



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

RURAL EMPLOYMENT

# Youth employment in Uganda

For baseline mapping  
for the national strategy  
for youth employment  
in agriculture (NSYEA)





## **Youth employment in Uganda**

For baseline mapping for the national strategy for youth employment in agriculture (NSYEA)

Required citation:

FAO. 2022. *Youth employment in Uganda: For baseline mapping for the national strategy for youth employment in agriculture (NSYEA)*. Kampala. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0555en>

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

ISBN 978-92-5-136421-5

© FAO, 2022



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo/legalcode>).

Under the terms of this licence, this work may be copied, redistributed and adapted for non-commercial purposes, provided that the work is appropriately cited. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that FAO endorses any specific organization, products or services. The use of the FAO logo is not permitted. If the work is adapted, then it must be licensed under the same or equivalent Creative Commons licence. If a translation of this work is created, it must include the following disclaimer along with the required citation: "This translation was not created by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). FAO is not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation. The original [Language] edition shall be the authoritative edition."

Disputes arising under the licence that cannot be settled amicably will be resolved by mediation and arbitration as described in Article 8 of the licence except as otherwise provided herein. The applicable mediation rules will be the mediation rules of the World Intellectual Property Organization <http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/mediation/rules> and any arbitration will be conducted in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

**Third-party materials.** Users wishing to reuse material from this work that is attributed to a third party, such as tables, figures or images, are responsible for determining whether permission is needed for that reuse and for obtaining permission from the copyright holder. The risk of claims resulting from infringement of any third-party-owned component in the work rests solely with the user.

**Sales, rights and licensing.** FAO information products are available on the FAO website ([www.fao.org/publications](http://www.fao.org/publications)) and can be purchased through [publications-sales@fao.org](mailto:publications-sales@fao.org). Requests for commercial use should be submitted via: [www.fao.org/contact-us/licence-request](http://www.fao.org/contact-us/licence-request). Queries regarding rights and licensing should be submitted to: [copyright@fao.org](mailto:copyright@fao.org).

# Contents

<b>Abbreviations and acronyms</b> .....	<b>VII</b>
<b>Background</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>1. Economic indicators</b> .....	<b>2</b>
1.1 Value of agricultural production per hectare.....	2
1.2 Agriculture, value added per worker.....	2
1.3 Agriculture as percentage of the GDP.....	3
1.4 Government investment in the agriculture sector (% of GDP).....	3
1.5 The scale of foreign investment in agriculture and agribusiness.....	4
<b>2. Demographic Indicators</b> .....	<b>5</b>
2.1 Population size and growth.....	5
2.2 Youth share in the Uganda population.....	6
2.3 Total fertility rate.....	7
<b>3. Labour statistics</b> .....	<b>8</b>
3.1 Working population and engagement in subsistence agriculture.....	8
3.2 Employment in agriculture.....	9
3.3 Education of the Employed population.....	11
3.4 Unemployment and Underemployment.....	11
3.5 Informal employment and casual/temporary employment.....	13
3.6 Wages by sector, gender, and educational attainment.....	15
3.7 Skills level required to work in agriculture.....	16
3.8 Other key labour market indicators of youth.....	17
3.9 Status in employment of the youth.....	18
3.10 Number and size of MSMEs in the agribusiness sector.....	18
3.11 Urbanization trends.....	19
3.12 Migration.....	20
3.13 Internal migration.....	20
<b>4. Social indicators</b> .....	<b>22</b>
4.1 Poverty rate.....	22
4.2 Government education expenditures as percentage of GDP.....	22
4.3 Literacy.....	22
4.4 Education attainment.....	23
4.5 Child marriage.....	24
4.6 HIV/AIDS prevalence.....	24
4.7 Child labour in agriculture.....	25
<b>5. Identified data gaps</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>References</b> .....	<b>28</b>

## Tables

1. Yield of major crops by season (Tonnes per Hectare).....	2
2. Agriculture sector value added at current prices, 2015/16-2019/2020.....	3
3. Sectoral contribution to GDP, 2015/16 – 2019/20.....	3
4. Approved budget allocation to agriculture sector (UGX billion) and its percentage of the GDP 2016/17- 2022/23.....	4
5. Foreign investment in agriculture (UGX billion) and percentage of the sector allocation 2016/17- 2022/23.....	4
6. Population size, average annual growth rates 1911-2014 and projected population 2018-2020.....	5
7. Population size by youth groups: 15-17 and 18-35 years, and youth share in population as a percentage of the total population.....	6
8. Distribution of the Working Population by Sex, Residence and Age, 2016/17.....	9
9. Industry (sector) of employment.....	10
10. Proportion of youth in subsistence agriculture production only by sex, age and residence (%).....	10
11. Education of the employed population by sex and residence (%).....	11
12. Unemployment rate by gender and residence (%).....	12
13. Youth unemployment, underemployment and activity status.....	13
14. Proportion in Informal employment.....	13
15. Nature of employment and social protection of youth in employment in the main job (%).....	15
16. Median monthly earnings on the main job for persons in paid employment during 2015/16, 2018/19, and 2019/20 (main job, UGX.) and the proportion in low pay (%).....	16
17. Sector of employment by education and skills level.....	17
18. Transition to work, inadequate employment situation, and activity status of the youth Population (18-30 years), 2016/17.....	17
19. Status in employment of youth by background characteristics (%).....	18
20. Definition/Structure of MSMEs in Uganda.....	19
21. Distribution of population by residence (%).....	19
22. Urban population size and growth rates by census year.....	20
23. Distribution of population by citizenship, 1991–2014 ('000s).....	20
24. Migration status of the working age population (14-64 years) by selected background characteristics.....	21
25. Poverty headcount ratio (%).....	22
26. Trends in government expenditure in education.....	22
27. Literacy rate for population aged 10 years and above by sex, 2009–2017.....	23
28. Schooling status of persons aged 6 to 24 years by Age groups and year (%).....	23
29. Proportion of Females by marital status and age group.....	24
30. Number of people living with HIV and HIV/AIDS prevalence among adults 15 to 49 years.....	24
31. Estimate of child labour 2011/12 and 2016/17, percent of total children.....	26

## Figures

1. Census population, 1969 - 2014 and projected population 2018 - 2020.....	5
2. Population by age groups as a percentage of the total population in 2014 and the 2020 projections.....	6
3. Fertility trends, 1995- 2016 .....	7
4. Distribution of persons aged 14-64 entering the working force by education (%).....	11
5. Time-related underemployment by sex, sector and wave (%) .....	12
6. Proportion of persons in paid employment with written contract by occupation.....	14
7. Urban population by census year and projection.....	19

## Abbreviations and acronyms

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI	foreign direct investment
FSDU	Financial Sector Deepening Uganda
FY	financial year
GDP	gross domestic product
ICA	Integrated Country Approach
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
ILO	International Labor Organization
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries
MFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MGLSD	Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development
MSME	micro small and medium enterprises
NLFS	National Labour Force Survey
NSYEA	National Strategy for Youth Employment in Agriculture
TFR	total fertility rate
TRU	time related underemployment
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UIA	Uganda Investment Authority
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNPS	Uganda National Panel Survey
WEAI	Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index



## Background

In 2017, the National Strategy for Youth Employment in Agriculture (NSYEA) was developed and launched under the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF). Prior to its development, several youth-specific assessments were conducted, including on the decent work deficits and challenges faced by younger youth in the age cohort of 14 to 17, and the overall application of international labour standards in the agricultural sector (FAO, 2019).

The development of the strategy was supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in the frame of the project Integrated Country Approach (ICA) for boosting decent jobs for youth in the agrifood system. The ICA project seeks to support countries in adopting and implementing more youth-inclusive agrifood system development policies, strategies and programmes. Its ultimate objective is to reduce rural poverty among rural young women and men and generate alternatives to migration by creating decent employment opportunities (wage/self-employment) for youth in the agrifood sector. Since 2011, ICA has been implemented in three successive phases. It is currently active in Guatemala, Kenya, Rwanda, Senegal and Uganda (2019–2022), with financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

Since the NSYEA approval in 2017, several partners such as the European Union (EU), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Dutch Embassy, MAAIF, the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MGLSD), youth associations such as Uganda National Young Farmers Association (UNYFA) and Young Farmers Champions Network (YOFCHAN) and a myriad of other programs have initiated and implemented activities that directly or indirectly contribute to the NSYEA implementation. Yet, a coordinated mechanism on the operationalization, implementation and monitoring of NSYEA interventions is still missing.

For this reason, the ICA project decided to support support MAAIF, the youth and the other stakeholders involved in implementing the NSYEA to adopt a more coordinated approach for reporting achievements, challenges and progress on the implementation of the NSYEA. This will be achieved by developing a detailed NSYEA action plan and M&E system.

To lay ground for development of the action plan and M&E system for NSYEA, a country information and data overview factsheet for Uganda is hereby developed, in collaboration with the Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNFFE), to situate the youth employment in agrifood challenges and potentials. This factsheet consists of four sections, namely economic indicators, demographic indicators, labour statistics, and social indicators.

# 1. Economic indicators

## 1.1 Value of agricultural production per hectare

Agriculture production in Uganda is dominated by staple crops including maize, rice, millet, sorghum, beans, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, cassava, bananas. Other major crops include groundnuts and coffee. Disaggregation of production per hectare for each crop by season is presented in table 1 below.

**Table 1: Yield of major crops by season (Tonnes per Hectare)**

2019–2020			
Crop	1st Season	2nd Season	Annual average total yield per hectare (Tonnes)
Maize	1.71	1.41	3.12
Rice	1.00	1.20	2.20
Millet	1.05	0.62	1.67
Sorghum	0.46	0.49	0.95
Beans	0.22	0.41	0.63
Groundnuts	0.93	0.62	0.74
Irish potatoes	3.04	2.38	5.42
Sweet potatoes	2.44	2.24	4.68
Cassava	2.02	1.54	3.56
Banana	5.92	5.71	11.63
Coffee	0.29	0.48	0.77

Source: UBOS. 2020a. Uganda National Panel Survey Report 2019/2020. Kampala.

## 1.2 Agriculture, value added per worker

The agriculture sector is comprised of Cash crops, Food crops, Livestock, Agriculture support services, Forestry and Fishing activities. The gross valued added per worker for the sector grew by 4.8 percent in 2019–20 compared to the growth of 5.4 percent registered in 2018/19. The performance in agricultural activities is largely attributed to the good performance in food crop growing activities which registered a growth of 4.5 percent when compared to the 1.5 percent growth in 2018–19, and livestock growing activities grew by 7.9 percent in 2019–2020 compared to 7.3 percent in 2018–19. Also, the weather was favorable for the most part of the financial year (FY) 2019–2020. However, fishing activities registered a slower growth of 1.9 percent in 2019–2020 compared to 41.4 percent recorded in the previous FY, leading to a slower growth in the Agriculture sector during FY 2019/20 (UBOS, 2020b).

Results on the sector level distribution of the working persons aged 14–64 show that the agriculture sector accounted for the largest share of about 66 percent during the 2019/20 wave followed by those in the service sector (27 percent). The trend is uniform in relation to the previous surveys. (UBOS, 2020a).

**Table 2: Agriculture sector value added at current prices, 2015–2016 and 2019–2020**

	2015–16	2018–19	2019–20
<b>Value added by Agriculture, forestry and fishing in Billion Shillings</b>	22 785	30 291	33 361
<b>Share of working persons (14–64 years) in agriculture</b>	71.6	64.3	65.5
<b>Projected population 14–64 years</b>	19 379 400	21 922 400	22 814 300
<b>Projected Population working in agriculture</b>	13 875 650	14 096 103	14 943 367
<b>Agriculture Value added per worker in Ugandan shillings</b>	1 642 085	2 148 892	2 232 496

Source: UBOS. 2020a. Uganda National Panel Survey Report 2019/2020. Kampala.

UBOS. 2020b. Statistical Abstract. Kampala.

### 1.3 Agriculture as percentage of the gross domestic product

The agriculture sector contributed to 24.0 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019–2020 compared to 23.1 percent in the FY 2018–2019, which is a 0.9 percentage point increase as illustrated in table 3 below.

**Table 3: Sectoral contribution to GDP, 2015–2016 and 2019–2020**

Sector	2015–2016	2016–2017	2017–2018	2018–2019	2019–2020
<b>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</b>	22.8	23.5	23.2	23.1	24.0
<b>Industry</b>	26.3	26.0	26.1	26.3	26.2
<b>Services</b>	44.2	43.5	43.5	43.2	43
<b>Taxes on products</b>	6.8	7.0	7.2	7.5	6.8

Source: UBOS. 2020a. Uganda National Panel Survey Report 2019/2020. Kampala.

UBOS. 2020b. Statistical Abstract. Kampala.

### 1.4 Agriculture as percentage of the GDP

The government investment in the agriculture sector as percentage of the GDP has stagnated at an average of 0.6 percent from 2016–2017 to 2019–20 despite the sector's contribution to the country's GDP being high at the average of 23 percent in the same period. The nominal value of investment has been increasing over time but still significantly lower than the government commitment to the Maputo declaration of 10 percent of public expenditure on agriculture sector.

**Table 4:** Approved budget allocation to agriculture sector (UGX billion) & its percentage of the GDP 2016–2017 and 2022–2023

	2016 out turn	2017–18 Approved	2018–19 Approved	2019–20 Approved	2020–21 Proposed	2021–22 Proposed	2022–23 Projected
Recurrent wage <sup>1</sup>	73.312	74.471	111.724	125.830	125.830	125.830	125.830
Recurrent non-wage <sup>2</sup>	5.983	149.425	157.836	157.865	191.592	229.910	275.893
Development <sup>3</sup>	390.077	400.640	412.154	402.829	502.829	502.829	502.829
Total GOU investment	589.098	597.293	681.743	720.251	820.251	858.569	904.551
Percentage of GDP	0.6	0.57	0.61	0.6	0.67	-	-

Source: MFPED. 2021. National Budget Framework Papers FY 2016/17-2022/23. Kampala.

## 1.5 The scale of foreign investment in agriculture and agribusiness

Uganda is the third largest country in foreign direct investment (FDI) inflow in East Africa after Ethiopia and Kenya. According to United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's (UNCTAD) 2020 World Investment Report, FDI inflowing Uganda reached USD 1.3 billion in 2019, a 20 percent increase from USD 1 billion in 2018 thanks to development of major oil fields, international oil pipeline and major projects in construction, manufacturing and agriculture. In agriculture, foreign investment mainly fund skills development, market infrastructures, and projects that aim to boost agriculture production, productivity and research. The amount of foreign investment in agriculture has increased from UGX 105 billion in 2009–2010 financial year to UGX 333.3 billion in 2019–2020. However, the share of the total sector allocation has declined and is projected to decrease even further from 2020–2021 onwards albeit with some fluctuations over the years.

**Table 5:** Foreign investment in agriculture (UGX billion) and percentage of the sector allocation 2016–2017 and 2022–2023

	2016 out turn	2017–18 Approved	2018–19 Approved	2019–20 Approved	2020–21 Proposed	2021–22 Proposed	2022–23 Projected
External finance (billion shillings)	120.860	203.980	211.178	333.302	130.364	131.317	70.518
% of the sector investment (%)	17.02	24.62	23.65	31.64	13.71	13.27	7.23

Source: MFPED. 2021. National Budget Framework Papers FY 2016/17-2022/23. Kampala.

<sup>1</sup>Recurrent wage is the total budget for wages allocated to the sector.

<sup>2</sup>Recurrent non-wage is the sector expenditure on other expenses than wage and development.

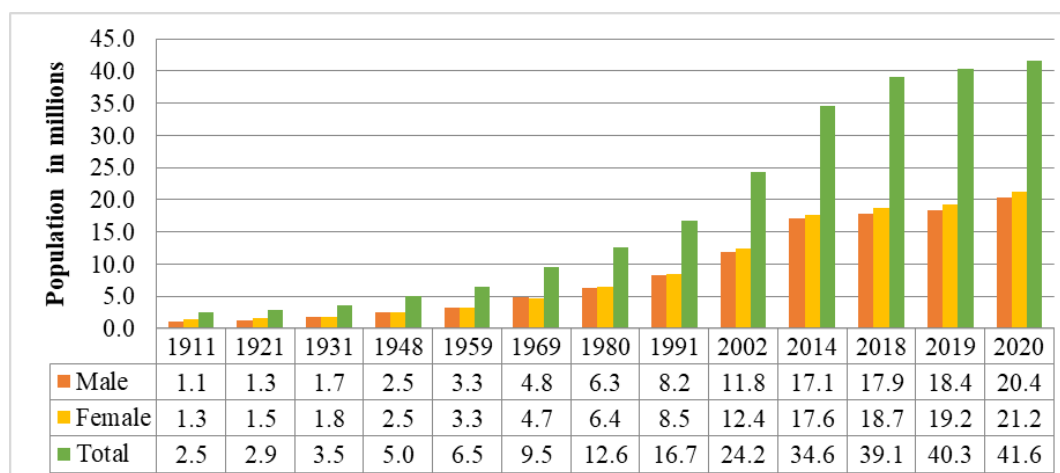
<sup>3</sup>Development refers to total funds allocated to sector for development projects.

## 2. Demographic indicators

### 2.1 Population size and growth

Figure 1 shows that Uganda's population has continued to grow over time. It increased from 9.5 million in 1969 to 34.6 million in 2014, which represents an average annual growth rate of 3.0 percent between 2002 and 2014. The population was projected to be 41.6 million by midyear 2020. Table 6 presents the average annual population growth since 1911.

**Figure 1:** Census population, 1969–2014 and projected population 2018–2020



Source: UBOS. 2014a. National Population and Housing Census. Kampala.

**Table 6:** Population size, average annual growth rates 1911–2014 and projected population 2018–2020

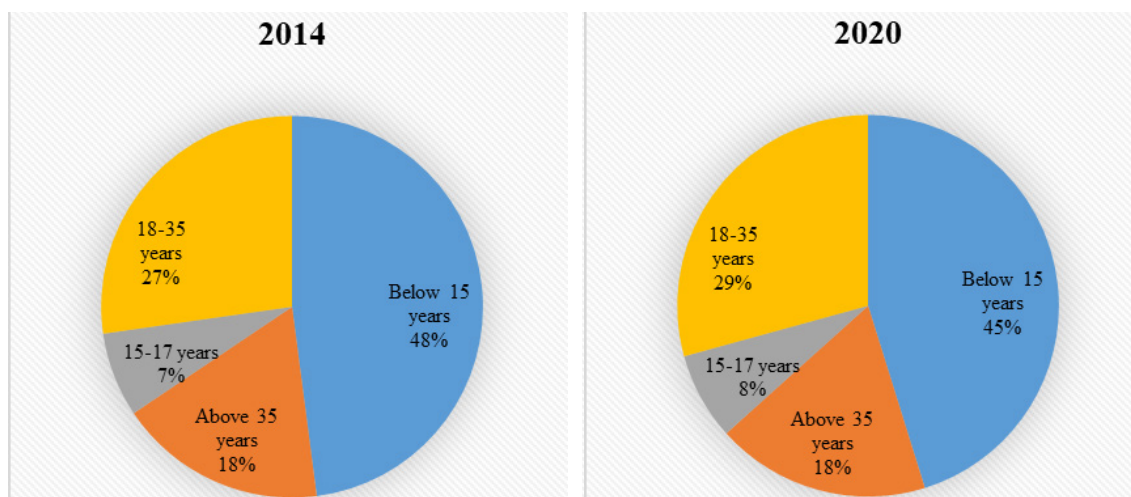
Year	Male	Female	Total	Percentage of males	Percentage of females	Average Annual Increase (000's)	Average Annual Growth Rate (%)
1911	1 116 903	1 349 422	2 466 325	45.3	54.7		
1921	1 320 286	1 534 322	2 854 608	46.3	53.7	39	1.5
1931	1 707 437	1 834 844	3 542 281	48.2	51.8	68	2.2
1948	2 481 394	2 477 126	4 958 520	50.0	50.0	83	2.0
1959	3 283 222	3 253 394	6 536 616	50.2	49.8	143	2.5
1969	4 812 447	4 722 604	9 535 051	50.5	49.5	300	3.9
1980	6 259 837	6 376 342	12 636 179	49.5	50.5	262	2.7
1991	8 185 747	8 485 958	16 671 705	49.1	50.9	367	2.5
2002	11 824 273	12 403 024	24 227 297	48.8	51.2	647	3.2
2014	17 060 832	17 573 818	34 634 650	49.3	50.7	882	3.0
2018	17 882 000	18 678 000	39 059 000	45.8	47.8		
2019	18 449 000	19 225 000	40 308 000	45.8	47.7		
2020	20 428 000	21 156 000	41 584 000	49.1	50.9		

Source: UBOS. 2014a. National Population and Housing Census. Kampala.

## 2.2 Youth share in the Uganda population

Figure 2 below shows that the highest proportion of Uganda’s population is children under 15 years old. Children’s population below 15 was at 48 percent in 2014 and is projected at 45 percent in the year 2020. About one in three persons of the population is youth (15–35 years).

**Figure 2:** Population by age groups as a percentage of the total population in 2014 and the 2020 projections



Source: UBOS. 2014a. National Population and Housing Census. Kampala.

**Table 7:** Population size by youth groups: 15–17 and 18–35 years, and youth share in population as a percentage of the total population.

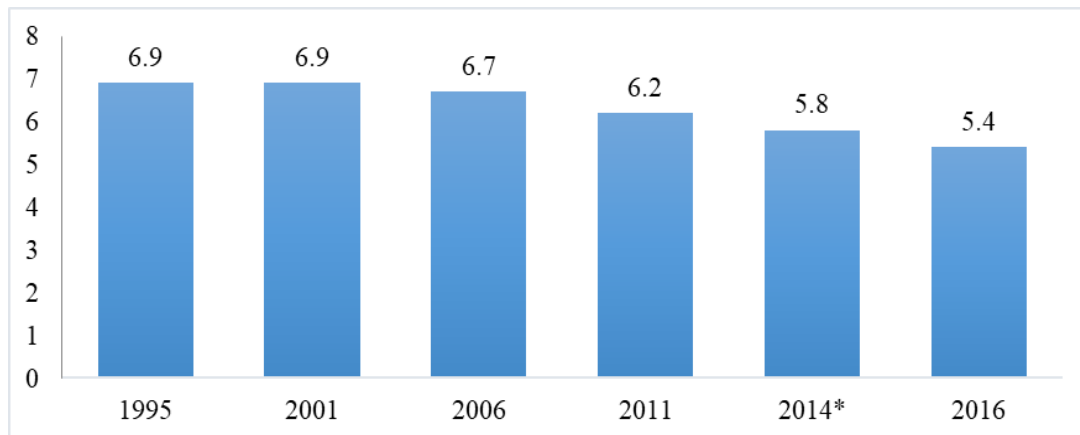
Year	Youth population by age group			Total population	Proportion of the youth population by age group		
	15-17	18-35	15-35		15-17	18-35	15-35
2014	2 462 600	9 373 200	11 835 800	34 394 000	7.2	27.3	34.4
2015	2 581 500	9 778 300	12 359 800	35 502 100	7.3	27.5	34.8
2016	2 703 600	10 208 300	12 911 900	36 652 700	7.4	27.9	35.2
2017	2 820 200	10 663 600	13 483 800	37 838 900	7.5	28.2	35.6
2018	2 922 100	11 145 900	14 068 000	39 059 000	7.5	28.5	36.0
2019	3 005 700	11 649 800	14 655 500	40 308 000	7.5	28.9	36.4
2020	3 073 300	12 170 300	15 243 600	41 583 600	7.4	29.3	36.7
2021	3 132 500	12 699 400	15 831 900	42 885 900	7.3	29.6	36.9
2022	3 190 300	13 228 500	16 418 800	44 212 800	7.2	29.9	37.1
2023	3 251 400	13 754 700	17 006 100	45 562 000	7.1	30.2	37.3

Source: UBOS. 2018a. Statistical Abstract. Kampala.

### 2.3 Youth share in the Uganda population

The total fertility rate (TFR) refers to the average number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the age-specific fertility rates of a given period. Figure 3 shows that TFR in Uganda has declined over time, from seven children per woman to five children per woman between 1995 and 2016.

**Figure 3:** Fertility trends, 1995–2016



Source: UBOS, 2016 and \*UBOS, 2014a. National Population and Housing Census. Kampala.

## 3. Labour statistics

The National Labour Force Survey (NLFS) 2016–2017 (UBOS, 2018b) identifies five mutually exclusive forms of work for separate measurement. These include own-use production work (mainly subsistence agriculture), employment work, unpaid trainee work, volunteer work and other work activities.

### 3.1 Working Population and engagement in subsistence agriculture

Uganda's total working population is estimated at 15 million. **Among the working population, the employment form of work, which comprises work performed for others in exchange for pay or profit, constituted a share of 59 percent. The rest of the working age population was engaged in own use production work which was purely subsistence agriculture (41percent).** Other forms of work (including Volunteer work, Unpaid trainee work, and other forms of work) constituted a share of less than one percent.

The proportion of the working females (nearly 51 percent) was higher than that of the males (about 49 percent). The proportion of women in subsistence agriculture (49 percent) was significantly higher than that of men (32 percent) and significantly higher in rural areas (49 percent) than in urban areas (16 percent). The age group with the highest proportion engaged in subsistence agriculture is the 14–17 years (65 percent). By region disaggregation, Eastern region had the highest proportion (59 percent) of the working population in subsistence agriculture production only. In Kampala district and Peri-urban Kampala, the proportion was negligibly low.



**Table 8:** Distribution of the working population by sex, residence and age, 2016–2017

Characteristics	Employment	Subsistence Agri-culture work	Other Forms of Work	Total (Percent)	Total (Number '000)	Share (Percent)
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	67.1	32.4	0.5	100	7 528	49.2
Female	50.5	49.2	0.4	100	7 761	50.8
<b>Residence</b>						
Rural	50.9	48.9	0.2	100	11 525	75.4
Urban	82.7	16.3	1.1	100	3 765	24.6
<b>Age group</b>						
14-17	34.2	65.1	0.7	100	1 808	11.8
18-30	61.2	38.3	0.5	100	6 306	41.2
31-64	62.7	37.1	0.2	100	7 176	46.9
15-24	52.1	47.1	0.8	100	4 573	29.9
15-35	60.2	39.3	0.6	100	9 442	61.8
<b>Region</b>						
Kampala	98.2	0.9	0.9	100	677	4.4
Peri-urban Kam-pala	95.2	3.7	1.1	100	720	4.7
Central	67.2	32.4	0.3	100	2,994	19.6
Eastern	40.7	58.7	0.5	100	3,162	20.7
Karamoja	42.8	57.2	0	100	527	3.4
Northern without Karamoja	52.6	46.9	0.5	100	3,169	20.7
Western	60.1	39.7	0.2	100	4,041	26.4
<b>Total (Percent)</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>100</b>
<b>Total (Number '000)</b>	<b>8 973</b>	<b>6 253</b>	<b>63</b>		<b>15 290</b>	

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

### 3.2 Employment in agriculture

The agriculture, forestry and fishing as well as the service sectors provided more employment with a share of 41 percent and 42 percent respectively compared to production sector (16 percent). The employed females were more likely to be engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing as well as in services compared to males who were more predominant in the production sector (UBOS, 2018b).

**Table 9: Industry (sector) of employment**

	Male	Female	Rural	Urban	Total
<b>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</b>	40	42.8	56.2	12.9	41.2
<b>Production<sup>4</sup></b>	20.2	11.4	14.3	20.2	16.4
<b>Services</b>	39.8	45.8	29.4	66.9	42.4
<b>Total</b>	100	100	100	100	100

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

As for youth specifically, NLFS 2016–2017 reports that 37.8 percent of the employed youth are in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry. The majority of the youth (18-30) in employment from rural areas were in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry (55 percent) while majority of those from urban areas were in the trade industry (27 percent).

The proportion of youth in subsistence agriculture production is 31 percent. The proportion is higher for females (36 percent) than males (25 percent). On the other hand, the proportion of rural youth was about four times than urban youth. By regional disaggregation, Eastern and Karamoja had the highest proportion of youth in subsistence agriculture (48 percent and 46 percent respectively) compared to the rest of the regions.

**Table 10: Proportion of youth in subsistence agriculture production only by sex, age and residence (percent)**

Characteristic	Subsistence agriculture
<b>Sex</b>	
Male	25
Female	36.3
<b>Age group</b>	
18-19	35.7
20-24	31
25-30	29.8
<b>Residence</b>	
Rural	41
Urban	9.9
<b>Region</b>	
Kampala	0.3
Peri-urban Kampala	1.9
Central	23.9
Eastern	47.9
Karamoja	45.6
Northern	39.2
Western	32.5
<b>Total</b>	31.2
<b>Total Number ('000)</b>	2 415

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

<sup>4</sup> The Production sector included Mining and quarrying, Manufacturing, Electricity & Water generation and Construction (UBOS, 2018b)

### 3.3 Education of the Employed population

About one third of the employed population have either completed secondary or post-secondary training. The education level is particularly low in rural areas where only 7.5 percent of the employed have post-secondary education and above.

**Table 11:** Education of the employed population by sex and residence (percent)

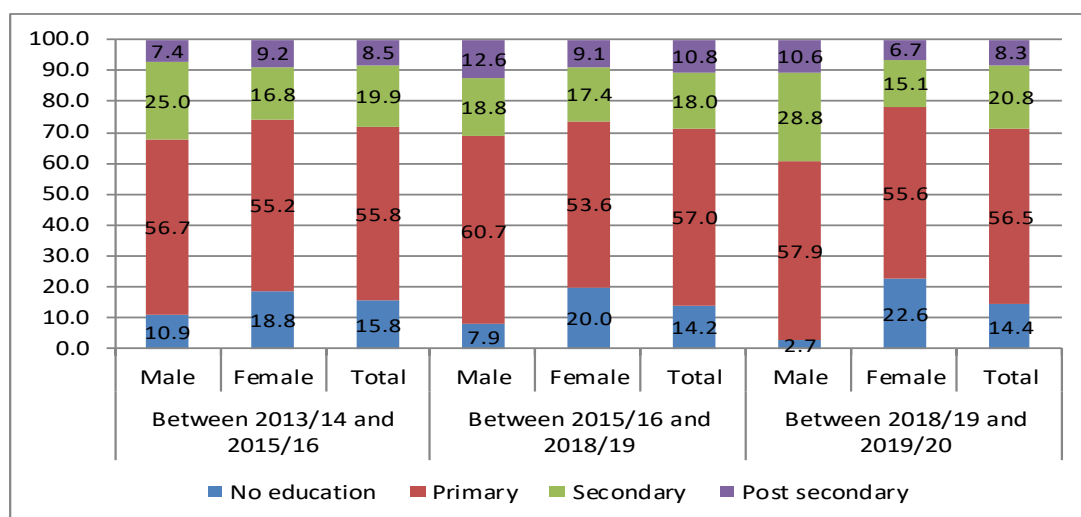
Education	Male	Female	Rural	Urban	Total
No education	6.4	15.4	13.1	5.5	10.4
Primary	53.7	50.9	61.1	36.5	52.5
Secondary	26.5	21.3	18.3	35.1	24.2
Post primary/ secondary specialized training	9.2	9.5	6.8	13.9	9.3
Degree and above	4.2	2.9	0.7	9.1	3.6
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

The results in Figure 4 indicate that more than two thirds of those who joined the work force between 2013 and 2020 have either no formal education or up to primary education. The proportion is higher for females compared to their male counterparts for all the survey periods. Only around 20 percent who entered the work force in the same periods have secondary education.

Given that the primary and secondary schools do not offer vocational skills training, the majority of the individuals enter the work force without vocational skills. This further indicates that Uganda suffers from the acute problem of a low-skilled labour force.

**Figure 4:** Distribution of persons aged 14-64 entering the working force by education (percent)



Source: UBOS. 2020b. Statistical Abstract. Kampala.

### 3.4 Unemployment and Underemployment

Unemployment rate at the national level is 9.7 percent. 12.4 percent of urban females are unemployed, and the rate is almost double the urban males. In rural areas, about 10 percent of population is unemployed.

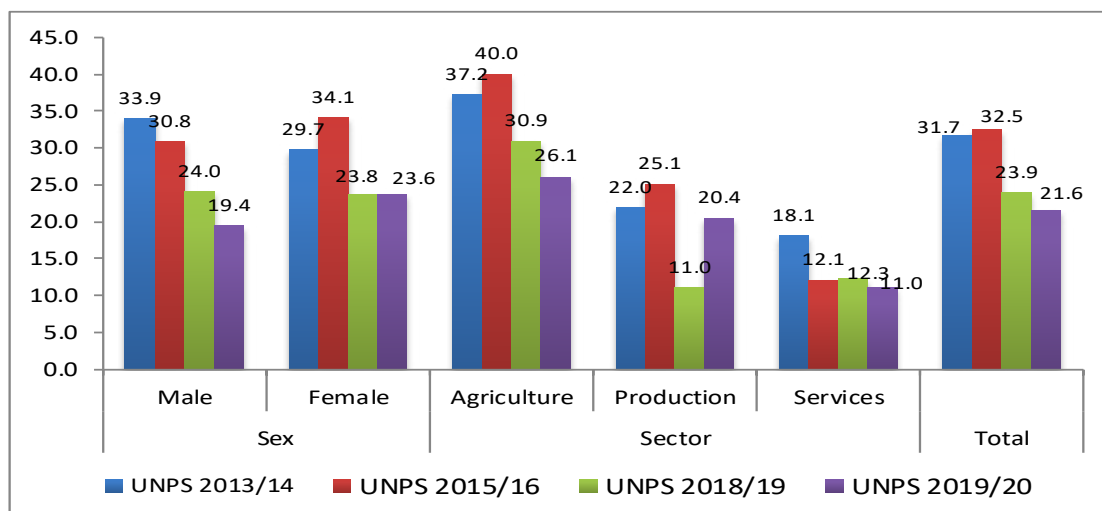
**Table 12: Unemployment rate by gender and residence (percent)**

Residence	Male	Female	Total
Rural	9.2	10.9	9.9
Urban	6.2	12.4	9.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>9.7</b>

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

Labour underutilization is about insufficient labour absorption and gives information that is necessary in broader labour market monitoring. The labour underutilization is composed of the sum of the population in time-related underemployment (TRU),<sup>5</sup> unemployment and the potential labour force<sup>6</sup> expressed as a proportion of the extended labour force. Overall, 22 percent of the working persons were in TRU during the 2019–2020 survey, showing a reducing trend over the years. Women had a slightly higher TRU rate compared to men since the 2015–2016 surveys. TRU rate was higher for persons in agriculture sector and lowest for those in services for all the four surveys.

**Figure 5: Time-related underemployment by sex, sector and wave (percent)**



Source: UBOS. 2020a. Uganda National Panel Survey Report 2019/2020. Kampala.

For youth specifically, 13 percent of youth are unemployed, which is about 3 percent point higher than the national average. Youth labour underutilization<sup>7</sup> rate is 38 percent. Almost half (47 percent) of the youth are in employment with more males (54 percent) than females (41 percent). As high as 40.7 percent of youth are in neither in employment nor education training (NEET) status.

<sup>5</sup> Working-age persons in employment willing and available to work more hours than their current working time (ILO, 2018a). It signals inadequate employment.

<sup>6</sup> Working-age persons not in employment but those who are available for employment although they are not seeking or those who are seeking employment although they are not immediately available (ILO, 2018a).

<sup>7</sup> The composite measure of labour underutilisation is composed of the sum of the population in time-related underemployment, unemployment and the potential labour force expressed as a proportion of the extended labour force.

**Table 13:** Youth unemployment, underemployment and activity status

	Male	Female	Rural	Urban	Total
Unemployment rate	11.4	14.7	13.5	12	13
Time-related underemployment	12.3	11.1	14.5	7.1	11.7
Youth labour underutilization rate	33.7	42.4	43.5	27.6	38.1
<b>Other inadequate employment situations</b>					
Skills related	7.3	7.8	-	-	7.5
Income related	45.8	63.9	-	-	52.5
<b>Activity status</b>					
In employment only	54.4	40.7	42.6	56.3	46.9
In school only	10.5	6	6.9	10.4	8
Both school and employment	4.4	1.6	2.5	3.7	2.9
Neither in Employment nor Education Train-ing (NEET)	29	50.5	46.9	27.2	40.7
Not stated	1.6	1.3	1	2.5	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

### 3.5 Informal employment and casual/temporary employment

The National Employment Policy 2011 aims to generate “productive and decent employment for all women and men in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity” (MGLSD, 2011). Decent work deficits are usually more severe in informal employment, since jobs generally lack basic social or legal protections or employment benefits. Agriculture is the sector with the highest share of informal employment (ILO, 2018b). The informal employment rate is considered an important indicator regarding the quality of employment in an economy.

In Uganda, 98.5 percent of employment in agriculture is informal, which is about five percent point higher than in production, and more than 20 percent point higher than in services sector.

**Table 14:** Proportion in Informal employment

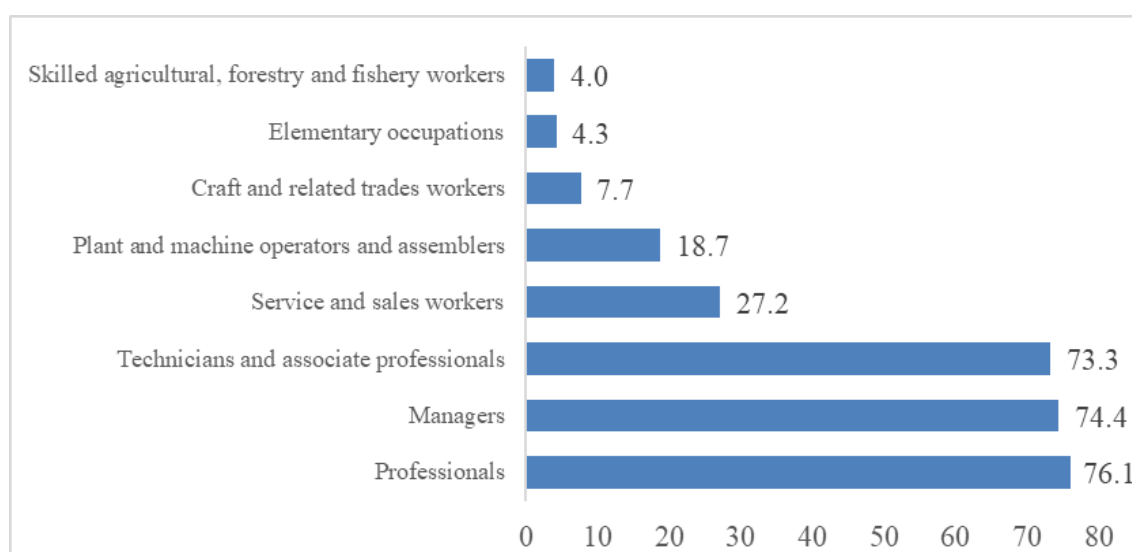
	Formal employment	Informal employment	Total
Agriculture, forestry and fish-ing	1.5	98.5	100
Production	6.1	93.9	100
Services	22.1	77.9	100
<b>Total (percent)</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>86.3</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

The majority of workers in agriculture are informal. Lack of a written employment contract is often adopted as one of the criteria defining informal employment in many countries, along with other criteria such as lack of coverage by the social security system, and lack of entitlement to paid annual or sick leave, and the casual/temporary nature of the work (ILO, 2002). An employment contract is a legally binding document designed to give both the employer and employee some level of security and protection.

Only four percent of skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery paid workers have written employment contract, indicating that the rest (96 percent) work based on an oral agreement without job security, possibly at casual or temporary basis. ILO calculated that in Uganda, 29.7 percent of the employed in agriculture are casual workers, whereas the proportion of casual workers in production is as low as 8.8 percent and 2.8 percent in services sectors (ILO, 2016).

**Figure 6:** Proportion of persons in paid employment with written contract by occupation



Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

Further, according to the NLFS 2016–2017 (UBOS, 2018b), among the employed youth, 91 percent were in informal employment and the majority of the youth (79 percent) were employed on the basis of oral agreements. Only 30 percent of youth are in regular employment,<sup>8</sup> meaning that the rest (70 percent) work on irregular basis including as casual/temporary workers. Only 8.6 percent of youth made social security contributions (and only 4.2 percent in rural areas) while one in ten employed youth were entitled to paid annual leave.

<sup>8</sup> Someone who is hired into a position with a predetermined duration of six months or greater and does his/her work in a usual/continuing manner (UBOS, 2018b).

**Table 15:** Nature of employment and social protection of youth in employment in the main job (percent)

	Formality of employment (outside agriculture)		Type of employment		Social security contribution	Paid annual leave
	Formal	Informal	Regular	Irregular		
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	9	91	34.1	65.9	7.8	9.6
Female	10.1	89.9	24.3	75.7	10	15.6
<b>Residence</b>						
Rural	5.7	94.3	20.4	79.6	4.2	8.2
Urban	12.5	87.5	44.3	55.7	12.6	15.1
<b>Region</b>						
Kampala	16.6	83.4	48.7	51.3	17.7	17.9
Peri-urban Kampala	12.7	87.3	53.5	46.5	11.0	15.6
Central	9.2	90.8	27.9	72.1	7.7	10.2
Eastern	7.7	92.3	35.4	64.6	5.3	11.9
Karamoja	6.1	93.9	13.8	86.2	1.9	8.1
Northern	4.6	95.4	15.5	84.5	1.5	12.1
Western	8.5	91.5	23.5	76.5	8.5	7.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>90.5</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>11.8</b>

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

### 3.6 Wages by sector, gender, and educational attainment

SDG 8, target 5 advocates for achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men by 2030, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value. In order to be consistent with the concept of decent work, work has to be productive and provide workers with adequate earnings.

Earnings represent a key dimension of labour market outcomes. A worker's earnings per month measures the rate at which his or her labour is rewarded in the labour market, and thus provides a measure of the value of that worker's labour. Earnings are also an important contributor to an individual's economic well-being, being the main income source for most working people. The Panel Survey data allows not only to examine workers' earnings data point in time, and track movements in overall earnings levels, but also to track individuals' earnings progression over time.

The results in Table 16 show the median monthly earning for working persons (14 to 64 years) in paid employment during the survey periods 2015–2016 to 2019–2020. **Overall, it was UGX. 250 000 or USD 68.5 in 2019–2020** and almost remained the similar as compared to 2018–2019 survey. Women earned a median monthly earning of only UGX. 150 000 or USD 41.1, which is about a half the median monthly earnings of their male counterparts (UGX. 300 000 or USD 82.2). In addition, persons who were employed in service sector as their main job earned about four times higher earnings compared to those who were in paid employment in agriculture.

The results also indicate a clear pay-off of investments in education with higher earnings potential. Persons with post-secondary education earned median monthly

earnings of UGX. 540 000 (USD 148) more than four times higher than the median monthly earnings wage of paid employees with primary or no education of UGX. 126 700 (USD 34.7).

The employees with low pay rate indicator aims to capture the percentage of employees that are working for low wages. It is defined as the percentage of employees whose monthly or hourly earnings in all jobs equal less than two-thirds of the median hourly earnings of all employees. The results indicate that 14 percent of paid employees were inadequately paid during the 2019–2020 survey. The proportion has reduced in comparison with previous surveys. Sex variations were also evident with income related inadequate employment rate for female workers being higher than for males but with a reducing gap over years. Sector of work variations reveal that the paid employees in agriculture had higher proportions with low pay while those in service sector had the lowest proportions for all the four surveys.

**Table 16:** Median monthly earnings on the main job for persons in paid employment during 2015–2016, 2018–2019, and 2019–2020 (main job, UGX.) and the proportion in low pay (percent)

Background characteristics	Median monthly earnings on the main job			Proportion in low pay (%)		
	UNPS 2015–2016	UNPS 2018–2019	UNPS 2019–2020	UNPS 2015–2016 Below 133	UNPS 2018–2019 Below 166	UNPS 2019–2020 Below 166
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	200 000	300 000	300 000	20.6	15.0	13.8
Female	200 000	150 000	150 000	18.6	18.8	13.3
<b>Sector</b>						
Agriculture	80 000	90 500	90 500	36.1	23.0	20.1
Production	217 200	271 500	271 500	19.2	15.5	13.9
Services	220 000	350 000	362 000	15.7	13.4	10.8
<b>Education level</b>						
No education or primary	108 600	108 600	126 700	32.6	21.4	19.2
Secondary	181 000	250 000	271 500	15.9	14.9	11.2
Post-secondary	400 000	500 000	540 000	6.5	9.7	8.1
<b>Place of work</b>						
Public	400 000	490 000	530 000	6.2	6.4	4.8
Private	162 900	181 000	181 000	23.2	18.2	15.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>200 000</b>	<b>250 000</b>	<b>250 000</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>13.7</b>

Note: CPI (All items index 2009–2010=100) 2015–2016=155.30, 2018–2019=175.02, 2019–2020=180.19  
Source: UBOS, 2020a

### 3.7 Skills level required to work in agriculture

In Uganda, there is no specific sector with agreed levels of skills required to work in it. However, different employers set minimum skills level for the jobs they offer in their firms. NLFS 2016–2017 revealed that 49.5 percent of those without trade/technical skills nor a specialization engage in agriculture. Overall, 64.7 percent of people without education engage in agriculture, whereas the majority of those with post primary/secondary specialized training or degree and above engage in the service sector (table 17).



**Table 17:** Sector of employment by education and skills level

	Agriculture, forest-ry and fishing	Production	Services	Total
No education <sup>9</sup>	64.7	14.2	21.2	100
Primary level	49.7	16.1	34.2	100
Secondary level	26.6	19.1	54.3	100
Post primary/sec- ondary specialized training	7.1	16.1	76.9	100
Degree and above	3.0	13.5	83.5	100
Trade/ Technical skills				
With trade or technical skills and specialization	6.5	23.9	69.5	100
With trade or technical skills only	30.0	25.9	69.5	100
With specialization only	5.6	11.5	82.8	100
None <sup>10</sup>	49.5	14.0	36.5	100

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

### 3.8 Other Key Labour Market Indicators of Youth

#### Stages of transition<sup>11</sup>

According to the NLFS 2016–2017 (UBOS, 2018b), the proportion of the youth (18-30 years) who transitioned either to stable or satisfactory jobs (based on those in employment) is only 27 percent, showing insufficient stable or satisfactory employment opportunities for the youth in Uganda. The majority of the youth (62 percent) are still in transition while about 9 percent have not yet started the transition. Transition into stable job increased with increasing levels of education attained.

**Table 18:** Transition to work, inadequate employment situation, and activity status of the youth Population (18-30 years), 2016–2017

	Male	Female	Rural	Urban	Total
<b>Stages of transition of the youth</b>					
Transitioned to stable job	12.6	6.7	6.8	15.0	9.4
Transitioned to satisfactory job	17.0	18.4	18.9	15.3	17.8
In transition	57.9	65.8	65.2	55.7	62.2
Transition not started	10.4	7.4	8.0	10.5	8.8
Not stated	2.1	1.7	1.1	3.5	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

<sup>9</sup> No education refers to workers with no formal education

<sup>10</sup> None refers to workers with no any form of trade/technical skills and specialization.

<sup>11</sup> The International Labour Organization (ILO) defines labour market transition as the passage of a young person from the end of schooling (or entry to first economic activity) to the first stable or satisfactory job.

### 3.9 Status in employment of the youth

According to the NLFS 2016–27 (UBOS, 2018b), 48 percent of the youth (18-30) in employment were own account workers and about 40 percent were in paid employment. The proportion of the male youth in paid employment was higher (46 percent) than that of females (32 percent). On the other hand, the share of youth in paid employment in urban areas (54 percent) was much higher than the proportion for rural residents (31 percent). Employed youth in Karamoja and Northern regions were less likely to be involved in paid employment (22 percent and 30 percent respectively) compared to their counterparts in other regions.

Vulnerable employment, which is the sum of own account workers and contributing family workers, is often characterized by inadequate earnings, low productivity and difficult conditions of work that undermine workers' fundamental rights. About 58 percent of the employed youth were classified as "in vulnerable employment", with the proportion for females at 67 percent. Rural youth were more engaged in vulnerable employment than urban youth, both in terms of own account work (54.1 percent vs 38 percent) and contributing family work (13.2 vs 5.7 percent). The youth from Karamoja region were more engaged in vulnerable employment (78 percent) compared to others.

**Table 19:** Status in employment of youth by background characteristics (percent)

Background characteristics	Paid employees	Employers	Own account workers	Contributing family workers	Total
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	46.3	2.7	44.3	6.8	100
Female	31.7	1.7	52.2	14.5	100
<b>Residence</b>					
Rural	31	1.8	54.1	13.2	100
Urban	53.5	2.9	38	5.7	100
<b>Region</b>					
Kampala	61.8	2.9	31.1	4.3	100
Peri-urban Kampala	58.3	2.3	34.2	5.2	100
Central	36.9	3.7	39.5	19.9	100
Eastern	42.9	2.3	43.5	11.3	100
Karamoja	22.4	0	70.7	6.9	100
Northern	29.6	1.1	58.8	10.5	100
Western	34	1.6	58.3	6.1	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Number ('000)</b>	<b>1 519</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1 844</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>3 846</b>

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

### 3.10 Number and size of MSMEs in the agribusiness sector

The Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) states that micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are the engine of growth for economic development, innovation, wealth creation of Uganda (UIA, 2016). The 2015 survey of small businesses in Uganda by Financial Sector Deepening Uganda (FSDU) revealed that the agricultural sector had the highest proportion of MSMEs (14 percent) followed by education and health sector (13 percent) and recreation and personal (10 percent) (FSDU, 2015). While there is no precise information on the actual number of agro MSMEs, also because only few of

them are registered, UIA estimates that there are above 1 million agribusiness MSMEs (UIA, 2020) in Uganda. According to the MSME policy of 2015, MSMEs are defined as follows by the number of employees, size of capital investment and the total turnover.

**Table 20:** Definition/Structure of MSMEs in Uganda

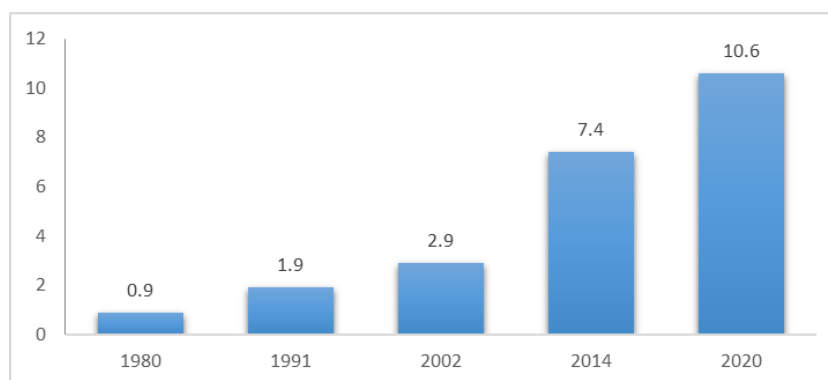
	No. of people employed	Capital investment (million Shs)	Total turnover (million Shs)
<b>Micro</b>	<5	0-10	0-10
<b>Small</b>	5>50	10-100	10-100
<b>Medium</b>	50>99	100-360	100-360

Source: Uganda Investment Authority (UIA). 2016. SMEs Driving the Economy [online].

### 3.11 Urbanization Trends

Figure 7 shows that the urban population increased from less than one million persons in 1980 to about three million in 2002, and further increased to 7.4 million in 2014. It is projected at 10.6 million persons in the year 2020.

**Figure 7:** Urban population by census year and projection



Source: UBOS. 2014a. National Population and Housing Census. Kampala.

In 2016–2017, Uganda's population was still predominantly rural (76 percent), as shown in Table 19 below. This compares well with the findings of the 2014 Uganda Population and Housing Census (79 percent).

**Table 21:** Distribution of population by residence (percent)

Year	2002*	2005–2006	2009–2010	2012–2013	2014	2016–2017	2020
<b>Residence</b>							
<b>Rural</b>	87.7	84.6	85.0	76.5	79.0	75.5	74.5
<b>Urban</b>	12.3	15.4	15.0	23.5	21.0	24.5	25.5
<b>Total</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: UBOS. 2018c. Uganda National Household Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

\*UBOS. 2002. Uganda Population and Housing Census Analytical Report. Kampala: Uganda Bureau of Statistics. and UBOS. 2018a. Statistical Abstract. Kampala.

The Uganda population is growing, and at a faster pace in urban areas. Between 2002 and 2014, the urban population has more than doubled (table 20). This trend can partly be attributed to the creation of new districts and subsequent new urban areas (Town Councils and Municipalities). The recent approval by Parliament of 15 new cities is expected to lead to further growth of the urban population for the period July 2020 to July 2023.

**Table 22: Urban population size and growth rates by census year**

Census year	Urban	Rural	Total	Intercensal average growth rates (%)
1969	634 952	8 900 099	9 535 051	
1980	938 287	11 697 892	12 636 179	3.6
1991	1 889 622	14 782 083	16 671 705	6.4
2002	2 921 981	21 305 316	24 227 297	4.0
2014	7 425 864	27 208 786	34 634 650	7.8

Source: UBOS. 2014a. National Population and Housing Census. Kampala.

### 3.12 Migration

Uganda is a country of origin, transit and destination. In 2019, the country accounted for 1.8 million of international migrants (51 percent women), and hosted 1.7 million migrants, of which 1.4 million were internal displaced persons (IDPs), (UNDESA, 2019). About 57 percent of international migrants were aged 19 or younger (UNDESA, 2019). Remittances sent to Uganda in 2018 accounted USD 1.4 billion (WB, 2020).

The table below shows the, international migrant stock<sup>12</sup> as a percentage of the population, which declined over the years, from 3.6 percent in 1991 to 1.5 percent in 2014. The migrant stock in absolute numbers has also reduced from 599.2 thousand in 1991 to 504.2 thousand in 2014.

**Table 23: Distribution of population by citizenship, 1991–2014 ('000s)**

Census year	1991		2002		2014	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Ugandan	16072.5	96.4	23 672.9	97.7	33 637.2	98.5
Non Ugandan	599.2	3.6	554.4	2.3	504.2	1.5
Total	166671.7	100	24 227.3	100	34 141.4	100

Source: UBOS. 2006. Population and Housing Census. Kampala and UBOS. 2014a. National Population and Housing Census. Kampala.

### 3.13 Internal migration

Rural-to-rural migration is the dominant form of internal migration in Uganda, followed by urban-to-urban migration. Results from the 2016–2017 national labour force survey show that about 68 percent of migrants of working age were previously resident in the rural areas while 31 percent were previously urban residents (city or other urban areas). The survey further reveals that 46 percent of those resident in urban areas had migrated from rural areas, while 53 percent migrated within urban areas (city or other urban areas). On the other side, of all the working age population resident in urban areas, only about 11 percent migrated from either the city or other urban areas in the most recent five years. By considering a longer period of 10 years, the pattern remains the same with overall migration from rural areas at 70 percent and from urban areas at nearly 30 percent.

<sup>12</sup> Internal migrant stock is the number of people born in a country other than in which they live including refugees

**Table 24:** Migration status of the working age population (14-64 years) by selected background characteristics

Background Characteristics	Previous area of residence in the last 5 years				
	Rural	Urban	City	Other country	Total
<b>Current residence</b>					
Rural	87.8	9.1	1.7	1.3	100
Urban	45.7	38.8	14.3	1.2	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>100</b>
	Previous area of residence in the last 10 years				
	Rural	Urban	City	Other country	Total
<b>Current residence</b>					
Rural	87.8	9.4	1.6	1.1	100
Urban	47.4	38.4	12.7	1.4	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>69.8</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: UBOS. 2018b. National Labour Force Survey 2016/17. Kampala.

## 4. Social indicators

### 4.1 Poverty rate

About one in five people in Uganda are poor, and the poverty rate increased by 1.7 percentage points since 2012. Geographically, northern region had been always the poorest until 2013, but it is the eastern region now with the poverty headcount rate of 35.7 percent while it is 32.5 percent in the northern region (UBOS, 2019).

**Table 25: Poverty headcount ratio (percent)**

	2012	2016
Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty line (% of population)	19.7	21.4

Source: World Bank. 2021. World Development Indicators

### 4.2 Government education expenditures as percentage of GDP

The education sector has dominated public expenditure in Uganda over the last 20 years. The sector expenditure grew at an average of rate of 13 percent between fiscal year 1997–1998 and 2012–2013, rising from UGX 213billion in 1997–1998 to about UGX 1,313billion in 2012–2013. As a percentage of national expenditure however, education trends have been generally decreasing albeit with fluctuations between the years (Makaaru, K, Kisaame, Nansozi, & Bogere, 2015). An analysis of the sector expenditure over the years indicates that the majority of the sector’s expenditure is directed towards wages with a big gap between wage and non-wage expenditure growing wider over time. In contrast to other sectors, the trends in wage expenditure are not a significant concern in education as primary and secondary teachers’ salaries and allowances have a significant bearing on outputs and outcomes in the sector. These make up to 80 percent of the sectors wage bill (MFPED, 2020).

Table 24, below shows that the sector expenditure has continued to grow in nominal figures but its share of total expenditure is decreasing in a fluctuating manner and its percentage of the GDP has stagnated at an average of 2 percent.

**Table 26: Poverty headcount ratio (percent)**

	2009–2010	2010–2011	2018–2019	2019–2020	2020–2021
Sector budget allocation (Billion UGX)	1 079.62	1 242.65	2 444.235	3 081.349	3 510.001
% share of total budget	15.3	16.8	10.2	8.96	9.3
GDP at current prices (Bil-lion UGX)	40 946	47 078	121 096.52	129 216.163	138 621.718
% of GDP	2.6	2.6	2.0	2.4	2.5

Source: MFPED. 2020. Annual Budget Performance Reports. Kampala: Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

### 4.3 Literacy

The literacy rate among persons aged 10 years and above has remained unchanged over time from 2009 to 2017 with about seven in every ten (70 percent) of the population aged

10 years and above literate. Males were found to be more literate (77 percent) than their female counterparts (70 percent as presented in Table 25).

**Table 27: Literacy rate for population aged 10 years and above by sex, 2009-2017**

Year	2009–2010	2012–2013	2014*	2015	2016–2017
<b>Males</b>	79	76	77	77	77
<b>Females</b>	66	64	68	66	70
<b>Total</b>	73	69	72	71	73

Source: UBOS. 2018c. Uganda National Household Survey 2016/17. Kampala

\* UBOS. 2014a. National Population and Housing Census. Kampala.

## 4.4 Education attainment

### Schooling status by school going age groups

Table 26 shows the distribution of persons aged 6 to 24 years by their current schooling status, according to the official school going age groups for the different education levels. Overall, 8 percent of persons aged 6 - 12 years, two percent of those 13 - 18 years and four percent of those 19 - 24 years had never attended school at the time of the survey (2016–2017). There were no variations between males and females that had never attended school.

**Table 28: Schooling status of persons aged 6 to 24 years by Age groups and year (percent)**

Characteristic	2012–2013				2016–2017			
	Never attended	Attended in the past	Currently attending	Total	Never attended	Attended in the past	Currently attending	Total
<b>6-12 years</b>								
Male	12.3	1.9	85.8	100	8.2	1.8	90	100
Female	11.3	1.4	87.3	100	8	2.2	89.8	100
<b>Total</b>	11.8	1.6	86.6	100	8.1	2	89.9	100
<b>13-18 years</b>								
Male	2.2	14.4	83.4	100	2	21.1	76.9	100
Female	3.1	19.5	77.4	100	2.2	19.3	78.5	100
<b>Total</b>	2.6	16.8	80.6	100	2.1	20.2	77.7	100
<b>19-24 years</b>								
Male	4.6	69.2	26.2	100	4.4	76.9	18.7	100
Female	7.2	81.2	11.6	100	2.6	68.1	29.3	100
<b>Total</b>	6.1	76	17.9	100	3.6	73	23.4	100

Source: UBOS. 2018c. Uganda National Household Survey 2016/17. Kampala

## 4.5 Child marriage

Table 30 shows the proportion of females by marital status. "Married" refers to women and men who report being married or living together as husband and wife. About one in five teenagers aged 15-19 reported to be married, with the share remaining stable since 2011.

**Table 29: Proportion of Females by marital status and age group**

Age-group	2011			2016		
	Never Married	Currently Married	Ever Married	Never Married	Currently Married	Ever Married
15-19	77.3	20.0	2.8	77.2	19.9	2.9
20-24	23.9	67.3	8.8	25.5	64	10.5
25-29	5.6	82.5	11.9	10.0	77.3	12.7
30-34	2.3	81.1	16.6	3.9	78.5	17.6
35-39	1.5	79.9	18.7	2.7	77.1	20.1
40-44	0.8	75.8	23.4	2.4	73.6	24.1
45-49	2.2	62.0	35.8	1.5	69.6	28.9
<b>Total</b>	24.4	62.5	13.2	25.8	60.6	13.5
<b>No. Females</b>	2 118	5 418	1 138	4 783	11 223	2 500

Source: UBOS. 2011. Uganda Demographic Health Survey. Kampala and 2016

## 4.6 HIV/AIDS prevalence

According to the Ministry of Health estimates for 2019, the HIV prevalence among adults (15-49 years) in Uganda is 5.6 percent. The prevalence is higher among females (6.9 percent) than among males (5.3 percent).

**Table 30: Number of people living with HIV and HIV/AIDS prevalence among adults 15 to 49 years**

Category	Adults aged 15+ living with HIV	HIV prevalence among adults aged 15 to 49
<b>Males</b>	530 000	5.3
<b>Females</b>	830 000	6.9
<b>Adults</b>	1 360 000	5.6

Source: Uganda Aids Commission. 2020. HIV fact sheet. Kampala: Uganda Aids Commission.



Role of women in Agriculture according to The Woman Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) measures the empowerment, agency and inclusion of women in agriculture sector in an effort to identify ways to overcome the obstacles and constraints. It also measures women empowerment relative to men within their households. The five domains for WEAI include: decisions about agriculture production, access to and decision making power over productive resources, control over use of income, leadership in the community and time use (IFPRI, 2012). For the case of Uganda, despite the role of women in agriculture and food production, women continue to lag behind in access to productive resources especially land and finances. According to the gender statistics profile done by Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) in 2012, of the 30 percent agriculture households that managed a plot, a lower percentage of 44 percent of women managed a plot compared to 56 percent of men. The profile also indicated that women spent more labor days in the season compared to men because women were engaged in more production activities compared to men. 50 percent of women farmers were unpaid household workers compared to 17 percent of men. Statistics also show that although women are an important part of the agricultural labour force, they are more likely than men to hold low wage employment showing one form of discrimination in the agriculture labour force (UBOS, 2012).

Data from the gender statistics profile also show that few women farmers access finance, new technology and extension services compared to men. Men were also more involved in decision making especially on value chain activities involving exchange of money.

The WEAI tool has however not been comprehensively used by any mandated research institution in Uganda, therefore, extensive data on this tool is lacking.

#### **4.7 Child labour in agriculture**

The results from the NLF5 2016–202017 showed that, overall, 28 percent of children aged 5-17 are working. This represents about 3.8 million children. The results further indicate that the proportion of working children is almost similar for both sexes. Nine in every ten (92 percent) working children are engaged in agriculture (including farming, forestry and fishing) (UBOS, 2018b).

The results in Table 32 below indicate that about 2 057 000 children (15 percent) are in child labour.<sup>13</sup> On the other hand, about 1 031 000 children (13 percent) in child labour are young children, aged 5-11 years. Almost all of them are in agriculture. Furthermore, about 1 026 000 (19 percent) of children aged 12-17 out of the 5 449 000 children in that age group are in hazardous work. (UBOS, 2018)

<sup>13</sup> Child labour is defined as work that is inappropriate for a child's age, affects children's education, or is likely to harm their health, safety or morals. (FAO, 2021)

**Table 31:** Estimate of child labour 2011–2012 and 2016–2017, percent of total children

	2011–2012				2016–2017			
	Male	Female	Total	Total ('000)	Male	Female	Total	Total ('000)
<b>Children aged 5–11 years in economic activity</b>	21.5	21.1	21.3	1 450	13.3	11.9	12.6	1 031
<b>Children aged 12–13 years in economic activity excluding those in light economic activity</b>	12.4	11.3	11.9	252	24.1	19.6	21.8	476
<b>Children aged 14–17 years in hazardous work or working excessive hours(ii)</b>	10.5	7.3	8.9	307	20.7	13.2	16.8	550
<b>Total in child labour, 5–17 years (Percent)</b>	16.9	15.6	16.3	2 055	15.9	12.1	15.1	2 057

Source: UBOS. 2017. Uganda National Labour Force Survey. Kampala.

## 5. Identified gaps

In the preparation of this factsheet, data gaps have been identified in the following areas:

- Employment in agribusiness (input provision, processing, distribution, trade, storage, etc.). Data on this indicator are missing, the existing ones refer to employment in agriculture sector as a whole, without disaggregation according to the nodes of the value chains other than production.
- Skill level demand and gaps for engaging in agribusiness Data on this indicator is unavailable: Available data is for the agriculture sector as a whole
- Average age of small-scale producers and MSME owners
- Data by main driver of migration are limited.

## References

- FAO.** 2019. *Rural youth employment and Agri-food systems in Uganda: A rapid context analysis*. Rome. (also available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca5739en/ca5739en.pdf> )
- FAO.** 2020. *Framework on Ending Child Labour In Agriculture*. Rome. (also available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca9502en/ca9502en.pdf>)
- FSDU.** 2015. *National Small Business Survey of Uganda*. Kampala: Financial Sector Deepening Uganda. (also available at: <https://www.nathaninc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/National-Small-Business-Survey-report.pdf> )
- IFPRI.** 2012. Women's empowerment in agriculture index. Washington DC: Internal Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative(OPHI), Feed the Future. (also available at: <http://ebrary.ifpri.org/utils/getfile/collection/p15738coll2/id/126937/filename/127148.pdf>)
- ILO.** 2002. *Defining and measuring informal employment*. (also available at: <https://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/download/papers/meas.pdf> )
- ILO.** 2011. Statistical Update on Employment in the Informal Economy. Geneva: International Labor Organization (also available at: [https://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/WCMS\\_157467/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/WCMS_157467/lang--en/index.htm) )
- ILO.** 2016. *Non-standard forms of employment in Uganda and Ghana*. Geneva. (also available at: [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_protect/---protrav/---travail/documents/publication/wcms\\_479689.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---travail/documents/publication/wcms_479689.pdf) )
- ILO.** 2018a. *ILOSTAT STATS SHEET n°3: Labour Underutilization*. Geneva. (also available at [https://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/Stats\\_sheet\\_labour\\_underutilization\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/Stats_sheet_labour_underutilization_EN.pdf) )
- ILO.** 2018. *ILOSTAT STATS SHEET n°4: Informal Employment*. Geneva. (also available at [https://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/Stats\\_sheet\\_informality\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/Stats_sheet_informality_EN.pdf) )
- Makaaru, J., K, C., Kisaame, K., Nansozi, S., & Bogere, G.** 2015. Public Expenditure Governance in Uganda's Education Sector: Application of an innovative Assessment Framework. ACODE Policy Research series . Kampala: ACODE. (also available at: <https://www.acode-u.org/uploadedFiles/PRS67.pdf> )
- MFPEd.** 2020. *Annual Budget Performance Reports*. Kampala: Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. (also available at: <https://budget.go.ug/sites/default/files/National%20Budget%20docs/ABPR%20FY%202019-20.pdf> )
- MFPEd.** 2021. *National Budget Framework Papers FY 2016/17-2022/23*. Kampala.
- UBOS.** 2002. *Uganda Population and Housing Census Analytical Report*. Kampala: Uganda Bureau of Statistics.
- UBOS.** 2006. *Population and Housing Census*. Kampala
- UBOS.** 2011. *Uganda Demographic Health Survey*. Kampala (also available at: <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR264/FR264.pdf> )
- UBOS.** 2012. *Agriculture Sector Gender Statistics Profile*. Kampala: Uganda Bureau of Statistics. (also available at: <http://library.health.go.ug/sites/default/files/resources/Agriculture%20Sector%20Gender%20Statistics%20Profile.pdf> )

- UBOS.** 2013. *Uganda National Household Survey 2012/2013*. (also available at: [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/04\\_20182012\\_13\\_UNHS\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/04_20182012_13_UNHS_Final_Report.pdf))
- UBOS.** 2014a. *National Population and Housing Census*. Kampala. (also available at: [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/03\\_20182014\\_National\\_Census\\_Main\\_Report.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/03_20182014_National_Census_Main_Report.pdf))
- UBOS.** 2014b. *Uganda National Household Survey 2012/13*. Kampala. (also available at: [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/04\\_20182012\\_13\\_UNHS\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/04_20182012_13_UNHS_Final_Report.pdf))
- UBOS.** 2016. *Uganda Demographic and Health Survey*. Kampala. (also available at: <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR333/FR333.pdf>)
- UBOS.** 2017. *Uganda National Labour Force Survey*. Kampala.
- UBOS.** 2017. *Uganda National Panel Survey*. Kampala. (also available at: [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/10\\_2018UNPS\\_Report\\_2015\\_16\\_wave5.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/10_2018UNPS_Report_2015_16_wave5.pdf))
- UBOS.** 2018a. *Statistical Abstract*. Kampala. (also available at: <https://bit.ly/2FAHyJQ>)
- UBOS.** 2018b. *National Labour Force Survey 2016/17*. Kampala. (also available at: [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/10\\_2018Report\\_national\\_labour\\_force\\_survey\\_2016\\_17.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/10_2018Report_national_labour_force_survey_2016_17.pdf))
- UBOS.** 2018c. *Uganda National Household Survey 2016/17*. Kampala. (also available at: [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/03\\_20182016\\_UNHS\\_FINAL\\_REPORT.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/03_20182016_UNHS_FINAL_REPORT.pdf))
- UBOS.** 2019. *Poverty Maps of Uganda Technical Report*. Kampala. (also available at: [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/02\\_2020Poverty\\_Map\\_report\\_Oct\\_2019.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/02_2020Poverty_Map_report_Oct_2019.pdf))
- UBOS.** 2020a. *Uganda National Panel Survey Report 2019/2020*. Kampala.
- UBOS.** 2020b. *Statistical Abstract*. Kampala. (also available at: <http://library.health.go.ug/sites/default/files/resources/UBOS%20Statistical%20Abstract%202020.pdf>)
- UBOS.** 2020c. *The Economic Performance of Uganda's Economy 2019/20*. Kampala. (also available at: [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/AGDP-2019\\_20-Presentation.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/AGDP-2019_20-Presentation.pdf))
- Uganda Aids Commission.** 2020. *HIV fact sheet*. Kampala: Uganda Aids Commission. (also available at: <https://uac.go.ug/sites/default/files/Reports/HIV%20FACT%20SHEET%202020.pdf>)
- Uganda Investment Authority (UIA).** 2016. *SMEs Driving the Economy [online]*. [Cited 20 February 2021]. [ugandainvest.go.ug/smes](http://ugandainvest.go.ug/smes).
- UNCTAD.** 2020. *World Investment Report 2020*. Geneva. (also available at: [https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/wir2020\\_en.pdf](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/wir2020_en.pdf))
- UNDESA.** 2019. *International Migrant Stock 2019: Country profile Uganda* (also available at: <https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2/estimates19.asp>)
- World Bank.** 2021. *World Development Indicators* [online]. [Cited 13 April 2021]. <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators>





