primary level, and only 25.7 percent for less than primary level. Males participation rate is higher than females across all education levels (Figure 3.4).

**Figure 3.5 Labour force participation rate (%) by educational attainment and sex, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

### 3.3. The population outside the labour force

The population outside the labour force is defined as people who are neither in employment nor in unemployment, including students, old age, and those engaged in unpaid domestic duties. As shown in Table 3.3, 91,283 persons of working age (or 49.8 percent) in Vanuatu are outside the labour force, including 42,301 men (45.8 percent) and 48,982 women (53.7 percent). Women are more likely to be outside the labour force.

By educational attainment, it appears the persons with higher education are less likely to be outside of labour force. On average, 74.3 percent of persons with less than primary education are outside labour force, comparing to 20.8 percent of persons with tertiary education are outside labour force.

**Table 3.3 Working-age population outside the labour force by age groups, and by educational attainment**

	# of persons			% of total working-age population		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Outside labour force	42,301	48,982	91,283	45.8	53.7	49.8
<i>By age group</i>						
15-24	18,260	19,791	38,050	69.5	72.3	70.9
25-64	19,161	24,771	43,932	32.4	42.6	37.5
65+	4,881	4,421	9,301	71.2	78.3	74.4
<i>By education attainment</i>						
Less than primary or none	4,244	5,965	10,209	70.1	77.6	74.3
Completed primary	30,827	35,055	65,882	46.2	54.1	50.1
Completed secondary	6,327	7,107	13,434	39.4	44.6	42.0
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	593	423	1,016	20.5	21.2	20.8
Level not stated	309	432	741	53.1	64.6	59.3

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

## 4 EMPLOYMENT

Chapter 4 presents the statistics of the employed population by sex (Table 4.1) and by regions (Table 4.2). The employed population is defined as all persons of working-age (15 years and above) who, during a specified period (seven days prior to the survey), was engaged in any activities to produce goods or provide services for pay or profit. Employment captures persons engaged in jobs in exchange for pay, or in market oriented activities as self-employed. Persons involved in own-use production of goods, i.e. producing goods only or mainly for family consumption, are excluded from employment, as per the latest labour statistics standards from the 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ILO, 2013).

### 4.1. Employment and its main classifications

Table 4.1 shows that of 183,460 working-age population in Vanuatu, 84,859 are in employment (46.3 percent); of whom, 46,637 are male (55 percent) and 38,223 are female (45 percent). 12,793 or 15.1 percent of the employed population are youth (15-24 years old). The largest share (81.2 percent) of employed persons are between age 25 and 64, and 3.7 percent of the employed population is at the age group 65 or above.

**Table 4.1 Employment by sex**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Employment, aged 15+	46,637	38,223	84,859
<i>By age group (% distribution)</i>			
15-24	14.4	15.9	15.1
25-64	81.4	81.0	81.2
65+	4.2	3.2	3.7
<i>By disability status (% distribution)</i>			
With any disability	6.8	5.3	6.1
No disability	93.2	94.7	93.9
<i>By economic industry (% distribution)</i>			
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	42.1	31.3	37.3
Industry	11.5	5.7	8.9
Manufacturing	4.1	5.1	4.5
Construction	6.8	0.3	3.9
Mining and quarrying; Electricity, gas and water supply	0.6	0.3	0.5
Services	43.1	57.1	49.4

Wholesale and retail trade	7.0	20.7	13.2
Hotels and accommodations	1.0	0.8	0.9
Restaurants, food and beverage services	5.1	6.2	5.6
Administrative and support services	3.6	4.4	3.9
Public administration and defence	6.5	3.5	5.2
Education	3.7	8.0	5.6
Other services	16.2	13.5	15.0
Economic activity not classified	3.3	5.9	4.4
<b>By status of employment (% distribution)</b>			
Employees	50.0	42.7	46.7
Employers	4.0	1.6	2.9
Own-account workers	40.6	48.3	44.0
Contributing family workers	1.7	1.8	1.8
Workers not classifiable by status	3.7	5.6	4.6
<b>By occupation (% distribution)</b>			
Managers	7.3	5.3	6.4
Professionals	6.6	10.6	8.4
Technicians and associate professionals	4.7	3.5	4.2
Clerical support workers	1.7	3.4	2.5
Service and sales workers	13.4	25.5	18.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry & fishery workers	42.1	30.7	37.0
Craft and related trades workers	7.7	4.9	6.4
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	5.6	1.0	3.5
Elementary occupations	6.5	8.4	7.4
(Armed forces occupations)	0.1	0.1	0.1
Occupation not classified	4.4	6.5	5.3
Employment-to-population ratio, aged 15+ (%)	50.5	41.9	46.3
<b>By age group (ERP)</b>			
15-24	25.6	22.1	23.8
25-64	64.1	53.3	58.7
65+	28.6	21.4	25.3

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Note: Hotels and accommodations include ISIC Rev. 4 Division 55. Restaurants, food and beverage services include ISIC Rev. 4 Division 56.

**Table 4.2 Employment by regions**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
Employment, aged 15+	2,023	6,194	9,018	7,805	11,187	24,528	18,001	6,102	84,859
<b>By age group (% distribution)</b>									
15-24	17.5	16.2	20.1	17.9	14.1	13.5	14.2	13.0	15.1
25-64	78.9	80.6	76.3	77.0	81.4	83.1	82.8	82.4	81.2
65+	3.6	3.2	3.6	5.1	4.5	3.4	3.0	4.6	3.7
<b>By economic industry (% distribution)</b>									
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	61.4	10.4	62.6	69.7	71.7	3.6	36.4	52.4	37.3
Industry	8.1	14.6	3.0	5.8	2.6	12.1	10.1	11.1	8.9
Manufacturing	3.9	8.6	1.6	3.1	1.4	6.2	5.5	3.1	4.5
Construction	4.0	4.9	1.1	2.7	0.9	5.2	4.3	7.6	3.9
Mining and quarrying; Electricity, gas and water supply	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.5
Services	27.2	73.6	29.3	18.5	22.1	80.8	47.5	30.8	49.4
Wholesale and retail trade	7.1	22.8	5.0	6.6	6.6	20.6	13.0	8.7	13.2
Hotels and accommodations	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.6	1.5	1.5	0.3	0.9
Restaurants, food and beverage services	2.2	7.9	1.8	2.0	2.6	10.4	5.6	1.0	5.6
Administrative and support services	0.7	7.9	2.3	0.0	0.8	6.4	4.8	1.8	3.9
Public administration and defense	3.9	6.7	2.3	1.0	1.5	9.7	4.4	4.0	5.2
Education	8.2	6.5	9.4	4.4	5.4	5.2	4.8	4.8	5.6
Other services	4.9	21.4	8.4	4.3	4.6	27.2	13.3	10.2	15.0
Economic activity not classified	3.4	1.5	5.2	6.0	3.6	3.5	6.0	5.7	4.4
<b>By status of employment (% distribution)</b>									
Employees	23.4	78.9	38.2	14.7	20.1	69.8	46.2	32.5	46.7
Employers	3.5	3.7	3.5	4.9	1.3	2.5	2.8	4.1	2.9
Own-account workers	66.3	16.6	50.2	67.8	74.1	19.7	47.3	58.0	44.0
Contributing family workers	1.4	0.0	2.2	1.1	1.2	2.3	2.0	2.1	1.8
Workers not classifiable by status	5.5	0.8	6.0	11.5	3.2	5.8	1.7	3.3	4.6
<b>By occupation (% distribution)</b>									

Managers	5.2	7.0	2.6	4.6	4.1	8.1	7.3	8.6	6.4
Professionals	9.9	9.6	11.3	6.7	7.0	9.8	6.1	7.8	8.4
Technicians and associate professionals	3.3	5.7	1.8	2.1	1.3	7.8	3.3	2.2	4.2
Clerical support workers	1.3	2.5	1.2	0.2	0.4	4.8	3.2	0.4	2.5
Service and sales workers	8.3	30.1	7.1	6.3	6.8	33.8	18.4	8.3	18.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry & fishery workers	61.0	8.3	63.6	68.3	71.3	3.1	36.7	52.6	37.0
Craft and related trades workers	4.1	12.0	1.6	2.0	2.1	9.8	7.8	4.9	6.4
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	0.1	9.8	2.3	0.4	1.0	5.2	3.4	2.5	3.5
Elementary occupations	2.6	10.2	3.6	3.3	1.8	12.2	7.9	5.8	7.4
(Armed forces occupations)	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
Occupation not classified	4.2	4.6	5.0	6.1	4.2	5.2	5.9	6.9	5.3
Employment-to-population ratio, aged 15+ (%)	30.8	58.7	34.6	38.4	43.2	59.3	57.0	28.9	46.3
<b>By age group (EPR)</b>									
15-24	16.9	33.5	21.4	22.2	20.9	29.7	32.3	10.9	23.8
25-64	39.6	72.3	43.2	48.6	57.2	72.2	68.3	41.4	58.7
65+	16.2	30.5	19.6	23.9	20.4	41.4	29.1	16.6	25.3

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Notes: 1) Hotels and accommodations include ISIC Rev. 4 Division 55. Restaurants, food and beverage services include ISIC Rev. 4 Division 56.

2) Data on disaggregation by industries and by regions need to be used with caution, due to small sample cases in some cells.

## Employment-to-population ratio

Table 4.1 shows that the employment-to-population ratio of Vanuatu is 46.3 percent, and it is higher among males (50.5 percent) than it is among females (41.9 percent). In all locations, women are more likely to be outside the labour force than men (Table 4.3).

Figure 4.1 indicates that less than half of the working-age population in rural areas are in employment (41.2 percent), and 54.1 percent of these population are outside the labour force. Meanwhile, in urban areas, 59.2 percent of the working-age population are employed, and 38.8 percent are outside the labour force.

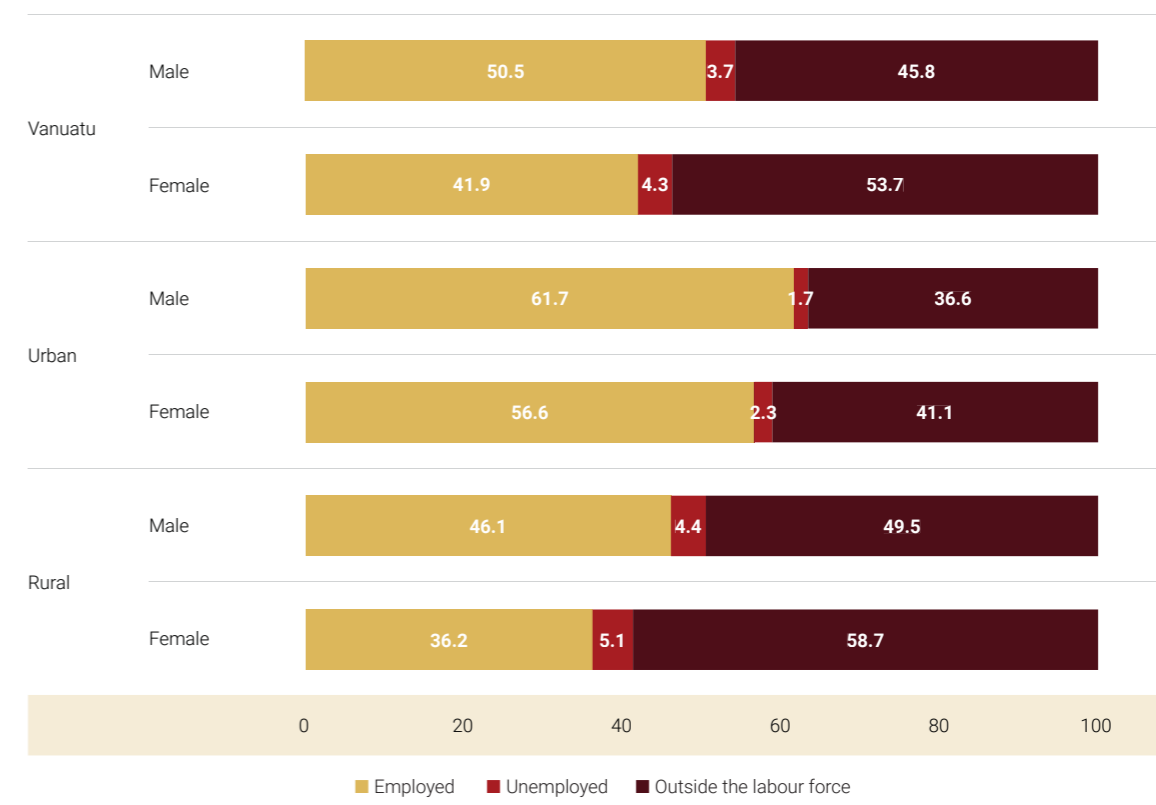
**Table 4.3** Population in employment, unemployment or outside the labour force, by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019

		Labour force status		
		EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	OUTSIDE THE LABOUR FORCE
Vanuatu	Male	46,637	3,373	42,301
	Female	38,223	3,944	48,982
Urban	Male	16,165	440	9,575
	Female	14,558	604	10,579
Rural	Male	30,472	2,933	32,726
	Female	23,665	3,341	38,404

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 4.1** Share of population in employment, unemployment or outside the labour force (%) as of working-age population, by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019

**Figure 4.1**



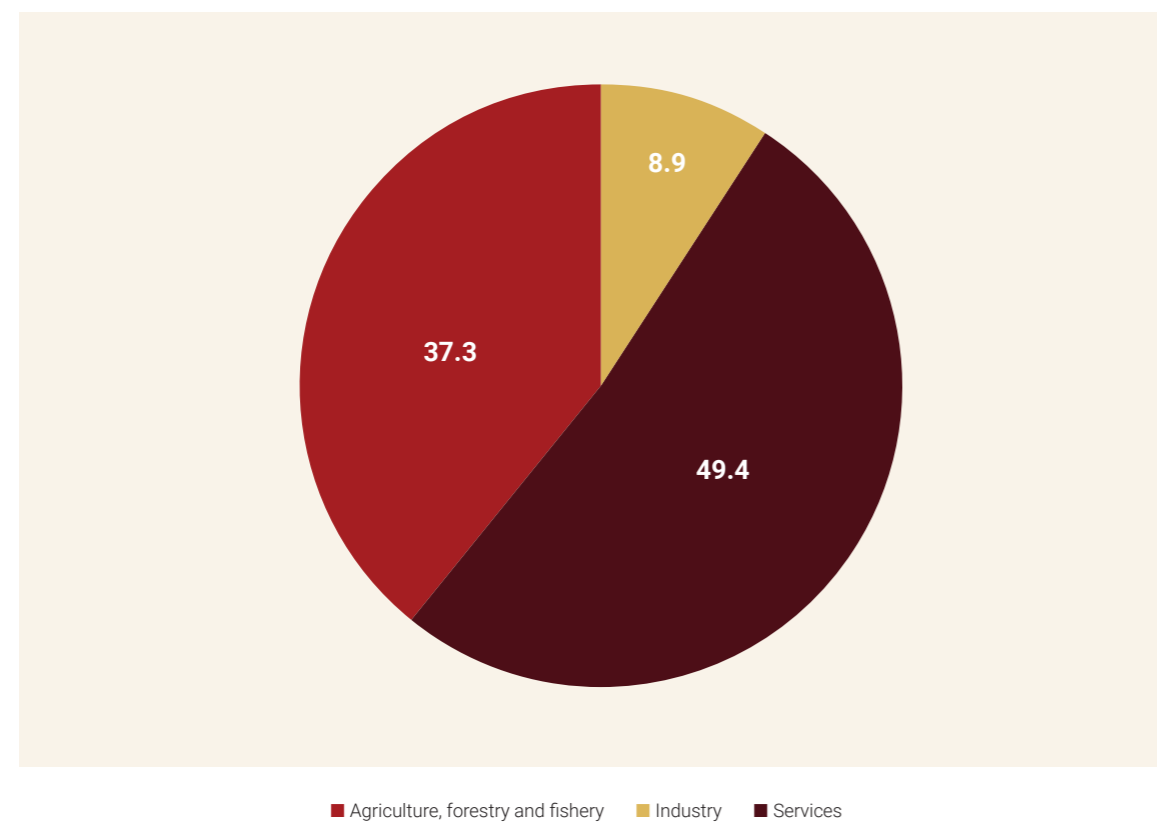
Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES



## 4.2. Employment by economic activities

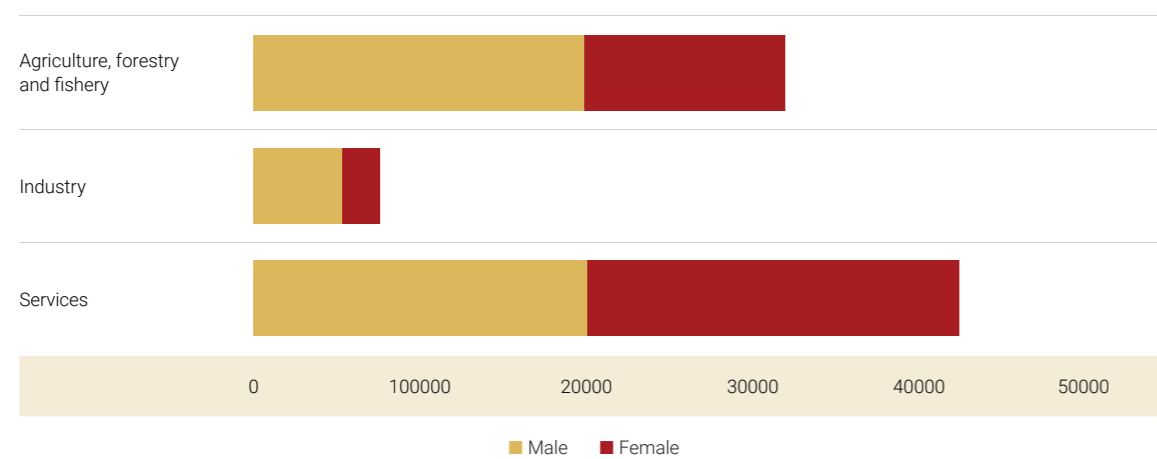
In terms of the distribution of the employed population by economic activities, service sector accounted for half of the employed population, totaling 41,922 workers. Women are more likely to be employed in the service sector than men, especially in the wholesale and retail trade and in education. Agriculture, forestry, and fishing sector employed 31,617 persons, adding up to 37.3 percent of employed population, while industry sector provided 7,544 jobs (or 8.9 percent of all jobs).

**Figure 4.2** Employment by economic sector (% distribution), Vanuatu, 2019



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 4.3** Employment by economic sector and sex, Vanuatu, 2019

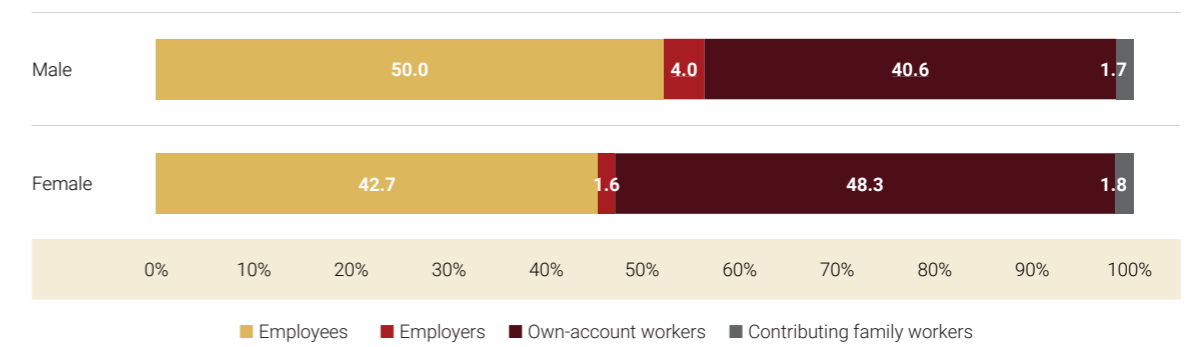


Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

## 4.3. Employment by status in employment

In Vanuatu, about half of the employed persons (46.7 percent) worked as employees, followed by own-account workers (44 percent), employers (2.9 percent), and contributing family workers (1.8 percent), as shown in Table 4.1. Half of employed males are employees, comparing to 42.7 percent of females (Figure 4.4). Women are more likely to work as own-account workers (48.3 percent) than men (40.6 percent).

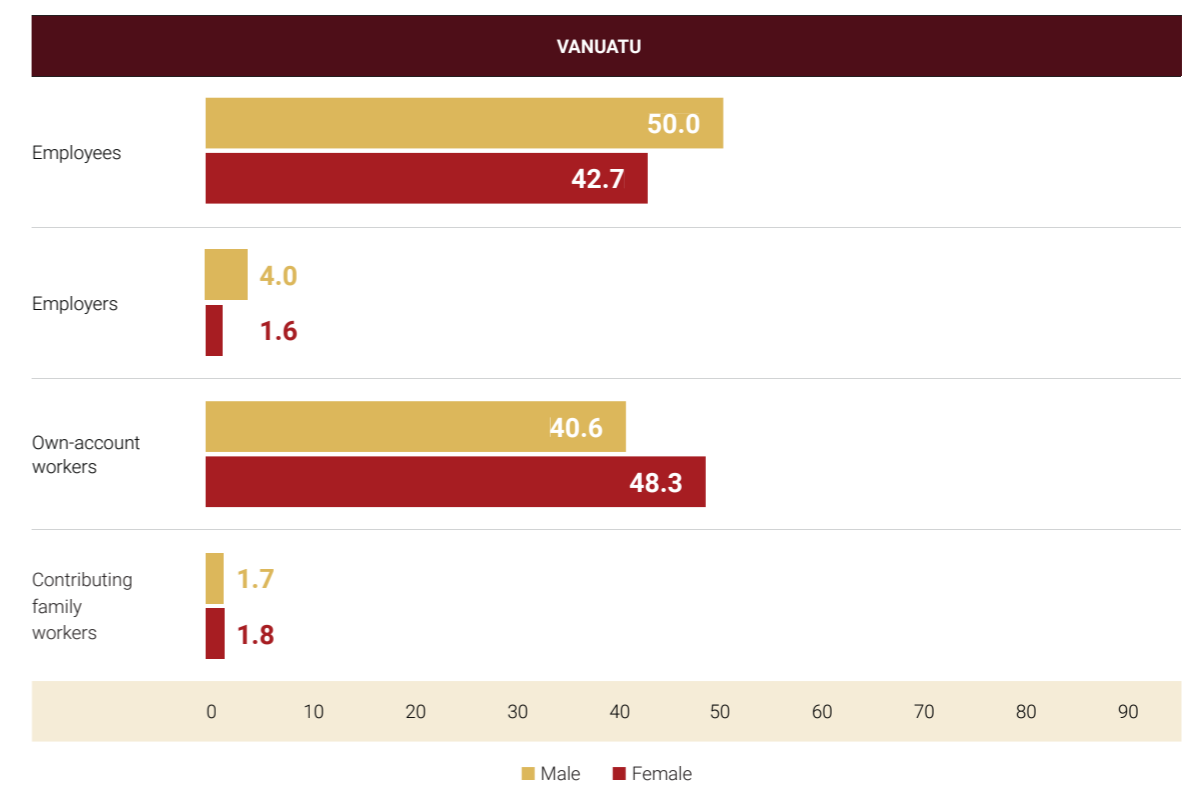
**Figure 4.4** Status in employment by sex, Vanuatu, 2019

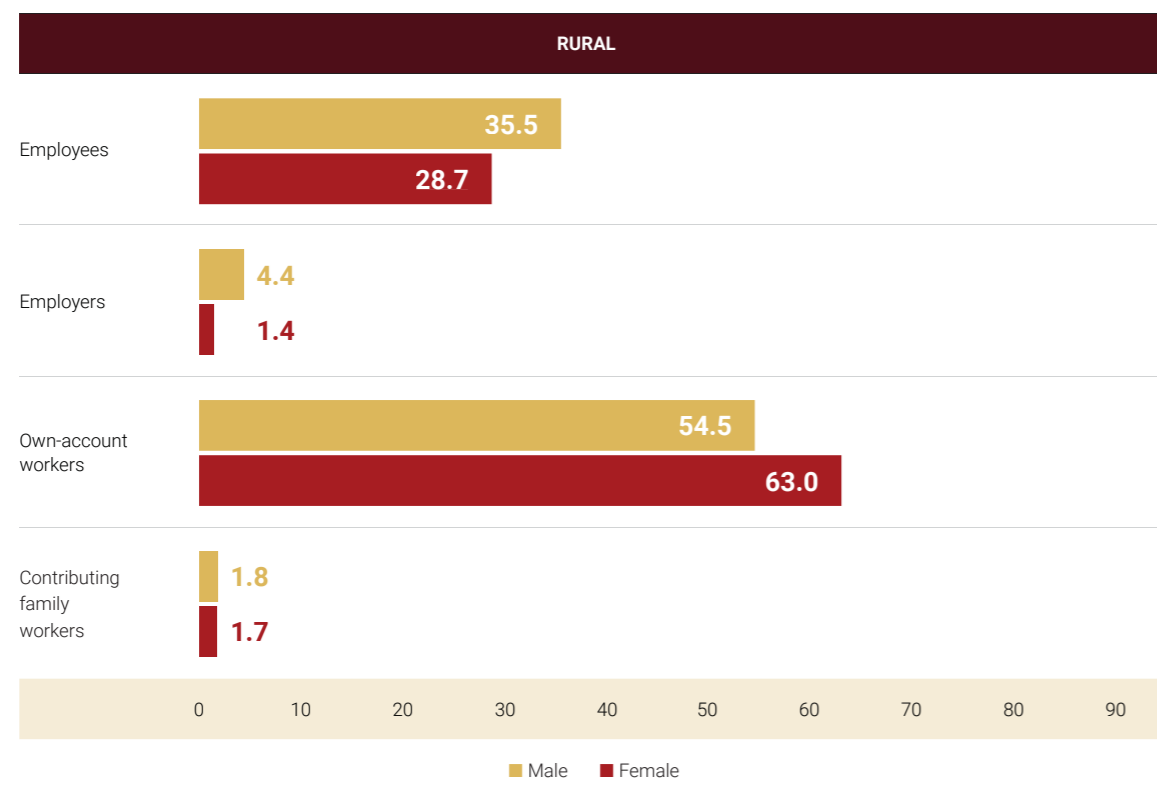
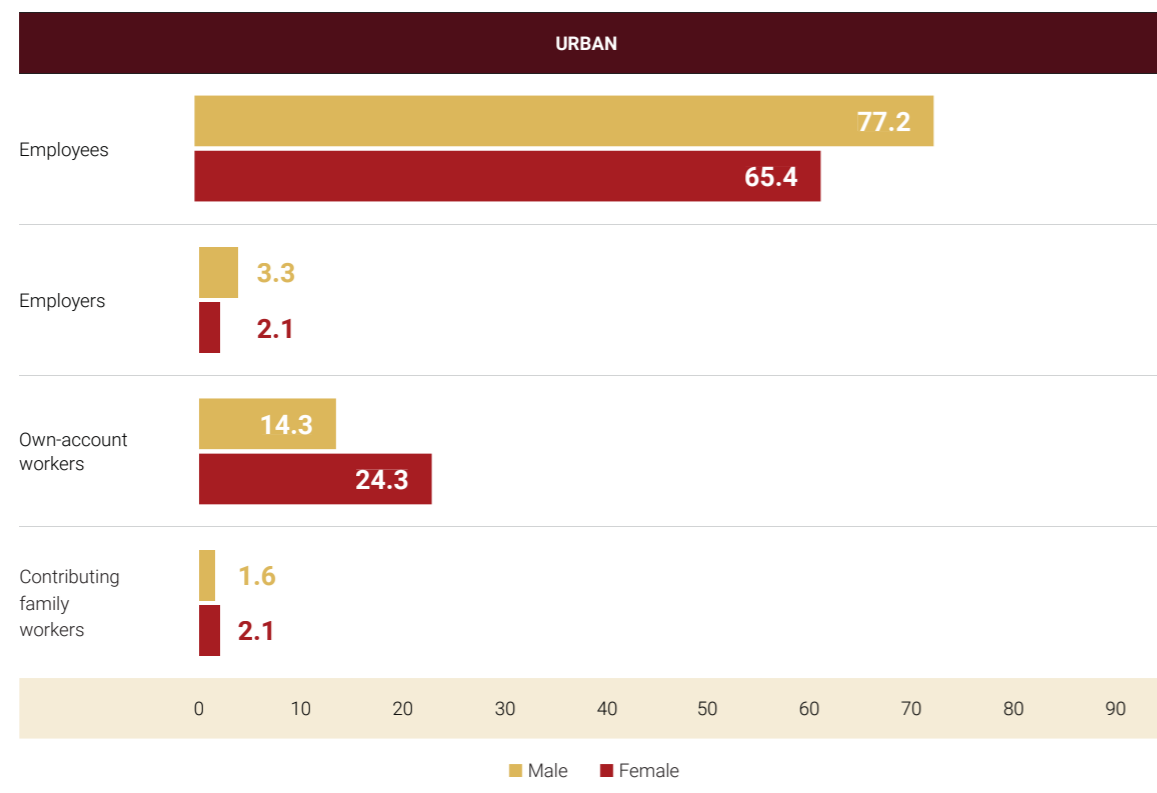


Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

The Labour market varies greatly between urban and rural areas (Figure 4.5). In the urban areas, 71.6 percent of employed persons are employees, while in rural areas employees only add up to 32.6 percent. In rural areas, most employed population are own-account workers (58.2 percent), while less than a quarter (24.3 percent) of the employed population in urban areas are own-account workers.

**Figure 4.5** Distribution of labour force (%) by main activity status, sex and regions





Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

# 5 UNEMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR UNDERUTILIZATION

Chapter 5 presents statistics of the unemployed population, labour underutilization, and youth not in employment, education, or training (NEET) by sex and by regions.

Unemployed persons refer to those of working age who are: a) without work during the reference period (seven days prior to the survey); b) currently available for work (for either paid employment or self-employment); and c) seeking work<sup>2</sup>.

## 5.1. Unemployment rate

Table 5.1 indicates there are 7,317 persons unemployed persons in Vanuatu, resulting in a national unemployment rate of 7.9 percent. The Youth unemployment rate is 18 percent, comparing to 5.9 percent for adults (age 25 and above). Female experiences higher unemployment than male in all age groups (Figure 5.1).

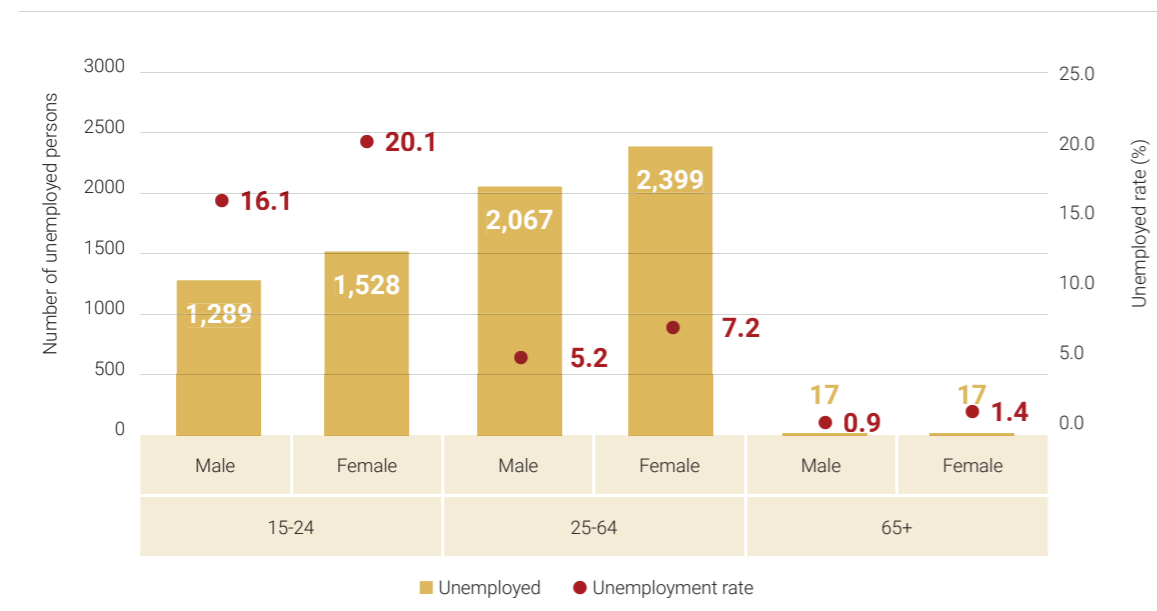
Table 5.1 Unemployment by sex

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Unemployment, aged 15+	3,373	3,944	7,317
<i>By age group</i>			
15-24	1,289	1,528	2,817
25-64	2,067	2,399	4,467
65+	17	17	34
Unemployment rate, aged 15+ (%)	6.7	9.4	7.9
<i>By age group</i>			
15-24	16.1	20.1	18.0
25-64	5.2	7.2	6.1
65+	0.9	1.4	1.1

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

<sup>2</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS). (2013). Resolution Concerning Statistics of Work, Employment, and Labor Underutilization. In 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Geneva: ILO.

**Figure 5.1** Unemployed persons aged 15 years and above and unemployment rate (%), by age group and sex, Vanuatu, 2019



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

The unemployment rate shows great spatial disparities. In the urban areas, of 31,766 persons in the labour force, 3.3 percent are reported unemployed, comparing to the 10.4 percent unemployment rate in rural areas, indicating a high level of labour underutilization in rural areas in Vanuatu.

**Table 5.2** Unemployment by regions

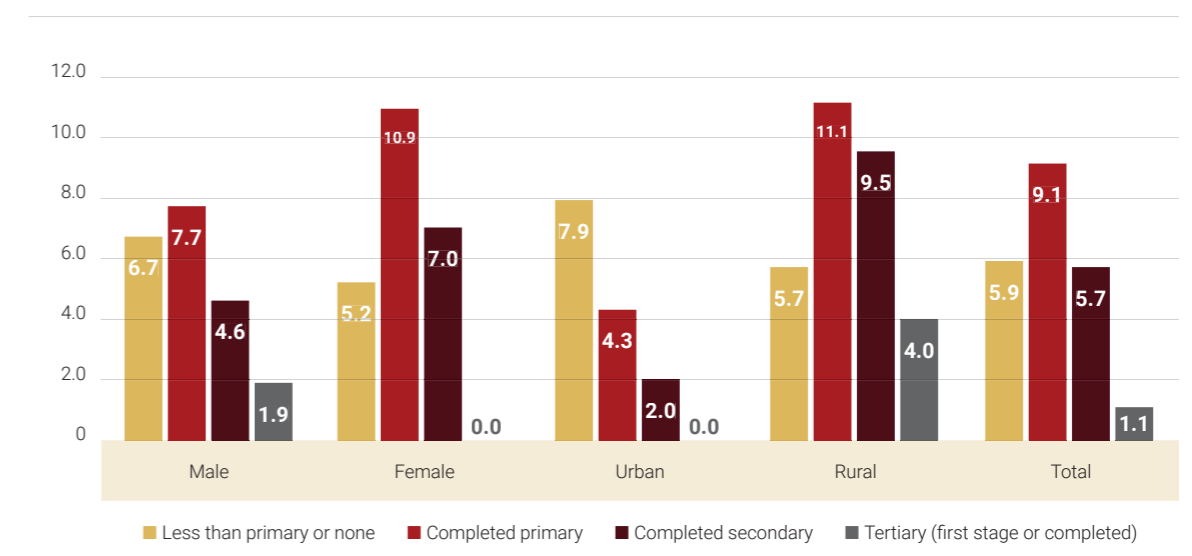
	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
Unemployment, aged 15+	103	81	1603	262	928	962	3088	290	7317
<b>By age group</b>									
15-24	39	33	533	55	516	277	1,234	130	2,817
25-64	57	48	1,070	207	411	669	1,843	160	4,467
65+	7	0	0	0	0	17	10	0	34
<b>Unemployment rate, aged 15+ (%)</b>									
4.8	1.3	15.1	3.3	7.7	3.8	14.6	4.5	7.9	
<b>By age group</b>									
15-24	9.9	3.1	22.7	3.8	24.7	7.7	32.6	14.1	18.0
25-64	3.5	1.0	13.5	3.3	4.3	3.2	11.0	3.1	6.1
65+	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.9	0.0	1.1

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Note: The relaxed definition does not include the criteria of job search but does include availability to work.

In terms of educational attainment, the population with tertiary education have the lowest unemployment rate, while persons who only received primary education have the highest unemployment rate (Figure 5.2).

**Figure 5.2** Unemployment rate (%) by sex, geographic coverage and educational attainment, Vanuatu, 2019



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

## 5.2. Labour underutilization

Unemployment, time-related underemployment, and potential labour force are three main components of labour underutilization. The broad concept of labour underutilization reveals the total number of persons in labour force who are not being fully utilized, as well as those who are outside of the labour force but can be considered as potential labour supply. It measures the extent to which all available labour force resources are being used in their full capacity or not, by the economy and signifies the mismatches between labour supply and demand.

Table 5.3 and Table 5.4 demonstrate numbers of labour underutilization in unemployment, time-related underemployment, and potential labour force by sex and by regions, respectively. The statistic indicates a rather high level of time-related underemployment (14.8 percent) among the total labour force. Males (16.7 percent) are more likely to be time-related underemployed than females (12.5 percent), and persons in rural areas (17.7 percent) experienced more time-related underemployment than urban areas (9.2 percent).

**Table 5.3** Labour underutilization by sex

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Labour underutilization</b>	16,128	13,859	29,986
Unemployment	3,373	3,944	7,317
Time-related underemployment	8,342	5,286	13,627
Potential labour force	4,413	4,629	9,042
LU1: Unemployment rate (%)	6.7	9.4	7.9
LU2: Combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment (%)	23.4	21.9	22.7
LU3: Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (%)	14.3	18.3	16.2
LU4: Composite measure of labour underutilization (%)	29.6	29.6	29.6

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 5.4 Labour underutilization by regions**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
Labour underutilization	525	1,829	6,799	4,259	4,012	2,895	7,474	2,193	29,986
Unemployment	103	81	1,603	262	928	962	3,088	290	7,317
Time-related underemployment	321	1,357	2,486	1,777	2,317	1,577	3,506	287	13,627
Potential labour force	101	392	2,709	2,220	767	356	880	1,616	9,042
LU1: Unemployment rate (%)	4.8	1.3	15.1	3.3	7.7	3.8	14.6	4.5	7.9
LU2: Combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment (%)	20.0	22.9	38.5	25.3	26.8	10.0	31.3	9.0	22.7
LU3: Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (%)	9.2	7.1	32.3	24.1	13.2	5.1	18.1	23.8	16.2
LU4: Composite measure of labour underutilization (%)	23.6	27.4	51.0	41.4	31.1	11.2	34.0	27.4	29.6

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

### 5.3. Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)

Table 5.5 shows 23,175 youth aged 15-24 are “not in employment, education, or training (NEET)”, which counts for 43.2 percent of the total youth population. There are more female NEETs (12,598 persons or 46 percent) than male NEETs (10,477 persons or 40.2 percent). By geographic coverage, NEETs rate is lower in urban areas (31.1 percent) than it in rural areas (47.5 percent).

**Table 5.5 Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by sex**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
NEET, aged 15-24	10,577	12,598	23,175
NEET rate, aged 15-24 (%)	40.2	46.0	43.2

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 5.6 Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) by regions**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
NEET, aged 15-24	1,402	918	4,024	3,055	3,648	3,475	3,016	3,638	23,175
NEET rate, aged 15-24 (%)	66.7	30.6	47.6	48.6	48.4	31.2	38.2	50.1	43.2

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

## 6 INFORMAL SECTOR AND INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT

Chapter 6 presents statistics of persons employed in the informal sector (Table 6.1) and persons with informal employment (Table 6.2).

Employment in the informal sector contains all jobs in informal sector enterprises, or all persons who, during a given reference period (seven days prior to the survey), were employed in at least one informal sector enterprises, irrespective of their status in employment and whether it was their main or a secondary job. In this report, employment in the informal sector refers to main job only.

Informal employment is a job-based concept. Employees are considered to have informal jobs if their employment relationship is, in law or in practice, not subject to national labour legislation, income taxation where it exists by law (there is no income taxation yet in Vanuatu), social protection or entitlement to certain employment benefits. Informal employment can be carried out in formal sector enterprises, informal sector enterprises, or households.

The informal employment rate is a key indicator highlighting the quality of employment in an economy.

### 6.1. Employment in the informal sector

Table 6.1 illustrates the importance of the informal sector in Vanuatu. In total, 66,032 persons are employed in the informal sector, representing a vast majority, 77.8 percent, of the total employed population. By gender, the share of females employed (78.1 percent) in the informal sector are slightly higher than males (77.6 percent). By age group, the middle age group (aged 25-64) has a relatively lower rate of employment of 76.3 percent in the informal sector, comparing to 84.5 percent for youth and 83.6 percent for the age group 65 and above.

By educational attainment, numbers reveal that persons with higher educational attainment are less likely to be employed in the informal sector. This relation was particularly strong for females with tertiary education, who experienced the lowest rate of employment in the informal sector (42.8 percent).

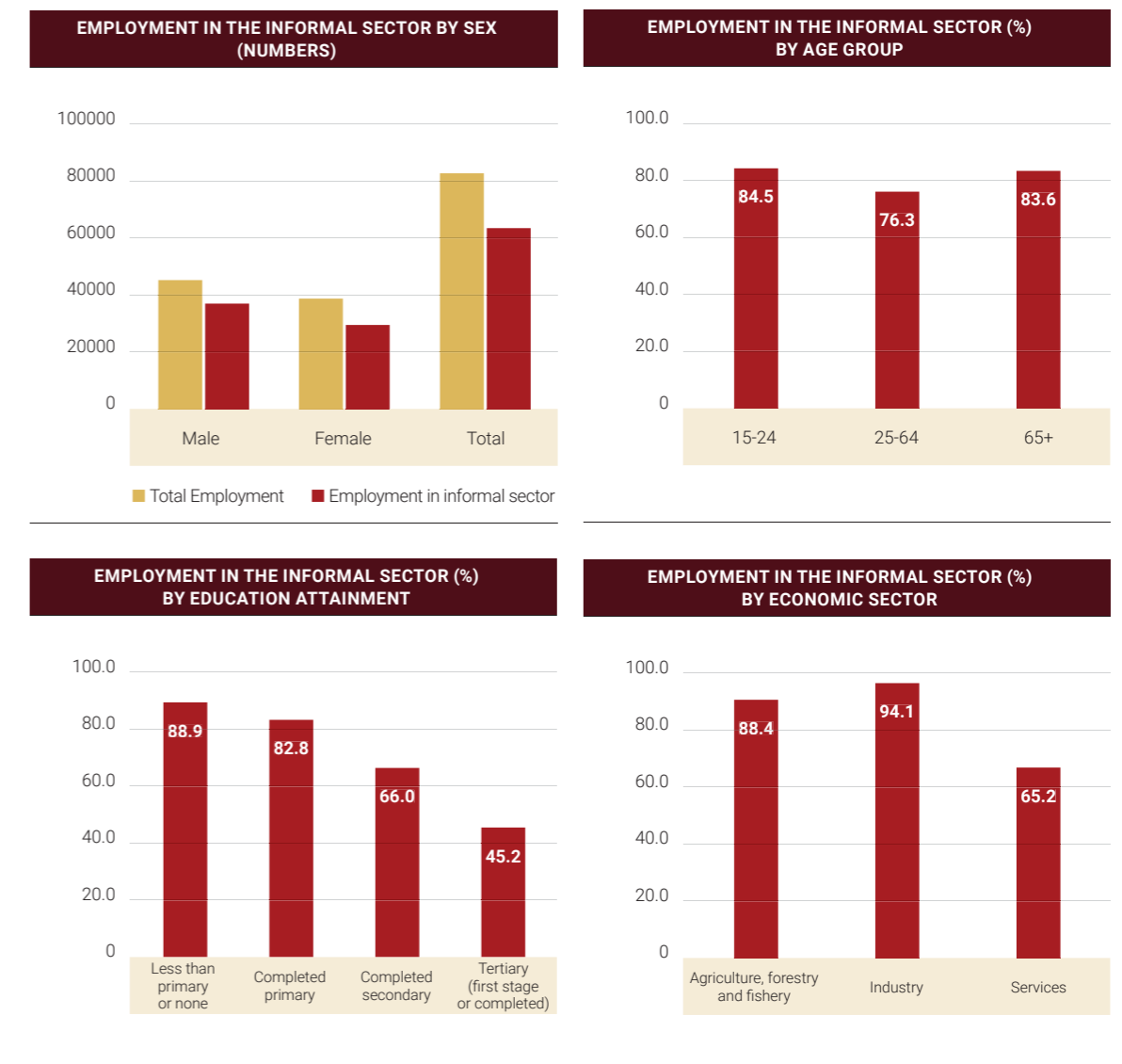
By economic sector, persons in the industry sector have the highest share of employment in the informal sector (94.1 percent), followed by agriculture, forestry and fishery (88.4 percent) and services (65.2 percent). In all sectors, women have a higher rate of employment in the informal sector than men.

**Table 6.1 Profile of employment in the informal sector**

	Persons			Share of total employment (%)		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Employment in the informal sector, aged 15+	36,179	29,853	66,032	77.6	78.1	77.8
<i>By age group</i>						
15-24	5,804	5,003	10,807	86.2	82.5	84.5
25-64	28,793	23,787	52,581	75.9	76.8	76.3
65+	1,582	1,063	2,645	80.7	88.2	83.6
<i>By education attainment</i>						
Less than primary or none	1,406	1,552	2,959	83.2	94.9	88.9
Completed primary	27,497	21,959	49,456	83.0	82.7	82.8
Completed secondary	6,036	5,509	11,545	65.1	67.0	66.0
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	1,058	671	1,729	46.9	42.8	45.2
Level not stated	181	161	343	66.3	68.2	67.2
<i>By economic industry</i>						
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	16,909	11,027	27,936	86.0	92.2	88.4
Industry	5,009	2,090	7,099	93.4	95.8	94.1
Services	12,825	14,528	27,354	63.9	66.5	65.2
Economic activity not classified	1,436	2,207	3,643	93.6	98.4	96.5
<i>By status of employment</i>						
Employees	16,688	9,914	26,602	71.6	60.8	67.1
Employers	1,190	363	1,553	63.6	57.6	62.1
Own-account workers	16,157	17,216	33,373	85.4	93.3	89.3
Contributing family workers	551	315	866	69.8	45.0	58.2
Workers not classifiable by status	1,593	2,045	3,638	91.1	95.9	93.8
<i>By main location (regions/provinces/islands)</i>						
Torba	778	728	1,506	72.2	77.1	74.4
Luganville	2,620	2,112	4,731	77.6	74.9	76.4
Sanma	4,236	1,990	6,226	73.1	61.7	69.0
Penama	3,908	2,586	6,494	81.9	85.2	83.2
Malampa	5,303	4,412	9,715	86.2	87.6	86.8
Port Vila	9,054	8,805	17,859	70.8	75.0	72.8
Shefa	7,395	6,954	14,349	80.9	78.5	79.7
Tafea	2,886	2,266	5,152	81.6	88.4	84.4

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 6.1 Employment in the informal sector by sex, age group, educational attainment, and economic sector, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

## 6.2. Informal employment

Table 6.2 displays the profile of informal employment in Vanuatu. Of 84,859 employed persons in the country, 56,806 are informally employed (or 66.9 percent). By sex, informal employment among females is higher than that of males. Out of 38,223 employed women, 68.7 percent are in informal employment (or 26,242 persons), compared to 65.5 percent of men.

By age group, informal employment is the lowest among the age group 25-64 (64.5 percent), followed by youth (75.9 percent) and age group 65 and above (83.8 percent).

The trend of informal employment by educational attainment is synonymous with the trend of employment in the informal sector, that is, the higher the educational attainment is the less likelihood of being informally employed. The informal employment rate among persons with tertiary education level is only 15.1 percent, comparing to 95.3 percent among persons with less than primary education.

In terms of economic sector, informal employment incidence is the highest in the agriculture, forestry and fishery sector (95.1 percent), followed by industry (62 percent) and the service sector (45.2 percent).

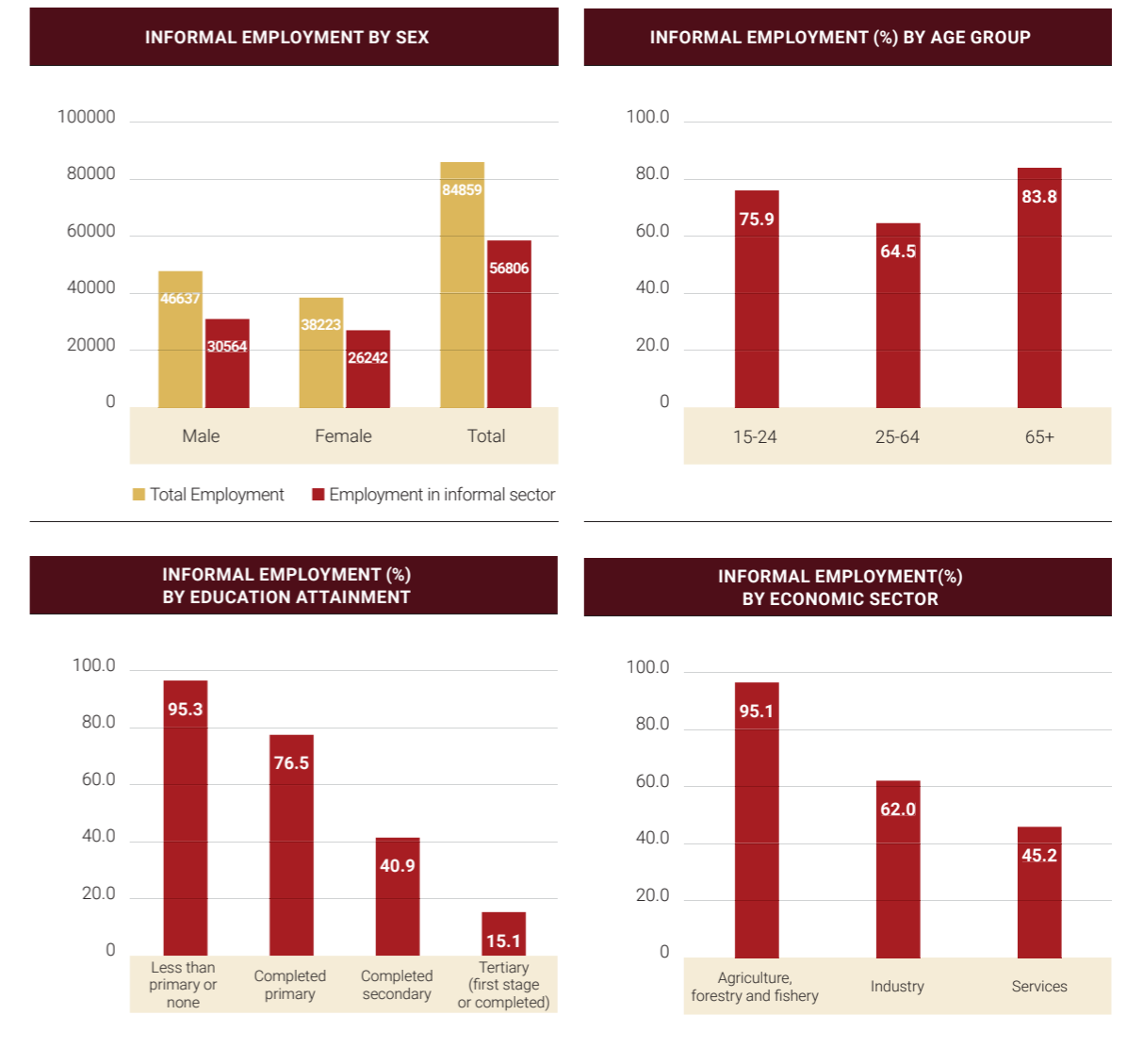


**Table 6.2 Profile of informal employment**

	Persons			Share of total employment (%)		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Informal employment, aged 15+	30,564	26,242	56,806	65.5	68.7	66.9
<i>By age group</i>						
15-24	5,264	4,453	9,717	78.2	73.5	75.9
25-64	23,754	20,683	44,437	62.6	66.8	64.5
65+	1,546	1,106	2,652	78.9	91.8	83.8
<i>By nature of production unit</i>						
Informal sectors	26,897	22,919	49,816	74.3	76.8	75.4
Formal sectors	705	787	1,492	9.6	14.1	11.5
Households	2,962	2,536	5,498	95.0	91.4	93.3
<i>By education attainment</i>						
Less than primary or none	1,566	1,604	3,170	92.6	98.1	95.3
Completed primary	24,388	21,272	45,660	73.6	80.1	76.5
Completed secondary	4,142	3,018	7,160	44.7	36.7	40.9
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	376	203	579	16.7	12.9	15.1
Level not stated	92	144	236	33.7	61.0	46.4
<i>By economic industry</i>						
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	18,343	11,712	30,055	93.3	97.9	95.1
Industry	2,982	1,699	4,681	55.6	77.9	62.0
Services	8,117	10,818	18,935	40.4	49.5	45.2
Economic activity not classified	1,122	2,012	3,135	73.2	89.7	83.0
<i>By status of employment</i>						
Employees	8,731	5,085	13,815	37.5	31.2	34.9
Employers	1,355	385	1,740	72.4	61.2	69.6
Own-account workers	17,941	17,940	35,881	94.8	97.2	96.0
Contributing family workers	789	699	1,489	100.0	100.0	100.0
Workers not classifiable by status	1,749	2,132	3,881	100.0	100.0	100.0
<i>By main location (regions/ provinces/ islands)</i>						
Torba	959	833	1,792	88.9	88.2	88.6
Luganville	1,467	1,398	2,865	43.5	49.6	46.3
Sanma	4,770	2,477	7,247	82.4	76.8	80.4
Penama	4,429	2,735	7,165	92.9	90.1	91.8
Malampa	5,218	4,599	9,817	84.8	91.3	87.8
Port Vila	4,283	5,203	9,486	33.5	44.3	38.7
Shefa	6,633	6,623	13,256	72.6	74.8	73.6
Tafea	2,804	2,373	5,177	79.2	92.6	84.8

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 6.2 Informal employment sector by sex, age group, educational attainment, and economic sector, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Table 6.3 presents the joint distribution of the informal sector and informal employment. Overall, 1,492 employed person (11.5 percent) in the formal sector have informal jobs. These are essentially persons employed in paid jobs in the formal sector, but on an informal basis, such as, temporary employment without employment benefits. More than three quarters of employed persons (49, 816 persons) in the informal sector have informal jobs, and 24.6 percent employed persons (16,216 persons) in the informal sector have formal jobs.

**Table 6.3** Joint distribution of employment in the informal sector and informal employment, Vanuatu, 2019

		Nature of Jobs	
		INFORMAL JOBS	FORMAL JOBS
Unit of Production	Informal sector enterprises	49,816	16,216
	Formal sector enterprises	1,492	11,444
	Households	5,498	394

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Among 16,216 persons who have formal jobs in the informal sectors, the top three occupations are sales workers, personal service workers, and market-oriented skilled agriculture workers, totalling 5,388 persons. Table 6.4 presents details of those who are formal employed in the informal sector from the top three occupations.

**Table 6.4** Top three occupations which have highest numbers of employed persons with a formal job in the informal sector

	NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS WITH A FORMAL JOB IN THE INFORMAL SECTOR	AS A SHARE OF TOTAL EMPLOYED PER OCCUPATION
Sales workers	2,272	26.1
Personal service workers	1,797	34.4
Market-oriented skilled agricultural workers	1,319	8.0

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

# 7 HOURS OF WORK

Chapter 7 presents statistics of working hours of employed persons. It reveals actuals hours of work per week and the distribution of hours of work per week.

Specifically in this report, the variable on hours actually worked has 31 percent of samples reported missing value. Hence data from this report on hours actually worked should be used with caution.

Table 7.1 displays that on average, hours actually worked of the employed population for all economic activities is 33.1 hours a week. Females (33.6 hours) work slightly longer hours than males (32.7 hours). At main job, the average hours actually worked per week is 31.4 hours, with males 31.1 hours and females 31.9 hours. The average seems lower than for other countries in the Region, signalling that the missing responses above could be those with likely higher working hours.

The average hours actually worked vary greatly by geographic coverage. In urban areas, the employed population worked on average 38.4 hours a week for all economic activities, while in rural areas only 28 hours (Figure 7.1).

**Table 7.1** Average actual hours of work per week by sex

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Actual hours</b>			
All economic activities	32.7	33.6	33.1
Main economic activity	31.1	31.9	31.4
Secondary economic activity	15.9	17.0	16.3

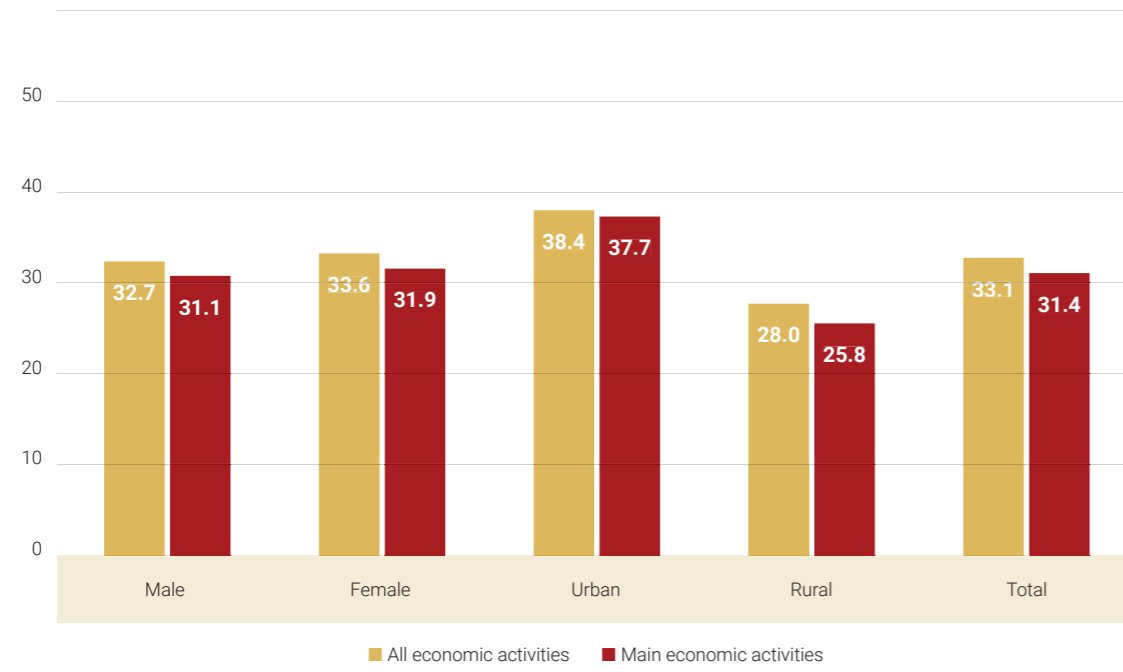
Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 7.2** Average hours of work per week by regions

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
<b>Actual hours</b>									
All economic activities	11.3	39.9	27.7	16.6	24.8	38.3	36.1	34.8	33.1
Main economic activity	10.7	39.4	26.5	14.1	23.7	37.5	32.5	32.7	31.4
Secondary economic activity	4.7	17.1	14.5	11.0	11.2	15.9	19.5	31.1	16.3

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Figure 7.1 Actual hours of work per week by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Table 7.3 Distribution of hours of work per week by sex

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Actual hours in all economic activities</b>			
Less than 40 hours	34.8	25.4	30.6
40-48 hours	35.4	31.5	33.6
More than 48 hours	6.2	3.6	5.0
Not elsewhere classified	23.5	39.5	30.7

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Table 7.4 Distribution of hours of work per week by regions

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
<b>Actual hours in all economic activities</b>									
Less than 40 hours	50.9	16.6	55.2	57.9	29.7	14.5	29.9	34.9	30.6
40-48 hours	3.5	57.9	20.9	2.6	10.2	56.3	38.3	15.7	33.6
More than 48 hours	0.6	7.7	6.7	3.0	1.1	5.4	5.4	8.6	5.0
Not elsewhere classified	45.0	17.7	17.2	36.5	59.0	23.8	26.4	40.8	30.7

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

## 8 WAGES

Chapter 8 presents statistics of wages from the main job of employees by sex (Table 8.1) and by regions (Table 8.2). In the HIES, 41.2 percent of employed person have reported their wage (range). The use of class ranges in data collection does not permit a detailed analysis on wages, and data in this chapter should be used with caution.

Table 8.1 and Table 8.2 display the average monthly wage distribution for employees by sex and by region.

Table 8.1 Average monthly wage distribution, main job, by sex

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Average monthly wages distribution in main job of employees (%)</b>			
from 0 to VT5000	0.8	1.4	1.0
from VT5000 to VT10,000	1.9	2.6	2.2
from VT10,000 to VT20,000	5.4	9.7	7.2
from VT20,000 to VT40,000	31.6	30.3	31.0
from VT40,000 to VT60,000	25.3	25.4	25.3
from VT60,000 to VT80,000	2.1	1.0	1.6
from VT80,000 to VT100,000	10.5	10.8	10.6
from VT100,000 to VT150,000	5.1	2.8	4.2
from VT150,000 to VT200,000	2.4	2.3	2.4
More than VT200,000	3.4	1.4	2.6
Not classified	11.6	12.3	11.9

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

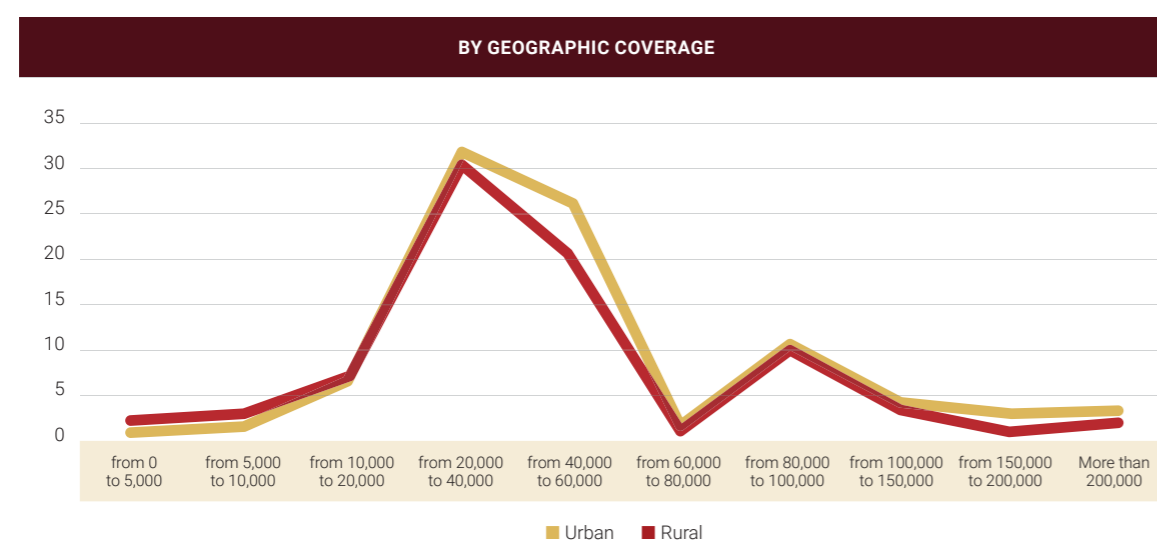
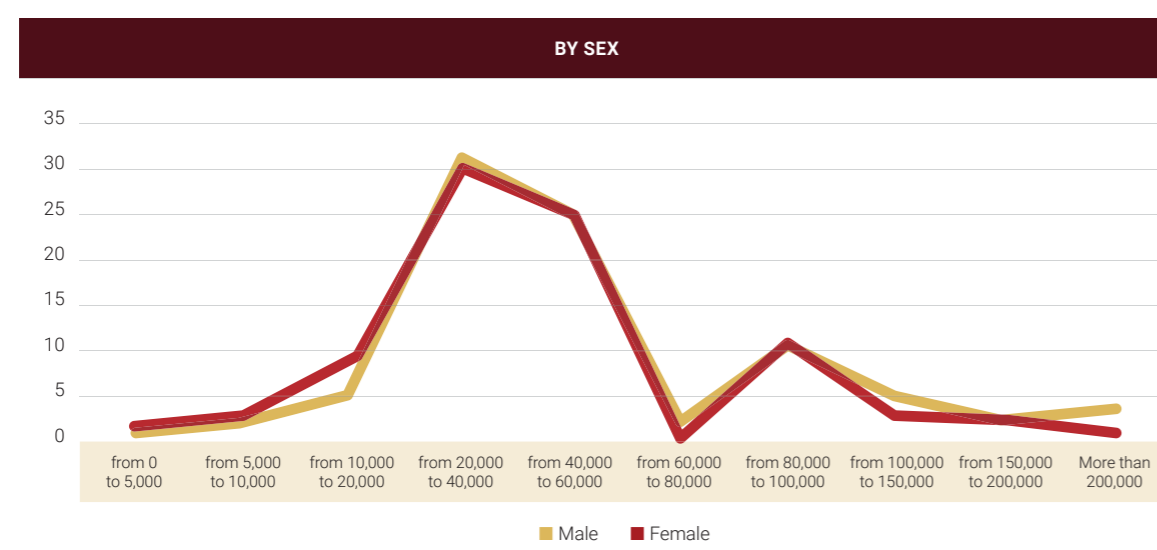
Table 8.2 Average monthly wage distribution, main job, by regions

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
<b>Average monthly wages distribution in main job of employees (%)</b>									
From 0 to VT5000	2.7	0.7	5.1	1.6	1.1	0.2	0.9	1.4	1.0
From VT5000 to VT10,000	4.1	1.9	5.0	7.1	1.6	1.2	1.5	6.5	2.2
From VT10,000 to VT20,000	15.6	8.2	8.5	3.4	11.8	6.4	5.6	11.4	7.2
From VT20,000 to VT40,000	20.2	34.6	29.2	23.6	26.0	30.9	34.1	26.6	31.0

From VT40,000 to VT60,000	22.8	22.4	13.0	19.9	18.4	29.4	28.2	18.3	25.3
From VT60,000 to VT80,000	4.5	0.5	0.7	0.0	5.5	2.4	0.4	0.0	1.6
From VT80,000 to VT100,000	8.0	6.4	9.1	16.2	11.2	12.3	10.5	6.4	10.6
From VT100,000 to VT150,000	4.5	1.1	0.4	1.5	7.2	5.4	4.4	4.8	4.2
From VT150,000 to VT200,000	0.8	1.2	1.4	1.9	0.0	3.7	1.4	3.0	2.4
More than VT200,000	1.6	1.6	4.4	0.0	0.0	3.4	2.4	0.5	2.6
Unknown	15.2	21.4	23.3	25.0	17.4	4.7	10.5	21.1	11.9

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 8.1** Average monthly wage (in Vanuatu Vatu) distribution by sex and geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

From the tables above the majority of employees whose wage is declared (about 56.3 percent) have their wages between VT20,000 and VT60,000. However, data indicates also an unusual small proportion of employees with wage between VT60,000 and VT80,000, which could be as well a data error due to the re-estimation of monthly ranges from weekly or fortnight ranges.

## 9 MAIN ACTIVITY AND SUBSISTENCE WORK

Chapter 9 presents the statistic of the main activity status of the working-age population, as well as an estimation of persons involved in subsistence work. The results on the main activity question reflect a self-assessment of the working age population, i.e. a more social assessment of what people recognize as their main activity status at present.

In this chapter, results on subsistence work and household care are an estimation based on the main activity status question, as well as questions on the goods produced and use of such goods. The full module (set of questions) to measure own-use production work as defined in international standard (ILO, 2013) was not included in the measurement of Vanuatu HIES 2019-2020. Subsistence own use producers are therefore estimated using persons whose main activity is "Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft", exclusively for family use. Due to a mistake in the questionnaire, persons whose main products were mainly for family use, even if they did sell some products, are not included here (by international standards they should be part of this group as well).

### 9.1 Main activity status

Numbers show that of 183,460 persons aged 15 and above in Vanuatu, 73,881 are working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft and working in another sector/activity (government or private sector, business), counting for 40.3 percent of the working-age population. One-third of the working-age population (or 61,132 persons) are taking care of the household or families.

Table 9.1 and Figure 9.1 illustrate that the share of female (45.5 percent) who self-declared taking care of the household or family as their main activity, is twice higher than that of male (21.3 percent), while the share of female (33.7 percent) who declared to be mainly involved in other forms of work (working in agriculture, government or private sector, and volunteer work) is significantly less than that of their male counterpart (50.2 percent). However women could also be involved in these other activities, even if not as their main activity; further details are presented in section 9.2 below.

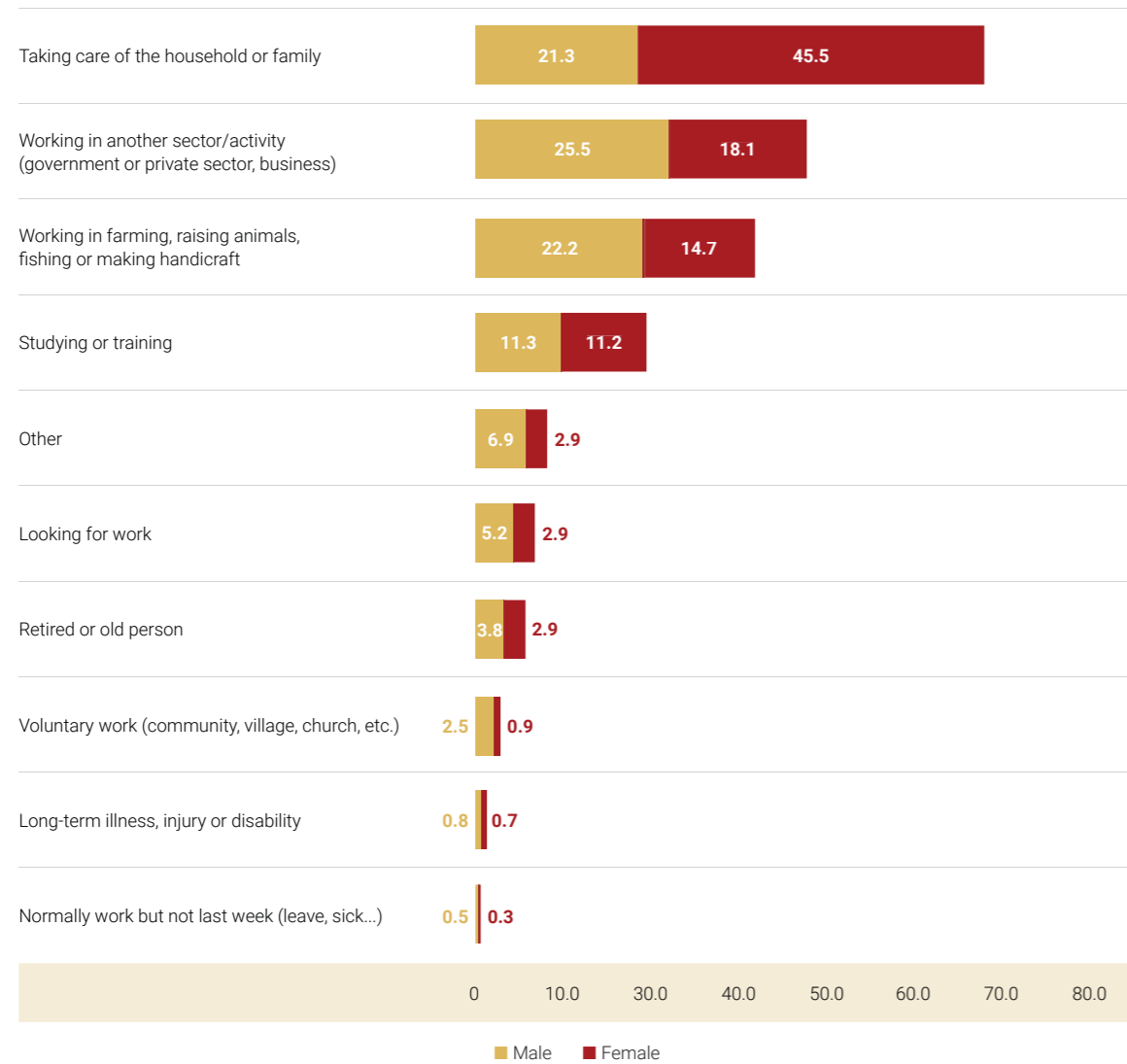
**Table 9.1** Main activity status by sex (% in the working-age population)

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Total working age population</b>	<b>92,311</b>	<b>91,149</b>	<b>183,460</b>
<b>By Main activity status (%)</b>			
Studying or training	11.3	11.2	11.2
Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft	22.2	14.7	18.5
Working in another sector/activity (government or private sector, business)	25.5	18.1	21.8
Looking for work	5.2	2.9	4.0
Taking care of the household or family	21.3	45.5	33.3

Voluntary work [community, village, church, etc.]	2.5	0.9	1.7
Long-term illness, injury or disability	0.8	0.7	0.7
Retired or old person	3.8	2.9	3.3
Normally work but not last week (leave, sick...)	0.5	0.3	0.4
Other	6.9	2.9	4.9

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 9.1 Main activity status by sex, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

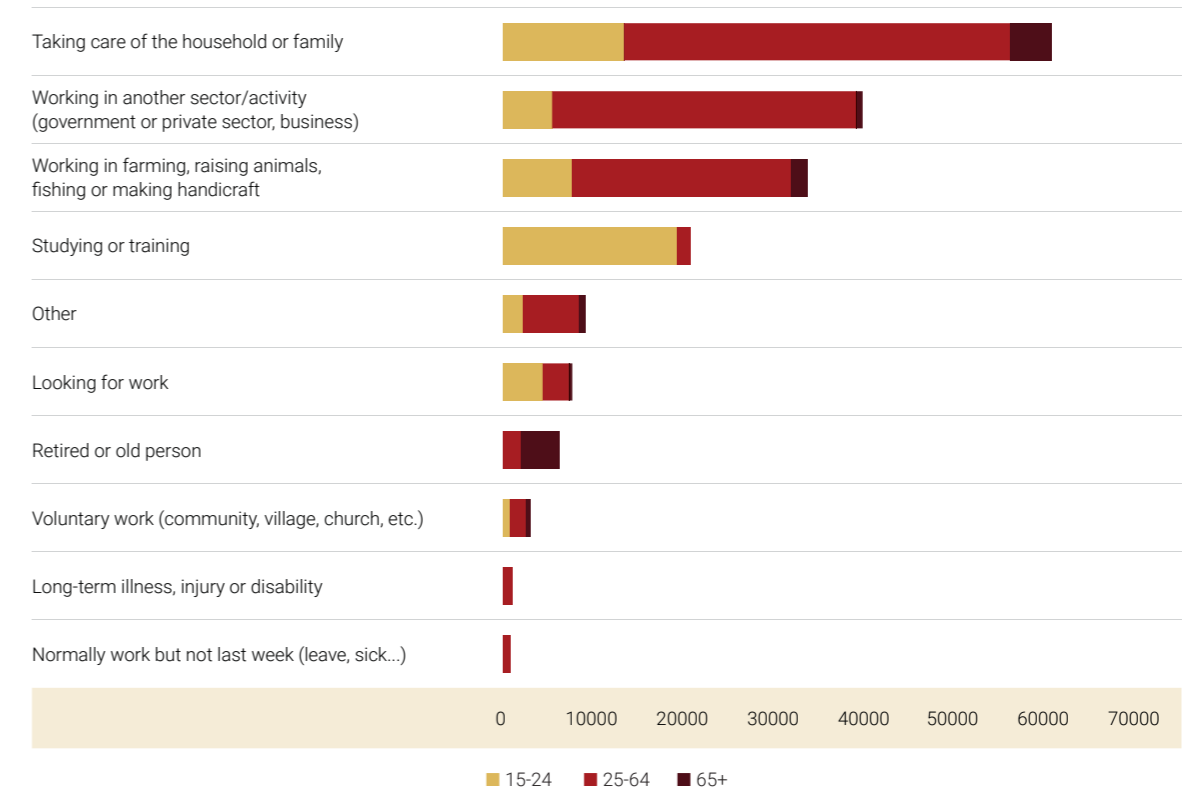
The main activity status by age groups is displayed in Table 9.2 and Figure 9.2. Of 53,662 youth population, 4,429 (or 8.3 percent) are looking for work, while the share among adults (aged 25 and above) is only 2.3 percent.

**Table 9.2 Main activity status by age groups (% in the working-age population)**

Main activity status	15-24	25-64	65+	TOTAL
Studying or training	36.1	1.1	0.0	11.2
Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft	14.5	20.7	14.3	18.5
Working in another sector/activity (government or private sector, business)	10.2	28.8	6.2	21.8
Looking for work	8.3	2.5	0.2	4.0
Taking care of the household or family	25.2	36.6	37.4	33.3
Voluntary work [community, village, church, etc.]	1.2	1.9	1.8	1.7
Long-term illness, injury or disability	0.4	0.7	2.2	0.7
Retired or old person	0.0	1.6	33.7	3.3
Normally work but not last week (leave, sick...)	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4
Other	3.9	5.5	4.1	4.9

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 9.2 Main activity status by age group, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

By geographic coverage, Figure 9.3 shows almost all persons who work in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft are from rural areas. The share of working-age population who take care of the household or family in rural areas is 37.1 percent, and is higher than that of those in urban areas (23.8 percent).

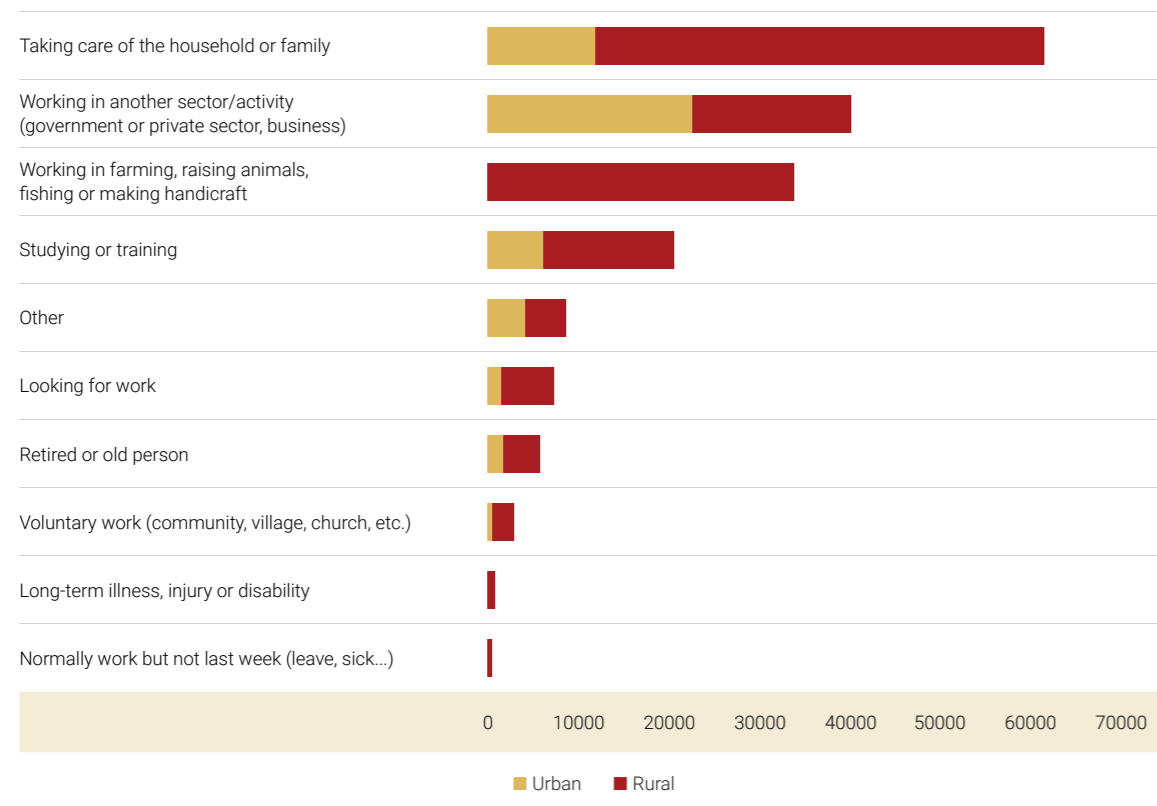


**Table 9.3 Main activity status by regions (% in the working-age population)**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
<b>Main activity status</b>									
Studying or training	8.7	11.2	11.0	10.1	10.3	13.4	8.3	14.8	11.2
Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft	16.1	1.0	52.0	42.9	11.4	0.5	15.5	11.6	18.5
Working in another sector/ activity (government or private sector, business)	6.5	46.8	11.8	4.4	7.1	43.1	29.2	8.4	21.8
Looking for work	2.9	5.4	2.7	1.3	7.1	3.2	6.4	2.5	4.0
Taking care of the household or family	51.6	20.7	15.4	28.7	54.8	24.6	30.4	55.6	33.3
Voluntary work [community, village, church, etc.]	7.2	1.6	1.4	1.0	2.3	1.8	1.2	0.8	1.7
Long-term illness, injury or disability	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.5	0.7
Retired or old person	2.9	6.6	2.1	0.9	4.2	3.6	3.8	3.5	3.3
Normally work but not last week (leave, sick...)	0.1	0.3	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.4
Other	3.3	5.5	1.3	9.3	1.9	9.4	4.2	1.6	4.9

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 9.3 Main activity status by geographic coverage, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

## 9.2 Main activity status and labour force status

Table 9.4a below indicates that persons with a self-reported main activity status are found in all the three categories of the labour force status classification, with the exception of those working in another activity than agriculture (automatically considered as employed by definition). About a half (50.5%) of persons working in agriculture as their main activity were employed. And about one third (31.0%) of persons who declared household care as their main activity are actually employed.

**Table 9.4a Main activity status by labour force status classification (% in the working-age population)**

Labour force status	Employed			Unemployed			Outside the labour force			TOTAL	
	SEX	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE		TOTAL
<b>Total</b>		46,637	38,223	84,859	3,373	3,944	7,317	42,301	48,983	91,283	183,460
<b>Main activity status (%)</b>											
Studying or training		401	448	849	100	122	222	9,908	9,636	19,545	20,617
Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft		11,303	5,801	17,104	880	584	1,464	8,333	6,990	15,324	33,892
Working in another sector/ activity (government or private sector, business)		23,509	16,480	39,989							39,989
Looking for work		1,074	483	1,557	1,228	835	2,063	2,472	1,335	3,807	7,427
Taking care of the household or family		5,998	12,950	18,948	850	2,243	3,093	12,831	26,260	39,090	61,132
Voluntary work [community, village, church, etc.]		871	328	1,199	72	97	170	1,354	355	1,709	3,077
Long-term illness, injury or disability		71	37	108	15		15	666	568	1,234	1,357
Retired or old person		394	379	773	31	38	69	3,062	2,209	5,271	6,113
Normally work but not last week (leave, sick...)		483	293	776							776
Other		2,531	1,025	3,556	196	24	220	3,676	1,629	5,305	9,081

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 9.4b Main activity status by labour force status classification (% in the working-age population)**

Labour force status	Employed			Unemployed			Outside the labour force			
	SEX	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Main activity status (% distribution)</b>										
Studying or training		0.9	1.2	1.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	23.4	19.7	21.4
Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft		24.2	15.2	20.2	26.1	14.8	20.0	19.7	14.3	16.8
Working in another sector/ activity (government or private sector, business)		50.4	43.1	47.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Looking for work		2.3	1.3	1.8	36.4	21.2	28.2	5.8	2.7	4.2

Taking care of the household or family	12.9	33.9	22.3	25.2	56.9	42.3	30.3	53.6	42.8
Voluntary work [community, village, church, etc.]	1.9	0.9	1.4	2.1	2.5	2.3	3.2	0.7	1.9
Long-term illness, injury or disability	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.2	1.6	1.2	1.4
Retired or old person	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	7.2	4.5	5.8
Normally work but not last week (leave, sick...)	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	5.4	2.7	4.2	5.8	0.6	3.0	8.7	3.3	5.8

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

As found earlier, women are predominantly involved in household care activities more than men are. However, as can be seen in Table 9.4b, those women who self-reported household care as their main activity also represented 33.9% of total women employment, against 12.9% for their male counterpart.

### 9.3 Subsistence work and household care

Results presented in this section are estimations based on the self-reported main activity question, since there is no full measurement of own-use production work in the HIES 2019-2020. The total number of persons involved in work for own-use by their family, including those in employment, cannot be produced with this survey, and is not presented in this report. Subsistence work is estimated from persons whose self-reported main activity is "Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft", and household care is estimated from persons whose self-reported main activity is "Taking care of the household or family". However by international standards, other persons, including those in employment, could also be involved in own-use production as a secondary activity. A separate module of questions is usually asked to everybody in the working age population, and such module was not included in Vanuatu HIES 2019-2020.

Subsistence production is defined in Vanuatu HIES 2019-2020 as persons working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft, exclusively for own consumption by the family. Tables below refer to those persons who self-reported as mainly in subsistence work, and those self-reported as mainly in household care, regardless of their labour force status.

Table 9.5 shows that 10.7 percent of the total working-age population are involved in subsistence work as their main activity, and the share of male and female is 12.1 and 9.3 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, 33.3 percent of all working-age population self-declared providing unpaid family or household care as their main activity. As already mentioned above the proportion of women who are involved in this kind of work is about twice as high as that of men, at all ages and educational levels. The highest proportion are among adult women aged 25-64 years (50.8%), and women with no education or less than primary education (61.6%).

**Table 9.5 Subsistence work and household care by sex (% in the working-age population)**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Subsistence work</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>10.7</b>
<i>By age group</i>			
15-24	11.7	8.1	9.9
25-64	12.1	10.0	11.1
65+	12.8	7.4	10.4
<i>By education attainment</i>			
Less than primary or none	24.1	14.5	18.7
Completed primary	13.3	10.3	11.8
Completed secondary	4.4	3.9	4.1
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	1.1	0.0	0.6
Level not stated	7.9	7.4	7.6
<b>Household or family care</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>33.3</b>
<i>By age group</i>			
15-24	16.2	33.9	25.2
25-64	22.7	50.8	36.6
65+	29.1	47.4	37.4
<i>By education attainment</i>			
Less than primary or none	39.0	61.6	51.6
Completed primary	22.9	50.5	36.5
Completed secondary	11.2	23.0	17.1
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	4.5	5.0	4.7
Level not stated	13.8	31.4	23.2

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

In terms of geographic differences, Table 9.6 indicates while 14.8 percent of working-age population in rural areas are involved in subsistence work, an average of only 0.2 percent of working-age population in urban areas are doing the same kind of work. The share of working-age population in rural areas who are providing household or family care as their main activity is 37.1 percent, and is much higher than it is among those in urban areas (23.8 percent).

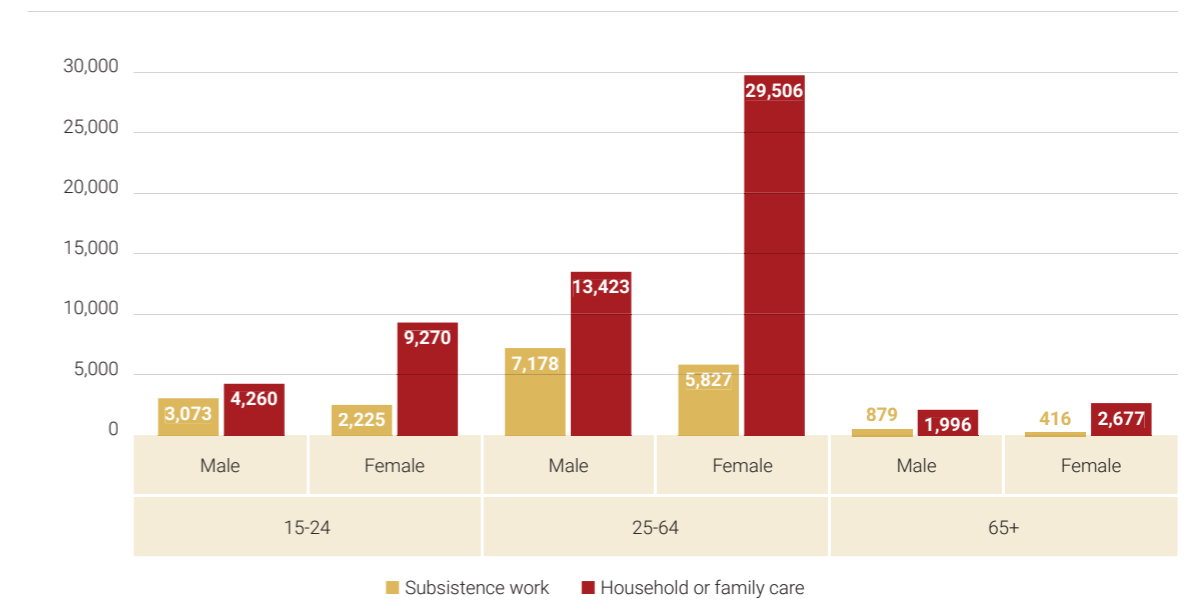
**Table 9.6 Subsistence work and household care by regions (% in the working-age population)**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
<b>Subsistence work</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>10.7</b>
<i>By age group</i>									
15-24	13.4	0.2	33.9	25.7	1.4	0.0	3.6	1.9	9.9
25-64	7.2	0.4	44.5	27.6	2.0	0.1	5.6	5.1	11.1
65+	3.1	0.0	34.4	30.5	0.6	1.4	4.7	3.9	10.4
<i>By education attainment</i>									
Less than primary or none	16.4	3.7	49.9	21.2	2.0	0.0	16.1	5.7	18.7
Completed primary	8.2	0.4	43.0	29.0	1.8	0.1	5.9	3.6	11.8
Completed secondary	3.3	0.2	18.3	26.0	0.7	0.1	1.3	2.1	4.1
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	0.0	0.0	13.0	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Level not stated	0.0	0.0	56.5	9.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.6
<b>Household or family care</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>33.3</b>
<i>By age group</i>									
15-24	36.8	12.2	13.1	19.5	38.3	18.3	26.5	42.0	25.2
25-64	60.5	25.6	16.2	32.7	62.9	26.6	31.5	63.5	36.6
65+	41.9	6.9	19.4	34.4	52.6	31.5	33.7	57.3	37.4
<i>By education attainment</i>									
Less than primary or none	57.8	25.6	17.9	52.8	70.2	37.8	28.1	71.9	51.6
Completed primary	52.7	24.7	16.0	27.3	57.9	31.8	34.6	53.5	36.5
Completed secondary	30.0	13.6	10.7	11.0	27.8	14.3	17.6	35.8	17.1
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	14.1	3.8	9.4	0.0	4.7
Level not stated	60.3	6.6	0.0	19.2	0.0	33.9	23.0	18.6	23.2

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Figure 9.4 below indicates that the number of males who reported subsistence work as their main activity at present is higher than for females who reported the same in all age groups. However the number of females who reported household or family care as their main activity at present is much higher than for males reporting the same in all age groups.

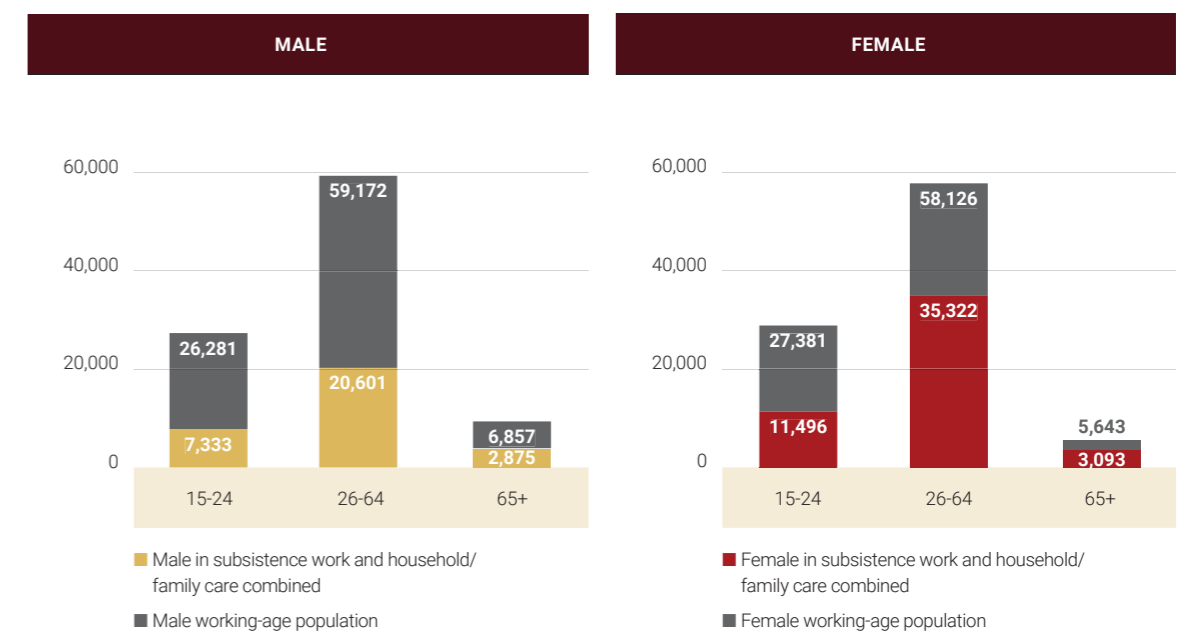
**Figure 9.4 Numbers of male and female self-reporting subsistence work and household care as their main activity by age group, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Overall, the combined share of persons who reported subsistence work and household or family care as their main activity at present was at 44.0 percent of the working age population (80,730 persons, see details in annex Table A.4.5). The share of women reporting these combined work as their main activity is considerably higher (at 54.8 percent) than that of their men counterparts (at 33.4 percent). This is also the case in all age groups (Figure 9.5). More than one-third of female youth (42.0 percent) and close to two-third of female adult (60.8 percent) reported subsistence work or household care work as their main activity, while the share among male youth and male adults is lower at 27.9 percent and 34.8 percent, respectively.

**Figure 9.5 Numbers of male and female involved in subsistence work and household/family care combined by age group, Vanuatu, 2019**



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

# 10 EMPLOYMENT IN SECTORS IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Chapter 10 attempts to provide a sectoral overview of employment potentially impacted by job disruption due COVID-19 in Vanuatu, which can serve as a baseline information in the socio-economic recovery process. Since the impact was not measured by the HIES, this chapter only focuses on jobs at risk. It should also contribute to other ongoing or future assessments of the Covid-19 impact on employment.

## 10.1 Sectoral overview of employment in the context of COVID-19

While there has been no confirmed cases or death of COVID-19 reported in Vanuatu (as of 6 November, 2020), the country is impacted by the pandemic nonetheless. In March, the government of Vanuatu declared a State of Emergency over the country, closed all entry for international flights and cruise ships, suspended all domestic flights and ferries, and temporarily suspended departures of seasonal worker programs to Australia and New Zealand. The pandemic has effectively ceased tourism, which is a major source of revenue and jobs in Vanuatu, contributing 24.6 percent of the national GDP<sup>3</sup>. Moreover, the Tropical Cyclone Harold in April further affected trade, sectors, business operations and employment.

This report classifies the economic sectors to which extent are expected to be the affected by COVID-19 regarding declining working hours and job disruption. In essence, the classification adopts the global classification of the impact of COVID-19 on economic output at the sector level, which has been used in ILO Monitors<sup>5</sup>. However, the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector was classified as low-medium risk at the global level, but at the medium-high level in this report, for Vanuatu. This is because in Vanuatu, most of farmers provide supplies to hotels. With the pandemic disrupting tourism, hotels are either closed or operating at half capacity, and are not buying from farmers. In addition, due to limited flights, exports of vegetables and agriculture products are also very low. However a considerable proportion is also sold at local markets that were also closed, or reduced in size, hence reducing sales of agriculture products.

Table 10.1 indicates that 74,295 persons are employed in sectors that are expected to experience medium, medium-high, and high degree of disruption, counting for 87.6 percent of the total employed population in the country. Among those who are employed in medium- to high-risk sectors, 64.9 percent are in informal employment, highlighting the vulnerability of the employment, especially during the current crisis.

**Table 10.1** Employment by sector, COVID-19 disruption risk and share of informal employment

ECONOMIC SECTOR	EXPECTED IMPACT OF CRISIS ON ECONOMIC OUTPUT	TOTAL EMPLOYMENT, 2019	SHARE IN INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT, 2019 (%)
Education	Low	4,794	20.0
Human health and social work activities	Low	1,168	23.1
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	Low	4,377	10.8
Utilities	Low	225	0.0
Construction	Medium	3,300	63.7
Financial and insurance activities	Medium	1,095	9.1
Mining and quarrying	Medium	163	19.3
Agriculture; forestry and fishing	Medium-high	20,426	92.4
Transport; storage and communication	Medium-high	4,151	45.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation, and other services	Medium-high	18,650	91.0
Accommodation and food service activities	High	5,508	63.1
Real estate; business and administrative activities	High	5,966	28.4
Manufacturing	High	3,856	66.1
Wholesale and retail trade	High	11,180	66.6

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Taking a further look into the tourism sector, Table 10.2 indicates that persons who are employed in the tourism sector comprise 8.4 percent of the total employed population. On average, the share of male employed in the tourism sector is higher than the share of female in the same sector. Male employment in this sector accounts for 10 percent of total male employment, while female tourism employment accounts for 6.5 percent of total female employment.

Disaggregated by tourism sub-sectors, the highest share of tourism-related employment is from food and beverage serving activities, which employed 2,894 persons, accounting for an average of 40.6 percent of all jobs located in this sector. In particular for females, two-third of the employed population in the tourism sector are involved in food and beverage serving activities.

**Table 10.2** Employment in the tourism sector by sub-sector by sex

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<i>Employment in tourism</i>	<b>4,658</b>	<b>2,477</b>	<b>7,135</b>
Accommodation for visitors	350	233	583
Food and beverage serving activities	1,241	1,653	2,894
Road passenger transport	1,670	35	1,704
Water passenger transport	564	50	613

3 IMF (International Monetary Fund). Policy Responses to COVID-19, retrieved on October 23,2020. <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#v>

4 A comprehensive overview of policy responses in Vanuatu regarding the labour market are available at: <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/coronavirus/regional-country/country-responses/lang-en/index.htm#VU>.

5 ILO (International Labour Organization). 2020. ILO Monitor 2ndth edition: COVID-19 and the world of work – Updated estimates and analysis, 7 April.

Air passenger transport	38	20	59
Travel agencies and other reservations	389	324	713
Cultural activities	231	107	338
Sports and recreational activities	176	54	231
<b>Employment in tourism (% as total employment)</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>8.4</b>
Accommodation for visitors	0.7	0.6	0.7
Food and beverage serving activities	2.7	4.3	3.4
Road passenger transport	3.6	0.1	2.0
Water passenger transport	1.2	0.1	0.7
Air passenger transport	0.1	0.1	0.1
Travel agencies and other reservations	0.8	0.8	0.8
Cultural activities	0.5	0.3	0.4
Sports and recreational activities	0.4	0.1	0.3

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table 10.3 Employment in the tourism sector by sub-sectors by regions**

	URBAN AREAS	RURAL AREAS	TOTAL
<b>Employment in tourism</b>	<b>4,175</b>	<b>2,961</b>	<b>7,135</b>
Accommodation for visitors	304	279	583
Food and beverage serving activities	1,796	1,098	2,894
Road passenger transport	981	724	1,704
Water passenger transport	241	372	613
Air passenger transport	38	20	59
Travel agencies and other reservations	376	337	713
Cultural activities	293	45	338
Sports and recreational activities	146	85	231
<b>Employment in tourism (% as total employment)</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>8.4</b>
Accommodation for visitors	1.0	0.5	0.7
Food and beverage serving activities	5.8	2.0	3.4
Road passenger transport	3.2	1.3	2.0
Water passenger transport	0.8	0.7	0.7
Air passenger transport	0.1	0.0	0.1
Travel agencies and other reservations	1.2	0.6	0.8
Cultural activities	1.0	0.1	0.4
Sports and recreational activities	0.5	0.2	0.3

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

However, due to possible smaller number of the sample, data on the above Table 10.3 should be analysed with caution.

## 10.2 Employment of vulnerable groups: women and youth

Table 10.4 reveals that among 26,511 persons employed in sectors that are expected to experience a high-degree of disruption, 15,520 are women, counting for 58.5 percent. The share of female employed in the high-risk sectors is 40.6 percent, and is significantly higher than the share of male employed in high-risk sectors (23.6 percent), shown in Figure 10.1.

**Table 10.4 Employment in the COVID-19 affected sectors by sex, and by main age groups**

ECONOMIC SECTOR	EXPECTED IMPACT OF CRISIS ON ECONOMIC OUTPUT	MALE	FEMALE	YOUTH (AGE 15-24)	ADULT (AGE 25+)
Education	Low	1,722	3,072	443	4,351
Human health and social work activities	Low	508	660	61	1,107
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	Low	3,028	1,349	321	4,057
Utilities	Low	190	35	26	199
Construction	Medium	3,166	134	661	2,639
Financial and insurance activities	Medium	494	601	147	948
Mining and quarrying	Medium	87	76	58	105
Agriculture; forestry and fishing	Medium-high	14,404	6,023	3,708	16,718
Transport; storage and communication	Medium-high	3,729	422	462	3,689
Arts, entertainment and recreation, and other services	Medium-high	8,319	10,332	2,881	15,769
Accommodation and food service activities	High	2,850	2,657	1,091	4,417
Real estate; business and administrative activities	High	,940	3,026	687	5,280
Manufacturing	High	1,919	1,938	340	3,517
Wholesale and retail trade	High	3,281	7,899	1,910	9,270
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>46,637</b>	<b>38,223</b>	<b>12,795</b>	<b>72,064</b>

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

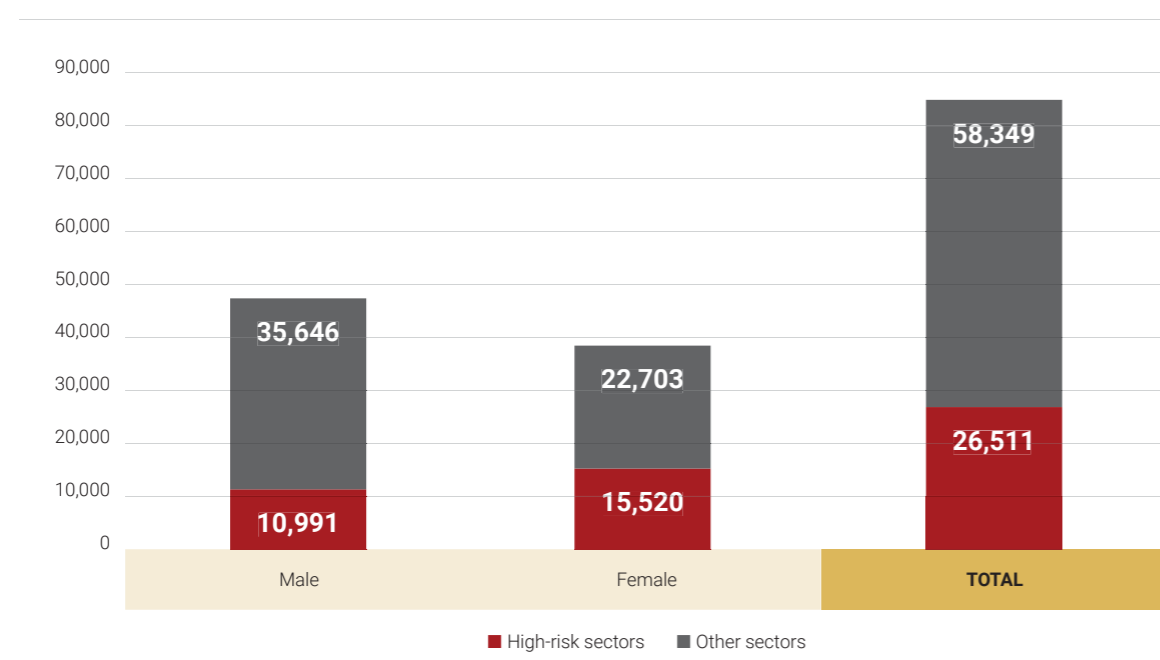
When comparing the main age groups (youth versus adults), youth are more likely to be employed in sectors that are expected to be the hardest hit. The share of the youth employed in medium, medium-high, and high risk sectors combined is 93.3 percent, compared to 86.5 percent for the adult employed population (Table 10.5).

**Table 10.5** Employment in the Covid-19 affected sectors as a share of total employment by sex, and by main age groups

ECONOMIC SECTOR	EXPECTED IMPACT OF CRISIS ON ECONOMIC OUTPUT	MALE	FEMALE	YOUTH (AGE 15-24)	ADULT (AGE 25+)
Education	Low	3.7	8.0	3.5	6.0
Human health and social work activities	Low	1.1	1.7	0.5	1.5
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	Low	6.5	3.5	2.5	5.6
Utilities	Low	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.3
Construction	Medium	6.8	0.3	5.2	3.7
Financial and insurance activities	Medium	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.3
Mining and quarrying	Medium	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1
Agriculture; forestry and fishing	Medium-high	30.9	15.8	29.0	23.2
Transport; storage and communication	Medium-high	8.0	1.1	3.6	5.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation, and other services	Medium-high	17.8	27.0	22.5	21.9
Accommodation and food service activities	High	6.1	7.0	8.5	6.1
Real estate; business and administrative activities	High	6.3	7.9	5.4	7.3
Manufacturing	High	4.1	5.1	2.7	4.9
Wholesale and retail trade	High	7.0	20.7	14.9	12.9
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Figure 10.1** Number of male and female employed in high-risk sectors



Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

## REFERENCES

International Labour Organization (ILO). 2020a. *ILO Monitor 4th edition: COVID-19 and the world of work – Updated estimates and analysis*. International Labour Office. Geneva. 27 May.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2020b. *ILO Monitor 2nd edition: COVID-19 and the world of work – Updated estimates and analysis*. International Labour Office. Geneva. 7 April.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2018. *Asia-Pacific employment and social outlook 2018: advancing decent work for sustainable development*. ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Bangkok.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2013a. *Measuring informality: A statistical manual on the informal sector and informal employment*. International Labour Office. Geneva. October.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2013b. *Resolution Concerning Statistics of Work, Employment, and Labour Underutilization*. In 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Geneva. 2 to 11 October.

International Monetary Fund (IMF). 2020. *Policy Responses to COVID-19*. Retrieved on October 23, 2020, <https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19#V>



# APPENDICES

## A.1. Main statistical concepts and definitions

The main concepts and definitions of the Vanuatu NSDP Baseline Survey 2019 were designed in accordance with the international standards on statistics of work, employment, and labour underutilization adopted by the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (Geneva, 2013).<sup>6</sup>

### A.1.1 Labour force statistics concepts

#### Work

Work is defined as:

- “Any activity performed by persons of any sex and age to produce goods or to provide services for use by others or for own use”
- It is “irrespective of its formal or informal character or the legality of the activity.”
- It excludes “activities not involving production of goods or services (begging, stealing), self-care (personal grooming, hygiene) and activities that cannot be performed by another person on one’s own behalf (sleeping, learning, own recreation).”

#### Employment

Persons in employment are defined as all of those above a specified age who, during a specific reference period, were engaged in any activity to produce goods or provide services for pay or profit. It excludes persons engaged solely in activities to produce goods or services for own final use such as producing agricultural, fishing and gathering products for own-consumption or cleaning, decorating, gardening and maintaining one’s own dwelling or premises, durables and other goods.

Persons in employment comprise:

- employed persons at work, i.e., who worked in a job for at least one hour;
- employed persons not at work due to temporary absence from a job, or due to working-time arrangements, such as shift work, flexi-time and compensatory leave for overtime.

#### Unemployment (U)

The international standard definition of unemployment should satisfy three criteria simultaneously: “without work”, “currently available for work” and “seeking work”. The “unemployed” comprise all persons of working age who during the reference period were:

- without work – not in paid employment nor self-employed;
- currently available for work – available for paid employment or self-employment during the reference period;
- seeking work – had taken specific steps in a specified reference period to seek paid employment or self-employment.

<sup>6</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS). (2013). Resolution Concerning Statistics of Work, Employment, and Labor Underutilization. In 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Geneva: ILO.

The definition of unemployment provides an exception in the case of future starters. They are considered as unemployed even if they did not carry out activities to seek employment during the specified period.

#### Youth vs. adult

The term “youth” refers to persons aged 15 to 24 years and “adult” is persons aged 25 years and above.

#### Time-related underemployment (TRU)

Persons in time-related underemployment are defined as all persons in employment who, during a specified reference period:

- wanted to work additional hours;
- whose working time in all jobs was less than a specified hours threshold;
- who were available to work additional hours given an opportunity for more work;

In the Vanuatu HIES, the underemployment threshold was set at 40 hours usually worked per week.

#### Potential labour force (PLF)

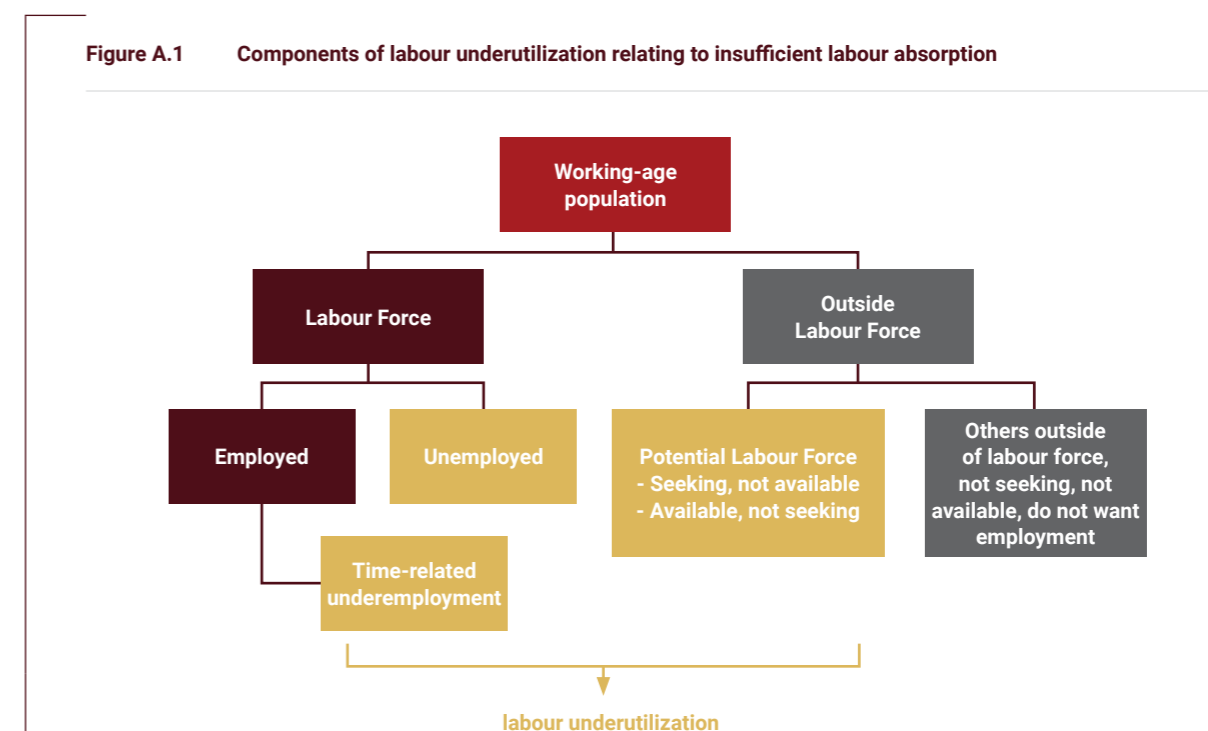
Potential labour force is defined as all persons of working age who, during the reference period, were neither in employment nor in unemployment but who were considered as:

- unavailable jobseekers – who were seeking employment but not currently available; or
- available potential jobseekers – who wanted employment, were currently available for employment but did not carry out activities to seek employment.

#### Labour underutilization

Labour underutilization (LU) “refers to mismatches between labour supply and demand, which translate into an unmet need for employment among the population” (ILO, 2013; Resolution I, Para 40). LU comprises three main components: time-related underemployment, unemployment, and potential labour force.

Figure A.1 illustrates the relationship of aforementioned concepts.



### Working Age Population (WAP)

The working age population comprises persons who are aged 15 years old and above.

$$WAP \text{ (aged 15+)} = LF \text{ (Labour Force)} + NLF \text{ (Not in labour force)}$$

### Labour Force (LF)

The total labour force is the sum of the total of employed and unemployed population of the working age population.

$$LF = E \text{ (Employed)} + U \text{ (Unemployed)}$$

### Population outside of the labour force

Population outside of the labour force are persons of the working age who are not part of the labour force. It also refers to the working age population who are neither employed nor unemployed.

### Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

Labour force participation rate is defined as the ratio of the labour force to the working-age population (aged 15 and above). It is a measure of the proportion of working-age population that actively engages in labour market, either by working or looking for work.

$$LFPR = \frac{LF}{WAP}$$

### Employment to Population Ratio (EPR)

The employment-to-population ratio is defined as the proportion of employed population to the working-age population. A high ratio means that a large share of a country's population is employed, while a low ratio means that a large share of the population is not directly participated in economic activities, as they are either unemployed or out of the labour force.

$$EPR = \frac{\text{Employed population}}{WAP}$$

### Labour Underutilization (LU)

The composite measure of all those who are in unemployment (U), in time-related underemployment (TRU) or in the potential labour force (PLF).

$$LU = U + TRU + PLF$$

### Extended labour force (Extended LF)

Extended labour force is the total population in the labour force and potential labour force.

$$\text{Extended LF} = LF + PLF$$

### Unemployment Rate (UR or LU1)

Unemployment rate is the proportion of unemployed population to the total population in labour force.

$$UR = \frac{\text{Unemployed population}}{LF}$$

### Combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment (LU2)

The combined rate of time-related underemployment and unemployment (LU2) refers to the proportion of the labour force that are either in unemployment or time-related underemployment.

$$LU2 = \frac{U + TRU}{LF}$$

### Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (LU3)

The combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (LU3) represents the share of the extended labour force that are in unemployment or the potential labour force.

$$LU3 = \frac{U + PLF}{\text{Extended LF}}$$

### Composite measure of labour underutilization (LU4)

The composite measure of labour underutilization (LU4) represents the share of the extended labour force that are in unemployment, time-related underemployment or the potential labour force.

$$LU4 = \frac{U + TRU + PLF}{\text{Extended LF}}$$

### Informal sector

The informal sector consists of unregistered and/or small unincorporated private enterprises engaged in the production of goods or services for profits. It consists all economic units (business enterprises) that are not covered or not fully covered by formal requirements by law; or informal arrangements in practice.

Employment in the informal sector contains all jobs in informal sector enterprises.

### Informal employment

Informal employment is defined as the type of employment where the diversified set of economic activities, enterprises, jobs, and workers are not regulated or protected by the government, have no explicit or written contracts of employment, no certain employment benefits (such as social protection coverage, severance pay, paid sick and annual leave) or for which labour regulations are not applied nor enforced.

Informal employment comprises all persons with informal jobs, whether carried out in formal or informal sector enterprises, or in households, during a given reference period, which includes:

- Own-account workers (self-employed with no employees) in their own informal sector enterprises;
- Employers (self-employed with employees) in their own informal sector enterprises;
- Contributing family workers, irrespective of type of enterprise;
- Members of informal producers' cooperatives (not established as legal entities);
- Employees holding informal jobs as defined according to the employment relationship (in law or in practice, jobs not subject to national labour legislation, income taxation, social protection or entitlement to certain employment benefits (paid annual or sick leave, etc.);
- Own-account workers engaged in production of goods exclusively for own final use by their household.

### Subsistence production

Subsistence production constitutes the subgroup of persons who performed any of the specified activities to produce foodstuff from farming, fishing, raising animals, fishing, or making handicraft that contribute to the livelihood of the household or family. Excluded are persons who engaged in such production as recreational or leisure activities.

### Reference period

For the employment section, the reference period is a week prior to the interview.

### A.1.2 Main classifications used in this report

#### Status in employment

Status in employment is classified in accordance with the International Classification of Status in Employment of 1993 (ICSE-93), namely:

- Wage and salaried employee – a person who works in any economic unit such as the government department, private business enterprises or organizations, including family businesses, and receives regular pay;
- Employer – a person who runs a business on his/her own or in partnership and engages at least one paid employee on a continuous basis in operating the business;
- Own account worker – a person who runs a business on his/her own or in partnership but does not engage any paid employee on regular basis (self-employed and not employing others);
- Contributing family worker – a person who works in his/her family business without receiving any regular pay.

#### Employment by economic sectors

Economic sectors are defined in line with the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Rev.4, of 2008), which classifies economic sectors according to the activity they carry out.

#### Employment by occupation

The kind of work or group of tasks done during the reference period by the person employed, classified according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08, of 2008).

## A.2. Detailed survey methodology

- A.2.1 Introduction
- A.2.2 Objectives and contents of the report
- A.2.3 Scope and coverage
- A.2.4 Survey Instruments
- A.2.5 Sampling
- A.2.6 Field organization

### A.3. Sample sizes and sampling errors for selected statistics

**Table A.3.1 Sample size by sex**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Total sample</b>	10,582	10,140	20,722
<b>Working-age population</b>	6,490	6,408	12,898
<i>By age</i>			
<15	4092	3732	7824
15-24	1733	1818	3551
25-64	4,282	4215	8497
65+	475	375	850
<b>Labour force</b>	3497	2909	6406
<b>Employment</b>	3272	2655	5927
<i>By education (% distribution)</i>			
Less than primary or none	134	127	261
Completed primary	2333	1859	4192
Completed secondary	634	562	1196
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	148	93	241
Level not stated	23	14	37
<i>By employment status (% distribution)</i>			
Employees	1610	1122	2732
Employers	131	46	177
Own-account workers	1365	1312	2677
Contributing family workers	49	46	95
Workers not classifiable by status	117	129	246
<i>By economic industry (% distribution)</i>			
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	1,429	873	2,302
Industry	384	146	530
Services	1351	1485	2836
Economic activity not classified	108	151	259
<i>By occupation</i>			
Managers	233	144	377
Professionals	215	284	499
Technicians and associate professionals	145	85	230
Clerical support workers	50	82	132
Service and sales workers	408	663	1071

Skilled agricultural, forestry & fishery workers	1425	852	2277
Craft and related trades workers	254	129	383
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	194	32	226
Elementary occupations	196	213	409
(Armed forces occupations)	2	2	4
<b>Occupation not classified</b>	150	169	319
<b>Unemployment</b>	225	254	479
<b>Outside labour force</b>	2993	3499	6492
<b>Subsistence work</b>	750	571	1321
<b>Household or family care</b>	1482	2994	4476

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.3.2 Sample size by regions**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
<b>Total sample</b>	1,790	2,168	2,850	2,222	2,700	3,176	2,986	2,830	20,722
<b>Working-age population</b>	1,105	1,403	1,719	1,276	1,656	2,132	1,958	1,649	12,898
<i>By age</i>									
<15	685	765	1,131	946	1,044	1,044	1,028	1,181	7,824
15-24	306	358	514	360	396	617	520	480	3,551
25-64	704	970	1,107	824	1,101	1,407	1,324	1,060	8,497
65+	95	75	98	92	159	108	114	109	850
<b>Labour force</b>	360	844	718	527	820	1,297	1,300	540	6,406
<b>Employment</b>	341	833	606	509	762	1,248	1,113	515	5,927
<i>By education (% distribution)</i>									
Less than primary or none	37	7	40	44	10	12	17	94	261
Completed primary	249	522	459	399	672	737	818	336	4,192
Completed secondary	47	242	101	54	72	373	227	80	1,196
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	3	52	4	5	7	121	44	5	241
Level not stated	5	10	2	7	1	5	7	0	37
<i>By employment status (% distribution)</i>									

Employees	79	657	234	76	148	869	506	163	2,732
Employers	11	30	20	25	11	31	31	18	177
Own-account workers	227	138	303	346	571	250	537	305	2,677
Contributing family workers	5	0	13	5	9	30	22	11	95
Workers not classifiable by status	19	8	36	57	23	68	17	18	246
<b>By economic industry (% distribution)</b>									
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	203	86	372	352	549	45	408	287	2,302
Industry	31	119	18	30	20	150	114	48	530
Services	94	615	184	98	166	1,008	524	147	2,836
Economic activity not classified	13	13	32	29	27	45	67	33	259
<b>By occupation</b>									
Managers	20	61	17	25	30	105	83	36	377
Professionals	34	83	71	34	50	125	65	37	499
Technicians and associate professionals	9	49	11	11	10	95	34	11	230
Clerical support workers	5	20	7	1	3	58	34	4	132
Service and sales workers	30	247	44	34	52	420	200	44	1,071
Skilled agricultural, forestry & fishery workers	200	71	379	346	546	38	410	287	2,277
Craft and related trades workers	17	97	9	10	17	121	89	23	383
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	1	82	14	3	10	64	39	13	226
Elementary occupations	9	83	23	15	13	151	90	25	409
(Armed forces occupations)	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	4
Occupation not classified	16	39	31	30	31	69	68	35	319
<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>479</b>
<b>Outside labour force</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>6,492</b>
<b>Subsistence work</b>	85	6	689	345	27	2	97	70	1,321
<b>Household or family care</b>	588	294	262	373	922	518	596	923	4,476

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Note: For cells where sample cases are less than 30, statistics presented in the report should be used with caution.

**Table A.3.3 Sampling errors – employed population**

EMPLOYED POPULATION (AGED 15 YEARS AND ABOVE)	ESTIMATE	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
<b>By occupation</b>				
Managers, professionals, and technicians	16,056	768	14,546	17,566
Clerical, service and sales workers	18,130	683	16,787	19,473
Skilled agricultural and trades workers	36,828	1,189	34,490	39,166
Plant and machine operators	3,001	229	2,552	3,450
Elementary occupations	6,241	401	5,453	7,028
Armed forces	71	38	-4	147
Not elsewhere classified	4,532	388	3,768	5,295
<b>By economic industry</b>				
Agriculture	31,617	1,150	29,358	33,877
Manufacturing	3,856	279	3,308	4,404
Construction	3,300	288	2,734	3,865
Mining and quarrying; Electricity, gas and water supply	388	89	212	564
Market services	27,900	931	26,070	29,729
Non market services	14,023	716	12,615	15,430
Not classifiable	3,776	367	3,054	4,497
<b>By status of employment</b>				
Employees	39,622	1,021	37,615	41,629
Employers	2,501	257	1,997	3,006
Own-account workers	37,366	1,223	34,962	39,770
Contributing family workers	1,489	177	1,140	1,837
Workers not classifiable by status	3,881	383	3,128	4,633

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.3.4 Sampling errors – labour force participation rate**

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE (LFPR)	ESTIMATE	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Labour force participation rate				
<b>By gender</b>				
	50.2%	0.8%	48.8%	51.7%
Male	54.2%	0.9%	52.4%	55.9%
Female	46.3%	0.9%	44.5%	48.0%
<b>By age group</b>				

Age 15-24	29.1%	1.0%	27.1%	31.1%
Age 25-54	64.3%	0.9%	62.6%	66.1%
Age 55-64	50.3%	1.8%	46.8%	53.7%
Age 65+	25.6%	1.8%	22.0%	29.2%
<b>By Geographic coverage</b>				
Urban areas	61.2%	1.0%	59.2%	63.2%
Rural areas	45.9%	1.0%	44.0%	47.8%
<b>By regions</b>				
Torba	32.3%	2.6%	27.3%	37.4%
Sanma	40.8%	1.9%	37.1%	44.4%
Penama	39.7%	2.5%	34.9%	44.5%
Malampa	46.8%	3.1%	40.6%	52.9%
Shefa	66.8%	1.7%	63.4%	70.1%
Tafea	30.3%	1.9%	26.5%	34.1%
Luganville	59.5%	1.4%	56.7%	62.2%
Port Vila	61.6%	1.2%	59.2%	64.0%
<b>By education attainment</b>				
Less than primary or none	25.7%	1.9%	22.0%	29.5%
Completed primary	49.9%	0.9%	48.2%	51.7%
Completed secondary	58.0%	1.3%	55.5%	60.5%
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	79.2%	2.8%	73.8%	84.7%
Level not stated	40.7%	6.0%	28.9%	52.5%

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.3.5 Sampling errors – unemployment rate**

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE (LFPR)	ESTIMATE	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Unemployment rate				
<b>By gender</b>				
	7.9%	0.5%	6.9%	8.9%
Male	6.7%	0.6%	5.6%	7.9%
Female	9.4%	0.7%	8.0%	10.8%
<b>By age group</b>				
Age 15-24	18.0%	1.4%	15.2%	20.9%
Age 25-54	6.3%	0.5%	5.3%	7.3%
Age 55-64	4.4%	1.0%	2.4%	6.5%
Age 65+	1.1%	0.6%	-0.2%	2.3%

<b>By Geographic coverage</b>				
Urban areas	3.3%	0.6%	2.2%	4.4%
Rural areas	10.4%	0.7%	9.0%	11.8%
<b>By regions</b>				
Torba	4.8%	1.4%	2.0%	7.6%
Sanma	15.1%	2.2%	10.8%	19.4%
Penama	3.3%	0.8%	1.7%	4.8%
Malampa	7.7%	1.4%	4.8%	10.5%
Shefa	14.6%	1.4%	11.9%	17.4%
Tafea	4.5%	1.2%	2.1%	7.0%
Luganville	1.3%	0.5%	0.2%	2.4%
Port Vila	3.8%	0.7%	2.4%	5.1%
<b>By education attainment</b>				
Less than primary or none	5.9%	2.1%	1.9%	10.0%
Completed primary	9.1%	0.6%	8.0%	10.3%
Completed secondary	5.7%	0.8%	4.2%	7.2%
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	1.1%	0.7%	-0.2%	2.5%
Level not stated	0.0%			

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.3.6 Sampling errors – time-related underemployment rate**

TIME-RELATED UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE	ESTIMATE	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Time-related underemployment rate	14.8%	0.8%	13.2%	16.4%
<b>By gender</b>				
Male	16.7%	1.0%	14.8%	18.6%
Female	12.5%	0.8%	10.9%	14.2%
<b>By age group</b>				
Age 15-24	14.2%	1.4%	11.4%	16.9%
Age 25-54	15.2%	0.9%	13.5%	16.9%
Age 55-64	16.0%	2.0%	12.1%	19.9%
Age 65+	6.9%	1.8%	3.3%	10.5%
<b>By Geographic coverage</b>				
Urban areas	9.2%	0.9%	7.5%	10.9%
Rural areas	17.7%	1.1%	15.5%	19.9%



<i>By regions</i>				
Torba	15.1%	3.2%	8.9%	21.4%
Sanma	23.4%	2.4%	18.7%	28.1%
Penama	22.0%	2.8%	16.5%	27.5%
Malampa	19.1%	2.2%	14.8%	23.5%
Shefa	16.6%	2.4%	11.9%	21.4%
Tafea	4.5%	1.2%	2.2%	6.8%
Luganville	21.6%	1.9%	17.9%	25.3%
Port Vila	6.2%	1.0%	4.3%	8.1%

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.3.7 Sampling errors – youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)**

YOUTH NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING (NEET)	ESTIMATE	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
NEET rate	43.2%	1.0%	41.1%	45.2%
<i>By gender</i>				
NEET rate - Male	40.2%	1.5%	37.4%	43.1%
NEET rate - Female	46.0%	1.4%	43.3%	48.7%
<i>By Geographic coverage</i>				
NEET rate - Urban areas	31.1%	2.1%	26.9%	35.2%
NEET rate - Rural areas	47.5%	1.2%	45.2%	49.9%
<i>By regions</i>				
NEET rate - Torba	66.7%	4.2%	58.4%	75.0%
NEET rate - Sanma	47.6%	2.5%	42.7%	52.4%
NEET rate - Penama	48.6%	3.4%	41.9%	55.4%
NEET rate - Malampa	48.4%	3.2%	42.1%	54.8%
NEET rate - Shefa	38.2%	2.3%	33.7%	42.7%
NEET rate - Tafea	50.1%	2.6%	45.0%	55.2%
NEET rate - Luganville	30.6%	2.4%	25.9%	35.4%
NEET rate - Port Vila	31.2%	2.6%	26.0%	36.3%

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.3.8 Sampling errors – potential labour force**

POTENTIAL LABOUR FORCE	ESTIMATE	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Potential labour force rate	8.9%	0.6%	7.8%	10.0%
<i>By gender</i>				
Potential labour force rate - Male	8.1%	0.6%	6.9%	9.3%
Potential labour force rate - Female	9.9%	0.7%	8.4%	11.3%
<i>By Geographic coverage</i>				
Potential labour force rate - Urban areas	2.3%	0.3%	1.6%	3.0%
Potential labour force rate - Rural areas	12.1%	0.8%	10.5%	13.6%
<i>By regions</i>				
Potential labour force rate - Torba	4.5%	1.2%	2.1%	6.9%
Potential labour force rate - Sanma	20.3%	2.3%	15.9%	24.8%
Potential labour force rate - Penama	21.6%	2.5%	16.6%	26.5%
Potential labour force rate - Malampa	6.0%	1.0%	4.0%	7.9%
Potential labour force rate - Shefa	4.0%	0.8%	2.4%	5.6%
Potential labour force rate - Tafea	20.2%	3.4%	13.5%	26.9%
Potential labour force rate - Luganville	5.9%	0.8%	4.4%	7.4%
Potential labour force rate - Port Vila	1.4%	0.4%	0.6%	2.1%

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.3.9 Sampling errors – informal sector working population**

INFORMAL SECTOR WORKING POPULATION (AGED 15 YEARS AND ABOVE)	ESTIMATE	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Population employed in the informal sector	66,032	1,365	63,349	68,715
Population employed in the formal sector	12,935	672	11,614	14,257
Population employed in households	5,892	369	5,166	6,618
<i>By gender</i>				
Informal sector - Male	36,179	817	34,572	37,786
Informal sector - Female	29,853	816	28,248	31,457
<i>By age group</i>				
Informal sector - Age 15-24	10,807	523	9,778	11,836
Informal sector - Age 25-54	47,018	1,027	44,999	49,038
Informal sector - Age 55-64	5,562	329	4,915	6,209
Informal sector - Age 65+	2,645	248	2,157	3,132

<b>By Geographic coverage</b>				
Informal sector - Urban areas	22,590	738	21,139	24,041
Informal sector - Rural areas	43,442	1,145	41,191	45,693
<b>By regions</b>				
Informal sector - Torba	1,506	175	1,161	1,851
Informal sector - Sanma	6,226	395	5,451	7,002
Informal sector - Penama	6,494	467	5,576	7,411
Informal sector - Malampa	9,715	613	8,510	10,919
Informal sector - Shefa	14,349	596	13,178	15,521
Informal sector - Tafea	5,152	420	4,327	5,977
Informal sector - Luganville	4,731	243	4,253	5,210
Informal sector - Port Vila	17,859	697	16,488	19,229
<b>By education attainment</b>				
Informal sector - Less than primary or none	2,959	294	2,382	3,536
Informal sector - Completed primary	49,456	1,319	46,862	52,050
Informal sector - Completed secondary	11,545	532	10,499	12,591
Informal sector - Tertiary	1,729	255	1,228	2,231
Informal sector - Level not stated	343	88	169	517

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Informal employment - Rural areas	44,455	1,170	42,154	46,755
<b>By regions</b>				
Informal employment - Torba	1,792	199	1,401	2,184
Informal employment - Sanma	7,247	383	6,495	8,000
Informal employment - Penama	7,165	446	6,288	8,042
Informal employment - Malampa	9,817	645	8,548	11,086
Informal employment - Shefa	13,256	643	11,992	14,520
Informal employment - Tafea	5,177	393	4,405	5,949
Informal employment - Luganville	2,865	179	2,513	3,217
Informal employment - Port Vila	9,486	584	8,338	10,634
<b>By education attainment</b>				
Informal employment - Less than primary or none	3,170	301	2,579	3,762
Informal employment - Completed primary	45,660	1,256	43,191	48,129
Informal employment - Completed secondary	7,160	411	6,352	7,968
Informal employment - Tertiary	579	116	351	807
Informal employment - Level not stated	236	64	110	363

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.3.10 Sampling errors – informal employment population**

INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT POPULATION (AGED 15 YEARS AND ABOVE)	ESTIMATE	STANDARD ERROR	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Population with formal employment	28,054	916	26,252	29,855
Population with informal employment	56,806	1,320	54,211	59,401
<b>By gender</b>				
Informal employment - Male	30,564	761	29,069	32,059
Informal employment - Female	26,242	799	24,670	27,813
<b>By age group</b>				
Informal employment - Age 15-24	9,717	495	8,743	10,691
Informal employment - Age 25-54	38,722	950	36,855	40,589
Informal employment - Age 55-64	5,715	337	5,052	6,378
Informal employment - Age 65+	2,652	245	2,170	3,134
<b>By Geographic coverage</b>				
Informal employment - Urban areas	12,351	611	11,151	13,551

## A.4. Additional statistical tables

**Table A.4.1 Key indicators of the labour market (KILM) by sex and age group**

	MALE	FEMALE	AGED 15-24	AGED 25-64	AGED 65+	TOTAL
Labour force participation rate (%)	54.2	46.3	29.1	62.5	25.6	50.2
Employment-to-population ratio (%)	50.5	41.9	23.8	58.7	25.3	46.3
Employment	46637	38223	12,795	68,900	3,164	84,859
<b>By education (% distribution)</b>						
Less than primary or none	3.6	4.3	2.0	3.8	13.6	3.92
Completed primary	71.1	69.5	71.8	69.6	79.9	70.36
Completed secondary	19.9	21.5	25.2	20.6	3.2	20.61
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	4.8	4.1	0.9	5.2	3.2	4.51
Level not stated	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.60
<b>By employment status (% distribution)</b>						
Employees	50.0	42.7	46.3	47.9	21.8	46.7
Employers	4.0	1.6	2.3	2.8	8.1	2.9
Own-account workers	40.6	48.3	41.7	43.6	63.2	44.0
Contributing family workers	1.7	1.8	3.1	1.5	1.1	1.8

Workers not classifiable by status	3.7	5.6	6.6	4.1	5.7	4.6
<b>By economic industry (% distribution)</b>						
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	42.1	31.3	42.9	36.0	42.7	37.3
Industry	11.5	5.7	8.5	8.9	9.7	8.9
Services	43.1	57.1	44.0	50.7	43.2	4.5
Economic activity not classified	3.3	5.9	4.6	4.4	4.5	3.9
<b>By occupation (% distribution)</b>						
Managers	7.3	5.3	2.1	6.9	12.2	6.4
Professionals	6.6	10.6	4.7	9.2	5.2	8.4
Technicians and associate professionals	4.7	3.5	3.3	4.4	1.4	4.2
Clerical support workers	1.7	3.4	4.2	2.3	0.5	2.5
Service and sales workers	13.4	25.5	21.4	18.5	17.6	18.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry & fishery workers	42.1	30.7	42.0	35.8	42.0	37.0
Craft and related trades workers	7.7	4.9	4.1	6.8	8.8	6.4
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	5.6	1.0	2.6	3.7	3.3	3.5
Elementary occupations	6.5	8.4	10.0	7.0	4.5	7.4
(Armed forces occupations)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Occupation not classified	4.4	6.5	5.6	5.3	4.6	5.3
Average actual hours of work per week	31.8	32.8	29.5	32.8	29.1	32.2
Informal employment rate (%)	65.5	68.7	75.9	64.5	83.8	66.9
Unemployment rate (%)	6.7	9.4	18.0	6.1	1.1	7.9
Youth unemployment rate, aged 15-24 (%)	16.1	20.1	18.0			18.0
Composite rate of labour underutilization (%)	29.6	29.6	46.6	26.0	14.2	29.6
Youth NEET rate, aged 15-24 (%)	40.2	46.0	43.2			43.2
Time-related underemployment rate (%)	16.7	12.5	14.2	15.3	6.9	14.8

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

Note: Time-related underemployment rate is based on less than 40 actual hours of work per week.

**Table A.4.2 Key indicators of the labour market (KILM) by regions**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
Labour force participation rate (%)	32.3	59.5	40.8	39.7	46.8	61.6	66.8	30.3	50.2
Employment-to-population ratio (%)	30.8	58.7	34.6	38.4	43.2	59.3	57.0	28.9	46.3
Employment	2,023	6,194	9,018	7,805	11,187	24,528	18,001	6,102	84,859
<b>By education (% distribution)</b>									

Less than primary or none	10.3	0.8	6.5	9.6	1.4	1.1	1.5	17.2	3.9
Completed primary	73.3	63.3	76.5	77.3	87.9	58.7	72.8	66.3	70.4
Completed secondary	14.3	28.7	16.1	10.7	9.5	30.0	21.0	15.5	20.6
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	0.9	6.1	0.7	0.9	1.0	9.7	4.1	1.1	4.5
Level not stated	1.1	1.2	0.3	1.6	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.6
<b>By employment status (% distribution)</b>									
Employees	23.4	78.9	38.2	14.7	20.1	69.8	46.2	32.5	46.7
Employers	3.5	3.7	3.5	4.9	1.3	2.5	2.8	4.1	2.9
Own-account workers	66.3	16.6	50.2	67.8	74.1	19.7	47.3	58.0	44.0
Contributing family workers	1.4	0.0	2.2	1.1	1.2	2.3	2.0	2.1	1.8
Workers not classifiable by status	5.5	0.8	6.0	11.5	3.2	5.8	1.7	3.3	4.6
<b>By economic industry (% distribution)</b>									
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	61.4	10.4	62.6	69.7	71.7	3.6	36.4	52.4	37.3
Industry	8.1	14.6	3.0	5.8	2.6	12.1	10.1	11.1	8.9
Services	27.2	73.6	29.3	18.5	22.1	80.8	47.5	30.8	49.4
Economic activity not classified	3.4	1.5	5.2	6.0	3.6	3.5	6.0	5.7	4.4
<b>By occupation (% distribution)</b>									
Managers	5.2	7.0	2.6	4.6	4.1	8.1	7.3	8.6	6.4
Professionals	9.9	9.6	11.3	6.7	7.0	9.8	6.1	7.8	8.4
Technicians and associate professionals	3.3	5.7	1.8	2.1	1.3	7.8	3.3	2.2	4.2
Clerical support workers	1.3	2.5	1.2	0.2	0.4	4.8	3.2	0.4	2.5
Service and sales workers	8.3	30.1	7.1	6.3	6.8	33.8	18.4	8.3	18.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry & fishery workers	61.0	8.3	63.6	68.3	71.3	3.1	36.7	52.6	37.0
Craft and related trades workers	4.1	12.0	1.6	2.0	2.1	9.8	7.8	4.9	6.4
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	0.1	9.8	2.3	0.4	1.0	5.2	3.4	2.5	3.5
Elementary occupations	2.6	10.2	3.6	3.3	1.8	12.2	7.9	5.8	7.4
(Armed forces occupations)	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
Occupation not classified	4.2	4.6	5.0	6.1	4.2	5.2	5.9	6.9	5.3

Average actual hours of work per week	9.7	39.6	27.2	16.1	23.4	38.0	34.5	33.5	32.2
Informal employment rate (%)	88.6	46.3	80.4	91.8	87.8	38.7	73.6	84.8	66.9
Unemployment rate (%)	4.8	1.3	15.1	3.3	7.7	3.8	14.6	4.5	7.9
Youth unemployment rate, aged 15-24 (%)	9.9	3.1	22.7	3.8	24.7	7.7	32.6	14.1	18.0
Composite rate of labour underutilization (%)	23.6	27.4	51.0	41.4	31.1	11.2	34.0	27.4	29.6
Youth NEET rate, aged 15-24 (%)	66.7	30.6	47.6	48.6	48.4	31.2	38.2	50.1	43.2
Time-related underemployment rate (%)	15.1	21.6	23.4	22.0	19.1	6.2	16.6	4.5	14.8

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

- Note:
- 1) Time-related underemployment rate is based on less than 40 actual hours of work per week;
  - 2) For cells where sample cases are less than 30 (in Table A.3.2 above), statistics presented in this report should be used with caution.

**Table A.4.3 Main activity status by sex (number)**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Main activity status</b>			
Studying or training	10410	10207	20617
Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft	20517	13375	33892
Working in another sector/activity (government or private sector, business)	23509	16480	39989
Looking for work	4773	2654	7427
Taking care of the household or family	19679	41453	61132
Voluntary work [community, village, church, etc.]	2297	781	3077
Long-term illness, injury or disability	752	605	1357
Retired or old person	3488	2625	6113
Normally work but not last week (leave, sick...)	483	293	776
Other	6403	2678	9081

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.4.4 Main activity status by regions (number)**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
<b>Main activity status</b>									
Studying or training	572	1177	2864	2051	2680	5535	2619	3120	20617

Working in farming, raising animals, fishing or making handicraft	1059	102	13537	8705	2948	191	4893	2457	33892
Working in another sector/activity (government or private sector, business)	427	4941	3078	895	1841	17814	9215	1778	39989
Looking for work	192	572	696	259	1831	1339	2017	521	7427
Taking care of the household or family	3395	2180	4002	5840	14195	10184	9601	11734	61132
Voluntary work [community, village, church, etc.]	473	165	370	208	585	731	378	168	3077
Long-term illness, injury or disability	41	97	264	205	195	136	317	103	1357
Retired or old person	189	697	559	174	1085	1487	1185	737	6113
Normally work but not last week (leave, sick...)	9	35	349	82	51	83	37	131	776
Other	219	584	337	1895	503	3872	1328	344	9081

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.4.5 Subsistence work and household care by sex (number)**

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>Subsistence work</b>	<b>11,130</b>	<b>8,468</b>	<b>19,598</b>
<b>By age group</b>			
15-24	3,073	2,225	5,298
25-64	7,178	5,827	13,005
65+	879	416	1,295
<b>By education attainment</b>			
Less than primary or none	1,460	1,115	2,574
Completed primary	8,896	6,678	15,574
Completed secondary	698	626	1,324
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	31	0	31
Level not stated	46	49	95
<b>Household or family care</b>	<b>19,679</b>	<b>41,453</b>	<b>61,132</b>
<b>By age group</b>			
15-24	4,260	9,270	13,530
25-64	13,423	29,506	42,929
65+	1,996	2,677	4,673
<b>By education attainment</b>			
Less than primary or none	2,362	4,734	7,096
Completed primary	15,302	32,747	48,050
Completed secondary	1,804	3,662	5,466

Tertiary (first stage or completed)	130	100	230
Level not stated	80	210	290

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.4.6 Subsistence work and household care by regions (number)**

	TORBA	LUGANVILLE	SANMA	PENAMA	MALAMPA	PORT VILA	SHEFA	TAFEA	TOTAL
<b>Subsistence work</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>10,532</b>	<b>5,540</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1,601</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>19,599</b>
<i>By age group</i>									
15-24	281	6	2,869	1,613	104	0	288	137	5,298
25-64	291	30	7,090	3,415	322	18	1,224	615	13,005
65+	14	0	573	512	15	28	89	65	1,295
<i>By education attainment</i>									
Less than primary or none	179	5	1,397	569	13	0	128	284	2,574
Completed primary	389	25	8,420	4,422	409	28	1,395	487	15,574
Completed secondary	18	6	620	519	18	18	79	46	1,324
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	0	0	19	12	0	0	0	0	31
Level not stated	0	0	77	18	0	0	0	0	95
<b>Household or family care</b>	<b>3,395</b>	<b>2,180</b>	<b>4,002</b>	<b>5,840</b>	<b>14,195</b>	<b>10,184</b>	<b>9,601</b>	<b>11,734</b>	<b>61,132</b>
<i>By age group</i>									
15-24	773	365	1,105	1,224	2,886	2,035	2,091	3,051	13,530
25-64	2,434	1,771	2,575	4,039	10,010	7,516	6,873	7,711	42,929
65+	188	44	323	576	1,299	633	637	972	4,673
<i>By education attainment</i>									
Less than primary or none	632	34	502	1,414	476	209	223	3,606	7,096
Completed primary	2,511	1,752	3,139	4,169	12,985	7,998	8,168	7,328	48,050
Completed secondary	169	380	361	220	706	1,787	1,063	781	5,466
Tertiary (first stage or completed)	0	6	0	0	29	111	84	0	230
Level not stated	83	8	0	37	0	79	63	20	290

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

**Table A.4.7 Summary of SDG indicators from labour force module of HIES 2019-2020**

SDG INDICATOR	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>INDICATORS FOR WHICH ILO IS THE CUSTODIAL AGENCY OR INVOLVED</b>			
1.1.1	Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographic location (urban/rural)		
3.1	Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex		
5.5.2		37.4	
8.2.1			8,481 <sup>7</sup>
8.3.1	Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex		
<i>By sex</i>			
	65.5	68.7	66.9
<i>By economic industry</i>			
	Agriculture, forestry and fishery		
	93.3	97.9	95.1
	Industry		
	55.6	77.9	62.0
	Services		
	40.4	49.5	45.2
	Economic activity not classified		
	73.2	89.7	83.0
8.5.1	Average hourly earnings of employees, by sex, age, occupation and persons with disabilities		
8.5.2	Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities		
<i>By sex</i>			
	6.7	9.4	7.9
<i>By age</i>			
	15-24		
	16.1	20.1	18.0
	25-64		
	5.2	7.2	6.1
	65+		
	0.9	1.4	1.1
<i>By disability status (% distribution)</i>			
	With any disability		
	6.8	9.5	8.1
	No disability		
	5.3	6.6	5.8
8.6.1	Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training		
	40.2	46.0	43.2
<b>OTHER EMPLOYMENT RELATED SDG INDICATORS</b>			
9.2.2	Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment		
	4.1	5.1	4.5

Source: 2019 Vanuatu HIES

7 2019 GDP is at constant 2010US\$, information is retrieved from the World Bank, <https://data.worldbank.org/country/VU>

