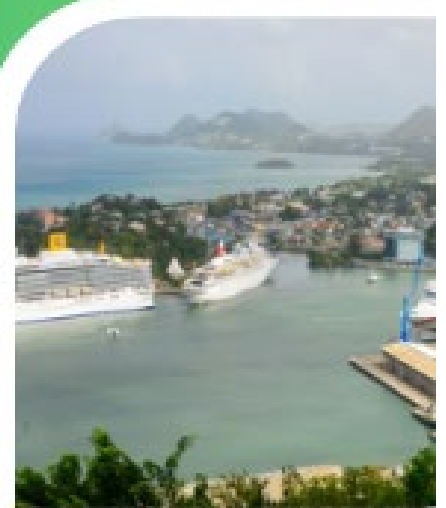




STATISTICAL REPORT

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

1ST QUARTER 2024



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CAUTIONARY NOTE: 1ST QUARTER 2024 LABOUR FORCE REPORT

In accordance with our commitment to providing accurate and comprehensive statistical information, the Central Statistical Office (CSO) wishes to inform all stakeholders, including the public and data users, about the scope of the upcoming Labour Force Report for the first quarter of 2024 (Q1 2024).

We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work diligently to provide accurate and comprehensive labor market statistics. The CSO remains committed to transparency and quality in our data reporting practices.

For more detailed labor market insights, we look forward to sharing the findings from the 2022 Population and Housing Census once it is finalized.

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a statistical analysis of the Labour Force Survey results for first quarter 2024. The data is compared to the previous quarter (Q4, 2023) to identify trends and changes in the key labor force indicators. The analysis examines key labour market indicators such as the unemployment rate, youth unemployment rate, and employment figures.

The scope of the quarterly labour force survey covers households extracted using sampling from the 2010 population and Housing Census master sampling frame. The survey methodology for the first quarter was conducted using face-face interviewing method. The reporting period, 1st, quarter 2024 is comparative with 4th quarter 2023 labour force data.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY RESULTS

Table 1: Main Indicators Table

Labour Force Indicators	4 th , Qtr. 2023	1 st , Qtr. 2024
Estimated Household Population	183,475	184,102
Population 15 years and over	158,295	155,566
Labour Force	110,870	108,808
of which - Male	621,134	59,362
of which- Female	48,736	49,446
Employed Labour Force	95,759	96,434
of which -Male	54,685	53,016
of which -Female	41,074	43,418
Employment Rate	86.4%	88.6%
Persons who want work		
(I) The Unemployed	15,112	12,374
of which - Male	7,450	6,028
of which- Female	7,662	6,346
(ii) Non-Seekers	1,011	1,028
Unemployment Rate %	13.6%	11.4%
of which - Male	12.0%	10.2%
of which- Female	15.7%	12.8%
Youth Unemployment Rate %	26.7%	22.5%
Relaxed Unemployment Rate %	14.5%	12.3%
Non-Job Seeking Rate %	0.9%	0.9%
Population under 15 years (%)	13.7%	15.5%
Labour Force as a Percentage of Total		
Population	60.4%	59.1%
Labour Force as a Percentage of		
Population 15 years and over OR		
Labour Force Participation Rate	70.0%	69.9%

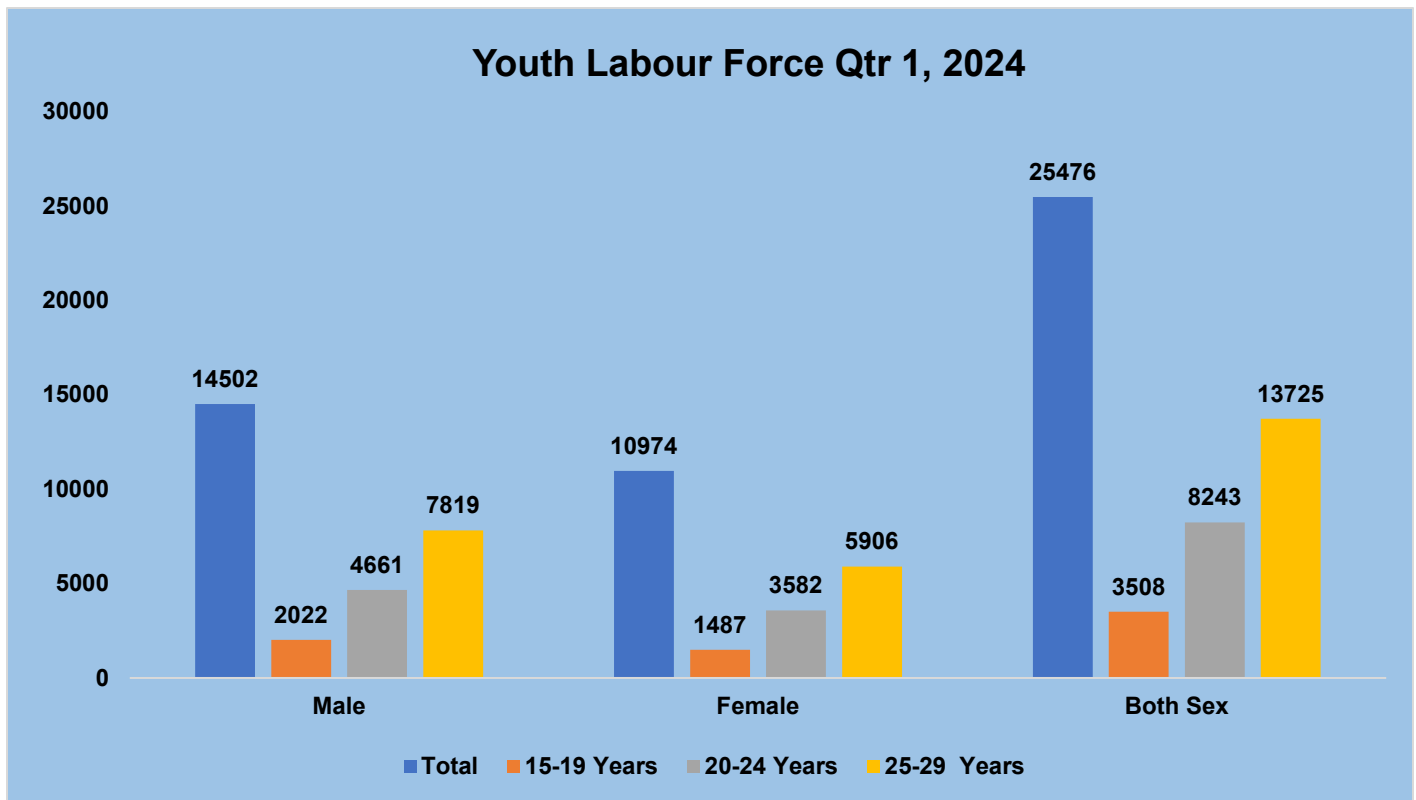
The Labour Force statistics for the period January to March (Q, 2024) indicates a decrease in the labour force of approximately 2,062. In Q4 of 2023, the labour force amounted to 110,870, while in Q1 of 2024, it was 108,808. The differences observed in the figures show 59,362 males, a decline of 4.6% and 43,418 females a decrease of 11.5%. (See figure 1 below).

The relaxed unemployment rate stood at 14.5%, reflecting an increase in the percentage of the population not actively seeking work. However, an estimated 69.1% of the population is considered to be in the working-age population (WAP), which accounts for approximately 84.5% (155,566) of the total population.

The main Labour market indicators demonstrated in Table 1 provides a statistical snapshot of the main labour force indicators for the period under review, (January to March 2024).

Non-seekers in the labour market were recorded at 1,028 i.e. persons who are not interested or seeking employment in the labour force for the period January to March 2024.

Figure 1: Youth Labour Force



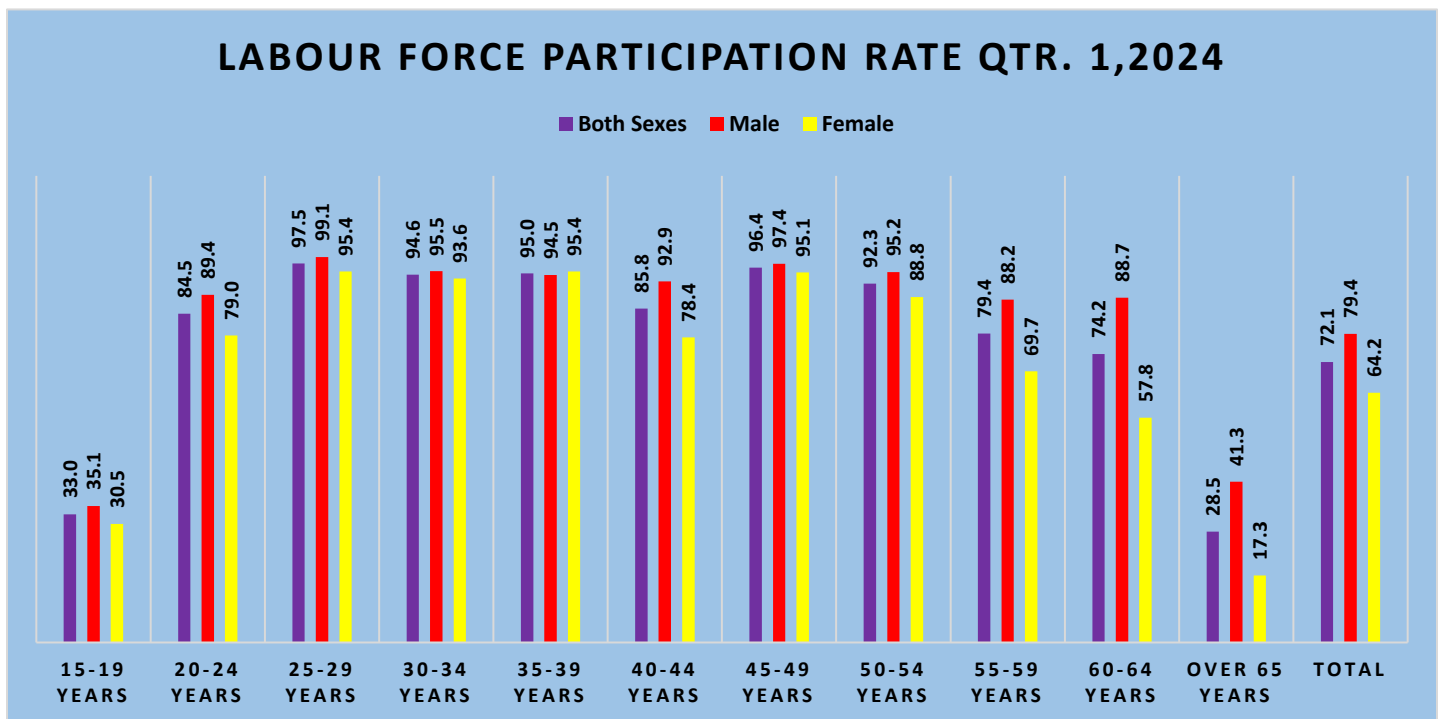
LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

The figure below provides a comprehensive breakdown of the Labour Force Participation rates by age group and sex. Overall, the participation rate for both sexes across all age groups is 72.1%. The male participation rate is slightly higher at 79.4%, while the female Participation rate is lower at 64.2%. In the younger age groups, specifically 15-19 years and 20-24 years, the participation rates are higher for males compared to females. This trend continues up to the age group of 30-34 years.

In the age groups of 35-39 years and 45-49 years, the rates are fairly balanced between males and females, with minimal differences. From the age group of 40-44 years onwards, we see a noticeable increase in the participation rates for males compared to females.

The largest disparity in participation rates between males and females is observed in the age group of 60-64 years and over 65 years, where male rates are significantly higher than female rates. Overall, there is a clear trend of higher participation rates for males across most age groups, with the gender gap widening in the older age categories.

Figure 2: Labour Force Participation Rate



As defined in international standards (19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 2013), the labour force captures those persons of working age who are actively engaged in the labour market. The working age population is commonly defined as persons 15 years and over.

The National Insurance Cooperation (NIC) 1st Quarter employment figures are consistent with the data captured from the labour force survey for the period Jan-Mar 2024. However, the NIC only reports on the formal sector whereas the labour force survey reports on both the informal and formal sector of the economy.

The labour force participation rate is a measure of the proportion of a country's working-age population that engages actively in the labour market, either by working or looking for work; it provides an indication of the size of the supply of labour available to engage in the production of goods and services, relative to the population at working age.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Figure 3 presents the unemployment rate and youth unemployment rate for Quarter 4, 2023, and Quarter 1, 2024. In Quarter 4, 2023, the overall unemployment rate was 13.6%, which decreased to 11.4% in Quarter 1, 2024. This indicates an improvement in the overall employment situation over this period. The decrease in the unemployment rate from Quarter 4, 2023 to Quarter 1, 2024 suggests positive trends in job availability or increased job opportunities during this time frame.

In Quarter 4, 2023, the youth unemployment rate was notably higher at 26.7%, compared to the overall unemployment rate of 13.6% during the same period. By Quarter 1, 2024, the youth unemployment rate decreased to 18.4%, showing a significant improvement. However, it is still higher than the overall unemployment rate of 11.4% for the same period. The decline in the youth unemployment rate from Quarter 4, 2023 to Quarter 1, 2024 is a positive sign, indicating potential enhancements in youth employment opportunities or initiatives focused on reducing youth unemployment.

The data reflects a positive trend in both the overall unemployment rate and youth unemployment rate, with decreases observed between Quarter 4, 2023, and Quarter 1, 2024. The decrease in both rates suggests potential improvements in the job market, economic conditions, or government interventions aimed at reducing unemployment levels.

Figure 3: National Unemployment Rate & Youth Unemployment Rates

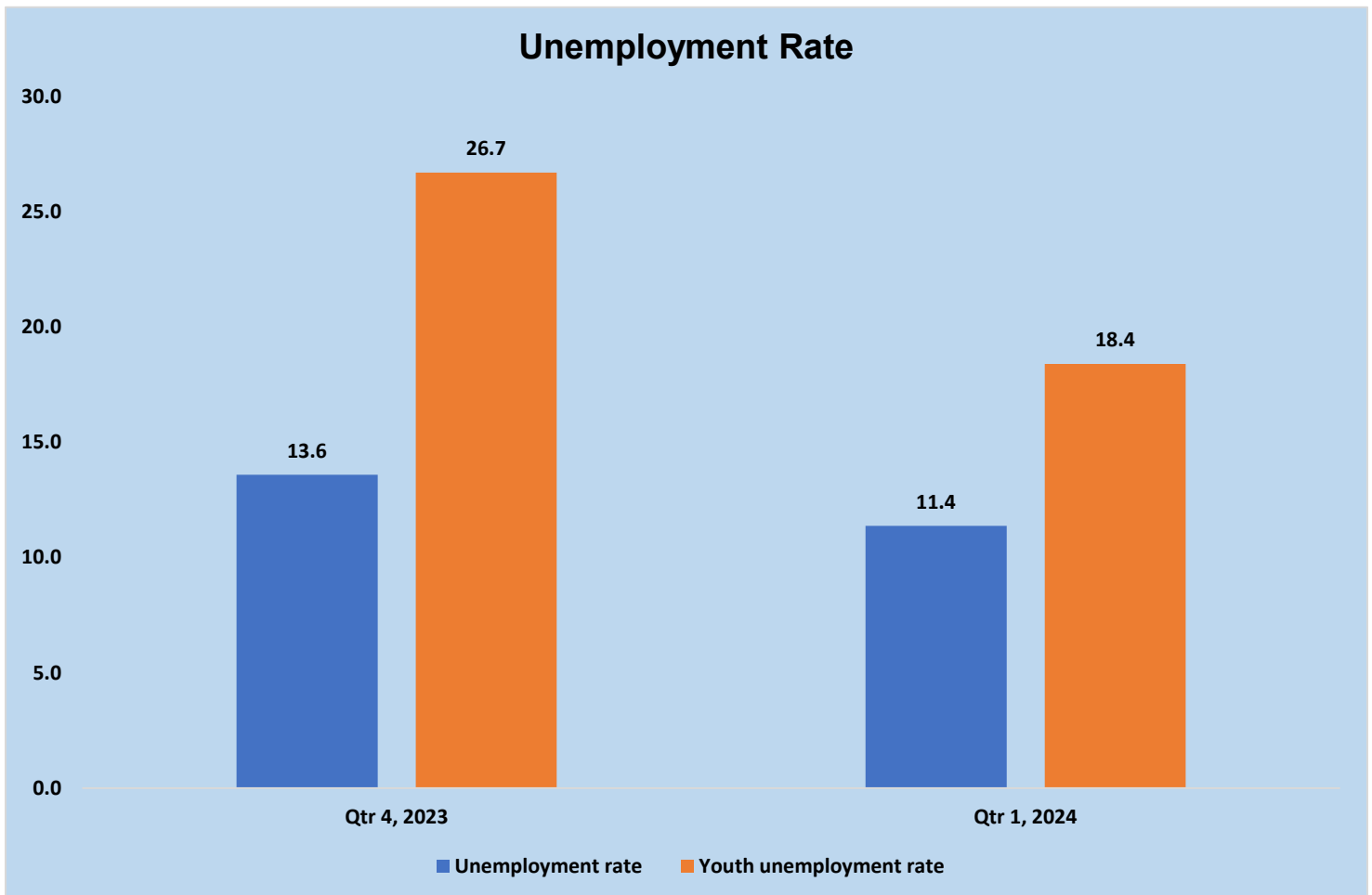
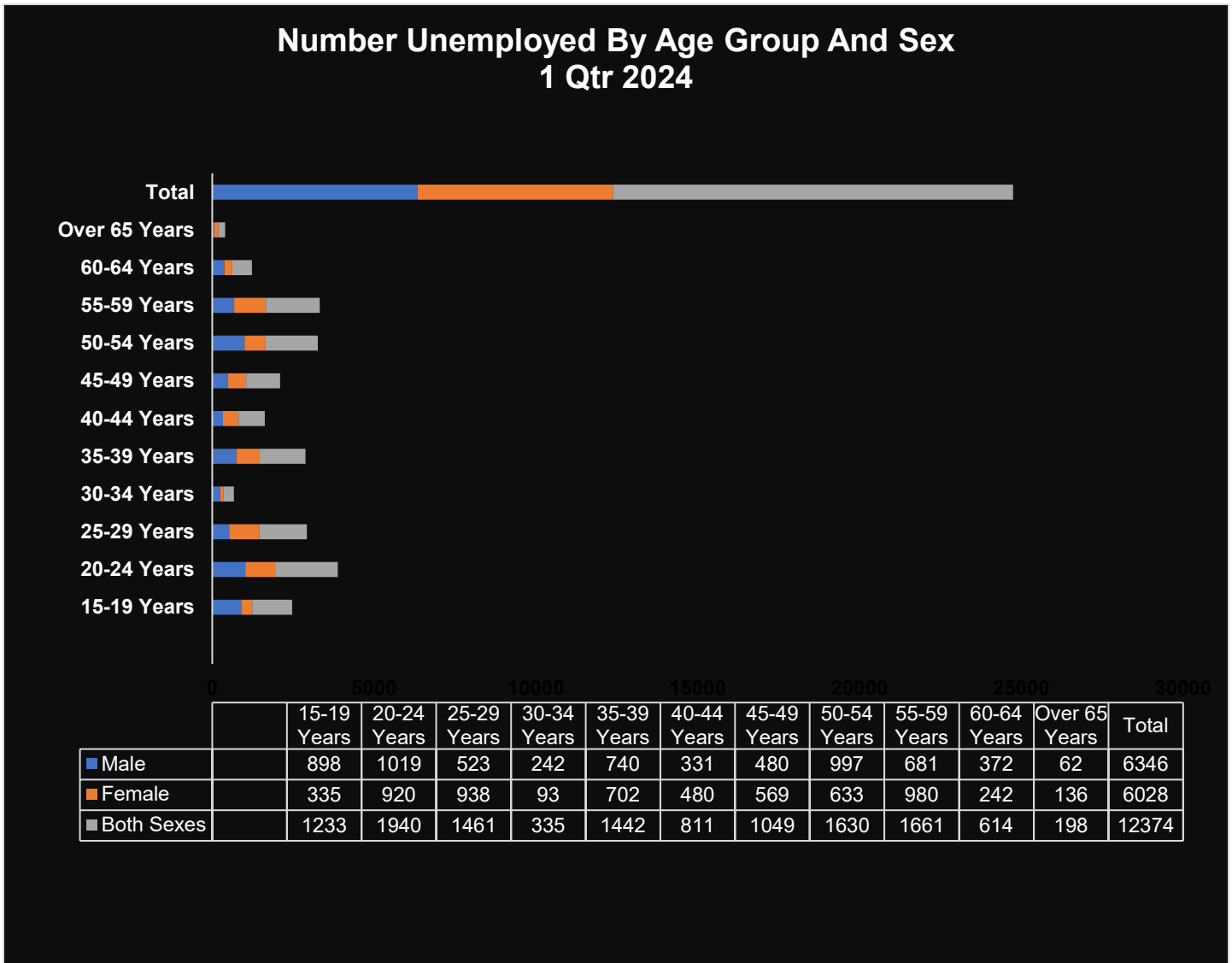
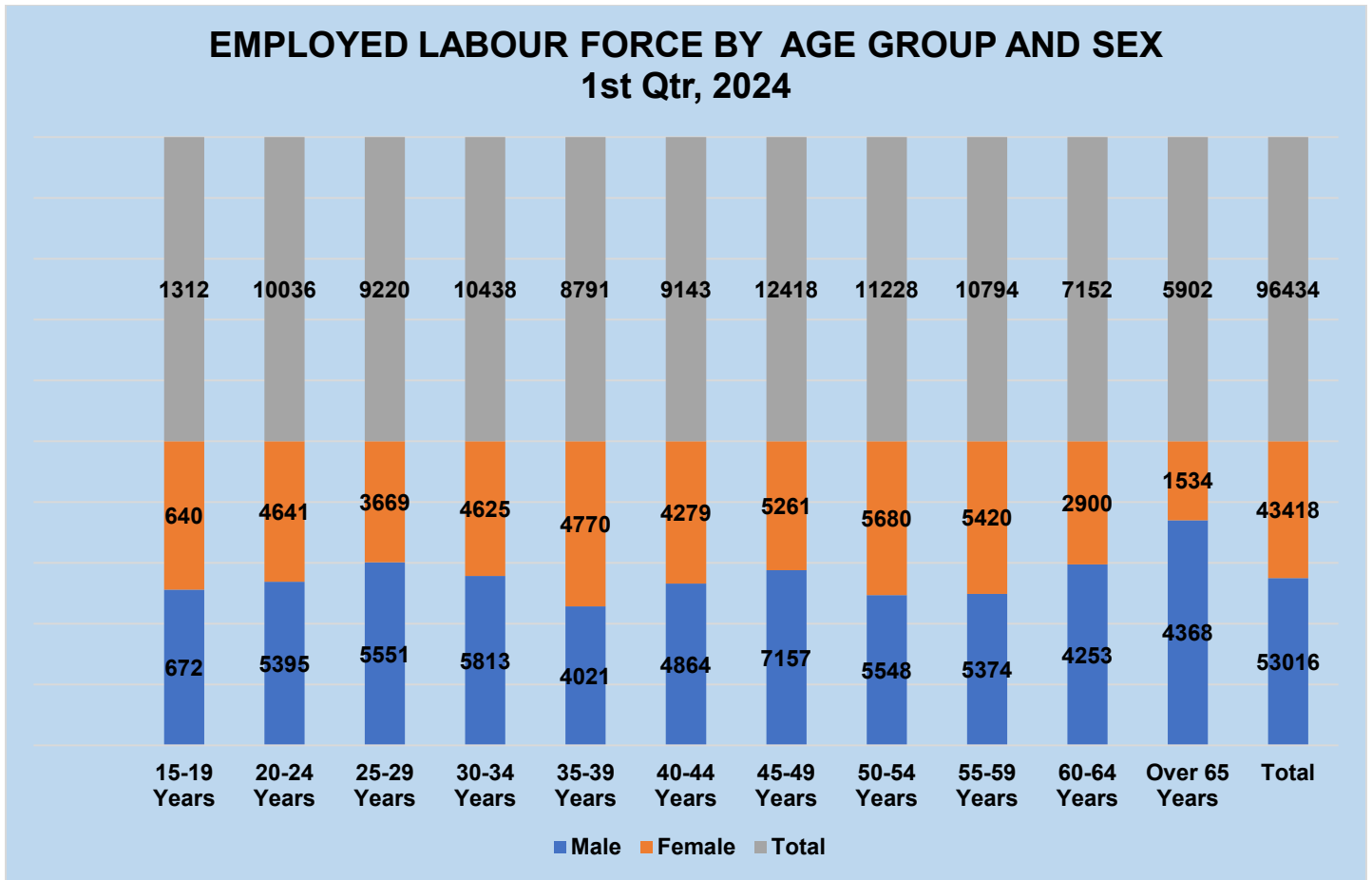


Figure 4: Unemployed by Age and Sex



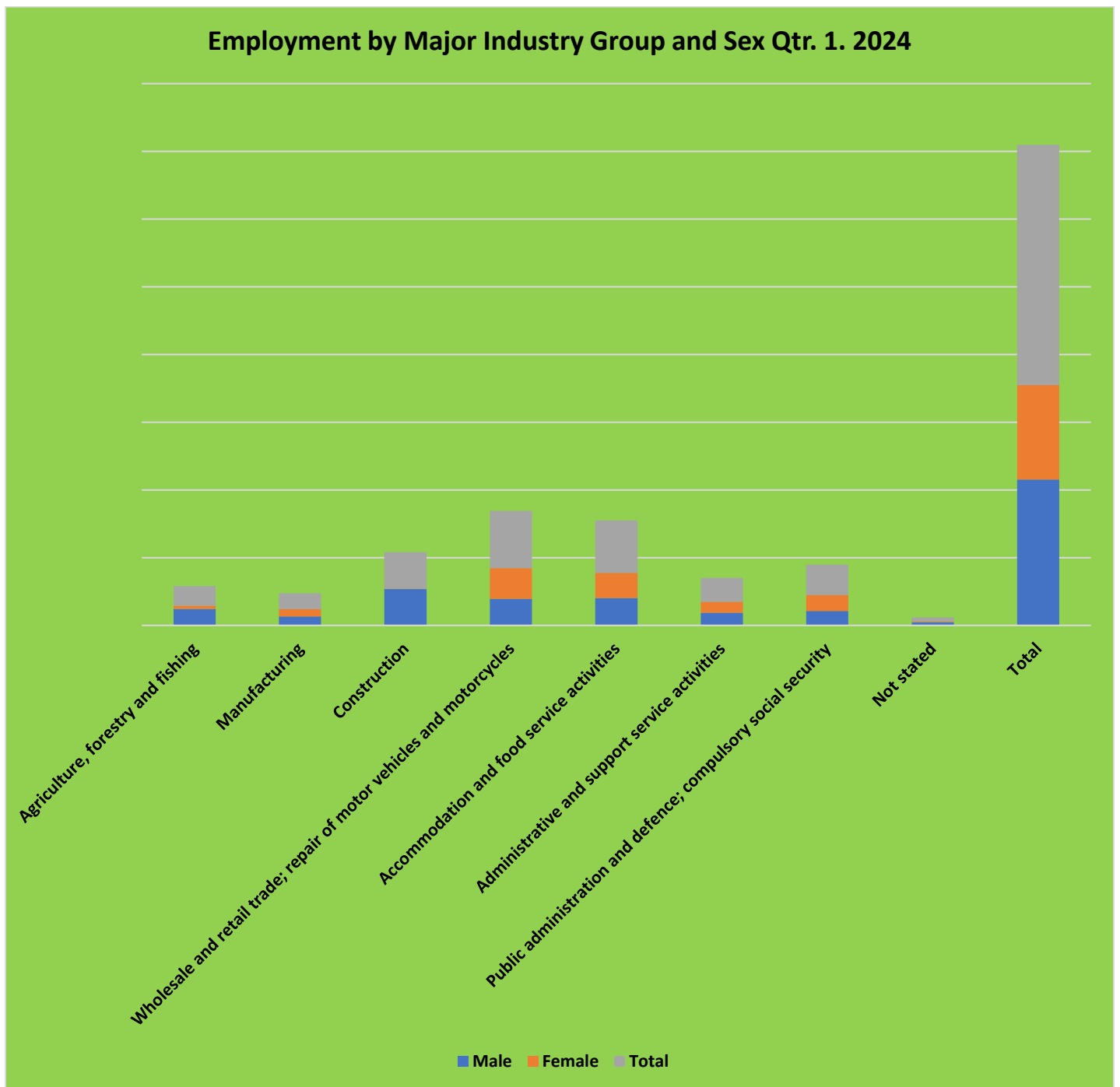
EMPLOYMENT

Figure 5: Employed Labour Force by Age and Sex



This analysis provides a detailed view of the employed labour force by age group and sex for the first quarter of 2024.: Overall, there are more employed males (55%) than females (45%). The 15-19 years age group has the lowest total employment (1,312). The 55-59 years age group shows an equal distribution between males and females. The over 65 years age group has a significant disparity, with males making up 74% of the employed labour force.

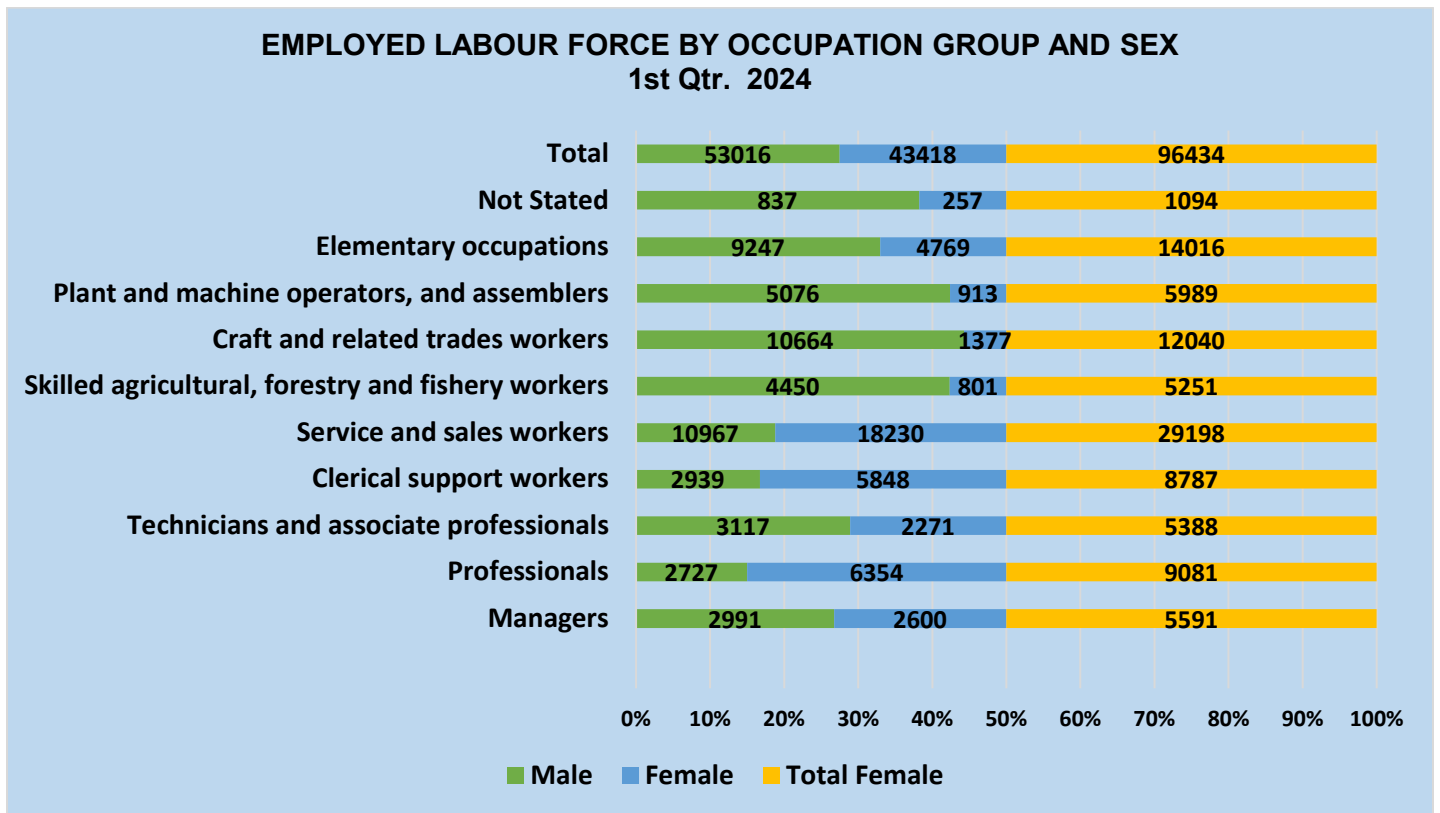
Figure 6: Employment by Major Industry Group



Regarding employment by industry, the data revealed that during the assessment period, the sectors of *“Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles,”* *“Accommodation and Food Service Activities,”* and *“Construction”* accounted for the largest shares of employment, ranking first, second, and third respectively (see Table 2 below.).

In contrast, the “Real Estate” sector reported the smallest share of employment

Figure 7: Employment by Occupation Group



There is a noticeable male dominance in technical, trade, and manual labor roles and. Female predominance in Service-Oriented and Administrative Roles. Women are more prevalent in administrative, clerical, and service-oriented positions. Gender ratios in managerial positions are relatively balanced compared to other fields. The overall workforce is predominantly male, though the proportion of female workers is substantial and growing, particularly in professional and administrative sectors.

Occupation Group	Male	Female	Total
Managers	2,991	2,600	5,591
Professionals	2,727	6,354	9,081
Technicians and associate professionals	3,117	2,271	5,388
Clerical support workers	2,939	5,848	8,787
Service and sales workers	10,967	18,230	29,198
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	4,450	801	5,251
Craft and related trades workers	10,664	1,377	12,040
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	5,076	913	5,989
Elementary occupations	9,247	4,769	14,016
Not Stated	837	257	1,094
Total	53,016	43,418	96,434