



الهيئة العامة للإحصاء  
General Authority for Statistics

رؤية  
VISION  
2030  
المملكة العربية السعودية  
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

# Saudi Youth in Numbers

A report for International Youth Day 2020



Statistical Analysis and  
Decision Support Center

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## Introduction

The United Nations (UN), along with the majority of its member states, celebrates International Youth Day on 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2020. This day was primarily aimed at using various civil societies, governments, and other organizations to review the status and the participation of youth so as to maximize their contributions in the society.

In this report, the youth in the 15-34 age group were assembled from among the majority Saudi population and were assigned important roles in the life activities and overall development of the country.

In its 2030 vision, Saudi Arabia has placed the emphasis on human resources and the great expectations from the youth of the kingdom in the attainment of the 2030 ambitious vision. The Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, HRH Mohammad Bin Salman, explicitly noted, "Our youth are conscious, cultured and creative with high values." These words encapsulate the extent of expectations of the Saudi leadership from Saudi youth about their contribution in the Saudi 2030 vision.

As a matter of fact, several enablement initiatives such as commissions for intermediate and small businesses, support funds, education, and entrepreneurship training are primarily aimed at the Saudi youth.

This report identifies indicators and numbers to reflect the sheer size of the Youth age group among the Saudi population, it also elucidates their distribution on the basis of gender overall health and sporting activities. Additionally, the report also shows the progress achieved by the youth during the past few years, adaptation of novel technologies, their employment status, their COVID-19 status, as well as their participation in voluntary work.

Finally, the present report shows data in the form of figures and statistics about the status of Saudi youth and the constantly growing accomplishments among the kingdom's society. Their indispensable contributions towards the nation's development are steadily rising in nearly all facets of life, such as social life, education, and economy in general.



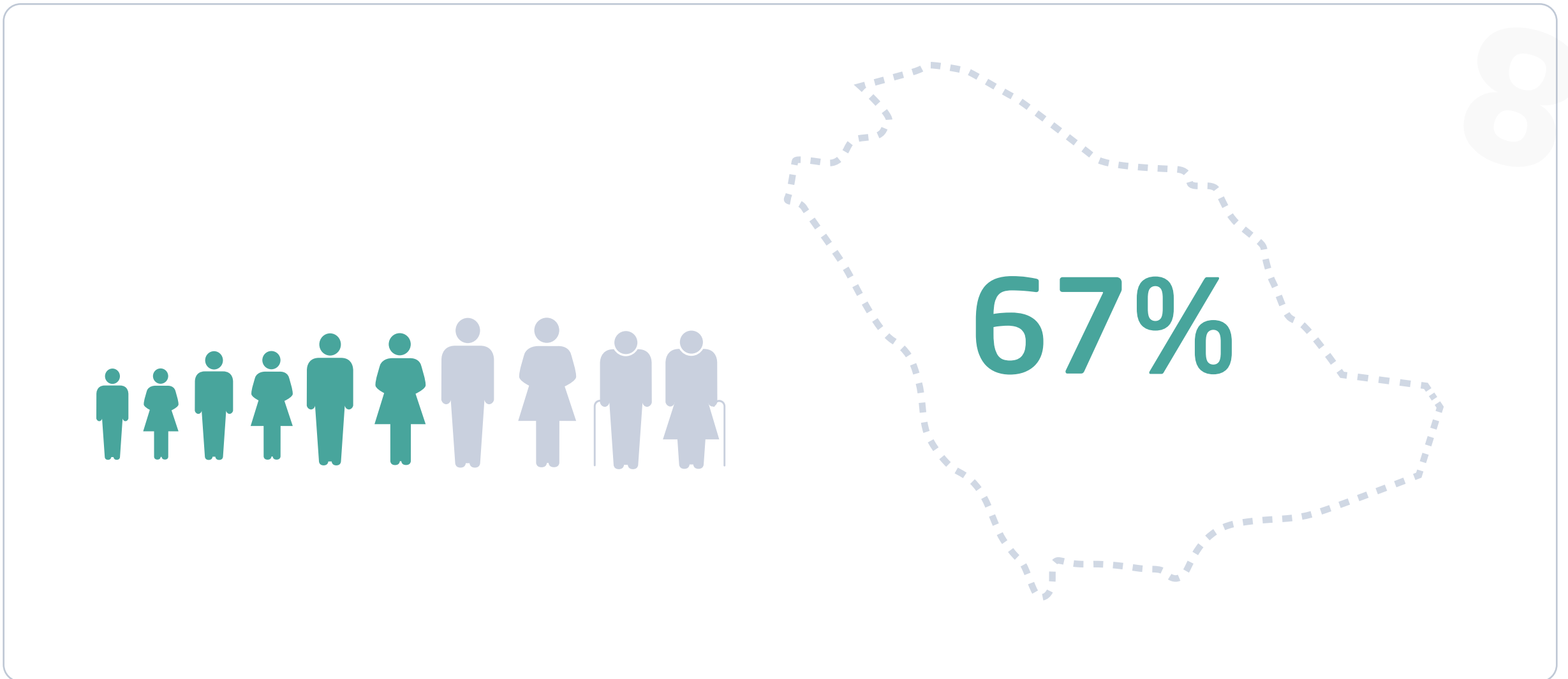


# General Indicators





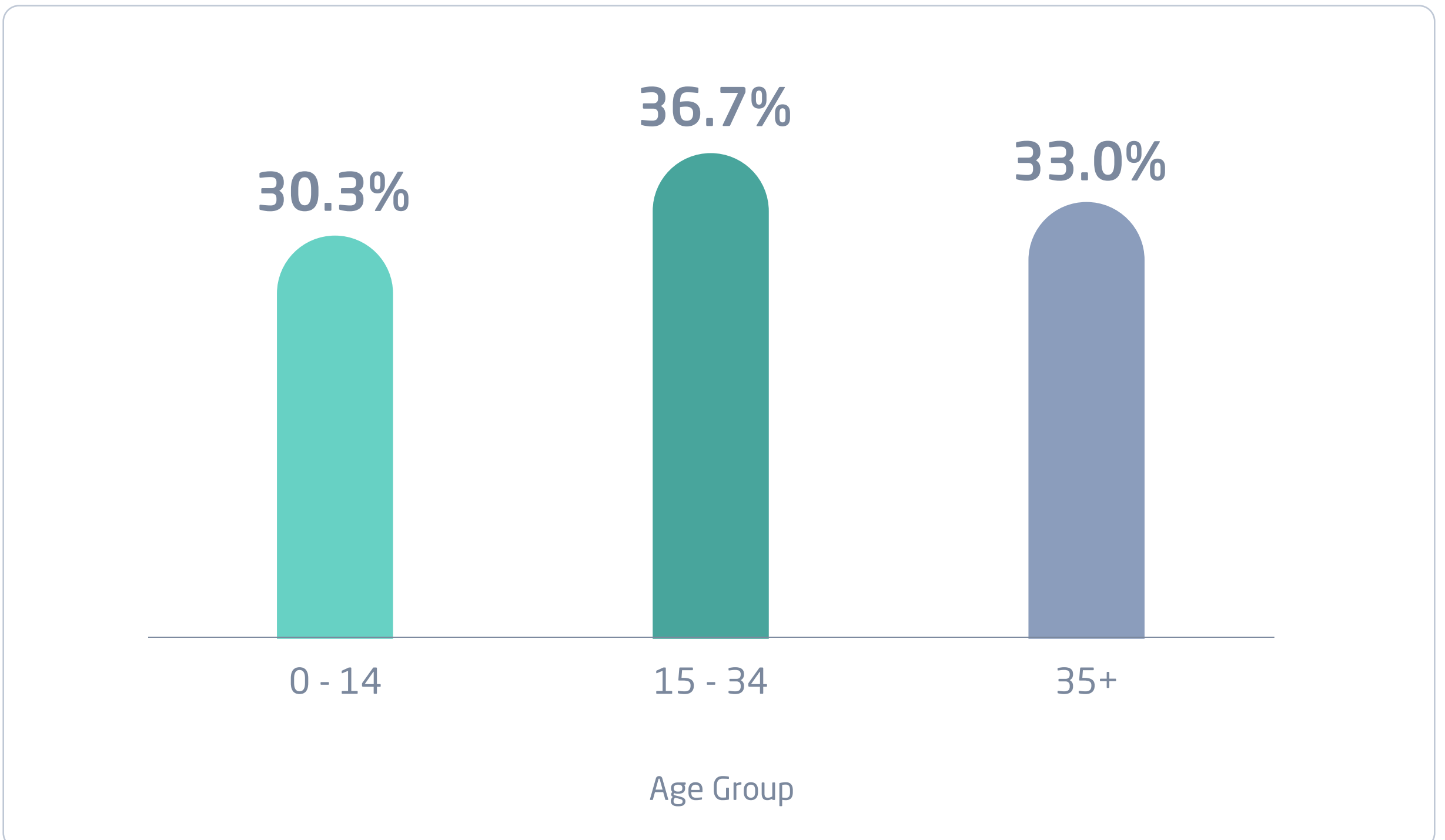
## Percentage of Youth and Children out of Saudi Population, 2020



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Population Estimates 2020

Youth and children represent more than two thirds of Saudi population.

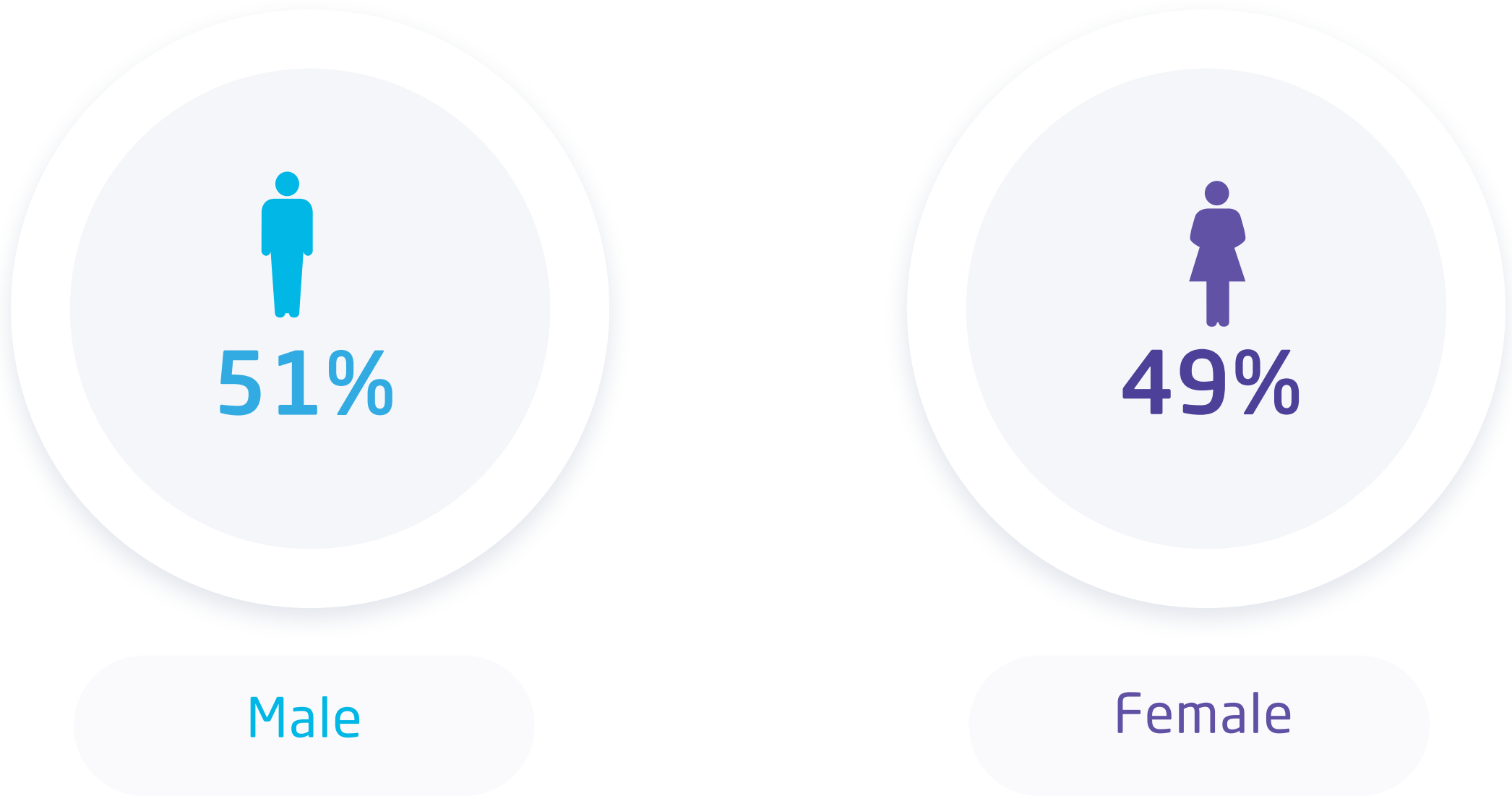
## Percentage Distribution of Saudi Population by age group, 2020



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Population Estimates 2020

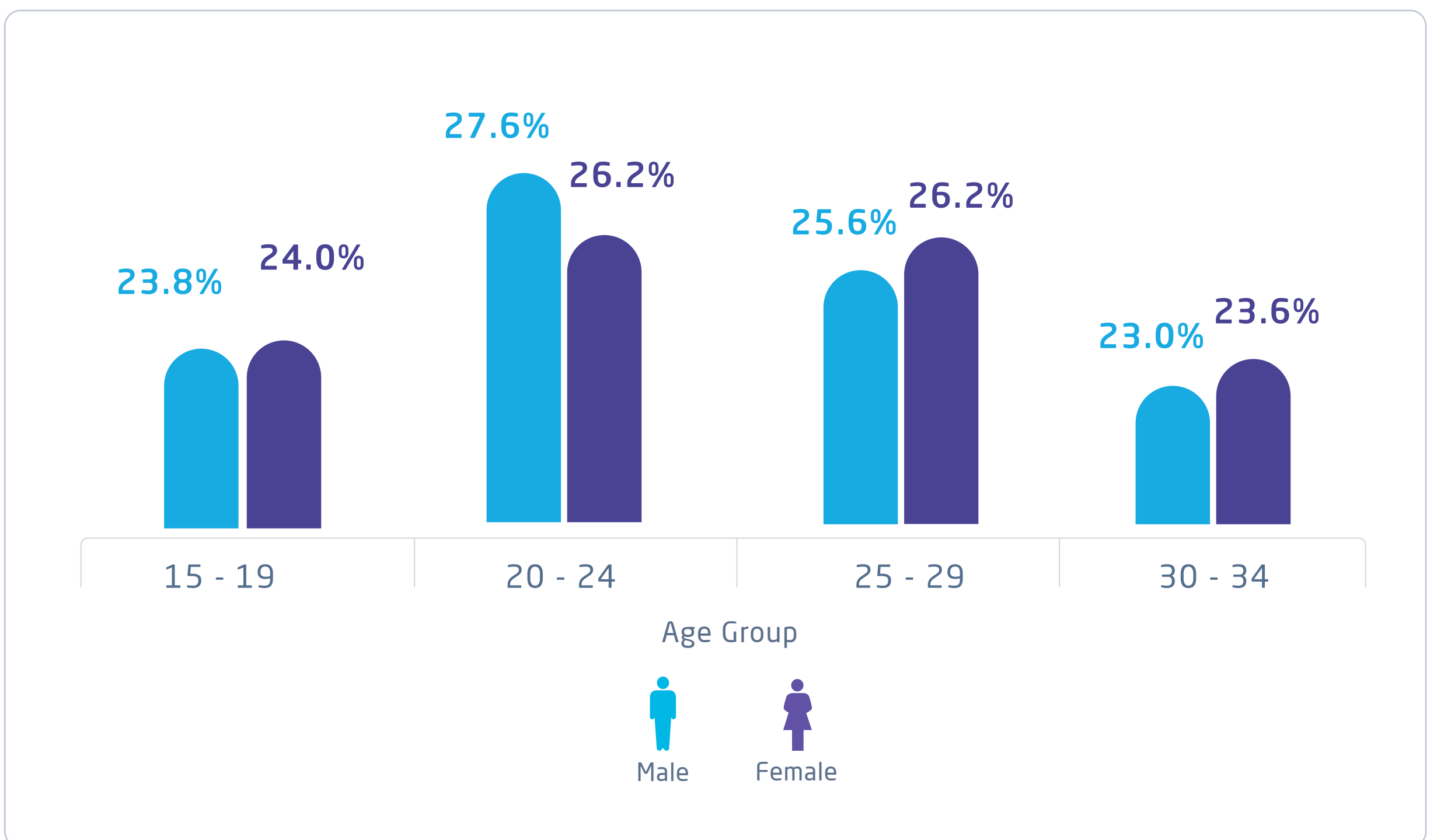
Saudi youth in the age group (15-34 years) have the highest percentage of Saudi population amongst all age groups.

## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth (15-34 years) by gender, 2020



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Population Estimates 2020

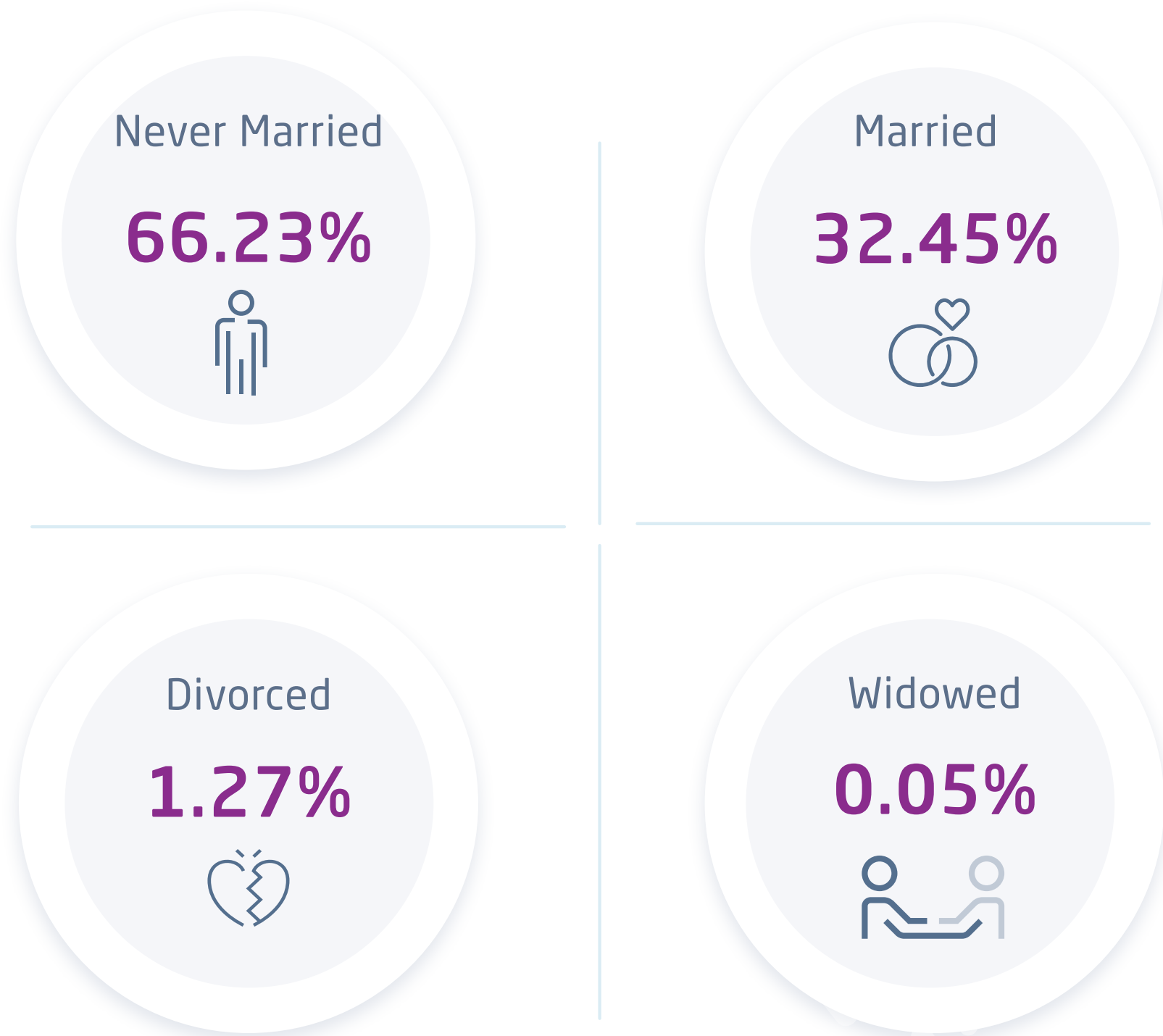
## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth, by age group and gender, 2020



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Population Estimates 2020

Youth males in the age group (20-24 years) have the highest percentage with 27.6%. In addition, youth females in the age groups (20-24 years) and (25-29 years) have the highest percentage with 26.2% each.

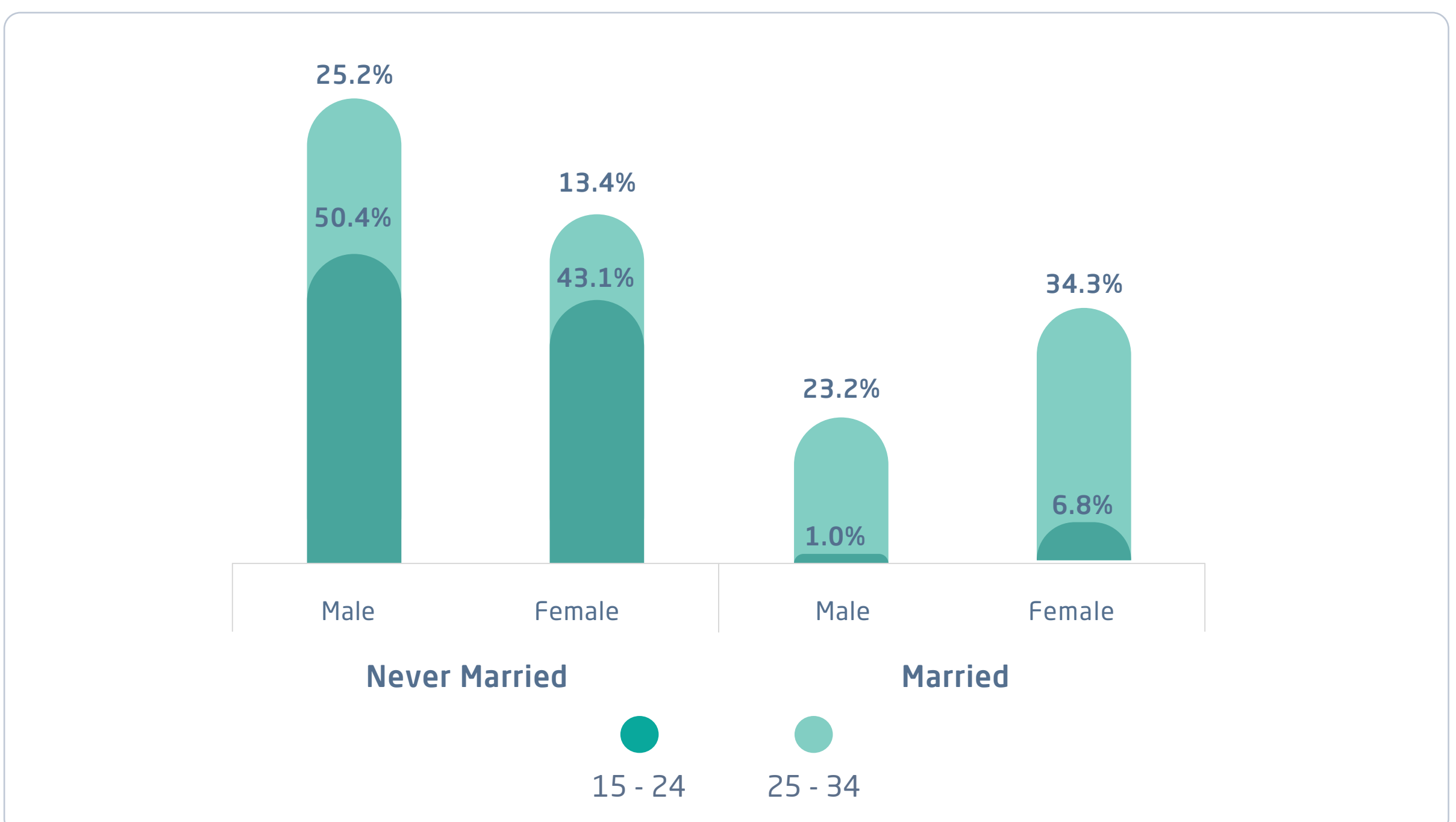
## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth (15-34 years) by marital status, 2019



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

Majority of Saudi youth (66.23%) are unmarried.

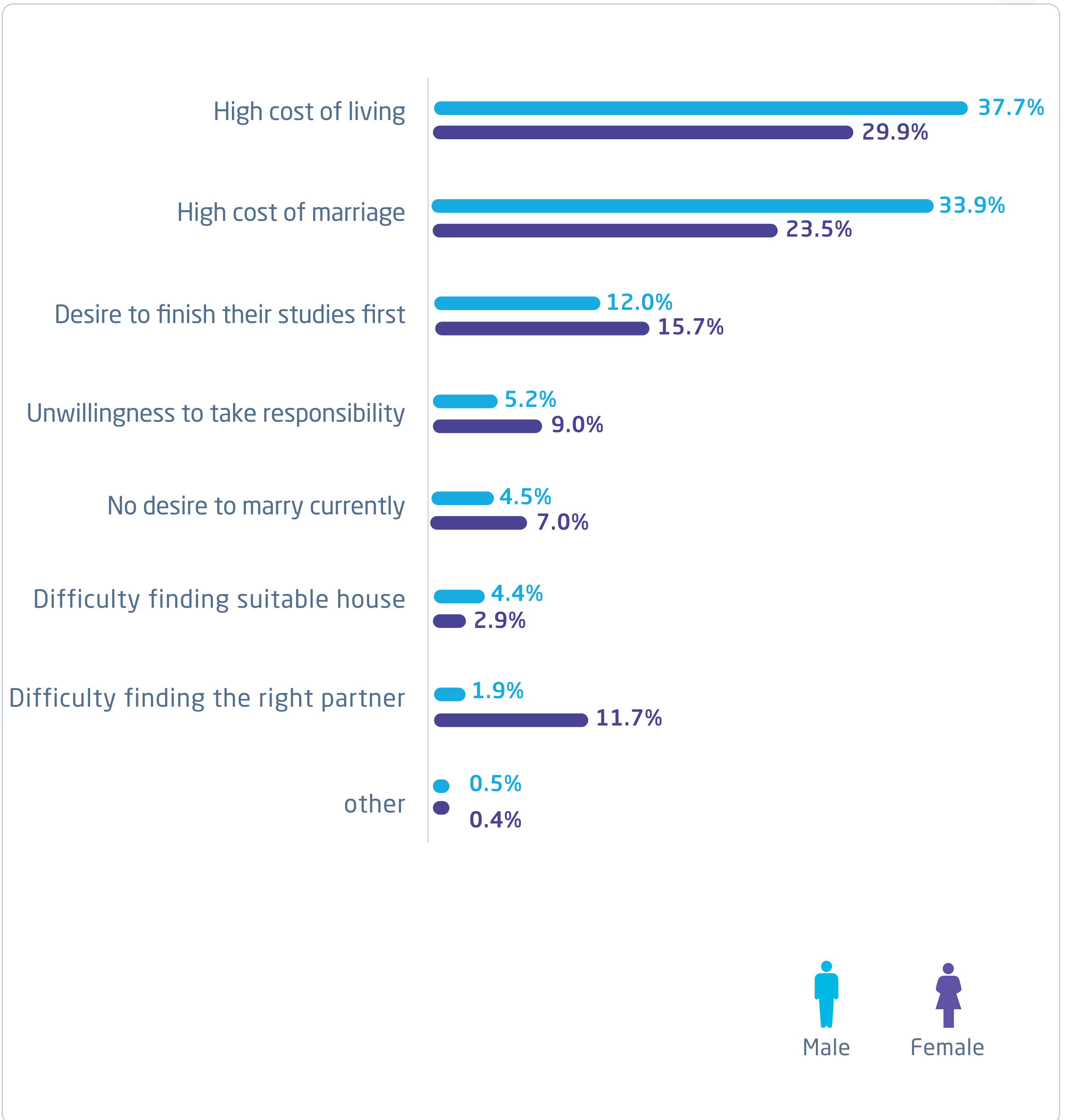
## Saudi youth (15-34 years) with the highest percentage of marital status by age group and gender, 2019



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

The percentage of young males (15-34 years) who had never married registered 75.6%, 50.4% among whom are of the age group (15-24 years).

## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth (15-34 years) according to reasons of delay of marriage, by gender, 2019



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

According to youths' response for the reasons why they are still unmarried, the highest percentage was due to the high cost of living for both males and females. It was noted that the largest difference between males and females was the difficulty of finding the right partner, with a 11.7% of females and only 1.9% of males.

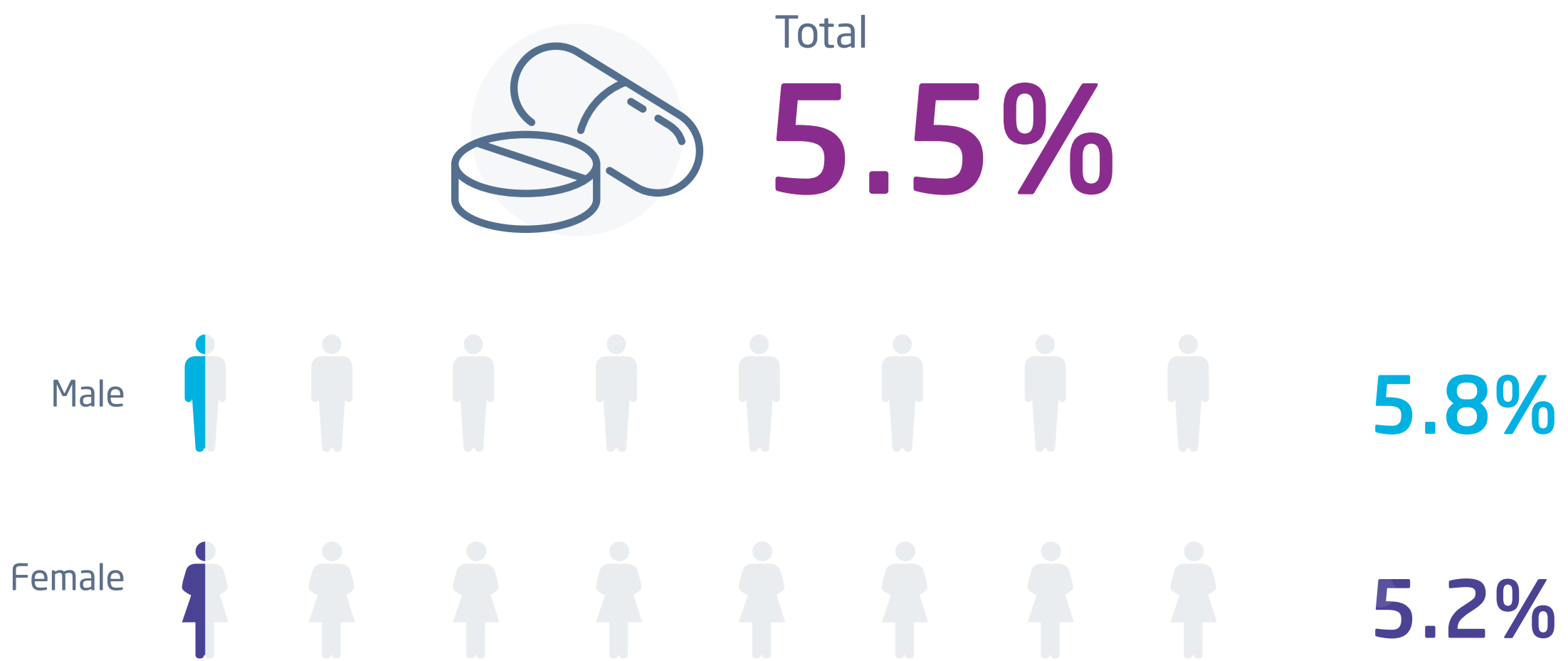




# Health and Sport

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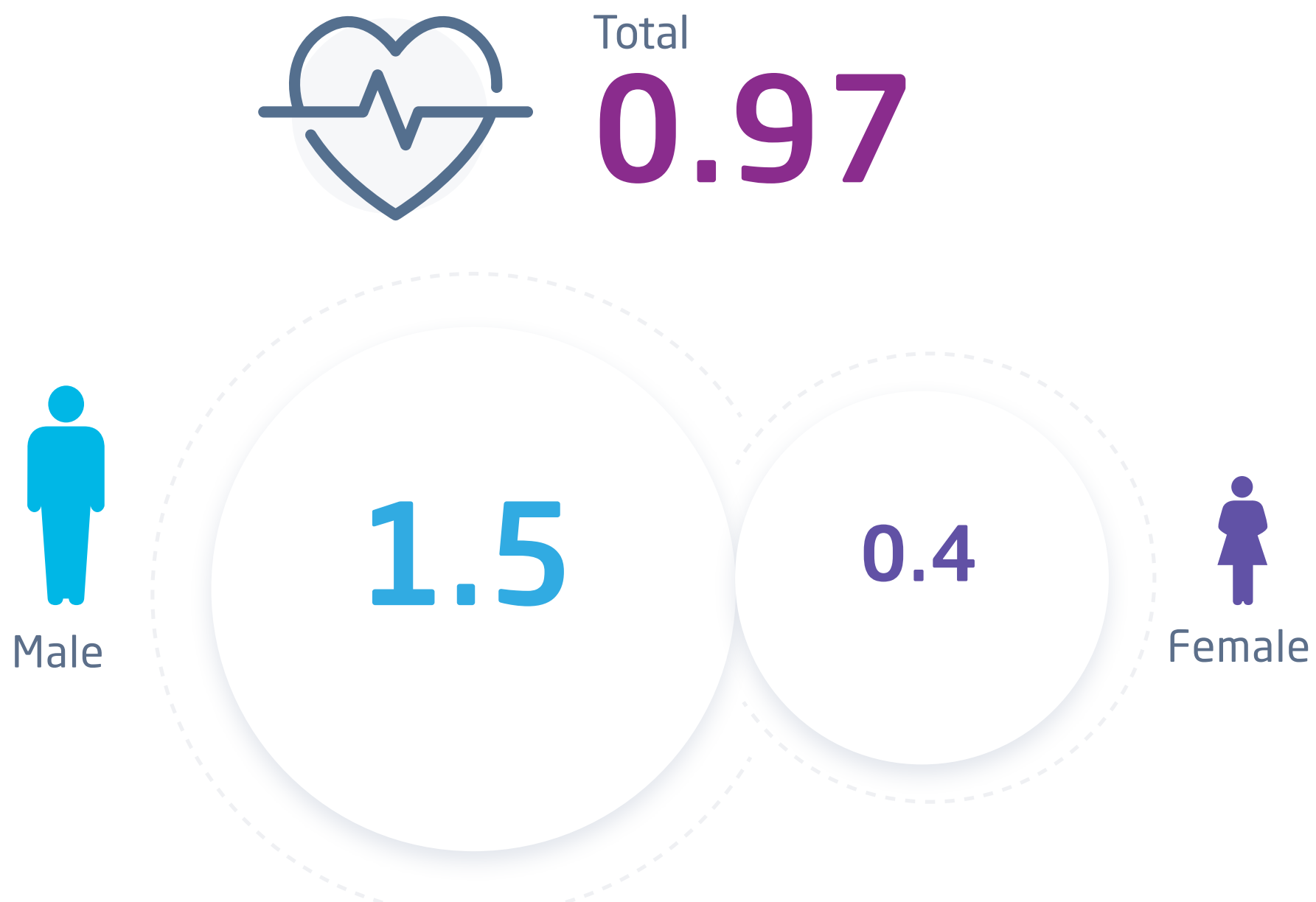
## Percentage of Saudi youth (15 -34 years) who suffer from chronic diseases out of total Saudi population\*, 2018



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Family Health Survey 2018

There is a slight difference between young males and females who suffer from chronic disease.

## Saudi youth (15-34 years) mortality rate per 1,000 Saudi by gender\*\*, 2018



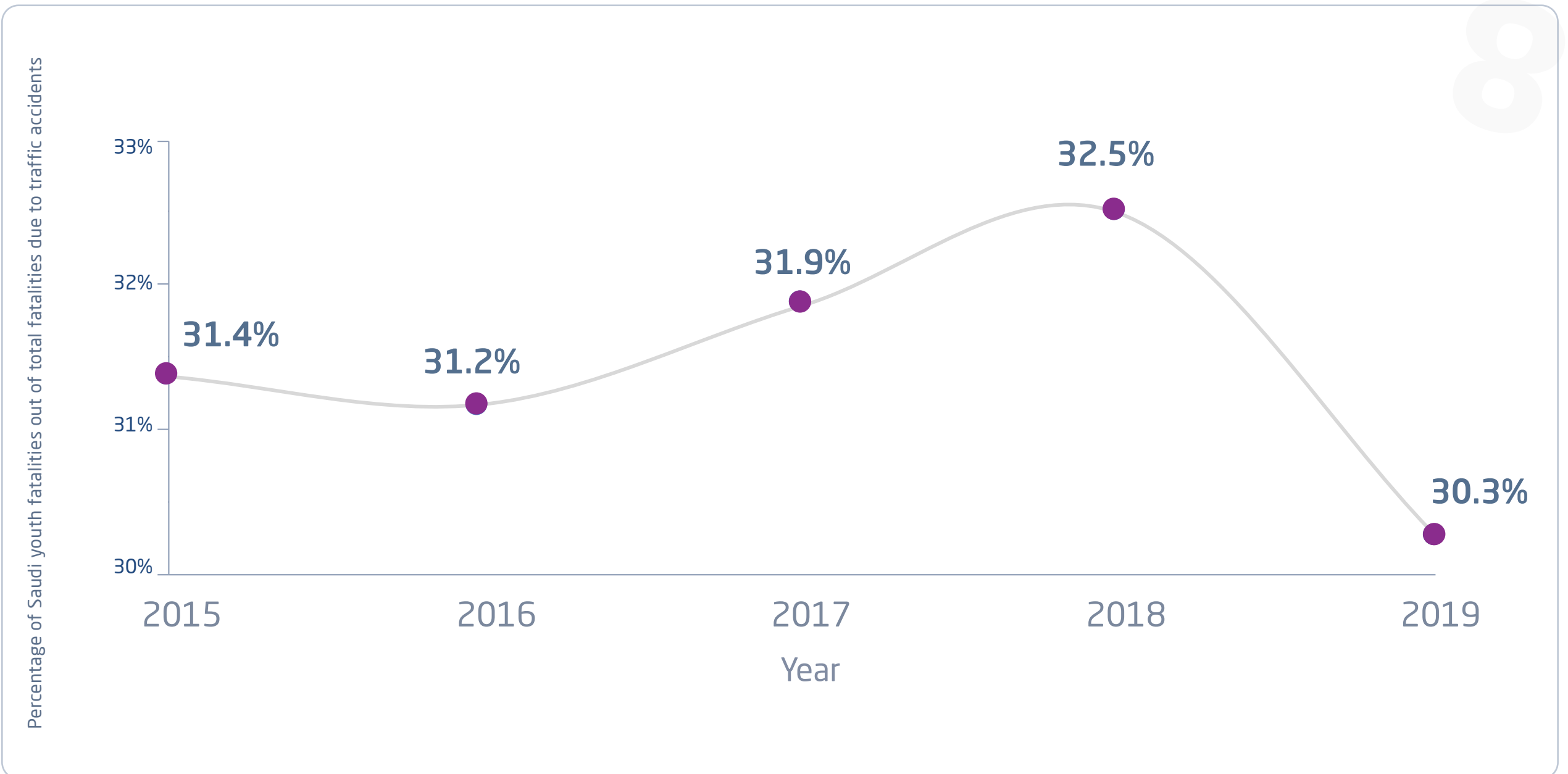
Source: General Authority of Statistics, Family Health Survey 2018

Within Saudi youth, males have about three times higher mortality rate compared to females.

\* This indicator measures the prevalence of chronic diseases that have been diagnosed in general, thus the indicator includes only individuals diagnosed by a specialist and confirmed the presence of the disease by a doctor.

\*\* The number of deaths of people in a specific age group during a given year for every 1,000 people in the same age group.

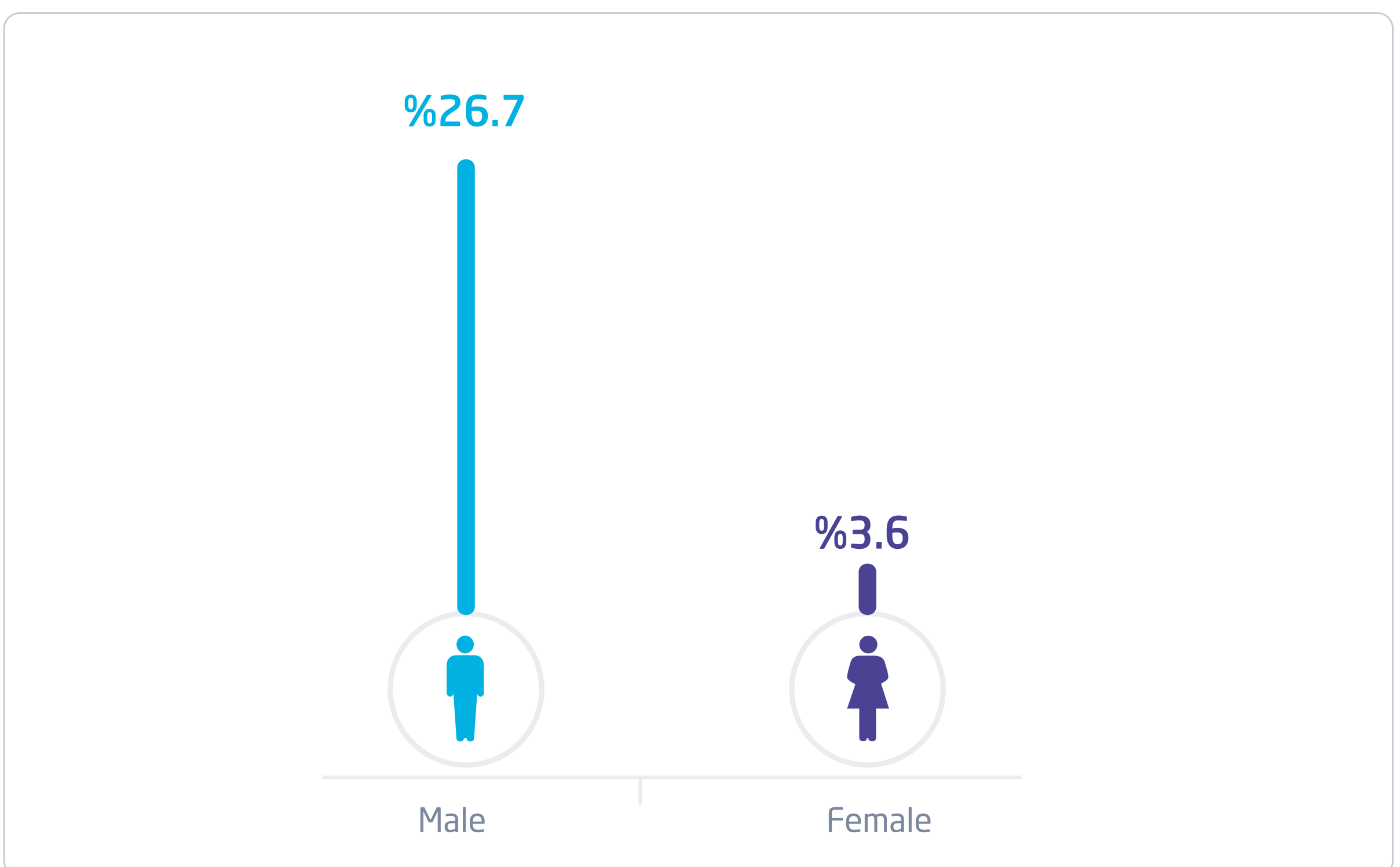
## Percentage of Saudi youth (18-30 years) fatalities out of total fatalities due to traffic accidents, in the past 5 years



Source: Ministry of Health 2019

Fatalities of Saudi youth in traffic accidents within the age group (18-30 years) has declined recording in 2019 the lowest rate since 2015 (30.3%).

## Saudi youth (18-30 years) fatalities due to traffic accidents by gender, 2019

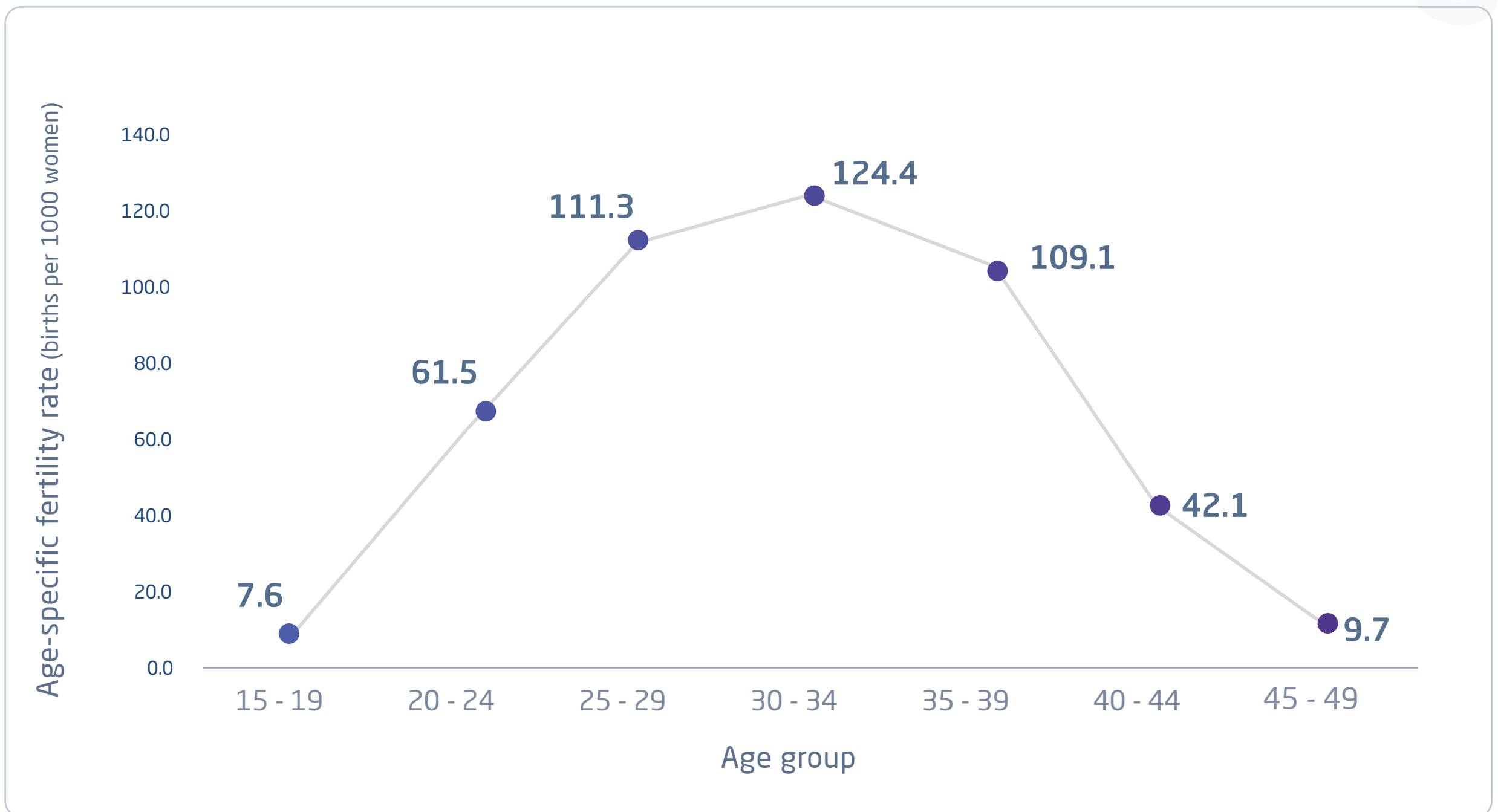


Source: Ministry of Health 2019

Among all male fatalities due to traffic accident, 26.7% are within the age group (18-30 years).



## Age-specific fertility rates\* of Saudi females by age groups, 2018



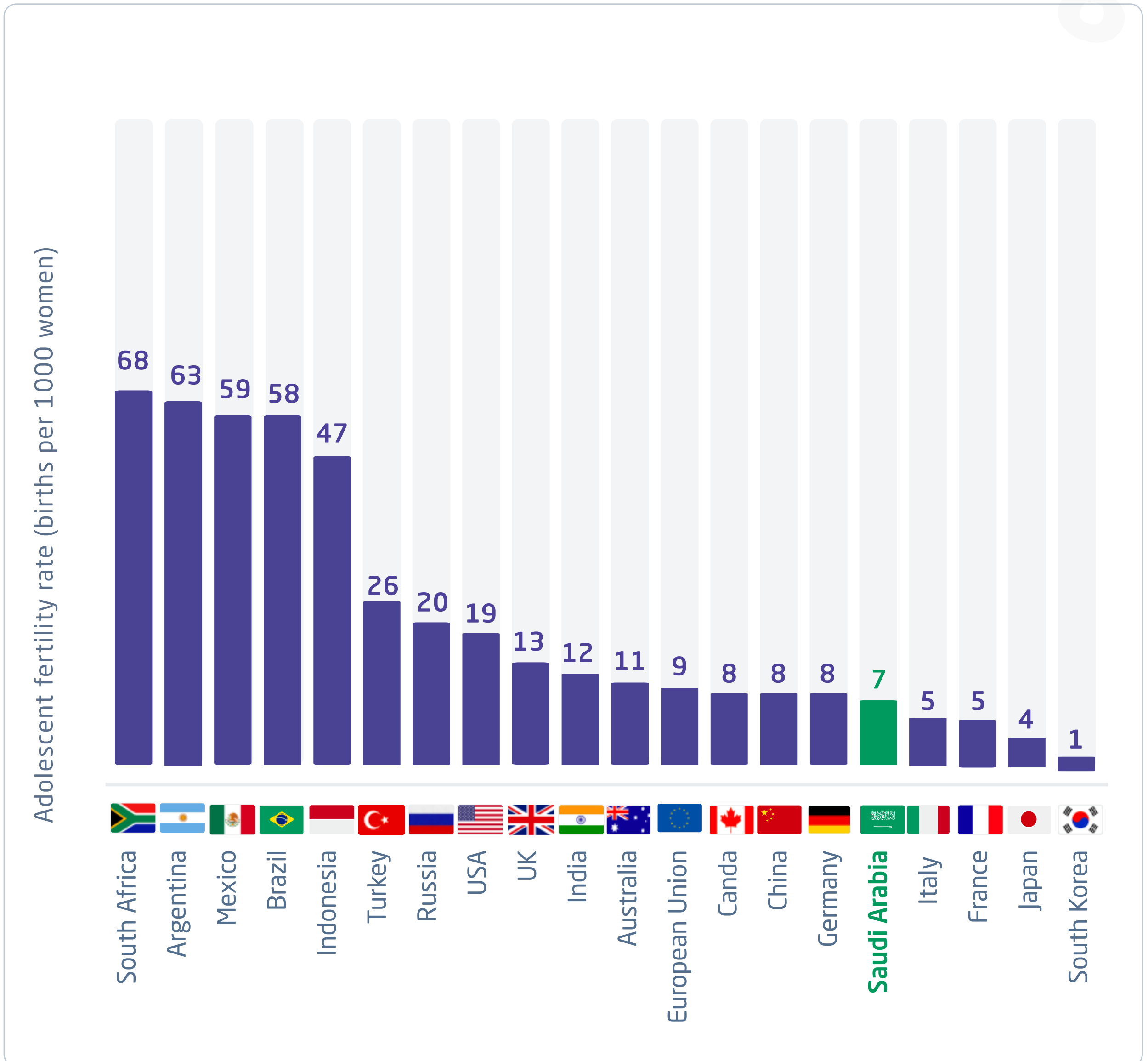
Source: General Authority of Statistics, Family Health Survey 2018

Fertility rate in Saudi is in line with the global trend where Saudi females within the age group (30-34 years) registered the highest fertility rate by 124.4 births per 1,000 women.

\*The annual number of births to women of a specified age or age group per 1,000 women in that age group.



## Adolescent fertility rate\* (15-19 years) in Saudi Arabia\*\* compared to G20 countries, 2018

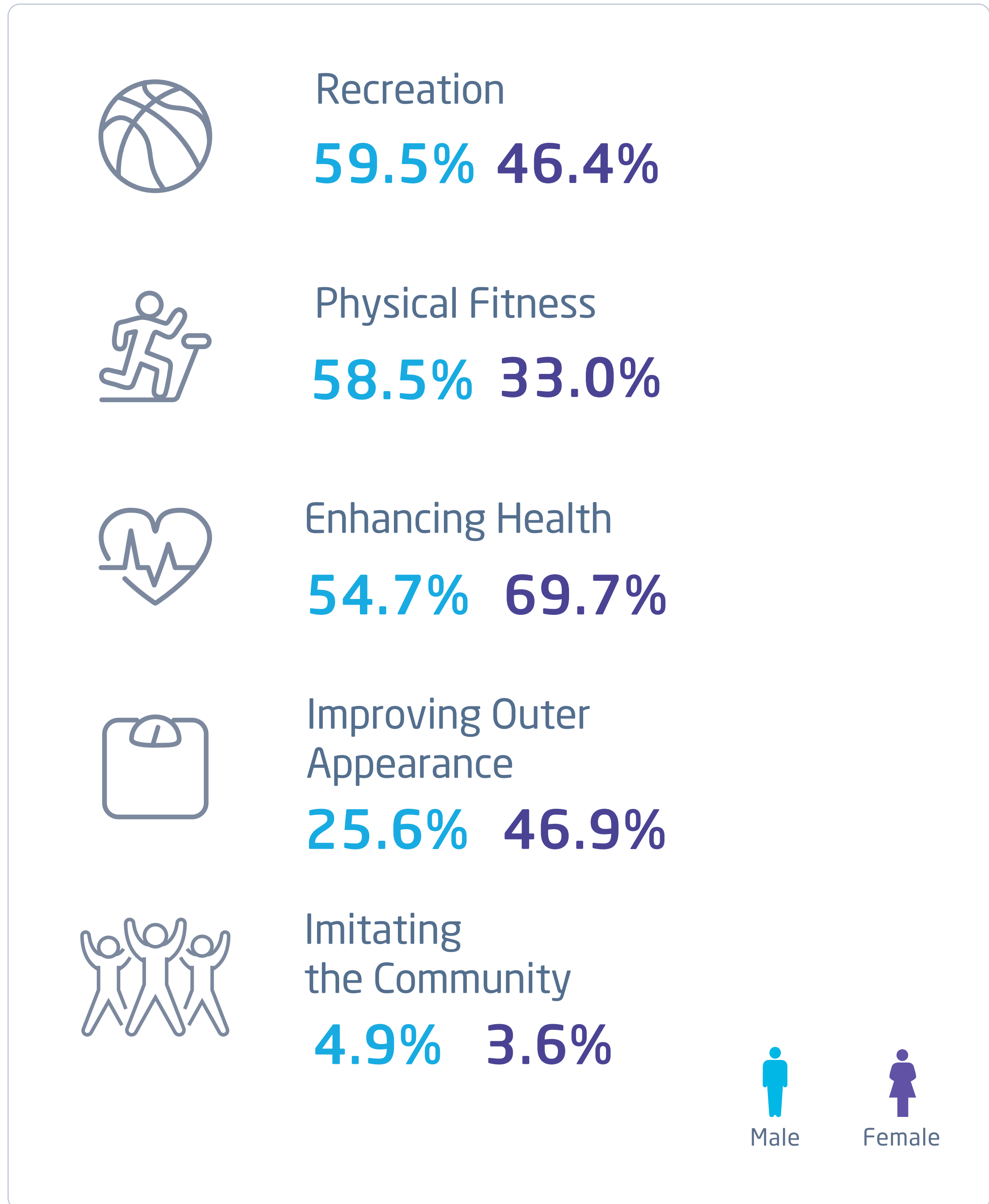


Source: World Bank 2018  
Source: Family Health Survey 2018

**Saudi Arabia is on the lower side at 7 births per 1,000 women.**

\* The number of births per 1,000 women ages 15-19.  
\*\* Both Saudi and non Saudi

## Percentage of Saudi youth (15-34 years) based on what motivates individuals to practice sport by gender, 2019



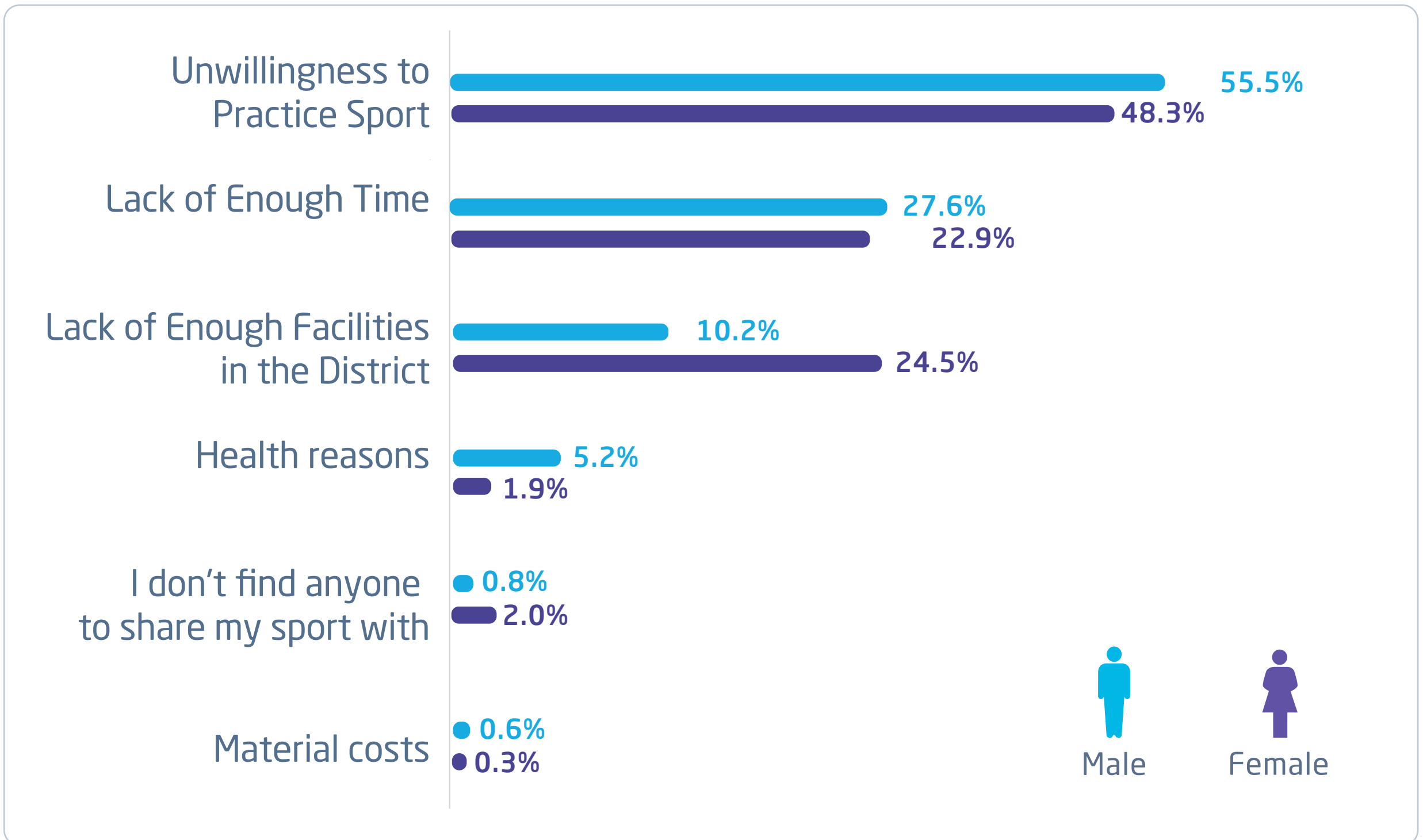
**Note:** The applicant can pick more than one answer.

**Source :**General Authority of Statistics, Household Sports Practice Survey 2019

The main motive for the majority of Saudi females is to enhance their health. However, in the case of males, they practice sport for recreation and physical fitness.



## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth (15-34 years) who do not practice sport by reasons and gender, 2019



Source :General Authority of Statistics, Household Sports Practice Survey 2019

Most Saudis are unwilling to practice sport (55.5% males and 48.3% females). However, lack of enough time was the second reason for males (27.6%), while lack of enough facilities in the district was the second reason for females (24.5%).

## Percentage of Saudi youth (15-34 years) who practice sport (150 minutes or more per week) and the extent of sports awareness by gender, 2019



Warm-up before start exercising

**71.9%** **45.8%**



Practicing sports activity with supervision of a specialist

**38.2%** **23.6%**



Use modern applications while exercising

**35.5%** **49.8%**





Detecting the health condition before exercising

**23.4%** **20.9%**



Sports injury due to misconceptions during practice

**8.1%** **1.5%**

 Male  Female

**Note:** The applicant can pick more than one answer.

**Source :** General Authority of Statistics, Household Sports Practice Survey 2019

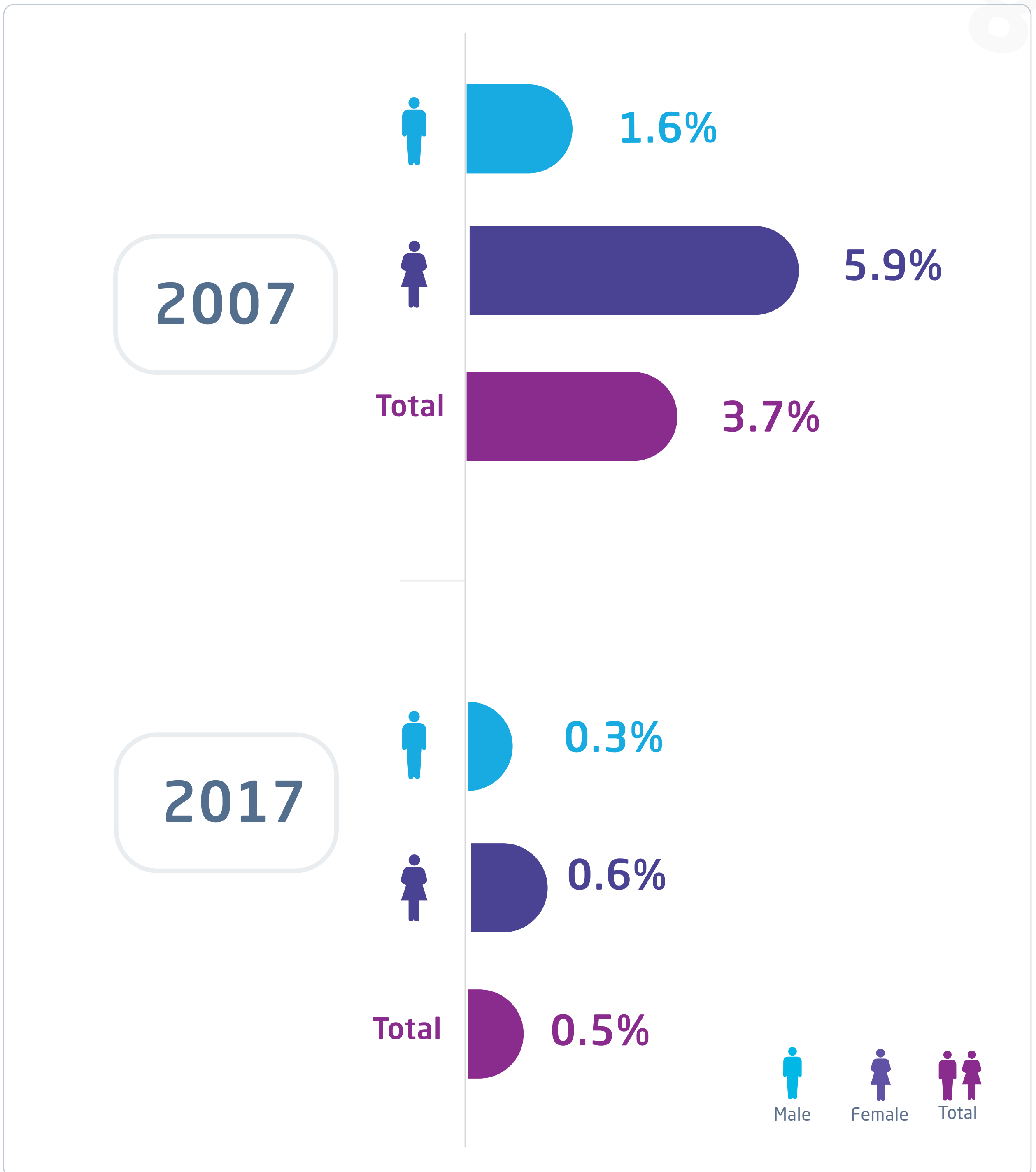
The majority of females (49.8%) use modern applications while exercising. On the other hand, a large percentage of males (71.9%) warm up before exercising.



# Education



## Saudi youth illiteracy rate\* (15-34 years) by gender, 2017 compared to 2007



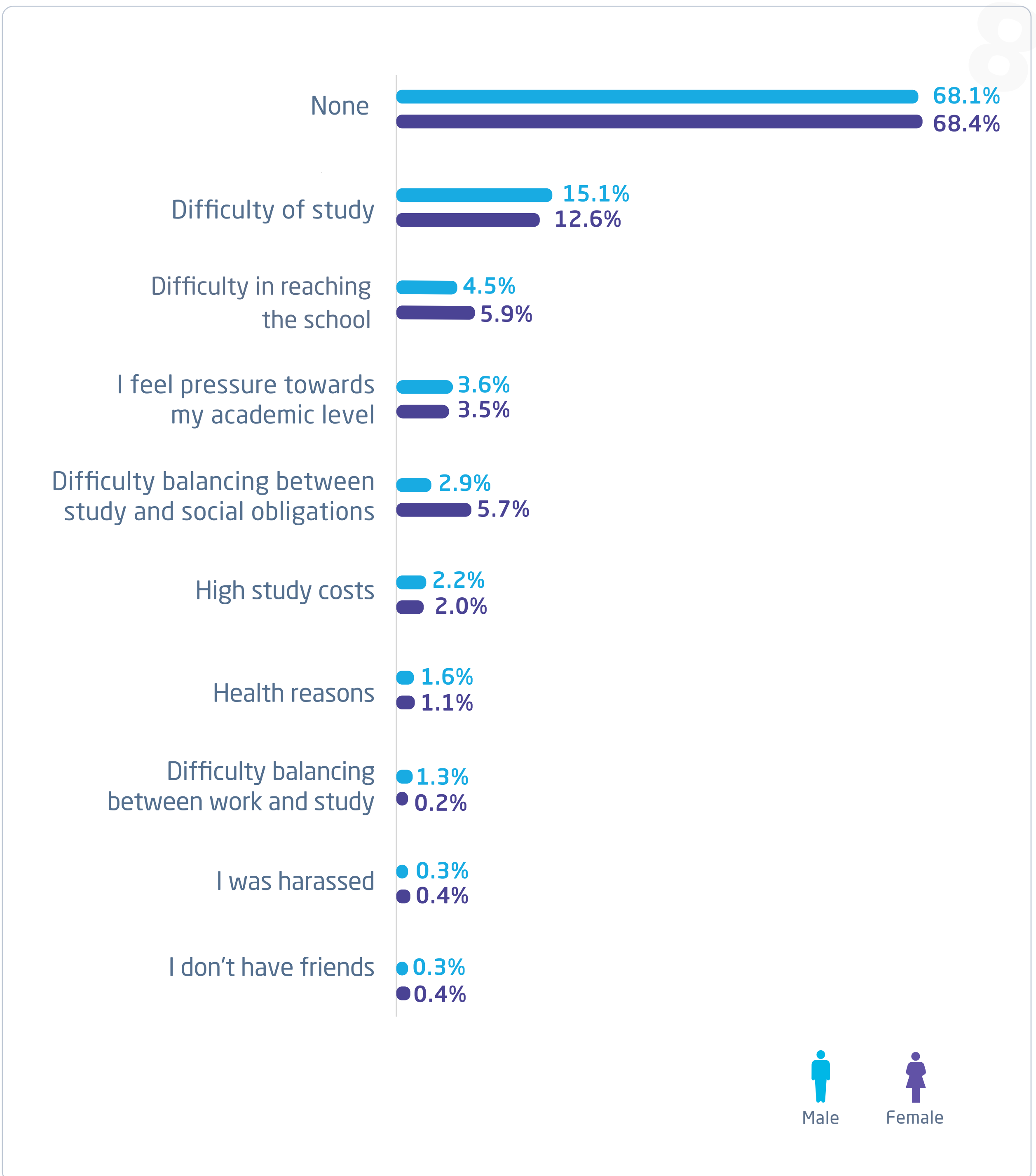
Source : General Authority of Statistics ,Demographic Survey 2007

Source: General Authority of Statistics ,Education and Training Survey 2017

The illiteracy rate for Saudi youth (15-34 years) has decreased noticeably from 2007 to 2017, where majority of decreases is attributed to the female youth who became more literate.

\* The total number of illiterate individuals in a particular age group, expressed as a percentage of the total population in this age group.

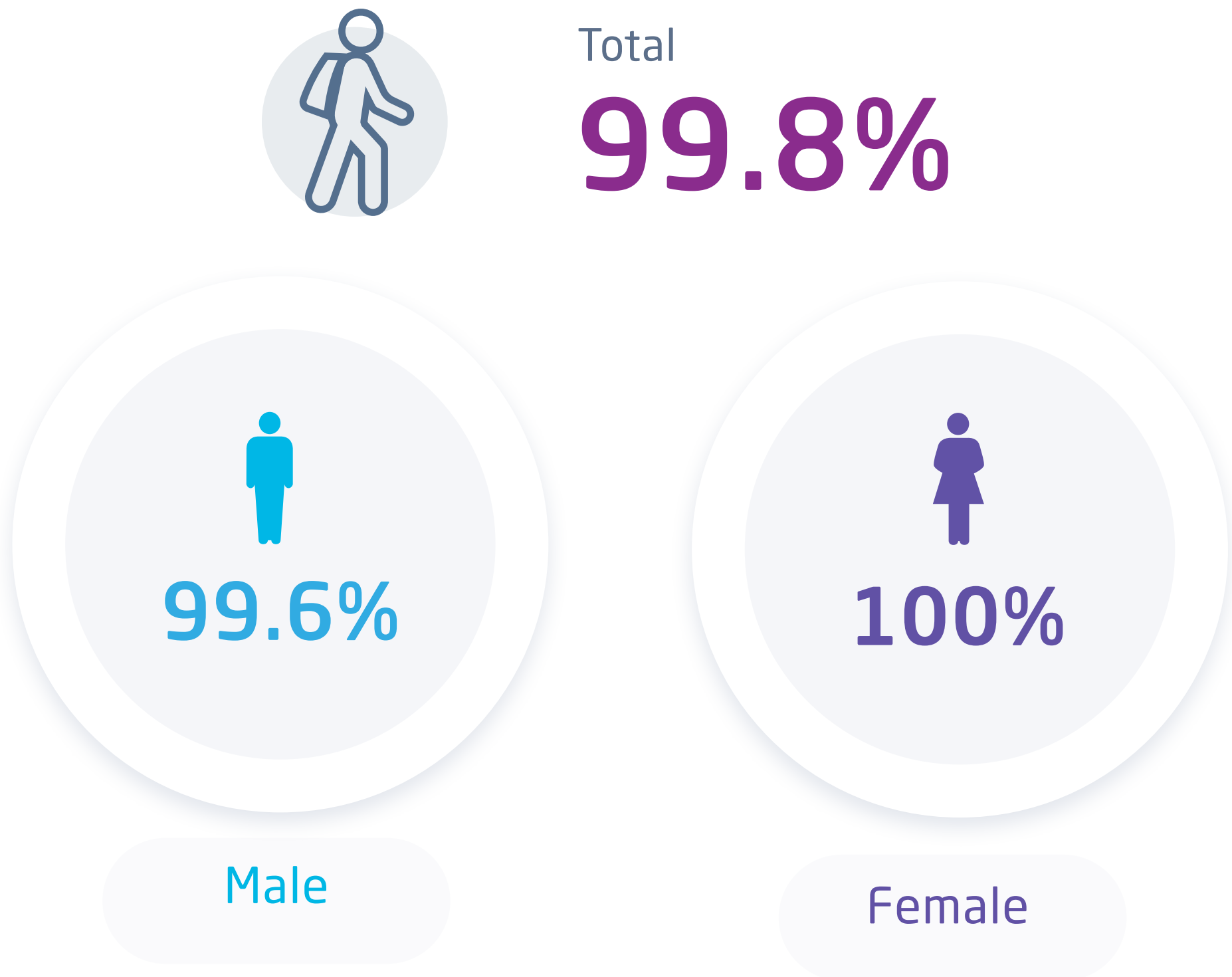
## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth (15-34 years) according to type of difficulties they encounter while studying by gender, 2019



Source : General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

The majority of Saudi youth encounters no difficulties while studying, about 68% of both males and females chose this answer.

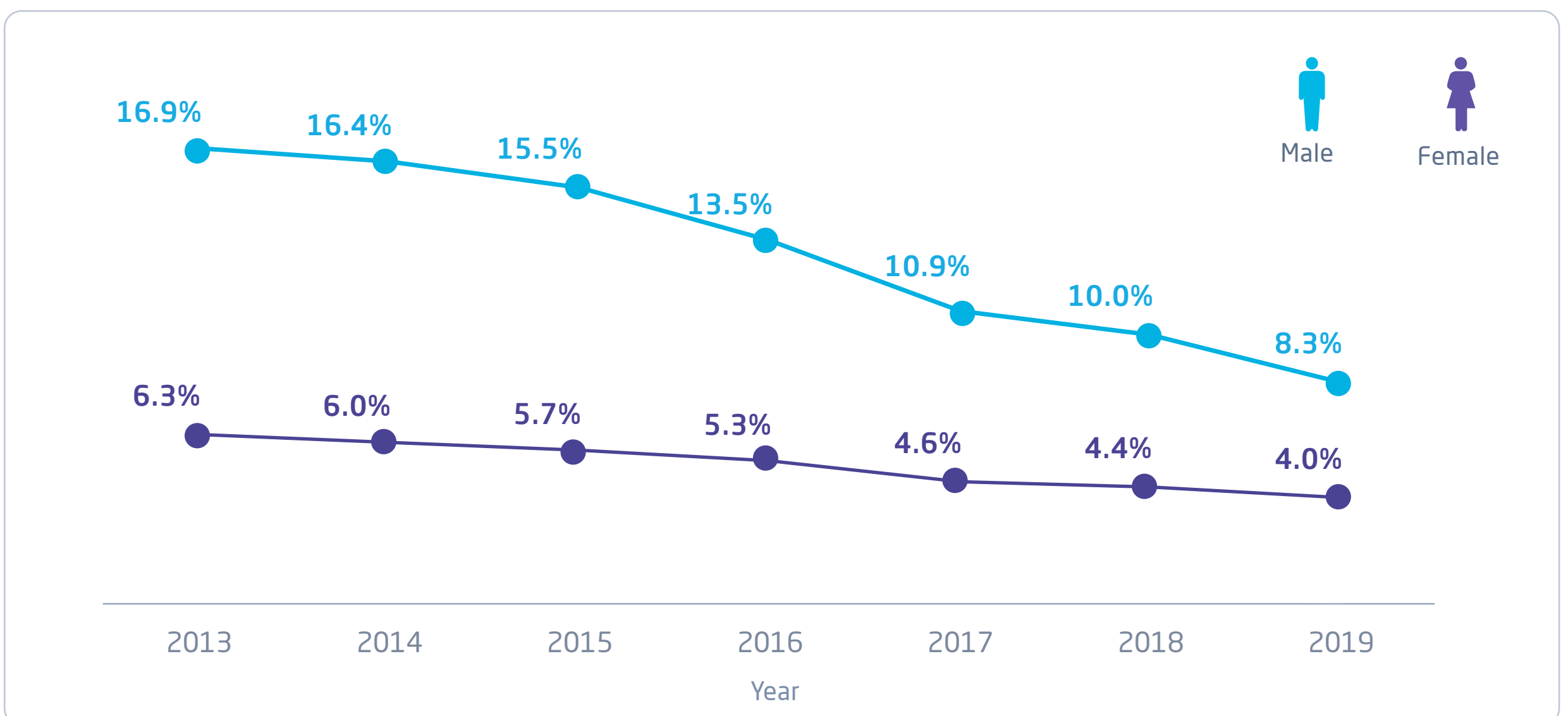
## Saudi transition rate in secondary education\* by gender, 2019



Source : Ministry of Education 2019

The transition rate in secondary education is 100% for females.

## Saudi outbound mobility ratio\*\*, from 2013 to 2019



Source : Ministry of Education 2019

Both genders experienced a decline in outbound mobility ratio. However, the males' ratio was drastically declining while the females' was steadier.

\* Transition rate is the number of students admitted to the first grade of a higher level of education in a given year, expressed as a percentage of the number of students enrolled in the final grade of the lower level of education in the previous year.

\*\*Outbound mobility ratio Number of students from a given country studying abroad as a percentage of the total tertiary enrolment in that country.





موهبة

King Abdulaziz and His Companions Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity is a "Talent" national, non-profit organization that aims to discover and nurture talented and creative people in scientific fields of national priority.

## Achievements of talented Saudi students, 2019



## International and Regional Competitions

69  
Participants



47  
Awards

## National Olympiad for Scientific Innovation



Source : King Abdulaziz and His Companies Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity 2019



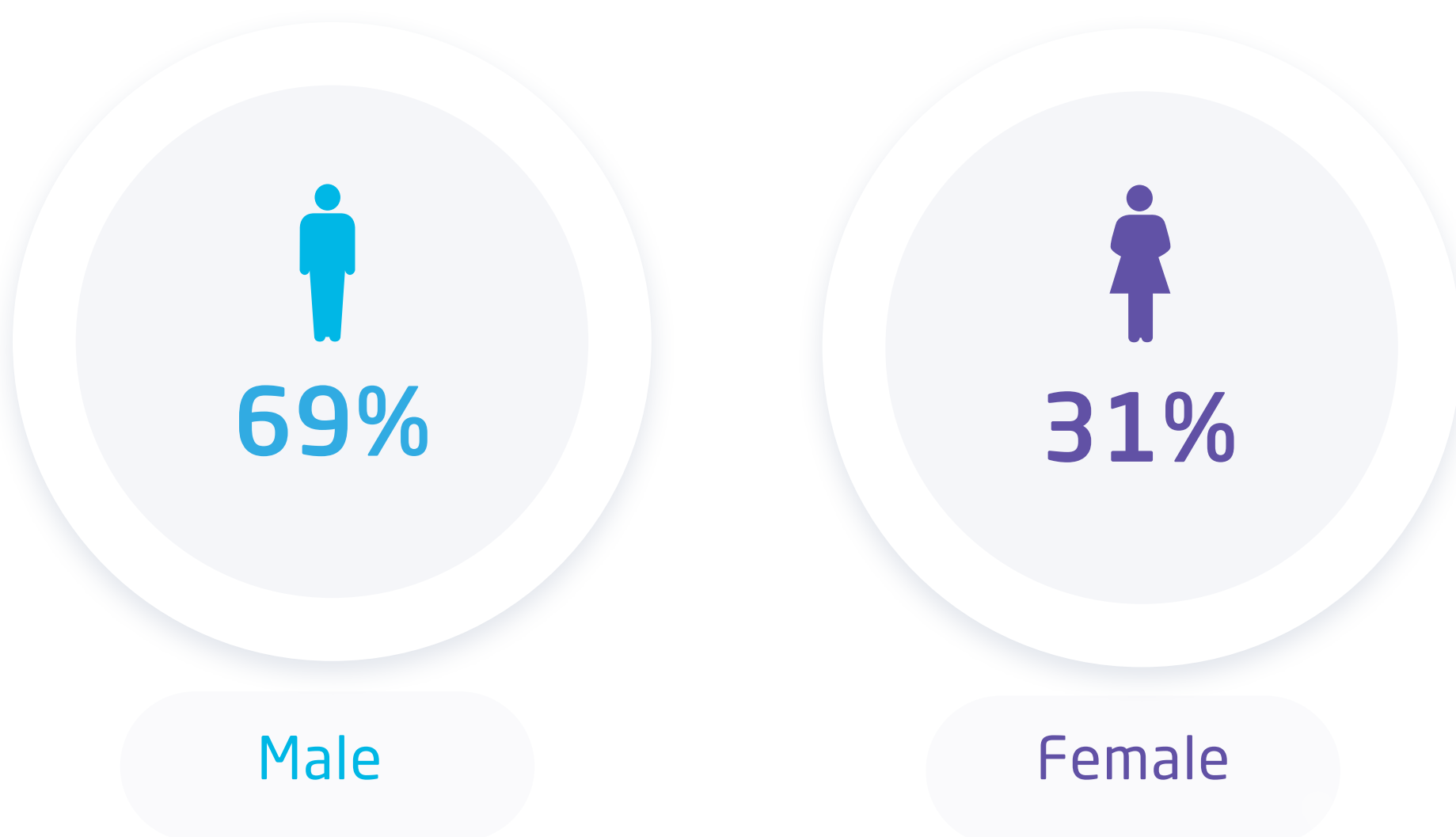
# Economy

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In 2019, 1,489,520 workers in the labor force were young Saudis within the ages of 15-34 years with percentage of 47% out of total Saudi workers.

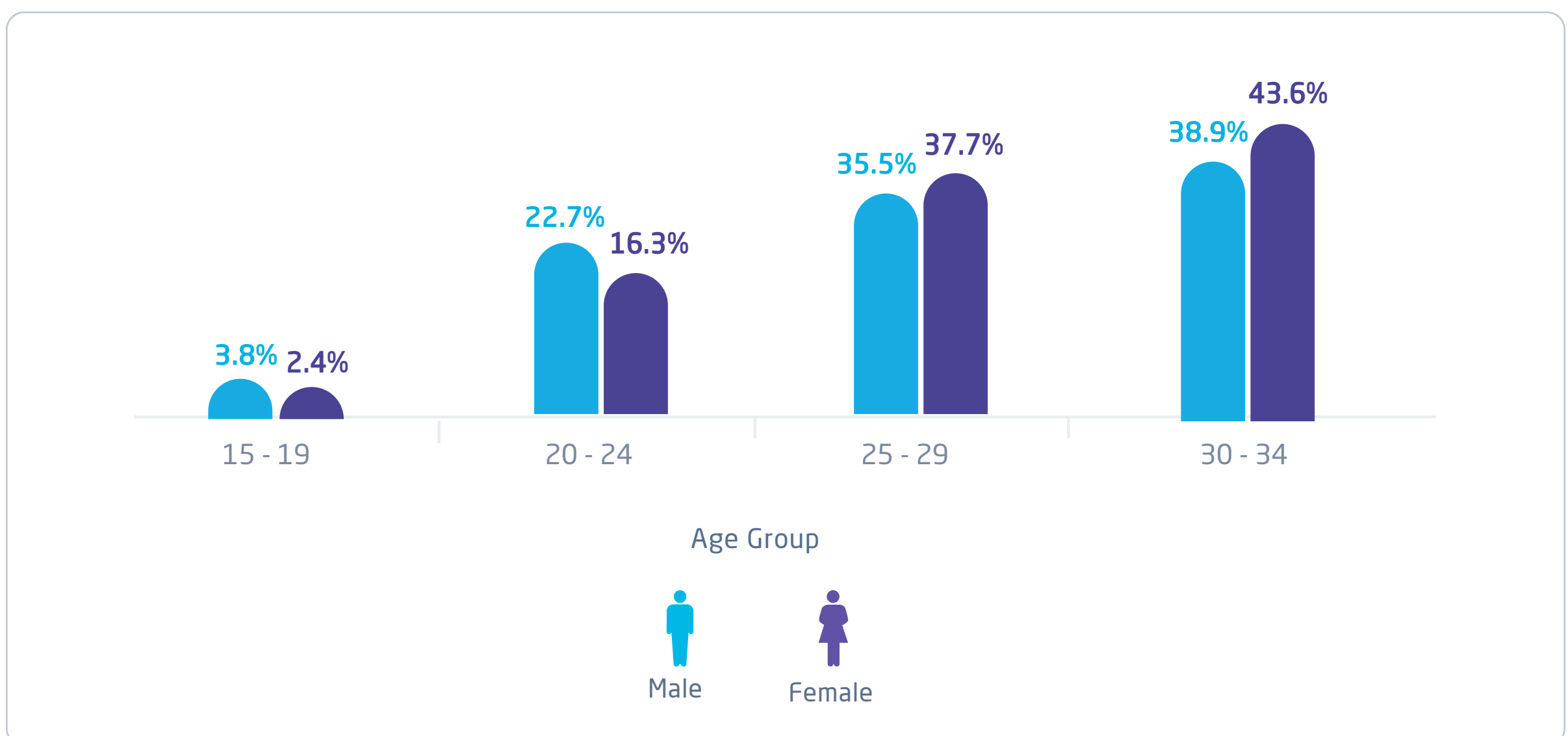
### Percentage distribution of Saudi youth workers (15-34 years) by gender, 2019



Source: General Organization for Social Insurance, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development (Primary Data) Q4 2019

Saudi youth workers by gender shows that 2 out of 3 workers are males.

### Saudi youth employed (15-34 years) by gender and age group, out of total Saudi youth employed population, 2019

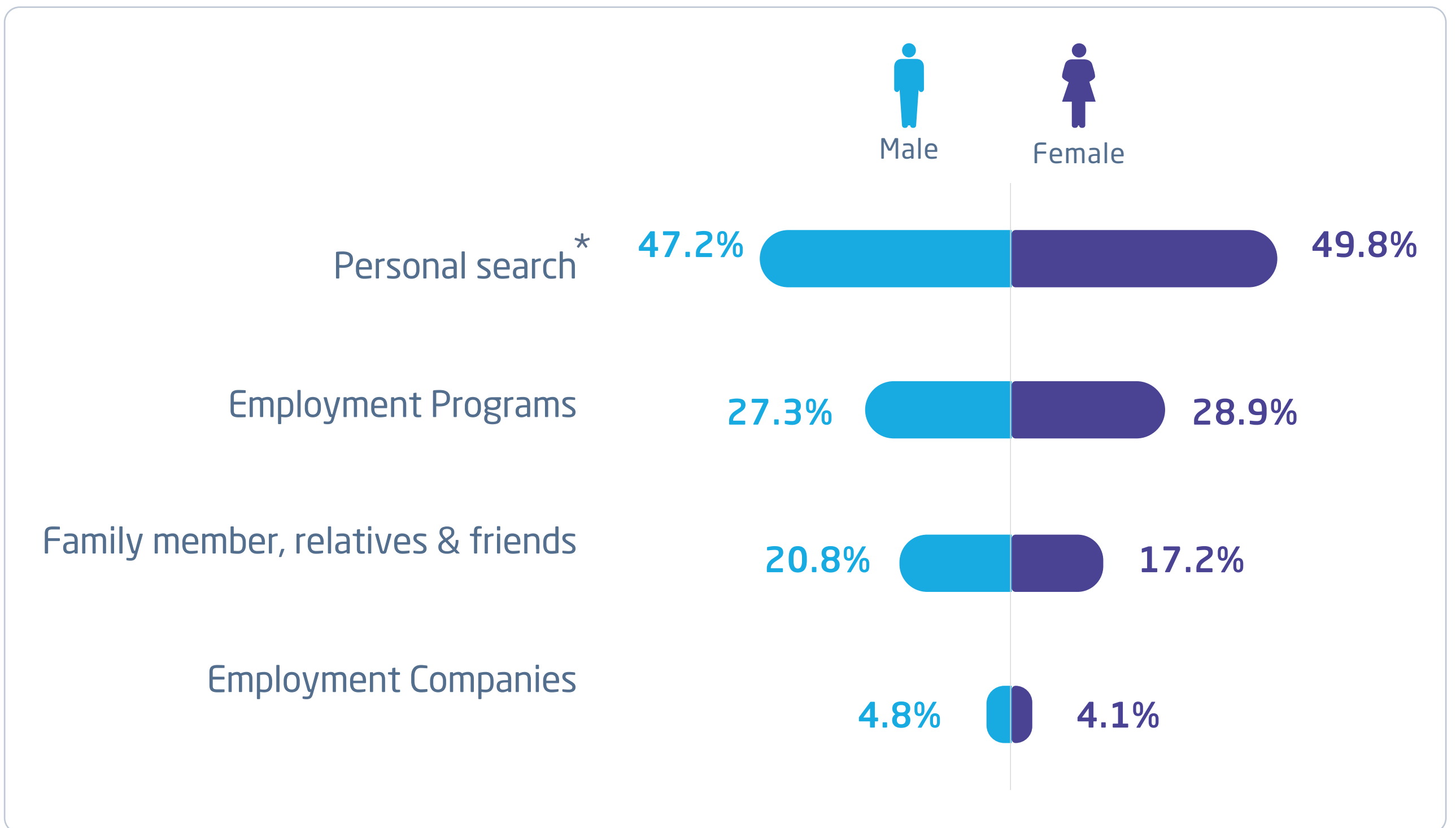


Source: General Organization for Social Insurance, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development (Primary Data) Q4 2019

Most employed females are within the age group (30-34 years). Likewise, most employed males are of the same age group.



## Shares of methods to find a job applied by gender (15- 34 years), 2019

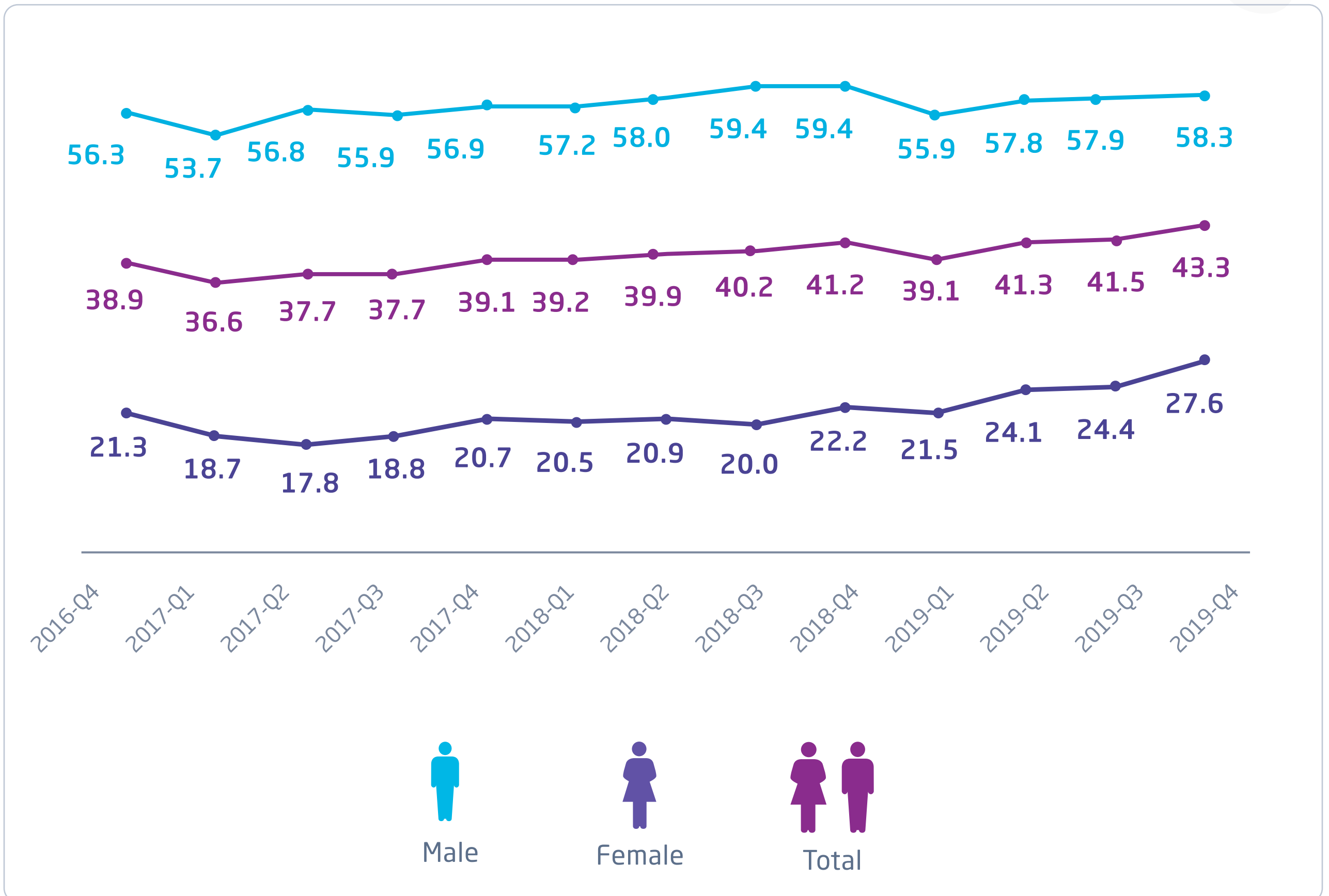


Source : General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

Males and females found their latest jobs through personal search with 47.2% and 49.8%, respectively.

\*Personal search: is a way to find job through direct submission to entities, social media offers or online job offers.

## Saudi youth labor force participation rate\* in %, (15-34 years) from Q4 (2016) to Q4 (2019)



Source : General Authority of Statistics, Labor Force Survey 2016-2019

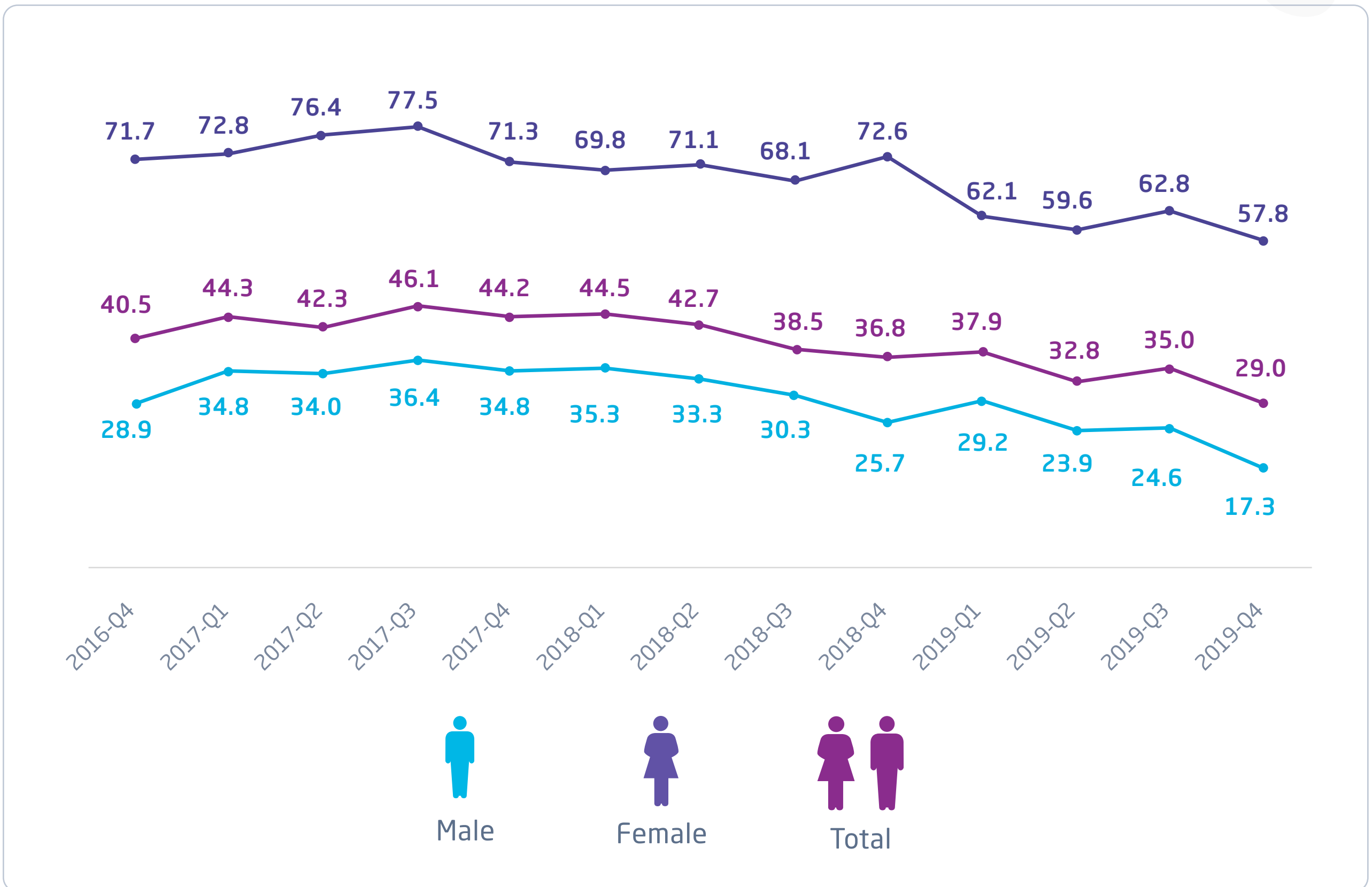
Over the past 4 years, young Saudi labor force participation rate has increased by 4.4 percentage points. This increment is due to the increase in the participation rate of females which was 6.3 percentage points compared to 2 percentage points for males.



This is credited to the Vision 2030's goal of increasing the females participation rates by creating more job opportunities in the job market for females. However, the participation rate of young Saudi females is still less than half the participation rate of young Saudi males.

\*Labor force participation rate is an indicator that measures the participation of the working-age population (15-34 years) in the labor force as employed or unemployed individuals, which is the ratio of the labor force to the population aged 15-34 years.

## Saudi Youth Unemployment rate\* in %, (15-24 years) from Q4 (2016) to Q4 (2019)



Source : General Authority of Statistics, Labor Force Survey 2016-2019

During the past four years, the unemployment rate for Saudi youth decreased by 11.5 percentage points. The decrease in females' unemployment rate was higher than males ( 13.9 and 11.6 percentage points, respectively ) as a result of government efforts to empower young Saudi women in their working fields. However, the unemployment rate for females is higher than three times the unemployment rate for males.

\*Unemployment rate: It is an indicator that measures people who are unemployed at the working-age population (15 +) and who are part of in the labor force. It is calculated as a ratio of the unemployed to the labor force.

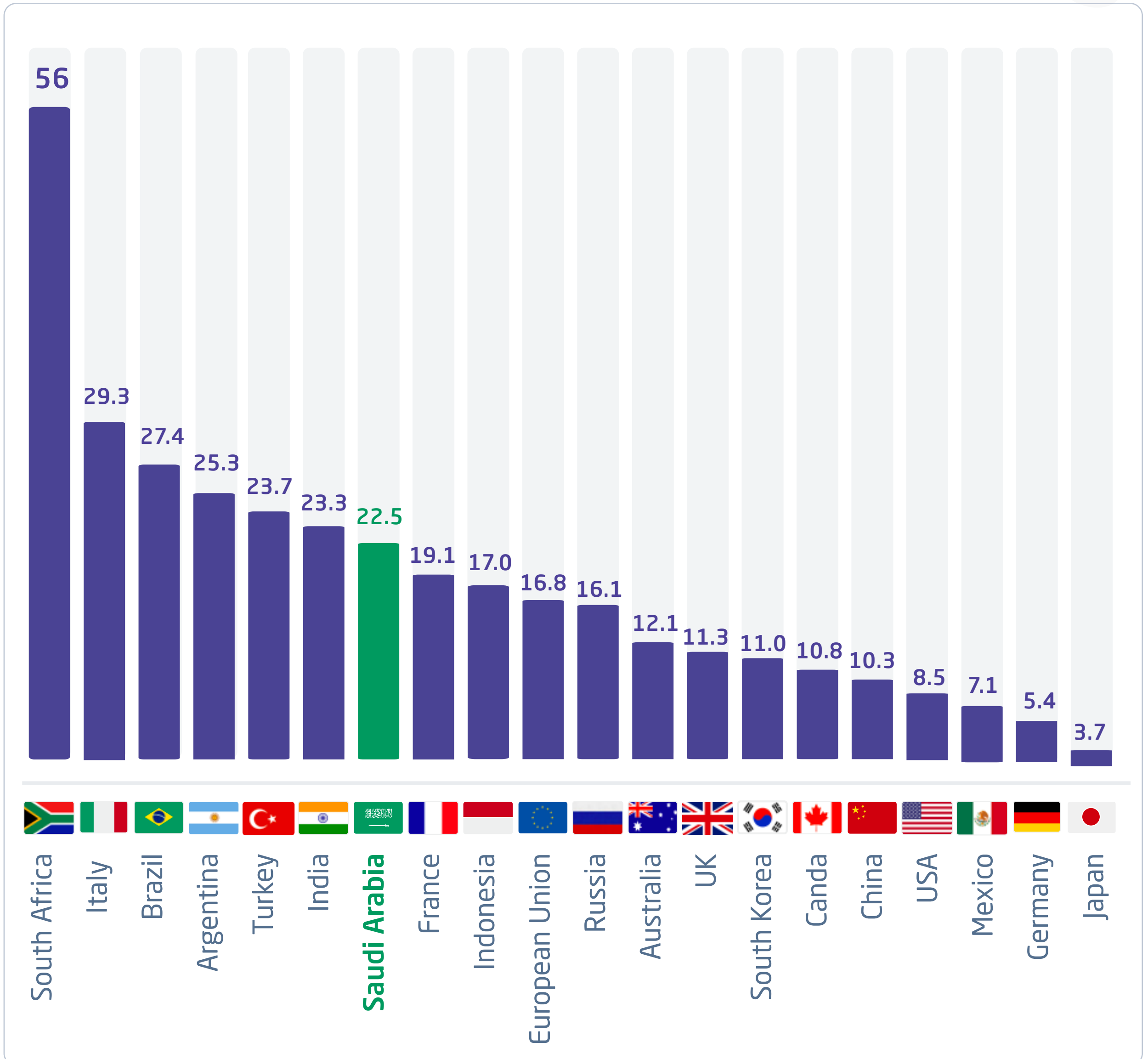
Unemployed individuals: Individuals (15 years and above) who were:

- 1- Without a job in the week preceding the household visit.
- 2- Seriously looking for work during the four weeks preceding the household visit (and have followed at least one method to look for a job). This category also includes those who did not search for work because they were waiting to start an already agreed job or because they want to set up their own business since.
- 3- People who were able to work and ready to join whenever necessary during the week preceding the household visit or the next two weeks.





## Youth Unemployment rate in % (15-24 years) in Saudi Arabia\* compared to the G20 countries , 2019



Source: General Authority of Statistics, Labor Force Survey 2019




Source: World Bank 2019



**The unemployment rate in Saudi Arabia** - Saudi and non Saudi- was 22.5%. However, once the non Saudis were excluded, the rate rose to 29% for only Saudis which is considered to be high amongst G20 countries.

\* For both Saudis and non Saudis.

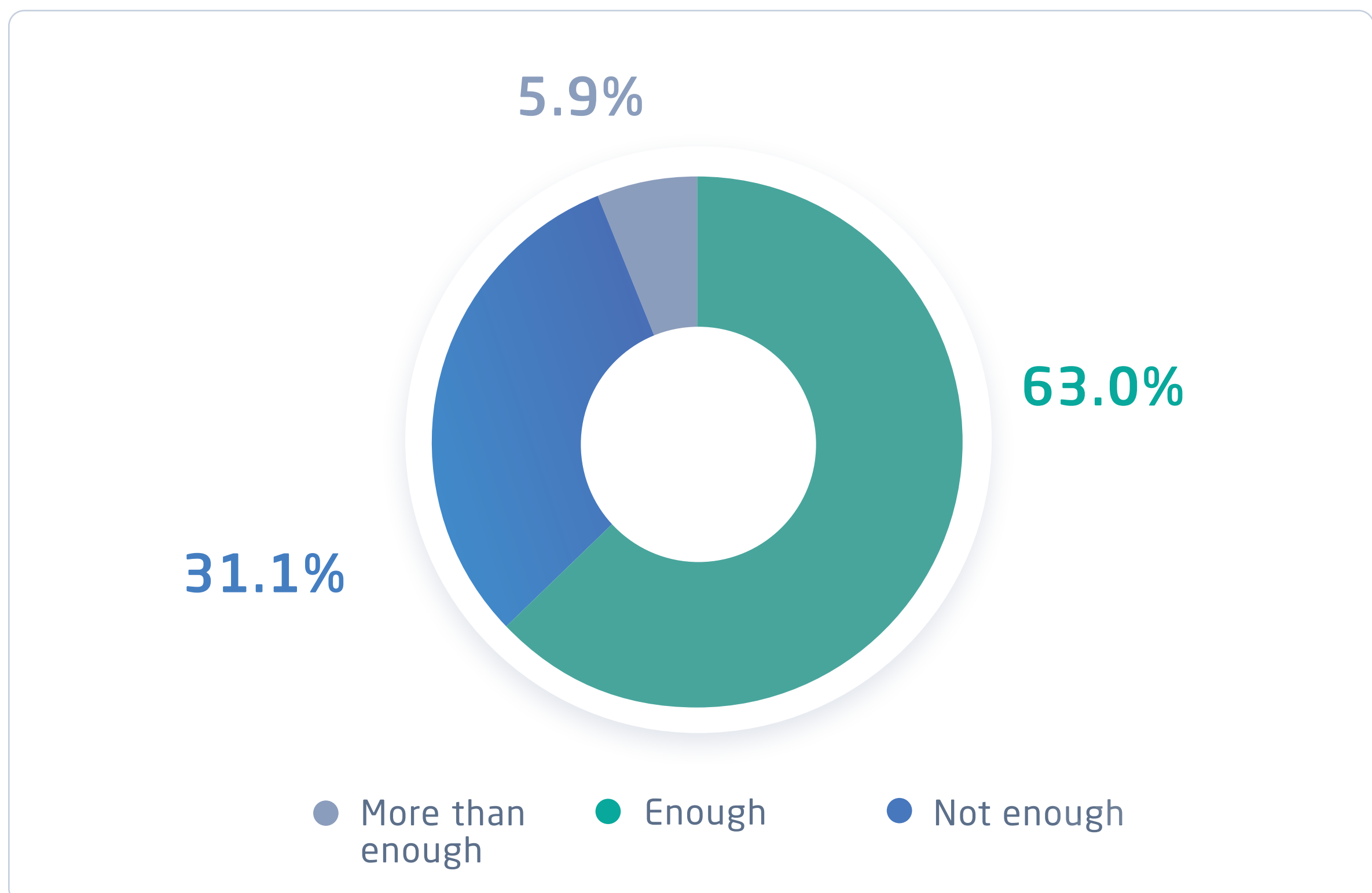
## Average monthly income for youth with income\* by gender, 2018 (SAR)

Income Level**	Male	Female	Total
 Low income	924.8	889.1	907.8
 Middle income	5,311.4	4,767.4	5,222.5
 High Income	11,469.0	10,877.9	11,397.7

Source : General Authority of Statistics, Household Expenditure And Income Survey 2018

The average monthly income for males and females with income is close at all income levels, with a highest gap of almost 10% in favor of males in the middle income.

## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth (15-34 years) who have monthly income by degree of its adequacy to meet financial obligations, 2019



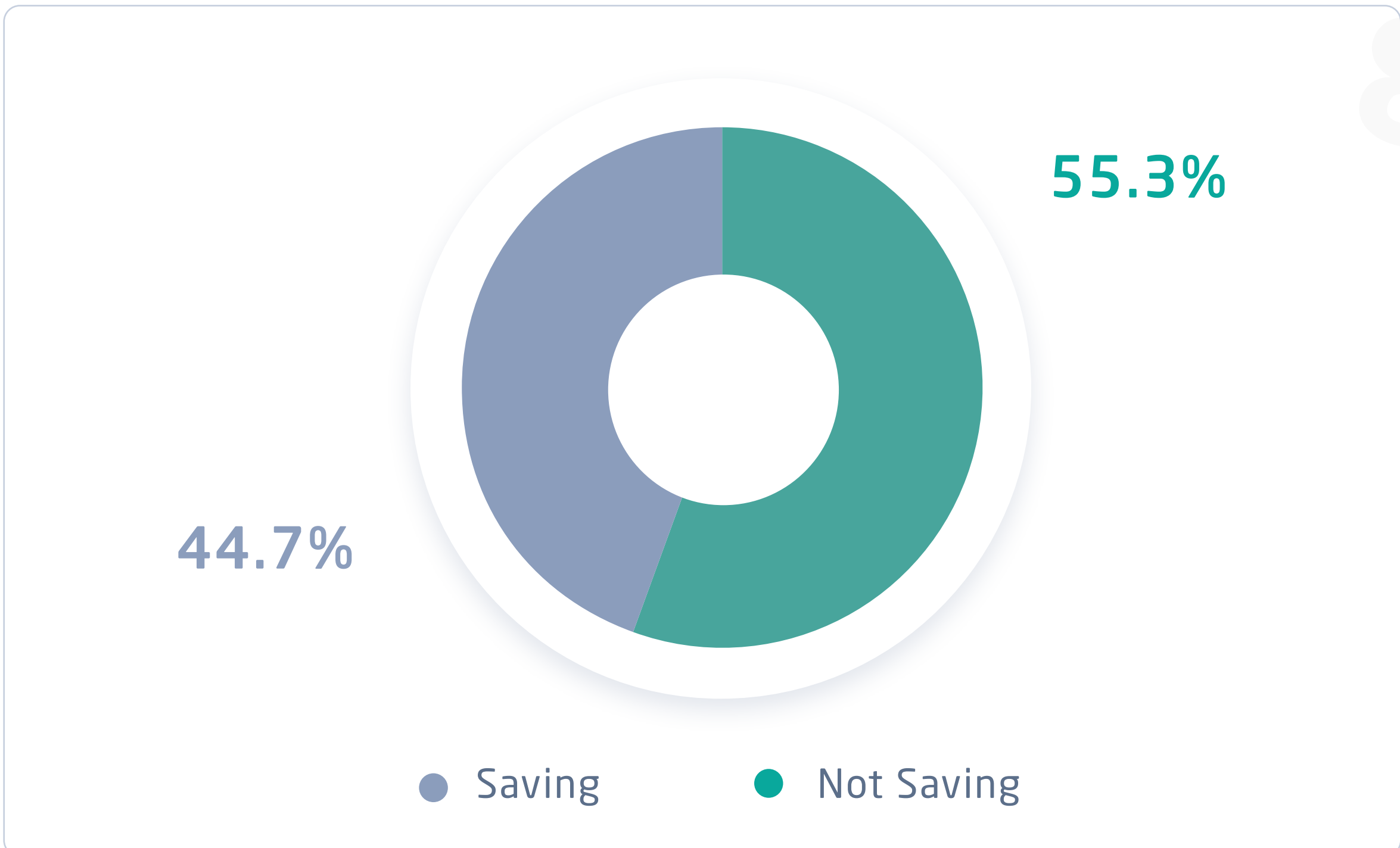
Source : General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

About two third of Saudi youth (63.0%) find their monthly income sufficient enough to meet financial obligations.

\* Individuals with income, refers to all individuals who have any kind of income (It also includes individuals who do not work and have source of income from aid, for example, transfers, dividends, rental income, or other types of revenue, and so on).

\*\*Low income refers to income less than or equal to 30 percentile of incomes in Saudi Arabia; middle income refers to income between 40 to 70 percentile of incomes in Saudi Arabia; high income refers to income more than or equal to 80 percentile of incomes in Saudi Arabia.

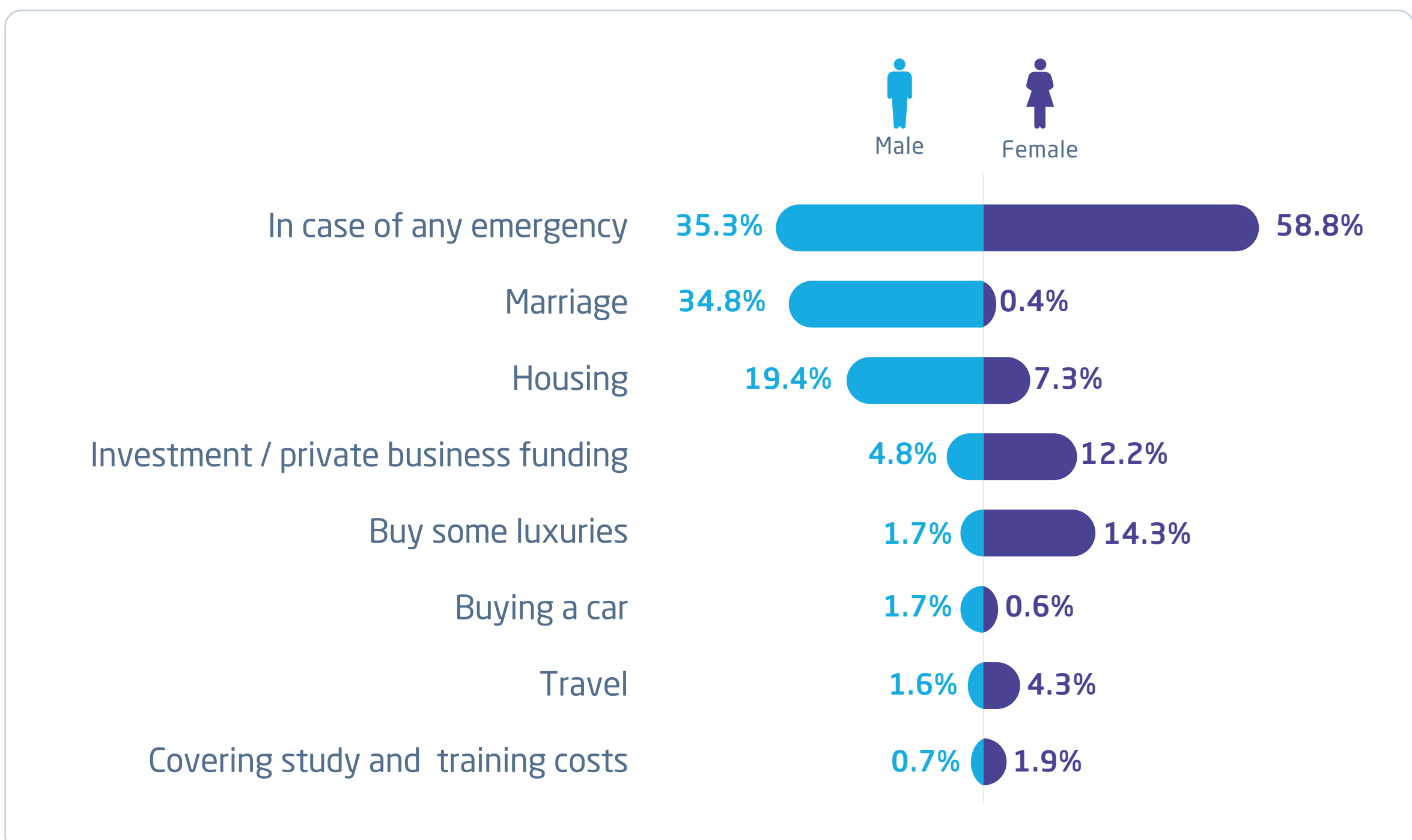
## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth (15-34 years) who have monthly income by saving situation, 2019



Source :General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

The majority of Saudi youth (55,3%) do not save from their monthly income.

## Distribution of saving reasons for Saudi youth (15-34 years) by gender, 2019

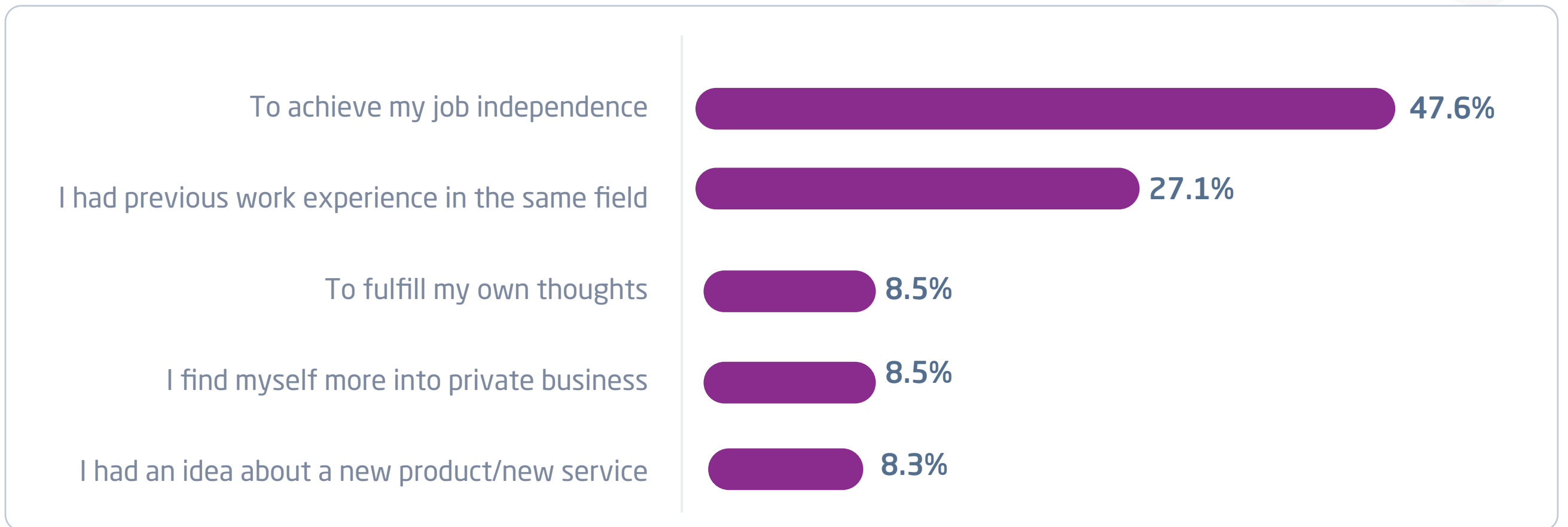


Source : General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

Saving for emergency was the most reason of saving for females and males with (58.8%) and (35.3%) respectively.



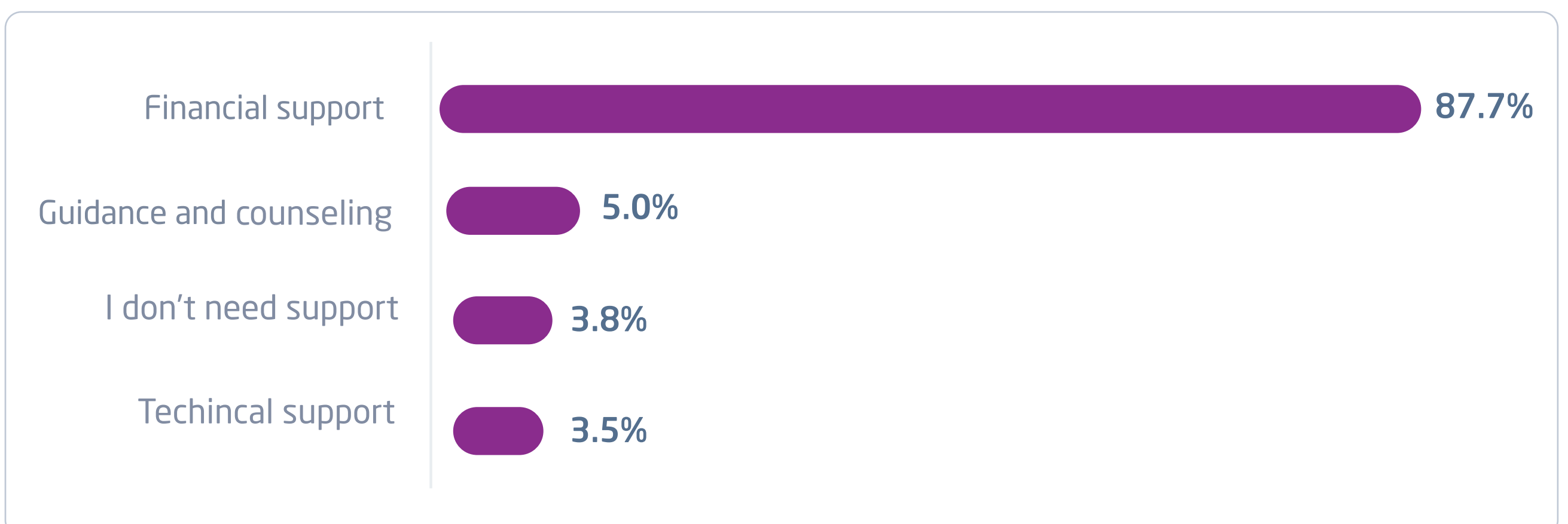
## Distribution of incorporation reasons chosen by Saudi youth (15-34 years), 2019



Source : General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

Most of the Saudi youth population own private enterprises to achieve job independence (47.6%).

## Distribution of types of support that Saudi youth (15-34 years) need to develop their businesses, 2019



Source : General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

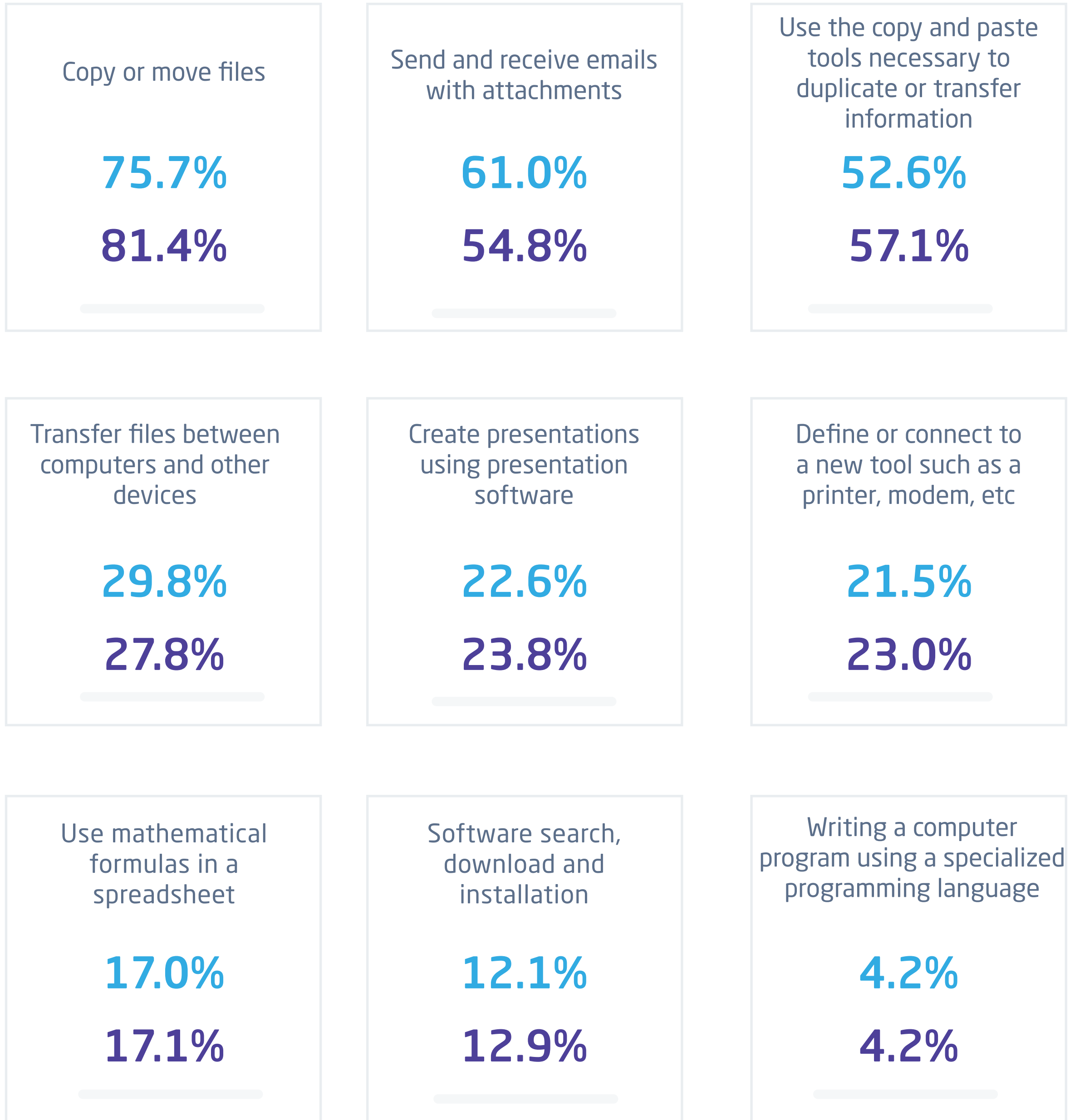
Majority of Saudi youth who own private businesses need financial support in order to further develop their businesses (87.7%).



# Telecommunication



## Percentage of Saudi youth (15-34 years) and the activities that they practice through computer by gender, 2019



Male



Female

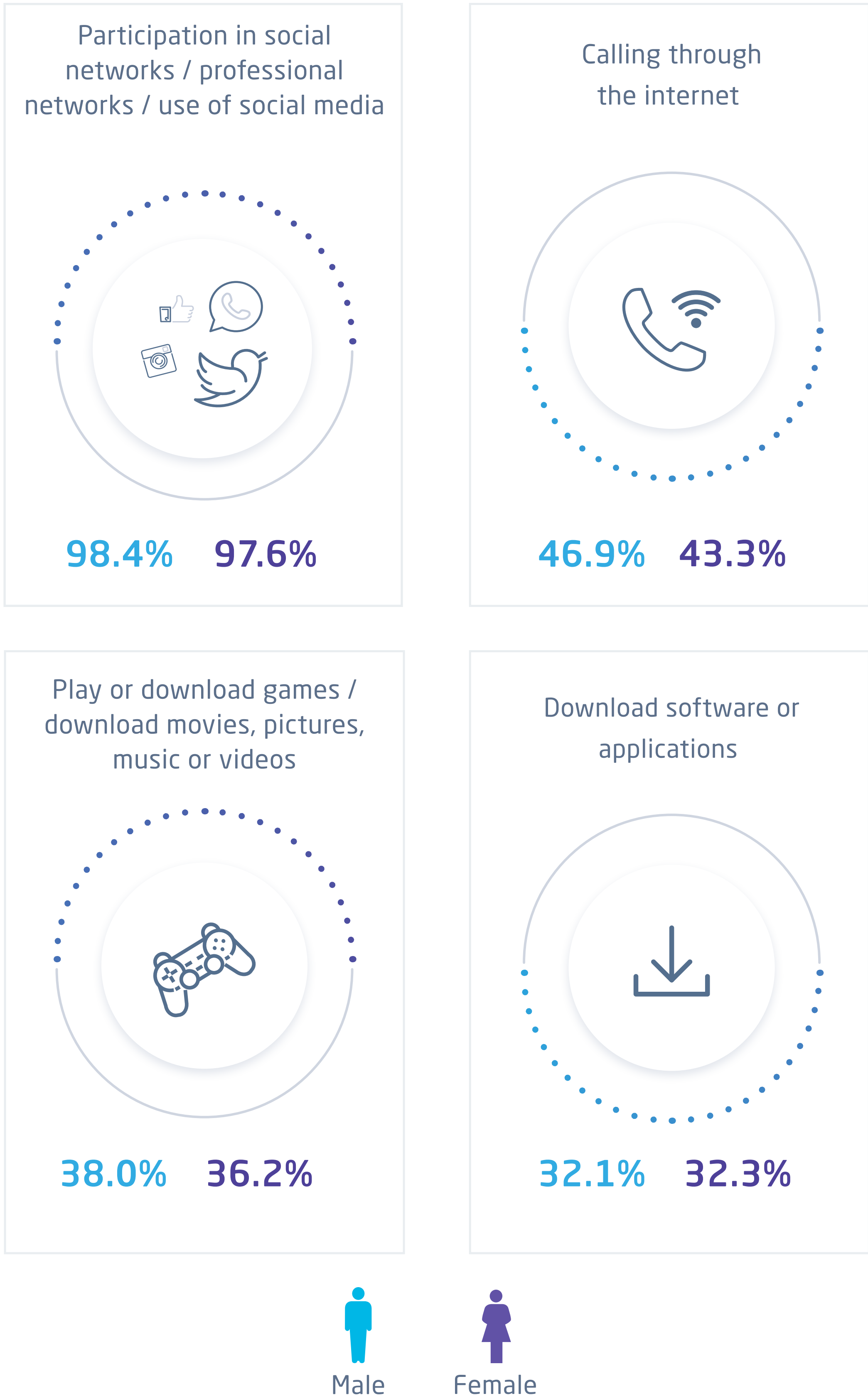
**Note:** The applicant can pick more than one answer.

**Source :** General Authority of Statistics, Households and Individuals' ICT Access and Usage Survey, 2019





## Percentage of the most internet activities chosen by Saudi youth (15-34 years) by gender, 2019

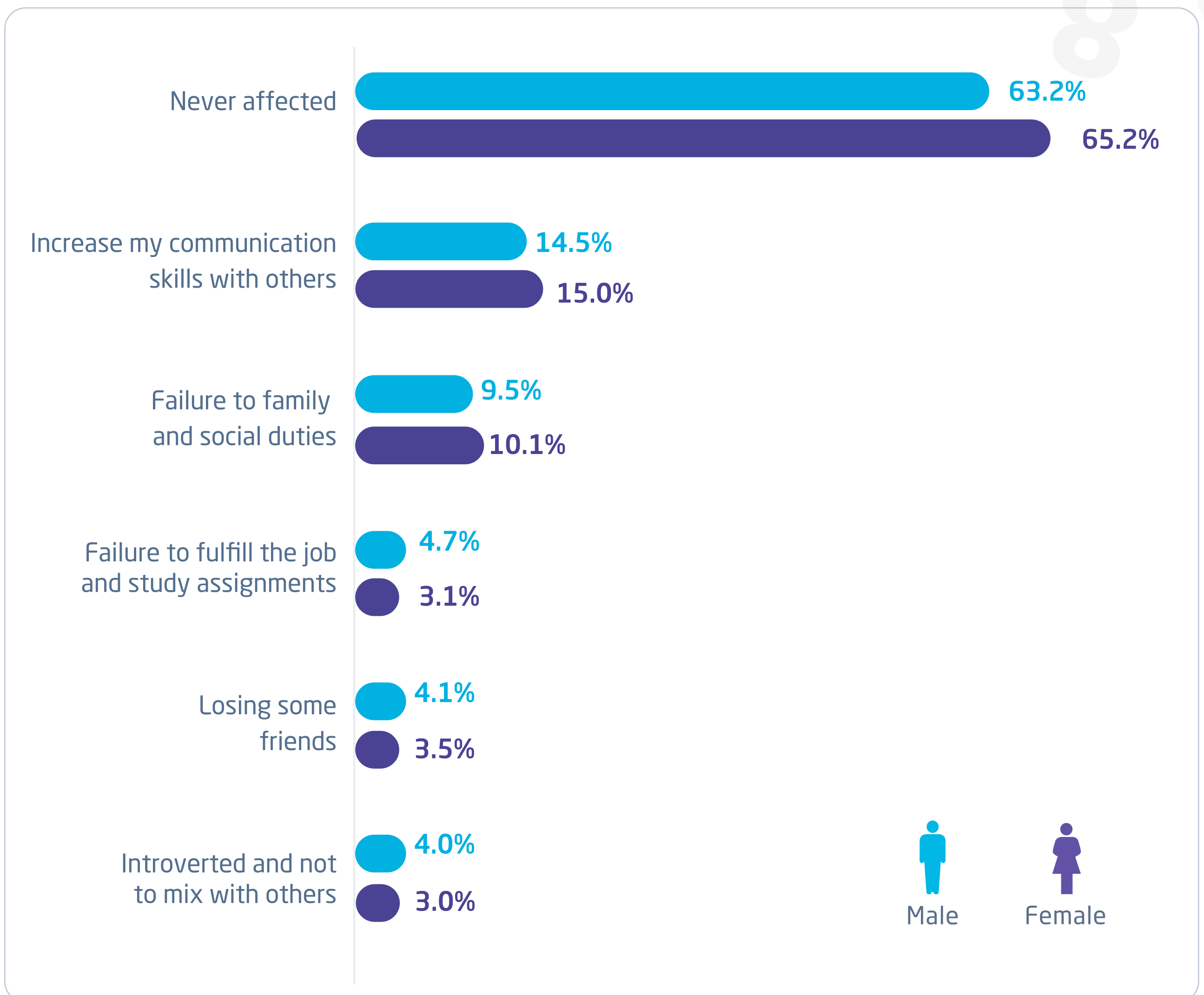


**Note:** The applicant can pick more than one answer. The displayed activities are the highest four.

**Source :** General Authority of Statistics, Households and Individuals' ICT Access and Usage Survey, 2019



## Percentage distribution of Saudi youth (15-34 years) who use social media, by impact of social networks on their actual lives and gender, 2019



Source :General Authority of Statistics, Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019

A large percentage of both males (63.2%) and females (65.2%) answered that there is no effect of social networking on their actual life . The second most common answer was for the positive effect, with 14.5% of males and 15.0% of females choosing that it helped in increasing their communication skills with others.



# Youth and Covid-19 pandemic

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## CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Confirmed cases of the Coronavirus among Saudi youth (15-34 years), for Q2, 2020



Confirmed

**36,909**

Total



**21,415**

Male



**15,494**

Female



Recovered

**22,205**

Total



**13,042**

Male



**9,163**

Female



Deaths

**16**

Total



**9**

Male



**7**

Female

**Note :** Total recovered cases are from the beginning of the pandemic until 30th of June 2020

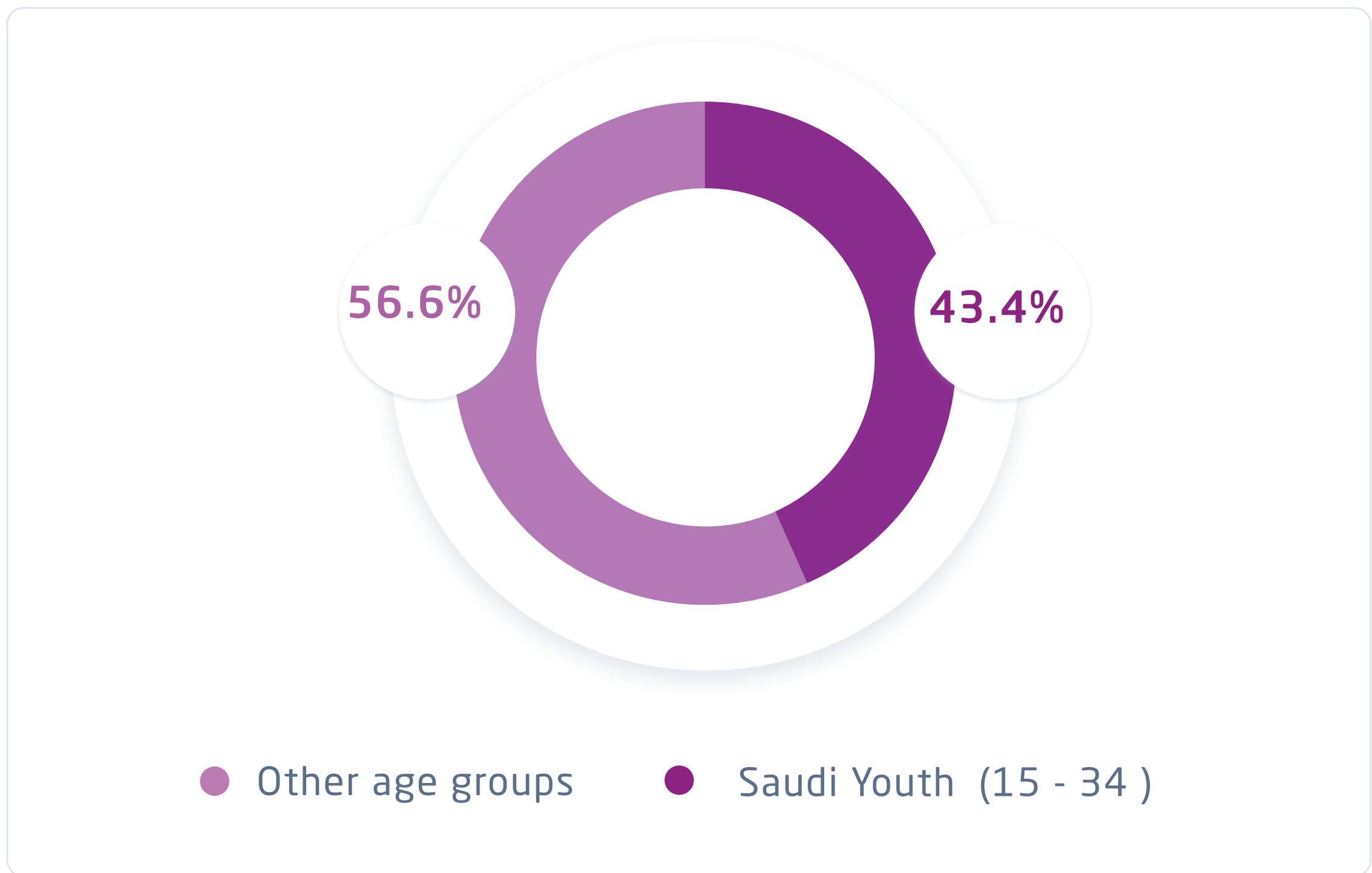
**Source :** Ministry of Health 2020

Covid-19 poses a lower risk to youth ( 15-34 years ) compared to other population groups. This is shown by looking at their deaths, where the percentage of youth deaths is 0.04% out of total infected youth cases.



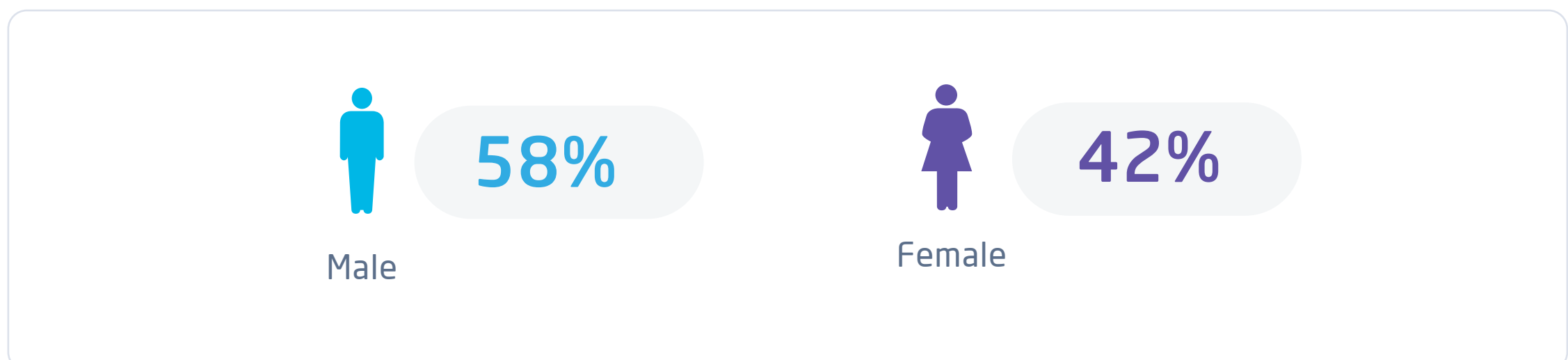
The total confirmed cases of Covid-19 reached 36,909 cases within Saudi youth (15-34 years) in Q2, 2020. They accounted for 43.4% of the total confirmed cases of Saudi population in the same period.

### Percentage Distribution of confirmed cases of Covid-19 for Saudi population in Q2,2020



Source : Ministry of Health 2020

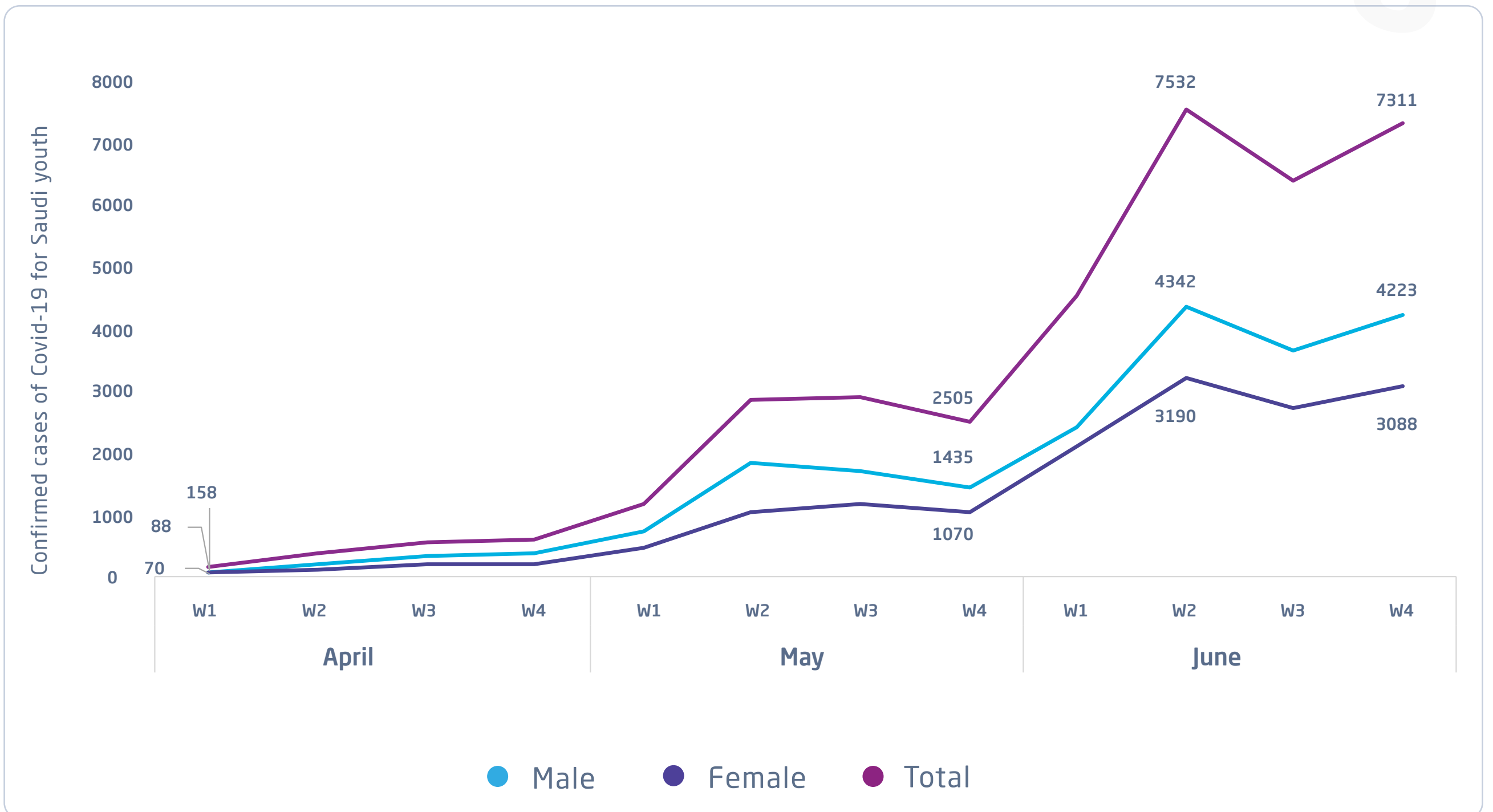
### Percentage Distribution of confirmed cases of Covid-19 for Saudi youth (15-34 years) by gender in Q2, 2020



Source : Ministry of Health 2020

The number of infected cases, within the age group (15-34 years) was higher in males than fe-

## The numbers of confirmed cases of Covid-19 for Saudi youth (15-34 years) in Q2, 2020 (in weeks)



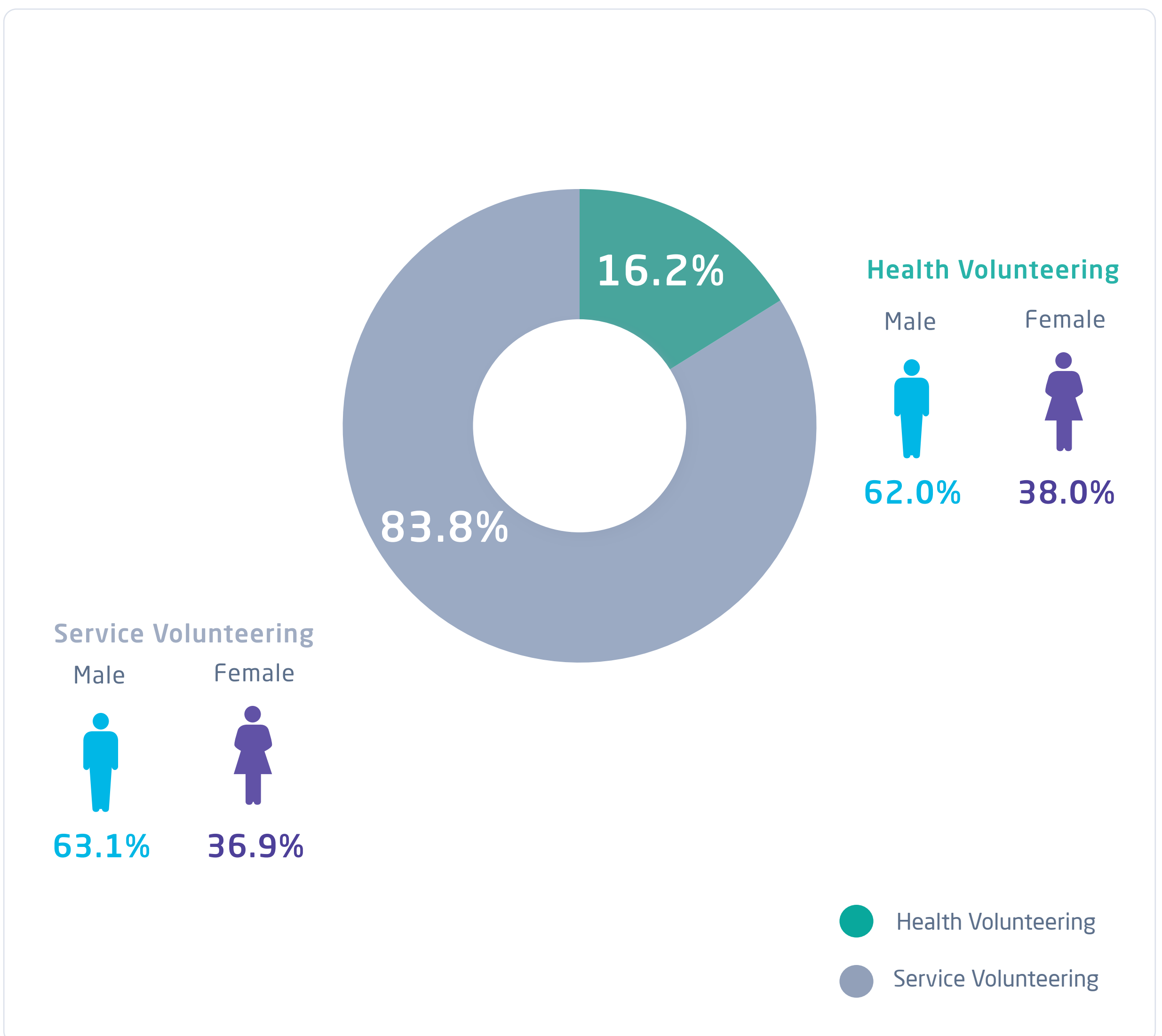
Source : Ministry of Health 2020

The number of total cases among young Saudi people of the same age group started to increase noticeably from the end of May 2020 to reach its highest peak in the second week of June 2020 as the number of infected reached 7532 cases. This was coincided with the second stage of returning to normal life in Saudi, which included reducing the curfew, lifting the suspension of domestic flights and partially returning to work, in addition to conducting the expanded testing.

## VOLUNTEERING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The number of volunteers in the health volunteering platform to combat the Coronavirus pandemic reached a total of 63,507 Saudi youth volunteers within the age group (15-34 years) in Q2, 2020. They represent 74.7% of the total volunteers.

### Volunteering during Covid-19 Pandemic by type of volunteering and gender, Q2,2020



Source : Ministry of Health 2020





# References

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## References



### | General Authority for Statistics :

- Population Estimates 2020
- Labor Force Survey 2019
- Saudi Youth Development Survey 2019
- Households and Individuals' ICT Access and Usage Survey, 2019
- Household Sports Practice Survey 2019
- Household Expenditure and Income Survey 2018
- Family Health Survey 2018
- Education and Training Survey 2017
- Demographic Survey 2007

### | Administrative Data:

- Ministry of Health 2019-2020
- Ministry of Education 2019
- Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development 2019
- General Organization for Social Insurance 2019
- King Abdulaziz and His Companies Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity 2019



### | Comparison between G20 Indicators and Saudi Arabia :

- World Bank Group
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development





الهيئة العامة للإحصاء  
General Authority for Statistics

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