

LABOUR MARKET SURVEY 2025



Conference hall
Statistics House

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Uganda Bureau of Statistics



16th April 2026

1 Introduction

2 Methodology

3 Findings

4 Summary



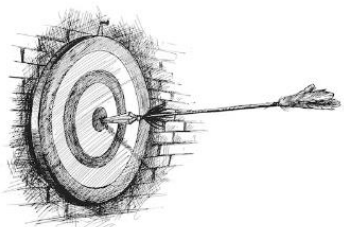
INTRODUCTION

❖ The Labour Market Survey (LMS) 2025 provides comprehensive data on labour supply and demand.

Of recent, UBOS has produced and published Labour Statistics through:

- National Population and Housing Census (every 10 years).
- National Labour Force Survey (every 5 years until 2021).
- Uganda National Household Survey (every 3 years until 2023/24).
- Uganda National Manpower Survey 2015 .

❖ The LMS will be more frequent, with quarterly statistics published.



General Objective

To provide insight into the composition and dynamics of labour market indicators and associated statistics.

Specific Objectives;

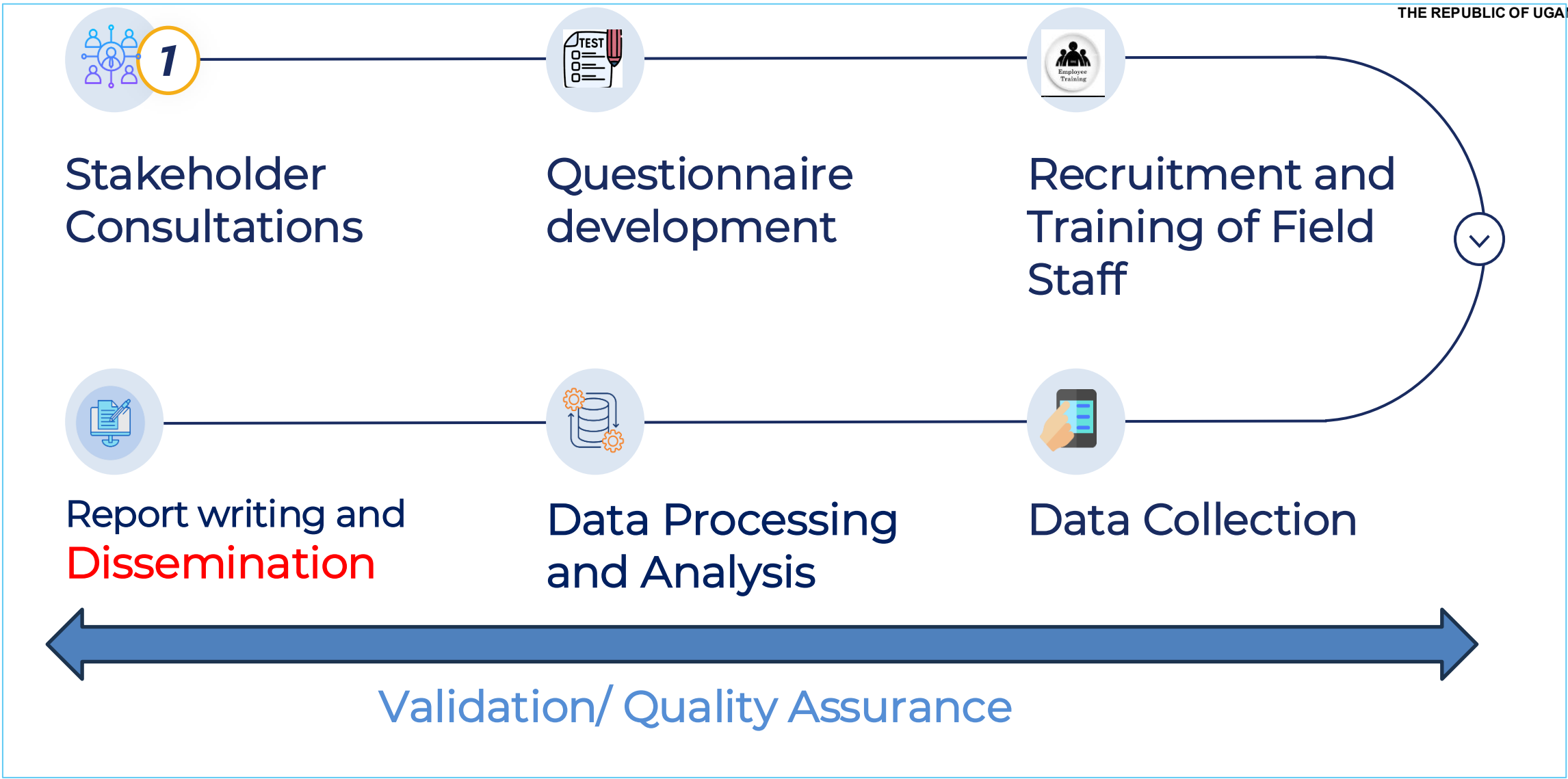
From Household module

- To assess Labour Supply such as Employment, Unemployment, and Underemployment.

From Establishment module

- To assess Labour Demand such as Job creation, Retention and Destruction rates.

SURVEY PROCESS



Stakeholder Consultations



Questionnaire development



Recruitment and Training of Field Staff



Report writing and Dissemination



Data Processing and Analysis



Data Collection

Validation/ Quality Assurance

METHODOLOGY

Comprised of two Modules

1

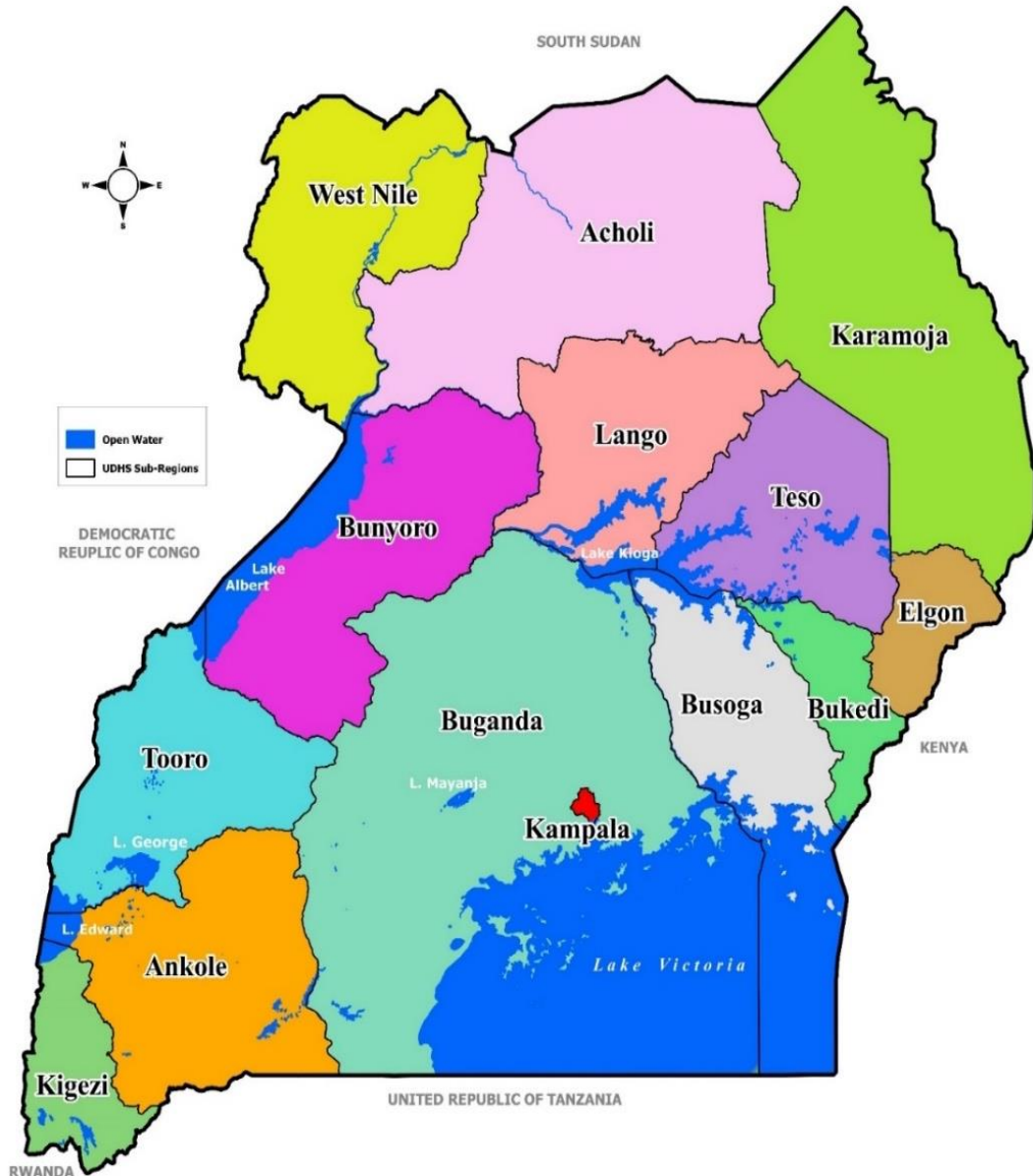
**Household
Module**

2

**Establishments
Module**

Each module had a different design

- **Sampling frame:** National Population and Housing Census 2024
- **Representation:**
 - National
 - 14 statistical sub regions
 - West Nile (West Nile & Madi), Elgon (Sebei & Bugisu), Tooro (Rwenzori & Tooro)
 - Rural - Urban
- **Enumeration Areas** were selected using probability proportion to size within a sub region
- **Households** were selected using systematic random sampling



Survey Process

Used a two Stage Stratified Sampling

1

Enumeration areas were grouped by the 14 Statistical Sub-Regions with similar socio-economic characteristics

1,035

Total
EAs selected

2

Households were selected using systematic random sampling

10

Households surveyed
from each EA

10,350 households
sampled

Response rates - Household

Interview results	Household		
	Rural	Urban	Total
Households Completed	5,799	4,051	9,850
Response rate	97.2	94.8	96.2

❖ Informal Establishments

- National Population and Housing Census 2024
- Based on the sampled **1,035** EAs.
- A sample of **4,951** informal establishments.
- Covered **4,161** informal establishments.
- Response rate of **84.0** percent.

Formal establishment

- Sampling Frame was Census of Business Establishments 2019/20, updated to 2024 using administrative data sources.

Selection criteria:

- Employment size (1-4, 5-49, 50-99 and 100+ Employees).
- Representativeness across all the sub-sectors (ISIC, Rev.4).
- Public sector and extra territorial organisations were excluded.

Sample and Coverage

- A sample of **2,985** formal establishments
- Covered **2,635** formal establishments
- Coverage rate of **88.3** percent

Work: Is any activity performed by a person(s) to produce goods or services for use by others and/or for own use. Excluded within the boundaries of national accounts are (i) most unpaid household services, such as cooking, cleaning and childcare, and (ii) volunteer services unless tied to formal production.

Forms of work include:

- (i) **Employment** – work performed for others in exchange for pay or profit
- (ii) **Own-use production work** – comprises production of goods and services for own final use. *This includes other subsistence work and work in subsistence agriculture, forestry and fishing.*
- (iii) **Volunteer work** – non-compulsory work performed for others without pay
- (iv) **Unpaid trainee work** – work performed for others without pay to acquire workplace experience or skills
- (v) **Other work activities** not defined above

Working Age Population:

- The International Labour Organisation; 15 years and above.
- The National Employment Policy 2011; 14-64 years.

Youth Age Group:

- International classification of youth age group; 15-24 years
- National classification of youth age group; 18-30 years

Informal sector:

- Household or Business unincorporated market enterprises and the associated labour input not formally registered ; (SNA 2025).

Informal employment:

- Any activity of persons to produce goods or provide services for pay or profit not covered by formal arrangements.

Unemployment:

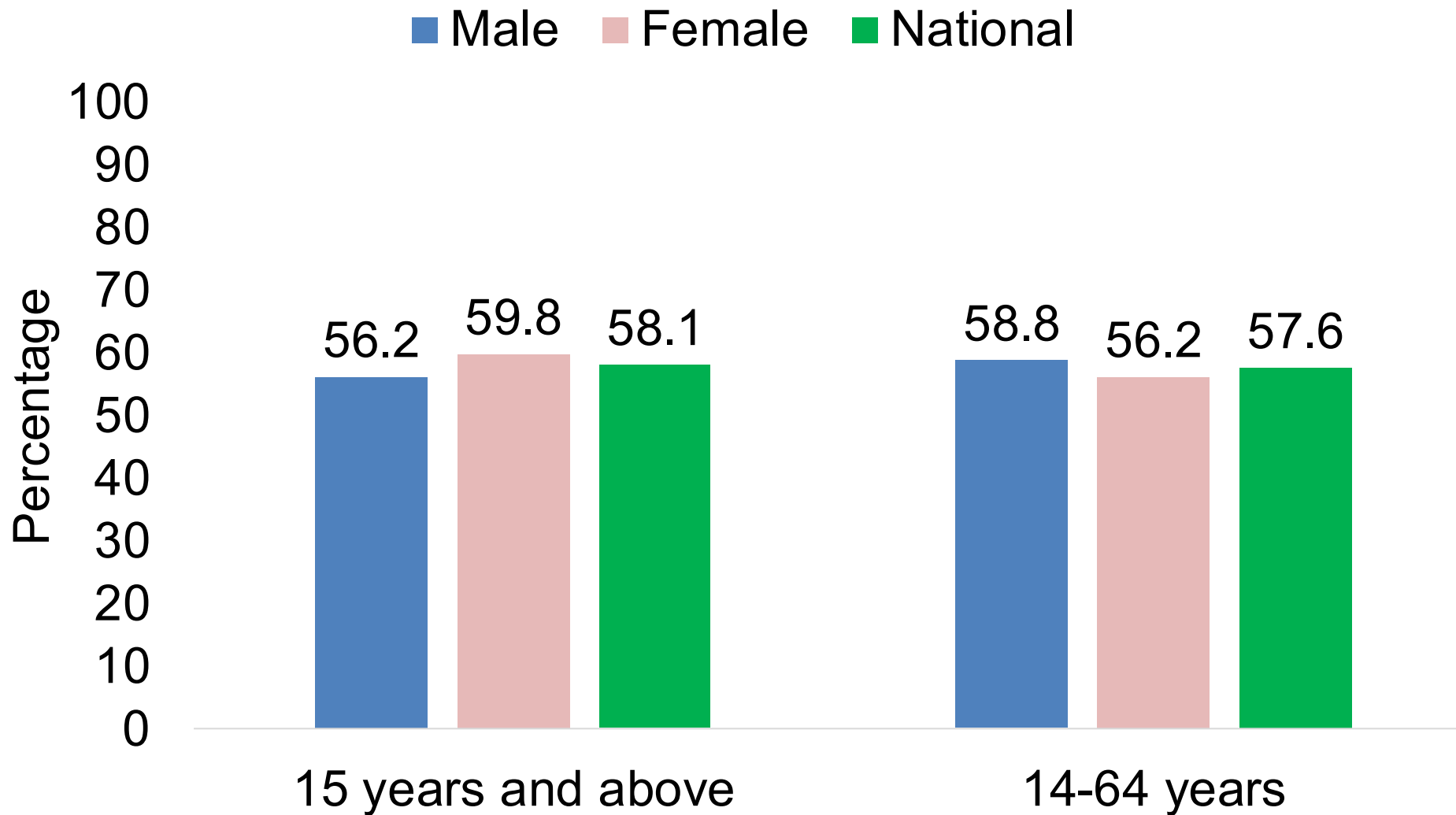
- **A person is considered unemployed if they;**
 - i. Had no work from which they derive some income,
 - i. Had taken active steps to look for employment and
 - ii. Were willing to be employed if an employment opportunity had presented itself.

Employment to Population Ratio:

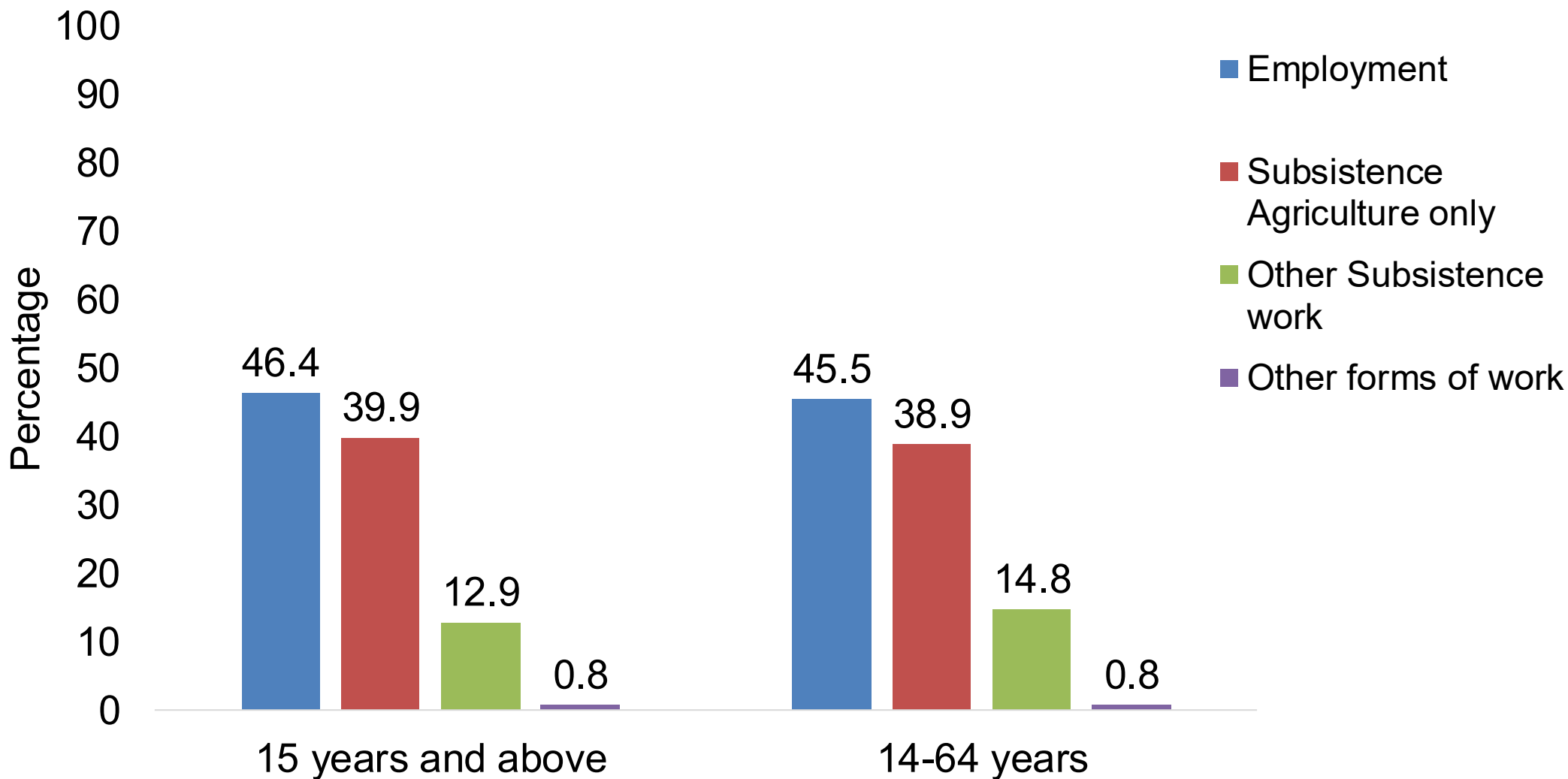
- The proportion of the working age population that was employed.

FINDINGS

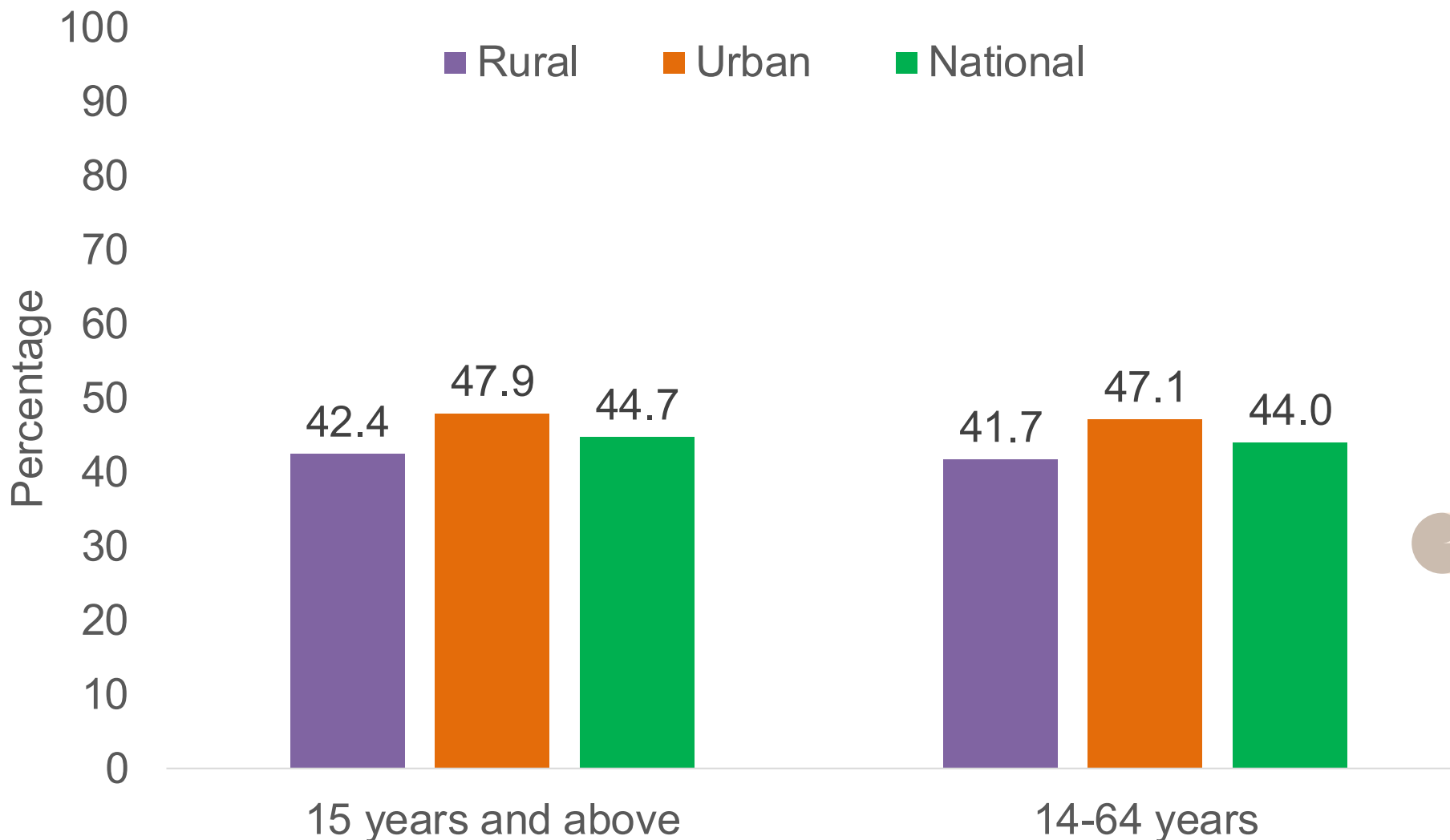
Working Age Population by sex, %



Forms of Work, %

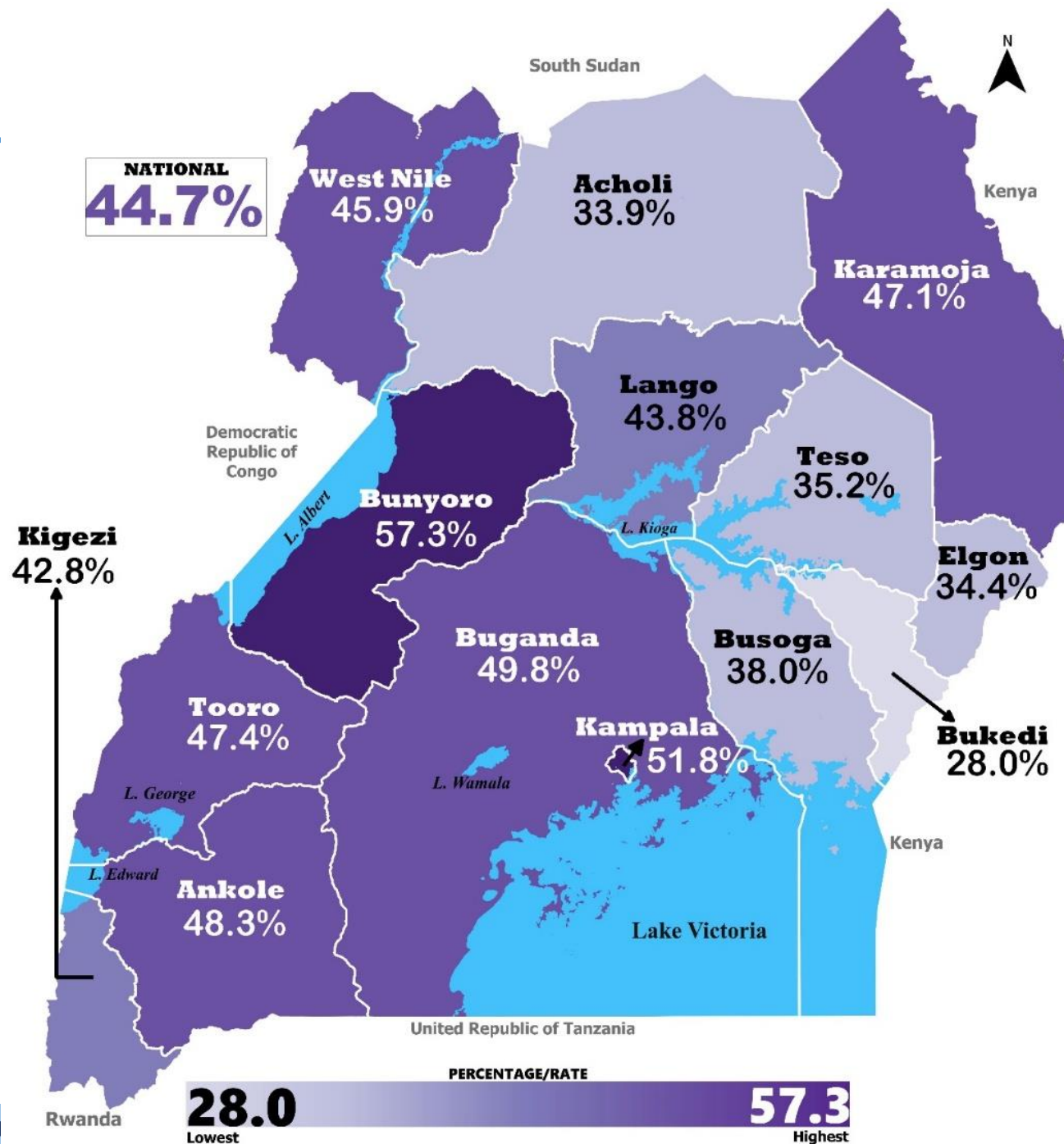


Employment-to-Population Ratio by age group and Rural-Urban, %

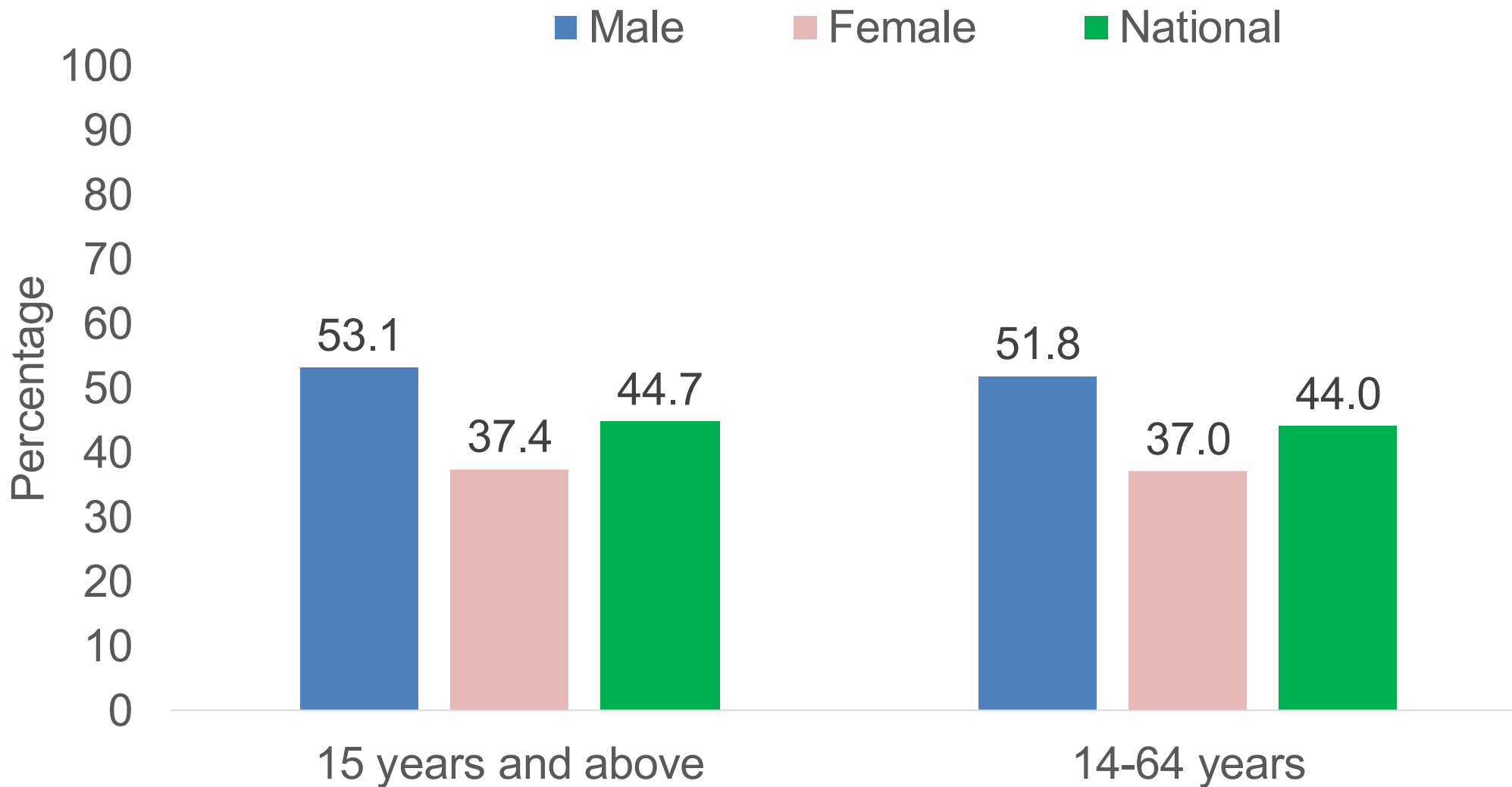


EPR is an indication of the degree to which the economy is utilizing its productive Labour resource.

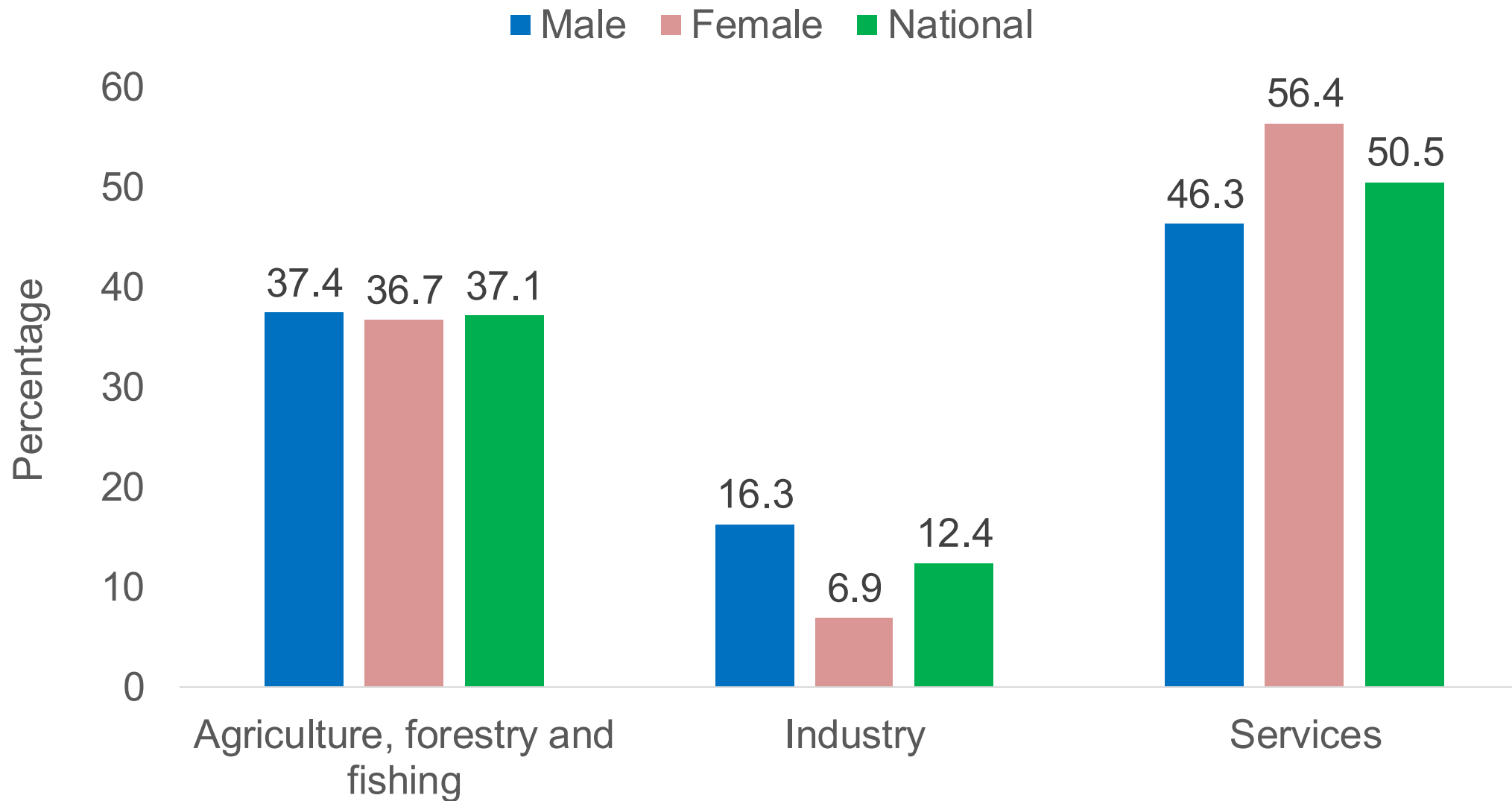
Employment-to-Population Ratio (15 years and above) by Sub region, %



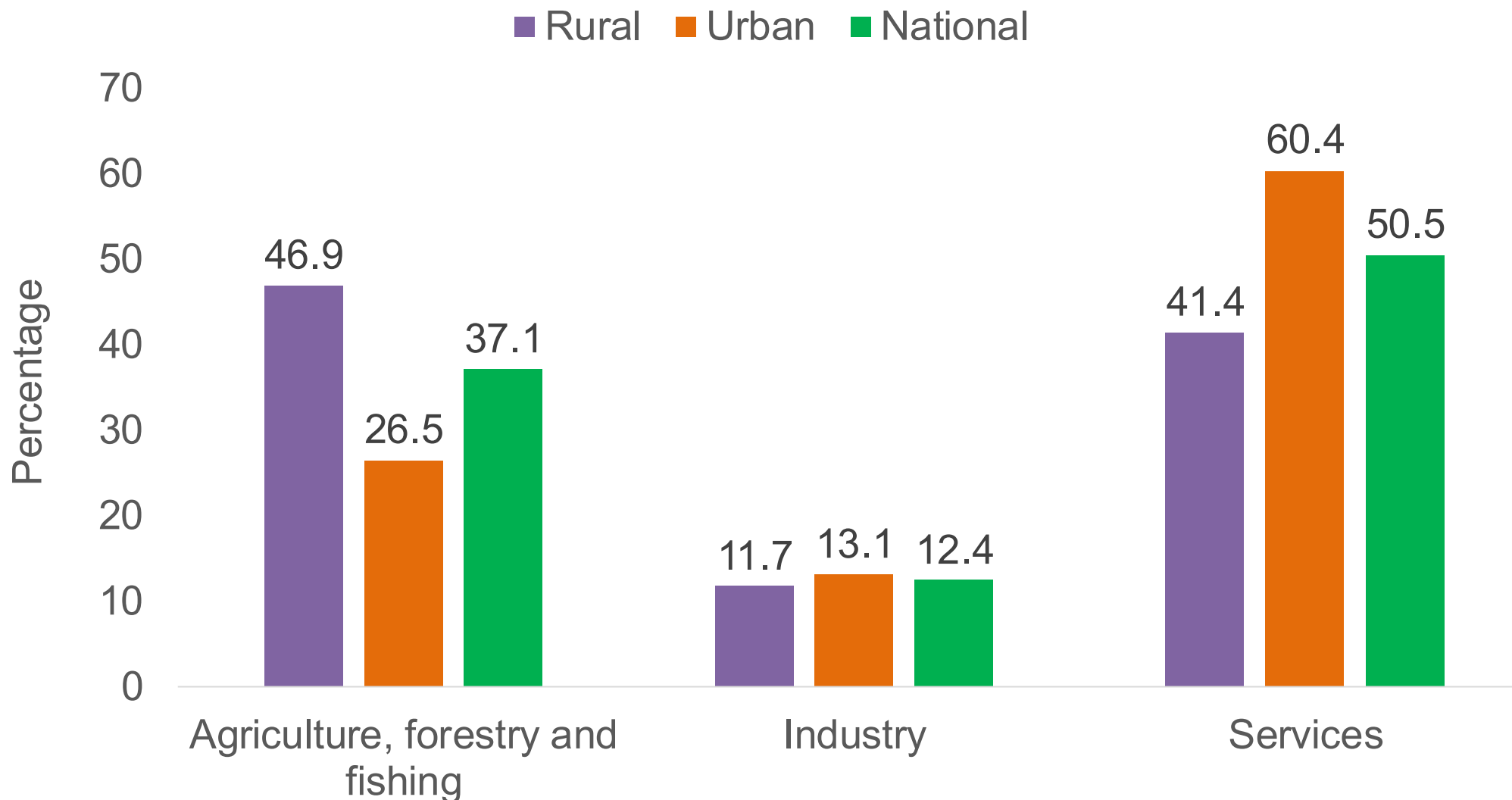
Employment-to-Population Ratio by sex and age group, %



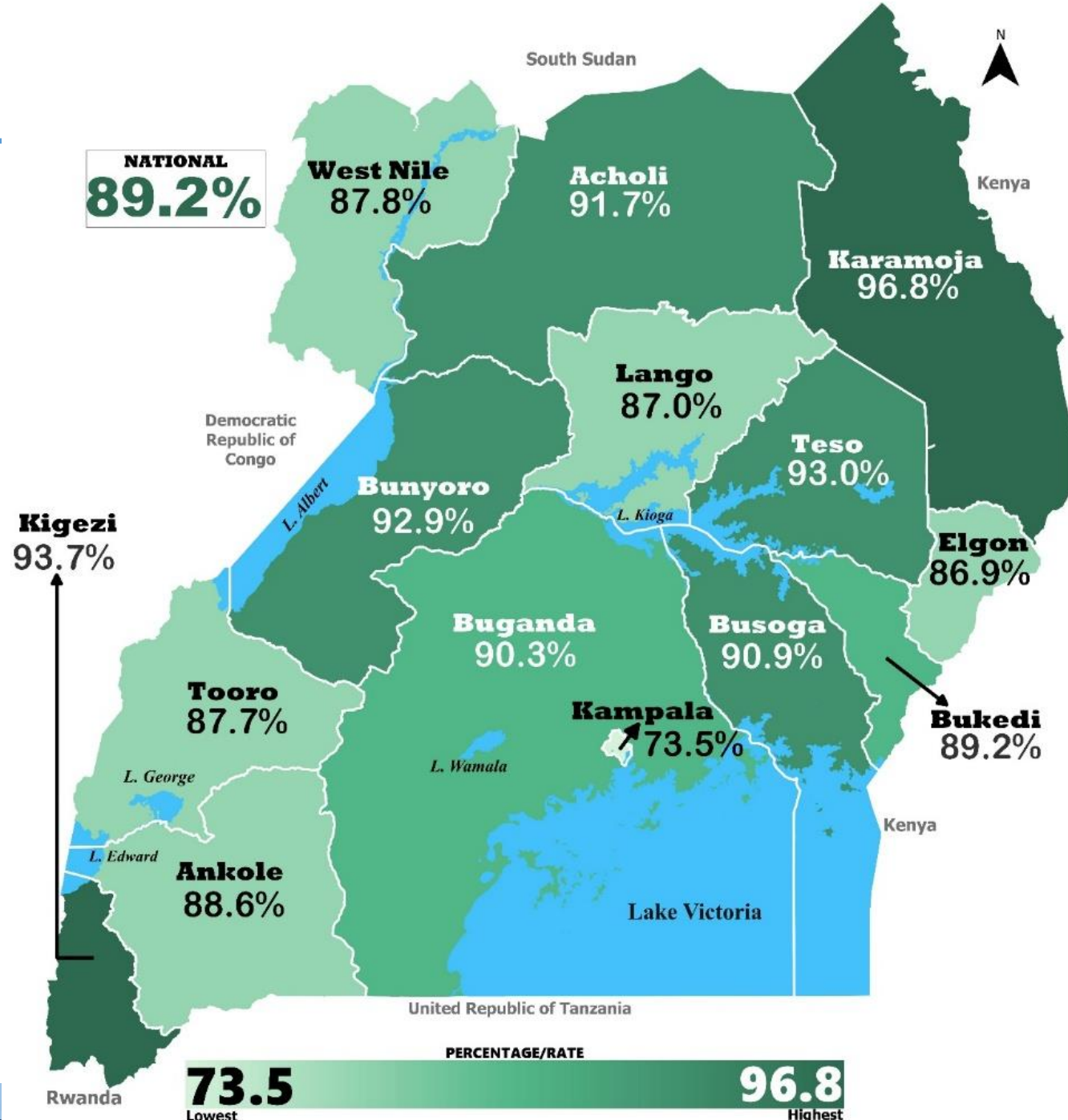
Employed population (15 years and above) by sector and sex, %



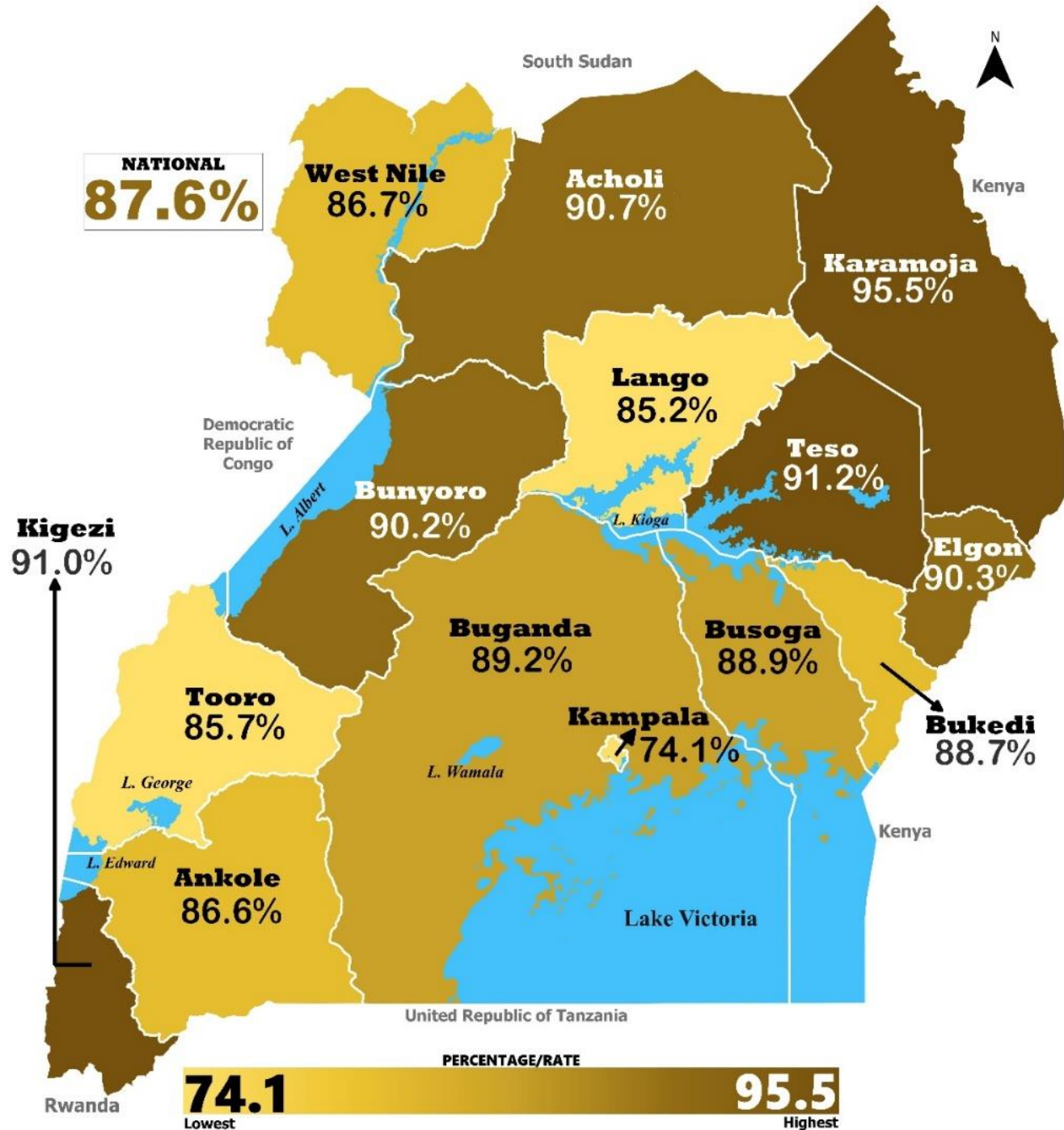
Employed population (15 years and above) by sector and Rural-Urban, %



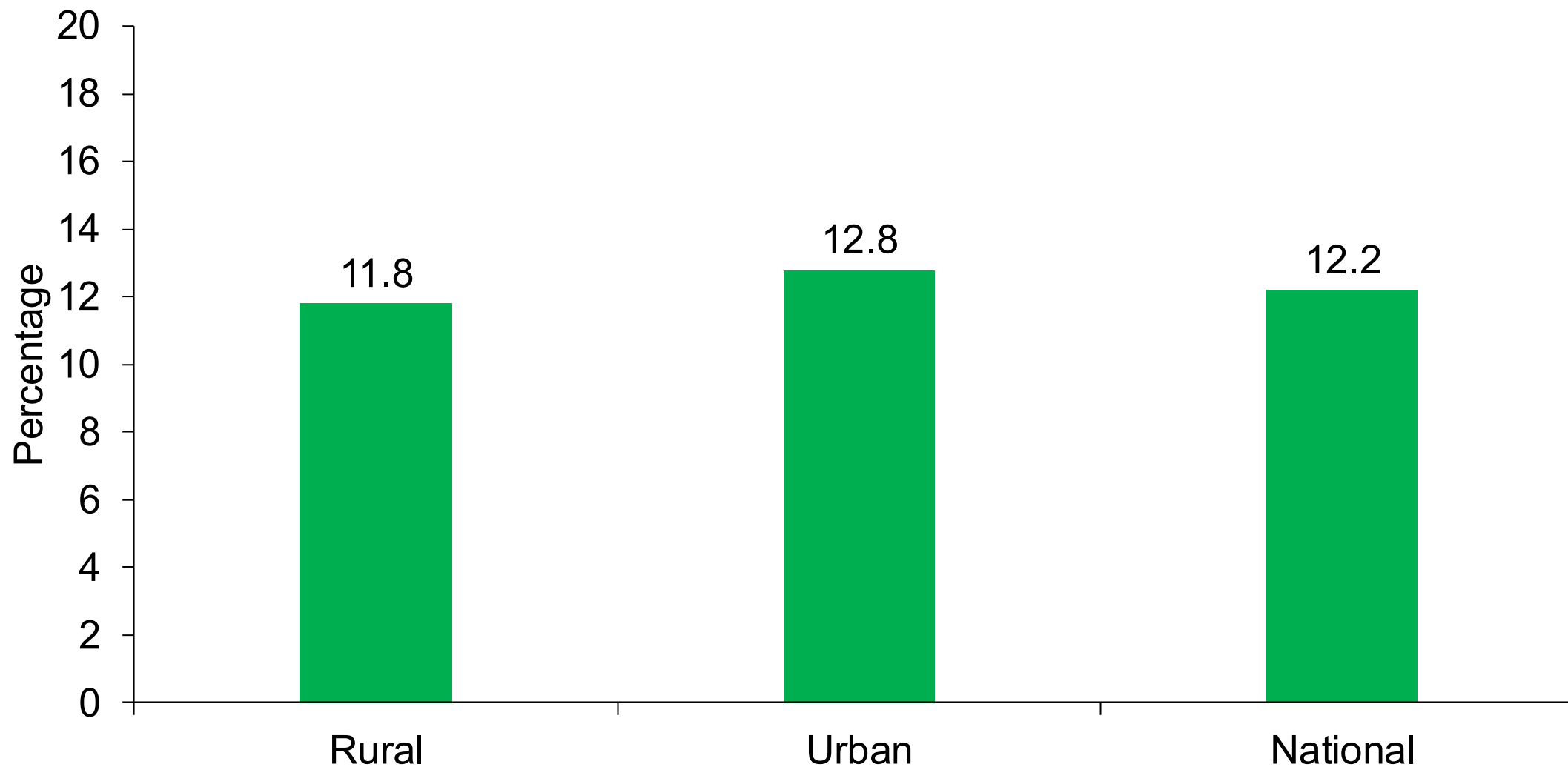
**Informal
employment
(15 years and
above) by sub
region, %**



Informal employment (15 years and above) excluding agricultural activities by sub region, %



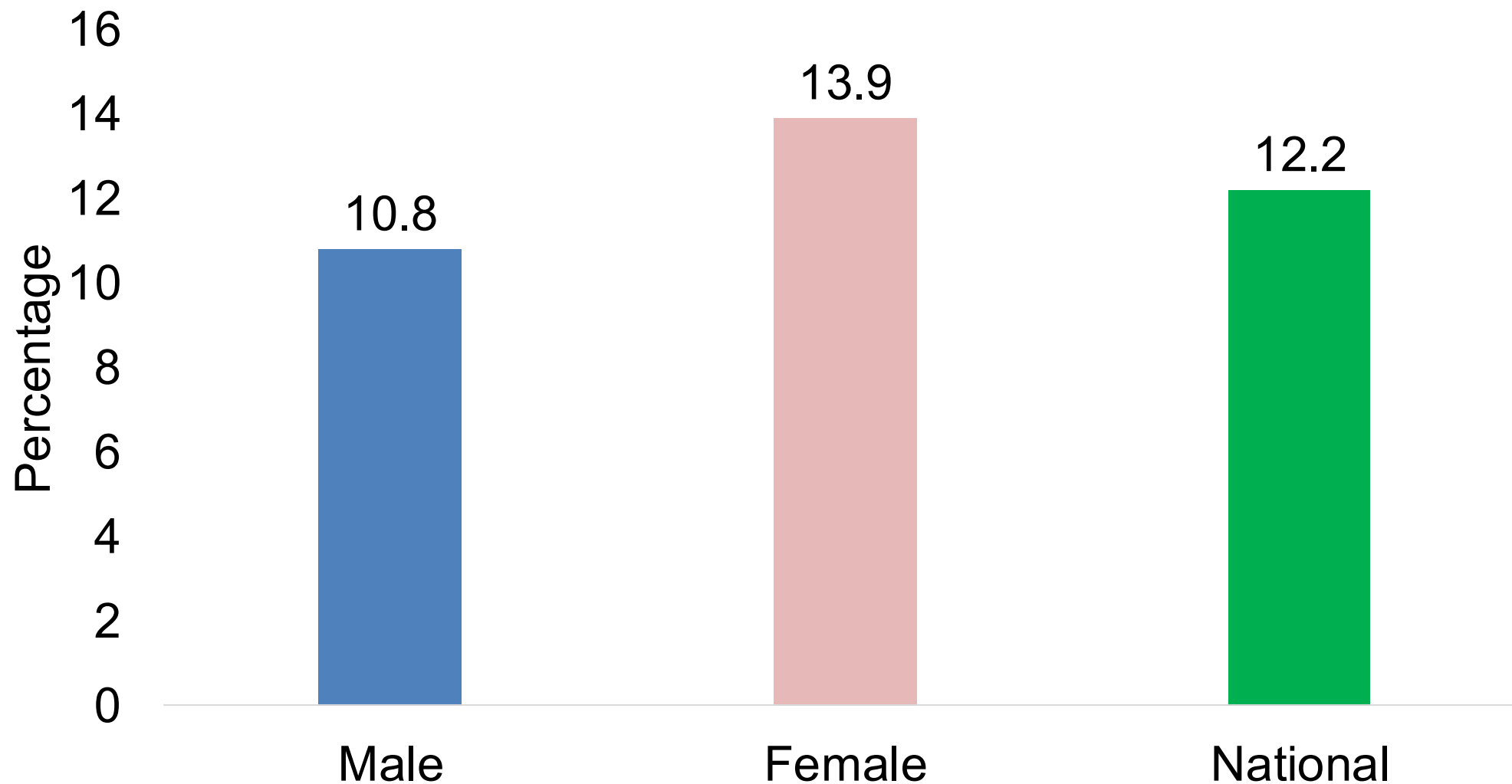
Unemployment Rate (15 years and above) by Rural-Urban, %



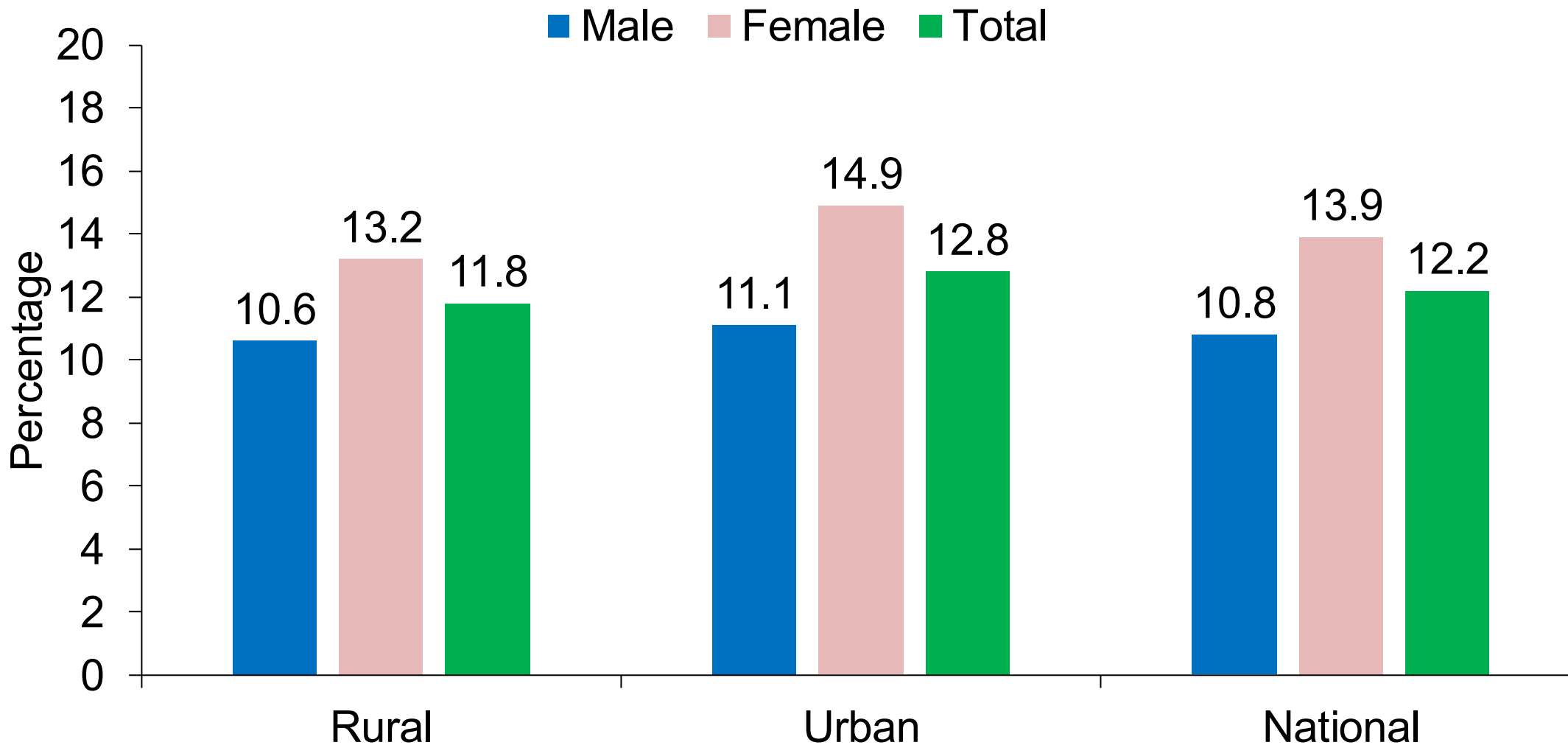
Unemployment Rate (15 years and above) by Sex, %



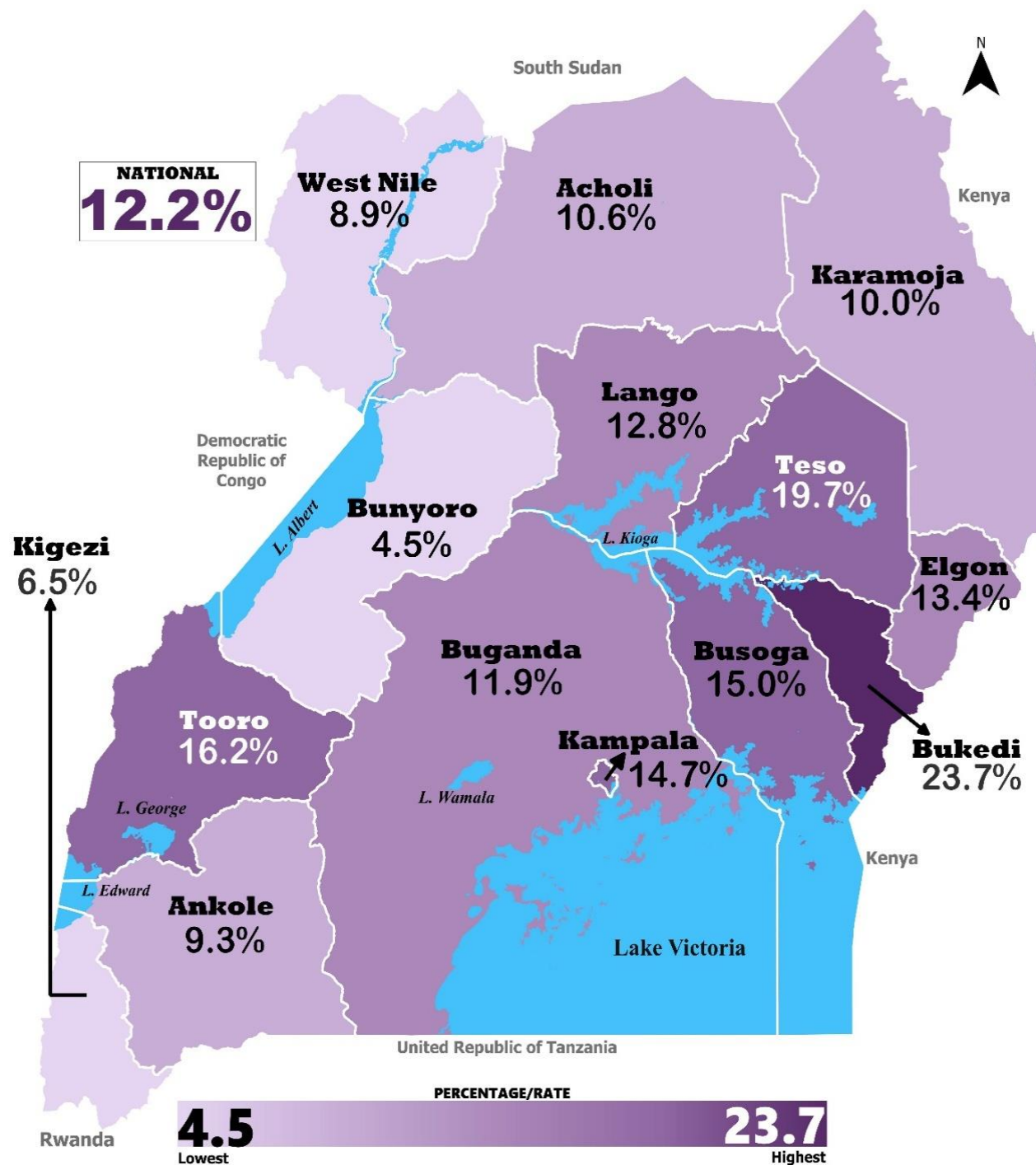
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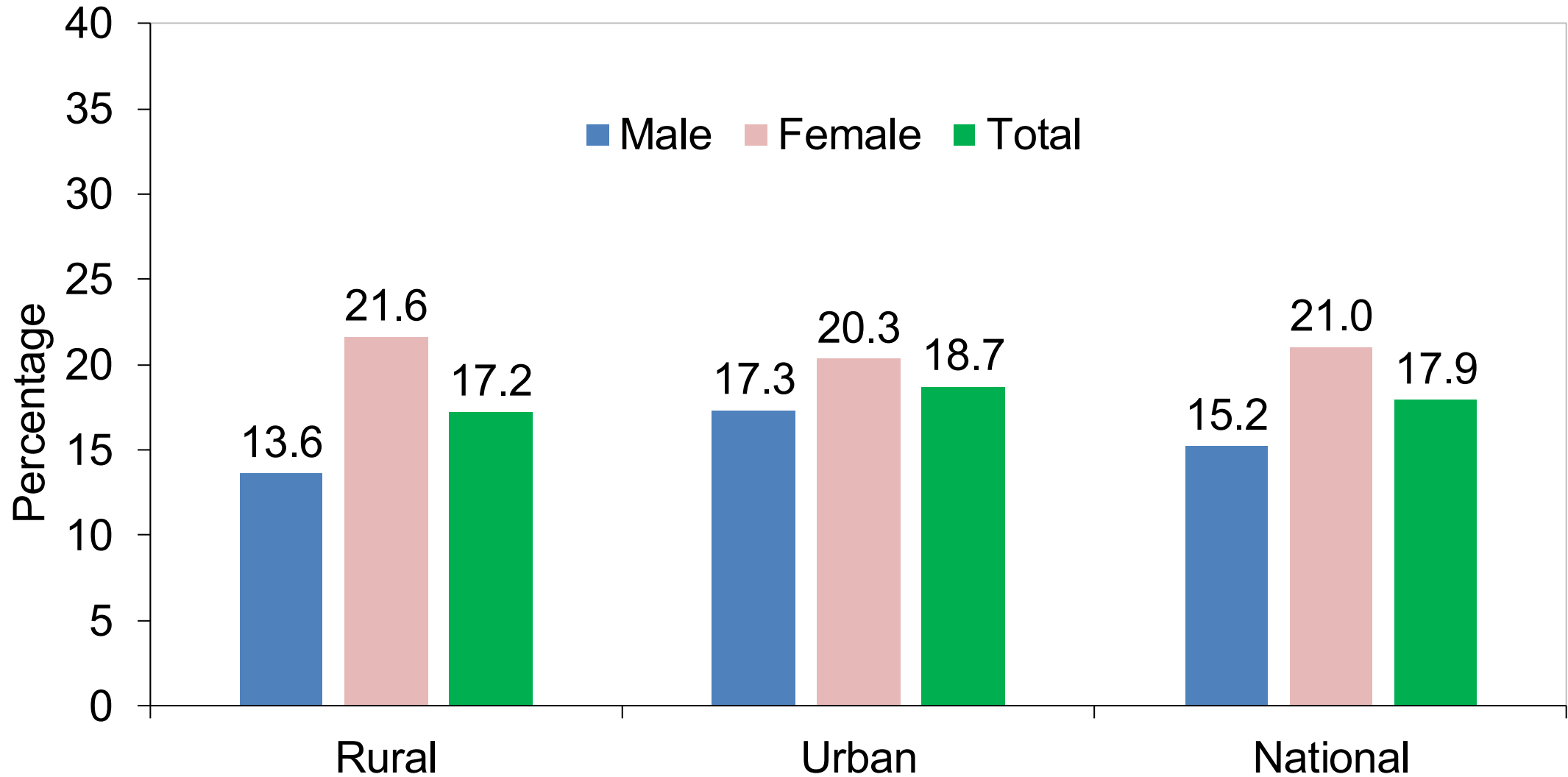
Unemployment Rate (15 years and above) by Sex and Rural-Urban, %



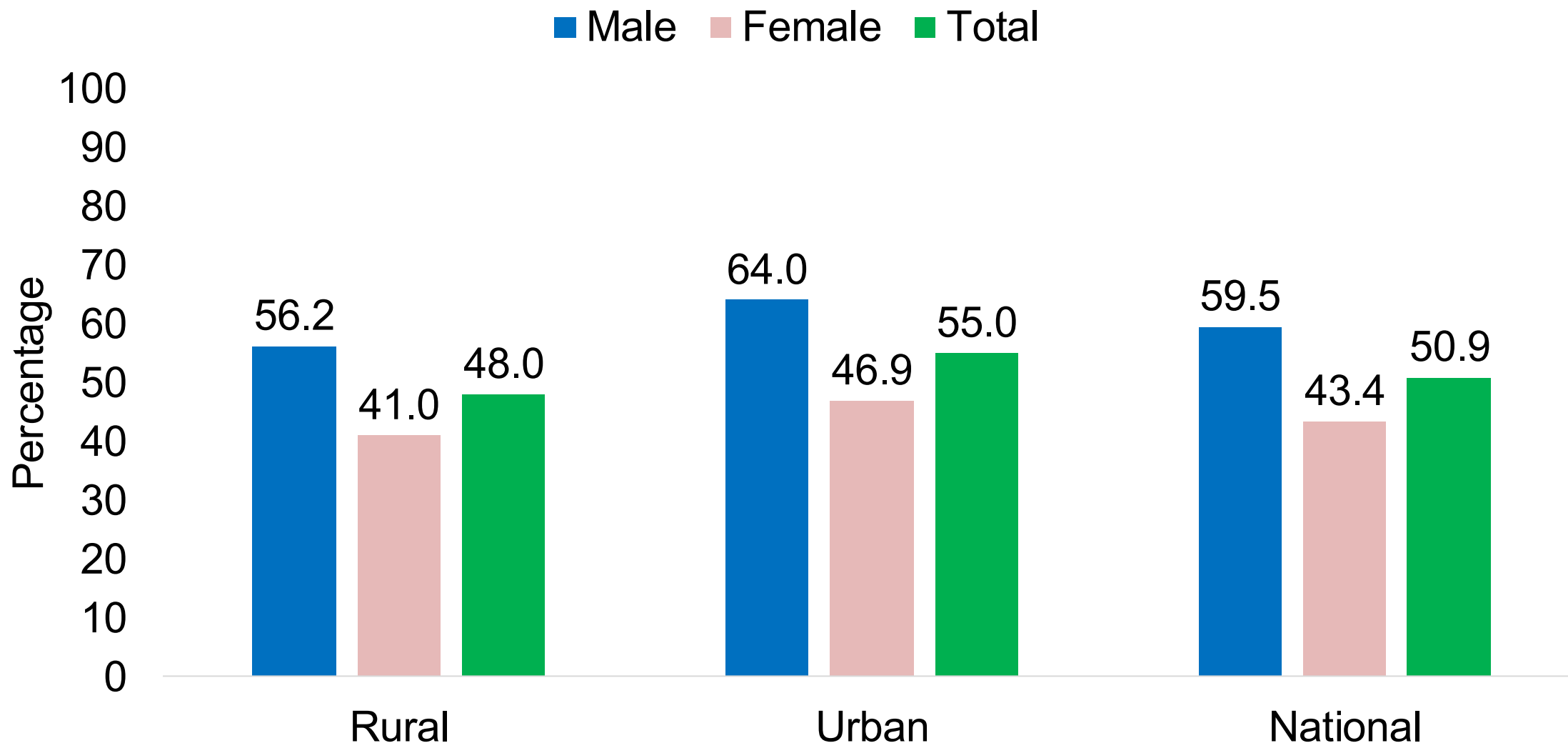
Unemployment Rate (15 years and above) by Sub-Region, %



Time related under employment (15 years and above) by Sex and Rural-Urban

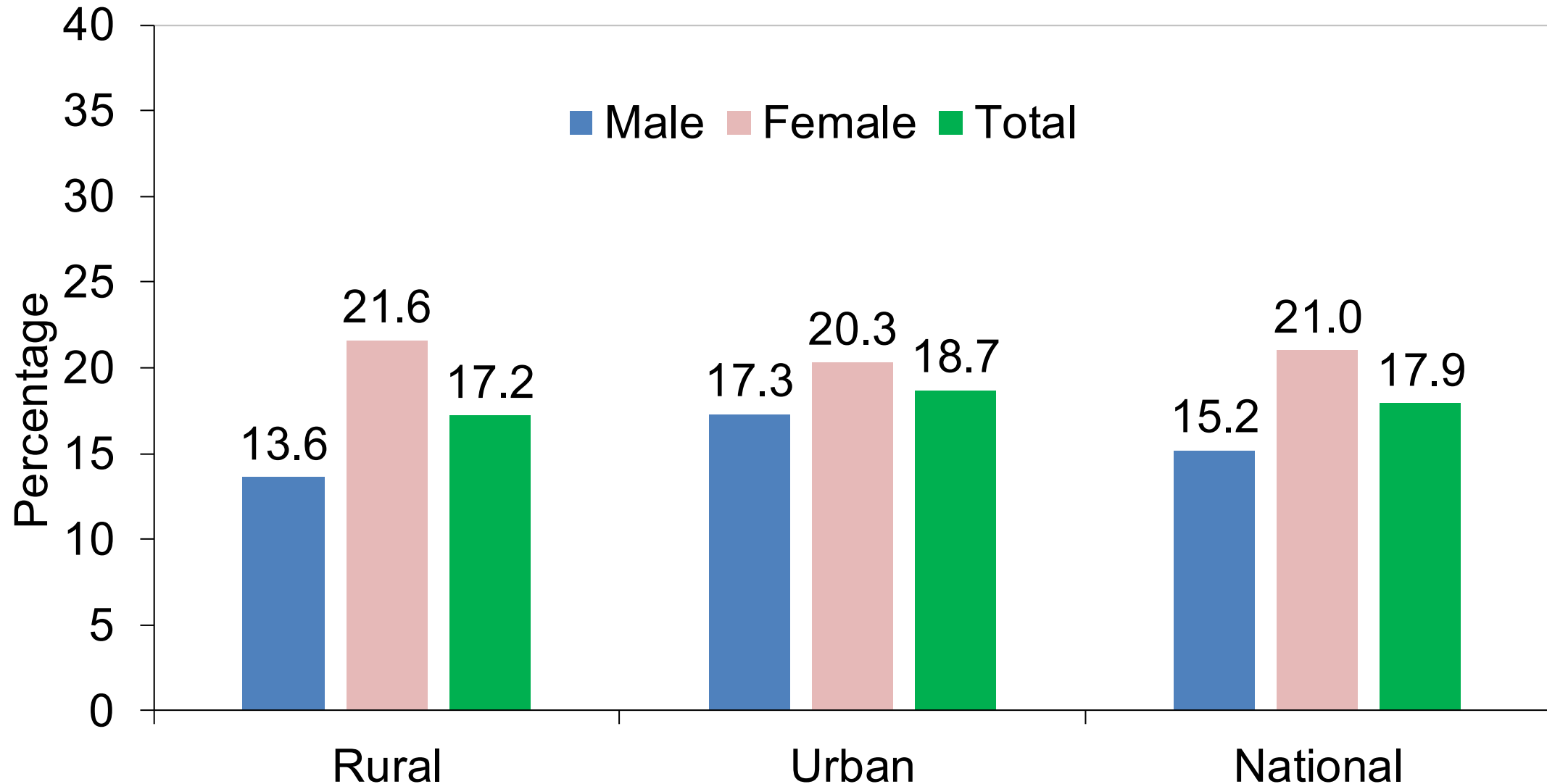


Labour Force Participation Rate (15 years and above) by Sex and Rural-Urban, %

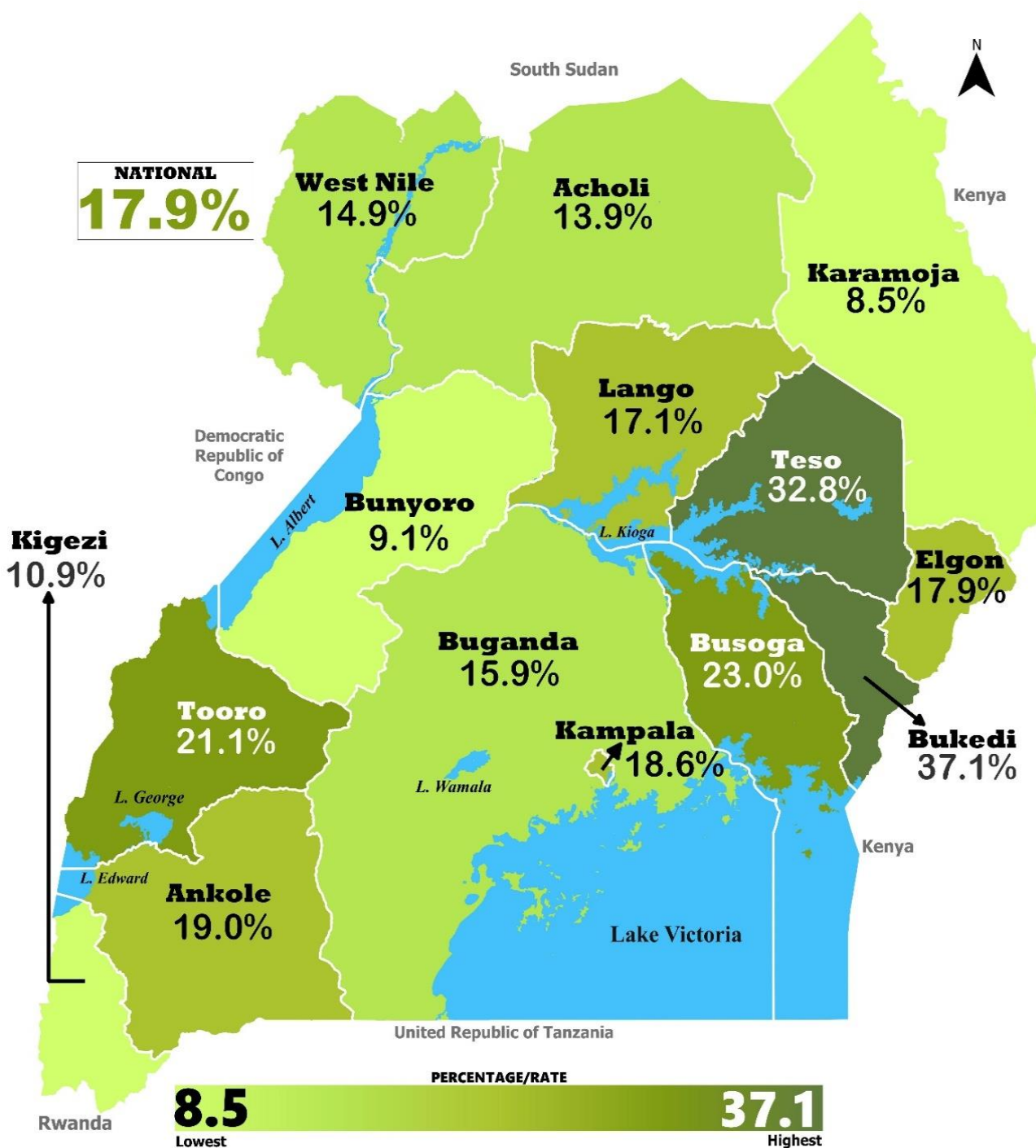


YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

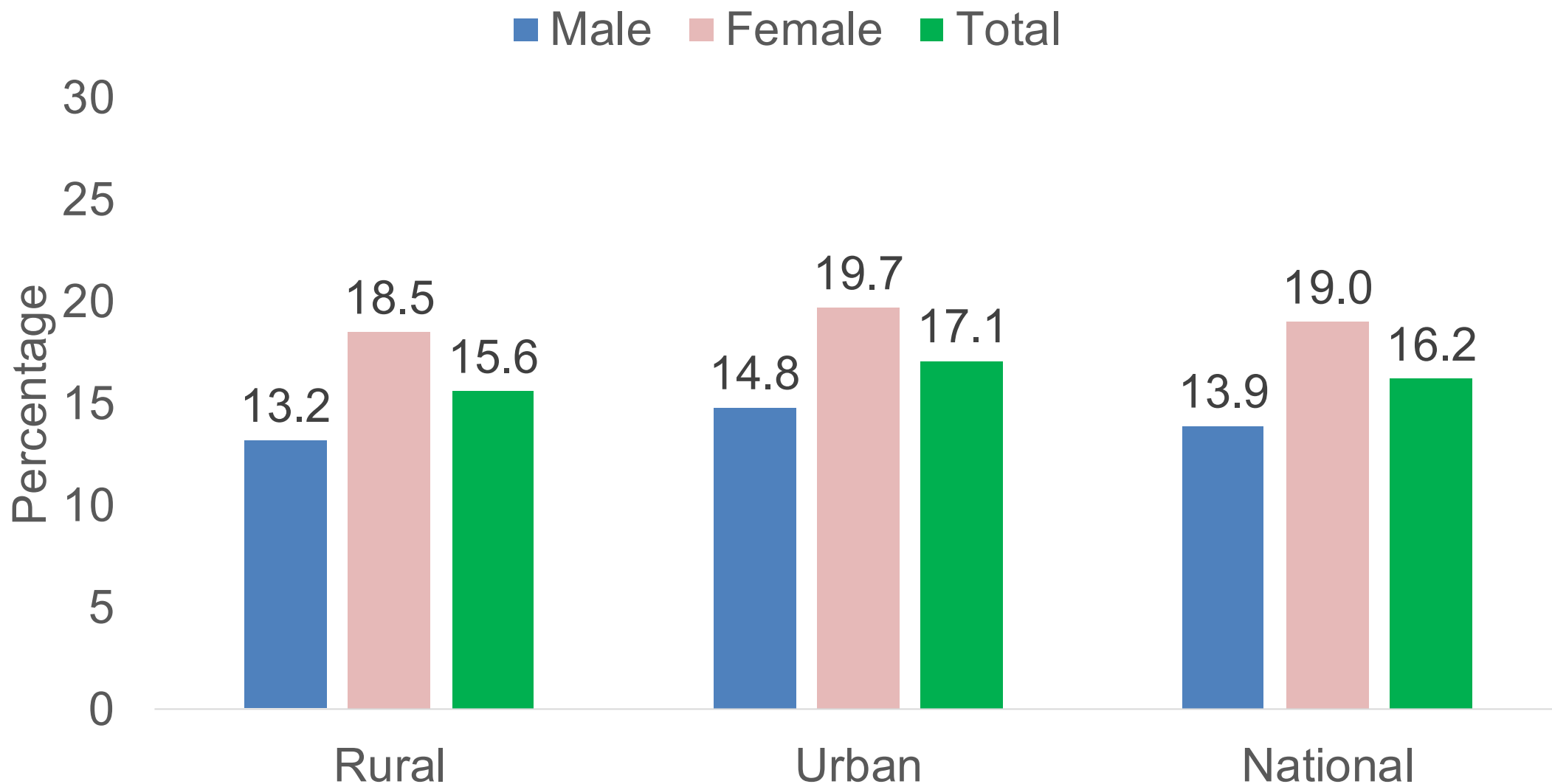
Unemployment Rate for the Youth (15-24 years) by Sex and Rural-Urban



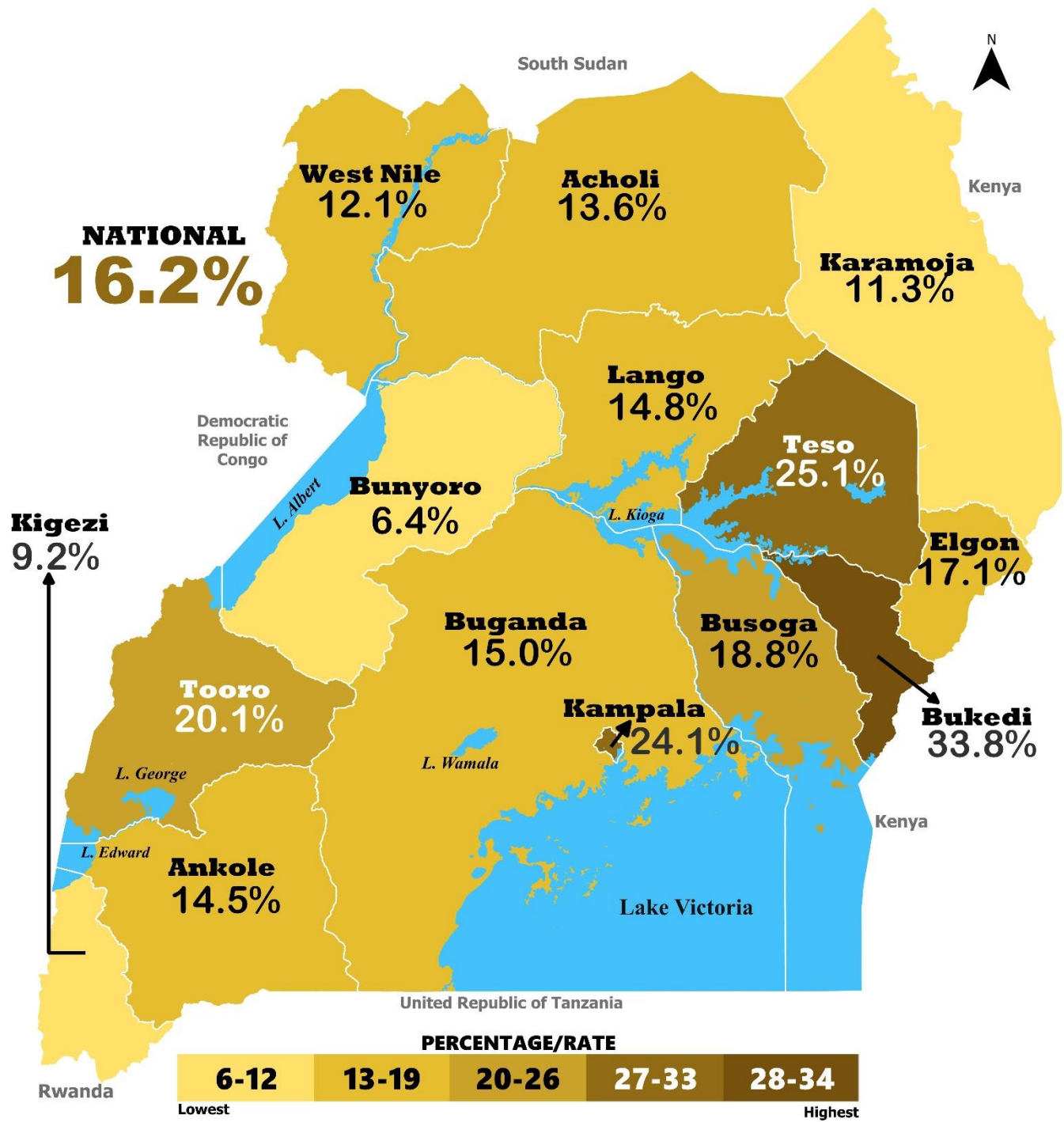
Unemployment Rate for the Youth (15-24 years) by Sub-Region



Unemployment Rate for the Youth (18-30 years) by Sex and Rural-Urban

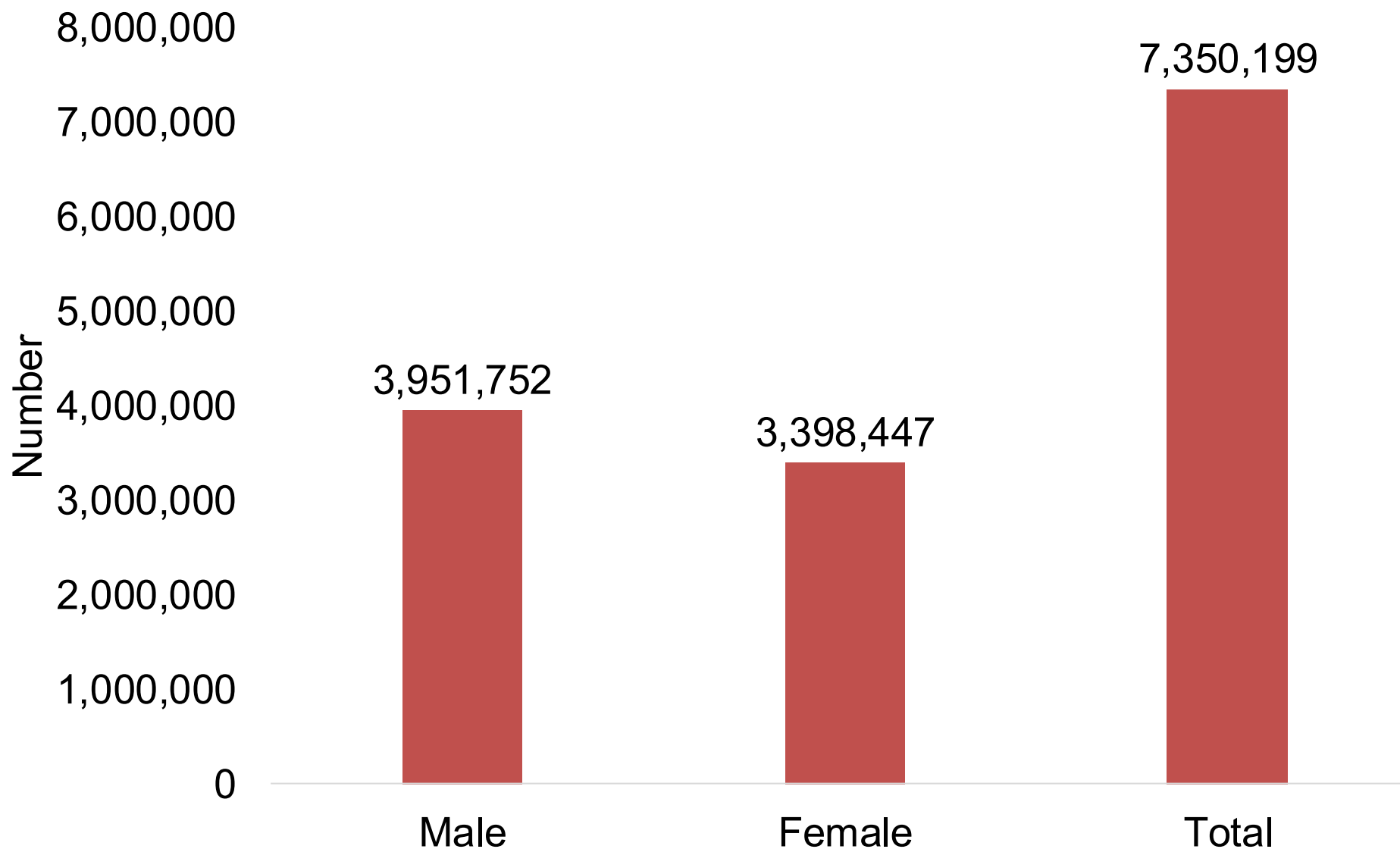


Unemployment Rate for the Youth (18-30 years) by Sub-Region, %

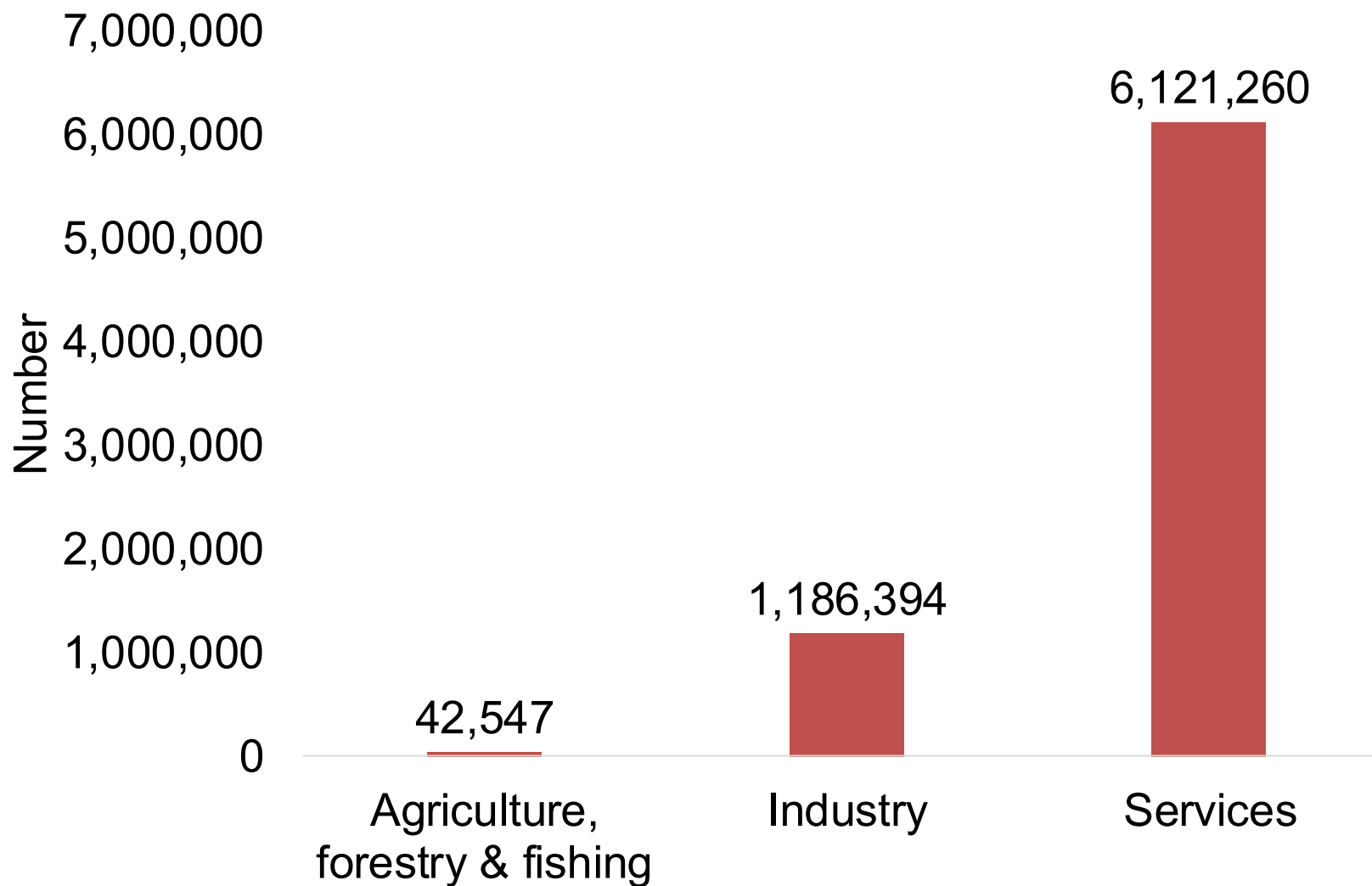


EMPLOYMENT IN THE INFORMAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Employees in Informal establishments by Sex



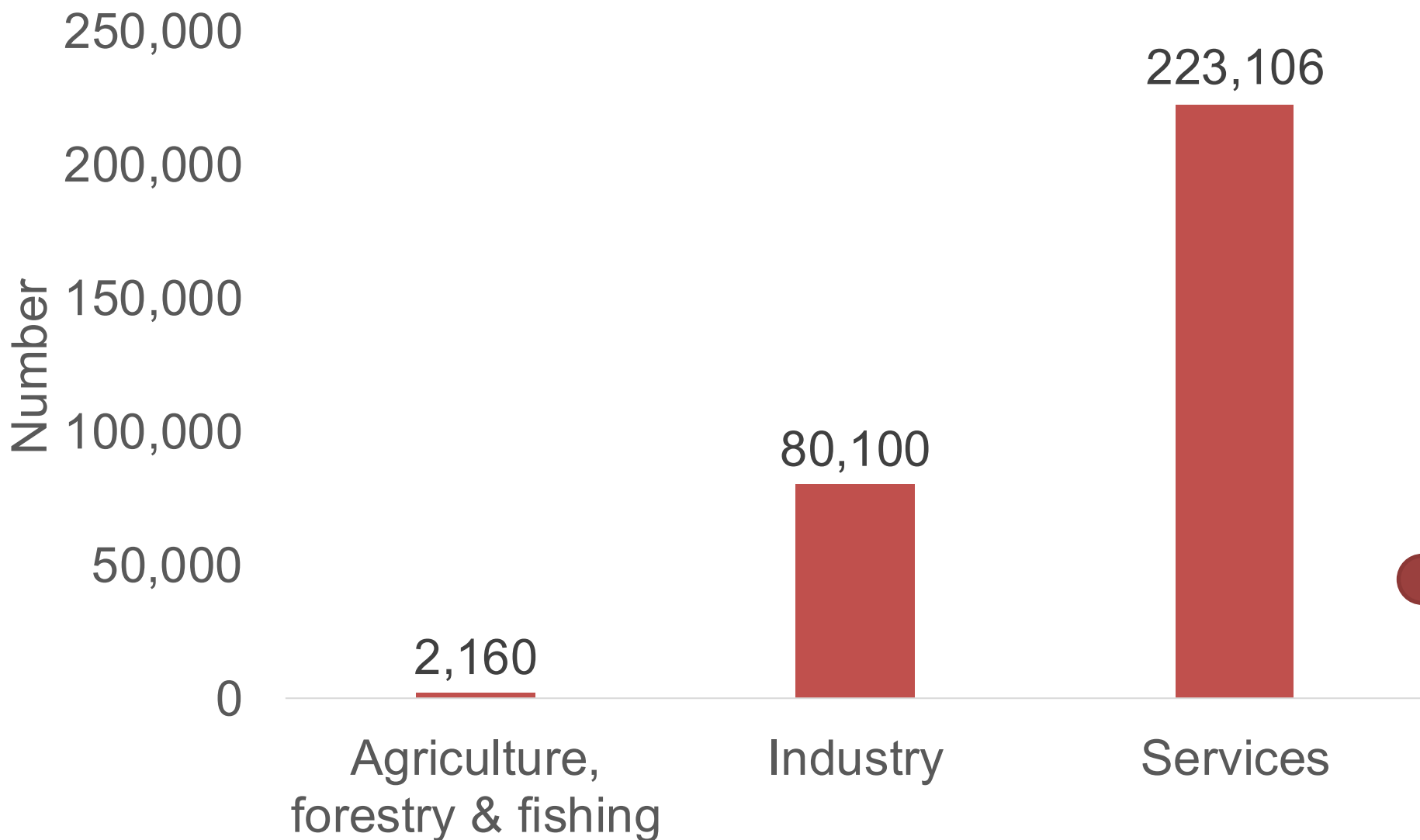
Distribution Employees in Informal businesses by Sector



Employees in Informal businesses

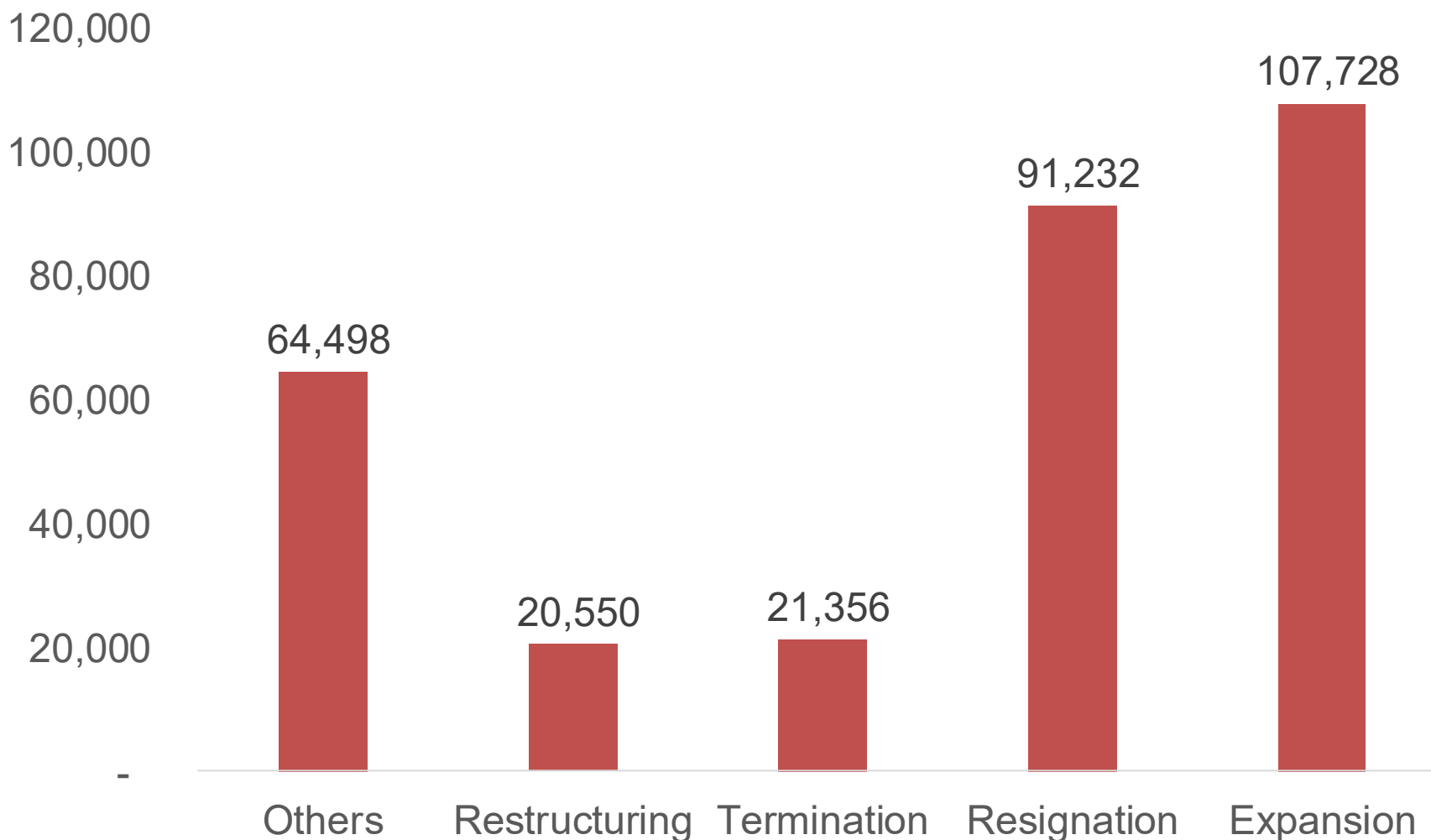
7,350,199

Job Vacancies in Informal businesses by Sector



QN
How many vacancies were available?
305,364

Job Vacancies in Informal businesses by Reason, (%)



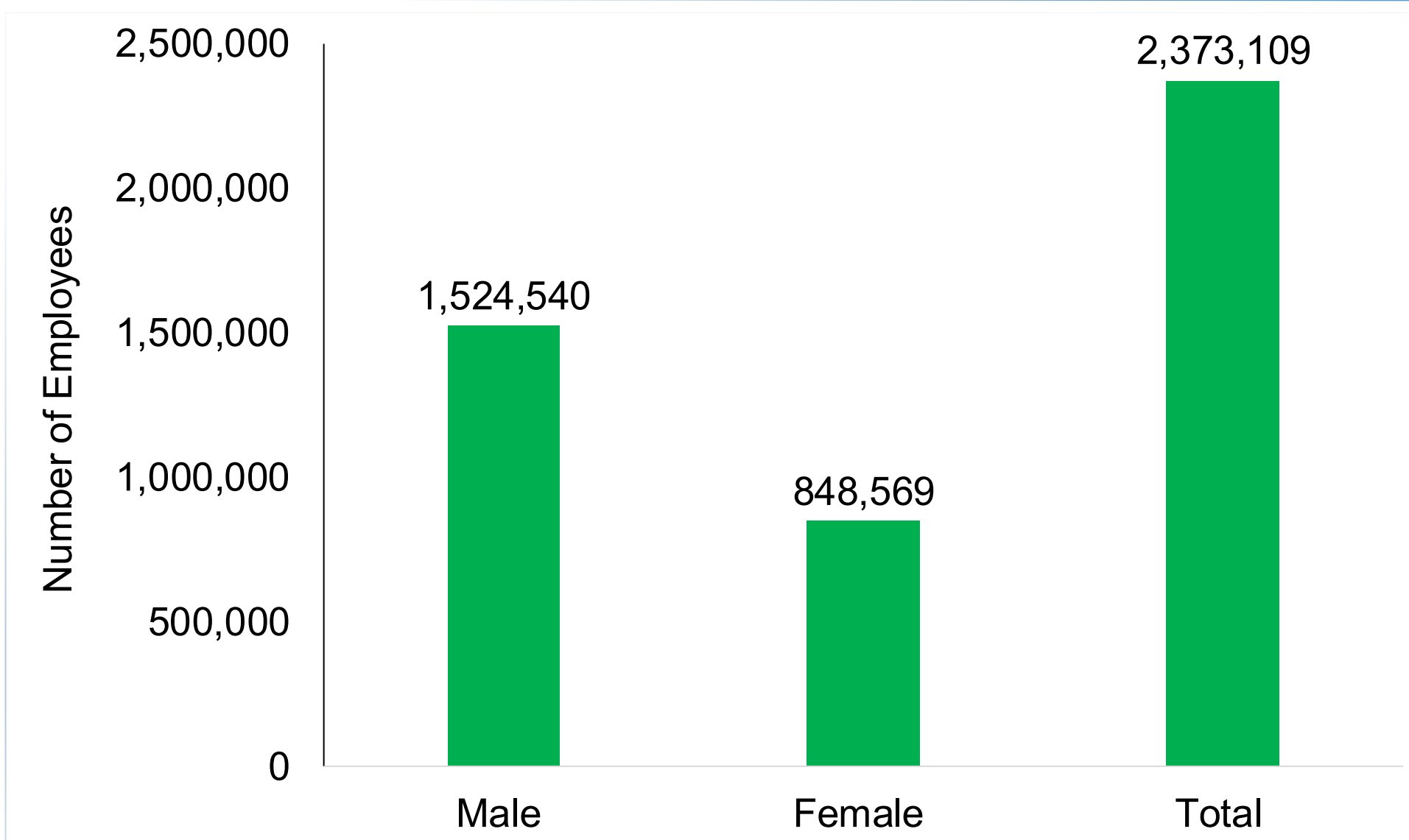
QN
 How many vacancies were available by reason?
305,364

EMPLOYMENT IN THE FORMAL ESTABLISHMENTS

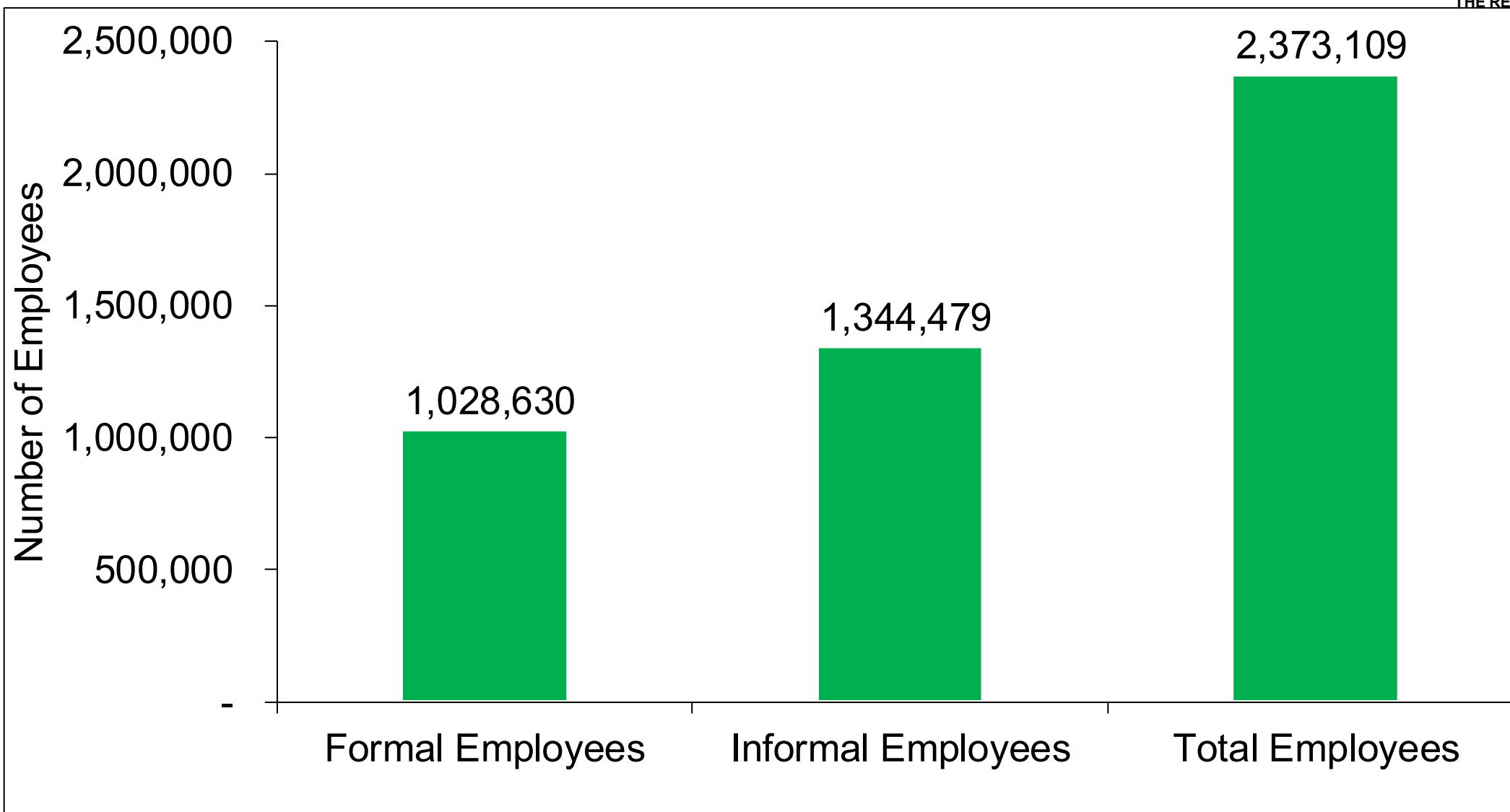
Employees in Formal Establishments by Sex



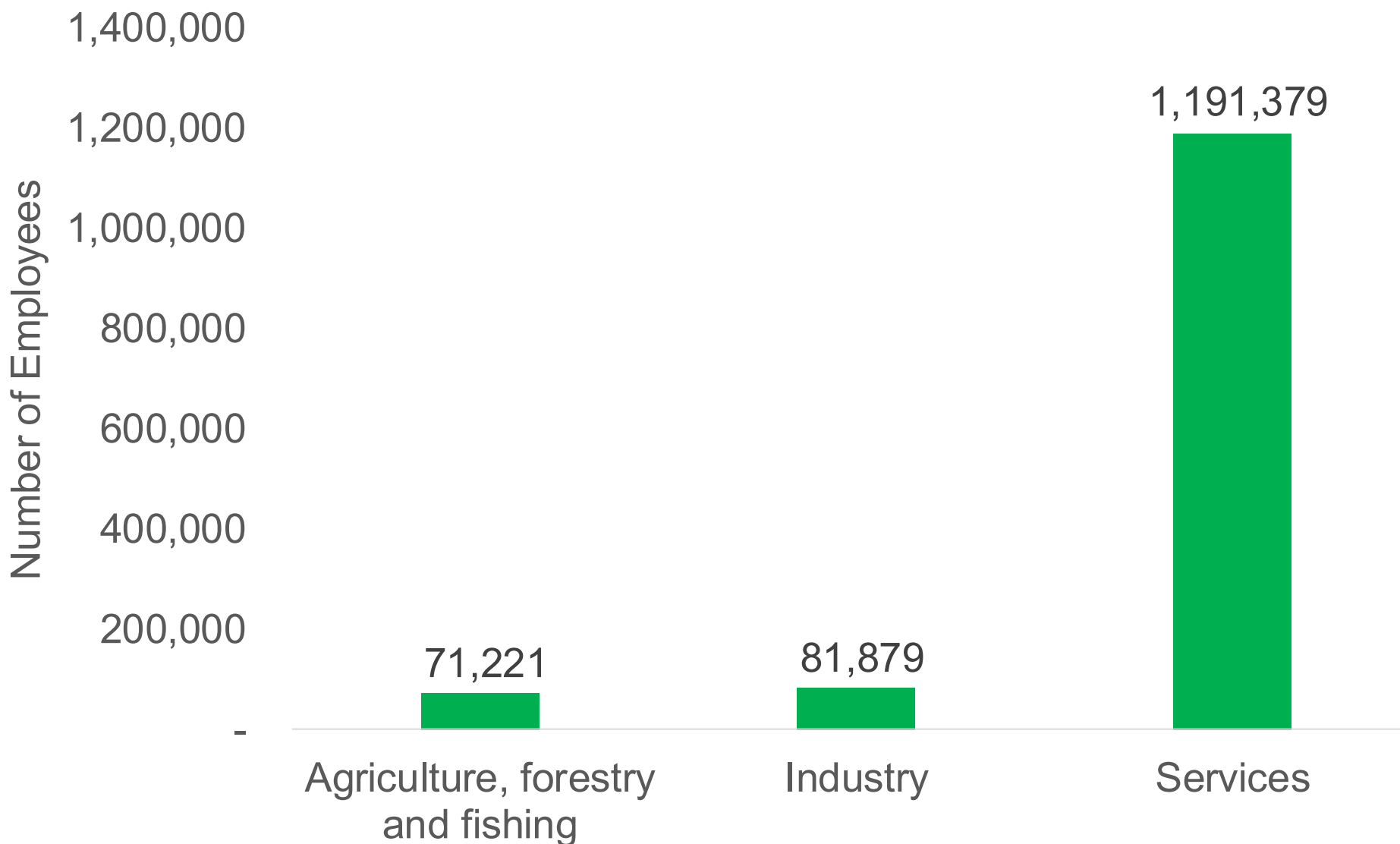
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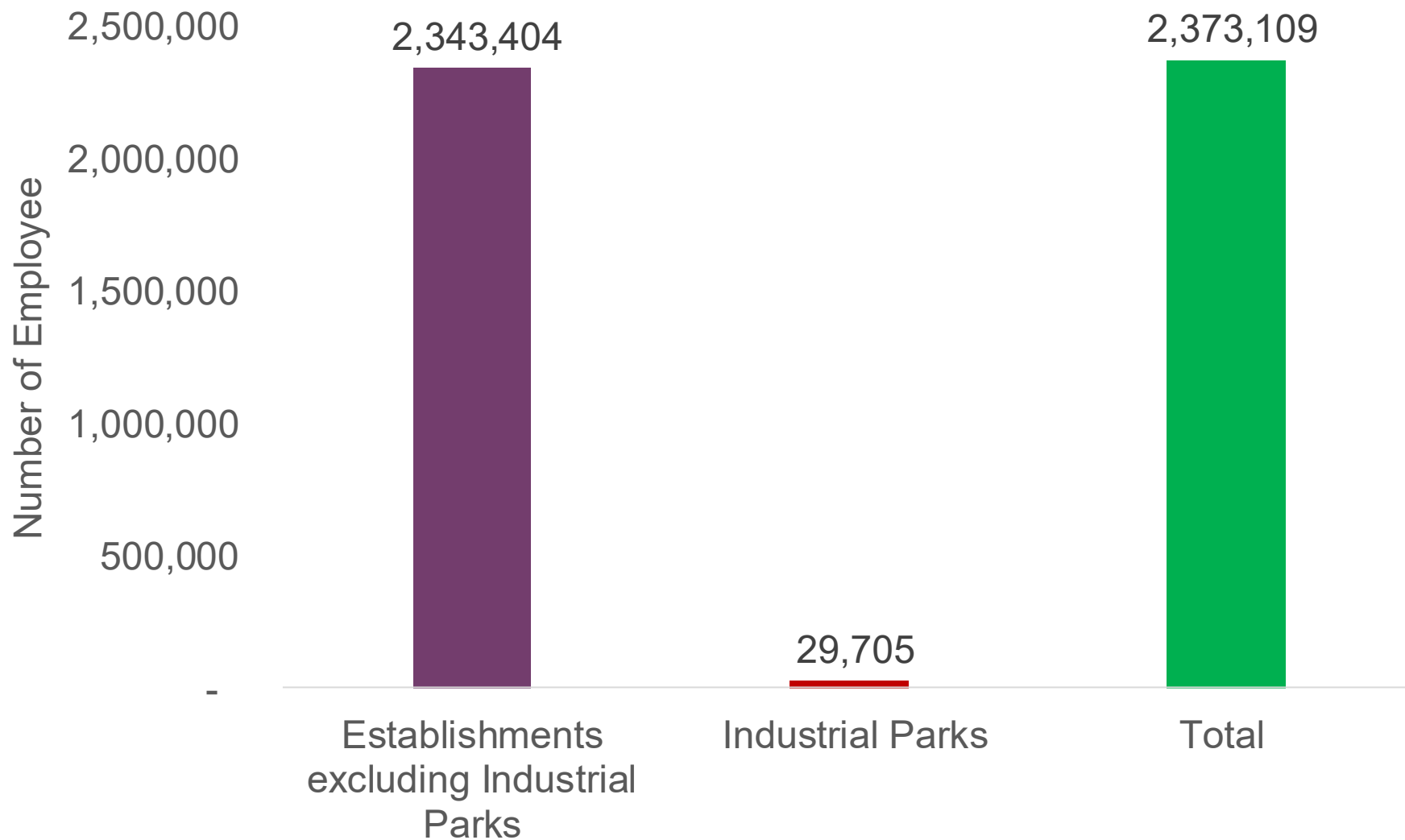
Formal and Informal Employees in Formal establishments



Informal Employees in Formal establishments by Sector

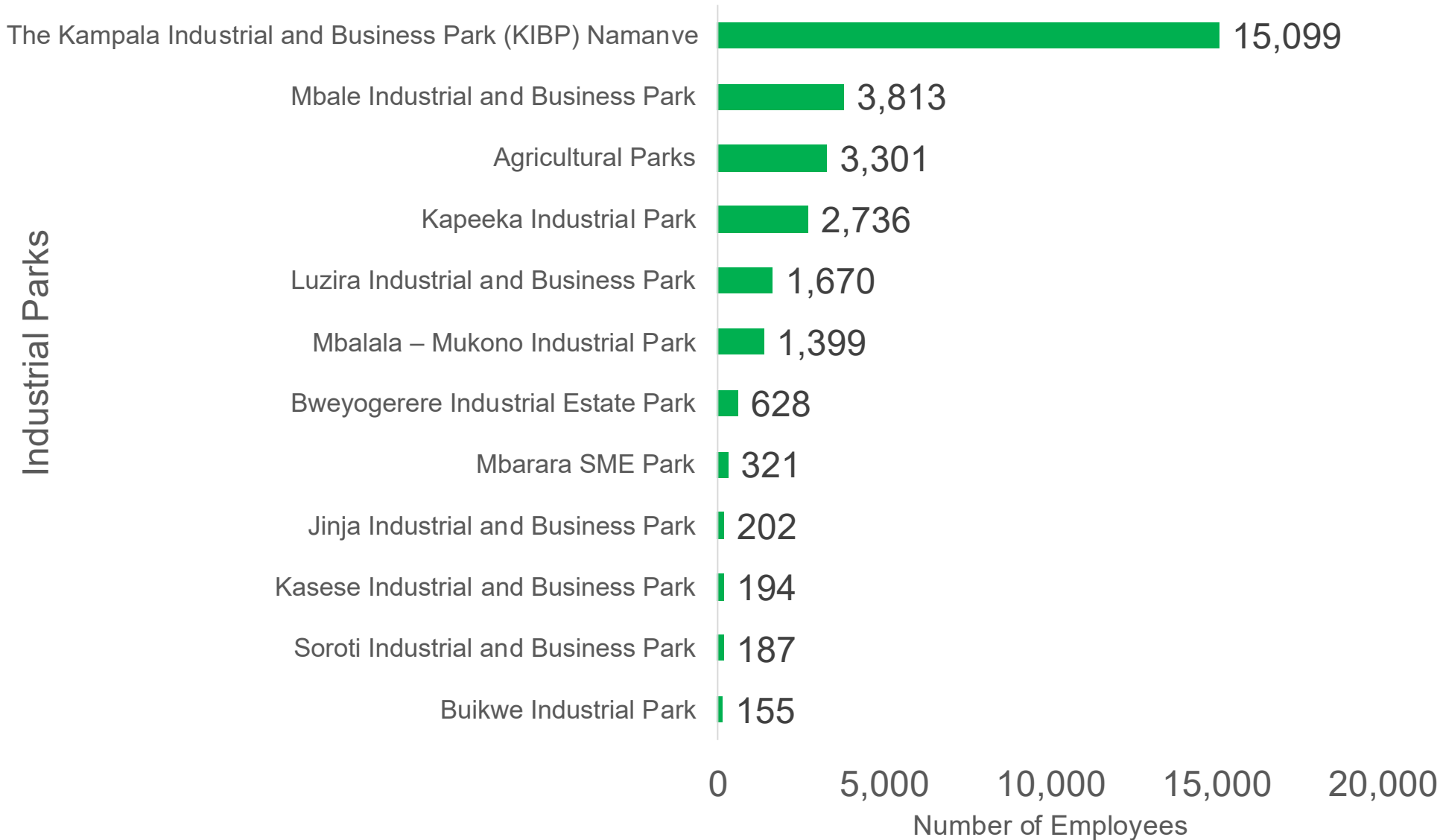


Employees in Formal Establishments by Location

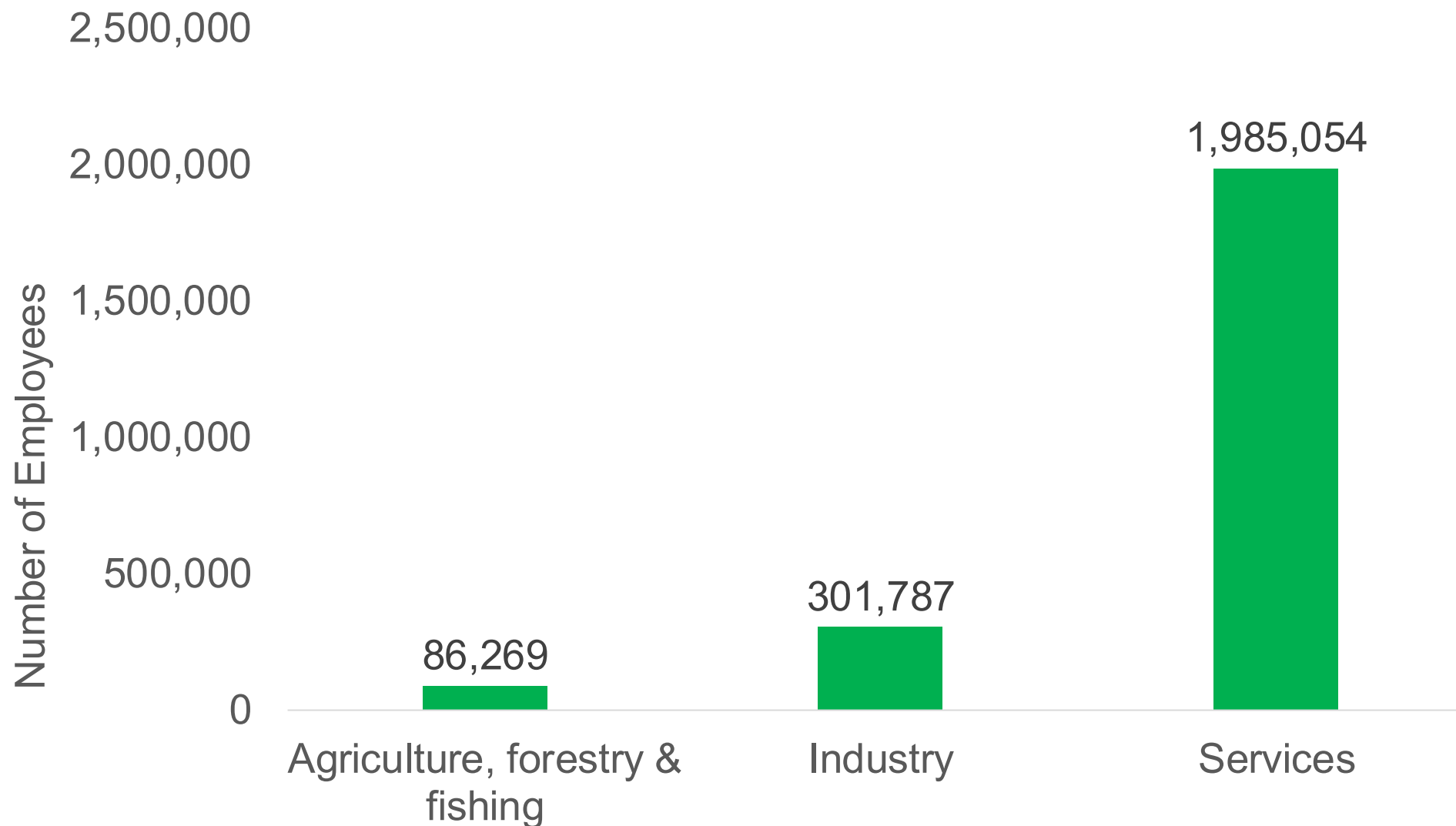


**1.3%
Industrial
Parks**

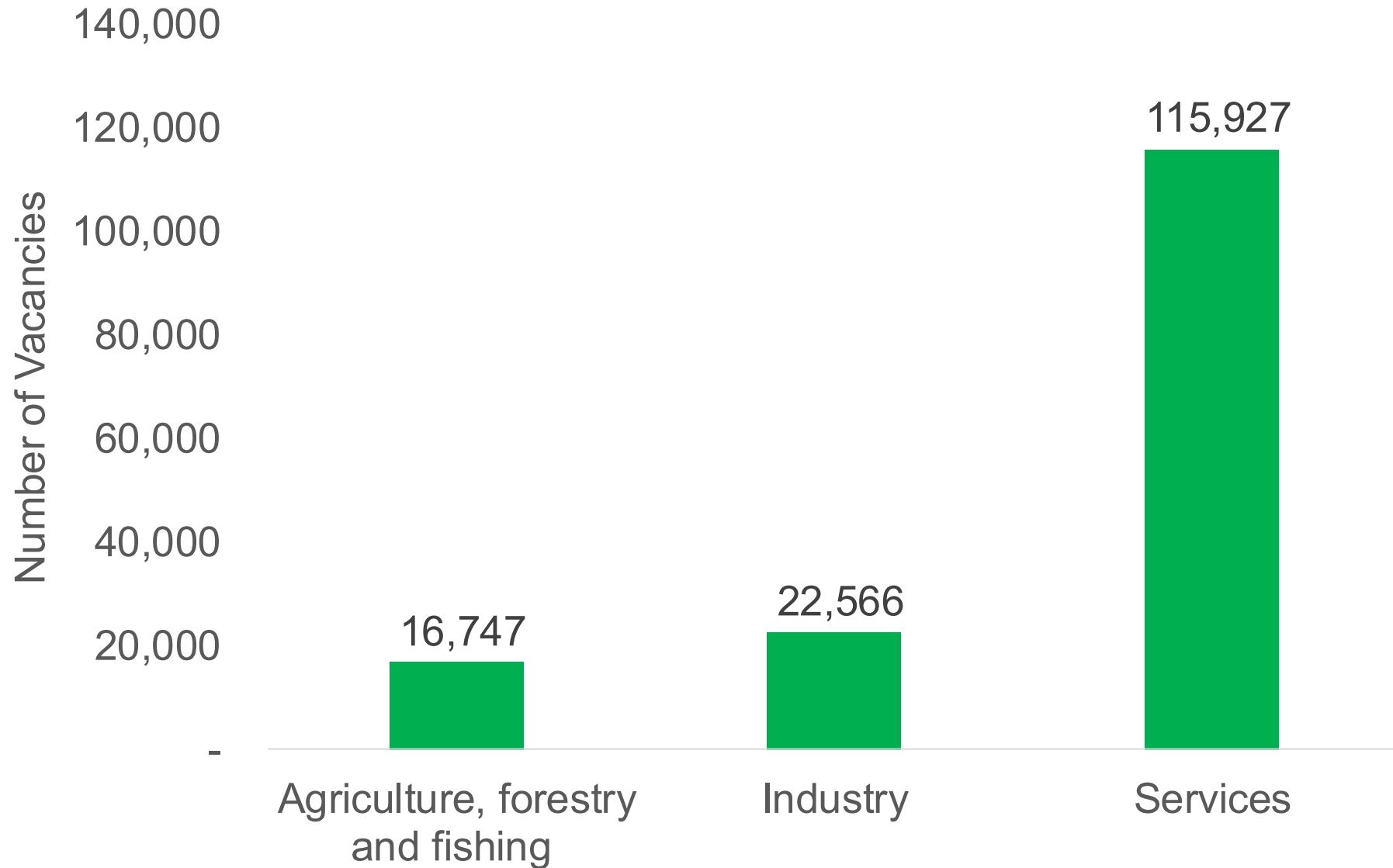
Employees in the Industrial parks



Employees in Formal businesses by sector

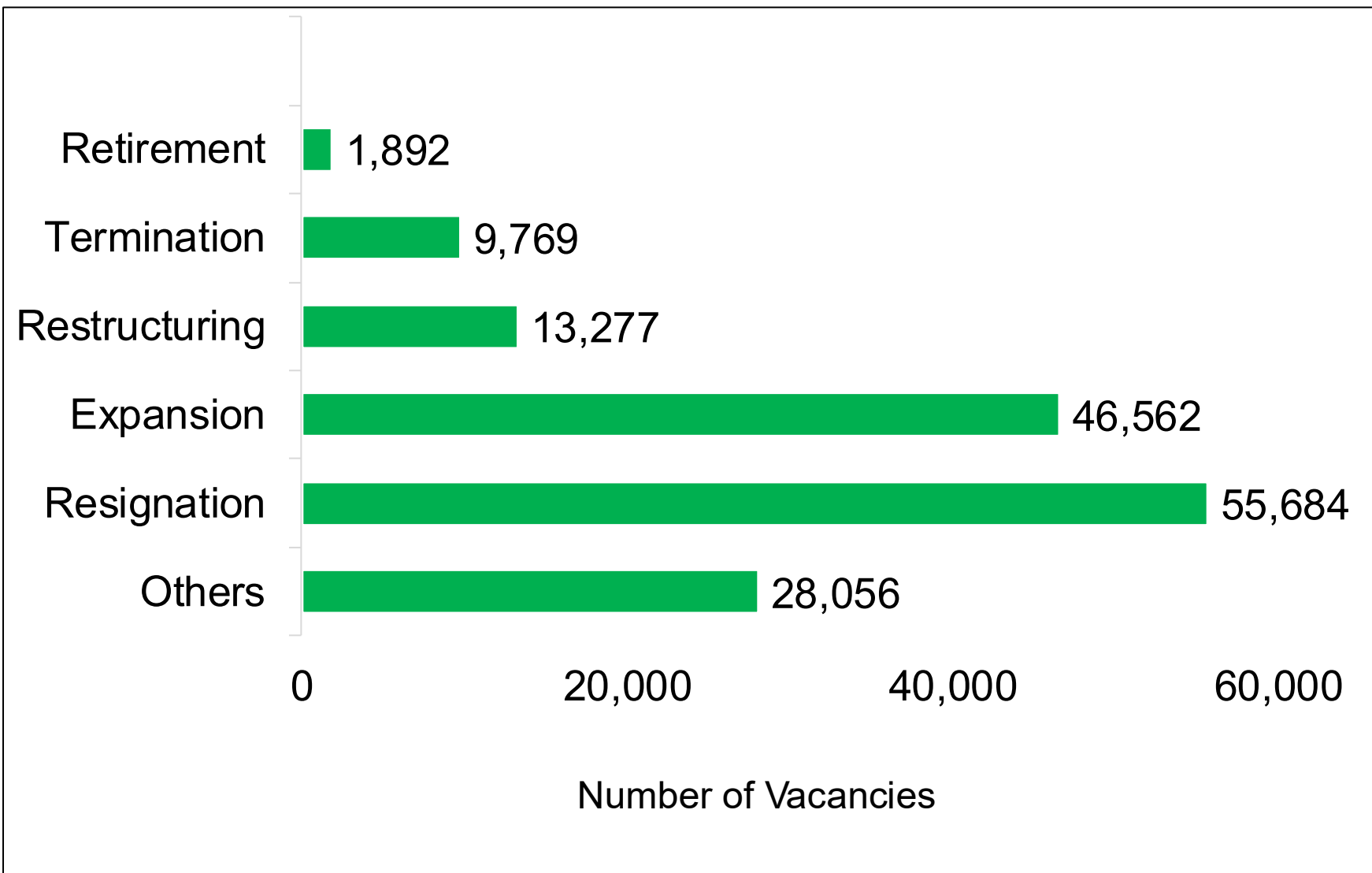


Job Vacancies by Sector



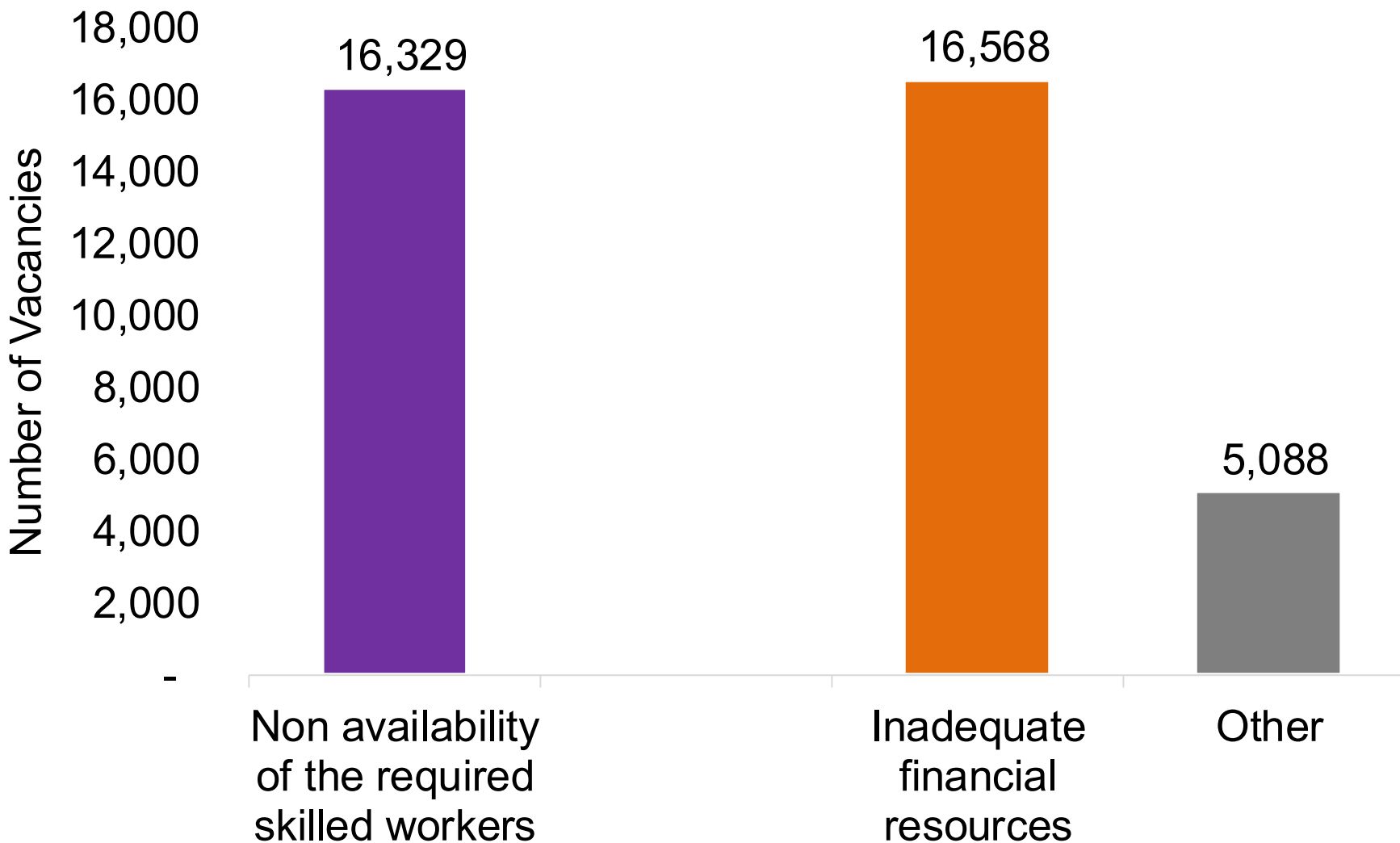
QN
 How many vacancies were available?
155,240

Job Vacancies in formal businesses by Reason, (%)



QN
 How many vacancies were available by reason?
155,240

Reason for non-filled job vacancies in formal businesses (%)

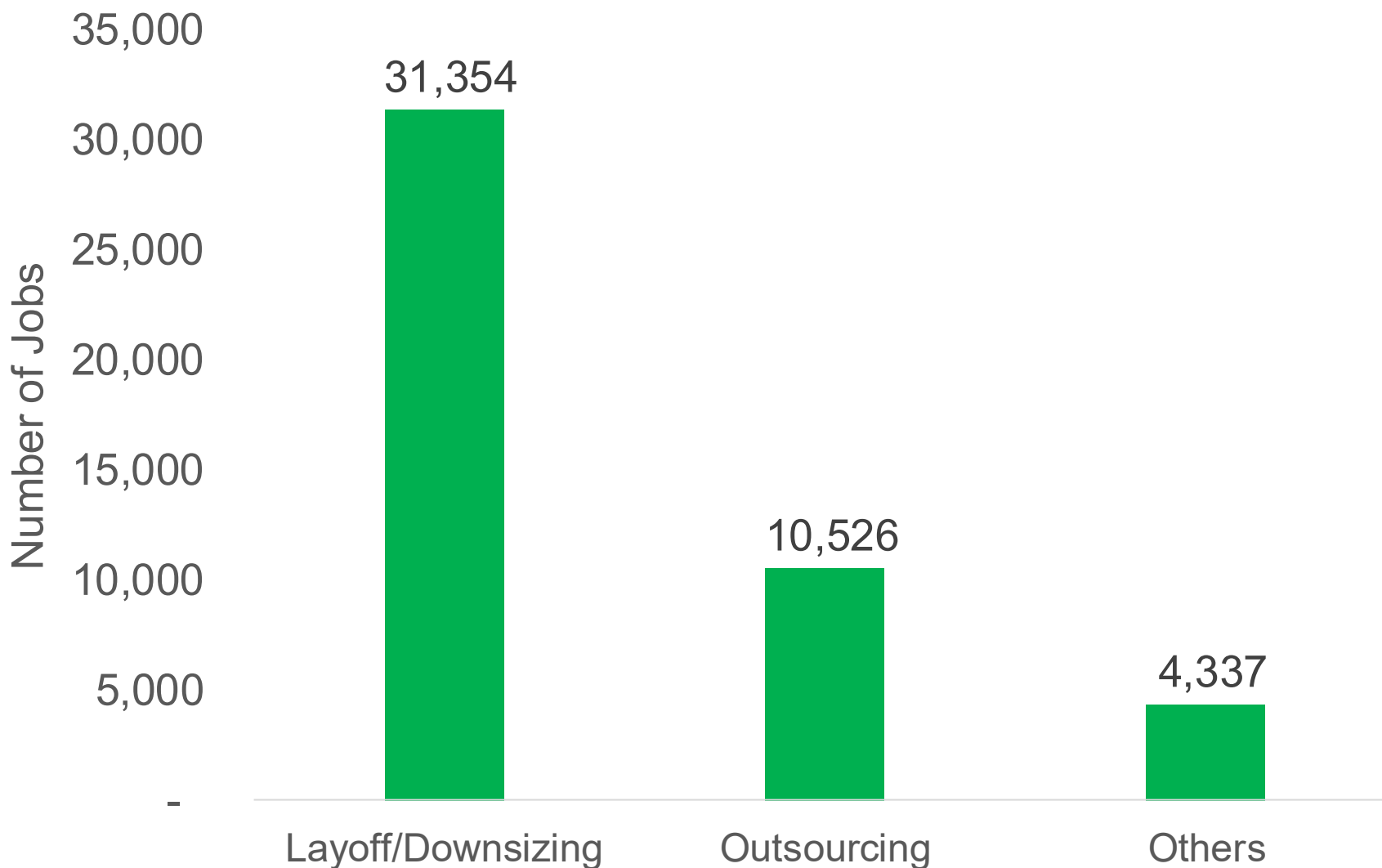


QN
 How many vacancies were not filled by reason?
155,240

Job Loss by Reason



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QN
 How many jobs were lost in your establishment (by reason of job loss)?
46,217

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

International Classification

Indicator	Working Age Population 15 years and above	Youth 15-24 years
Unemployment rate	12.2	17.9
Informal employment (excluding agriculture, forestry and fishing)	87.6	95.1

Summary ...

Labour Indicators - Household

National Classification

Indicator	(WAP) 14-64 years	(YOUTH) 18-30 years
Unemployment rate	12.4	16.2
Informal employment (excluding agriculture, forestry and fishing)	87.6	91.5

Summary ...

Employment in the Formal Sector

Indicator	Numbers
Number of Employees	2,373,109
Job Vacancies	155,240
Jobs lost	46,217

Summary...

Employment in the Informal Sector

Indicator	Numbers
Number of Employees	7,350,199
Job Vacancies	305,364

CHALLENGES

- Non-responsive employers/owners of establishments
- Restricted access to industrial parks



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