

Malawi
2024

Labour Force Survey Factsheet



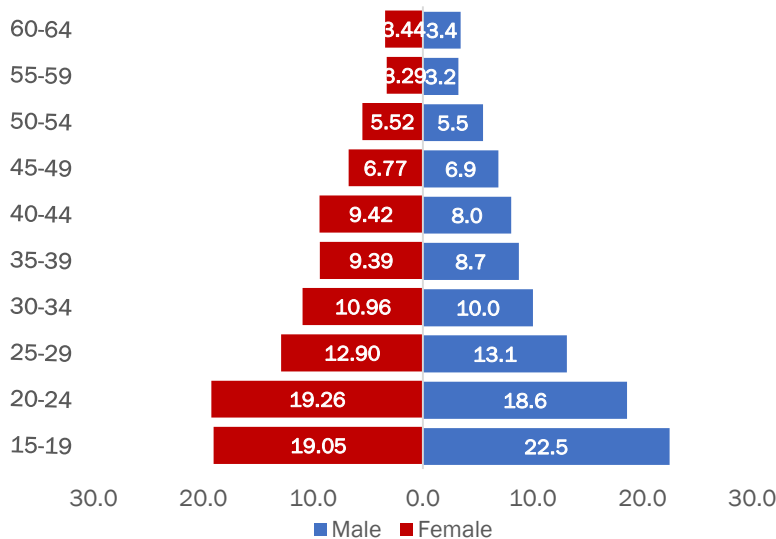
Working Age Population: Age 15-64



THE WORLD BANK



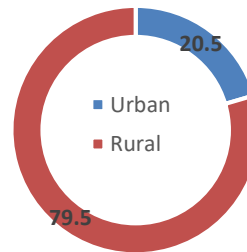
Age & Sex Distribution of the working age population



The working-age population refers to the population who are at the minimum age for access to the labour market. At the global level, the minimum age is 15 years. In the 2024 Malawi labour force survey, the working age population was set to 15-64 years.



10,996,589
working age population(est.)



54% females

The Labour Force

The labour force comprises a group of the population that represents the current supply and demand of labour for the production of goods and services that are taking place in a country through market transactions in exchange for remuneration. It constitutes the employed and the unemployed persons

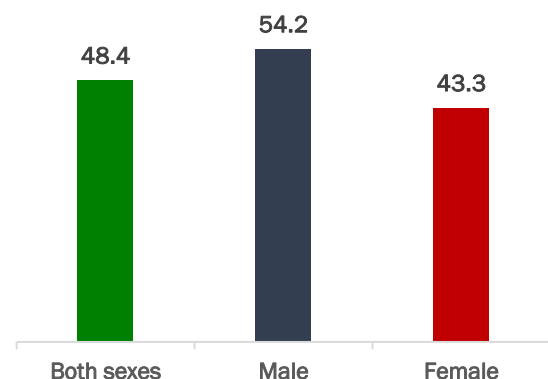
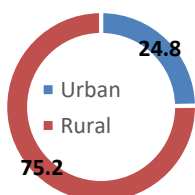
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

Labour Force 5,319,370

EPR¹ 38.8

Unemployment Rate² 19.7

Labour Underutilisation³ 55.5



¹ Employment to Population Ratio

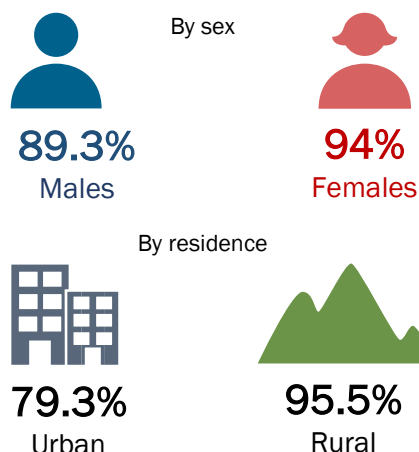
² Unemployment rate is expressed as the percentage of unemployed persons to the total labour force

³ Labour underutilization: represents the share of the extended labour force that is either in unemployment, time-related underemployment or in the potential labour force.

The number of persons in the labour force as a percentage of the working-age population. This provides an indication of the size of the supply of labour available to engage in the production of goods and services, relative to the population at working age.

Informality

Total in informal employment



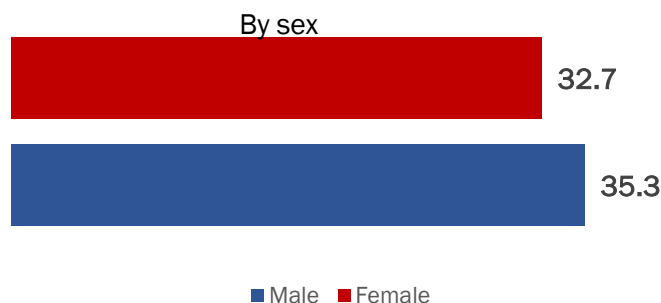
Percentage of persons employed informally in relation to the total number of persons employed (ages 15 to 64).

Informality in the agricultural sector



Paid employees are classified as being in informal employment if they do not receive benefits such as (a) paid leave, (b) employer contributions to social security, (c) compensation for unused leave days, (d) paid sick leave, (e) medical benefits, or (f) tax deductions from their salary. Workers in informal employment often lack organized representation. Over time, a decreasing share of informal employment in total employment signifies progress toward formality, which is essential for achieving decent work.

Informal employment in the formal sector



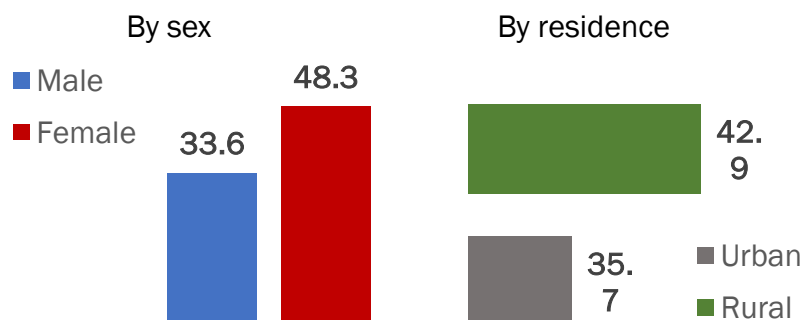
Percentage of employed population in the formal sector that are employed informally

Informal employees in the formal sector are workers in the formal sector engaged in activity to produce goods or provide services for pay or profit who are not effectively covered by formal arrangements.

Youth

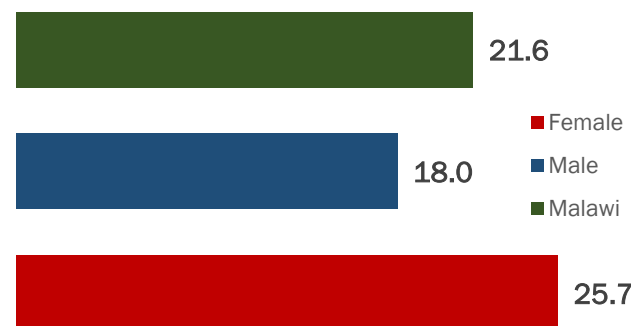
Malawi's population is predominantly youthful due to the persistent high fertility the country has experienced over the past years. This means that every year, the number of young people entering the labour market is increasing. While the number of new entrants in the labour force has been growing rapidly, the country's economy has not been growing fast enough to create employment opportunities to meet the demand.

Youth (15-35) Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)



Population aged 15 to 35 that is not in employment, not in education and not in training.

Youth Unemployment Rate



Percentage of the youth labour force that is: Not in Employment, Seeking work, Available to start working (age 15 to 35)