# Zimbabwe Livelihoods Assesment Committe (ZimLAC)

## 2024 Urban Livelihoods Assessment Report

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# Foreword

Government, through the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) established and continues to strengthen the national integrated Food and Nutrition Security Information System. Under the leadership of FNC, the Zimbabwe Livelihoods Assessment Committee (ZimLAC) remains committed to providing timely and reliable information on the food and nutrition security situation to inform the development of robust food and nutrition response programmes, policies and strategies. The ZimLAC has since its inception undertaken 11 Urban and 23 Rural Livelihoods Assessments. Through these annual assessments, ZimLAC continues to contribute towards the realisation of Government's desire *of leaving no one and no place behind* as it provides spatially resolved evidence to guide efficient targeting of interventions. Additionally, the assessments have been pivotal in the identification of food insecure populations and households' livelihoods challenges, enabling Government to respond in a timely manner, with the appropriate social protection interventions to address the identified context-specific challenges.

We are pleased to present to you the 2024 Urban Livelihoods Assessment report which provides updates on pertinent urban household livelihoods issues, among them demographics, housing, education, health, nutrition, WASH, energy, social protection, food consumption patterns, food and income sources, income levels, expenditure patterns, debts, coping strategies, shocks and food security. We are indebted to all our stakeholders who supported this assessment financially and technically. We would like to extend our gratitude to the Government of Zimbabwe, development partners and the sub-national structures (provinces and districts) for their unwavering support and commitments exhibited during the assessment. We would also like to appreciate the urban communities of Zimbabwe as well as the local authorities for cooperating and supporting this assessment.

We submit this report to you for your use and reference as you work towards addressing the multi-dimensional and multi-faceted food and nutrition insecurity challenges faced by urban communities.

**George D. Kembo  (Dr.)**
**DIRECTOR GENERAL/ ZIMLAC CHAIRPERSON**

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# Acknowledgements

The technical support received from the following is greatly appreciated:

- Office of the President and Cabinet
- Food and Nutrition Council
- Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment Promotion
- Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT)
- Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development
- Ministry Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Health and Child Care
- Ministry of Local Government and Public Works
- Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education
- Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprise Development
- Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology
- Bindura University of Science Education
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- ZVITAMBO Institute for Maternal and Child Health Research

- Meteorological Services Department
- United Nations World Food Programme
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
- World Vision
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- Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
- SNV
- Plan International
- Aquaculture Zimbabwe
- Mercy corps
- SAYWHAT
- Caritas
- Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC)
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- USAID
- Local Authorities

# Acknowledgement of Financial Support

# Introduction

# Introduction

- ZimLAC plays a significant role in operationalising 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".

- The information system is critical in informing decision making as it provides evidence for timely response by Government.

- ZimLAC livelihood 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 with  11 urban and 23 rural livelihoods updates having been produced to date.

# Zimbabwe Livelihoods Assessment Committee (ZimLAC)

ZimLAC is a consortium of Government, Development Partners, UN, NGOs, Technical Agencies and the Academia which 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.

ZimLAC supports Government, particularly FNC in:

- Convening and coordinating national food and nutrition security issues in Zimbabwe.

- Charting 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 guide the following:

- Evidence based planning and programming for targeted interventions.

- Development of interventions that address immediate to long term needs as well as building resilient livelihoods.

- Early warning for early action.

- Monitoring and reporting progress towards commitments within the guiding frameworks of existing national and international food and nutrition policies and strategies such as the National Development Strategy 1, the Food and Nutrition Security Policy, Sustainable Development Goals and the Zero Hunger strategy.

# Purpose

The overall purpose of the assessment was to provide an annual update on livelihoods in Zimbabwe's urban

areas, for the purposes of informing policy formulation and programming appropriate interventions.

# Objectives

The specific objectives of the assessment were:

1. To estimate the urban population that is likely to be food insecure in 2024, their geographic distribution and the severity of their food insecurity.

2. To assess the nutrition status of the urban population.

3. To describe the socio-economic profiles of urban households in terms of such characteristics as their demographics, access to basic services (education, health services and water, sanitation and hygiene services), assets, income sources, urban agriculture, incomes and expenditure patterns, food consumption patterns and consumption coping strategies.

4. To characterise urban livelihood options for the urban population and factors impacting on these livelihood options.

5. To provide practical recommendations to inform humanitarian and developmental interventions for enhanced livelihoods.

# Assessment Methodology

# Methodology – Assessment Design
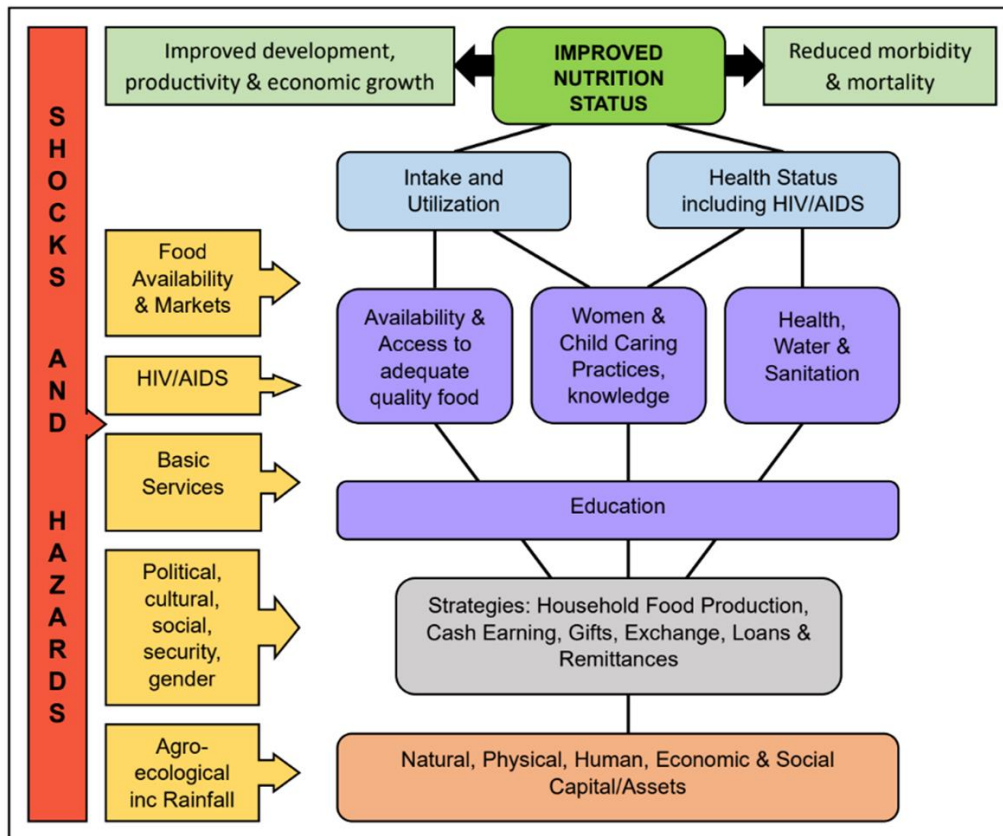


*Figure 1: Food and Nutrition Conceptual Framework*

- The assessment was a cross-sectional study whose design was guided and informed by the Food and Nutrition Security Conceptual framework (Figure 1), and the conceptual framework for food security dimensions propounded by Jones et al. (2013).

- 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 food energy available to a household from all its potential sources hence the **primary sampling unit** for the assessment was the household.

# Methodology – Assessment Process

- In recognizing the importance of multi-stakeholder participation in multi-faceted assessments, ZimLAC, through multi-stakeholder consultations, developed an appropriate assessment design and data collection tools informed by the assessment objectives.

- The primary data collection tool used in the assessment was the android–based structured household tool.

- ZimLAC national supervisors and enumerators were recruited from Government, United Nations, Technical partners, Academia and Non-Governmental Organisations.

- The Ministry of Local Government and Public Works, through the Provincial Development Coordinators' offices coordinated the recruitment of domain level enumerators and mobilisation of provincial and district enumeration vehicles. Enumerators were drawn from an already existing database of those who participated previous ZimLAC assessments. Three enumerators and one anthropometry specialist were selected from each domain for data collection.

# Methodology: Sampling

- The sample design was such that  key livelihood indicators, particularly food insecurity prevalence, could be reported at domain level with at least 95% confidence.

- The sample was drawn from 44 reporting domains made up of cities,  towns, service centres and growth points.

- It focused on urban households residing in the medium-density, high density, and peri-urban areas of Zimbabwe. It covered Urban Council Areas, Administrative Centers, Growth Points and other Urban Areas.

- The 2022 ZimSTAT master sampling frame was used to draw 30 Enumeration Areas (EAs) for each domain using the Probability Proportional to Population Size (PPS) method. A total of 13 479 households were interviewed, 5806 children under 5, 3457 children 5 to 9 years and 20 728 adults were measured.

- The  enumerated households were selected using systematic random sampling within the sampled EAs.

- Enumerator training was held on the 12th of February 2024. Primary data collection took place from 13 to 28 February 2024. Data analysis and report writing ran from 8 to 19 March 2024. Various secondary data sources and field observations were used to contextualise the analysis and reporting.

# Sample Characterisation - Domains

| Province | Domain |
|---|---|
| **Bulawayo** | Bulawayo North (Makokoba, Nguboyenja, Thorngrove) |
| | Emakhandeni (Emakhandeni, Mpopoma, Entumbane, Matshobana, Pelandaba, Njube, Old Lobengula, Lobengula Extension) |
| | Luveve (Luveve, Gwabalanda, Cowdray Park, Enqameni) |
| | Magwegwe-Pumula (Pumula, Magwegwe, Hyde Park, Pelandaba West) |
| | Lobengula (all except Extension and Old) |
| | Nketa-Emganwini (Nketa, Emganwini, Rangemore) |
| | Nkulumane-Tshabalala-Sizinda |
| **Manicaland** | Mutare Urban |
| | Rusape |
| **Mashonaland Central** | Bindura Urban |
| | Mazowe, Mvurwi |
| **Mashonaland East** | Marondera Urban |
| | Murehwa-Mutoko-Mudzi |
| | Chivhu |
| | Ruwa |

# Sample Characterisation - Domains

| | |
|---|---|
| **Mashonaland West** | Kadoma Urban |
| | Chegutu Urban |
| | Chinhoyi Urban |
| | Norton |
| **Matabeleland North** | Hwange |
| | Victoria-Falls |
| **Matabeleland South** | Beitbridge Urban |
| | Gwanda Urban |
| | Plumtree |
| **Midlands** | Kwekwe Urban |
| | Gweru Urban |
| | Shurugwi |
| | Zvishavane Urban |
| | Gokwe Centre, Nembudziya |
| | Redcliffe |
| **Masvingo** | Masvingo Urban |
| | Gutu |
| | Chiredzi Urban |
| | Bikita-Zaka |
| **Harare** | Harare South  (Hopley, Southlea, Ushewokunze) |
| | Greater Harare 1 (Mbare, Sunningdale) |
| | Greater Harare 2 (GlenView, Glenorah - Budiriro, Mufakose, Highfields) |
| | Greater Harare 3 (Tafara, Mabvuku) |
| | Greater Harare 4 ( Kuwadzana, Warren Park, Dzivarasekwa) |
| | Epworth |
| | Chitungwiza (Zengeza) |
| | Chitungwiza (St. Mary's, Manyame) |
| | Caledonia |
| | Hatcliffe |

# Data Preparation and Analysis

- Primary data was transcribed using CSEntry and CSPro, then consolidated, converted and analysed using SPSS, STATA, ENA, Microsoft Excel and GIS packages for household structured  interviews.

The analysis centred on the following broad areas:

1. **Contextualised analysis-** exploring the major economic, social, cultural and resource based issues affecting households.

2. **Vulnerability context-** understanding the wider shocks and stresses to which livelihood strategies were subjected to.

3. **Differentiation**- understanding of social and economic differentiation between households

4. **Disaggregated analysis-** understanding the situation of diverse individuals, gender and other generational roles and issues within the household.

# Technical Scope

The 2024 ULA collected and analysed information on the following thematic areas:

- Education

- Health

- WASH

- Housing and Energy

- Infrastructure

- Nutrition

- Agriculture and other urban livelihoods activities

- Food Security

- Shocks and stressors

- Social Protection

- Gender Based Violence

- Youth

- Linkages amongst the key sectoral and thematic areas

- Cross-cutting issues such as gender, disability

# Contextual Analysis - Background

- Food and nutrition security is critical for economic development due to the role of nutrition in healthy growth and human capital development.

- Climate change impacts are becoming more intense and frequent than ever, as observed, increasing vulnerability to all the populations of the world.

- The El Nino event forecasted for 2023-2024, which is associated with drier-than-average rainfall, is poised to exacerbate food and nutrition challenges in both the rural and urban areas, especially for the vulnerable population.

- In Zimbabwe, the hot and dry conditions associated with the El Nino have been experienced for the greater part of the season. The dry weather conditions were experienced in November and the first half of December 2023. A delayed commencement of the rains characterised the 2023/2024 season. As a result, there has been an unprecedented lack of rainfall at the beginning of the rainy season in numerous regions of Matabeleland North and Matabeleland South, as well as specific areas in Masvingo, Midlands, Manicaland, and Mashonaland East Provinces, marking the driest start in the past four decades.

- The dry conditions negatively impacted the national planting area, significantly reducing the area dedicated to cultivating food and other crops. Most farmers planted crops in late December following significant rainfall across the country.

- Flooding was also experienced in parts of the country, resulting in loss of lives, destruction of property and infrastructure.

- In the country, the first cholera outbreak of 2023 started on 12 February 2023. As of 09 March 2024, Zimbabwe had recorded 27 858 suspected cholera cases, 2 777 confirmed cases, 27 109 recoveries, 71 confirmed deaths and 513 suspected cholera deaths.

# Contextual Analysis – Government Mitigatory Measures

The following people centered measures were implemented to ensure food and nutrition security for all:

- **Supporting the vulnerable groups** through distribution of food aid (in-kind) and cash transfers; cash transfer for cereals, harmonised social cash transfer. Government is also implementing the Sustainable Livelihood Projects which seeks to build resilience of households through creation of income generating projects.

- **Presidential Borehole Drilling Scheme:** In order to alleviate the prevailing water scarcity challenges and climate change, Government is implementing the Presidential Borehole Drilling Scheme. The scheme aims to facilitate the provision of clean water to urban areas and will help to avert the potential threats of waterborne diseases. The solar powered boreholes will also avail the much needed water for consumption and hygiene, especially given the current context of the Cholera outbreak.

- **The Oral Cholera Vaccine** was rolled out on Monday 29 January 2024, targeting 2,3 million people within identified cholera hotspots in the country. As of 9 March 2024, cumulatively 2 121 784 people received the vaccine.

- In an effort to curb the cholera outbreak and rising cases in Harare, Government initiated **"Operation Chenesa Harare",** a major clean-up campaign aimed at restoring proper hygiene standards and cleanliness in the capital city.

# Government Mitigatory Measures

- **Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture Programmes:** The urban areas had various agriculture input support programmes. Under Pfumvudza, 400,000 farmers were targeted with an input package of maize seed, basal and top dressing fertilizer and chemicals for controlling fall armyworm. Under the livestock support scheme, households received indigenous chickens, stress pack, indigenous poultry meal and antibiotics. The AGRIC4SHE programme also saw farmers receiving a combined package of Pfumvudza inputs and livestock support.

- **Strengthening of Multi-Sectoral Structures** in order to operationalise a cohesive response to the food and nutrition challenges.

- **Emergency Road Rehabilitation Programme** – the Government of Zimbabwe through Statutory Instrument 47 of 2021 declared all roads to be a state of national disaster on 9 February 2021. The 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.

- **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. The Zimbabwe National Human Settlements Policy was launched in September 2021 and its thrust is to achieve well-planned and governed human settlements as the country gravitates towards Vision 2030.

# Government Mitigatory Measures

On the 12th of March 2024, Cabinet approved the following:

- The Food Security Outlook Report to March 2025 to facilitate winter cereals production planning

- That the consumption of 7,5kg per person per month be used immediately for social welfare and be adjusted after October to 8,5kg per person per month

- The purchase of local grain at import parity price of USD390 per tonne to mop up excess local grain

- Duty waiver on the importation of rice and potato seed

- Importation of Genetically Modified stock feed, under strict supervised milling and distribution

- Duty free importation of maize, rice and cooking oil by households with effect from July 2024

- Re-activation of the Grain Mobilisation Committee to monitor private sector imports as well household imports

# Dam Levels: 06 March 2024

| Dam | Level | Dam | Level |
|---|---|---|---|
| Masembura | 99. 9% | Siya | 73. 3% |
| Arcadia | 99. 7% | Mtshabezi | 71. 9% |
| Harava | 99. 5% | Zhovhe | 70. 8% |
| Chivero | 99. 1% | Bubi-Lupane | 59. 5% |
| Lake Mutirikwi | 96. 7% | Insiza | 57. 7% |
| Manyame | 94. 6% | Sebakwe | 55. 1% |
| Osborne | 92. 3% | Manjirenji | 47. 7% |
| Mwenje | 92. 3% | Silalabuhwa | 38. 1% |
| Mazvikadei | 85. 5% | Inyankuni | 24. 0% |
| Tugwi-Mukosi | 84. 7% | Upper Insiza | 19. 0% |
| Manyuchi | 83. 6% | Uppper Ncema | 17. 0% |
| Mazowe | 78. 7% | Lower Ncema | 16. 9% |
| Seke | 76. 6% | Mzingwane | 4. 0 % |

# Household Demographics

# Characteristics of Respondents

| Province | N | Household size | Respondent Sex | | Age Group | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Male (%) | Female (%) | Average Age of Respondent (years) | 12-17 years (%) | 18-24 years (%) | 25-59 years (%) | 60+ years (%) |
| Bulawayo | 2,095 | 4.1 | 23.2 | 76.8 | 42 | 1 | 13 | 68 | 18 |
| Manicaland | 601 | 3.8 | 23.0 | 77.0 | 40 | 1 | 13 | 76 | 11 |
| Mash Central | 600 | 3.9 | 16.5 | 83.5 | 39 | 1 | 15 | 75 | 10 |
| Mash East | 1,218 | 3.5 | 21.1 | 78.9 | 38 | 2 | 17 | 74 | 7 |
| Mash West | 1,194 | 4.0 | 21.4 | 78.6 | 40 | 0 | 11 | 78 | 11 |
| Mat North | 601 | 3.5 | 20.2 | 79.8 | 37 | 1 | 14 | 79 | 7 |
| Mat South | 899 | 3.5 | 17.8 | 82.2 | 38 | 1 | 17 | 73 | 9 |
| Midlands | 2,090 | 4.1 | 19.7 | 80.3 | 38 | 2 | 16 | 73 | 10 |
| Masvingo | 1,190 | 3.7 | 17.7 | 82.3 | 37 | 1 | 17 | 74 | 8 |
| Harare | 2,991 | 4.2 | 19.4 | 80.6 | 39 | 1 | 15 | 74 | 10 |
| **National** | **13,479** | **3.9** | **20.2** | **79.8** | **39** | **1** | **15** | **73** | **11** |

- A total of 13,479 households were interviewed and the average age of respondents was 39 years.

- The majority of respondents (79.8%) were female.

- 73% of the respondents were in the 25-59 years age group.

# Household Head Characteristics
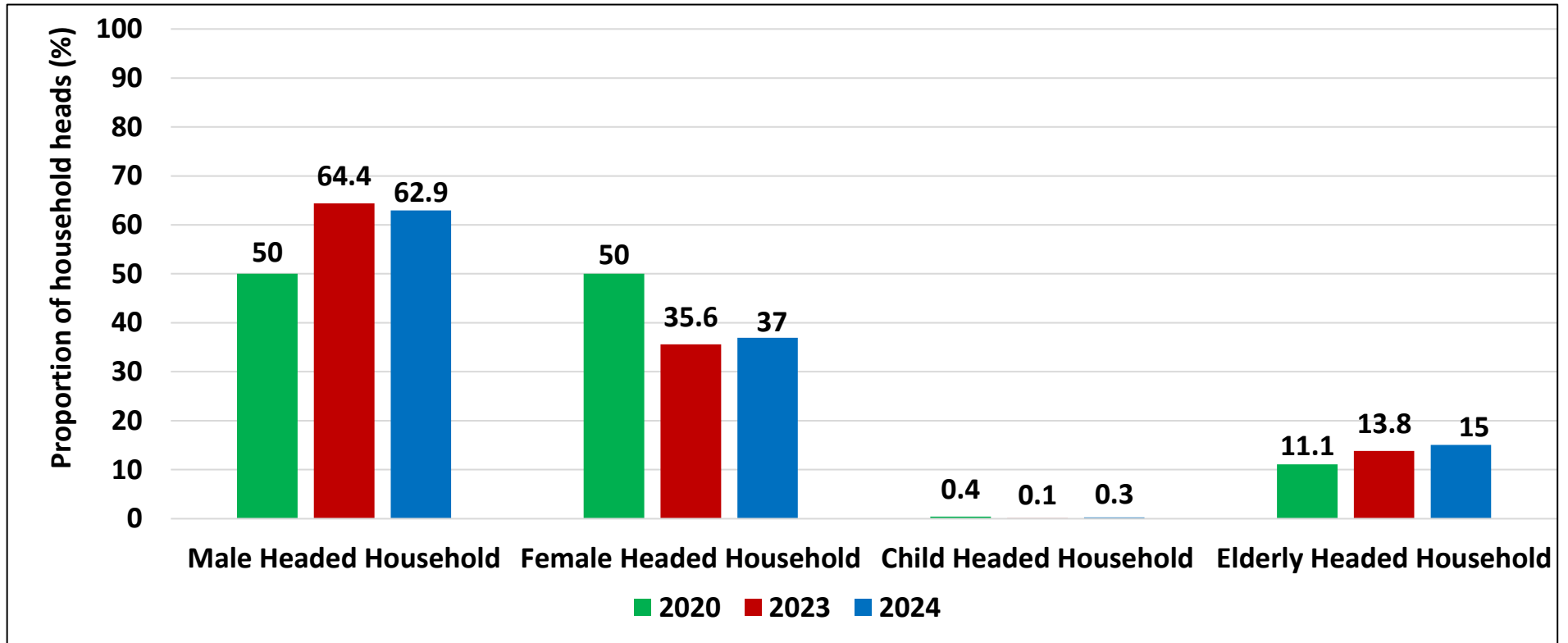


- The proportion of child headed households was 0.3%.
- About 37% of the households were female headed.

# Age and Marital Status of Household Head

| Province | Average Age of Household Head (Years) | Married Living Together (%) | Married Living Apart (%) | Divorced/Separated (%) | Widowed (%) | Cohabiting (%) | Never Married (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 48 | 45.3 | 8.5 | 11.6 | 19.8 | 1.3 | 13.5 |
| Manicaland | 44 | 55.2 | 15.6 | 11.3 | 12.5 | 0.2 | 5.2 |
| Mash Central | 43 | 58.3 | 13.3 | 11.7 | 13.8 | 0.2 | 2.7 |
| Mash East | 42 | 56 | 11.7 | **14.9** | 10.3 | 0.2 | 6.9 |
| Mash West | 44 | 60.4 | 5.4 | 13.9 | 15.6 | 0.8 | 4 |
| Mat North | 42 | 61.7 | 6.2 | 9.3 | 10.5 | 2.2 | 10.2 |
| Mat South | 43 | 50.9 | 12.6 | 11 | 12.5 | 0.4 | 12.6 |
| Midlands | 46 | 62.6 | 8.7 | 13 | 11.2 | 0.1 | 4.4 |
| Masvingo | 46 | 53.8 | 11.2 | 15 | 13.9 | 0.4 | 5.6 |
| Harare | 44 | 63.9 | 5.7 | 11 | 13.8 | 1.5 | 4 |
| National | **45** | **57.3** | **8.9** | **12.3** | **13.9** | **0.8** | **6.8** |

- The average age of household head was 45 years.

- The majority of the household heads were married and living together (57.3%).

- Masvingo (15%) and Mashonaland East (14.9%) had the highest proportion of divorced or separated household heads.
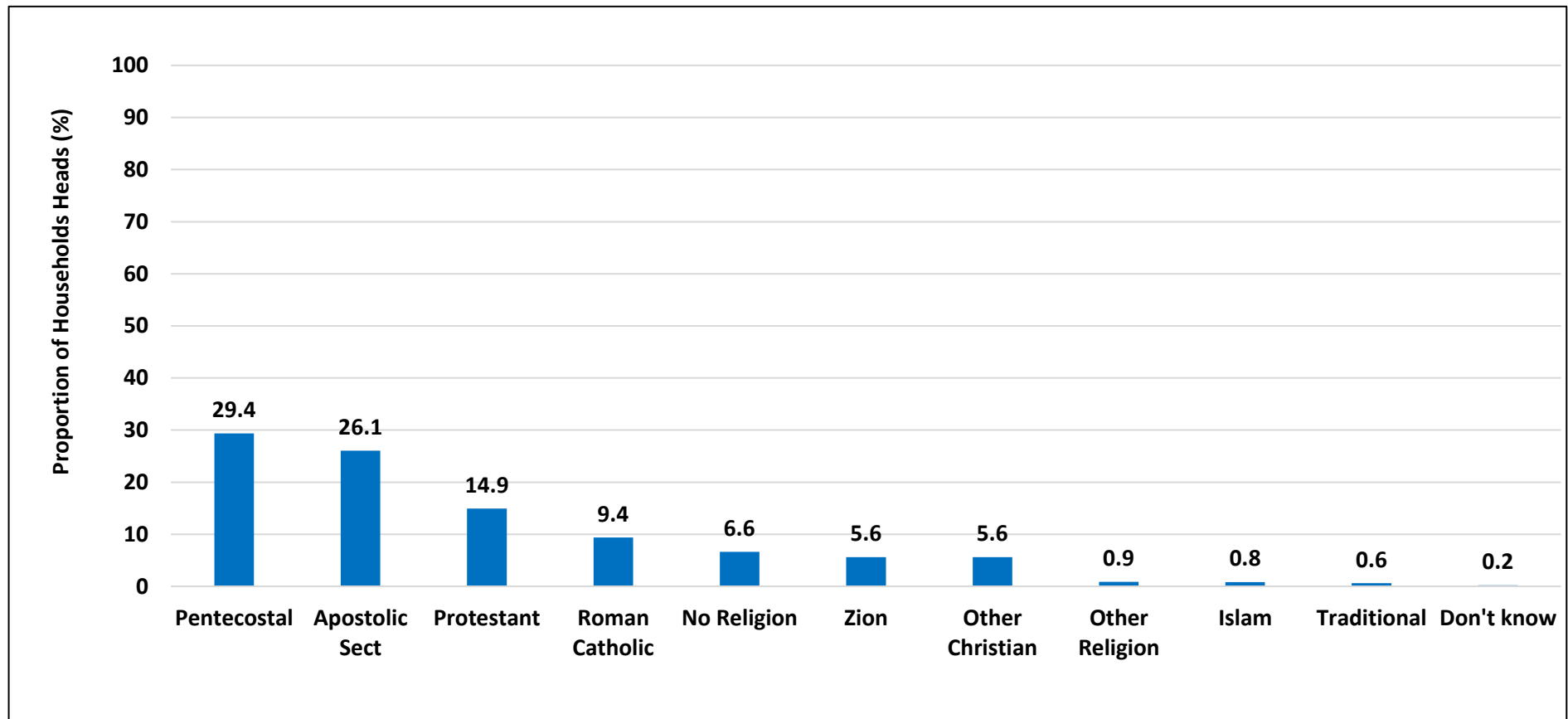
# Education Level of Household Head
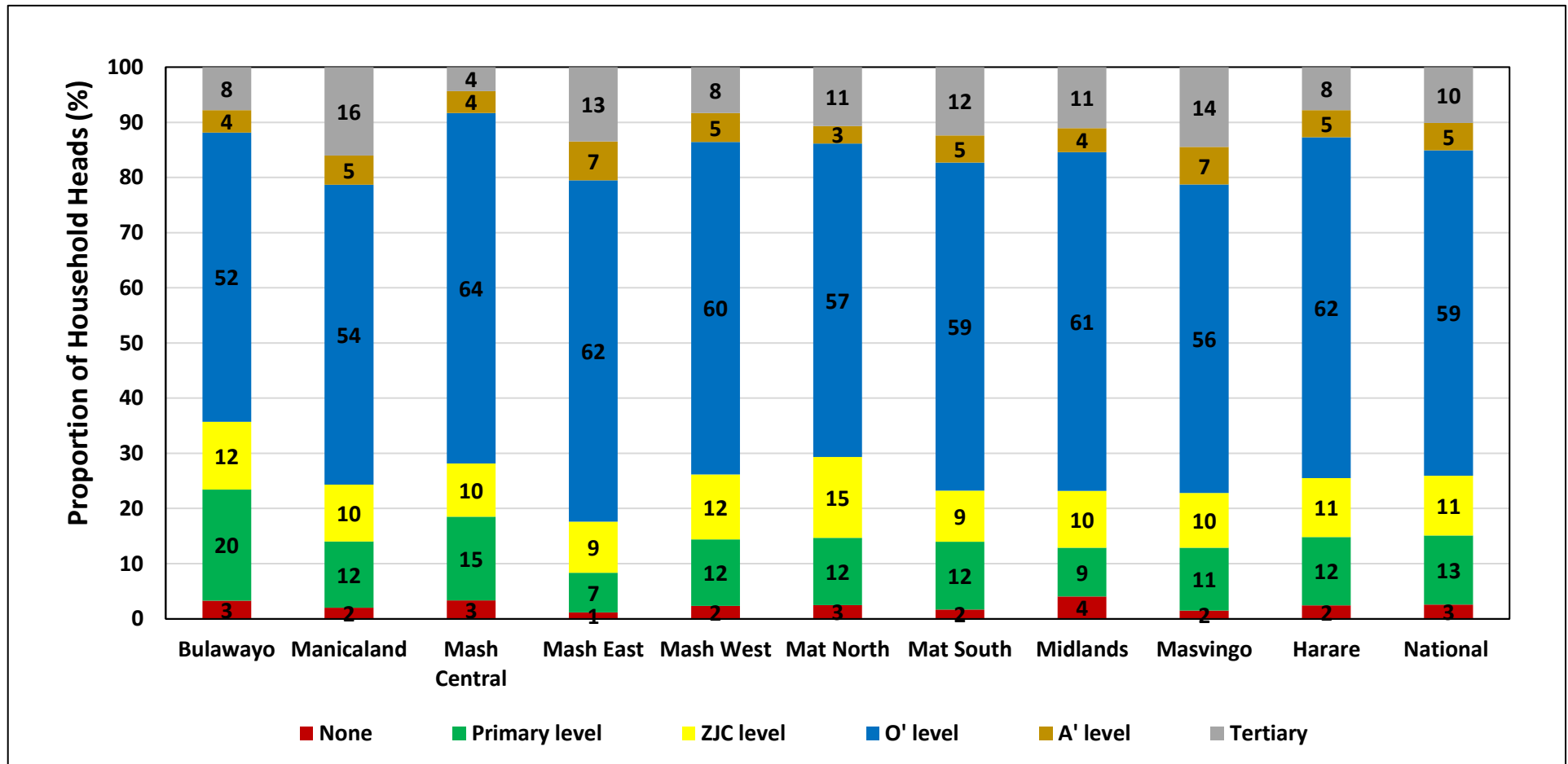


- Ninety seven percent of the household heads had received some form of education.

# Employment Status of Household Head
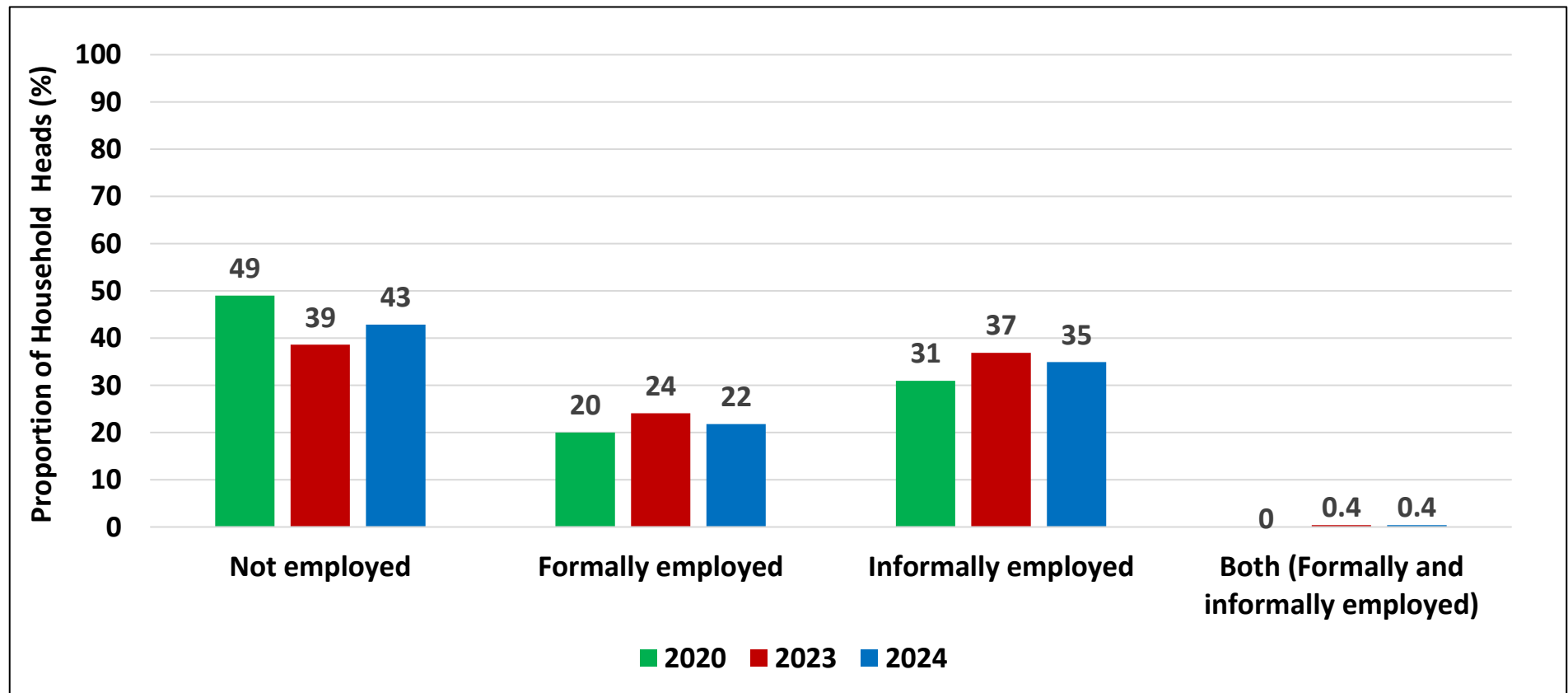


- There was no significant change in the employment status of household heads compared to 2023.

# Religion of Household Head



- The majority of the household heads were pentecostal (29.4%) and from the apostolic sects (26.1%).

# Chronic Conditions

| Province | HIV infection, AIDS (%) | Heart disease (%) | Diabetes, high blood sugar (%) | Asthma (%) | Hypertension, High blood pressure (%) | Arthritis, chronic body pain (%) | Epilepsy, seizures, fits (%) | Stroke (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 0.1 | 0.3 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 4.5 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Manicaland | 0.1 | 0.5 | 2.6 | 0.6 | 3.9 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| Mash Central | 0.1 | 0.5 | 2.6 | 0.8 | 3.8 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Mash East | 0.0 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 3.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Mash West | 0.1 | 0.6 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 5.7 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Mat North | 0.1 | 0.5 | 4.2 | 1.1 | 3.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Mat South | 0.3 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 1.1 | 3.7 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Midlands | 0.1 | 0.4 | 2.1 | 0.7 | 2.9 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Masvingo | 0.1 | 0.6 | 2.1 | 1.3 | 2.9 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Harare | 0.1 | 0.6 | 1.9 | 0.7 | 3.9 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| National | 0.1 | 0.5 | 2.2 | 0.9 | **3.8** | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.3 |

- The most common chronic condition among household members was hypertension/ high blood pressure (3.8%).

- Matabeleland North (4.2%) had the highest proportion of household members who had diabetes confirmed by a medical practitioner.
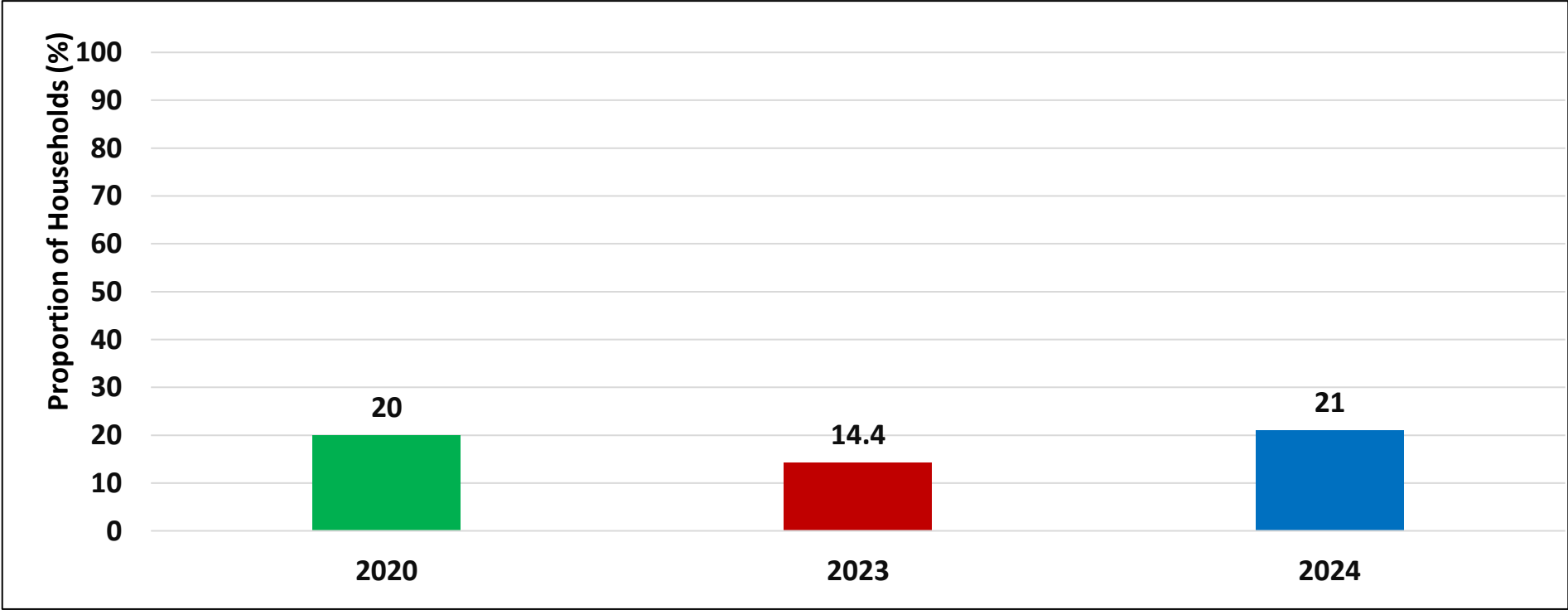
# Disability Conditions
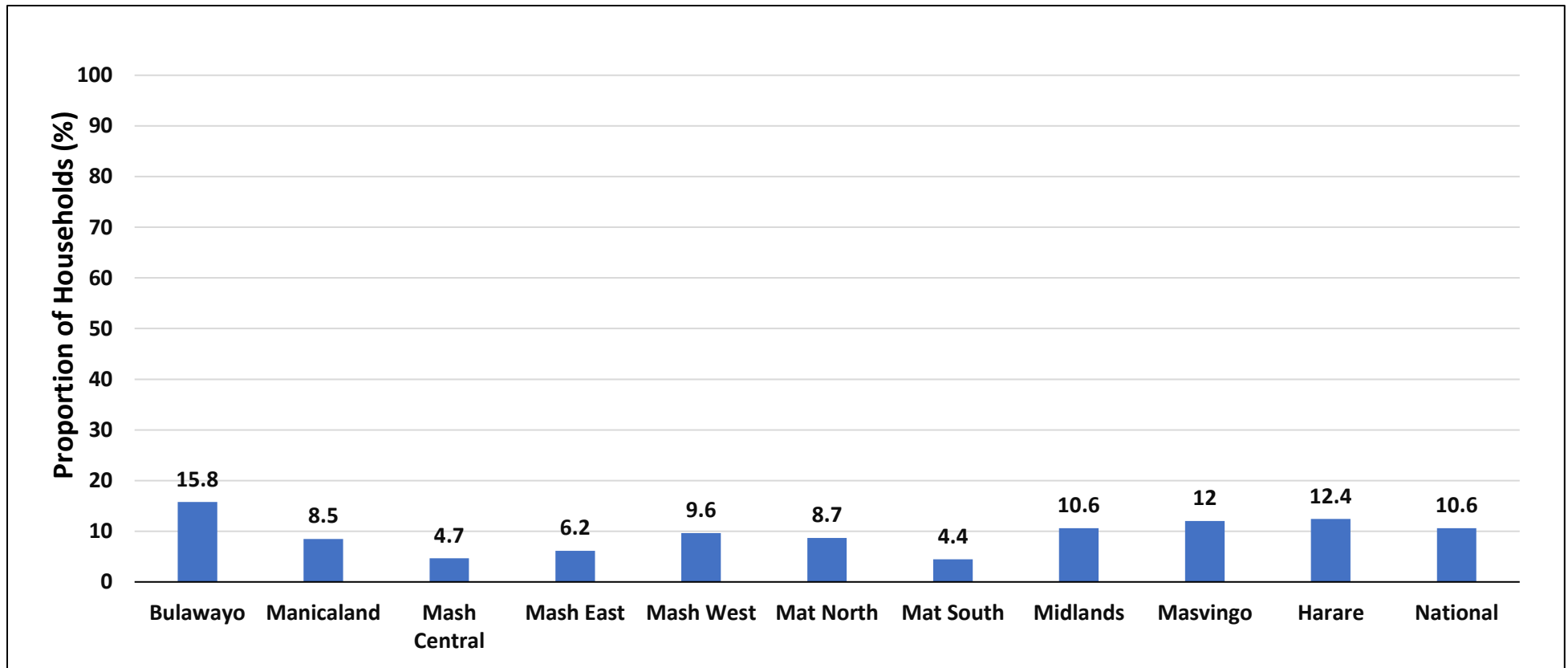


- About 10.6% of the households reported having a person with a disability within the household.
- Bulawayo (15.8%) had the highest proportion of households which reported having a person with a disability.
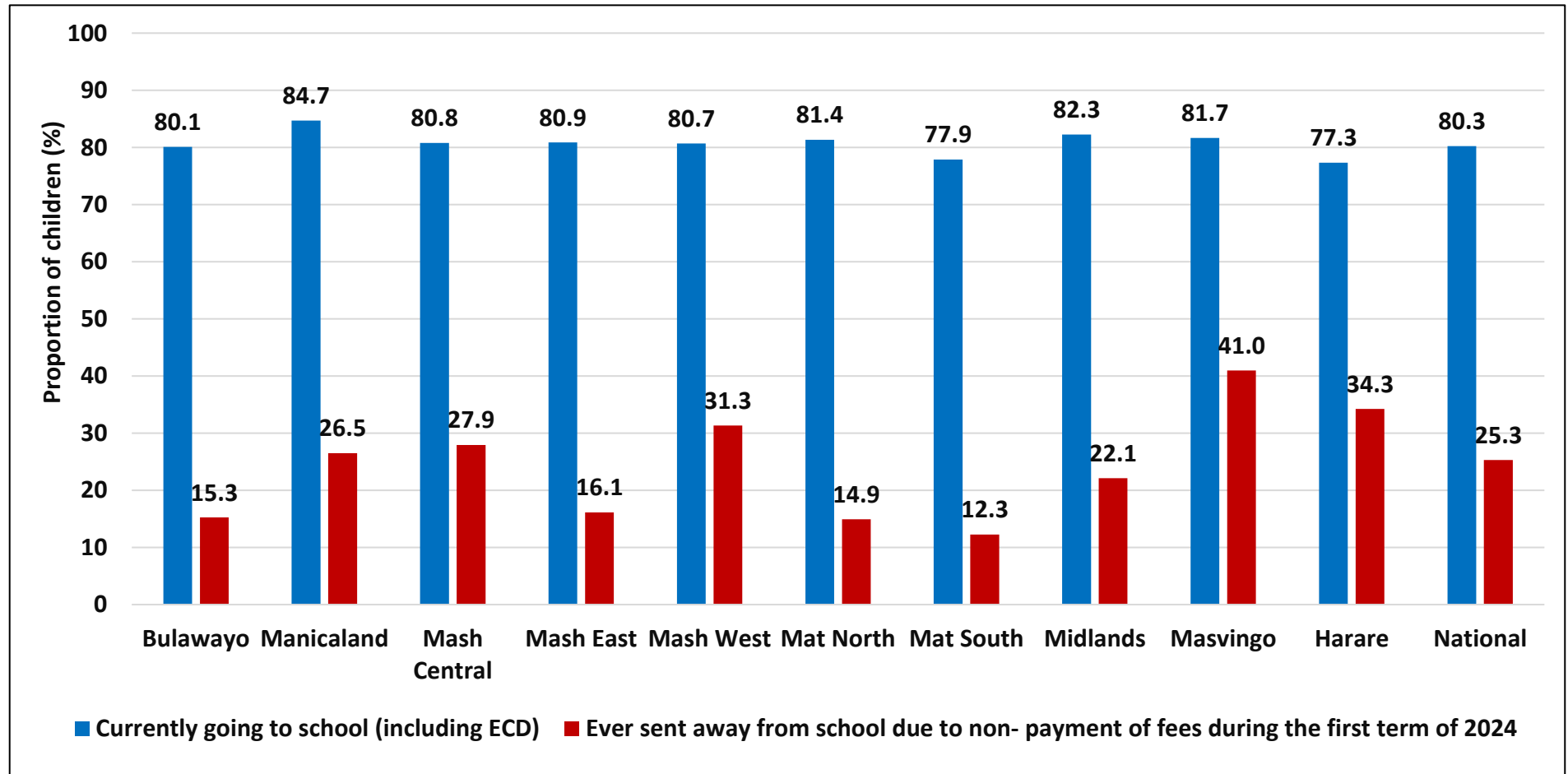
# Orphans



- About 21% of the households reported having an orphan in the household.

- This was an increase from 14.4% in the previous year.

# Education

# School Attendance



| | Bulawayo | Manicaland | Mash Central | Mash East | Mash West | Mat North | Mat South | Midlands | Masvingo | Harare | National |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Currently going to school (including ECD) | 80.1 | 84.7 | 80.8 | 80.9 | 80.7 | 81.4 | 77.9 | 82.3 | 81.7 | 77.3 | 80.3 |
| Ever sent away from school due to non-payment of fees during the first term of 2024 | 15.3 | 26.5 | 27.9 | 16.1 | 31.3 | 14.9 | 12.3 | 22.1 | 41.0 | 34.3 | 25.3 |

- At the time of the survey, about 80.3% of school going age children were in school.

- Children were still being sent away for non payment of school fees (25.3%) despite the Government's policy of education for all.

# Reasons For Not Going To School

| Reason for not going to school | Bulawayo | Manicaland | Mash Central | Mash East | Mash West | Mat North | Mat South | Midlands | Masvingo | Harare | National |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Financial challenges (%)** | 9.4 | 8.6 | 8.4 | 7.6 | 10.8 | 4.0 | 8.0 | 7.2 | 6.7 | 11.5 | 8.9 |
| **Pregnancy/marriage (%)** | 0.7 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.7 | 1.2 |
| **Child considered too young (%)** | 0.3 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 3.0 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 1.2 |
| **Completed O/A level (%)** | 6.3 | 4.1 | 5.0 | 5.7 | 4.2 | 9.2 | 9.4 | 6.8 | 6.3 | 5.0 | 6.0 |

- Of the 19.7% of children out of school, financial challenges (8.9%) were highlighted as the main reason for children not going to school.
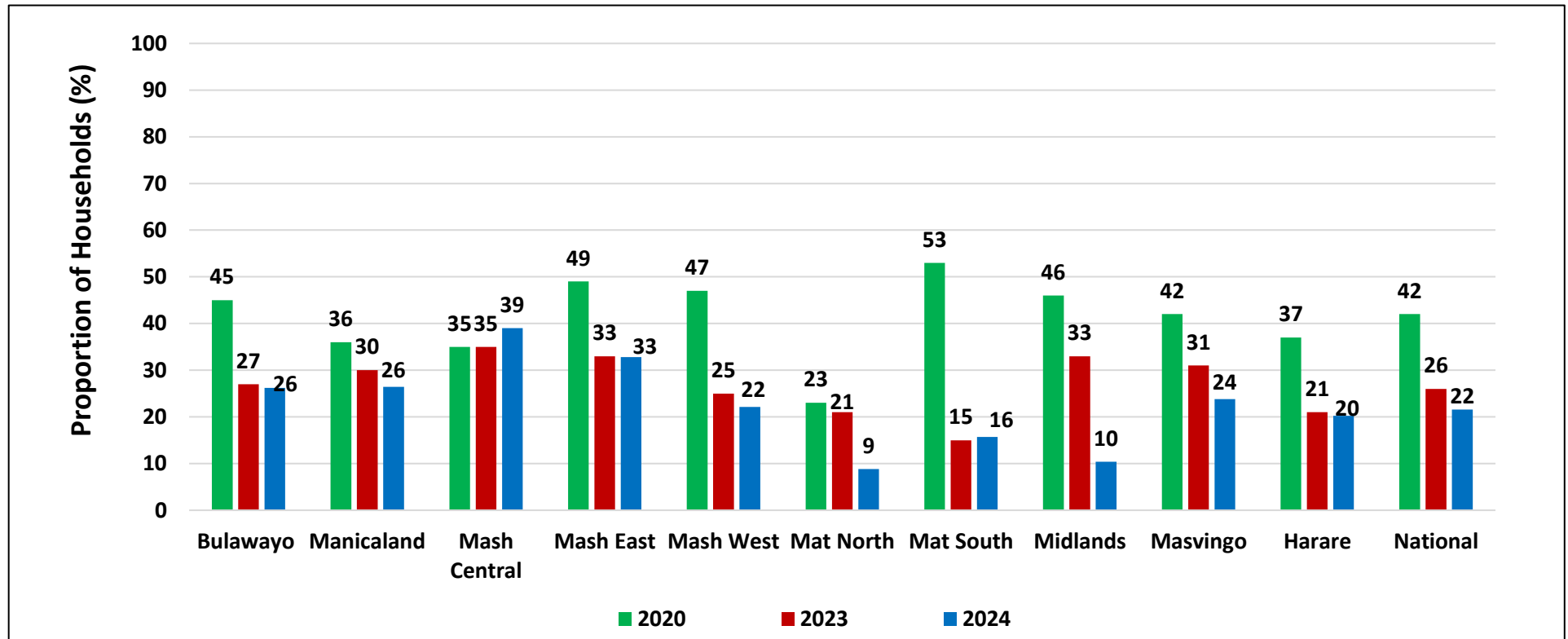
# Proportion of Children Receiving Hot Meals at School
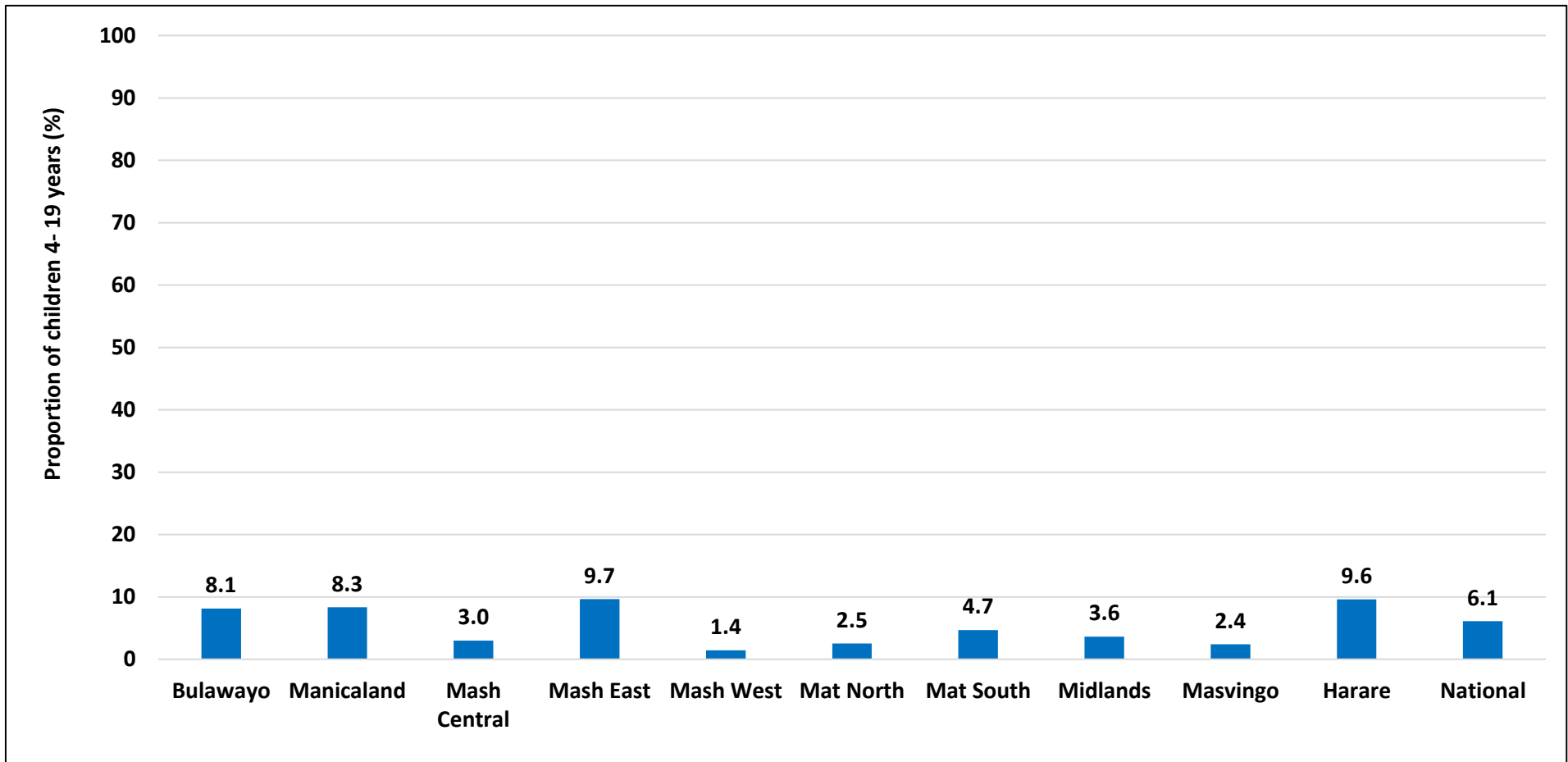


- A child or young person who is hungry does not learn well. A healthy diet in sufficient quantity is essential for learning and development.
- Nationally, 6.1% of children (4-19 years) were receiving hot meals at school.

# Social Protection

# Social Support from Any Source



- Social support has declined since 2020 from 42% to 22% in 2024. The decline in social support in a positive reflection of economic performance for the period under review. An improvement in the economy is anticipated to improve household economy thereby reducing the proportion of needy households.

# Sources of Support

| Province | Government (%) | Relatives within Urban Areas (%) | UN/NGO (%) | Relatives in Rural Areas (%) | Mutual groups (%) | Relatives in the Diaspora (%) | Churches (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 6.5 | 4.6 | 6.8 | 4.5 | 0.7 | 8.1 | 2.1 |
| Manicaland | 15 | 8.8 | 3 | 9.5 | 0.2 | 4.5 | 1.7 |
| Mash Central | 31.3 | 4.3 | 0.7 | 2.2 | 0.3 | 4.3 | 2 |
| Mash East | 20.1 | 9.8 | 0.8 | 9.8 | 0.2 | 4.5 | 2.1 |
| Mash West | 4.5 | 8.2 | 1.8 | 6.5 | 0.3 | 3.9 | 2.4 |
| Mat North | 2.3 | 2.2 | 1.2 | 2 | 0 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Mat South | 1.6 | 3.1 | 5.2 | 2.4 | 1 | 5.3 | 1.2 |
| Midlands | 2.7 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 2.7 | 0.5 | 1.9 | 1.1 |
| Masvingo | 5.7 | 3.4 | 8 | 5.3 | 0.5 | 4.2 | 1.8 |
| Harare | 4.4 | 4.7 | 4.4 | 3.9 | 0.6 | 5.4 | 2.8 |
| **National** | **7.4** | **5** | **3.8** | **4.7** | **0.5** | **4.7** | **2** |

- The positive performance of social capital effect as reflected by support from relatives (14.4%) is noted. Government is encouraged to continue with progressive economic initiatives that build the capacity of households. Added to this is Government's social support (7.4%).
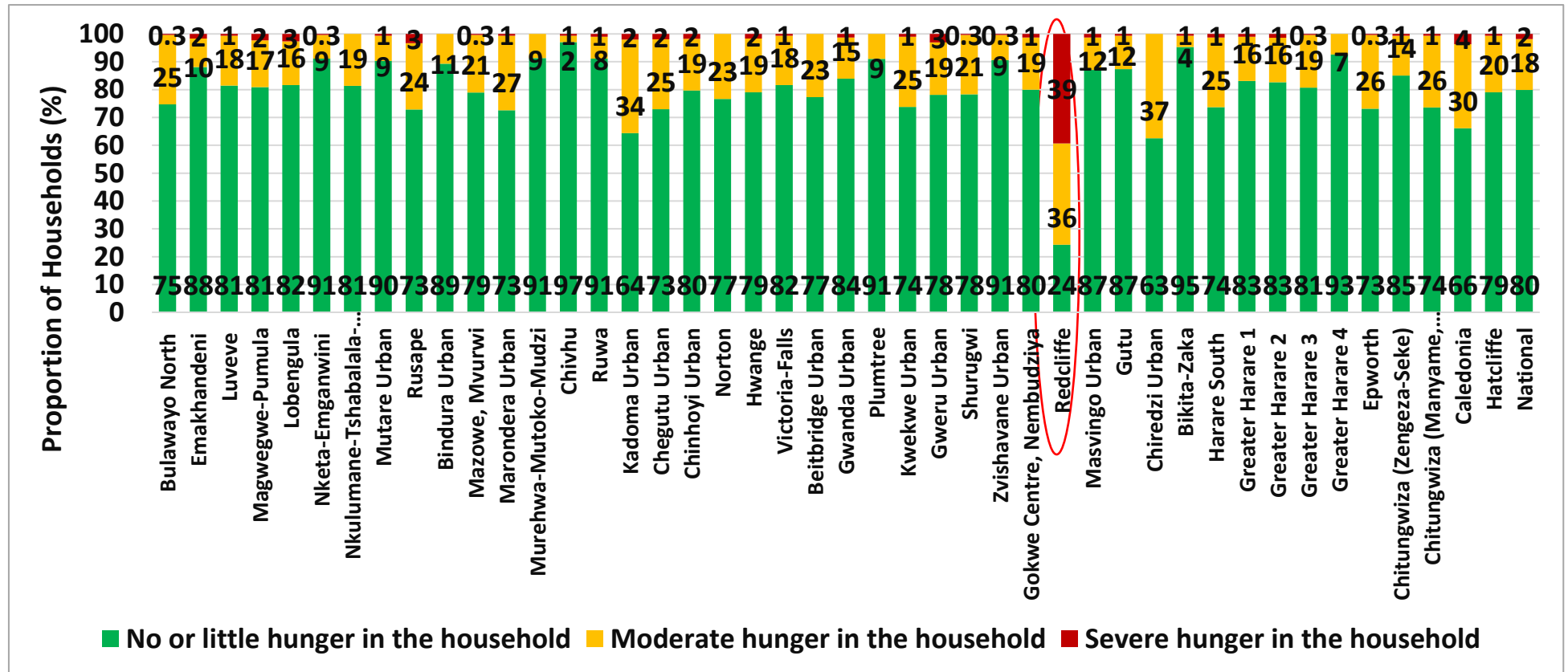
# Household Consumption Patterns

# Household Hunger Scale

# Household Hunger Scale
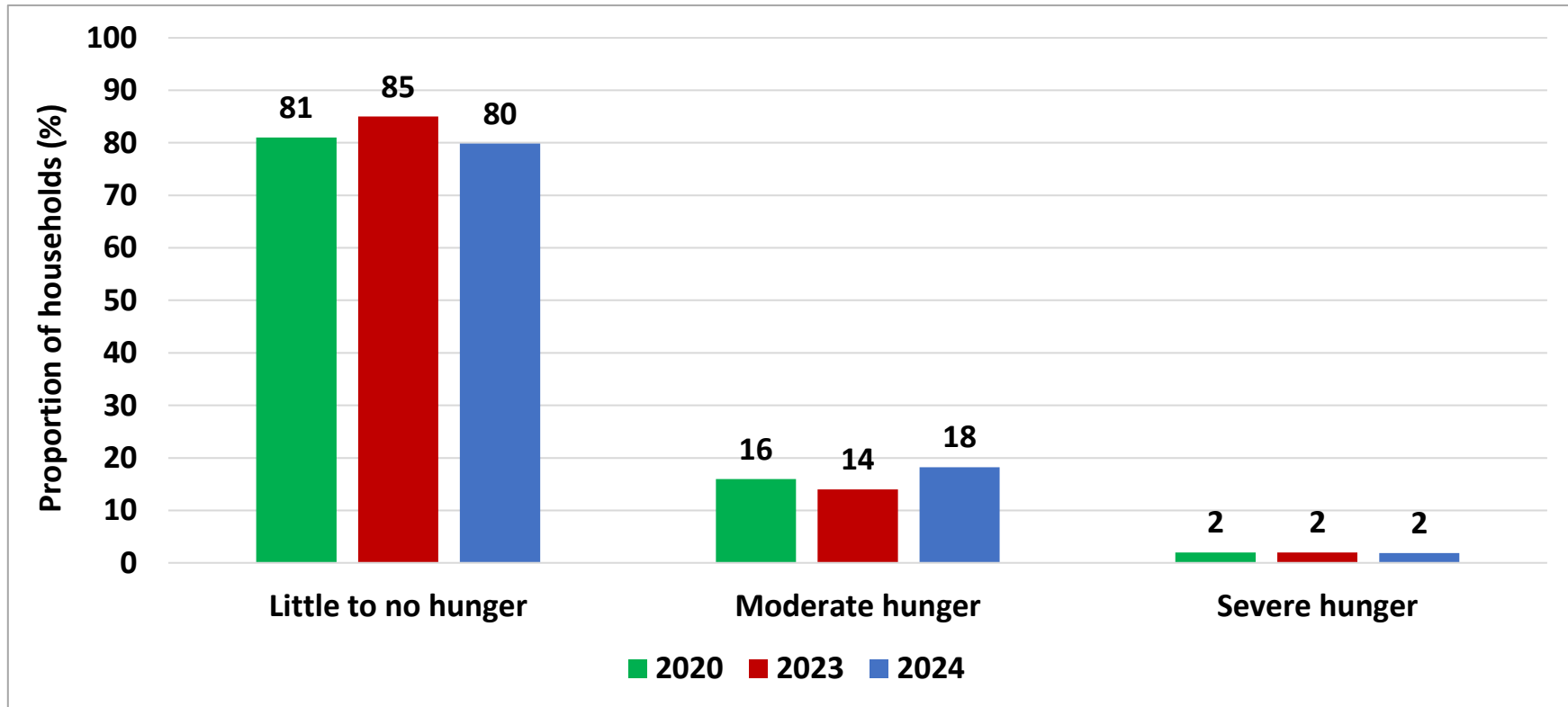


- The food security access review 30-days prior to the survey remained stable as the majority of the households (80%) experienced little to no hunger.

# Household Hunger Scale by Domain



- Attention should be given to Redcliffe (39%) which had the highest proportion of households which experienced severe hunger 30 days prior to the survey.

# Food Consumption Score

# Food Consumption Score

| Food Consumption Score Groups | Score | Description |
|---|---|---|
| POOR | 0-21 | 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 |
| BORDERLINE | 21.5-35 | 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 |
| ACCEPTABLE | >35 | 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 |

# Food Consumption Score (FCS) Groups
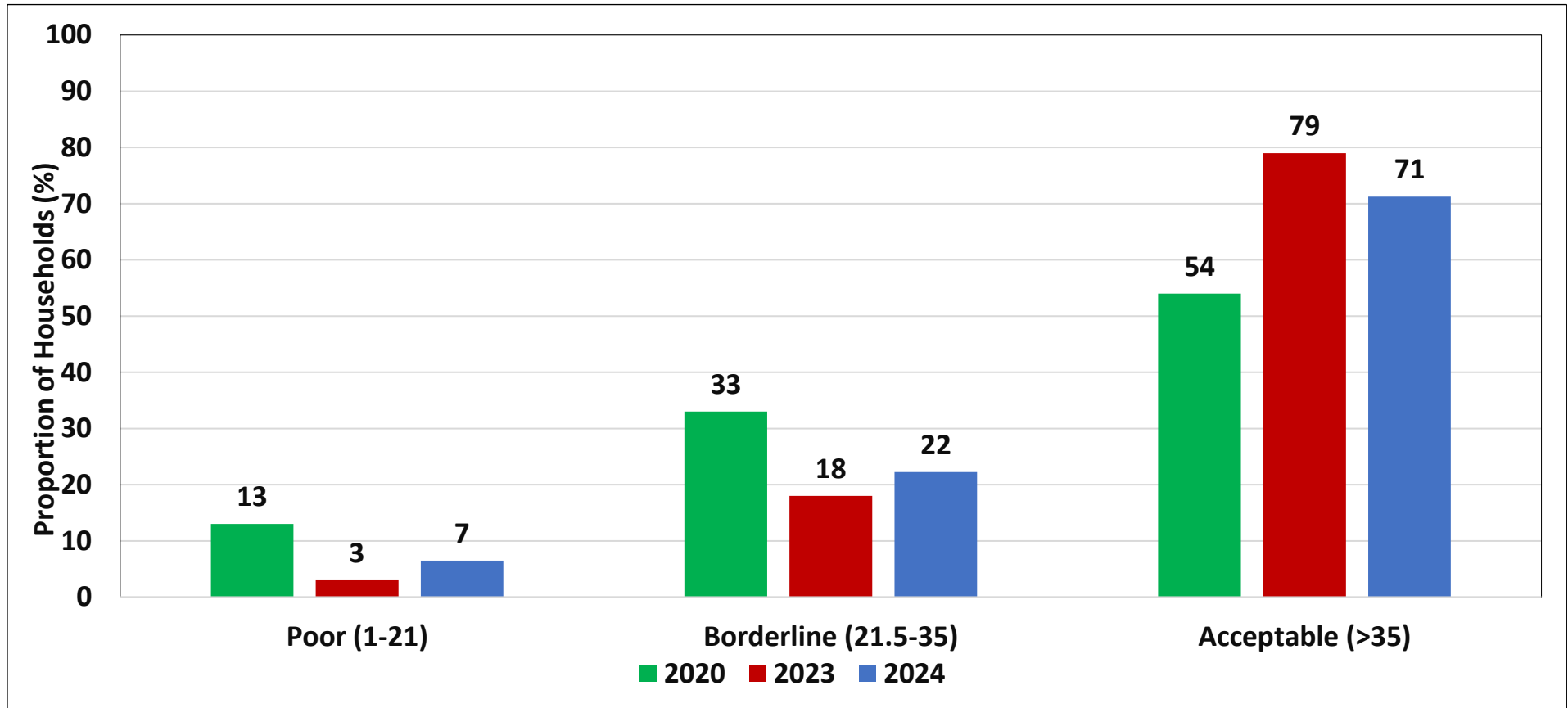


- Seventy one percent of the households had more number of days a week consuming meat, fish, eggs, oil and complemented by other foods such as pulses, fruits and milk.
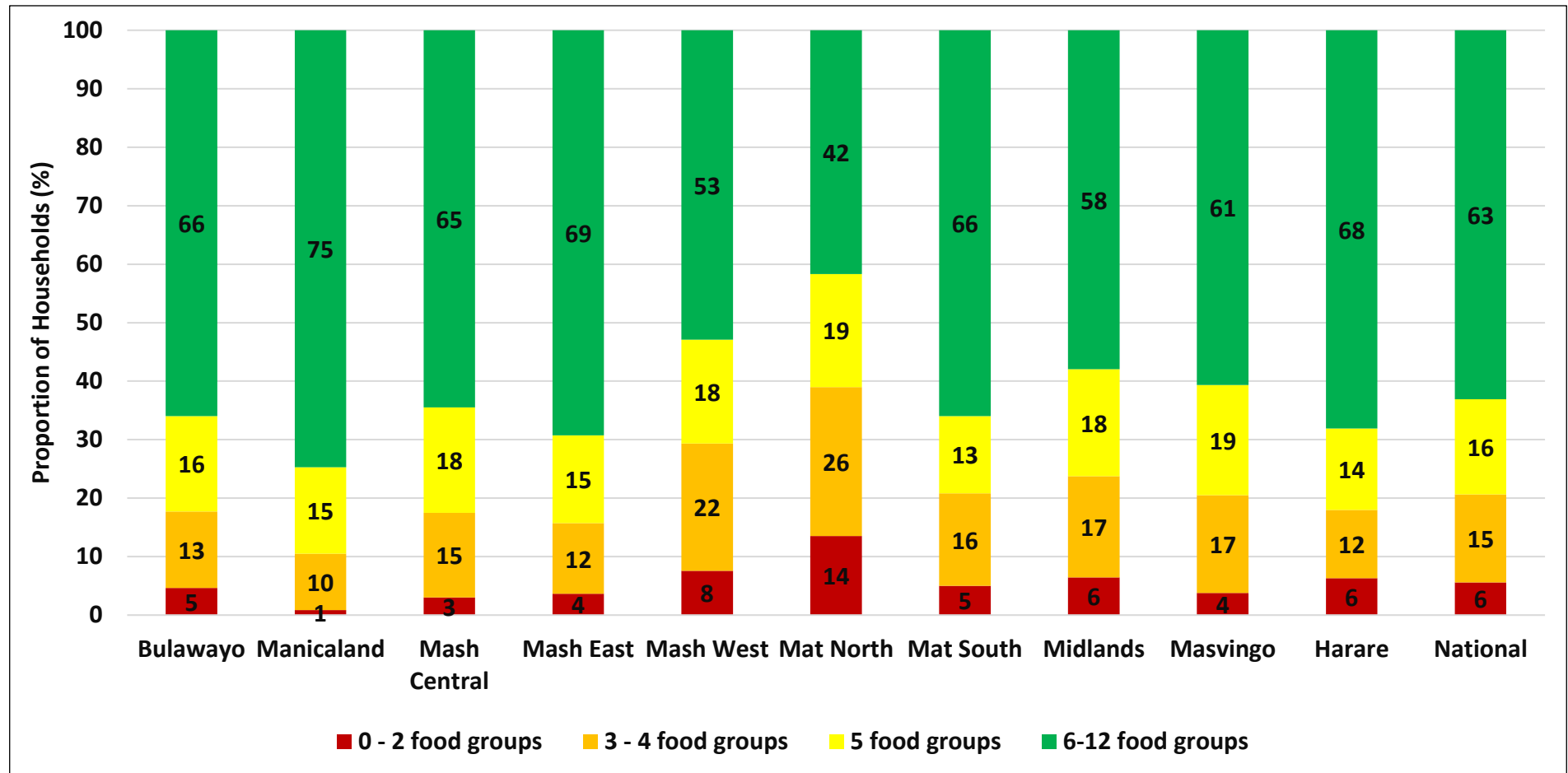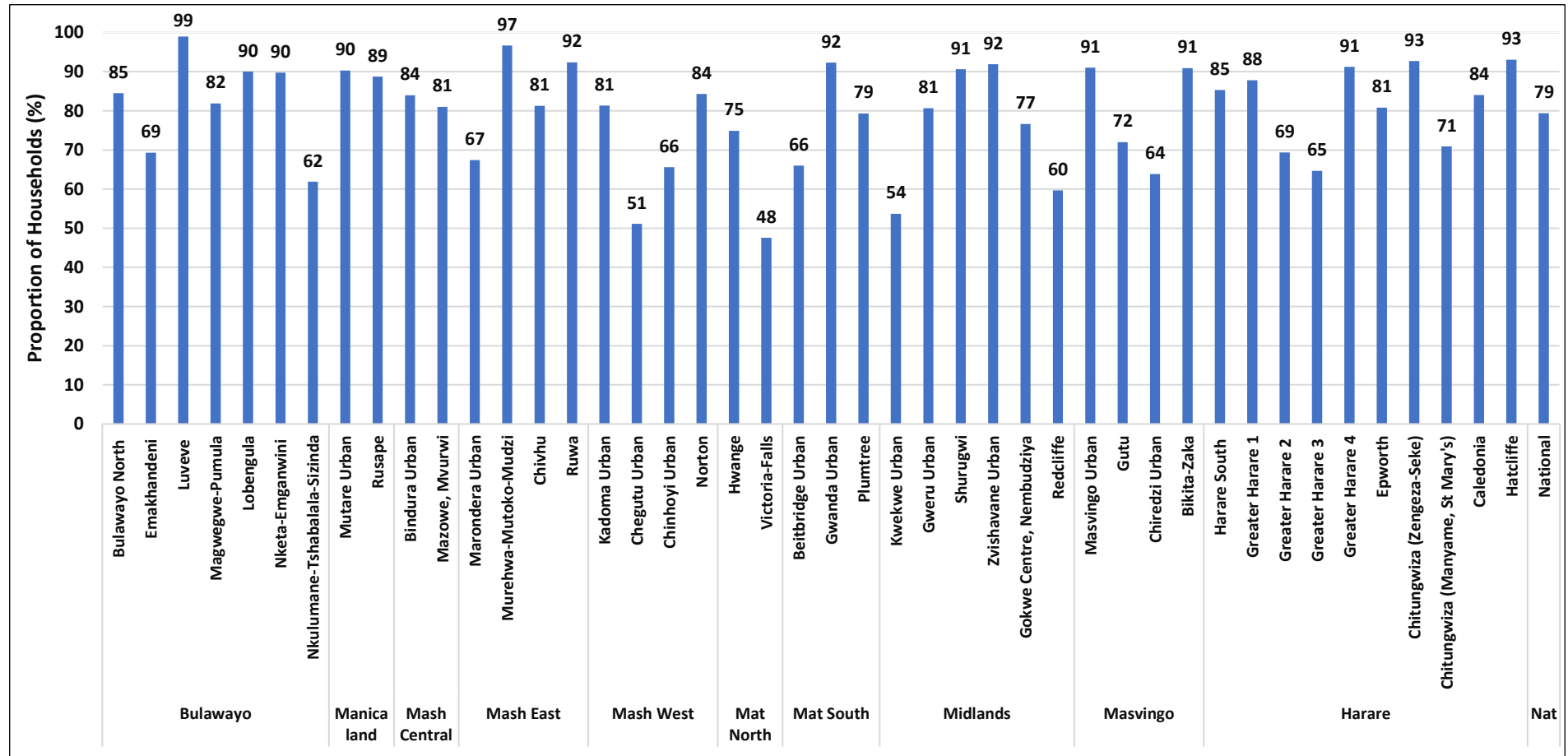
# Food Consumption Score By Domain
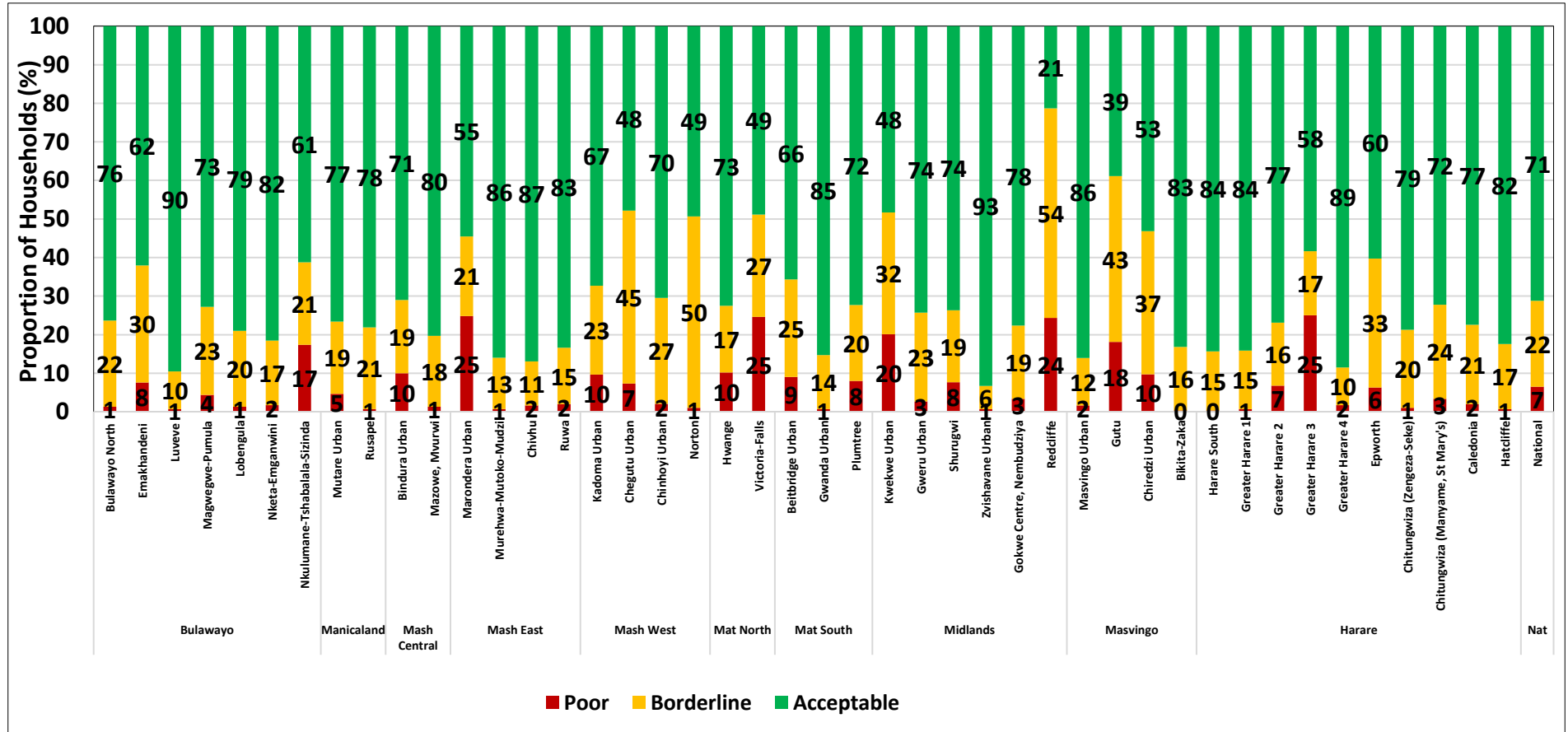


- Attention should be given to domains with poor consumption patterns from 20% and above which include Marondera (25%), Victoria Falls (25%), Greater Harare 3 (25%), Redcliffe (24%) and Kwekwe Urban (20%).

# Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)



Chart: Proportion of Households (%) by province

| | 0 - 2 food groups | 3 - 4 food groups | 5 food groups | 6-12 food groups |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 5 | 13 | 16 | 66 |
| Manicaland | 1 | 10 | 15 | 75 |
| Mash Central | 3 | 15 | 18 | 65 |
| Mash East | 4 | 12 | 15 | 69 |
| Mash West | 8 | 22 | 18 | 53 |
| Mat North | 14 | 26 | 19 | 42 |
| Mat South | 5 | 16 | 13 | 66 |
| Midlands | 6 | 17 | 18 | 58 |
| Masvingo | 4 | 17 | 19 | 61 |
| Harare | 6 | 12 | 14 | 68 |
| National | 6 | 15 | 16 | 63 |

- Household Dietary Diversity Score was high across the provinces with 79% of households at the national level consuming 5 or more food groups. There is need to continue implementing high impact economic measures that have resulted in high food access.

# Households Consuming >= 5 Food Groups



Chart: Proportion of Households (%) consuming >= 5 food groups by domain and province.

**Bulawayo:** Bulawayo North 85, Emakhandeni 69, Luveve 99, Magwegwe-Pumula 82, Lobengula 90, Nketa-Emganwini 90, Nkulumane-Tshabalala-Sizinda 62

**Manica land:** Mutare Urban 90, Rusape 89

**Mash Central:** Bindura Urban 84, Mazowe, Mvurwi 81

**Mash East:** Marondera Urban 67, Murehwa-Mutoko-Mudzi 97, Chivhu 81, Ruwa 92

**Mash West:** Kadoma Urban 81, Chegutu Urban 51, Chinhoyi Urban 66, Norton 84

**Mat North:** Hwange 75, Victoria-Falls 48

**Mat South:** Beitbridge Urban 66, Gwanda Urban 92, Plumtree 79

**Midlands:** Kwekwe Urban 54, Gweru Urban 81, Shurugwi 91, Zvishavane Urban 92, Gokwe Centre, Nembudziya 77

**Masvingo:** Redcliffe 60, Masvingo Urban 91, Gutu 72, Chiredzi Urban 64, Bikita-Zaka 91

**Harare:** Harare South 85, Greater Harare 1 88, Greater Harare 2 69, Greater Harare 3 65, Greater Harare 4 91, Epworth 81, Chitungwiza (Zengeza-Seke) 93, Chitungwiza (Manyame, St Mary's) 71, Caledonia 84, Hatcliffe 93

**Nat:** National 79

- All domains, (except Victoria Falls, 48%) had over 50% of their households consuming at least 5 food groups.

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# Household Coping

# Livelihoods Based Coping Strategies (LCSI)

# 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.
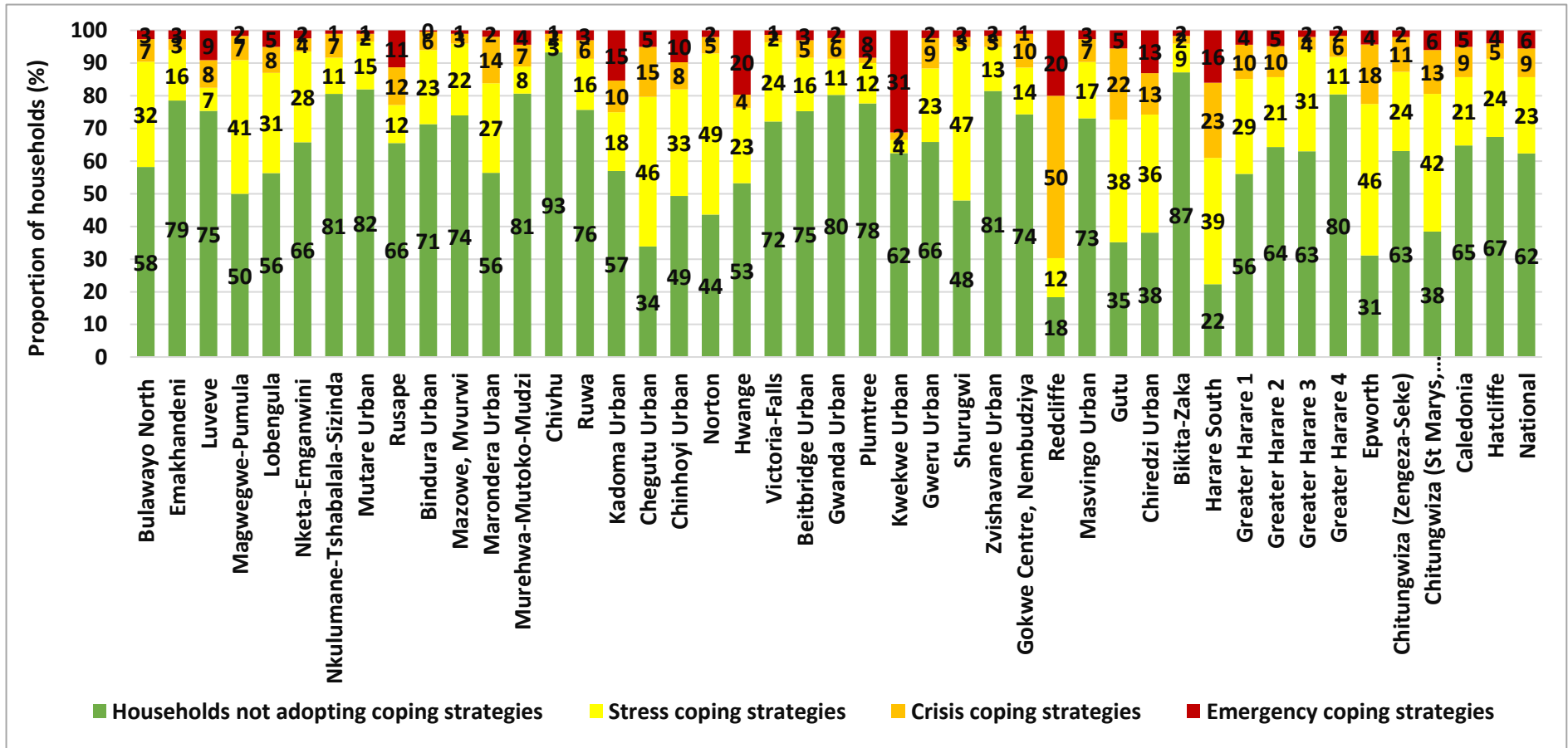
| Category | Coping Strategy |
|---|---|
| Stress | • **Borrowing money, moving children to less expensive schools, selling assets and pawning household items.** |
| Crisis | • **Selling productive assets or means of transport which directly reduces future productivity, including human capital formation.**<br>• **Reducing expenses on health**<br>• **Informal migration** |
| Emergency | • **Selling of house where the household was living or land which affects future productivity, and is more difficult to reverse.**<br>• **Begging for food.**<br>• **Engaging in socially degrading, high-risk, exploitative or life-threatening jobs or income-generating activities.** |

# Maximum Coping Strategies Categories
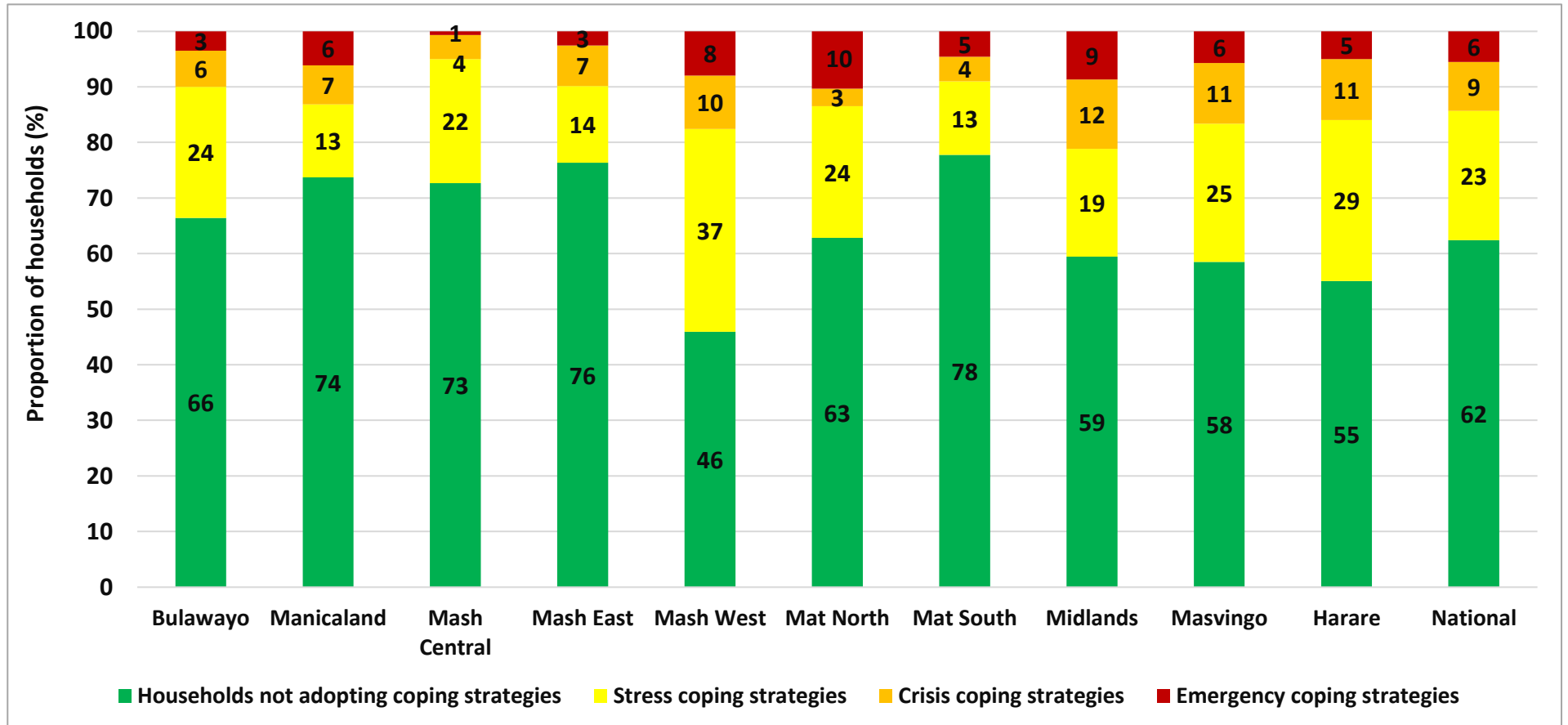


- The majority of households (62%) did not adopt livelihood based coping strategies.

- However, urgent attention should be given to those households adopting emergency coping strategies (6%).
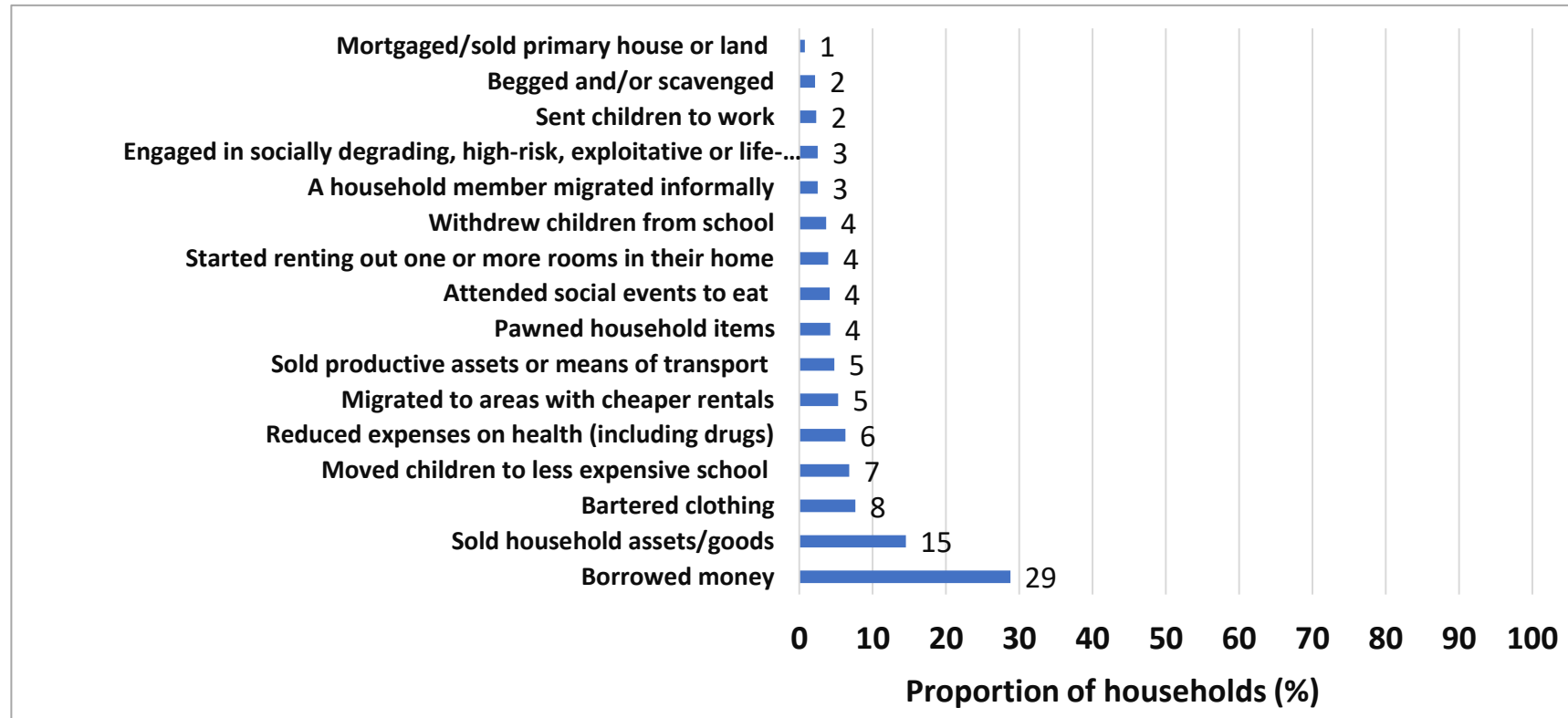
# Maximum Coping by Domain



- Chivhu (93%) and Bikita-Zaka (87%) had the highest proportion of households not adopting any livelihood-based coping strategies.
- Kwekwe (31%), Redcliffe (20%) and Hwange (20%) had the highest proportion of households adopting emergency coping strategies.

# Livelihood Based Coping Strategies Employed by Households



Chart: Proportion of households (%) employing each livelihood coping strategy:

- Mortgaged/sold primary house or land: 1
- Begged and/or scavenged: 2
- Sent children to work: 2
- Engaged in socially degrading, high-risk, exploitative or life-...: 3
- A household member migrated informally: 3
- Withdrew children from school: 4
- Started renting out one or more rooms in their home: 4
- Attended social events to eat: 4
- Pawned household items: 4
- Sold productive assets or means of transport: 5
- Migrated to areas with cheaper rentals: 5
- Reduced expenses on health (including drugs): 6
- Moved children to less expensive school: 7
- Bartered clothing: 8
- Sold household assets/goods: 15
- Borrowed money: 29

X-axis: Proportion of households (%), scale 0 to 100.

- The most common livelihood coping strategies adopted by households were borrowing money (29%), selling of household goods/ assets (15%) and bartering clothes (8%).

- The least adopted strategies were begging (2%) and mortgaging or selling primary house or land (1%).
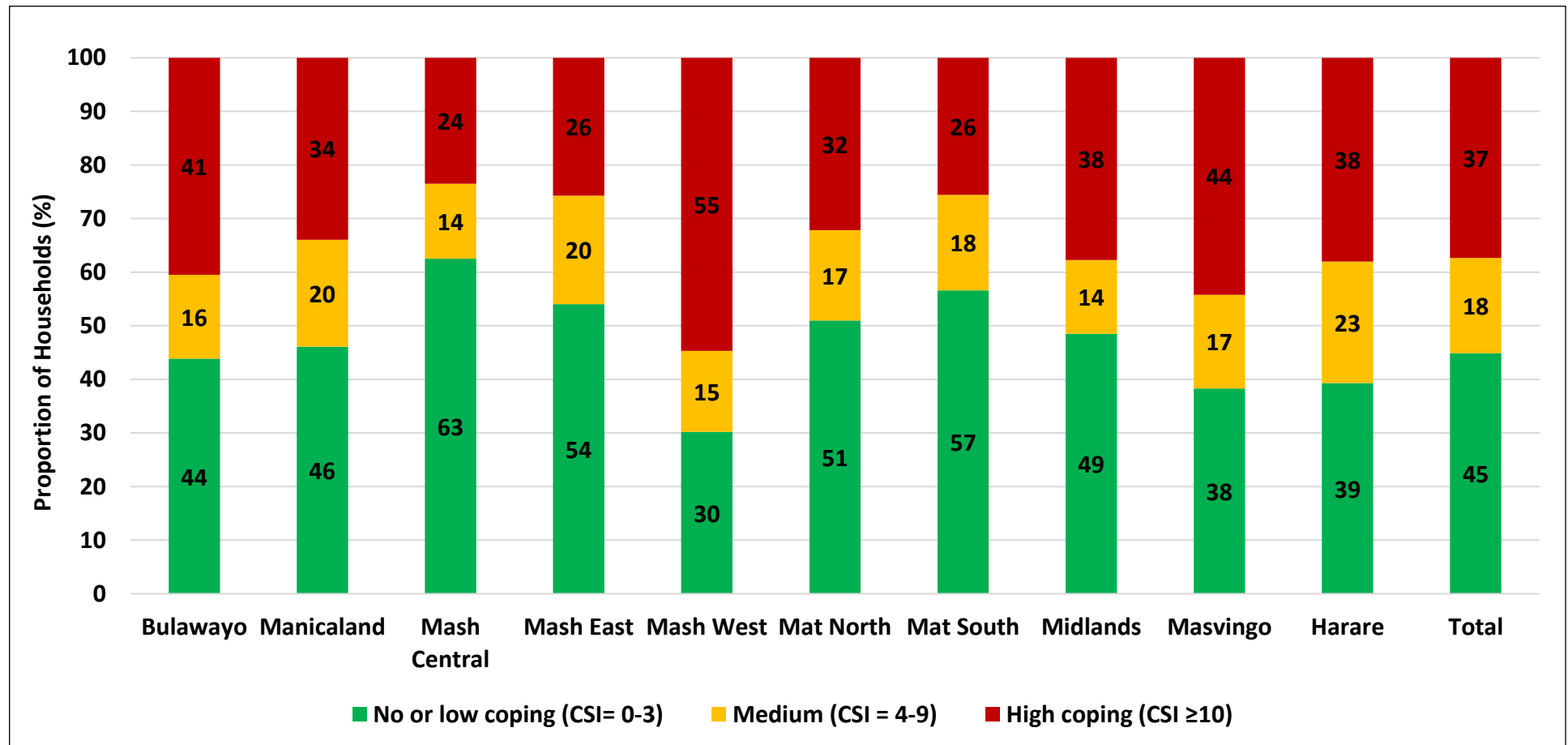
# Reduced Consumption Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)

# Reduced Consumption Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)
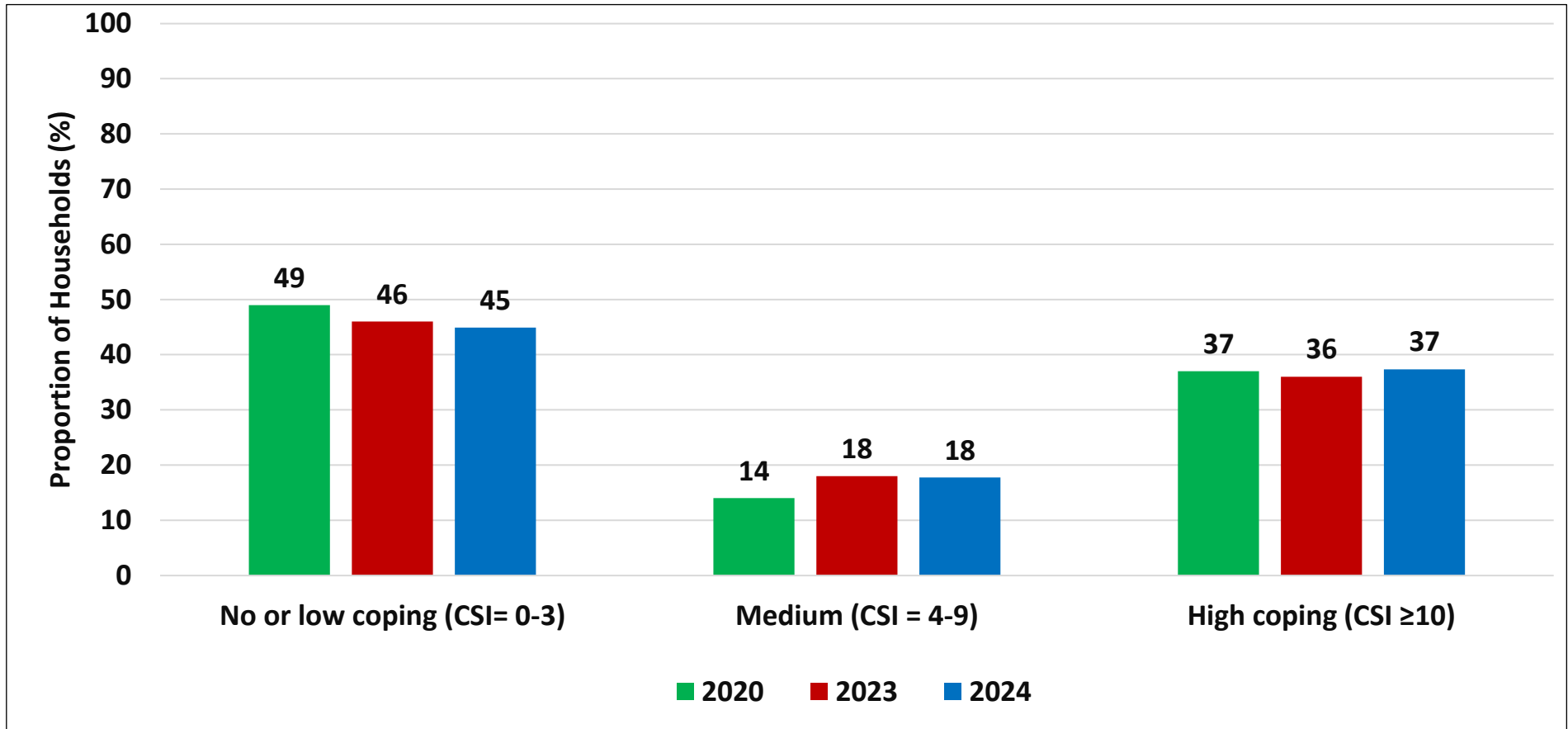


- Nationally, 37% of households had high food consumption coping in 2024 and there was no significant change from the previous year.

# Reduced Consumption Coping Strategy Index By Province



- Mashonaland Central (63%) had the highest proportion of households with low to no coping whilst Mashonaland West (55%) had the highest proportion of households with high coping.
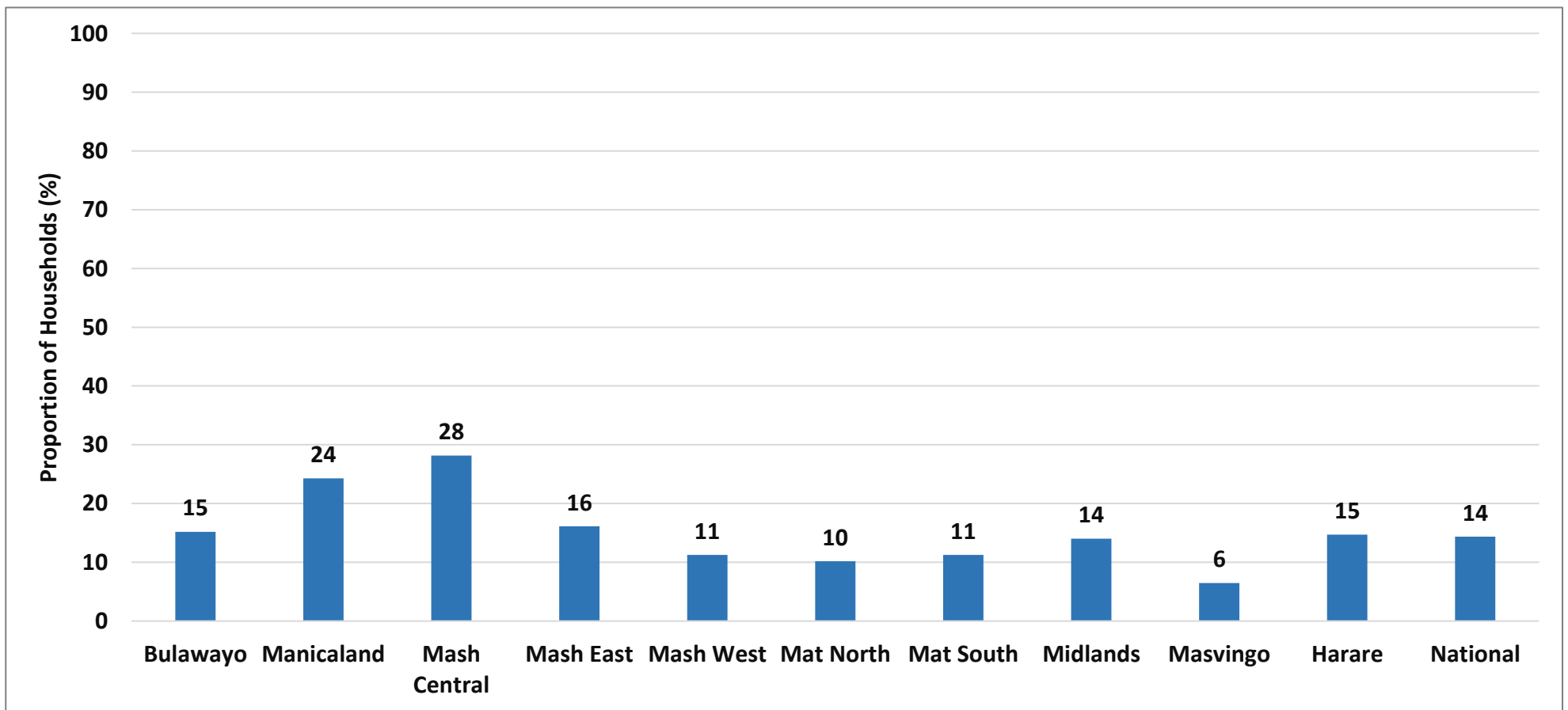
# Reduced Consumption Coping Strategy Index by Domain
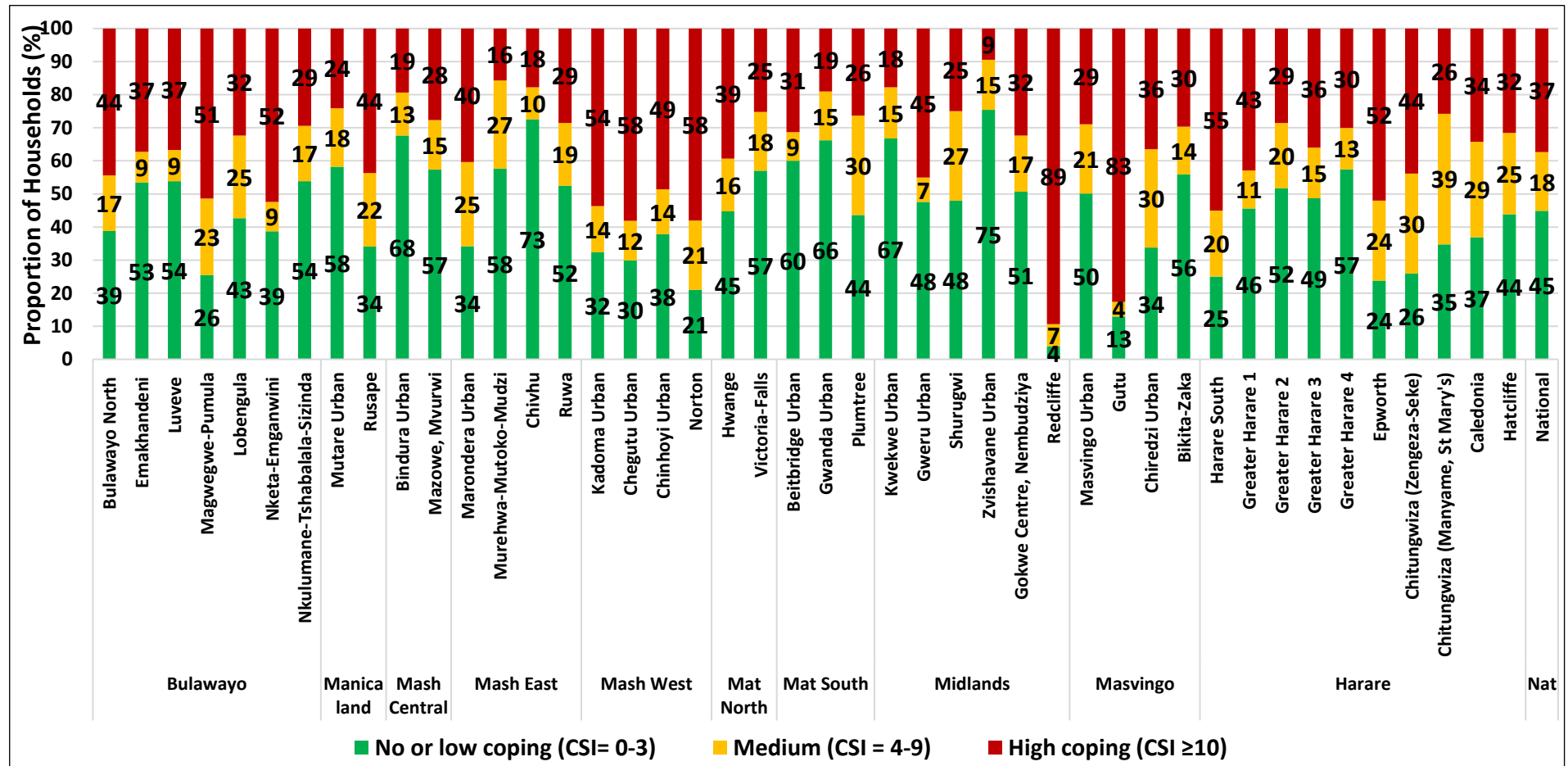


- Redcliffe (89%) and Gutu (83%) had the highest proportion of households engaging in high coping.
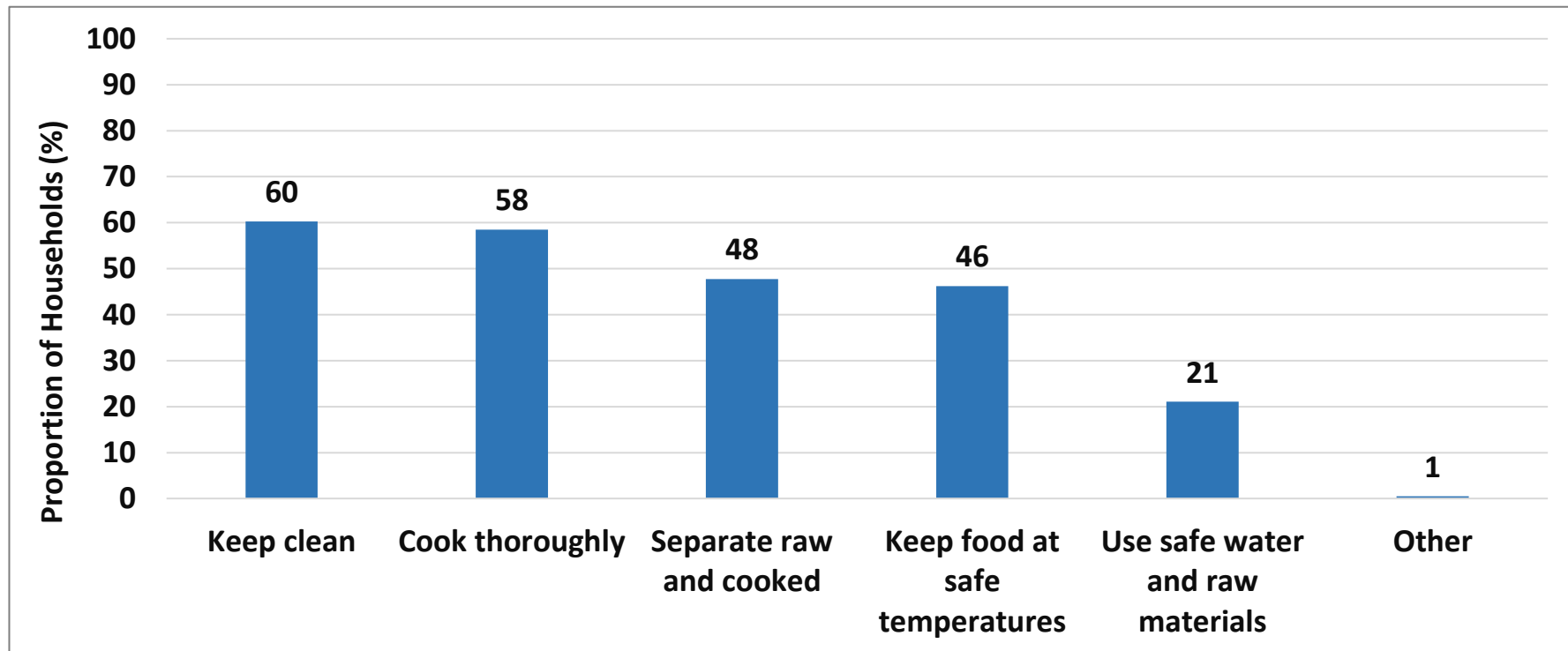
# Food Safety

# Households which Received Information on Food Safety Issues



- About 14% of the households received information on food safety issues during the 12 months before the survey.
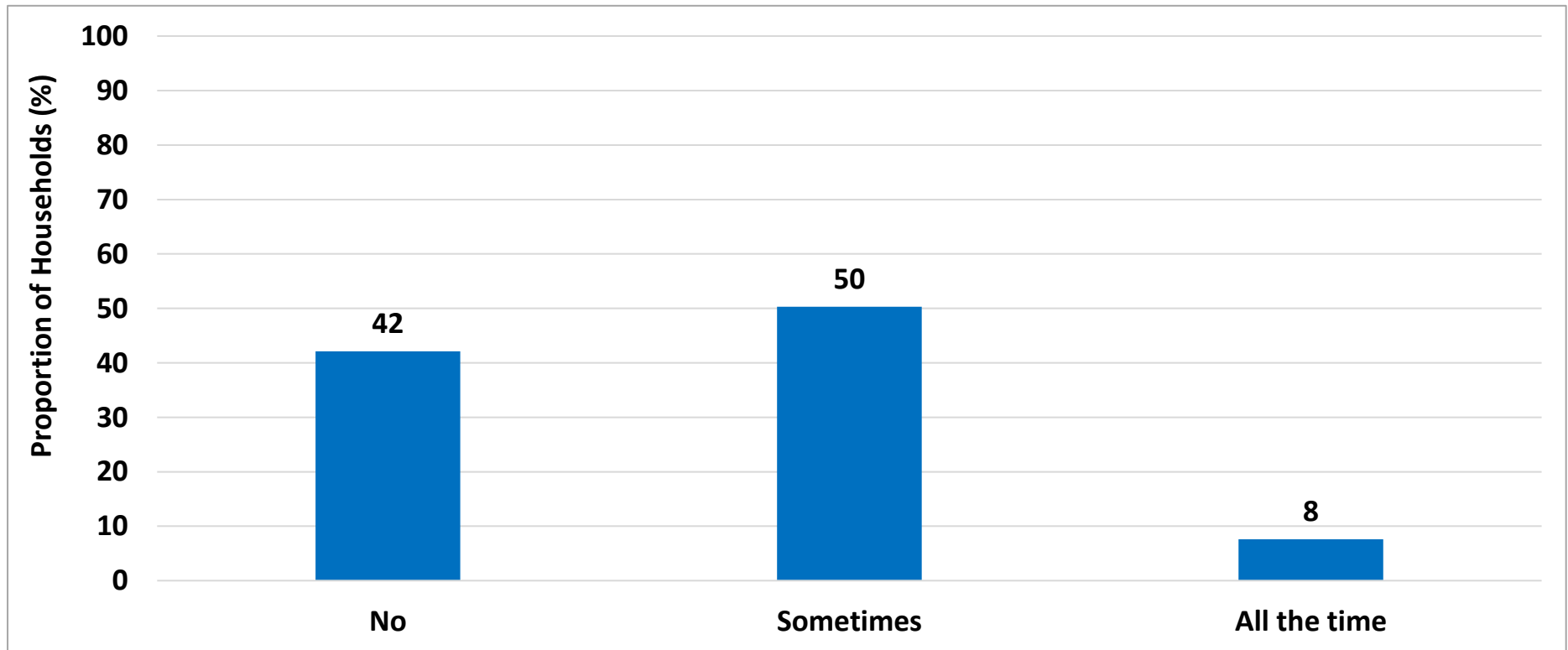
# Knowledge on Food Safety



- Knowledge on the recommended food safety measures was low among households.
- Keeping food clean (60%) and cooking food thoroughly (58%) were the most reported food safety measures known by households.
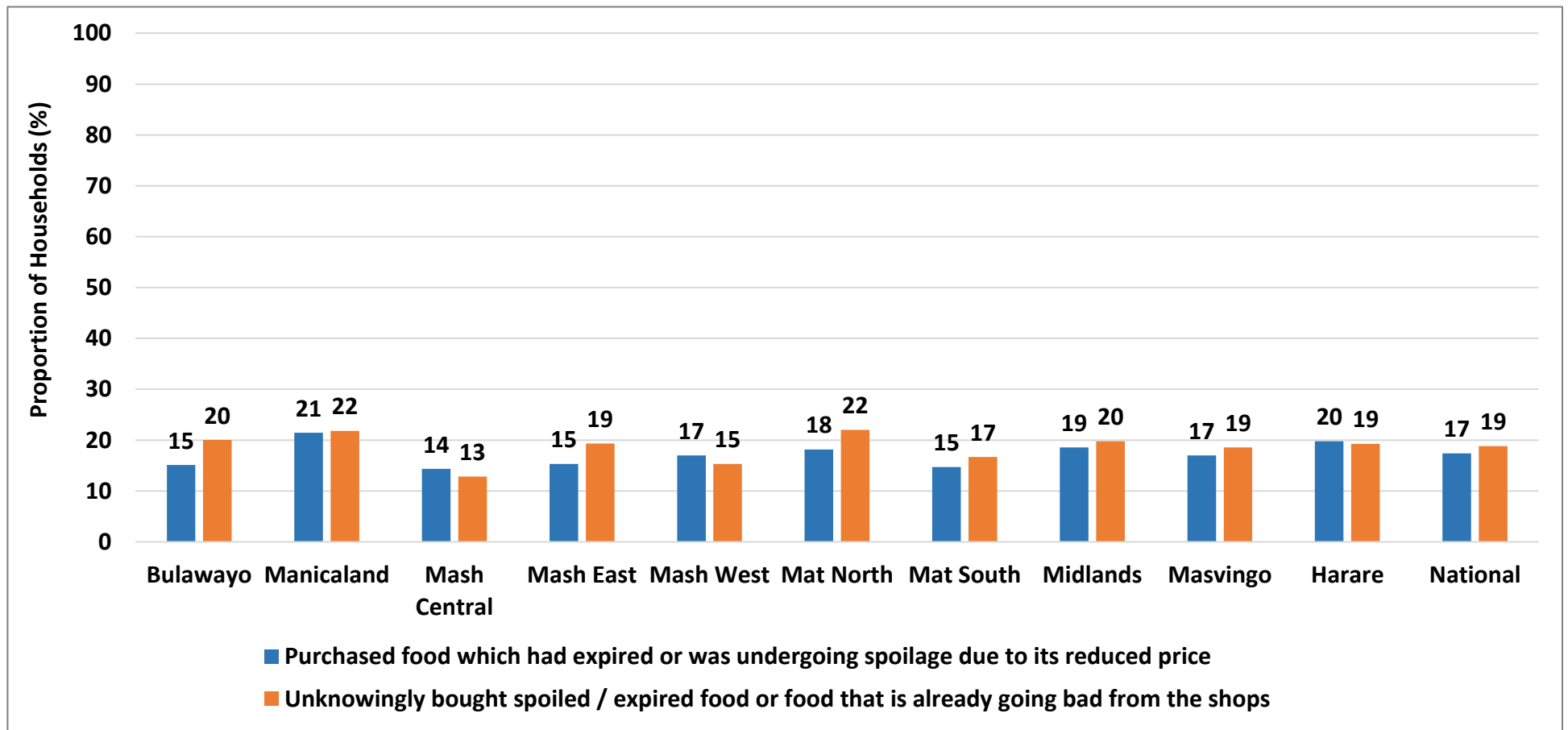
# Households which Read Information on Food Packages before Purchasing



- About 42% of the households did not read information on the food packages before purchasing.

# Unsafe Food Practices



- About 19% of the households unknowingly purchased spoiled food/expired food from shops. This exposes vulnerable groups like children under 5 to foodborne illnesses which are usually infectious or toxic in nature.
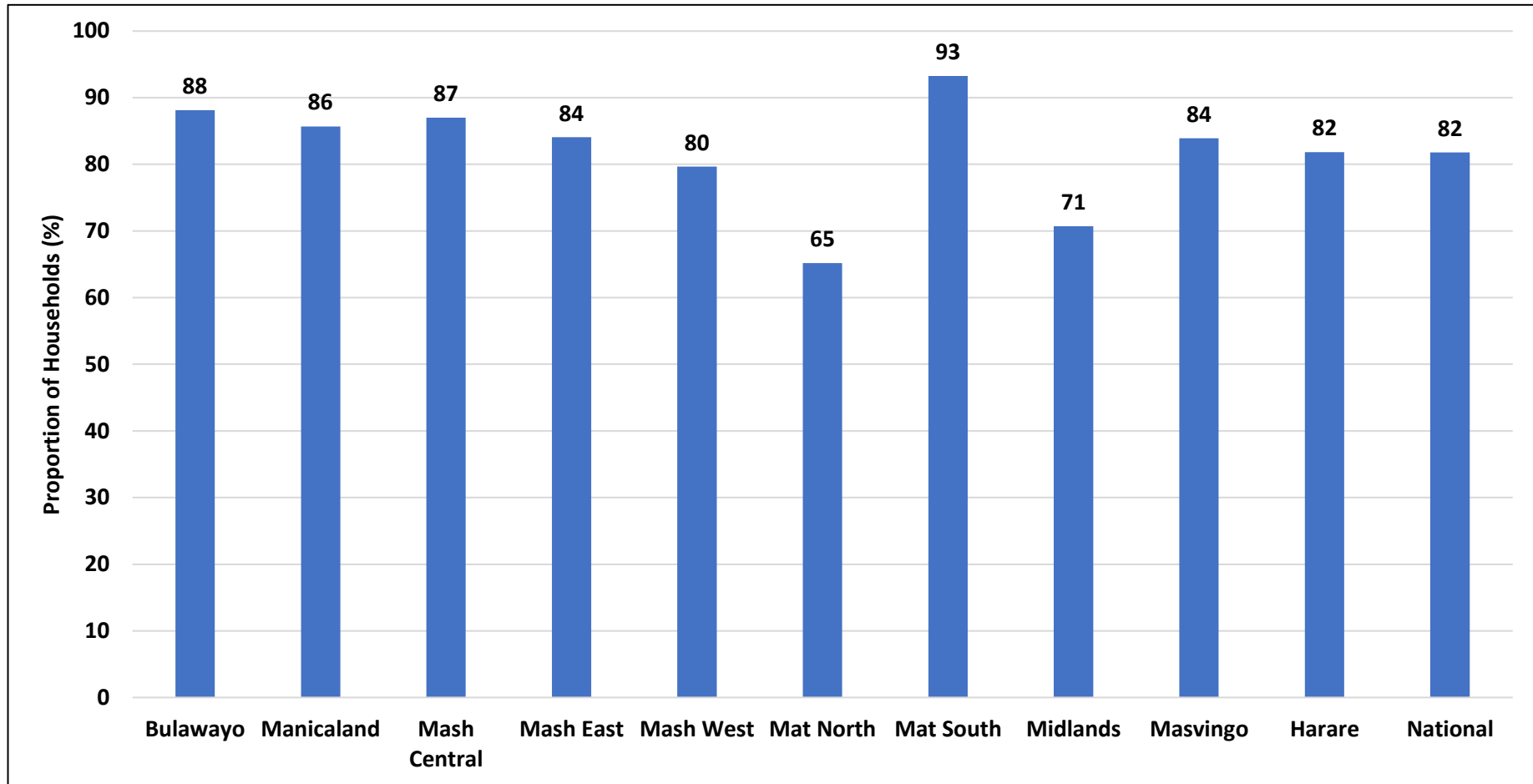
# Households which Purchased Food from Street Vendors
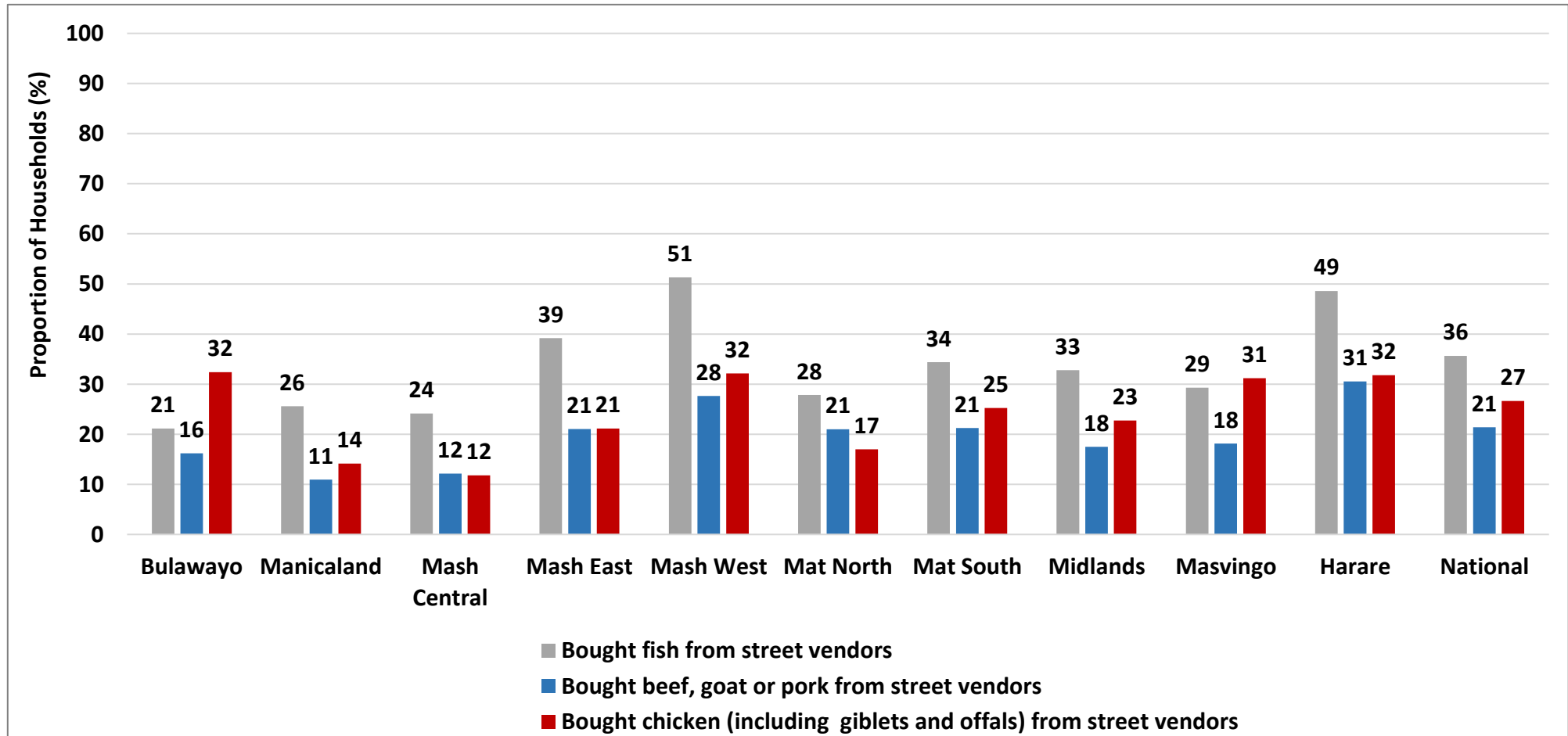


- Nationally, 36% of households bought fish, 27% bought chicken products and 21% bought beef, goat or pork from street vendors which could pose health challenges if the products are not kept under optimum conditions.

# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

# Connection to Council or ZINWA Water



- Eighty-two percent of urban households had their dwelling units connected to Council or ZINWA water.
- Availability of infrastructure that supports provision of safely managed services is a positive starting step for the country to meet the SDG target 6.1 which calls for universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water.

# Main Drinking Water Sources

| Province | Main Drinking Water Sources | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Piped into dwelling (%) | Piped into yard or plot (%) | Piped into public tap or standpipe (%) | Piped into neighbour's yard (%) | Borehole/Tube well (%) | Protected well (Household Level) (%) | Unprotected well (%) | Protected spring (%) | Unprotected spring (%) | Surface water (%) | Tanker -truck (%) |
| Bulawayo | 77.1 | 20.6 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manicaland | 55.7 | 26 | 2 | 2 | 4.8 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 |
| Mash Central | 38.8 | 15 | 3.8 | 1.2 | 11.7 | 29.3 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mash East | 27.6 | 18.1 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 18.7 | 33.8 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mash West | 48.1 | 2.5 | 5.1 | 0.8 | 20.8 | 19.9 | 1.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0 |
| Mat North | 73.7 | 3.8 | 20.2 | 0.3 | 1.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 | 0 |
| Mat South | 59.1 | 27.1 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 6.8 | 0.3 | 0 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.7 |
| Midlands | 50.8 | 14.9 | 11.9 | 2.4 | 15.5 | 3.4 | 0.1 | 0 | 0 | 0.1 | 0 |
| Masvingo | 49.2 | 21 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 8.4 | 15.3 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Harare | 18.5 | 5 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 29.4 | 36.6 | 4.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.5 |
| National | **46.5** | 14.1 | 4.3 | 1 | 14.5 | 16.5 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.2 |

- The proportion of households which had water piped into their dwellings as their main preferred drinking water source was 46.5%.
- Harare had the highest proportion of households which used protected wells (36.6%) and boreholes (29.4%) as their main drinking water sources.

# Main Drinking Water Sources- Harare

| Province | Piped into dwelling (%) | Piped into yard or plot (%) | Piped into public tap or standpipe (%) | Piped into neighbour's yard (%) | Borehole/Tube well (%) | Protected well (%) | Unprotected well (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harare South | 0 | 0.3 | 3 | 1 | 15.7 | 71.7 | 7.3 |
| Greater Harare 1 | 49.3 | 17.9 | 2.4 | 0 | 28.4 | 1.0 | 0 |
| Greater Harare 2 | 15.7 | 17.7 | 4.4 | 1.02 | 41.2 | 13.6 | 0 |
| Greater Harare 3 | 3.3 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0 | 58.7 | 23.3 | 12 |
| Greater Harare 4 | 63.9 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 | 18.6 | 14.9 | 0.7 |
| Epworth | 0.7 | 0.3 | 6.3 | 0 | 11.3 | 73.5 | 7 |
| Chitungwiza (Zengeza-Seke) | 17.6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23.3 | 33.2 | 1.7 |
| Chitungwiza (St Mary's -Manyame) | 26.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14.0 | 55.9 | 3 |
| Caledonia | 1.3 | 4 | 0.7 | 0 | 17.6 | 61.5 | 13.6 |
| Hatcliffe | 8.3 | 8.3 | 0 | 0.7 | 65.8 | 16.3 | 0 |
| Province | 18.5 | 5 | 1.7 | 0.3 | **29.4** | **36.6** | 4.6 |

- Most households in Harare  used protected wells (36.6%) and boreholes (29.4%) for their drinking water.

- While 78.5% of households reported having water piped into their dwellings, only 18.5% of the households used the water for drinking.

# Main Drinking Water Sources- Bulawayo

| Province | Piped into dwelling (%) | Piped into yard or plot (%) | Piped into public tap or standpipe (%) | Piped into neighbour (%) | Borehole/Tube well (%) | Protected well (household Level) (%) | Unprotected well (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo North | 82.9 | 16.8 | 0 | 0.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Emakhandeni | 50.2 | 47.2 | 2.3 | 0 | 0.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Luveve | 93.6 | 1.7 | 0 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0 | 2 |
| Magwegwe-Pumula | 73.2 | 19.1 | 6.7 | 0 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Lobengula | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nketa-Emganwini | 91.1 | 8.6 | 0 | 0 | 0.3 | 0 | 0 |
| Nkulumane-Tshabalala-Sizinda | 99.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 |
| Province | **77.1** | 20.6 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0 | 0.3 |

- Most households in Bulawayo (77.1%), used water piped into their dwellings for drinking.
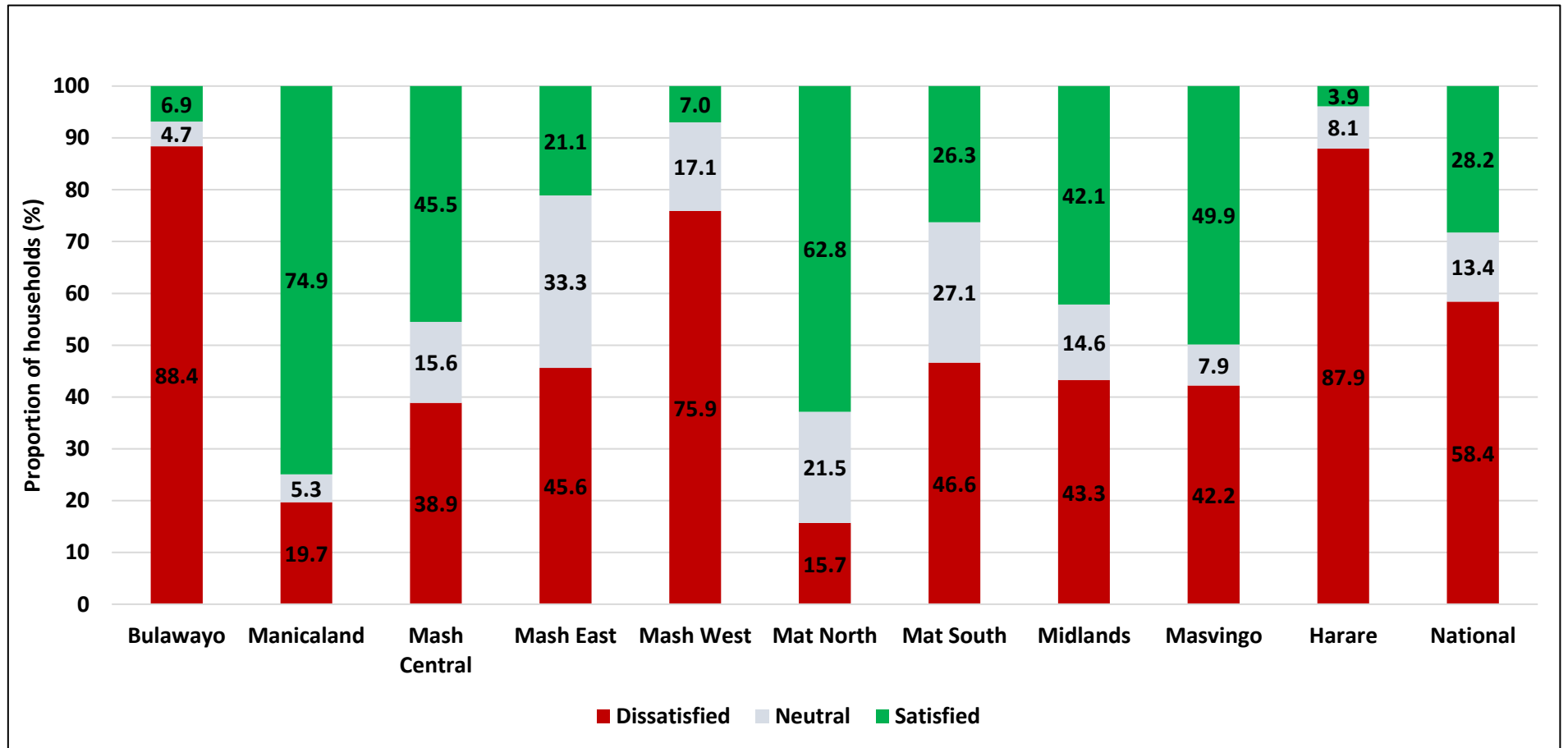
# Perceived Reliability of Water Supply (Council or ZINWA)
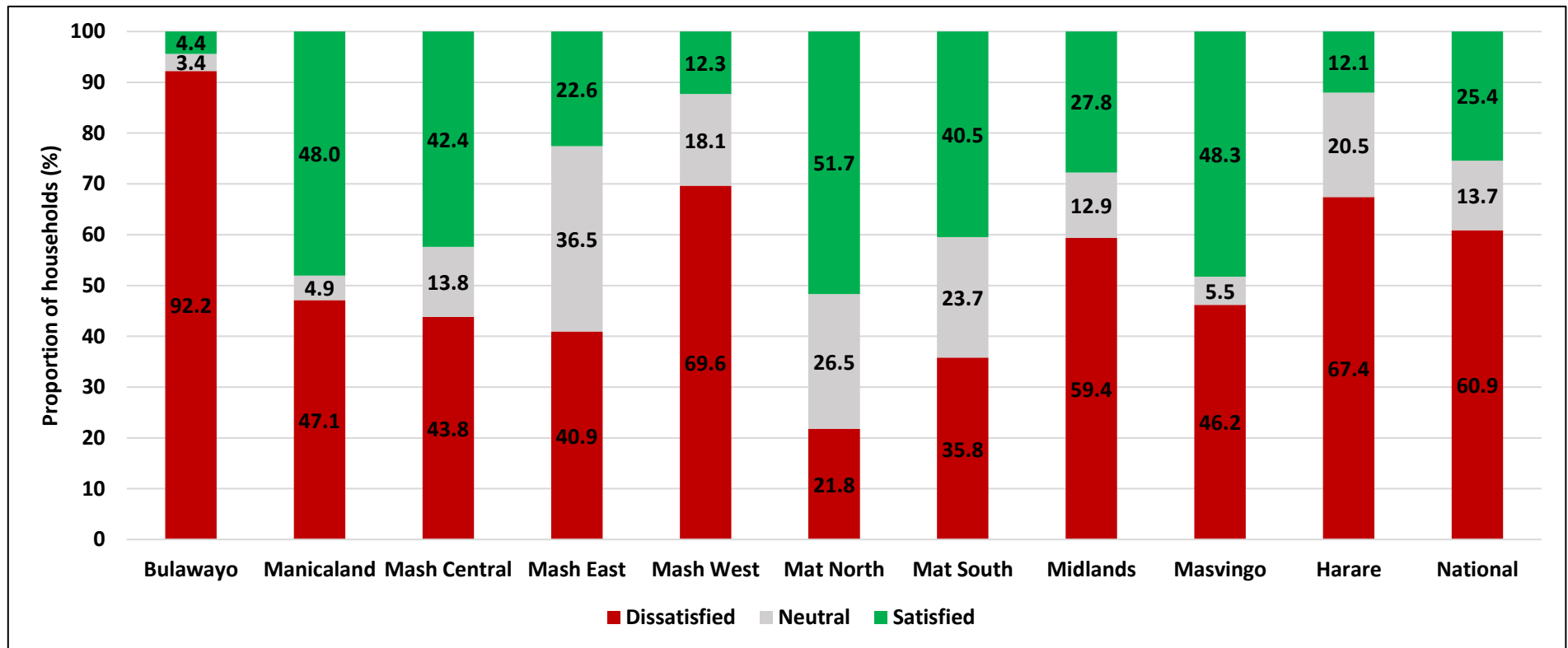


- At least 25.4% of the households connected to Council or ZINWA water were satisfied with the reliability of the service.
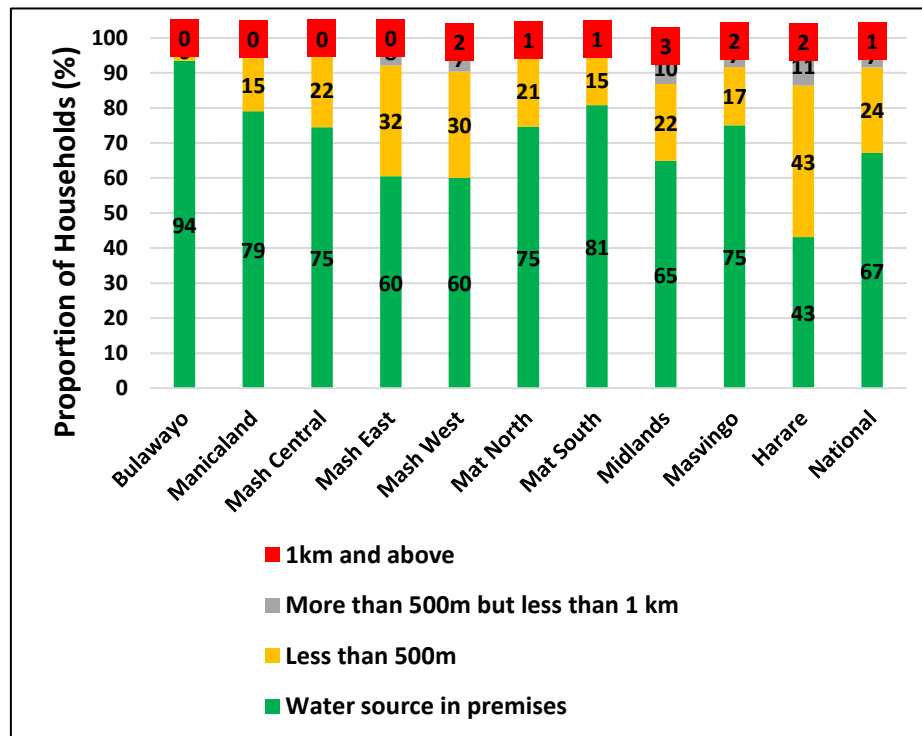
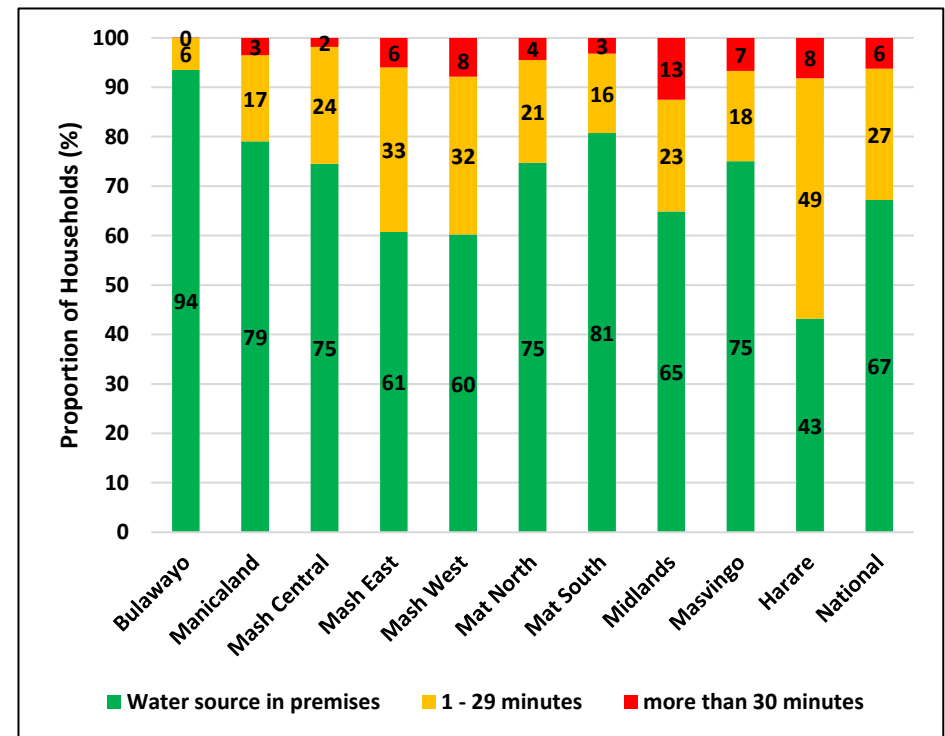# Perceived Satisfaction with Water Quality (Council or ZINWA)



- About 28.2% of the urban households were satisfied with the quality of water from Council or ZINWA.

# Distance and Time Taken to Main Drinking Water Source



**Distance Travelled**

**Time taken**

- The majority of urban households (91%) travelled less than 500m to the nearest main drinking water source.
- The proportion of households which travelled more than 30minutes for a round trip to the main drinking water source was only 6%.

# Ladder for Sanitation

| Service level | Definition |
| --- | --- |
| **Safely Managed** | 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. |
| **Basic Sanitation Facilities** | Use of improved facilities which are not shared with other households. |
| **Limited Sanitation Facilities** | Use of improved facilities shared between two or more households. |
| **Unimproved Sanitation Facilities** | 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. |
| **Open Defecation** | 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 Sanitation Services



**2023**
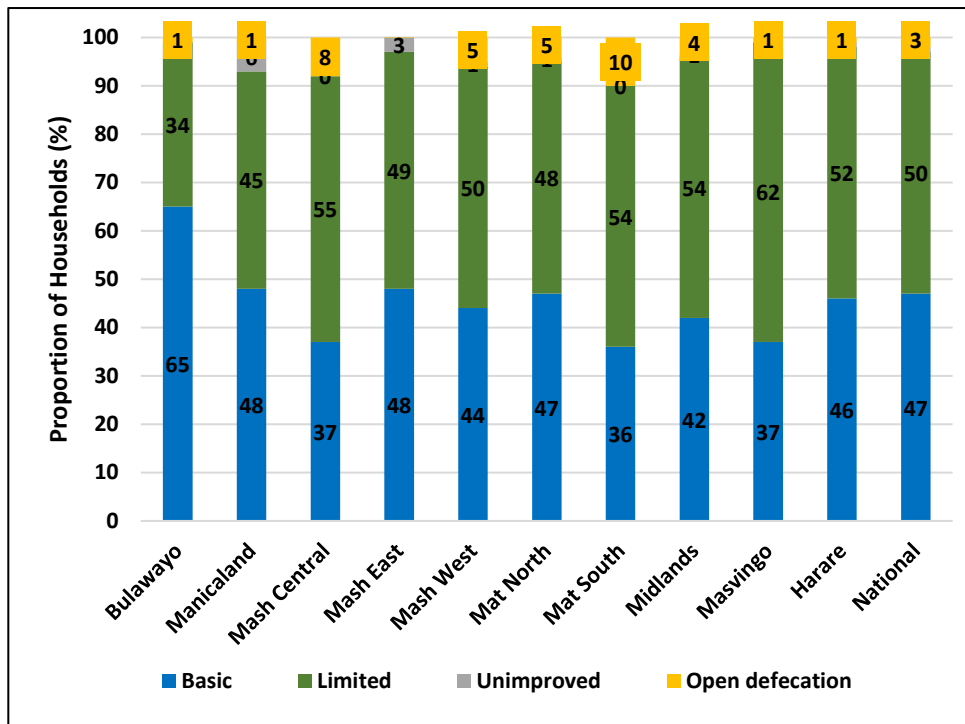
**2024**
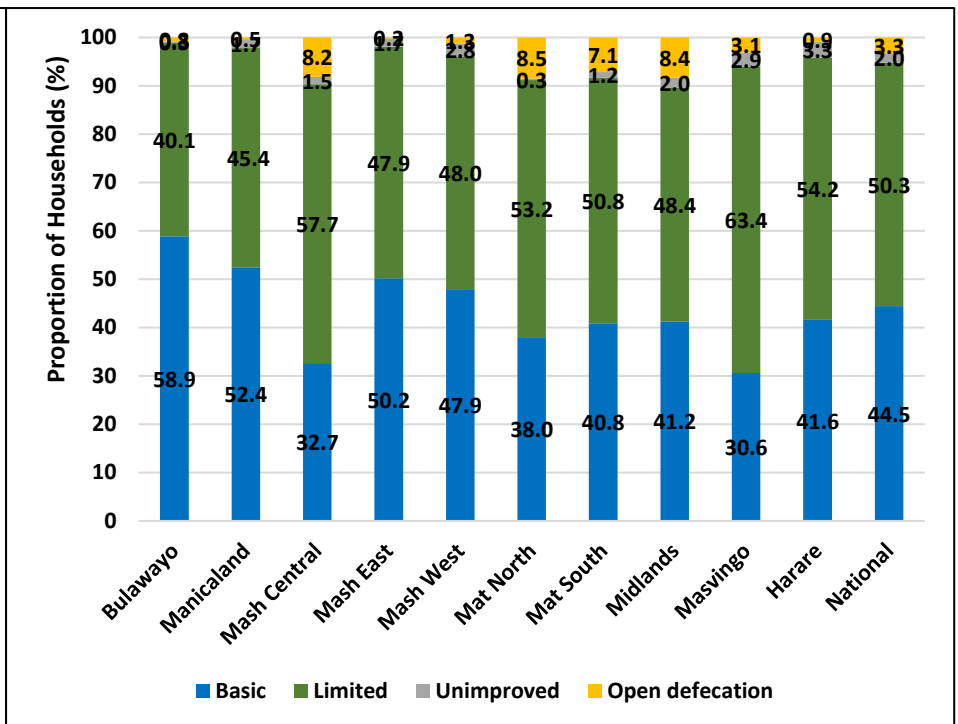
- About 95% of urban households had access to basic (44.5%) and limited (50.3%) sanitation services.
- At least 3% of the households were practicing open defecation.

# Open Defecation by Domain



- Mazowe-Mvurwi domain (16.3%), had the highest proportion of households which practised open defecation.

# Frequency of Refuse Collection

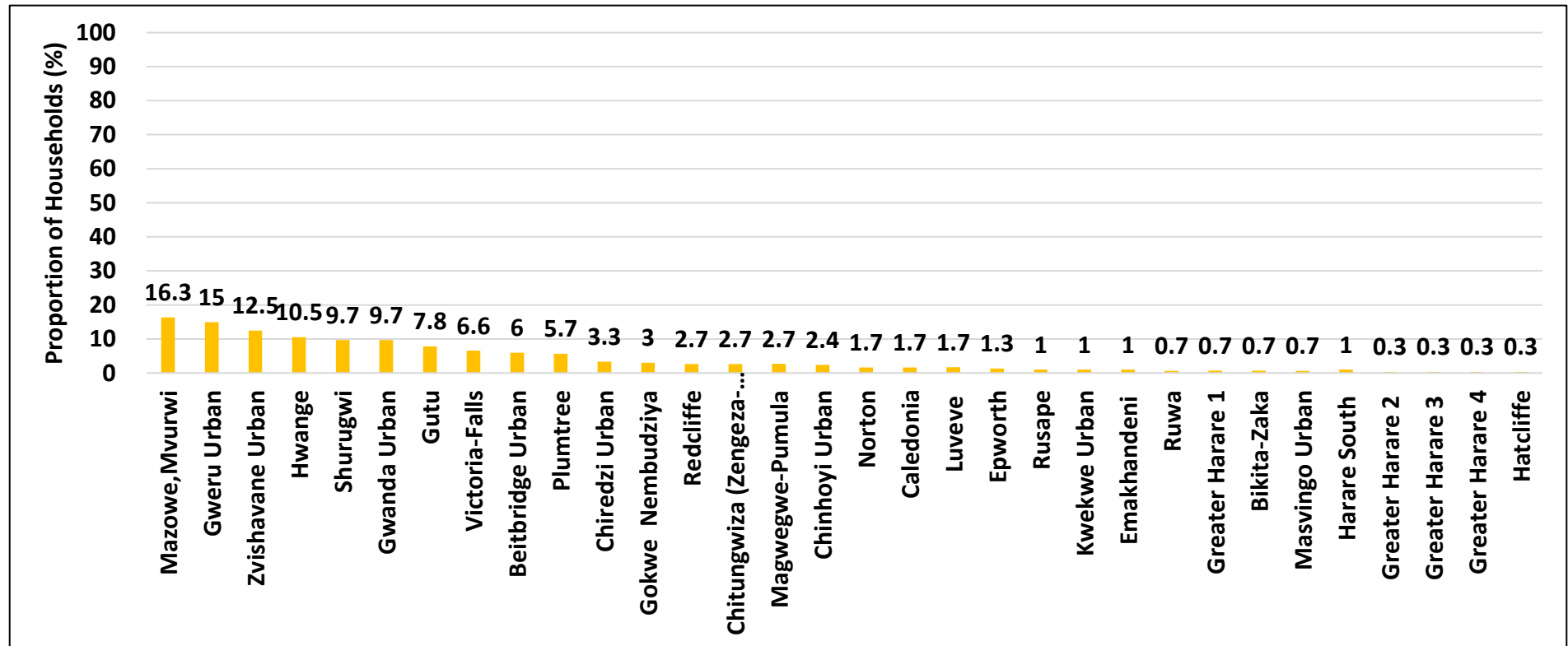| Province | Number of times refuse was collected in January 2024 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | At least One time (%) | At least Two times (%) | At least Three times (%) | At least Four times (%) | Never collected (%) |
| Bulawayo | 96 | 21 | 19 | 18 | 4 |
| Manicaland | 90 | 10 | 9 | 7 | 10 |
| Mash Central | 86 | 33 | 13 | 9 | 14 |
| Mash East | 66 | 14 | 10 | 4 | 33 |
| Mash West | 80 | 33 | 29 | 11 | 20 |
| Mat North | 66 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 34 |
| Mat South | 95 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| Midlands | 68 | 29 | 24 | 17 | 32 |
| Masvingo | 92 | 18 | 13 | 6 | 8 |
| Harare | 37 | 27 | 25 | 20 | 63 |
| National | 72 | 22 | 19 | 13 | 28 |

- Nationally, 28% of the households reported that refuse was never collected and Harare (63%) had the highest proportion of households whose refuse was never collected in the month of January 2024.

# Disposal of Uncollected Refuse

| Province | Throw away in a designated area/Skip bin (%) | Throw away in an undesignated area (%) | Burn (%) | Bury (%) | Other (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 0.3 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 0 |
| Manicaland | 1.5 | 2.7 | 7.0 | 4.3 | 0.2 |
| Mash Central | 0 | 9.3 | 4.8 | 1.7 | 0 |
| Mash East | 2.3 | 12.9 | **23.6** | **25.5** | 0.1 |
| Mash West | 2.1 | 6 | 8.9 | 7.7 | 0.8 |
| Mat North | 1.2 | 13 | 25.3 | 12.3 | 0 |
| Mat South | 0.7 | 0.7 | 2.7 | 0.9 | 0.2 |
| Midlands | 2.3 | 15.6 | 19.5 | 15.6 | 0.6 |
| Masvingo | 0.3 | 3.5 | 2 | 2.5 | 0 |
| Harare | **5.5** | **29.2** | 27.3 | 24.3 | **1.2** |
| National | 2.2 | 12.3 | **14.3** | 12.2 | 0.5 |

- About 14.3% of households burnt their uncollected refuse and 12.3% threw it away in undesignated areas.

# Days Taken to Have Sewer System Fixed

| Province | Within 24 hrs (%) | 2 days (%) | 3 days (%) | 4 days (%) | 5 days (%) | 6 days (%) | 7+ days (%) | Total Fixed (%) | Not yet fixed (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 6 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 36 | 75 | 25 |
| Manicaland | 4 | 12 | 6 | 12 | 10 | 4 | 35 | 84 | 16 |
| Mash Central | 18 | 29 | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 14 | 82 | 18 |
| Mash East | 47 | 21 | 16 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 100 | 0 |
| Mash West | 25 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 25 | 88 | 12 |
| Mat North | 12 | 27 | 10 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 82 | 18 |
| Mat South | 28 | 34 | 10 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 90 | 10 |
| Midlands | 4 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 31 | 55 | 45 |
| Masvingo | 29 | 30 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 17 | 98 | 2 |
| Harare | 7 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 33 | 70 | 30 |
| National | 13 | 15 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 28 | 77 | 23 |

- Delayed sewer system fixing creates an unhygienic environment, conducive for enteric pathogens that cause diarrhoeal diseases which can impair nutritional status.

- Midlands (45%), Harare (30%) and Bulawayo (25%) reported that their dysfunctional sewer systems had not yet been fixed.
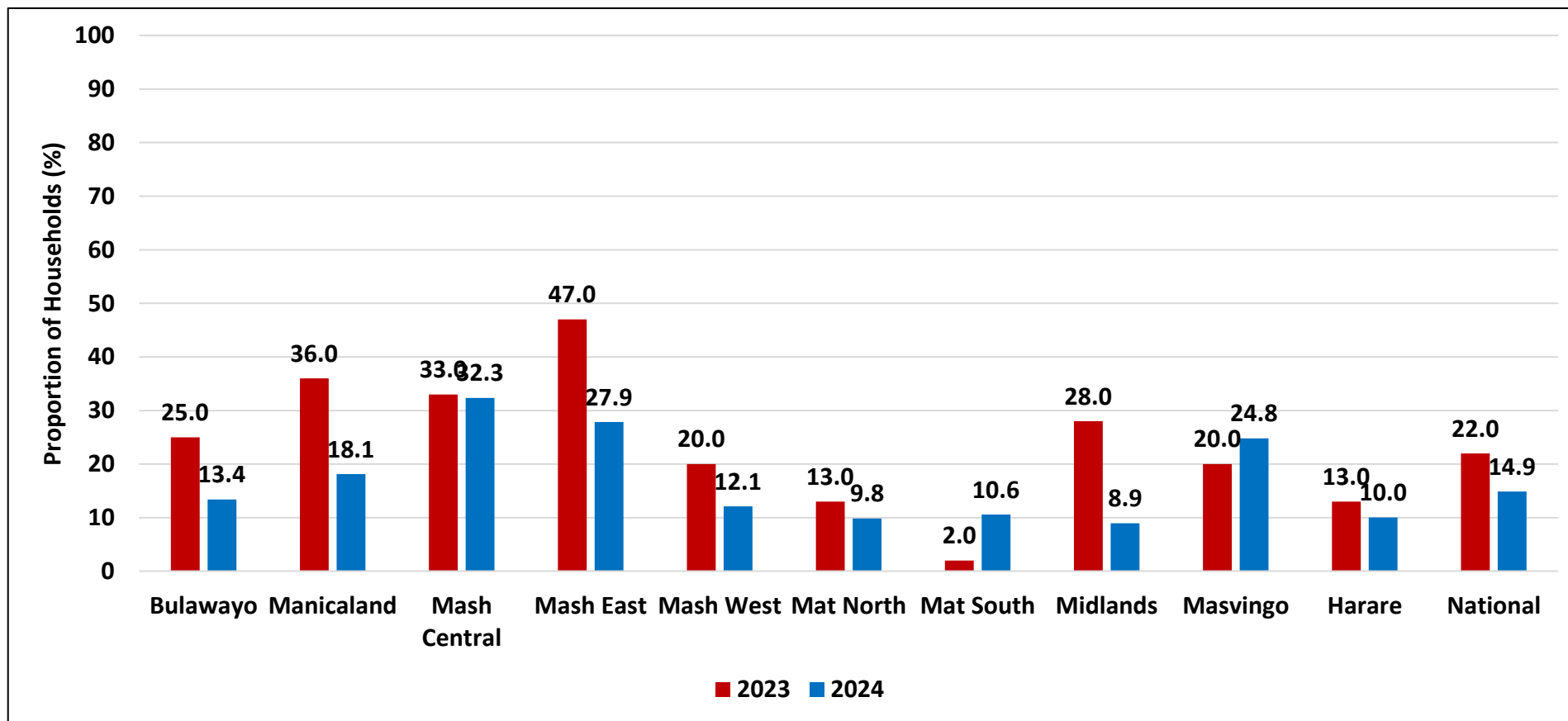
# Migration

# Migration
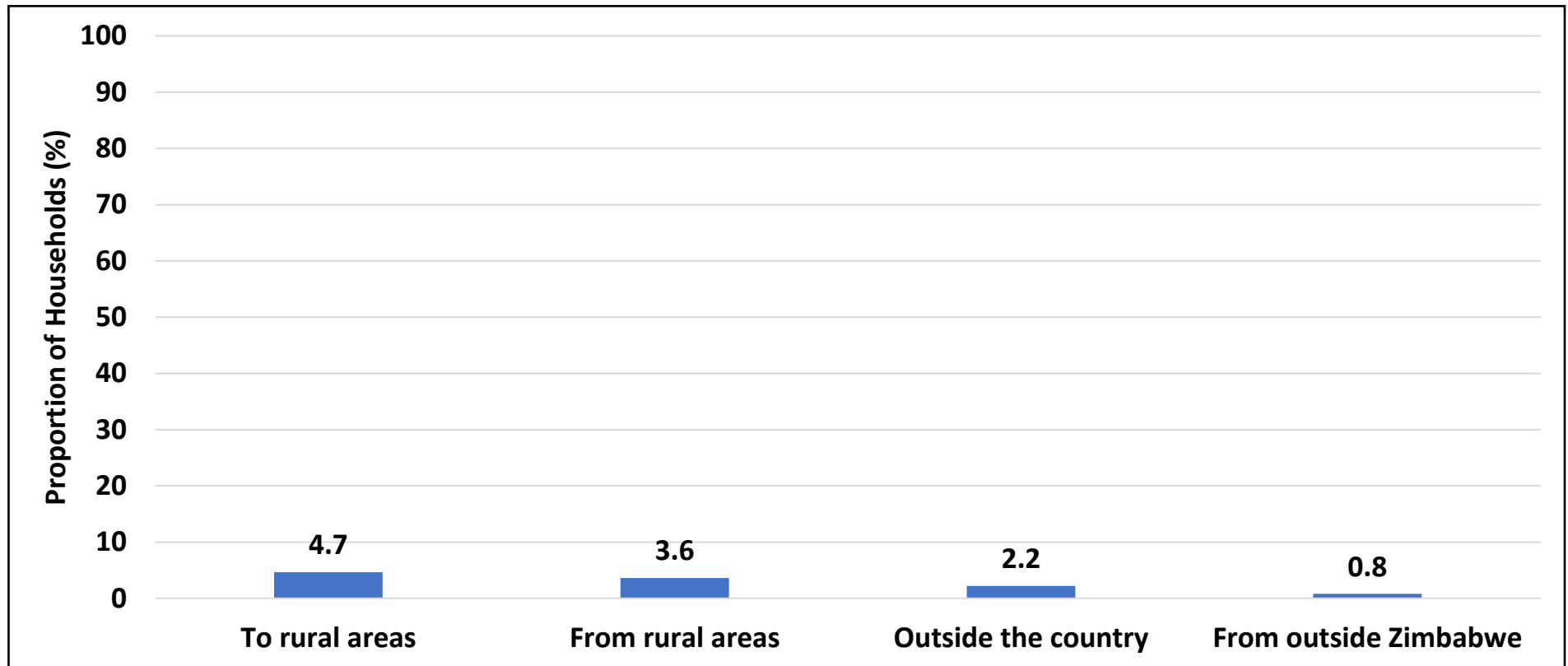


- About 4.7% of the households had a member who had moved to the rural areas in the twelve months prior to the survey.

# Urban Agriculture

# Households Practising Urban Agriculture



- The proportion of households practising urban agriculture was 14.9%, a decrease from 22% reported last year.

# Reasons for not Practising Agriculture

| Province | No access to land (%) | Not interested (%) | Lack of time (%) | Viability issues (%) | Council by laws (%) | Inputs challenges (%) | Late onset of season (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 69 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| Manicaland | 78 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Mash Central | 54 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 2 |
| Mash East | 48 | 15 | 9 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| Mash West | 79 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 3 |
| Mat North | 79 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| Mat South | 71 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Midlands | 80 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Masvingo | 67 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| Harare | 83 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| **National** | **73** | **7** | **5** | **4** | **4** | **3** | **3** |

- The majority of urban households were not practising agriculture due to lack of access to land (73%).

# Types of Agricultural Activities

| Province | Crop/horticulture production (%) | Livestock production (%) |
|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 13.3 | 0.7 |
| Manicaland | 18.0 | 3.2 |
| Mash Central | 32.3 | 3.5 |
| Mash East | 27.3 | 3.9 |
| Mash West | 12.0 | 1.3 |
| Mat North | 9.8 | 1.7 |
| Mat South | 10.6 | 2.7 |
| Midlands | 8.9 | 1.1 |
| Masvingo | 24.7 | 5.0 |
| Harare | 10.0 | 1.4 |
| National | **14.8** | **2.1** |

- At least 14.8% of the households were practising crop / horticulture production, while 2.1% were practicing livestock production.

# Main Crops Grown in Urban Areas

| | Green leafy vegetables (%) | Sweet potato (%) | Maize (%) | Legumes (%) | Tomatoes (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Bulawayo** | 5.0 | 0.3 | 10.5 | 1.2 | 0.2 |
| **Manicaland** | 5.0 | 1.2 | 16.6 | 0.8 | 0.2 |
| **Mash Central** | 1.0 | 0.2 | 31.7 | 1.2 | 0.2 |
| **Mash East** | 9.6 | 1.0 | 25.9 | 3.9 | 1.4 |
| **Mash West** | 2.9 | 1.6 | 11.2 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| **Mat North** | 8.0 | 0.3 | 4.5 | 0.0 | 0.8 |
| **Mat South** | 7.0 | 0.1 | 5.7 | 0.2 | 1.8 |
| **Midlands** | 4.0 | 0.2 | 7.3 | 1.3 | 0.7 |
| **Masvingo** | 13.4 | 1.0 | 17.9 | 2.4 | 3.5 |
| **Harare** | 5.0 | 0.3 | 8.4 | 1.4 | 0.7 |
| **National** | **5.9** | **0.5** | **12.3** | **1.4** | **0.9** |

- Maize (12.3%) and green leafy vegetables (5.9%) were the most commonly grown crops in the urban areas.

# Households which Benefitted Under the Presidential Input Support Programme (14.9%)

| Provinces | Practising urban agriculture (%) | Received inputs (%) | Seed (%) | Compound D (%) | Ammonium Nitrate (%) | Pesticides (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 13.4 | 20 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0 |
| Manicaland | 18.1 | 34.9 | 4.3 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 0 |
| Mash Central | 32.3 | 63.4 | 13.0 | 11.3 | 11.3 | 0.3 |
| Mash East | 27.9 | 46 | 6.0 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 0.4 |
| Mash West | 12.1 | 30.6 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 0.2 |
| Mat North | 9.8 | 3.4 | 0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0 |
| Mat South | 10.6 | 2.1 | 0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0 |
| Midlands | 8.9 | 9.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0 |
| Masvingo | 24.8 | 18.6 | 1.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Harare | 10 | 13.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0 |
| National | **14.9** | **26.6** | **2.1** | **2.0** | **2.0** | **0.1** |

- About 26.6% of urban households had received inputs under the Presidential Input Support Programme.
- Mashonaland Central (63.4%) had the highest proportion of urban households that received inputs.

# Agriculture Practised Outside Urban Areas

# Households Practising Agriculture Outside Urban Areas

| Province | Proportion of households practising agriculture outside urban areas (%) | Areas where it was being Practised | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Rural Areas (%) | Own Farm (%) | Own Plot (%) | Rented Farm (%) | Rented Plot (%) | Other (%) |
| Bulawayo | 6.2 | 5.6 | 0 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Manicaland | 8 | 4.8 | 0 | 2.2 | 0 | 0.8 | 0.2 |
| Mash Central | 6.3 | 3.8 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0 | 0.7 |
| Mash East | 6 | 3 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 0 | 0.1 |
| Mash West | 2.2 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Mat North | 5.8 | 5.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mat South | 11.6 | 9.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Midlands | 5.9 | 4.6 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Masvingo | 12.6 | 10.1 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Harare | 3.7 | 2.8 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.1 |
| **National** | 6.2 | 4.7 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |

- About 6.2% of the households were practising agriculture outside the urban areas.

- The households were practicing agriculture mainly in the rural areas (4.7%).

# Enterprises Ventured by Households

| Province | Field Crops - Food Crops (%) | Field crops - Cash Crops (%) | Horticulture (%) | Poultry (%) | Large Stock (%) | Small Stock (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 5.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.7 |
| Manicaland | 6.2 | 2.5 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Mash Central | 4.2 | 2.2 | 0 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Mash East | 5.5 | 1 | 1.5 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Mash West | 1.8 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| Mat North | 5.7 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 1 |
| Mat South | 10.6 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 2.6 |
| Midlands | 5.5 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.9 |
| Masvingo | 10.8 | 1.7 | 0.4 | 1.4 | 2.3 | 1.9 |
| Harare | 3.2 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| **National** | **5.5** | **0.9** | **0.4** | **0.8** | **1** | **0.9** |

- The majority of urban households who were practicing agriculture were producing food crops (5.5%).

# Involvement of Households in Agriculture Outside Urban Areas

| Province | Migrate during planting season (%) | Send inputs to family members or relatives (%) | Hire labour to work on their behalf (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 3.2 | 2.9 | 1.7 |
| Manicaland | 6 | 3.2 | 2 |
| Mash Central | 3.3 | 3 | 2 |
| Mash East | 3.4 | 3.6 | 2.7 |
| Mash West | 1.4 | 1.2 | 0.8 |
| Mat North | 3.5 | 2.1 | 0.8 |
| Mat South | 7.8 | 3.9 | 1.9 |
| Midlands | 3.9 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Masvingo | 7 | 7.7 | 4 |
| Harare | 2 | 1.9 | 1.3 |
| National | **3.7** | **3.1** | **1.8** |

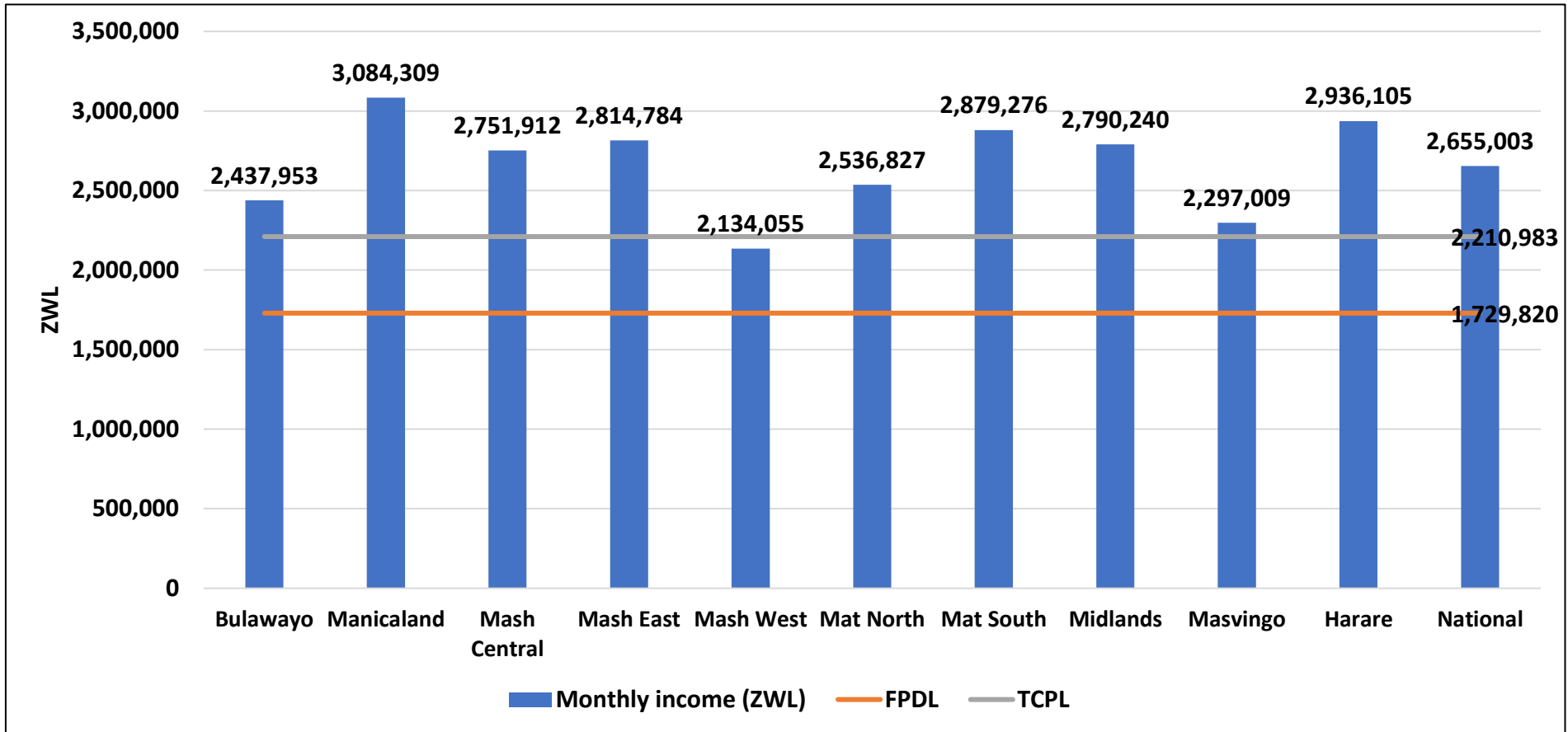- About 3.7% of households migrated to other areas outside the urban areas to practice agriculture.

# Income and Expenditure

# Household Main Income Sources
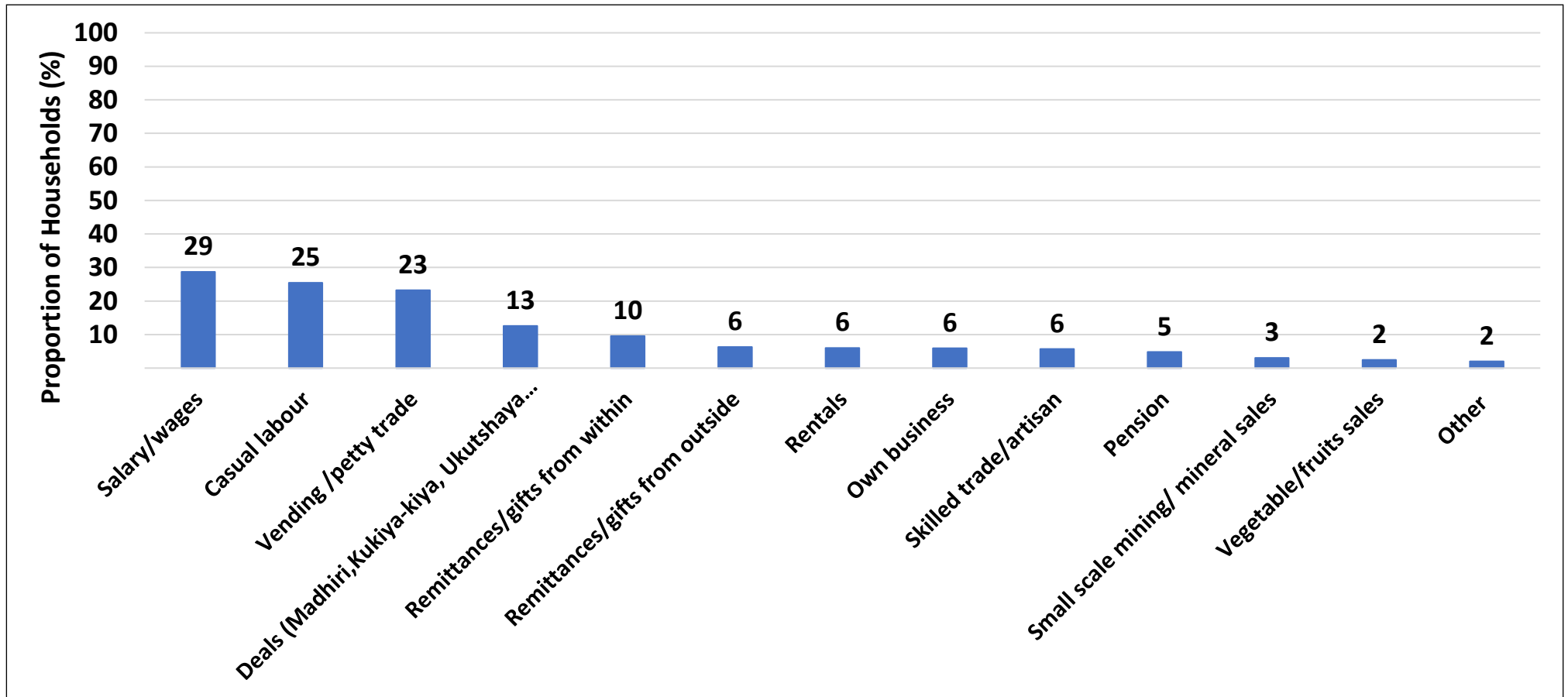


- Salaries/wages (29%), casual labour (25%) and vending (23%) were the main household income sources
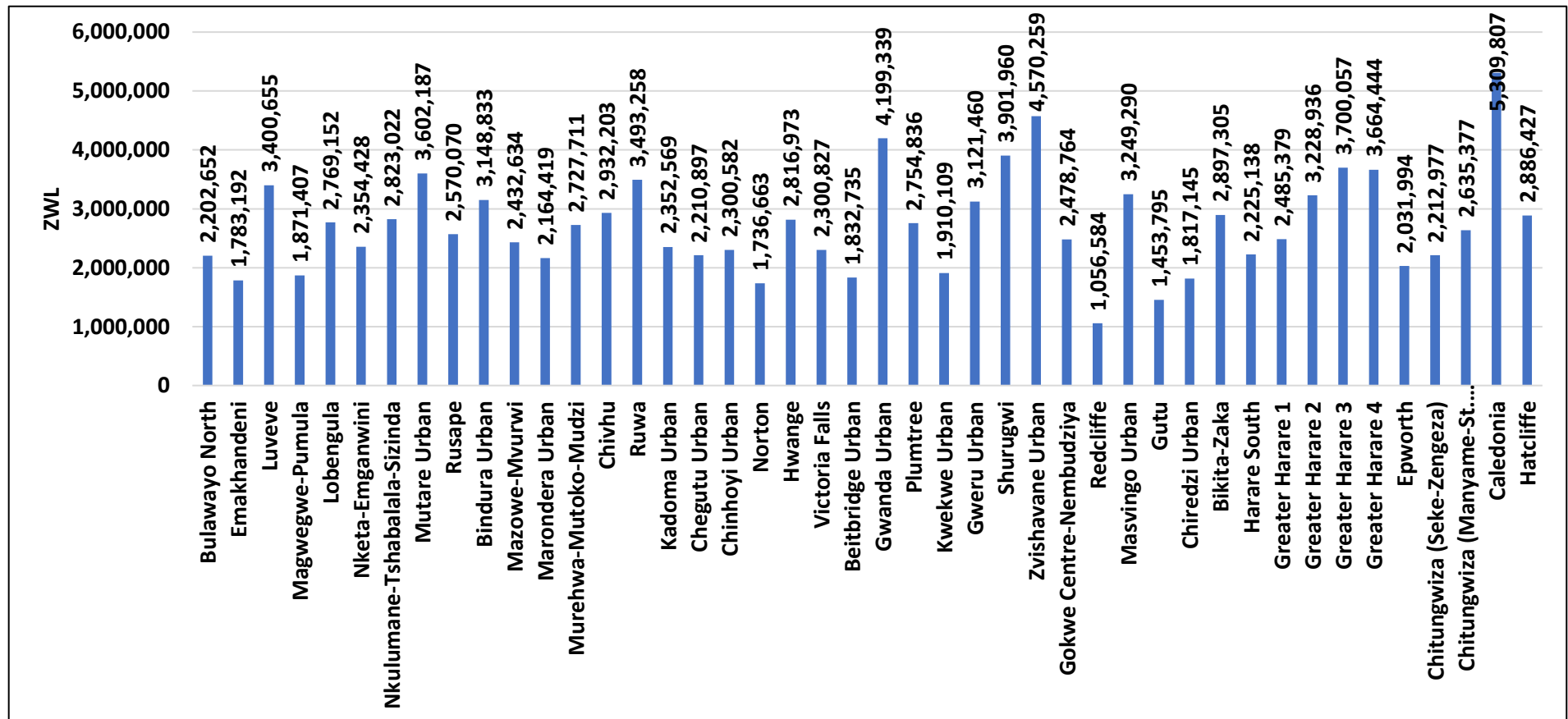
# Average Household Monthly Income (ZWL)



- Manicaland had the highest average household monthly income at ZWL3,084,309. Government is complimented for maintaining an enabling economic environment.
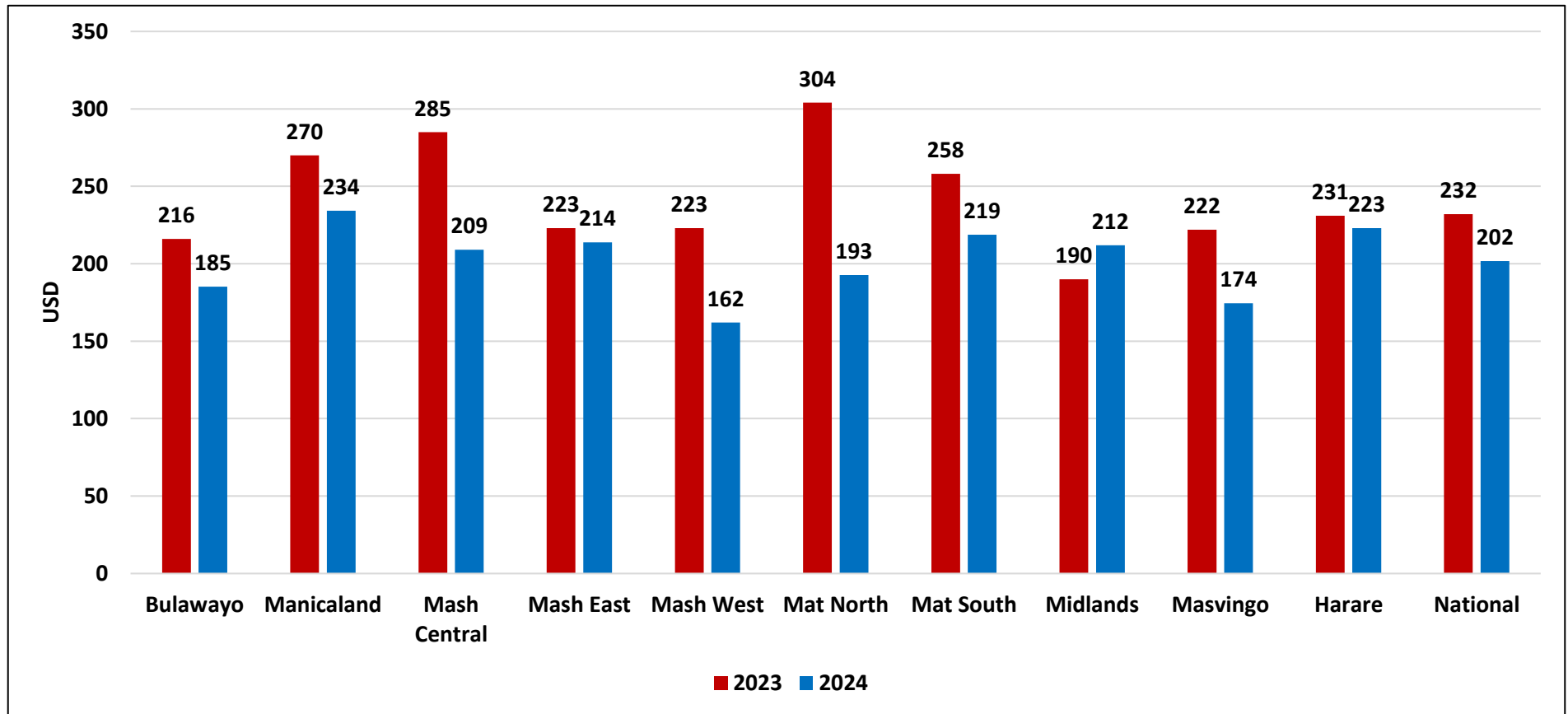
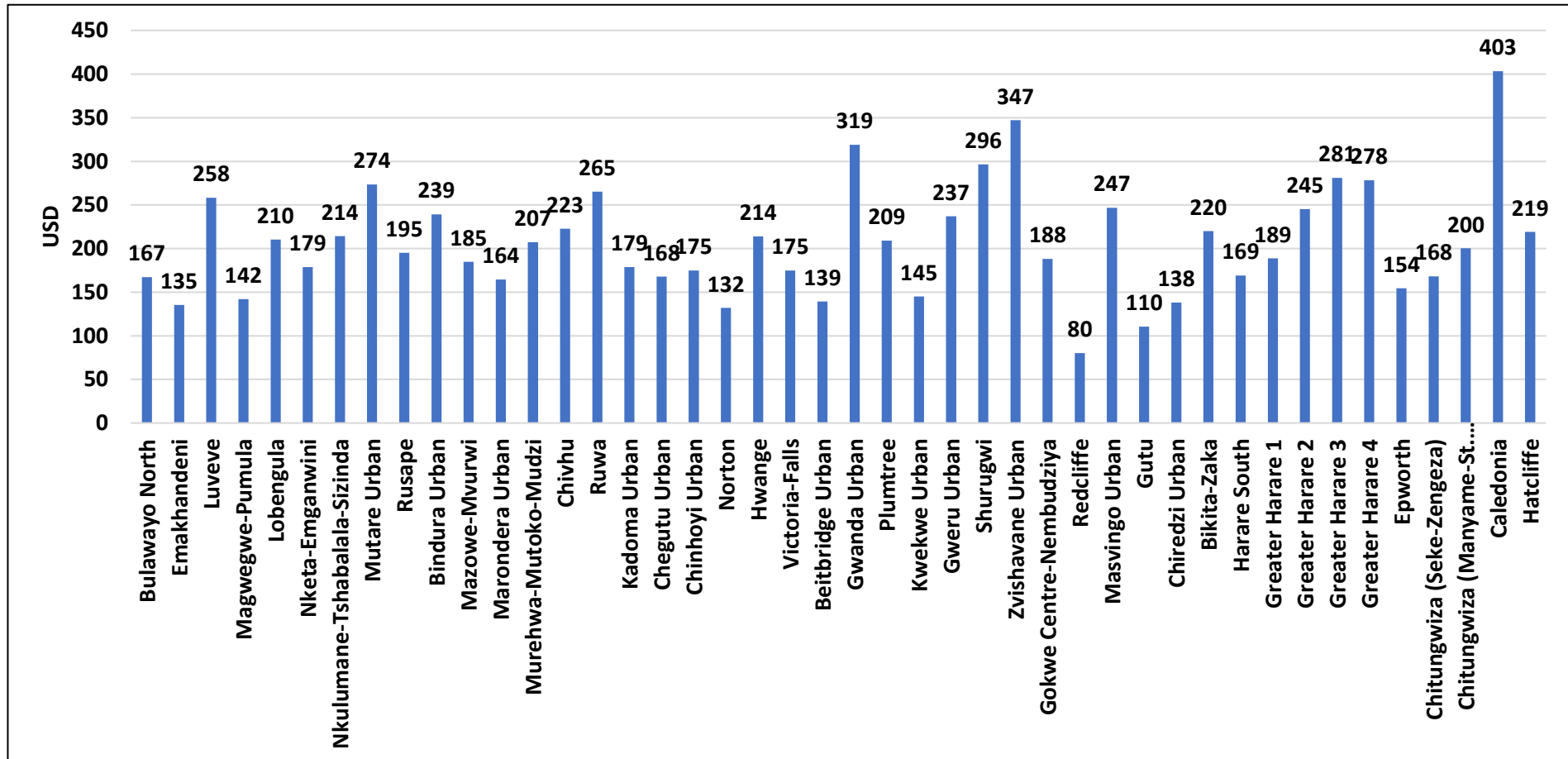# Average Household Monthly Income by Domain (ZWL)

- Caledonia (ZWL 5,309,807) had the highest average household monthly income in ZWL.
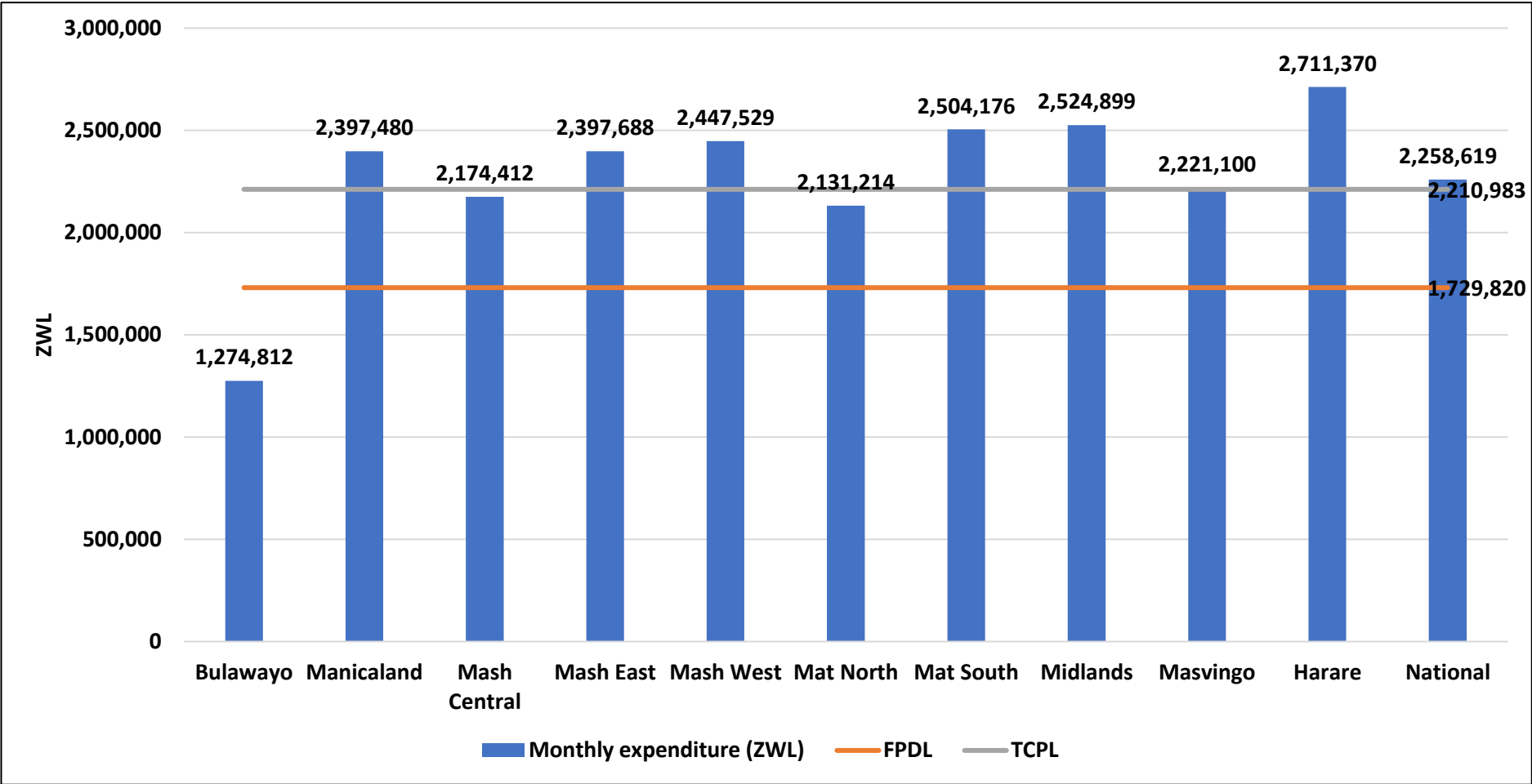
# Average Household Monthly Income (USD)



- National average household monthly income decreased from USD232 in 2023 to USD 202 in 2024.

- Manicaland (USD 234) had the highest average household monthly income.

- **NB: The USD monthly income and expenditure was calculated using the RBZ Auction rate of Tuesday 20 February 2024.**

# Average Household Monthly Income by Domain (USD)
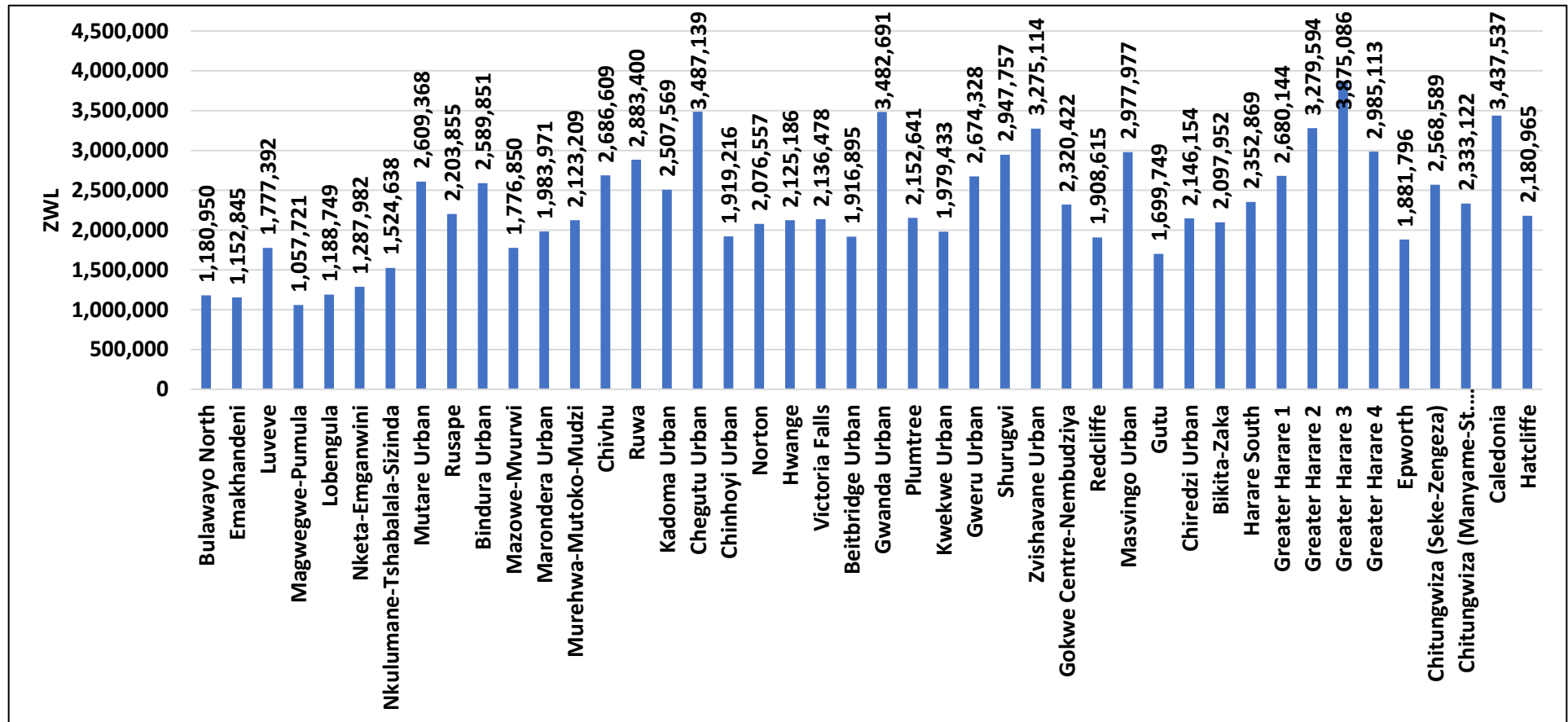


- Caledonia (USD 403), Zvishavane (USD 347) and Gwanda (USD 319) had the highest average monthly incomes in 2024.

# Average Household Monthly Expenditure (ZWL)



- Harare (ZWL 2,711,370) had the highest average household monthly expenditure.

# Average Household Monthly Expenditure (ZWL) by Domain



- Greater Harare 3 had the highest monthly expenditure (ZWL 3,875,086).

# Average Household Monthly Expenditure (USD)
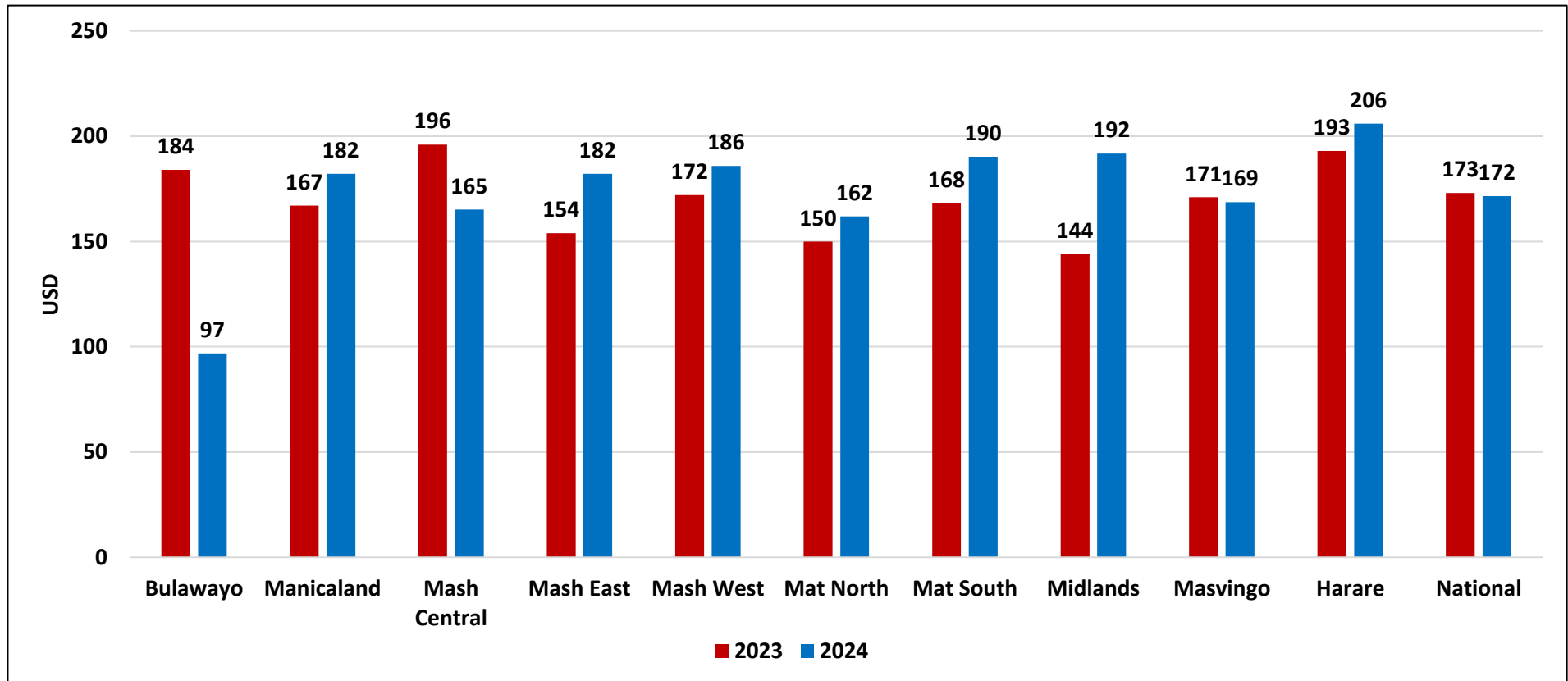


- Government's success in maintaining a stable economic environment (Income vs Expenditure) is noted as evidenced by stable national average household monthly expenditure of USD 172.

- Harare (USD 206) had the highest average monthly expenditure while Bulawayo had the least (USD 97).

# Average Household Monthly Expenditure (USD) by Domain
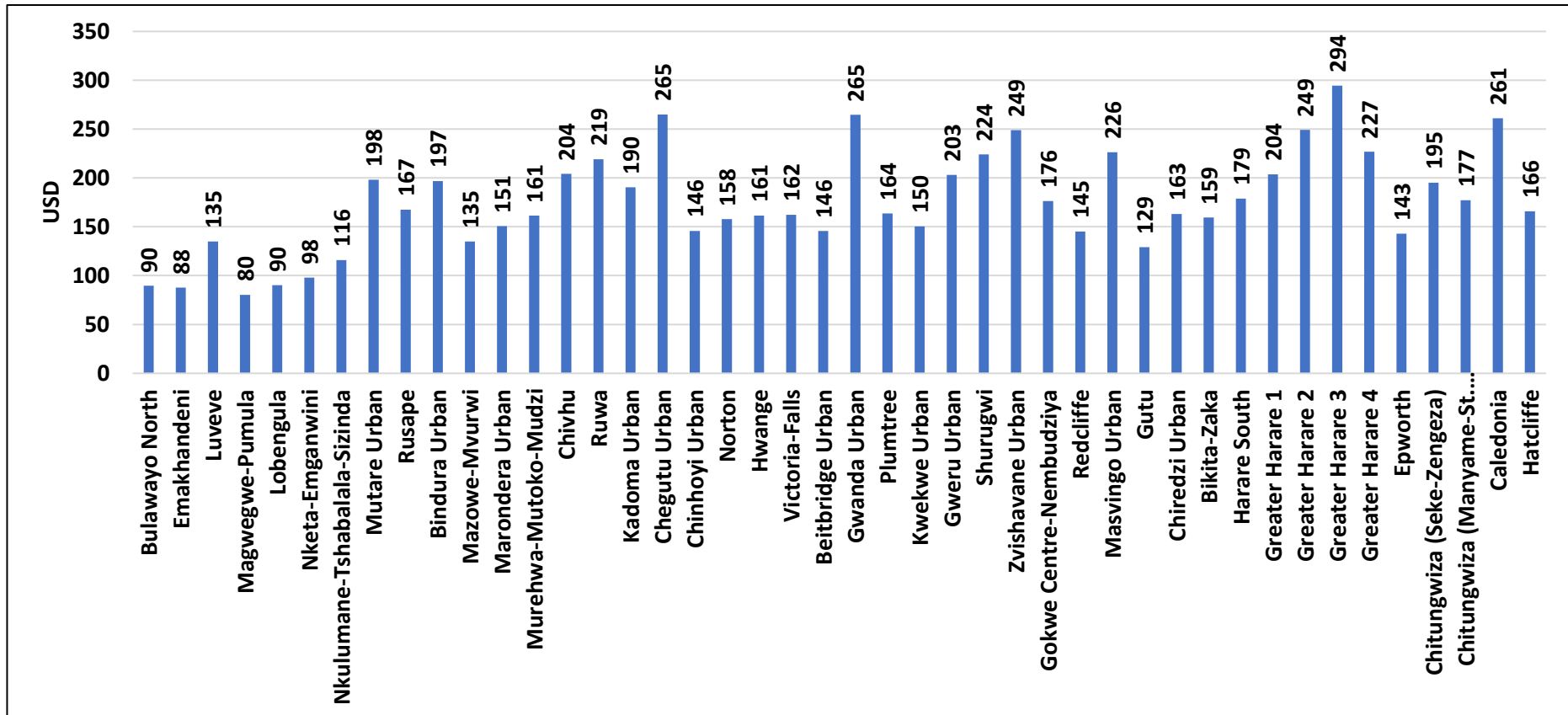


- Greater Harare 3 had the highest average monthly expenditure of USD 294 while Magwegwe-Pumula (USD80) had the lowest.

# Average Household Expenditure (ZWL) for 6 Months
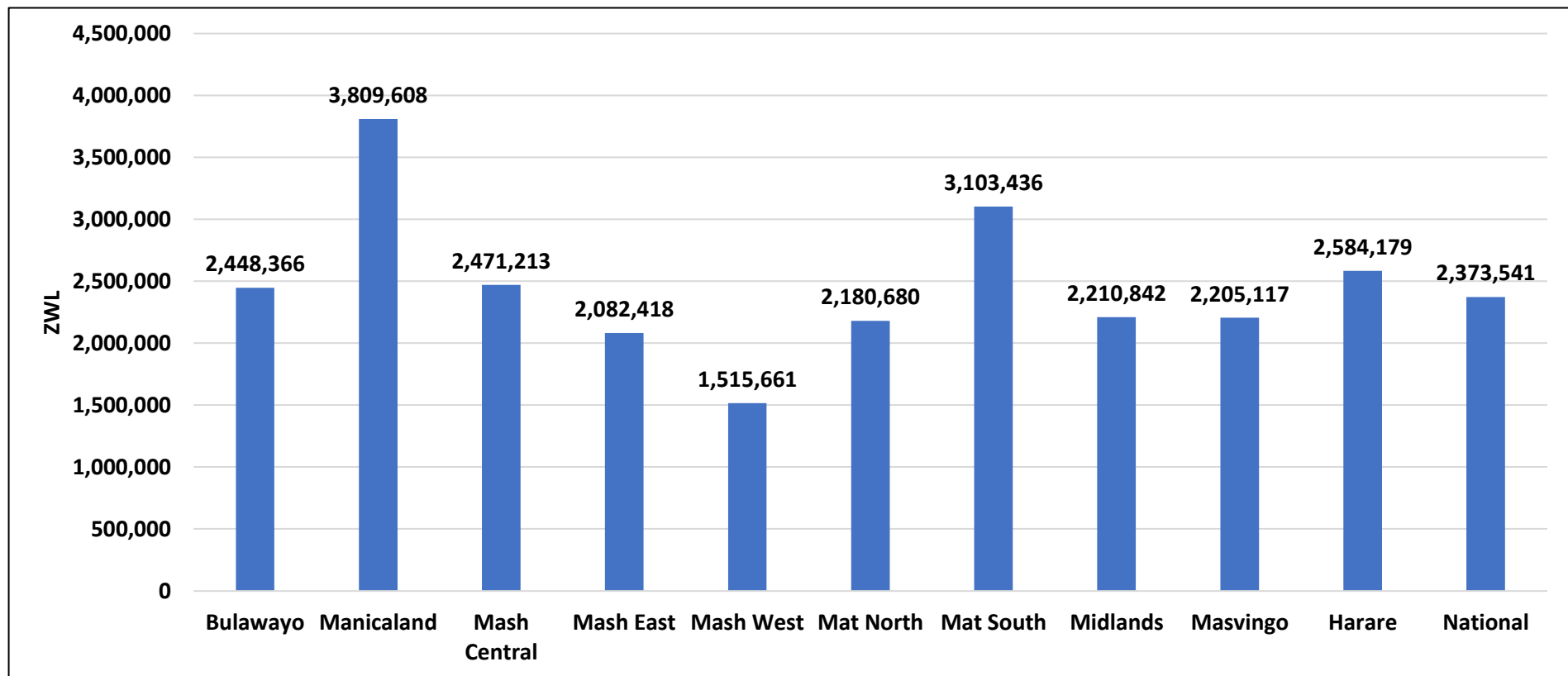


- National average household expenditure for 6 months was ZWL 2,373,541.
- Manicaland (ZWL 3,809,608) had the highest average household expenditure for 6 months.

# Average Household Expenditure for 6 Months (ZWL)
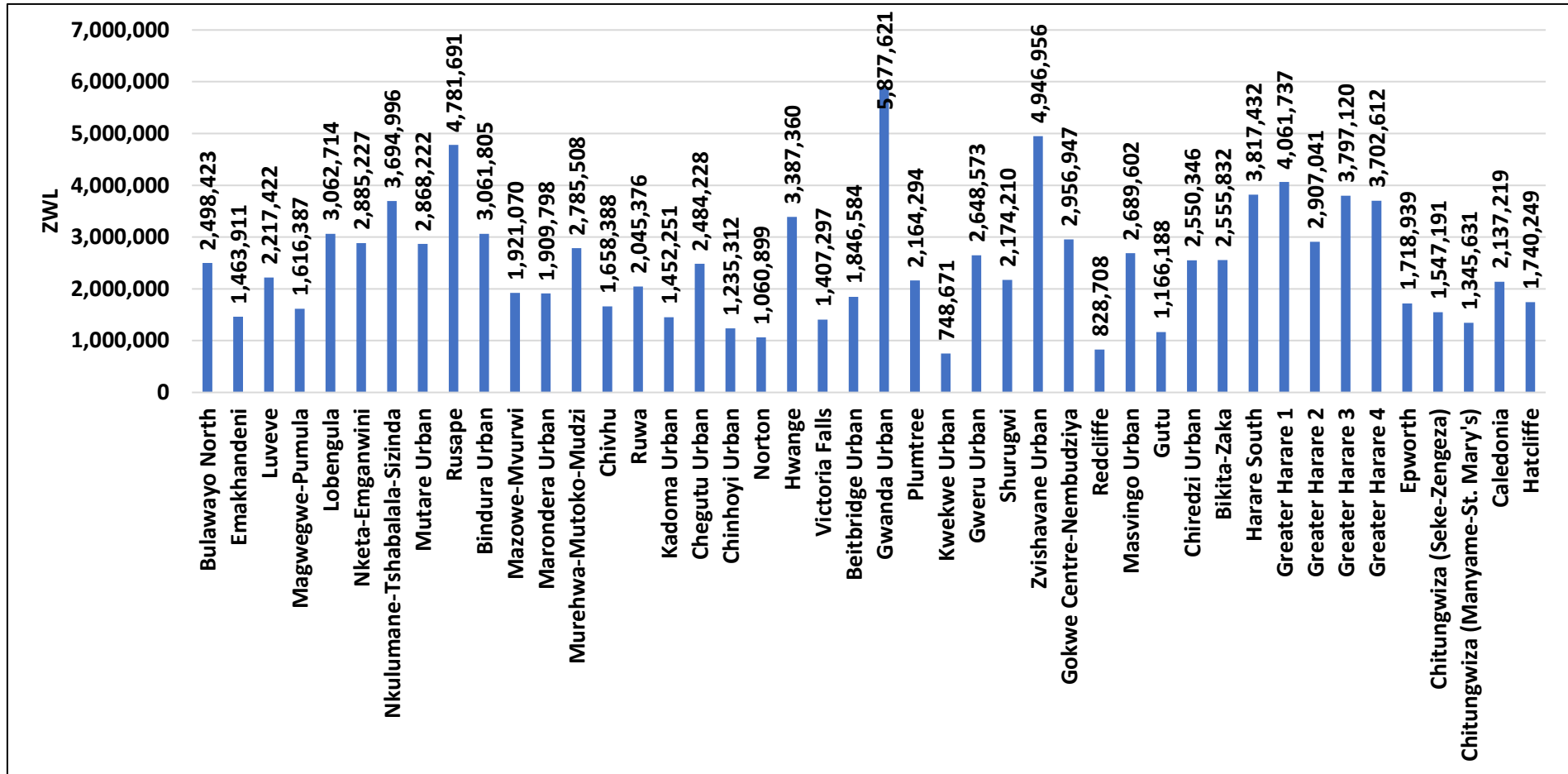


- Gwanda Urban (ZWL 5,877,621) had the highest average household expenditure for 6 months.

# Average Household Expenditure for 6 Months (USD)
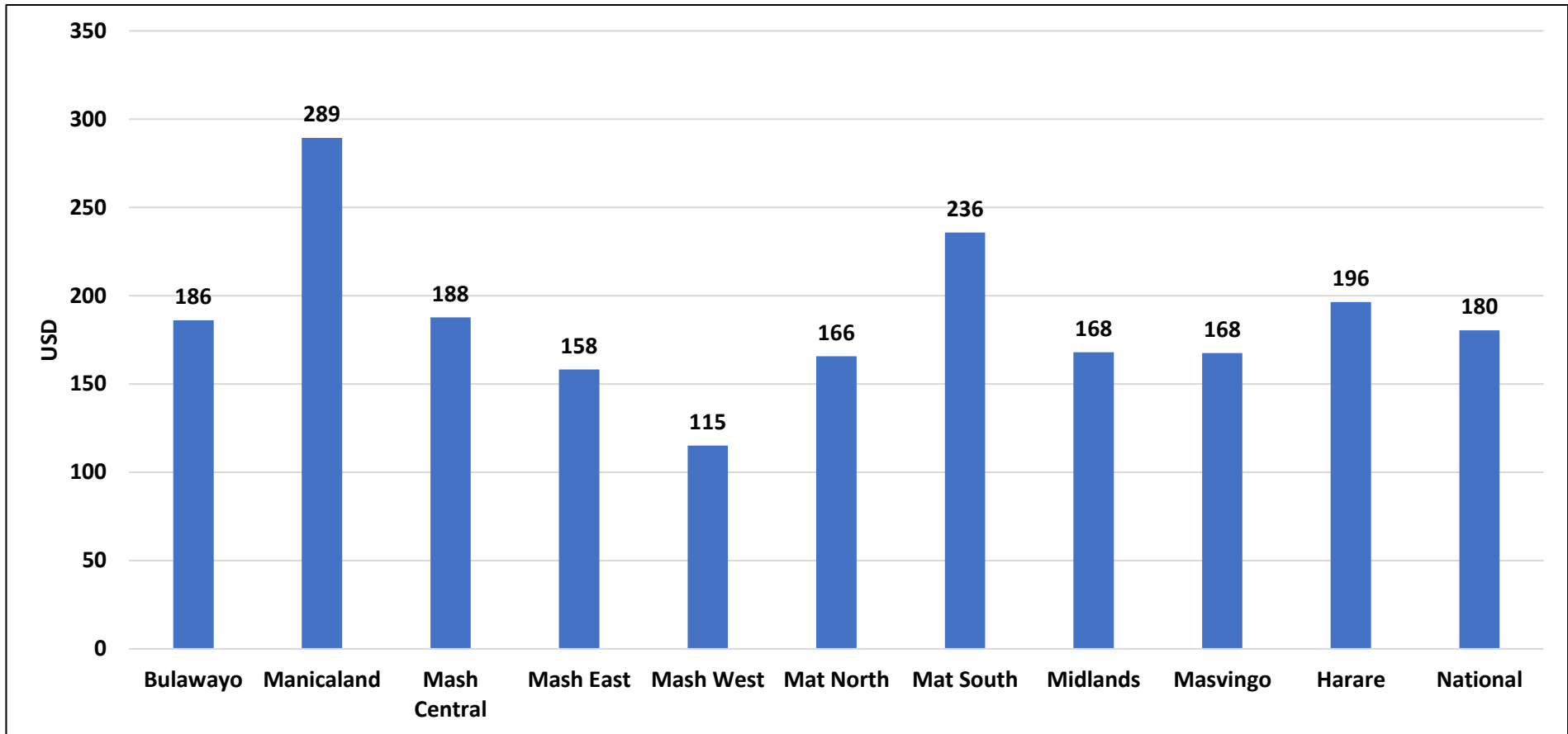


- The national average six months expenditure was USD 180. Manicaland (USD 289) had the highest, while Mashonaland West (USD 115) had the least.

# Average Household Expenditure for Six Months by Domain (USD)
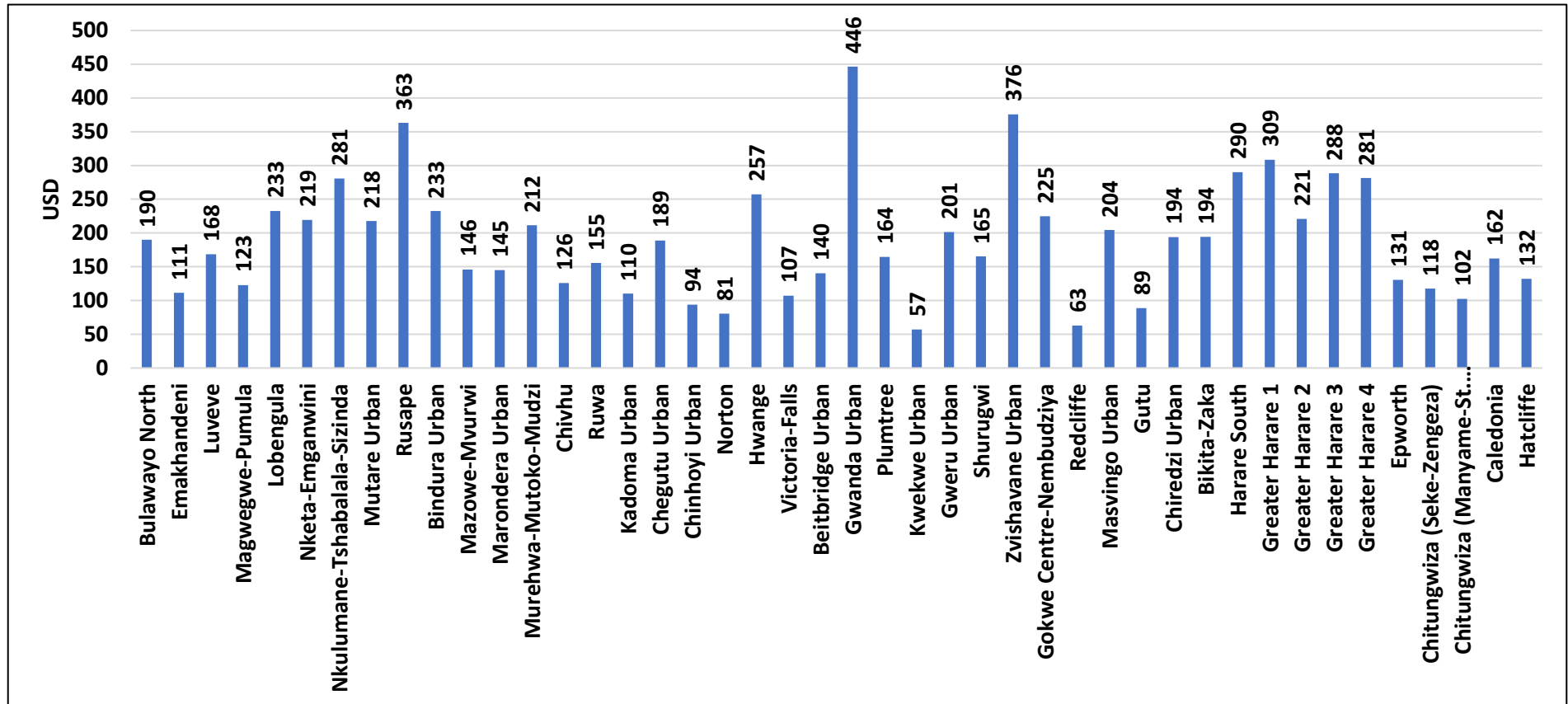


- Gwanda (USD 446) had the highest expenditure while Kwekwe (USD 57) had the least.

# Food Expenditure Ratio
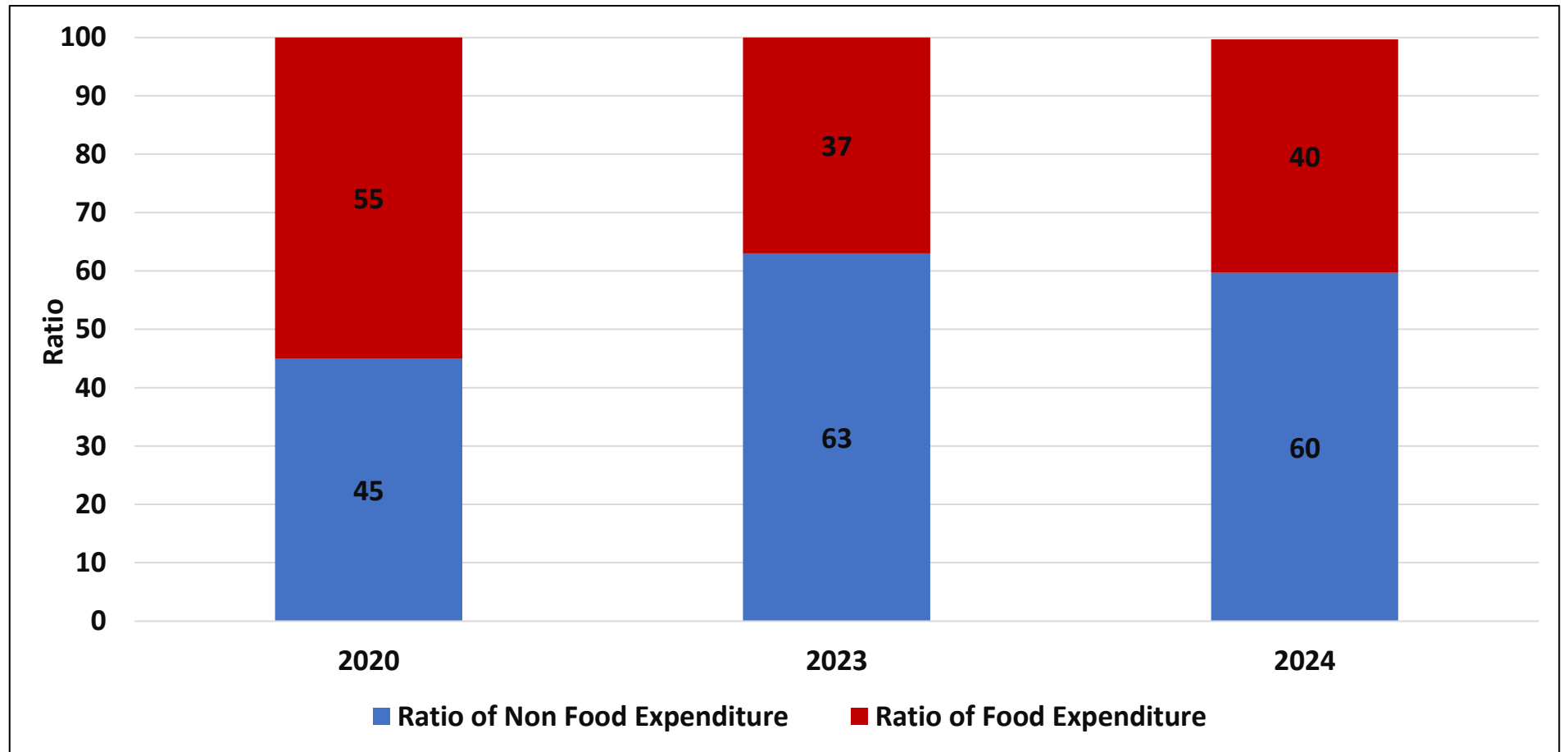


- Food Expenditure ratio was within the technical recommended range.

# Food Expenditure Ratio
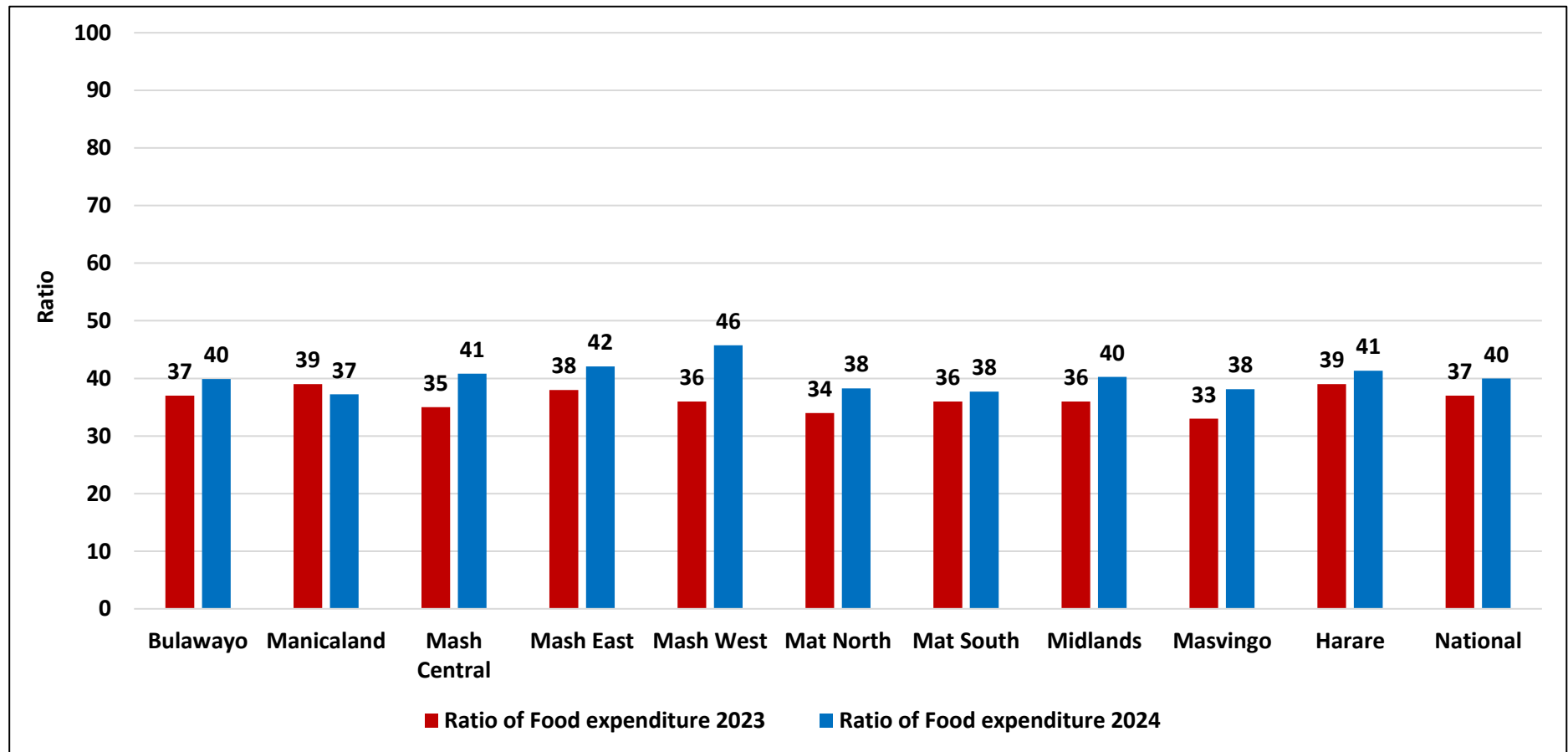


- Mashonaland West (46%) had the highest food expenditure share with the least being Manicaland (37%).

# Food Expenditure Ratio by Domain
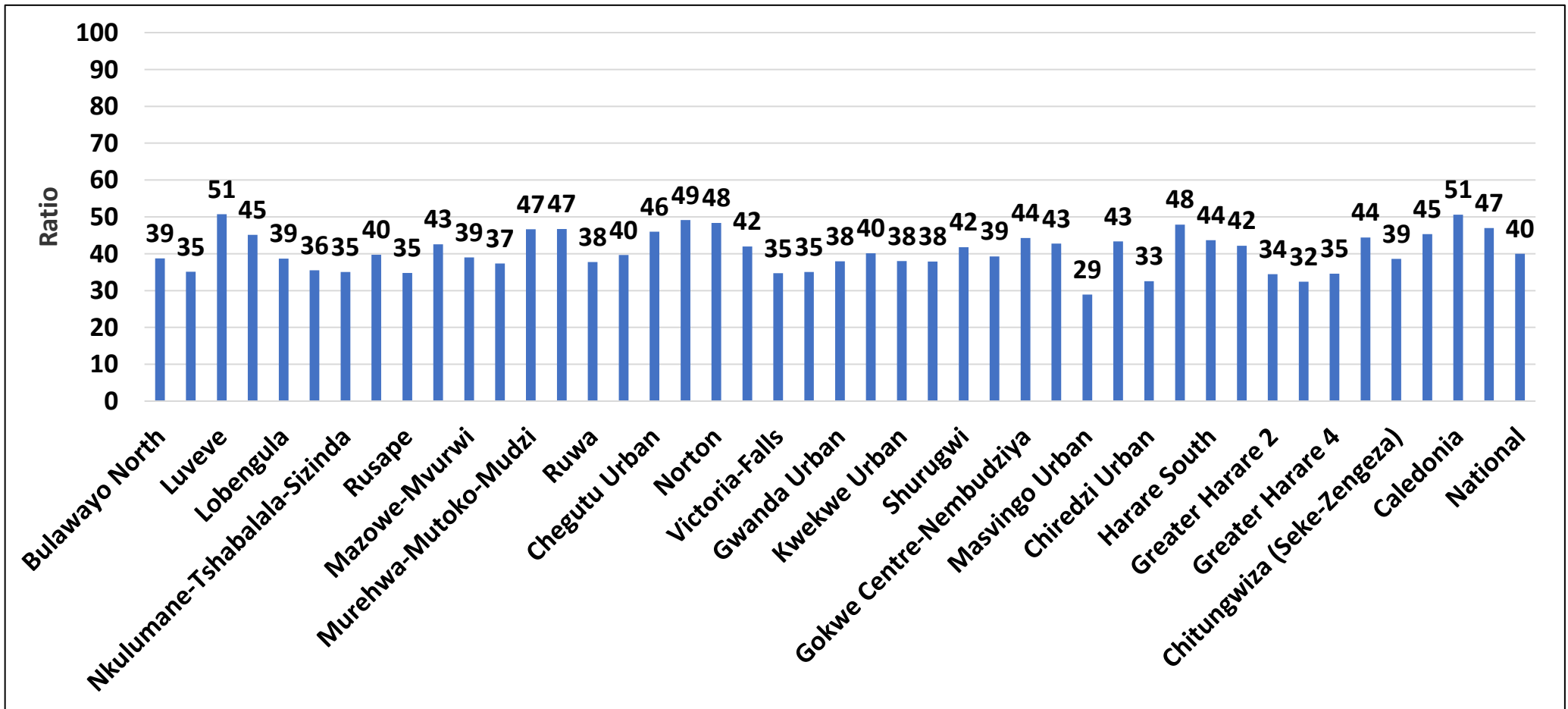


- Caledonia and Luveve (51%) had the highest food expenditure share while Masvingo (29%) had the least.

# Commonly Owned Assets



| Asset | Proportion of Households (%) |
|---|---|
| Generator | 1.2 |
| Plot/farm | 1.3 |
| Goats/sheep | 2.4 |
| Cattle | 2.6 |
| Sewing machine | 3.1 |
| Heater | 4.2 |
| Bicycle | 5.4 |
| Housing stand/land | 8.1 |
| Vehicle | 8.6 |
| Solar system | 9 |
| Refrigerator | 47.7 |
| Radio | 51.3 |
| Television | 65.4 |
| Telephone/Mobile phone | 77.7 |
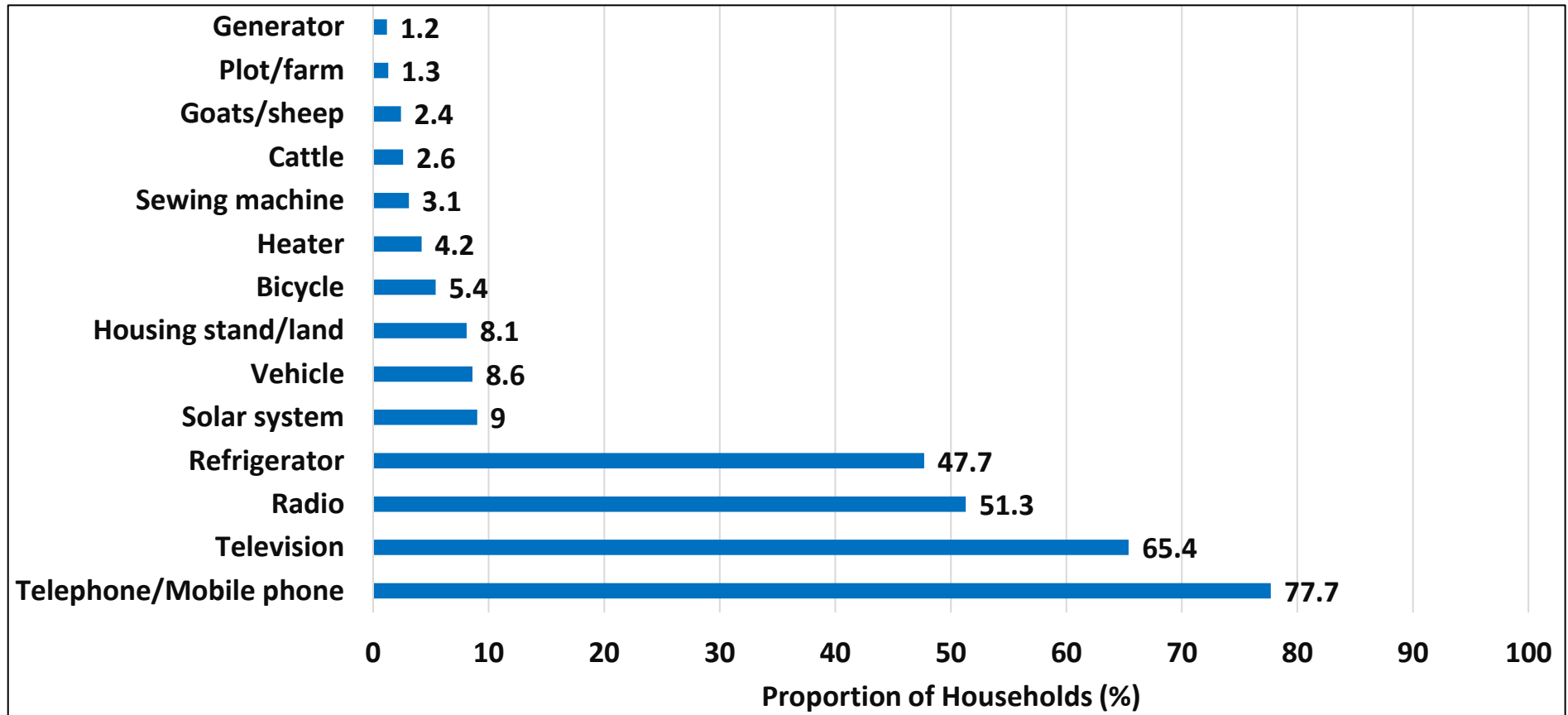
- The most commonly owned assets by households were the telephones/mobile phones (77.7%), followed by televisions (65.4%) and radios (51.3%).

# Remittances, Loans and Debts

# Households that Gave Out Remittances
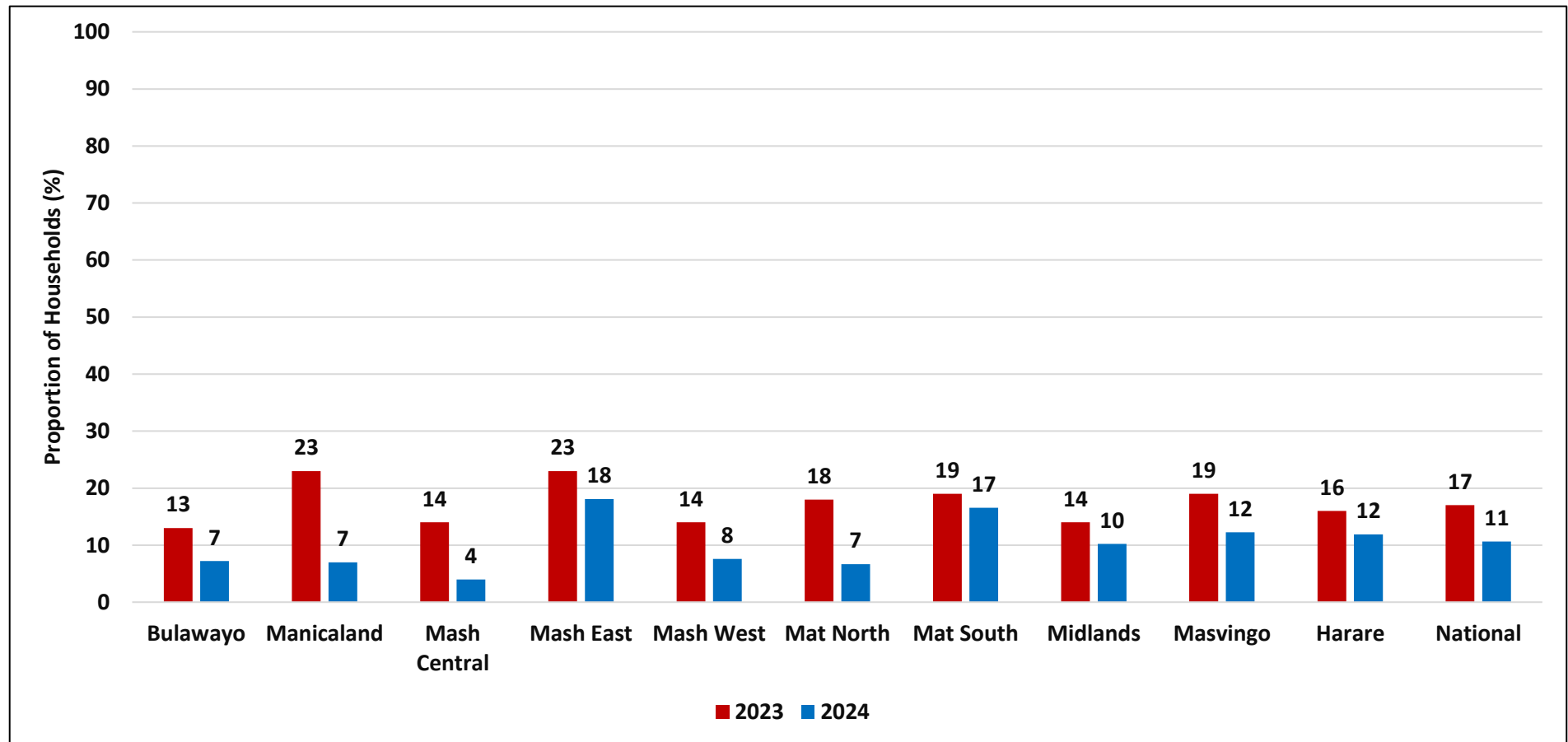


- Nationally, 11% of the households gave out remittances.
- Across all provinces, there was a decline in the proportion of households which gave out remittances.

# Households With Outstanding Debts
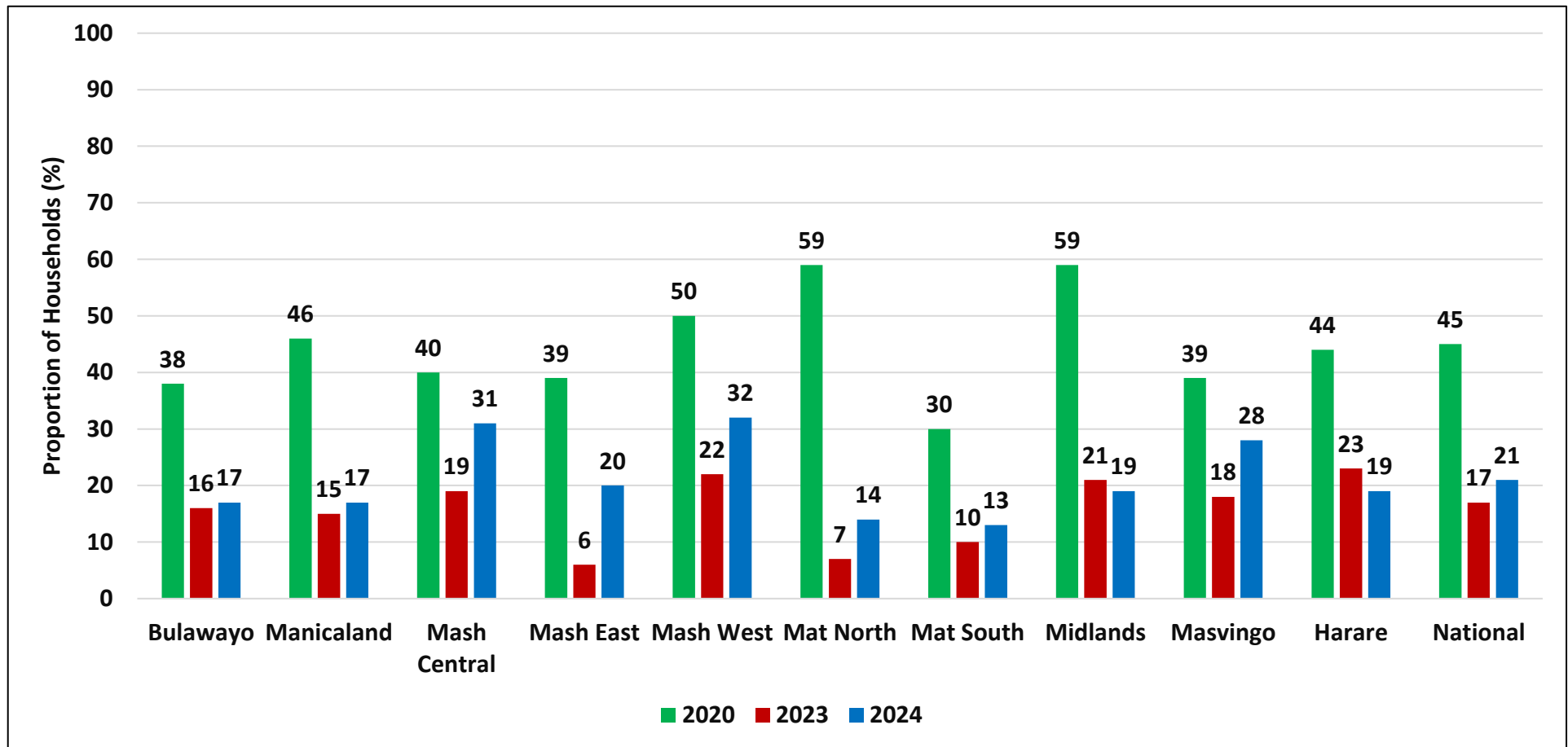


- Households' economic capacity remains stable as 79% of them had no outstanding debts, an improvement from 55% of 2020.

# Sources of loans

| Province | Family or Friend (%) | Informal Money Lender (%) | Landlord (%) | Retail or Wholesale Shop (%) | Bank/Other Formal Financial Institution (%) | Loan From Employer (%) | Other (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 11.5 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 1.9 |
| Manicaland | 11.1 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 0.8 | 2.3 | 0 | 1.0 |
| Mash Central | 16.0 | 8.7 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 3.5 | 0.5 | 3.7 |
| Mash East | 12.5 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.2 | 0.2 | 3.9 |
| Mash West | 22.9 | 1.5 | 3.3 | 1.9 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 5.9 |
| Mat North | 11.3 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 0 | 0.2 |
| Mat South | 10.2 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| Midlands | 14.8 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| Masvingo | 22.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 2.6 | 0.1 | 1.3 |
| Harare | 13.0 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 1.2 |
| **National** | **14.5** | **2.0** | **1.9** | **1.5** | **1.4** | **0.2** | **1.9** |

- The main source of loans across provinces was family or friends (14.5%). This shows the importance of social capital in communities.

# Shocks and Stressors

# Shocks and Stressors



Horizontal bar chart. X-axis: Proportion of Households (%), from 0 to 100.

| Category | % |
|---|---|
| By-laws which resulted on demolitions of houses | 0.3 |
| | 0.7 |
| | 1.1 |
| By-laws which affected urban agriculture | 1.4 |
| | 1.4 |
| Malaria diseases incidents among household members | 1.6 |
| | 2.3 |
| Livestock deaths | 2.4 |
| | 2.9 |
| Conflict/social unrest | 3.6 |
| | 3.6 |
| Death of main income earner in the household | 4.6 |
| | 5.2 |
| Other | 5.5 |
| | 8.1 |
| Theft/burglary /Armed robbers | 9.6 |
| | 10.8 |
| Drought/ Prolonged mid-season dry spell | 17.7 |
| | 17.8 |
| High transport costs | 38.6 |
| | 39.3 |
| Sharp increase in prices of basic and other commodities | 78.8 |

- The most reported shock was a sharp increase in prices of basic and other commodities (78.8%).

# Shocks and Stressors by Province
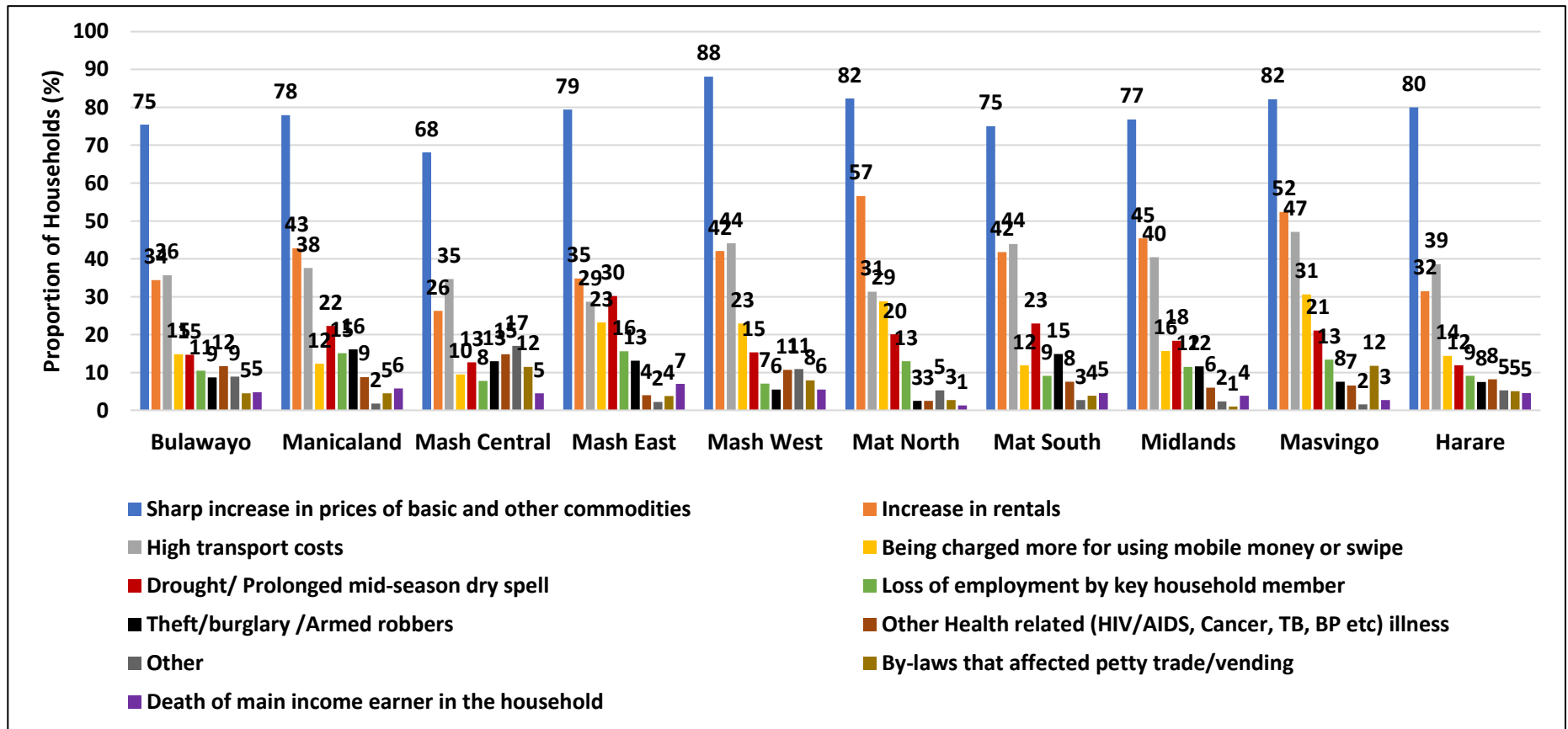


- Mashonaland West recorded the highest proportion of households which reported sharp increase in prices of basic and other commodities (88%).

# Food Security

# 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 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 are:

  - Availability of food

  - Access to food

  - The safe and health utilization of food

  - The stability of food availability, access and utilization

- Household food security status was determined using four parameters:

  - Food Poverty Line;

  - Household monthly income;

  - Household food consumption score; and

  - Household hunger scale

# Food Insecurity
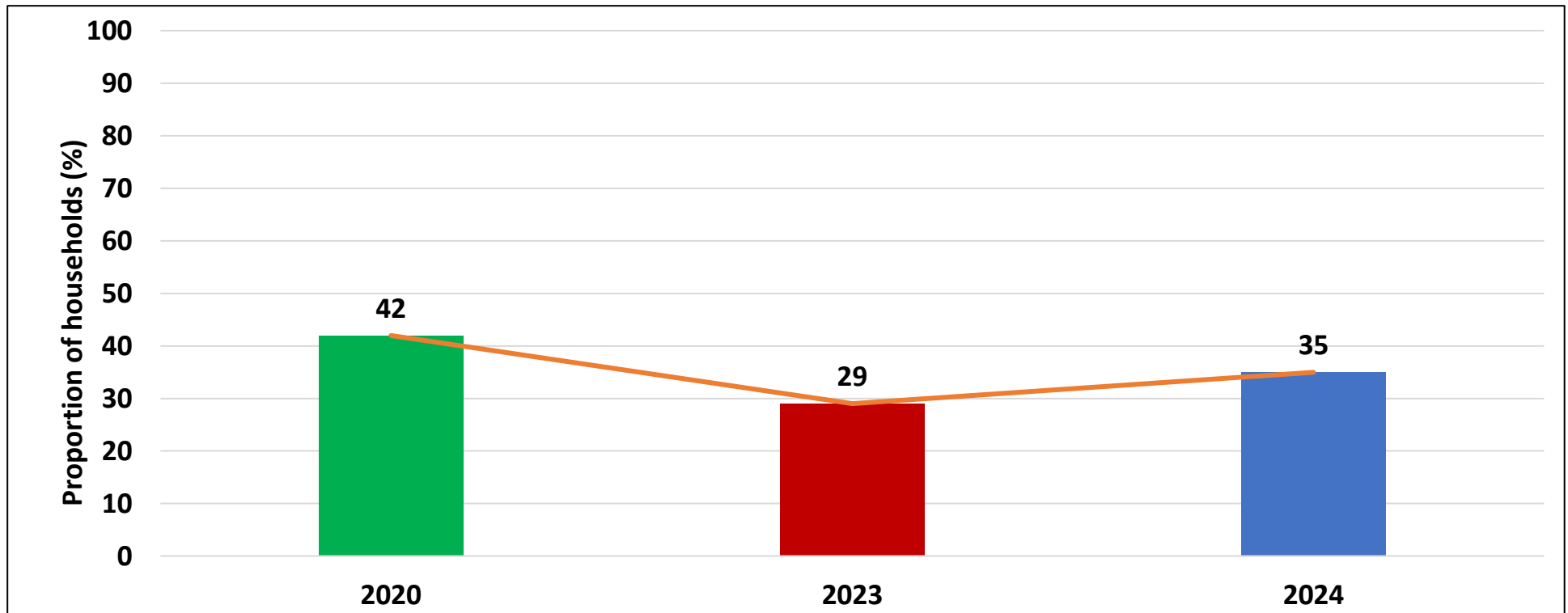


- Food insecurity increased from 29% in 2023 to 35% in 2024.

# Food Insecurity by Province
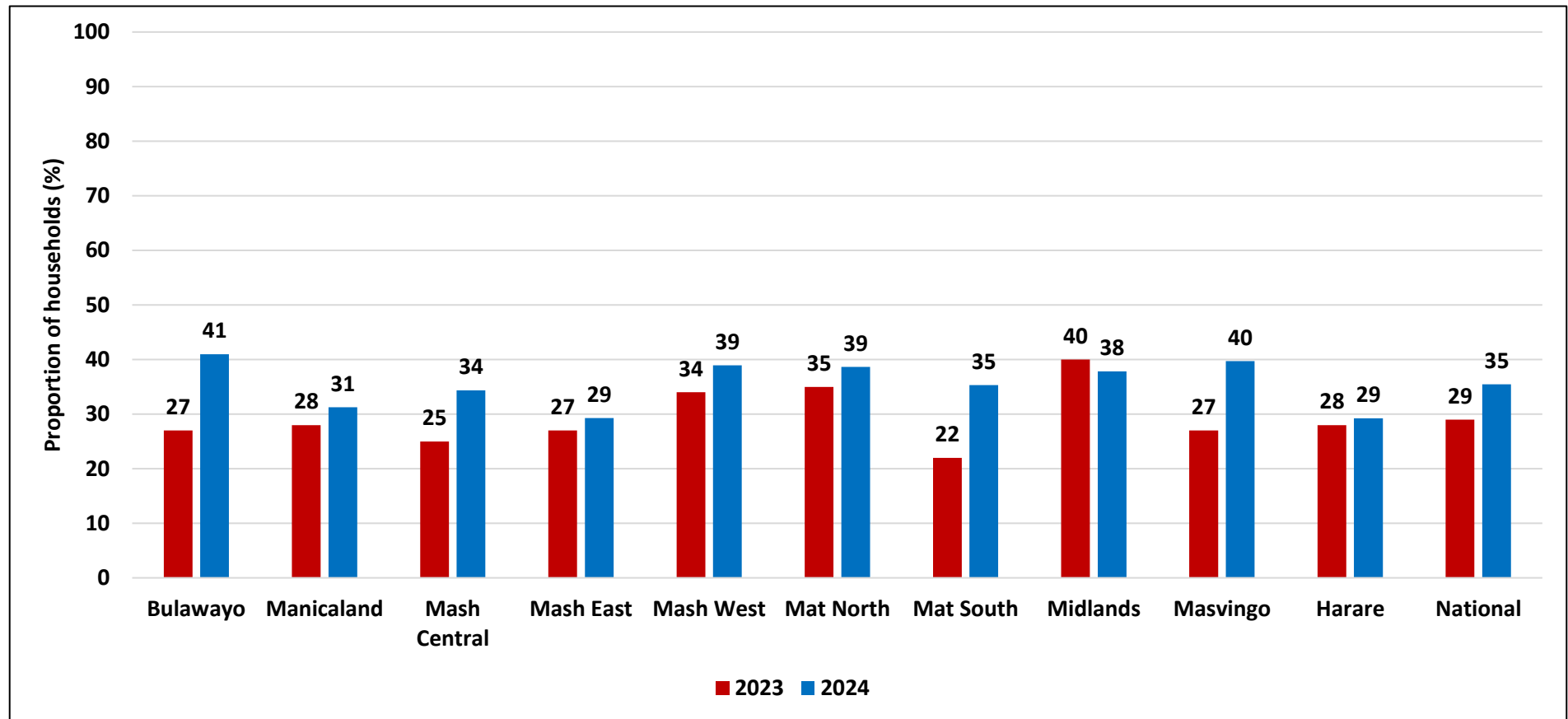


- Bulawayo had the highest proportion of food insecure households (41%).

- Harare (29%) and Mashonaland East (29%) had the lowest.

# Food Insecurity by Domain
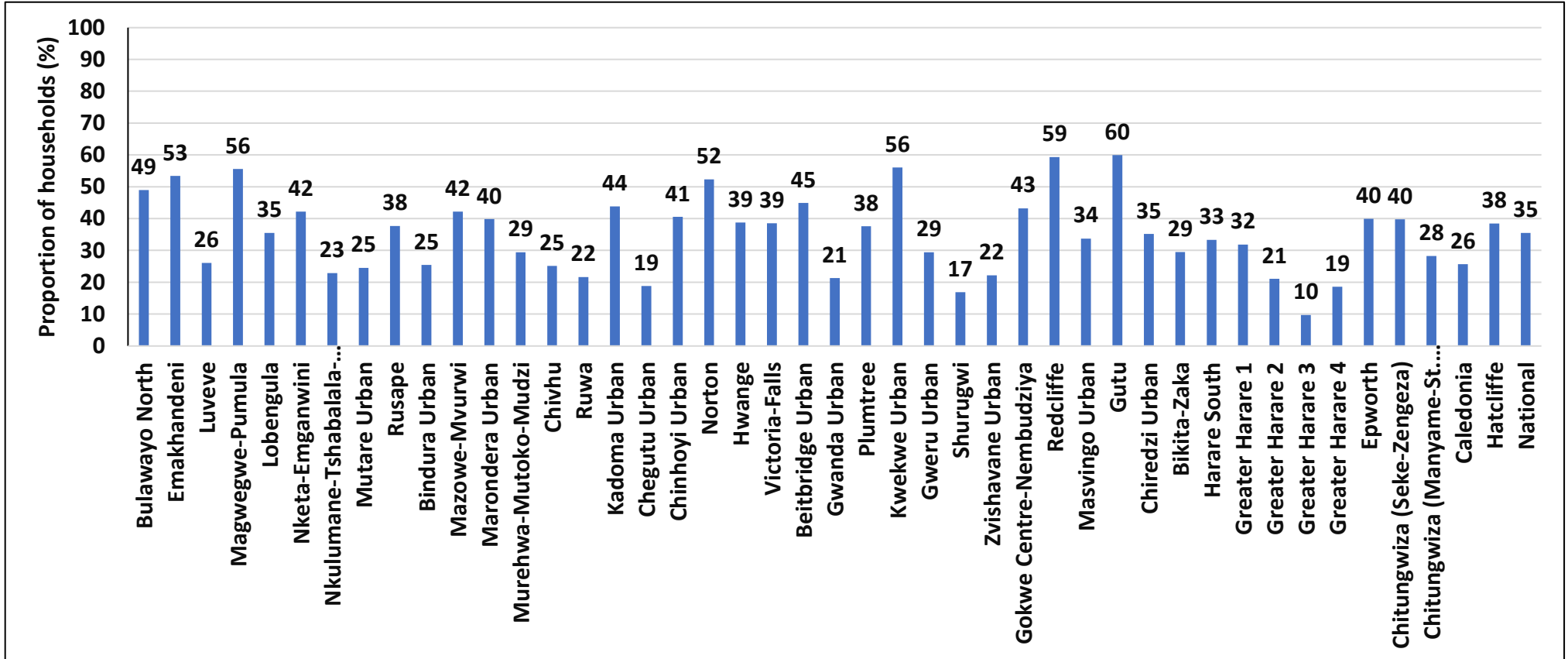


- Gutu (60%) and Redcliffe (59%) had the highest proportion of food insecurity.
- Greater Harare 3 (10%) had the least food insecurity.

# Food Insecure Population by Province

| Province | Cereal Insecure (%) | Cereal Insecure Population | Monthly Cereal Requirement (MT) | Quarterly Cereal Requirement (MT) | Annual Cereal Requirement (MT) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 41.0 | 272,804 | 3,365 | 10,094 | 40,375 |
| Manicaland | 31.3 | 82,097 | 1,013 | 3,038 | 12,150 |
| Mash Central | 34.3 | 38,042 | 469 | 1,408 | 5,630 |
| Mash East | 29.3 | 38,675 | 477 | 1,431 | 5,724 |
| Mash West | 39.0 | 145,854 | 1,799 | 5,397 | 21,586 |
| Mat North | 38.6 | 29,160 | 360 | 1,079 | 4,316 |
| Mat South | 35.3 | 35,387 | 436 | 1,309 | 5,237 |
| Midlands | 37.8 | 166,036 | 2,048 | 6,143 | 24,573 |
| Masvingo | 39.7 | 67,266 | 830 | 2,489 | 9,955 |
| Harare | 29.2 | 747,839 | 9,223 | 27,670 | 110,680 |
| **National** | **35.4** | **1,732,770** | **21,371** | **64,112** | **256,450** |

- The food insecure population translated to 1,732,770 people.

- The total monthly cereal requirement for the food insecure population was 21,371 Metric Tonnes.

# Food Insecure Population by Domain

| | Cereal Insecure (%) | Cereal Insecure Population | Monthly Cereal Requirement (MT) | Quarterly Cereal Requirement (MT) | Annual Cereal Requirement (MT) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 41.0 | 272,804 | 3,365 | 10,094 | 40,375 |
| Mutare | 24.5 | 55,108 | 680 | 2,039 | 8,156 |
| Rusape | 37.6 | 14,267 | 176 | 528 | 2,112 |
| Mvurwi-Mazowe | 42.2 | 25,060 | 309 | 927 | 3,709 |
| Bindura | 25.4 | 13,056 | 161 | 483 | 1,932 |
| Chivu | 25.1 | 4,686 | 58 | 173 | 694 |
| Mudzi- Murehwa- Mutoko | 29.4 | 13,913 | 172 | 515 | 2,059 |
| Marondera | 39.8 | 26,351 | 325 | 975 | 3,900 |
| Chinhoyi | 40.5 | 41,983 | 518 | 1,553 | 6,213 |
| Kadoma | 43.8 | 51,461 | 635 | 1,904 | 7,616 |
| Chegutu | 18.7 | 12,394 | 153 | 459 | 1,834 |
| Norton | 52.3 | 45,491 | 561 | 1,683 | 6,733 |
| Hwange | 38.8 | 15,597 | 192 | 577 | 2,308 |
| Victoria Falls | 38.5 | 13,572 | 167 | 502 | 2,009 |
| Gwanda Urban | 44.7 | 12,130 | 150 | 449 | 1,795 |
| Beitbridge | 21.6 | 12,678 | 156 | 469 | 1,876 |
| Plumtree | 37.7 | 5,457 | 67 | 202 | 808 |
| Gokwe Centre-Nembudziya | 42.6 | 14,087 | 174 | 521 | 2,085 |
| Gweru Urban | 30.1 | 48,583 | 599 | 1,798 | 7,190 |
| Kwekwe Urban | 55.7 | 66,775 | 824 | 2,471 | 9,883 |
| Redcliffe | 59.7 | 24,802 | 306 | 918 | 3,671 |
| Shurugwi | 16.8 | 3,915 | 48 | 145 | 579 |
| Zvishavane | 22.1 | 13,213 | 163 | 489 | 1,956 |

# Food Insecure Population by Domain

| | Cereal Insecure (%) | Cereal Insecure Population | Monthly Cereal Requirement (MT) | Quarterly Cereal Requirement (MT) | Annual Cereal Requirement (MT) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gutu | 60.4 | 6,738 | 83 | 249 | 997 |
| Bikita-Zaka | 29.6 | 8,124 | 100 | 301 | 1,202 |
| Masvingo | 33.2 | 29,980 | 370 | 1,109 | 4,437 |
| Chiredzi Urban | 35.3 | 14,271 | 176 | 528 | 2,112 |
| Harare | 25.9 | 479,530 | 5,914 | 17,743 | 70,970 |
| Chitungwiza | 34.4 | 103,776 | 1,280 | 3,840 | 15,359 |
| Epworth | 39.9 | 82,404 | 1,016 | 3,049 | 12,196 |
| Ruwa | 21.6 | 20,305 | 250 | 751 | 3,005 |
| Caledonia | 25.7 | 27,483 | 339 | 1,017 | 4,067 |
| **National** | **35.4** | **1,732,770** | **21,371** | **64,112** | **256,450** |

# Housing and Energy

# Housing Characteristics

- **Notes**

- **Rooms occupied:** Refers to enclosed areas within a dwelling which are used by a household for all year-round living. The number of rooms occupied for dwelling excludes bathrooms, toilets, vestibules and rooms used solely for business purposes. Partially divided rooms are considered to be separate rooms if they are considered as such by the respondent.

- **Dwelling**: A set of living quarters.

- **Sleeping rooms**: Refers to rooms in a private dwelling that are used for sleeping purposes. It also includes rooms designed for other uses during the day such as dining rooms and living rooms. Also included are rooms currently used as bedrooms, even if they were not originally built as bedrooms.

# Tenure Status of Households
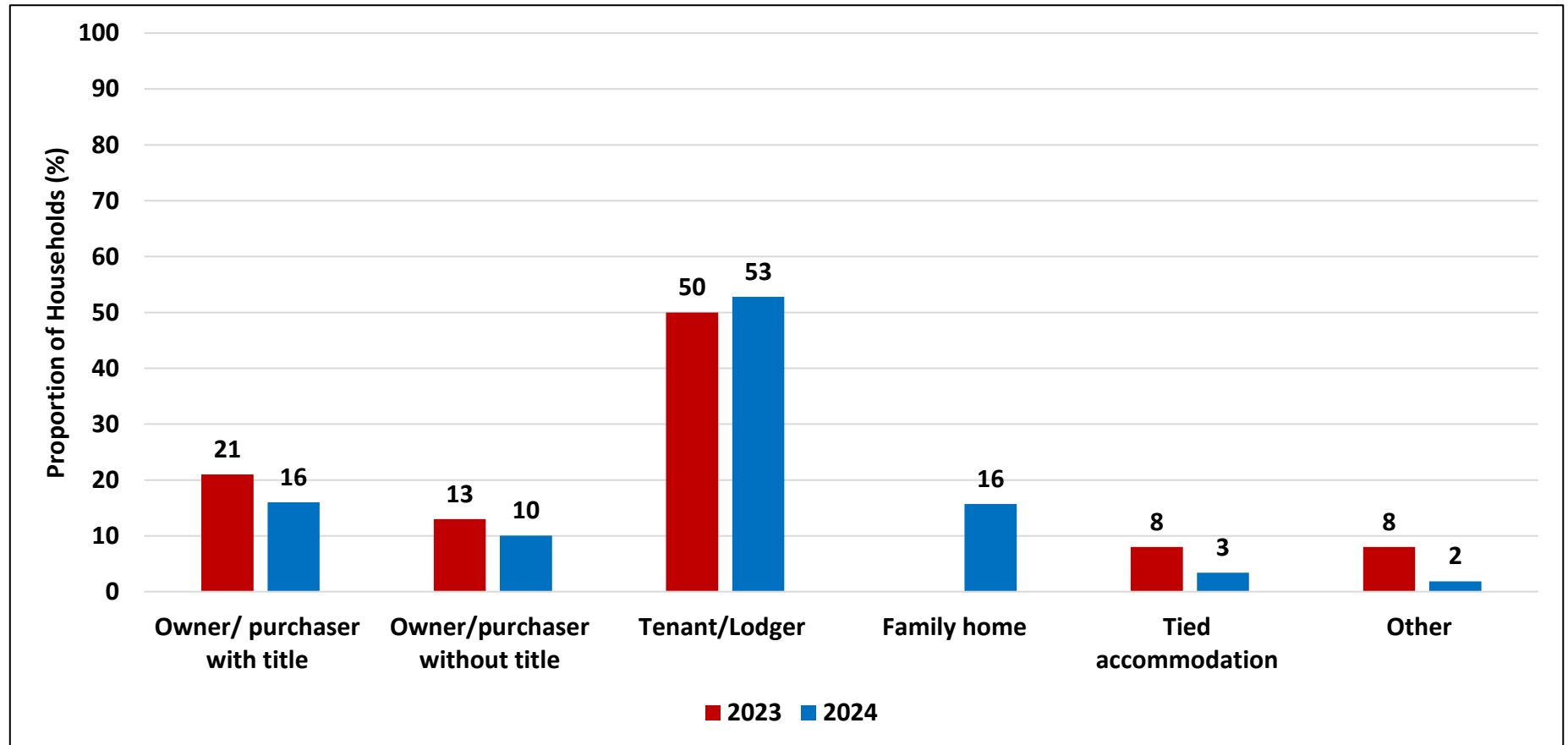


- Most of the households (53%) were tenants.
- About 16% of the urban households had properties with title deeds while 10% had no deeds.

# Tenure Status of the Households

| Province | Owner/ Purchaser With Title (%) | Owner/Purchaser Without Title (%) | Tenant/Lodger (%) | Family Home (%) | Tied Accommodation (%) | Other (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 23.2 | 3.5 | 43.1 | 29.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 |
| Manicaland | 13.3 | 16.8 | 51.1 | 12.6 | 3.3 | 2.8 |
| Mash Central | 20.0 | 17.0 | 47.7 | 8.7 | 5.3 | 1.3 |
| Mash East | 12.5 | 13.8 | 56.4 | 9.3 | 6.0 | 2.1 |
| Mash West | 14.5 | 11.7 | 50.5 | 15.9 | 1.2 | 6.1 |
| Mat North | 11.7 | 2.5 | 58.7 | 6.5 | 17.8 | 2.8 |
| Mat South | 18.1 | 5.7 | 58.5 | 11.3 | 4.3 | 2.0 |
| Midlands | 16.9 | 6.9 | 60.7 | 9.7 | 4.9 | 0.8 |
| Masvingo | 12.4 | 7.2 | 68.6 | 8.2 | 1.7 | 1.7 |
| Harare | 13.8 | 15.9 | 45.8 | 21.2 | 1.7 | 1.5 |
| **National** | **16.0** | **10.1** | **52.8** | **15.7** | **3.4** | **1.9** |

- Bulawayo had the highest proportion of households with title deeds (23.2%)  while Mashonaland Central (17%) and Manicaland (16.8%) had the highest proportion of households without title deeds.
- Masvingo (68.6%) had the highest proportion of tenants.

# Households Sharing Dwellings
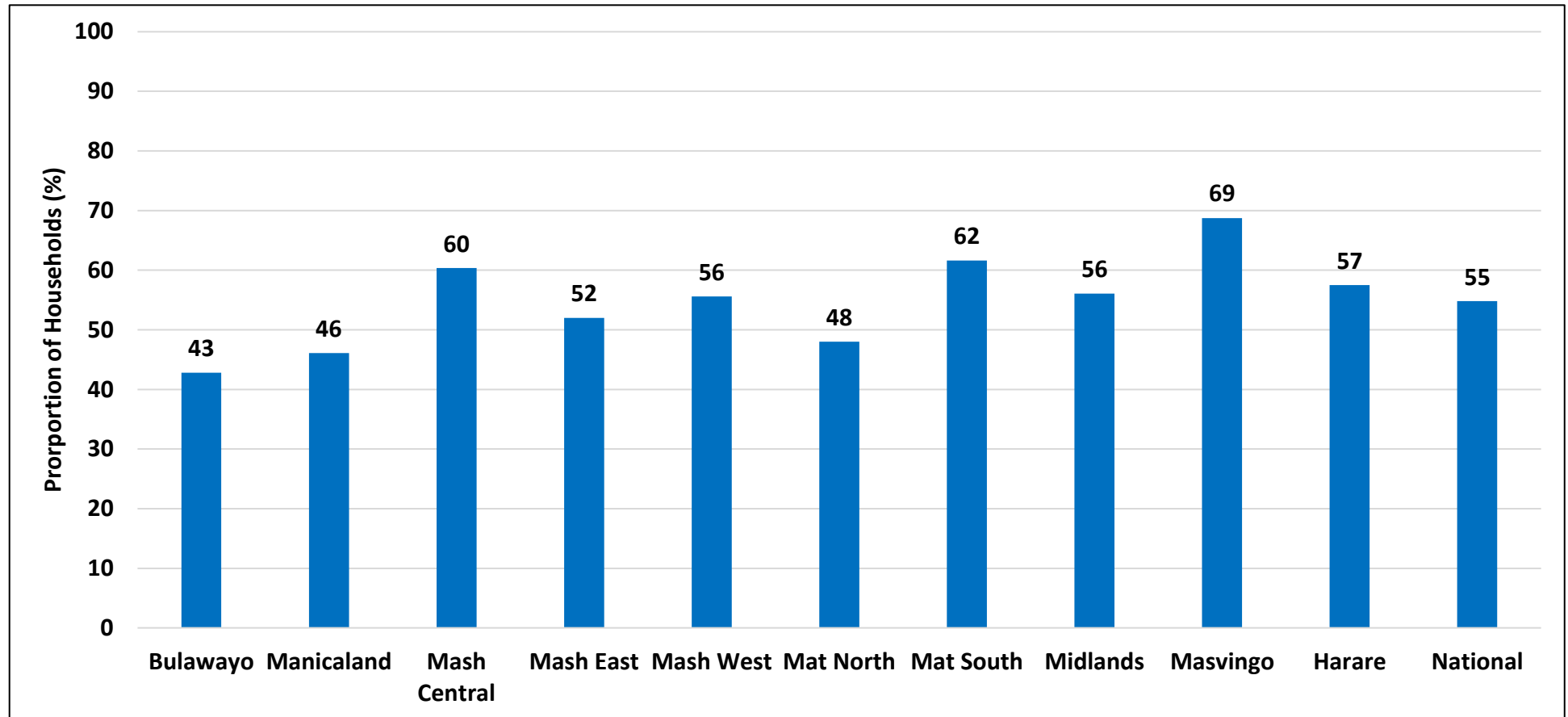


- About 55% of urban households shared dwellings.

- Masvingo had the highest proportion of households sharing dwellings (69%) and Bulawayo had the least (43%).

# Energy

# Types of Energy Used for Cooking
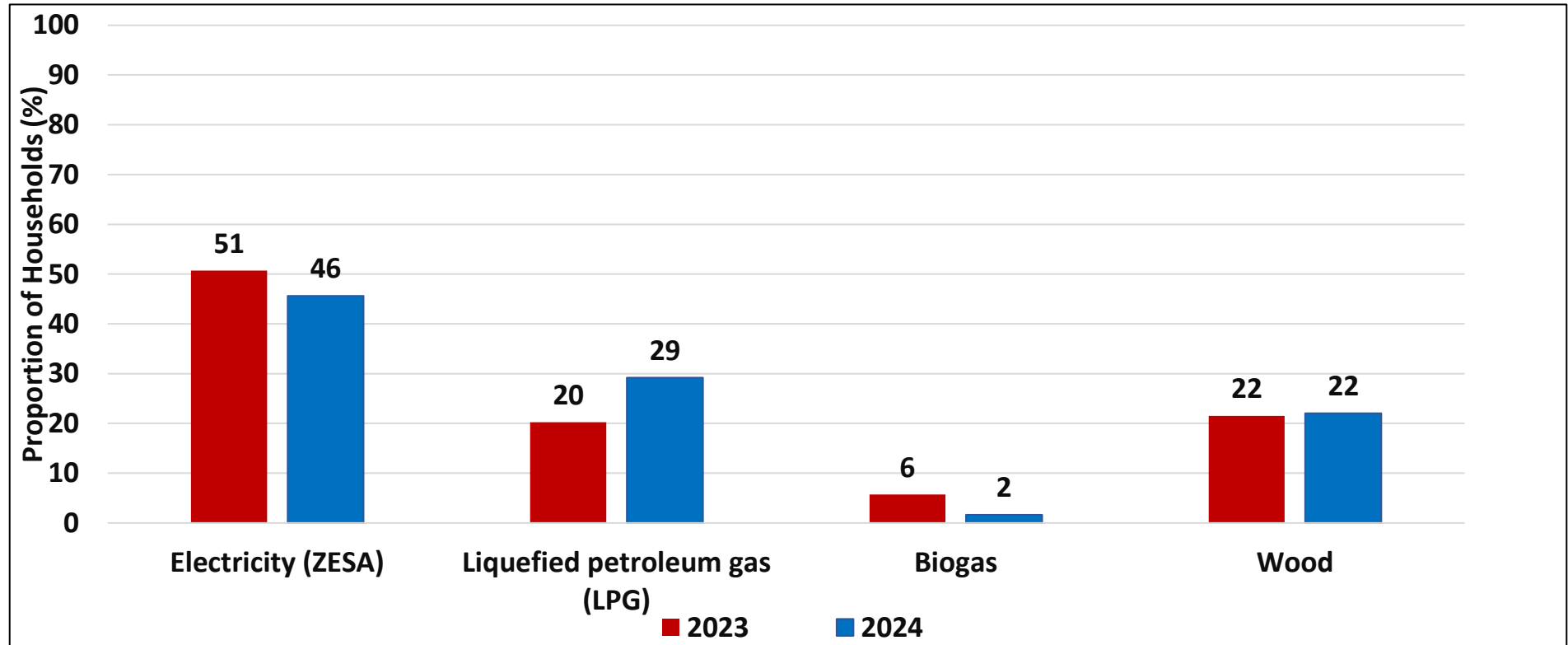


- There was a general decrease in usage of electricity from 51% to 46%. Meanwhile Liquefied Petroleum Gas usage was on the increase from 20% to 29% in 2024.

# Energy Used by Households for Cooking

| | Electricity (ZESA) (%) | Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) (%) | Wood (%) | Biogas (%) | Charcoal (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Bulawayo** | 80.8 | 10.8 | 6.0 | 1.4 | 0.0 |
| **Manicaland** | 48.9 | 25.0 | 17.1 | 6.7 | 0.5 |
| **Mash Central** | 27.0 | 39.0 | 23.7 | 10.0 | 0.0 |
| **Mash East** | 38.8 | 39.4 | 21.0 | 0.6 | 0.0 |
| **Mash West** | 40.4 | 27.6 | 28.8 | 2.5 | 0.4 |
| **Mat North** | 66.5 | 2.3 | 22.5 | 2.2 | 6.5 |
| **Mat South** | 40.9 | 25.5 | 28.8 | 2.6 | 0.4 |
| **Midlands** | 52.6 | 13.9 | 32.6 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| **Masvingo** | 28.7 | 18.5 | 51.7 | 0.2 | 0.8 |
| **Harare** | 28.0 | 58.9 | 10.4 | 0.1 | 1.0 |
| **National** | **45.6** | **29.2** | **22.1** | **1.6** | **0.7** |

- Bulawayo (80.8%) had the highest proportion of households using electricity for cooking followed by Matabeleland North (66.5%).

- Harare (58.9%) had the highest proportion of households using Liquified Petroleum Gas for cooking.

- Masvingo (51.7%) had the highest usage of wood.

# Energy Types Used for Lighting
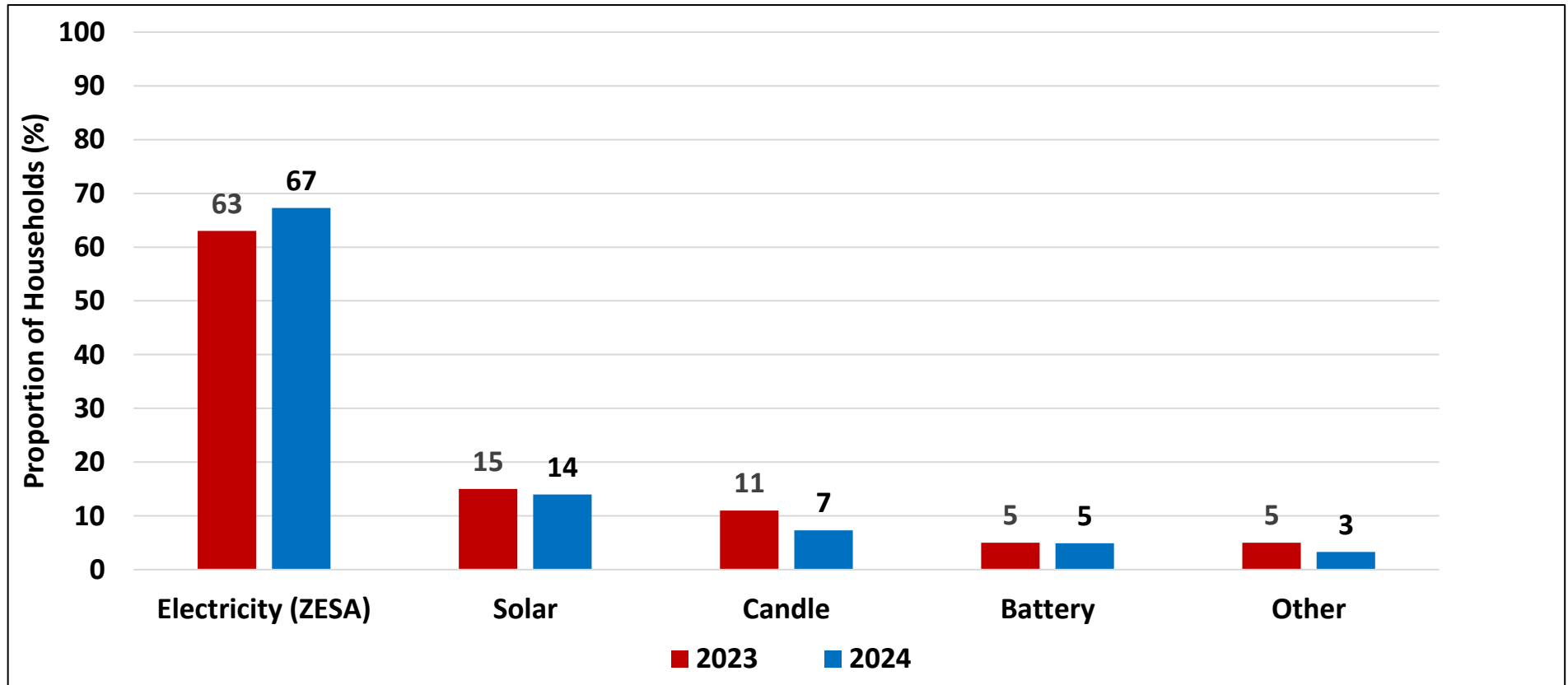


- There was no major change in the proportion of households using electricity for lighting from 63% (2023) to 67% (2024).

# Energy Types Used for Lighting

| Province | Electricity (ZESA) (%) | Solar (%) | Candle (%) | Battery (%) | Other (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulawayo | 77.3 | 4.0 | 9.3 | 1.0 | 3.1 |
| Manicaland | 76.9 | 12.1 | 3.8 | 2.0 | 2.7 |
| Mash Central | 58.8 | 21.0 | 4.5 | 9.8 | 3.0 |
| Mash East | 60.4 | 19.3 | 7.9 | 7.9 | 1.0 |
| Mash West | 73.8 | 8.3 | 4.5 | 3.4 | 5.1 |
| Mat North | 80.7 | 3.7 | 8.5 | 3.3 | 3.2 |
| Mat South | 57.7 | 23.9 | 6.6 | 5.2 | 3.0 |
| Midlands | 78.2 | 7.5 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 3.5 |
| Masvingo | 64.9 | 15.7 | 4.3 | 3.7 | 10.6 |
| Harare | 53.6 | 23.1 | 11.5 | 7.3 | 1.0 |
| **National** | **67.3** | **14.0** | **7.3** | **4.9** | **3.3** |

- Matabeleland North had the highest proportion of households (80.7%) using electricity for lighting.

- Matabeleland South had the highest proportion using solar energy for lighting (23.9%).

# Youth Development Challenges and Priorities

# Youth Development Challenges



The chart shows "Proportion of Households (%)" on the x-axis (0 to 100) with the following challenges and values:

- Poor communication services: 1
- (unlabeled): 1
- (unlabeled): 1
- Politics: 2
- (unlabeled): 2
- Bad roads: 2
- (unlabeled): 2
- Limited access to water for…: 4
- (unlabeled): 5
- Economic challenges/high…: 7
- (unlabeled): 8
- Lack of life…: 14
- (unlabeled): 18
- School dropouts: 24
- (unlabeled): 26
- Early marriages: 26
- (unlabeled): 37
- Unemployment: 42
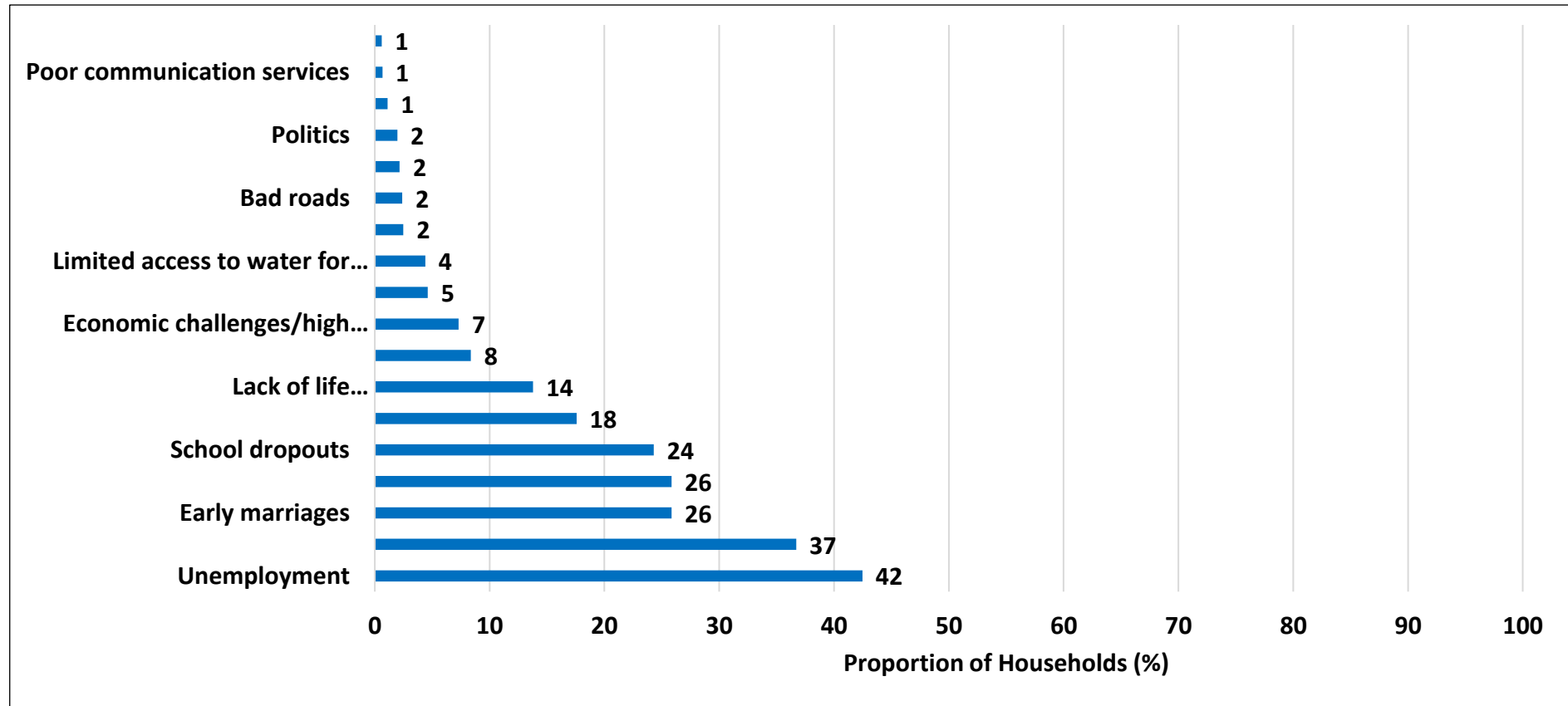
- The main youth development challenges were unemployment (42%), drug and substance abuse (37%) and early marriages (26%).

# Youth Development Priorities
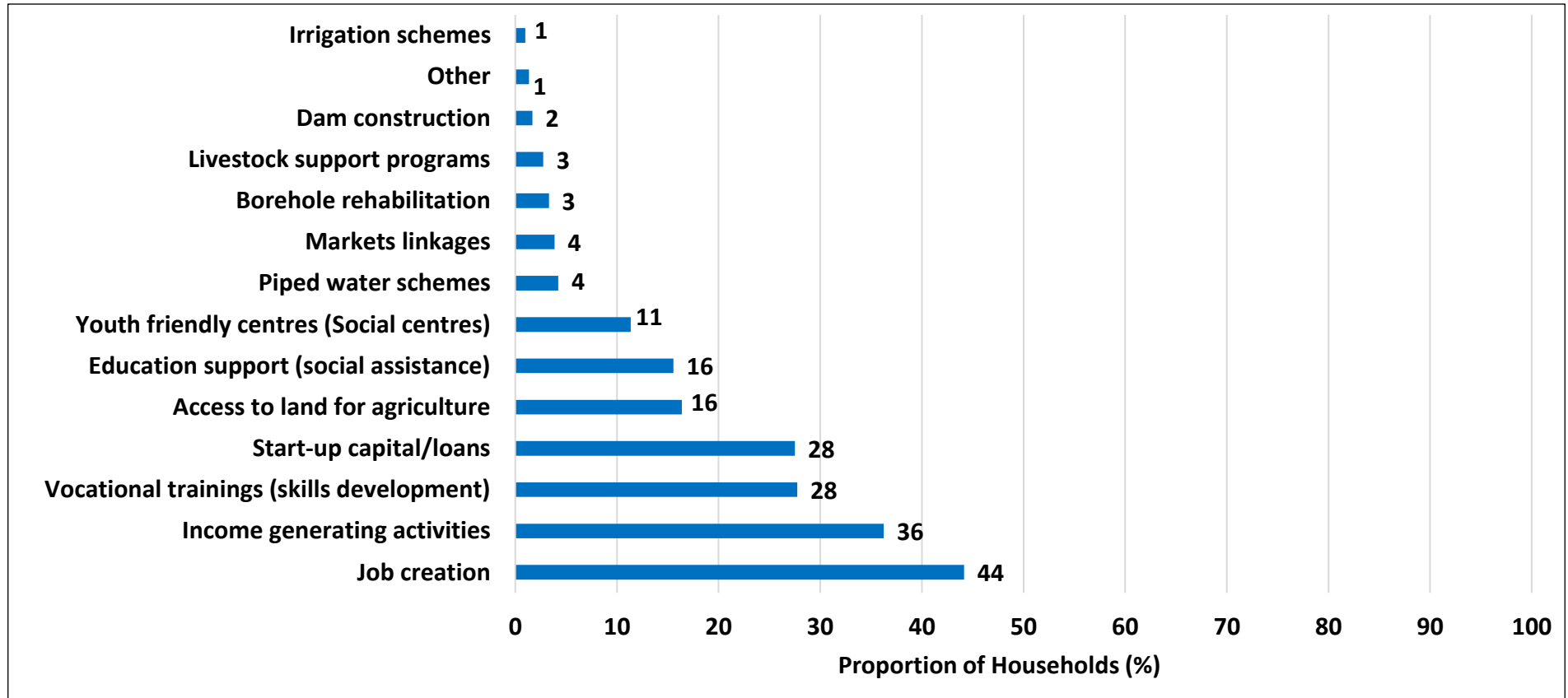


- The top youth development priorities were job creation (44%), income-generating activities (36%), vocational training/ skills development (28%) and start-up capital/loans (28%).

# Development Challenges
## and
## Priorities

# Development Challenges



Chart: Proportion of Households (%) reporting each development challenge

- No primary/secondary school in the ward: 2
- (unlabeled): 2
- (unlabeled): 2
- Social Unrest: 2
- (unlabeled): 2
- Poor Information Communication Infrastructure: 2
- (unlabeled): 3
- Poor/ lack of Health and infrastructure: 3
- (unlabeled): 4
- Fewer or no vocational training centres: 4
- (unlabeled): 5
- Sewerage bursts: 7
- (unlabeled): 8
- Poor work management: 8
- (unlabeled): 9
- Poverty: 9
- (unlabeled): 11
- Water interruptions: 11
- (unlabeled): 12
- Unemployment: 15
- (unlabeled): 18
- Drug Abuse: 21
- (unlabeled): 22
- Lack of income generating projects: 34

- The main development challenges reported were lack of income-generating projects (34%), corruption (22%) and drug and substance abuse (21%).

# Development Priorities



The chart shows "Proportion of Households (%)" for development priorities:

| Priority | Proportion of Households (%) |
|---|---|
| Functional passenger transport system | 1 |
| Livestock disease surveillance and control | 1 |
| Other | 1 |
| Internet connectivity | 1 |
| Livestock restocking | 2 |
| Control of wildlife | 3 |
| Agricultural markets availability and access development | 4 |
| Irrigation infrastructure development | 5 |
| Water Supply- boreholes, piped water schemes | 5 |
| Recreation promotion | 5 |
| Road infrastructure development | 8 |
| Vocational Training Centres | 10 |
| Dams/Water reservoirs construction | 11 |
| Skills and capacity Development | 12 |
| Health services and related infrastructure improvement | 12 |
| Electricity infrastructure development | 16 |
| Revival and development of Industries | 18 |
| Education and related infrastructure improvement | 20 |
| Income Generation Projects promotion | 23 |
| Employment creation | 39 |

- The most common development priorities cited by households included employment creation (39%), income-generating projects (23%), education and related infrastructure improvement (20%) and revival and development of industries (18%).

# Conclusions and Recommendations

# Conclusions and Recommendations

- Households engaged in food production appeared to achieve greater food security and their nutritional status tended to be better than that of non-farming urban households of the same socio-economic status. In addition, production for consumption and sale could generate revenue and reduce monthly household expenditure on food, leaving more cash available for other basic household needs (such as health, housing, education and clothing). About 15% of the households engaged in agriculture in urban areas and 6.2% outside the urban areas. There is need for the Government through the Ministry responsible for Agriculture to continue  spearheading policies and strategies to promote  urban agriculture on small plots of land close to urban areas, backyard gardens or in containers. Urban farming can help in the eradication of food insecurity and increase access to fresh, healthy food in cities, as well as provide several other benefits such as reducing the distance that food travels from farm to plate.

- Food insecurity increased from 29% in 2023 to 35% in 2024. There is need for an effective response to the most food insecure households. This should be coupled with initiatives that aim to improve the absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacities of food-insecure and vulnerable urban  households through resilience-building programmes.

- Food insecurity is often linked to poverty and lack of economic opportunities. Promoting economic development through an increase in the production of economic goods and services can help to create jobs and increase income, which in turn can help to increase access to food.

- The findings show that reliance on own business, with all things being equal is associated with improvements in all food security indicators except for  the HDDS and the RCSI which are statistically insignificant. Entrepreneurship holds emancipatory potential to accelerate the transition towards more just and sustainable food systems. There is therefore need to implement policies that promote the ease of doing business.

# Conclusions and Recommendations

- About 38% of households were engaging in negative livelihood coping strategies which undermines the future productivity of the household. There is need for Government and partners to come up with policies and strategies focusing on livelihood diversification and resilience building of households to deal with economic and natural shocks in order to ensure sustainable livelihoods and economic growth in urban areas. In Madagascar the government and partners promoted livelihood diversification for vulnerable households in cocoa production to include production of spices and vanilla leading to the country being one of the largest exporters of vanilla globally thereby strengthening the households' resilience capacities to shocks.

- A low proportion of households (14%) received information on food safety issues and 21% had knowledge on the use of safe water and raw materials for food preparation. At least 21% of households bought beef, goat or pork from street vendors, 27% bought chicken and 36% bought fish, which can pose health challenges if the food is not kept under optimum conditions. There is therefore need for government through the Ministry of Health and Child Care and Local authorities to embark on massive public food safety Information Education and Communication campaigns, material development and subsequent Social and Behaviour Change Communication to increase knowledge and practice of recommended food safety measures, including reading food labels, nutritional content and checking expiry dates.

- Important food safety actions include ensuring a supply of water of acceptable quality for food preparation, clean places for preparation and consumption of food, sanitary facilities for workers in food outlets, training for street vendors and consumer education. Interventions at national and local government levels through by-laws are also required to ensure nutritional quality for street foods in each local situation.

# Conclusions and Recommendations

- Open defecation was still practiced in some sections of urban areas with Mazowe-Mvurwi (16.3%) and Gwanda (15%) having the highest proportion of households. Sanitation is one of the major indicators used to measure the attainment of an Upper Middle Income economy status which the country is aspiring towards. Eliminating open defecation is crucial through changing social behaviour and building basic and well-managed sanitation systems  especially in poor communities. Hence, there is need for major investment in sanitation to ensure that the country does not lag behind on attaining the desired status. Local authorities need to  ensure that no people settle on urban dwellings which have no approved water and  sanitation facilities.

- Nationally, 28% of the households reported that refuse was never collected in January 2024. Harare (63%) had the highest proportion of households whose refuse was never collected. About 14.3%  of households burnt their uncollected refuse  and 12.3%  threw it away in undesignated   areas. There is  need for local authorities, in the interest of creating smart cities, to create programmes that educate residents on waste separation at source and encourage composting of organic refuse so that only a minimum amount needs to be collected. Investment in equipment for waste management needs priority and engagement in public private partnerships should be top priority in waste management.

-  In the face of a gradual convergence in dietary patterns in urban areas, including the consumption of highly processed foods, policies and legislation are needed to promote healthy food environments, both formal and informal, and to empower consumers to make nutritious food choices. This needs to be coupled with local initiatives to create healthier retail food environments which include restricting advertising of energy-dense foods high in fats, sugars and/or salt.

# Conclusions and Recommendations

- The proportion of households which were tenants/lodgers was 53%. There is need for the ministry responsible for  National Housing and Social Amenities to accelerate programmes aimed at improving access to affordable and quality  housing. Focus should be on construction of new housing units and upgrading of informal settlements. There is need for  the private sector to complement Government efforts in improving access to decent accommodation.

-  Unemployment (42%) and drug and substance abuse (37%) were the main youth development challenges reported in urban areas. There is need to establish urban youth centers, innovation hubs, vocational training centers and job creation through  promoting entrepreneurial skills development to ensure that by 2030 Zimbabwe would have developed into an empowered and prosperous  upper middle-income society.

- Only 6.1% of children in school were receiving a hot meal at school. In South Africa, School Feeding programmes have had a significant effect on improving illness, school attendance and academic achievement. There is need for the Government of Zimbabwe to consider adapting new strategies   from other countries which seem to have a sustainable  Home Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP) eg Zambia has implemented the HGSFP in 39 districts covering all 10 provinces targeting 1,000,000 pupils in approximately 2,800 schools. Through the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education,  schools  with reliable water sources should be supported to have nutrition gardens to promote the sustainability of  the home grown school feeding programme.

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