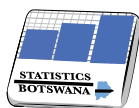


BOTSWANA

MULTI-TOPIC HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

2015/16

Economic Activity Stats Brief



STATISTICS BOTSWANA

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PREFACE

This Stats brief presents preliminary economic activity results from the 2015/16 Botswana Multi Topic Household Survey. The survey had a total of sixteen modules covering a range of topics including labour and poverty. Due to the extensive data that was collected and the need for detailed analysis, Statistics Botswana adopted a modular approach to the release of the survey results. This brief presents indicators of labour force, employment size, employment by occupation and industry, unemployment rates, employment levels by training and district among others. Stats briefs on other modules will follow. The final product will be a comprehensive survey report.

The survey shows that the private sector was by far the largest employer with 44.6 percent followed by public administration with 22.1 percent. Parastatals were the lowest employers with only 4.3 percent. Overall, unemployment among those aged 15 years and above was recorded at 17.7 percent. Female unemployment was higher than that of their male counterparts at 19.1 and 16.3 percent respectively. For those aged 18 years and above, unemployment rate was estimated at 17.6 percent.

Youth unemployment (15-35) continues to be high and was estimated at 25.2 percent, with female unemployment higher than that of males at 26.9 percent compared to 23.6 percent for males. For those aged 18 -35 years, unemployment was estimated at 25.1 percent with male unemployment estimated at 23.4 percent compared to 26.8 percent for females.

We hope stakeholders find these results useful in informing policy formulation, review, planning and decision making.

I wish to thank respondents who provided this invaluable information for the survey.



Anna N. Majelantle
Statistician General
August 2017

1.0 Introduction

Statistics Botswana conducted the Botswana Multi-Topic Household Survey (BMTHS) in 2015/16, from November 2015 to November 2016. The BMTHS was the second multi modular survey following the Botswana Core Welfare Indicators Survey (BCWIS), which was conducted in 2009/10. Broadly, the BMTHS combined the Labour Force and Core Welfare Indicators surveys.

Due to the enormous volume of data and variables that need to be analysed, Statistics Botswana has adopted modular release of indicators, in particular, on the key modules addressing the Labour Force and Poverty, which are two key areas of study for the survey.

This Statsbrief presents preliminary Economic Activity results from the 2015/16 BMTHS. These cover the headline labour force indicators of; total labour force, employment size, employment by occupation and industry, unemployment rates, and unemployment by level of training, among others.

The BMTHS had a total of 16 modules, being;

1. Demographic Characteristics
2. Education
3. Health
4. Labour Force
5. Wages and Income
6. Services (Health and Education) within communities
7. Self -Assessed Well-being and Food Insecurity
8. Sources of Income and Social Protection
9. Housing, Utilities, Durable Goods and Livestock ownership
10. Household Enterprises (Non Agricultural)
11. Agricultural Income and Expenditure
12. Household Expenditures and Consumption
13. Loans (Household Borrowing and Lending)
14. Use of Credit Cards Bank Accounts
15. Household Transfers Received and Sent
16. Anthropometric Measurements (Children Under 18 years)

2.0 Objectives of Survey

The primary objective of the 2015/16 BMTHS was to provide a comprehensive set of indicators for labour market and poverty. The set of indicators derived from the BMTHS are to provide baseline information that will be tracked on annual bases to inform the Poverty Eradication Strategy and programmes. It also provides the Labour Market indicators required for the purpose of monitoring human resource development planning among others.

3.0 Scope of Analysis

The preliminary results presented in this stats brief covers current economic activities of economically active population aged 15 years and above, or population in labour force. These are persons who are currently employed, and those who are actively seeking work.

The choice of target population (15 years and above) is based on the International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention no. 138, which stipulates that minimum age for employment should not be less than 15 years.

Botswana's economic and education infrastructure has developed over the years, to an extent that there is compelling argument for the economic activity target population to cover persons aged 18 years and above, considering that persons below 18 years should be, or are still pursuing their education.

To adhere to international standards (ILO), and satisfy national planning needs, this brief will provide, for some indicators like unemployment rate, indicators for both 15 & 18 years and above target populations. The analysis provides wider coverage on the target population of 15 years and above as it is the one used for international comparability and at the same time includes the 18 years and above.

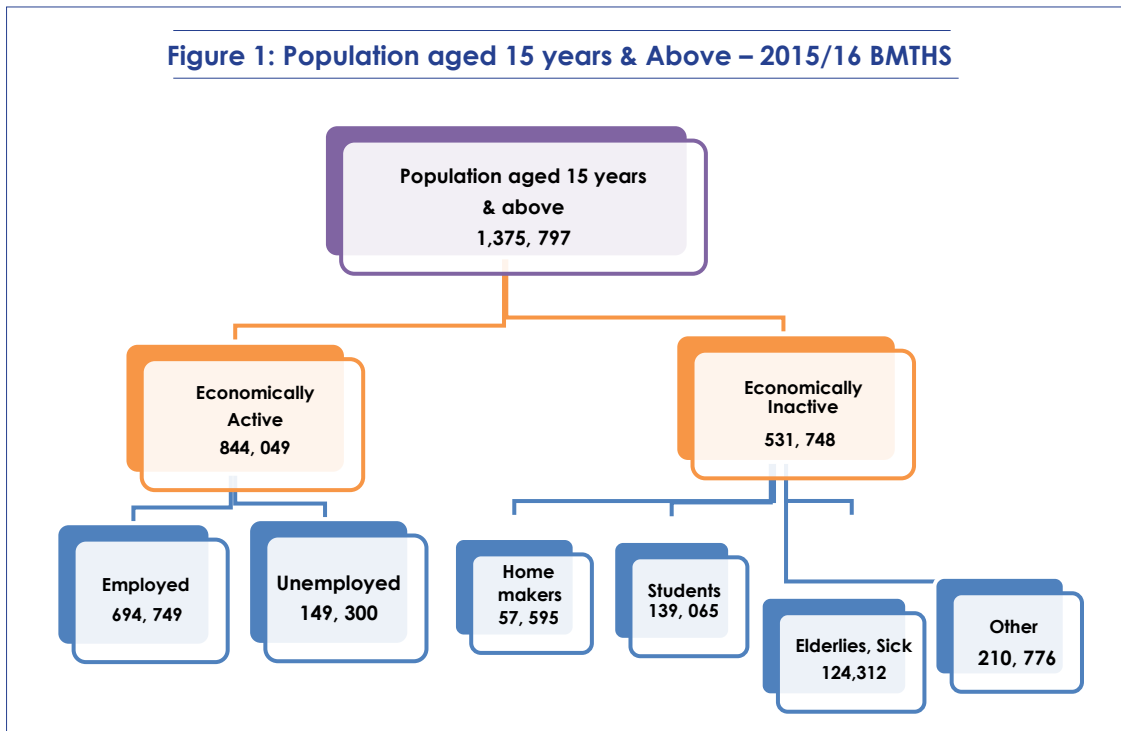
4.0 Labour Force

The labour force presented in this statsbrief is drawn from two (2) target populations, one covering individuals aged 15 years and above and the other for individuals aged 18 years and above.

4.1 Population Aged 15 Years and Above

Figure 1 presents information on the target population, aged 15 years and above, which was estimated at 1, 375, 797. This was the estimated potential labour force, of which 844, 049 was found to be economically active, with the remaining 531, 748 being economically inactive. The economically active (labour force), comprised 694, 749 employed individuals and 149, 300 unemployed (job seekers).

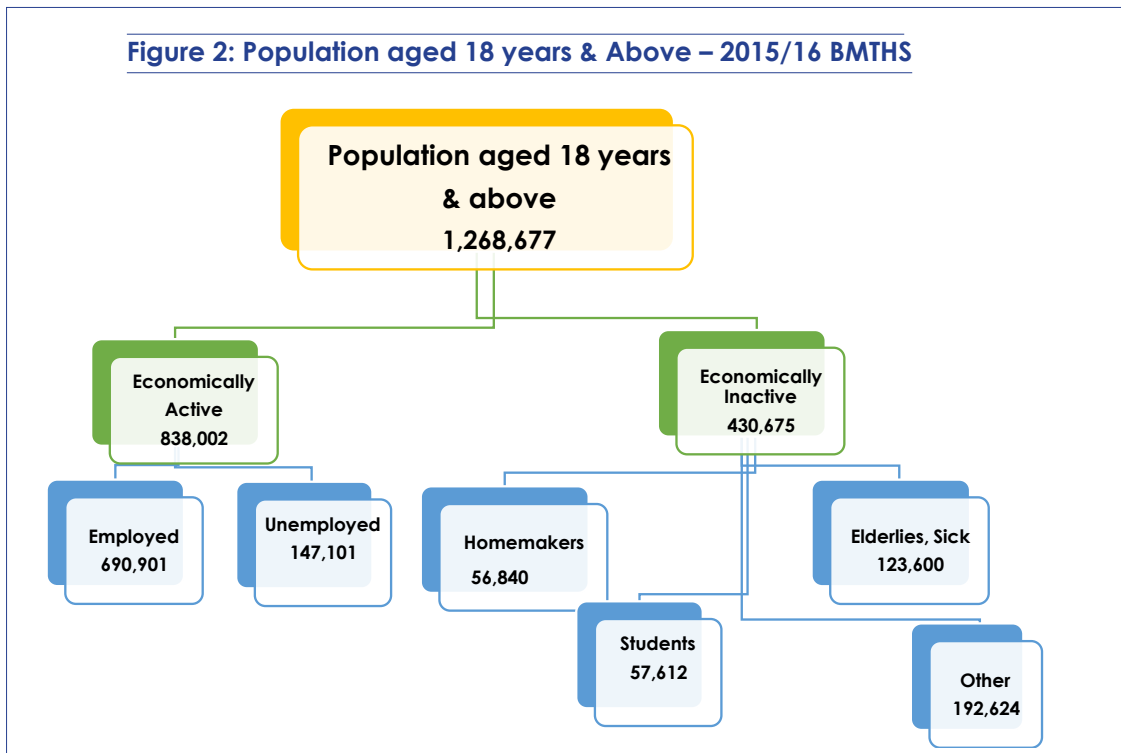
Figure 1: Population aged 15 years & Above – 2015/16 BMTHS



4.2 Population Aged 18 years and Over

Figure 2: shows population aged 18 years and above. The total was estimated at 1, 268, 677, of which 838, 002 were economically active and 450, 675 economically inactive. The economically active consisted of 690, 901 employed individuals and 147, 101 unemployed.

Figure 2: Population aged 18 years & Above – 2015/16 BMTHS



5.0 Overall Employment

Overall employment for the two (2) target populations looks at the total number of economically active persons who were employed during the survey period. These are individuals, who during a specified short reference period, did some work either for payment in cash or in kind (paid employees) or who were in self-employment for profit or family gain as well as persons temporarily absent from these activities but definitely going to return to them (e.g. on leave or sick).

5.1 Employed Population Aged 15 Years and over

As presented in **Figure 1**, total employment for the labour force aged 15 years was 694, 749 from a total of 844, 049, yielding a national employment to population ratio of 50.5 percent

Table 1 presents disaggregated employment by age group and sex for labour force aged 15 years and above. Overall, 352, 872 (50.1 percent) males were employed compared with 341, 877 (49.9 percent) females

5.2 Employed Population Aged 18 Years and over

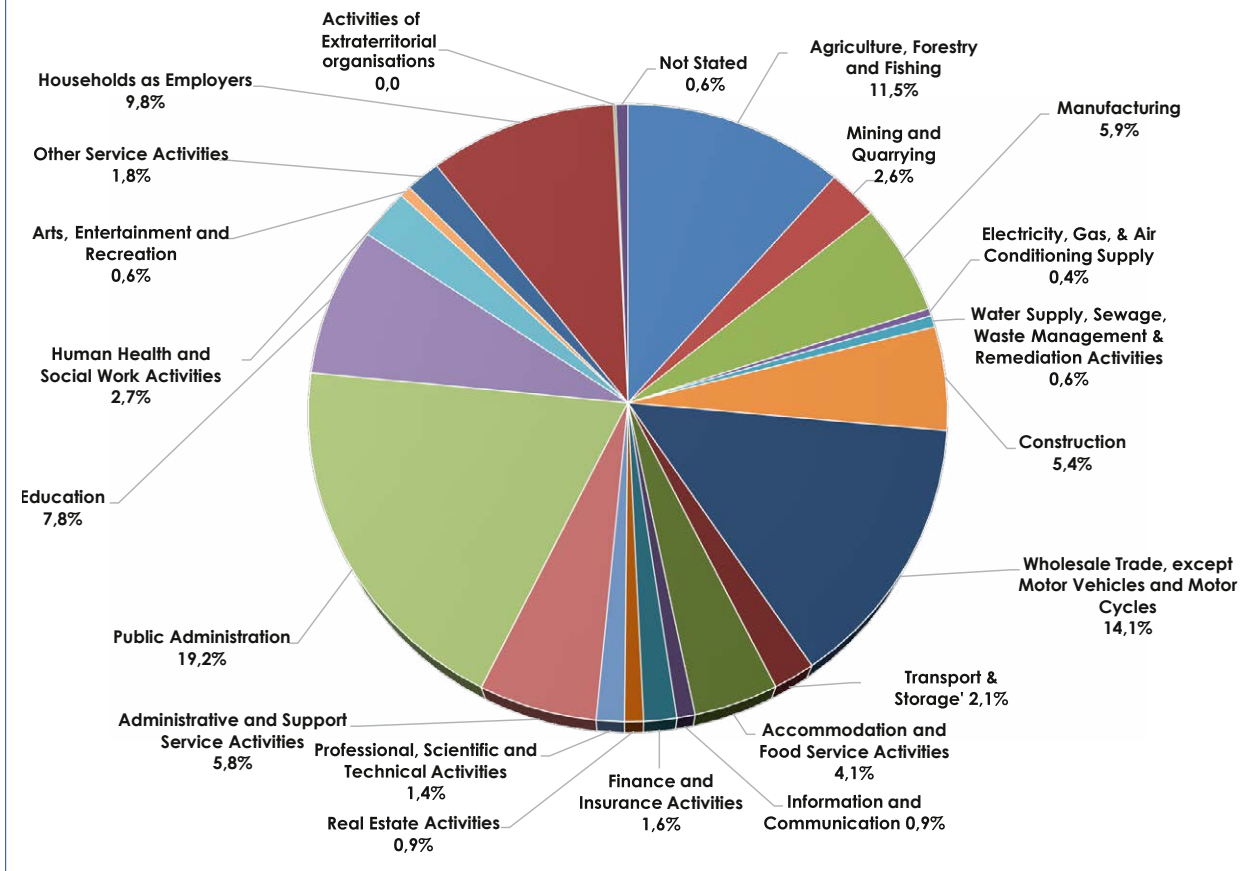
Figure 2 and **Table 2** present aggregated and disaggregated employment for population aged 18 years and above. Overall, 690,901 individuals were in employment during the survey period, translating to 54.5 percent employment to population ratio

Of the total 690, 901 employed, 350, 354 (50.7 percent) were males and 340, 547 (49.3 percent) were females. **Table 1**.

5.3 Employed Population by Sex and Industry

Figure 3 presents employment by industry. The largest employing industry was public administration and defense at 19.2 percent followed by wholesale trade with 14.1 percent and Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing at 11.5 percent. Other industries which employed between five (5) and 10 percent were private Households (9.8 percent), Education (7.8 percent), Manufacturing (5.9 percent) Administration and Support Service activities (5.8 percent), and Construction (5.4 percent). Detailed employment by industry and sex are presented in **Table 3**.

Figure 3: Employed Population by Industry

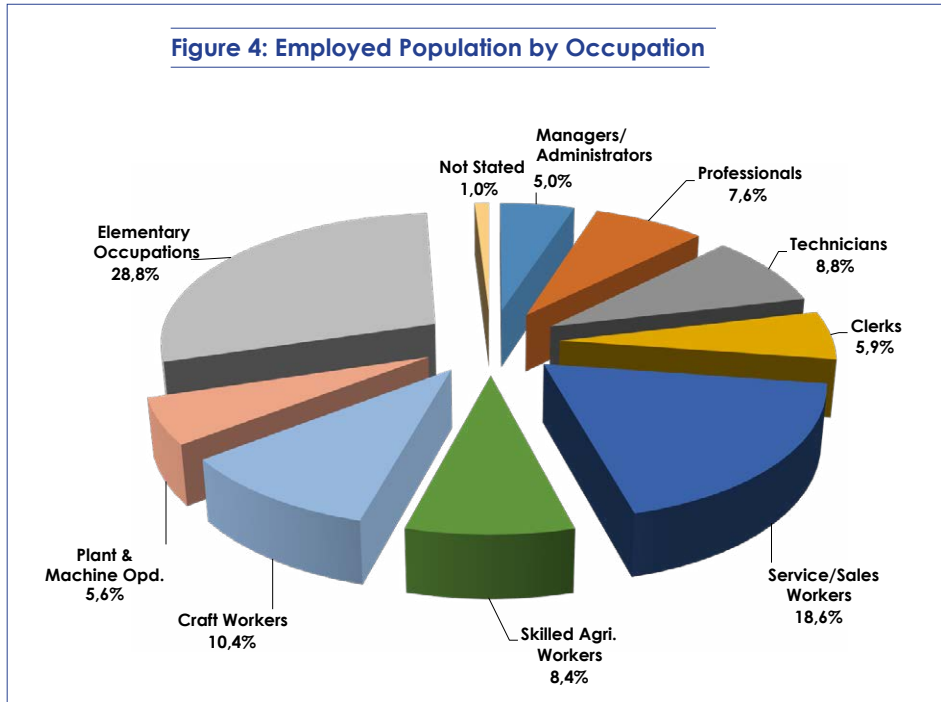


5.4 Currently Employed by Sex and Occupation

The majority of the employed were in the elementary occupations and service/sales at 28.8 and 18.6 percent respectively. The third most important occupation was craft workers. These three (3) occupations are partly explained by the biggest industry employers of Wholesale trade, Agriculture Forestry and Fishing, and Households. These industries employ largely semi-skilled labour.

Figure 4 depicts occupation for the employed, with **Table 4** providing occupation disaggregated by sex.

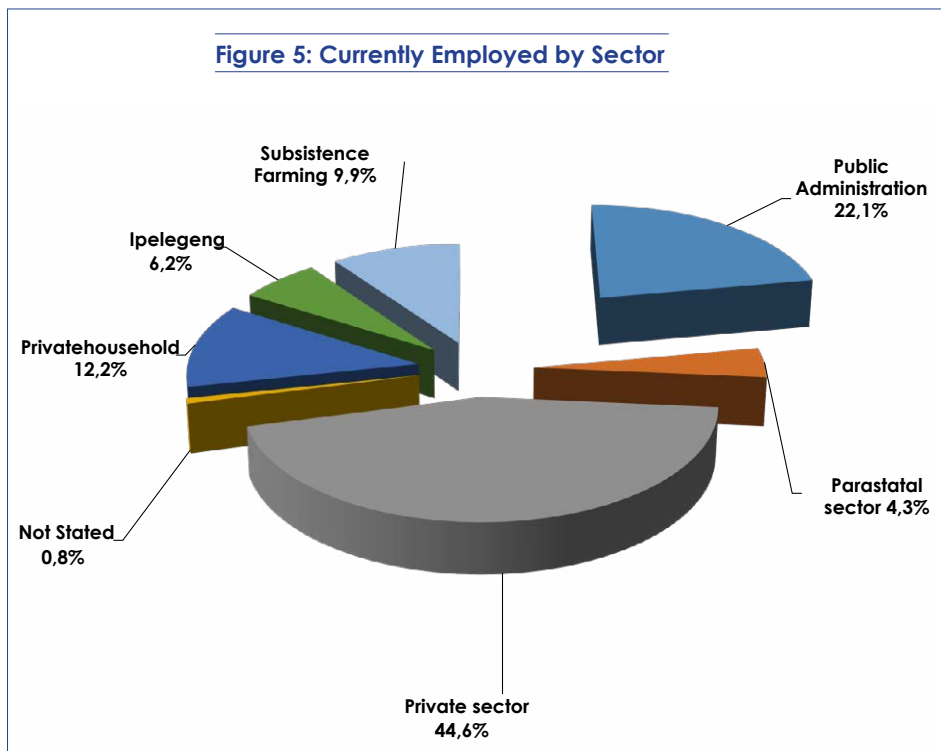
Figure 4: Employed Population by Occupation



5.5 Currently Employed by Sector

Figure 5 displays employment by employer category. Private Sector was the largest employer with 44.6 percent of employees, followed by Public Administration, Private Households and Subsistence Farming with 22.1, 12.2 and 9.9 percent, respectively. The largest employers categories further explain the picture given by employment across industries, which show Wholesale trade and Households among the top employers.

Figure 5: Currently Employed by Sector



6.0 Unemployment

Unemployed persons were those individuals who did not do any work in the past seven (7) days during the survey period, and were in the ages 15 years and above. These are persons who did not work for payment in cash or in-kind, and/or were not in self-employment for profit or family gain, and were demonstrably active in looking for a job in the past 30 days. These exclude individuals who were temporarily absent from work, for instance on leave, and were definitely going to return to their jobs.

The Survey estimated the unemployed population aged 15 years and over at 149,300 persons. These comprised 68,535 males and 80,765 females. Table 1 presents both employed and unemployed population aged 15 years and above by age group and sex, together with the corresponding unemployment rates.

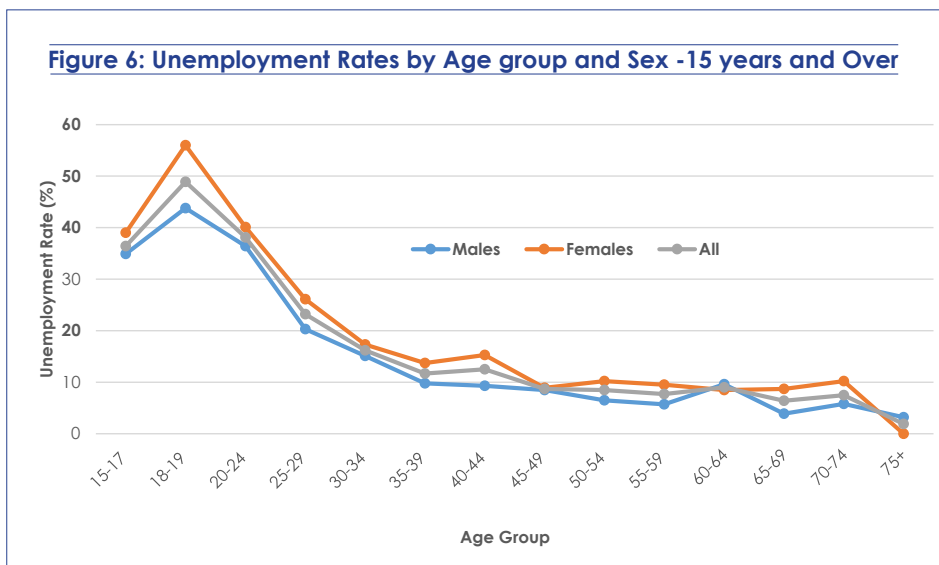
6.1 Unemployment Rates

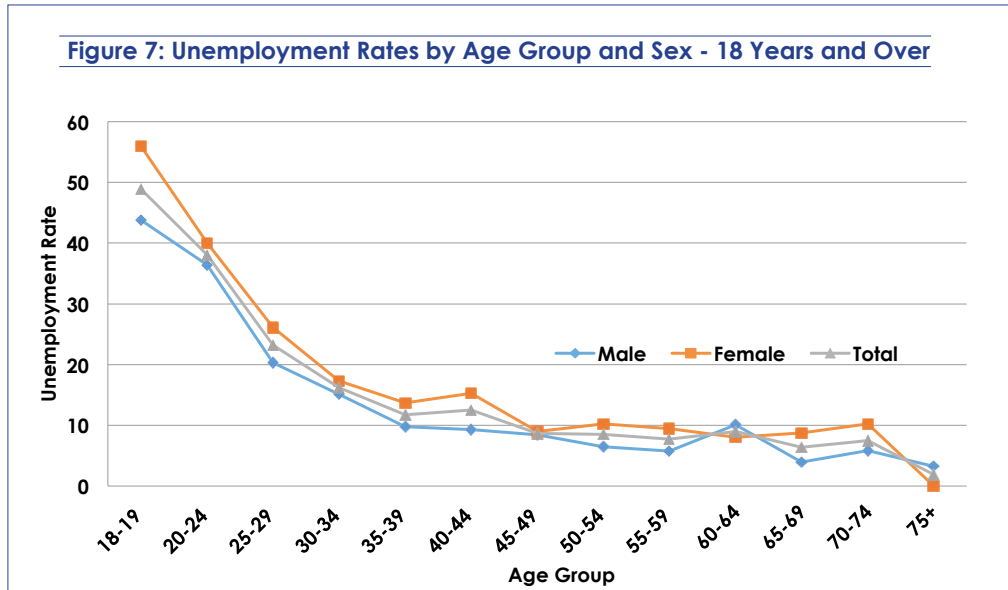
Overall unemployment rates were estimated at 17.7 percent for population aged 15 years and above, and 17.6 percent for population aged 18 years and above. See **Tables 1** and **2**.

For the 15 years and over labour force, female unemployment rate was estimated at 19.1 percent, compared to 16.3 percent for males. These were slightly higher than those for the 18 years and over labour force, which were recorded at 19.1 percent for males and 16.1 percent for females.

The youth (15-35 years) unemployment rate was estimated at 25.2 percent as presented in **Table 5**. Unemployment for female youth was 26.9 percent, compared with 23.6 percent for male youth.

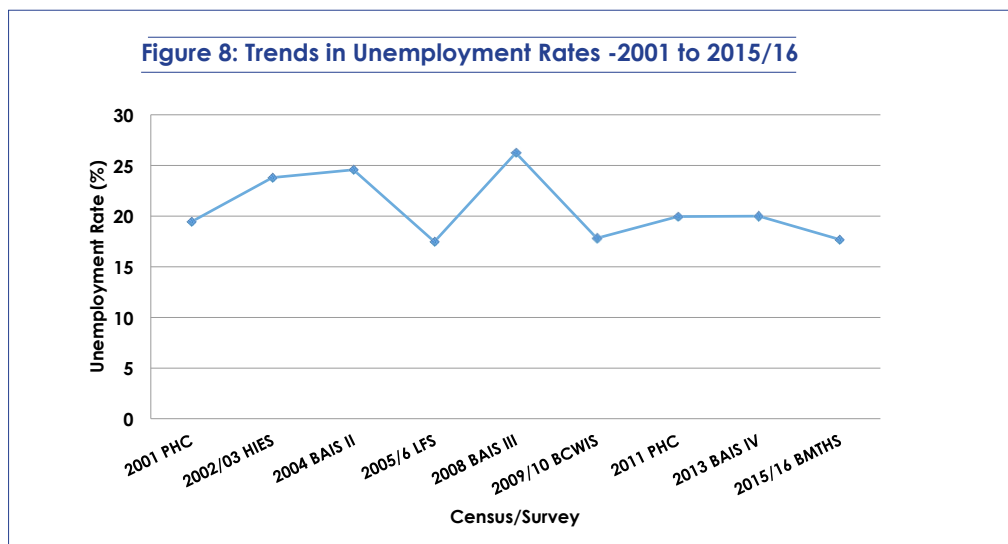
Figures 6 and **7** respectively present unemployment rates by age group(s) for the 15 years and over, and 18 years and over labour force. In both cases, unemployment rates go up to age group 40-44 are over 10.0 percent.





6.2 Trends in Unemployment Rates

Figure 8 shows unemployment rate trends from 2001 to 2015/6 estimated from censuses and surveys. The highest unemployment rates were estimated from the Botswana Aids Impact Surveys (BAIS III and II) of 2008 and 2004, at 26.2 and 24.6 percent, respectively. Trends in labour force and unemployment rates are presented in **Table 7**.



6.3 Unemployed Population by Education/Training

Table 6 presents unemployed population aged 15 years and above by training. The majority of the unemployed population was highest for persons with junior Certificate, at 58,769 (39.4 percent), followed by those with Senior Secondary School and Primary education with 33,978 (22.8 percent) and 22,057 (14.8 percent) persons respectively. In all the instances, the females had the highest numbers compared to males. The unemployed with university/college education was estimated at (11.4 percent) 16,956.

6.4 Labour Force and Unemployment Rates by Census Districts

Gaborone and Kweneng East recorded the highest estimates for the total labour force at 125,988 and 122,413 respectively, topping again in terms of the employed labour force at 110,355 and 101,160 respectively.

The Highest unemployment rates were recorded for Ngamiland East, Ngamiland West and Kweneng West, with 29.5, 29.1 and 24.6 percent respectively (**Table 8**).

Table 1: The Economically Active Population by Age Group and Sex (15 years and above), 2015/16 Botswana Multi Topic Household Survey

Age Group	Employed			Unemployed			Economically Active			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
15-17	2,518	1,331	3,849	1,348	852	2,201	3,866	2,183	6,050	34.9	39.0	36.4
18-19	6,408	3,591	9,998	4,988	4,574	9,562	11,396	8,165	19,560	43.8	56.0	48.9
20-24	36,012	28,206	64,218	20,599	18,880	39,479	56,611	47,086	103,697	36.4	40.1	38.1
25-29	52,424	50,274	102,698	13,361	17,747	31,108	65,785	68,021	133,806	20.3	26.1	23.2
30-34	60,140	59,134	119,273	10,735	12,359	23,094	70,875	71,493	142,367	15.1	17.3	16.2
35-39	53,893	51,453	105,347	5,834	8,171	14,005	59,727	59,624	119,352	9.8	13.7	11.7
40-44	38,863	42,852	81,716	3,968	7,721	11,689	42,831	50,573	93,405	9.3	15.3	12.5
45-49	31,824	33,614	65,438	2,940	3,303	6,244	34,764	36,917	71,682	8.5	8.9	8.7
50-54	23,755	26,059	49,814	1,647	2,962	4,609	25,402	29,021	54,423	6.5	10.2	8.5
55-59	18,235	19,270	37,505	1,107	2,019	3,127	19,342	21,289	40,632	5.7	9.5	7.7
60-64	11,988	12,772	24,760	1,267	1,189	2,455	13,255	13,961	27,215	9.6	8.5	9.0
65-69	7,337	7,105	14,442	300	680	981	7,637	7,785	15,423	3.9	8.7	6.4
70-74	4,457	2,693	7,150	275	307	582	4,732	3,000	7,732	5.8	10.2	7.5
75+	5,018	3,524	8,542	166	0	166	5,184	3,524	8,708	3.2	0.0	1.9
Total	352,872	341,877	694,749	68,535	80,765	149,300	421,407	422,642	844,049	16.3	19.1	17.7

Table 2: The Economically Active Population by Age Group (18 years and over) and Sex, 2015/16 Botswana Multi Topic Household Survey

Age Group	Employed			Unemployed			Economically Active			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
18-19	6,408	3,591	9,998	4,988	4,574	9,562	11,396	8,165	19,560	43.8	56.0	48.9
20-24	36,012	28,206	64,218	20,599	18,880	39,479	56,611	47,086	103,697	36.4	40.1	38.1
25-29	52,424	50,274	102,698	13,361	17,747	31,108	65,785	68,021	133,806	20.3	26.1	23.2
30-34	60,140	59,134	119,273	10,735	12,359	23,094	70,875	71,493	142,367	15.1	17.3	16.2
35-39	53,893	51,453	105,347	5,834	8,171	14,005	59,727	59,624	119,352	9.8	13.7	11.7
40-44	38,863	42,852	81,716	3,968	7,721	11,689	42,831	50,573	93,405	9.3	15.3	12.5
45-49	31,824	33,614	65,438	2,940	3,303	6,244	34,764	36,917	71,682	8.5	8.9	8.7
50-54	23,755	26,059	49,814	1,647	2,962	4,609	25,402	29,021	54,423	6.5	10.2	8.5
55-59	18,235	19,270	37,505	1,107	2,019	3,127	19,342	21,289	40,632	5.7	9.5	7.7
60-64	11,988	12,772	24,760	1,267	1,189	2,455	13,255	13,961	27,215	9.6	8.5	9.0
65-69	7,337	7,105	14,442	300	680	981	7,637	7,785	15,423	3.9	8.7	6.4
70-74	4,457	2,693	7,150	275	307	582	4,732	3,000	7,732	5.8	10.2	7.5
75+	5,018	3,524	8,542	166	0	166	5,184	3,524	8,708	3.2	0.0	1.9
Total	350,354	340,547	690,901	67,187	79,912	147,101	417,541	420,459	838,002	16.1	19.0	17.6

Table 3: The Employed Population by Industry and Sex, 2015/16 Botswana Multi Topic Household Survey

Industry	Sex		
	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	50,555	29,517	80,072
Mining and Quarrying	15,258	3,083	18,340
Manufacturing	22,493	18,158	40,651
Electricity, Gas, & Air Conditioning Supply	1,927	800	2,726
Water Supply, Sewage & Remediation	2,360	1,832	4,192
Construction	33,418	4,287	37,705
Wholesale Trade,	41,578	56,371	97,949
Transport & Storage ¹	10,475	3,768	14,243
Accommodation and Food Service	9,861	18,929	28,790
Information and Communication	3,480	2,731	6,211
Finance and Insurance	4,337	6,856	11,194
Real Estate Activities	1,830	4,587	6,417
Professional, Scientific and Technical	5,681	3,861	9,542
Administrative and Support Service	25,281	15,074	40,355
Public Administration	50,433	83,012	133,445
Education	19,712	34,714	54,426
Human Health and Social Work Activities	6,201	12,382	18,583
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	2,703	1,427	4,131
Other Service Activities	5,098	7,436	12,534
Households as Employers	37,703	30,336	68,039
Activities of Extraterritorial organisations	354	505	859
Not Stated	2,133	2,211	4,344
Total	352,872	341,877	694,749

Table 4: The Employed Population by Occupation and Sex BMTHS 2015/16

	Male	Female	Total
Managers/Administrators	19,138	15,707	34,845
Professionals	25,065	27,472	52,538
Technicians and Associate Professionals	29,124	31,740	60,863
Clerical Support Services	11,359	29,804	41,164
Service/Sales Workers	54,696	74,403	129,099
Skilled Agric Forestry and Fishery Workers	34,496	23,780	58,276
Craft and Related Trades Workers	56,849	15,371	72,220
Plant & Machine Opd. & Assemblers	34,306	4,850	39,156
Elementary Occupations	83,340	116,509	199,849
Others not Elsewhere Stated	2,628	182	2,810
Not stated	1,869	2,059	3,929
Total	352,872	341,877	694,749

Table 5: Percentage of Labour Force by Broad Age Group & Sex

Age Group	Labour Force Participation Rates (%)		
	Male	Female	Total
Youth: 15 - 35	62.7	52.5	57.3
Adults: 36 - 64	81.2	70.1	75.0
Pensioners: 65 yrs+	41.5	20.1	28.1
Total	67.8	56.0	61.3
Age Group	Unemployment Rates (%)		
	Male	Female	Total
Youth: 15 - 35	23.6	26.9	25.2
Adults: 36 - 64	8.5	11.6	10.1
Pensioners: 65 yrs+	4.2	6.9	5.4
Total	16.3	19.1	17.7

Table 6: The Unemployed Population by Education/Training and Sex

Education/Training	Sex		Total	Percentage (%)
	Male	Female		
Never attended	3,582	3,797	7,379	4.9
Primary	9,394	12,663	22,057	14.8
Junior Secondary	28,905	29,865	58,769	39.4
Senior Secondary	14,955	19,023	33,978	22.8
Post Sec education	60	592	651	0.4
Secondary Not stated	154	50	204	0.1
Vocational	4,108	3,507	7,615	5.1
University/College	6,674	10,283	16,956	11.4
Post Graduate	112	185	298	0.2
Non formal	163	591	754	0.5
Not Stated	427	210	638	0.4
Total	68,535	80,765	149,300	100.0

Table 7: Trends in Labour Force, 2001 to 2015/16

Census/Survey	Unemployed			Employed			Labour Force			Unemployment Rate		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
2001 PHC	51,916	57,596	109,512	268,024	185,361	453,385	319,940	242,957	562,897	16.2	23.7	19.5
2002/03 HIES	66,880	77,580	144,460	245,408	216,959	462,366	312,288	294,539	606,826	21.4	26.3	23.8
2004 BAIS II	86,233	99,583	185,816	259,219	311,110	570,329	345,452	410,693	756,145	25	24.2	24.6
2005/6 LFS	50,833	63,209	114,042	281,762	257,388	539,150	332,595	320,597	653,192	15.3	19.7	17.5
2008 BAIS III	81,630	101,417	183,047	290,694	223,728	514,422	372,325	325,148	697,471	21.9	31.2	26.2
2009/10 BCWIS	53,704	72,645	126,349	317,163	267,088	584,251	370,868	339,733	710,600	14.5	21.4	17.8
2011 PHC	78,679	81,468	160,147	364,466	278,535	643,001	443,145	360,003	803,148	17.8	22.6	19.9
2013 BAIS IV	82,835	97,207	180,041	382,044	338,252	720,296	464,879	435,458	900,337	17.8	22.3	20.0
2015/16 BMTHS	68,535	80,765	149,300	352,872	341,877	694,750	421,509	422,541	844,050	16.3	19.1	17.7

Table 8: The Economically Active Population by District, 2015/16 Botswana Multi Topic Household Survey

District	Employed			Unemployed			Total			Unemployment Rate (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Gaborone	55,343	55,012	110,355	7,188	8,445	15,633	62,531	63,457	125,988	11.5	13.3	12.4
Francistown	17,855	17,881	35,736	2406	3,901	6,307	20,261	21,782	42,043	11.9	17.9	15.0
Lobatse	5,035	4,797	9,832	474	965	1,438	5,509	5,762	11,270	8.6	16.7	12.8
Selebi_Pikwe	13,187	9,385	22,572	1,515	4,311	5,826	14,702	13,696	28,398	10.2	31.7	20.5
Orapa	5,250	2,891	8,141	0	972	972	5,250	3,863	9,113	0.0	25.2	10.7
Jwaneng	4,431	3,952	8,384	175	414	588	4,606	4,366	8,972	3.8	9.5	6.6
Sowa Town	786	554	1,340	104	92	196	890	646	1,536	11.7	14.2	12.8
Ngwaketse	15,300	15,081	30,381	4,289	6,660	10,950	19,589	21,741	41,331	21.9	30.6	26.5
Barolong	7,498	8,516	16,014	993	1,087	2,081	8,491	9,603	18,095	11.7	11.3	11.5
Ngwaketse West	1,616	1,607	3,223	472	498	970	2,088	2,105	4,193	22.6	23.7	23.1
South East	16,359	20,845	37,204	4,296	3,643	7,939	20,655	24,488	45,143	20.8	14.9	17.6
Kweneng East	52,565	48,595	101,160	10,846	10,407	21,253	63,411	59,002	122,413	17.1	17.6	17.4
Kweneng West	9,287	8,943	18,230	3,465	2,471	5,936	12,752	11,414	24,166	27.2	21.6	24.6
Kgatleng	17,920	14,001	31,921	3,577	3,795	7,371	21,497	17,796	39,292	16.6	21.3	18.8
Serowe/Palapye	26,401	26,391	52,793	5,939	7,064	13,003	32,340	33,455	65,796	18.4	21.1	19.8
Central Mahalapye	16,512	17,880	34,391	5,175	5,064	10,239	21,687	22,944	44,630	23.9	22.1	22.9
Central Bobonong	10,287	10,187	20,474	1,301	2,407	3,708	11,588	12,594	24,182	11.2	19.1	15.3
Central Boteti	10,335	9,259	19,594	3,075	1,375	4,450	13,410	10,634	24,044	22.9	12.9	18.5
Central Tutume	17,370	19,425	36,794	3,015	3,725	6,740	20,385	23,150	43,534	14.8	16.1	15.5
North East	6,624	8,540	15,164	893	953	1,845	7,517	9,493	17,009	11.9	10.0	10.8
Ngamiland East	14,555	14,292	28,847	5,784	6,306	12,090	20,339	20,598	40,937	28.4	30.6	29.5
Ngamiland West	6,755	7,848	14,602	2,391	3,608	5,999	9,146	11,456	20,601	26.1	31.5	29.1
Chobe	5,257	5,385	10,642	306	918	1,223	5,563	6,303	11,865	5.5	14.6	10.3
Ghanzi	7,121	5,374	12,495	499	820	1,320	7,620	6,194	13,815	6.6	13.2	9.6
Kgalagadi South	5,177	2,260	7,437	296	629	926	5,473	2,889	8,363	5.4	21.8	11.1
Kgalagadi North	4,047	2,976	7,023	60	236	296	4,107	3,212	7,319	1.5	7.3	4.0
Total	352,872	341,877	694,749	68,535	80,765	149,300	421,407	422,642	844,049	16.3	19.1	17.7