Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC)
2018 Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report

ZimVAC is coordinated by the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) housed at SIRDC: 1574 Alpes Road, Hatcliffe, Harare, Tel: 04 -860320-9

Food & Nutrition Council
Every Zimbabwean Free from Hunger & Malnutrition

VAC
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Vulnerability
Assessment Committee

Acknowledgement of Funding

Foreword

The Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) successfully coordinated the 18th Rural Livelihoods Assessment (RLA) in April 2018 in the spirit of strengthening the National Food and Nutrition Security Information System (FNSIS). The FNSIS is essential for understanding the breadth and scope of food and nutrition insecurity thereby assisting in prioritising and planning food and nutrition interventions and broader livelihoods. This assessment was carried out under the auspices of the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) which acts as a technical advisory committee. The Committee is comprised of representatives from Government and Development Partners.

In its endeavour to 'promote and ensure adequate food and nutrition security for all people at all times', the Government of Zimbabwe has continued to exhibit its commitment to reducing food and nutrition insecurity, improving livelihoods and reducing poverty amongst the vulnerable populations in Zimbabwe. This report covers and provides updates on pertinent rural livelihoods issues such as education, food and income sources, income levels, expenditure patterns and food security among other issues. The report concludes by giving specific recommendations on each of the thematic areas outlined in the report. Our sincere hope is that this report will give both Government and Development Partners the much needed empirical evidence for planning, programming and decision making which in turn will result in targeted community interventions.

We want to express our profound gratitude to ZimVAC for successfully conducting this assessment. In the same spirit, the active role played by the food and nutrition security structures at both provincial and district levels is greatly appreciated. Financial support and technical leadership were received from the Government of Zimbabwe and its Development Partners. Without this support, the 2018 Rural Livelihoods Assessment would not have been successful. The leadership, coordination and management of the whole assessment displayed by the staff at the Food and Nutrition Council is also greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank the rural communities of Zimbabwe as well as the rural local authorities for cooperating and supporting this assessment.

We submit this report to you for your use and reference in your invaluable work. We hope it will light your way as you search for lasting measures in addressing priority issues keeping many of our rural households vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity.

George D. Kembo
FNC Director/ ZimVAC Chairperson

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Acronyms

EA	Enumeration Area
CSI	Coping Strategy Index
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FNC	Food and Nutrition Council
FNSP	Food and Nutrition Security Policy
FNSIS	Food and Nutrition Security Information System
HDDS	Household Dietary Diversity Score
HHS	Household Hunger Score
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
RLA	Rural Livelihoods Assessment
UN	United Nations
ZimVAC	Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee

Acknowledgements

The technical and financial support received from the following is greatly appreciated:

- Office of the President and Cabinet
- Food and Nutrition Council
- SIRDC
- Ministry of Finance
- SADC RVAC
- Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT)
- Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement
- Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Health and Child Care
- Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing
- Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development
- Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education
- MELANA
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- United Nations Children's fund (UNICEF)
- Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- Rural District Councils
- Save the Children
- Amalima
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
- National AIDS Council
- World Vision
- Oxfam
- Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH)
- Local Initiatives and Development Agency
- Jointed Hands Welfare Organisation
- Meteorological Services Department
- Lower Guruve Development Association (LGDA)
- Development Aid from People to People (DAPP)
- Cluster Agricultural Development Services (CADS)
- Self Help Development Foundation (SHDF)
- Zimbabwe Red Cross Society (ZRCS)
- Family Aids Caring Trust (FACT)
- CARE International
- Aquaculture Trust
- Plan International
- Aid Organisation
- Trinity
- ENSURE
- Midlands AIDS Service Organisation
- SOS
- Caritas
- LFSP

Background and Introduction

Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC)

ZimVAC is a consortium of Government, UN agencies, NGOs, Technical Agencies and other international organisations, 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 malnutrition.

ZimVAC supports Government, particularly the 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 strategic directions in food and nutrition security,
- Undertaking a "watchdog role" and supporting and facilitating action to ensure commitments in food and nutrition are kept on track by different sectors 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 2018 RLA was undertaken to guide the following:

- Evidence based planning and programming
- Early warning for early action
- Data for efficient targeting of interventions.
- Evaluation of performance against national priorities (ZimASSET, FNSP, SDGs)
- Identification of the success and failures of programmes at local levels
- Input into discussion of progress and areas of improvement

Purpose

- The overall purpose of the 2018 Rural Livelihoods Assessment was to provide an annual update on rural livelihoods for the purposes of informing policy formulation and programming appropriate interventions

Objectives

The 2018 ZimVAC Rural Livelihoods Assessment was conducted with the broad objective of assessing the prevailing food and nutrition insecurity situation, impact of the food assistance and input support programmes on rural livelihoods in Zimbabwe. The assessment's specific objectives were:

1. To estimate the population that is likely to be food insecure in the 2018/19 consumption year, their geographic distribution, gender distribution and the severity of their food insecurity;

2. To describe the socio-economic profiles of rural households in terms of such characteristics 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, consumption coping strategies and livelihoods coping strategies;

3. To determine the coverage and impact of livelihoods interventions in rural households;

4. To identify viable response interventions to community challenges in rural households;

5. To identify development priorities for rural communities in rural provinces;

6. To measure community and household resilience and identify constraints to improving community resilience and rural livelihoods including opportunities and pathways of addressing them in the face of prevailing and unpredictable shocks and stresses;

7. To assess the perception of the rural population on the natural environment from which they draw resources from;

8. To assess the availability and access to agricultural inputs and produce markets; and:

9. To assess crop post-harvest management practices and identify opportunities for minimizing potential post-harvest losses.

Context

The 2018 ZimVAC Rural Livelihoods Assessment was done in an environment characterised by the following:

- The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was estimated to grow by 3.4% in 2017 and to increase to 4.5% in 2018 (ZimSTAT, 2018). Year on year inflation rate stood at 2.68% as at March 2018. The food and non alcoholic beverages inflation rate was at 4.54% while the non food was at 1.81%. This shows that the food item prices were going up more than the non-food items.

- Decent and secure employment remains a major challenge in the country. While unemployment is relatively high, in the rural areas the employment is largely based on rain-fed agriculture which experienced a relatively good season in 2017, preceded by two memorable drought years (2015 & 2016).

- Liquidity challenges continue to adversely impact livelihoods in both rural and urban areas. The use of alternative modes of payment is contributing to distorted prices of goods and services. With reduced incomes because of depressed livelihood activities, the ongoing macroeconomic situation is expected to continue constraining food access for poor households. The ZimSTAT 2011/2012 Poverty Income and Consumption Survey estimated 76% of rural households to be poor and 23% were deemed extremely poor.

- The rainfall season was characterised by long dry spells in the first half and incessant rains in the second half of the season. The poor distribution of the rains prior to February negatively impacted on crop development, particularly the establishment and flowering of the early planted crop. The incessant rains in the later part affected weeding and harvesting which had a negative effect on the quantity and quality of the harvest.

- Most dams in the seven catchment areas ranged between 54% and 100% full as at 23 April 2018 (Zimbabwe National Water Authority).

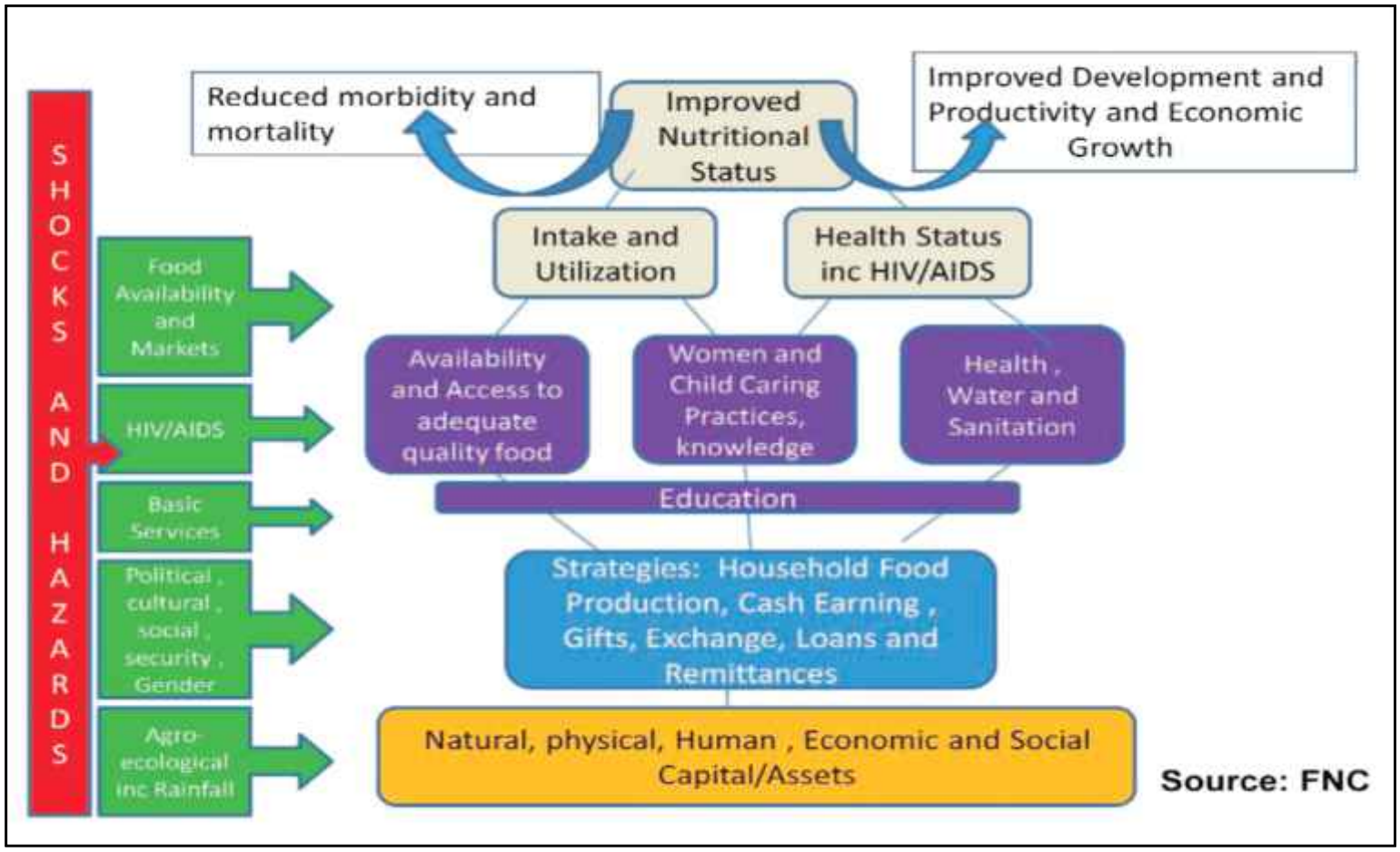
- The problem of poor rainfall distribution was compounded by the limited availability and unaffordability of key agricultural inputs such as seed, fertilisers and herbicides. Consequently, the area planted to major crops in the 2017/18 season was lower than typical in most areas (Update on the Status of 2017/2018 Agricultural Season Production Outlook, January 2018).

Context

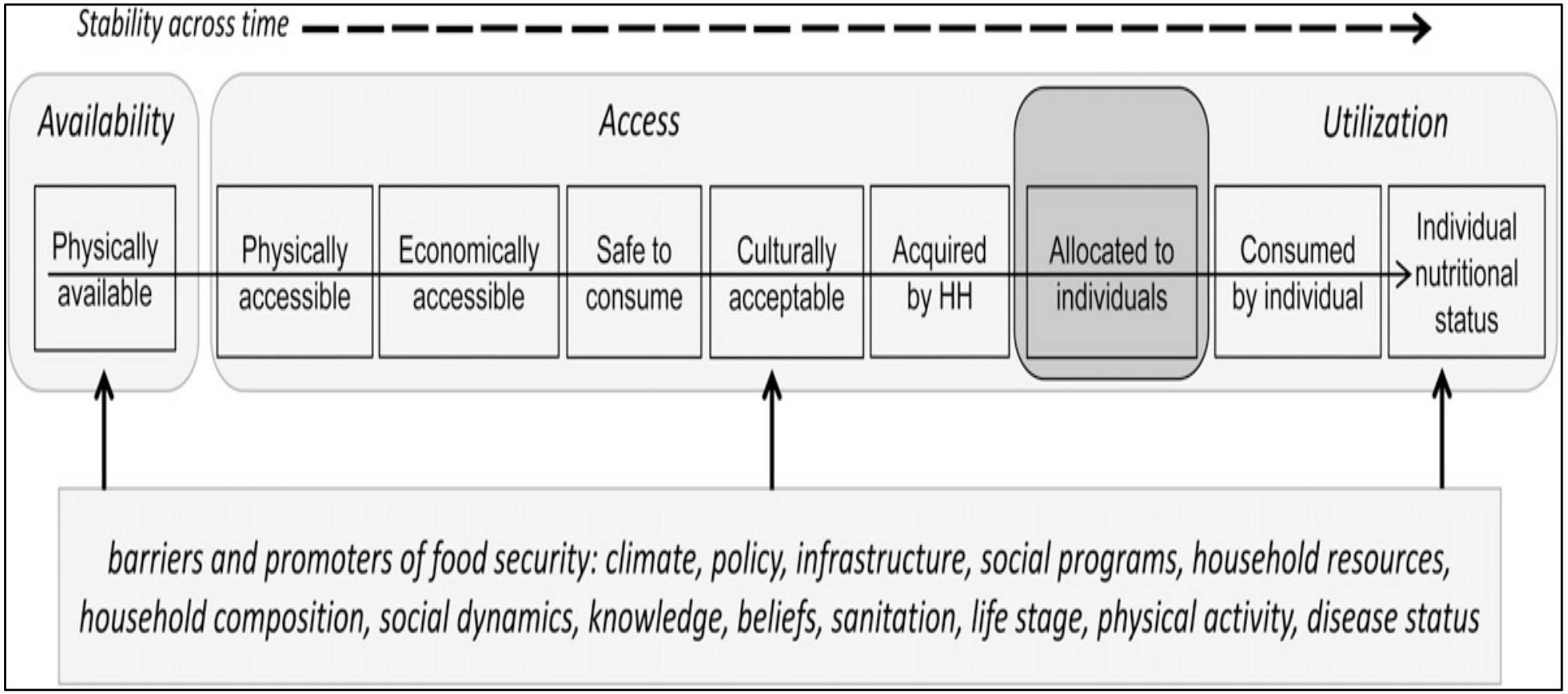
- The Fall Armyworm, which is proving more difficult to control, continued to wreak havoc in most parts of the country attacking crops (maize, small grains and others).
- Poor liquidity among farmers made it difficult to contain the pest. This pest has potential to undermine future crop production and overall national food security if no effective control strategies are put in place urgently.
- The sporadic outbreaks of the foot and mouth disease continued to be the major threat to the cattle enterprise in the country.

Methodology-Assessment Design

- The assessment used the mixed methods approach (qualitative and quantitative).
- Design informed by the multi-sectoral objectives.



Food Security Dimensions



Source: Jonnes et. al; 2013

Methodology and Assessment Process

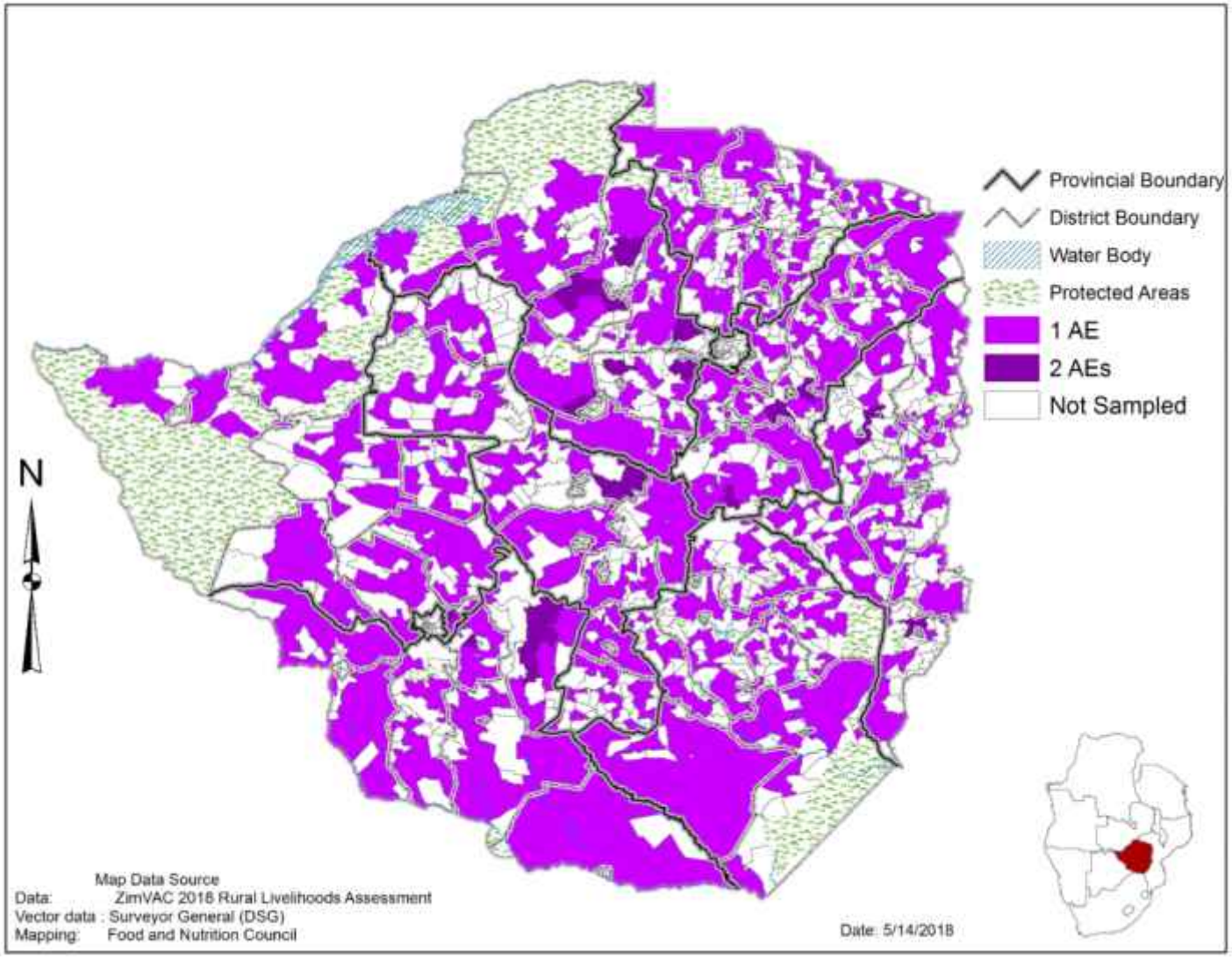
- ZimVAC, through multi-stakeholder consultations, developed an appropriate assessment design, protocol and data collection instruments informed by the assessment objectives.
- The assessment used a structured household tool, community Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and District key informant questionnaires as the primary data collection instruments. The household and the community key informant tools were android based.
- 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.
- The Ministry Local Government through the Provincial Administrators' offices coordinated the recruitment of district level enumerators and mobilisation of provincial and district enumeration vehicles.
- Primary data collection took place from 16 to 29 April 2018.
- Data analysis and report writing ran from the 30th of April to the 12th of May 2018. Various secondary data sources, including the 2018 National Nutrition Survey, were used to contextualise the analysis and reporting.
- In addition to the above, field observations and systematic secondary data review yielded valuable information that was used in the analysis and writing of the assessment report.

Methodology - Sampling and Sample Size

- The sample design was guided by the need to report food insecurity prevalence at the country's third lowest administrative tier (district) with 95% statistical confidence.
- The assessment covered 60 rural districts within the 8 rural provinces of Zimbabwe.
- The primary sampling unit was the household which was chosen using the systematic random sampling method at the Enumeration Area (EA) level.
- Fifteen EAs per district were drawn from the ZimSTAT 2012 master sampling frame using the Probability Proportional to Population Size (PPS) method.
- A total of 14,265 households were interviewed.

Province	Households	Community FGDs
Manicaland	1652	103
Mashonaland Central	1912	119
Mashonaland East	2140	117
Mashonaland West	1639	79
Matabeleland North	1669	99
Matabeleland South	1664	95
Midlands	1914	106
Masvingo	1675	105
National	**14265**	**823**

Sampled Enumeration Areas



Data Preparation and Analysis

- Interviews and data transcription were android based using CSPro.
- All primary data was consolidated and converted into SPSS and Stata datasets using CSPro for:
  - Household analysis
  - Community key informant interviews
  - District key informant interviews
- Data cleaning and analysis were done using SPSS, Stata, 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

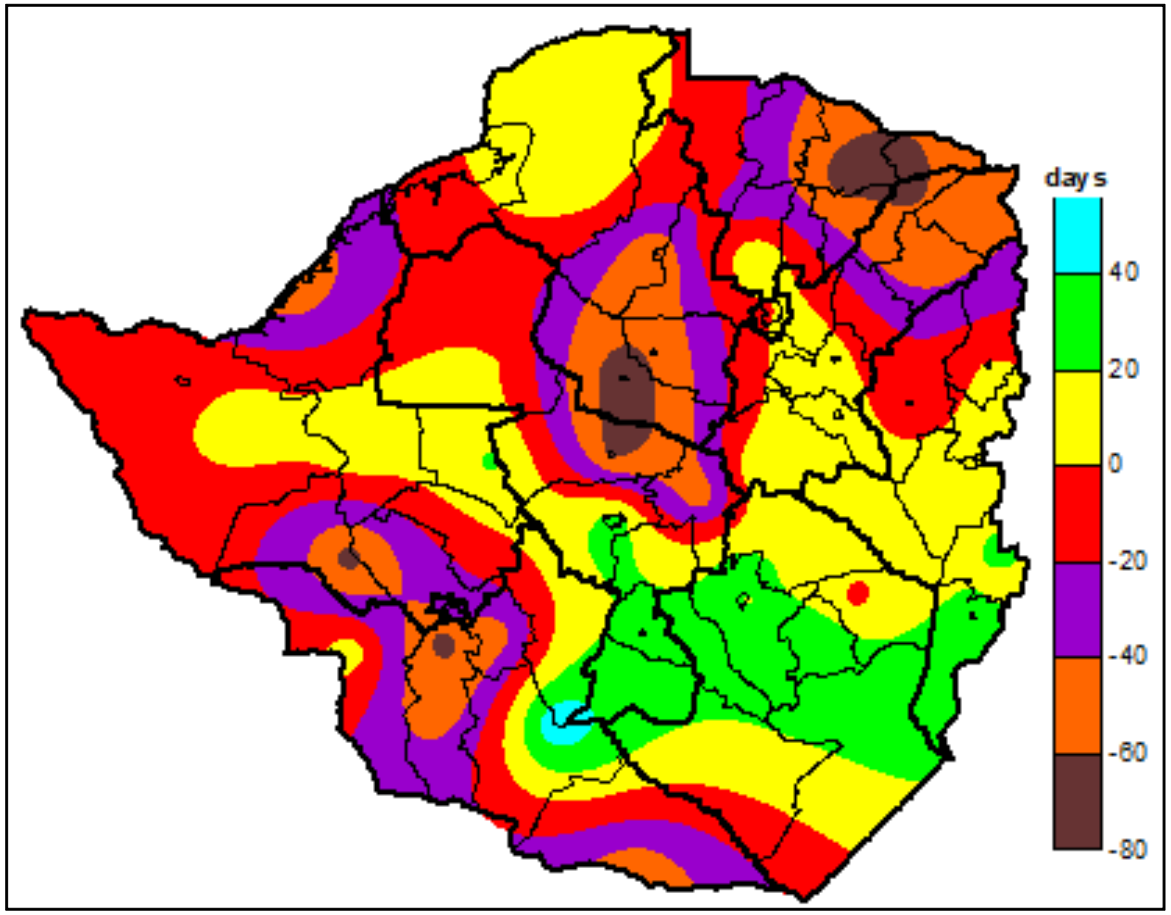
The 2018 RLA collected and analysed information on the following thematic areas:

- Seasonal Rainfall Performance
- Household demographics
- Social Protection
- Education
- Food consumption patterns
- Income and expenditure patterns and levels
- Agriculture
- Household food security
- Health
- Nutrition
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Community livelihood challenges and development priorities
- Resilience, Shocks and Hazards
- Markets

Assessment Findings

The 2017/18 Rainfall Season Quality *- Secondary Data*

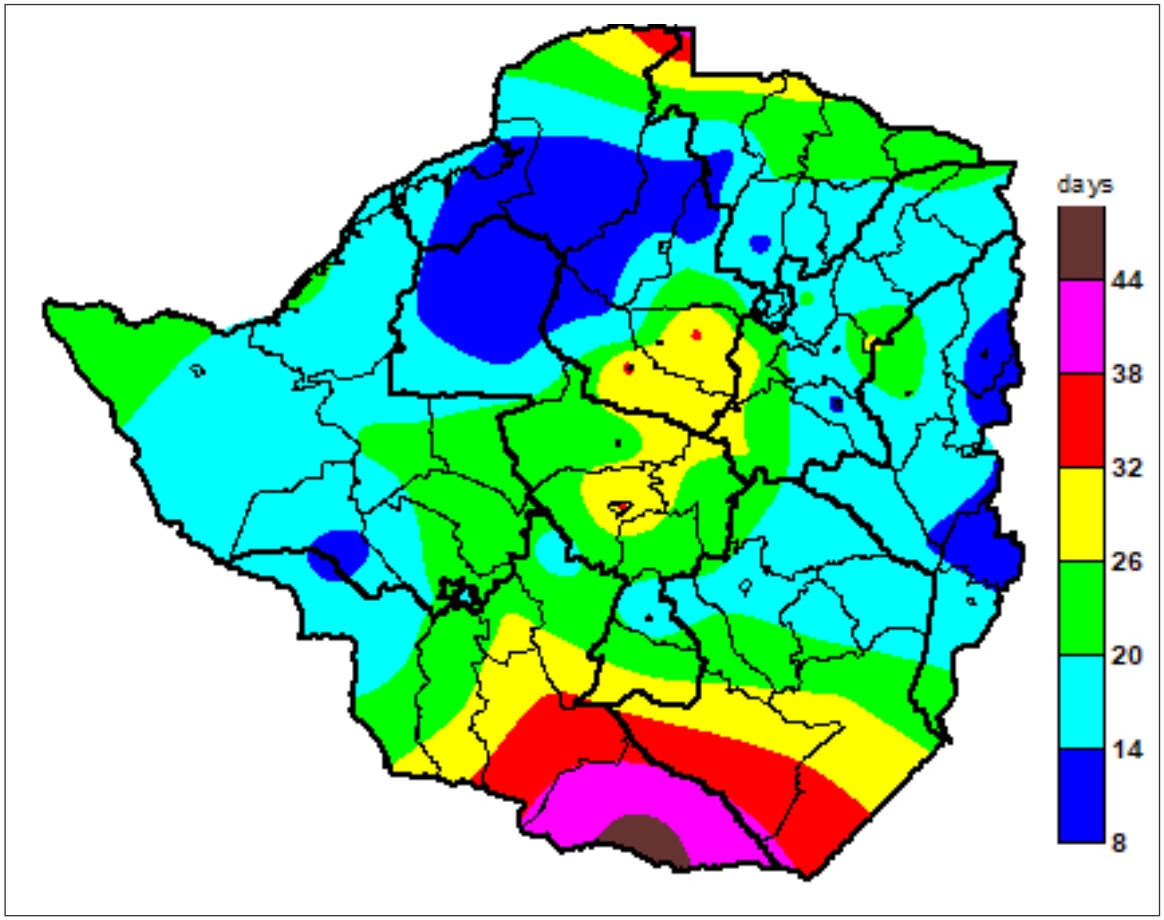
Start of season anomaly (Station data)



- Parts of Manicaland, Masvingo, Mashonaland West, southern areas of Midlands and Matabeleland South provinces recorded an early start to the 2017/2018 rainfall season up to 40 days.
- A delayed start to the season was recorded mostly in Mashonaland West, Mashonaland Central, Matabeleland North (Tsholotsho) and Matabeleland South provinces (Beitbridge, Matobo) by 40 to 60 days.
- The rains received mid November into early December were followed by long dry spells which extended up to the end of January 2018.

Rainfall Distribution

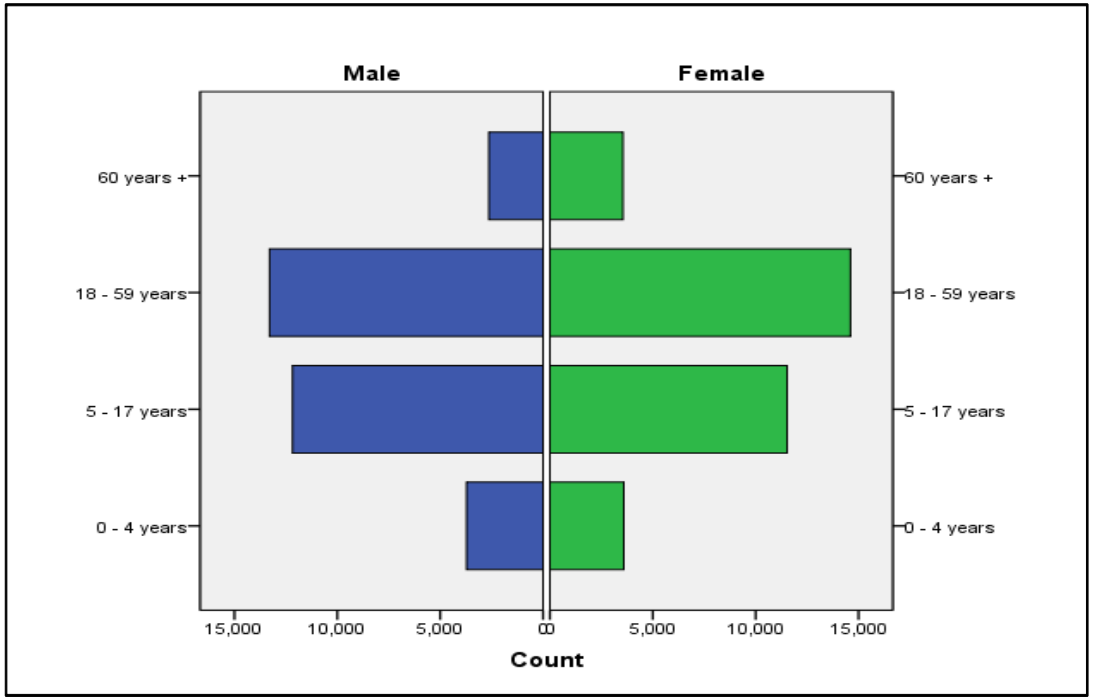
Longest dry spells experienced in the 2017-2018 season



- Most parts of the country experienced dry spells that ranged from 14 to 26 days.
- The longest dry spells were experienced in January with Beitbridge being the most affected with a dry spell of more than 38 days.

Demographic Description of the Sample

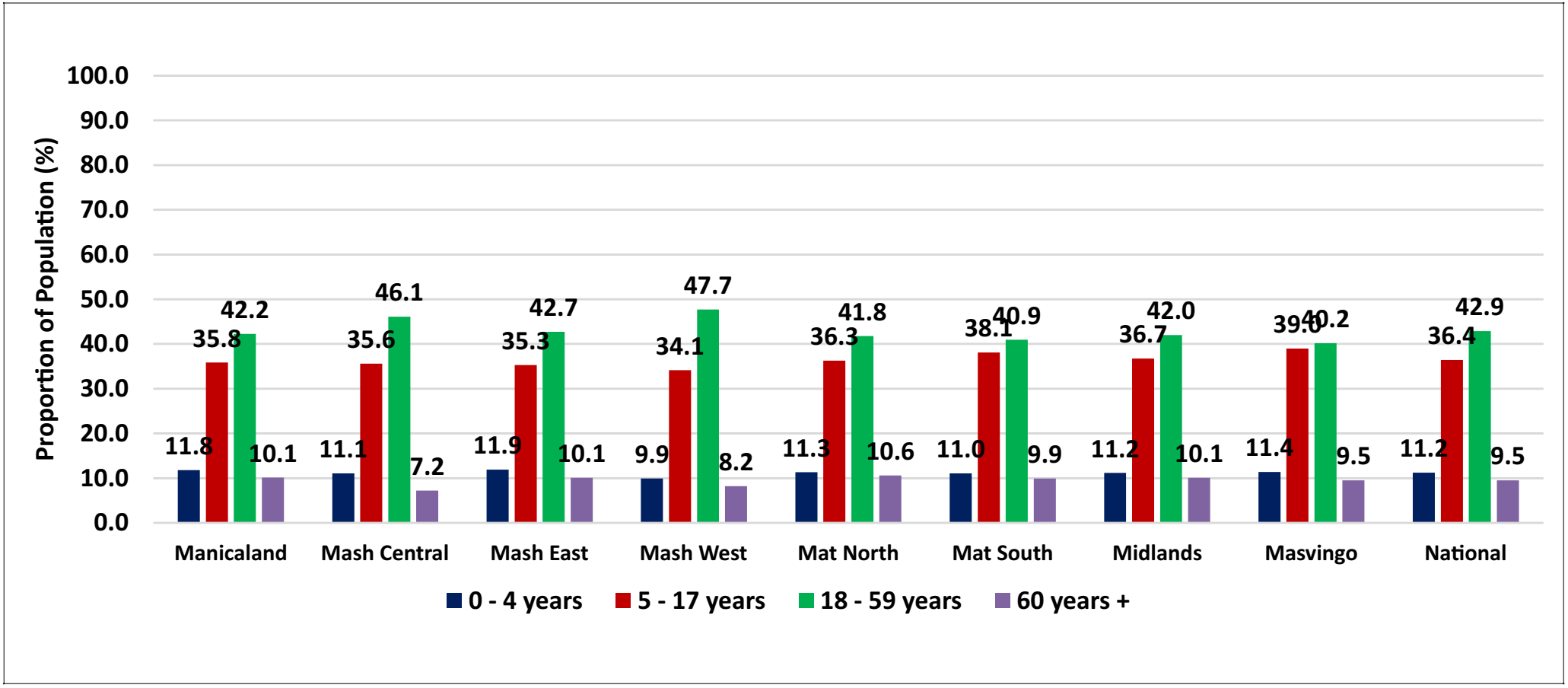
Population Distribution by Sex and Age



	2016 Dependency Ratio	2017 Dependency Ratio	2018 Dependency Ratio
Manicaland	1.8	1.7	1.5
Mash Central	1.6	1.6	1.4
Mash East	1.7	1.6	1.4
Mash West	1.5	1.5	1.2
Mat North	1.9	1.8	1.6
Mat South	1.9	1.8	1.7
Midlands	1.9	1.7	1.6
Masvingo	2.0	1.8	1.7
National	**1.8**	**1.7**	**1.5**

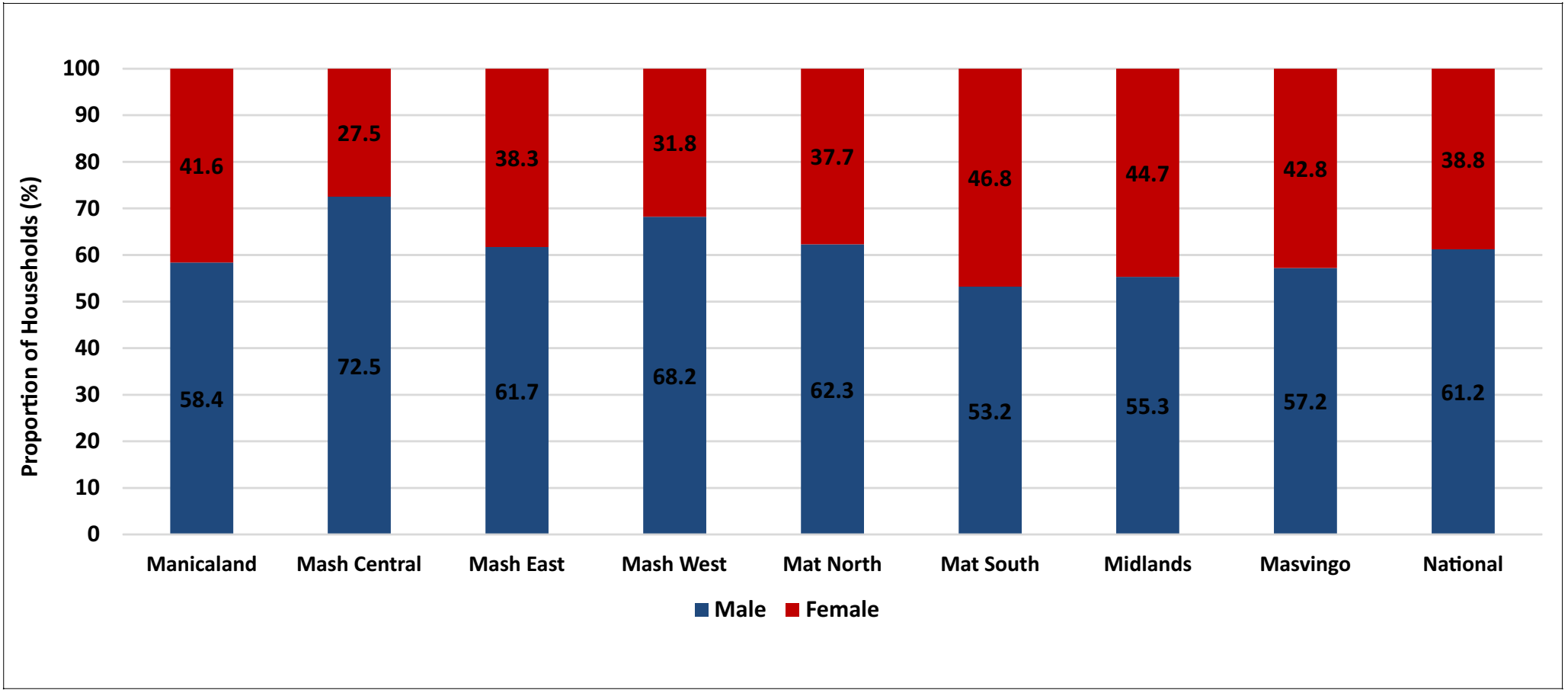
- Household dependency ratio was calculated as follows: ***Number of economically inactive members/number of economically active members.***
- Though the household dependency ratio is on a downward trajectory from 2016 to 2018, Matabeleland South and Masvingo remained with the highest dependency ratios.
- Mashonaland West reported the highest drop between 2017 and 2018.

Population Distribution by Age



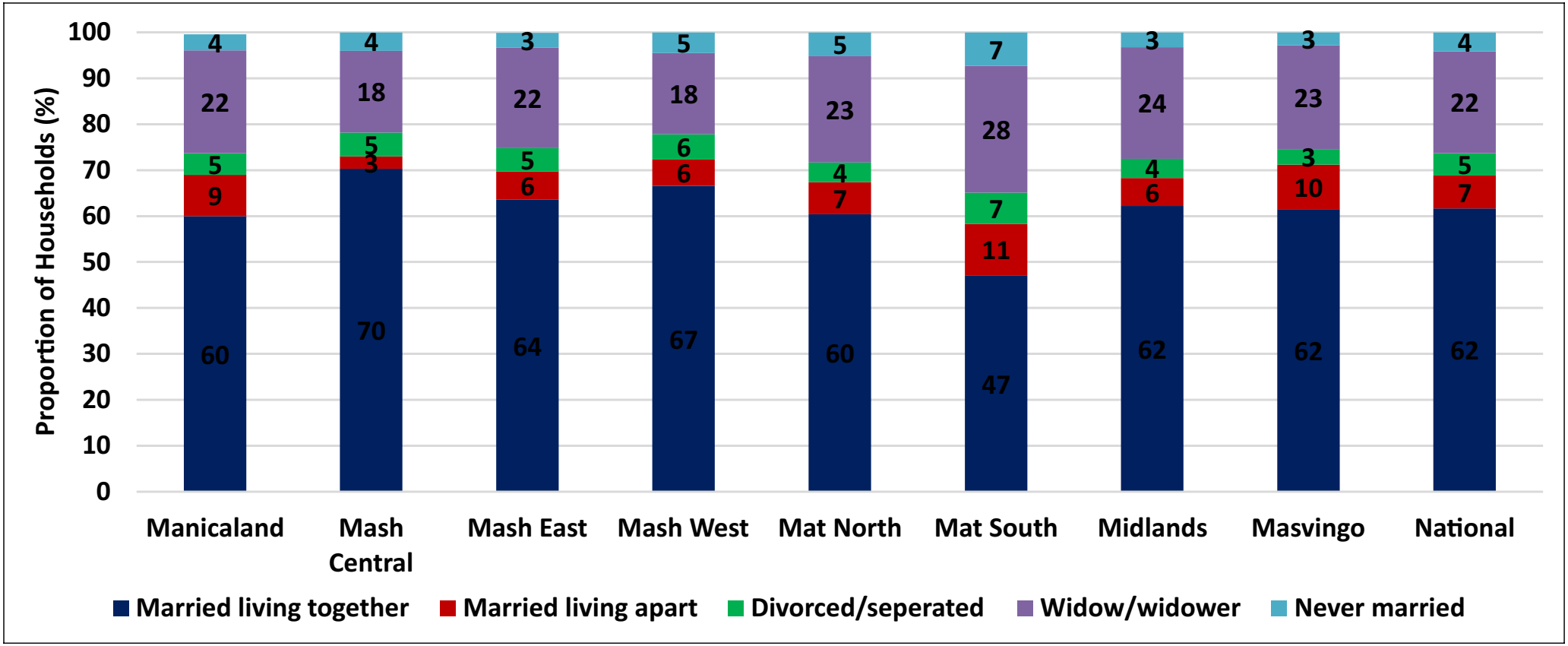
- Nationally, the 18-59 age group had the highest proportion (42.9%) of the sampled households followed by the 5-17 age group (36.4%).
- Children aged between 0-4 years constituted 11.2% of the sample while the age group for 60 years and above constituted 9.5%.

Characteristics of Household Head



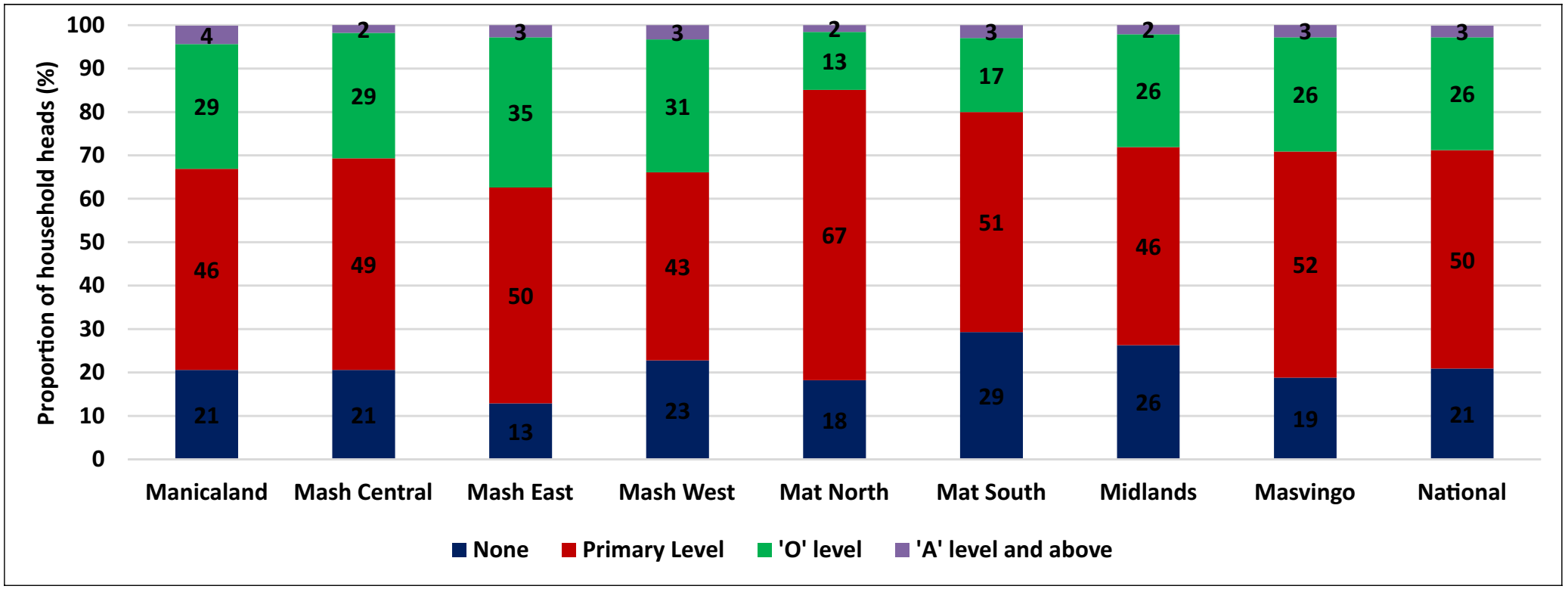
- Across all the provinces, there were more male headed households compared to female headed households.
- Matabeleland South (46.8%) had the highest proportion of female headed households.

Marital Status of Household Head



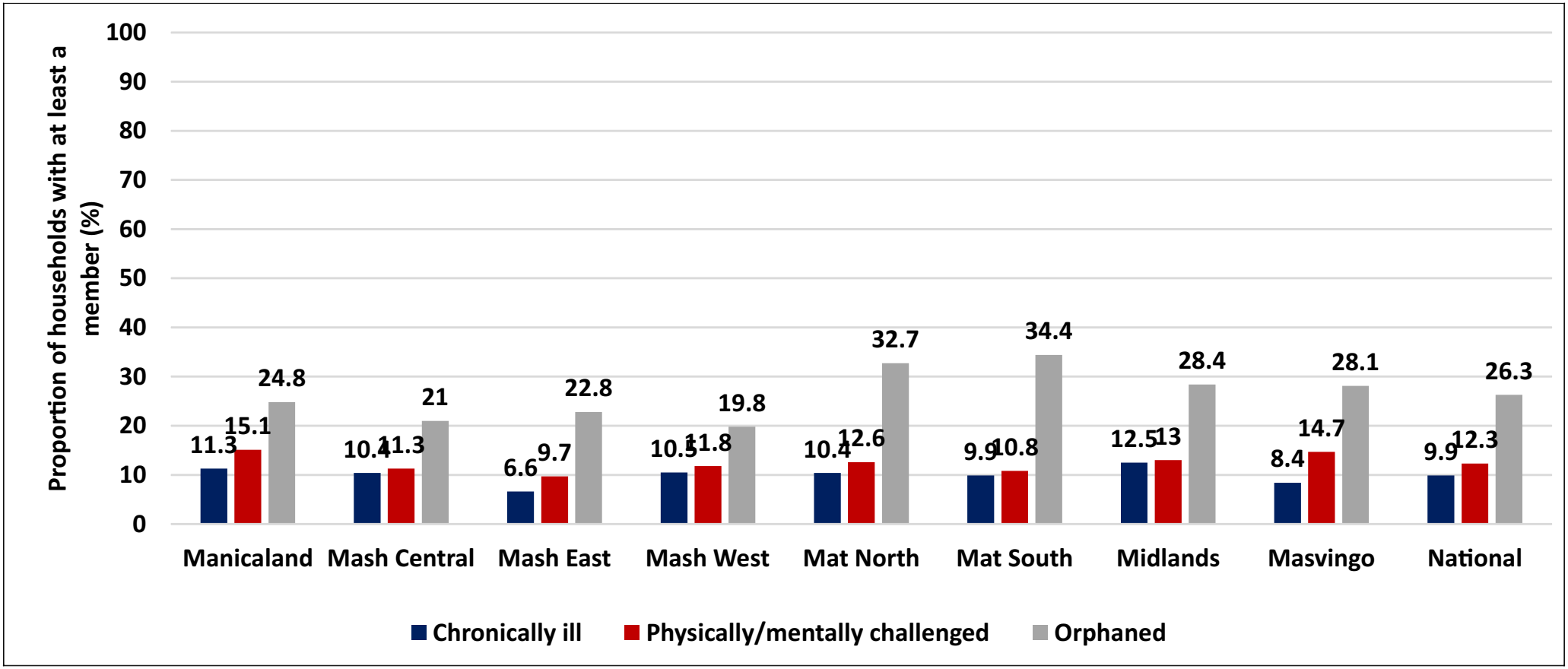
- A greater proportion of household heads (62%) were married and living together with their spouses while 22% were widows and widowers.
- Matabeleland South had the least proportion of household heads married and living together (47%) and the greatest proportion of household heads married and living apart (11%).

Education Level of Household Head



- All provinces had at least 71% of household heads who had attained primary level and above.
- Matabeleland South (29%) and Midlands (26%) had the highest proportions of household heads who had not attained primary education.

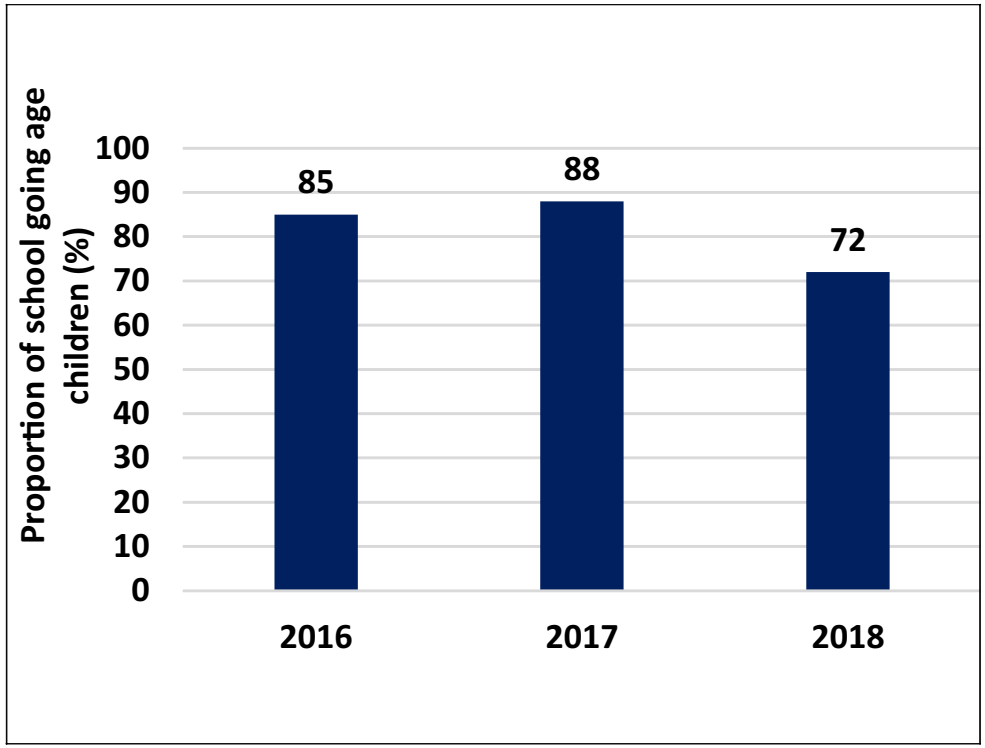
Vulnerability Attributes

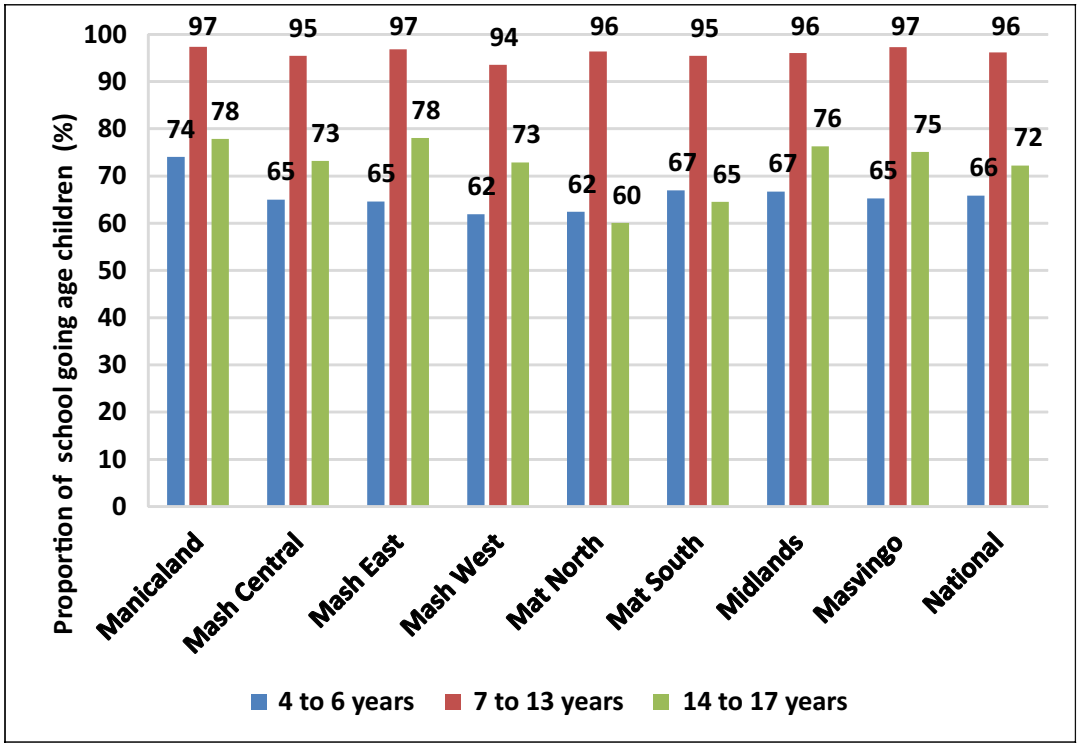


- Matabeleland South had the highest proportion of households with at least 1 orphaned child (34.4%) and Matabeleland North with 32.7%.

Education

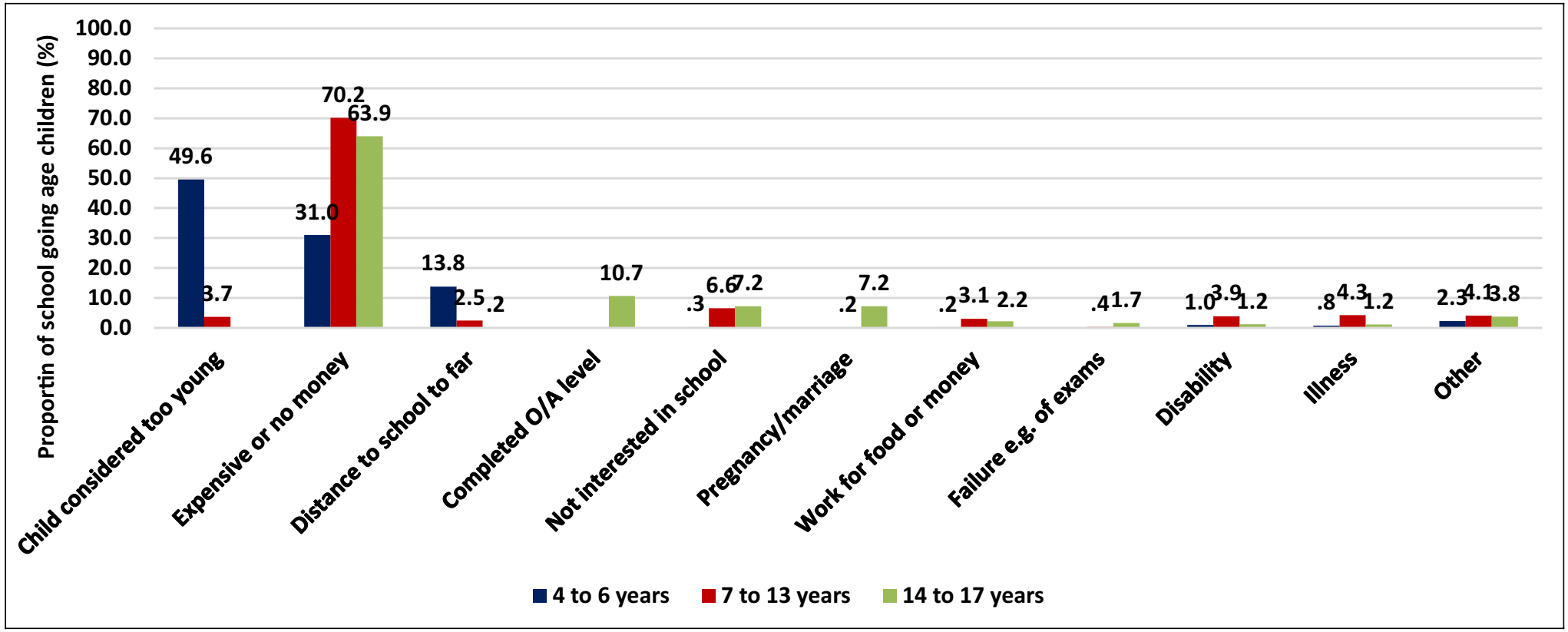
School Attendance





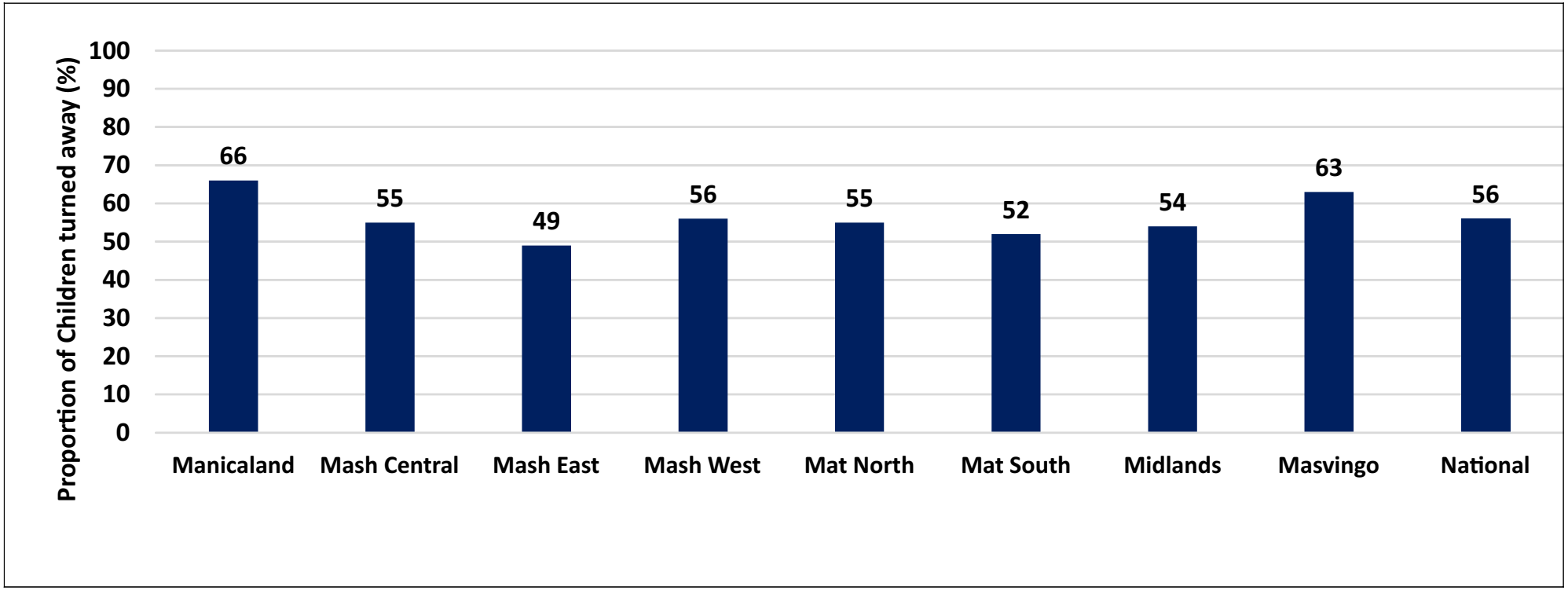
- School attendance is on a decline from 88% in 2017 to 72% in 2018.
- The proportion of school going children of the 14-17 years age group was much lower than that of the 7-13 age group across all provinces.
- There was no significant difference in school attendance by sex.

Reasons for not Attending School



- The major reason why children of school going age were not attending school was financial constraints.
- For the 4 to 6 age group, the most reported reason was child considered too young (49.6%) followed by financial constraints (31%) and distance to school too far (13.8%).
- Approximately 11% of the 14 to 17 years age group were not in school because they had completed O or A level.

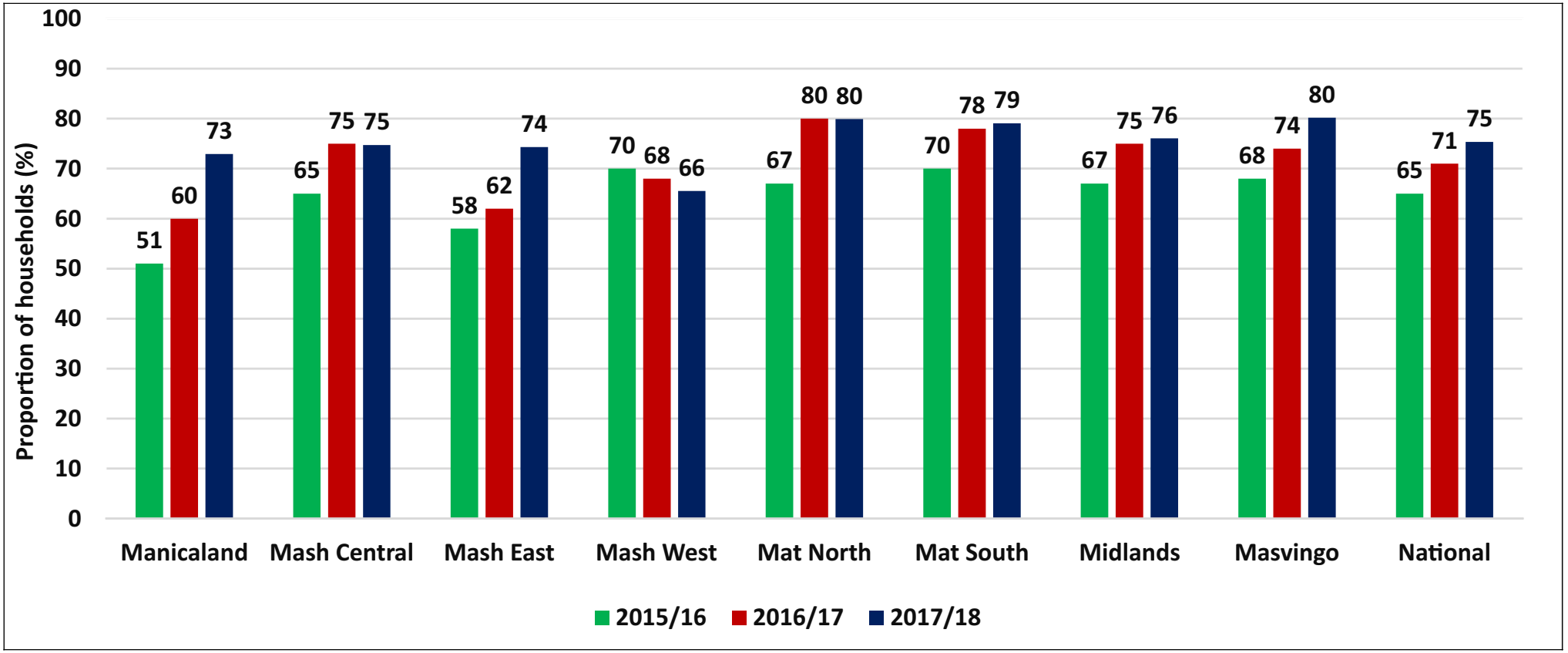
Children Turned Away from School Due to Non-Payment of Fees



- Though the Government has made a pronouncement that no child should be turned away from school, the proportion of those turned away remains high at a minimum of 49% across all provinces.

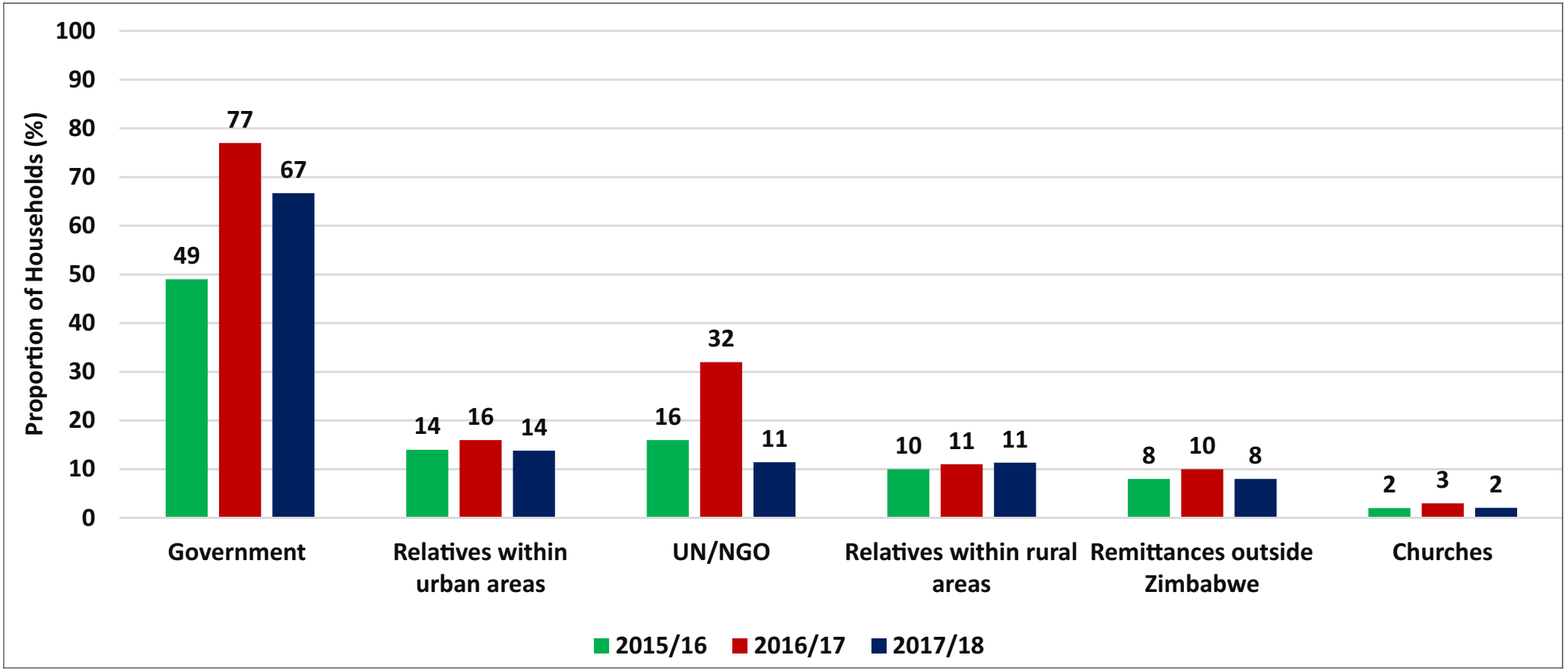
Social Protection

Households which Received Support by Province



- Nationally, about 75% of households received support from all possible sources in the form of food, cash, crop inputs, livestock inputs or WASH inputs.
- The highest proportion was in Masvingo and Matabeleland North (80%), and the least was in Mashonaland West (66%).

Sources of Support



- Compared to the previous consumption year, support from all sources has decreased except that which came from relatives within rural areas.

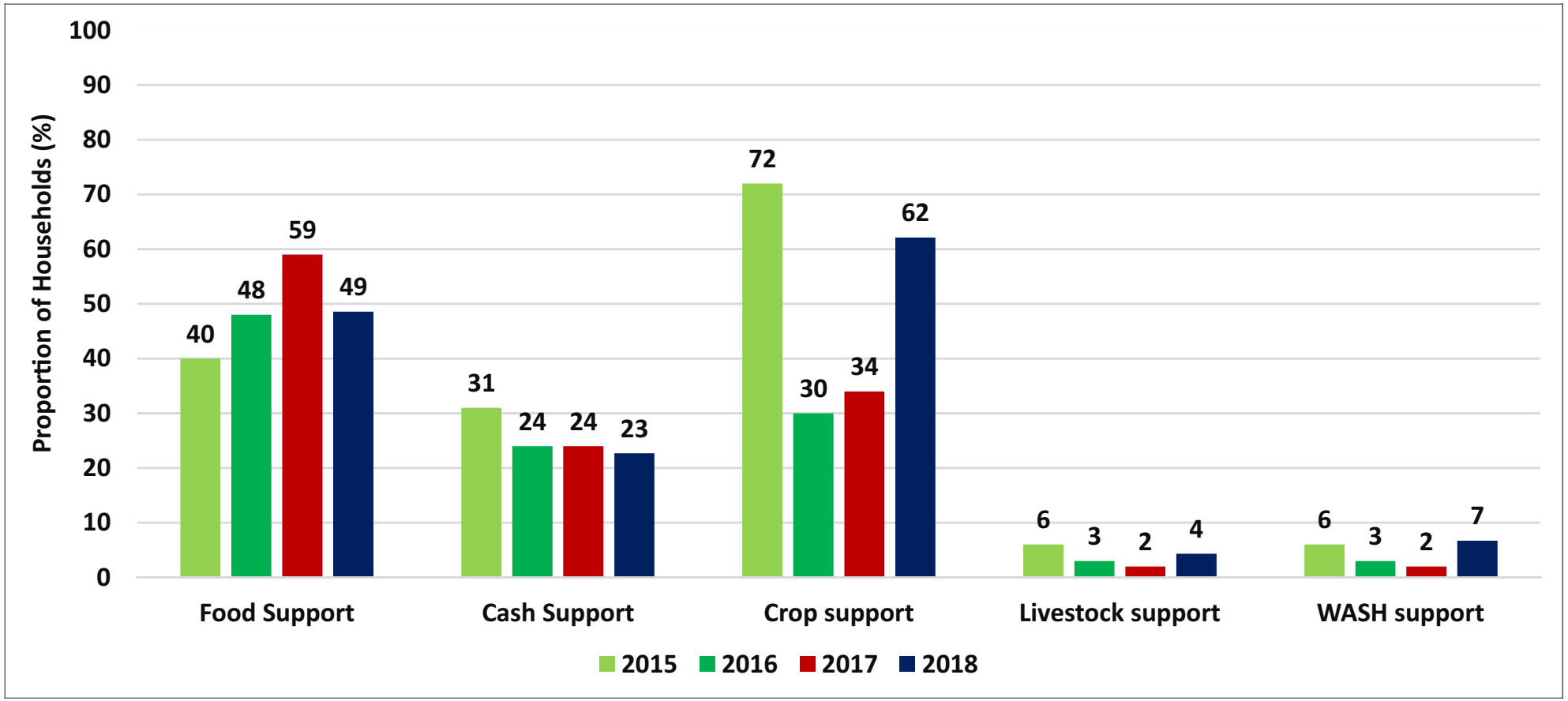
Sources of Support by Province

Province	Government (%)		UN/NGO (%)		Churches (%)		Relatives within rural areas (%)		Relatives within urban areas (%)		Remittances outside Zimbabwe (%)	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
Manicaland	74	63	44	10	4	4	10	12	14	14	6	6
Mash Central	91	73	25	8	3	2	11	7	12	8	2	2
Mash East	64	68	31	3	3	2	17	10	30	16	9	4
Mash West	93	59	10	7	3	1	9	7	11	9	2	3
Mat North	78	68	32	16	2	2	6	17	10	12	11	14
Mat South	75	65	38	16	3	2	11	10	16	11	31	21
Midlands	75	69	37	14	3	3	14	12	19	20	10	8
Masvingo	63	69	40	18	3	2	10	16	16	18	9	8
National	**77**	**67**	**32**	**11**	**3**	**2**	**11**	**11**	**16**	**14**	**10**	**8**

- Provinces recorded a decrease in support from all sources except for Manicaland, Matabeleland North and Masvingo which had an increase in support from relatives, Mashonaland East from Government, Midlands and Masvingo from relatives in urban areas and Matabeleland North from remittances outside Zimbabwe.

- Government remains the main source of support for all provinces.

Forms of Support



- The highest support received was crop input support (62%).
- Livestock support and WASH support were still low at 4% and 7% respectively.

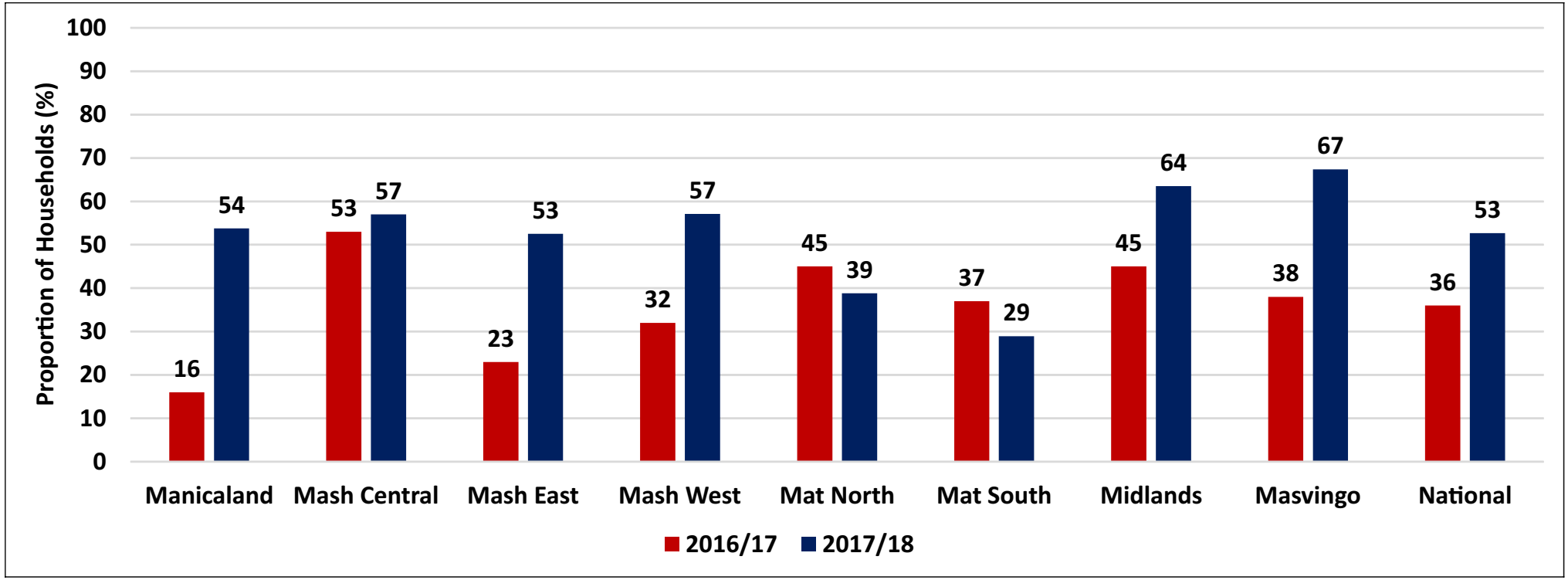
Forms of Support by Province

Province	Food Support (%)		Cash Support (%)		Crop support (%)		Livestock support (%)		WASH support (%)	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
Manicaland	44	42	18	24	28	58	1	5	1	6
Mash Central	66	42	19	15	50	68	1	3	1	6
Mash East	52	35	20	18	30	65	3	3	2	3
Mash West	58	43	9	12	38	52	1	2	1	5
Mat North	69	61	23	25	29	65	2	8	3	13
Mat South	67	63	42	30	29	55	2	4	6	8
Midlands	58	50	34	29	40	66	2	3	2	6
Masvingo	59	55	28	30	28	65	2	7	2	8
National	**59**	**49**	**24**	**23**	**34**	**62**	**2**	**4**	**2**	**7**

- The highest proportion of households which received crop input support was in Mashonaland Central (68%).
- Matabeleland North reported an increase in WASH support from 3% in 2016/17 to 13% in 2017/18 which is a positive development given the WASH challenges reported in the province in previous ZimVAC reports.
- Amongst all the forms of support, crop support increased in all provinces by at least 14 percentage points.

Effects of the Fall Armyworm

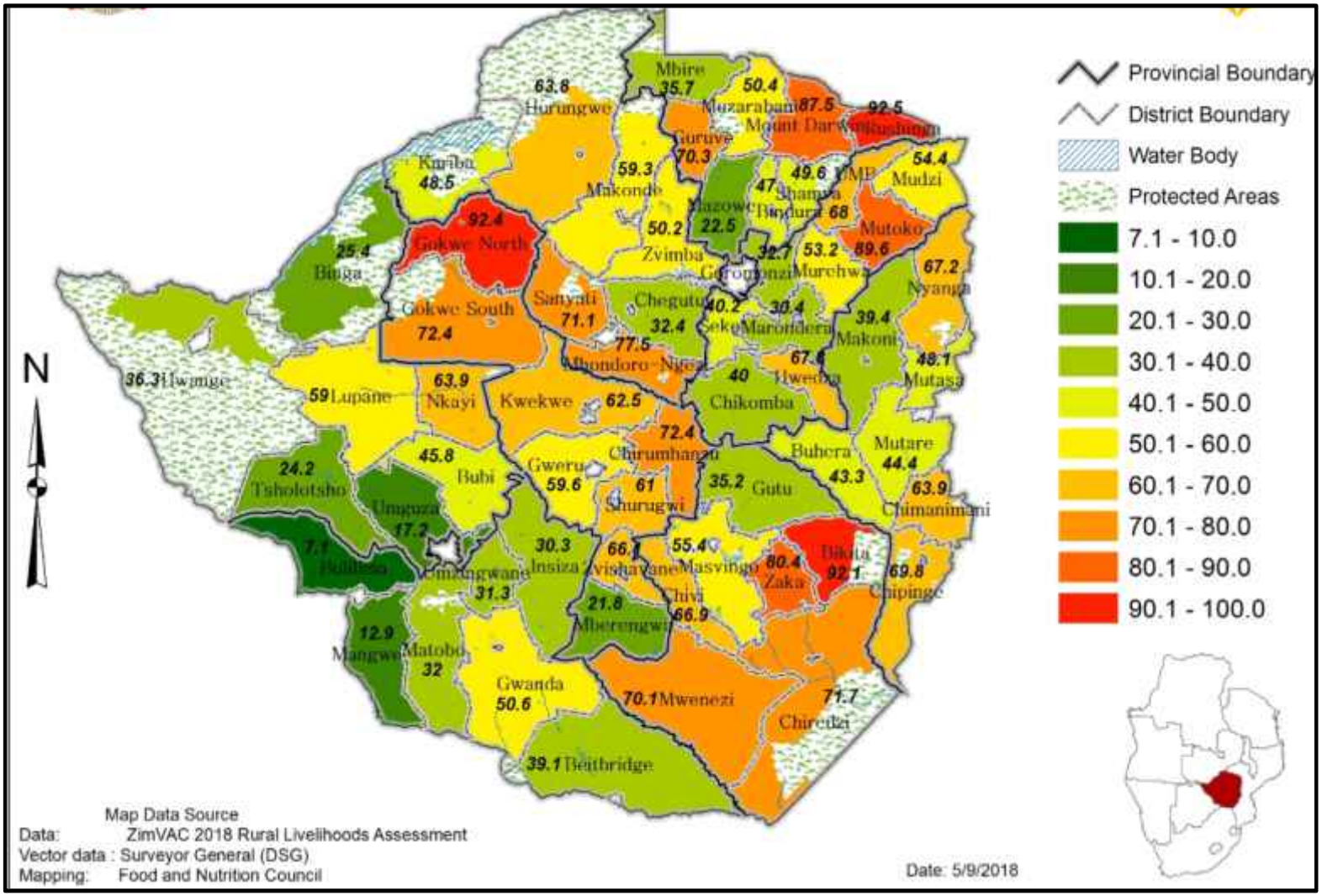
Proportion of Households Affected by Fall Armyworm 2017/18 Season



- The proportion of households affected by the Fall Armyworm increased in all provinces in 2017/18 compared to the previous season except for Matabeleland North and Matabeleland South.

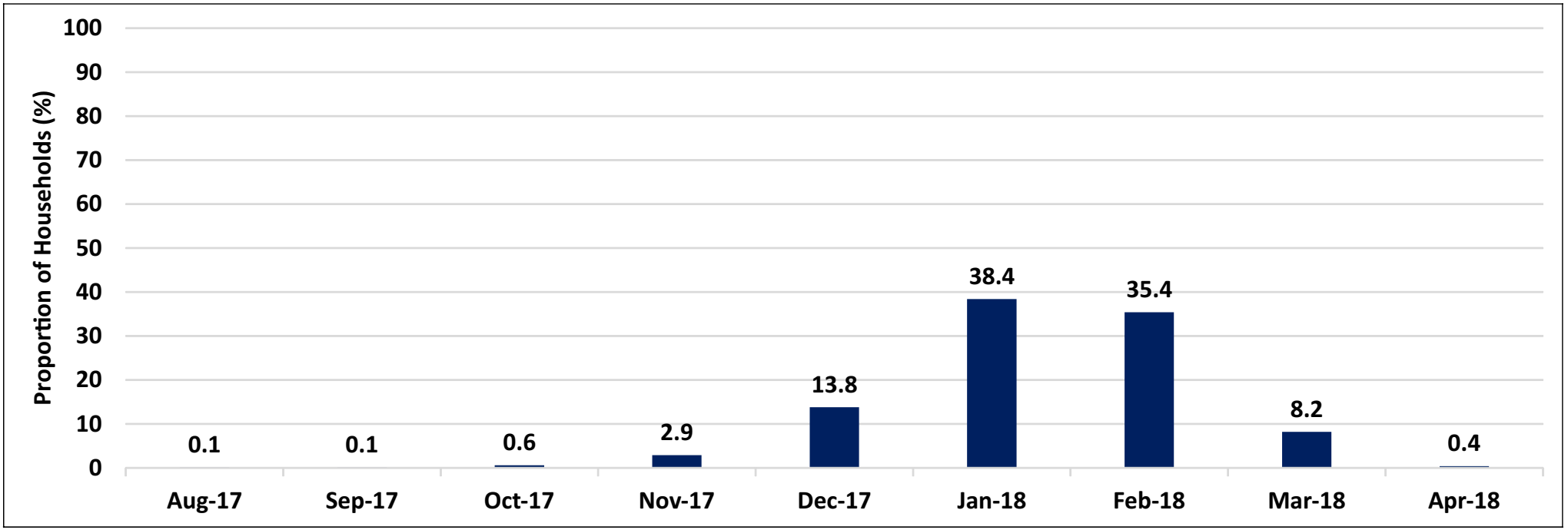
- Masvingo had the highest proportion of affected households (67%) while Matabeleland South had the least affected households (29%).

Proportion of Households Affected by the Fall Armyworm by District



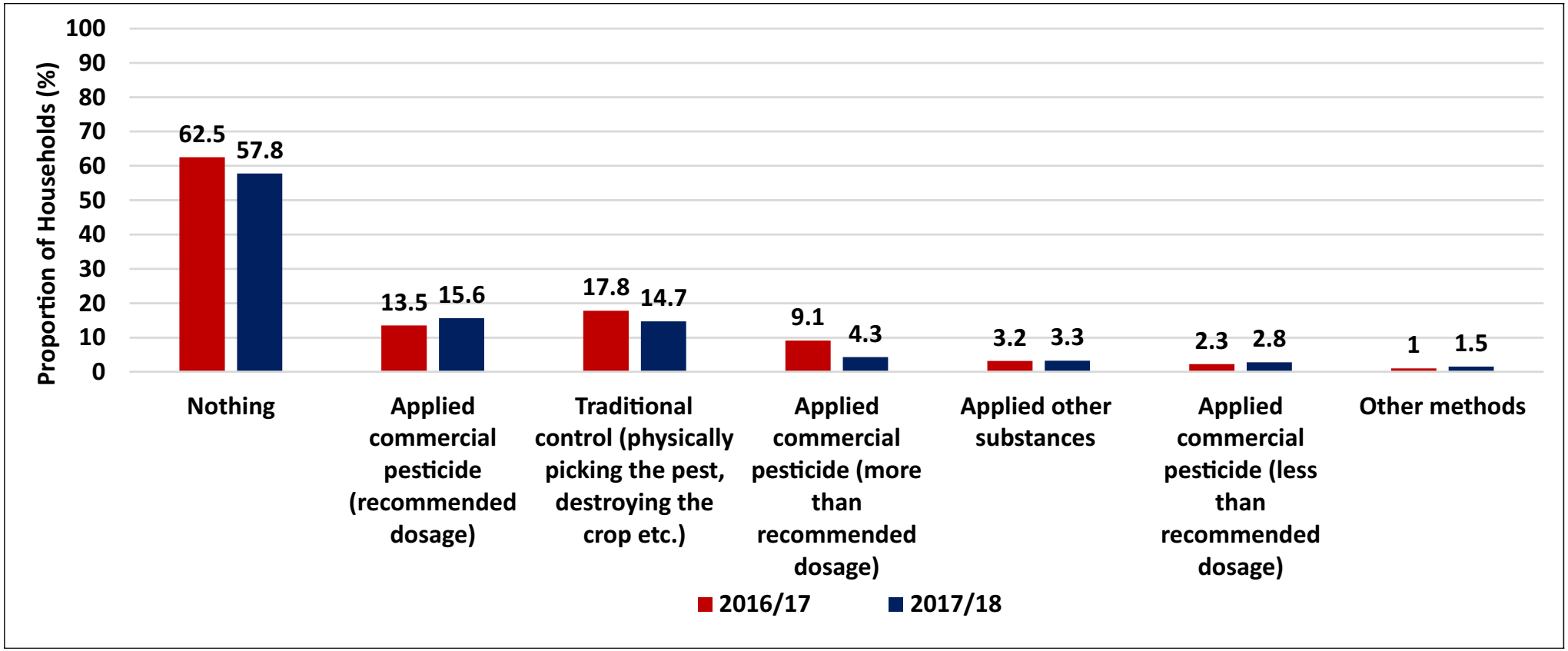
- Rushinga (92.5%), Gokwe North (92.4%) and Bikita (92.1%) were the most affected districts.

Month of First Observation of the Fall Armyworm



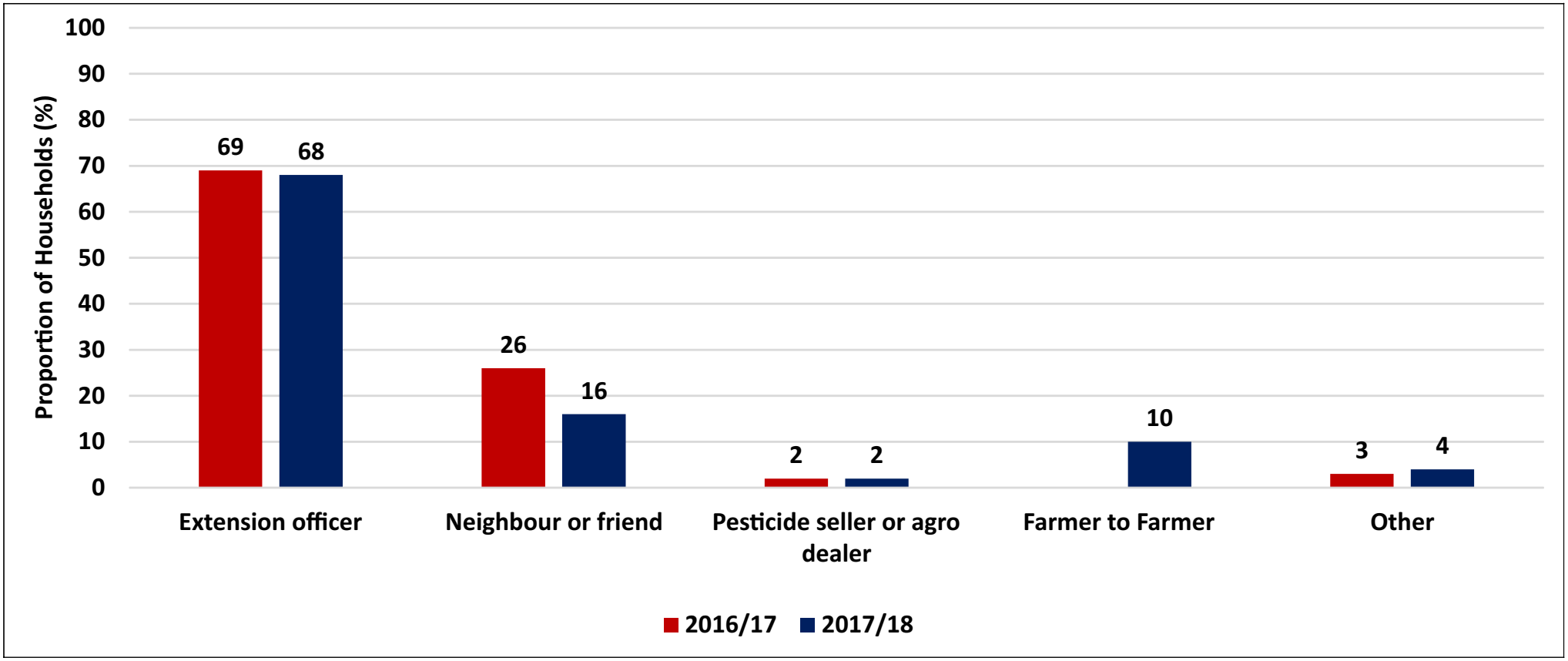
- The fall armyworm was observed for the first time in August 2017 in isolated cases and became more prevalent in January 2018 when most households (38.4%) first observed it across the country.

Measures Taken to Control the Fall Armyworm



- A significant proportion of households (57.8%) did not take any control measures against the fall army worm which is a worrisome trend also observed in the 2016/17 season.
- The most common measures taken were applying pesticides (22.7%) and traditional control (14.7%).
- The major reason cited by households for not taking action was lack of money.

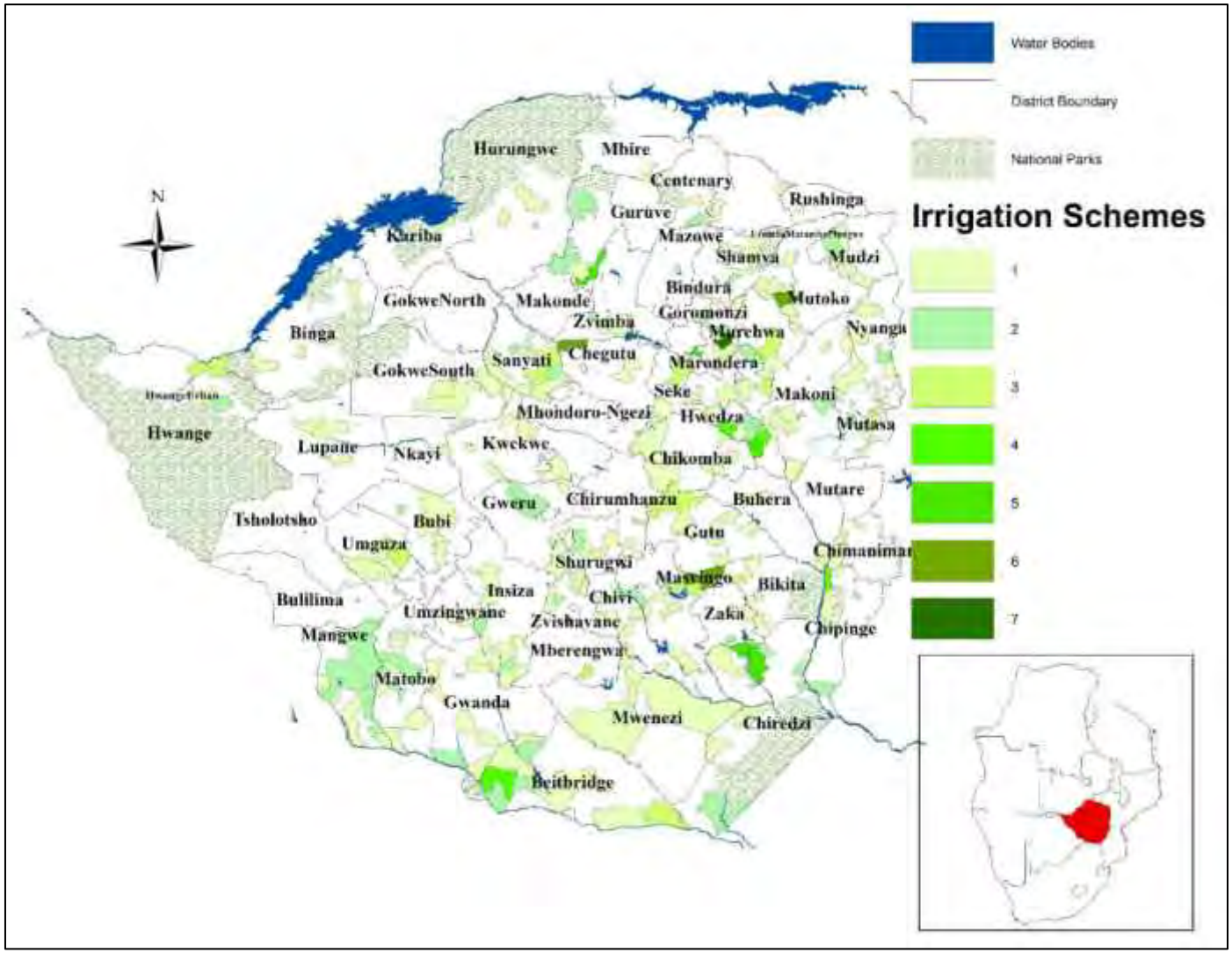
Provision of Extension Advice to Households Affected by the Fall Armyworm



- Nationally, 45% of households affected by the fall army worm received extension advice. Of these, 68% received it from extension officers.

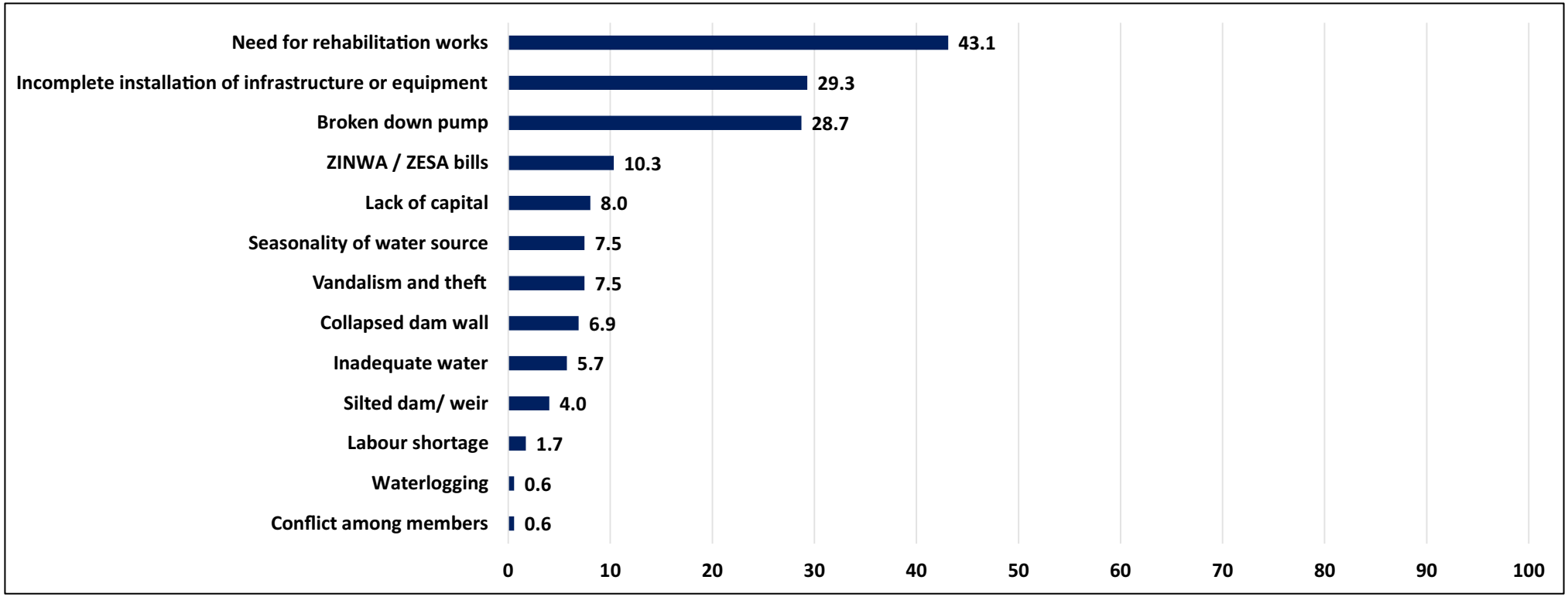
Irrigation

Number of Irrigation Schemes by Wards



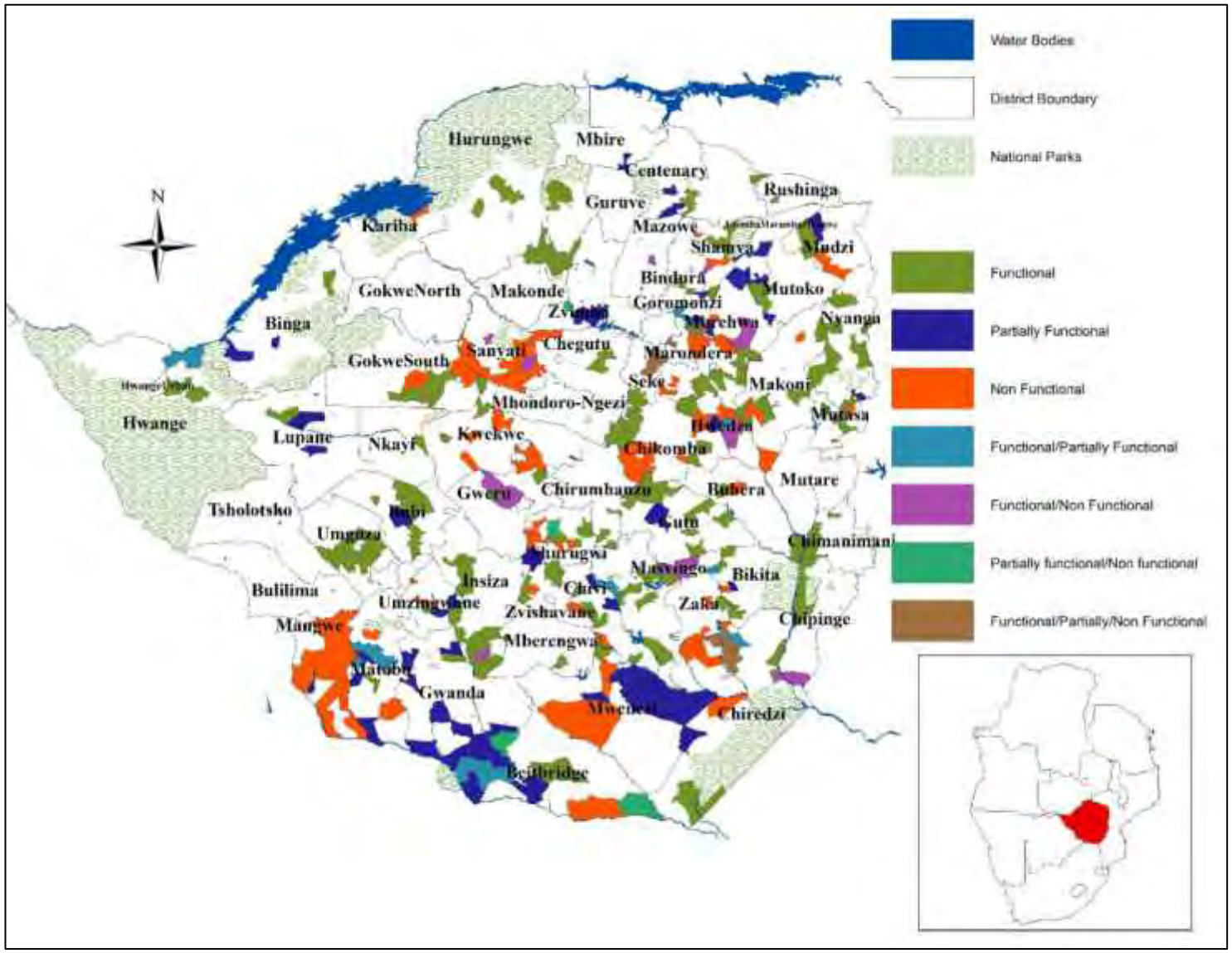
- There are few wards with irrigation schemes especially in the drier regions (Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South, parts of Midlands and Masvingo) yet these are an important source of livelihood and influence food availability.

Reasons for Partial and Non-functionality of Irrigation Schemes



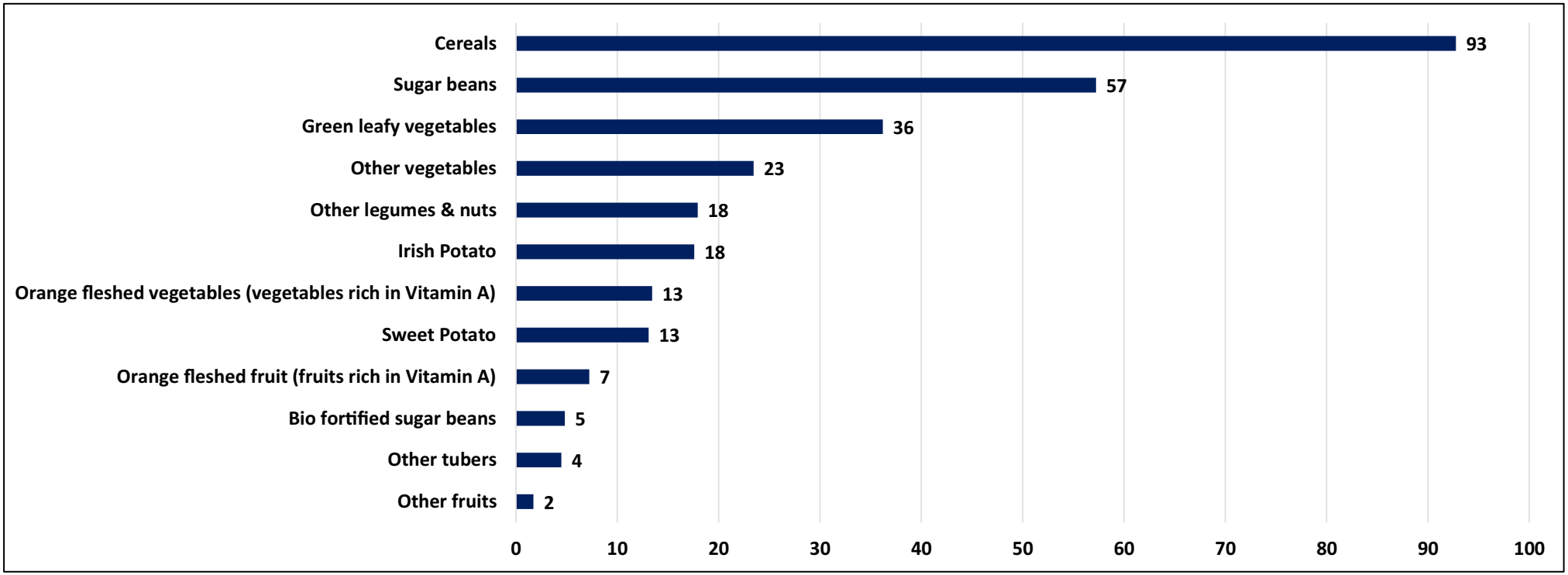
- The main challenges affecting functionality of irrigation schemes were to do with infrastructure, energy and water sources.
- Given the recurrent droughts, there is need to intensify efforts to rehabilitate non functional and partially functional schemes with appropriate irrigation technology like use of renewable energy.

Functional Irrigation Schemes by Ward



- There is a significant proportion of wards with irrigation schemes faced with a number of functionality challenges.

Crops Grown in Irrigation Schemes



- The majority of irrigation schemes grow cereals (93%), pulses (57%) and green leafy vegetables (36%).
- Poor crop diversification compromises availability of diverse nutritious foods.
- Crop diversity is negatively affected by poor market linkages and value addition.

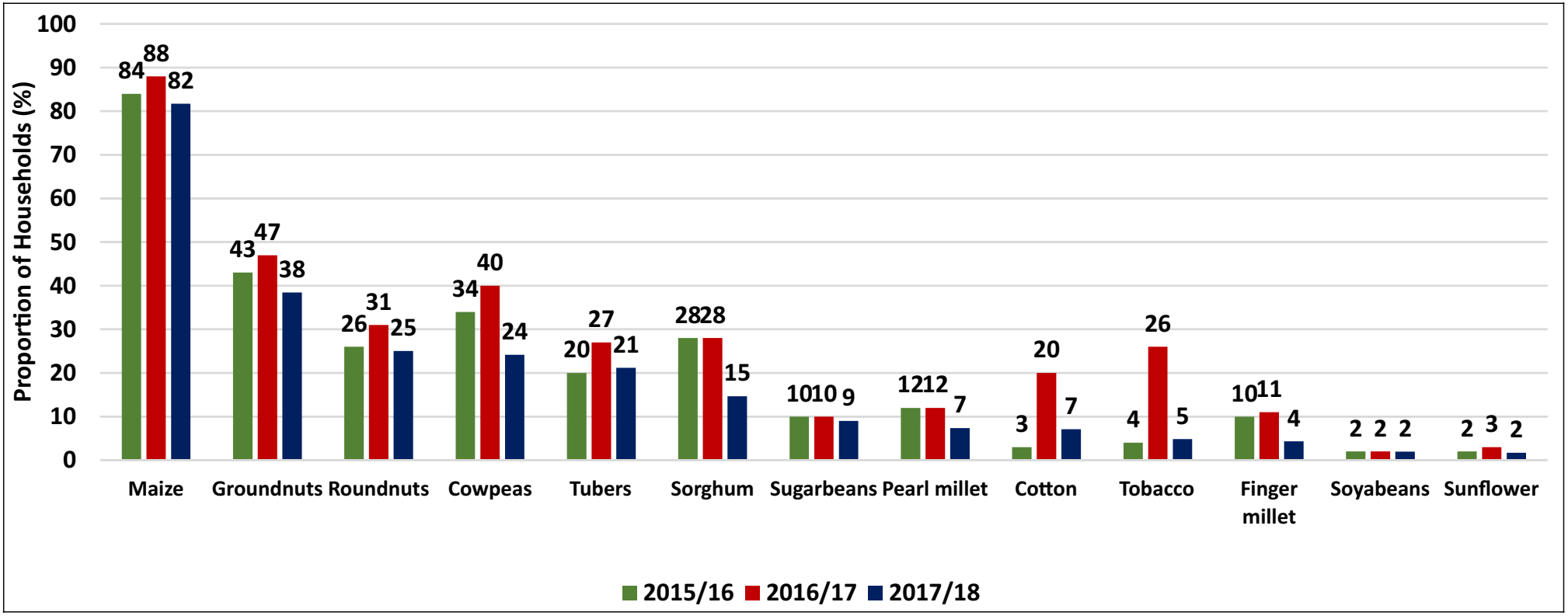
Crop Production

Average Household Cereal Stocks as at 1 April 2018

Province	Cereal Stocks (kg)		
	2016	2017	2018
Manicaland	53.2	145.7	80.1
Mashonaland Central	47.3	91.3	66.3
Mashonaland East	45.4	99.4	52.6
Mashonaland West	45.2	157.2	57.0
Matabeleland North	38.7	122.9	48.6
Matabeleland South	30.0	57.7	38.4
Midlands	39.0	101.9	61.7
Masvingo	49.5	108.0	81.7
National	43.2	109.6	59.9

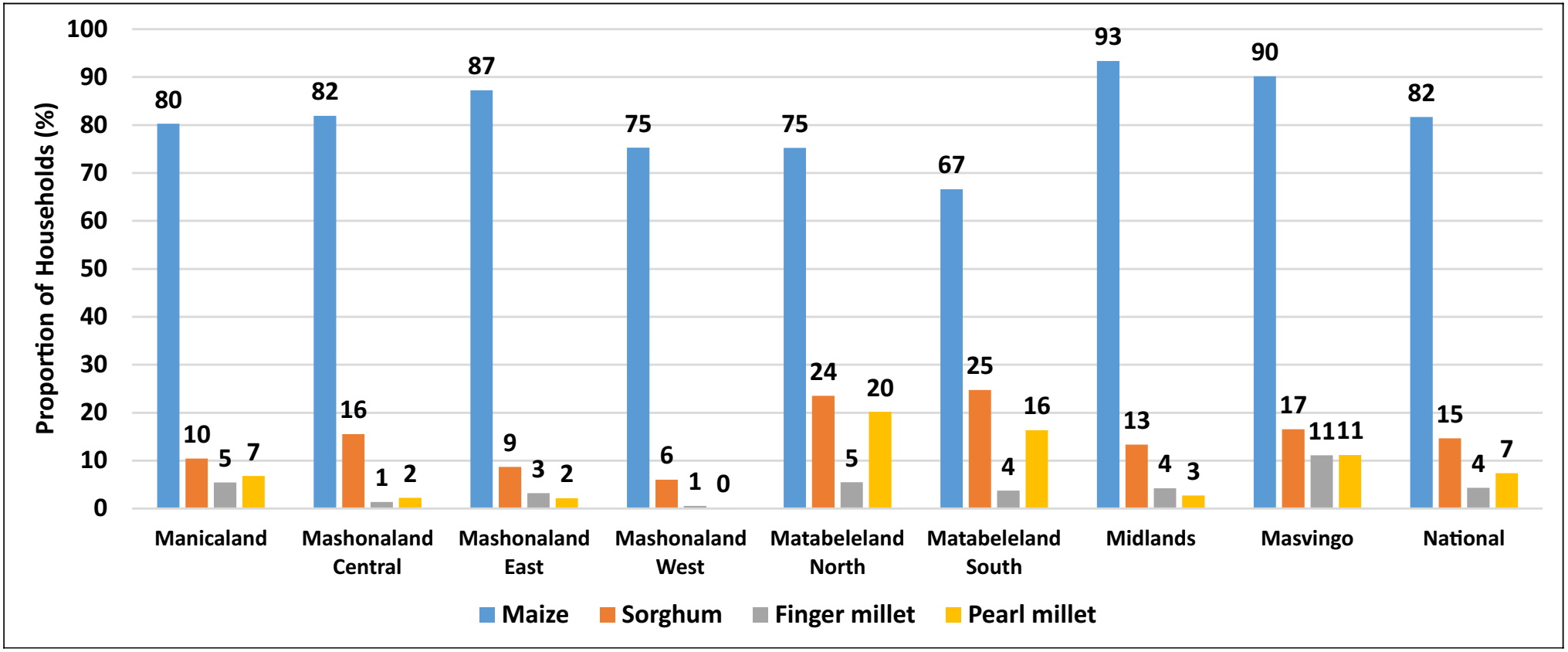
- Generally, all provinces recorded decreases in cereal stocks.
- The highest decrease was in Mashonaland West (about 64%).

Households which Planted Crops



- Maize remained the most planted crop though households which planted it decreased from 88% to 82%.
- The greatest decrease was seen in tobacco among smallholder farmers.

Households which Planted Cereals



- Matabeleland South, Matabeleland North and Masvingo which are dry areas had the highest proportions of households which grew all types of small grains.
- A significant proportion of households in Mashonaland Central (16%) grew sorghum.

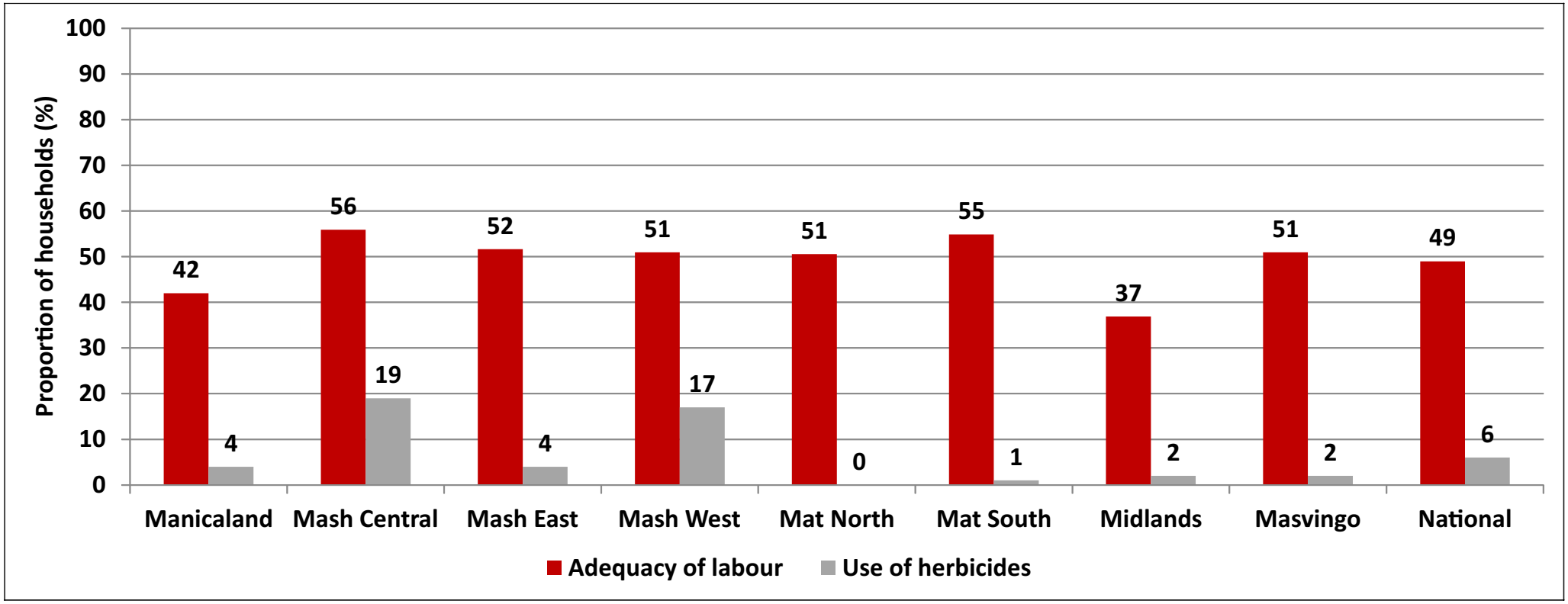
Average Household Cereal Production by Province

Province	Maize (kg)			Small grains (kg)		
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Manicaland	108.6	335.1	274.3	4.9	30.9	11.1
Mash Central	136.2	517.5	329.5	7.7	45.9	13.2
Mash East	124.1	378.7	331.6	2.9	23.7	0.9
Mash West	397.6	739.2	890.6	6.2	1.1	0.0
Mat North	48.1	240.5	164.8	57.1	88.1	49.5
Mat South	22.8	174.5	126.8	19.1	68.4	24.1
Midlands	132.3	522.9	453.1	11.4	29.0	8.5
Masvingo	42.3	356.7	378.1	21.9	86.1	33.0
National	126.5	480.9	334.2	16.4	42.2	14.2

- All provinces recorded a decrease in maize production except for Mashonaland West and Masvingo which had a 21% and a 6% increase respectively.

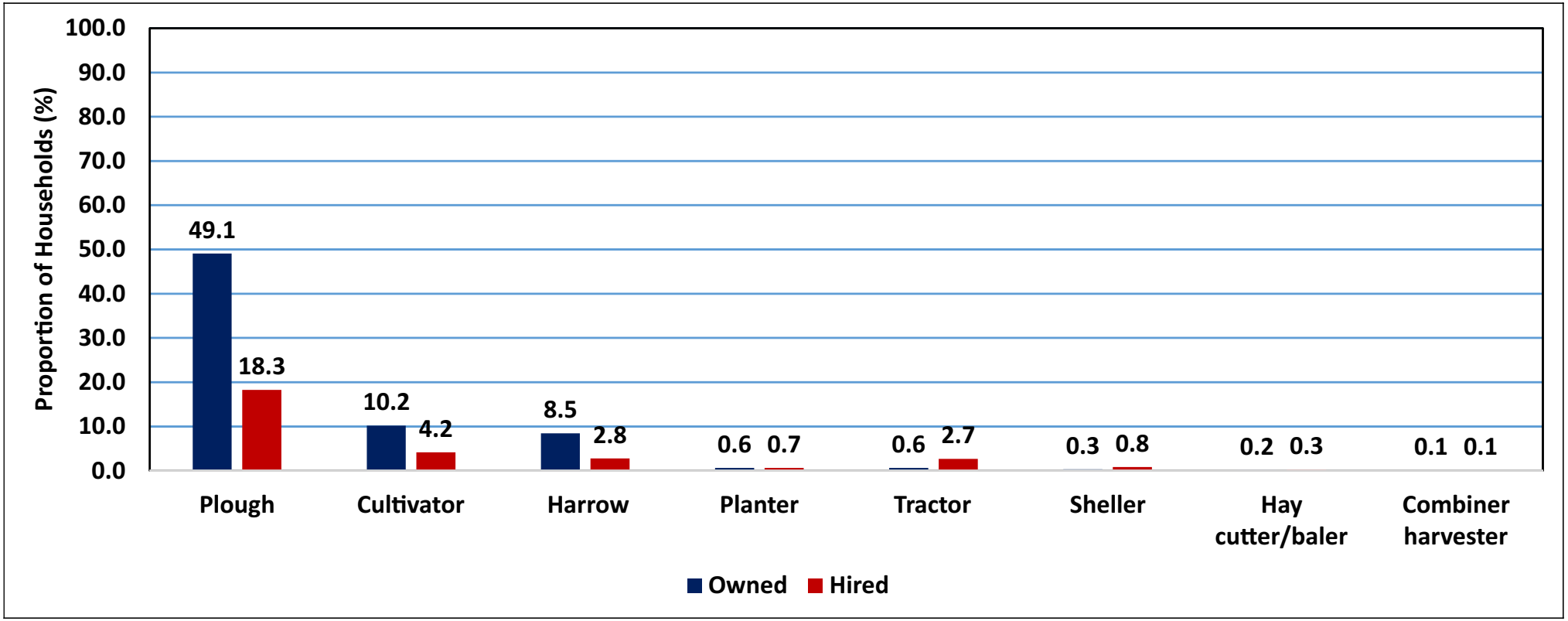
Agriculture Labour and Labour Saving Technologies

Adequacy of Labour and Herbicide Usage



- About 49% of the households which practiced agriculture reported having adequate labour. This is a slight increase from last season where 46% of households indicated that they had adequate labour.
- Herbicide usage was low across provinces with Mashonaland Central (19%) and Mashonaland West (17%) recording the highest.

Access to Agriculture Implements



- The plough was the most common owned and hired implement (49% and 18% respectively).

Ownership of Agriculture Implements

Province	Plough (%)	Cultivator (%)	Harrow (%)	Planter (%)	Tractor (%)	Sheller (%)	Hay cutter/ baler (%)	Combine harvester (%)
Manicaland	39.1	4.8	3.4	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.2
Mash Central	45.4	11.8	7.5	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.1
Mash East	42.5	12.9	9.4	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1
Mash West	39.7	14.8	10.8	1.7	1.3	0.4	0.0	0.2
Mat North	57.8	6.9	7.3	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.0
Mat South	56.9	7.7	6.1	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0
Midlands	57.4	12.4	13.8	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2
Masvingo	54.2	8.4	7.7	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1
National	49.1	10.2	8.5	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1

- The most common owned implement across all provinces was the plough. There was low access to the cultivator and the harrow which are important for smallholder farming operations.

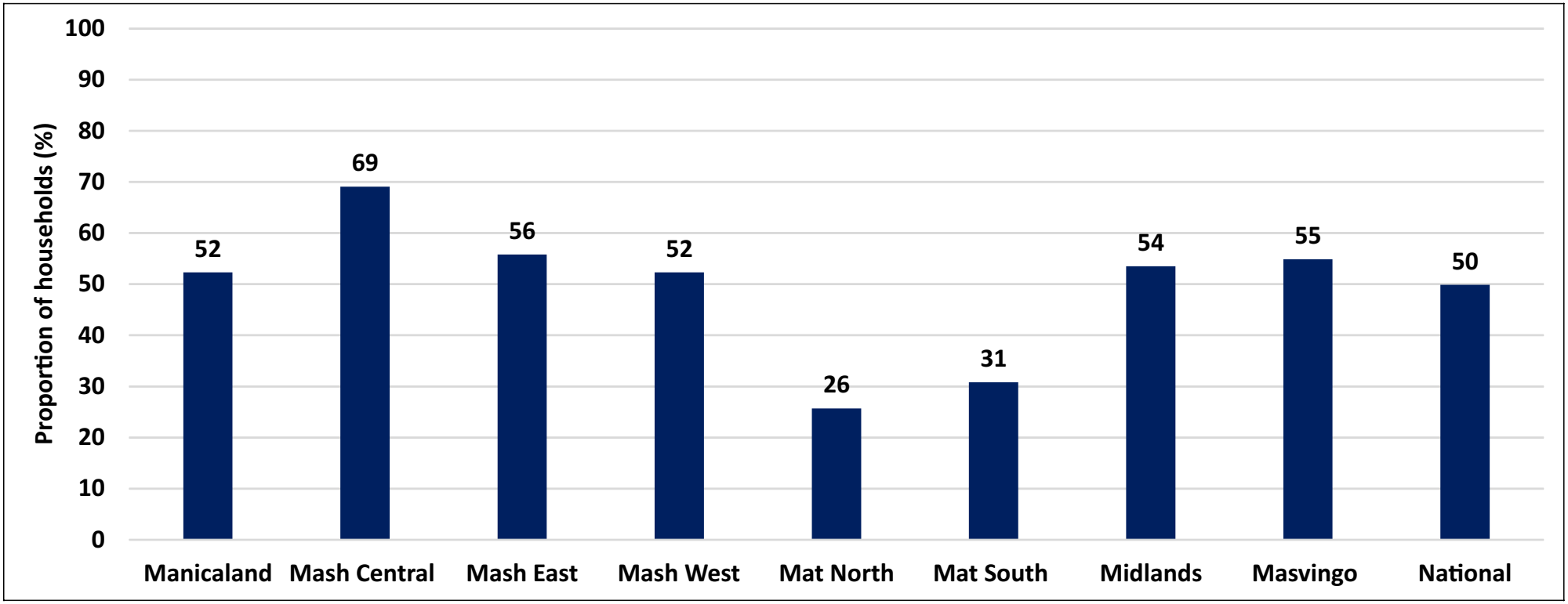
Access to Agriculture Implements - Hired

Province	Plough (%)	Cultivator (%)	Tractor (%)	Harrow (%)	Planter (%)	Sheller (%)	Hay cutter/ baler (%)	Combine harvester (%)
Manicaland	19.7	3.6	1.4	2.1	1.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
Mash Central	20.8	6.4	3.0	3.3	0.8	2.2	0.4	0.2
Mash East	22.0	3.7	3.2	2.0	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.1
Mash West	16.3	6.3	4.6	3.7	2.1	2.9	0.1	0.4
Mat North	13.6	1.7	2.7	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Mat South	15.7	3.1	3.5	1.8	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0
Midlands	18.3	6.2	2.0	5.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1
Masvingo	17.7	1.7	1.5	2.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
National	18.3	4.2	2.7	2.8	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.1

- It was noted that though most households do not own tractors, some households were accessing tractor services though hiring.

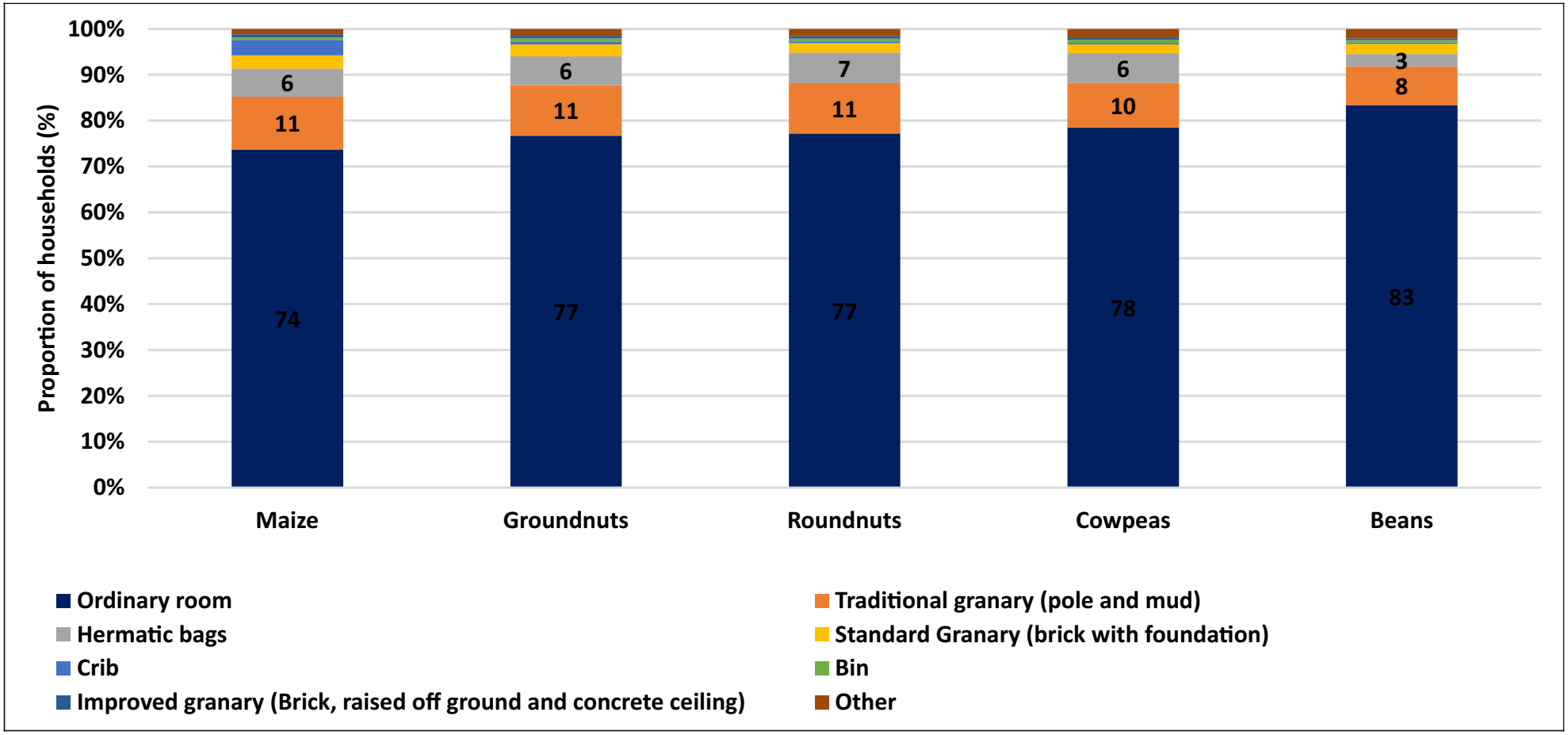
Post Harvest Management

Households which Treated Cereals and Pulses Before Storage



- Approximately 50% of the households had treated cereals and pulses before storage.
- Mashonaland Central (69%) had the highest proportion whilst Matabeleland North (26%) had the least proportion of households treating cereals and pulses before storage.

Produce Storage Structures



- Proper grain storage structures maintain the quality and quantity of the grain stored.
- The majority of households were storing their crops in ordinary rooms (above 70%).
- Improved and standard granaries were rarely used by households.

Maize Drying Places after Harvest

	On bare ground %	On ground with plastics %	Cribs %	Other %
Manicaland	33.4	37.2	2.3	24.1
Mash Central	39.7	7.5	9.4	39.9
Mash East	69.9	11.8	5.3	11
Mash West	47.9	10.2	4.5	34.7
Mat North	36.7	4	4.1	53.1
Mat South	61.4	7.6	8.2	21.5
Midlands	39.8	5.9	3	48.8
Masvingo	85.7	3.9	1.1	7.2
National	52.9	11.1	4.6	29

- Using improper drying places for maize can increase the risk of contamination.
- A high proportion of households were drying maize on places that increase chances of contamination (on the ground 52.9% and on plastics 11.1%).

Households that Noticed Changes in Stored Produce

	Maize %	Ground nuts %	Round nuts %	Cowpeas %	Beans %
Manicaland	16.8	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.3
Mash Central	22.3	0.6	0.1	2.8	0.2
Mash East	14.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2
Mash West	18.6	0.6	0.2	2	0.1
Mat North	11	1.1	0.6	0.9	0.4
Mat South	4.8	0.2	0.1	0.1	0
Midlands	18.8	0.9	0.7	2.4	0.3
Masvingo	40.1	1.4	0.6	3.6	0.2
National	18.3	0.7	0.4	1.6	0.2

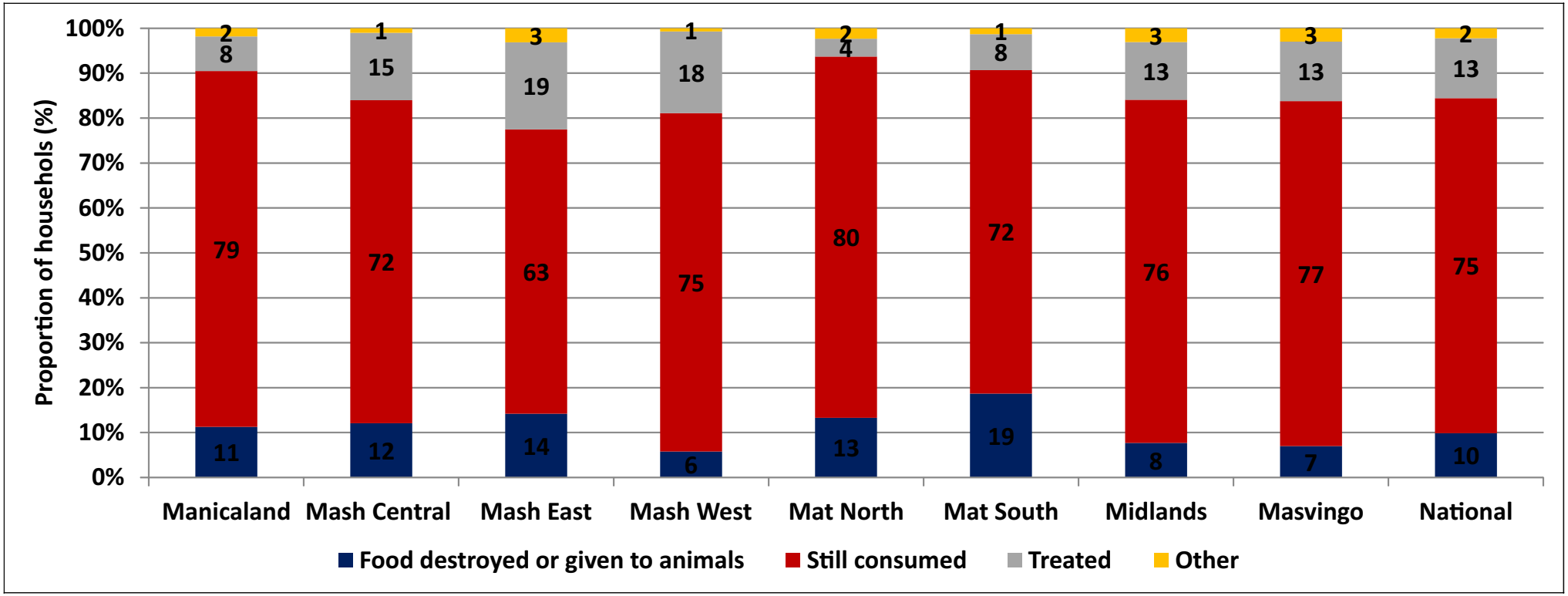
- About 18% of the households noticed changes in stored maize.

Maize Grain Exposed to Conditions that can Cause Contamination

	Maize not Fully matured %	Maize not dried adequately %	Mature maize rained on before harvesting %	Adequately dried maize rained on %
Manicaland	**19.5**	**29.5**	**52.6**	**64.1**
Mash Central	**19.2**	**21.3**	**35.7**	**44.4**
Mash East	**18.3**	**26.3**	**58.9**	**68.3**
Mash West	**25.1**	**32.7**	**40.5**	**48.8**
Mat North	**28.6**	**31.9**	**39.2**	**56.2**
Mat South	**32.6**	**37.3**	**31.1**	**45.5**
Midlands	**23.1**	**31.5**	**70.5**	**81.4**
Masvingo	**17.1**	**18.4**	**62.6**	**74.4**
National	**19.5**	**28.1**	**50.4**	**62.4**

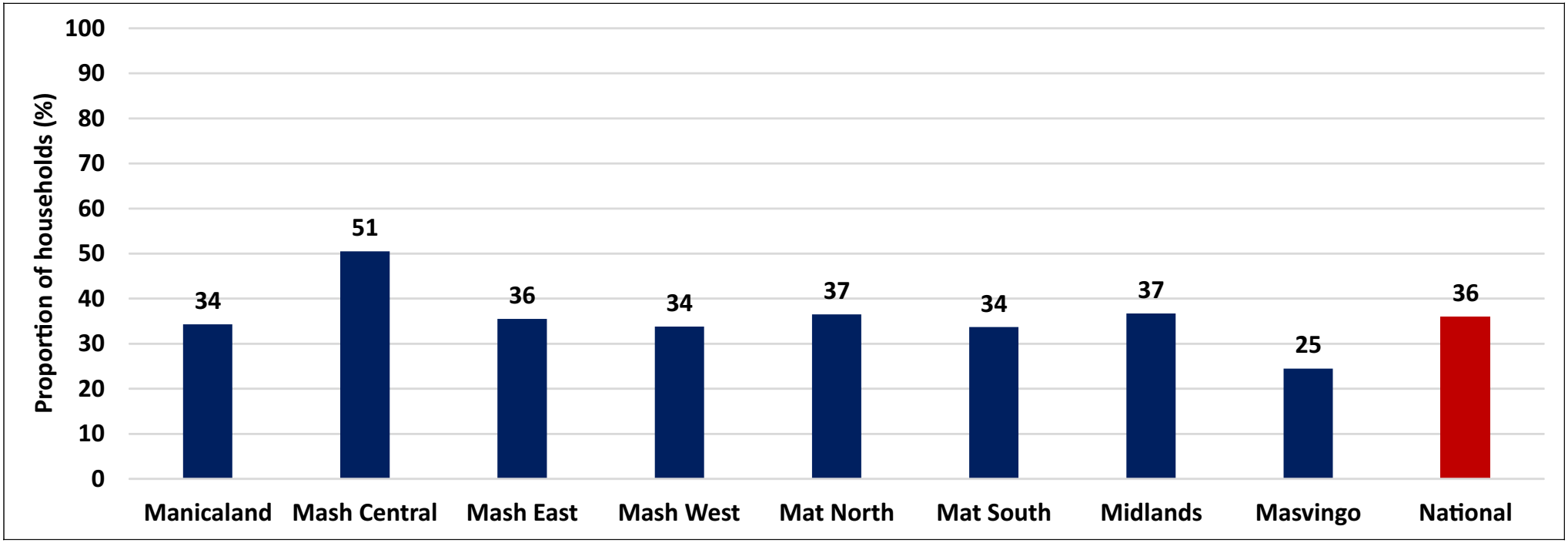
- A signification proportion of households had their maize exposed to conditions that can cause contamination.
- These conditions can lead to aflatoxins in maize which are a health hazard.

Action Taken on Affected Stored Maize



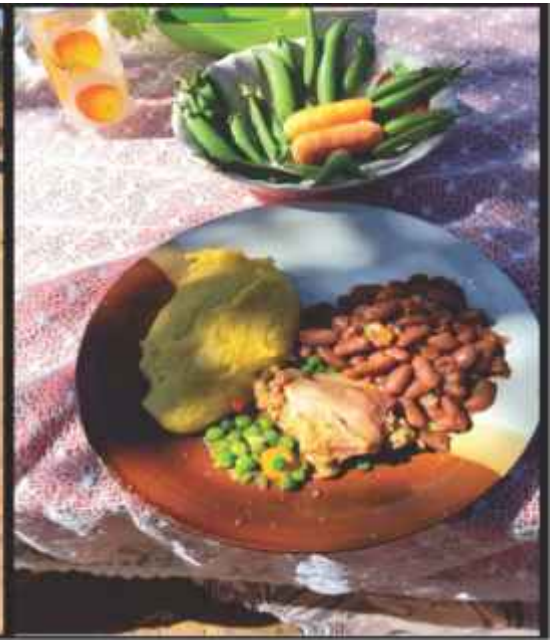
- The majority of households still consumed affected produce (75%).
- Only 10% of the households indicated that they destroyed or gave affected maize to animals.
- Consuming affected grain or giving it to animals that will be consumed can be a health hazard.

Awareness of Health Risks Associated with Consuming Contaminated Cereals and Pulses



- Nationally, about 36% of the households indicated that they were aware of the health risks associated with consuming contaminated produce.
- Mashonaland Central (51%) had the highest proportion of households aware of the health risks associated with consuming contaminated cereals and pulses whilst Masvingo (25%) had the least.

Production and Consumption of Bio-fortified Crops



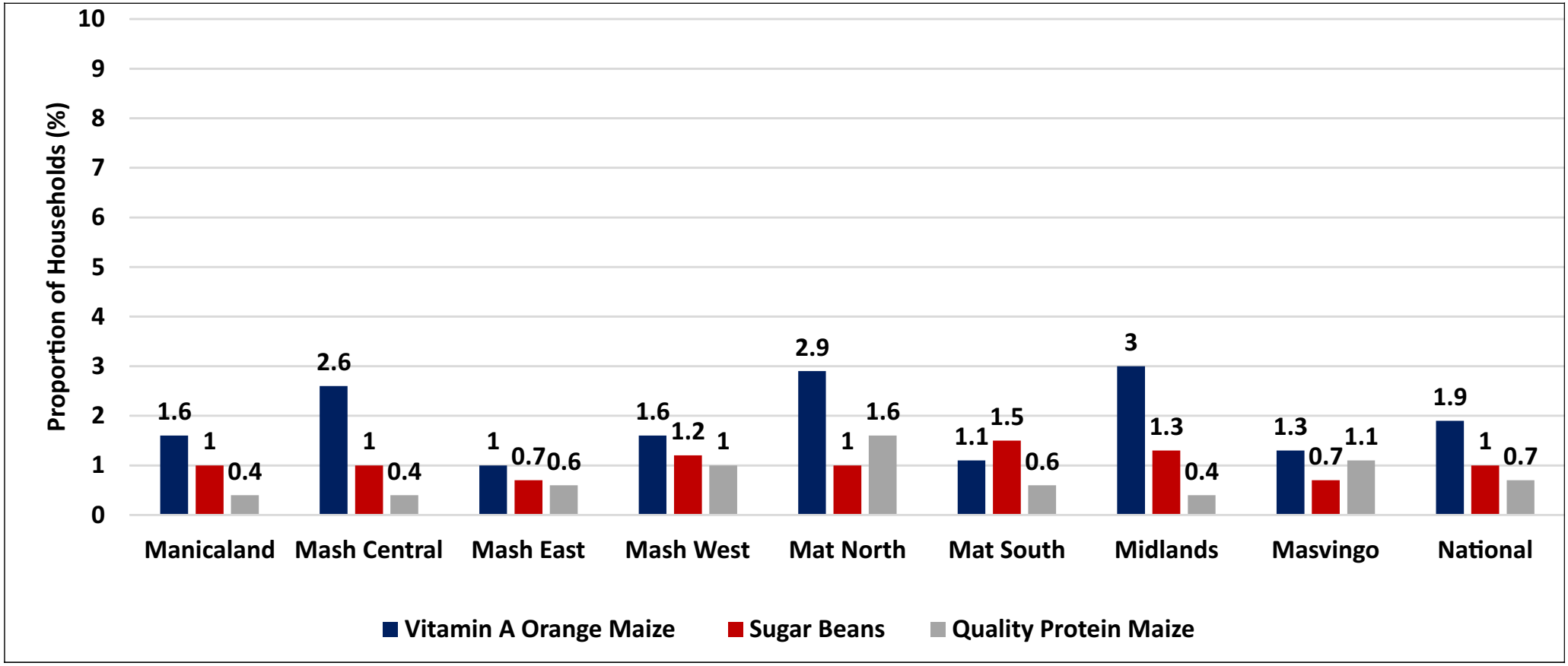
Households Producing Bio-fortified Crops

Province	Type of Bio Fortified Crop		
	Orange Maize (%)	Sugar Beans (%)	Quality protein Maize (%)
Manicaland	2.5	1.8	0.4
Mash Central	3.3	2	0.5
Mash East	0.4	0.2	0
Mash West	1.3	0.9	0.3
Mat North	2.5	0.2	0.4
Mat South	1.1	2	0.2
Midlands	4.4	1.9	0.6
Masvingo	2.5	1.1	0.9
National	2.3	1.2	0.4

- The proportion of households producing bio-fortified crops was very low, 2.3% for Vitamin A orange maize, 1.2% for sugar beans and 0.4% for Quality Protein Maize.

- The proportion of households producing Vitamin A Orange maize was highest in Midlands (4.4%) and lowest in Mashonaland East (0.4%).

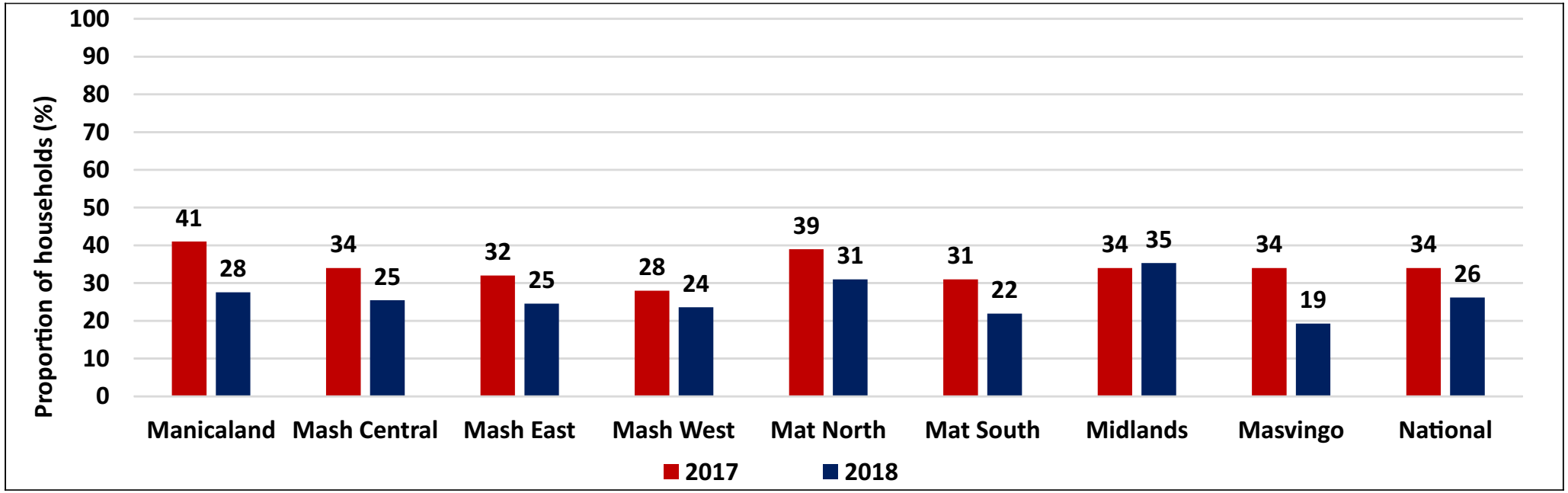
Consumption of Bio-fortified Crops



- The proportion of households consuming bio fortified crops was very low across all the provinces.
- Only 1.9% of households consumed Vitamin A orange maize, 1% consumed sugar beans and 0.7% consumed Quality Protein Maize.

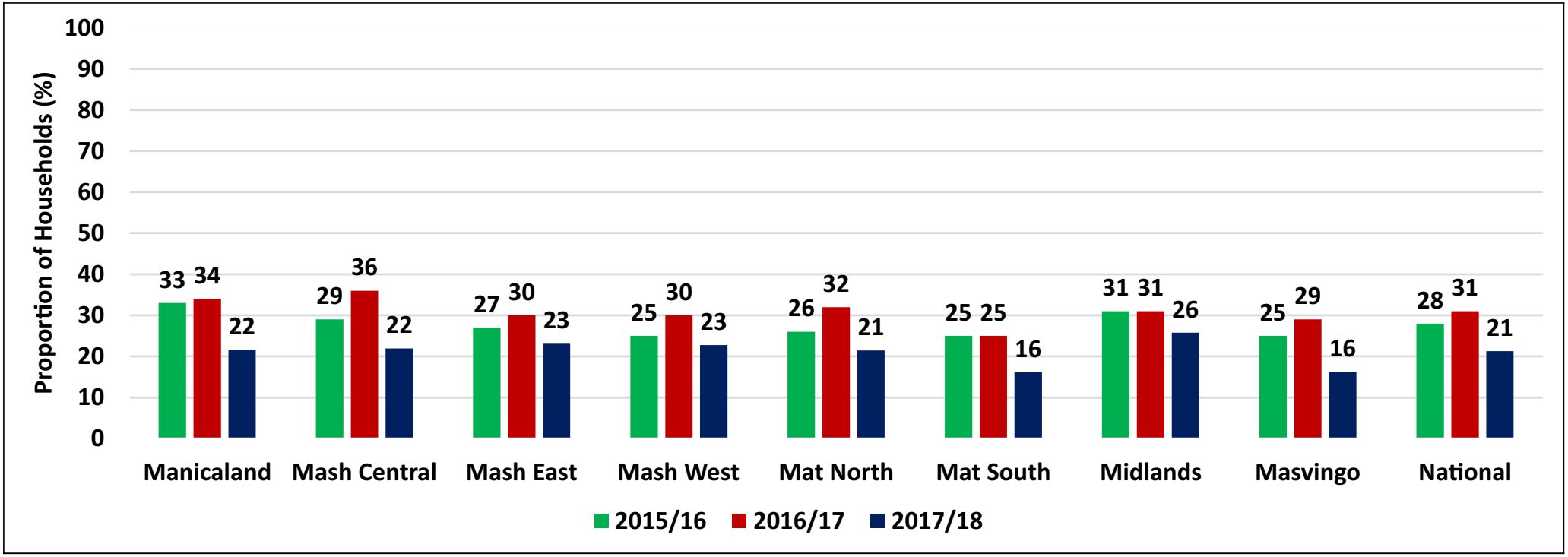
Access to Agricultural Extension Services

Households which Received Agricultural Training



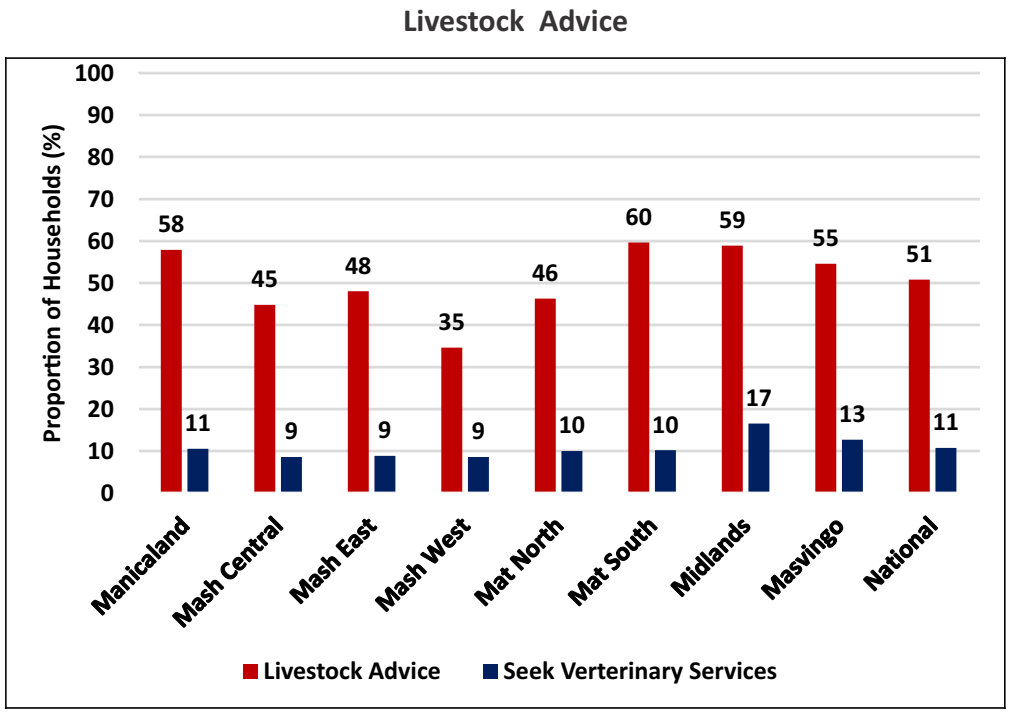
- At national level, the proportion of households which received agricultural training shows a downward trend from 34% in 2017 to 26% in 2018
- Manicaland (41% to 28%) and Mashonaland East (32% to 25%) reported the highest decrease in the proportion of households which received agriculture training.

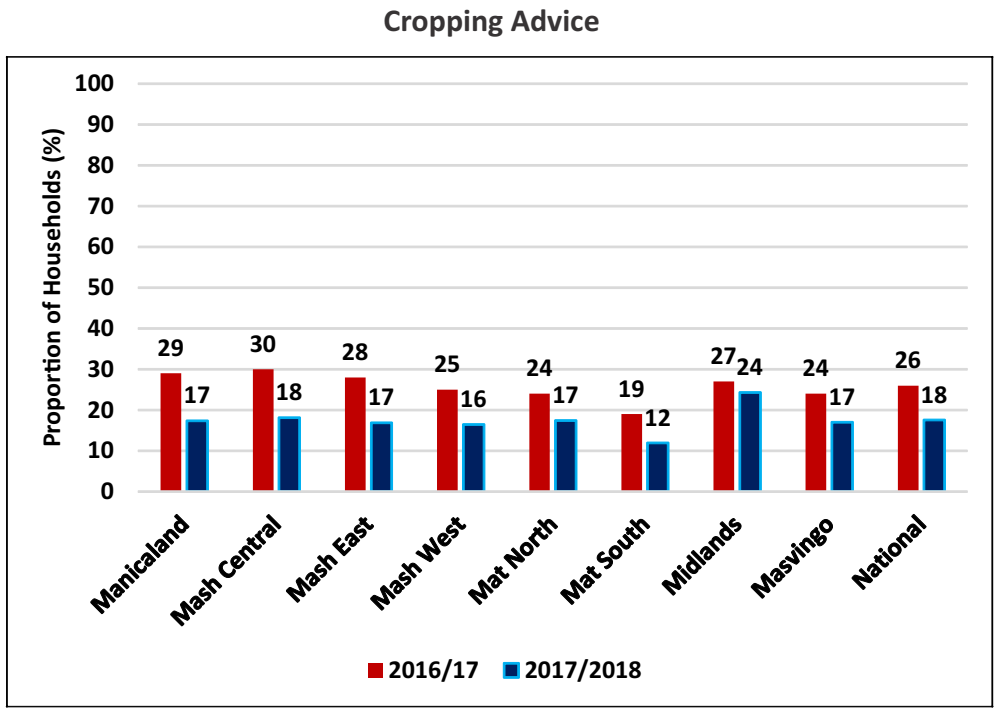
Households which Received Extension Visits



- The proportion of households that received extension visits declined from 31% in 2016/17 to 21% in the 2017/2018 season. The trend shows that household visits are becoming less frequent.
- Mashonaland Central had the highest drop from 36% to 22%.

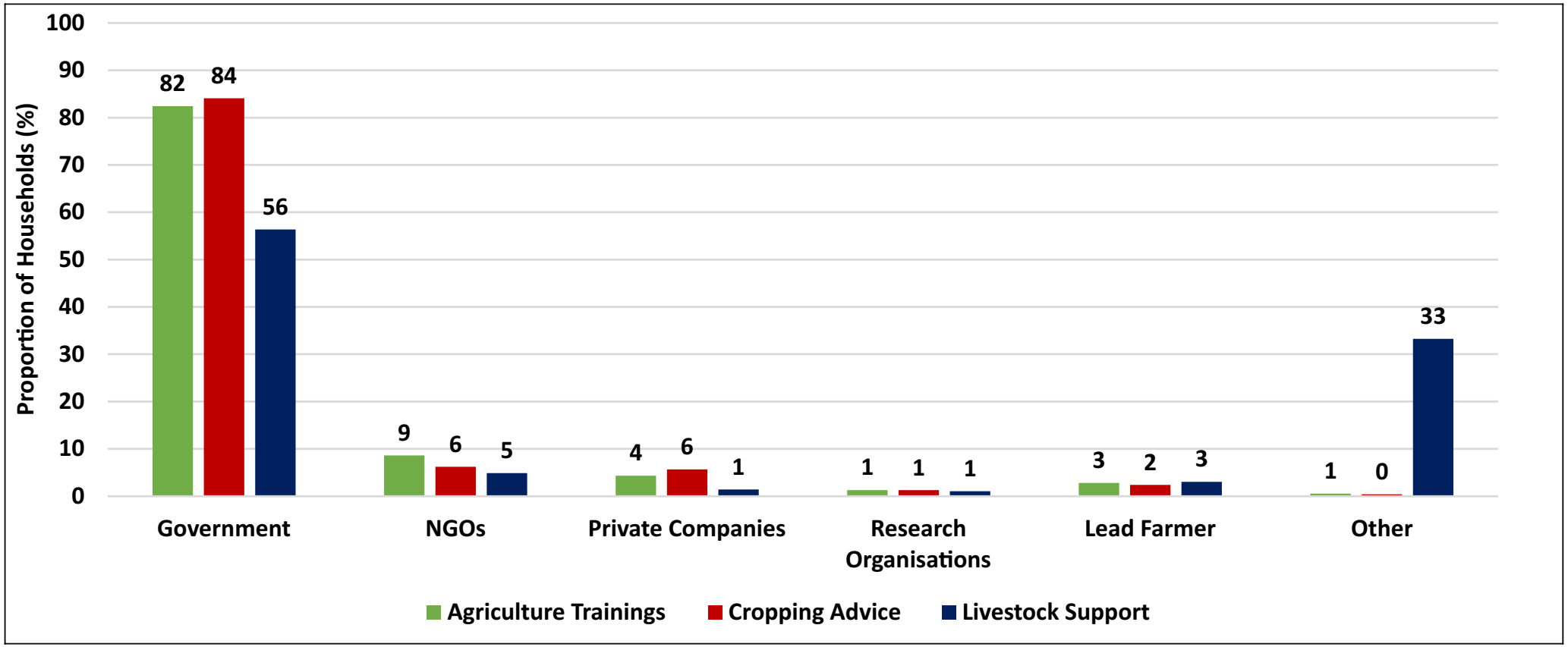
Households which Sought Agricultural Advice





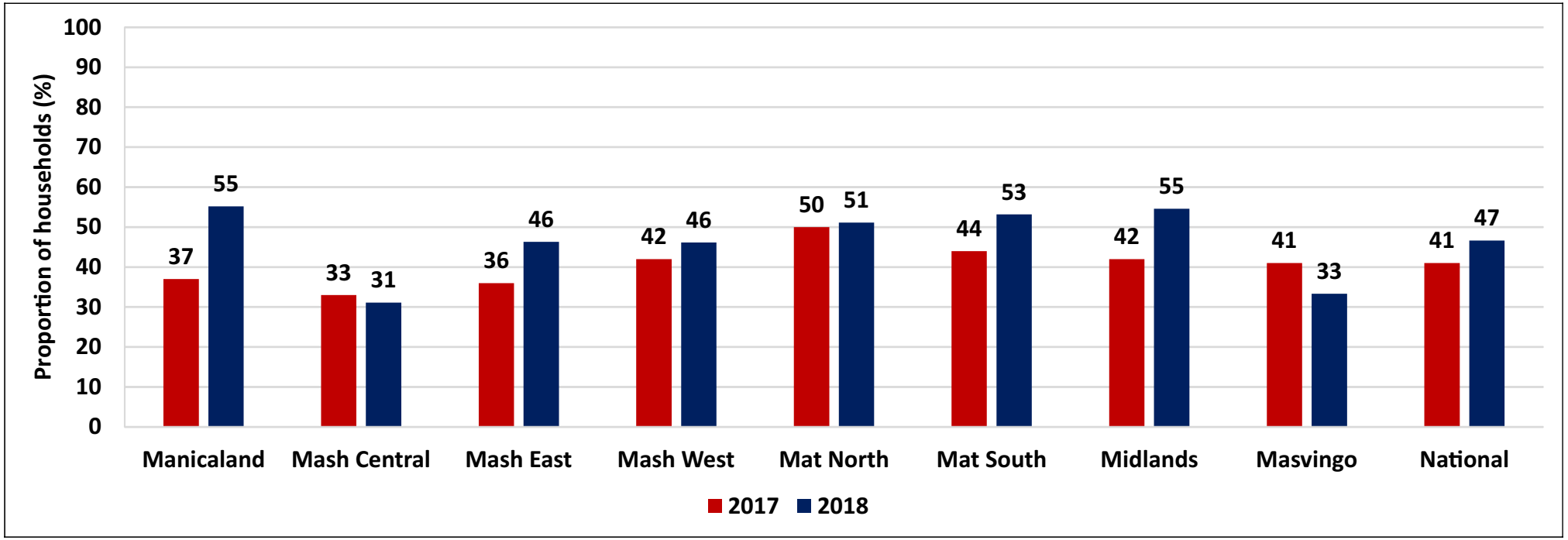
- Of those households with livestock, (51%) sought advice on livestock production. The least sought advice was on veterinary services (11%).
- Only 18% of the households growing crops sought cropping advice.
- Matabeleland South had the highest proportion (60%) of households seeking livestock advice and Mashonaland West had the lowest proportion (35%).

Agriculture Extension Providers



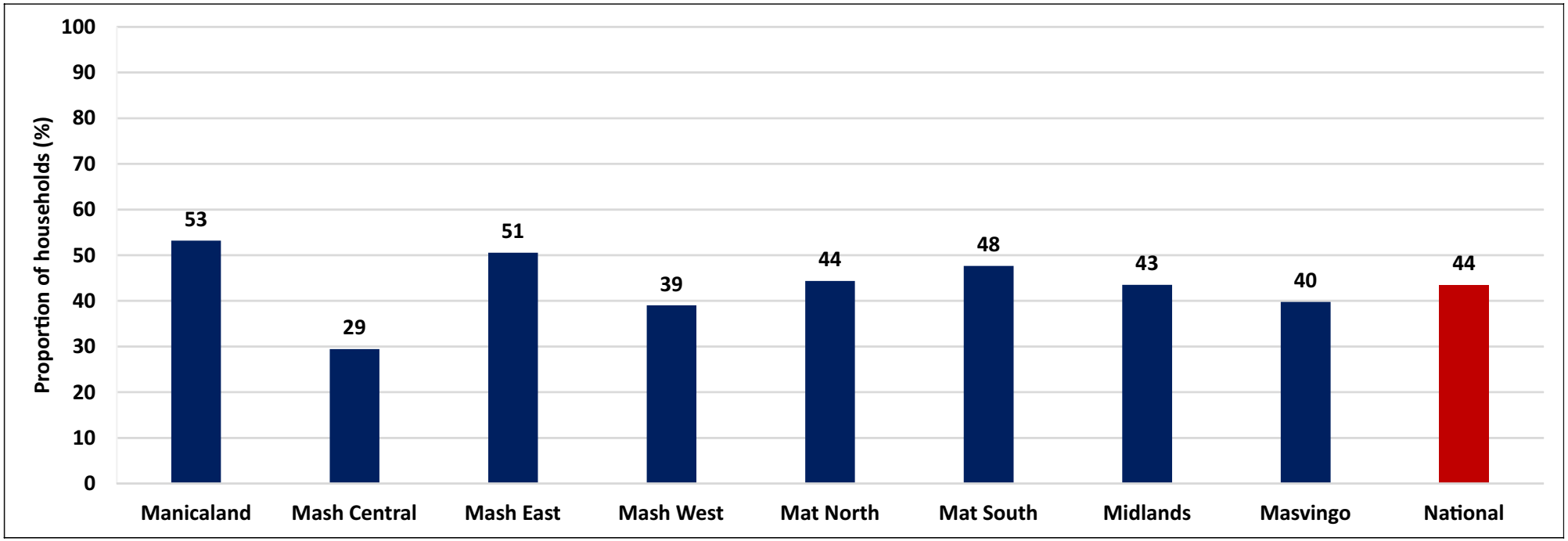
- Government was the major provider of agricultural extension service followed by Non Governmental Organisations and Private companies.
- Other players gave livestock support to 33% of the households.

Households Owning Livestock Trained in Participatory Disease Surveillance



- Nationally, there was an increase in the proportion of households which were involved in participatory disease surveillance from 41% in 2017 to 47% in 2018.
- The highest increase was reported in Manicaland and the least in Matabeleland North.
- Mashonaland Central and Masvingo also reported decreases in the proportion of households that had members trained in participatory disease surveillance, despite their having reported livestock disease outbreaks.

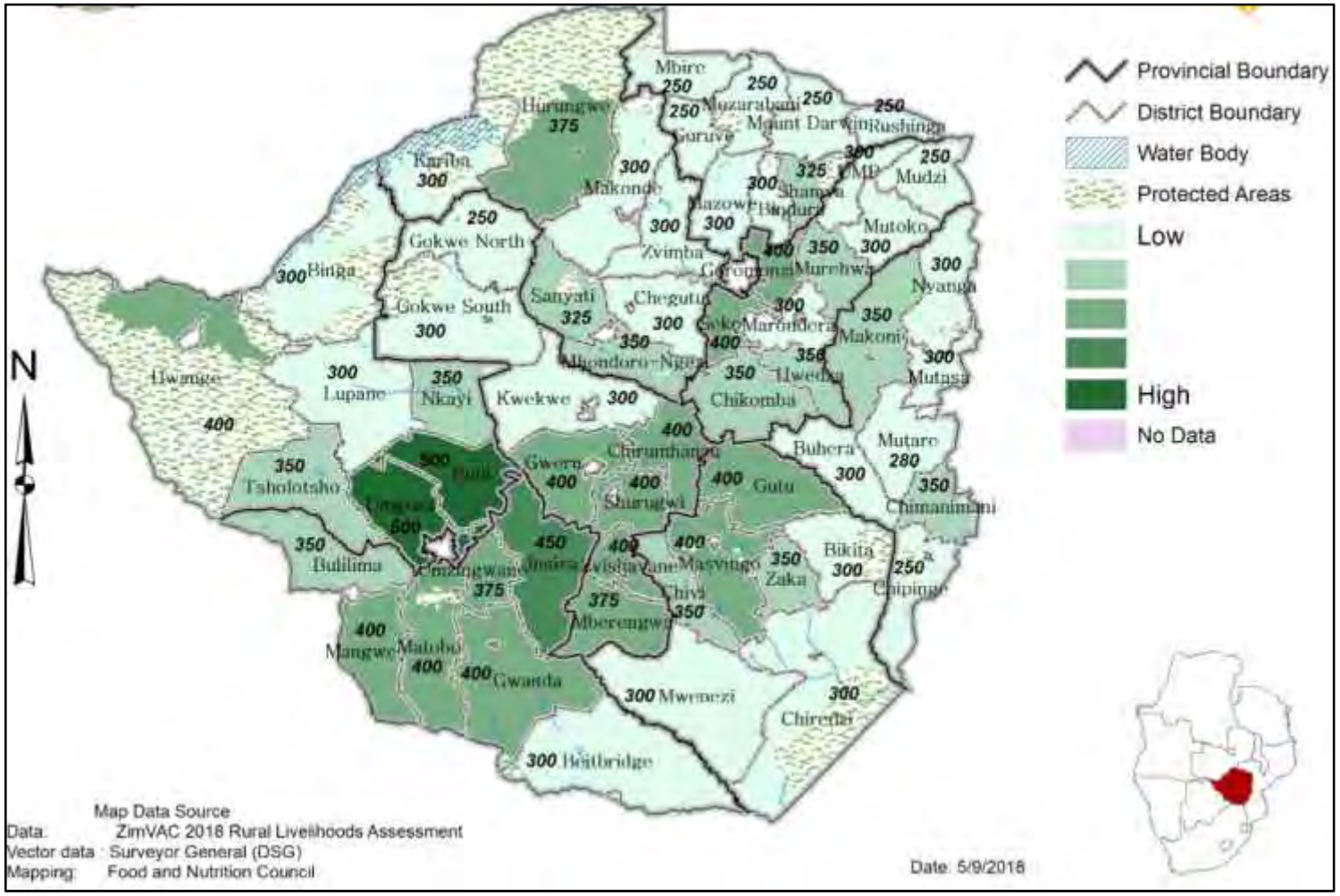
Households that Received Information on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza



- On average, 44% of the households had at least a member who received information on avian influenza.
- The highest proportion was in Manicaland (53%) and the least was in Mashonaland Central (29%).

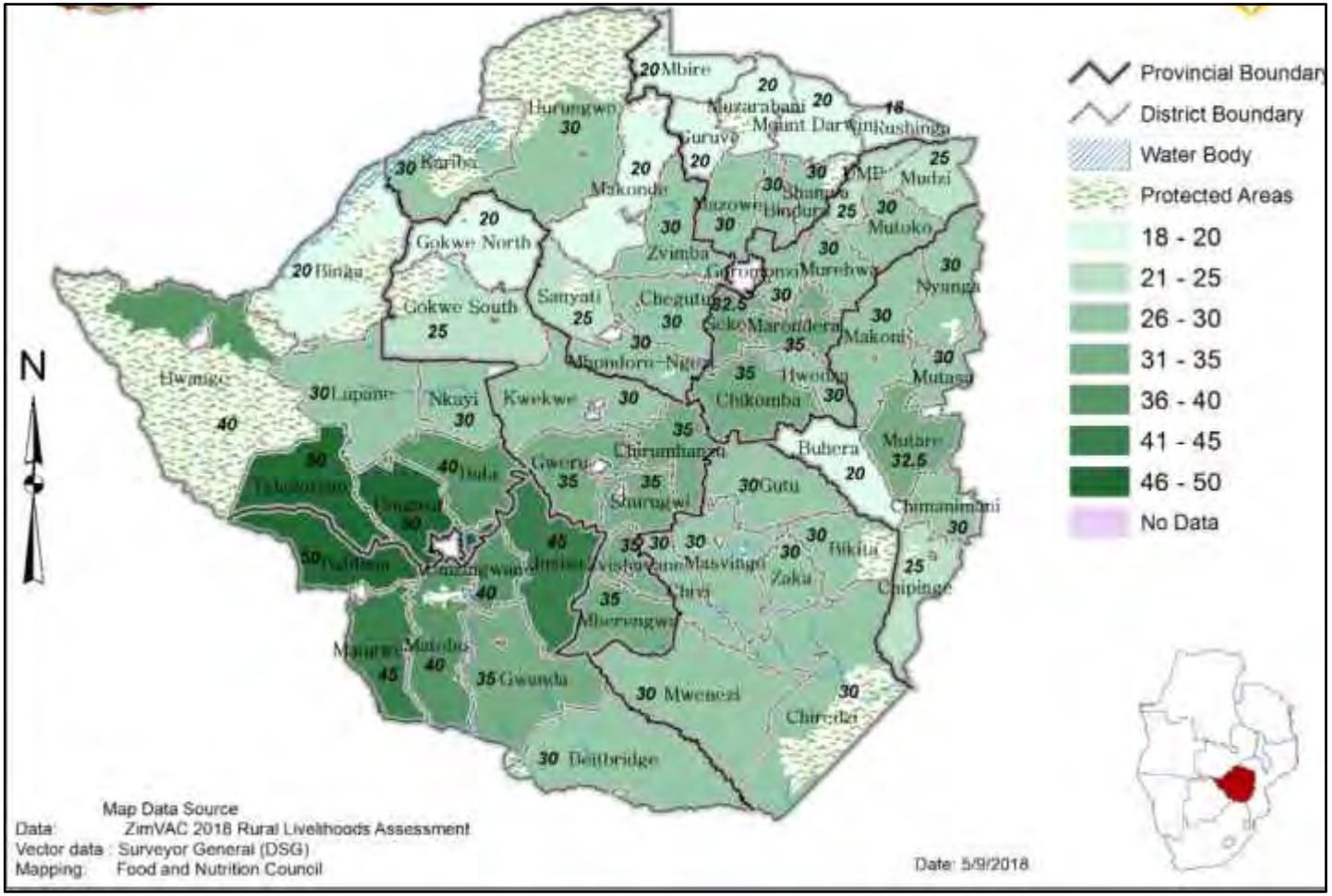
Agricultural Commodity Prices

District Average Cattle Prices as at April 2018



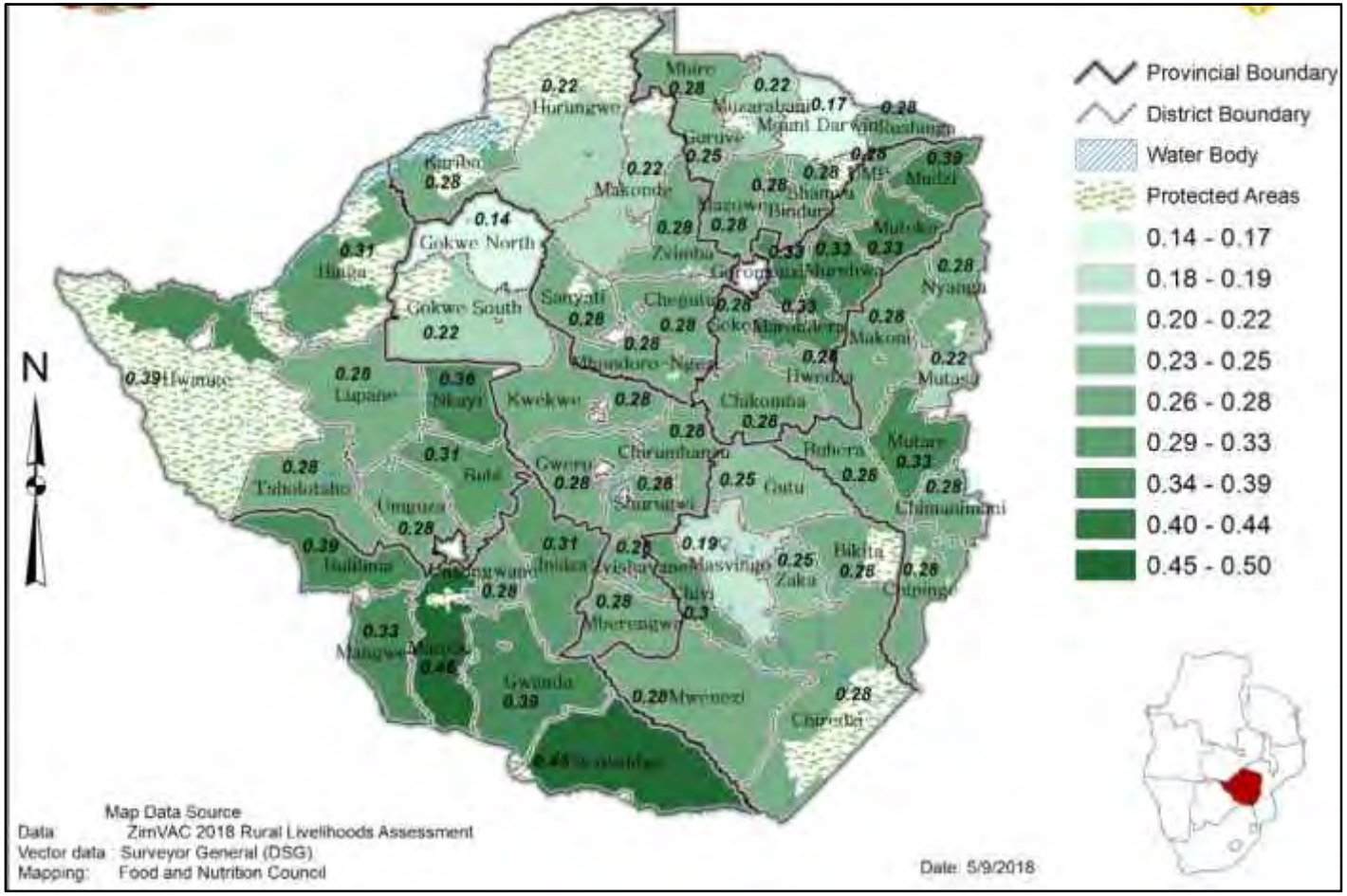
- The average cattle price decreased from USD 320 in 2017 to USD 300 in 2018.
- Prices ranged from USD 250 to USD 500 in April 2018.
- The lowest cattle prices of USD 250 were reported in Gokwe North, Mbire, Guruve, Muzarabani, Mt Darwin, Rushinga, Chipinge and Mudzi.
- The highest prices of USD 500 were reported in Bubi and Umguza.

District Average Goat Prices as at April 2018



- Amongst the districts the average price ranged from USD 18 to USD 50 in 2018.
- The lowest average prices were reported in Rushinga (USD 18) and USD 20 in Binga, Gokwe North, Guruve, Makonde, Mbire, Mt Darwin, Muzarabani and Buhera.
- The highest average goat prices ranged from USD 46 to USD 50 and these were reported in Tsholotsho, Bulilima and Umguza.
- There is a 178% price differential between the lowest and the highest price.

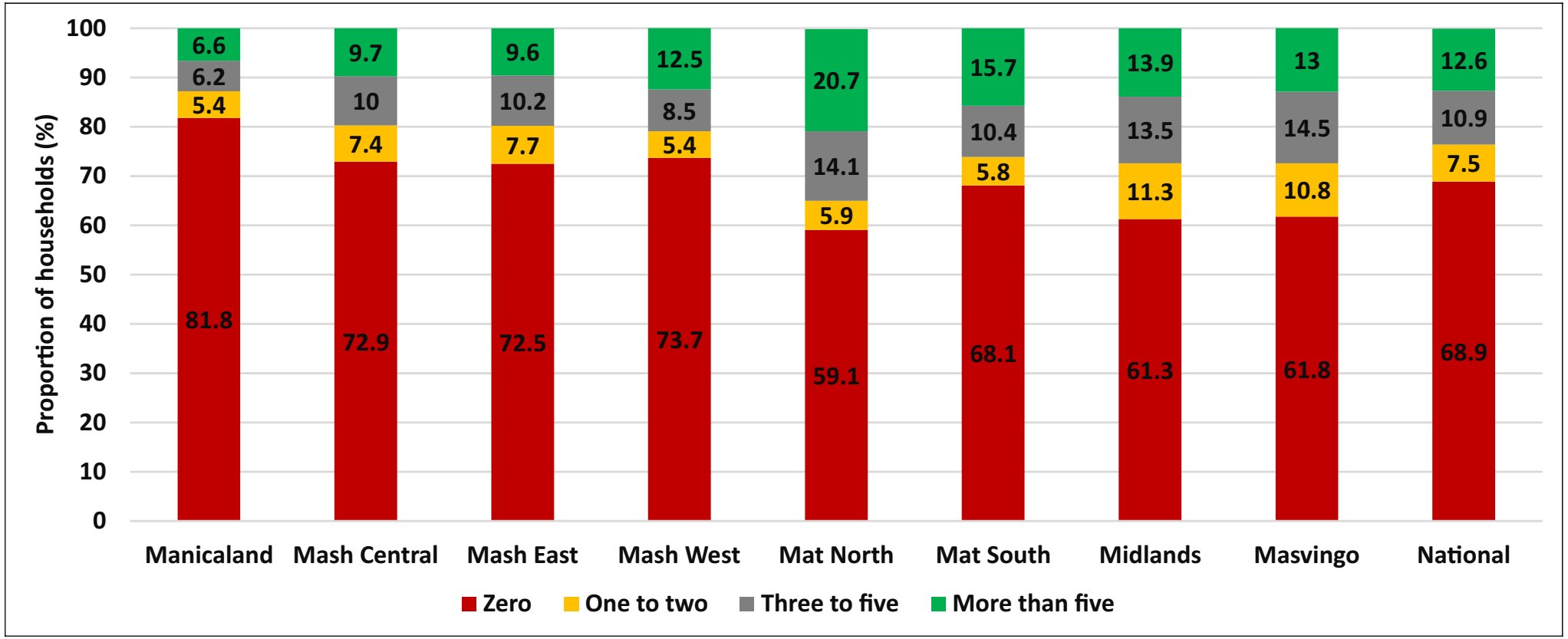
District Average Maize Grain Prices (USD/kg) as at April 2018



- Average maize grain price was USD 0.28 in April 2018.
- The lowest average maize grain prices of USD 0.14 to USD 0.17 were reported in Gokwe North and Mt Darwin.
- The highest maize grain prices were reported in Beitbridge (USD 0.45) and Matobo (USD 0.46).
- There is an approximate 229% price differential between the lowest and the highest price.

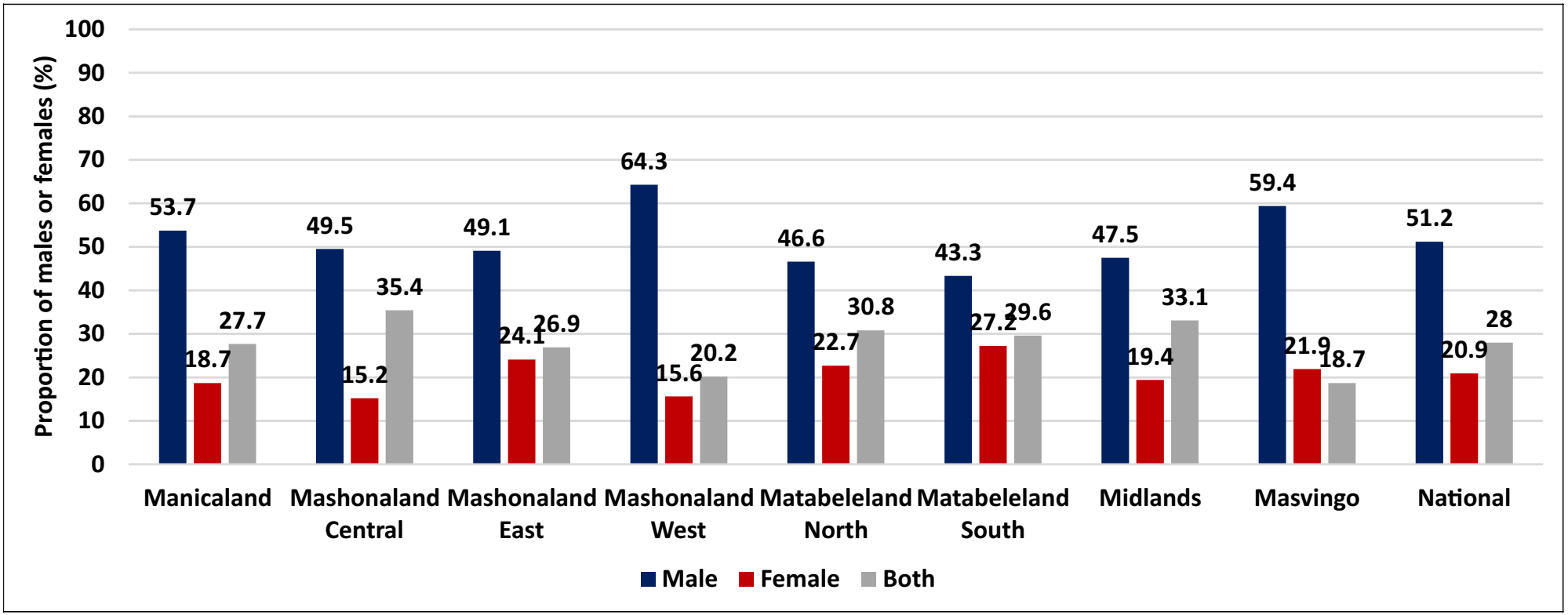
Livestock

Cattle Ownership by Province



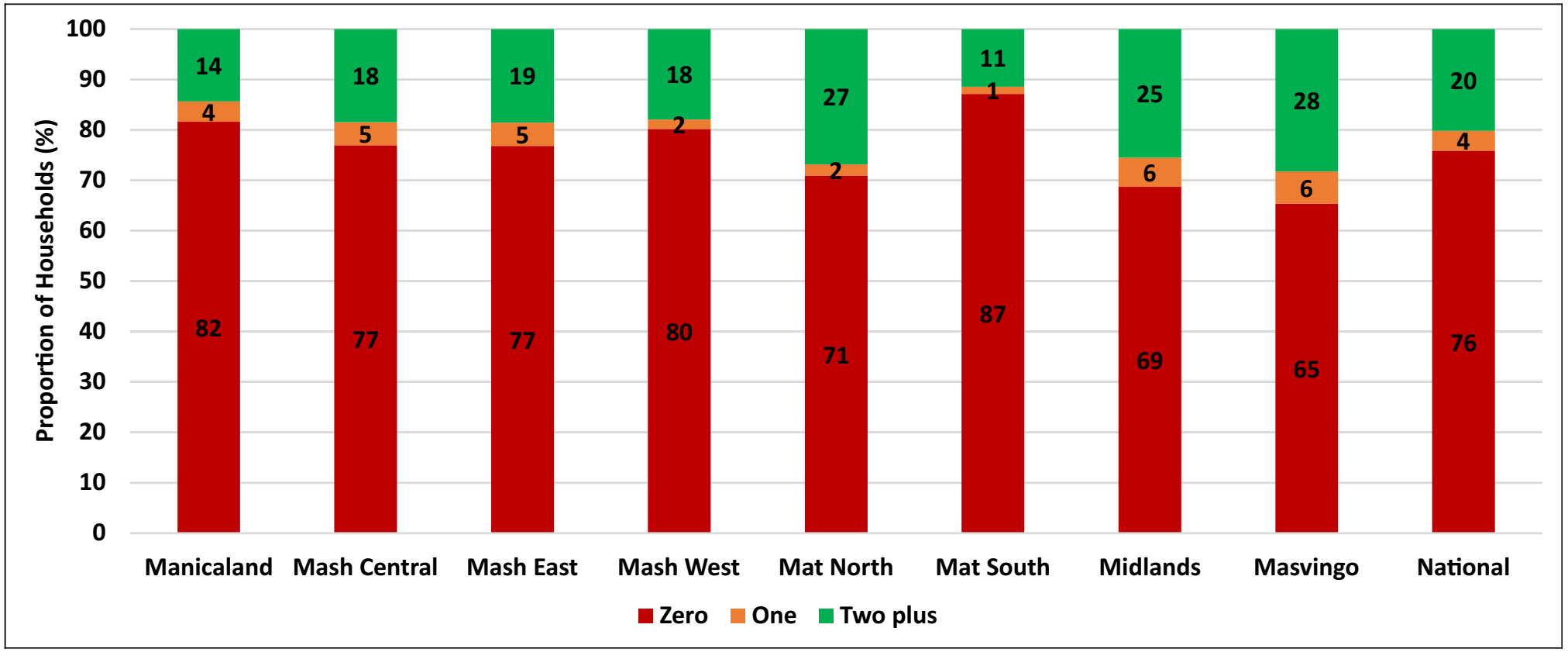
- Amongst the farming households, 69% did not own cattle.
- The proportion of households that own cattle decreased from 45% (2017) to 32% in 2018. This could be indicative of increased vulnerability.

Cattle Ownership by Gender



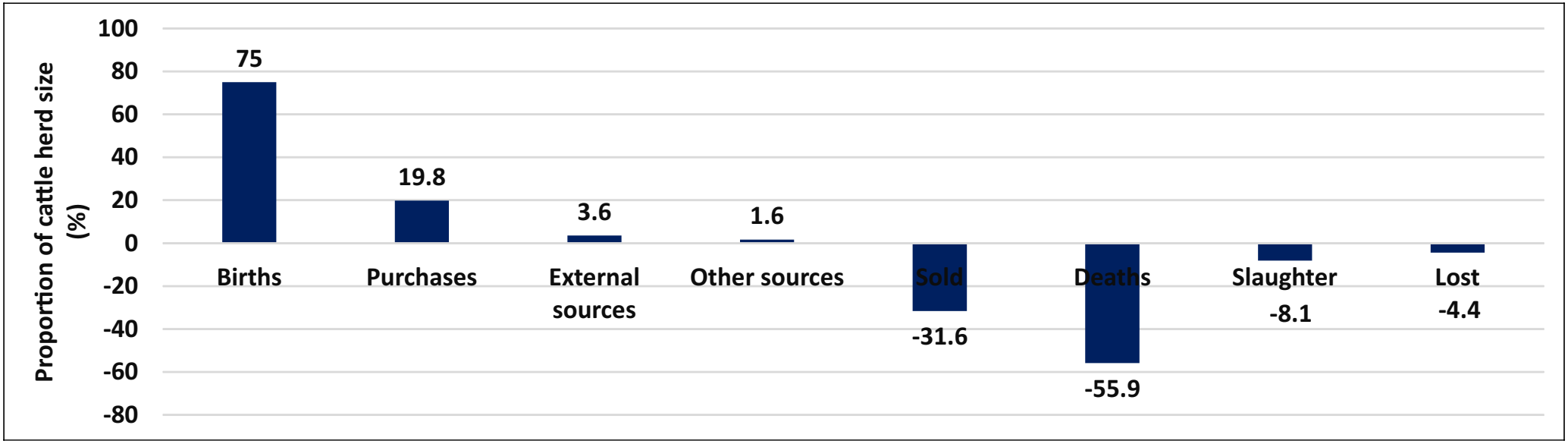
- The proportion of women that owned cattle (20.9%) is lower than that of men (51.2%).
- About 28% of the households had dual ownership.
- Mashonaland West had the highest proportion of males who owned cattle (64.3%) followed by Masvingo (59.4%).
- Matabeleland South had the highest proportion of females who owned cattle (27.2%).

Draught Power Availability



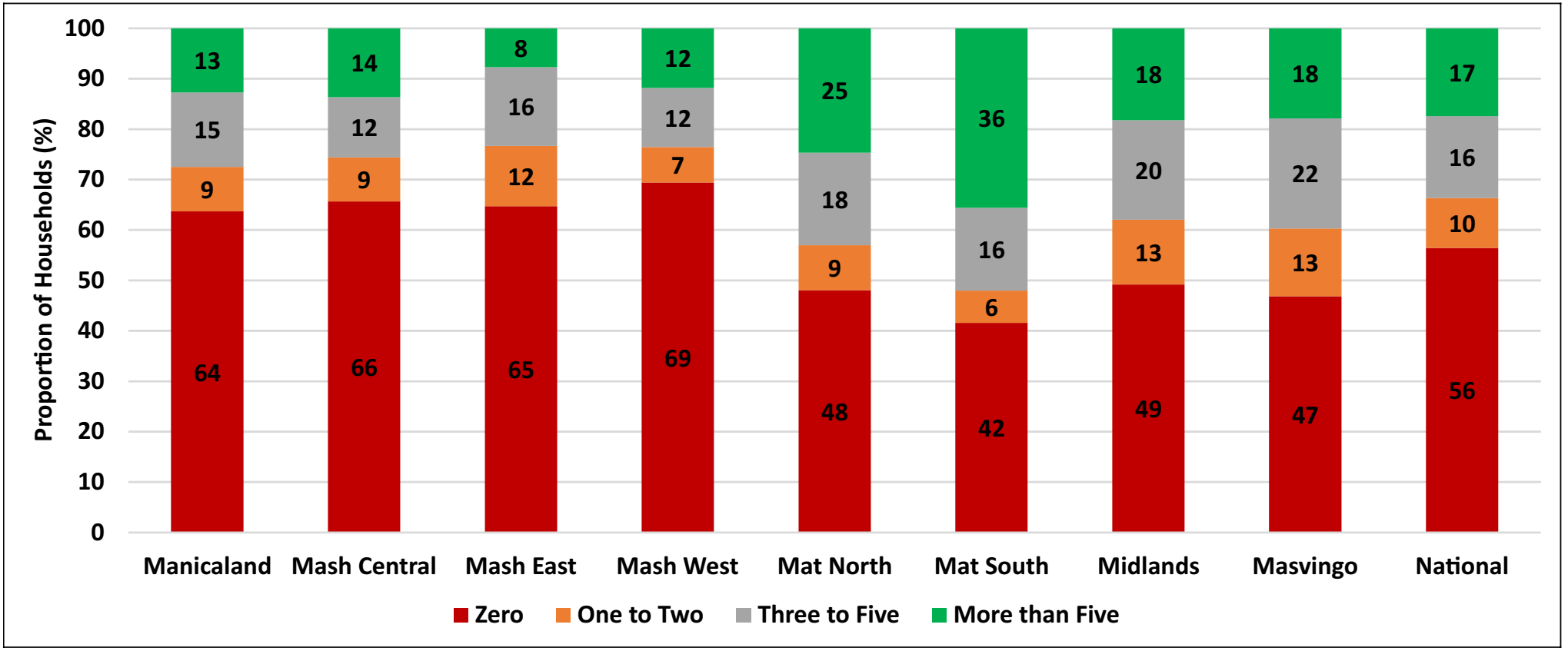
- The majority of households (76%) did not have draught power. Only 24% of the households had draught power and this has an implication on agricultural labour.

Cattle Herd Dynamics



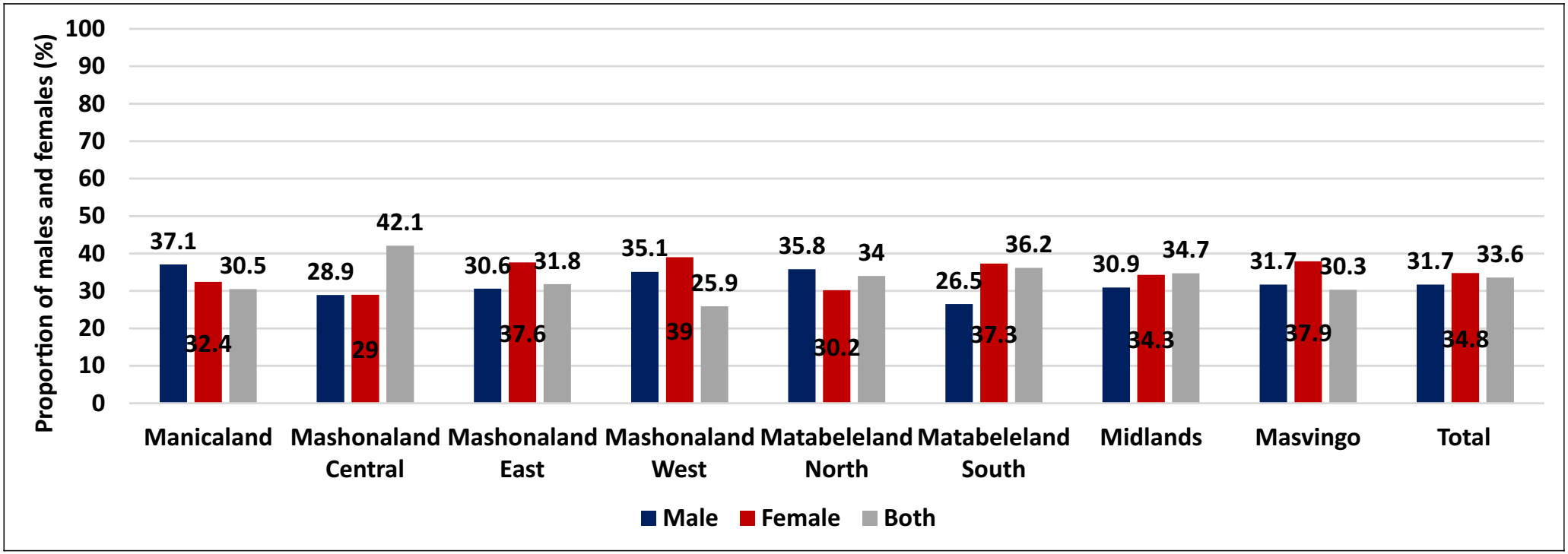
- Increases in the cattle herd during the period April 2017 to March 2018 were due to births (75%), purchases (19.8%) and external sources (3.6%).
- Losses in cattle were due to deaths (55.9%). The highest cause of deaths for cattle was diseases (74.4%).
- Of the 31.6% of cattle sold, 24.5% were for purchase of food, 22% to pay education expenses and 14.8% for other household costs.
- Slaughter contributed to about 8.1% of the attritions. Of these, approximately 62% were for own consumption and 18% for social events.

Goats Ownership



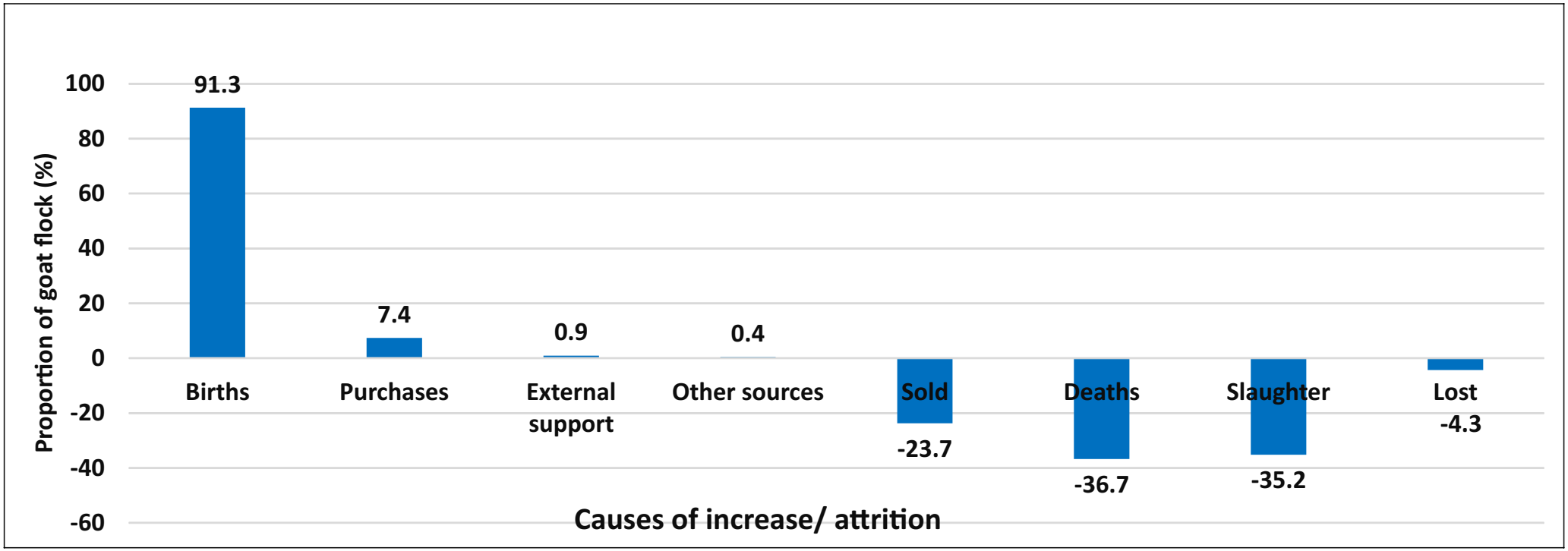
- The proportion of households with goats was 44%, a decrease from 46% reported last year.
- The highest proportion of households with more than 5 goats was in Matabeleland South (36%) and Matabeleland North (25%).

Goats Ownership by Gender



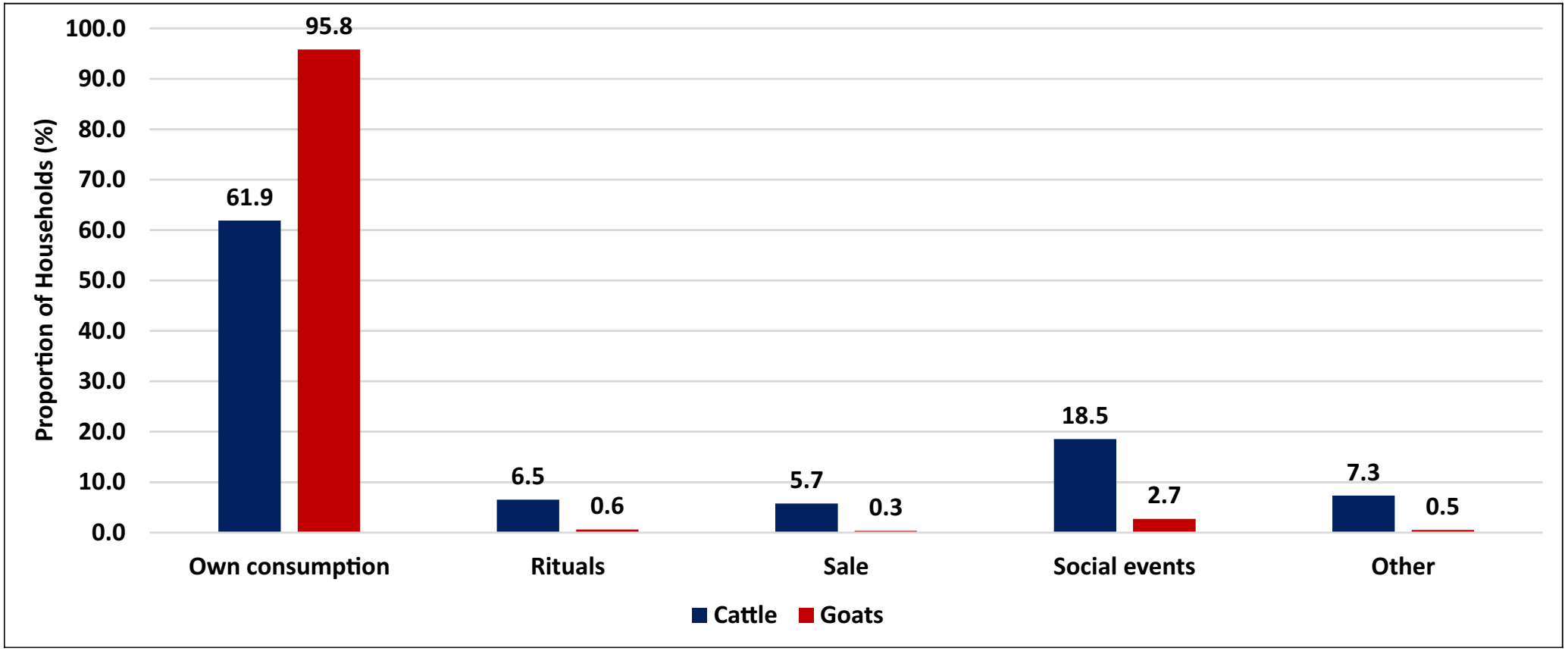
- The proportion of females that owned goats (34.8%) was higher than the proportion of males (31.7%).
- Manicaland had the highest proportion of goats owned by males (37.1%) followed by Matabeleland North (35.8%).
- Mashonaland West had the highest proportion of females (39%) owning goats.

Goats Dynamics



- Increases in the goat flock during the period April 2017 to March 2018 were due to births (91.3%), purchases (7.4%) and external sources (0.9%).
- Losses in goats were due to deaths (36.7%). Of these, 73.4% were due to diseases and 15.5% due to predation.
- Of the 35.2% slaughtered, 96% were for own consumption.
- Of the 23% of goats sold, 42% were for purchase of food, 25% to pay education expenses and 13% for other household costs.

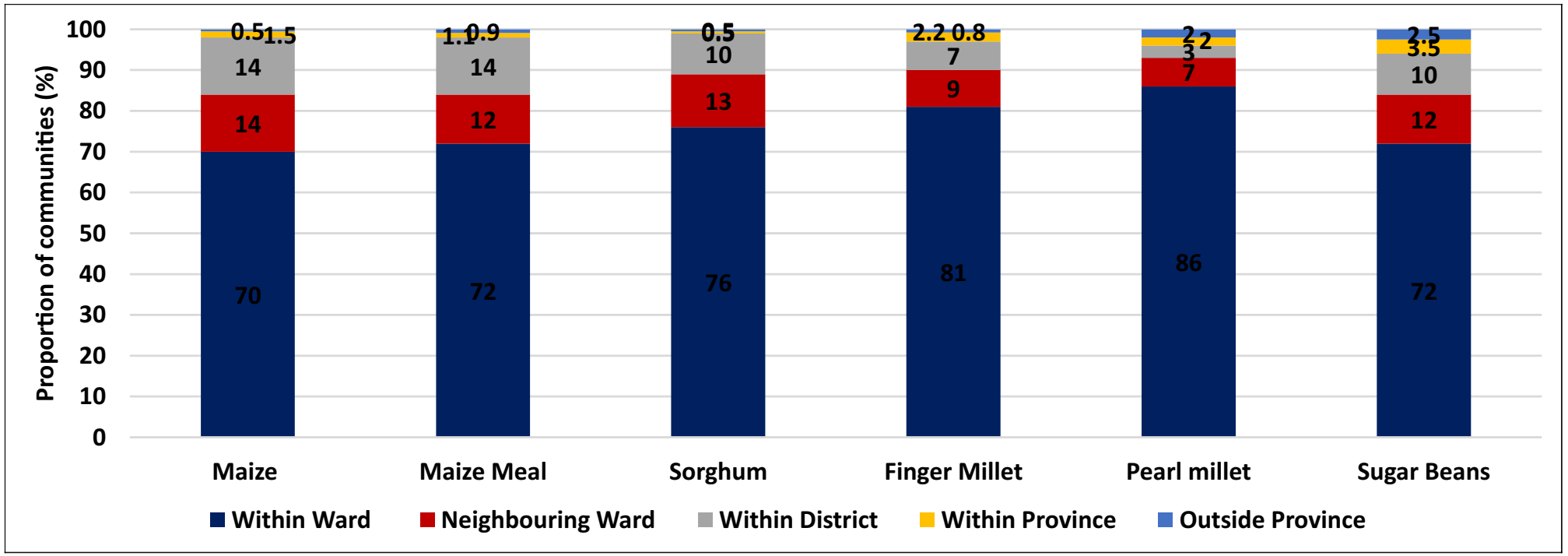
Reasons for Slaughter



- The majority of the households slaughtered goats for household consumption (95.8%).
- About 62% of the households slaughtered cattle for household consumption, while 18.5% slaughtered cattle for social events.

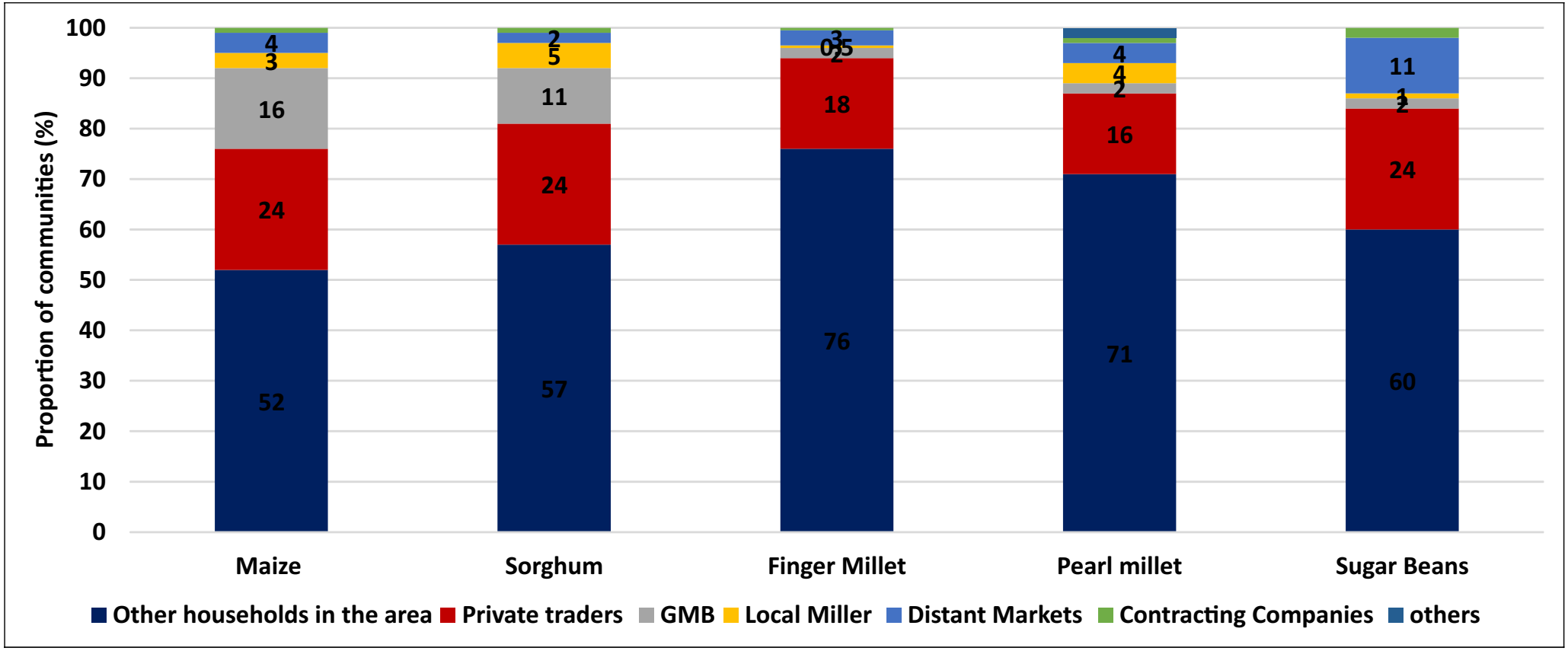
Markets

Cereals and Sugar Beans Markets



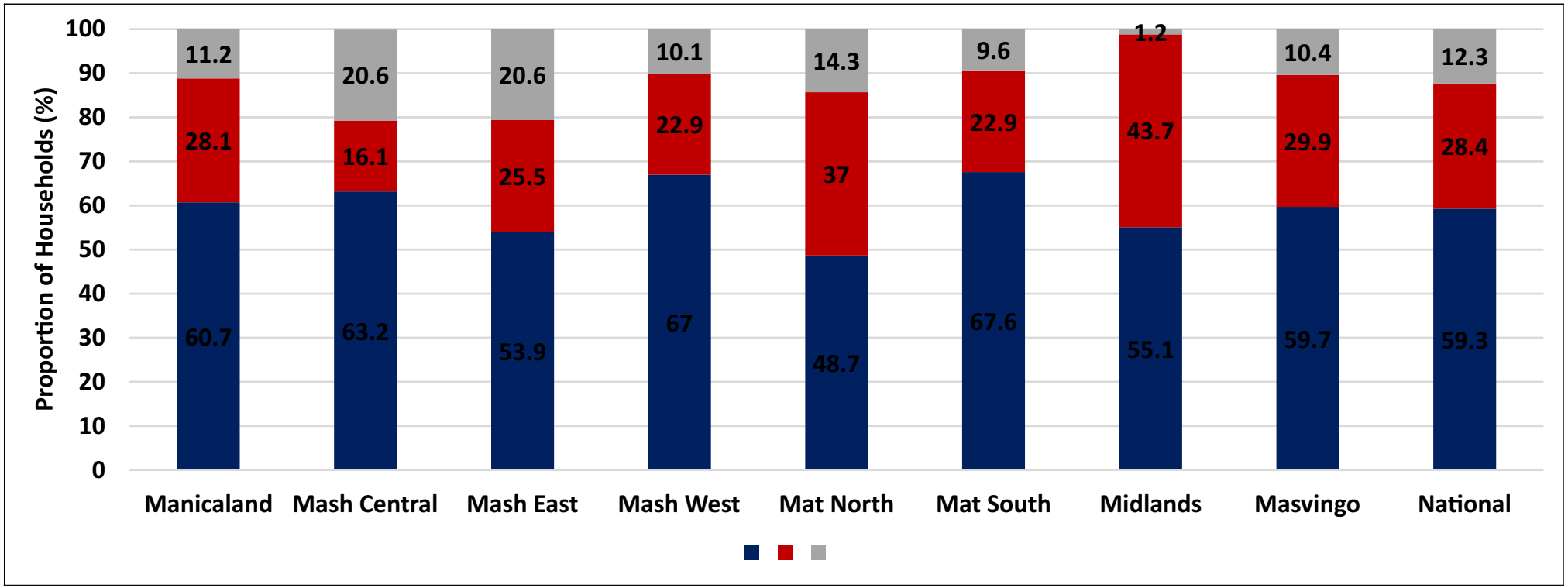
- Most communities accessed staple cereals and pulses from within their wards.
- About 16% of the communities accessed maize from distant markets, which has an implication on travel costs and time.
- The fact that cereals were generally being accessed within districts and only a small proportion of communities were accessing pulses from outside provinces indicates that the markets within the districts were functional.

Types Markets for Cereals and Sugar Beans



- Households were mainly accessing cereals from other households in the area, followed by private traders.
- About 37% of communities indicated that they accessed maize meal from other households in the area, and this implied an increase in the parallel market. This trend was more prominent in the border districts and can be attributed to the existence of home businesses.

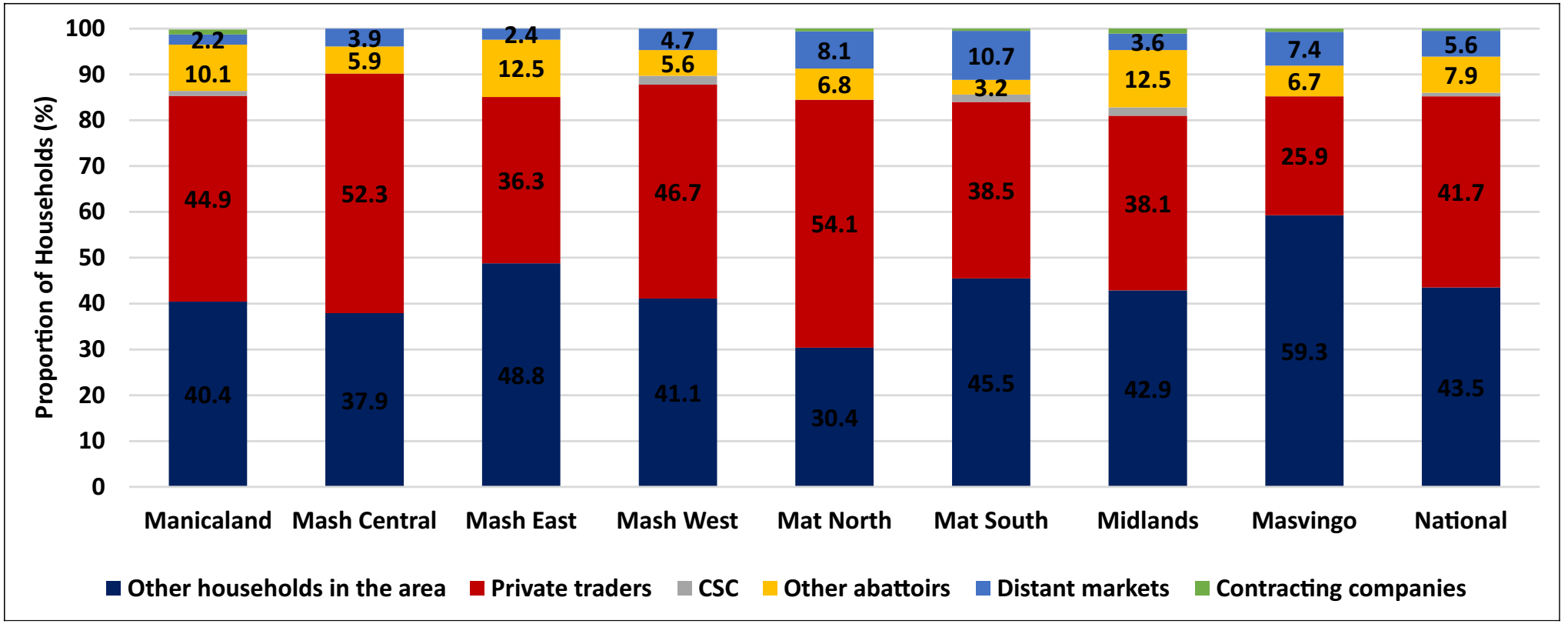
Location of Main Market: Cattle



- Most households accessed cattle markets within their wards (59%). The presence of sale pens and organised periodical markets within some wards plays an important role in improving market access.

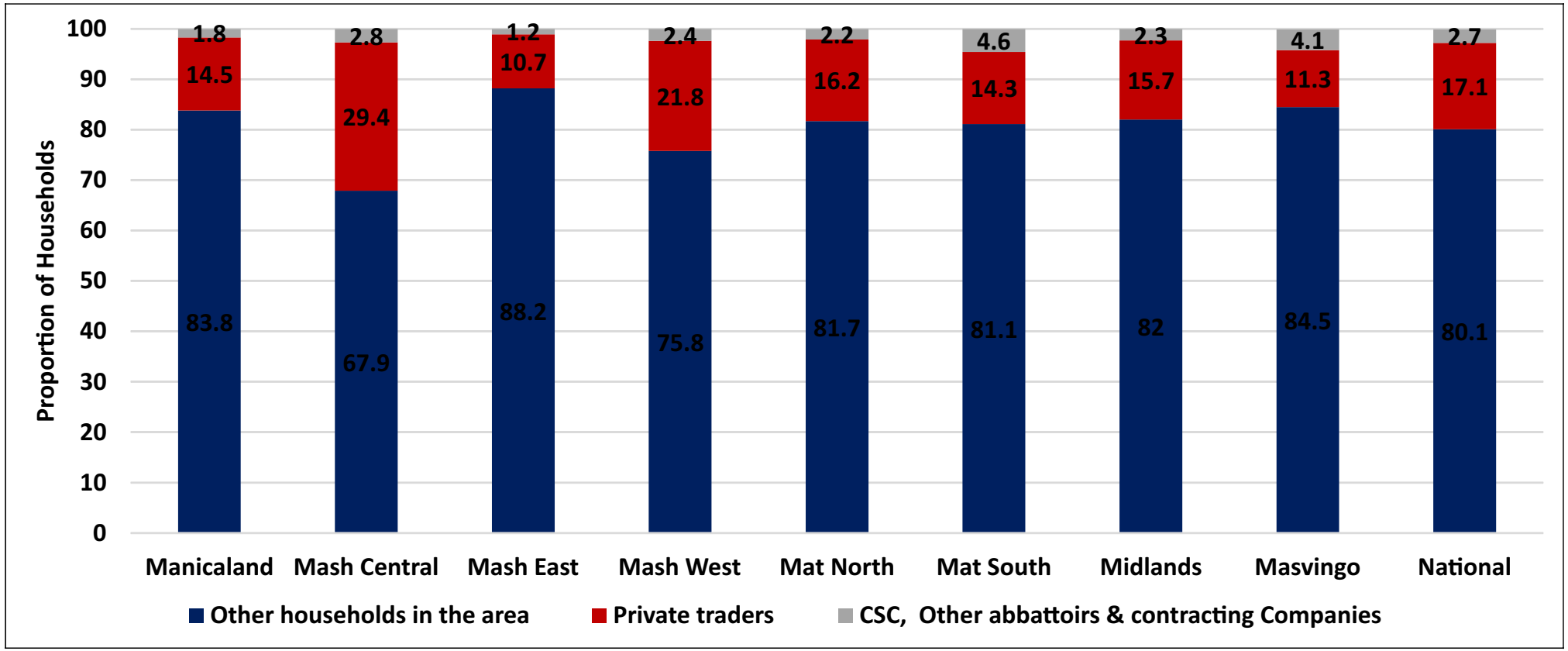
- About 12% of the communities accessed distant cattle markets, which has an implication on travel costs and time.

Type of Market: Cattle



- The type of market for cattle was mainly farmer to farmer (43.5%) followed by private traders (41.7%).
- The formal cattle markets (abattoirs and contracting companies) only comprised of a small proportion (8%), private traders were highest in Matabeleland North (54.1%). There was also a notable prominence of formal markets in Manicaland, Mashonaland Central and Mashonaland West.

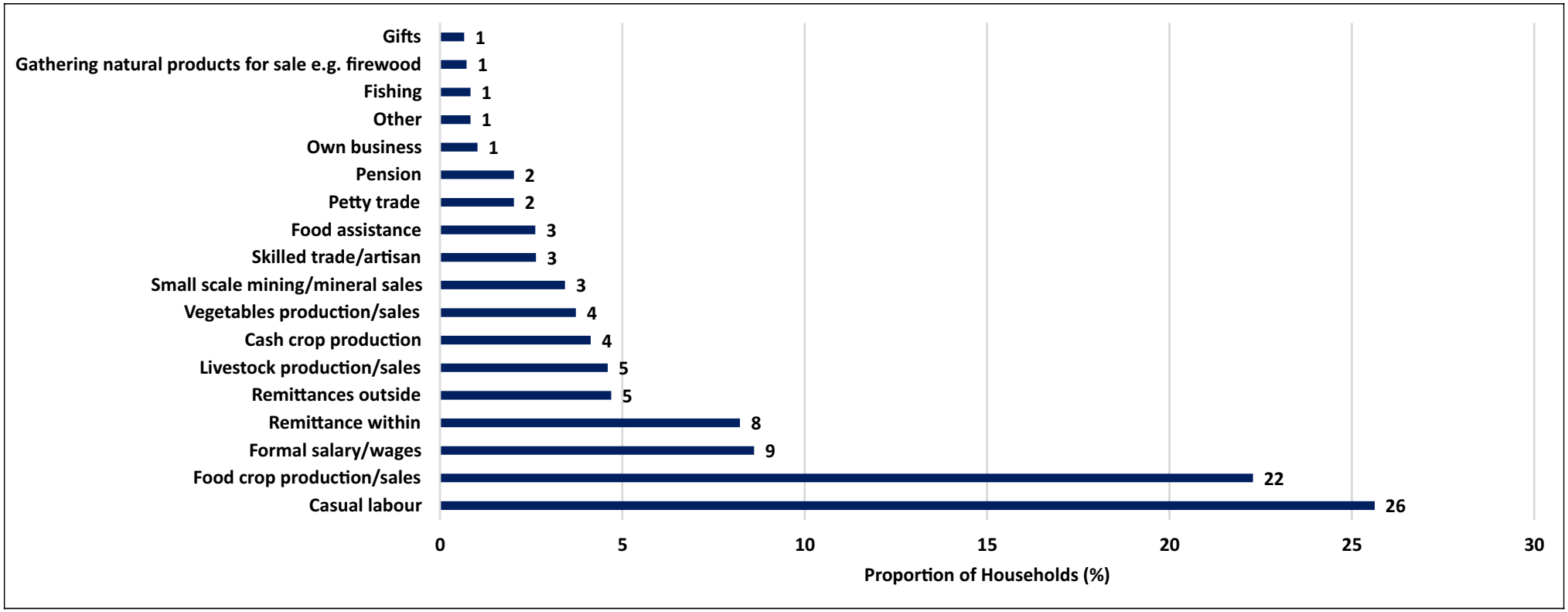
Type of Market: Goats



- The main market for goats was farmer to farmer (80.1%) followed by private traders (17.1%), which was consistent with market trends for cereals and cattle.

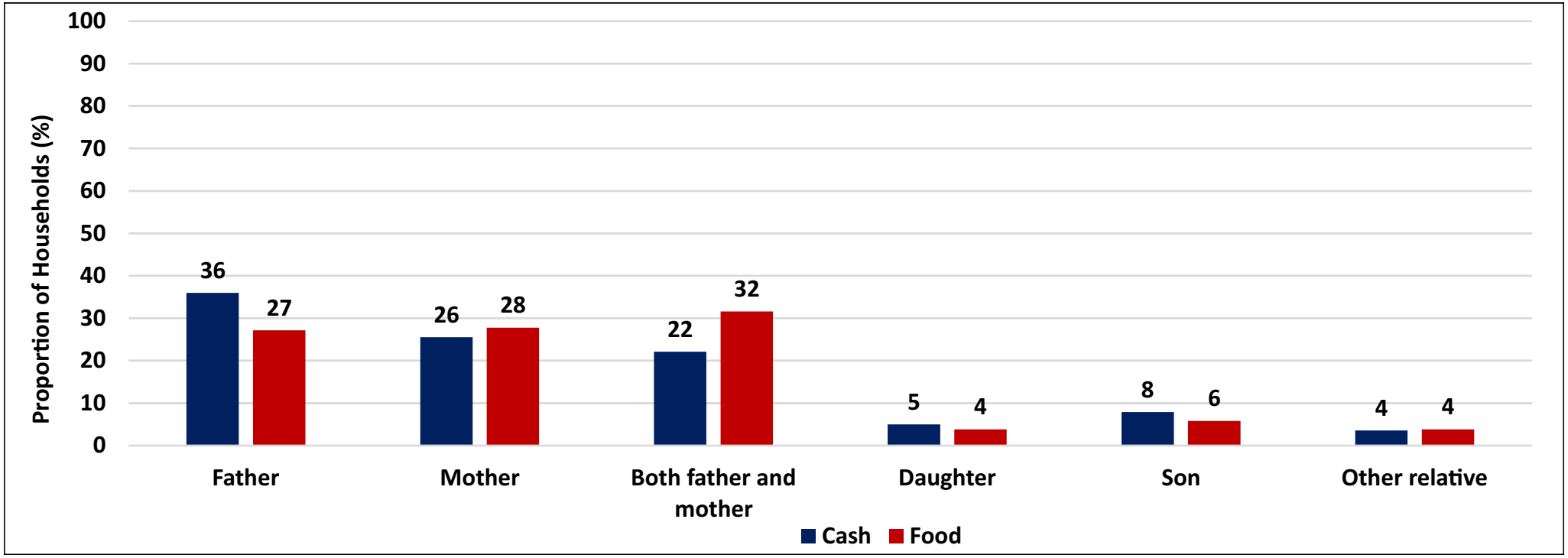
Income and Expenditure

Current Most Important Source of Income



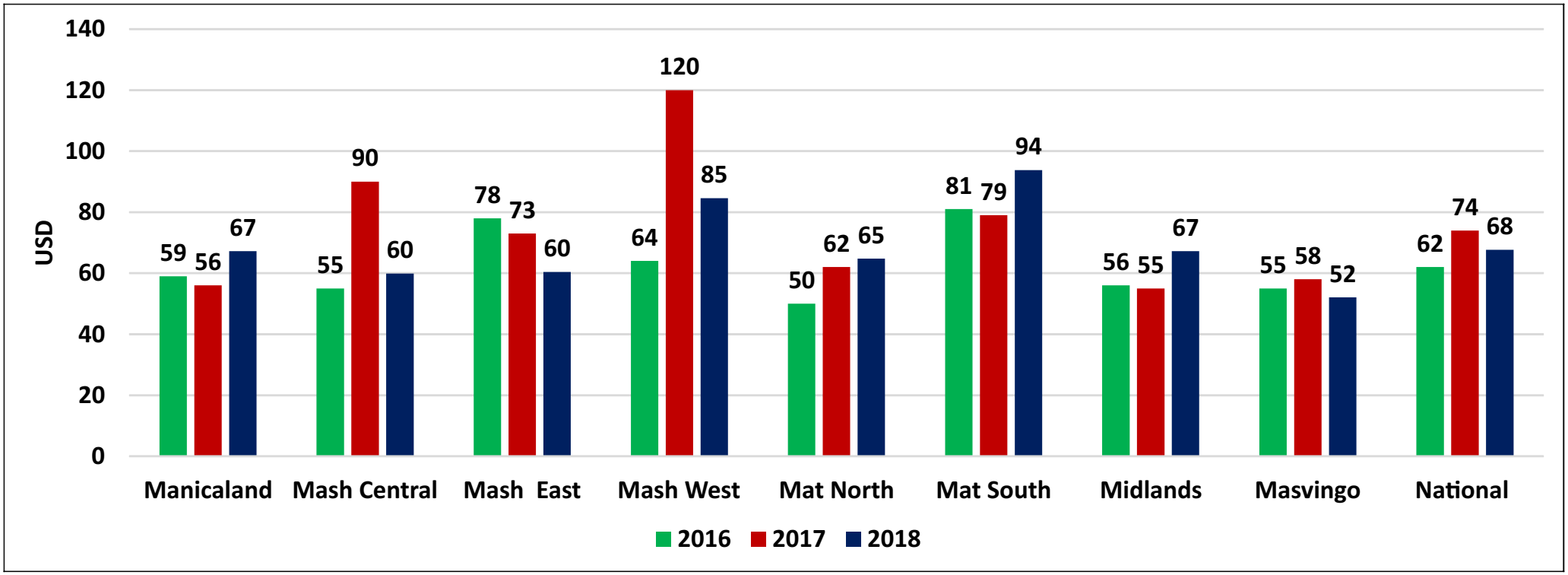
- Casual labour was the most important source of income (26%), followed by food crop production (22%). The situation is worrisome as most casual labour opportunities are seasonal.

Main Contributor of Income



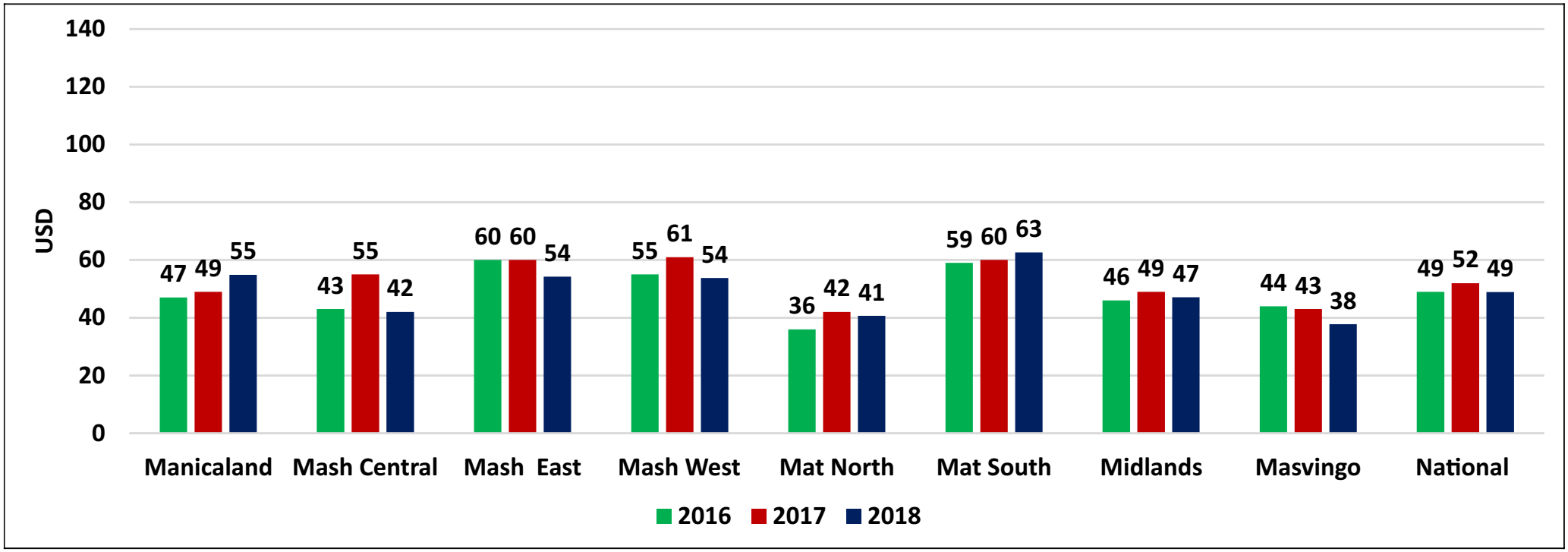
- Fathers (36%) were reported as the main contributors of cash income while both father and mother (32%) were the main contributors of food income.

Average Household Income for March 2018



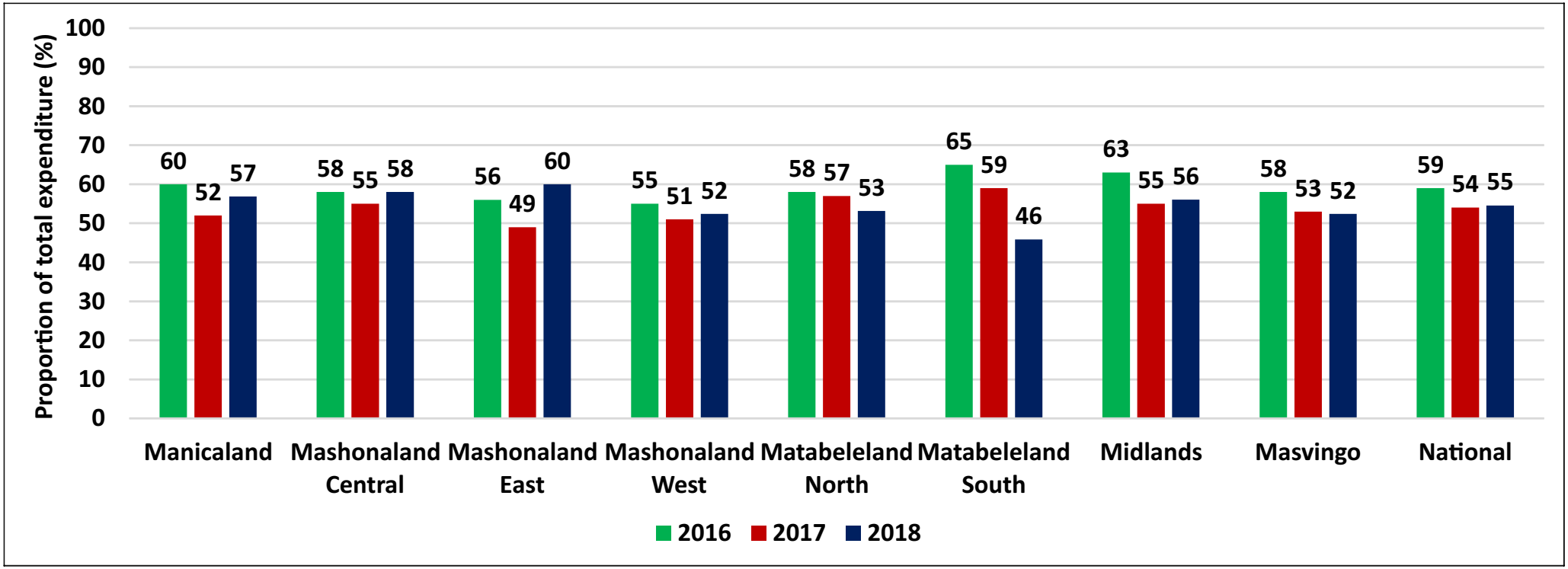
- The average household income for the month of March was USD68, lower than the previous year (USD74).
- Matabeleland South (USD94) had the highest average monthly income while Masvingo (USD52) had the lowest.
- The largest decrease was in Mashonaland Central (33%) followed by Mashonaland West (29%). It should be noted that the reference period for the assessment changed from April to March so some provinces (Mashonaland West, Mashonaland East, Mashonaland Central) which largely depend on tobacco sales may not have sold their produce at the auction floors as yet hence the decline in their incomes.

Average Household Expenditure for March 2018



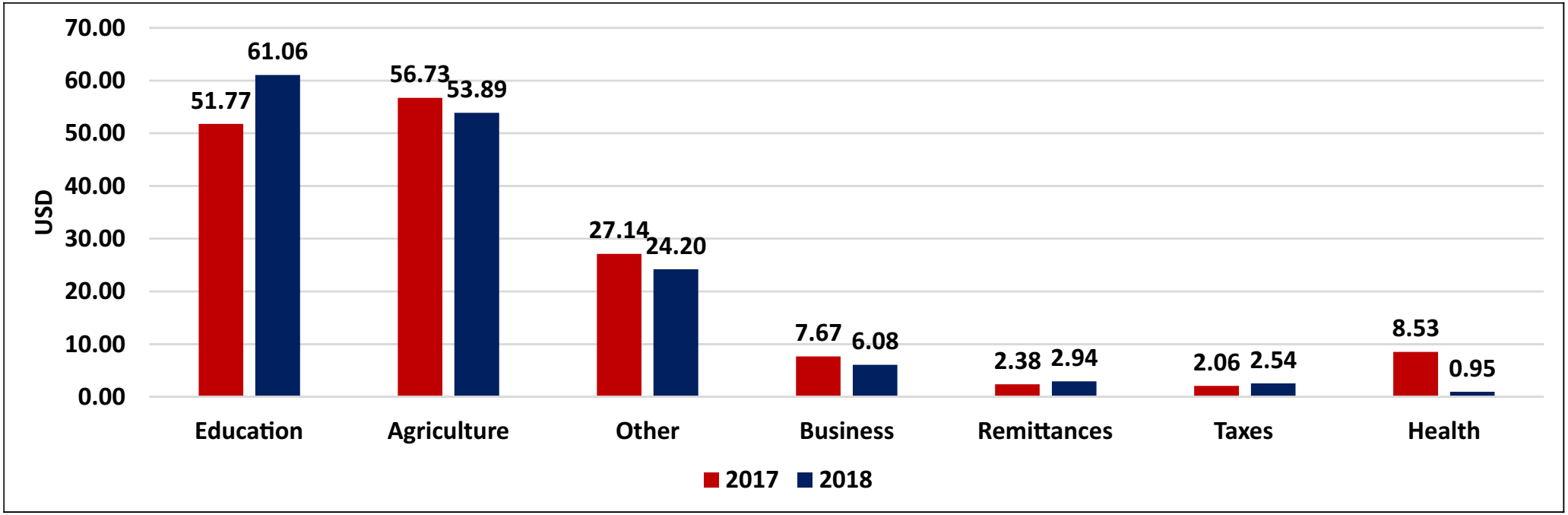
- The average household expenditure for March 2018 was USD49; a 6% decrease compared to the previous year (USD 52).
- Matabeleland South (USD63) and Manicaland (USD55) had the highest average expenditures while Masvingo (USD38) had the lowest.

Proportion of Food Expenditure



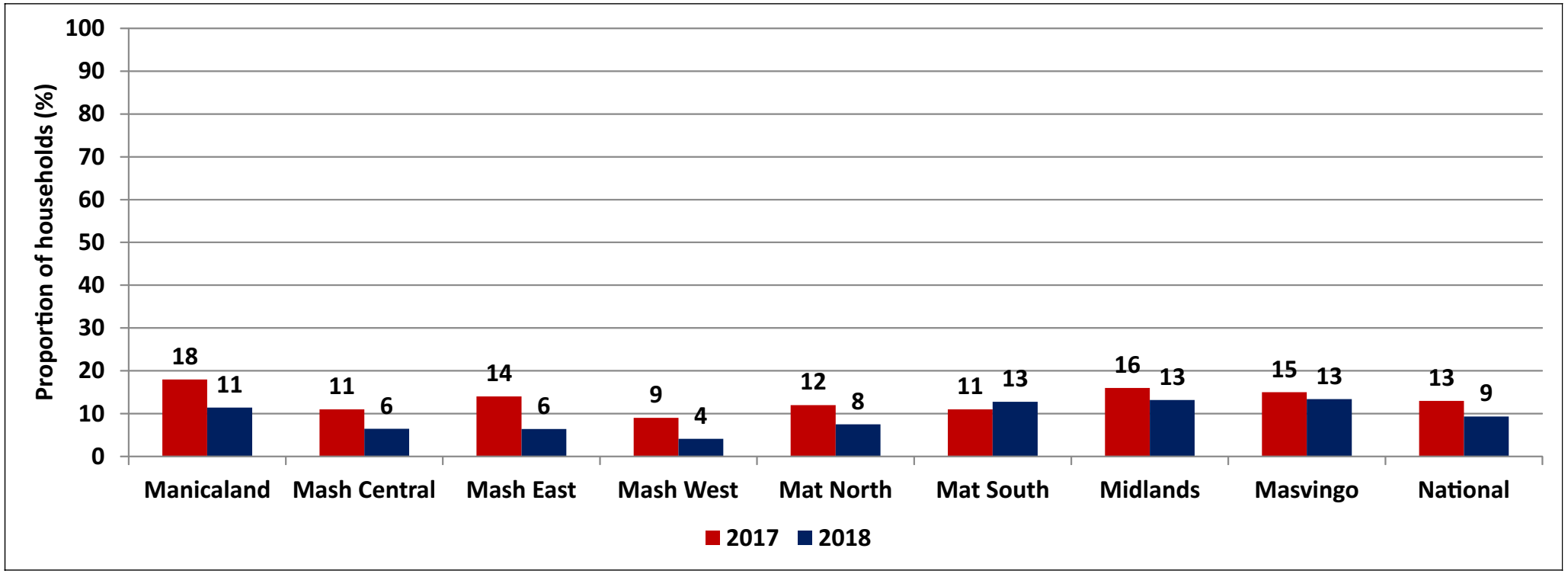
- There was no significant change in the proportion of food expenditure compared to 2017.
- Mashonaland East had the highest proportion of food expenditure (60%) followed by Mashonaland Central (58%), Manicaland (57%) and Midlands (56%).
- This shows that most rural households are vulnerable since a significant proportion of their income is used to purchase food.

Average Household Expenditure for October 2017 to March 2018



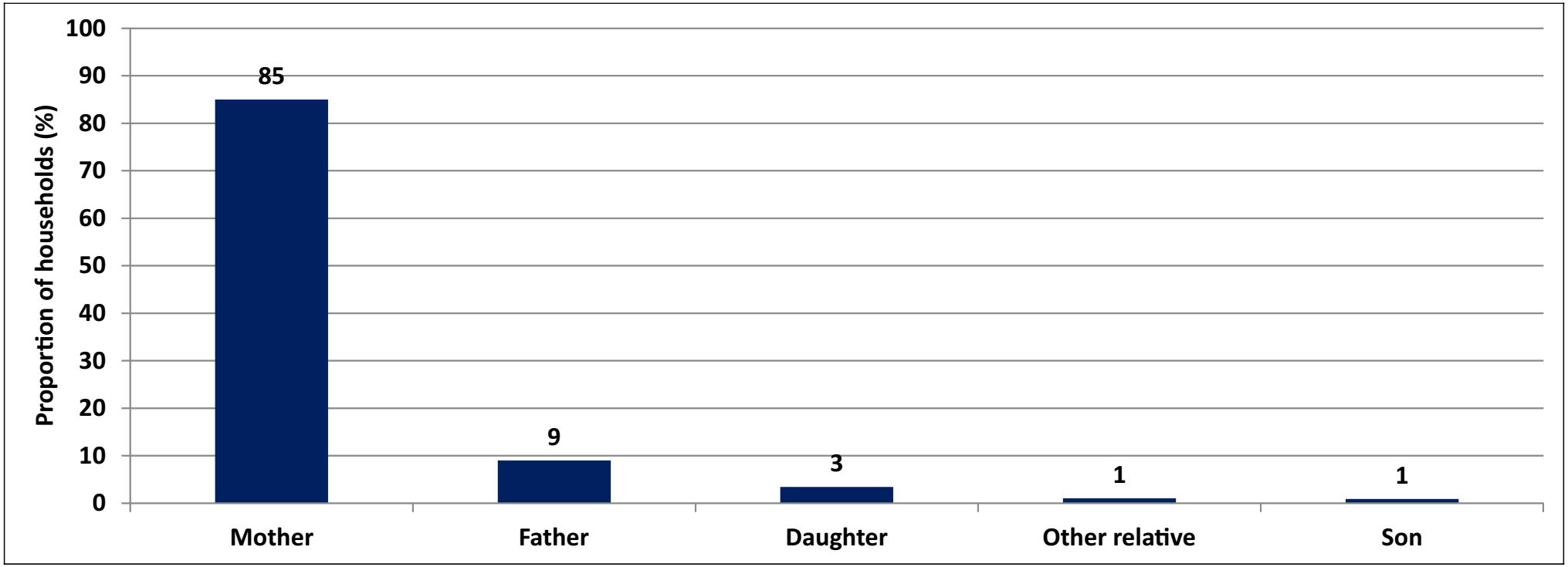
- Average household expenditure for six months was highest in education expenditure (USD61.06) followed by agriculture expenditure (USD53.89) and health (USD0.95) had the lowest amount.
- The significant drop in health expenditure paints a gloomy picture as it indicates that most households were possibly spending most of their income on food at the expense of their medical care.

Households with a Member in an ISAL/ Mukando Group



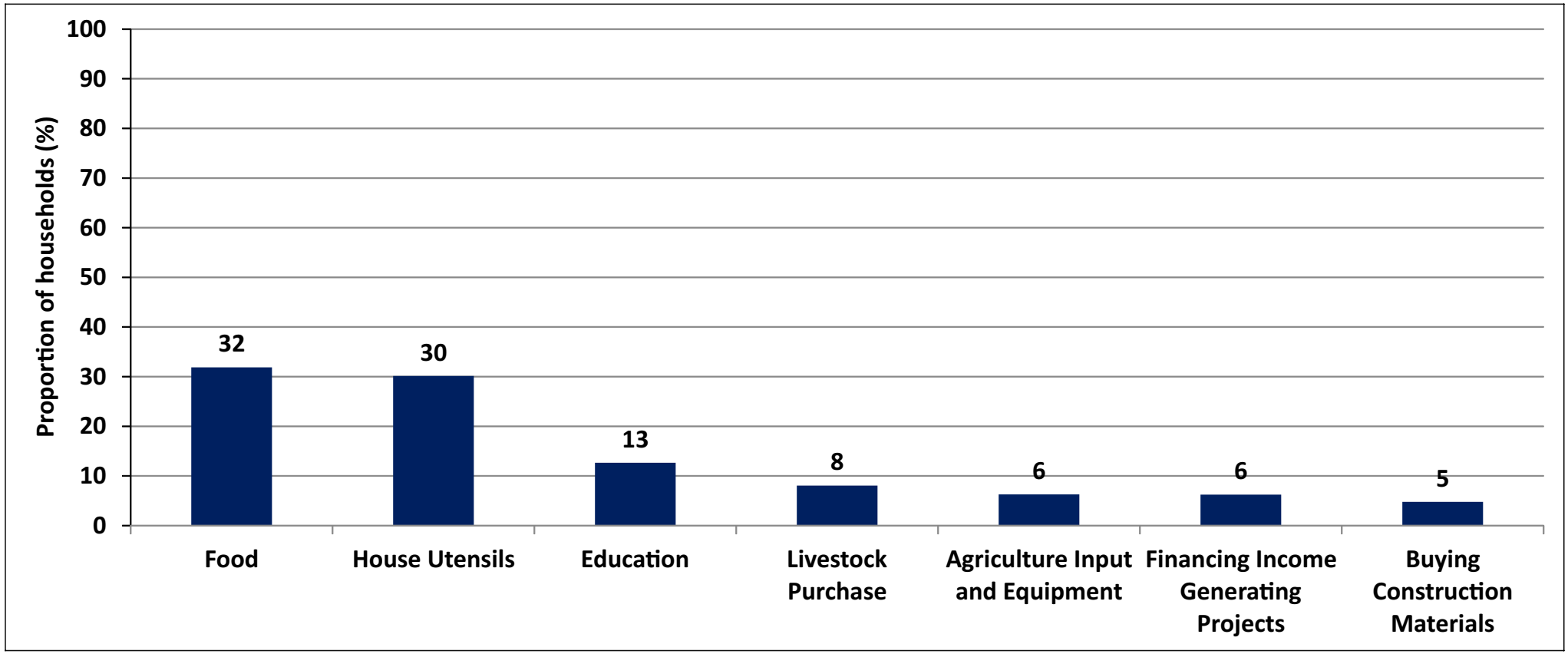
- There was a decrease in households participating in ISALs/ Mukando programmes (9%).
- Matabeleland South, Midlands and Masvingo (13%) had the highest proportion of households with a member in an ISAL/ Mukando group. Mashonaland West (4%) had the lowest proportion.

Membership to ISAL/ Mukando Group



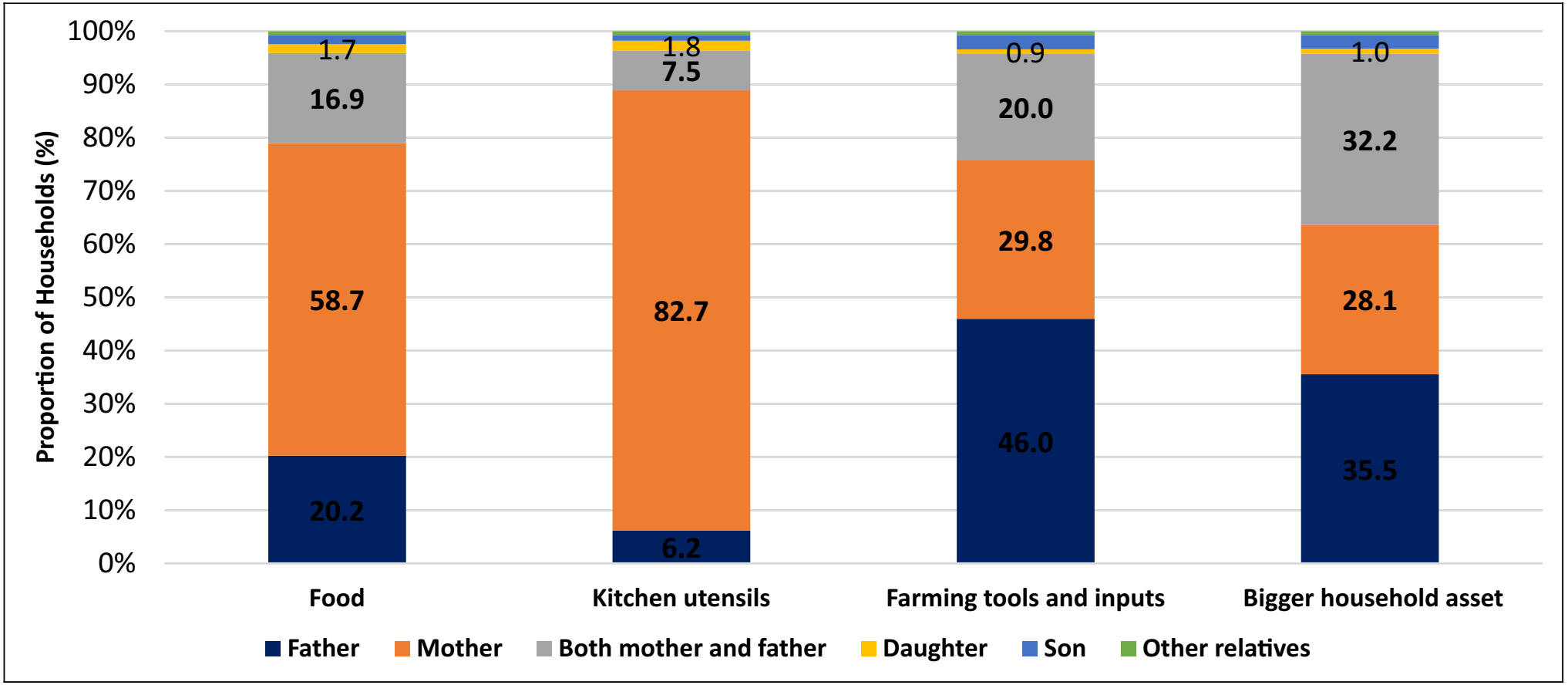
- Of the households with members in ISAL groups, the majority of members were reported to be mothers (85%). This is similar to last year where mothers were the majority (79%).

Use of Share-out from ISALS/ Mukando



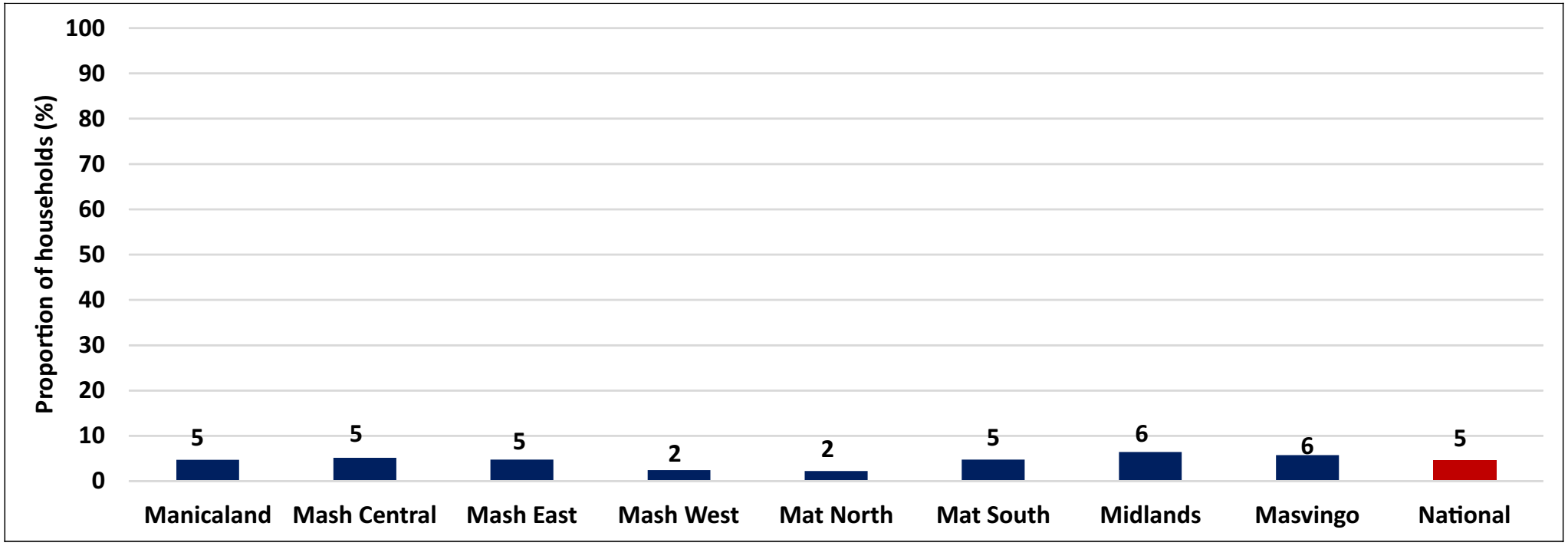
- The highest proportion of households (32%) used their share-out from ISALs/ Mukando to buy food and household utensils (30%).

Decisions on Household Expenditure



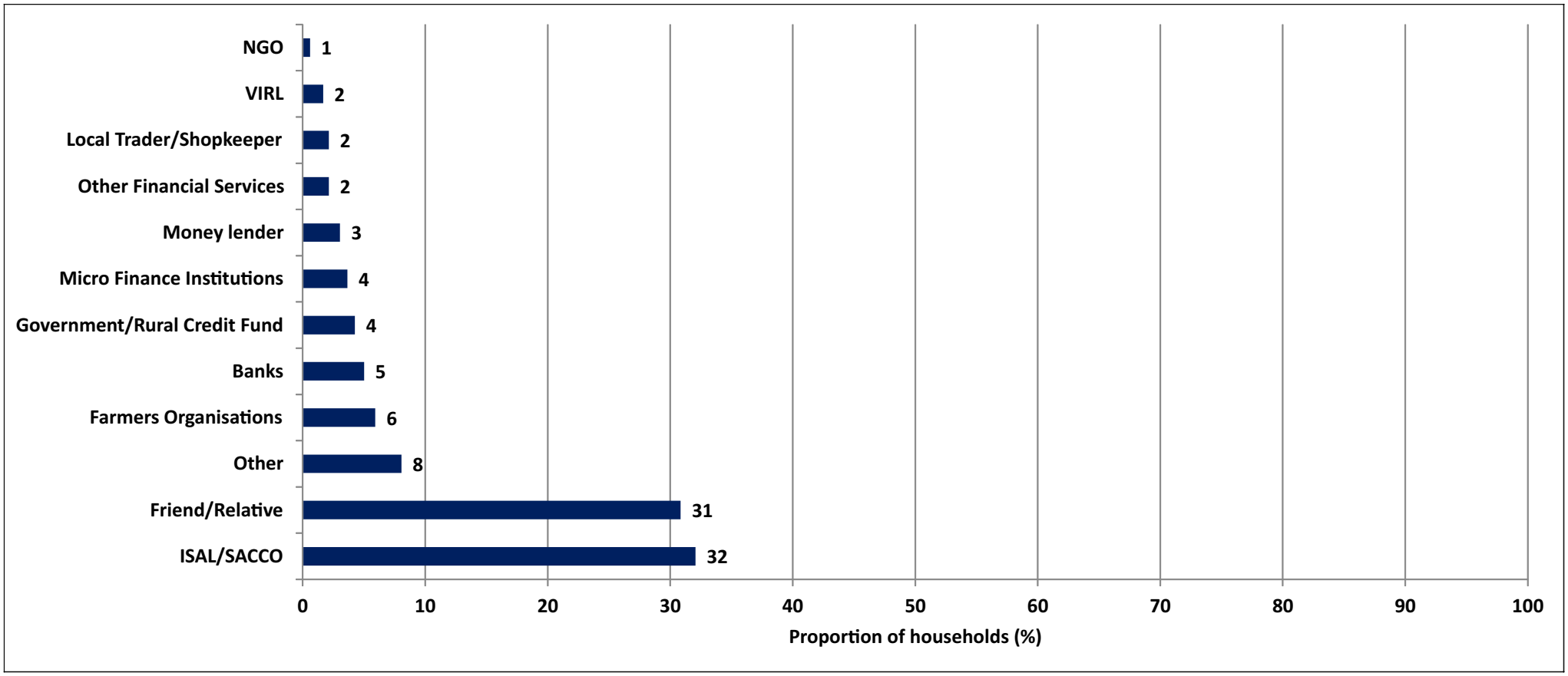
- Decision making on household food expenditure (58.7%) and Kitchen utensils (82.7%) was mostly done by mothers, while decision making on farming tools and inputs (46%) and bigger household assets(35.5%) was mostly done by fathers.

Proportion of Households that Accessed Loans



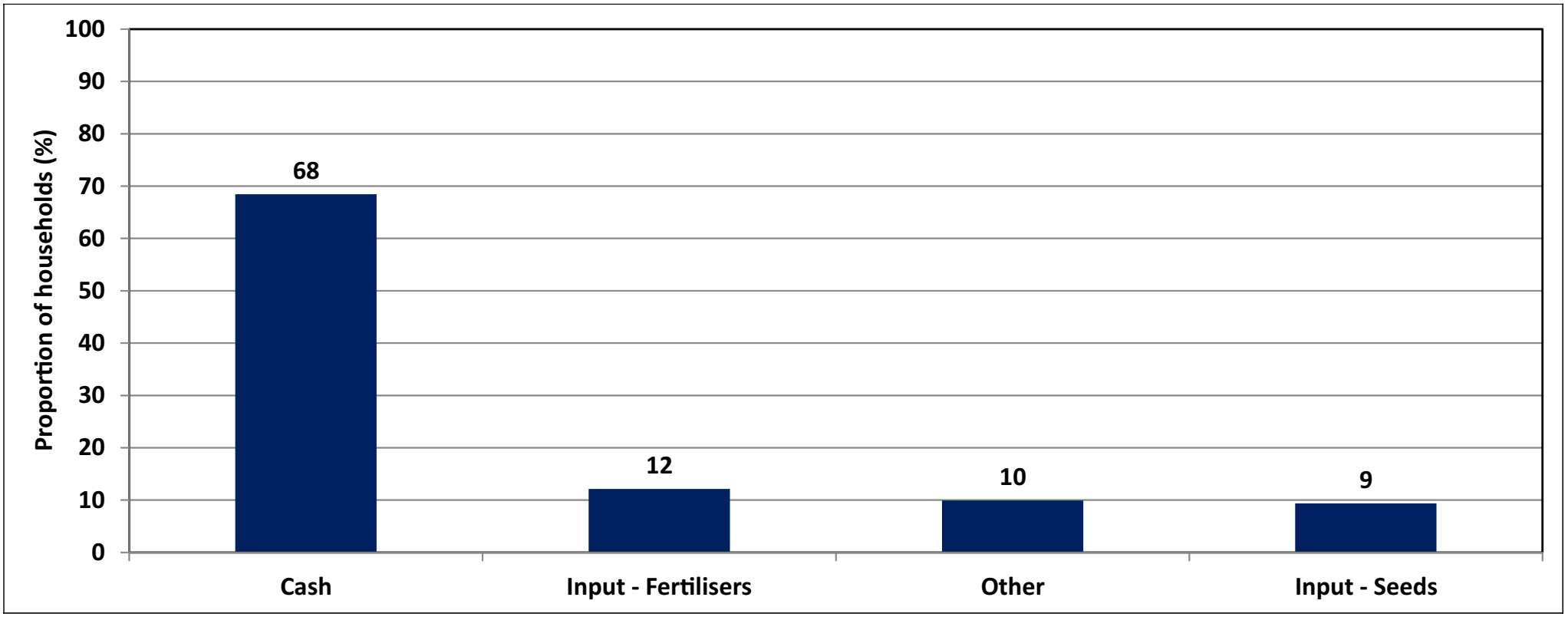
- Only 5% of the households accessed loans.
- Midlands and Masvingo had the highest proportions of households (6%) that accessed loans, whilst Mashonaland West and Matabeleland North had the least (2%).

Sources of Loans



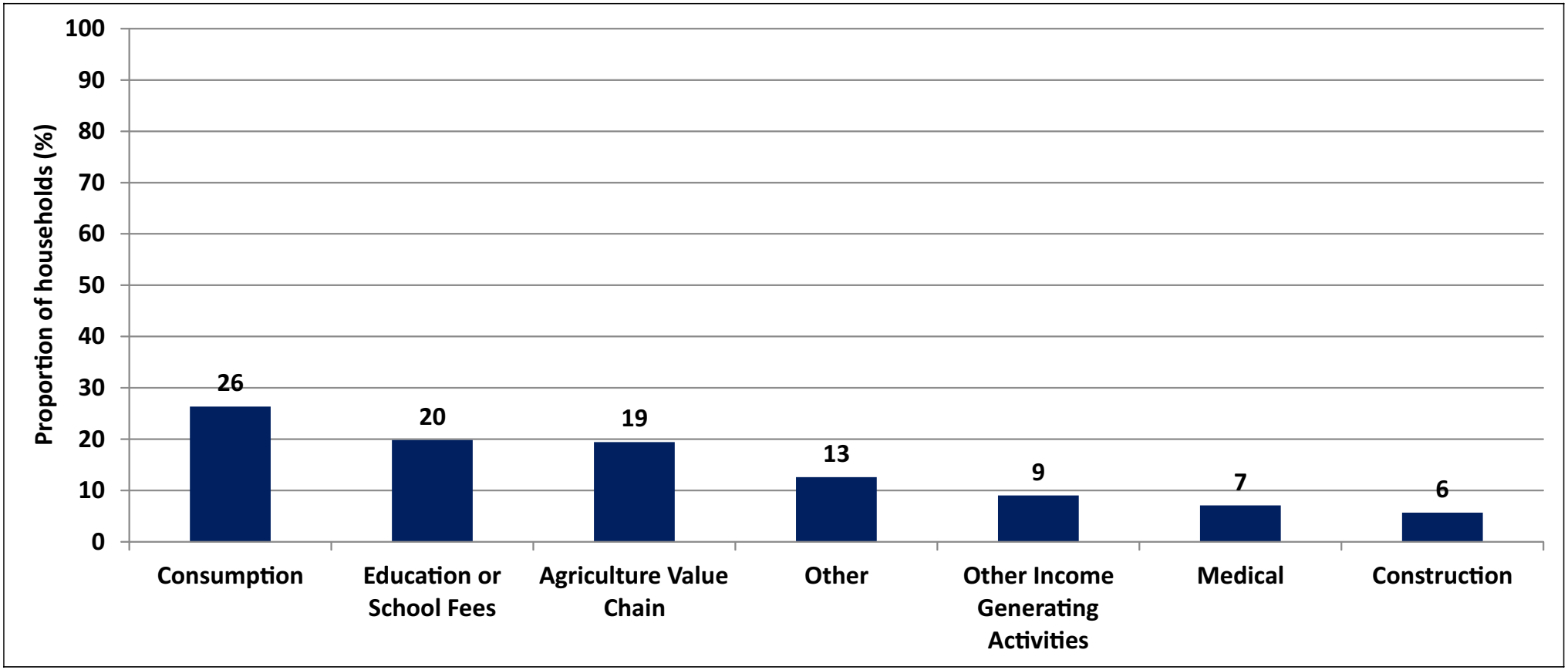
- The most common source of loans were the ISALs/ Mukando (32%), followed by friends and relatives (31%).

Types of Loans



- The most common type of loan was cash (68%).

Loan Use



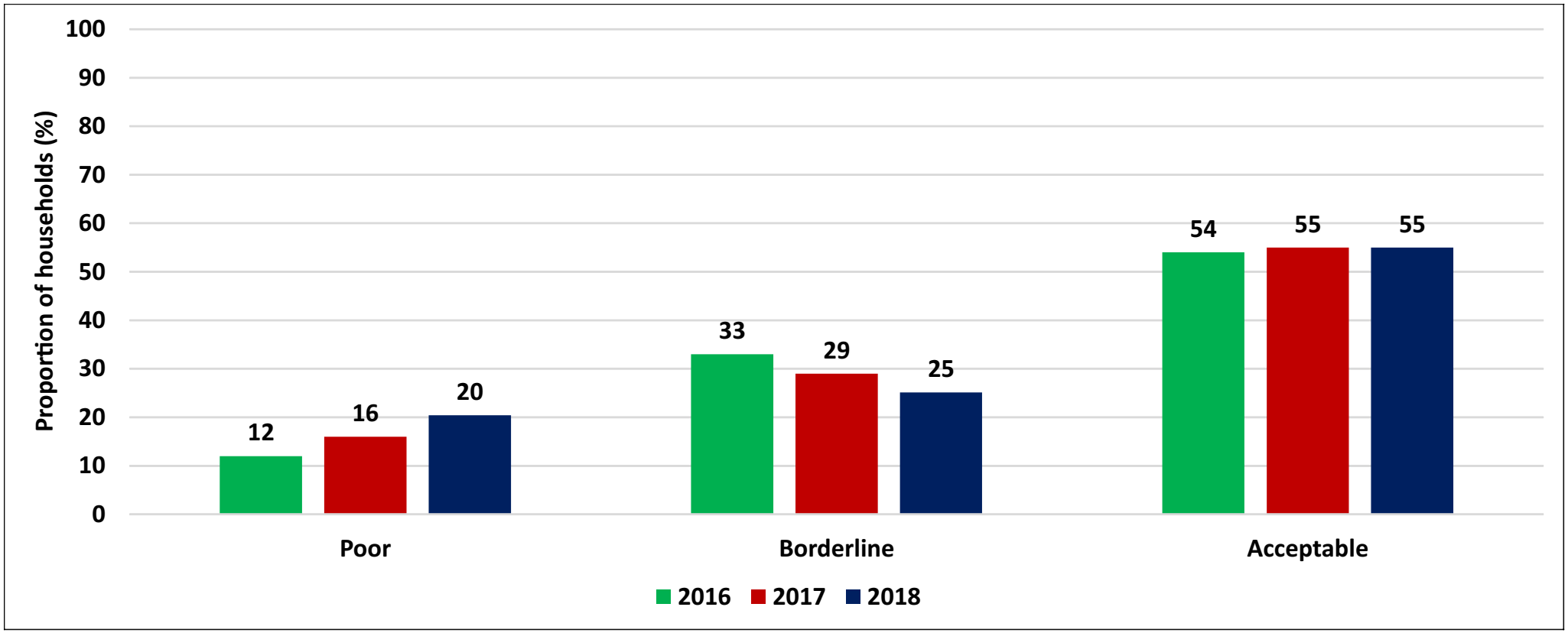
- Consumption was the most common use of loans (26%) followed by education or school fees (20%).
- The least use of loans was highlighted under construction (6%).

Food Consumption Patterns and Coping Strategies

The Food Consumption Score

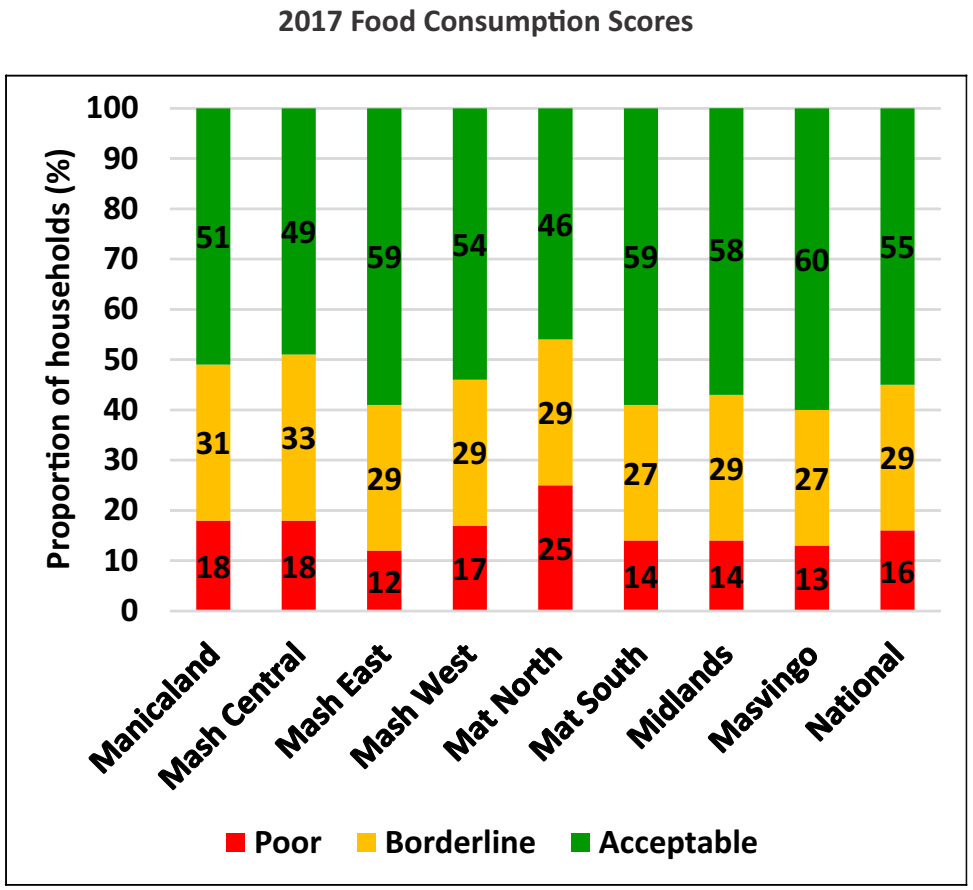
Food Consumption Score Groups	Score	Description
POOR	0-21	An expected consumption of staple 7 days, vegetables 5-6 days, sugar 3-4 days, oil/fat 1 day a week, while animal proteins are totally absent
BORDERLINE	21.5-35	An expected consumption of staple 7 days, vegetables 6-7 days, sugar 3-4 days, oil/fat 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

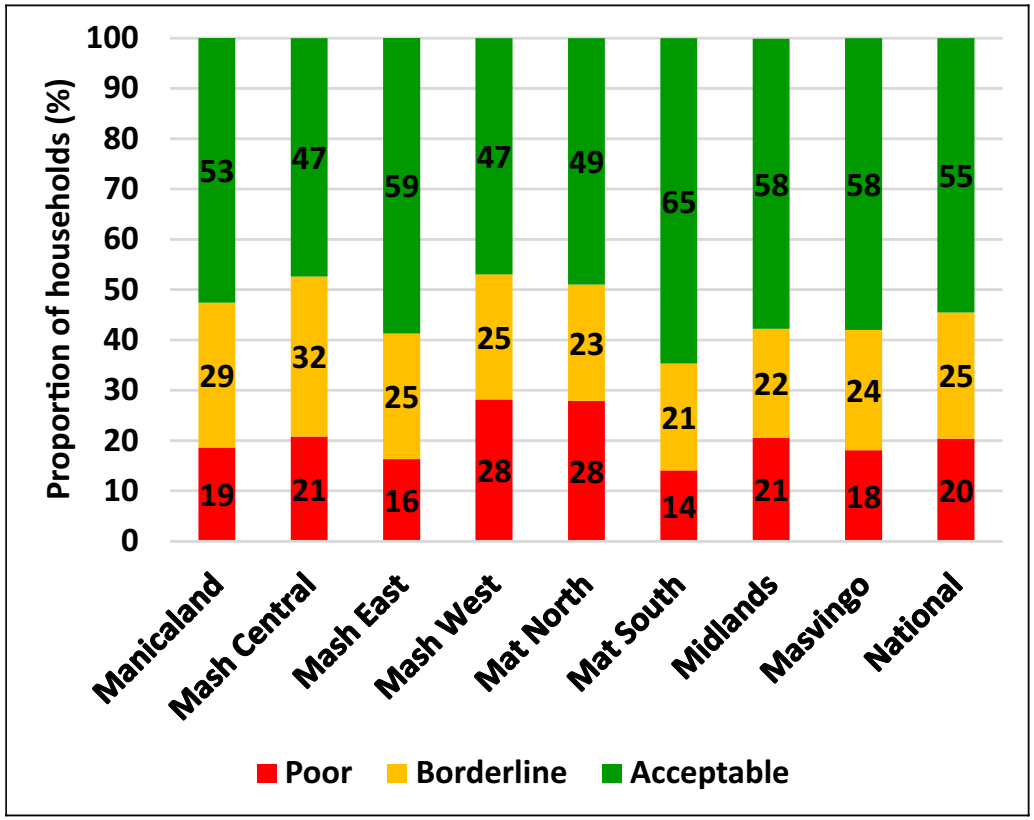
Food Consumption Categories



- The proportion of households with poor food consumption scores increased from 16% in 2017 to 20% in 2018, those with borderline consumption decreased from 29% to 25% and those with acceptable consumption patterns had no variance from last year.

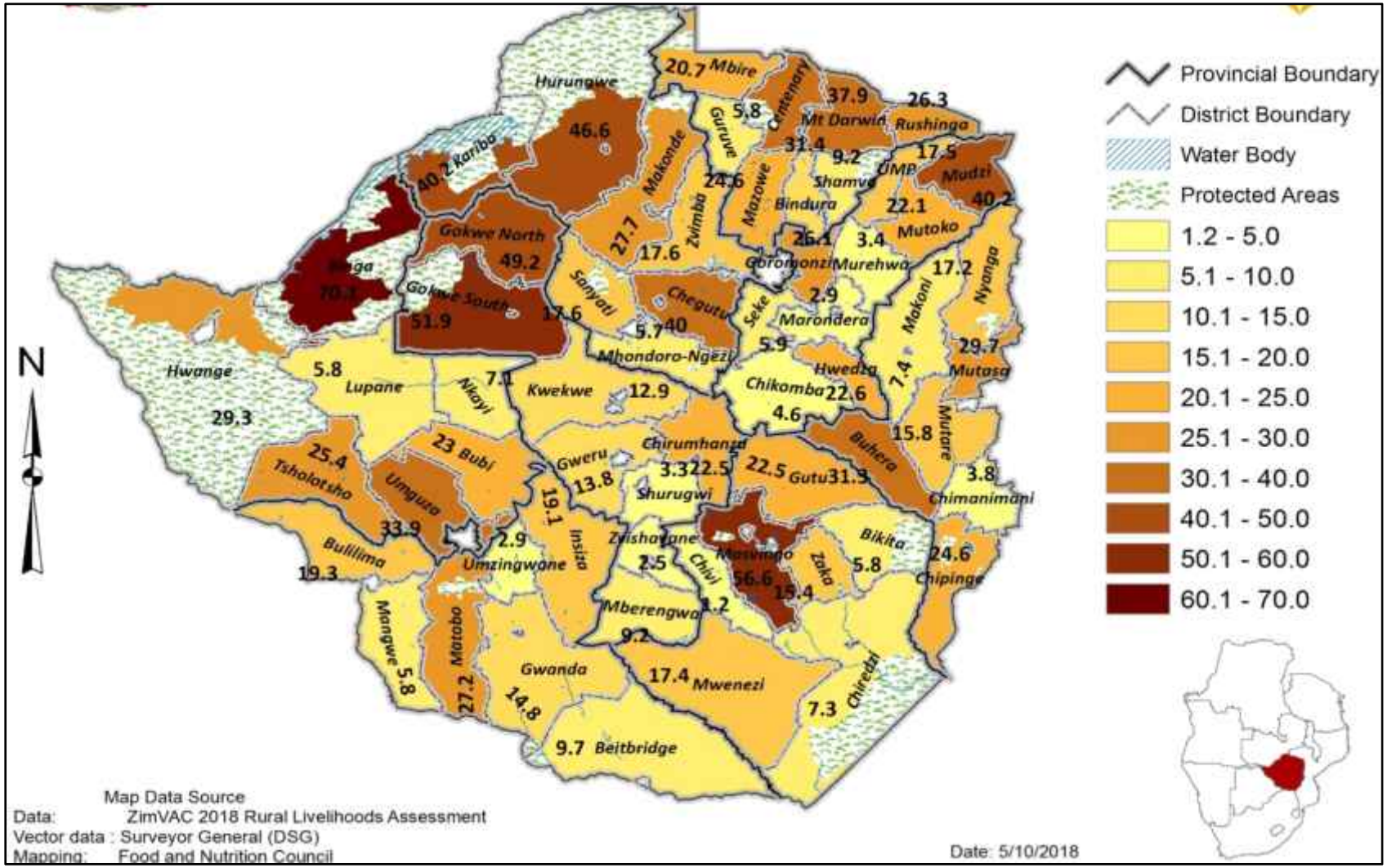
Food Consumption Categories by Province





- Generally across all provinces the proportion of households in the poor category increased. This was an indication of deterioration of the quality of diets from 2017 to 2018.

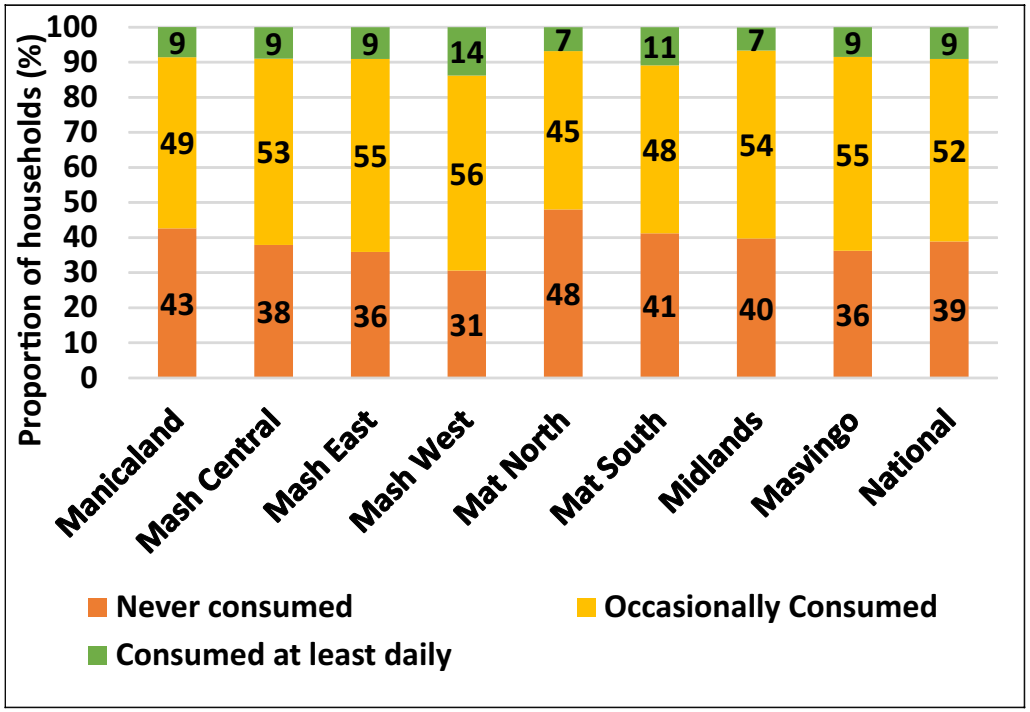
Poor Food Consumption Scores by District



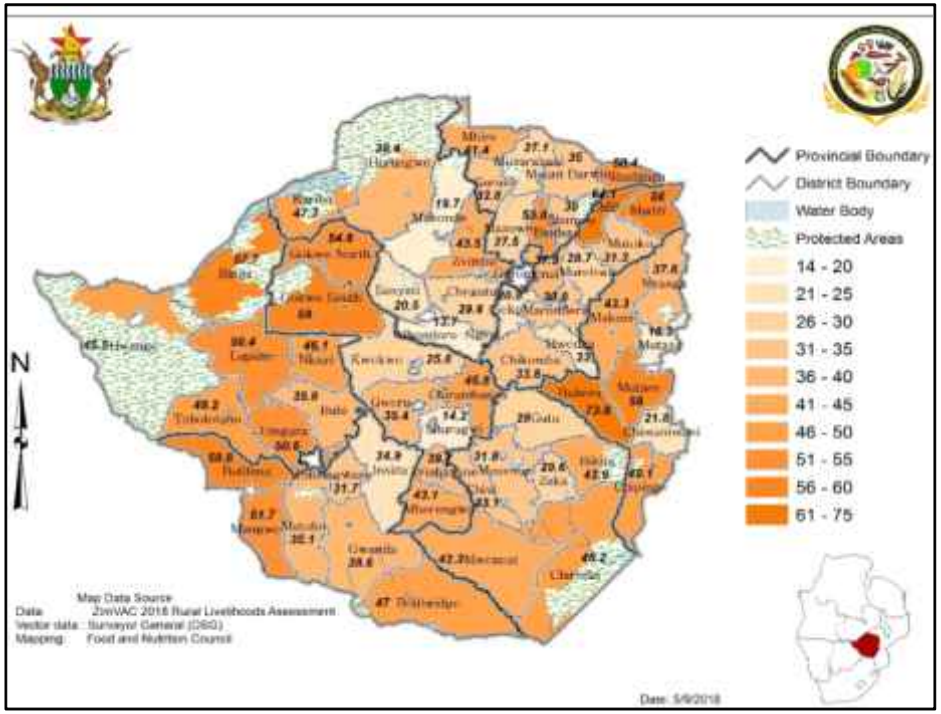
- Binga had the highest proportion of households consuming poor diets.
- Poor consumption patterns indicate low diversity in the foods consumed which has implications on nutritional outcomes.

Consumption of Iron-Rich Foods

Consumption of Iron Rich Foods by Province



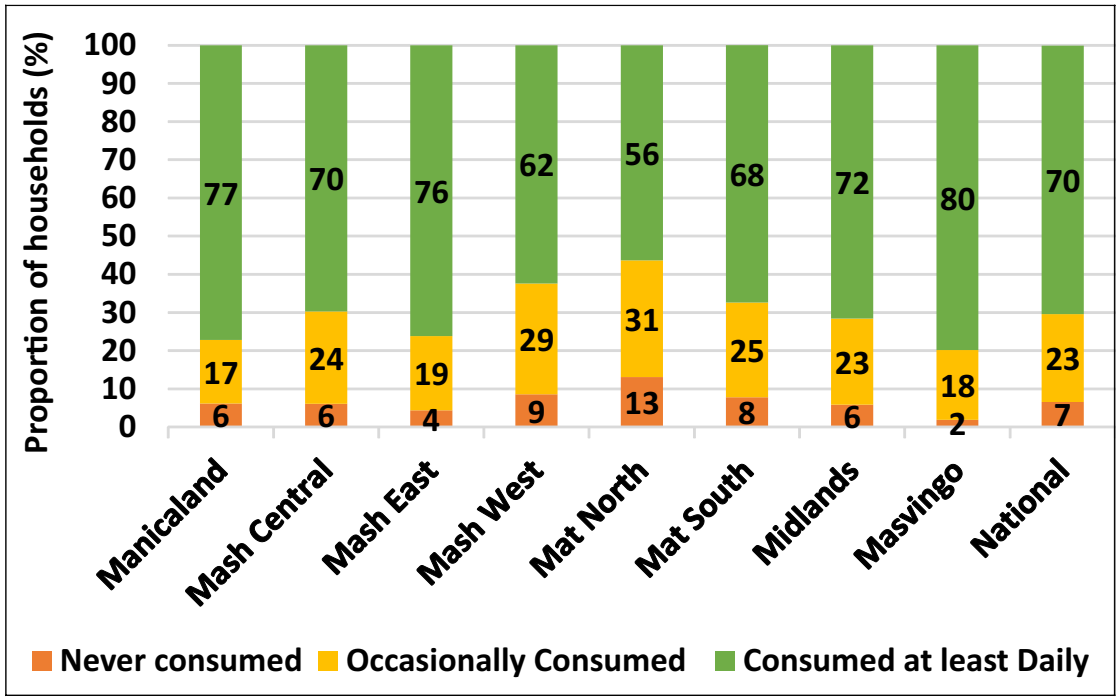
Consumption of Iron Rich Foods by District



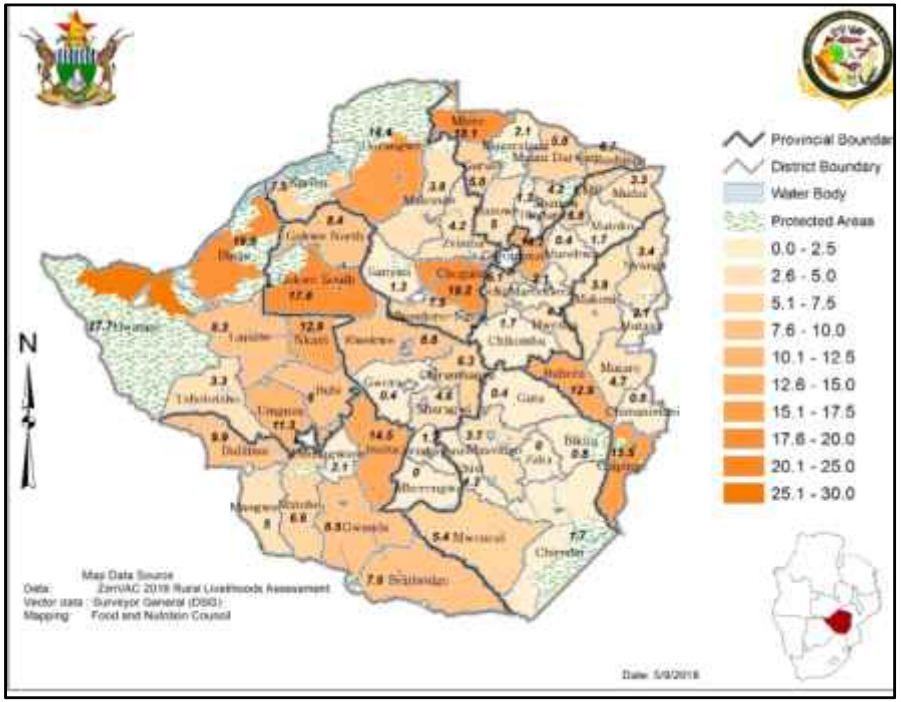
- The proportion of households consuming iron rich foods daily within the 7 day recall period was low (9%).
- Matabeleland North had a higher proportion of households not consuming iron rich foods (48%).
- Buhera, UMP and Gokwe South had the highest proportion of households that had not consumed iron rich foods within the 7 day recall period.

Consumption of Vitamin A Rich Foods

Households Consumption of Vitamin A Rich Foods by Province



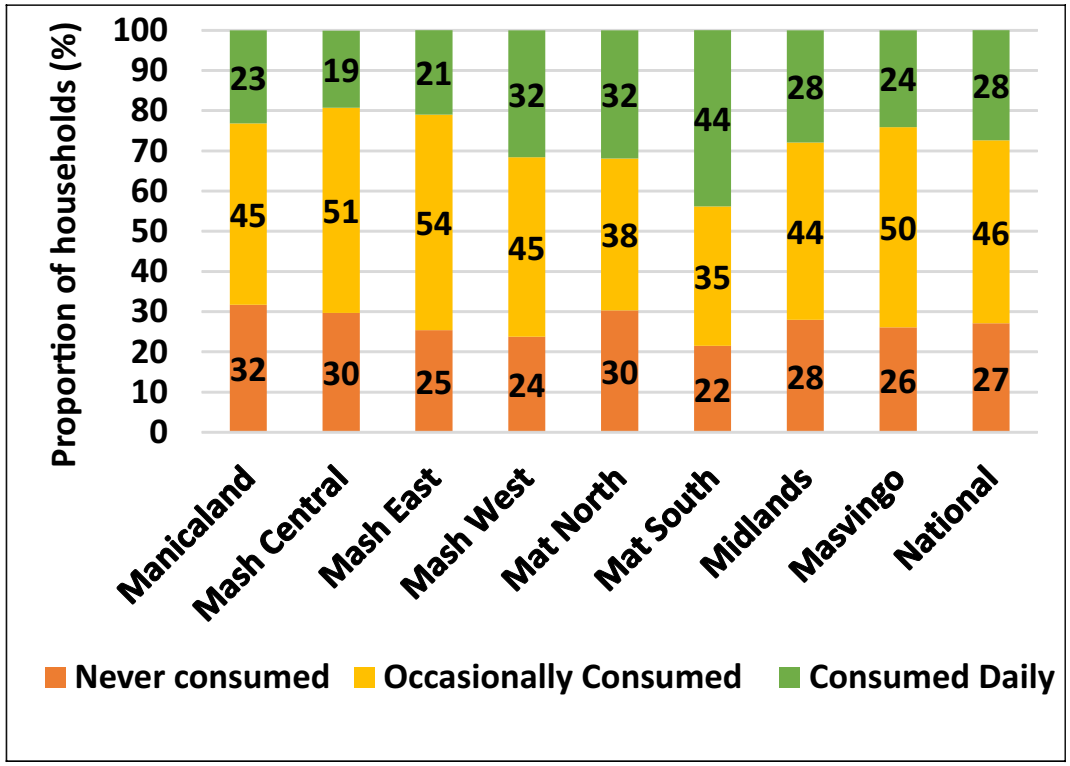
Households which never Consumed Vitamin A Rich Foods by District



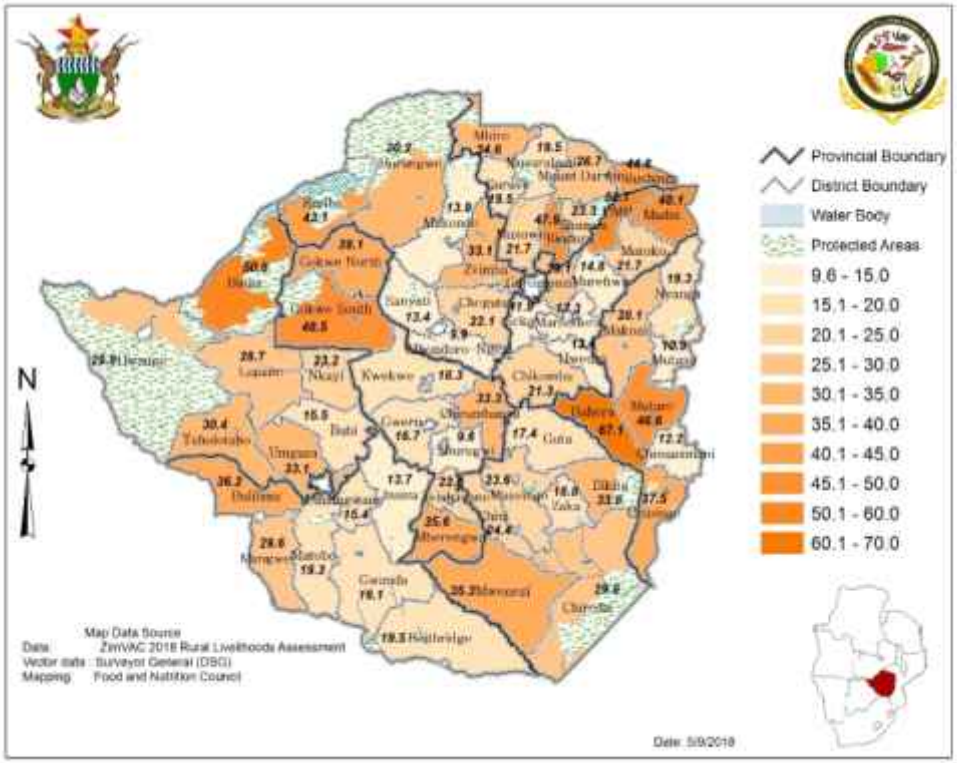
- The proportion of households consuming Vitamin A rich foods at least daily was high (70%).
- The high proportion of households consuming Vitamin A can be attributed to Zimbabwean diets being complemented by vegetables which are a rich source of Vitamin A.
- Binga, Chegutu and Mbire however had the highest proportion of households which never consumed Vitamin A rich foods.

Consumption of Protein-Rich Foods

Households Consumption of Protein-Rich Foods by Province

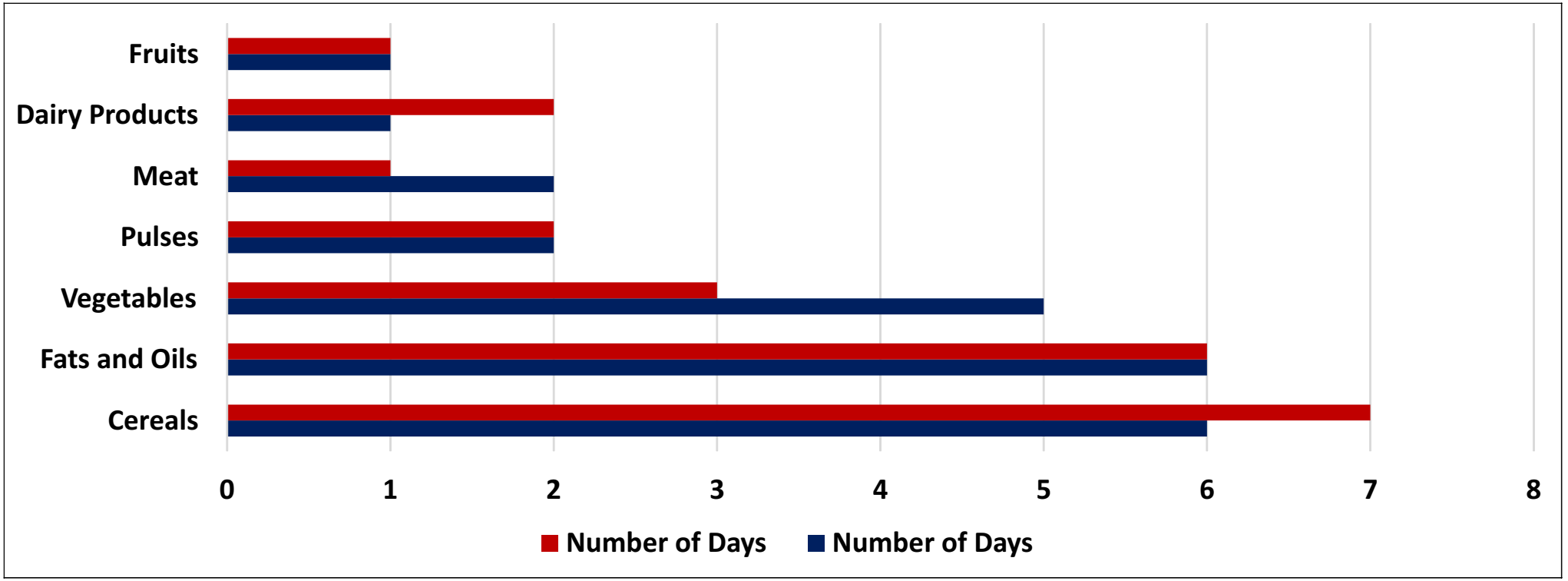


Proportion of Households which never Consumed Protein-Rich Foods by District



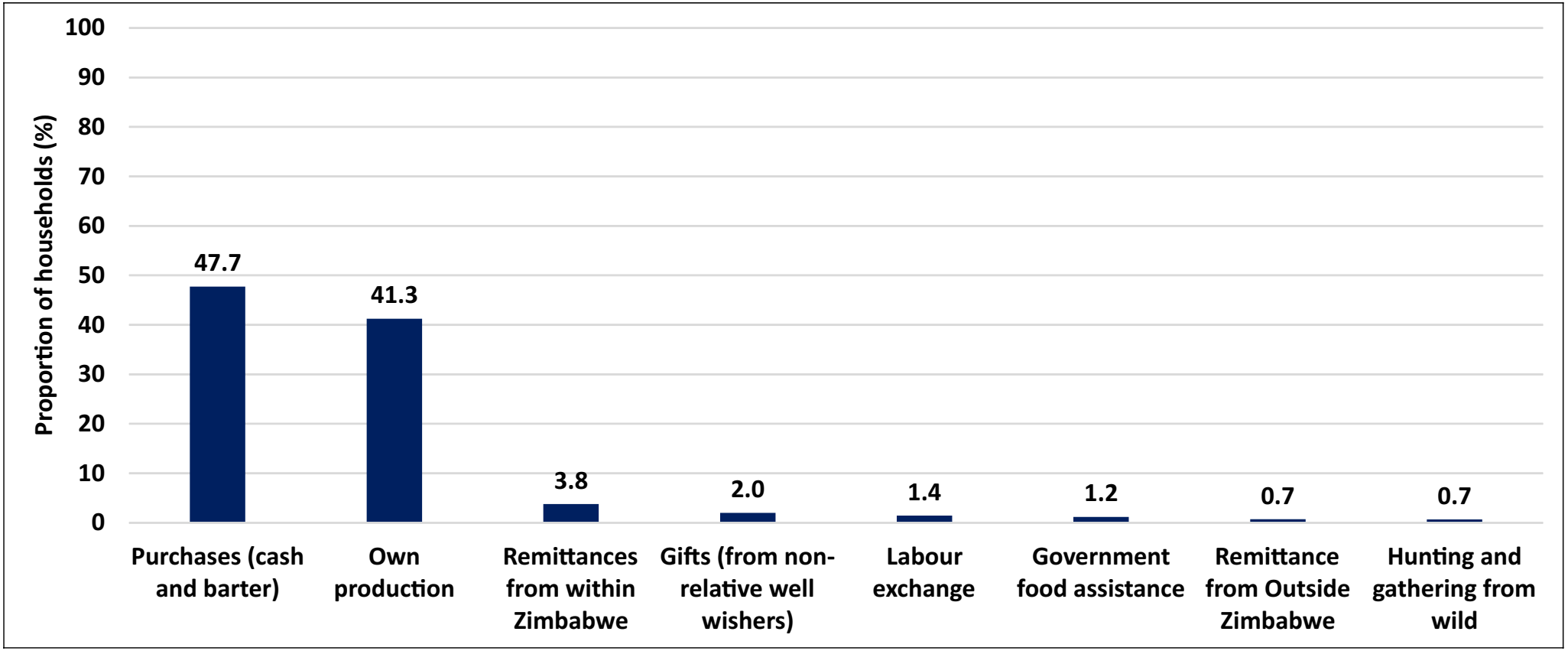
- Matabeleland South (44%) had the highest proportion of households which consumed protein rich foods at least daily.
- Buhera and Binga had the highest proportion of households which never consumed protein rich foods.
- There is need for strengthening nutrition programing to also focus on macro nutrient deficiencies.

Average Number of Days Households Consumed Food from the Various Food Groups per Week



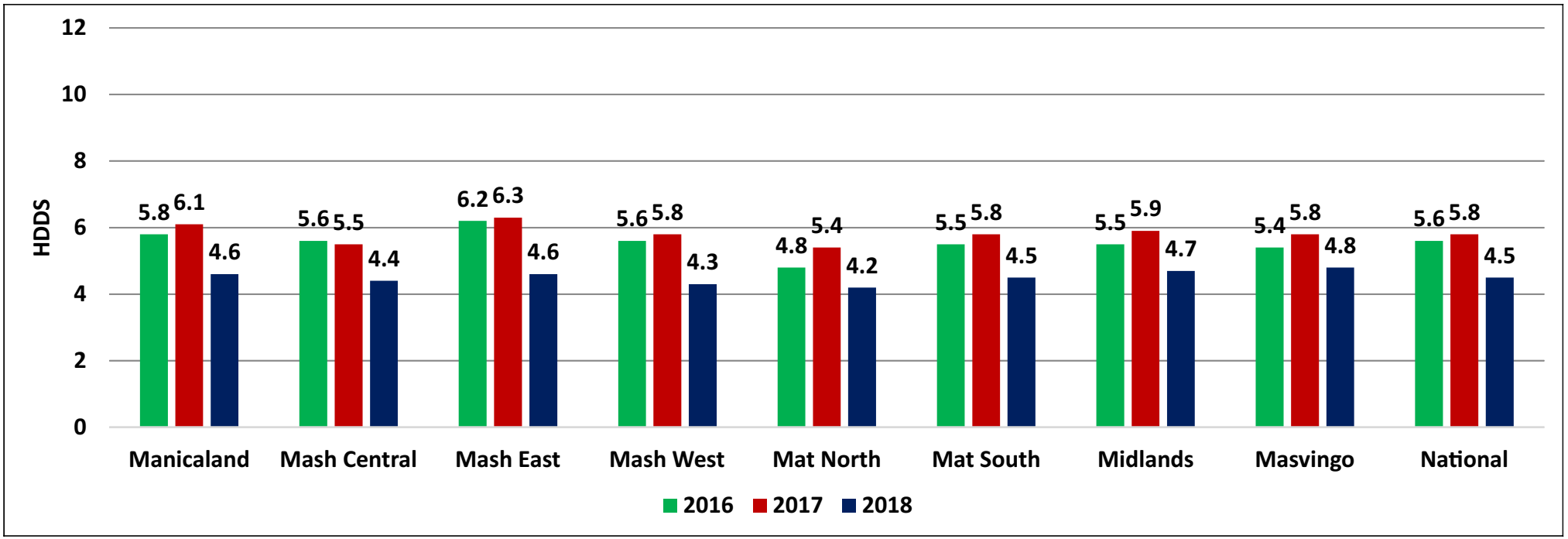
- Consumption of cereals reduced from being consumed an average of 7 days in 2017 to an average of 6 days.
- Vegetables' consumption increased from an average of 3 days in 2017 to an average of 5 days.
- Although there was an increase in meat consumption, this has not been adequate to cater for the ideal recommended levels.

Main Sources of Food Consumed



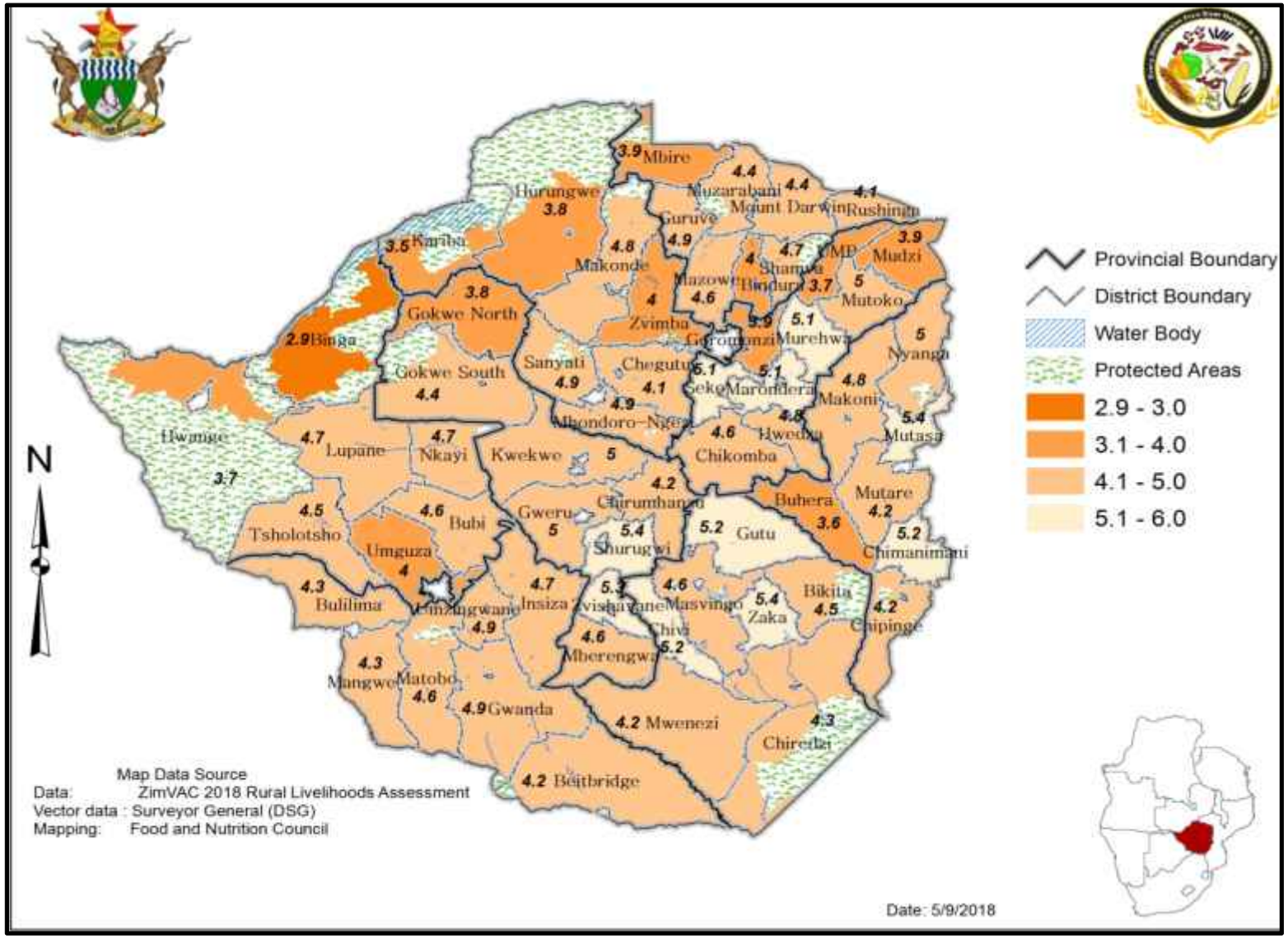
- Purchases (47.7%) were the main source of food consumed seven days prior to the assessment. This was followed by own production (41.3%).
- Interventions aimed at strengthening markets and productive capacities of households ought to be put in place.

Household Dietary Diversity Score



- The HDDS decreased from 5.8 in 2017 to 4.5 in 2018. The decrease from previous years shows a continued deterioration in households' ability to access food.
- Masvingo had the highest score at 4.8 whilst Matabeleland North had the least at 4.2. Mashonaland East experienced the sharpest decline from 6.3 in 2017 to 4.6 in 2018.

Household Dietary Diversity Score by District



- Kariba, Binga and Buhera had the lowest dietary diversity scores.

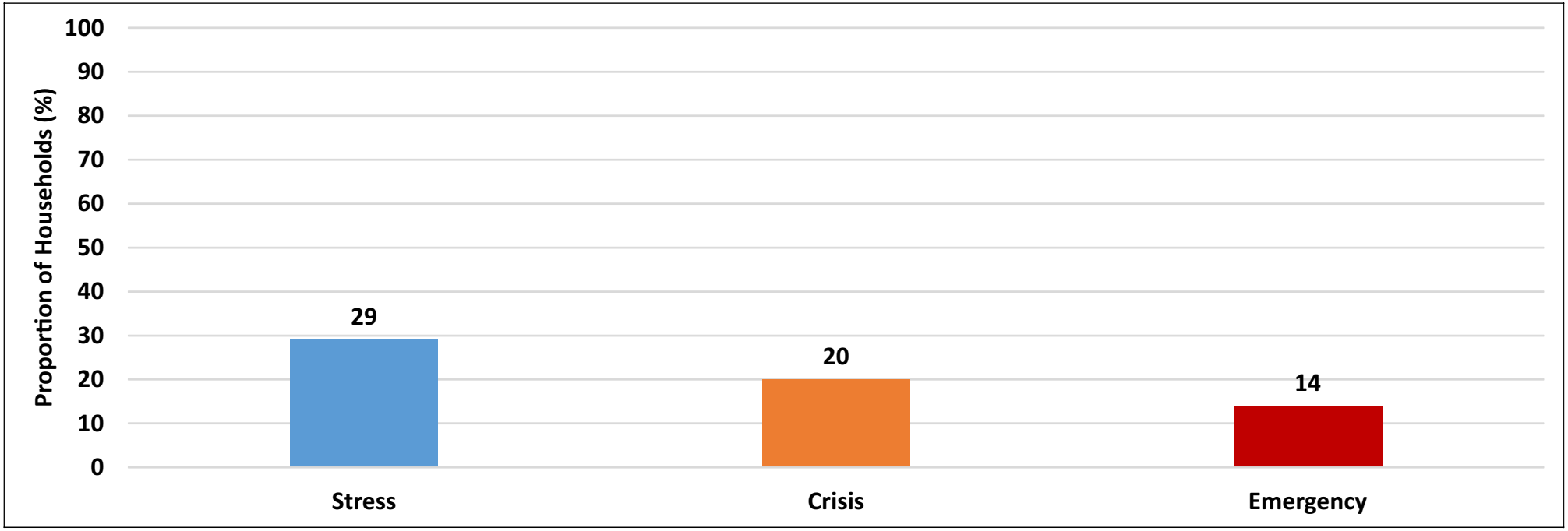
Categorization of Livelihood Coping Strategies

- Livelihood coping strategies are employed in order to increase food availability outside of their normal livelihoods. There is therefore either an expandability of their normal activities or an engagement of more extreme and negative livelihood coping strategies that go beyond what is typical which in turn flag those areas that are potentially food insecure.

- The livelihood coping strategies have been classified into three categories namely stress, crisis and emergency using the WFP Technical Guidance note 2015.

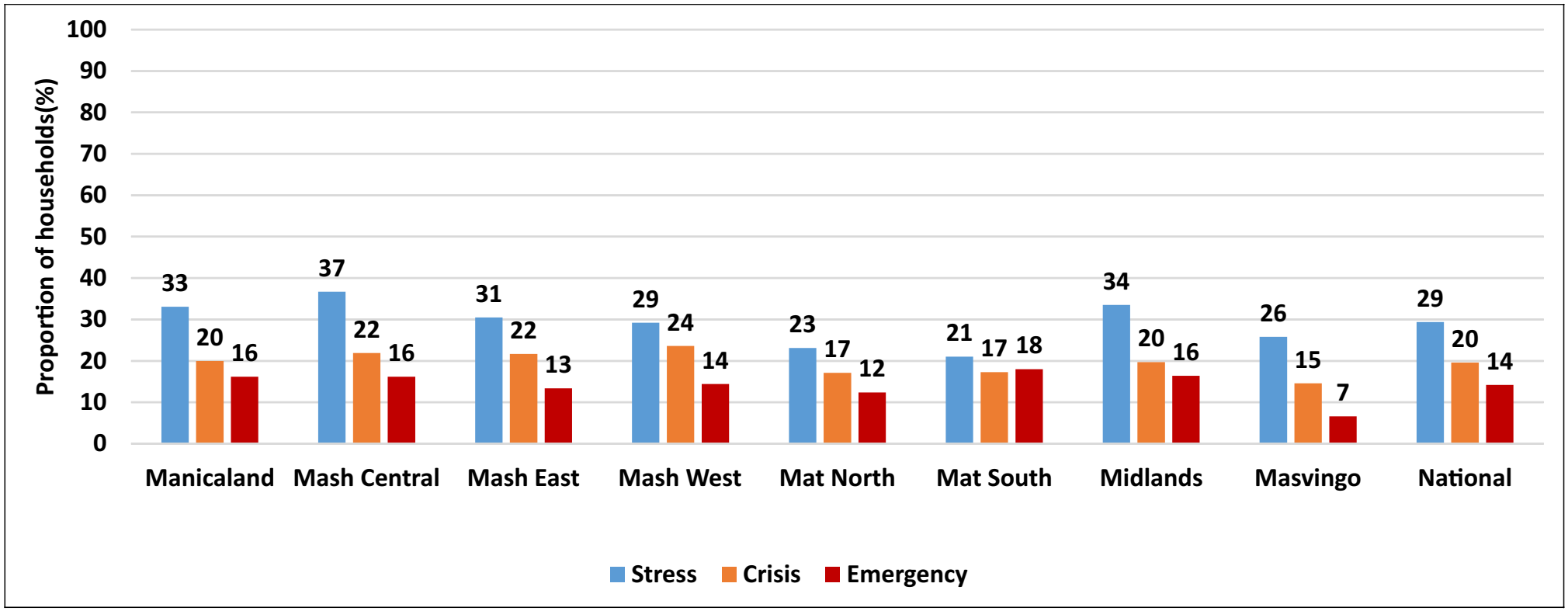
Category	Coping Strategy
Stress	• Borrowing money, spending savings, selling assets and selling more livestock than usual.
Crisis	• Selling productive assets directly reducing future productivity, including human capital formation. • Withdrawing children from school • Reducing non food expenditure.
Emergency	• Selling of one's land thus affecting future productivity, more difficult to reverse /dramatic in nature. • Begging of food. • Selling the last breeding stock to buy food.

Households Engaging in Livelihood Based Coping Strategies by Category



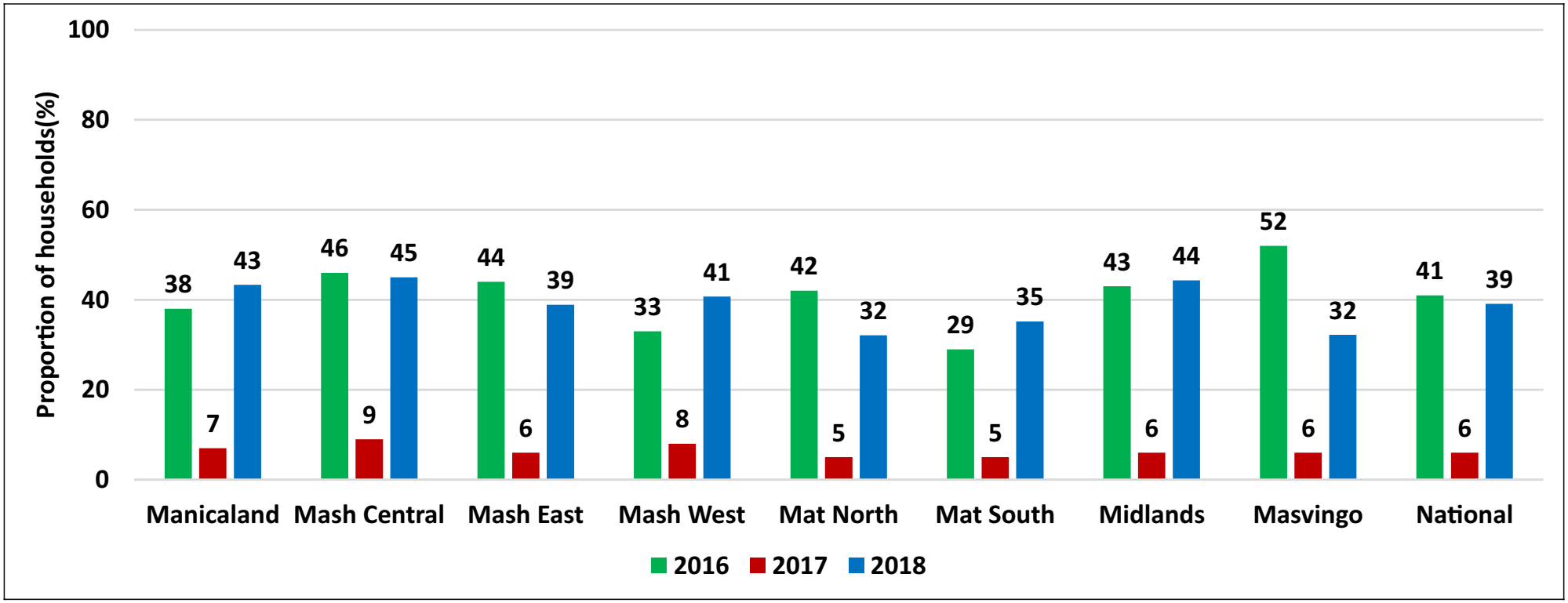
- A total of 29% of the households employed stress strategies which indicated a decreased ability to invest in future livelihoods
- One in five households employed crisis strategies.
- Households that employed emergency strategies (14%) may have led to depletion and liquidation of assets and strategies leading to huge consumption gaps in the future.

Households Engaging in Livelihood Coping Strategies by Category



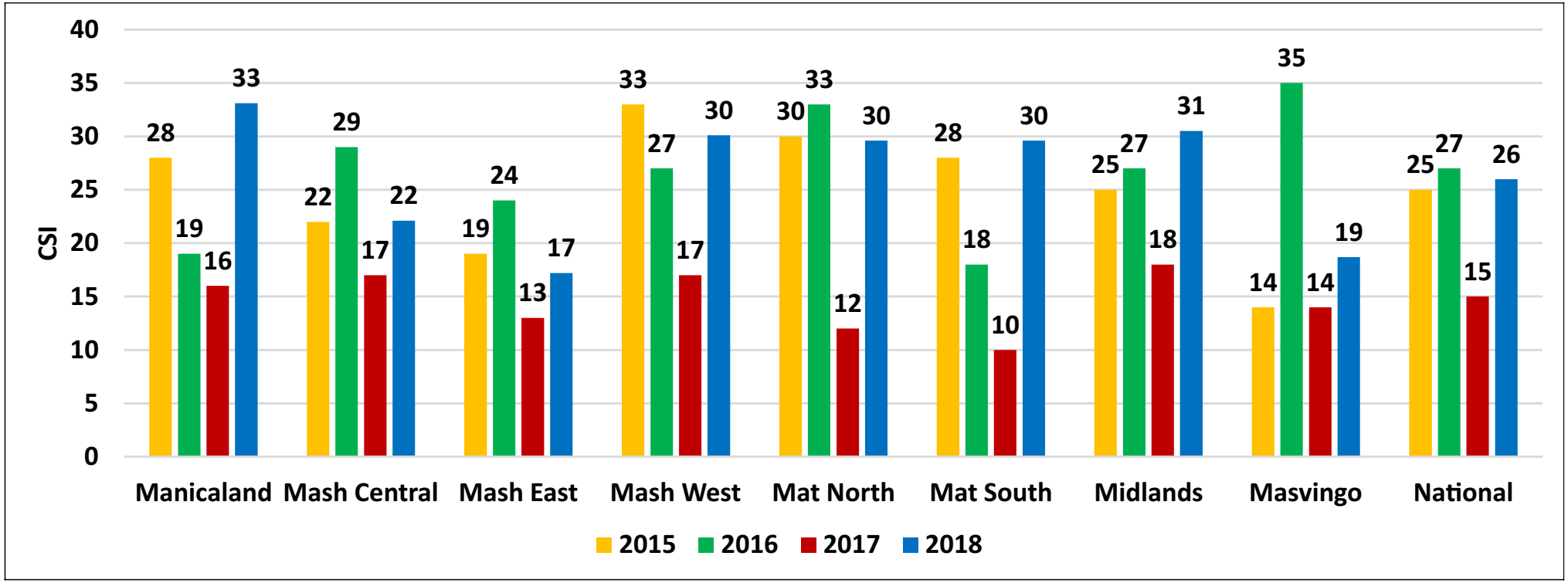
- Matabeleland South (18%) had the highest proportion of households engaging in emergency coping strategies, whilst Masvingo (7%) had the least proportion.
- The highest proportion of households employing stress strategies was in Mashonaland Central (37%).

Households Employing at Least One Livelihoods Based Coping Strategy



- The proportion of households that engaged at least one livelihoods based coping strategy increased from 6% in 2017 to 39% in 2018.
- Mashonaland Central (45%), Midlands (44%) and Manicaland (43%) had the highest proportion of households which engaged at least one livelihood coping strategy.

Consumption Coping Strategy Index by Province



- The household consumption Coping Strategy Index (CSI) depicted a worsening household food security situation compared to 2017 as it increased greatly from 15 in 2017 to 26 in 2018. This is a similar trend as 2015 and 2016.
- Manicaland emerged as the province with the highest severity and frequency of consumption coping strategies with an index of 33 whilst Mashonaland East had the lowest index of 17.

Resilience

Introduction

Why Resilience in Zimbabwe?

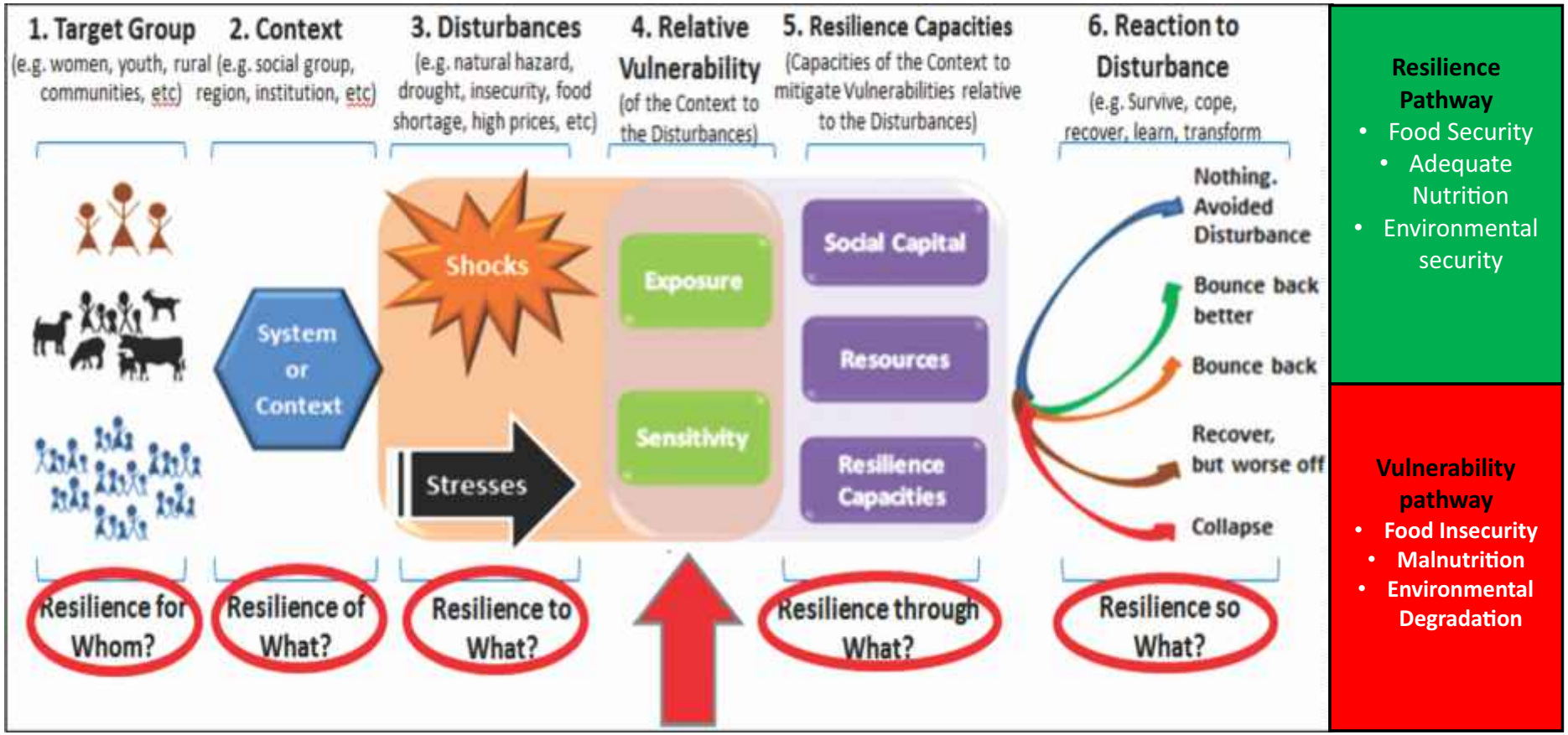
- Persistent food insecurity, high stunting levels and poverty levels in the country remain topical issues despite huge investments made by Government and its development partners to address them.

- Recurrent and evolving shocks such as droughts, floods, pests and diseases (larger grain borer, fall army worm, January disease-Theileriosis), human diseases (cholera, typhoid, malaria) affect communities in different ways each year.

- This led the Government of Zimbabwe and its development partners to spearhead the development of the Resilience Strategic Framework for Zimbabwe in 2015.

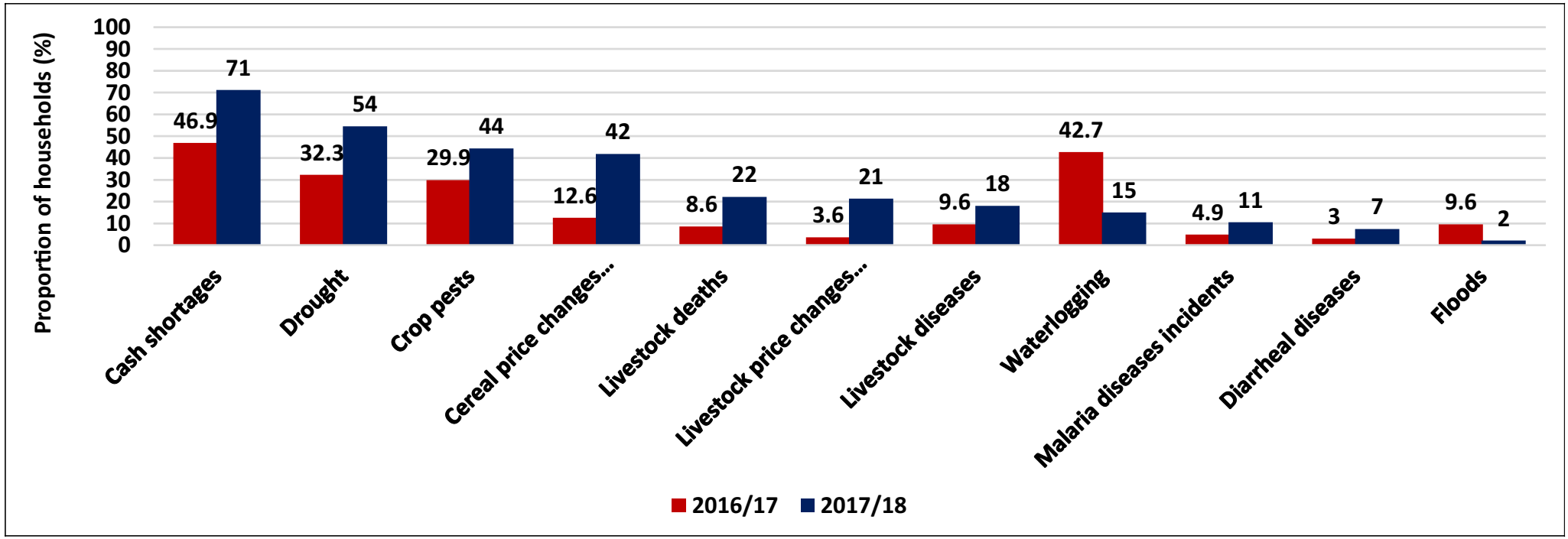
- The framework lays down what resilience means for Zimbabwe, provides a conceptual framework and key principles to be used in resilience programming.

Resilience Conceptual Framework



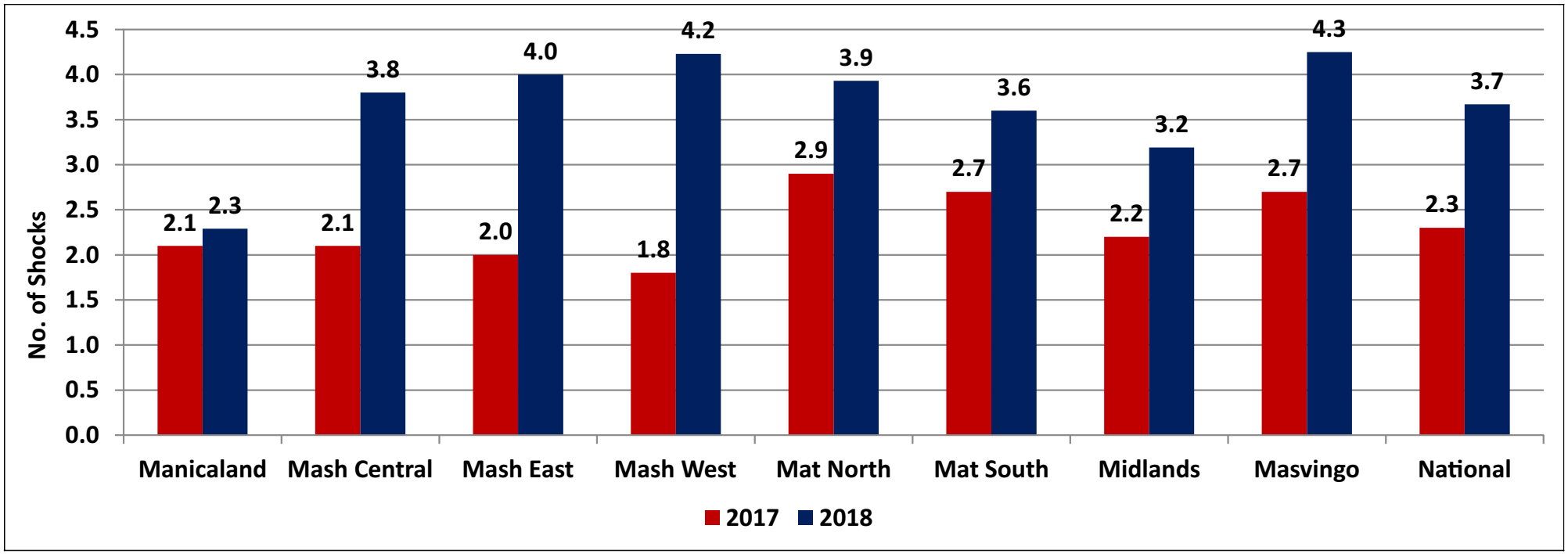
Shocks and Stressors

Households which Reported Different Shocks 2016/17 vs 2017/18 Comparison



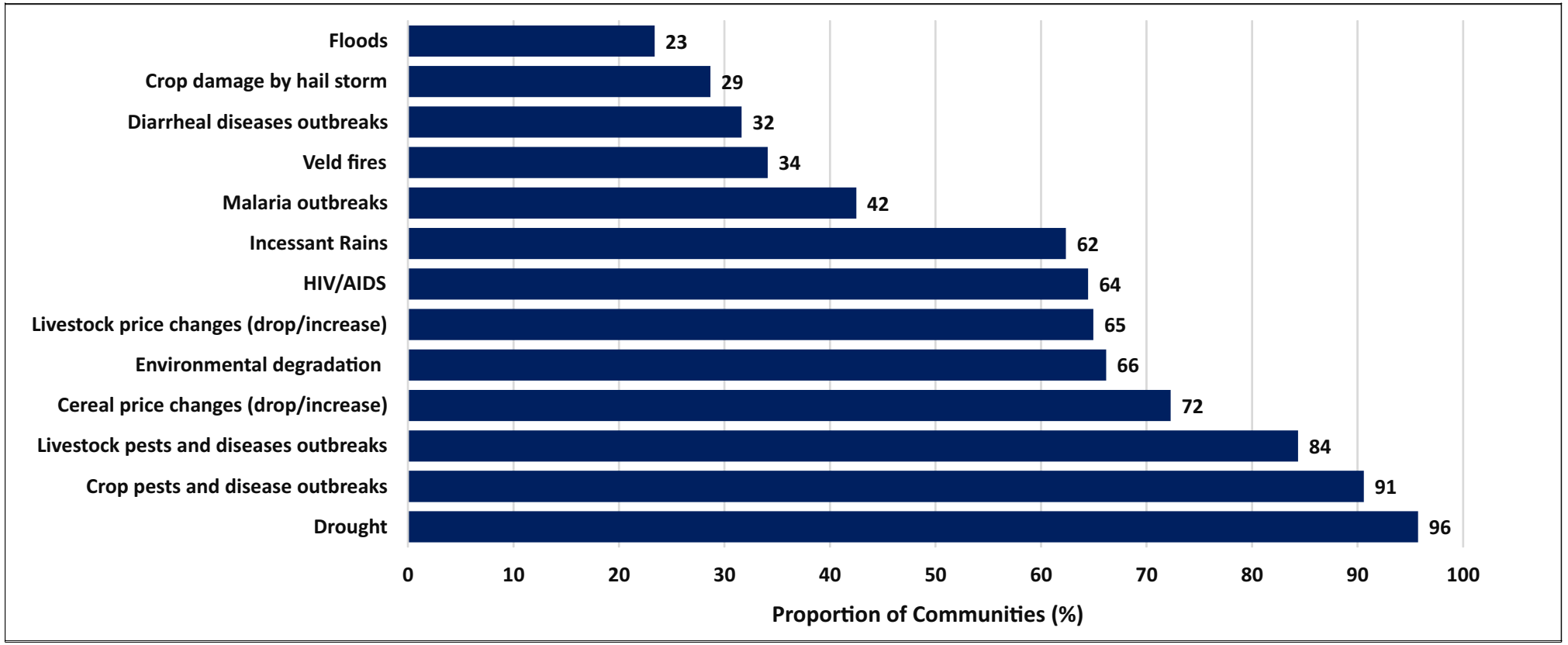
- There was an increase in incidences of shocks at household level.
- The most common shocks reported by households were cash shortages (71%), drought (54%), crop pests and diseases (44%) and sharp cereal price changes (42%).
- The findings show that cash shortages had not been addressed.
- Livestock and crop related shocks (deaths, prices changes and diseases) were on the increase compared to 2016/17.

Number of Shocks Experienced by Households: 2016/17 vs 2017/18



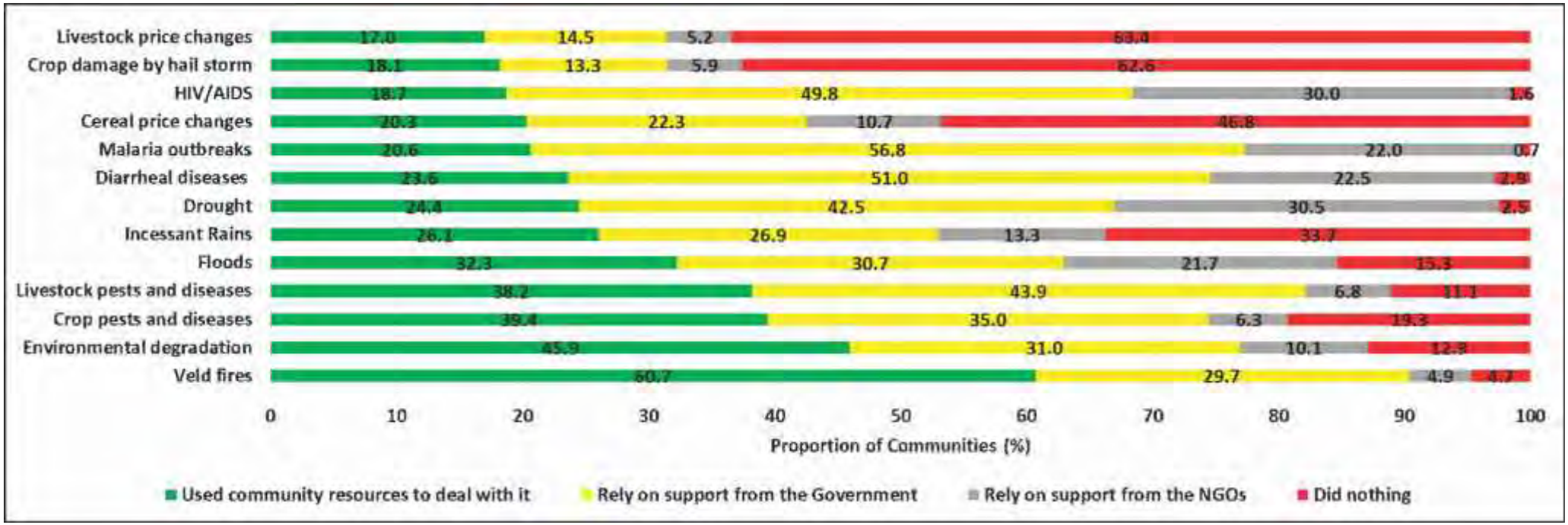
- There was an increase in the number of shocks experienced by households across all provinces.
- Masvingo and Mashonaland West had the highest number of shocks at an average of 4.3 and 4.2 shocks respectively.

Communities which Reported Different Shocks Between April 2017 and March 2018



- Communities reported drought (96%), crop pests and disease outbreaks (91%), livestock pests and diseases (84%)as well as cereal price changes (72%) as their major shocks

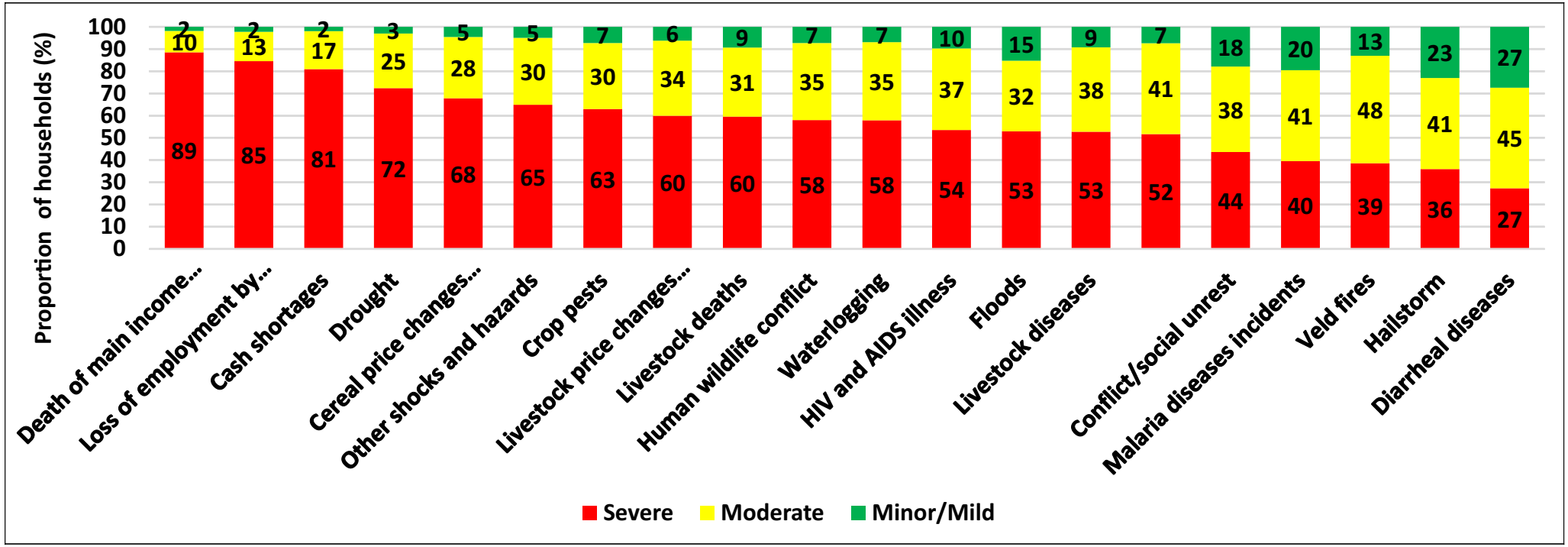
Communities' Response Strategies to Shocks and Hazards



- Most Communities responded to shocks and hazards such as environmental degradation (45.9%), veld fires (60.7%) and crop and livestock disease outbreaks (39.4% and 38.2% respectively) using their own resources. However there was still heavy reliance on external support from Government and NGOs.

- The fact that the bulk of the communities did nothing about cereal and livestock price changes shows that communities were still not empowered on basic farming business marketing skills.

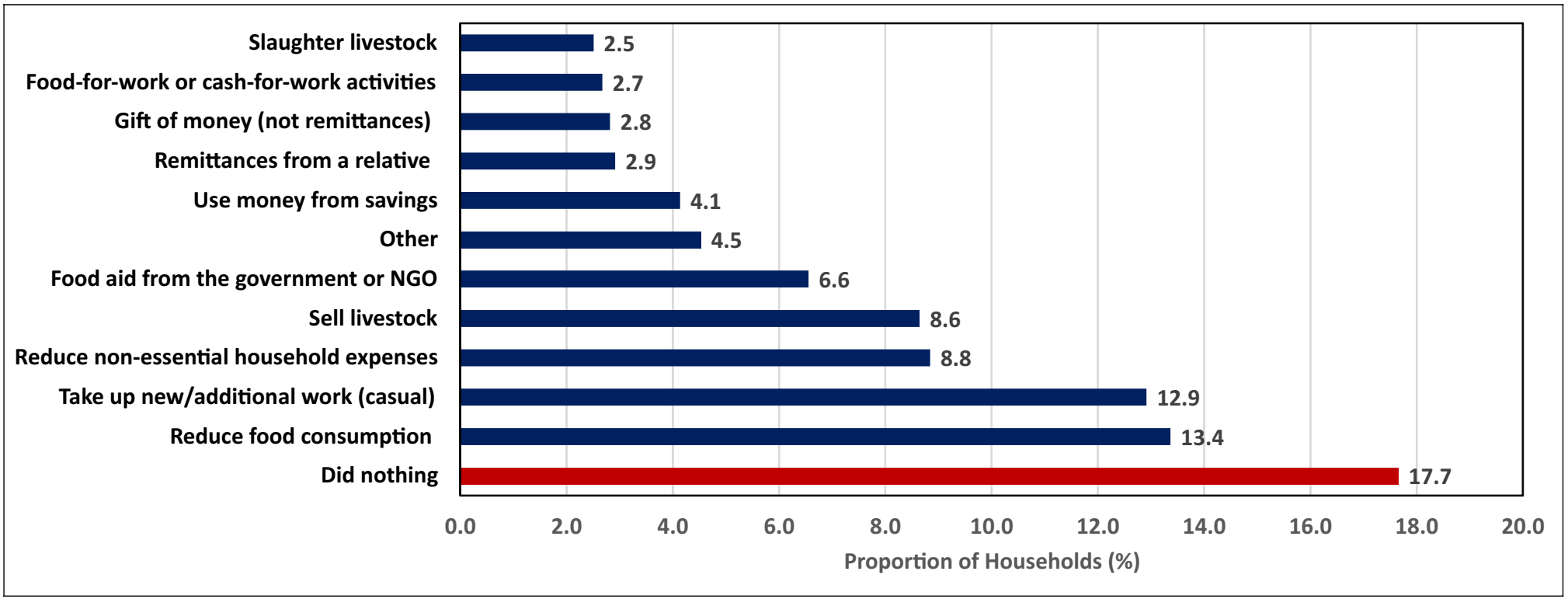
Severity of Impact of Shocks Experienced Between April 2017 and March 2018



- Cash shortages, drought and cereal price changes as well as livestock related shocks were reported for both high incidence and high severity. These evidently require urgent attention.

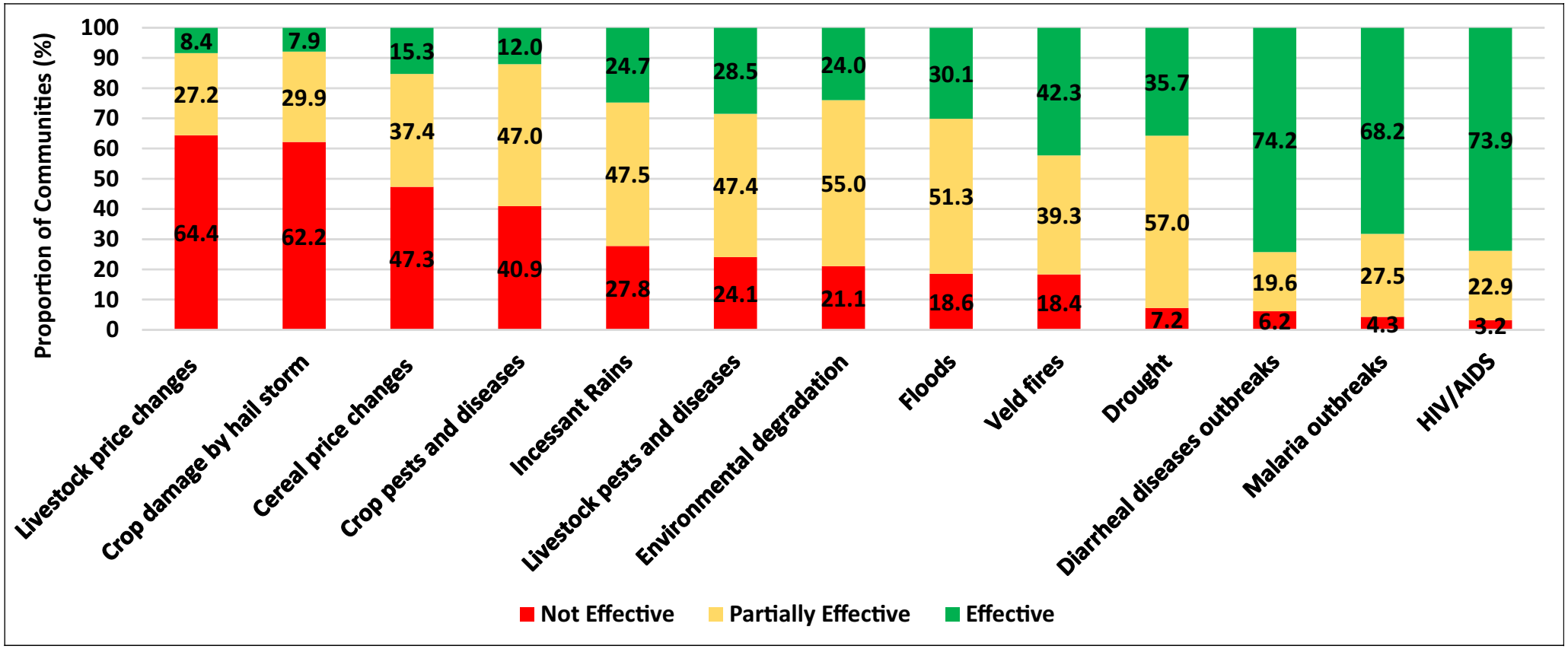
- Death of a breadwinner and loss of employment by a key household member though low in incidence reported the highest severity.

Households' Response to Shocks and Hazards



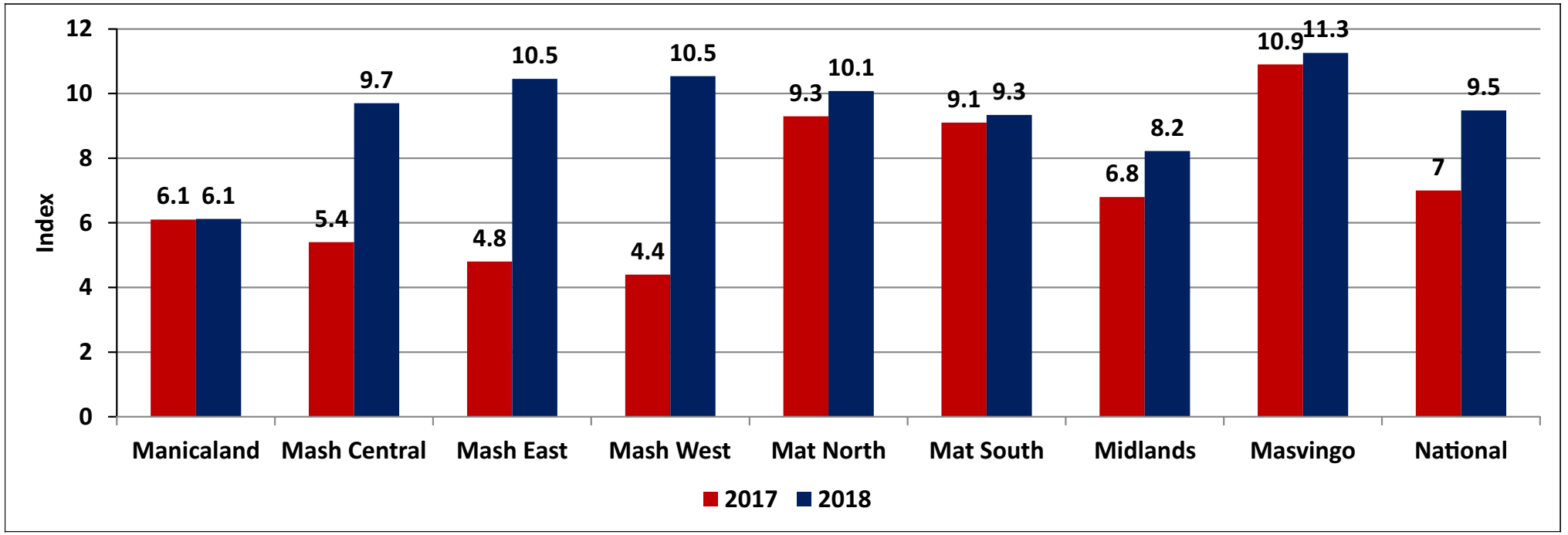
- About 18% of households affected by the different shocks and hazards reported that they did nothing to cope.
- This is in line with households' perception that they lack the capacity to cope with shocks and hazards without external assistance.

Community Perceptions of Effectiveness of Response Strategies



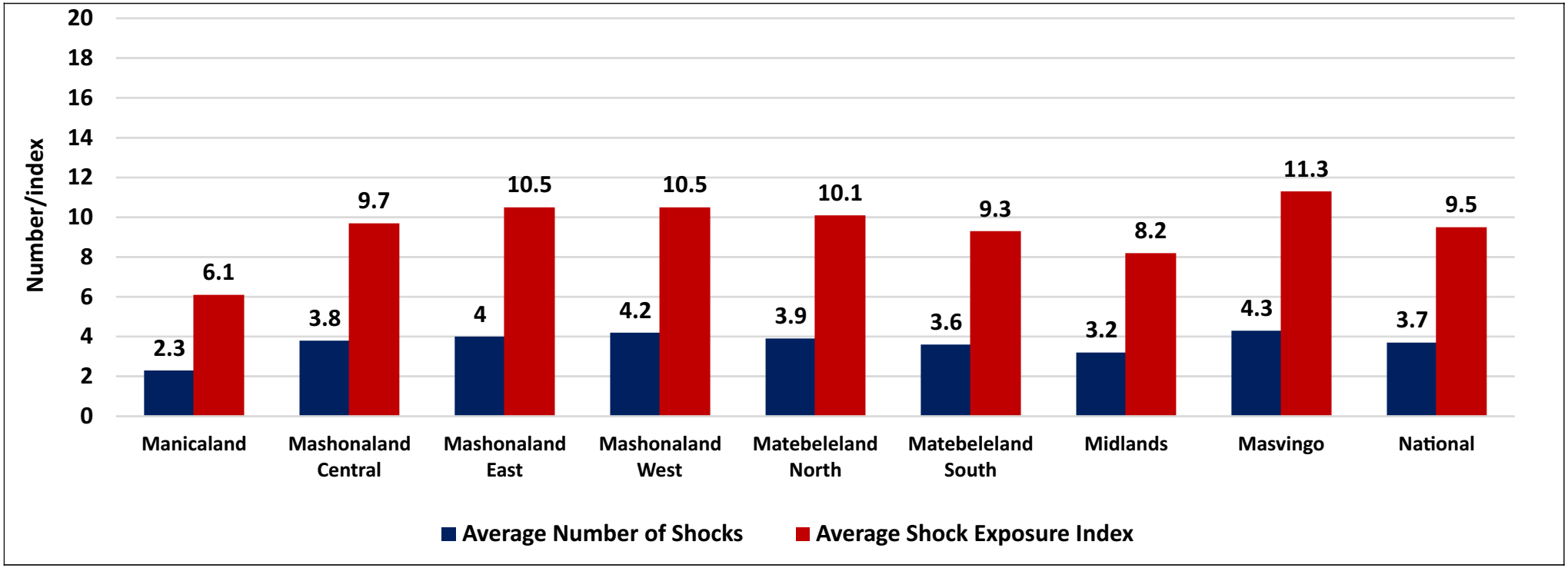
- Communities reported that the strategies used to cope with health related shocks and hazards were largely effective.
- Livestock price changes, crop damage by hailstorm, cereal price changes and crop pests and disease outbreaks were among some of the shocks where current coping strategies were still perceived ineffective.

Average Shock Exposure Index by Province



- Shock exposure index was calculated by multiplying the number of shocks experienced by severity of impact of the shock to the household ***(number of shocks x severity impact).***
- Generally, there was an increase in exposure to shocks and their impact on households worsened except for Manicaland and Masvingo.

Average Number of Shocks Experienced and Severity of Exposure

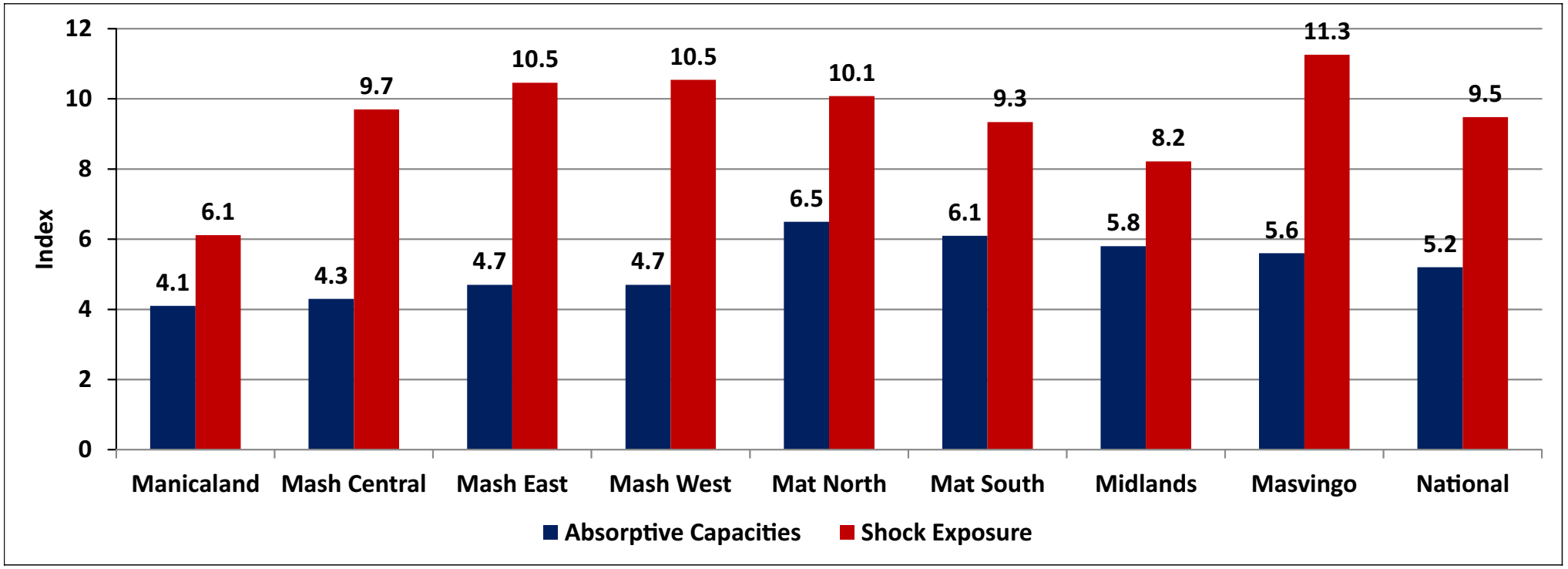


- On average, households experienced 3.7 shocks out of a possible 20 with an average exposure of 9.3.
- Masvingo reported the highest average number of shocks per household (4.3), as well as the highest severity of exposure to shocks (11.3) measured by its impact to the household.

Resilience Capacities

- Resilience capacities represent different opportunities at the disposal of households to deal with challenges they face.
- ZimVAC collected five of these capacities
  - Informal safety net – support from churches and participation in ISALs
  - Social capital - support from relatives in rural, urban and outside the country
  - Savings
  - Livestock
  - Income sources

Shock Exposure Versus Absorptive Capacity Indices



- Households had higher shock exposure than their capacity to cope.
- Mashonaland East and Mashonaland West had the highest gap between the shock exposure and coping (absorptive) capacity. This showed that they had higher vulnerability to shocks.

Contribution of Absorptive Capacities

Extraction co-efficient		
Component	Component	
	1	2
Types of livestock owned	0.870	0.178
Number of livestock in cattle equivalence	0.866	0.147
Number of income sources	0.173	0.726
Household Savings	0.047	0.700
Informal Safety Net	0.120	0.456

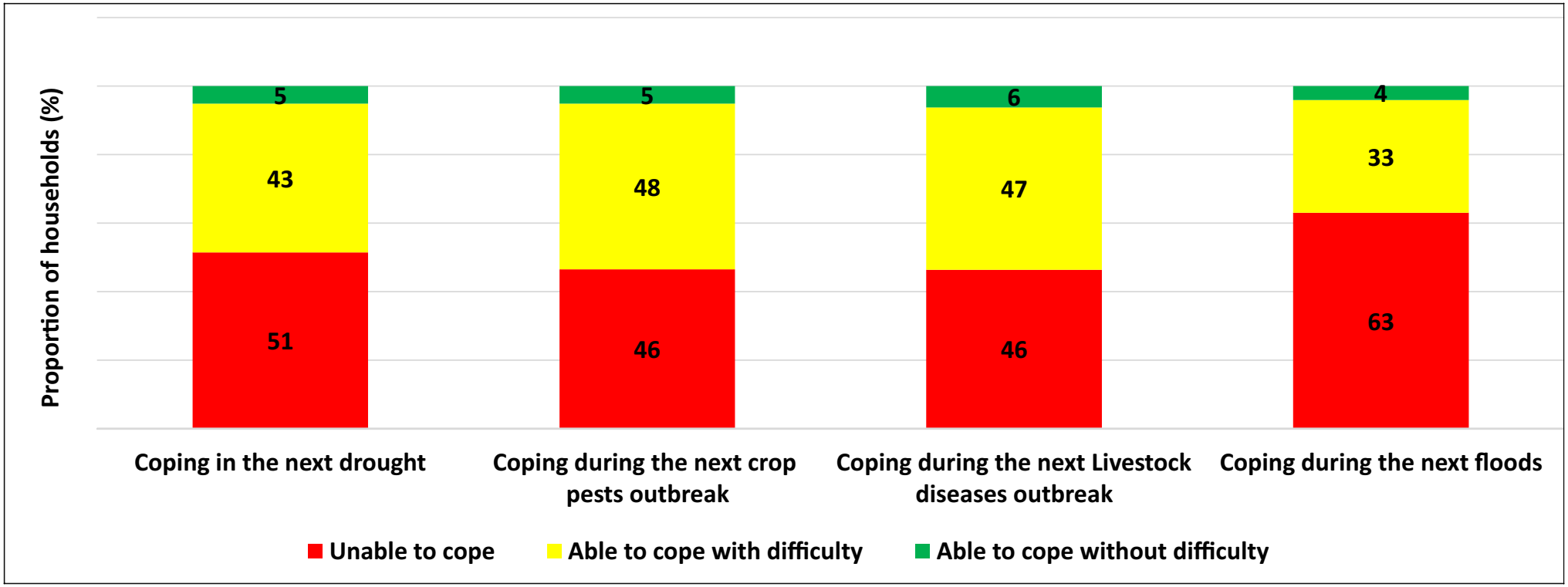
- Using Principal component analysis, the five factors above had significant contribution to the absorptive coping capacity of households.
- Both type and number of livestock had high extraction co-efficient in a similar dimension (component 1) while number of income sources, household savings and informal safety nets contributed to the same capacity in a different dimension (component 2).
- Promoting livestock ownership will increase household coping capacity as well as diversifying income sources and promoting savings through internal savings and lending schemes.

Relationship between Resilience Attributes and Well Being Outcomes

The following attributes had significant correlation with well being outcomes including food consumption score, household dietary diversity score and coping strategy index. These are organized in order of importance.

- Number of livestock (cattle equivalence)
- Savings
- Number of income sources
- Social capital
- Informal safety-net

Households' Perceived Ability to Cope With Anticipated Hazards in the Next 12 Months



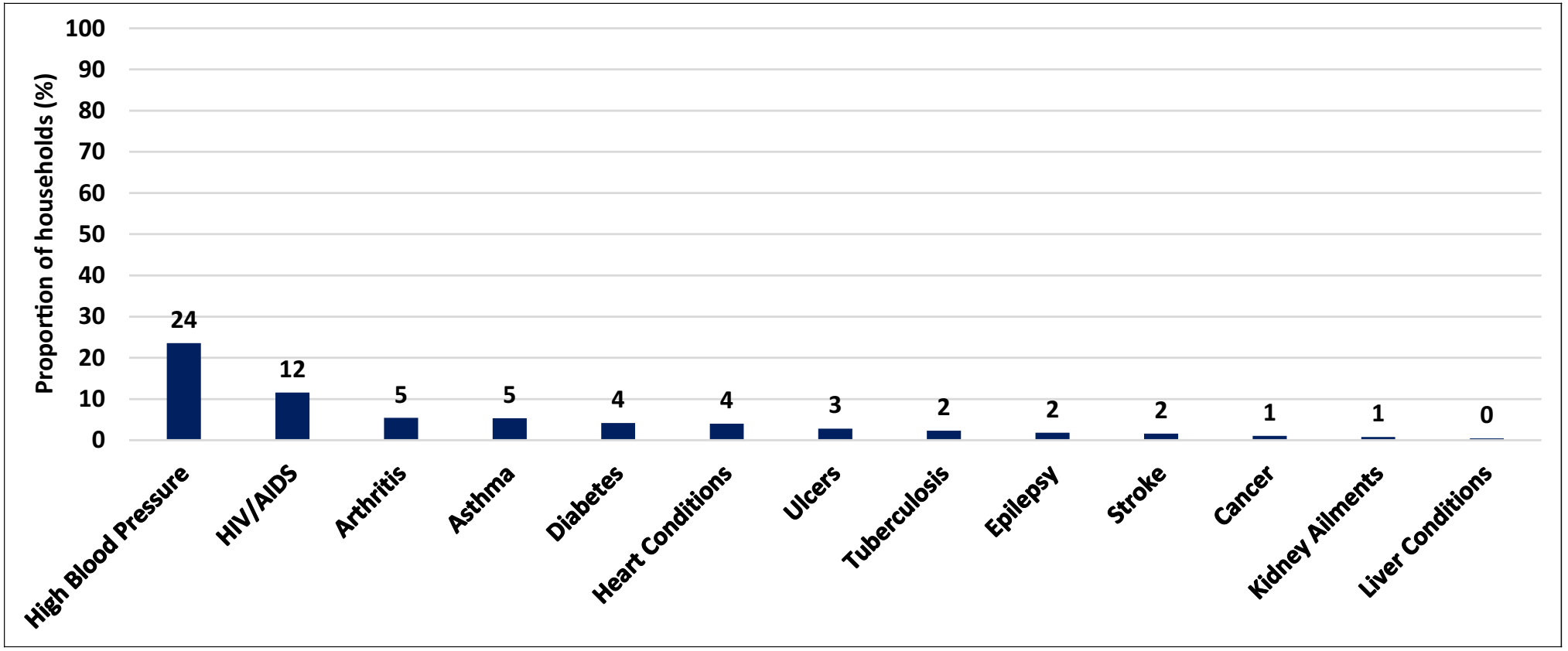
- Across the 4 selected natural shocks; it is clear that only a low proportion of households perceived that they will be able to cope without difficulty.
- About 63% of households affected by floods perceived that they will be unable to cope in the event of future floods.

Health Services

Background

- Chronic conditions are defined as conditions that require ongoing management and/or taking of medication over a period of years. (WHO, 2008)
- Missed medication doses is a predictor of incomplete adherence among chronically ill patients.
- Adherence to a medication regimen is generally defined as the extent to which patients take medications as prescribed by their health care providers.
- Poor adherence to treatment aggravates drug resistance which ultimately leads to unfavorable treatment outcomes.

Households with at Least One Member with a Chronic Condition



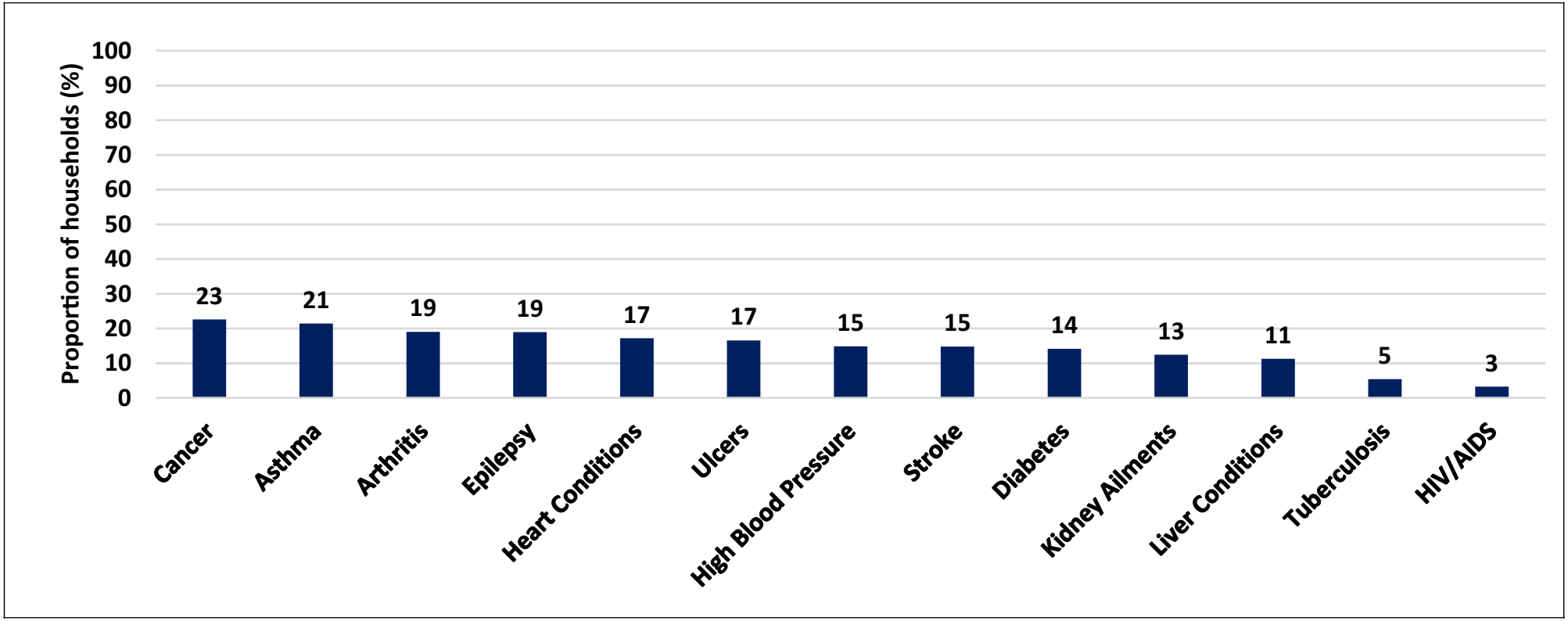
- High Blood Pressure was reported in most of the households (24%). The presence of a member with a chronic condition in the household is likely to increase a household's financial burden.

Chronic Conditions by Province

Province	High Blood Pressure	Heart Conditions	Diabetes	Asthma	HIV/AIDS	Arthritis	Epilepsy	Stroke	Cancer	Tuberculosis	Liver Conditions	Kidney Ailments	Ulcers
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Manicaland	21	6	6	5	9	6	1	2	1	2	1	1	3
Mash Central	19	5	4	5	8	5	2	1	1	2	0	1	3
Mash East	24	4	4	4	8	5	1	1	1	1	0	1	3
Mash West	36	4	4	5	9	5	1	1	1	1	0	1	2
Mat North	31	3	4	6	18	7	3	2	2	4	1	1	3
Mat South	23	4	5	6	18	5	2	2	1	3	1	1	2
Midlands	18	3	4	5	11	5	2	2	1	2	1	1	3
Masvingo	18	3	3	6	13	5	2	2	1	3	0	1	3
National	24	4	4	5	12	5	2	2	1	2	0	1	3

- All provinces reported having a notable proportion of households with at least one member with high blood pressure and HIV/AIDS.
- The financial burden of chronic conditions requires urgent attention at community and national levels as it affects livelihood and productivity potential.

Households with Members who Missed Medication Doses



- The highest proportions of households with members that missed doses were those with members who had cancer (23%) and asthma (21%).
- This might imply poor medication adherence which results in poor treatment outcomes such as drug resistance.

Reasons for Missing a Dose

Reason for Missing a Dose	High Blood Pressure	Heart Conditions	Asthma	Diabetes	HIV/AIDS	Arthritis	Epilepsy	Stroke	Cancer	TB	Kidney Ailments	Ulcers
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No money to pay for transport	30	22	27	31	12	37	26	38	39	27	24	27
Lack of transport to go and collect drugs	18	12	14	13	12	18	20	24	14	23	12	14
Medication was finished	17	16	21	27	12	21	10	15	11	14	29	23
Stock-out at the health facility	10	6	15	14	12	8	16	6	3	5	6	8
Failed to follow the instructions for taking the medicines	7	11	5	0	12	7	5	9	8	5	6	6
Avoiding side effects	6	6	6	1	3	4	3	3	3	5	12	2
Not interested	6	6	7	7	6	3	7	3	14	5	0	4
Busy/forgot	3	3	1	4	9	1	2	0	8	9	12	8
Not at home	2	0	1	2	10	2	3	3	0	5	0	6
No food	0	2	3	1	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	3

- Generally the most commonly stated reasons for missing medication for all conditions were lack of transport, no money to pay for transport and medication was finished.

Household Food Security Status Projections

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 include:
    - **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

- Each of the surveyed households' potential food access was computed by estimating the household's likely disposable income (both cash and non cash) in the 2018/19 consumption year from the following possible income sources;
    - Cereal stocks from the previous season;
    - Own food crop production from the 2017/18 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
- Total energy that could be acquired by the household from the cheapest available energy source (maize was used in this assessment) using its potential disposable income was then computed and compared to the household's minimum energy requirements.
- When the potential energy 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 is below its minimum energy requirements.

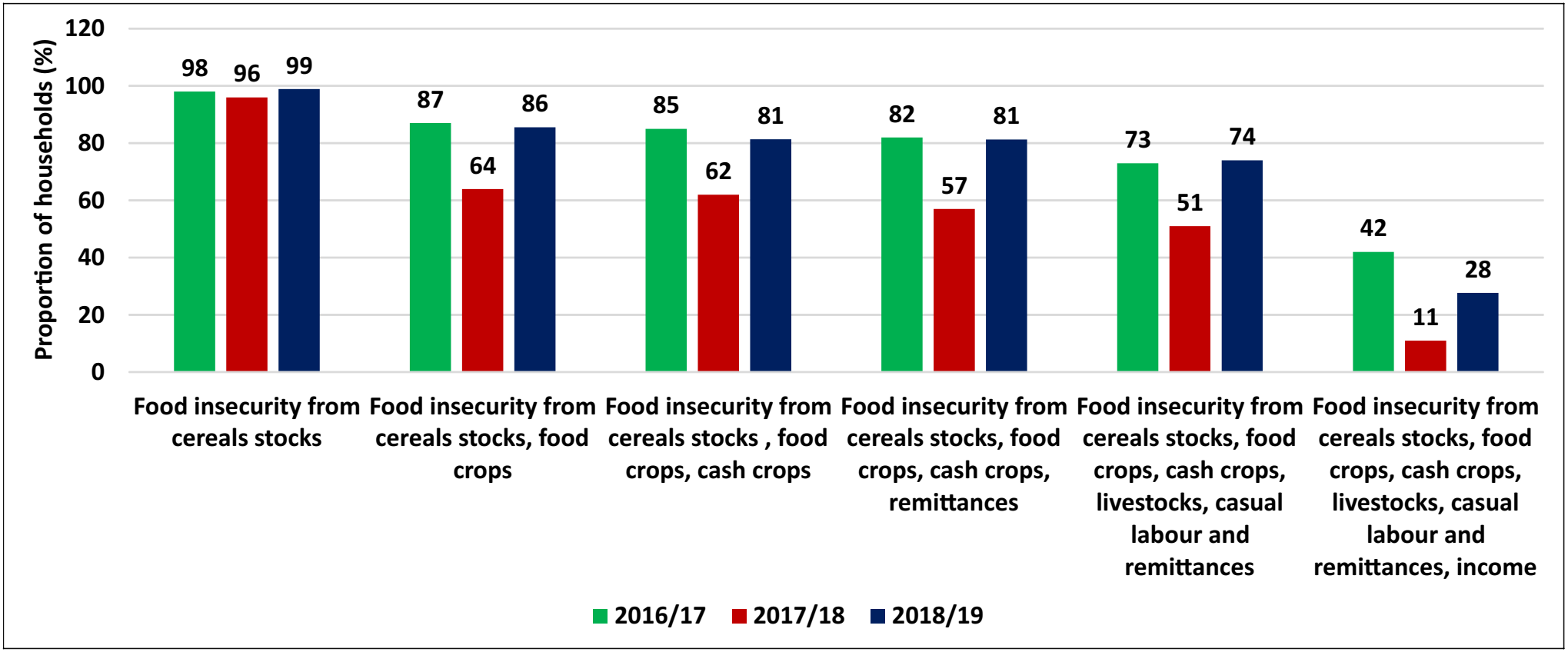
Main Assumptions Used in the Food Security Analytical Framework

- Households' purchasing power will remain relatively stable from April 2018 through the end of March 2019, i.e. average household income levels are likely to track households' cost of living. This assumption is made on the premise that year-on-year inflation will remain stable throughout the consumption year.

- The national average livestock to maize terms of trade will remain relatively stable throughout the 2018/19 consumption year.

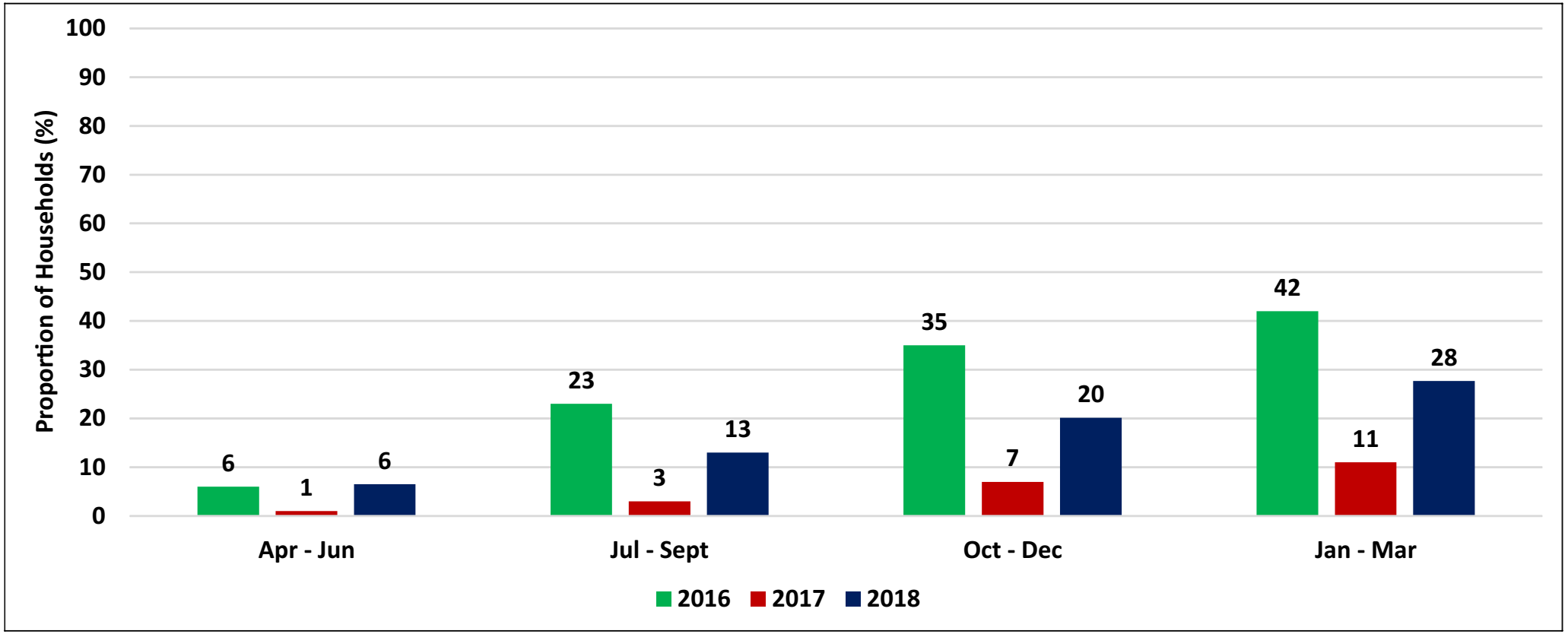
- Staple cereals in the form of maize, small grains (sorghum and millets) or mealie meal will be available on the market for cereal deficit households with the means to purchase to do so throughout the consumption year. This assumption is based on the Government maintaining the liberalised maize trade regime.

Food Insecurity (Cereal) Progression by Income Source



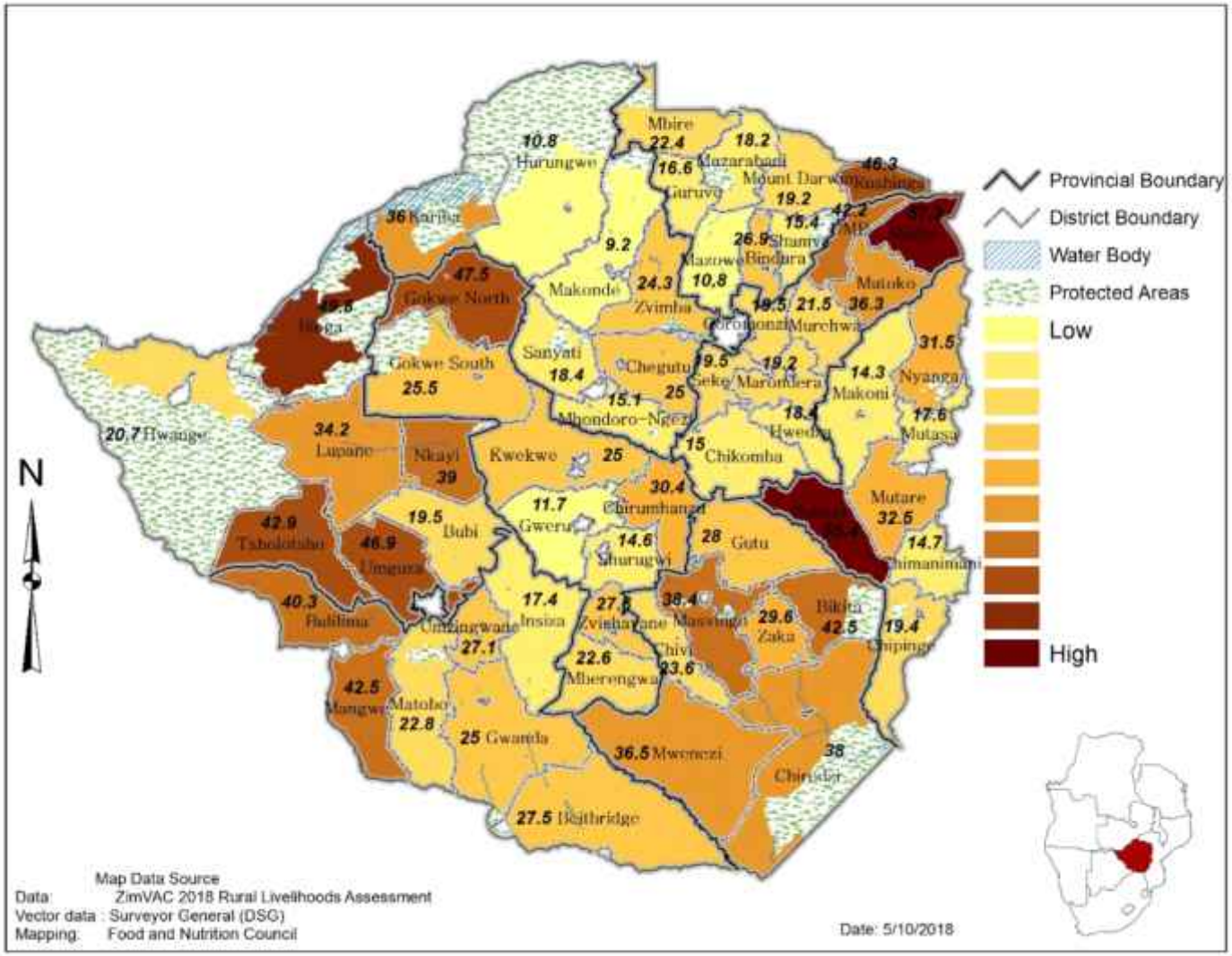
- Considering all incomes, the food insecurity prevalence is projected to be 28% in the 2018/2019 consumption year.

Food Insecurity (Cereal) Progression by Quarter



- The 2018/2019 consumption year food insecurity prevalence is 154% higher than that of the 2017/2018 consumption year during the peak hunger period.

Food Insecurity (Cereal) Prevalence by District at Peak



Districts with the Lowest Food Insecurity (Cereal) Levels

District	Food Insecure (%) (Cereal)	District	Food Insecure (%) (Cereal)
Makonde	9.24	**Sanyati**	18.41
Hurungwe	10.78	**Mt Darwin**	19.17
Mazowe	10.83	**Marondera**	19.17
Gweru	11.67	**Chipinge**	19.40
Makoni	14.29	**Bubi**	19.47
Shurugwi	14.64	**Seke**	19.49
Chimanimani	14.71	**Goromonzi**	19.54
Chikomba	15.00	**Hwange**	20.66
Mhondoro-Ngezi	15.09	**Murewa**	21.52
Shamva	15.42	**Mbire**	22.36
Guruve	16.60	**Mberengwa**	22.59
Insiza	17.43	**Matobo**	22.81
Mutasa	17.57	**Chivi**	23.55
Muzarabani	18.22	**Zvimba**	24.27
Hwedza	18.41	**Kwekwe**	25.00

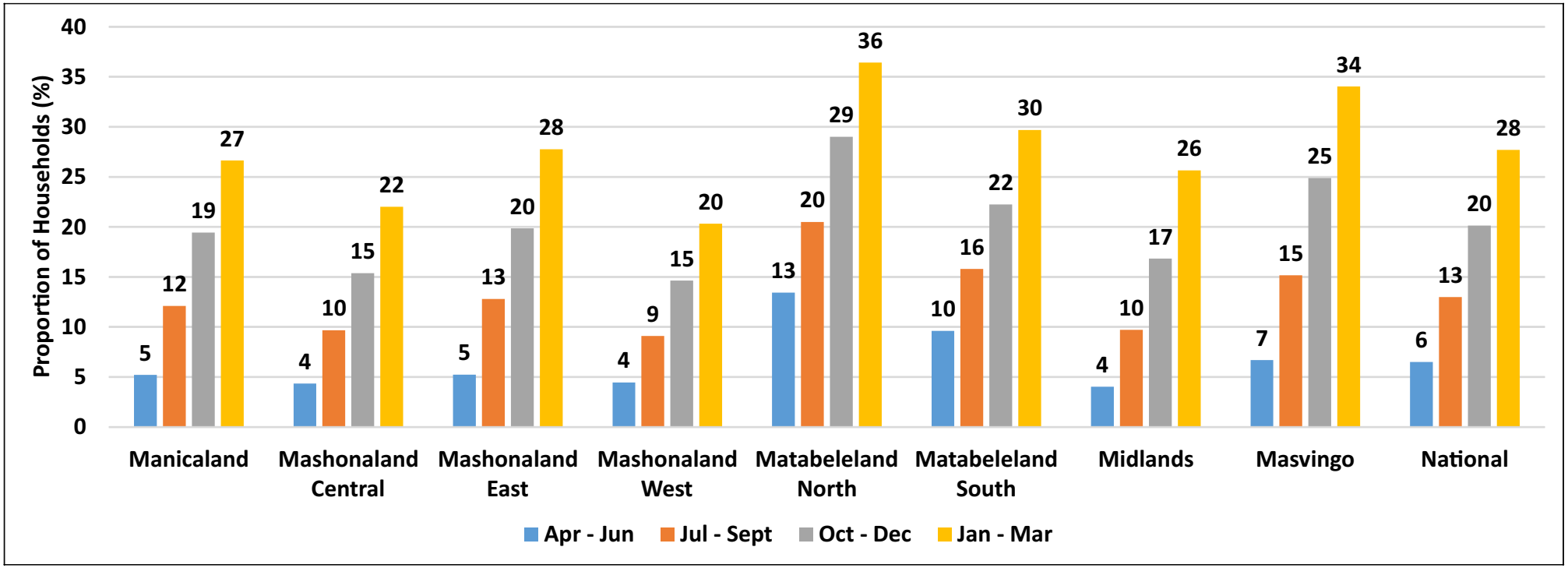
- The majority of the districts have an above 10% minimal food insecurity population except for Makonde (9.2%).
- Thus, all rural districts (except Makonde, Hurungwe and Mazowe) have food insecurity prevalence above the 2017 national figure.

Districts with the Highest Food Insecurity Levels

District	Food Insecure (%) (Cereal)	District	Food Insecure (%) (Cereal)
Mudzi	57	**Mutoko**	36
Buhera	55	**Kariba**	36
Binga	50	**Lupane**	34
Gokwe North	47	**Mutare**	32
Umguza	47	**Nyanga**	32
Rushinga	46	**Chirumhanzu**	30
Tsholotsho	43	**Zaka**	30
Mangwe	43	**Gutu**	28
Bikita	43	**Zvishavane**	28
UMP	42	**Beitbridge**	28
Bulilima	40	**Umzingwane**	27
Nkayi	39	**Bindura**	27
Masvingo	38	**Gokwe South**	26
Chiredzi	38	**Chegutu**	25
Mwenezi	37	**Gwanda**	25

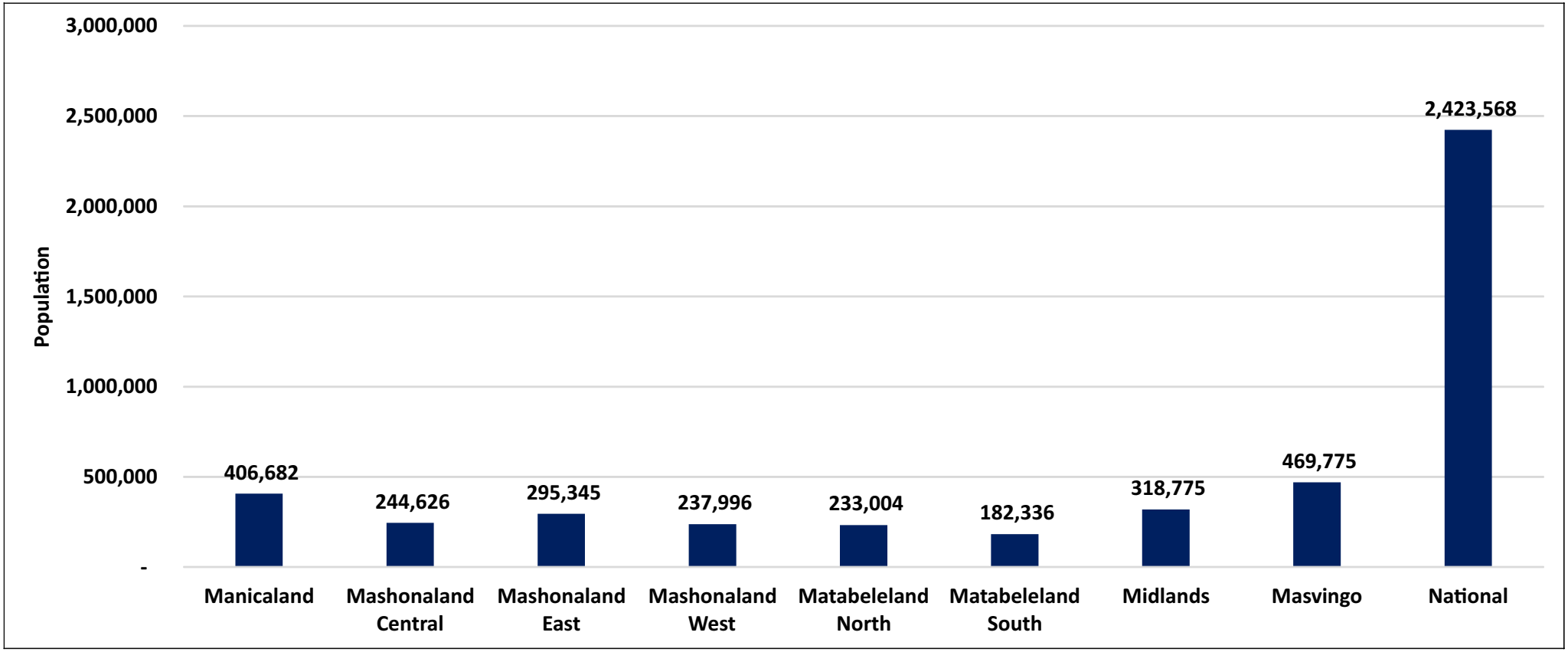
- The country is seized with 11 districts whose food insecurity prevalence is above 40% and another 11 districts ranging between 30% and 39%.
- Thus 22% of the rural districts have food insecurity prevalence above the national prevalence (28%).

Food Insecurity (Cereal) Progression by Quarter by Province



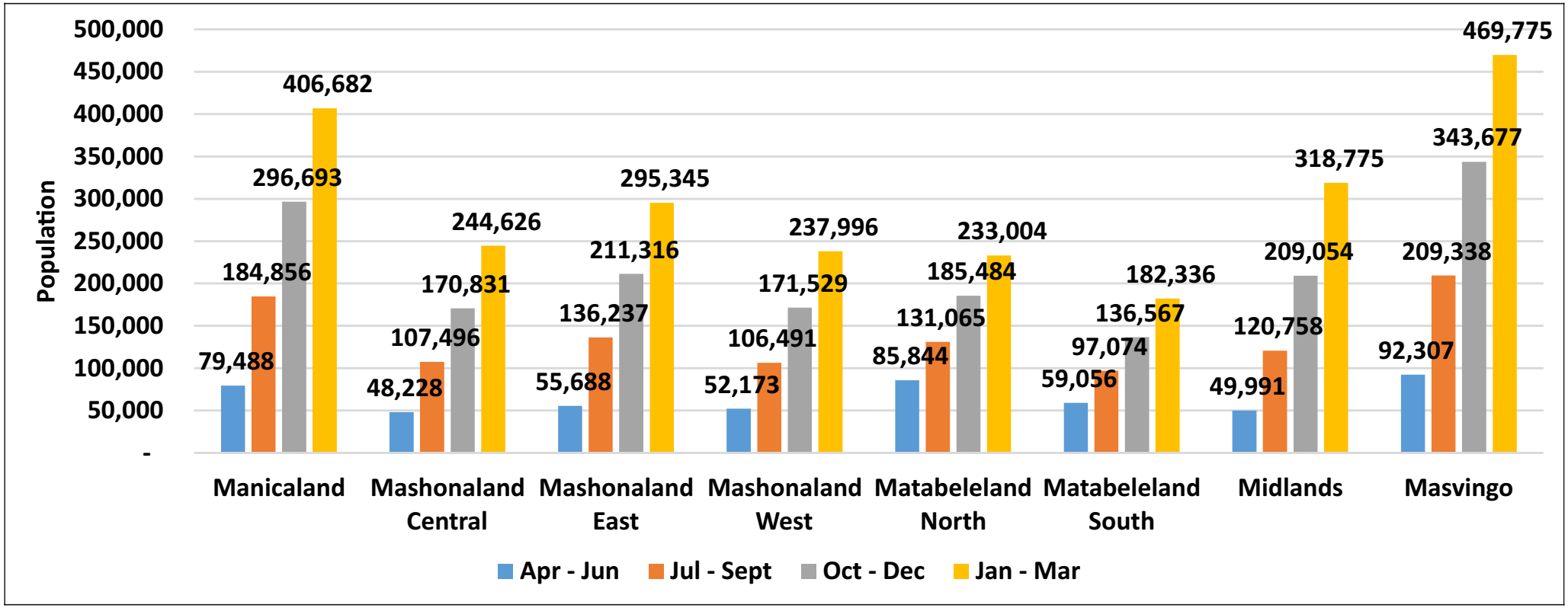
- The rate of change of food insecurity prevalence from the first to the last quarter was fastest in Midlands (550%) and slowest in Matabeleland North (180%).
- Matabeleland North (36%), Masvingo (34%) and Matabeleland South (30%) were projected to have the highest prevalence of food insecure households at peak.
- Mashonaland West (20%) and Mashonaland Central (22%) were projected to have the least prevalence at peak.

Cereal Food Insecure Population



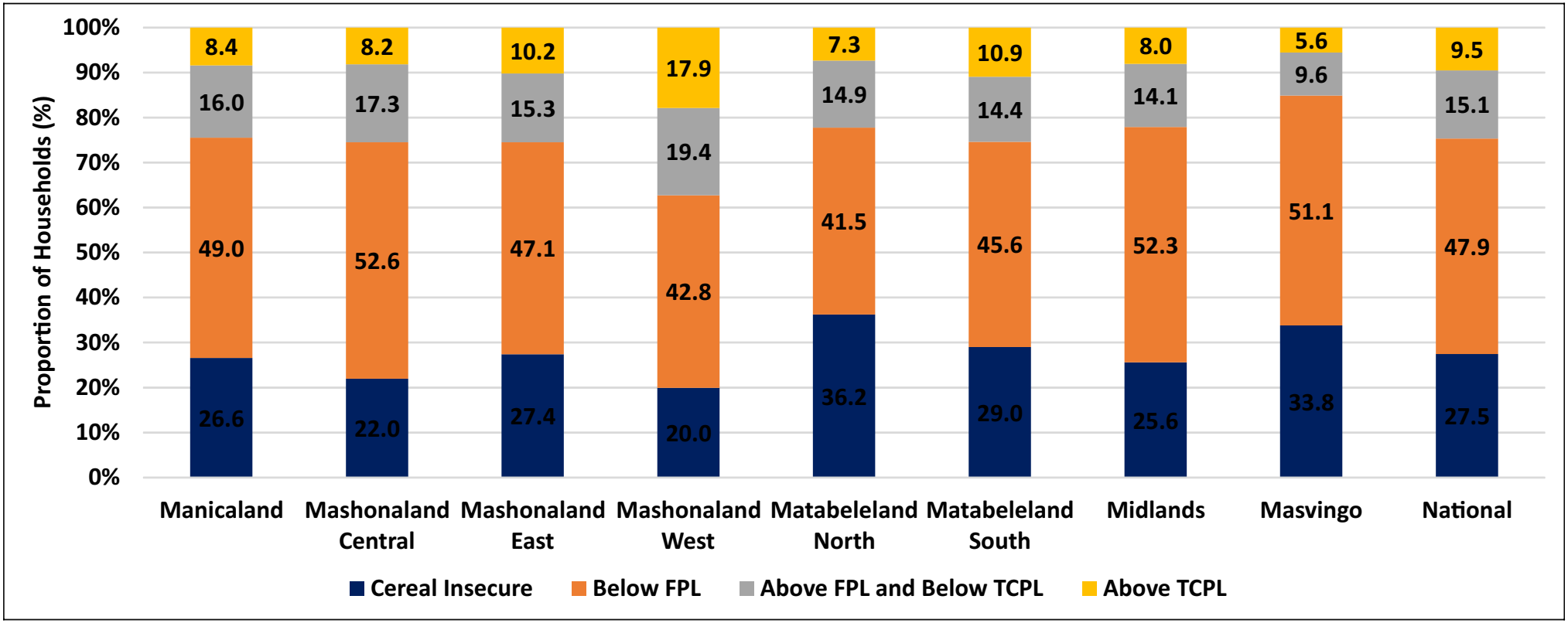
- At least 2,423,568 people will be food insecure during the peak hunger period.

Food Insecure Population by Quarter by Province



- At peak, Masvingo and Manicaland had the highest population in need of assistance to meet their food requirements, while Matabeleland had the least population in need.

Food Insecurity by Province



- Mashonaland West had the highest proportion of households which had potential income above their Total Consumption Line (17.9%) as well as above their Food Poverty Line (37%).
- Midlands and Mashonaland Central had the highest proportion of cereal secure households below the food poverty line (52.3% and 52.6% respectively).

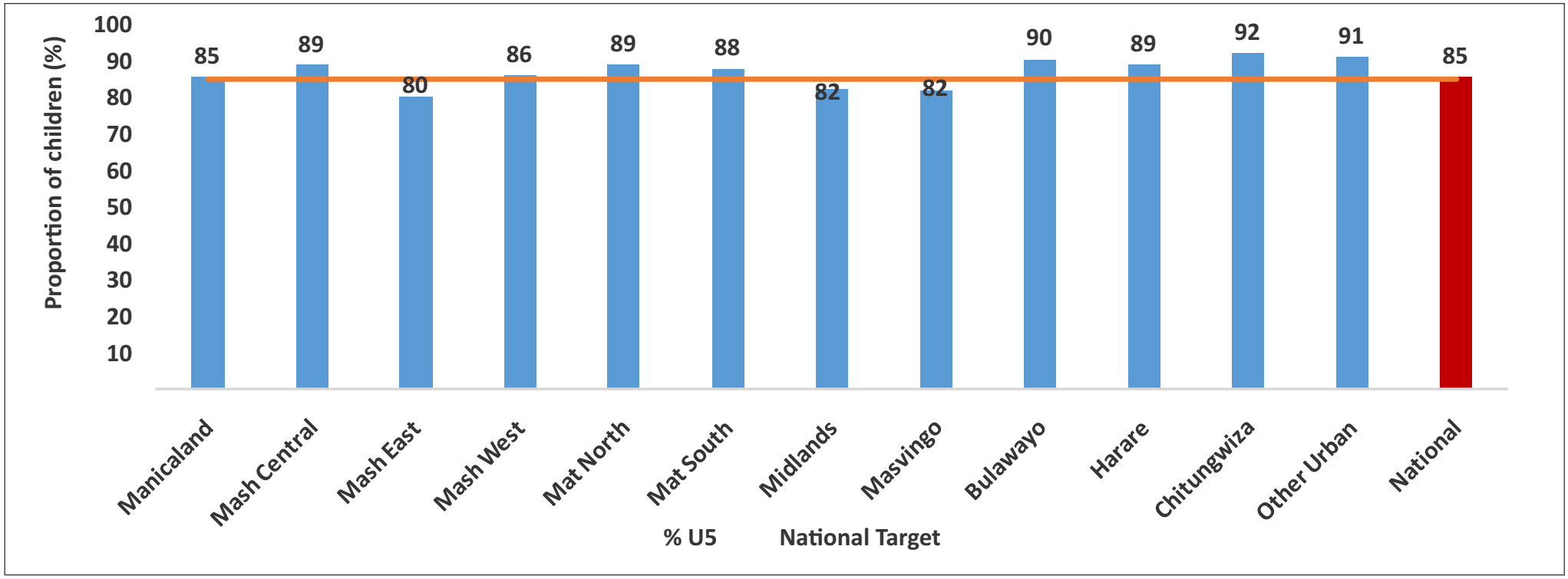
Cost of Cereal Requirements

Province	Proportion of Households (%)	Food Insecure (Cereal) Population (%)	Cereal Requirements (MT)	Cost of Cereals (USD)	Cost of Food Basket less Cereals (USD)	Total (USD)
Manicaland	27	406,682	60,189	23,473,714	3,468,408	26,942,122
Mash Central	22	244,626	36,205	14,119,801	1,821,982	15,941,783
Mash East	28	295,345	43,711	17,047,312	3,307,572	20,354,884
Mash West	20	237,996	35,223	13,737,140	2,237,905	15,975,045
Mat North	36	233,004	34,485	13,448,996	4,104,084	17,553,080
Mat South	30	182,336	26,986	10,524,432	3,506,317	14,030,749
Midlands	26	318,775	47,179	18,399,679	2,821,530	21,221,209
Masvingo	34	469,775	69,527	27,115,397	8,314,574	35,429,971
National	28	2,423,568	358,688	139,888,349	31,444,997	171,333,346

- The country requires USD 140 million for cereals and USD 31 million for other food commodities to provide a full food basket for the vulnerable households.

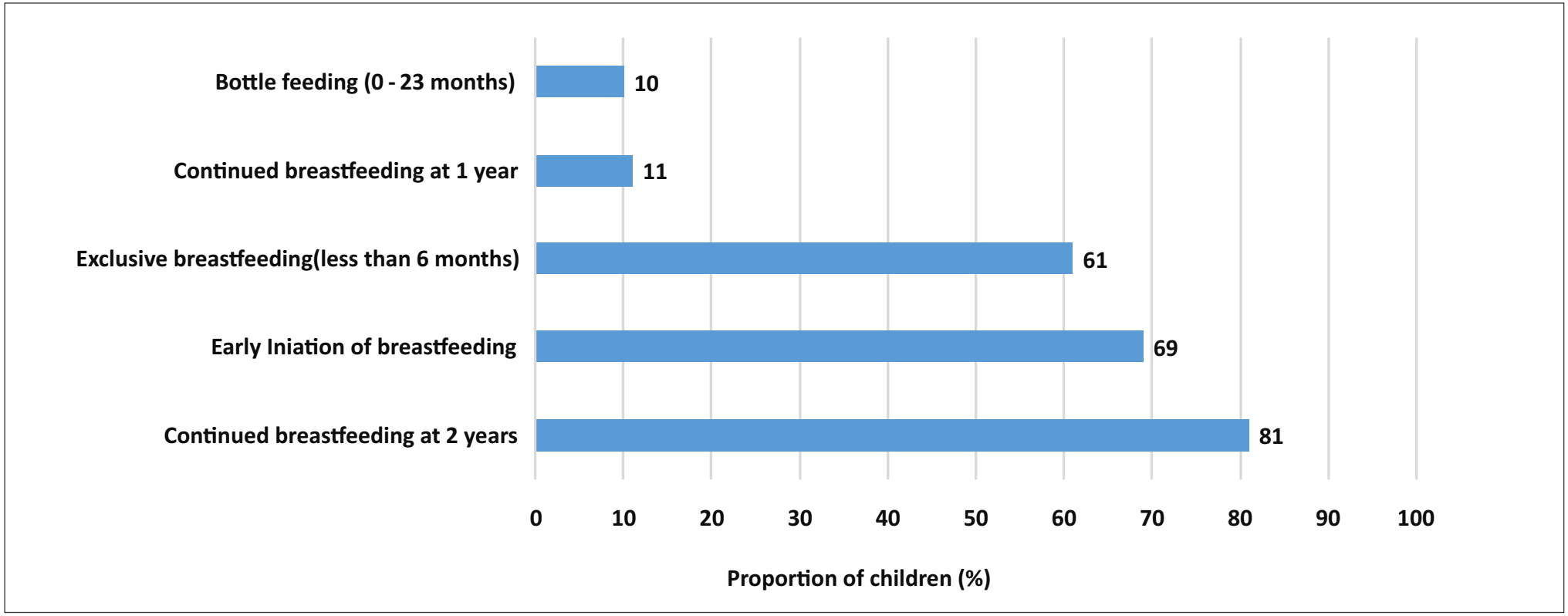
Child Nutrition Status

Proportion of Children under 5 who Received at Least 1 Dose of Vitamin A in the Past 12 Months



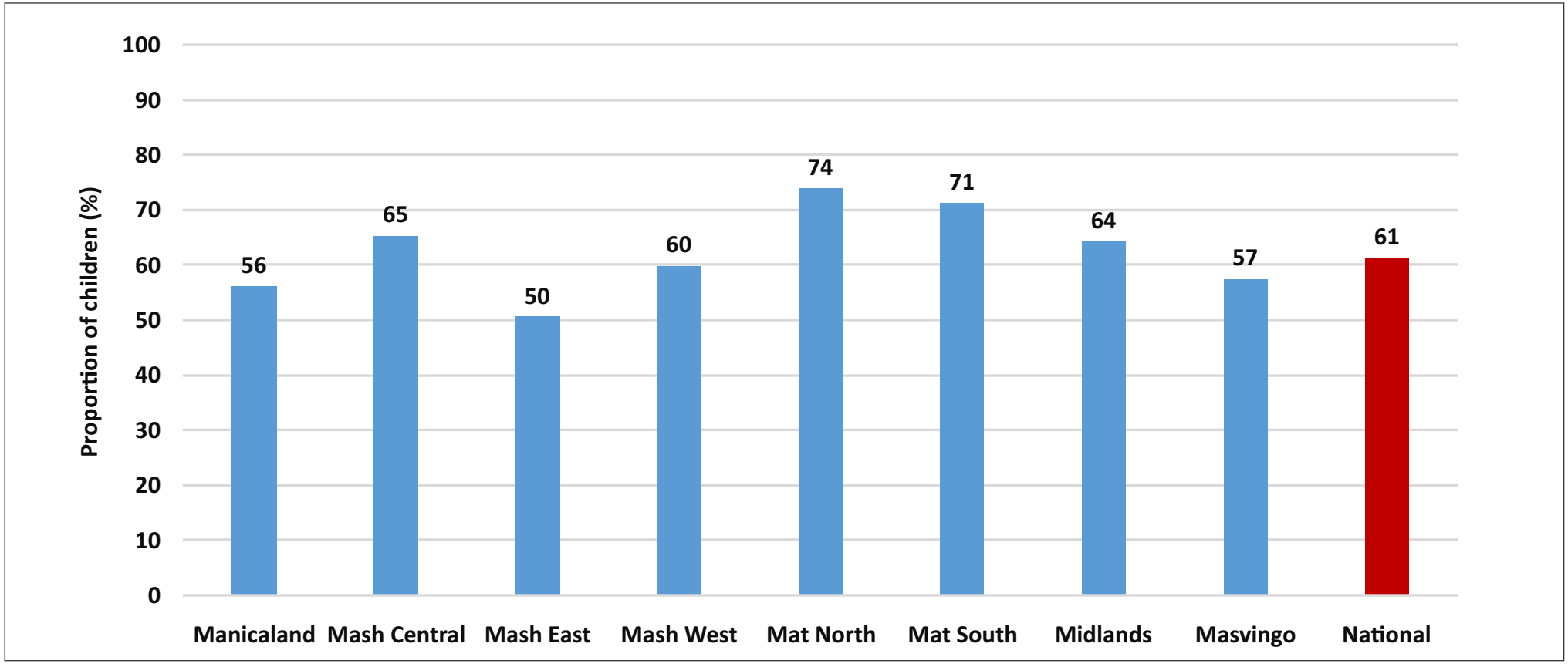
- The national coverage of children under the age of five who received at least one dose of Vitamin A was 85%.
- Chitungwiza (92%) had the highest proportion of children that were reported to have received Vitamin A.
- Midlands (82%), Masvingo (82%) and Mashonaland East (80%) were the only provinces that did not surpass the national target of 85%.

Summary of Breastfeeding Practices



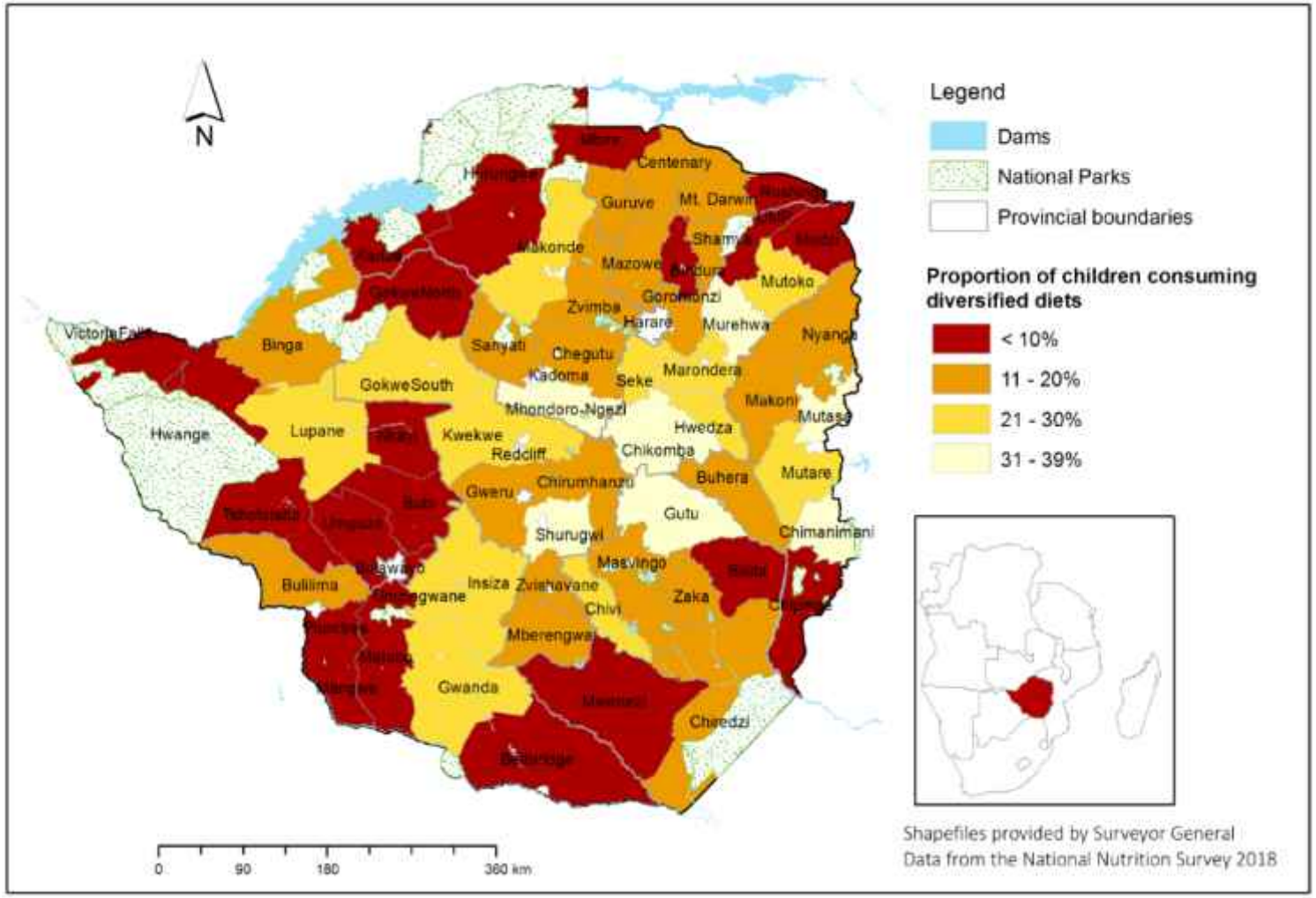
- About 81% of the children were breastfed up to 2 years of age compared to 77% reported by the NNS in 2010.
- Only 11% were breastfed up to the age of 1 year.
- A small proportion of the children (10%) were reported to be bottle fed.

Exclusive Breastfeeding



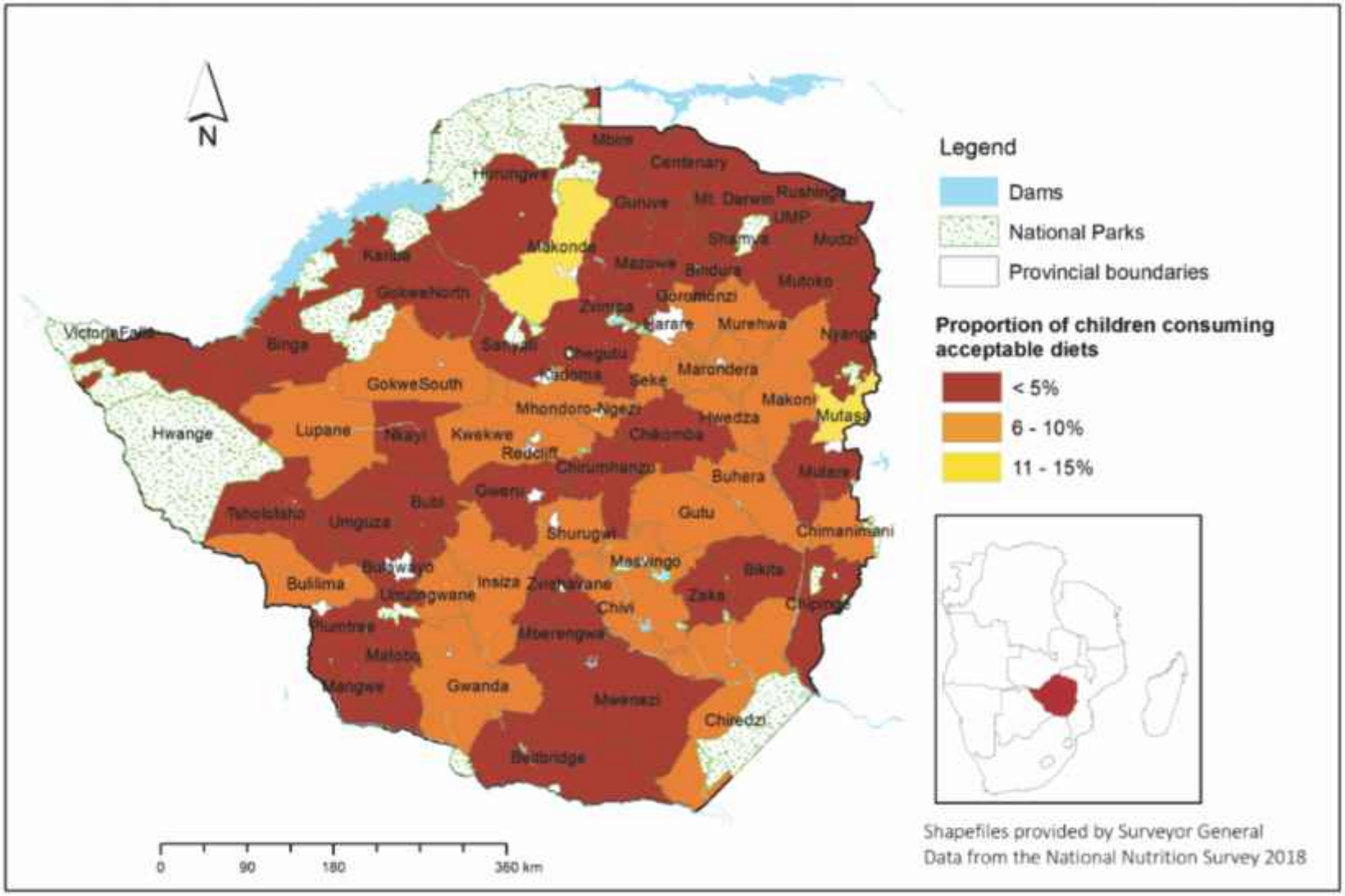
- At least 61% of children below the age of 6 months were exclusively breastfed.
- This proportion has surpassed the 50% World Health Assembly target.

Minimum Dietary Diversity for Children 6-23 Months by District



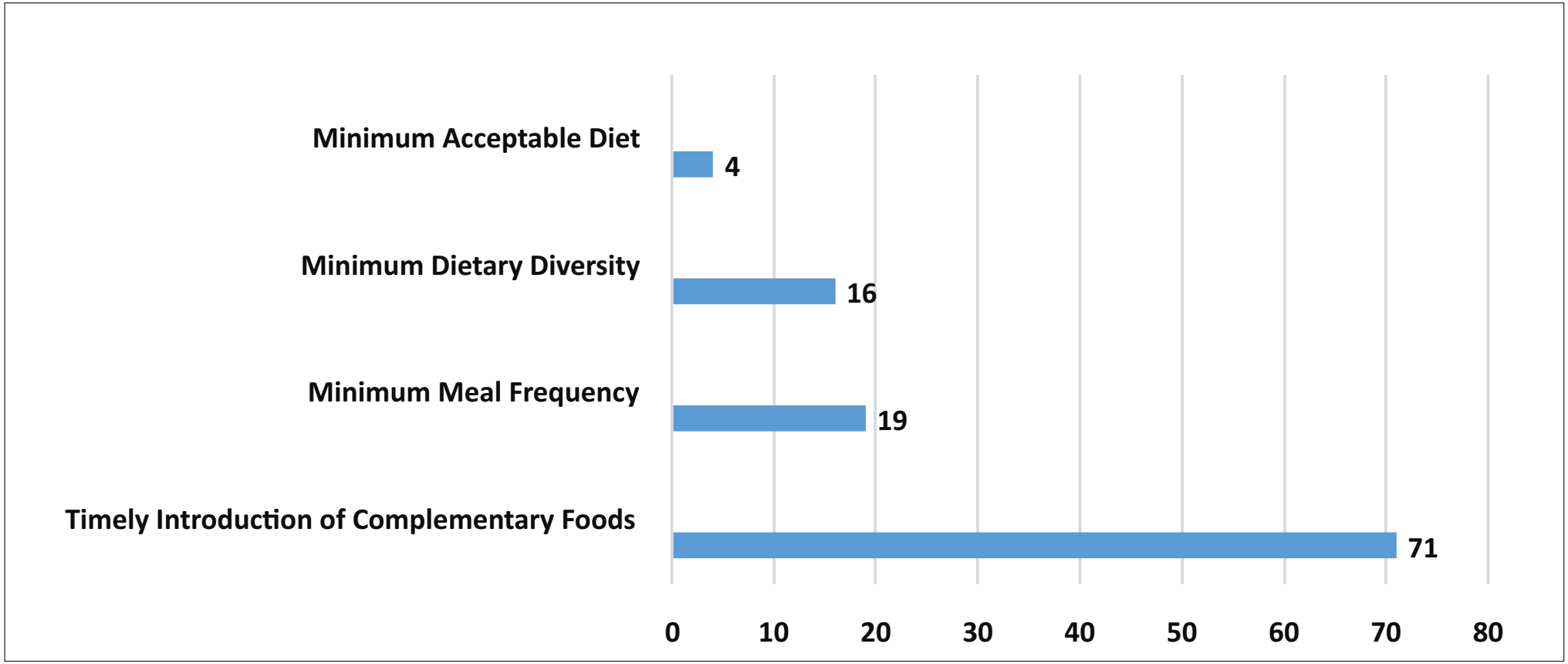
- The lowest dietary diversity was recorded in Mangwe District at 1% and the highest in Mutasa at 39%.

Minimum Acceptable Diet for Children 6-23 Months



- There was no district having MAD above 15% as per 2018 National Nutrition Strategy targets.

Summary of Complementary Feeding



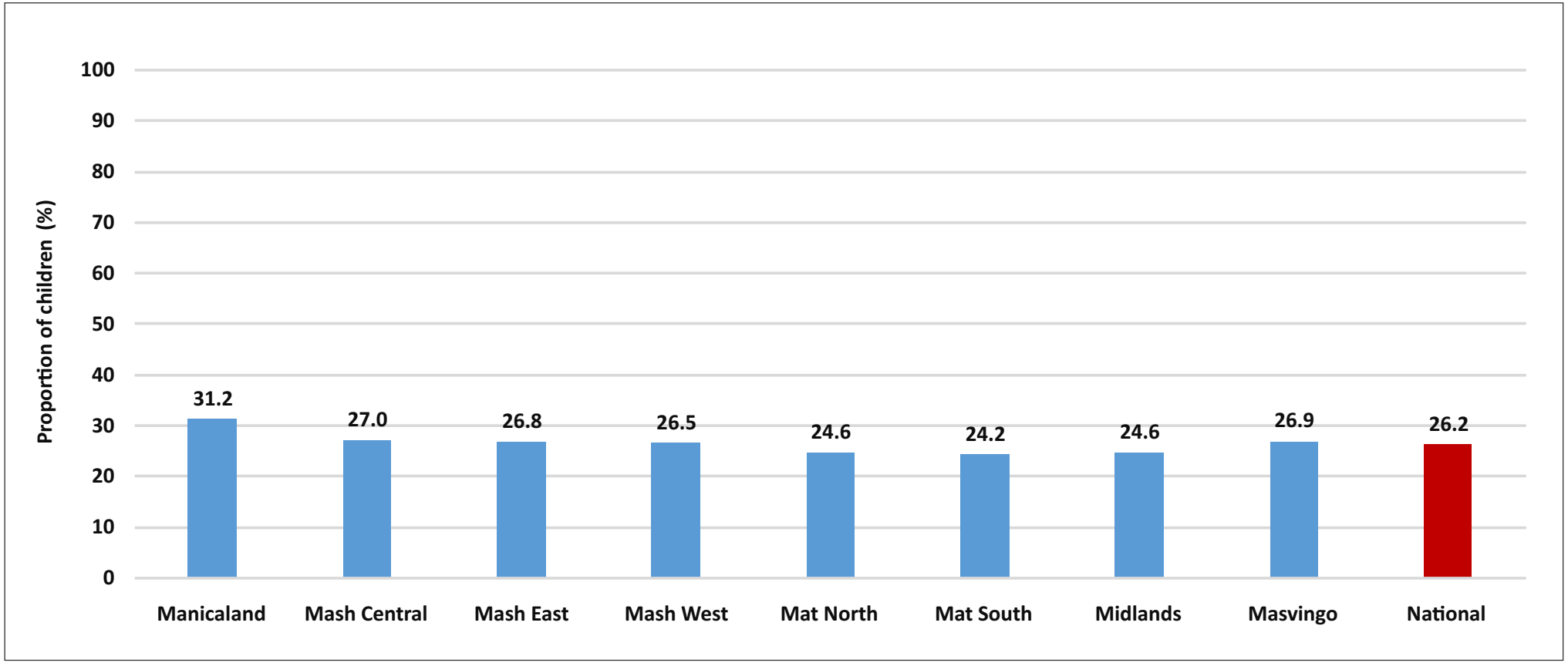
- A high proportion of children 6-8 months (71%) were timely introduced to complementary feeds.
- However, the quality and quantity of foods was not optimal for most children.

Child Nutrition Status

To assess the nutritional status (anthropometry) in children 0–59 months of age, focusing particularly on the prevalence of stunting, underweight, wasting and obesity especially in children 6 - 24 months

Indicator	National Prevalence (%)	WHO Prevalence cut-off values for public health significance
Underweight	**8.8**	< 10% Low Prevalence 10-19% Medium Prevalence 20-29 % High Prevalence ≥ 30% Very High Prevalence
Stunting	**26.2**	< 20% Low Prevalence 20-29% Medium Prevalence 30-39 % High Prevalence ≥ 40% Very High Prevalence
Wasting	**2.5**	< 5 % Acceptable 5-9% Poor 10-14 % Serious ≥ 15% Critical

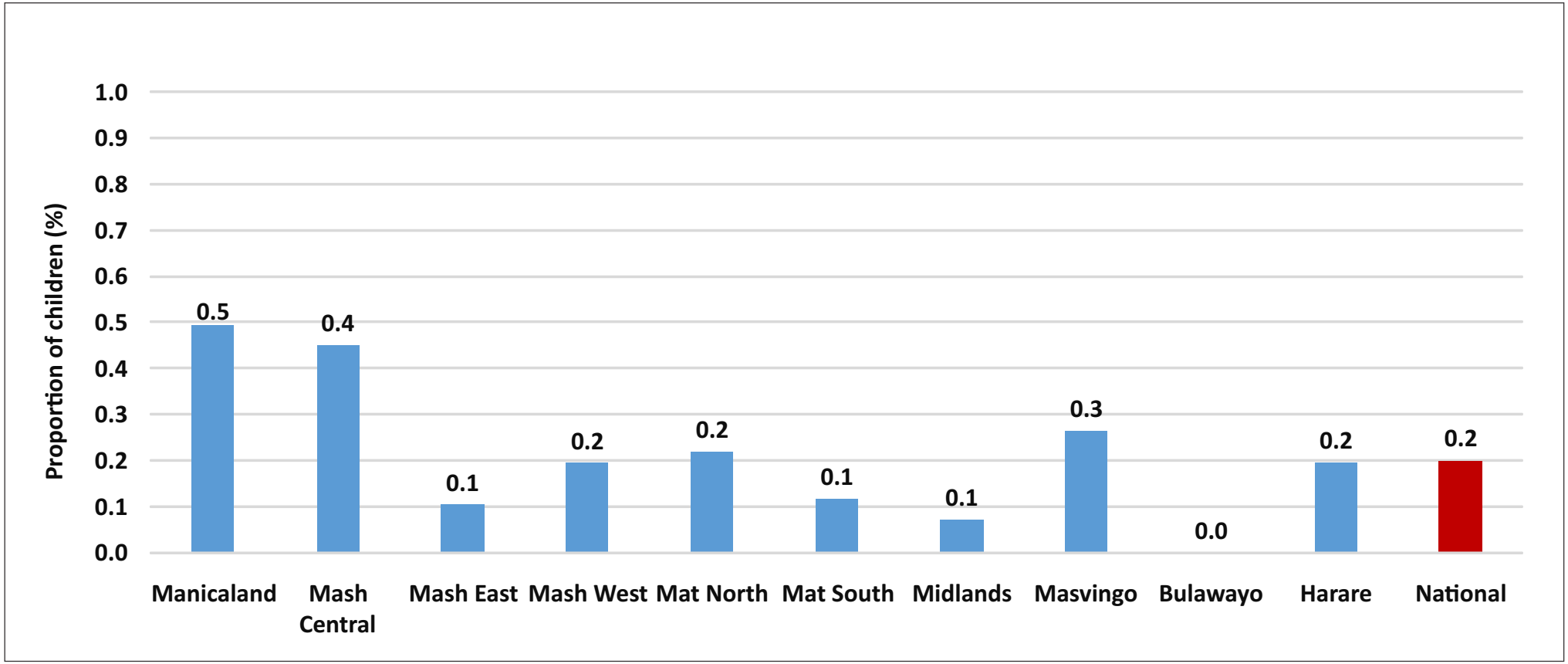
Stunting By Province



- The national stunting average was 26.2%; representing an improvement from the 2010 levels (33.8%).

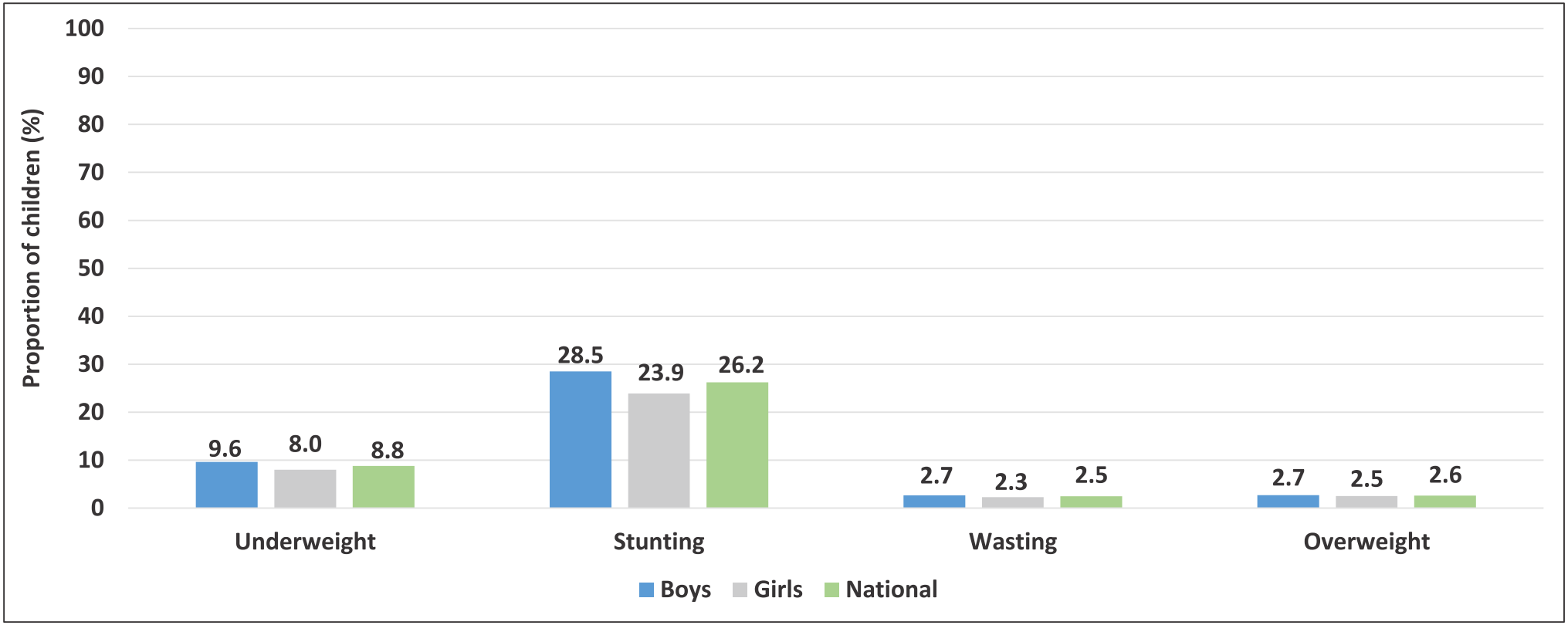
Severe Acute Malnutrition by Province

(WHO Standards)



- Nationally, Severe Acute malnutrition (SAM) was at 0.2%.
- The highest rate was recorded in Manicaland (0.5%) and 0% in Bulawayo.
- SAM burden was low and below global thresholds for emergencies

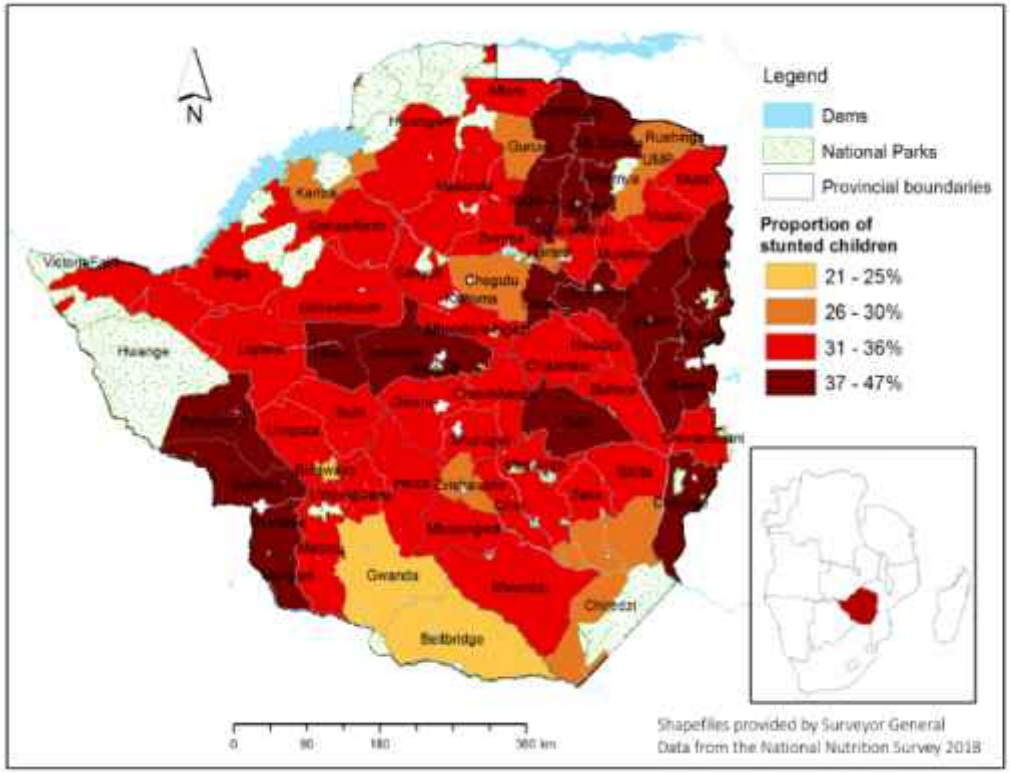
Nutrition Status by Sex of Child- 2018, NNS



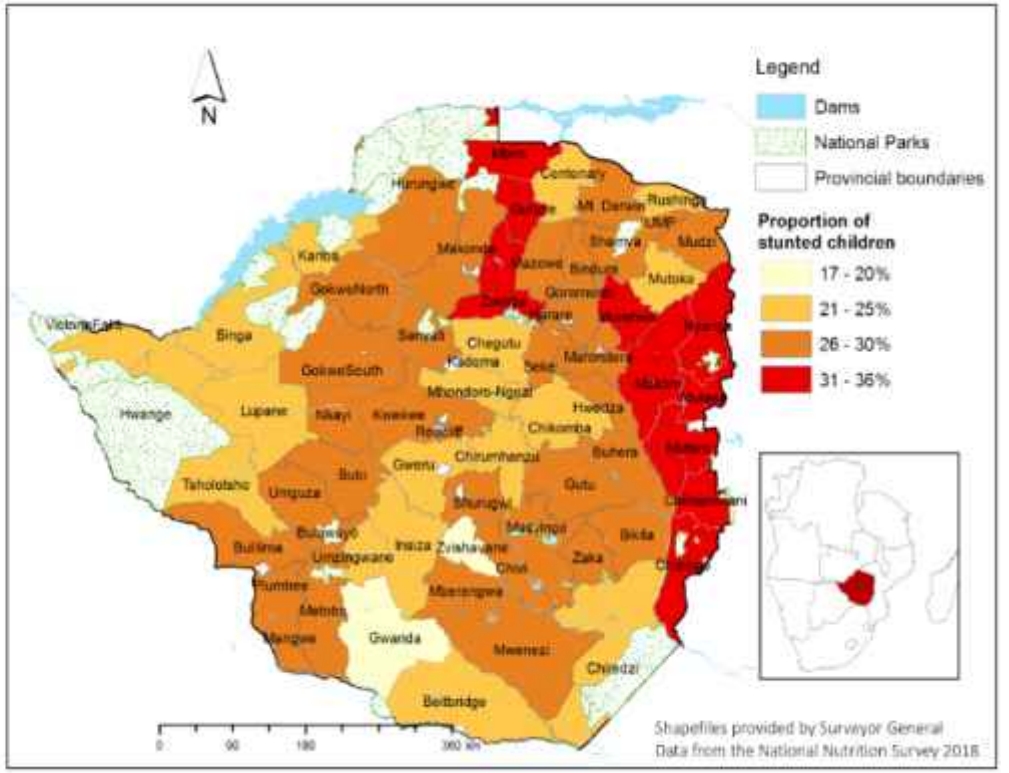
- Across all the assessed indices, malnutrition was higher in boys than in girls.
- This is similar to findings from the 2010 NNS.

Stunting Levels 2010 and 2018

Stunting Prevalence 2010



Stunting Prevalence 2018



- In line with the national trend, stunting prevalence is showing a general decline.
- Manicaland remains a hotspot for stunting in Zimbabwe.
- Although the districts have shown improvement from the 2010 levels, a lot still needs to be invested to get to the Malabo Declaration's 10% commitment by 2025.

Districts with the Highest Stunting Prevalence

District	NNS 2010 Stunting Prev	NNS 2018 Stunting Prev	District	NNS 2010 Stunting Prev	NNS 2018 Stunting Prev
Murewa	30.9	36.2	Goromonzi	35.8	29.9
Chimanimani	35	35.3	Bikita	32.3	29.9
Nyanga	46	33.3	Gokwe South	35.9	29.6
Makoni	38.7	31.9	Mazowe	40.8	28.9
Mutasa	40.1	31.4	Harare	28.7	28.9
Zvimba	35.3	30.7	Sanyati	31.7	28.9
Chipinge	38.1	30.5	Hurungwe	35.9	28.8
Guruve	29.9	30.5	Gutu	39.8	28.7
Mbire	33.6	30.4	Kwekwe	40.3	28.4
Mutare Rural	47.2	30.3	Hwedza	35.4	28.0

- Districts highlighted in green have recorded a high decrease in stunting prevalence compared to others. These include Nyanga, Makoni, Mutasa, Mutare rural, Mazowe, Gutu and Kwekwe.
- Murehwa district reported an increase in the stunting level as compared to 2010.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Global Goals, Targets and Indicators for Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

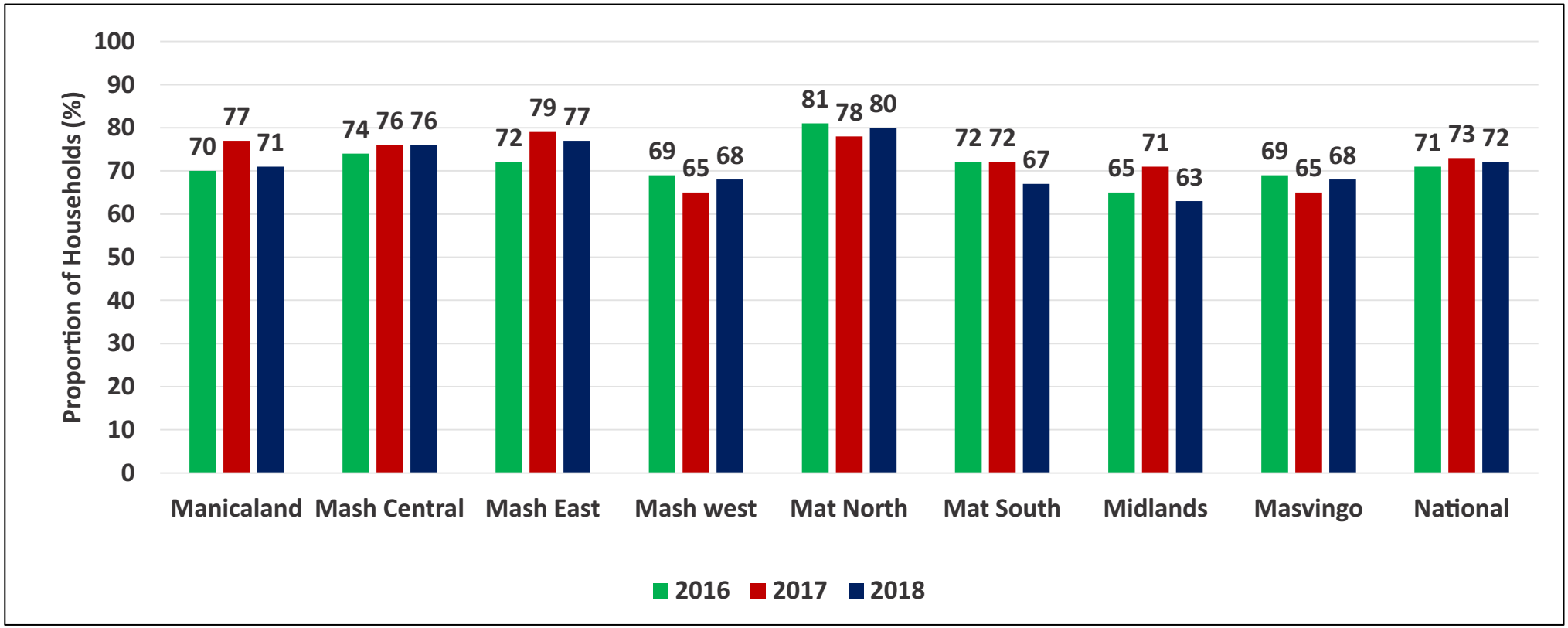
WASH SECTOR GOAL	SDG GLOBAL TARGET	SDG GLOBAL INDICATOR
Ending open Defecation.	6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all **and end open defecation**, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.	6.2.1 Population **practising open Defecation.**
Achieving universal access to basic services.	1.4 By 2030, ensure all men and women, in particular the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as **access to basic services.**	1.4.1 Population living in households with access to basic services (including **basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene**).
Progress towards safely managed Services.	6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access **to safe and affordable drinking water for all.** 6.2 By 2030, achieve access to **adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene** for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.	6.1.1 Population using **safely managed drinking water Services.** 6.2.1 Population **using safely managed sanitation services.** 6.2.1 Population with a basic **handwashing facility** with soap and water available on premises.

Ladder for Drinking Water Services

Service Level	Definition
Safely Managed	Drinking water from an improved water source that is located on premises, available when needed and free from faecal and priority chemical contamination.
Basic Drinking Water	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.
Limited Drinking Water Services	Limited water services are defined as drinking water from an improved source, where collection time exceeds 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queuing.
Unimproved Water Sources	Drinking water from an unprotected dug well or unprotected spring.
Surface Water Sources	Drinking water directly from a river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal or irrigation channel.

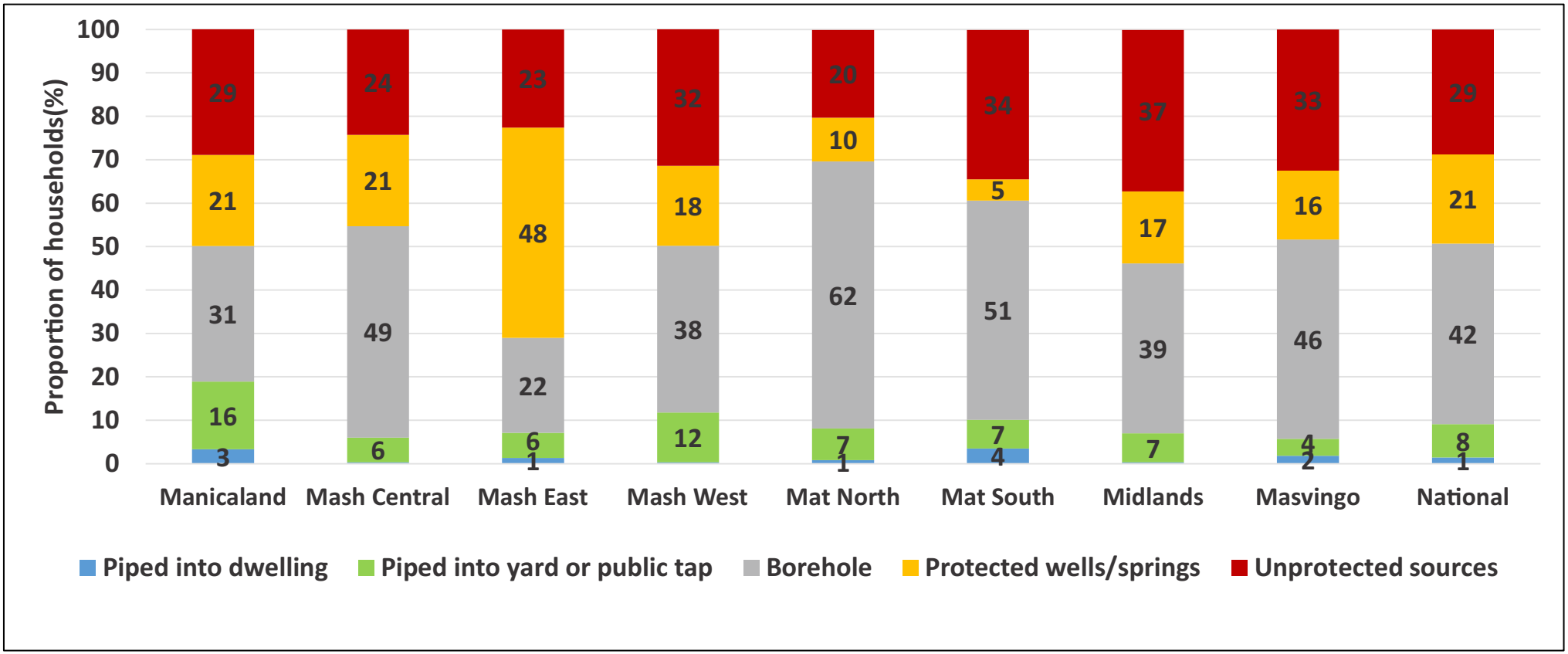
Note :
"Improved" drinking water sources are further defined by the quality of the water they produce, and are protected from faecal contamination by the nature of their construction or through an intervention to protect from outside contamination. Such sources include: piped water into dwelling, plot, 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



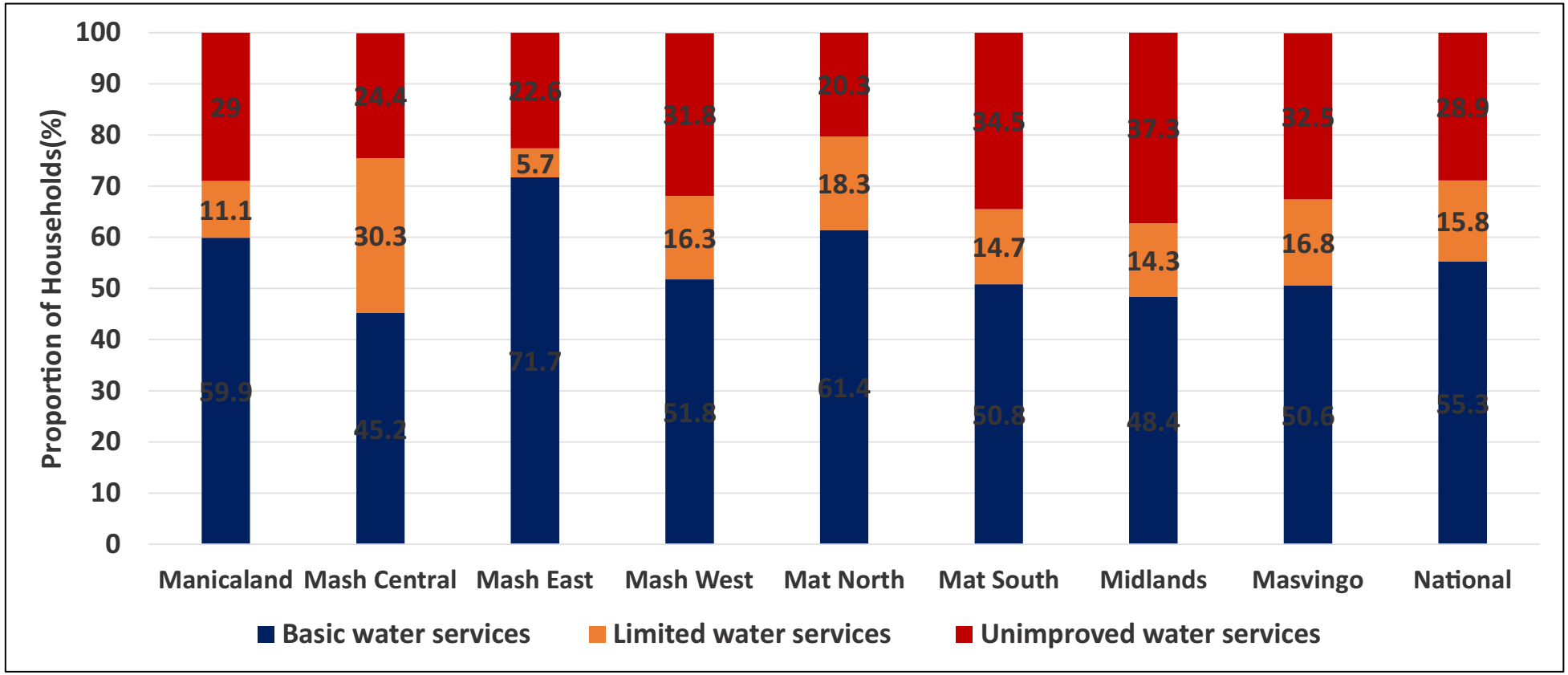
- Improved water incorporates water sources from safely managed, basic and limited water services.
- Access to improved drinking water has remained constant for the past 3 years , 2016 (71%), 2017 (73%) and 2018 (72%).
- The 28% of households drinking from unimproved water sources remain worrisome.

Drinking Water Sources



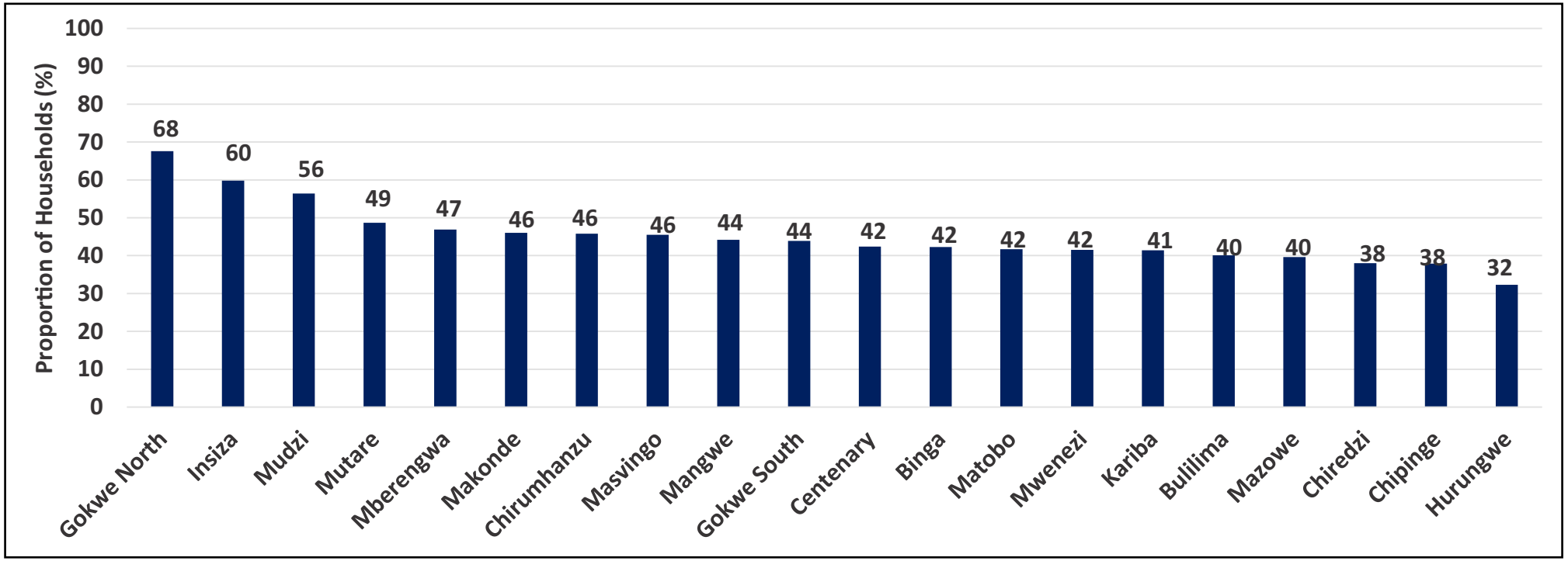
- A total of 29% of the households were accessing water from unprotected drinking water sources.
- The highest proportion of households accessing drinking water from unprotected sources was in Midlands (37%) and the lowest was in Matabeleland North (20%).
- Generally most households access their drinking water from protected sources.

Main Drinking Water Services



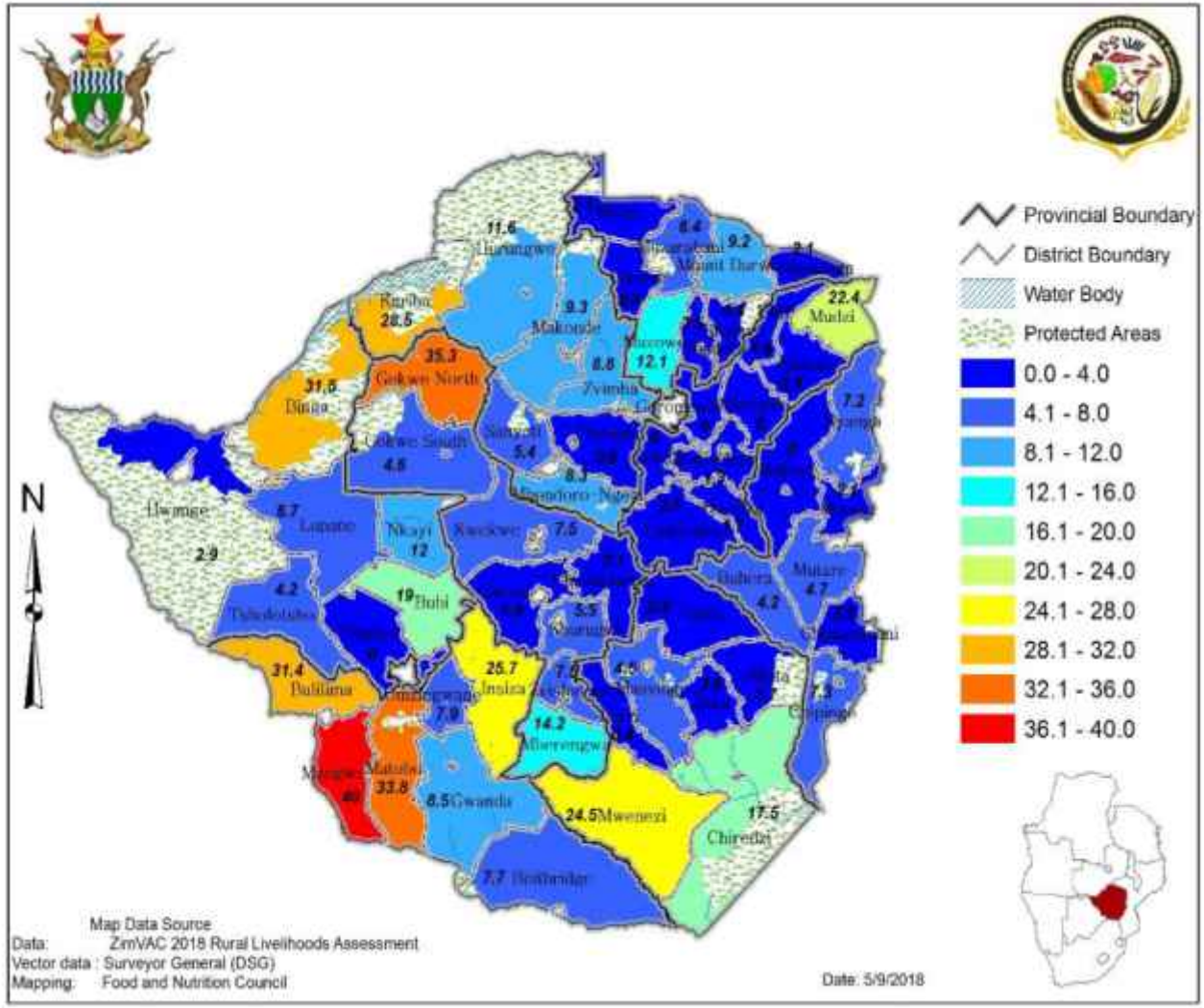
- About 29% households were accessing water from unimproved services.
- Mashonaland East had the highest (71.7%) proportion of households using basic water services.
- Midlands (37.3%) had the highest proportion of households using water from unimproved services.
- To meet the SDG6 target for universal access to basic water services there is need to invest heavily in improving water services in all provinces.

Top 20 Districts with Households Using Unprotected Water Sources



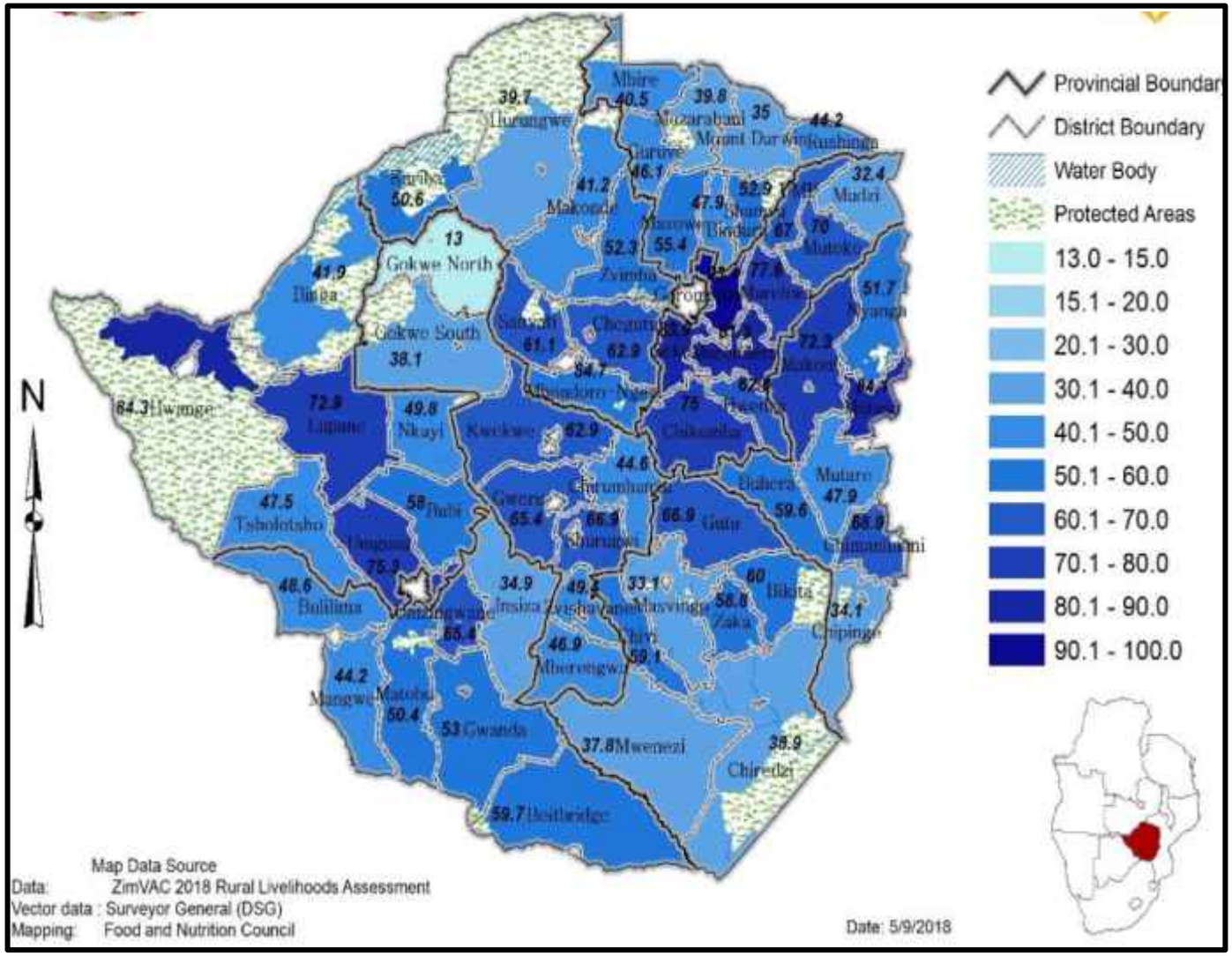
- Gokwe North (68%) had the highest proportion of households using unprotected water sources.
- Use of water from unprotected water sources poses a serious health threat to communities.

Households Drinking Surface Water by District



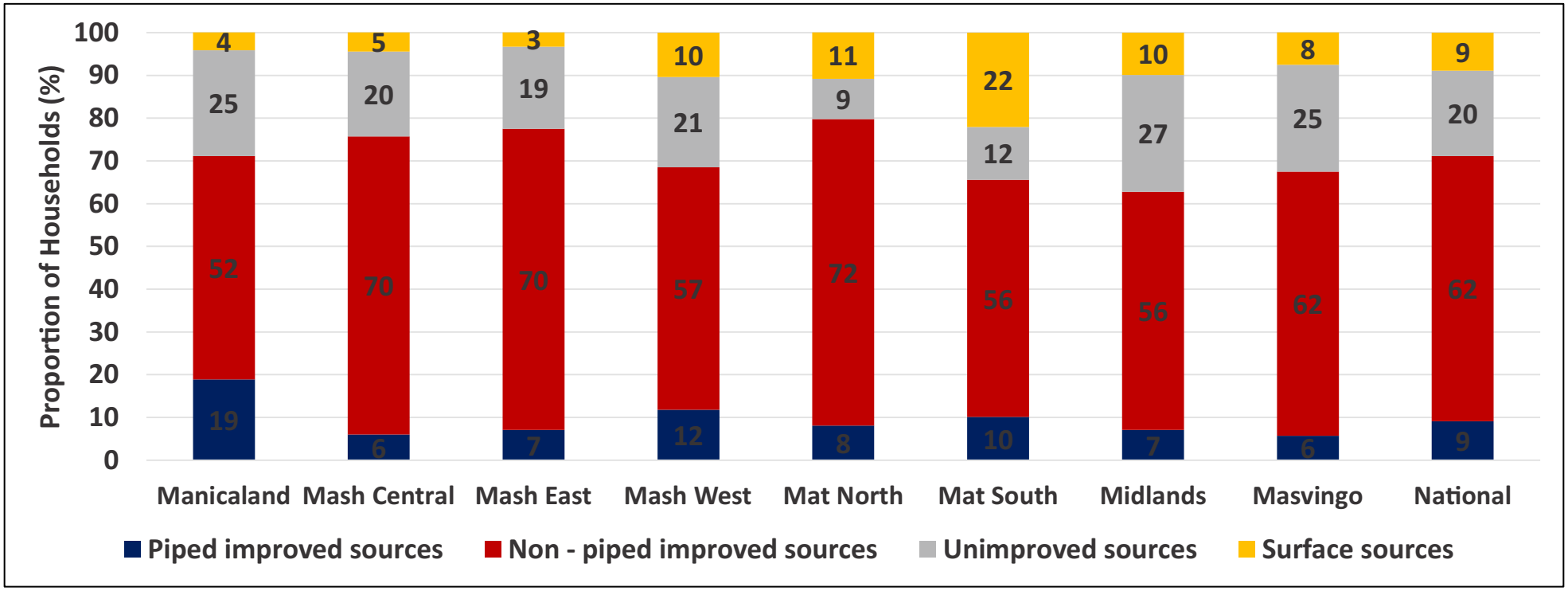
- Mangwe (40%) had the highest proportion of households drinking water from surface sources such as dams, rivers, lakes and ponds.
- The other districts above 30% were Gokwe North, Matobo, Bulilima and Binga.
- These districts were at risk because surface water sources are easily polluted or contaminated with chemicals, faecal matter and microorganisms that cause waterborne diseases.

Basic Water Services by District



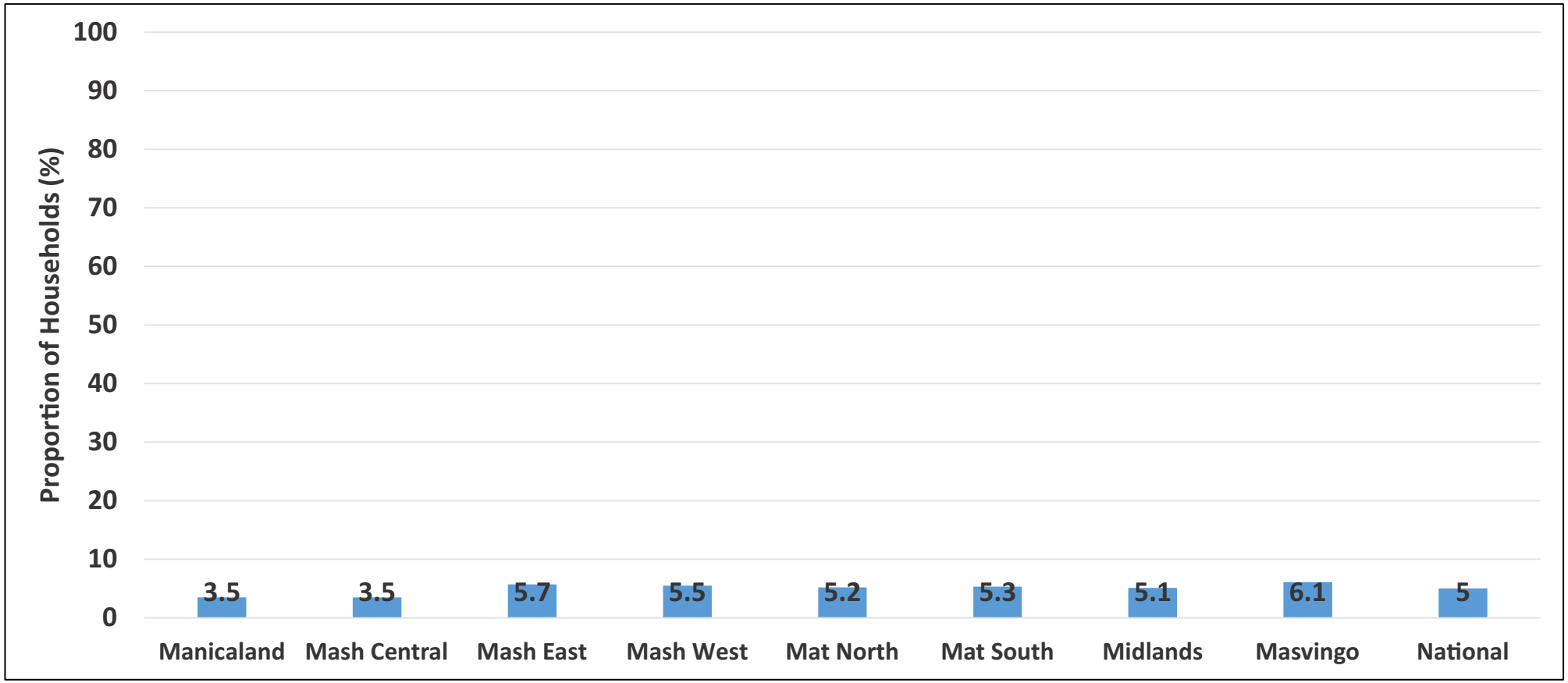
- Gokwe North (13%) had the least basic water services.

Alternative Water Sources



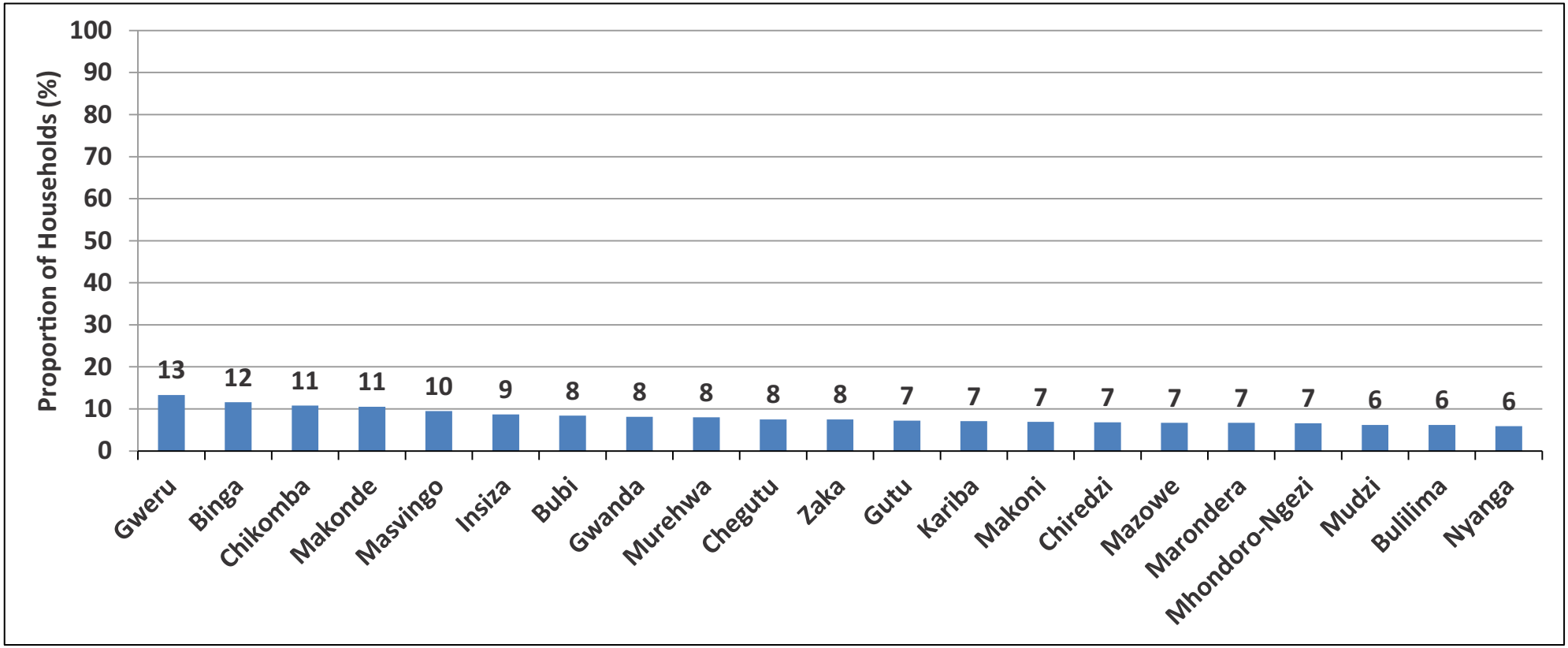
- About 71% of the households had access to alternative drinking water from improved sources.
- Matabeleland North (80%) had the highest proportion of households accessing alternative drinking water from improved sources whilst Midlands (63%) had the least.
- Matabeleland South (22%) had the highest proportion of households accessing alternative water from surface sources.

Water Treatment



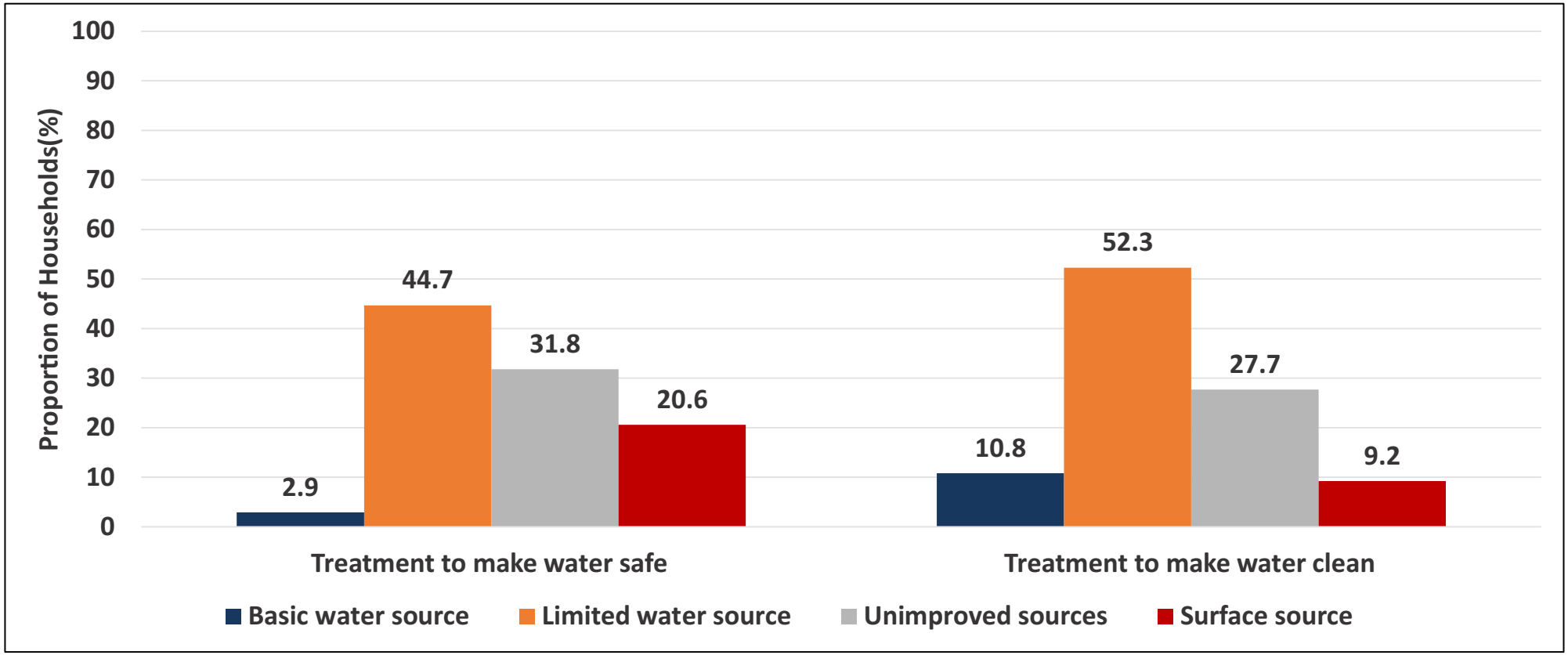
- Only 5% of the households treated their water before use.
- Masvingo (6.1%) had the highest proportion of households treating their water before use whilst Mashonaland Central and Manicaland had the least (3.5%).
- Untreated water increases the chances of diarrhoeal diseases hence the population accessing unimproved and surface water sources remains at risk.

Top 20 Districts Treating Water from Main Source



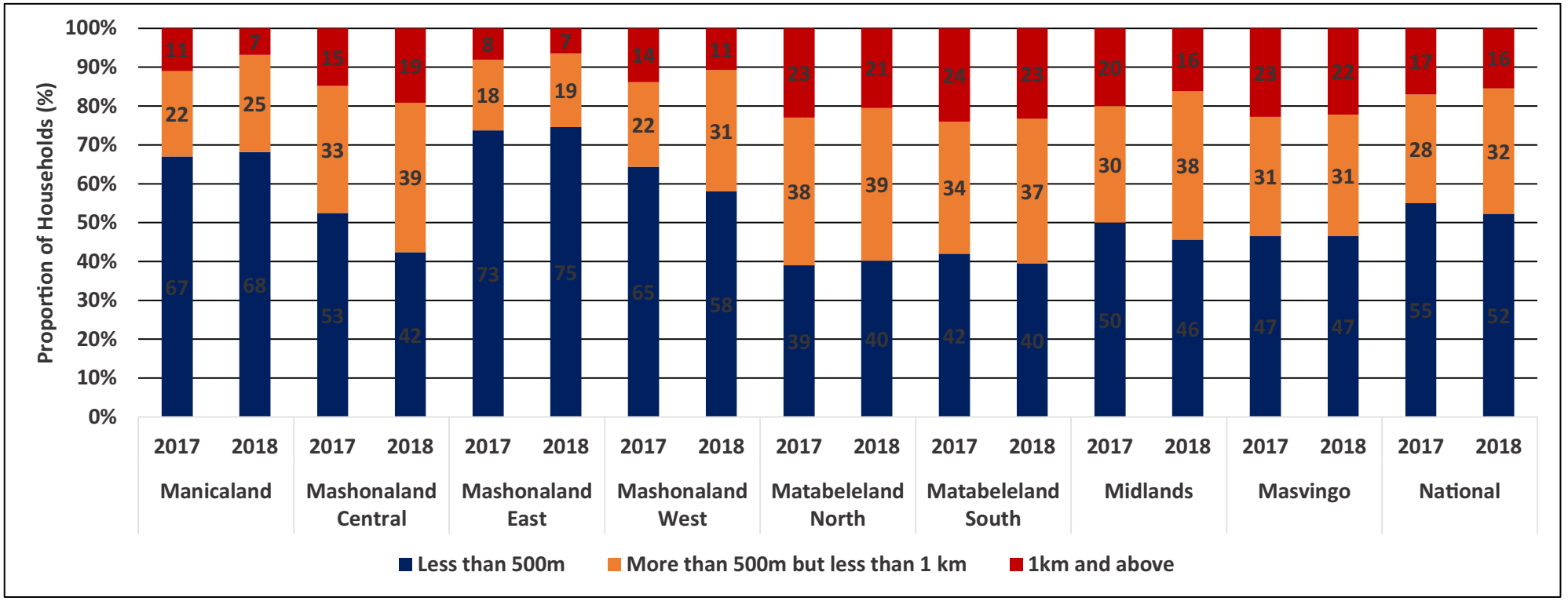
- Treating water from main sources remained low across most districts hence this is a cause for concern.

Water Treatment According to Water Sources



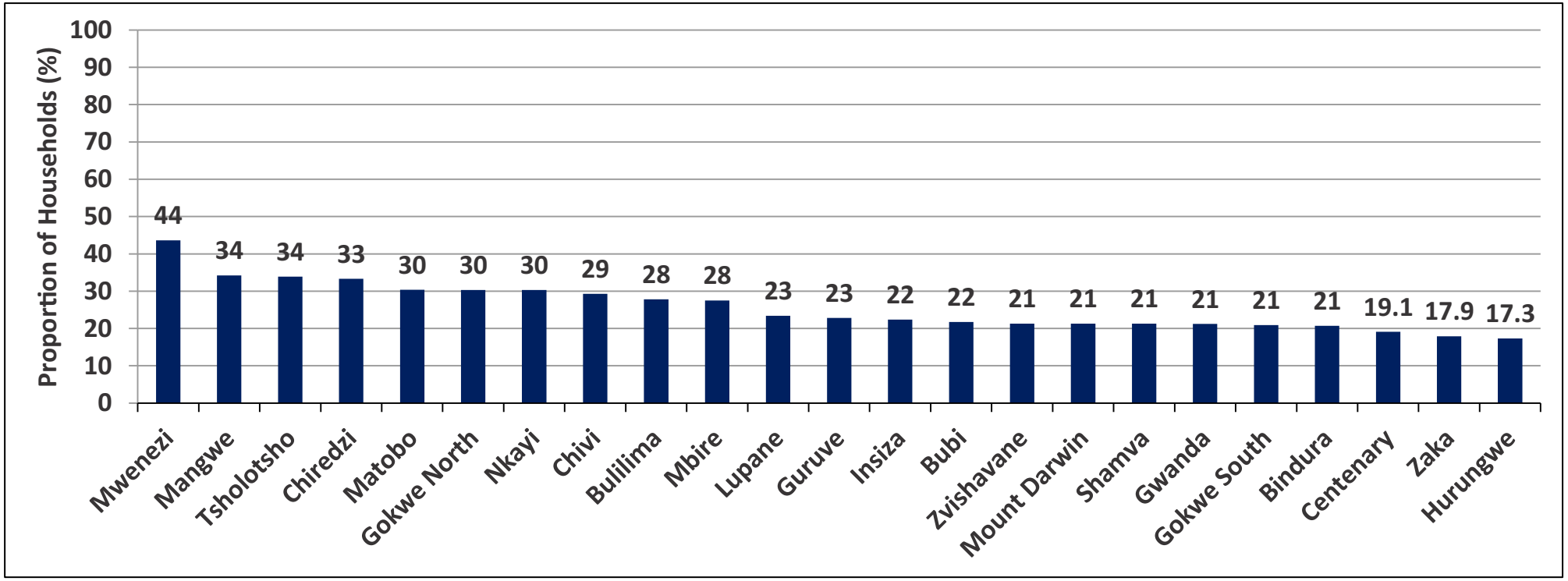
- The majority of households treated water from limited sources to make it safe (44.7%) and to make it clean (52.3%).
- Water from basic water sources was the least treated.

Distance Travelled to Main Water Source



- According to the Sphere Standards, the maximum distance that any household should travel to the nearest water point is 500m.
- At least 52% of households travelled less than 500m to the nearest water source, with 16% travelling more than 1 km.

Top 20 Districts Travelling more than 1km to Water Points



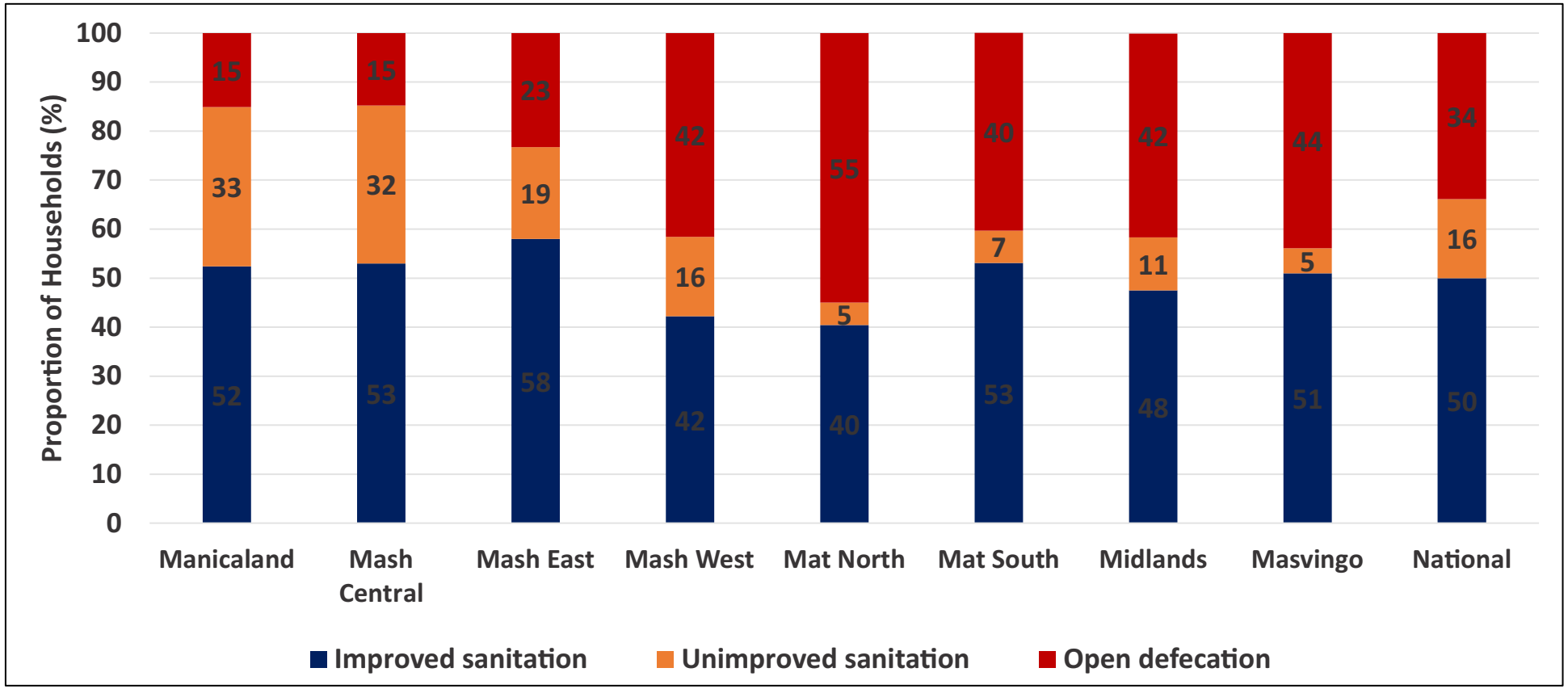
- Mwenezi (44%) had the highest proportion of households travelling for more than 1 kilometre to access water points.

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.

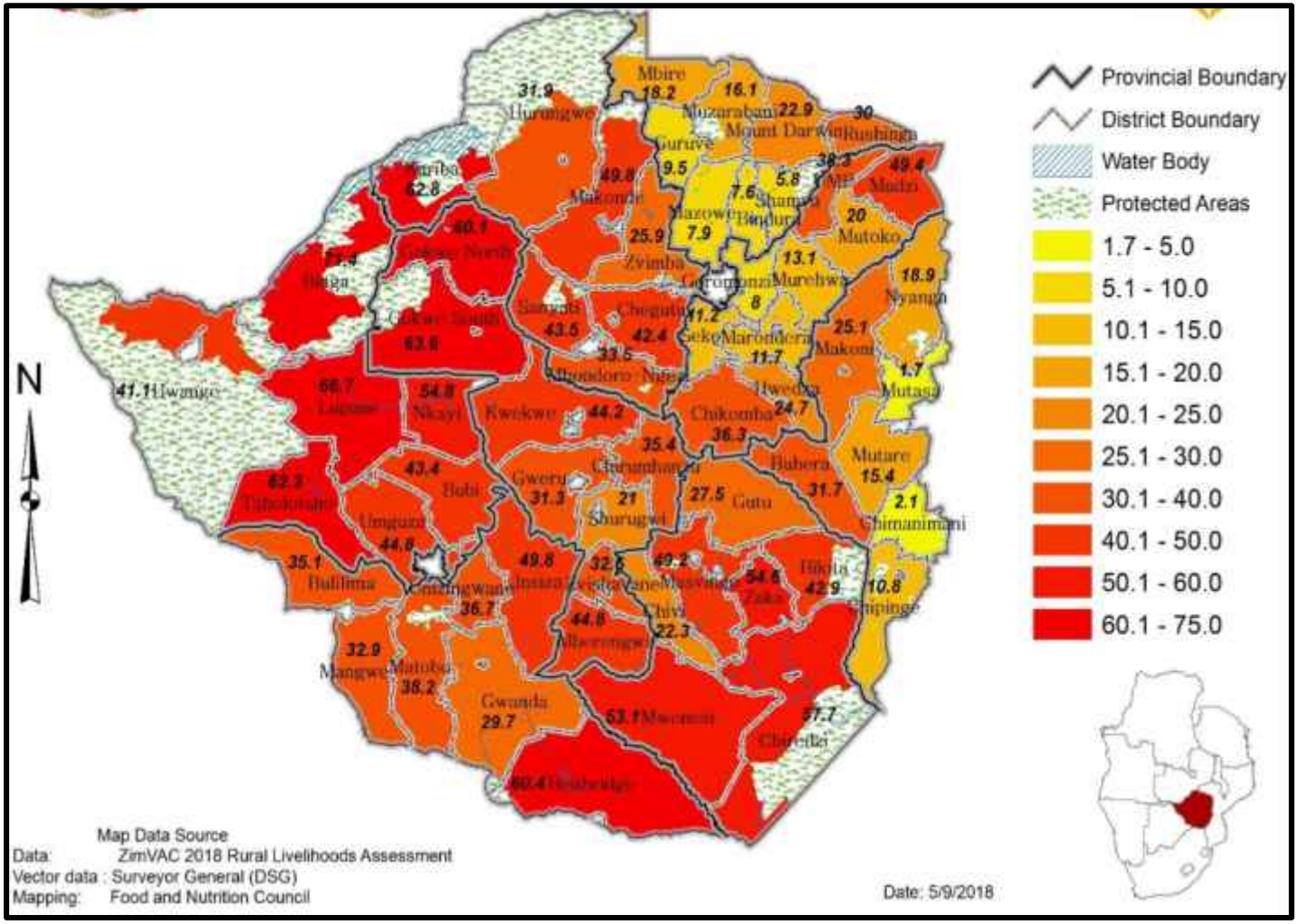
Note: Improved sanitation facilities: Facilities that ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact. They include flush or pour flush toilet/latrine, Blair ventilated improved pit (BVIP), pit latrine with slab and upgradeable Blair latrine.

Household Sanitation Facilities



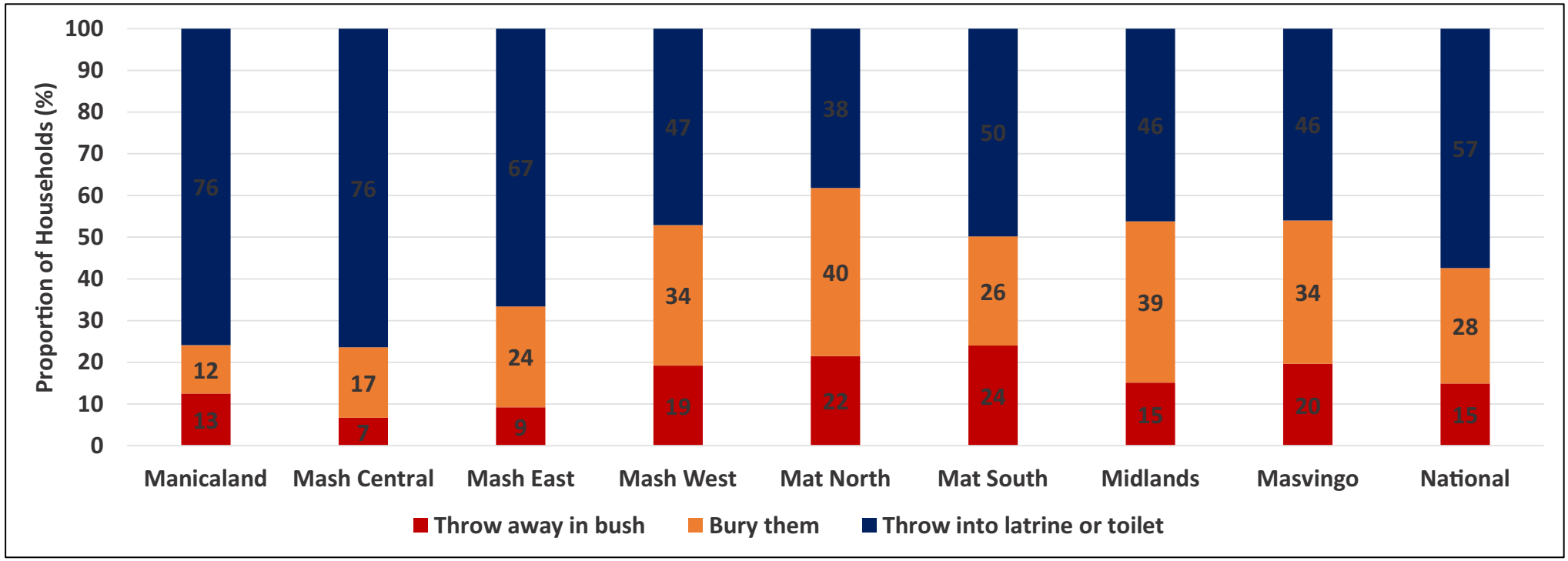
- The proportion of households which accessed improved sanitation facilities was 50%, leaving half the population vulnerable to diarrheal diseases.
- Matabeleland North (40%) had the lowest proportion of households with access to improved sanitation.
- Open defecation was more prevalent in Matabeleland North at 55%.

Open Defecation by District



- Investment in sanitation facilities remained low in the rural areas.
- Open defecation was most prevalent in Matabeleland North.
- Results show that 11 districts were above the national average (50%), and these were Binga, Lupane, Kariba, Gokwe North, Zaka, Gokwe South, Nkayi, Beitbridge, Mwenezi, Chiredzi and Tsholotsho.
- These results were consistent with the findings of the 2018 National Nutrition Survey.

Methods of Stool Disposal for Children



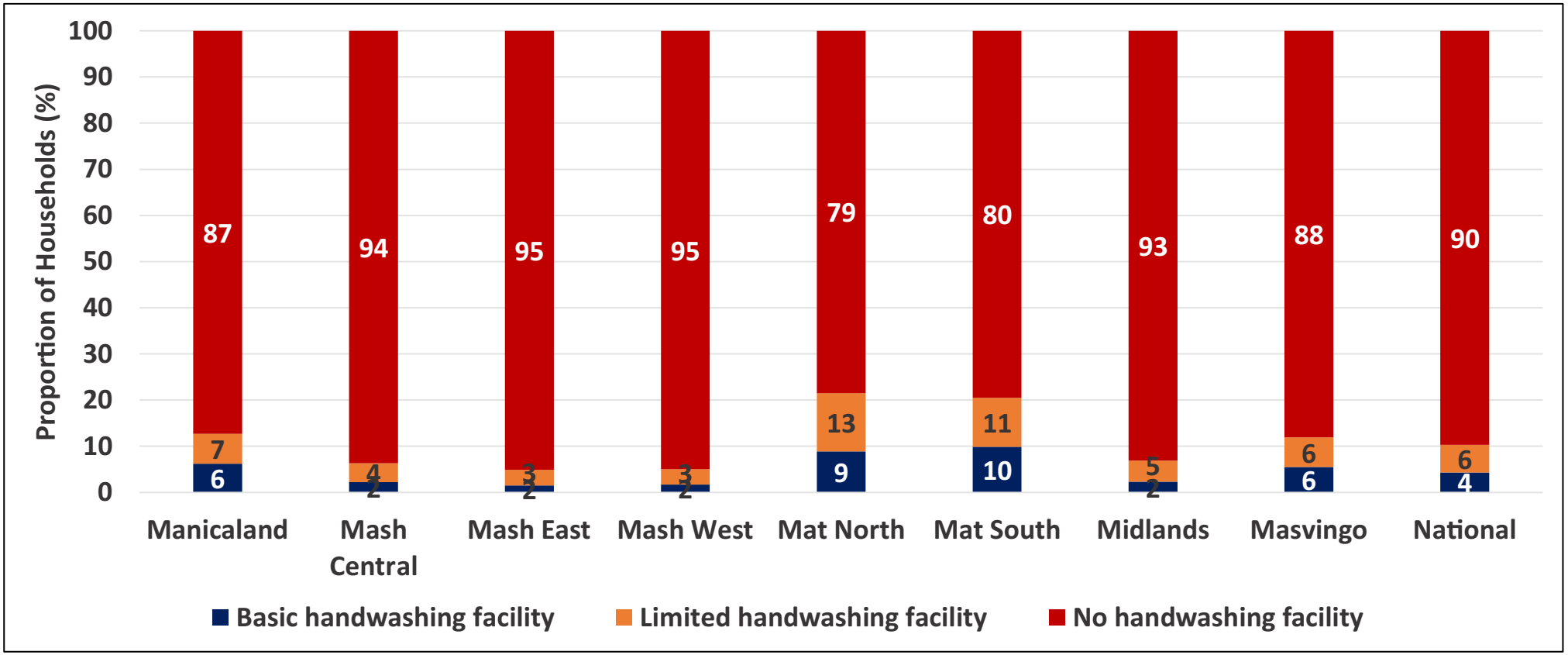
- The most common method of disposing of children`s stool was throwing into toilet/latrine (57%).
- Matabeleland South (24%) had the highest proportion of households which disposed children`s stools into the bush.

Ladder for Hygiene

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

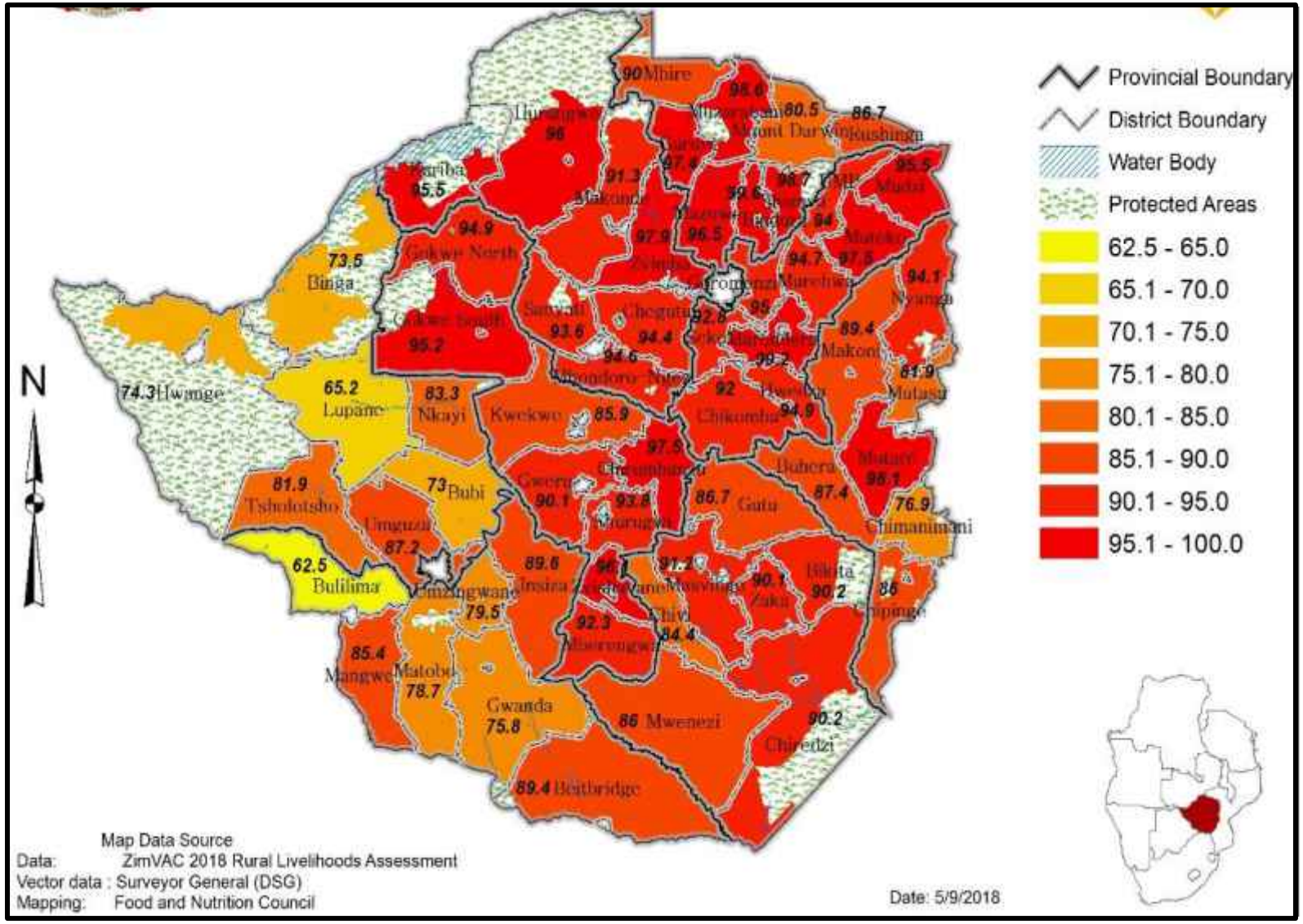
Note: handwashing facilities may be fixed or mobile and include a sink with tap water, buckets with taps, tippy taps, and jugs or basins designated for hand washing. Soap includes bar soap, liquid soap, powdered detergents and soapy water but does not include sand, soil, ash and other handwashing agents.

Availability of Handwashing Facilities



- A worrisome 90% of the households had no handwashing facilities.
- The Mashonalands and Midlands provinces had proportions above the national average.
- Handwashing has a direct impact on infectious disease, especially diarrhoea.

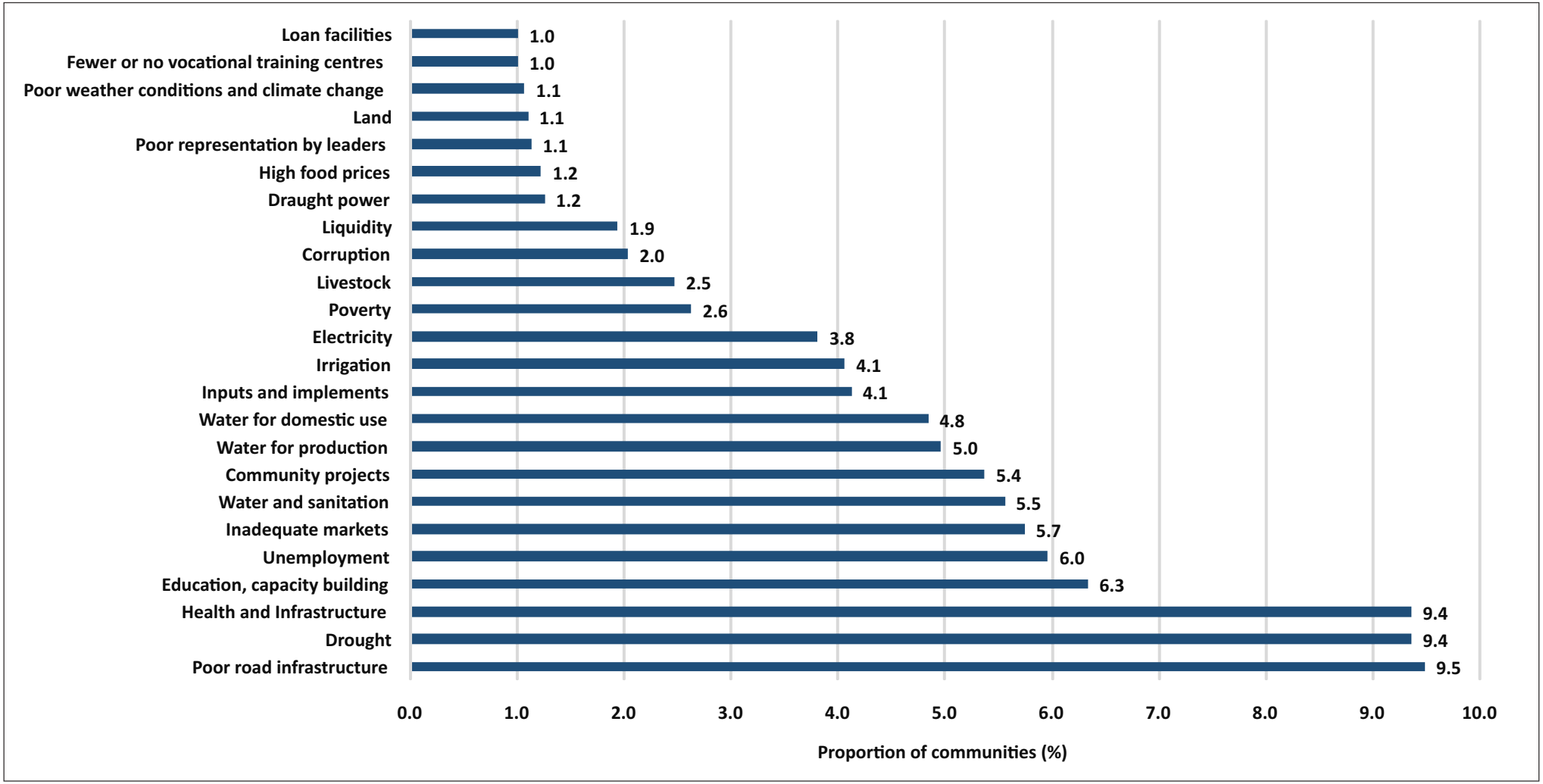
Non-availability of Handwashing Facilities by District



- Bulilima had 62.5% of households without handwashing facilities.
- The issue of handwashing facilities needs to be prioritised in order to meet the SDG 6 target of universal access to handwashing facilities.

Community Development Challenges and Development Priorities

Community Development Challenges



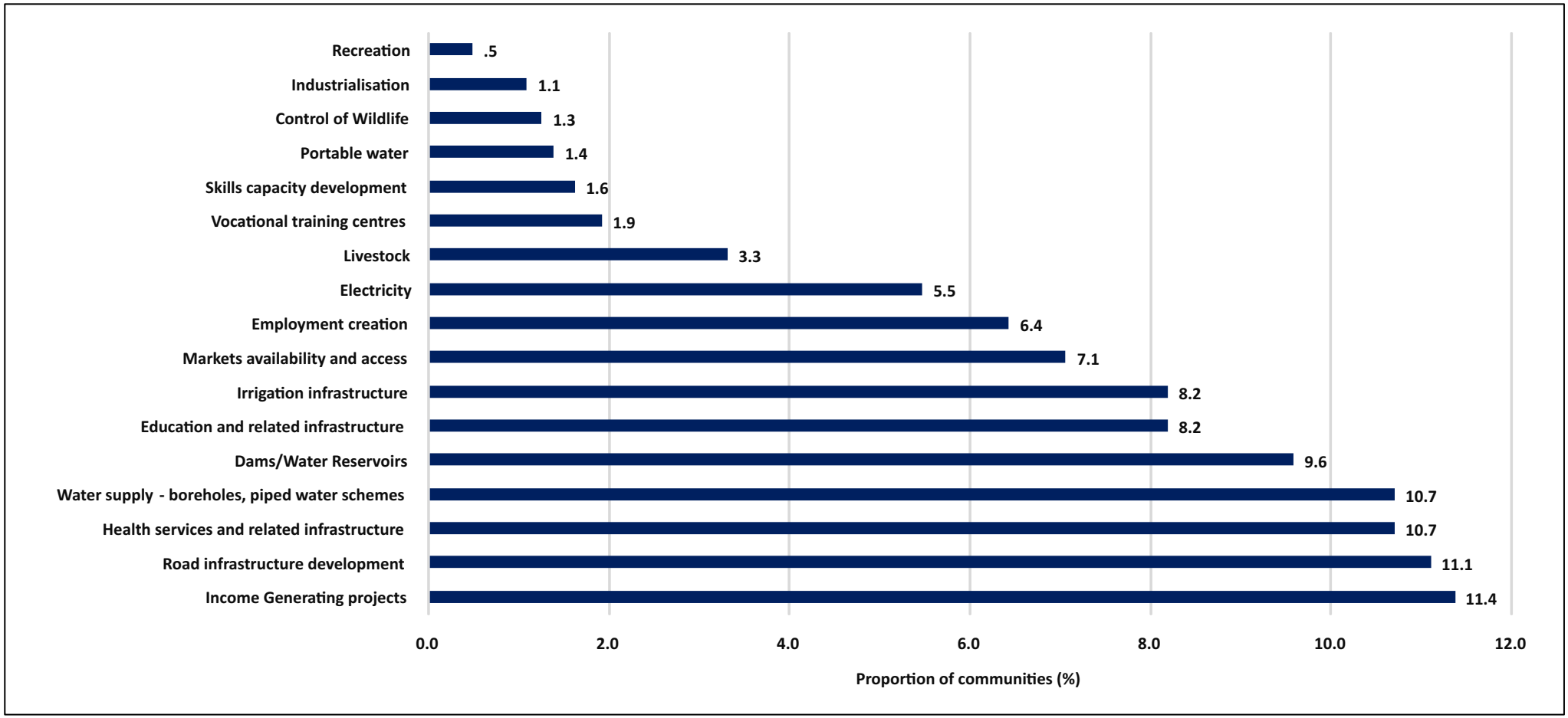
- Most communities indicated poor road infrastructure (9.5%), health infrastructure and drought (9.4%) as major development challenges.

Community Challenges by Province

	Manicaland	Mash Central	Mash East	Mash West	Mat North	Mat South	Midlands	Masvingo
Community projects	4.5	6	3.8	5.8	8.9	4.1	3.3	7.1
Corruption	1.3	3.1	3.8	1.7	0.8	1.1	2	2
Draught power	0.8	1.6	1.1	1.4	1	0.8	0.4	3
Drought	7.5	7.2	10.4	6.1	7.6	11.6	13.7	9.6
Education, capacity building	4.8	5.8	5.5	9.2	8.1	6.5	6.8	4.9
Electricity	7	2.7	4	4.8	2.6	4.3	2.2	3.4
Fewer or no vocational training centres	1	0.4	1.5	0.7	1.8	2.4	0.2	
Health and Infrastructure	8.5	8.9	10.6	8.9	11.2	9.2	9.5	7.9
High food prices	1.8	0.2	2.4	2.7	0.8	1.6	0.2	0.5
Inadequate markets	8	6	5.5	3.4	3.7	4.3	6.2	7.9
Inputs and implements	6.3	5.1	4.9	6.1	1	1.1	3.3	5.2
Irrigation	6.3	2.9	3.8	1.7	5.5	4.1	4.8	3
Land	1	2.5	1.5	2.7	0.5	0.5	0	0.2
Liquidity	1	1.3	4.9	1	0.5	1.4	3.1	1.5
Livestock	1.8	1.6	3.3	4.1	1.8	2.7	3.7	1
Loan facilities	1	0.9	1.3	1.4	1		1.1	1.2
Poor representation by leaders	0.8	1.6	0.7		0.8	1.1	0.9	3
Poor road infrastructure	8.5	6.9	9.5	12.3	8.6	10.5	10.6	9.6
Poor weather conditions and climate change	0.3	2.2	0.9	0.3	1	1.4		2.2
Poverty	4.5	2.2	3.1	3.8	1.3	2.4	2.4	1.5
Unemployment	7.8	4	5.7	4.1	7.8	6.8	5.1	6.4
Water and sanitation	2.8	8.3	4.2	8.5	6.8	4.1	5.3	4.9
Water for domestic use	3.5	5.4	2.2	5.5	5.7	7.6	5.7	3.7
Water for production	5.3	4.9	2.4	2	6.8	5.7	7.7	4.2

- Midlands and Matabeleland South reported drought as their major development challenge (13.7% and 11.6%) respectively.
- Poor road infrastructure and health infrastructure were highlighted as major community challenges being faced across all provinces.

Community Development Priorities



- Communities identified income generating projects and road infrastructure development (11.4% and 11.1% respectively) as their major development priorities.

Development Priorities by Province

	Manicaland	Mash Central	Mash East	Mash West	Mat North	Mat South	Midlands	Masvingo
Control of Wildlife	0.3	2.4	0.5	0.4	1.1	3.3	0.7	1
Dams/Water Reservoirs	9	9.2	8.4	8.4	14.2	7.5	14.9	4.8
Education and related infrastructure	7	8.3	7.6	11.3	9.4	7.2	8.3	7.4
Electricity	8.7	5.4	6.7	4.4	4.5	4.7	3.7	5.6
Employment creation	8.4	6.1	7.4	4.7	7.5	7.5	4.6	5.1
Health services and related infrastructure	9.6	10.4	10.3	12.4	9.9	9.7	10.7	12.9
Income Generating projects	12.1	12.1	11.7	9.5	10.4	10.3	11	13.5
Industrialisation	3.7	0.5	1.4	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5
Irrigation infrastructure	8.7	5.7	9.5	6.2	7.5	8.3	7.6	11.7
Livestock	2.2	2.4	3.1	4	2.7	4.2	5.9	2.3
Markets availability and access	7.6	8.7	7.9	5.5	5.3	7.2	5.1	8.6
Portable water	2.2	3.5		1.8	0.3	0.6	0.7	2
Recreation	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.6		0.3
Road infrastructure development	9.8	9.7	10.3	13.9	10.7	10.6	13.4	11.2
Skills capacity development	1.7	0.7	3.1	2.6	1.3	1.7	0.2	2
Vocational training centres	1.1	1.2	2.6	2.2	2.9	3.6	0.7	1.3
Water supply - boreholes, piped water schemes	6.7	13.5	9.1	10.9	10.7	12.5	12	9.9

- Midlands and Matabeleland North cited that dams/water reservoirs as their major development priority (14.9% and 14.2%) respectively.
- Income generating projects, road and health infrastructure were the mostly ranked development priorities for the rural communities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Zimbabwe should develop the National Framework for Climate Services to enable improved coordination, collaboration, funding, production of demand driven products and services across the various sectors of disaster management, water, energy and agriculture and food security.

- There is need to ensure timely dissemination of the seasonal forecast (long range) and regular medium range forecast information to farmers using various information platforms to facilitate preparedness.

- 27% of children continue to be turned away from school for non payment of fees. There is need to enforce the existing policies and circular within the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education. This calls for enhanced monitoring of the implementation of the existing policy on universal education and its complementary policy that no child should be denied access to schooling for failure to pay school fees. There is need for the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare to increase the Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM) coverage especially towards secondary education.

- There is a low proportion of children aged 4-6 years (49.6%) attending ECD across all provinces. The Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education needs to come up with community outreach programmes to sensitise communities on the importance of ECD education. This should be complemented by the establishment of ECD centres within the communities.

- The Government is commended for providing the greatest support to households (67%). However, there is need to also give more attention to WASH (7%). Attention to livestock can be given through increasing support to strategies that promote livelihoods of livestock farmers (e.g. command Livestock).

Conclusions and Recommendations

- The flow of remittances from outside Zimbabwe was low across all provinces (8%) compared to previous consumption years. Matabeleland South had the highest proportion of households receiving remittances from outside Zimbabwe (21%). The Ministry of Finance needs to scale up initiatives that promote the flow of foreign currency into the country such as the Diaspora Remittance Incentive Scheme.

- During the 2017/18 season, the proportion of households whose crops were affected by the fall armyworm increased as compared to the previous season. Effectiveness of control measures is still low and there is still no registered chemical to control the worm. There is need for relevant research institutions in the country to continue researching on the appropriate chemicals to be used by farming households to control the worm. Research Institutions also need to determine effective and sustainable ways of controlling the pests.

- The proportion of households that grew the major food crops and cash crops decreased as compared to last season. Considering that there was a late start of the season in some parts of the country, erratic rainfall during the first part of the season as well as the January dry spell which affected crop production, there is need to promote climate smart agriculture.

- Average household production decreased this season. Furthermore, as of 1 April, household cereal stocks were lower as compared to the same time last year.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Most rural households tend to use ordinary rooms for storage of cereals and pulses (over 70%). More efforts should be directed towards raising awareness on the use of proper grain drying facilities and use of improved grain storage structures. There is also need for awareness and education by the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement on standard post harvest management practices.

- A higher proportion of households (64%) were not aware of the health risks associated with consuming contaminated cereals and pulses. The Ministry of Health and Child Care and the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement should combine efforts to increase awareness of health effects of consuming contaminated cereals and pulses.

- The findings show that the production and consumption of bio-fortified crops is low across all provinces. Most households were found not to be consuming and producing bio-fortified crops despite efforts and resources that are being directed towards promotion of the crops. Given that micronutrient deficiencies are still a major public health concern in the country, there is need to scale up nutrition sensitive agriculture programing so as to stimulate production and consumption.

- Evidence suggests that there is limited contact between extension service providers and farmers. This calls for a robust agricultural extension support mechanism through in-service staff training as well as provision of motor bikes and vehicles to improve staff mobility. The use of IT platforms as well as other communication channels to improve provision of extension services is also recommended.

- Government through the GMB should prioritise moving grain to the areas reporting high prices to improve access by households.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- It is worrisome that about 68.9% of the rural households did not own any cattle and 56% did not own goats. There is need to come up with strategies such as the Command Livestock Programme to increase livestock ownership. These strategies should ensure inclusion of smallholder farmers since livestock ownership was found in this assessment to strengthen absorptive resilience capacities.

- There are a number of partial and non functional irrigation schemes and most irrigation schemes in the drier regions have functionality challenges. There is need to intensify irrigation rehabilitation after detailed feasibility studies to identify appropriate irrigation technologies.

- Generally, incomes for rural households are following a downward trend, it is therefore recommended that some income generating projects be initiated in the rural areas.

- Casual labour (26%) and food crop production (22%) were reported as the most important sources of income for rural households. As these sources are vulnerable to the vagaries of climate change and variability, there is need to promote income diversification for rural households.

- More efforts should be directed towards formation of ISALs and strategies to improve financial inclusion in the rural areas. The Ministry of Women Affairs and the Ministry of Youth Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of SMEs should take a leading role in supporting formation of ISALs and accessibility of loans to rural communities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Most households were not consuming quality diets that are adequate to meet their micronutrient requirements. A multisectoral approach to address and strengthen interventions to enhance the nutritional content of family diets is required. Strategies to employ include production of diverse plant and animal food sources, promotion of consumption of diverse diets and value addition of locally available foods.

- Cash shortages continue to be a rising shock in rural areas. Development efforts on rural financial inclusion should make deliberate efforts to extend and upscale electronic/cashless transactions in rural areas. This should be complemented by the availing of the requisite infrastructure, hardware and software.

- There is need to scale up community based resilience building programmes to enable communities to cope with future shocks and hazards. Particular focus should be put on diversifying livelihoods and creating an enabling environment.

- Nationally, High Blood Pressure was reported in most of the households (24%). Generally all provinces reported having a notable proportion of households with at least one member with high blood pressure and HIV/AIDS. Non-communicable diseases are emerging as conditions of public health concern that require urgent multi-sectoral interventions. Screening programmes on non-communicable diseases and promotion of healthy lifestyles should be done in the communities.

- Less than 60% of the country has access to basic water services which is way below the SDG target of universal access. A paradigm shift from primarily relying on unimproved drinking water sources to improved communal water points and improved piped water into households using renewable energy sources (solar) is recommended.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- The findings indicate that at national level about 34% and over 50% of households in Matabeleland North were practicing open defecation. Elimination of open defecation through availing of resources (both software and hardware) for the construction of latrines using locally available resources is recommended. Customized service standards should reconcile with technology choice and service levels with the economic capacity of user groups.

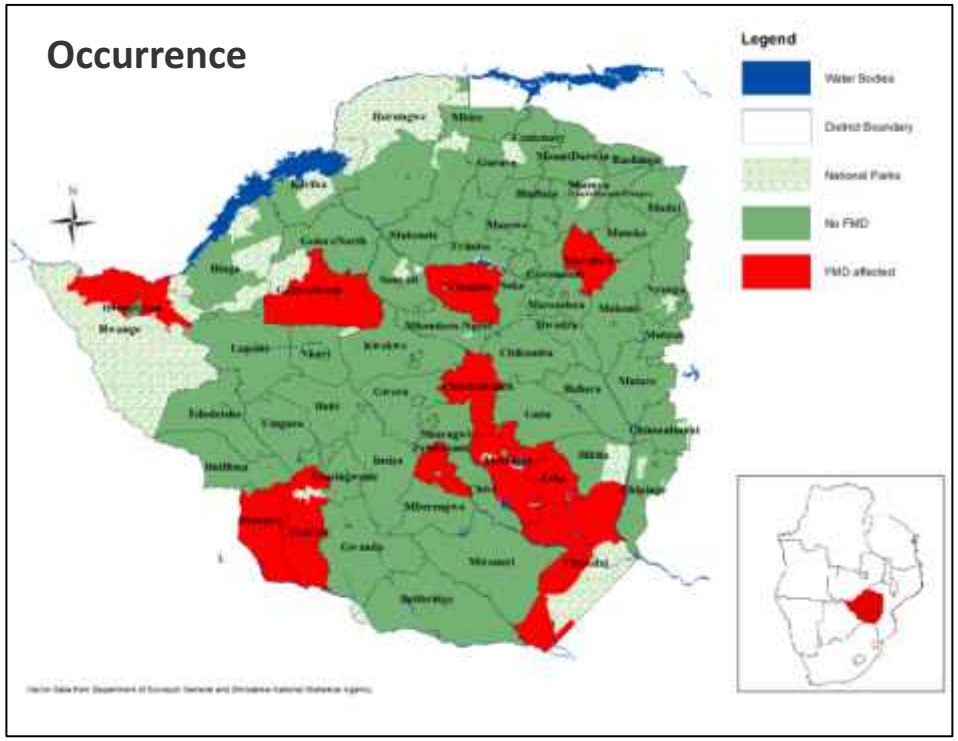
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) education programmes need to be integrated to achieve improved public health by scaling up sanitation-focused participatory hygiene and health education, schools health clubs, sanitation action groups and community health clubs.

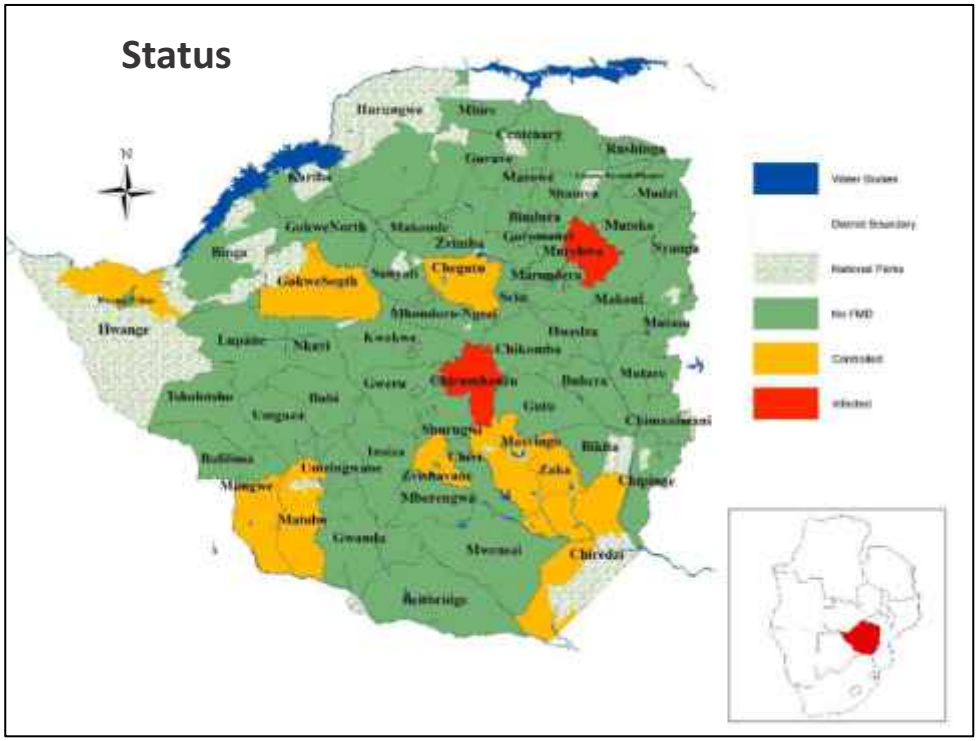
- Given the high prevalence of food insecurity in rural areas, there is need for a robust school feeding programme to ensure pupils do not drop out of school due to hunger.

- Compared to 2017, the prevalence of food insecurity among rural households has increased. There is therefore need for urgent food distribution to food insecure households in order to avoid a worsening situation.

Annexes

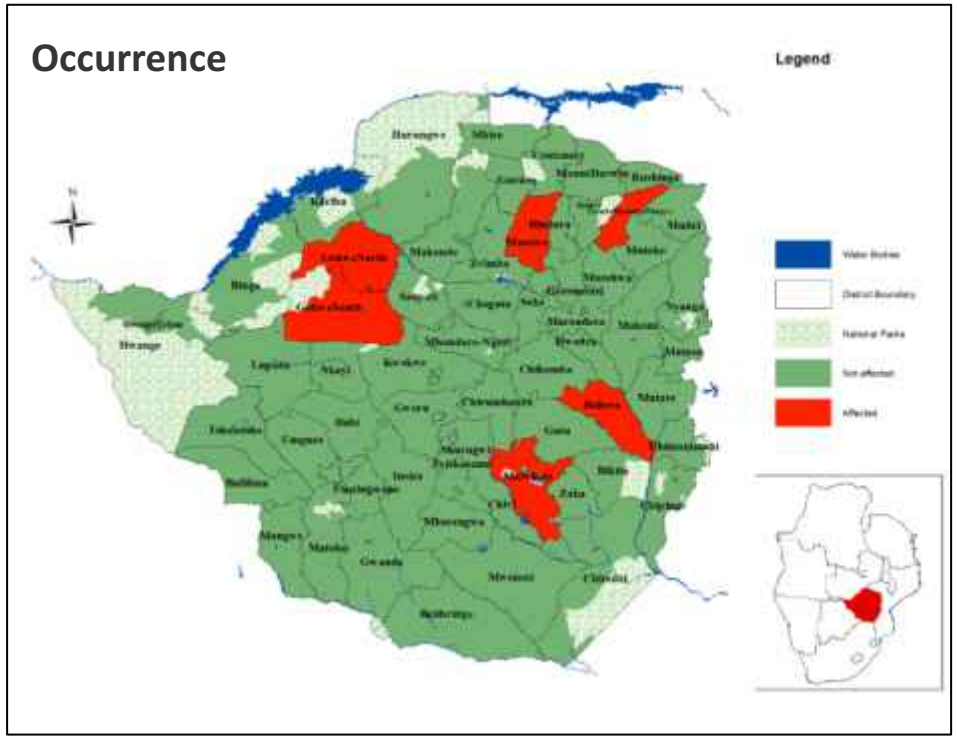
Foot and Mouth Disease Occurrence and Status by District

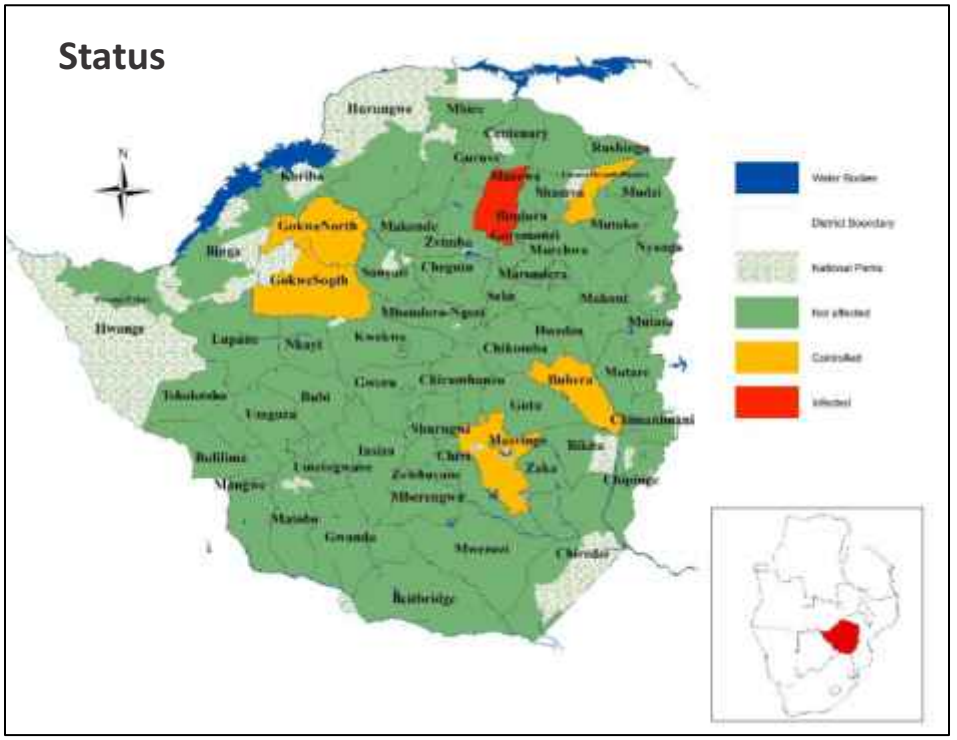




- During the period from April 2017 to March 2018, Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreaks were reported in 11 districts.
- While the disease had been controlled in most of the affected districts, Murehwa and Chirumanzu still had active cases of FMD at the time of the assessment.

Anthrax Occurrence and Status by District

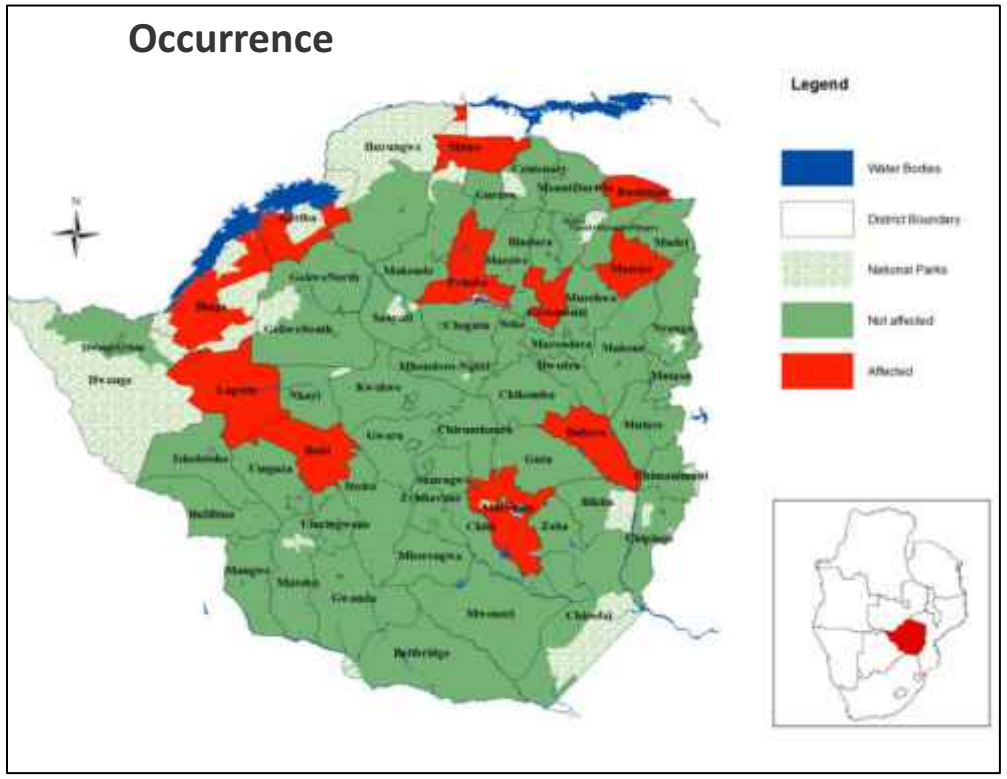


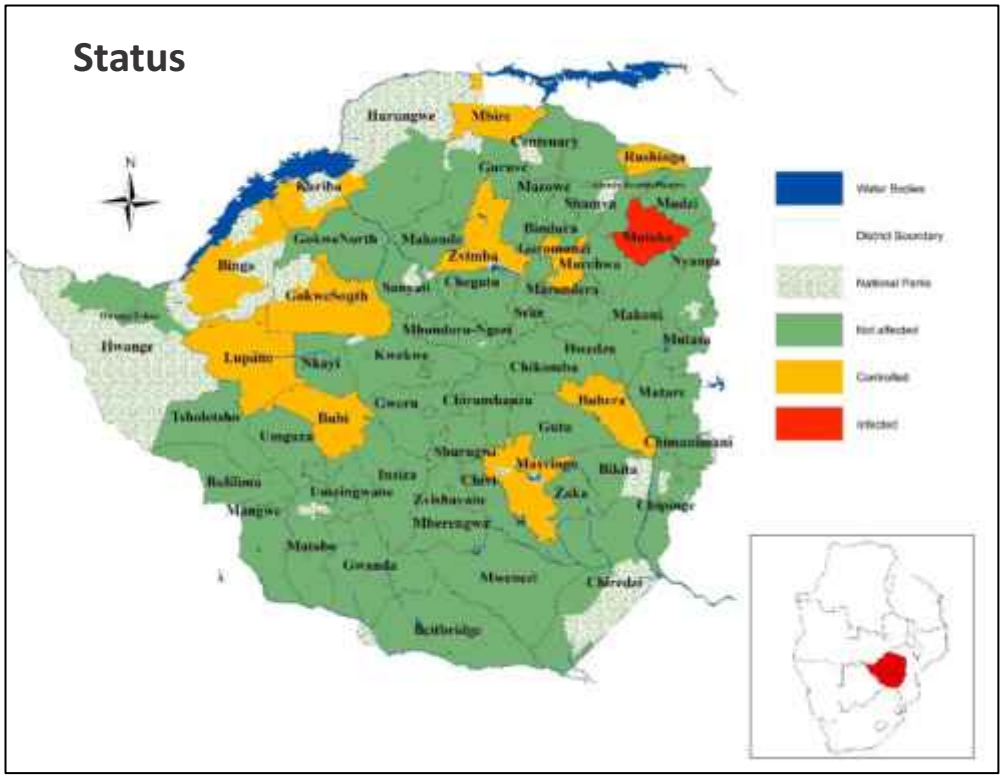


- During the period from April 2017 to March 2018, an outbreak of anthrax was reported in Gokwe North and South, Mazowe, Buhera and Masvingo Districts.

- At the time of the assessment Anthrax had been controlled in all districts except in Mazowe.

New Castle Disease Occurrence and Status by District

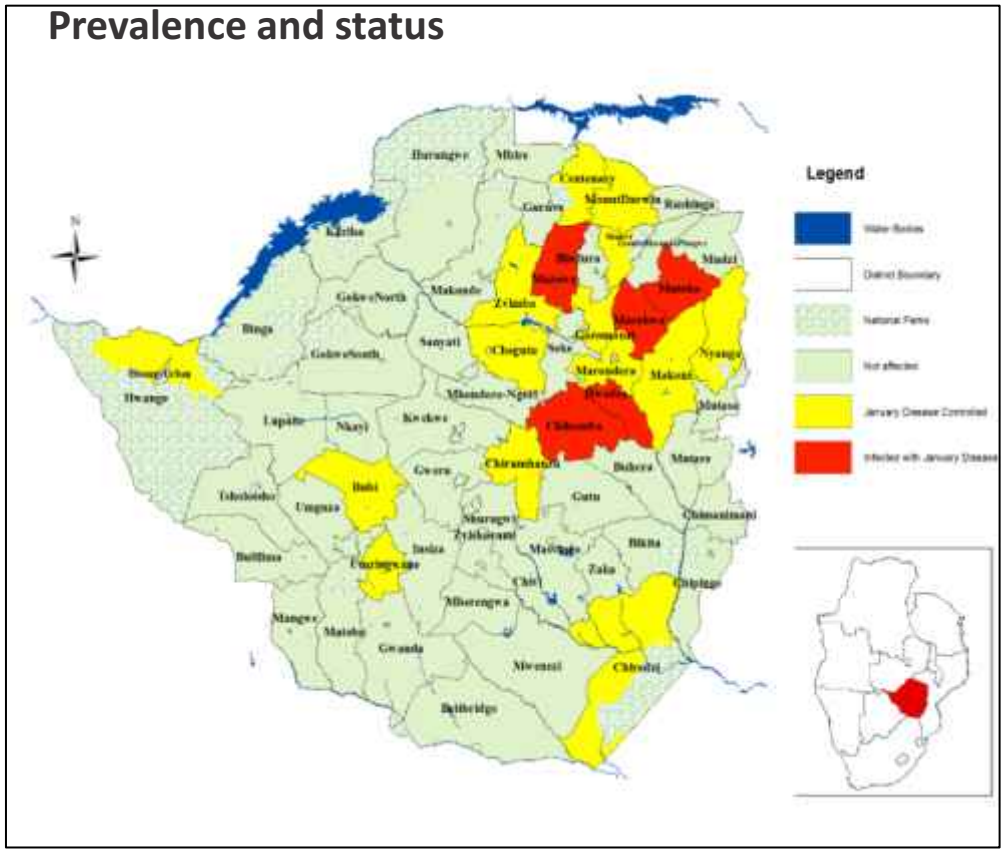




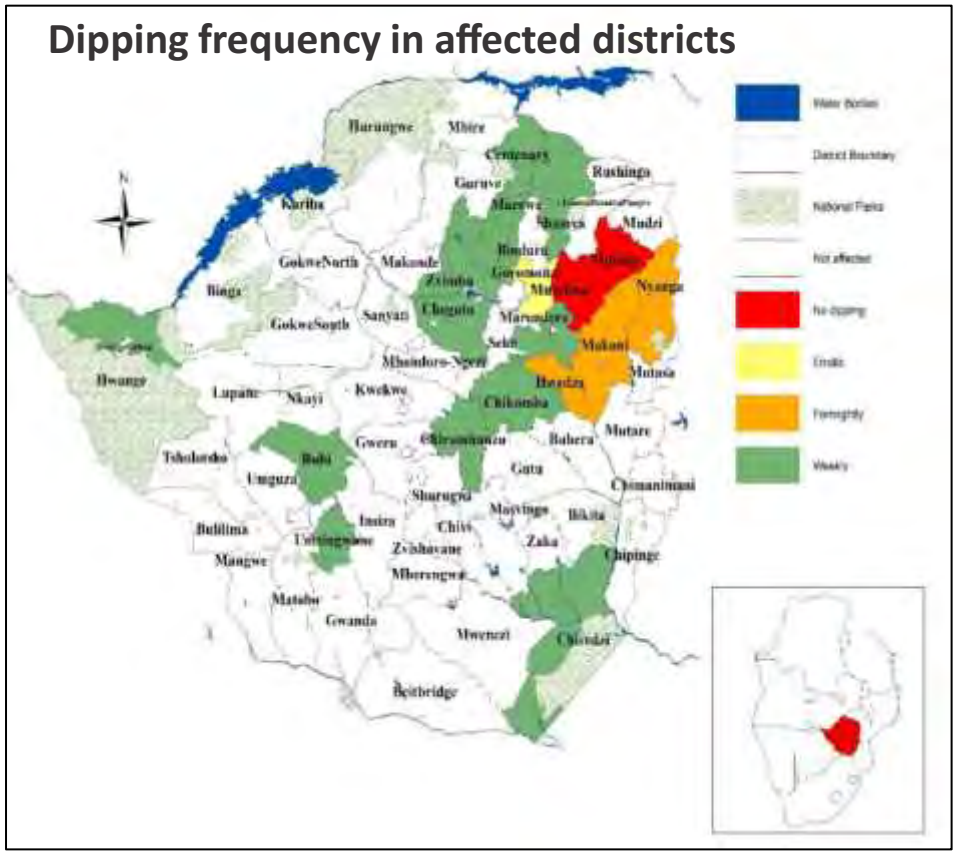
- New Castle disease outbreak was reported in 10 districts during the period from April 2017 to March 2018.
- Mutoko still had active cases of the disease at the time of the assessment.

January Disease Status by District

Prevalence and status



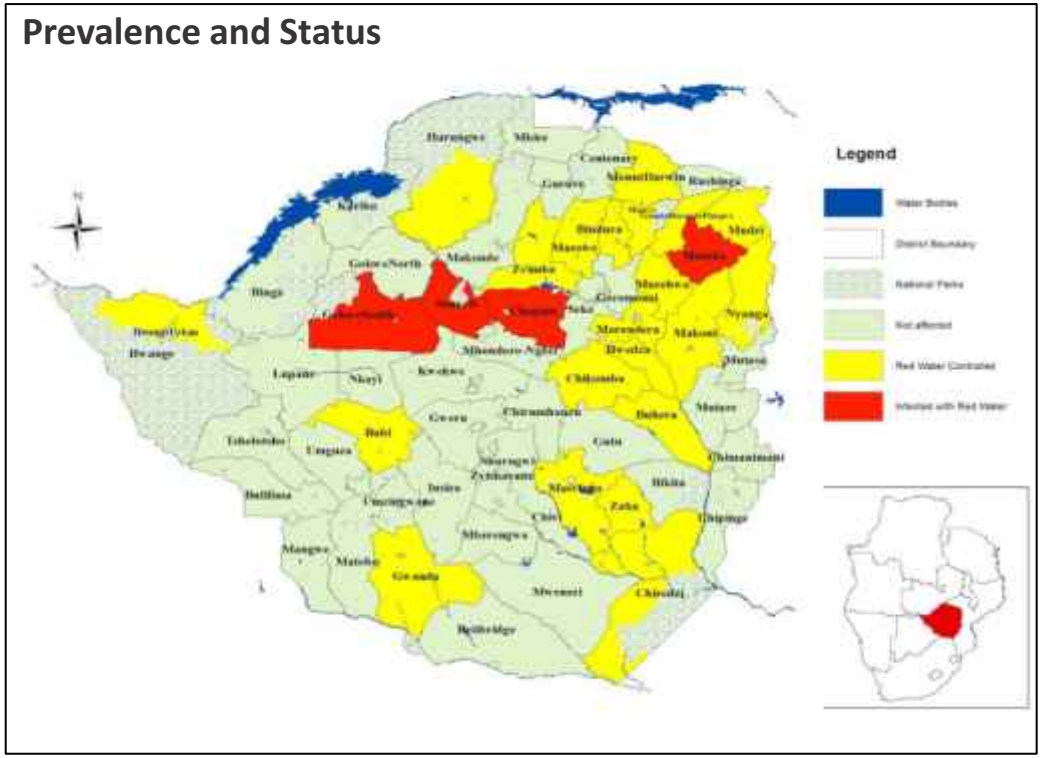
Dipping frequency in affected districts



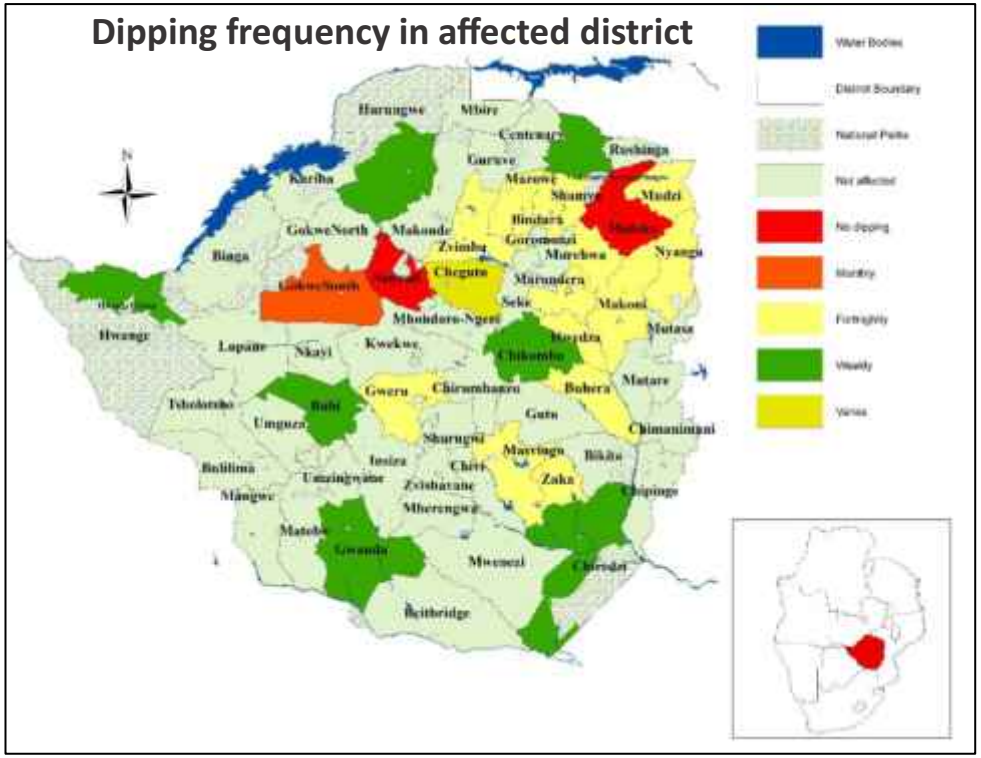
- Chikomba, Mazowe, Hwedza, Mutoko and Murehwa still had active cases of January disease at the time of the assessment.
- The disease was reported in 19 of the districts and had been controlled in other districts
- Dipping has been erratic in most of the affected districts.

Redwater

Prevalence and Status



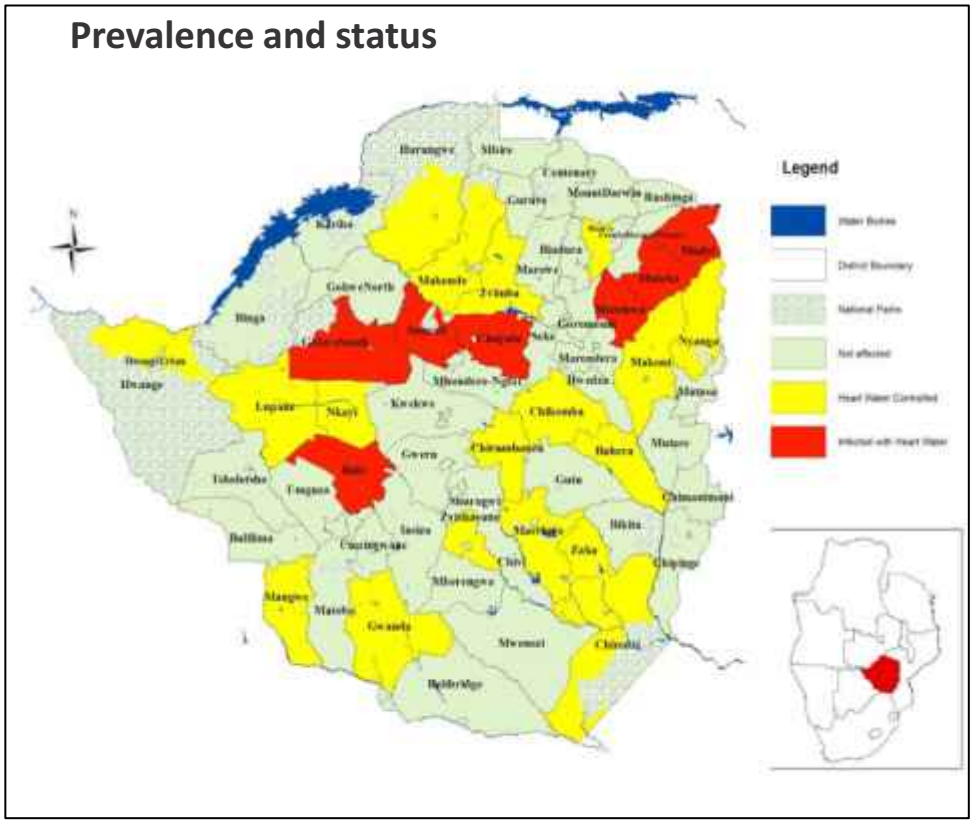
Dipping frequency in affected district



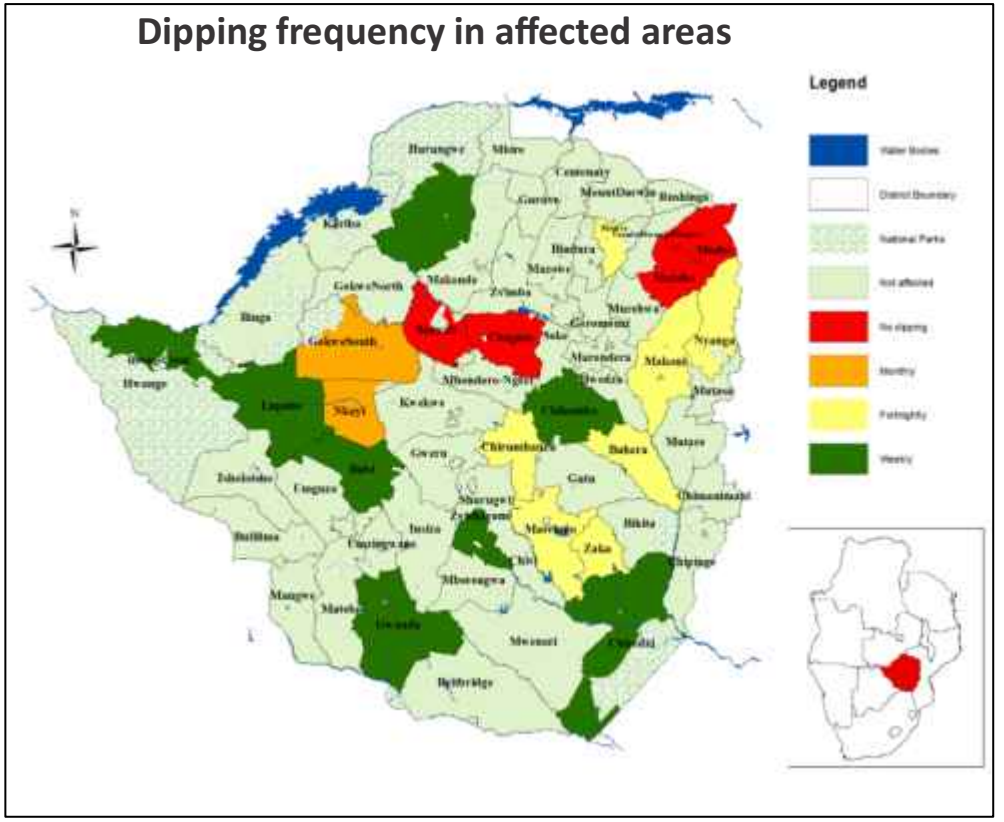
- Redwater occurrence was recorded in 28 districts during the period from April 2017 to March 2018. However, the disease was still active in 4 of the districts at the time of the assessment.
- Erratic dipping was also reported in the affected districts.

Heartwater

Prevalence and status



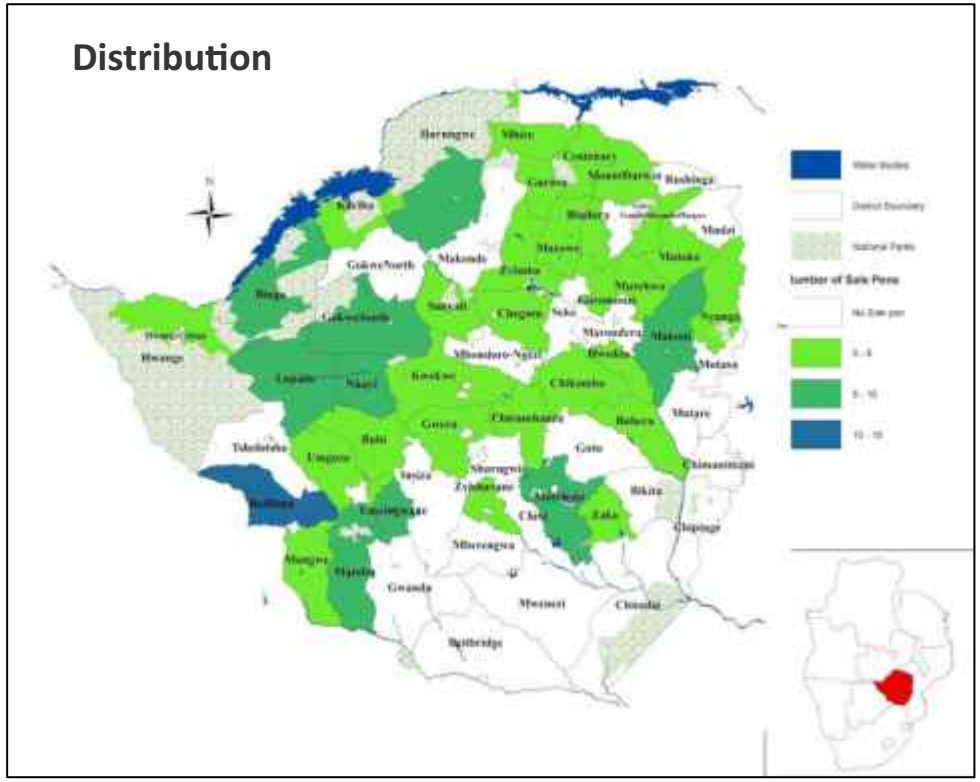
Dipping frequency in affected areas

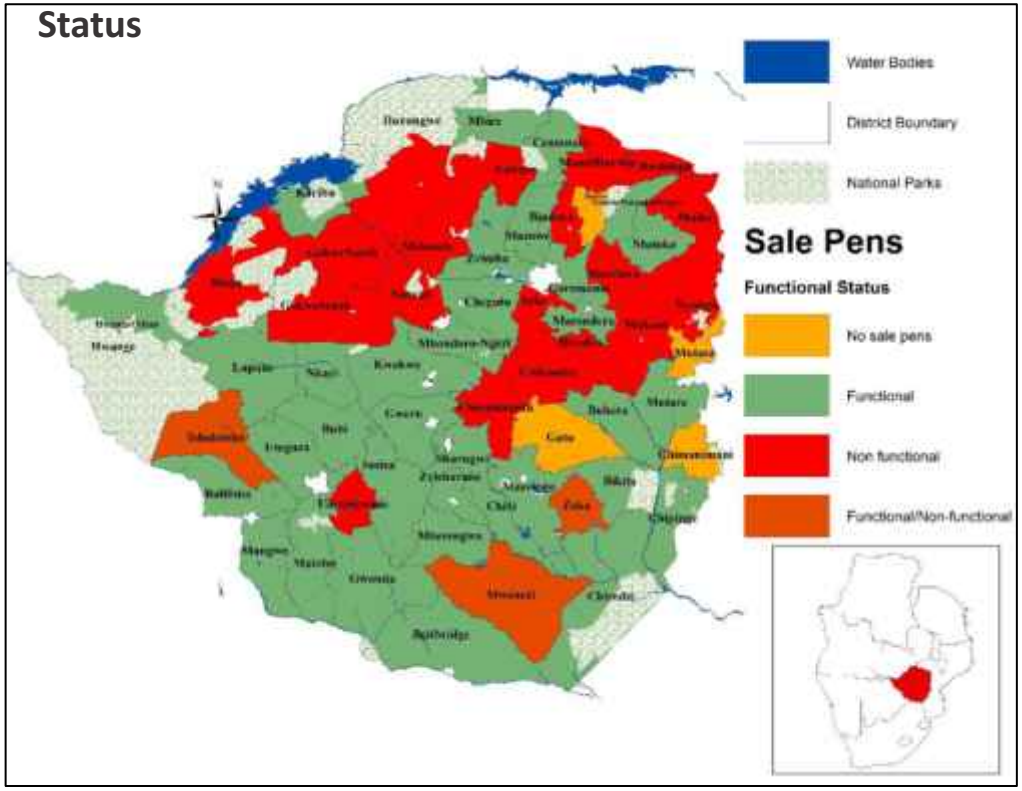


- Prevalence of heartwater was reported in 26 districts and 7 of the districts still had active cases.
- Erratic dipping is one of the contributing factors to outbreak of these diseases.

Livestock Marketing Infrastructure

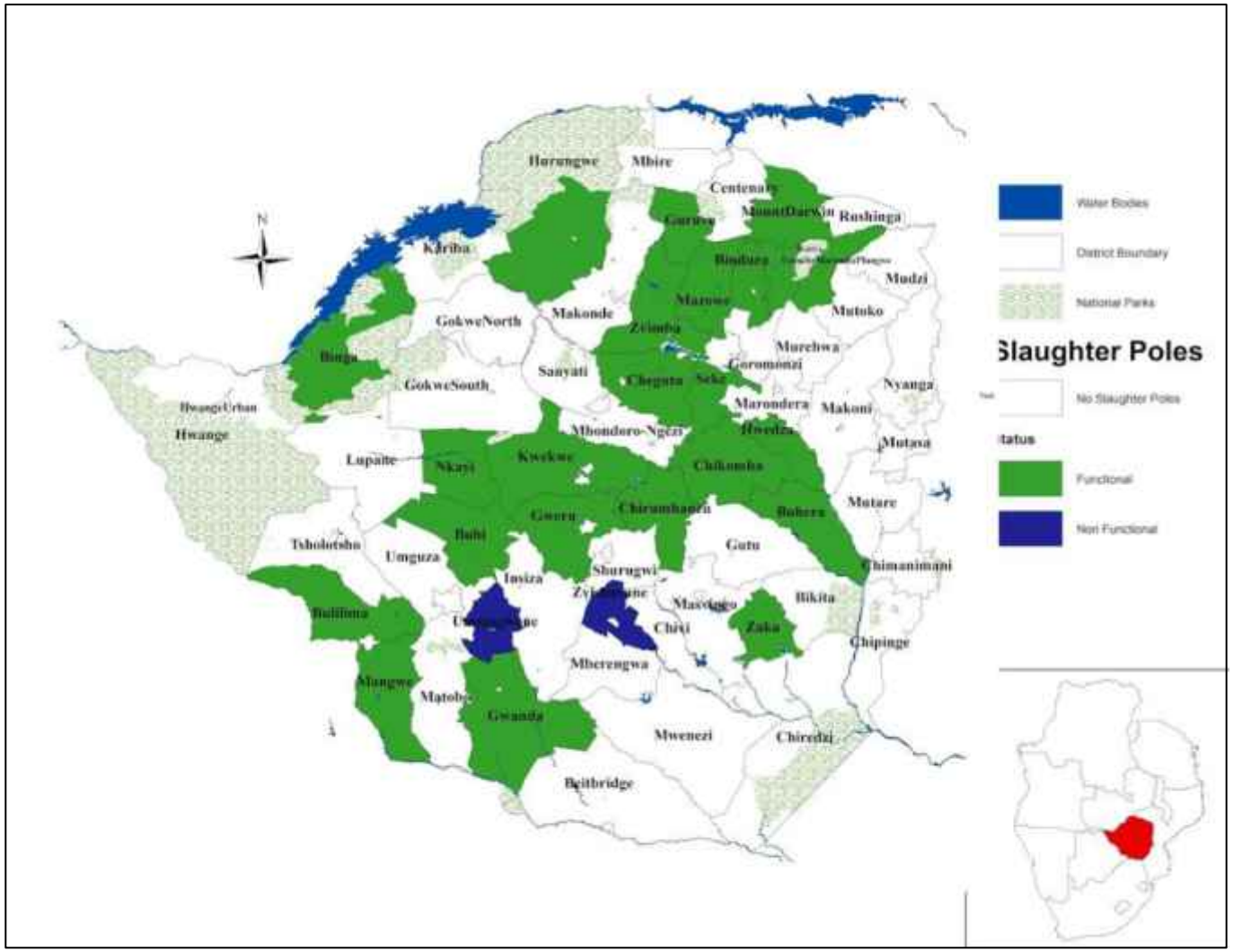
Distribution and Status of Sale Pens by District





- Sale pens are structures where organised livestock auctions take place. They are an important infrastructure to ensure the availability of livestock markets within communities.
- The presence of functional sale pens indicates the availability of livestock market information to some extent and better prices to the farmer.
- The proportion of non-functional sale pens was increasing as farmers were shunning the markets due to various reasons which included poor roads and high levies.

Distribution and Status of Slaughter Poles by District



- The distribution of slaughter poles is such that they are mainly concentrated in districts closer to urban dwellings.
- This compromises on food safety and pricing as slaughter poles are not monitored by meat inspectors and meat Graders
- There is need to regularise the operations of poles

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IPC in Zimbabwe

CURRENT AND PROJECTED ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY SITUATION

May - June 2018; July-March 2019

ZIMBABWE Vulnerability Assessment Committee

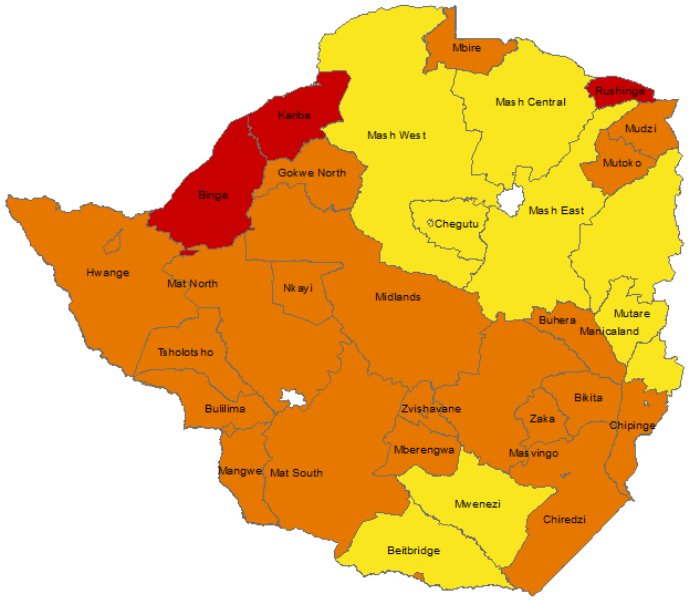
KEY FIGURES	May – June 2018		July–March 2019	
People in IPC Phase 3 and IPC Phase 4	**About 522,000**[1] 6% of the population		**Over 2.4 million** 28% of the population	
HHs within the areas in need of urgent action to protect and save their livelihoods and lives			Mudzi Buhera Binga Gokwe North Umguza Rushinga Tsholotsho Mangwe Bikita UMP Bulilima Nkayi	(57%) (55%) (50% (48%) (47%) (46%) (43%) (43%) (43%) (42%) (40%) (39%)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

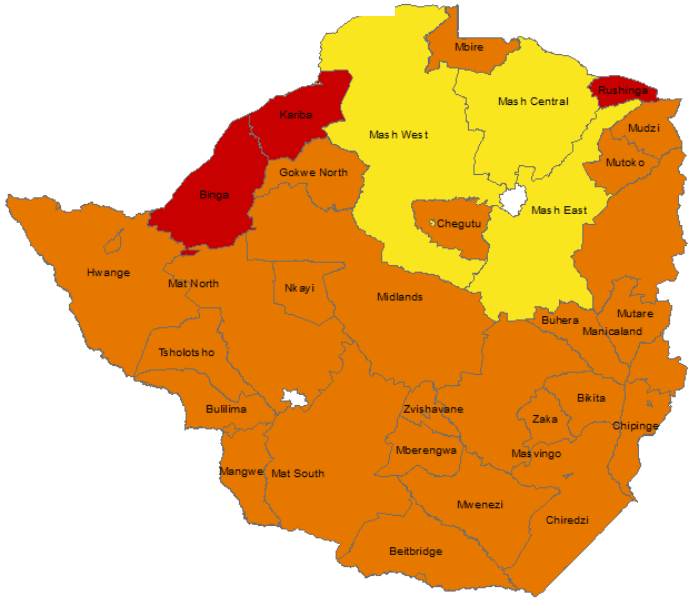
- The 2017/18 Rainfall season pattern was erratic characterized by late onset, long mid-season dry spells, late wet spells that led to flash floods in low lying areas. As such, there was a reduction in household crop production as compared to the previous season and the recent five-year average in most areas.
- The cereal security situation obtaining during the period April to June 2018 is expected to deteriorate during the peak hunger period (January to March 2019), with the population in crisis or worse increasing up to about 28% of the rural population in need of urgent humanitarian support to save and protect their lives and livelihoods.
- The majority of households had less cereal stocks holdings compared to previous 2 consumption years even though the previous agricultural season was a relatively good and this is being exacerbated by low incomes and constrained livelihood strategies.

INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PHASE CLASSIFICATION (IPC) MAPS

IPC Current Acute Food Insecurity Situation (May – June 2018)



IPC Projected Acute Food Insecurity Situation (July 2018-March 2019)



[1]Percentage of population based on estimates from the ZIMVAC Rural Livelihood Assessment 2016 and not on IPC.

IPC Partners in Zimbabwe

OVERVIEW

About 567,000people between April and June 2018 are estimated to be food security crisis phase (IPC Phase 3).The number increases to approximately 2.4 million during the peak hunger period (January to March 2019). The proportion of those in the crisis phaseis expected to rise from 6% (April – June 2018) to approximately 28% during the peak hunger period of the current consumption year.

During the peak hunger period, areas in the north western parts of the country particularly Kariba and Binga and north eastern parts (Rushinga, Mudzi)will remain of serious concern having the highest number of people in need compared to other districts.

Those in crisis phase require immediate humanitarian support. The majority of households in the crisis phase or worse are characterised by low incomes, poor diets, increased consumption coping and hunger experience.

The agricultural season was characterised by late onset, erratic rainfall, mid-season dry spells and late wet spells which led to reduced crop production across the country.

FACTORS DRIVING ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY CONDITIONS

The food insecurity situation was largely driven bythe poor performance of the agricultural season resulted in reduced in household crop production compared to the previous season. Some crops were written off due to the poor rainfall received.

The situation was compounded by the armyworm pest outbreak.

Outbreak of human diseases such as malaria in some districts such as Kariba was experienced which was one of the major shocks that affected households living in that surrounding. Some districts also experienced sporadic outbreaks of notifiable (Food and Mouth, Anthrax) and tick borne livestock diseases (January Disease, Heart water and Red water) led to attrition of herds.Households had low cereal stocks from 2016/17 production. Poor road infrastructure limited accessibility of markets. Areas bordering national conservancies were prone to game attacks, which damage crops and predate on livestock.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

It is hereby recommended that the IPCTWG capacitatedin IPC analysis and report writing.

The IPC Acute Communication Template should be addendum to the 2018 Rural Livelihoods Assessment.

IPC Product should be widely disseminated upon finalisation.

METHODS AND PROCESSES

The 2018 ZimVAC Rural Livelihoods Assessment (RLA) saw the integration of IPC Acute analysis within the RLA analysis and report writing process. The ZimVAC RLA report writing process was succeeded by a 2 day IPC training and 3 days of IPC analysis andreport writing from 13 to 17 May 2018. The training was attended by 40 participants from Government, International NGOs, UN and Technical agencies. A number of secondary data and information were used to contextualise the analysis.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MONITORING

The following indicators need to be constantly monitored:

- Prices and availability of maize grain and mealie-meal.
- Incidence (or prevalence) of fall armyworm.
- Water availability for both domestic usesand livestock
- livestock diseases outbreaks
- Availability and condition of veld for livestock grazing.
- Prevalence of acute malnutrition

IPC Global Partners

The EC in the global partnership is represented by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission

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