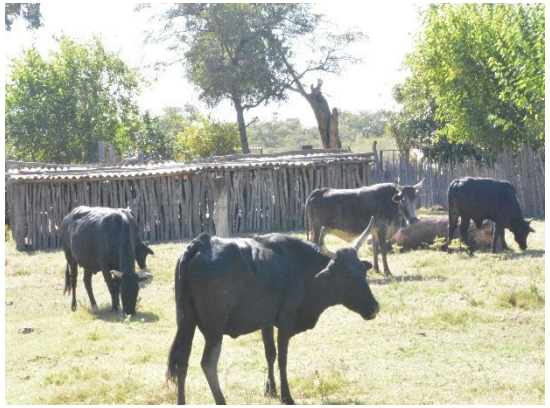
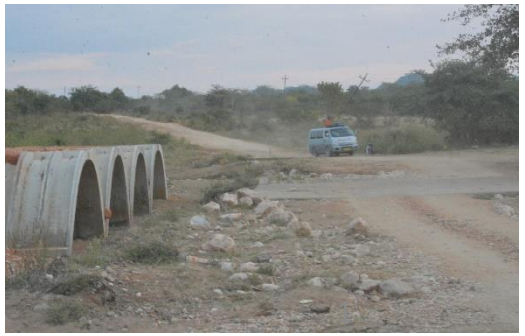
Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC)
2022 Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report Mashonaland East Province







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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Acknowledgements

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

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

Acknowledgement of Support

ZIMBABWE

Acronyms

EA	Enumeration Area
FNC	Food and Nutrition Council
FNSP	Food and Nutrition Security Policy
HDDS	Household Dietary Diversity Score
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

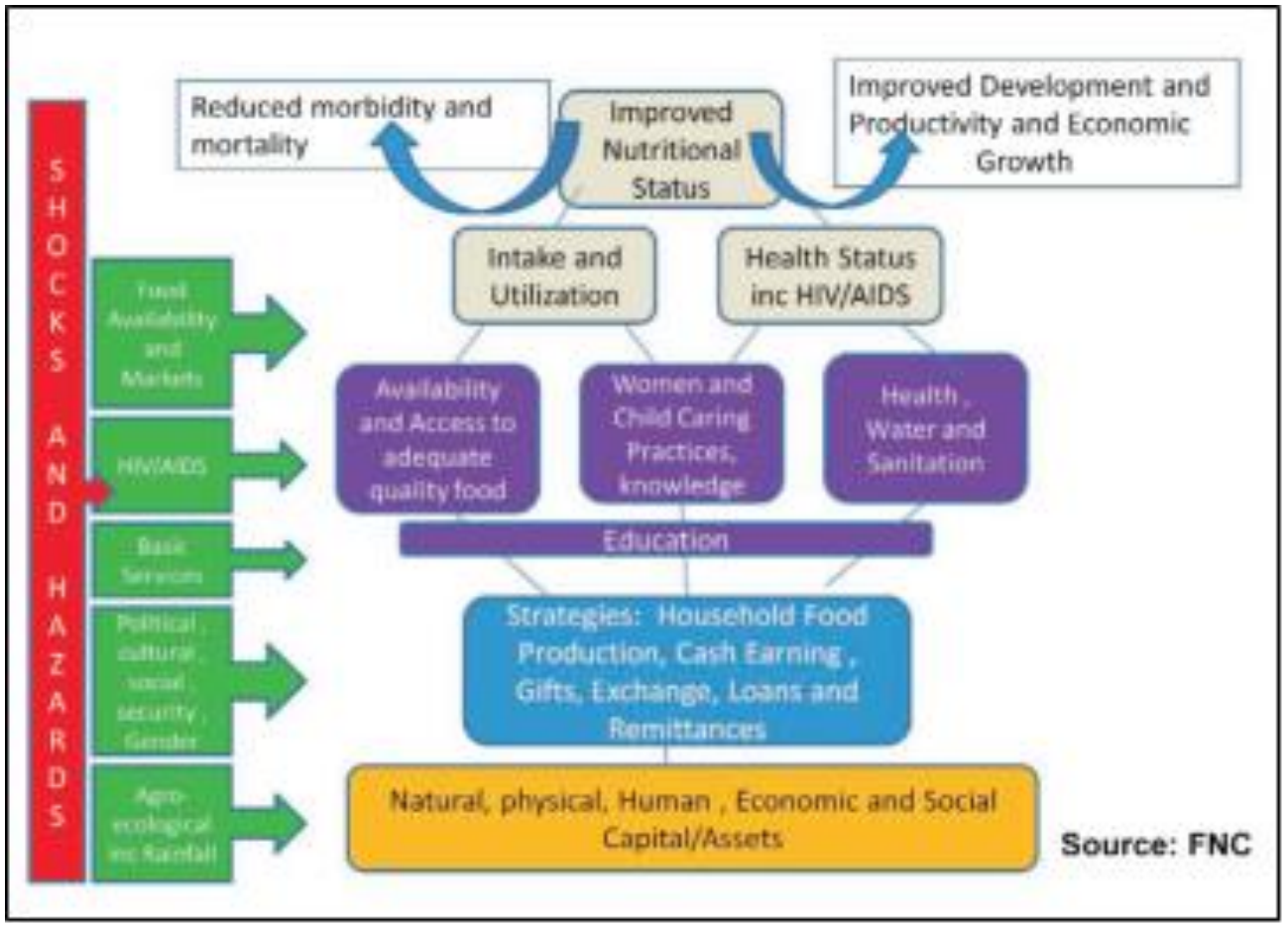

Figure 1: Food and Nutrition Conceptual Framework

- The assessment was a cross-sectional study whose design was guided and informed by the Food and Nutrition Security Conceptual Framework (Figure 1), 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.

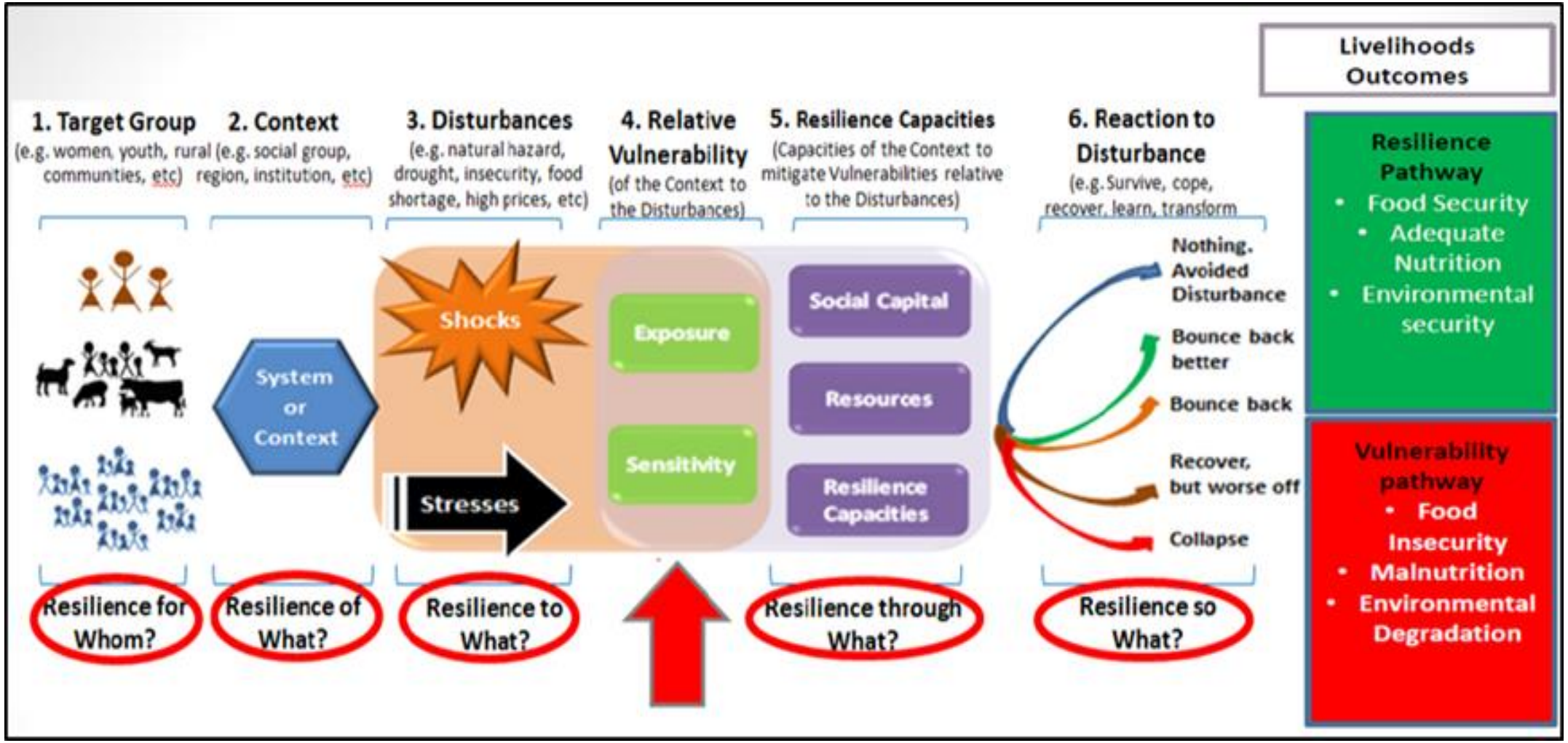

Figure 2: Zimbabwe Resilience Framework (UNDP Zimbabwe, 2015)

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.

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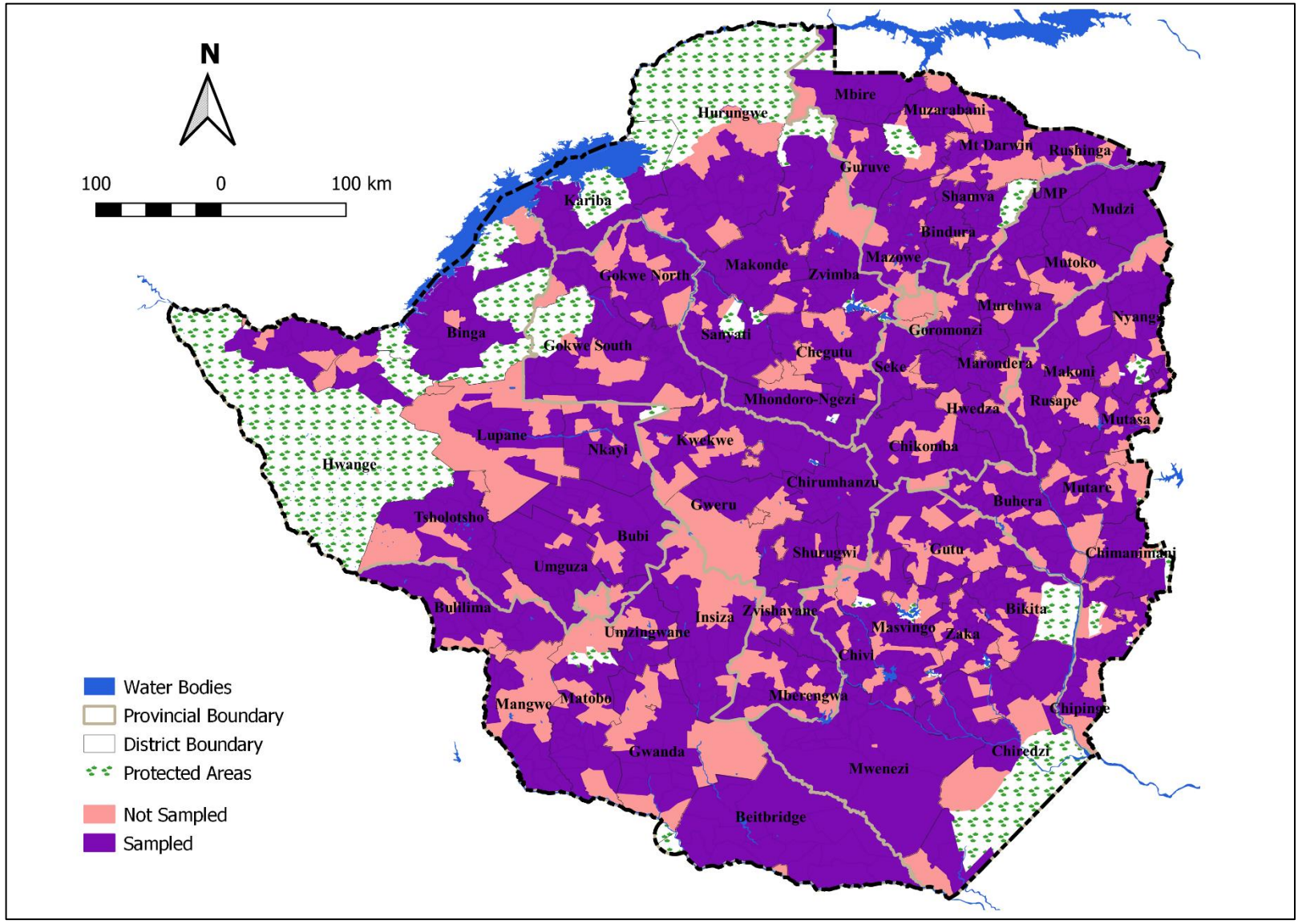
Methodology - Sampling and Sample Size

- 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 2250
- Out of the 2250 sampled households, 2244 households were interviewed households, giving a 99.7 % response rate.
- Twelve FGDs and one Key Informant Interview (KII) on irrigation and grazing were held per district.

District	Number of Sampled Households
Chikomba	245
Goromonzi	250
Hwedza	250
Marondera	250
Mudzi	250
Murehwa	250
Seke	249
Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe	250
Provincial	2244

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

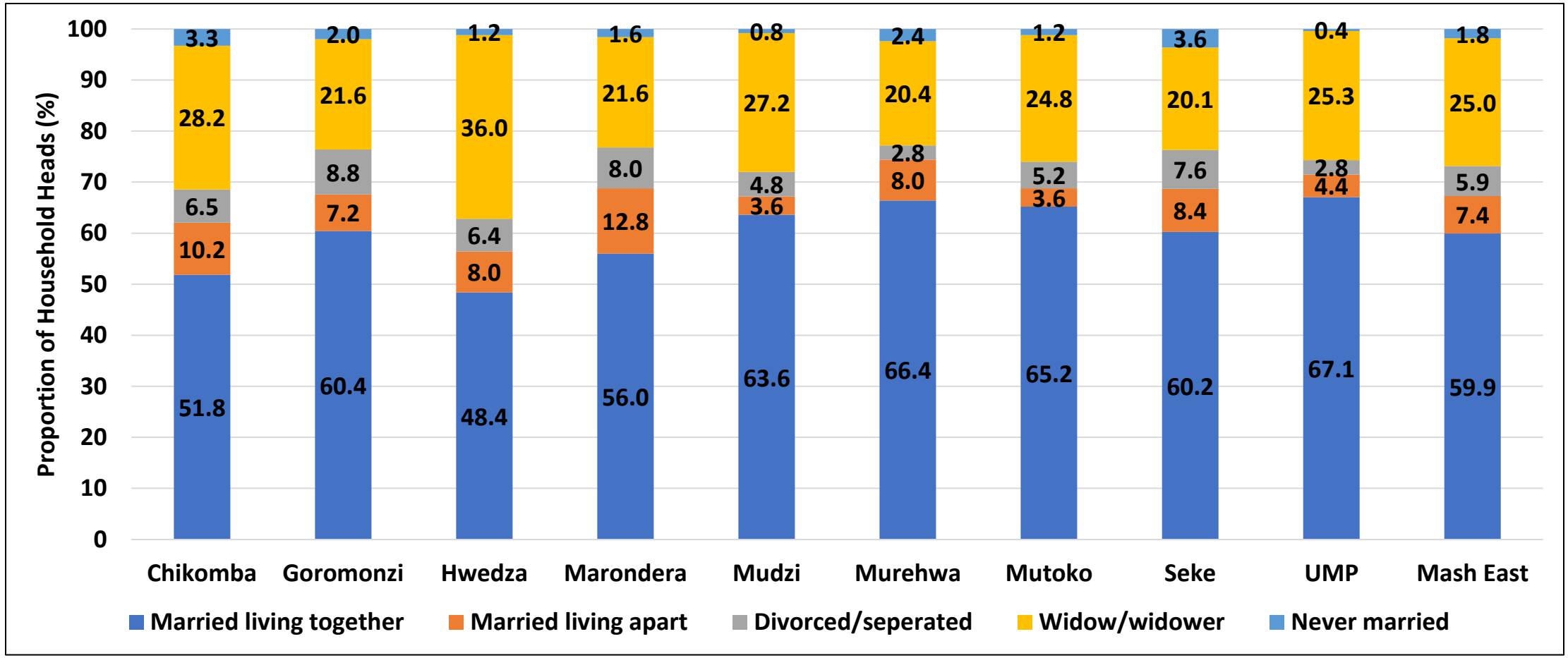
Demographics Description of the Sample

Household Head Characteristics

District	Female headed households (%)	Male headed households (%)	Child headed households (%)	Elderly headed households (%)
Chikomba	39.2	60.8	**3.3**	32.8
Goromonzi	35.2	64.8	0.4	20.4
Hwedza	**44.0**	56.0	0.0	**42.4**
Marondera	27.6	72.4	1.6	23.2
Mudzi	35.6	64.4	2.8	30.4
Murehwa	28.0	72.0	1.2	30.0
Mutoko	30.8	**69.2**	0.8	31.0
Seke	31.7	68.3	2.4	18.5
UMP	33.6	66.4	0.8	33.2
Mash East	**34.0**	**66.0**	**1.5**	**29.1**

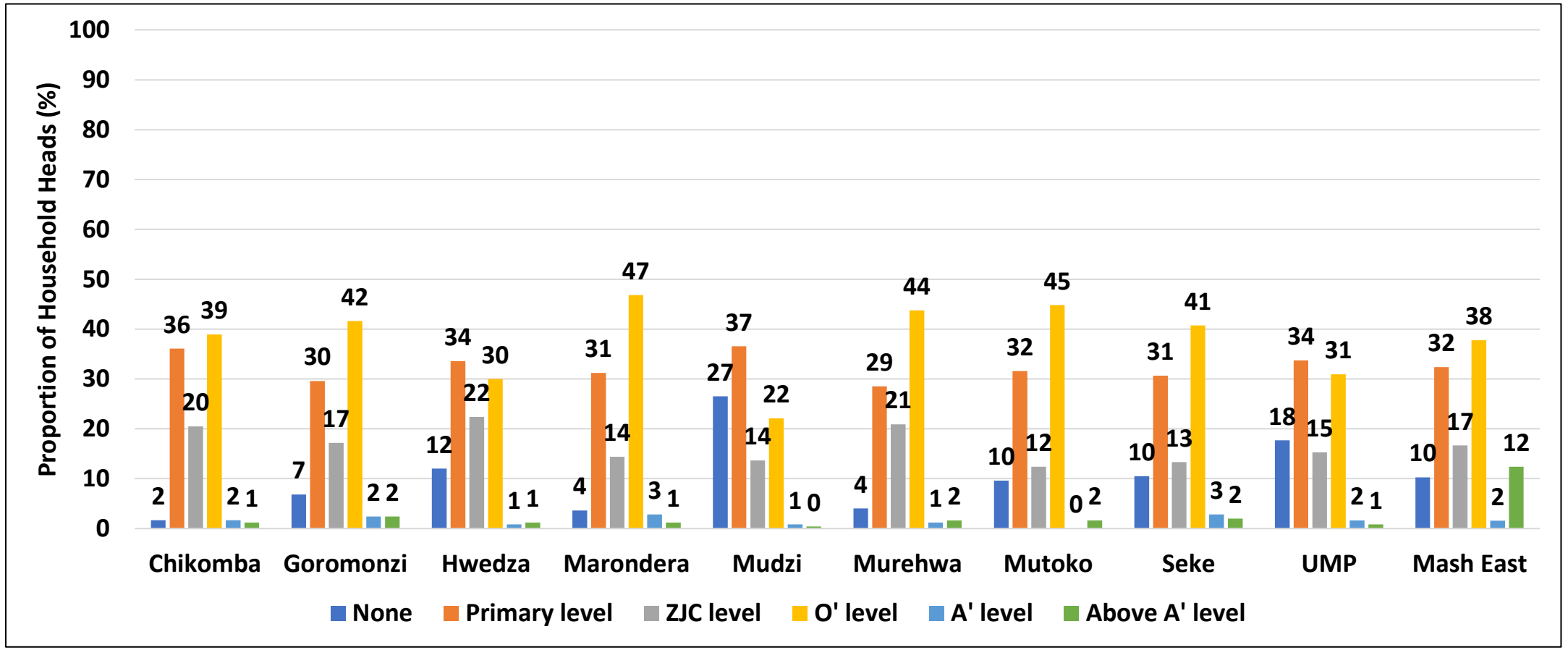
- The provincial proportion of female headed households was 34% with Hwedza district (44%) recording the highest proportion.
- Elderly-headed households were highest in Hwedza (42.4%) and child-headed households were at 3.3% in Chikomba district. This potentially increases vulnerability in terms of food and nutrition security in these households.

Characteristics of Household Head- Marital Status



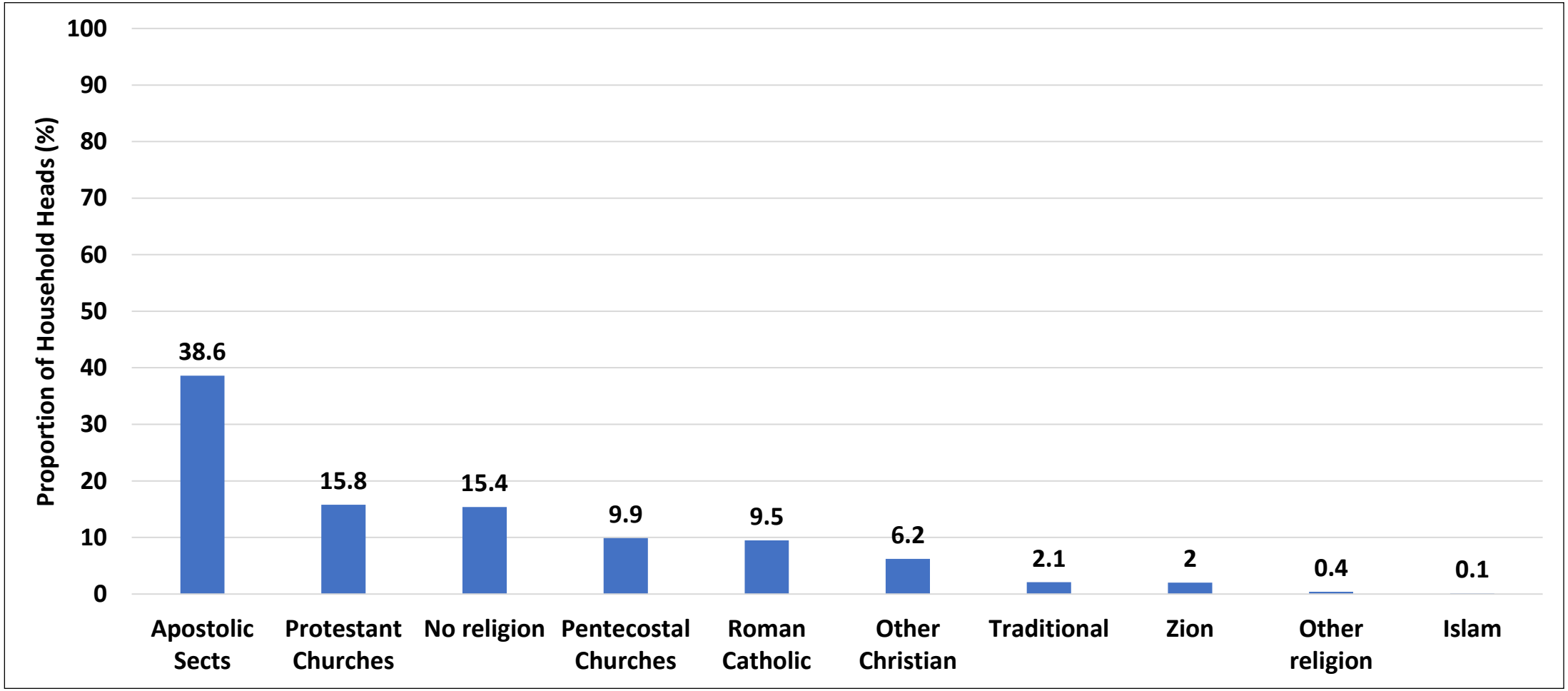
- About 59.9% of the household heads were married and living together.
- Hwedza district (35.6%) had the highest proportion of household heads who were widowed.

Characteristics of Household Head- Education Level Attained



- At least 33% of the household heads in Mashonaland East had attained Primary level education.
- Marondera (46%) had the highest proportion of household heads who had attained O’ level.

Household Head Religion



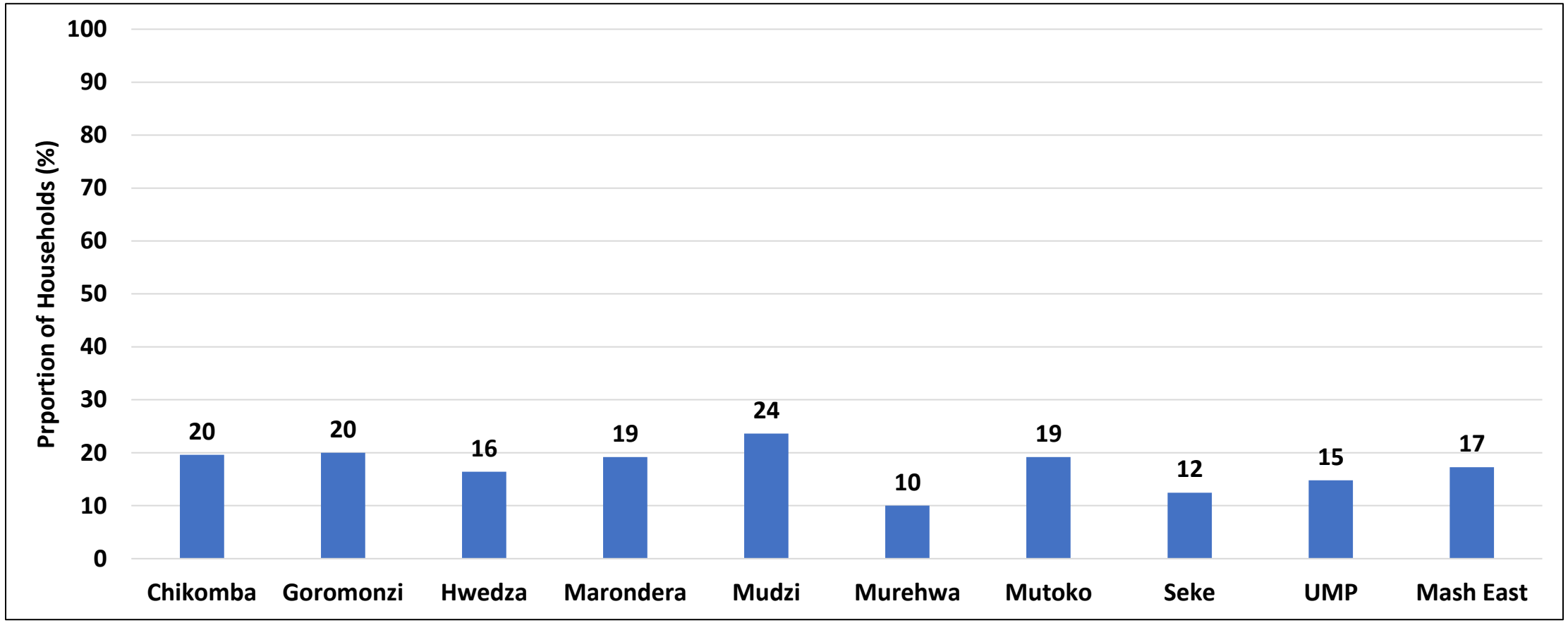
- The highest proportion of household heads in Mashonaland East were from the Apostolic sects (38.6%).

Household Head Religion by District

District	Roman Catholic (%)	Protestant Churches (%)	Pentecostal Churches (%)	Apostolic Sects (%)	Zion (%)	Other Christian (%)	Islam (%)	Traditional (%)	Other religion (%)	No religion (%)
Chikomba	9.8	**35.9**	11.4	35.9	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	4.9
Goromonzi	12.4	9.6	**20.4**	31.2	0.8	4.4	0.8	0.8	1.2	18.4
Hwedza	12.0	15.2	5.6	43.2	2.8	12.8	0.0	2.4	0.0	6.0
Marondera	9.2	23.2	10.4	38.0	2.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	16.4
Mudzi	7.2	4.8	6.0	37.6	**3.2**	12.0	0.0	**8.4**	0.8	20.0
Murehwa	8.4	23.6	7.2	35.6	2.4	5.6	0.0	1.2	0.0	16.0
Mutoko	**14.4**	14.8	4.8	40.4	1.2	6.4	0.0	1.2	0.4	16.4
Seke	10.8	6.8	14.9	36.5	0.8	**12.9**	0.0	0.4	1.2	**15.7**
UMP	1.2	8.8	8.4	**48.6**	2.8	0.8	0.0	4.4	0.0	24.9
Mash East	9.5	15.8	9.9	**38.6**	2.0	6.2	0.1	2.1	0.4	15.4

- The highest proportion of households heads who were of the apostolic sects was recorded in Uzumba- Maramba- Pfungwe (48.6%).
- Chikomba district (35.9%), had the highest proportion of households heads who attended protestant churches.

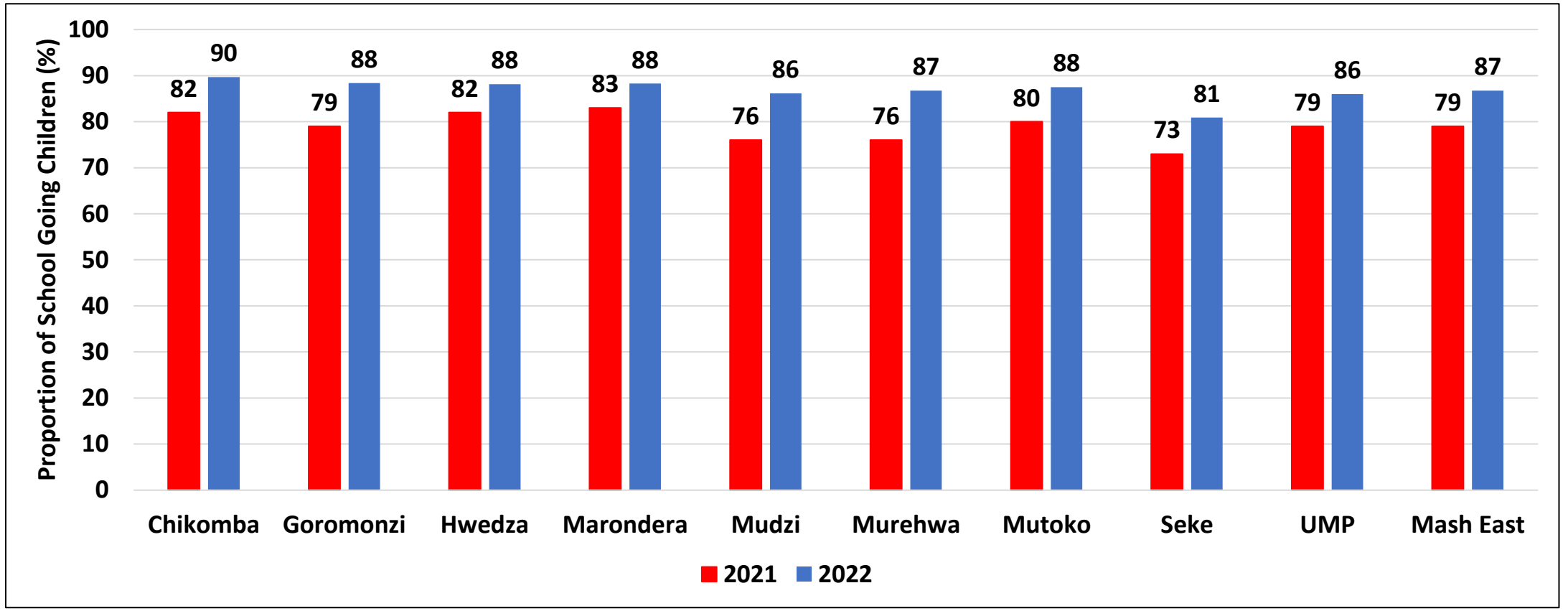
Orphaned Children



- The proportion of households with at least one orphan in the province was at 17%.
- Mudzi district (24%) had the highest proportion of households with at least one orphan.

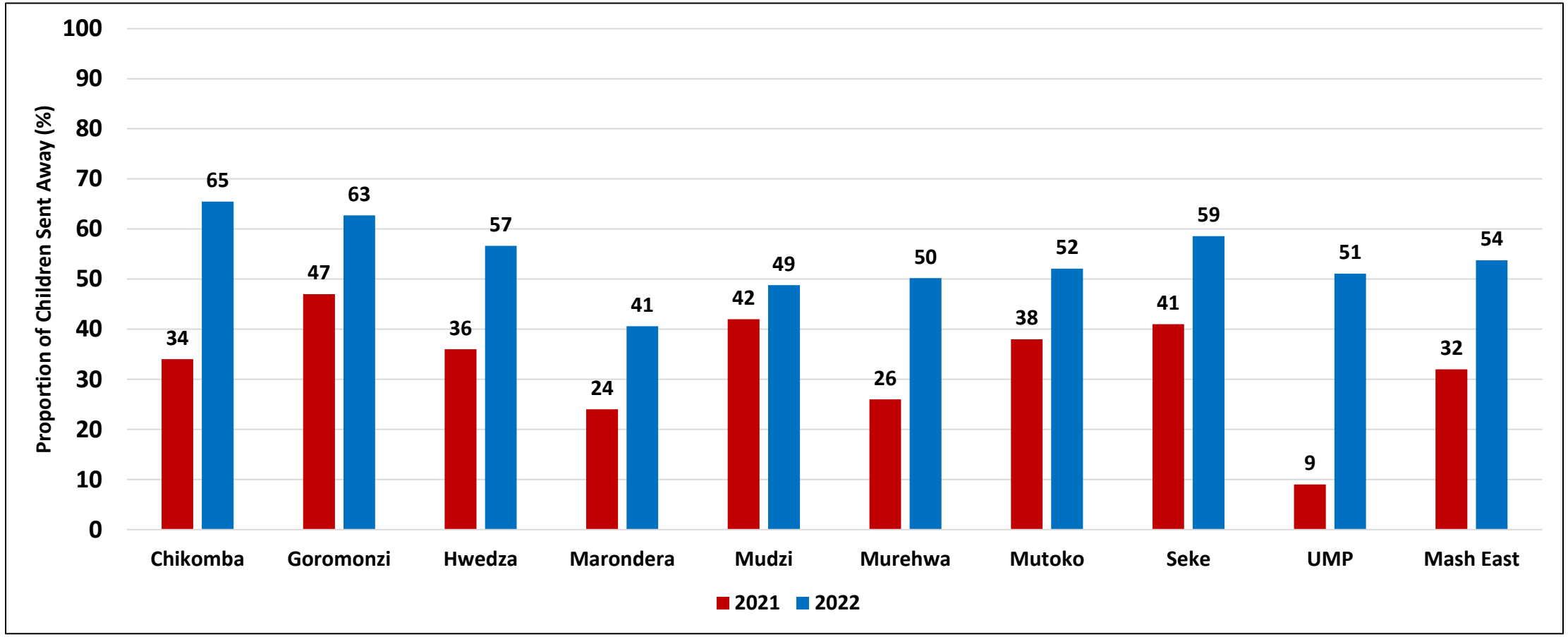
Education

School Attendance



- School attendance in the province improved from 79% in 2021 to 87% in 2022. This could be attributed to the relaxation of the COVID-19 regulations.

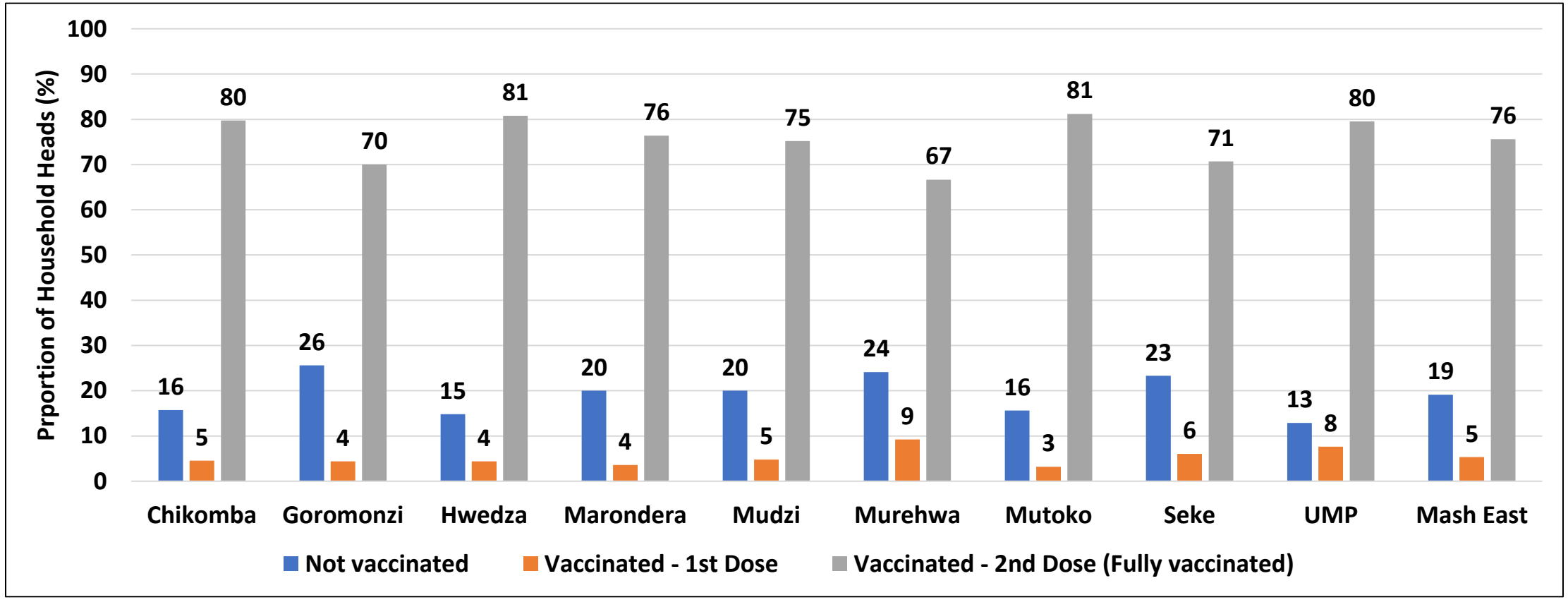
Children Sent Away from School



- The proportion of children ever sent away from school during the first term of 2022 because of non-payment of fees rose from 32% in 2021 to 54% in 2022.

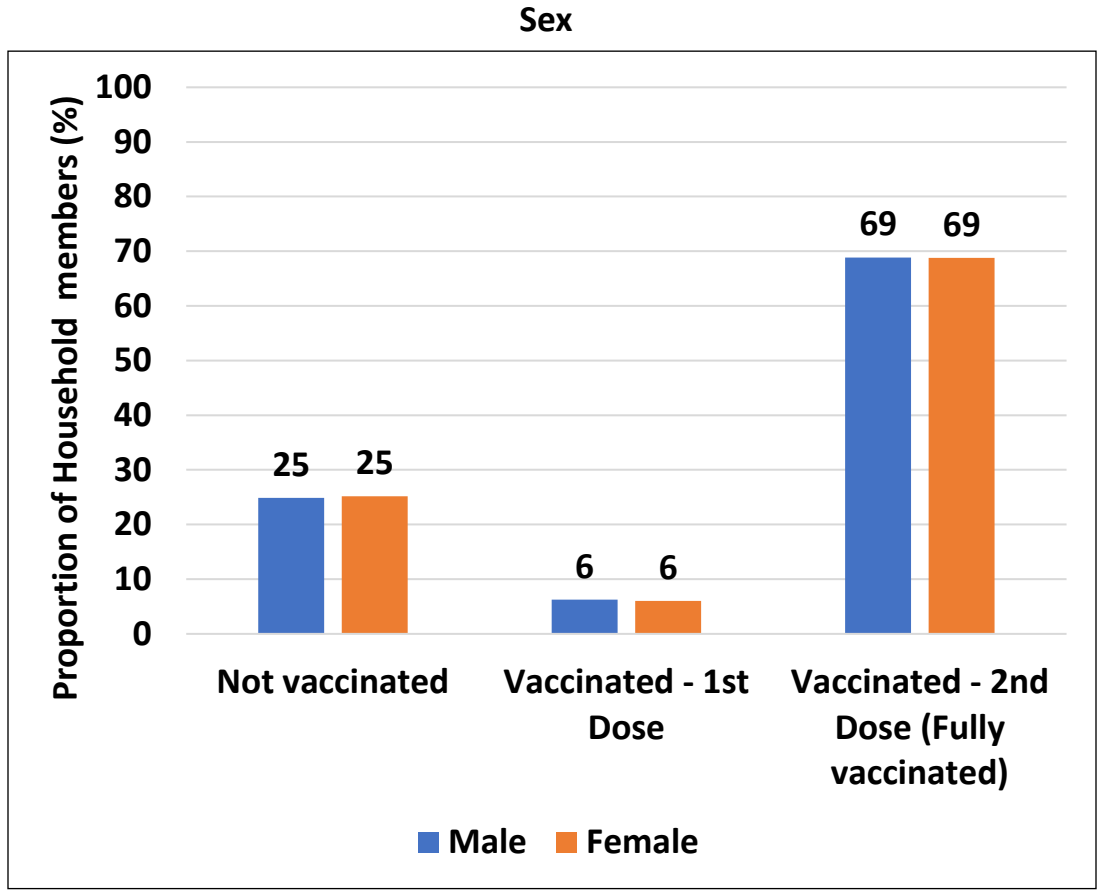
COVID- 19 Vaccinations

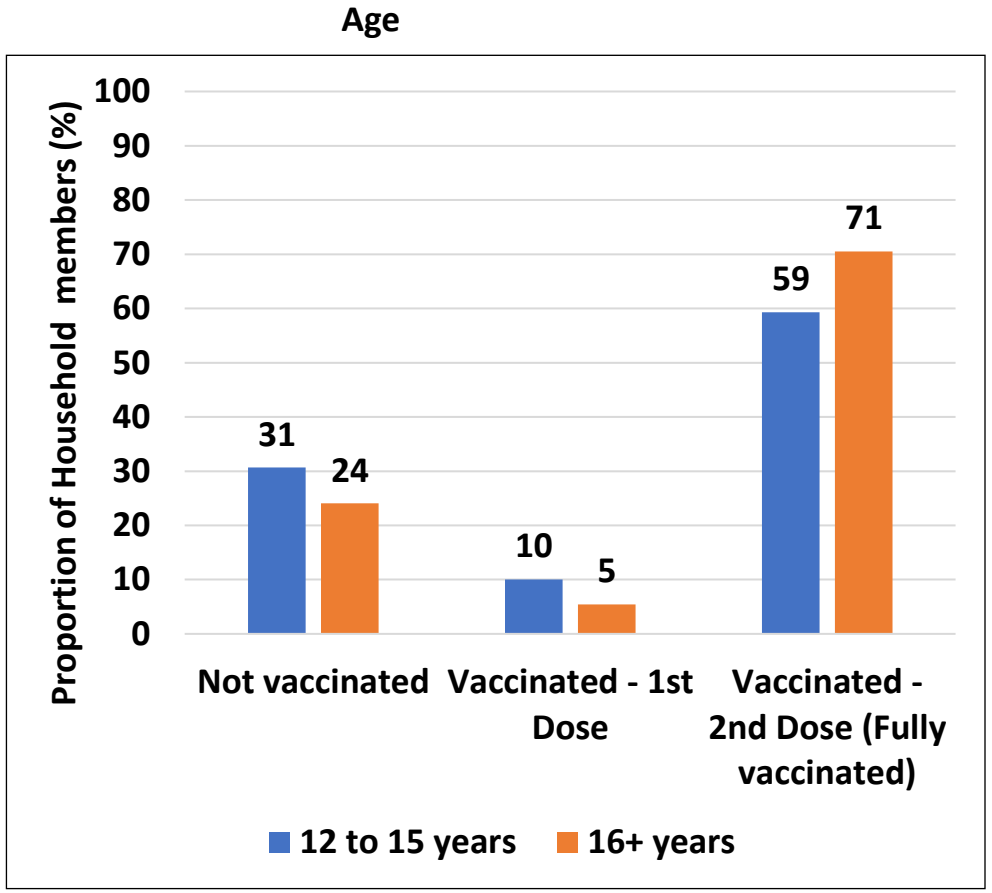
Household Head COVID -19 Vaccination Status



- The greatest proportion of household heads were fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus.
- Meanwhile, Goromonzi (26%) had the highest proportion of household heads who had not been vaccinated.

COVID-19 Vaccinations by Sex and Age





- Both males and females in Mashonaland East have equally taken up vaccination against COVID-19.
- The greatest proportion of household members who were fully vaccinated was in the above 16 years age category (71%).

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

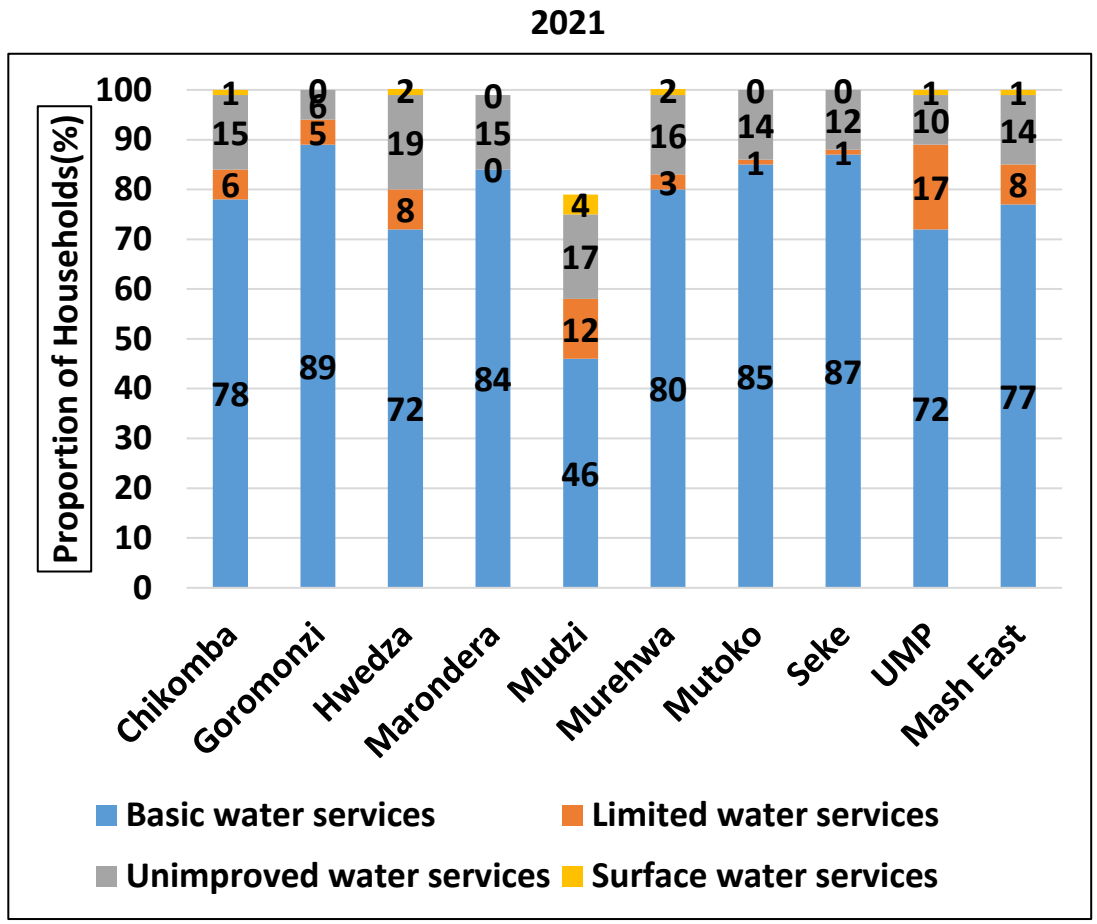


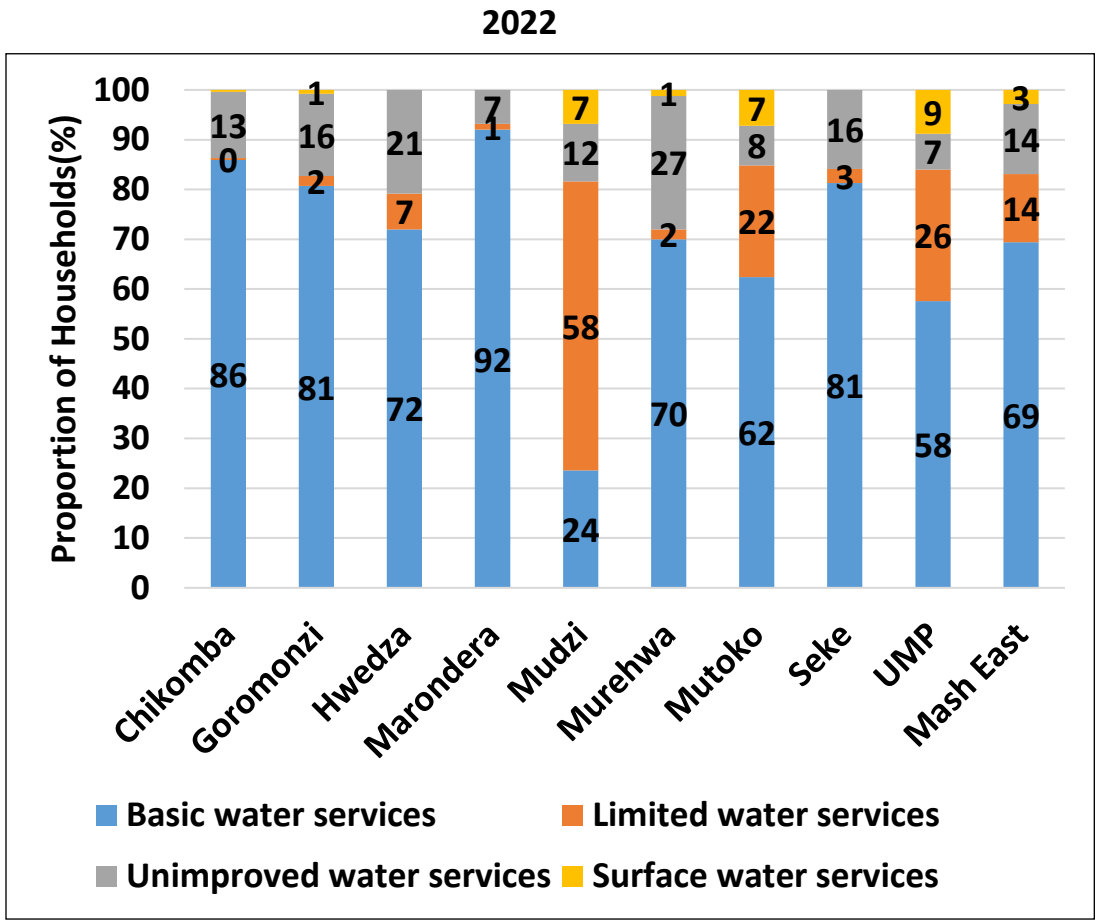

Ladder for Drinking Water Services

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.

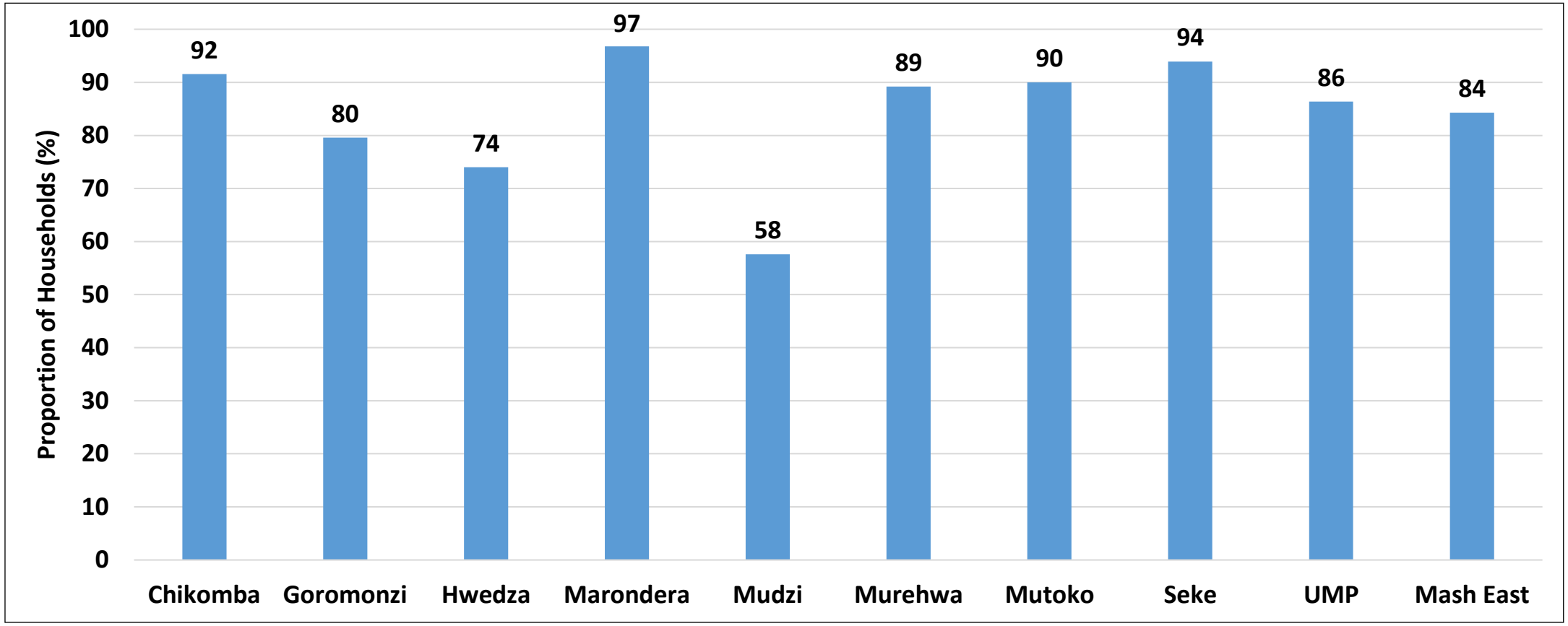
Main Drinking Water Services





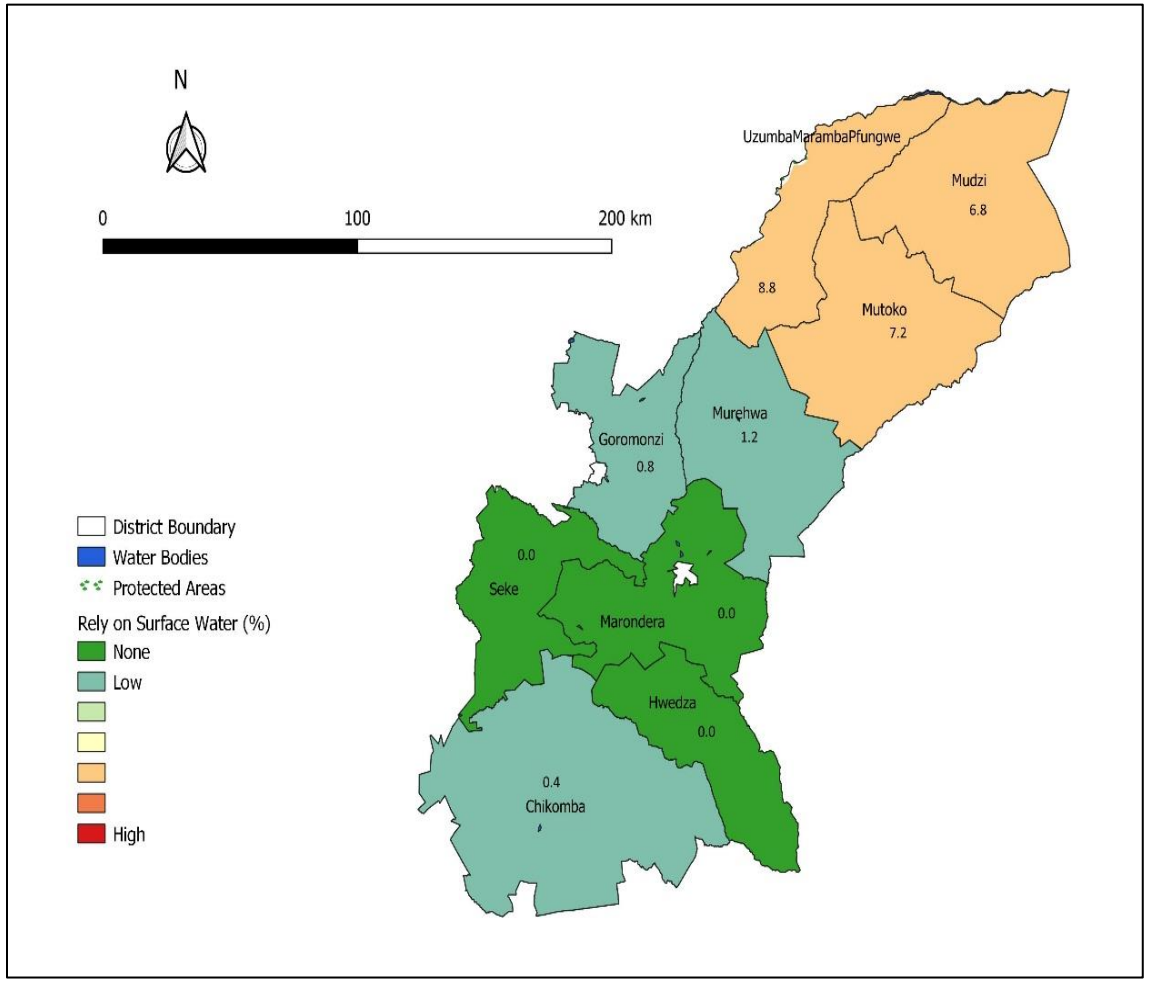
- The proportion of households accessing basic water services decreased to 69% from 77% in 2021.
- In Mudzi, households accessing limited water services increased to 58% from 32% in 2021.This can potentially increase diarrheal disease outbreaks in the district.

Access to Adequate Domestic Water



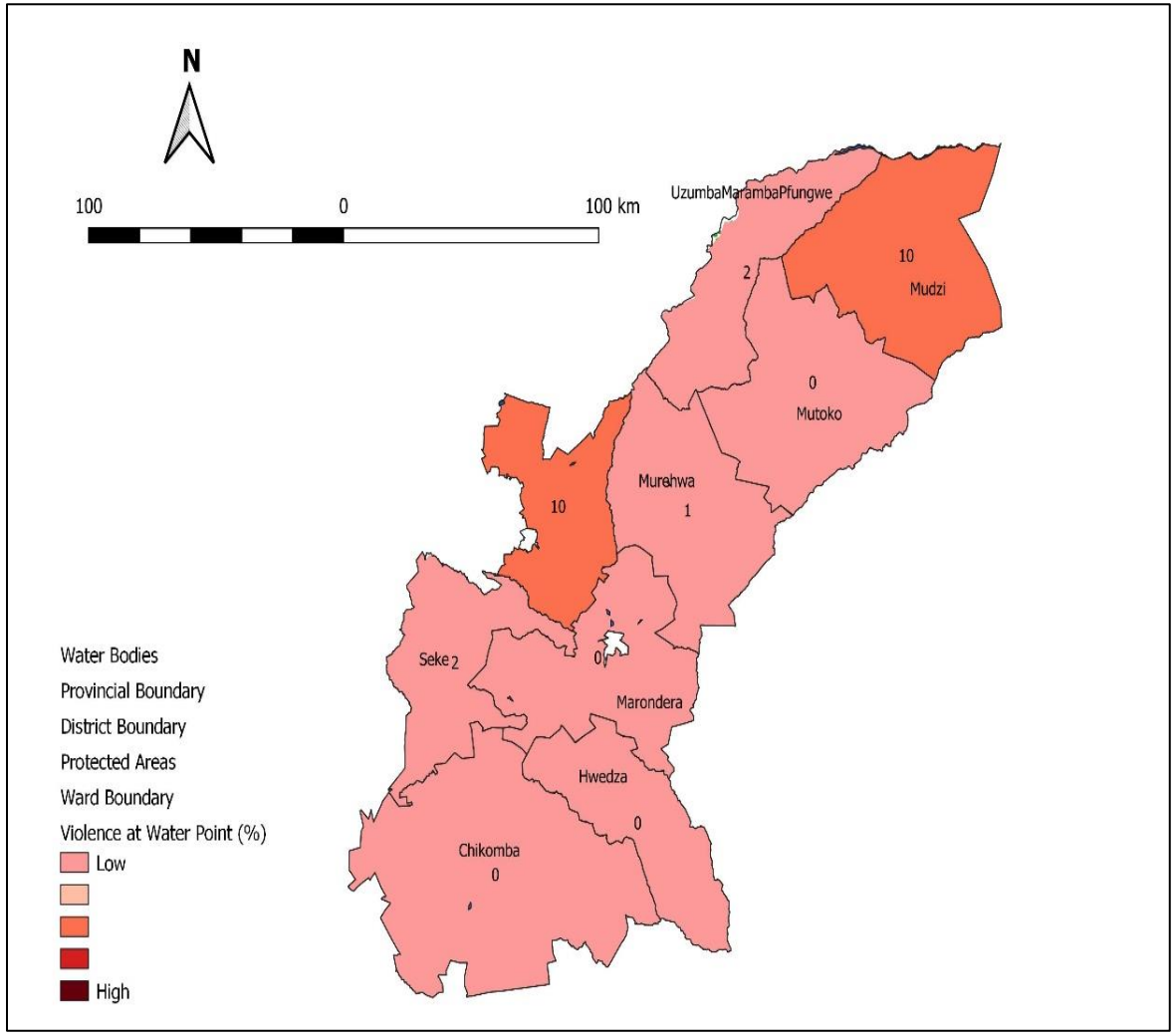
- Eighty four percent of the households reported having adequate water for personal hygiene and other domestic needs with Hwedza (74%) and Mudzi (58%) and having the lowest proportion.

Households Using Surface Water as Main Drinking Water Source



- The proportion of households using surface water as main drinking source was high in UMP (8.8%) followed by Mutoko (7.2%) and Mudzi (6.8%).

Violence at Water Sources



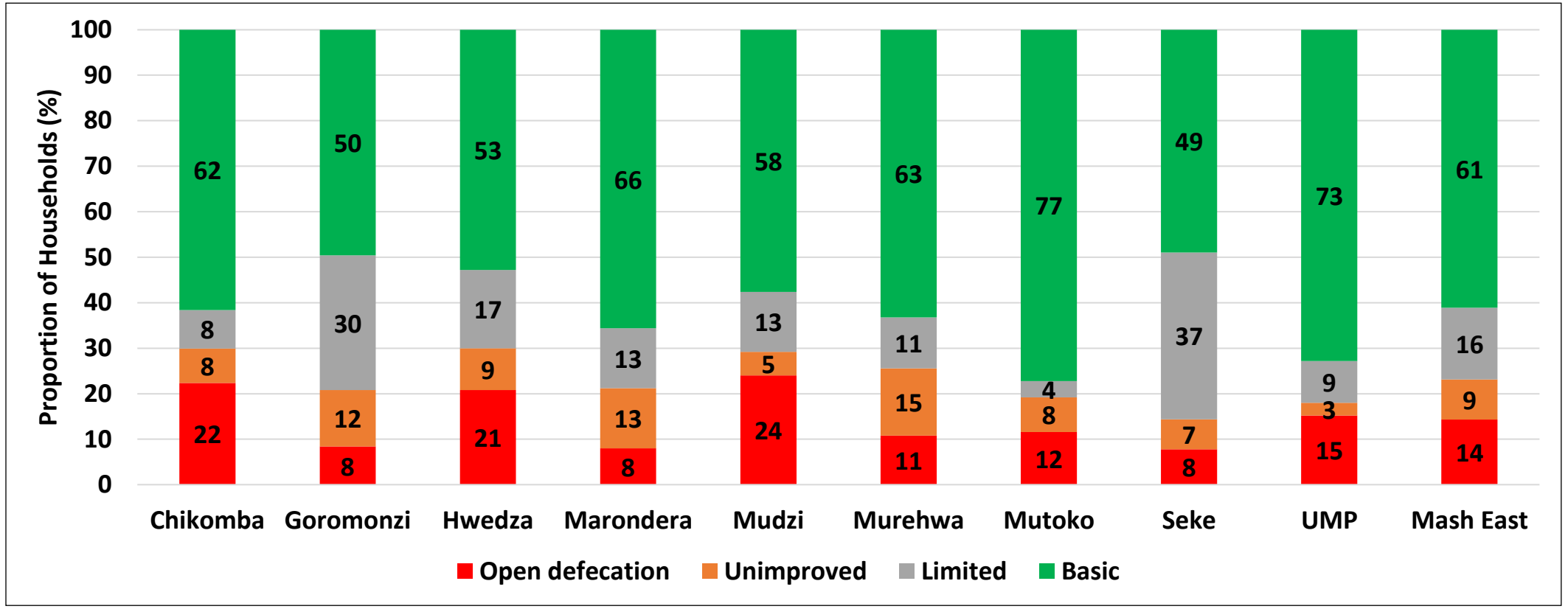
- Incidents of violence at water points were generally low across all districts except in Mudzi and Goromonzi (10%).

Ladder for Sanitation

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

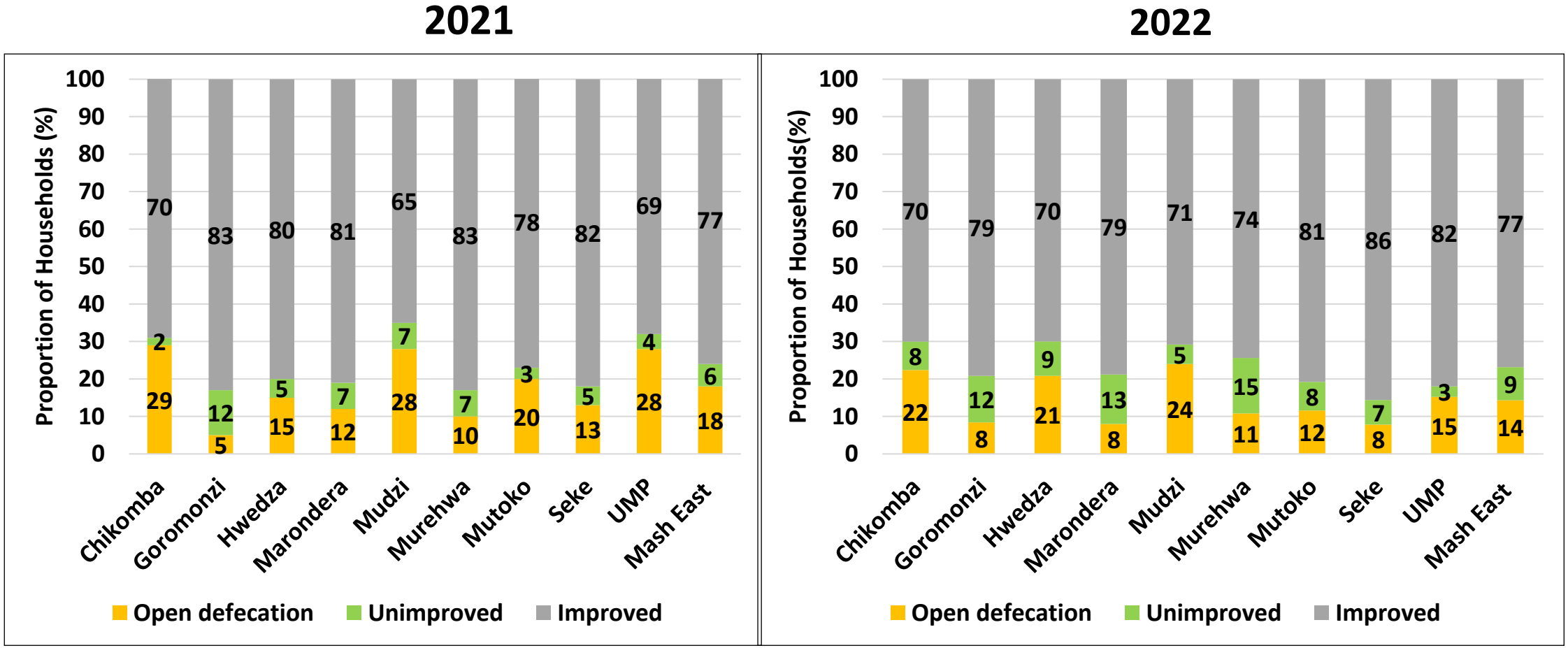
Note: Improved sanitation facilities: Facilities that ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact. They include flush or pour flush toilet/latrine, Blair ventilated improved pit (BVIP), pit latrine with slab and upgradeable Blair latrine.

Access to Improved Sanitation



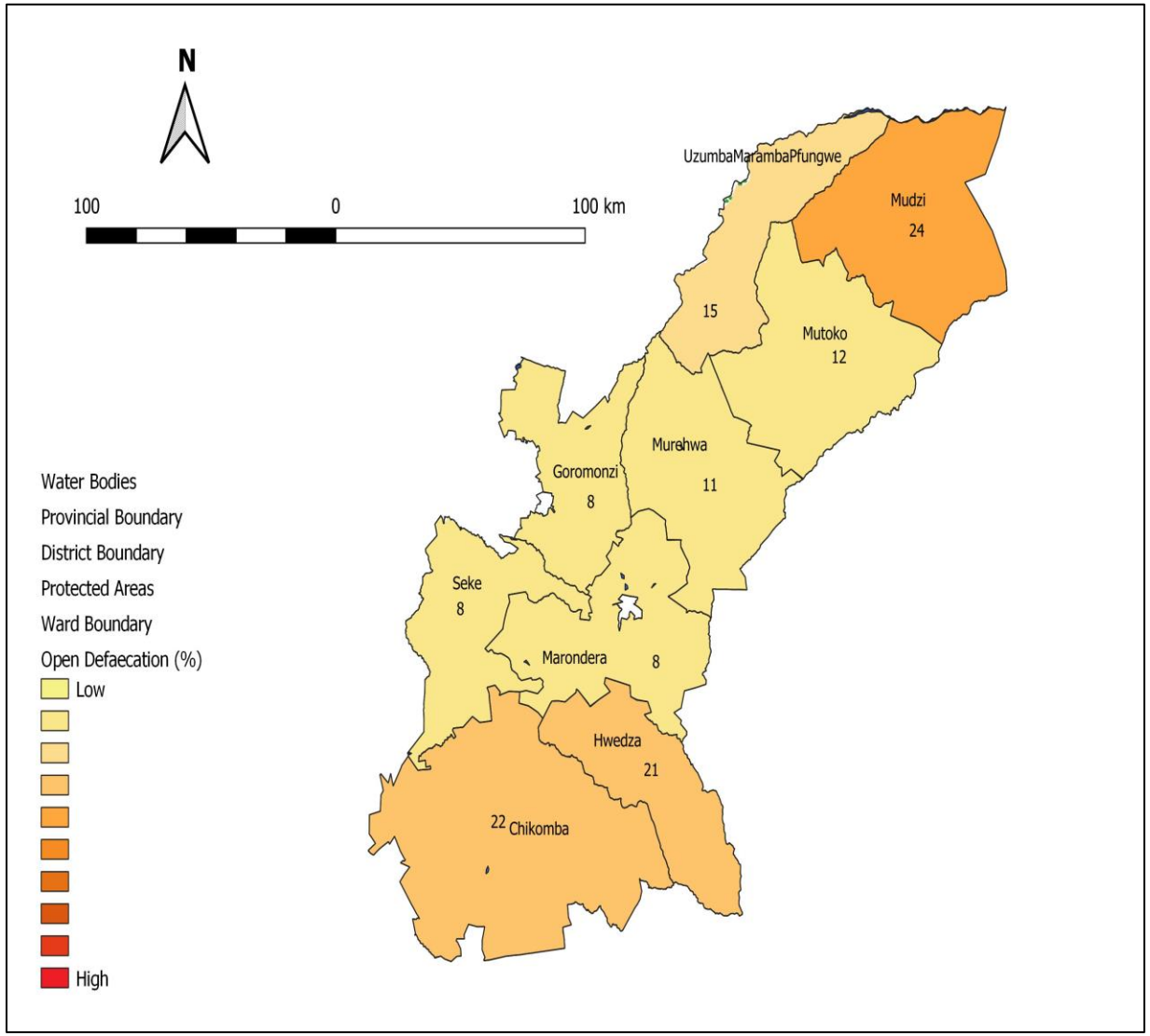
- Sixty one percent of households had access to basic sanitation, 16% had access to limited sanitation and 14% were practising open defaecation.
- Mudzi (24%) and Chikomba (22%) had the highest proportion of households practising open defaecation. Open defaecation predisposes communities to diarrheal diseases.

Access to Improved Sanitation



- Access to improved sanitation facilities remained at 77% whilst households practising open defecation decreased from 18% in 2021 to 14% in 2022.
- There has been an increase in the proportion of households accessing improved sanitation in UMP, from 69% (2021) to 82% in 2022.

Households Practising Open Defaecation



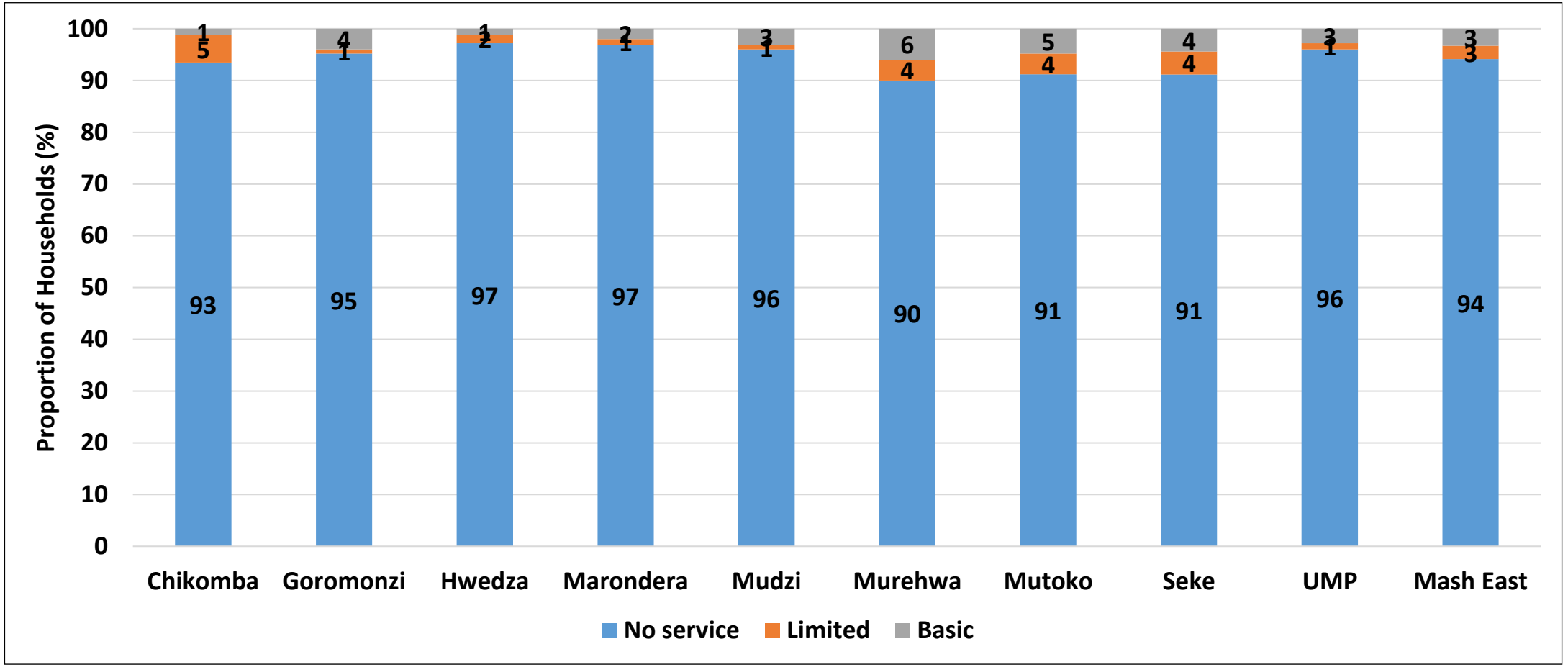
- The proportion of households practising open defaecation was high in Mudzi (24%).

Ladder for Hygiene

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

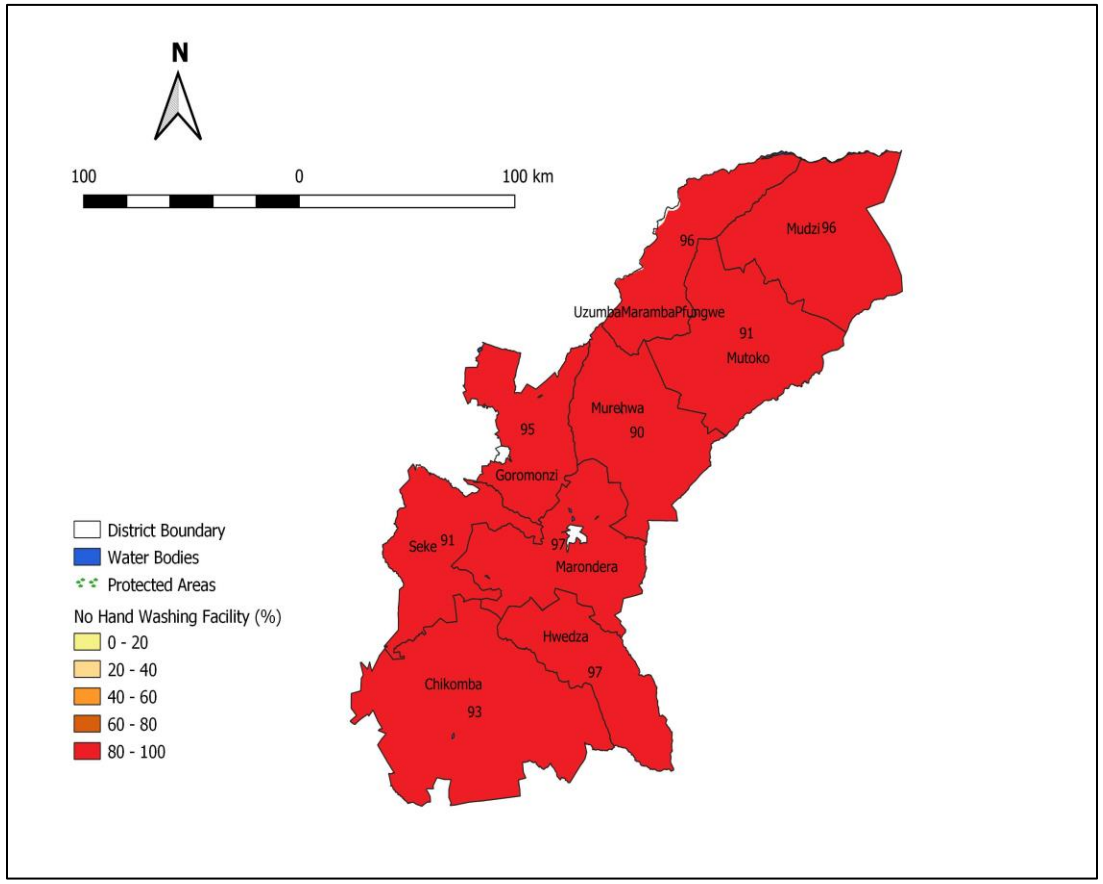
Note: handwashing facilities may be fixed or mobile and include a sink with tap water, buckets with taps, tippy taps, and jugs or basins designated for hand washing. Soap includes bar soap, liquid soap, powdered detergents and soapy water but does not include sand, soil, ash and other handwashing agents.

Access to Hand Washing Facilities



- Handwashing facilities were not available at the majority of the households (94%).
- Handwashing is a central component of personal hygiene especially in prevention of communicable diseases.

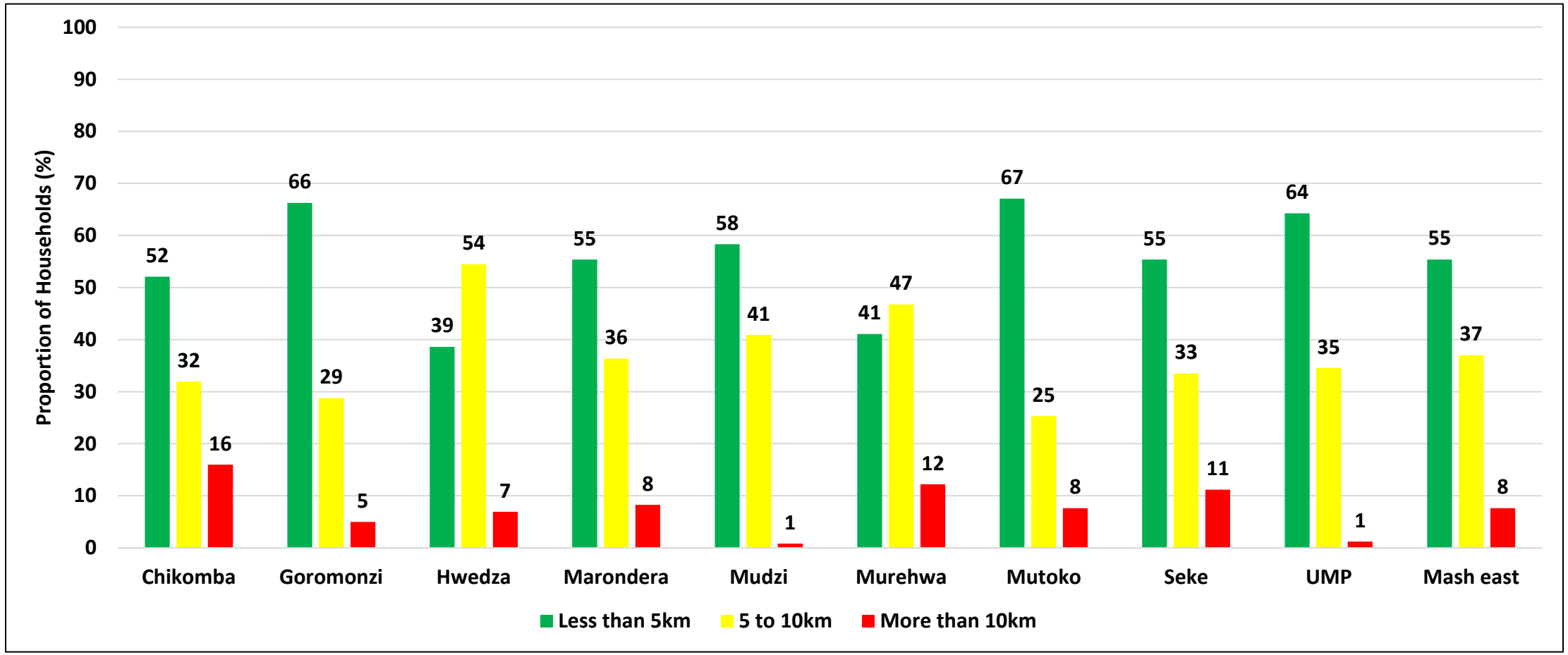
Households with no Hand Washing Facilities by District



- The proportion of households with no handwashing facilities was high across all districts in the province.

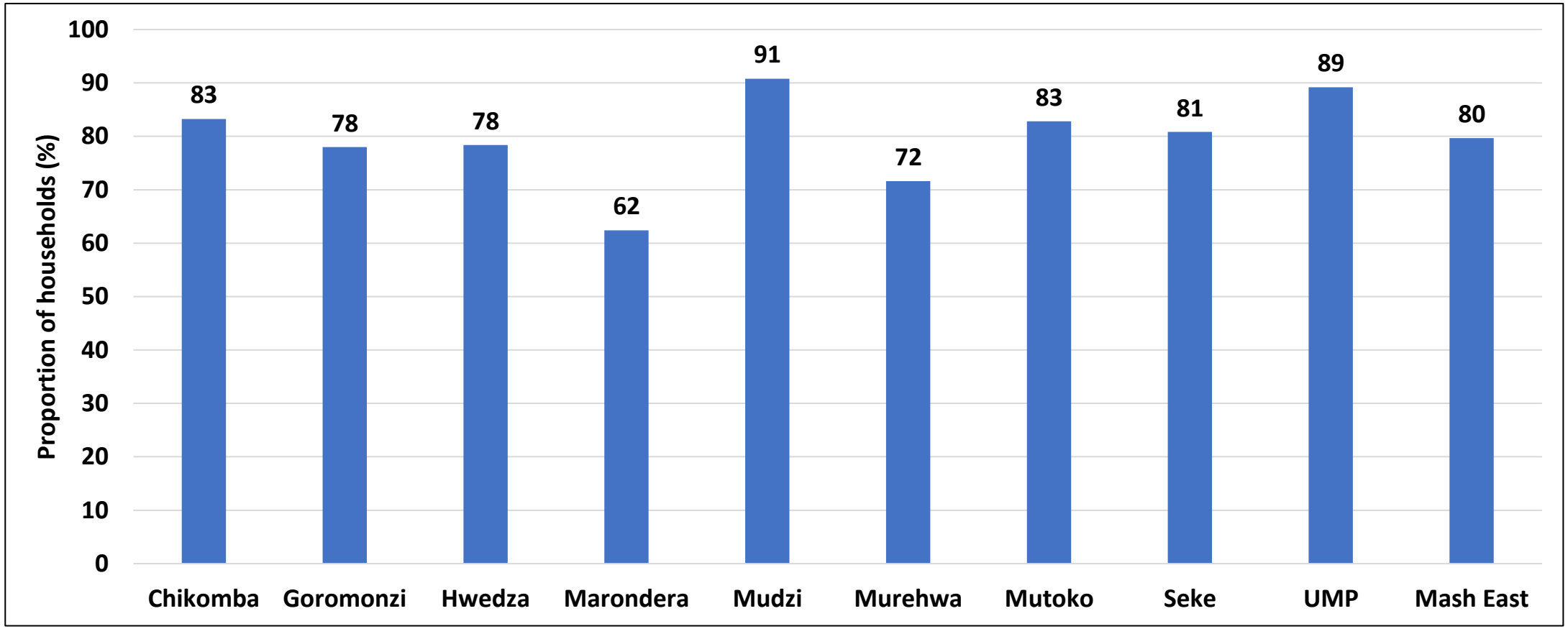
Access to Critical Infrastructure

Distance to the Nearest Health Facility



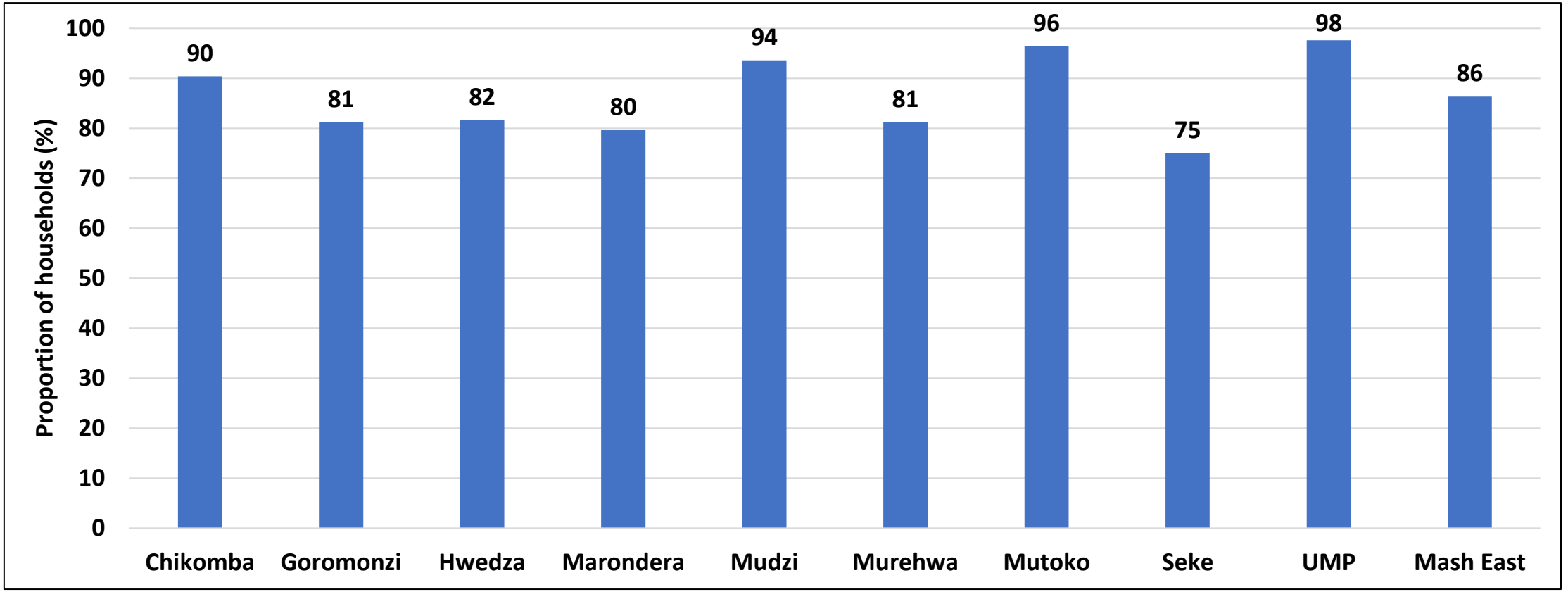
- Only 8% of households reported that their nearest health facility was more than 10km away.

Access to Health-Related Information



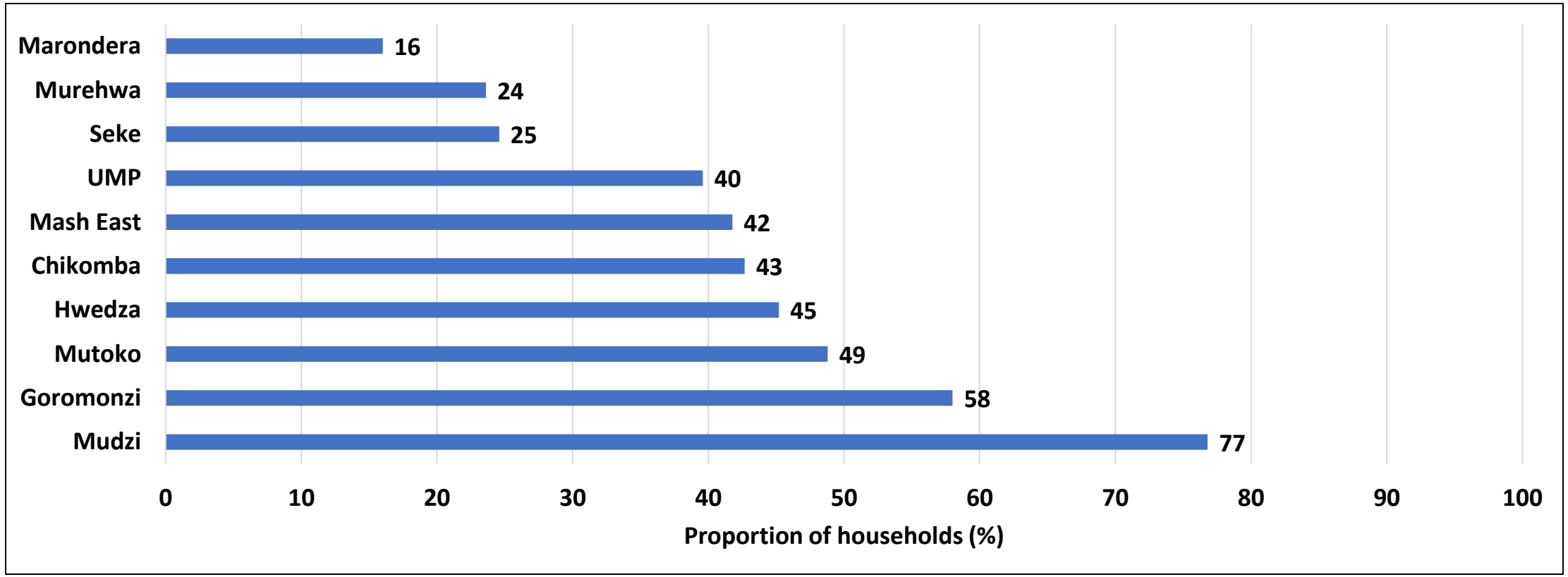
- Provincially, 80% of the households had access to health-related information.
- Mudzi district (91%) had the highest proportion of households that had access to health-related information whilst Marondera (62%) had the least.

Access to the Services of a Village Health Worker



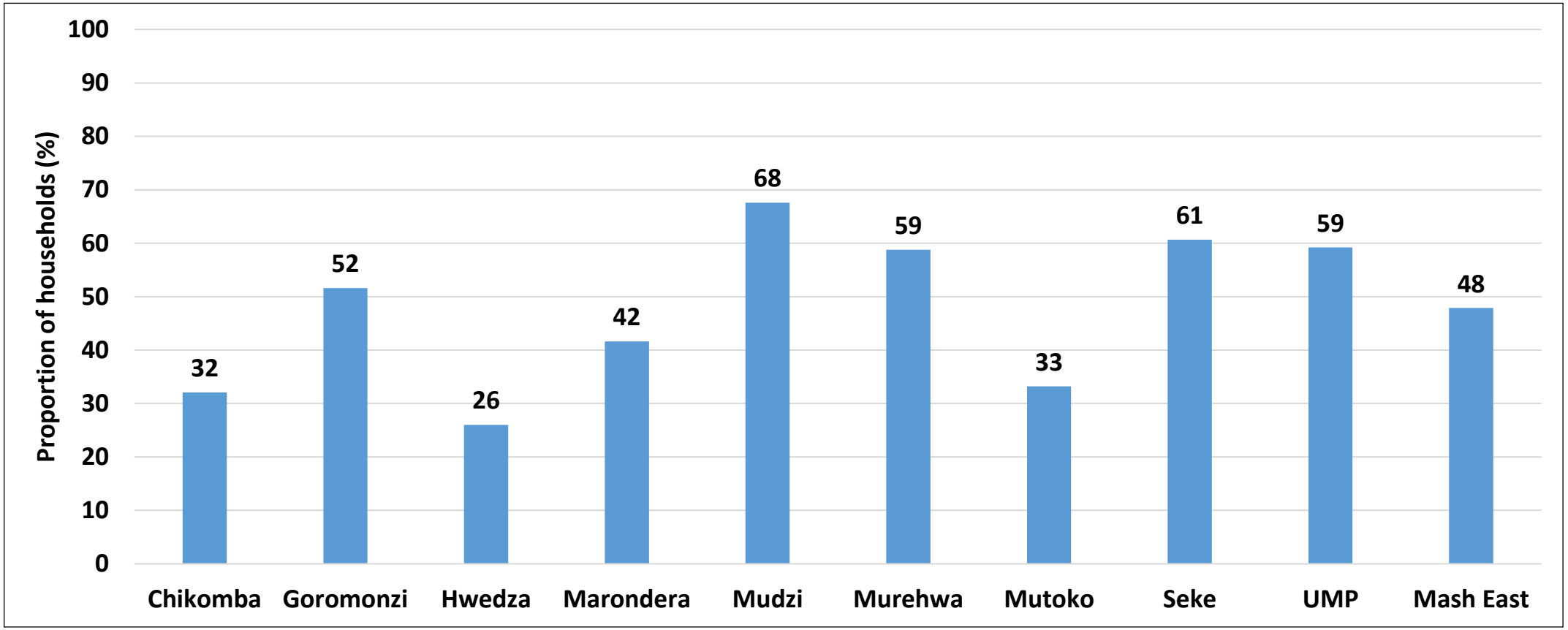
- Access to the services of a Village Health Worker was highest in Uzumba-Maranba-Pfungwe (98%) and Mutoko (96%).

Access to Nutrition Education and/Training



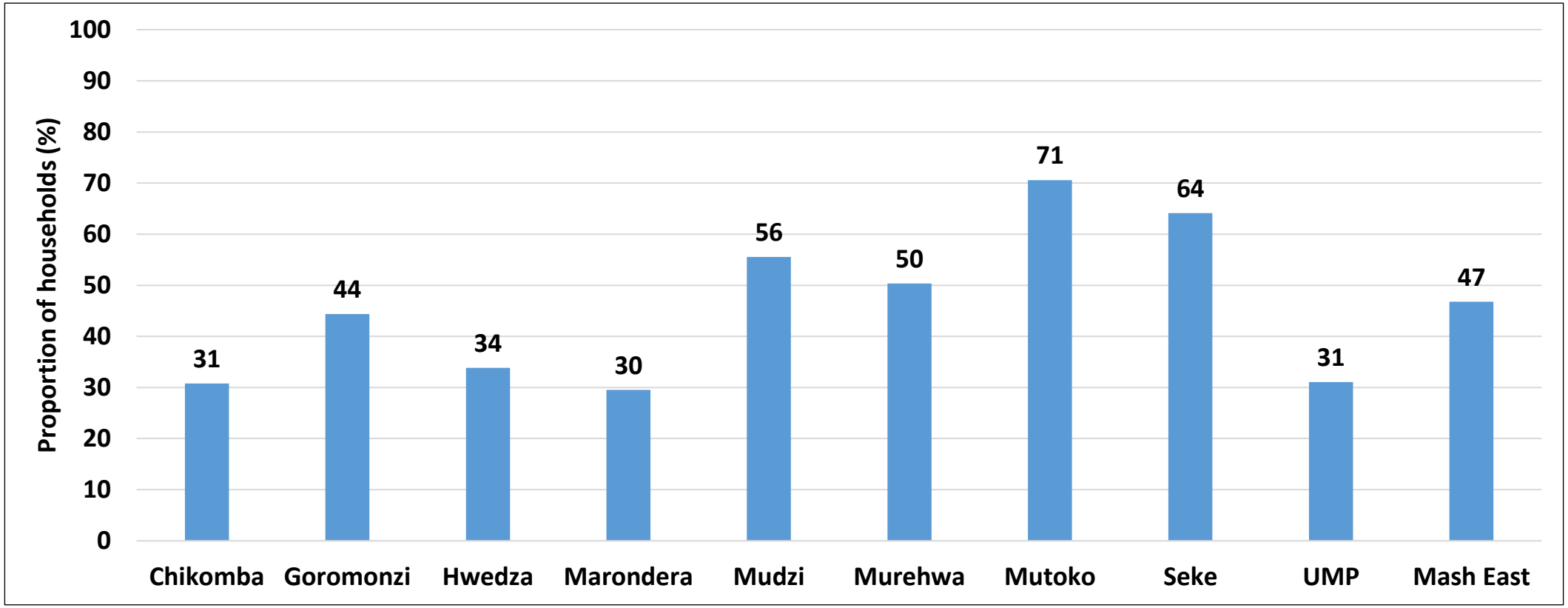
- The proportion of households which received education/training on nutrition was (42%) at the provincial level.

Police Services Reachable within One Hour



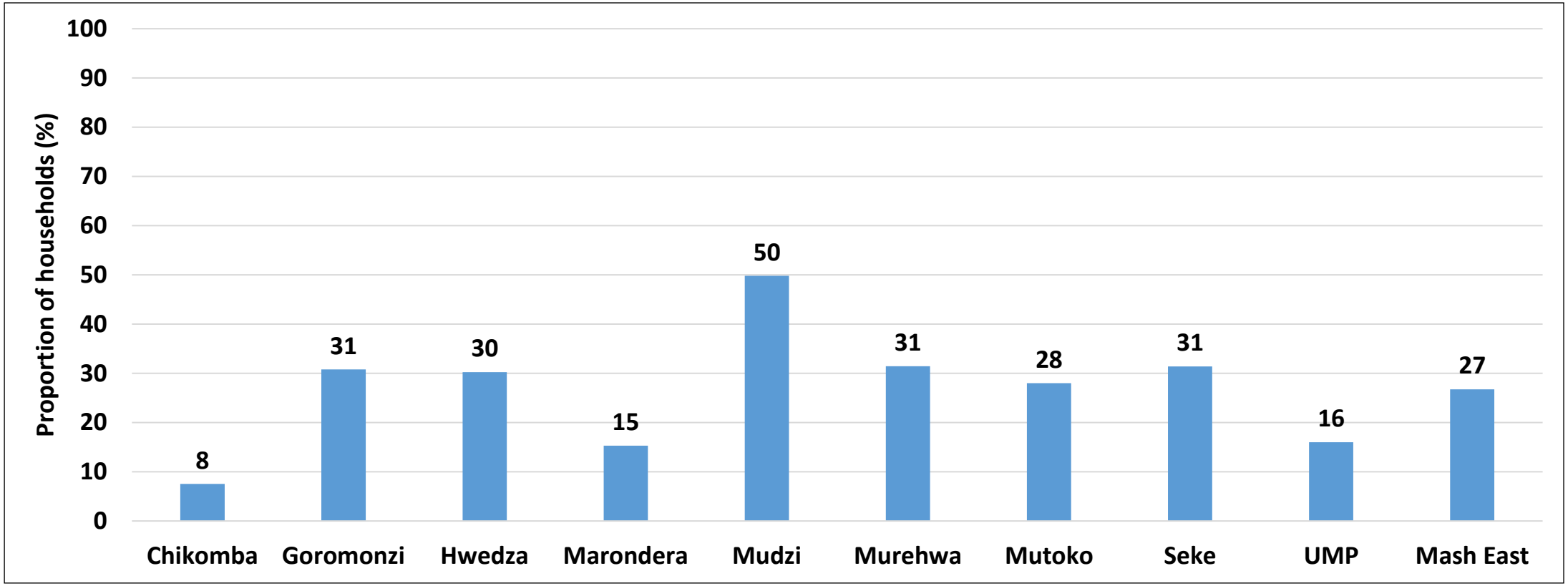
- Mudzi (68%), had the highest proportion of households that had access to police services within one hour of travel. Hwedza (26%) had the least.

Access to Victim Friendly Services



- At the provincial level, at least 47% of the households had access to Victim Friendly Unit Services.
- Mutoko (71%) had the greatest proportion of households that had access to victim friendly services.

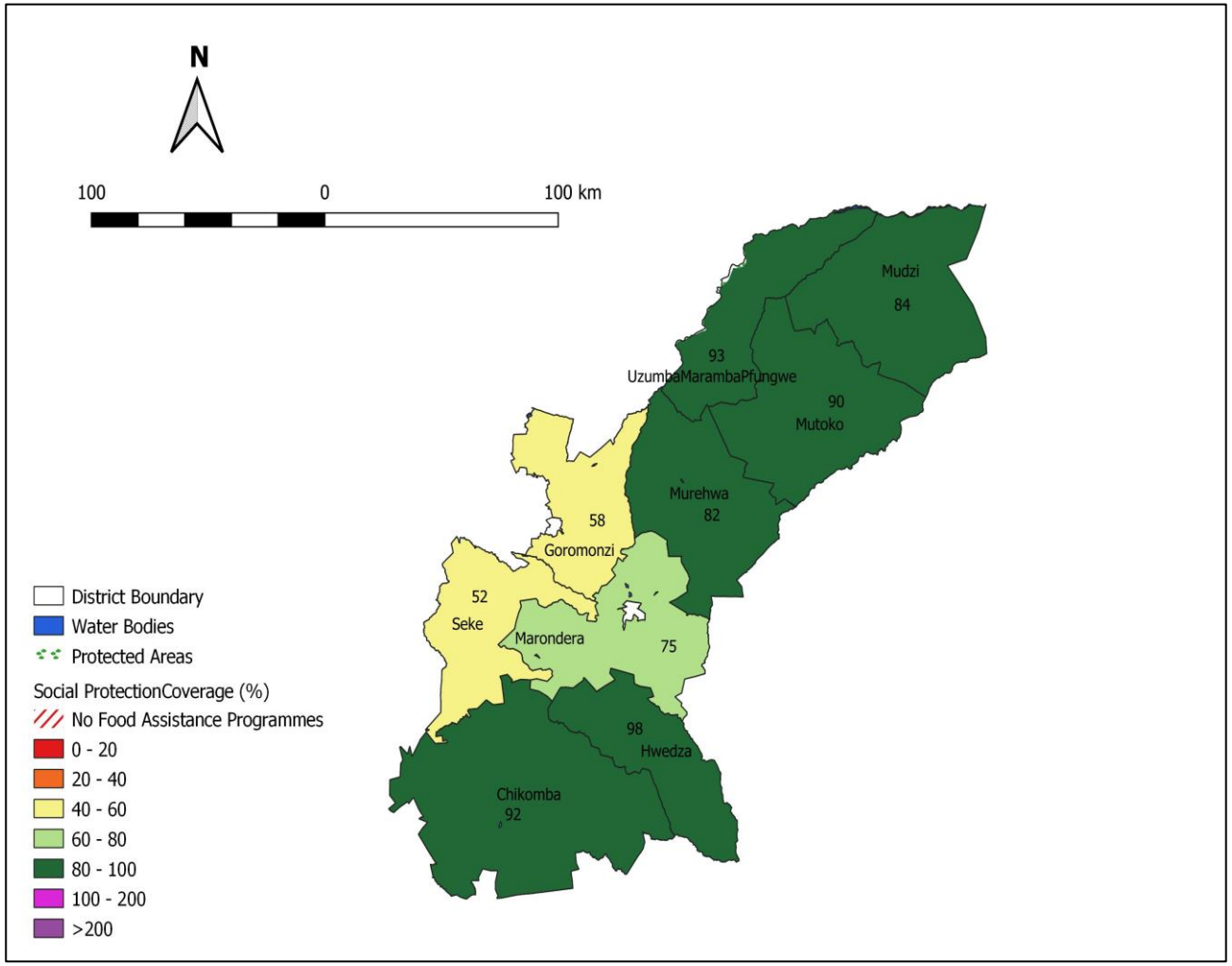
Approximate Distance of the Nearest Primary School



- Twenty seven percent of households reported to have a school that was within 5-kilometer radius.

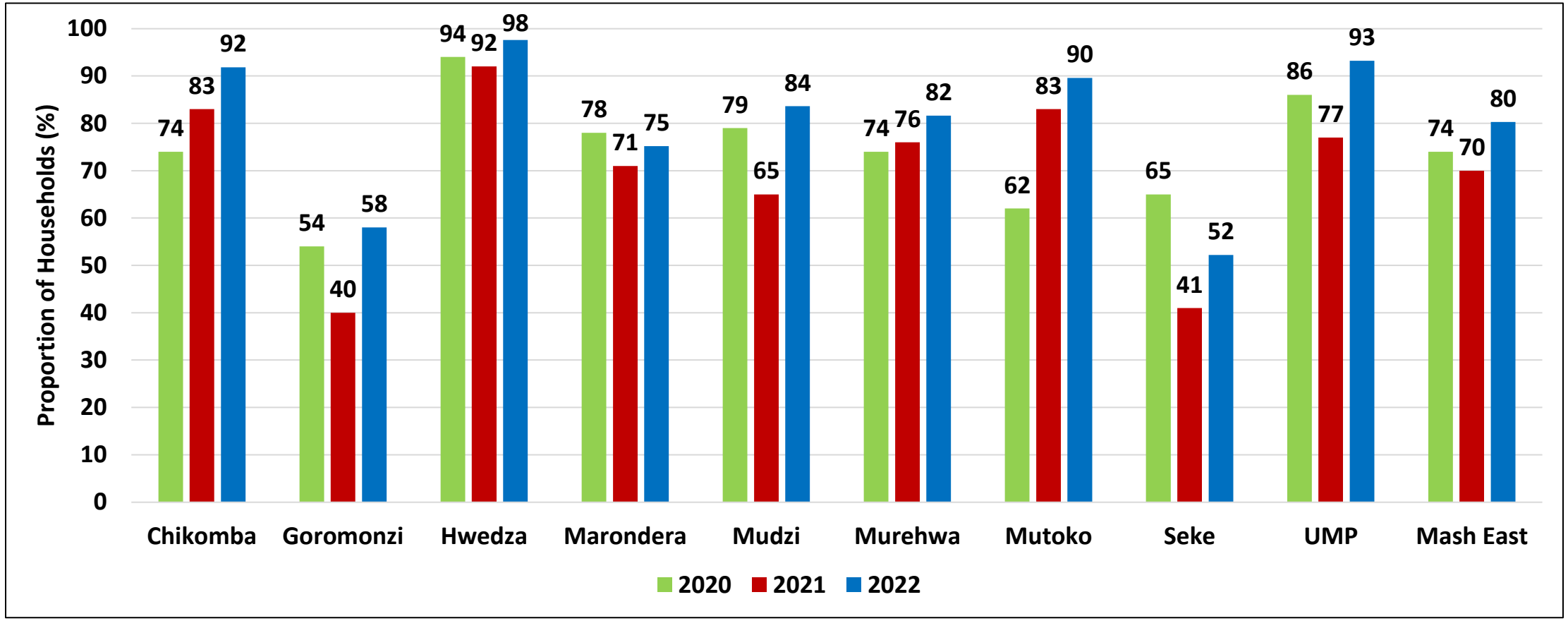
Social Protection

Combined Social Protection Received



- All districts across the province received some form of support.
- Goromonzi (58%) and Seke (52%) had the least proportion of households that received social protection support.

Households which Received Any Form of Support in the Province



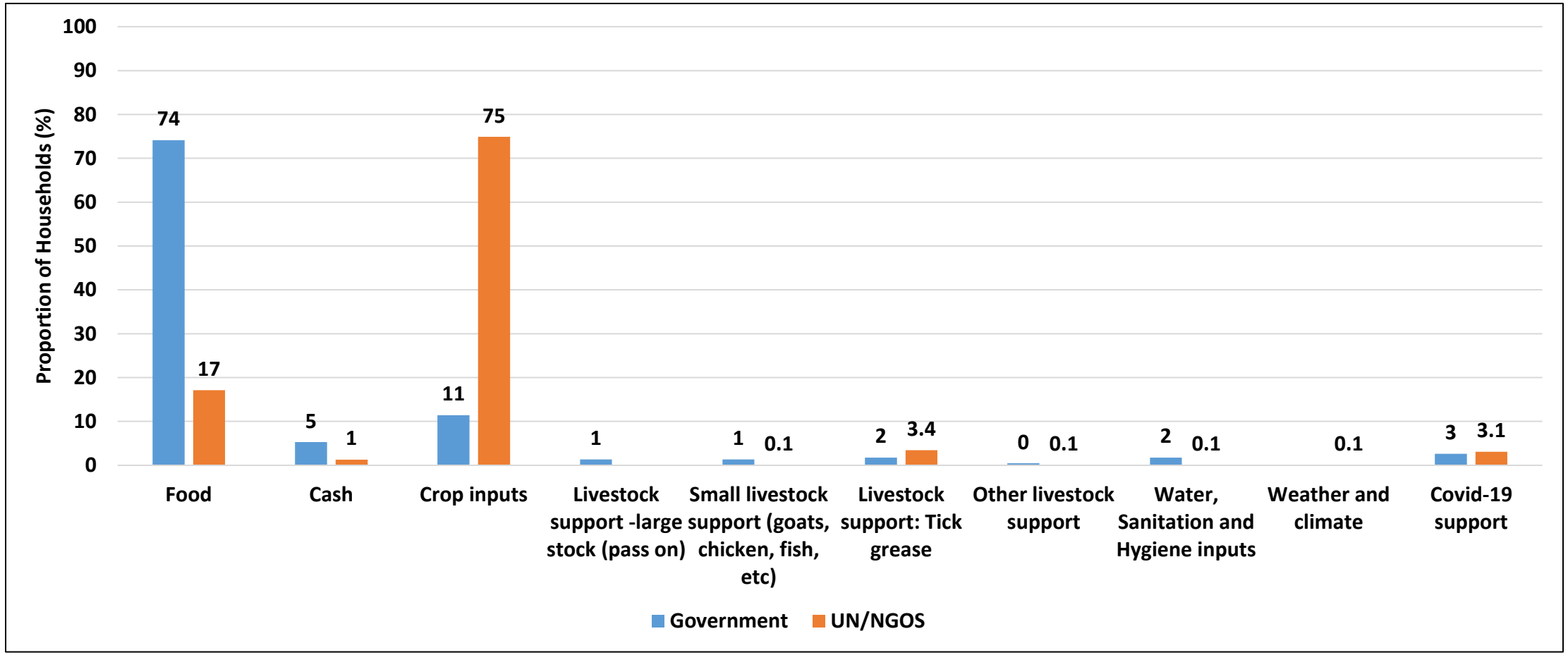
- The proportion of households that received any form of support rose to 80% from 70% in 2021.

Sources of Support

District	Government (%)	UN/NGO (%)	Churches (%)	Rural relatives and/or non-relatives (%)	Rural relatives within community (%)	Non-relatives within community (%)	Urban relatives and/or nonrelatives within community (%)	Rural relatives outside the community (including urban) (%)	Rural non-relatives outside the community or in urban areas (%)	Rural relatives outside Zimbabwe (%)
Chikomba	89.3	11.5	2.1	5.3	5.0	1.3	26.1	24.3	3.8	5.5
Goromonzi	25.6	2.8	3.2	29.6	21.2	15.6	24.4	21.2	5.6	7.6
Hwedza	**90.8**	2.8	1.6	32.8	31.2	3.6	50.8	49.2	2.0	**15.6**
Marondera	66.4	0.0	0.8	5.6	3.6	3.2	27.6	27.2	0.4	13.2
Mudzi	73.2	**45.2**	0.0	29.6	29.2	3.6	26.0	25.6	0.4	2.4
Murehwa	71.6	1.2	3.2	8.0	7.6	0.8	32.8	32.8	0.4	11.2
Mutoko	78.8	12.0	0.4	28.4	28.4	0.0	22.8	22.4	2.0	6.4
Seke	33.7	1.6	2.0	9.6	5.2	5.6	21.3	21.1	0.4	10.5
UMP	90.4	4.0	0.4	16.8	16.4	4.0	15.6	15.6	0.0	2.0
Mash East	**68.8**	9.0	1.5	18.4	16.5	4.2	27.5	**26.6**	1.7	8.3

- Government (68.8%) should be commended for being the main social protection cushion for rural communities with Hwedza (90.8%) receiving the most support.

Forms of Support



- During the consumption period 2021/22, households received more crop input support from the Government (75%) while food support (74%) came from UN/NGOs.

Forms of Support by Government (68.8%)

District	Food (%)	Cash (%)	Crop inputs (%)	Small livestock support (goats, chicken, fish, etc) (%)	Livestock support: Tick grease (%)	Other livestock support (%)	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene inputs (%)	Weather and climate (%)	COVID-19 support (%)
Chikomba	23.8	1.1	74.7		0.4				
Goromonzi	21.1	2.8	73.2		1.4			1.4	
Hwedza	31.9	1.5	64.6	0.3	1.5		0.3		
Marondera	0.5		86.5		8.9	0.5			3.6
Mudzi	4.8	1.9	86.1		5.8				1.4
Murehwa	1.8	1.8	72.9		0.9				22.6
Mutoko	15.7	1.2	72.4		**10.6**				
Seke	3.4	4.5	**92.0**						
UMP	28.7		70.7		0.7				
Mash East	**17.1**	1.3	74.9	0.1	3.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.1

- The major form of support received from the government was in the form of crop inputs.
- Almost 17% of support received from the Government was in the form of food.

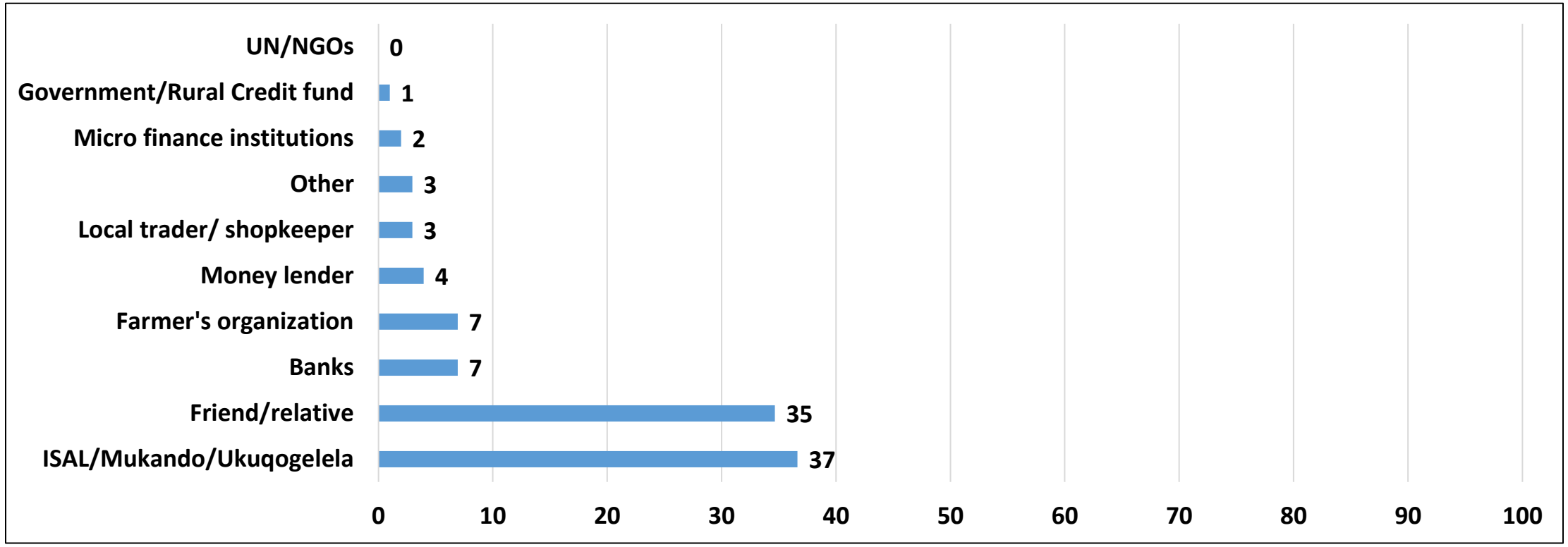
Forms of Support by UN/NGOs (9%)

District	Food (%)	Cash (%)	Crop inputs (%)	Livestock support - large stock (pass on) (%)	Livestock support: Tick grease (%)	Other livestock support (%)	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene inputs (%)	Weather and climate (%)	COVID-19 support
Chikomba	**92.9**	3.6	3.6						
Goromonzi	50.0	16.7	33.3						
Hwedza	42.9		**57.1**						
Mudzi	88.0	3.2	4.8		3.2				
Murehwa		33.3	33.3						
Mutoko	31.8	9.1	25.0	6.8		2.3	9.1		13.6
Seke	80.0	20.0							
UMP	90.0		10.0						
Mash East	**74.1**	5.3	11.4	1.3	1.8	0.4	1.8		2.6

- The main form of support from UN/NGOs was food (74.1%).

ISALS and Loans

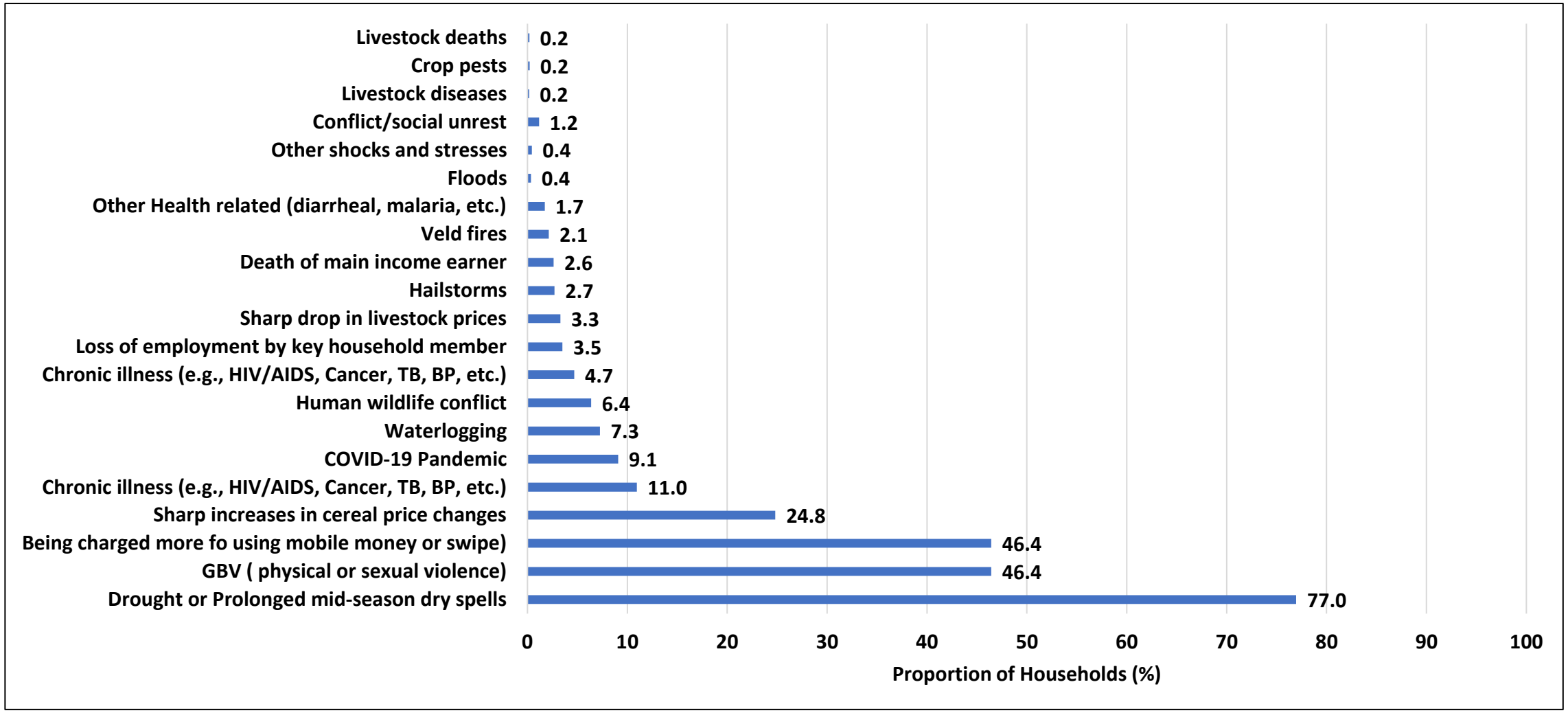
Sources of Loans



- The main source of loan received was from an ISALs/ Mukando (37%).

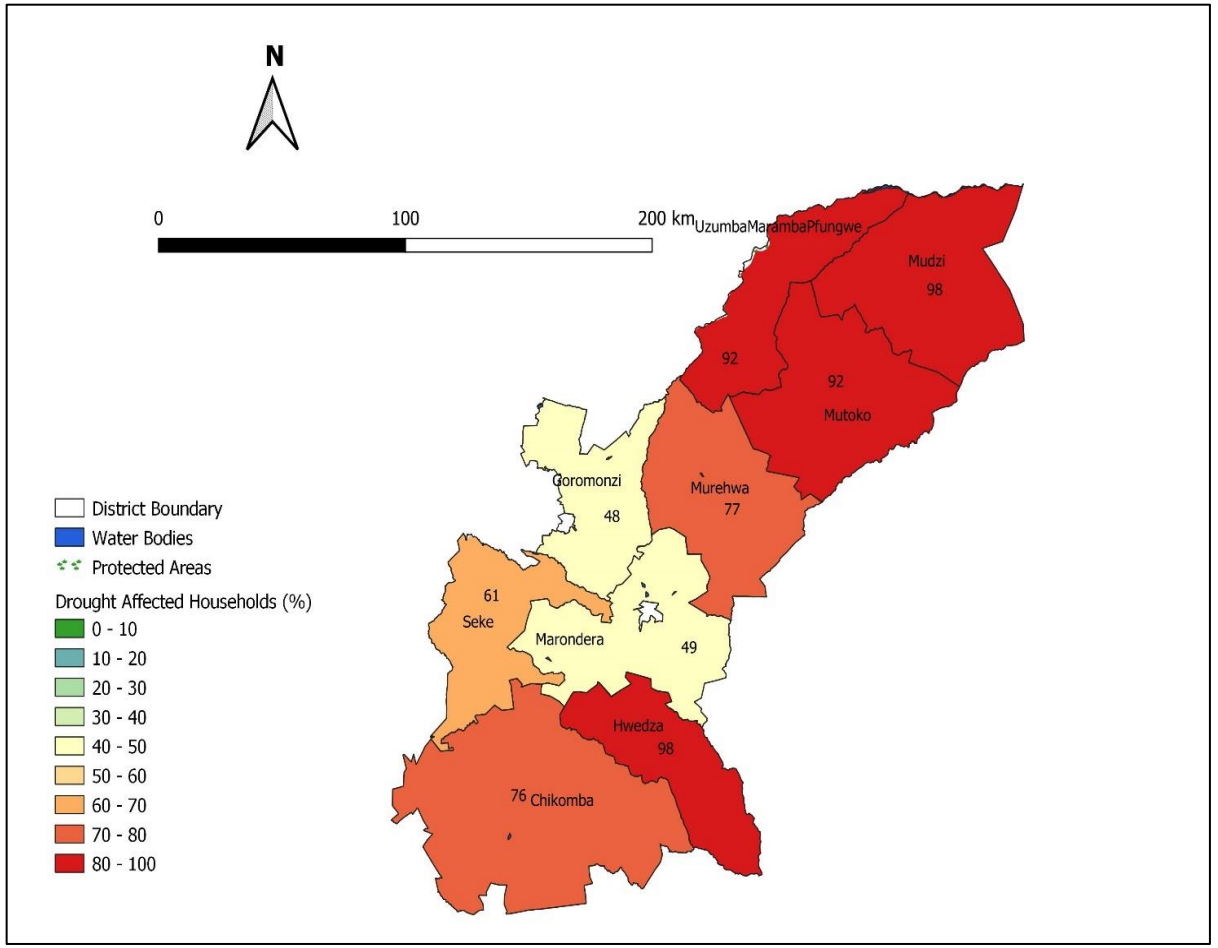
Shocks and Hazards

Households Experiencing Shocks



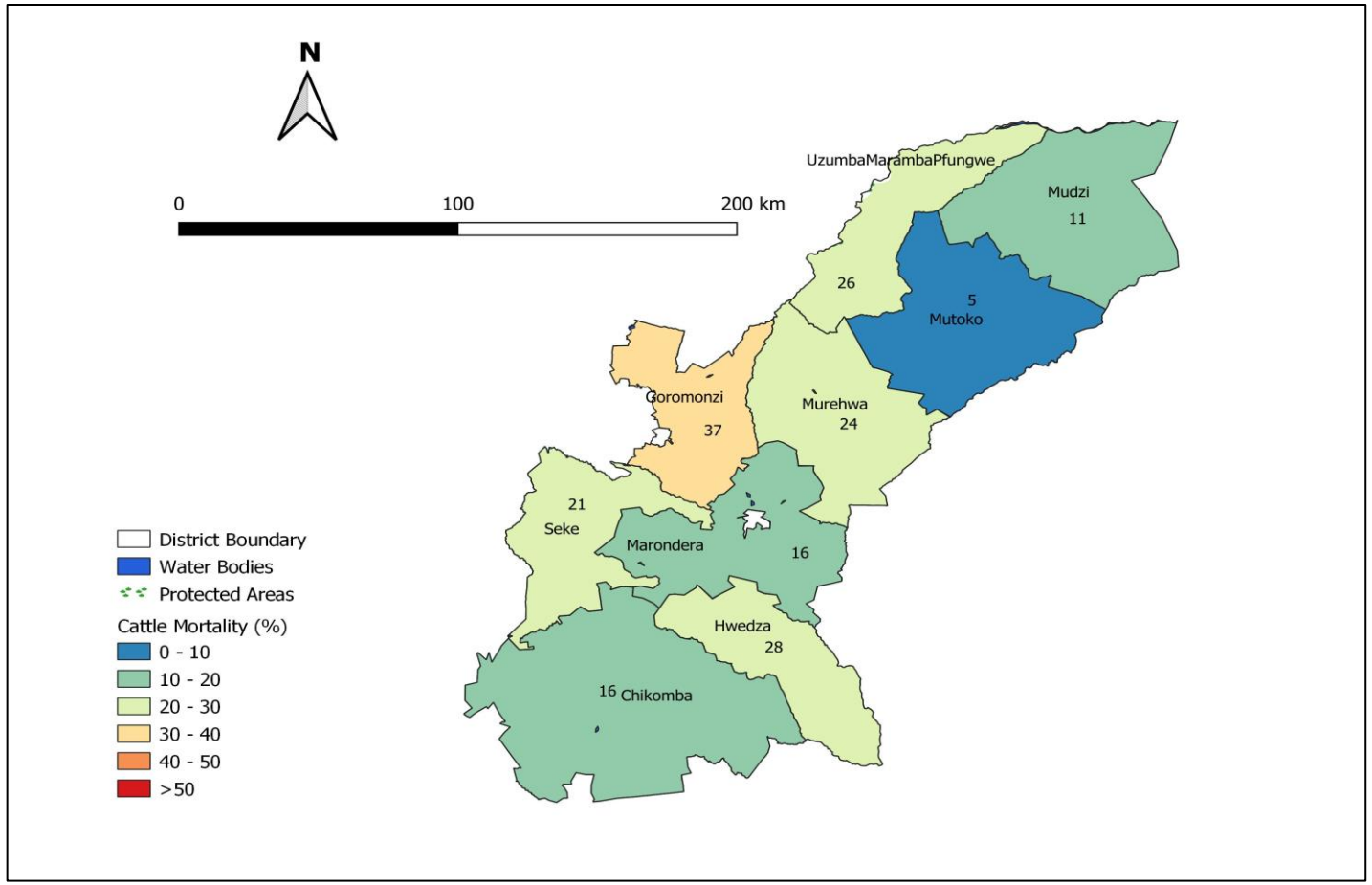
- The most prevalent shock that was experienced by households included drought or prolonged mid-season dry spells (77%).

Households which Reported Drought as a Shock



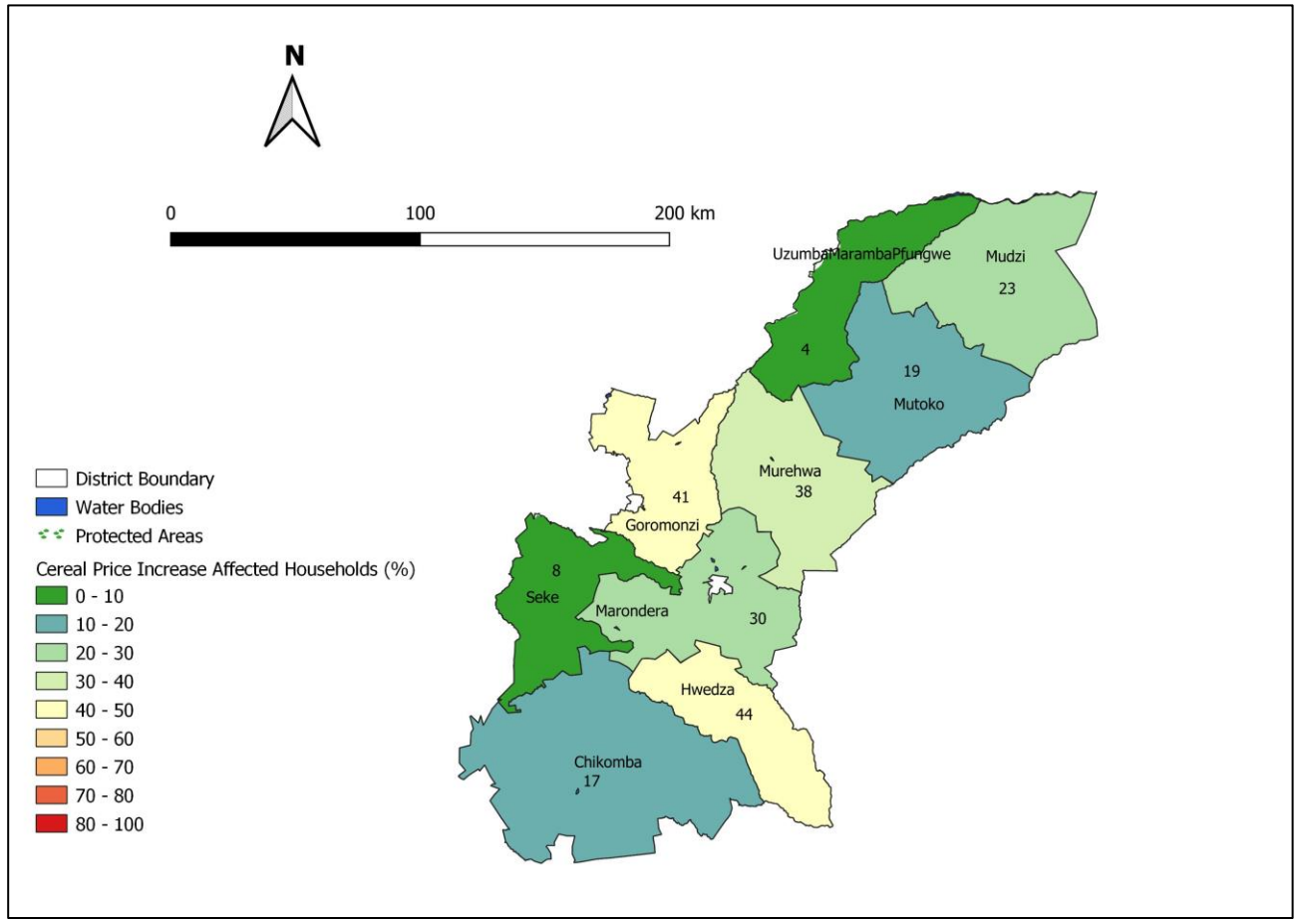
- Most districts reported drought as a shock. Mudzi and Hwedza (98%) had the greatest proportion of households that experienced drought as a shock.

Households which Reported Water Logging as a Shock



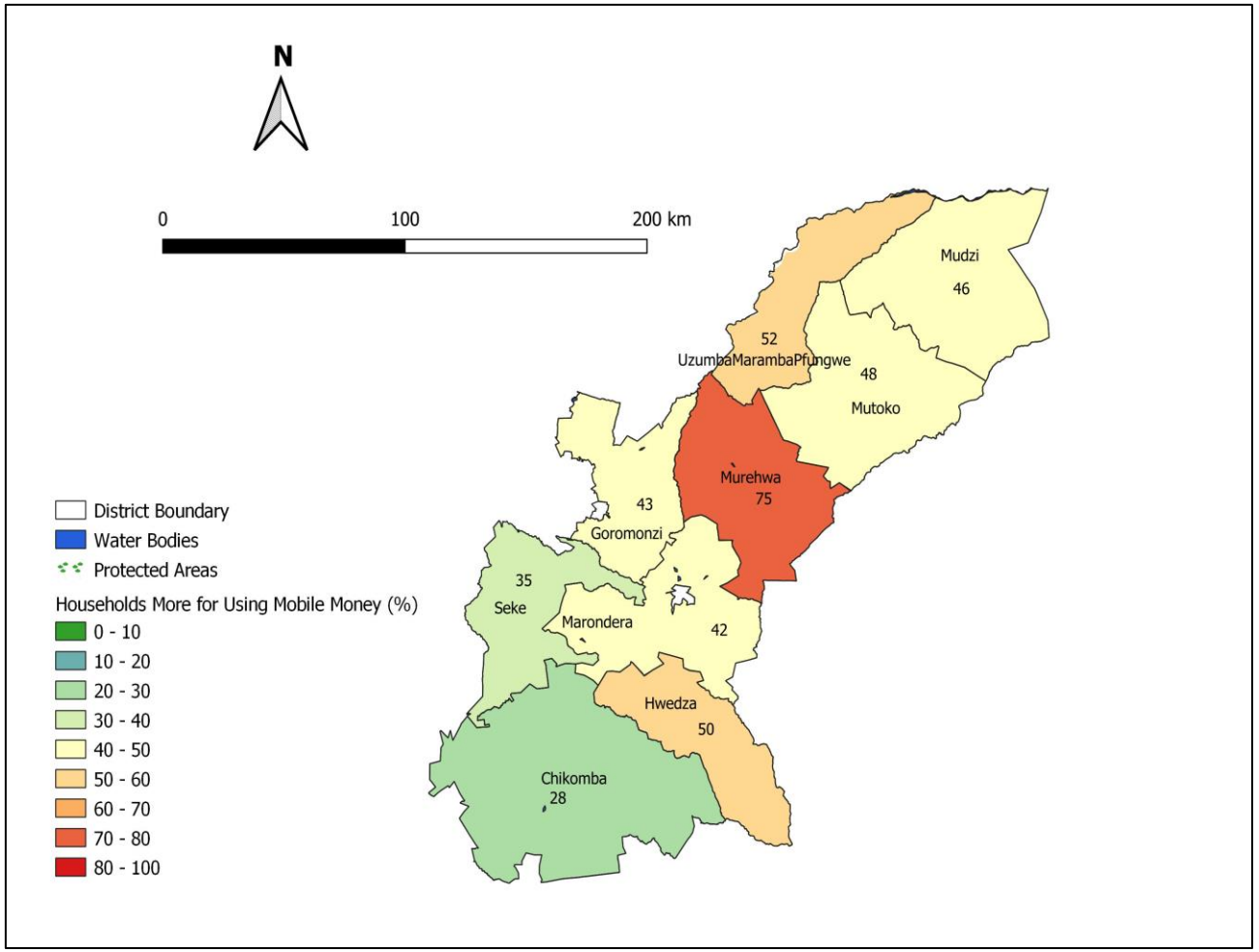
- In Mashonaland East, Murewa (31%) had the highest proportion of households which reported water logging as a shock.

Households that Reported Cereal Price increase as a Shock



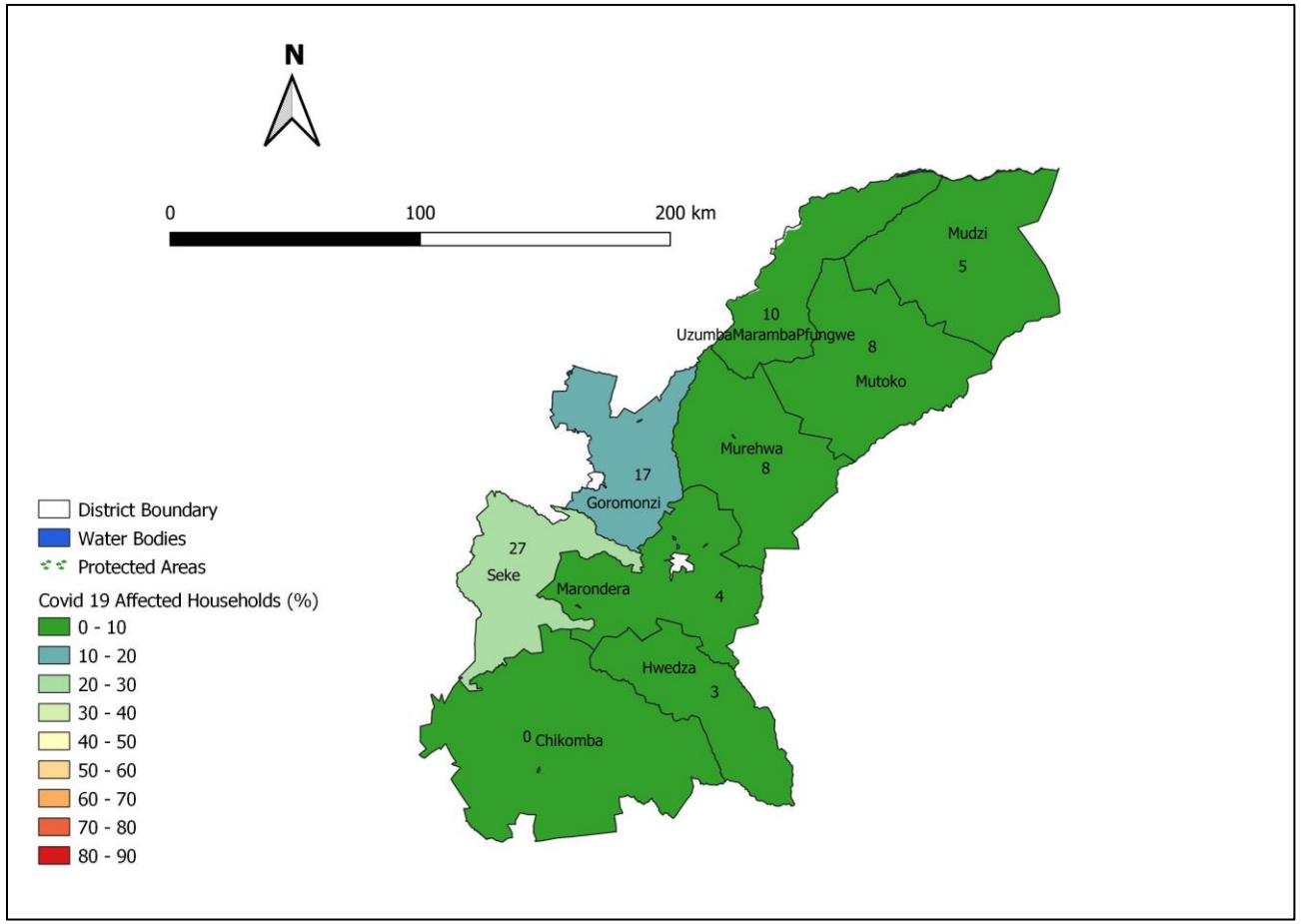
- Hwedza (44%) and Goromonzi (41%) had the highest proportion of households which reported cereal prices increase as a shock.

Households which Reported being Charged More for Mobile Money/Swipe as a Shock



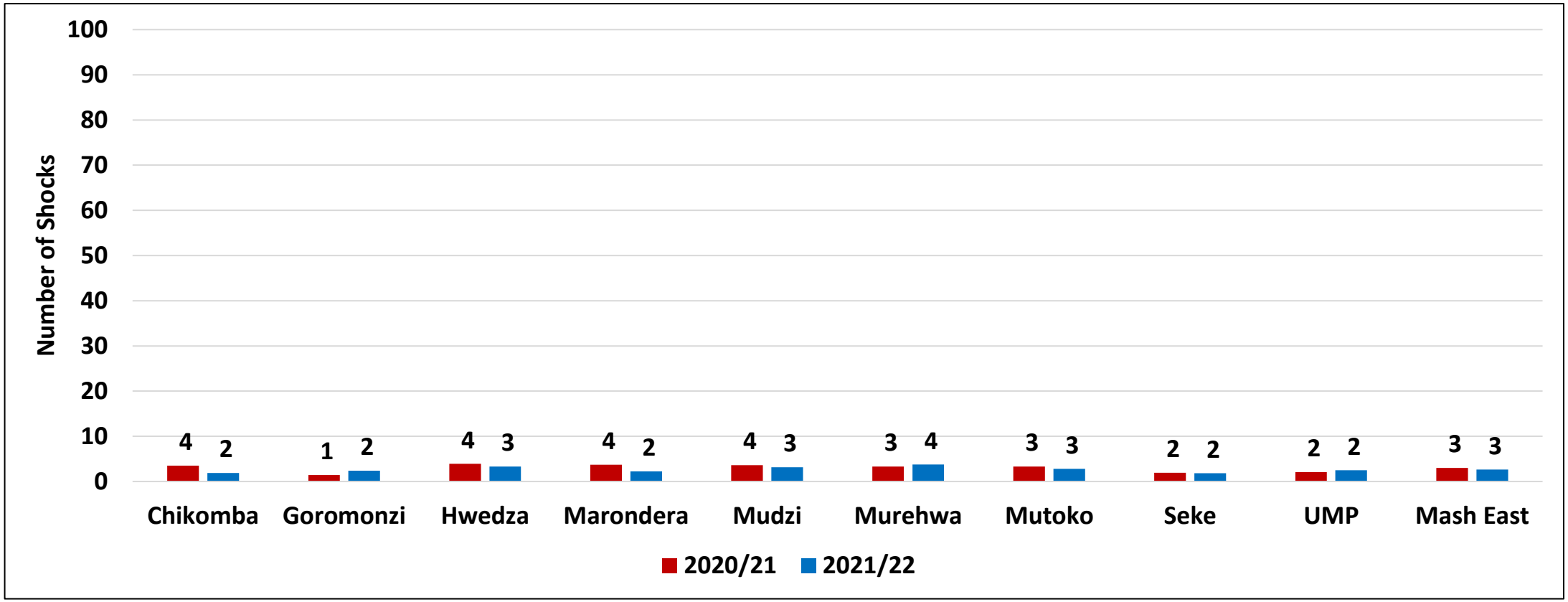
- The highest proportion of households which reported being charged more for mobile money/swipe as a shock was in Murewa (75%).

Households which Reported COVID-19 as a Shock



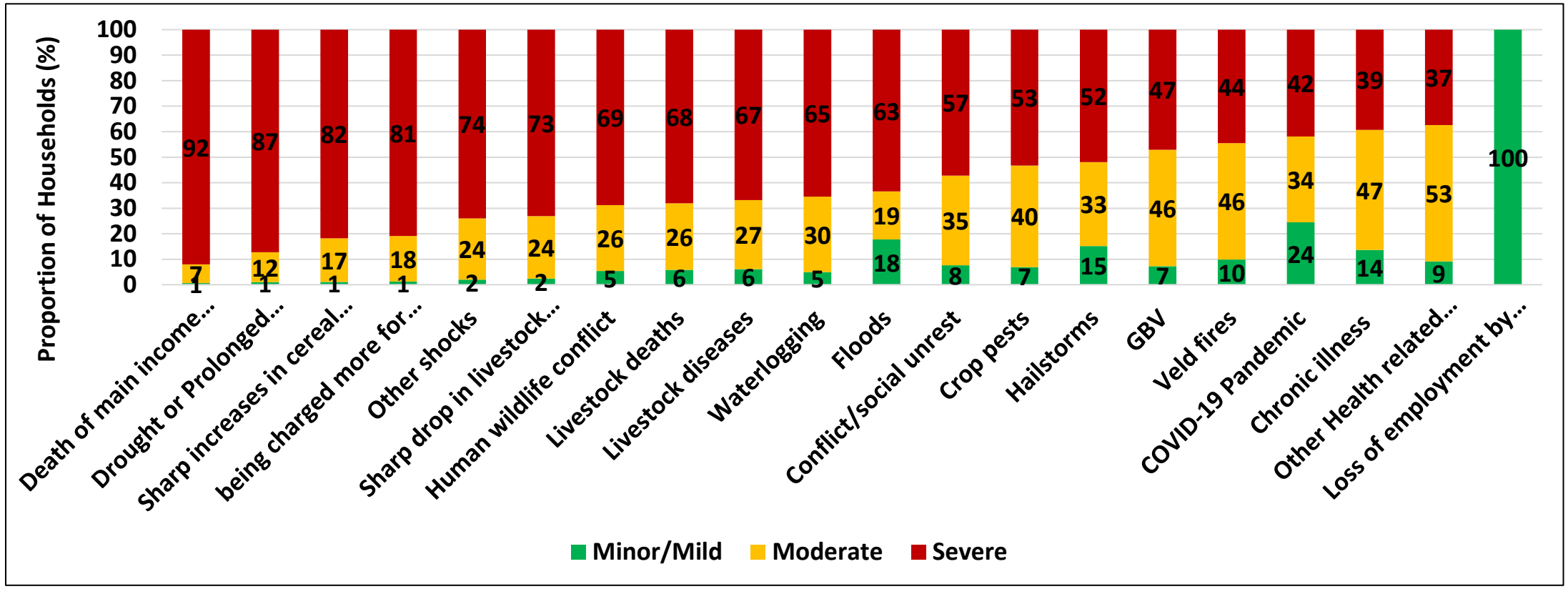
- Seke district (27%) had the highest proportion of households that cited COVID -19 as a shock.

Number of Shocks Experienced by Households



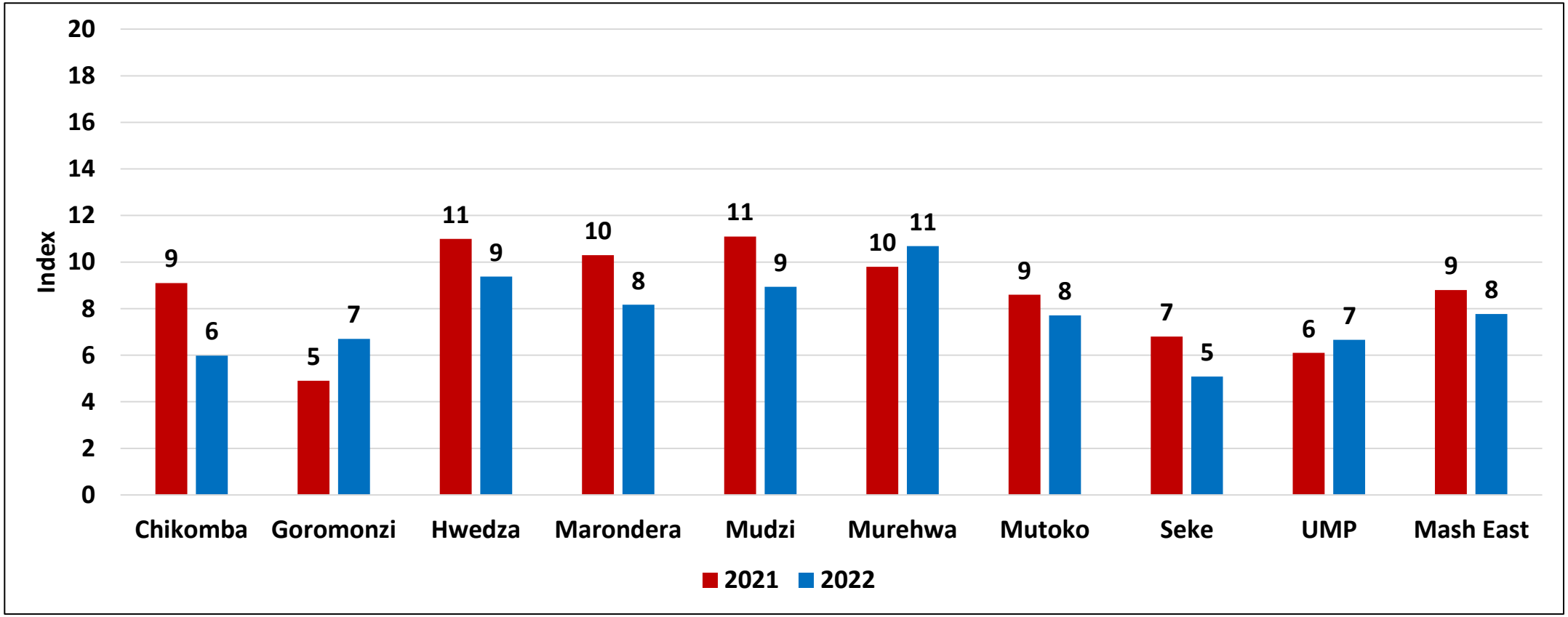
- Generally, the number of shocks that were experienced at provincial level remained almost the same as in the previous year.

Severity of Shocks/Stressors



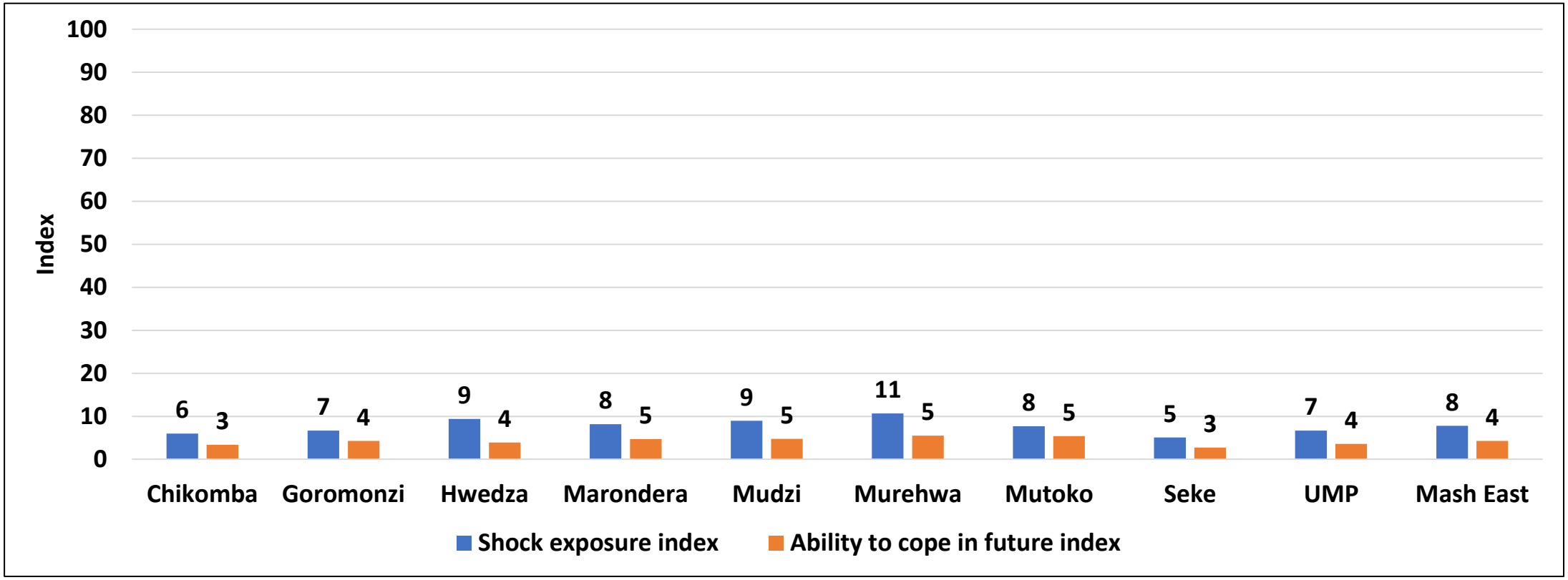
- Death of the main income earner (92%), drought and prolonged mid season dry spell (87%) and sharp increases in cereal prices (82%) were reported to have had severe impact on households.

Average Shock Exposure Index



- Shock exposure index was calculated by multiplying the number of shocks experienced with impact severity of the shock to the household.
- Shock exposure index decreased as compared to 2021.

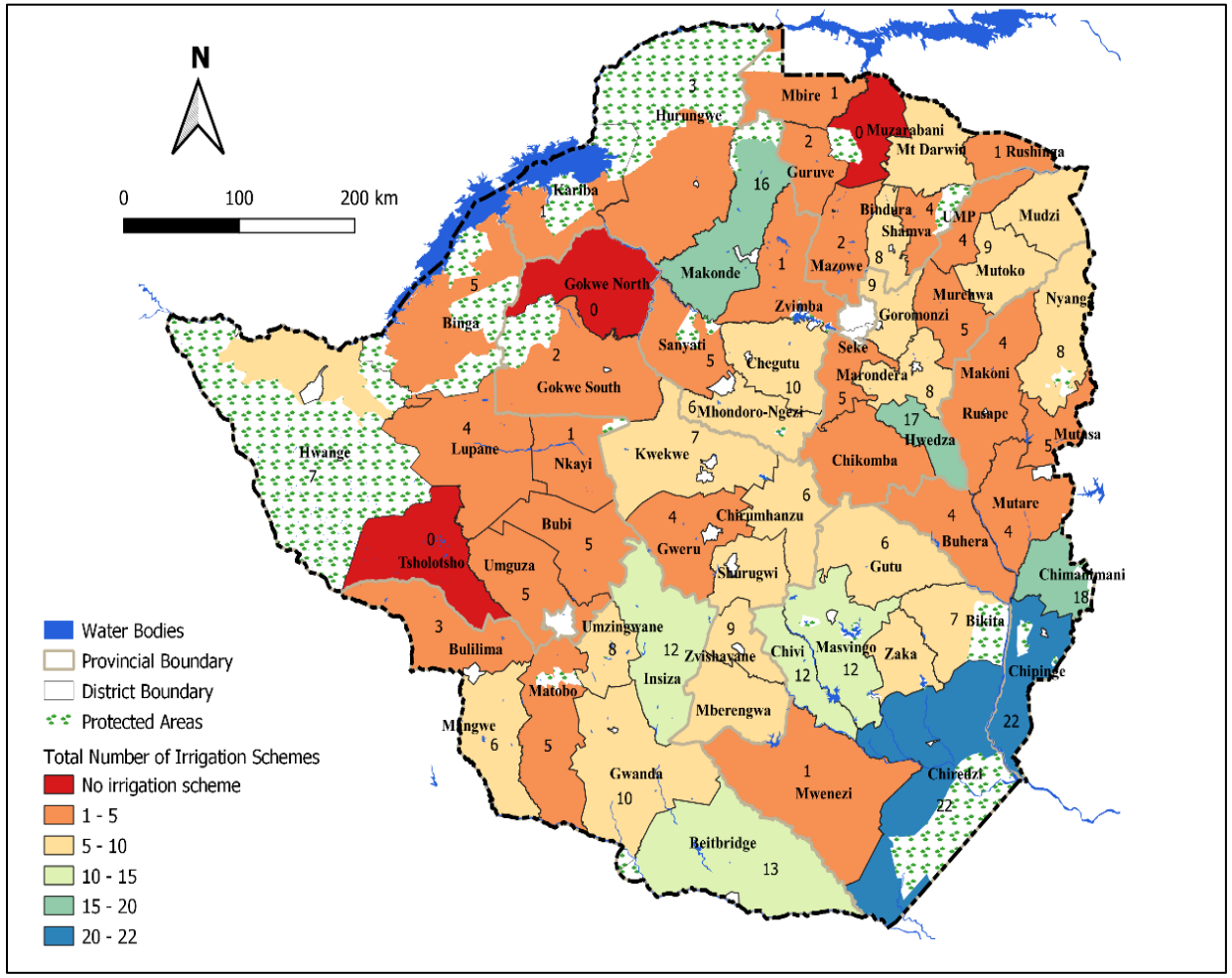
Comparison Between Shock Exposure and Ability to Cope Indices



- Shock exposure index (8) was higher than the ability to cope (4) meaning households were less able to cope on their own.

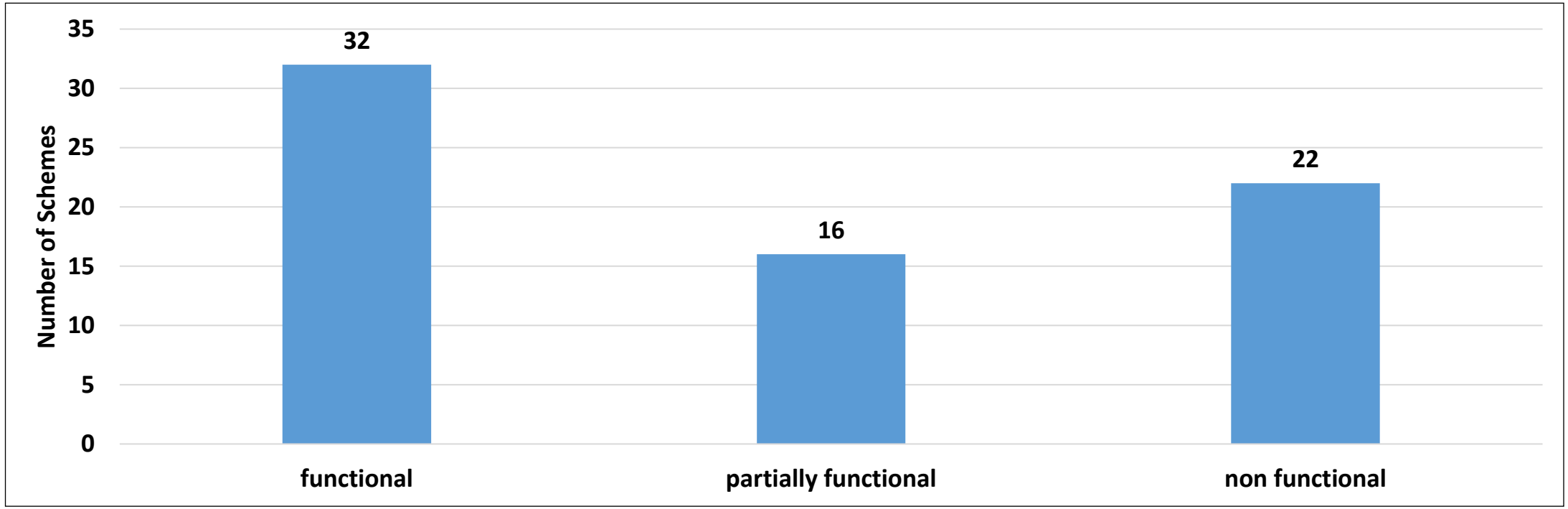
Irrigation Infrastructure

Functional Irrigation Schemes by District



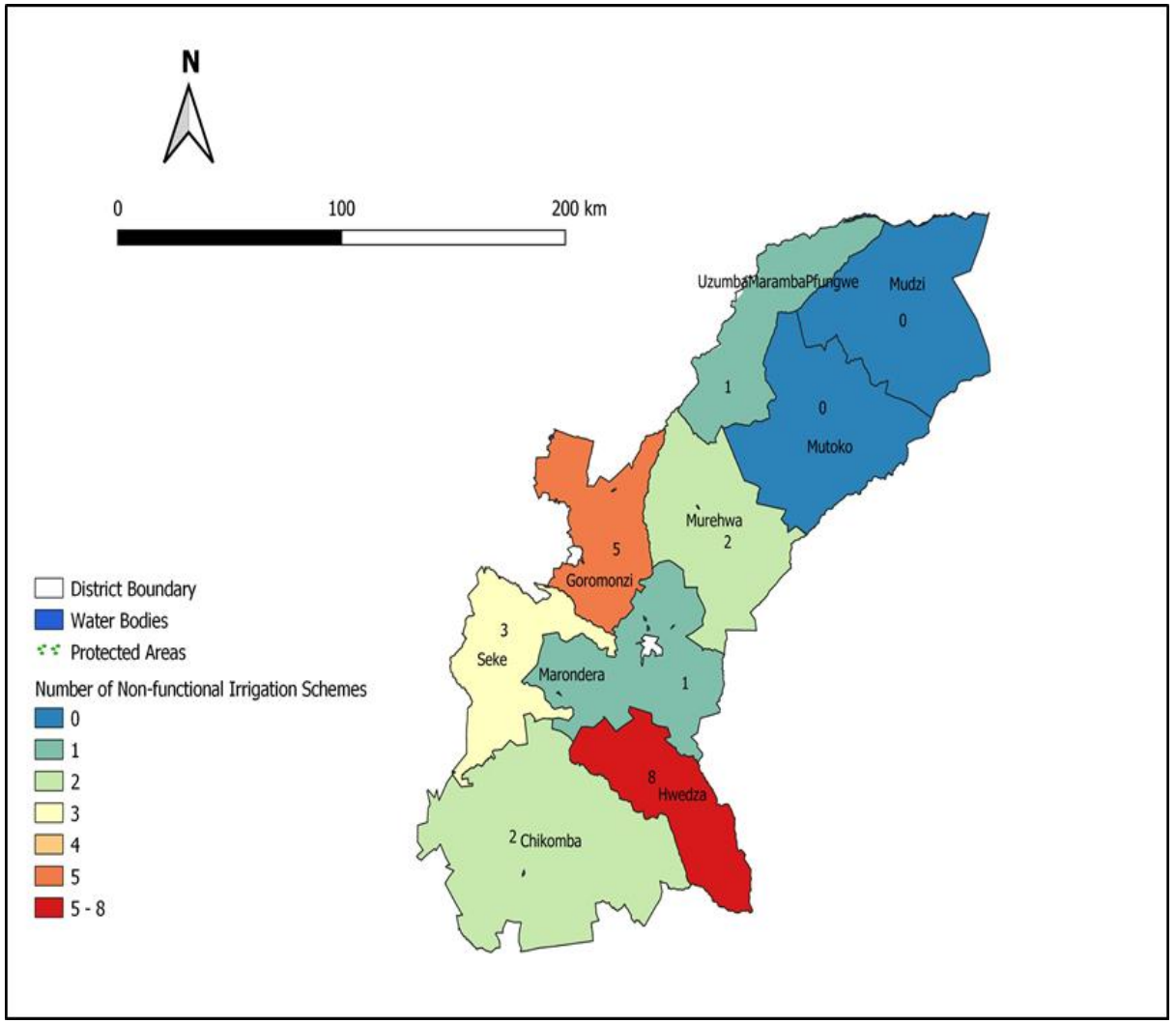
- The number of functional irrigation schemes across the districts ranged from 4 to 17, with UMP having the lowest (4) and Hwedza (17) having the highest.

Irrigation Scheme Functionality Status



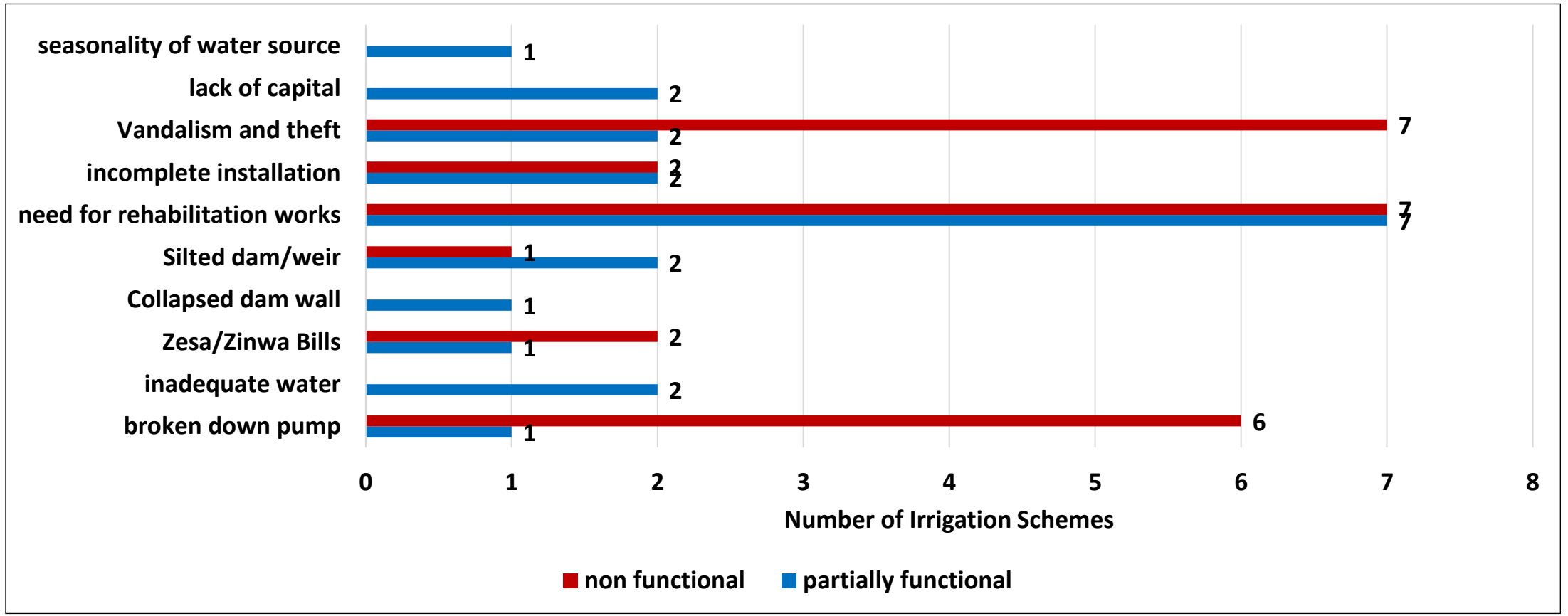
- Of the seventy irrigation schemes in the province, 32 were functional, 16 were partially functional and 22 were non functional.

Non-Functional Irrigation Schemes by District



- Hwedza (8) had the highest number of non-functional irrigation schemes.

Reasons for Non Functionality of Irrigation Schemes

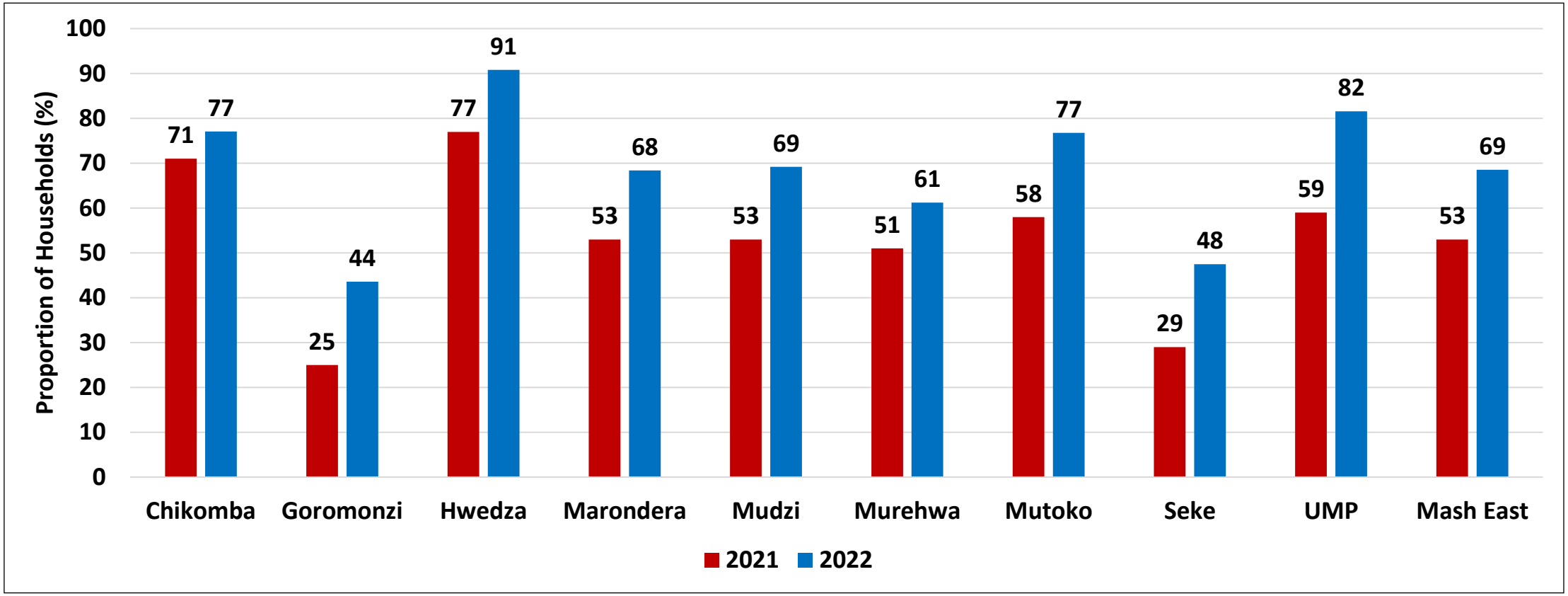


- Of the twenty two non-functional irrigation schemes, the main reasons for not functioning reported were need for rehabilitation works (7), vandalism (7) and broken down pumps (6).

Agriculture Production

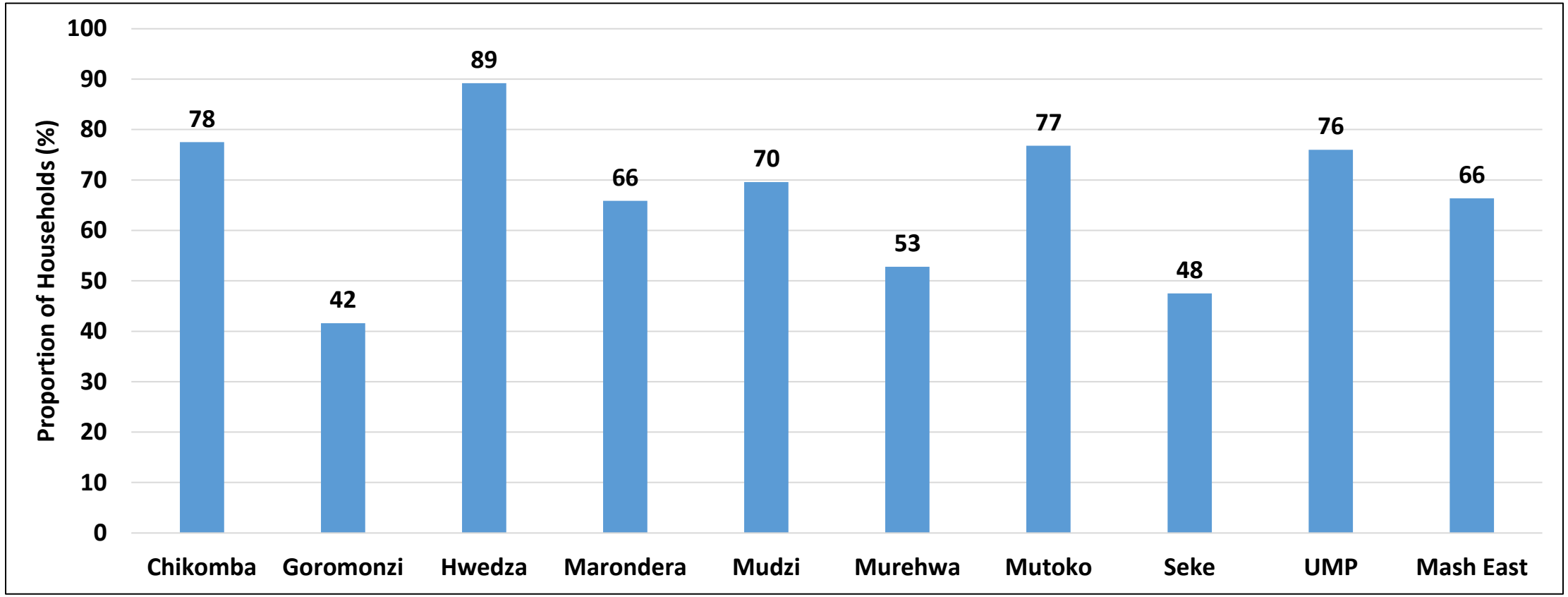
Access to Agriculture Services

Households that Received Any Agricultural Extension Services



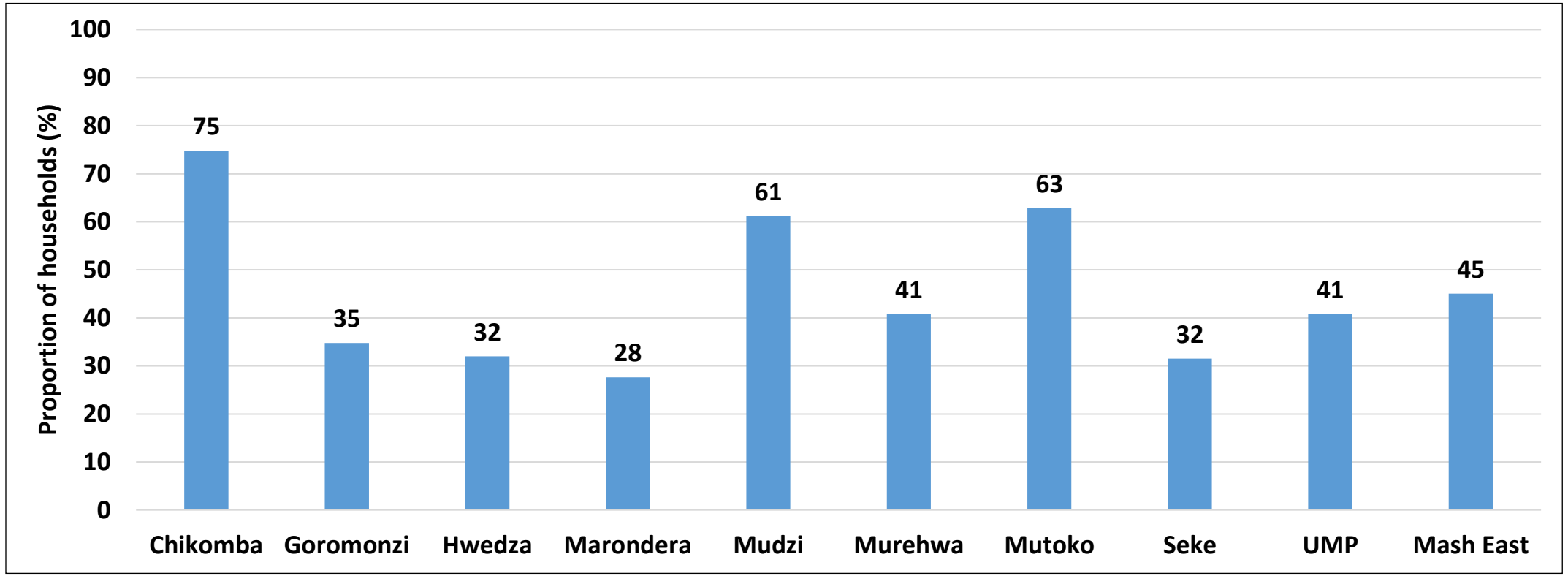
- At the provincial level, the proportion of households that received any agricultural extension services in 2022 increased to 69% when compared to 53% recorded in 2021.
- Hwedza (91%) had the highest proportion of households that received extension services.

Households which Received Agriculture Advice from Extension Officers



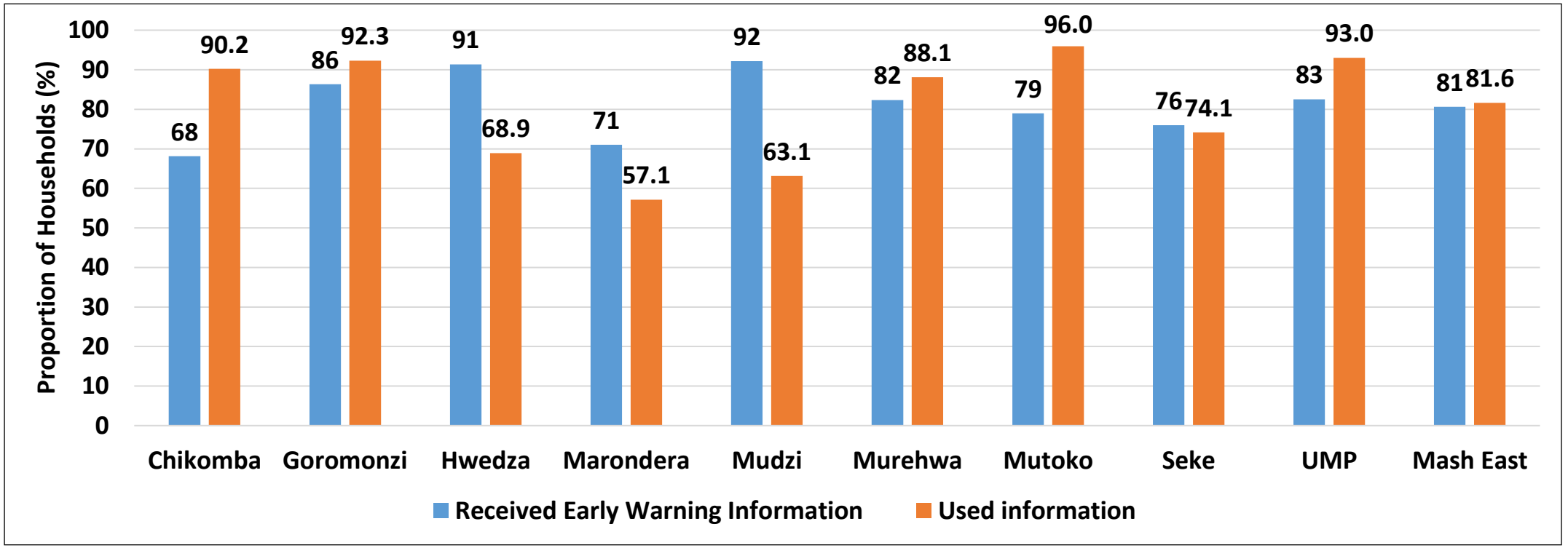
- The proportion of households which received agricultural advice from Extension Officers was greatest in Hwedza (89%) followed by Chikomba (78%) and Mutoko (77%) respectively.
- The lowest was recorded in Goromonzi (42%).

Households which Received Extension Support On Weather and Climate



- Provincially, 45% of the sampled households indicated that they had received extension support on weather and climate.

Households which Received Early Warning Information



- Mutoko (96%) had the highest proportion of households which used early warning information on weather, climate and season performance.

Agriculture Crop Production

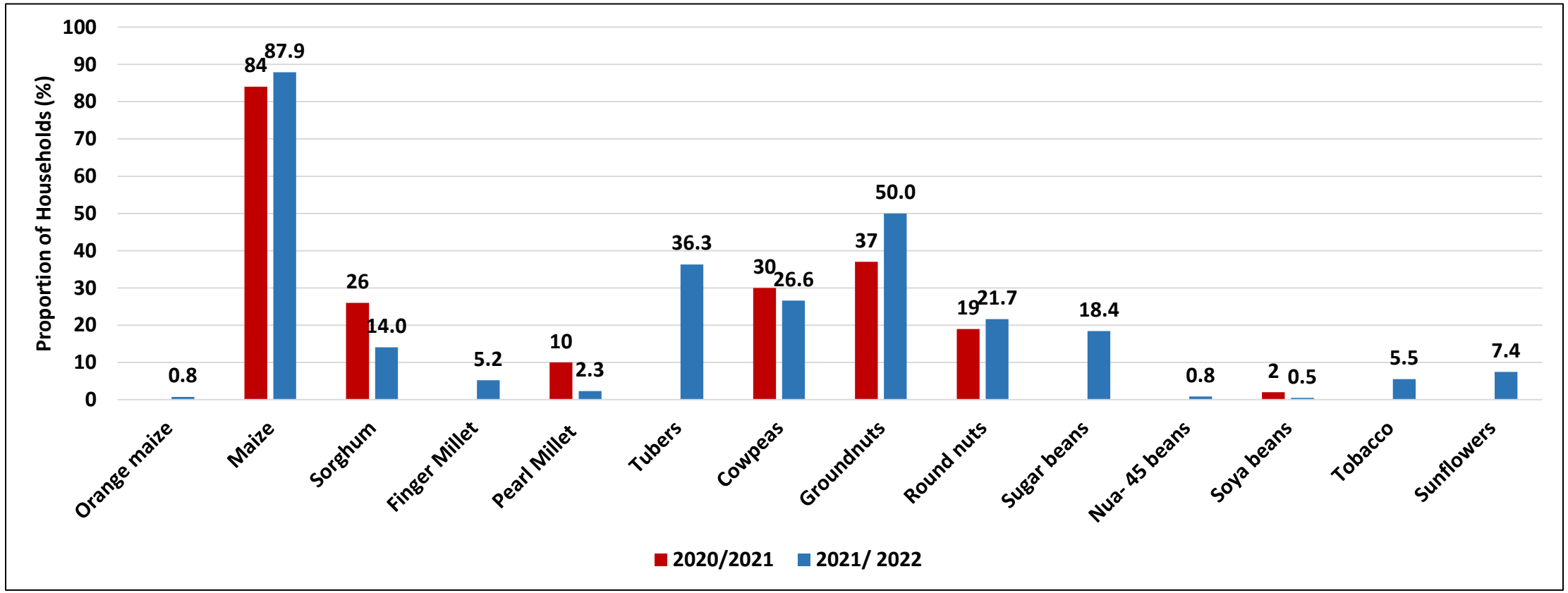
Area Under Crop Production

	2021/22			2020/21		
Cereal	**Area (Ha)**	**Yield/Ha**	**Production (Mt)**	**Area (Ha)**	**Yield/Ha**	**Production (Mt)**
Maize	190048	0.73	139169	219610	1.86	408880
Orange Maize	138	0.2	69	288	1.67	481
Sorghum	19528	0.46	9077	19459	0.75	14637
Pearl Millet	2616	0.33	850	2520	0.44	1105
Groundnut	57670	0.43	25012	45828	0.93	42639
Roundnuts	9515	0.32	3047	6957	0.61	4250
Sugar Beans	9377	0.53	4929	6383	1.04	6615
Biofortified Beans	177	0.6	88	207	0.43	89
SunFlower	6671	0.37	2435	5037	0.8	4018
Tobacco	16887	1.68	28034	26769	1.97	52175
Cotton	6189	0.17	1033	50329	0.76	38492
Soya Beans	2784	1.7	37115	14159	1.62	22917

Source (Crop and Livestock Assessment 2)

- Generally the area under production was lower as compared to the 2020/21 agricultural season.

Households which Planted Crops



- Maize remains the most commonly grown crop in the province, with 87.9% of the households having grown it followed by groundnuts (50%).
- There was a reduction in the proportion of households that grew the traditional grains (sorghum from 26% to 14% and pearl millet from 10% to 2.3%) compared to the 2020/2021 season.

Cereal Stocks as at 1 April 2022

District	Stocks of maize (kgs)	Stocks of sorghum (kgs)	Stocks of finger millets (kgs)	Stocks of pearl millets (kgs)	Stocks of wheat (kgs)	Total (kgs)
Chikomba	40.6	0.1	0.7			41.4
Goromonzi	53.3	0.2	0.4	0.1		54.0
Hwedza	59.4	2.9	0.8	0.1	0.4	63.5
Marondera	124.4	0.4	0.7		0.8	**126.3**
Mudzi	28.5	11.8				**40.3**
Murehwa	105.0	1.7	0.9	0.1	0.6	108.3
Mutoko	90.1	3.6	0.7	0.9	0.1	95.4
Seke	55.5	0.1	0.2			55.8
UMP	66.8	4.4	0.5	0.6	0.3	72.5
Mash East	69.4	2.8	0.5	0.2	0.3	**73.1**

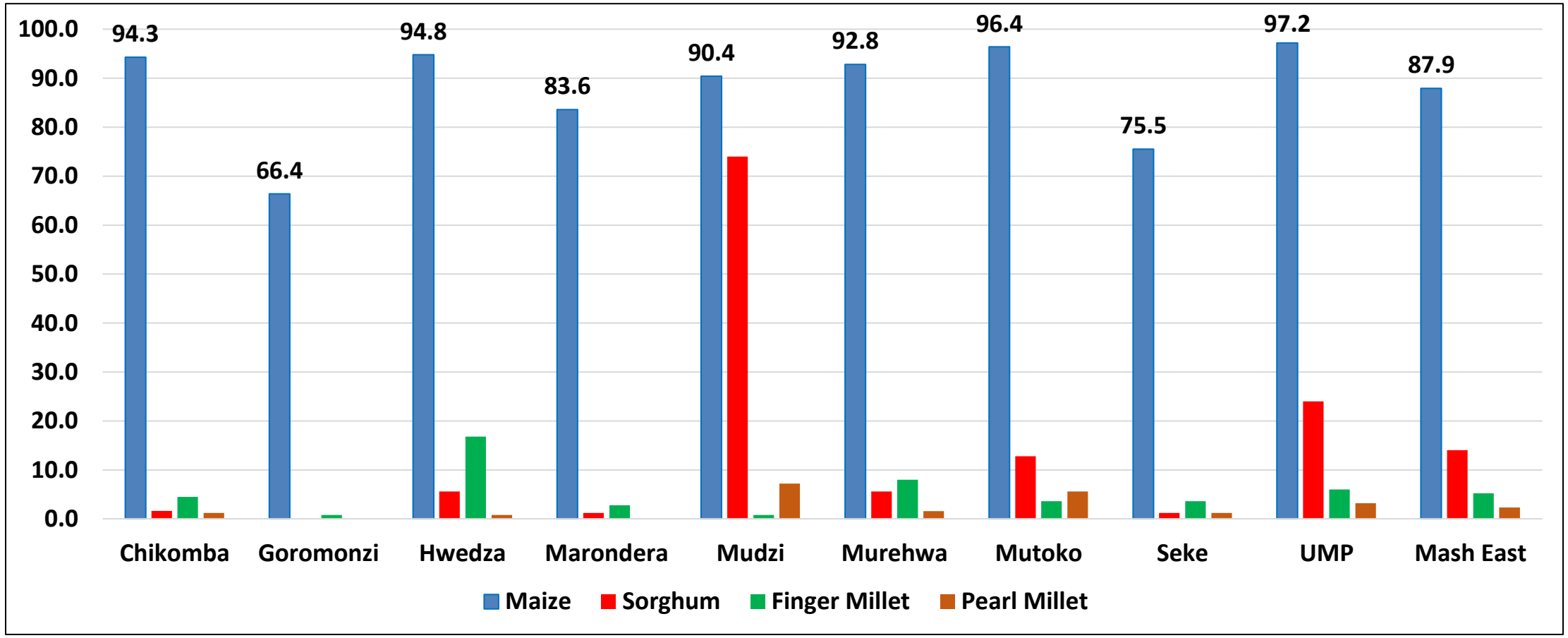
- The average household cereal stock as of 1 April 2022 was 73.1kgs.
- Marondera had the highest average stocks (126.3kgs) whilst Mudzi had the lowest (40.3kgs).

Cereals from Casual Labour and Remittances

District	Cereals from casual labour (kgs)	Cereals from remittances (kgs)
Chikomba	41.5	2.3
Goromonzi	54.6	2.1
Hwedza	**71.7**	13.3
Marondera	35.0	4.2
Mudzi	68.0	24.3
Murehwa	40.6	6.5
Mutoko	20.3	14.7
Seke	19.7	7.7
UMP	29.0	3.8
Mash East	**42.3**	**8.8**

- Households in the province had acquired on average 42.3kg of cereals from casual labour and 8.8kgs from remittances.
- Hwedza (71.7%) had the highest average cereals from casual labour.

Households that Grew Cereals



- Maize (87.9%) was the most commonly grown cereal across all districts in the province followed by sorghum (14%).
- The production of traditional grains remains low with sorghum at 14%, finger millet (5.2%), and pearl millet 2.3%.

Cereal Sufficiency

		Months of cereal supply				
	Household cereals (kgs)	0 to 3 months	4 to 6 months	7 to 9 months	9 to 11 months	12 and above
Chikomba	217.4	61.6	14.3	8.6	4.1	11.4
Goromonzi	189.2	68.8	14.0	5.2	2.4	9.6
Hwedza	114.1	74.4	14.0	5.2	1.2	5.2
Marondera	439.8	41.2	14.8	12.4	5.2	26.4
Mudzi	129.7	71.2	18.4	5.2	2.0	3.2
Murehwa	468.3	34.0	16.8	12.8	4.8	31.6
Mutoko	228.2	54.8	21.6	9.2	4.0	10.4
Seke	219.3	63.1	16.1	9.2	0.8	10.8
UMP	201.0	45.2	28.8	15.2	2.4	8.4
Mashonaland East	245.3	57.1	17.6	9.2	3.0	13.0

- The proportion of households that have sufficient cereal to cover 12 months was only 13% .

Average Household Cereal Production

District	Harvested orange maize (kgs)	Harvested maize (kgs)	Harvested sorghum (kgs)	Harvested finger millet (kgs)	Harvested pearl millet (kgs)	Total (kgs)
Chikomba	0.6	215.8		1.4	0.2	218.0
Goromonzi	2.0	187.8		1.4		191.2
Hwedza	3.2	100.9	8.9	3.4	0.9	**117.3**
Marondera	1.1	439.1	0.1	0.6		440.9
Mudzi	0.5	70.0	55.3	0.3	4.0	130.2
Murehwa	3.5	461.0	1.8	5.2	0.4	**471.8**
Mutoko	2.0	212.0	11.1	2.2	3.0	230.2
Seke		216.2	1.3	1.0	0.9	219.3
UMP	1.6	169.4	24.8	5.5	1.3	202.6
Mash East	1.6	**230.3**	**11.5**	2.3	1.2	**246.9**

- The provincial average household cereal (maize and traditional grains) production was 246.9kgs.
- Maize (230.3kgs) followed by sorghum (11.5kgs) had the highest harvest.
- The highest cereal production was reported in Murewa (471.8kgs) and the lowest was in Hwedza (117.3kg).

Structures Used to Store Grain

District	Ordinary room (%)	Traditional granary (%)	Ordinary granary (%)	Improved granary (%)	Bin/drum (%)	Crib (%)	Hermetic bags (%)
Chikomba	73	7	9	11			
Goromonzi	87	6	3	2	2		
Hwedza	84	13	1	3			
Marondera	72	20	1	3			4
Mudzi	98	1				1	
Murehwa	90	6	1		1		
Mutoko	95	3				2	1
Seke	90	3	4			2	
UMP	95	4					
Mash East	89	6	2	2		1	0

- The most common structures used to store grain at the household level were ordinary rooms (89%) followed by traditional granaries (6%).
- Of concern was the low usage of improved granaries (2%) and hermetic bags which are recommended methods that reduce post-harvest losses.

Climate Smart Agriculture

Households Practising Climate Smart Agriculture

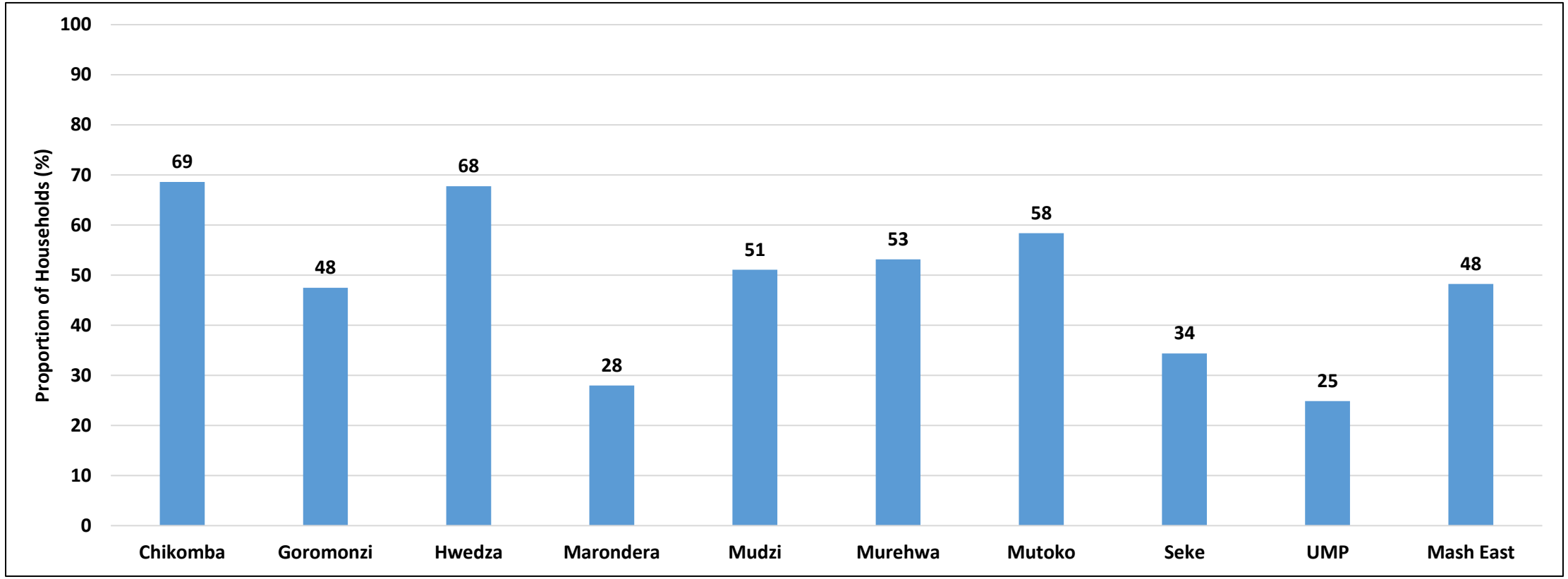
District	Crop rotation (%)	Intercropping (%)	Mulching (%)	Adapted, suitable Improved Varieties (%)	Integrated Pest Management (%)	Compost/Organic fertilizer (%)	Community Seed Banks (%)	Quality Certified Seeds (%)	Growing traditional grains(%)
Chikomba	17	3	18	8	1	16	3	23	3
Goromonzi	7	2	5	13	2	5	1	11	2
Hwedza	8	7	13	4	1	18	5	36	3
Marondera	10	3	25	5	1	7	1	32	1
Mudzi	15	5	16	9	3	8	1	9	21
Murewa	17	10	14	4	5	21	1	18	2
Mutoko	2	2	3	15	1	3	0	58	9
Seke	1	1	1	15	0	2	2	40	1
UMP	10	4	1	8	3	3	0	26	13
Mash East	**11**	5	**12**	8	2	11	2	**26**	7

- The proportion of households that practised climate-smart agriculture was generally low across all the districts.
- Only 26% of the households used quality certified seeds, 12% practised mulching and crop rotation (11%).

Livestock

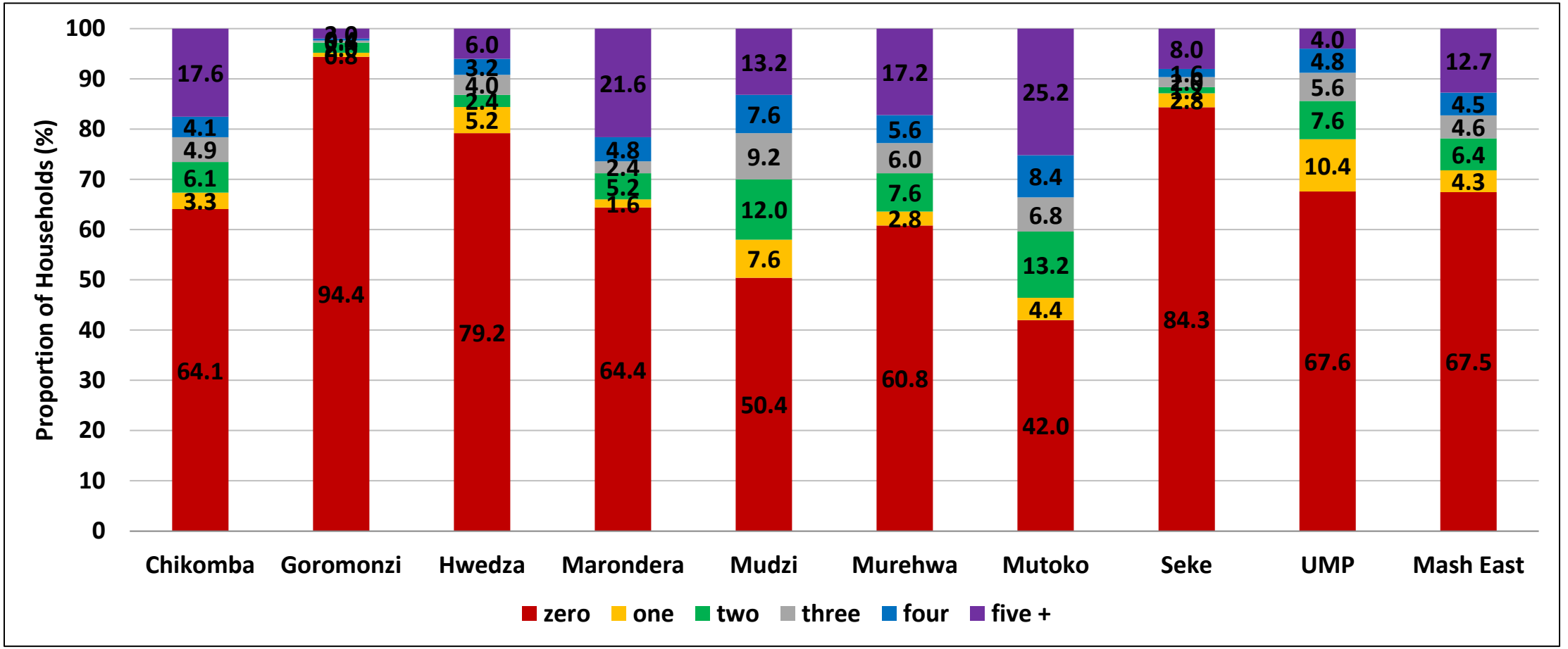


Access to Animal Health Centres



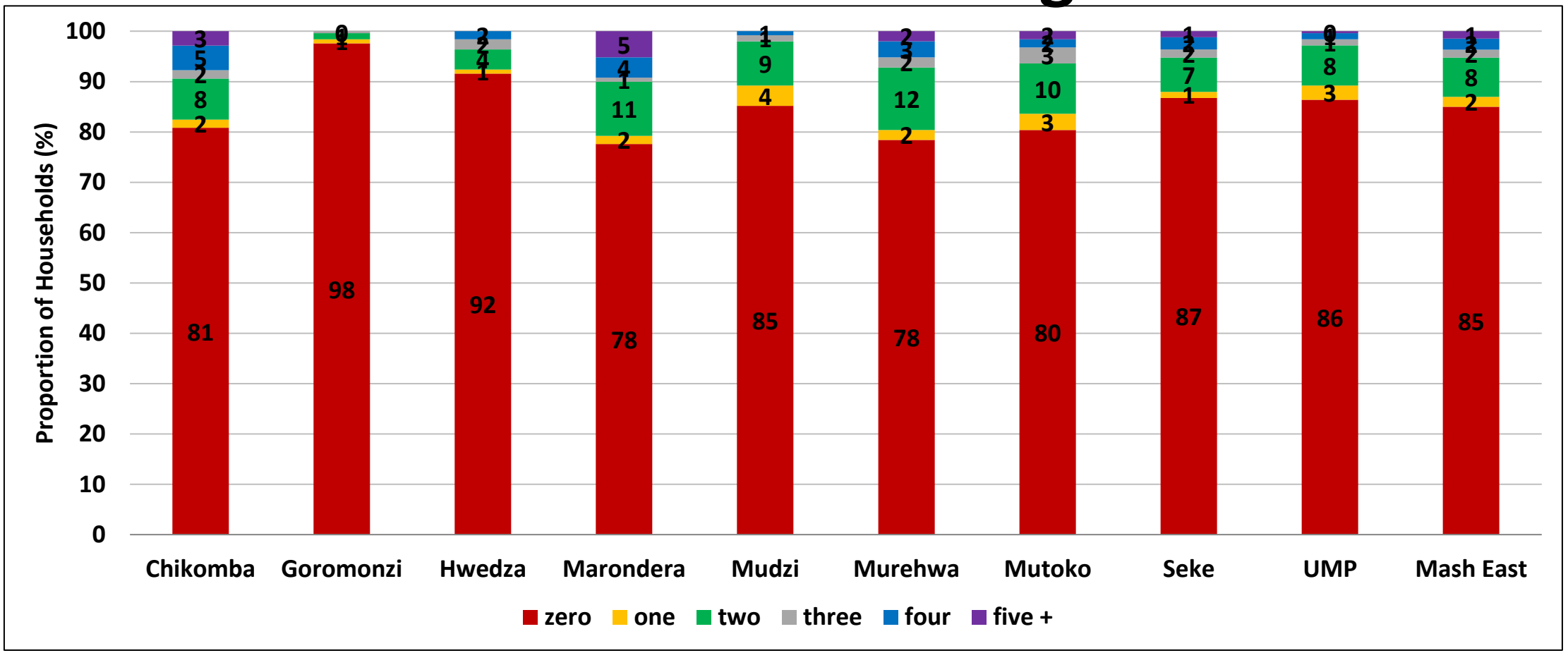
- At least 48% of the sampled households in the province had access to animal health centres.

Households which Owned Cattle



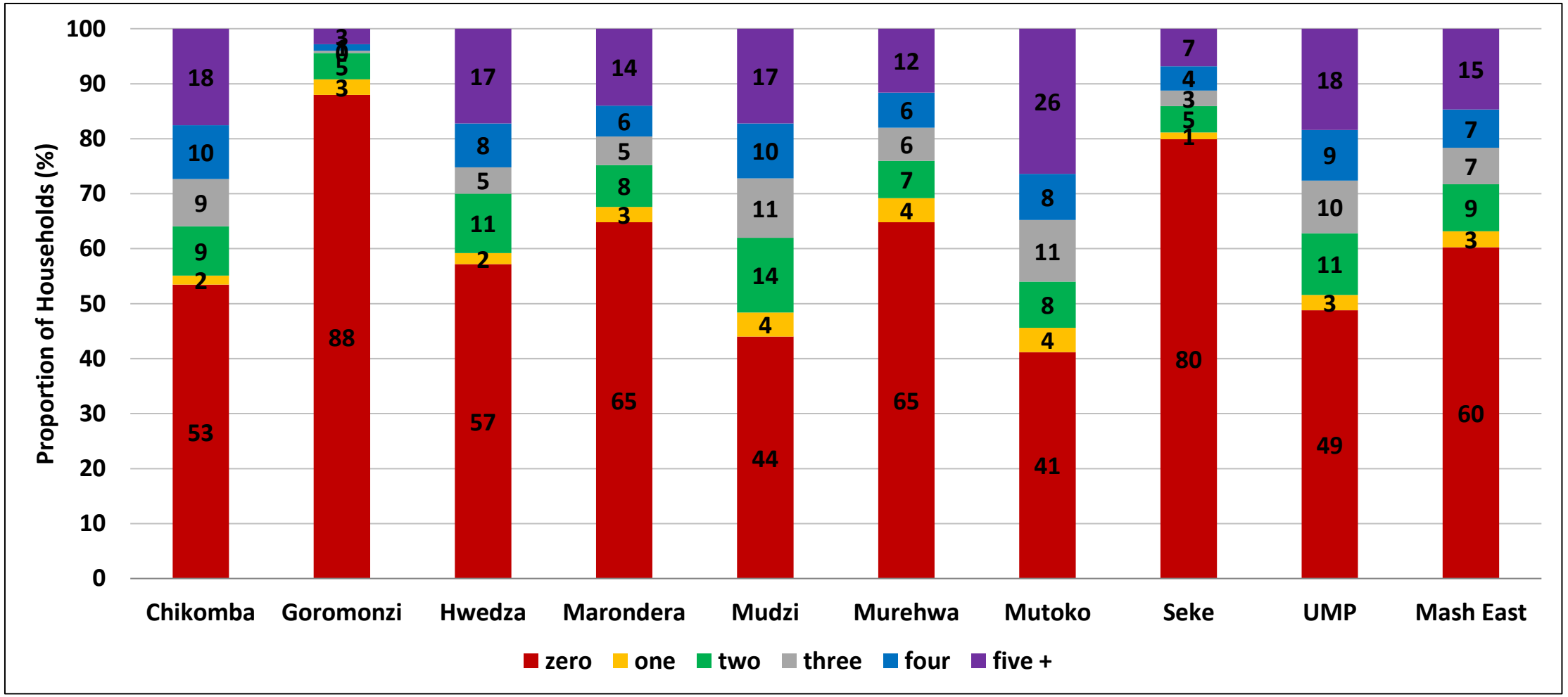
- The proportion of households which did not own cattle in the province was high at 67.5%.
- Only 12.7% of the households had more than 5 head of cattle per household.
- Goromonzi (94.4%) had the highest proportion of households which did not own cattle followed by Seke (84.3%).

Households Which Owned Draught Power



- The proportion of households which did not own draught power in the province was high at 85%.
- Goromonzi (98%) had the highest proportion of households which did not own draught followed by Hwedza (92%) .

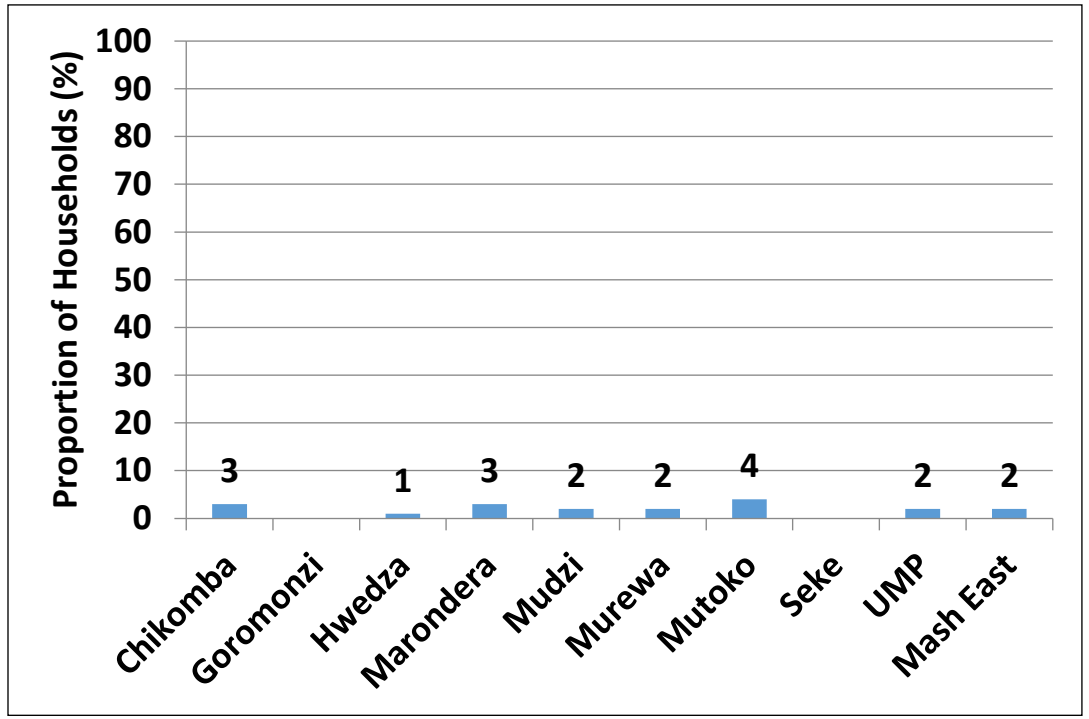
Households which Owned Goats



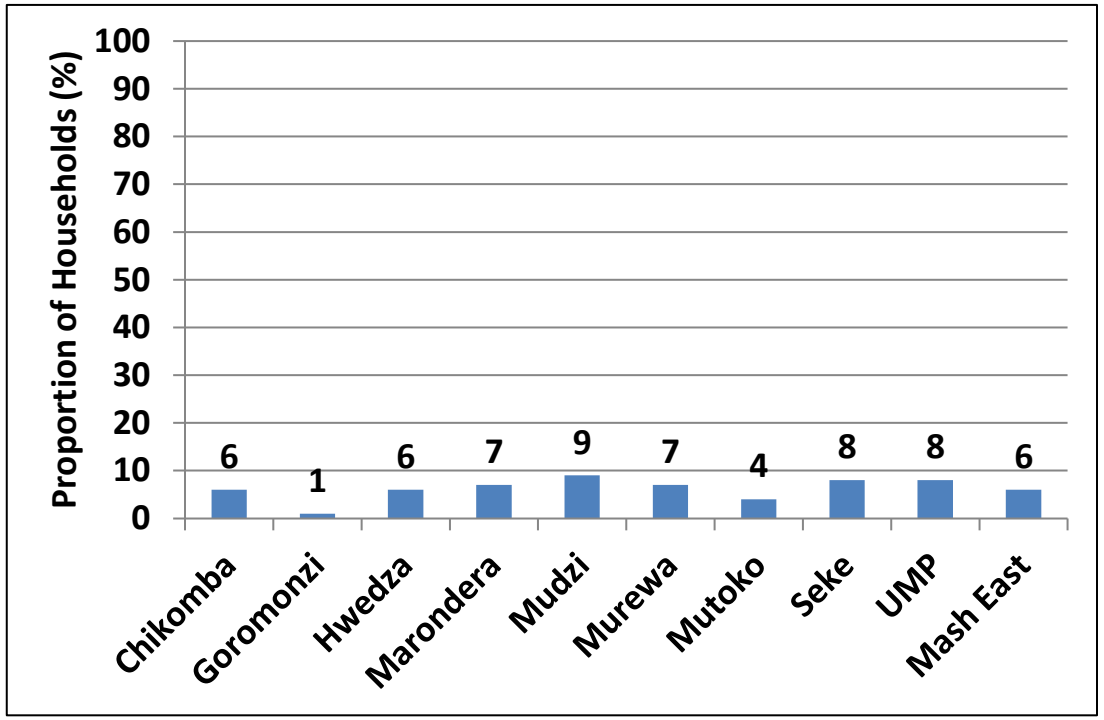
- The proportion of households which did not own goats in the province was 60%.
- Goromonzi (88%) and Seke (80%) had the highest proportion of households which did not own goats.
- Mutoko (59%) and Mudzi (56%) had the highest proportion of households which owned goats.

Livestock Vaccinations

Routine vaccinations by Para Vet

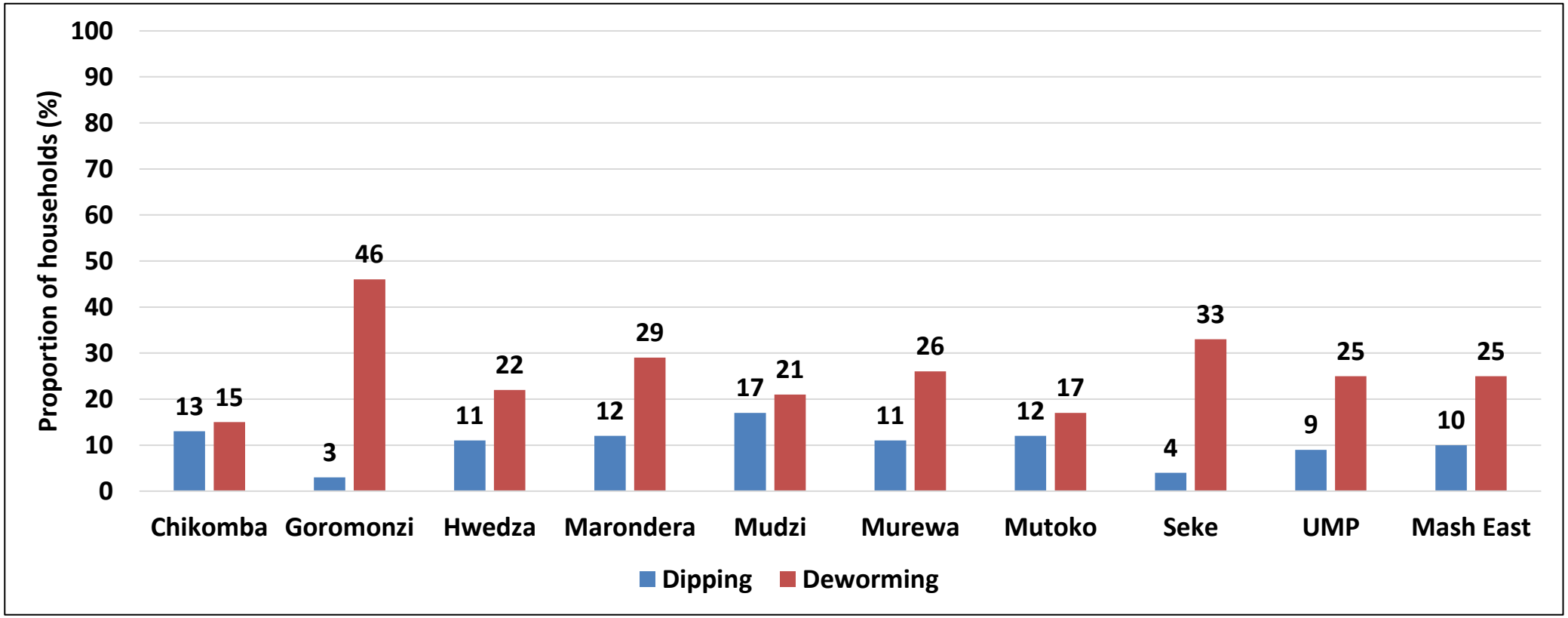


Home Vaccinations



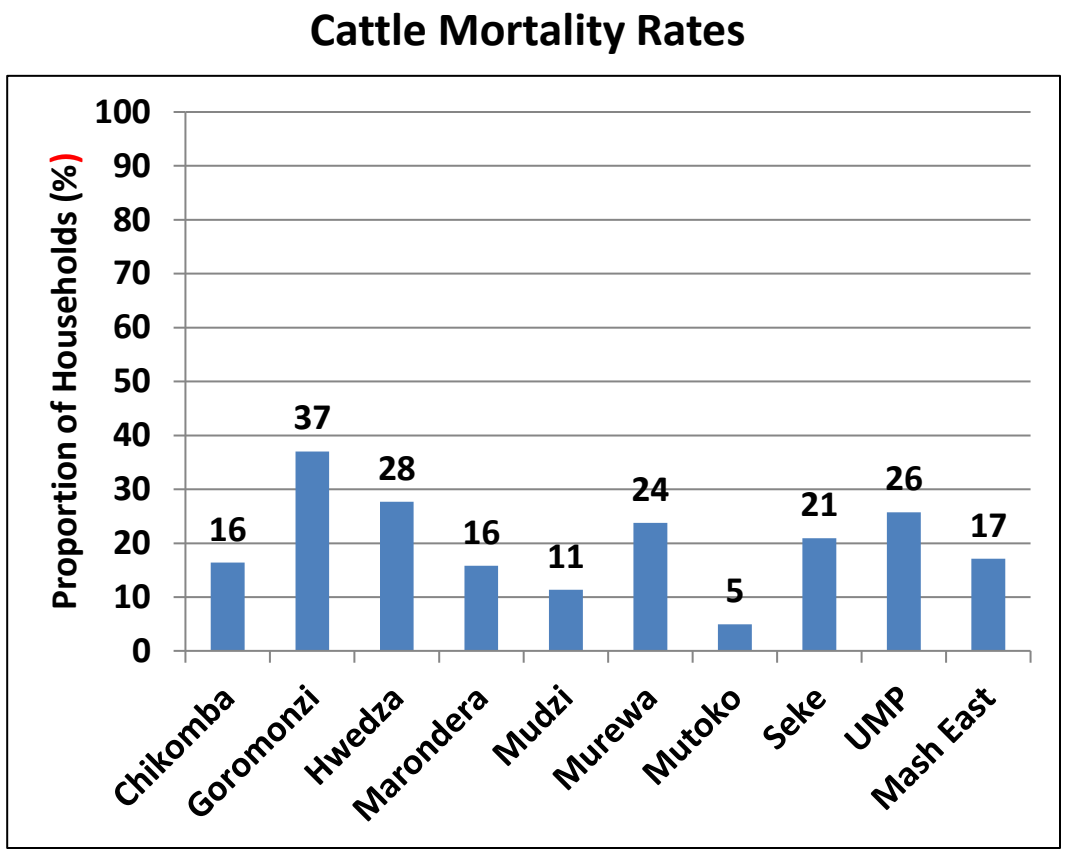
- In Mashonaland East, only 2% of the households indicated that they had used vaccinations carried out by a Para vet.
- On the other hand, 6% of the households indicated that they used home vaccinations.

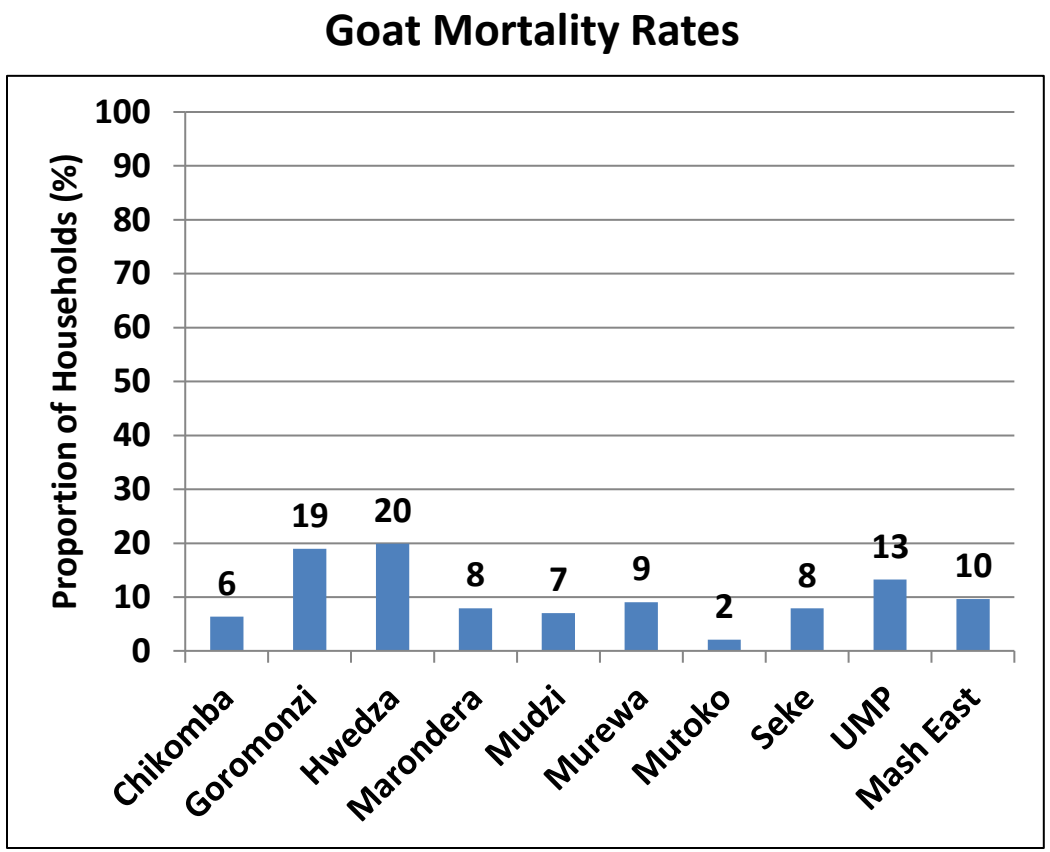
Livestock Deworming and Dipping



- About 25% of the households in the province indicated that they had dewormed their livestock. Goromonzi (46%) had the highest proportion of households deworming their livestock.
- The proportion of households that had dipped their livestock in the province was 10%.

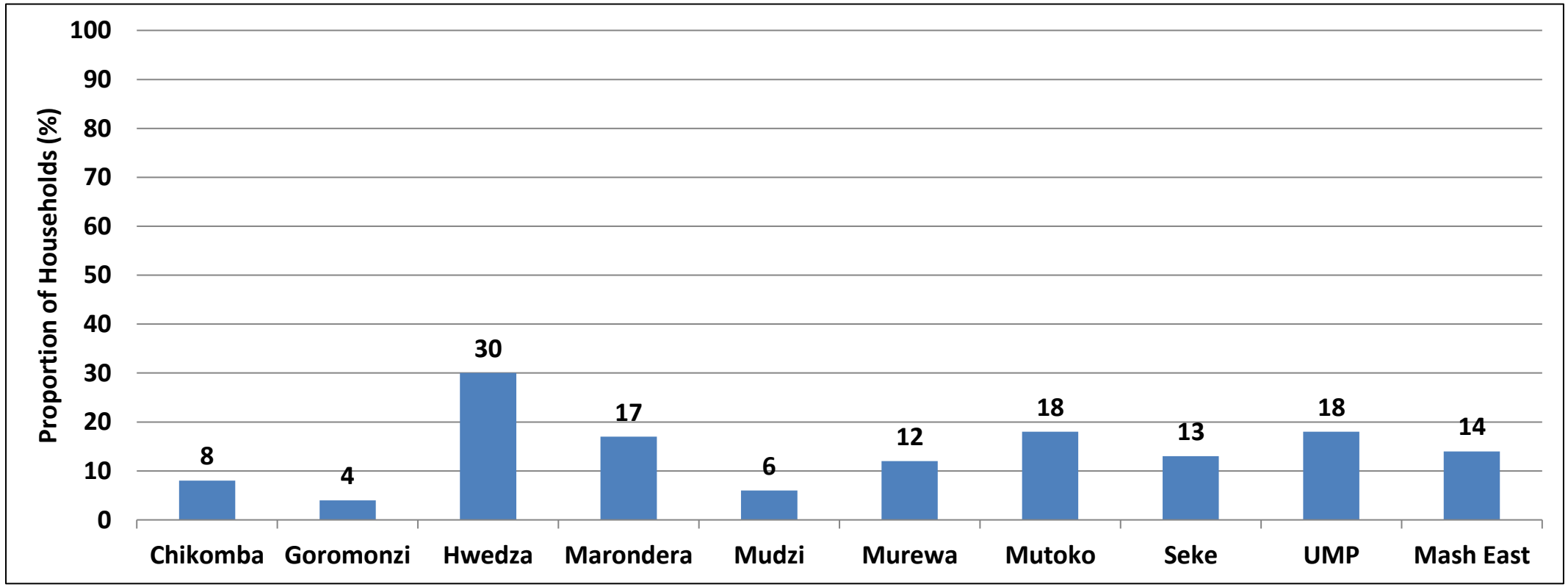
Livestock Mortality Rates





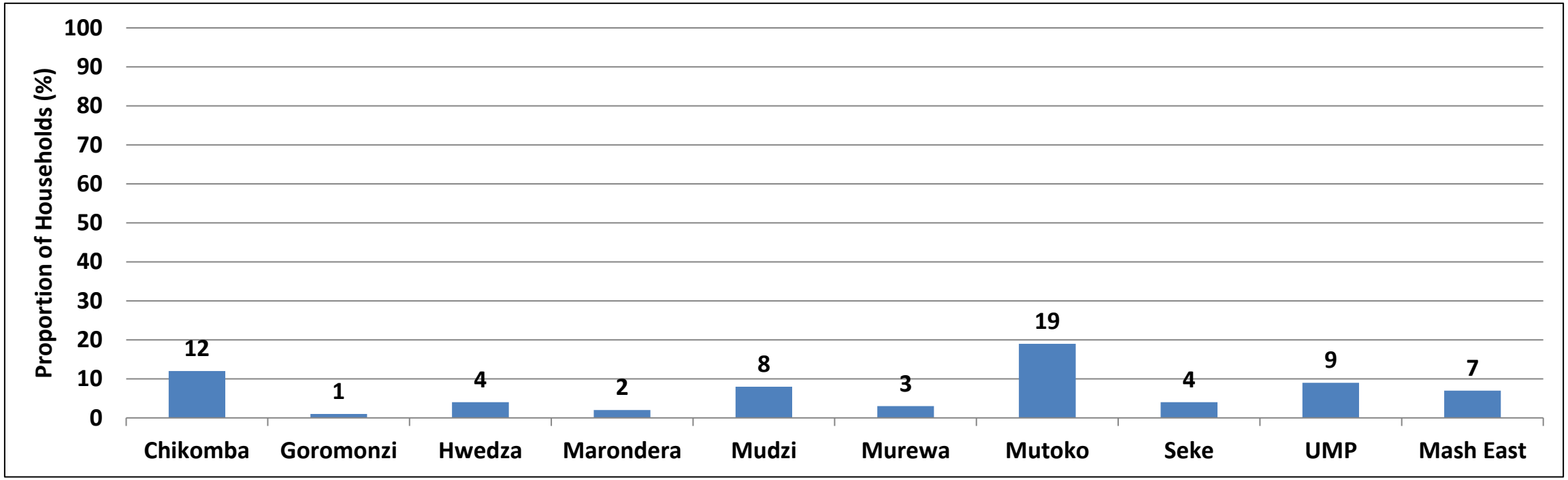
- The provincial cattle mortality rate was 17% whilst for the goat mortality rate was 10%.
- Goromonzi (37%) and Hwedza (28%) had the highest cattle mortality rates while Mutoko (5%) had the lowest.

Improved Livestock Breeds



- Only 14% of the households indicated that they were using improved livestock breeds.
- Hwedza (30%) had the highest proportion of households using improved livestock breeds while Goromonzi (4%) had the lowest.

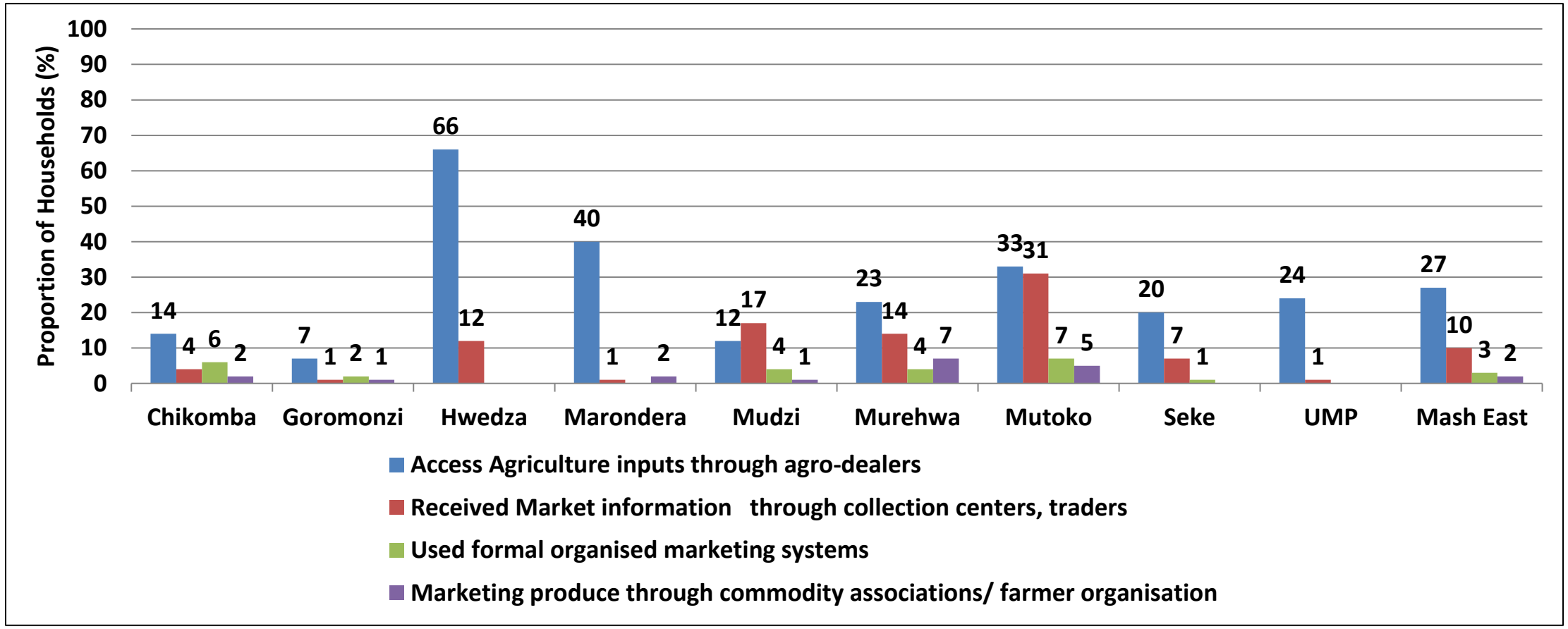
Improved Livestock Shelters



- The proportion of households using improved shelter for livestock was at 7%.
- Mutoko (19%) had the highest proportion of households using improved livestock shelter while Goromonzi (1%) had the lowest.

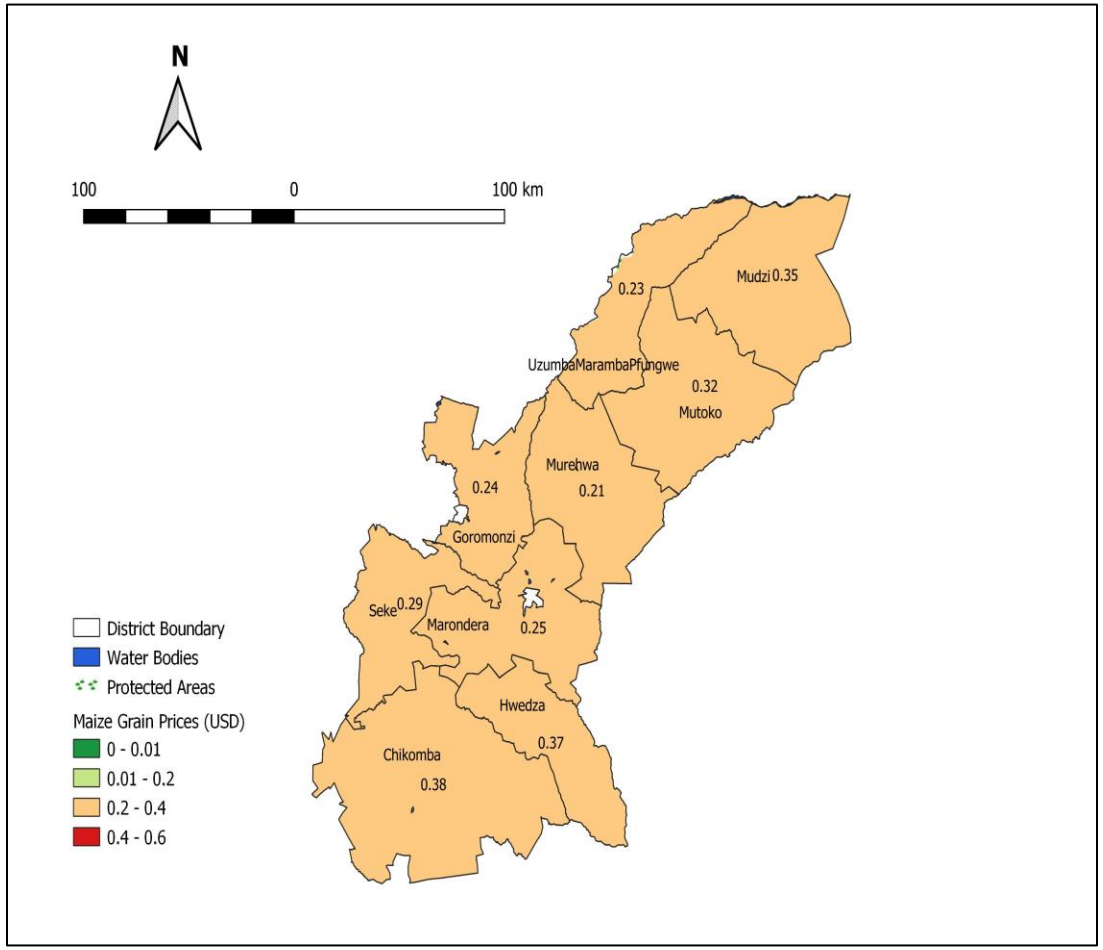
Agriculture Produce Markets

Agricultural Produce Markets



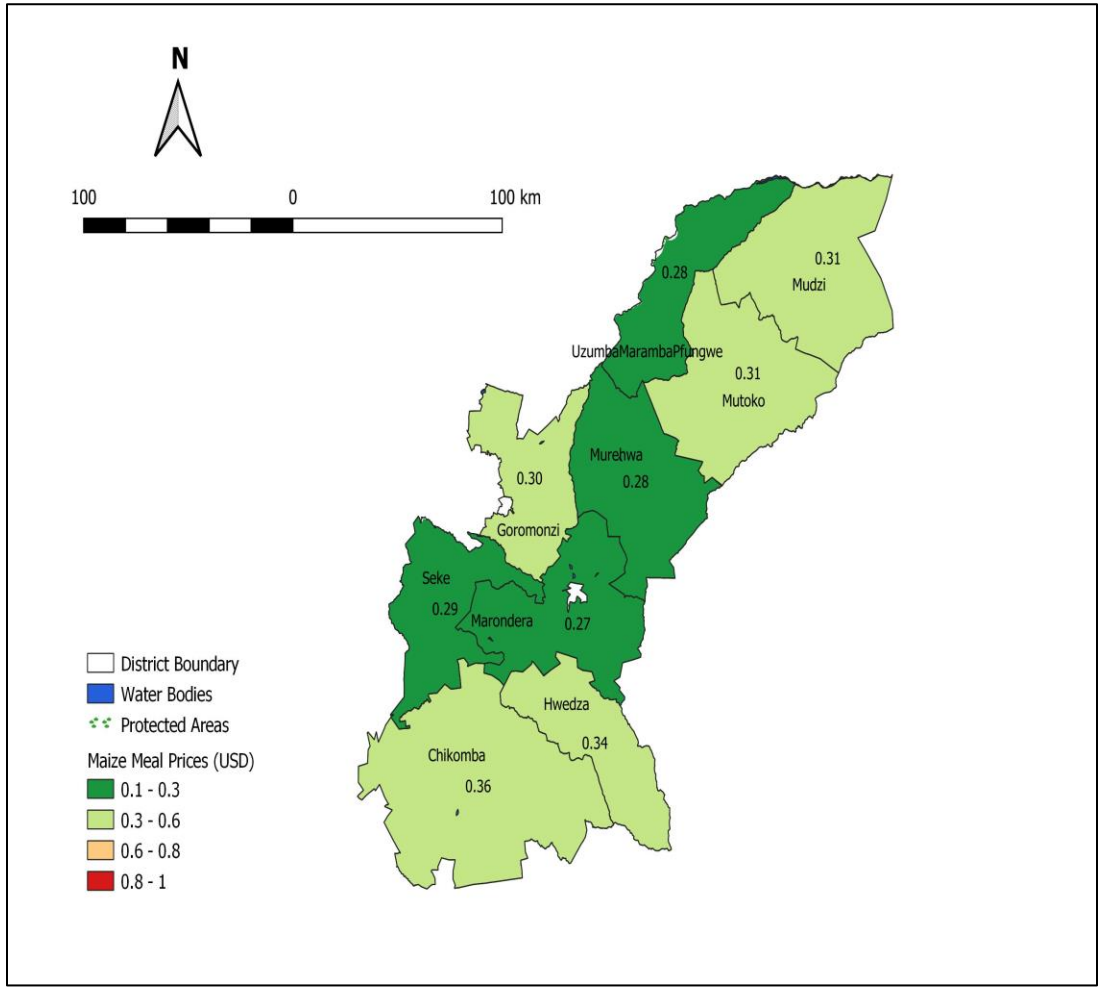
- About 27% of the households in the province accessed their agriculture inputs through the agro-dealers.
- The proportion of households that received market information through the collection centres was 10%.

Maize Grain Prices (USD)



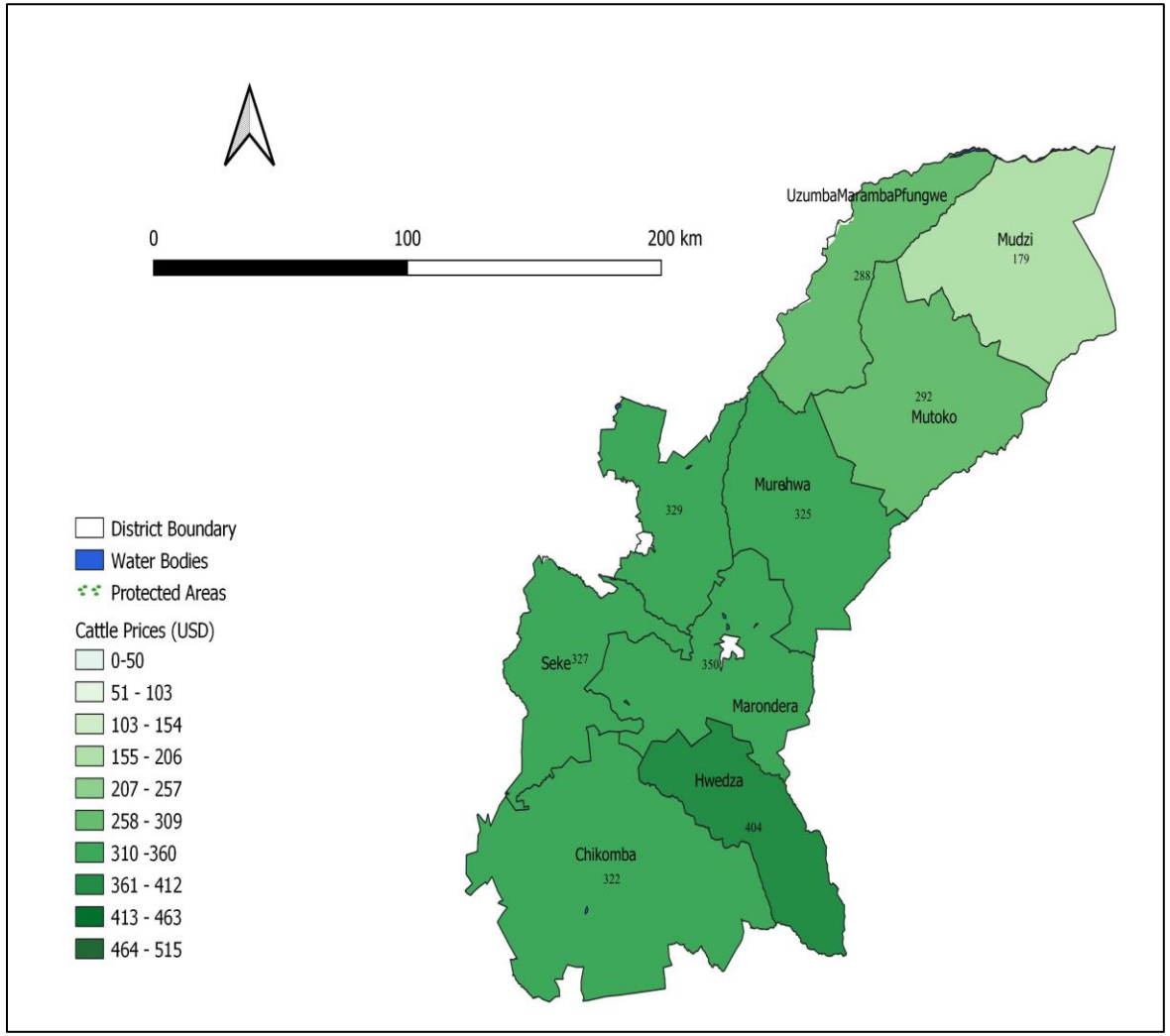
- All the districts in the province had maize grain prices ranging from USD0.21-USD0.38 per kg.

Maize Meal Prices (USD)



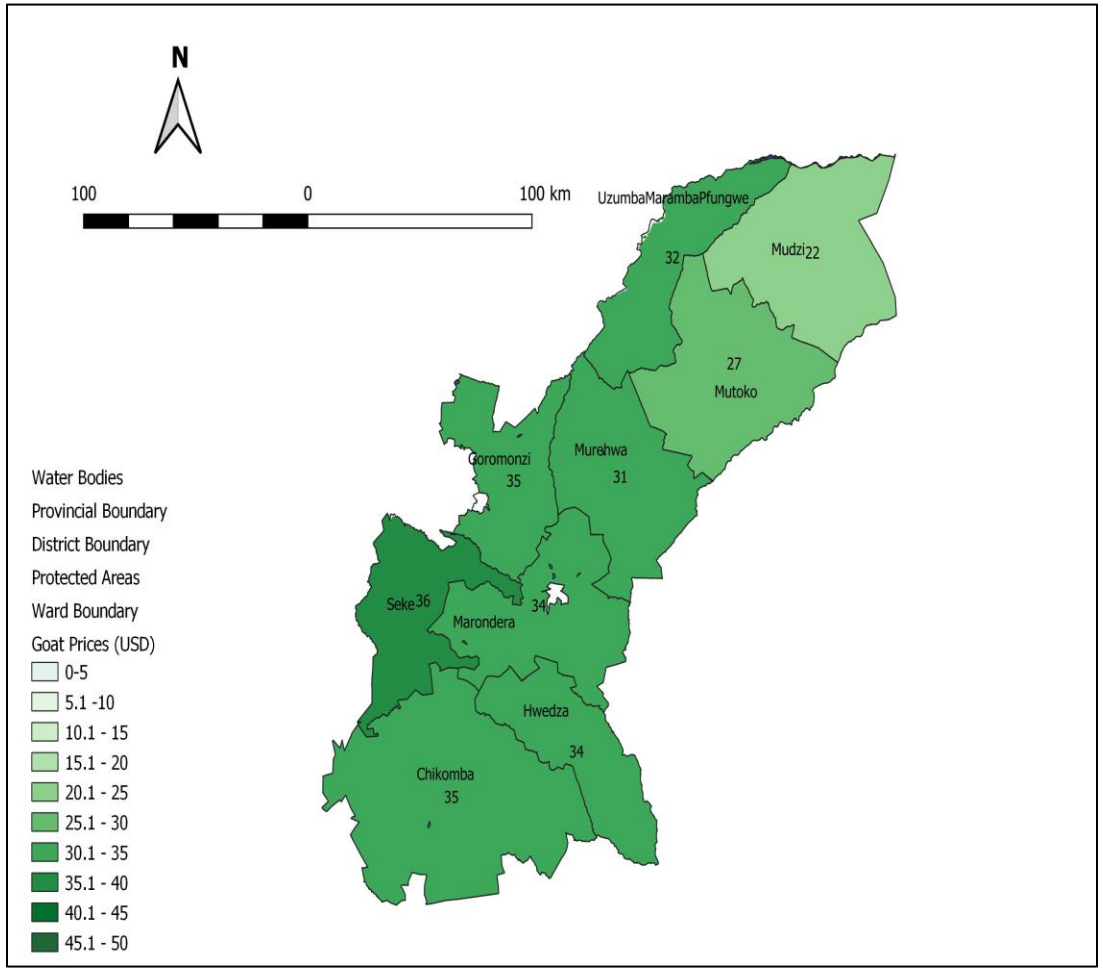
- Hwedza, Mudzi, Mutoko, Goromonzi and Chikomba districts had average maize meal prices above USD0.30 per kg.

Cattle Prices (USD)



- Mudzi (USD179) and UMP (USD 288) had the lowest cattle prices in the province.

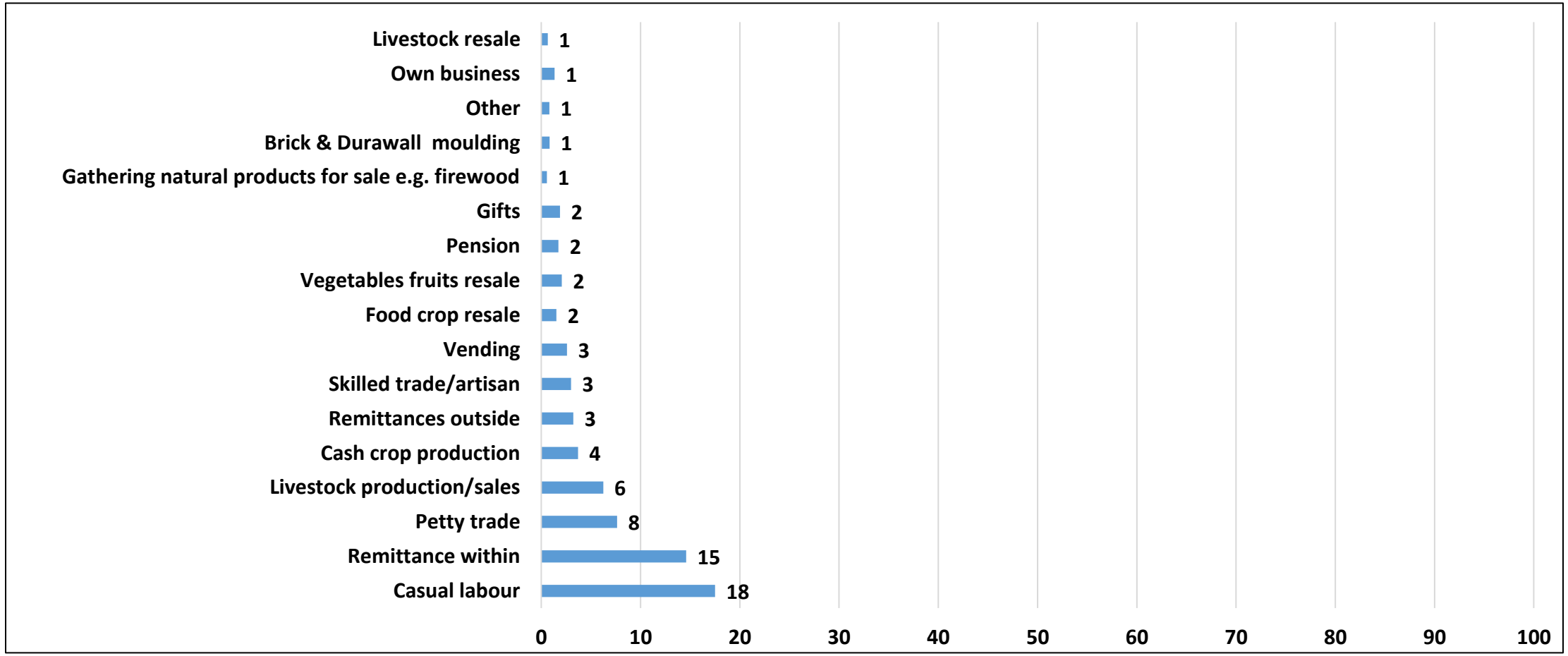
Goat Prices (USD)



- Mudzi (USD22) and Mutoko (USD27) had the least prices of goats.

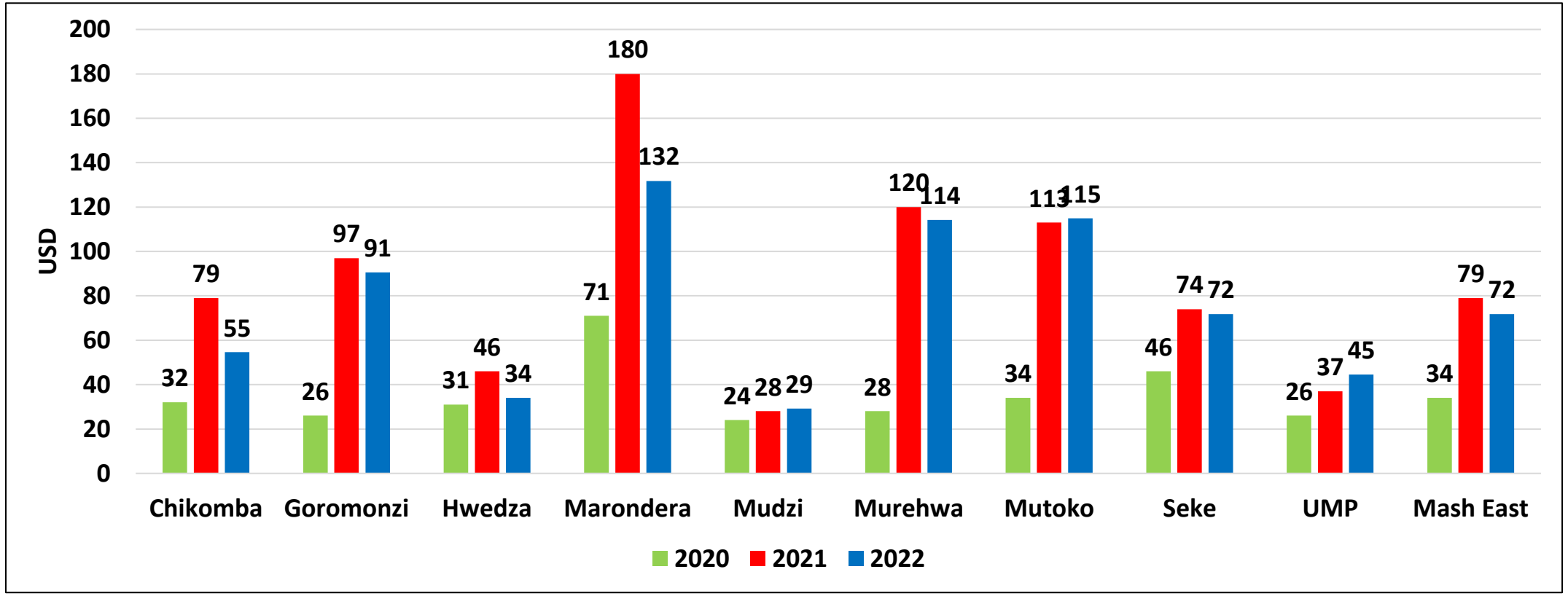
Income and Expenditure

Current Most Important Source of Income



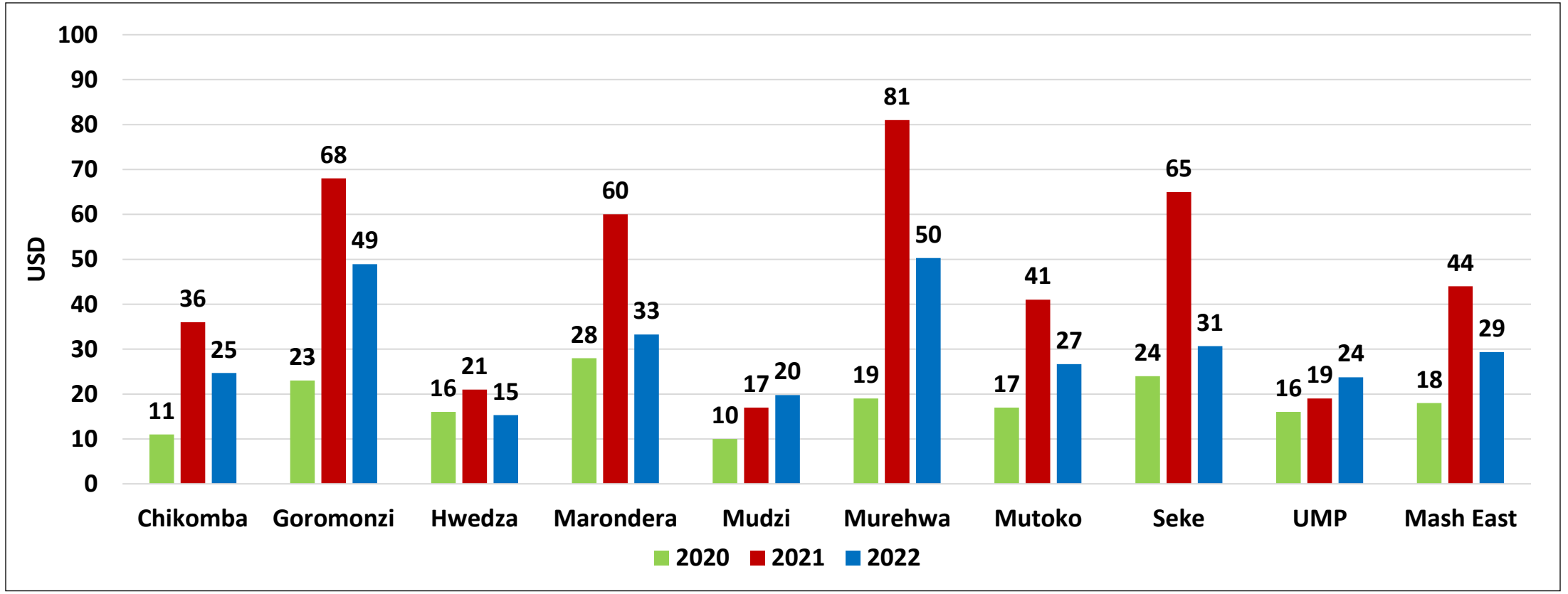
- Casual labour (18%) was the most important source of income, followed by remittances within country (15%).

Average Household Monthly Income (USD) for April 2022



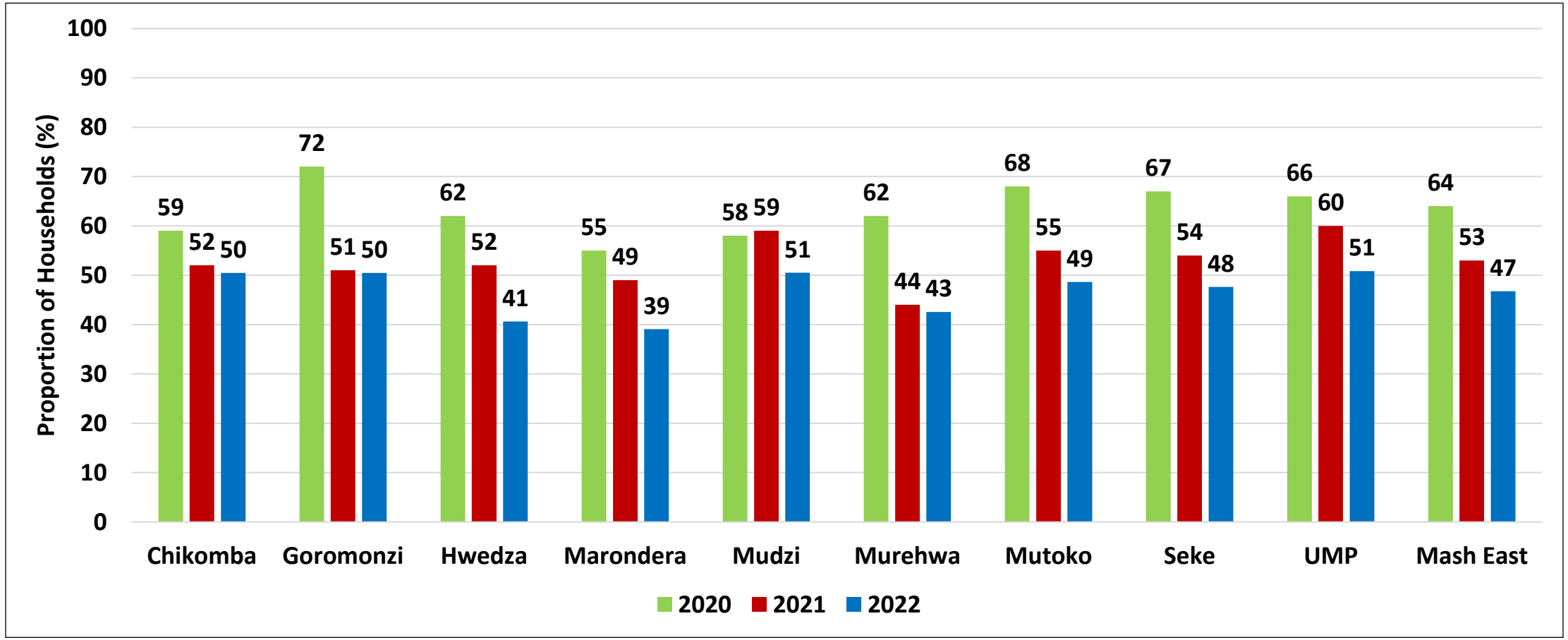
- The average household monthly income was USD72 a drop from USD79 in 2021.
- Marondera (USD132) had the highest monthly income whilst Mudzi (USD29) had the least.

Average Household Monthly Expenditure (USD) for April 2022



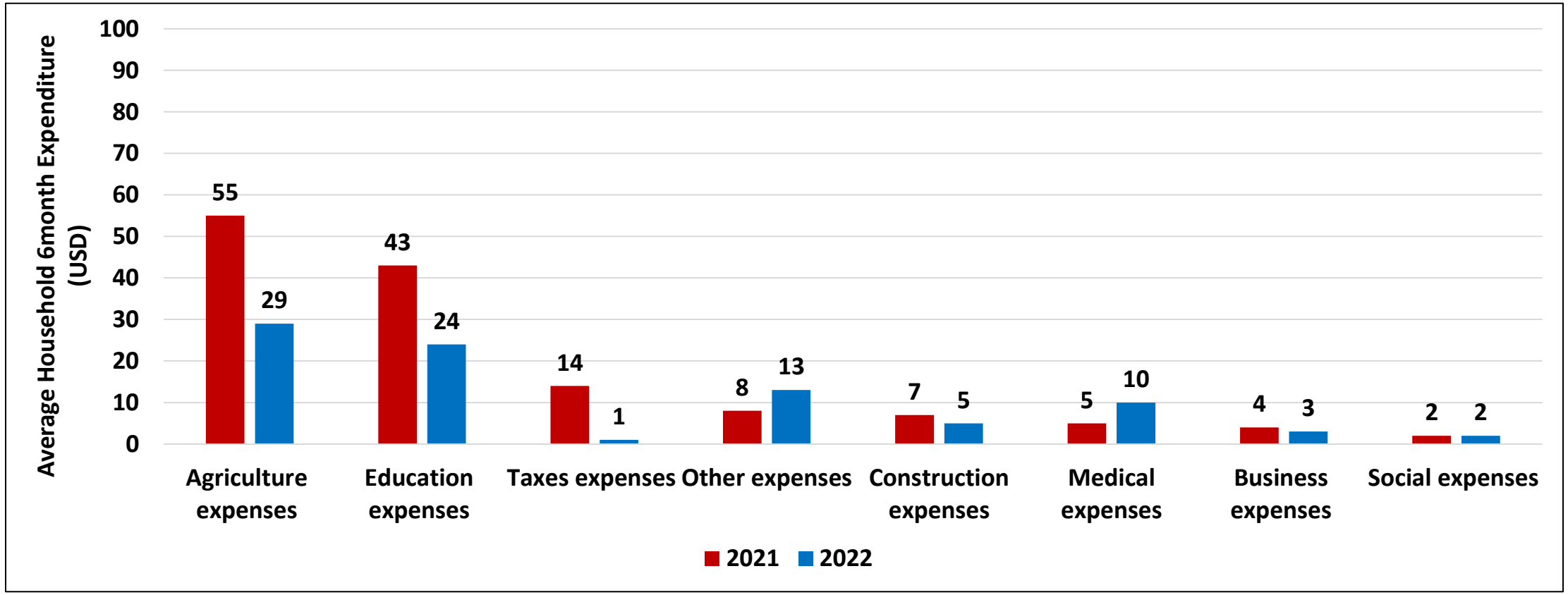
- The average expenditure for the month of April was USD29, a decrease from USD44 in 2021.
- Hwedza (USD15) reported the lowest expenditure whilst Murewa (USD50) had the highest expenditure.

Food Expenditure Ratio



- The share of total household expenditure on food decreased to 47% (2022) from 53% in 2021.

Average Household 6 Month Expenditure



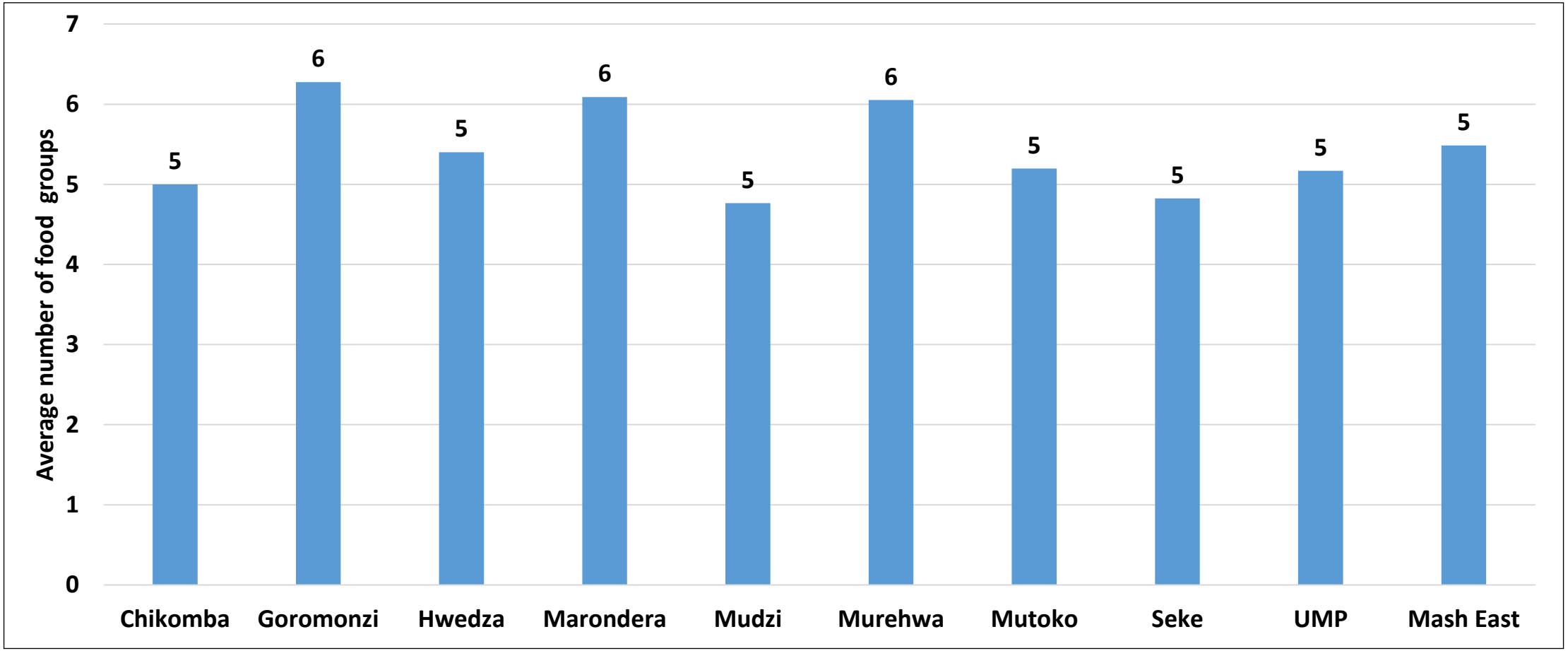
- The highest household six-month expenditure was on agriculture expenses (USD29) followed by education (USD24).
- There was a general decrease on the average household 6-month expenditure on agriculture and education in 2022 as compared to 2021.

Nutrition and Diets

Food Consumption Score

Food consumption score group	Score	Description
Poor	0 - 21	**An expected consumption of staple 7 days, vegetables 5-6 days, sugar 3-4days, 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 - 4days, 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

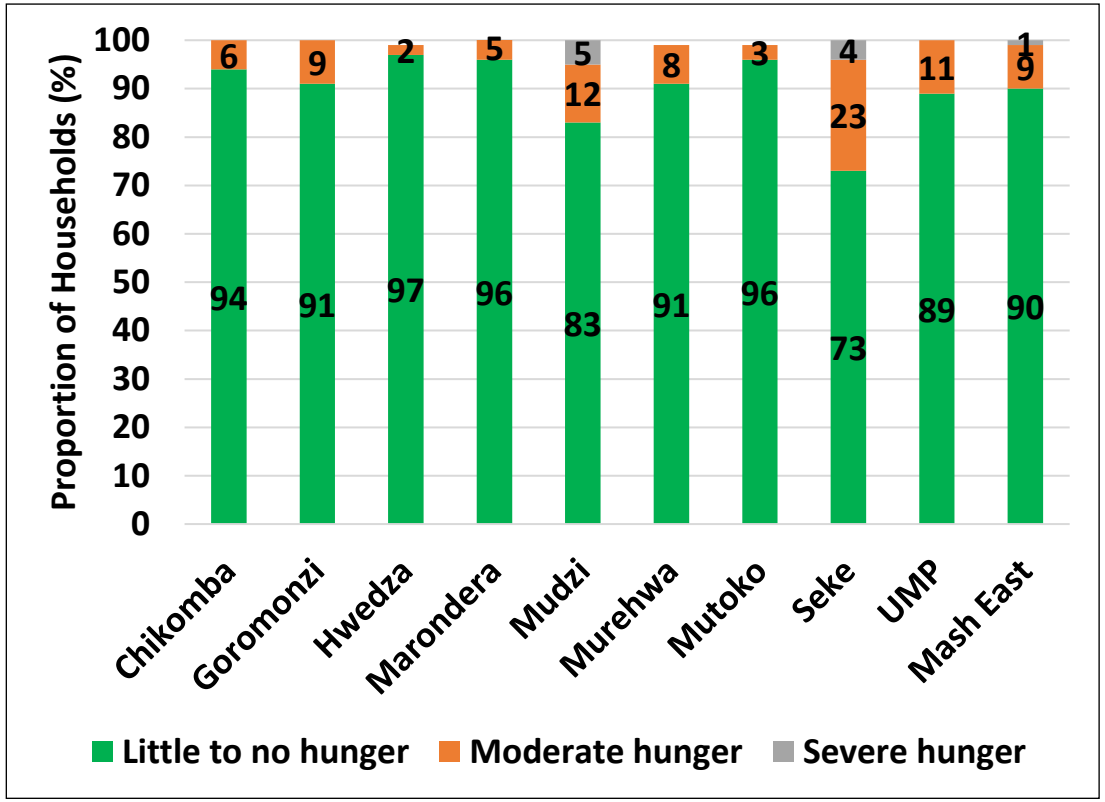
Average Household Dietary Diversity (HDDS)



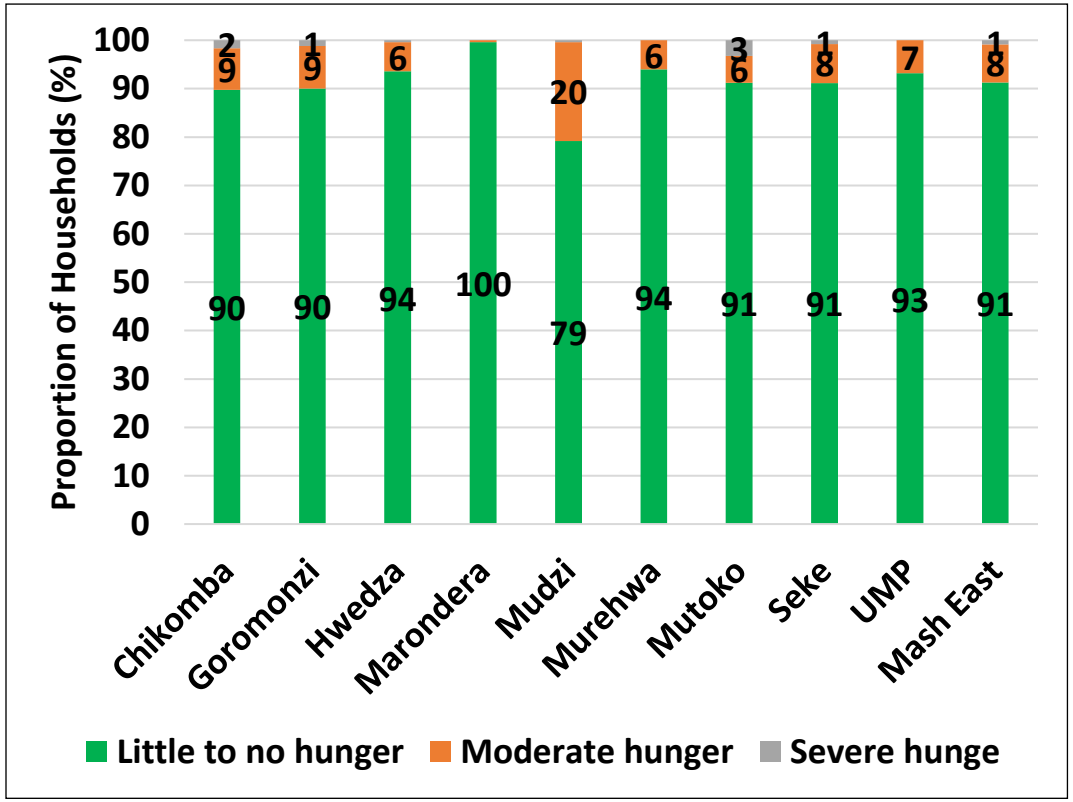
- On average, all districts were consuming 5 food groups out of a possible 12 food groups at the time of the assessment.
- The HDDS has not shown any improvement from the past year, an indication that household food access and ability to acquire sufficient quality and quantity of food, remains a challenge in the province.

Household Hunger Scale

2021



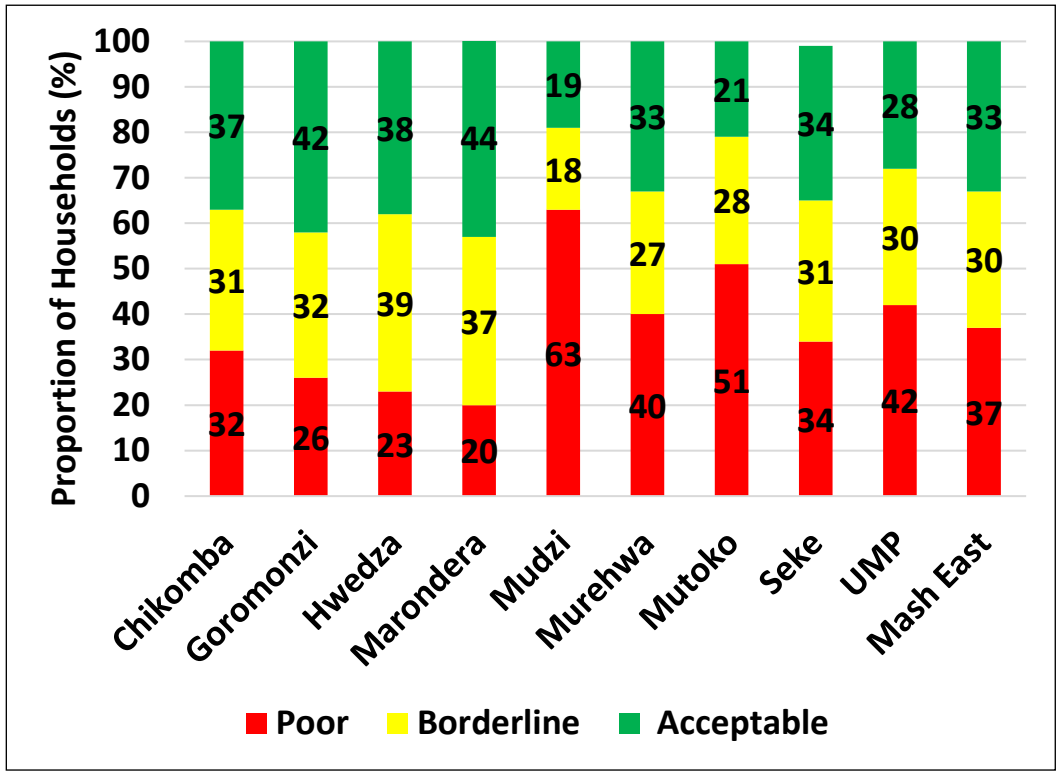
2022



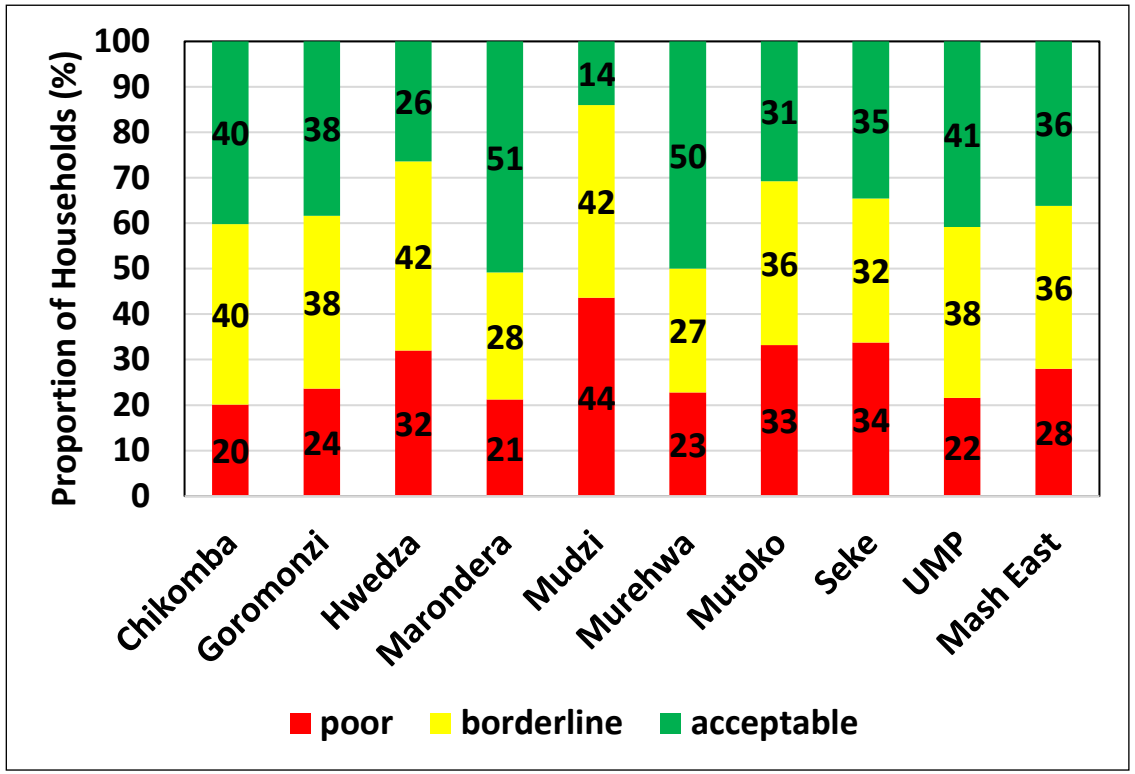
- The majority of households (91%) had little or no hunger, whilst only 8% had moderate hunger and 1% had severe hunger.
- This reflects that food access at the time of the survey was not yet a challenge for most households.

Food Consumption Patterns

2021

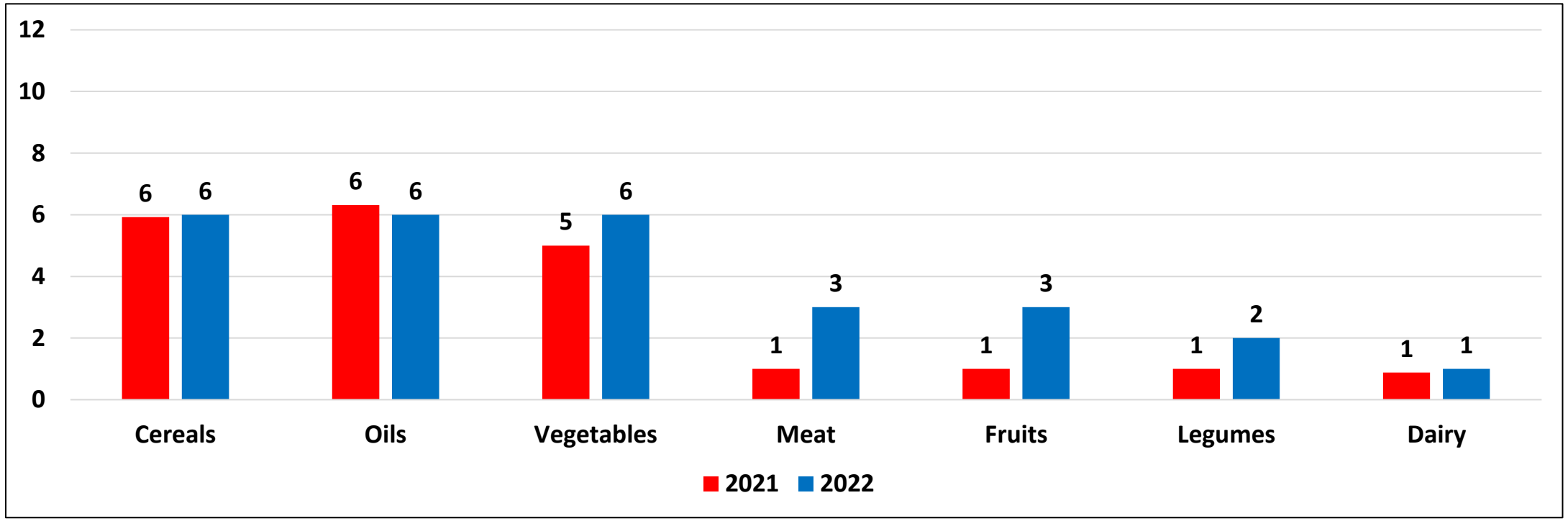


2022



- There was a general positive shift of household food consumption patterns across all districts, with more households consuming diets within the acceptable (36%) and borderline range (36%) compared to 2021.
- Mudzi (44%), Seke (34%) and Mutoko (33%) had the highest proportion of households consuming poor diets.

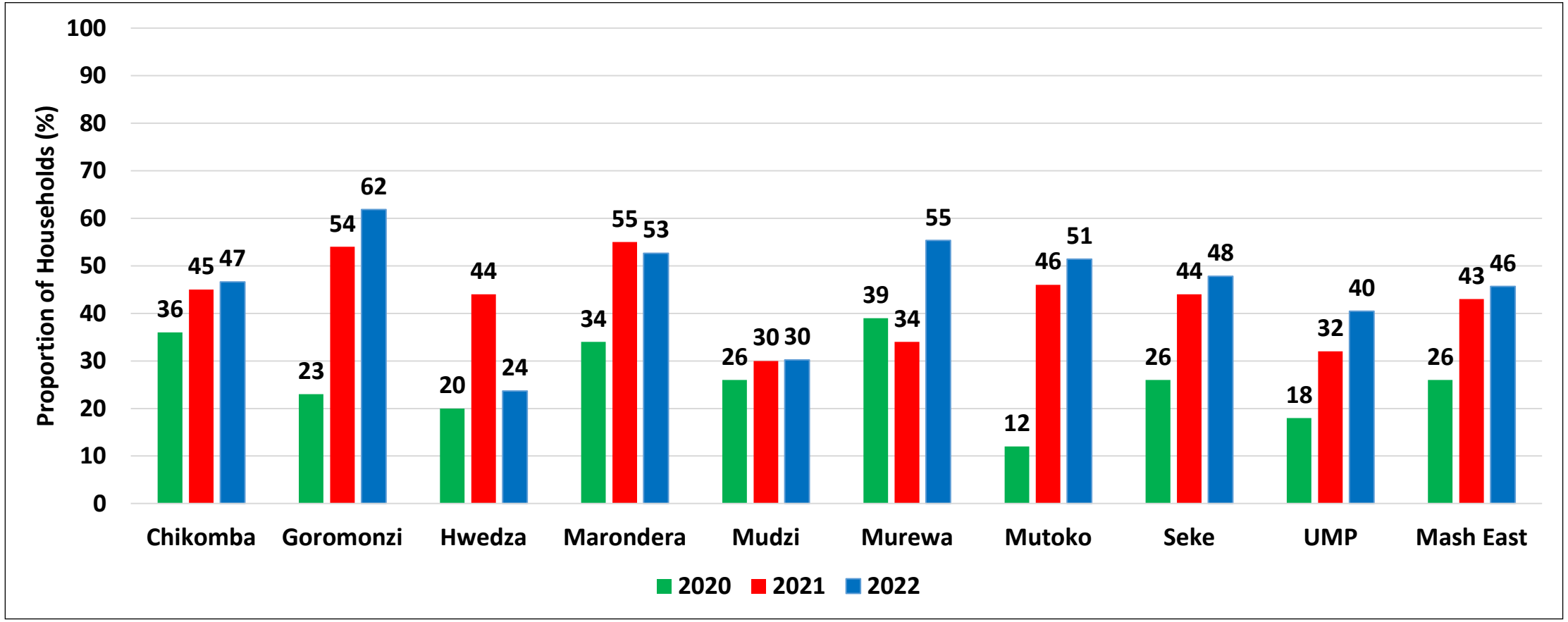
Average Number of Days Households Consumed Food from the Various Food Groups



- Oils, cereals and vegetables were the most consumed food groups.
- The low consumption of legumes and meat are of concern as they reflect poor quality diets being accessed by rural communities.

Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women of Child-Bearing Age

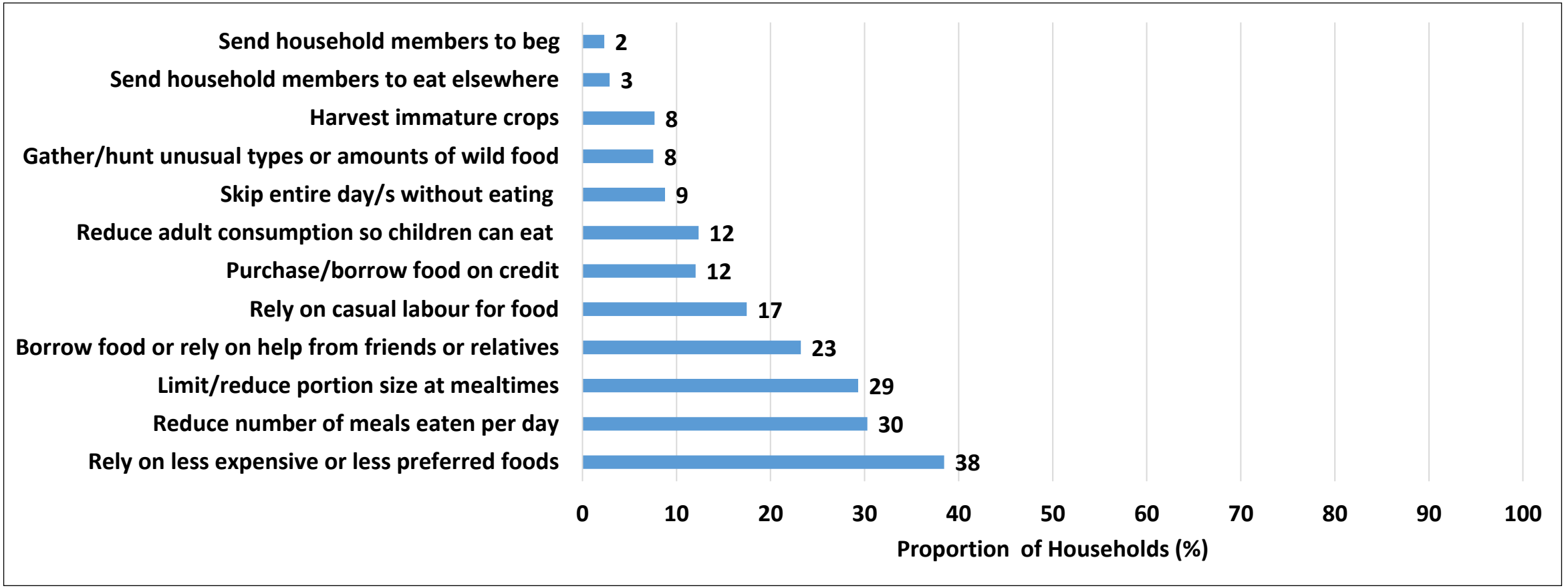
Minimum Dietary Diversity of Women of Child Bearing Age (WCBA)



- The proportion of women of childbearing age consuming a Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDD) improved from 26% (2020) to 46% in 2022.
- Goromonzi (62%) had the highest WCBA consuming a minimum dietary diversity.

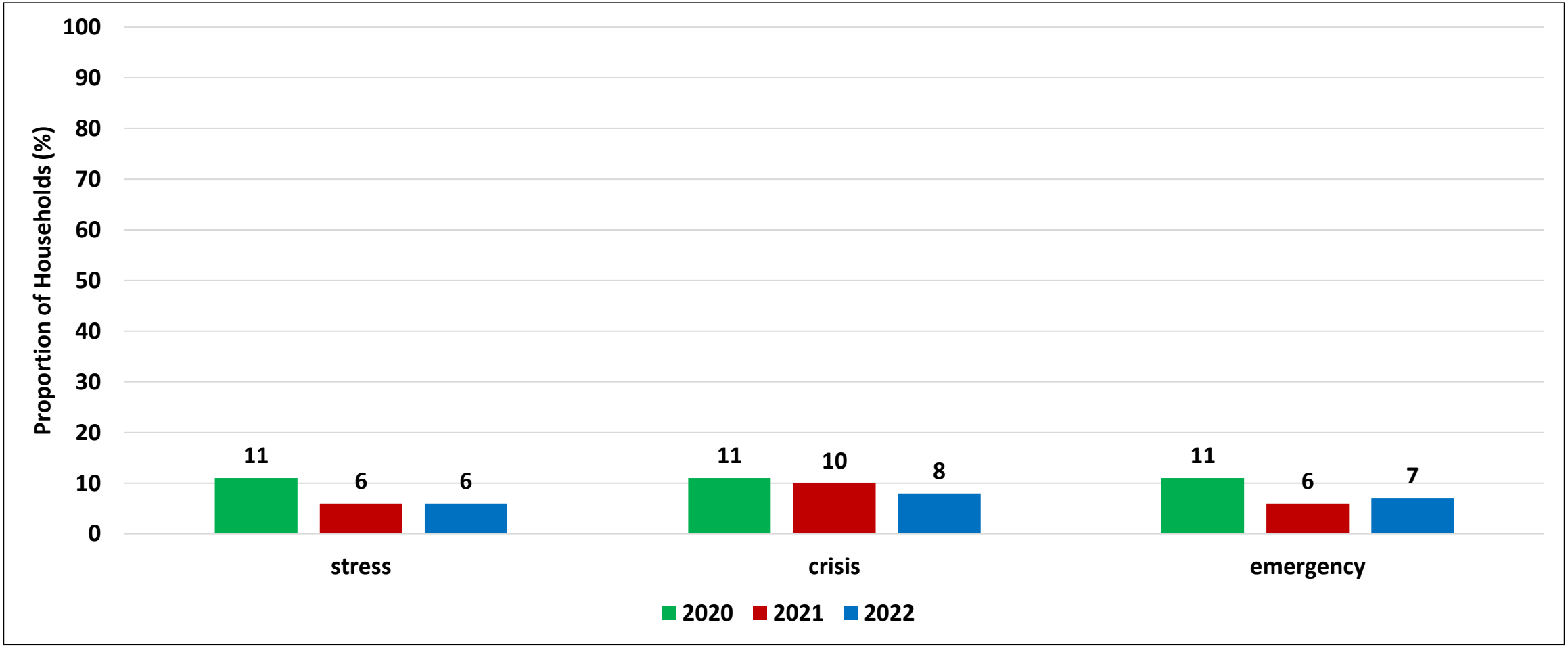
Livelihoods Based Coping Strategies

Household Consumption Coping Strategies



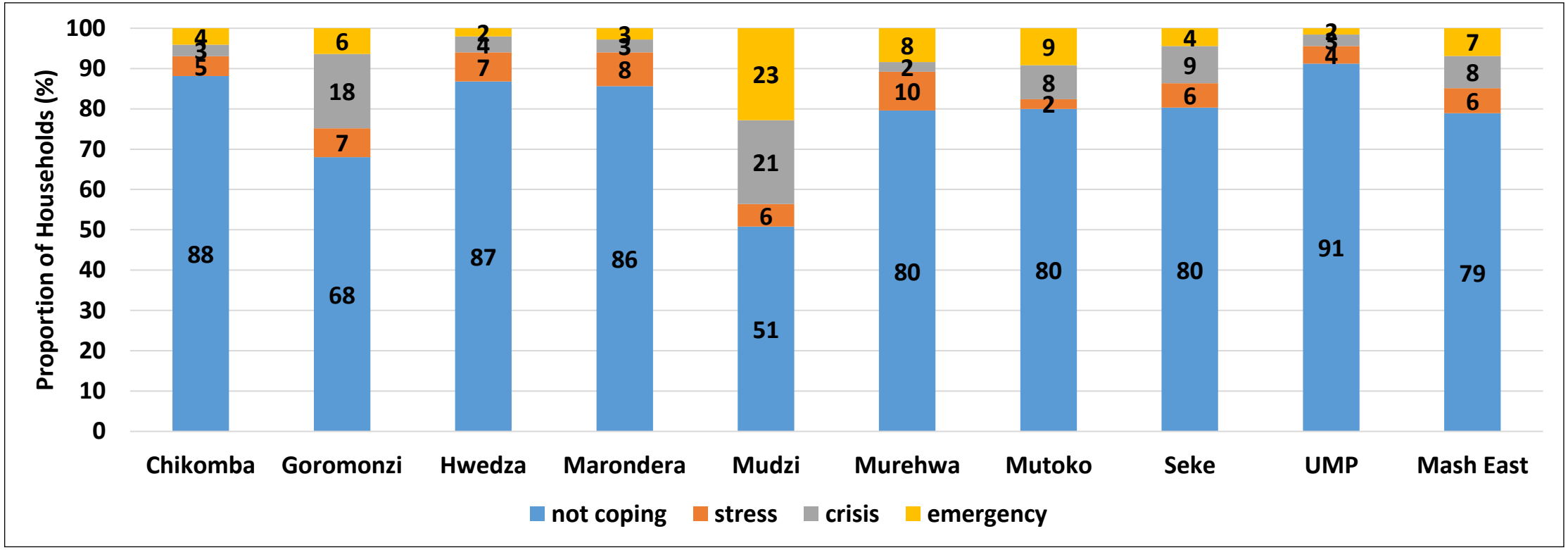
- Of the households that engaged consumption-based coping strategies when faced with food access challenges, 38% relied on less expensive or less preferred foods, 30% reduced the number of meals eaten per day and 29% reduced portion size at mealtimes.

Households Livelihood Coping Strategies



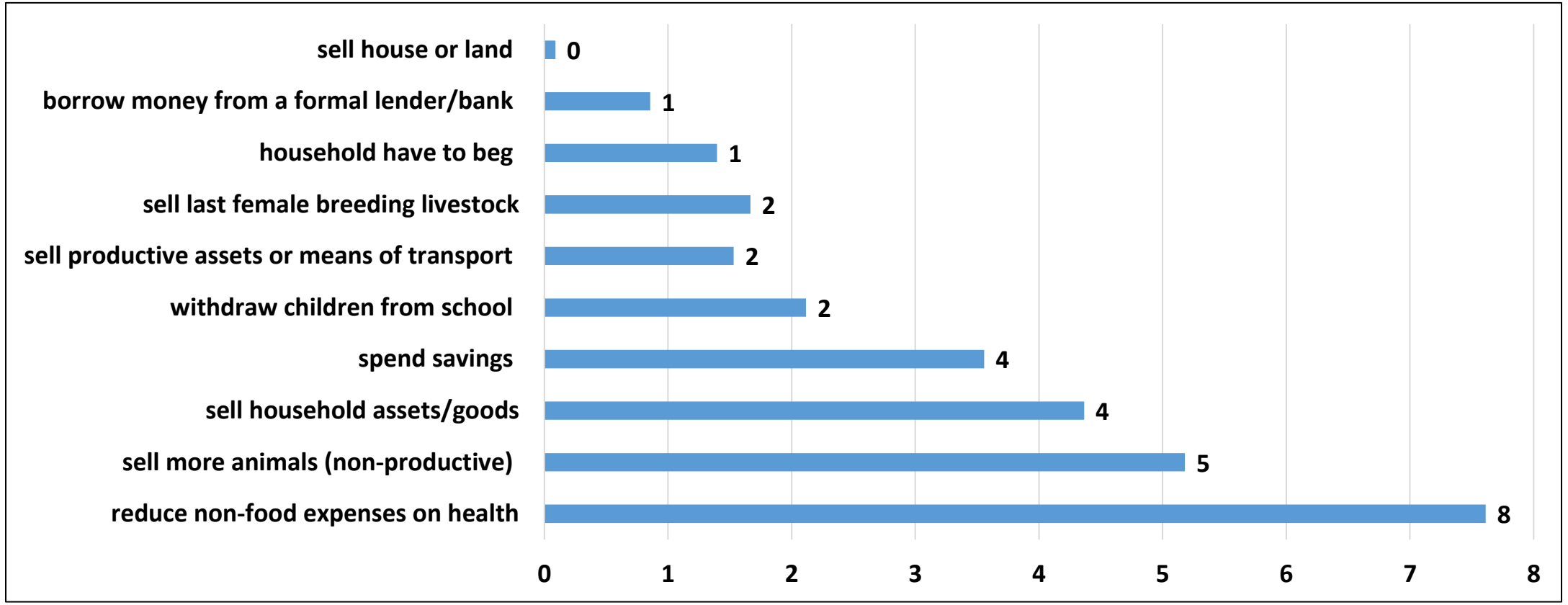
- The proportion of households employing emergency coping strategies was 7%.

Households Maximum Livelihoods Coping Strategies



- Eight percent of households resorted to crisis strategies to cope with the lack of resources to purchase food.
- However, in Mudzi, there was a large proportion of households adopting emergency (23%) and crisis coping strategies (21%) when faced with food shortages.

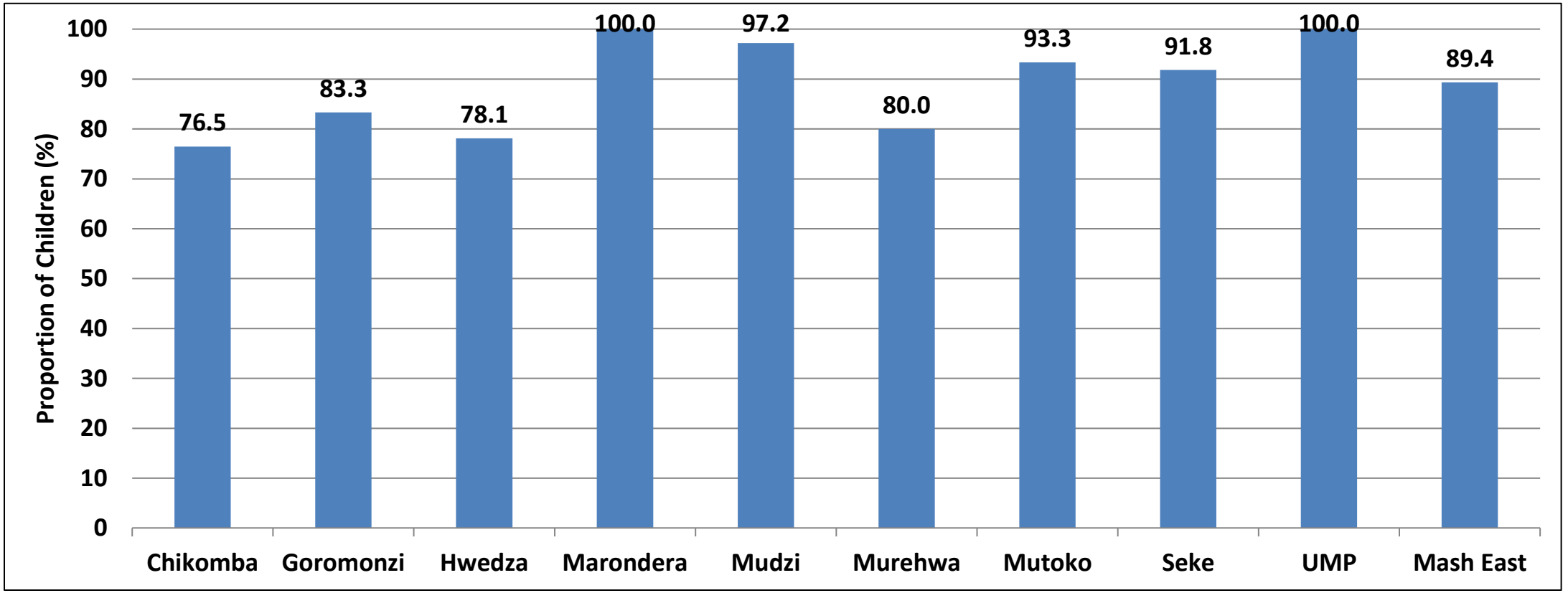
Households Engaging in Livelihood Based Coping Strategies



- The main livelihood-based coping strategies that were engaged by households included reducing non-food expenses on health (8%), selling more non-productive animals (5%) and selling household assets (4%).

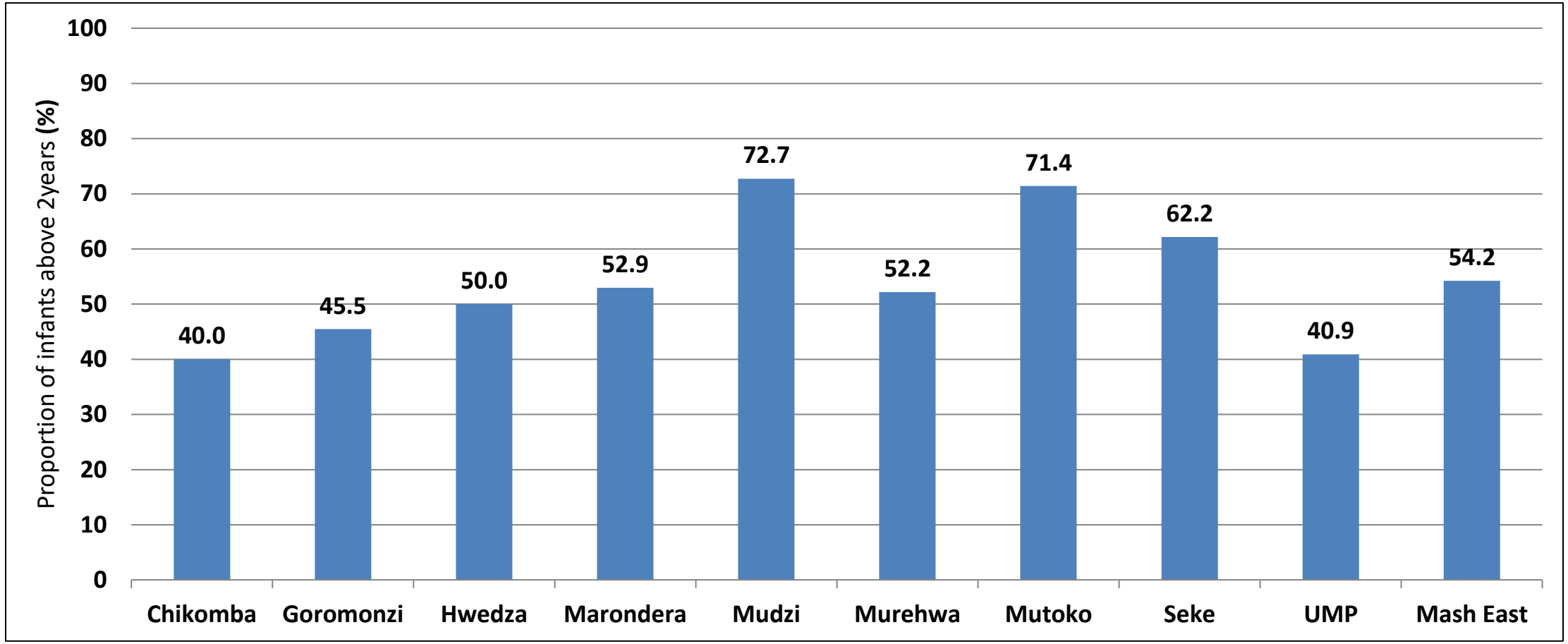
Child Nutrition

Early Initiation of Breastfeeding



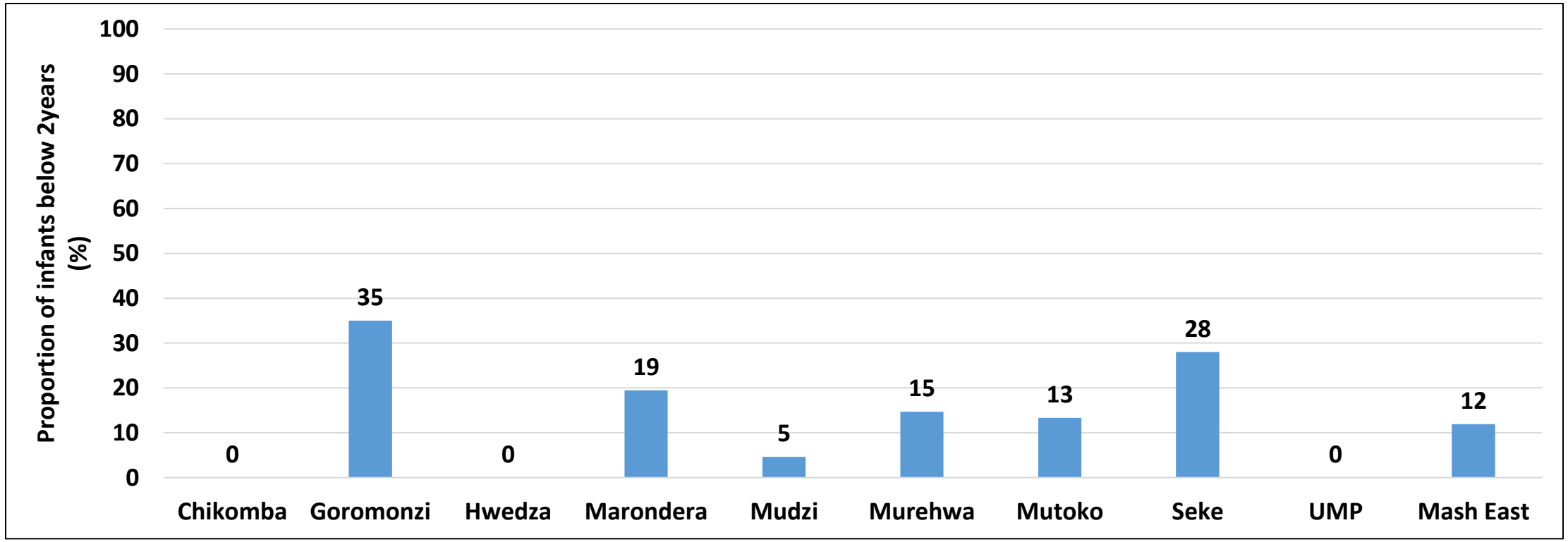
- The proportion of children who were initiated breastfeeding within an hour, as per recommended practice was 89.4%
- Marondera (100%) and UMP (100%) had the highest while Chikomba (76.5%) had the lowest proportion of children being initiated early on breastfeeding.

Continued Breastfeeding beyond 1 year



- The proportion of children who continued to be breastfed beyond 1 year was 54.2%.
- Mudzi (72.7%) and Mutoko (71.4 %) had the highest proportion of infants who were breastfed beyond 1 year.

Bottle Feeding



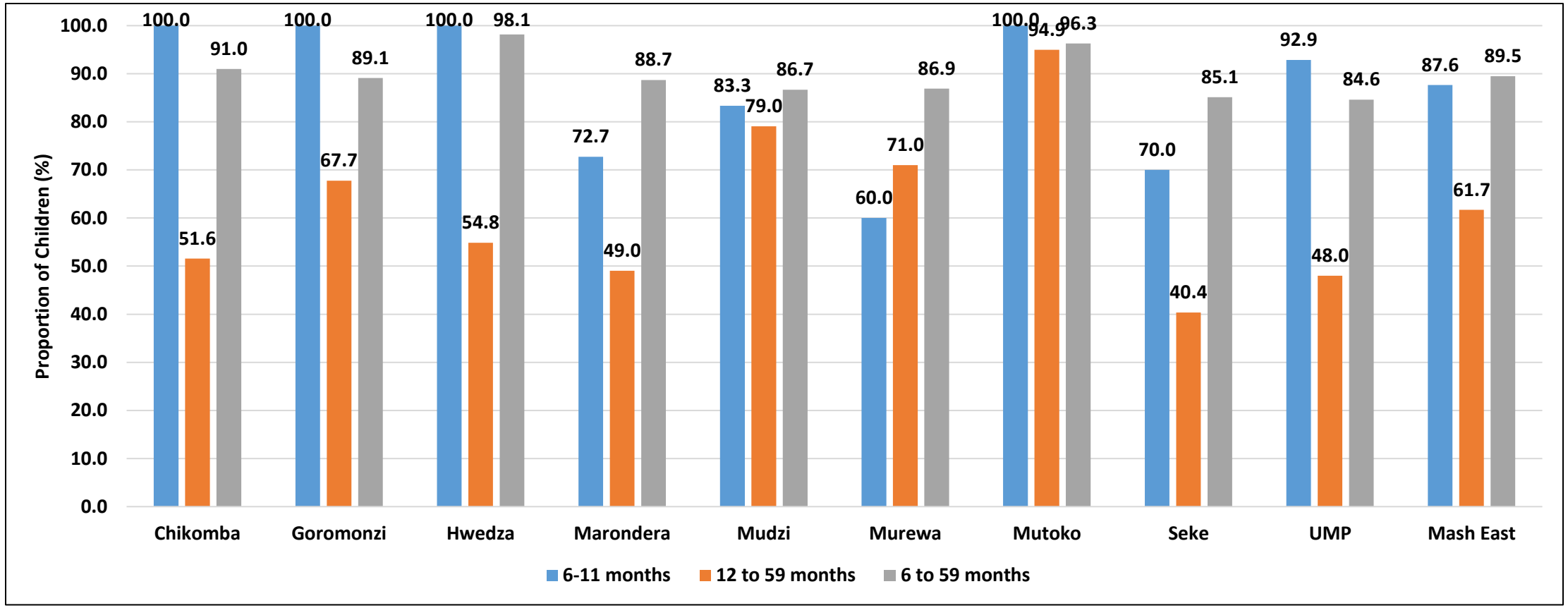
- Goromonzi (35%) and Seke (28%) had the highest proportion of infants that were bottle-fed.

Vitamin A Supplementation

Recommended Vitamin A Supplementation Schedule for Children 6–59 months of Age

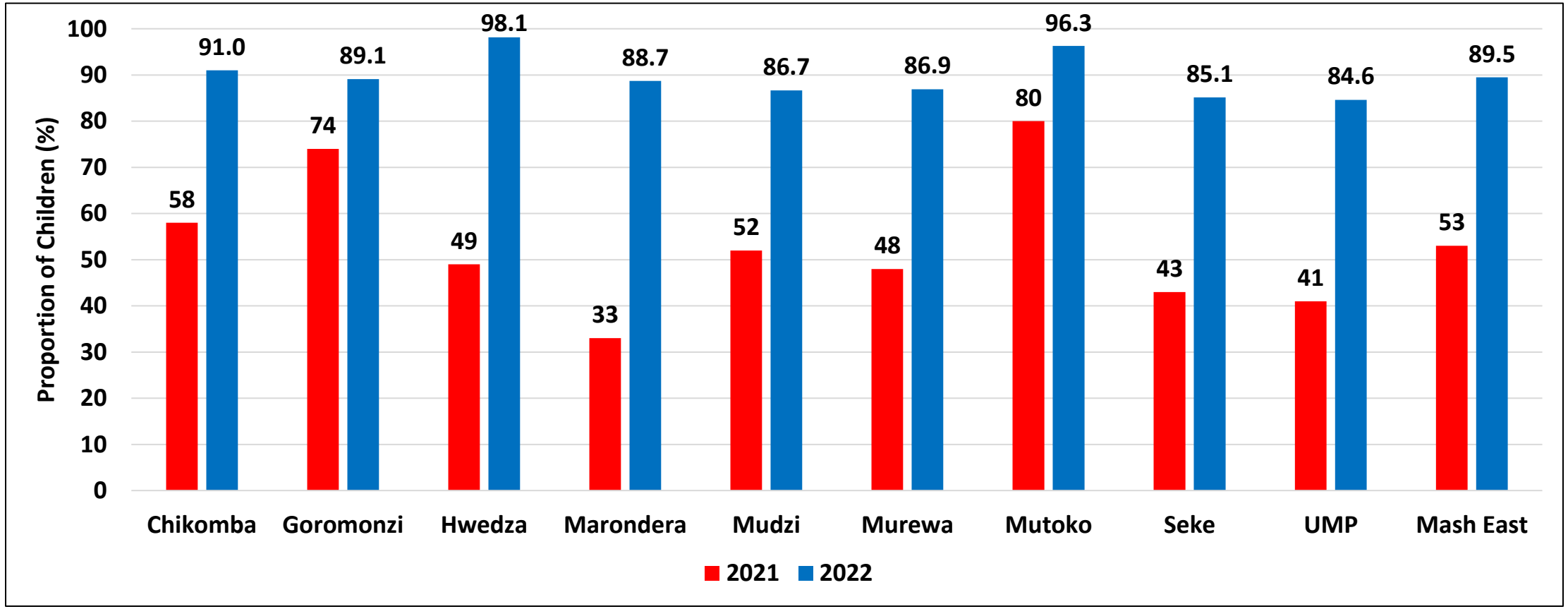
Target group	Infants 6–11 months of age	Children 12–59 months of age
Dose	100 000 IU	200 000 IU
Frequency	Once a year	Twice a year (Every 6 months)
Route of administration	Oral	

Children aged 6-59 months who Received the Recommended Dose of Vitamin A



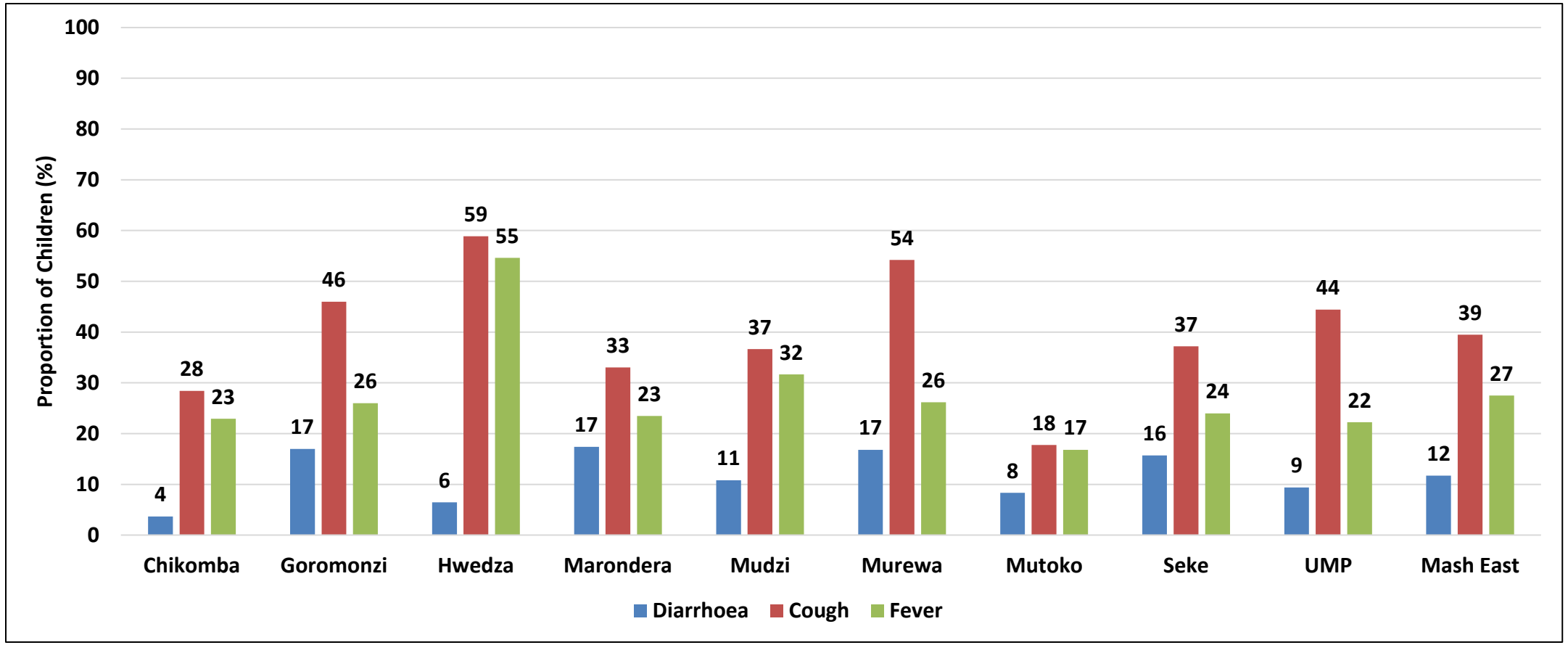
- The proportion of children 6 to 59 months who received the recommended dose of Vitamin A in the past 12 months was 89.5%
- Hwedza (98.1%), Mutoko (96.3%) and Chikomba (91%) reached the recommended national target of 90% for children 6-59 months.

Vitamin A Supplementation for Children Aged 6-59 Months



- There was an increase in the proportion of children who received Vitamin A supplementation in 2022 (89.5%) compared to 2021 (53%).

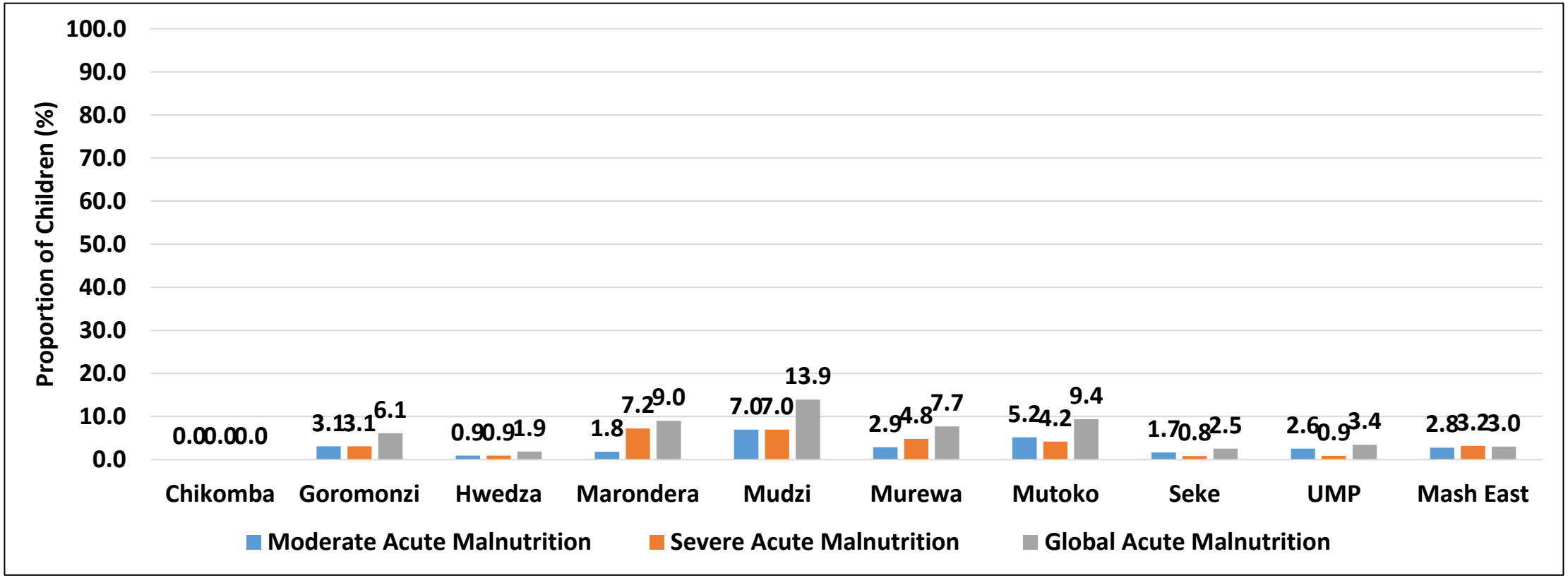
Prevalence of Illness Among Children Aged 0-59 Months



- More than a third of the children had cough (39%), 27% had fever and 12% had diarrhea two weeks preceding the assessment.
- Hwedza had the highest proportion of children who had a cough at 59% and fever (55%).

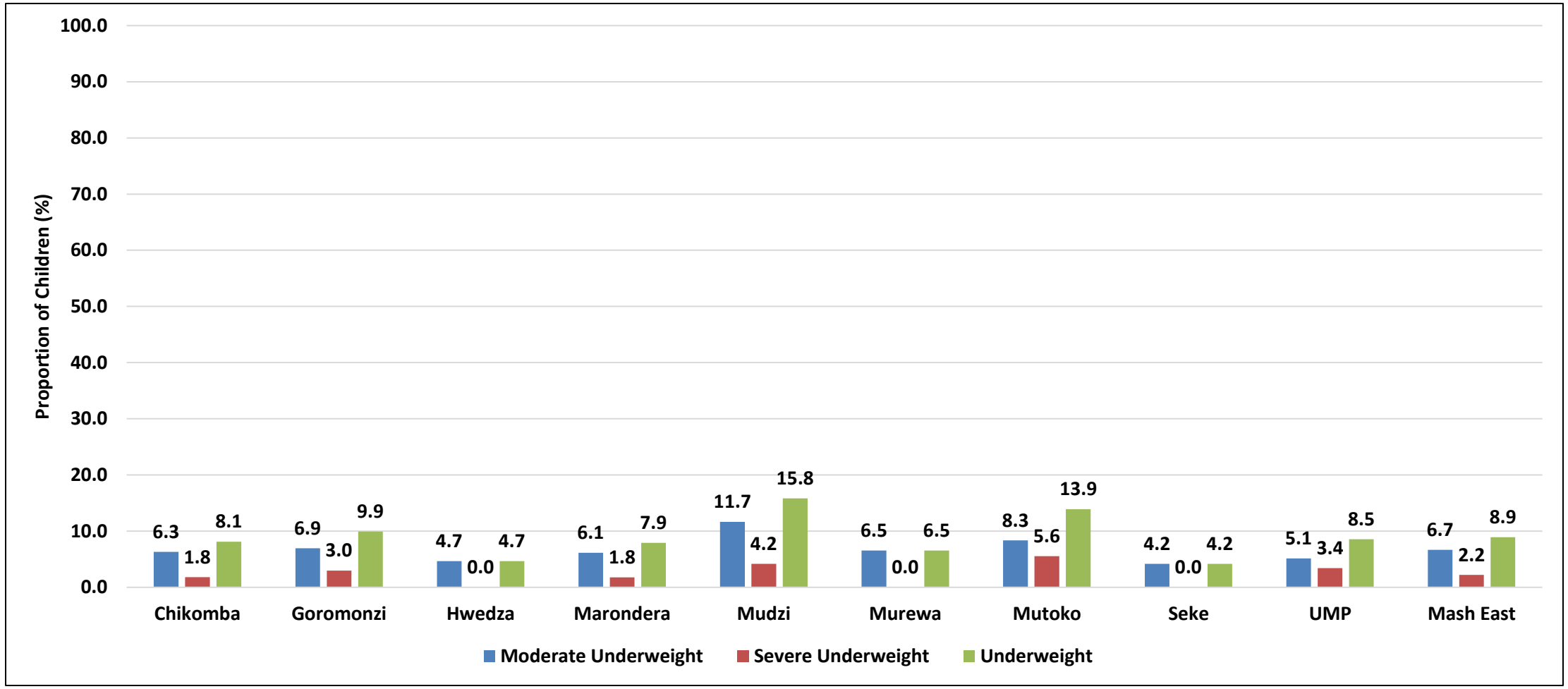
Child Nutrition Status

Global Acute Malnutrition (Wasting)



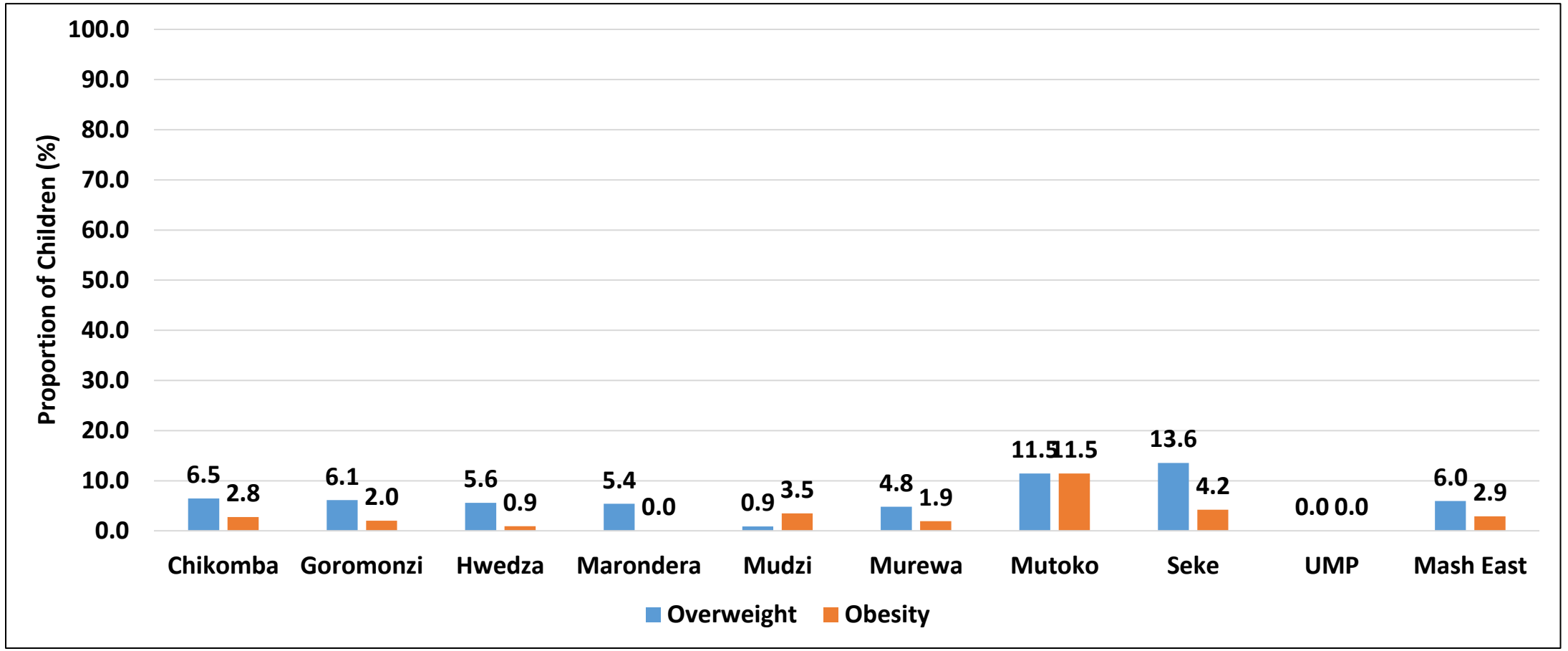
- The province had a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 3%.
- Mudzi (13.9%), had the highest GAM whilst Chikomba had the lowest with zero.
- Mudzi (13.9%), Mutoko (9%), Marondera (9%), Murewa (7.7%) and Goromonzi (6%) all had GAM which was above the WHO threshold of 5% which is a sign of serious emergency in those districts.

Underweight



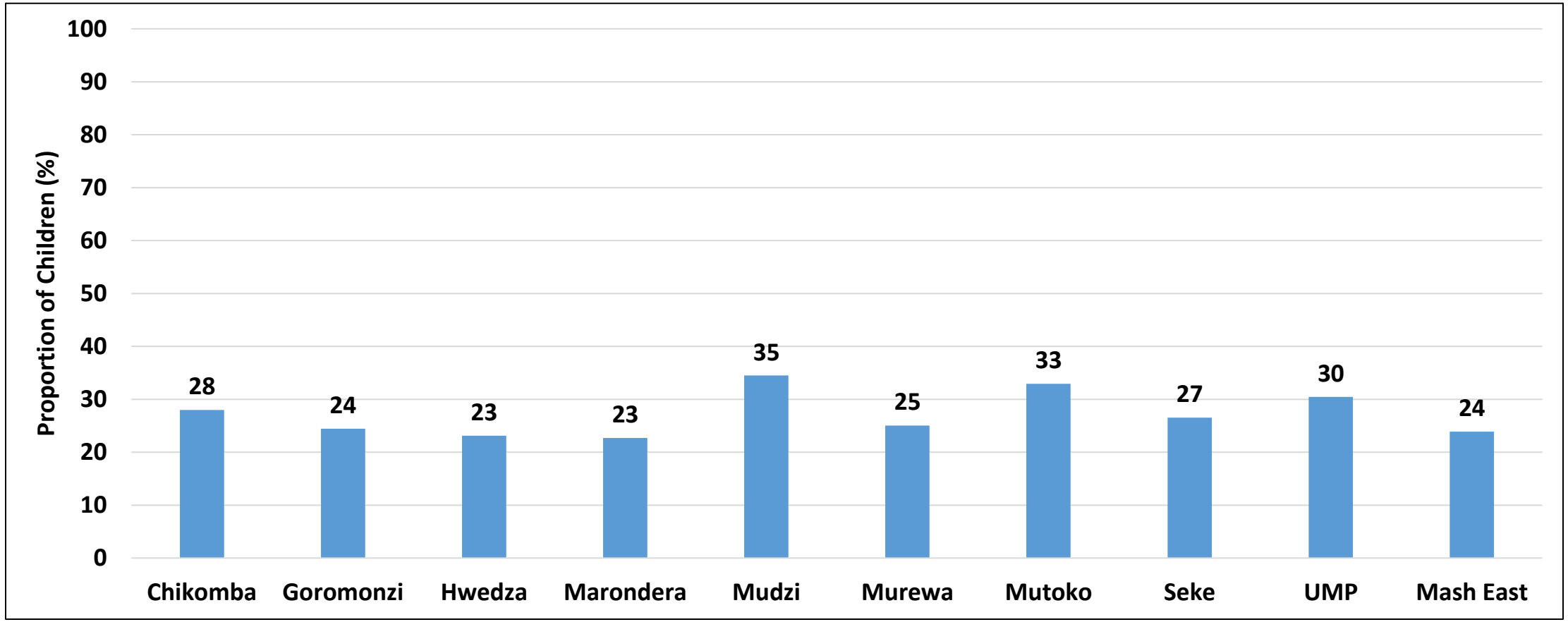
- The proportion of children who were underweight in the province was at 8.9%.
- Mudzi (15.8%) followed by Mutoko (13.9%) had the highest while Seke (4.2%) had the lowest.

Overweight and Obesity



- The proportion of children who were obese in the province was (2.9%).

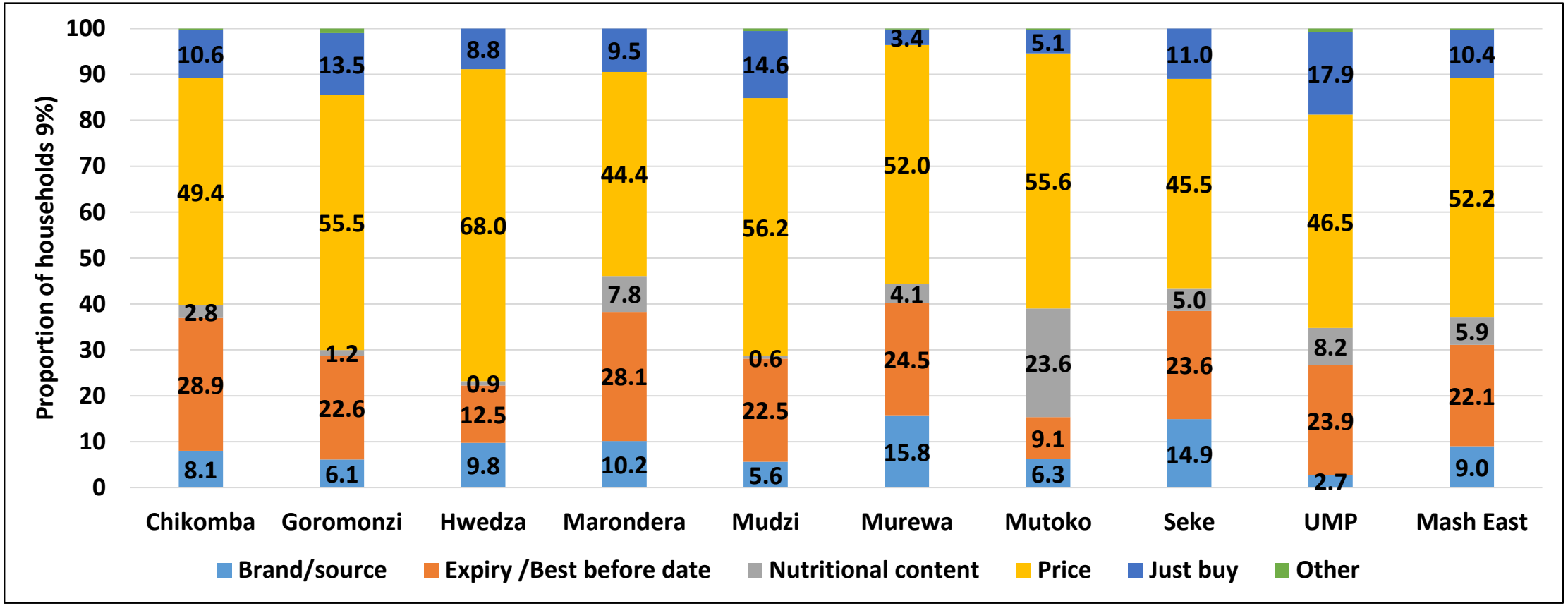
Children Under Five Years Who Were Stunted



- Twenty Four percent of children under the age of five years were stunted.
- The prevalence of stunting was in the high category across all the districts.

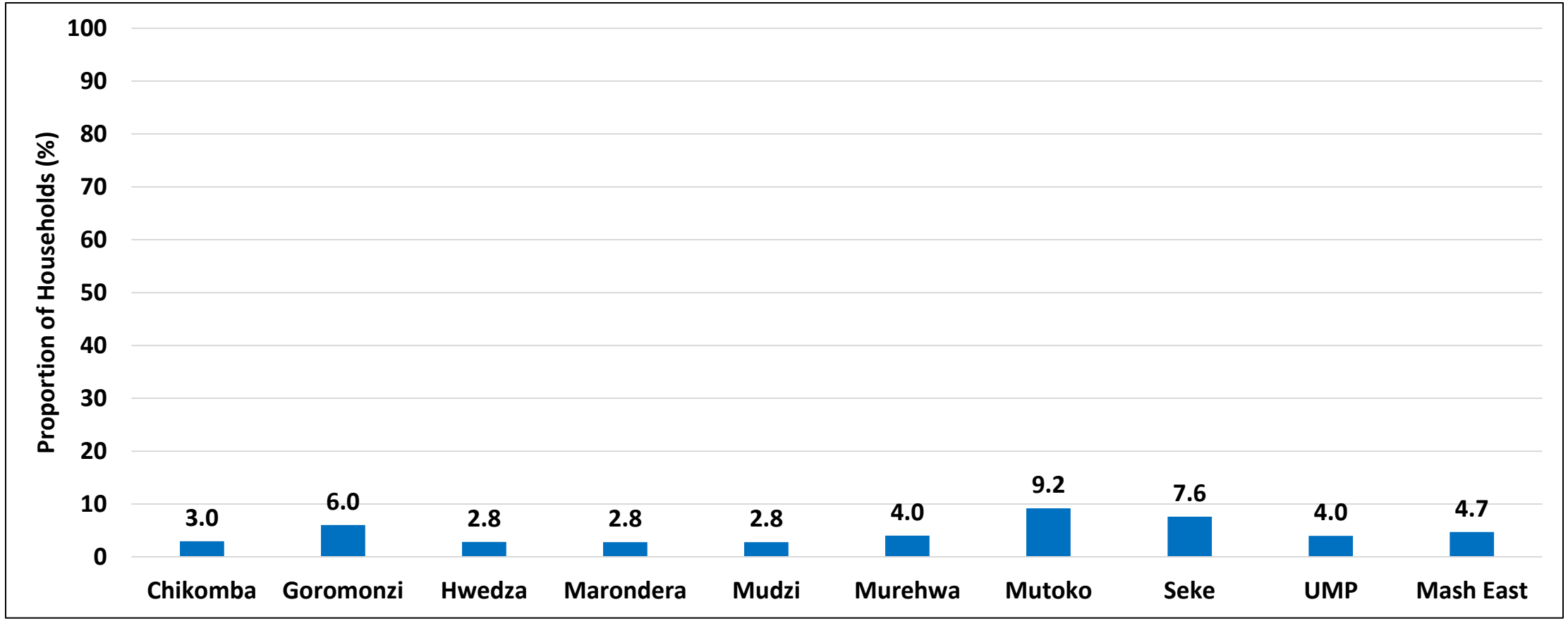
Food Safety

Considerations when Purchasing Food



- Provincially, 52.2% of the households reported considering the price when purchasing food.
- Chikomba (28.9%), had the greatest proportion of households which considered expiry/best before date when purchasing food.

Purchase of Expired or Spoiled Food



- Mutoko (9.2%) had the highest proportion of households which indicated that they purchased spoiled or expired food due to its reduced price.

Methods to Keep Food Safe

District	Use of 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 (%)	I did nothing (%)	Cook food thoroughly (%)	Thorough Pre-heating of cold food (%)	Washing fruit/foods before consumption (%)	Use of pasteurised milk instead of raw milk (%)	Use of fresh ingredients without spoilage (%)
Chikomba	15.0	17.1	21.1	0.2	35.4	4.6	6.2		0.3
Goromonzi	20.4	20.0	23.3	0.2	18.1	6.9	7.5	3.1	0.6
Hwedza	19.3	20.0	24.9		20.2	11.8	3.8		
Marondera	14.6	29.2	27.5	1.5	18.3	4.8	4.1		
Mudzi	19.0	23.3	21.8	0.4	18.7	11.0	5.6		0.3
Murehwa	21.1	22.7	18.7	0.1	16.8	8.4	10.4	0.8	1.0
Mutoko	21.8	20.1	13.0	1.1	22.9	14.3	5.8	0.2	0.9
Seke	20.4	24.8	24.2	0.9	13.7	4.7	10.1	0.6	0.6
UMP	10.6	24.6	24.8	2.6	24.5	6.8	5.9		0.3
Mash East	18.2	**22.3**	22.2	0.7	20.6	8.2	6.7	0.6	0.4

- About 22.3% of the households in the province indicated that they prioritised washing of hands with soap before preparing and serving food as a way of keeping food safe.

Food Security

Food Security Dimensions

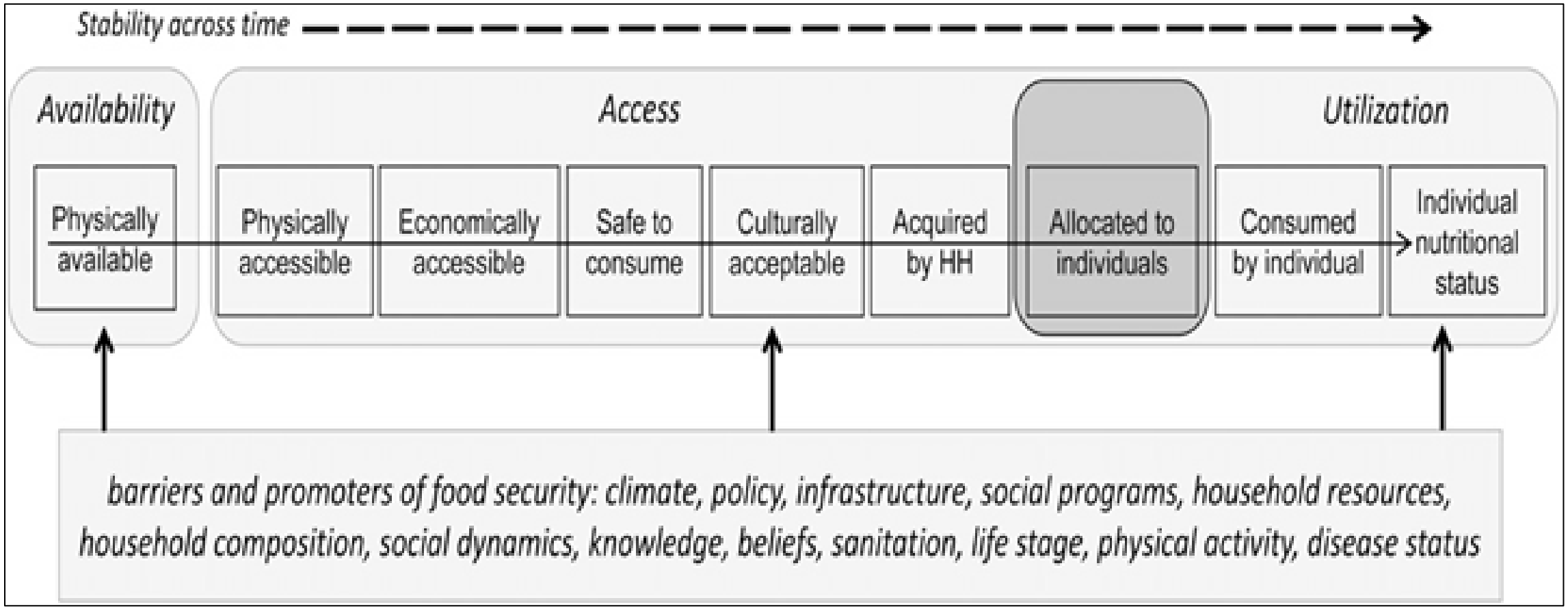


Figure 3: Dimensions of Food Security (Jones et al., 2013)

Food Security Analytical Framework

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

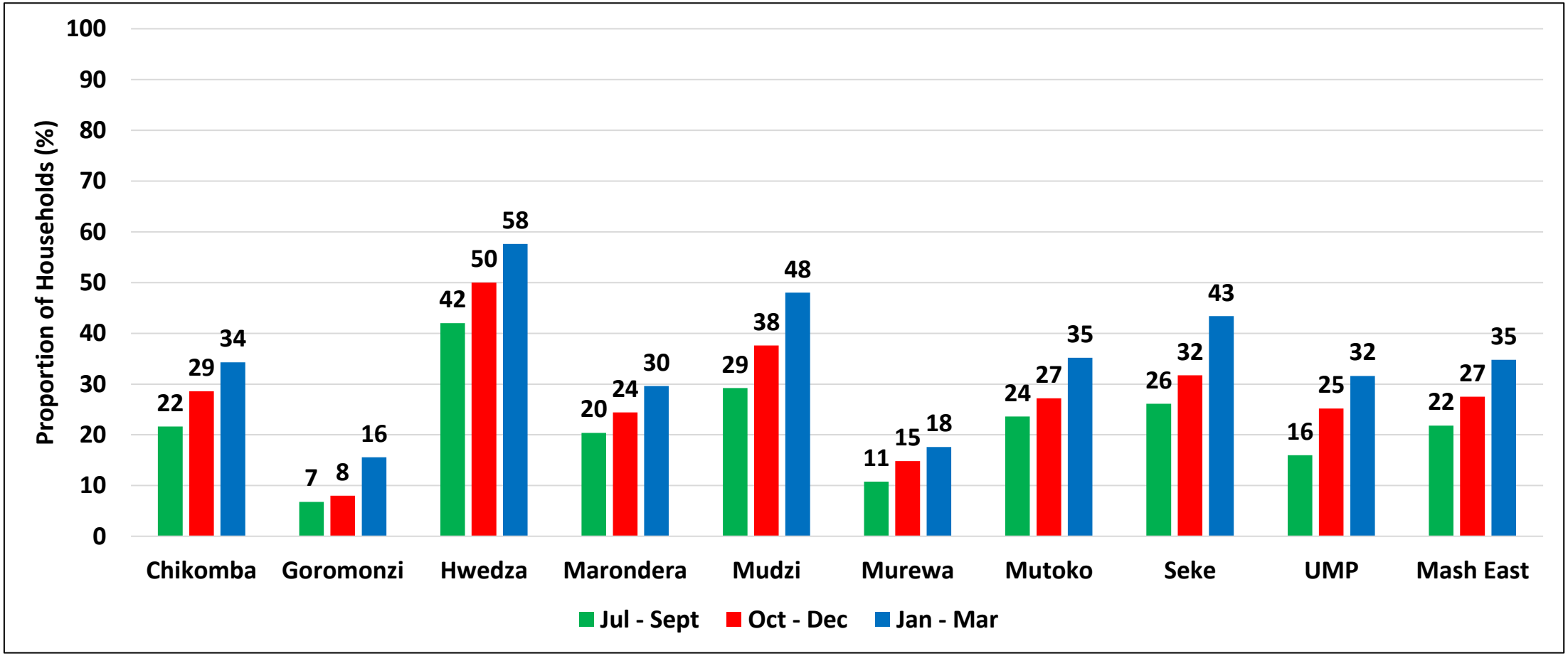
Food Security Analytical Framework

- Each of the surveyed households' potential to acquire minimum expenditure food basket (Figure 3) was computed by estimating the household's likely disposable income (both cash and non cash) in the 2022/23 consumption year from the following possible income sources;
    - Cereal stocks from the previous season;
    - Own food crop production from the 2021/22 agricultural season;
    - Potential income from own cash crop production;
    - Potential income from livestock ;
    - Potential income from casual labour and remittances; and
    - Income from other sources such as gifts, pensions, gardening, formal and informal employment.

Food Security Analytical Framework

- **Household Cereal Security Status**
  - From the total minimum expenditure food basket, the total energy that could be acquired by the household from the cheapest available sources using its potential disposable income was also extracted and compared to the household's minimum energy requirements.
  - When the potential energy a household could acquire was greater than its minimum energy requirements, the household was deemed to be food secure. When the converse was true, the household was defined as food insecure.
  - The severity of household food insecurity was computed by the margin with which its potential energy access was below its minimum energy requirements.

Cereal Insecurity Progression by Quarter by District



- About 35% of the households in the province will be cereal insecure during the peak hunger period.
- Hwedza (58%) is projected to have the highest proportion of households that will be cereal insecure during the peak hunger period.

Food Insecure Population by Quarter

	Jul - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar
Chikomba	29488	38947	46736
Mbire	17237	20279	39545
Goromonzi	33583	39980	46056
Hwedza	26888	32161	39015
Marondera	43839	56450	72064
Mudzi	24289	33285	39582
Murehwa	38855	44782	57953
Mutoko	29634	36017	49238
Seke	20300	31973	40093
UMP	29488	38947	46736
Mashonaland East	301695	379889	480249

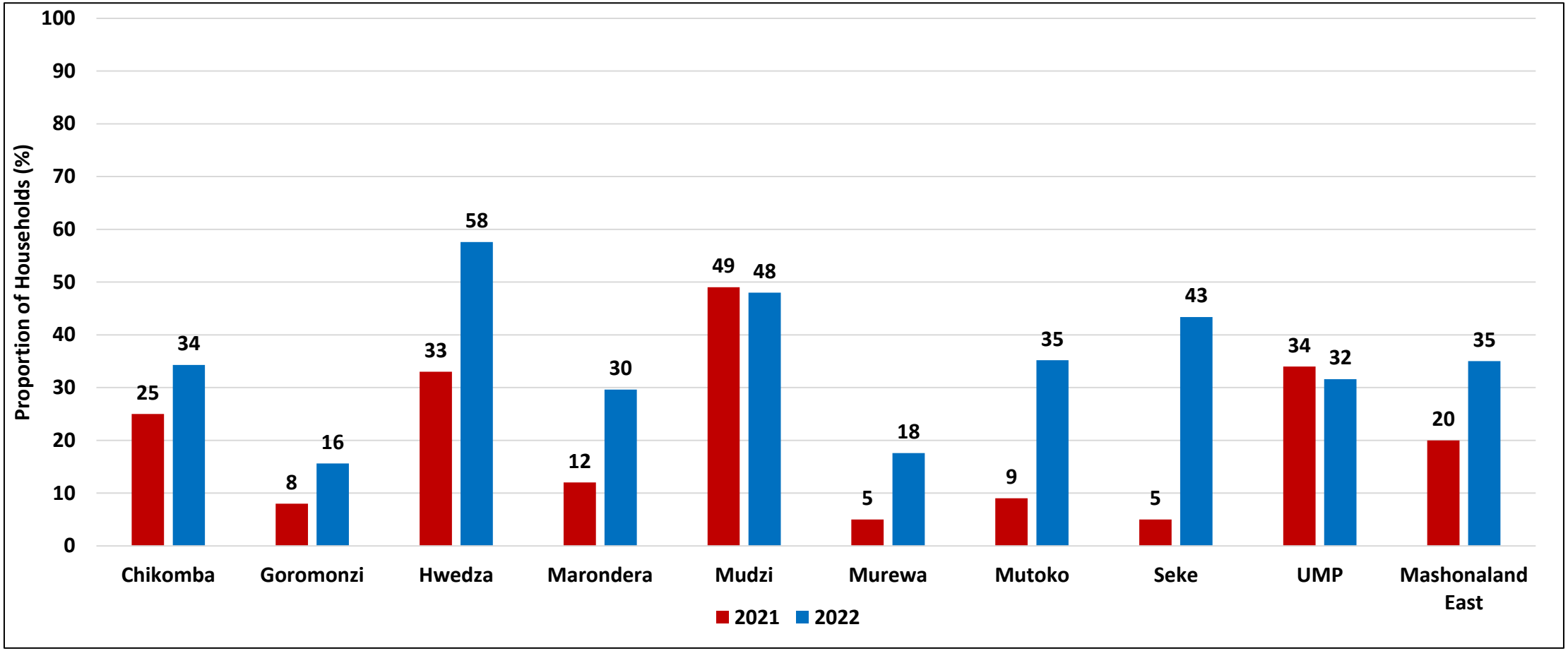
- Marondera (72,064), was projected to have the highest population of food insecure people during the peak hunger period.

Cereal Requirement (MT) by District by Quarter

	Cereal Requirements (MT)		
	Jul - Sept	**Oct - Dec**	**Jan - Mar**
Chikomba	1091	1441	1729
Mbire	638	750	1463
Goromonzi	1243	1479	1704
Hwedza	995	1190	1444
Marondera	1622	2089	2666
Mudzi	899	1232	1465
Murehwa	1438	1657	2144
Mutoko	1096	1333	1822
Seke	751	1183	1483
UMP	1091	1441	1729
Mashonaland East	**11163**	**14056**	**17769**

- The cereal insecure population translates to 480249 people with a cereal requirement of about 17769MT between January 2022 to March 2023.
- The highest cereal requirement will be in Marondera 2666MT during the peak hunger period.

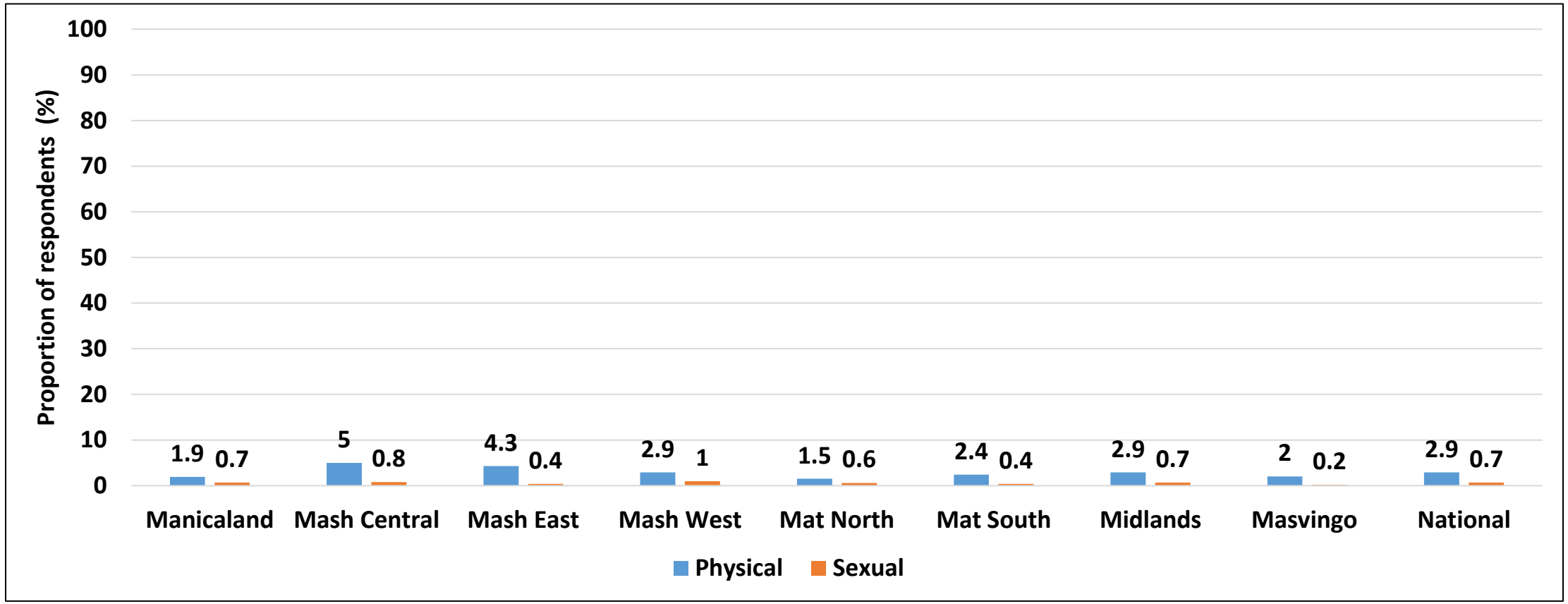
Trends of Cereal Insecurity by District



- There was an increase in proportion of households that are cereal insecure from 20% in 2021 to 35% in 2022. This could be attributed to the poor performance of the 2021/22 agricultural season.

Gender-Based Violence

Forms of Gender-Based Violence



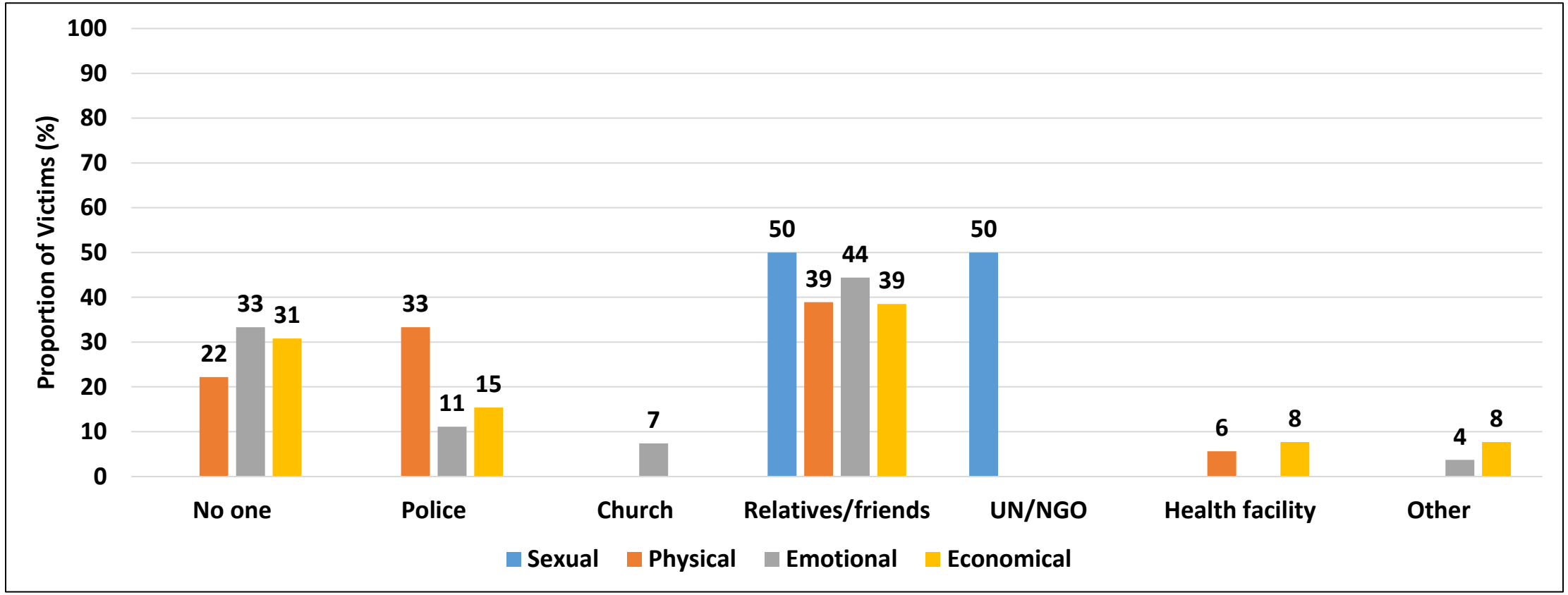
- Nationally, 2.9% respondents reported to have been victims of physical gender-based violence (GBV).
- In Mashonaland East, a proportion of 4.3% fell victim to physical, whilst 0.4% were exposed to sexual violence.

Incidences of Spousal Violence

District	Sex of spouse/partner		Sexual abuse (%)	Physical abuse (%)	Emotional abuse (%)	Economic abuse (%)
	Male (%)	Female (%)				
Chikomba	49	51		3	5	2
Goromonzi	66	34	3	2	3	10
Hwedza	61	39	1	2	8	3
Marondera	76	24	1	4	7	4
Mudzi	41	59		3	8	5
Murewa	47	53	1	4	14	4
Motoko	62	37	1	7	7	7
Seke	75	27	1	6	6	3
UMP	76	24	1	5	6	5
Mash East	**61**	39	1	4	**8**	5

- At least, 61% of those who reported to have suffered spousal violence indicated that the perpetrators were their male spouses.
- Out of those who reported to be victims, the highest proportion (8%) experienced emotional abuse, followed by economic abuse (5%).

Incidence of Spousal Violence



- Most victims of sexual abuse (50%) reported to relatives and UN/NGO.

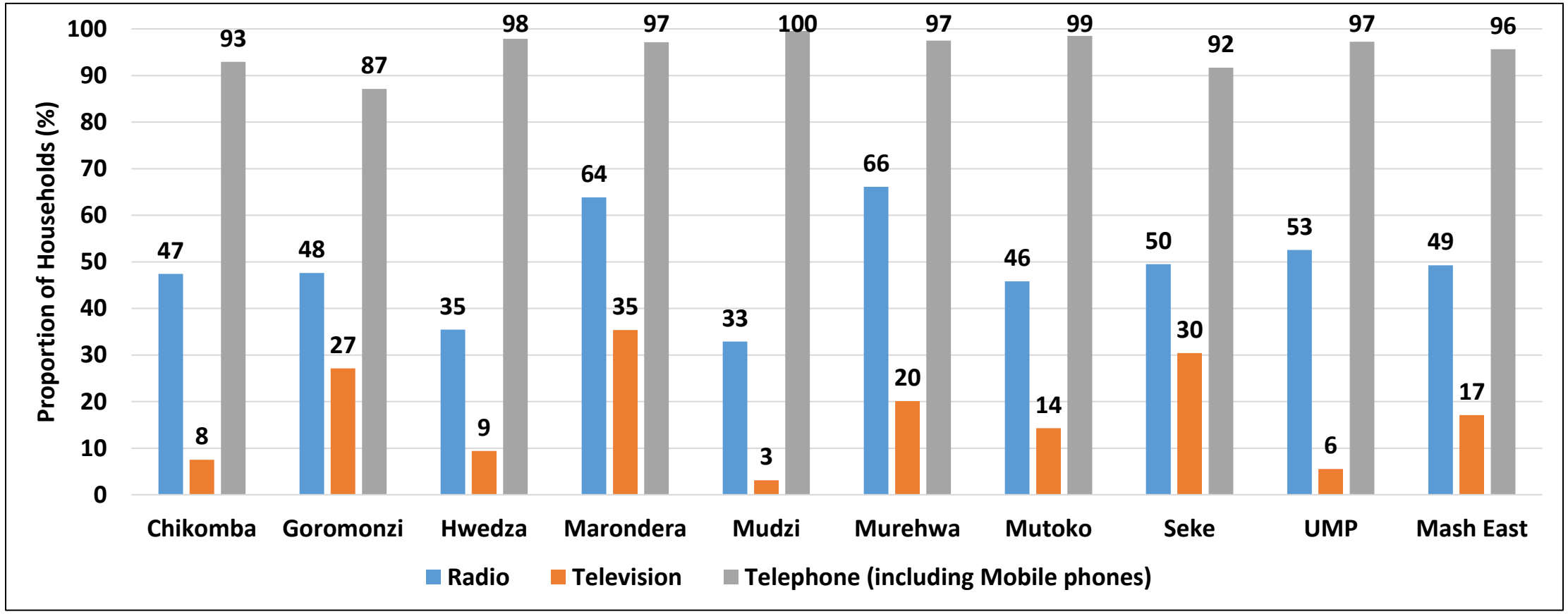
Household Assets

Household Ownership of Productive Assets

	Plough oxen pulled (%)	Scotch cart (%)	Sickle (%)	Pick-axe (%)	Axe (%)	Pruning/cutting shears (%)	Hoe (%)	Spade or shovel (%)	Traditional and modern beehive (%)	Knapsack sprayer (%)	Water pump (%)	Tractor (%)	Sheller (%)	Cultivator, ridger, planter (%)	Wheel barrow (%)
Chikomba	43	34	79	55	92	4	95	76	2	21	3		1	10	41
Goromonzi	4	9	38	29	79	1	97	42		9	4	1		2	21
Hwedza	37	32	50	33	93	1	98	62	2	25	3			14	55
Marondera	44	38	38	26	86	2	98	64	3	37	11		1	11	60
Mudzi	53	32	42	20	95		99	40	3	11	2				16
Murewa	44	37	49	43	86	4	98	73	4	38	10	2		25	49
Mutoko	39	34	29	36	92	5	94	45	4	29	10	1	1	9	51
Seke	18	19	46	44	72	6	90	56	9	31	8		1	4	37
UMP	40	19	49	26	96		99	65	4	31	2			3	29
Mash East	**36**	29	47	34	88	2	97	58	3	26	6	1		9	40

- The majority of the households owned hoes (97%) and axes (88%).
- However ownership of labour saving assets was low with only 36% of rural households owning oxen pulled ploughs and 1% tractors.

Household Ownership of Information Communication Technology Assets



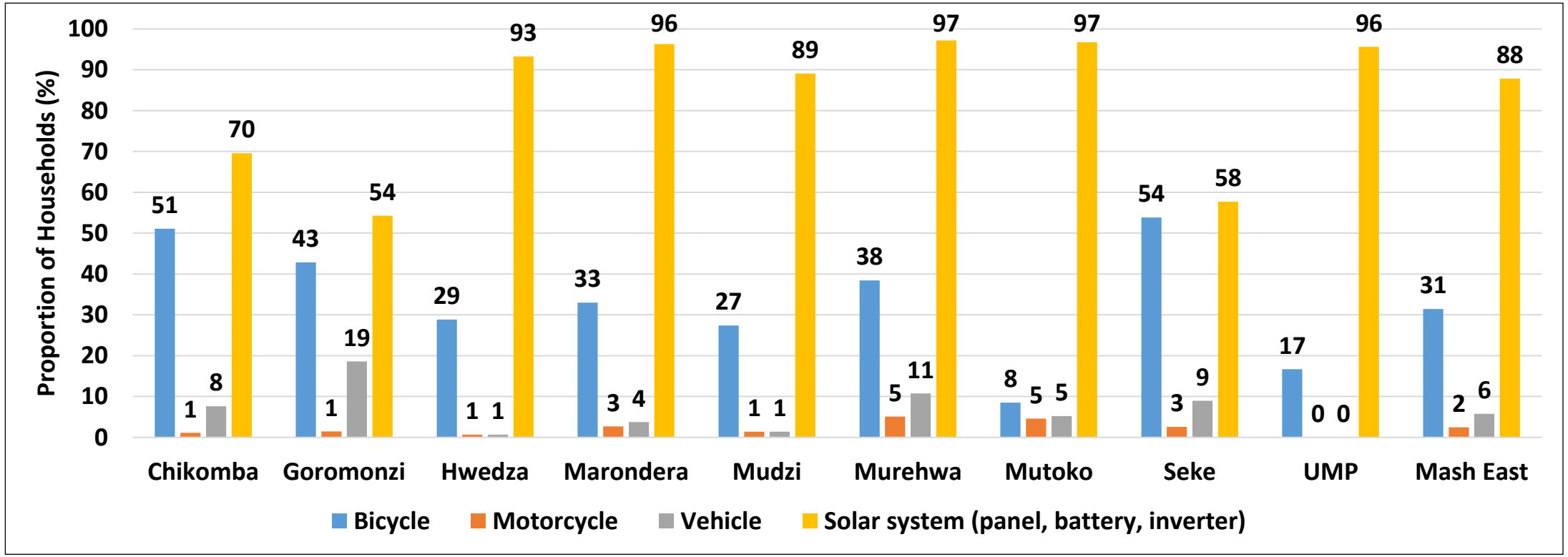
- Ninety six percent of the rural households owned telephones (including mobile phones), 49% radios and 17% televisions.

Household Ownership of Entrepreneurial Assets

District	Grain Mill/shop (%)	Peanut butter producing machine (%)	Welding machine (%)	Maputi gun (%)	Sewing machine (%)	Stamp mill (%)
Chikomba	63	13	0	0	25	0
Goromonzi	14	0	29	0	43	14
Hwedza	7	60	0	0	37	0
Marondera	19	10	5	5	67	0
Mudzi	33	0	0	0	67	0
Murehwa	34	7	7	10	62	3
Mutoko	27	18	5	0	50	0
Seke	36	0	9	0	64	0
UMP	12	0	0	6	82	0
Mash East	24	18	5	3	56	1

- In Mashonaland East, 56% of the households owned sewing machines, 24% (grain mills) and 18% (peanut butter machines).
- Chikomba (63%) had the highest proportion of households owning grain mills.

Household Ownership of Mobility and Solar System Assets



- The majority of the households (88%) owned solar systems.

Youth Challenges and Priorities

Youth Challenges by District

District	Drug and substance abuse (%)	Early marriages (%)	School dropouts (%)	Unemployment (%)	Lack of income generating projects (%)	Lack of life survival/ entrepreneurial skills (%)	Lack of access to funds	Limited access to water for projects (%)	Lack of school fees (%)	Shortages of schools (%)	Shortages of clinics (%)	Limited access to recreational facilities (%)	Economic challenges/ high cost of living (%)	Bad roads (%)	Drought/long dry spells (%)	Limited information communication services (%)
Chikomba	19	13	14	23	13	2	3	0	5	1	2	0	1	2	2	0
Goromonzi	17	13	10	17	11	5	5	3	3	1	1	2	4	3	3	1
Hwedza	1	1	0	14	17	5	14	5	4	1	2	0	15	3	17	0
Marondera	9	6	6	17	17	7	14	3	1	1	1	2	8	4	4	1
Mudzi	7	5	3	15	19	6	7	11	3	1	2	0	8	1	11	0
Murehwa	17	11	7	19	11	8	10	2	2	1	2	1	3	2	2	1
Mutoko	17	12	8	9	7	6	5	5	5	3	1	3	7	1	7	0
Seke	13	9	10	19	15	7	12	2	5	2	1	1	2	0	1	0
UMP	24	14	6	23	11	5	8	1	1	0	0	0	4	0	3	0
Mash East	**14**	9	7	**17**	**13**	6	9	4	3	1	1	1	6	2	6	0

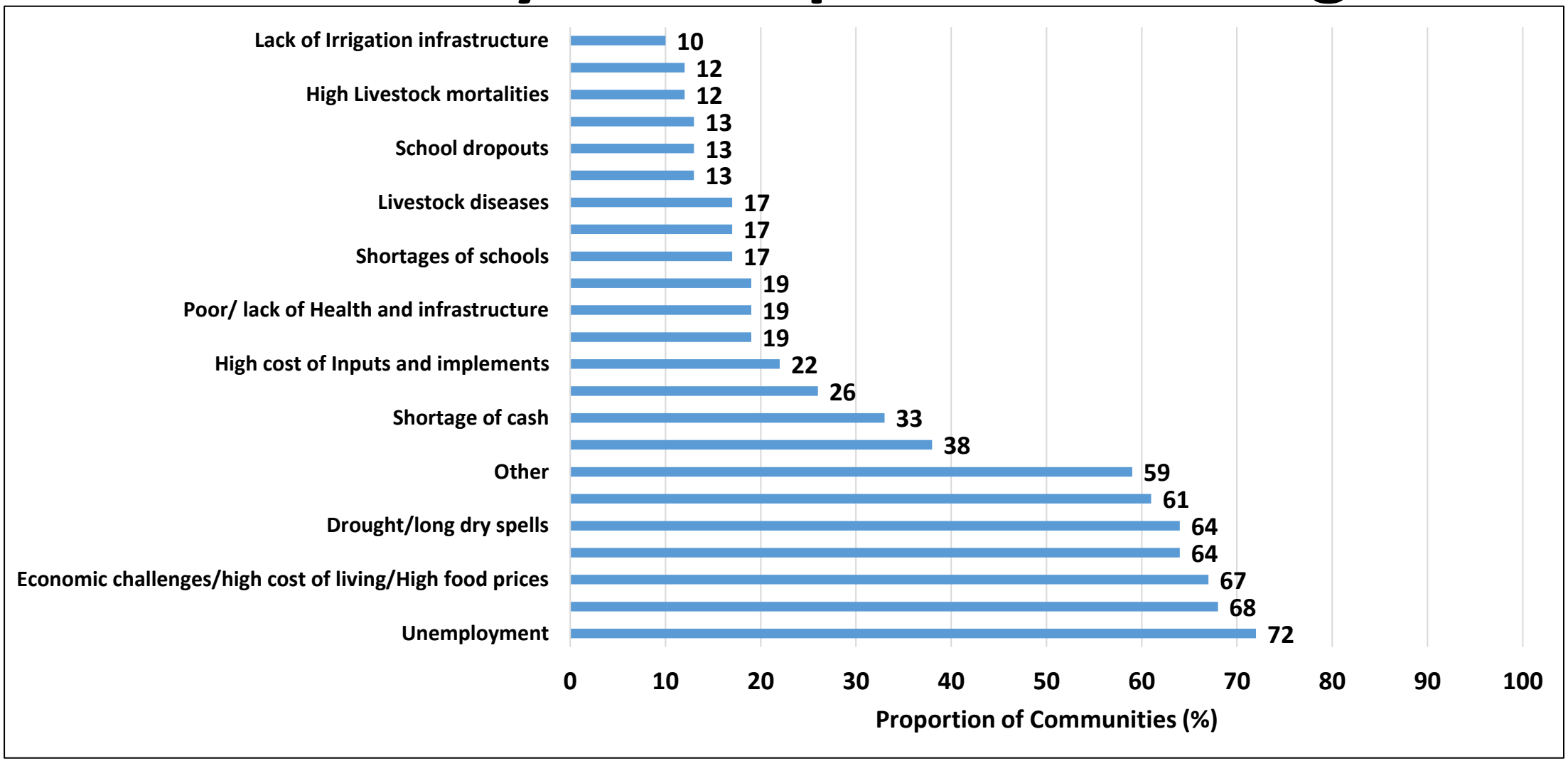
- Unemployment (17%), drug and substance abuse (14%) and lack of income generating projects (13%) were ranked as the top challenges affecting the youths.

Youths Priorities by District

District	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 centres (Social centres) (%)	Markets linkages (%)	Irrigation schemes (%)
Chikomba	25	14	6	26	15	9	1	0	1	0	2	1	0
Goromonzi	20	12	6	18	12	11	2	2	3	2	9	0	2
Hwedza	13	3	1	20	15	5	4	8	11	4	1	3	11
Marondera	16	13	14	17	18	4	1	5	1	1	3	3	2
Mudzi	15	7	7	21	7	7	3	9	6	8	2	1	8
Murehwa	21	14	6	16	13	9	1	4	3	2	6	3	2
Mutoko	17	8	8	10	11	11	4	7	3	4	8	5	3
Seke	18	13	7	19	15	11	3	3	1	2	5	2	1
UMP	24	12	5	24	19	2	0	4	0	0	1	3	4
Mash East	**19**	10	7	**18**	14	8	2	5	3	3	4	2	4

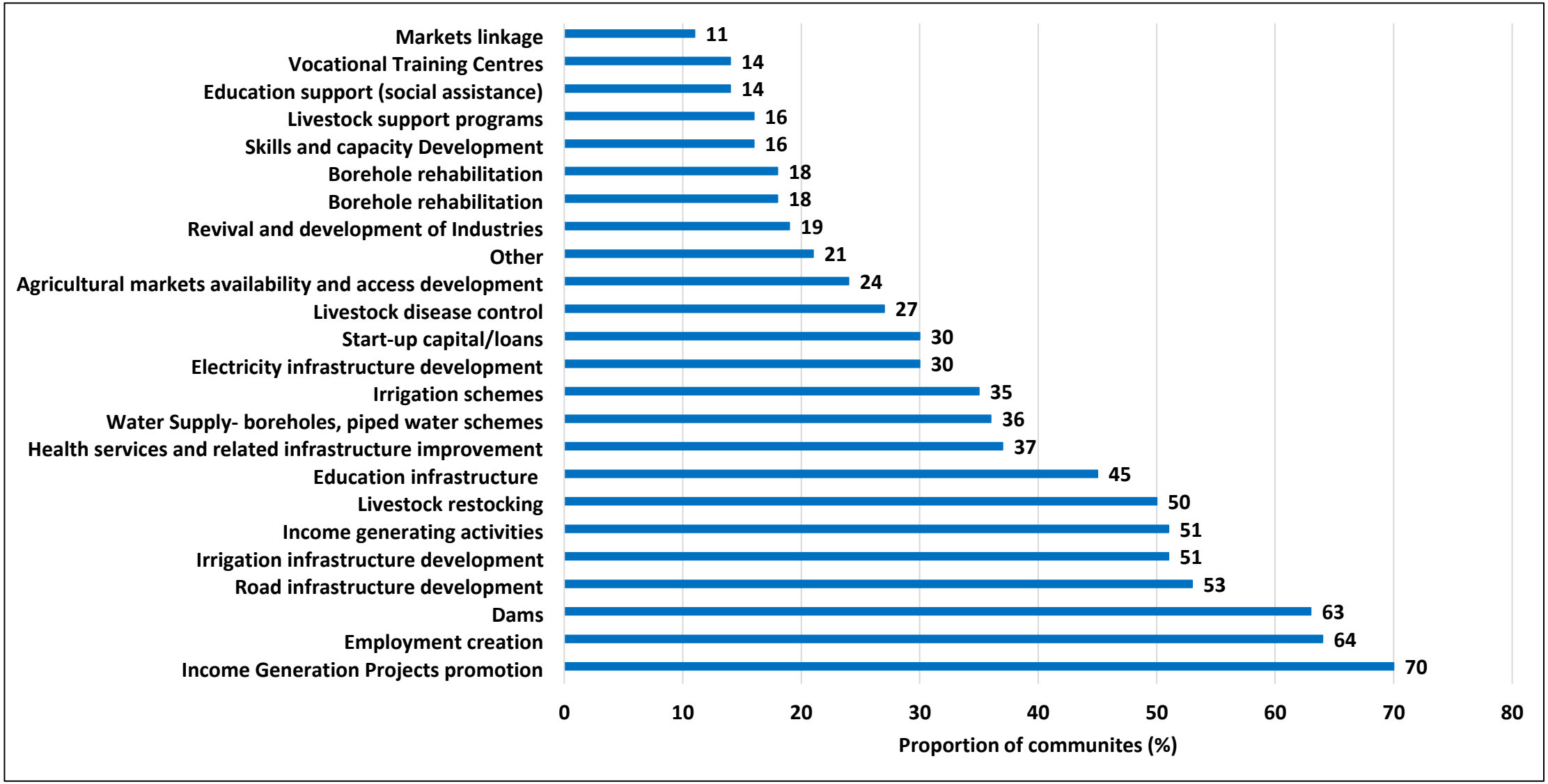
- Job creation (19%), income generating activities (18%) and skills development (10%) were ranked as the top youth development priorities.

Community Development Challenges



- Unemployment (72%), lack of income generating projects (68%) and economic challenges (67%) were cited as the most common community development challenges.

Community Development Priorities



- Income generating projects (70%), employment creation (64%) and dam construction (63%) were ranked as the top three community development priorities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Education**: The proportion of children who were sent away from school because of non-payment of school fees was 54%. The Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education should strengthen the policy that recommends that no child should be sent away from school.
- **COVID -19:** The provincial average of 19% of those household heads who have not been vaccinated is of concern. More needs to be done to ensure everyone is protected against COVID-19.
- **Health**: Findings from the survey indicated that 19% of the household heads in the province have not been vaccinated against COVID-19. Therefore, the Ministry responsible for Health together with relevant stakeholders needs to intensify risk communication and awareness campaigns to sensitize communities on the continued existence of the pandemic through all media (radio, television, social media, and print).
- **Water:** The proportion of households accessing basic water decreased from 77% in 2021 to 69% in 2022. It is recommended that the ministries responsible for water provision, health, and local government should accelerate the provision of basic water services to rural communities prioritizing Mudzi district which has 32% of its households accessing limited water services.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Sanitation:** The proportion of households which were practising open defecation was 14%. With Mudzi (24%) and Chikomba (22%) being the highest. It is therefore recommended that local authorities and other WASH stakeholders facilitate the construction of latrines. Community initiatives such as building materials ISALS for the construction of low-cost materials should be promoted.

- **Hygiene Practices:** Handwashing facilities were not available in the majority of the households (94%). Hand washing is a universal practice that is recommended in the prevention of diarrheal diseases and the spread of communicable diseases. The Ministry responsible for health should consider upscaling participatory hygiene activities at the community level.

- **Approximate Distance of the Nearest Primary School**: Only 27% of households in the province reported having a school within a 5km radius. There is a need to consider setting up of satellite schools within the global recommended distance of 5km. Short distances to primary schools can promote attendance and ensure an increase in literacy rates. Priority should be given to Chikomba district which had only 8% of households having a school that is within 5km.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Social Protection:** Elderly-headed households constituted 29.1% of the sampled households at the provincial level and child-headed households were at 7.9%. These are some of the most vulnerable groups which require holistic social protection services. Also, acknowledgment is made for the concerted efforts being made by different stakeholders to ensure protection services are given to these special groups. However, it is recommended that the Ministries responsible for social development, health, finance, local leadership, community groups as well as UN/NGOs, among others, continue collaborating in ensuring that the elderly and children are prioritized with services.

- **Shocks:** The results of the assessment indicated that the province was affected by different shocks such as being charged more for mobile money/swipe and increased cereal prices. It is recommended that resilience-building programmes that strengthen the transformative capacity of rural communities and households should be scaled up.

- **Irrigation:** Of the seventy irrigation schemes in the province, 32 were functional,16 were partially functional and 22 were non-functional. Small-scale irrigation schemes are considered a viable economic solution to agricultural productivity challenges in drought-prone farming areas. It is recommended that the government and ministry responsible for irrigation commit resources to facilitate the rehabilitation of the 16 partially functional and 22 non-functional irrigation schemes. Mudzi, Mutoko and Seke districts should be prioritized as the number of non-functional schemes was high

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Cereal Sufficiency**: The findings indicate that there is cereal insufficiency in the province at 87%. To cushion the households against cereal insufficiency, there is need for the government to move cereals from areas of surplus to those with insufficient supplies. The liberalization of cereal importation from the region should be extended for the next two cropping seasons. The Ministry responsible for local government should consider resuscitating the Zunde ramambo initiative and facilitate an uninterrupted provision of resources to ensure community sustenance

- **Crop production:** Maize remains the most grown crop across the province. The proportion of households using improved granaries was low (2%). Limited use of improved granaries can have a negative effect on post-harvest management and affect the quality of harvest. The production of traditional/ small grains remains low with sorghum at 14%, finger millet (5.2%), and pearl millet 2.3%. It is recommended that the Ministry responsible for agriculture scale up production of traditional grains, post-harvest management training, and technology transfer to farmers to improve production time and processing of traditional grains.

- **Livestock**: The proportion of households that did not own cattle remained high at 67.5%. On the other, hand the results of the assessment showed that there are no interventions for livestock support, (large stock pass-on, as well as livestock non pass-on) therefore it is recommended that the government and other development partners establish livestock support programmes to improve the provincial cattle herd.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Only 8% of the households indicated that they had vaccinated their livestock. Livestock dipping was also practised by a small proportion of households (10%). The department responsible for livestock should consider scaling up low-cost community initiatives that promote livestock vaccination, deworming, and dipping to prevent the national herd against livestock diseases
- **Child Nutrition**: The proportion of children under the age of five with Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) was high in Mudzi (13.9%), Mutoko (9.4%), Marondera (9%), Murehwa (7.7%), and Goromonzi (6%). The GAM prevalence in the five districts was above the global threshold of 5%. This could be attributed to poor feeding practices and a sub- optimal child survival environment. It is recommended that the Ministry responsible for Health and Child Care scale up active screening at the community level and strengthen referral linkages with other sectors that support food and nutrition security.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Food Consumption Patterns:** There was a slight improvement in household consumption patterns as compared to the 2020/21 season. There are however early signs that the food security situation is starting to deteriorate as reflected by households that were employing crisis and emergency coping strategies. There is need to strengthen community programmes that enhance households' capacity to absorb and cope with food insecurity shocks.
- The food consumption patterns of a majority of households reflected that access to quality diets was a challenge. The consumption of protein-rich foods was low and the price accessibility of these foods might be a limiting factor. The Ministry responsible for Agriculture and Livestock should consider small livestock rearing innovations for vulnerable households.
- **Food Safety**: Only 15.5% of the sampled households in Mashonaland East received information on food safety issues. There is need for relevant stakeholders who include the Ministry responsible for health, information and consumer pressure groups to collaborate in the dissemination of information on food safety to communities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- **Gender-Based Violence**: Findings of the assessment indicated that the main perpetrator of GBV was the spouse (60.1%). It is recommended that the Ministry responsible for gender issues, the Victim Friendly Unit, relevant UN/NGOs, Faith-Based Organisations, Traditional Leadership, and community-based–organizations strengthen community capacity through awareness campaigns, training, and roadshows.
- **Youth Development Priorities:** Job Creation (19%), income-generating activities (18%), and start-up loans were the three youth development priorities cited by communities. Given the economic development agenda, local authorities should devise devolution strategies that are centered around investments in human capital and technological innovations that target youths at the community level.
- **Community Development Challenges:** Unemployment (72%), lack of income-generating projects (68%), and economic challenges (67%) were cited as the most common community development challenges.

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