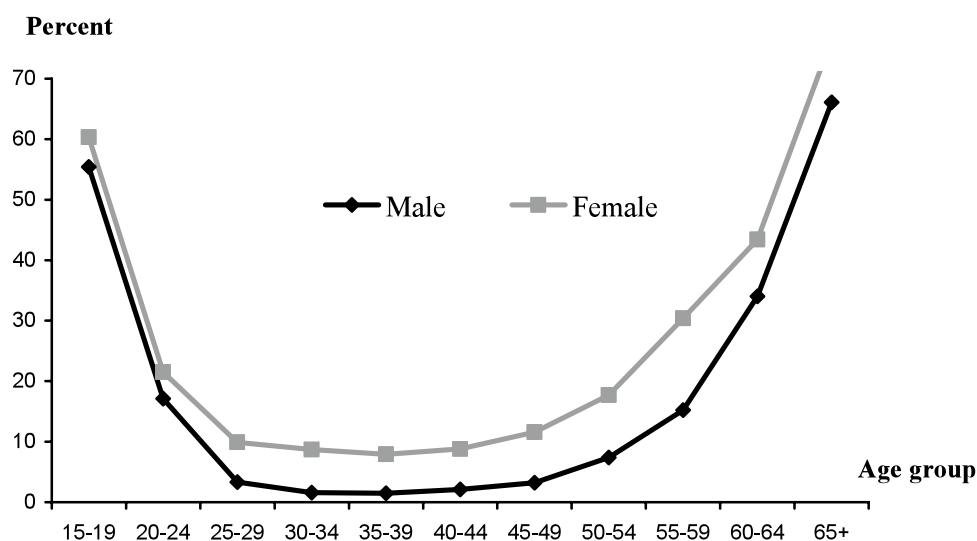


#### **IV. ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE POPULATION**

As of 2010, there were about 14.8 million economically inactive persons aged 15 and over. They formed about 17% of the total population. For the economically inactive population aged 15 and over, females were more than males (61.3% versus 38.7%).

Figure 4.1 presents the proportion of the population who are not economically active by age group and sex. The proportion of the population that is not economically active among women is higher than among men in all age groups, and is the highest in the youngest age group (15-24 years) and the elderly (60 years and older). The gender gap is concentrated in the age groups 25 to 59 years. This is primarily because many women in these age groups are ensuring housework for their families.

FIGURE 4.1: PROPORTION OF ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE POPULATION  
BY AGE GROUP AND SEX IN 2010



In each disaggregation of the number of economically inactive people report the reason for their inactivity as “in school” accounts for the highest share (38.2%), and it is worth noticing that this figure for men is 50.2% while that of female is only 30.7%. This, one again, reveals the gender inequality in the opportunities of learning. Another time, there were 32.3% of women who are economically inactive because they are “busy with housework for their family”. Almost all people reporting housework are women (95.4%). Thus the economically inactive population does not necessarily mean that they are not contributing to society, but in reality a majority of them are preparing their skills to participate in the labour market, another important group are the silent workforce who ensure that “rice is good, soup is delicious” for others in the labour force and their families.

TABLE 4.1: DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE POPULATION  
BY URBAN/RURAL RESIDENCE, SEX AND REASON FOR NOT WORKING IN 2010

*Unit: Percent*

Reason for not working	Total	Residence		Sex		% Females
		Urban	Rural	Male	Female	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>61.3</b>
Pupil/Student	38.2	38.1	38.4	50.2	30.7	49.4
Homemaker	20.8	24.2	18.2	2.5	32.3	95.4
Illness/Disability	7.9	6.0	9.3	11.2	5.9	45.8
Too young/old	27.1	23.4	29.8	27.1	27.1	61.4
Others	5.9	8.3	4.2	9.1	3.9	40.9

A majority (92.2%) of the economically inactive population aged 15 and over have not yet received technical/professional training. This suggests that job training will be a measure on providing more job opportunities to labourers. The share of economically inactive population with no technique and qualification is higher among women than men.

TABLE 4.2: DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE POPULATION  
BY SEX AND TECHNIQUE AND QUALIFICATION IN 2010

*Unit: Percent*

Technique and Qualification	Total	Male	Female	% Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>61.3</b>
No technique and qualification	92.2	89.8	93.7	62.3
Short-term training	1.8	2.4	1.4	48.9
Vocational school	2.4	2.7	2.2	56.6
College	0.9	0.8	0.9	64.2
University and over	2.7	4.2	1.7	38.6