

# LABOUR FORCE

and HOUSEHOLD LIVING CONDITIONS SURVEY  
2018-2019 in **TRIPOLI**



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

**Suggested citation:**

**"Labour Force and Household Living Conditions Survey 2018-2019 in Tripoli", 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

<b>About the Survey</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>District Statistics</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>I. DEMOGRAPHICS</b> .....	<b>4</b>
The residents in Tripoli: who and how many are they? .....	4
<b>II. HOUSING</b> .....	<b>6</b>
Where do residents in Tripoli live? .....	6
Primary residences by area (m <sup>2</sup> ) .....	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
<b>III. EDUCATION</b> .....	<b>12</b>
Gross Enrolment Ratio versus Net Enrolment Rate .....	12
Schooling in Tripoli .....	13
<b>IV. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BACKGROUND</b> .....	<b>15</b>
How much do households earn in total? .....	15
... and how do they perceive their wealth status? .....	15
Health Coverage .....	16
<b>V. LABOUR FORCE and EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>18</b>
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.....	21
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
<b>The Team</b> .....	<b>25</b>

## List of Figures

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

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)<sup>1</sup>.

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.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 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>.

<sup>2</sup> 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 Tripoli, 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

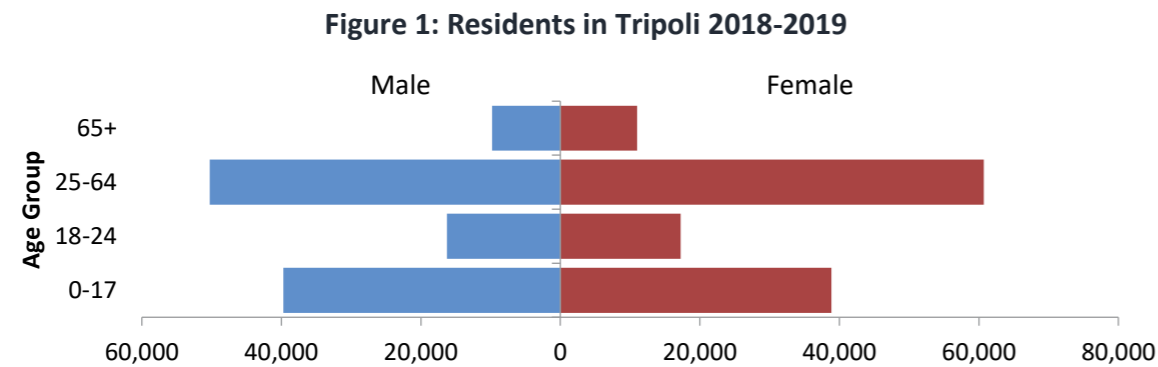
### The residents in Tripoli: who and how many are they?

The survey results show that in 2018–19, the caza of Tripoli hosted 5 per cent of residents of Lebanon, with around 243,800 residents. 52.4 per cent of the residents were females and 47.6 per cent males.

whereas those aged between 18 and 24 years old represented 13.7 per cent. The remaining 8.5 per cent were the older residents (65+ years old). (Figure 1)

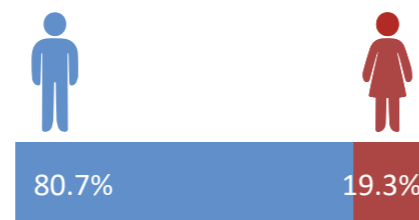
45.5 per cent of the residents in Tripoli were found in the age group 25–64 years. The younger residents of less than 18 years old represented 32.3 per cent of the total,

In 2018–19, the age dependency ratio<sup>3</sup> for Tripoli was 54 per cent, a result that was found to be nearly the same as the national level (53.9 per cent).



The Survey results showed that males predominated as heads of household. It was estimated that 80.7 per cent of households were headed by a man compared to 81.5 per cent nationally, while 19.3 per cent of households were headed by a woman relatively to 18.5 per cent in Lebanon. (Figure 2)

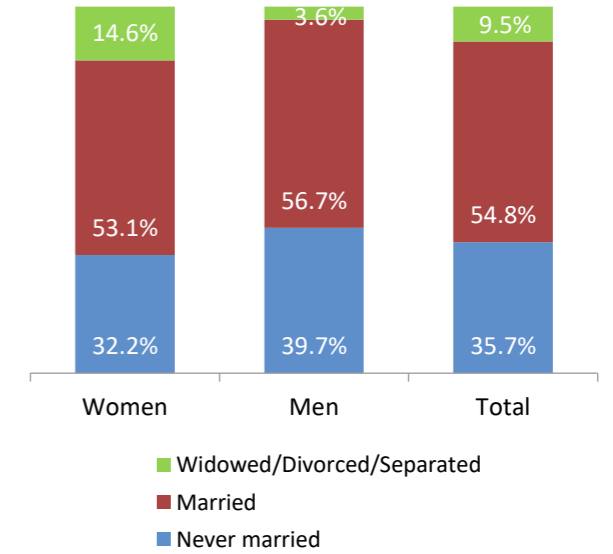
**Figure 2: Head of household by sex**



<sup>3</sup>Age 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 (54.8 per cent) of all residents aged 15 and above in Tripoli declared that they were “married” in 2018–19, whereas 35.7 per cent stated that they were “never married”. The proportion of married women (53.1 per cent) was lower than for men (56.7 per cent), and the share of never married women (32.2 per cent) was lower than for men (39.7 per cent). Interestingly, the share of women who stated they were either widowed, divorced or separated (14.6 per cent) was almost four times higher than that of men (3.6 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 Tripoli residents, the Singulate Mean Age at Marriage (SMAM) was 25.1 years for women and 29.7 years for men, while at the national level, results showed a mean age of 25.6 and 30.7 for women and men respectively.



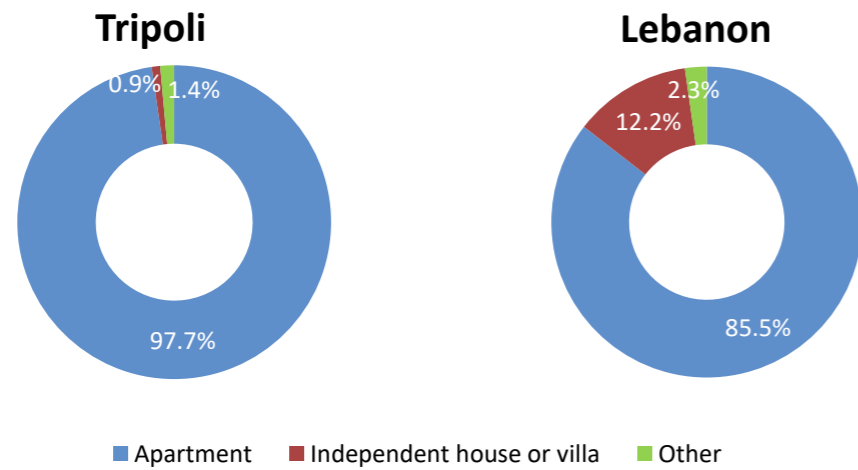
## II. HOUSING

### Where do residents in Tripoli live?

The primary residences in Tripoli were mostly apartments (97.7 per cent) whereas only 0.9 per cent were independent houses or villas. It is worth noting that the

percentage of apartments at the caza level exceeded that at the national level (85.5 per cent). (Figure 4)

Figure 4: Distribution of primary residences by type of dwelling

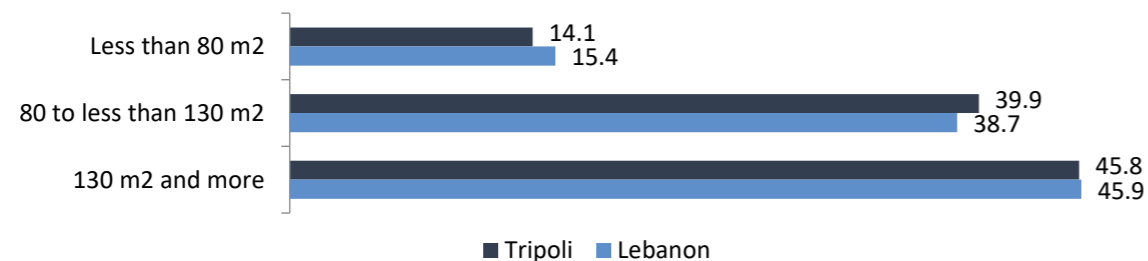


### Primary residences by area (m<sup>2</sup>)

45.8 per cent of the primary residences in Tripoli were 130 square meters and more compared to almost the same proportion at the national level. Small residences of less than 80 m<sup>2</sup> were the least common – 14.1 per cent of the dwellings, compared to 15.4

per cent at the level of the country. Residences of 80 to less than 130 m<sup>2</sup> comprised 39.9 per cent of the total, compared to 38.7 per cent nationally. (Figure 5)

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

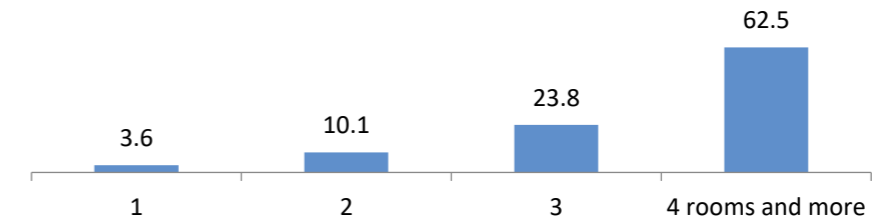


### How many rooms does a household have?

In Tripoli, 62.5 per cent of the primary residences had 4 rooms and over, followed by 23.8 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 (%)



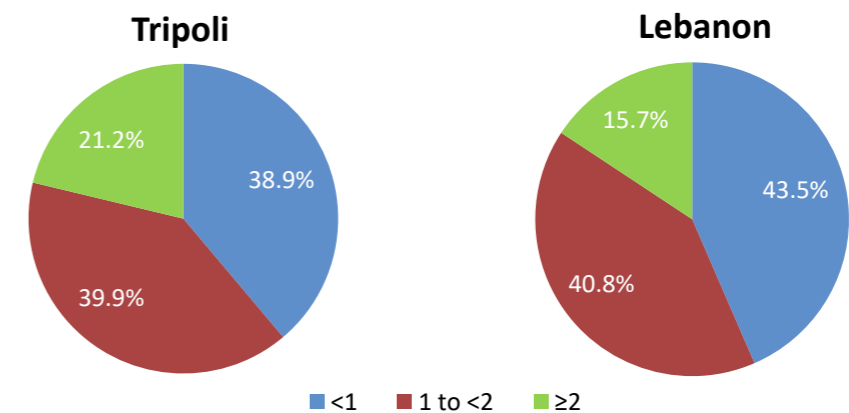
### Persons per room

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

The distribution of households was nearly the same for a density between one and two individuals per room whereas it was lower for a density less than one individual per room. As for the residences that were found to be more crowded (more than two persons per room), they represented 21.2 per cent of the households, a proportion that was found to be greater than the national level. (Figure 7)

In Tripoli, the vast majority of households had a density of less than two individuals per room, with 39.9 per cent between one and two individuals per room and 38.9 per cent less than one individual per room. Compared to the national level, the

Figure 7: Persons per room (%)

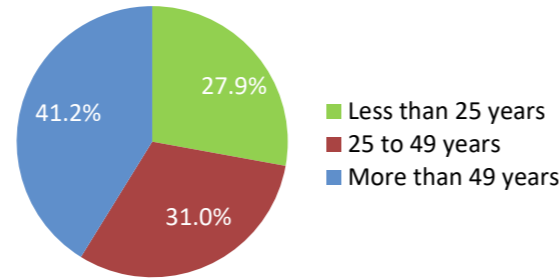




### Are the primary residences old or new?

41.2 per cent of the dwellings in Tripoli were constructed more than 49 years ago, a percentage greater than that observed all over Lebanon (31.8 per cent). On the other side, 27.9 per cent of primary residences were constructed less than 25 years ago, compared to 33.8 per cent nationally. (Figure 8)

**Figure 8: Primary residences by age of residence**



### Connectivity to infrastructure and utilities

Non-piped water supply (66.2 per cent) was the main source of drinking water in Tripoli, yet, less prevalent at the district level than the national level (76.9 per cent). For only 33.6 per cent of households, drinking water

was in the form of a supply piped directly to the residence, whereas 0.2 per cent of dwellings had no drinking water facility whatsoever. (Figure 9)

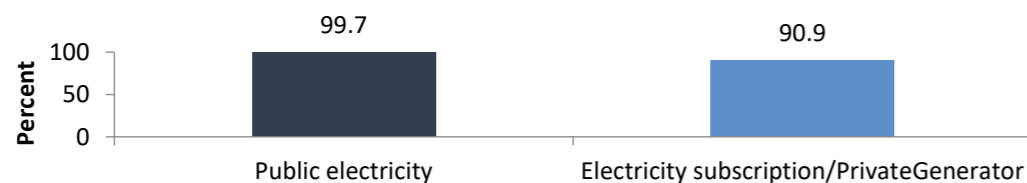
**Figure 9: Facilities of main source of drinking water at the dwelling (%)**



Connection to both the public and private electricity networks were common in the caza (99.7 per cent and 90.9 per cent respectively). At the national level, similar results were observed for the connection to

the public electricity; however, subscription to a private electricity was more prevalent in Tripoli (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 Tripoli was estimated at approximately 3,528 thousand LBP, compared to 3,308 thousand LBP nationally. At the district level, average spending was mainly on generators (1,204 thousand LBP) followed by electricity (605 thousand LBP); whereas the lowest average yearly expenses were on satellite/dish (220 thousand LBP).

These expenses were lower compared to the ones observed at the national level, except for generators where the expenses in Lebanon (1,100 thousand LBP) fell behind those in Tripoli. The median annual expenses in the district were 3,136 thousand LBP, which was higher 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)**

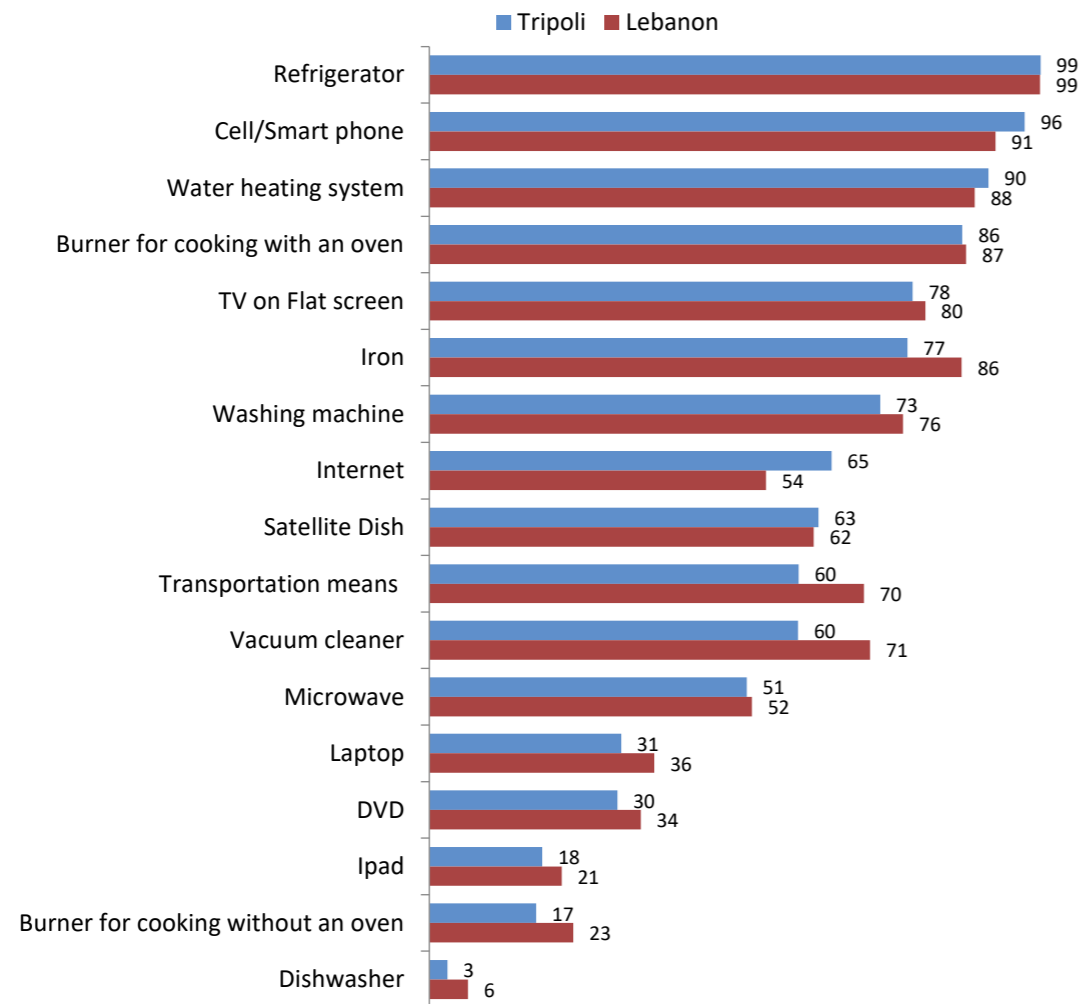
Services	Tripoli		Lebanon	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Public water	286	292	293	300
Electricity	605	420	671	480
Generator	1,204	1,080	1,100	900
Satellite/dish	220	180	231	240
Fixed phones (without Internet)	450	360	433	360
<b>Total yearly Expenses on services</b>	<b>3,528</b>	<b>3,136</b>	<b>3,308</b>	<b>2,940</b>

### Home appliances and means of transportation

Almost all households had a refrigerator, about 96 per cent had a cell/smart phone and 90 per cent had a water heating system in Tripoli. Dishwashers were the least common in the district (3 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

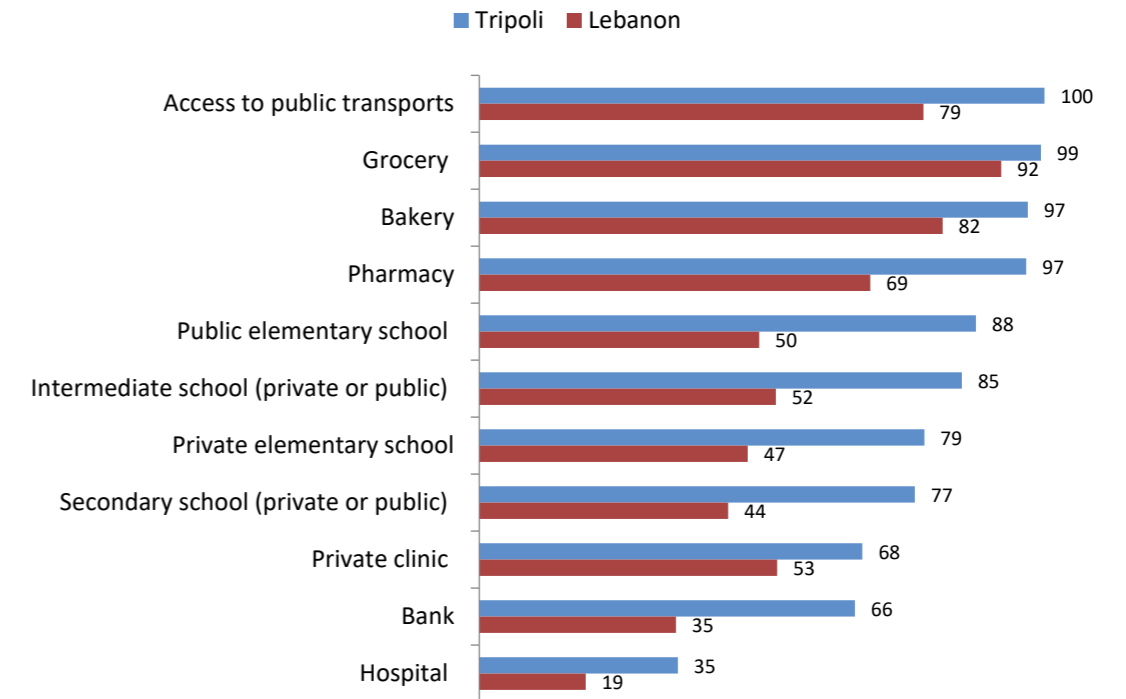
households who had an internet at home in the caza (65 per cent) exceeded considerably that at the country level (54 per cent). In contrast, the proportions of those who had transportation means or a vacuum cleaner fell remarkably behind the national levels. (Figure 11)

**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

Almost all the primary residences in Tripoli had access to public transports and the vast majority had access to nearly all the major services; yet, they had less access to private clinics, banks and hospitals within a 10-minute walk from home. Hospitals were the least common in the area (35 per cent).

It is worth noting that compared to the national level, dwellings in Tripoli had a remarkably greater access to almost all the

major services within a 10-minute walk from home.

For instance, access to public elementary schools was greater by 38 percentage points and the widespread of bank branches exceeded that at the national level by 31 percentage points. Moreover, the access to pharmacies, public transports and hospitals was higher by 28 percentage points, 21 percentage points and 16 percentage points respectively. (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 Tripoli, the GER at the elementary level was 108.7 per cent while it was 70.4 per cent at the secondary level. The NER at the elementary level was 90.9 per cent but decreased to 44.3 per cent at the secondary level. Interestingly, the Gross Enrolment Ratio and the Net Enrolment rate were at both the intermediate and secondary levels lower in Tripoli than the national level, but greater at the elementary level. (Table 2)

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

Level of education	Tripoli		Lebanon	
	Gross Enrolment Ratio	Net Enrolment Ratio	Gross Enrolment Ratio	Net Enrolment Ratio
Elementary level	108.7	90.9	98.9	87.2
Intermediate level	83.4	55.6	93.4	67.8
Secondary level	70.4	44.3	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.

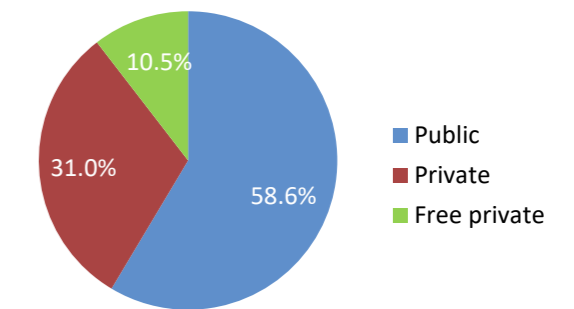
**The Net Enrolment Rate (NER)** is defined as the total number of students in the theoretical age group for a given level of education enrolled in that level, expressed as a percentage of the total population in that age group. A high NER denotes a high degree of coverage for the official school-age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

\*Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics.

#### Schooling in Tripoli

In Tripoli, students aged 3-24 years were more likely to enrol in public educational institutions (58.6 per cent), rather than private institutions (31 per cent). At the national level, the enrolment in private institutions was higher (47.8 per cent); however, the enrolment in public institutions was considerably lower (46.5 per cent). (Figure 13)

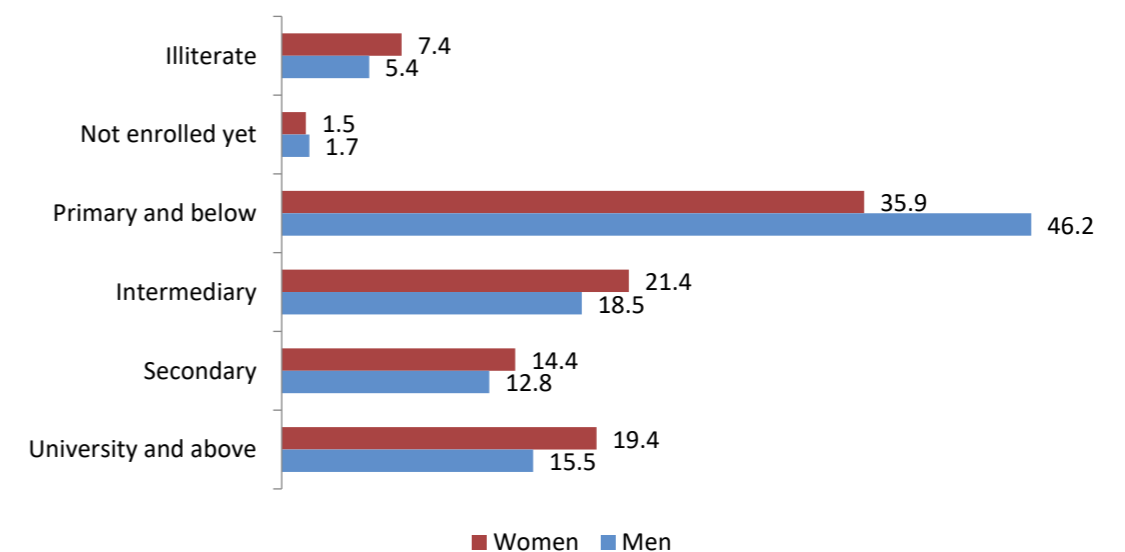
Figure 13: Distribution of students by type of educational institution



The "primary and below" level<sup>4</sup> (40.8 per cent) was the highest educational attainment in the caza, with a higher proportion for males (46.2 per cent) than females (35.9 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 (7.4 per cent for women and 5.4 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 (%)



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



## Tripoli district

### IV. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

#### How much do households earn in total?

About 31.1 per cent of households in Tripoli 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 higher than that observed at the national level (29.7 per cent). That was followed by 27.1 per cent of households at the caza level who had earnings between [650-1200[ thousand LBP and 19.6 per cent of households who earned in total less than 650 thousand LBP. In contrast, households in Tripoli were less likely to earn a total income of 2,400

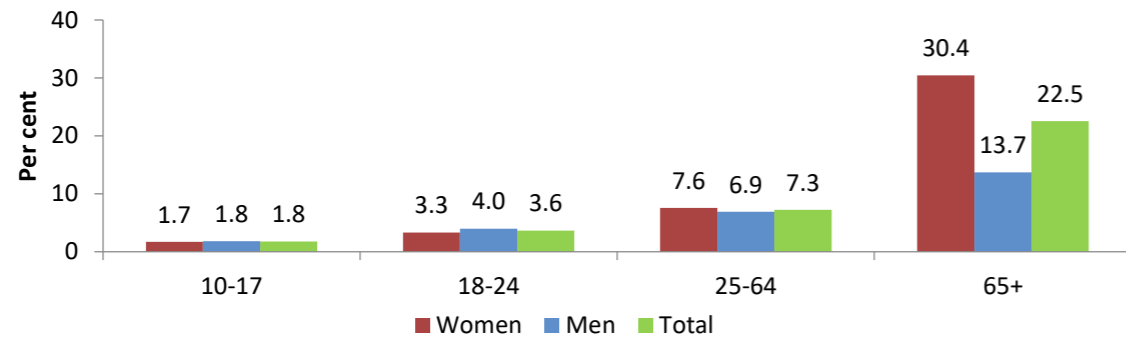
thousand LBP and above compared to the other income categories: 16.3 per cent earned an income between [2400-5000[ thousand LBP, whereas only 5.1 per cent had an income of 5 million LBP or more.

Compared to the national level, it is interesting to note that households in Tripoli were more likely to have earnings of less than 2,400 thousand LBP, whereas they were less likely to earn more than this amount. (Figure 16)

The survey shows that the illiteracy rate for residents aged 10 years and above increased with age. 22.5 per cent of residents aged 65 years old and above were illiterate. In contrast, 1.8 per cent of those aged between 10 and 17 years old were illiterate. It is worth noting that women

aged 25+ years old 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 16.7 percentage points (30.4 per cent for women and 13.7 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 Tripoli was reported to be nearly the same (7.2 per cent in comparison with 7.4 per cent at the country level). This rate was found to be higher for women (8.2

per cent) than for men (6.1 per cent) in Tripoli, 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 +)

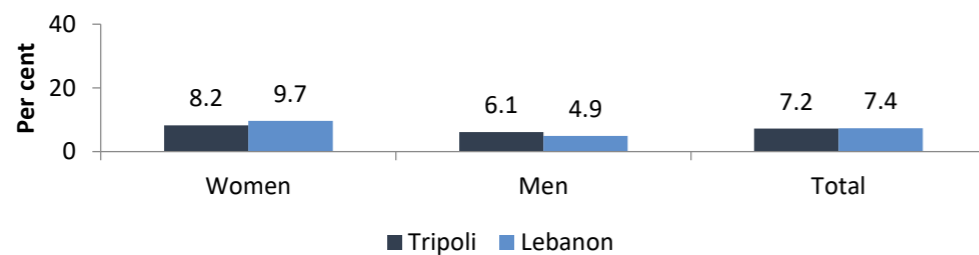
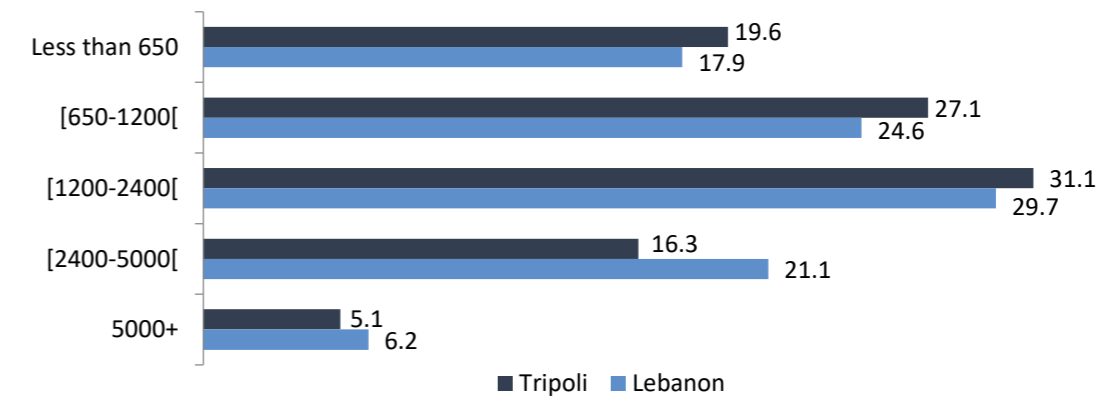


Figure 16: Household income range from all sources in the month preceding the Survey in thousand LBP (%)

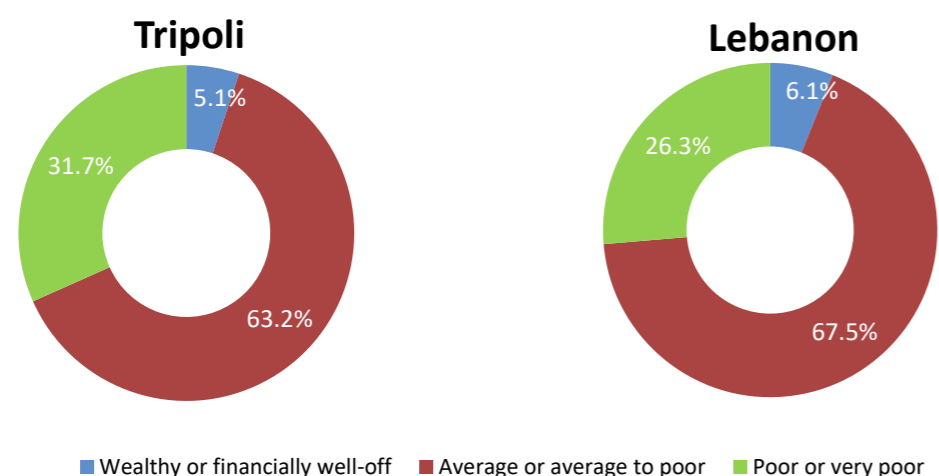


#### ... and how do they perceive their wealth status?

Households classified their wealth status from their own subjective point of view. 63.2 per cent classified themselves as "average or average to poor", 31.7 per cent as "poor or very poor", and 5.1 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 higher in Lebanon (67.5 per cent), the proportion of those who considered themselves "poor or very poor" was lower (26.3 per cent). (Figure 17)

Figure 17: Self classification of wealth of households

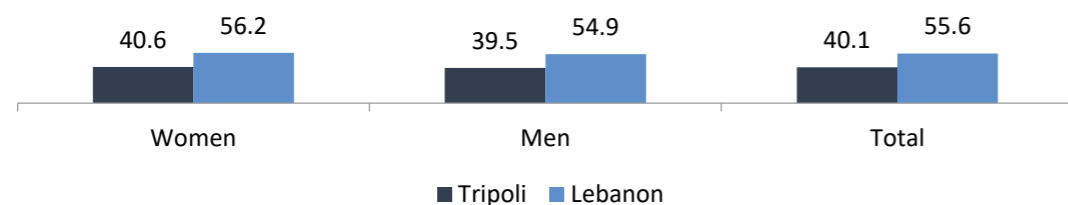


### Health Coverage<sup>5</sup>

Only 40.1 per cent of the total residents in Tripoli were covered by at least one type of health insurance: a slightly higher health coverage was found for women (40.6 per cent) than for men (39.5 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 (%)

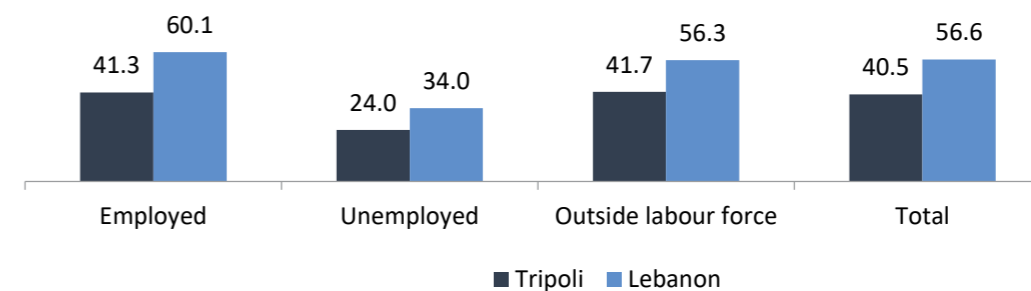


In Tripoli, 40.5 per cent of the residents aged 15 years and above had a health coverage, whereas nationally, the proportion of the insured population in the same age group was remarkably higher (56.6 per cent). The proportions of employed, unemployed and residents outside the labour force who were

covered in Tripoli (41.3 per cent, 24 per cent and 41.7 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)

<sup>5</sup>In this section, all the figures exclude the domestic workers.

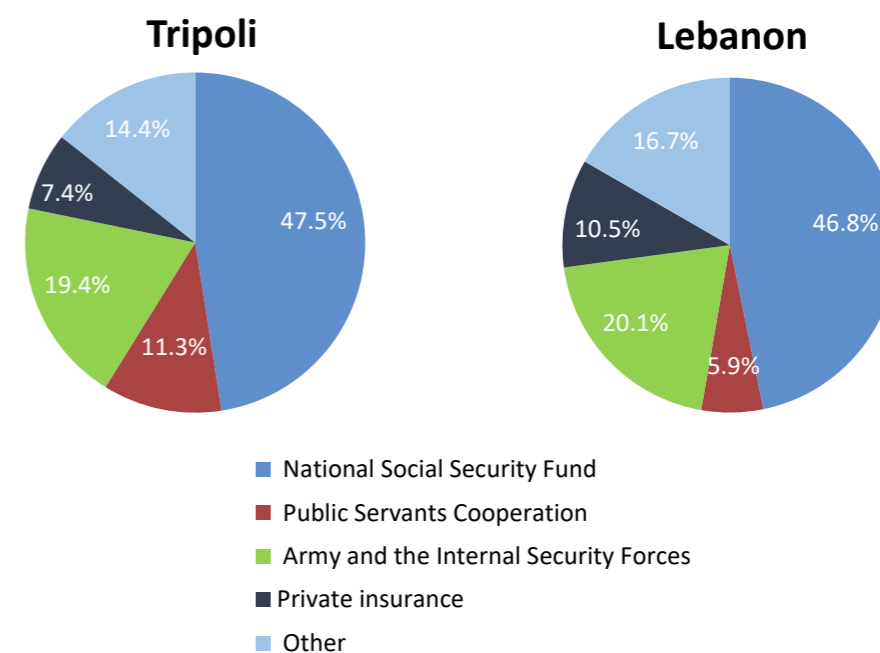
Figure 19: Residents (aged 15 years +) by employment status and health insurance coverage (%)



The main source of health coverage in Tripoli was the National Social Security Fund (NSSF)<sup>6</sup>, which covered 47.5 per cent of the insured population, followed by the Lebanese Army and the Internal Security Forces (19.4 per cent). Interestingly, the

Public Servants Cooperation was more common in Tripoli (11.3 per cent) than in Lebanon (5.9 per cent), whereas private insurance was less common (7.4 per cent in Tripoli compared to 10.5 per cent in Lebanon). (Figure 20)

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



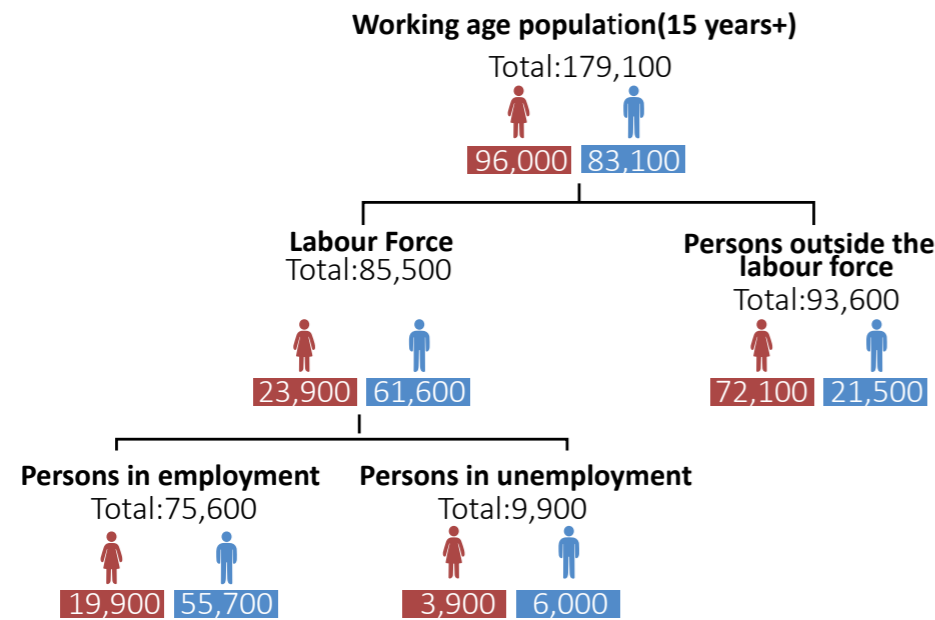
<sup>6</sup> Including Facultative Fund.



## V. LABOUR FORCE and EMPLOYMENT

### Labour market structure

Among the estimated 179,100 individuals aged 15 years old and above living in primary residential dwellings in Tripoli in 2018–19, about 85,500 people were in the labour force, either employed (75,600) or unemployed (9,900). The remaining 93,600 individuals were outside the labour force.



Note: Due to rounding, numbers presented may not add up precisely to the totals.

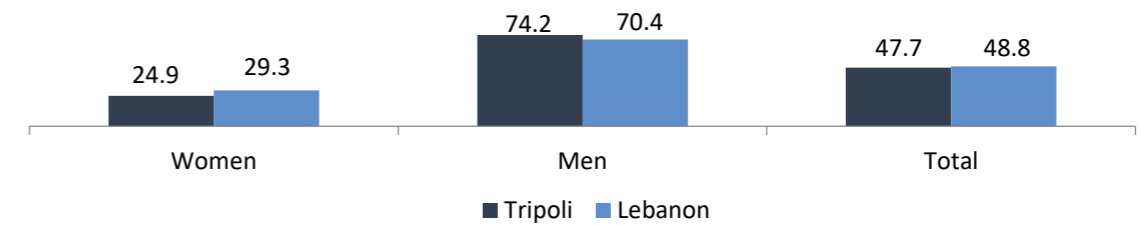
### Who is Employed, Searching for a job or Inactive - From a Gender Point of View

Total labour force participation rate<sup>7</sup> in Tripoli was 47.7 per cent, which was lower than the national rate of 48.8 per cent. Gender disparity was high in Tripoli, and more accentuated than the national level. Men's participation rates (74.2 per cent in Tripoli and 70.4 per cent in Lebanon) were higher compared to women's (24.9 per cent in Tripoli and 29.3 per cent in Lebanon) at both the district and national levels, with a notable gender gap<sup>8</sup> reaching differences of 49.3 percentage points and 41.1 percentage points respectively. (Figure 21)

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

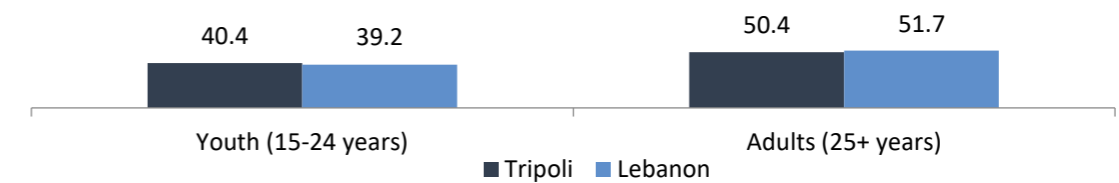
<sup>8</sup> In this brief, the gender gap is calculated by subtracting the female rate from the male rate.

Figure 21: Labour force participation rate (%)



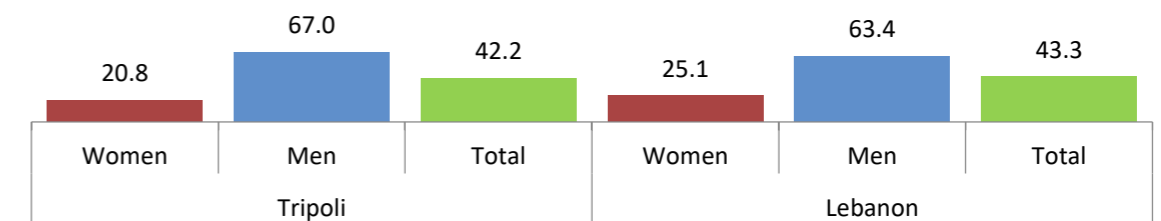
The share of the adult labour force (be they unemployed or in work) exceeded that of the youth and marked 50.4 per cent compared to 40.4 per cent in Tripoli, and 51.7 per cent compared to 39.2 per cent at the national level. (Figure 22)

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



The employment-to-population ratio in Tripoli (42.2 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. 20.8 per cent of women and 67 per cent of men were employed in Tripoli with a gender gap of 46.2 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)

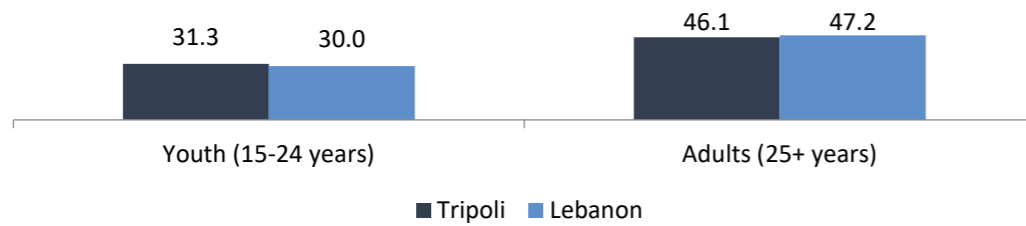
Figure 23: Employment-to-population ratio (%)



The comparison of the results by broad age groups shows that the youth employment-to-population ratio in Tripoli (31.3 per cent) was considerably lower than that of the adults (46.1 per cent). It is worth noting that these ratios were close to those marked at the national level. However, the gap between the two age groups was less significant at the caza level (14.8 percentage-point difference relative to 17.2 percentage points in Lebanon). (Figure 24)



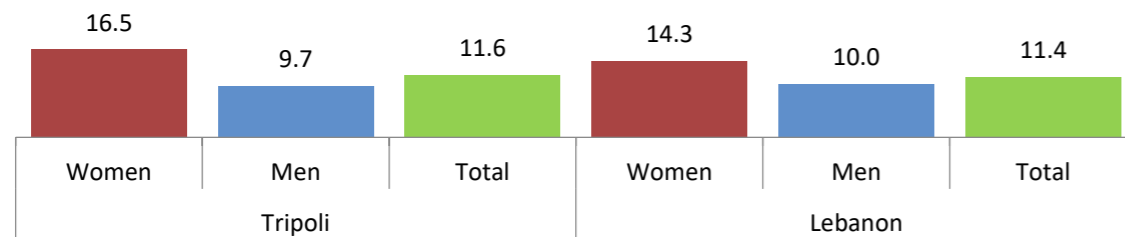
**Figure 24: Employment-to-population ratio by broad age groups (%)**



The unemployment rate<sup>9</sup> at both the district and national levels (11.6 per cent and 11.4 per cent respectively) was nearly the same. Differences at the country level were observed between women (14.3 per cent) and men (10 per cent), yet the gap was higher in Tripoli where the unemployment

rate was 16.5 per cent for women and 9.7 per cent for men. In other words, the gender gap in the unemployment rate was more significant in the caza (difference of 6.8 percentage points) compared to the national level (difference of 4.3 percentage points). (Figure 25)

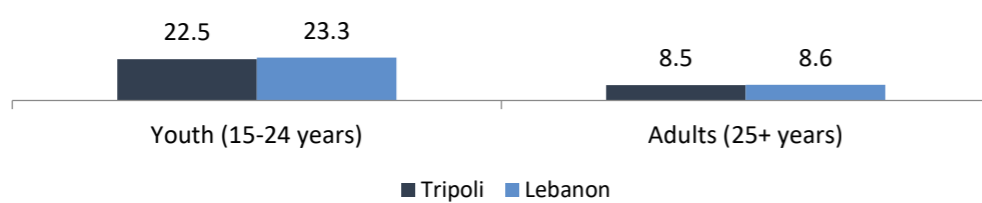
**Figure 25: Unemployment rate by sex (%)**



Unemployment was less prevalent among adults than among youth at both the district and country levels, with a rate reaching 8.5 per cent and 22.5 per cent respectively in Tripoli, 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 14 percentage points in Tripoli and 14.7 percentage points in Lebanon as a whole. (Figure 26)

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

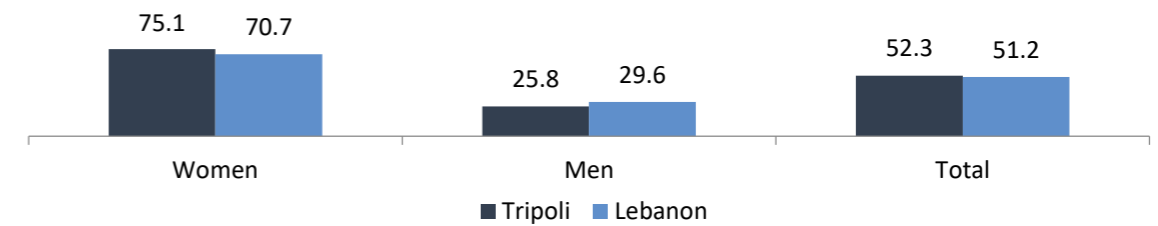


The inactivity rate, which represents the proportion of the persons considered inactive- neither working nor looking for any job- in the total population aged 15 years and above in Tripoli (52.3 per cent), exceeded that of Lebanon (51.2 per cent).

75.1 per cent of women and 25.8 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)

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

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

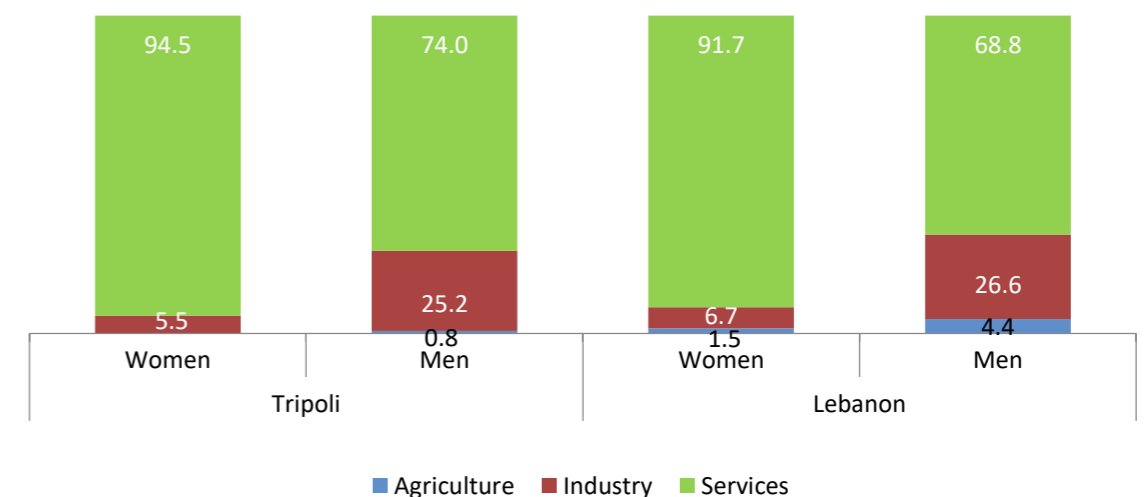


### Where do they work?

The Services sector was the largest employment sector for women and men, with respectively 94.5 per cent and 74 per cent in Tripoli, compared to 91.7 per cent and 68.8 per cent in Lebanon. In this sector, women surpassed men by 20.5 percentage points at the caza level. It was particularly noticeable that 25.2 per cent of working

men and 5.5 per cent of working women were employed in industry in Tripoli, compared to 26.6 per cent of working men and 6.7 per cent of working women in the whole of Lebanon. Agriculture was almost absent for both men and women. (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 51.7 for men and 33.4 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

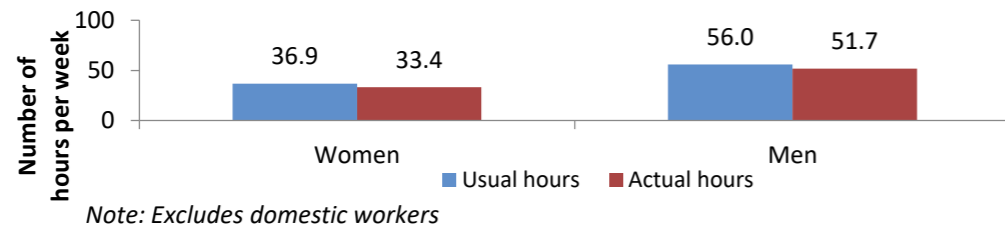
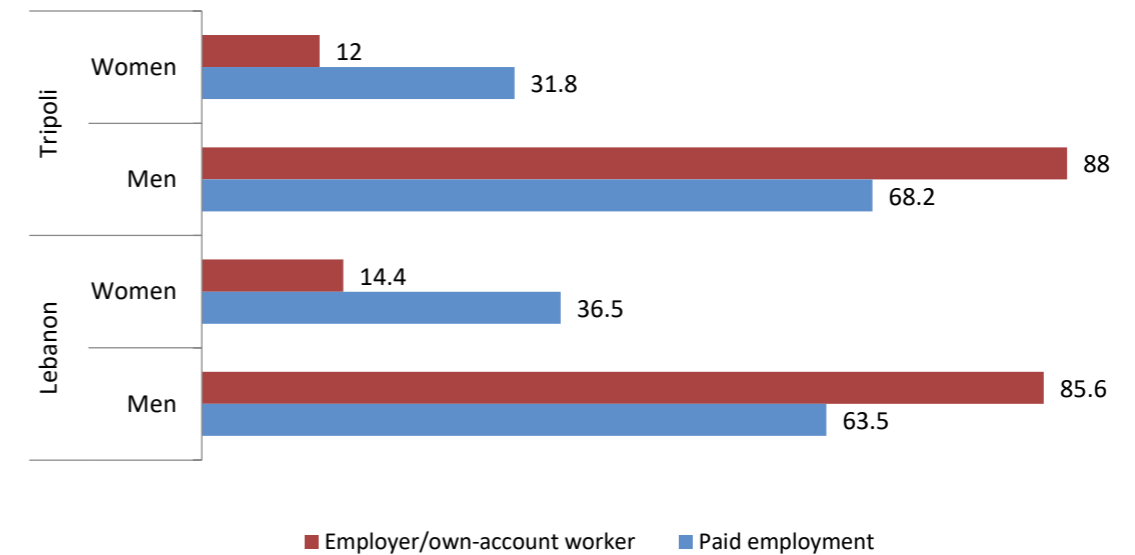


Figure 30: Employed (15 years and above) by employment status and sex (%)



### 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.

informal jobs at their main occupation, a result that was found to be markedly higher than the national level (54.9 per cent), and 44 per cent of the employed population were working in the informal sector. It is instructive to note that the latter proportion was higher compared to the national level (35.2 per cent). The proportion of employed individuals holding an informal job in a formal sector was higher than that observed in Lebanon (24.8 per cent and 19.8 per cent respectively). (Table 3)

The results show that 68.8 per cent of the employed population in Tripoli held

Table 3: Formality versus Informality (in %)

Type of employment	Tripoli			Lebanon		
	Informal Sector	Formal Sector	Total	Informal Sector	Formal Sector	Total
Informal	44.0	24.8	68.8	35.1	19.8	54.9
Formal	0.0	31.2	31.2	0.0	45.0	45.1
Total	44.0	56.0	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 Tripoli were men (88 per cent), a proportion that was higher than that

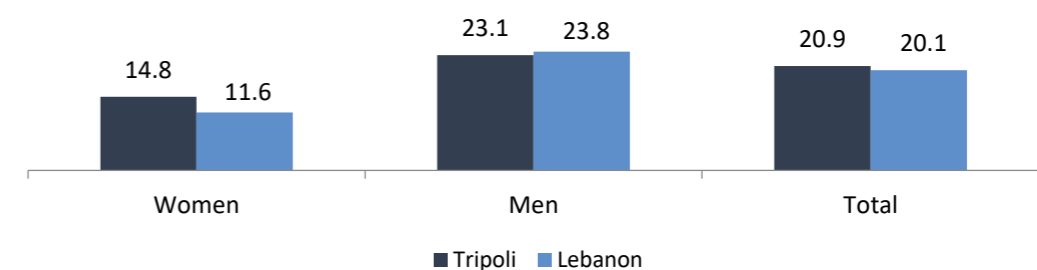
attained at the national level (85.6 per cent). Men's share in paid employment was higher in Tripoli compared to the national level (68.2 per cent and 63.5 per cent respectively). (Figure 30)

### How many jobs are "vulnerable"?

In Tripoli, vulnerable employment was reported to be slightly higher than that observed at the country level (20.9 per cent and 20.1 per cent respectively). Moreover, it

was more prevalent among men (23.1 per cent) than among women (14.8 per cent). (Figure 31)

Figure 31: Vulnerable employment (%)



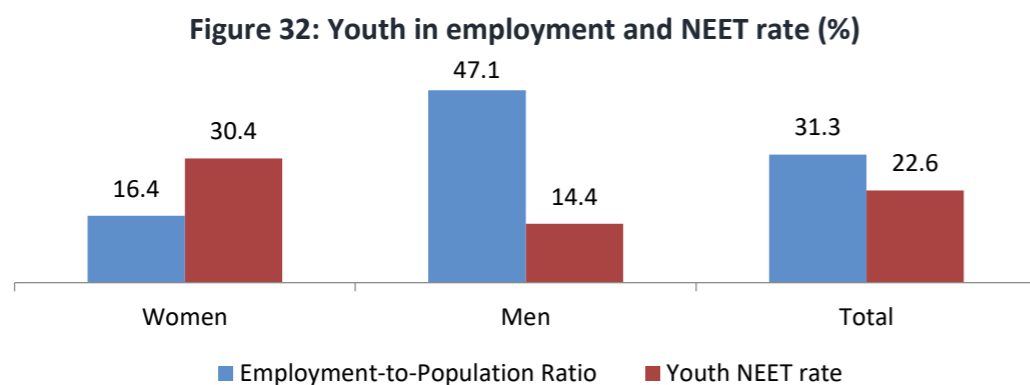
### DID YOU KNOW ?

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* - (22.6 per cent) in Tripoli was lower than the youth employment-to-population ratio (31.3 per cent). Moreover, women's NEET rate (30.4 per cent) was nearly twice as high as that of men (14.4 per cent). (Figure 32)



## 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 Bassbouss (CAS)

### Table drawing:

Haifa Hussein  
Amina Bassbouss, Alia Sayyed 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](http://www.cas.gov.lb)**