



**UGANDA NATIONAL
BUREAU OF STANDARDS**
Quality Everywhere

UGANDA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

ANNUAL STATISTICAL ABSTRACT

FY 2024/2025

December 2025

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ARSO	African Organization for Standardization
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
BCP	Business Continuity Plan
COC	Certificate of Conformity
CIMS	Certification Information Management System
EAC	East African Community
EAS	East African Standard
FDUS	Final Draft Uganda Standard
GoU	Government of Uganda
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
LIMS	Laboratory Information Management System
MEMD	Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
MFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MSME	Micro Small and Medium Enterprises
MTIC	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives
NSC	National Standards Council
NSS	National Standardization Strategy
OIML	International Organization of Legal Metrology
PVoC	Pre-Export Verification of Conformity
QMS	Quality Management Systems
SANAS	South African National Accreditation System
SQMT	Standards, Quality Assurance, Metrology and Testing
TC	Technical Committee
TMEA	Trade Mark East Africa
UIA	Uganda Investment Authority
UNBS	Uganda National Bureau of Standards
US	Uganda Standard
WTO	World Trade Organization

FOREWORD

The Statistical Abstract (FY2024/2025) provides a summarized status on the UNBS Performance against the core and Statutory Mandate provided under UNBS Act Cap 210. This Statistical Abstract coincides with the end of the Third National Development Plan (NDP-III) and UNBS Strategic Plan (2020/21-2024/2025).

The Executive Director would like to appreciate the continued support from the Government of Uganda, the line Ministry; the Leadership, Management and Staff of the Bureau and all our Stakeholders and Development Partners.

It is my sincere hope that the information in this publication will be useful to the readers and demonstrate the contribution of UNBS to achievement of Uganda's National Development Plans.

Eng. James Kasigwa
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Statistical Abstract provides the performance of Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) during the FY2024/2025 in undertaking the core mandate defined under UNBS Act Cap 210.

The abstract provides statistics gathered from administrative data. This Abstract is the fifth in a series produced under the Third Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD III), NDP III and the UNBS Strategic Plan (2020/2021-2024/2025). Table 1 below shows the summary performance over the years FY2020/2021 to FY2024/2025.

Table 1: UNBS Performance FY2020/21-2024/25

S/N	Key Performance Indicator	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
1.	Number of standards developed	457	428	272	41	270*
2.	Total Stock of standards	4549	4730	4797	4812	4,862
3.	Number of samples tested	24,014	26,217	25,287	26,521	26,145
4.	Number of equipment calibrated	4,233	6,629	5,678	7,117	6,392
5.	Number of product certification applications received	4,527	5,696	6,301	6,914	8,270
6.	Number of product certification permits issued	3,424	4,225	4,886	4951	5,703
7.	Number of permits issued to Micro & Small Enterprises	547	639	1,114	1,251	1,772
8.	Number of private laboratories recognized	13	14	21	25	22
9.	Number of market outlets inspected	10,614	11,982	4,537	2,453	4,028
10.	Number of equipment verified	1,217,915	1,274,641	924,692	1,388,575	282,117
11.	Number of profiled import consignments inspected	177,203	236,819	282,886	293,924	320,541
12.	Approved Budget (UGX-Bn)	65.04	65.05	46.60	60.04	62.98
13.	Budget Released (UGX-Bn)	58.57	64.08	45.20	56.72	62.98
14.	Budget Spent (UGX-Bn)	58.54	64.04	45.19	56.65	61.30
15.	NTR Target (UGX-Bn)	40.11	40.018	43.8	54.5	100.0
16.	NTR/AIA Collected (UGX-Bn)	38.54	60.783	60.70	73.9	83.8
17.	Percentage of NTR Above Released Budget	-34%	-5%	34%	30%	33%

1.0 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

1.1 About the Uganda National Bureau of Standards

The Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) is a statutory body under the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives established by the **UNBS Act Cap 210** and became operational in 1989. It is governed by the National Standards Council and headed by the Executive Director who is responsible for the day-to-day operation of UNBS.

The Mandate of UNBS is:

- Formulation and promotion of the use of standards;
- Enforcing standards in protection of public health and safety and the environment against dangerous and sub-standard products;
- Ensuring fairness in trade and precision in industry through reliable measurement systems; and
- Strengthening the economy of Uganda by assuring the quality of locally manufactured products to enhance the competitiveness of exports in regional and international markets.

1.2 Institutional Framework

The National Standards Council (NSC) is the policy making organ and is responsible for the overall oversight over the Bureau's operating activities, declaration of national standards and overseeing the strategic direction of the Bureau. The NSC is comprised of 10 members who are appointed by the Minister responsible for Trade.

The NSC works closely with Management in developing policies and operational strategies. The NSC business is undertaken through; Standards and Technical Committee, Human Resource and Administration Committee, Audit and Risk Committee, and Finance and Planning Committee.

The Executive Director is the Chief Executive of the Bureau and Secretary of the Council. He is responsible for managing the day-to-day financial and operating activities of Bureau. Operationally, the Bureau is divided into three (3) Directorates headed by the Deputy Executive Directors namely; - Standards, Compliance; and Management and Financial Services. The Bureau had 524 (139 Females, 389 Males) staff at the end of the FY constituting about 44% of the approved structure. Appendix 1 presents UNBS organogram.

1.3 Alignment with the Strategic Plan and National Development Frameworks

The Financial year 2024/2025 coincides with and marks the ending of the UNBS fourth Strategic plan that ended in June 2025 (FY 2020/21 - FY 2024/25). This Plan presented five (5) strategic objectives to be addressed over the planned period, taking cognizance of the NDP III programme approach as the main pathway for planning, budgeting, implementation and reporting. The following were the strategic objectives;

- i. Strategic Objective 1: To improve and strengthen financial sustainability over the medium term
- ii. Strategic Objective 2: To Strengthen Consumer Protection and Stakeholder Satisfaction
- iii. Strategic Objective 3: To Improve Competitiveness of Local goods and services both at National, Regional and International levels
- iv. Strategic Objective 4: To Improve the Quality-of-Service Delivery.
- v. Strategic Objective 5: To Strengthen UNBS Human Resource Capacity and Productivity

Table 2: UNBS Intervention in NDP III Programs

S/N	NDP Programme III	NDP Programme III Sub	UNBS Intervention
1	Private Sector Development	Enabling environment	Industrialisation and export promotion through product and system certification, testing, calibration and verification of equipment; imports inspection
2	Agro industrialisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural production and productivity; • Storage, agro processing and value addition; • Agricultural market access and competitiveness 	Development of standards, inspection, product testing and certification; trade facilitation, and enforcement of standards
3	Manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial and technological development • Trade development 	Industrialisation through development of standards, certification of products and systems, testing, calibration and verification of weighing and measuring equipment, enforcement of standards including imports inspection
	Sustainable development of petroleum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upstream • Mid-stream • Down stream 	Development of standards, product and system certification, calibration and verification of equipment

2.0 THE NATIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE PILLARS AND SERVICES

The National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) is a system comprising the organizations (public and private) together with the policies, relevant legal and regulatory framework, and practices needed to support and enhance the quality, safety, and environmental soundness of goods, services, and processes.

The quality infrastructure is required for the effective operation of domestic markets, and its international recognition is important to enable access to foreign markets. It is a critical element in promoting and sustaining economic development, as well as environmental and social wellbeing. It relies on Standardization; Metrology; Accreditation, Conformity assessment, and Market Surveillance.

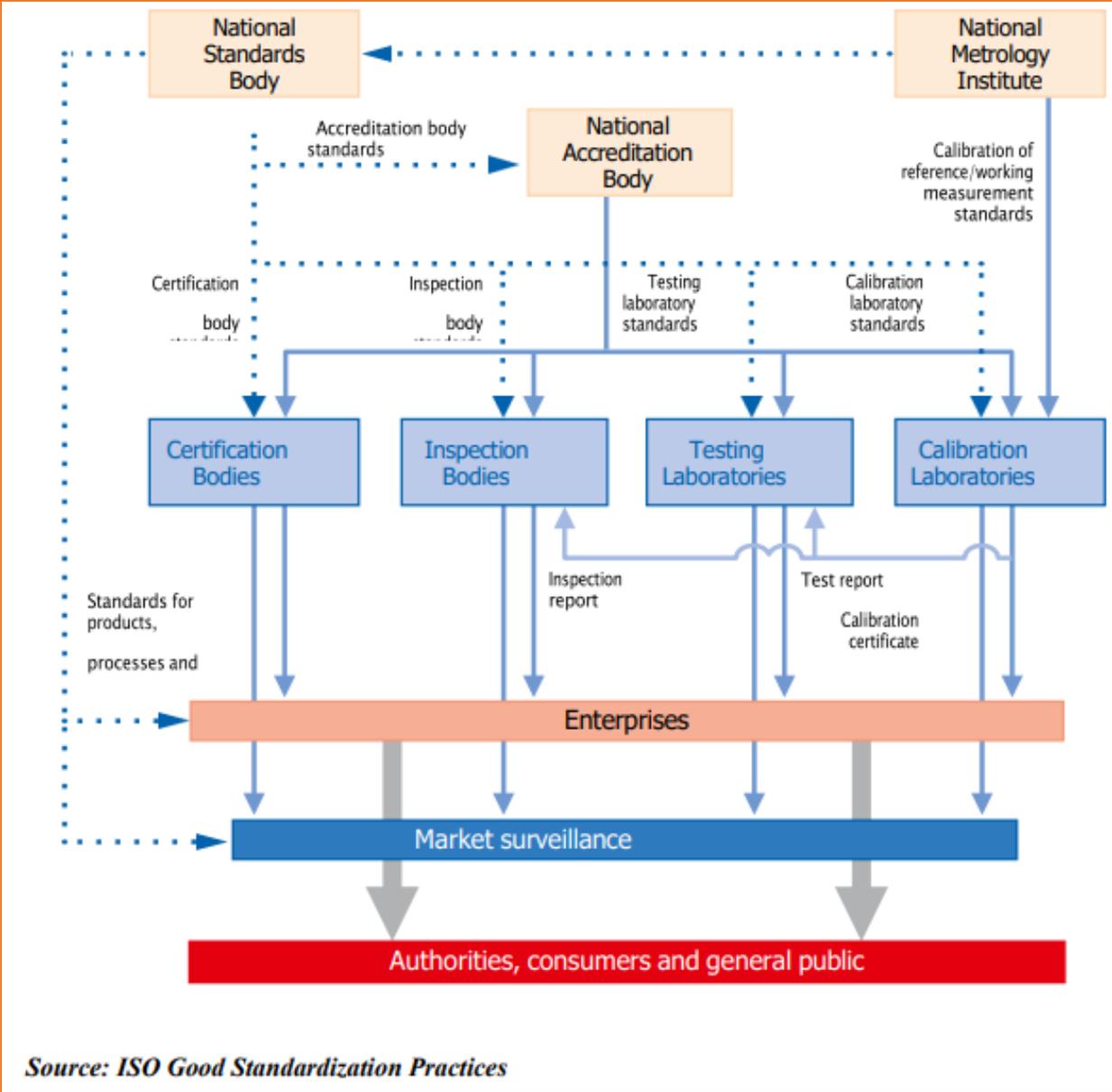
The key institutional pillars in the National Quality Infrastructure system are made up of the high-level institutions; the National Standards Body (NSB), the National Metrology Institute (NMI), and the National Accreditation Body (NAB). All other NQI services, such as Conformity Assessment, Calibration, or Market Surveillance, require these three to operate effectively and efficiently. If one of these three is not available in a country, it may not be possible to develop an effective NQI delivery system.

The NSB, the NMI, and the NAB must ensure that the output of the NQI gets international acceptance and recognition. The NMI and the NAB need to conduct inter-laboratory comparisons and peer reviews, whereas the NSB needs to comply with Annex 3 of the WTO TBT Agreement. The conformity assessment services, including inspection, testing, and certification, are used to confirm to the parties of a transaction as to whether a product or a service complies with a standard or a technical regulation.

The competency of the conformity assessment services is assured through accreditation, and their measurement capability through calibration. Calibration is not considered a conformity assessment service per se, but it is a necessary link in the value chain of conformity assessment services. Without the ability to determine length, mass, volume, time, temperature, and many other derived metrology quantities, no technical standards could exist for products or services.

Calibration ensures that measuring equipment is traceably calibrated to the national measurement standards maintained by the NMI, which in turn are calibrated to international measurement standards.

Figure 1: National Standards Quality Infrastructure Framework



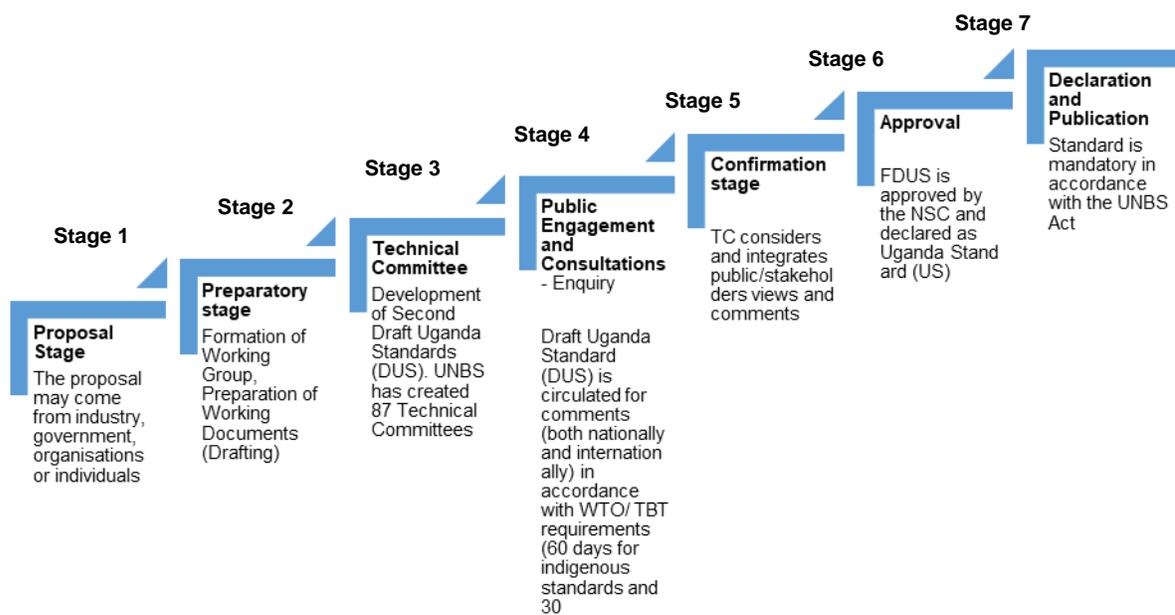
Source: ISO Good Standardization Practices

3.0 STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

Standards Development is and remains one of the core mandates and functions of UNBS. In alignment with the NDPIII and NDPIV, UNBS has an obligation to develop, promote and enforce standards across 15 out of the 18 Development Programs. National Standards are developed based on a rising demand/need and this can be initiated by any individual (such as a manufacturer), an institution, a consumer or a civil society Organization.

The priorities for Standards development are documented in the National Standardization Strategy (NSS) and Regional Standards Plan (RSP). Furthermore, an allowance is provided for new products and service innovations that may have not been captured in the NSS and RSP. The Standards Development undergoes seven stages (see Figure 2);

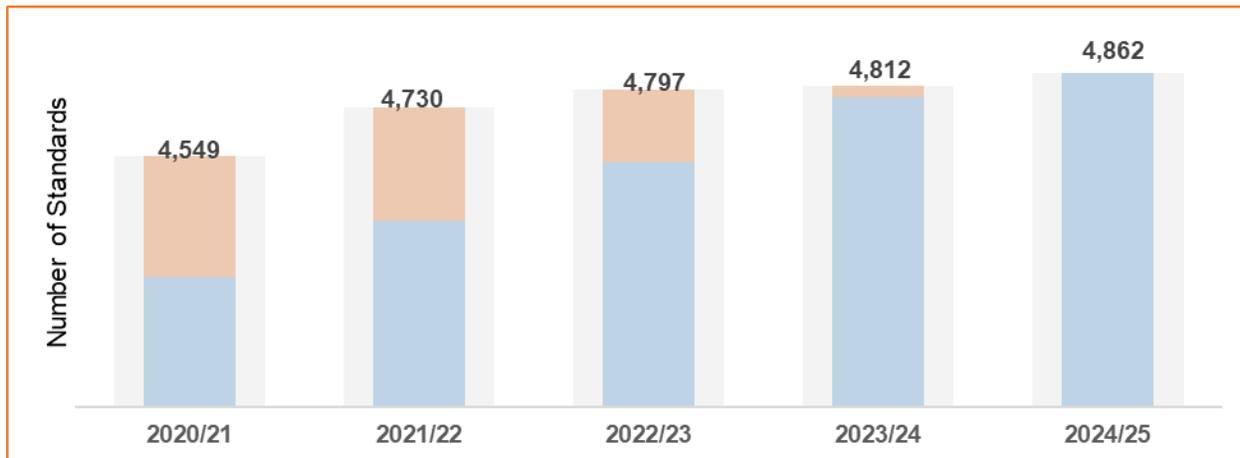
Figure 2: National Standards Development Process



3.1 Cumulative Number of Standards

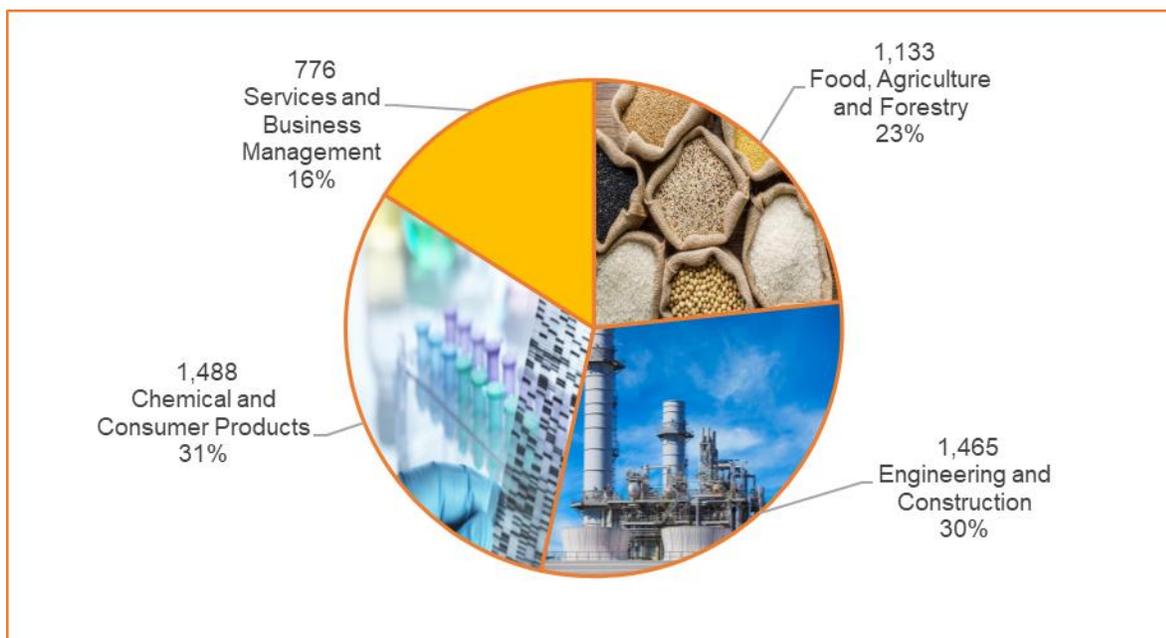
Overall, by the end of the FY 2024/2025, there was a total of 4,862 national standards compared to 4812 standards by the end of the FY2023/2024 (see Figure 3) implying a 1% increase. The increment in number of standards during the FY2024/2025 is about four times the increase observed during the previous financial year 2023/2024 (increase of 60 standards as compared to 15 over the years 2024/25 and 2023/24 respectively)

Figure 3: Cumulative Number of National Standards Developed Over the Financial Years (2019/20 to 2024/25)



The classification of the standards by sector (see **Figure 4**) show that of the 4,862 Standards, majority are into Chemical and Consumer Products – 1,488 (31%), followed by engineering and construction – 1,465 (30%). The Standards on Food, Agriculture and Forestry amount to a total of 1,133 (23%) and Services and Business Management – 776 (16%).

Figure 4: Stock of Standards by Sectors



The FY2024/2025 observed a one percent (1%) increase in international standards increasing from 3,393 as at the end of 2023/2024 to 3,413 as at the end of 2024/2025 -see Figure 5. More than half of Uganda's current standards are ISO Standards (2,685/4862=55%). Regional (East Africa and Africa) adopted standards increased from 652 as at the end of 2023/2024 to 640 at the end of 2024/2025 while local (indigenous) standards increased from 767 at the end of 2023 to 779 at the end of 2024/2025.

Figure 5: Cumulative Number of Standards by Source Over Financial Years

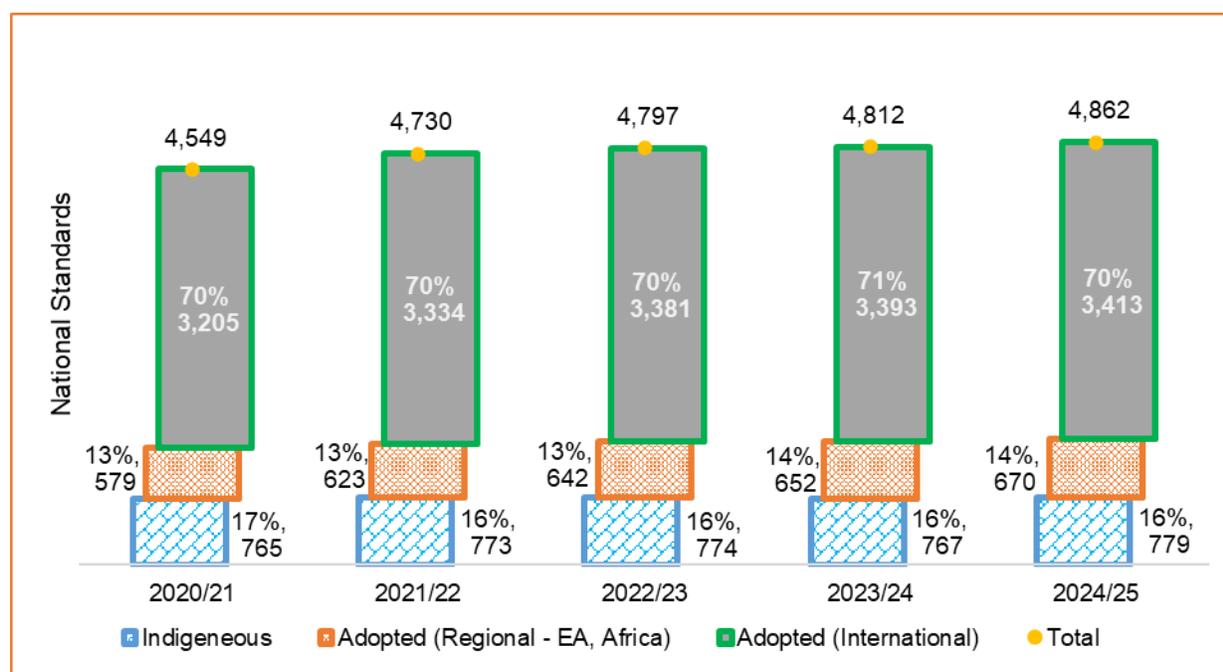


Table 3: Total Standards by Classifications

	Source	Food, Agriculture and Forestry	Engineering and Construction	Chemical and Consumer Products	Services and Business Management	Total	% of Total
	Indigenous	178	257	261	83	779	16%
Regional/ Continental	East Africa	299	132	227	0	658	14%
	African	6	0	0	6	12	0%
International	ISO	518	739	772	656	2,685	55%
	IEC	0	280	0	2	282	6%
	CODEX	129	0	0	0	129	3%
	ASTM	3	20	226	17	266	5%
	OIML	0	37	0	0	37	1%
	EN	0	0	2	0	2	0%
	OIC/SMIIC	0	0	0	12	12	0%
	Total	1,133	1,465	1,488	776	4862	100%
	% of Total	23%	30%	31%	16%	100%	

- In order to facilitate the enforcement of Uganda standards in protection of public health and safety and the environment against dangerous and sub-standard products; 2010 Uganda Standards have been declared as Compulsory.
- In accordance with Article 2.4 of the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) which strongly encourages its members to base their technical regulations and standards on existing international standards to

reduce obstacles to international trade, a total of 3,413 Uganda Standards have been adopted from International Standards (ISO, IEC, Codex, etc.), representing 70% of the current Uganda Standards complying to Article 2.4 of the WTO TBT Agreement.

- In order to promote regional and Continental Trade (East African Community (EAC), and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)), 670 Uganda Standards have been harmonized as Regional Standards, representing 14% of the total Stock of Standards.

3.2 Standards Under Drafting and Development

A Standard is considered developed if it has been approved by the National Standards Council (Stage 6), in accordance with Section 16 of the UNBS Act (Cap. 210, as amended), “Declaration of standard specification and code of practice”.

Additionally, in accordance with Section 20 of the UNBS Act (Cap. 210, as amended), the National Standards Council may recommend to the Minister in charge of Trade by notice in the Gazette to declare a standard specification for any commodity or for the manufacture, production, composition, blending, processing or treatment of any commodity to be a compulsory standard specification (Stage 7).

During the reporting period (Financial Year 2024/25), 270 standards were drafted, pending approval from the National Standards Council.

4.0 CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

4.1 Product Certification and Targeted Support to MSMEs

The UNBS's certification function is responsible for the **Q-Mark**, Uganda's official seal of quality. This mark assures consumers that products are safe, reliable, and meet required standards. By promoting the use of these standards, the UNBS plays a vital role in strengthening the Ugandan economy. It helps local industries become more competitive, boosts regional exports, and encourages people to buy locally produced goods instead of imports.

4.1.1 Stock of Product Certification Permits

UNBS provides certification permits to 5,703 products during the financial year 2024/25 recording a 752 (15%) increase as compared to the product permits issues during the previous financial year. This increase is partly due to the growing number of applications for product certification - see Figure 2.

During the FY2024/25, 8,270 product certification applications were received of which 5,703 (69%) were certified. The number of certified products during the year constitutes 95% of the targeted 6000 product permits of the year.

Whereas there is a year-on-year increase in the number of applications received for product certification, there is a continuous drop over the years in the proportions of applications that get certified. About two of any three (69%) product certification applications were successful in 2024/25 as compared to 71% in 2023/24 and 76% in 2022/23.

Table 4: Product Certifications Over the Years

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Number of certification applications received – Products	4,527	5,696	6,301	6,914	8,270
Number of certification permits issued – Products	3,424	4,225	4,886	4,951	5,703
Percentage of certification permits issued (out of total applications received)	75.60%	74.20%	77.50%	71.60%	68.96%
Annual increment in products certified	23%	16%	1%	15%	25%

4.1.2 Companies with Valid Permits

As at the end of the FY2024/25; 2514 companies had valid permits as compared to 1,995 by the end of the previous financial year (FY2023/24) signifying an annual increment of about 8%.

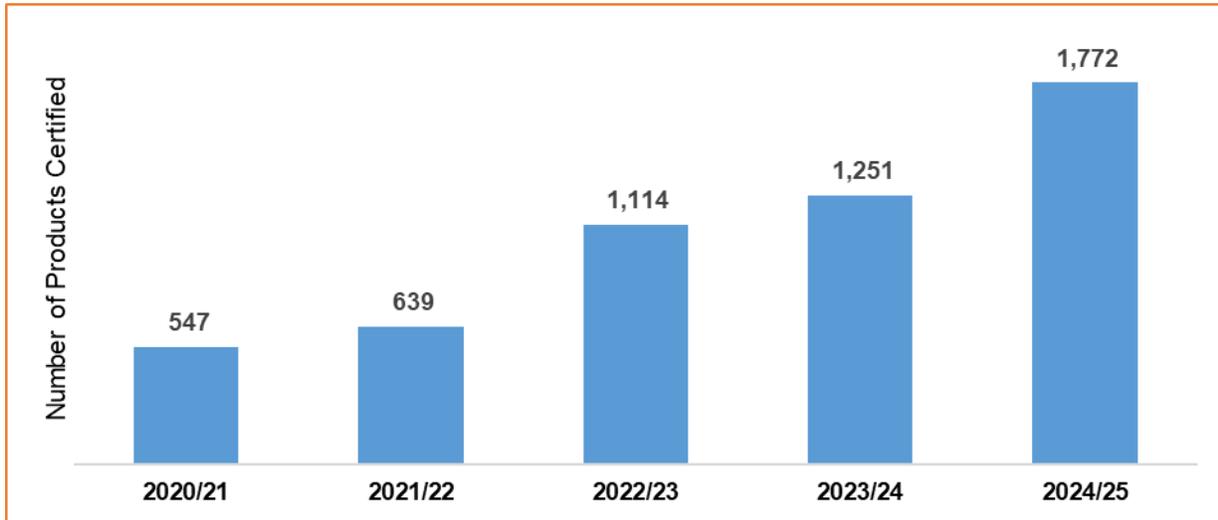
4.1.3 Handholding Support Services to Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

UNBS offers a range of targeted services to promote certification of products produced by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). These targeted services include, profiling of the MSMEs, gap analysis, tailored trainings and awareness/sensitization workshops, onsite technical guidance and support, product development and testing and certification of products/services. This is especially important with the rollout of the implementation of the use of the Distinctive Mark Regulations, 2018 as well as in supporting the MSMEs to have competitive products on the market.

With these direct and targeted interventions to the MSMEs, during the number of products manufactured by MSMEs that acquired product certification increased by about 42% in

FY2024/25 compared to the status in 2023/24 (increased from 1,251 to 1,772 in FY 2023/24 and FY2024/25 respectively).

Figure 6: Number of certification permits issued to products manufactured by MSMEs

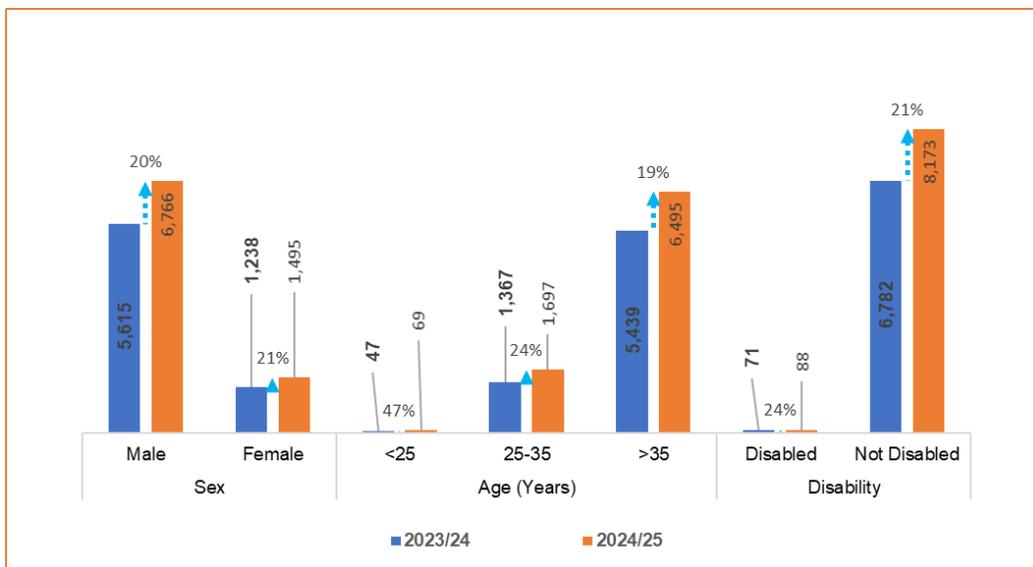


4.1.4 Equity in Product Certification Applications

Of the applications for product certifications received during the FY2024/25, about 82% were from male entrepreneurs with the remaining 18% from female entrepreneurs. The reporting period (FY2024/25) observed an over 20% increase in the applications of product certifications from males and persons with disabilities – see

Figure 7.

Figure 7: Distribution of Applications for Product Certification During the Year 2024/25 Comparative to 2023/24 by Selected Demographics of Applicants

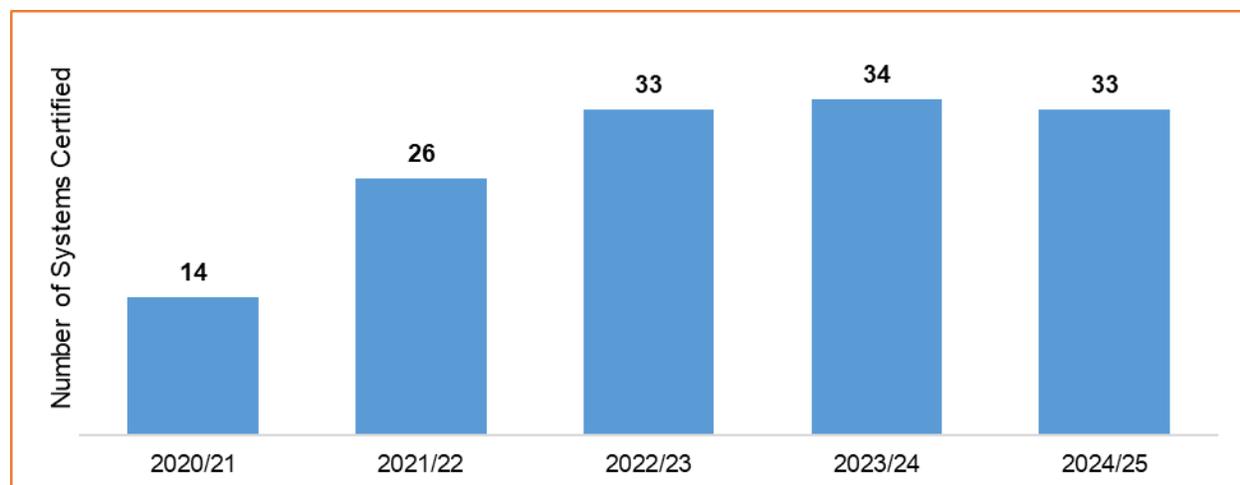


4.2 System Certification

UNBS offers management systems certification to organizations seeking to demonstrate the commitment to quality, security, environment and Food safety Management.

A total of 33 system certificates were issued to organizations during the FY2024/2025, dropping from 34 system certificates issued during the previous year. The number of system certificates issued during the reporting year constituted about 83% of the targeted 40.

Figure 8: Trend in the systems certification scheme over the past 5 years



4.3 Laboratory Recognition Scheme (LRS)

Laboratory recognition is a formal acknowledgement by an authoritative third party that a laboratory is competent to provide specified tests or measurements. UNBS operates Laboratory Recognition scheme (LRS) based on requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories since the year 2016.

During the reporting year 2024/25, 22 private laboratories were recognized by UNBS signifying decrease from the 25 recognised laboratories during the FY 2023/2024.

Table 5: Privately Owned Testing laboratories that were recognized

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Testing laboratories that were recognized	13	14	21	25	22

4.4 Testing of Product Samples

By receiving and rigorously testing product samples against national and international standards, UNBS ensures that goods, both locally manufactured and imported, are safe and of acceptable quality. This function is foundational to key UNBS activities like product certification, market surveillance, and import inspection, all of which are designed to enforce standards, eliminate substandard products from the market, and build consumer confidence in the quality of goods and services.

4.4.1 Product Testing Infrastructure and Accreditation

As of end of June 2025, UNBS operated four (4) laboratories at the headquarters (namely; the Chemistry laboratory, Microbiology laboratory, Engineering Materials laboratory; and Electrical Engineering Laboratory) and three regional laboratories (Gulu for the Northern region, Mbale for the Eastern region, Mbarara for the Western region).

The Microbiology, Chemistry and Engineering Materials laboratories are internationally accredited by SANAS of South Africa (ISO/IEC 17025). The Electrical Engineering laboratory, along with the regional laboratories located in Mbale, Gulu, and Mbarara, are at the application stage for SANAS International Accreditation which is scheduled for October 2025, and being supported by Trade Mark Africa.

4.4.2 Product Samples Tested Over the Years

During the reporting period, 26,145 products were tested signifying an 87% performance against the targeted 30,000 samples of the year. The samples received for testing were for/from different purposes and sources – including certification (65%), private tests/samples (24%), import inspection (8%), and Market Surveillance (3%).

By laboratory, the Electricity and materials recorded an above 5% increase in product tests conducted in 2024/25 comparative to the previous year 2023/24. Despite, handling the highest volumes of product tests, the Chemistry and Microbiology laboratories recorded a decline in product conducted in 2024/25 compared to 2023/2024.

Figure 9: Number of Product samples tested Over the Years

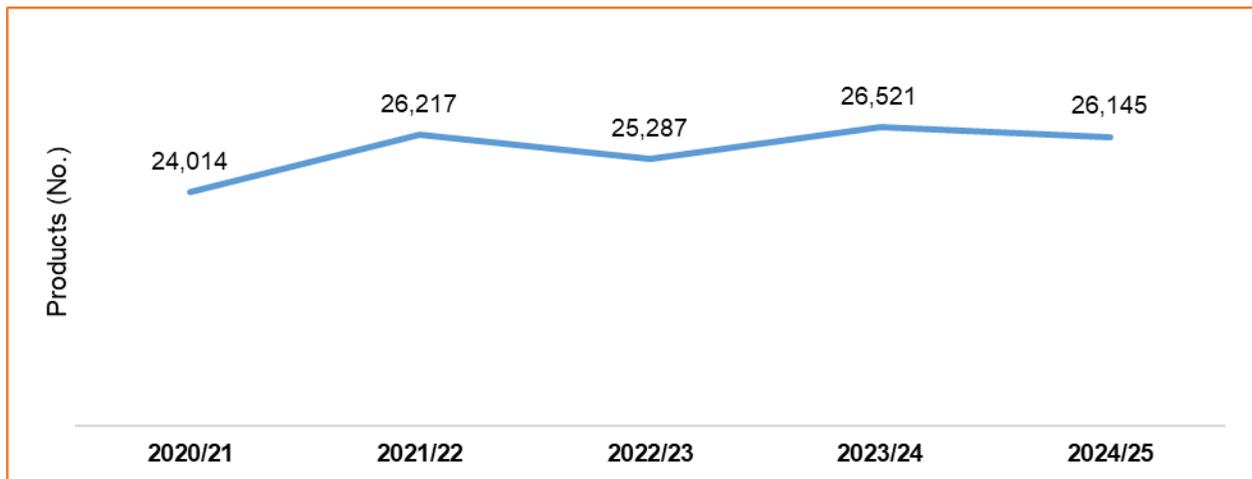
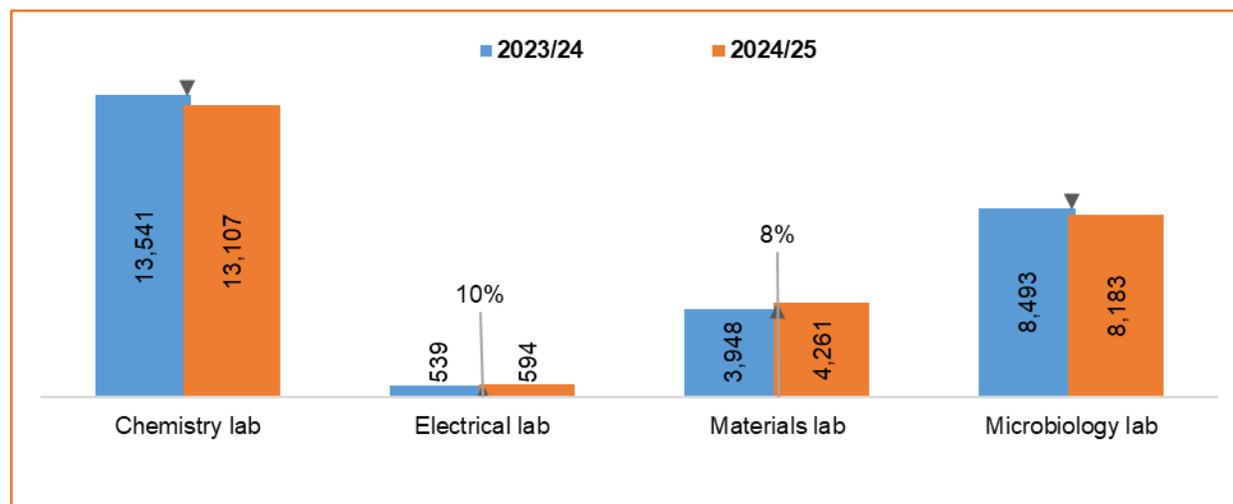


Figure 10: Number of Product samples tested by Laboratory in FY2024/25 comparative to FY2023/24



4.5 National Metrology Laboratory (NML)

The UNBS is the statutory body in Uganda responsible for national metrology. It ensures the accuracy and reliability of measurements across various sectors to promote fair trade, promote consumers and enhance the quality and competitiveness of Uganda products.

UNBS's role in metrology is multifaceted, covering three main areas – Scientific, Industrial and legal metrology.

1. **Scientific Metrology:** UNBS operates the National Metrology Laboratories (NML), which are the highest level of metrology in the country. The NML maintains the primary and secondary measurement standards for Uganda, ensuring their accuracy and traceability to the International System of Units (SI). UNBS is also responsible for disseminating this metrological traceability to various sectors of the economy, including industry, testing laboratories, and other users of measurement equipment, through its calibration and legal metrology services. This provides the foundation for accurate measurements throughout the country.
2. **Industrial Metrology:** This involves the calibration of industrial equipment and other measuring instruments used in production and quality control. UNBS's calibration services ensure that instruments used by manufacturers, laboratories, and other businesses provide accurate readings, which is crucial for producing high-quality goods.
3. **Legal Metrology:** UNBS is responsible for enforcing the Weights and Measures Act. This department verifies weighing and measuring instruments used in commercial transactions to ensure fair trade and consumer protection. It inspects and stamps a wide range of devices, including - Weighing scales and weights used in markets and shops, Fuel dispensers and road tankers, Electricity and water meters etc.

The NML Department operates 10 laboratories under the 3 functional divisions, namely: Mass lab, Thermometry Lab, Small Volume Lab, Pressure Lab, Dimensions Lab, Electrical Lab, Flow and Large Volume Lab, Density and Viscosity Lab, Force and Torque Lab, Analytical Lab.

The role of the NML is to acquire and maintain the primary standards for Uganda, transmit the accuracy of primary standards to users of measurements through calibration and ensure the traceability of the National Measurement System to the international System of Measurement Units (SI).

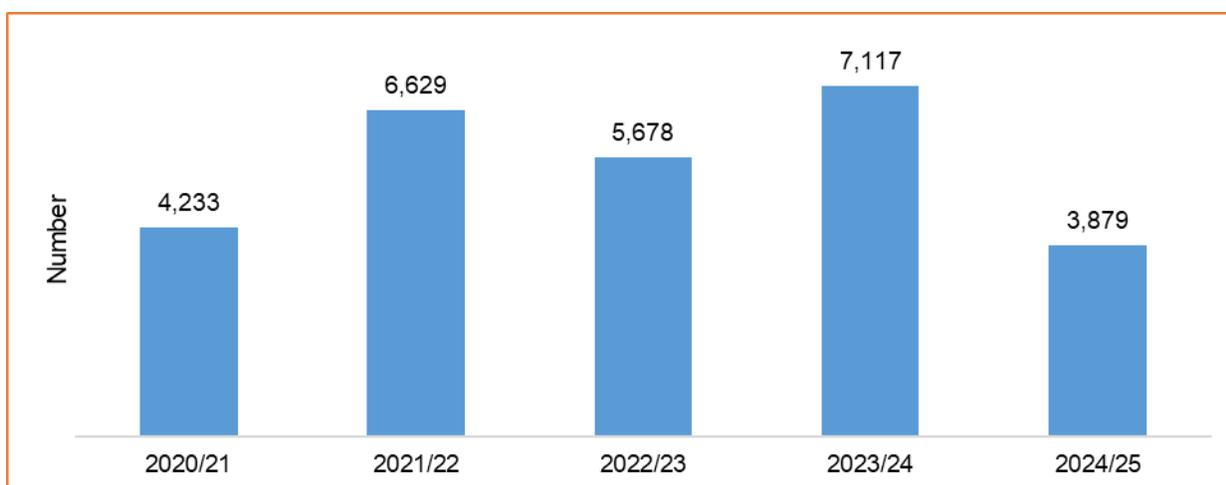
4.5.1 Equipment Calibrated – Industrial Metrology

During the reporting year, UNBS calibrated 3,879 equipment. The number of equipment calibrated during the FY2024/25 constituted about 64% of the targeted 6000 and just about 55% of the equipment that were calibrated during the previous year (7,117 equipment calibrated during FY2023/24) with this low performance partly attributable to delayed financial releases.

The calibrations help;

- i. Large, medium, small and micro enterprises to control manufacturing processes and meet certification requirements.
- ii. Analytical, medical and testing laboratories to meet accreditation and regulatory as well as measurement traceability and accuracy requirements.

Figure 11: Number of Equipment calibrated Over Years

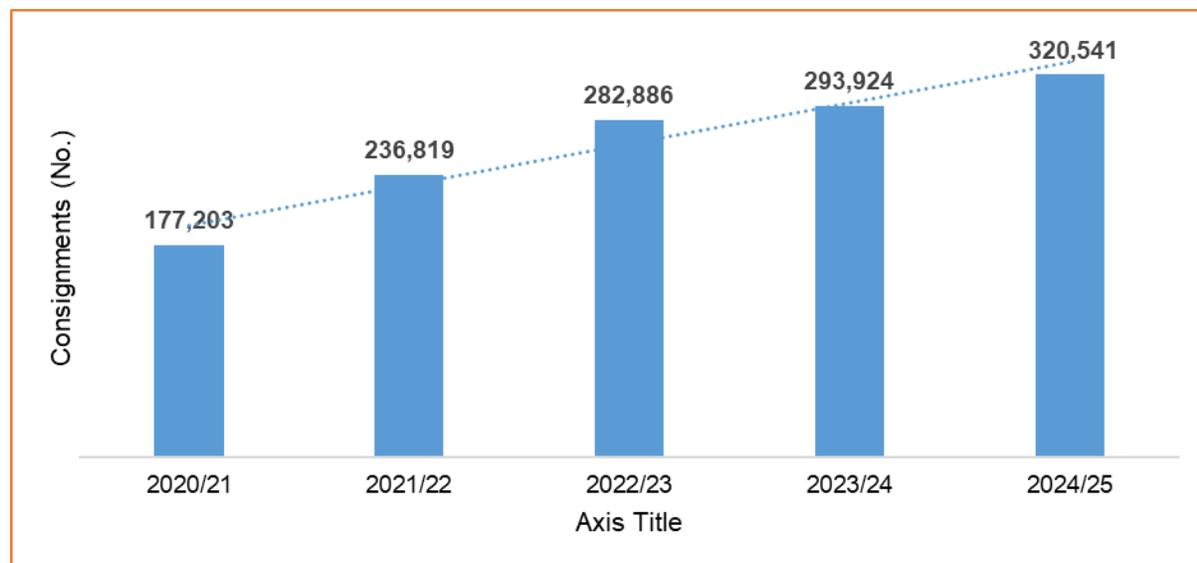


4.6 Imports Inspection

During the year under review, the Bureau continued to implement its mandate of enforcement of the UNBS (Inspection and Clearance of Imports) Regulations 2018, the goal being to protect the health and safety of the public, as well as the environment, and promote and facilitate fair trade. The Bureau also undertook a series of measures aimed at increasing the competitiveness of locally manufactured products by offering quick and special clearance for imported industrial machinery, spare parts and raw materials/inputs

UNBS inspected 320,541 consignments of imports giving rises to an increment of 9% above the previous year (FY2023/24) and constituting about 167% of the annual target of 192,500. UNBS records a Compound annual growth rate (CAGR)¹ of 13% over the five to six years.

Figure 12: Import Consignments Inspected Over the Years



4.7 Market Surveillance and Enforcement

Market surveillance is a vital function of the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS). It involves a range of activities and measures to ensure that products meet set standards and do not pose a danger to public health, safety, or other public interests. This process builds consumer confidence by identifying and removing non-compliant goods from the market, whether they are imported or locally made.

In Section 3 subsection (1) (f) of the UNBS Act, UNBS is mandated to enforce standards in protection of the public against harmful ingredients, dangerous and sub-standard products, while Section 23 (1) and (2) of the Act prohibits the importation, manufacture, sale, distribution or holding for the purpose of selling any product that does not meet compulsory Uganda standards nor bears the Distinctive Mark.

4.7.1 Business and Market Outlet Inspections

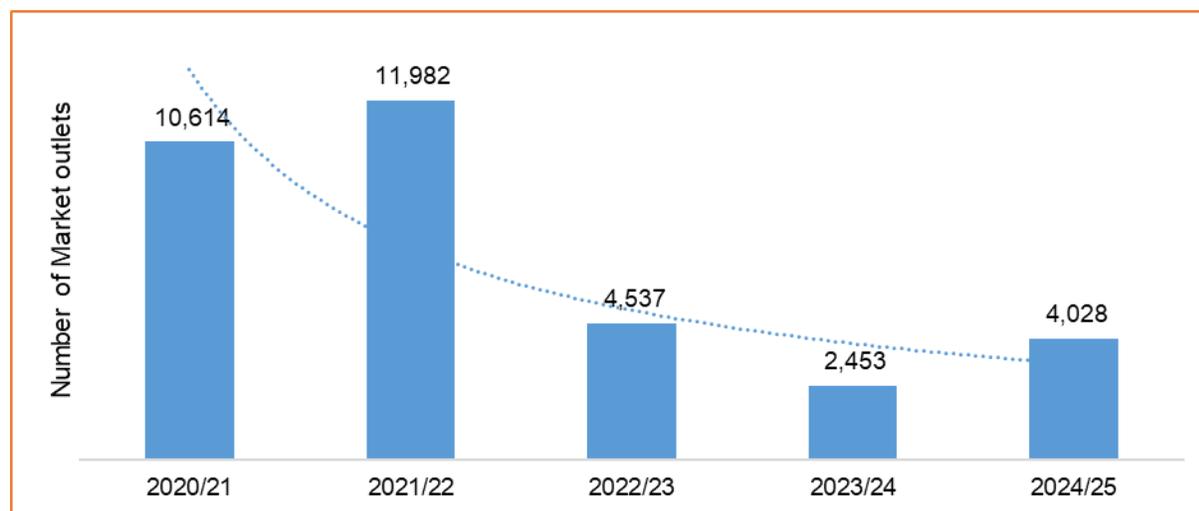
Despite efforts by government and respective agencies such as the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS), substandard products remain a significant threat to public health and safety. UNBS continuously conducts proactive and reactive market inspections. Whereas reactive inspections are triggered by alerts from the public and other regulation agencies, proactive inspections are planned routine inspections based on various factors.

During the reporting period (FY2024/25), UNBS conducted 4,028 market inspections in the country. The inspections undertaken in the FY2024/25 were 64% higher than the 2,453 inspections conducted during the previous year (see Figure 13). The total of market inspections

¹ **mean** annualized growth rate for compounding values over a given time period. CAGR represents the average annualized growth rate of an investment over a specific period, taking into account compounding interest

conducted in 2024/25 constituted about 50% of the annual target – targeted averagely 667 per month.

Figure 13: Number of Market outlets inspected Over Financial Years (2020/2021-2024/25)



The distribution of the market surveillance by region shows that majority were within the central region (2,206/4028=55%) followed by the Western Region (839/4028=21%), Eastern (596/4028=15%) and Northern (387/4028=10%) – see **Table 6**. By categories, highest points of inspection included food and beverage factories (35%), distribution vehicles (26%), markets and points of sale (26%), chemical and consumer factories (10%), and steel and engineering factories (3%).

Table 6: Market Surveillance Inspections by District and target Points During FY2024/2025

	Food & Beverage Factories	Points of Sale	Chemical & consumer Factories	Distribution Vehicles	Steel & Engineering Factories	Regional Total	% Share
Central	803	426	360	517	100	2,206	55%
Eastern	178	175	26	209	8	596	15%
Western	303	228	9	289	10	839	21%
Northern	141	217	7	21	1	387	10%
Subtotal	1,425	1,046	402	1,036	119		100%
% share	35%	26%	10%	26%	3%	100%	

4.7.2 Implications of the Market Inspections by Geographical Coverage and Scope

These market inspections were conducted in different outlets including supermarkets, retail and wholesale shops, manufacturing facilities, hardware shops and distribution trucks among others. Following the inspections;

- 438 premises were sealed off for non-compliance² during the reporting period 2024/2025 FY (to provide by table region and nature of business) compared to 63 outlets that were sealed-off during the previous year 2023/24.
- Approximately 1,264,896.92 kilograms of substandard products were seized in 2024/25 – see Table 7 compared to approximately 11,177,223 kilograms in the previous year 2023/24;
- About 10-11 facilities were sealed off for every 100 inspections conducted in 2024/25 as compared to 2-3 facilities closed off for 100 inspections in the FY2023/24, attributable to relatively more focused inspections to potential holders of substandard products.
- Averagely, about 314Kgs were seized per inspection with the highest ration of quantities seized per inspection recorded in Eastern region (1,240kg per inspection) followed by the Central region (215Kg per inspection) – see **Table 7**.

Table 7: Quantities of Product Seizures by Region During the Reporting Period (in kg)

Regions	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	Total Inspections	Average Kgs seized per inspection
Central	7,566	4,481	2,653	460,733	475,433	2,206	215.5
Eastern	616,899	8,455	60,533	53,472	739,359	596	1,240.5
Western	589	798	3,660	20,958	26,006	839	31.0
Northern	10	6,031	9,441	8,617	24,099	387	62.3
Subtotal	625,064	19,765	76,288	543,780	1,264,897	4,028	314.0

4.8 Legal Metrology - Verification of Measurement Equipment

UNBS through the Legal Metrology function is mandated with protecting society against the consequences of false measurements. Legal Metrology has four operational functional areas namely; Weights and Measures, Volume and flow, Pre-Package control and Utilities.

1. Weights and measures – UNBS regulates non automatic weighing equipment used in Trade; and Weigh-Bridges used in the country.
2. Volume and Flow – UNBS verifies Fuel dispensers, Road Fuel Tankers, Static Tanks at fuel stations and Oil depots, flow meters at Petrol stations, bulk meters at consignment sights, aviation meters and Railway wagons. UNBS undertakes this under S.1.31 known as the Weights and Measures (Dispensing pumps), Bulk Meters and Bulk Measures) Rule 2007.
3. Pre-Package control - UNBS implements Statutory instrument No 36 of 2007 “The Weights and Measures (Sale and labelling of Goods) Rules 2007”. Activities involves visiting factories, ware houses, super markets and places where goods are packaged for sale for verification of labelling requirements and net quantities against the declared quantities on the pack. During the process, pre-packaged materials are sampled in accordance with the statutory requirements provided under the sale and labelling requirement of goods.

² producing uncertified products and/or producing products under unhygienic conditions, or possessing non-conforming products

4. Utility division (Electricity Meter and Water Meter). The Electricity sections verifies both in house and in-service Electricity Meters.

During the year under review,

- **Weighing Equipment:** a total of 20,891 Weighing Instruments that include, Counter-machines, spring balances, Platforms Weigh-bridges were verified comparative to 136,531 during the FY 2023/2024
- **Weights** – 79,237 weights were verified during the FY2024/25 as compared to 653,982 during the previous year FY2023/24.
- The measuring Instruments: a total of 10,551 Fuel Dispensing pumps were verified during the FY2024/25 as compared to 9,516 during the previous financial years – FY2023/24.

Table 8: Categories of Equipment Verified Over the Last Three Financial Years

EQUIPMENT OUTPUT	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Weighing Scales	134,841	136,531	20,891
Weigh bridges			338
Weights	628,959	653,982	79,237
Fuel Road Tankers	2,133	2,053	2,089
Bulk Meters	562	233	314
Dip Sticks	440	22	0
Static Tank	207	660	482
Fuel Dispensers	23,046	9,516	10,551
Electricity/Energy meters	129,737	582,420	164,519
Consumer/Prepacked goods	4,587	3,158	3,696
Rail Wagons	63	0	0
TOTAL	924,575	1,388,575	282,117

5.0 MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

5.1 Financial and Administration

5.1.1 Budget Review Performance

UNBS had an approved budget of UGX62.89Bn for the FY2024/2025 of which all was released – accounting for 100% release. The amount released for the FY2024/2025 was 11% higher than the amount released during the FY2023/2024 (UGX56.72Bn).

Of the amount released during FY2024/2025, UGX61.3Bn was spent as of the end of the reporting period (as of 30th June 2025) accounting for the absorption rate of 97% ($61.3/62.98=98\%$). Table 9 shows the absorption rate by area of finance allocation for the FY2024/2025 comparative to the previous year – FY2023/2024.

Figure 14: Budget Approvals, Releases and Expenditure over the Years FY2020/2021 to FY2024/2025

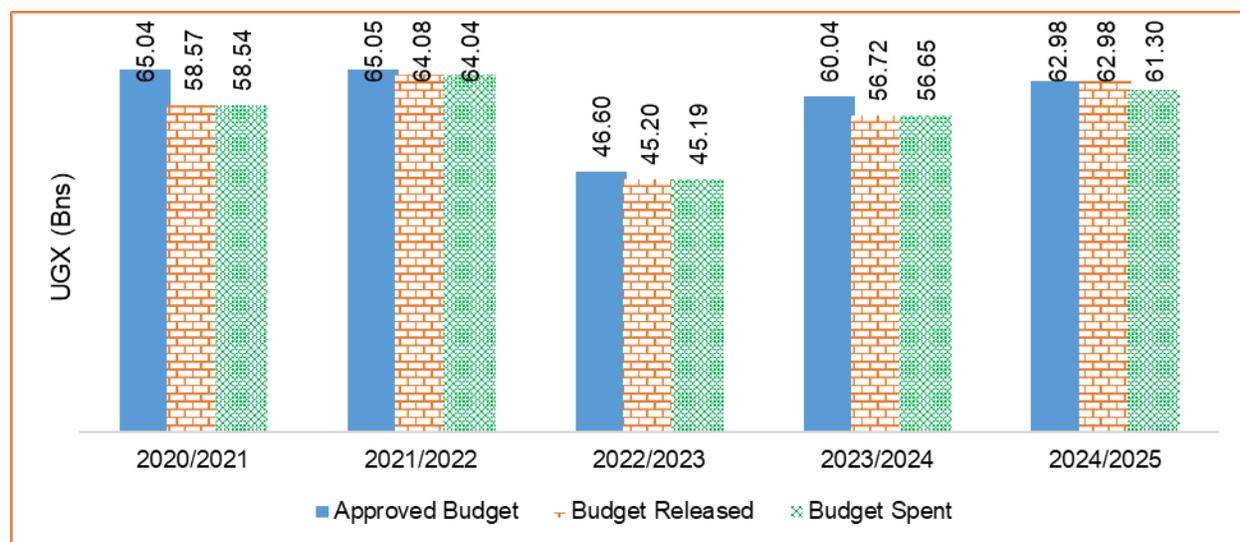


Table 9: Allocation and Absorption Rate by Area of Expenditure

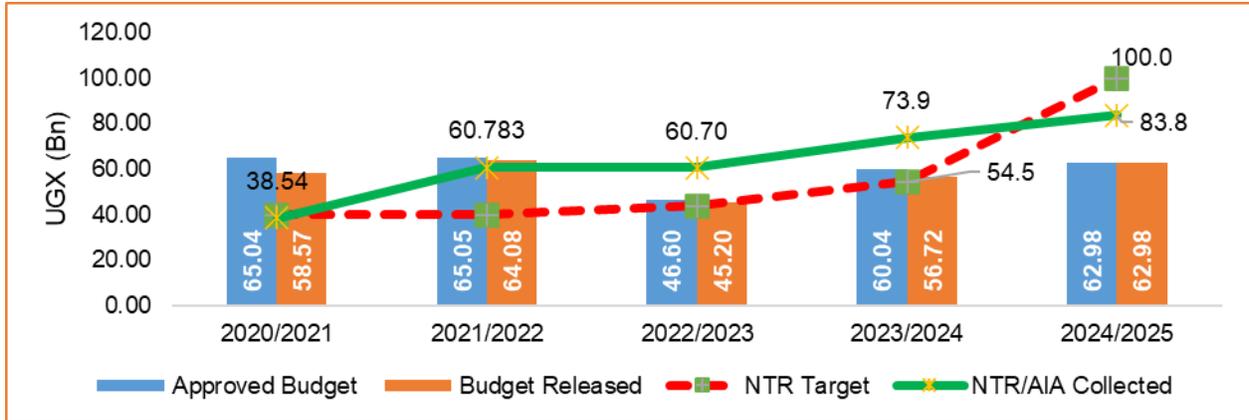
	2023/2024		2024/2025	
	Released	Absorption Rate	Released	Absorption Rate
Development	3.33	99.8%	4.55	97%
Wage	25.86	100.0%	25.86	97%
Gratuity	6.46	100.0%	6.46	100%
Subvention	1.00	100.0%	0.27	100%
Non-Wage	20.08	100.0%	25.84	97%
Total	56.72	99.9%	62.98	97%

5.1.2 Non-Tax Revenues

Non tax revenue is income that the government earns from sources other than through taxes. This includes earnings from dividends from investments in public sector undertakings (PSUs), interest on loans and fees for various services provided.

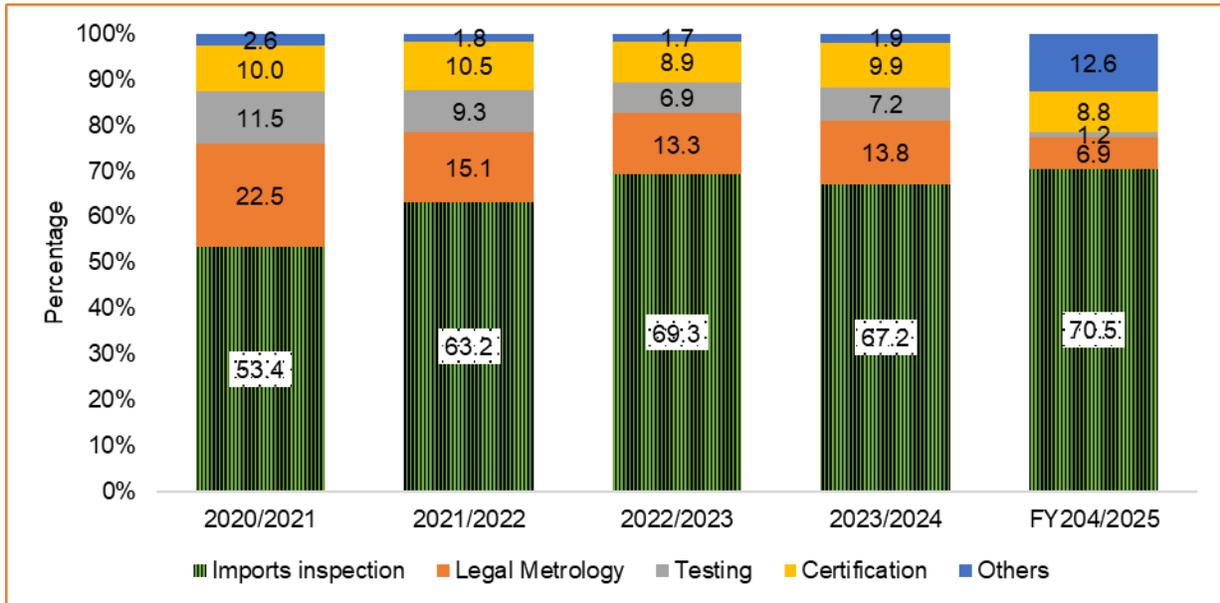
During the review period, UNBS’s realized NTR was UGX83.8Bn lower than the targeted UGX100Bn, but significant increase from the UGX73.9Bn during FY2023/2024 and UGX60.7Bn recorded in the previous fiscal year (FY2022/23). The Bureau observes the potential for a year-on-year increase in the NTR, with a projected collection of UGX200Bn during the FY2025/2026.

Figure 15: NTR Collections Over the Years Comparative to Targets and Budget Releases



By source, Figure 16 shows that during the FY2024/2025, about 71% of the NTR collections were from imports inspection with the other sources combined constituting 30%. Imports inspection remains the leading contributor to NTR over the years.

Figure 16: Percentage Share of NTR Collections Per Source Over the Years



5.2 Human Resource and Administration

The Human Resource Department is mandated to offer a supportive role with the main objective of attracting, developing and retaining competent and motivated human resources to enable

UNBS achieve its objectives. This is done through development and implementation of human resource management policies and procedures; human resource planning; recruitment and selection; learning and development; performance management; employee relations; human resource information systems and exit management.

5.2.1 Staffing and Recruitment

The staff establishment at the end of the FY2024/2025 had moved to 524 (139 Females, 385 Males) staff dropping from 538 staff as at the end of the previous financial year 2023/2024 – see **Figure 17**. The current number of staff accounts for only 44% of the approved structure of 1200 staff.

By gender, females constitute about 27% (139/524) while males constitute 73% (385/524) of the total staff numbers by the end of the FY2024/2025. Considering the age group, Figure 18 shows that about 87% of the staff as at the end of FY2024/2025 were aged between 30 and 49 years still relatively young.

Figure 17: Number of Staff at the Bureau over the Years

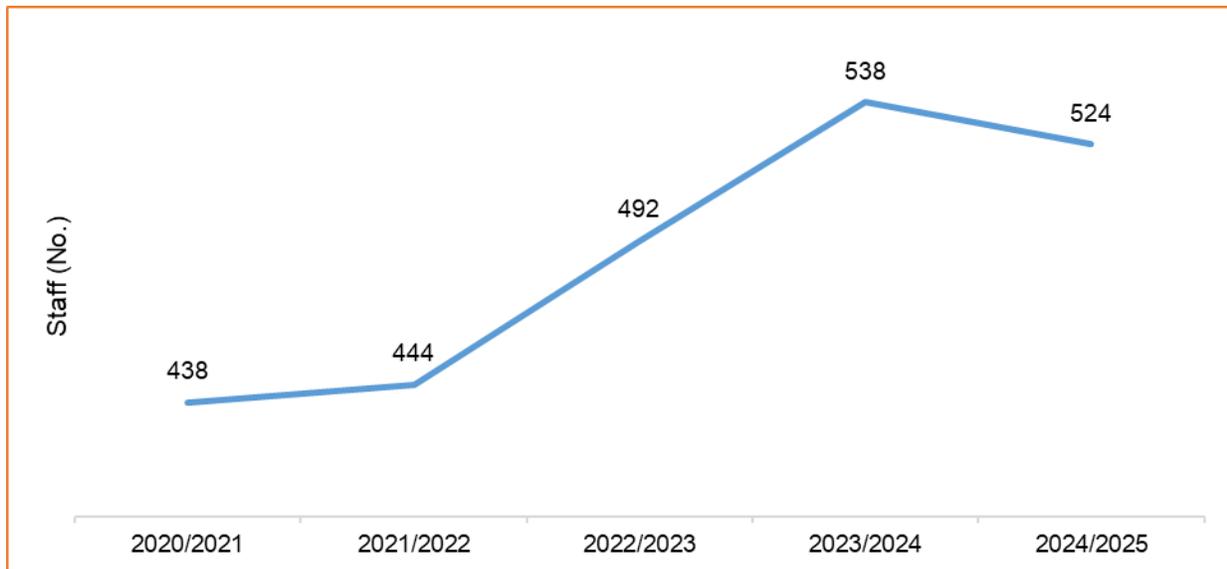
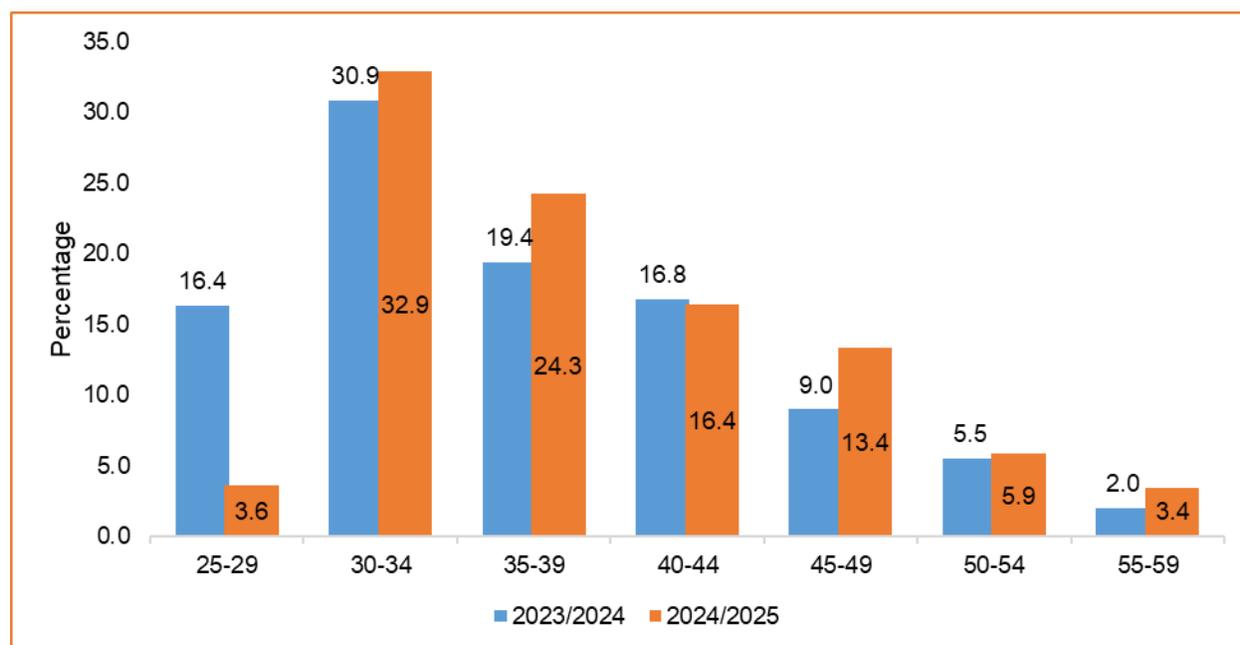


Figure 18: Distribution of the UNBS Staff by Age Groups Over the Years 2023/2024 and 2024/2025



5.3 Prosecutions and Representations in Courts of Law

The legal department serves as a crucial support function, ensuring that the Uganda National Bureau of Standards effectively carries out its mandate while minimizing legal risks and ensuring that UNBS is in compliance with the legal framework established by Ugandan law, international laws and set standards.

The legal department supports in Compliance and Regulatory Guidance, Legal Advisory Services, Litigation and Dispute Resolution, Policy Development and Implementation, Risk Management, Training and Capacity Building, Intellectual Property Protection, Collaboration with Government and Regulatory Bodies and Ethical and Corporate Governance.

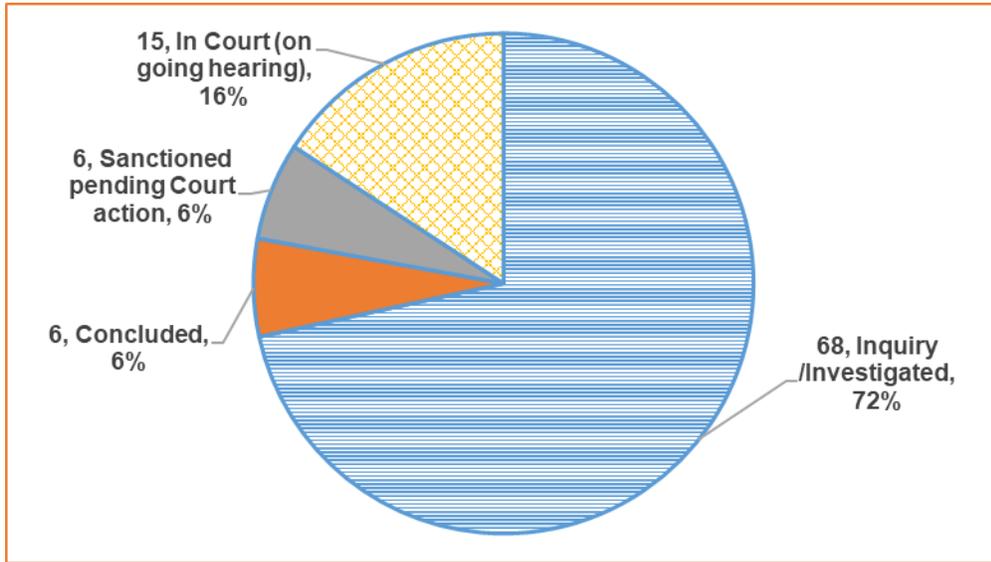
5.3.1 Civil Cases

During the FY 2024/2025, the Bureau had 30 civil cases into the Courts of Law of which 12 were related to UNBS enforcement mandate (40%), 13 (43%) relate to staff employment and 5 (17%) are contractual with service providers. As at the end of the FY2024/2025, six (6/30=20%) of the cases were resolved – four of the cases against UNBS were dismissed.

5.3.2 Criminal Cases

A total of 95 criminal cases were recorded over the FY2024/2025 of which 6 cases (6%) had been concluded by the end of the FY2024/2025 – by 30th June 2025 with the remaining cases at various stages including – ongoing hearing (15/95=16%), under investigation (68/75=72%), sanctioned pending court action (6/95=6%).

Figure 19: Status of Criminal Cases Recorded During FY2024/2025



APPENDIX

Appendix 1: UNBS Organization Structure

APPROVED MACRO STRUCTURE FOR THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

