



Saint Lucia Central Statistical Office



Saint Lucia
Labour Force Survey
4th Quarter, 2022
Statistical Report

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Cautionary Note for 4th Quarter 2022 Labour Force Survey

Information contained in this report is the result of the Household Labour Force Survey, conducted during the fourth quarter of 2022, from October to December, and is aimed at providing information about the level of participation of household members in the labour force and the size of the labour force, aged 15 years and above, engaged in economic activities.

It must be noted that the Central Statistical Office (CSO) always strives to ensure that our procedures and processes for the implementation of the Labour Force Survey are in keeping with proven methodologies. Therefore, the results represent the collated responses of a sample of households interviewed during the period in question and not the opinion of the Central Statistical Office. Results from sample surveys are always estimates, not precise figures. Additionally, for the period under review, the CSO collaborates with the ILO for verification of the Labour Force Results. The estimates obtained by ILO for the unemployment rate resulted in 0.8% less, this is due to the question in the labour force survey about "Discourage Worker" which is taken into account by CSO in the calculation of the unemployment rate.

The results for this period do not correspond to the data collection period from 2020 to 2021 which normally runs for a quarter and may have lost comparability with the current record (2022) in the statistical series. The previous situation with COVID-19 has negatively impacted the collection of data for the quarter within the period 2020 to 2021. Thus, the results predominantly reflect developments in the labour market from October to December 2022.

Additionally, for the period under review, the CSO collaborated with the International Labour Organization (ILO) for verification/audit of the Labour Force Results. In this regard, it should be noted that the unemployment rate calculated by the ILO is less than that reported by the CSO. This is because the ILO employs a stricter definition of unemployed individuals, which excludes "discouraged workers".

The following represents the varying definitions of the "unemployment rate" used by the CSO and the ILO, respectively
ILO definition: *Persons who did not work nor had a job during the reference week, seeking work and available to work.*
CSO definition: *Persons who did not work nor had a job during the reference week, seeking work and available to work, and "Discourage workers" persons who want to work during weekending, even if they are not seeking-job and/or available to start working.*

Despite the current setbacks, the CSO has made every attempt to provide you with accurate and reliable data based solely on what was obtained at that time and therefore has reverted to its pre-Covid-19 methodology of data collection for the Labour Force Survey. Any use of the results needs to take into consideration the aforementioned limitations.

The scope of the quarterly labour force survey covers households extracted using systematic random sampling from the 2010 population and Housing Census master sampling frame. The results of the 2022 4th quarter October to December, revealed a 60.2% response rate. Table 1 provides a statistical summary of the Labour Force, the Unemployed, and the Employed found in the 2022 4th quarter results.

Table 1: Statistical Summary Table

4th Quarter 2022				
Statistic		Labour Force	Unemployed	Employed
Mean		2.21	0.09	0.53
Std. Error		0.045	0.005	0.010
95% Confidence Interval for Mean	Lower Bound	2.12	0.08	0.51
	Upper Bound	2.30	0.10	0.55
5% Trimmed Mean		1.96	0.04	0.54
Median		1.00	0.00	1.00
Variance		5.586	0.081	0.249
Std. Deviation		2.363	0.285	0.499
Minimum		1	0	0
Maximum		8	1	1
Range		7	1	1
Interquartile Range		1	0	1
Skewness		1.959	2.892	-0.129
		0.047	0.047	0.047
Kurtosis		2.051	6.368	-1.985
		0.094	0.094	0.094

LABOUR FORCE

A total of 113,798 were recorded as persons in the Labour Force for the fourth quarter of 2022, while in the previous quarter, 111,028 were obtained indicating an increase of 2,770. On the other hand, the year-to-year (4 Qtr. 2021 to 4 Qtr. 2022) assessment revealed an increase of 10,031 from 103,767 to 113,798 respectively.

The labour force data observed 65,168 males in Qtr. 4 and 57,648 in Qtr.3, an increase of 7,520 males. While females decreased by 4,750 with 48,630 in Qtr.4 and 53,380 in Qtr.3. (See table 2 below). Furthermore, table 1 provides a statistical summary of the main variables captured in the 4th quarter of the labour force survey: the employed, unemployed, and labour force.

The statistical snapshot below (table 2) provides the main labour force indicators for the period under review from October to December 2022. Non-seekers in the labour market i.e persons who are not

interested or seeking employment in the labour force (students, retired persons, etc) were recorded at 1,700 a decline of 180 from quarter 3.

Relax unemployment Rate stood at 15.8%, which indicates the percentage of the population who are not actively seeking work. However, an estimated 85.7% of the population is considered to be employed. The working-age population (WAP) accounts for approximately 86% (157,912) of the total population. The labour force is estimated at 111,028 during quarter 3 while in quarter 4 of the same year (2022), it was estimated at 113,798.

Labour Market Statistical Snapshot

Table 2: Main Indicators Table

Labour Force Indicators	4th Qtr 2022
Estimated Household Population	182168
Population 15 years and over	157912
Labour Force	113798
of which - Male	65168
of which- Female	48630
Employed Labour Force	97516
of which -Male	56293
of which -Female	41222
Employment Rate	85.7%
Persons who want to work	
(I) The Unemployed	16282
of which - Male	8875
of which- Female	7407
(ii) Non-Seekers	1700
Unemployment Rate %	14.3%
of which - Male	13.6%
of which- Female	15.2%
Youth Unemployment Rate %	22.5%
Relaxed Unemployment Rate %	15.8%
Non-Job Seeking Rate %	1.5%
Population under 15 years (%)	13.3%
Labour Force as a Percentage of Total Population	62.5%
Labour Force as a Percentage of Population 15 years and over OR Labour Force Participation Rate	72.1%

Source: Central Statistical Office of Saint Lucia, Labour Force Survey, 4th Qtr. 2022

Figure 1: Labour Force by Age group & Sex

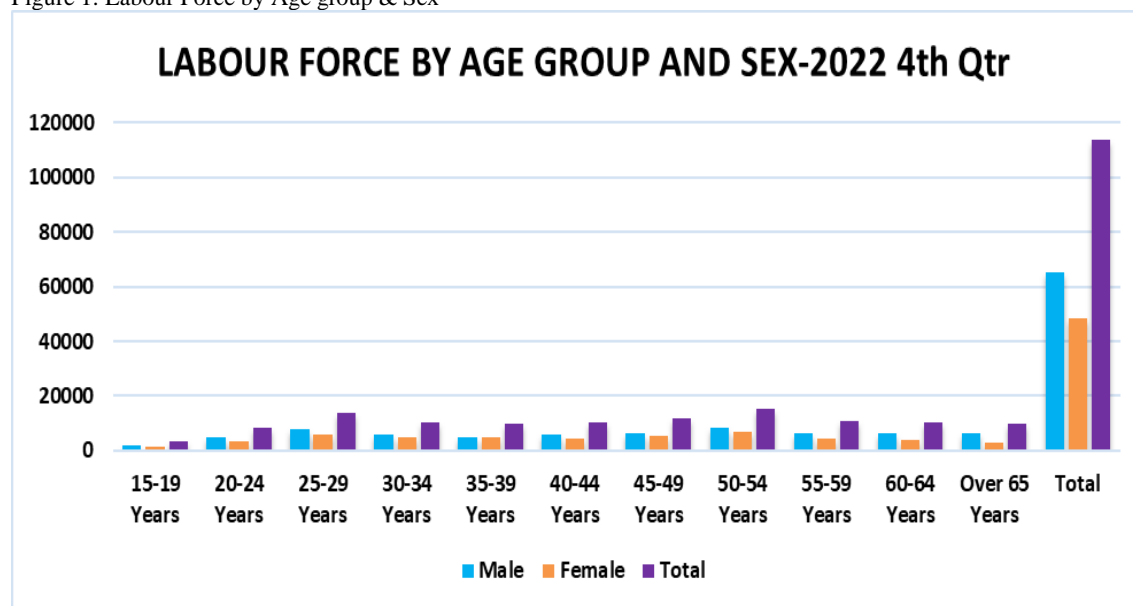
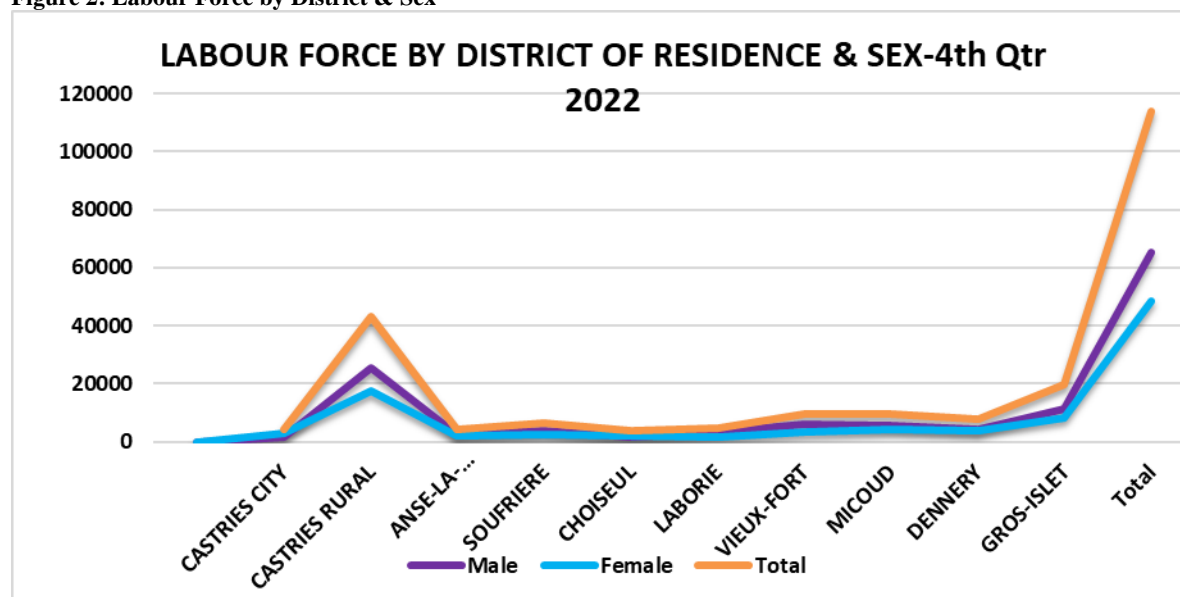


Figure 2: Labour Force by District & Sex



LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

The Labour Force Participation Rate in the fourth quarter of 2022 was 72.1% and when compared to the third quarter of 2022 an increase of 1.5% was observed. Figures 1, 2, and 3 show the LFPR for the various age cohorts in the labour force. Overall, the highest rate of 97.5% was captured in the age group 25 to 29 years. Females in the age group 25-29 and 35-39 achieved the highest participation rate of 95.4%, whilst males in the age group of 25-29 years revealed the highest participation rate of 99.7%. On the other hand, the lowest participation rate was observed in the age group Over 65 Years (pensionable group) with 33.5%.

Figure 3: Labour Force Participation Rate

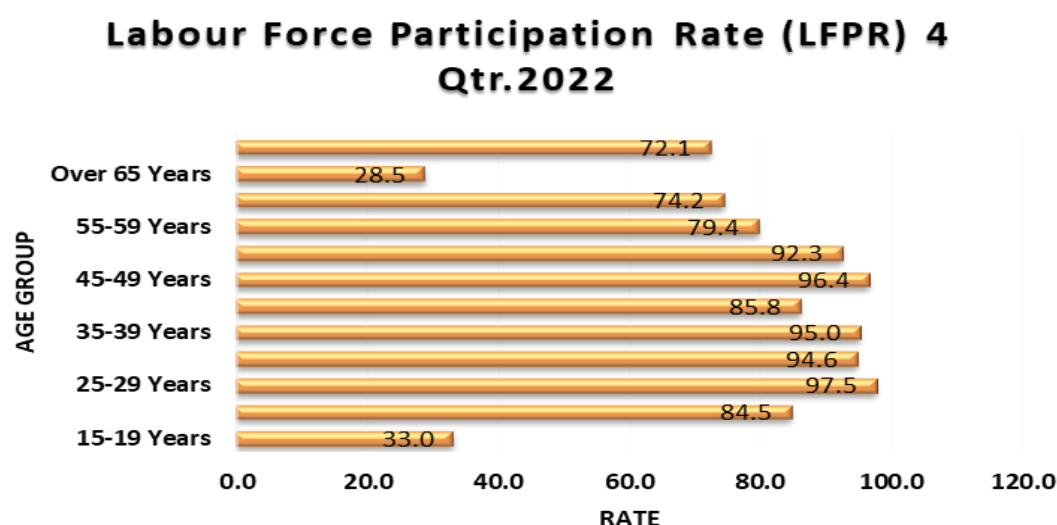
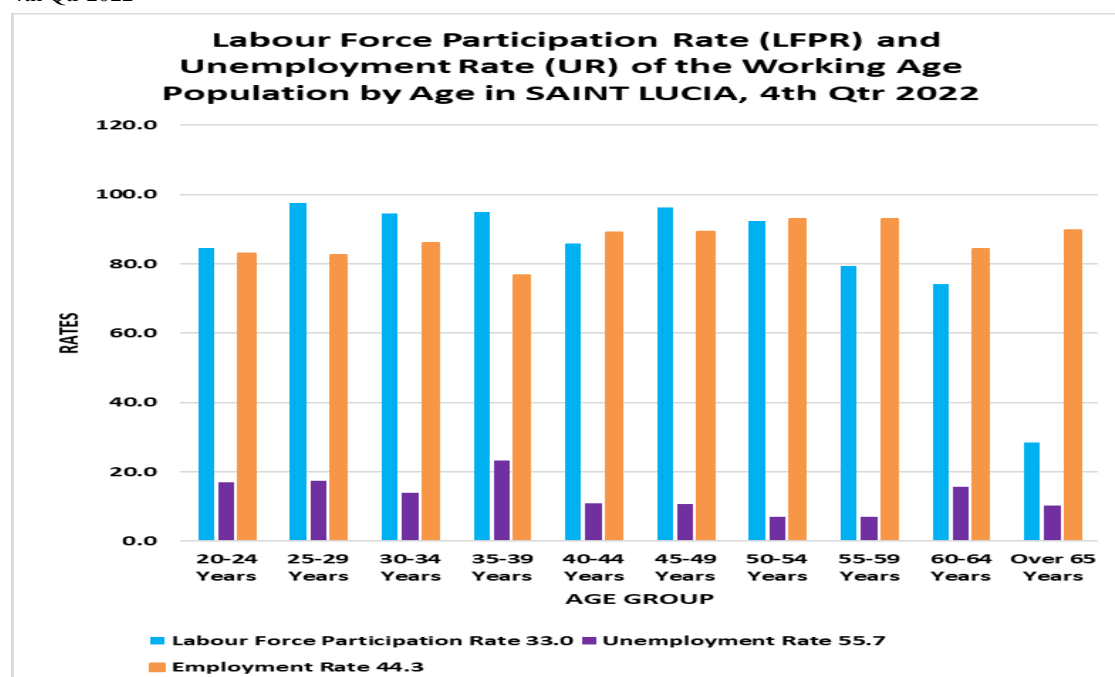


Figure 4: Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) and Unemployment Rate (UR) of the Working Age Population by Age in Saint Lucia, 4th Qtr 2022



UNEMPLOYMENT

The Unemployment rate for the reporting period (4th quarter 2022) was 14.3%, a 3.9% decline from the previous quarter with 18.2%. However, it should be noted that the unemployment rate obtained by the ILO for the reporting period was 13.5%, 0.8% lowered than the figure reported by the CSO. Bearing in mind the caveat stated in the cautionary statement aboveThe retirement age category continues to record the lowest percentage of unemployment in the age group 55-59 years at 4.6 % as seen in table 7 and the heights cohort 25-29 years with 14.6%. Women continue to be among the highest gender unemployed with 8,875 and men at 7,407 with an overall total unemployment of 16,282. Additional detail on unemployment for the relevant period is provided in figures 5 to 10. 44% of the unemployed have currently obtained Post Secondary, non-tertiary (diploma or associate degree) as their highest level of education of which 49.4% are female and 50.6% are male.

Figure 5: Unemployment Rates

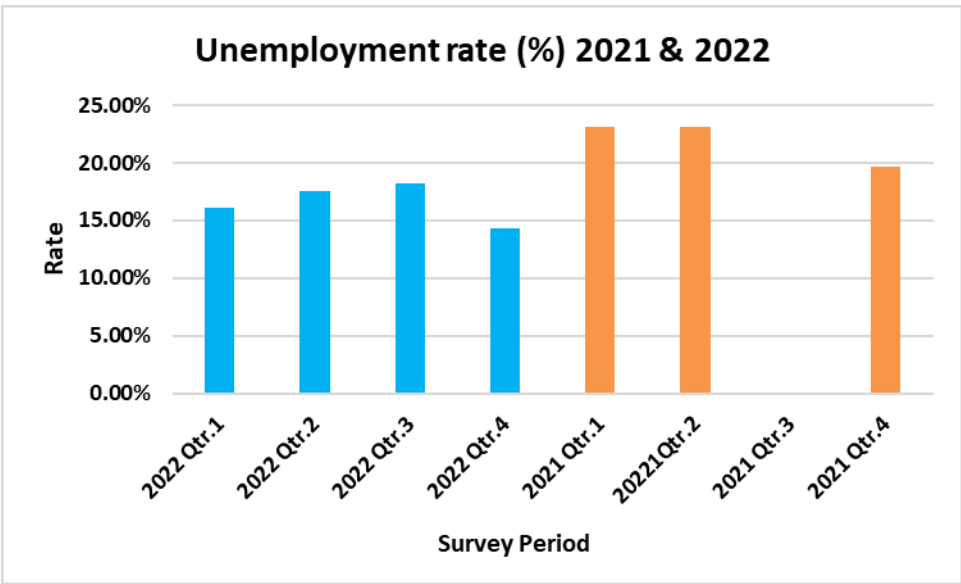


Figure 6: Unemployment Rate by Districts

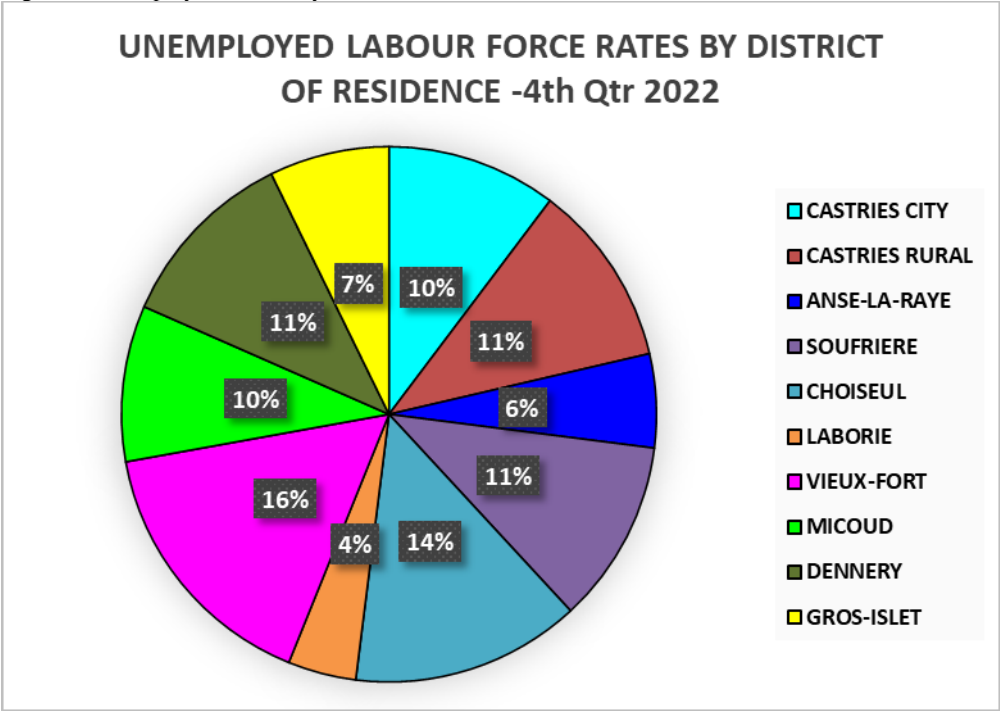


Figure 7: Unemployed by age and sex

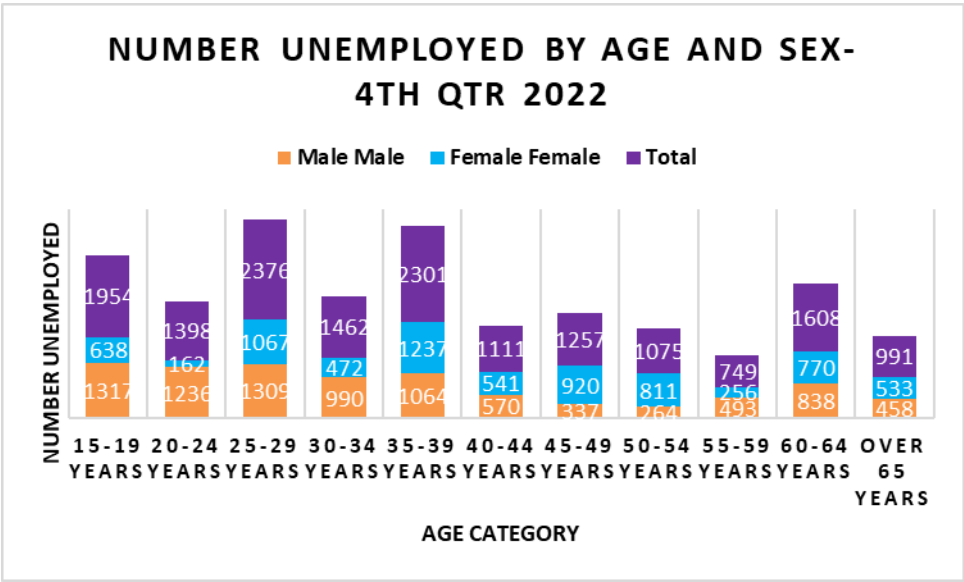


Figure 8: Unemployed Rates by age and sex

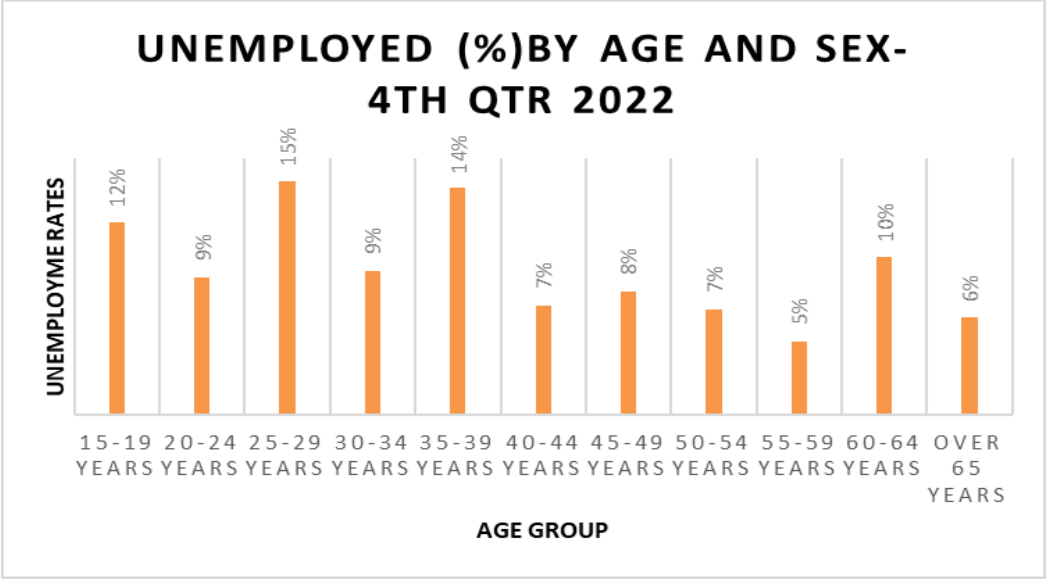


Figure 9: Relaxed Unemployed

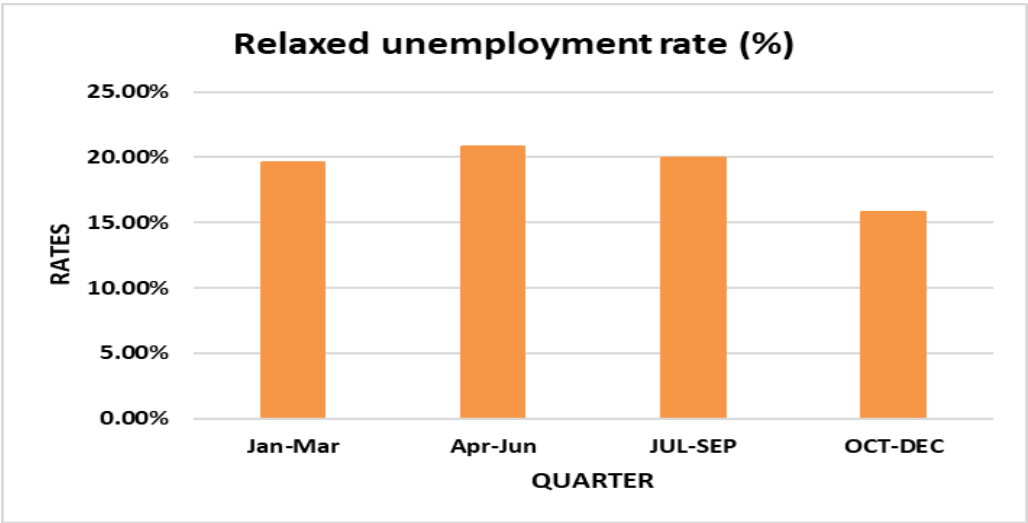
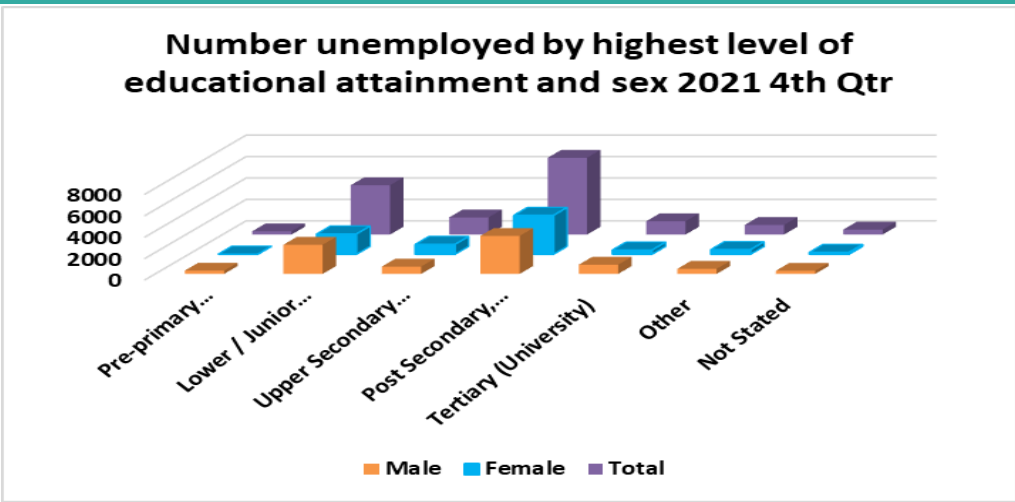


Figure 10: Unemployed by Highest Level of education



YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Youth unemployment showed a decrease of 24.9% from the third to the fourth quarter of 2022. The illustration in figure 13, compares the Labour Force Survey quarterly results from Qtr.3 to Qtr.4 2022. A total of 25,476 youths were recorded in the labour force from October to December 2022. Males within the age cohort 25 – 29 recorded the highest figures (7,819). Similarly, within the same age group, the data revealed a significant difference of 1,913 between males and females with females standing at 5,906. Table 4 captured the youth unemployment figures, revealing a total of 5,728 unemployed youths within the period under review. A decrease of 932 in total employment between the ages of 25-29 was seen in quarter 4.

Figure 11: Youth Labour Force 2022

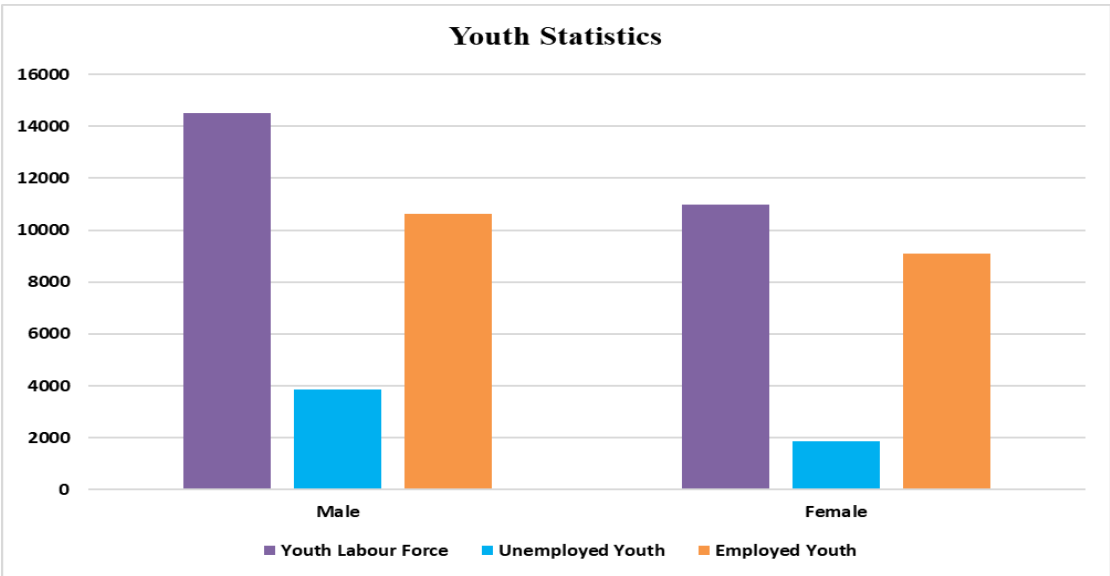


Figure 12: Youth Unemployment Rate

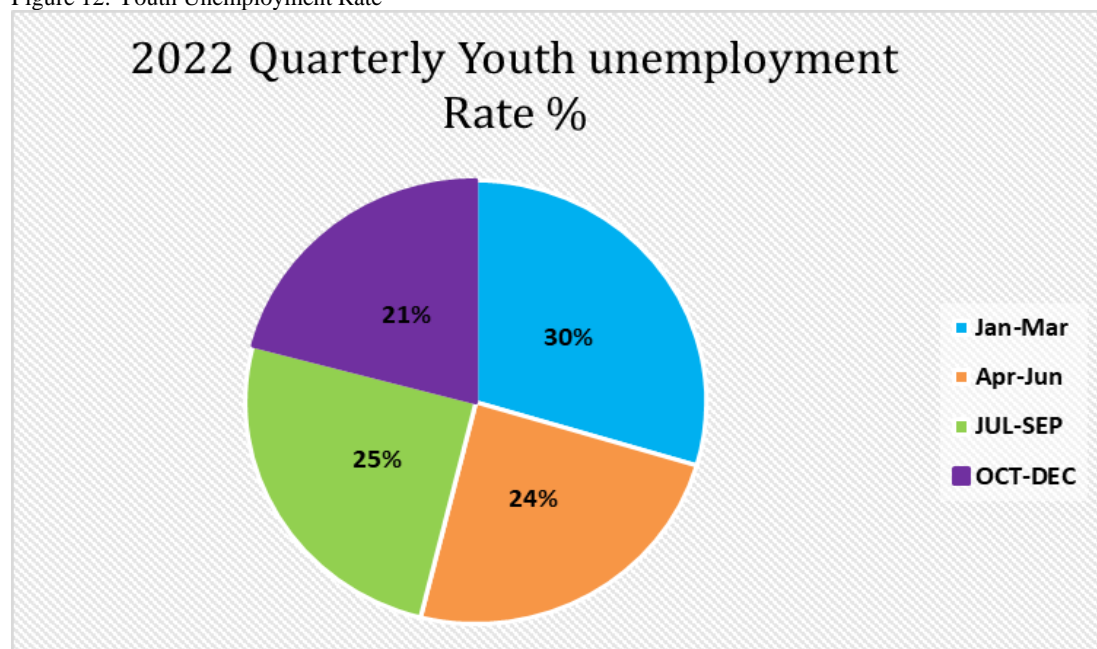


Figure 13: Unemployed Youth



Table 3: Youth Labour Force

Category	Age Group	Sex		Total
		Male	Female	
Total Youth		14,502	10,974	25,476
Youth Labour Force	15-19 Years	2,022	1,487	3,508
	20-24 Years	4,661	3,582	8,243
	25-29 Years	7,819	5,906	13,725

Table 4: Unemployed Youth

Category	Age Group	Sex		Total
		Male	Female	
Total Youth		3,862	1,,867	5,728
Unemployed Youth	15-19 Years	1,317	638	1,954
	20-24 Years	1,236	162	1,398
	25-29 Years	1,309	1,067	2,376

EMPLOYMENT

Figure 15 below provides the employment rates for quarters one to four of 2022. The data revealed an increase of 3.9% in persons employed in the labour force from the period July - September (Qtr.3) 81.8% and in October – December (Qtr.4) 85.7%. The age groups 50-54 Years, 25-29 Years and 45-49 Years respectively recorded the highest number of employed persons (Figure 14).

The categories Private Employee recorded the highest number of employed persons with 51.9% followed by self-employed with and without employees at 27.1% and Central Government Employees recorded at 15.6%.

Figure 14: Employed labour Force by Age & Sex

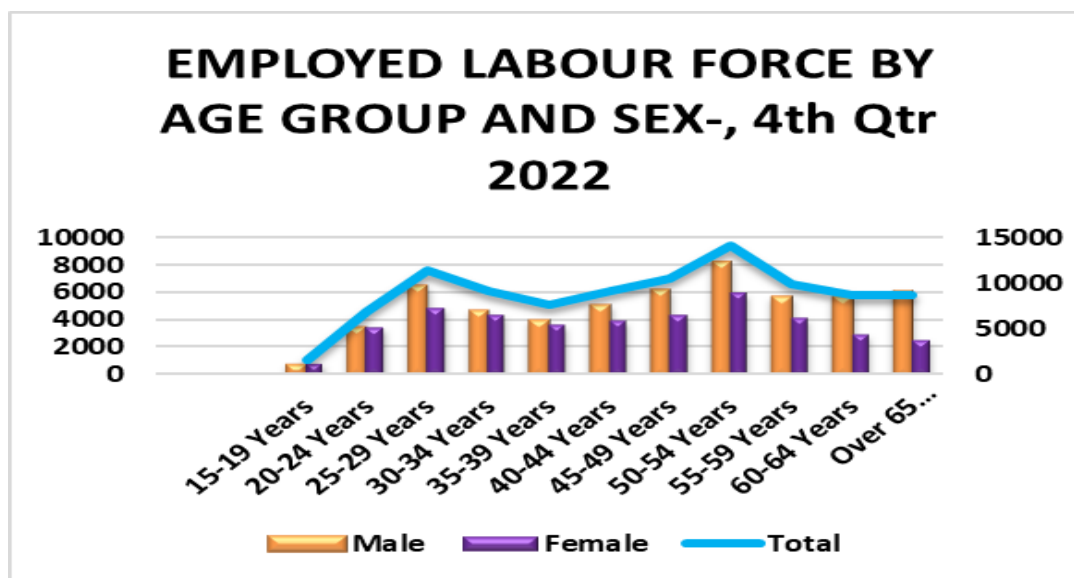


Figure 15: Employment Rates

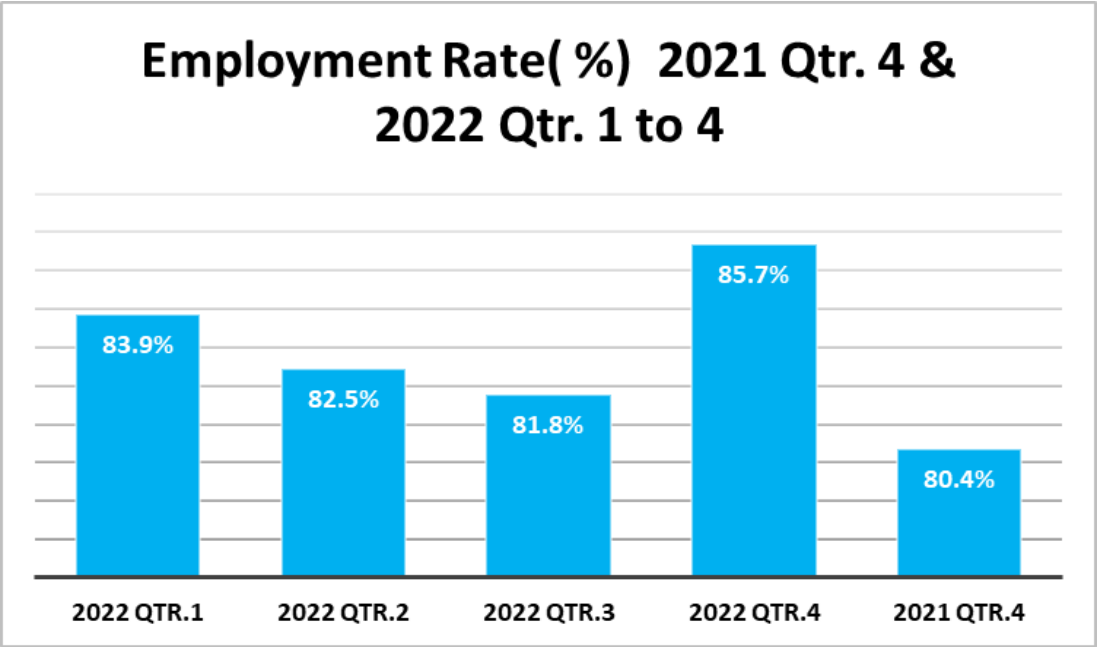


Figure 16: Employed labour Force by district and Sex

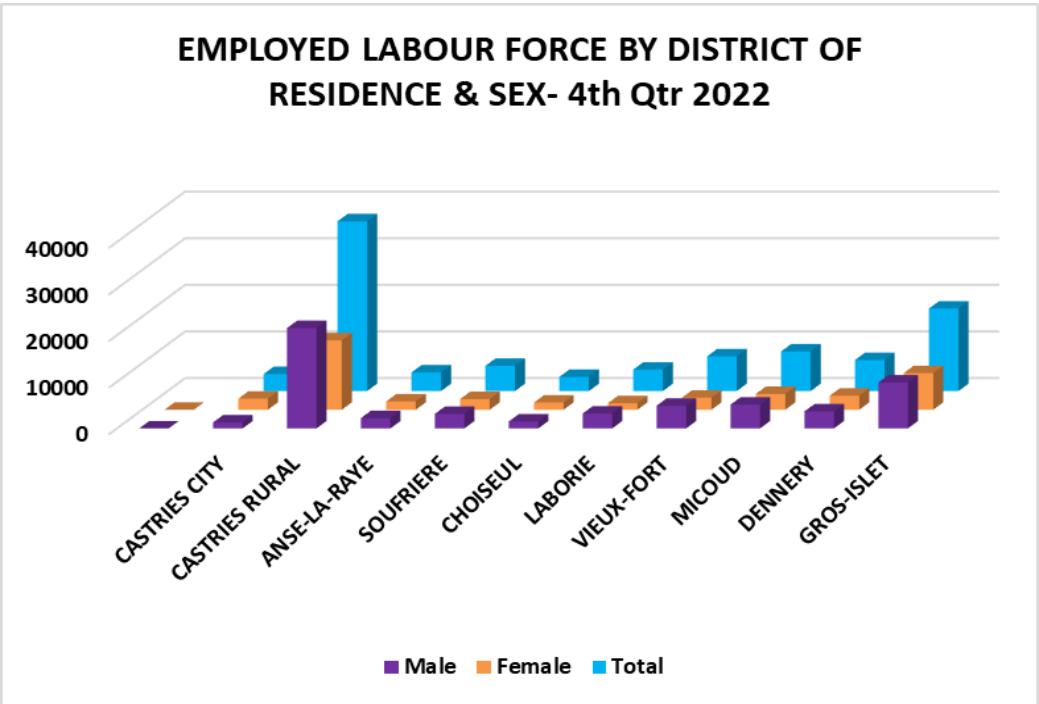


Figure 17: Employed labour Force by Educational Qualification and Sex

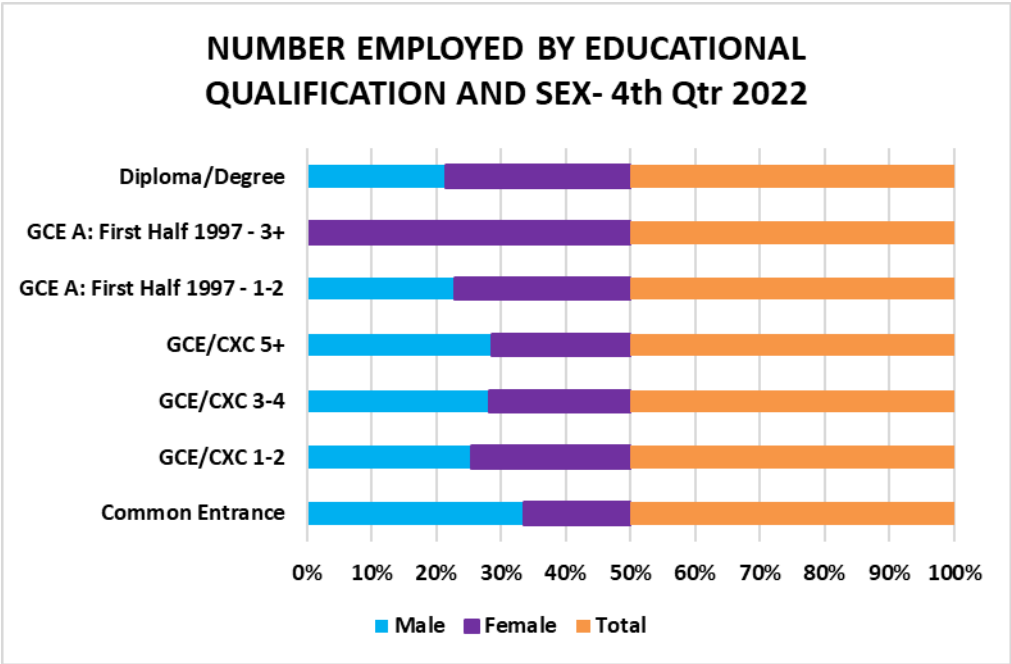


Figure 18: Employed Industry and Sex

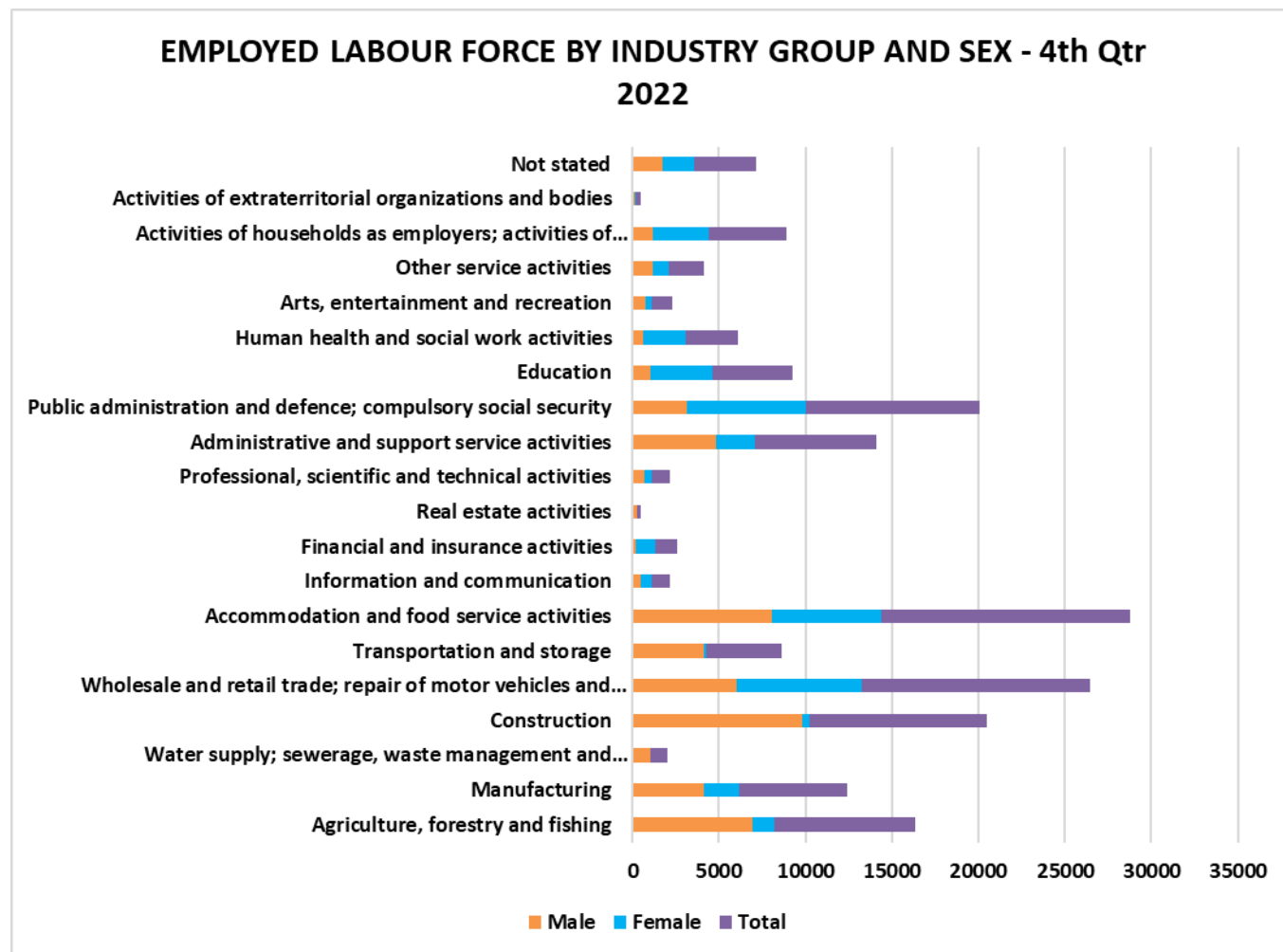


Figure 19: Employed by Occupation Group & Sex

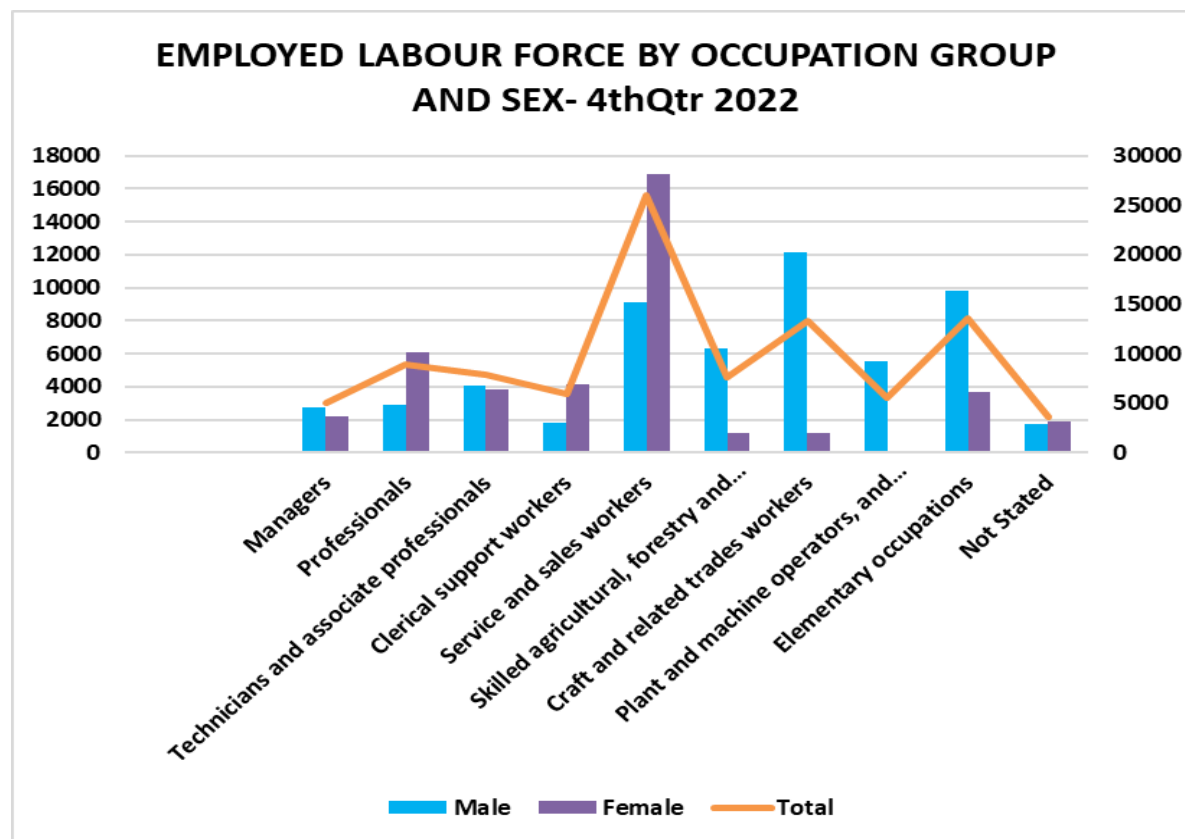
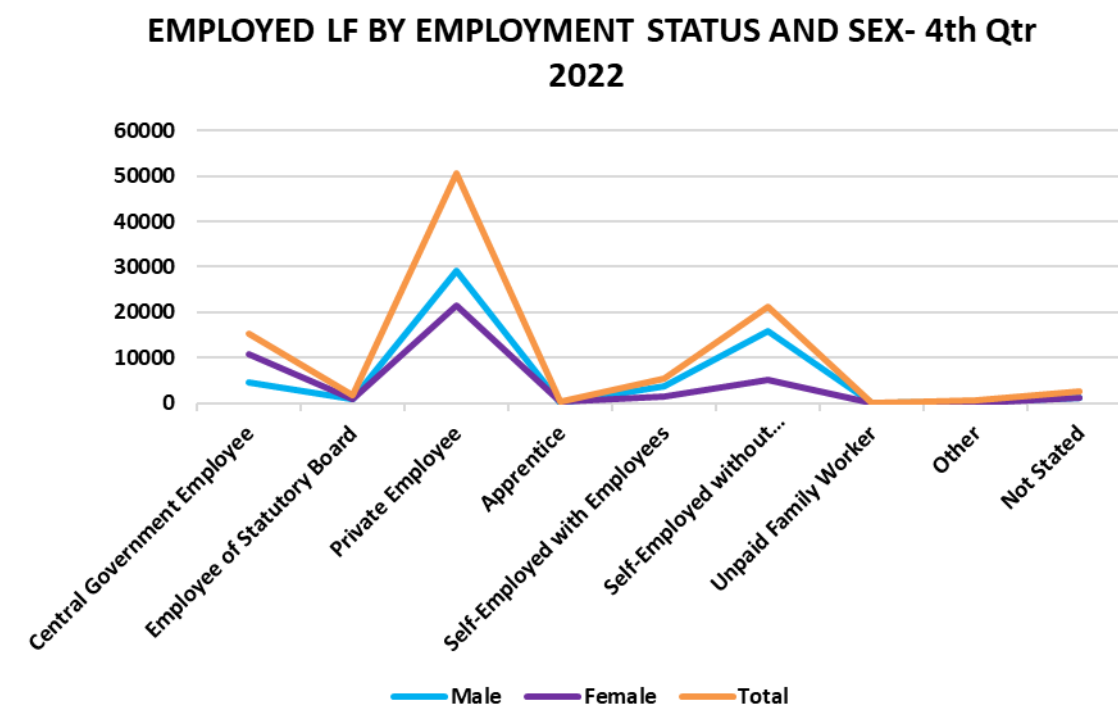











Figure 20: Employment by Employment status



The quarterly employment data expressed in Figure 19 provides the share of employed by occupation status for the fourth quarter, i.e. October to December 2022. “Service and sales workers” exhibited the largest share 26,038 (26.7%) with more females than males falling into this category. This is followed by “Elementary Occupations” which recorded the second largest share, with 13,518 (13.9%), and in contrast, males (9,845) dominated this sector of employment category more than females (3,673). “Craft and related trade workers” followed with 13,367 (13.7%). It is noteworthy to mention the following sectors were dominated by males:

-  Managers
-  Skilled agricultural, forestry, and fishery workers
-  Craft and related trades workers
-  Plant and machine operators, and assemblers
-  Elementary occupations
-  Technical and associate professionals

The sectors below were dominated by females:

-  Professionals
-  Clerical support workers
-  Service and sales workers

Concerning employment by industry, the data showed employment in several sectors during the assessment period where “Accommodation and food service activities”, ‘Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles” and “Public administration and defence; compulsory social security”, accounted for the greatest share of employment capturing first, second and third place respectively (see figure 18). “Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies” reported the smallest share of the sector.

For the period under review (Qtr.4) 34.5% of the employed population completed upper secondary (form 4 & 5) level of education, 35.4% attained Pre-primary (Infant) or Primary and 13.1% Tertiary (University). Additional details of the employed population's educational level and qualifications from October to December are provided below. 21.3% of the employed population did not receive any form of educational qualification while 17.3% of the employed obtained GCE/CXC 5+ qualifications.

None: 0.9%

Pre-primary (Infant) or Primary: 35.4%

Lower/Junior Secondary (Forms 1-3) / Senior Primary: 5.4%

Upper Secondary (Forms 4 & 5): 34.5%

Post Secondary, non-tertiary (diploma or associate degree): 9.2%

Tertiary (University): 13.1%

Other: 1.5%

Table 5: Employed by Educational Qualification

Educational Qualification	Total	Female	Male
None	17,162	5,150	12,012
Common Entrance	4,469	1,480	2,989
GCE/CXC 1-2	4,795	2365	2,,430
GCE/CXC 3-4	11,092	4,835	6,257
GCE/CXC 5+	17,121	7,362	9,759
GCE A: First Half 1997 - 1-2	870	472	398
GCE A: First Half 1997 - 3+	344	344	..
Diploma/Degree	19,261	10,972	8,289
Other	4,100	1,385	2,715
Not Stated	18,301	6,856	11,445
TOTAL	97,516	41,222	56,293

Source: Central Statistical Office of Saint Lucia, Labour Force Survey, 4thQtr 2022