



# LIBERIA INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS AND GEO-INFORMATION SERVICES (LISGIS)



## Thematic Report on Labour and Employment 2022 Liberia Population and Housing Census





## **Disclaimer** Thematic Report: Labor and Employment - 2022 LPHC

Dear Reader,

I am pleased to present this document as a highlight summary of the upcoming Thematic Report on Labor and Employment from the 2022 Liberia Population and Housing Census (LPHC). This summary offers a snapshot of the key findings and insights that will be detailed in the final report.

Please note that the full report is currently undergoing finalization, which includes comprehensive editing, formatting, graphic designing, and proofreading. The finalized version will replace this document once it is completed.

We appreciate your patience and look forward to sharing the complete report with you soon.

Best regards,

Johnson Q. Kei  
Deputy Director General for Information and Coordination  
Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS)



# Outline

- ⇒ Background and Context
- ⇒ Objectives
- ⇒ Methodology
- ⇒ Key Findings
- ⇒ Policy Implications & Recommendations



## Background and Context

- Creating more and quality jobs is key to boosting growth, reducing poverty and increasing social cohesion.
- At national level, job creation requires a stable macroeconomic framework coupled with structural policies that encourage innovation, skills and business development.
- How can national and local policies be better aligned and tailored to specific local opportunities and challenges?
- Statistics about the labour force deal with the working-age population, presenting data on its size, structure and characteristics, and more specifically, information on employment, unemployment, and persons outside the labour force.
- Population censuses usually collect information on work activities the population is engaged in, sector of employment and industry of employment



## Objectives

- To estimate the size of the Labour force and related aggregates like unemployment and persons outside the Labour force
- To analyze the characteristics of the working population by sex, age, locality and county of residence
- To propose recommendations on the findings

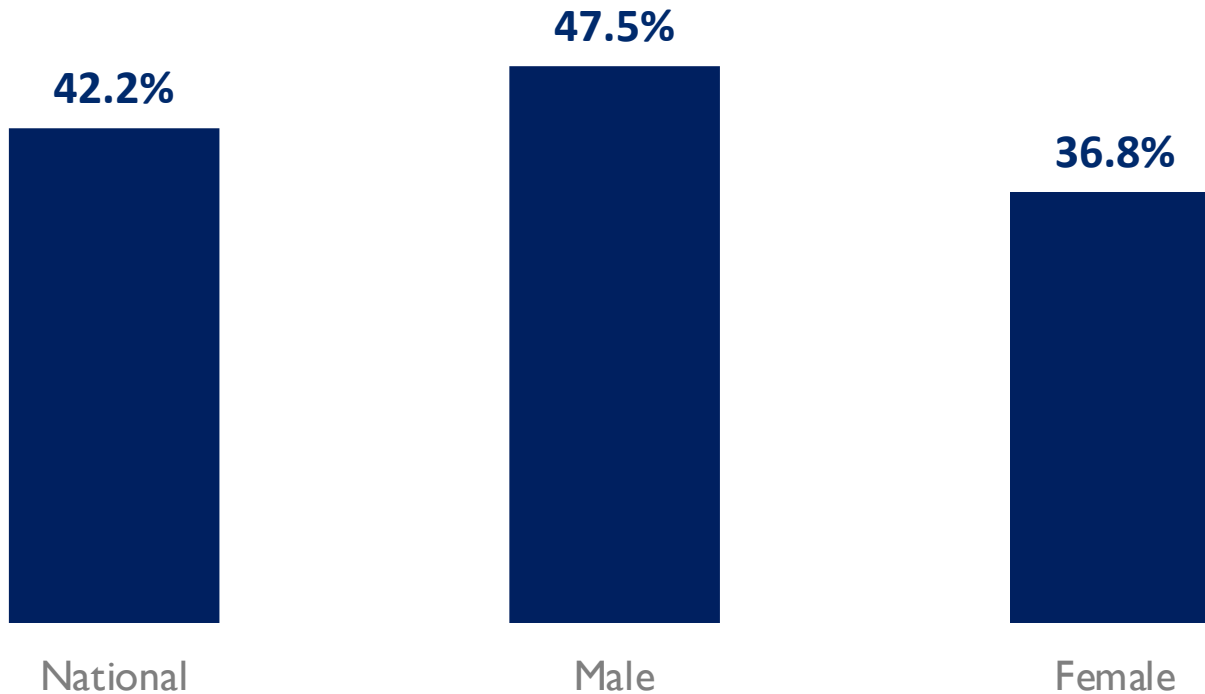


## Methodology

- The report used data from the 2022 LPHC
- Descriptive analysis using tables, proportions and graphics
- Analysis focuses on the work activity of the population five years and older.
- The analysis has been done for the national population, disaggregated by sex, locality and county of residence



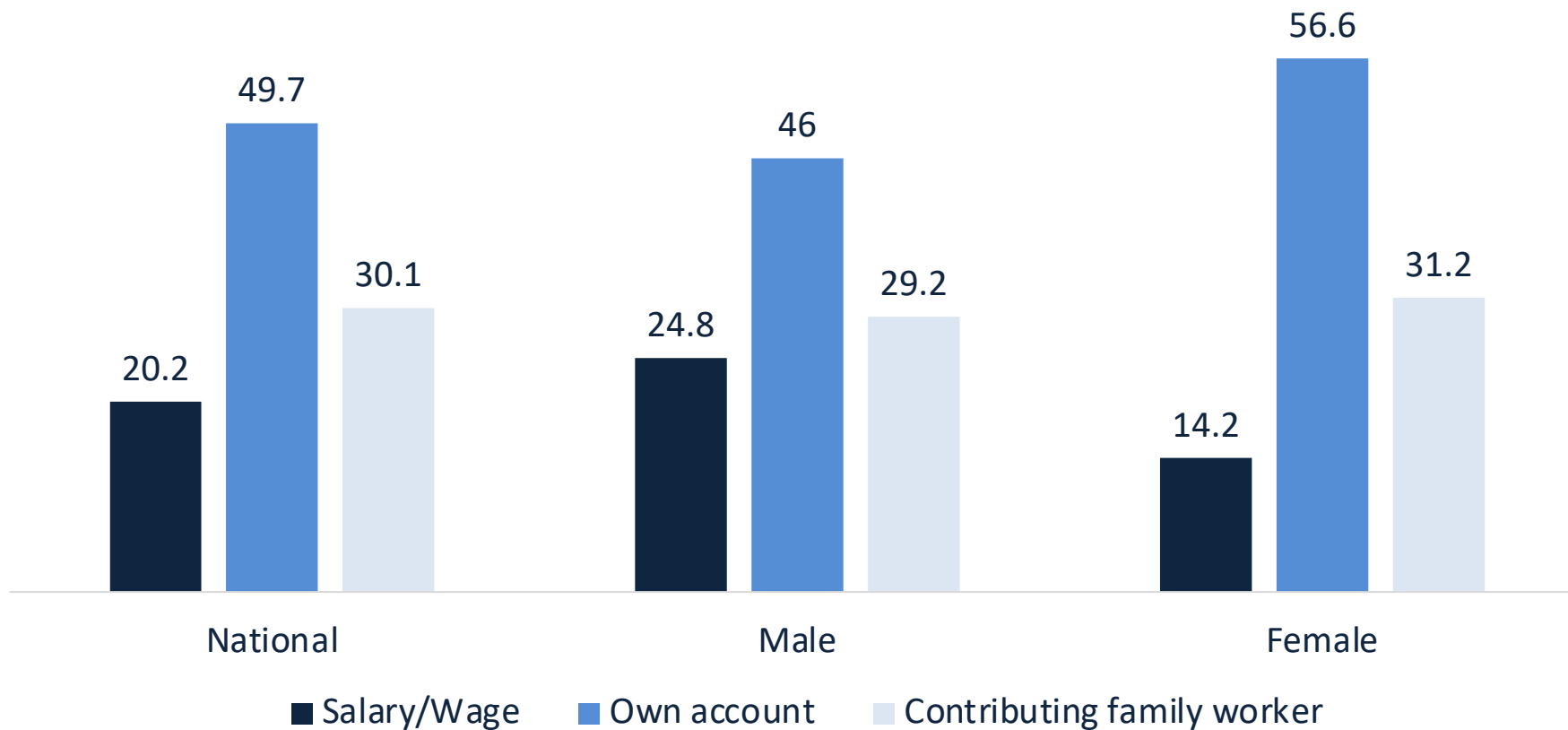
## Work Activity Rate (5 Years and above)



The national activity rate is **42.2%**, with the rate for males (47.5%) higher than that of females (36.8%).



## Economic Activity by work status and sex

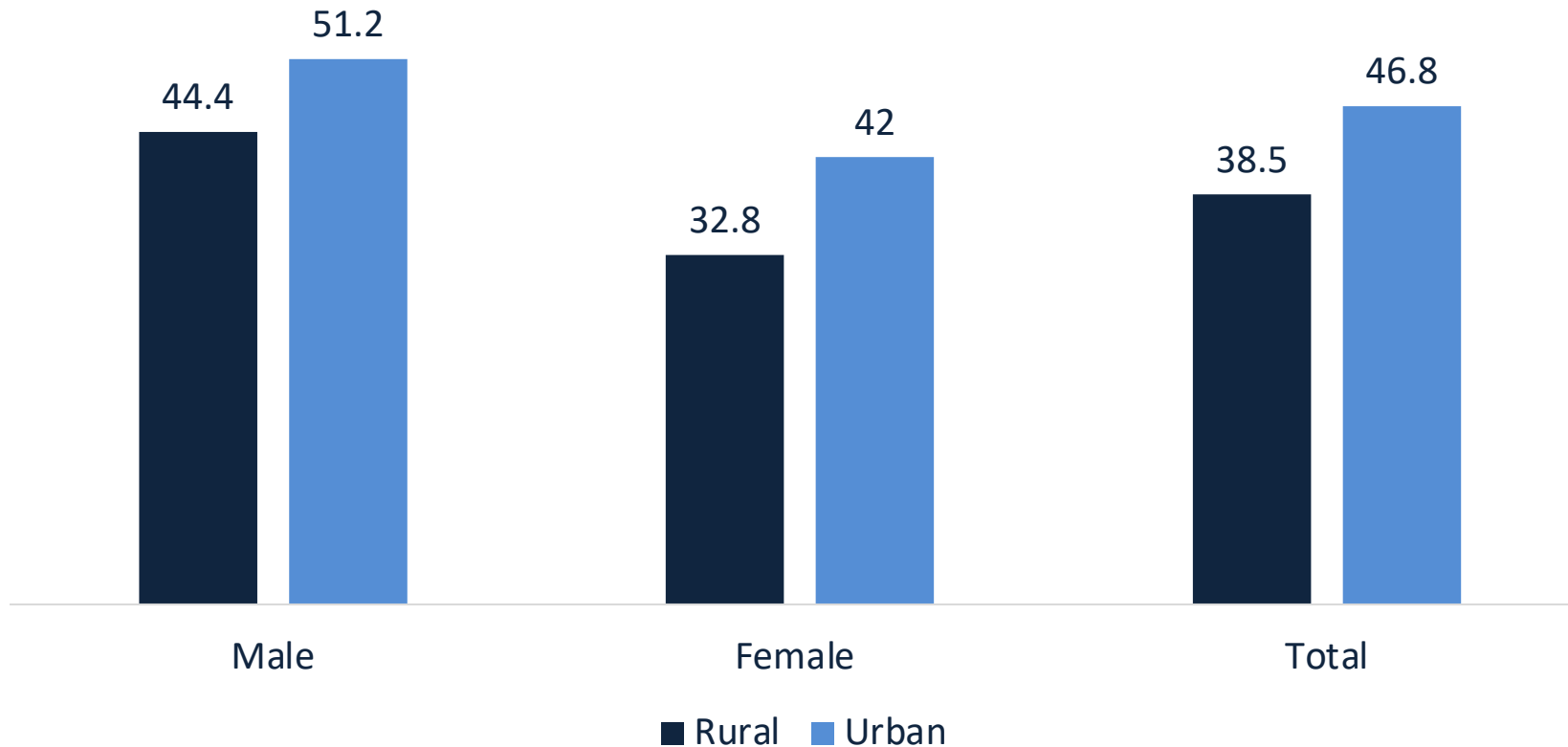


More males are found in salary/wage work while females dominate in own account work





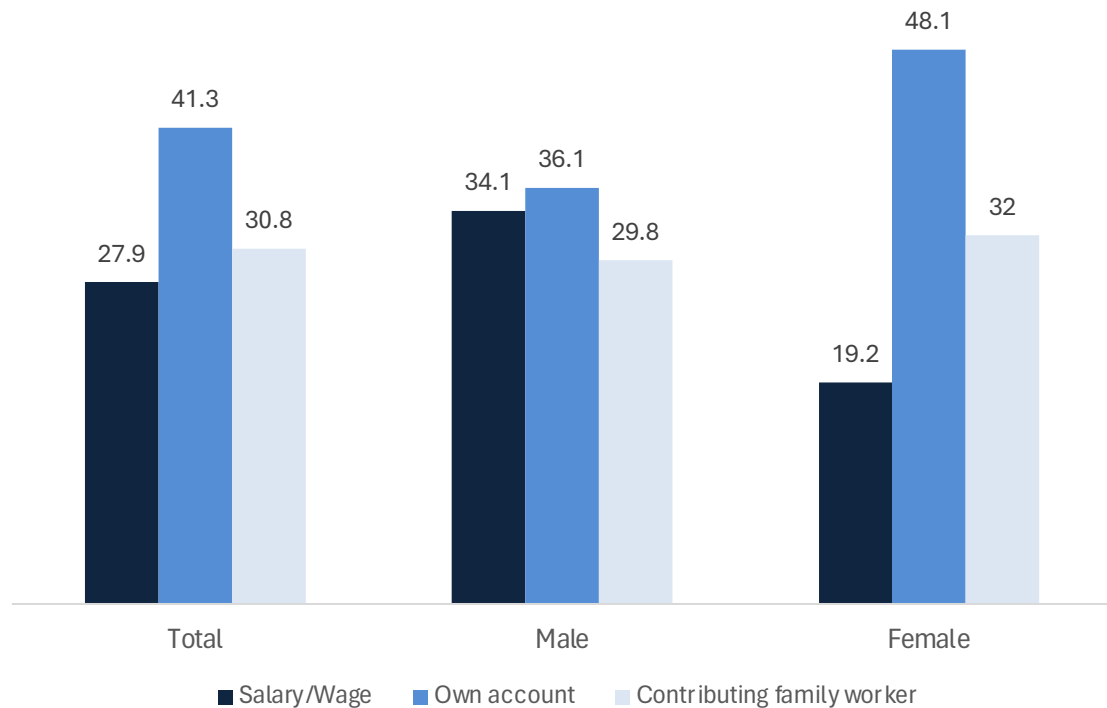
## Activity rate by locality and sex



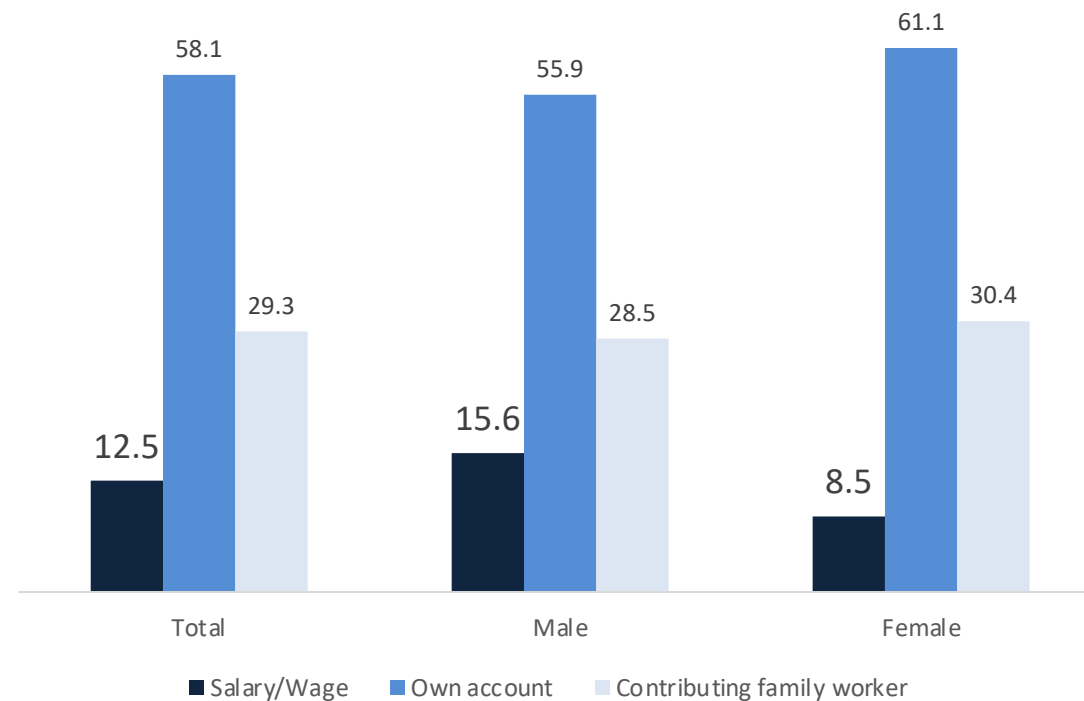
Activity rate is higher in rural localities than urban for both sexes.  
Irrespective of locality, activity rate is higher in males than females



## Distribution of the urban and rural population by work activity status



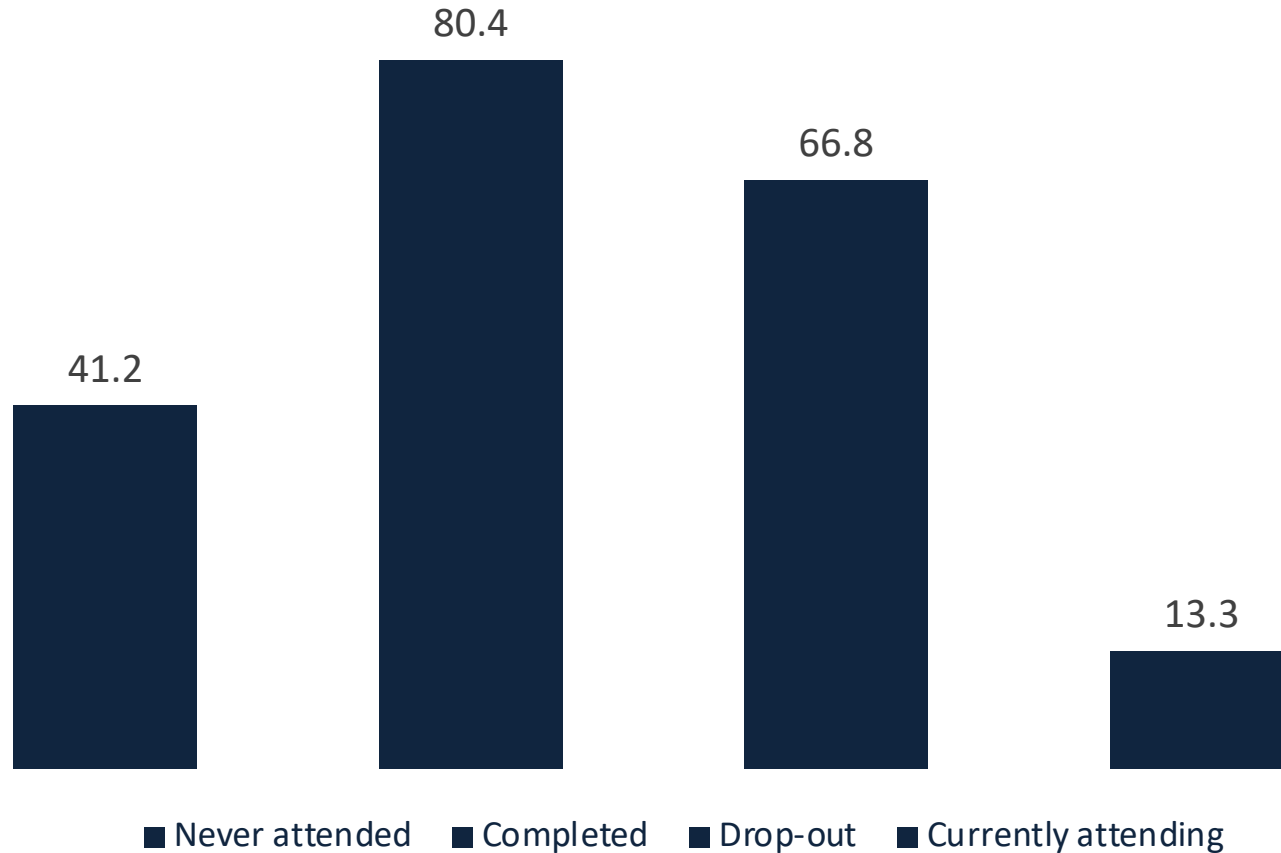
Proportion of males in salary/wage work is significantly higher than that of the females. The reverse is true for the own account work category



Like the urban localities, the proportion of rural males in salary/ wage work is higher than the rural females. Majority of rural dwellers are engaged in own account work, with the female proportion higher than the males



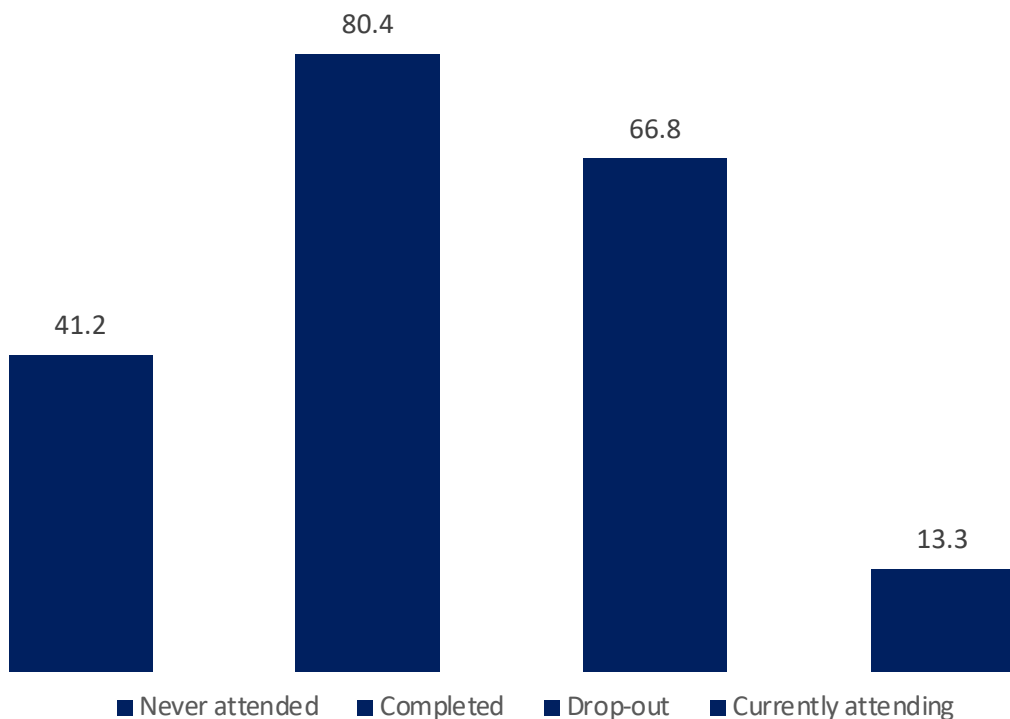
## Activity rate by school attendance



Activity rate is highest with persons who have completed a level of education **(80.4%)**, and lowest for those currently attending school **(13.3%)**

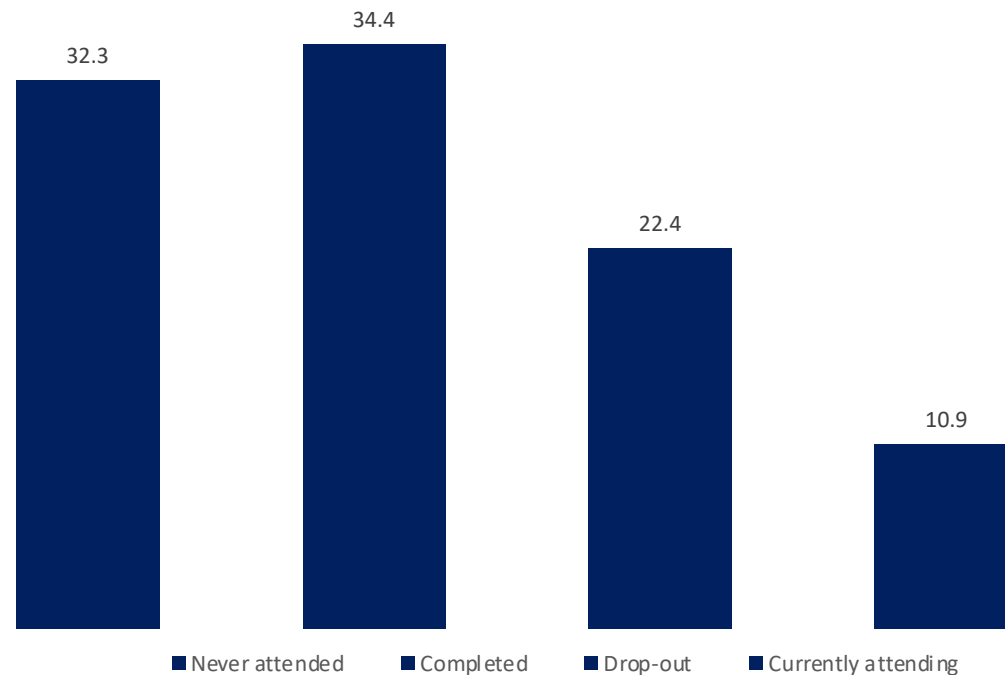


## Activity rate by school attendance



Activity rate is highest with persons who have completed a level of education (**80.4%**), and lowest for those currently attending school (**13.3%**)

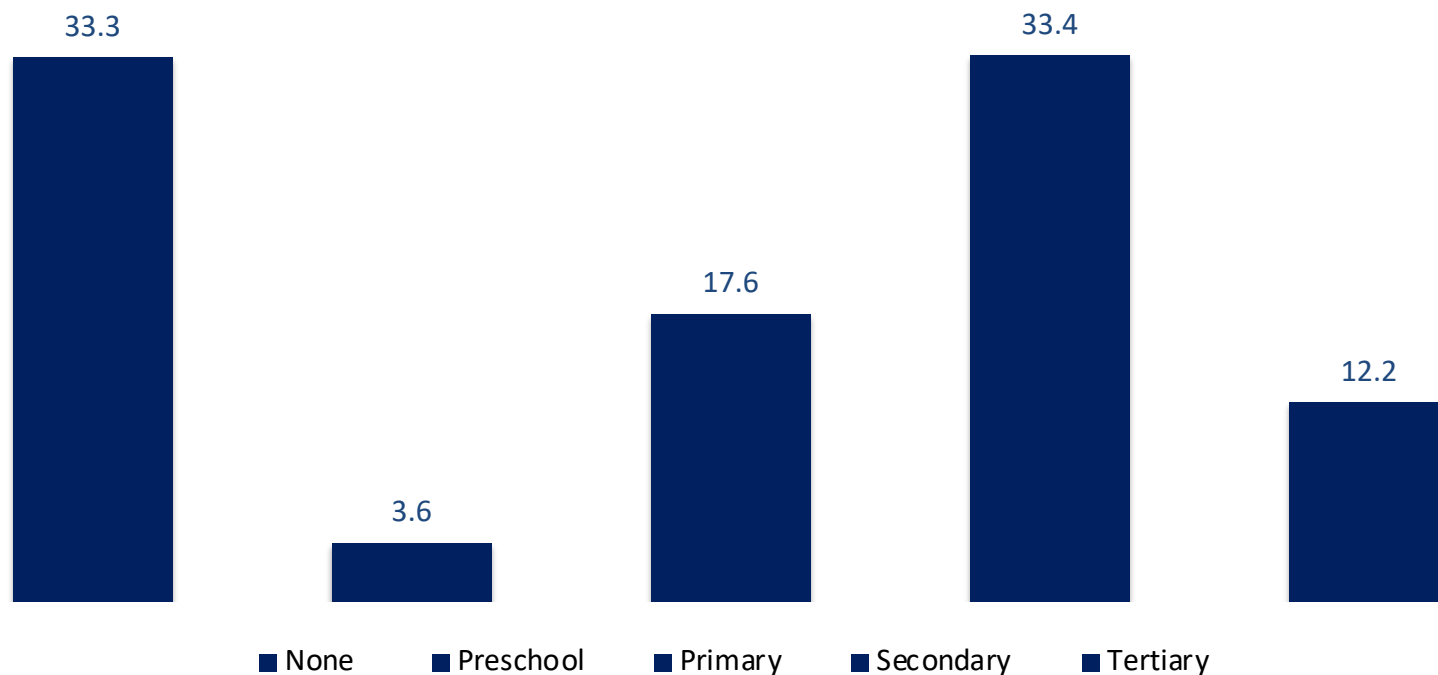
## Economic activity by school attendance



Persons who have completed a level of education constitute a little more than one third of total persons that worked. Those currently attending school constitute the lowest proportion of the persons who worked



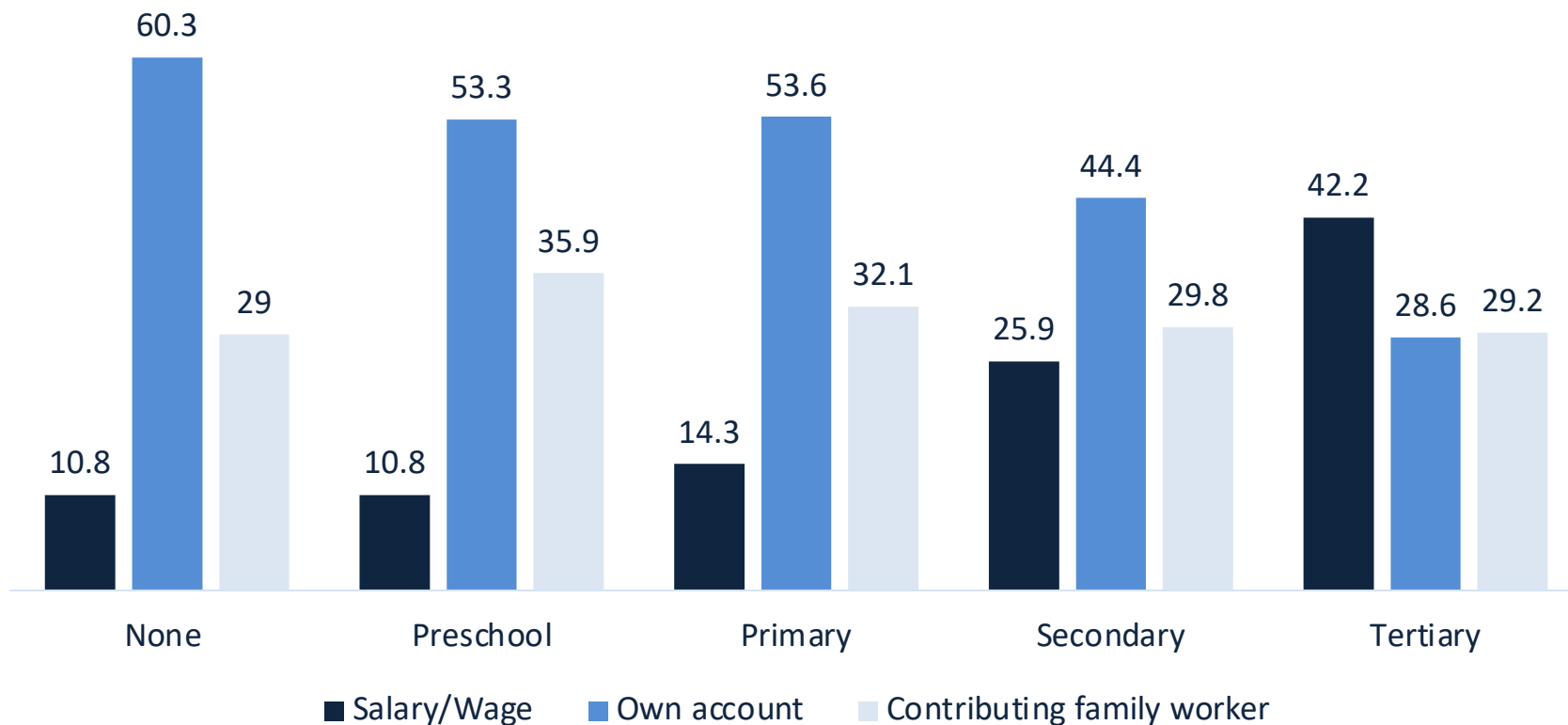
## Education attainment of person who performed economic activity



The persons who performed economic activities were dominated by persons who had attained secondary educational level (33.4%) and persons with no level of educational attainment (33.3%)



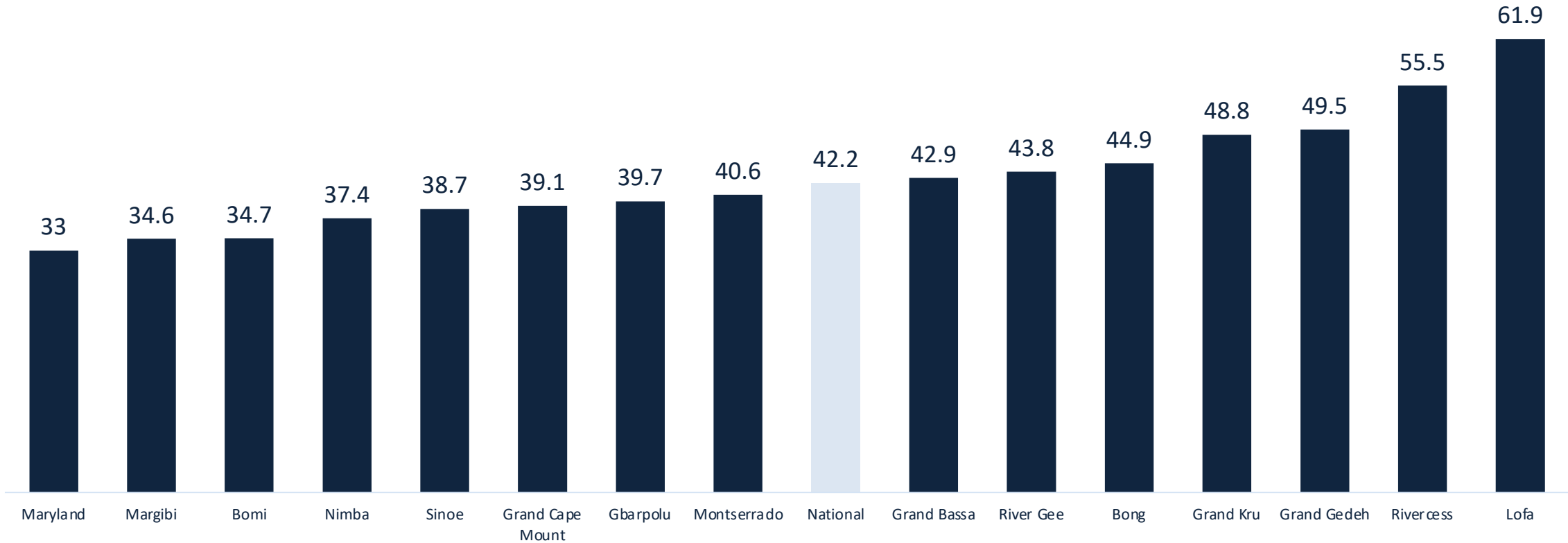
## Work Activity status by Education attainment



The higher the education attainment the more likely a person will be engaged in a salary/wage work. For own account work, the lower the education attainment, the higher the likelihood of being engaged in that work activity



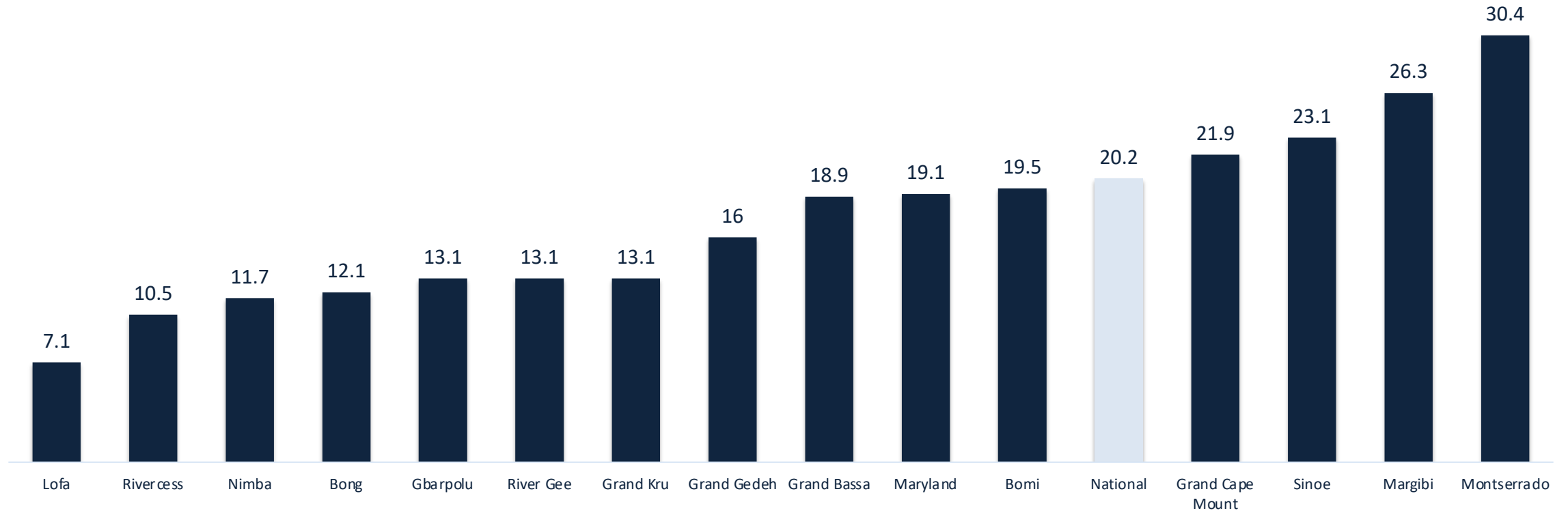
## Activity Rate by County



Lofa recorded the highest activity rate **(61.9%)** and Maryland the lowest **(33%)**



## Proportion of person engaged in salary/wage work by county

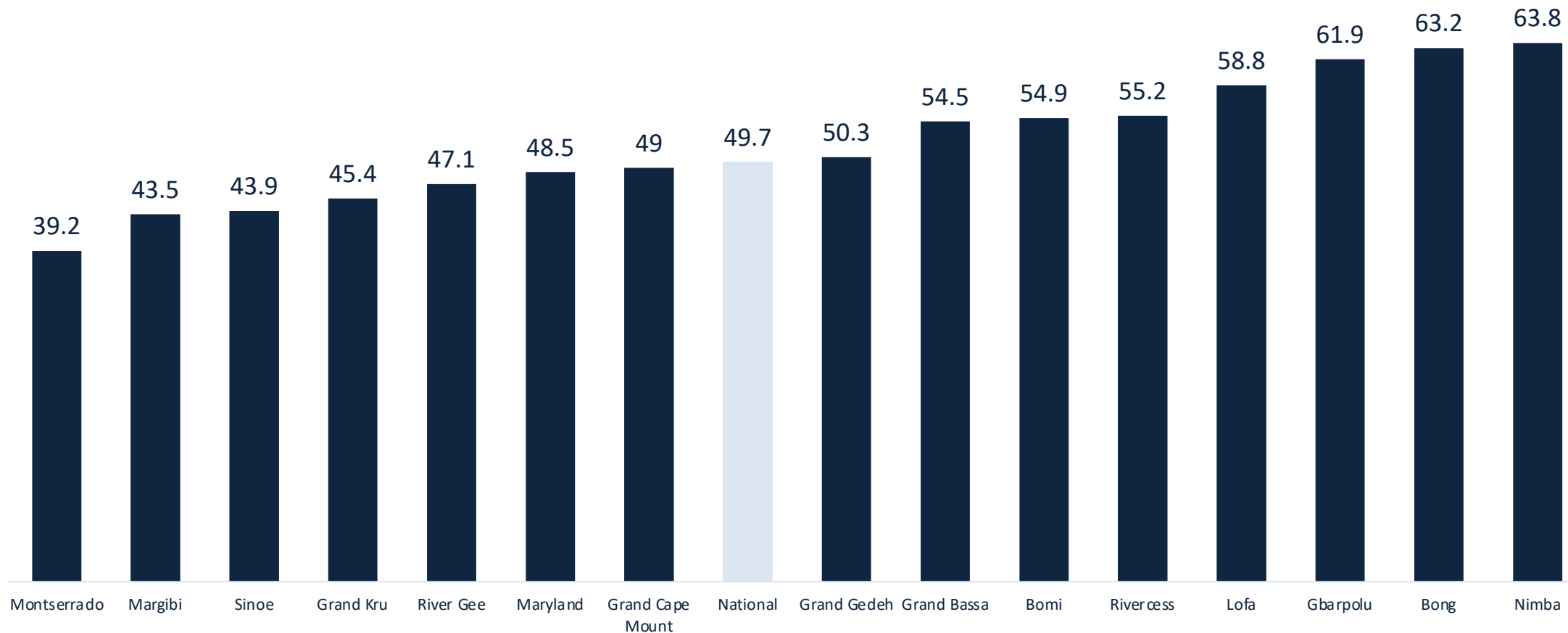


Only 4 out of the 15 counties had more than 20% of persons who worked in salary/ wage work with Montserrado recording the highest proportion of 30.4%. Lofa recorded the least





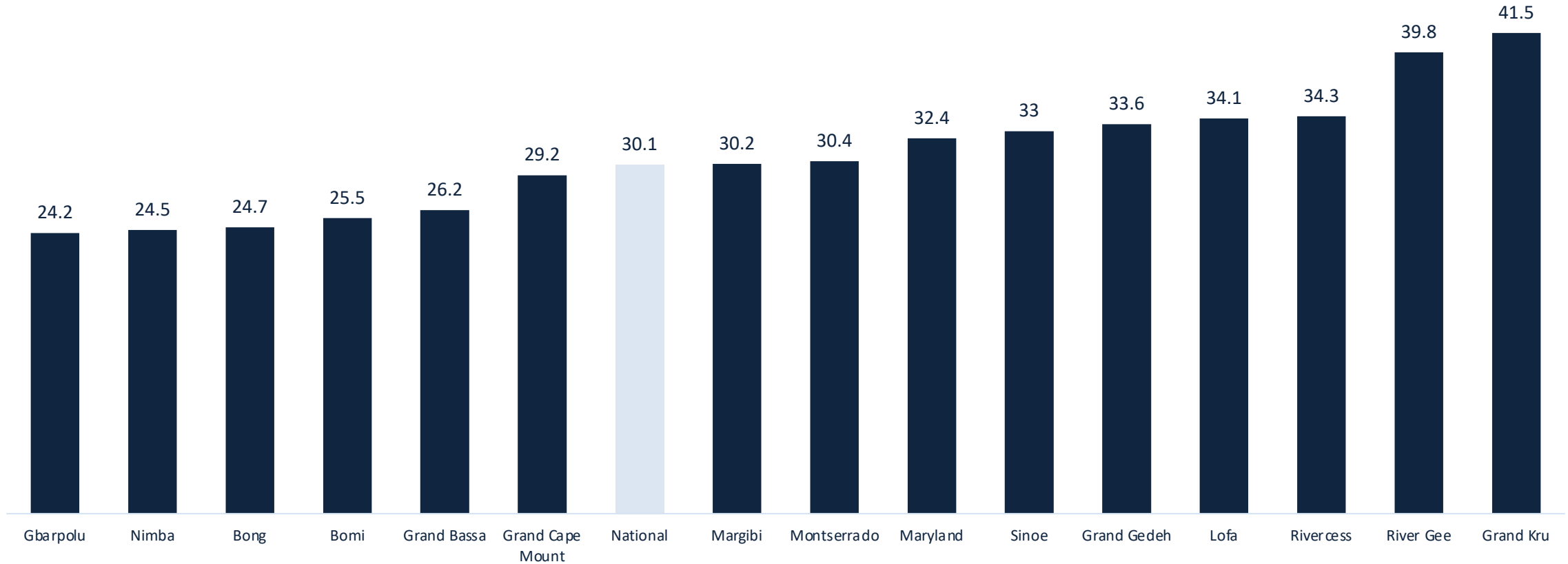
## Proportion of person engaged in own account work by county



Montserrado (39.2%) had the lowest proportion and Nimba (63.8%) the highest



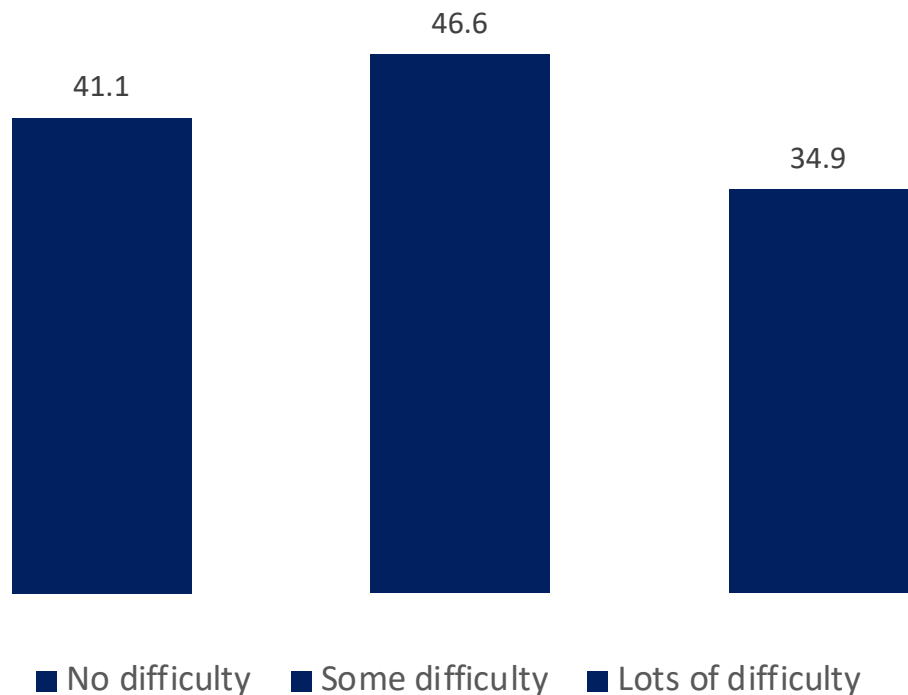
## Proportion of person engaged in contributing family work by county



Gbarpolu (24.4%) had the lowest proportion and Grand Kru (41.5%) the highest



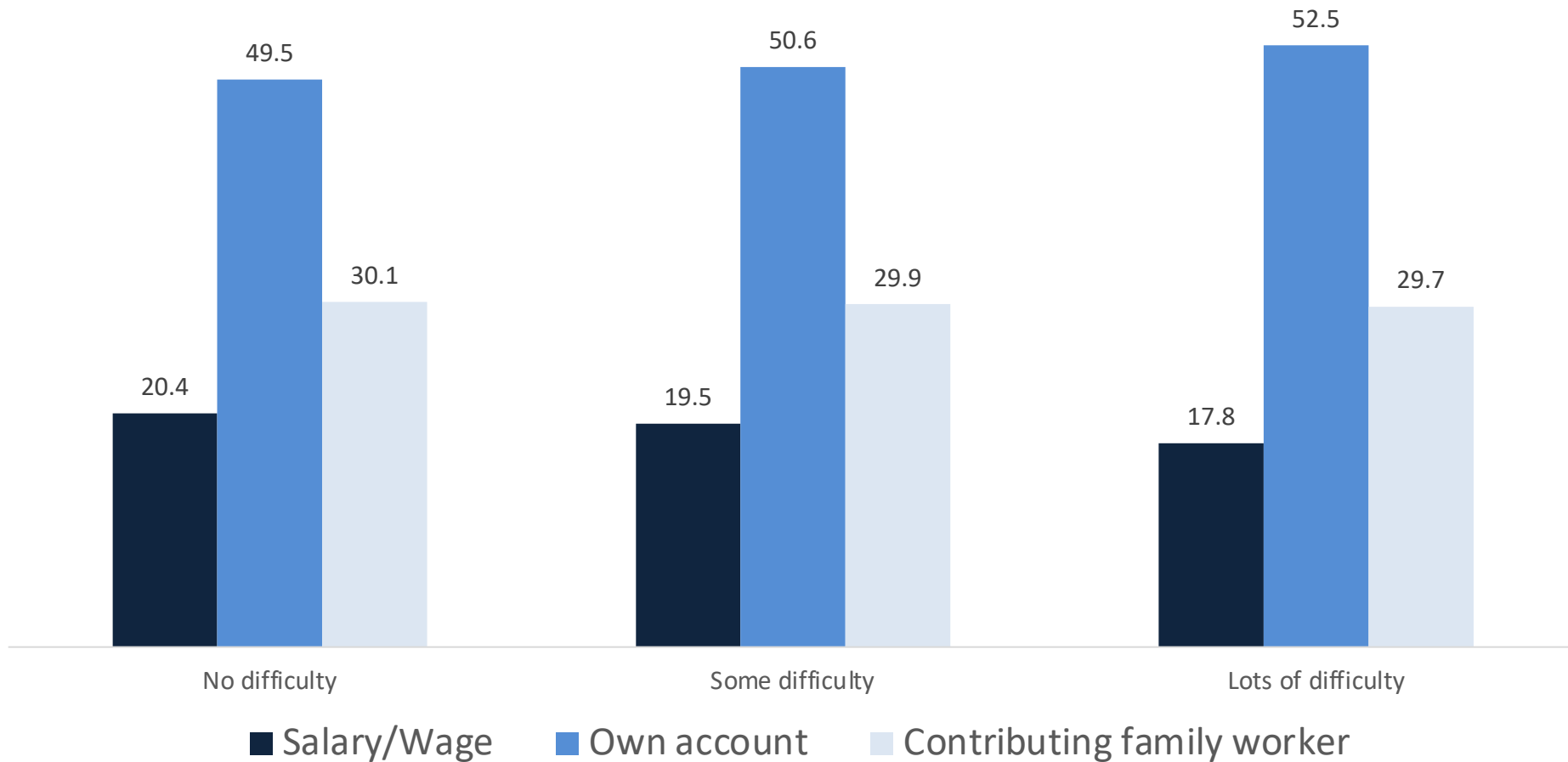
## Activity rate by severity of disability



Persons with some difficulty (46.6%) have the highest activity rate with those with lots of difficulty having the lowest rate (34.9%)



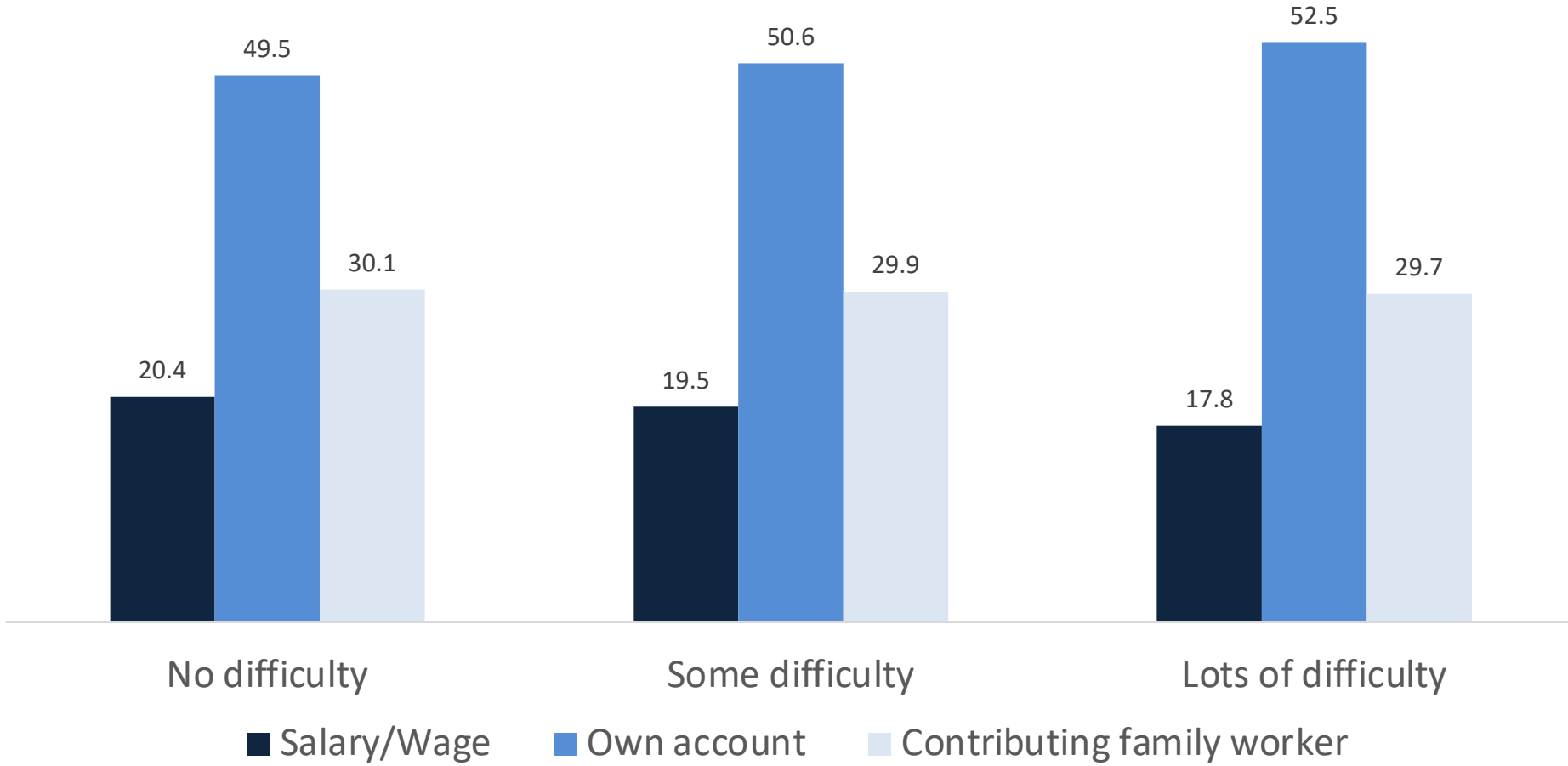
## Work Activity status by severity of disability



Engagement in salary/wage work reduces with severity of disability, while own account work increases with severity of disability



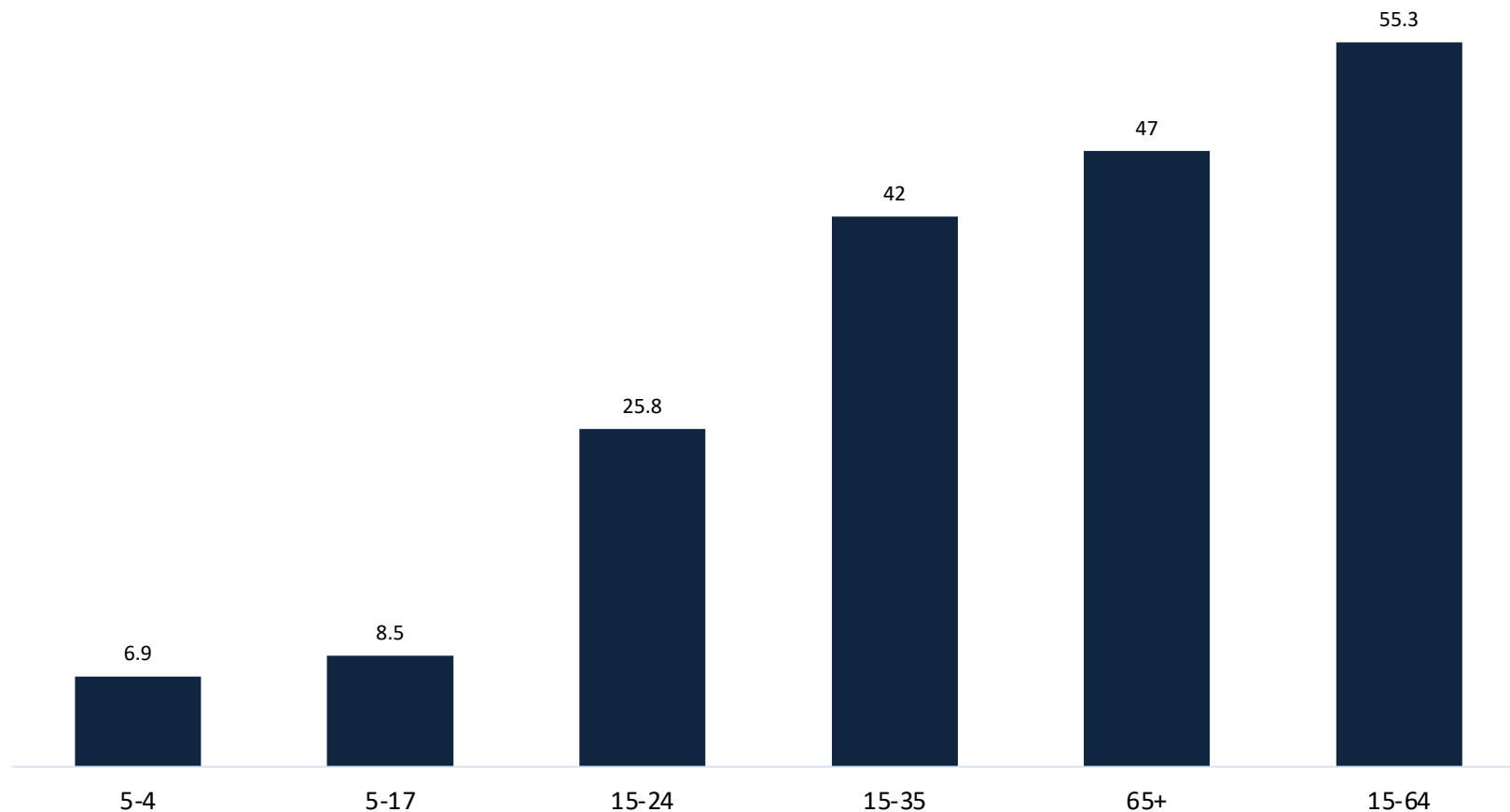
# Work Activity status by severity of disability



Engagement in salary/wage work reduces with severity of disability, while own account work increases with severity of disability



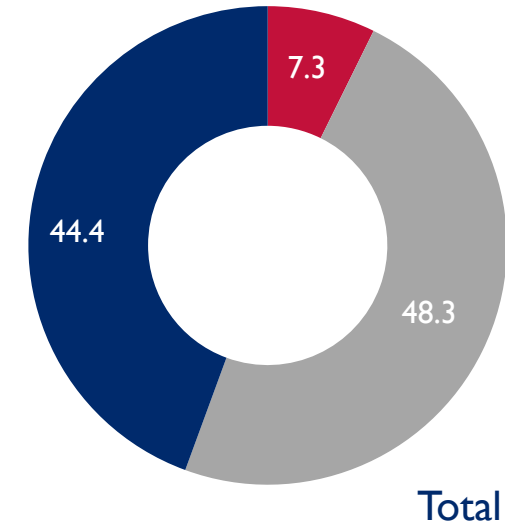
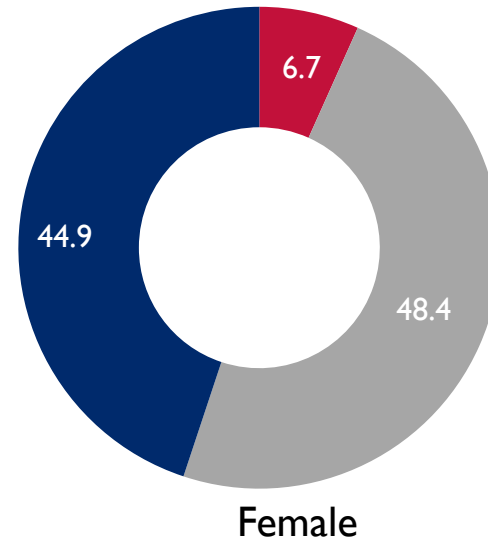
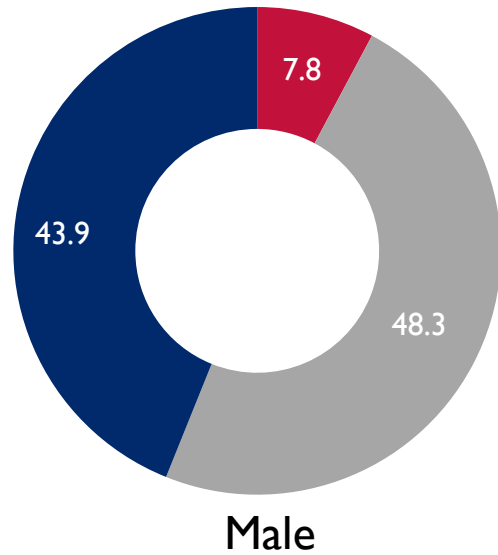
## Activity rate of the different age group



The activity rate of the working-age population (15-64 years) is the highest



## Distribution of persons 5-17 years by work activity status and sex

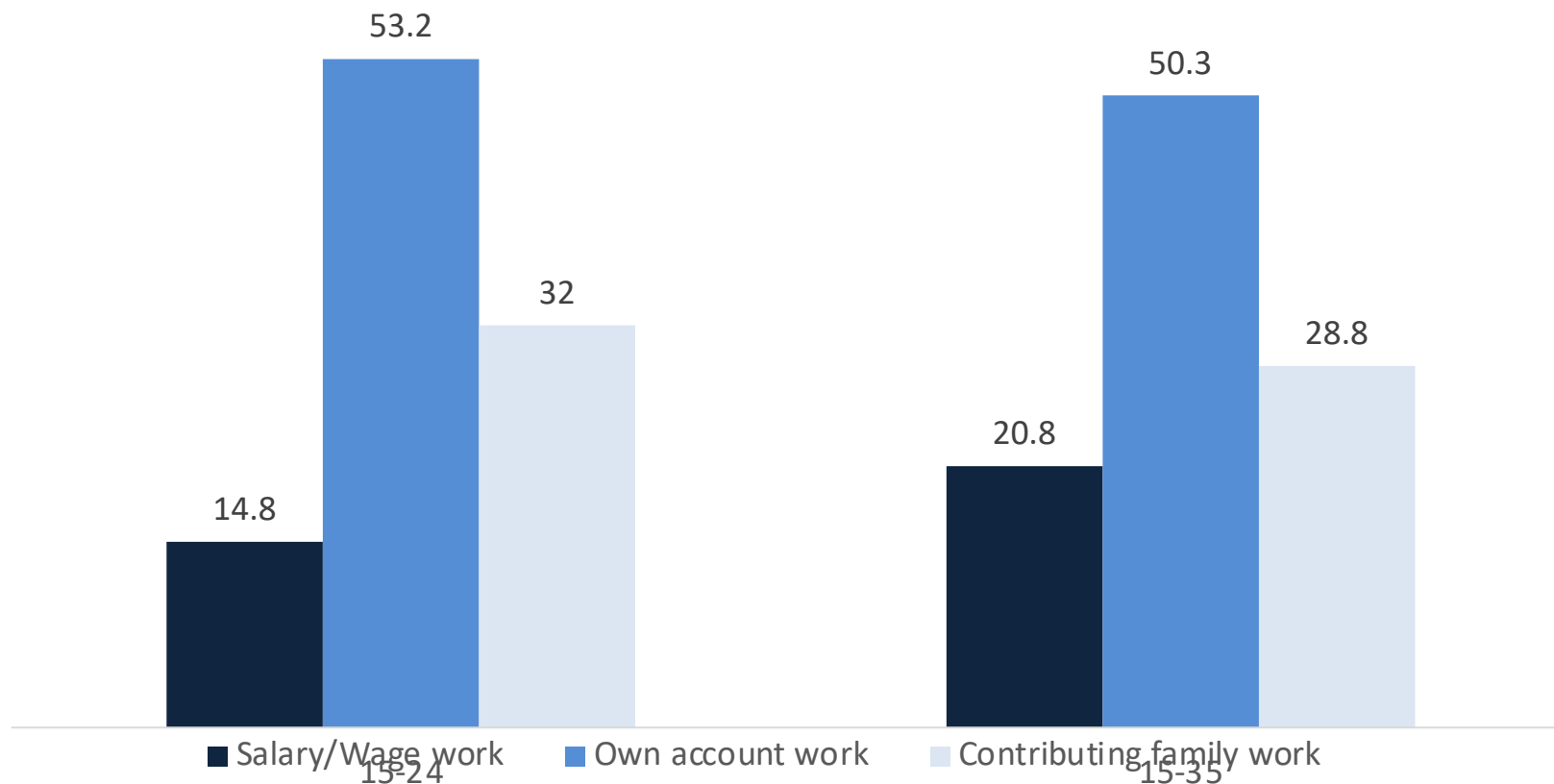


■ Salary/Wage work ■ Own account work ■ Contributing family work

The largest proportion is engaged in own account work for both sexes, followed by contributing family work. The proportion of males in salary/wage work is higher than that of females



## Distribution of the youth by work activity

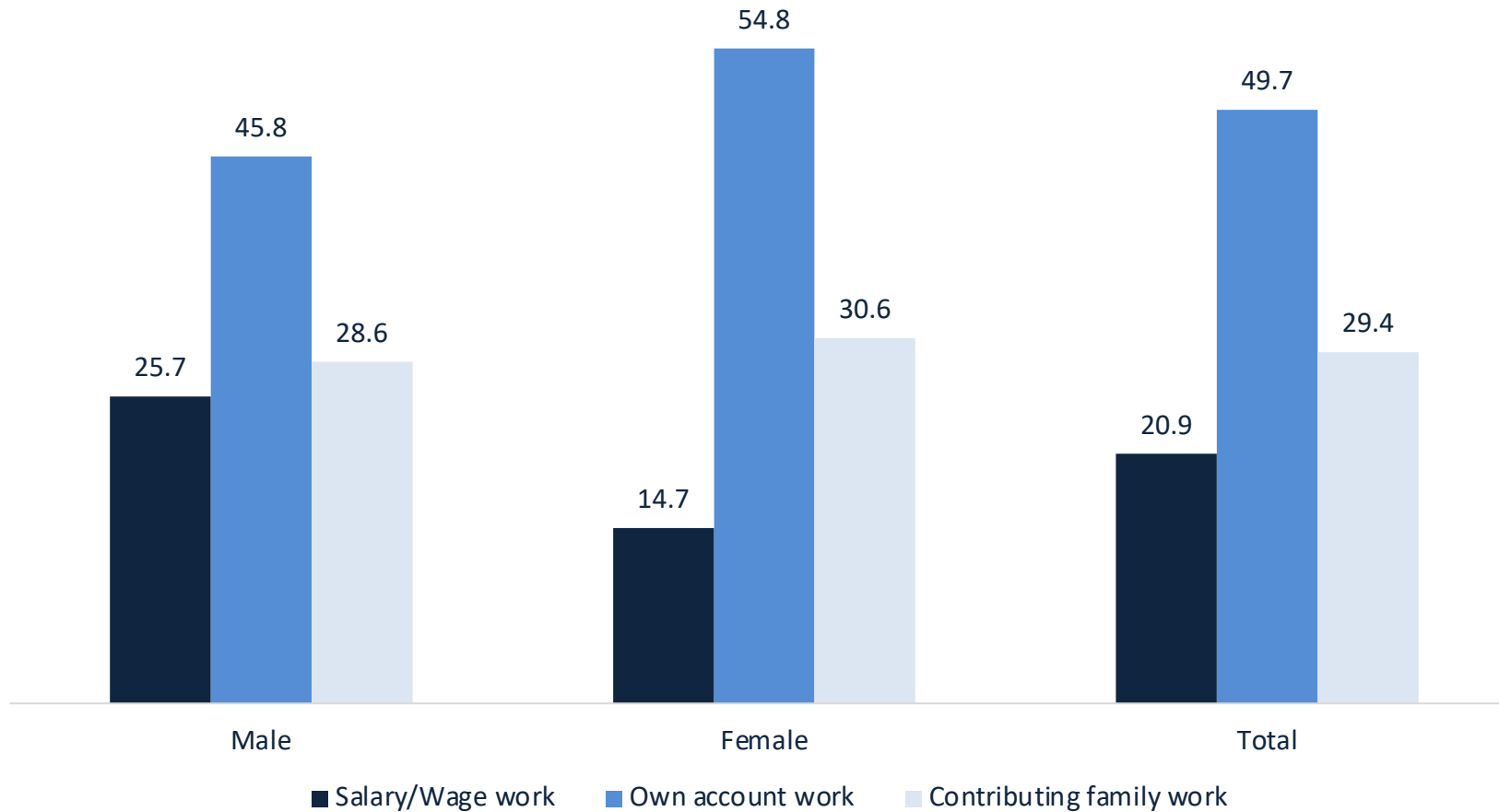


More than half of youth in the two age groups were engaged in own account work. The proportion of youth aged 15-35 in salary work (20.8%) is higher compared to age group 15-24.





# Distribution of the working population (15-64 years) by work activity





The quality of the labor force need to be looked at as majority of workers have not attained education above the primary school. This makes it difficult for the working-age population to be employed in decent jobs

- The low activity rate among the youth is of great concern. Youth unemployment can generate frustration and low self-esteem and can lead to increased vulnerability among some young people to drugs, disease and crime.
- Creating and fulfilling income-generating job opportunities for young people can have direct positive consequences for poverty alleviation. Youth employment thus benefits social development.
- Female labour force participation is an important aspect of economic empowerment. Therefore, the lower participation rate observed in this report should be given greater attention.



## Policy Recommendations

- Put a mechanisms in place to encourage entrepreneurship and skills development
- The Government should consider extending social security to informal sector workers (own account and contributing family workers)
- An affirmative action for women's empowerment (such as establishing health insurance for women in the informal sector, including maternity leave and allowance) would provide an enabling environment for access to credit from financial institutions.

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Skills and well-remunerated human resources are the key to any country's socio-economic development and prosperity.
- Introduce or improve skills training programmes in both primary and junior secondary school.
- Vocational training to be decentralized and a new certification scheme developed to absorb grade-nine graduates. A comprehensive national skills development programme needs to be in place for those with less or no educational attainment.
- Establish or revive national agricultural model farms in rural areas for farmer training programs to improve skills and capacity of farmers
- Develop and enhance policies that will enhance decent and productive employment in rural areas to ensure adequate levels of income for better livelihood security for the workers and their families
- Encourage commercial farming particularly in poultry and dairy in rural areas to increase employment opportunities and improved livelihoods of the farmers. This will help control rural-urban migration in search of job opportunities
- Promote self-employment for young people by encouraging the setting up of small and medium-scale enterprises and establishments
- Policies to help the informal sector job to move gradually to the formal sector