

3.1.2. Employment

In 2022, the unemployment rate was 8.4 %, with Khartoum and Central Darfur experiencing 1.5 times higher rates than the national average.[552](#) For 2024, the IMF projected a rate of 58 %.[553](#) South and Central Darfur and North Kordofan showed lower employment rates than the national average.[554](#) The lack of employment and income, as well as the destruction of critical infrastructure, are among the main drivers for the increasing number of civilians joining armed groups.[555](#)

According to the IFPRI and UNDP survey, 39.3 % of heads of households are self-employed, 15.6 % are full-time wage workers, 8.2 % are part-time wage workers, and 18.1 % are unemployed.[556](#) The survey also indicated that self-employment is most common among male household heads (40 %, compared to 28.9 % of female household heads), but female household heads are more likely than male household heads to report no income or employment (36.4 % compared to 16.9 %).[557](#)

- [552](#)

IFPRI and UNDP, The Socioeconomic Impact of Armed Conflict on Sudanese Urban Households: Evidence from a National Urban Household Survey, November 2024, [url](#), p. 1

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