

Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC)

2022 Mashonaland Central Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report



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Foreword

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

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

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

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

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



George D. Kembo (Dr.)

DIRECTOR GENERAL a.i./ ZIMVAC CHAIRPERSON

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

Acknowledgement of Support



ZIMBABWE



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization



**Spotlight
Initiative**
*To eliminate violence
against women and girls*

**START
NETWORK**

Acronyms

EA	Enumeration Area
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
NNS	National Nutrition Survey
NDS 1	National Development Strategy 1
RLA	Rural Livelihoods Assessment
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
ZimVAC	Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee

Introduction and Background

Introduction

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

Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC)

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

ZimVAC supports Government, particularly FNC in:

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

Assessment Rationale

The assessment results will be used to:

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

Purpose

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

Objectives

The specific objectives of the assessment were:

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

Background

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

Background

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

Contextual Analysis- Background

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

Systemic Shocks

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

Idiosyncratic shocks

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

Government Mitigatory Measures

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

Government Mitigatory Measures

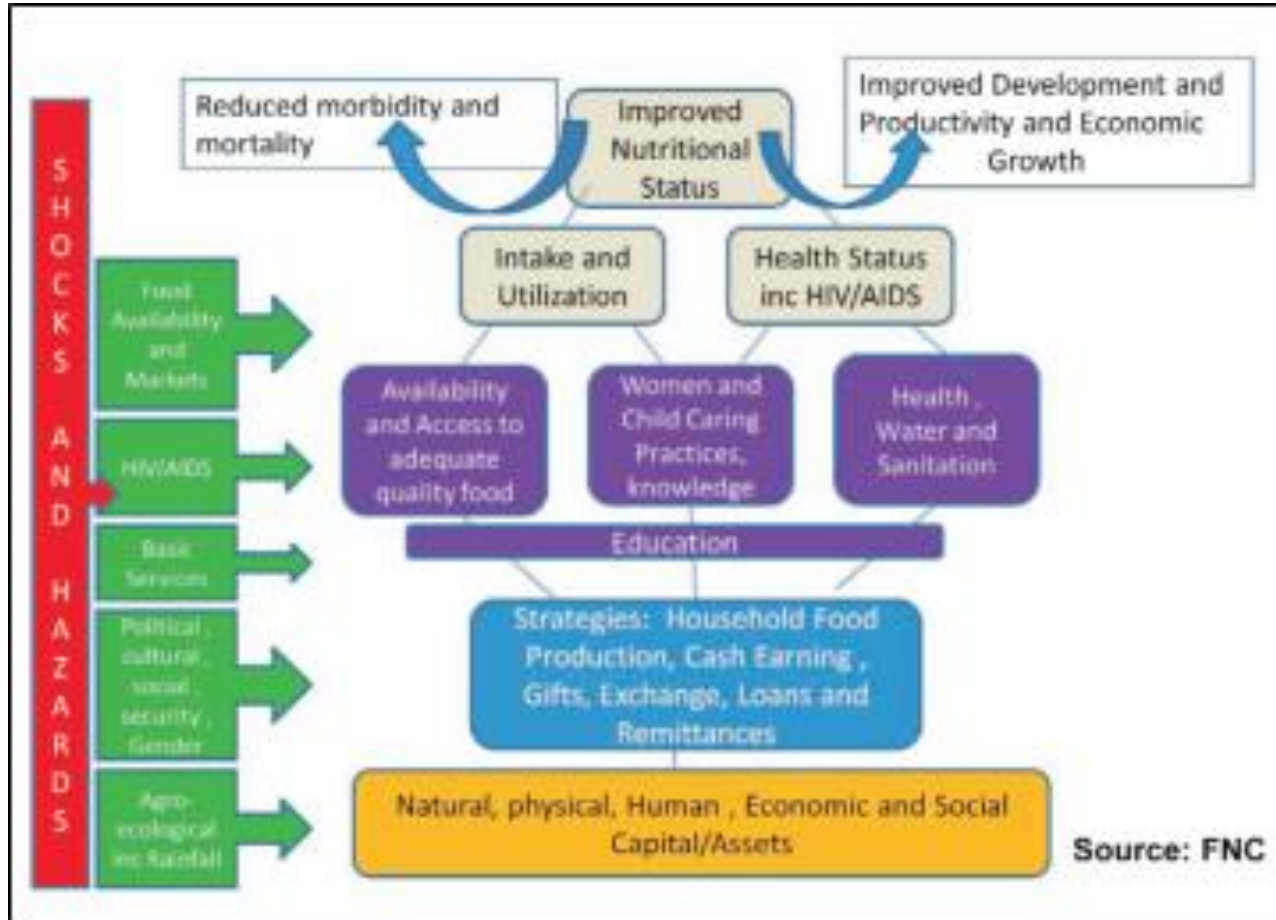
- c) Food Subsidies* through continued implementation of social protection measures to improve food access (e.g. maize meal subsidies).
- d) Enabling environment-* Government also opened up space for development partners to contribute and assist.
- e) Removing restrictions on food importation* such as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

Government Mitigatory Measures

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

Assessment Methodology

Methodology – Assessment Design



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

Figure 1: Food and Nutrition Conceptual Framework

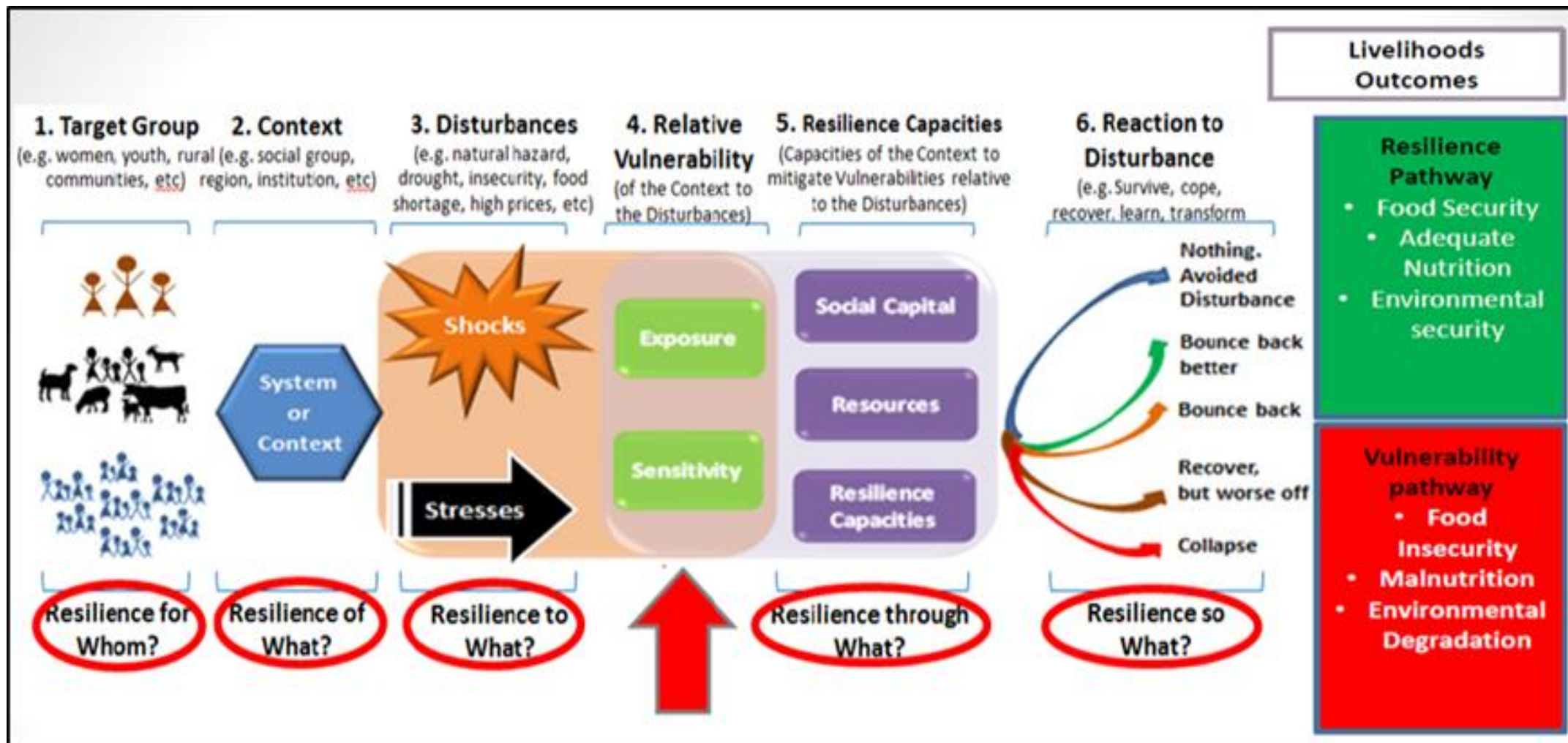


Figure 2: Zimbabwe Resilience Framework (UNDP Zimbabwe, 2015)

Methodology – Assessment Process

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

Methodology – Assessment Process

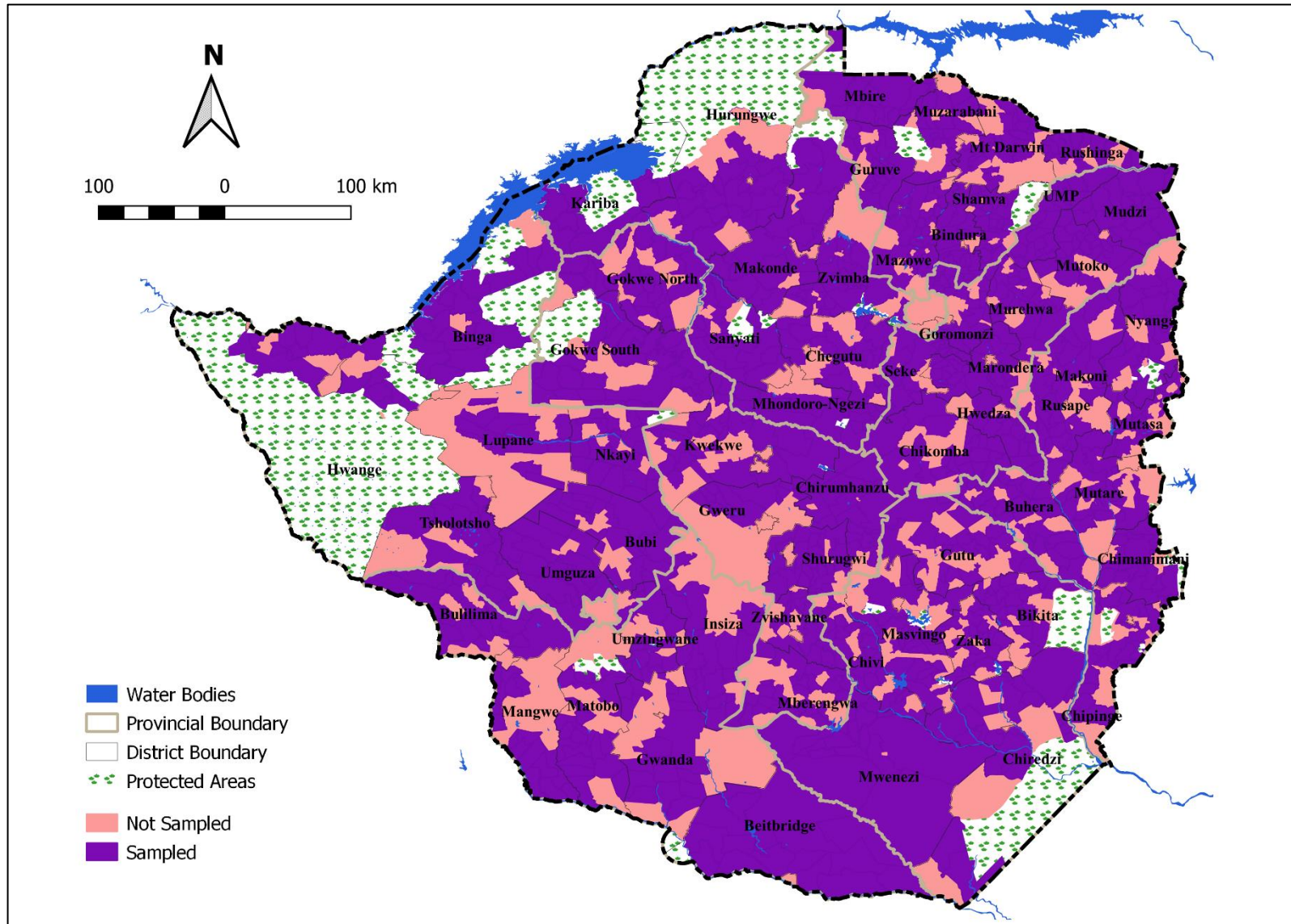
- Enumerator training was held from 9 to 10 May 2022. Primary data collection took place from 11 to 23 May 2022. In recognising the risk of spreading COVID-19 during data collection, innovative approaches were used to collect vital information without causing any harm.
- The RLA was guided by global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

Methodology - Sampling and Sample Size

- Household food insecurity prevalence was used as the key indicator to determine the sample to ensure 95% confidence level of statistical representativeness at district, provincial and national level.
- The survey collected data from 1 500 randomly selected Enumerated Areas (EAs):
- A two staged cluster sampling was used and comprised of;
 - Sampling of 25 clusters per each of the 60 rural districts, denoted as EAs in this assessment, from the Zimbabwe Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT) 2012 master sampling frame using the PPS methodology
 - The second stage involved the systematic random sampling of 10 households per EA (village).
- At most, 250 households were interviewed per district, bringing the total sampled households to 2 002
- Twelve FGDs and one Key Informant Interview (KII) on irrigation and grazing were held per district.

District	Number of Sampled Households
Bindura	247
Muzarabani	251
Guruve	253
Mazowe	250
Mt Darwin	250
Rushinga	250
Shamva	250
Mbire	251
Provincial	2002

Methodology – Sampled Wards



Data Preparation and Analysis

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

Technical Scope

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

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

Assessment Findings

Demographic Description of the Sample

Household Characteristics

	Household Size	Average Household Age (years)	Male Headed (%)	Female Headed (%)	Child Headed (%)	Elderly Headed (%)
Bindura	3.8	48.3	75.3	24.7	0.8	20.3
Muzarabani	4.3	48.2	76.9	23.1	0.4	19.1
Guruve	4.2	49.8	69.0	31.0	1.2	26.1
Mazowe	4.2	59.1	68.4	31.6	1.6	20.4
Mt Darwin	4.8	45.6	78.8	21.2	0.0	14.8
Rushinga	4.1	49.3	70.4	29.6	0.8	24.0
Shamva	4.3	49.6	76.8	23.2	1.6	23.6
Mbire	4.5	48.5	75.7	24.3	0.0	21.1
Mash Central	4.3	49.8	73.9	26.1	0.8	21.2

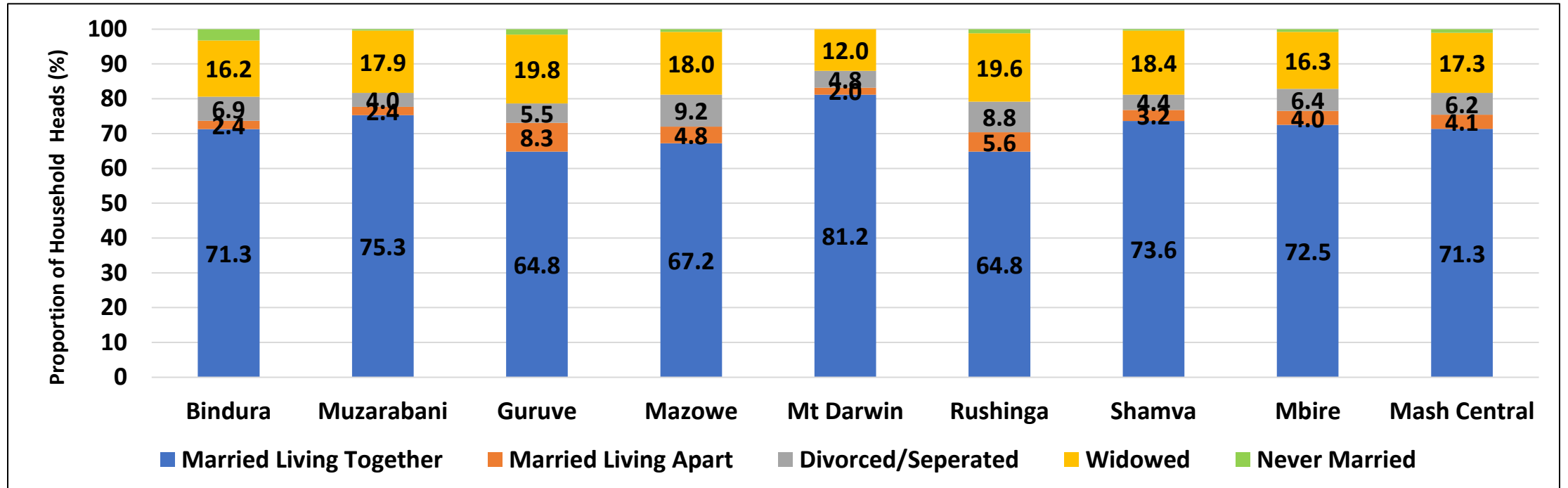
- The average household size was 4.3.
- Most households (73.9%) were male headed.

Characteristics of Respondents: Age and Sex

	Age of Respondent (years)	Male Respondents (%)	Female Respondents (%)
Bindura	44.1	41.7	58.3
Muzarabani	43.6	41.4	58.2
Guruve	45.8	37.9	62.1
Mazowe	42.9	24.8	75.2
Mt Darwin	40.6	29.2	70.8
Rushinga	44.0	20.8	79.2
Shamva	44.0	34.0	66.0
Mbire	44.7	35.5	64.5
Mash Central	43.7	33.2	66.8

- The average age of the respondents was 43.7 years.
- About 66.8% of the respondents were female.

Characteristics of Household Head: Marital Status



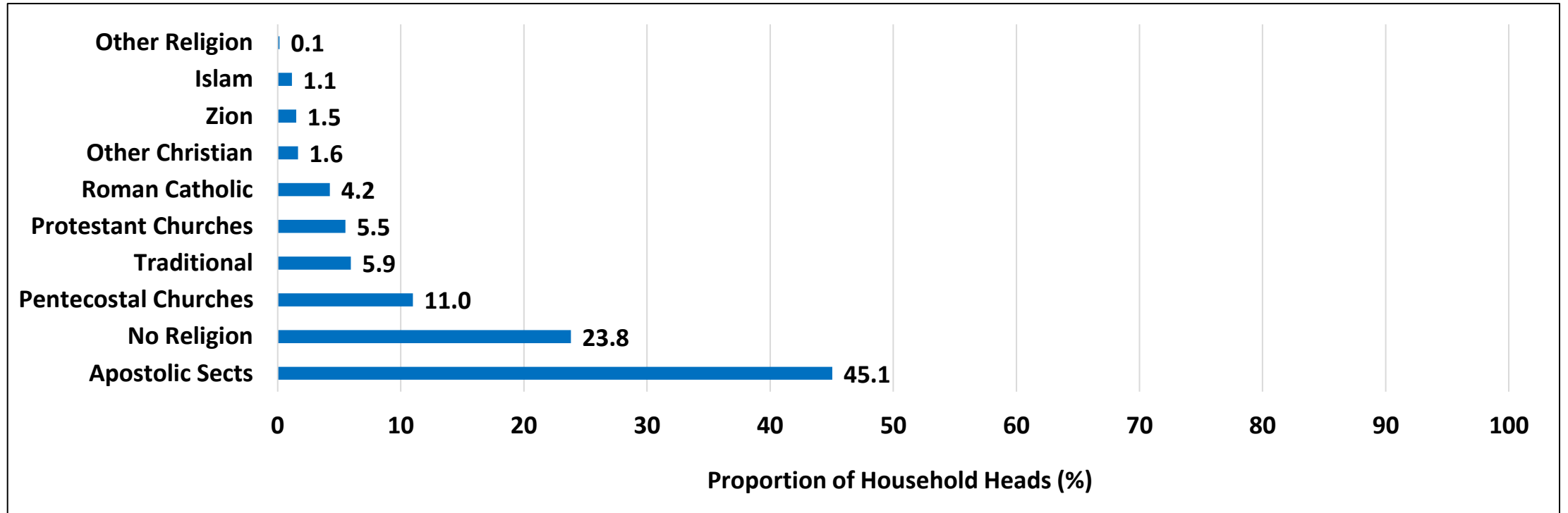
- Most household heads were married living together (71.3%).
- About 17.3% of the household heads were widowed.

Characteristics of Household Head: Educational Level Attained

	None (%)	Primary level (%)	ZJC level (%)	O' level (%)	A' level (%)	Tertiary (%)
Bindura	11.8	24.9	13.1	44.9	3.3	2.0
Muzarabani	18.0	35.6	11.6	32.8	0.8	1.2
Guruve	11.9	31.3	19.0	35.3	0.4	2.0
Mazowe	8.8	42.6	17.7	29.3	1.2	0.4
Mt Darwin	11.2	42.8	16.0	27.6	1.6	0.8
Rushinga	11.3	31.5	16.5	38.7	1.2	0.8
Shamva	17.7	30.1	18.1	31.7	1.2	1.2
Mbire	28.7	37.5	9.6	23.1	1.2	0.0
Mash Central	14.9	34.6	15.2	32.9	1.4	1.1

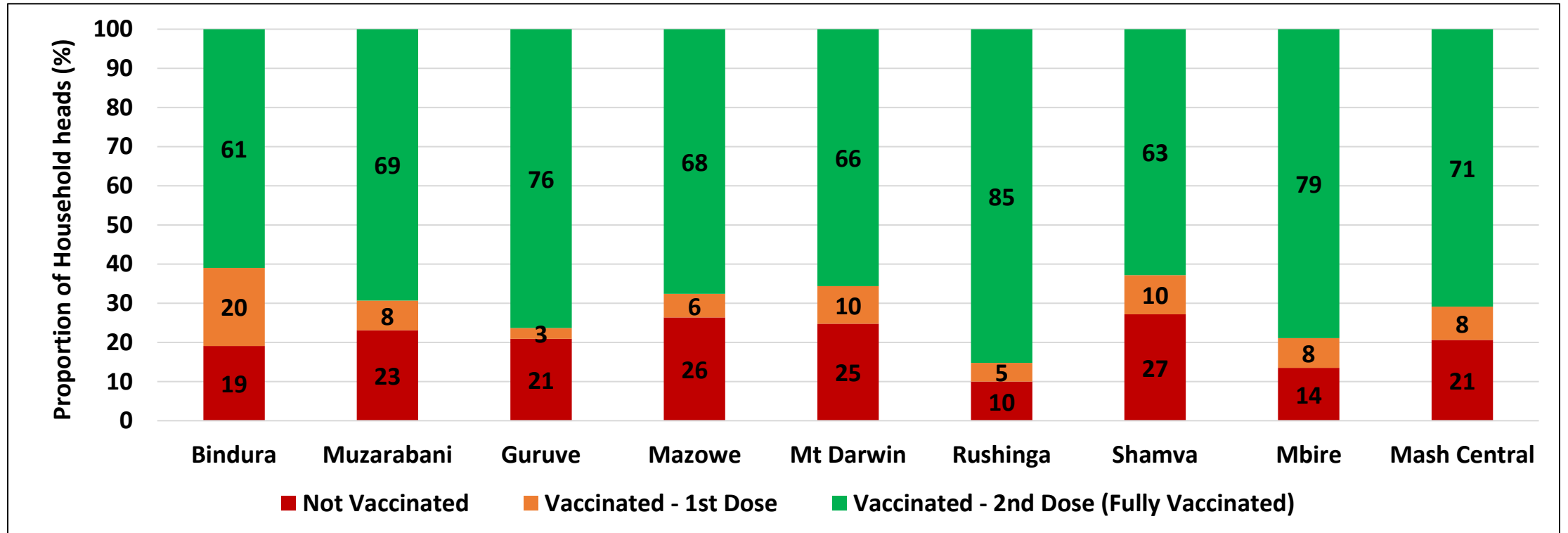
- About 85.1% of the household heads had attained at least primary level and above.

Characteristics of Household Head: Religion



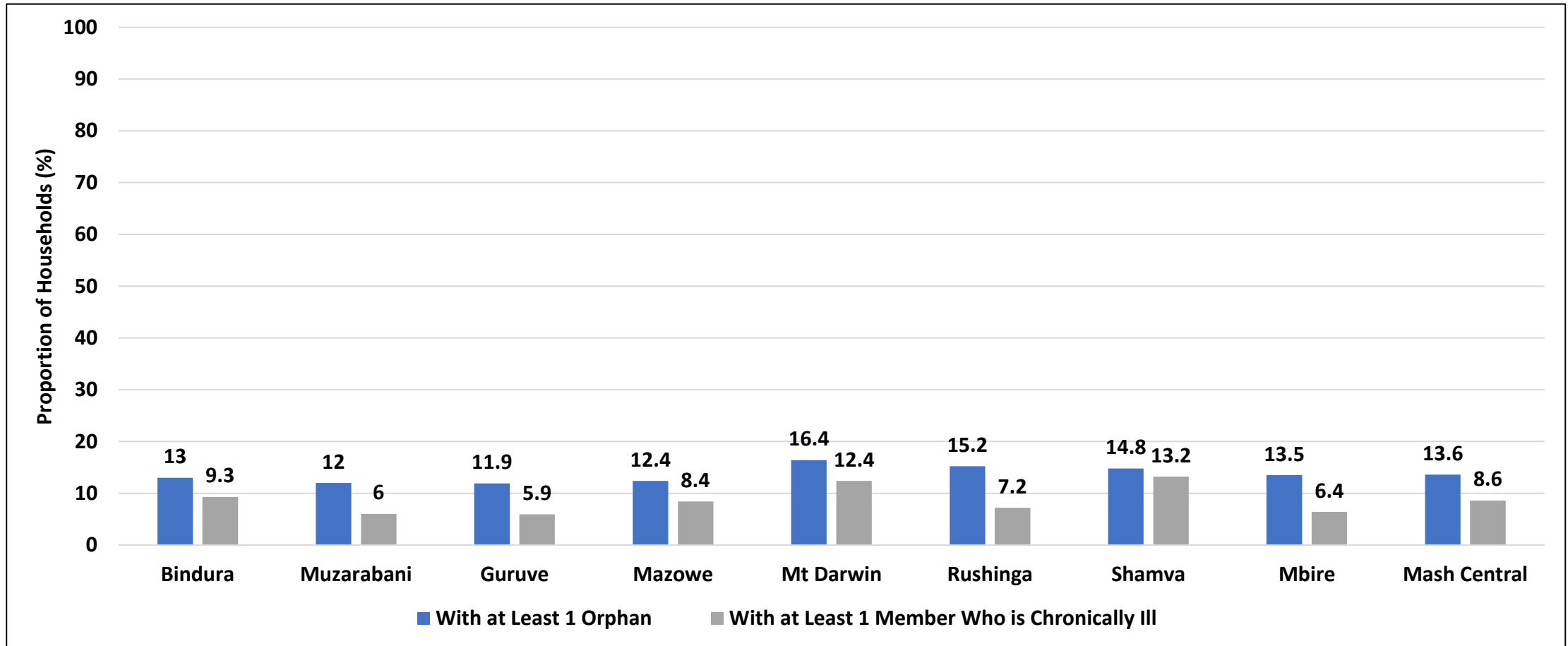
- Most of the household heads (45.1%) were of the Apostolic sects.

Characteristics of Household Head: COVID-19 Vaccinated



- About 71% of the household heads were fully vaccinated (Second dose).

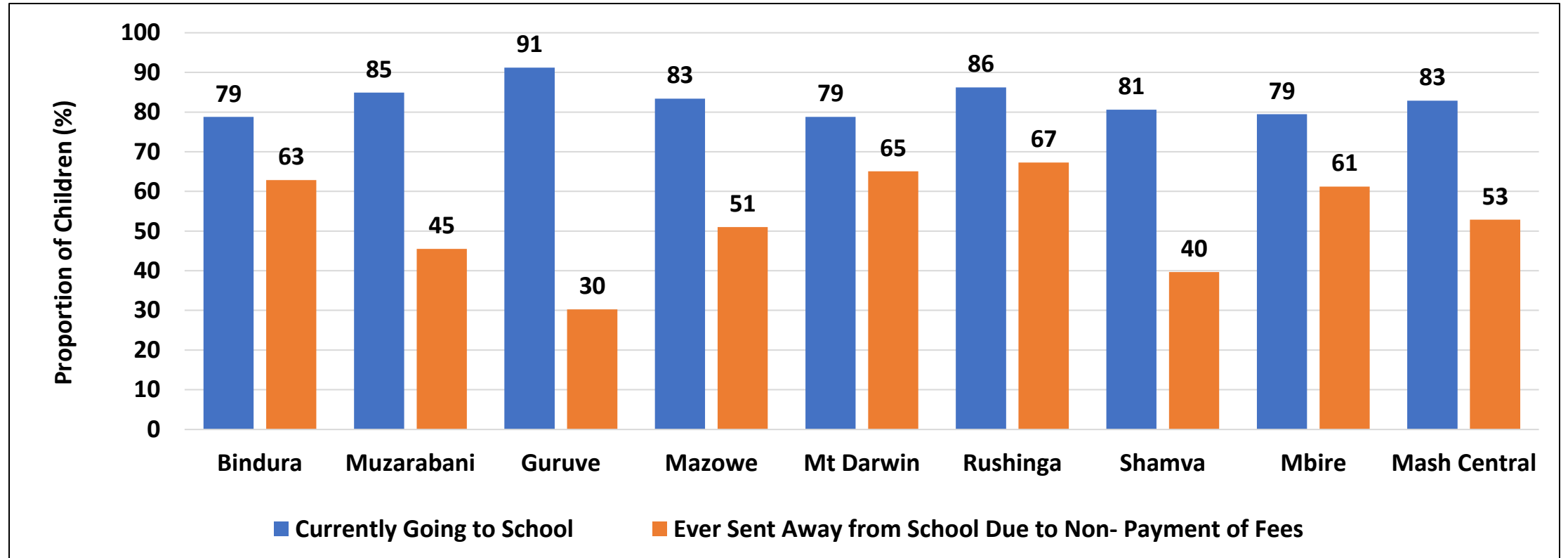
Other Household Characteristics



- About 13.6% of the households had at least one orphan.

Education

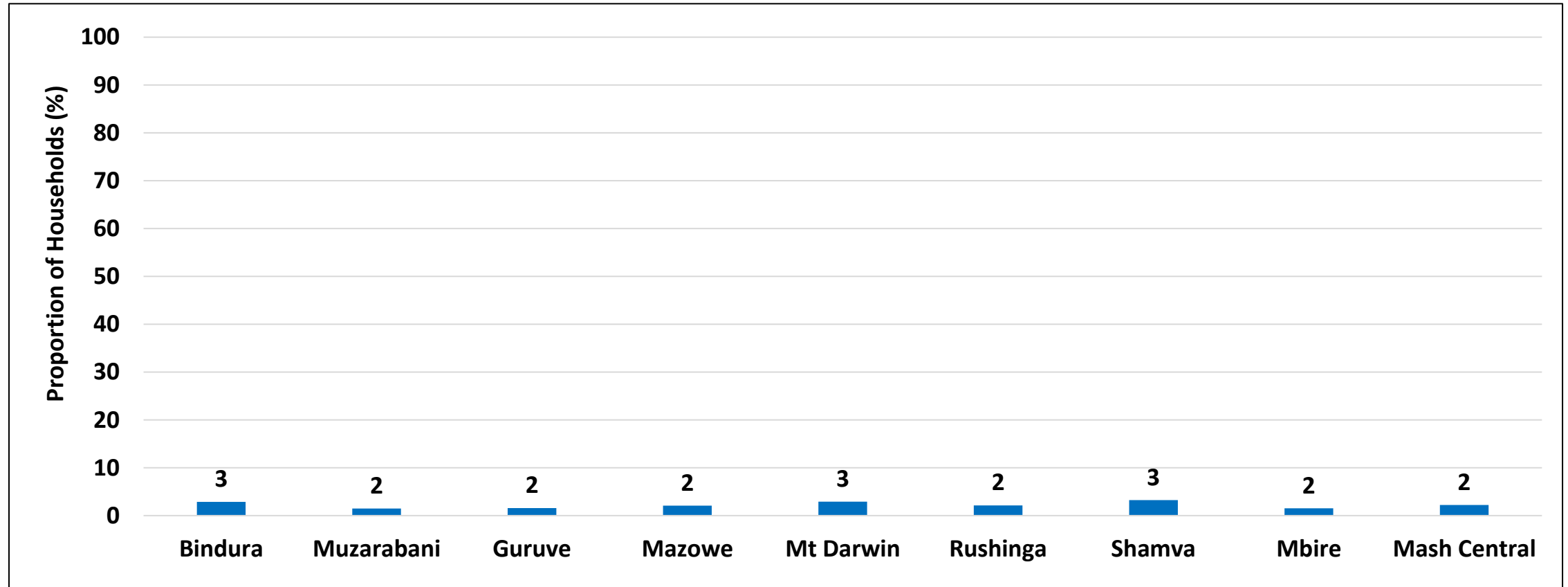
School Attendance



- About 83% of the children of school going age were going to school at the time of the assessment.
- About 53% of the children were reported to have been sent away due to non-payment of school fees during the first term of 2022.

Chronic Conditions

Households with Members who had Chronic Conditions



- At least 2% of the households had a member with a chronic condition.

Household Members who had a Chronic Condition (2%)

	HIV Infection, AIDS (%)	Heart Disease (%)	Diabetes (%)	Asthma (%)	Hypertension (%)	Arthritis, Chronic Body Pain (%)	Epilepsy (%)	Stroke (%)	Cancer (%)	Tuberculosis (%)	Liver Diseases (%)	Kidney Diseases (%)	Ulcer, Chronic Stomach Pain (%)	Other (%)
Bindura	19	8	6	10	23	19	2	1	1	1	0	1	7	4
Muzarabani	28	3	5	6	33	5	3	1	2	3	0	0	2	10
Guruve	18	6	9	9	38	3	1	2	0	1	0	2	5	8
Mazowe	28	6	8	10	19	8	3	2	1	2	0	1	6	4
Mt Darwin	18	4	6	12	24	3	4	2	0	4	3	1	3	14
Rushinga	11	1	11	6	30	3	4	3	3	0	0	0	6	21
Shamva	14	4	4	6	28	15	2	2	1	2	0	1	5	17
Mbire	11	5	12	13	21	9	4	3	1	1	0	4	8	8
Mash Central	19	5	8	9	27	9	3	2	1	1	0	1	5	10

- Of those that had chronic conditions, 27% had hypertension.

Water Sanitation and Hygiene

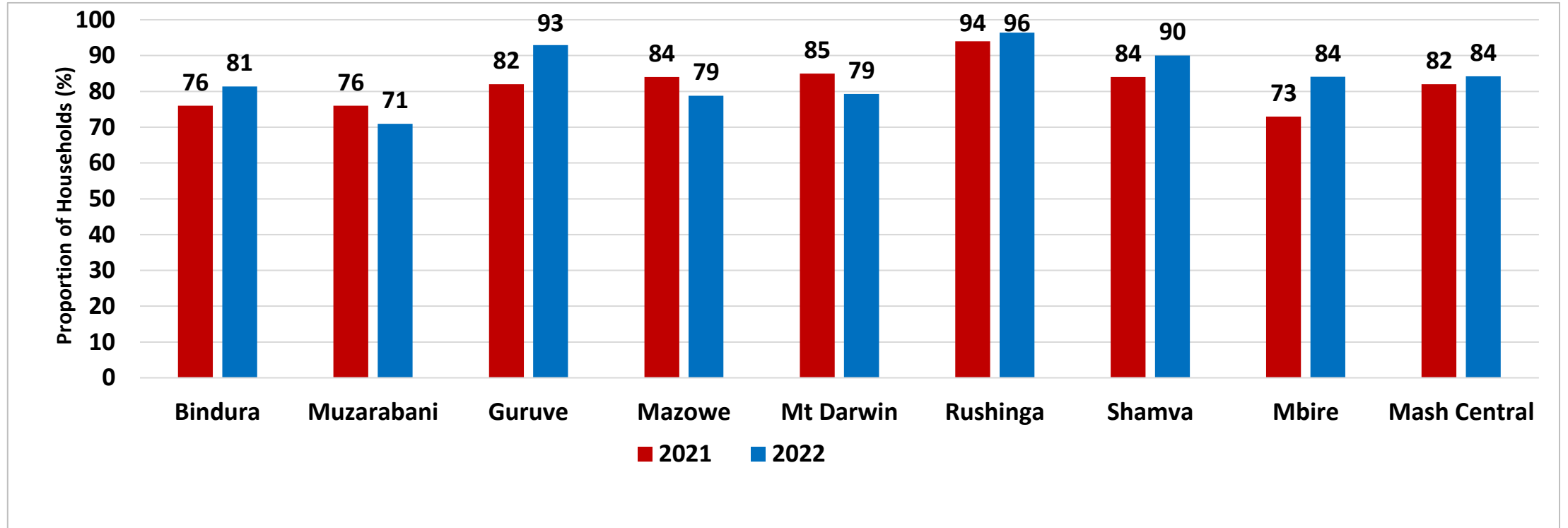
Ladder for Drinking Water Services

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 :

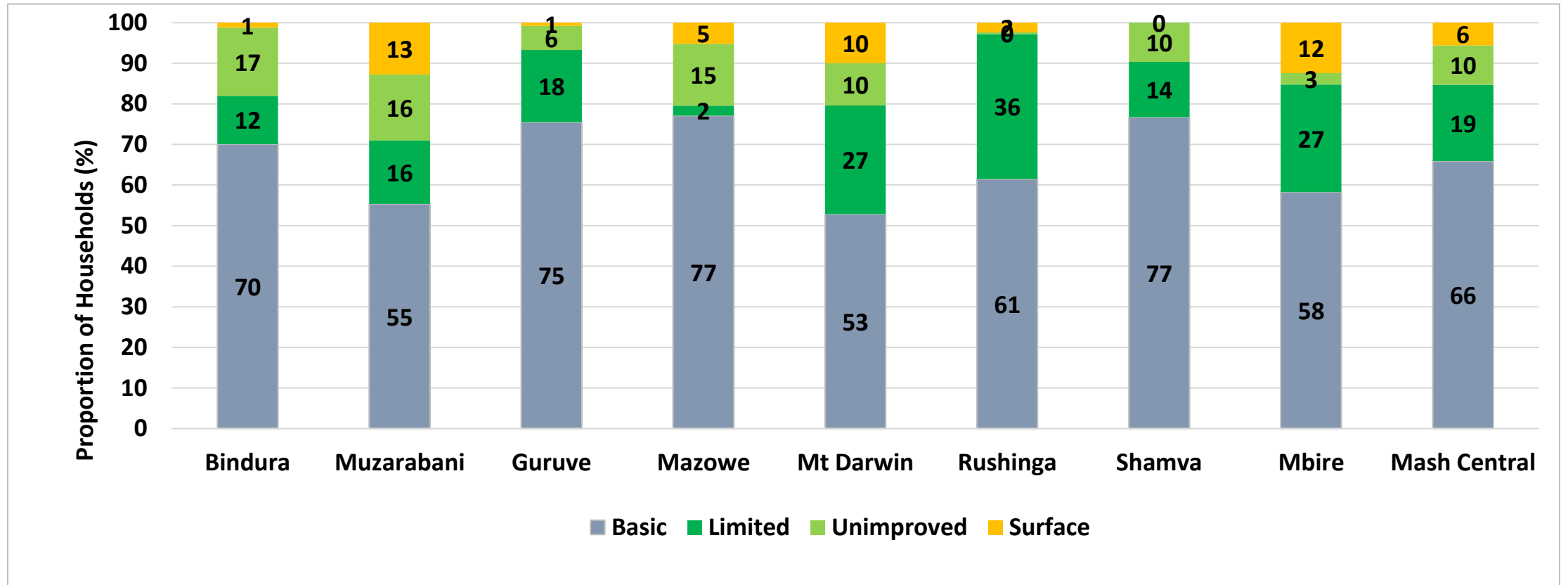
“Improved” drinking water sources are further defined by the quality of the water they produce, and are protected from faecal contamination by the nature of their construction or through an intervention to protect from outside contamination. Such sources include: piped water into dwelling, plot, or yard;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



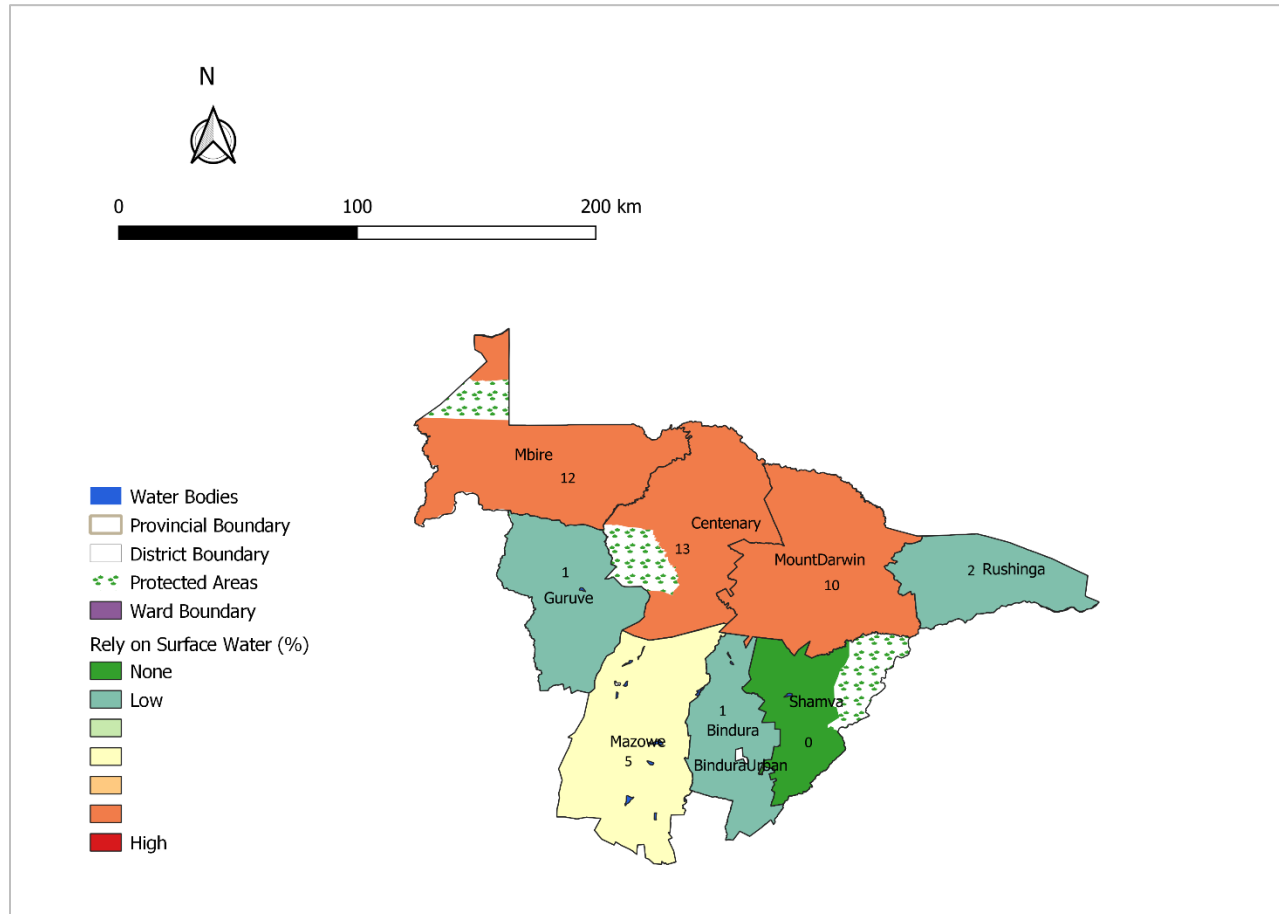
- There was an increase in the proportion of households with access to improved water in the province from 82% in 2021 to 84% in 2022.
- Rushinga (96%) had the highest proportion while Muzarabani (71%) had the least.

Main Drinking Water Sources



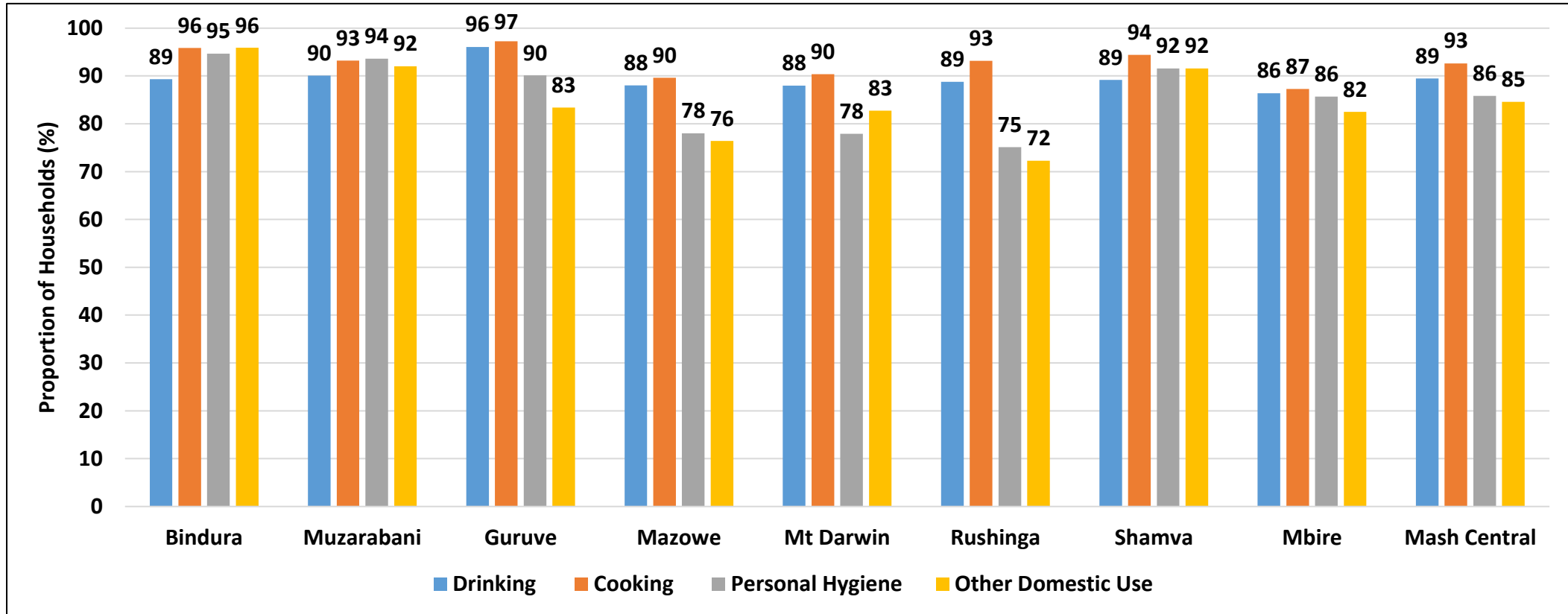
- The proportion of households accessing basic water services in the province was 66%.
- Shamva and Mazowe had the highest proportion of households accessing basic water services (77%).
- Muzarabani had the highest proportion of households using surface water as their main drinking water source (13%).

Surface Water as the Main Drinking Water Source



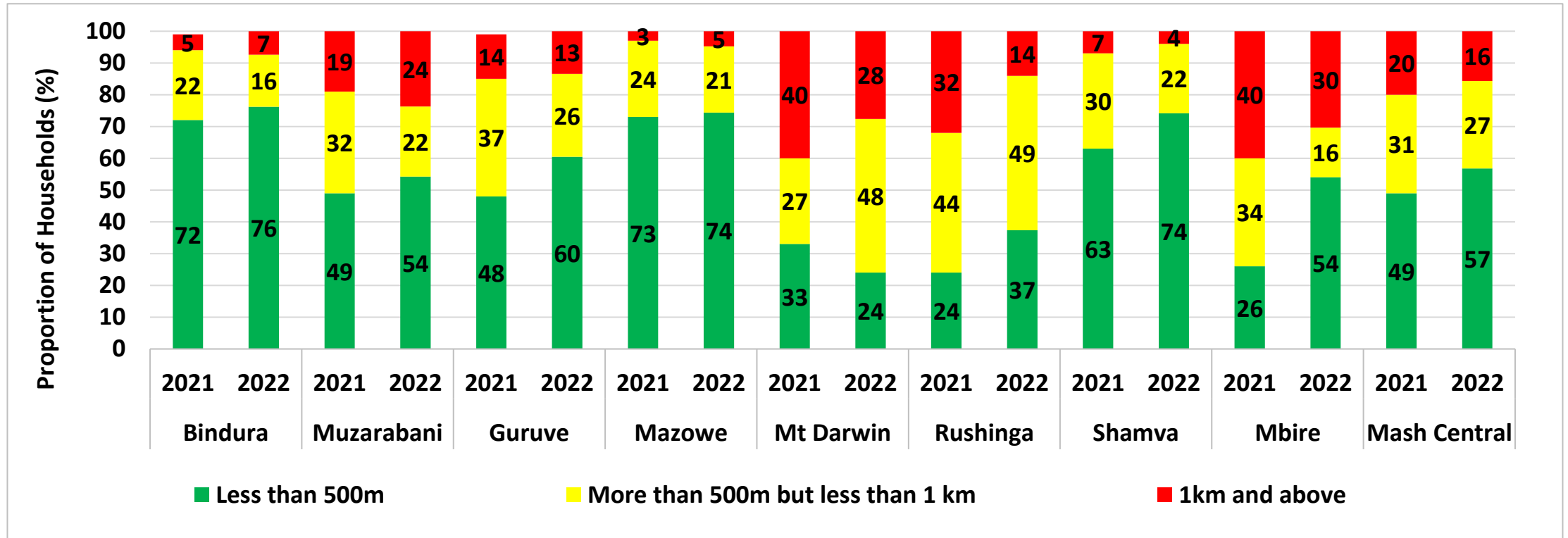
- Muzarabani (13%), Mbire (12%) and Mt Darwin (10%) reported the highest proportion of households using surface water as the main drinking source.

Access to Adequate Domestic Water



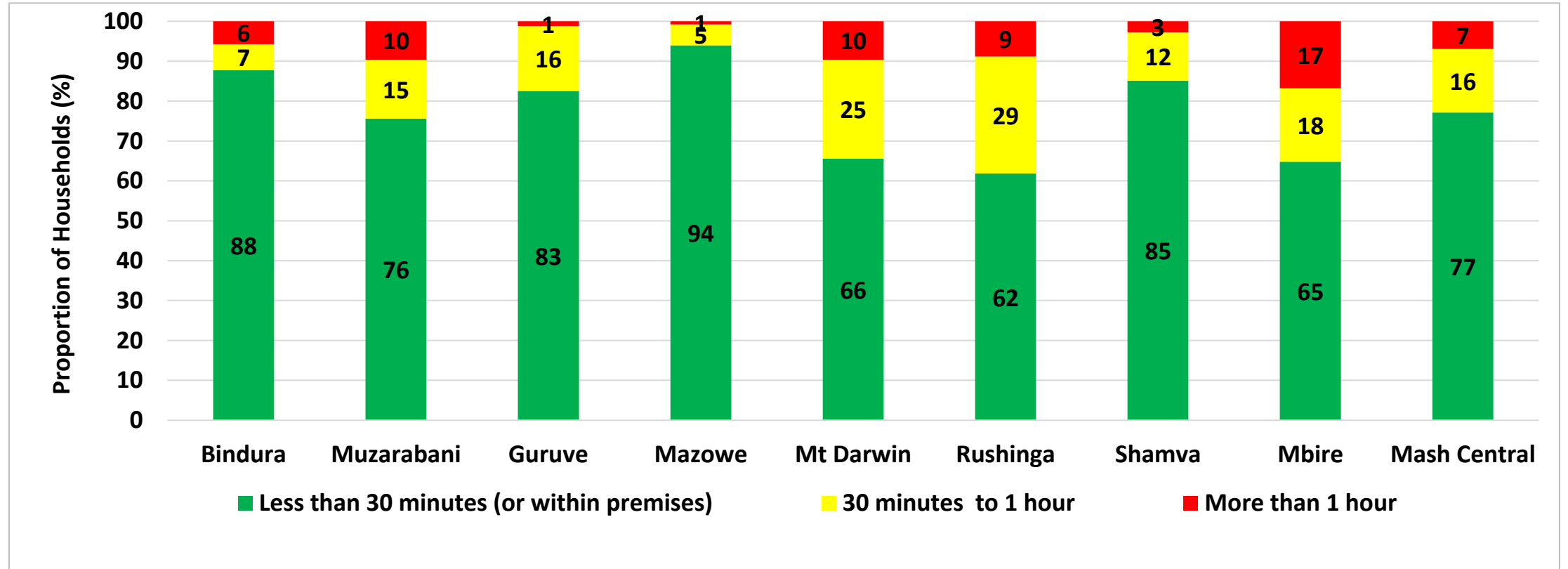
- At provincial level over 85% of the households had access to adequate water for drinking, cooking, personal hygiene and for other domestic use.
- Bindura (96%) had the highest proportion of households accessing water for other domestic use and Rushinga (72%) had the least.

Distance Travelled to Main Water Source



- At provincial level, 57% of the households travelled less than 500m to the main water source which was an improvement compared to 49% in 2021.
- Bindura (76%) had the highest proportion of households travelling less than 500m to the main water source and Mt Darwin (24%) had the least.
- For the year 2022 Mbire (30%) had the highest proportion of households travelling more than a km to the main water source.

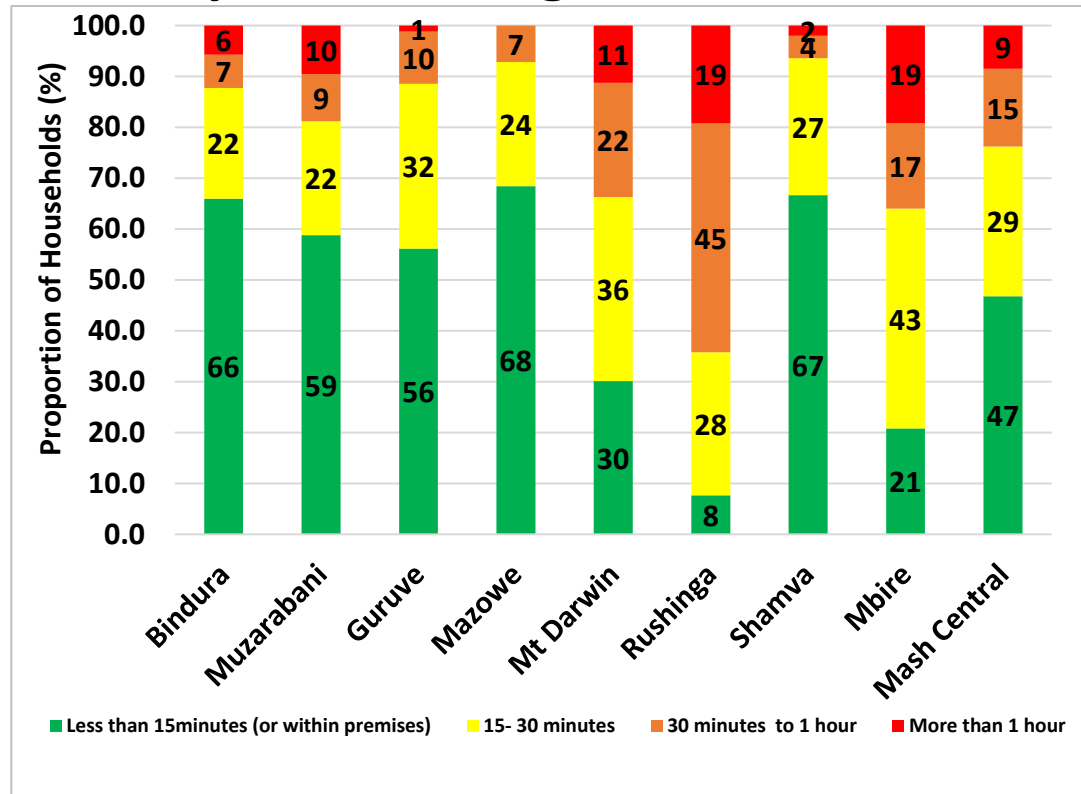
Time Spent Accessing Water Source



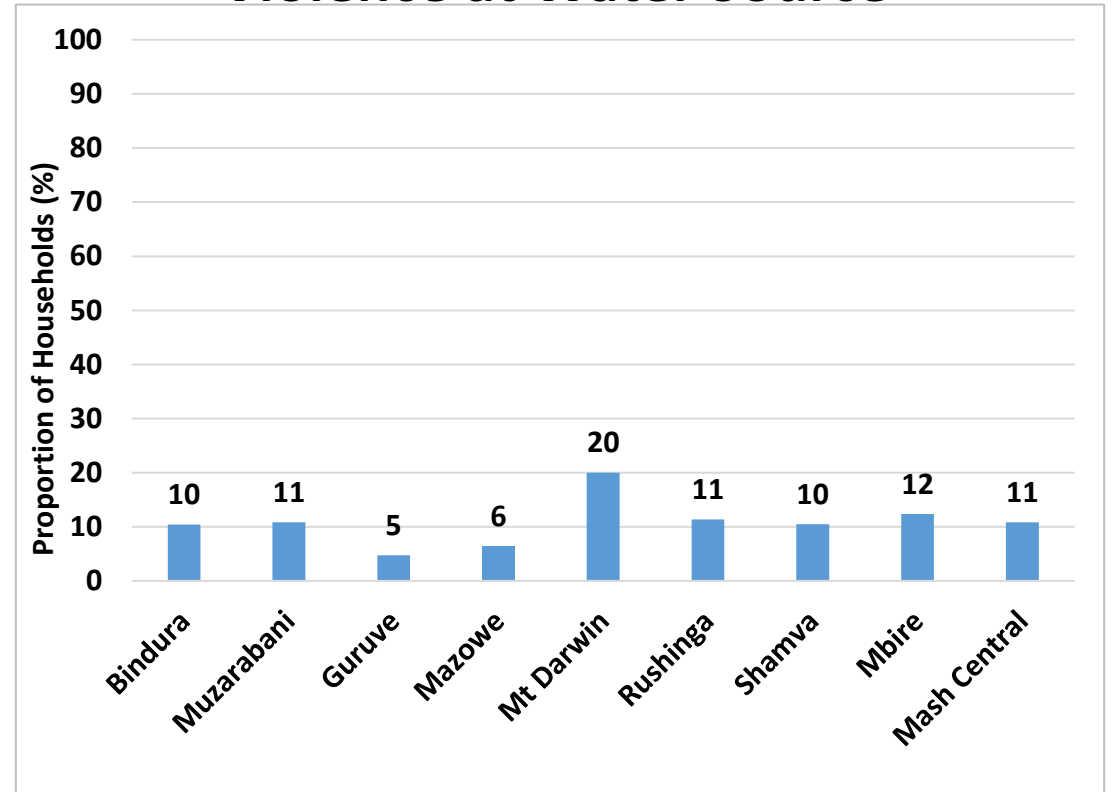
- Mbire (17%) had the greatest proportion of households taking more than 1 hour to fetch water from the main source.

Time Spent Queuing at Water Source and Violence at Water Source

Time Spent Queuing at Water Source

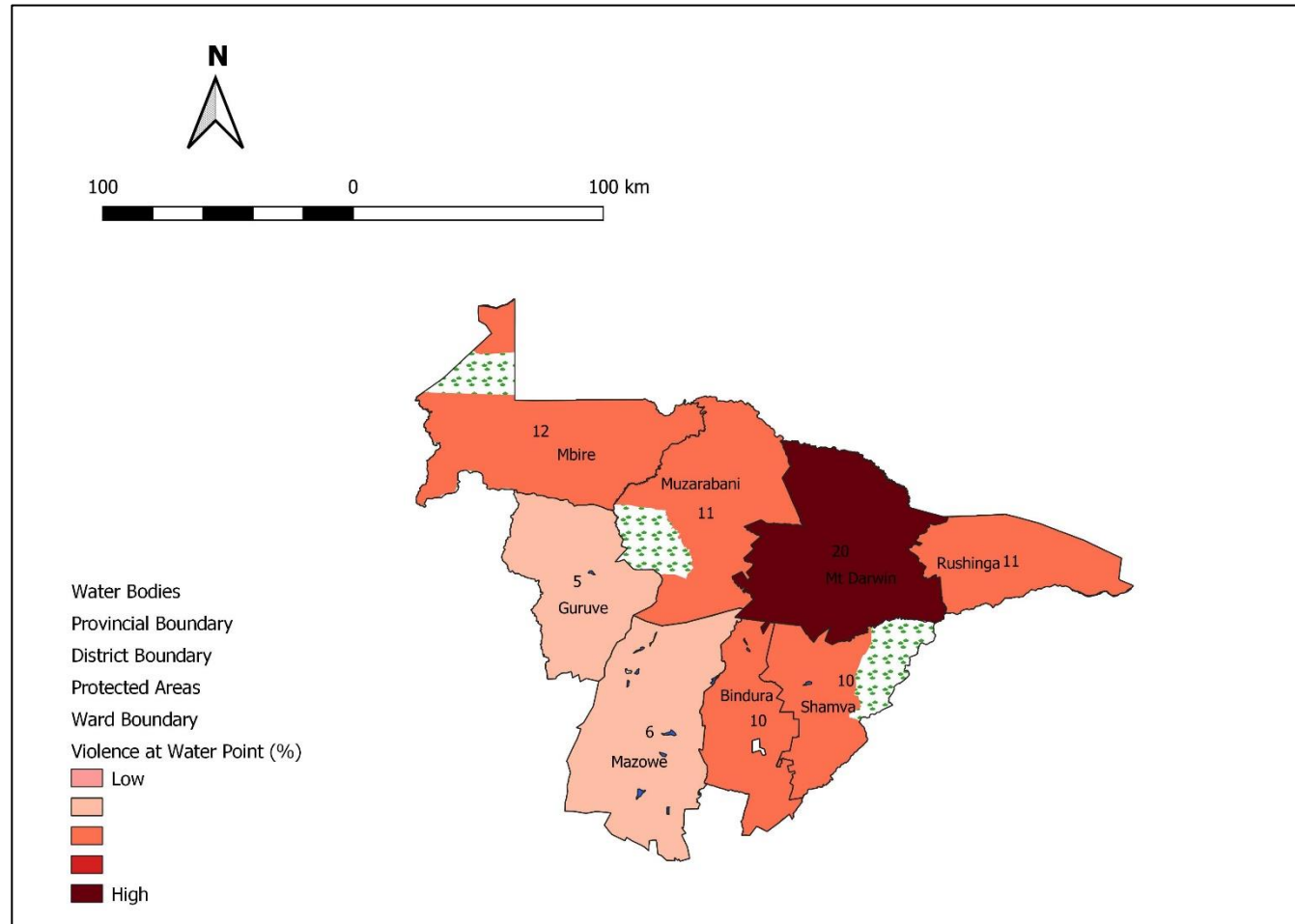


Violence at Water Source



- The proportion of households spending more than an hour queuing at a water source was highest in Rushinga and Mbire (19%).
- Violence at water source was highest in Mt Darwin (20%) and least in Guruve (5%).

Violence at Water Source



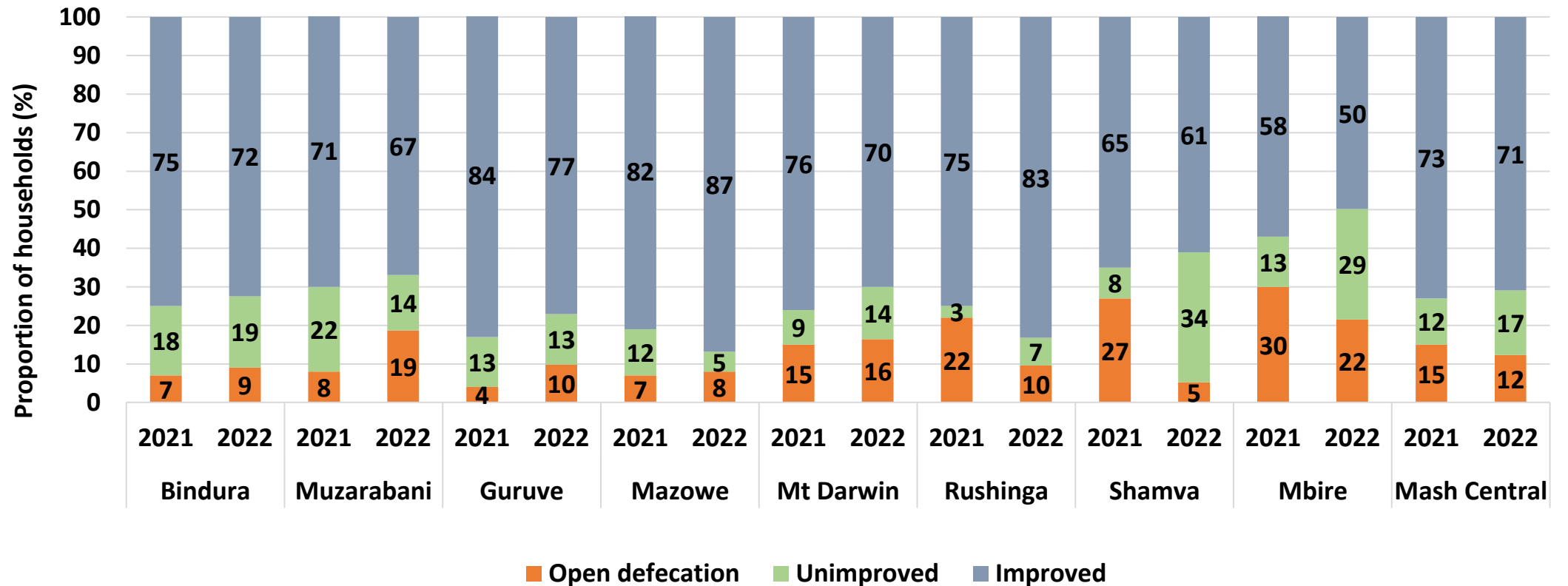
- Violence at water source was highest in Mt Darwin (20%) and least in Guruve (5%).

Ladder of Sanitation

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

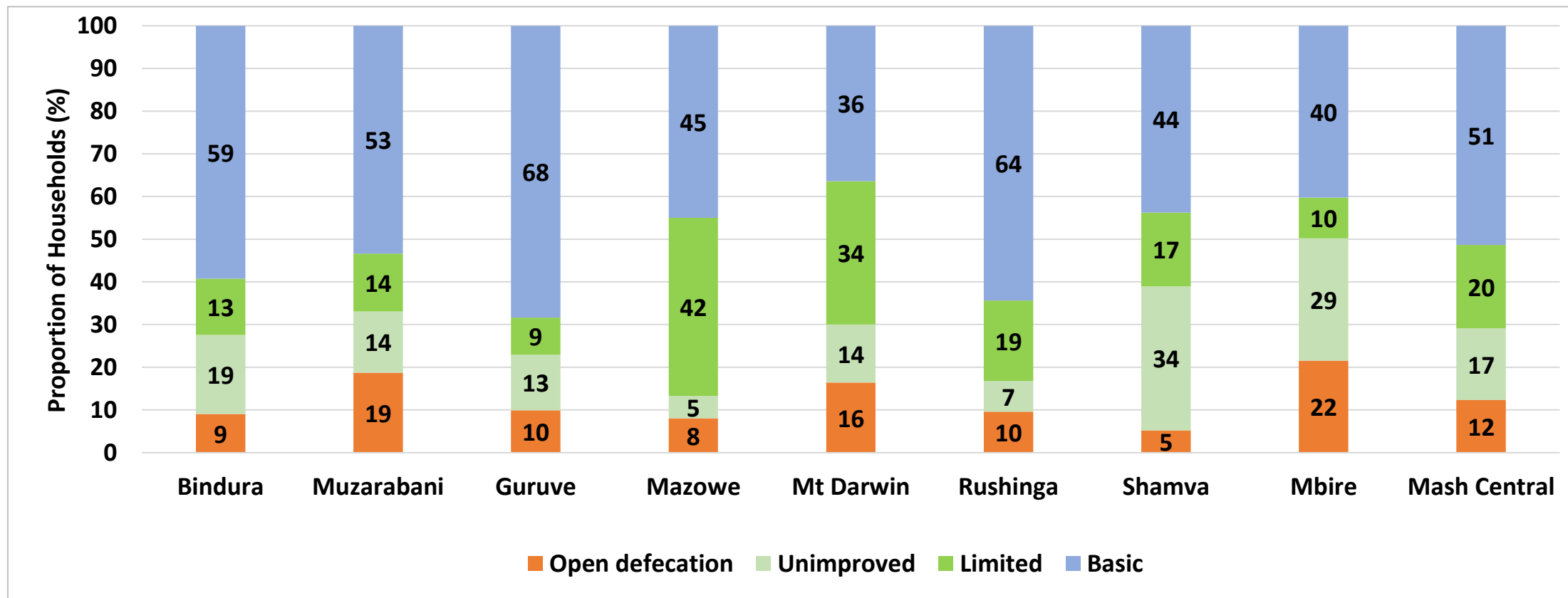
Note: Improved sanitation facilities: Facilities that ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact. They include flush or pour flush toilet/latrine, Blair ventilated improved pit (BVIP), pit latrine with slab and upgradeable Blair latrine.

Access to Improved Sanitation



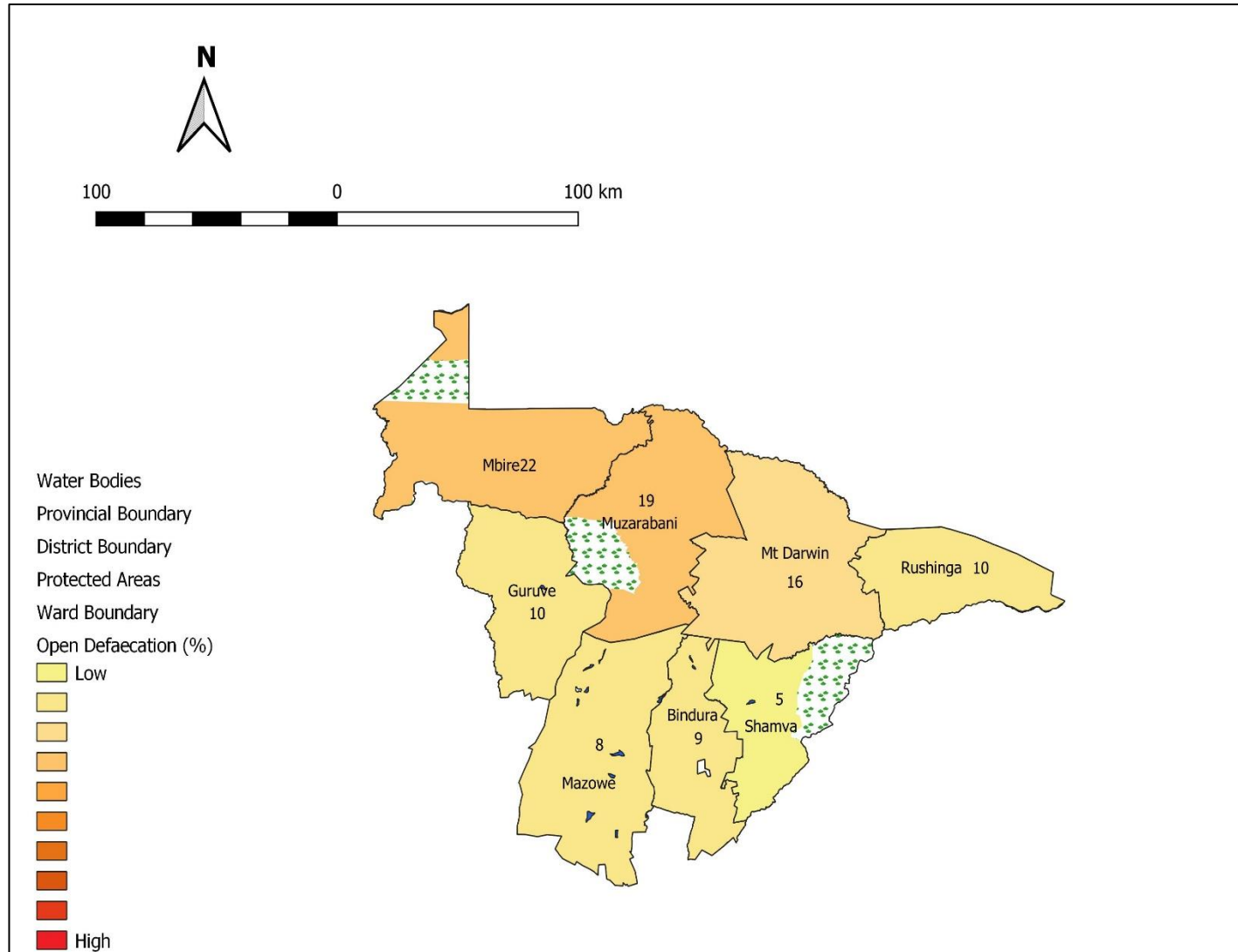
- In the province, open defecation decreased from 15% in 2021 to 12% in 2022.
- Shamva had the least proportion households practising open defecation (5%). This was an improvement from the previous year (27%).
- Mbire (22%) had the highest proportion of households practising open defecation, though it was a decrease from 30% in the previous year.

Household Sanitation Services



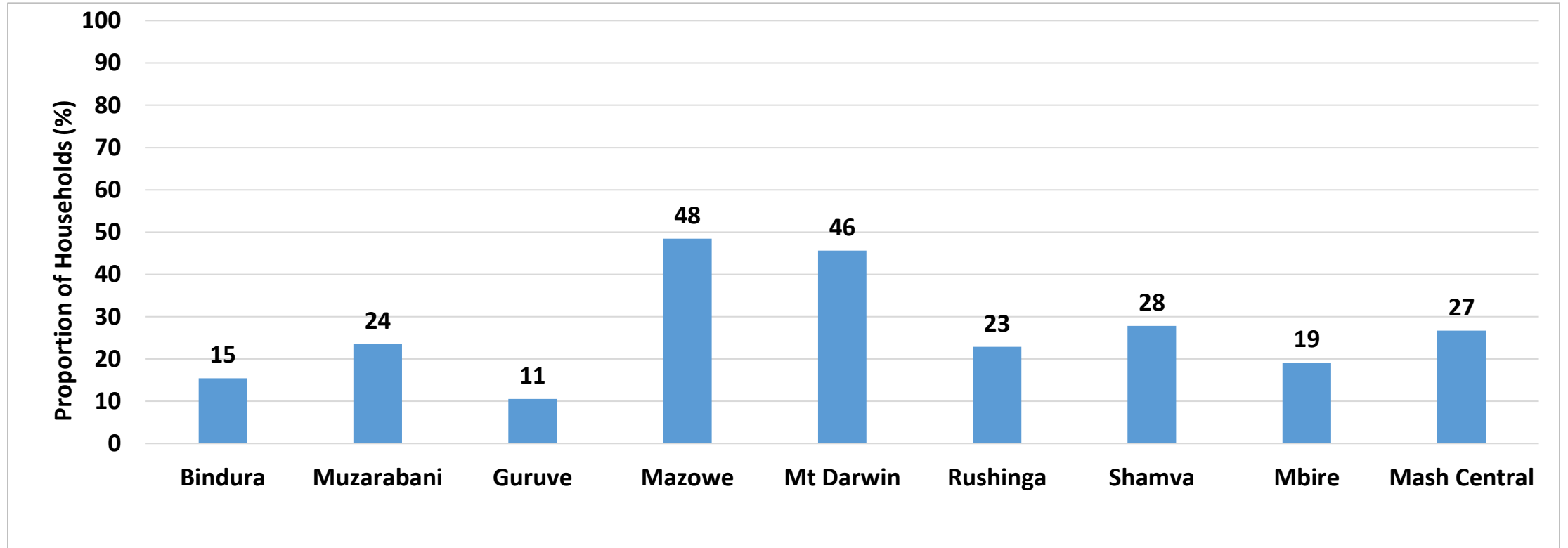
- In the province, the proportion of households with access to basic sanitation was 51%.

Open Defecation



- Mbire (22%) and Muzarabani (19%) reported the highest proportion of households practising open defecation.

Sharing of Toilet Facilities



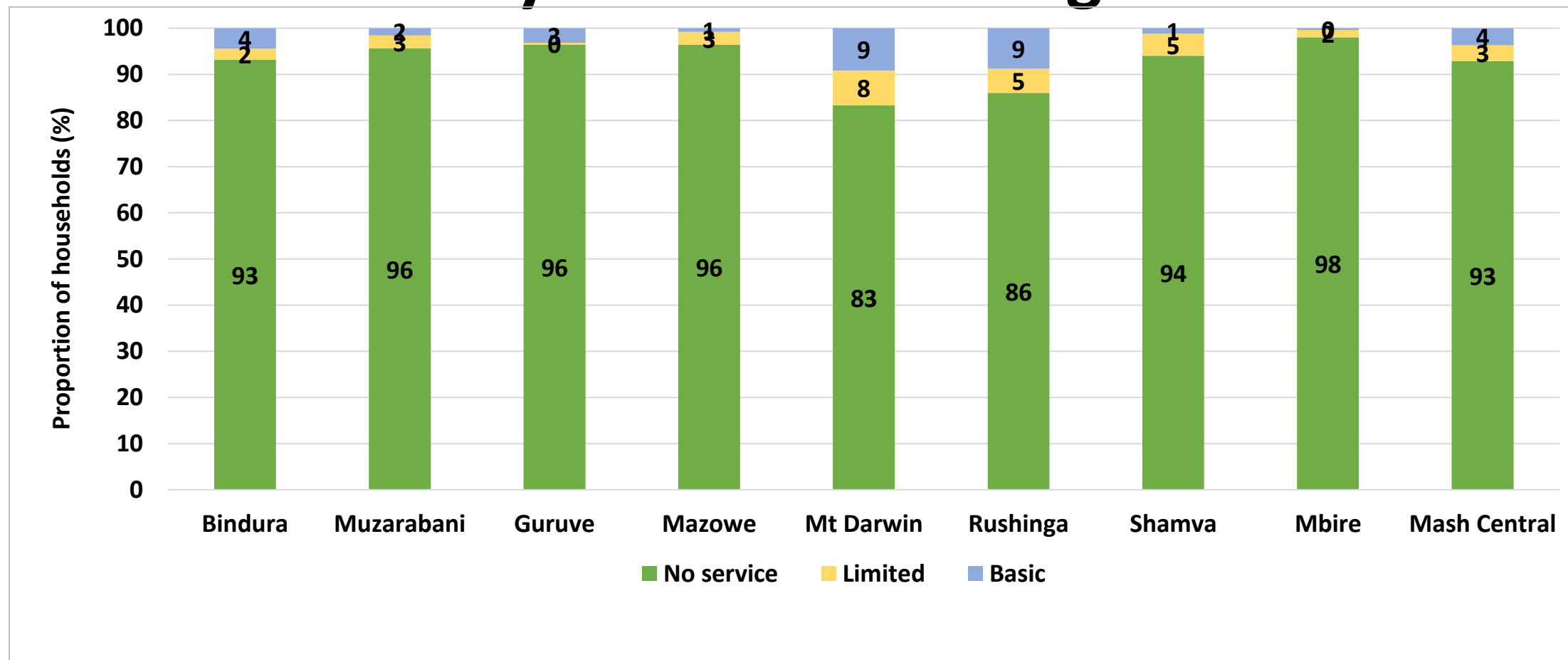
- Mazowe (48%) followed by Mt Darwin (46%) had the highest proportion of households sharing toilet facilities.
- Guruve (11%) had the least.

Ladder of 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 Hand Washing Facilities



- A greater proportion of households in Mashonaland Central (93%) reported not having hand washing facilities.

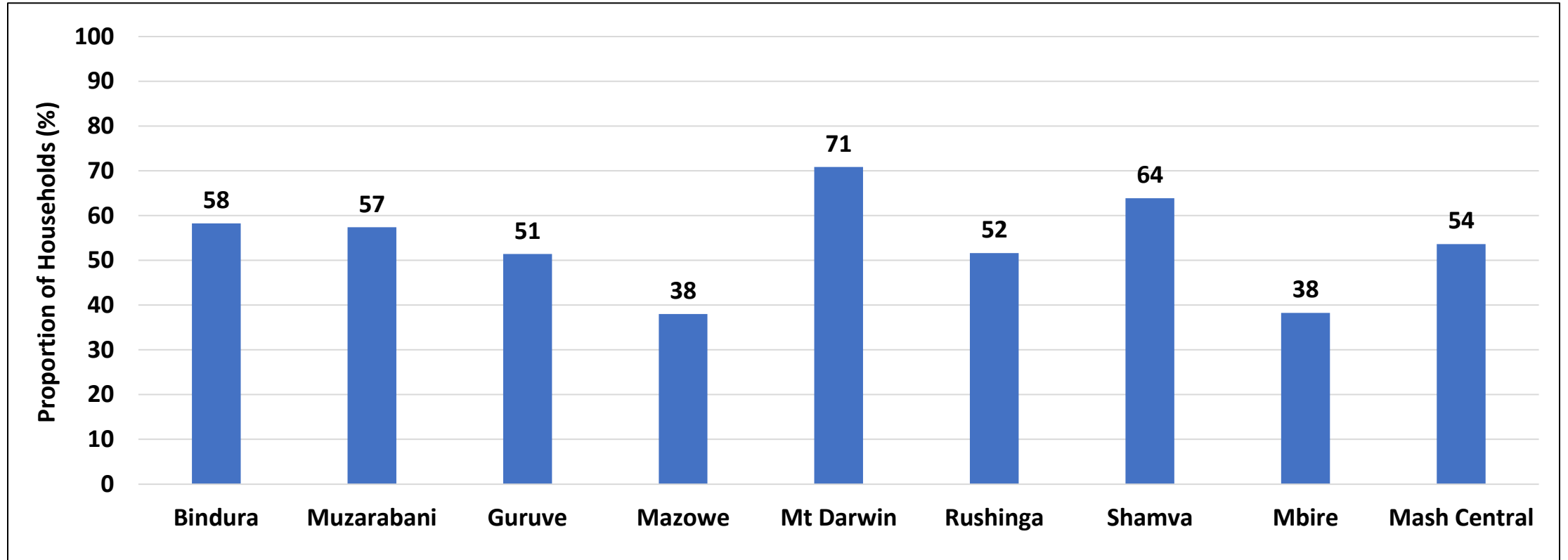
Hand Washing at Critical Times

	Never (%)	After using the toilet (%)	Before handling food (%)	After changing children nappies/diapers (%)	Before/after eating (%)	After assisting the sick (%)	Regularly (%)	When ever they feel their hands are dirty (%)	Other (%)
Bindura	0	69	65	25	57	36	37	2	0
Muzarabani	1	82	63	13	80	4	21	22	0
Guruve	0	90	92	14	75	8	5	23	0
Mazowe	0	85	68	17	58	14	23	33	0
Mt Darwin	0	70	56	31	63	28	67	4	0
Rushinga	0	83	63	16	67	5	32	2	0
Shamva	0	76	58	19	70	3	4	25	1
Mbire	0	82	85	16	85	31	29	4	0
Mash Central	0	80	69	19	69	16	27	14	0

- The greatest proportion of households in the province reported washing hands after using the toilet (80%) with Guruve (90%) having the highest proportion.

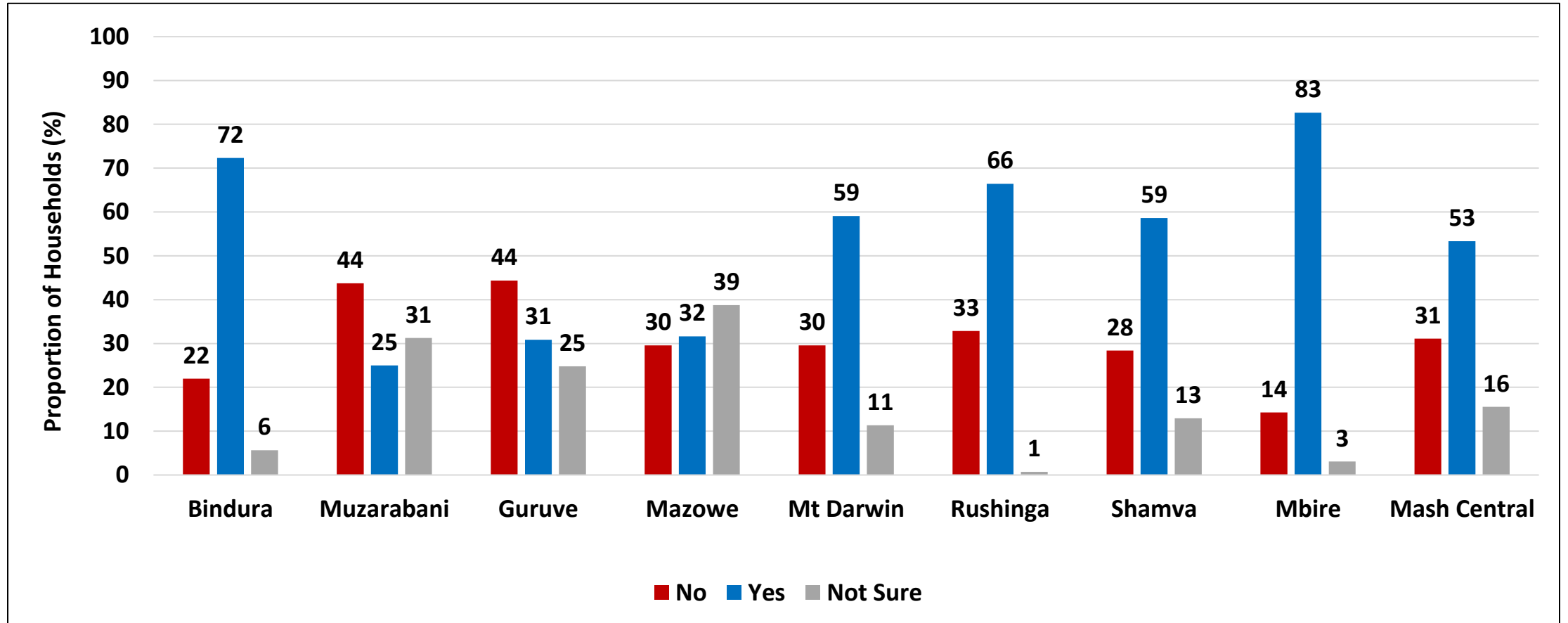
Access to Critical Infrastructure, Information and Services

Access to Police Services Within One Hour



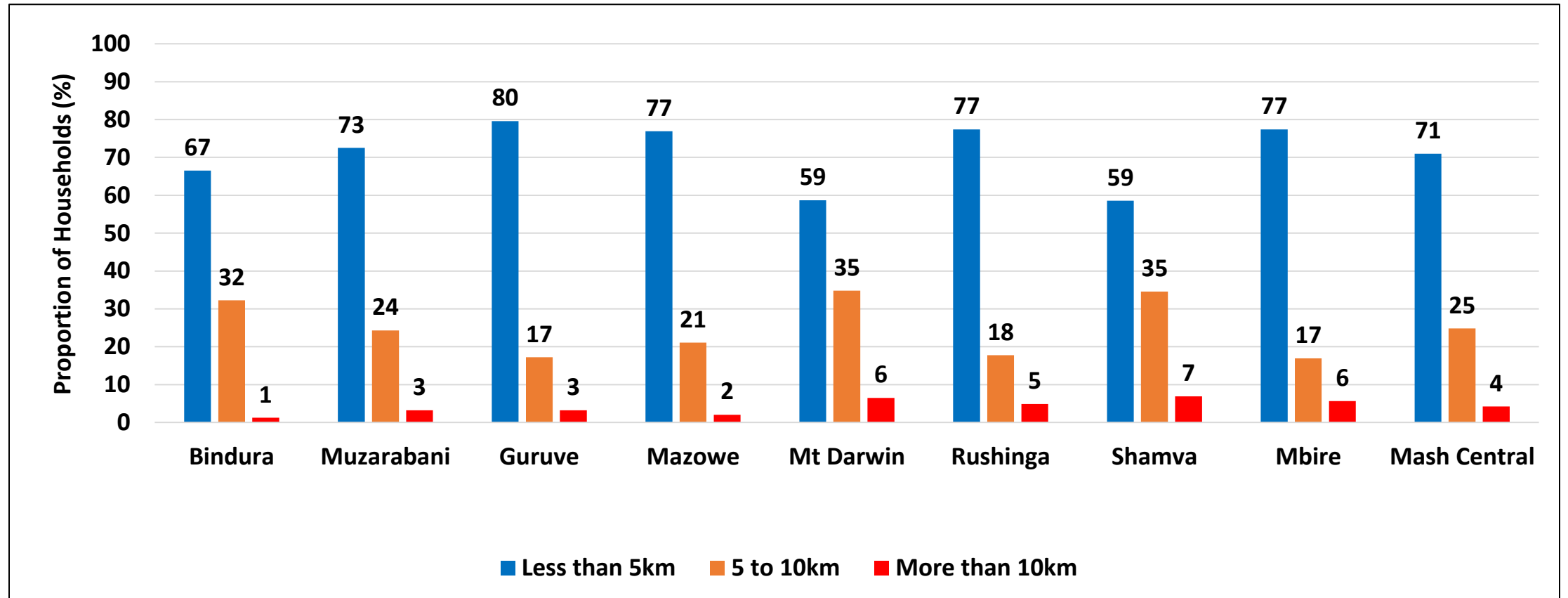
- About 54% of households in the province had access to police services within one hour.

Access to Victim Friendly Unit



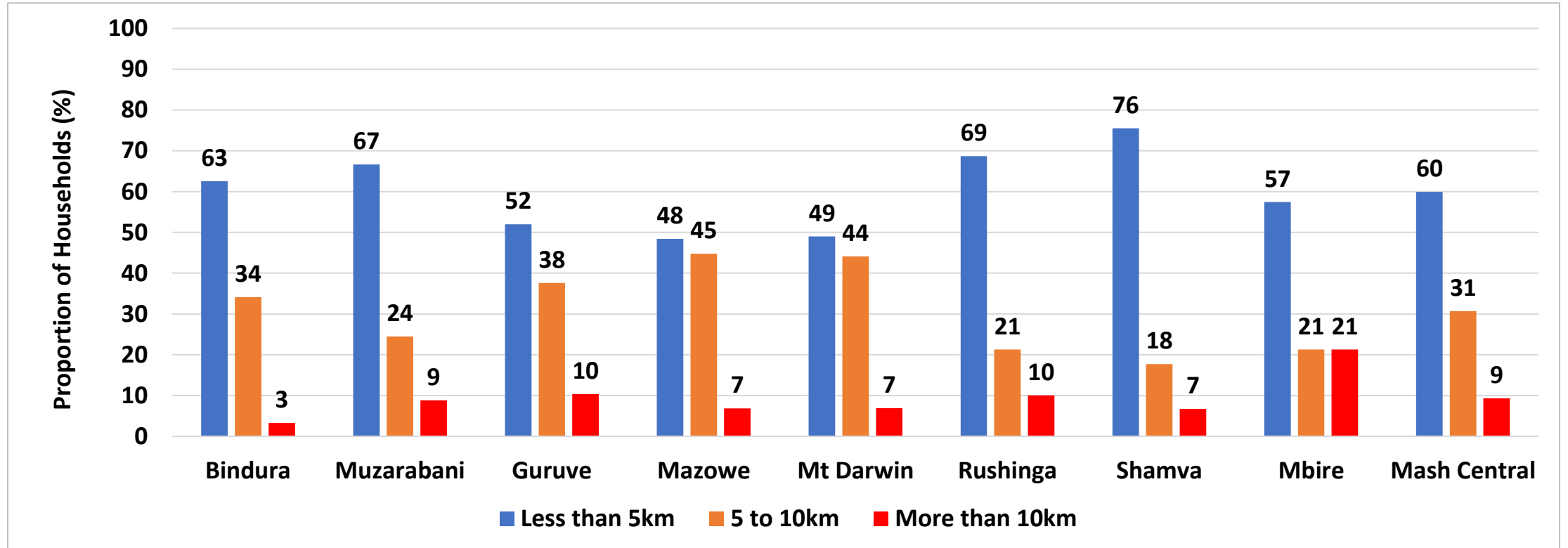
- About 53% of the households had access to victim friendly services.

Distance to Nearest Primary School



- About 71% of the households reported to have their nearest primary school within a 5km radius which was commendable.

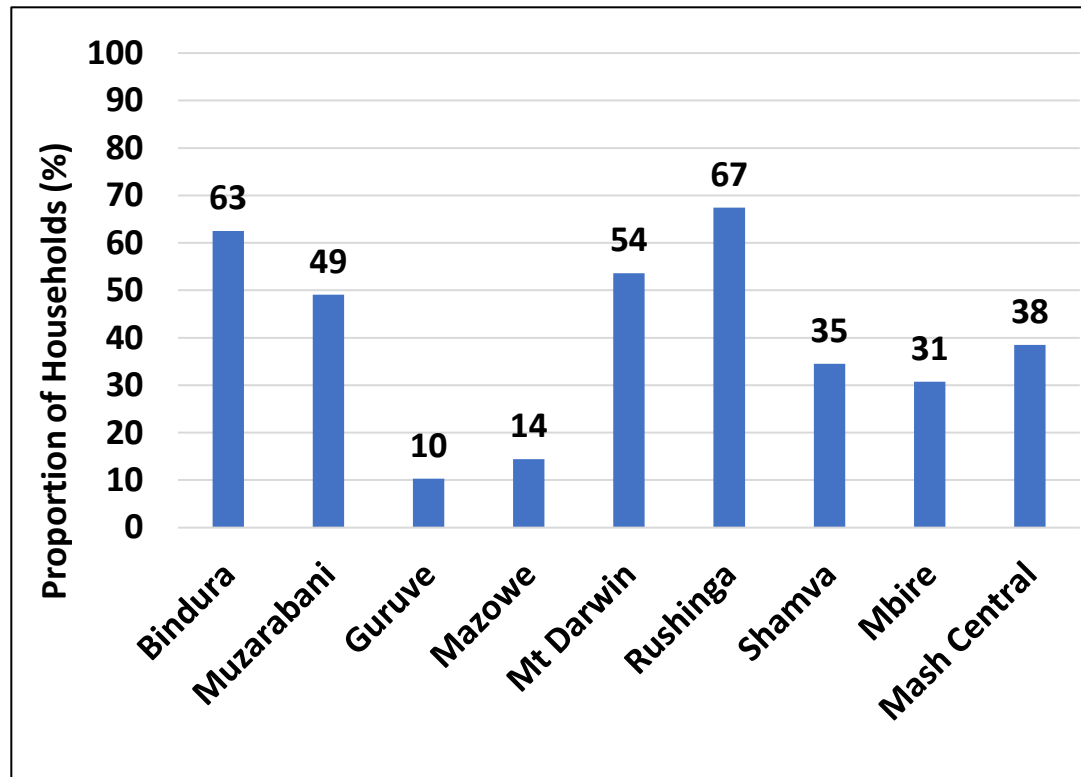
Distance to Nearest Health Facility



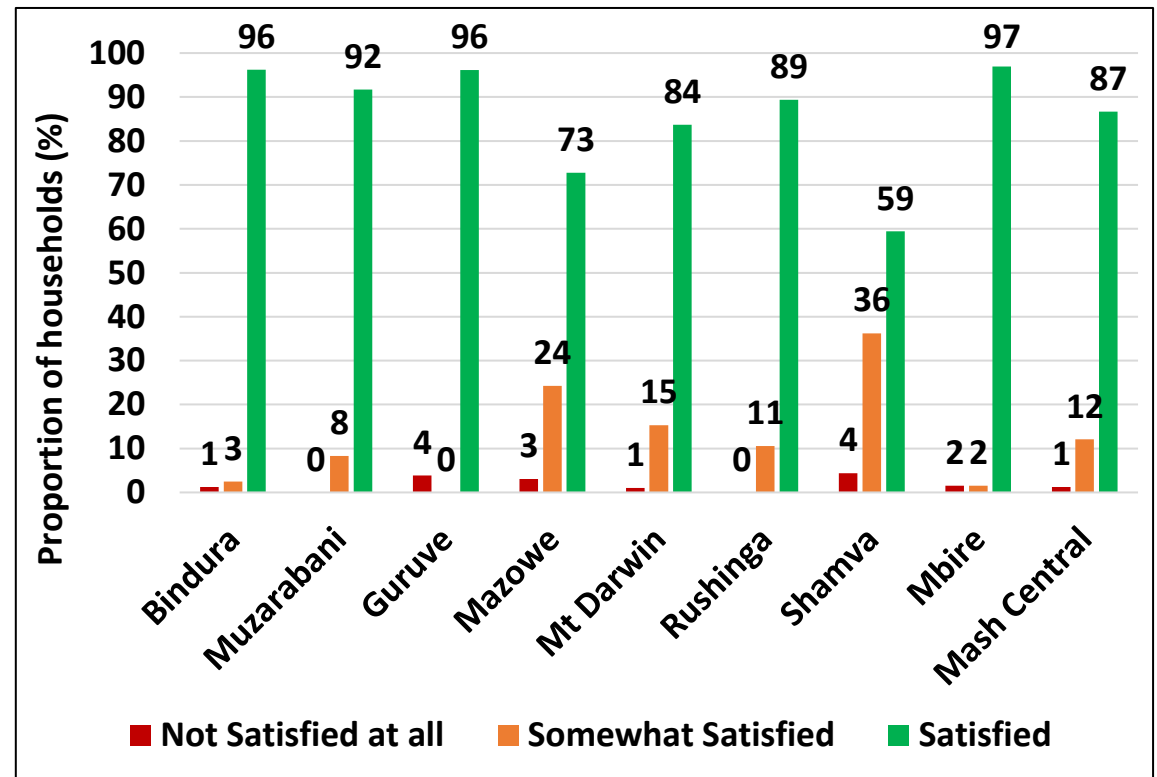
- About 60% of households were within a 5km radius to the nearest health facility while 9% were more than 10km from their nearest health facility.

Households which Received Extension Support on January Disease

Received Extension Support on January Disease



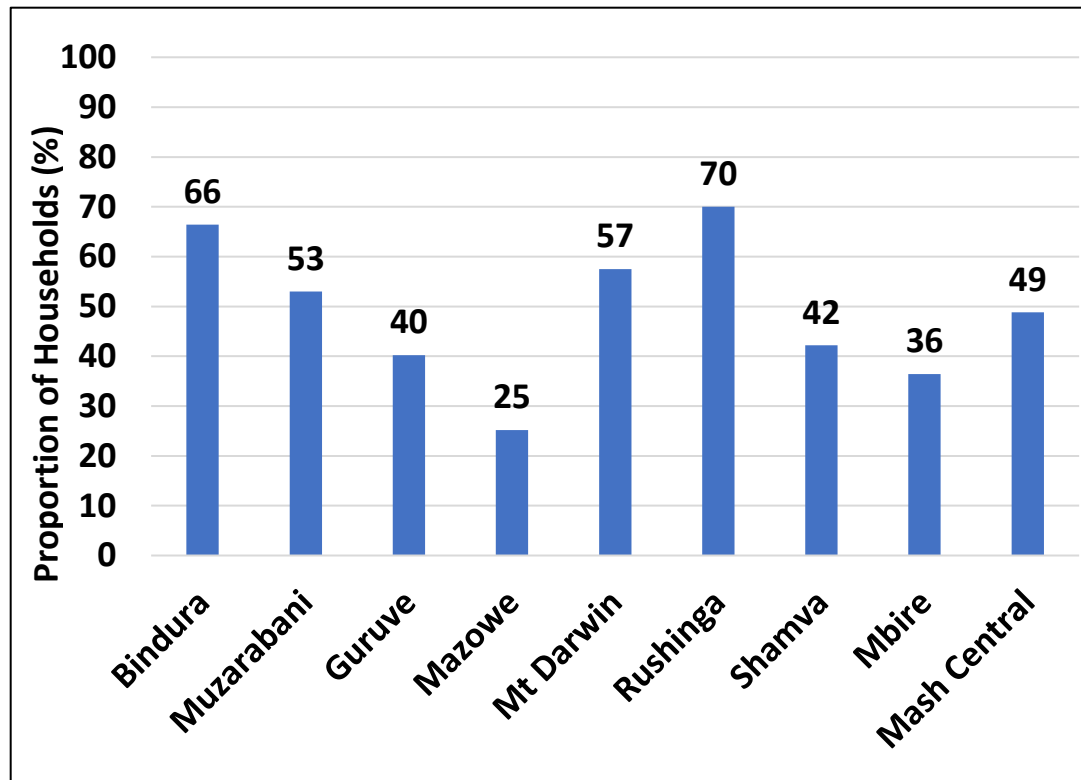
Satisfaction on January Disease Extension Service



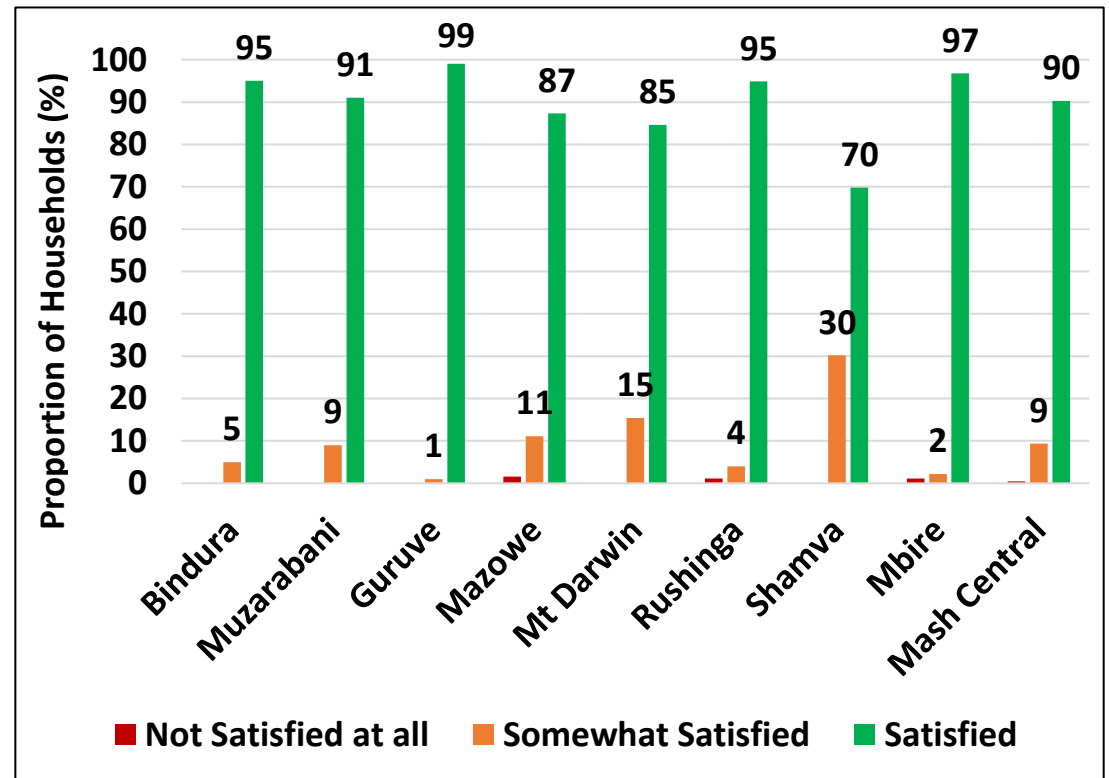
- About 38% of households reported to have received support on January disease.
- Of these, 87% reported that they were satisfied with the service provided.

Households which Received Extension Support on Fall Armyworm

Received Extension Support on Fall Armyworm



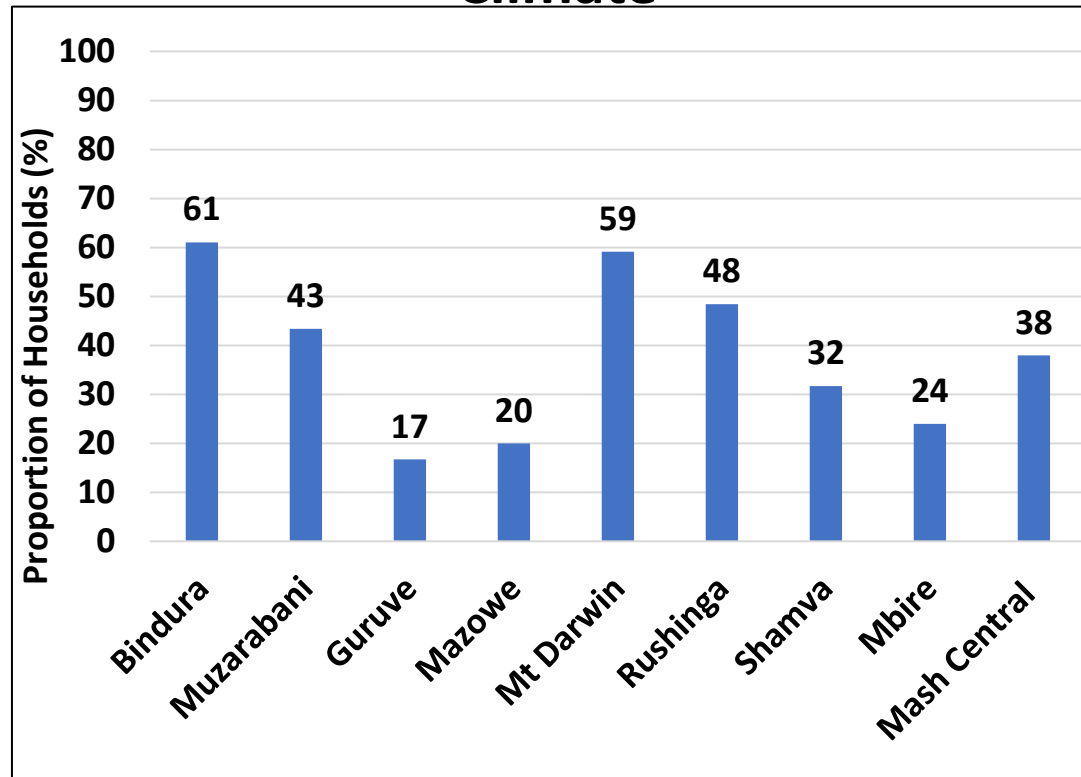
Satisfaction on Fall Armyworm Extension Support



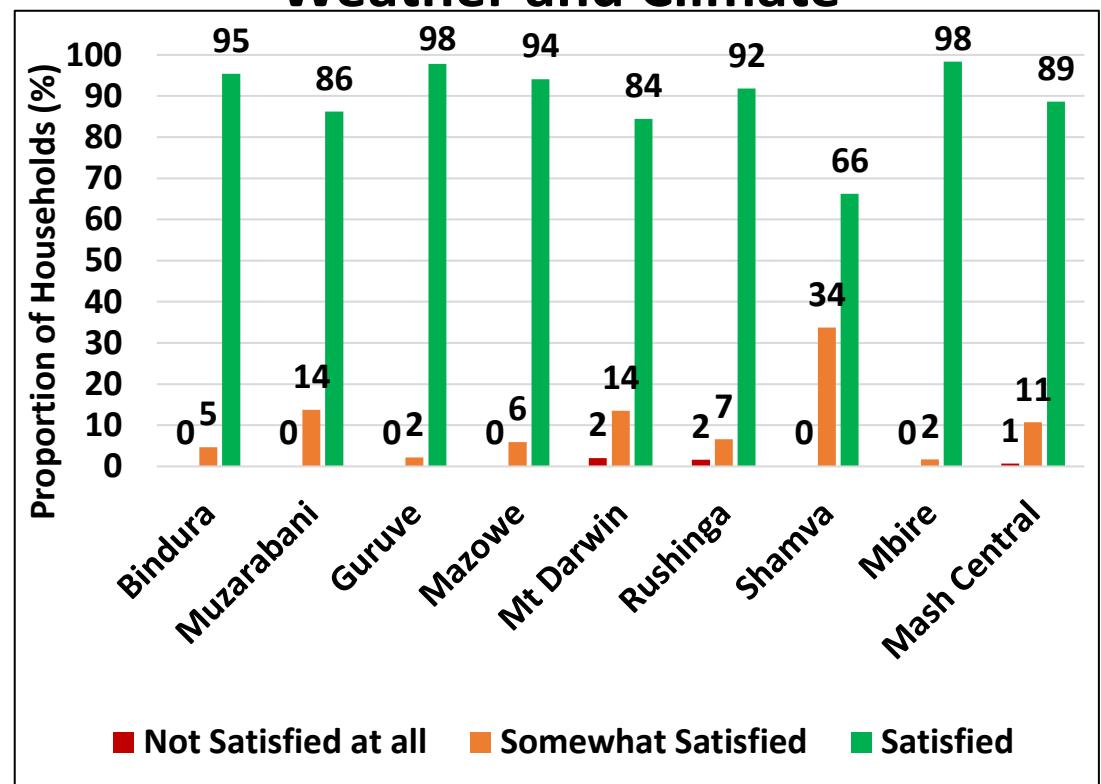
- About 49% of households received extension support on fall armyworm.
- Of these, 90% reported that they were satisfied with the service provided.

Households which Received Extension Support on Weather and Climate

Extension Support on Weather and Climate

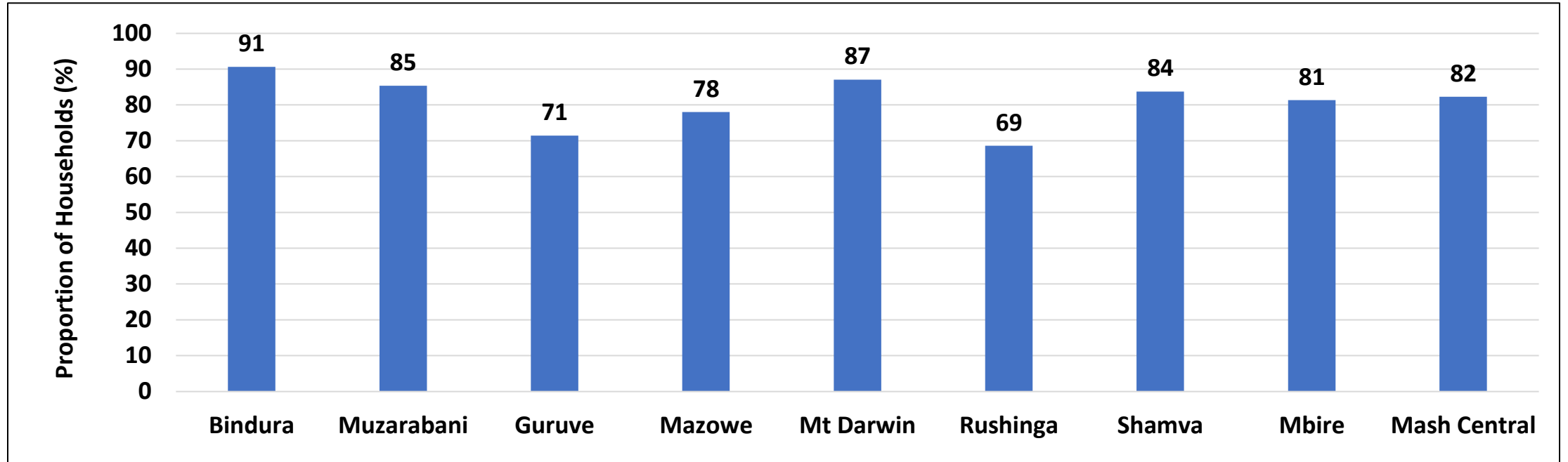


Satisfaction on Extension Support on Weather and Climate



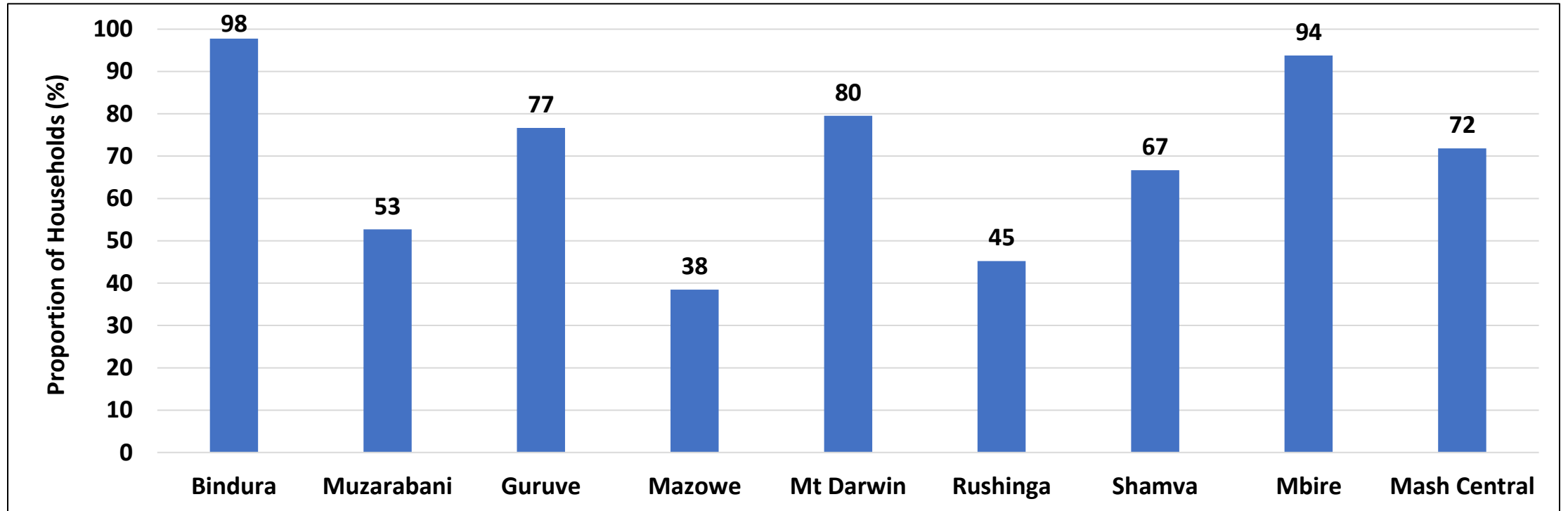
- Only 38% of households reported to have received support on weather and climate disease.
- Of the households which received extension support on climate and weather, 89% reported that they were satisfied with the service provided.

Households which Received Early Warning Information on Seasonal Performance



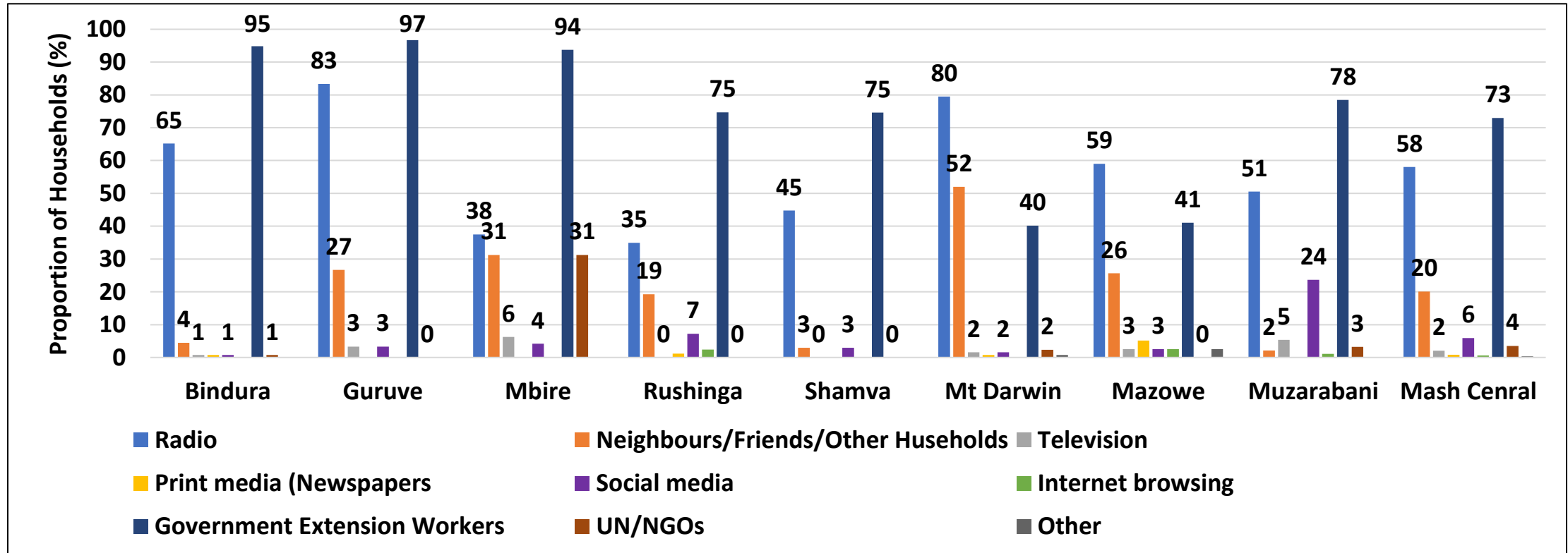
- Most households (82%) received early warning information on seasonal performance.

Households which Used Early Warning Information for Decision Making



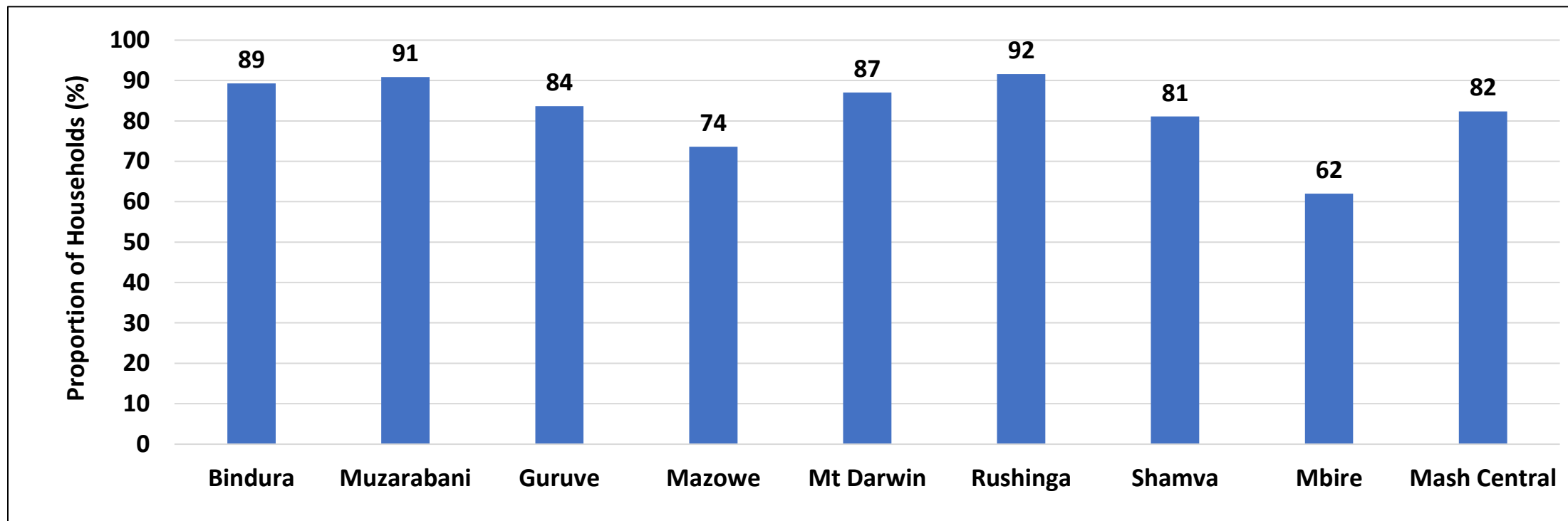
- Of those households which received early warning information, 72% used it for decision making.

Early Warning Information Sources



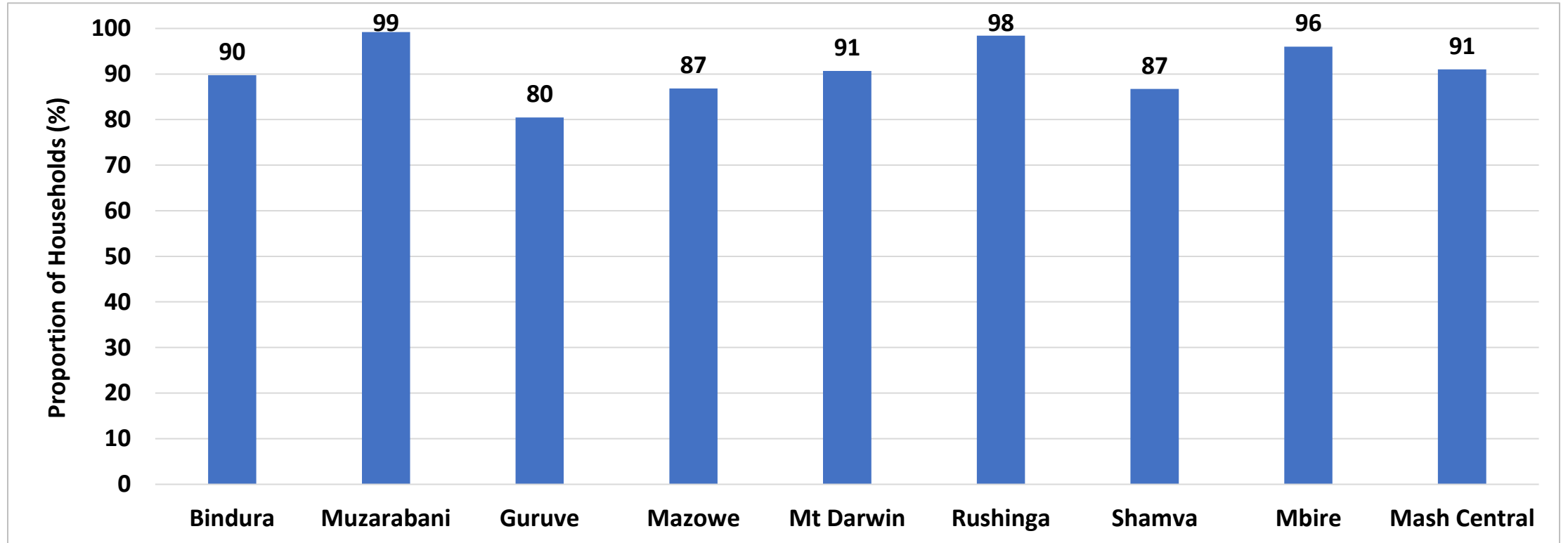
- The major source of early warning information was Government extension workers (73%).

Access to Health Information



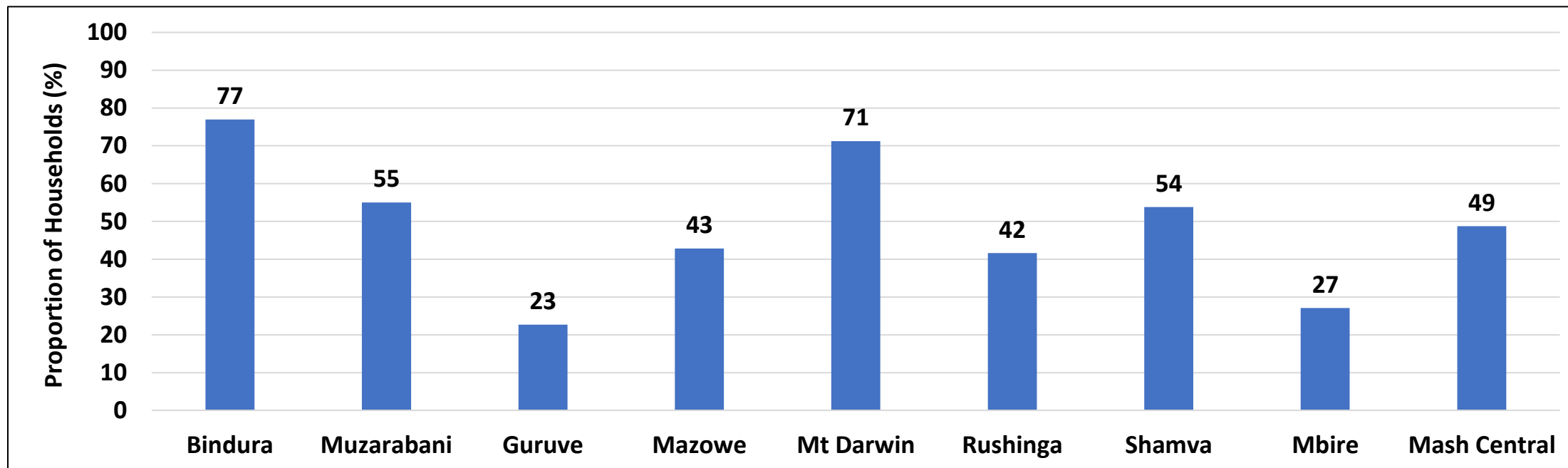
- Access to health information was high across all districts.

Access to Village Health Worker Services



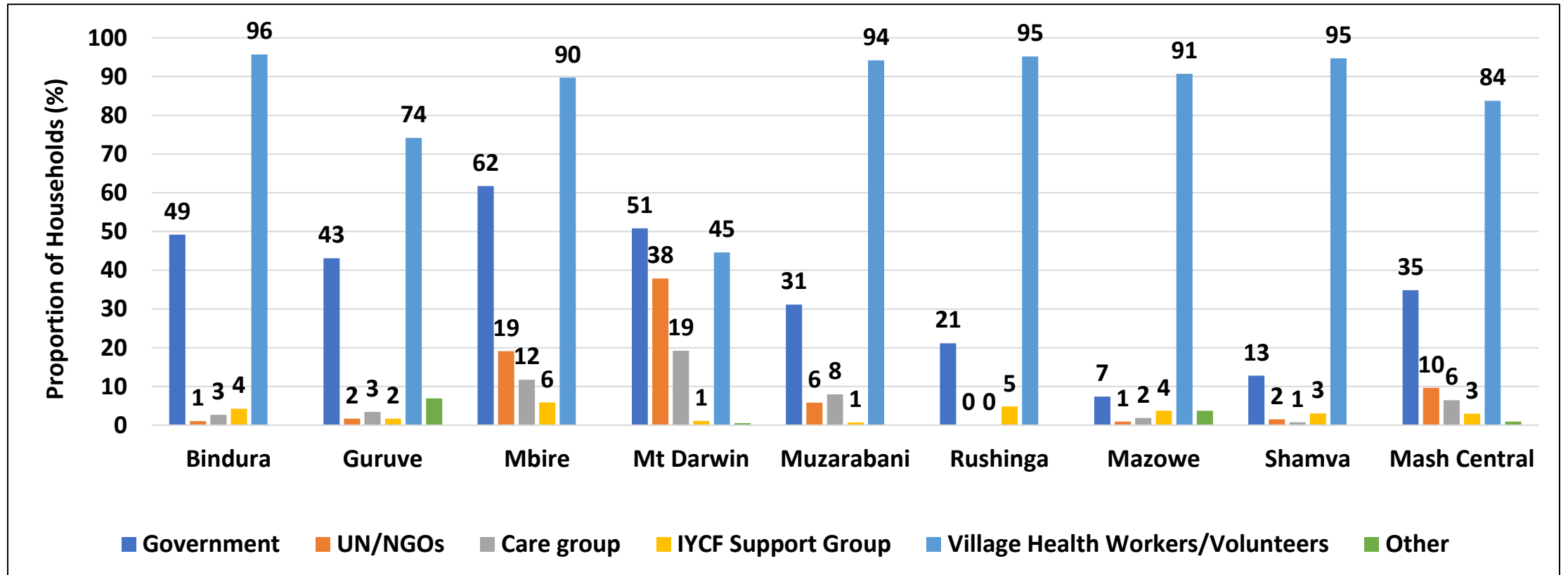
- Most households (91%) had access to the services of a Village Health Worker.

Households Which Received Nutrition Education



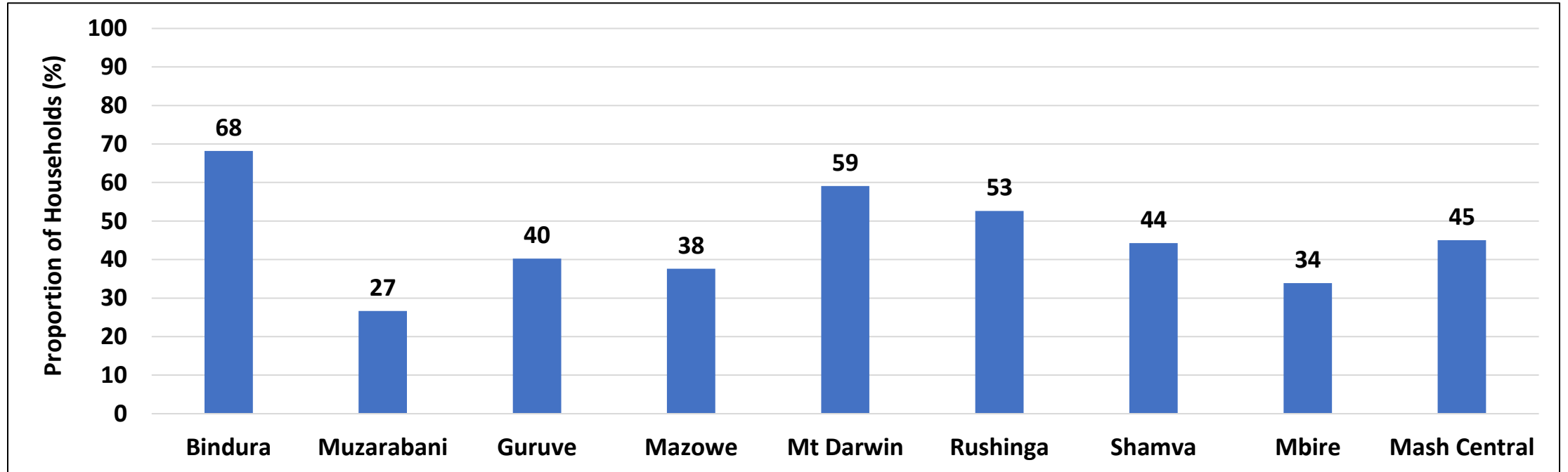
- About 49% of households received nutrition education.
- Guruve (23%) and Mbire (27%) had the lowest proportion.

Nutrition Information Providers



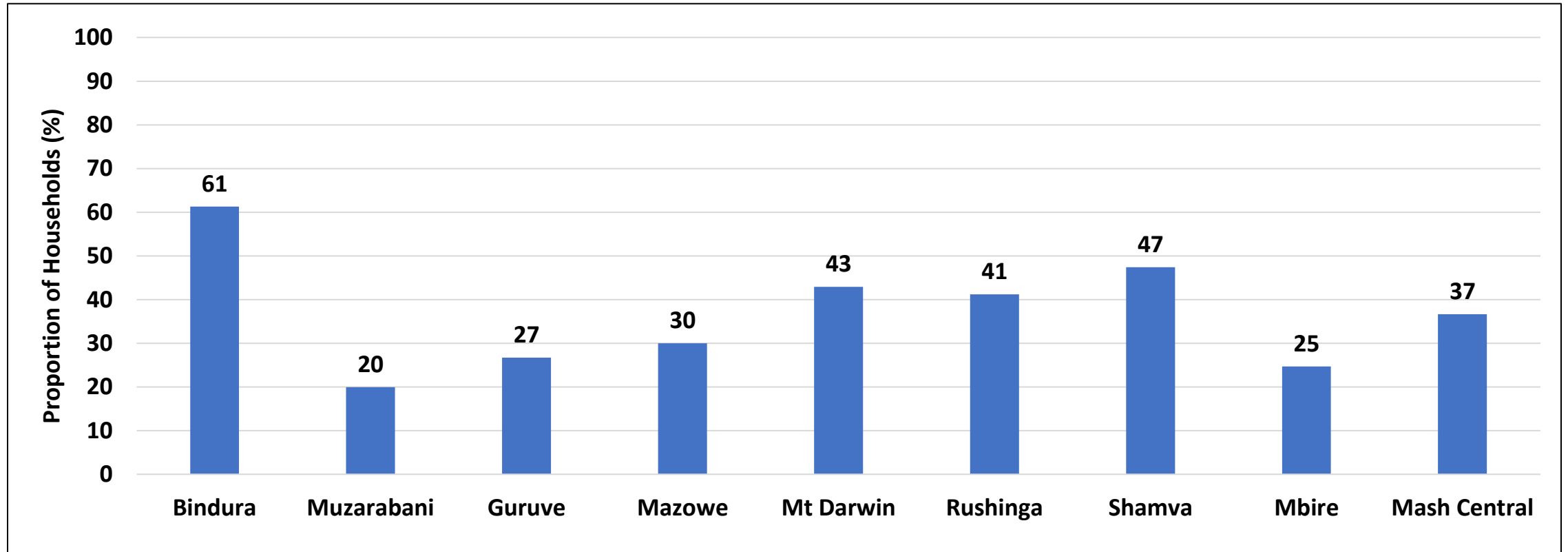
- Most households (84%) reported that village health workers were the major source of nutrition information.

Access to Information on Services for Physical and Sexual Violence



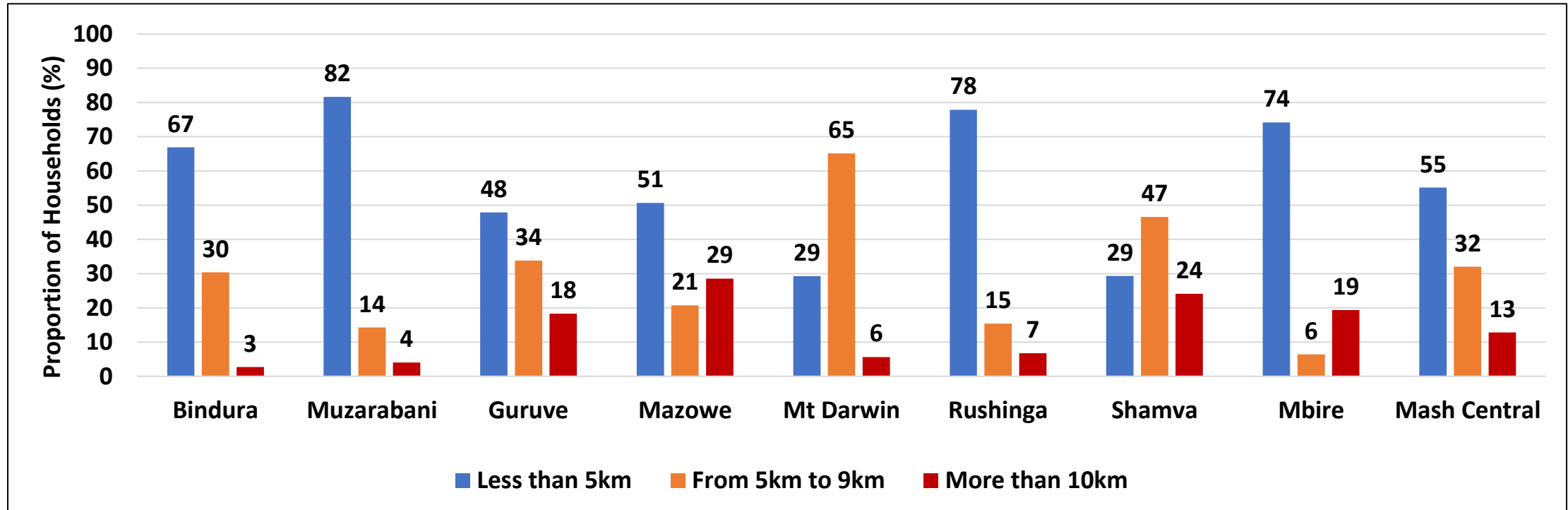
- About 45% of households had access to information on physical and sexual violence.

Access to Services for Physical and Sexual Violence



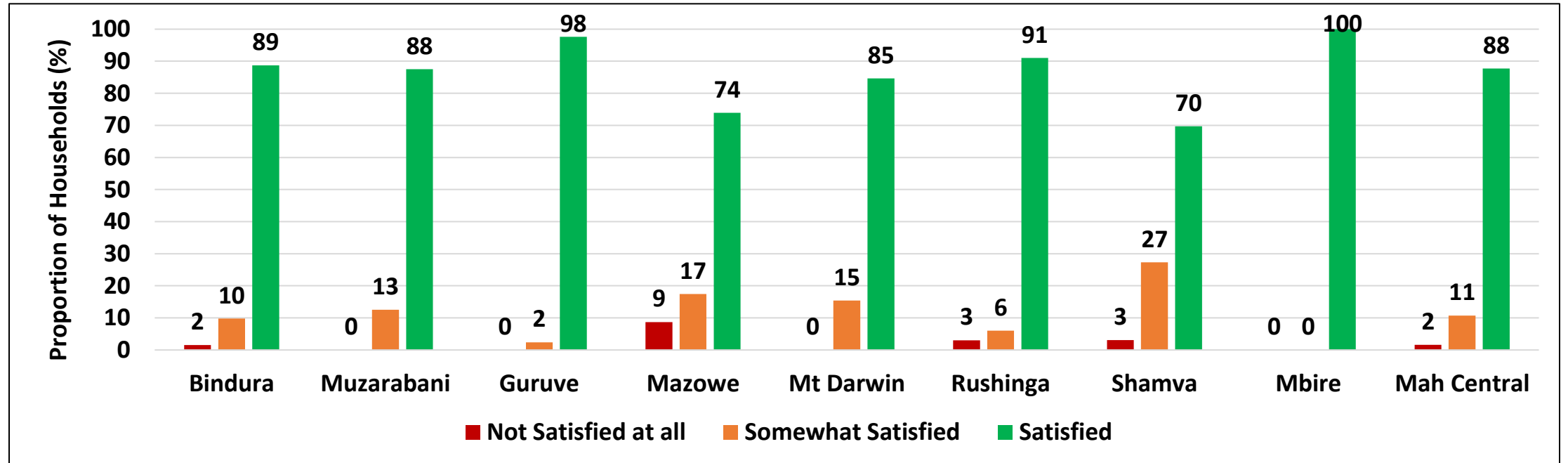
- A low proportion of households (37%) had access to services for physical and sexual violence.

Distance to the Nearest Facility for Physical or Sexual Violence Services



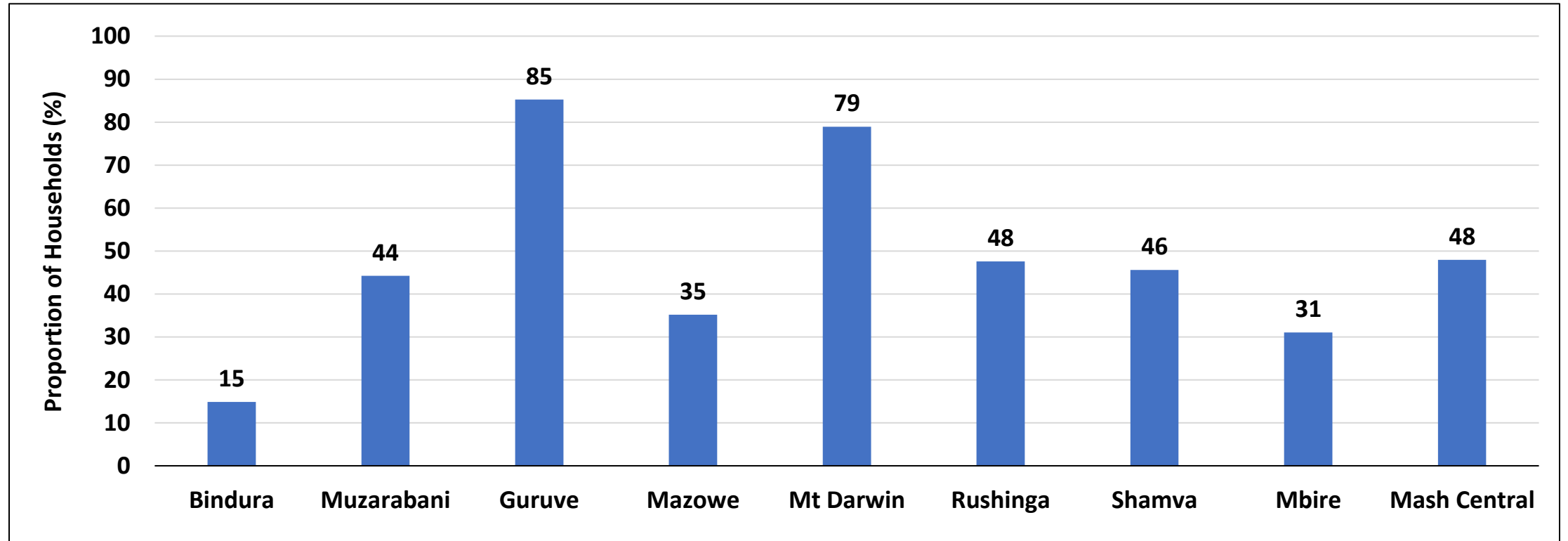
- About 55% of households could access services for physical or sexual violence, at a distance of less than 5km.

Satisfaction with Physical or Sexual Violence Service



- Most households were satisfied with the services provided (88%).

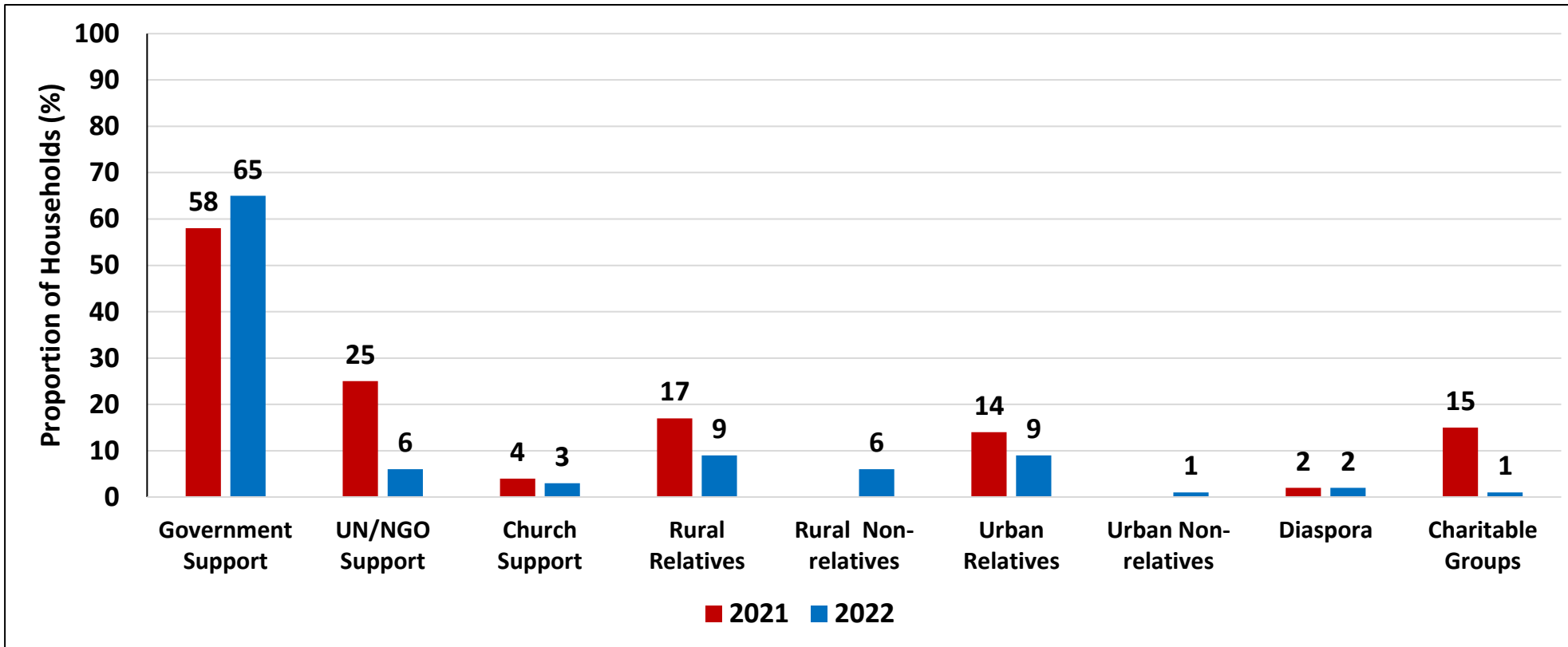
Access to Grain Storage Facilities



- Only 48% of households in the province had access to a grain storage facility.

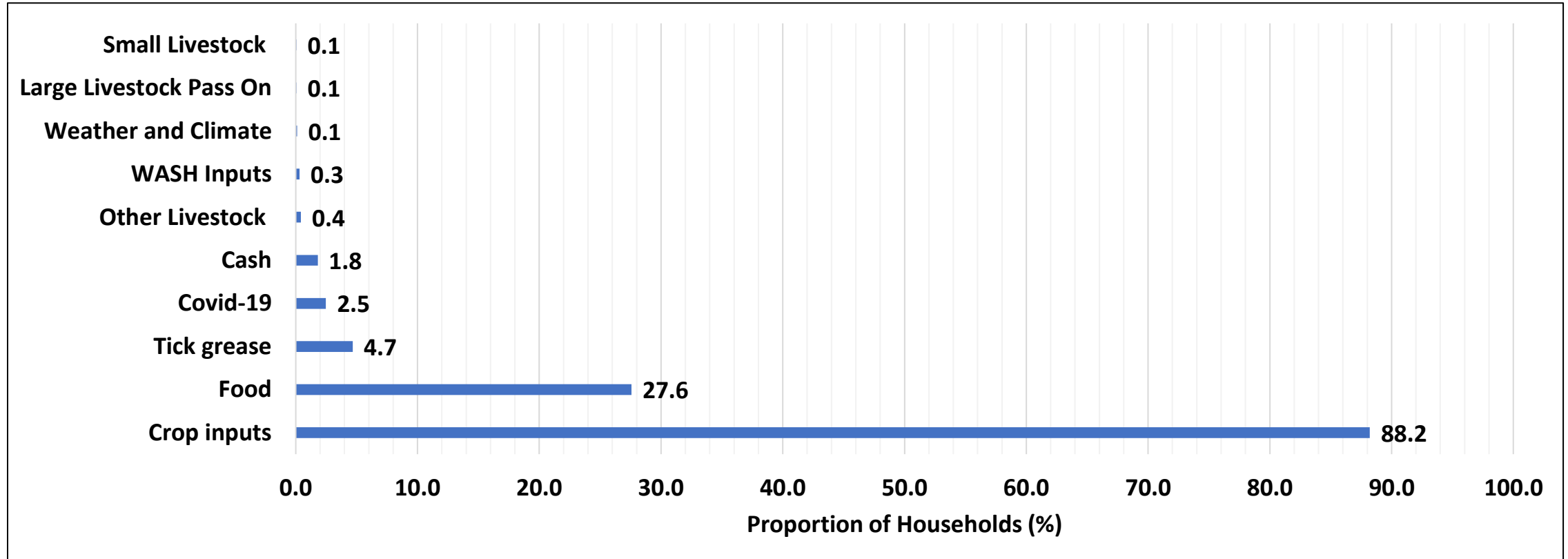
Social Protection

Households Which Received any Form of Support



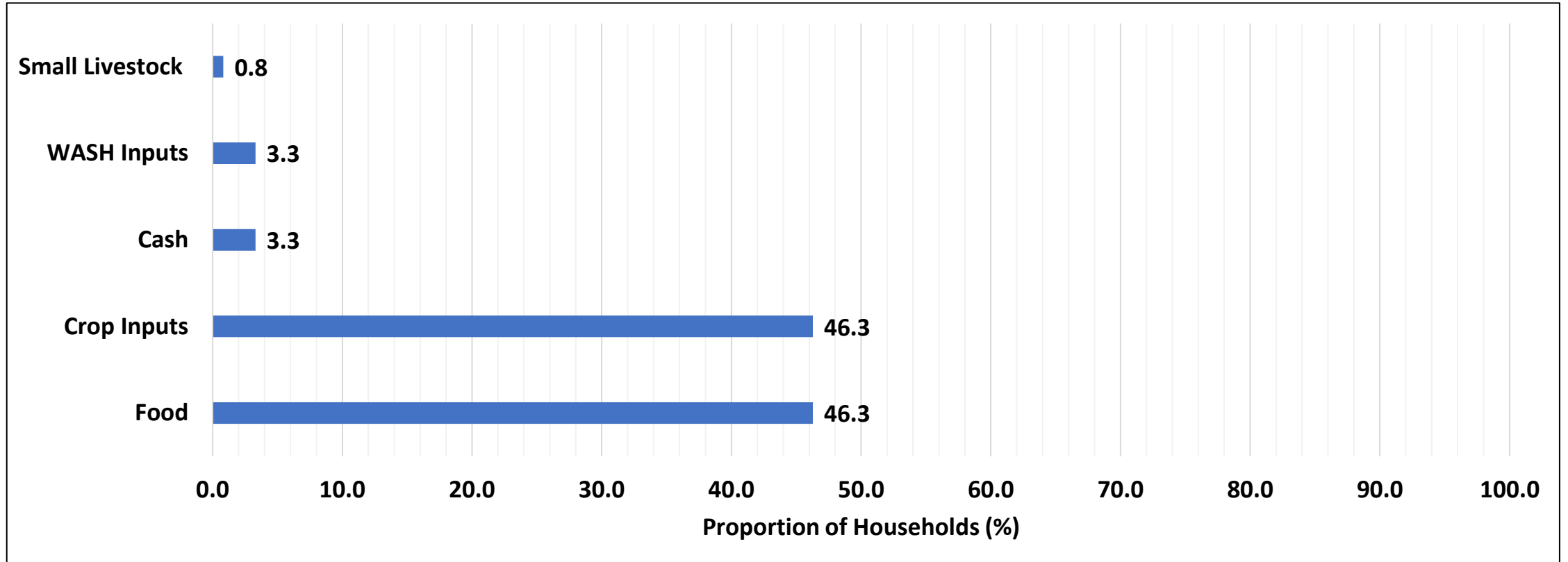
- Government was commended for the 65% of support to the communities in Mashonaland Central.

Forms of Support from Government (65%)



- The major form of support from Government was crop inputs (88.2%) followed by food (27.6%).

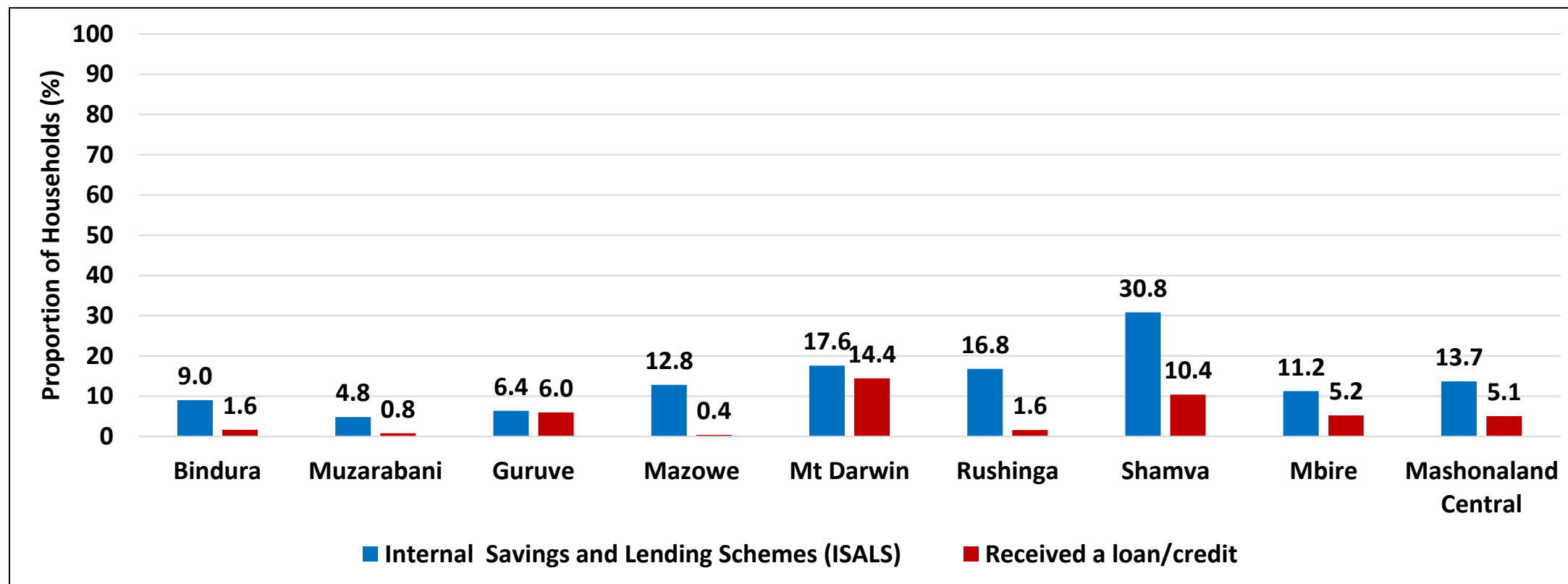
Forms of Support from UN/NGO (6%)



- The major forms of support from UN/NGO were crop inputs and food (46.3%).

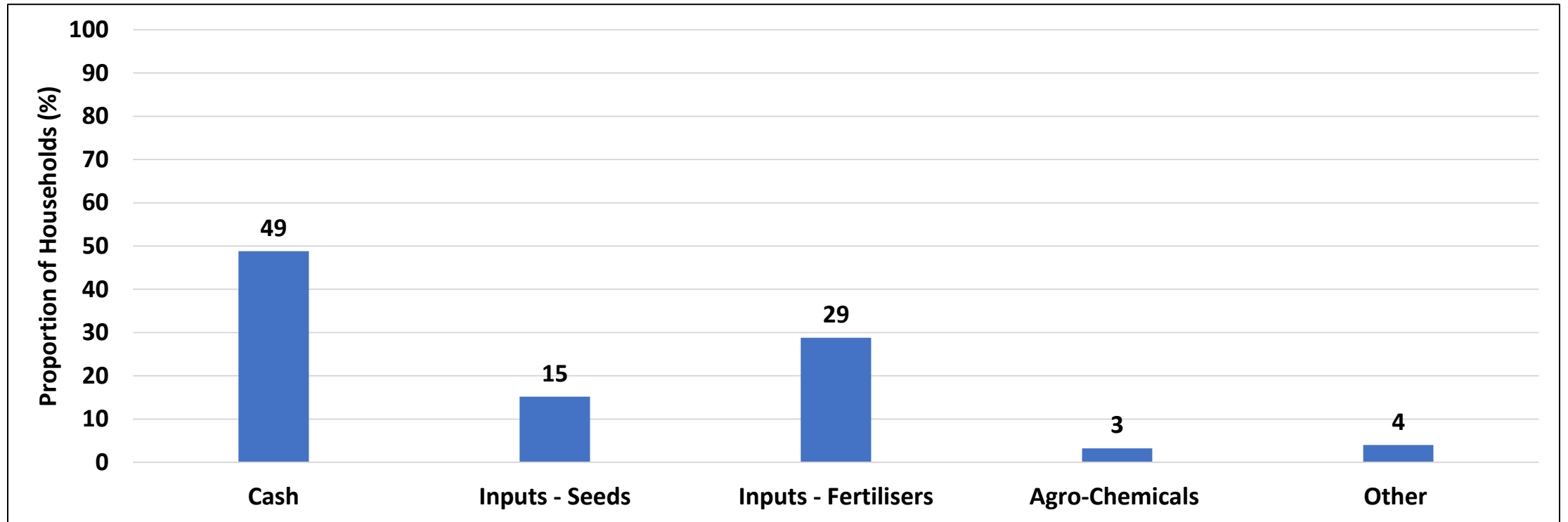
Loans and ISALS

Household Access to ISALS and Loans



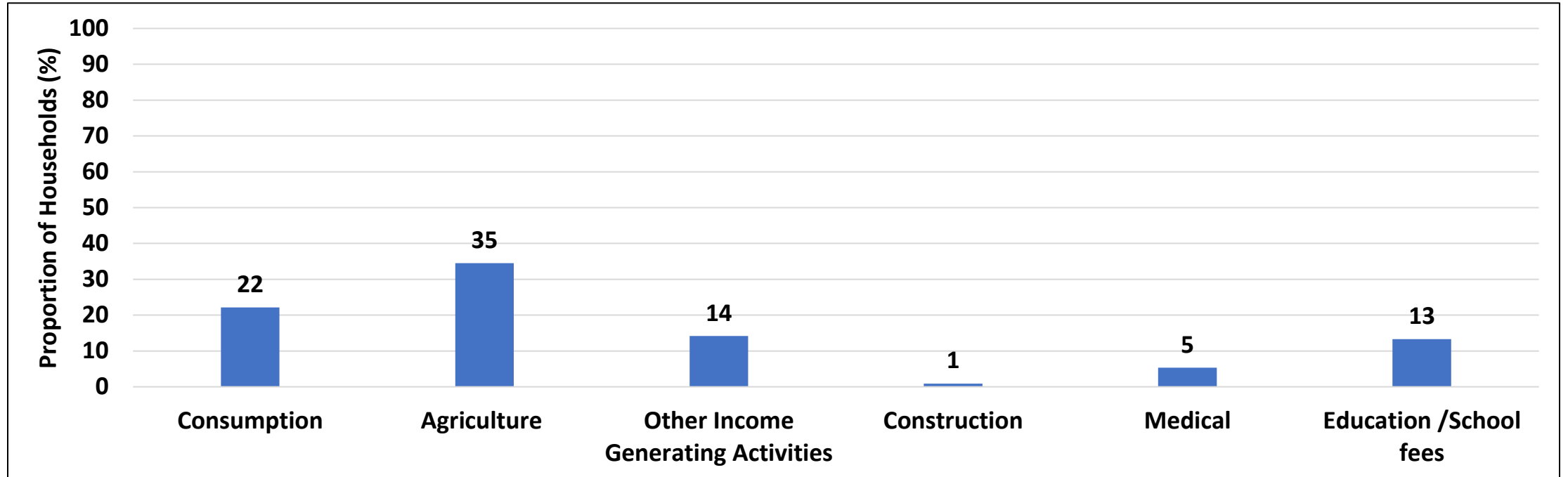
- About 13.7% of the households were part of ISALS and 5.1% had received a loan.

Type of Loan- 5%



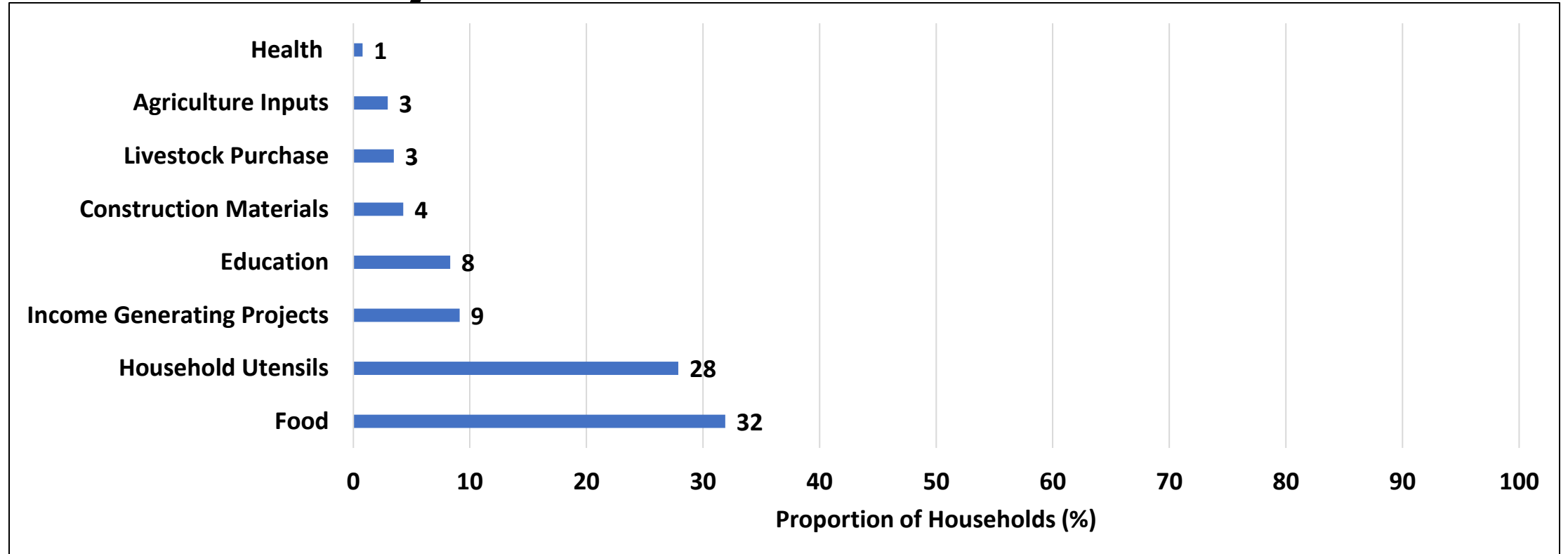
- About 49% of households received the loans in the form of cash.

Primary Use of the Loan- 5%



- About 35% of households that received loans used the loans for agriculture value chains.

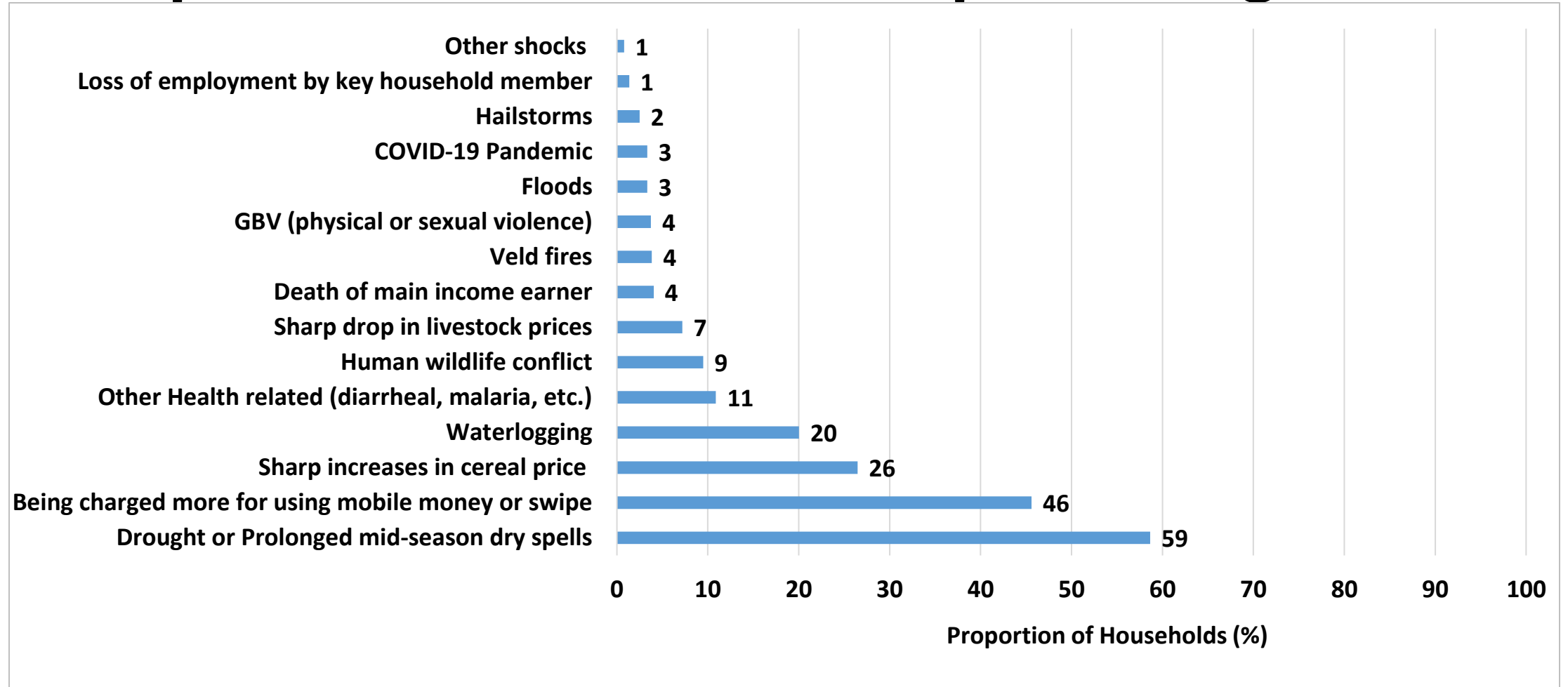
Primary use of ISALS Share-out- 13.7%



- Most households used their ISALS share-out to buy food (32%) and household utensils (28%).

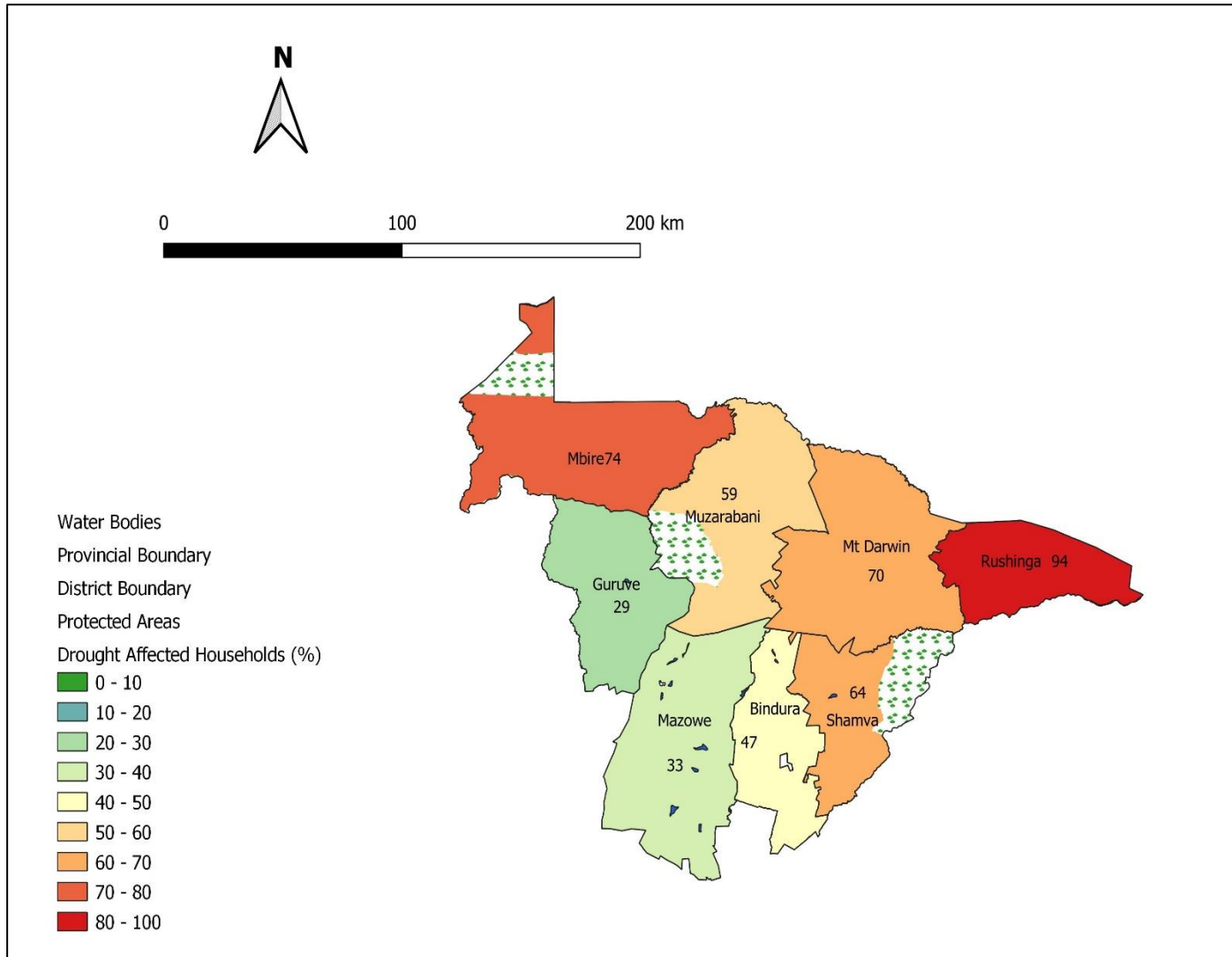
Shocks and Stressors

Proportion of Households Experiencing Shocks



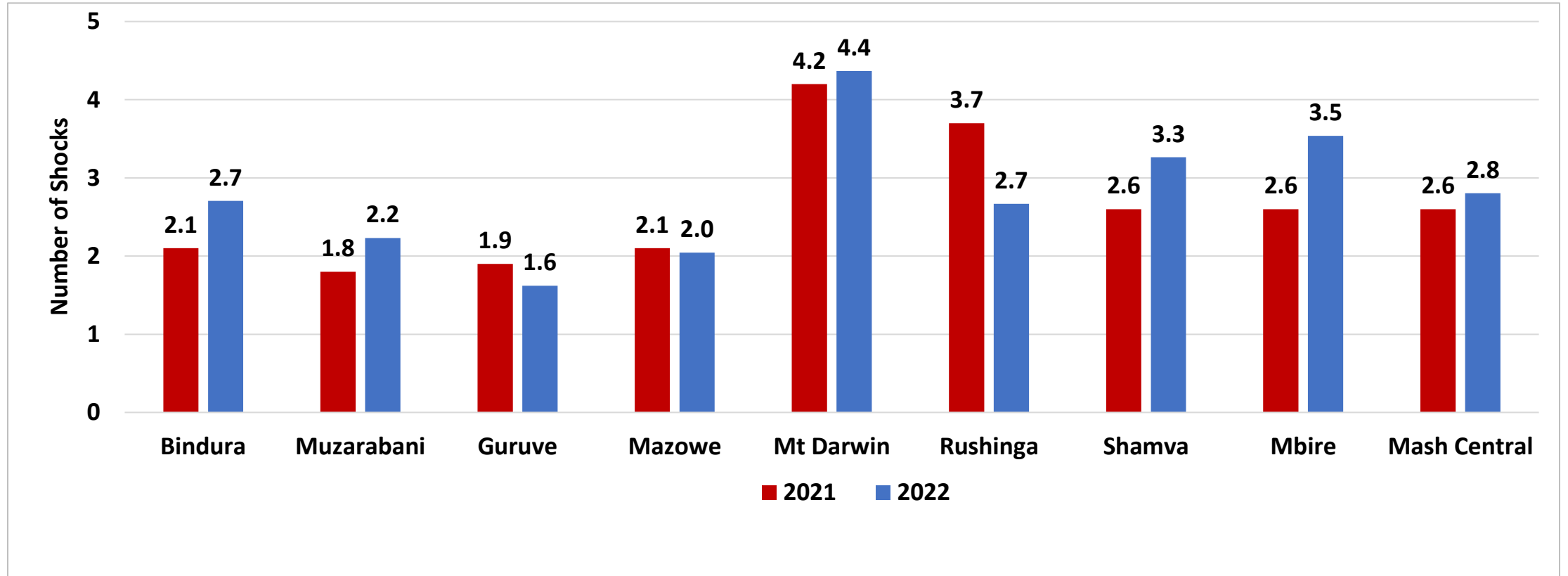
- Drought or prolonged mid season dry spells (59%) and being charged more for using mobile money or swipe (46%) were the major shocks experienced by households in the province.

Households which Reported Drought as Shock



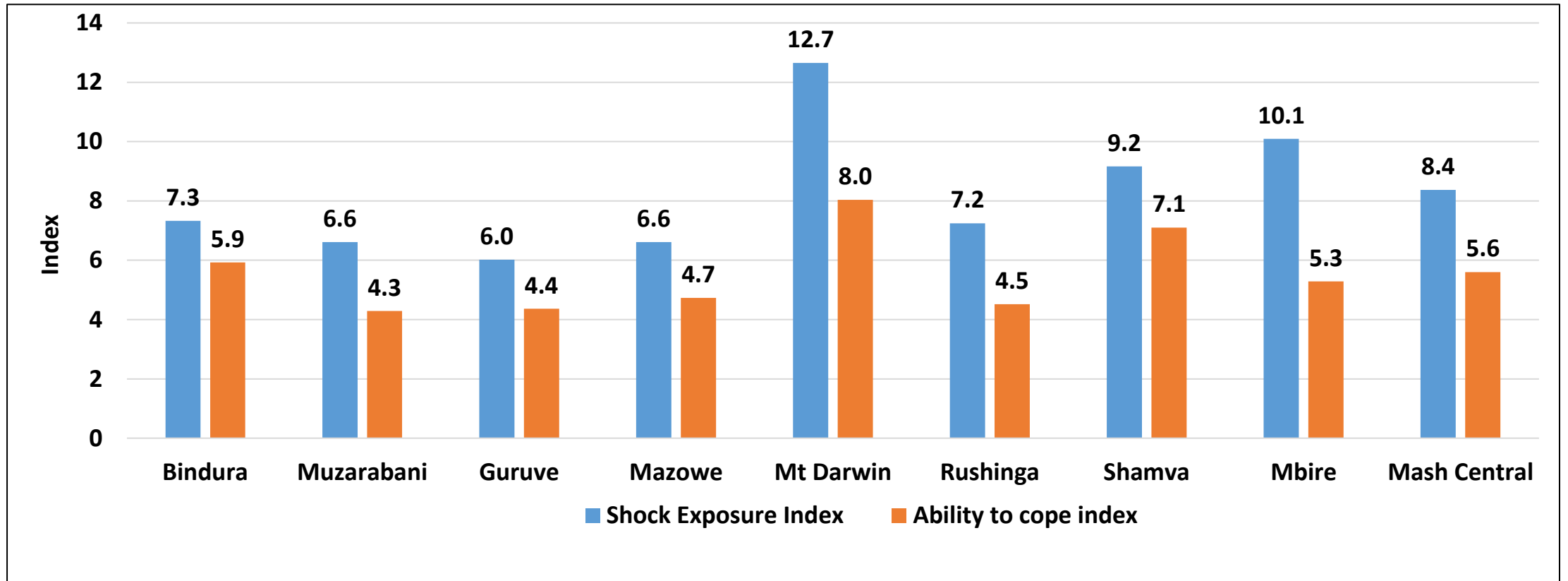
- Rushinga (94%) and Mbire (74%) had the highest proportion of households which reported drought as one of the shocks they experienced.

Number of Shocks Experienced by Households



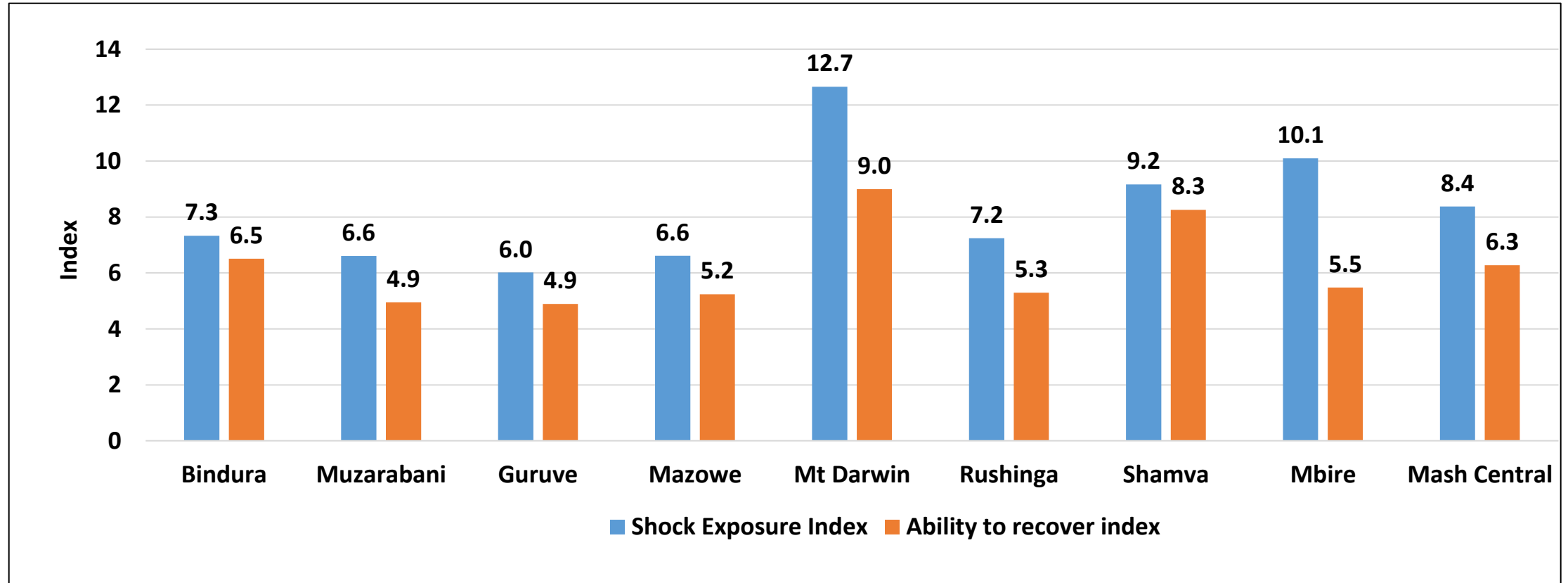
- On average households experienced 2.8 shocks.

Ability to Cope Index



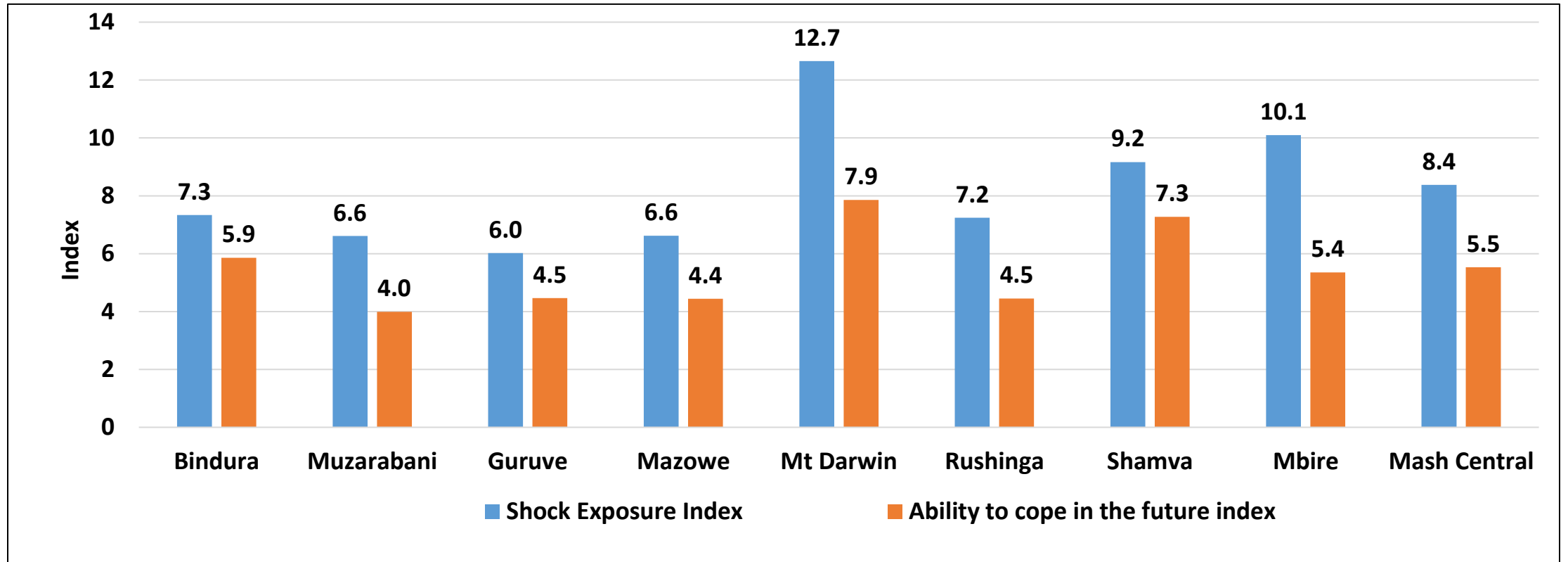
- The ability to cope index (5.6) was less than the shock exposure index (8.4) signifying the inability of the households to cope in the event of experiencing shocks.
- The inability to cope index was greatest in Mt Darwin with a shock exposure index of 12.7 against an ability to cope index of 8.

Ability to Recover Index



- The ability to recover index for the province was 6.3 against a shock exposure index of 8.4 signifying the inability of the households to recover.
- Mt Darwin had the greatest gap between shock exposure index (12.7) and ability to recover index (9) indicating the inability to recover.

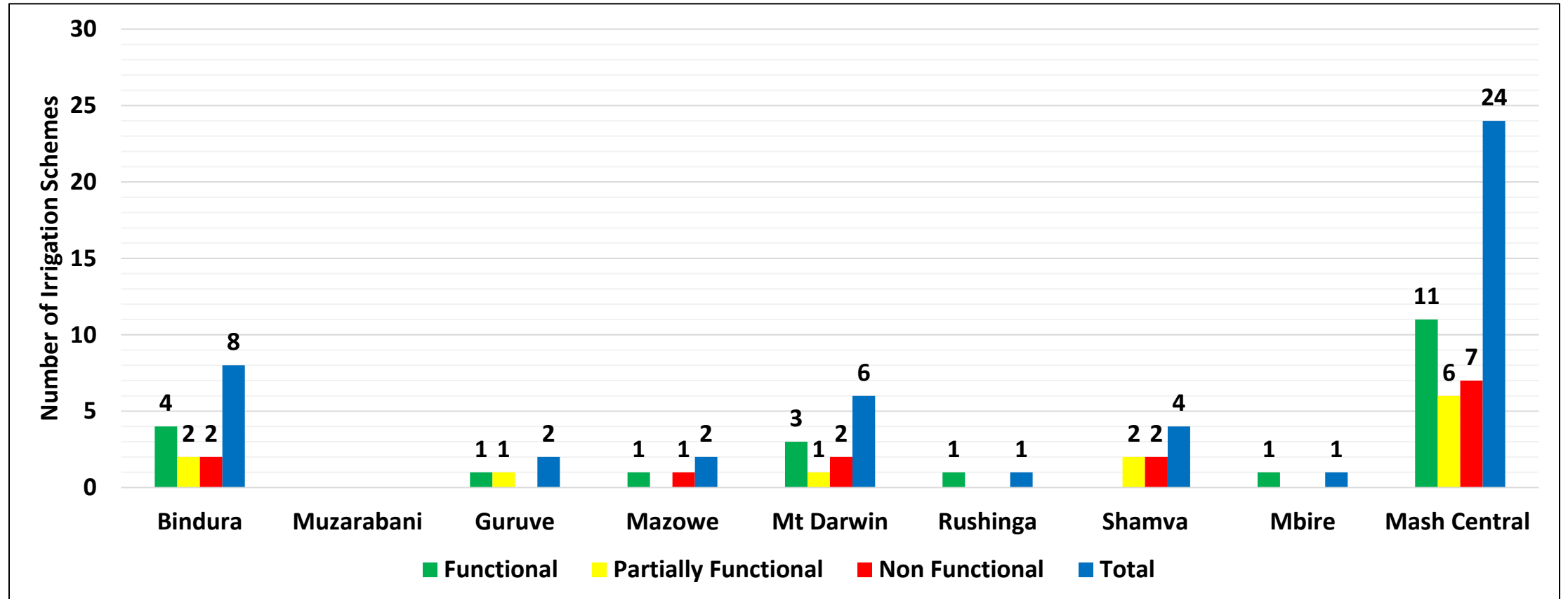
Ability to Cope in the Future Index



- Ability to cope in the future (5.5) in the province was less than the shock exposure index (8.4) indicating the inability of households to cope in the future.

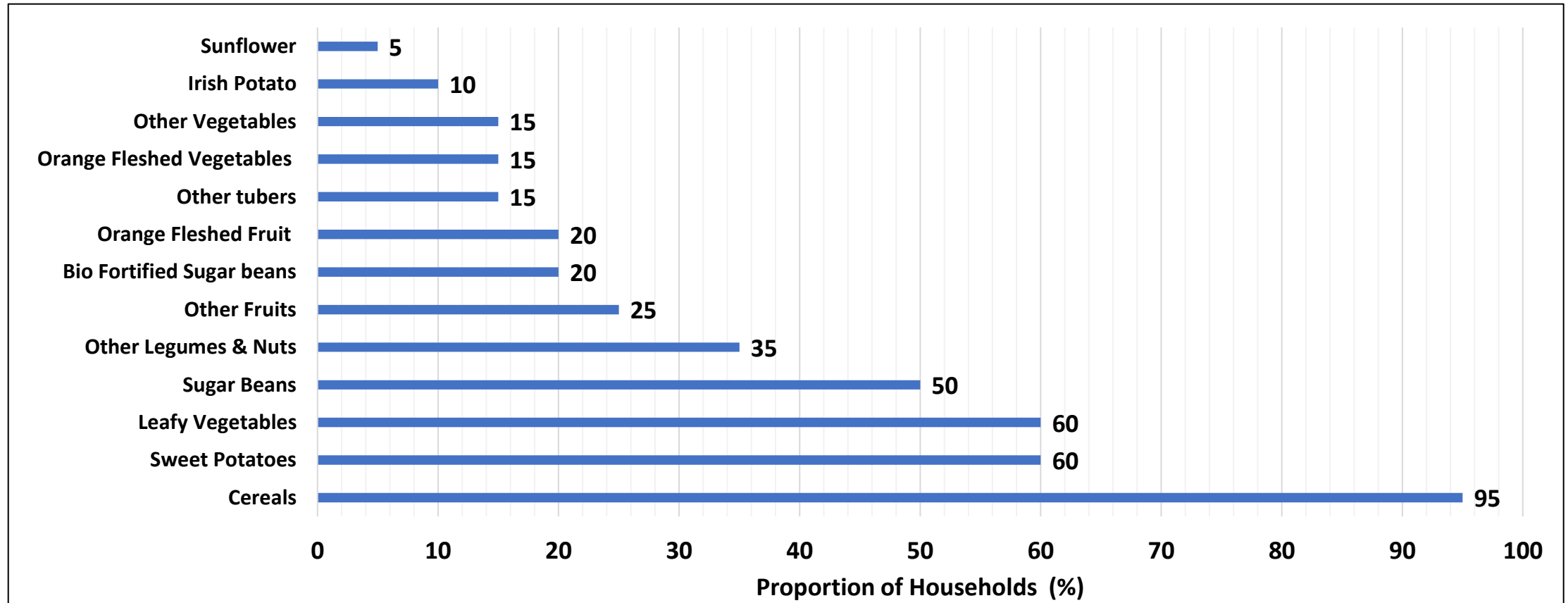
Infrastructure-Irrigation

Status of Irrigation Schemes



- Out of the 24 irrigation schemes in the province, 7 were not functional, 6 were partially functional with only 11 being fully functional.

Crops Grown in Irrigation Schemes

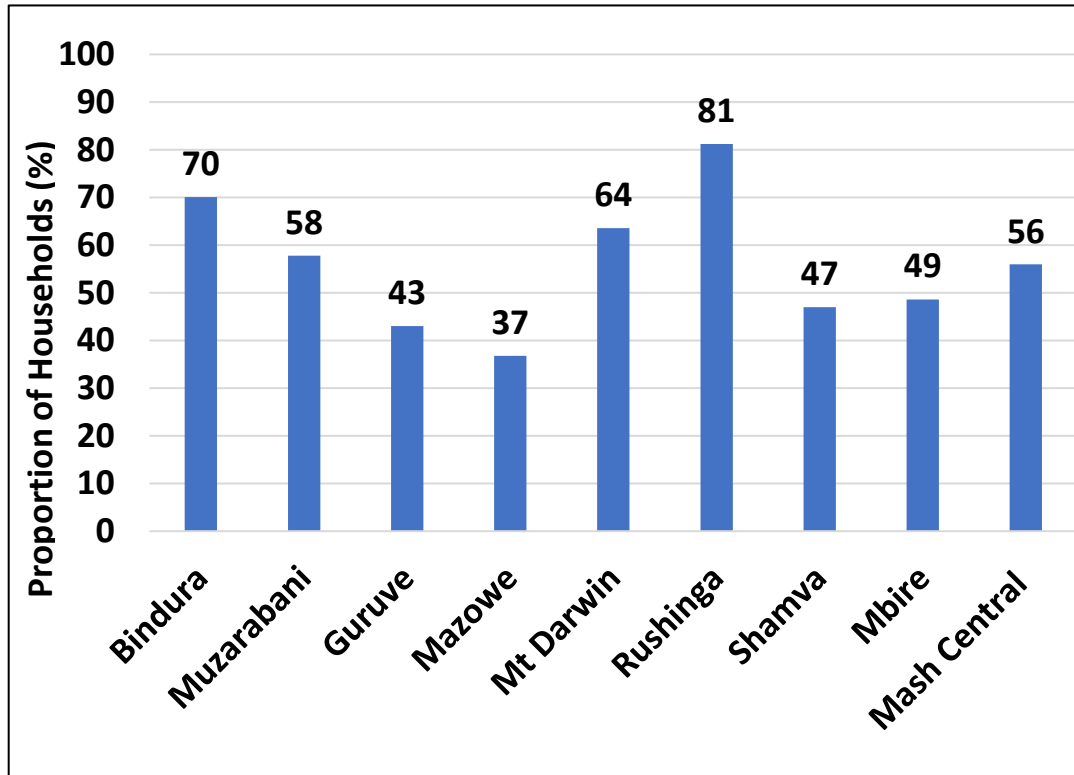


- Crops grown in irrigation schemes were cereals (95%), leafy vegetables, sweet potatoes (60%) and sugar beans (50%).

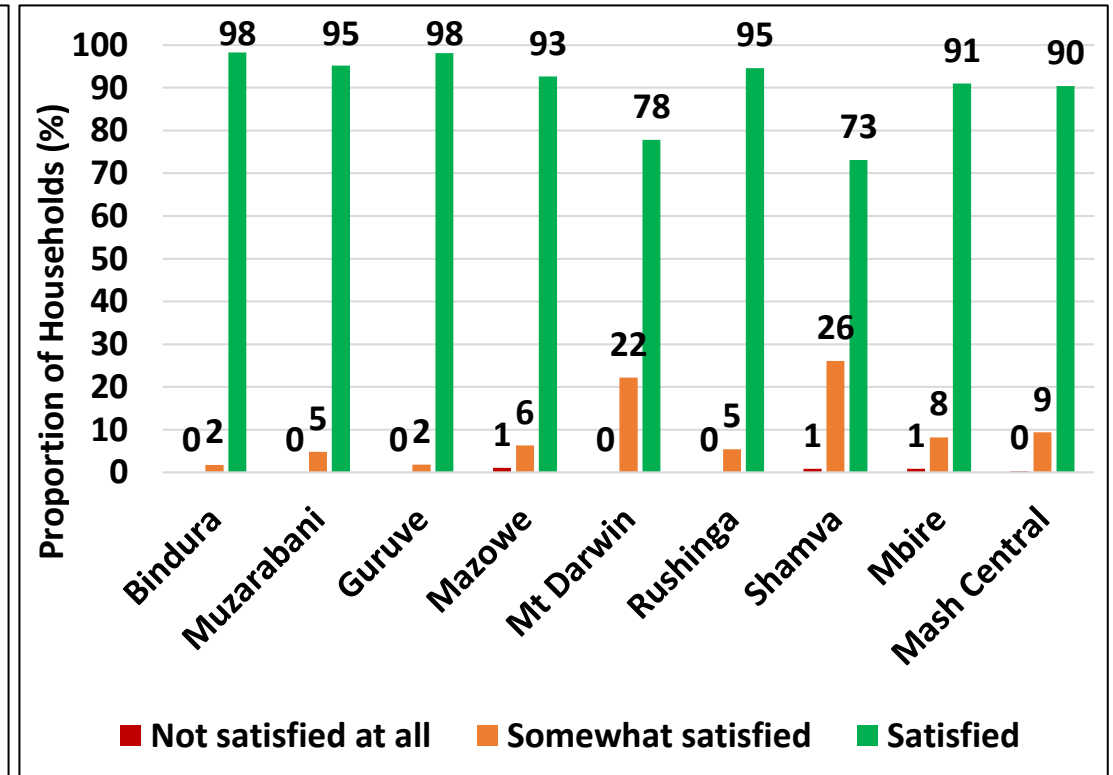
Agriculture Production

Households which Received Agricultural Training

Received Agricultural Training



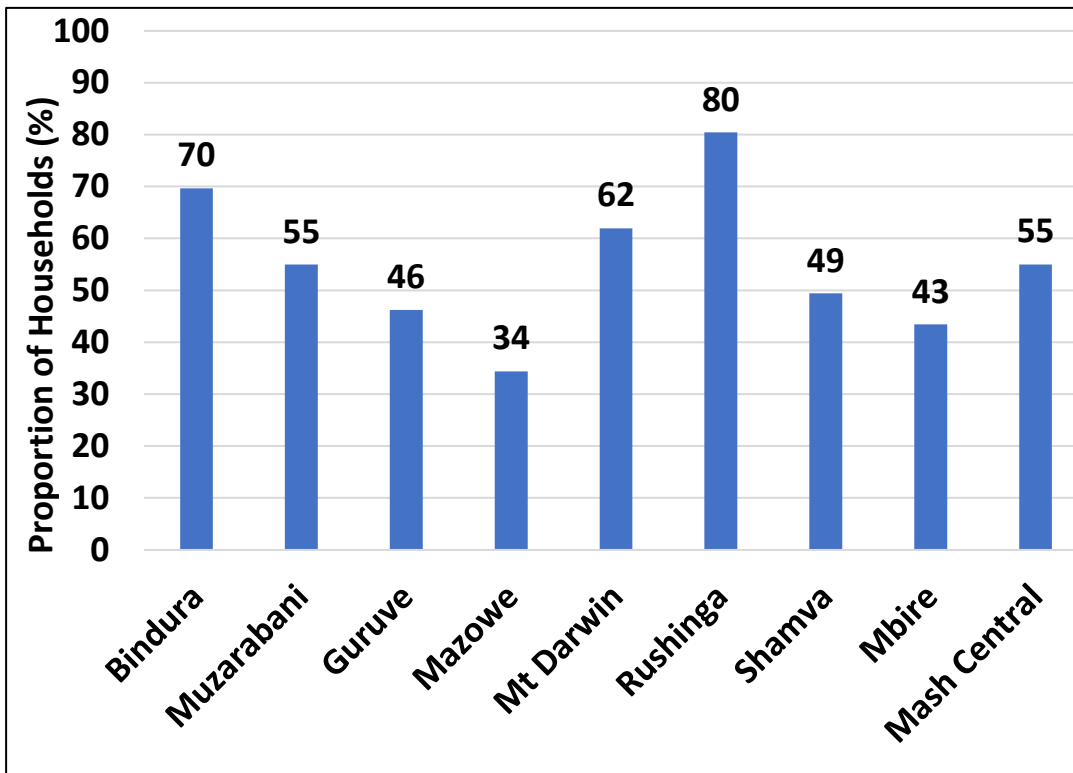
Satisfaction with Agricultural Training Received



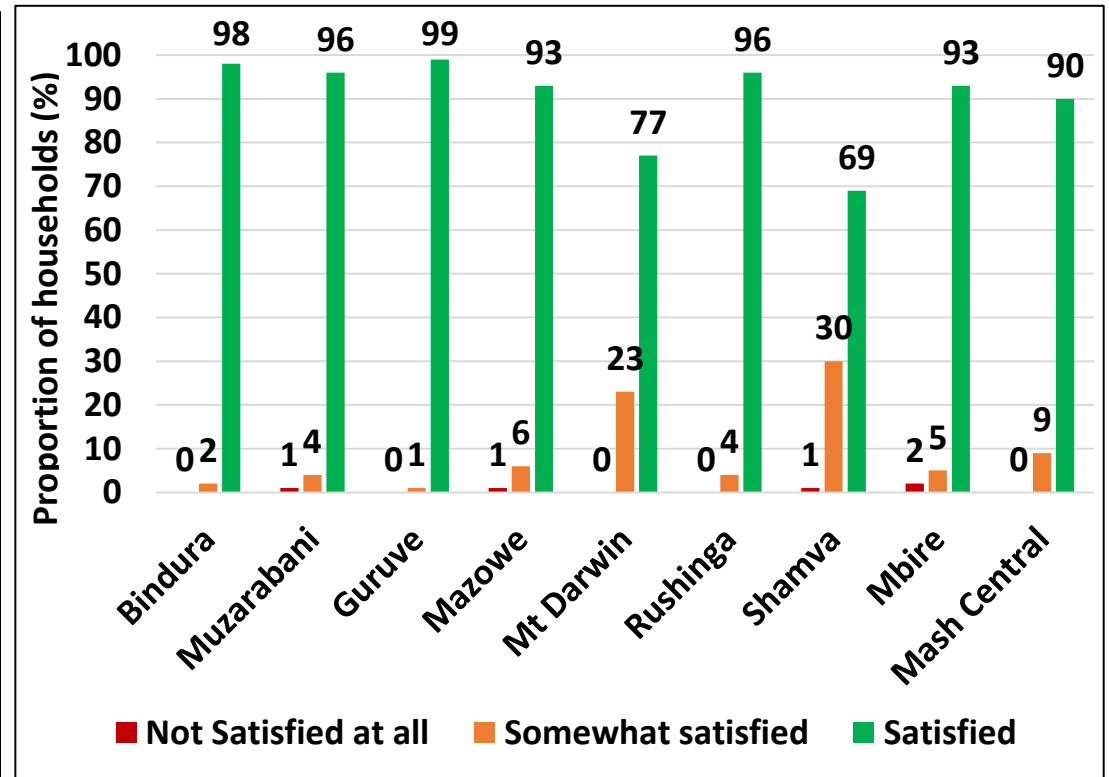
- The proportion of households which received agricultural training in the province was 56%.
- Of those households which received training, 90% reported that they were satisfied.

Households which Received Extension Visits

Received Extension Visits



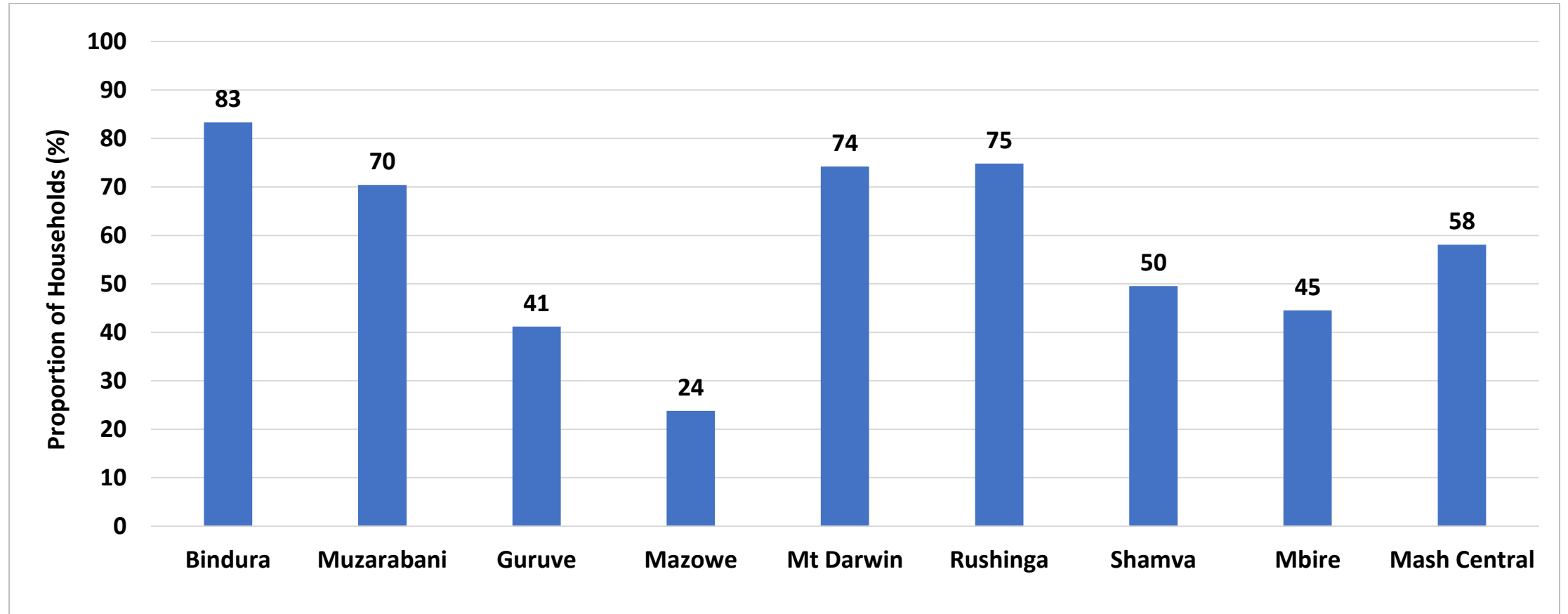
Satisfaction with Agricultural Extension Visits



- The proportion of households which received agricultural extension visits in the province was only 55%.
- A total of 90% of households that received Agricultural Extension visits were satisfied.

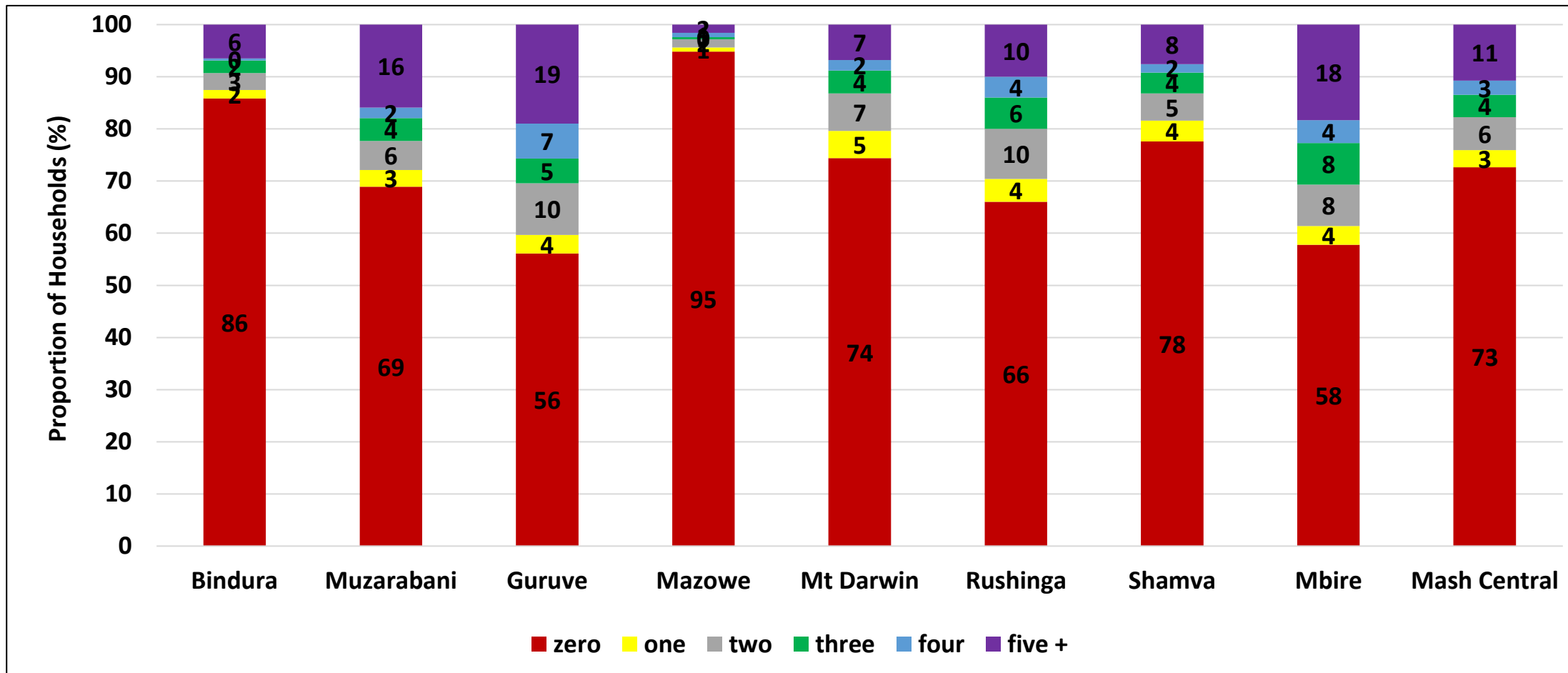
Livestock

Access to Animal Health Centers



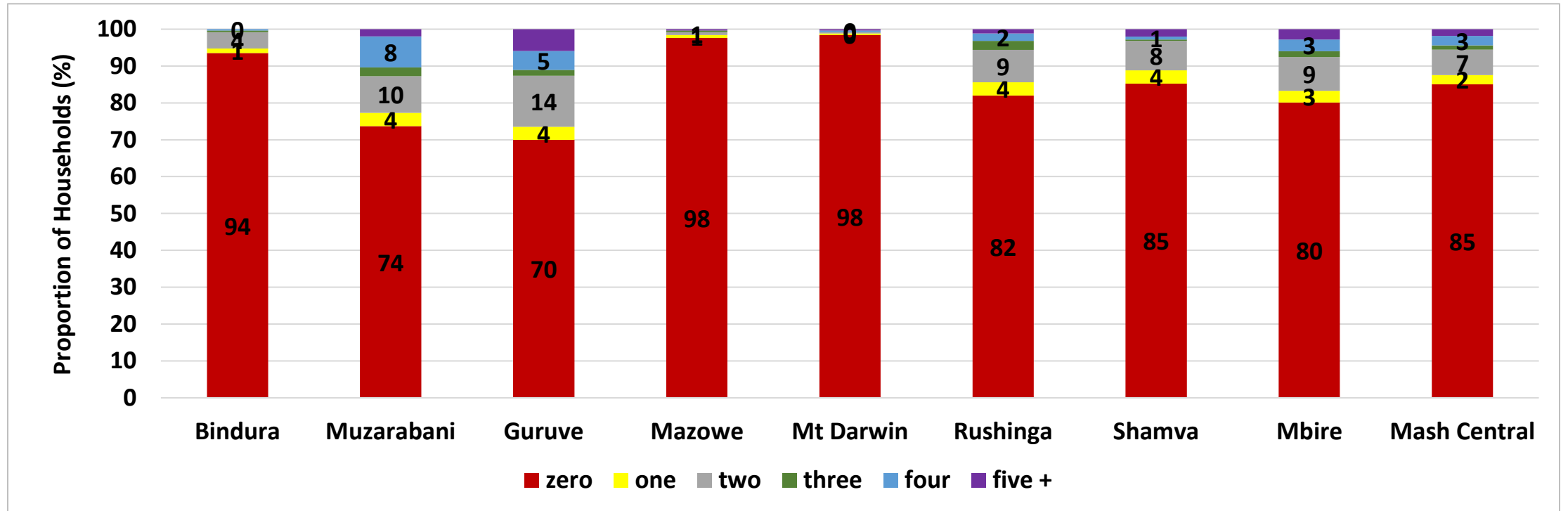
- About 58% of households in the province had access to animal health centers.
- Mazowe had the lowest proportion of households which had access to animal health centers (24%).

Households which Owned Cattle



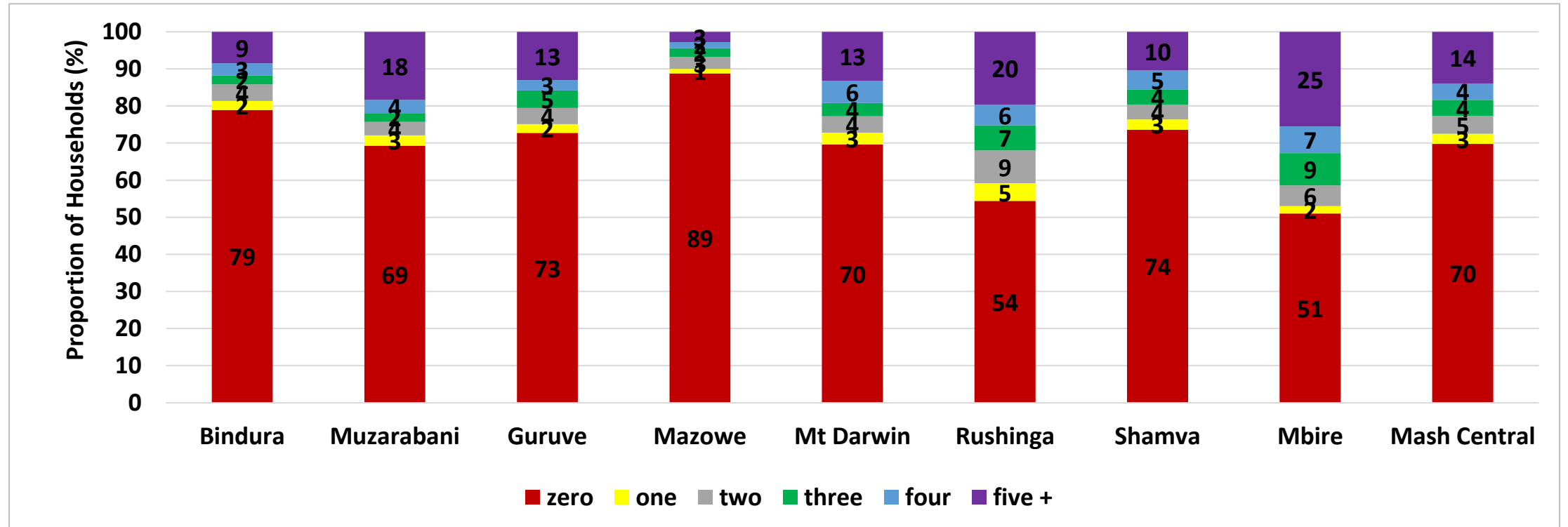
- The proportion of households which did not own cattle was high (73%).
- Mazowe (95%) had the highest proportion of households without cattle.

Households which Owned Draft Cattle



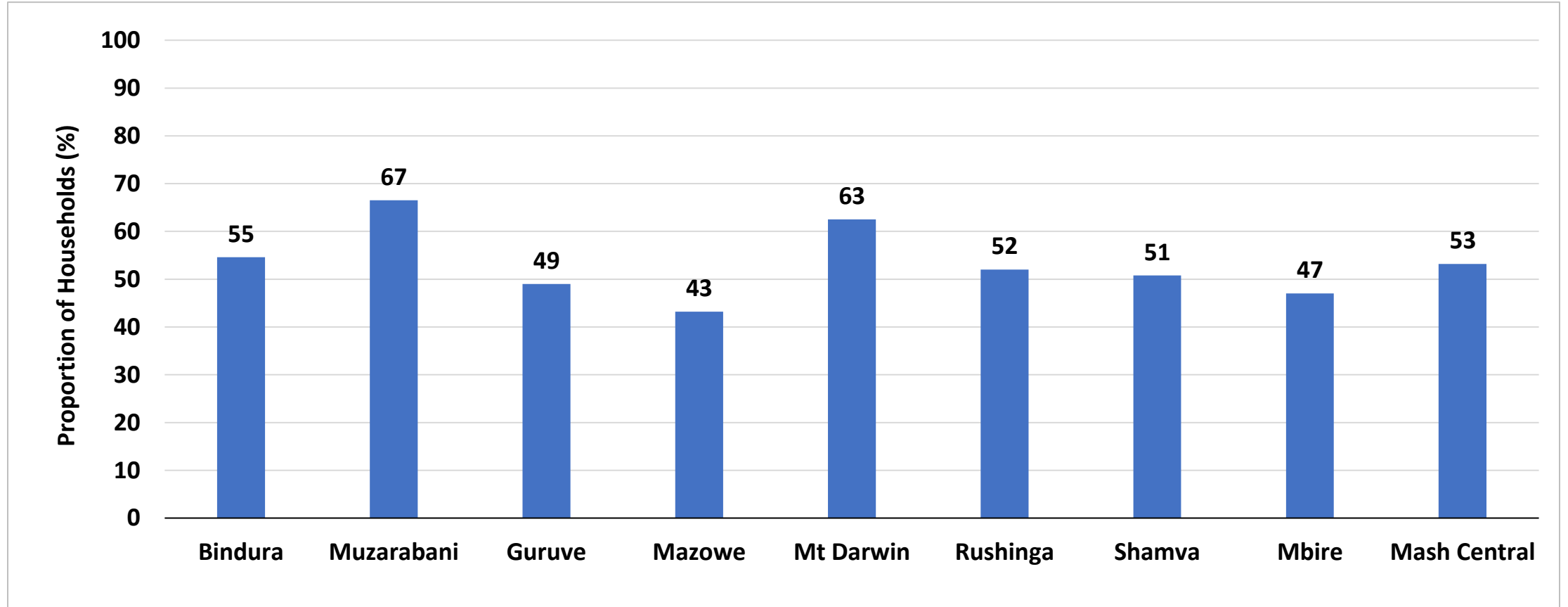
- In the province, 85% of households did not own draft cattle.
- Mt Darwin and Mazowe (98%) had the highest proportion of households with no draft cattle.

Households which Owned Goats



- About 70% of households in the province did not own goats.
- Mazowe (89%) had the highest proportion of households without goats.

Households Which Owned Poultry



- About 53% of households in the province owned poultry.

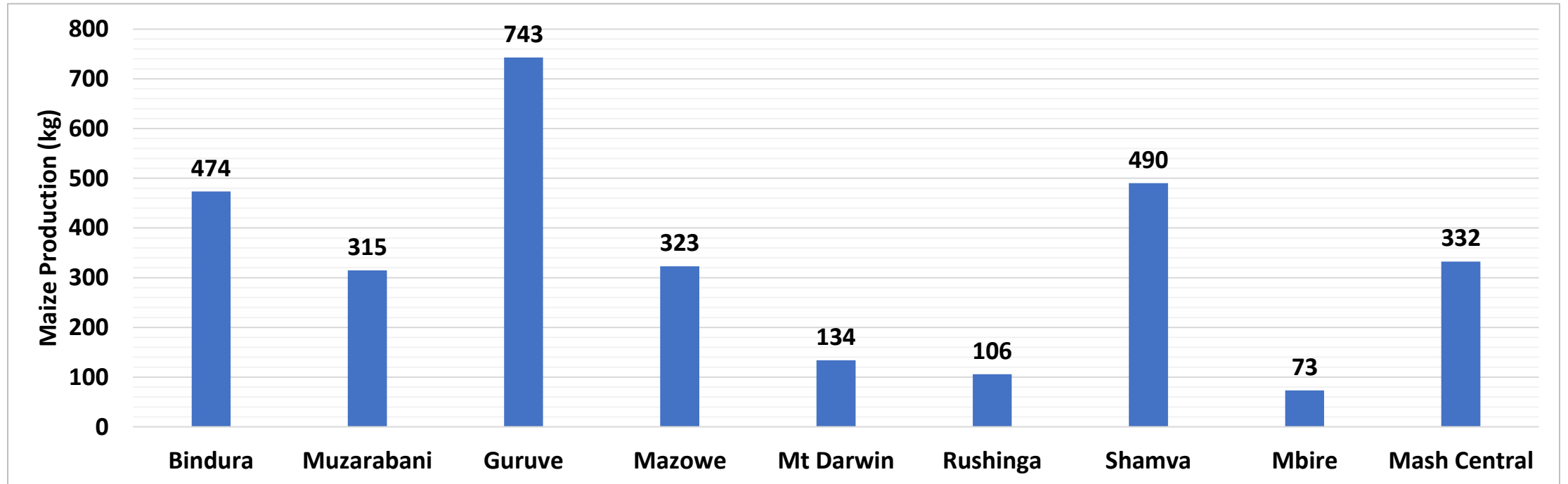
Crop Production

Households which Grew Different Crops

	Orange maize (%)	Maize (%)	Sorghum (%)	Tubers (%)	Cowpeas (%)	Groundnuts (%)	Sugar beans (%)	Nua-45 beans (%)	Sunflowers (%)	Sesame (%)
Bindura	2	78	0	19	5	34	18	1	2	0
Muzarabani	0	76	49	12	35	49	15	0	1	4
Guruve	5	92	1	26	26	30	37	6	7	0
Mazowe	2	70	1	27	1	16	16	2	0	0
Mt Darwin	10	85	28	10	25	41	7	2	13	2
Rushinga	3	95	48	4	32	61	1	0	3	0
Shamva	2	86	5	35	23	52	19	0	8	1
Mbire	6	70	77	4	67	54	0	0	0	24
Mash Central	4	82	26	17	27	42	14	1	4	4

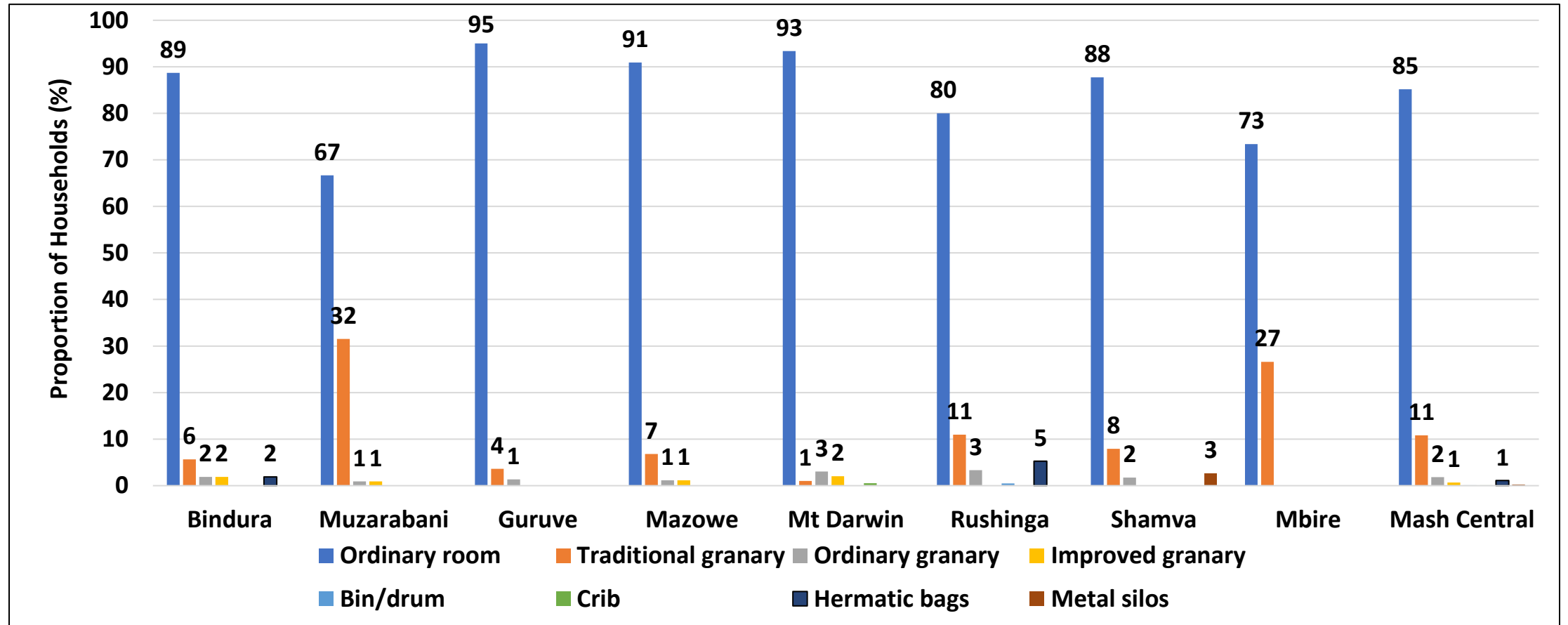
- Across all districts, maize (82%) was the most commonly grown crop, followed by groundnuts (42%).
- Only a small proportion of households (4%) grew orange maize, despite it being promoted for its high value in vitamin A.
- About 77% of households in Mbire grew sorghum and 24% grew sesame.

Average Household Maize Production



- The average maize production in the province was 332kg.
- Guruve (743kg) had the highest maize production per household.
- Mbire (73kg) had the least.

Types of Structures Used to Store Grain

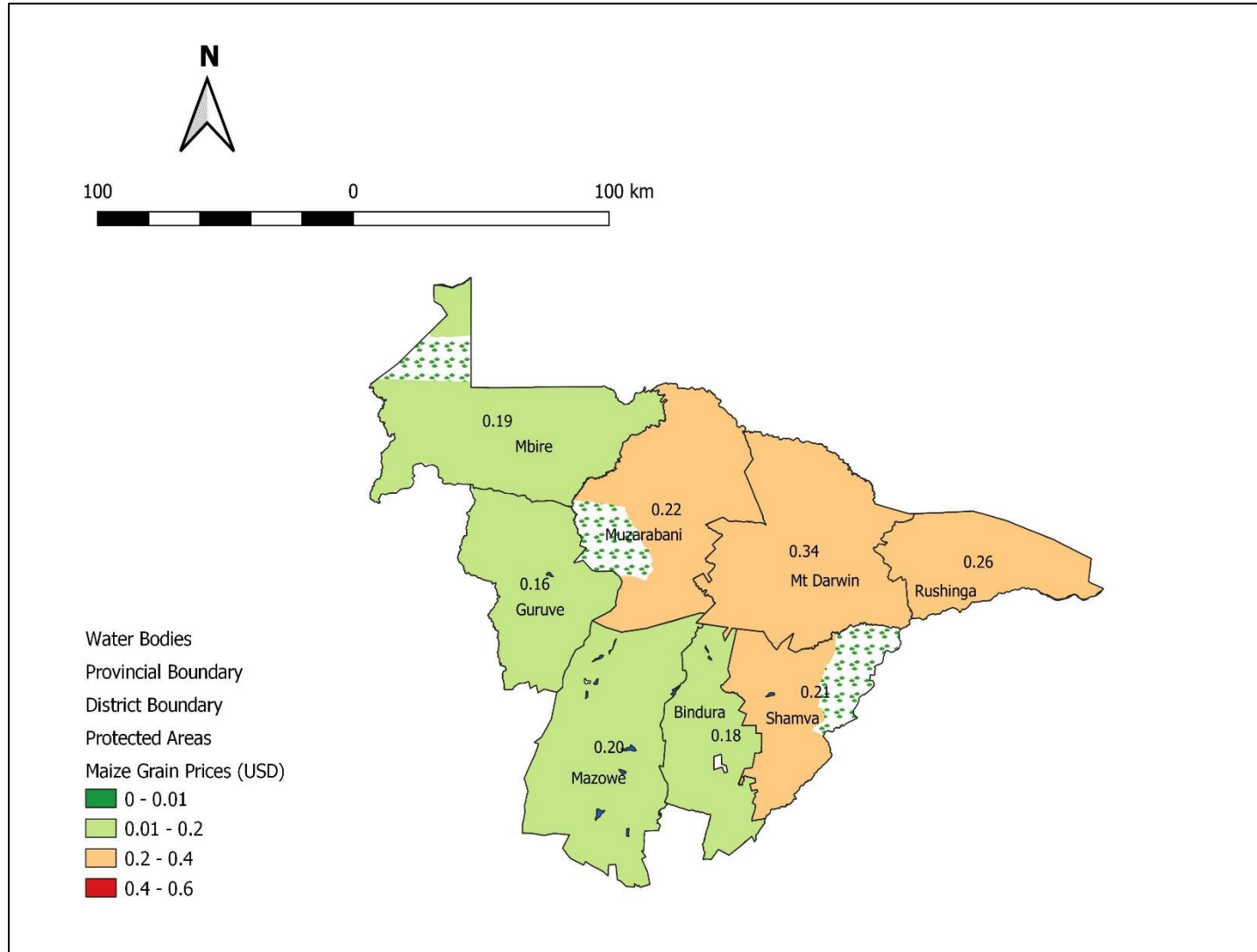


- Most of the households in the province (85%) stored grain in an ordinary room.

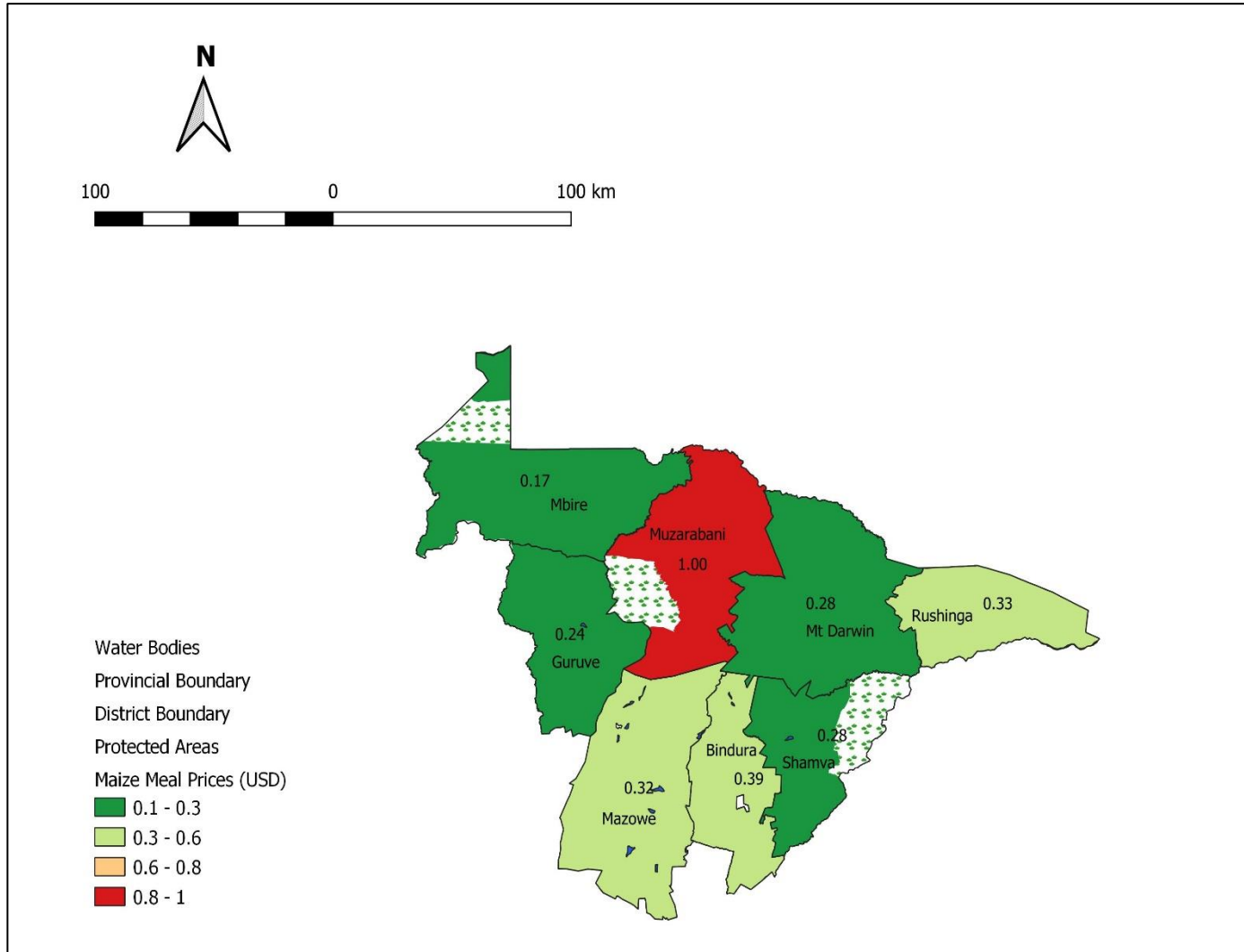
Agricultural Produce Markets

District Average Maize Grain Prices (USD)

- The lowest maize grain price was in Guruve (USD 0.16) while Mt Darwin recorded the highest price (USD 0.34).

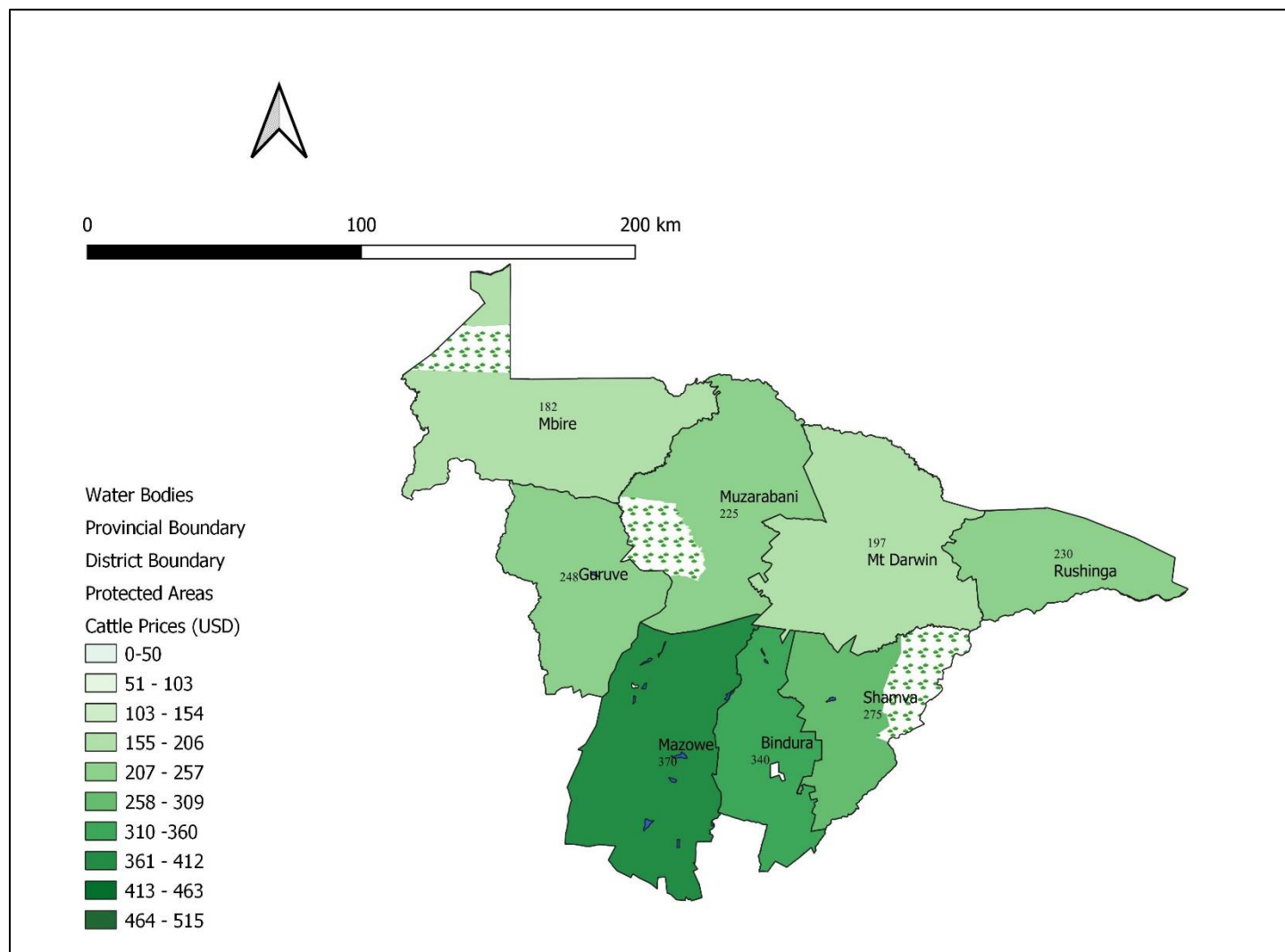


District Average Maize Meal Prices (USD)



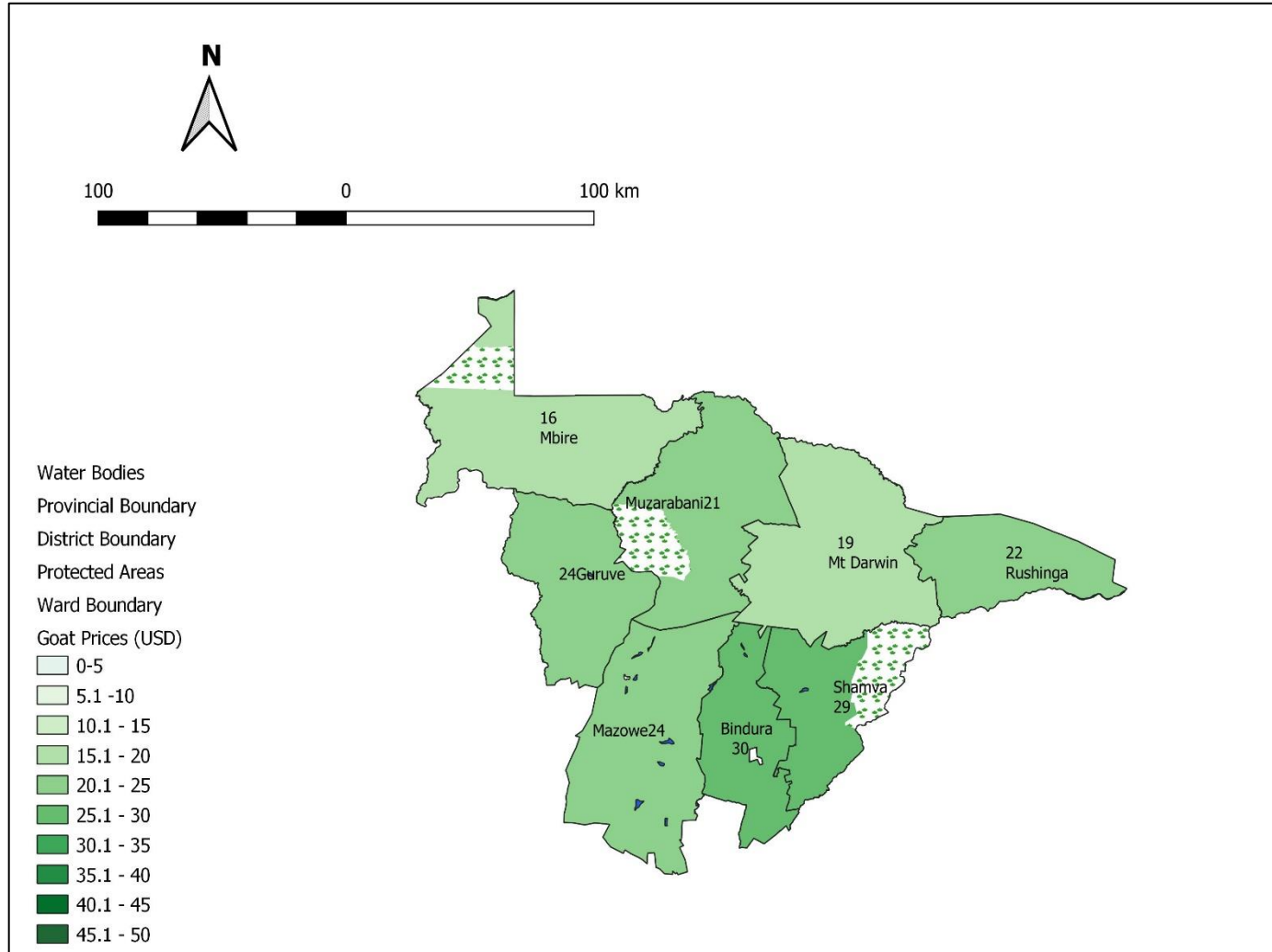
- The average maize meal price in Mashonaland Central was USD 0.30 per kg.
- The highest maize meal price was in Muzarabani (USD 1) per kg and Guruve had the lowest (USD 0.24).

District Average Cattle Prices (USD)



- The highest average cattle price was in Mazowe (USD 370) and the least was in Mbire (USD 182)

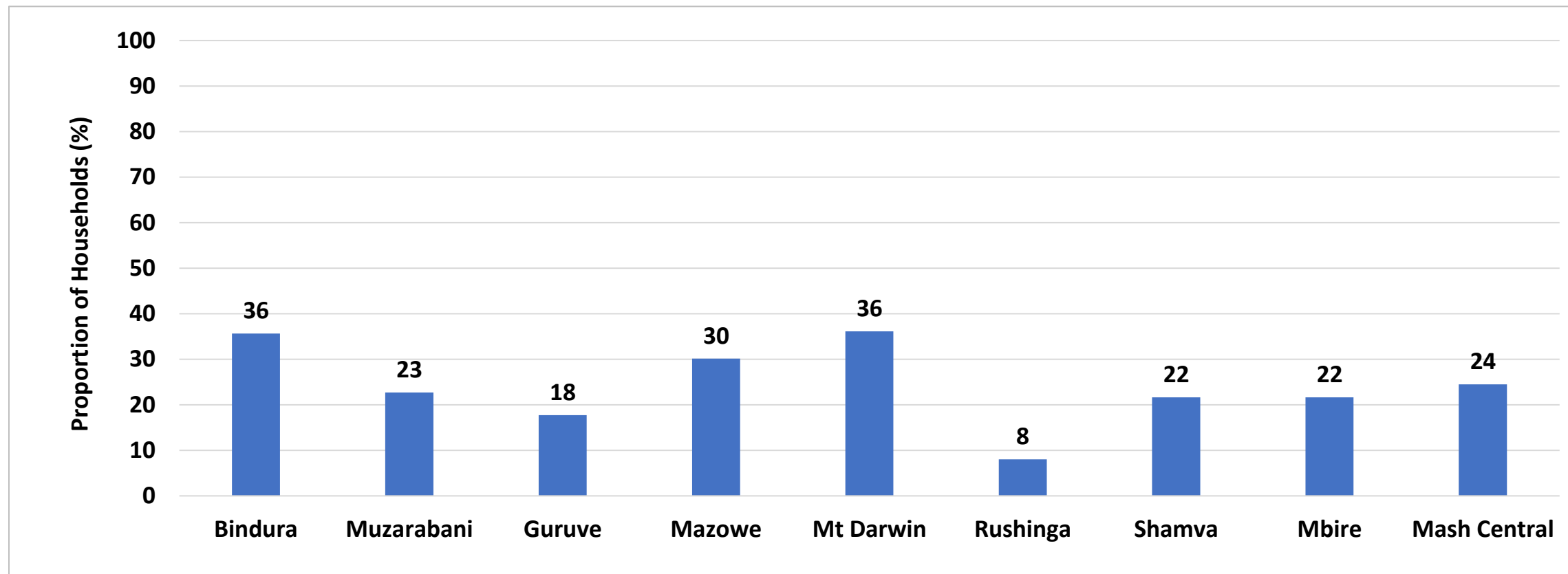
District Average Goat Prices (USD)



- The highest goat price was in Bindura (USD 30).
- Mbire had the lowest goat price (USD 16).

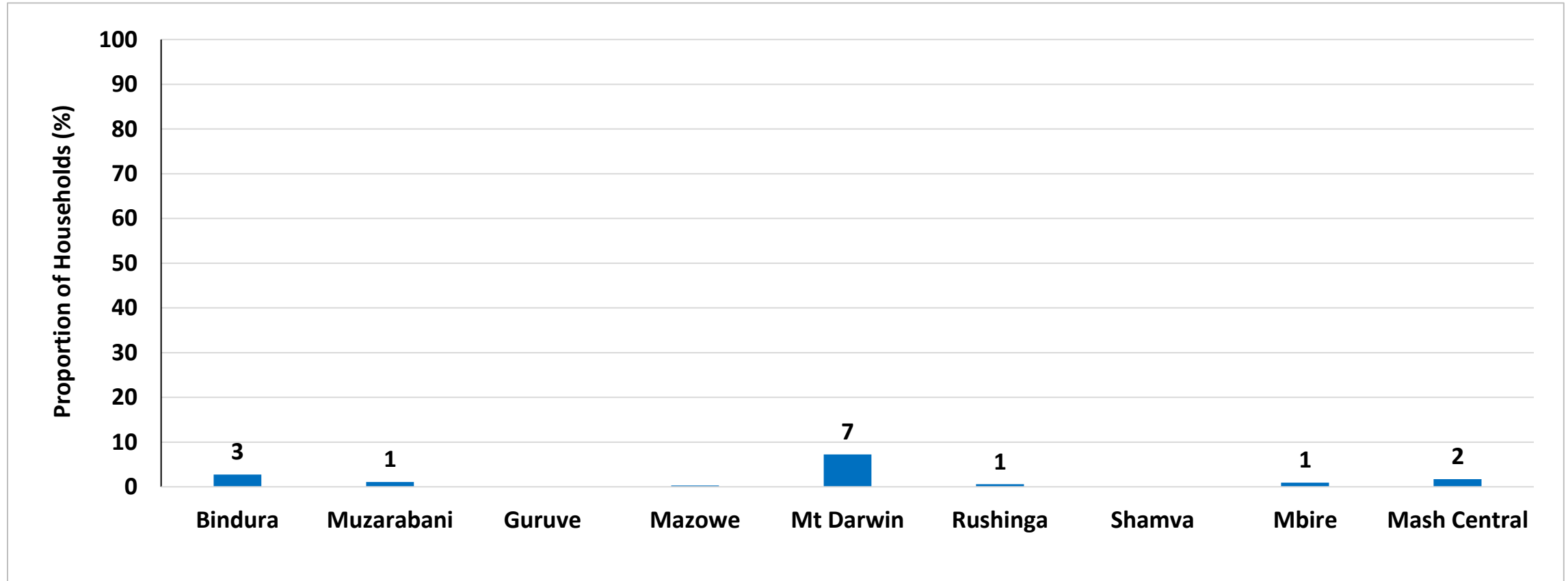
Climate Smart Agriculture

Households which Used Quality Certified Seeds



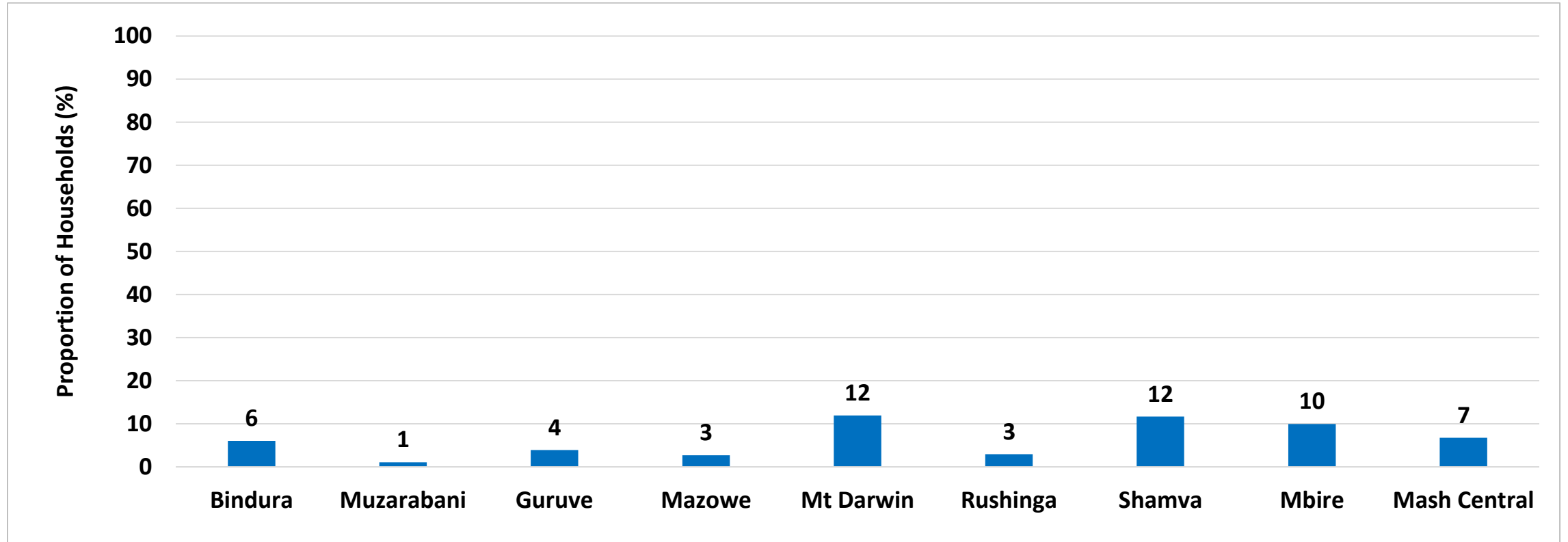
- The use of quality certified seeds was low in the province (24%).

Households which Used Community Seed Banks



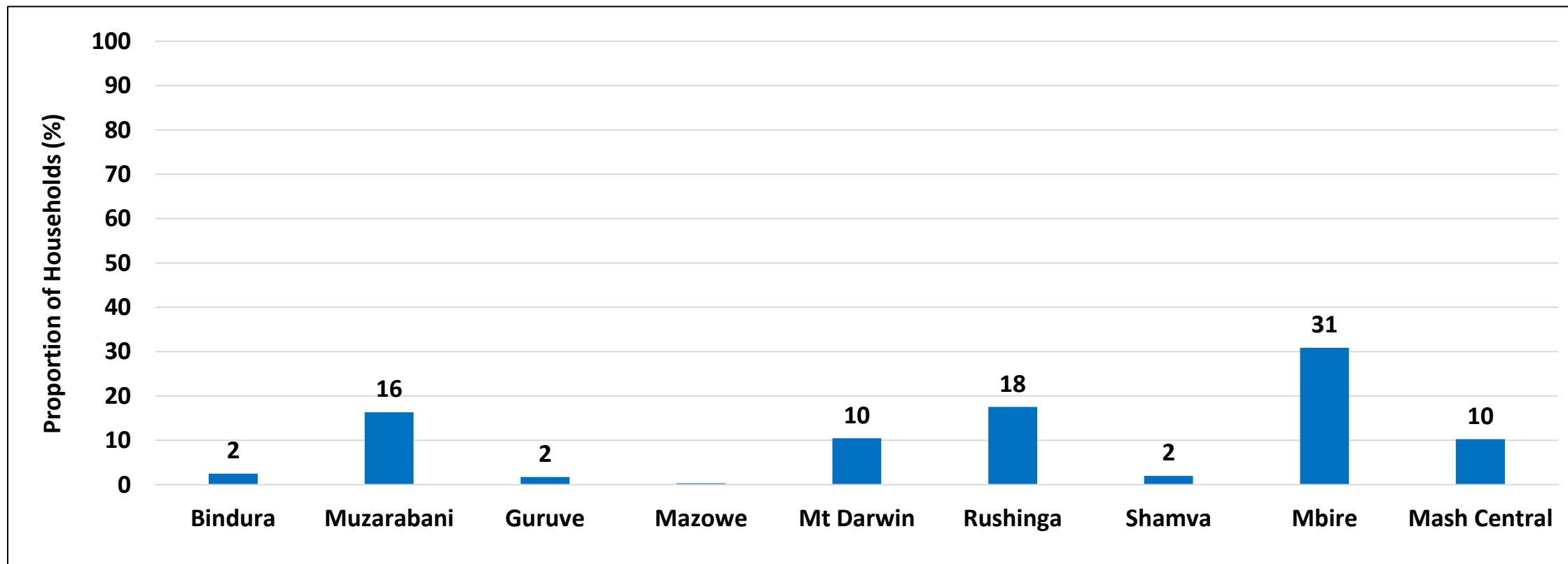
- The proportion of households using community seed banks was relatively low (2%) with Mt Darwin having the highest proportion (7%).

Households which Adapted Suitable Improved Varieties



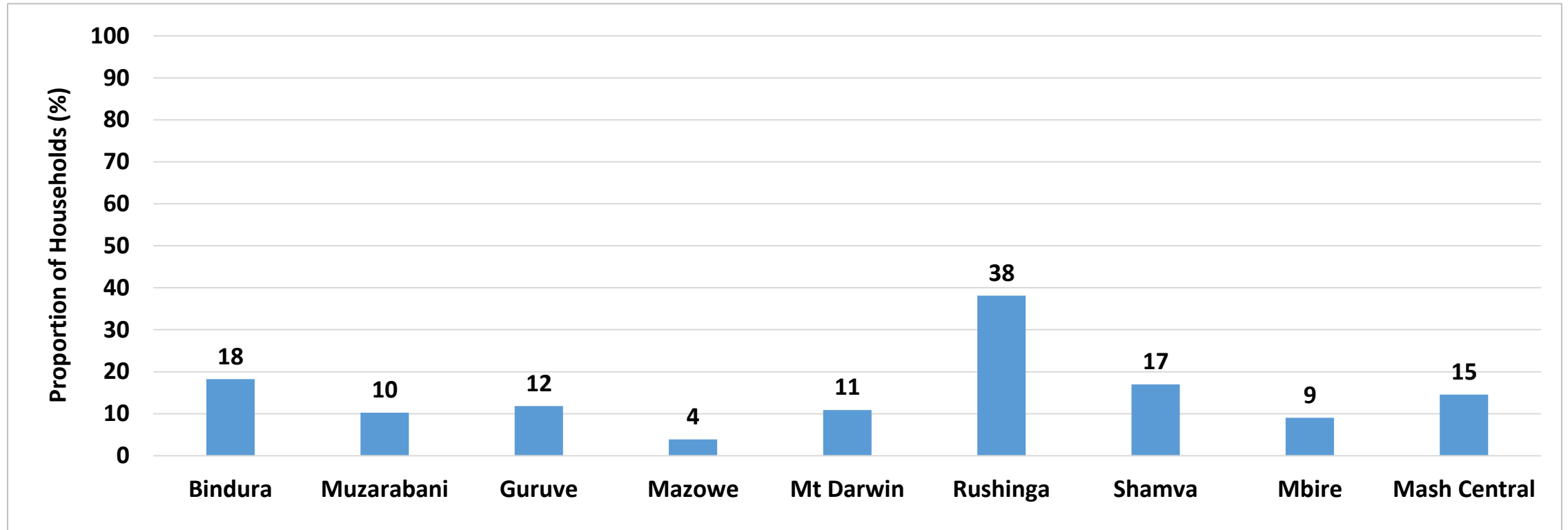
- In the province, only 7% of the households used suitable improved varieties with the highest proportion reported in Mt Darwin and Shamva (12%).

Households which Grew Small Grains



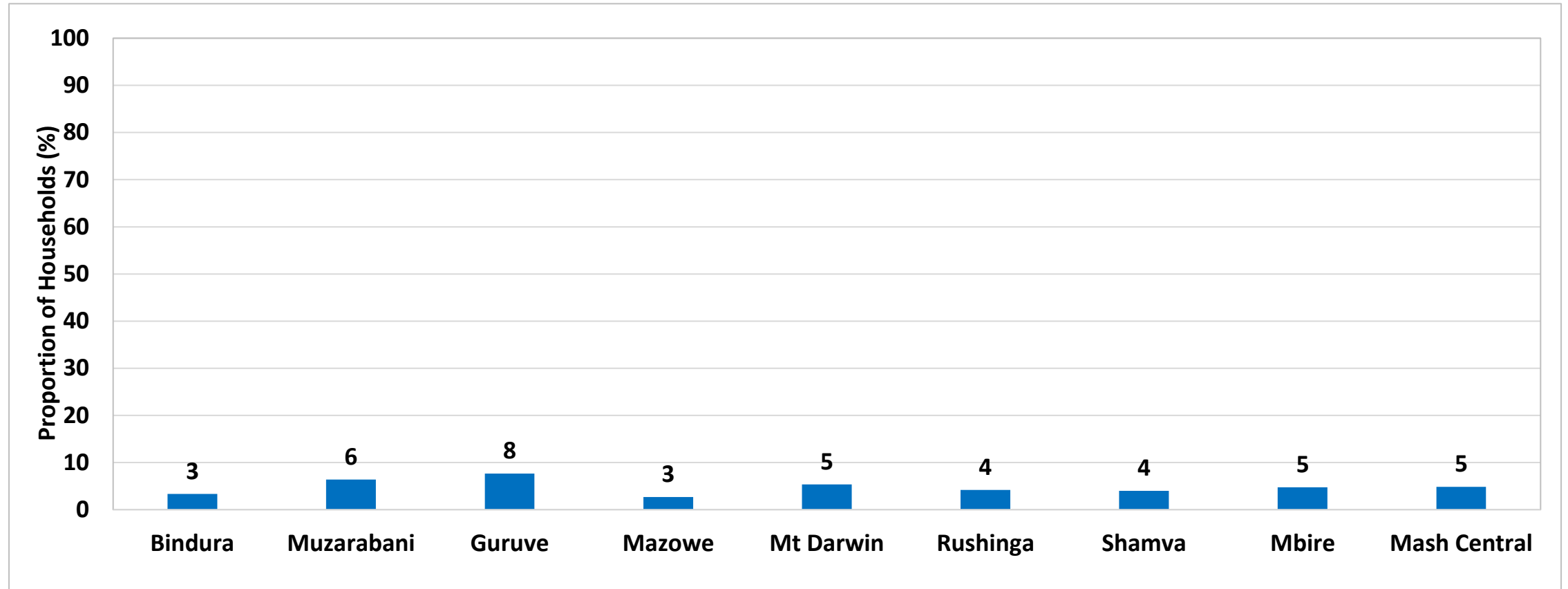
- Mbire (31%) had the highest proportion of households which grew small grains.

Households Which Practised Crop Rotation



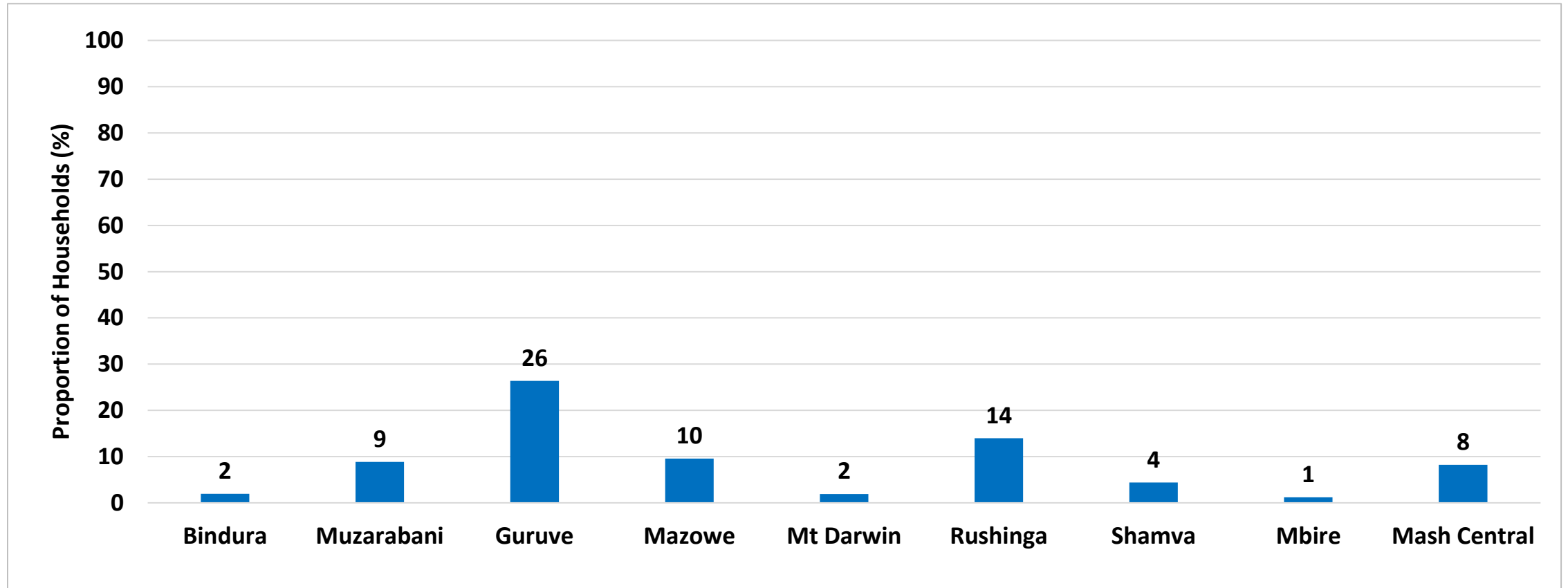
- About 15% of the households practised crop rotation in the province.
- Rushinga (38%) had the highest proportion of households practising crop rotation.
- The lowest was in Mazowe (4%).

Households which Practised Intercropping



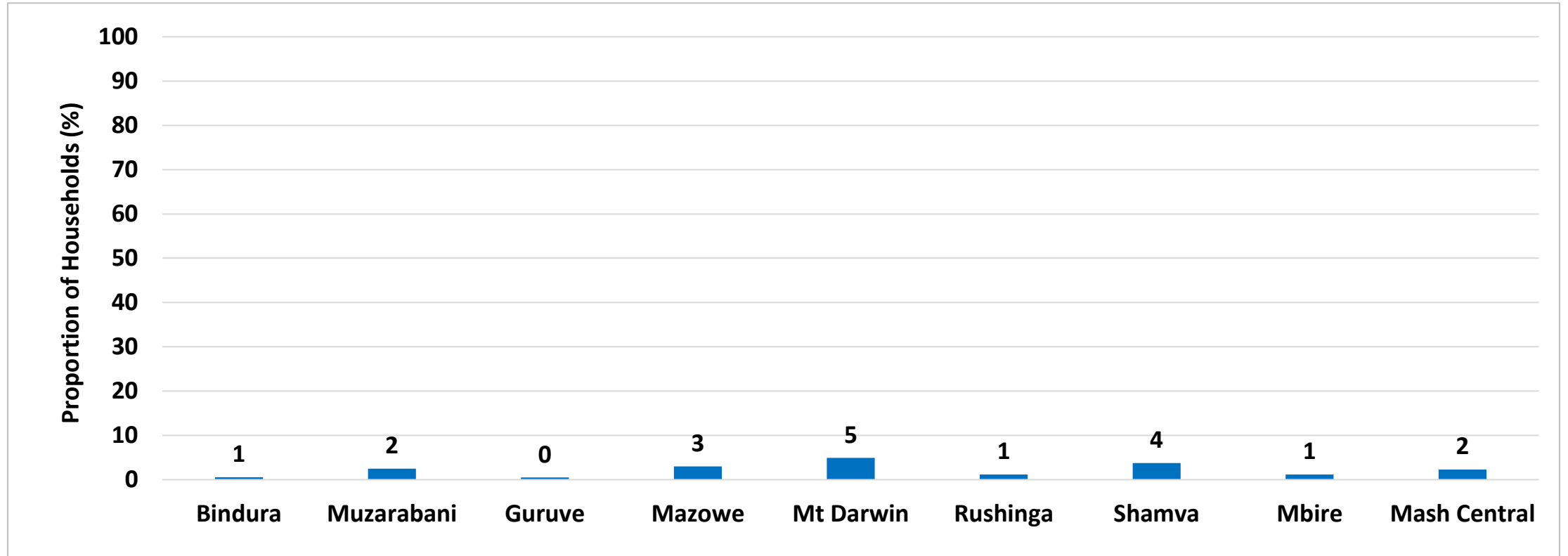
- Intercropping was practised by 5% of the households in the province.

Households which Practised Mulching



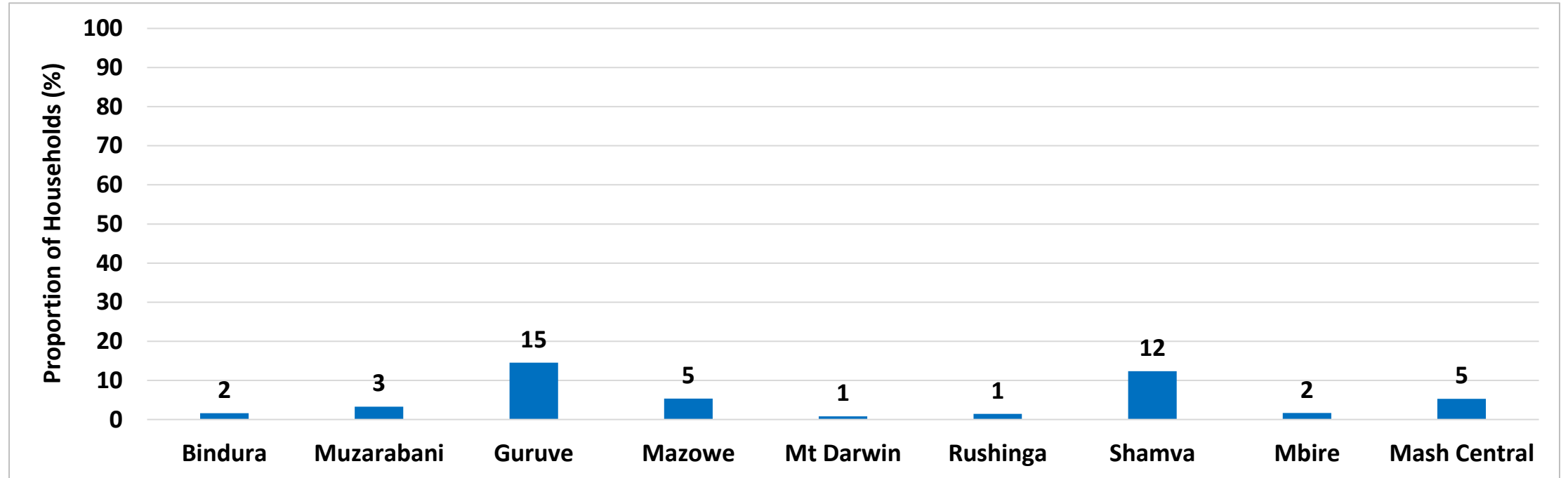
- Only 8% of the households practised mulching.

Households which Practised Integrated Pest Management



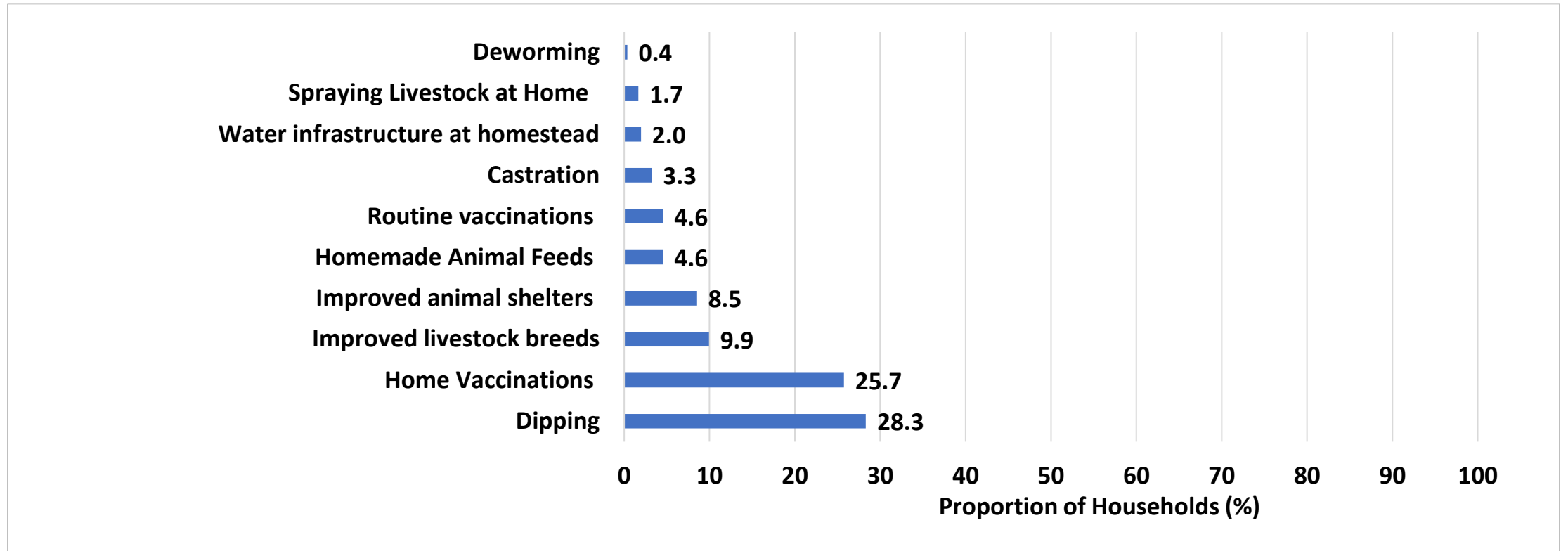
- Integrated pest management practise was low in the province (2%).

Households which Used Compost/Organic Fertiliser



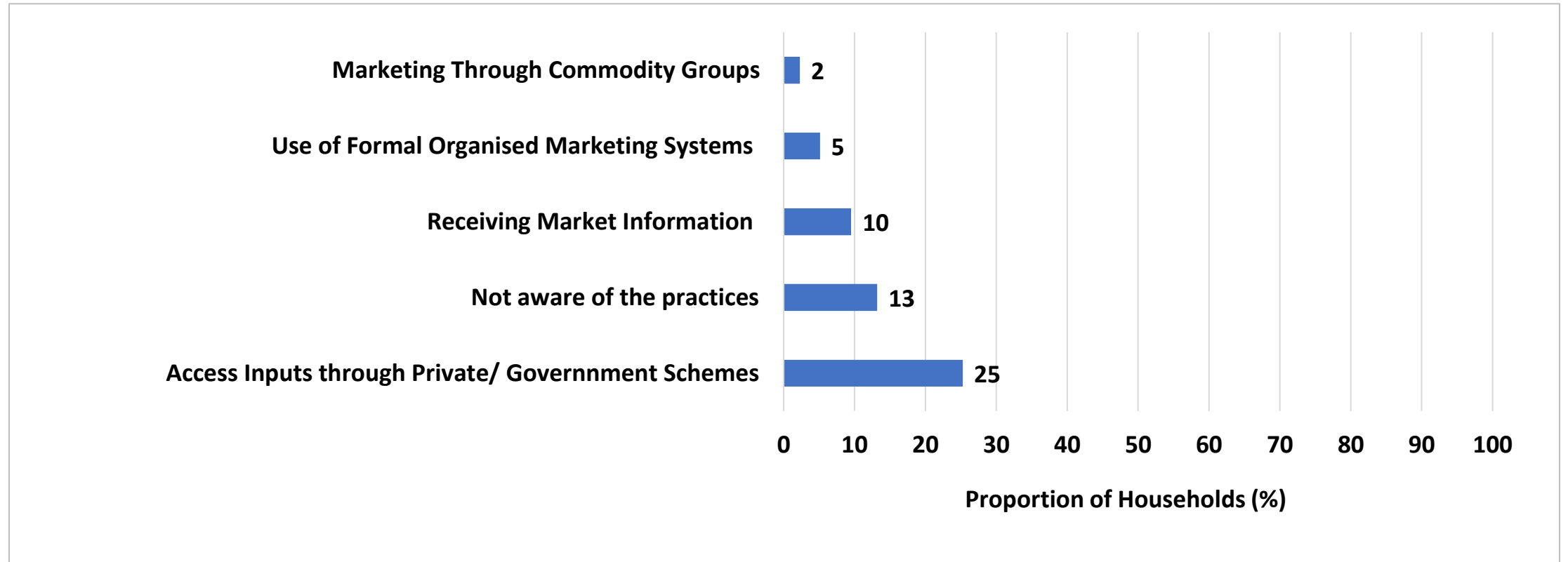
- About 5% of the households used compost/organic fertiliser.
- Guruve (15%) had the highest proportion of households using compost/ organic fertiliser.

Households Practising Improved Livestock Practices



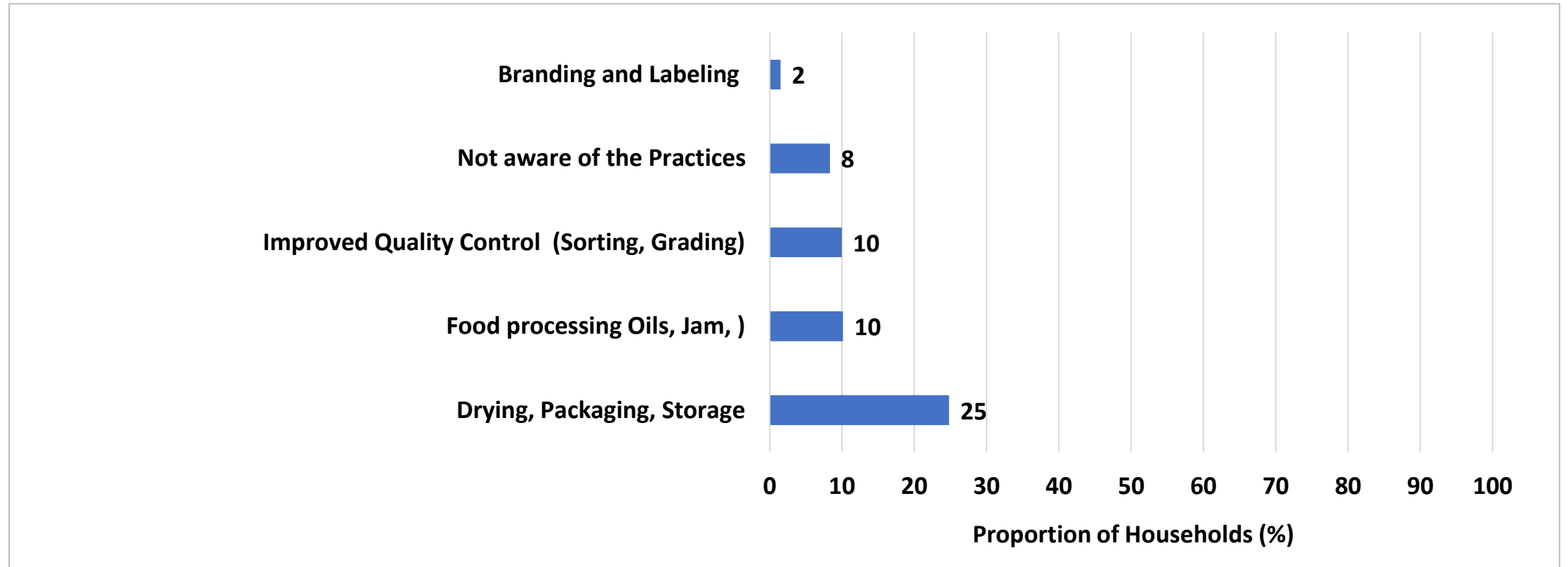
- The most commonly used improved livestock practices were dipping (28.3%) and home vaccinations (25.7%).

Households Practising Improved Agriculture Marketing



- Accessing inputs through private/ government schemes was practised by a quarter of households (25%).

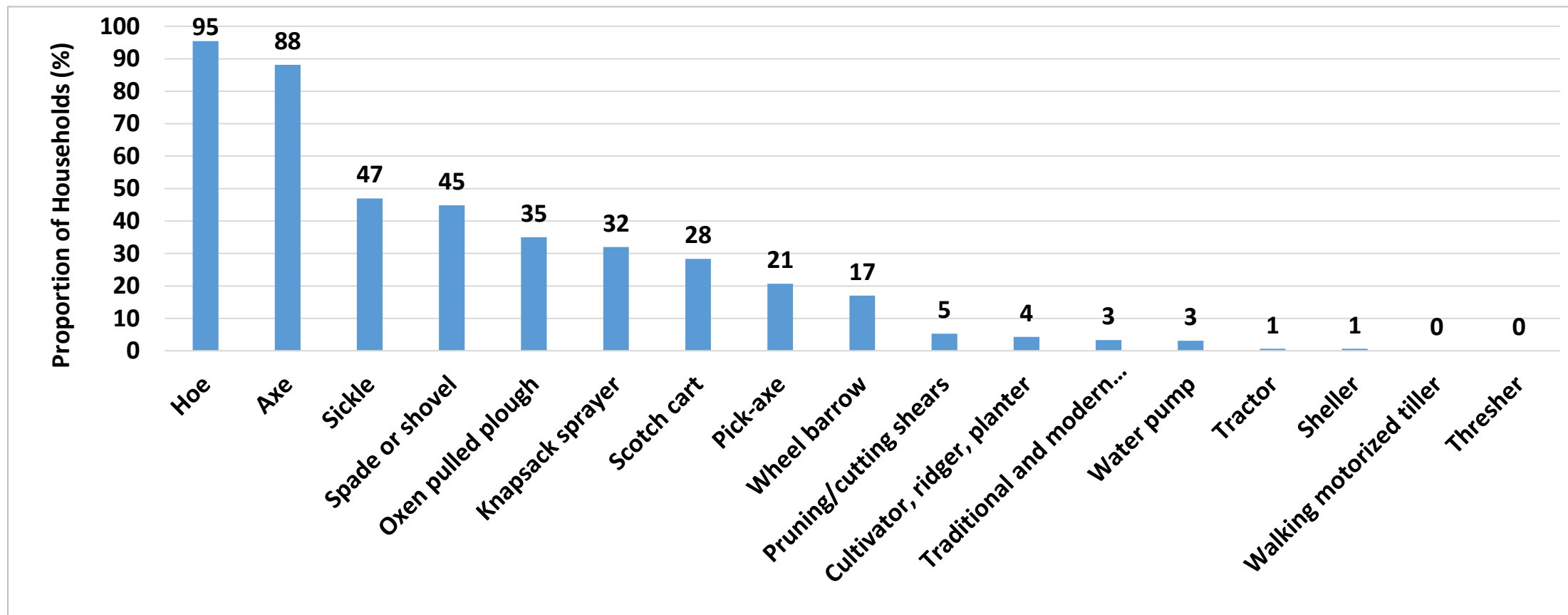
Households Practising Value Addition



- The most common value addition practices were drying, packaging and storage(25%).

Assets

Ownership of Productive Assets



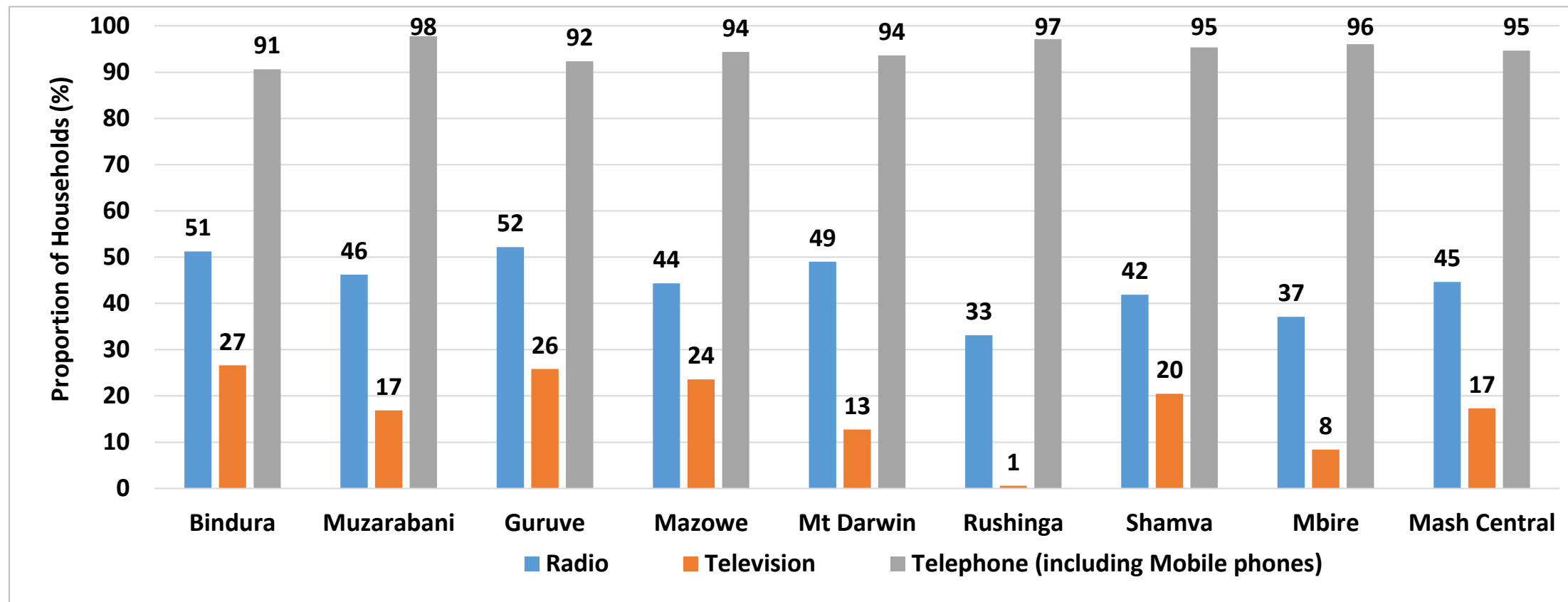
- Most of the households in the province reported owning a hoe (95%) and an axe (88%).

Ownership of Productive Assets

	Plough oxen pulled (%)	Scotch cart (%)	Sickle (%)	Pick-axe (%)	Axe (%)	Pruning /cutting shears (%)	Hoe (%)	Spade or shovel (%)	Tradition al and modern beehive (%)	Knapsack sprayer (%)	Water pump (%)	Tractor (%)	Sheller (%)	Cultivat or, ridger, planter (%)	Wheelb arrow (%)
Bindura	19	23	39	27	84	19	92	48	3	36	6	2	1	3	18
Muzarabani	48	38	56	26	88	1	94	41	4	42	3	0	0	7	19
Guruve	41	35	69	27	92	9	98	57	3	39	2	2	3	4	21
Mazowe	17	16	37	12	76	3	93	37	1	18	2	0	0	7	19
Mt Darwin	47	31	53	26	92	3	96	43	5	20	1	0	0	4	12
Rushinga	36	24	21	7	95	2	98	30	0	17	0	0	0	2	9
Shamva	35	33	44	10	87	1	97	65	5	46	8	1	0	3	25
Mbire	35	27	56	29	90	5	96	38	5	38	2	0	0	5	15
Mash Central	35	28	47	21	88	5	95	45	3	32	3	1	1	4	17

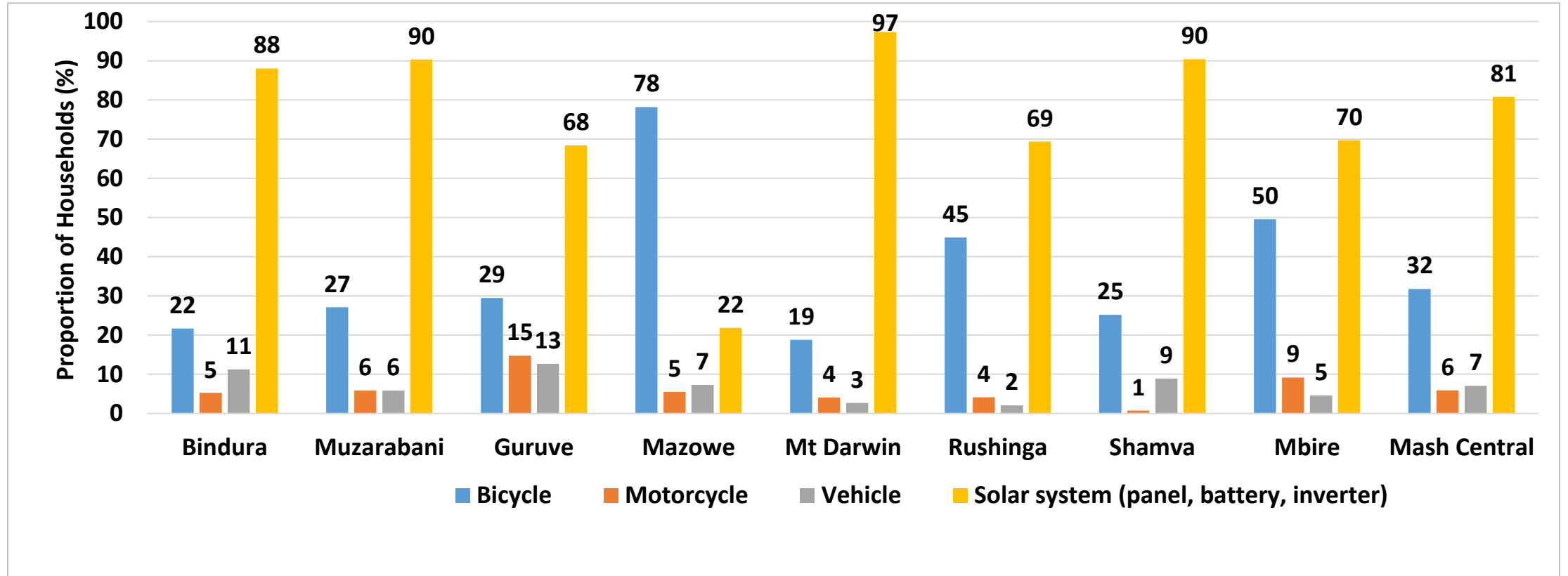
- Across all the districts, an axe and a hoe were the two most owned productive assets.

Ownership of ICT Assets



- Across all the districts, the most owned ICT asset was a phone (95%) and the television was the least (17%).

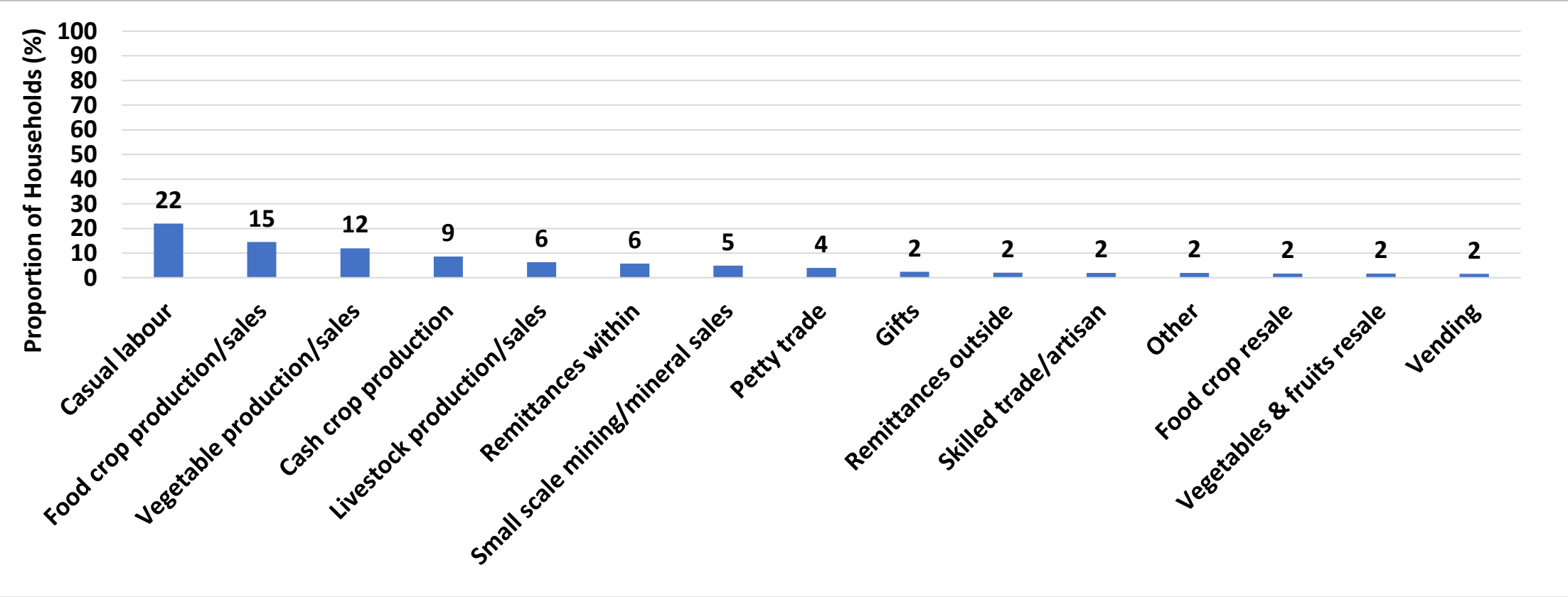
Ownership of Other Assets



- Solar system was the most owned asset across the province (81%) while the least was a vehicle (7%).

Income and Expenditure

Income Sources



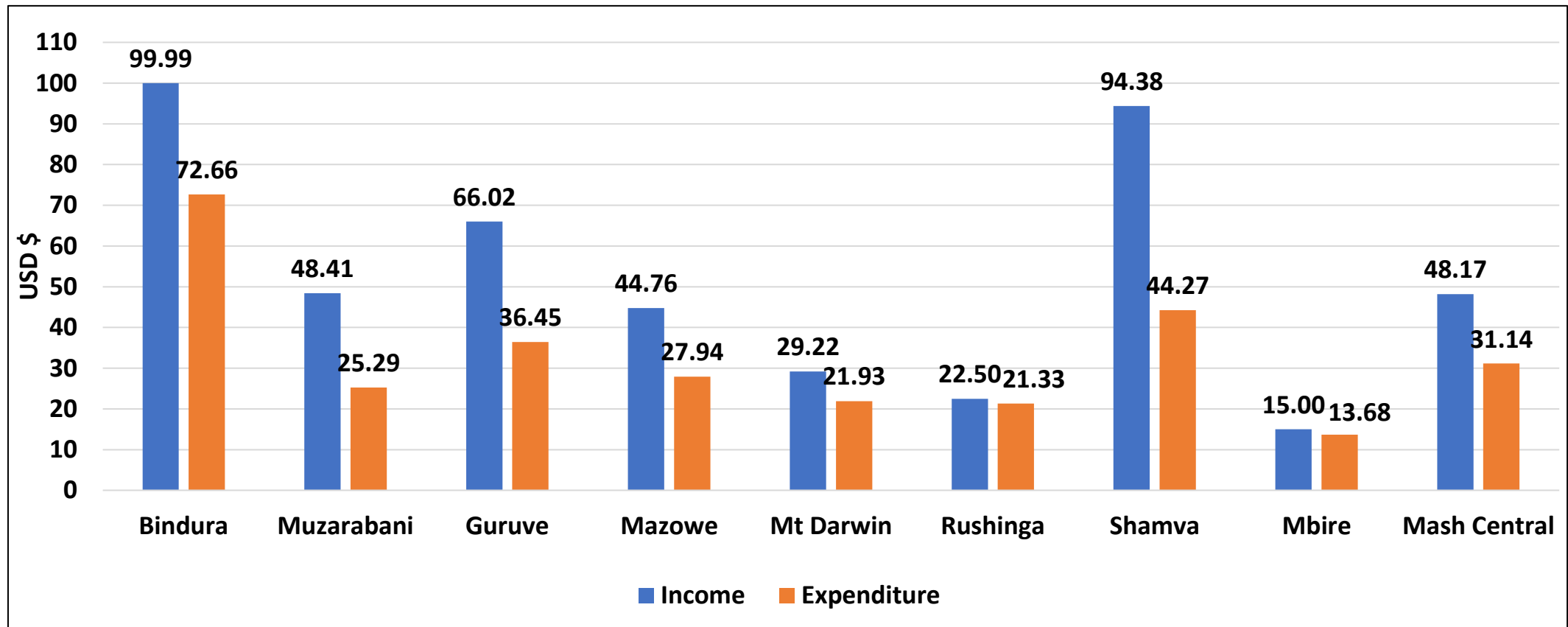
- Casual labour (22%) and food crop production (15%) were the major income sources in the province.

Major Income Sources by District

District	Bindura (%)	Muzarabani (%)	Guruve (%)	Mazowe (%)	Mt Darwin (%)	Rushinga (%)	Shamva (%)	Mbire (%)
Remittances outside	1.8	7.2	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.4	3.3	0.2
Remittance within	6.5	4.4	4.9	8	6.1	6.7	5	5.3
Food crop production/sales	16.9	18.7	13.4	10.2	9.1	19.6	14	12.7
Food crop resale	2.1	0.6	1.4	2.2	1	3.5	2.3	1.3
Vegetables production/sales	15.4	12.9	10	5.8	10.1	17	12.3	11.9
Vegetables fruits resale	3.6	0.7	1.4	3.8	1.8	1.2	1	1.1
Cash crop production	4.2	7.5	14.6	3.1	11.2	6.7	6	13.2
Casual labour	33.6	19.4	21.1	35.4	24.1	16.6	11.3	19.9
Livestock production/sales	0.5	12.9	1.8	1.3	6.7	8.4	2.9	9.9
Livestock resale	1	1.1	0.2	0.2	1.4	1	0.2	2.1
Skilled trade/artisan	2.3	2.2	1.8	0.7	3	2	3.3	1
Own business	1.8	0.3	1.4	2.2	0.2	0.2	2.5	0.2
Vending	1.6	0.6	1.4	1.8	1.2	1.8	4.8	0.3
Petty trade	2.6	3.6	4.1	10.7	5.7	1.4	3.8	1.6
Fishing/fish resale	0.3	1	0.2	1.1	0.6	0	0	1.1
Gifts	0.3	0.8	5.5	4.5	0.2	1.8	2.3	4
Small scale mining/mineral sales	2.1	0.4	3	2.9	9.1	4.5	19	1.1
Gathering natural products for sale	0	0.8	0	0.4	1.2	2.2	0.2	1.4

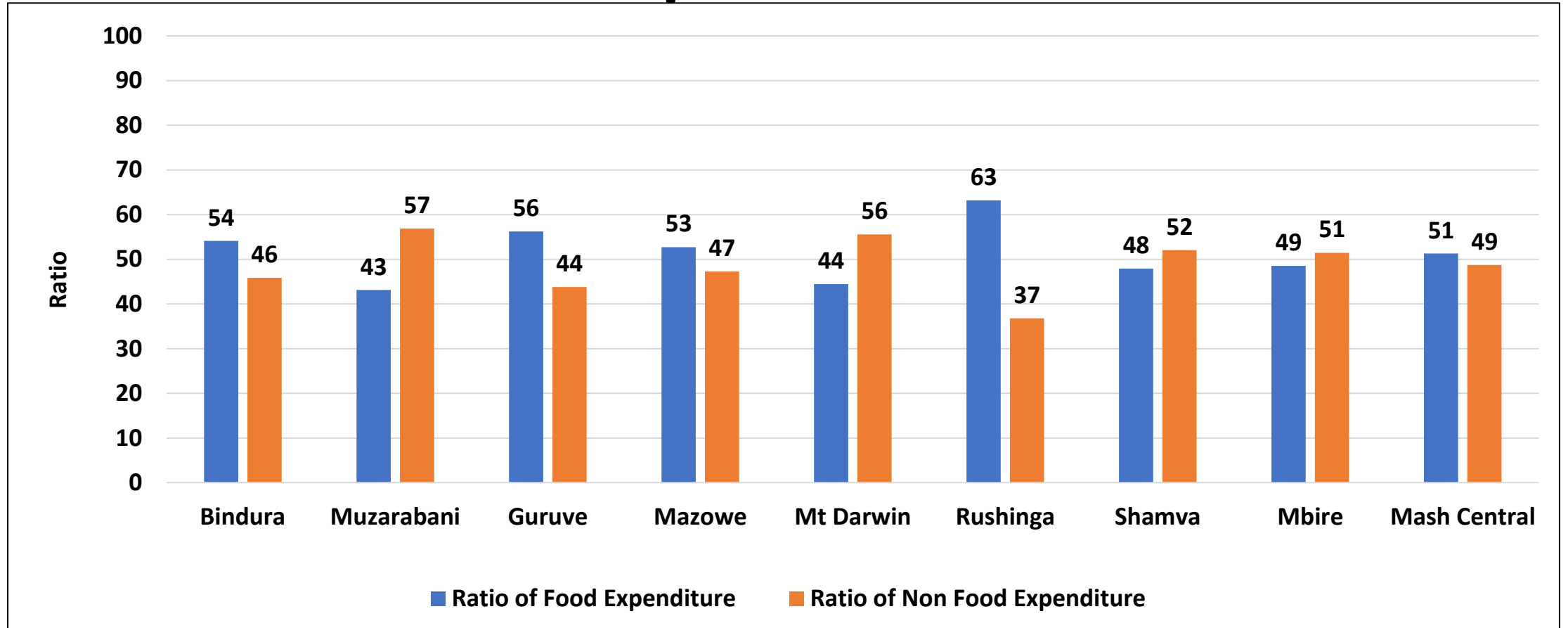
- Mazowe (35.4%) had the highest proportion of households which reported casual labour as the most important source of income.

Average Household Income and Expenditure for April 2022



- Average income for April 2022 was USD 48.17 with the expenditure averaging USD 31.14.
- Bindura had the highest average income of USD 99.99 and the least was Mbire at USD 15.

Food Expenditure Ratio



- The food expenditure ratio was 51% while non-food expenditure ratio was 49%.

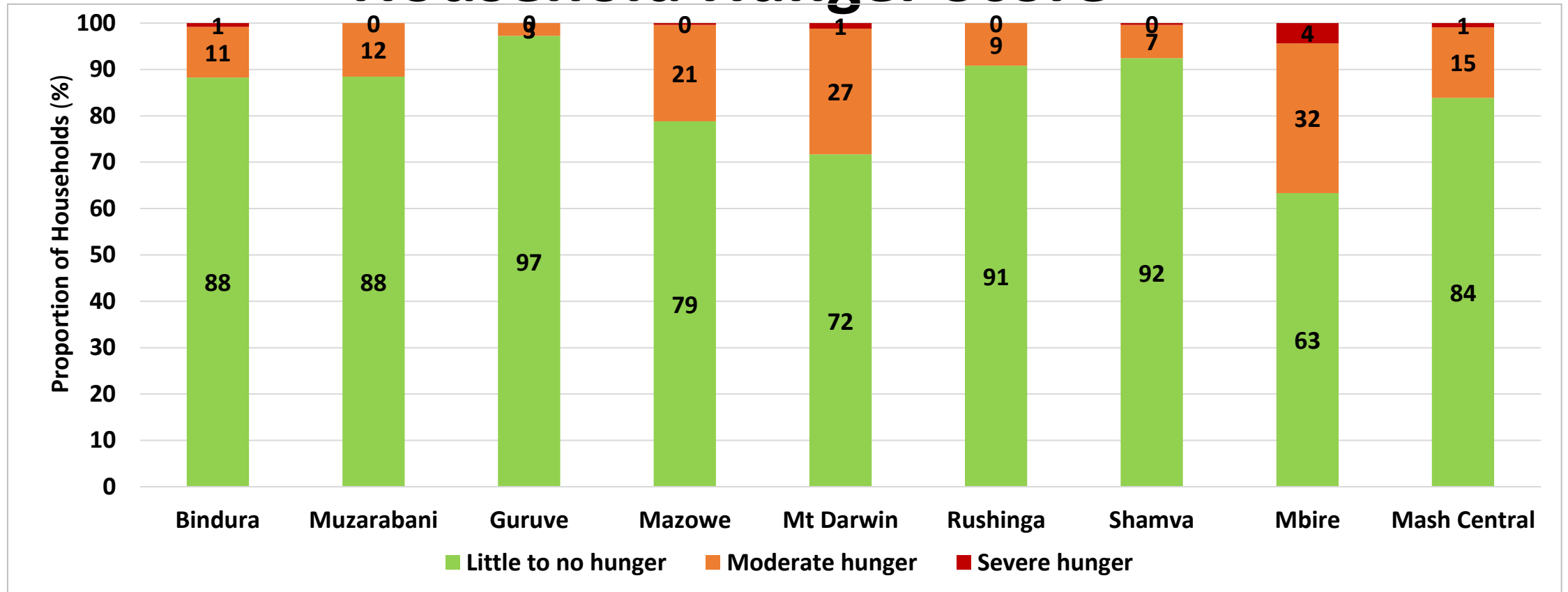
Average Household 6 Month Expenditure

	Education expenses (USD)	Agriculture expenses (USD)	Business expenses (USD)	Medical expenses (USD)	Social expenses (USD)	Construction expenses (USD)	Taxes expenses (USD)	Other expenses (USD)
Bindura	29	45	5	12	2	7	1	20
Muzarabani	9	9	0	9	4	0	0	9
Guruve	20	47	0	6	4	0	0	11
Mazowe	12	13	10	10	2	4	0	13
Mt Darwin	12	22	7	17	1	5	1	20
Rushinga	6	2	0	8	0	0	0	2
Shamva	17	53	21	10	6	6	1	24
Mbire	13	1	1	4	0	0	1	2
Mash Central	15	24	6	9	2	3	1	13

- The highest expenditure was on agriculture (USD 24) while the lowest was on taxes (USD 1).

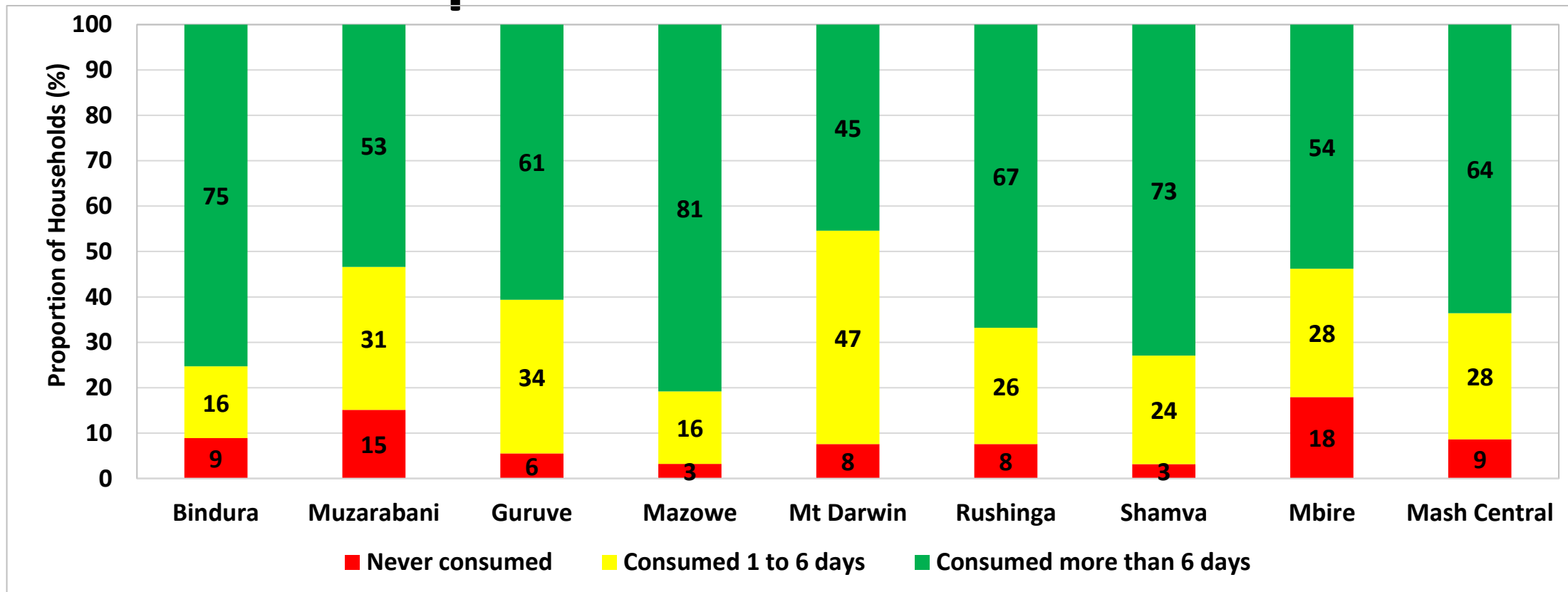
Household Consumption Patterns

Household Hunger Score



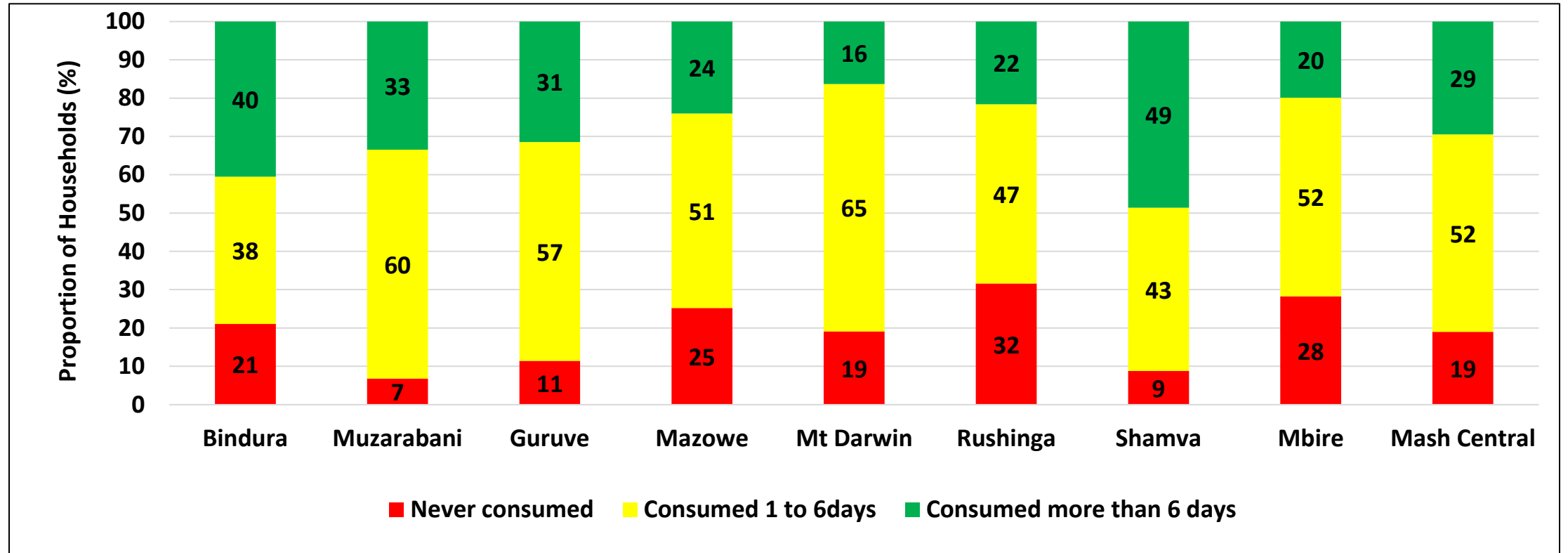
- Most of the households in the province (84%) reported having experienced little to no hunger in the 30 days preceding the survey.
- Guruve (97%) followed by Shamva (92%) reported the highest proportion of households which experienced little to no hunger in the 30 days preceding the survey.
- Mbire (4%) had the highest proportion of households which experienced severe hunger in the 30 days preceding the survey.

Consumption of Vitamin A Rich Foods



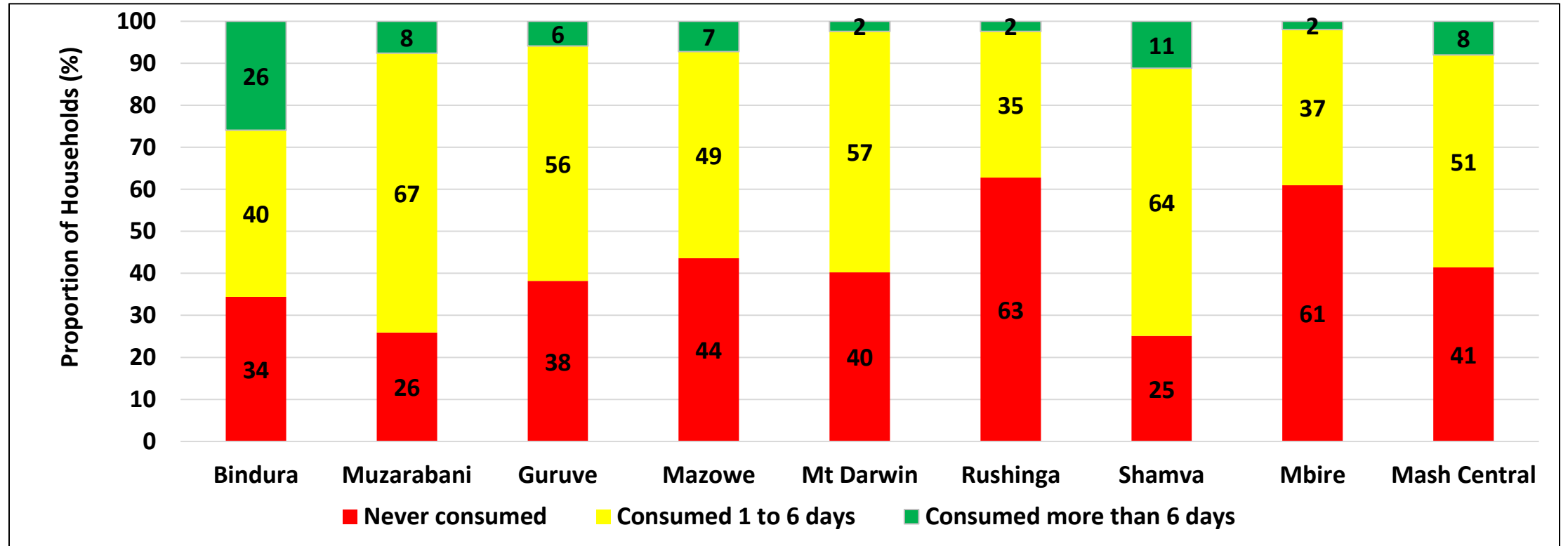
- Mazowe (81%) had the highest proportion of households consuming vitamin A rich foods more than 6 days in the seven days preceding the survey.
- Muzarabani (53%) had the least.

Consumption of Protein Rich Foods



- Shamva (49%) had the highest proportion of households consuming protein rich foods more than 6 days in the seven days preceding the survey.
- The least proportion was in Mt Darwin (16%).

Consumption of Iron Rich Foods



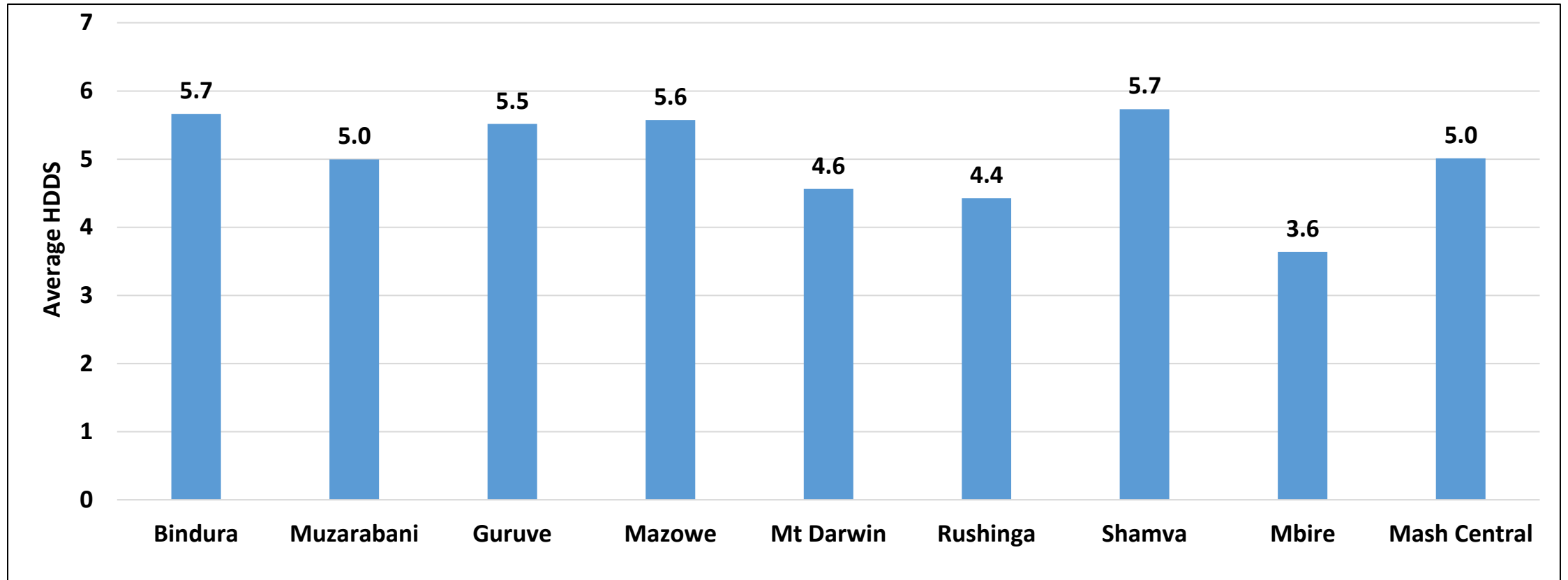
- About 8% of households in the province reported consuming iron rich foods for more than 6 days in the 7 days preceding the survey.
- Bindura (26%) had the highest proportion.

Household Dietary Diversity Scores (HDDS)

- The household dietary diversity score (HDDS) is used as proxy measure of the quality of household food consumption
- HHDS measures the number of unique foods consumed by a household over a 7 day period with measuring the quantity of food consumed
- hence it reflects household access to a variety of foods over a given period.
- Based on the HDDS, a household may be classified as follows:

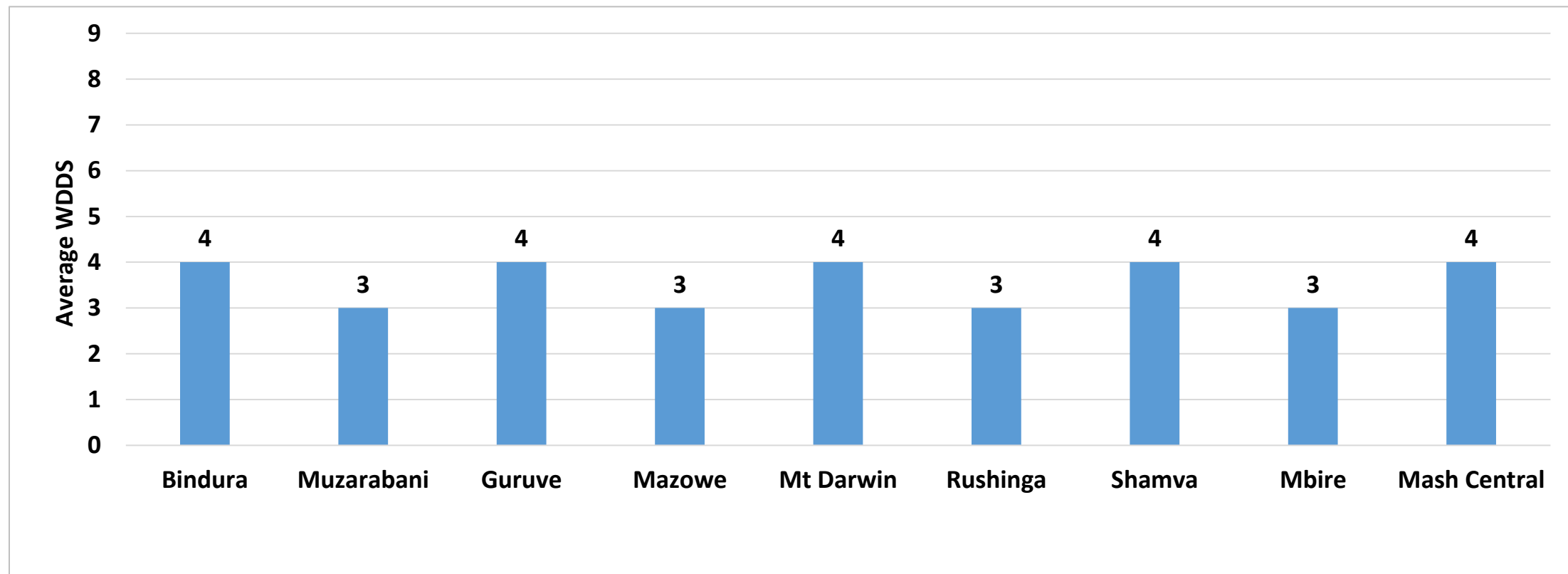
HDDS	Classification
<3	Low
4-5	Medium
>5	Acceptable

Household Dietary Diversity Score



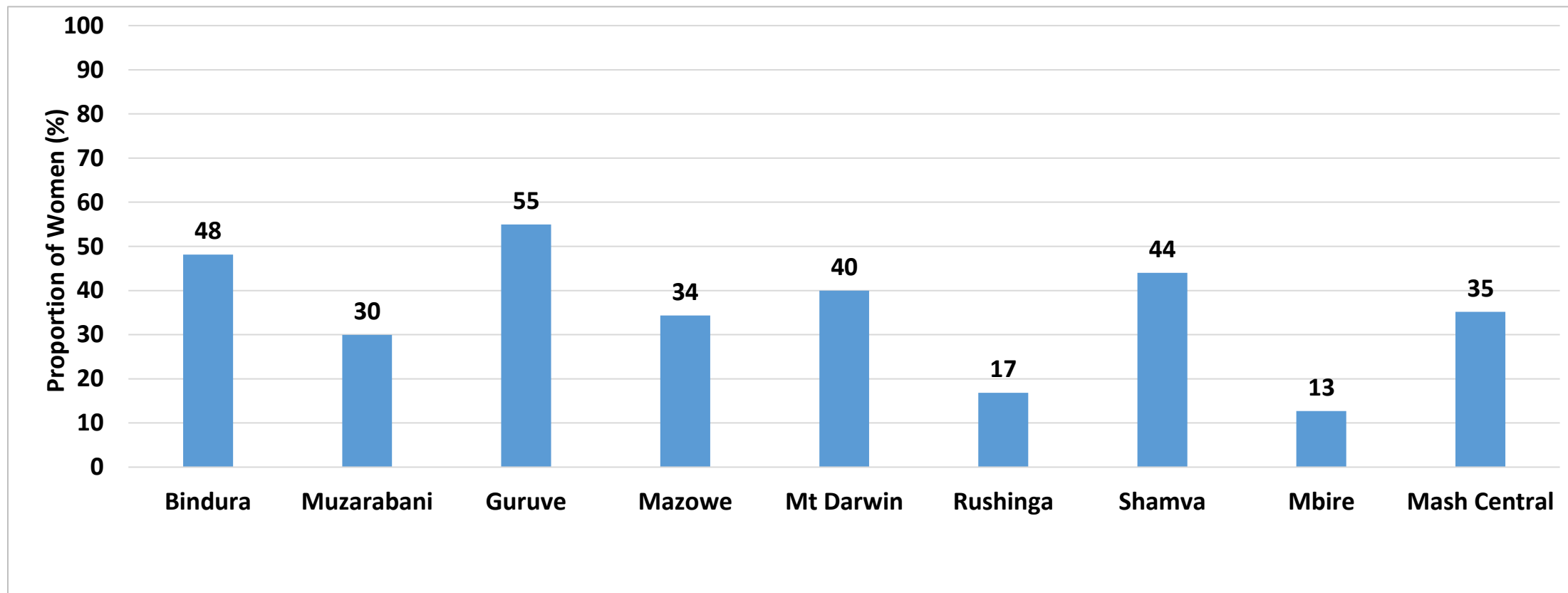
- The provincial household dietary diversity score was 5 which was acceptable.
- Bindura and Shamva had the highest dietary diversity score of 5.7.

Women Dietary Diversity Score (WDDS)



- Women Dietary Diversity Score (WDDS) for the province was 4 which was below the recommended 5 food groups.

Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women

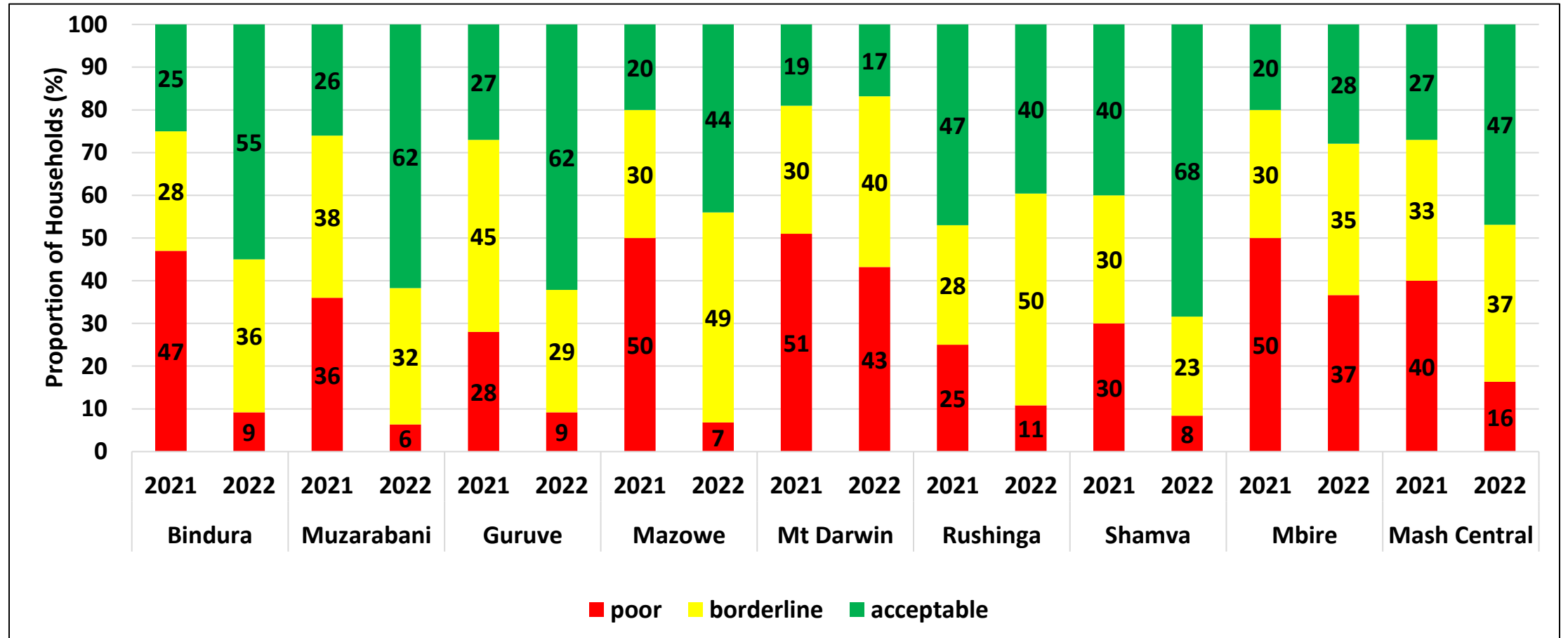


- Only Guruve (55%) had the highest proportion of women with minimum dietary diversity score of 5 and above while Mbire (13%) had the least.

Food Consumption Scores (FCS)

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 Patterns



- Shamva (68%) had the highest proportion of households in the acceptable range while Mt Darwin (17%) had the least.

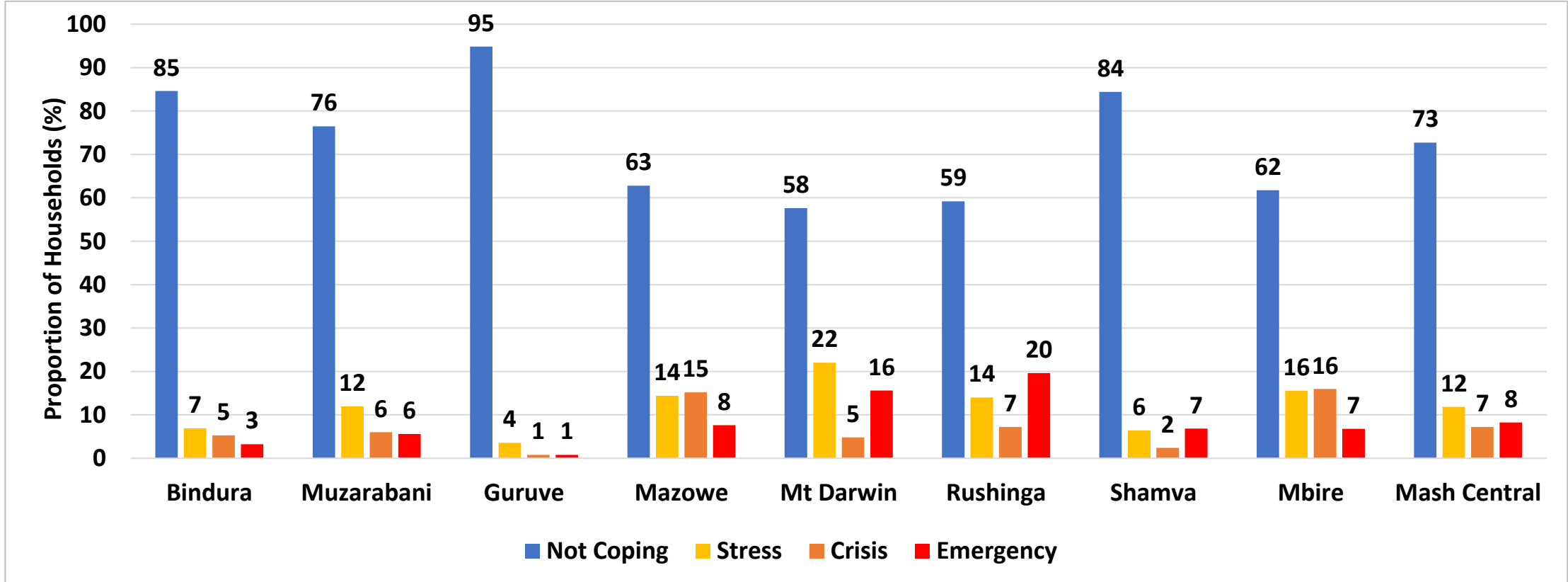
Household Consumption and Livelihoods Based Coping Strategies

Households Livelihood Coping Strategies

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

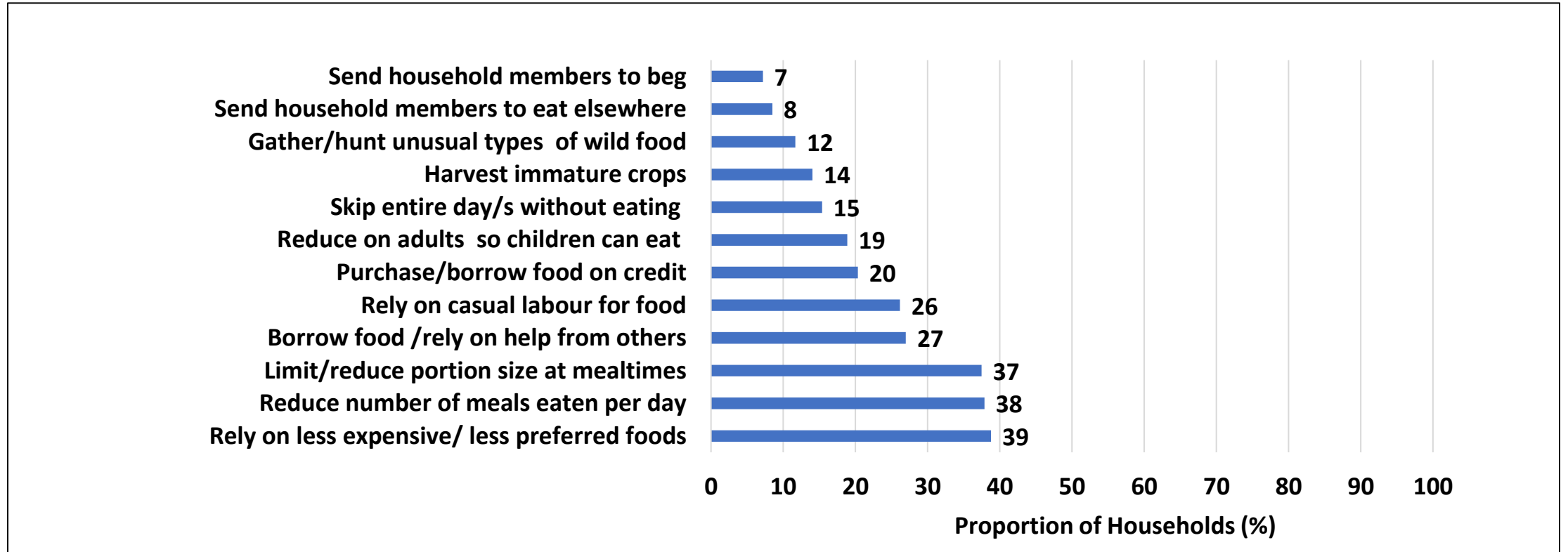
Category	Coping Strategy
Stress	Borrowing money Spending savings Selling more non-productive livestock than usual Selling household assets
Crisis	Selling productive assets Withdrawing children from school Reducing non-food expenditure
Emergency	Selling land Begging for food Selling the last breeding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

Households Engaging in Livelihoods Coping Strategies



- At provincial level, 8% of households resorted to emergency coping mechanisms.
- The proportion of households that resorted to emergency coping mechanisms was highest in Rushinga (20%) and least in Guruve (1%).

Household Consumption Coping Strategies



- The main consumption coping strategies adopted included relying on less expensive or less preferred foods (39%), reducing the number of meals eaten per day (38%) and limiting or reducing portion size at mealtimes (37%).
- Adoption of these negative strategies has a negative impact on the household nutrition outcomes.

The Coping Strategies Index (CSI)

- Households engage in various methods of coping when faced with food access challenges. The household consumption strategies are food consumption behaviours that households adopt when faced with challenges in accessing food.
- The Reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI) considers both the frequency and severity of pre-selected coping strategies that a household used in the seven days prior to the survey. Reduced coping strategies index can be classified into three categories depending on the severity as shown below.



Low or no coping (CSI 0-3)

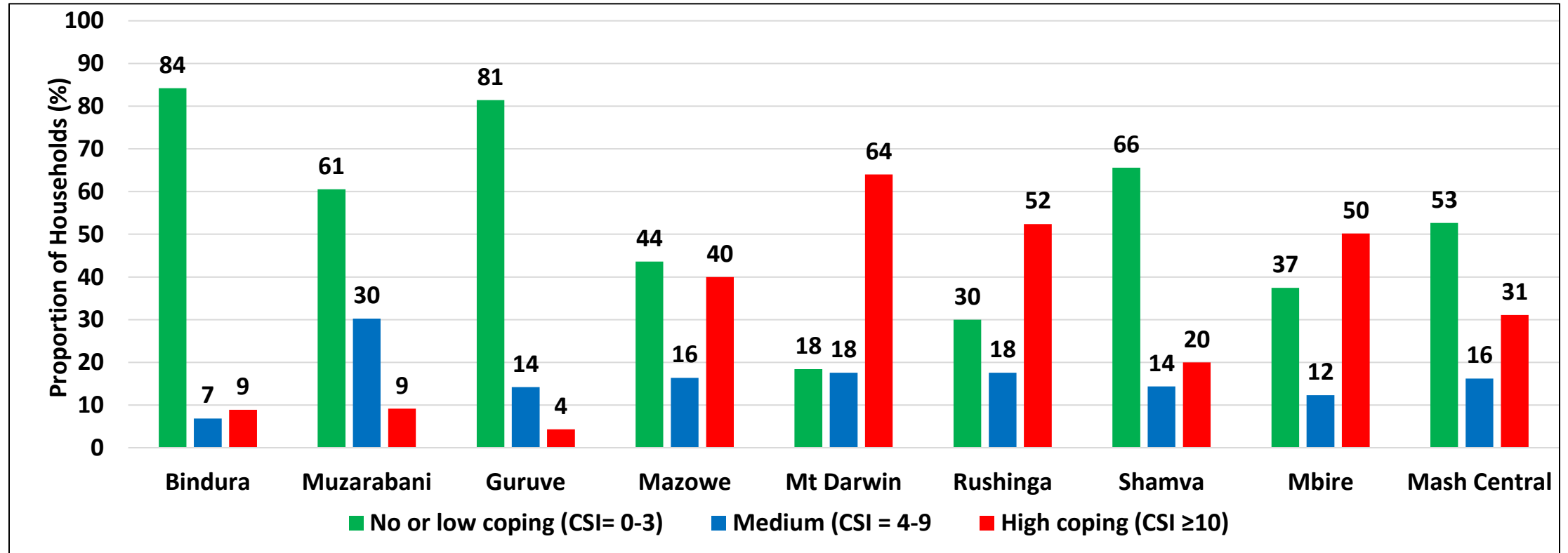


Medium Coping (CSI 4-9)



High Coping (CSI ≥ 10)

Household Reduced Consumption Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)

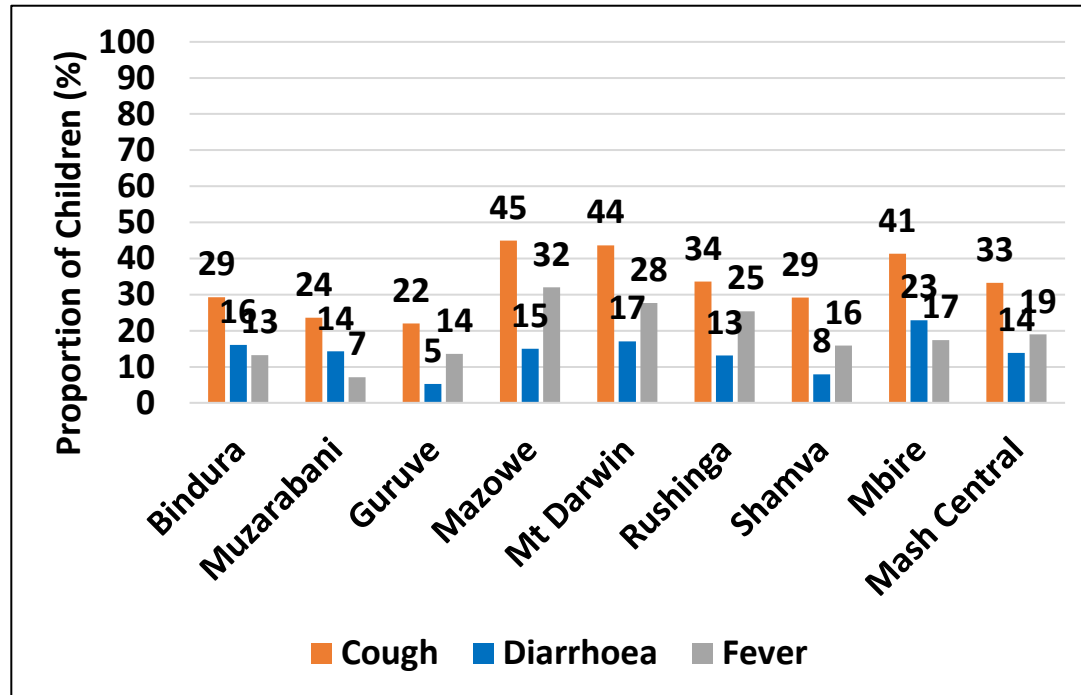


- Mt Darwin (64%) had the highest proportion of households adopting high consumption-based coping strategies.
- Bindura (84%) had the highest proportion of households adopting low or no coping.

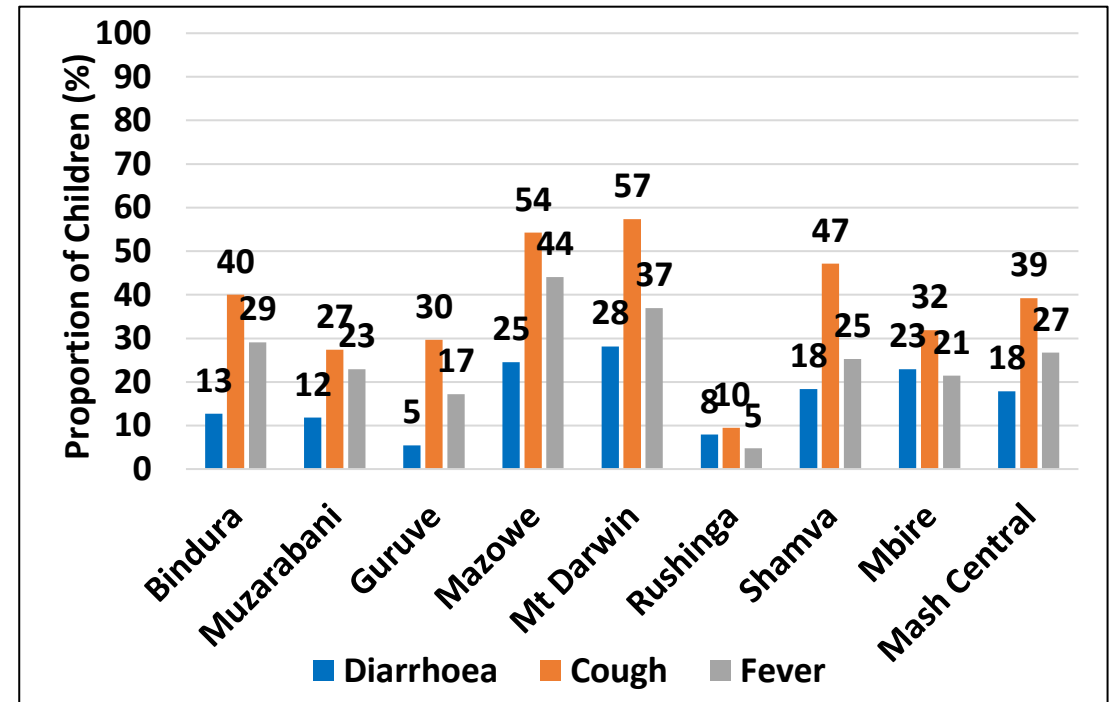
Child Nutrition

Child Illness

2021



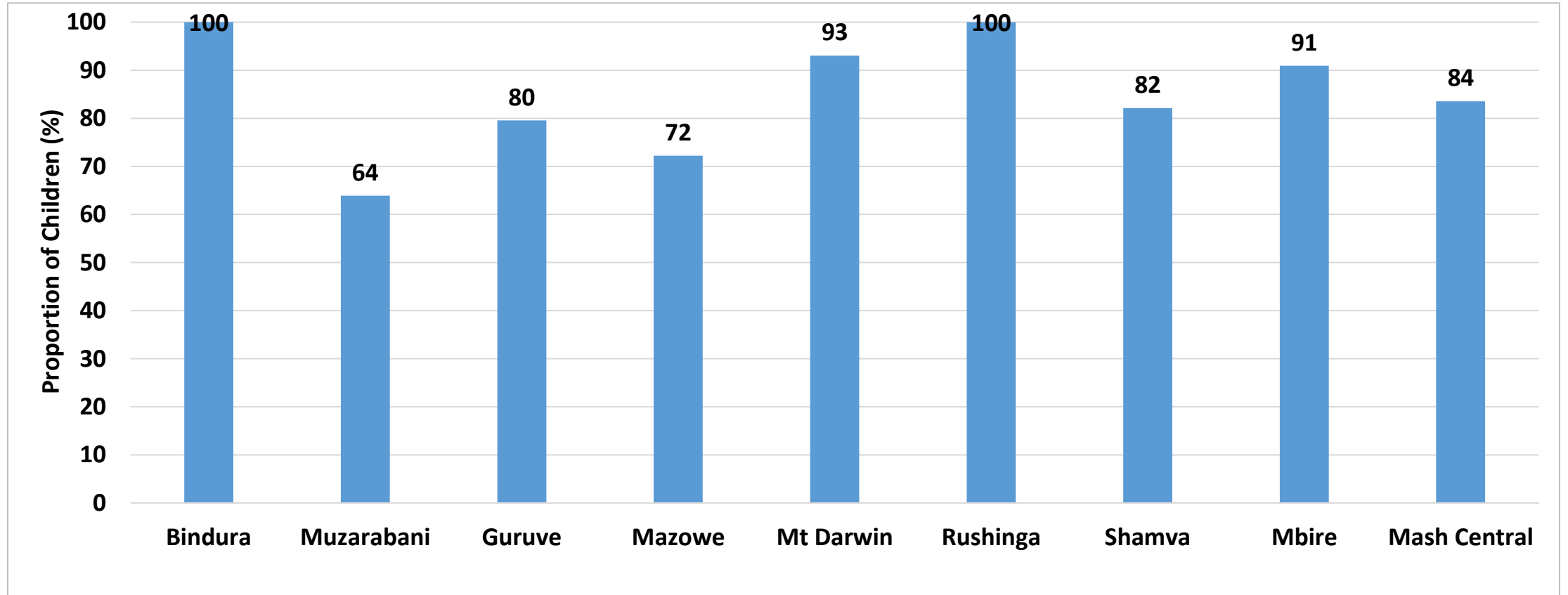
2022



- Cough was the most common child illness in both 2021 and 2022.
- The proportion of children who had a cough increased from 33% in 2021 to 39% in 2022.

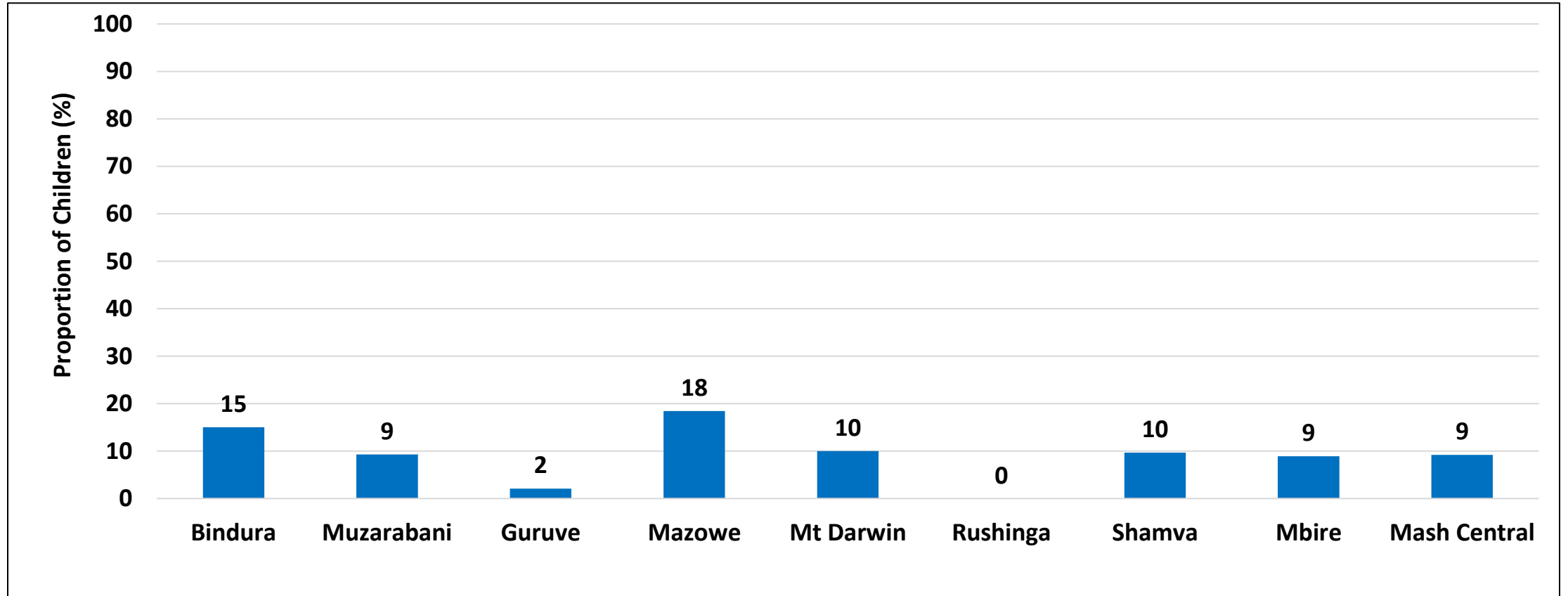
Child Feeding Practices

Early Initiation of Breastfeeding



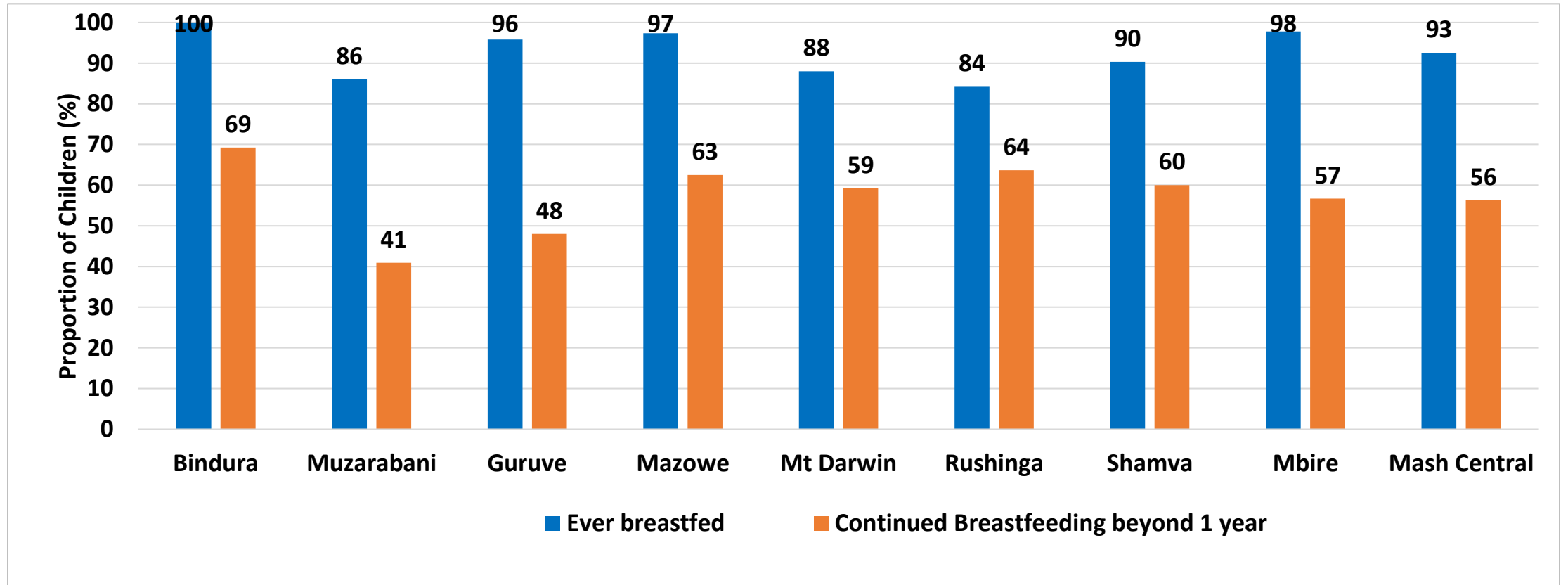
- Bindura (100%) and Rushinga (100%) had the highest proportion of children being initiated to breastfeeding early .
- Muzarabani (64%) had the least.

Bottle Feeding



- Mazowe (18%) has the highest proportion of children who were bottle fed.

Breastfeeding Practices

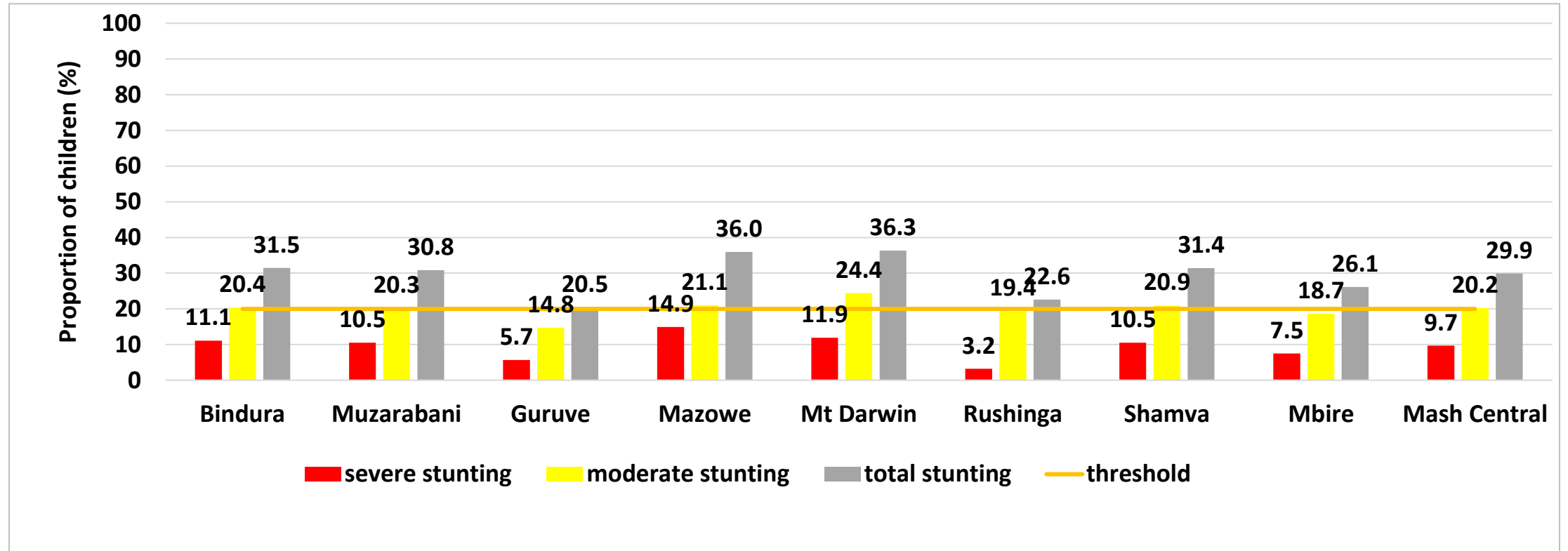


- Most of the children (93%) had been breastfed in the province.

Anthropometric Indices and WHO Prevalence Thresholds

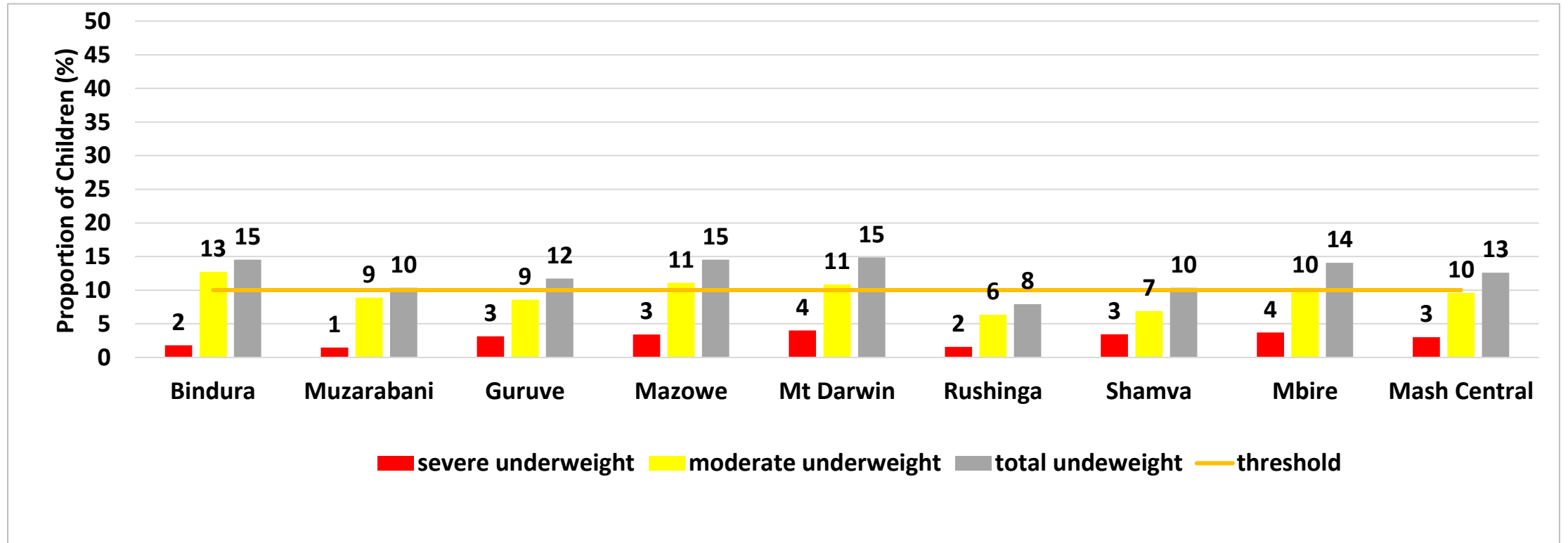
Age group	Indicator	Definition	Prevalence cut-off values for public health significance only for children aged 6-59 months
6–59-month 5–19 years	Stunting	Height-for-age < –2 standard deviations (SD) of the WHO Growth Standards median	< 20%: Low prevalence 20-29%: Medium prevalence 30-39%: High prevalence ≥ 40%: Very high prevalence
6–59 month 5–9 years	Underweight	Weight-for-age < –2 SD	< 10%: Low prevalence 10-19%: Medium prevalence 20-29%: High prevalence ≥ 30%: Very high prevalence
6–59 month	Wasting	Weight-for-height < –2 SD	< 5%: Acceptable 5-9%: Poor 10-14%: Serious ≥ 15%: Critical

Stunting Prevalence in Children 6-59 Months



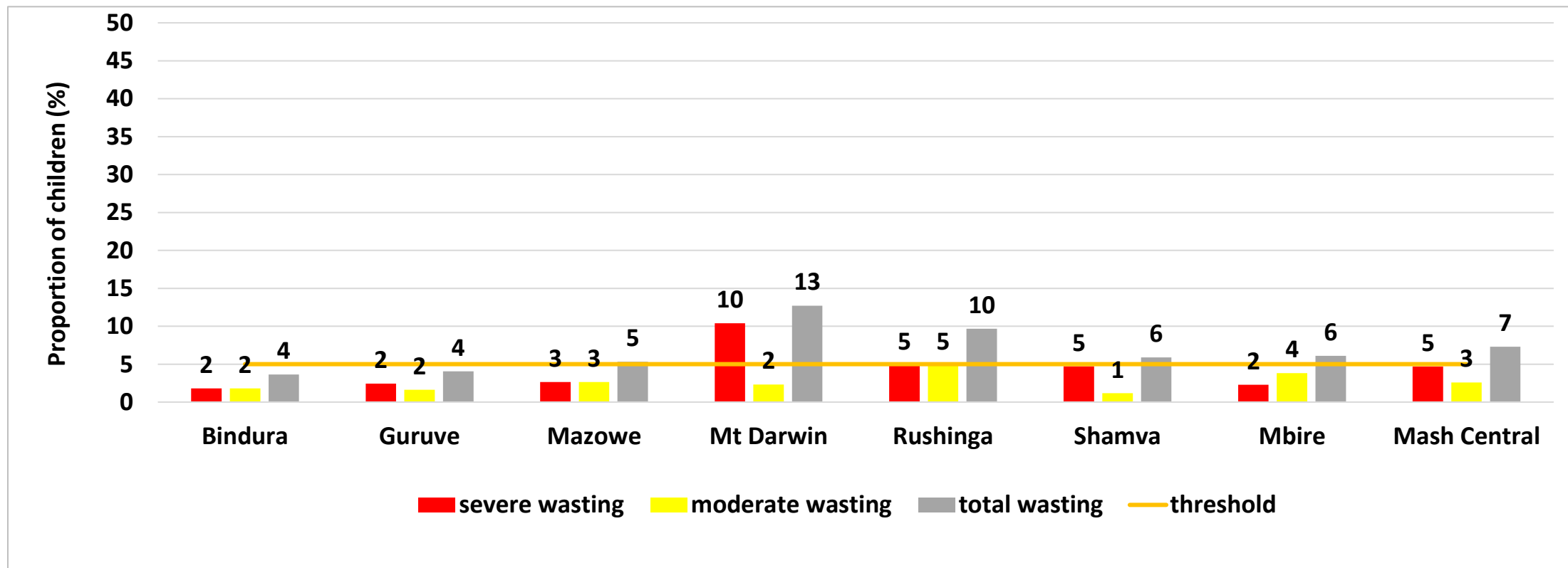
- The prevalence of stunting in the province was 29.9% which was above the WHO threshold of 20%.
- The highest prevalence was in Mt Darwin (36.3%) with the lowest was in Guruve at 20.5%.

Underweight Prevalence in Children 6-59 Months



- Underweight prevalence in the province was 13%. This was above the WHO threshold of 10%.
- The highest prevalence was recorded in Bindura, Mazowe and Mt Darwin (15%).

Wasting Prevalence in Children 6-59 months

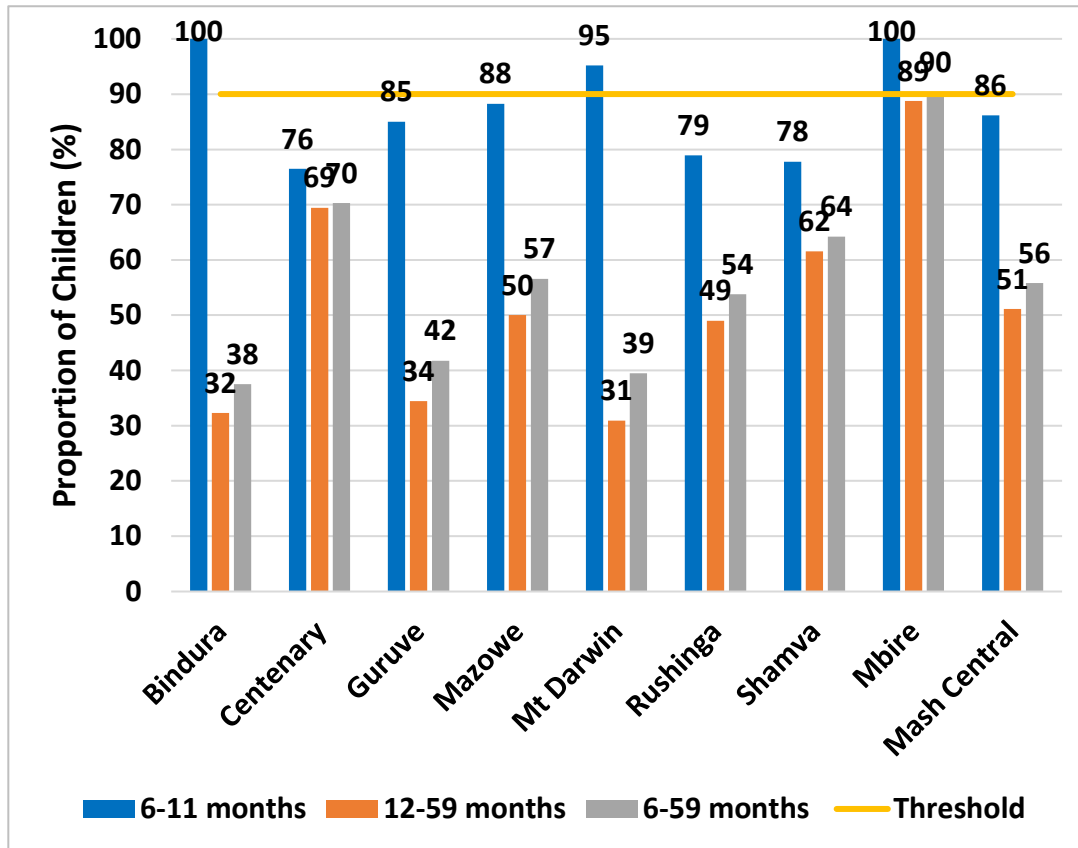


- The provincial wasting prevalence was 7% which was above the WHO emergency threshold of 5%.

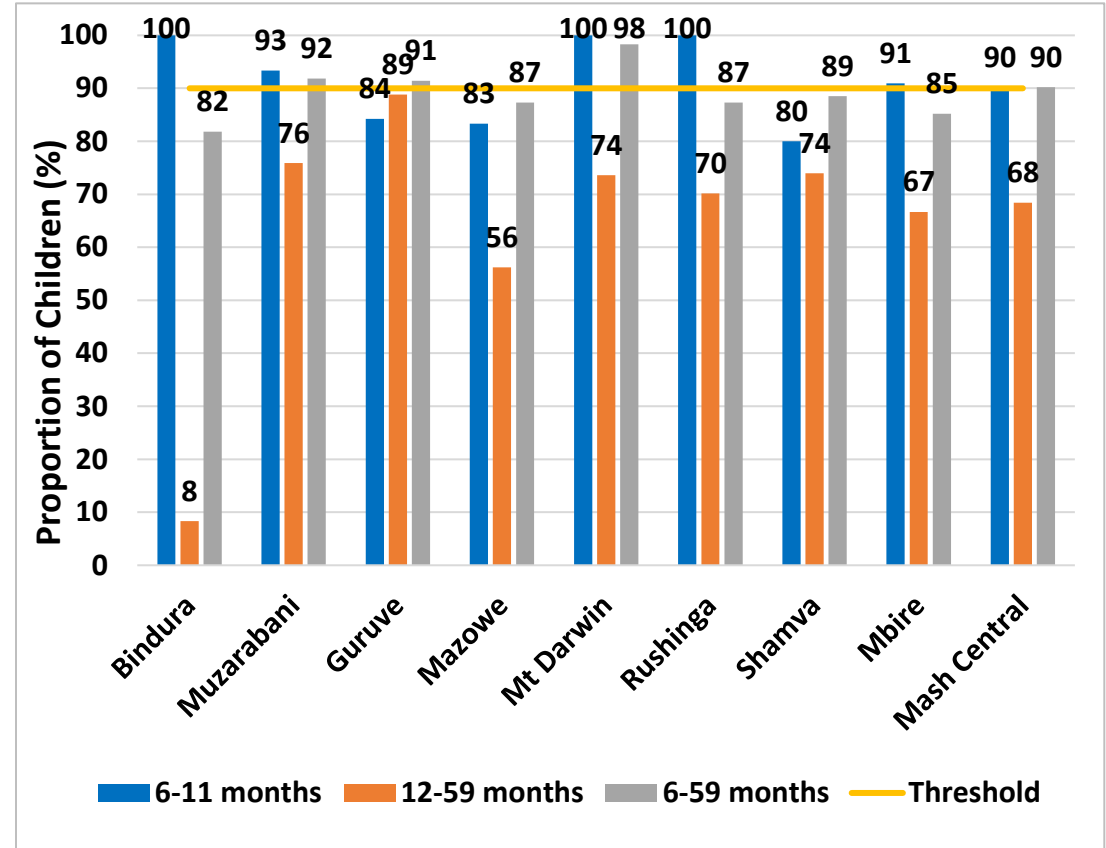
Vitamin A Supplementation

Vitamin A Supplementation

2021



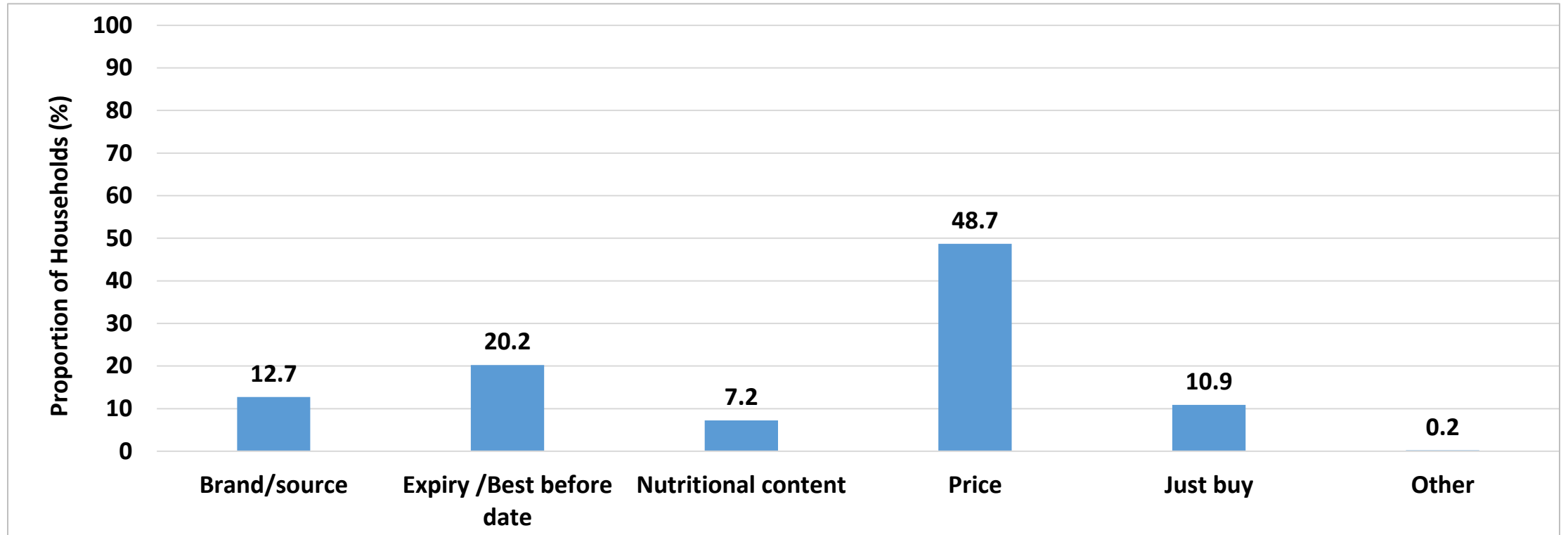
2022



- Coverage for the 12-59 months age group (68%) was below the threshold of 90%.
- There has been an improvement in coverage from 56% in 2021 to 90% in 2022.

Food Safety

Considerations When Purchasing Food



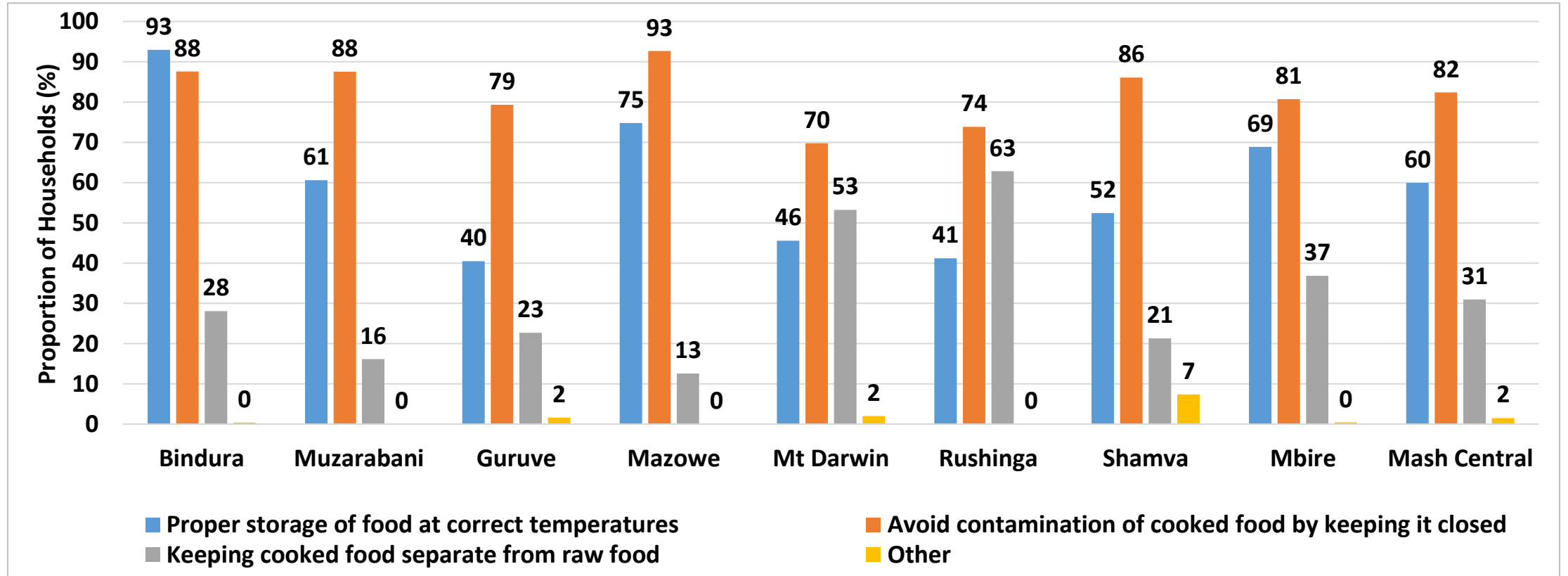
- Most of the households in the province (48.7%) considered prices when purchasing food.

Considerations When Purchasing Food

	Brand/source (%)	Expiry /Best before date (%)	Nutritional content (%)	Price (%)	Just buy (%)	Other (%)
Bindura	63	74	40	65	22	1
Muzarabani	22	44	11	97	4	0
Guruve	13	32	0	83	15	0
Mazowe	13	24	11	88	9	0
Mt Darwin	25	28	11	81	20	0
Rushinga	1	27	2	84	16	0
Shamva	19	18	7	85	21	1
Mbire	16	26	16	70	38	0

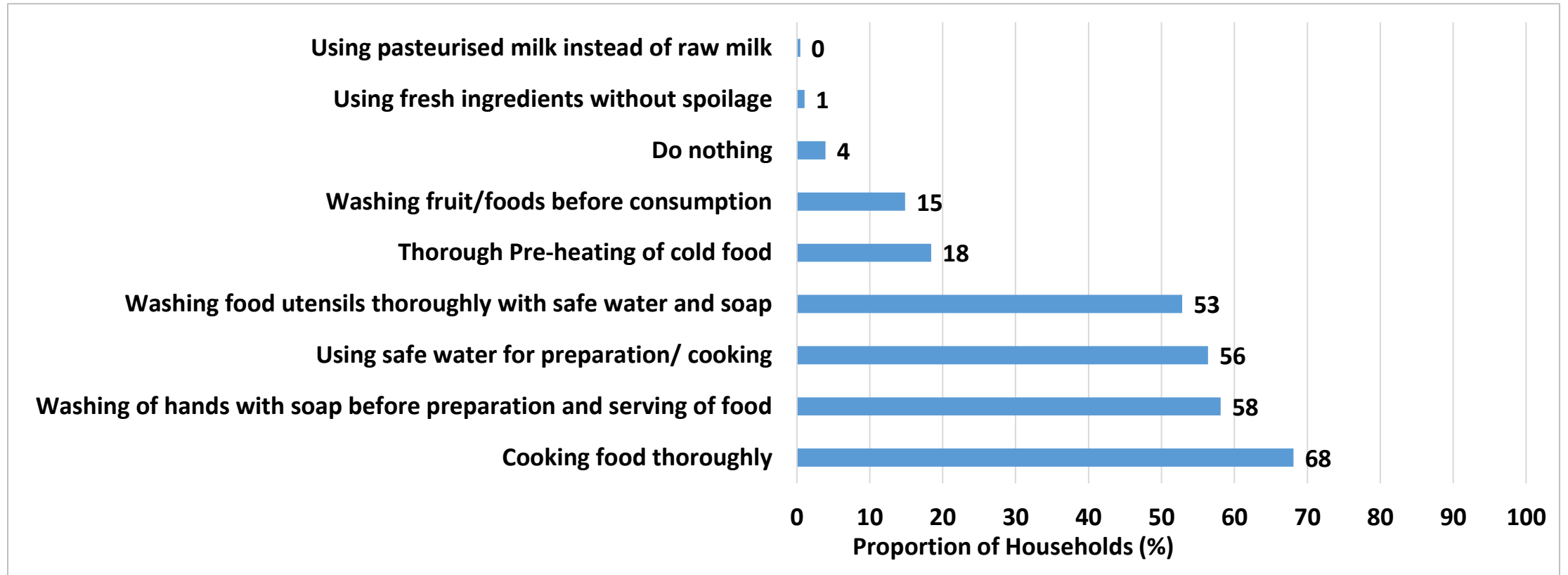
- Bindura (40%) had the highest proportion of households that considered nutritional content when purchasing food.

Ways to Keep Food Safe



- Most of the households in the province (82%) reported avoiding contamination of cooked food by keeping it closed as a way to keep food safe.

Safe Preparation of Food



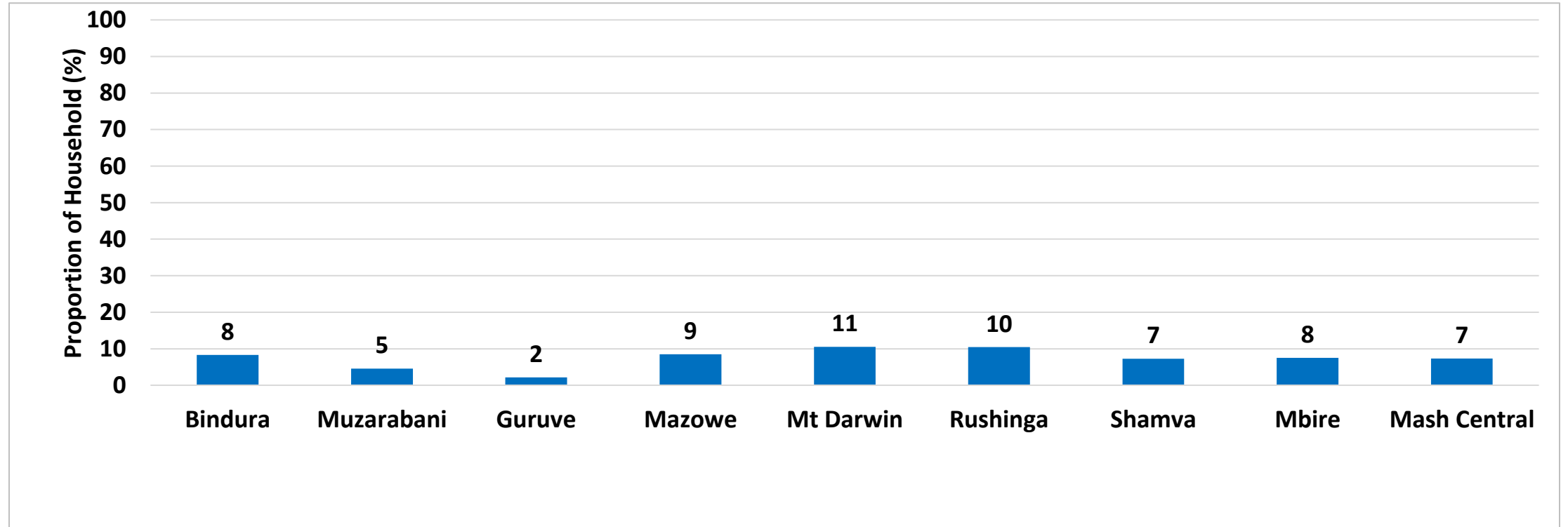
- Most of the households (68%) reported cooking food thoroughly as a way of preparing food safely.

Safe Preparation of Food

	Using safe water for preparation/cooking (%)	Washing of hands with soap before preparation and serving of food (%)	Washing food utensils thoroughly with safe water and soap (%)	Do nothing (%)	Cooking food thoroughly (%)	Thorough Pre-heating of cold food (%)	Washing fruit/foods before consumption (%)	Using pasteurised milk instead of raw milk (%)	Using fresh ingredients without spoilage (%)
Bindura	80.1	75.9	58.1	7.1	61.4	39.8	12.0	1.7	2.1
Muzarabani	52.7	63.8	56.4	0.4	57.2	6.2	5.8	0.0	0.4
Guruve	67.3	62.9	57.3	1.2	77.0	13.7	25.8	0.0	0.4
Mazowe	61.2	74.8	51.6	2.0	68.4	22.0	18.8	0.8	0.4
Mt Darwin	55.3	32.1	47.2	11.8	66.7	19.5	16.7	0.8	0.8
Rushinga	41.2	49.0	59.7	1.2	70.4	12.3	12.3	0.4	0.8
Shamva	27.6	49.6	37.8	6.5	77.6	21.5	17.9	0.0	2.0
Mbire	66.1	56.8	55.1	1.3	65.7	12.3	8.9	0.0	1.7

- Mt Darwin (11.8%) had the highest proportion of households which reported doing nothing as part of safe preparation of food.

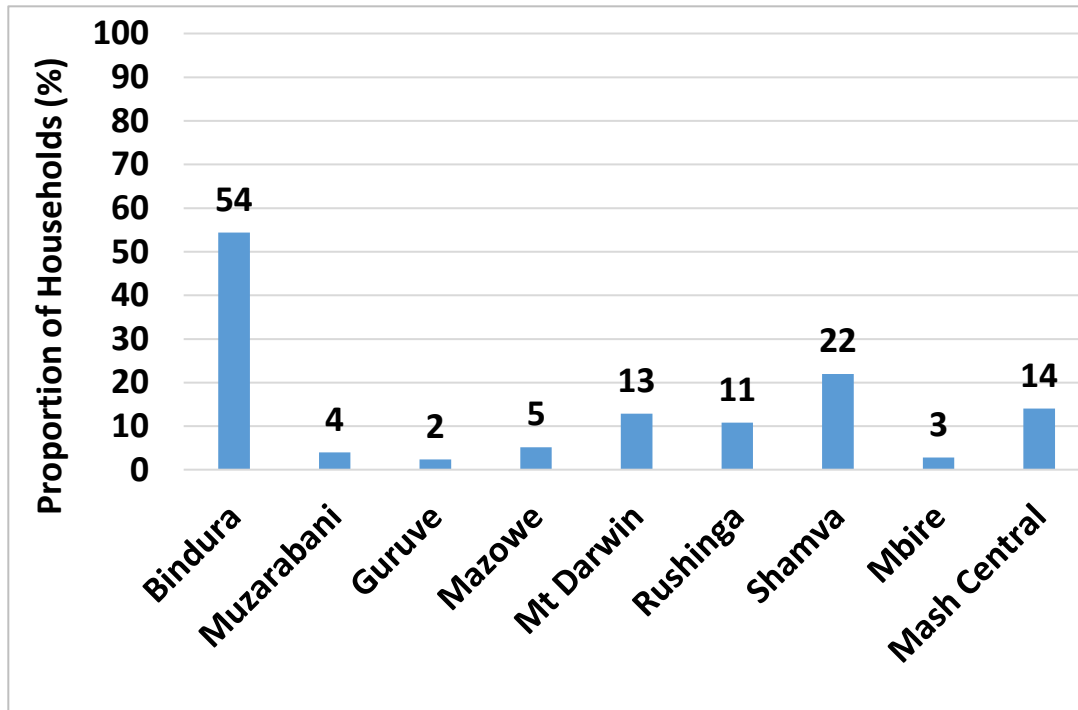
Purchase of Expired or Spoiled Food



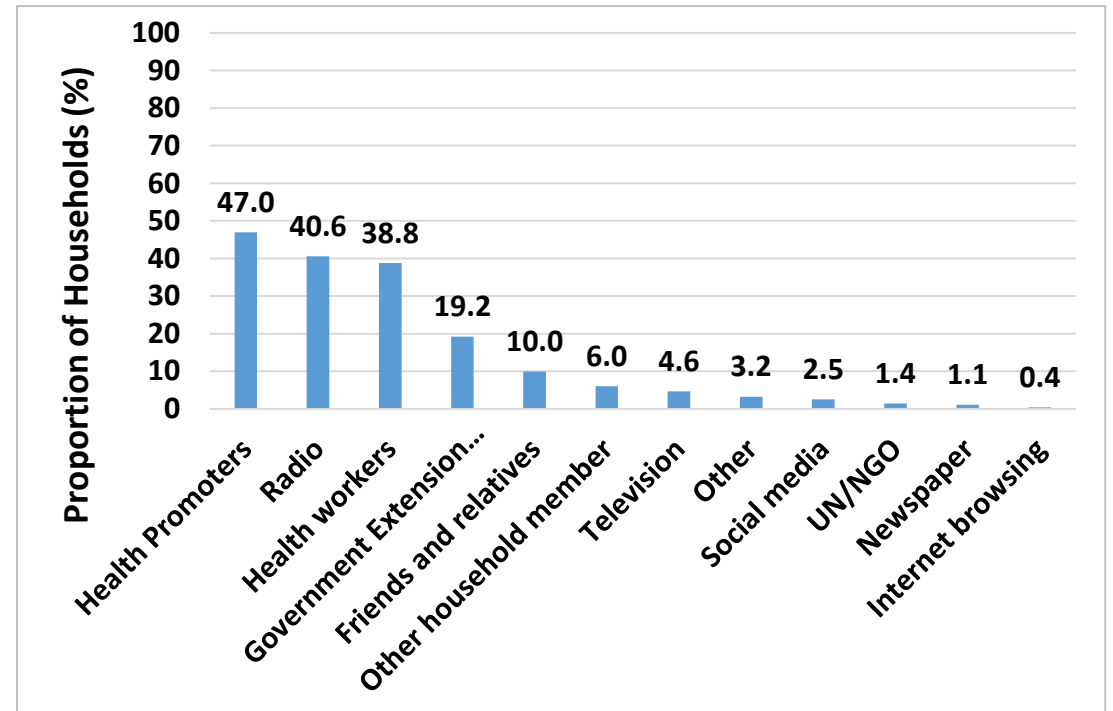
- Mt Darwin (11%) had the highest proportion of households purchasing expired or spoiled food with Guruve (2%) being the least.

Food Safety Information

Proportion of Households that Received Information on Food Safety



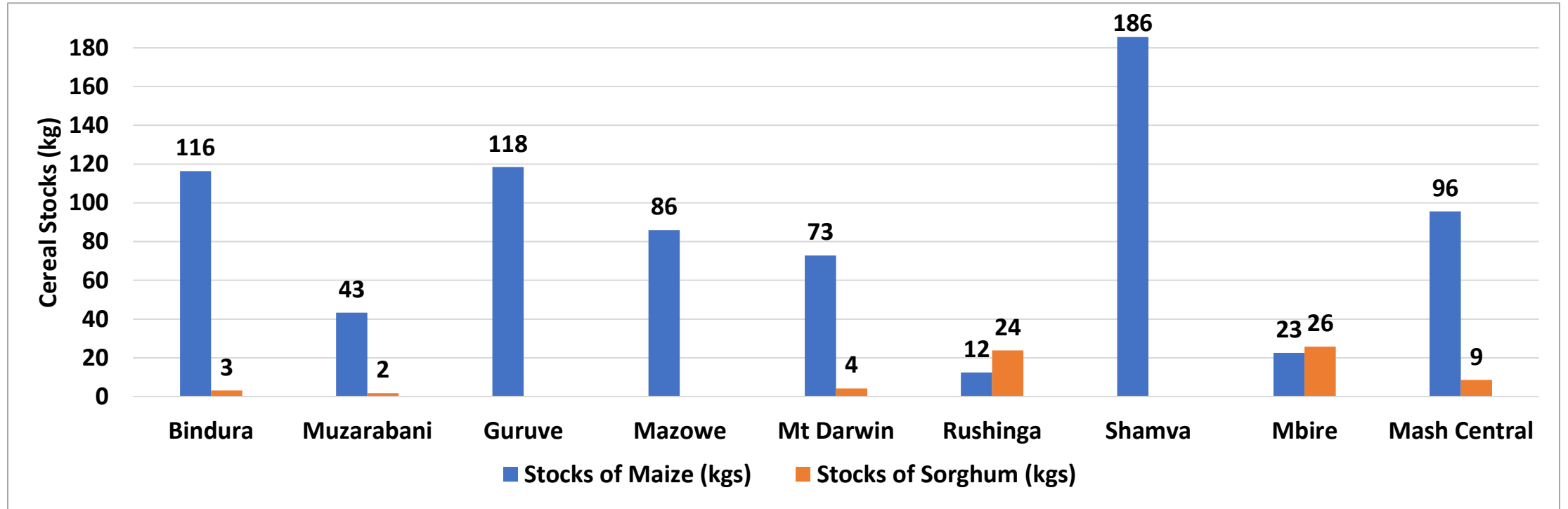
Sources of Food Safety Information



- Bindura (54%) had the highest proportion of households which received information on food safety.
- Health promoters (47%) were the most common source of food safety information in the province.

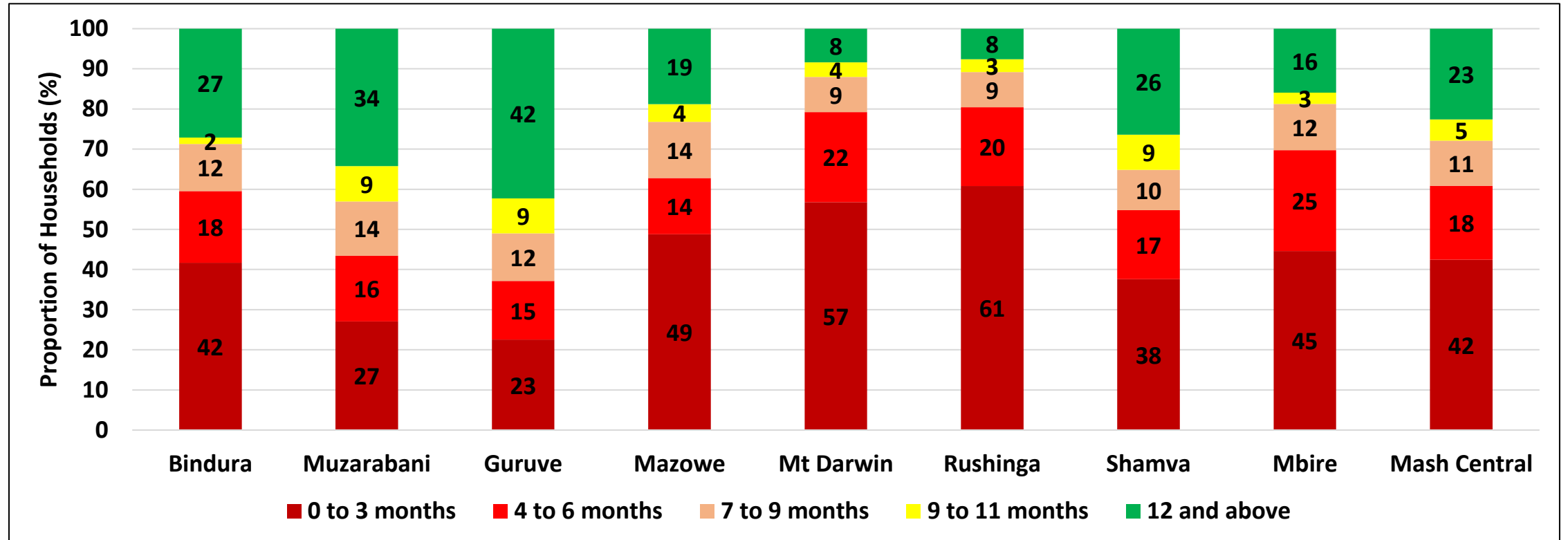
Food Security

Household Cereal Stocks: 1 April 2022



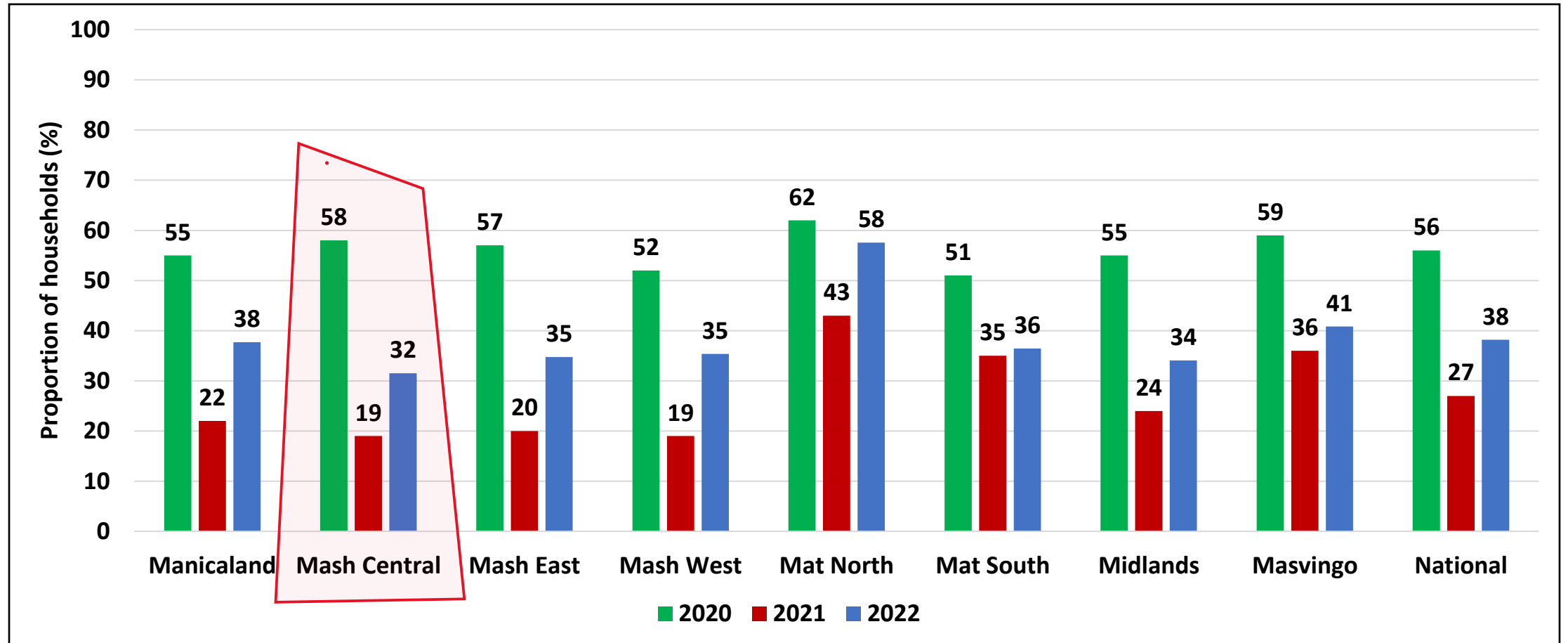
- On average households had 96kgs of maize in stock as at 1 April 2022.
- Shamva (186kg) had the highest average maize stocks while Rushinga had the least (12kgs).

Household Cereal Supply



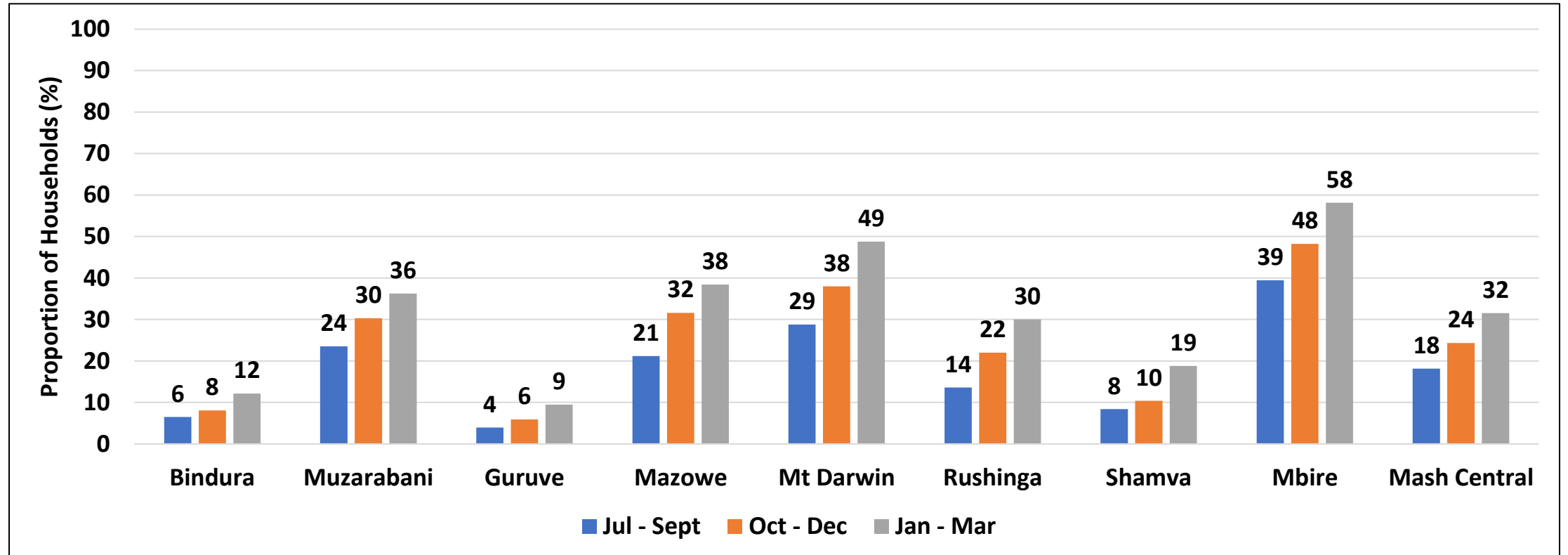
- About 23% of the households had more than 12 months supply of cereals.
- Guruve (42%) and Muzarabani (34%) had the highest proportion of households with cereal supply of more than 12 months.
- Rushinga (61%) and Mt Darwin (57%) had the highest proportion of households with cereal supply of less than 3 months.

Cereal Insecurity Trend



- Cereal insecurity for Mashonaland Central was projected to increase to 32% from 19% in 2021.

Cereal Insecurity Progression by Quarter



- Cereal insecurity across all the districts shows an increasing trend for all the quarters.
- Mbire (58%) was projected to have the highest proportion of cereal insecure households at peak.

Cereal Insecure Population by Quarter

	Food Insecure Population		
	Jul - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar
Bindura	9139	11424	17136
Muzarabani	32520	41890	50158
Guruve	5524	8286	13257
Mazowe	55762	83116	101002
Mt Darwin	69027	91077	116962
Rushinga	11345	18352	25026
Shamva	11702	14489	26191
Mbire	36609	44744	53989
Mash Central	224989	301016	390023

- At least 390 023 people were projected to be cereal insecure in Mashonaland Central Province at peak.

Cereal Requirement (MT) by Province by Quarter

	Cereal Requirements (MT)		
	Jul - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar
Bindura	338	423	634
Muzarabani	1203	1550	1856
Guruve	204	307	491
Mazowe	2063	3075	3737
Mt Darwin	2554	3370	4328
Rushinga	420	679	926
Shamva	433	536	969
Mbire	1355	1656	1998
Mash Central	8325	11138	14431

- Cereal requirements for the province will increase from 8 325 MT in the third quarter of 2022 to 14 431 MT in the first quarter of 2023.

Gender Based Violence

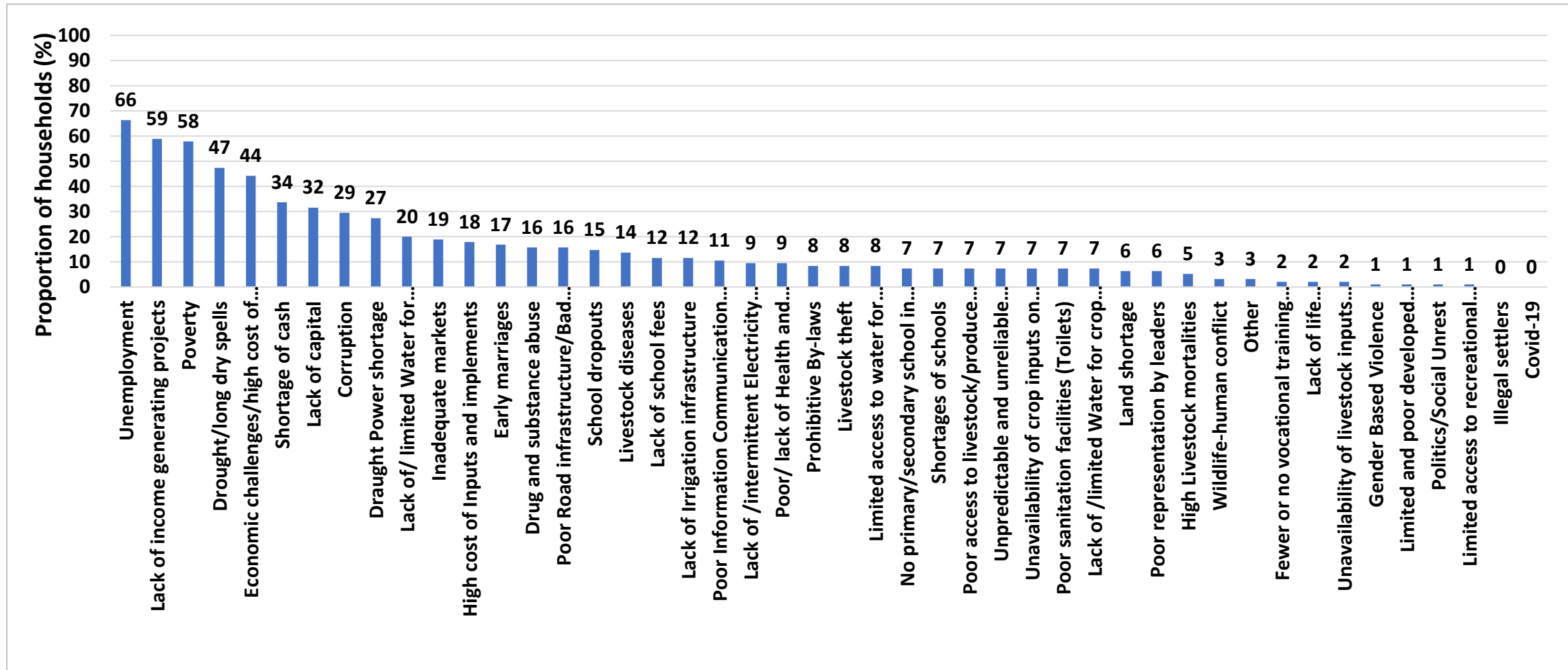
Forms of Gender Based Violence

	Sexual Abuse (%)			Physical Abuse (%)			Emotional Abuse (%)			Economic Abuse (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Bindura	3.1	0.0	1.6	3.1	0.0	1.6	6.3	0.0	3.2	9.4	0.0	4.8
Muzarabani	1.7	0.0	0.9	3.4	0.0	1.8	6.9	1.9	4.5	3.4	7.5	5.4
Guruve	0.9	1.7	1.1	4.3	0.0	2.9	4.3	1.8	3.5	5.1	0.0	3.4
Mazowe	3.2	2.0	2.4	19.0	12.9	15.2	22.2	15.8	18.3	3.2	11.9	8.5
Mt Darwin	0.0	1.9	1.1	2.4	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.0	1.6
Rushinga	3.2	0.0	2.3	3.2	2.1	2.9	6.4	4.2	5.8	1.6	4.2	2.3
Shamva	1.6	0.0	1.0	7.9	4.9	6.7	15.9	4.9	11.5	7.9	2.4	5.8
Mbire	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	2.7	2.3	2.7	1.8	2.3	1.8	2.7	2.3
Mash Central	1.5	0.9	1.2	5.1	3.5	4.3	7.0	4.4	5.8	3.8	4.0	3.9

- In the province, emotional abuse (5.8%) was the most reported form of gender-based violence.
- Sexual abuse (1.2%) was the least reported form of gender-based violence.

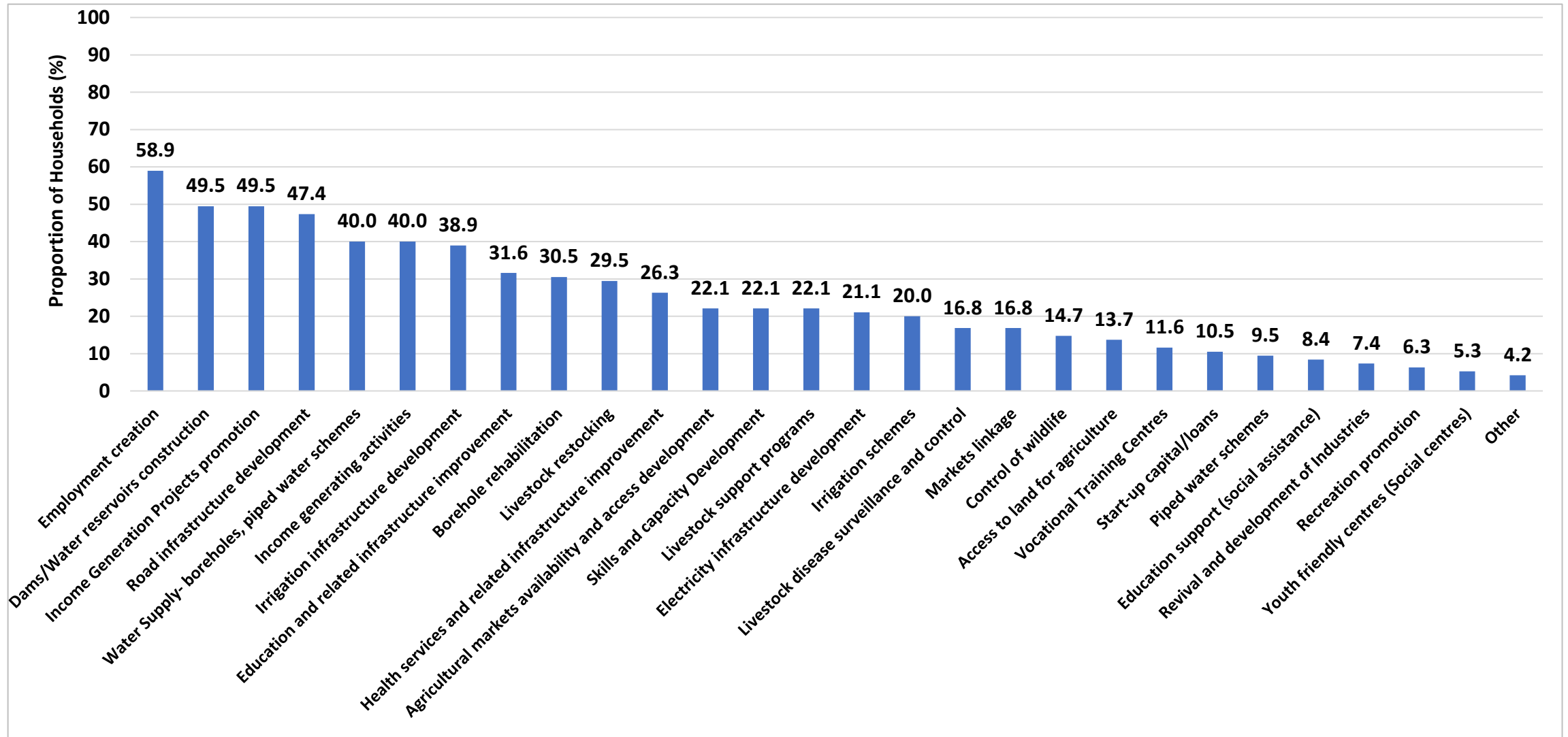
Development Issues

Development Challenges



- Unemployment (66%) and lack of income generating projects (59%) were the most reported development challenges.

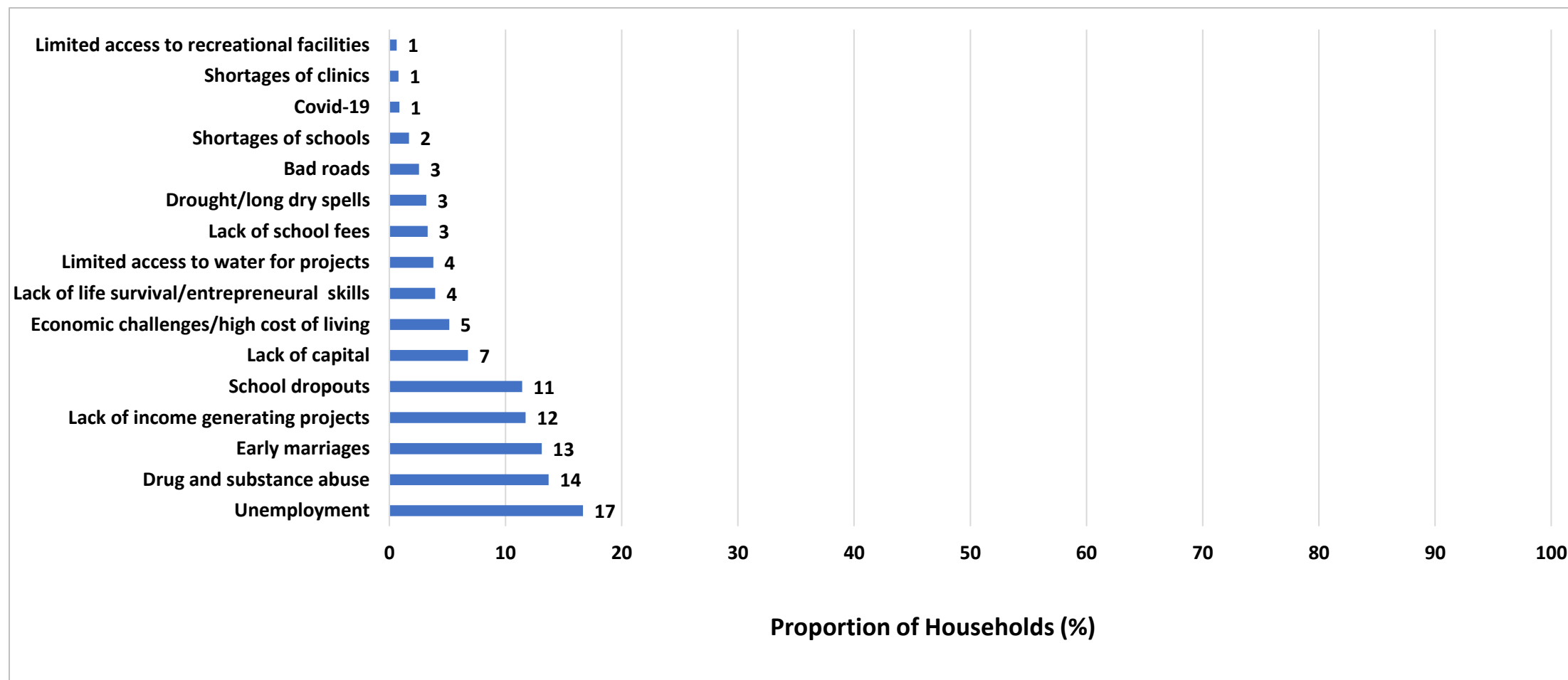
Development Priorities



- Employment creation (58.9%) and dam/ water reservoirs construction (49.5%) were the most reported development priorities.

Youth Challenges and Priorities

Youth Challenges



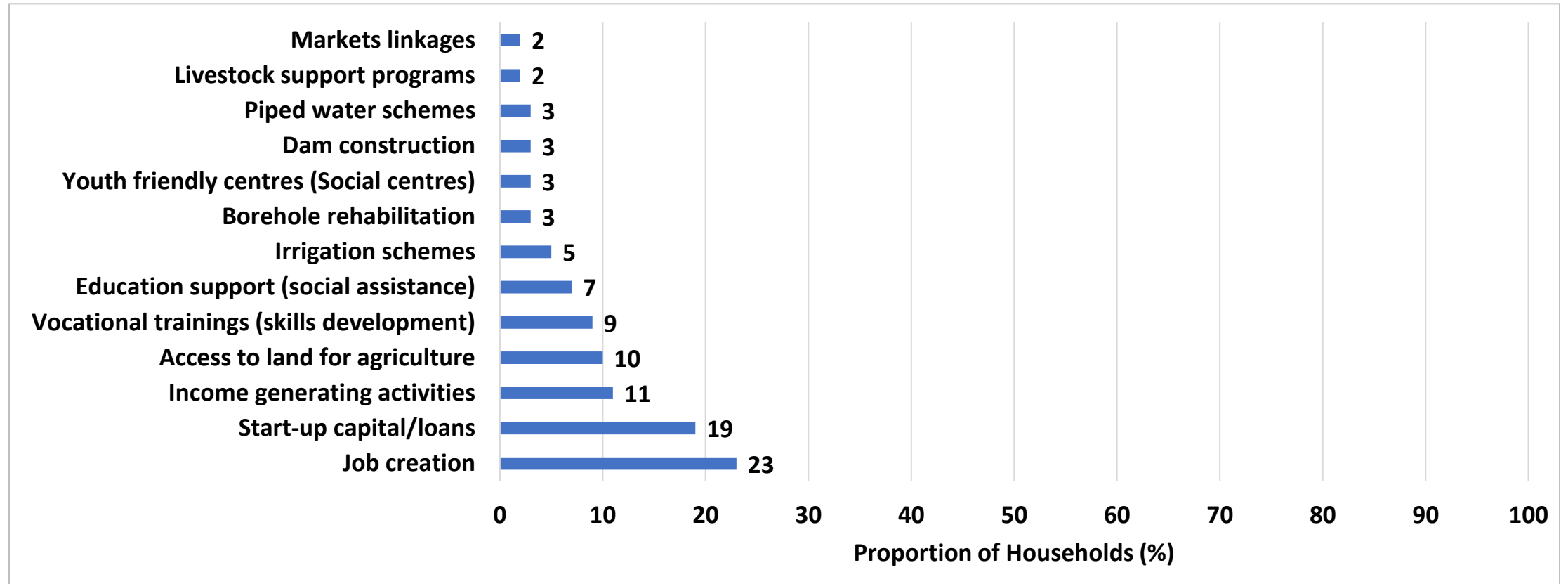
- Unemployment (17%) and drug and substance abuse (14%) were the most reported youth challenges.

Youth Challenges

	Bindura (%)	Muzarabani (%)	Guruve (%)	Mazowe (%)	Mt Darwin (%)	Rushinga (%)	Shamva (%)	Mbire (%)
Drug and substance abuse	15	16	14	12	9	15	15	14
Early marriages	11	19	12	11	7	16	14	15
School dropouts	9	17	10	8	5	15	16	11
Unemployment	13	19	20	17	13	16	19	16
Lack of income generating projects	12	8	16	12	15	11	11	9
Lack of life survival/entrepreneurial skills	4	2	3	6	4	3	2	6
Lack of capital	9	6	10	8	7	2	5	7
Limited access to water for projects	2	2	3	4	11	2	1	4
Lack of school fees	7	4	2	3	3	1	2	3
Shortages of schools	5	1	0	1	2	0	2	1
Shortages of clinics	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Limited access to recreational facilities	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Economic challenges/high cost of living	2	2	5	8	7	8	7	4
COVID-19	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	0
Bad roads	4	1	0	2	7	1	2	3
Drought/long dry spells	1	0	3	1	7	6	3	5
Politics	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

- Early marriages were mostly reported in Muzarabani (19%).

Youth Priorities



- Job creation (23%) and start up capital/loans (19%) were the most reported youth priorities in the province.

Youth Priorities

District	Youths Priorities												
	Job Creation (%)	Vocational Trainings (Skills Development) (%)	Access To Land For Agriculture (%)	Income Generating Activities (%)	Start-up Capital/Loans (%)	Education Support (Social Assistance) (%)	Piped Water Schemes (%)	Livestock Support Programs (%)	Borehole Rehabilitation (%)	Dam Construction (%)	Youth Friendly Centers (Social Centers) (%)	Markets Linkages (%)	Irrigation Schemes (%)
Bindura	22	8	11	21	16	10	1	3	3	2	0	2	2
Muzarabani	26	11	12	20	9	9	2	3	3	0	2	0	0
Guruve	23	10	7	22	7	7	2	1	2	1	7	1	8
Mazowe	20	11	8	18	16	8	1	4	2	3	5	3	2
Mt Darwin	23	8	7	17	8	4	7	9	6	4	0	2	4
Rushinga	20	16	13	19	4	4	1	3	2	4	3	6	5
Shamva	24	9	7	20	10	6	1	7	3	2	2	6	1
Mbire	23	11	6	18	11	7	5	8	4	2	2	3	1

- Across all the districts, job creation and income generating activities were the most reported youth priorities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Social Protection:** Government and Development Partners' support is highly commendable in the province. About 65% of the households indicated that they received support from Government and 6% from UN/ NGO. There is need for harmonised programming for efficient and effective support.
- **Food Insecurity:** Given that the average household cereal production was 332kgs, that 42% of the households produced cereals sufficient for up to 3 months only, it is recommended that Ministry of Public service, Labour and Social Welfare strengthens Food Deficit Mitigation Strategies and social protection through implementation of programmes such as food for assets.
- **Livestock:** The Government of Zimbabwe, through the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development should capacitate the Department of Veterinary Services and Livestock Production with necessary resources to manage livestock production and productivity. There is need to continue and intensify disease surveillance, prevention and control. There is also need for capacitation of farmers in livestock farming as a business.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Gender Based Violence:** Gender based violence was observed in the province. It is important to note that males were the major victims of violence hence the need to include males in prevention of violence programmes. The Government should strengthen mechanisms and community structures for effective awareness and referral systems on GBV.
- **Livelihood Sources:** The major livelihood sources in the province were casual labour (22%) and food crop production/sales (15%). In the 2021/22 season, more than 50% of the households were affected by drought. There is therefore need to intensify climate smart agriculture and upscale irrigation development.
- **WASH:** Open defecation was reported in the province. At least 12% of the households were practising open defecation, with Mbire having the highest proportion (22%) followed by Muzarabani (19%). Sanitation provision is one of the major and important indicators in attaining the upper middle income economy status. The Government of Zimbabwe and its Development Partners should revive and spearhead the strengthening of WASH programmes to ensure that all people have access to safe water and sanitation services.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Women dietary diversity:** The proportion of women consuming protein rich foods (46%) and hem iron (24%) for women of childbearing age was low. This has an effect of causing intergenerational cycle of malnutrition by giving birth to stunted children. This calls for the Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of Health and Child Care, other relevant Ministries and Development Partners to strengthen multi-sectoral community-based nutrition specific and sensitive interventions to improve on dietary diversity for all.
- **Child Nutrition Status:** Wasting level for the province was 7% which is above the WHO threshold of 5%. The Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of Health and Child Care and Development Partners need to improve infant and young child feeding practices through implementation of programmes such as the care group model and also strengthen active screening of children through community health workers. There is also need to improve treatment at health facilities through mentorships and provision of adequate supplies for management of acute malnutrition.
- **Development challenges and Priorities:** About 66% of the communities reported that development of their areas was hindered by unemployment. There is therefore need for small to medium entrepreneurship development through the relevant Ministry of Small to Medium Enterprises.
- **Shocks and Hazards:** Ability for households to cope after a shock was low. The ability to cope index (5.6) and ability to recover index (6.3) were lower than the exposure index of 8.6 showing the inability of households to cope with shocks and hazards.. It is recommended that Government and Development Partners introduce more programmes aimed at building resilience.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Irrigation:** Out of the 27 irrigation schemes in the province 9 were not functional and 8 were partially functional. In view of the need to mitigate against the effects of climate change and variability and to improve food and nutrition security, it is recommended that the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development implements a programme aimed at capacitating communities to be able to manage communal irrigation schemes/ projects in a sustainable manner.
- **Education:** About 53% of school children in the province were reported to have been sent away from school due to non-payment of school fees during the first term of 2022. This was happening despite the Government's policy prohibiting school authorities from sending children away from school. It is recommended that Government through the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education should adhere to the set regulations and also upscale the BEAM programme to cater for those children facing challenges in paying fees.
- **Crop Production:** Only 4% of the households in the province grew orange maize. This is despite promotion of the crop as being rich in Vitamin A compared to white maize. Intensive promotion of the crop should be done across the province through the use of the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development extension workers . The seed should also be made readily available on the market.

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