

LABOUR FORCE

and HOUSEHOLD LIVING CONDITIONS SURVEY
2018-2019 in ZGHARTA



**Labour Force and Household Living
Conditions Survey (LFHLCS)
2018-2019 in Zgharta**

Suggested citation:

**"Labour Force and Household Living Conditions Survey 2018-2019 in Zgharta", Central
Administration of Statistics, 2020**

Copyright © Lebanese Republic Central Administration of Statistics 2020

Acknowledgments

This report comes as one of a series of reports launched by the Central Administration of Statistics, covering the twenty-six districts of Lebanon. Producing these reports was a collaborative endeavor between the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Official statistics presented in this report are drawn from the findings of the national Labour Force and Households Living Conditions Survey (LFHLCS) that was carried out by CAS between 2018 and 2019 with funding from the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon and the technical cooperation of the Regional Office for Arab States of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

CAS acknowledges the professional input and contribution of all the partners, experts, and staff who have been particularly active and supportive along the production process in the elaboration, preparation and drafting of the final series of district statistics.

CAS would like to express its sincere appreciation to Celine Moyroud and the UNDP core team for all of their technical and administrative support. Also gratefully acknowledged are the contributions of CAS staff: Haifa Hussein, Mayssaa Daher, Ali Hamieh and Amina Basbous.

Dr Maral Tutélian - Guidanian
Director General
Central Administration of Statistics

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CAS	Central Administration of Statistics
GER	The Gross Enrolment Ratio
ILO	International Labour Organization
LFHLCS	Labour Force and Households' Living Conditions Survey
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NER	The Net Enrolment Rate
NSSF	National Social Security Fund
SMAM	Singulate Mean Age at Marriage
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

Table of Contents

About the Survey	1
District Statistics	2
I. DEMOGRAPHICS	4
The residents in Zgharta: who and how many are they?	4
II. HOUSING	6
Where do residents in Zgharta live?	6
Primary residences by area (m ²)	6
How many rooms does a household have?	7
Persons per room	7
Are the primary residences old or new?	8
Connectivity to infrastructure and utilities	8
Cost associated with residence	9
Home appliances and means of transportation.....	9
Access to basic services.....	10
III. EDUCATION	12
Gross Enrolment Ratio versus Net Enrolment Rate	12
Schooling in Zgharta.....	13
IV. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BACKGROUND	15
How much do households earn in total?	15
... and how do they perceive their wealth status?.....	15
Health Coverage	16
V. LABOUR FORCE and EMPLOYMENT	18
Labour market structure	18
Who is Employed, Searching for a job or Inactive - From a Gender Point of View.....	18
Where do they work?.....	21
... and how many hours per week.....	22
What type of jobs do they hold and where?.....	22
How many jobs are "vulnerable"?	23
Youth in Employment versus Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	24
The Team	25

List of Figures

Figure 1: Residents in Zgharta 2018-2019.....	4
Figure 2: Head of household by sex	4
Figure 3: Marital status (aged 15+) by sex	5
Figure 4: Distribution of primary residences by type of dwelling.....	6
Figure 5: Primary residences by area of residence (%)	6
Figure 6: Primary residences by number of rooms (%).....	7
Figure 7: Persons per room (%).....	7
Figure 8: Primary residences by age of residence.....	8
Figure 9: Facilities of main source of drinking water at the dwelling (%).....	8
Figure 10: Sources of electricity in primary residences	8
Figure 11: Home appliances types and means of transportation (%).....	10
Figure 12: Access to services (%).....	11
Figure 13: Distribution of students by type of educational institution.....	13
Figure 14: Residents (aged 3+) by level of education attained and sex (%)	13
Figure 15a: Illiteracy rate by age group and sex (aged 10 years +).....	14
Figure 15b: Total illiteracy rate by sex (aged 10 years +).....	14
Figure 16: Household income range from all sources in the month preceding the Survey in thousand LBP (%).....	15
Figure 17: Self classification of wealth of households	16
Figure 18: Health coverage by sex (%)	16
Figure 19: Residents (aged 15 years +) by employment status and health insurance coverage (%).....	17
Figure 20: Distribution of residents benefiting from health insurance by source of insurance	17
Figure 21: Labour force participation rate (%)	19
Figure 22: Labour force participation rate among youth and adults (%).....	19
Figure 23: Employment-to-population ratio (%).....	19
Figure 24: Employment-to-population ratio by broad age groups (%).....	20
Figure 25: Unemployment rate by sex (%).....	20
Figure 26: Unemployment rate among youth and adults (%)	20

Figure 27: Inactivity rate of residents aged 15 years + (%)	21
Figure 28: Economic activity sector by sex (%)	21
Figure 29: Average usual and actual weekly hours of work by sex.....	22
Figure 30: Employed (15 years and above) by employment status and sex (%)	23
Figure 31: Vulnerable employment (%)	23
Figure 32: Youth in employment and NEET rate (%).....	24

List of Tables

Table 1: Yearly expenditures on services for main dwellings (in thousand LBP)	9
Table 2: Enrolment by level of education (in %)	12
Table 3: Formality versus Informality (in %)	22

About the Survey

This report comes as one of a series of reports launched by the Central Administration of Statistics, covering the twenty-six districts of Lebanon. Producing these reports was a collaborative endeavor between the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Official statistics presented in this report are drawn from the findings of the national Labour Force and Households Living Conditions Survey (LFHLCS) that was carried out by CAS between 2018 and 2019 with funding from the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon and the technical cooperation of the Regional Office for Arab States of the International Labour Organization (ILO)¹.

The 2018-2019 LFHLCS is the first Lebanese survey to produce estimates not only at the national and sub-national governorate (*mouhafaza*) levels, but also at the district (*caza*) level. Lebanon is composed of eight governorates, called *mouhafaza*, and 26 districts, called *caza*. Only the governorates of Beirut and Akkar were taken as a whole in the survey sample and were not subdivided into districts.

LFHLCS covered all the population of Lebanon living in primary residential dwellings. It was carried out from April 2018 to March 2019. It did not cover the population living in non-residential units, such as construction and agriculture sites, shops, stores, factories, unfinished buildings, army barracks, refugee camps and adjacent gatherings, and informal settlements.

With an unprecedented complete national sample size of 50,000 households, more than 39,000 responded to the survey, providing a relatively high response rate of 79%.

Through 227 questions organized into 10 modules, the LFHLCS questionnaire gathered extensive data that were used in the production of a broad array of indicators and a cross-sectional analysis regarding:

- The demographic and social characteristics of households and the individuals living in them on a regular basis (more than six months in a year), including information on education, health, social security and others;
- The labour force situation and the economic activity of all active individuals in the household;
- The characteristics of the household and the conditions of the dwellings and the available amenities.

The concepts, definitions and methodologies that were used in the survey, were designed according to the latest international survey statistical standards especially those in line with the 19th ICLS Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization.²

¹ For more information about the 2018-2019 LFHLCS, refer to the main survey report, available at <http://www.cas.gov.lb/index.php/component/content/article?id=212>.






² Source: ILO, *Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization, 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 2013*.

District Statistics

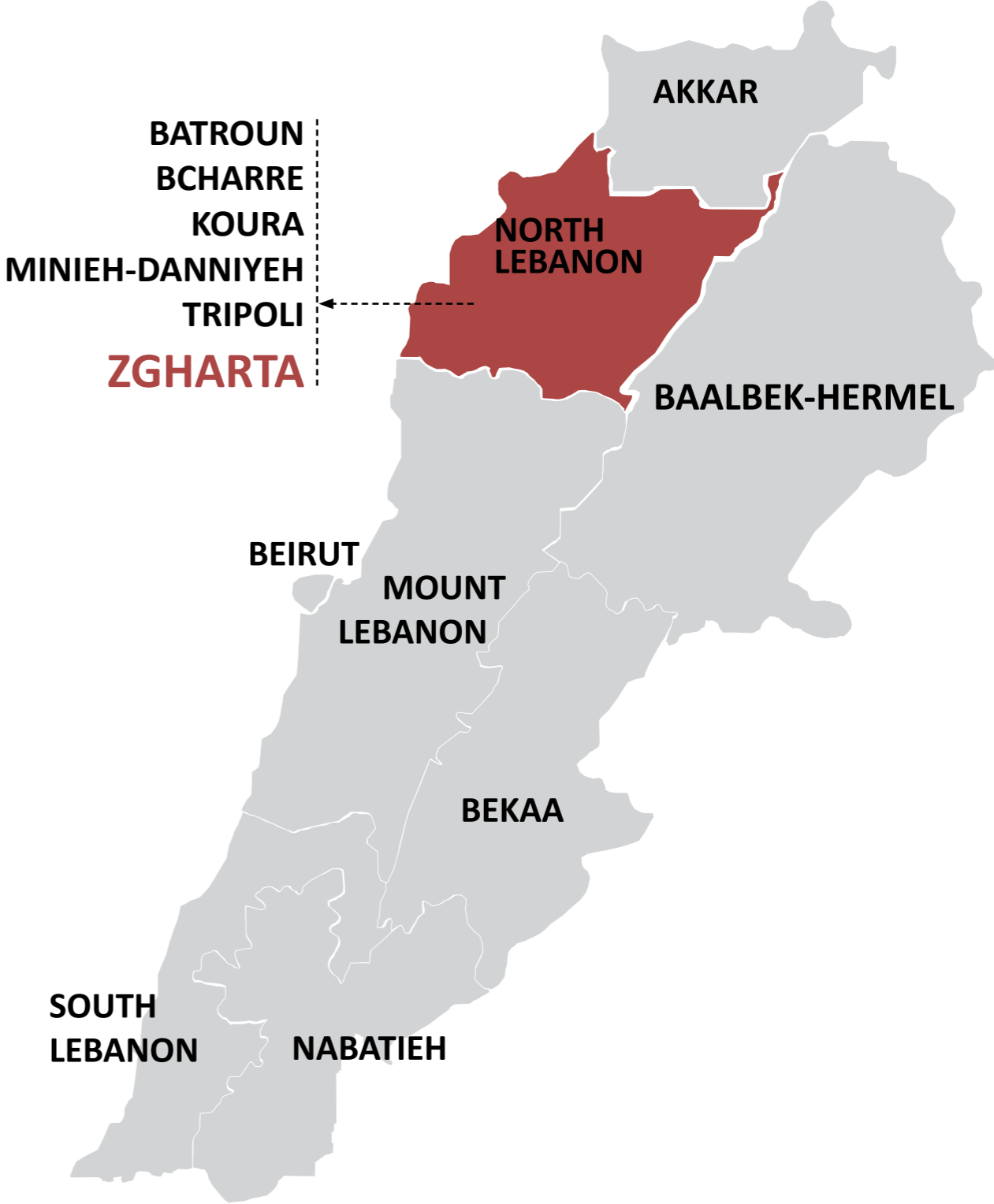
The district statistics represent an invaluable source of updated information and analysis of the prevailing social and economic conditions in each district. They are made available to the district authorities and leadership - including the Kâim-Makâm (Caza Governor), the District Unions of Municipalities, and a range of other government and non-government district planners, policy makers and users. The district statistics also aim at informing appropriate and evidence-based development policies and programmes at the district level.

This report presents data pertaining to the district of Zgharta, which is situated in the Governorate of North Lebanon.

It consists of five chapters highlighting the following aspects:

-  I. Demographics
-  II. Housing
-  III. Education
-  IV. Social and Economic Background
-  V. Labour Force and Employment

Wherever possible and statistically significant, the indicators presented at the district level are compared to the national values for the purpose of contextualization and comparison.





I. DEMOGRAPHICS

The residents in Zgharta: who and how many are they?

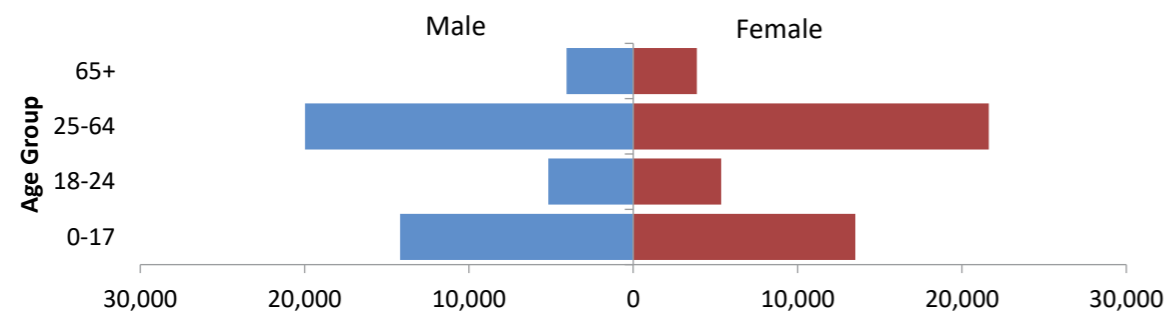
The survey results show that in 2018–19, the caza of Zgharta hosted 1.8 per cent of residents of Lebanon, with around 87,700 residents. 50.5 per cent of the residents were females and 49.5 per cent males.

whereas those aged between 18 and 24 years old represented 12 per cent. The remaining 9 per cent were the older residents (65+ years old). (Figure 1)

47.4 per cent of the residents in Zgharta were found in the age group 25–64 years. The younger residents of less than 18 years old represented 31.6 per cent of the total,

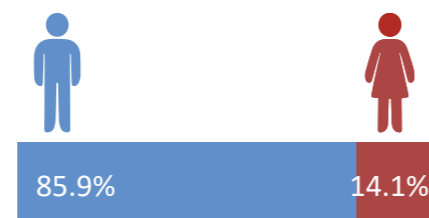
In 2018–19, the age dependency ratio³ for Zgharta was 54.9 per cent, a result that was found to be slightly higher than the national level (53.9 per cent).

Figure 1: Residents in Zgharta 2018-2019



The Survey results showed that males predominated as heads of household. It was estimated that 85.9 per cent of households were headed by a man compared to 81.5 per cent nationally, while 14.1 per cent of households were headed by a woman relatively to 18.5 per cent in Lebanon. (Figure 2)

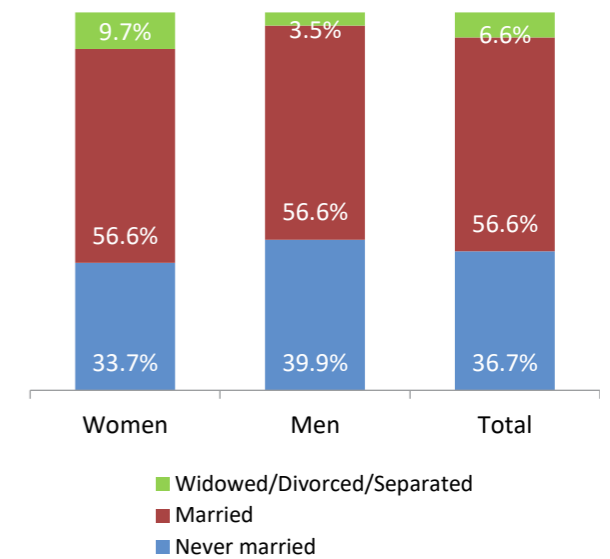
Figure 2: Head of household by sex



³Age dependency ratio is the number of dependents aged 0-14 years and those aged 65+ compared to the total population aged 15-64 years, which is the working age population. It describes the degree to which the economically non-productive population is dependent on the working-age population. The higher the ratio, the greater the economic burden.

More than half (56.6 per cent) of all residents aged 15 and above in Zgharta declared that they were “married” in 2018–19, whereas 36.7 per cent stated that they were “never married”. The proportion of married women was equal to that of men (56.6 per cent), whereas the share of never married women (33.7 per cent) was lower than for men (39.9 per cent). Interestingly, the share of women who stated they were either widowed, divorced or separated (9.7 per cent) was significantly higher than for men (3.5 per cent). (Figure 3)

Figure 3: Marital status (aged 15+) by sex



WHAT IS THE SMAM?

The singulate mean age at marriage (SMAM) is the average length of single life expressed in years among those who marry before age 50. It is a synthetic indicator calculated from marital status categories of men and women aged 15 to 54 at the date of the census or the survey.

Among Zgharta residents, the Singulate Mean Age at Marriage (SMAM) was 23.6 years for women and 29.1 years for men, while at the national level, results showed a mean age of 25.6 and 30.7 for women and men respectively. It is instructive to note that, compared to the national level, data showed an earlier mean age of marriage for both women and men in Zgharta.



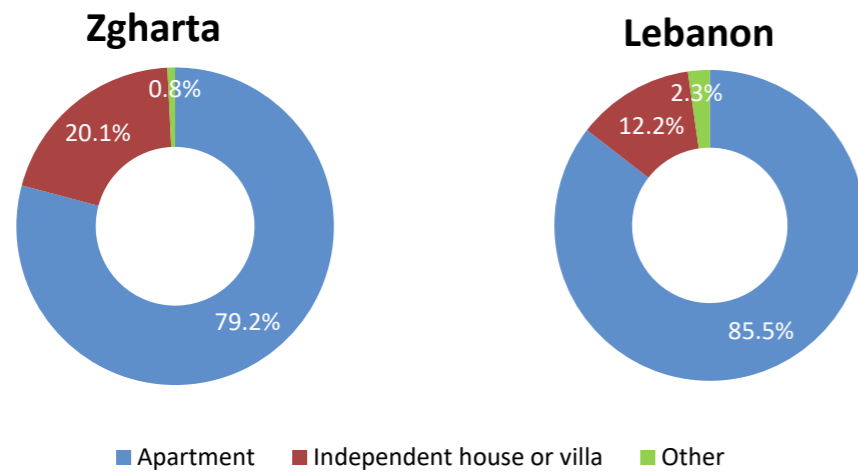
II. HOUSING

Where do residents in Zgharta live?

The primary residences in Zgharta were mostly apartments (79.2 per cent) whereas 20.1 per cent were independent houses or villas. It is worth noting that the percentage

of independent houses or villas at the caza level exceeded that at the national level (12.2 per cent). (Figure 4)

Figure 4: Distribution of primary residences by type of dwelling

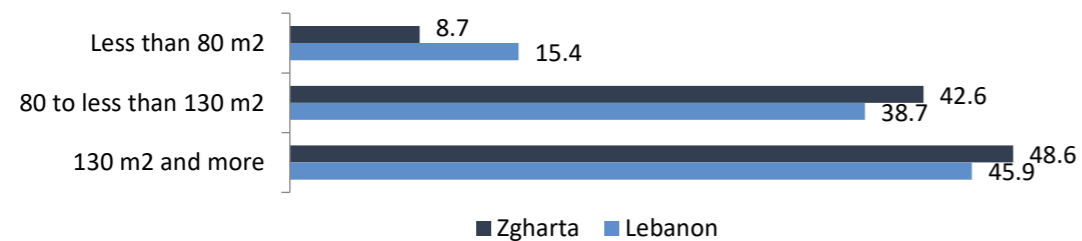


Primary residences by area (m²)

48.6 per cent of the primary residences in Zgharta were 130 square meters and more compared to 45.9 per cent at the national level. Small residences of less than 80 m² were the least common – 8.7 per cent of the

dwellings, compared to 15.4 per cent at the level of the country. Residences of 80 to less than 130 m² comprised 42.6 per cent of the total, compared to 38.7 per cent nationally. (Figure 5)

Figure 5: Primary residences by area of residence (%)

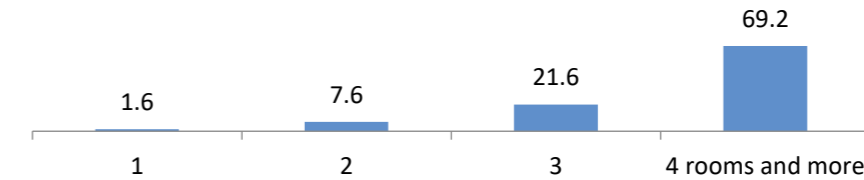


How many rooms does a household have?

In Zgharta, 69.2 per cent of the primary residences had 4 rooms and over, followed by 21.6 per cent dwellings composed of 3

rooms. Nationally, 57.8 per cent of the primary residences had 4 rooms and over and 25.1 per cent had 3 rooms. (Figure 6)

Figure 6: Primary residences by number of rooms (%)



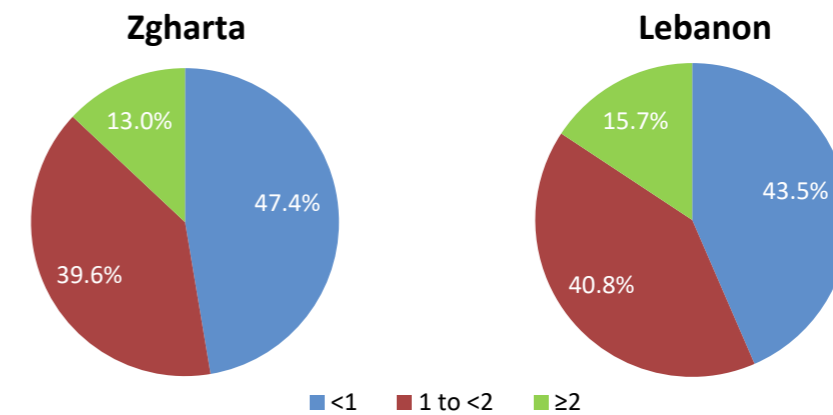
Persons per room

The number of individuals per room is an indicator that provides a measure of residential crowding and occupancy.

Compared to the national level, the distribution of households was higher for the first group of density whereas it was slightly lower for the second group. As for the residences that were found to be more crowded (more than two persons per room), they represented 13 per cent of the households, a proportion that was found to be lower than the national level. (Figure 7)

In Zgharta, the vast majority of households had a density of less than two individuals per room, with 47.4 per cent less than one individual per room and 39.6 per cent between one and two individuals per room.

Figure 7: Persons per room (%)



Are the primary residences old or new?

40.5 per cent of the dwellings in Zgharta were constructed less than 25 years ago, a percentage greater than that observed all over Lebanon (33.8 per cent). On the other side, 28.8 per cent of primary residences were constructed more than 49 years ago, compared to 31.8 per cent nationally. (Figure 8)

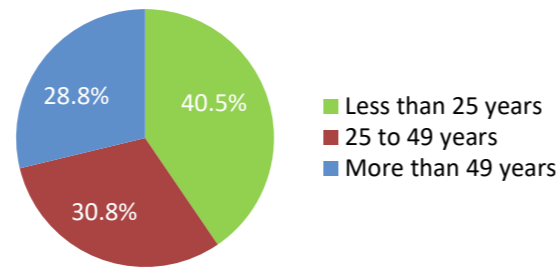


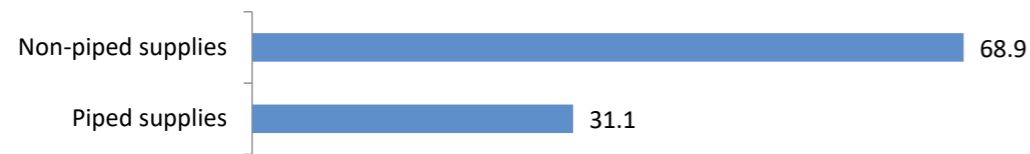
Figure 8: Primary residences by age of residence

Connectivity to infrastructure and utilities

Non-piped water supply was the main source of drinking water in Zgharta (68.9 per cent), yet, less prevalent at the district level than the national level (76.9 per cent). For

only 31.1 per cent of households, drinking water was in the form of a supply piped directly to the residence. (Figure 9)

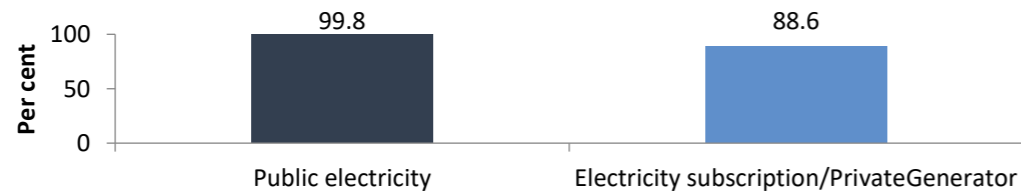
Figure 9: Facilities of main source of drinking water at the dwelling (%)



Almost all the households were connected to the public electricity network (99.8 per cent), whereas 88.6 per cent of households were subscribed to a private electricity source or had their own private generator. At the national level, almost identical results

were observed for the connection to the public electricity; however, subscription to a private electricity was slightly more prevalent in Zgharta (84 per cent in Lebanon). (Figure 10)

Figure 10: Sources of electricity in primary residences



Cost associated with residence

The average yearly expenditure on services for main dwellings in Zgharta was estimated at approximately 2,764 thousand LBP, compared to 3,308 thousand LBP nationally. At the district level, average spending was mainly on generators (1,049 thousand LBP), followed by electricity (583 thousand LBP); whereas the lowest average yearly expenses were on satellite/dish (236 thousand LBP).

These expenses were lower compared to the ones observed at the national level, except for satellite/dish where the expenses in Zgharta and Lebanon were nearly identical. The median annual expenses in the district were 2,680 thousand LBP, which was lower than that observed in Lebanon as a whole (2,940 thousand LBP). (Table 1)

Table 1: Yearly expenditures on services for main dwellings (in thousand LBP)

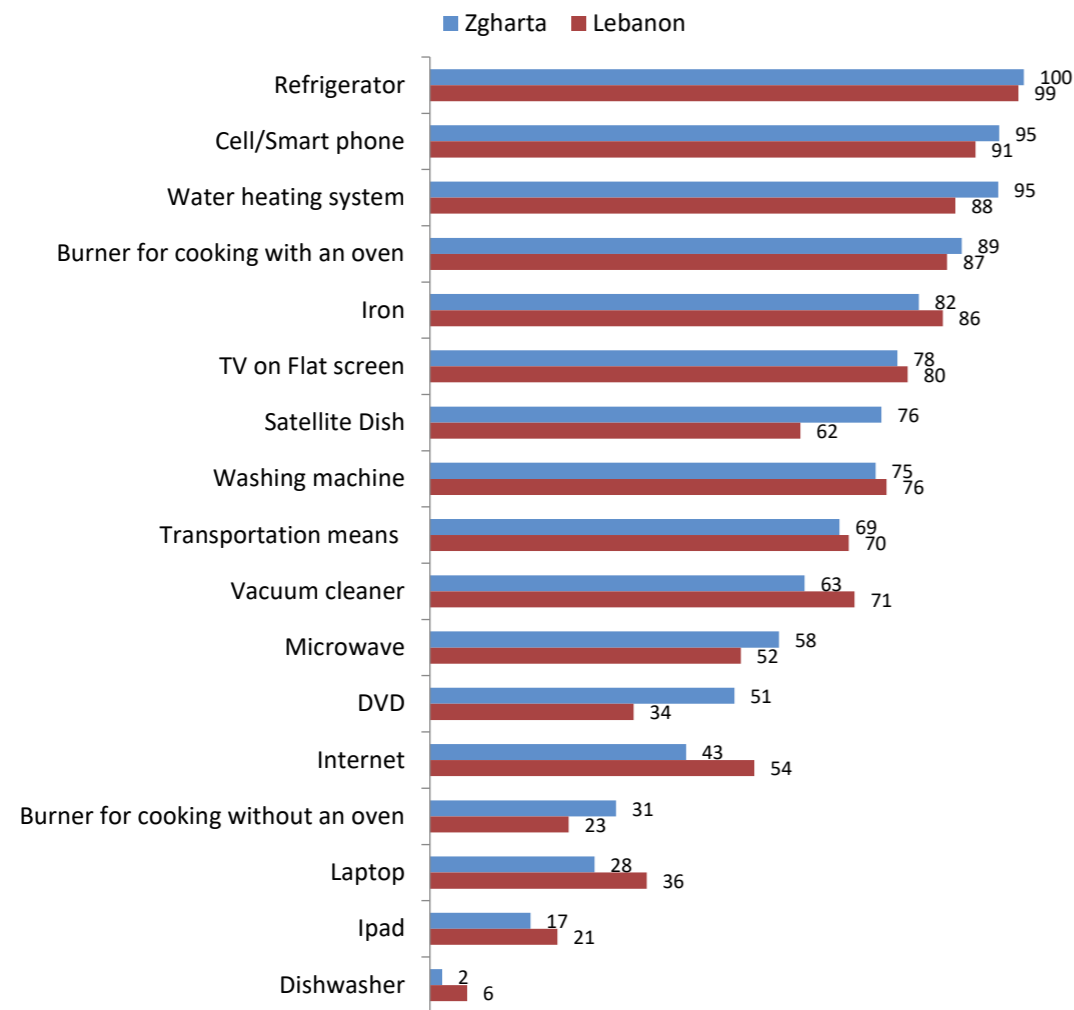
Services	Zgharta		Lebanon	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Public water	274	280	293	300
Electricity	583	480	671	480
Generator	1,049	900	1,100	900
Satellite/dish	236	240	231	240
Fixed phones (without Internet)	393	360	433	360
Total yearly Expenses on services	2,764	2,680	3,308	2,940

Home appliances and means of transportation

Almost all households had a refrigerator, about 95 per cent had a cell/smart phone or a water heating system in Zgharta. Dishwashers were the least common in the district (2 per cent of households) with a lower proportion relatively to the national level (6 per cent). It is instructive to note

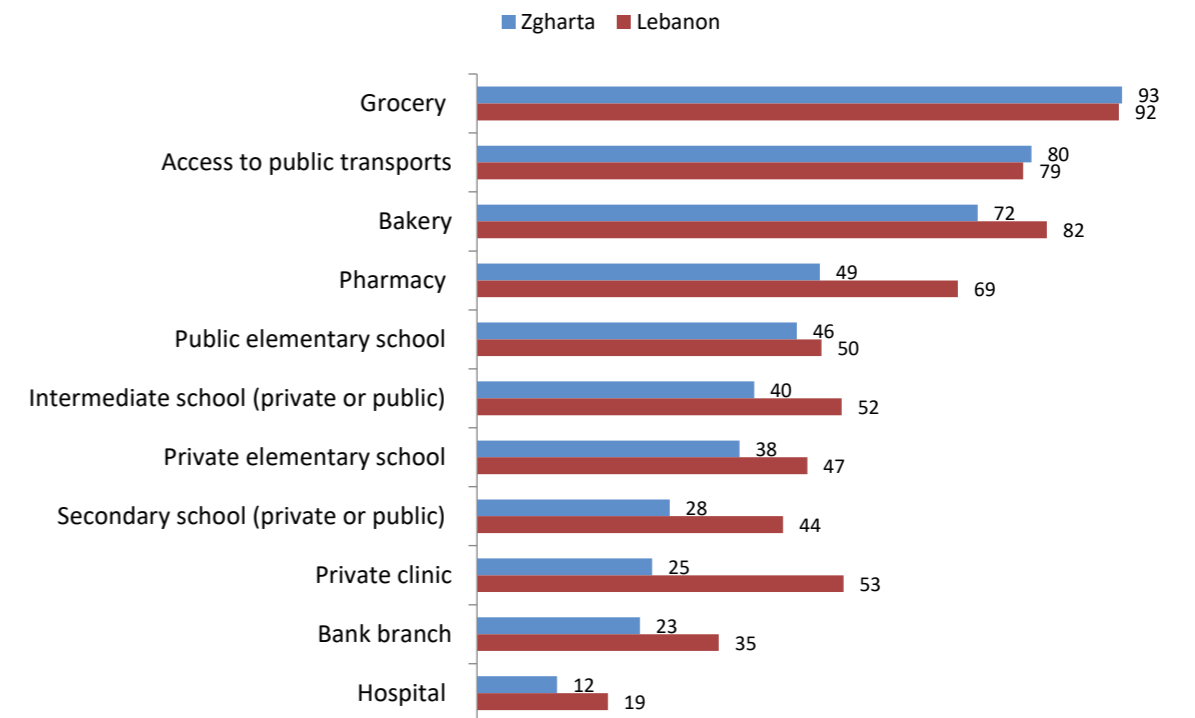
that the proportion of households who had a satellite dish in the caza (76 per cent) exceeded markedly that at the country level (62 per cent). In contrast, the proportion of those who had internet at home (43 per cent) fell remarkably behind the national level (54 per cent). (Figure 11)

Figure 11: Home appliances types and means of transportation (%)



Note: The internet does not include Cable/ADSL/3G or 4G.

Figure 12: Access to services (%)



Access to basic services

The vast majority of primary residences in Zgharta had access to at least one grocery store (93 per cent), public transports (80 per cent) and a bakery (72 per cent) within a 10-minute walk from home. Hospitals (12 per cent) were the least common services in Zgharta.

It is worth noting that compared to the national level, lower levels of access to almost all the major services within a 10-minute walk from home was observed in Zgharta.

For instance, access to private clinic was 28 percentage points less whereas access to pharmacy was 20 percentage points less. Moreover, 40 per cent of all dwellings lived within reach of an intermediate school and 28 per cent within reach of a secondary school. These proportions were remarkably higher nationally. The widespread of bank branches fell behind the national level by 12 percentage points.

(Figure 12)



III. EDUCATION

Gross Enrolment Ratio versus Net Enrolment Rate

Both Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) and Net Enrolment Rate (NER) decreased with level. In Zgharta, the GER at the elementary level was 95.1 per cent while it was 68.2 per cent at the secondary level. The NER at the elementary level was 83.1 per cent but decreased to 49 per cent at the secondary level. Interestingly, the Gross Enrolment Ratio and the Net Enrolment Rate were at all levels lower in Zgharta than the national level. (Table 2)

Table 2: Enrolment by level of education (in %)

Level of education	Zgharta		Lebanon	
	Gross Enrolment Ratio	Net Enrolment Ratio	Gross Enrolment Ratio	Net Enrolment Ratio
Elementary level	95.1	83.1	98.9	87.2
Intermediate level	84.3	61.2	93.4	67.8
Secondary level	68.2	49.0	76.8	54.9

Note: These results exclude domestic workers

WHAT ARE THE GER AND NER?

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is defined as the number of students enrolled in a given level of education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the official school-age population corresponding to the same level of education. A high GER generally indicates a high degree of participation, whether the pupils belong to the official age group or not. A GER value approaching or exceeding 100% indicates that a country is, in principle, able to accommodate all of its school-age population.

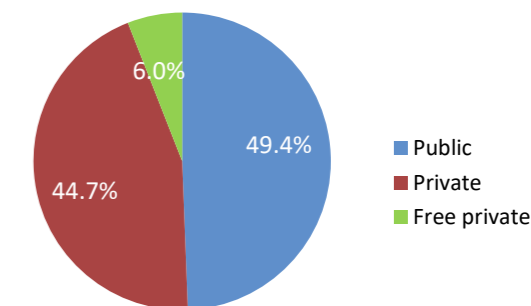
The Net Enrolment Rate (NER) is defined as the total number of students in the theoretical age group for a given level of education enrolled in that level, expressed as a percentage of the total population in that age group. A high NER denotes a high degree of coverage for the official school-age population. The theoretical maximum value is 100%.

*Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics.

Schooling in Zgharta

In Zgharta, students aged 3-24 years were more likely to enrol in public educational institutions (49.4 per cent), rather than private institutions (44.7 per cent). At the national level, the enrolment in private institutions was higher (47.8 per cent); however, the enrolment in public institutions was lower (46.5 per cent). (Figure 13)

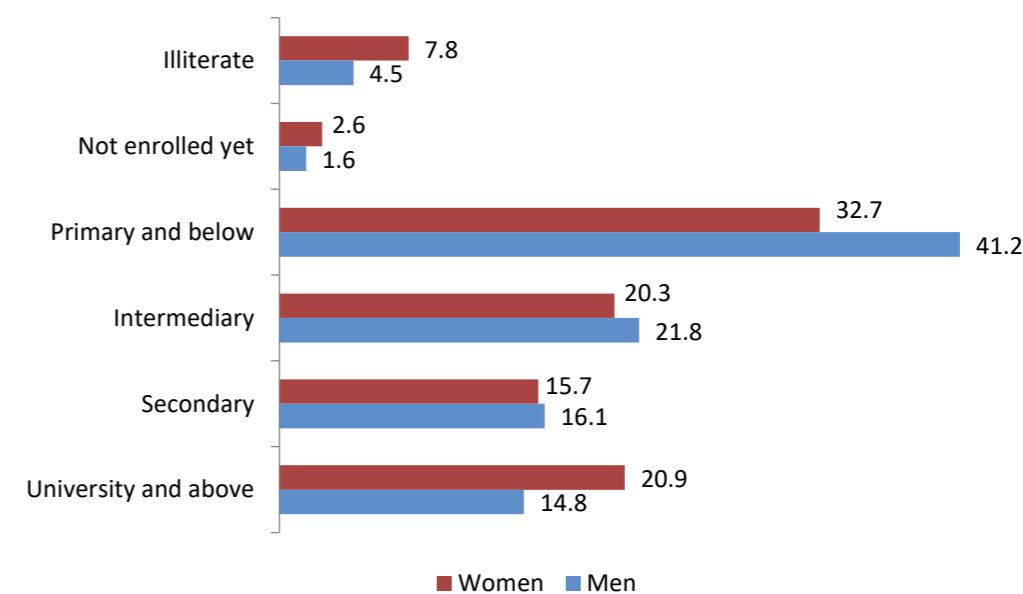
Figure 13: Distribution of students by type of educational institution



The "primary and below" level⁴ (36.9 per cent) was the highest educational attainment in the caza, with a higher proportion for males (41.2 per cent) than females (32.7 per cent). Although the illiterate residents aged 3 years and above were twice as high among females (8.7 per cent) as among males (4.4 per cent) at the

national level, gender discrepancies were less observed at the caza level (7.8 per cent for women and 4.5 per cent for men). This result may be explained by the fact that the proportion of elderly women aged 65+ years is greater than that of men. Furthermore, the survey results show that the illiteracy rate among the elderly is greater. (Figure 14)

Figure 14: Residents (aged 3+) by level of education attained and sex (%)



⁴Primary and below: include Read and write, Pre-school, Primary, and undefined education level.



Zgharta district

IV. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

How much do households earn in total?

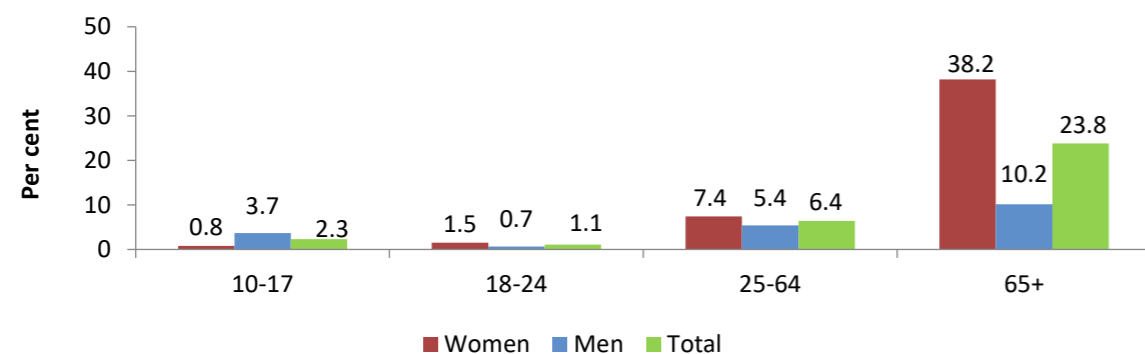
About 28.9 per cent of households in Zgharta had a total income from all sources ranging between 1,200 and 2,400 thousand LBP in the month preceding the Survey, a proportion slightly lower than that observed at the national level (29.7 per cent). That was followed by 27 per cent of households that had total earnings between 650 and 1,200 thousand LBP and

21.8 per cent of households who earned between 2,400 and 5,000 thousand LBP.

In contrast, households in Zgharta were less likely to earn a total income of less than 650 thousand LBP (19 per cent) or 5 million LBP or more (only 3.3 per cent) compared to the other income categories. (Figure 16)

The survey shows that the illiteracy rate for residents aged 10 years and above increased with age. 23.8 per cent of residents aged 65 years old and above were illiterate. In contrast, 2.3 per cent of those aged between 10 and 17 years old were illiterate. It is worth noting that women aged 18 years old and above were more likely to be illiterate than men; yet, gender discrepancies were mostly noticed for illiterate residents aged 65 years and more, with a notable gender gap reaching 28 percentage points (38.2 per cent for women and 10.2 per cent for men). (Figure 15a)

Figure 15a: Illiteracy rate by age group and sex (aged 10 years +)



When compared with the national level, illiteracy rate in Zgharta was reported to be slightly lower (6.9 per cent in comparison with 7.4 per cent at the country level). This rate was found to be higher for women (8.8 per cent) than for men (5 per cent) in Zgharta, but also in Lebanon, where the proportion of illiterate women (9.7 per cent) was twice as high as that of men (4.9 per cent). (Figure 15b)

Figure 15b: Total illiteracy rate by sex (aged 10 years +)

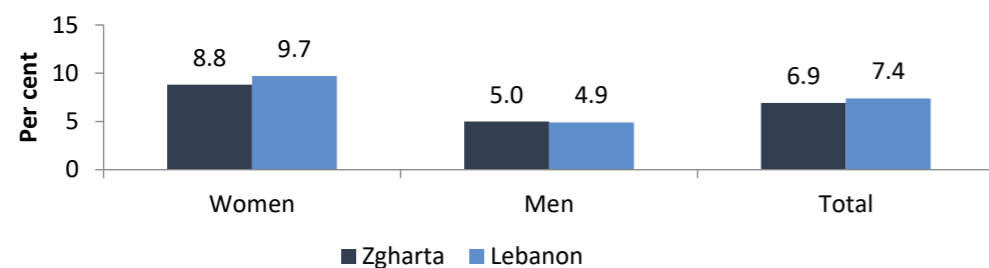
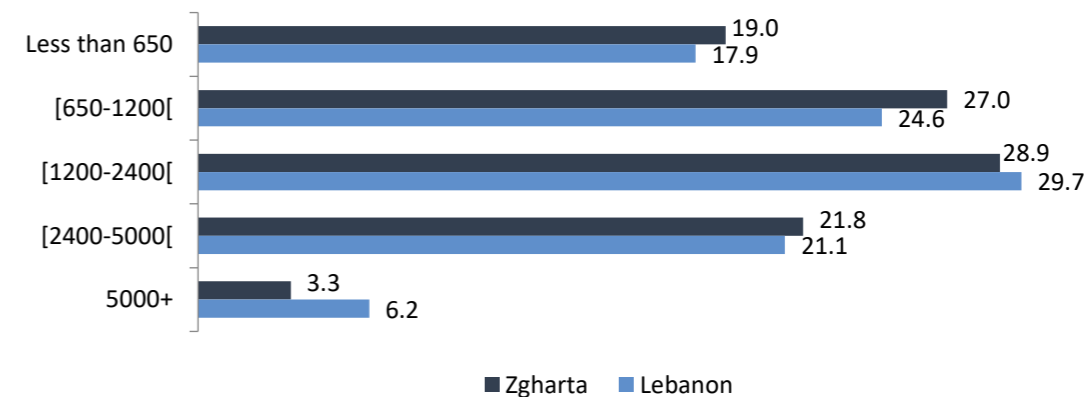


Figure 16: Household income range from all sources in the month preceding the Survey in thousand LBP (%)



... and how do they perceive their wealth status?

Households classified their wealth status from their own subjective point of view. 71.2 per cent classified themselves as "average or average to poor", 25 per cent as "poor or very poor", and 3.7 per cent declared they are "wealthy or financially well-off". Nationally, although the

proportion of households who classified themselves as "average or average to poor" was relatively lower in Lebanon (67.5 per cent), the proportion of those who considered themselves "wealthy or financially well-off" was higher (6.1 per cent). (Figure 17)

Figure 17: Self classification of wealth of households

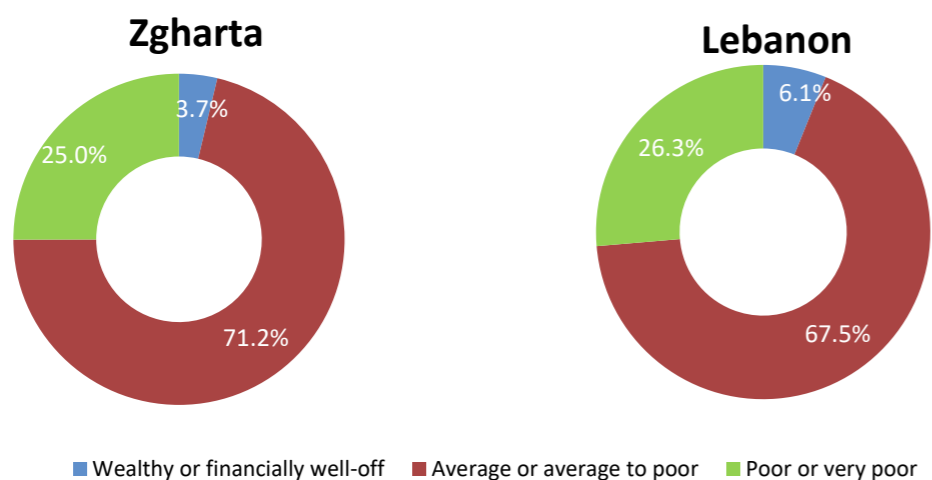
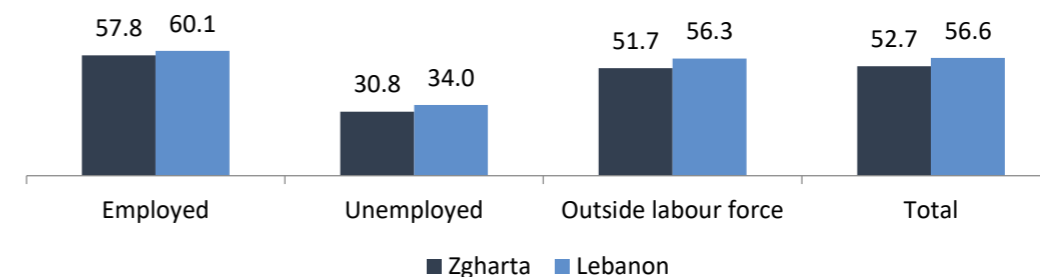


Figure 19: Residents (aged 15 years +) by employment status and health insurance coverage (%)



The main source of health coverage in Zgharta was the National Social Security Fund (NSSF)⁶, which covered 40.7 per cent of the insured population, followed by the Lebanese Army and the Internal Security Forces (30.3 per cent). The coverage of the

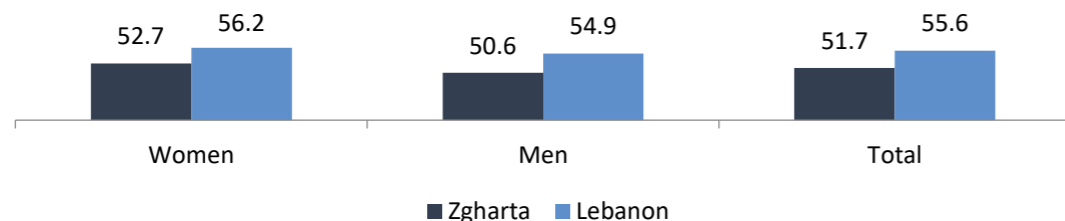
Public Servants Cooperation was almost equal in Zgharta and in Lebanon (5.8 per cent and 5.9 per cent respectively), whereas private insurance was less common (6.2 per cent in Zgharta compared to 10.5 per cent in Lebanon). (Figure 20)

Health Coverage⁵

Only 51.7 per cent of the total residents in Zgharta were covered by at least one type of health insurance: a slightly higher health coverage was found for women (52.7 per cent) than for men (50.6 per cent). At the

national level, the results show a relatively higher health coverage for both women (56.2 per cent) and men (54.9 per cent). (Figure 18)

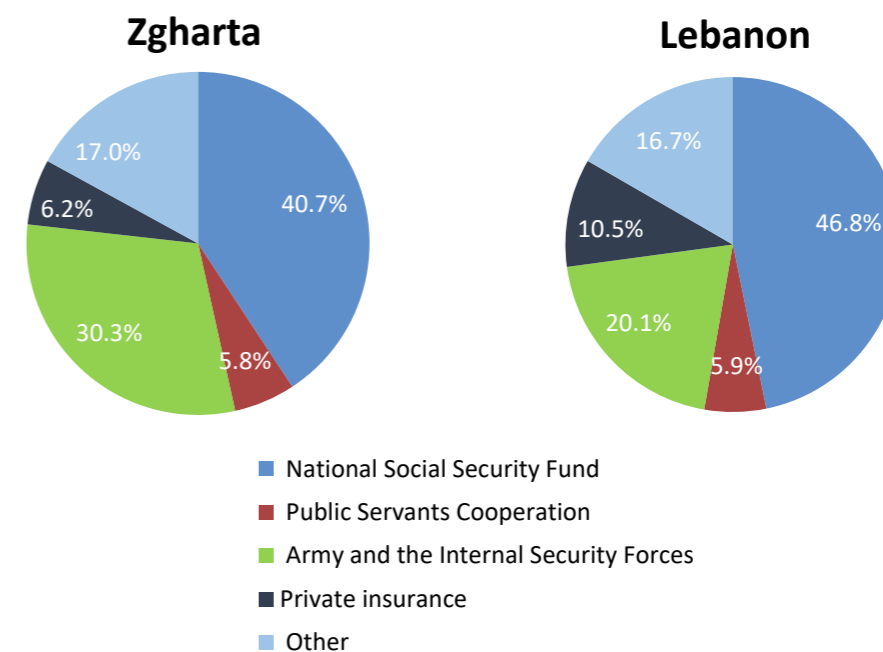
Figure 18: Health coverage by sex (%)



In Zgharta, 52.7 per cent of the residents aged 15 years and above had a health coverage, whereas nationally, the proportion of the insured population in the same age group was higher (56.6 per cent). The proportions of residents employed, unemployed and outside the labour force

who were covered in Zgharta (57.8 per cent, 30.8 per cent and 51.7 per cent respectively) were all less than those observed at the national level. It is worth noting that unemployed residents were the least covered in the district. (Figure 19)

Figure 20: Distribution of residents benefiting from health insurance by source of insurance



⁵In this section, all the figures exclude the domestic workers.

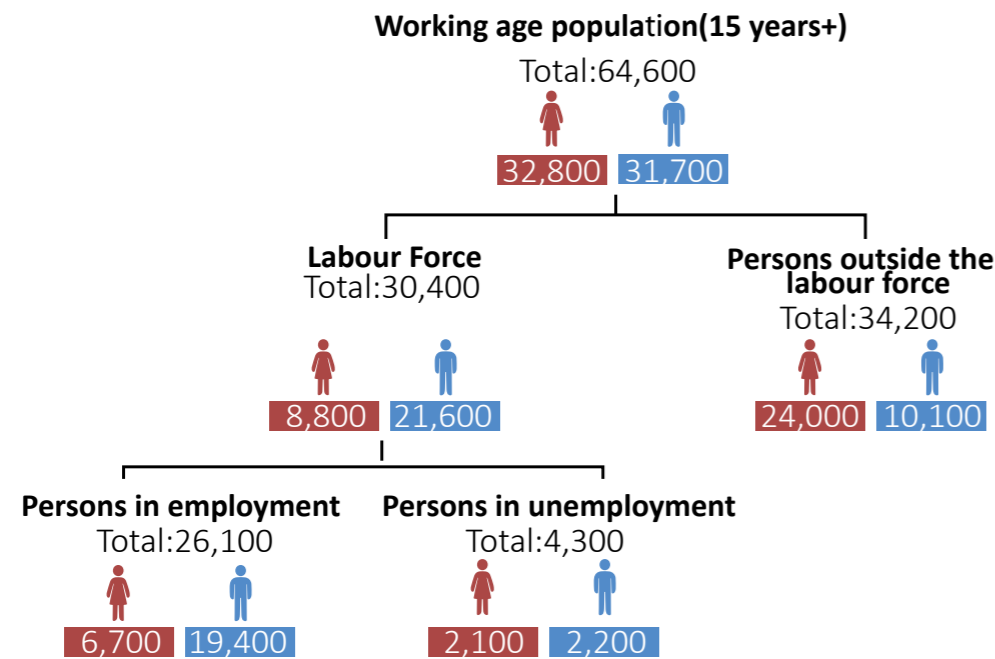
⁶ Including Facultative Fund.



V. LABOUR FORCE and EMPLOYMENT

Labour market structure

Among the estimated 64,600 individuals aged 15 years old and above living in primary residential dwellings in Zgharta in 2018–19, about 30,400 people were in the labour force, either employed (26,100) or unemployed (4,300). The remaining 34,200 individuals were outside the labour force.



Note: Estimation below 2,500 has a standard error above 20 per cent. Due to rounding, numbers presented may not add up precisely to the totals.

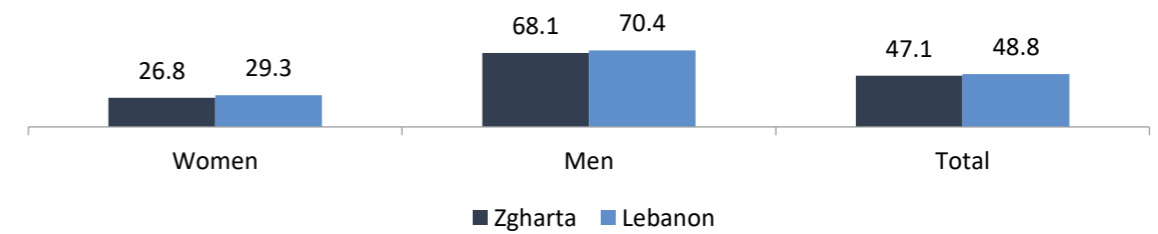
Who is Employed, Searching for a job or Inactive - From a Gender Point of View

Total labour force participation rate⁷ in Zgharta was 47.1 per cent, which was lower than the national rate of 48.8 per cent. Men's participation rates (68.1 percent in Zgharta and 70.4 per cent in Lebanon) were higher compared to women's (26.8 per cent in Zgharta and 29.3 per cent in Lebanon) at both the district and national levels. The gender gap⁸ was high in Zgharta - it reached a 41.3 percentage-point difference - and almost equal to that observed at the national level. (Figure 21)

⁷ Labour Force Participation Rate = $\frac{\text{Persons in Employment} + \text{Persons in Unemployment}}{\text{Working-age Population (15+years old)}} * 100$

⁸ In this brief, the gender gap is calculated by subtracting the female rate from the male rate.

Figure 21: Labour force participation rate (%)



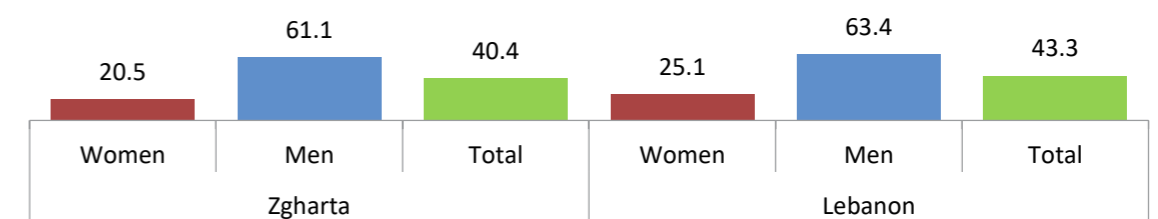
The share of the adult labour force (be they unemployed or in work) exceeded that of the youth and marked 51.7 per cent compared to 32.1 per cent in Zgharta, and 51.7 per cent compared to 39.2 per cent at the national level. (Figure 22)

Figure 22: Labour force participation rate among youth and adults (%)



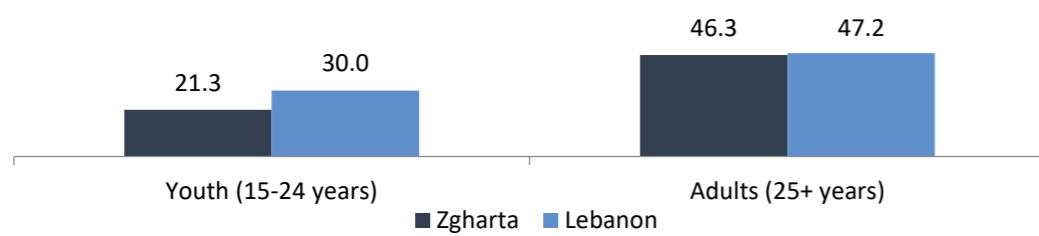
The employment-to-population ratio in Zgharta (40.4 per cent) was lower than that of the country (43.3 per cent). There were some notable gender disparities in the employment-to-population ratio at both the district and country levels. 20.5 per cent of women and 61.1 per cent of men were employed in Zgharta with a gender gap of 40.6 percentage-point difference. In Lebanon, the employment-to-population ratio reached 25.1 per cent for women and 63.4 per cent for men, marking a gender gap of 38.3 percentage-point difference. (Figure 23)

Figure 23: Employment-to-population ratio (%)



The comparison of the results by broad age groups shows that the youth employment-to-population ratio in Zgharta (21.3 per cent) was considerably lower than that of the adults (46.3 per cent). It is worth noting that these ratios were lower than those marked at the national level. However, the gap between the two age groups was more significant at the caza level (25 percentage-point difference relative to 17.2 percentage points in Lebanon). (Figure 24)

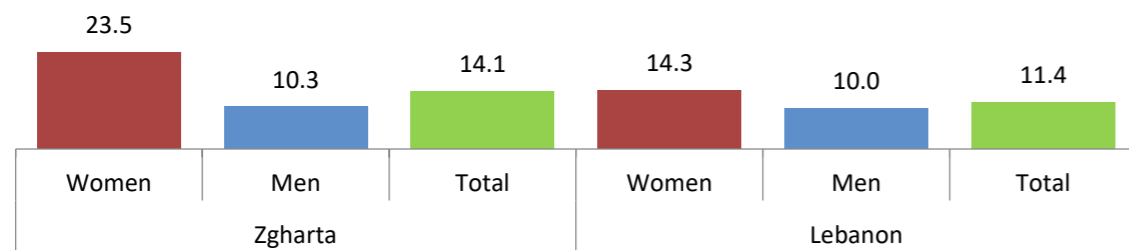
Figure 24: Employment-to-population ratio by broad age groups (%)



The unemployment rate⁹ in Zgharta (14.1 per cent) was above the national level (11.4 per cent). Differences at the country level were observed between men (10 per cent) and women (14.3 per cent), yet the gap was higher in Zgharta where the unemployment rate was 23.5 per cent for women and 10.3

per cent for men. In other words, the gender gap in the unemployment rate was more significant in the caza (13.2 percentage-point difference) compared to the national level (4.3 percentage-point difference). (Figure 25)

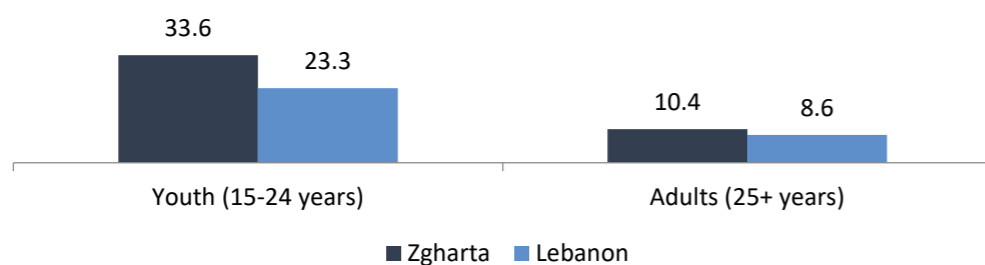
Figure 25: Unemployment rate by sex (%)



Unemployment was less prevalent among adults than among youth at both the district and country levels, with a rate reaching 10.4 per cent and 33.6 per cent respectively in Zgharta, compared to 8.6 per cent and 23.3 per cent respectively in Lebanon as a whole.

The gap between the youth and the adults' unemployment rate reached 23.2 percentage points in Zgharta and 14.7 percentage points in Lebanon as a whole. (Figure 26)

Figure 26: Unemployment rate among youth and adults (%)

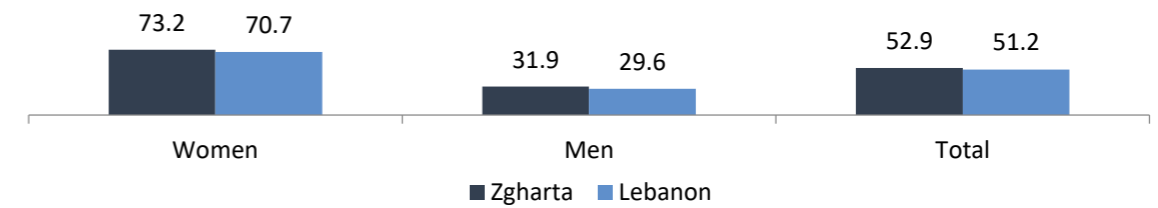


⁹ Unemployment rate = $\frac{\text{Persons in Unemployment (aged 15 years and above)}}{\text{Labour Force (aged 15 years and above)}} * 100$

The inactivity rate, which represents the proportion of the persons considered inactive- neither working nor looking for any job- in the total population aged 15 years and above in Zgharta (52.9 per cent), exceeded that of Lebanon (51.2 per cent).

73.2 per cent of women and 31.9 per cent of men were inactive at the caza level, compared to 70.7 per cent of women and 29.6 per cent of men at the national level. (Figure 27)

Figure 27: Inactivity rate of residents aged 15 years + (%)

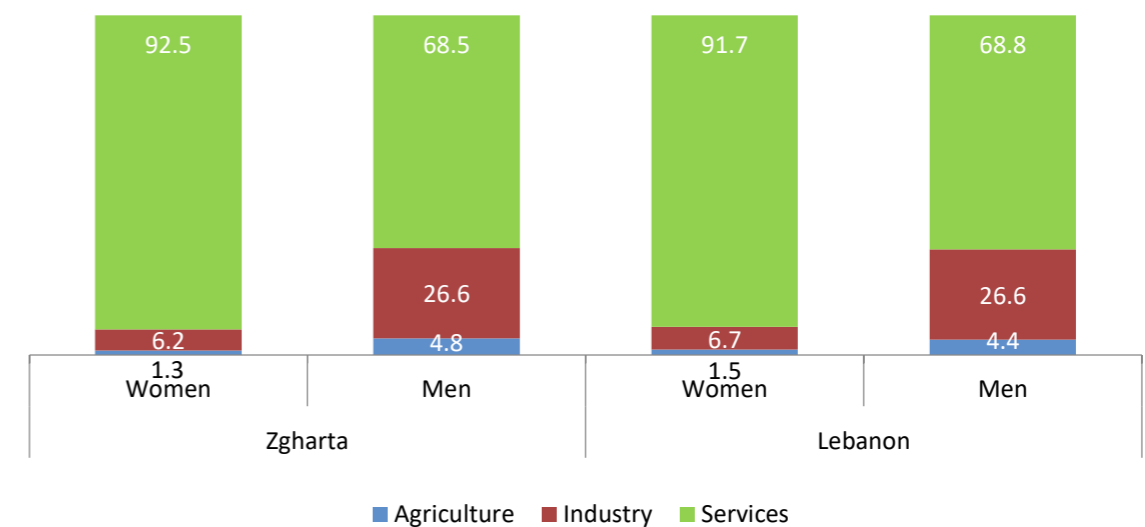


Where do they work?

The Services sector was the largest employment sector for women and men, with respectively 92.5 per cent and 68.5 per cent in Zgharta, compared to 91.7 per cent and 68.8 per cent in Lebanon. In this sector, women surpassed men by 24 percentage points at the caza level. It was particularly noticeable that 26.6 per cent of working

men and 6.2 per cent of working women were employed in Industry in Zgharta, compared to nearly the same proportions for both working men and women in the whole of Lebanon. Employment in agriculture was the lowest among all the economic sectors at the national and district levels. (Figure 28)

Figure 28: Economic activity sector by sex (%)

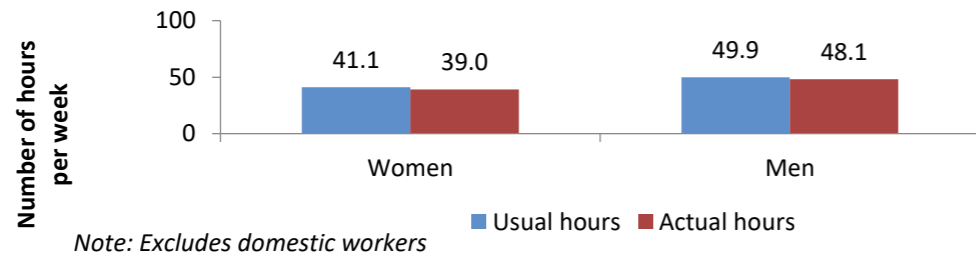


... and how many hours per week

Men in employment were reported to be working longer paid hours than women. The average number of actual weekly paid hours was 48.1 for men and 39 for women. Furthermore, the actual number of hours of work was slightly below the usual number of

hours for both sexes, due to temporary absences such as vacation, annual leave, etc. In Lebanon as a whole, the actual number of hours of work was 50 per cent for men and 39.1 per cent for women. (Figure 29)

Figure 29: Average usual and actual weekly hours of work by sex



What type of jobs do they hold and where?

According to the ILO, the concept of "informal employment" refers to jobs that do not provide employees with legal or social protection, thus exposing them to greater economic risks than other employed people. As for concept of the "informal sector", it is a subset of unincorporated enterprises not constituted as separate legal entities independent of their owners.

result that was found to be very close to the national level (54.9 per cent), and 36.9 per cent of the employed population were working in the informal sector. It is instructive to note that the latter proportion was slightly higher compared to the national level (35.2 per cent). The proportion of employed individuals holding an informal job in a formal sector was relatively lower than that observed in Lebanon (17.5 per cent and 19.8 per cent respectively). (Table 3)

The results show that 54.4 per cent of the employed population in Zgharta held informal jobs at their main occupation, a

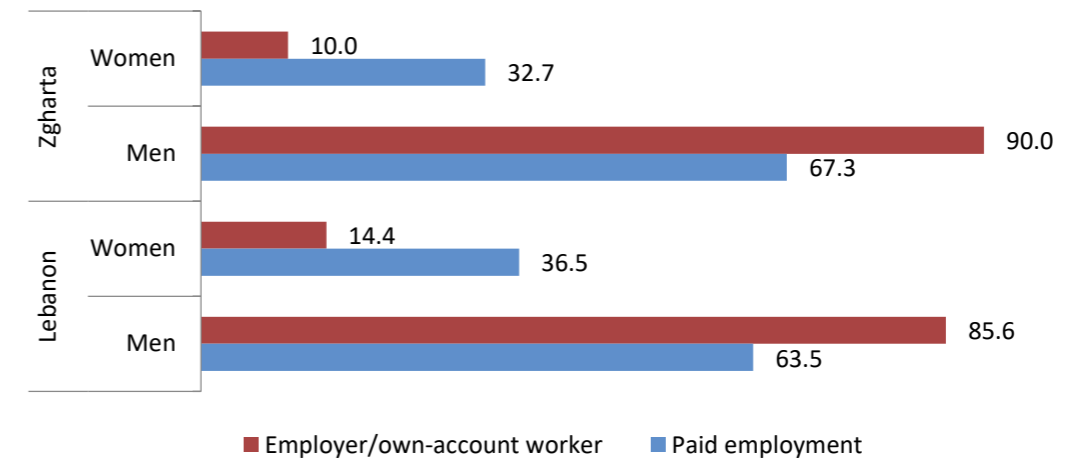
Table 3: Formality versus Informality (in %)

Type of employment	Zgharta			Lebanon		
	Informal Sector	Formal Sector	Total	Informal Sector	Formal Sector	Total
Informal	36.9	17.5	54.4	35.1	19.8	54.9
Formal	0.0	45.6	45.6	0.0	45.0	45.1
Total	36.9	63.1	100	35.2	64.8	100.0

Women's share in employment was low, yet more prevalent for paid employment than "employer/own-account worker". The majority of employers or own-account workers in Zgharta were men (90 per cent), a proportion that was higher than that

attained at the national level (85.6 per cent). Men's share in paid employment was higher in Zgharta compared to the national level (67.3 per cent and 63.5 per cent respectively). (Figure 30)

Figure 30: Employed (15 years and above) by employment status and sex (%)

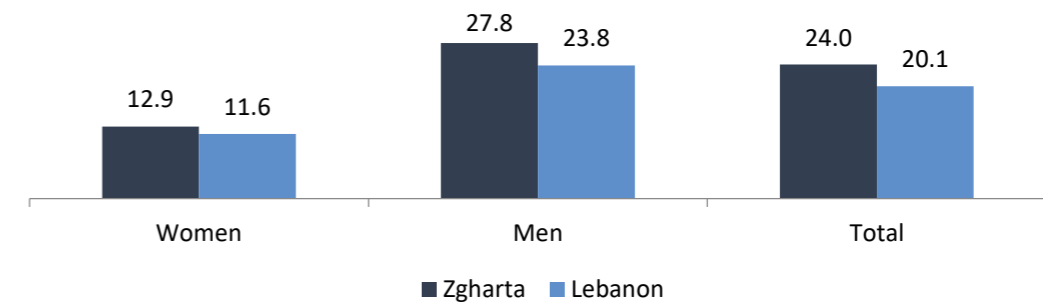


How many jobs are "vulnerable"?

In Zgharta, vulnerable employment was reported to be higher than that observed at the country level (24 per cent and 20.1 per cent respectively). Moreover, it was at least

twice more prevalent among men (27.8 per cent) than among women (12.9 per cent). (Figure 31)

Figure 31: Vulnerable employment (%)



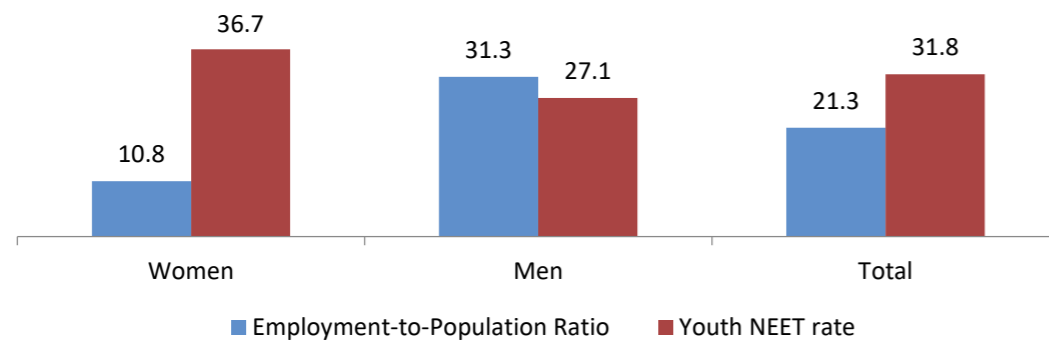
DID YOU KNOW ?

According to the International Labour Organization (ILO) definition, "Vulnerable Employment" is the sum of own-account workers and contributing family workers in total employment. This category of workers has a lower likelihood of having formal work arrangements and is therefore more likely to lack elements associated with adequate social security and a voice at work.

Youth in Employment versus Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

Youth NEET rate - Youth not in education, employment or training rate - (31.8 per cent) in Zgharta was higher than the youth employment-to-population ratio (21.3 per cent). At the country level, Youth NEET rate was 21.8 per cent and the youth employment-to-population ratio was 30 per cent. Moreover, women's NEET rate (36.7 per cent) was noticeably higher than that of men (27.1 per cent) in Zgharta. (Figure 32)

Figure 32: Youth in employment and NEET rate (%)



The Team

This report would not have been possible without the joint effort and cooperation of a team of experts working in the Central Administration of Statistics and the United Nations Development Programme. The report was prepared under the overall direction and guidance of Dr Maral Tutélian - Guidanian, Director General of the Central Administration of Statistics and Celine Moyroud, UNDP Resident Representative.

The contributions of the following team are gratefully noted:

Supervision:

Dr Francois Farah | International Expert on population, development, and social policy (UNDP)

Report drafting:

Haifa Hussein | Economist (CAS)

Data Preparation and Tabulations:

Mayssaa Daher and Ali Hamieh | Math Statisticians (CAS)

Report review:

Francois Farah, Kawthar Dara, Lea Bou Fadel (UNDP)
Mayssaa Daher, Amina Bassbous (CAS)

Table drawing:

Haifa Hussein
Amina Bassbous, Alia Syyed Ali, Ali Khreiss, Younes Kojok | Assistant Statisticians (CAS)

Report Design:

Loyal Attieh (UNDP)

Central Administration of Statistics
Atwe building, Boulevard Camille Chamoun
Beirut, Lebanon
Phone: +9615462880 | www.cas.gov.lb