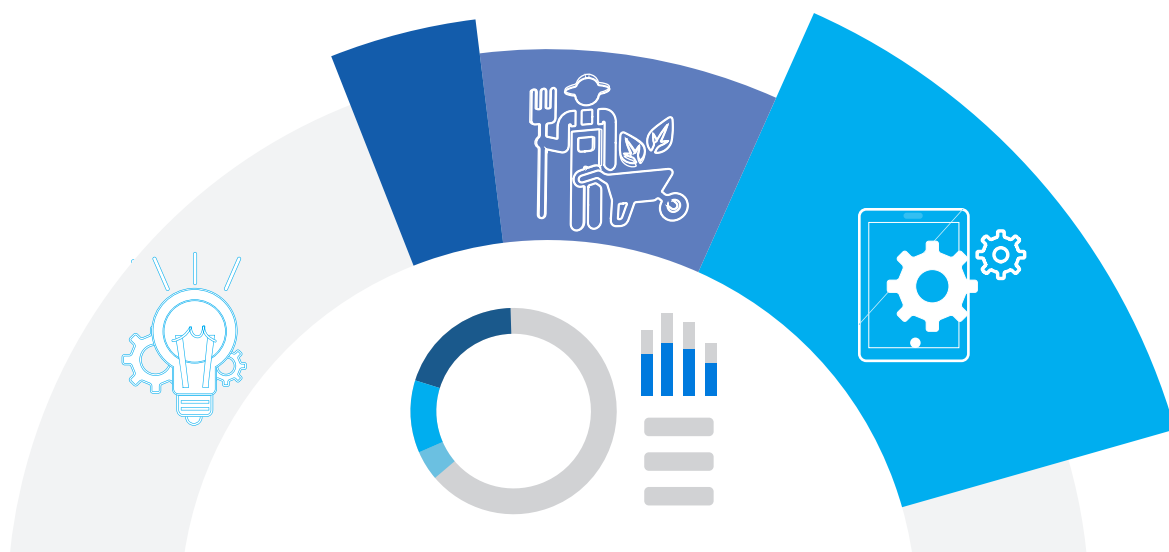




Republic
of Rwanda



Labour Force survey

Quarter 3, 2025



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Foreword

The National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) conducts the labour force survey (LFS) to provide labour statistics that play an essential role for the development of policies and monitoring the progress of the country to achieve decent work for all.

The government of Rwanda also needs updated information for monitoring progress on programmes and policies stipulated in the second National Strategy for Transformation (NST2), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as vision 2050. To monitor progress towards these targets, relevant, reliable, coherent, timely and accessible labour statistics must be produced.

The ultimate goal of the Labour Force Survey is to provide data on the structure and trends of labour force, employment, and unemployment as well as other related labour market statistics for the implementation and evaluation of economic and social policies related to employment creation, income generation, skills development, and related decent work policies.

The Labour Force survey programme begun with a pilot survey conducted in February 2016. The first round of the survey was conducted in August 2016 and continued on a bi-annual basis until August 2018. Since 2019, the survey was re-designed to provide estimates of the labour market aggregates on a quarterly basis. The present report is for the third quarter (Q3) of 2025, and its data collection was conducted in August 2025.

NISR values the feedback from all data users of this publication. We remain committed to continuously enhancing the variety of our analyses and the presentation of findings to ensure their effective use.

NISR congratulates all individuals and teams who contributed to this exercise. In particular, NISR recognize the dedication of survey coordinators, supervisors, analysts, team leaders, interviewers, drivers, and respondents for making this survey possible.

Furthermore, NISR invites policy makers, program managers, researchers, and all users to use the valuable data presented in this report to contribute and enhance Rwanda's Economic development.

For 

MURENZI Ivan

Director General of NISR

MWIZERWA Jean Claude
Deputy Director General



0 Executive summary

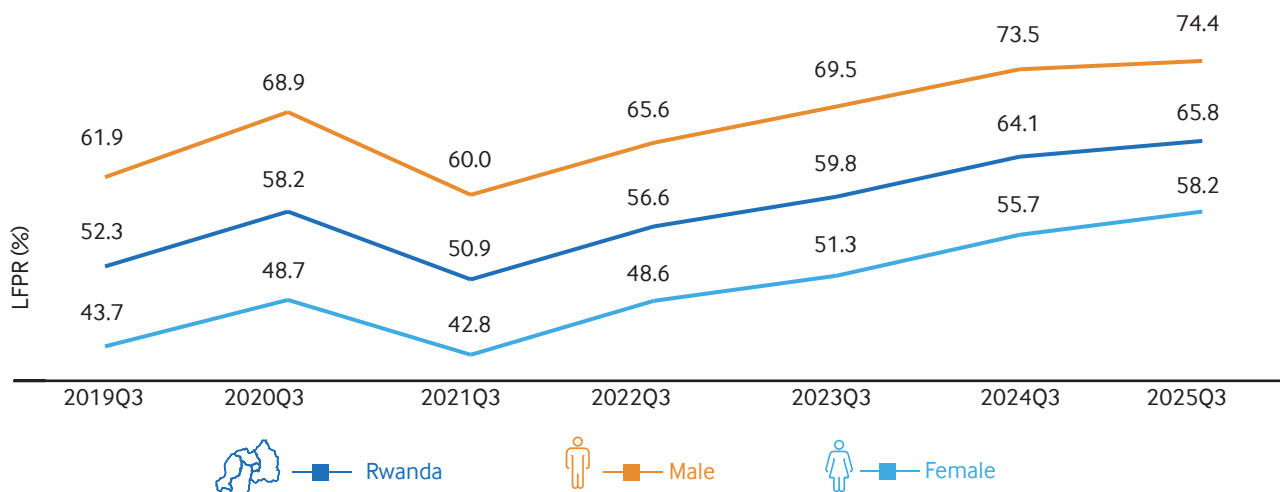
The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household-based sample survey conducted by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda. It collects data on the labour market activities among individuals aged 14 years and older residing in private households across Rwanda. However, only persons aged 16 years and above are covered for reporting. This report mainly compares survey results for the month of August each year, starting from 2019. However, the tables in a separate excel file published together with this report contain more observed data points of the labour force survey since 2019.

Labour force

In August 2025 (Q3), the working age population (16 years and above) was around 8.6 million of whom around 4.9 million were employed, 754 thousand were unemployed, and 2.9 million were out of labour force. The labour force comprises 5.6 million people, which includes both the employed and unemployed population. The proportion of working age population who were in the labour force has steadily increased since 2022. In August 2025, it was estimated to be 65.8 % which is 1.7 percentage points higher than the estimated value observed in August 2024 (64.1%). The rate of the population outside labour force decreased to 34.2 % in August 2025 (Q3) from 35.9 % in August 2024(Q3).

Generally, the labour force participation rate has been higher among the male than the female population over time. In August 2025 (Q3), the gender gap in labour force participation rate was approximately 16.2 percentage points, it decreased by 1.6 percentage points as compared to the same quarter one year back.

Figure 0.1: Trends in labour force participation rate by sex



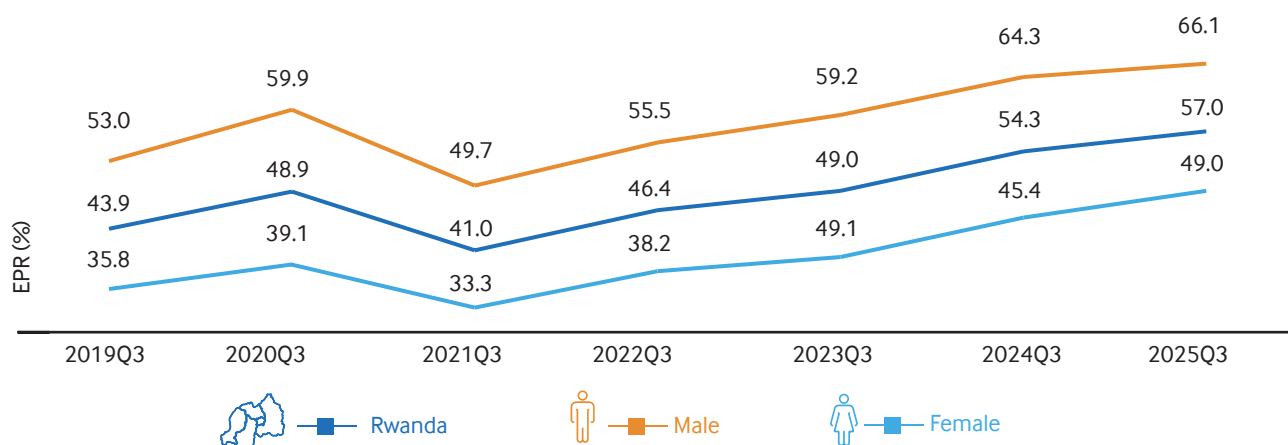
Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Employment

The employment-to-population ratio (EPR) increased to 57 % in August 2025 (Q3), up from 54.3 % in August 2024 (Q3). This increase was observed for both sexes, with males recording a rise of 1.8 percentage points and females a significant increase of 3.6 percentage points. In August 2025 (Q3), EPR remained higher among

males (66.1 %) than females (49 %). The gender gap in the employment to population ratio stood at 17.1 percentage points in August 2025 (Q3) reflecting a slight decline of 1.8 percentage points as compared to August 2024 (Q3). Additionally, the EPR was higher among adults aged 31 years old and above (57.3 %) compared to youth aged 16-30 years old (56.6%).

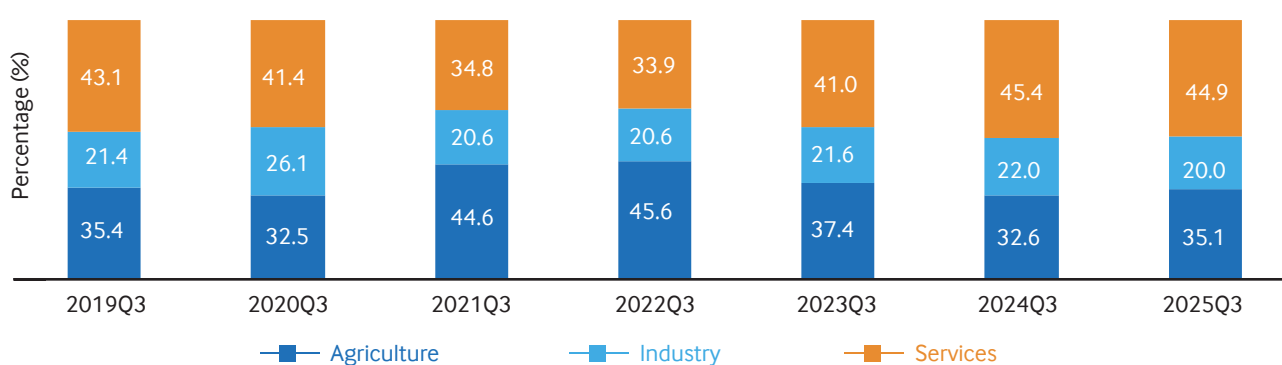
Figure 0.2: Trends in employment to population ratio by sex



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

The distribution of employed population by aggregated broad branches of economic activity revealed that the services sector continues to employ the majority of the employed population in LFS August 2025 (Q3). The level of employment in the agricultural sector increased by 2.5 percentage points, from 32.6% in August 2024 Q3 to 35.1% in August 2025 Q3. However, the share of employment in industry sector in August 2025 (Q3) decreased by 2 percentage points as compared to August 2024 (Q3) while the percentage of employed population in the service sector remained almost stable in the same period.

Figure 0.3: Distribution of employed population by board sector of economic activity



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

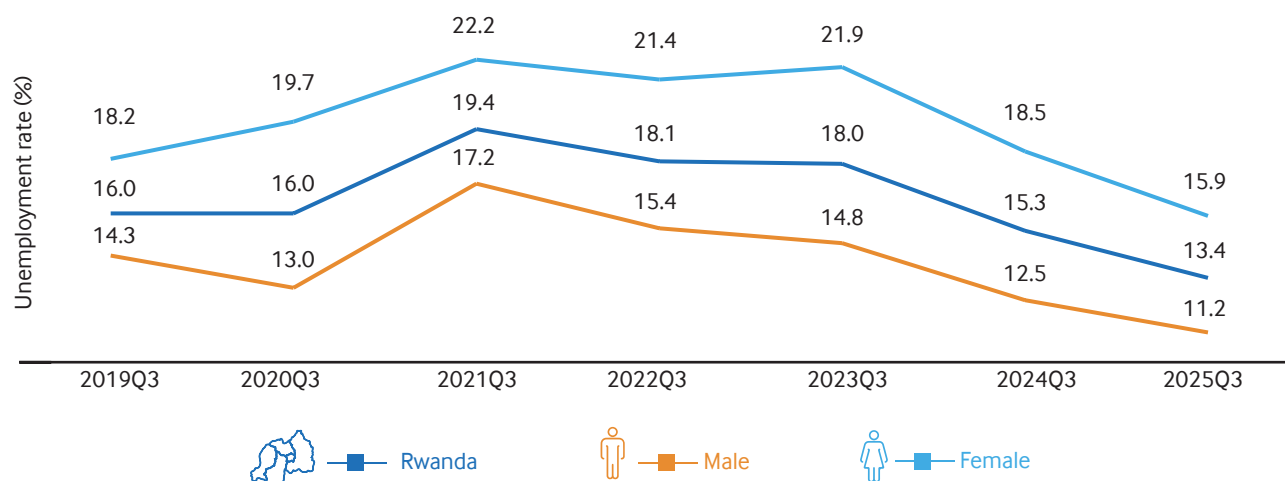
Unemployment

In August 2025 (Q3), the unemployment rate stood at 13.4 % indicating that roughly for every 7 persons in the labour force, there was one person unemployed. This reflects a 1.9 percentage points decrease compared to the same quarter one year back; and it was significantly lower as compared to the pre-COVID-19 estimate in the same quarter August 2019 (16 %). In August 2025 (Q3), the unemployment rate was higher among

females (15.9 %) compared to males (11.2 %). Youth also experienced a higher unemployment rate (15.5 %) compared to adults (11.7%). The unemployment was relatively higher in rural areas (14.2 %) than in urban areas (11.8%).

The gender gap in unemployment rate was 4.7 percentage points in August 2025 (Q3), and it decreased by 1.3 percentage points as compared to the same quarter one year back.

Figure 0.4: Trends in unemployment rate by sex



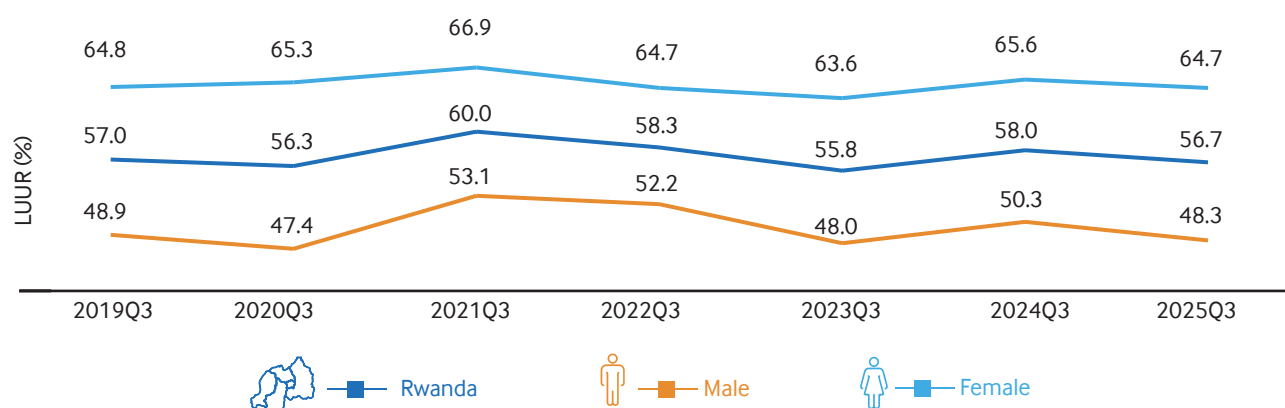
Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Labour underutilisation

The unemployment rate is not the only component of the unmet needs for employment. There are other components including time-related underemployment and potential labour force.

The labour underutilization rate stood at 56.7 % in August 2025 (Q3). It was higher among females (64.7 %) than males (48.3 %) and higher among youth (57.8 %) than adults (55.8 %). The labour underutilization rate decreased by 1.3 percentage points in August 2025 (Q3) as compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

Figure 0.5: Trends in labour underutilization rate by sex



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Rwanda Labour Force Indicators, August 2025 (Q3)

Working age population 16 years old and over (WAP): 8,571,278 persons

(This includes those who are in labour force and those out of labour force)

THE LABOUR FORCE

The sum of employed and unemployed

Labour Force Participation

5,643,232 Persons

65.8%

EMPLOYED

All who worked for pay or profit
4,888,921 persons

**EMPLOYMENT TO
POPULATION RATIO (EPR)**

57%

UNEMPLOYED

All not employed but seeking and
available to work for pay or profit
754,312 persons

**UNEMPLOYMENT
RATE (UR)**

13.4 %

$$UR = \frac{\text{Unemployed}}{\text{Labour Force}} \times 100$$

AGRICULTURE

Excluding subsistence
foodstuff production



35.1 %

INDUSTRY



20 %

SERVICE



44.9%

Share of unemployed
but engaged in
subsistence agriculture.



53.7 %

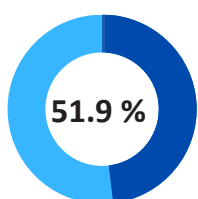
Other unemployed

46.3%

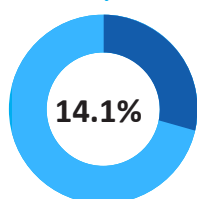
OUT OF LABOUR FORCE

Out of Labour Force rate 34.2%

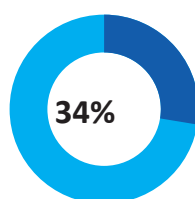
**Population outside the labour force (Not
employed nor unemployed) 2,928,045
persons**



Subsistence agriculture



Exclusively Students



Other outside LF (Elderly,
people with disabilities,
discouraged job seekers)

Labour underutilization 4,135,319 persons

**Composite measure of labour
underutilization rate 56.7 %**

Unemployed

754,312

Potential labour force

Portion of out of labour force)

1,650,400

Time-related underemployed

(Portion of employed)

1,730,608

The Rwanda Labour Force Survey (RLFS) started in 2016 with an annual sample spread into two rounds to provide bi-annual estimates of main labour market indicators at National level. From February 2019, the sample was spread into four rounds to provide estimates of labour market indicators at national level on a quarterly basis. The main objective of the survey is to provide data on the structure and trends of labour force, employment, and unemployment as well as other related labour market statistics for the implementation and evaluation of economic and social policies related to employment creation, income generation, skills development, and related decent work policies.

In February 2024, NISR decided to increase the sample size of the current LFS and update the sampling design to obtain more precise quarterly estimates at the National level and yearly estimates at districts and other sub national areas. The current findings are from the third quarter of LFS 2025, with data collected in August 2025.

The current LFS is designed according to a two-stage stratified design with a 2-2-2 rotational scheme. At the first stage of sampling, a stratified sample of 552 census enumeration areas, referred to as primary sampling units (PSUs) are drawn from the 2022 census sampling frame. The selection is based on probabilities proportional to size measured in terms of number of households according to the latest census of population. The sample includes 36 strata composed of the 24 complete administrative districts and 6 districts subdivided into urban and rural each. At the second stage of sampling, 12 households were selected from each of the sampled PSUs with equal probabilities. All household members in the sample are then selected for a survey interview. At the end of the data collection, the response rate was evaluated to 95.4%, which decreased as compared to the same quarter one year back (97.5%). The resulting estimates of the main labour force indicators at the national level have the standard errors of about 0.4 percent.

The focus of the present report is the analysis of trends of employment and labour underutilization. This includes unemployment at the national level by selected demographic and socioeconomic characteristics such as sex, age group, and educational attainment. This report compares the results of August 2025 (Q3) labour force survey with those of August 2024 (Q3). However, in some sections, the tables or figures are presented with the additional time series of results of the same quarters from August 2019 to August 2025. The excel file including the full quarterly time series of the main indicators is also published along with this report at the NISR website.

The survey results analysed in this report are presented into seven chapters, including this introduction. The other chapters cover the following:

- Labour market overview
- Characteristics of the population in the labour force
- Characteristics of employed population
- Unemployment and labour underutilization
- Population outside the labour force and Work in agriculture

Labour Market Overview

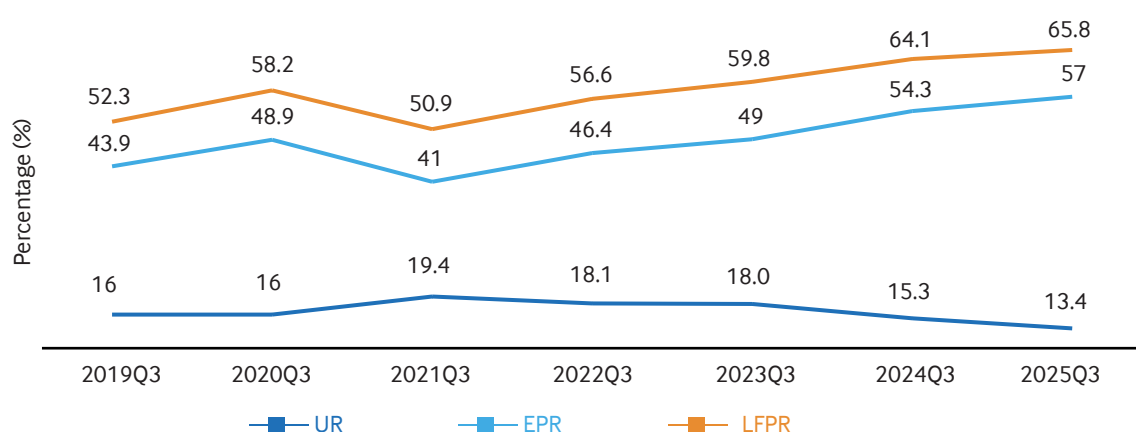
2.1 Labour force participation rate, employment to population ratio and unemployment rate

Figure 2.1 illustrates the trends of some key labour market indicators. In August 2025 (Q3), the unemployment rate declined to 13.4 % down from 15.3 % observed in August 2024 (Q3).

An analysis of employment trends shows that in August 2025 (Q3), the employment-to-population ratio increased by 2.7 percentage points as compared to August 2024 (Q3), while the labour force participation rate slightly increased by 1.7 percentage points in the same period.

Notably, both labour force participation and employment levels in August 2025 (Q3) exceeded pre-COVID-19 levels, while the registered unemployment rate in August 2025 (Q3) was significantly lower than that observed prior to the pandemic. This could be interpreted as a reflection of economic recovery and a reallocation of previously out of labour force participants into employment.

Figure 2. 1. Trend labour force participation rate, employment to population ratio and unemployment rate



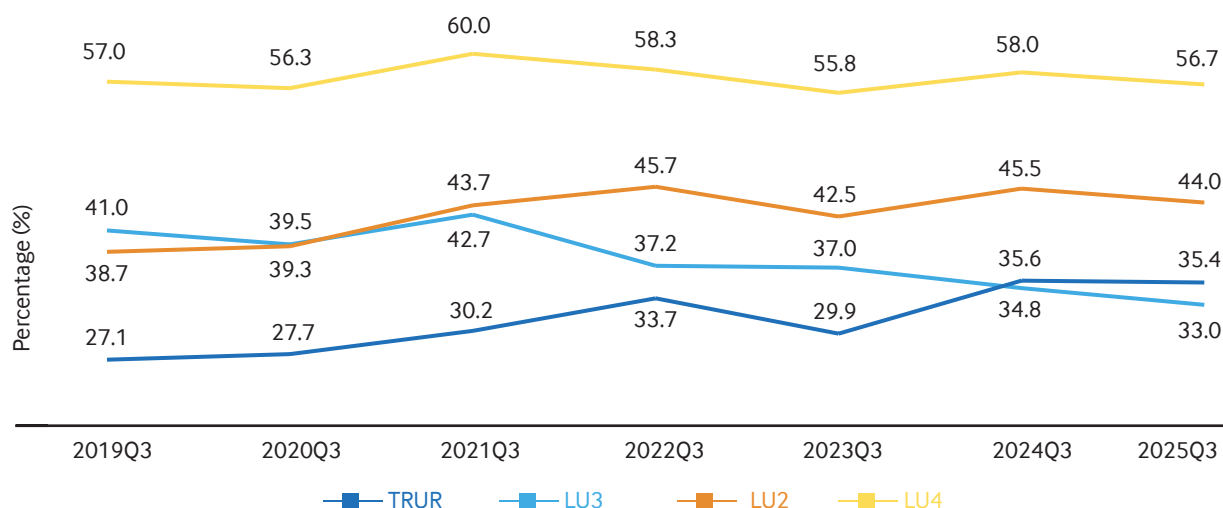
Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

2.2 Trend of labour Underutilization

The LFS August 2025 (Q3) results were compared to the same quarter one year back. It explored the combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment (LU2), as well as the combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (LU3). Additionally, it looked at the composite measure of labour underutilization (LU4) that combines unemployment, time-related underemployment, and potential labour force.

The comparison of August 2025 (Q3) with the same quarter of the previous year reveals that Time-related underemployment (TRUR) remained almost stable, while LU2, LU3 and LU4 slightly declined by 1.5, 1.8 and 1.3 percentage points respectively. This indicates that although the labour market has recovered in terms of employment, there are still challenges in addressing labour underutilization, especially in terms of time-related underemployment.

Figure 2.2 Trends of labour underutilization



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

2.3. Rate of population outside the labour force

Figure 2.3 presents trends in the rates of the population outside the labour force, disaggregated by category. The results show that the rate of population outside labour force in August 2025 (Q3) slightly decreased by 1.7 percentage points, compared to the estimate for the same quarter in the previous year (August 2024).

Among the components of the population outside the labour force, available non-job seekers constitute a substantial category in Rwanda. A majority of the population in this category are primarily subsistence farmers. In August 2025 (Q3), the proportion of the working age population in this category remained stable compared to the estimate of the same quarter in the previous year (August 2024).

An important sub-category within available non-job seekers is discouraged jobseekers, these are people outside the labour force who did not “seek employment” for labour market-related reasons such as past failure to find a suitable job, lack of experience or required qualifications matching the person’s skills, lack of job opportunities in the area, being considered too young or too old by prospective employers. In August 2025 (Q3), the proportion of discouraged jobseekers within the working-age population also remained stable as compared to the same quarter one year back (August 2024).

Figure 2.3 Trends of outside labour force rate and potential labour force



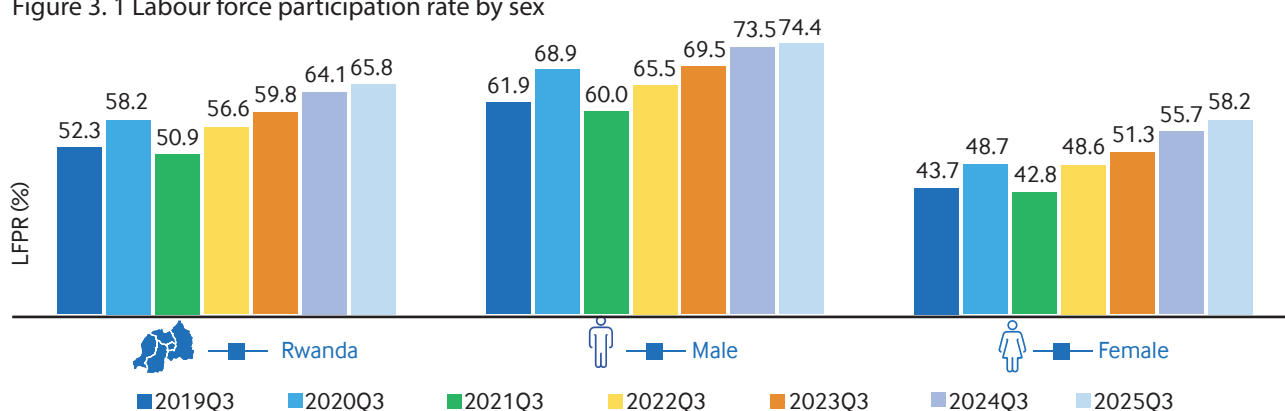
Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Characteristics of population in labour force

3.1. Labour force participation among males and females

The labour force participation rate, which is the ratio of the labour force to the working-age population expressed in percentage terms, increased in August 2025 (Q3) as compared to August 2024 (Q3). The rate also increased among females and males in the same period. Generally, the labour force participation rate is higher among males than females over time. In August 2025 (Q3), the gender gap in labour force participation rate was 16.2 percentage points and it decreased 1.6 percentage points as compared to the same quarter one year back (17.8 percentage points).

Figure 3. 1 Labour force participation rate by sex

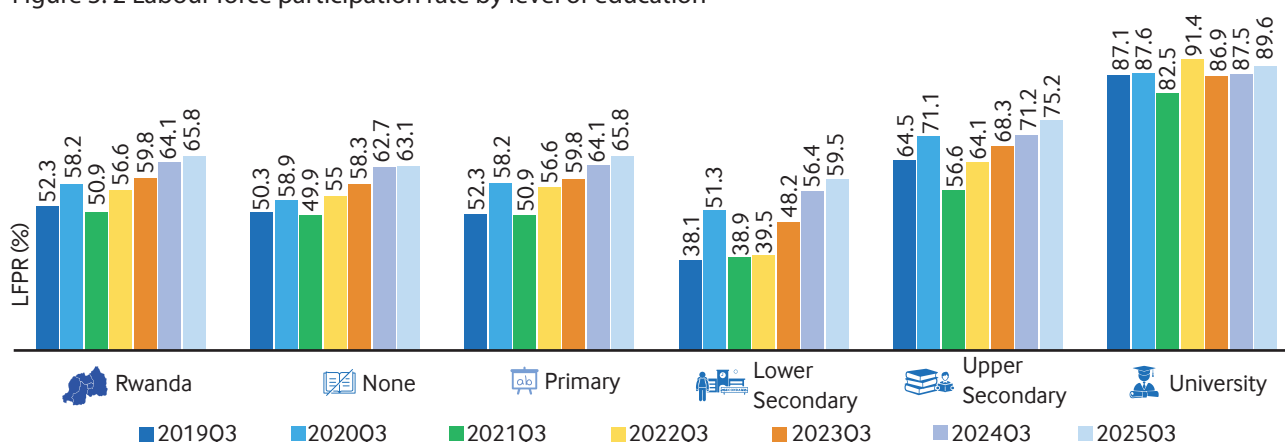


Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

3.2. Labour force participation by education

The analysis of the labour force participation rate by educational attainment shows that it was higher among those with relatively higher levels of education compared to those with lower levels of education over time. A comparison of August 2025 (Q3) with August 2024 (Q3) shows that the labour force participation rate increased across all levels of education.

Figure 3. 2 Labour force participation rate by level of education

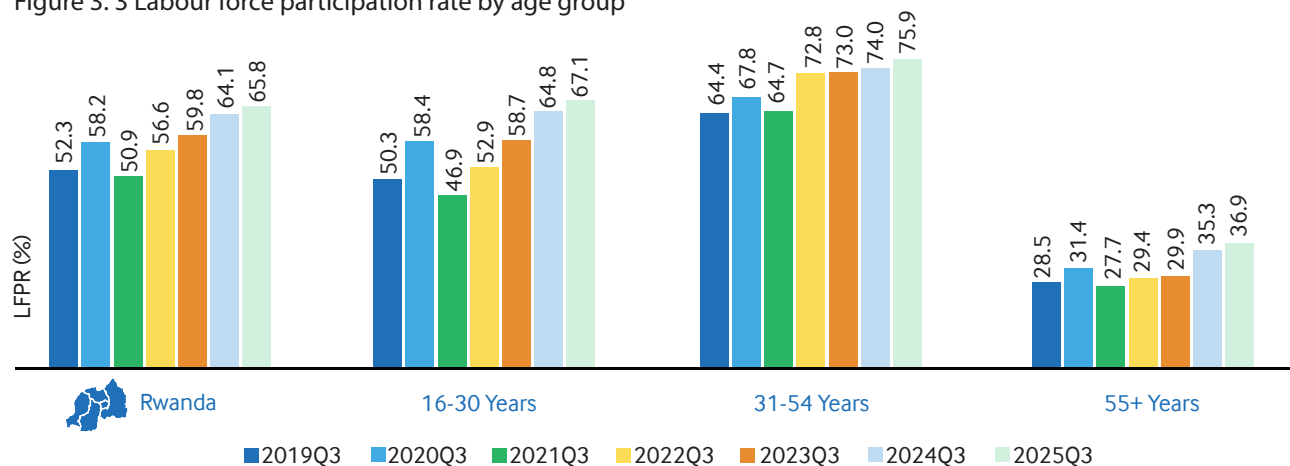


Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

3.3. Labour force participation by age group

In August 2025 (Q3), the labour force participation rate among youth aged 16 to 30 years old was 67.1%. It increased by 2.3 percentage points as compared to the same quarter one year back (August 2024), 1.9 percentage points among people aged 31 to 54 years old and 1.6 percentage points among those aged 55 years old and above. Generally, the labour force participation rate is higher among population aged 31-54 years old group compared to the remaining age groups.

Figure 3.3 Labour force participation rate by age group



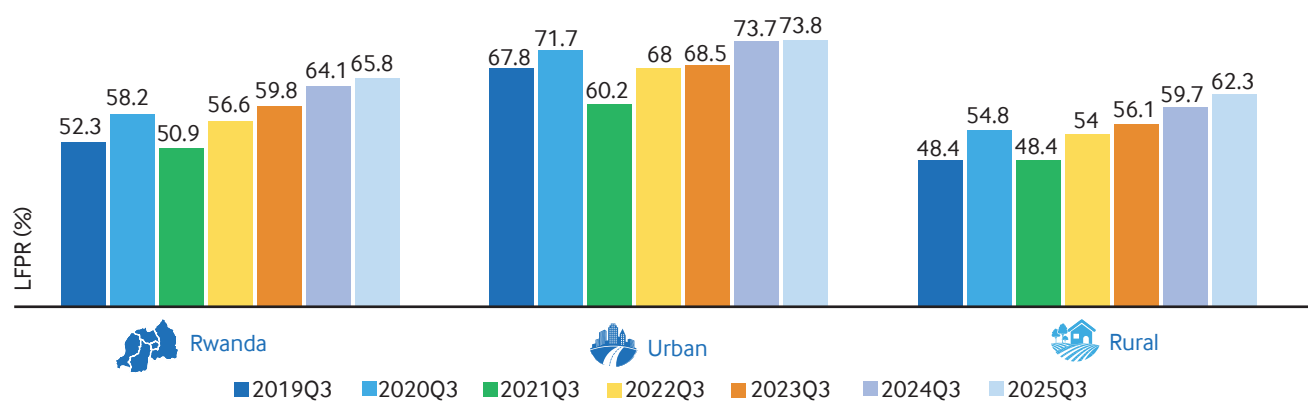
Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

3.4 Labour force participation by area of residence

Labour force participation rate by area of residence (urban and rural) was higher in urban areas compared to rural areas. This disparity may be attributed to the diversity of job opportunities available in urban areas as compared to rural areas and to the fact that most people in rural areas are involved in subsistence agriculture. The gap between the labour force participation rate in urban and rural areas decreased from 14 percentage points in August 2024 (Q3) to 11.5 percentage points in August 2025 (Q3).

The comparison of August 2025 (Q3) and August 2024 (Q3) reveals that the labour force participation rate increased by 2.6 percentage points in rural while it remained stable in urban areas.

Figure 3.4 Labour force participation rate by area of residence



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Characteristics of employed population

According to the resolution concerning statistics of work, employment, and labour underutilization as defined by the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), held in 1933, persons of working age are classified as employed if, during a short reference period of 7 days or one week,

- They did some work (even for just one hour) for profit or pay, in cash or in kind.
- They were attached to a job or had an enterprise from which they were ‘temporarily’ absent during this period.

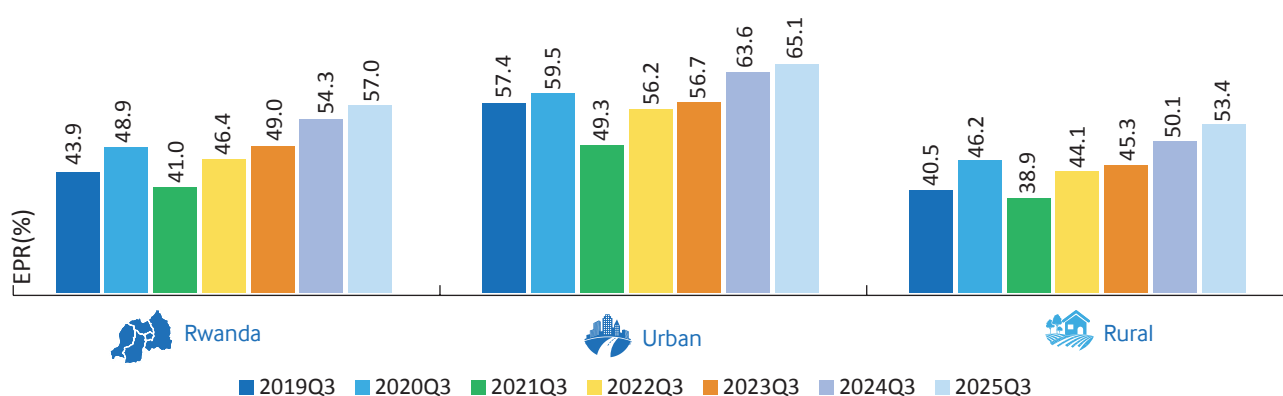
4.1 Employment to population ratio (EPR)

Aggregate employment generally increases with growing population. Therefore, the Employment to Population Ratio (EPR) serves as an indicator of how well the economy is creating income-generating jobs for persons in working age (16 years and above). It reflects the demand for labour in the economy, in terms of the number of workers.

An increase in the employment-to population ratio is often regarded as a sign of economic acceleration while a rise in total employment is considered as an indicator of economic stability. In August 2025, the Employment-to-population ratio was 57% which is 2.7 percentage points higher than the observed rate in August 2024. The employment to population ratio increased by 1.5 percentage points in urban areas and by 3.3 percentage point in rural areas in the same period.

It is observed that the employment-to-population ratio is generally higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas across all rounds of the labour force survey. The gap between the employment-to-population ratio in urban and rural areas remained significant in August 2025 (Q3) (11.7 percentage points), down from 13.5 percentage points observed in August 2024 (Q3).

Figure 4. 1: Employment to population ratio (EPR) by area of residence.

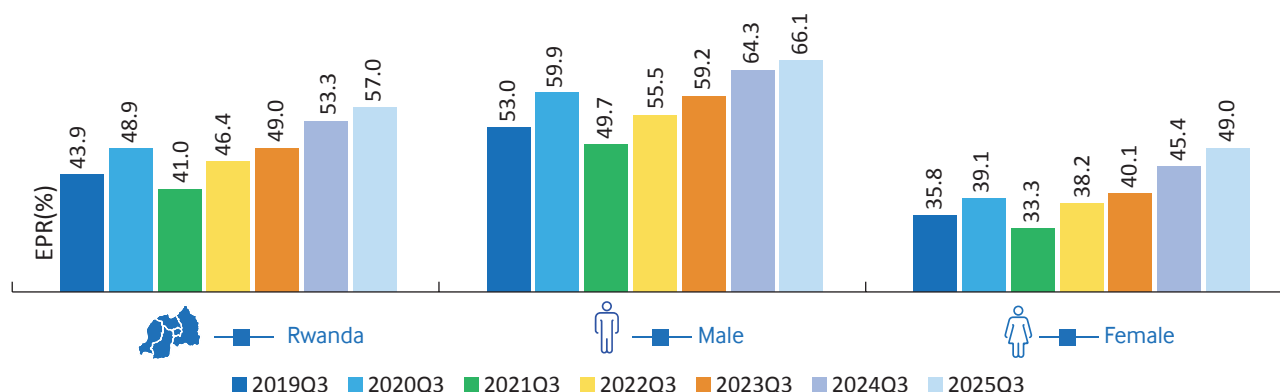


Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Figure 4.2 shows the trends in the employment-to-population ratio disaggregated by gender, revealing persistent gap between the employment-to-population ratio of males and females over time. In August 2025 (Q3) the employment-to-population ratio increased by 1.8 percentage points among males and 3.6 percentage points for females as compared to August 2024 (Q3).

The gender gap in employment to population ratio in August 2025 (Q3), remained significant (17.1 percentage points), but it decreased by 1.8 percentage points as compared to the same quarter in the previous year (18.9 percentage points).

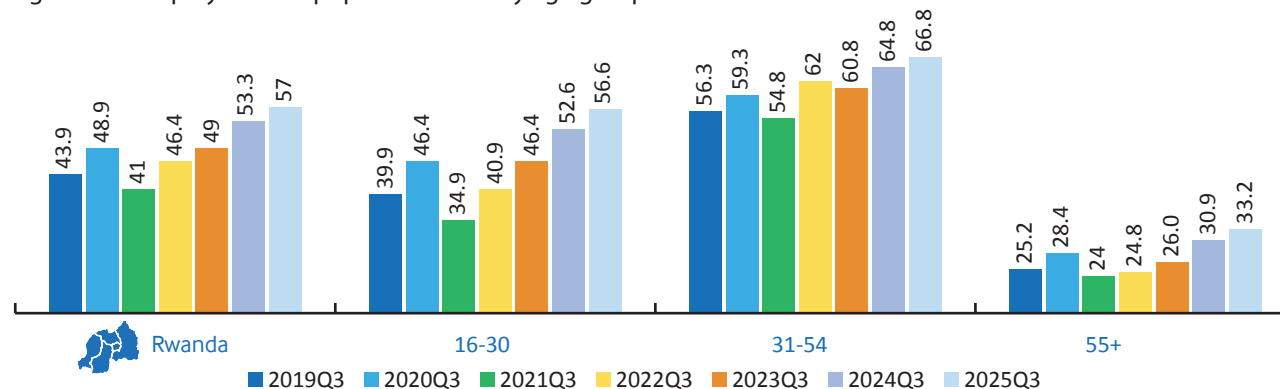
Figure 4. 2: Employment to population ratio by sex



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Figure 4.3 below shows the trend in the employment-to-population ratio by different age groups and there is a high gap between the employment-to-population ratio of youth and adults aged 31-54 years old over time. In August 2025 (Q3), the employment-to-population ratio increased by 2 percentage points among adults in age group 31-54, it also increased by 4 percentage points among youth when compared to August 2024 (Q3). The employment to population ratio among the population aged 55 years old and above increased by 2.3 percentage points in the same period and it is relatively lower compared to the other age groups, as some of the people in this age group are retiring.

Figure 4. 3: Employment to population ratio by age group.



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

4.2. Status in employment

Since the launch of the Rwanda Labour Force Survey in 2016, status in employment has been reported using International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93), which was adopted by the 15th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in January 1993. However, starting in February 2025, Rwanda through National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) adopted the updated international classification of status in employment (ICSE-18) which replaced the old one (ICSE-93).

The main changes compared to ICSE-93 are summarized as follows:

ICSE-18 comprises 10 employment status categories compared to the 5 categories in ICSE-93, to provide a more detailed and meaningful classification reflecting working relationships in the labour market. These 10 categories can be organized by the type of authority the worker is able to exercise or by the type of economic risk the worker is exposed to, as illustrated in the table below:

Table 4. 1: ICSE-18 versus ICSE-93

ICSE-18	ICSE-93
Independent workers	Self-employment jobs
Employers - Employers in Corporations - Employers in household market enterprises	Employers
Independent workers without employees Owner-operators of corporations without employees	
Own-account workers in household market enterprises without employees	Own-account workers
	Contributing family workers
	Members of producer cooperatives
Dependent workers	Paid employment Jobs
Dependent contractors	
Employees - Permanent employees - Fixed term employees - Short-term and casual employees - Paid apprentices	Employees
Contributing family workers	

Apart from providing more details on existing ICSE-93 categories, ICSE-18 also includes a new category named 'dependent contractors', while the former category 'Members of producer cooperatives' is not recognized as an employment category in ICSE-18.

Dependent contract can be defined as an employed person who is not an employee but also not fully independent worker. They are classified in between of both categories. They are not employees because they are working under contractual arrangement and receive a compensation that is not a wage or salary, and they are not benefiting any social security protection from their so called employers. They are not classified as self-employed because they are not fully independent in their work as they may depend on a single main client for their income, do not have any authority to make strategic decision about the business or are subject to major economic dependency and operational control by other person or entity.

The design of LFS allows the production of status in employment based on both standards (ICSE-93 and ICSE-18) mainly to allow readers understand the effect of dependent contractor category on the former distribution of employed population according to status in employment based on ICSE-93.

The results in Table 4.2 below present the distribution of employed population (,000) by status in employment according to ICSE-93. In August 2025 (Q3) the number of employed populations increased by 8.1 % as compared to August 2024 (Q3). It is observed that the category of employees and paid apprentices recorded the highest share of employment across all rounds of the labour force survey followed by own-account workers and contributing family workers. In August 2025 (Q3), the number of employees and paid apprentices increased by 6 % as compared to August 2024 (Q3). The number of own account worker (without regular employees) increased by 7.6 % while the number of contributing family workers increased by 31.6 %.

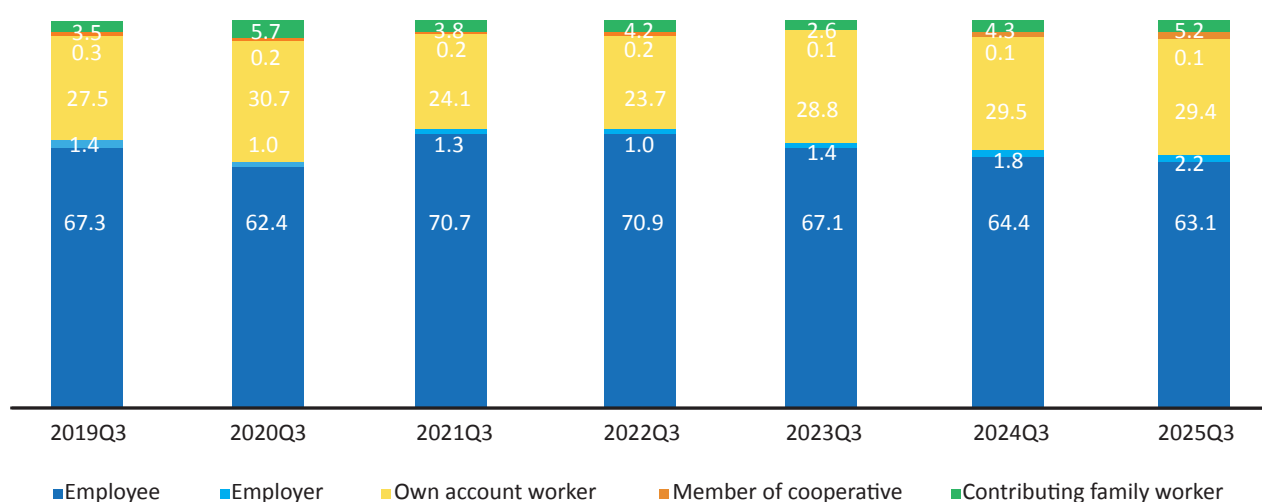
Table 4. 2: Distribution of employed population (,000) by status in employment as per ICSE-93

Status in employment	2019Q3	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q3	2025Q3	% change 2024Q3- 2025Q3
Total	3,153	3,668	3,179	3,711	3,972	4,523	4,889	8.1%
Employee	2,121	2,288	2,248	2,630	2,664	2,911	3,085	6.0%
Employer	45	37	40	39	56	80	108	34.3%
Own account worker	867	1,126	766	879	1,145	1,335	1,437	7.6%
Member of cooperative	10	6	6	6	5	3	3	5.2%
Contributing family worker	110	210	120	157	101	195	256	31.6%

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Figure 4.4 reveals that the share of employees in August 2025(Q3) was 63.1 % while it was 29.4 % for own account workers. Compared with August 2024 (Q3), the share of employees decreased by 1.3 percentage points while the share of own account workers remained stable.

Figure 4. 4: Distribution of employed population (%) by status in employment as per ICSE-93



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Table 4.3 presents the number and percentage distribution of employed persons by status in employment, Sex and Residence area according to ICSE-18. The data indicated that as of August 2025 (Q3), employees accounted for the largest share at 57.7 % followed by independent worker without employees (28.2 %), Dependent contractors (8.2 %), Contributing family workers (3.4 %) and employers (2.4%).

Employees remained the largest employment category across all groups, accounting for 59.8 % among males, 55.2 % among females, 56.9 % among urban areas and 58.2 % among rural areas. They were followed by independent worker without employees, comprising of 25.6% among males, females (31.4%), urban (28.3%) and rural (28.2%). Dependent contractors ranked third, representing 9.6% among males, females (6.7%), urban (8%) and rural (8.4%).

It is important to note that most of dependent contractors came from the employee's category, as the proportion of employees according to the new classification is 5.4 percentage points lower than the estimate according to the former classification.

Table 4.3: Number and percentage distribution of employed persons by status in employment (ICSE-18), Sex and Residence area

Status in employment (ICSE-18)	Number					%				
	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural
Total	4,888,921	2,666,343	2,222,578	1,725,393	3,163,528	100	100	100	100	100
Employers	115,204	69,870	45,335	66,010	49,194	2.4	2.6	2	3.8	1.6
Independent worker without employees	1,380,348	682,568	697,780	487,956	892,392	28.2	25.6	31.4	28.3	28.2
Dependent contractors	403,024	254,791	148,233	138,747	264,277	8.2	9.6	6.7	8	8.4
Employees	2,822,096	1,595,546	1,226,551	982,486	1,839,610	57.7	59.8	55.2	56.9	58.2
Contributing family workers	168,248	63,569	104,679	50,195	118,054	3.4	2.4	4.7	2.9	3.7

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS-2025-Q3)

4.3. Main occupation

According to the results shown in Table 4.4, the group of elementary occupations maintained the highest share of employment, followed by service and sales workers, across all rounds of the labour force survey. Furthermore, the results indicate that in August 2025 (Q3), the total employment increased by 8.1 %, and almost all occupational groups increased compared to August 2024 (Q3) except the group of professional and Craft and related trades workers which decreased by 5.3 % and 1.3 % respectively. Among the occupations with at least 5% of total employment, the highest increase was observed in Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers (29.5%), Service and sales workers (15.3%).

Table 4.4: Distribution of employed population (,000) by occupations

Major Occupation group	2019Q3	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q3	2025Q3	%change 2024Q3-2025Q3
Total	3,153	3,668	3,179	3,711	3,972	4,523	4,889	8.1%
Managers	48	38	32	38	38	43	55	26.2%
Professionals	190	174	179	216	259	285	270	-5.3%
Technicians and associate professionals	53	56	41	47	29	73	92	26.1%
Clerical support workers	29	37	25	38	30	42	43	4.0%
Service and sales workers	612	752	478	469	721	902	1041	15.3%
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	200	291	204	248	184	280	362	29.5%
Craft and related trades workers	276	423	277	372	366	456	450	-1.3%
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	93	99	84	78	110	157	164	4.5%
Elementary occupations	1652	1797	1859	2206	2236	2286	2412	5.5%

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

4.4. Main Economic activity

According to the results in Table 4.5 below, the bulk of employed population was engaged in agriculture, forestry, and fishing (35.1%) in August 2025 (Q3). Other sectors that employed a substantial number of populations were wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (15.6%), construction (11.3%), transportation and storage (7%), manufacturing (6.4 %), accommodation and food services activities (4.1%) and education (4.0 %).

Table 4. 5: Percentage distribution of employed population by branch of economic activity.

ISIC High level	2019Q3	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q3	2025Q3
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	35.2	32.5	44.6	45.6	37.4	32.6	35.1
Mining and quarrying	2.4	1.8	1	1.4	1.3	1.8	1.9
Manufacturing	7.1	8.1	5.6	6.5	6.2	6.9	6.4
Electricity gas stream and air conditioning supply	0.2	0.2	0.3	0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Water supply, gas, and remediation services	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0	0.1	0.2
Construction	11.5	15.7	13.6	12.5	14	13.1	11.3
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	14.7	16.6	12.2	9.8	13.7	15.1	15.6
Transportational and storage	4.8	4.1	4.7	5.4	6.7	7.2	7.0
Accommodation and food services activities	3.1	3.3	1.1	2	3	3.8	4.1
Information and communication	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Financial and insurance activities	1.1	1	0.9	0.7	1	0.9	0.8
Real estate activities	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Professional, scientific, and technical activities	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.8	0.9
Administrative and support activities	1.4	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.7	2.2	2.0
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.7	1.7
Education	3.7	2.5	3.3	3.3	4.1	4.1	4.0
Human health and social work activities	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.3	1	1.4	1.0
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	0.3	0.2	0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Other services	2.4	2.3	3	2.6	2.9	3.7	3.8
Activities of households as employers	6.5	4.7	3.7	4	4.3	3.8	3.5
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0.7	0.1	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

The results in Table 4.6 reveals that in August 2025 (Q3), the number of employed populations within 14 branches of economic activity increased as compared to August 2024 (Q3). The increase among the economic activities with at least 5 percentage of the total employment was observed in agriculture forestry and fishing (16.2 %), wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (11.5 %), transportation and storage (4 %) and manufacturing (1 %).

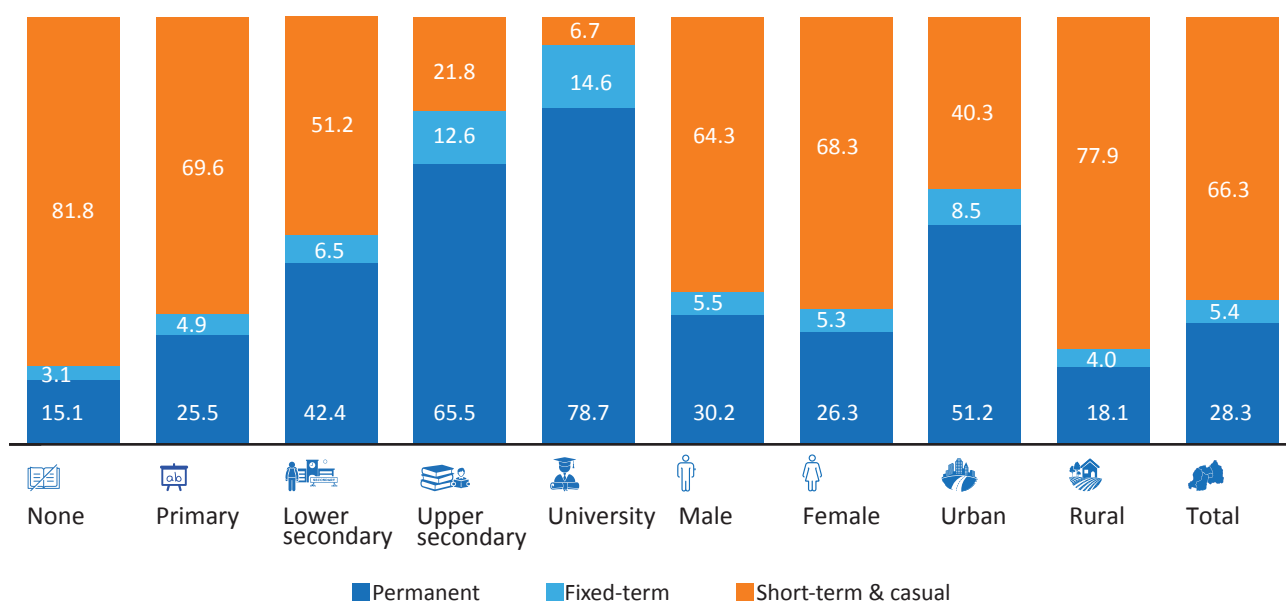
Table 4. 6: Distribution of employed population by economic activities (,000)

ISIC High level	2019Q3	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q3	2025Q3	%change 2024Q3- 2025Q3
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1110	1192	1419	1691	1485	1476	1714	16.2
Mining and quarrying	74	68	31	52	53	81	92	14.5
Manufacturing	225	298	177	240	247	312	315	1.1
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	7	8	8	2	2	3	1	-61.7
Water supply, gas, and remediation services	7	8	7	4	1	6	10	64.6
Construction	362	576	431	465	554	594	554	-6.7
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	464	609	387	364	545	685	763	11.5
Transportational and storage	150	150	148	201	266	327	340	4.0
Accommodation and food services activities	96	123	35	73	120	171	200	17.0
Information and communication	9	13	12	11	12	13	19	41.6
Financial and insurance activities	35	38	29	25	38	39	38	-2.5
Real estate activities	3	11	4	5	3	8	10	29.7
Professional, scientific, and technical activities	25	25	16	30	17	35	43	22.0
Administrative and support activities	44	77	51	57	66	97	96	-1.8
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	65	65	56	67	61	78	83	6.9
Education	118	92	105	121	164	187	196	4.9
Human health and social work activities	44	46	44	47	38	65	50	-23.5
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	10	9	2	8	8	6	7	16.5
Other services	75	86	96	95	117	167	184	10.3
Activities of households as employers	206	171	119	149	170	171	170	-0.6
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	22	4	2	5	4	3	3	-6.7

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

The figure 4.5 below shows that in August 2025 (Q3) most of employees (66.3 %) had short term or casual contract. This phenomenon is higher in rural areas (77.9 %) than urban areas of Rwanda (40.3 %). The results shows that females had more short term or casual contract (68.4 %) than males (64.3 %). It was also observed that the proportion of employees who have short term or casual contract decreases as the level of education gets higher.

Figure 4.5: Length of employment contract for LFS 2025 Q3 by sex, area of residence and level of education attained.

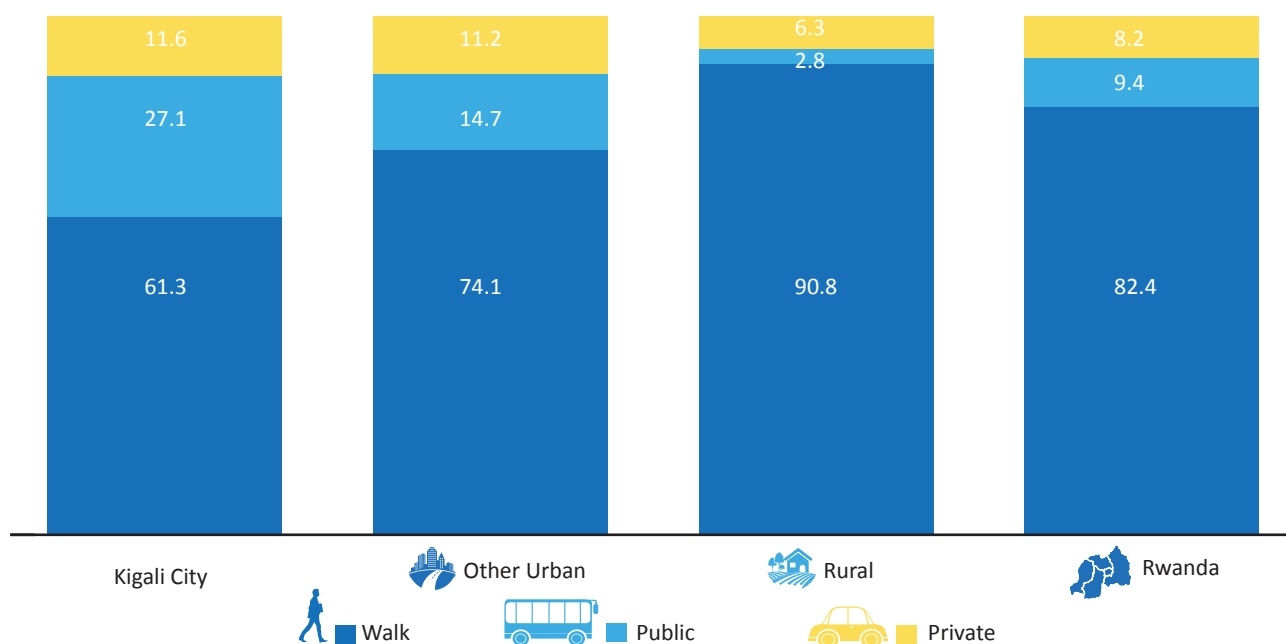


Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

4.5. Means of transport by areas of residence.

Figure 4.6 below shows the means of transport used by employed people for commuting to and from work. According to the results of August 2025 (Q3), 82.4 % of employed persons walk from home to work and back again, while only 9.4 % use public transport and 8.2 % rely on private transport. Furthermore, it demonstrates that 27.1 % of employed people who live in the City of Kigali use public transport while going to work and coming back home. This percentage remains higher in urban areas (14.7 %) and lower in rural areas (2.8 %) outside of Kigali.

Figure 4. 6: Means of transport to and from work for employed people by area of residence

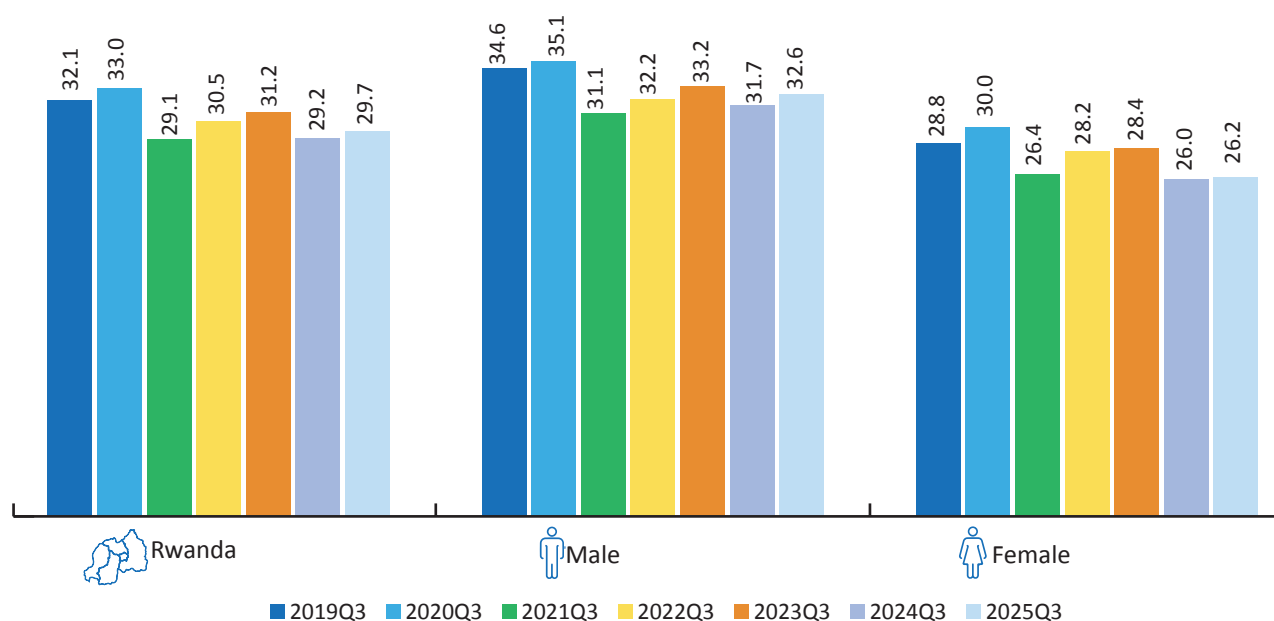


Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

4.6. Actual hours worked.

Figure 4.7 below shows the average number of hours worked during the reference week. It is observed that the actual worked hours in August 2025 (Q3) increased by 30 minutes as compared to August 2024 (Q3). There was also an increase in working hours among both males and females, 0.9 hours (54 minutes) and 0.2 hours (12 minutes) respectively from August 2024 to August 2025. Additionally, employed males worked around 6.4 hours more per week than employed females during the same period.

Figure 4.7: Average actual hours worked.



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Unemployment and Labour Underutilization population

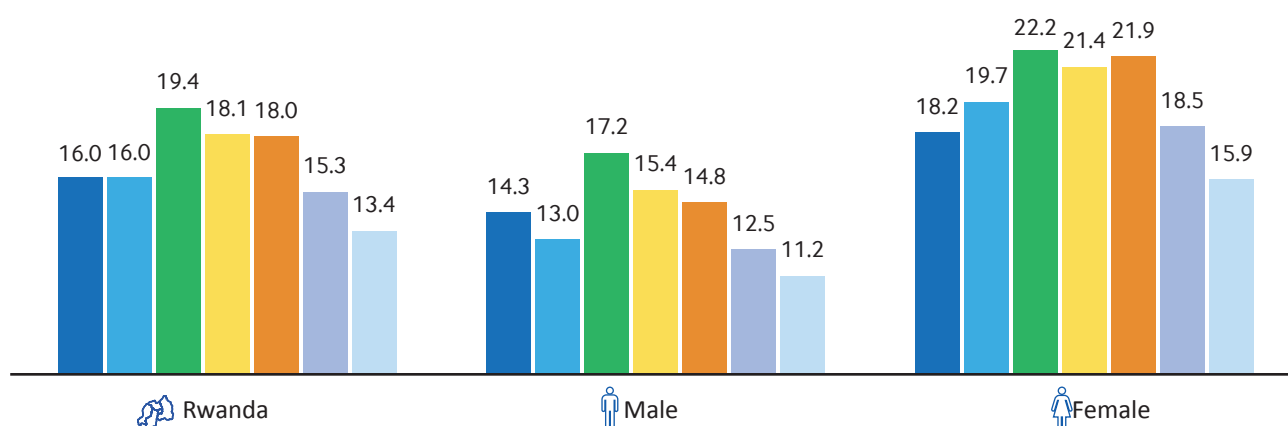
Unemployment is a particular form of labour underutilization reflecting the pressure on the labour market. It is measured in terms of number of persons without employment, actively seeking and available for employment. Labour underutilization refers to mismatch between labour supply and demand resulting into an unmet need for employment among the population. It includes unemployment, time-related underemployment, and potential labour force. Potential labour force refers to the population not in employment who express an interest in this form of work, but for whom existing conditions limit their active job search or their availability for employment.

5.1 Unemployment rate

The unemployment rate is defined as the ratio of the number of unemployed persons to the labour force. It is the most widely used indicator of the labour market and sometimes viewed in a general sense as an indicator of overall economic health, beyond just the labour market. According to the LFS results of August 2025 (Q3), the unemployment rate in Rwanda was 13.4 % and it decreased compared to 15.3 % observed in August 2024 (Q3).

Figure 5.1 below shows that the unemployment rate was higher among females (15.9%) compared to males (11.2 %) in August 2025 (Q3). The unemployment rate decreased by 1.3 percentage points among males and 2.6 percentage points among females in comparison with observed estimates in August 2024 (Q3).

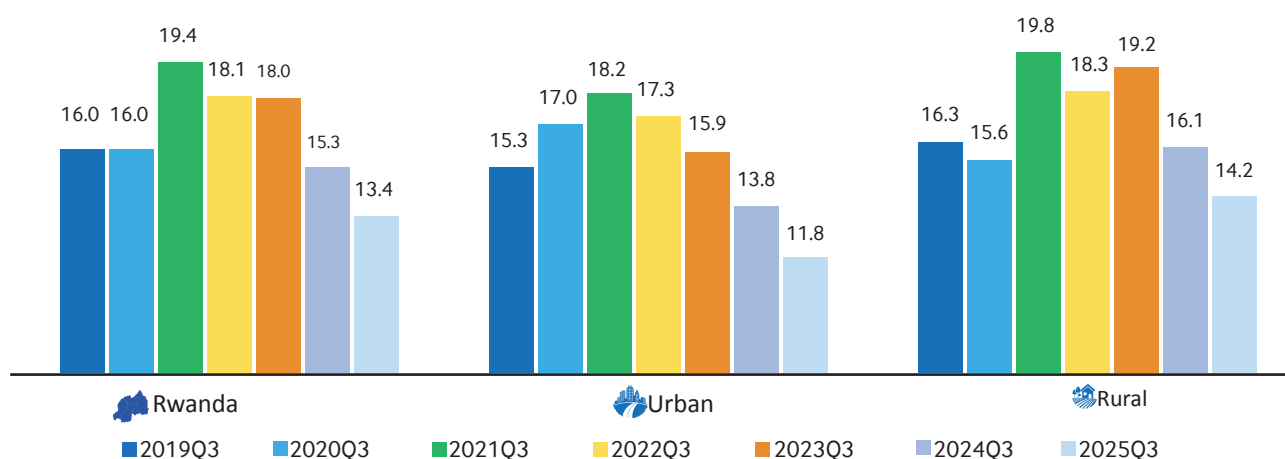
Figure 5. 1: Unemployment rate by sex.



National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Figure 5.2 shows that in August 2025, the unemployment rate was higher among the population living in rural areas as compared to those living in urban areas of Rwanda (14.2 % and 11.8 % respectively). The comparison between the current quarter with the same quarter in 2024 shows that the unemployment rate decreased by 1.9 percentage points among population living in rural areas and by 2 percentage points among population living in the urban areas of Rwanda.

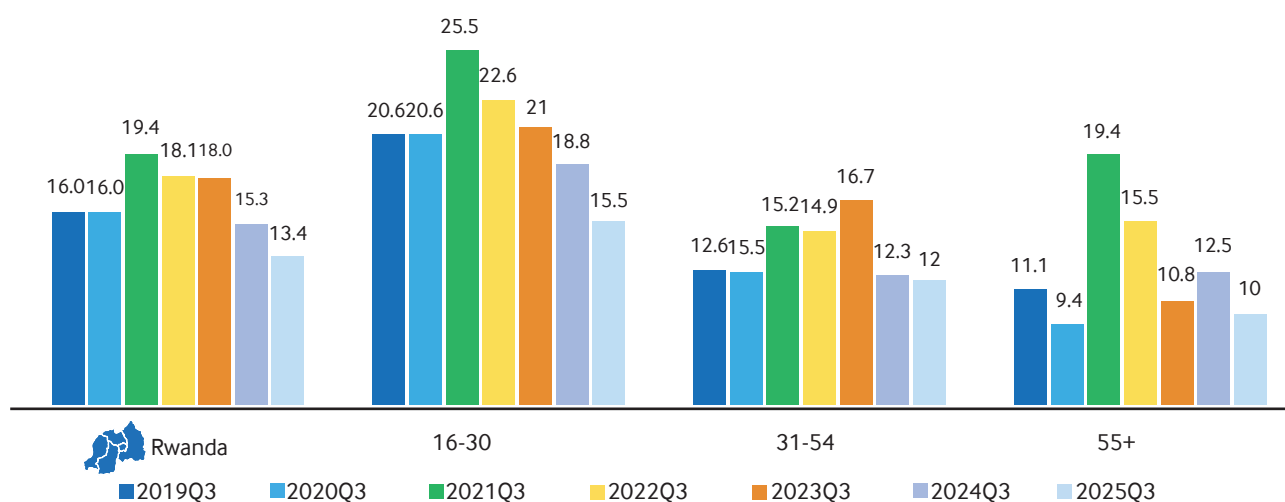
Figure 5. 2: Unemployment rate by area of residence.



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Figure 5.3 shows the trend of the unemployment rates across different age groups. In Rwanda, the youth population is defined as persons with 16 to 30 years of age. The results show that unemployment rate among youth has been relatively higher than the adult unemployment rate over time. A comparison between the current survey results and those obtained one-year back shows that the unemployment rate decreased by 3.3 percentage points among youth population, and 2.5 percentage points among adults aged 55 years and above while it remained stable among those 31-54 years.

Figure 5.3: Unemployment rate among youth and Adult



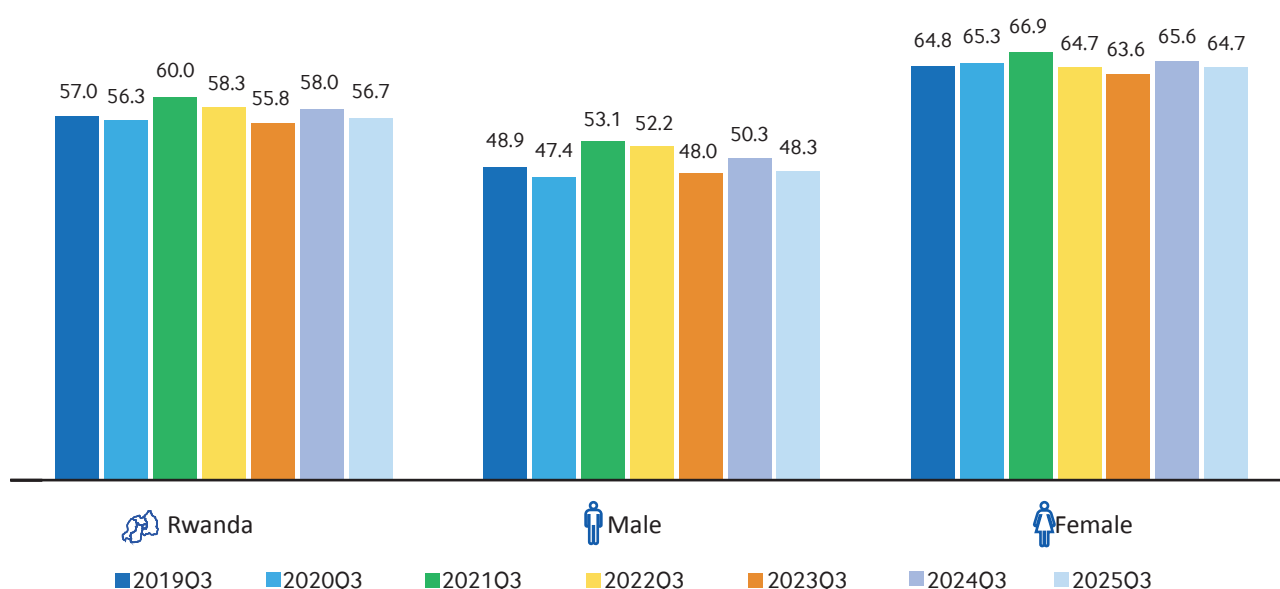
Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

5.2. Labour Underutilization

Labour underutilization includes unemployment, time-related underemployment, and potential labour force. Time-related underemployment refers to the situation when the working time of persons in employment is insufficient in relation to alternative employment situations in which they are willing and available to engage. Potential labour force is defined as all persons of working age outside the labour force who, during the reference period, were neither in employment nor in unemployment but who were considered as either (a) unavailable jobseekers (seeking employment but not currently available) or (b) available potential jobseekers (currently available for employment but did not carry out activities to seek employment).

The results presented in figure 5.4 illustrate that the composite measure of labour underutilization rate was 56.7 % in August 2025 (Q3), and it decreased by 1.3 percentage points compared to August 2024 (Q3) results. The labour underutilization rate was higher among females (64.7 %) than among males (48.3 %). It decreased by 2 and about 0.9 percentage point among males and females respectively, from August 2024 (Q3) to August 2025 (Q3).

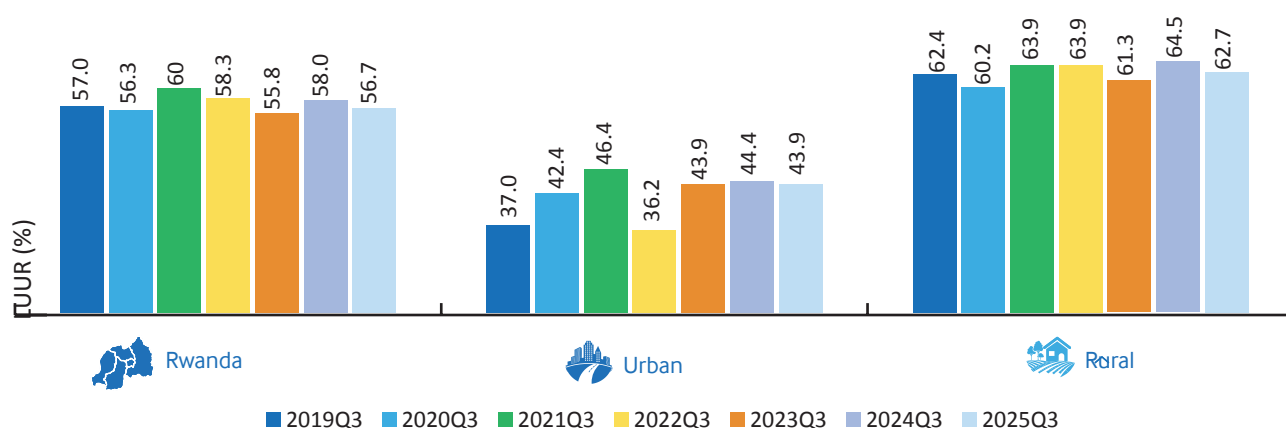
Figure 5. 4: Labour under-utilization rate by sex



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

The results presented in figure 5.5 below illustrate that the labour underutilization rate was higher among the population living in rural areas than those living in urban areas of Rwanda. The comparison of August 2025 (Q3) and August 2024 (Q3) reveals that the labour underutilization remained almost stable in urban areas and decreased by 1.8 percentage points among the population living rural areas.

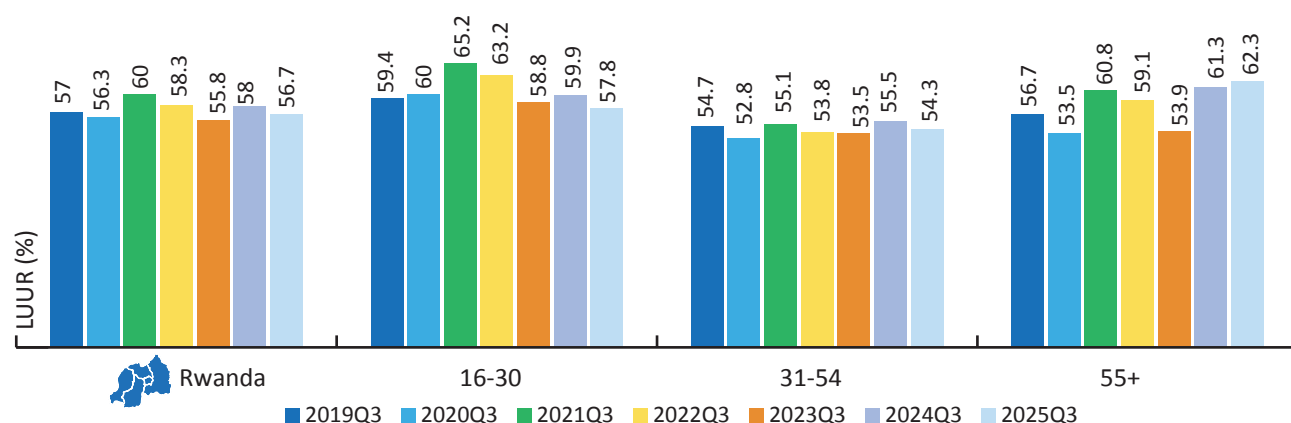
Figure 5.5: Labour under-utilization rate by area of residence.



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Figure 5.6 presents the results of the labour underutilization rate by age groups. It was observed that the labour underutilization rate among youth decreased by 2.1 percentage points from 59.9 % in August 2024 (Q3) to 57.8 % in August 2025 (Q3). The people aged 31-54 years experienced a decrease of 1.2 percentage points, while it increased by 1 percentage point among those aged 55 years and above.

Figure 5.6: Labour underutilization rate by Youth and Adult.

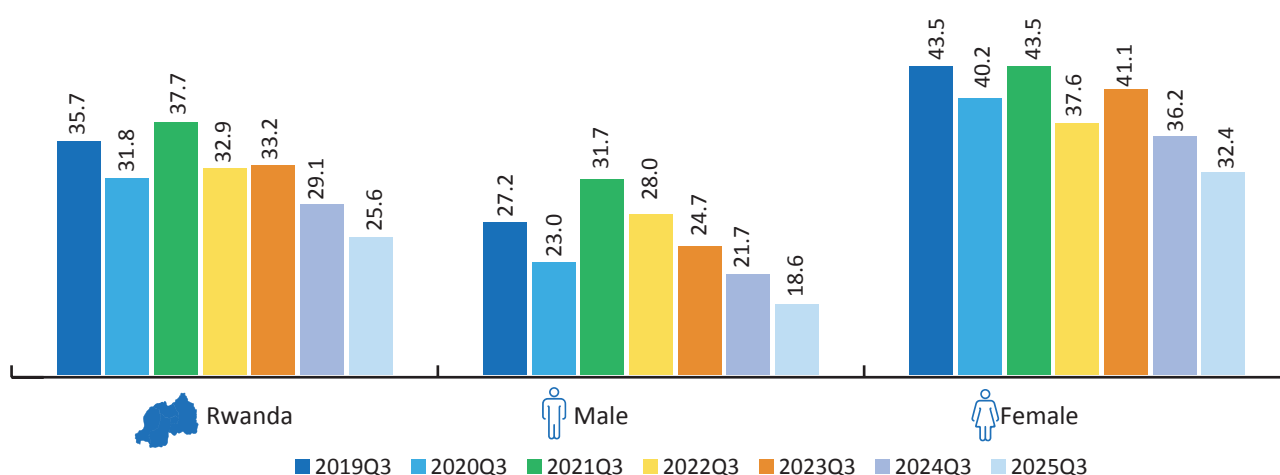


Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

5.3. Youth Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)

Participation in employment, education or training is important for youth in their transition to the labour market and helps in the achievement of self-reliance. In August 2025 (Q3), the full count of the young population aged 16-30 years, who were neither in employment nor in education or training was estimated to 944,943 persons. The share of youth (16-30 years) neither in employment nor in education or training (NEET) was 25.6 % in August 2025 (Q3), with a higher rate among females (32.4 %) than males (18.6%). Comparing the current NEET rate with the results of the same quarter one year earlier, the NEET rate decreased by 3.5 percentage points at the national level. Similarly, it decreased by 3.1 and 3.8 percentage points among the male and female populations respectively.

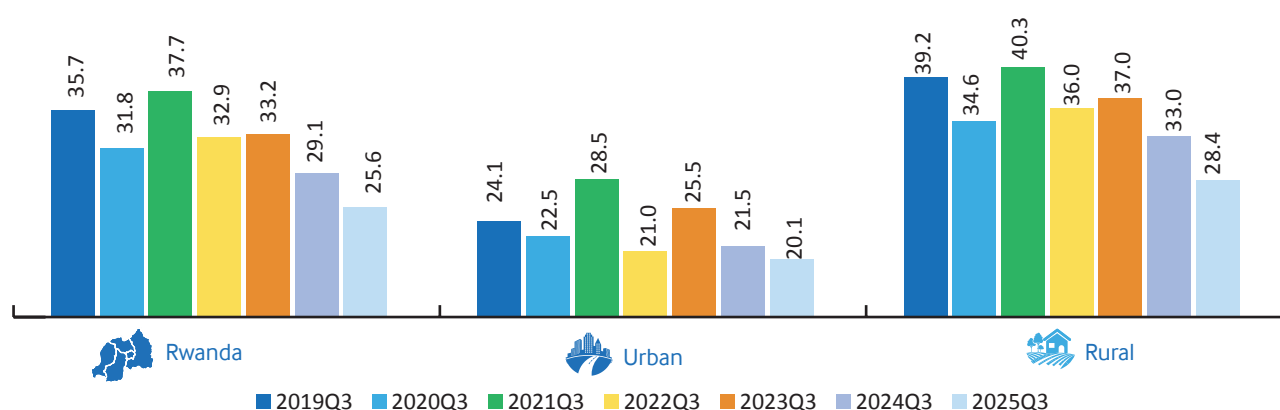
Figure 5.7: NEET rate trend by sex



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Regarding the area of residence, the NEET rate was higher in rural areas (28.4 %) than in urban areas (20.1 %) in August 2025(Q3). The comparison of August 2025 (Q3) and the same quarter one year back shows that among the youth population living in urban areas, NEET rate decreased by 1.4 percentage points and 4.6 percentage points among youth population living in rural areas.

Figure 5.8: NEET rate trend by area of residence



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Population outside the Labour Force

The population outside the labour force constitutes a large part of the working age population. It includes population engaged exclusively in activities for producing goods or services such as subsistence production of goods, own use production of services, volunteer production of goods or services and unpaid trainee or apprentice work who have not carried out any activity for pay or profit during the reference period. It also includes students who are enrolled in schools, persons who currently do not seek for employment opportunities (not job seekers) such as discouraged job seekers. A notable characteristic of countries with large subsistence foodstuff production is the substantial proportion of the working-age population that remains outside the labour force, which can result in a relatively smaller labour force.

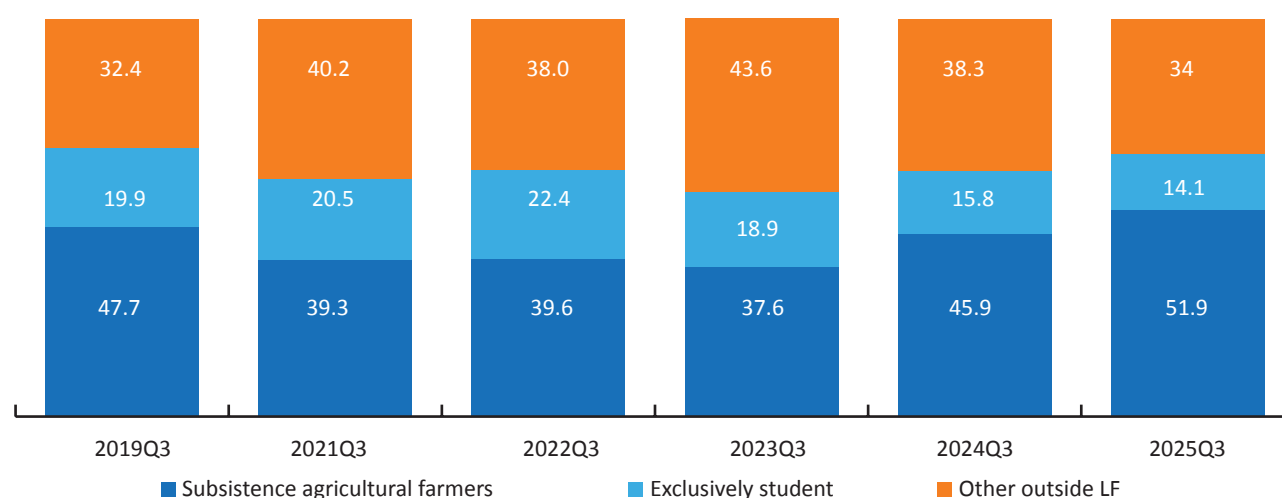
The population outside the labour force stood at 34.2% of the working age population. The comparison of the current population outside labour force with the estimated value in the same quarter one year back reveals that it decreased by 1.7 percentage points.

6.1 Main components of population outside the labour Force

The population outside labour force comprises three important components, namely, students, persons involved in subsistence agriculture and other outside labour force including largely population who are available for work but not actively seeking employment, retired persons, people unable to work because of illness or disability.

Figure 6.1 presents the main components of the population outside the labour force. In August 2025 (Q3), the population outside the labour force engaged in subsistence agriculture represented 51.9 %, students exclusively accounted for 14.1% while the remaining 34% fell into other categories. The comparison with the same quarter one year earlier reveals some changes in the distribution of the population outside labour force where the share of other outside labour force and exclusively student decreased respectively by 4.3 and 1.7 percentage points while the share among subsistence agriculture increased by 6 percentage points.

Figure 6. 1: Main components of Persons outside the labour force



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

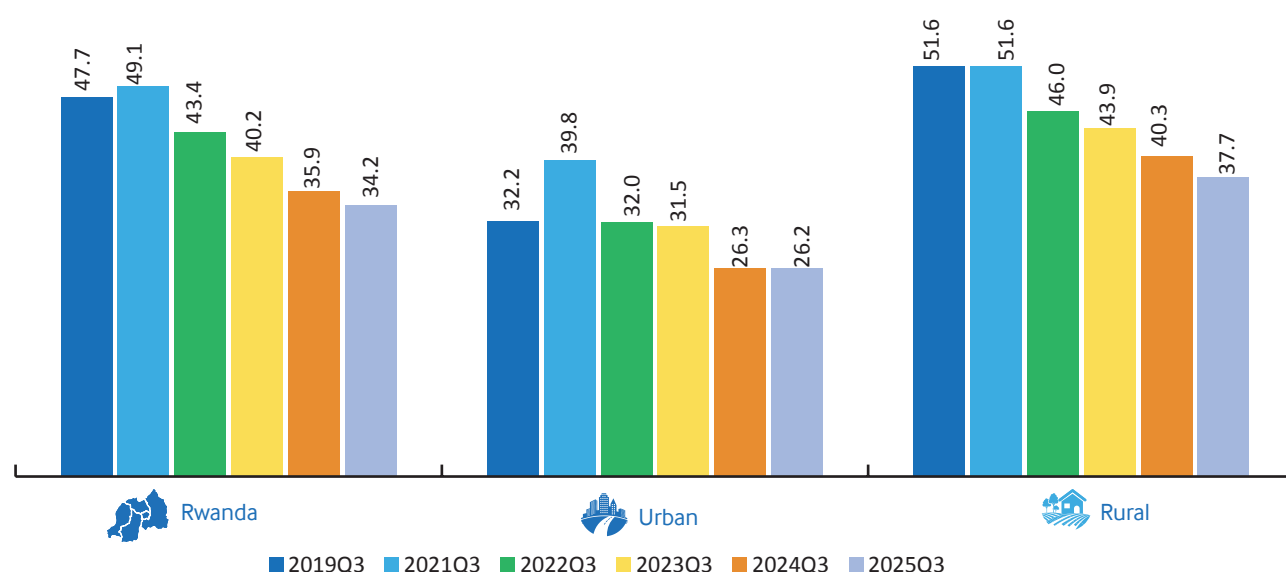
6.2. Population outside the labour force by area of residence

Figure 6.2 presents the distribution of working age population percentage outside the labour force at the national level and in both urban and rural areas.

A comparison between August 2025 (Q3) and August 2024 (Q3) shows that the proportion of the population outside the labour force decreased at national level and in rural areas respectively by 1.7 and 2.6, while it remained relatively stable in urban areas.

From figure 6.2, rural areas demonstrated higher proportions of the population outside the labour force than urban areas. In August 2025 (Q3), the urban-rural areas gap was around 11.5 percentage points compared to 14 percentage points recorded in August 2024 (Q3), indicating a decrease of 2.5 percentage points.

Figure 6. 2: Population outside Labour force by Area of residence

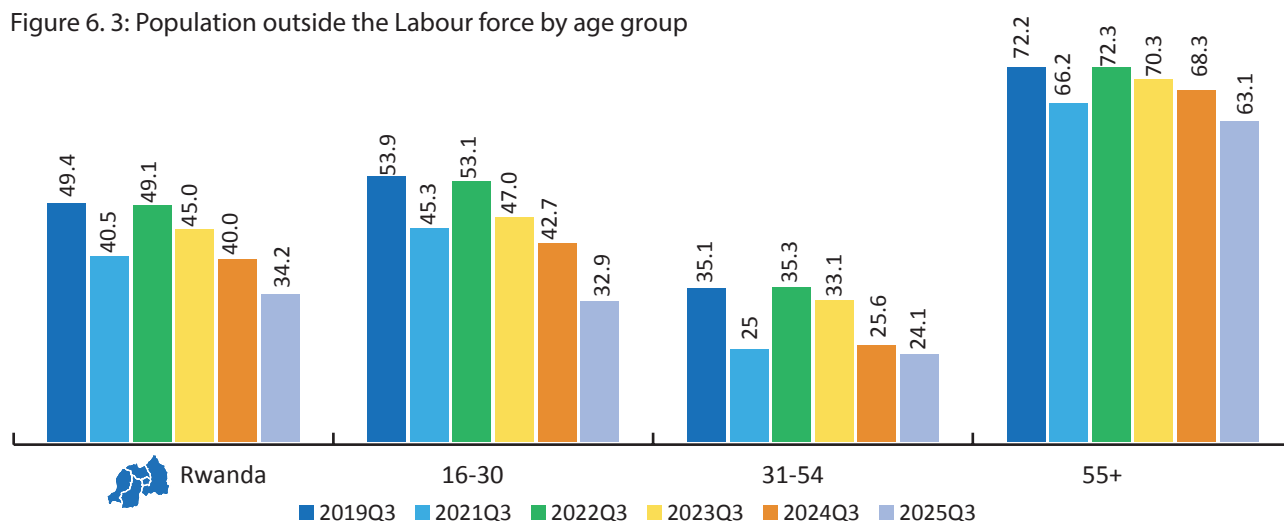


Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

6.3. Population outside the labour force by age group

Figure 6.3 illustrates the rate of the population outside the labour force by age groups. The results indicate that the rate is higher among the population with advanced age (55+ years), which can be partly attributed to retirement. In August 2025 (Q3), the rate among youth (16-30 years) was higher than the rate among those aged 31-54 years (32.9 % and 24.1% respectively). From August 2024 to August 2025, the proportion of population outside the labour force decreased among all age groups. In the age groups 16-30, 31-54 and 55+, it decreased by 9.8, 1.5 and 5.2 percentage points respectively.

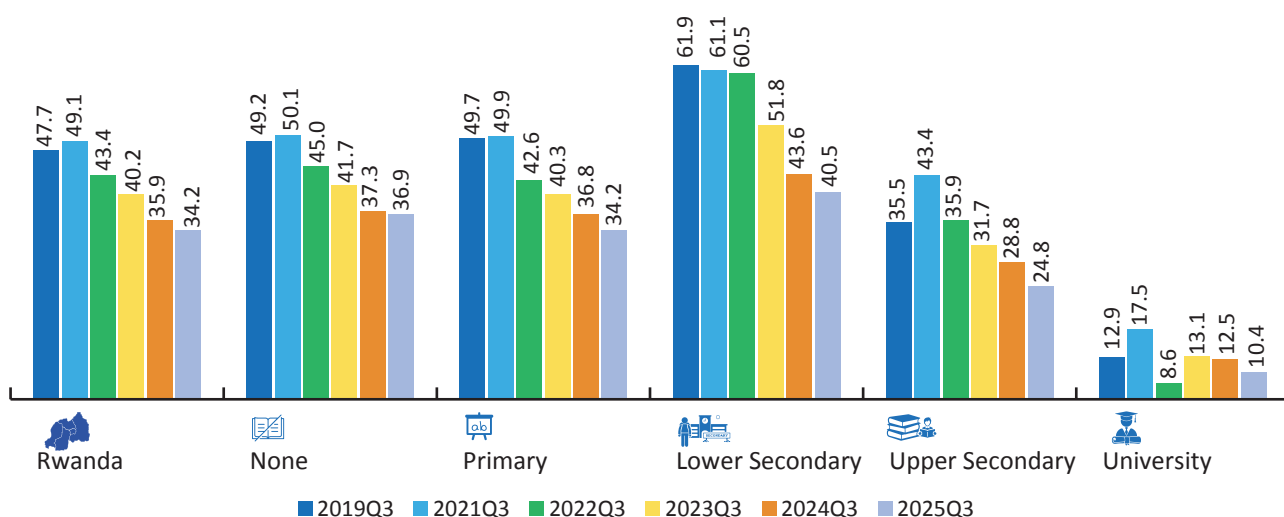
Figure 6. 3: Population outside the Labour force by age group



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

6.4. Population outside the labour force by level of educational attainment

According to the findings in the figure 6.4, people with higher educational attainment had a lower fraction of the working-age population outside the labour force than people with lower levels of education. The highest fraction of population in the outside labour force was observed among those with lower secondary level of education. From 2024 (Q3) to 2025 (Q3), the rate of population outside the labour force remained approximately stable among none educated, while it decreased in primary, lower secondary, upper secondary and university levels respectively by 2.6, 3.1, 4 and 2.1 percentage points. Figure 6. 4: Population outside the Labour force by Education level attained.



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Due to the importance of the agriculture sector for the Rwandan economy, special attention has been given to it in this report. The introduction of the 2013 standards on work, employment and labour underutilization statistics divided workers in agriculture occupation into two categories: market oriented and non-market-oriented workers. Workers in the former category are considered as employed while those in latter are not. In this report, all parts are consolidated to facilitate a holistic analysis of the agriculture sector.

7.1. Agricultural status of workers

Three categories of agricultural workers can be distinguished:

- those who worked exclusively in market-oriented agriculture for pay or as self-employed individuals.
- those who are only engaged in subsistence agriculture.
- those whose primary occupation was outside of agriculture but who performed activities related to the production of food for their own consumption.

The full count of workers in the agriculture sector (market oriented and in subsistence agriculture) are presented in table 7.1. The findings show that in August 2025 (Q3), 52.7 % of the working age population were involved in agriculture activities, marking an increase of 4.2 percentage points as compared to August 2024 (Q3) (48.5%). The share of persons who exclusively participated in subsistence agriculture remained almost stable. Similarly, the share of those involved in subsistence agriculture as a secondary work remained stable while the share of those involved in market-oriented agriculture increased by 1.5 percentage points compared to August 2024 (Q3) during the same period.

Table 7. 1: Works status in agriculture

Categories of agriculture	2019Q3	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q3	2025Q3
Market oriented agriculture as main job (a)	31	32.2	39.7	43.3	43	36.5	38
Subsistence agriculture exclusively (b)	54	51.3	51	45.5	44.9	43.3	42.6
Participated in Subsistence agriculture but have non-agriculture as main job (c)	14.9	16.5	9.3	11.1	12.1	20.2	19.4
Total (100%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Count ('000s)	3,575	3,698	3,578	3,901	3,451	4,045	4,515
Proportion of working age population involved in agriculture	49.8	49.3	46.2	48.8	42.6	48.5	52.7

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Note: The proportion computed here is subject to the agriculture workers not to the employed population.

7.2. Characteristics of agricultural workers

The section focuses on workers primarily engaged in market-oriented agriculture and those exclusively involved in subsistence agriculture. The results reveal that a bulk of agricultural workers were involved in subsistence agriculture with a higher proportion observed among female farmers compared to their male counterparts.

In August 2025 (Q3), the share of agricultural workers engaged in subsistence agriculture was 52.9 % and it declined by 1.4 percentage points compared to August 2024 (Q3). The proportion of male farmers engaged in market-oriented agriculture was 52.6 % in August 2025 (Q3), it was higher than the corresponding proportion of females involved in the same activity (43.7%). Conversely, the proportion of female farmers engaged in subsistence agriculture was higher than male farmers at 56.3 % and 47.5 %, respectively.

The results reveal that the engagement of male farmers in market-oriented agriculture remained relatively stable between August 2024 and August 2025 while it increased by 2.4 percentage points among female farmers in the same period.

Table 7. 2: Trend of proportion of agricultural workers by sex.

		LFS rounds						
		2019Q3	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q3	2025Q3
Both	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Market oriented agriculture	36.5	38.6	43.7	48.8	48.9	45.7	47.1
	Subsistence agriculture	63.5	61.4	56.3	51.2	51.1	54.3	52.9
Male	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Market oriented agriculture	43.7	45.1	50.3	55.4	56.3	52.4	52.6
	Subsistence agriculture	56.3	54.9	49.7	44.6	43.7	47.6	47.5
Female	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Market oriented agriculture	32.1	34.5	38.9	44.0	44.5	41.3	43.7
	Subsistence agriculture	67.9	65.5	61.1	56.1	55.6	58.7	56.3

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Table 7.3 presents the trend of the share of market oriented and subsistence agricultural workers among youth and adult separately. In August 2025 (Q3), the share of adults engaged in subsistence agriculture was higher than that of youth population in the same activity (53.3% and 50% respectively). The share of subsistence agriculture for both Youth and adults declined by 1.9 and 2.4 percentage points respectively from August 2024 (Q3) to August 2025 (Q3).

Table 7. 3: Trend of proportion of agricultural workers by age group

		LFS rounds						
		2019Q3	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q3	2025Q3
Both	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Market oriented agriculture	36.5	38.6	43.7	48.8	48.9	45.7	47.1
	Subsistence agriculture	63.5	61.4	56.3	51.2	51.1	54.3	52.9
Youth (16-30)	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Market oriented agriculture	37.5	38.3	44.8	51.6	53.7	48.1	47.9
	Subsistence agriculture	62.5	61.7	55.3	48.4	46.3	51.9	50.0
Adults (31+)	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Market oriented agriculture	36.0	38.8	43.1	47.4	46.8	44.3	46.7
	Subsistence agriculture	64.0	61.2	56.9	52.6	53.2	55.7	53.3

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

As presented in table 7.4, the distribution of agricultural workers by educational attainment, shows that individuals with higher levels of education are less likely to engage in agricultural activities for both market-oriented and subsistence agriculture.

Table 7. 4: Trend of proportion of agricultural workers by level of education attainment

		LFS Rounds						
		2019Q3	2020Q3	2021Q3	2022Q3	2023Q3	2024Q3	2025Q3
Both	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	None	62.7	55.5	56.3	57.5	58.5	57.2	57.0
	Primary	30.8	34.9	33.7	34.1	32.9	32.4	31.4
	Lower secondary	3.6	5.2	5.7	5.1	5.9	6.7	7.3
	Upper secondary	2.7	3.9	3.8	3.0	2.6	3.4	3.8
	University	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5
Market oriented agriculture	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	None	69.1	59.7	62.2	61.5	63.7	63.4	61.3
	Primary	26.2	33.5	30.7	32.2	31.2	28.0	29.3
	Lower secondary	3.2	3.6	4.3	4.4	3.6	5.4	6.4
	Upper secondary	1.3	2.8	2.6	1.6	1.4	2.6	2.7
	University	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.5
Subsistence agriculture	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	None	58.1	52.9	51.8	53.7	53.4	52.0	53.2
	Primary	34.0	35.8	36.0	35.9	34.7	36.0	33.4
	Lower secondary	4.3	6.2	6.8	5.7	8.0	7.8	8.1
	Upper secondary	3.4	4.6	4.8	4.4	3.7	4.2	4.9
	University	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5

Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

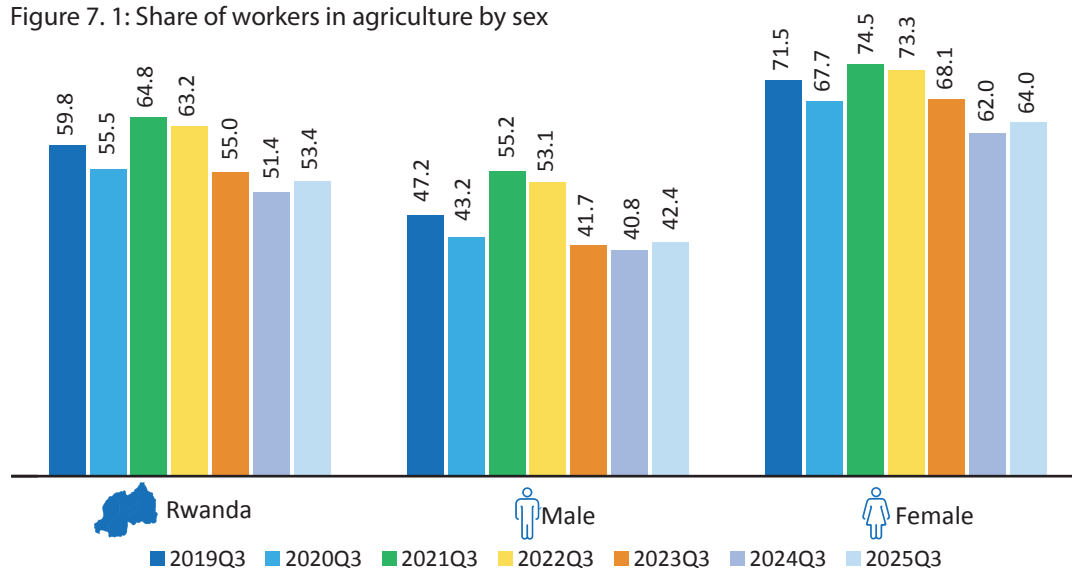
7.3. Share of agriculture in the total work force

The total workforce is defined as the sum of all individuals engaged in paid or profit-oriented employment, including those working in subsistence agriculture. Therefore, the share of agricultural workers in the total workforce refers to the proportion of individuals employed in agriculture relative to the entire workforce.

As shown in Figure 7.1, the proportion of agricultural workers in the workforce for August 2025 (Q3) was 53.4 %. This share was significantly higher among females, with 64 %, compared to 42.4 % of males.

The comparison of LFS 2025(Q3) results with the results observed in the same quarter of the previous year shows that the proportion of agricultural workers increased by 2 percentage points at the national level, 1.6 percentage points among males, and 2 percentage points among females.

Figure 7. 1: Share of workers in agriculture by sex

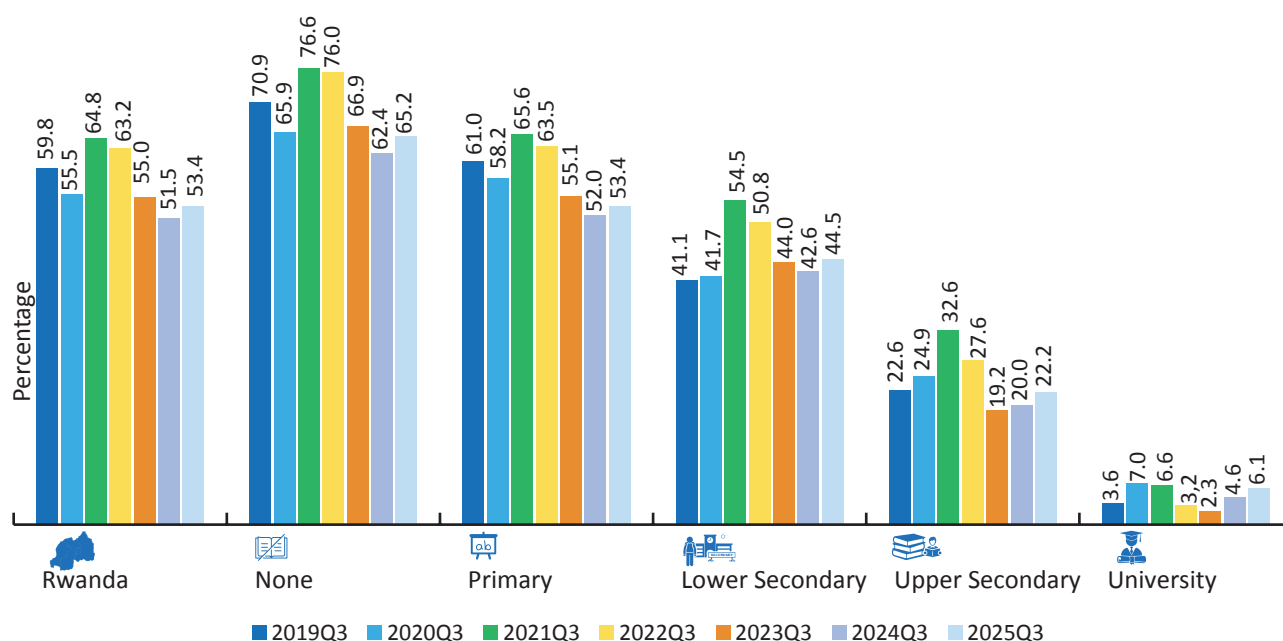


Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

The share of agriculture workers in the total workforce is inversely correlated with educational attainment. Persons with lower levels of education are more likely to engage in agricultural work compared to those with higher educational qualifications.

The result reveals an increase trend in the share of agricultural workers across all education levels compared to the same quarter one year earlier.

Figure 7. 2: Share of workers in agriculture by level of education attained.



Source: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Standard errors, 95% confidence intervals, coefficient of variation (CV) and design effect of selected main labour force indicators.

A.1: Unemployment rate according to sex, age, education, and areas of residence.

	Estimate (%)	Std. error (%)	95%CI lower bound	95%CI upper bound	CV	Design effect
Unemployment rate	13.367	0.405	12.570	14.163	3.032	1.425
Sex						
Male	11.177	0.519	10.157	12.198	4.646	1.452
Female	15.855	0.591	14.694	17.016	3.728	1.231
Age						
Youth(16-30 yrs)	15.543	0.615	14.334	16.751	3.959	1.272
Adult(31+ yrs)	11.665	0.480	10.722	12.609	4.118	1.262
16-24 years	16.900	0.797	15.334	18.467	4.719	1.252
25-34 years	13.277	0.715	11.872	14.682	5.387	1.190
35-54 years	11.603	0.567	10.489	12.717	4.887	1.160
55 and over	10.039	1.152	7.776	12.302	11.475	1.325
Education						
None	12.725	0.564	11.617	13.833	4.431	1.258
Primary	12.623	0.673	11.301	13.944	5.329	1.254
Lower secondary	13.996	1.200	11.639	16.353	8.571	1.084
Upper secondary	18.460	1.317	15.873	21.047	7.133	1.345
University	10.332	1.395	7.591	13.073	13.505	1.090
Area of residence						
Urban	11.790	0.609	10.595	12.986	5.161	1.240
Rural	14.203	0.536	13.150	15.256	3.773	1.547

A.2: Labour force participation rate according to sex, age, education, and areas of residence

	Estimate (%)	Std. error (%)	95%CI lower bound	95%CI upper bound	CV	Design effect
Labour force participation rate	65.839	0.577	64.705	66.972	0.876	2.255
Sex						
Male	74.416	0.686	73.067	75.764	0.922	1.774
Female	58.214	0.683	56.873	59.555	1.173	1.545
Age						
Youth(16-30 yrs)	67.071	0.733	65.631	68.511	1.093	1.597
Adult(31+ yrs)	64.907	0.693	63.546	66.268	1.067	1.828
16-24 years	60.829	0.938	58.987	62.672	1.542	1.676
25-34 years	81.546	0.681	80.207	82.884	0.835	1.011
35-54 years	74.295	0.834	72.656	75.934	1.123	1.813
55 and over	36.851	1.119	34.654	39.049	3.035	1.314
Education						
None	63.141	0.725	61.718	64.565	1.148	1.568
Primary	65.832	0.856	64.150	67.515	1.301	1.512
Lower secondary	59.532	1.401	56.780	62.284	2.353	1.238
Upper secondary	75.235	1.187	72.904	77.566	1.577	1.171
University	89.632	1.498	86.689	92.574	1.671	1.395
Area of residence						
Urban	73.793	0.855	72.113	75.472	1.159	1.781
Rural	62.278	0.723	60.858	63.697	1.160	2.339

A.3: Employment to population ratio according to sex, age, education, and area of residence

	Estimate (%)	Std. error (%)	95%CI lower bound	95%CI upper bound	CV	Design effect
Employment to population ratio	57.038	0.593	55.874	58.203	1.039	2.184
Sex						
Male	66.098	0.745	64.633	67.562	1.128	1.778
Female	48.984	0.681	47.646	50.322	1.390	1.497
Age						
Youth (16-30 yrs)	56.646	0.764	55.145	58.148	1.349	1.561
Adult (31+ yrs)	57.335	0.689	55.981	58.690	1.202	1.685
16-24 years	50.549	0.971	48.640	52.458	1.922	1.714
25-34 years	70.719	0.866	69.017	72.421	1.225	1.189
35-54 years	65.675	0.855	63.994	67.356	1.303	1.615
55 and over	33.152	1.106	30.978	35.325	3.337	1.350
Education						
None	55.106	0.740	53.653	56.560	1.343	1.538
Primary	57.522	0.866	55.820	59.225	1.506	1.425
Lower secondary	51.200	1.429	48.393	54.007	2.791	1.242
Upper secondary	61.347	1.375	58.646	64.047	2.241	1.235
University	80.371	1.950	76.540	84.201	2.426	1.392
Area of residence						
Urban	65.092	0.937	63.251	66.934	1.440	1.823
Rural	53.433	0.735	51.988	54.877	1.376	2.286

A.4: LU2-Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment (%) according to sex, age, education, and areas of residence

	Estimate (%)	Std. error (%)	95%CI lower bound	95%CI upper bound	CV	Design effect
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment (%)	44.034	0.748	42.564	45.503	1.699	2.281
Sex						
Male	38.738	0.850	37.067	40.408	2.195	1.629
Female	50.052	0.917	48.250	51.855	1.833	1.583
Age						
Youth (16-30 yrs)	45.838	0.990	43.893	47.782	2.159	1.740
Adult (31+ yrs)	42.623	0.846	40.961	44.285	1.985	1.650
16-24 years	47.568	1.189	45.233	49.904	2.499	1.567
25-34 years	42.493	1.193	40.149	44.837	2.808	1.560
35-54 years	43.491	0.970	41.584	45.398	2.231	1.418
55 and over	39.998	1.910	36.246	43.751	4.775	1.371
Education						
None	49.216	0.911	47.425	51.006	1.852	1.461
Primary	44.947	1.080	42.825	47.070	2.404	1.442
Lower secondary	42.818	1.909	39.067	46.569	4.459	1.349
Upper secondary	36.024	1.829	32.430	39.617	5.078	1.695
University	14.707	1.571	11.620	17.794	10.685	1.021
Area of residence						
Urban	32.788	1.133	30.562	35.014	3.456	2.029
Rural	49.999	0.894	48.242	51.757	1.789	2.101

A.5: LU3-Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (%) according to sex, age, education, and areas of residence

	Estimate (%)	Std. error (%)	95%CI lower bound	95%CI upper bound	CV	Design effect
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force (%)	32.970	0.596	31.800	34.140	1.807	2.080
Sex						
Male	25.021	0.706	23.635	26.407	2.820	1.677
Female	40.533	0.743	39.074	41.993	1.833	1.520
Age						
Youth (16-30 yrs)	34.233	0.794	32.674	35.793	2.319	1.581
Adult (31+ yrs)	31.993	0.690	30.637	33.350	2.158	1.601
16-24 years	38.146	1.036	36.111	40.180	2.715	1.685
25-34 years	26.613	0.849	24.944	28.282	3.192	1.167
35-54 years	29.937	0.841	28.285	31.589	2.809	1.571
55 and over	43.461	1.606	40.305	46.617	3.696	1.504
Education						
None	33.539	0.777	32.013	35.065	2.316	1.559
Primary	34.047	0.887	32.305	35.790	2.605	1.416
Lower secondary	33.222	1.505	30.265	36.180	4.531	1.190
Upper secondary	33.886	1.374	31.187	36.586	4.055	1.211
University	16.043	1.796	12.514	19.572	11.196	1.324
Area of residence						
Urban	26.436	0.866	24.734	28.138	3.278	1.609
Rural	36.067	0.764	34.566	37.568	2.118	2.225

A.6: LU4-Labour underutilization rate (%) according to sex, age, education, and areas of residence

	Estimate (%)	Std. error (%)	95%CI lower bound	95%CI upper bound	CV	Design effect
Labour underutilization rate (%)	56.698	0.708	55.306	58.089	1.249	2.648
Sex						
Male	48.286	0.860	46.596	49.976	1.782	1.872
Female	64.701	0.777	63.175	66.228	1.201	1.756
Age						
Youth (16-30 yrs)	57.824	0.913	56.030	59.618	1.579	1.932
Adult (31+ yrs)	55.827	0.803	54.249	57.404	1.438	1.911
16-24 years	60.973	1.076	58.859	63.087	1.765	1.804
25-34 years	51.336	1.117	49.142	53.531	2.176	1.577
35-54 years	55.212	0.962	53.321	57.102	1.743	1.745
55 and over	62.290	1.607	59.133	65.448	2.580	1.575
Education						
None	61.327	0.832	59.693	62.961	1.356	1.680
Primary	58.446	0.963	56.555	60.337	1.647	1.543
Lower secondary	55.601	1.655	52.349	58.853	2.977	1.293
Upper secondary	48.127	1.614	44.957	51.297	3.353	1.499
University	20.139	1.920	16.368	23.911	9.533	1.267
Area of residence						
Urban	43.947	1.198	41.593	46.301	2.726	2.428
Rural	62.741	0.797	61.176	64.306	1.270	2.386

A.7: Rate of population out of labour force rate according to sex, age, education and areas of residence

	Estimate (%)	Std. error (%)	95%CI lower bound	95%CI upper bound	CV	Design effect
Pop_outLFS	34.161	0.577	33.028	35.295	1.689	2.255
Sex						
Male	25.584	0.686	24.236	26.933	2.682	1.774
Female	41.786	0.683	40.445	43.127	1.634	1.545
Age						
Youth (16-30 yrs)	32.929	0.733	31.489	34.369	2.226	1.597
Adult (31+ yrs)	35.093	0.693	33.732	36.454	1.974	1.828
16-24 years	39.171	0.938	37.328	41.013	2.395	1.676
25-34 years	18.454	0.681	17.116	19.793	3.692	1.011
35-54 years	25.705	0.834	24.066	27.344	3.246	1.813
55 and over	63.149	1.119	60.951	65.346	1.771	1.314
Education						
None	36.859	0.725	35.435	38.282	1.966	1.568
Primary	34.168	0.856	32.485	35.850	2.507	1.512
Lower secondary	40.468	1.401	37.716	43.220	3.461	1.238
Upper secondary	24.765	1.187	22.434	27.096	4.792	1.171
University	10.368	1.498	7.426	13.311	14.446	1.395
Area of residence						
Urban	26.207	0.855	24.528	27.887	3.262	1.781
Rural	37.722	0.723	36.303	39.142	1.915	2.339

A.8: Youth not in employment, education, or training (NEET) rate according to sex, education, and areas of residence.

	Estimate (%)	Std. error (%)	95%CI lower bound	95%CI upper bound	CV	Design effect
NEET 16-30	25.593	0.671	24.275	26.912	2.622	1.539
Sex						
Male	18.591	0.824	16.972	20.211	4.434	1.441
Female	32.409	0.940	30.563	34.255	2.900	1.329
Education						
None	32.716	1.108	30.539	34.893	3.387	1.107
Primary	24.556	1.050	22.494	26.619	4.275	1.368
Lower secondary	12.798	1.015	10.803	14.793	7.933	1.050
Upper secondary	30.363	1.689	27.044	33.681	5.564	1.232
University	16.590	3.144	10.413	22.767	18.952	1.236
Area of residence						
Urban	20.086	1.033	18.057	22.115	5.142	1.460
Rural	28.401	0.850	26.730	30.072	2.994	1.533

Table B.1: Proportion of Households owning mobile phone by sex, area of residence and province in August 2025.

	Any mobile phone	Smart phone
Rwanda	85.4	42.7
Sex		
Male	89.2	46.7
Female	76.2	32.7
Province		
Kigali city	96.3	72.0
Southern Province	79.0	33.9
Western Province	84.9	35.4
Northern Province	86.2	37.2
Eastern Province	84.0	40.3
urban-rural		
Urban	94.6	67.6
Rural	81.3	31.4

Figure B.1: Proportion of Households owning mobile phone by District in August 2025.

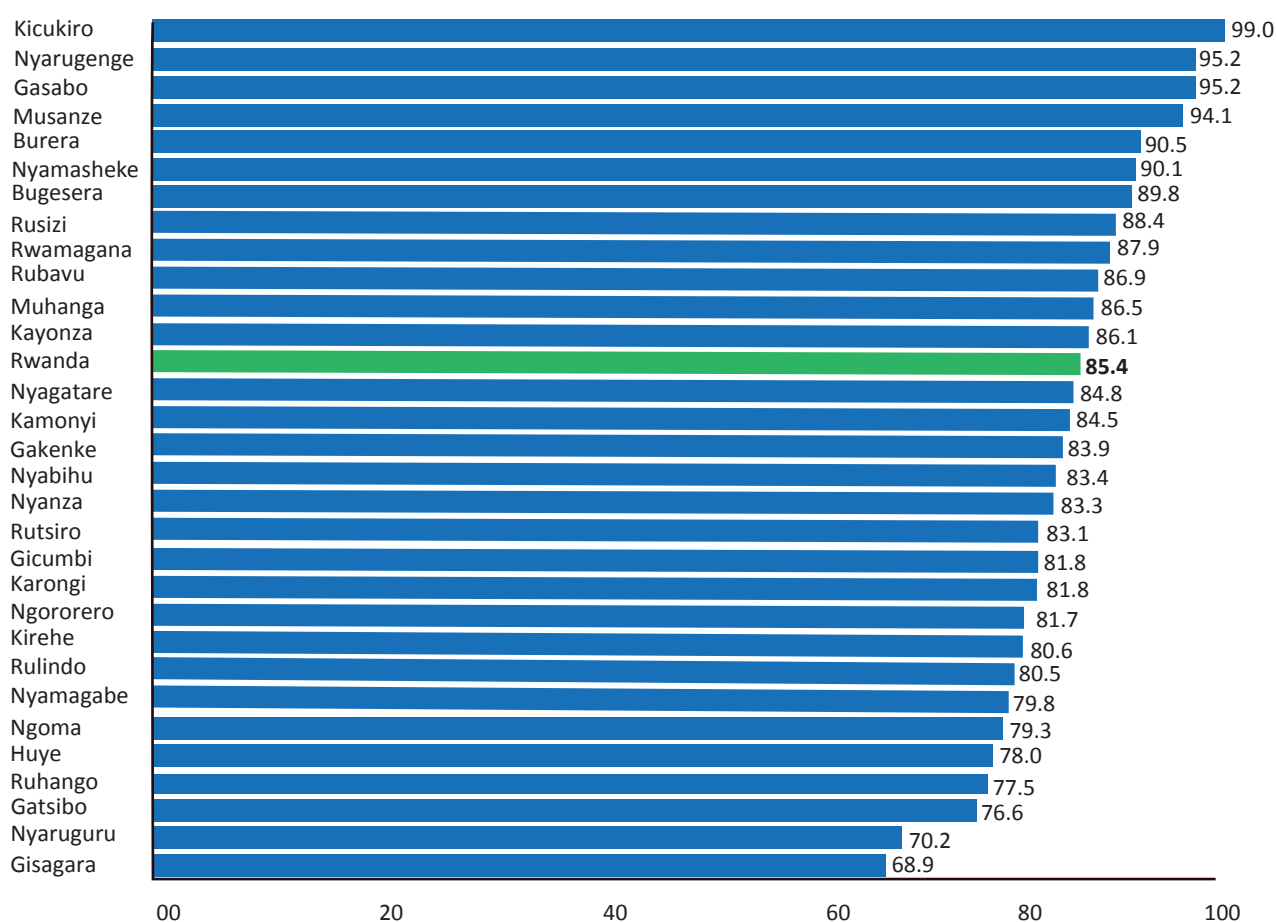


Table B.2: Proportion of Population owning mobile phone by type according to age groups, sex, province, and labour force status in August 2025.

	Any mobile phone				Smart phone			
	10 yrs and above	16 yrs and above	16-30(youth)	31 yrs and above	10 yrs and above	16 yrs and above	16-30(youth)	31 yrs and above
Rwanda	53.8	65.7	63.4	67.5	23.0	28.0	32.6	24.5
Sex								
Male	58.4	71.7	67.7	75.0	26.8	32.8	35.3	30.8
Female	49.7	60.3	59.1	61.2	19.5	23.6	30.0	19.2
Province								
Kigali city	76.0	86.4	82.9	89.8	50.3	57.0	57.4	56.6
Southern Province	46.8	57.3	56.5	57.8	17.2	21.1	26.3	17.5
Western Province	49.2	61.9	58.3	64.4	16.5	20.6	26.1	16.8
Northern Province	53.4	64.6	62.9	66.0	18.8	22.8	27.7	19.0
Eastern Province	51.0	63.8	59.1	67.4	19.9	24.8	28.0	22.5
urban-rural								
Urban	70.0	81.9	78.2	85.1	44.1	51.5	52.5	50.7
Rural	47.0	58.5	55.8	60.3	14.0	17.4	22.5	13.9

Table B.3: Proportion of Population aged 16 years and above having knowledge to apply selected digital by sex, area of residence and province in August 2025.

	Sex			Area of residence		Province				
	Rwanda	Male	Female	Urban	Rural	Kigali city	South	West	North	East
Use only USSD code to access E-services or information	70.3	76.1	65.2	81.2	65.4	80.8	56.7	68.6	74.8	74.1
Use application-based system to access E-services or information	32.9	39.4	27.2	51.9	24.3	54.1	22.4	24.7	36.8	32.6
Use mobile financial services (MOMO/AIRTEL MONEY/ MOCASH/PUSH AND PULL)	65.7	73.7	58.5	83.3	57.6	86.2	58.2	57.1	65.1	66.2
Use any social media	34.5	41.2	28.6	56.2	24.6	62.4	26.2	25.6	29.2	34.3
Access information through web browser	31.4	37.9	25.7	52.1	22.0	58.1	22.3	21.7	28.5	31.8
Access IREMBO services	26.8	32.9	21.4	42.5	19.6	45.7	23.7	16.9	24.7	26.5
Use any E-commerce platforms	11.6	14.1	9.3	23.1	6.3	28.9	8.1	5.7	10.4	9.0
Access E-learning platforms	15.6	18.7	12.9	28.0	10.0	34.0	12.8	9.4	12.7	13.0

Table B.4: Proportion of Population knowing to apply at least one of selected basic digital skills, by sex, Province , area of residence and District.

	10 years and above	15 years and above	16 years and above	16-30 years	31 years and above
Rwanda	71.1	76.6	76.9	89.6	67.2
Sex					
Male	75.6	82.5	83.1	90.6	76.9
Female	67.0	71.4	71.4	88.7	59.0
Province					
Kigali city	86.4	90.2	90.5	94.8	86.3
Southern Province	62.3	67.7	67.9	84.3	56.6
Western Province	65.6	71.5	71.8	86.5	61.6
Northern Province	72.9	78.2	78.1	91.2	67.6
Eastern Province	72.9	78.8	79.2	91.4	70.0
Area of Residence					
Urban	84.8	89.3	89.7	94.8	85.0
Rural	65.2	70.9	71.1	86.9	59.8
District					
Nyarugenge	84.7	90.8	91.1	95.5	87.3
Gasabo	83.7	86.8	87.2	93.1	81.4
Kicukiro	92.3	95.4	95.5	97.0	93.9
Nyanza	65.2	69.1	69.2	89.0	57.1
Gisagara	44.9	48.4	48.8	64.4	37.7
Nyaruguru	43.9	51.7	51.4	74.8	35.4
Huye	69.6	76.9	77.6	91.7	68.1
Nyamagabe	56.7	64.1	63.8	80.8	51.3
Ruhango	79.7	82.5	82.2	92.9	74.4
Muhanga	70.5	75.8	76.7	90.1	66.7
Kamonyi	64.6	70.0	70.4	89.8	58.4
Karongi	68.9	74.7	74.5	92.6	62.2
Rutsiro	78.3	82.1	81.9	98.1	68.8
Rubavu	72.3	79.3	79.4	86.2	73.6
Nyabihu	79.3	82.1	82.5	92.5	74.5
Ngororero	60.5	66.0	66.4	78.3	60.2
Rusizi	58.7	65.9	66.7	82.2	56.3
Nyamasheke	45.1	51.7	52.3	73.0	41.2
Rulindo	75.1	78.1	78.3	93.8	67.1
Gakenke	69.7	76.2	76.0	86.8	67.7
Musanze	75.8	81.2	80.9	90.8	72.2
Burera	76.1	81.6	81.4	93.9	69.7
Gicumbi	68.1	74.1	74.4	90.7	61.4
Rwamagana	75.8	81.1	81.7	94.1	72.8
Nyagatare	94.2	95.2	95.9	98.5	93.6
Gatsibo	61.0	68.1	69.0	87.4	57.2
Kayonza	69.8	76.6	76.1	89.2	66.0
Kirehe	54.9	62.2	62.6	76.1	54.1
Ngoma	63.7	71.2	71.6	89.5	59.4
Bugesera	78.4	85.2	85.5	94.9	77.3

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