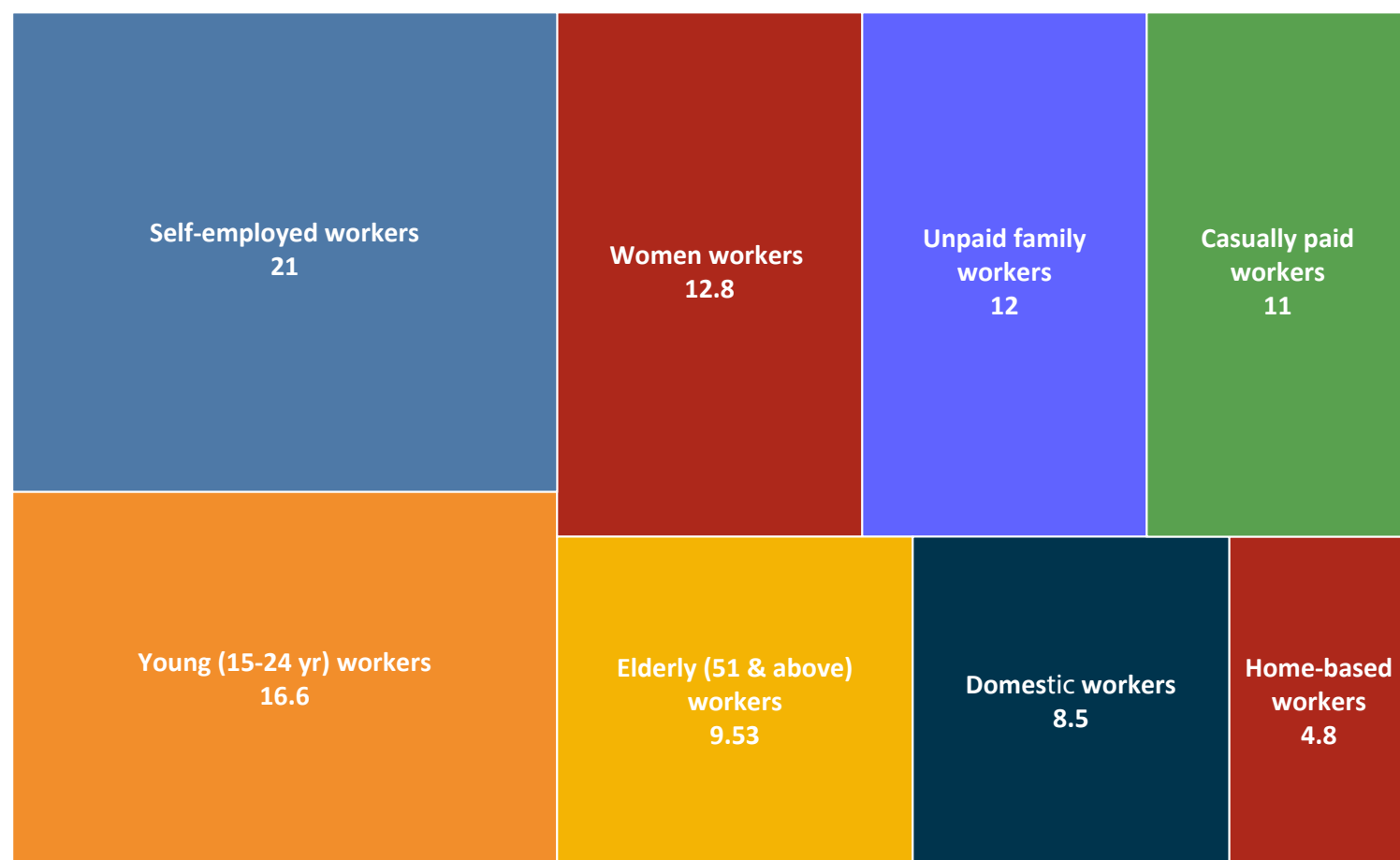


COVID-19 and Labour Market in Pakistan: Employment Analysis

Vulnerable Workers by Type (Millions)



* Please note that the numbers under various types do not add up, given the overlapping nature of these categories. For instance, 12.8 million women are also partly covered under the young, elderly, domestic, unpaid family workers and so on. Still, the figure helps exhibit the key vulnerable groups and their size.

Employment Analysis

Those particularly vulnerable under the current situation are women workers (teachers, care workers, travel and tourism workers), elderly and those with preexisting health conditions, young workers, persons with disabilities, informal economy workers (including domestic workers and home-based workers), casually paid workers (paid on daily, weekly or piece-rate basis), unpaid family workers, and self-employed workers like street vendors, taxi drivers and gig workers engaged with different digital labour platforms.

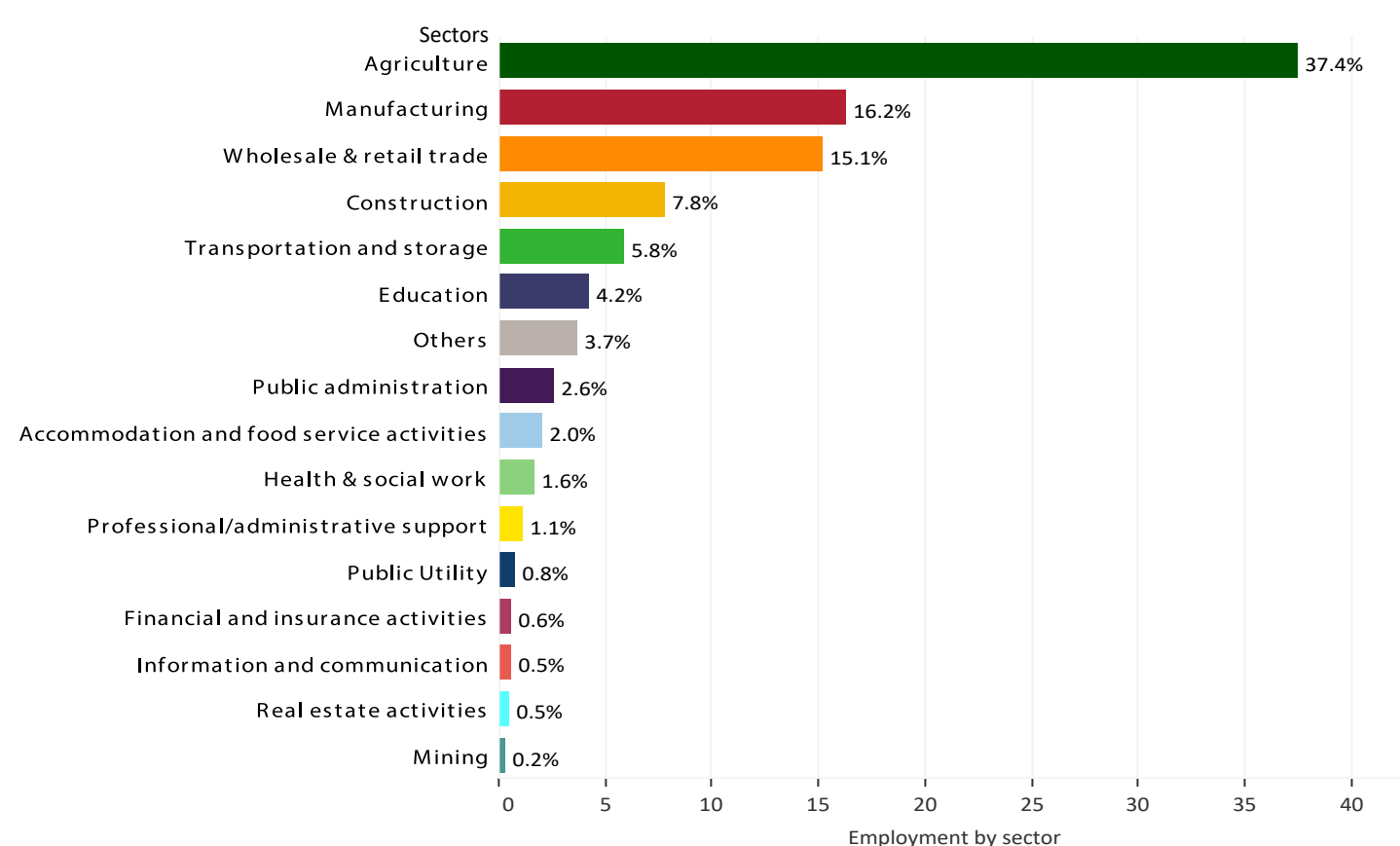
The gig or platform economy workers, especially those providing geographically tethered services like transportation (Uber and Careem), delivery of items (Bykea) and domestic work (Mauqa, Ghar Par) are worst hit. These digital platforms treat these workers as independent contractors, hence relieving themselves of any employment responsibilities towards these workers. While Government-announced lockdowns in provinces have protected the jobs of “workers” in the formal sector requiring employers to pay full wages and not terminate any, the so-called “independent contractors” do not have access to any of these protections. Research already indicates that domestic workers, delivery persons (couriers), garbage collectors, and janitors, all part of the growing gig economy, are at the highest risk of being exposed to coronavirus.

Self-employed workers, especially gig workers, are facing the tough choice between exposure to the pandemic (getting sick and infecting families) and exposure to starvation (by not working and losing income). Self-isolation is a luxury for these workers.

“You’re-On-Your-Own” Economy



Employment by Sector

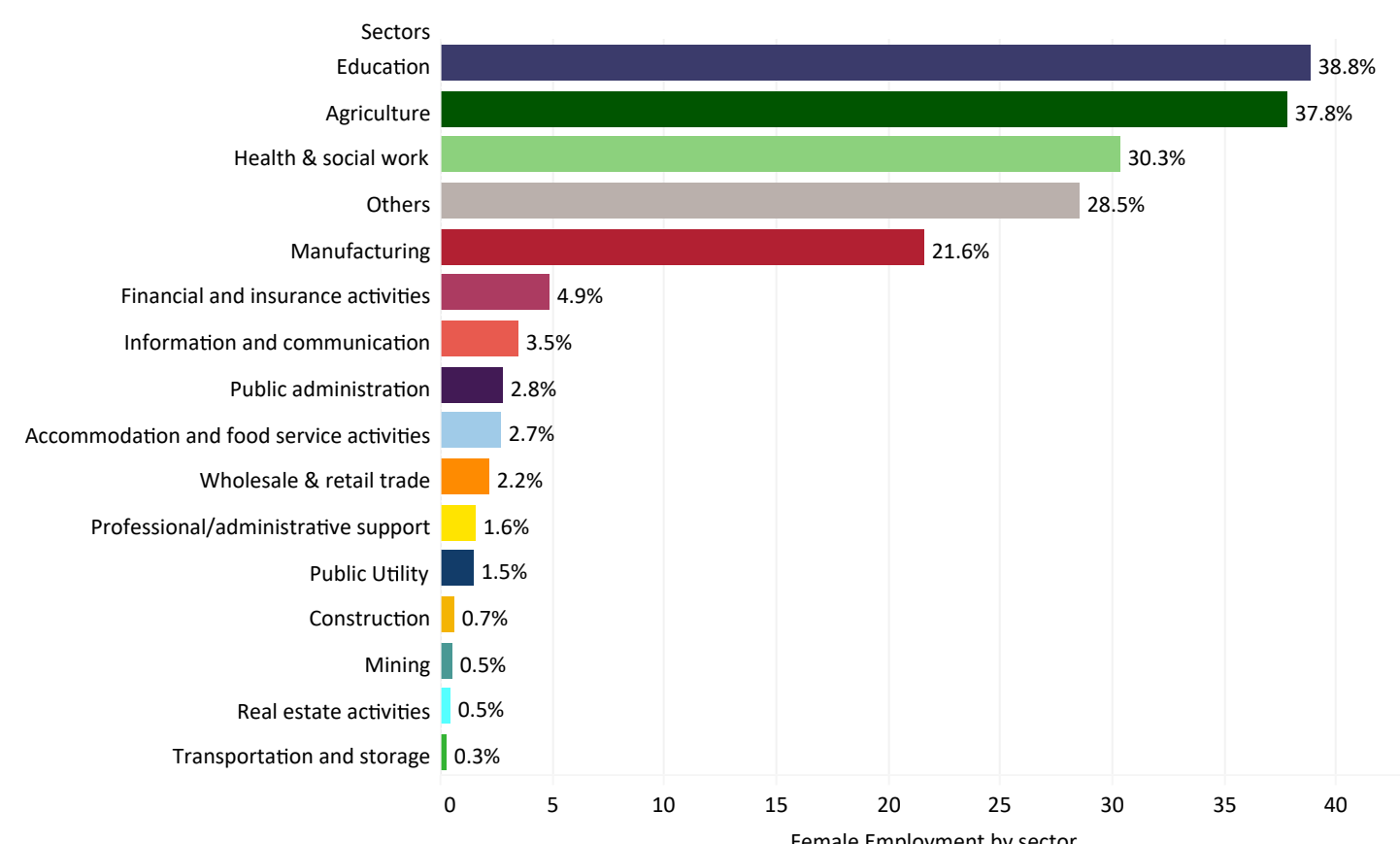


*Agriculture includes agriculture, forestry and fishing

** Public Utility includes electricity & gas, water supply, sewerage, and waste management

*** Others includes activities of household, arts & entertainment, and other service activities

Female Employment by Sector



*Agriculture includes agriculture, forestry and fishing

** Public Utility includes electricity & gas, water supply, sewerage, and waste management

*** Others includes activities of household, arts & entertainment, and other service activities

* Labour Force Survey 2018, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics