



2021 FOURTH QUARTER QUARTELY LABOUR FORCE SURVEY



February, 2022

2021 Fourth Quarter Quarterly Labour Force Survey report is produced by the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT).

Additional information about the 2021 Fourth Quarter Quarterly Labour Force Survey report may be obtained from:

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
EPR	Employment to Population Ratio
ICLS	International Conference of Labour Statisticians
ILO	International Labour Organisation
LFPR	Labour Force Participation Rate
NDS1	National Development Strategy 1
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
QLFS	Quarterly Labour Force Survey
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
ZIMSTAT	Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency
ZW\$	Zimbabwe Dollar

Foreword

In an endeavour to ensure timely provision of high frequency labour market statistics to inform planning and decision making, the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT) now conducts Quarterly Labour Force Surveys (QLFS's) the first of which was undertaken in the 3rd quarter of 2021.

The QLFS provides key labour market indicators which include but not limited to levels of employment both formal and informal, unemployment and some labour underutilization indicators, income levels, labour migration and job losses. These statistics are useful in providing information for policy formulation on employment, human capital development strategies, macroeconomic development, incomes support and social programmes. The survey findings also feed into the compilation of the quarterly Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the economy.

This QLFS is the second one to be conducted by ZIMSTAT. It is premised on the 2013 labour force framework adopted at the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) that provided new guidelines for measuring and compiling statistics on work, employment and labour underutilization.

It is also noteworthy to note that results of the Quarterly Labour Force Surveys are susceptible to seasonal variations. As such, long term trend analysis of the results will be done through analysis of year on year quarterly changes.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare and the National Social Security Authority for their valuable input during questionnaire design.

As a Statistical Agency we remain indebted to all households that participated in the survey for their invaluable time and effort. The competency, dedication and hard work exuded by ZIMSTAT staff on this maiden project is second to none and much appreciated.

I have no doubt that the results of this survey will be fully utilised in the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of national development plans and strategies.

Taguma Mahonde

DIRECTOR - GENERAL

2021 FOURTH QUARTER QUARTERLY LABOUR FORCE KEY FINDINGS

1. Introduction

Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a national household based sample survey which was conducted in private households both in rural and urban areas across all provinces of Zimbabwe. The survey produces key labour market indicators which include to levels of formal and informal employment, unemployment and other labour underutilisation indicators, labour migrants as well as job losses.

2. Objectives of the Survey

The primary objective of the survey is to provide in-depth information on the labour force status as well as socio-economic indicators useful in monitoring living conditions.

Specifically the survey provides information on:

- a) The number of people classified according to their activity status in line with the 19th ICLS resolution in terms of the measurement of work statistics;
- b) Informal sector and informal employment;
- c) Labour migration;
- d) Labour market indicators necessary to monitor the implementation of Zimbabwe's macro-economic policies such as the National Development Strategy 1 and other related strategies;
- e) Key labour market indicators for Zimbabwe that are comparable with other SADC and African countries in line with international standards established by the ILO; and
- f) Indicators that allow monitoring of the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

3. Survey Methodology

A two stage sample design was used for sample selection. The first stage was the selection of enumeration areas using the probability proportional to size criteria. The second stage entailed selection of households in the selected enumeration areas using random systematic sampling technique. A total of 500 enumeration areas and 12,500 households were selected for the survey. The survey had a national response rate of 94.9 percent.

4. 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS Findings

Table 1 below gives some key findings obtained from the survey in comparison with 2021 third quarter survey results.

Table 1: Key Findings

	Year 2021			
	3 rd Quarter		4 th Quarter	
Indicator	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Working Age Population (15 years and above)	8,991,382		8,957,612	
Labour Force (15 years and above)	4,087,445		3,787,269	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)		45.5		42.3
Total Employed	3,349,723		3,035,419	
Employment to Population Ratio (EPR)		37.3		33.9
Sector of Employment				
Formal (non-agriculture)	872,250	26.0	876,034	28.9
Informal (non-agriculture)	1,527,075	45.6	1,408,032	46.4
Agriculture	790,123	23.6	617,055	20.3
Household	160,275	4.8	134,298	4.4
Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	737,722	18.0	751,850	19.9
Youth (15-24 years)	276,642	31.0	283,984	35.2
Youth (15-34 years)	501,003	24.3	520,948	27.6
Expanded/Relaxed Unemployment				
National (15 years and above)	3,009,185	47.3	2,714,724	47.2
Youth (15-24 years)	1,068,877	63.5	975,828	65.1
Youth (15-34 years)	1,897,993	54.9	1,749,590	56.1
Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)				
Youth (15-24 years) NEET	1,280,400	44.3	1,331,174	46.8
Youth (15-34 years) NEET	2,212,802	46.1	2,327,221	49.4

Executive Summary

The working age population was estimated at 9 million constituting 59 percent of the total population. The total labour force obtained from the survey was 3.8 million giving a total Labour Force Participation Rate of 42 percent.

Around 3 million of the working age population were currently employed. The national Employment to Population Ratio (EPR) stood at 34 percent. Harare had the highest proportion of the employed population at around 26 percent followed by Mashonaland East at 12 percent. Matabeleland North with 3 percent had the least proportion.

Twenty-nine percent of the employed population was in the formal sector while forty-six percent were in the informal sector. Of those in employment 20 percent and 4 percent were in the agriculture and household sectors, respectively. Eighty-six percent of the employed population were informally employed.

The wholesale trade; retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles industry had the largest proportion of the employed population at 27 percent followed by agriculture, forestry and fishing with 20 percent.

Eighty percent of the employed persons earned income of RTGS\$20,000 and below during the month of October 2021.

Twenty percent of persons 15 years and above were unemployed. Among males the rate was 19 percent while for females it was 22 percent. Matabeleland North province had the highest unemployment rate of 27 percent. The age groups (15-19) years and (20-24) years had the highest unemployment rates of 35 percent, respectively, followed by those aged (25-29) years at 27 percent.

Youth (15-24) years had a national unemployment rate of 35 percent. The national unemployment rate for youth (15-34) years was 28 percent. Unemployment rate was highest among those who had completed upper secondary at 25 percent followed by those with lower secondary at 22 percent.

The expanded national unemployment rate for persons 15 years and above was 47 percent. It was higher for females at 51 percent than males with 44 percent. Matabeleland North had the highest expanded unemployment rate of 59 percent.

The age group (15-19) years had the highest expanded unemployment rate of 68 percent. Youths (15-24) years had a national expanded unemployment rate of 65 percent while the national expanded unemployment rate for youths (15-34) years was 56 percent.

The expanded unemployment rate was higher among those staying in the rural areas at 53 percent than those in urban area at 40 percent.

The national proportion of youths (15-24) years who were Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) was 47 percent, while NEET for youths (15-34) years was estimated at 49 percent.

Two percent of the currently employed population reported suffering from work related injuries/illnesses or both in the last twelve months preceding the survey. Harare Province had the highest proportion, 17 percent of employed persons who reported having suffered both work related illnesses and injury. Around 51 percent of those who reported having suffered work related illnesses or injuries resided in rural areas. Most workers were injured in the mining and quarrying sector at 20 percent.

The survey revealed that there were 28 thousand labour migrants of whom the majority 35 percent came from Mozambique followed by 24 percent each from Zambia and Malawi, respectively.

One percent of the employed population had at least one form of functional disability.

Table 1: Households Covered and Response Rates by Province, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

Province	Sampled	Occupied	Interviewed	Household completion rate	Household response rate
Bulawayo	950	864	786	82.7	91.0
Manicaland	1,475	1,366	1,357	92.0	99.3
Mashonaland Central	1,225	1,131	1,107	90.4	97.9
Mashonaland East	1,325	1,209	1,125	84.9	93.1
Mashonaland West	1,325	1,250	1,232	93.0	98.6
Matabeleland North	975	860	850	87.2	98.8
Matabeleland South	875	792	785	89.7	99.1
Midlands	1,375	1,244	1,198	87.1	96.3
Masvingo	1,325	1,199	1,152	86.9	96.1
Harare	1,650	1,516	1,261	76.4	83.2
Area					
Urban	4,210	3,828	3,432	81.5	89.7
Rural	8,290	7,603	7,421	89.5	97.6
Total	12,500	11,431	10,853	86.8	94.9

Figure 1: Percent Population Distribution by Province, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

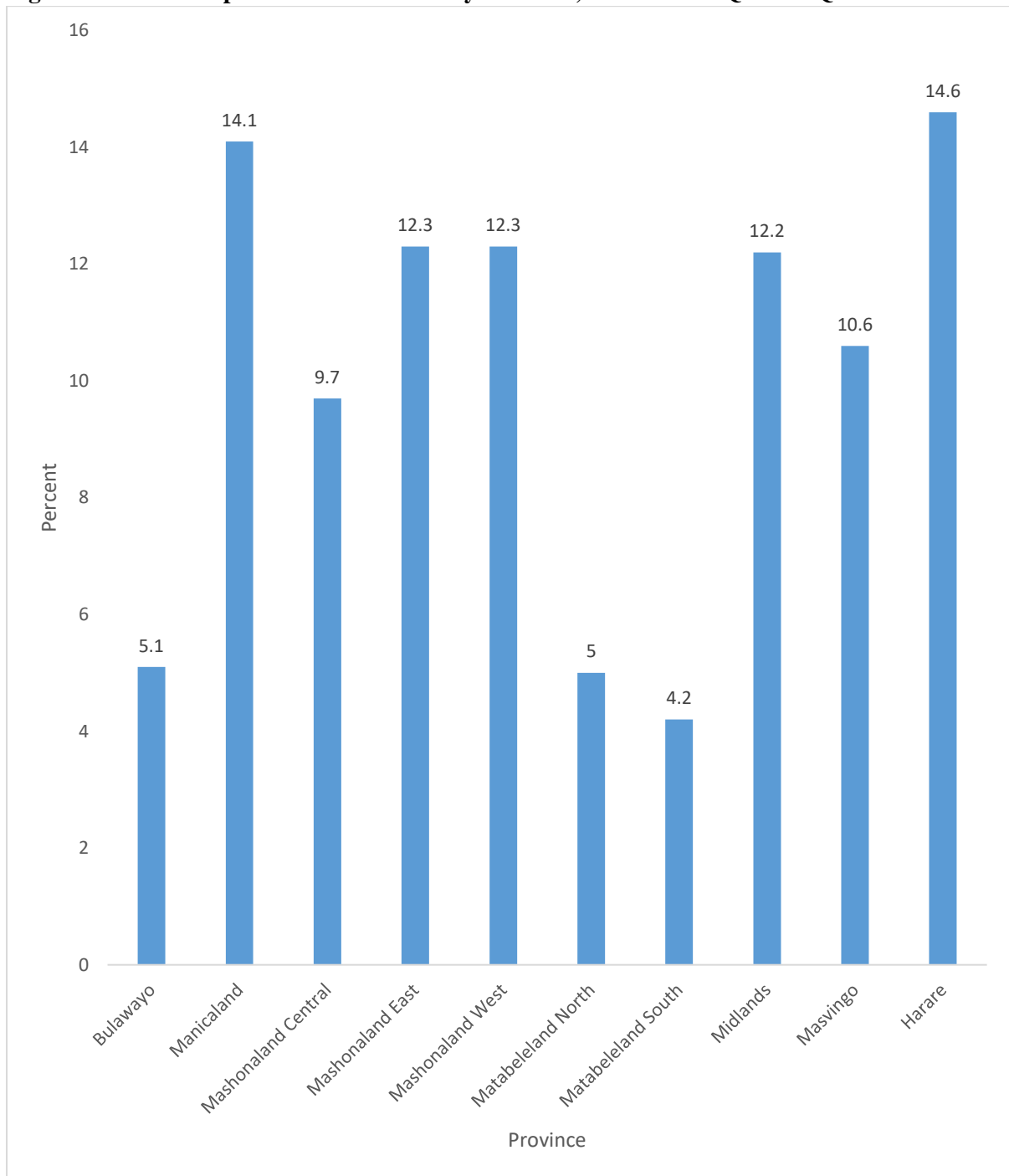


Figure 2: Labour Force Participation Rates by Province and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

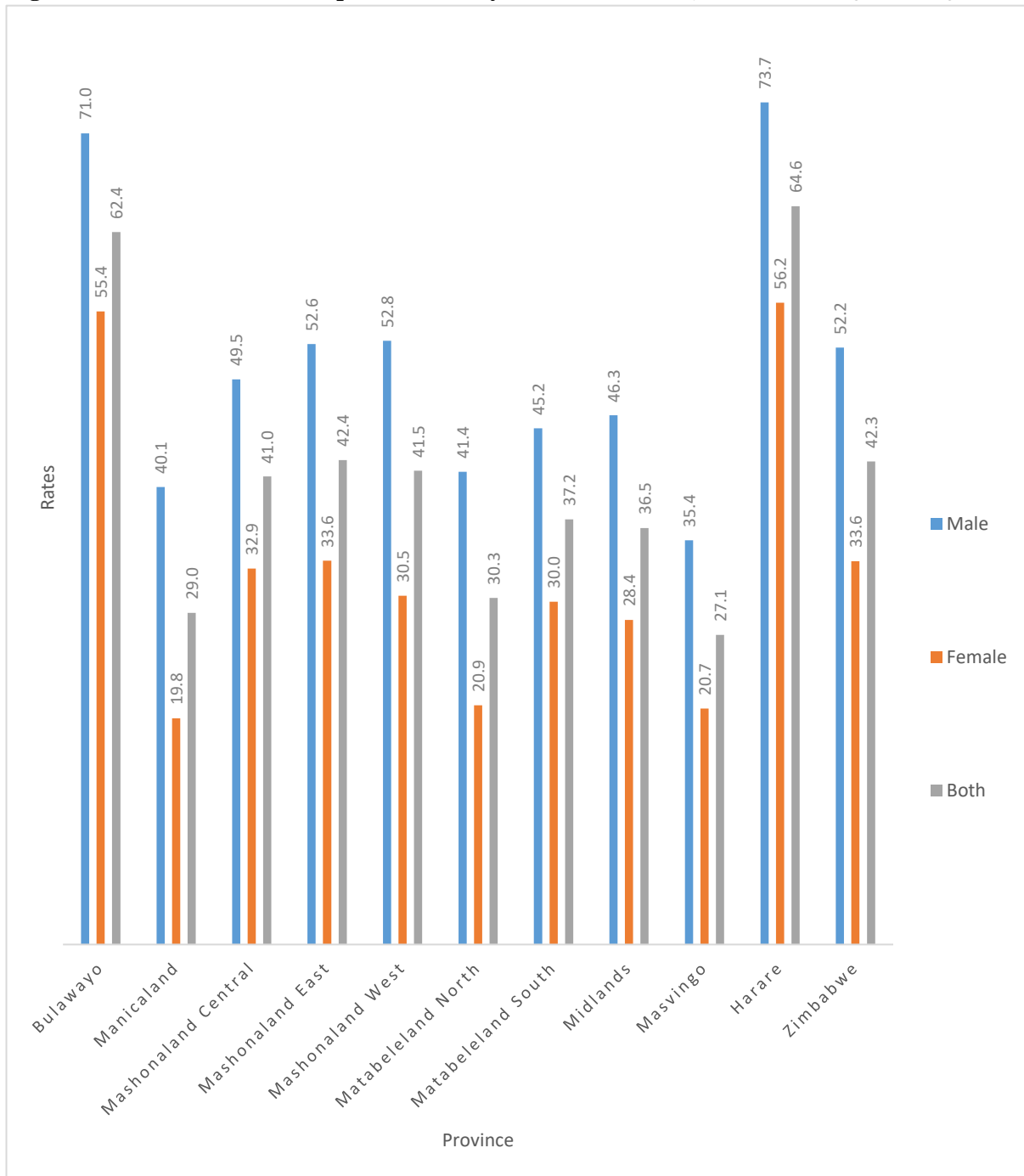


Figure 3: 2021 Third and Fourth Quarter Labour Force Participation Rates by Province

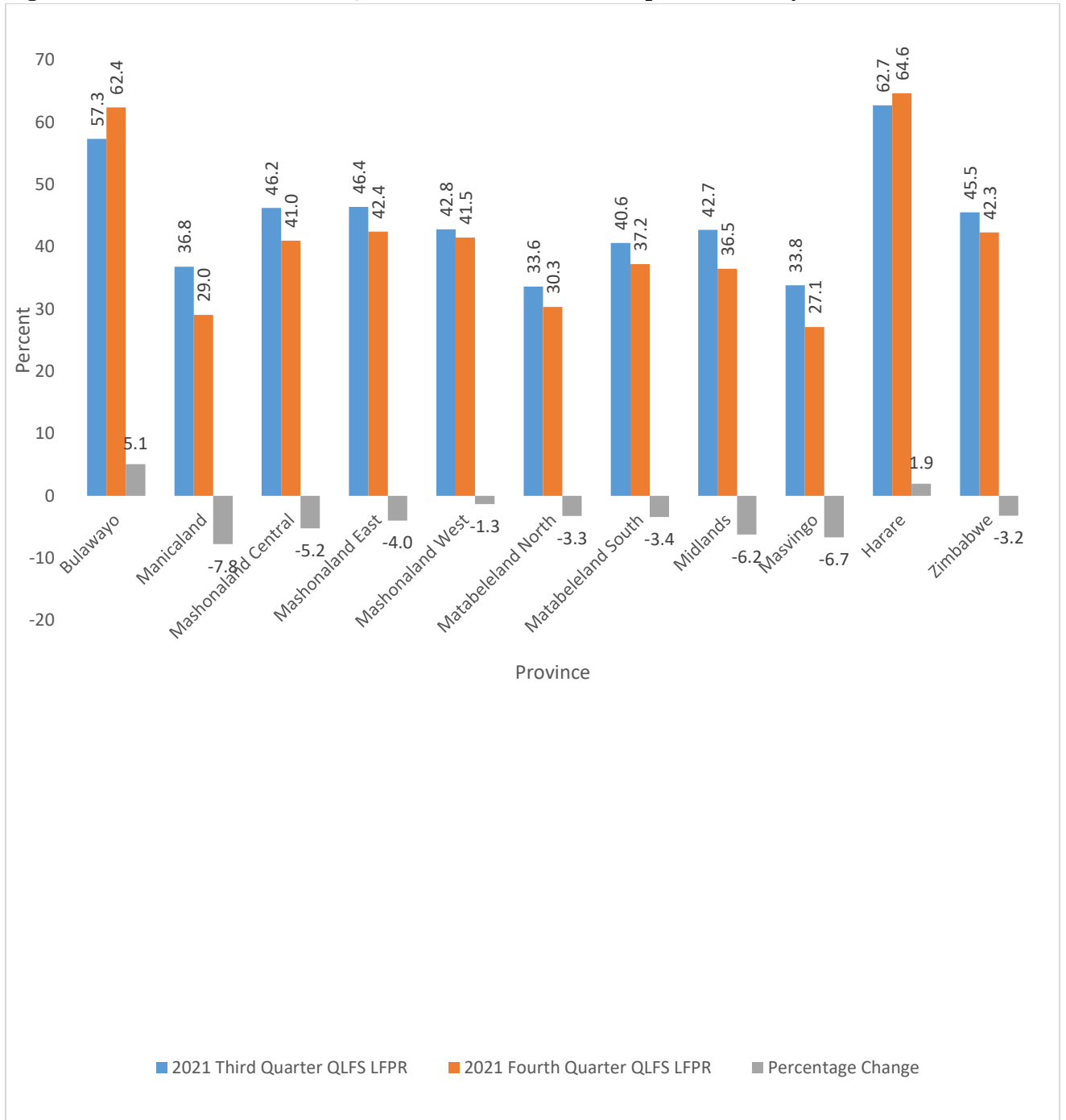


Figure 4: Employment to Population Ratio by Province and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

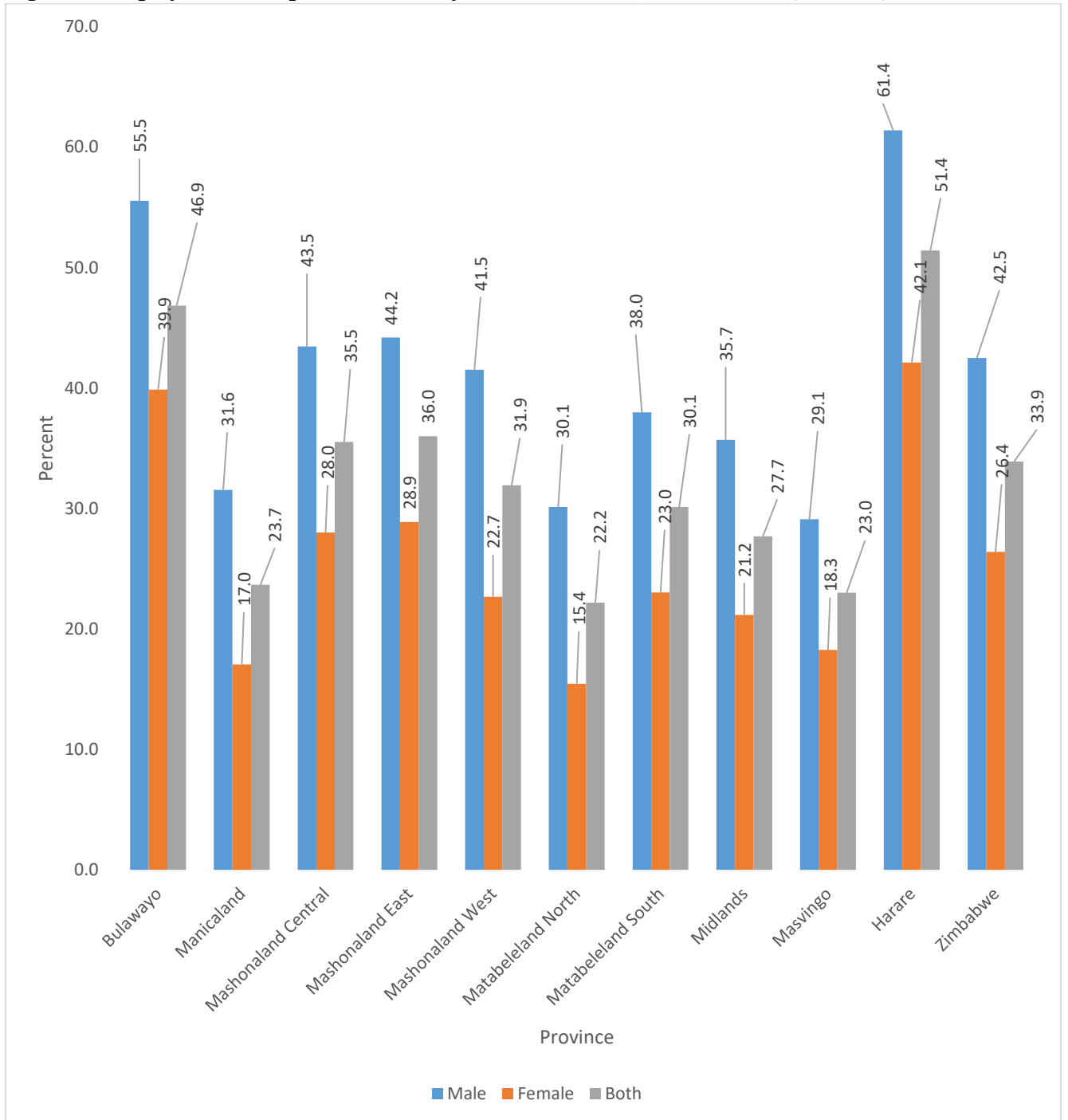


Figure 5: 2021 Third and Fourth Quarter Employment to Population Ratio by Province

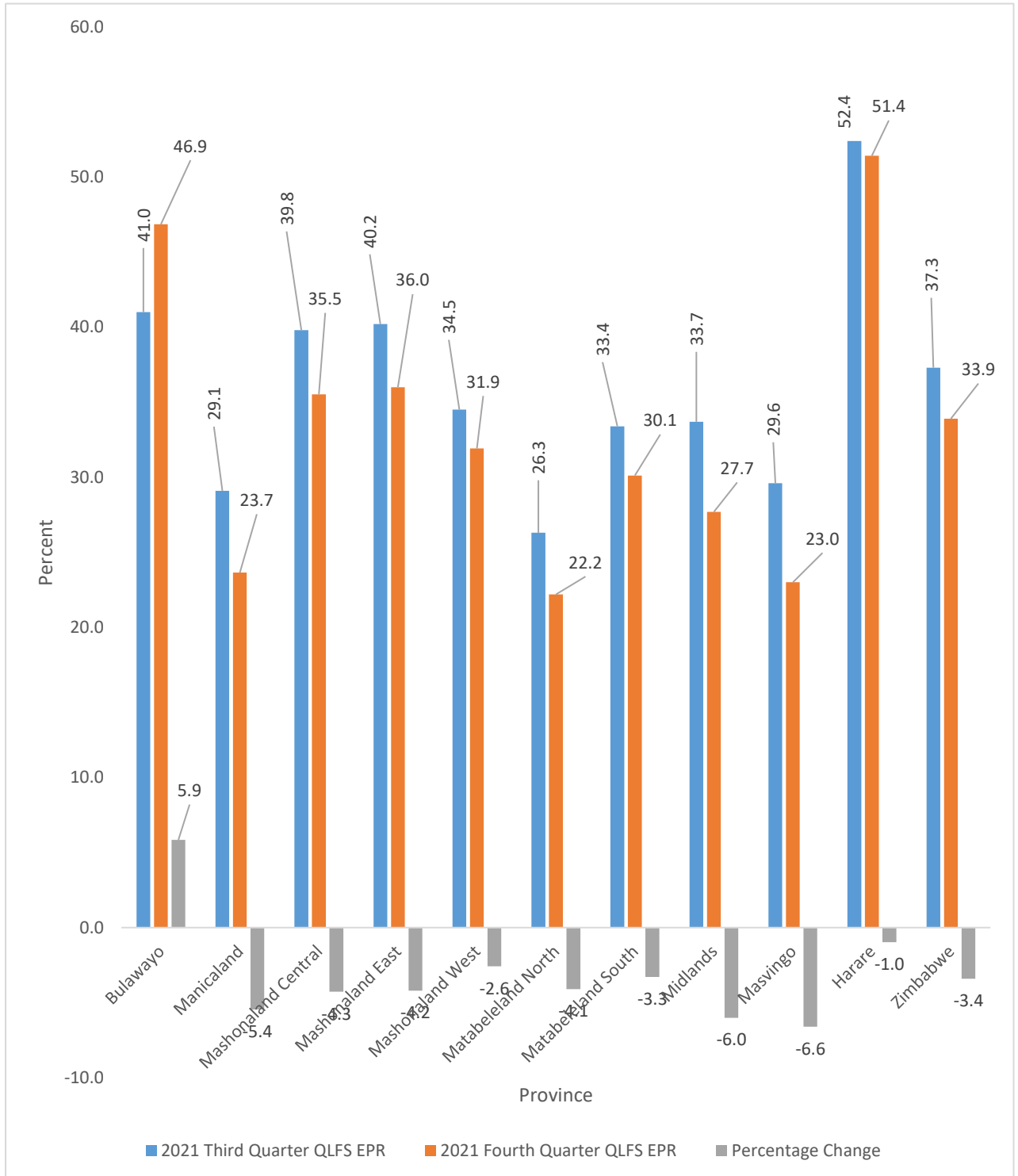


Figure 6: Employment to Population Ratio by Age Group and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

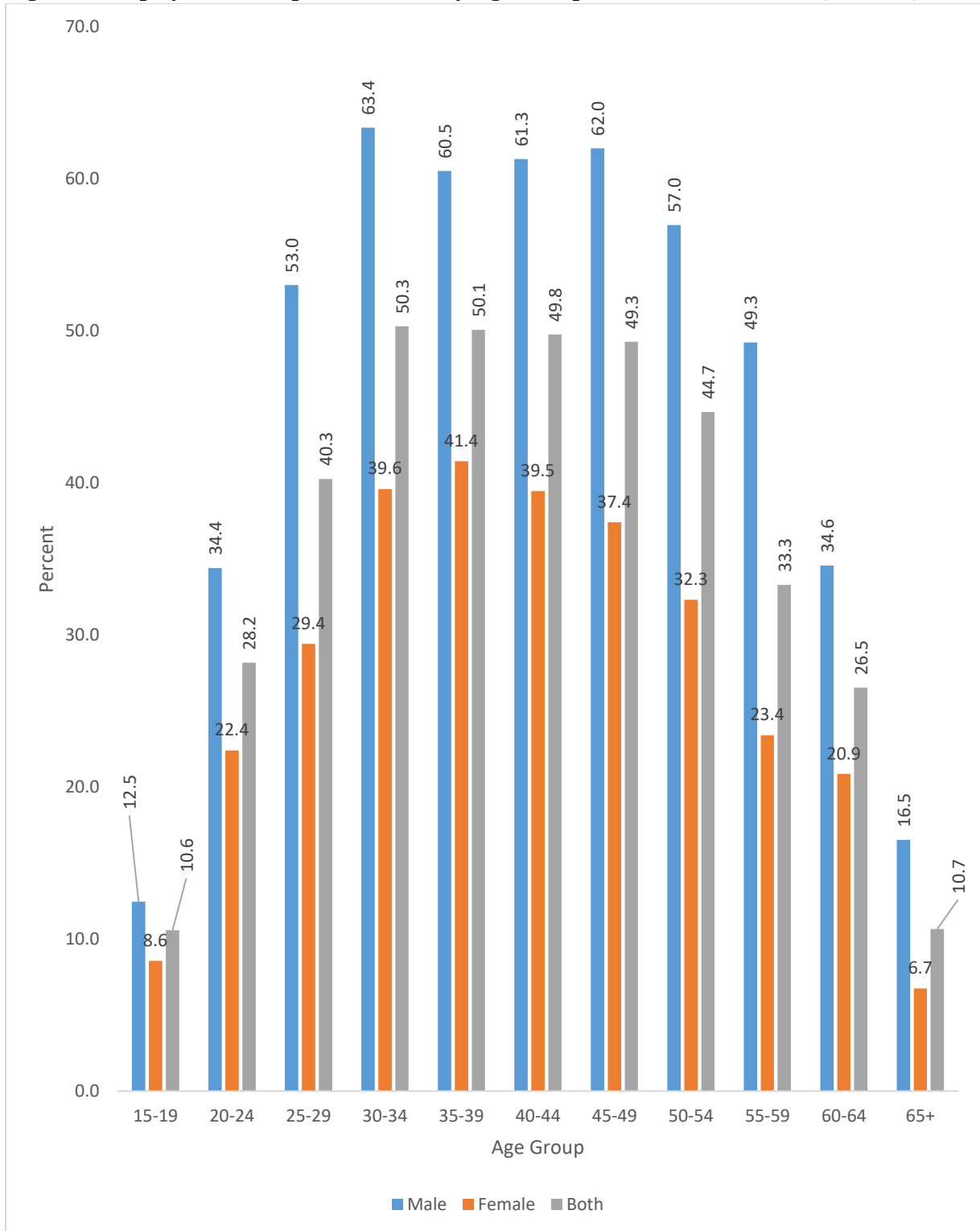


Figure 7: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Sector of Employment, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

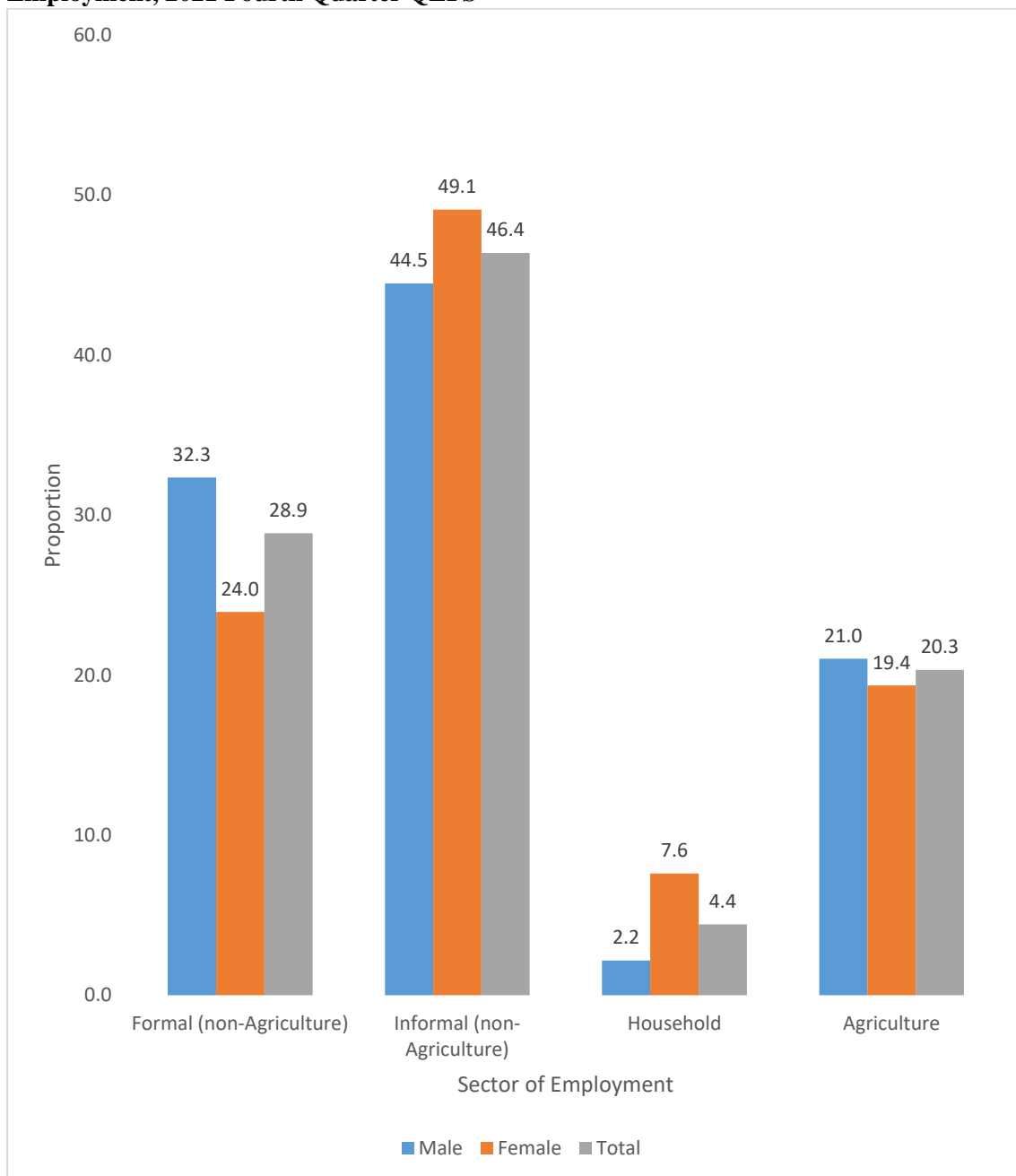


Figure 8: Comparing Distribution of the Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Sector of Employment, 2021 Third and Fourth Quarters QLFS

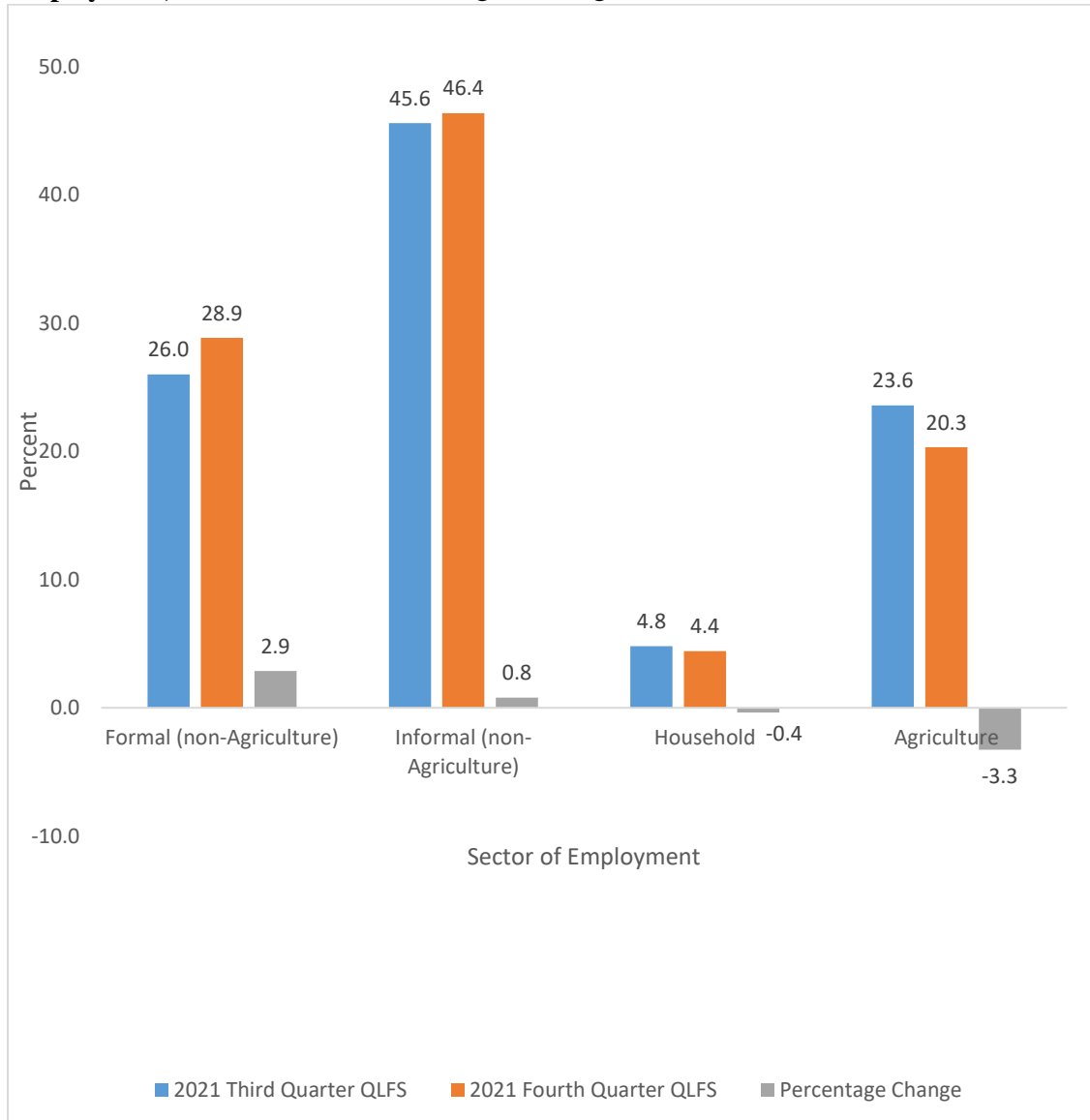


Figure 9: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Province and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

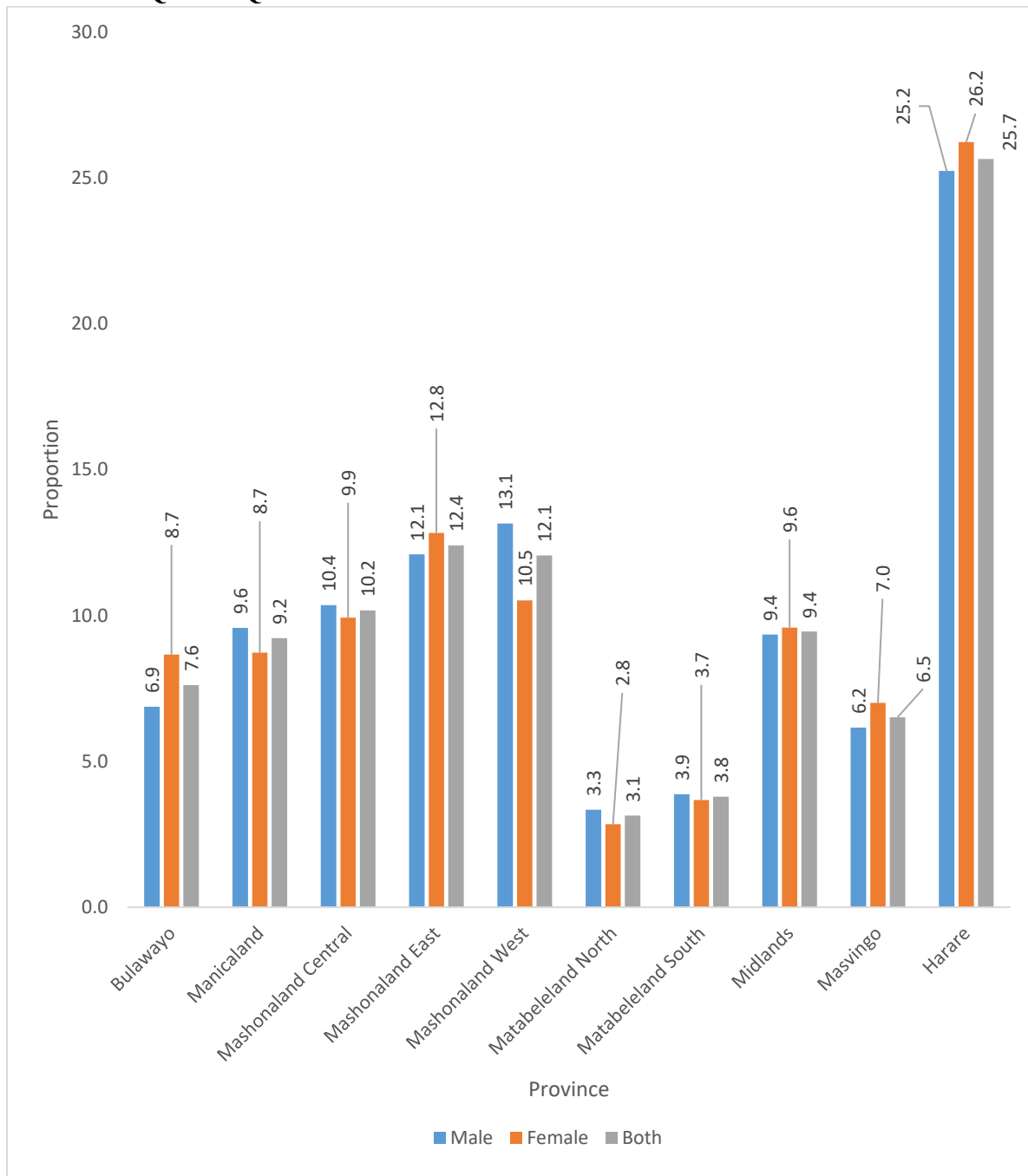


Figure 10: Comparing Distribution of the Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Sector of Employment, 2021 Third and Fourth Quarters QLFS

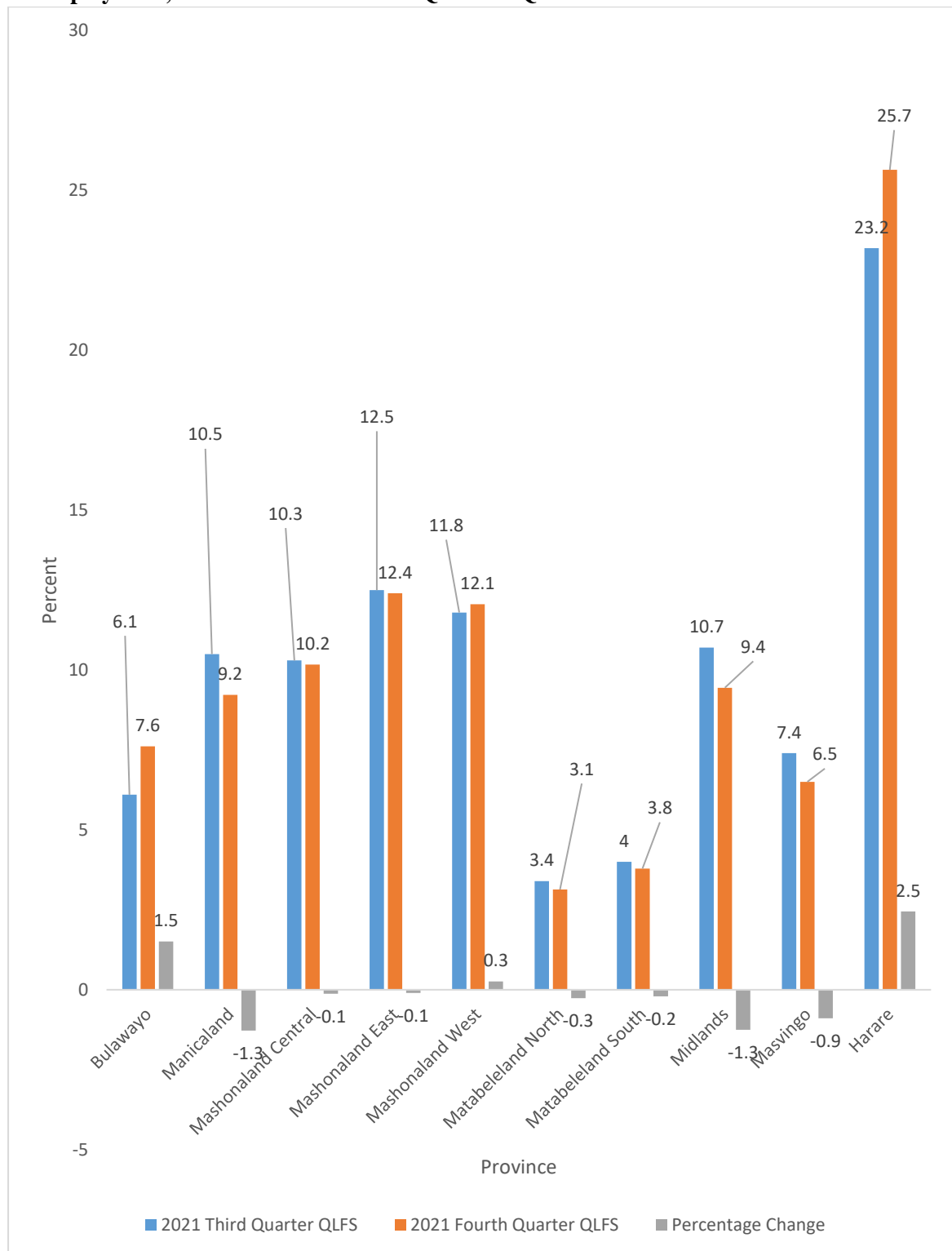


Figure 11: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Industry, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

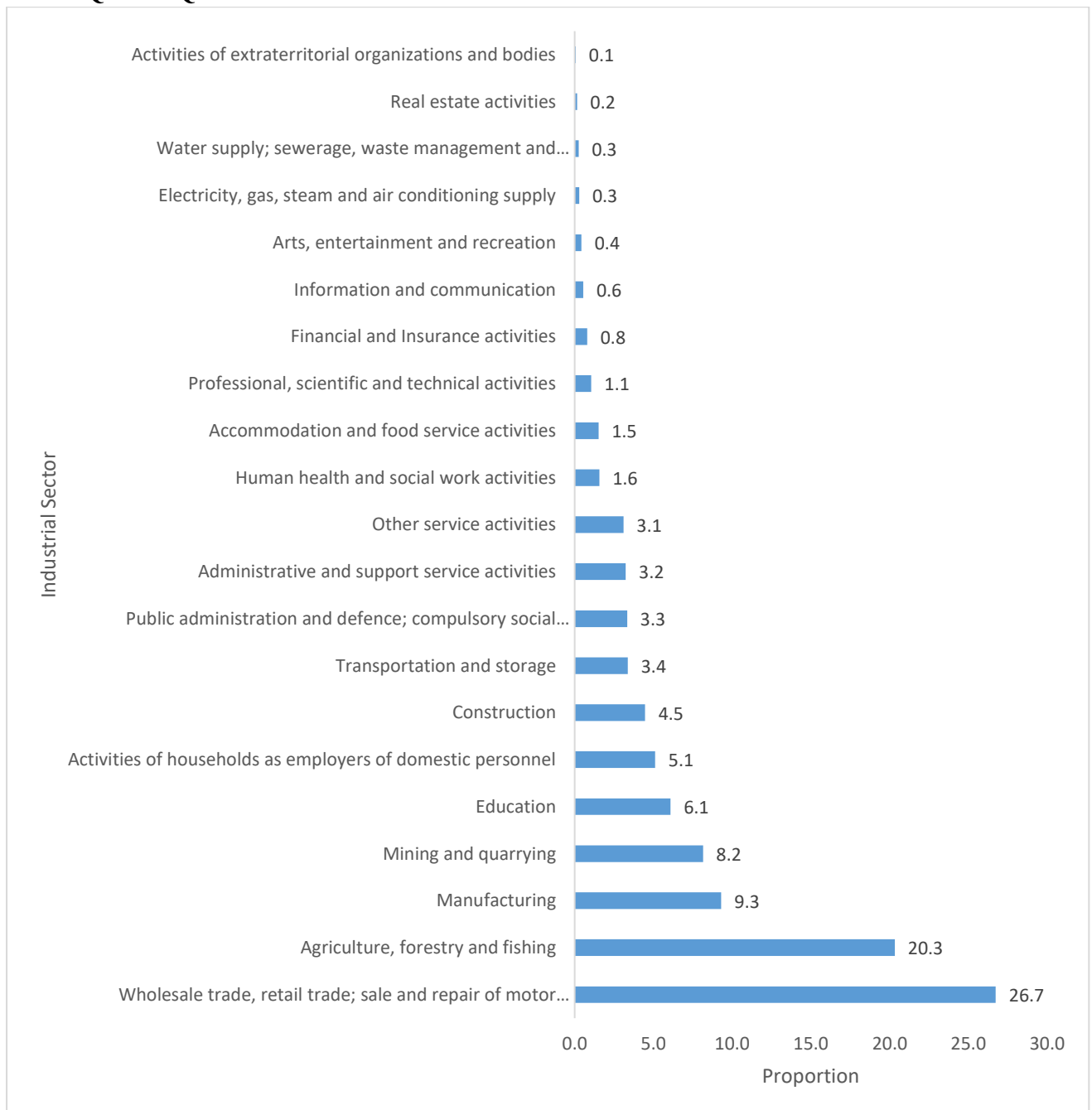


Figure 12: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Income Band in ZWL\$ Dollars, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

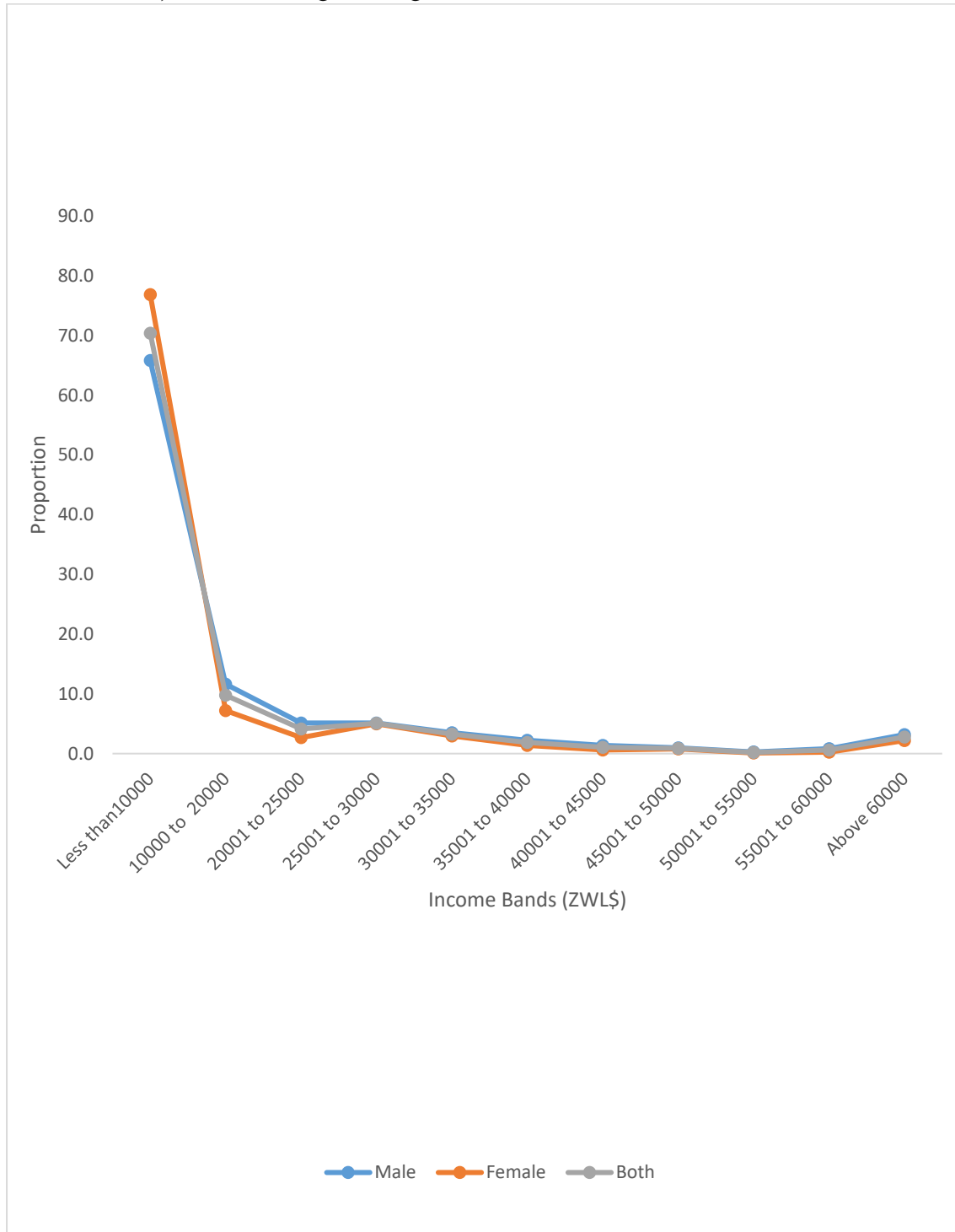


Figure 13: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Average Income and Industry, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

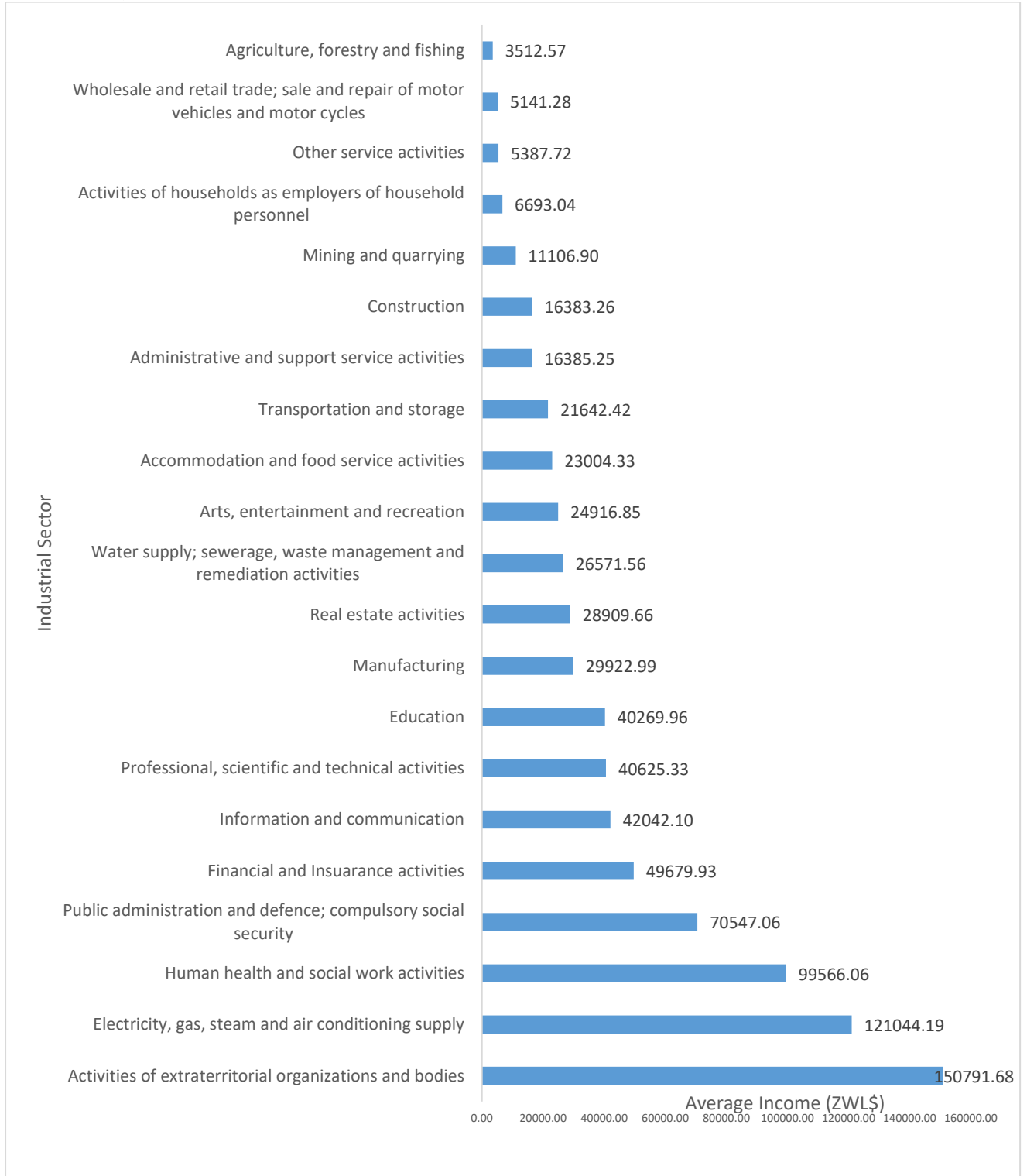


Figure 14: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Status in Employment, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

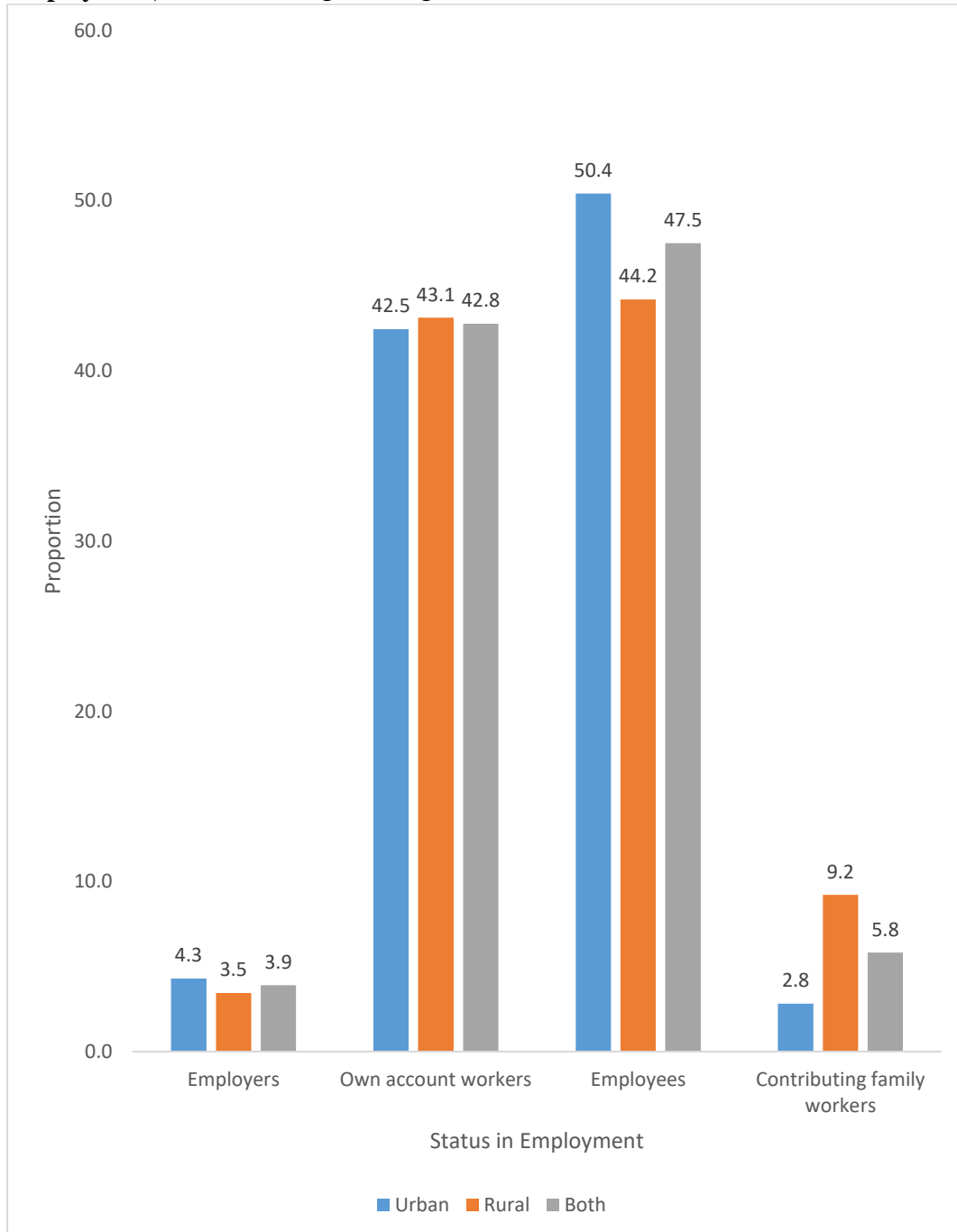


Figure 15: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above by Occupation, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

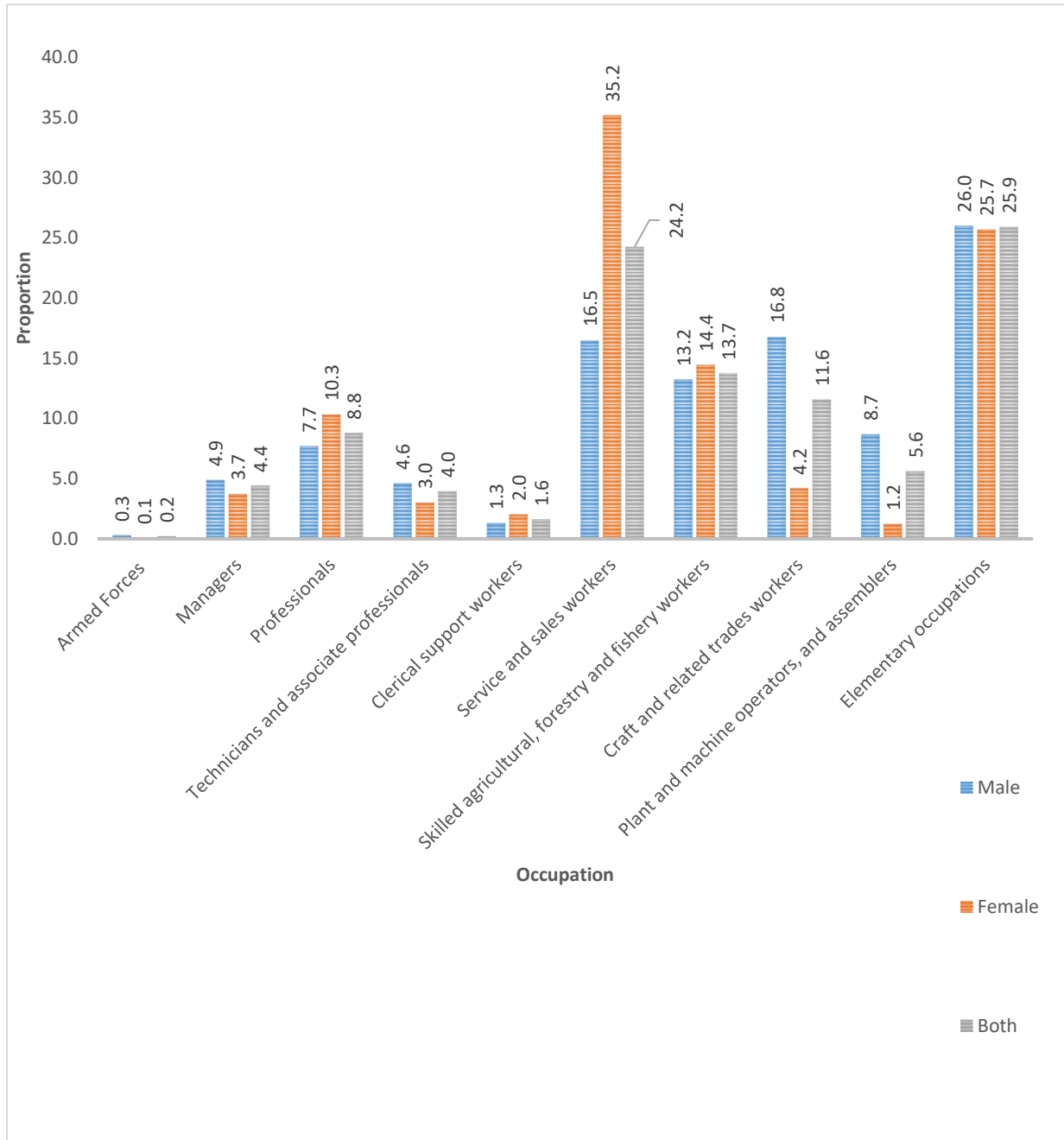


Figure 16: Proportion (%) of Employed Population 15 Years and Above in the Informal Sector by Industry, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

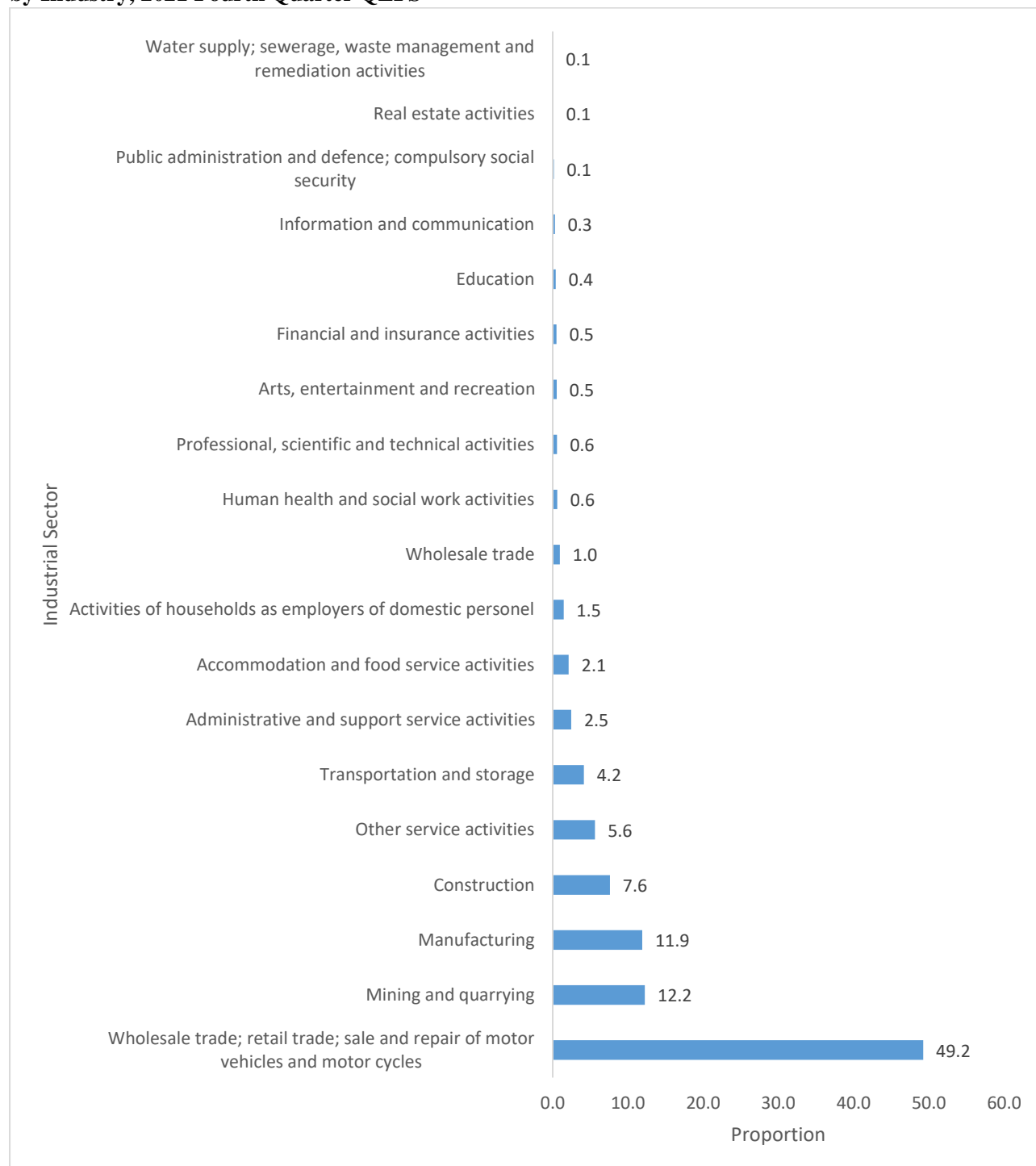


Figure 17: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons 15 Years and Above Informally Employed by Industry, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

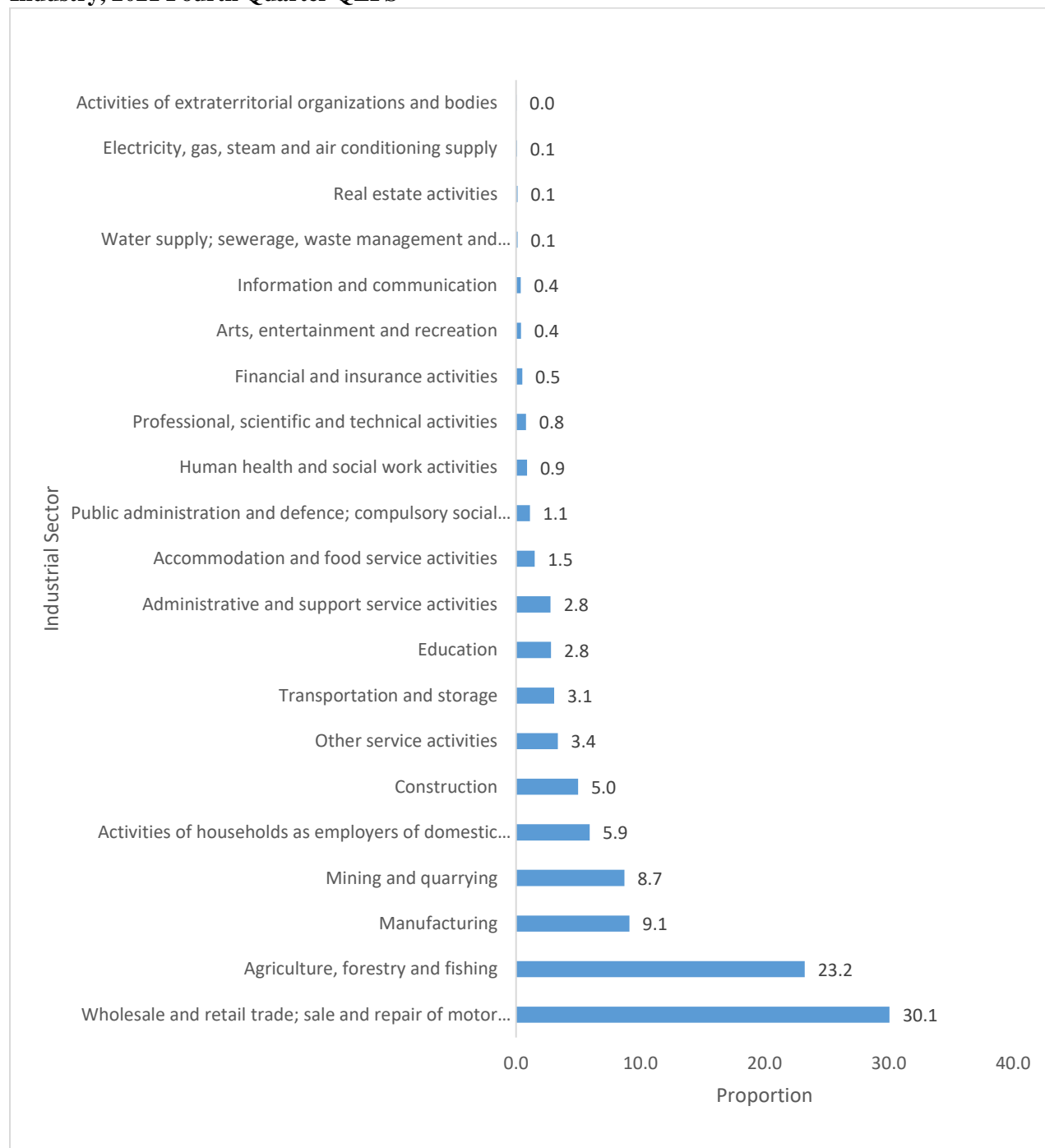


Figure 18: Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

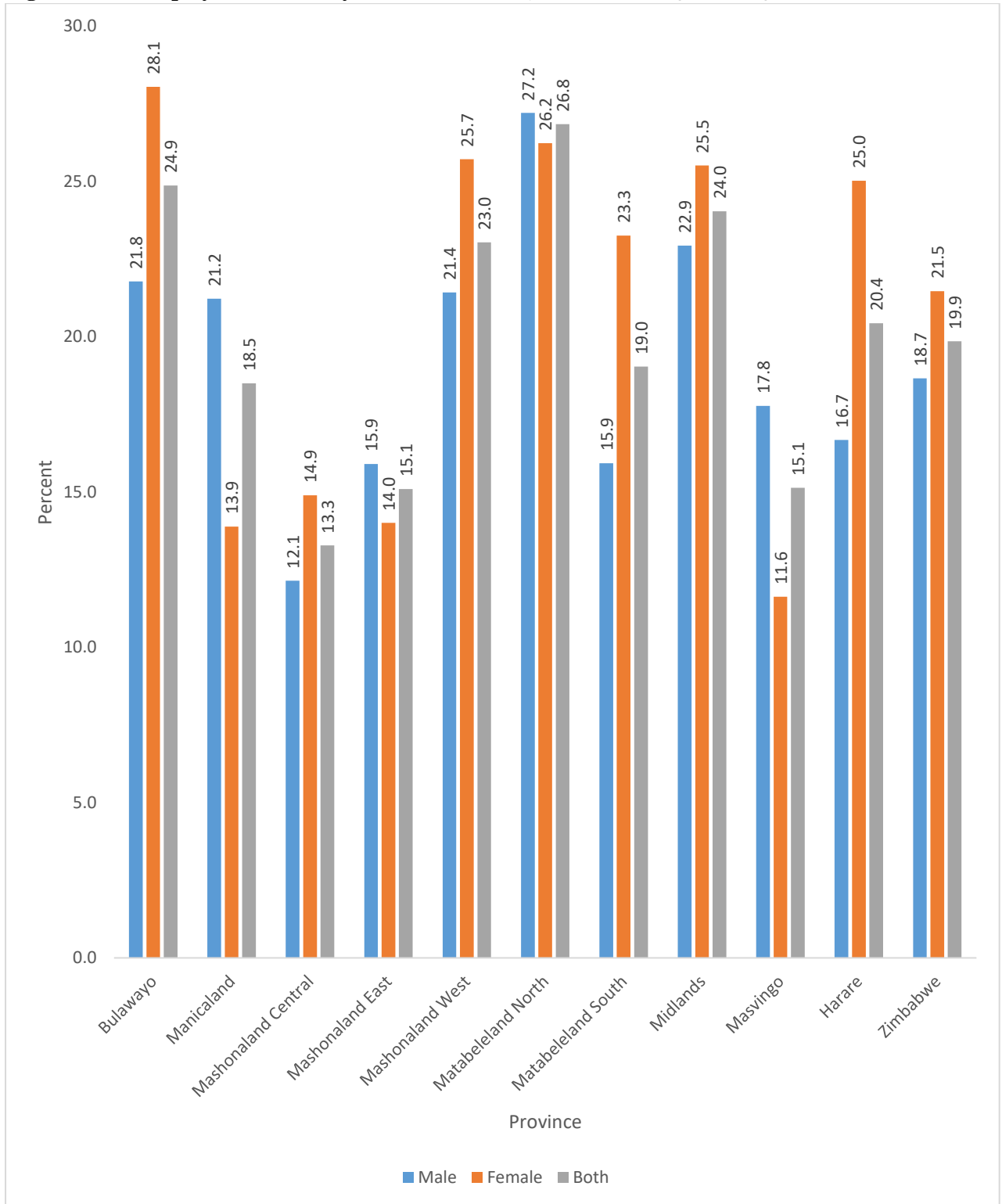


Figure 19: Unemployment Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

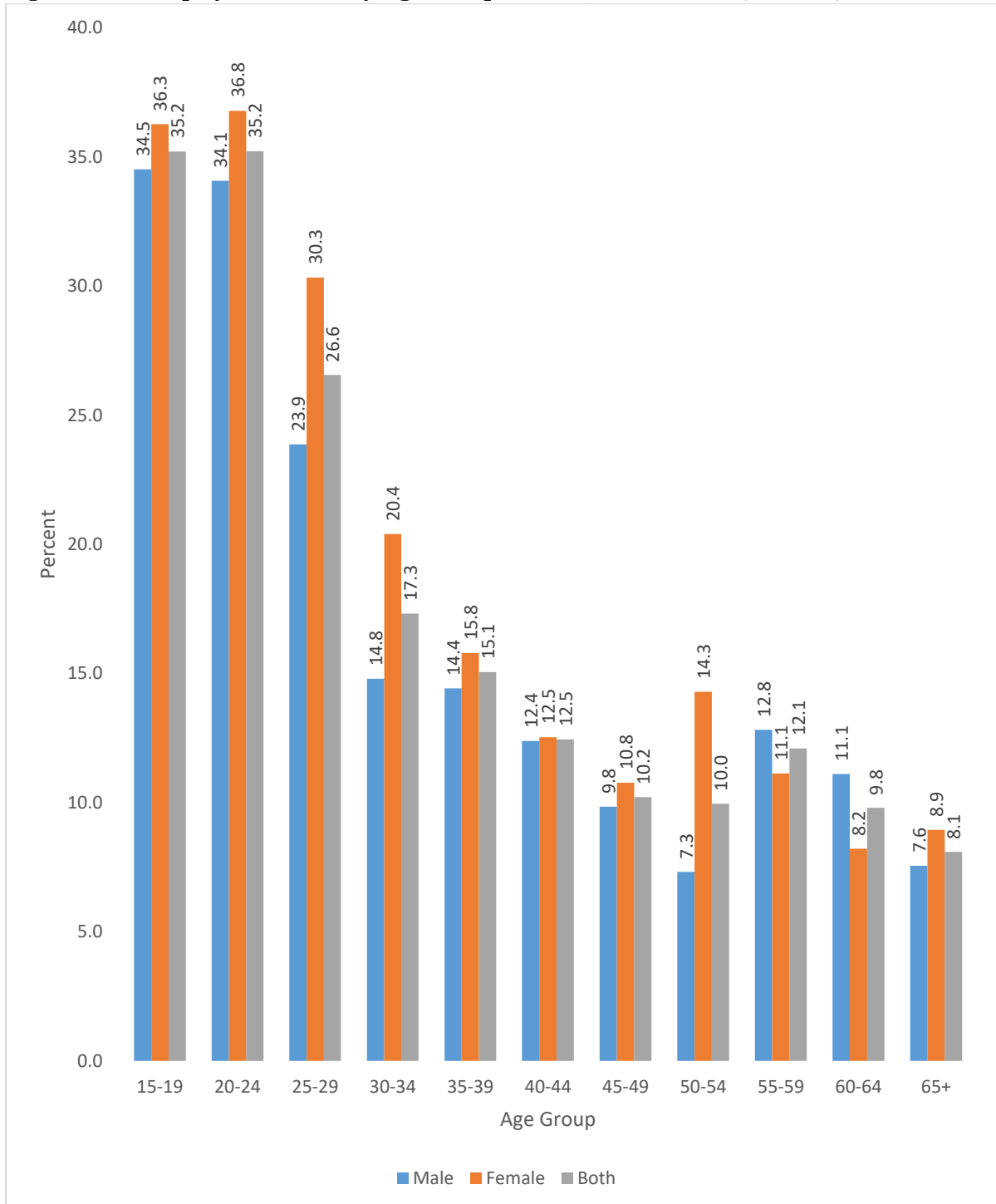


Figure 20: Unemployment Rates by Highest Level of Education Completed and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

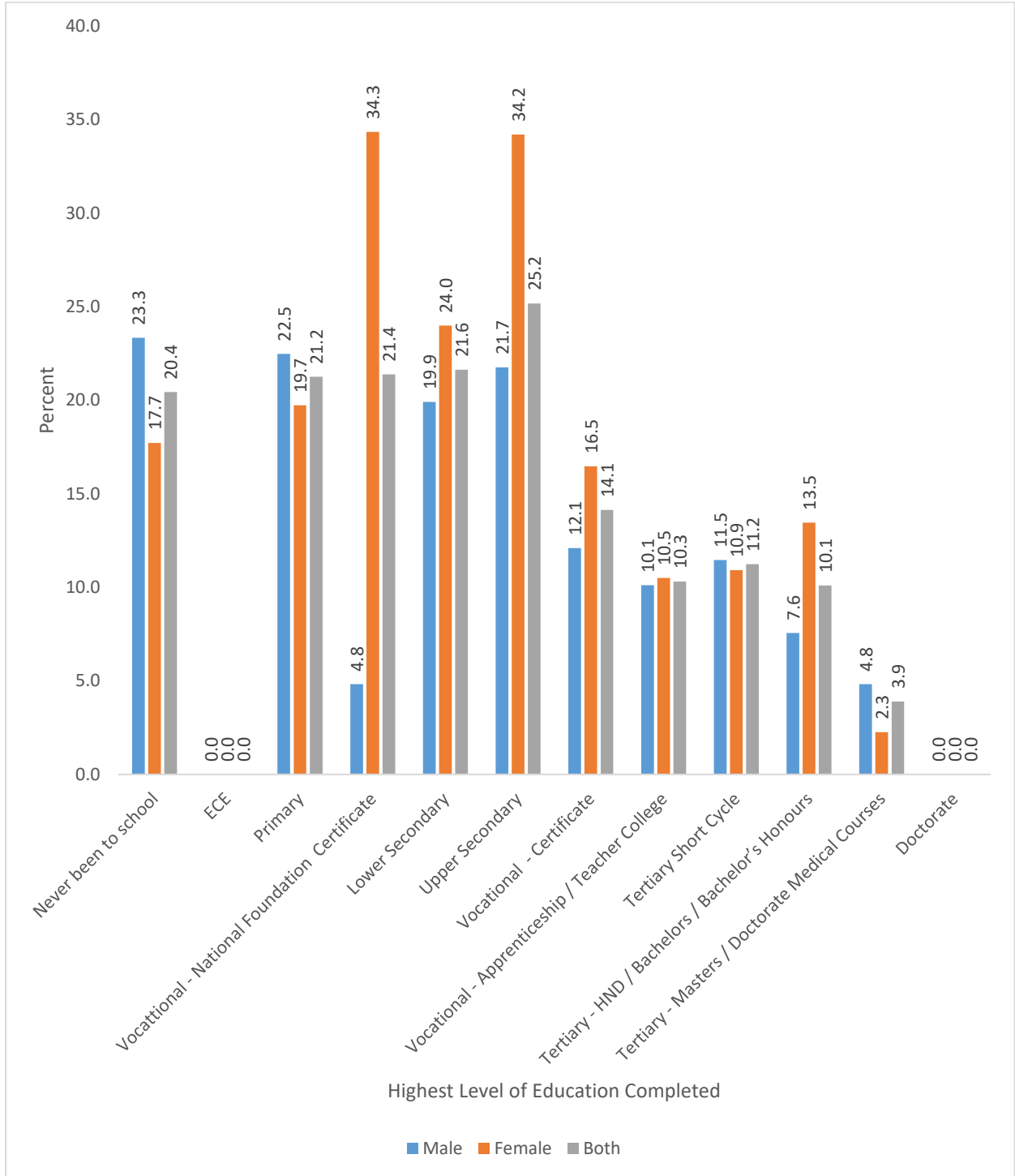


Figure 21: 2021 Third and Fourth Quarter Unemployment Rates by Province

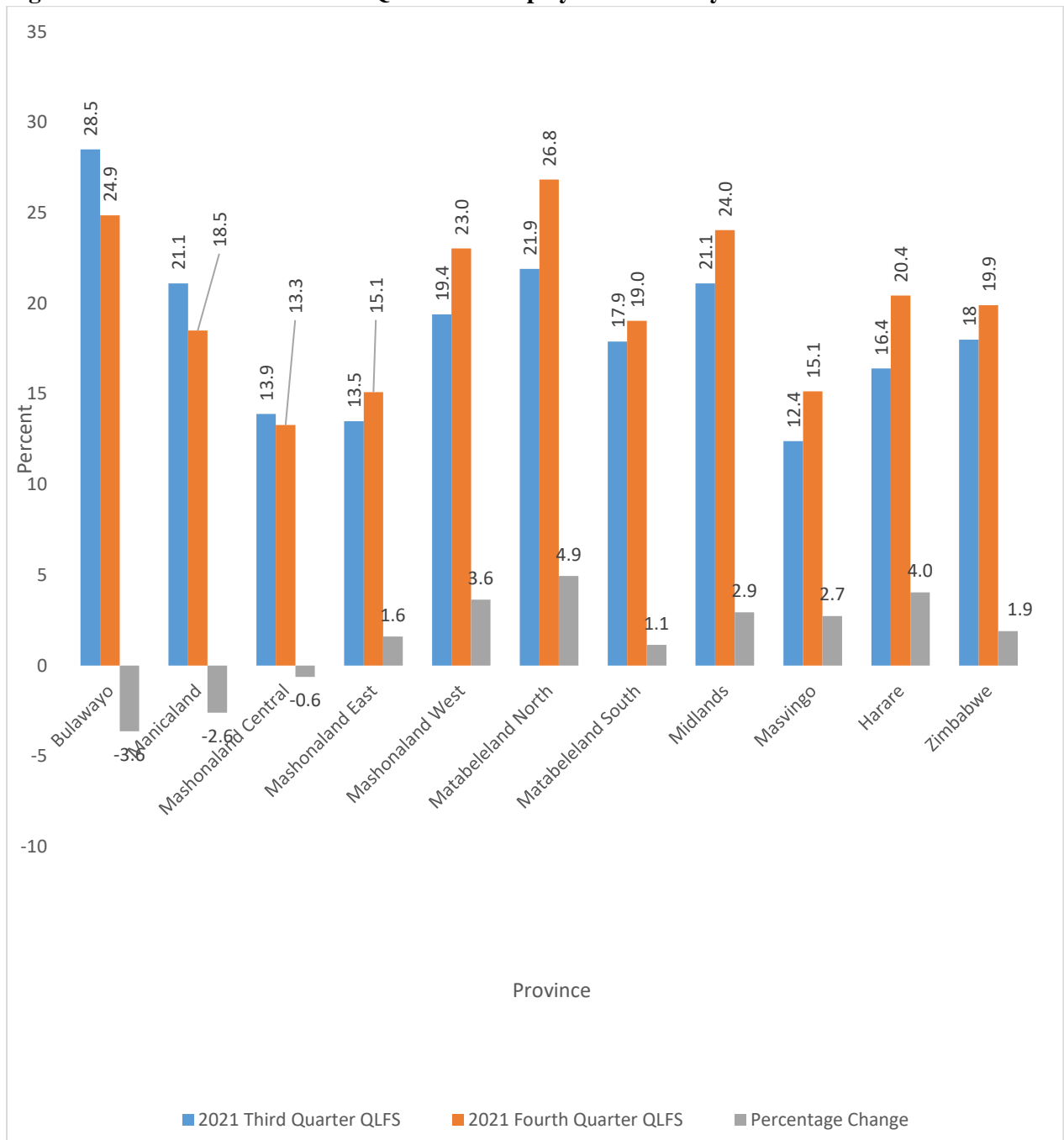


Figure 22: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Province and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

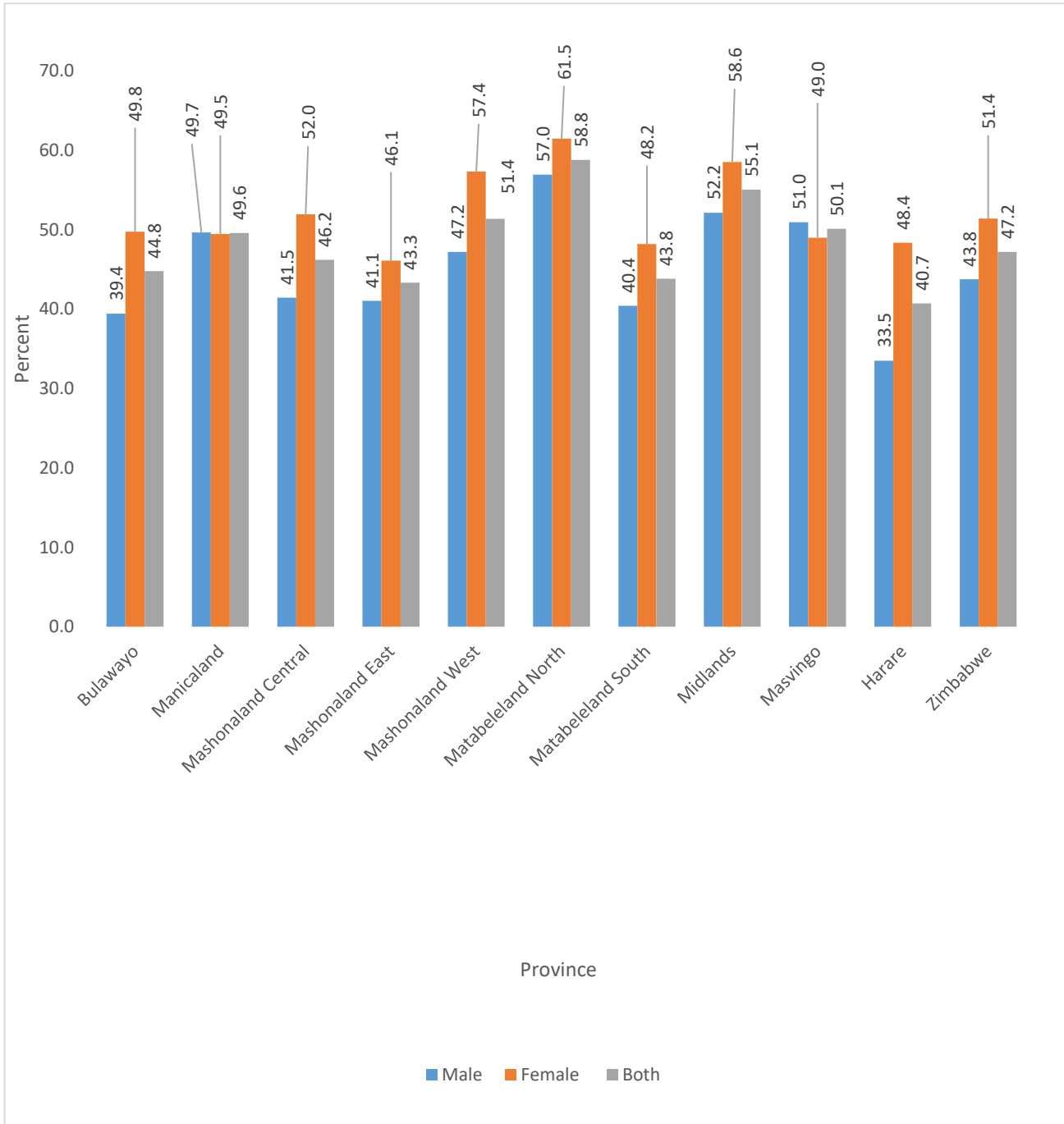


Figure 23: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

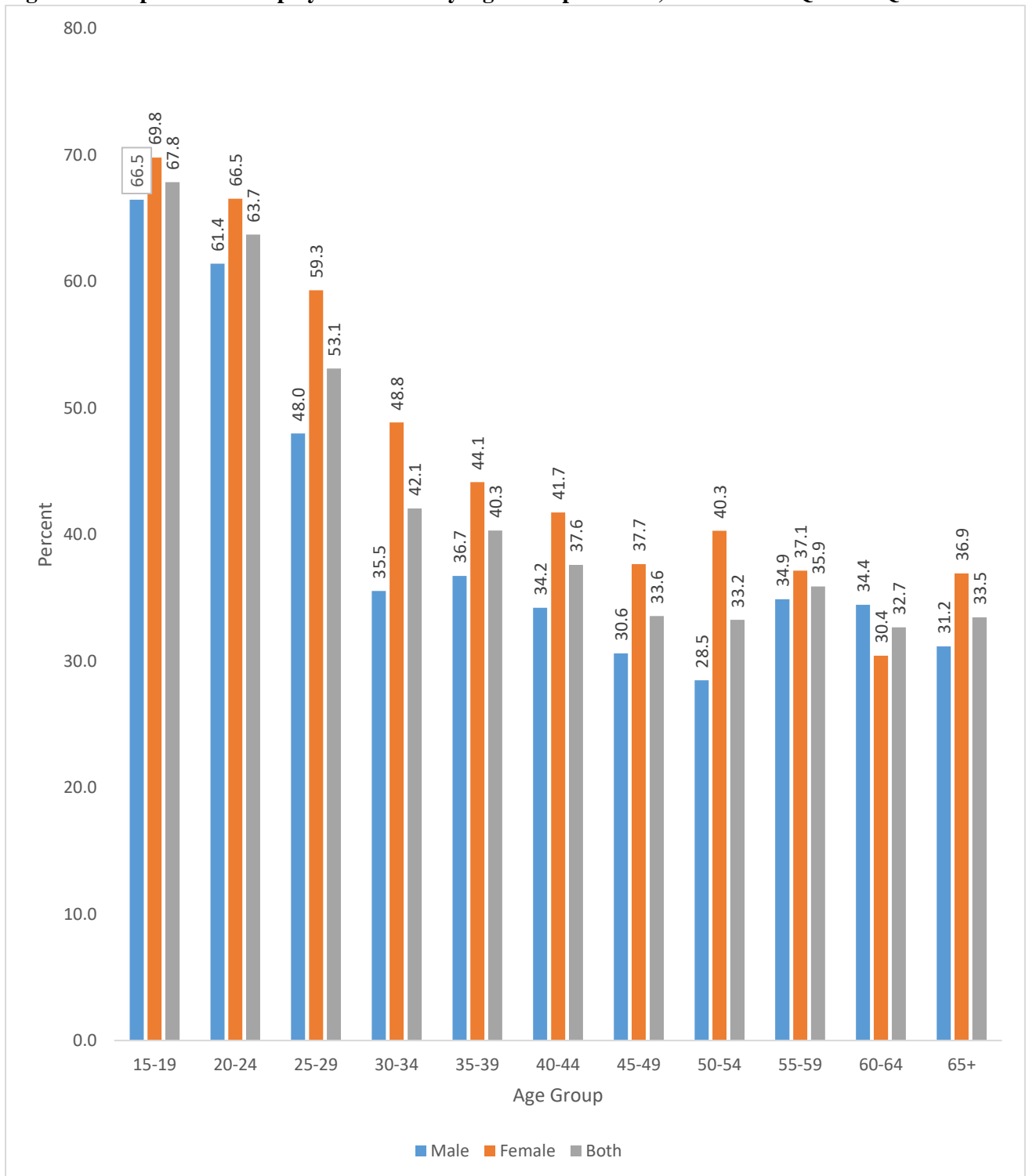


Figure 24: Expanded Unemployment Rates by Area, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

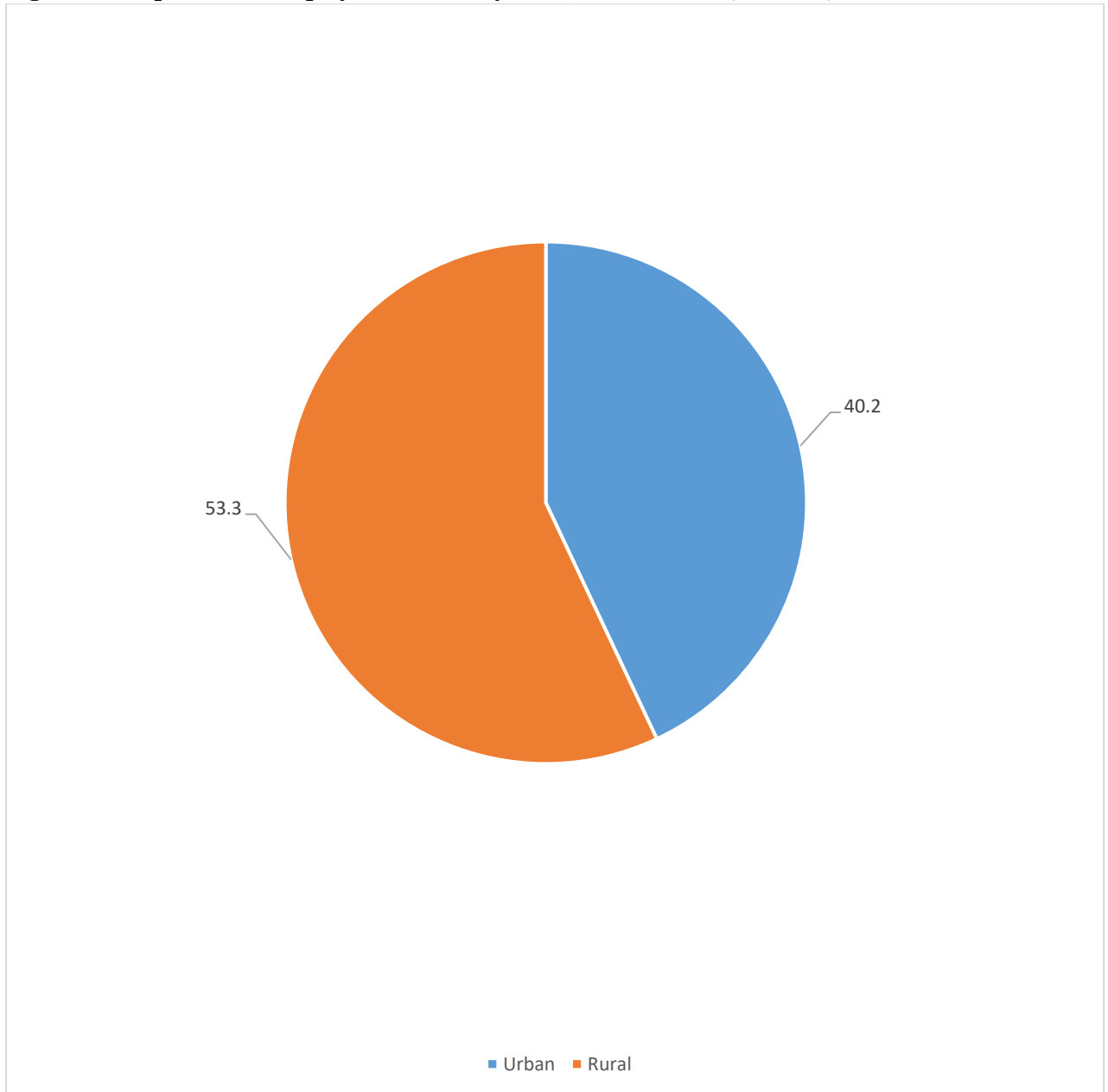


Figure 25: 2021 Third and Fourth Quarter Expanded Unemployment Rates by Province,

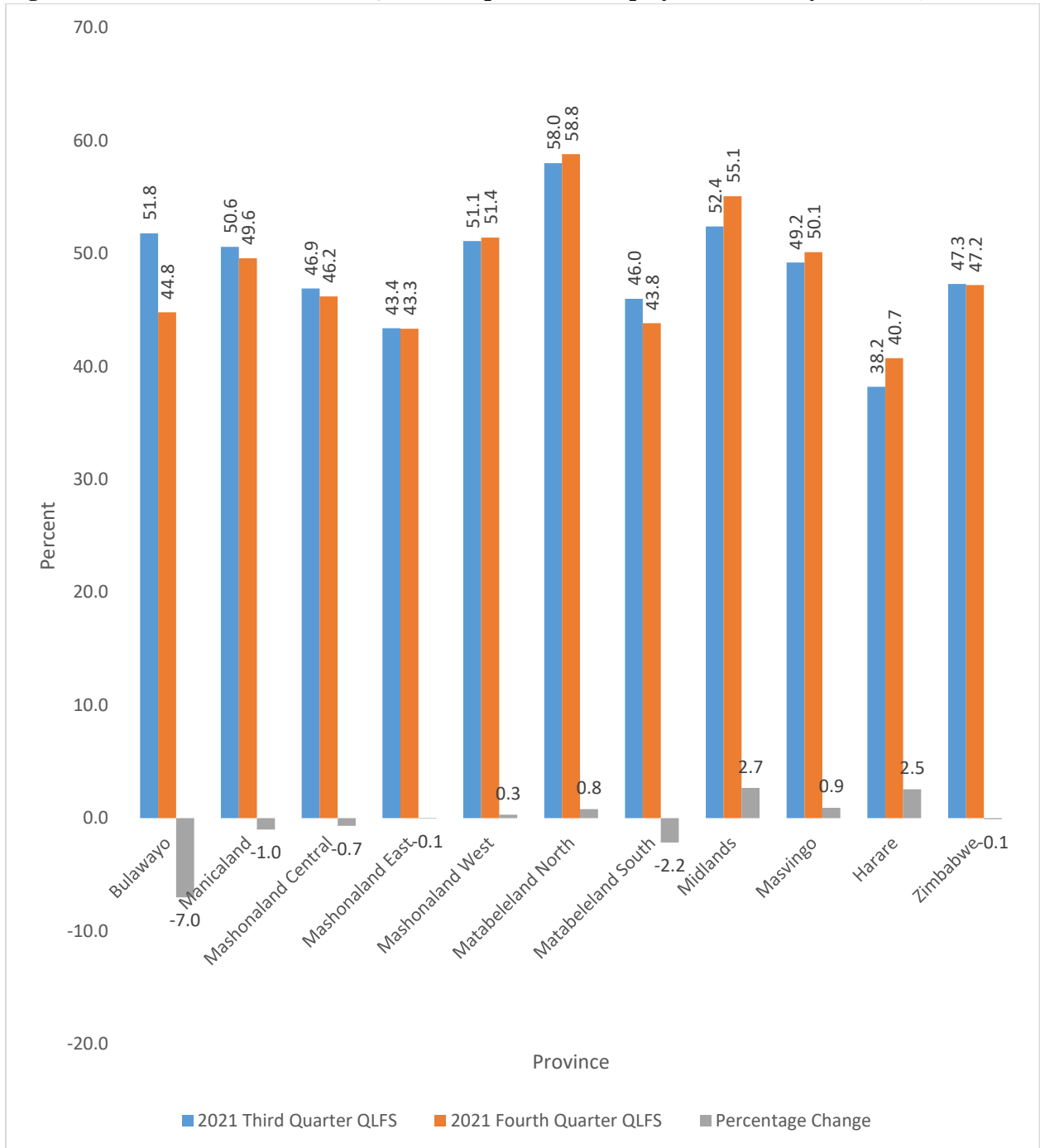


Figure 26: Proportion (%) of Youth (15-24) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

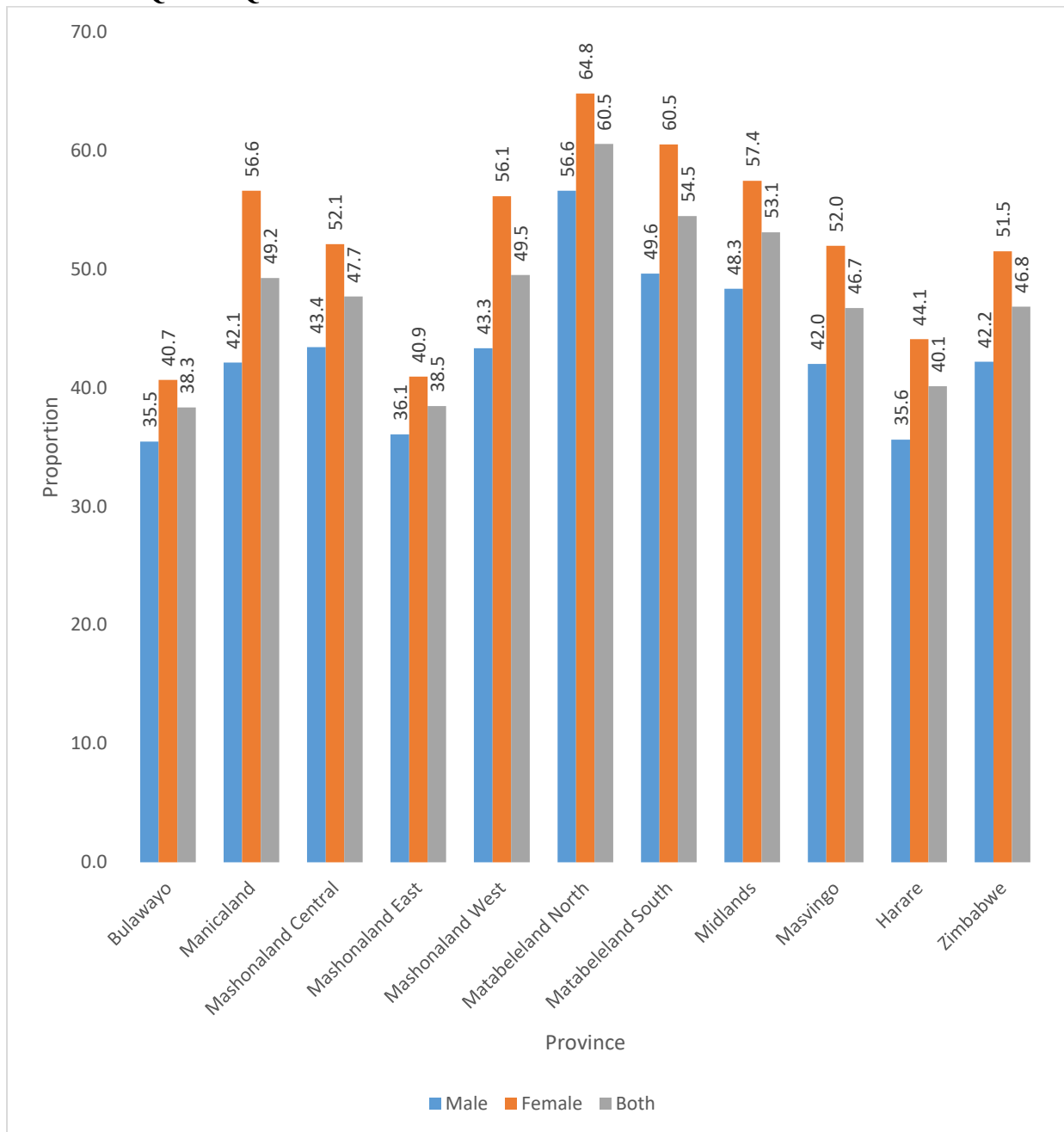


Figure 27: 2021 Third and Fourth Quarter Youth (15-24) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training

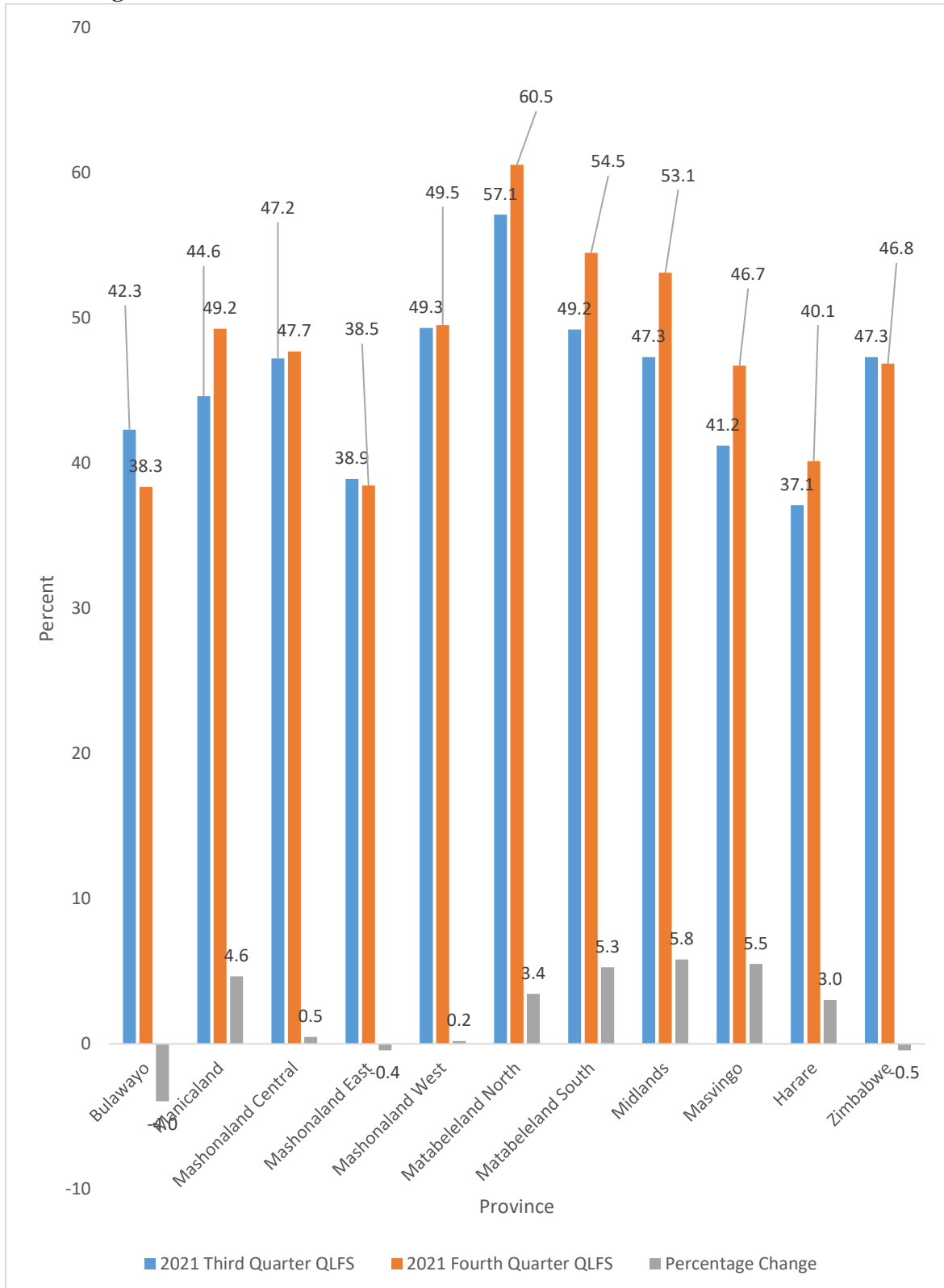


Figure 28: Proportion (%) of Youth (15-34) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

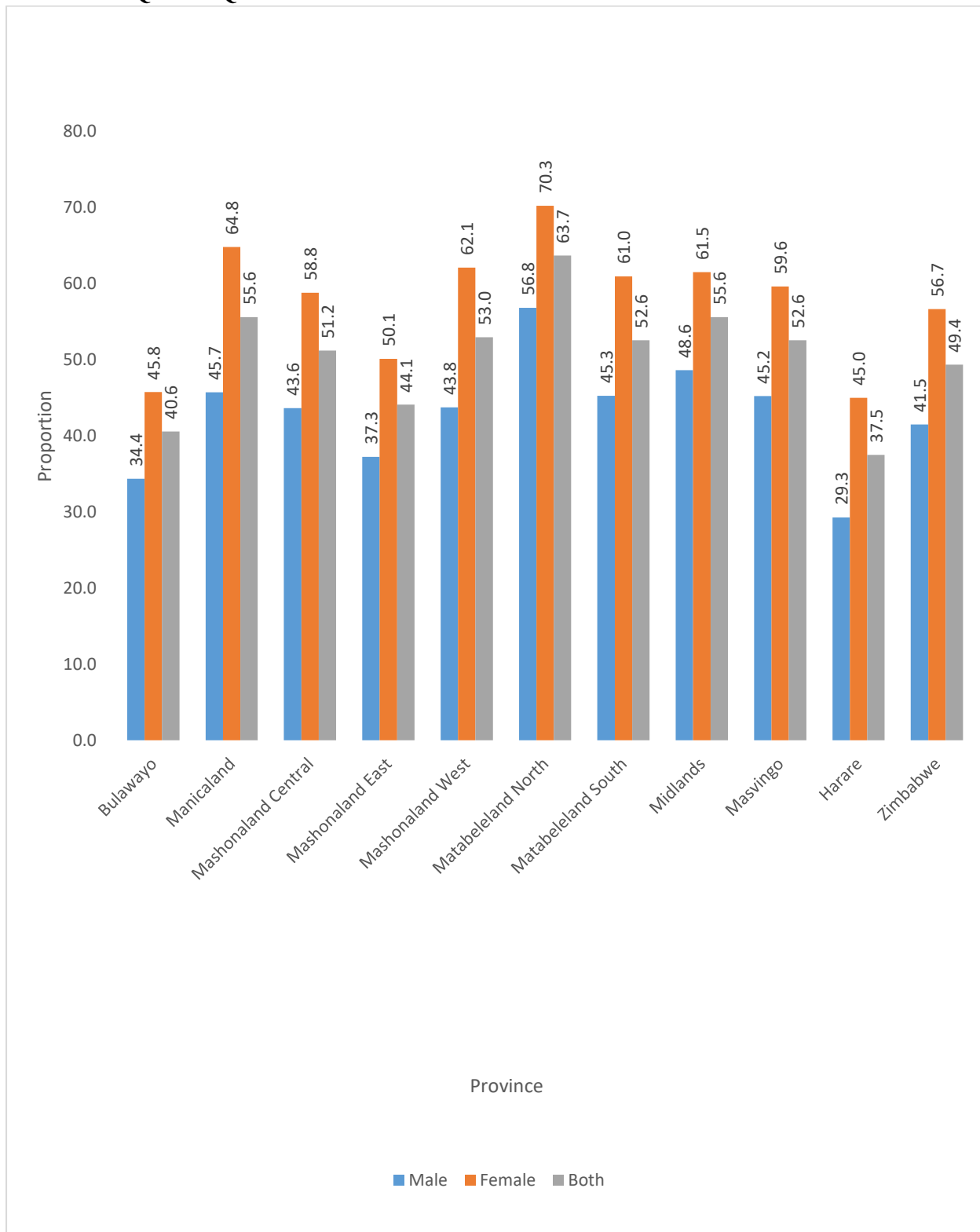


Figure 29: 2021 Third and Fourth Quarter Youth (15-34) Years Not in Education, Employment or Training,

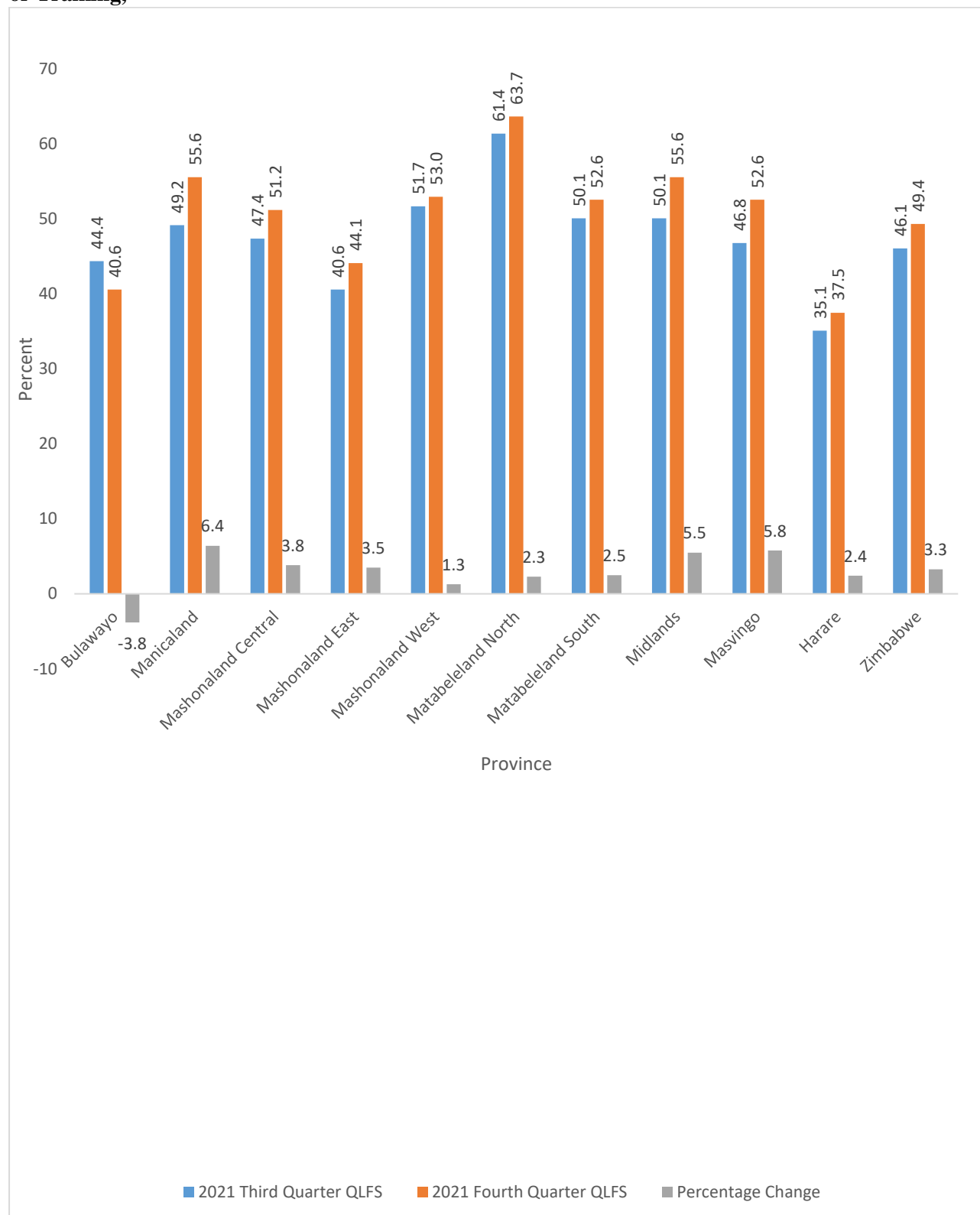


Figure 30: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Province, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

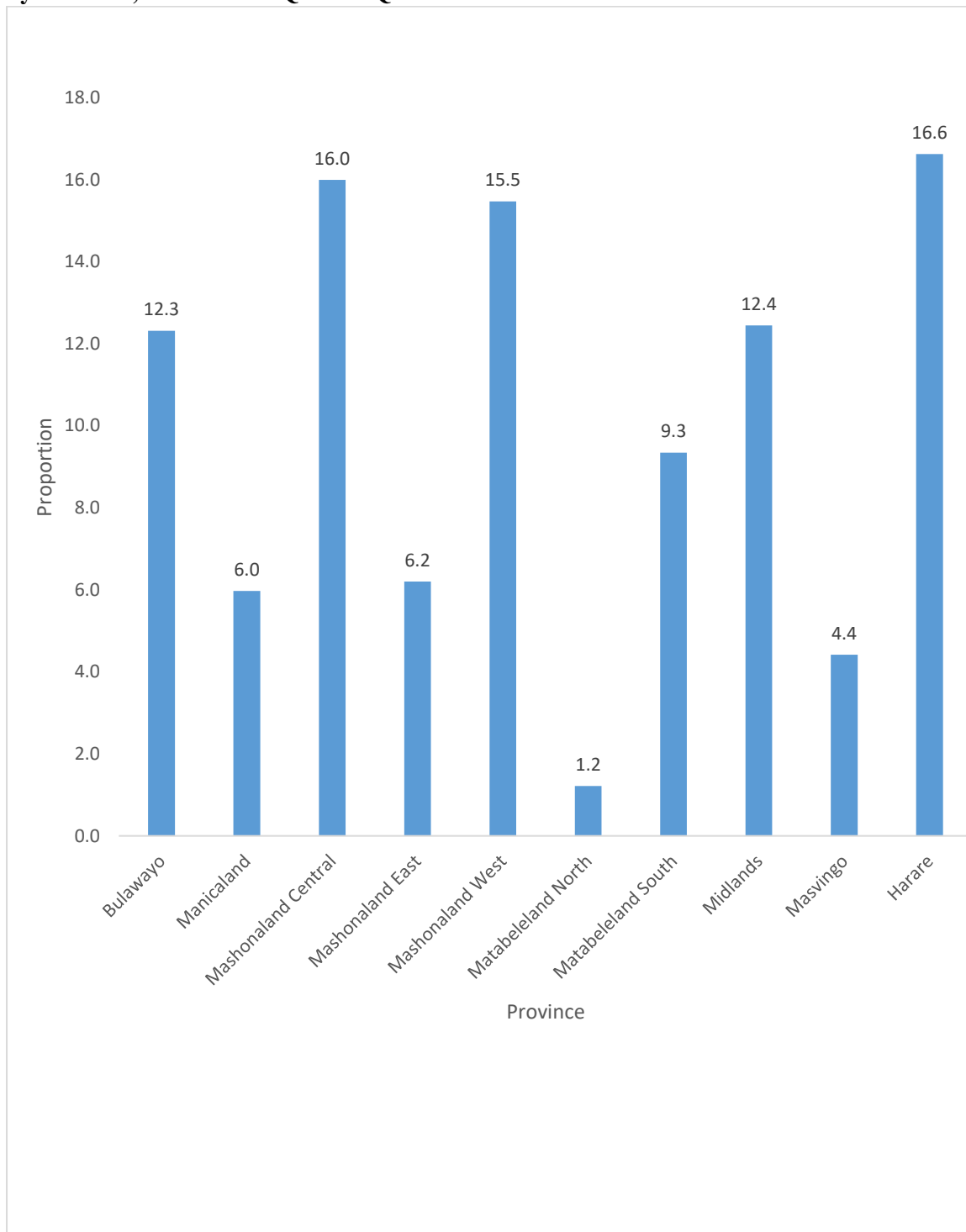


Figure 31: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Area, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

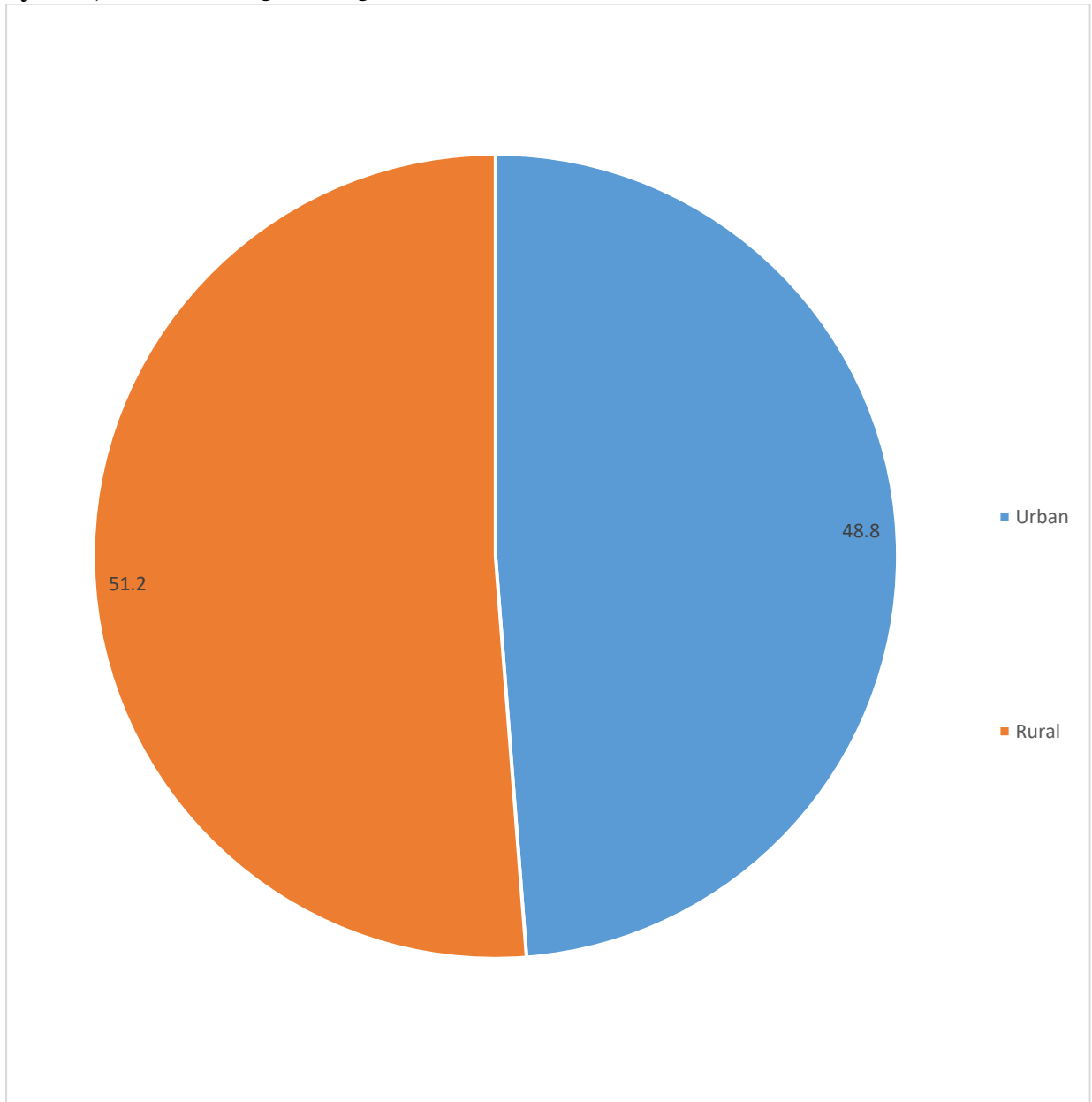


Figure 32: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons who Reported Work Related Illnesses/Injuries by Industry, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

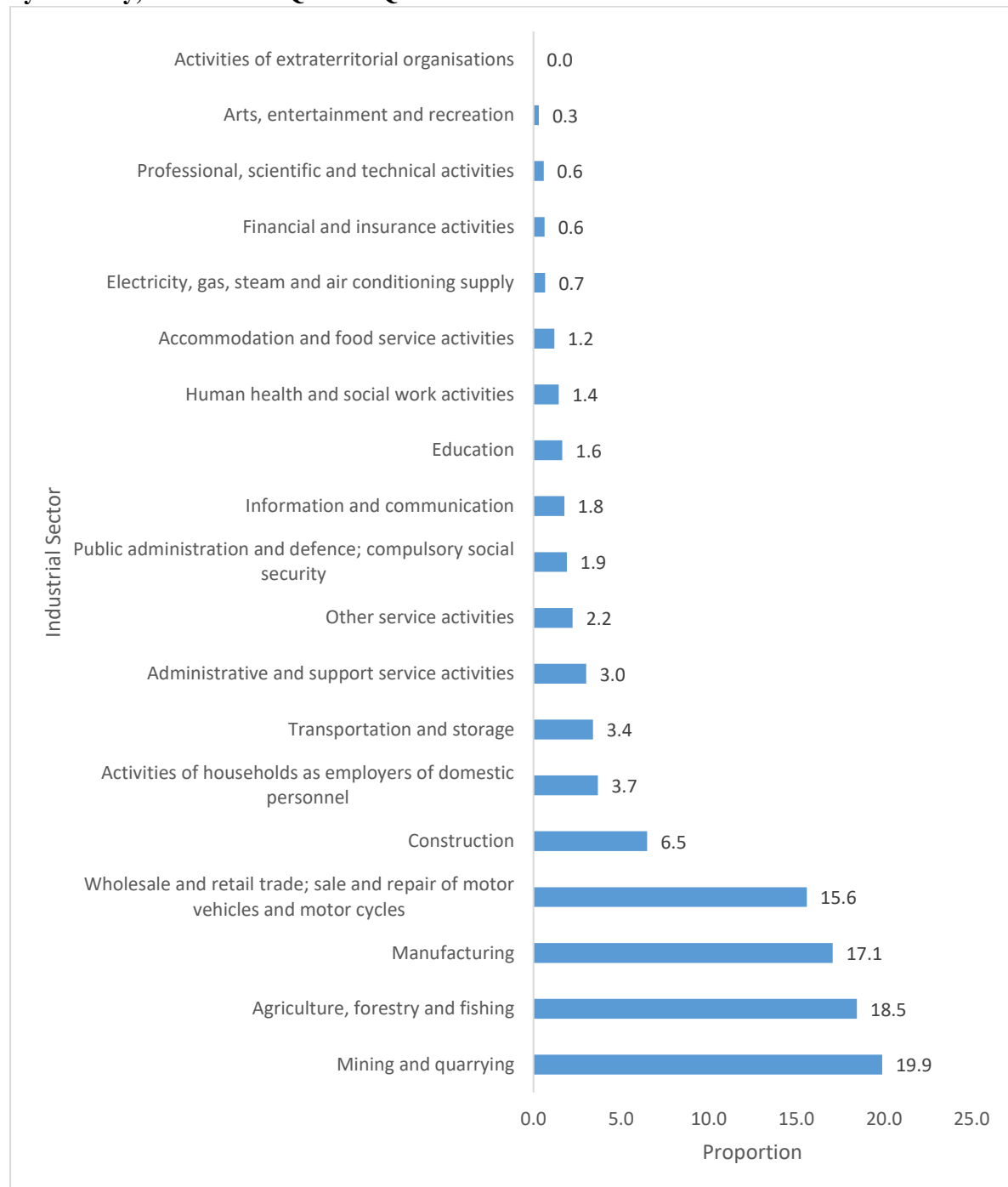


Figure 33: Proportion (%) of Persons who lost their Jobs 3 Months Preceding the Survey by Province, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS

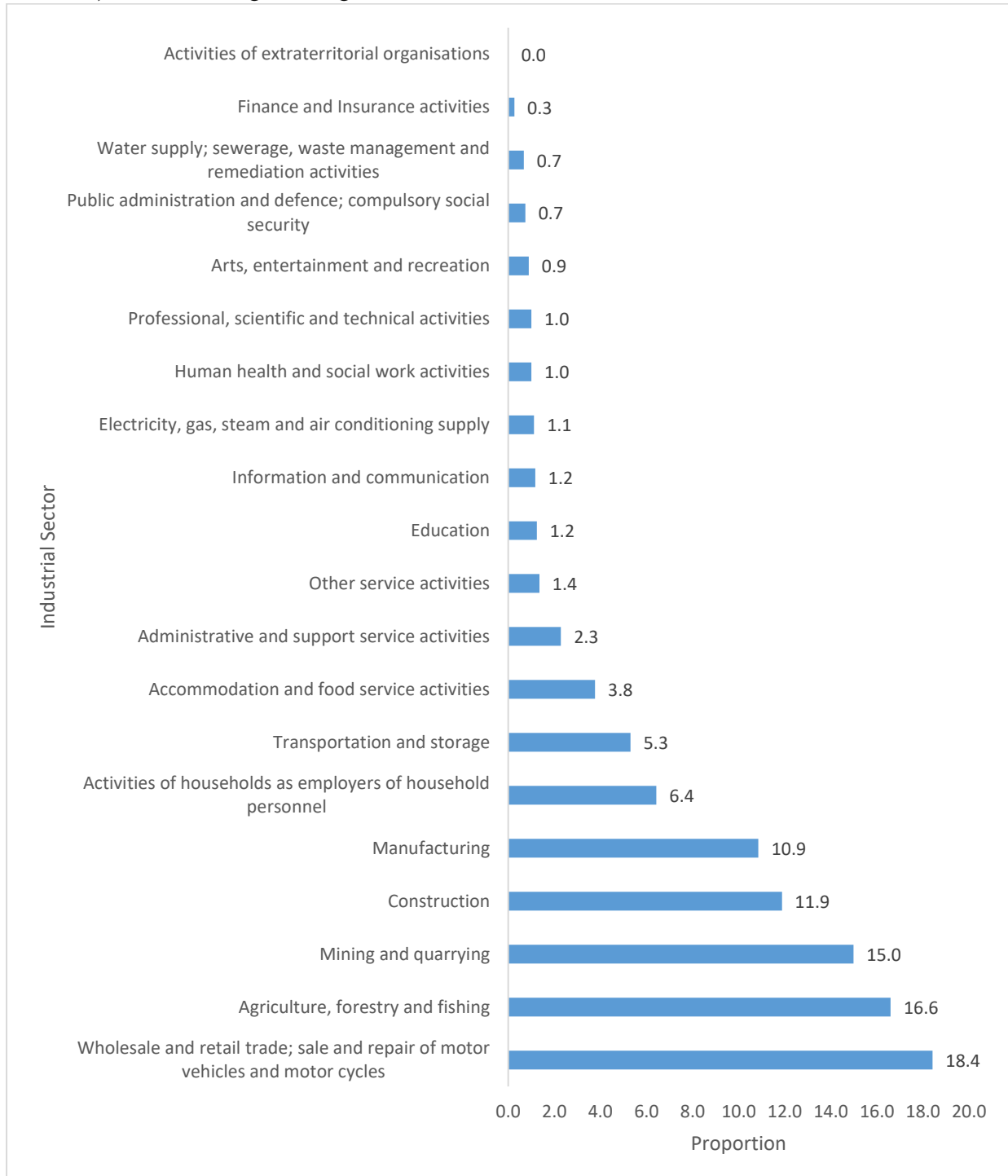
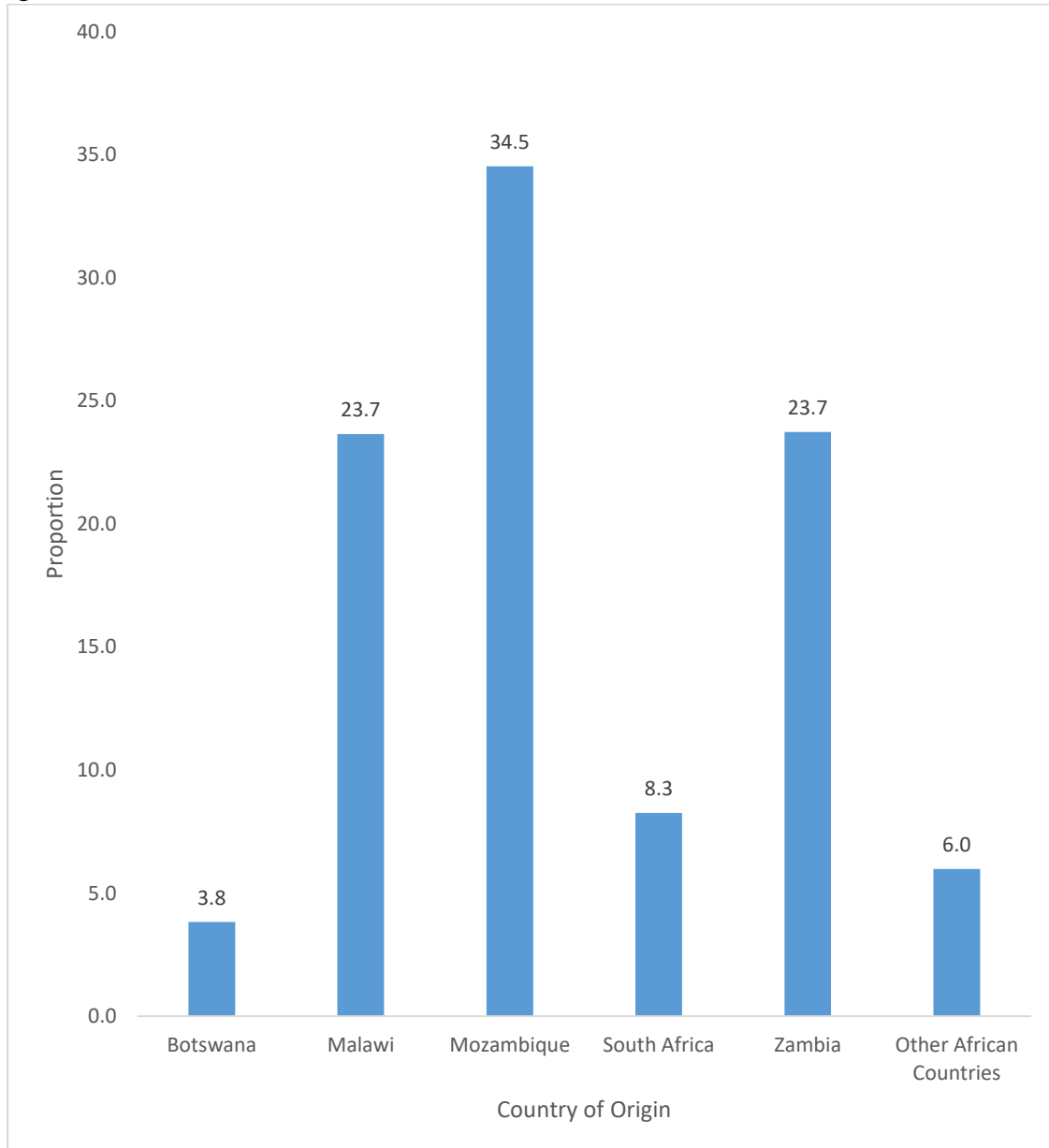


Figure 34: Proportion (%) of Labour Migrants by Country of Origin, 2021 Fourth Quarter QLFS



**Figure 35: Proportion (%) of Employed Persons with At Least One Form of Disability, 2021
Fourth Quarter QLFS**

