

Women and covid-19: Evidence from Spain

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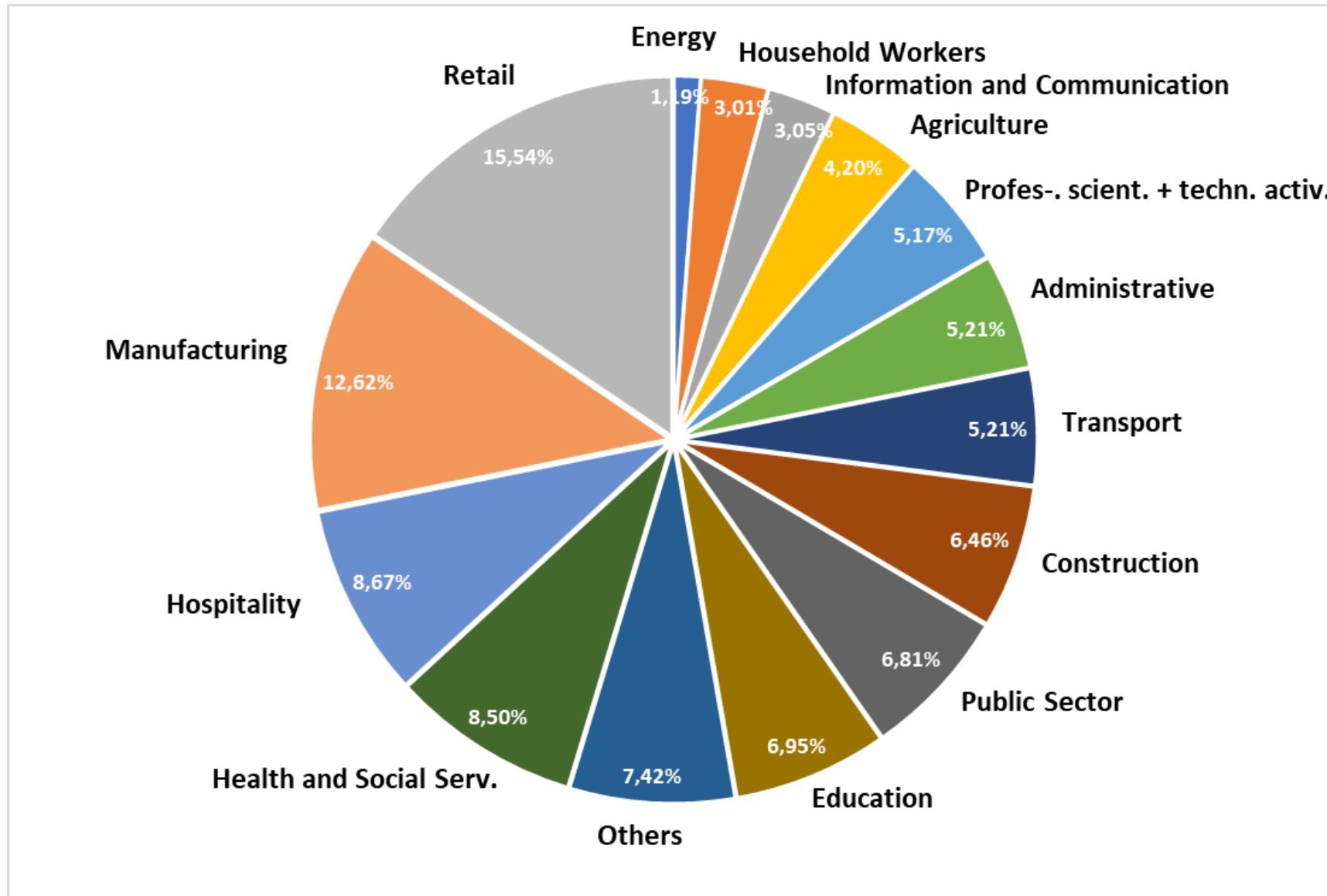
The 2020 shock

- The 2020 lockdown and restrictions led to large drops in employment
 - Concentrated in certain sectors
 - With higher presence of women than sectors more affected in previous recessions
 - From “mancession” to “shecession”
- The role of furloughs
- The role of school closures
- The role of working from home
 - Challenges and opportunities

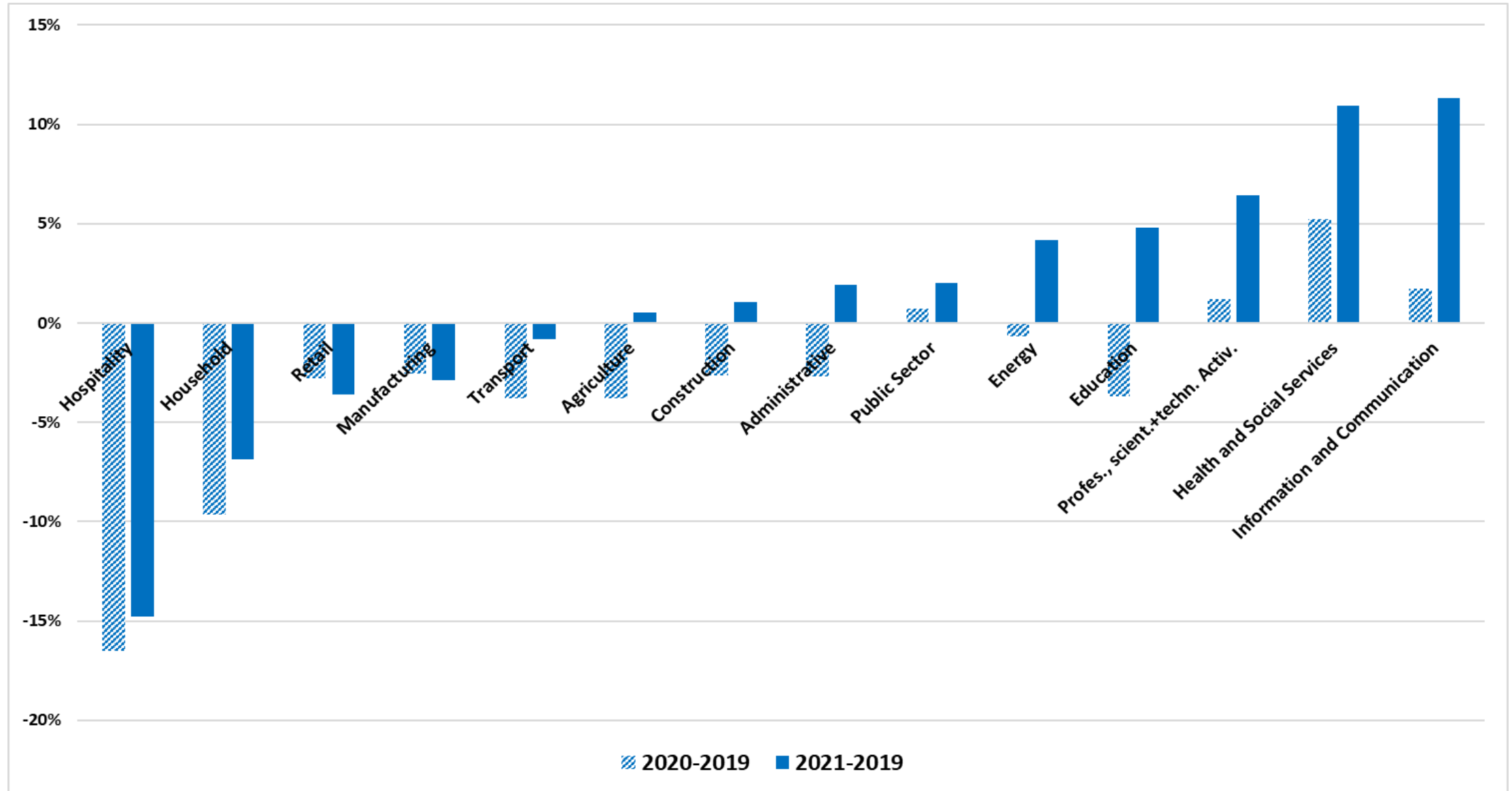
The 2021 recovery

- Employment levels had pretty much recovered by the end of 2021
 - With some rearrangement across sectors
- Working from home was back to lower levels
- Active furloughs were marginal
- Looking ahead
 - Same problems as before! (low employment and earnings, unequal distribution of care)
 - The “new economy”

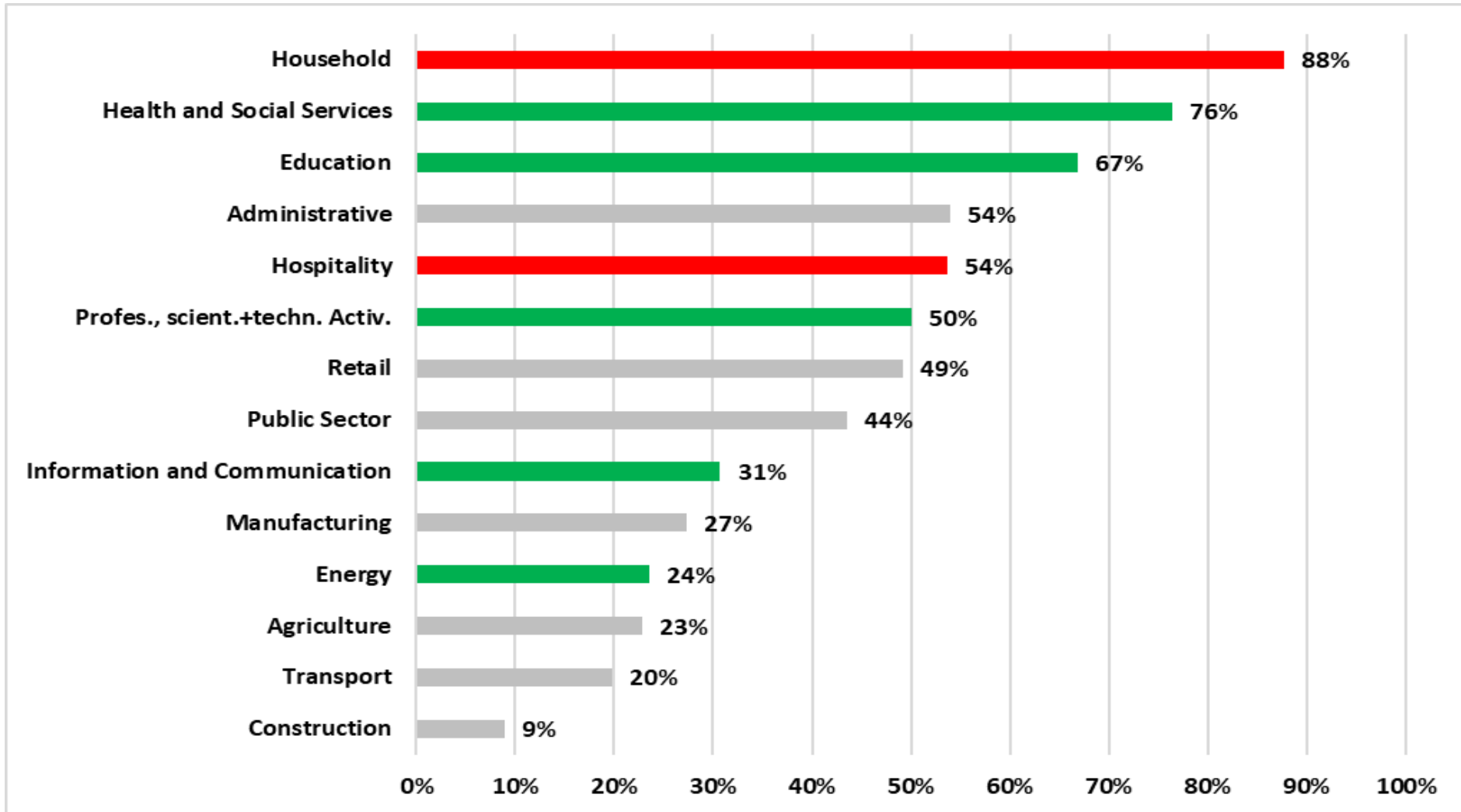
Employment by sector (2019)



Change in employment by sector (w.r. to 2019)

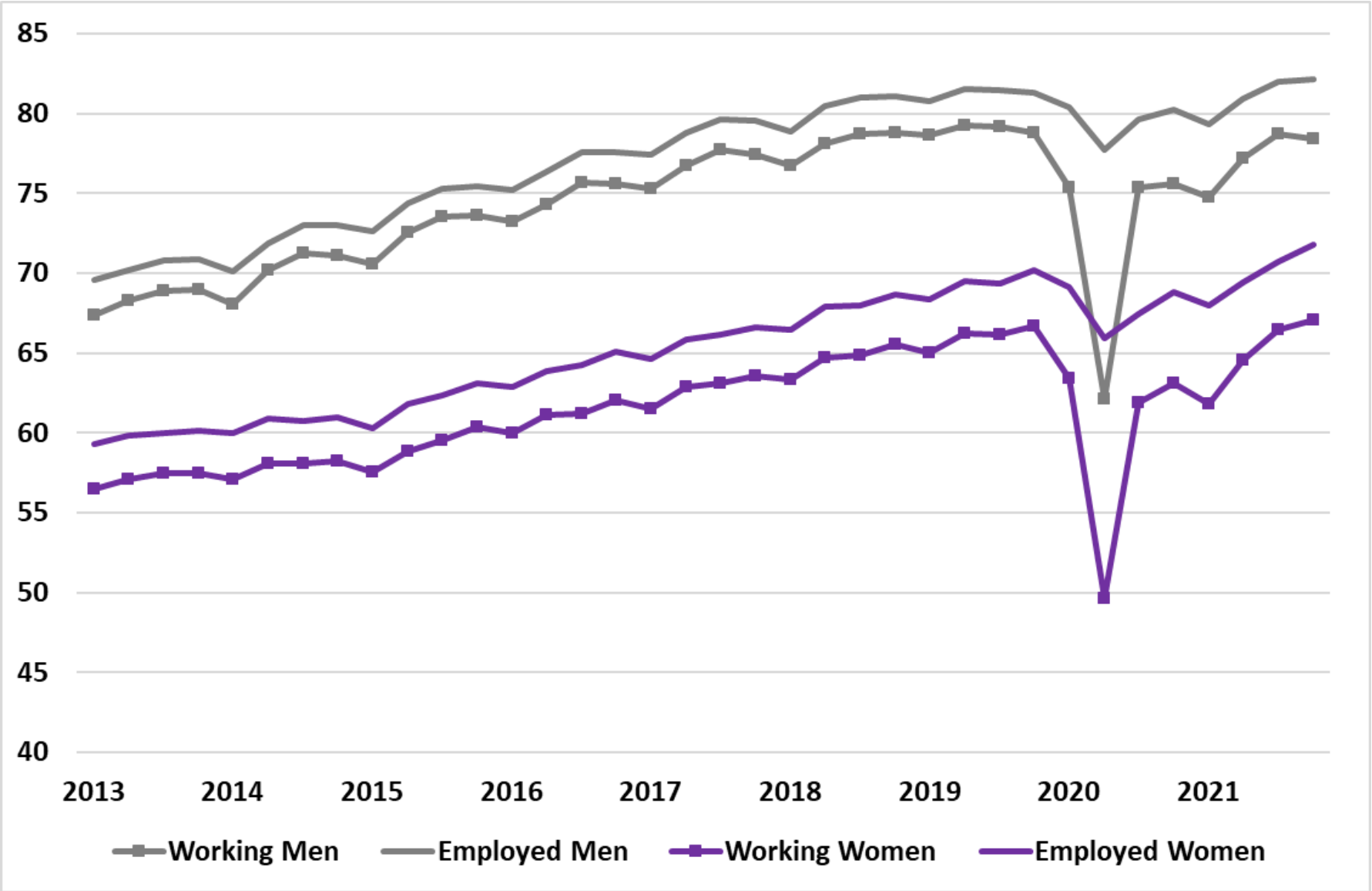


Share of women by sector (2019)



Red: employment decline (> -4%) ; Green: employment growth (< 4%)

Employment rates for women and men, 2019-2021

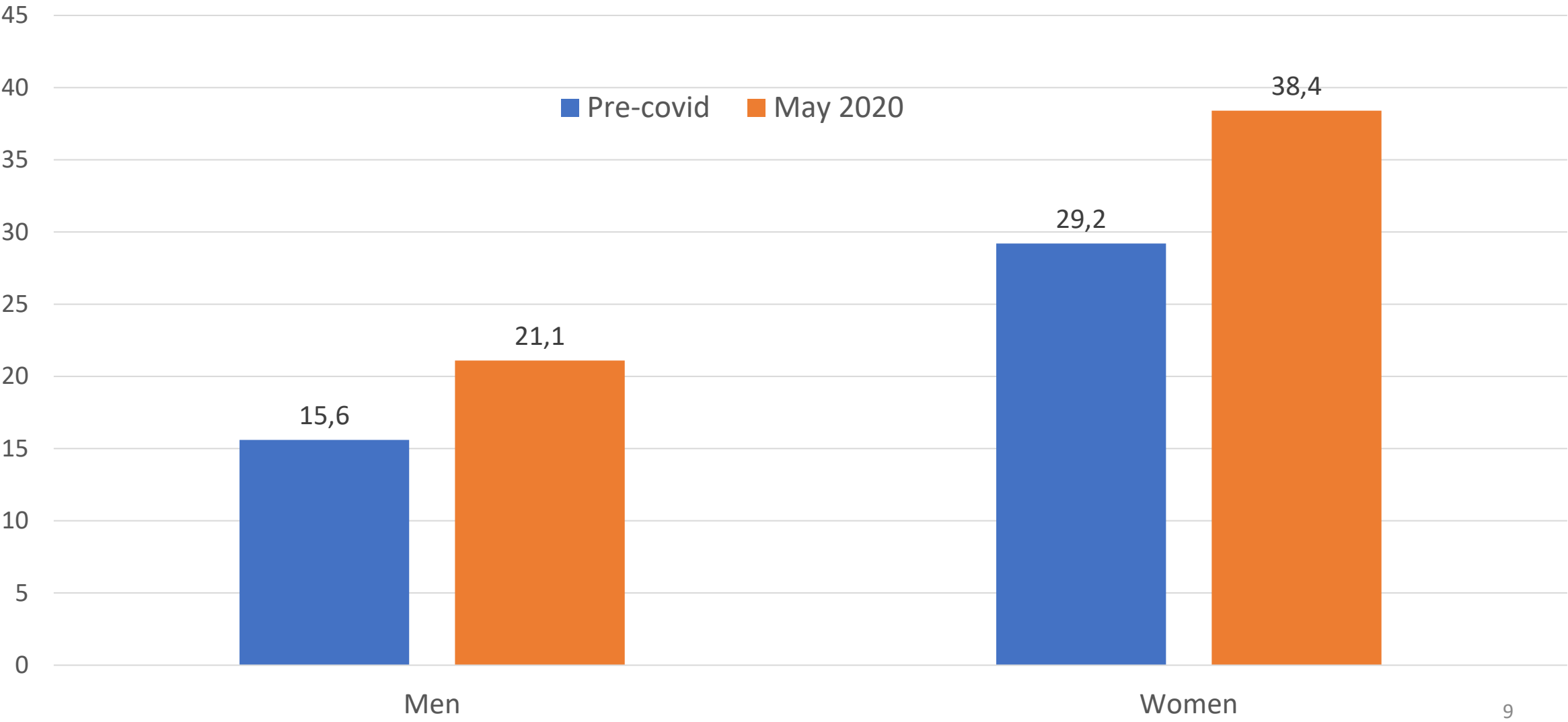


Changes in employment rates, w.r. to same q. of 2019

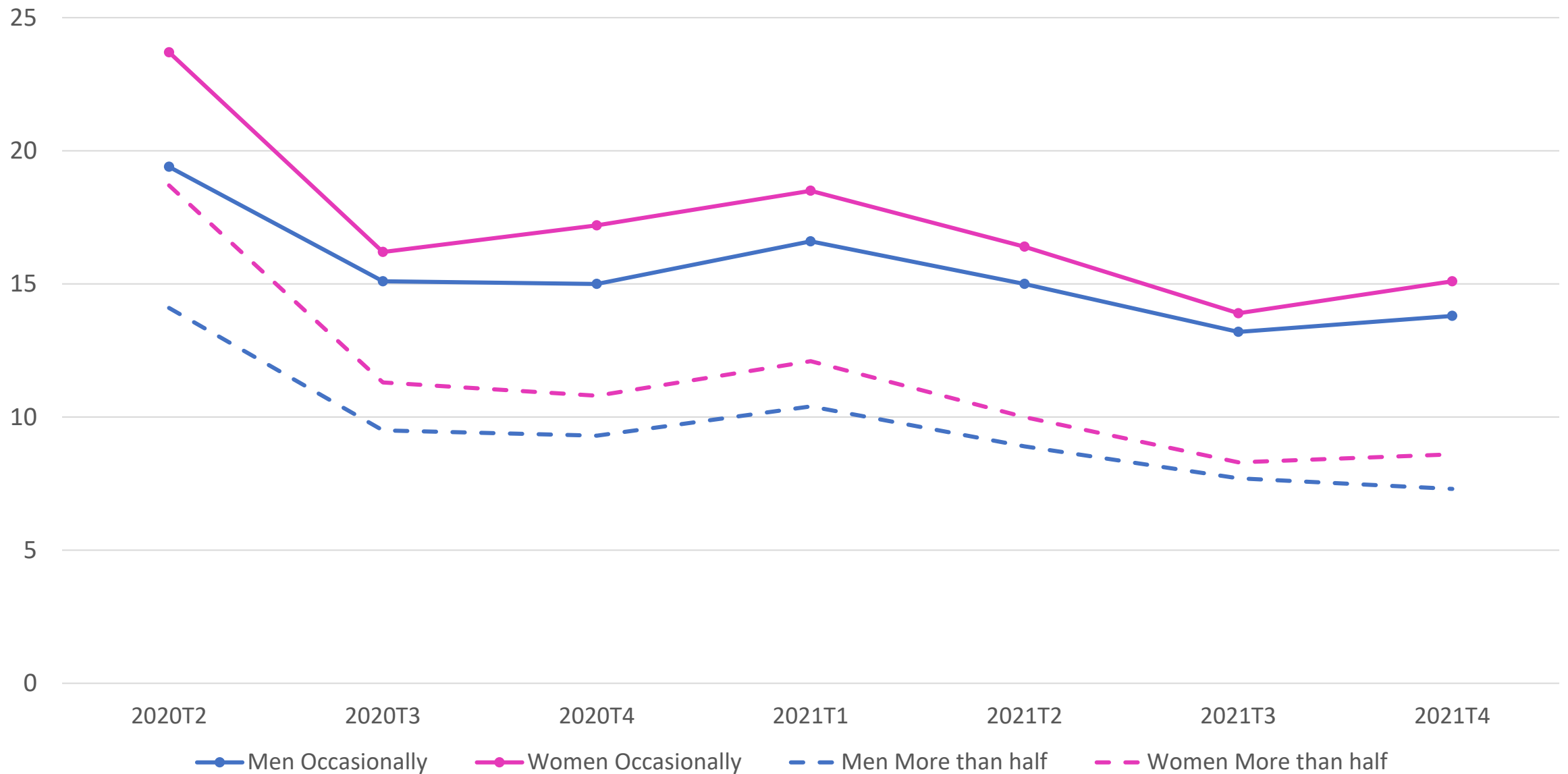


Weekly hours of childcare, February and May of 2020

(Ipsos survey, men and women ages 24-50 with children)



Working from home by gender, 2020-2021



The “new economy”: More skilled, digital, and green

Sector of activity	Change in employment (2021-2019)	Share of females 2019	Share of females 2021	% Next Generation (70,000M Euros)
Information and communication	+11%	31%	31%	21%
Health and social services	+11%	76%	77%	1%
Profes., scientific + technical activities	+6%	50%	50%	9%
Education	+5%	67%	68%	6%
Energy	+4%	24%	23%	8%
Household workers	-7%	88%	88%	0%
Hospitality	-14%	54%	53%	0,1%

Looking forward

- The “new economy” after covid-19 will be more skilled, green, and digital
- **Growing sectors:** Information and communications, health and social services, professional, scientific, and technical activities, education, energy
- **Declining sectors** (female-dominated): Hospitality and household services

Policy recommendations?

- Skill upgrading
- Women in STEM
- Keep schools open!
- Promoting men's higher contribution to childcare
- Promoting flexible work (including working from home) among both women and men

