



# Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC)

## 2022 Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report



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# Foreword

The Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) undertook the 2022 Rural Livelihoods Assessment (RLA) in fulfilment of Commitment 6 of the Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FNSP). Through its integrated Food and Nutrition Security Information System, Government through the ZimVAC remains committed to collecting, collating and disseminating up to date, accurate and disaggregated food and nutrition security information for informing policy, programming and tracking of national, regional and global food and nutrition targets in a timely manner. ZimVAC is a technical advisory committee comprised of representatives from Government, Development Partners, UN, NGOs, Technical Agencies and the Academia.

The 2022 RLA, the 22<sup>nd</sup> since inception, was motivated by the desire to monitor progress of commitments in the National Development Strategy 1, the Food and Nutrition Security Policy, Sustainable Development Goals and planning for targeted interventions to help the vulnerable people, given the prevailing drought situation in the country.

In order to ensure that we leave no-one and no place behind in all our programming, this report covers the following thematic areas: education, food and income sources, income levels, expenditure patterns, food security, COVID-19, WASH, social protection, youth and Gender Based Violence, among other issues. Hence, the findings from this assessment will inform the development of holistic and multi-sectoral response strategies.

We are grateful for the financial and technical support which we received from the ZimVAC and our strategic partners. We applaud the food and nutrition security structures at national, provincial, district and ward levels for successfully carrying out the survey. We also extend our appreciation to Government and Development Partners for the financial support and technical leadership which made the assessment a success. We are indebted to the rural communities of Zimbabwe and all the rural local authorities for their collaboration during the survey. The leadership, coordination and management of the whole assessment displayed by the staff at the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) is also greatly appreciated.

We submit this report to you for your use and reference in your invaluable work as we strive to ensure that every Zimbabwean is free from hunger and all forms of malnutrition.



**George D. Kembo (Dr.)**

**DIRECTOR GENERAL a.i./ ZIMVAC CHAIRPERSON**

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# Acknowledgements

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- Office of the President and Cabinet
- Food and Nutrition Council
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
- Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development
- Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Health and Child Care
- Ministry of Local Government and Public Works
- Rural District Councils (RDCs)
- Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprise Development
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Mercy Corps
- Meteorological Services Department
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- START NETWORK
- UNFPA-Spotlight Initiative
- United Nations Development Programme- ZRBF
- United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
- Sizimele
- MELANA
- HOCIC
- Save the Children
- Local Initiatives and Development Agency (LID)
- Adventist Relief Agency (ADRA)
- World Vision
- Simukai
- SNV
- Redcross
- National Aids Council
- ALPHA
- Africa Ahead
- CTDO
- Bindura University of Science Education
- Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology
- University of Zimbabwe
- Care International
- Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
- Plan International
- Mwenezi Development Training Centre (MDTC)
- Nutrition Action Zimbabwe (NAZ)
- Action Aid
- SAFIRE
- ZINWA
- CARITAS
- Heather Chimonga Orphanage
- Action Contre la Faim (ACF)
- Centre for Conflict Management and Transformation (CCMT)
- Jointed Hands Welfare Organisation (JHWO)

# Acknowledgement of Support



ZIMBABWE



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization



Spotlight  
Initiative  
*To eliminate violence  
against women and girls*



# Acronyms

<b>EA</b>	Enumeration Area
<b>FNC</b>	Food and Nutrition Council
<b>FNSP</b>	Food and Nutrition Security Policy
<b>HDDS</b>	Household Dietary Diversity Score
<b>NDS 1</b>	National Development Strategy 1
<b>RLA</b>	Rural Livelihoods Assessment
<b>SAM</b>	Severe Acute Malnutrition
<b>ZimVAC</b>	Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee

# **Introduction and Background**

# Introduction

- ZimVAC livelihoods assessments' results continue to be an important tool for informing and guiding policies and programmes that respond to the prevailing food and nutrition security situation. To date, 22 rural and 9 urban livelihoods updates have been produced.
- ZimVAC plays a significant role in fulfilling Commitment Six of the Food and Nutrition Security Policy (GoZ, 2012), in which the “Government of Zimbabwe is committed to ensuring a national integrated Food and Nutrition Security Information System that provides timely and reliable information on the food and nutrition security situation and the effectiveness of programmes and informs decision-making”.
- It has become mandatory for FNC to coordinate annual livelihoods updates with the technical support of ZimVAC.



# Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC)

ZimVAC is a consortium of Government, Development Partners, UN, NGOs, Technical Agencies and the Academia. It was established in 2002 and is led and regulated by Government. It is chaired by FNC, a department in the Office of the President and Cabinet whose mandate is to promote a multi-sectoral response to food insecurity and nutrition problems in a manner that ensures that every Zimbabwean is free from hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

ZimVAC supports Government, particularly FNC in:

- Convening and coordinating national food and nutrition security issues in Zimbabwe.
- Mapping a practical way forward for fulfilling legal and existing policy commitments in food and nutrition security.
- Advising Government on the strategic direction in food and nutrition security.
- Undertaking a “watchdog role” and supporting and facilitating action to ensure sector commitments in food and nutrition are kept on track through a number of core functions such as:
  - Undertaking food and nutrition assessments, analysis and research;
  - Promoting multi-sectoral and innovative approaches for addressing food and nutrition insecurity, and:
  - Supporting and building national capacity for food and nutrition security including at sub-national levels.

# Assessment Rationale

The assessment results will be used to:

- Inform planning for targeted interventions to help the vulnerable people, given the prevailing situation in the country as well as their long term vulnerability context.
- Inform short, medium and long term interventions that address immediate and long term needs as well as building resilient livelihoods.
- Monitor and report towards commitments within the guiding frameworks of existing national food and nutrition policies and strategies among them the National Development Strategy 1, the Food and Nutrition Security Policy and the Zero Hunger Strategy.
- Monitor interventions to ensure adherence to the principles spelt out in regional and international frameworks which Zimbabwe has committed itself to, which include the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and the SDGs.
- Guide early warning for early action.

# Purpose

The overall purpose of the assessment was to provide an annual update on livelihoods in Zimbabwe's rural areas, for the purpose of informing policy formulation and programming appropriate interventions.

# Objectives

The specific objectives of the assessment were:

1. To estimate the population that is likely to be food insecure in the 2022/23 consumption year, their geographic distribution and the severity of their food insecurity.
2. To assess the nutrition status of children of 6 – 59 months.
3. To describe the socio-economic profiles of rural households in terms of characteristics such as their demographics, access to basic services (education, health services and water and sanitation facilities), assets, income sources, incomes and expenditure patterns, food consumption patterns and consumption coping strategies.
4. To determine the coverage of humanitarian and developmental interventions in the country.
5. To determine the effects of shocks experienced by communities on food and nutrition security.
6. To measure household resilience and identify constraints to improving their resilience.
7. To identify early recovery needs in order to determine short to long term recovery strategies.
8. To identify development priorities for communities.

# Background

- The continuous shocks and hazards affecting the rural communities call for ongoing monitoring as the food and nutrition situation continues to evolve.
- The Government came up with the National Development Strategy 1:2021-2025 (NDS1) towards the end of 2020. The overarching goal of NDS1 is to ensure high, accelerated, inclusive and sustainable economic growth as well as socio-economic transformation and development as we move towards an upper middle-income society by 2030.
- One of the priority areas for the NDS1 is Food and Nutrition Security. NDS1 seeks to improve food self-sufficiency and to retain the regional breadbasket status. The main objective is to increase food self-sufficiency from the current level of 45% to 100% and reduce food insecurity from the 59% recorded in 2019 to less than 10% by 2025.
- The 2021/2022 season started late in the second and third dekad of December 2021 in most parts of the country. The season was characterised by poor rainfall distribution in both space and time across the country. There were incessant rains in January followed by a prolonged dry spell in the first week of February to the end of March. The passage of Tropical Storm Ana at the end of January 2022 helped to reduce rainfall deficits in parts of the country, but the tropical storm was characterised by heavy rains, which caused water logging and leaching.
- The false start of the season resulted in failed crop establishment, forcing most farmers to replant several times. The late onset caused late plantings which were later affected by the prolonged dry spell at the reproductive stage causing write offs especially in the central and southern parts of the country. The rainfall season also affected livelihoods strategies which include seasonal on-farm labour, livestock sales, vegetable production and sales, harvesting, and the sale and consumption of wild produce.
- According to the Ministry of Agriculture's 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Crop and Livestock Assessment, the estimated maize production for the 2021/2022 season stands at 1 557 914 Mt which is a 43% decrease from the 2 717 171Mt produced in the 2020/2021 season. Traditional grains production for the 2021/2022 season is estimated at 194 100MT representing a 44% decrease from 347 968Mt in 2020/2021. The total cereal production is 1 752 014Mt against a national cereal requirement of 2 267 599Mt (1 817 599Mt for human consumption and 350 000Mt for livestock).

# Background

- With the majority of the rural population's livelihoods mostly influenced by agriculture (both crops and livestock), the experienced climate related shocks have implications on access to food and the nutrition status of households.
- Poverty continues to be one of the major underlying causes of vulnerability to food and nutrition insecurity as well as precarious livelihoods in Zimbabwe. According to the ZIMSTAT Poverty, Income, Consumption and Expenditure Survey 2017 Report, 70.5% of the population were poor whilst 29.3% were deemed extremely poor. The macroeconomic situation remains volatile due to parallel market exchange rates that are the main drivers of ZWL price increases in both formal and informal sectors. This is impacting livelihoods and access to food, especially among poor households.
- The health pandemic, due to COVID-19, continues to be the biggest health and human crisis threatening food security and nutrition among the Zimbabwean population. The impact of the pandemic is being felt in all sectors of the economy, including health, education and agriculture. The COVID 19 pandemic, whose effects and devastation have been felt across all parts of the world, has magnified pre-existing differences in economic and social conditions of the vulnerable populations.

# Contextual Analysis- Background

The livelihoods of rural households continue to be affected by both systemic and idiosyncratic shocks which include but are not limited to the following:

## ***Systemic Shocks***

- Climatic shocks (Drought and prolonged mid-season dry spells, floods, water logging, crop and livestock pests, hailstorms)
- Economic shocks (sharp changes of cereals and livestock prices)
- Crop and livestock diseases

## ***Idiosyncratic shocks***

- Health related shocks (COVID-19, chronic illness)
- Death of breadwinner

# Government Mitigatory Measures

- Despite the environmental challenges for the period under review, the Government is applauded for being proactive and implementing a number of mitigatory measures.
- Government remained committed to ensuring that every Zimbabwean is free from hunger and malnutrition and led the implementation of the following measures to ensure food security for all people:
  - a) COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign-** The campaign has seen eligible members of the population receiving doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. As of the 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2022, 6.24 million people (55.6%) had received their first dose and 4.6 million (40.7%) were fully vaccinated. Furthermore, 838 292 people had received the third dose (booster dose).
  - b) Supporting the vulnerable groups** through distribution of food aid (in-kind) and cash transfers; cash transfer for cereals, harmonized social cash transfers.



# Government Mitigatory Measures

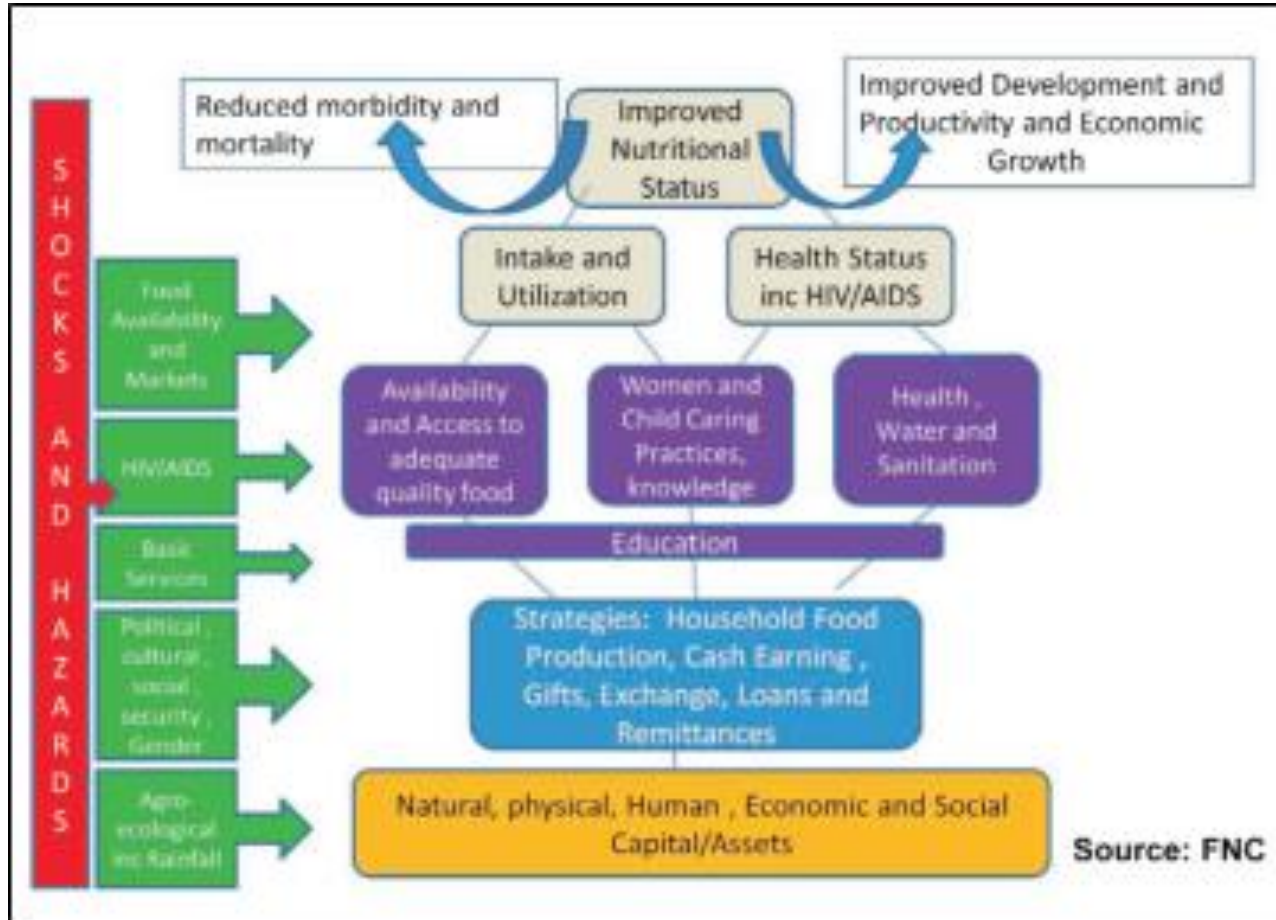
- c) *Food Subsidies*** through continued implementation of social protection measures to improve food access (e.g. maize meal subsidies).
- d) *Enabling environment-*** Government also opened up space for development partners to contribute and assist.
- e) *Removing restrictions on food importation*** such as removal of import duty on maize and wheat, cooking oil, among other basic commodities, to ensure affordability of essential foodstuffs and to mitigate the effects of the drought.
- f) *Pfumvudza/Intwasa Programme***, through programmes which farmers are supported with seed, fertiliser and herbicides.
- g) *Emergency Road Rehabilitation Programme*** – the Government of Zimbabwe declared all roads to be a state of national disaster on 9 February 2021. Shortly after, a second Emergency Road Rehabilitation Programme (ERRP II) was launched and the objectives of the programme are to improve the road network, which was extensively damaged during the rainy season, and to harness the potential of the transport system in promoting economic growth.

# Government Mitigatory Measures

- h) *National Public Infrastructure Investment Programme*** prioritises and embraces projects identified by communities. Major trunk roads are now being upgraded, new infrastructure being constructed, and additional raw water sources are being delivered to mitigate the impact of climate change.
- i) *Access to consumptive water*** through availing resources towards borehole drilling, rehabilitation and construction of Headworks for livestock water troughs.
- j) *Strengthening of Multi-Sectoral Structures*** in order to operationalise a cohesive response to the food and nutrition challenges. The structures include the following: Inter-Ministerial Cabinet Committee for Food and Nutrition Security, Inter-Ministerial Grain Importation Committee, Internal Logistics and Distribution of Grain Committee, Working Party of Permanent Secretaries, Food Aid Working Group, National Food and Nutrition Security Committee, District Food and Nutrition Security Committees, District Drought Relief Committees and Ward Food and Nutrition Security Committees (inclusive of local leadership including local Councilors and Chiefs).

# **Assessment Methodology**

# Methodology – Assessment Design



- The assessment was a cross-sectional study whose design was guided and informed by the Food and Nutrition Security Conceptual Framework (Figure 1), which Zimbabwe adopted in the FNSP (GoZ, 2012), and the conceptual framework on food security dimensions propounded by Jones et al. (2013).
- The assessment was also guided and informed by the resilience framework (Figure 2) so as to influence the early recovery of households affected by various shocks.
- The assessment looked at food availability and access as pillars that have confounding effects on food security as defined in the FNSP (GoZ, 2012).
- Accordingly, the assessment measured the amount of energy available to a household from all its potential sources hence the **primary sampling unit** for the assessment was the household.

**Figure 1: Food and Nutrition Conceptual Framework**

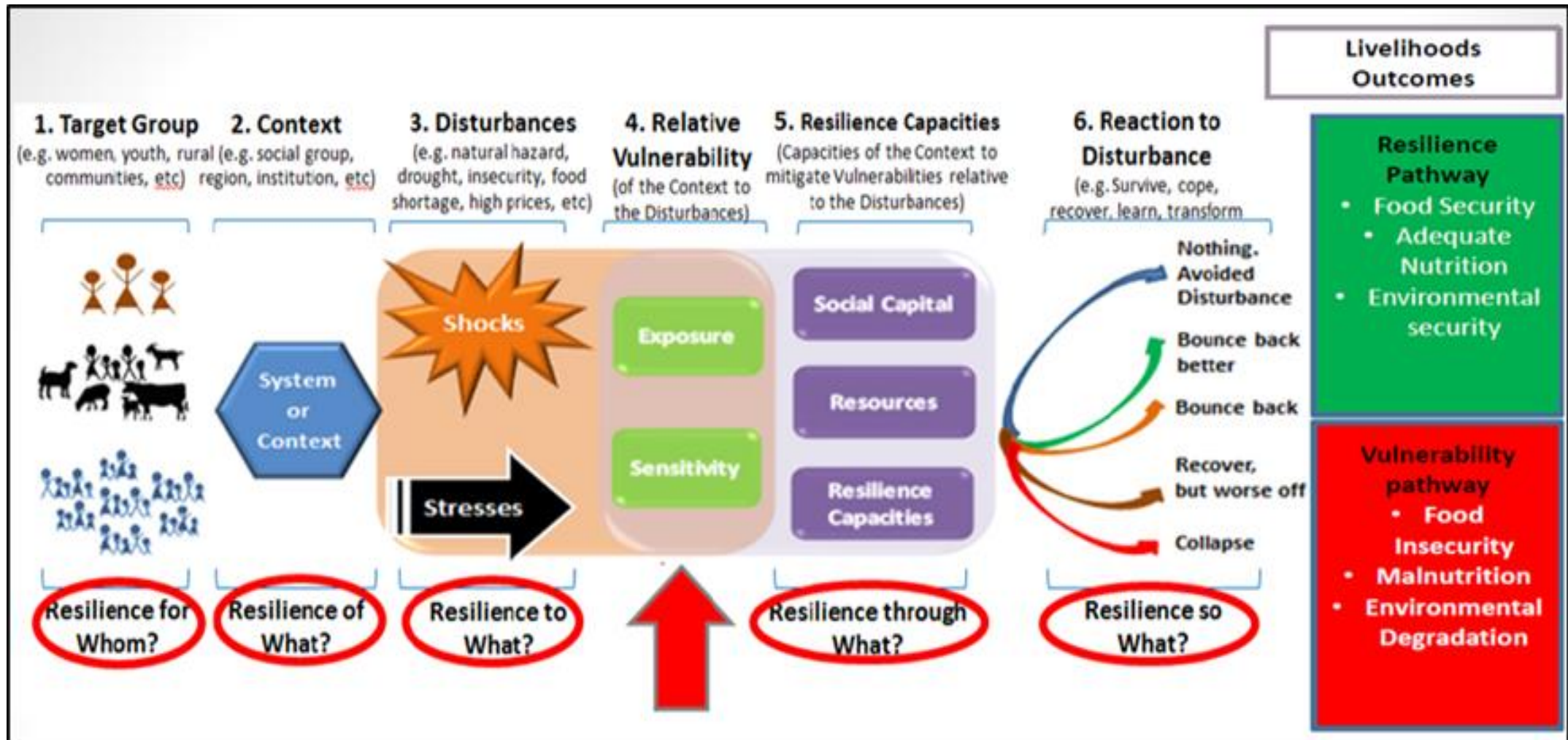


Figure 2: Zimbabwe Resilience Framework (UNDP Zimbabwe, 2015)

# Methodology – Assessment Process

- ZimVAC, through multi-stakeholder consultations, developed an appropriate assessment design concept note and data collection tools informed by the assessment objectives.
- The primary data collection tools used in the assessment were the android-based structured household questionnaire and the community Focus Group Discussion (FGD) guide.
- ZimVAC national supervisors (including Provincial Agritex Extension Officers and Provincial Nutritionists) and enumerators were recruited from Government, United Nations, Technical partners and Non-Governmental Organisations. These underwent training in all aspects of the assessment. In order to minimise the risk of spreading COVID-19, training for enumerators was done at district level.
- The Ministry of Health and Child Care was the lead ministry in the development of the Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) guidelines which guided all processes from survey planning to data collection.
- The Ministry of Local Government coordinated the recruitment of district level enumerators and mobilisation of provincial supervision and district enumeration vehicles. Three enumerators were selected from each district for data collection and one anthropometrist was responsible for taking anthropometric measurements.

# Methodology – Assessment Process

- Enumerator training was held from 9 to 10 May 2022. Primary data collection took place from 11 to 23 May 2022. In recognising the risk of spreading COVID-19 during data collection, innovative approaches were used to collect vital information without causing any harm.
- The RLA was guided by global and country specific recommendations and all necessary precautions were taken to avoid potential transmission of COVID-19 between enumerators and community members.
- Data analysis and report writing ran from 4 June to 12 June 2022. Various secondary data sources and field observations were used to contextualise the analysis and reporting.

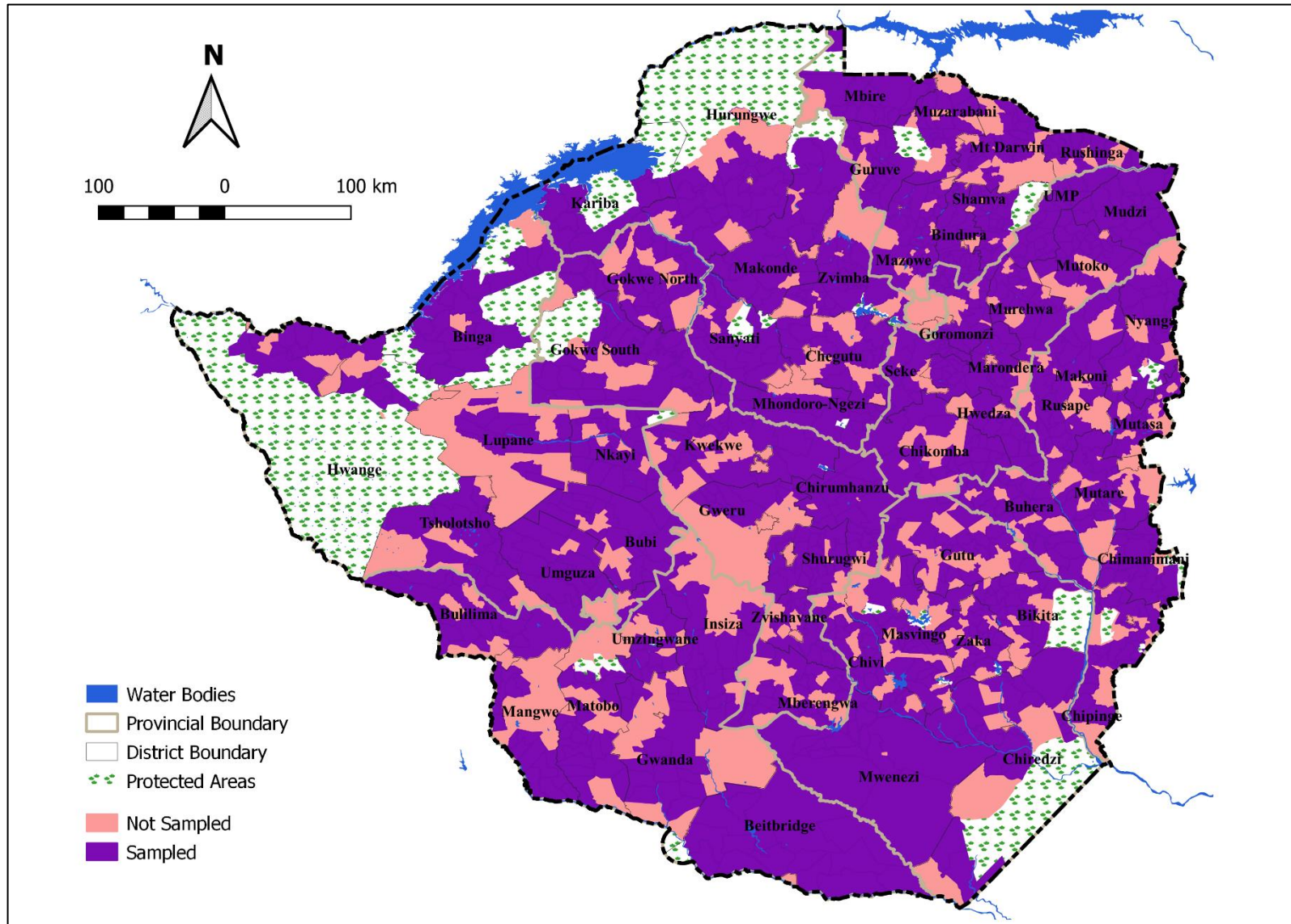
# Methodology - Sampling and Sample Size

- Household food insecurity prevalence was used as the key indicator to determine the sample to ensure 95% confidence level of statistical representativeness at district, provincial and national level.
- The survey collected data from 1 500 randomly selected Enumerated Areas (EAs):
- A two staged cluster sampling was used and comprised of;
  - Sampling of 25 clusters per each of the 60 rural districts, denoted as EAs in this assessment, from the Zimbabwe Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT) 2012 master sampling frame using the PPS methodology
  - The second stage involved the systematic random sampling of 10 households per EA (village).
- At most, 250 households were interviewed per district, bringing the total sampled households to 15 000.
- Out of the 15 000 sampled households, 14 965 households were interviewed, giving a 99.8% response rate.
- Twelve FGDs and one Key Informant Interview (KII) on irrigation and grazing were held per district.

Province	Number of Sampled Households
<b>Manicaland</b>	1743
<b>Mash Central</b>	2002
<b>Mash East</b>	2244
<b>Mash West</b>	1751
<b>Mat North</b>	1739
<b>Mat South</b>	1754
<b>Midlands</b>	1994
<b>Masvingo</b>	1738
<b>National</b>	<b>14965</b>



# Methodology – Sampled Wards



# Data Preparation and Analysis

- Primary data was transcribed using CSEntry on android gadgets and using CSPro. It was consolidated and converted into SPSS, STATA and DBF datasets for:
  - Household structured interviews
  - Community Focus Group Discussions
  - District Key Informant Interviews
- Data cleaning and analysis were done using SPSS, STATA, ENA, Microsoft Excel and GIS packages.
- Analyses of the different thematic areas covered by the assessment were informed and guided by relevant local and international frameworks, where they exist.
- Gender, as a cross cutting issue, was recognised throughout the analysis.

# Technical Scope

The 2022 RLA collected and analysed information on the following thematic areas:

- Education
- Health
- WASH
- Nutrition
- Agriculture and other rural livelihoods activities
- Food security
- Resilience
- Social protection
- Youth
- Linkages amongst the key sectoral and thematic areas
- Cross-cutting issues such as gender

# **Assessment Findings**

# **Demographic Description of the Sample**

# Household Characteristics

# Characteristics of Respondents: Sex and Age

Province	Average Age of Respondent (Years)	Respondent Sex (%)	
		Male	Female
Manicaland	45.9	27.3	72.5
Mashonaland Central	43.7	33.2	66.8
Mashonaland East	47.3	28.1	71.8
Mashonaland West	43.5	34.8	65.1
Matabeleland North	48.1	30.1	69.9
Matabeleland South	48.6	27.9	72.0
Midlands	47.7	28.9	71.0
Masvingo	46.5	28.6	71.3
National	46.4	29.8	70.1

- About 70.1% of the respondents were female.
- The average age of the respondents was 46.4 years.

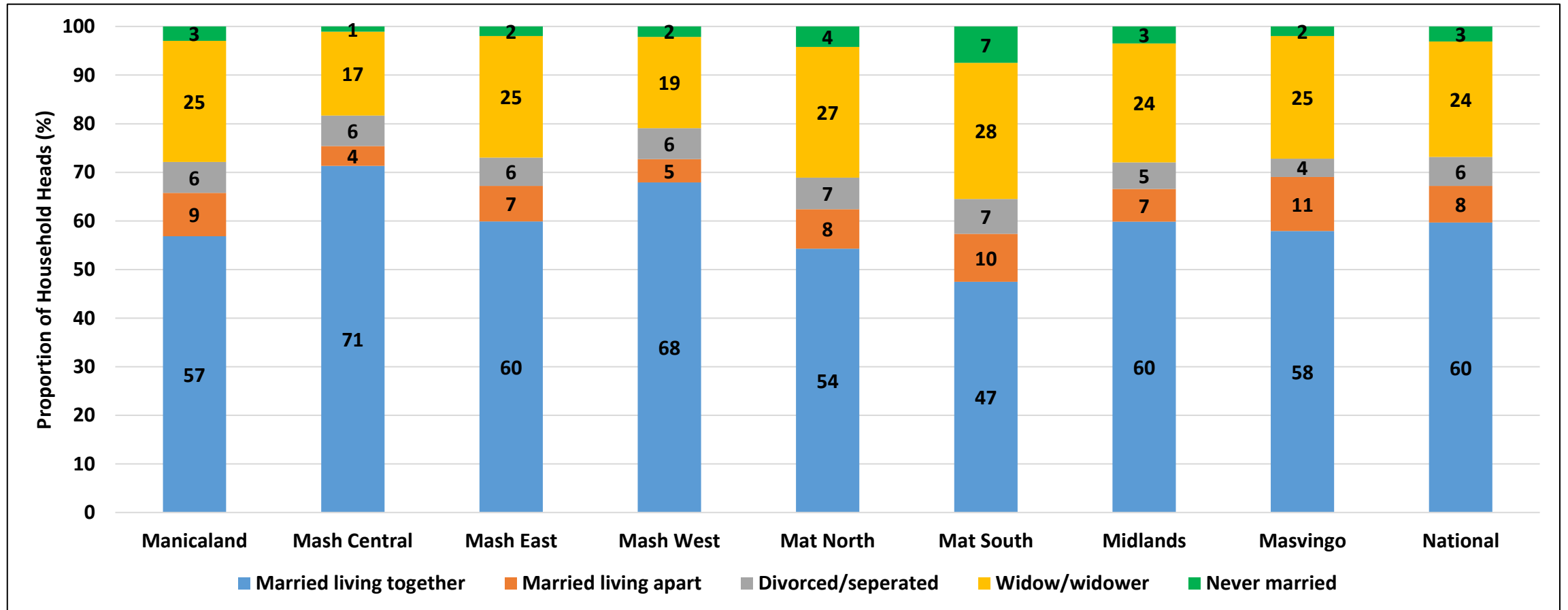
# Characteristics of Household Head: Sex and Age

Province	Average Household Head Age [Years]	Household Head Sex (%)	
		Female	Male
Manicaland	51.0	37.9	62.1
Mash Central	49.8	26.1	73.9
Mash East	52.3	34.0	66.0
Mash West	48.0	27.0	73.0
Mat North	54.2	38.0	62.0
Mat South	55.8	43.4	56.6
Midlands	53.7	34.7	65.3
Masvingo	52.2	36.4	63.6
<b>National</b>	<b>52.1</b>	34.5	65.5

- About 70% of the households were male headed, with the highest proportion being in Mashonaland Central (73.9%).
- The average age of household heads was 52.1 years, which is within the productive age group.

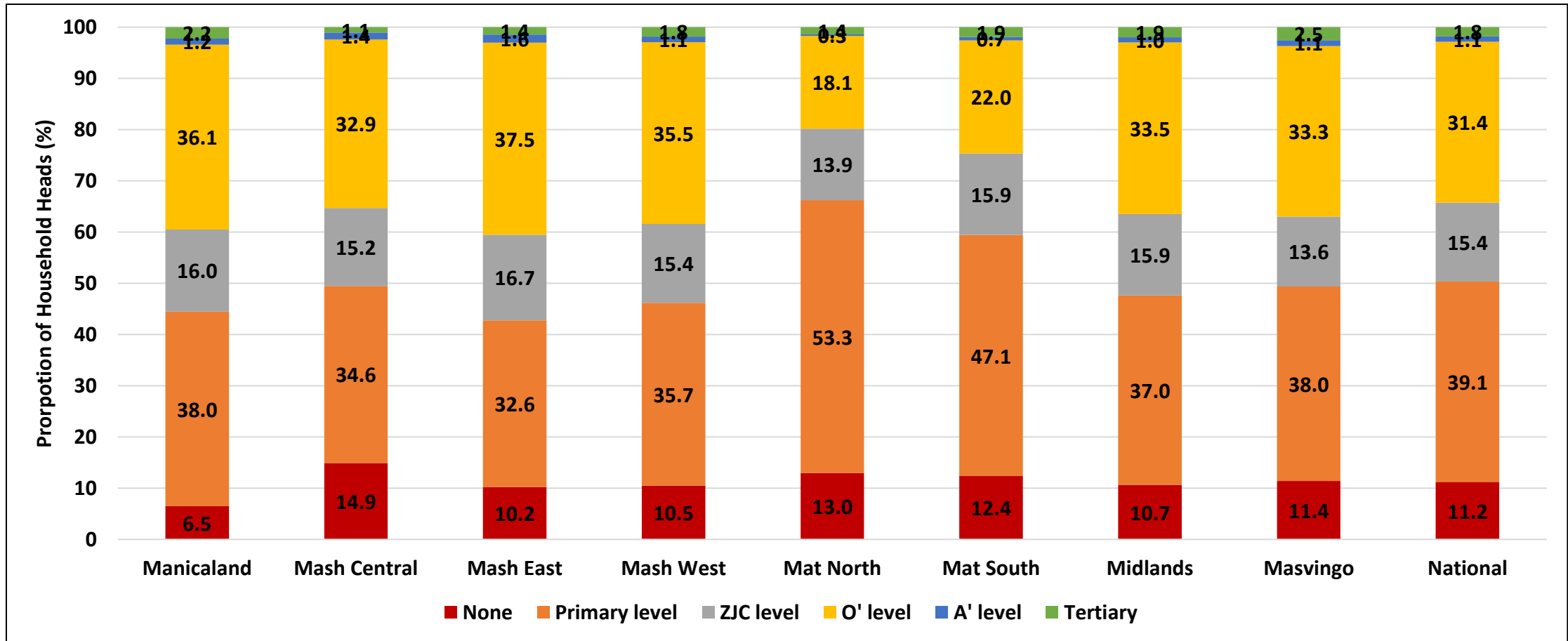


# Characteristics of Household Head: Marital Status



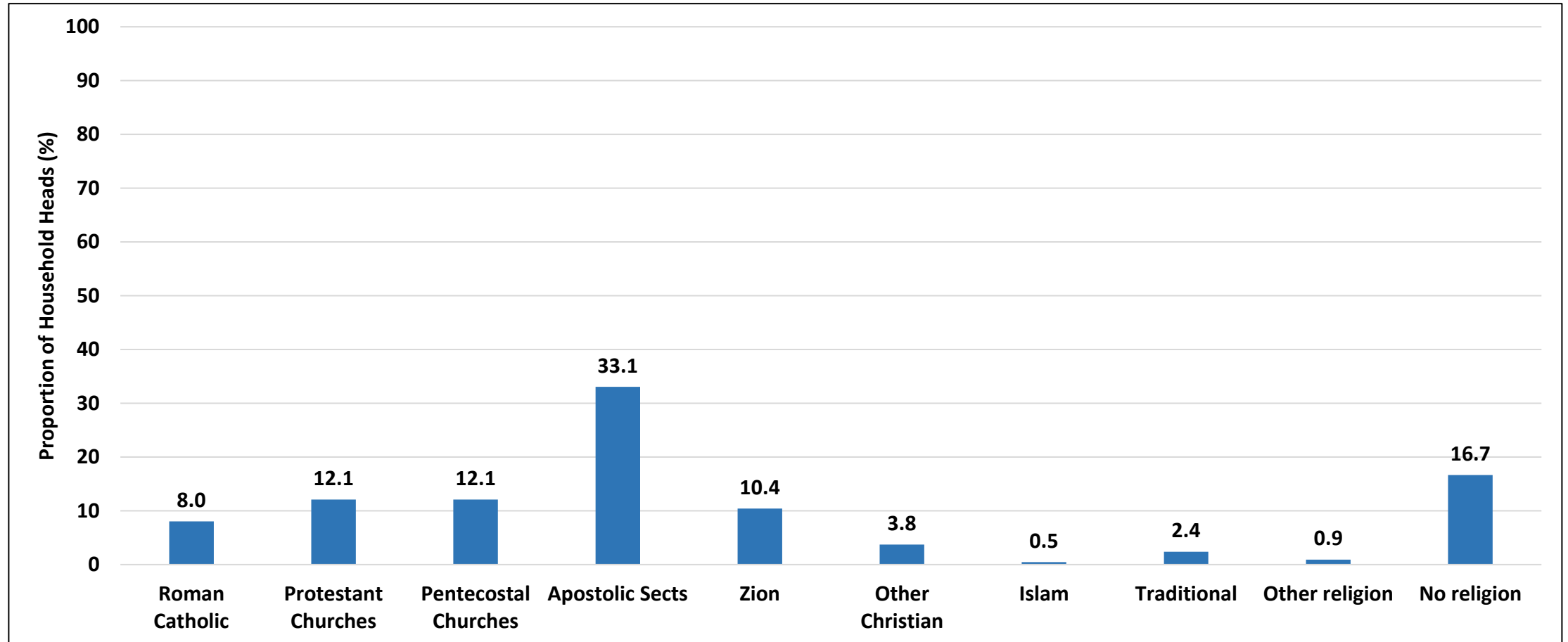
- Nationally, 60% of household heads were married and living together with their spouse, whilst 24% were widowed.
- Matabeleland South had the least proportion of household heads who were married and living together with their spouse (47%) and also the highest proportion of household heads who were widowed (28%).

# Characteristics of Household Head: Education Level Attained



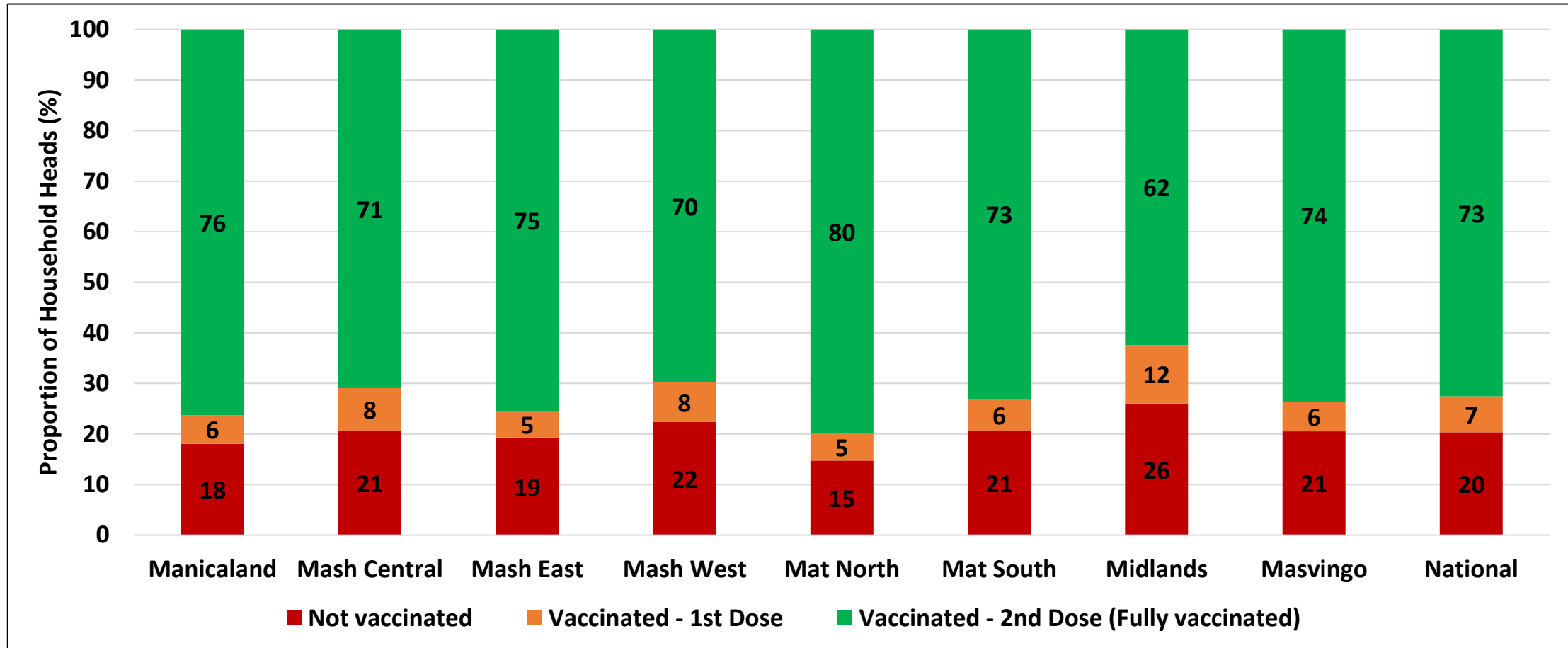
- Nationally, 11.2% of the household heads had not attained any level of education.

# Characteristics of Household Head: Religion



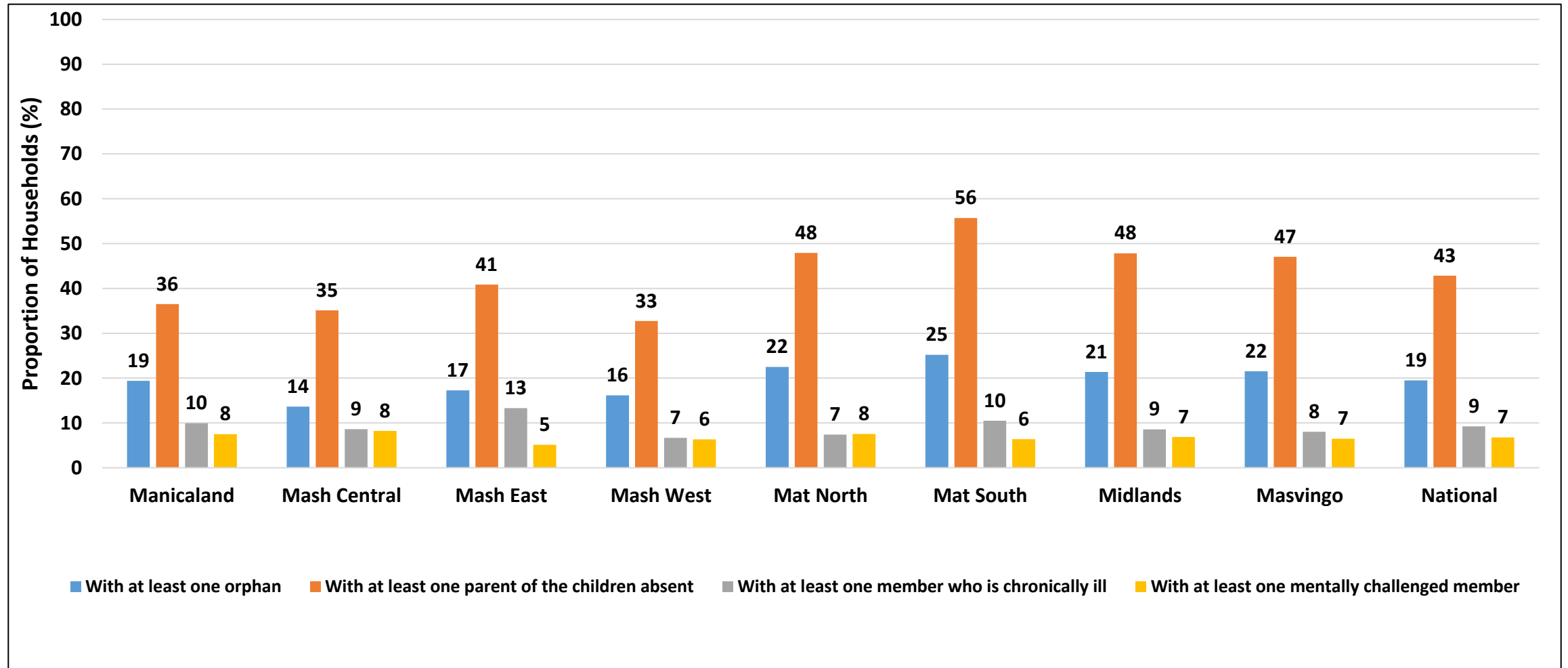
- Over 75% of the household heads were of the Christian religion.

# Characteristics of Household Head: COVID-19 Vaccination Status



- Nationally, 73% of household heads had received the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine whilst 20% of the household heads were not vaccinated.
- Matabeleland North (80%) had the highest proportion of fully vaccinated household heads.

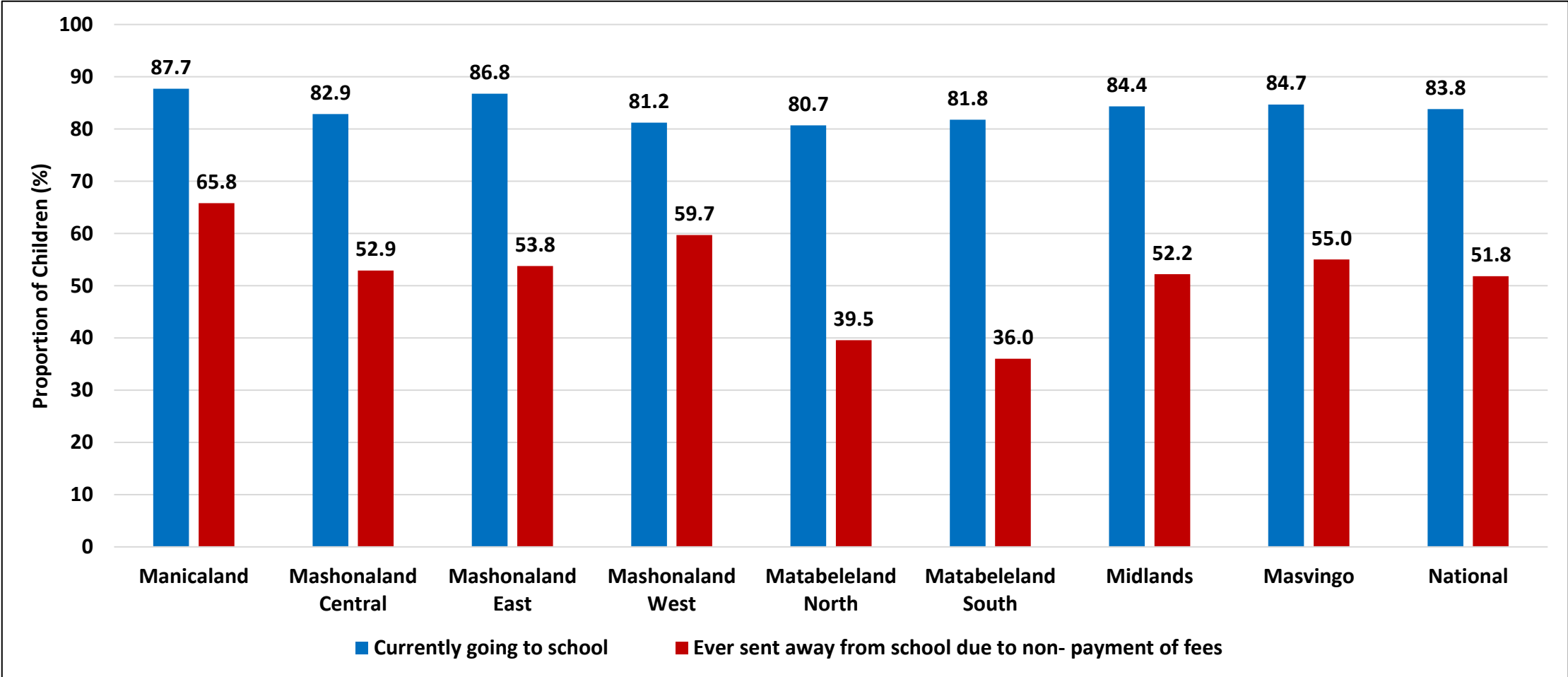
# Household Vulnerability Attributes



- About 19% of the households had at least one orphan living in the household.
- About 7% of the households had at least one member who was mentally challenged.

# Education

# School Attendance

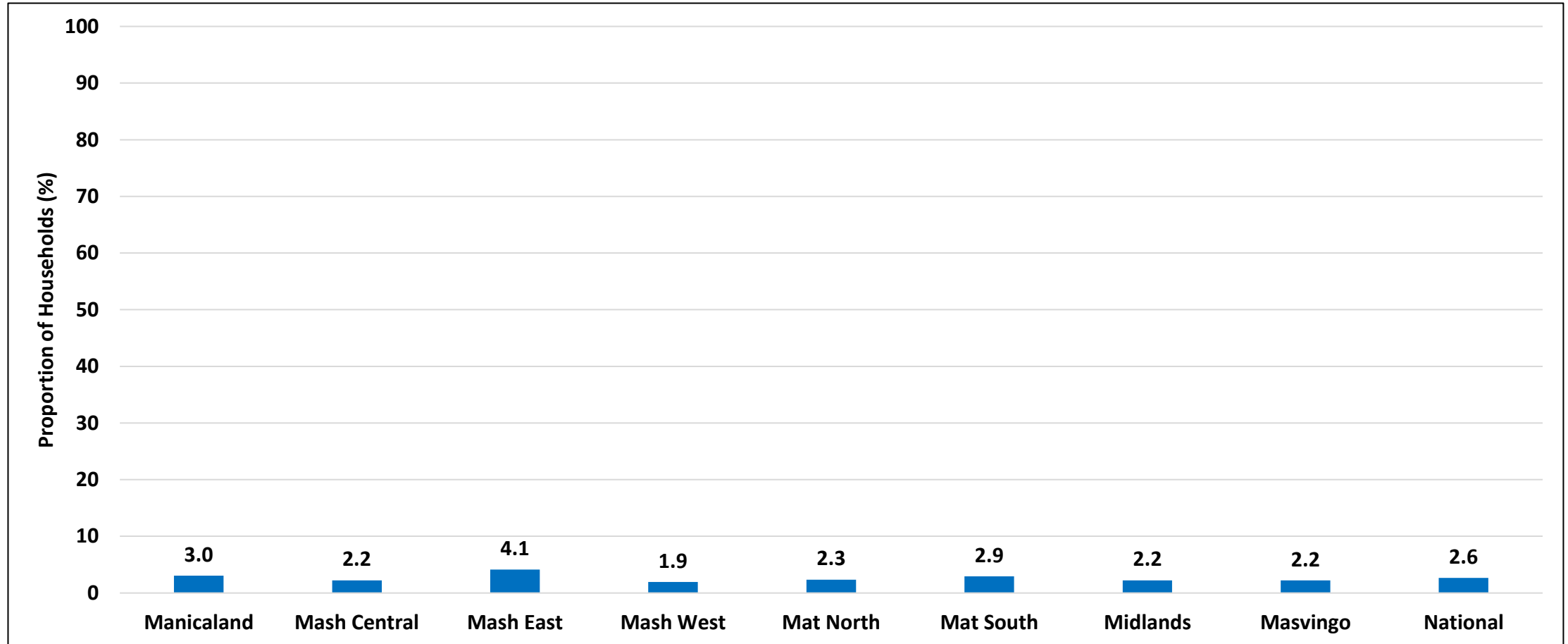


- Nationally, about 83.8% of the children of school going age were in school at the time of the assessment.
- About 51.8 % of the children were reported to have been turned away from school for non-payment of school fees during the first term of 2022.

# Chronic Illness



# Chronic Conditions



- About 2.6% of households had a member with a chronic condition.

# Household Members who had a Chronic Condition (2.6%)

	HIV infection, AIDS (%)	Heart disease (%)	Diabetes, high blood sugar (%)	Asthma (%)	Hypertension, High blood pressure (%)	Arthritis, chronic body pain (%)	Epilepsy, seizures, fits (%)	Stroke (%)	Cancer (%)	Tuberculosis (%)	Liver diseases (%)	Kidney diseases (%)	Ulcer, chronic stomach pain (%)	Other (%)
<b>Manicaland</b>	24.5	6.0	13.2	5.3	28.9	5.6	1.8	1.8	0.9	1.1	0.1	0.6	5.0	5.0
<b>Mashonaland Central</b>	18.8	4.9	7.5	9.1	27.0	9.2	2.7	1.8	0.9	1.5	0.3	1.1	5.5	9.9
<b>Mashonaland East</b>	19.9	3.7	10.5	7.2	32.9	6.3	2.5	1.8	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.5	6.5	6.8
<b>Mashonaland West</b>	21.9	3.1	12.1	9.1	25.4	8.3	2.5	2.1	1.1	1.3	0.1	1.3	4.0	7.6
<b>Matabeleland North</b>	36.3	1.2	11.0	8.6	23.3	5.9	2.8	1.3	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.6	2.6	4.9
<b>Matabeleland South</b>	35.5	1.7	7.3	6.1	25.9	7.4	1.6	2.0	0.9	1.2	0.2	0.6	3.2	6.6
<b>Midlands</b>	27.3	3.0	11.2	8.7	22.7	6.2	3.0	1.7	1.7	2.0	0.1	0.6	3.1	8.7
<b>Masvingo</b>	22.1	2.8	8.2	6.5	15.7	7.7	1.9	2.0	0.7	1.5	0.3	0.8	4.9	24.8
<b>National</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>9.5</b>

- HIV/AIDS (25.5%) and Hypertension/High blood pressure (25.4%) constituted over half of the chronic conditions.

# **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

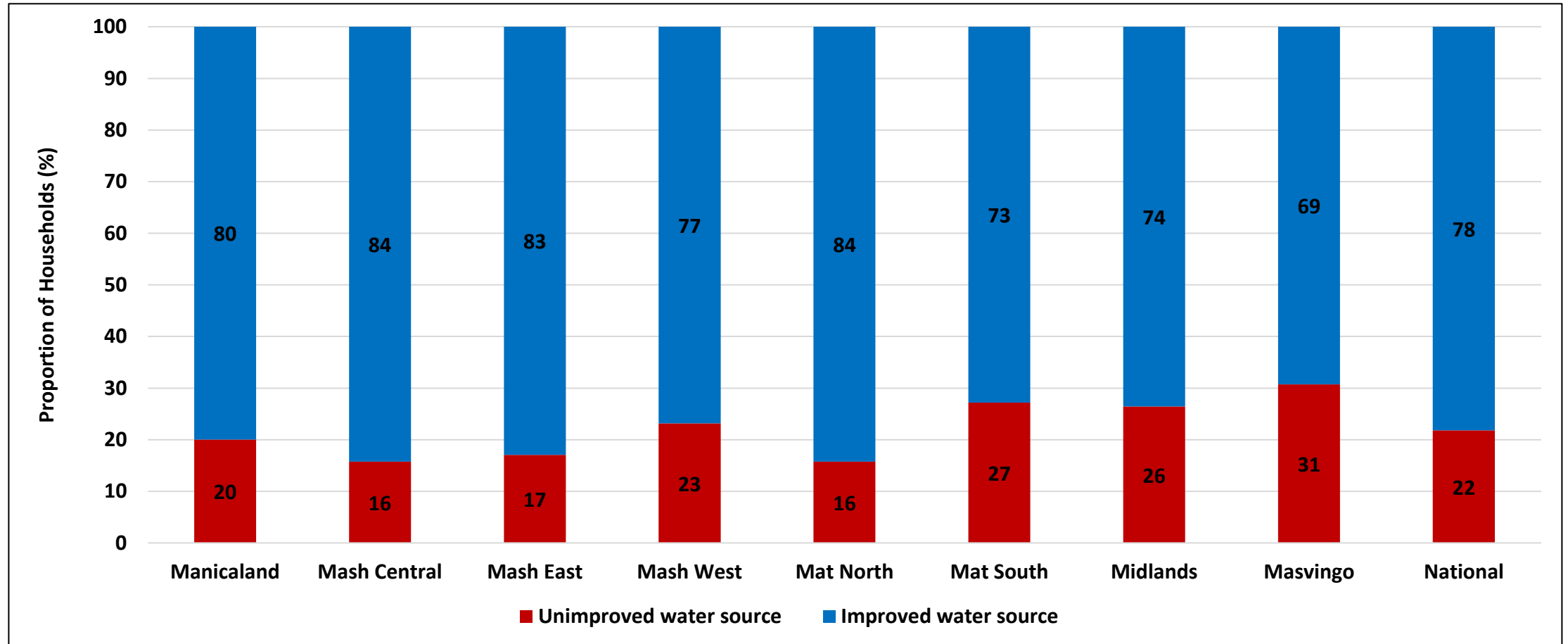
# Ladder for Drinking Water Services

Service Level	Definition
<b>Safely Managed</b>	Drinking water from an improved water source that is located on premises, available when needed and free from faecal and priority chemical contamination.
<b>Basic Drinking Water</b>	Basic drinking water services are defined as drinking water from an improved source, provided collection time is not more than 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queuing.
<b>Limited Drinking Water Services</b>	Limited water services are defined as drinking water from an improved source, where collection time exceeds 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queuing.
<b>Unimproved Water Sources</b>	Drinking water from an unprotected dug well or unprotected spring.
<b>Surface Water Sources</b>	Drinking water directly from a river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal or irrigation channel.

**Note :**

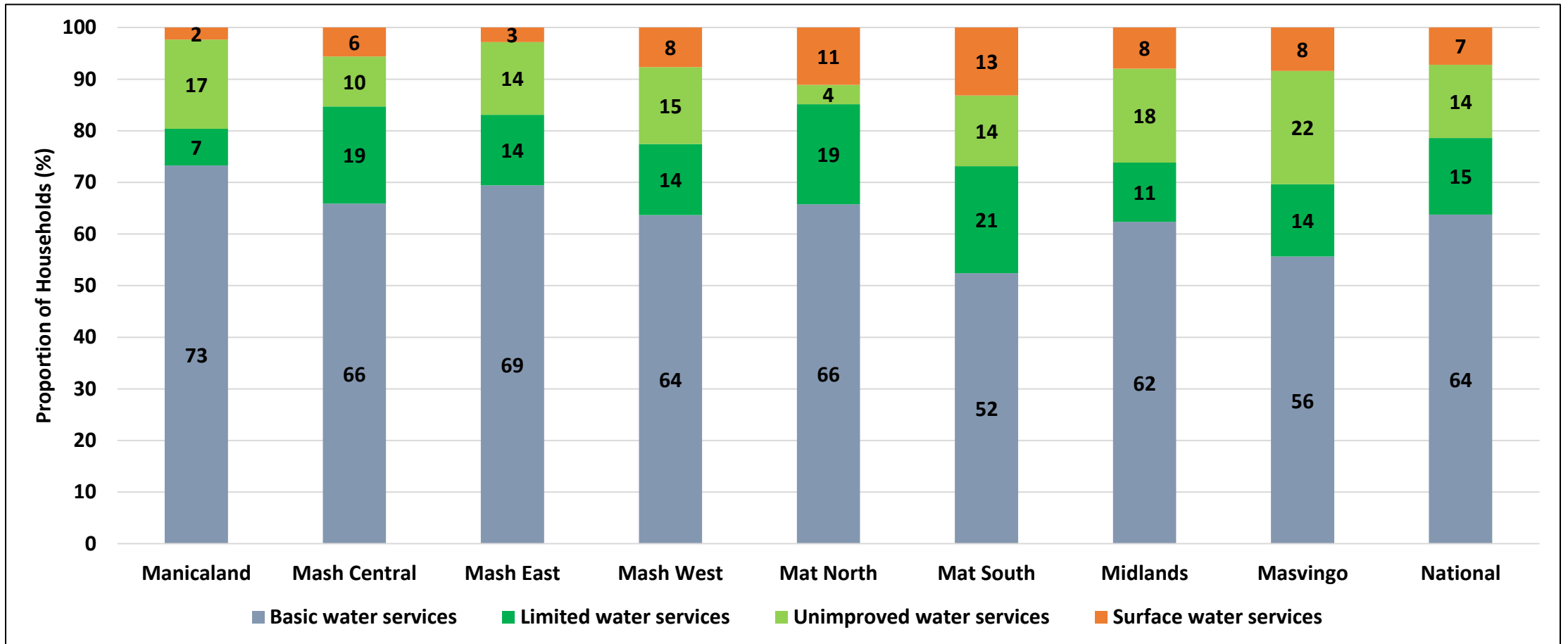
“Improved” drinking water sources are further defined by the quality of the water they produce, and are protected from faecal contamination by the nature of their construction or through an intervention to protect from outside contamination. Such sources include: piped water into dwelling, plot, or yard; public tap/standpipe; tube well/borehole; protected dug well; protected spring; or rainwater collection. This category now includes packaged and delivered water, considering that both can potentially deliver safe water.

# Access to Improved Water Sources



- Seventy eight percent of rural households had access to improved water sources.
- Mashonaland Central (84%) and Matabeleland North (84%) had the largest proportions of households with access to improved water sources.

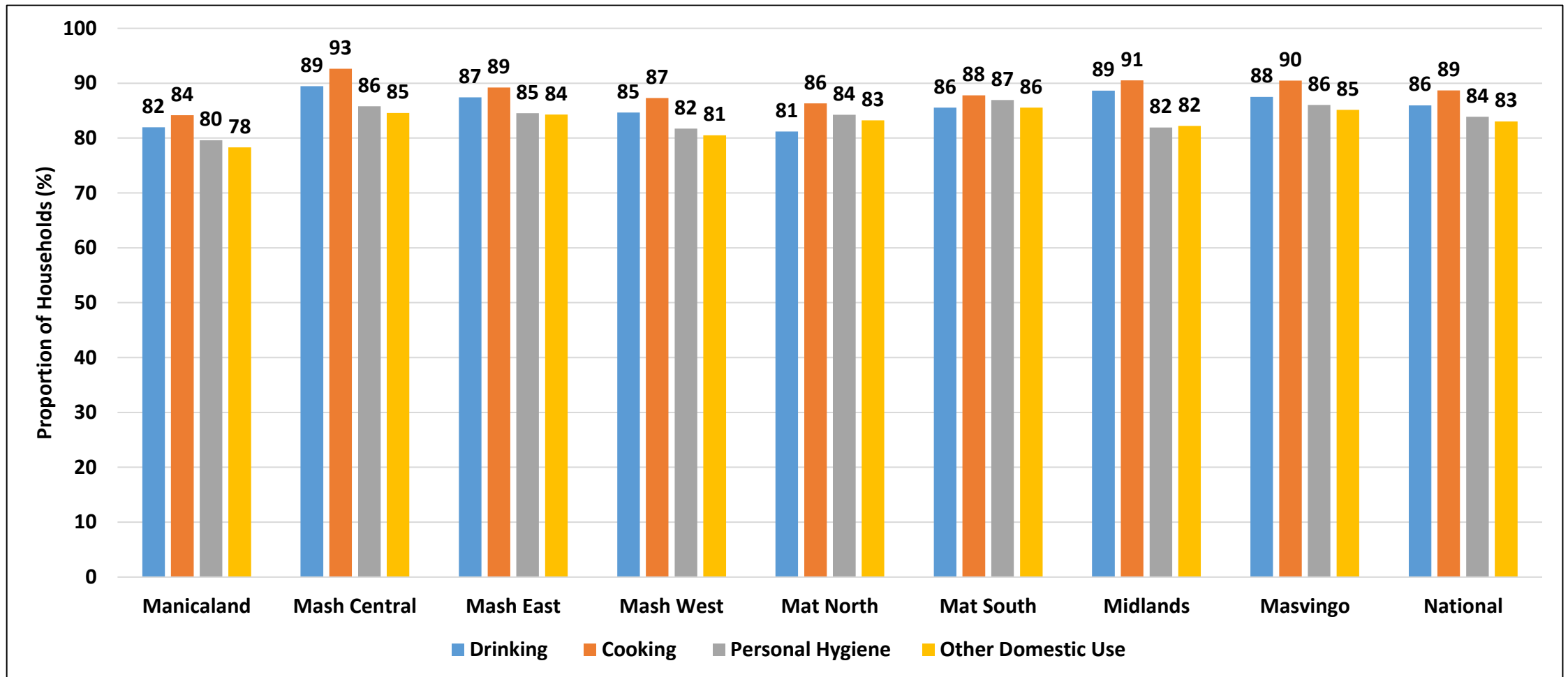
# Main Drinking Water Services



- About 64% of households had access to basic water services, whilst 15% and 14% used limited and unimproved water services, respectively.
- At least 13% of households in Matabeleland South and 11% in Matabeleland North were using surface water services.



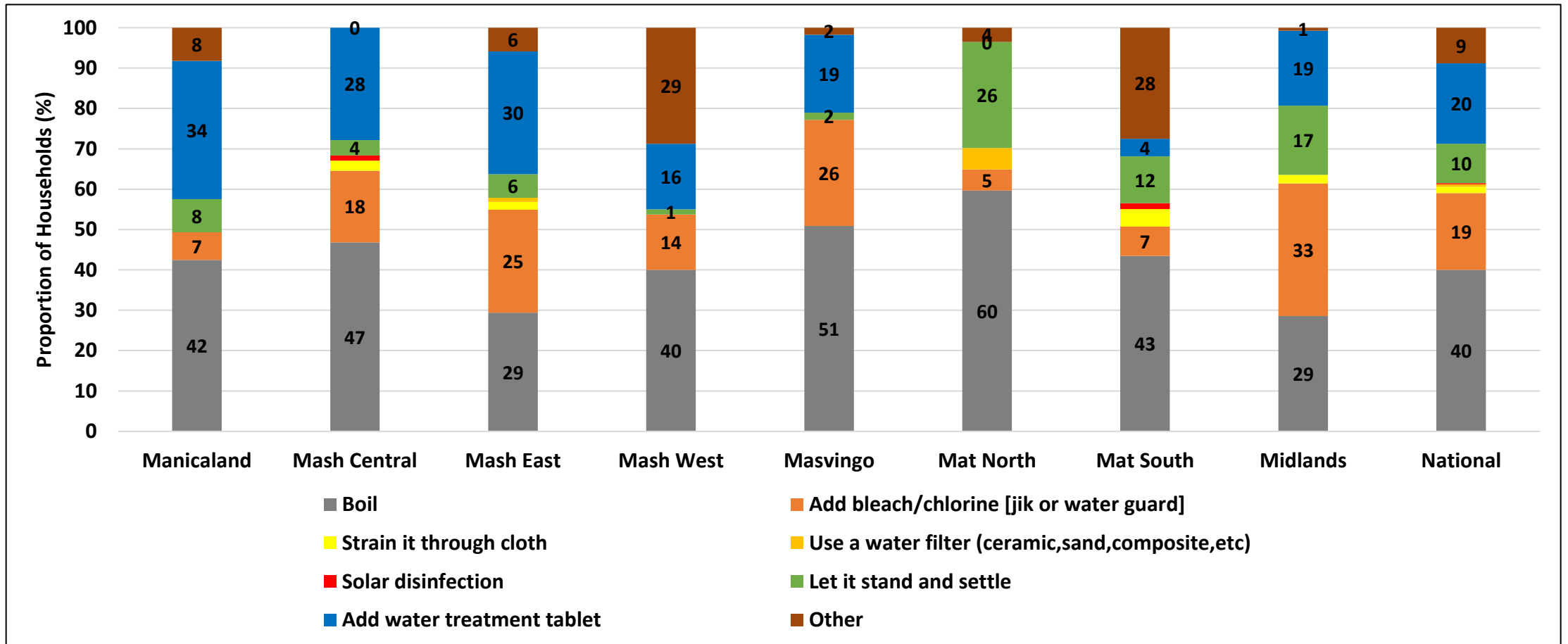
# Access to Adequate Domestic Water



- Most households had access to adequate water for domestic use.

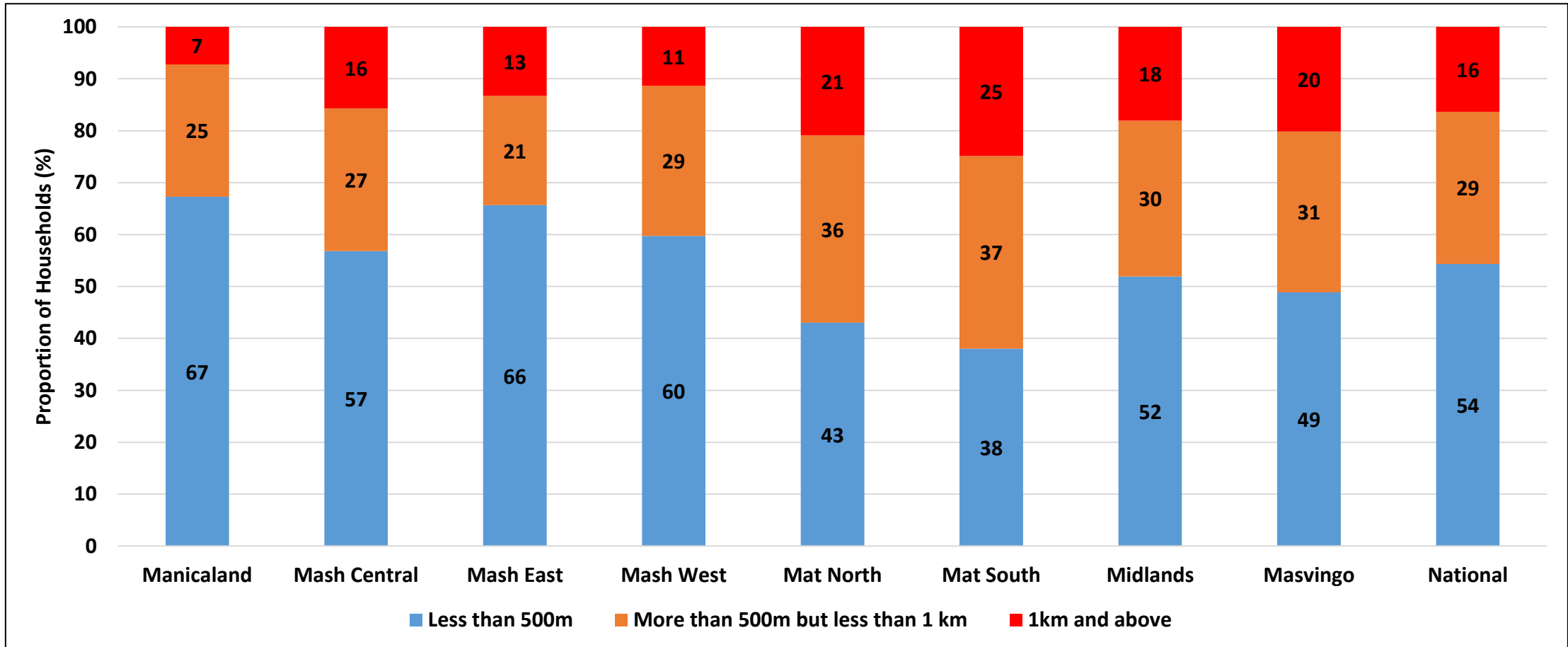


# Water Treatment Methods



- Of those households which reported to be treating their water, about 40% used the boiling method.
- Twenty six percent of households in Matabeleland North let their water stand and settle as a treatment method.

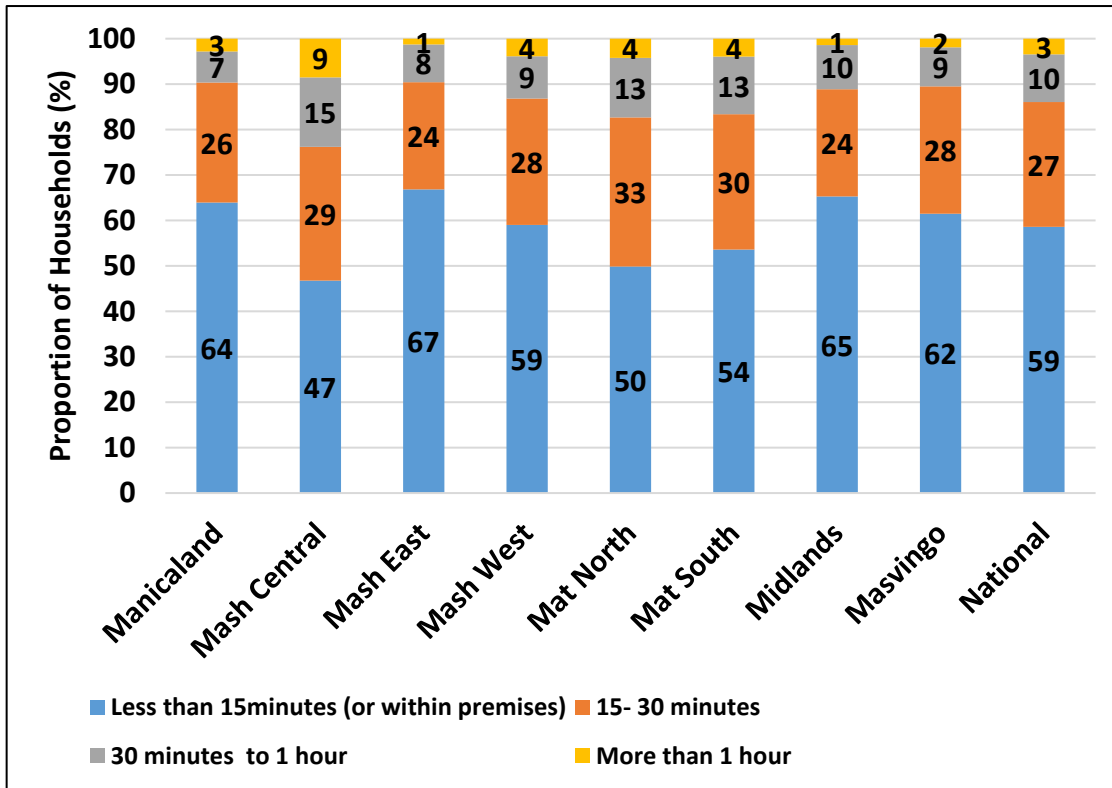
# Distance Travelled to Main Water Source



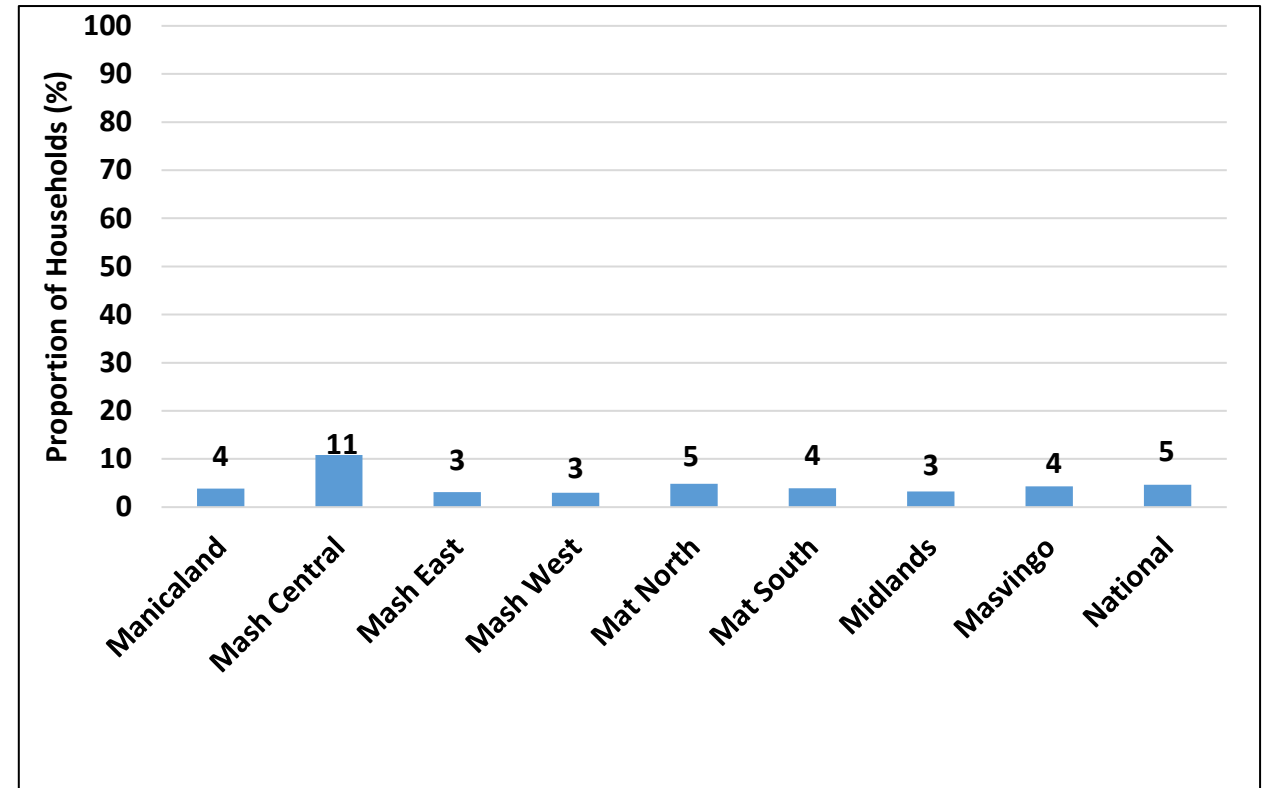
- About 54% of rural households travelled less than 500m to fetch water, whilst 16% travelled more than 1km.
- Manicaland had 67% of households travelling less than 500m to fetch water.

# Time Spent Queueing at Water Source and Violence at Water Source

## Time Spent at Water Source



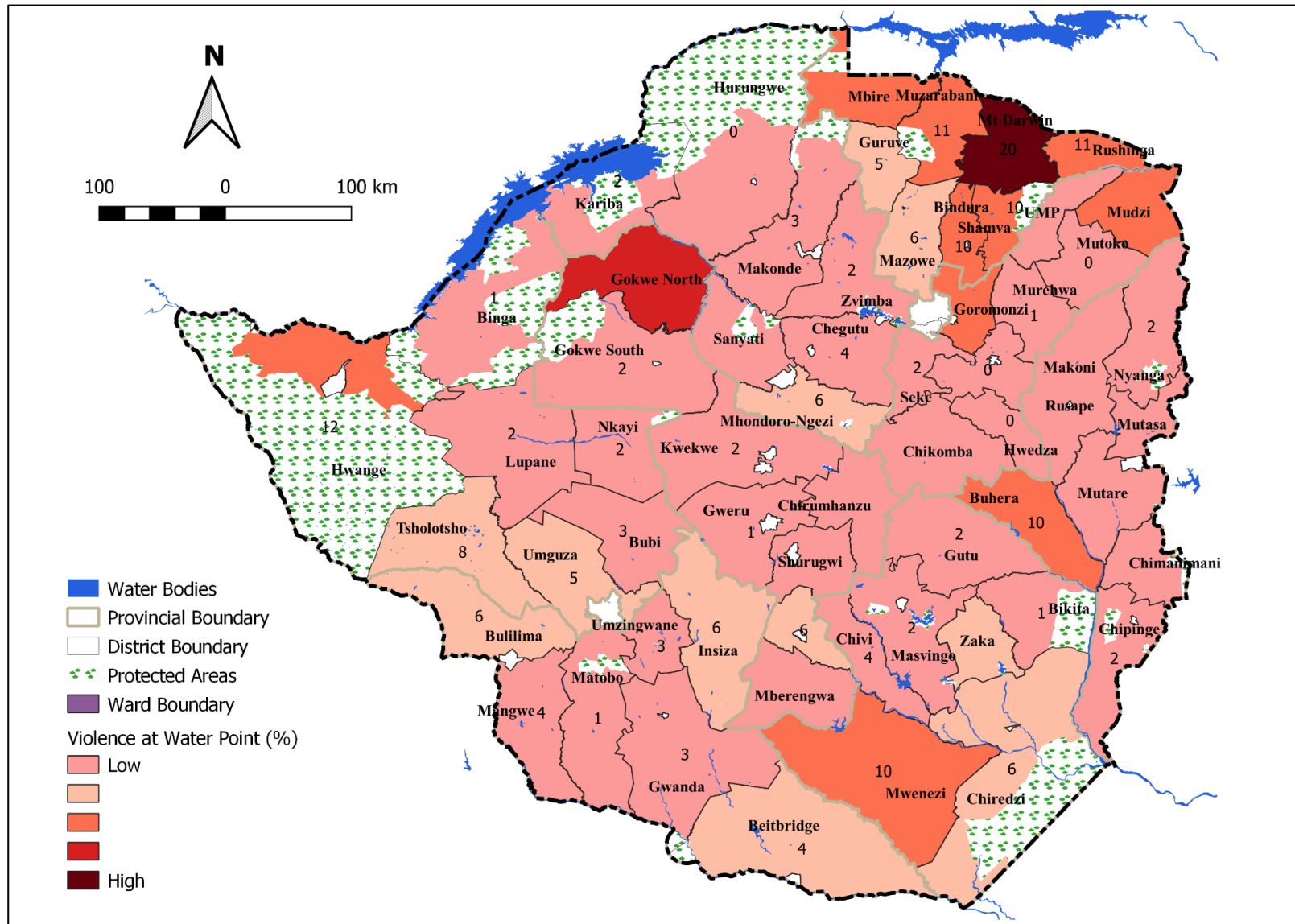
## Violence at Water Source



- About 59% of households spent less than 15 minutes at the water source.

- About 5% of households experienced violence at water points.

# Violence at Water Points



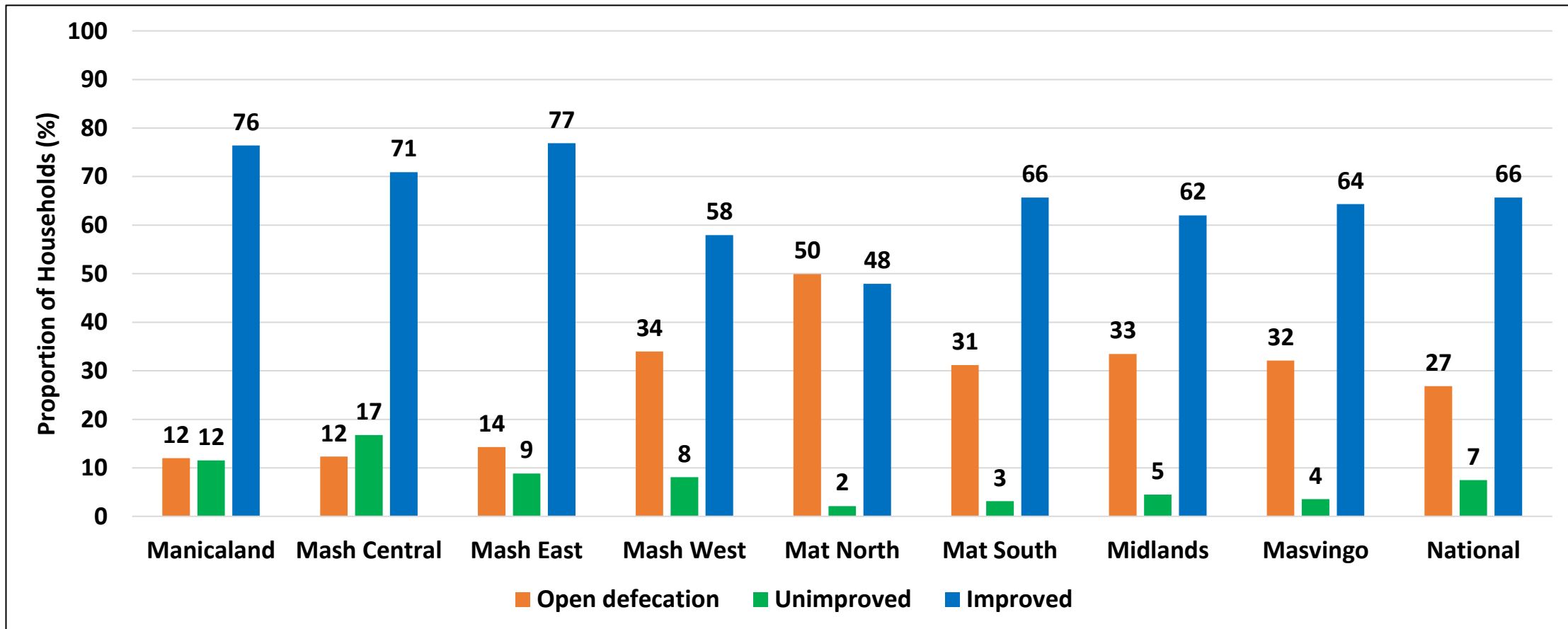
- Mt Darwin had the highest proportion of households which reported violence at water points (20%).

# Ladder for Sanitation

Service level	Definition
<b>Safely Managed</b>	Use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed of in situ or transported and treated offsite.
<b>Basic Sanitation Facilities</b>	Use of improved facilities which are not shared with other households.
<b>Limited Sanitation Facilities</b>	Use of improved facilities shared between two or more households.
<b>Unimproved Sanitation Facilities</b>	Facilities that do not ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact. Unimproved facilities include pit latrines without a slab or platform, hanging latrines and bucket latrines.
<b>Open Defecation</b>	Disposal of human faeces in fields, forest, bushes, open bodies of water, beaches or other open spaces or with solid waste.

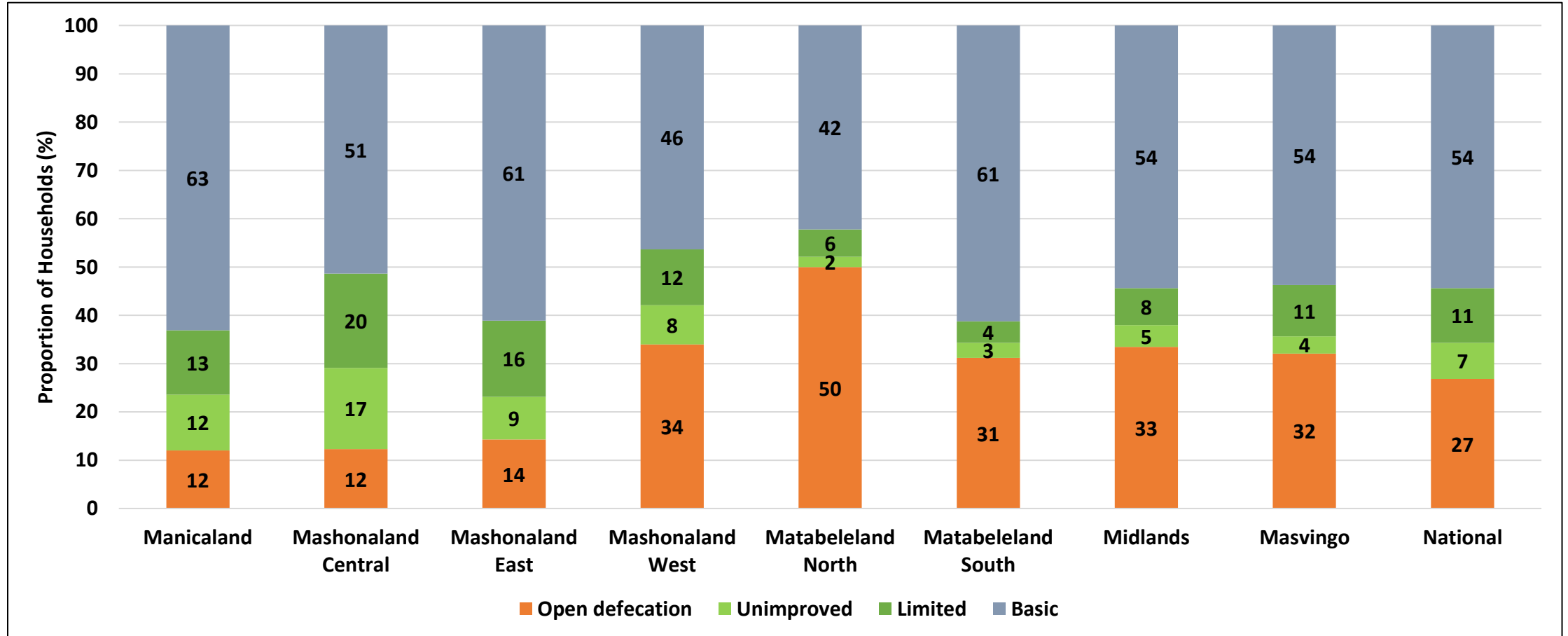
**Note:** Improved sanitation facilities: Facilities that ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact. They include flush or pour flush toilet/latrine, Blair ventilated improved pit (BVIP), pit latrine with slab and upgradeable Blair latrine.

# Access to Improved Sanitation



- About 66% of rural households had access to improved sanitation.
- Twenty seven percent of rural households practised open defecation.
- Mashonaland East (77%) had the highest proportion of households with improved sanitation.
- Matabeleland North (50%) had the highest proportion of households practising open defecation.

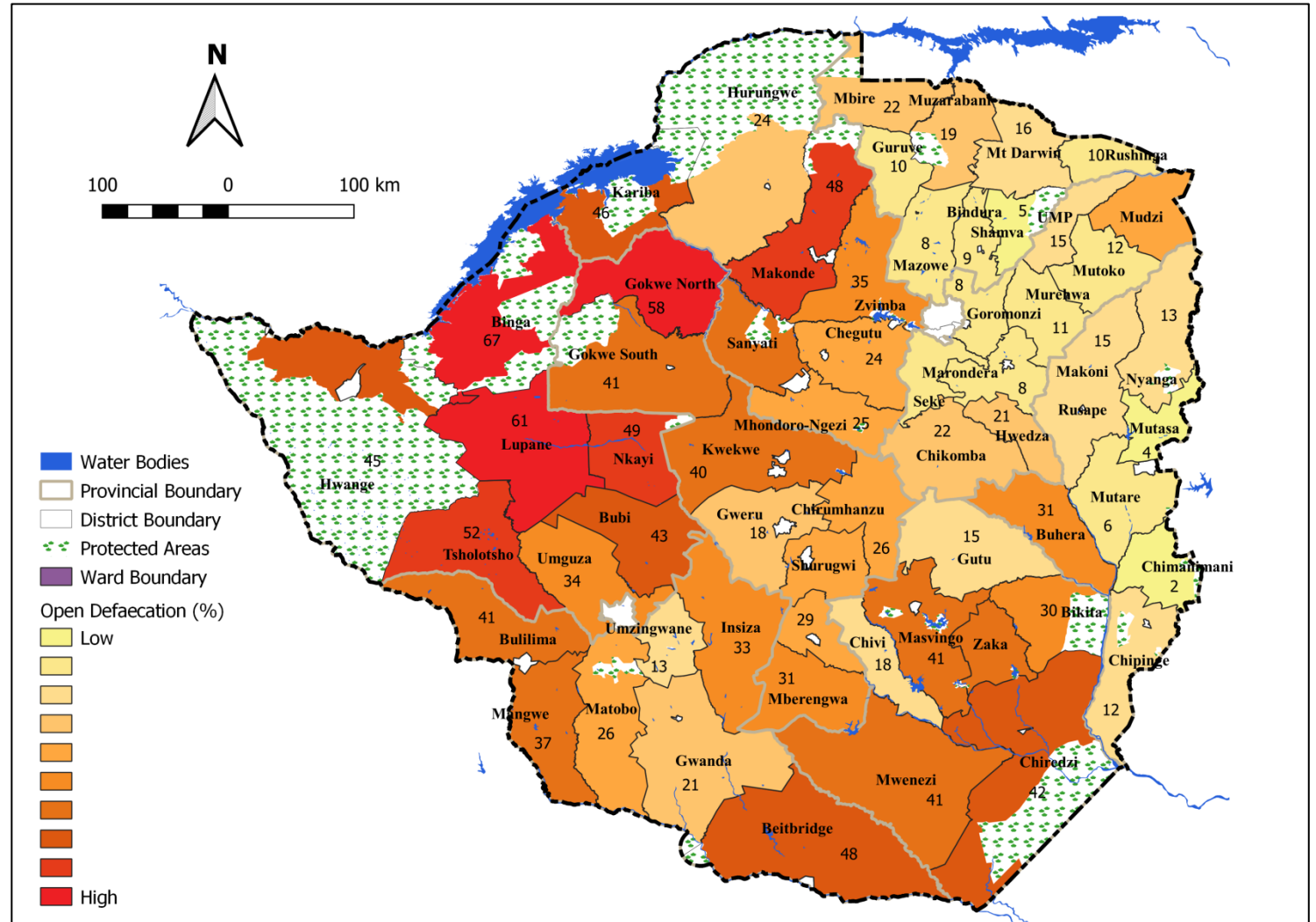
# Household Sanitation Services



- The proportion of households which practised open defaecation in Matabeleland North has remained high (50%).
- The proportion of households which accessed basic sanitation services was 54% across the country.

# Open Defecation by District

- Most districts in Matabeleland North had over 50% of the households practicing open defecation
- Open defecation in Matabeleland North has been consistently high over the years.



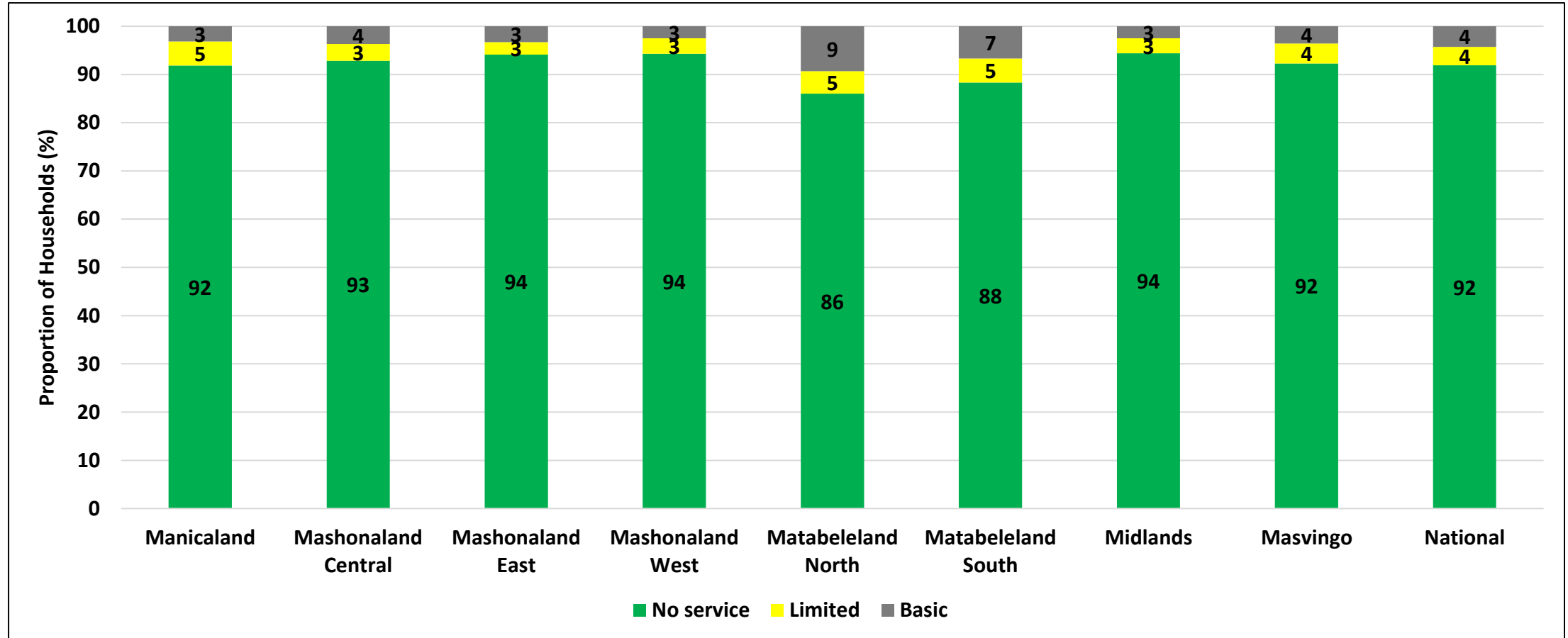


# Ladder for Hygiene

Service level	Definition
<b>Basic</b>	Availability of a handwashing facility on premises with soap and water.
<b>Limited</b>	Availability of a handwashing facility on premises without soap and water.
<b>No Facility</b>	No hand washing facility on premises.

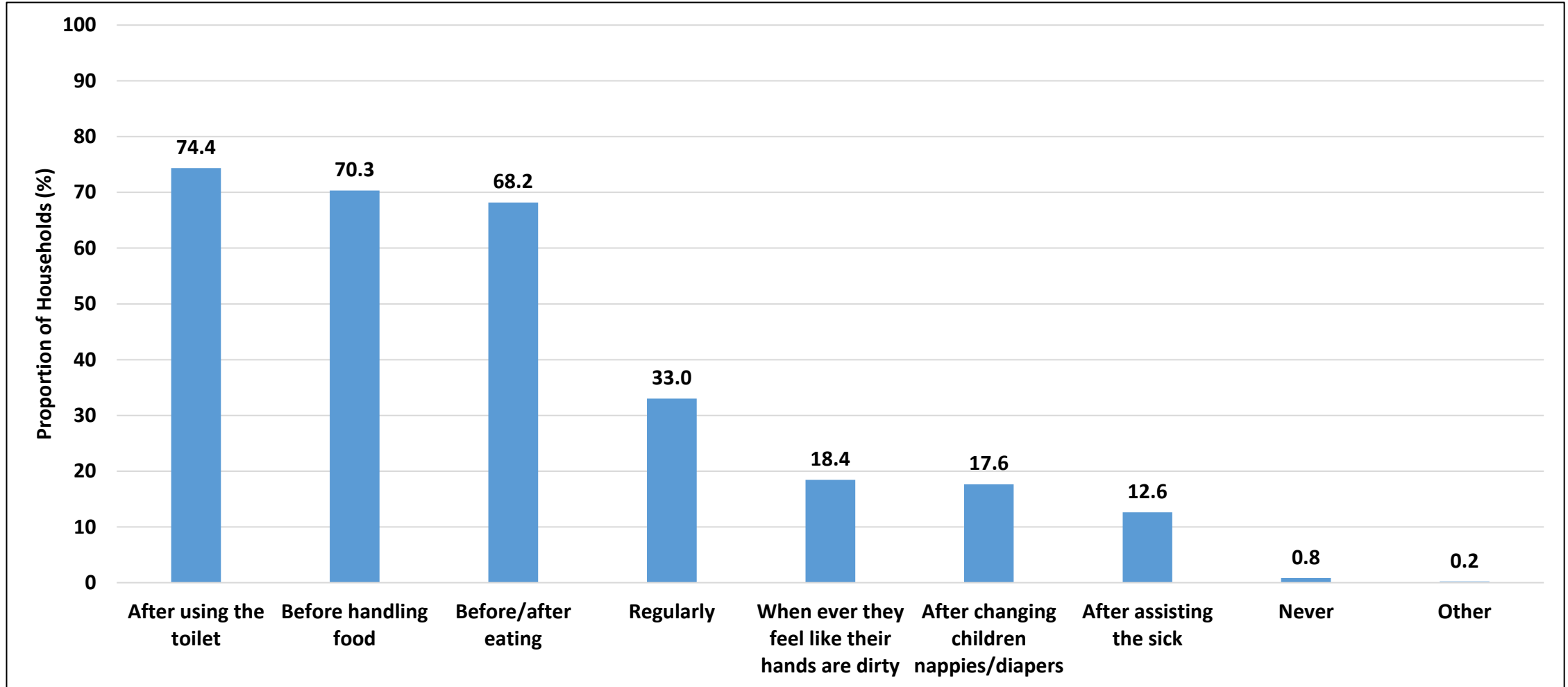
**Note:** handwashing facilities may be fixed or mobile and include a sink with tap water, buckets with taps, tippy taps, and jugs or basins designated for hand washing. Soap includes bar soap, liquid soap, powdered detergents and soapy water but does not include sand, soil, ash and other handwashing agents.

# Access to Handwashing Facility



- About 92% of rural households had no access to handwashing facilities.

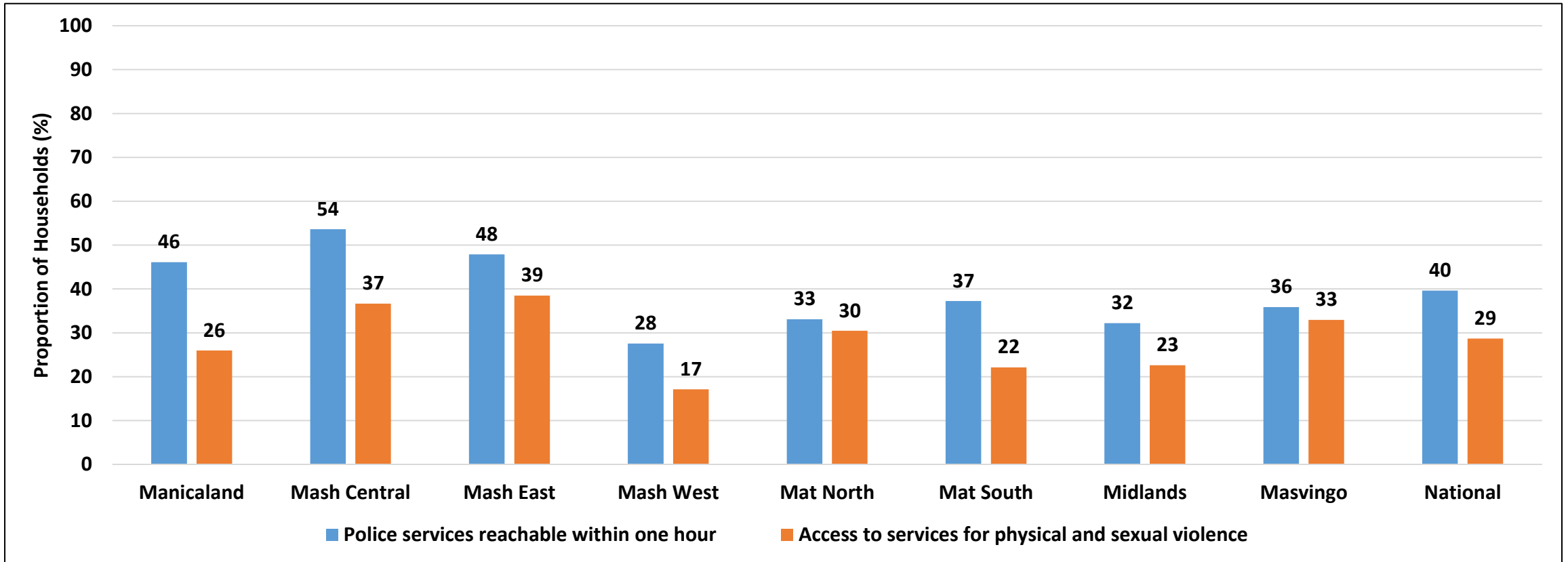
# Handwashing at Critical Times



- About 74.4% of the households reported that they washed their hands after using the toilet.

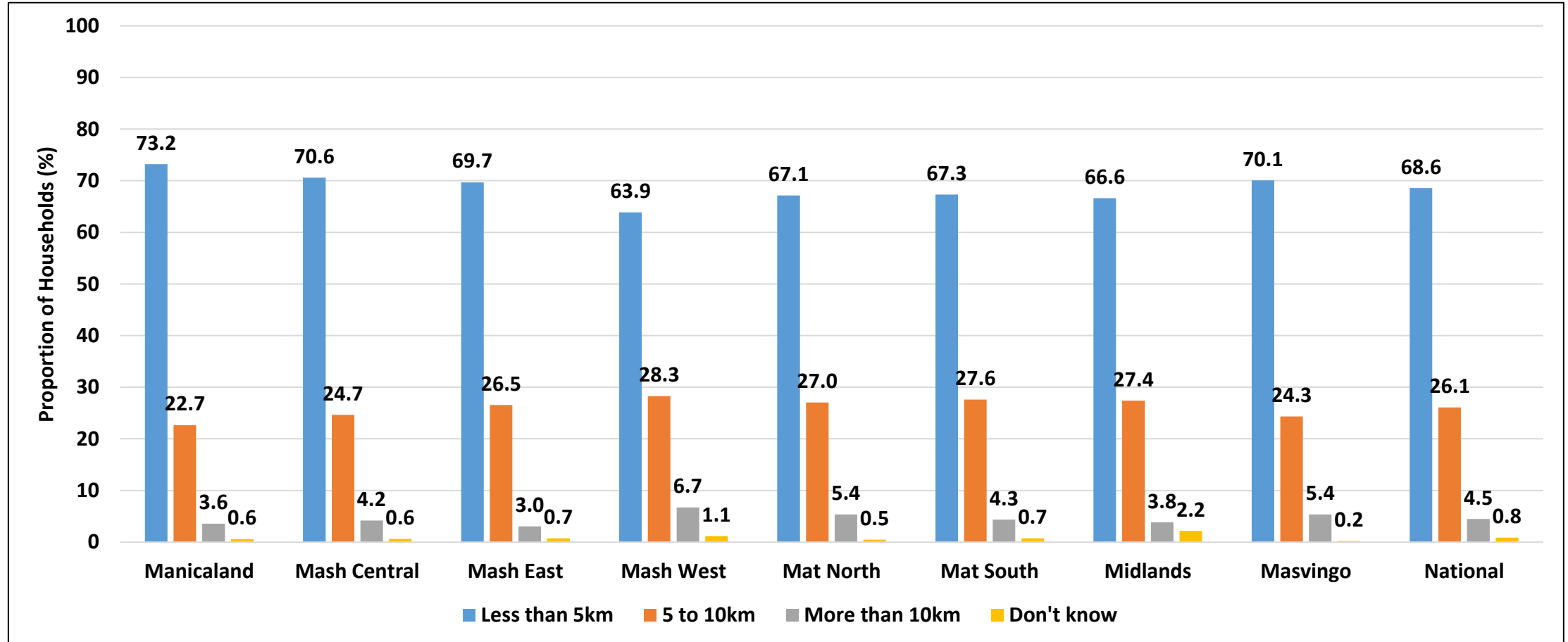
# **Access to Critical Infrastructure**

# Access to Police and Services for Physical and Sexual Violence



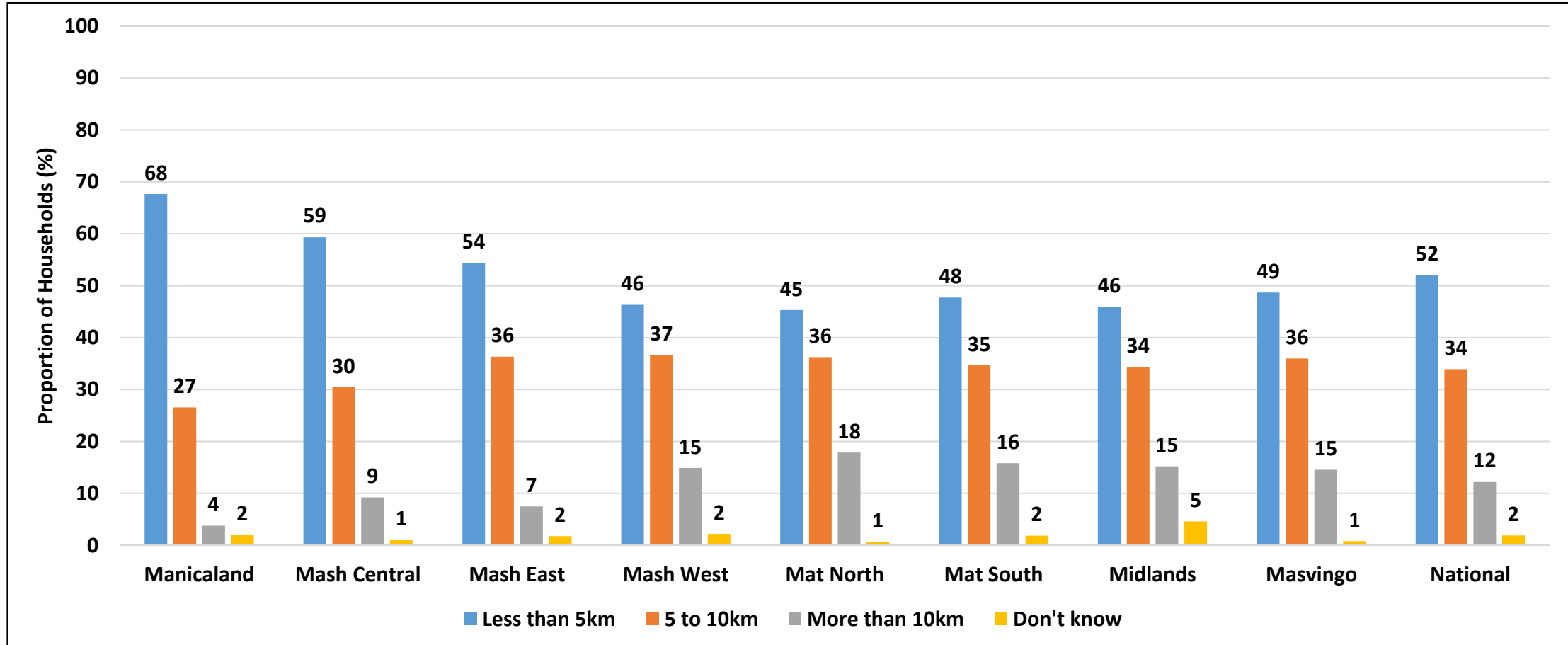
- Nationally, 40% of the households had access to police services that were reachable within one hour.
- About 29% of the households had access to services for physical and sexual violence.
- Mashonaland Central and Mashonaland East had the largest proportion of households with access to Police services within one hour and to services for physical and sexual violence.

# Approximate Distance to the Nearest Primary School



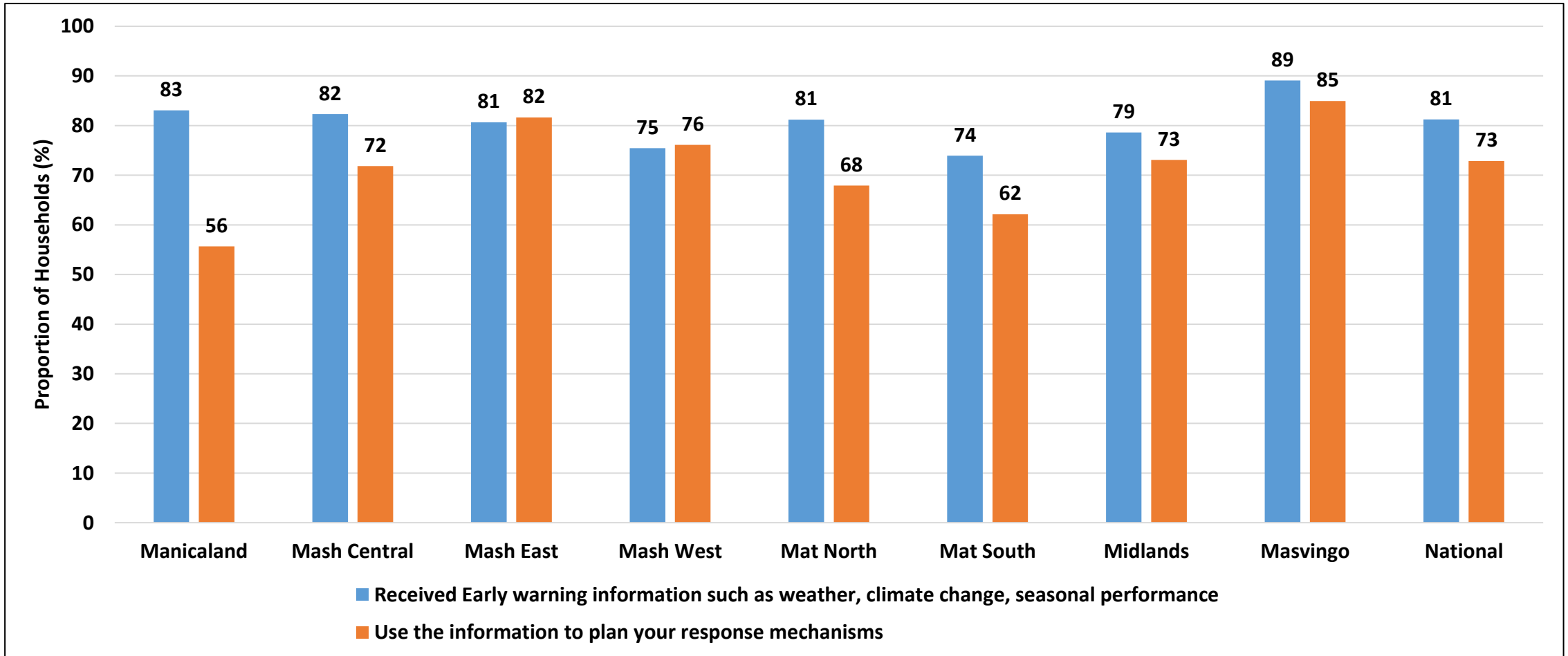
- Nationally, 69% of households had access to a primary school within a 5km radius, whilst 26% had access to a primary school within a 5 to 10 km radius.
- Manicaland (73%) had the largest proportion of households with access to a primary school within a 5km radius.

# Approximate Distance to the Nearest Health Facility



- About 12% of the households travelled more than 10km to the nearest health facility.
- The proportion was highest in Matabeleland North (18%).

# Households which Received Early Warning Information

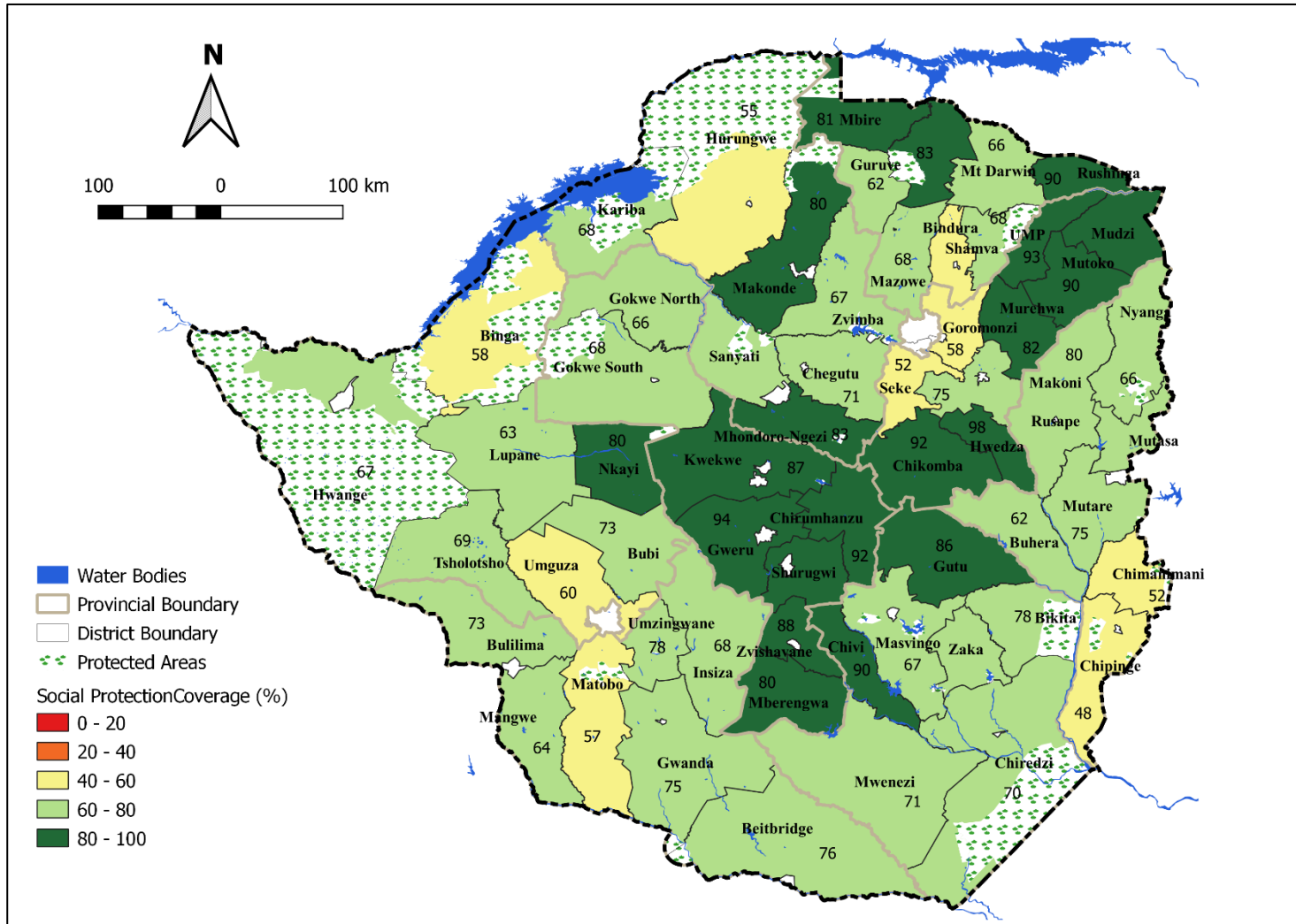


- About 81% of households received early warning information such as weather, climate change or seasonal performance and 73% of them attested to using the information to plan response mechanisms.



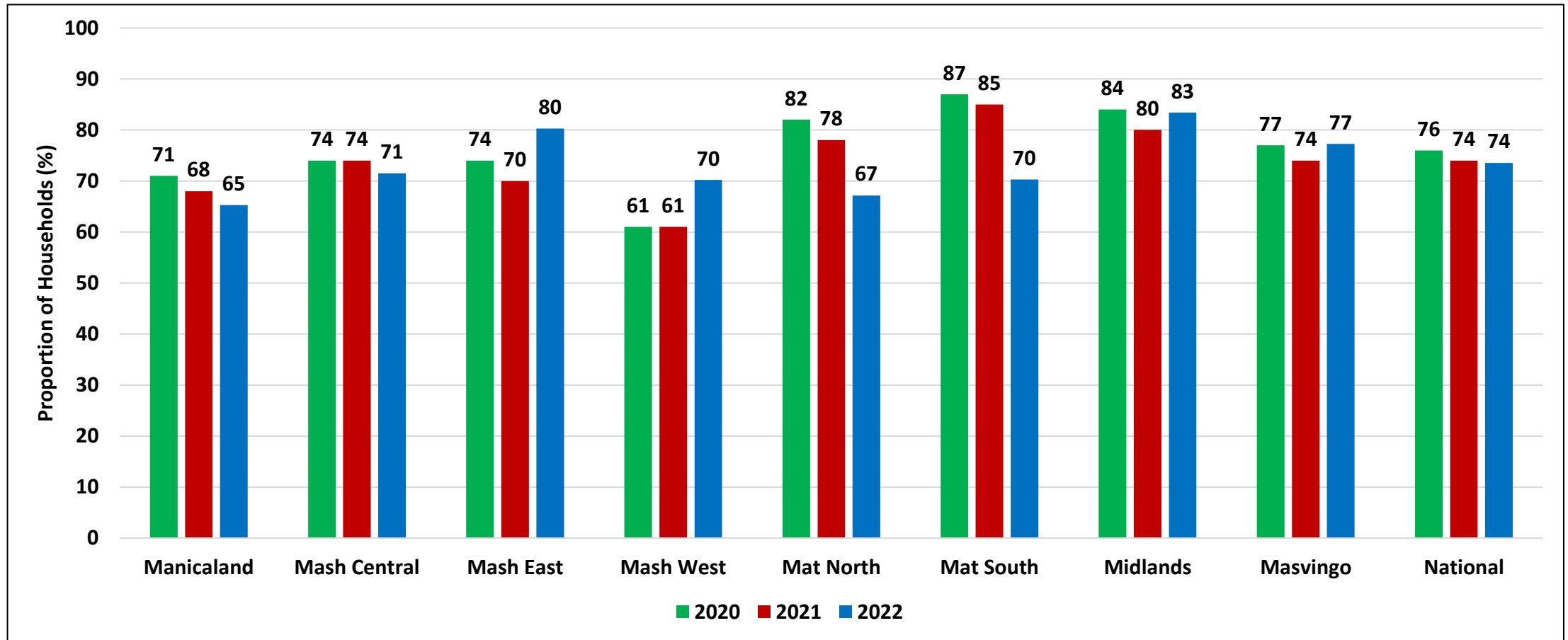
# **Social Protection**

# Households which Received Any Form of Support



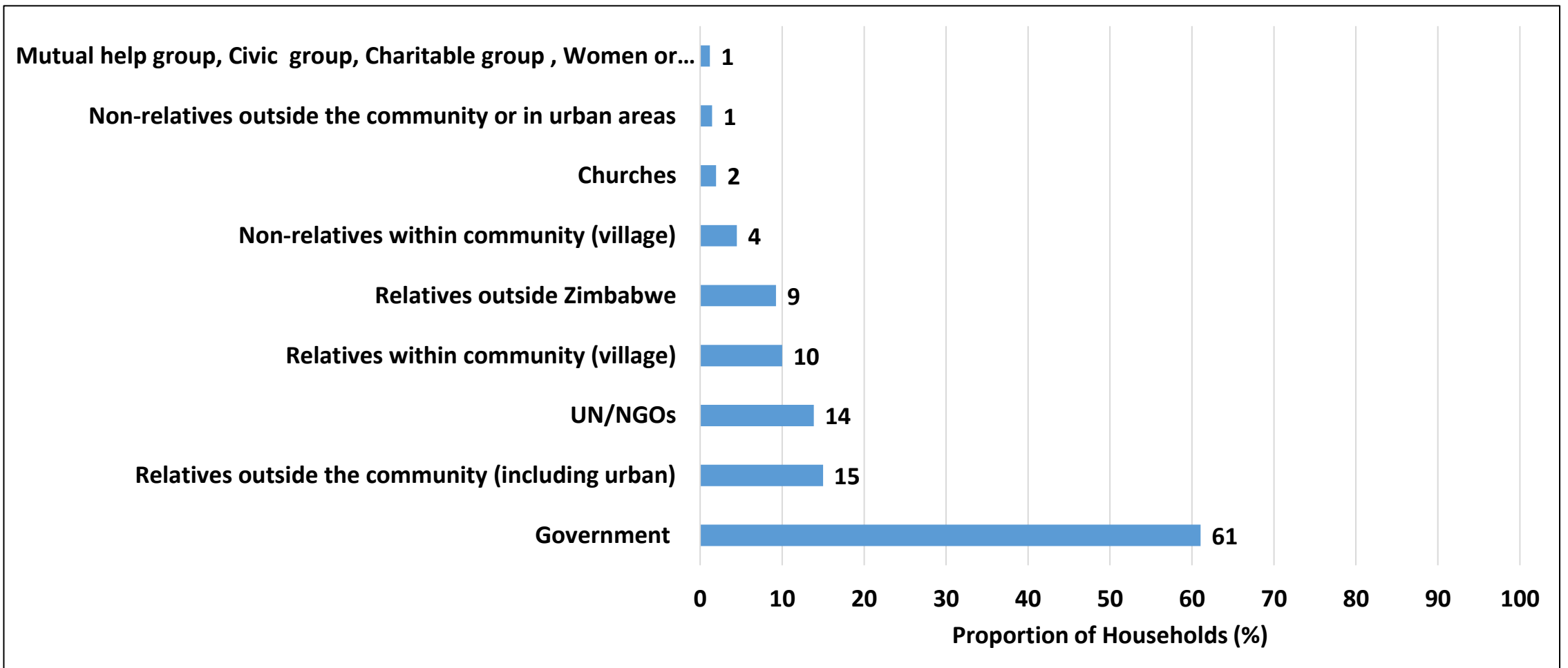
- The proportion of households which received any form of support was highest in Hwedza (98%).

# Households which Received Any Form of Support



- Almost three quarters of the rural households received social support.
- Government and development partners are commended for maintaining consistency in their support to the vulnerable population.

# Sources of Support



- Government is applauded for being the major source of support in rural areas as reported by 61% of the households.
- UN/NGOs provided support to 14% of the rural households.

# Sources of Any Form of Support

	Government Support (%)		UN/NGO Support (%)		Church Support (%)		Rural Relatives (%)		Urban Relatives (%)		Diaspora (%)		Charitable Groups (%)	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
<b>Manicaland</b>	47	57	27	12	7	1	12	6	12	13	5	4	7	0
<b>Mash Central</b>	58	65	25	6	4	3	17	16	14	10	2	2	15	1
<b>Mash East</b>	48	69	21	9	5	2	18	21	20	28	8	8	13	0
<b>Mash West</b>	46	64	12	9	3	2	11	11	13	10	4	3	8	1
<b>Masvingo</b>	52	45	32	29	7	1	14	10	17	9	9	11	3	1
<b>Mat North</b>	52	47	32	19	6	1	17	10	14	12	15	22	9	1
<b>Mat South</b>	59	73	32	15	7	2	16	16	15	21	22	11	7	2
<b>Midlands</b>	68	63	25	15	6	3	20	24	17	24	9	14	6	3
<b>National</b>	54	61	26	14	6	2	16	14	17	16	9	9	9	1

- Government support increased from 54% reported in 2021 to 61% in 2022.
- Support from UN/NGOs decreased from 26% in 2021 to 14% in 2022.

# Forms of Support from Government (61%)

	Food (%)	Cash (%)	Crop inputs (%)	Livestock support - large stock (pass on) (%)	Livestock support - large stock (non-pass on) (%)	Small livestock support (goats, chicken, fish, etc) (%)	Livestock support: Tick grease (%)	Other livestock support (%)	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene inputs (%)	Weather and climate (%)	COVID-19 Support (%)
<b>Manicaland</b>	18.2	1.1	76.7				2.2		0.3	0.1	1.4
<b>Mash Central</b>	12.2	1.1	83.5	0.1		0.1	2.2	0.3	0.0		0.5
<b>Mash East</b>	17.1	1.3	74.9			0.1	3.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.1
<b>Mash West</b>	10.1	0.7	85.9				0.7	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.8
<b>Masvingo</b>	30.6	2.1	60.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	3.8	0.1	0.5		1.9
<b>Mat North</b>	44.8	2.9	45.6	0.1		0.2	5.6	0.5	0.1		0.3
<b>Mat South</b>	18.0	0.6	70.4	0.1	0.1		8.2	0.9	0.1		1.8
<b>Midlands</b>	32.1	2.4	57.8	0.1			2.0	0.3	0.5	0.1	4.9
<b>National</b>	21.9	1.4	70.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.7	0.3	0.3	0.1	2.0

- The major form of support received by households from Government was crop inputs (70.1%) and food (21.9%).
- Mashonaland West (85.9%) had the highest proportion of households that received crop inputs support whilst Matabeleland North (45.6%) had the least.
- Food support from the Government was high in Matabeleland North (44.8%) and low Mashonaland West (10.1%).

# Forms of Support from UN/NGOs (14%)

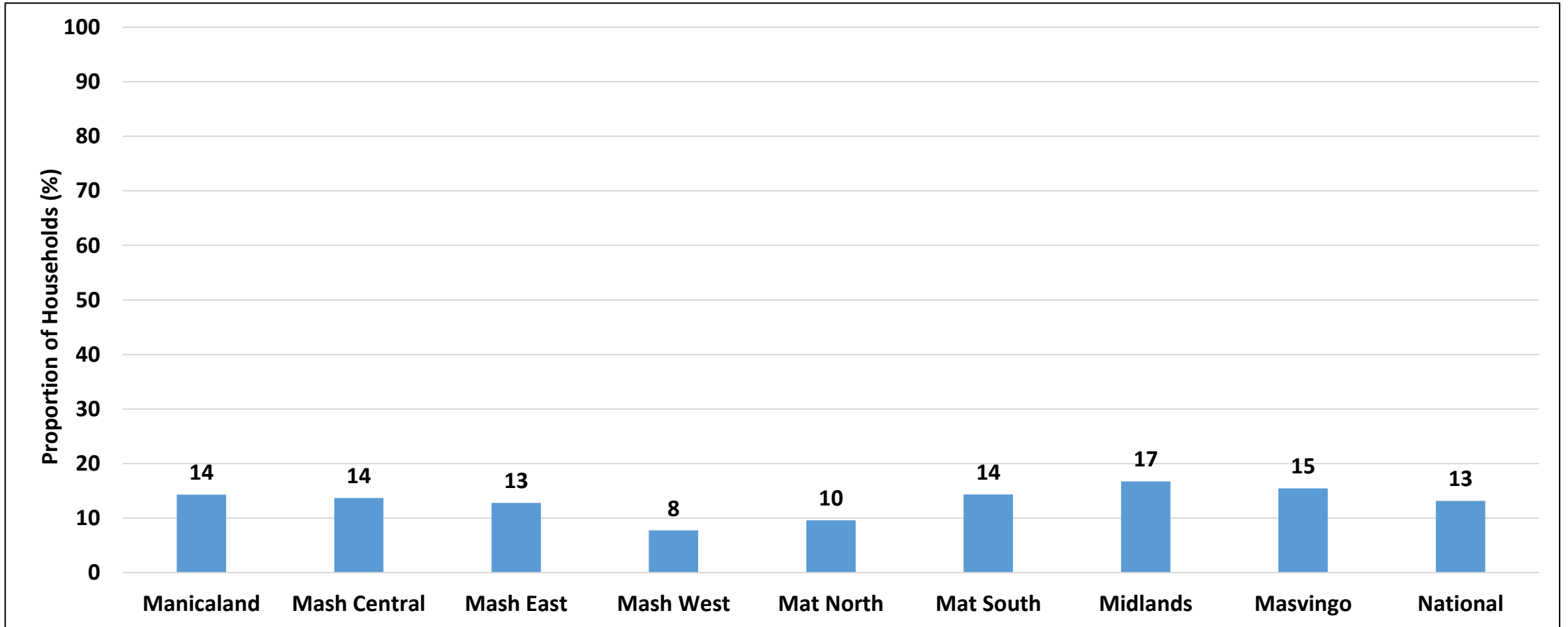
	Food (%)	Cash (%)	Crop inputs (%)	Livestock support - large stock (pass on) (%)	Livestock support - large stock (non-pass on) (%)	Small livestock support (goats, chicken, fish, etc) (%)	Livestock support: Tick grease (%)	Other livestock support (%)	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene inputs (%)	Weather and climate (%)	COVID-19 Support (%)
<b>Manicaland</b>	78.0	5.7	11.5	1.4	0.5				2.4		0.5
<b>Mash Central</b>	46.3	3.3	46.3			0.8			3.3		
<b>Mash East</b>	74.1	5.3	11.4	1.3		1.3	1.8	0.4	1.8		2.6
<b>Mash West</b>	22.0	1.0	9.9	0.6	0.6	1.6	0.6	5.4	19.8	19.5	18.8
<b>Mat North</b>	82.8	1.6	10.8	0.5		0.3	1.0	1.4	1.0		0.5
<b>Mat South</b>	60.0	3.1	25.8		0.2	4.3	0.5	0.5	3.6		2.1
<b>Midlands</b>	62.1	2.5	21.7		0.6	2.5	0.6	0.6	6.5	0.3	2.5
<b>Masvingo</b>	75.9	4.5	7.7	0.7		1.7	0.0	1.0	6.6	0.0	1.7
<b>National</b>	64.7	3.0	16.2	0.5	0.2	1.7	0.6	1.3	5.5	2.5	3.7

- The major form of support provided by the UN/NGOs was food (64.7%) followed by crop inputs (16.2%).
- Matabeleland North (82.8%) had the highest proportion of households that received food support whilst Mashonaland West (22%) had the least.
- Mashonaland Central (46.3%) had the highest crop input support whilst Masvingo (7.7%) had the least.

# Loans

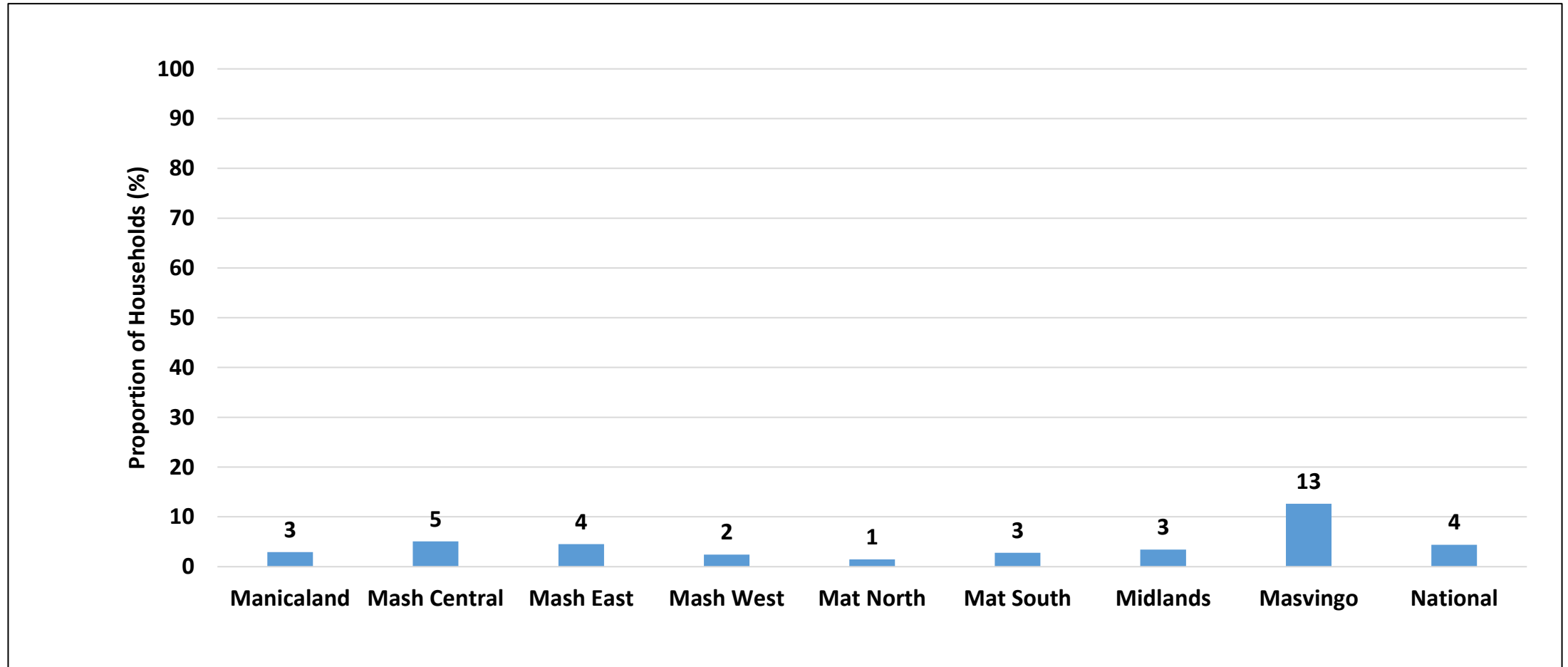


# Households Participating in ISALs/Mukando



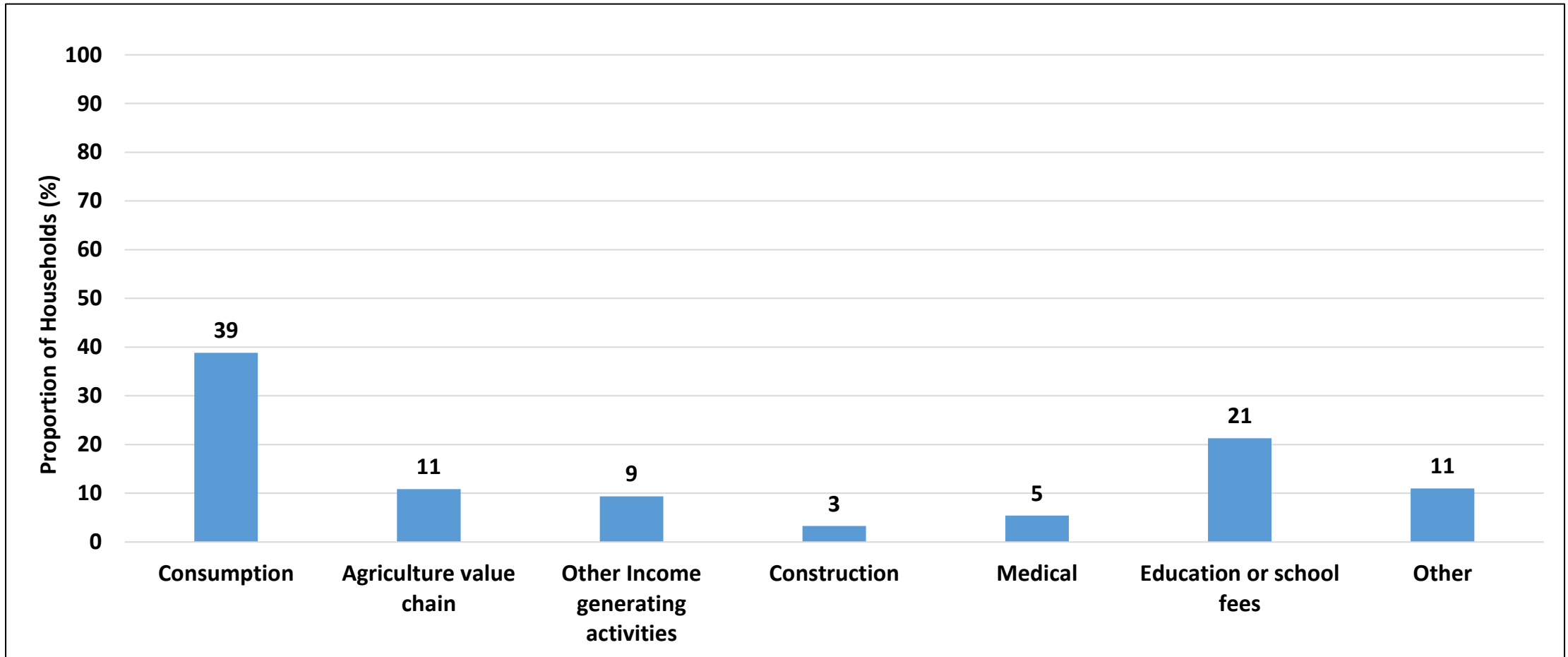
- At least 13% of the households participated in ISALs/Mukando.

# Households which Received Loans



- About 13% of the households in Masvingo received loans.

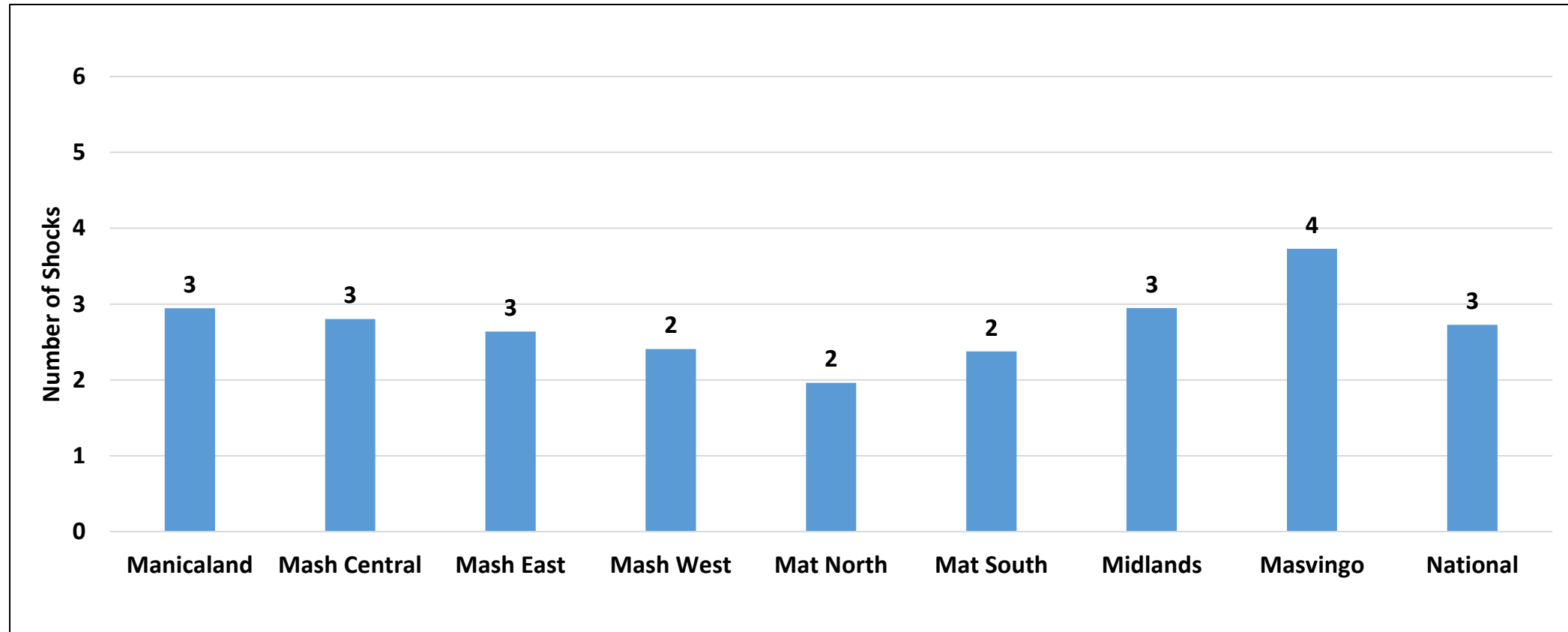
# Use of Loans



- Households used their loans for consumption (39%) and to pay education costs (21%), among other uses.

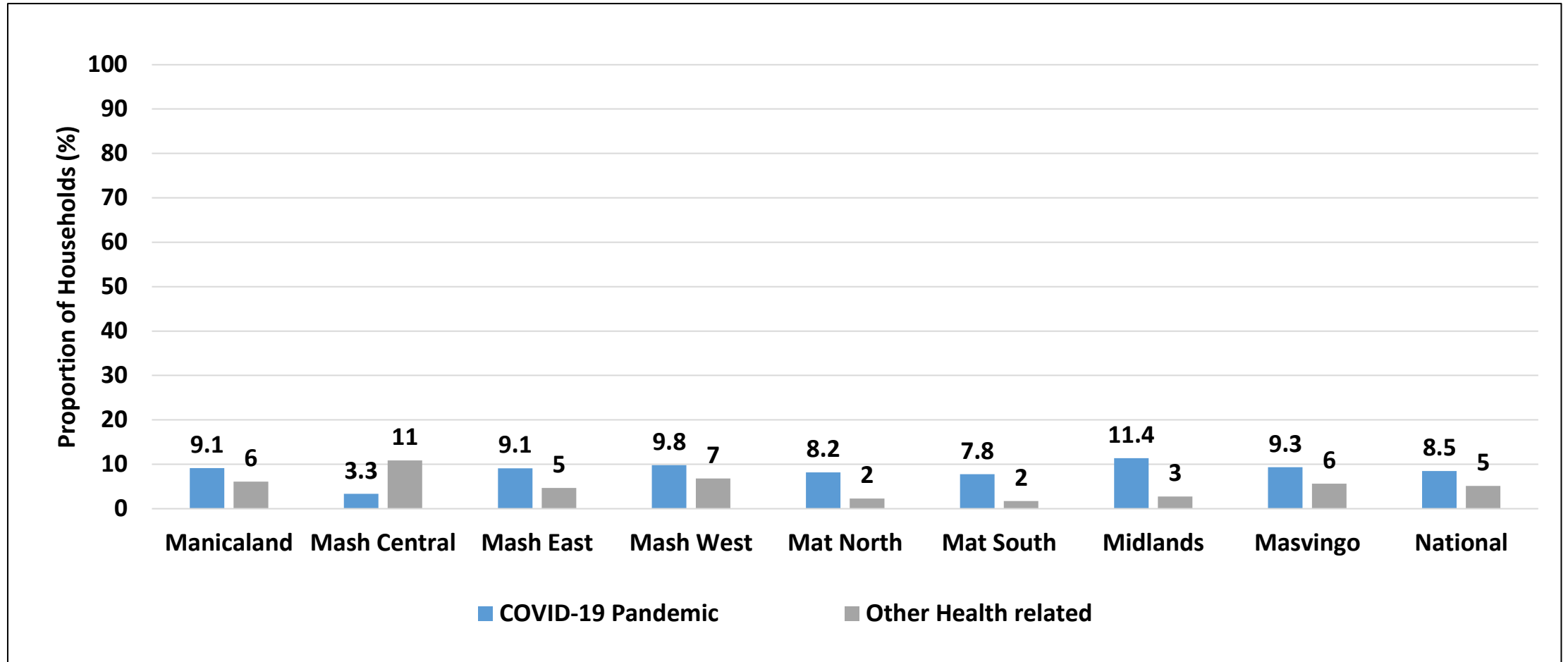
# Shocks and Hazards

# Number of Shocks Experienced by Households



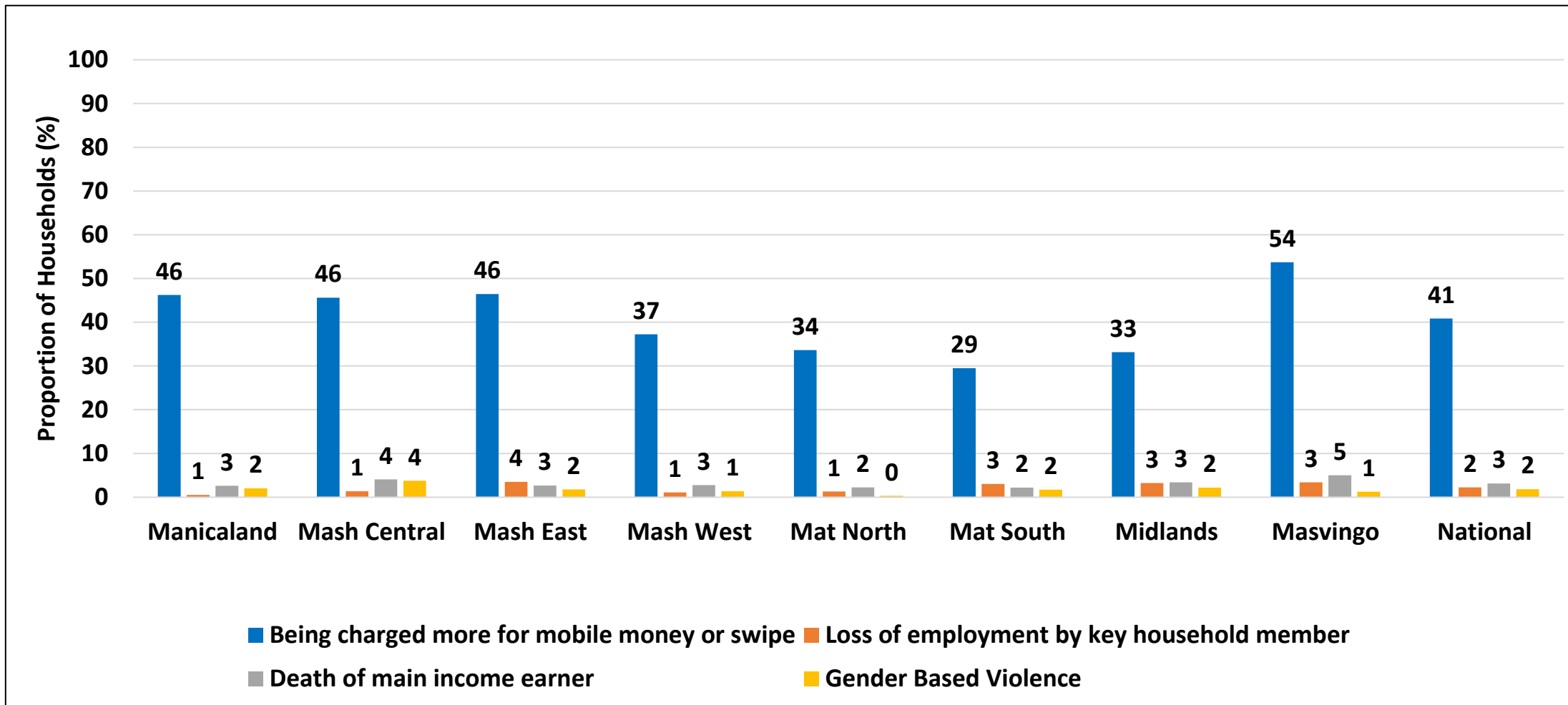
- The average number of shocks experienced by households was 3.

# Health Related Shocks



- The COVID-19 pandemic (8.5%) was the most reported health shock.

# Economic and Social Shocks



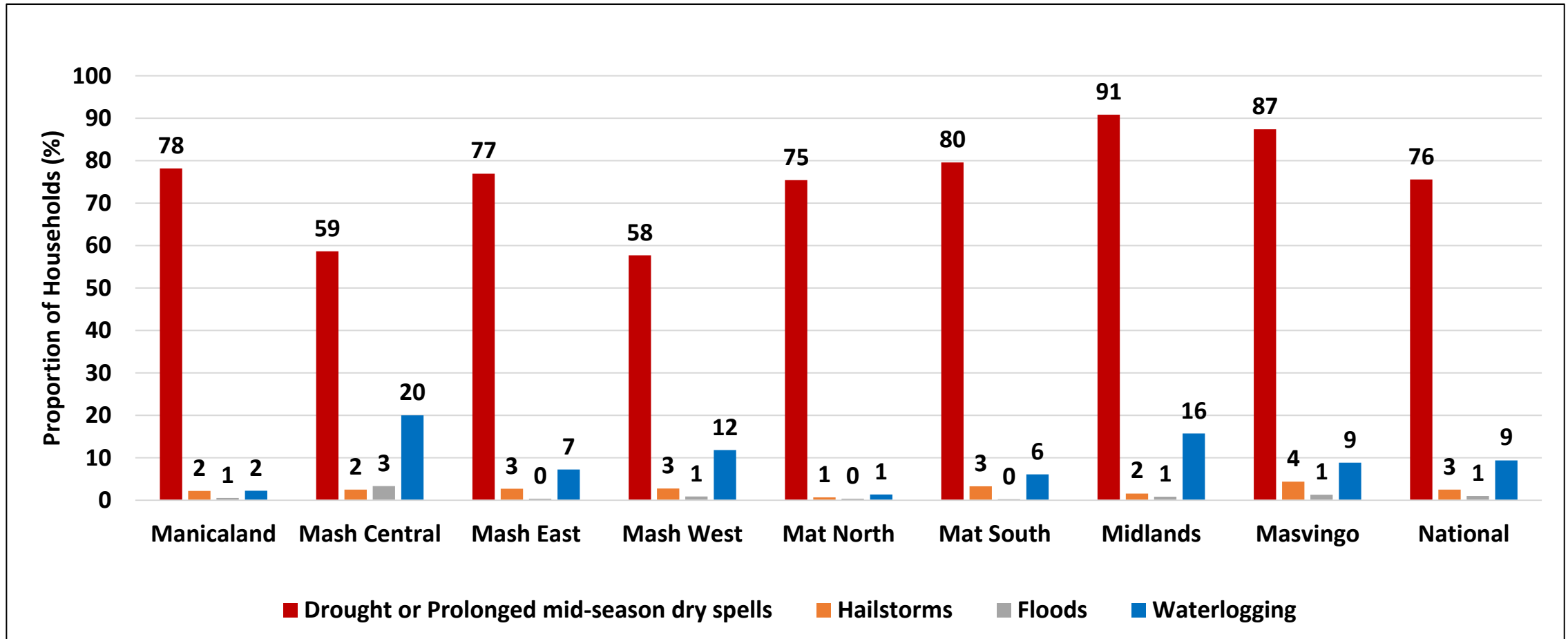
- Being charged more for mobile money or swipe (41%) was the most reported economic shock.





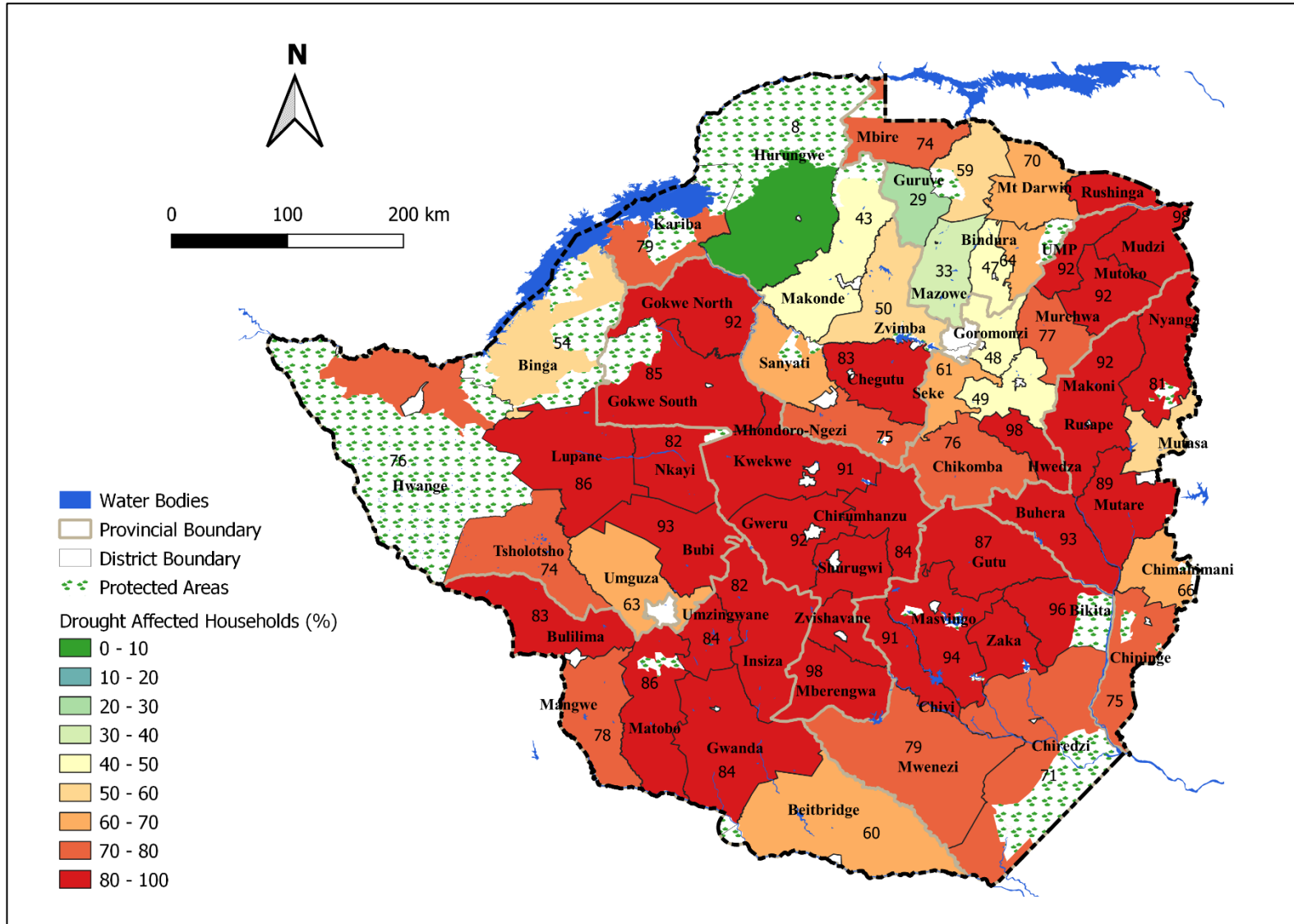


# Climate Related Shocks



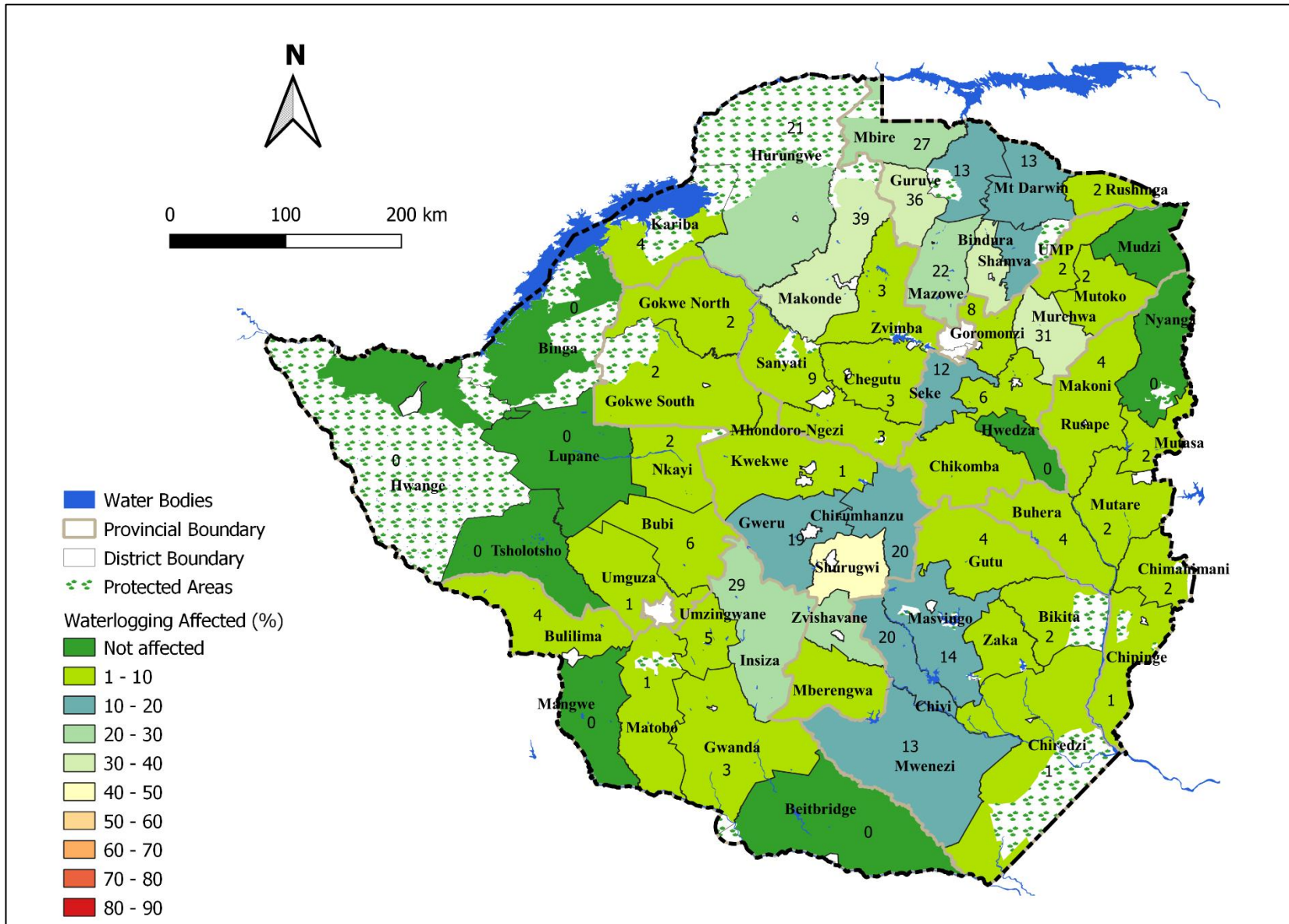
- Drought (76%) was the most reported climate related shock. Flooding was the least reported (1%).

# Households which Reported Drought



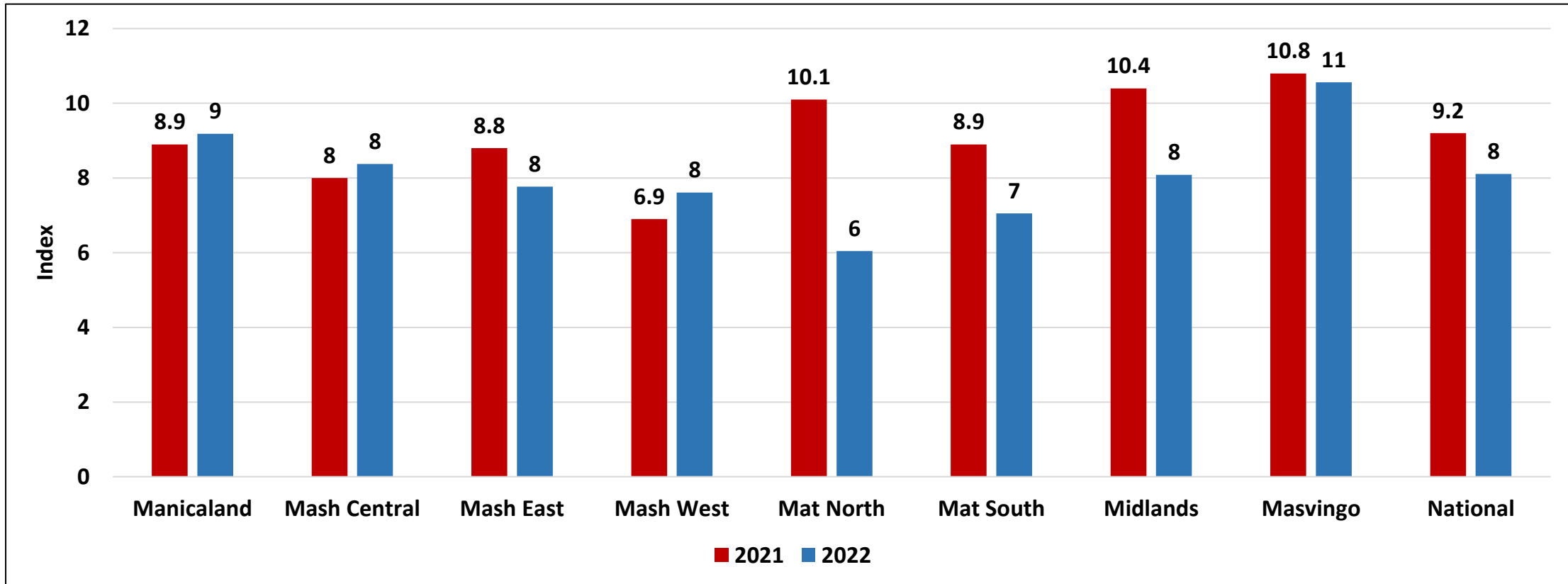
- Most districts had households which reported drought as a shock.

# Households which Reported Water Logging



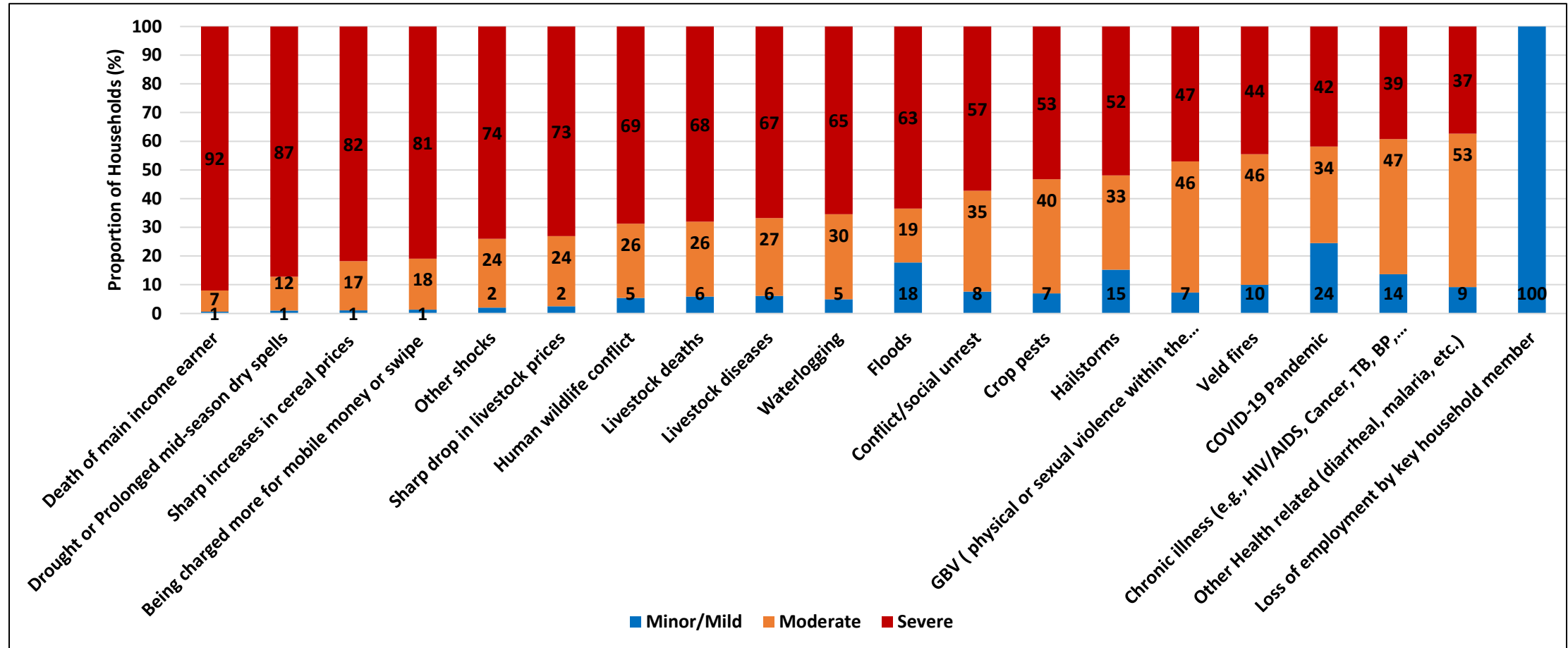
- Makonde (39%), Gurube (36%) and Murehwa (31%) had the highest proportions of households which reported water logging.

# Average Shock Exposure Index



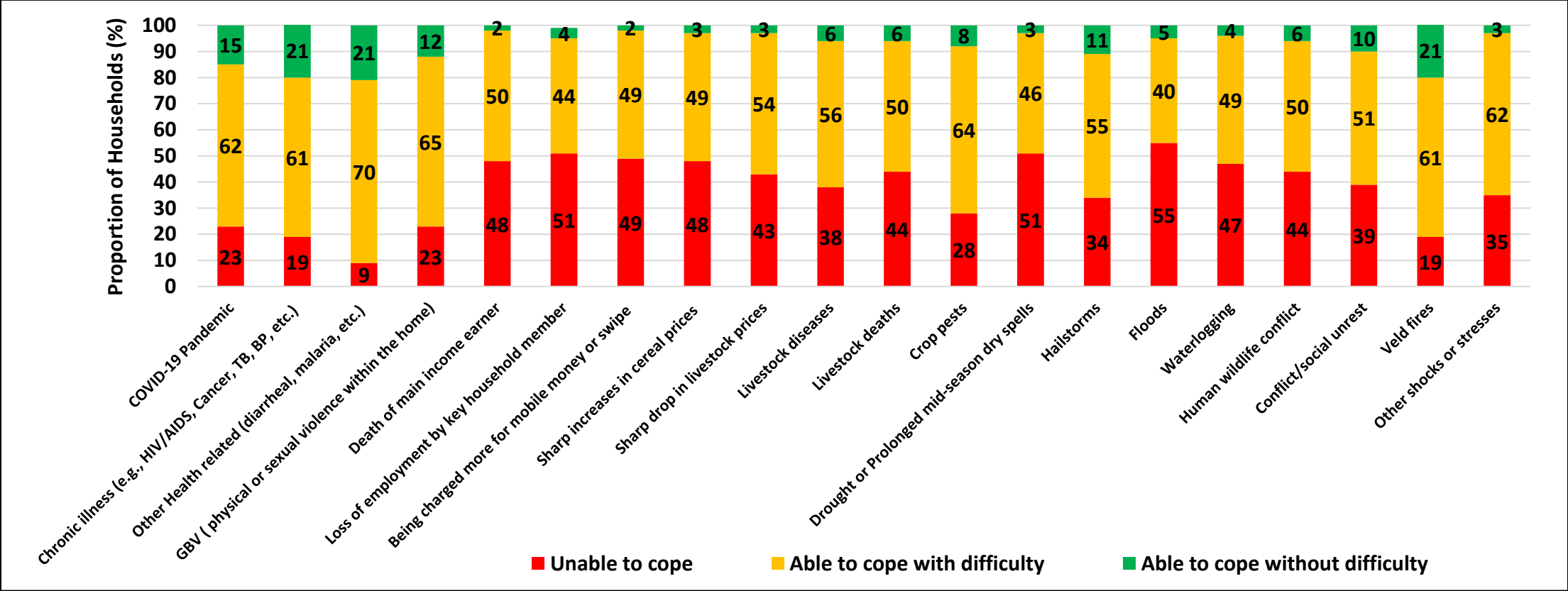
- Shock exposure index was calculated by multiplying the number of shocks experienced with the impact severity of the shock on the household.
- Shock exposure index decreased as compared to 2021.
- Masvingo (11) had the highest while Matabeleland North (6) had the lowest.

# Severity of Shocks on Households



- Death of main income earner (92%) and drought (87%) were reported to have had the most severe impact on households.

# Households' Perception of their Ability to Cope with Future Shocks

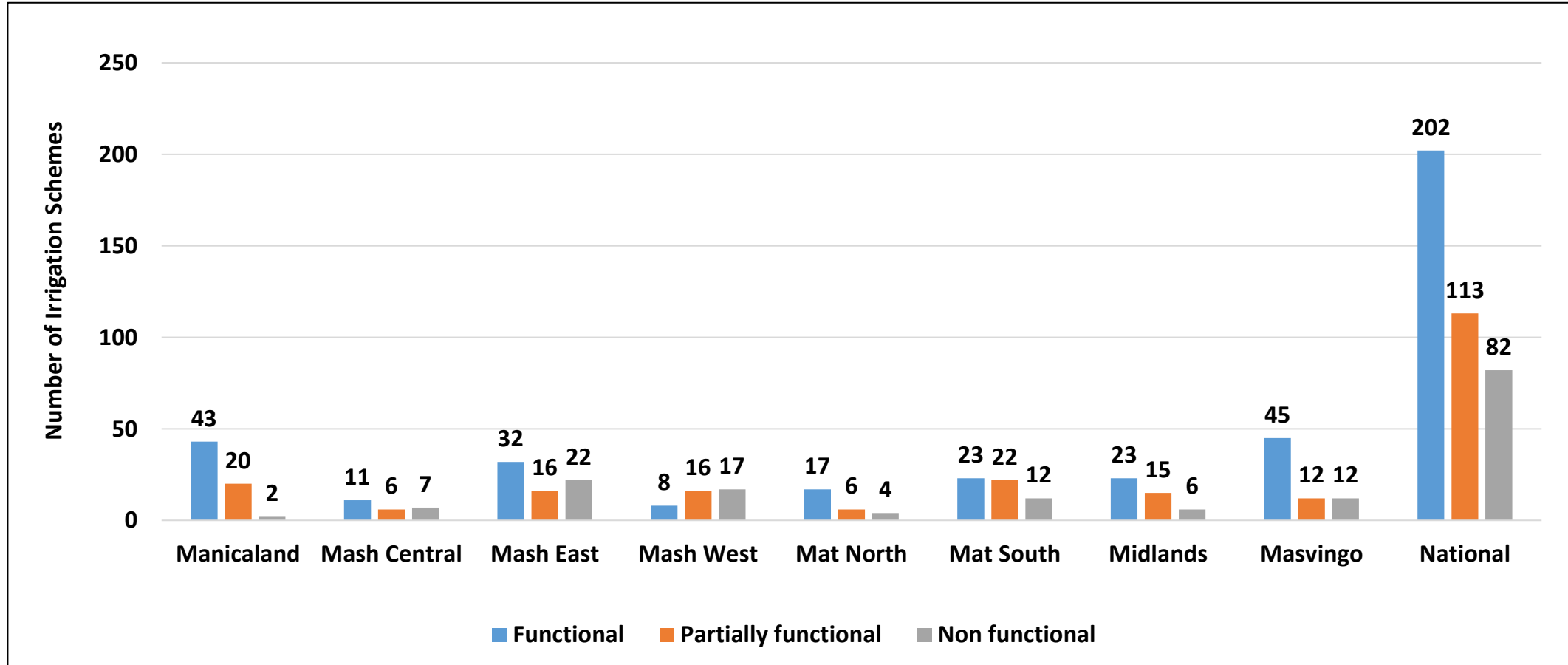


- Most households had a perceived inability to cope with economic, livelihoods and weather-related shocks

# Infrastructure - Irrigation



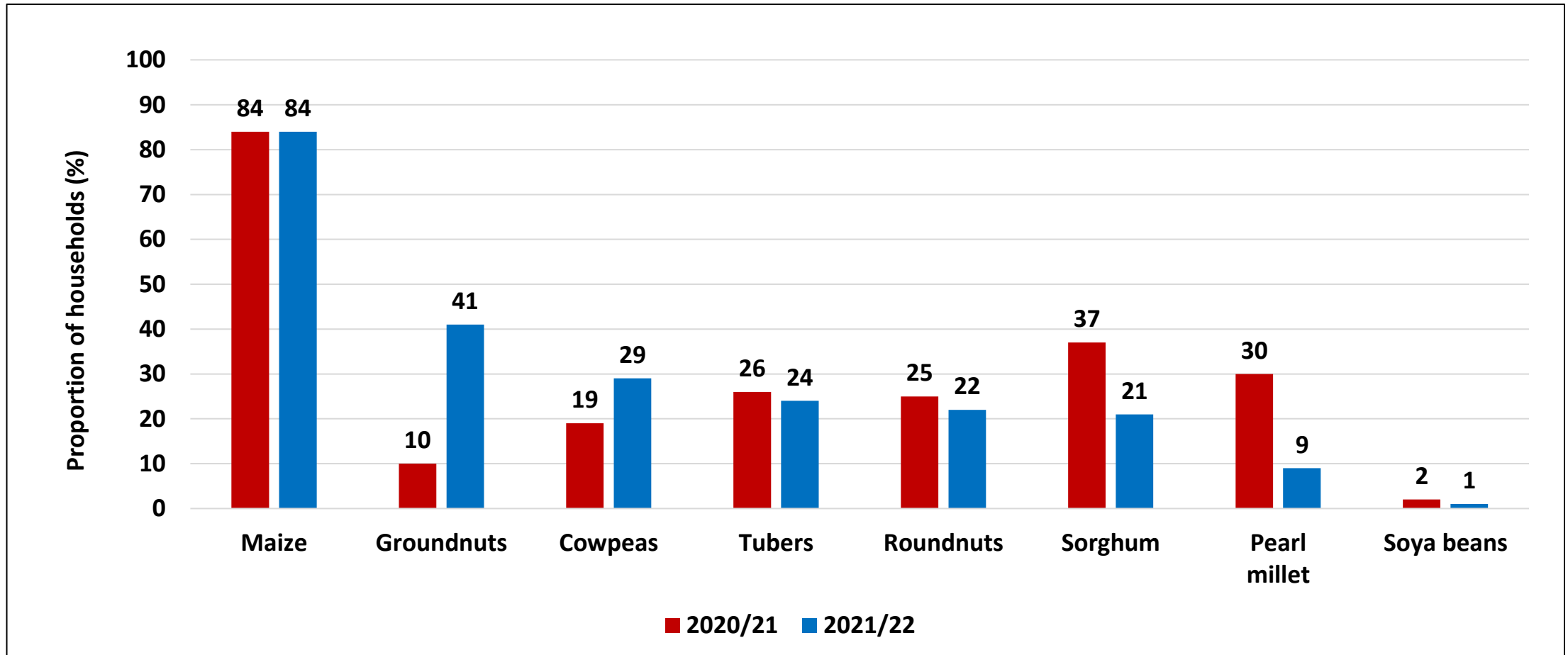
# Number and Status of Irrigation Schemes



- Nationally, 202 irrigation schemes were fully functional and 82 were non-functional.
- Masvingo had 45 functional irrigation schemes while Mashonaland East had 22 non-functional irrigation schemes.

# **Agricultural Production**

# Households Which Grew Crops



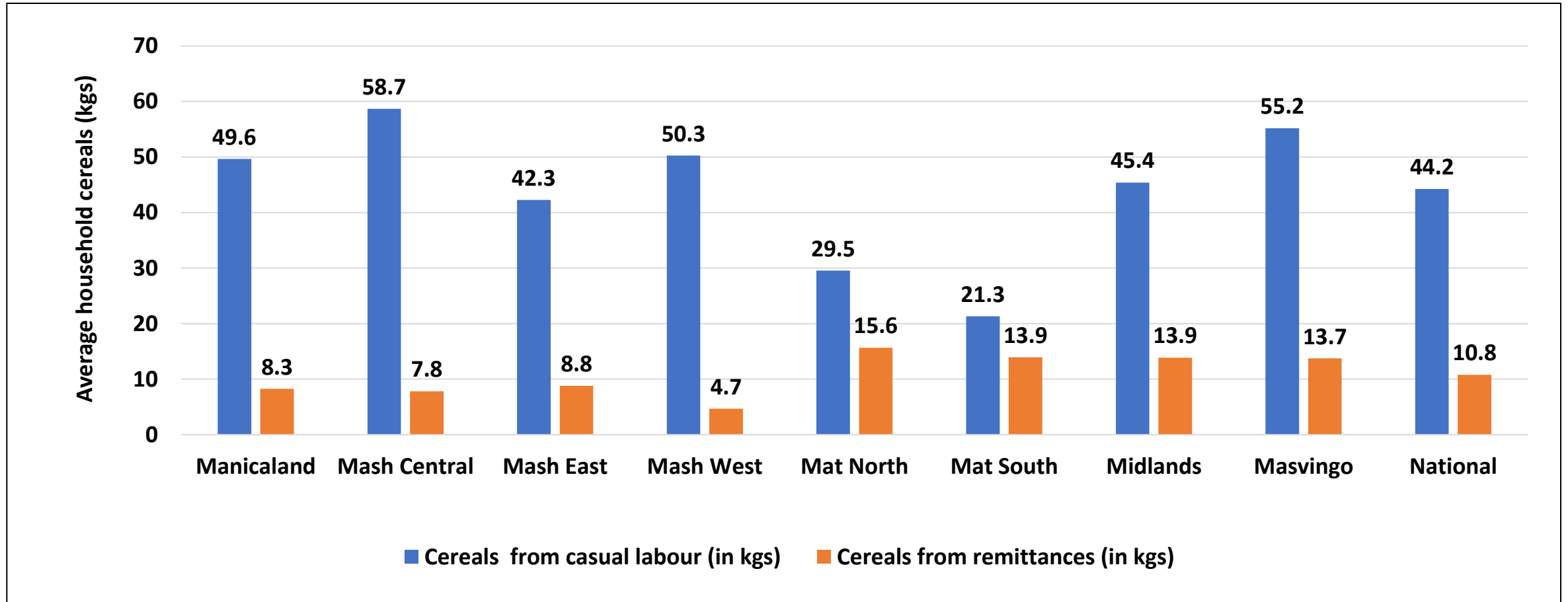
- Maize remains the most commonly grown crop (84%).
- The proportion of households which grew groundnuts and cowpeas increased compared to 2021.

# Average Household Stocks (kgs) as of 1 April 2022

Province	Maize (kgs)	Sorghum (kgs)	Finger millets (kgs)	Pearl millets (kgs)	Wheat (kgs)	Shelled groundnuts (kgs)	Unshelled groundnuts (kgs)	Shelled roundnuts (kgs)	Unshelled roundnuts (kgs)	Cowpeas (kgs)	Beans (kgs)	Other cereals/pulses (kgs)
Manicaland	48.7	3.7	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.8	1.3	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.6	0.0
Mashonaland Central	95.5	8.6	0.2	0.1	0.0	4.4	19.2	0.4	0.2	3.2	4.8	0.3
Mashonaland East	69.4	2.8	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.0	9.9	0.2	2.0	1.4	2.9	0.1
Mashonaland West	82.5	2.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	2.6	9.8	1.0	0.8	1.8	0.9	0.0
Matabeleland North	53.2	12.0	0.7	15.1	0.1	0.9	1.7	1.8	0.3	1.3	0.1	0.0
Matabeleland South	69.9	14.2	0.5	7.1	1.5	2.8	9.0	0.5	3.3	2.6	0.2	0.1
Midlands	77.6	7.3	1.1	0.9	0.3	1.8	12.4	0.7	2.3	2.8	0.8	0.0
Masvingo	58.7	9.3	2.2	5.3	0.4	2.5	15.1	1.6	7.7	1.1	1.3	0.1
<b>National</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>

- Maize (70kgs) followed by unshelled groundnuts (10kgs) were the highest quantities which households had in stock as at 1 April 2022.

# Cereals from Casual Labour and Remittances



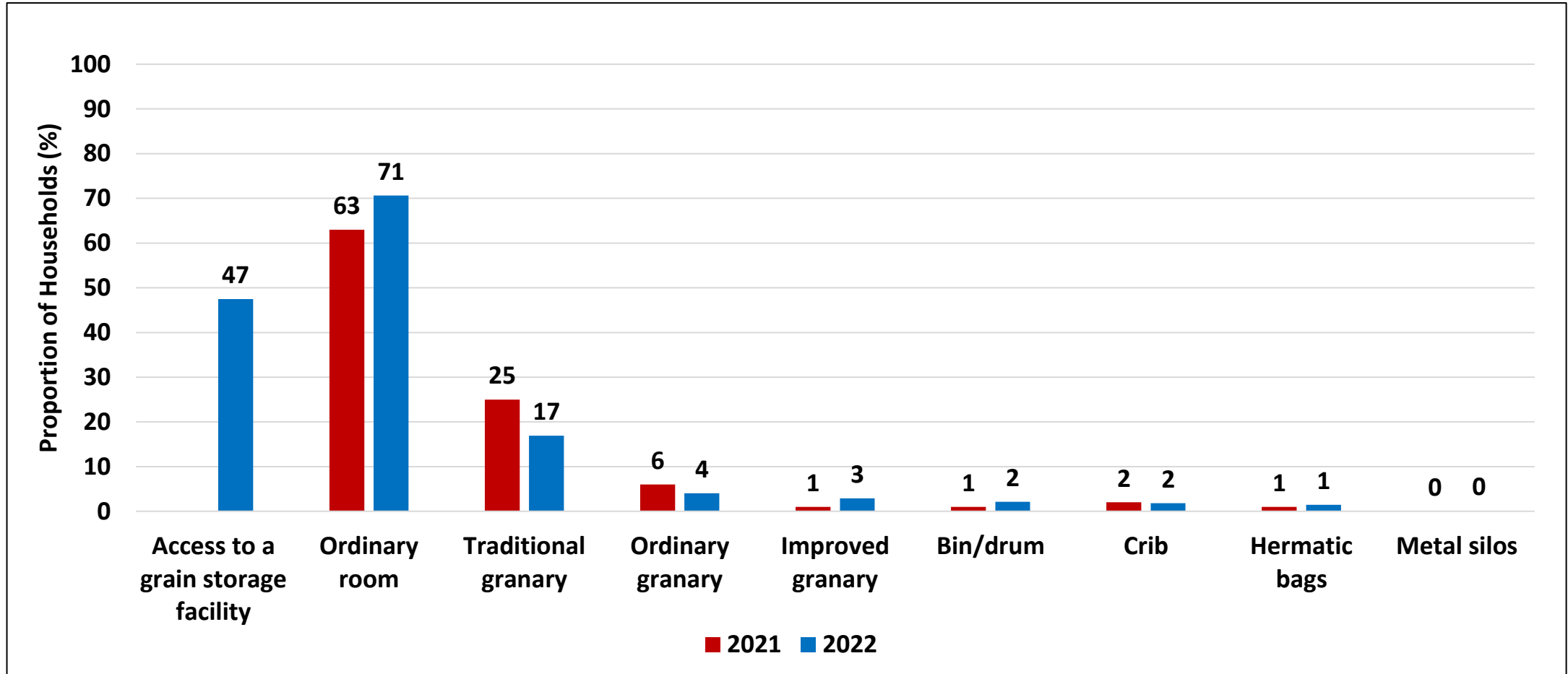
- On average, households received about 44.2kgs of cereals from casual labour and 10.8kgs of cereals from remittances during the consumption year.

# Average Harvested Crop (kgs) Per Household

Province	Orange maize (kgs)	Maize (kgs)	Sorghum (kgs)	Finger millet (kgs)	Pearl millet (kgs)	Tubers (kgs)	Cow peas (kgs)	Ground Nuts (kgs)	Round Nuts (kgs)	Sugar beans (kgs)	NUA 45 beans (kgs)	Soya beans (kgs)	Tobacco (kgs)	Sesame seeds (kgs)	Cotton (kgs)	Paprika (kgs)	Sunflower (kgs)	Wheat (kgs)
Manicaland	3.2	161.8	9.0	0.9	2.3	20.5	2.7	5.7	3.2	12.3	0.8	0.5	25.0	0.4	1.9	0.1	4.2	0.2
Mash Central	8.3	332.4	87.2	0.1	0.6	128.0	10.0	26.3	0.9	22.8	1.5	12.0	89.8	5.5	19.5	0.0	8.7	0.0
Mash East	1.6	230.3	11.5	2.3	1.2	45.2	5.3	24.6	8.0	7.0	0.4	0.5	87.1	0.0	3.3	0.8	9.4	2.4
Mash West	8.2	524.1	23.5	0.3	0.0	11.1	5.9	29.0	3.0	9.0	0.0	28.5	59.3	0.0	23.0	0.0	3.9	0.0
Mat North	1.5	105.1	26.5	0.7	35.7	1.5	3.6	2.4	3.3	.0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.7	0.0	2.5	0.0
Mat South	1.5	89.2	15.6	1.1	17.2	7.3	6.4	7.8	3.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	1.4	0.0
Midlands	7.4	295.4	22.0	2.6	1.0	25.4	10.3	21.3	10.4	7.9	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.0	19.2	0.1	5.8	0.2
Masvingo	3.3	140.6	17.1	4.8	20.5	25.6	5.2	15.8	24.1	3.3	0.6	0.4	0.0	3.6	6.9	0.6	2.5	0.0
<b>National</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>237.5</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>

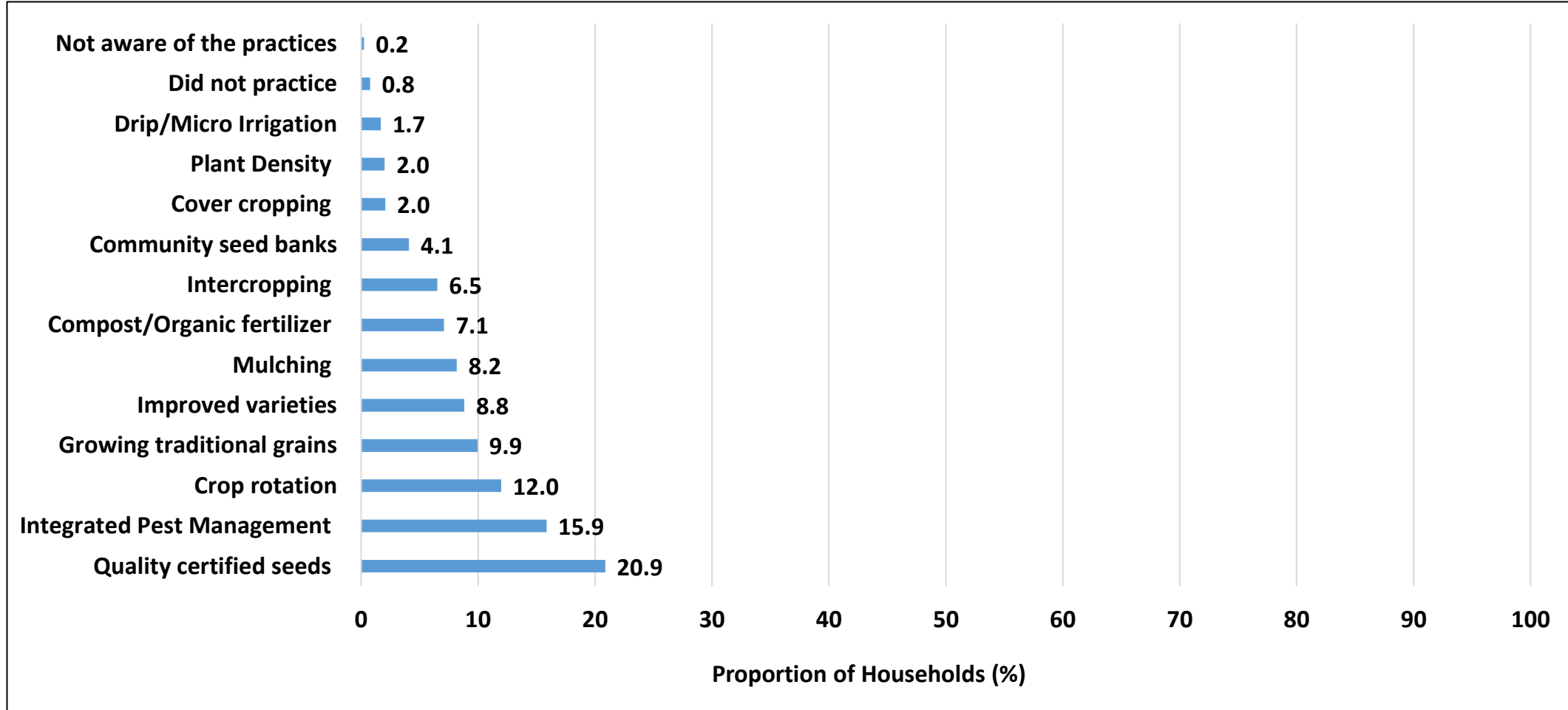
- The highest average harvested crops were maize (237.5kgs), tubers (35kgs) and tobacco (35kgs).

# Access and Type of Grain Storage Facility



- Forty seven percent of the households had access to a grain storage facility.
- At least 71% of the households used ordinary rooms to store their grain.

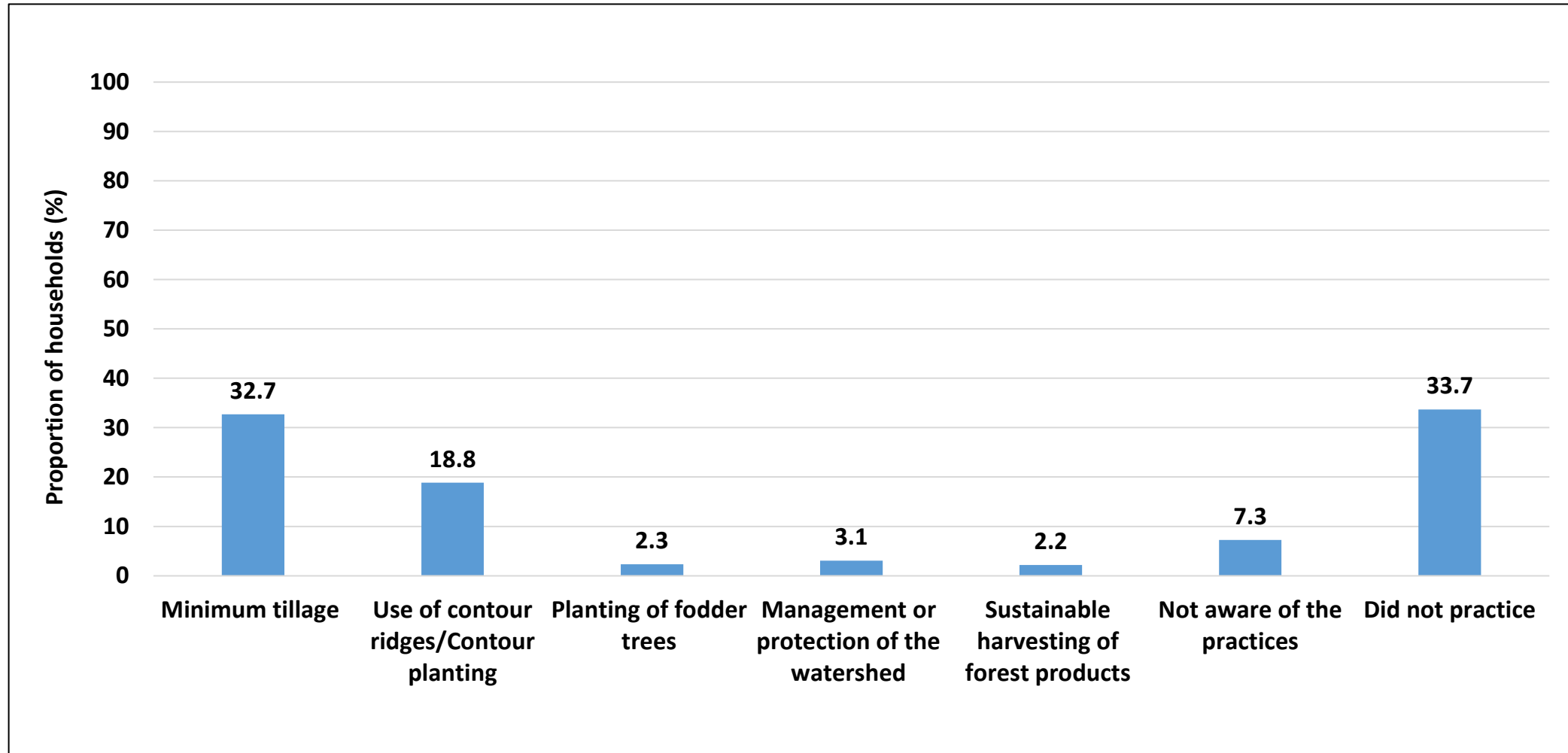
# Adoption of Climate Smart Technologies



- About 20.9% of households used quality certified seeds.

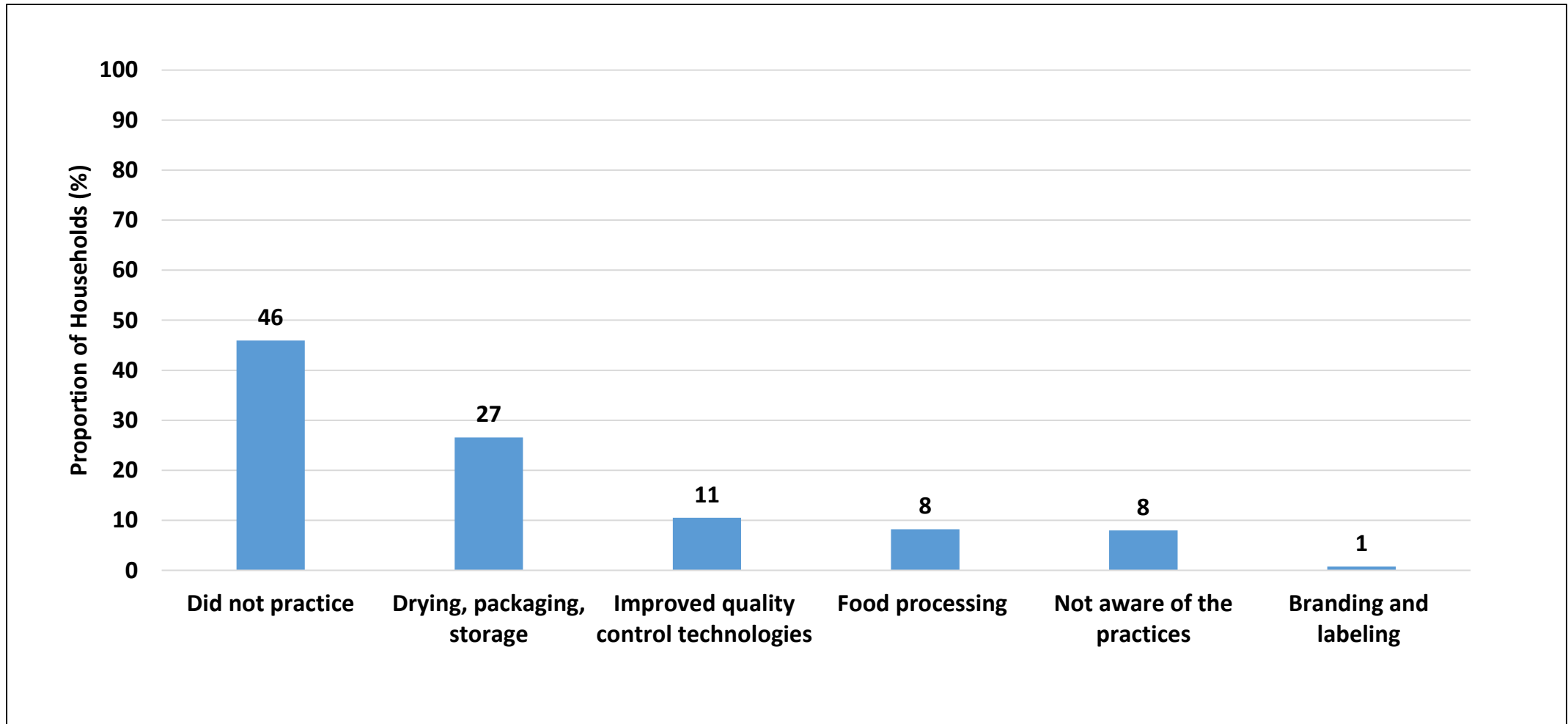


# Adoption of Water and Soil Conservation Strategies



- About 33.7% of households did not adopt any water and soil conservation strategies.

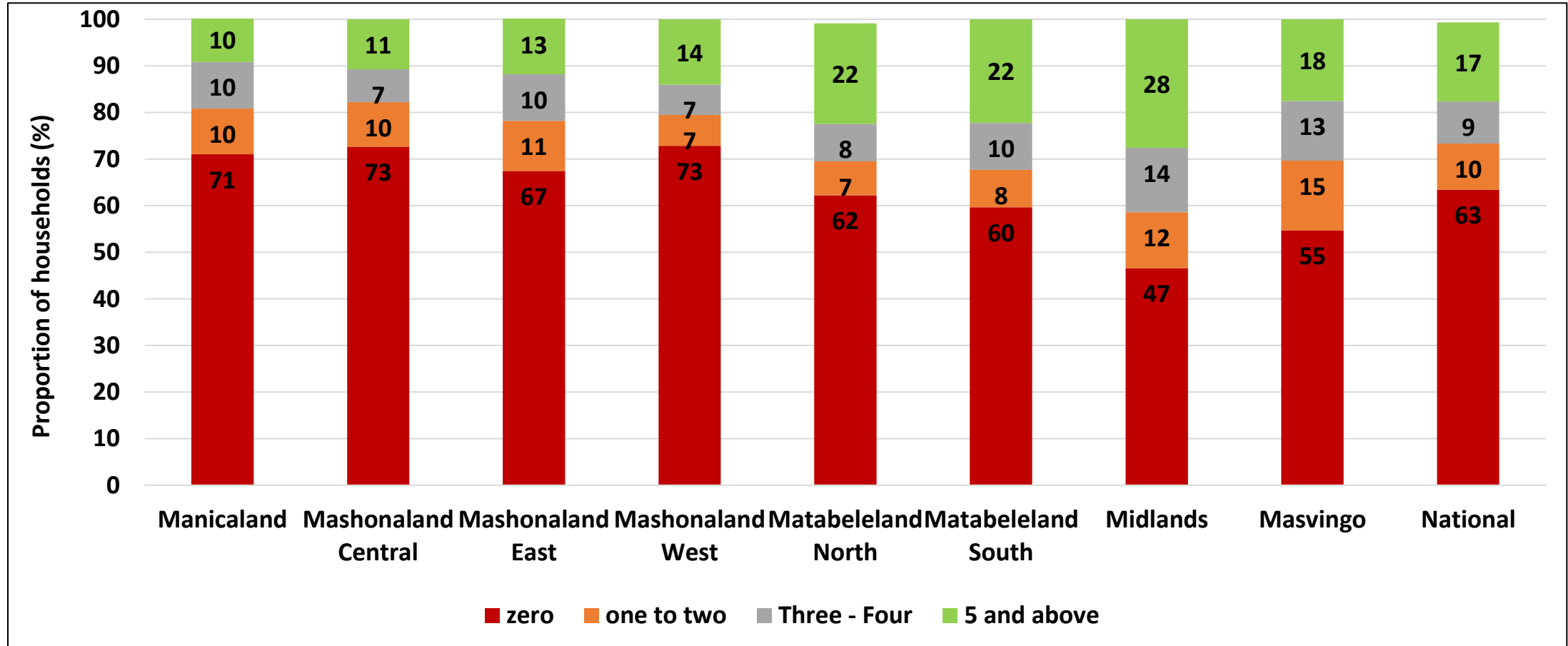
# Adoption of Value Addition



- Uptake of value addition was low as 46% of households did not practice it.
- At least 27% of households practised drying, packaging and storage.

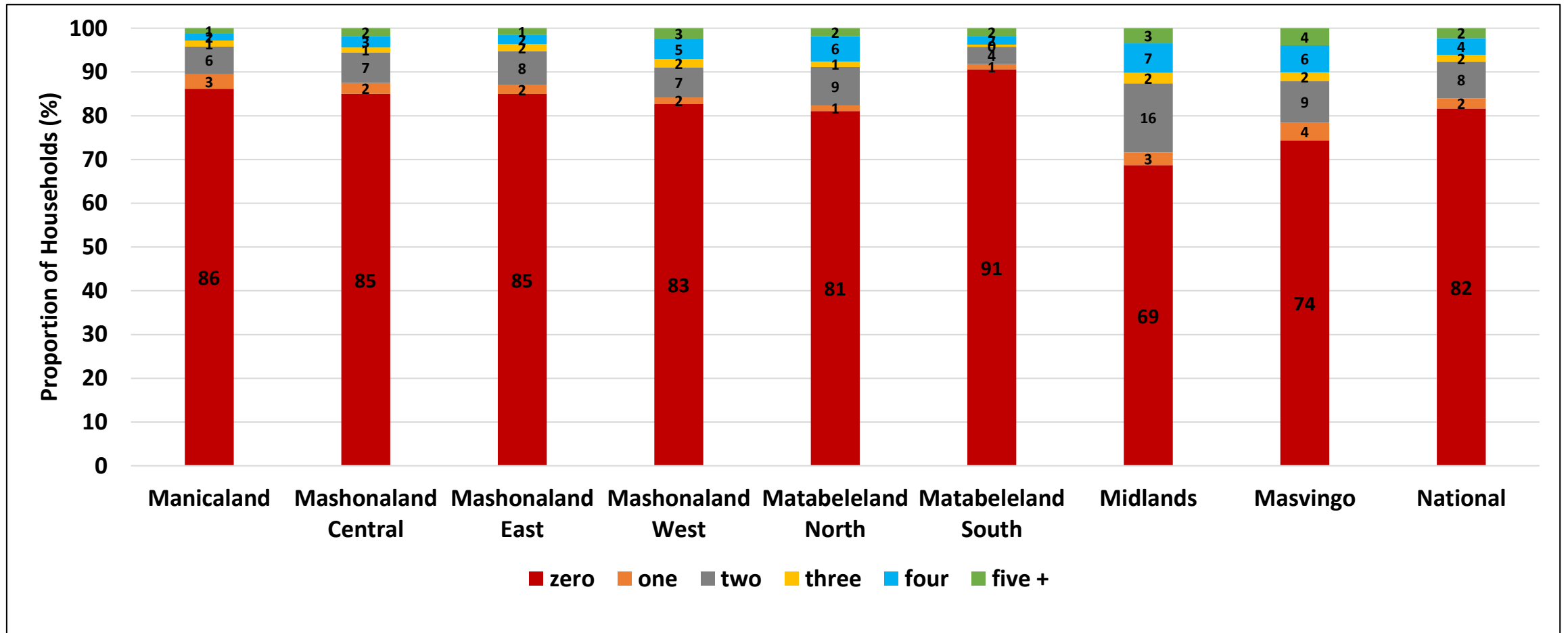
# Livestock

# Households which Owned Cattle



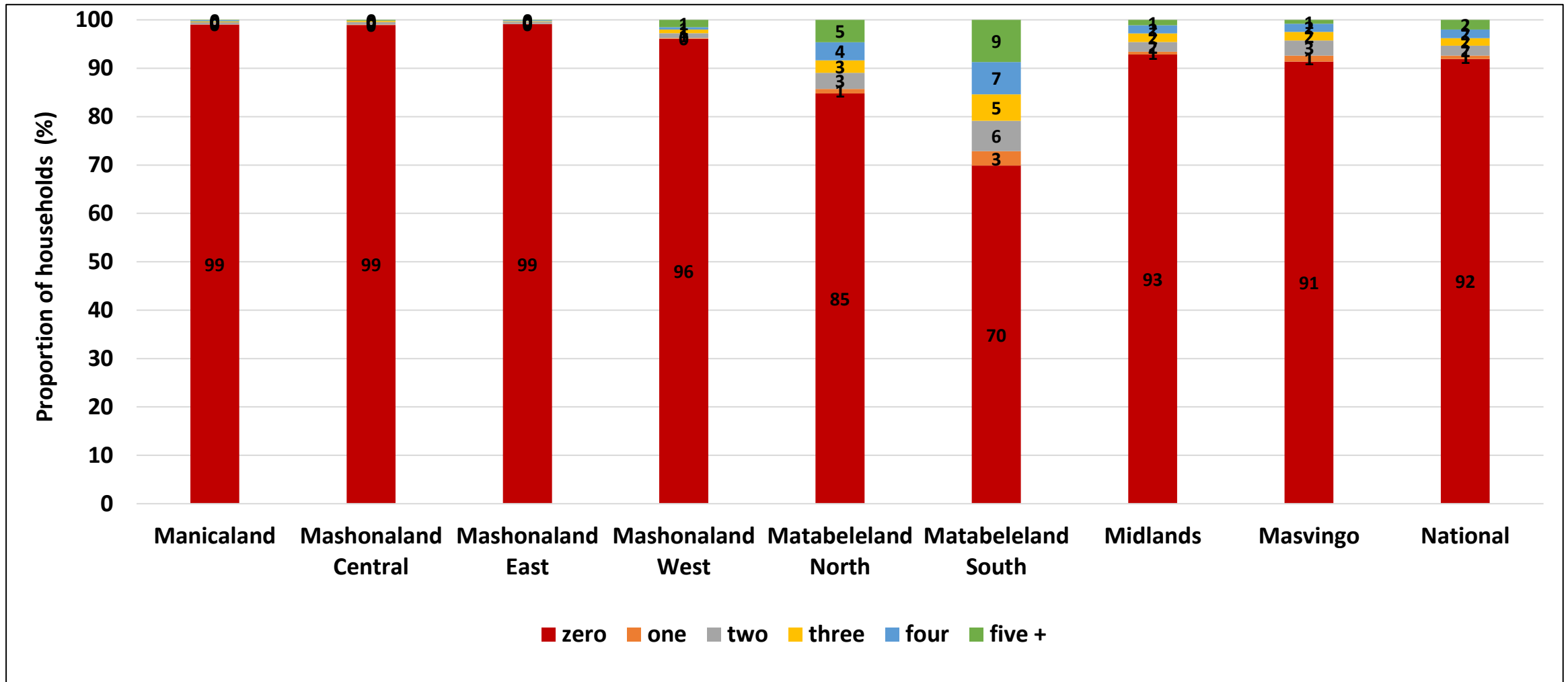
- The proportion of households that did not own cattle was 63%.
- Only 17% of households had more than five (5) herd of cattle per household.
- Mashonaland Central (73%) and Mashonaland West (73%) had the highest proportion of households which did not own cattle.
- Midlands (28%) had the highest proportion of households owning more than 5 herd of cattle per household.

# Households which Owned Draught Power



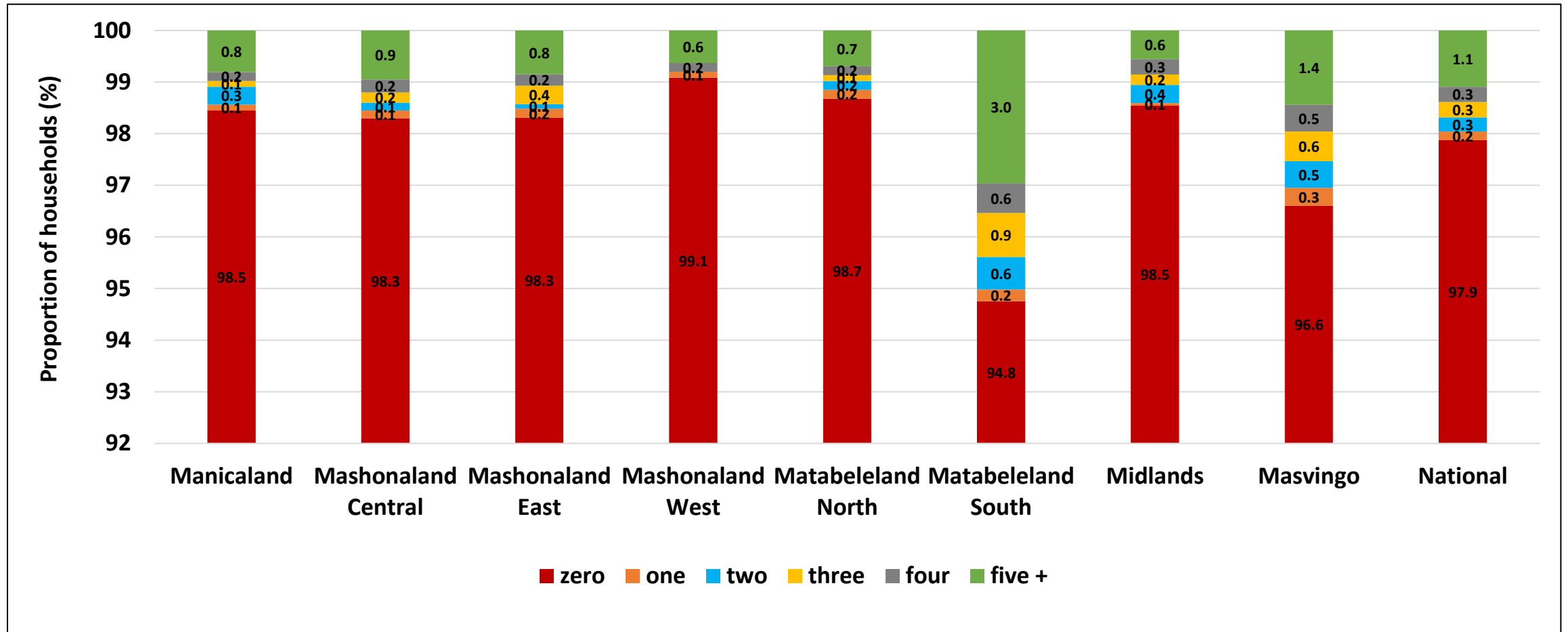
- A high proportion of households (82%) did not own draught cattle.
- Only 2% of the households owned more than 5 draught cattle per household.

# Households which Owned Draught Power (Donkeys)



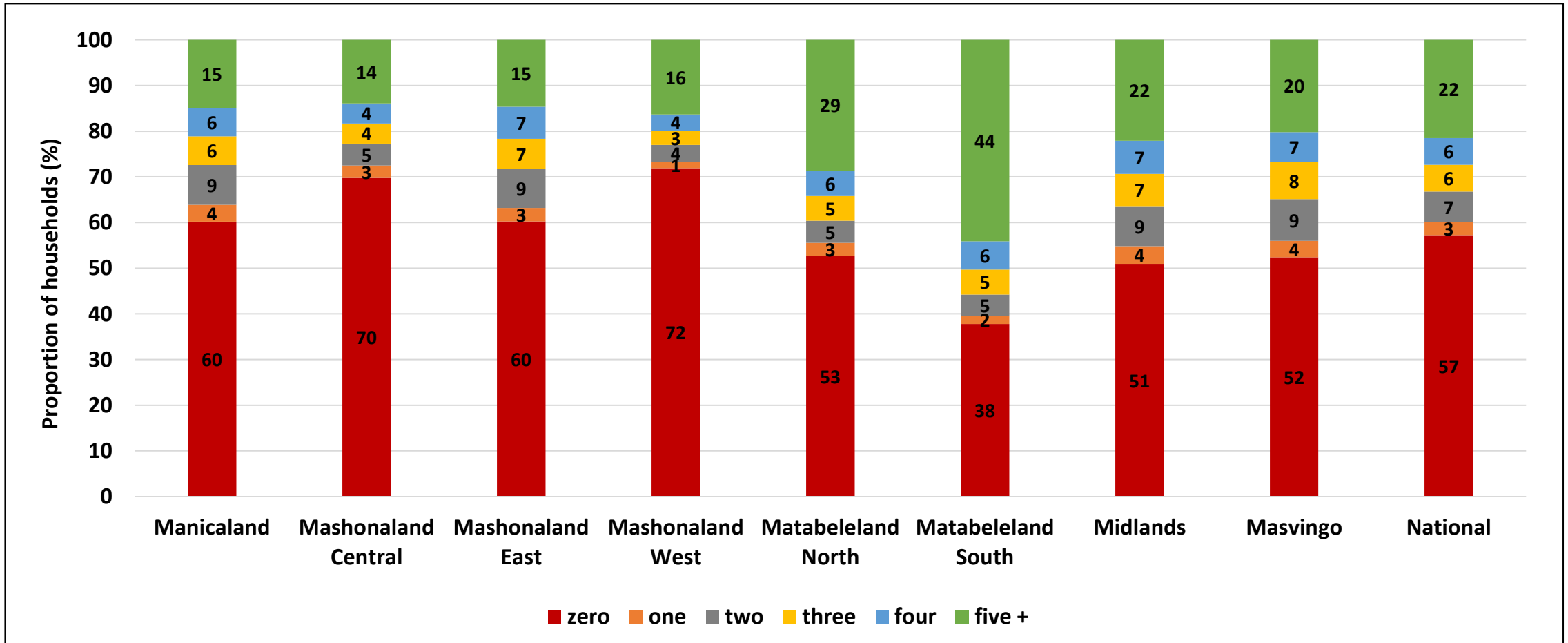
- A high proportion of households (92%) did not own donkeys.
- Matabeleland South (70%) had the least proportion of households without donkeys, followed by Matabeleland North (85%).

# Households which Owned Sheep



- About 97.9% of the households did not own sheep. Only 1.1% of the households owned more than five (5) herd of sheep.
- Matabeleland South (3%) had the highest proportion of households that owned more than five (5) herd of sheep per household.

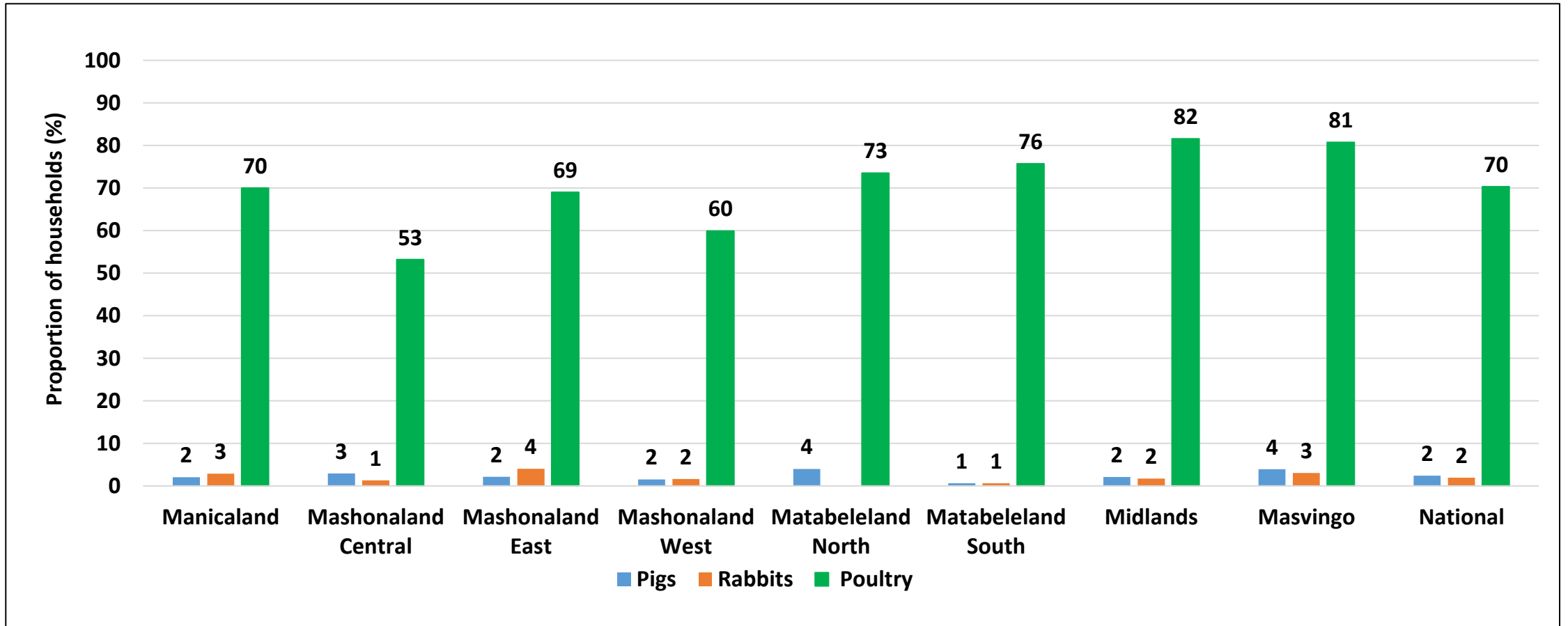
# Households which Owned Goats



- At least 57% of the households did not own goats while about 22% of the households owned more than five (5) goats.
- Matabeleland South (44%) and Matabeleland North (29%) had the highest proportion of households which owned more than five (5) goats.

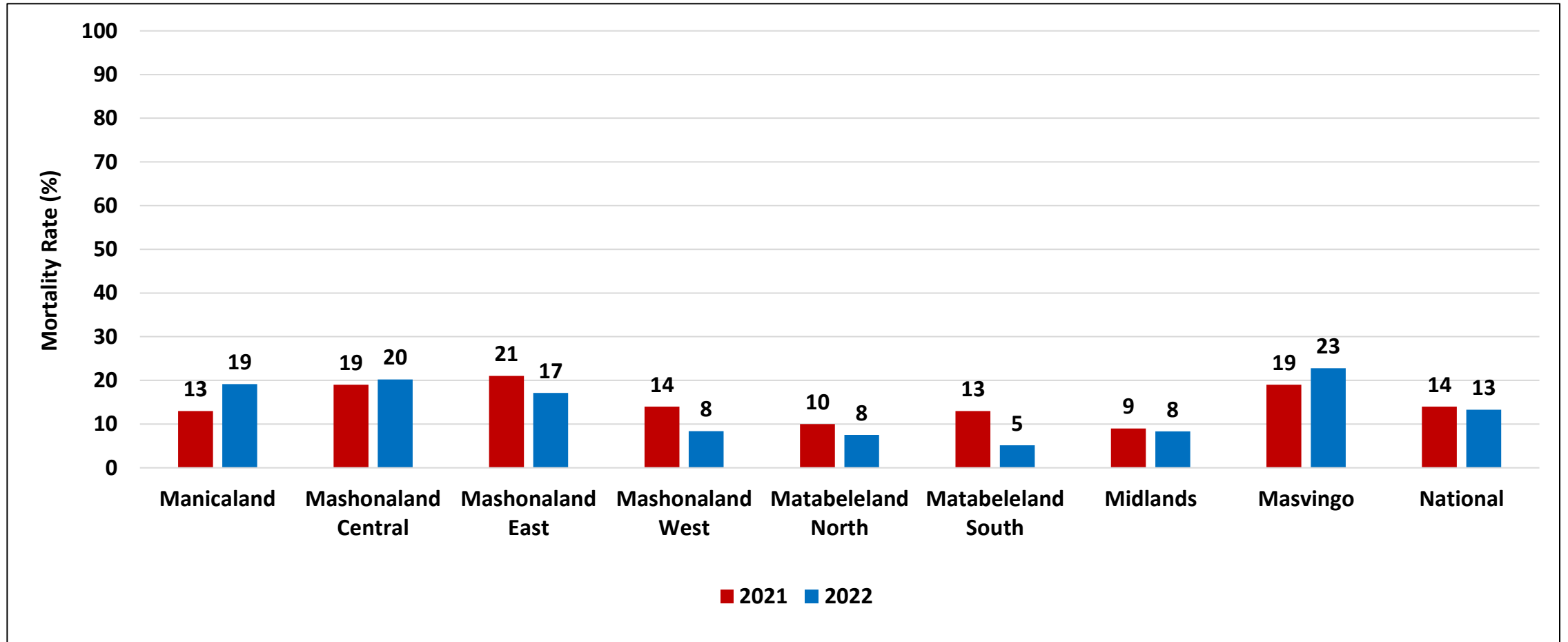


# Households which Owned Pigs, Rabbits and Poultry



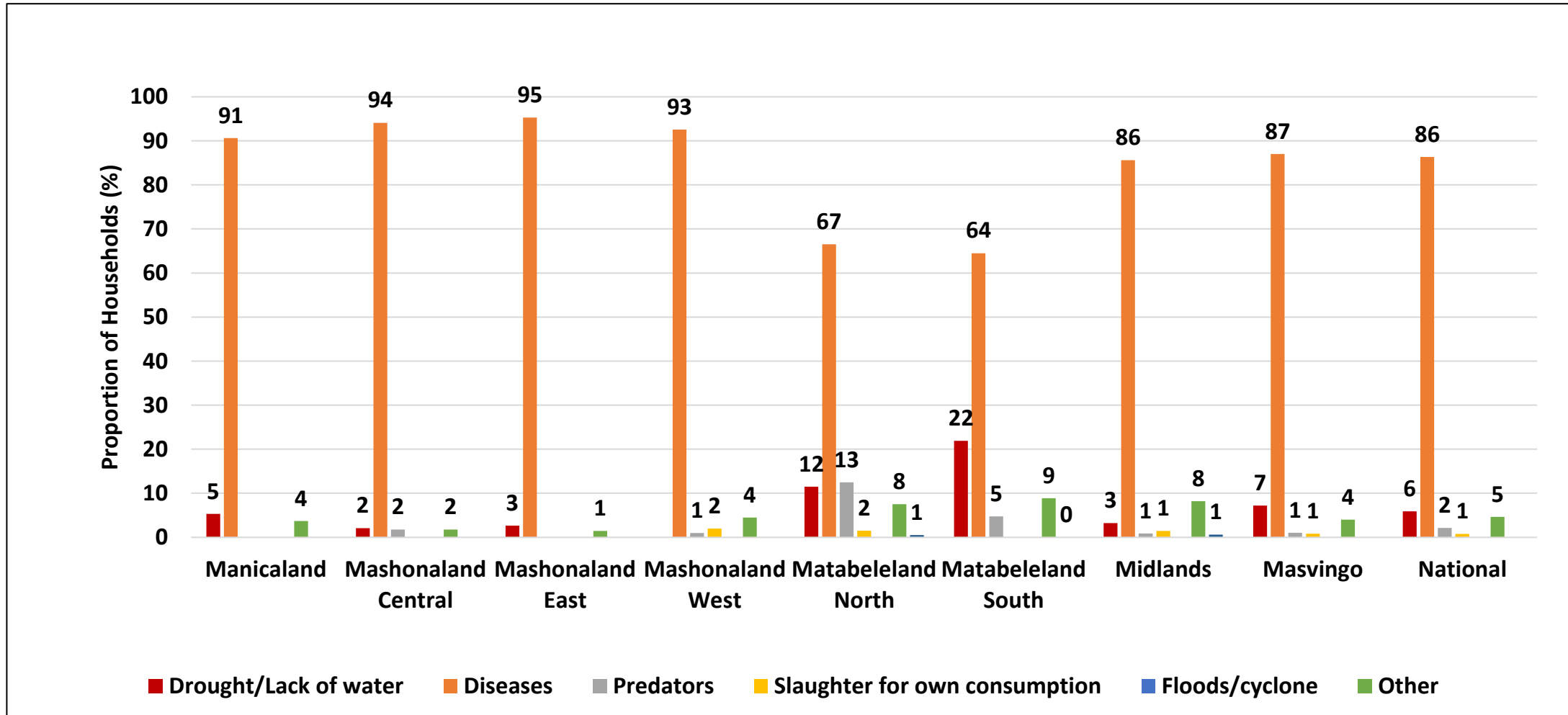
- At national level, 70% of the households owned poultry.
- The highest proportion on households owning poultry was in Midlands (82%) and the lowest was in Mashonaland Central (53%).
- Pig and rabbit ownership was very low.

# Cattle Mortality Rates



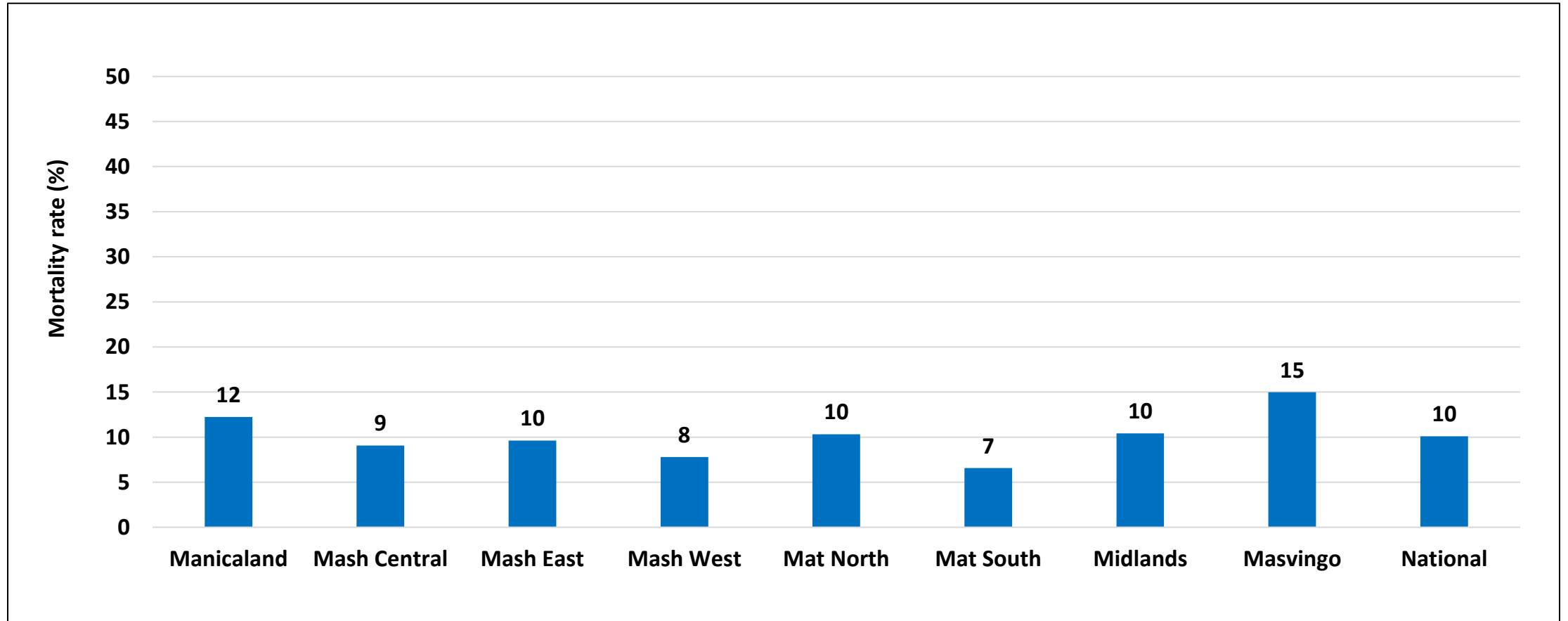
- There was no significant difference in cattle mortality rates compared to 2021.

# Causes of Death for Cattle



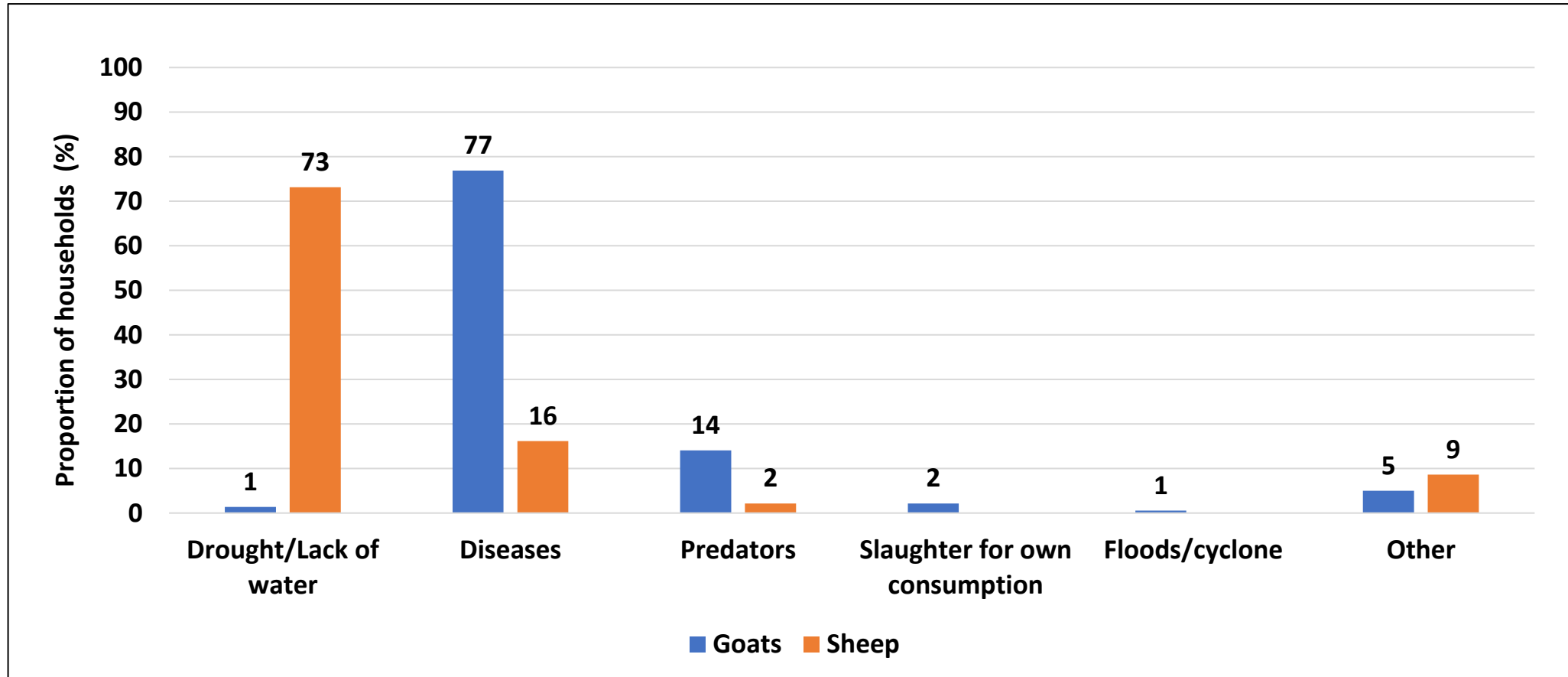
- Diseases (86%) were the major cause of cattle deaths reported during the assessment.

# Goat Mortality Rate (%)



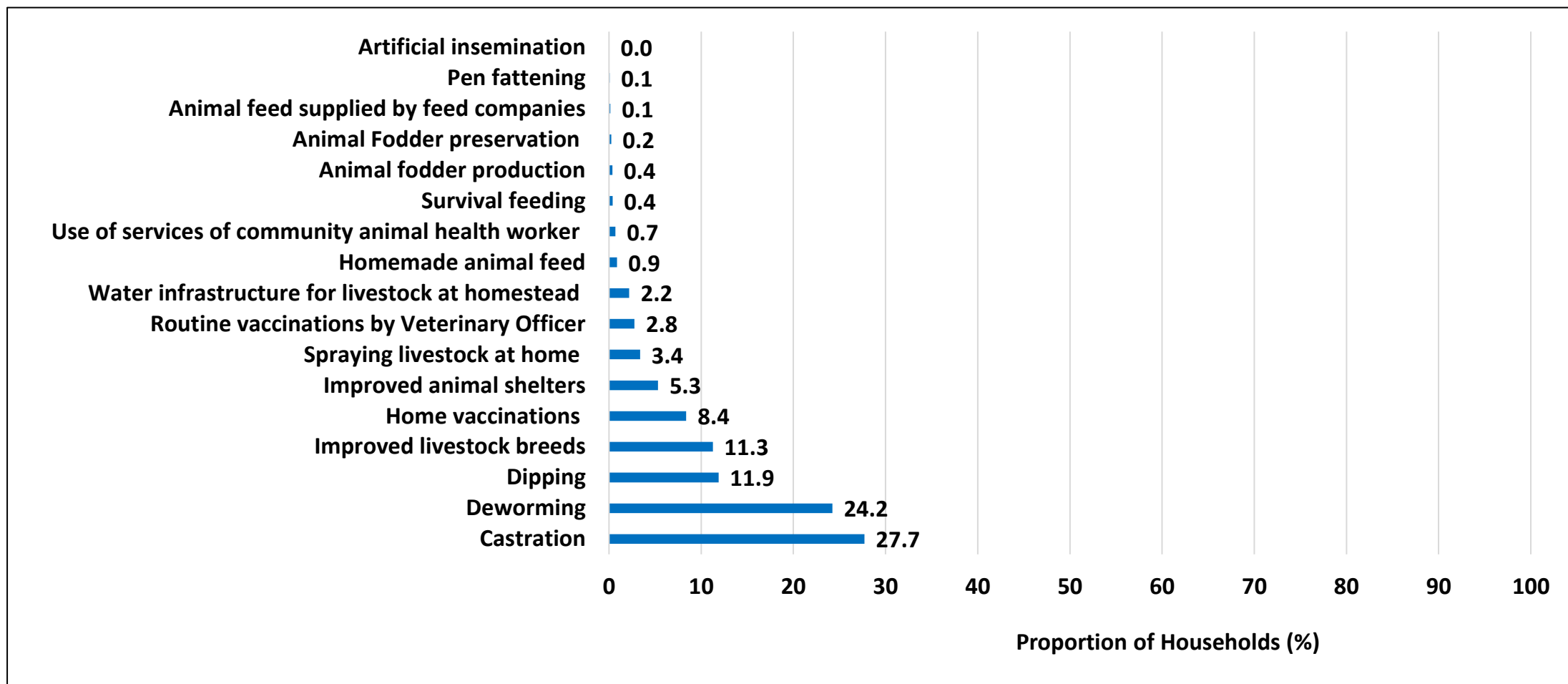
- Goat mortality was highest in Masvingo (15%) and Manicaland (12%).

# Causes of Death for Sheep and Goats



- Sheep were more susceptible to drought/lack of water (73%).
- A higher proportion of goat losses were due to diseases (77%).

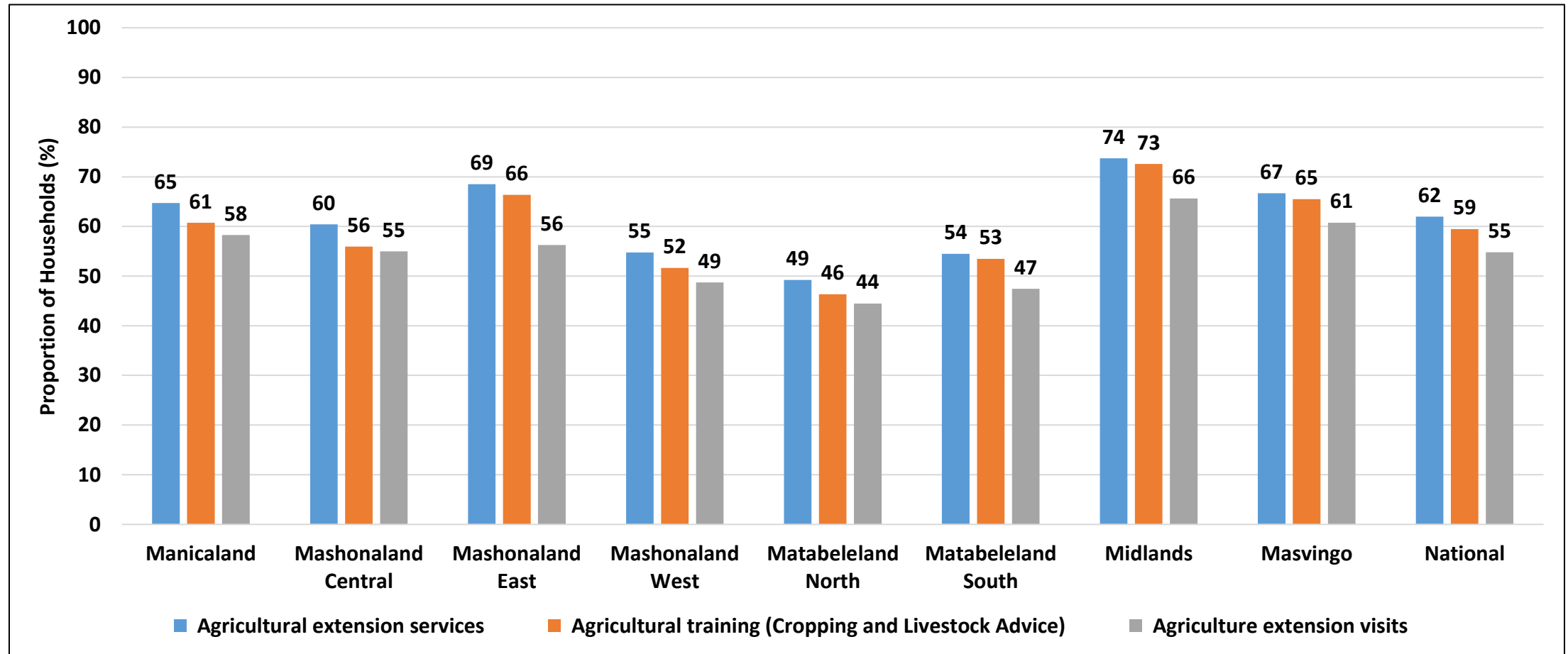
# Adoption of Improved Livestock Practices



- The most practised livestock improvement strategies were castration (27.7%) and deworming (24.2%).

# **Agricultural Produce Markets**

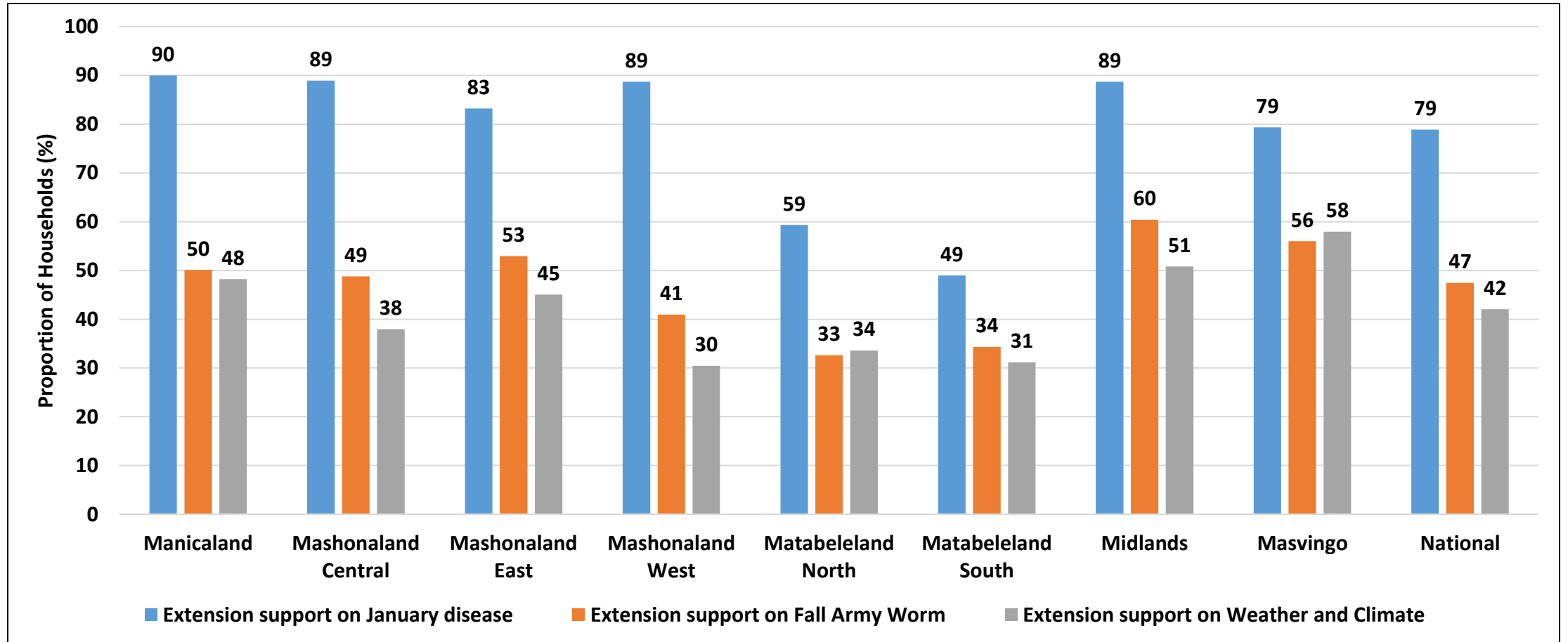
# Agricultural Extension Services Received



- At least 62% of the households received agricultural extension services whilst 59% and 55% received agricultural training and extension visits, respectively.



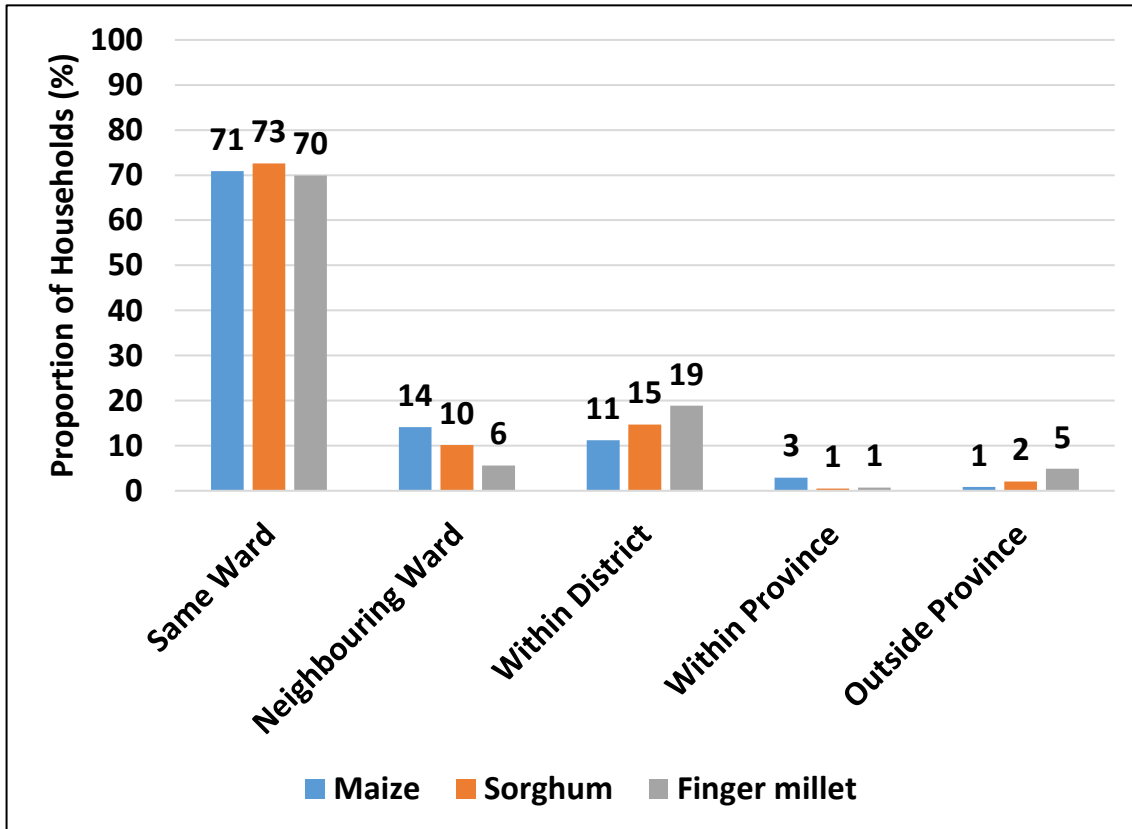
# Agricultural Extension Services Received



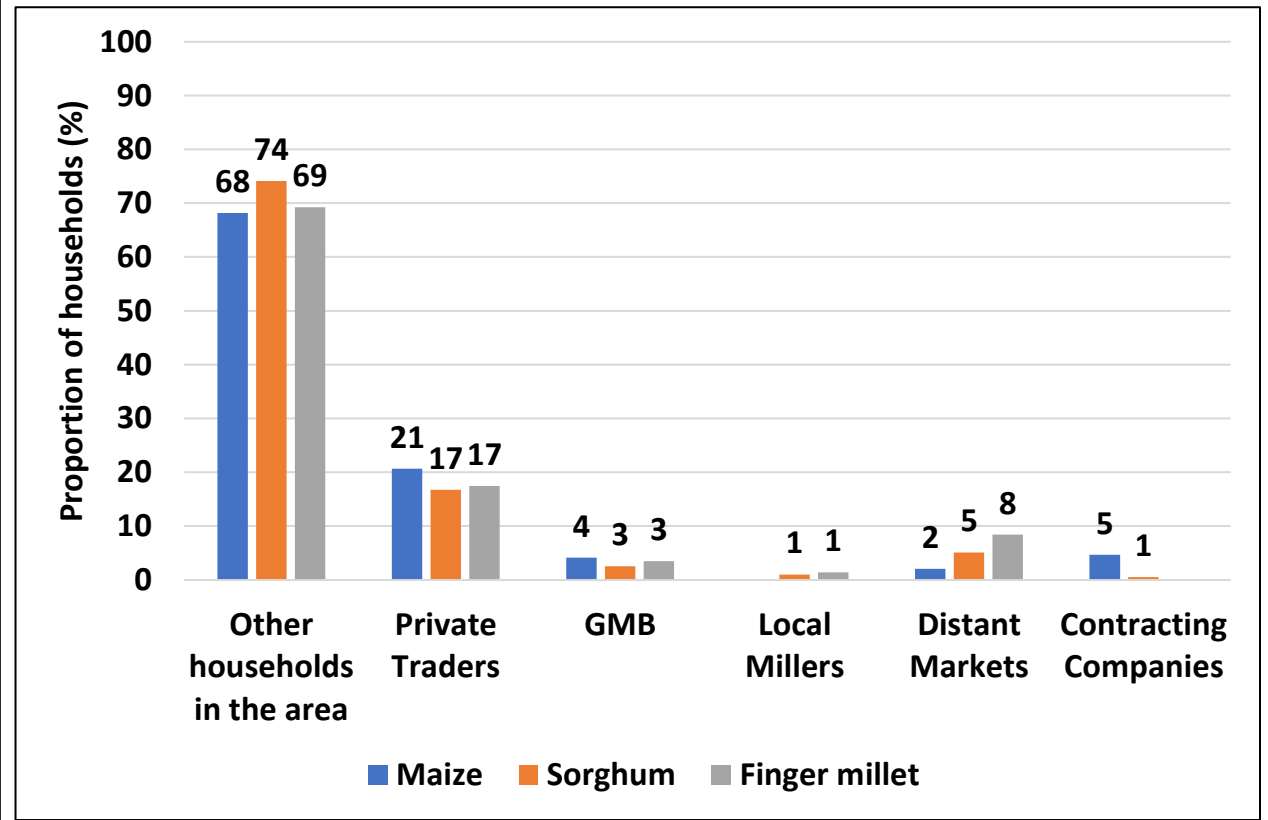
- Nationally, 79% of rural households received extension support on January disease, whilst 47% and 42% received support on Fall army worm and support on weather and climate, respectively.

# Cereal Markets

## Markets Where Households Bought Cereals

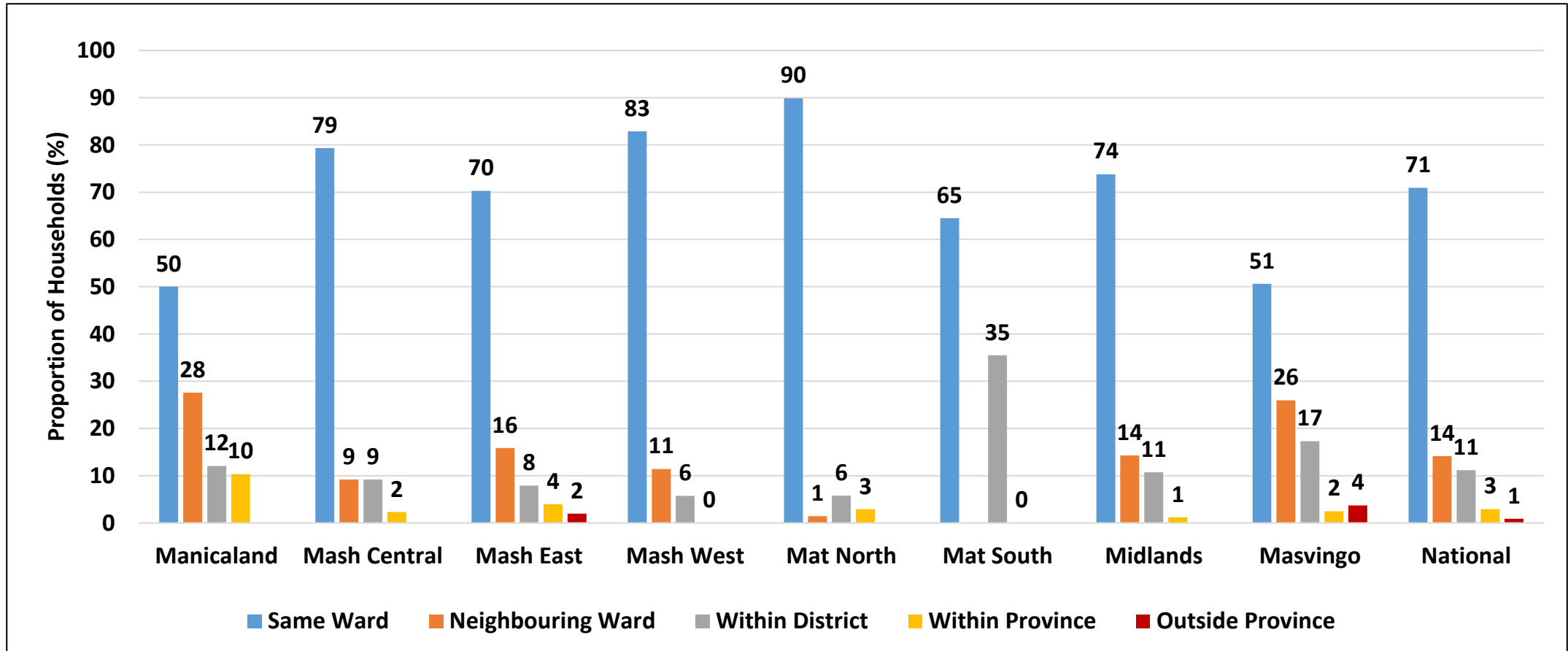


## Type of Markets Where Households Bought Cereals



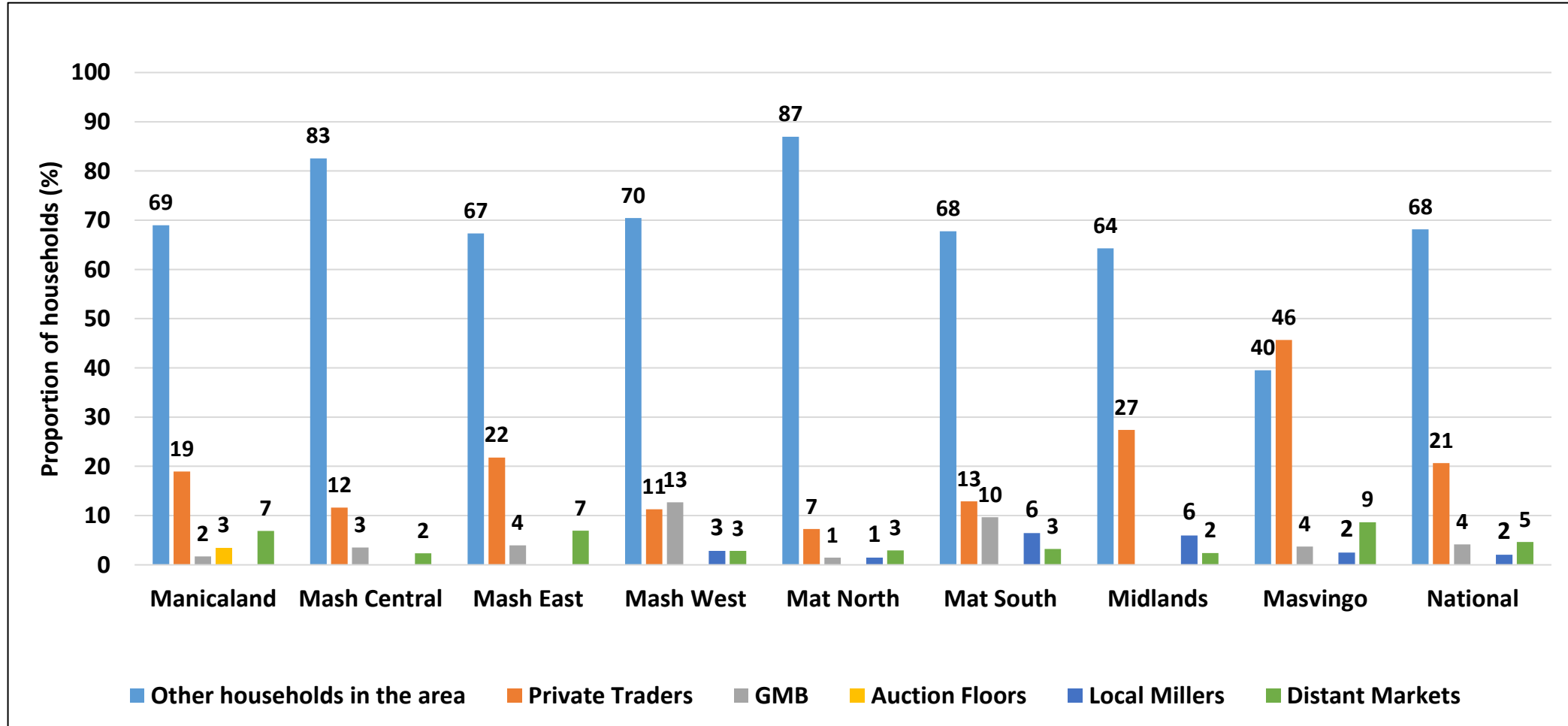
- Most households purchased cereals within the same ward.
- The main markets were households in the same area.

# Maize Grain Markets



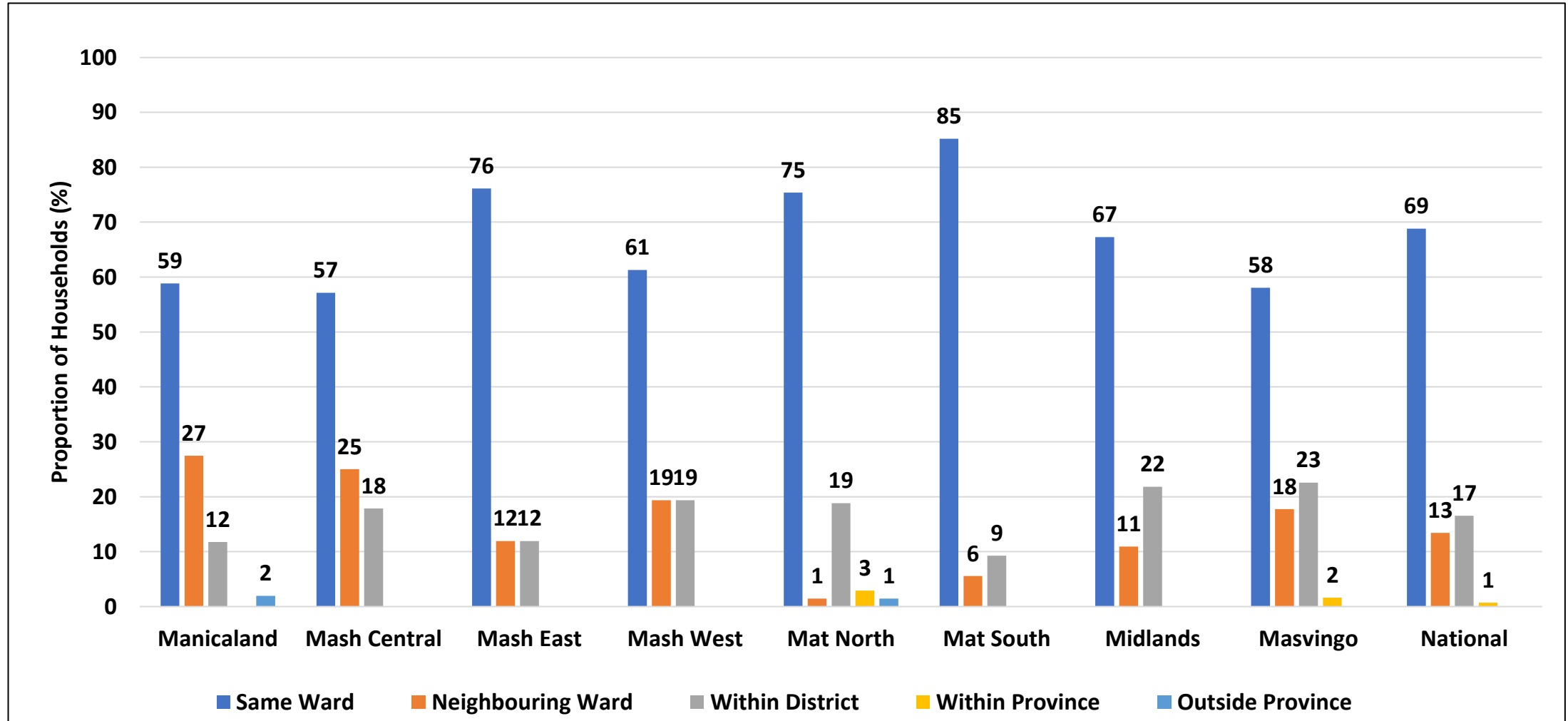
- Maize grain was mostly purchased in the same ward.

# Maize Grain Markets



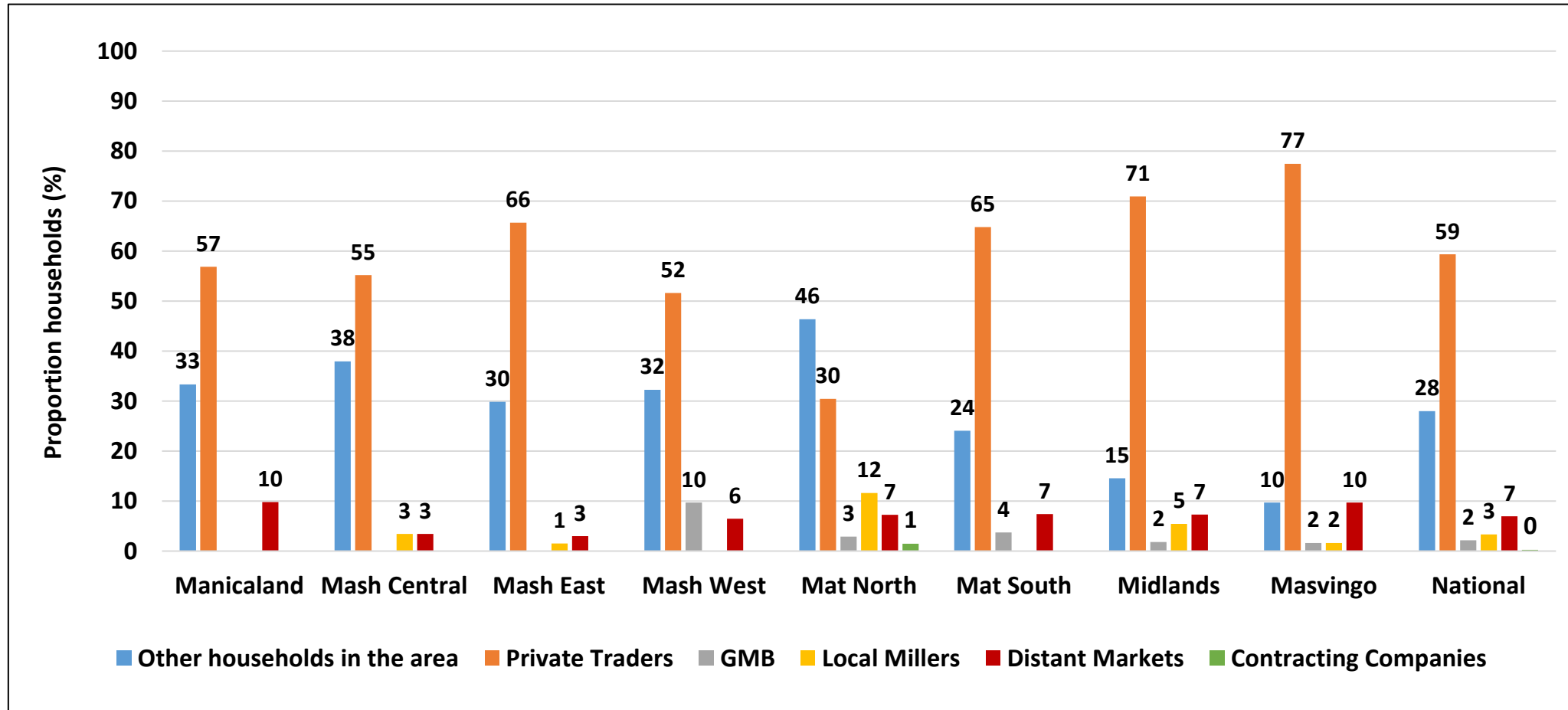
- Maize grain was mostly purchased from other households in the area.

# Maize Meal Markets



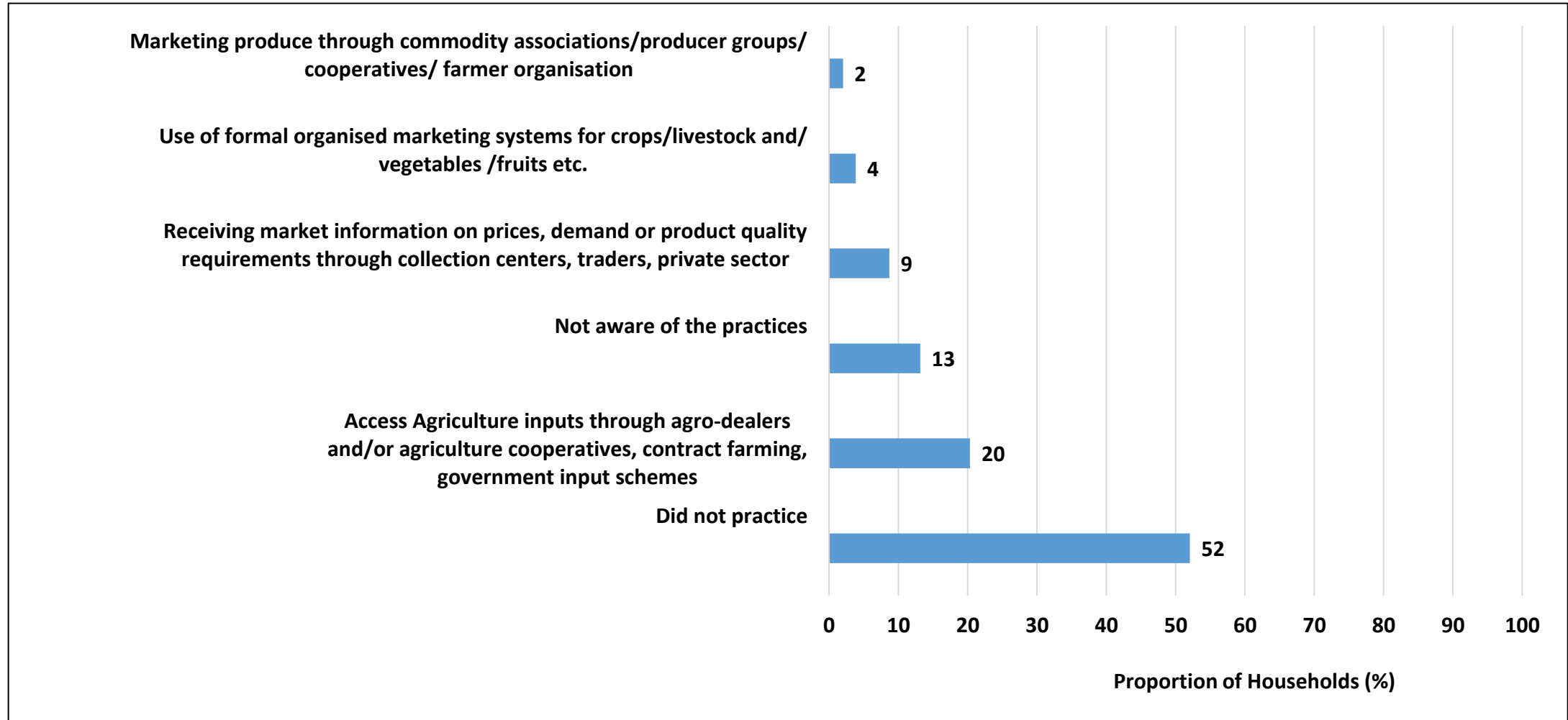
- Maize meal was mostly purchased within the same ward.

# Maize Meal Markets



- Maize meal was mostly purchased from private traders.

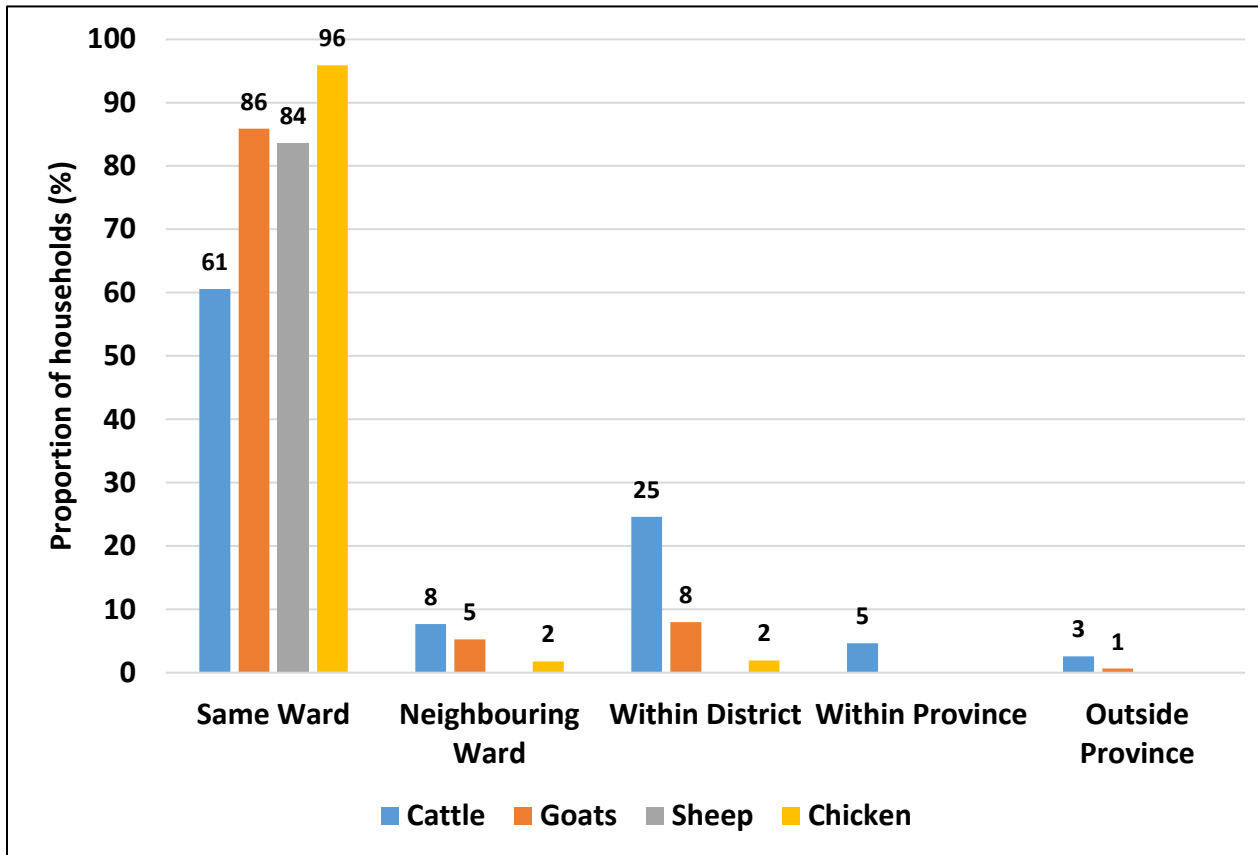
# Adoption of Improved Agricultural Marketing Practices



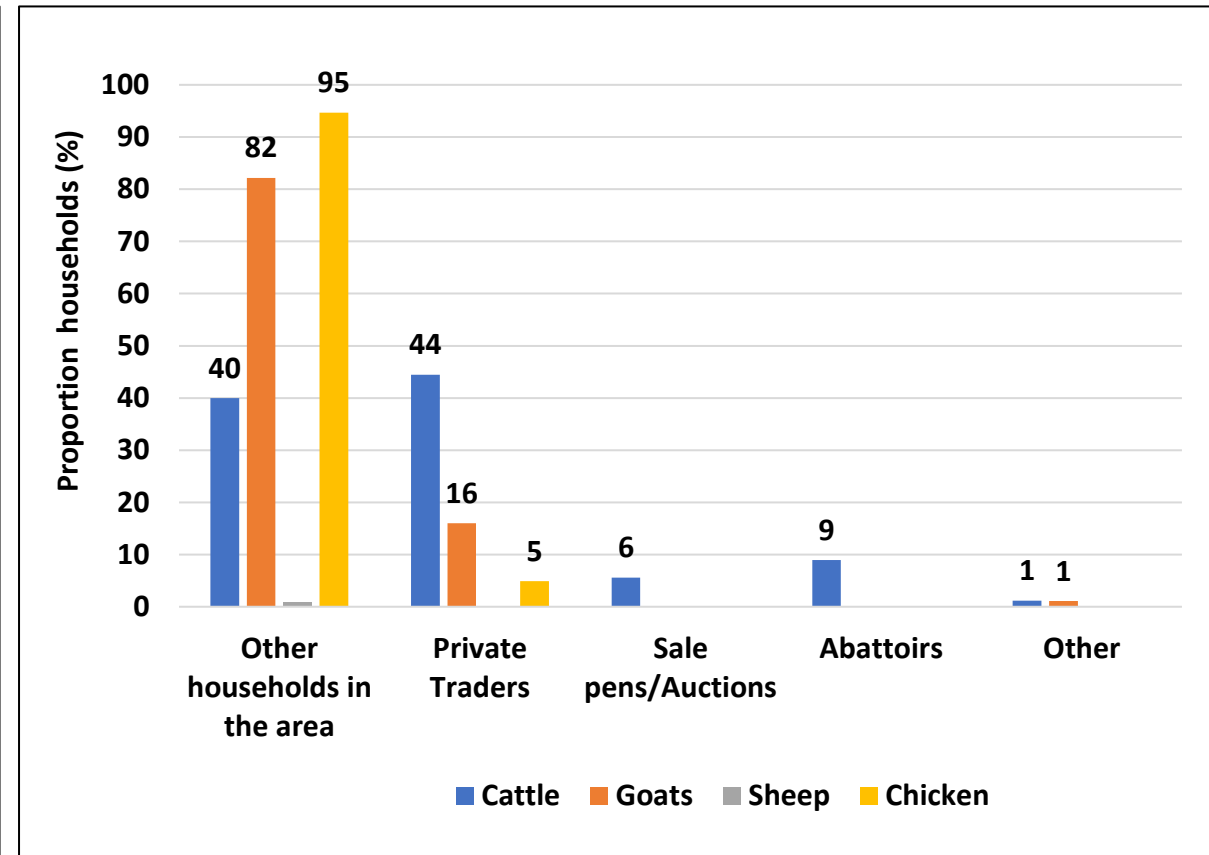
- At least 52% of households did not adopt improved agricultural marketing practices.

# Livestock Markets

## Main Markets for Livestock



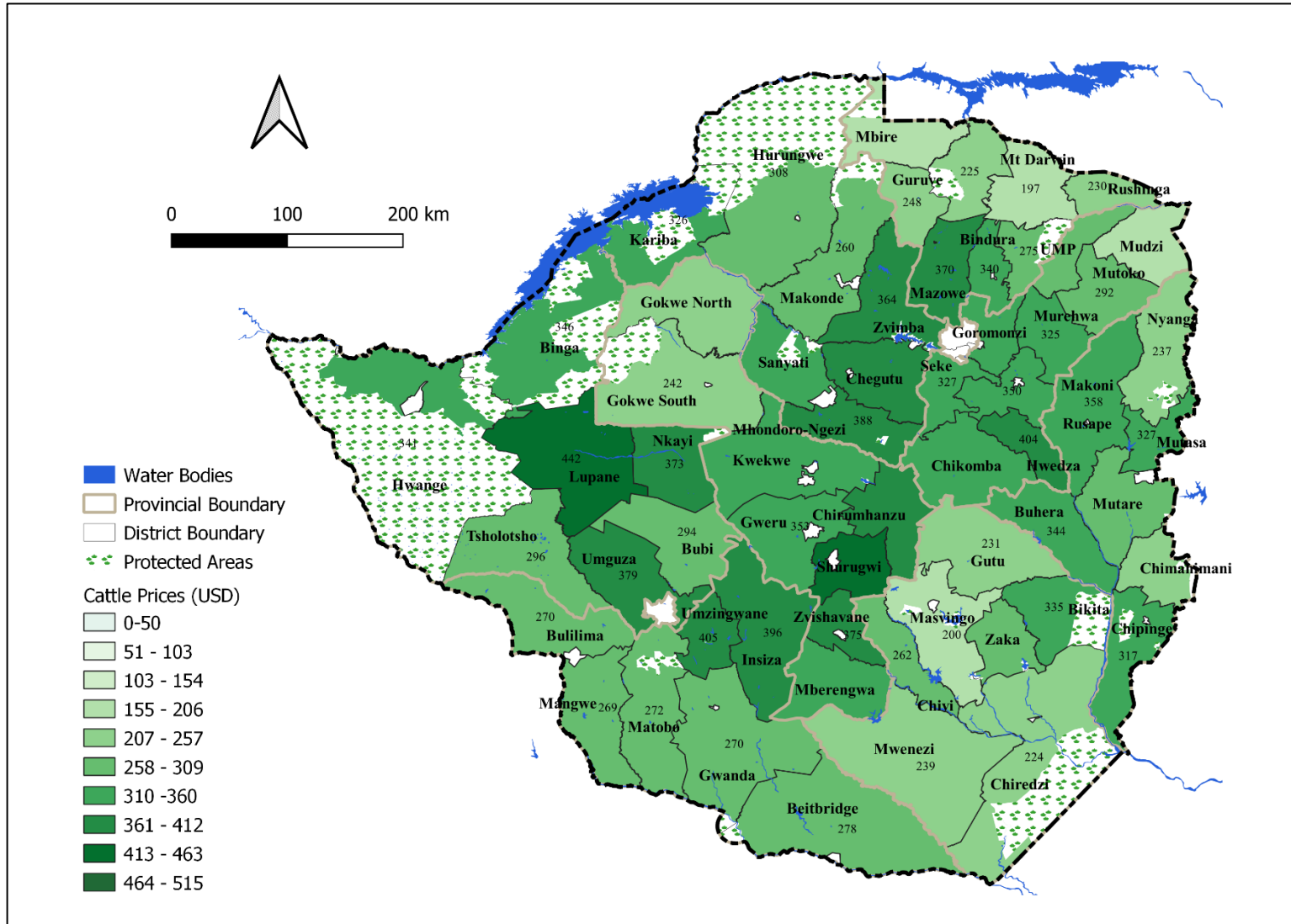
## Type of Markets for Livestock



- The main markets for livestock were within the same ward.
- Households sold or bought livestock from other households in the same area.

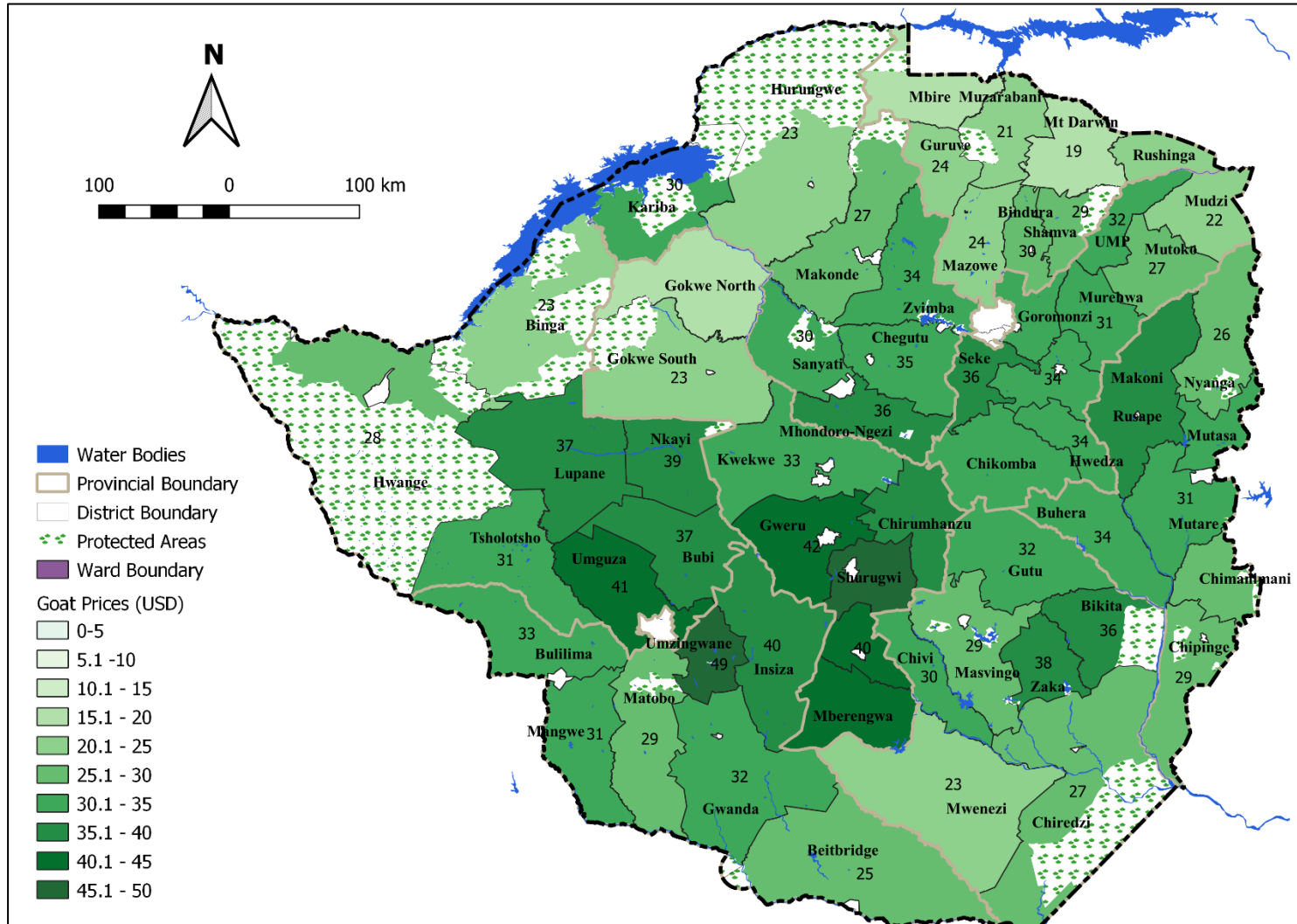


# Average Cattle Prices (USD)



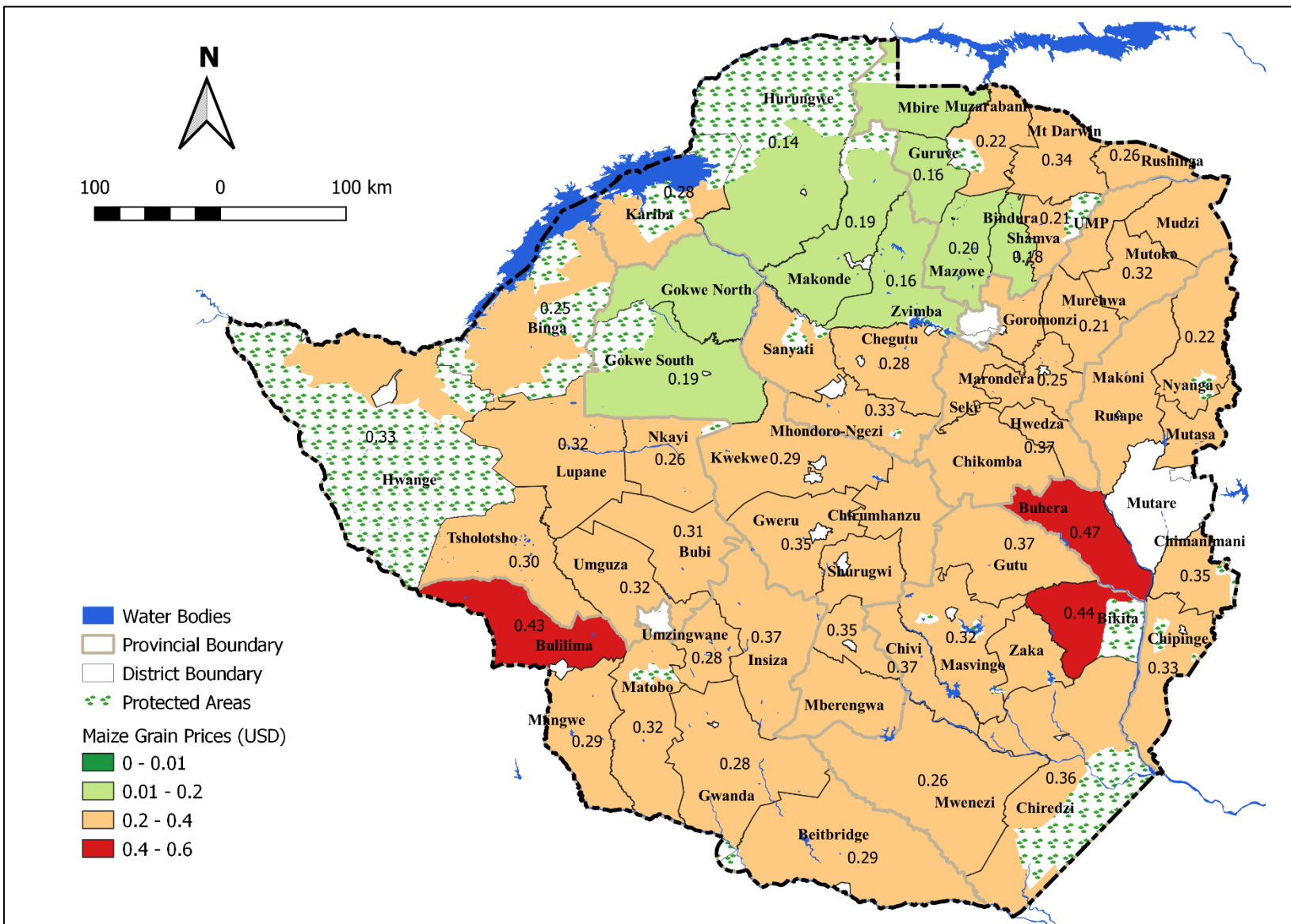
- Cattle prices ranged from USD 442 (Lupane) to USD 197 (Mt Darwin).

# Average Goat Prices (USD)



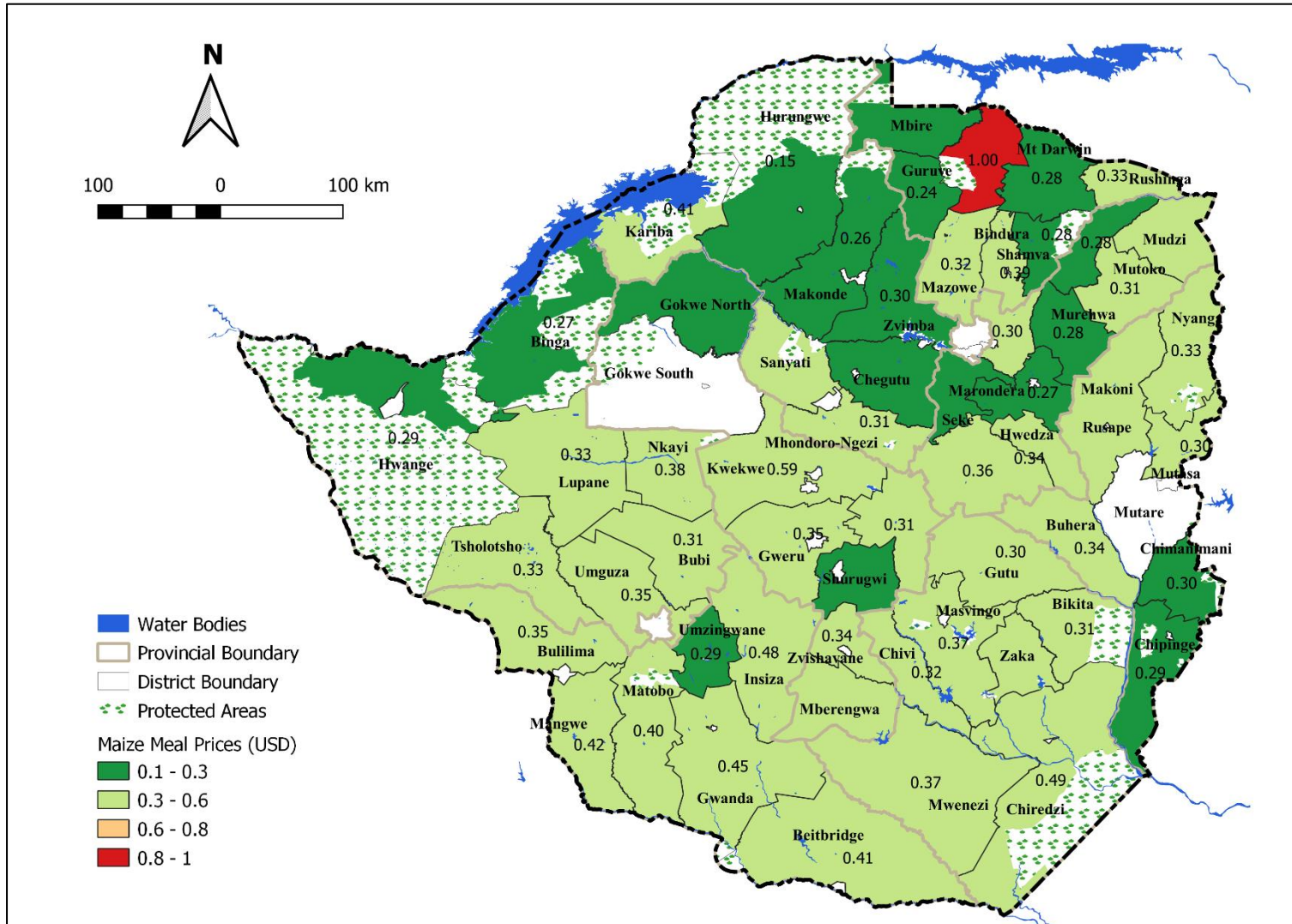
- The highest goat prices were reported in Umzingwane (USD 49), Gweru (USD 42) and Umguza (USD 41).

# Average Maize Grain Prices (USD)



- Maize grain prices were highest in Buhera (USD0.47), Bikita (USD0.44) and Bulilima (USD0.43) per kilogramme.

# Average Maize Meal Prices (USD)

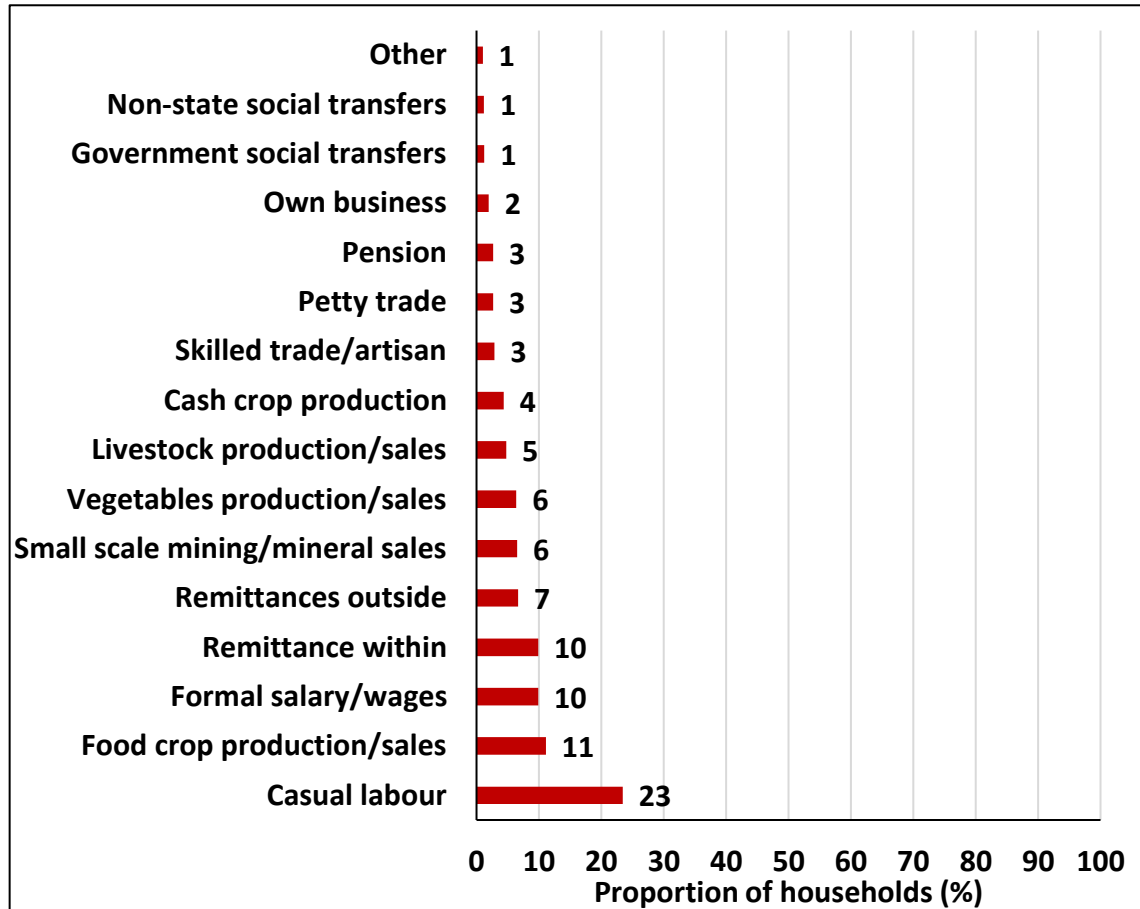


- Muzarabani (USD1.00) had the highest maize meal prices per kilogramme.

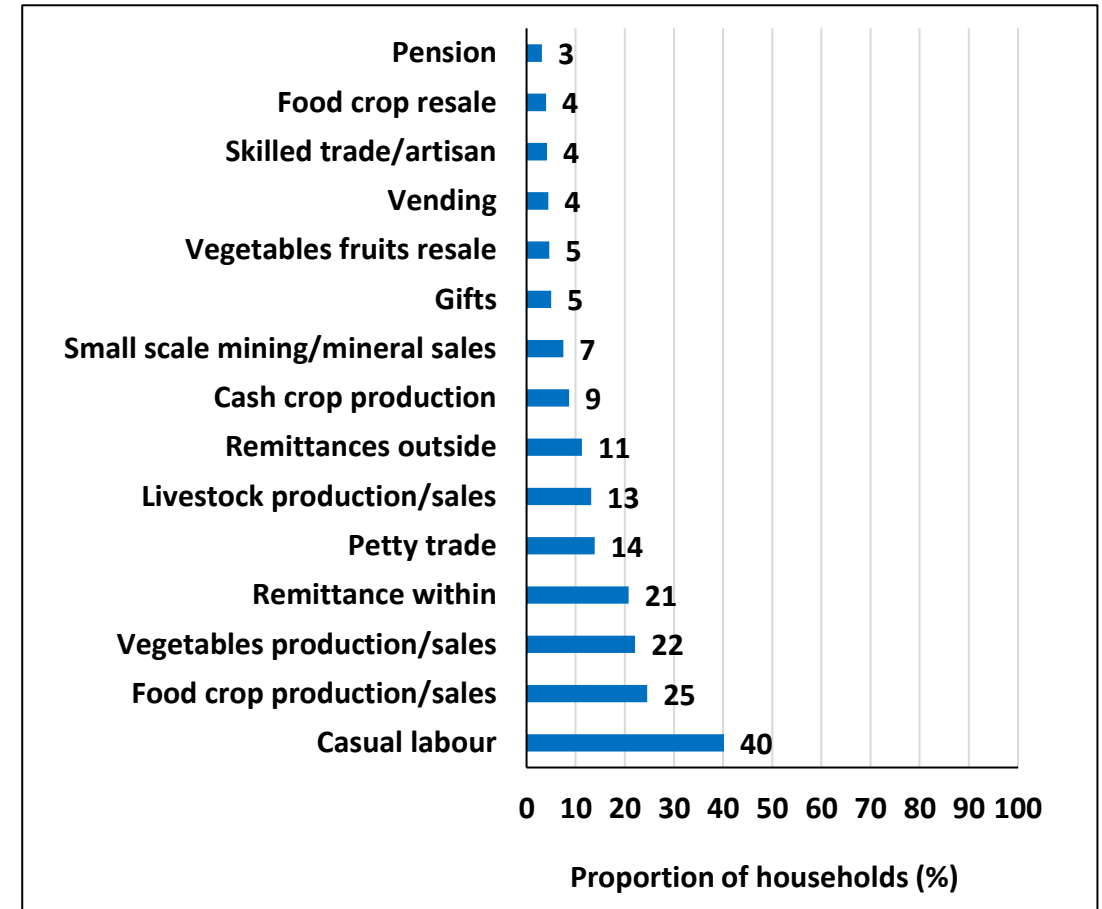
# **Income and Expenditure**

# Current Most Important Sources of Income

2021

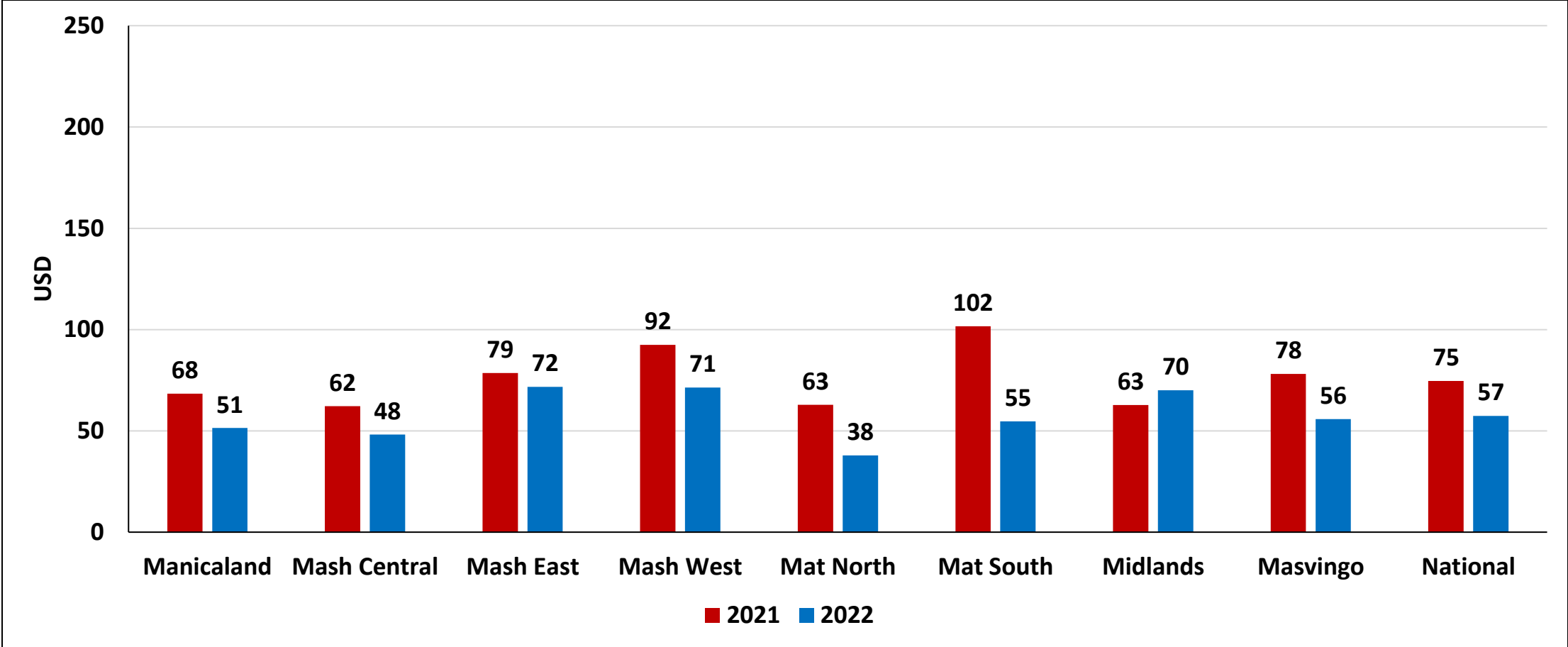


2022



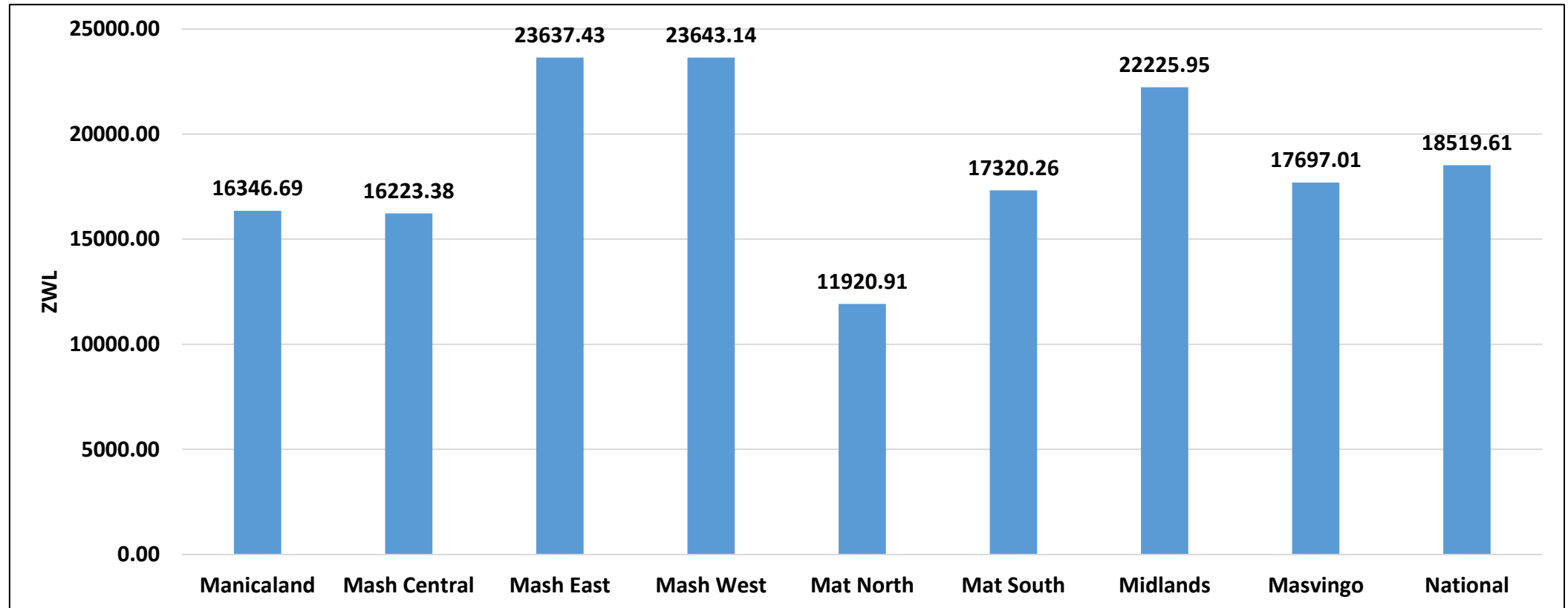
- Most households continue to rely on casual labour (40%) as the most important source of income, followed by Food crop production/sales (25%), vegetable production and sales (22%), remittances within Zimbabwe (21%) and petty trade (14%).

# Average Household Monthly Income (USD) for April 2022



- The household average monthly income decreased from USD 75 in 2021 to USD 57 in 2022.
- The lowest household average monthly income was reported in Matabeleland North (USD 38) and the highest was reported in Mashonaland East (USD 72).

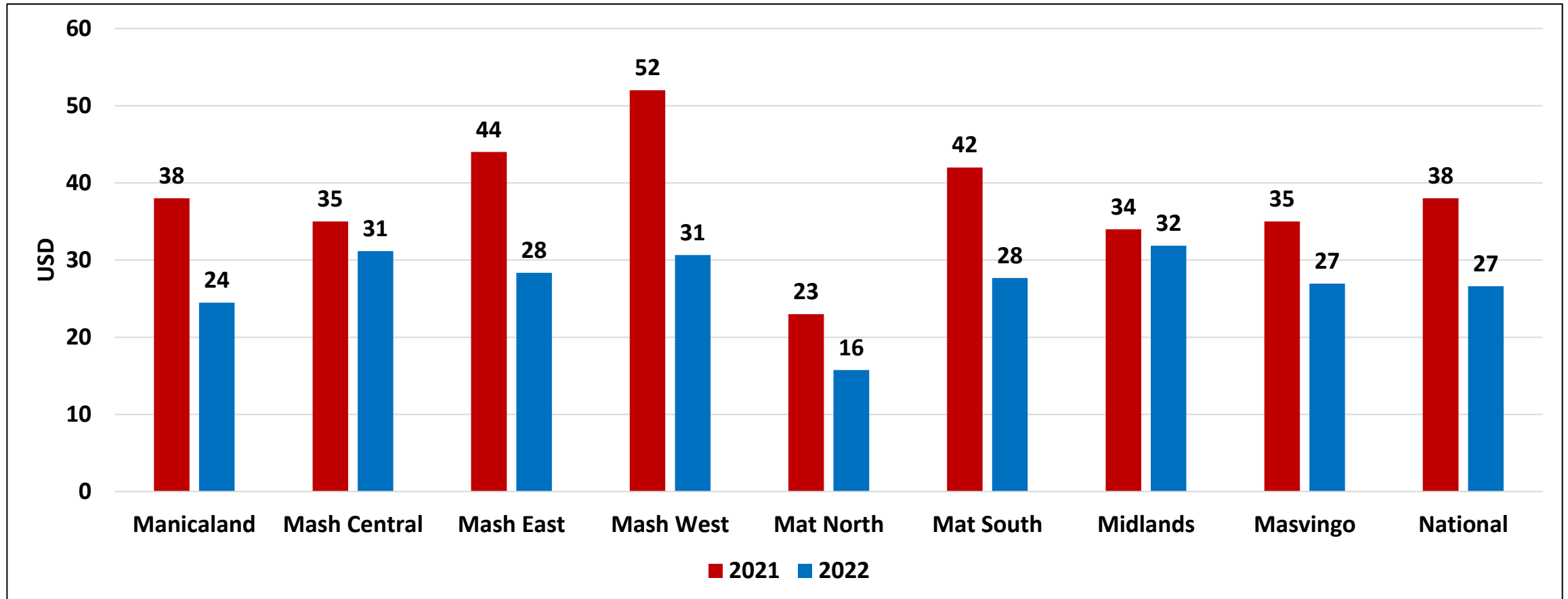
# Average Household Monthly Income (ZWL) for April 2022



- Average monthly income was ZWL 18, 519.61.
- Matabeleland North (ZWL 11, 920.91) had the lowest income.

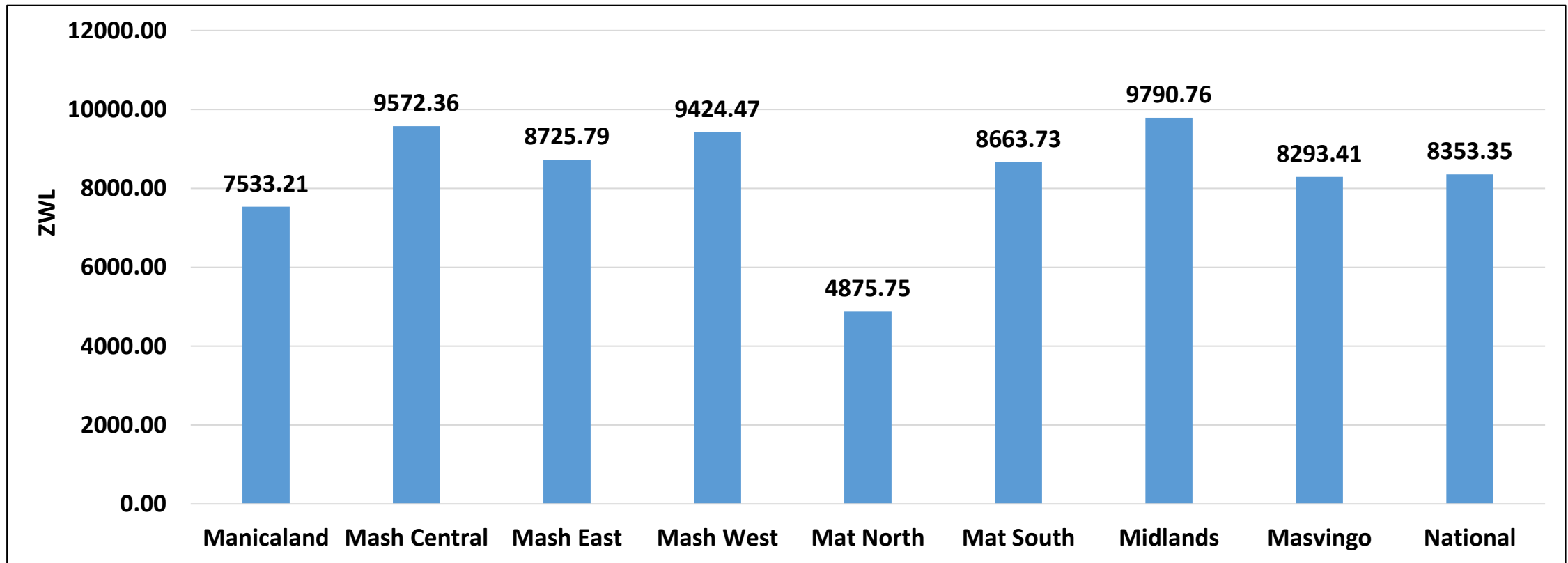


# Average Household Monthly Expenditure (USD) for April 2022



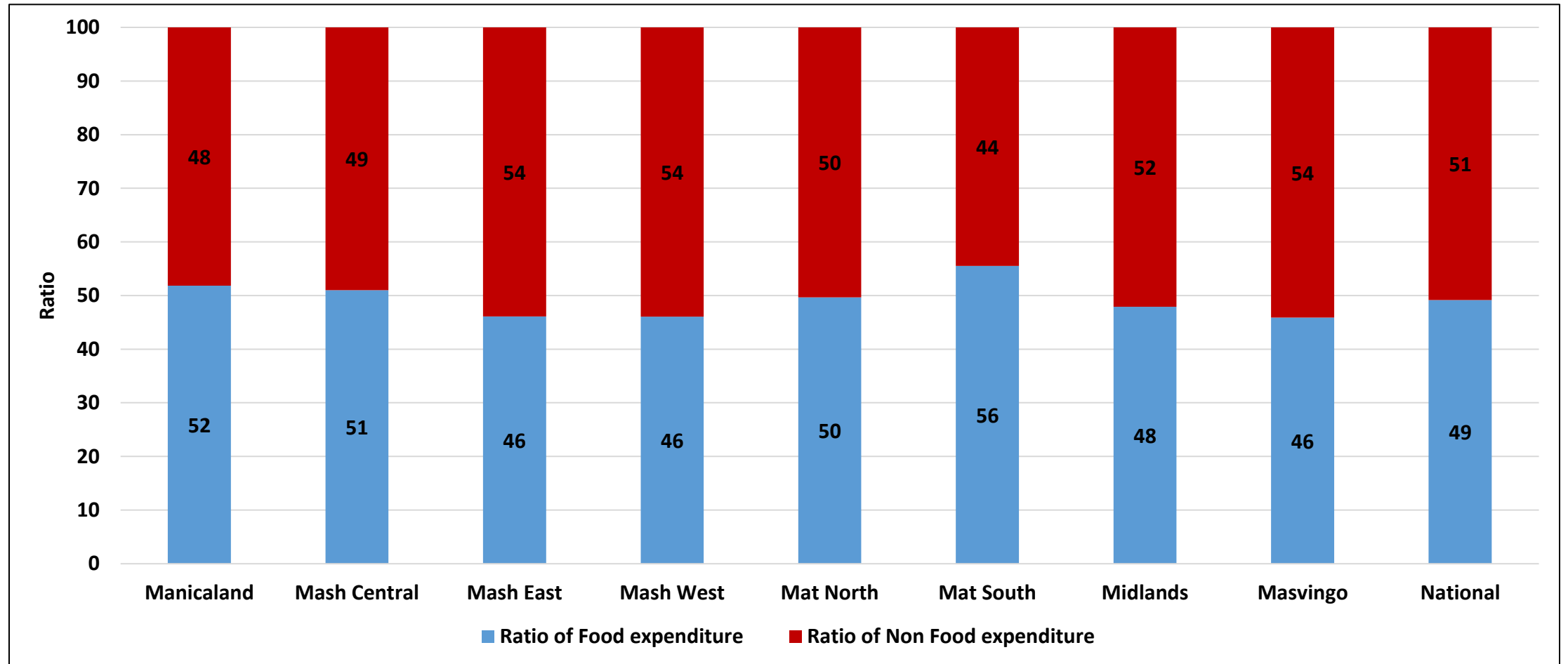
- Average expenditure for the month of April was USD 27.
- Matabeleland North (USD 16) reported the lowest expenditure.

# Average Household Monthly Expenditure (ZWL) for April 2022



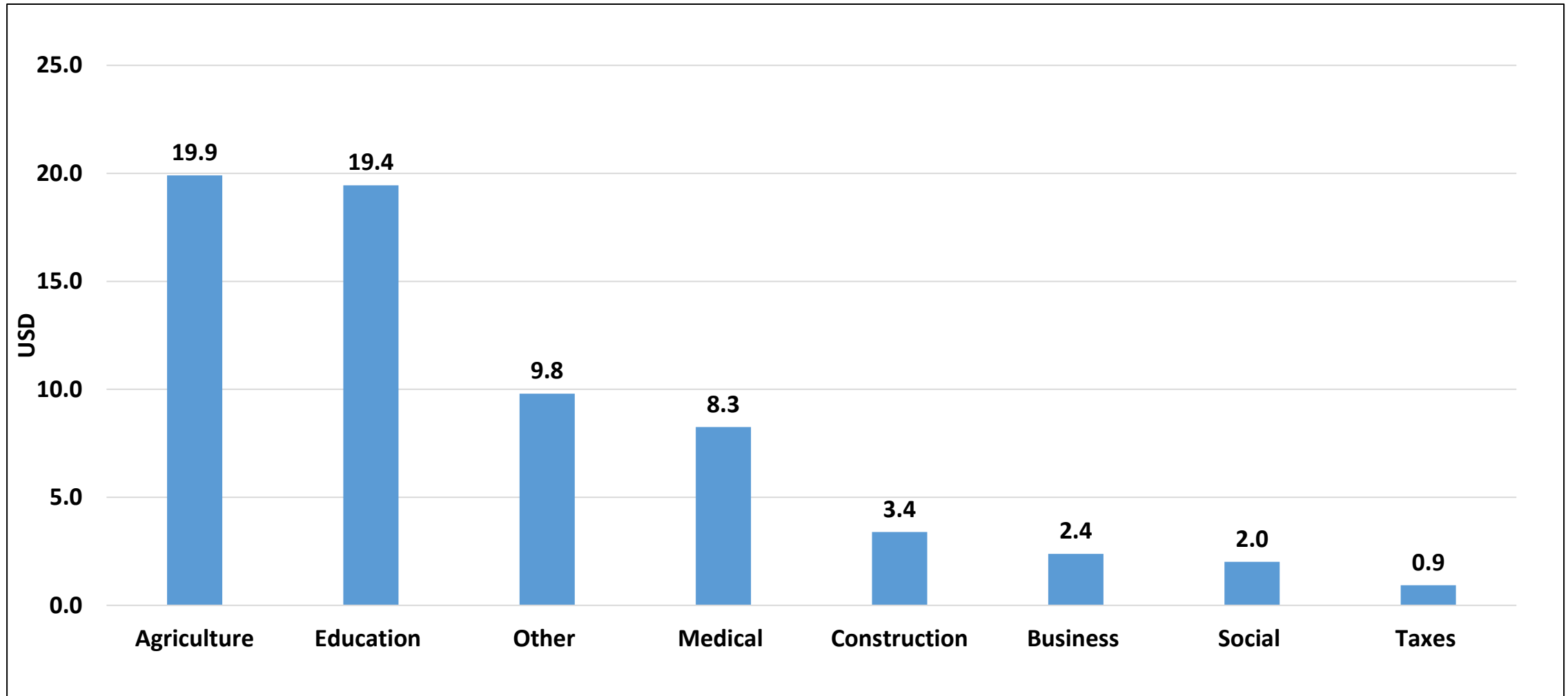
- Midlands (ZWL 9, 790.76) had the highest expenditure.

# Food Expenditure



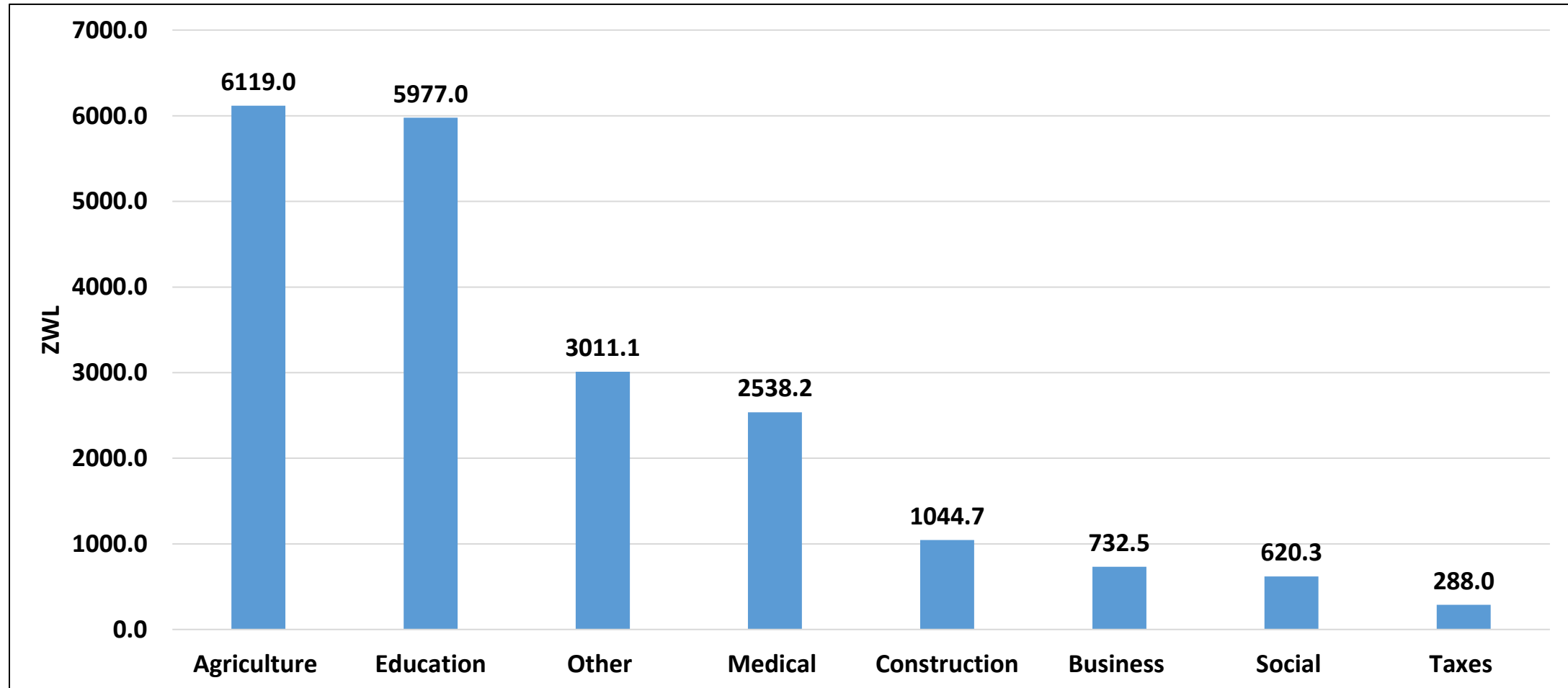
- The proportion of food expenditure was 49%; a decrease from 55% reported in 2021.

# Average Household 6 Month Expenditure (USD)



- The highest expenditure was on agriculture (USD 19.9) and education (USD 19.4).

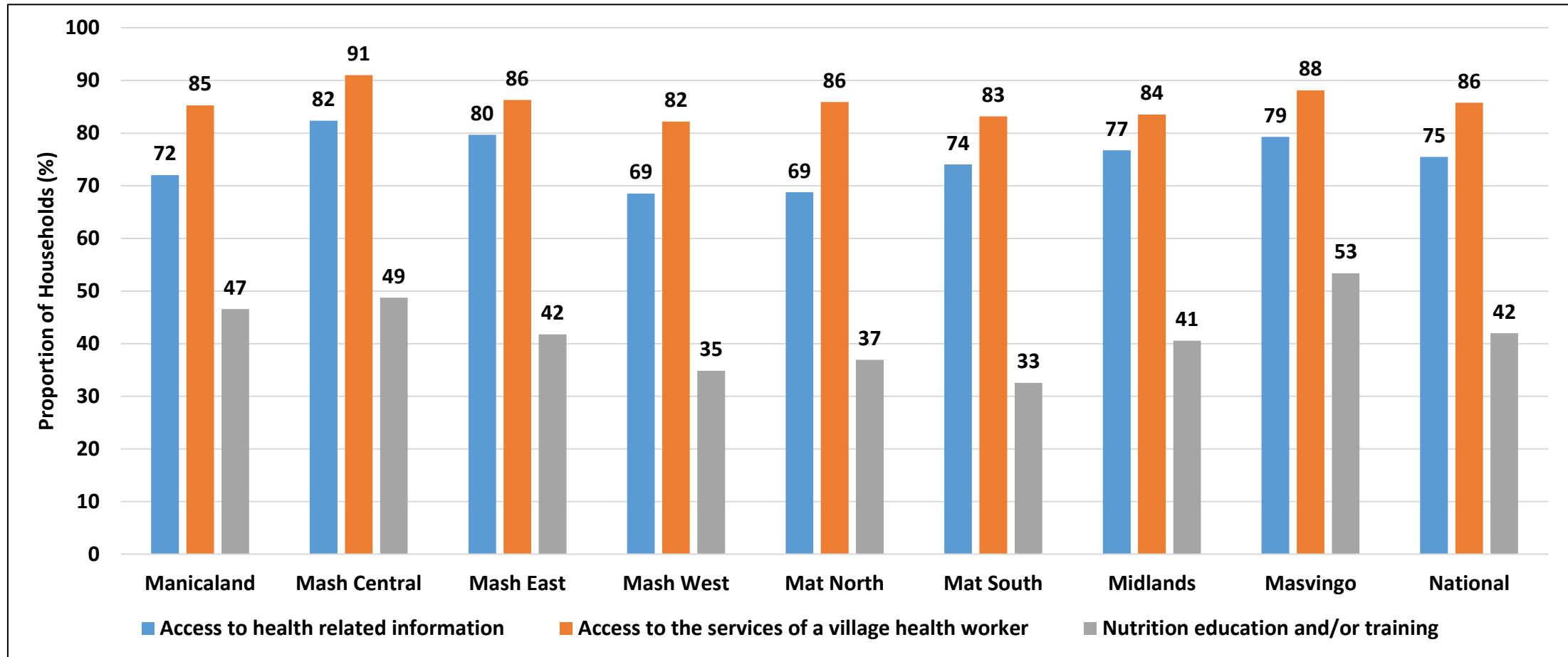
# Average Household 6 Month Expenditure (ZWL)



- The highest expenditure was on agriculture (ZWL 6, 119) and education (ZWL 5, 977).

# **Nutrition and Diets**

# Access to Health Related Information



- Nationally, 75% of the rural households had access to health related information.

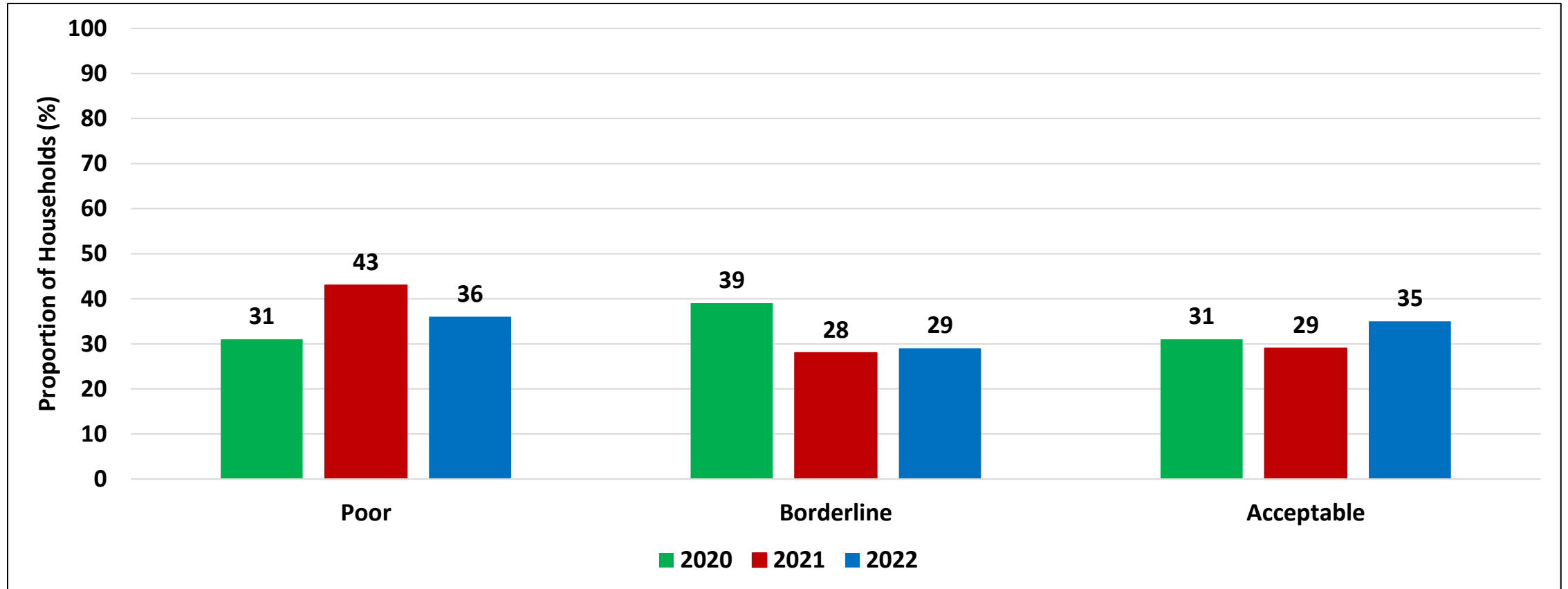
# Household Consumption Patterns



# Food Consumption Score

Food Consumption Score Groups	Score	Description
<b>POOR</b>	<b>0-21</b>	<b>An expected consumption of staple 7 days, vegetables 5-6 days, sugar 3-4 days, oil/fat 1 day a week, while animal proteins are totally absent</b>
<b>BORDERLINE</b>	<b>21.5-35</b>	<b>An expected consumption of staple 7 days, vegetables 6-7 days, sugar 3-4 days, oil/fat 3 days, meat/fish/egg/pulses 1-2 days a week, while dairy products are totally absent</b>
<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>	<b>&gt;35</b>	<b>As defined for the borderline group with more number of days a week eating meat, fish, egg, oil, and complemented by other foods such as pulses, fruits, milk</b>

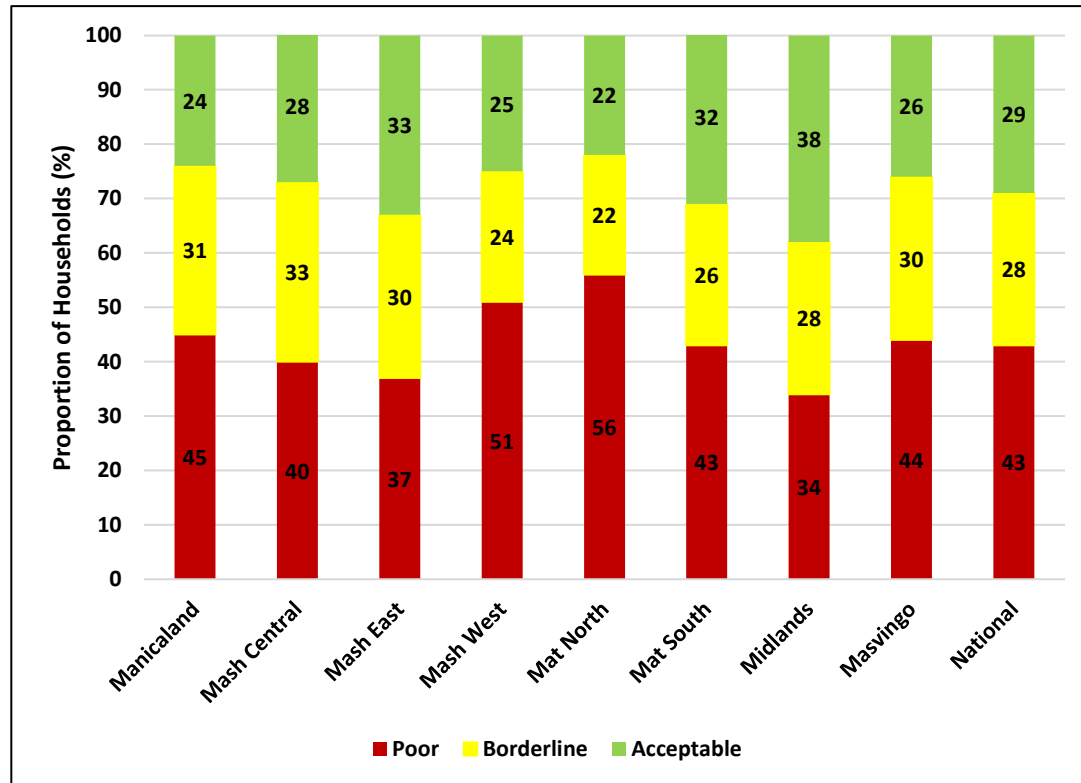
# Food Consumption Patterns Trend



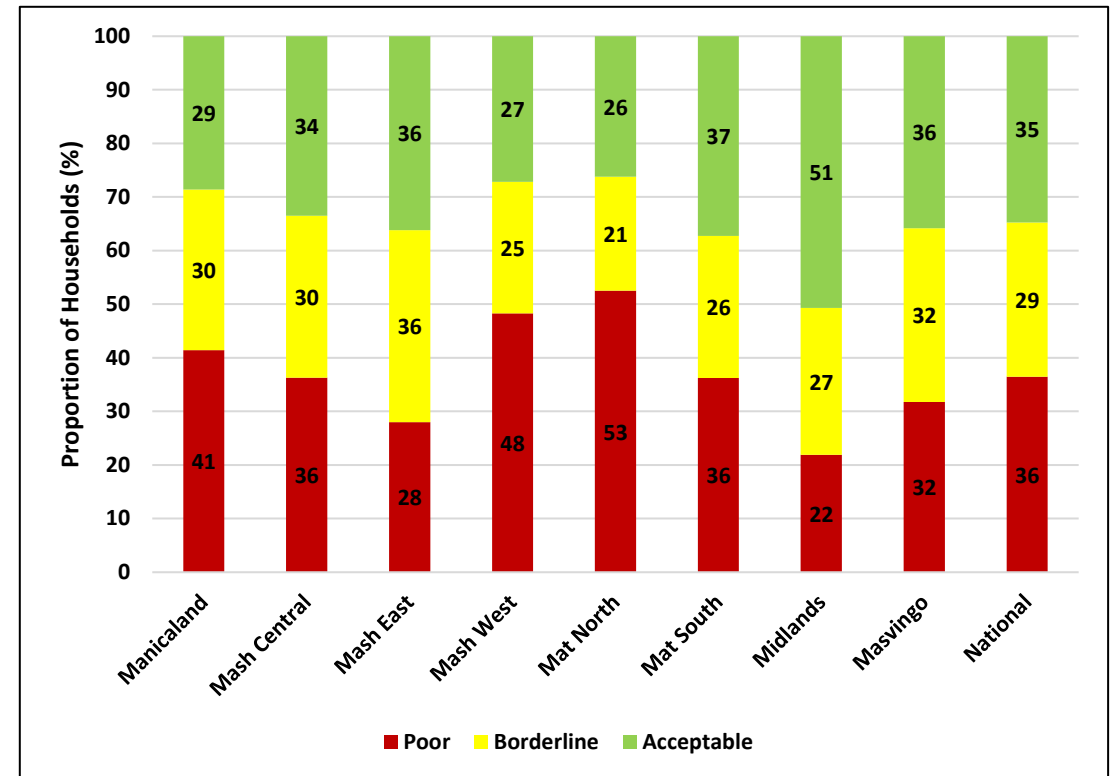
- The proportion of households consuming poor diets dropped from 43% in 2021 to 36% in 2022.
- The proportion of households consuming acceptable diets increased from 29% in 2021 to 35% in 2022.

# Food Consumption Patterns

2021

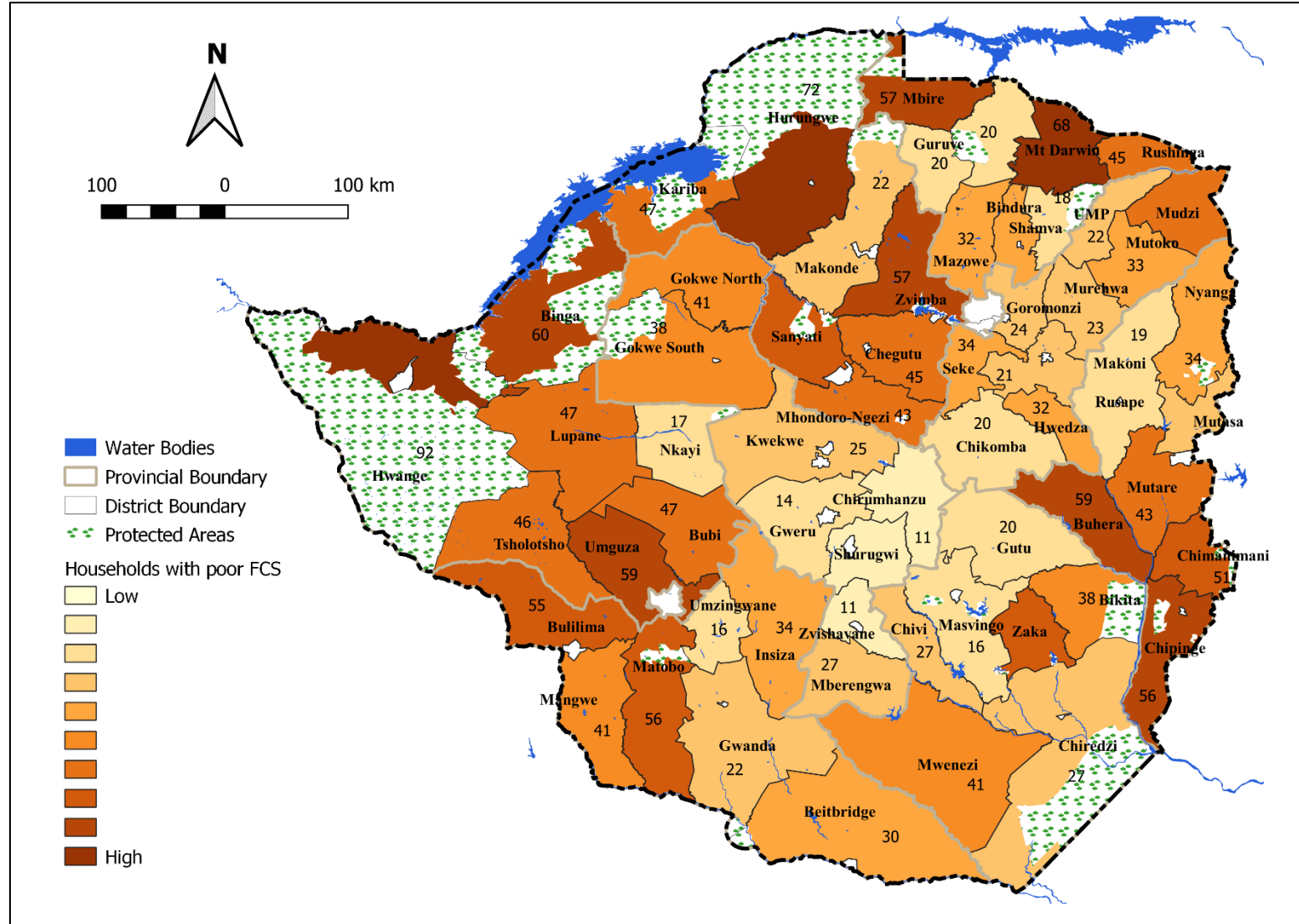


2022



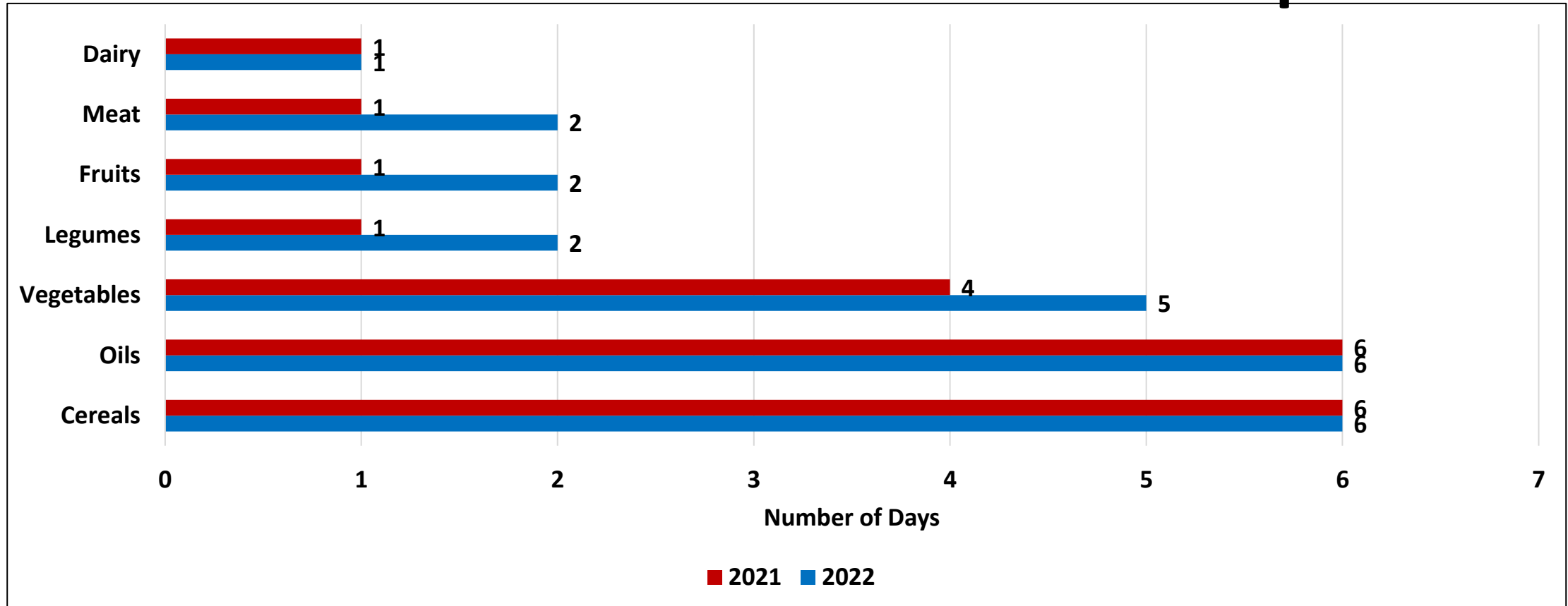
- Comparing 2021 and 2020, there was an improvement on the food consumption score.

# Poor Food Consumption Patterns by District



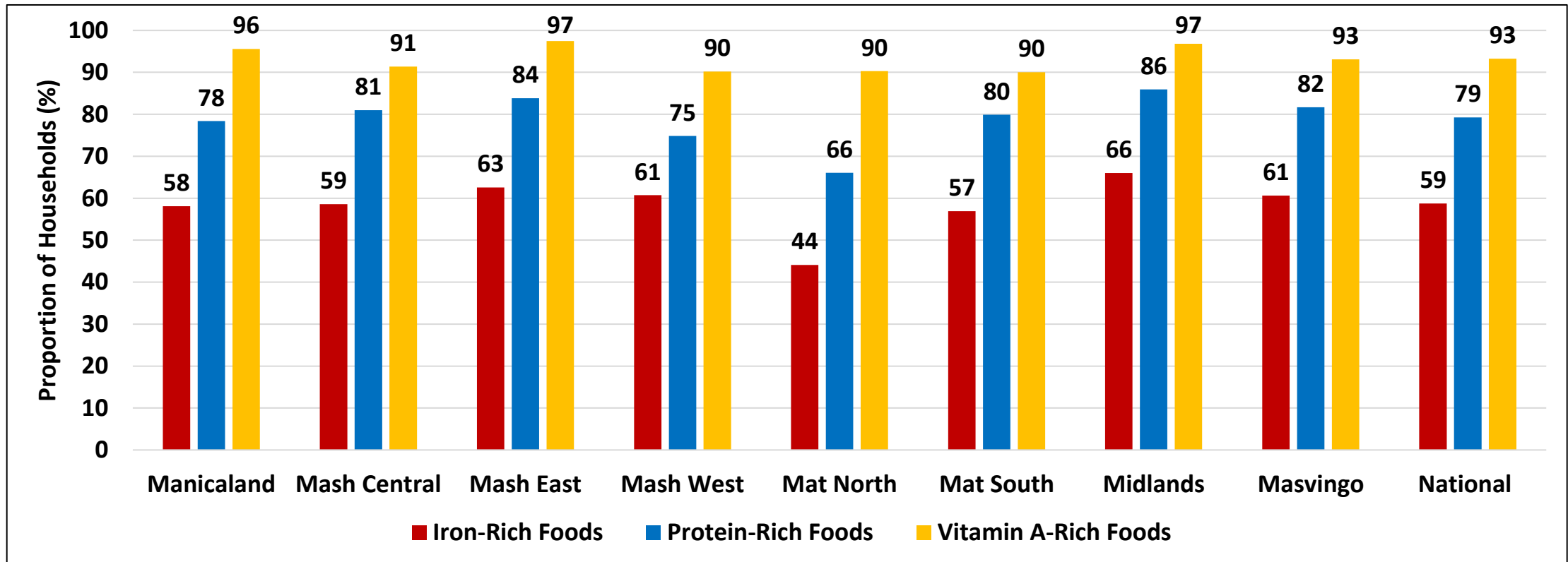
- Hwange (92%) and Harungwe (72%) had the highest proportion of households consuming poor diets.

# Average Number of Days Households Consumed Food from the Various Food Groups



- The most frequently consumed foods were cereals, oils and vegetables.
- Consumption of meat, fruits, and legumes remains low at household level with an average consumption of only 2 days preceding the survey.

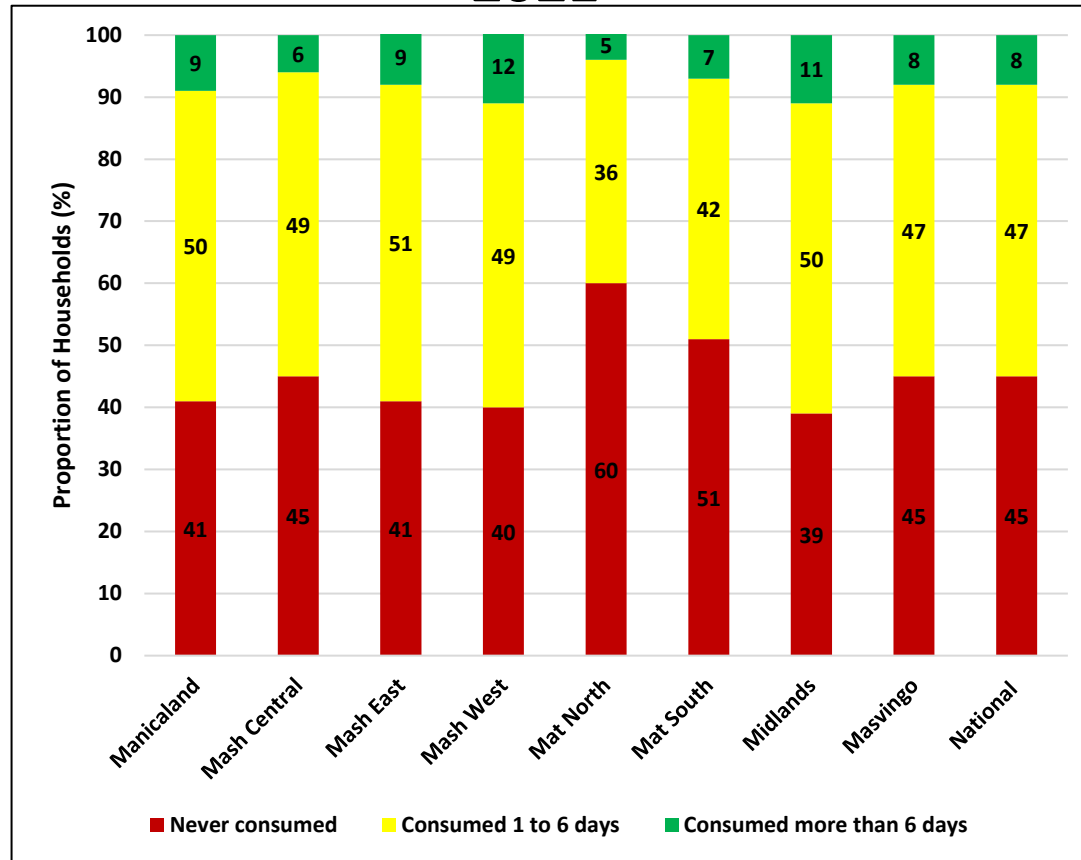
# Household Consumption of Protein, Iron and Vitamin A Rich Foods



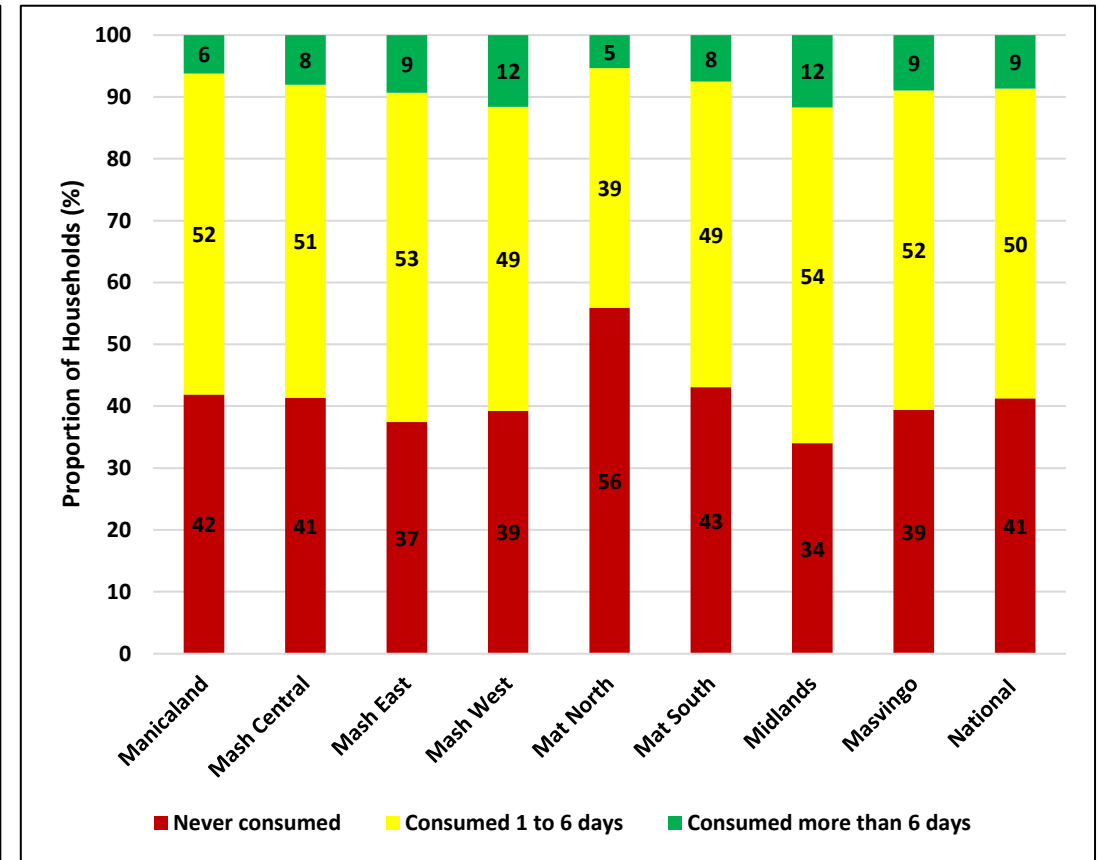
- The proportion of households that consumed iron rich foods was 59%.
- Matabeleland North (44%) had the least proportion of households consuming iron-rich foods.
- Midlands (86%) had the highest proportion of households consuming protein-rich foods.

# Households Consuming Iron-Rich Foods

2021



2022

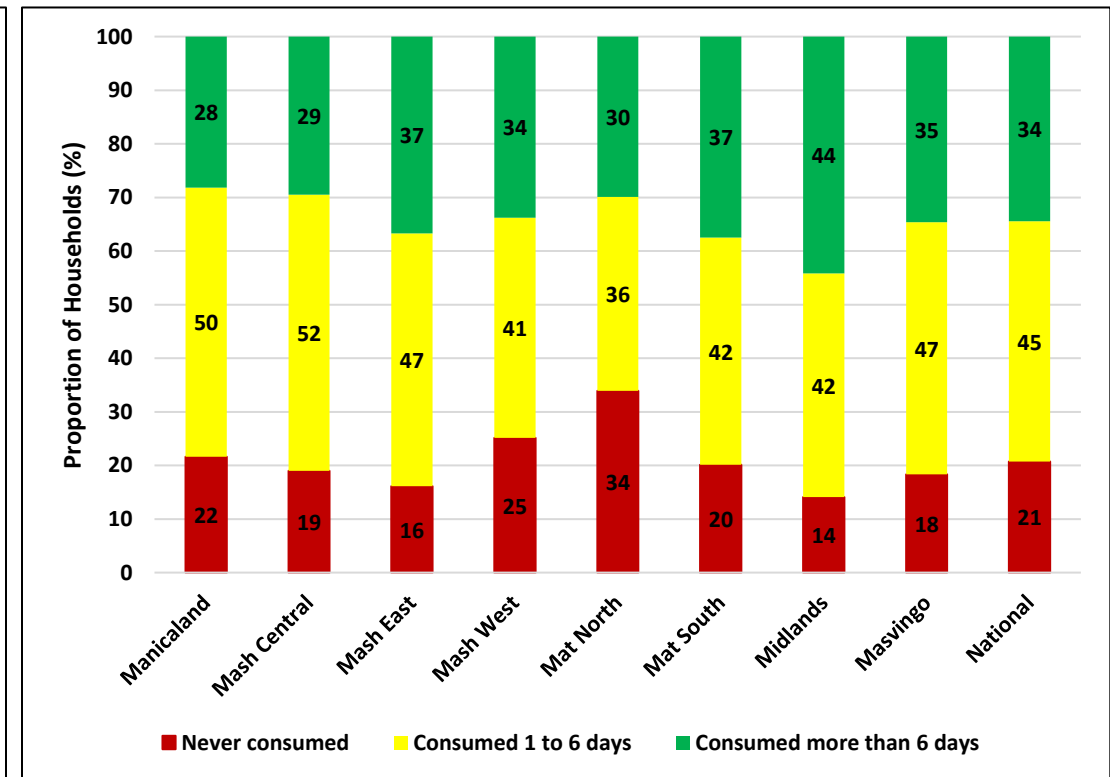
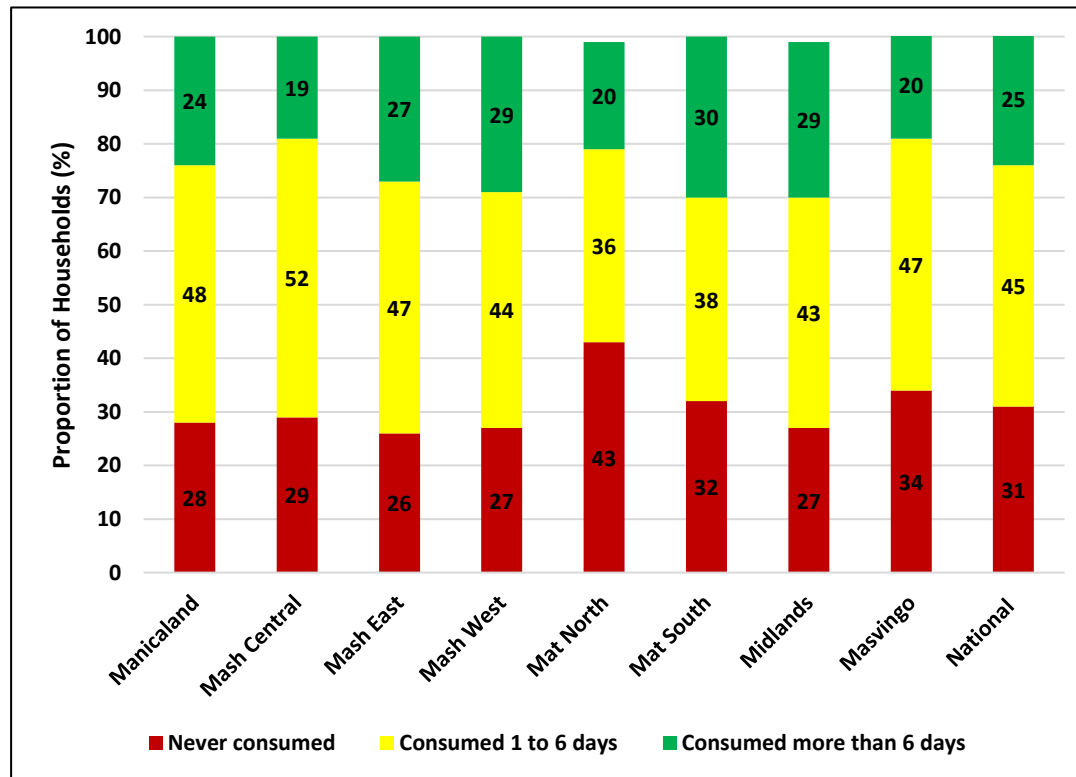


- The daily consumption of iron rich foods remains low compared to the consumption of Vitamin-A and protein-rich foods.

# Households Consuming Protein-Rich Foods

2021

2022

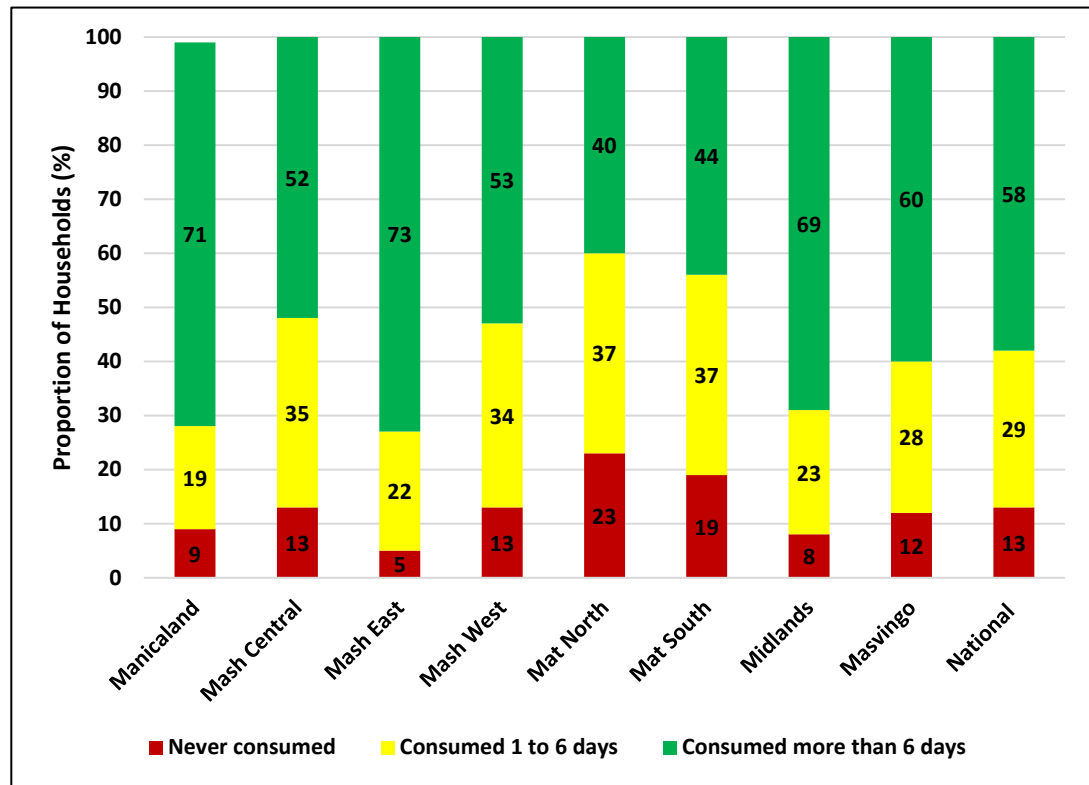


- The daily consumption of protein rich foods improved from 25% in 2021 to 34% in 2022.
- Inadequate protein intake compromises the body's ability to build, repair worn-out tissues and fight against infections.
- Protein helps to repair body cells and the generation of new ones and is important for growth and development in children, teenagers, pregnant and lactating women.

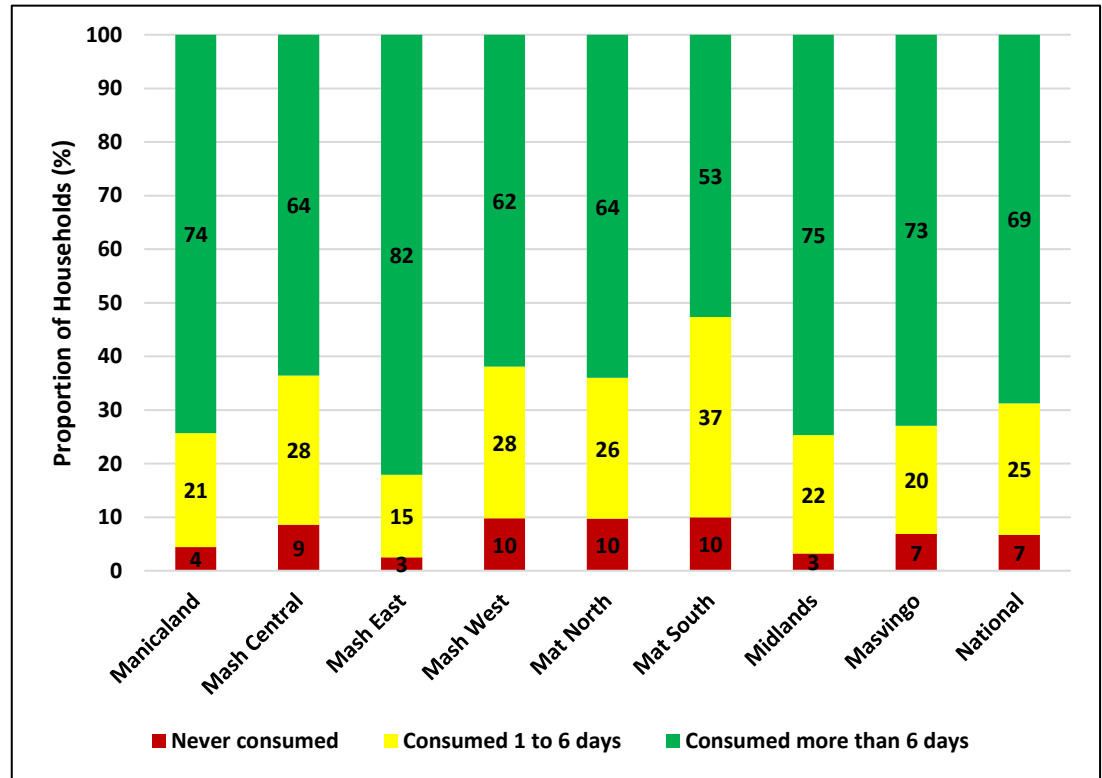


# Households Consuming Vitamin A Rich Foods

2021

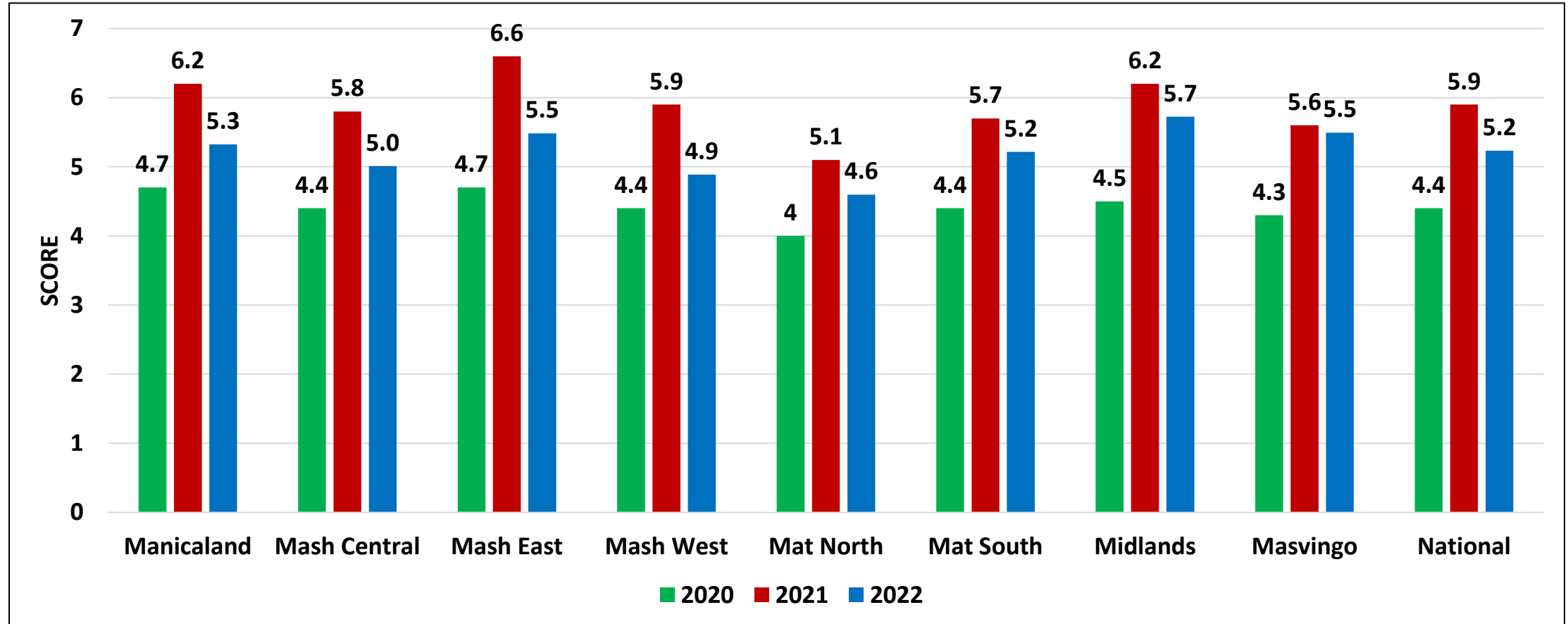


2022



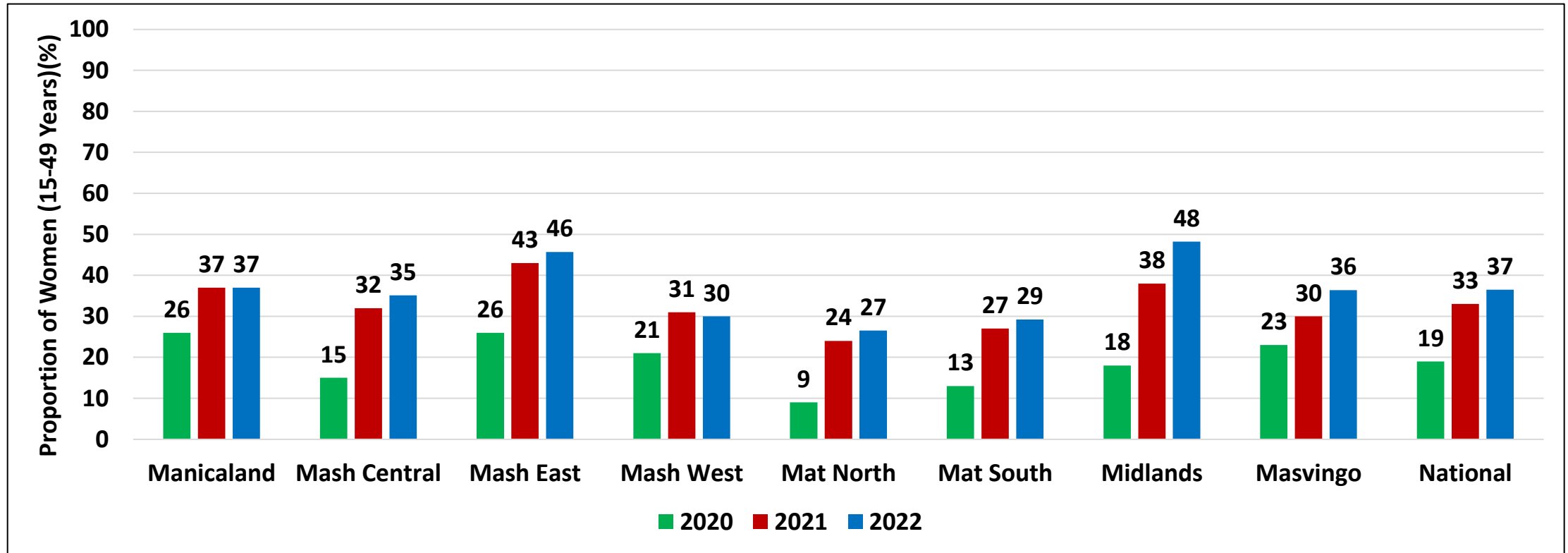
- The daily consumption of Vitamin A rich foods increased from 58% in 2021 to 69% in 2022.
- Vitamin A is important for normal vision, the immune system functions and reproduction.

# Average Household Dietary Diversity Score



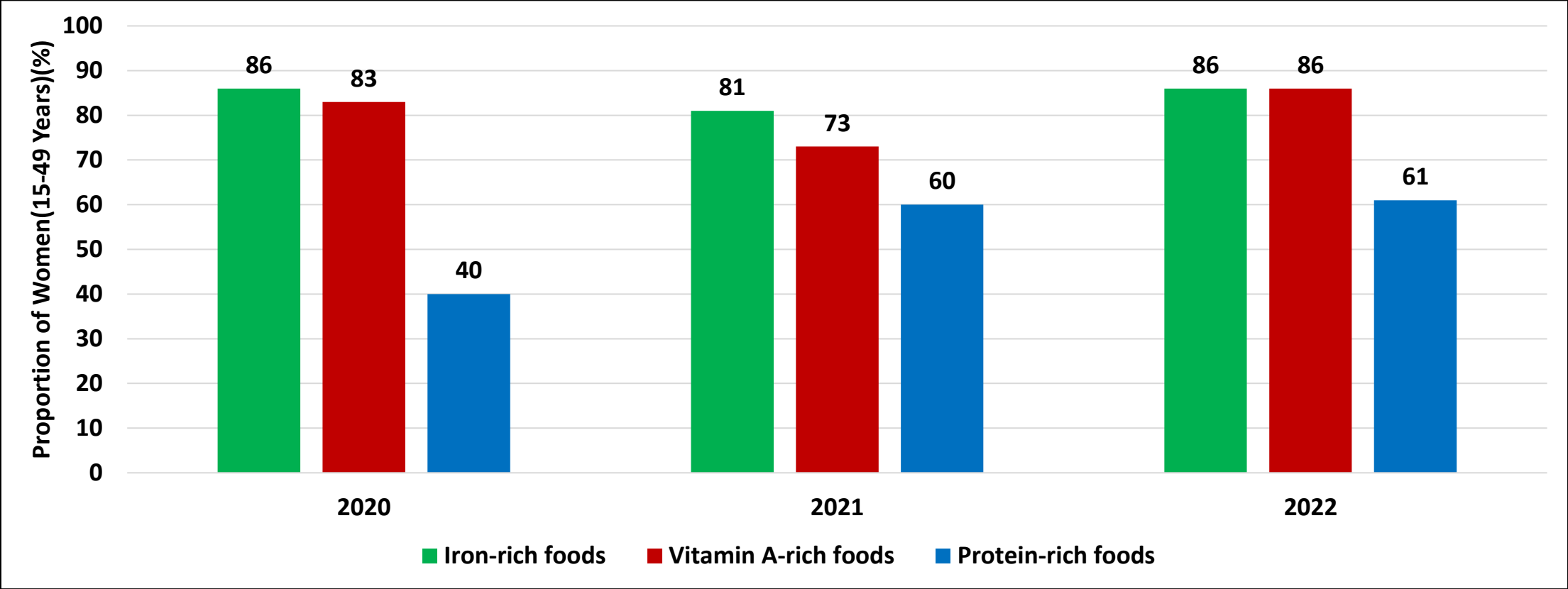
- The average Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) did not significantly change from 2021.
- Matabeleland North recorded the least HDDS (4.6).

# Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women of Child Bearing Age



- The proportion of Women of Child Bearing Age (WCBA) consuming at least 5 food groups from a possible 10 increased from 19% in 2020 to 37% in 2022.
- Midlands (48%) had the highest proportion of women of child bearing age consuming at least 5 food groups whilst the lowest was in Matabeleland North (27%).

# Consumption of Protein, Iron and Vitamin-A Rich Foods by WCBA

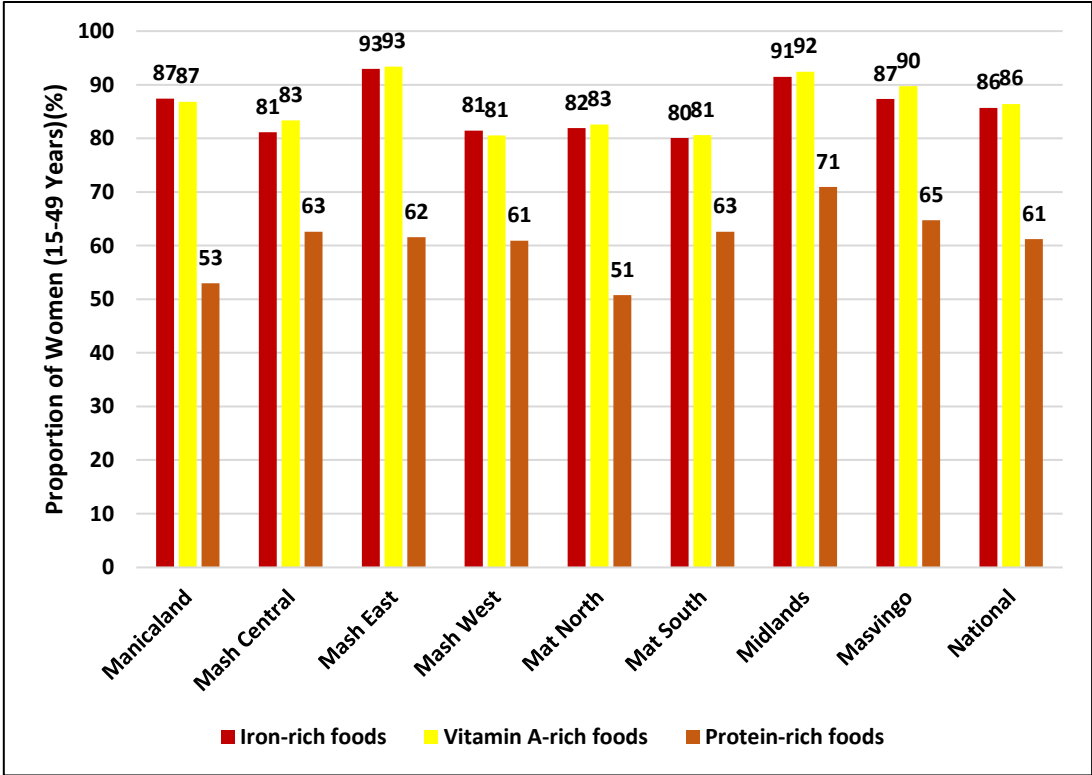
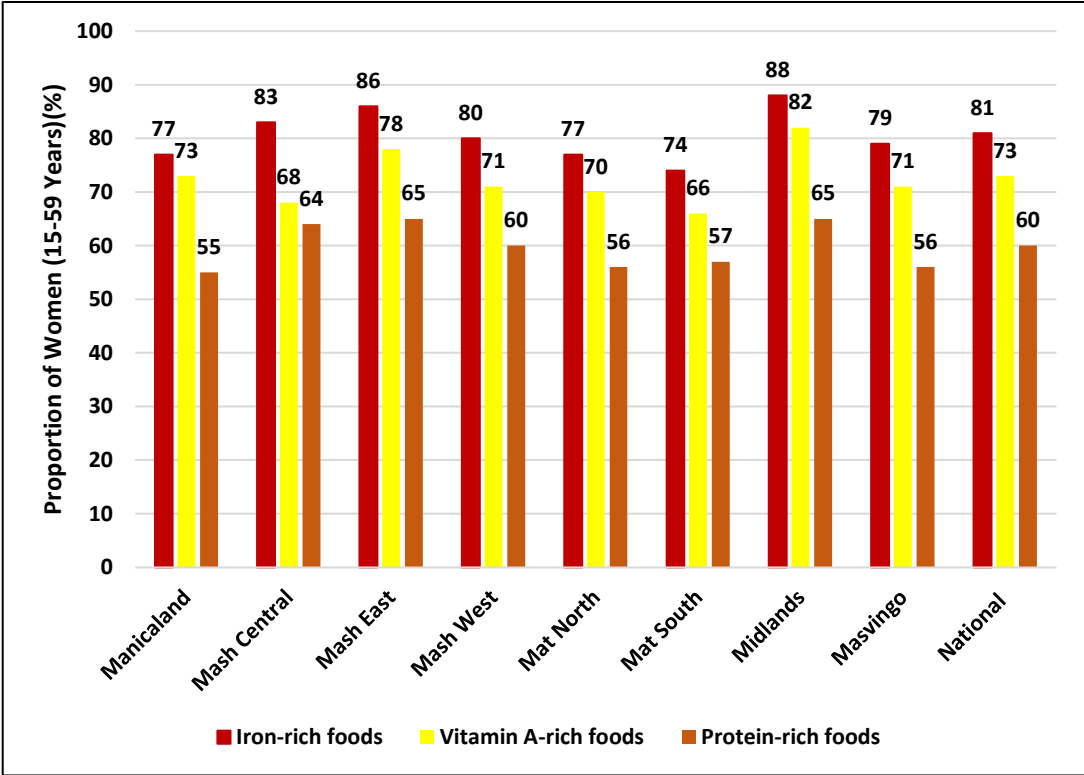


- Generally, the trend shows an improvement in the consumption of iron rich, vitamin A and protein rich foods from 2020 to 2022 by women of child bearing age

# Consumption of Protein, Iron and Vitamin-A Rich Foods by WCBA

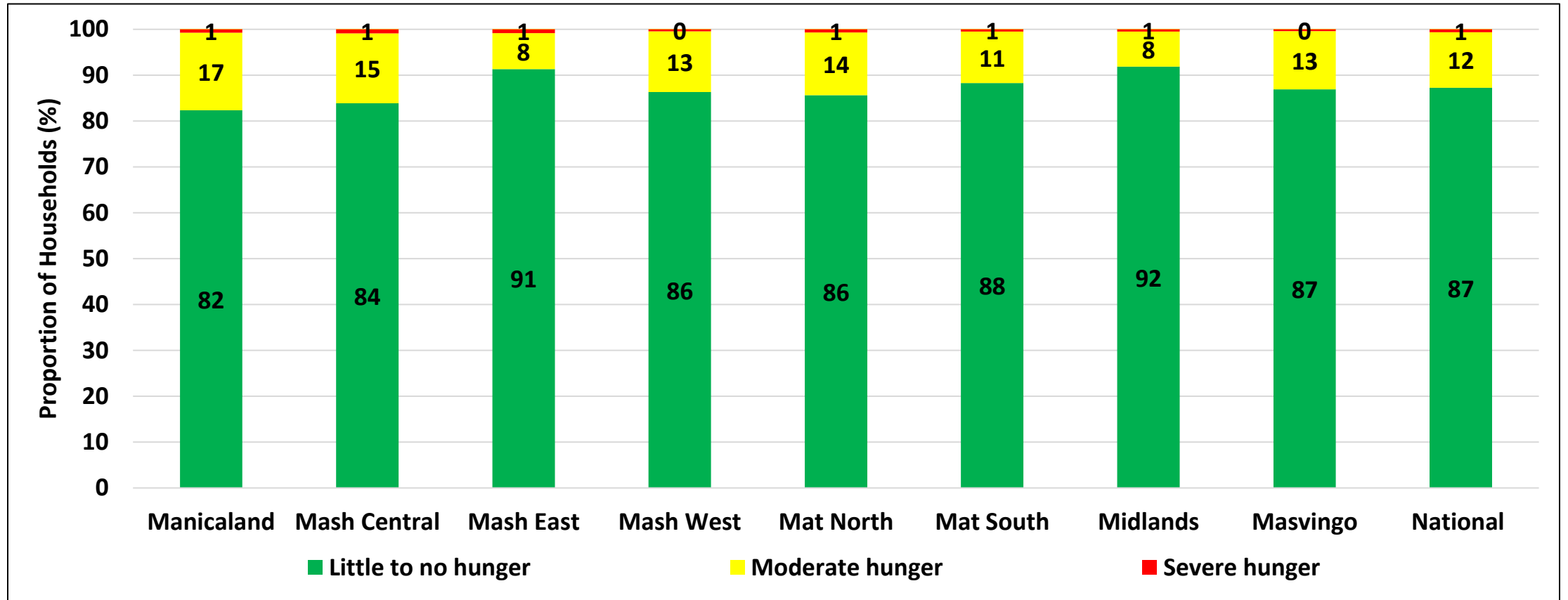
2021

2022



- Consumption of iron rich, vitamin A and protein rich foods by women of child bearing age improved across all the provinces compared to 2021.
- The foods are essential for the maintenance of good health and development by this category.

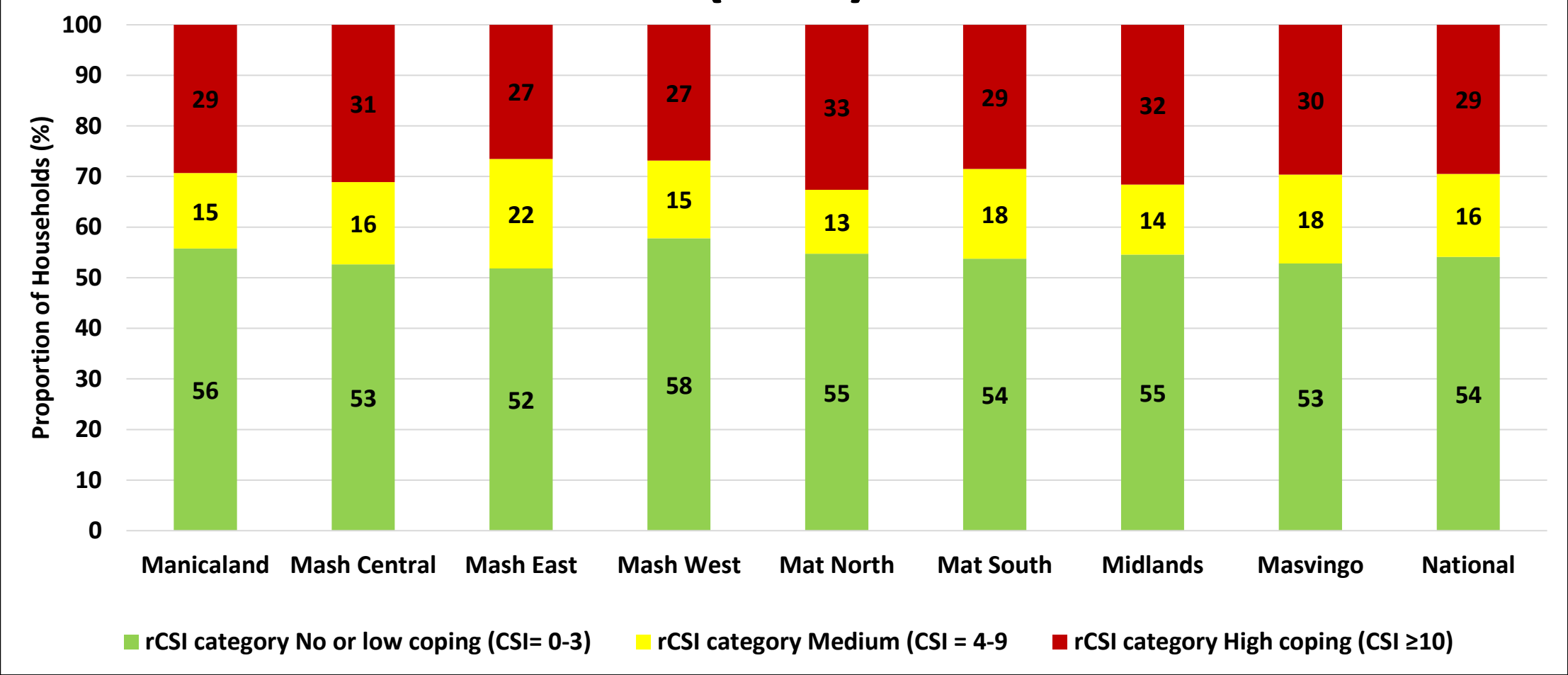
# Household Hunger Score



- The majority of households (87%) experienced little to no hunger in the 30 days preceding the survey.
- Manicaland (17%) had the highest proportion of households that experienced moderate hunger whilst Midlands and Mashonaland East experienced the least (8%).

# **Household Consumption and Livelihoods Based Coping Strategies**

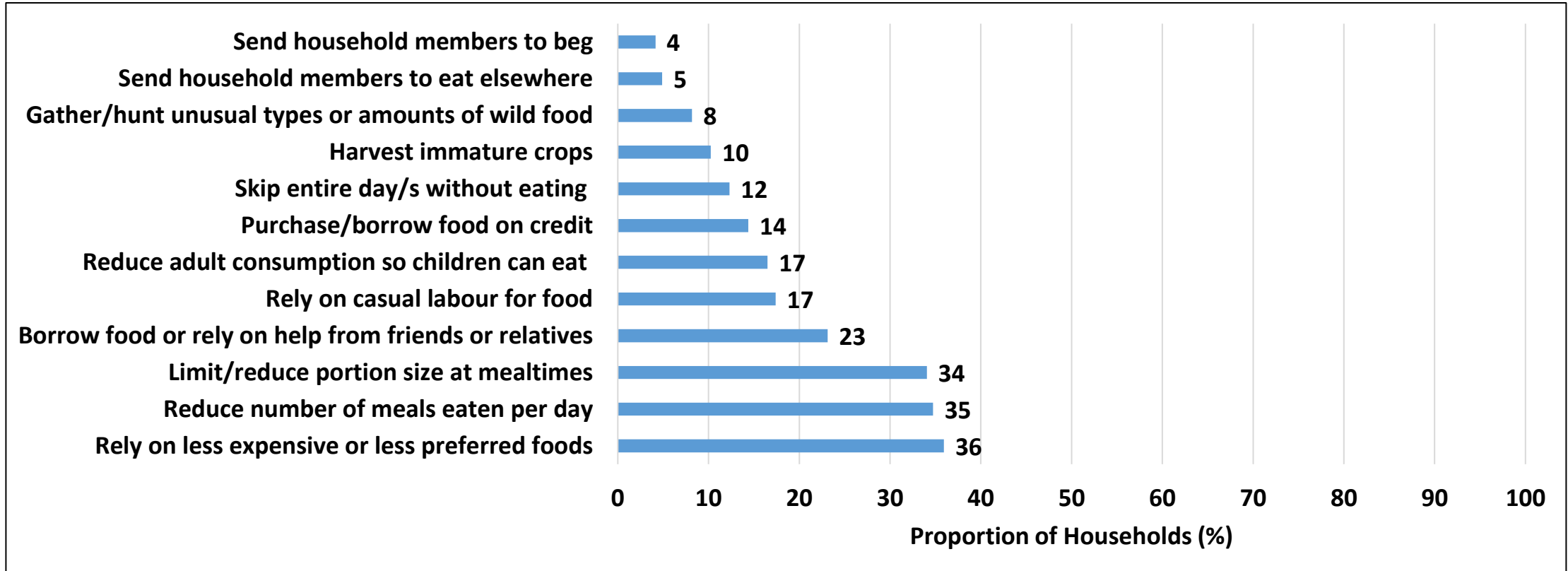
# Household Consumption Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)



- At least 29% of the households were engaging high coping strategies.



# Household Consumption Coping Strategies



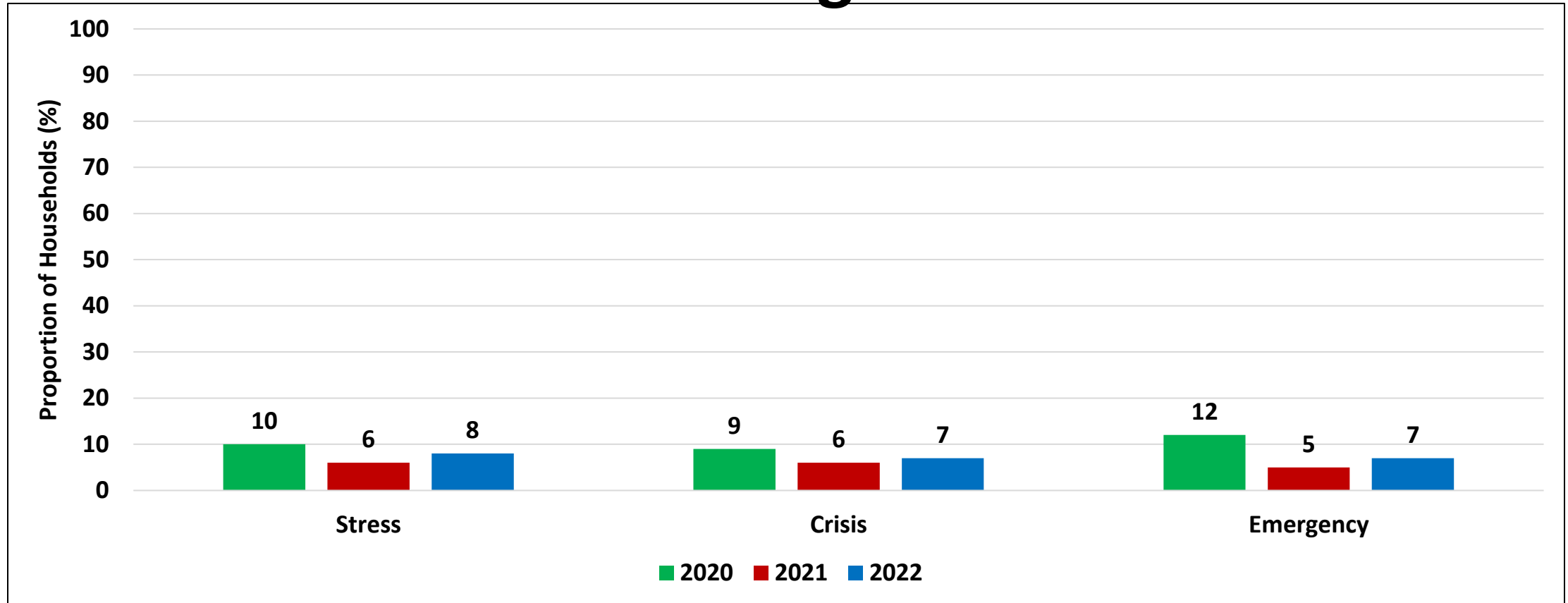
- The main consumption coping strategies employed included relying on less expensive foods (36%), reducing the number of meals consumed per day (35%) and reducing meal portion size (34%).
- Sending household members to beg was the least reported coping strategy (4%).
- Adoption of negative consumption coping strategies has a negative impact on food security and nutrition outcomes.

# Households Livelihoods Coping Strategies

- Livelihood Coping Strategies are behaviours employed by households when faced with a crisis.
- The livelihoods coping strategies have been classified into three categories namely stress, crisis and emergency as indicated in the table below.

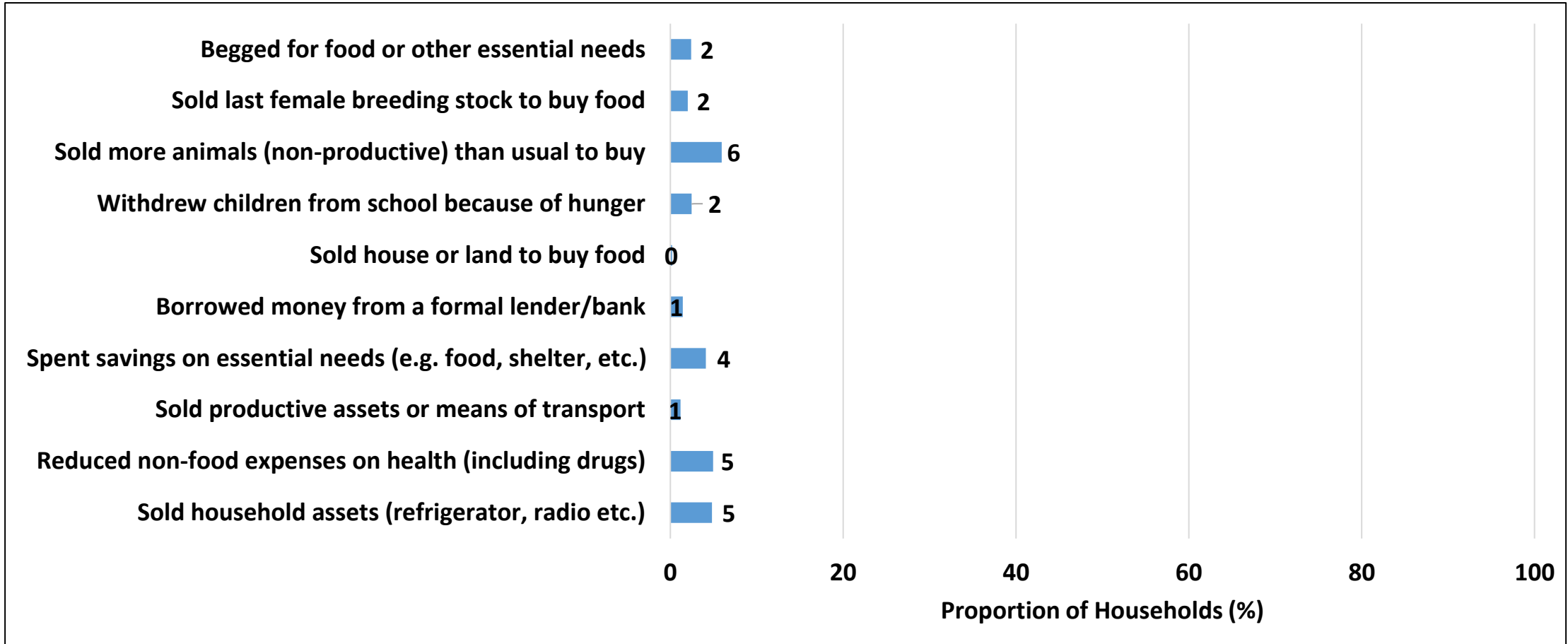
Category	Coping Strategy
Stress	Borrowing money Spending savings Selling more non-productive livestock than usual Selling household assets
Crisis	Selling productive assets Withdrawing children from school Reducing non-food expenditure
Emergency	Selling land Begging for food Selling the last breeding stock to buy food

# Households Engaging in Livelihoods Coping Strategies



- There was no significant change in the livelihoods coping strategies employed from 2021 to 2022.

# Households Engaging in Livelihoods Coping Strategies

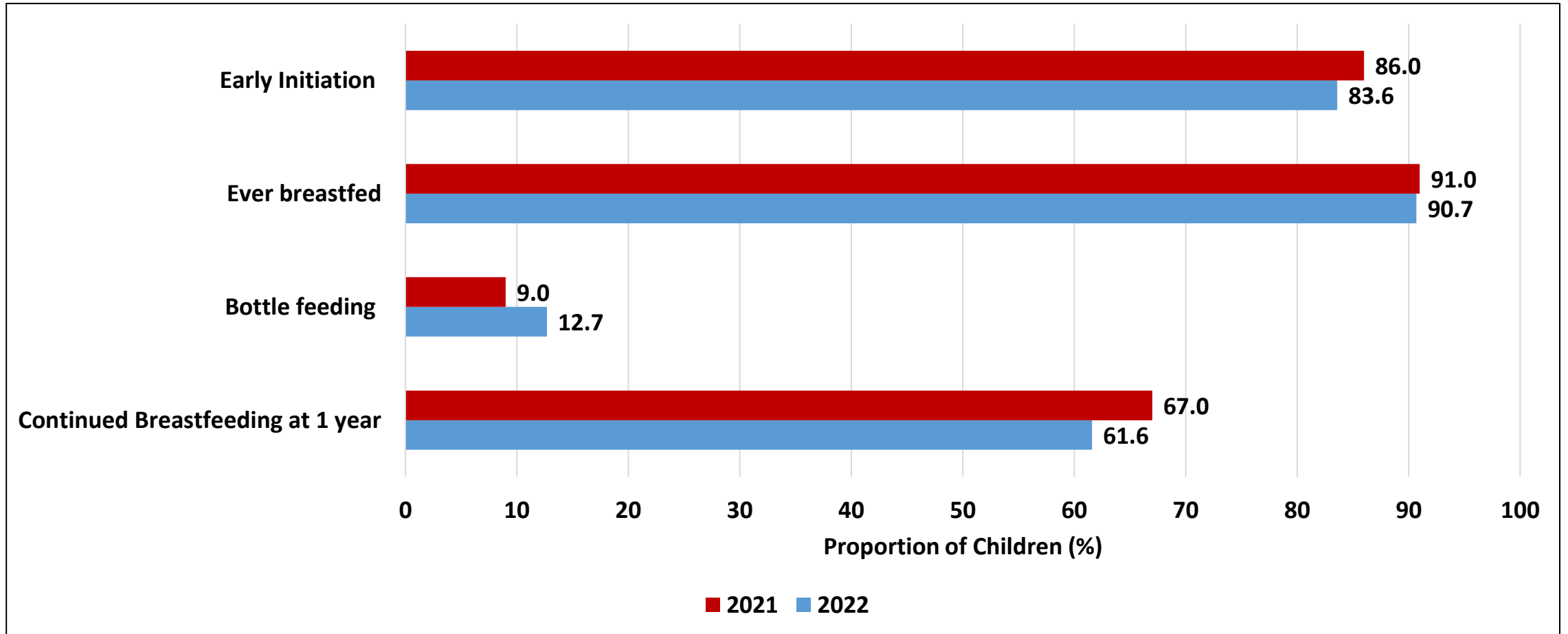


- Some households sold more animals than usual (6%), reduced non-food expenses on health (5%) and sold household assets (5%).

# Child Nutrition

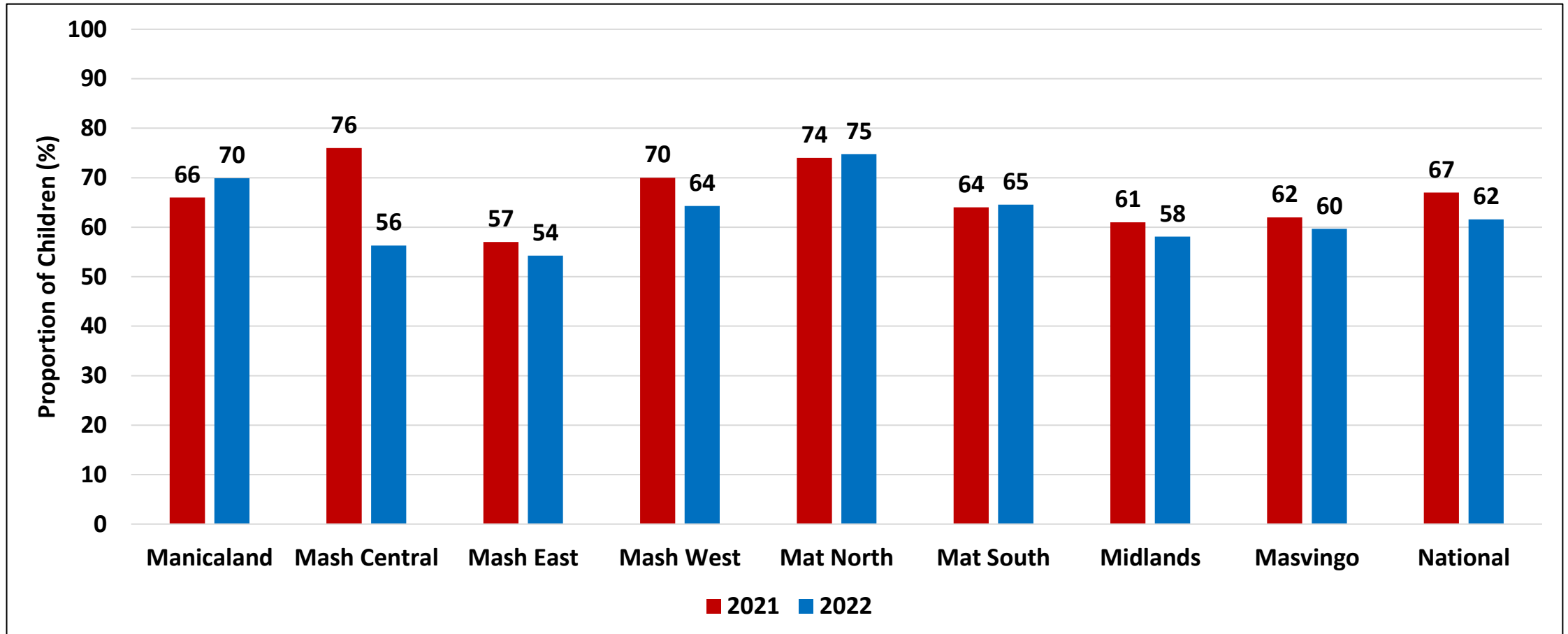
# **Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices**

# Breastfeeding Practices



- At least 90.7% of the children were ever breastfed.
- About 61.6% of the children were breastfed beyond 1 year.

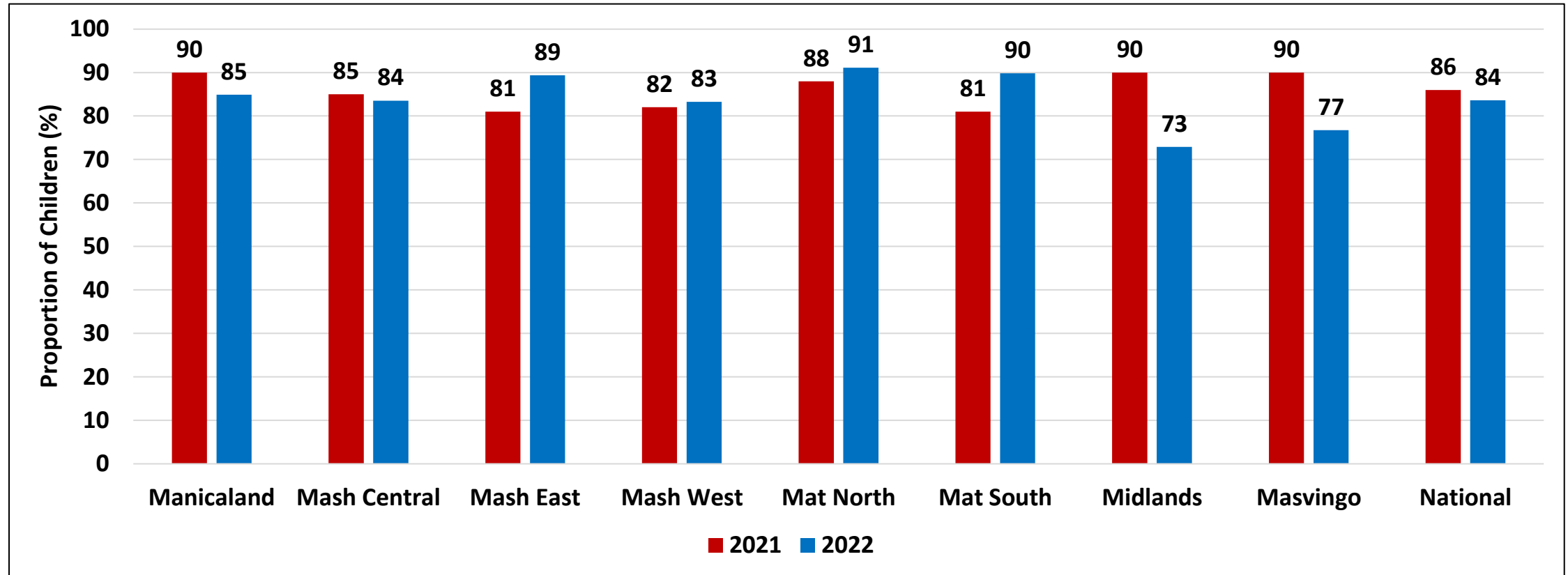
# Continued Breastfeeding Beyond 1 year



- The highest proportion of children who were breastfed beyond 1 year was in Matabeleland North (75%) and lowest in Mashonaland East (54%).



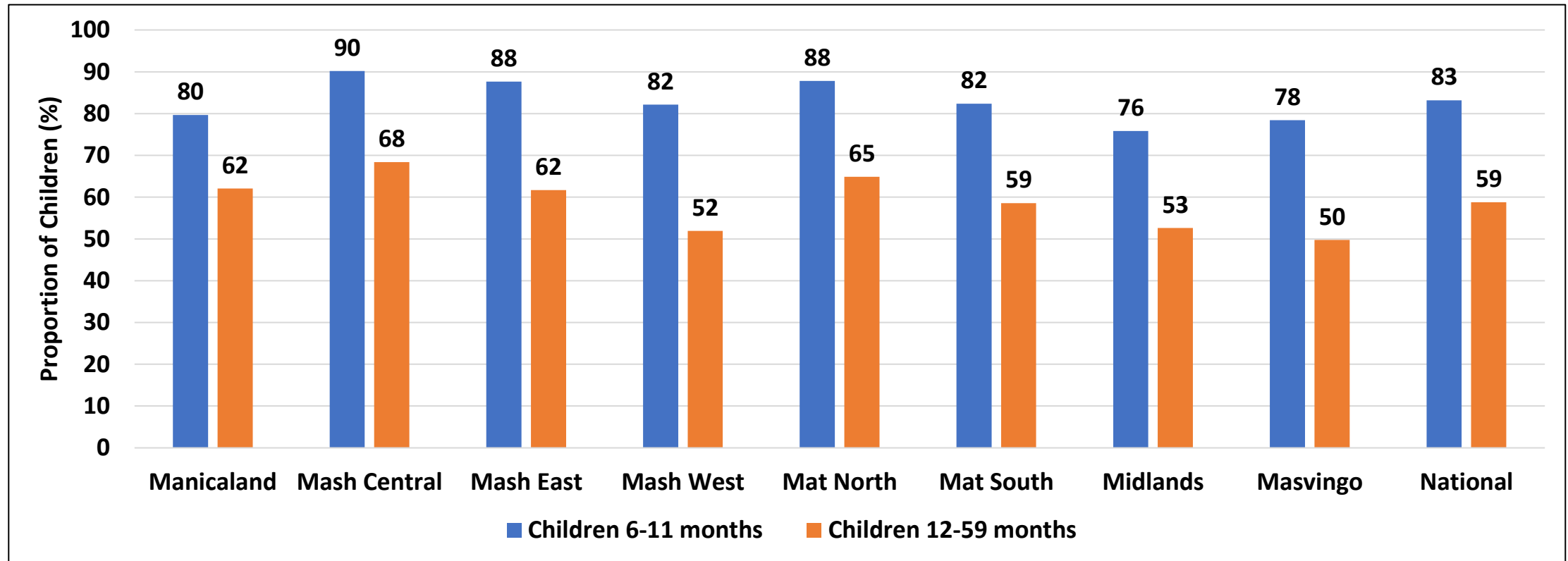
# Early Initiation of Breastfeeding



- Children who were put to the breast within an hour after birth were about 84%.
- Matabeleland North (91%) had the highest proportion of children put to the breast within one hour post delivery and the least was recorded in Midlands (73%).

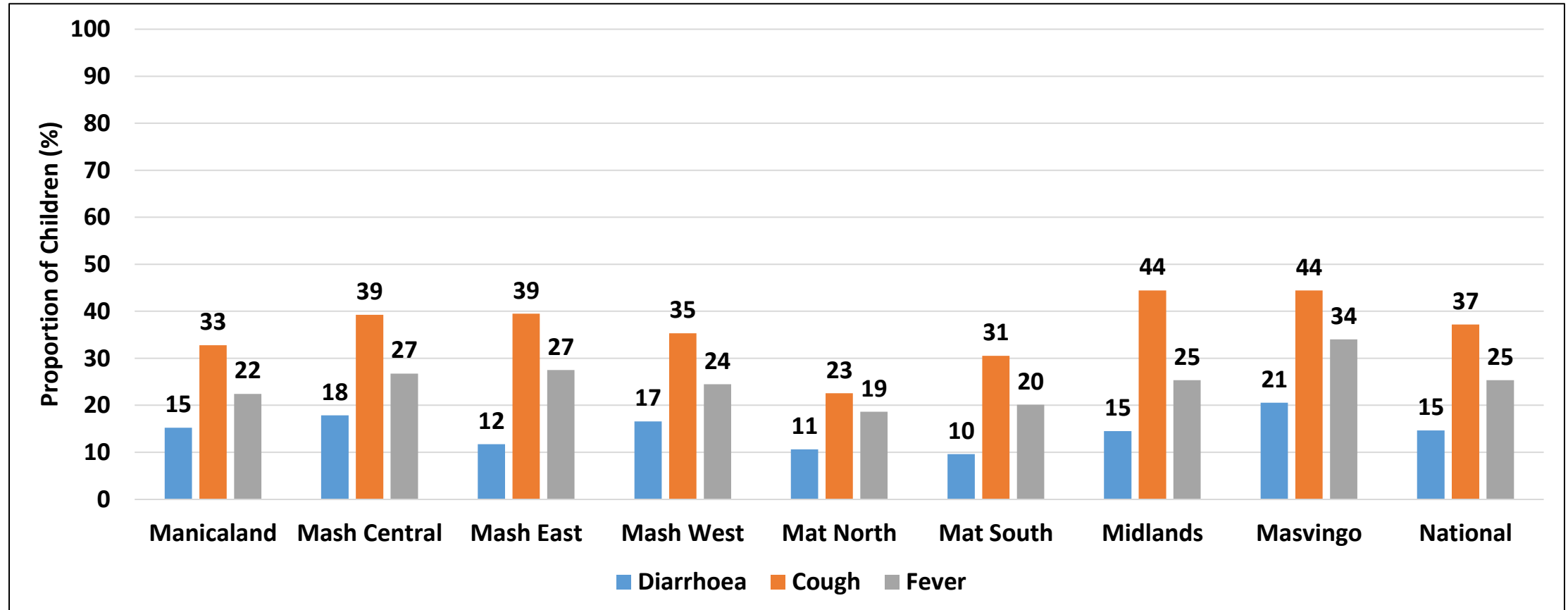
# **Vitamin A Supplementation**

# Vitamin A Supplementation for Children Aged 6-59 Months



- The proportion of children who received the recommended dose of Vitamin A in the past 12 months were 83% (for the 6-11 months category) and 59% (for the 12- 59 months category), respectively.
- Mashonaland Central (90%) managed to reach the recommended target of 90% for children aged 6-11 months who received Vitamin A.

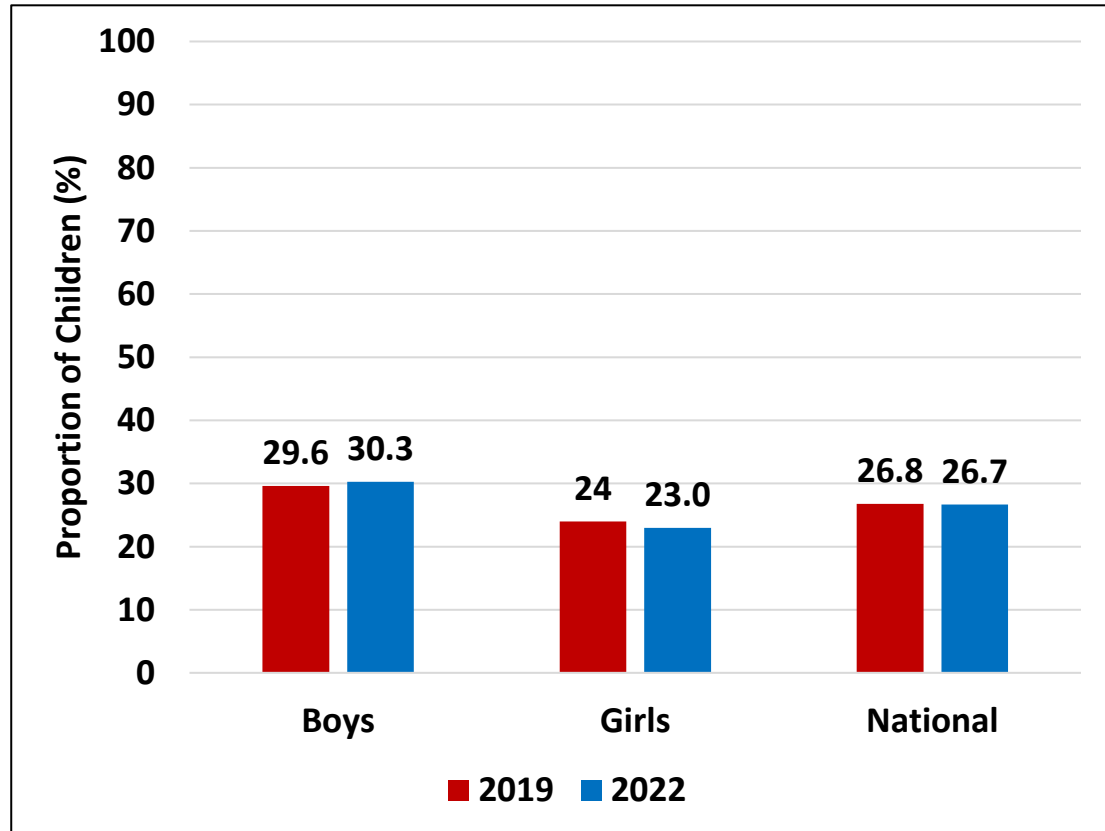
# Prevalence of Illness Among Children Aged 0-59 Months



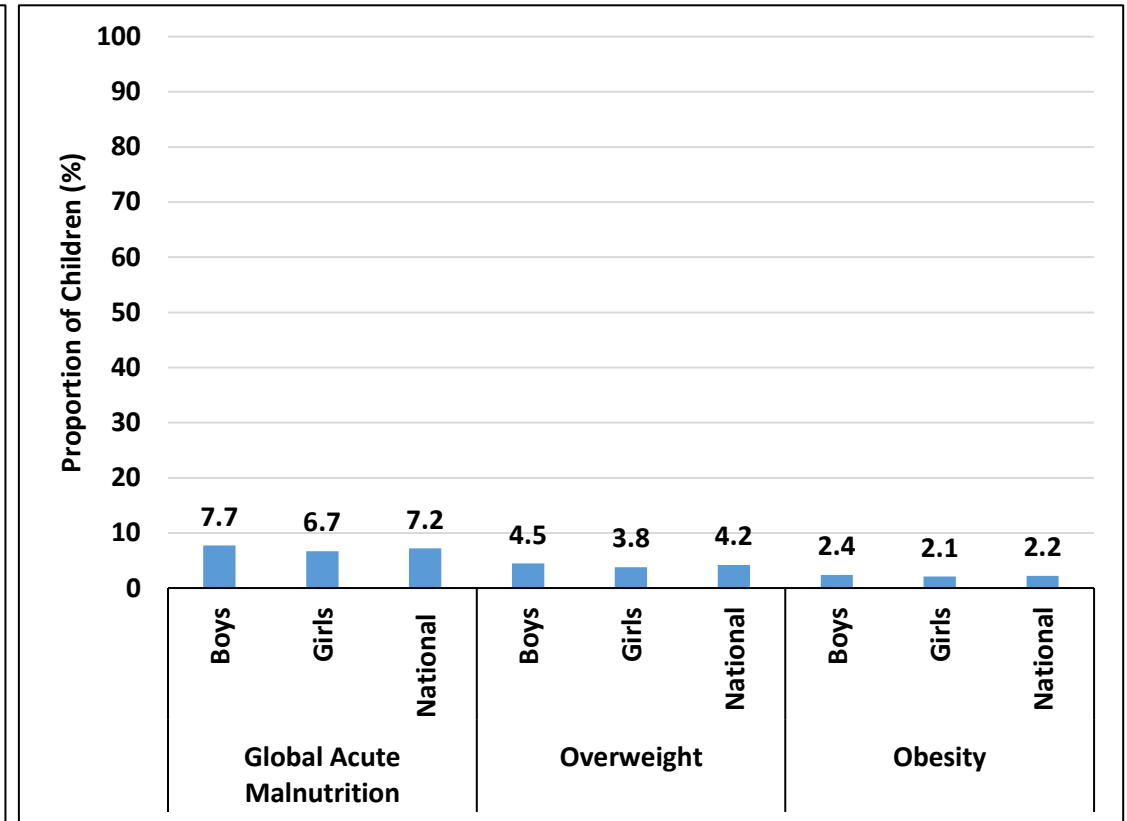
- At least 37% of children had experienced cough and 25% experienced fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey.
- Midlands and Masvingo (44%) had the highest prevalence of children who had a cough whilst Matabeleland North (23%) had the least.

# Nutrition Status by Sex of Child

## Stunting

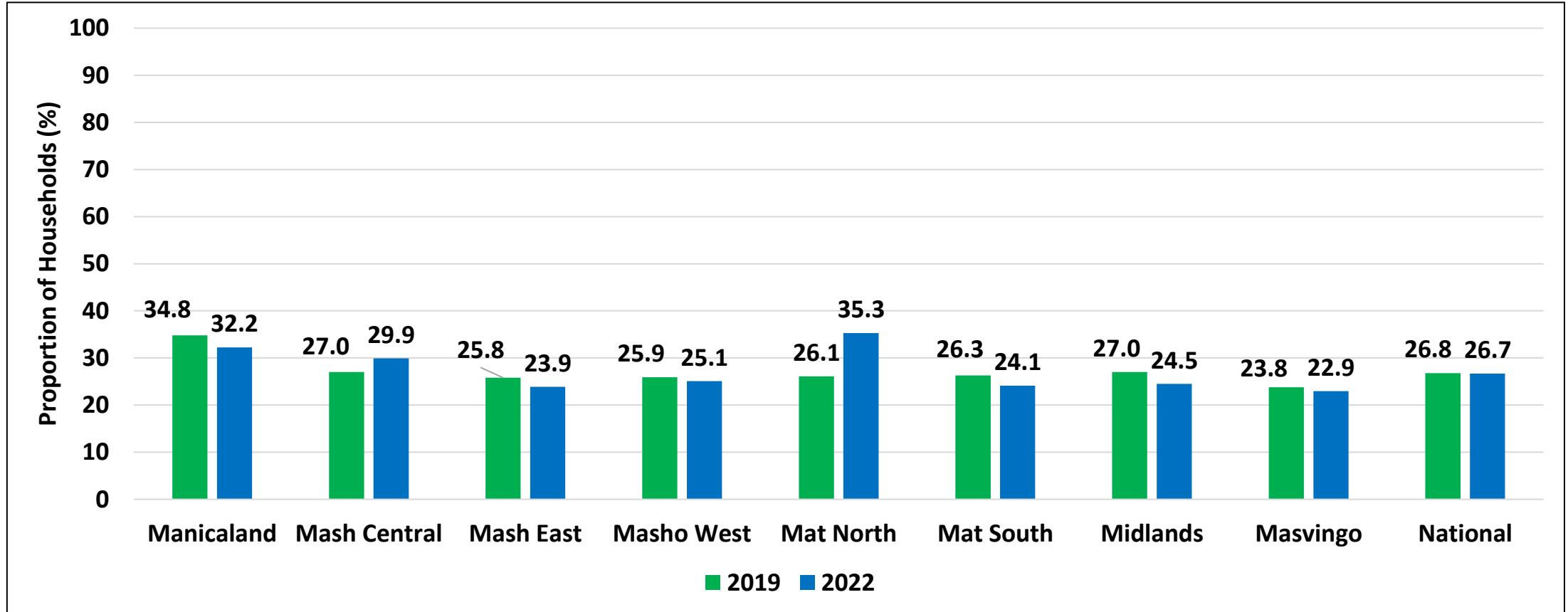


## Prevalence of GAM, SAM, Overweight and Obesity



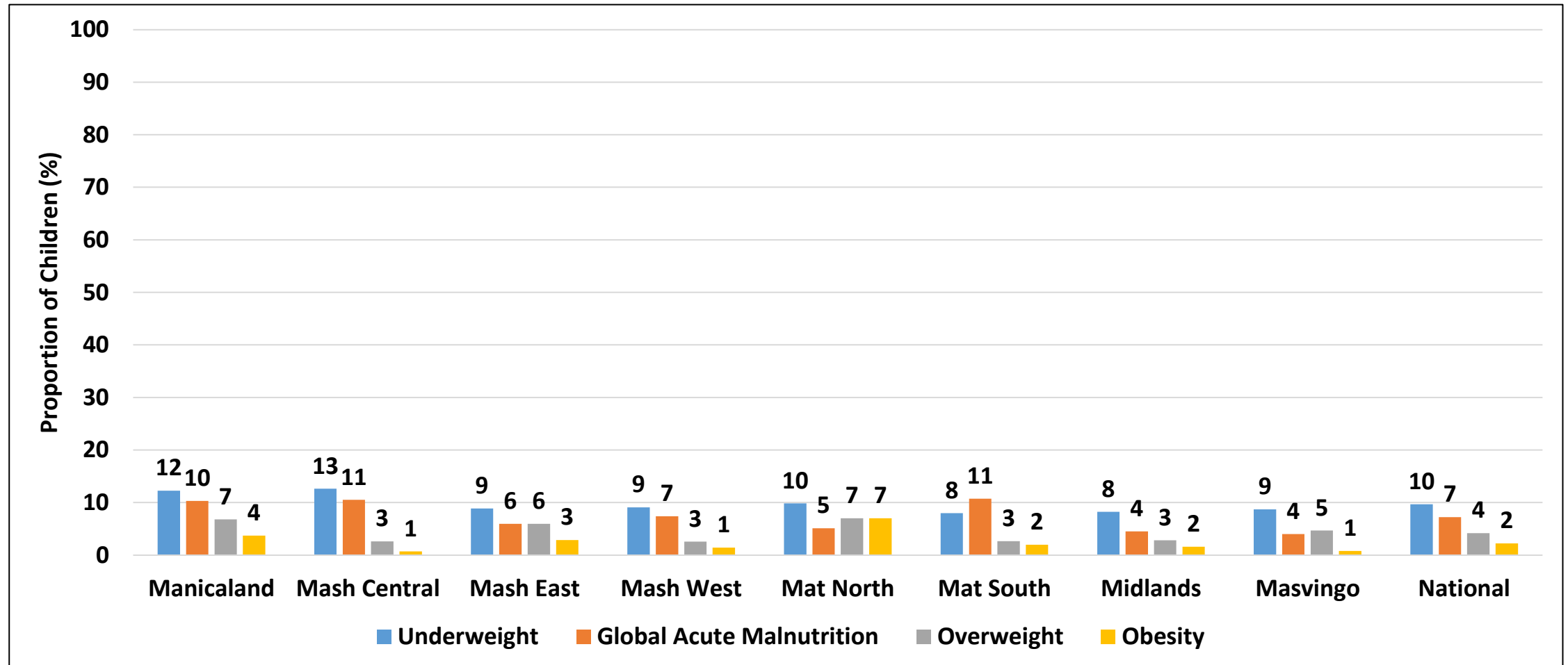
- Stunting (26.7%) remains high according to the World Health Organization classification.
- The prevalence of global acute malnutrition was 7.2%, overweight 4.2% and obesity 2.2%.

# Stunting Rates by Province 2019 and 2022 (WHO Standards)



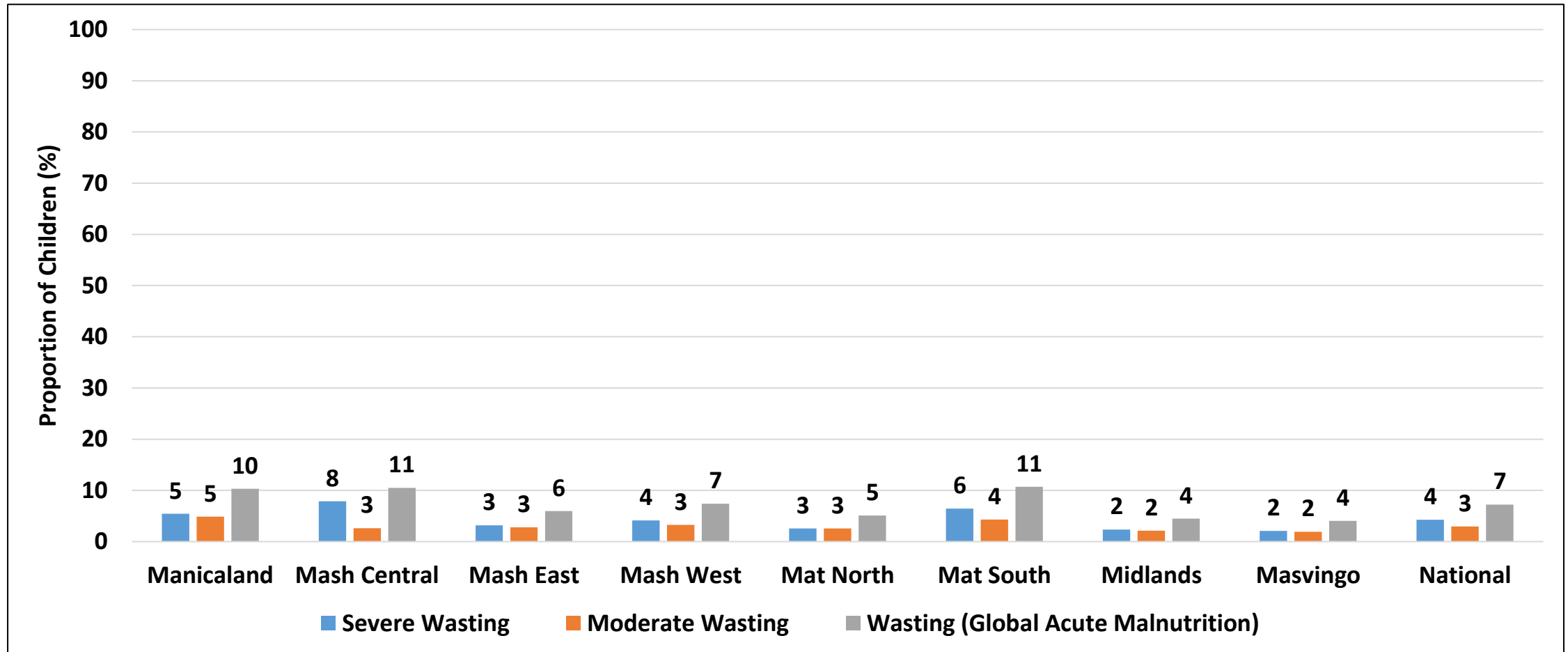
- All the provinces had stunting rates surpassing the WHO threshold of 20%, with Matabeleland North (35.3%) recording the highest and Masvingo (22.9%) having the lowest.

# Prevalence of Malnutrition in Children 6-59 Months



- The prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition of 7% was above the 5% WHO threshold for public health emergency.

# Prevalence of Wasting in Children 6-59 Months

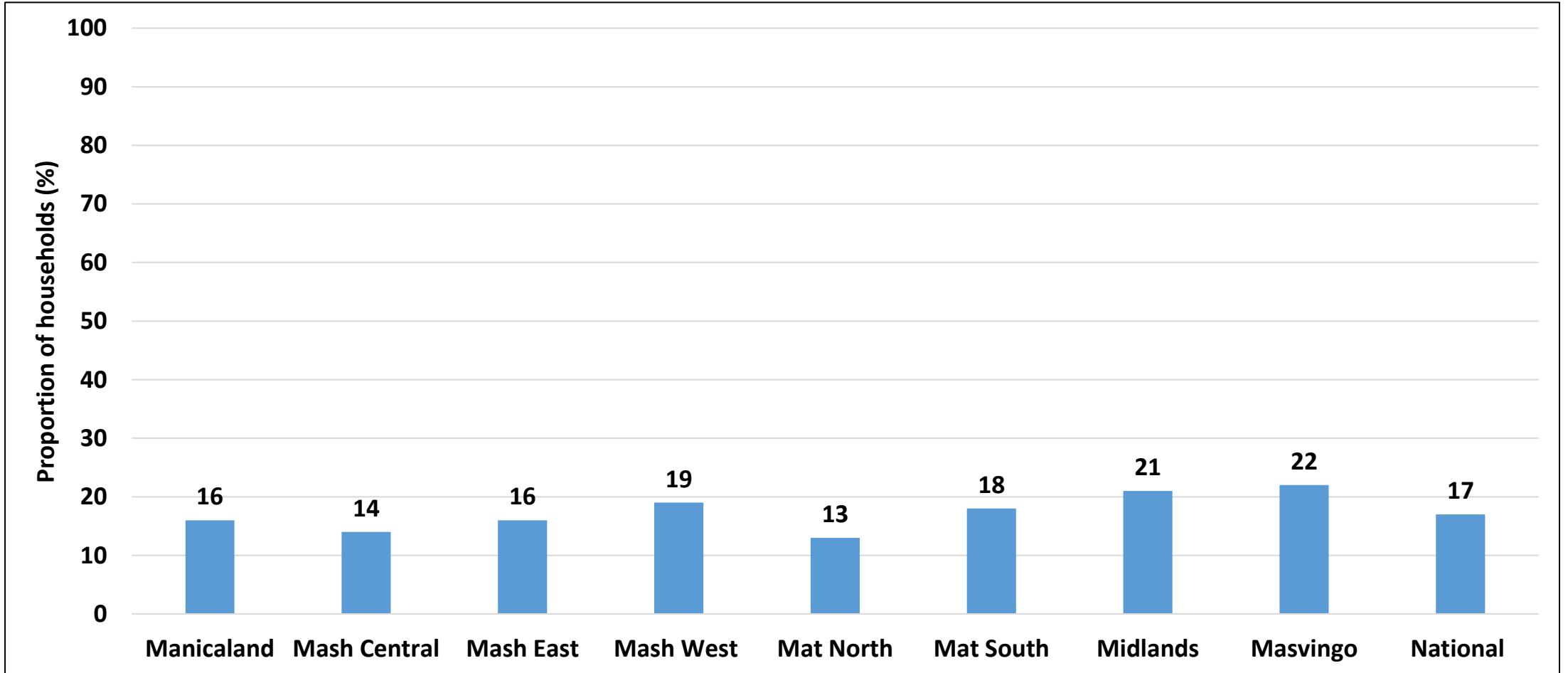


- Global acute malnutrition was highest in Mashonaland Central and Matabeleland South (11%).
- Midlands and Masvingo had the least proportion (4%).



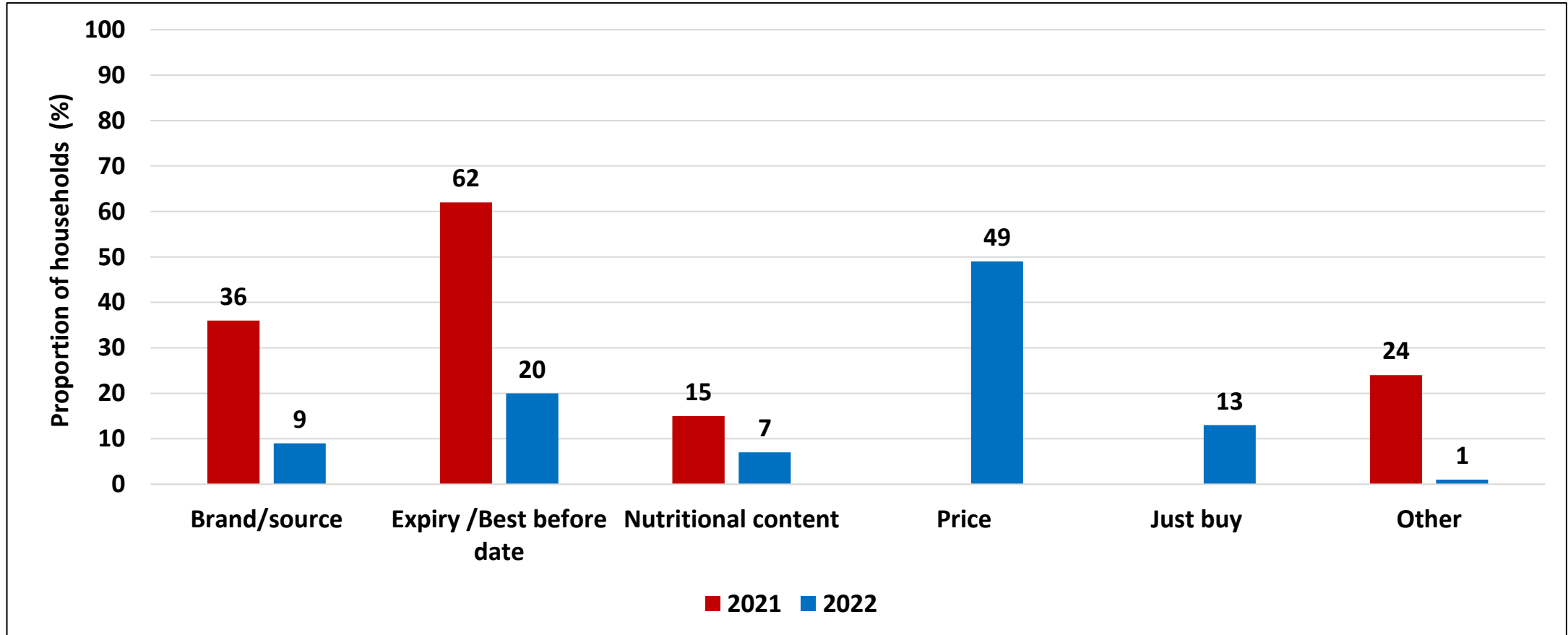
# Food Safety

# Households which Received Information on Food Safety Issues



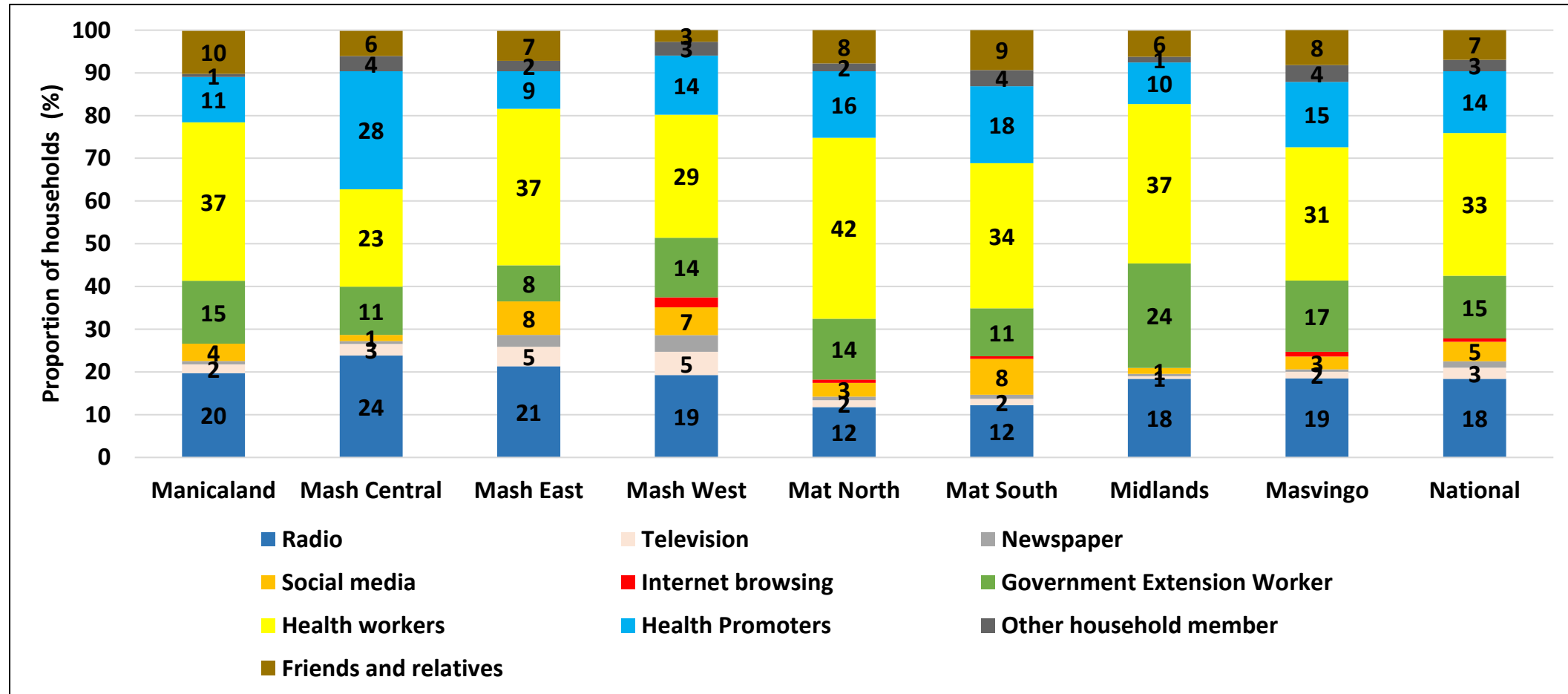
- Only 17% of the households received information on food safety issues.

# Considerations When Buying Food



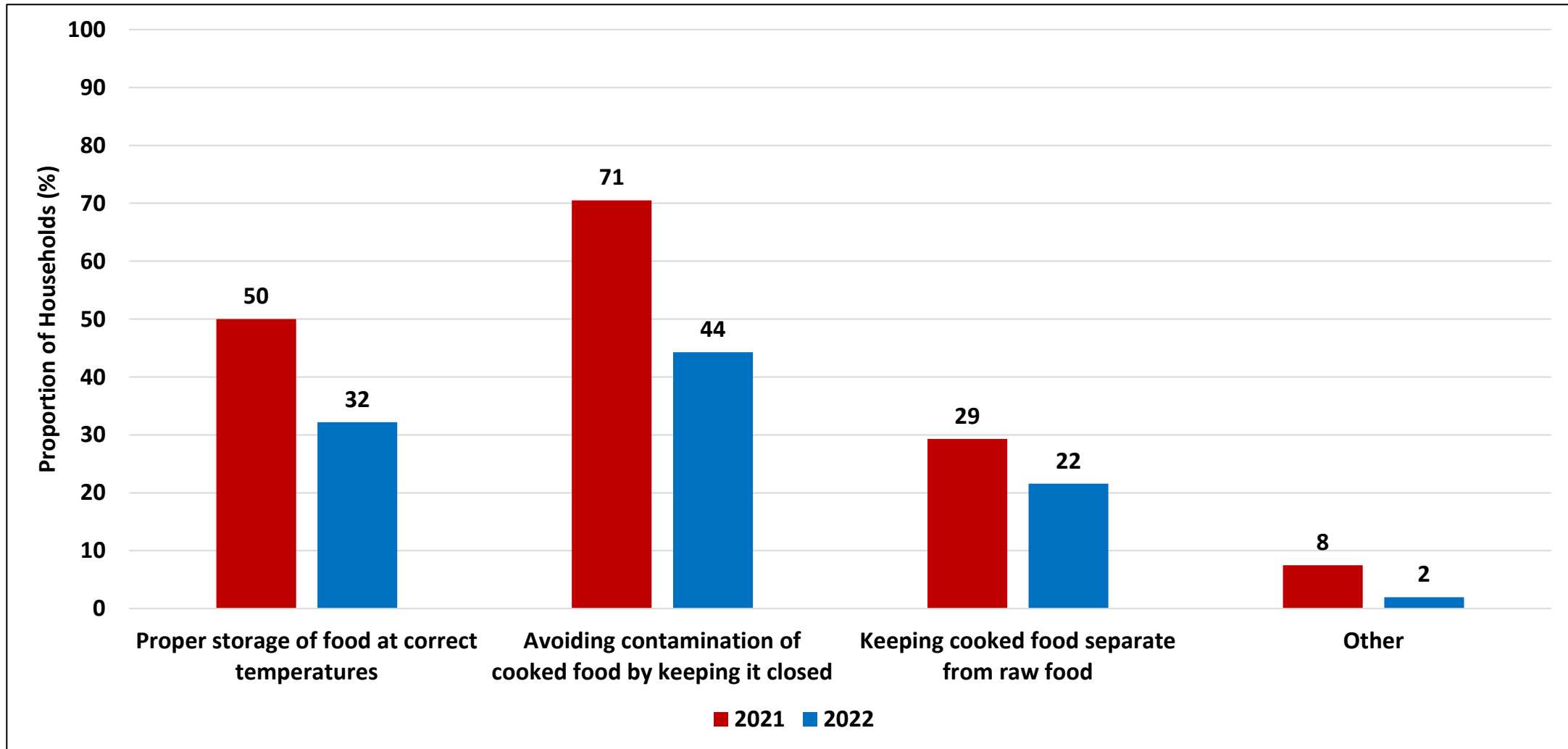
- Most households (49%) considered price when buying food.
- About 20% considered the expiry/best before date.

# Sources of Food Safety Information



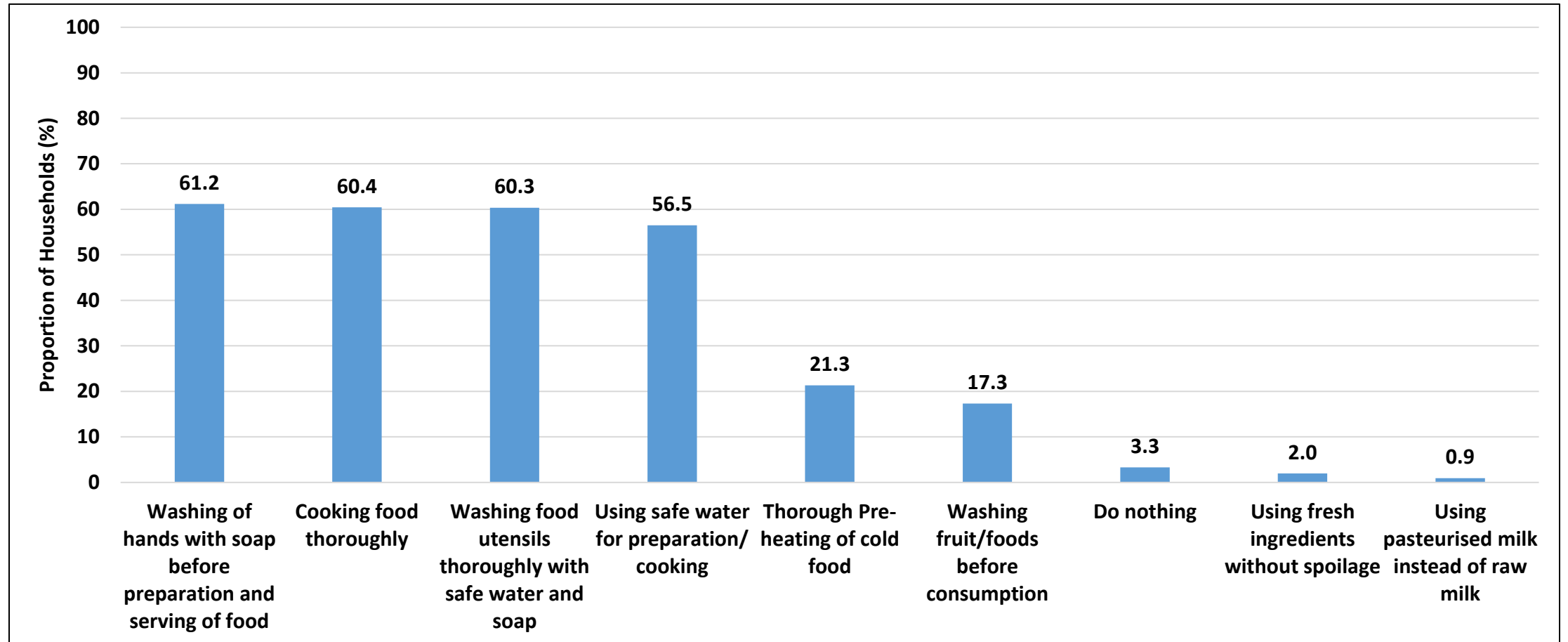
- The main source of food safety information was health workers (33%).

# Ways to keep Food Safe



- Most households reported avoiding contamination of cooked food by keeping it closed (44%).

# Safe Preparation of Food



- About 61.2% of households reported that washing hands with soap before preparation and serving food was important in safe food preparation.

# Food Security

# Food Security Dimensions

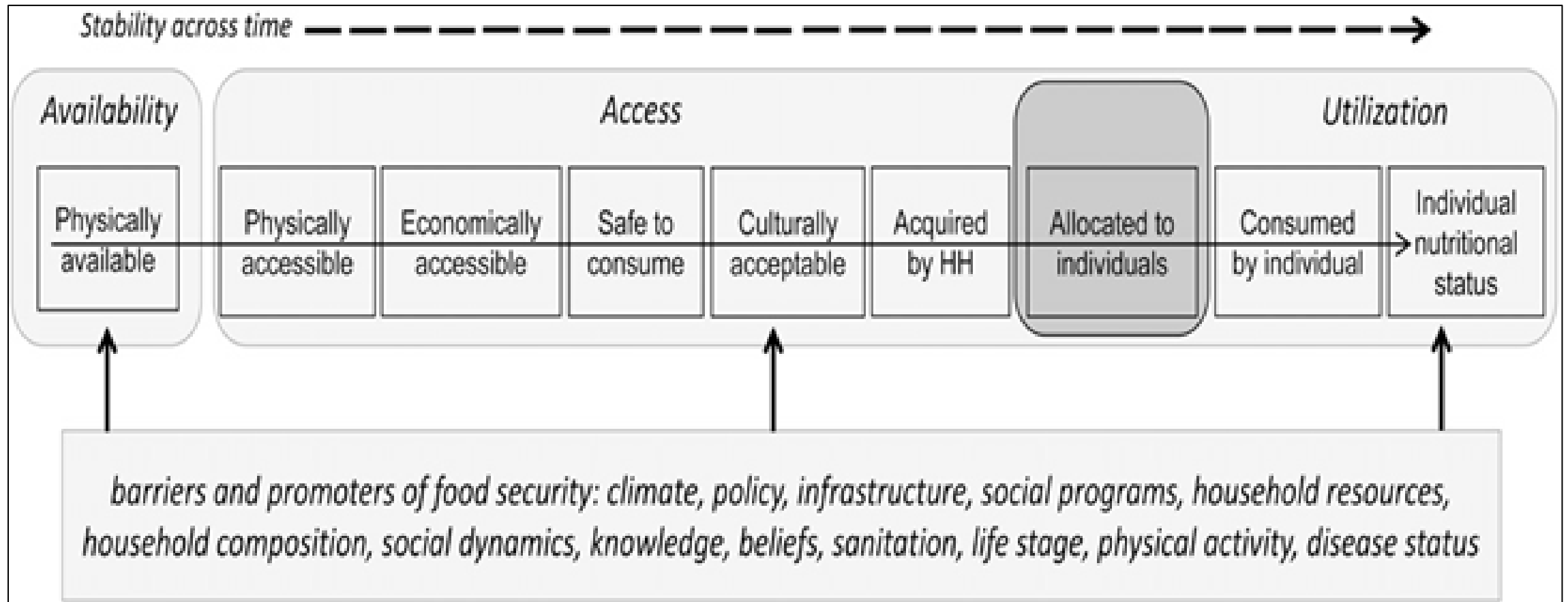


Figure 3: Dimensions of Food Security (Jones et al., 2013)



# Food Security Analytical Framework

- Food security exists when all people at all times, have **physical, social and economic** access to food which is safe and consumed in sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs and food preferences and it is supported by an environment of adequate sanitation, health services and care allowing for a healthy and active life (Food and Nutrition Security Policy, 2012).
- The four dimensions of food security as given in Figure 3 are:
  - **Availability** of food
  - **Access** to food
  - The safe and healthy **utilization** of food
  - The **stability** of food availability, access and utilization

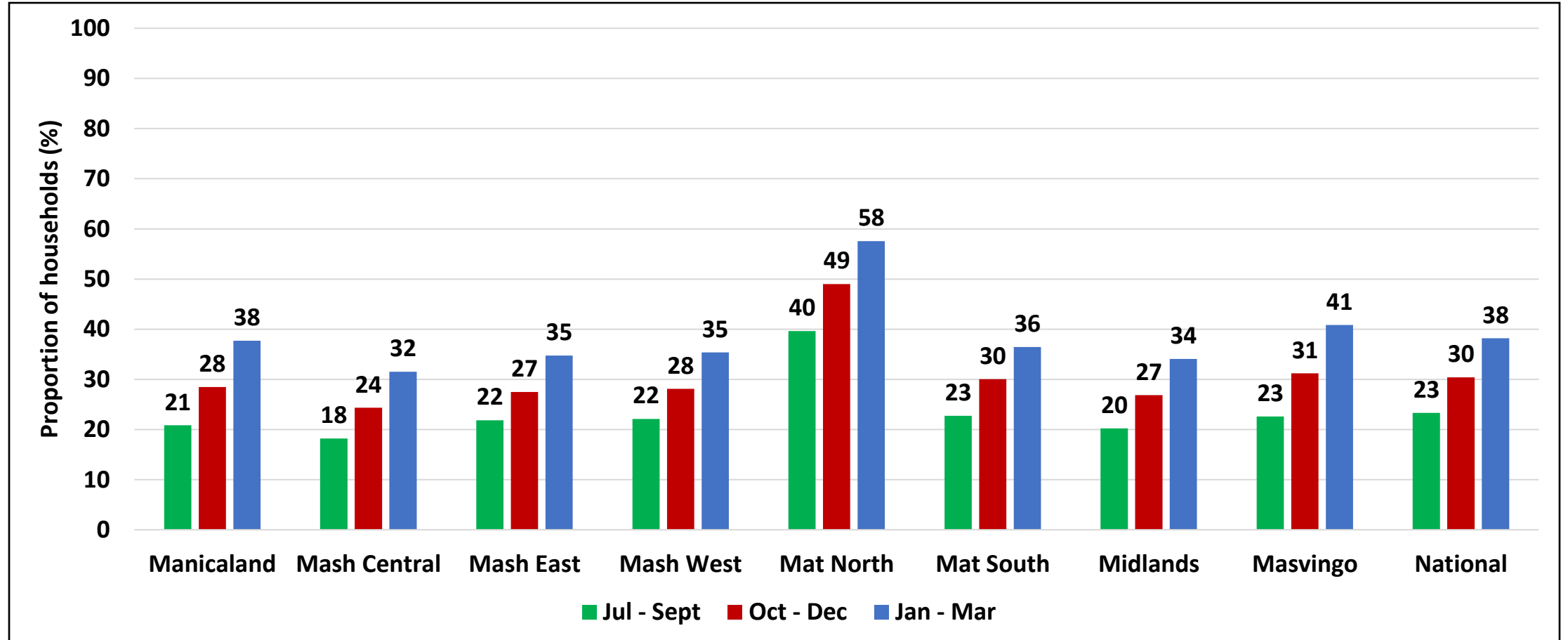
# Food Security Analytical Framework

- Household cereal security was determined by measuring a household's potential access to enough cereal to give each member 2100 kilocalories per day in the consumption period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.
- Each of the surveyed households' potential to acquire cereals was computed by estimating the household's likely disposable income (both cash and non cash) in the 2022/23 consumption year from the following possible income sources;
  - Cereal stocks from the previous season;
  - Own food crop production from the 2021/22 agricultural season;
  - Potential income from own cash crop production;
  - Potential income from livestock;
  - Potential income from casual labour and remittances; and
  - Income from other sources such as gifts, pensions, gardening, formal and informal employment.

# Food Security Analytical Framework

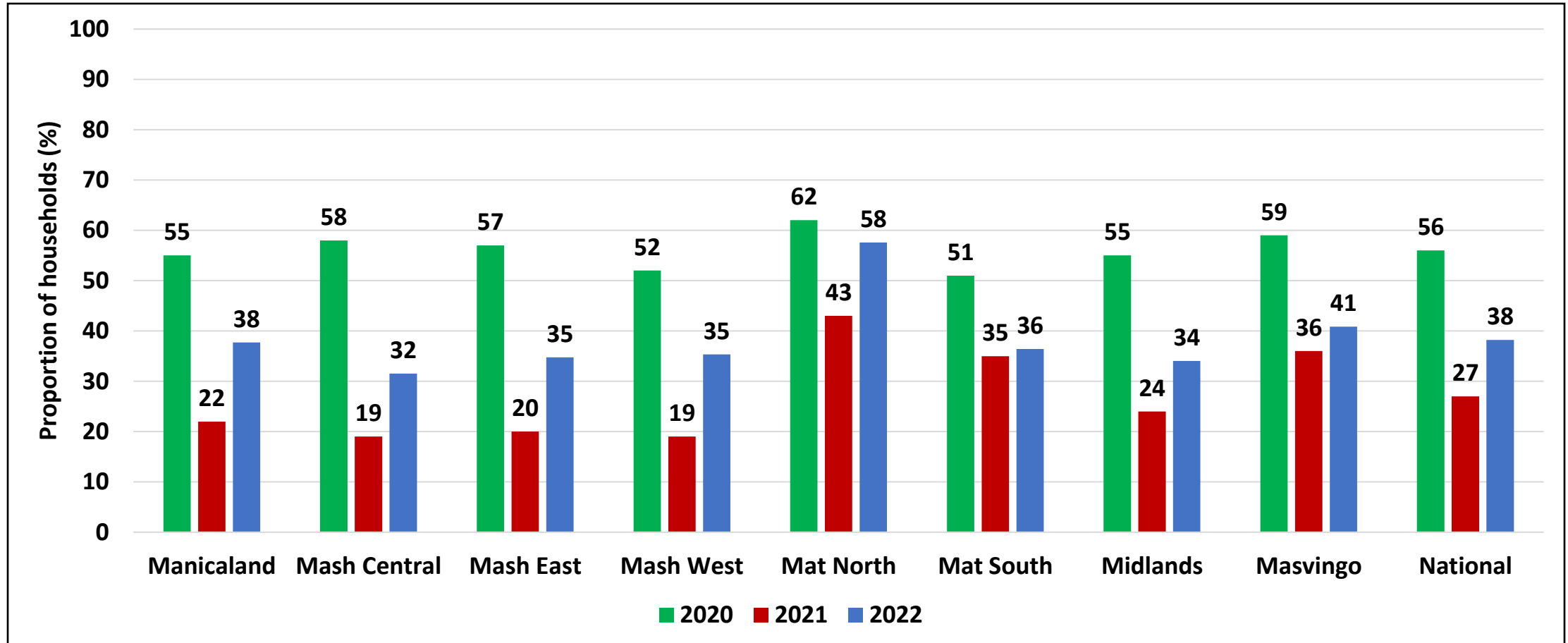
- The total energy that could be acquired by the household from the cheapest energy source using its potential disposable income was then computed and compared to the household's minimum energy requirement.
- When the potential energy that a household could acquire was greater than its minimum energy requirements, the household was deemed to be food secure. When the converse was true, the household was defined as food insecure.
- The severity of household food insecurity was computed by the margin with which its potential energy access was below its minimum energy requirements.

# Cereal Insecurity Progression by Quarter



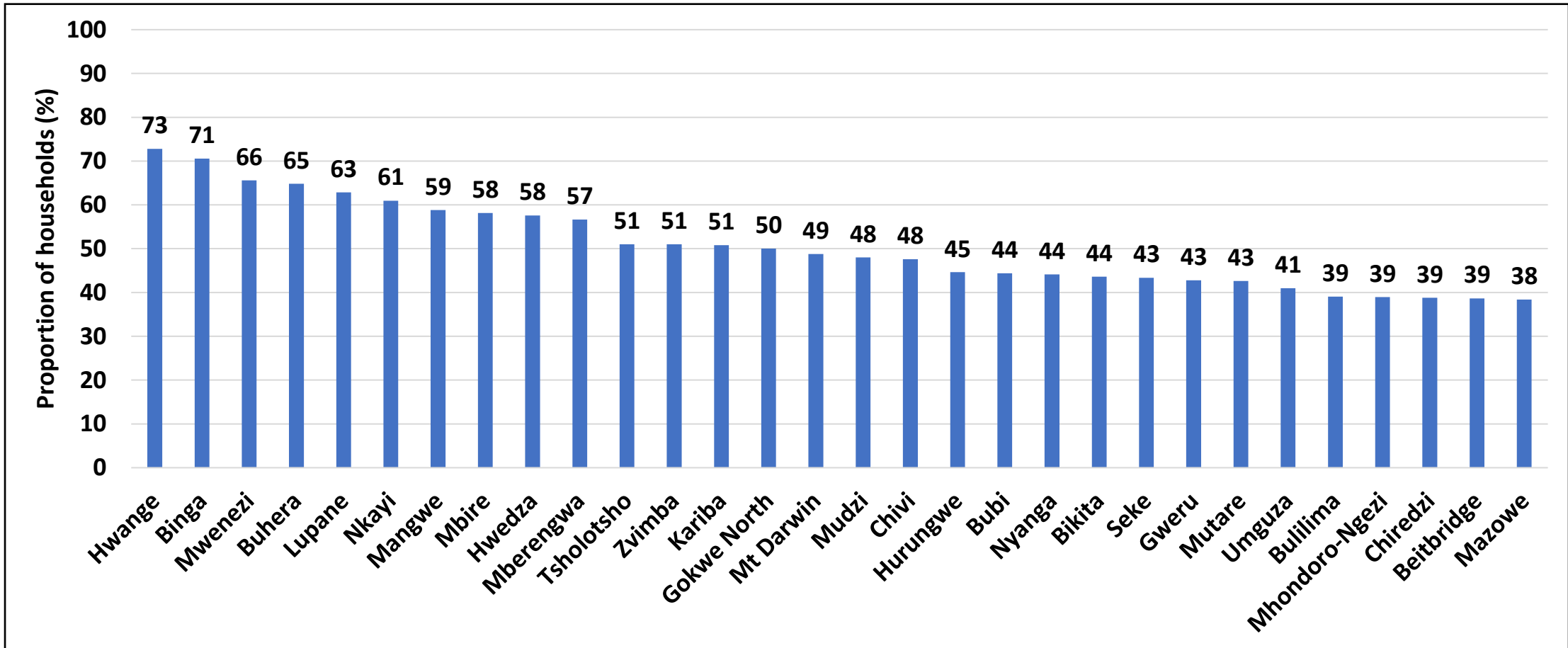
- About 30% of households are projected to be food insecure during the third quarter (October to December 2022).

# Cereal Insecurity (Peak Hunger)



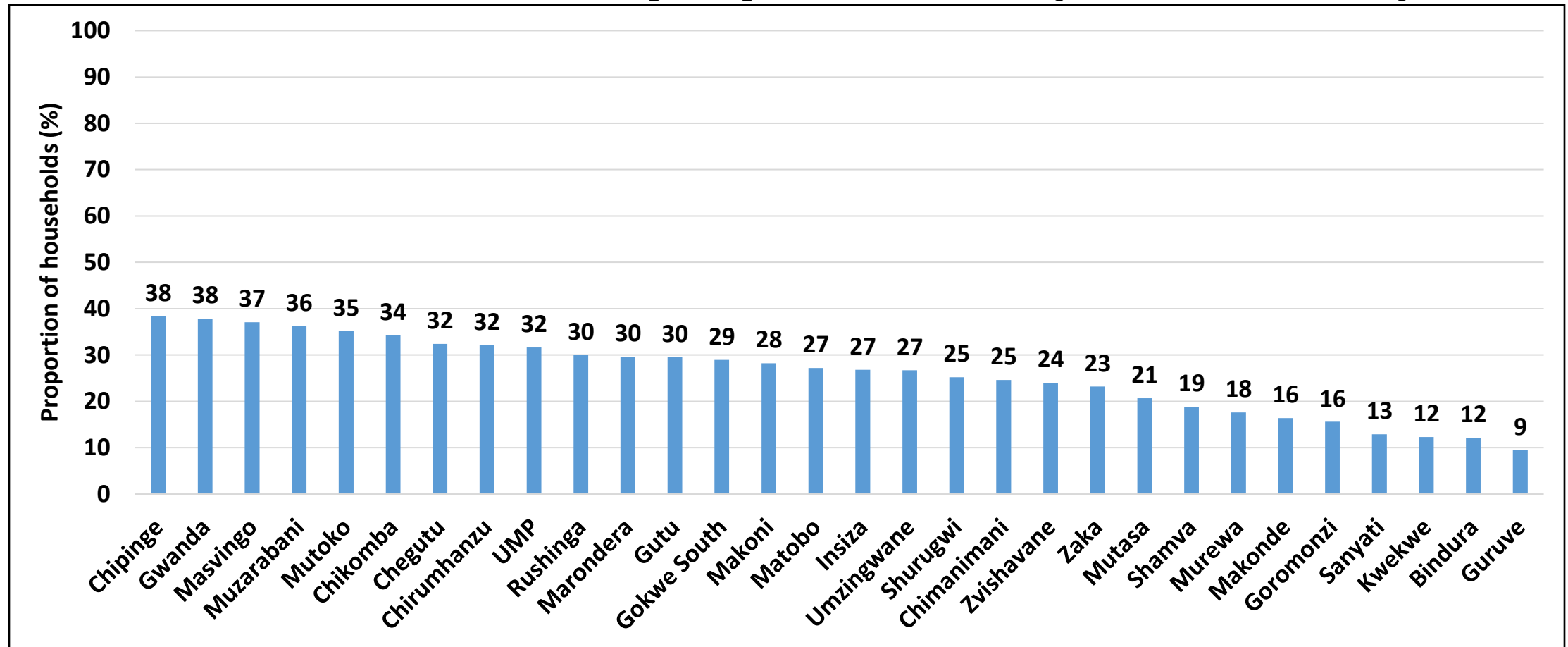
- At peak, about 38% of the rural households are projected to be cereal insecure. This is an increase from 27% reported in 2021.
- Matabeleland North (58%) is projected to have the highest prevalence of cereal insecurity during the peak hunger period.

# Cereal Insecurity by District (Top 30)



- Thirteen districts are projected to have over 50% of their households being cereal insecure. The highest cereal insecurity is projected in Hwange (73%), Binga (71%), Mwenezi (66%) and Buhera (65%).

# Cereal Insecurity by District (Bottom 30)



- The least cereal insecurity prevalence is projected in Guruve (9%), Bindura (12%), Kwekwe (12%) and Sanyati (13%).

# Cereal Insecure Population by Quarter

Province	Food Insecure Population		
	Jul - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar
Manicaland	354,192	483,965	641,058
Mashonaland Central	224,989	301,016	390,023
Mashonaland East	301,695	379,889	480,249
Mashonaland West	288,367	366,606	461,239
Matabeleland North	302,547	374,122	439,549
Matabeleland South	156,318	206,465	250,344
Midlands	279,871	371,540	471,544
Masvingo	348,208	480,226	629,078
<b>National</b>	<b>2,330,768</b>	<b>3,039,086</b>	<b>3,819,573</b>

- Manicaland (641,058) and Masvingo (629,078) are projected to have the highest populations of cereal insecure people during the peak hunger period.



# Cereal Requirements (MT) by Quarter

Province	Cereal Requirements (MT)		
	Jul - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar
Manicaland	13,105	17,907	23,719
Mashonaland Central	8,325	11,138	14,431
Mashonaland East	11,163	14,056	17,769
Mashonaland West	10,670	13,564	17,066
Matabeleland North	11,194	13,842	16,263
Matabeleland South	5,784	7,639	9,263
Midlands	10,355	13,747	17,447
Masvingo	12,884	17,768	23,276
<b>National</b>	<b>86,238</b>	<b>112,446</b>	<b>141,324</b>

# **Gender Based Violence**

# Forms of Gender Based Violence

Province	Physical Abuse			Sexual Abuse		
	No (%)	Yes (%)	Refused to answer (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	Refused to answer (%)
Manicaland	97.7	1.9	0.4	98.9	0.7	0.4
Mash Central	94.8	5.0	0.2	99.0	0.8	0.2
Mash East	95.5	4.3	0.2	99.4	0.4	0.1
Mash West	96.8	2.9	0.3	98.7	1.0	0.2
Mat North	97.8	1.5	0.7	98.5	0.6	0.9
Mat South	96.9	2.4	0.7	98.8	0.4	0.7
Midlands	96.8	2.9	0.2	99.0	0.7	0.3
Masvingo	97.9	2.0	0.1	99.7	0.2	0.1
National	96.7	2.9	0.3	99.0	0.6	0.4

- At least 2.9% of the respondents experienced Gender Based Violence in the form of physical abuse.
- Mashonaland Central had 5% of respondents that experienced Gender Based Violence in the form of physical abuse.
- Mashonaland West had 1% of respondents that experienced Gender Based Violence in the form of sexual abuse.

# **Intimate Partner Violence**

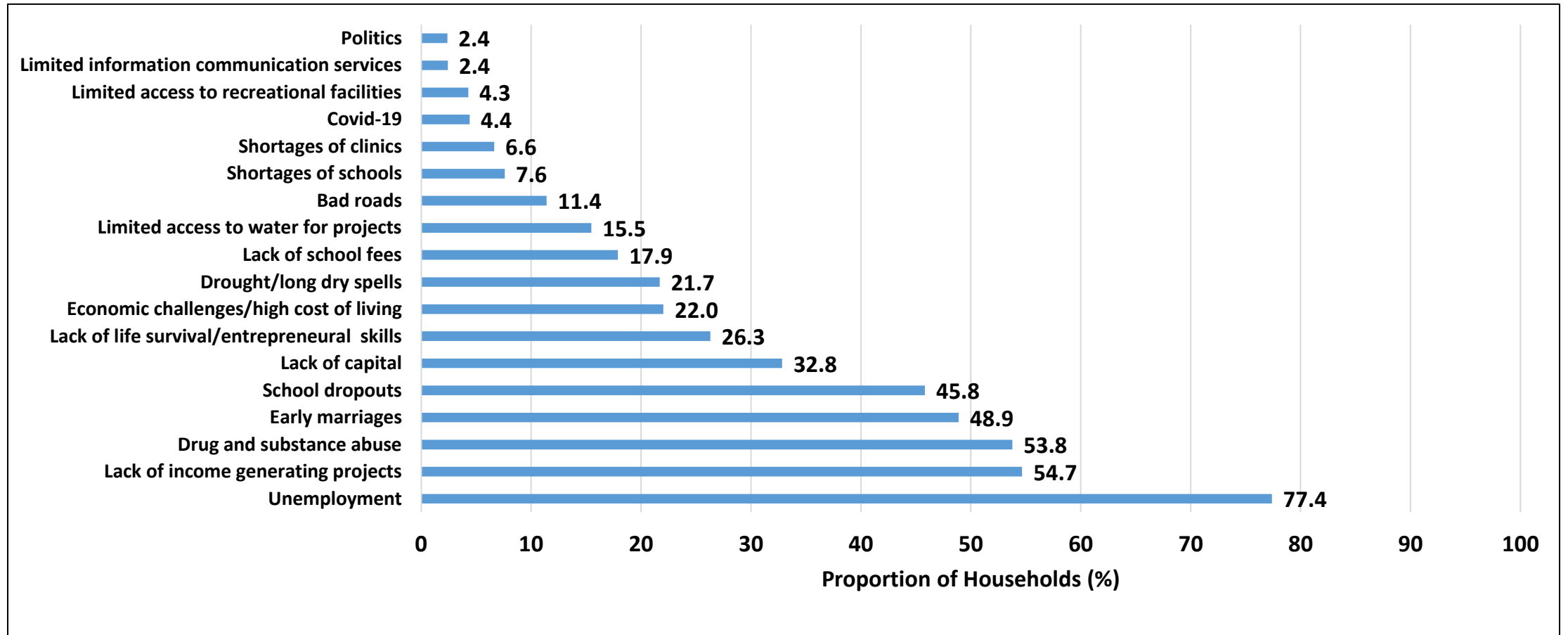
# Incidence of Intimate Partner Violence

Province	Sexual Abuse (%)	Physical Abuse (%)	Emotional Abuse (%)	Economic Abuse (%)
Manicaland	1.2	2.0	4.1	3.6
Mash Central	1.2	4.3	5.8	3.9
Mash East	0.7	4.2	7.6	4.5
Mash West	0.7	2.7	7.6	3.8
Mat North	3.1	2.5	4.7	1.9
Mat South	1.5	2.5	5.6	4.2
Midlands	1.7	3.4	10.9	4.2
Masvingo	0.6	1.1	5.8	2.5
National	1.3	2.9	6.6	3.6

- About 6.6% of respondents experienced emotional abuse.

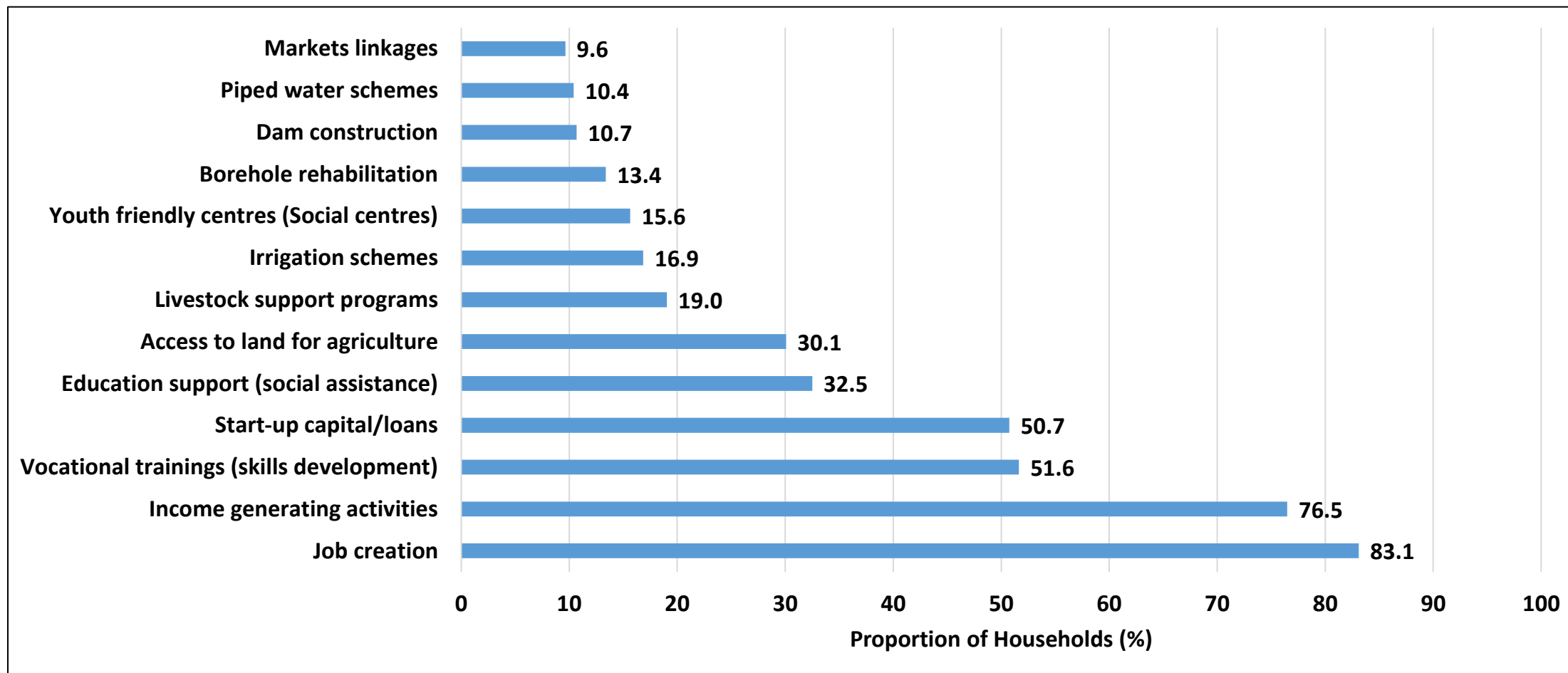
# Youth

# Youth Challenges



- Most of the rural households listed; unemployment (77.4%), lack of income generating projects (54.7%) and drug/substance abuse (53.8%) as the major challenges affecting the development of youths.

# Youth Priorities

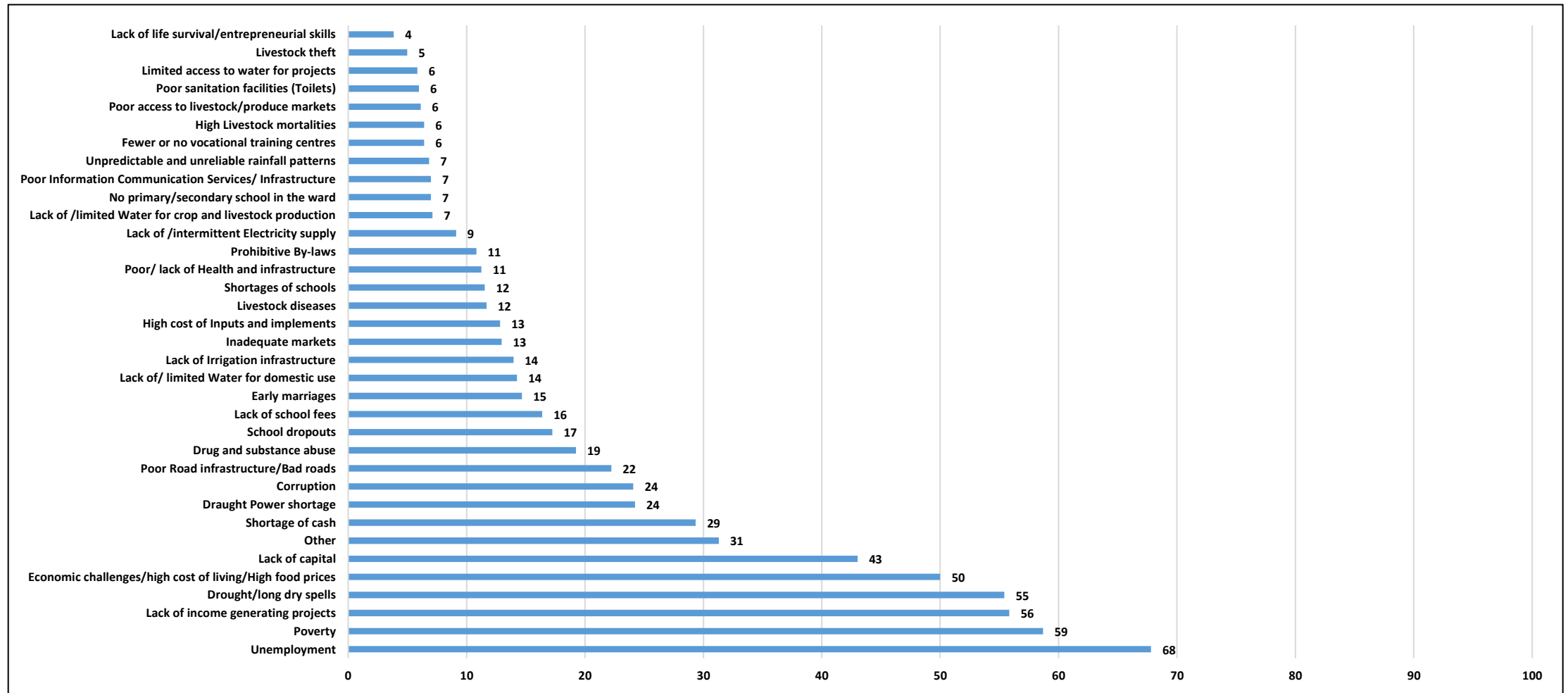


- The majority of rural households listed; job creation (83.1%), income generating activities (76.5%), vocational trainings (51.6%) and start-up capital/loans as the major priorities for youths' development.



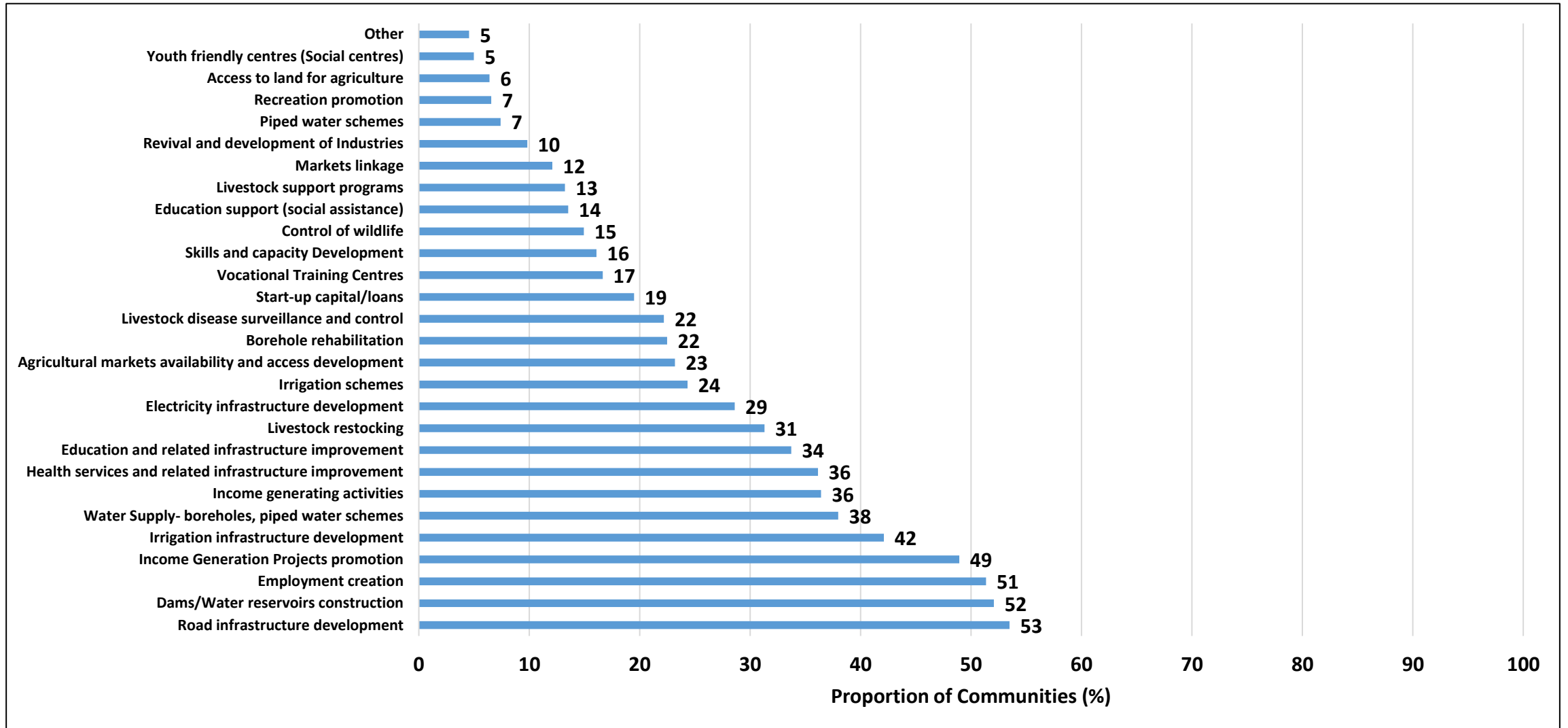
# Developmental Issues

# Development Challenges



- Most households listed unemployment (68%), poverty (59%) lack of income generating projects (56%), drought (55%) and economic challenges (50%) as the major development challenges.

# Development Priorities



- Most households listed; road infrastructure development (53%), dams/water reservoirs construction (52%) and employment creation (51%) as the major development priorities.

# **Conclusions and Recommendations**

# Conclusions

## 1. Education

- a) With regards to addressing the challenge of the 16.2% of children who were out of school at the time of the survey, Government through the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare is implementing the Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM) programme which is targeting 1.5million children.
- b) In order to ensure full attendance by learners, the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education is implementing the policy which prohibits the sending away of children for non-payment of school fees. All school heads have been mandated with the responsibility of ensuring its implementation. This is in light of the 51.8% of children who were reported to have been turned away from school during the first term of 2022 due to non-payment of school fees.

# Conclusions

## 2. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- a) **The Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme (IRWSSP)**- The IRWSSP is a flagship/demonstration WASH project wholly funded by Government with a strong emphasis on building strong/resilient coordination structures. It uses the multisectoral approach to delivering water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) for health. Between 2012 – 2021, the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development has been implementing a DFID funded rural WASH project in 45 districts. The Government is currently targeting the remaining 15 districts. Under the 2022 programme significant progress has been made in the 6 districts of Mazowe, Bindura, Rushinga (Mash Central); Murehwa, Hwedza (Mash Central) and Nyanga (Manicaland). To date, the 6 district and 37 ward subcommittees in these districts have been resuscitated to be able to plan, implement, and manage the WASH projects; 316 villages have been triggered out of the targeted 481 villages.
- b) **The Presidential Rural Development Programme**- The programme seeks to ensure that households are water and food secure as well as climate proofed. The target is to ensure all 35,000 villages and 9 600 schools in Zimbabwe have a borehole, are equipped with a solar pump, with a nutrition garden, fisheries, orchard, and a free range chicken project. To date, 10 rigs of the 40 for ZINWA have been delivered and 113 boreholes of 5000 targeted boreholes have been drilled. The District Development Fund has so far received 10 service trucks and rigs are yet to follow.

# Conclusions

- c) **Demand Led Sanitation and Hygiene Programme-** Government adopted Participatory Health and Hygiene Promotion (PHHP) as the strategy of choice for delivering hygiene in communities and institutions. This has been focused on sanitation with the aim of eliminating open defaecation and for soliciting positive hygiene behaviour change. This is in light of the 27% of households practicing open defaecation as well as the 7% of households using surface water. This demand led sanitation and hygiene approach which involves triggering communities has been rolled out in 51 districts at a demonstration scale in at least 5 targeted wards per district and has seen 4 023 villages being declared open defaecation free with over 400 000 latrines constructed from own household effort.
- d) **Enhanced Resilience of Vulnerable Households in Zimbabwe-** The project promotes the agriculture-nutrition-WASH-climate nexus and is being implemented in six districts of Matabeleland South (except Umzingwane). The project targets development of 9 solar powered piped water schemes, drilling of 36 boreholes, rehabilitation of 180 boreholes, flushing of 90 boreholes and triggering. To date trainings of district subcommittees in Drinking Water Safety and Security Planning Approach, Demand led Sanitation in preparation for community triggering for latrine construction has been done. Capacity testing of boreholes in preparation for piped water scheme development is currently underway across the six districts.

# Conclusions

## **3. Access to Critical Infrastructure**

The Ministry of Health and Child Care in its quest to reduce distances travelled by communities to access health care services is partnering with various key stakeholders, such as RDCs, Church organizations, and communities to construct clinics and health posts throughout the country. This is in light of the 34% of households which reported to be travelling more than 10km to the nearest health facility. 28 clinics and 3 health posts have been newly constructed, courtesy of various stakeholders, to reduce travelling distances. There are also a number of ongoing projects under construction in different parts of the country which include 1 provincial hospital, 10 clinics, 10 health posts (and 30 that are under procurement), 3 pharmacy stores and 1 waiting mothers' home. In addition, the Ministry is also doing outreach programmes in communities that are far away from the health facilities.



# Conclusions

## 4. Social Protection

The Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare undertook joint programming with Development Partners which has reduced chances of double dipping by households. In light of the projected 38% food insecurity, the re-targeting exercise will be conducted by the Ministry to improve programming.

# Conclusions

## 5. Resilience Building

As rural households continue facing climatic shocks, Government through the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works has now put in place the requisite policy, regulatory and institutional structure where disaster risk financing is channelled through Government systems:

- a) The country now has an inclusive disaster risk reduction coordination structure that starts with traditional leaders at the village level, through District and Provincial Civil Protection Offices to the Cabinet Committee on Environment, Disaster Prevention and Management, and Cabinet.
- b) All disaster risk reduction initiatives are guided by the Zimbabwe Recovery and Resilience Framework (ZRRF).
- c) The National Disaster Risk Management Strategy is in place and currently under review to reorient DRM and climate financing towards support to climate risk informed DRR initiatives.
- d) A new National Disaster Risk Management Bill is on the cards. This will provide the legal guidelines for DRR budgeting and risk sensitive budget reviews. Local governments will also have an increased role in DRR financing.

# Conclusions

- e) The Climate Change Management Department leads the development of relevant policies and coordinates Government programmes on climate change.
- f) A Climate Change Policy is already in place.
- g) Creation of the Village Development Fund, as a way of inculcating the whole of society approach.
- h) The Government through the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development, introduced the Pfumvudza/Intwasa programme to climate proof agriculture production and is promoting the production of traditional grains in low potential areas. The production of sunflower which is more drought tolerant is being promoted to become a major source of oil.
- i) To minimise the impact of pests and diseases on livestock production, Government, through the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development introduced the tick grease blitz targeting 1.8 million households with a kg of tick grease. This is combined by an intensive dipping programme. A Department has been established under the MLAFWRD to deal with migratory pests.
- j) In order to address drought and mid-season dry spells, Government through MLAFWRD, is accelerating irrigation rehabilitation and development as a long-term strategy for climate proofing agriculture with a target to increase cropping area under irrigation from 116 000 ha to 350 000 ha.

# Conclusions

## 6. Irrigation Development

- a) Government is committed to irrigation development as the long-term solution to achieving sustainable and climate resilient agriculture.
- b) Through the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development, Government has come up with an Accelerated Irrigation Rehabilitation and Development Plan (AIRDP) to accelerate irrigation rehabilitation and development. The Ministry is targeting to increase cropping area under irrigation from 116 000 ha to 350 000 ha by 2025.
- c) There are 450 smallholder irrigation schemes out of which 50% (225 schemes) require rehabilitation. A total of 92 schemes will be rehabilitated in 2022. The Ministry is also targeting the introduction of irrigation scheme business managers to manage the schemes as business cases.

# Conclusions

## 7. Agriculture Production

a) The Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development is implementing various livestock support and disease control programmes to attend to the 63% and 57% of households that did not own cattle and goats respectively:

- Presidential goat pass scheme targeting to distribute 600 000 does and 40 000 bucks each year for 3 years to benefit a total of 1 800 000 rural households.
- Presidential Rural Poultry pass on scheme targeting to distribute 2 250 000 four-week-old rural chicks to 225 000 households in Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South, Midlands and Masvingo, and 2 500 000 chicks and associated inputs to the remaining provinces in year 2 until all households in the 8 rural provinces are covered.

# Conclusions

- b) Government through the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development is controlling livestock diseases of cattle and goats which died as a result of diseases:
- National dip tank rehabilitation programme, and intensive (5.5.4) dipping programme,
  - Blitz tick grease programme,
  - Free annual vaccinations for FMD, anthrax and rabies, and free quarterly vaccinations for new castle disease,
  - Intensified disease surveillance programme and fencing of Gonarezhou Game Park to control livestock /wildlife mixing and transmission of diseases such as FMD, Brucellosis, swine fever etc.
- c) To address 71% of the households using ordinary rooms to store grain, the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development is spearheading efforts towards the reduction of post-harvest losses:
- Use of storage technologies such as metal silos, hematic bags, motorised threshing equipment, and driers.
  - Construction and use of improved granaries and metal silos under Zunde RaMambo. The model is to train local artisans who will upscale the technologies in the communities.
  - Use of crates for transportation of fresh produce and solar driers for fresh produce preservation.
  - Accelerated training on post-harvest management.

# Conclusions

## 8. Income and Expenditure

- a) Given the fact that most rural households are agriculture based and susceptible to climate related shocks, there is need for accelerated climate-proofed agriculture. This is in light of the average household monthly income which decreased from USD 75 in 2021 to USD 57 in 2022.
- b) Government, through the Ministry responsible for Finance has also put in place a number of measures which resulted in the following:
  - i. The outturn for 2021 was generally good with year on year inflation ending the year at 60.7% from 348.6% recorded in 2020.
  - ii. Local manufacturing production went up and around 80% of products on the market were locally produced.
  - iii. The auction system continued to play its key role of being a dependable source of foreign exchange for the key sectors of the economy.
  - iv. Government remained focused on fiscal sustainability and did not borrow from the Bank.
  - v. The Bank contained the growth of money supply to anchor inflation and exchange rate expectations.
  - vi. Agricultural outturn improved with significant deliveries and stockpiles of maize and wheat sufficient to meet domestic consumption requirements.
  - vii. Foreign currency receipts from exports, remittances and loans reached US\$9.7 billion in 2021.

# Conclusions

## 9. Household Consumption Patterns

- a) The Agriculture and Food Systems Strategy has one of its components focusing on establishment of village boreholes and agribusiness hub gardens. These gardens also have a component of establishing a fish pond for household food and nutrition security. The Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development has established a Fisheries and Aquatic Resources department which is spearheading the stocking of all dams and fish ponds in the village gardens for household food and nutrition security. Through the Horticulture recovery plan the Ministry is also distributing virus free sweet potato vines targeting 1.8 million households. This will go into supporting and improving the 36% of households which are consuming poor diets. The Ministry responsible for Education is also implementing the school feeding programme targeting all the schools.

## 10. Health and Wellbeing

Active screening is recommended in all districts as the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) of 7% is above the 5% WHO emergency threshold. Priority must be given to provinces with the highest prevalence. There is also need to mobilise rehabilitation commodities for the management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM).



# Conclusions

## 11. Food Security

a) Government through the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development is implementing programmes to achieve sustainable food security through initiatives to build resilience among communities, these include the:

- Input supply schemes to improve farmers' access to inputs to increase production and productivity.
- Accelerated irrigation rehabilitation and development to increase cropping under irrigation from 116 000 ha to 350 000 ha by 2025.
- Adoption of climate smart agriculture such as the Pfumvudza/Intwasa programme to climate-proof food production.
- Promotion of production of agro-ecologically adapted crop varieties such as traditional grains in low potential areas complemented by introduction of food swap arrangements for maize and traditional grains, thus enhancing food security.
- Maintenance of a 500 000 MT Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) for distribution to vulnerable households during the year.

# Conclusions

## 12. Youth

- a) **Youth programmes:** The Presidential Rural Development Programme being implemented through MLAFWRD has the component of Integrated Youth in Incubation Centers in the ten provinces for the benefit of the youths in agriculture. These hubs are set to be training Centers of Excellence for all agricultural activities that the youth intend to venture into which include but are not limited to animal husbandry, apiculture, fisheries, horticulture, dairy and other crop production ventures. The youth centres will act as incubation hubs for accelerated agricultural transformation for wealth creation and prosperity for the youths. When fully developed, the establishments will become centres of excellence for youth entrepreneurial development.
- b) The Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare is rehabilitating survivors of drug and substance abuse. Thirty two drug and substance abuse campaigns were also held. Efforts towards supply reduction resulted in arrests of up to 1 058 persons and drugs valued at ZWL\$24.7 million were recovered. On the harm reduction pillar, 5 National Harm Reduction Centres and 8 Provincial Drop In Centres were identified to provide the integrated care model for drug abusers.
- c) The Inter-ministerial Taskforce on Drug and Substance Abuse was established to address issues of prevention, care, harm reduction, treatment and law enforcement on supply of drugs in light of the 53.8% of households which reported drug and substance abuse as one of the major challenges affecting youths.
- d) The Ministry of Sport, Arts and Recreation should establish community recreational programmes and facilities for the youth.
- e) There is now a new Marriage Act that addresses the issue of child marriages reported by 48.9% of the households. The Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs needs to monitor the implementation of the Act and ensure enforcement.
- f) There is need for the Ministry of Sport, Arts and Recreation to provide skills and entrepreneurship training for income generating projects through Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) and Integrated Skills Outreach Programmes (ISOPs) to address the job creation priority reported by 83% of households. There is also need to provide support to income generating projects through access to credit, venture capital, grants, etc.

# Conclusions

## **13. Development Issues**

The Government has a robust programme of addressing vulnerability issues as elaborated in the NDS 1 as well as in various sector strategies, to ensure that no one and no place is left behind. These programmes are being implemented through the Whole-of-Government approach and a number of infrastructure development initiatives have been spearheaded.

# Recommendations

In recognition of Government, the private sector and development partners' efforts the following recommendations are put forward.

- a) The adoption of the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) 2022 Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report for implementation of recommendations contained therein and promote its use by all relevant arms of Government and its development partners in addressing the immediate and medium-term challenges it presents to us.
- b) Reaffirm that food and nutrition security is a national responsibility and that any plans for addressing food and nutrition security challenges must be nationally articulated, designed, owned and led by Government, while built on consultation with all key stakeholders. Let us make food and nutrition security a high priority and reflect this in our national programmes and budgets.
- c) Relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, within their mandates and areas of expertise, with the involvement and leadership of Government, to foster coherent, effective and results-oriented dialogue in the context of food security and sustainable development needs.
- d) To join hands and put our heads together for the common purpose of saving the lives of our people and reducing their vulnerability to the prevailing as well as future shocks and livelihoods stresses.
- e) Conclusively, there is need for continued food and nutrition monitoring to have more grounded evidence and provide an understanding of the household dynamics at play. This will inform the prioritization of responses to the more needy households given the limited resources.

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