

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

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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).

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Director General
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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

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About the Survey

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

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

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

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

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

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

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






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

District Statistics

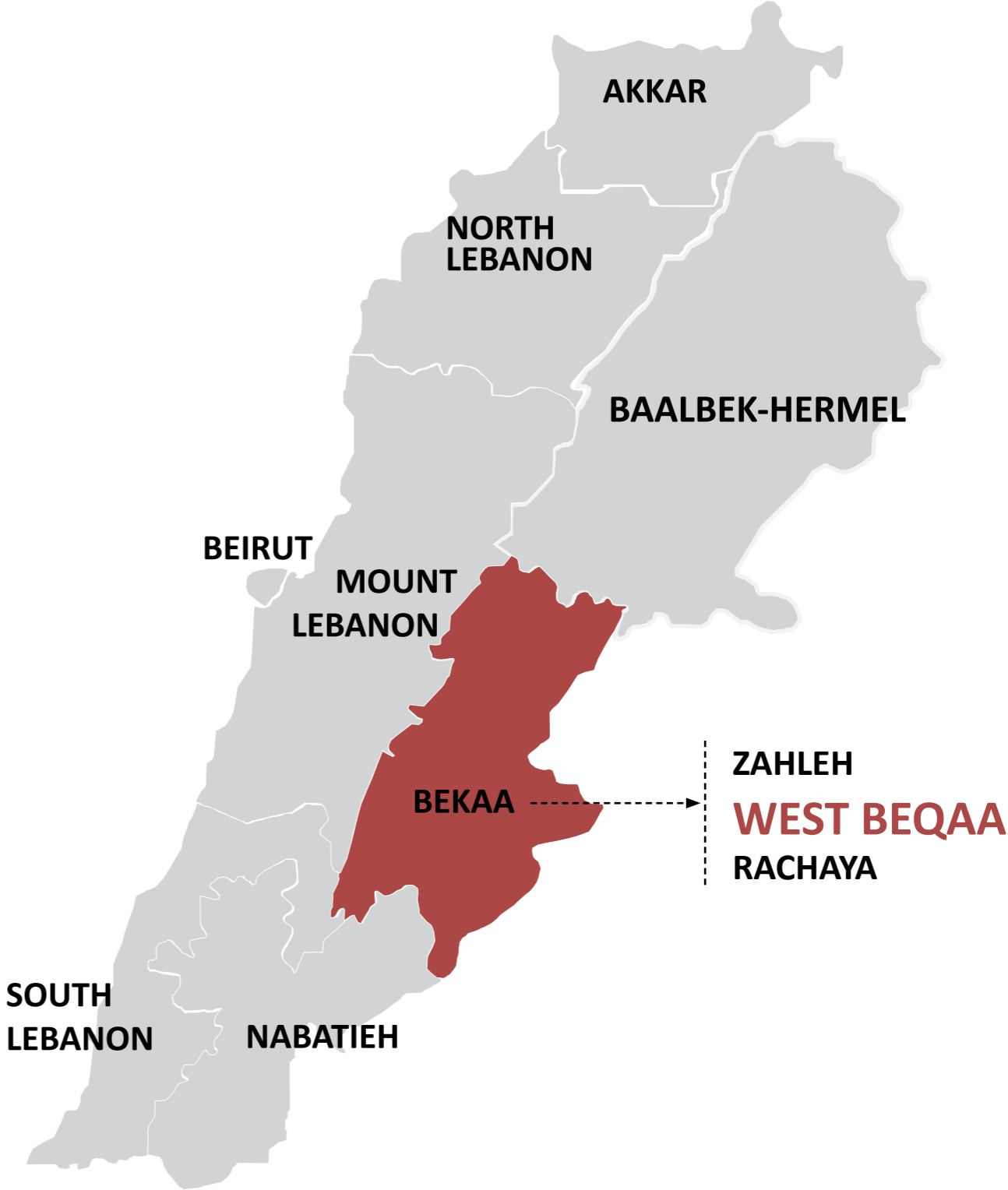
The district statistics represent an invaluable source of updated information and analysis of the prevailing social and economic conditions in each district. They are made available to the district authorities and leadership - including the Kâim-Makâm (Caza Governor), the District Unions of Municipalities,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

This report presents data pertaining to the district of West Beqaa, which is situated in the Governorate of Bekaa.

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 West Beqaa: who and how many are they?

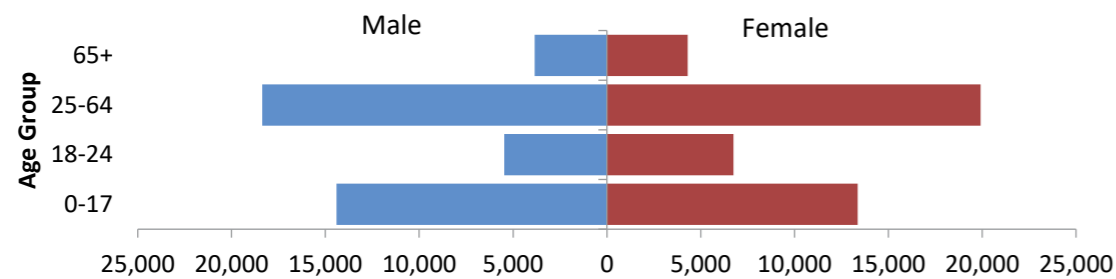
The survey results show that in 2018–19, the caza of West Beqaa hosted 1.8 per cent of residents of Lebanon with around 86,400 residents. 51.3 per cent of the residents were females and 48.7 per cent males.

old represented 32.1 per cent of the total, whereas those aged between 18 and 24 years old represented 14.1 per cent. The remaining 9.4 per cent were the older residents (65+ years old). (Figure 1)

44.3 per cent of the residents of West Beqaa were found in the age group 25–64 years. The younger residents of less than 18 years

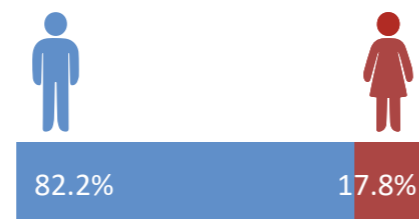
In 2018–19, the age dependency ratio³ for West Beqaa was 56.7 per cent, compared to 53.9 per cent at the national level.

Figure 1: Residents in West Beqaa 2018-2019



The Survey results showed that males predominated as heads of household. It was estimated that 82.2 per cent of households were headed by a man compared to 81.5 per cent nationally, while 17.8 per cent of households were headed by a woman relatively to 18.5 per cent in Lebanon. (Figure 2)

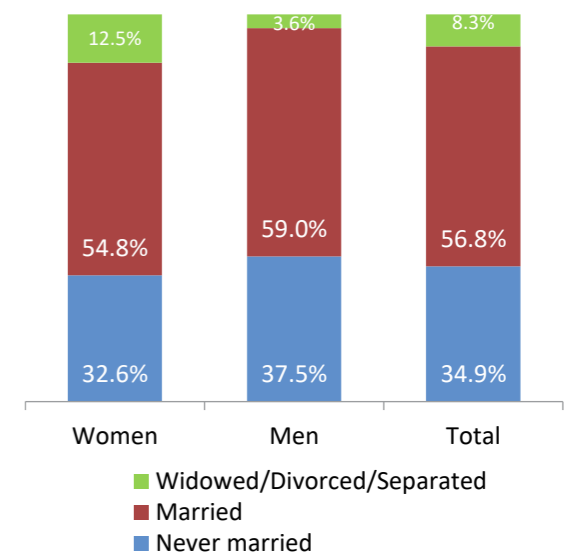
Figure 2: Head of household by sex



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

More than half (56.8 per cent) of all residents aged 15 and above in West Beqaa declared that they were “married” in 2018–19, whereas 34.9 per cent stated that they were “never married”. The proportion of married women (54.8 per cent) was slightly lower than for men (59.0 per cent), and the share of never married women (32.6 per cent) was somewhat lower than for men (37.5 per cent). Interestingly, the share of women who stated they were either widowed, divorced or separated (12.5 per cent) was at least three 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 West Beqaa residents, the Singulate Mean Age at Marriage (SMAM) was 24.7 years for women and 29.3 years for men, whereas at the national level, the mean age of marriage was found to be 25.6 and 30.7 for women and men respectively.



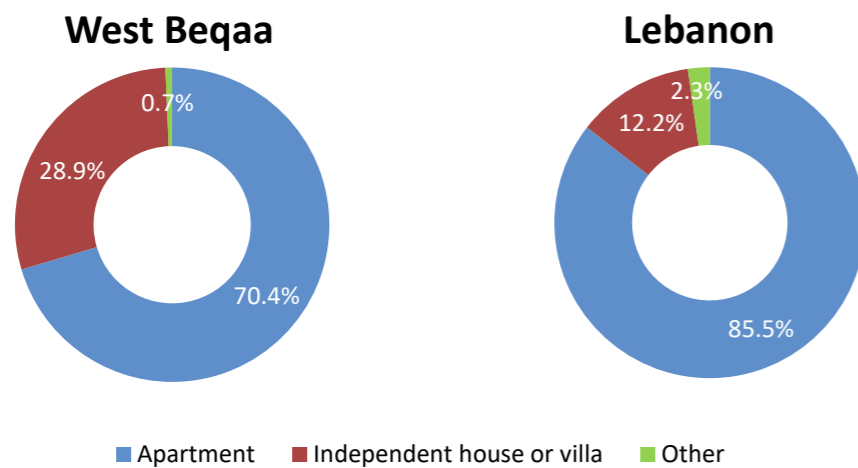
II. HOUSING

Where do residents in West Beqaa live?

The vast majority of primary residences in West Beqaa were apartments (70.4 per cent) whereas 28.9 per cent were independent houses or villas. It is worth

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

Figure 4: Distribution of primary residences by type of dwelling

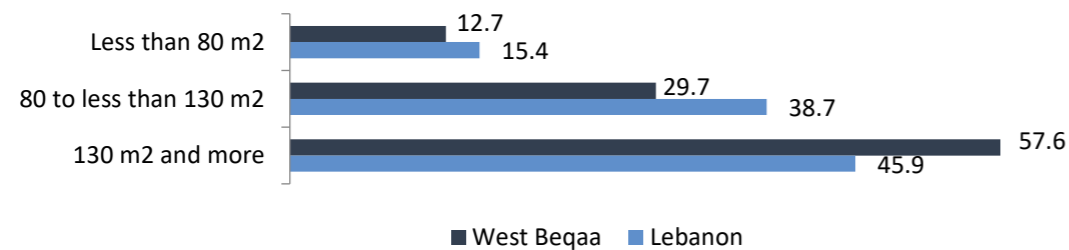


Primary residences by area (m²)

57.6 per cent of the dwellings in West Beqaa were large residences of 130 m² and over, compared to 45.9 per cent nationally. Small residences of less than 80 m² were the least common – 12.7 per cent of the dwellings

compared to 15.4 per cent at the level of the country. About one third of the primary residences were between 80 and 130 square meters, a proportion that fell behind the national level (38.7 per cent). (Figure 5)

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

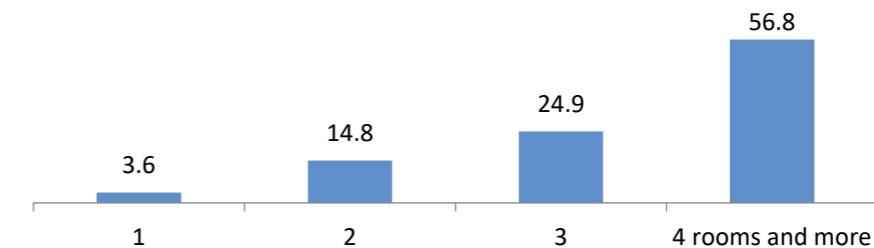


How many rooms does a household have?

In West Beqaa, at least half of the primary residences had 4 rooms and over (56.8 per cent), followed by 24.9 per cent dwellings composed of 3 rooms. Nationally, nearly the

same results were found: 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 (%)



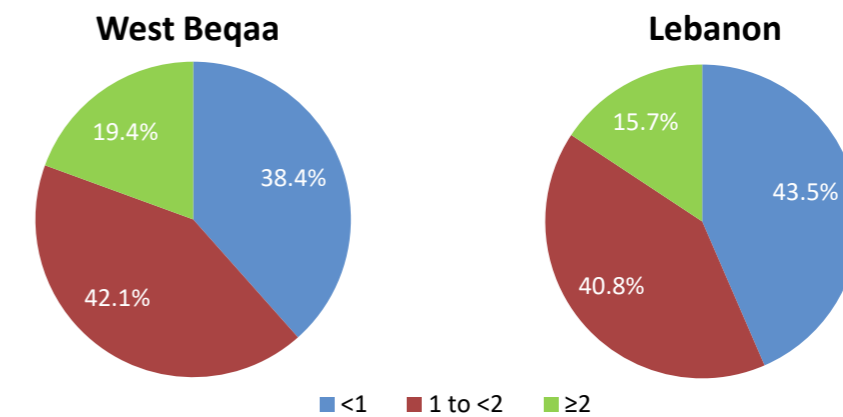
Persons per room

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

the distribution of households was slightly higher for a density between one and two individuals per room whereas it was lower for a density of 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 19.4 per cent of the households, a proportion greater than that observed at the national level. (Figure 7)

In West Beqaa, the vast majority of households had a density of less than two individuals per room, with 42.1 per cent between one and two individuals per room, and 38.4 per cent less than one individual per room. Compared to the national level,

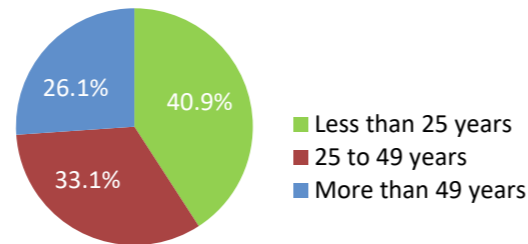
Figure 7: Persons per room (%)



Are the primary residences old or new?

40.9 per cent of the dwellings in West Beqaa were constructed less than 25 years ago, compared to around a third nationally (33.8 per cent). On the other side, 26.1 per cent of primary residences were constructed more than 49 years ago, a percentage slightly lower than that observed all over Lebanon (31.8 per cent). (Figure 8)

Figure 8: Primary residences by age of residence



Connectivity to infrastructure and utilities

For half of the households, drinking water in West Beqaa was in the form of a supply piped directly to the residence. This proportion was found to be considerably greater than the one observed in the whole of Lebanon (22.5 per cent) and among the highest at the caza level; yet, 47.2 per cent of the households relied on non-piped water supply - mainly packed or bottled mineral or

purified water. Non-piped supplies were substantially less prevalent at the district level than the national level (76.9 per cent in Lebanon). As for the remaining 2.9 per cent of the dwellings in West Beqaa, they had no drinking water facility whatsoever, compared to only 0.6 per cent in Lebanon. (Figure 9)

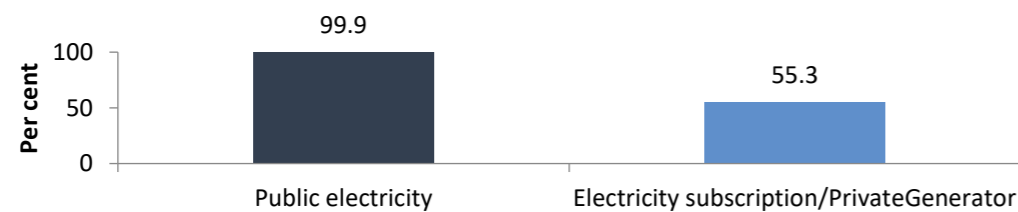
Figure 9: Facilities of main source of drinking water at the dwelling (%)



Connection to the public electricity network was common in the caza (99.9 per cent), whereas 55.3 per cent of households were subscribed to a private electricity source or had their own private generator. At the

national level, almost identical results were observed for the connection to the public electricity; however, subscription to a private electricity was less prevalent in West Beqaa (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 West Beqaa was estimated at approximately 2,651 thousand LBP, compared to 3,308 thousand LBP nationally. At the district level, average spending was mainly on generators (760 thousand LBP) followed by electricity (650 thousand LBP); whereas the lowest average yearly expenses were on satellite/dish (227

thousand LBP). Compared to the national level, these expenses were relatively lower for electricity and generators, and nearly the same for satellite/dish. The median annual expenses in West Beqaa were 2,590 thousand LBP, which was lower than that observed in Lebanon as a whole (2,940 thousand LBP). (Table 1)

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

Services	West Beqaa		Lebanon	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Public water	234	240	293	300
Electricity	650	480	671	480
Generator	760	600	1,100	900
Satellite/dish	227	180	231	240
Fixed phones (without Internet)	425	360	433	360
Total yearly Expenses on services	2,651	2,590	3,308	2,940

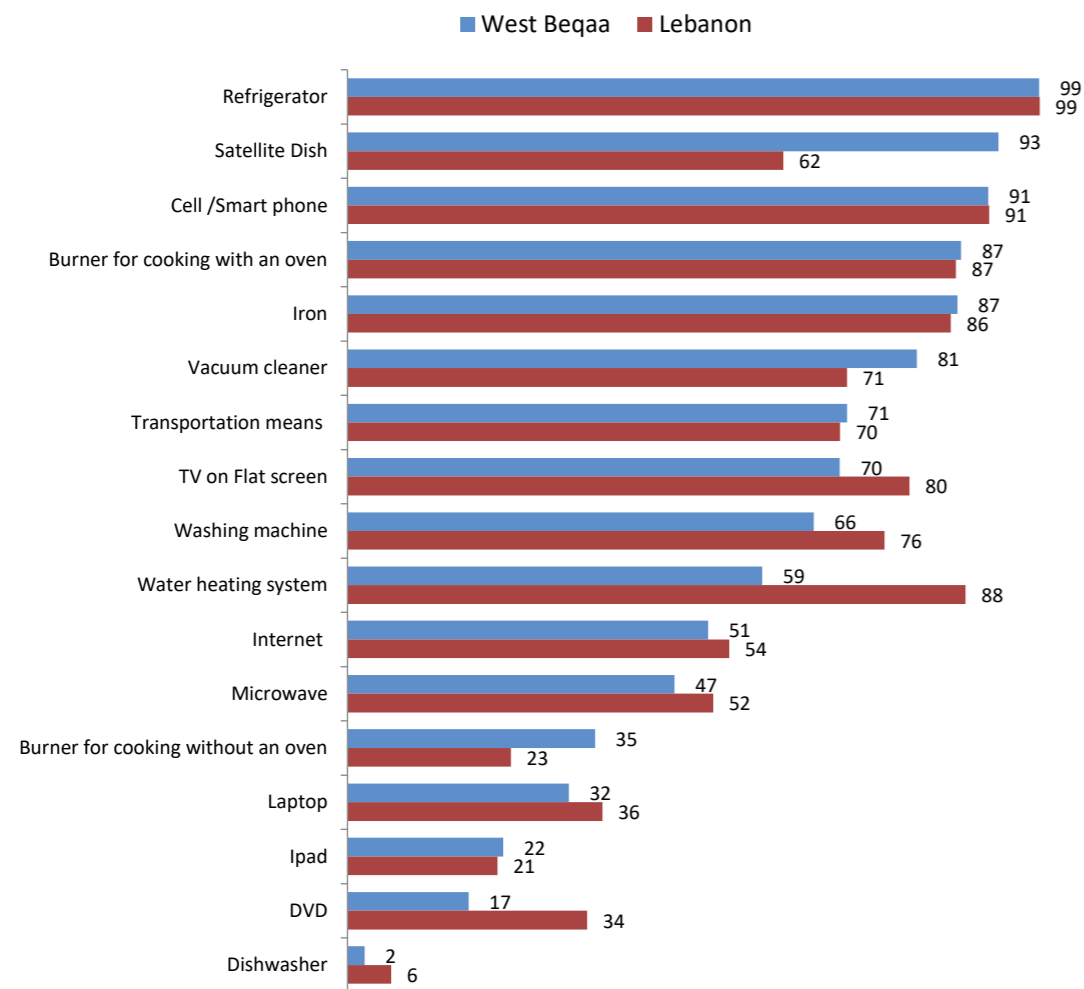
Home appliances and means of transportation

Almost all households had a refrigerator and about 93 per cent had a satellite dish at home in West Beqaa. Dishwashers were the least common in the district (2 per cent of households) with a lower proportion relatively to the national level (6 per cent).

a burner for cooking without an oven at home in West Beqaa exceeded considerably those of the country. In contrast, the proportions of the households who had a water heating system or a DVD fell remarkably behind the national levels. (Figure 11)

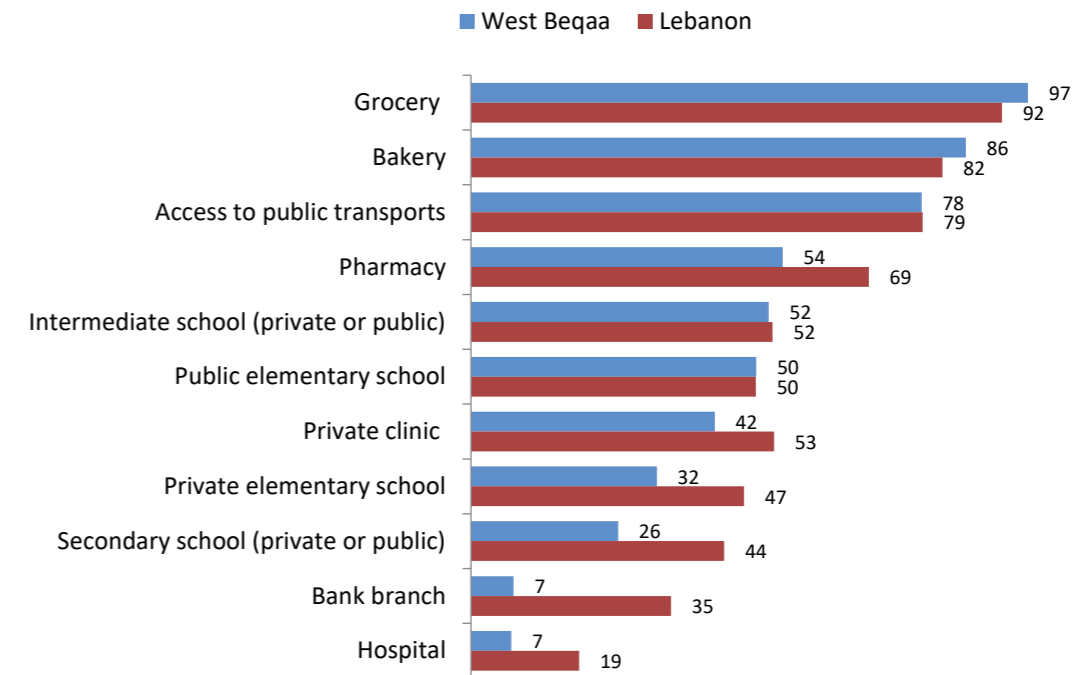
It is instructive to note that the proportions of the households who had a satellite dish or

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



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

Figure 12: Access to services (%)



Access to basic services

The vast majority of primary residences had access to at least one grocery store (97 per cent), a bakery (86 per cent) and public transports (78 per cent) within a 10-minute walk from home. Bank branches and hospitals (7 per cent both) were the least common services in West Beqaa.

42 per cent lived within reach of a private clinic compared to 53 per cent at the national level, and only 7 per cent were close to a hospital, compared to 19 per cent nationally.

It is also worth noting that compared to the national level, access to pharmacies was 15 percentage points less (54 per cent in West Beqaa and 69 per cent in Lebanon), whereas the access to a secondary school was 18 percentage points less (26 per cent in West Beqaa and 44 per cent in Lebanon). The widespread of bank branches was five times lower (7 per cent in West Beqaa compared to 35 per cent in Lebanon). (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 West Beqaa, the GER at the elementary level was 100.7 per cent while it was 88 per cent at the secondary level. The NER at the elementary level was 88.7 per cent but decreased to 61.9 per cent at the secondary level. Interestingly, the gross enrolment ratio and the net enrolment rate were at all levels higher in West Beqaa than the national level, except for the gross enrolment ratio at the intermediate level. (Table 2)

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

Level of education	West Beqaa		Lebanon	
	Gross Enrolment Ratio	Net Enrolment Ratio	Gross Enrolment Ratio	Net Enrolment Ratio
Elementary level	100.7	88.7	98.9	87.2
Intermediate level	90.8	69.0	93.4	67.8
Secondary level	88.0	61.9	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.

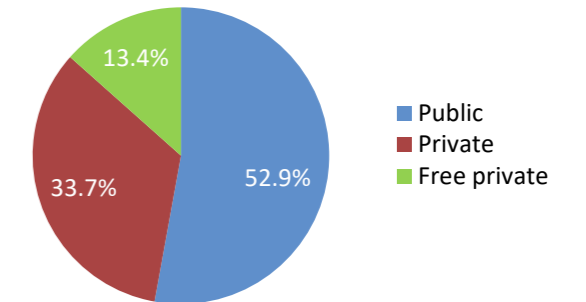
The Net Enrolment Rate (NER) is defined as the total number of students in the theoretical age group for a given level of education enrolled in that level, expressed as a percentage of the total population in that age group. A high NER denotes a high degree of coverage for the official school-age population.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

*Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics.

Schooling in West Beqaa

In West Beqaa, students aged 3-24 years were more likely to enrol in public educational institutions (52.9 per cent), rather than private institutions (33.7 per cent). With 47.8 per cent enrolled in private educational institutions in Lebanon, results show that private schooling was relatively less common in West Beqaa. In contrast, the enrolment in public institutions was higher (46.5 per cent in Lebanon). (Figure 13)

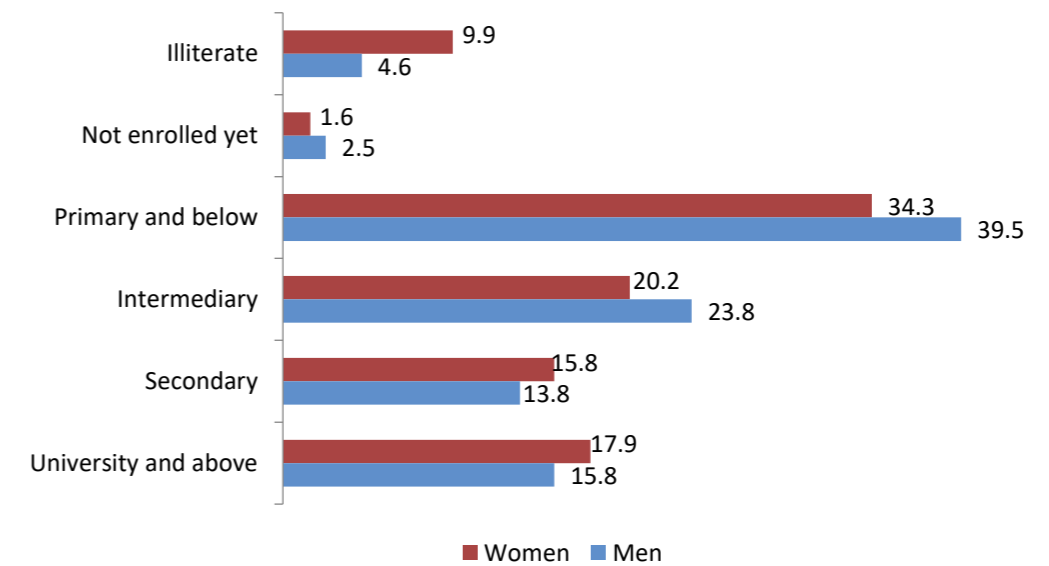
Figure 13: Distribution of students by type of educational institution



The "primary and below" level⁴ (36.8 per cent) was the highest educational attainment in the caza, with a higher proportion for males than females. 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 slightly more observed at the caza level (9.9 per cent for women and 4.6 per cent for men). This result may be explained by the fact that the proportion of elderly women aged 65+ years is greater than that of men. Furthermore, the survey results show that the illiteracy rate among the elderly is greater. (Figure 14)

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



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



West Beqaa district

IV. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

How much do households earn in total?

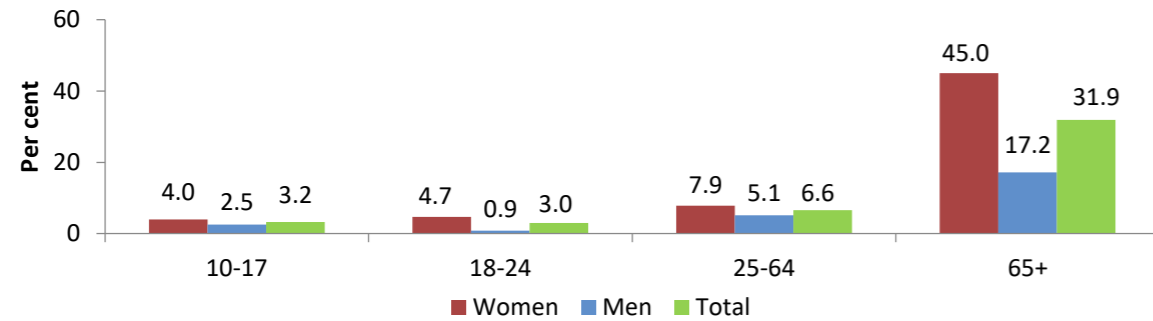
28.8 per cent of the households in West Beqaa had a total income from all sources less than 650 thousand LBP in the month preceding the Survey, a proportion that was markedly higher than the national level (17.9 per cent). That was followed by almost an equal distribution of households (27.5 per cent) at the caza level who had total earnings ranging between 1,200 and 2,400 thousand LBP. In contrast, households in West Beqaa were less likely to earn an

income between 2,400 and 5,000 thousand LBP (16.4 per cent) or 5 million LBP or more (only 2.7 per cent) compared to the other income categories.

Compared to the national level, it is interesting to note that households in West Beqaa were more likely to have earnings less than 650 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. Around a third (31.9 per cent) of the residents aged 65 years old and above were illiterate. In contrast, 3.2 per cent of those aged between 10 and 17 years old were illiterate. Women of all age groups were more likely to be illiterate than men. It is worth noting that gender discrepancies were mostly noticed for illiterate residents aged 65 years and more, with a notable gender gap reaching 27.8 percentage points (45 per cent for women and 17.2 per cent for men). (Figure 15a)

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



When compared with the national level, illiteracy rate in West Beqaa was reported to be slightly higher (8.3 per cent in comparison with 7.4 per cent at the country level). This rate was found to be nearly twice as high among women (11 per cent) as among men (5.3 per cent) in the district, but also in Lebanon, where the illiteracy rate was 9.7 per cent for women and 4.9 per cent for men. (Figure 15b)

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

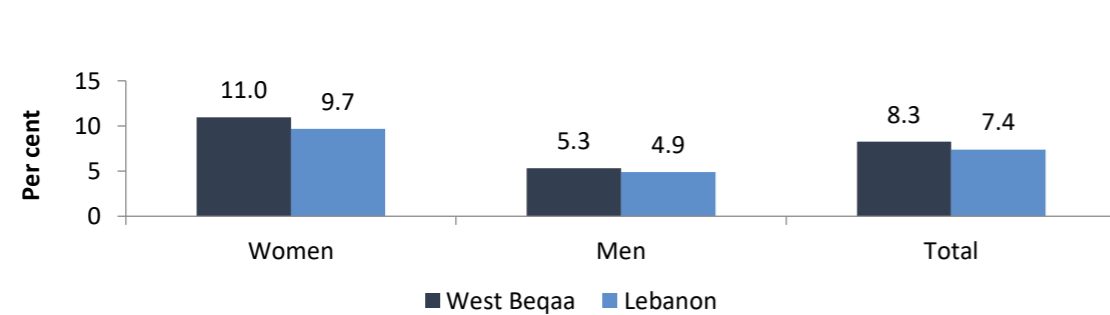
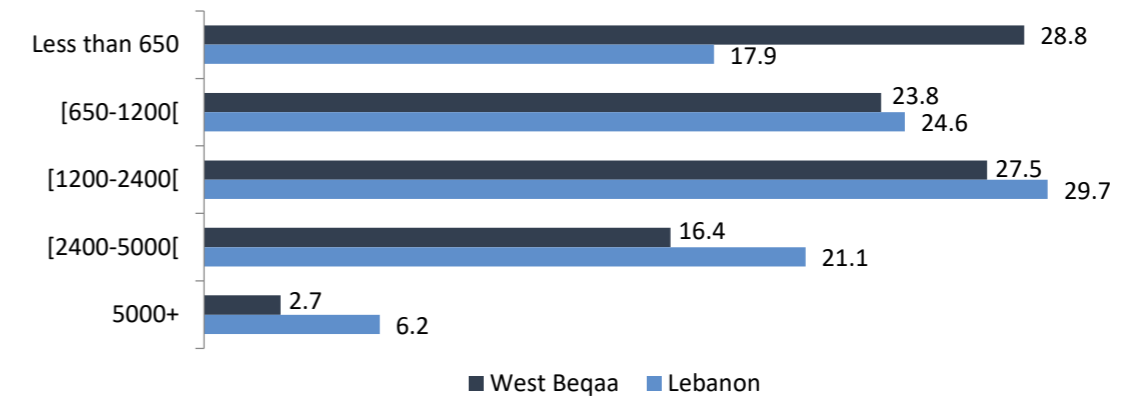


Figure 16: Household income range from all sources in the month preceding the Survey in thousand LBP (%)

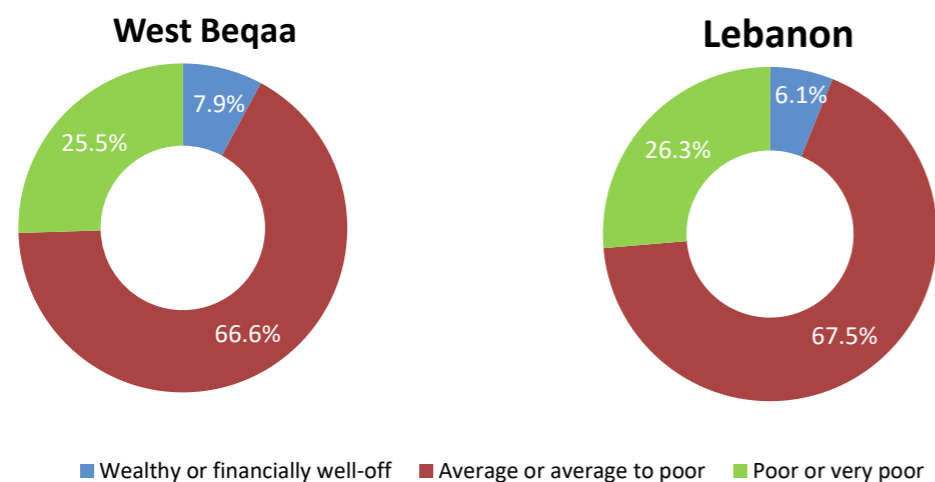


... and how do they perceive their wealth status?

Households classified their wealth status from their own subjective point of view. 66.6 per cent classified themselves as "average or average to poor", 25.5 per cent as "poor or very poor", and 7.9 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 slightly higher in Lebanon (67.5 per cent), the proportion of those who considered themselves "wealthy or financially well-off" was somewhat lower (6.1 per cent). (Figure 17)

Figure 17: Self classification of wealth of households

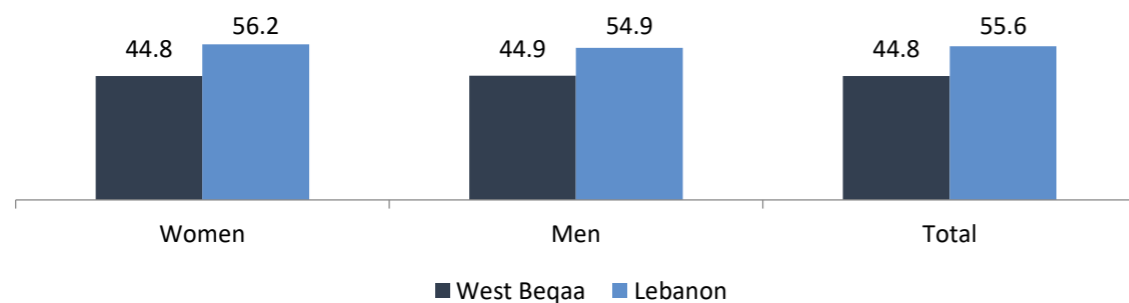


Health Coverage⁵

Only 44.8 per cent of the total residents in West Beqaa were covered by at least one type of health insurance, with almost the same proportion for women (44.8 per cent)

and men (44.9 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 (%)

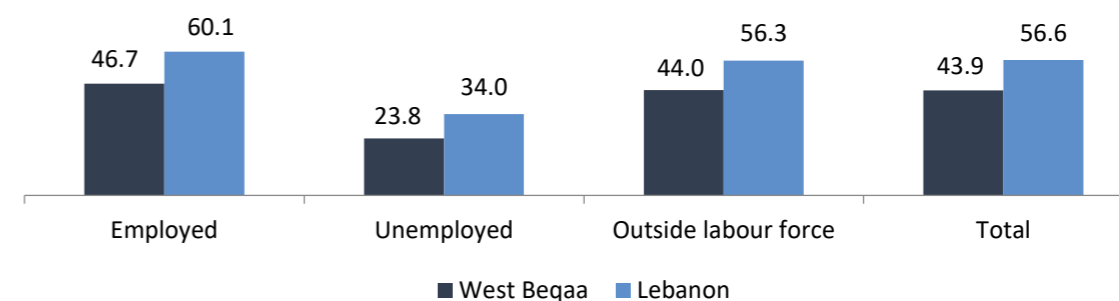


In West Beqaa, 43.9 per cent of the residents aged 15 years and above had a health coverage, whereas nationally, the proportion of the insured population in the same age group was higher (56.6 per cent). Employed residents were less likely to be covered in West Beqaa (46.7 per cent) compared to the whole of Lebanon (60.1 per

cent). Also, the proportions of residents "outside the labour force" and unemployed who had a health coverage in West Beqaa (44 per cent and 23.8 per cent respectively) were remarkably lower than those observed at the national level (56.3 per cent and 34 per cent respectively). (Figure 19)

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

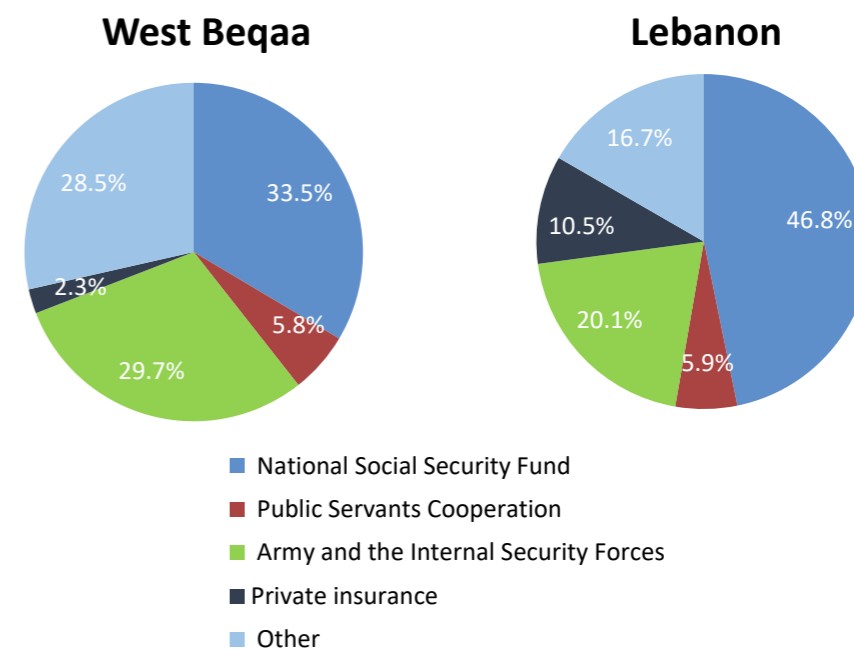
Figure 19: Residents (aged 15 years +) by employment status and health insurance coverage (%)



In West Beqaa, the National Social Security Fund (NSSF)⁶ covered 33.5 per cent of the insured population. This proportion was followed by the Lebanese Army and the Internal Security Forces (29.7 per cent). The coverage of the Public Servants Cooperation

was almost equal in West Beqaa (5.8 per cent) and in Lebanon (5.9 per cent), whereas private insurance was remarkably less common (2.3 per cent in West Beqaa compared to 10.5 per cent in Lebanon). (Figure 20)

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



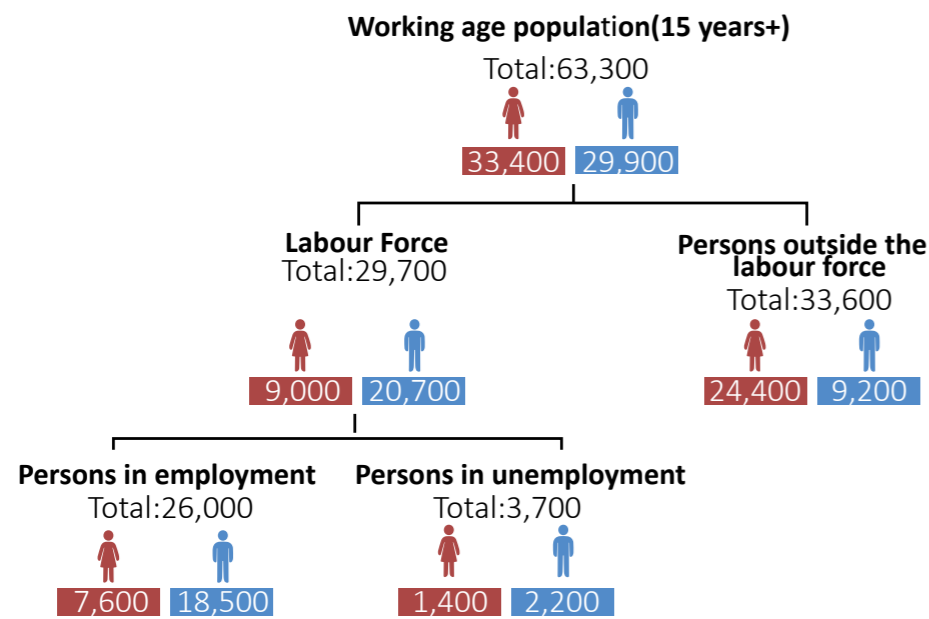
⁶ Including Facultative Fund.



V. LABOUR FORCE and EMPLOYMENT

Labour market structure

Among the estimated 63,300 individuals aged 15 years old and above living in primary residential dwellings in West Beqaa in 2018–19, about 29,700 people were in the labour force, either employed (26,000) or unemployed (3,700). The remaining 33,600 individuals were outside the labour force.



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

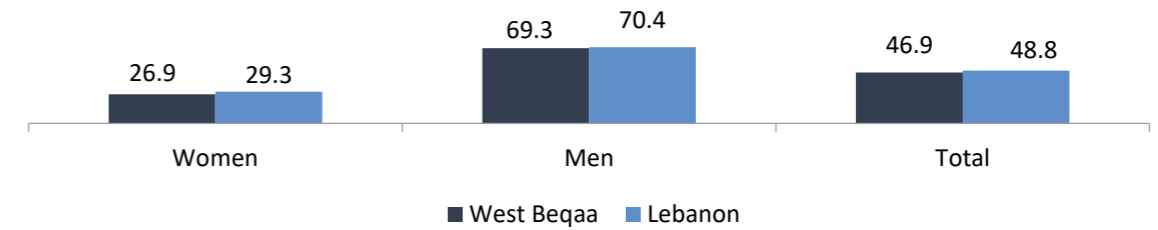
Who is Employed, Searching for a job or Inactive - From a Gender Point of View

Total labour force participation rate⁷ in West Beqaa was 46.9 per cent, which was lower than the national rate of 48.8 per cent. Gender disparity was high at the district level and more accentuated than the national level. Men's participation rates (69.3 percent in West Beqaa and 70.4 per cent in Lebanon) were higher compared to women's (26.9 per cent in West Beqaa and 29.3 per cent in Lebanon) at both the district and national levels, with a notable gender gap⁸ reaching 42.4 percentage points and 41.1 percentage points respectively. (Figure 21)

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

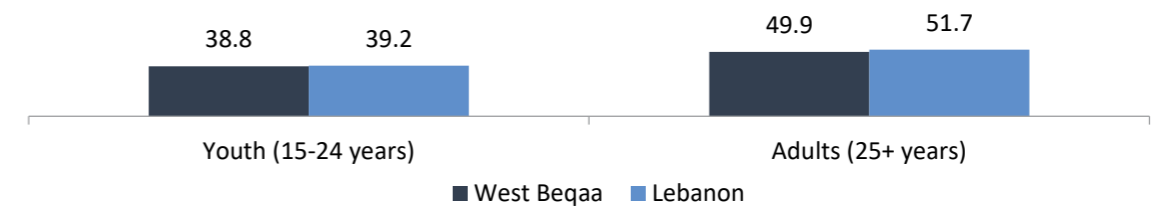
⁸ In this brief, the gender gap is calculated by subtracting the female rate from the male rate.

Figure 21: Labour force participation rate (%)



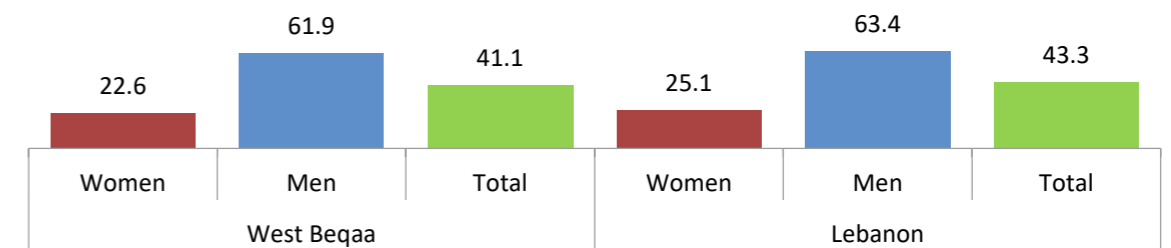
The share of the adult labour force (be they unemployed or in work) exceeded that of the youth and marked 49.9 per cent compared to 38.8 per cent in West Beqaa, and 51.7 per cent compared to 39.2 per cent at the national level. (Figure 22)

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



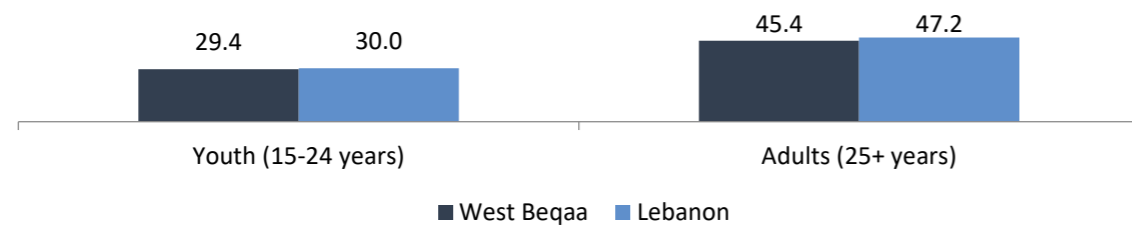
The employment-to-population ratio in West Beqaa (41.1 per cent) was lower than that of the country (43.3 per cent). There were some notable gender disparities in the employment-to-population ratio at both the district and country levels. Less than a quarter of women (22.6 per cent) and more than a half of men (61.9 per cent) were employed in West Beqaa with a gender gap of 39.3 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 points. (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 West Beqaa (29.4 per cent) was remarkably lower than that of the adults (45.4 per cent). It is worth noting that these ratios were lower in West Beqaa than in Lebanon as a whole. In West Beqaa, the gap between the two age groups marked a difference of 16 percentage points. (Figure 24)

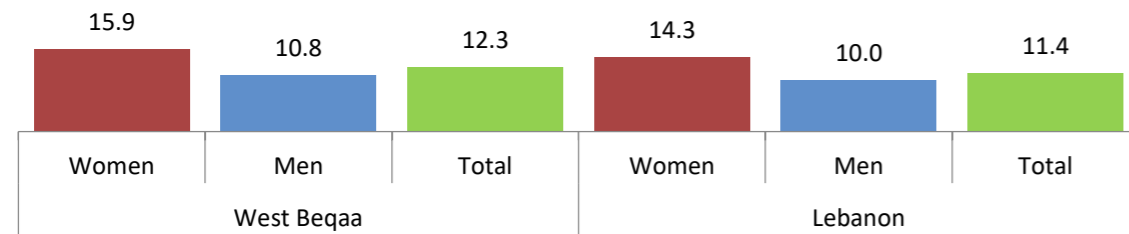
Figure 24: Employment-to-population ratio by broad age groups (%)



The unemployment rate⁹ in West Beqaa (12.3 per cent) was greater than that of Lebanon (11.4 per cent). Differences at the country level were observed between women (14.3 per cent) and men (10 per cent), yet the gap was higher in West Beqaa where the unemployment rate was 15.9 per

cent for women and 10.8 per cent for men. In other words, the gender gap in the unemployment rate was higher in West Beqaa (5.1 percentage points) than in Lebanon as a whole (4.3 percentage points). (Figure 25)

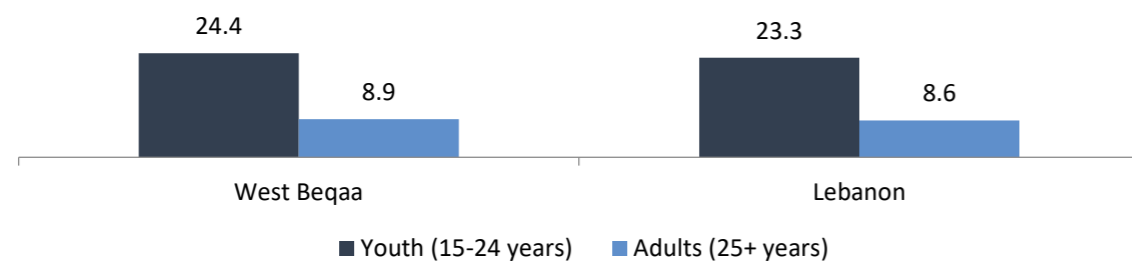
Figure 25: Unemployment rate by sex (%)



Unemployment was less prevalent among adults than among youth at both the district and country levels, with a rate reaching 8.9 per cent and 24.4 per cent respectively in West Beqaa, 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 15.5 percentage points in West Bekaa and 14.7 percentage points in Lebanon as a whole. (Figure 26)

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

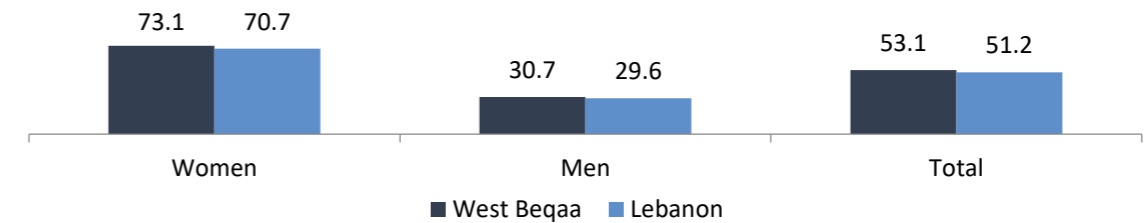


⁹ Unemployment rate = $\frac{\text{Persons in Unemployment (aged 15 years and above)}}{\text{Labour Force (aged 15 years and above)}} * 100$

The inactivity rate, which represents the proportion of the persons considered inactive- neither working nor looking for any job- in the total population aged 15 years and above in West Beqaa (53.1 per cent), exceeded that of Lebanon (51.2 per cent).

73.1 per cent of women and 30.7 per cent of men were inactive at the caza level, compared to 70.7 per cent of women and 29.6 per cent of men at the national level. (Figure 27)

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

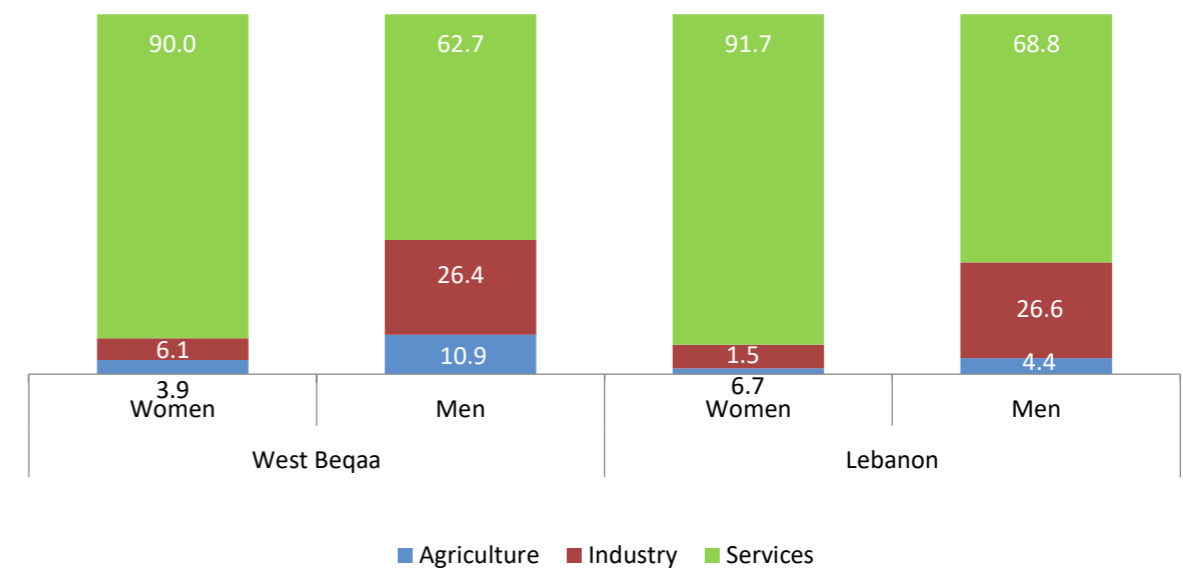


Where do they work?

The Services sector was the largest employment sector for women and men, with respectively 90 per cent and 62.7 per cent in West Beqaa, compared to 91.7 per cent and 68.8 per cent in Lebanon. In this sector, women surpassed men by 27.3 percentage points at the caza level. It was particularly noticeable that 26.4 per cent of working men and 6.1 per cent of working

women were employed in Industry in West Beqaa, compared to 26.6 per cent of working men and 6.7 per cent of working women in the whole of Lebanon. Employment in agriculture in West Beqaa was for both working men (10.9 per cent) and women (3.9 per cent) above the national levels. (Figure 28)

Figure 28: Economic activity sector by sex (%)

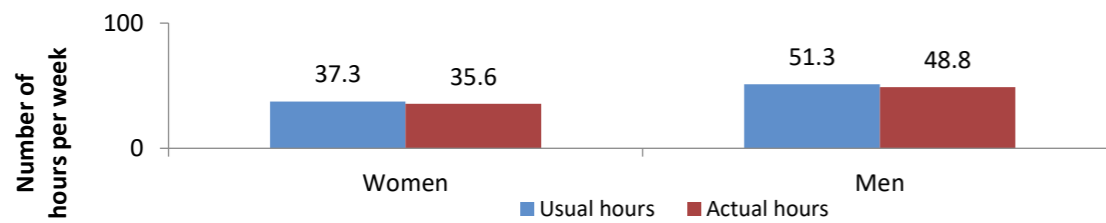


... and how many hours per week

Men in employment were reported to be working longer paid hours than women. The average number of actual paid weekly hours was 48.8 for men and 35.6 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



Note: Excludes domestic workers

What type of jobs do they hold and where?

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

result that was found to be higher than the national level (54.9 per cent), and 40.1 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 slightly higher than the one observed in the whole of Lebanon (22 per cent and 19.8 per cent respectively). (Table 3)

The results show that 62.1 per cent of the employed population in West Beqaa held informal jobs at their main occupation, a

Table 3: Formality versus Informality (in %)

Type of employment	West Beqaa			Lebanon		
	Informal Sector	Formal Sector	Total	Informal Sector	Formal Sector	Total
Informal	40.1	22.0	62.1	35.1	19.8	54.9
Formal	0.0	37.9	37.9	0.0	45.0	45.1
Total	40.1	59.9	100.0	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 West Beqaa were men (82.9 per cent), a proportion that was lower than that

attained at the national level (85.6 per cent). Men's share in paid employment was higher in West Beqaa compared to the national level (66.3 per cent and 63.5 per cent respectively). (Figure 30)

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

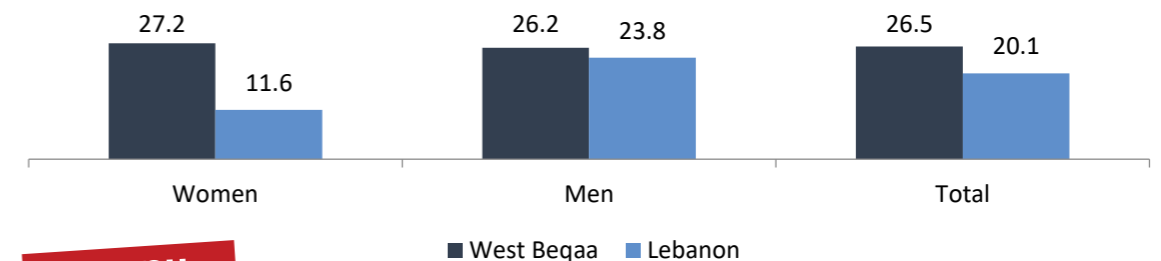


How many jobs are "vulnerable"?

In West Beqaa, vulnerable employment was reported to be higher than that observed at the country level (26.5 per cent and 20.1 per cent respectively). It is worth noting that vulnerable employment was markedly

higher for women in West Beqaa compared to the whole of Lebanon. Moreover, it was almost as much prevalent among men (26.2 per cent) as among women (27.2 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.

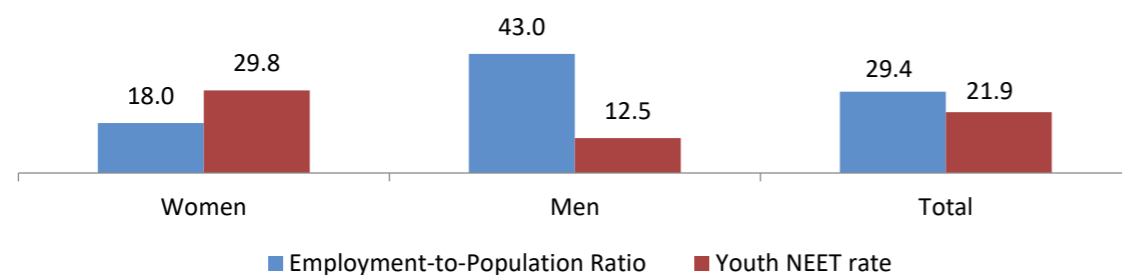
Youth in Employment versus Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

Youth NEET rate - *Youth not in education, employment or training rate* - (21.9 per cent) in West Beqaa was lower than the youth employment-to-population ratio was 30 per cent. Moreover, women's NEET rate in West Beqaa (29.8 per cent) was at least twice as high as that of men (12.5 per cent). (Figure 32)

per cent and youth employment-to-population ratio was 30 per cent. Moreover, women's NEET rate in West Beqaa (29.8 per cent) was at least twice as high as that of men (12.5 per cent). (Figure 32)

the country level: Youth NEET rate was 21.8

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



The Team

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

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