



ZIMBABWE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (ZIMVAC)

RURAL LIVELIHOODS ASSESSMENT REPORT MASVINGO PROVINCE 2022

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

Acknowledgement of Support



ZIMBABWE



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



For Community Development
& Food Security



care



World Health
Organization



Spotlight
Initiative
To eliminate violence
against women and girls

START
NETWORK

Acronyms

EA	Enumeration Area
FNC	Food and Nutrition Council
FNSP	Food and Nutrition Security Policy
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

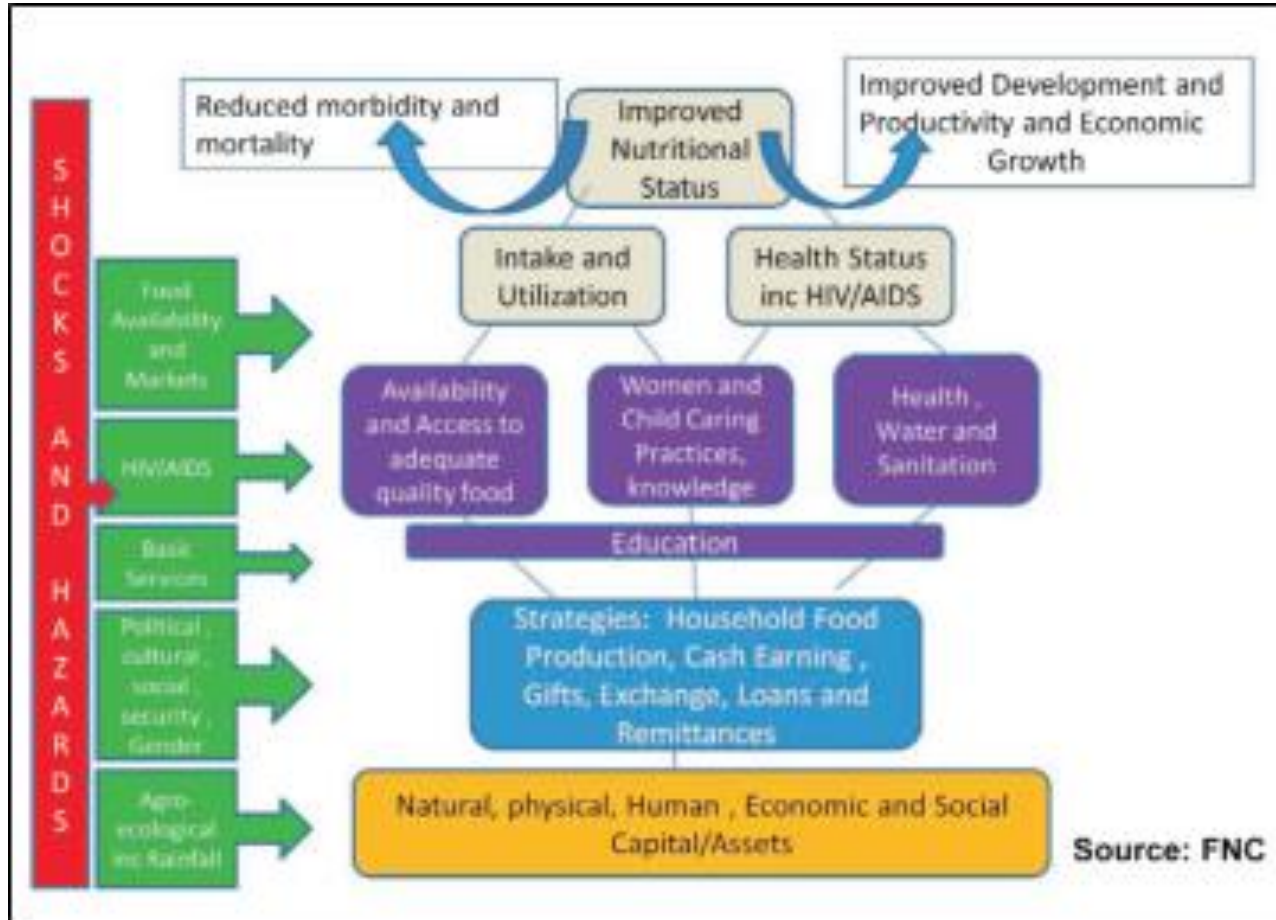
- c) Food Subsidies* through continued implementation of social protection measures to improve food access (e.g. maize meal subsidies).
- d) Enabling environment-* Government also opened up space for development partners to contribute and assist.
- e) Removing restrictions on food importation* such as 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



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

Figure 1: Food and Nutrition Conceptual Framework

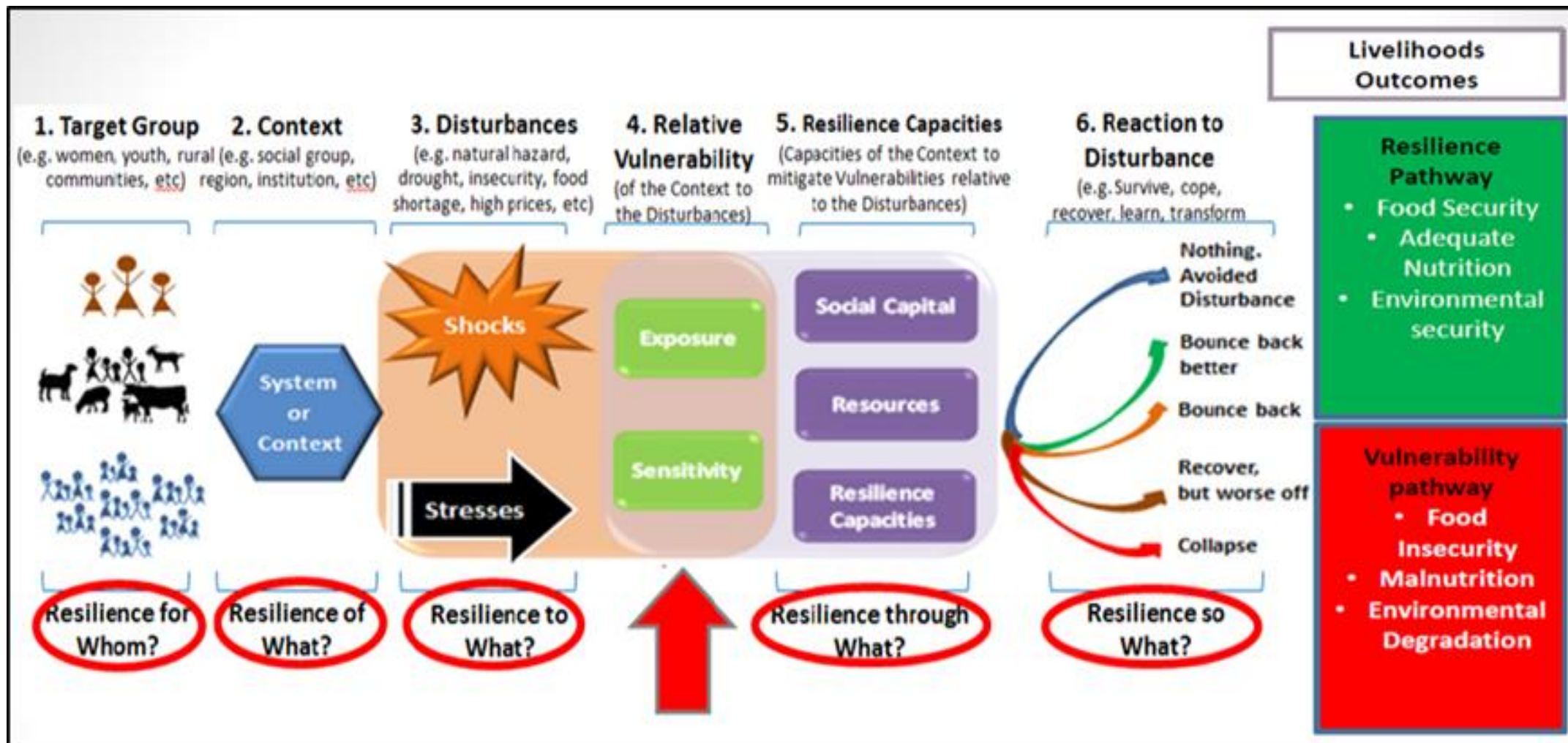


Figure 2: Zimbabwe Resilience Framework (UNDP Zimbabwe, 2015)

Methodology – Assessment Process

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

Methodology – Assessment Process

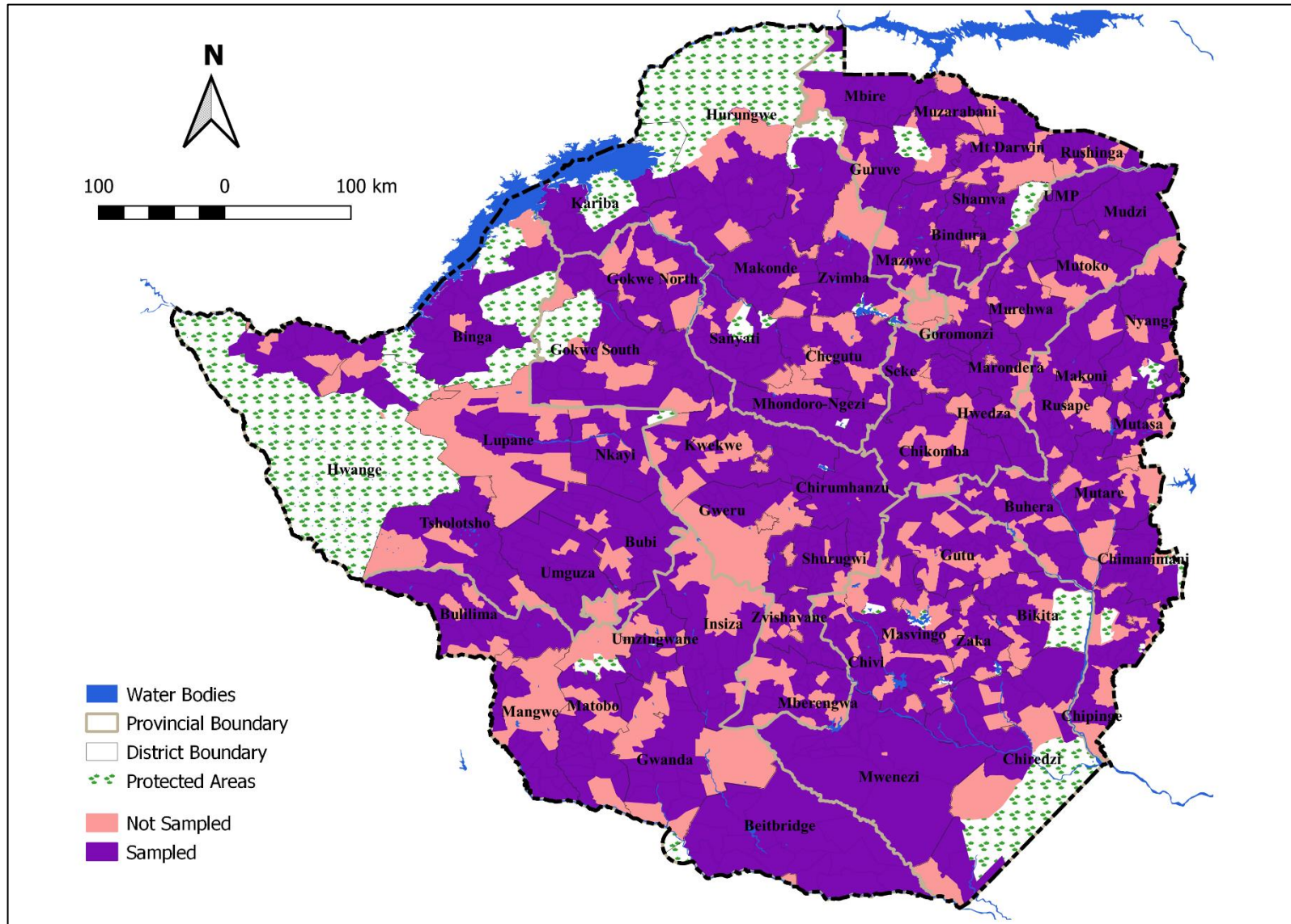
- Enumerator training was held from 9 to 10 May 2022. Primary data collection took place from 11 to 23 May 2022. In recognising the risk of spreading COVID-19 during data collection, innovative approaches were used to collect vital information without causing any harm.
- The RLA was guided by global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

Methodology - Sampling and Sample Size

- Household food insecurity prevalence was used as the key indicator to determine the sample to ensure 95% confidence level of statistical representativeness at district, provincial and national level.
- The survey collected data from 1 500 randomly selected Enumerated Areas (EAs):
- A two staged cluster sampling was used and comprised of;
 - Sampling of 25 clusters per each of the 60 rural districts, denoted as EAs in this assessment, from the Zimbabwe Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT) 2012 master sampling frame using the PPS methodology
 - The second stage involved the systematic random sampling of 10 households per EA (village).
- At most, 250 households were sampled per district, bringing the total sampled households to **1 750**
- Out of the **1 750** sampled households, **1 738** households were interviewed households, giving a **99.3%** response rate.
- Twelve FGDs and one Key Informant Interview (KII) on irrigation and grazing were held per district.

District	Number of Sampled Households
Bikita	250
Chiredzi	250
Chivi	250
Gutu	240
Masvingo	248
Mwenezi	250
Zaka	250
Masvingo Province	1738

Methodology – Sampled Wards



Data Preparation and Analysis

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

Technical Scope

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

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

Assessment Findings

Demographic Description of Sample

Household Characteristics

District	Male (%)	Female (%)	Average Household Size
Bikita	47	53	3.9
Chiredzi	48	52	4.9
Chivi	45	55	5.1
Gutu	47	53	3.5
Masvingo	44	56	4.3
Mwenezi	45	55	4.5
Zaka	46	54	4.1
Masvingo Province	46	54	4.3

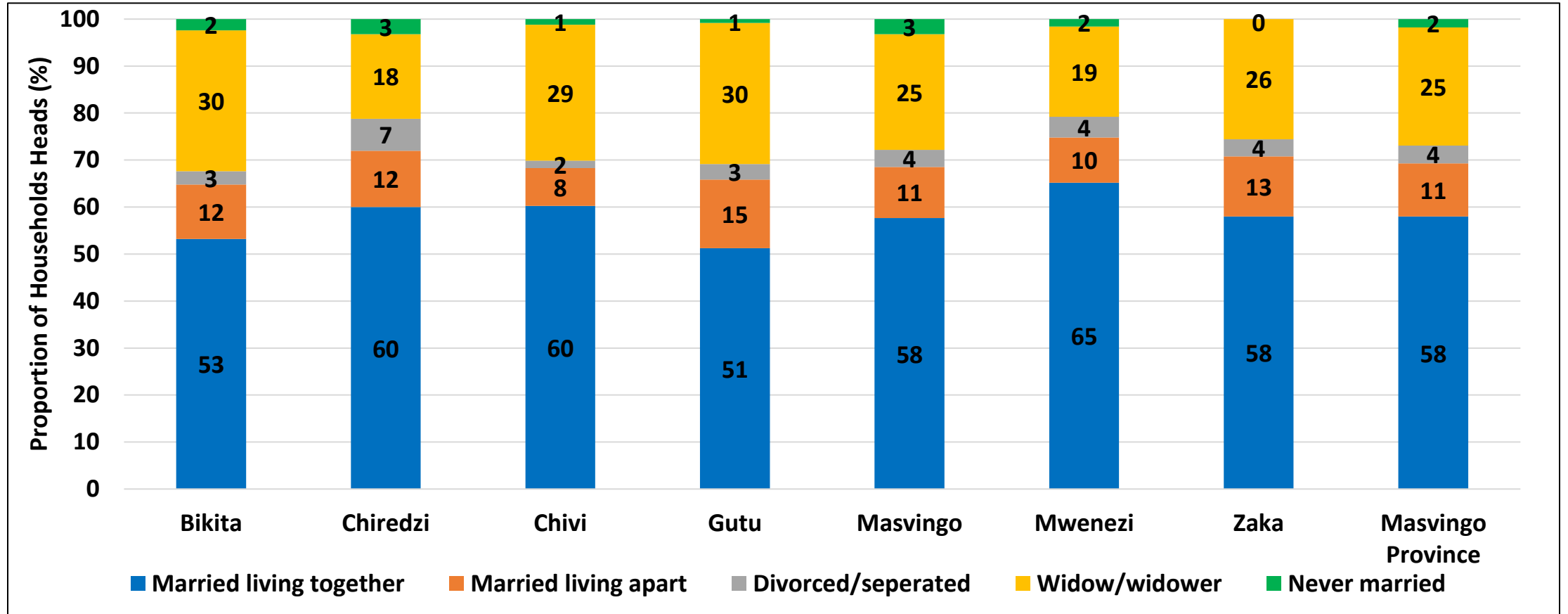
- Of the sampled population, 46% were male and 54% were female.
- The average household size was 4.3.

Characteristics of Household Head: Sex and Age

District	Average Household Head Age (Years)	Male headed Households (%)	Female headed Households (%)	Child headed Households (%)	Elderly headed Households (%)	Chronically ill Households Heads (%)
Bikita	52.8	73.6	26.4	1.2	28.8	2.0
Chiredzi	45.6	71.1	28.9	2.0	14.8	2.8
Chivi	55.3	72.4	27.6	1.2	31.5	7.6
Gutu	56.3	69.6	30.4	0.4	34.6	2.1
Masvingo	52.7	70.6	29.4	0.4	26.2	6.0
Mwenezi	49.4	70.8	29.2	4.0	20.9	6.0
Zaka	53.5	71.5	28.5	2.0	27.7	8.4
Masvingo Province	52.2	71.4	28.6	1.6	26.3	5.0

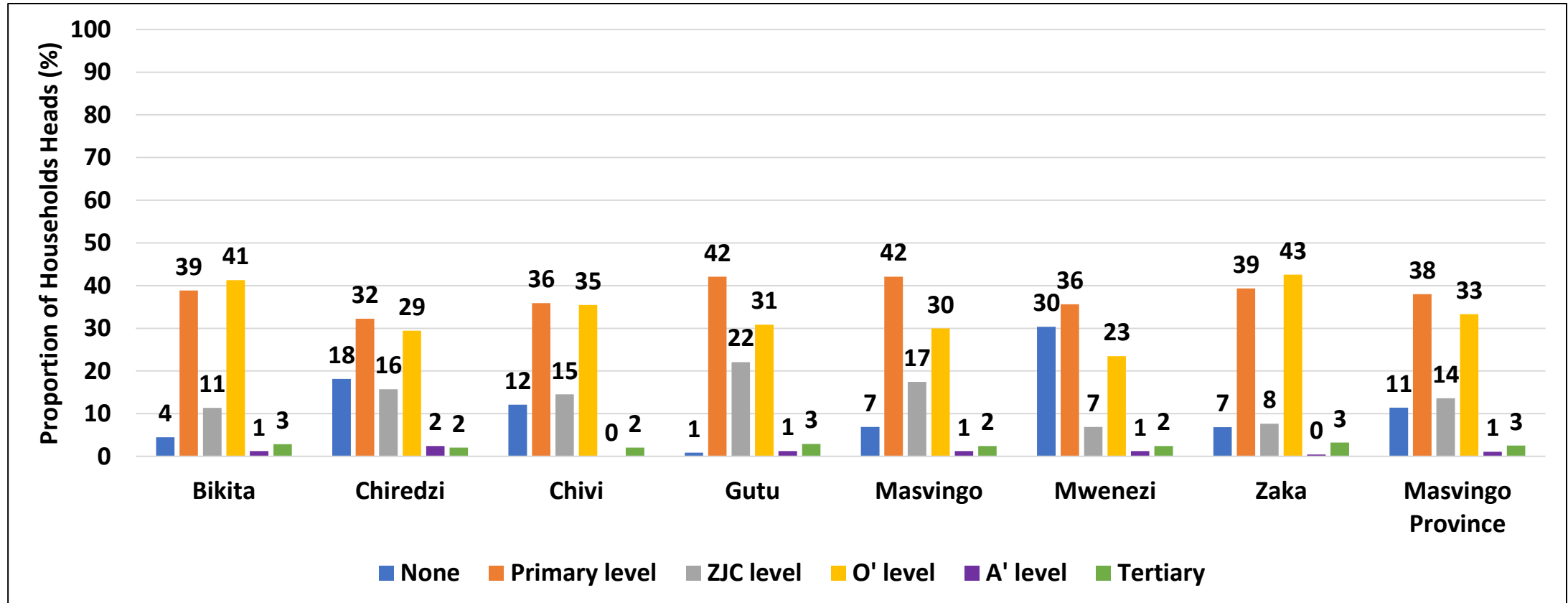
- In Masvingo province 71.4% of households were male headed whilst 28.6% were female headed.
- The average age of household head was 52.2 years which is within the economic productive age group.

Characteristics of Household Head: Marital Status



- In Masvingo province, 58% of household heads were married and living together whilst 25% were either widows or widowers.
- Bikita and Gutu (30%) had the highest proportion of household heads who were widowed.

Characteristics of Household Head: Education Level Attained



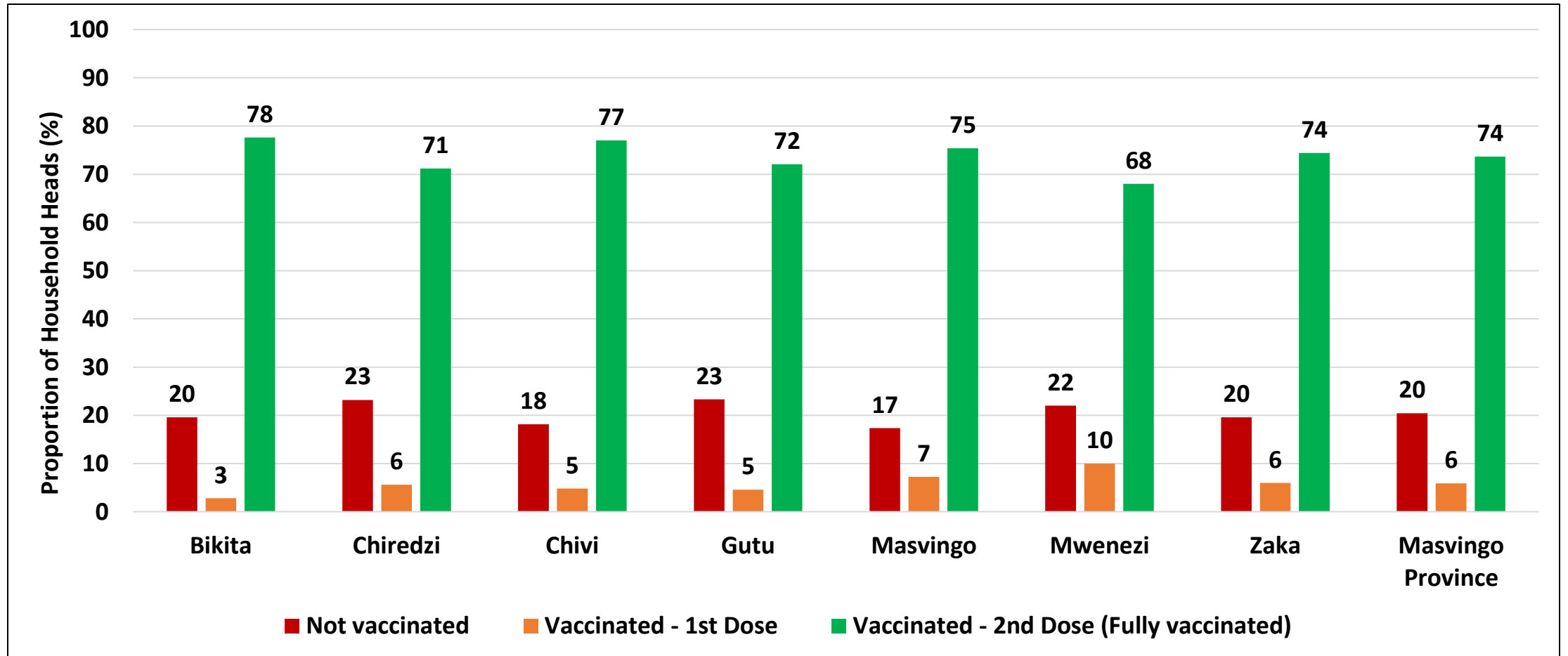
- About 89% of the household heads had at least attained primary level education or higher in the province.
- Gutu and Masvingo districts had the highest proportion of household heads that had attained education level above primary.

Characteristics of Household Head: Religion

District	Roman Catholic (%)	Protestant Churches (%)	Pentecostal Churches (%)	Apostolic Sects (%)	Zion (%)	Other Christian (%)	Islam (%)	Traditional (%)	Other religion (%)	No religion (%)
Bikita	20.8	3.2	8.4	34.4	25.2	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2
Chiredzi	2.4	4.4	12.0	39.6	21.6	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.8
Chivi	12.4	10.0	9.6	28.5	22.1	4.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	11.2
Gutu	17.5	11.7	15.0	44.2	7.9	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	2.9
Masvingo	7.7	14.1	13.7	32.3	10.5	5.6	0.4	0.0	0.8	14.9
Mwenezi	6.0	11.6	6.0	20.4	38.0	5.6	0.0	2.8	0.4	9.2
Zaka	9.6	2.8	13.2	29.2	27.2	10.8	0.0	0.4	1.6	5.2
Masvingo Province	10.9	8.2	11.1	32.6	21.9	4.9	0.1	0.5	0.7	9.1

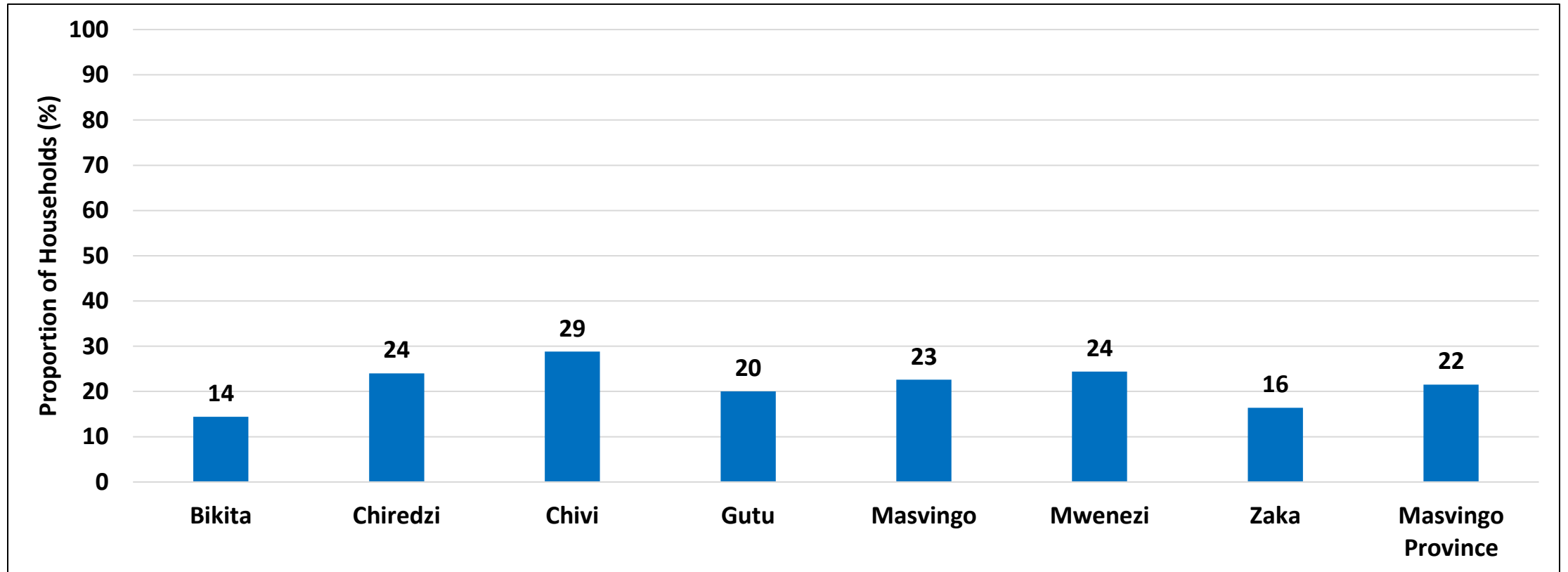
- About 32.6% of the household heads in Masvingo Province were of the Apostolic Sect religion.
- Islam 0.1% was the least followed religion by household heads.

Household Head COVID 19 Vaccination Status



- In Masvingo Province, 74% of household heads were fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- Bikita district had the highest proportion of household heads that were fully vaccinated (78%) whilst Mwenezi had the least (68%).

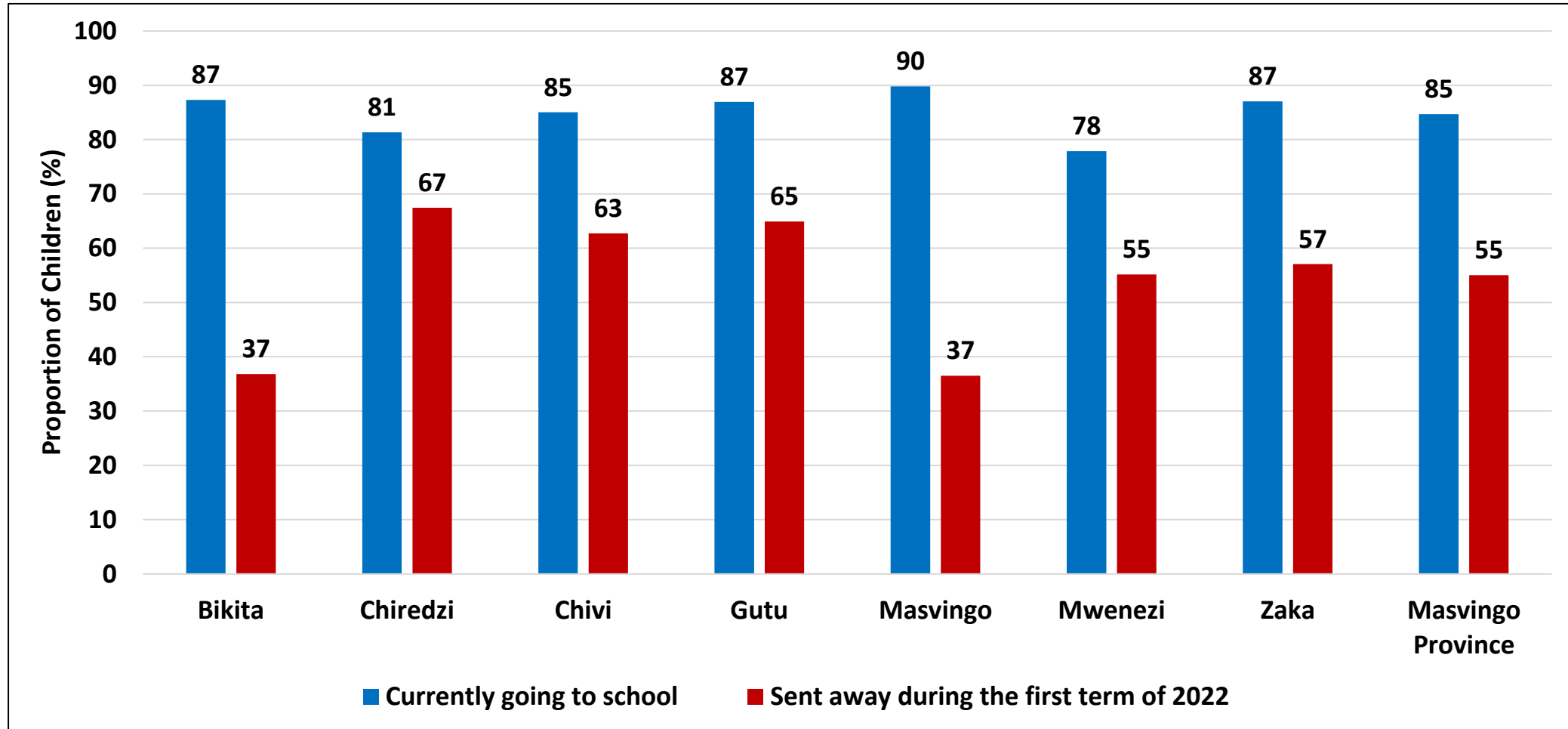
Orphaned Children by District



- The proportion of households that had orphans in Masvingo Province was 22%.
- The highest proportion of orphaned children was recorded in Chivi district (29%) whilst the least was in Bikita district (14%).

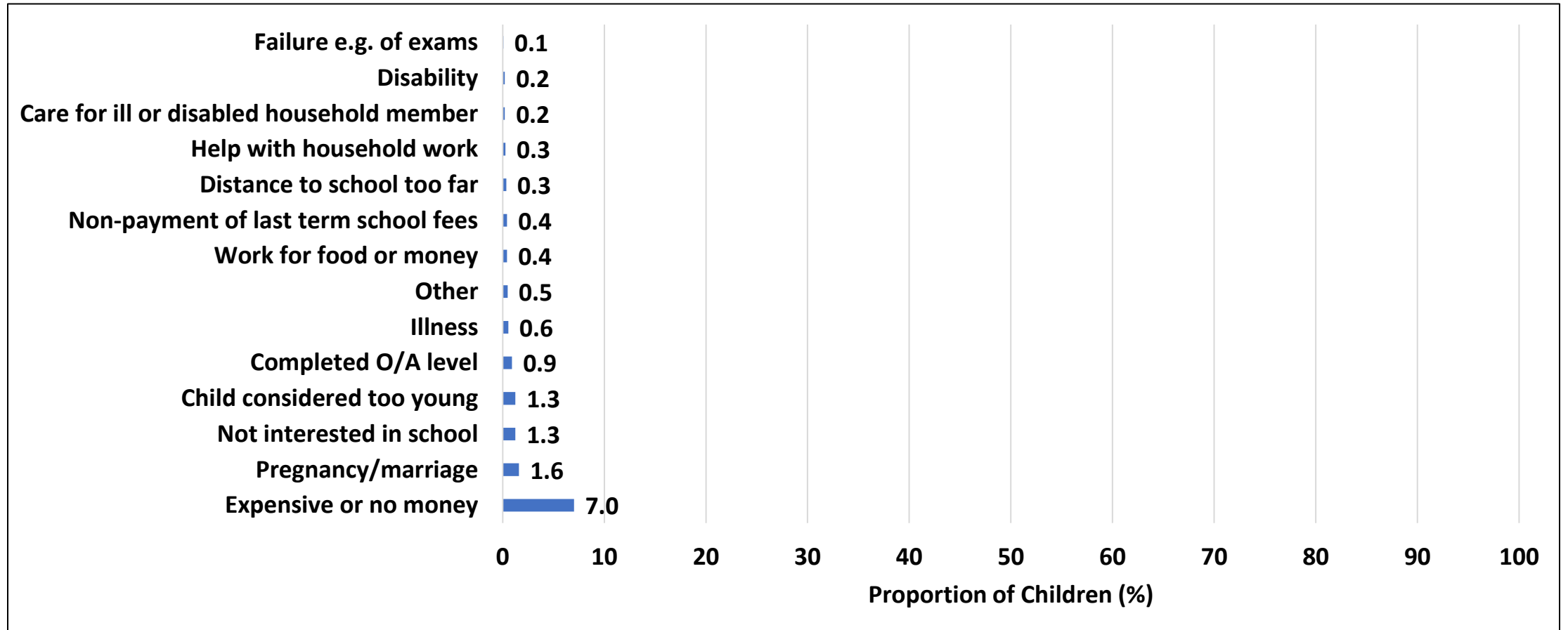
Education

School Attendance



- At provincial level 85% of the children were in school at the time of the survey.
- The highest proportion of children who were in school at the time of the survey was reported in Masvingo District (90%).
- Chiredzi (67%) had the highest proportion of children who were ever sent away during the first term due to non payment of fees.

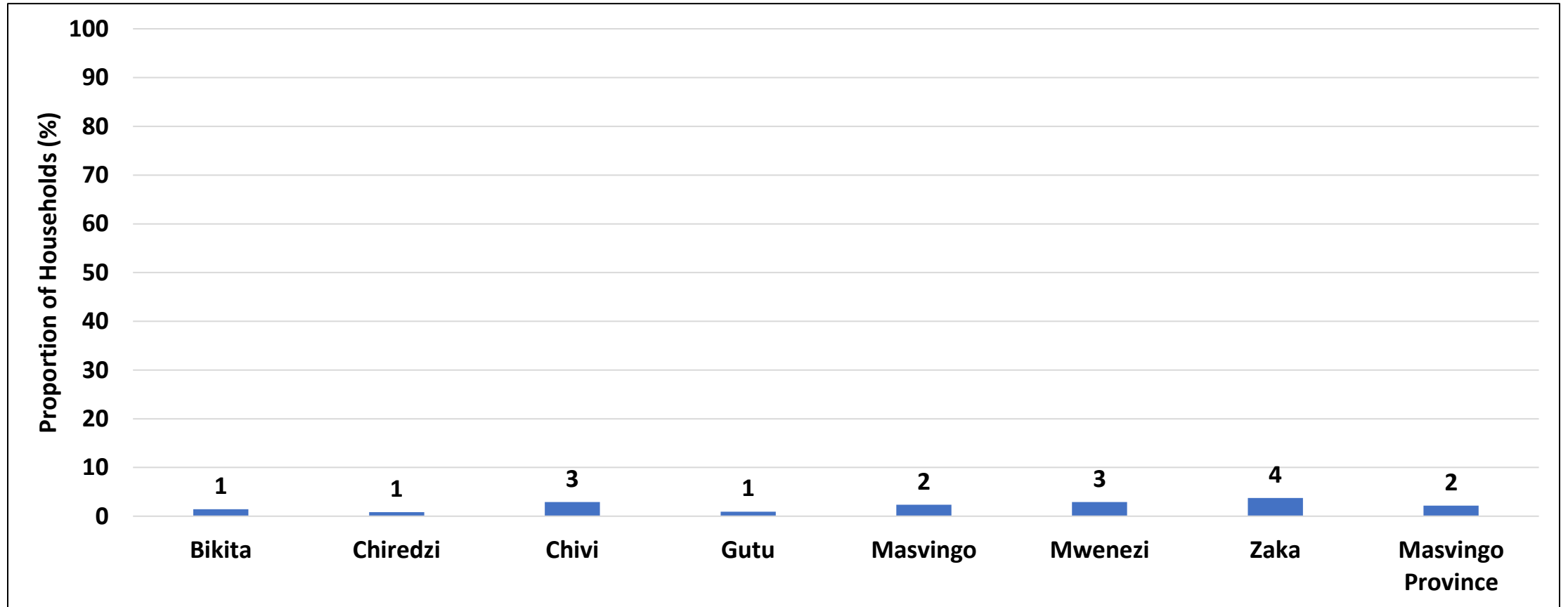
Major Reasons for Children Not Being in School



- About 7% of children were out of school because it was expensive or there was no money and 1.6% due to early marriages or pregnancies.

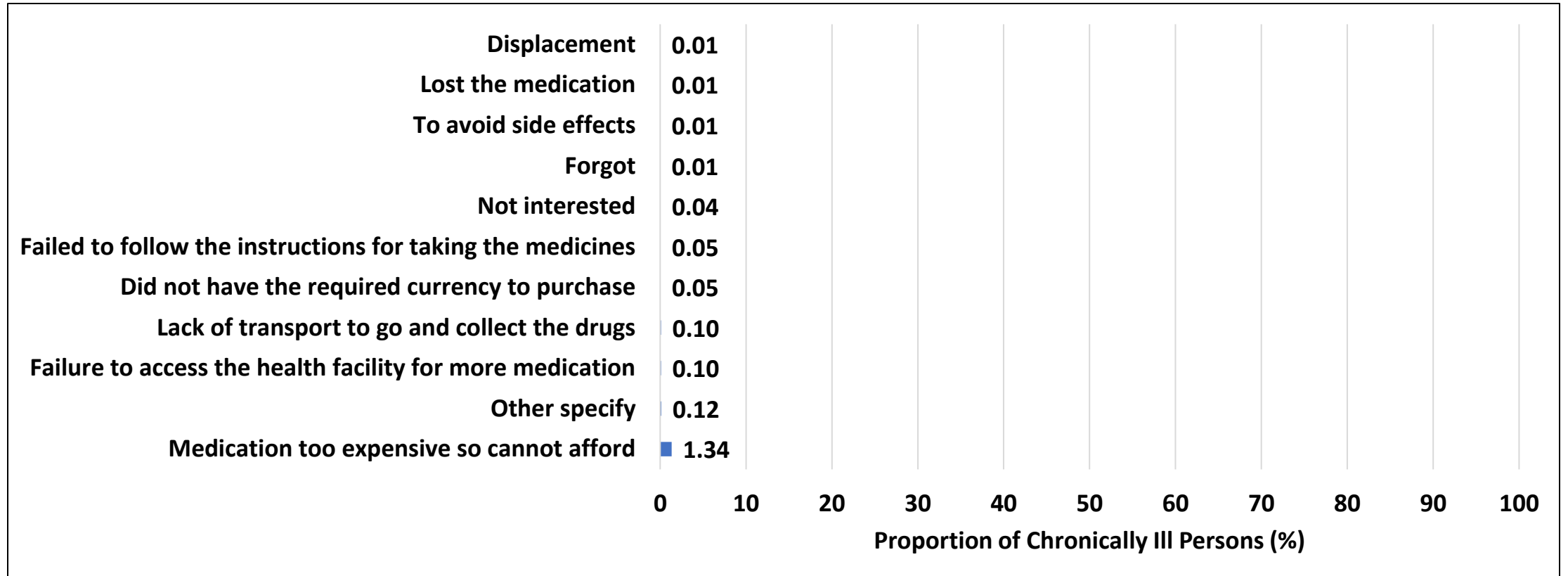
Chronic Conditions

Households with Members that had Chronic Conditions



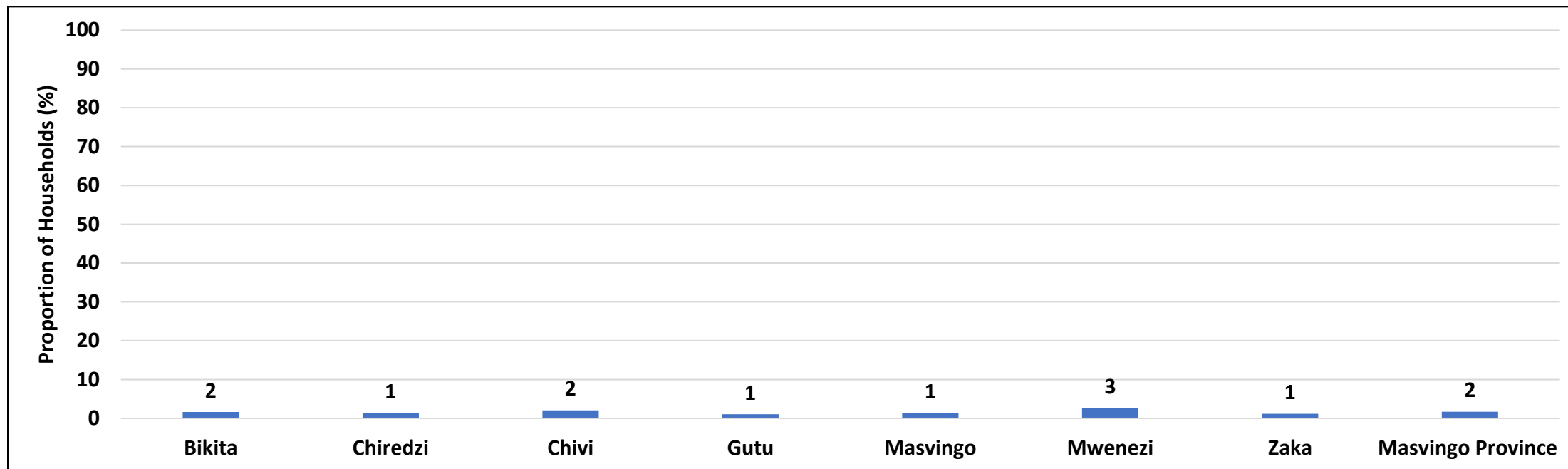
- At provincial level, 2% of the households had members who had chronic conditions.
- Zaka (4%) had the highest proportion whilst the least was in Gutu (1%), Chiredzi (1%) and Bikita (1%).

Reasons for Missing Medication for Persons with Chronic Conditions (2%)



- Medication being too expensive (1.34%) was cited as the main reason for missing medication for persons suffering from chronic conditions in Masvingo Province.

Proportion of Households with a Mentally Challenged Member



- Out of the sampled households in Masvingo province, 2% indicated that they had a member who was mentally challenged.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

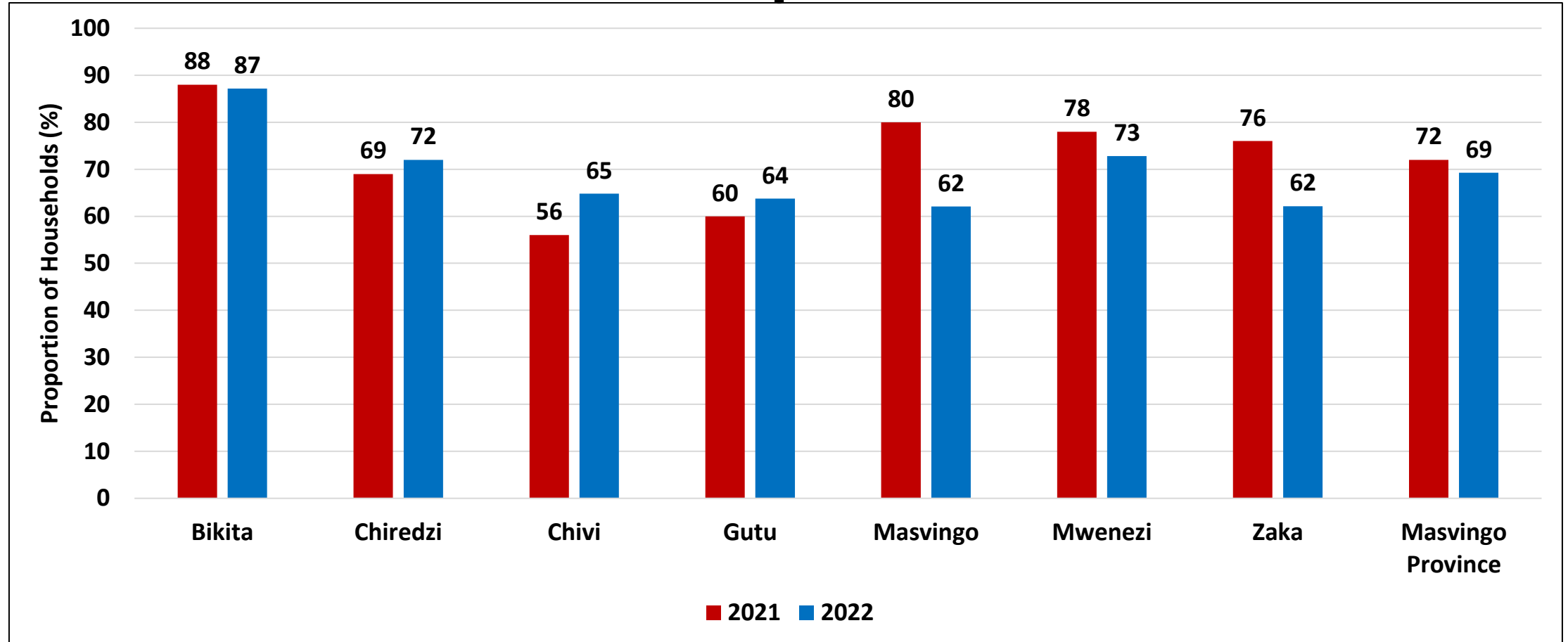
Ladder for Drinking Water Services

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

Note :

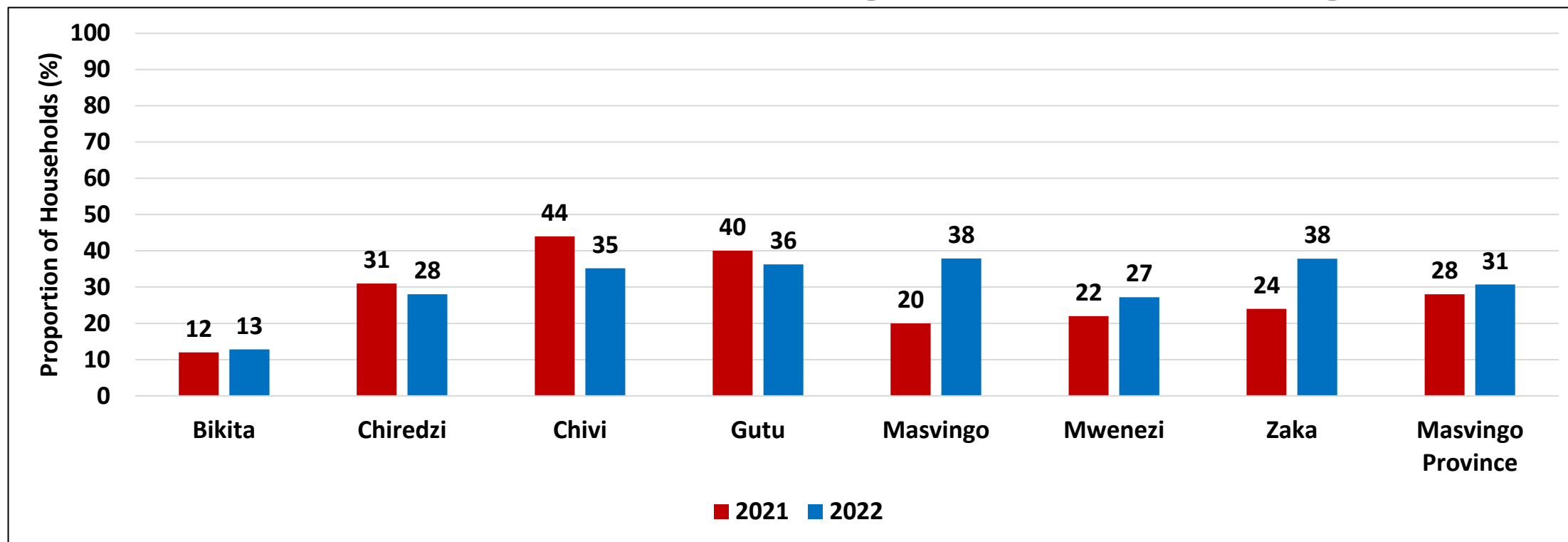
“Improved” drinking water sources are further defined by the quality of the water they produce, and are protected from faecal contamination by the nature of their construction or through an intervention to protect from outside contamination. Such sources include: piped water into dwelling, plot, or yard;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

Access to Improved Water



- At provincial level 69% of households had access to improved water.
- In Chivi district there was a marginal increase in the proportion of households having access to improved water from 56% in 2021 to 65% in 2022 whilst a decline was observed in Masvingo district.

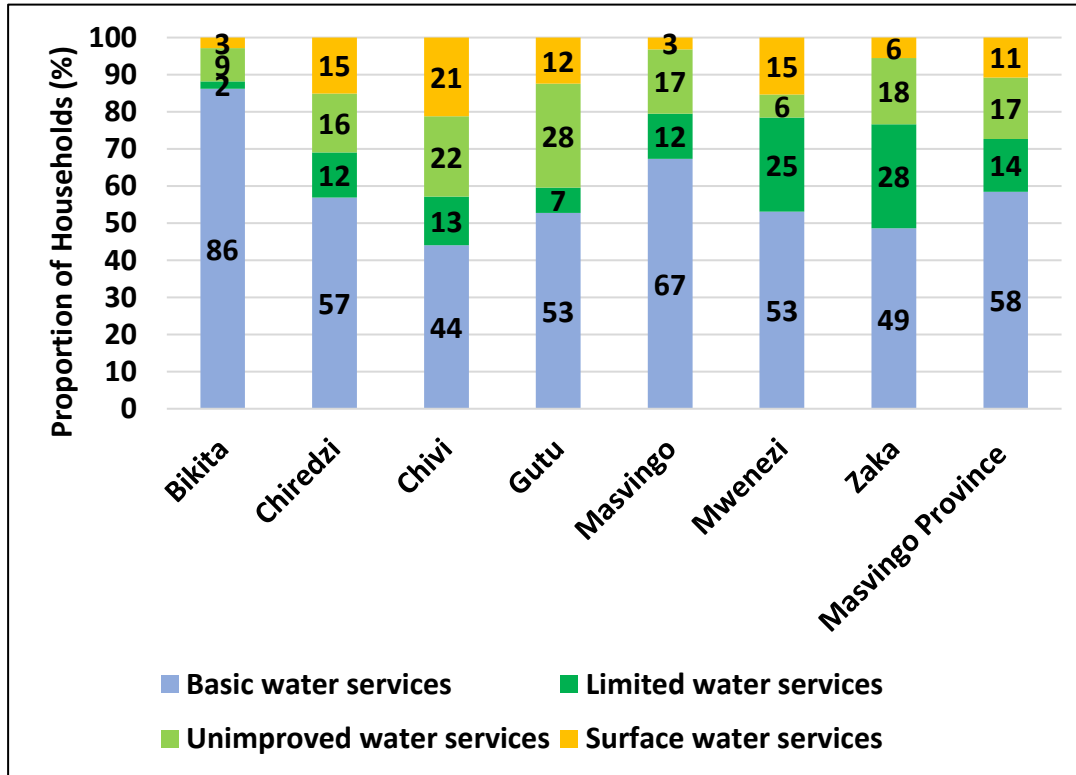
Households Using Unimproved Water Sources for Cooking and Drinking



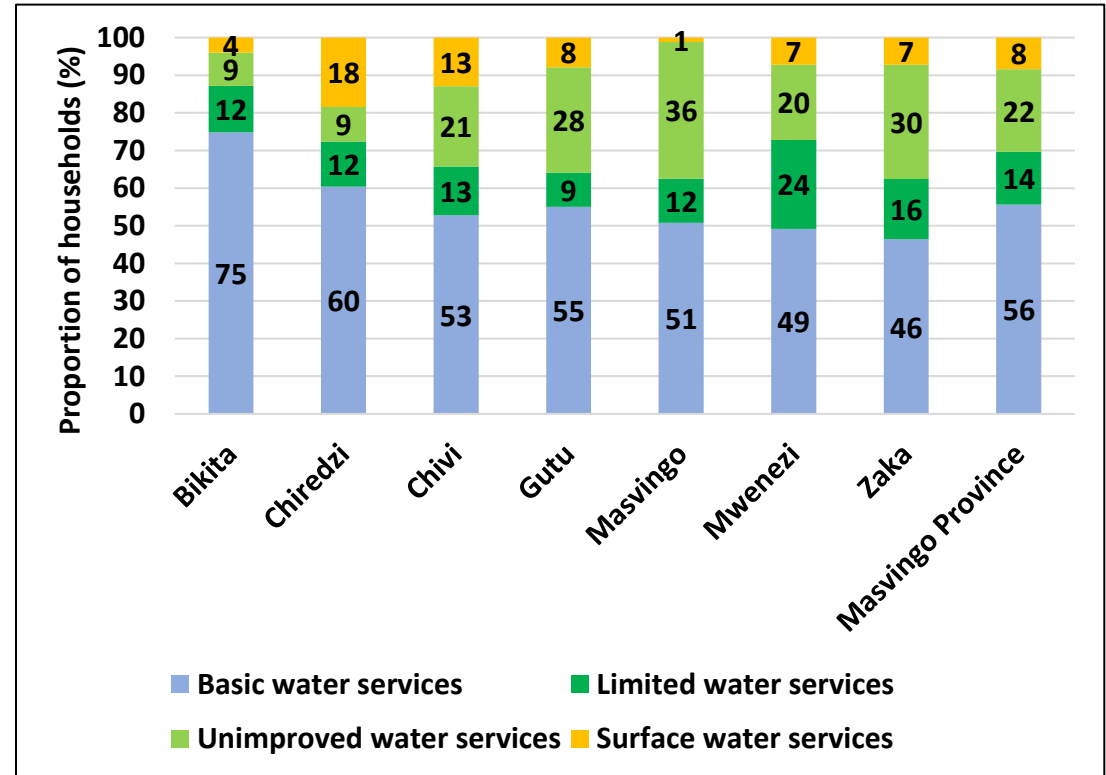
- In the province 31% of households were using water from unimproved water sources for cooking and drinking and this was an increase from 28% in 2021.
- Masvingo (38%) and Zaka (38%) had the highest proportion of households using water from unimproved water sources whilst Bikita (13%) had the least.

Main Drinking Water Services

2021

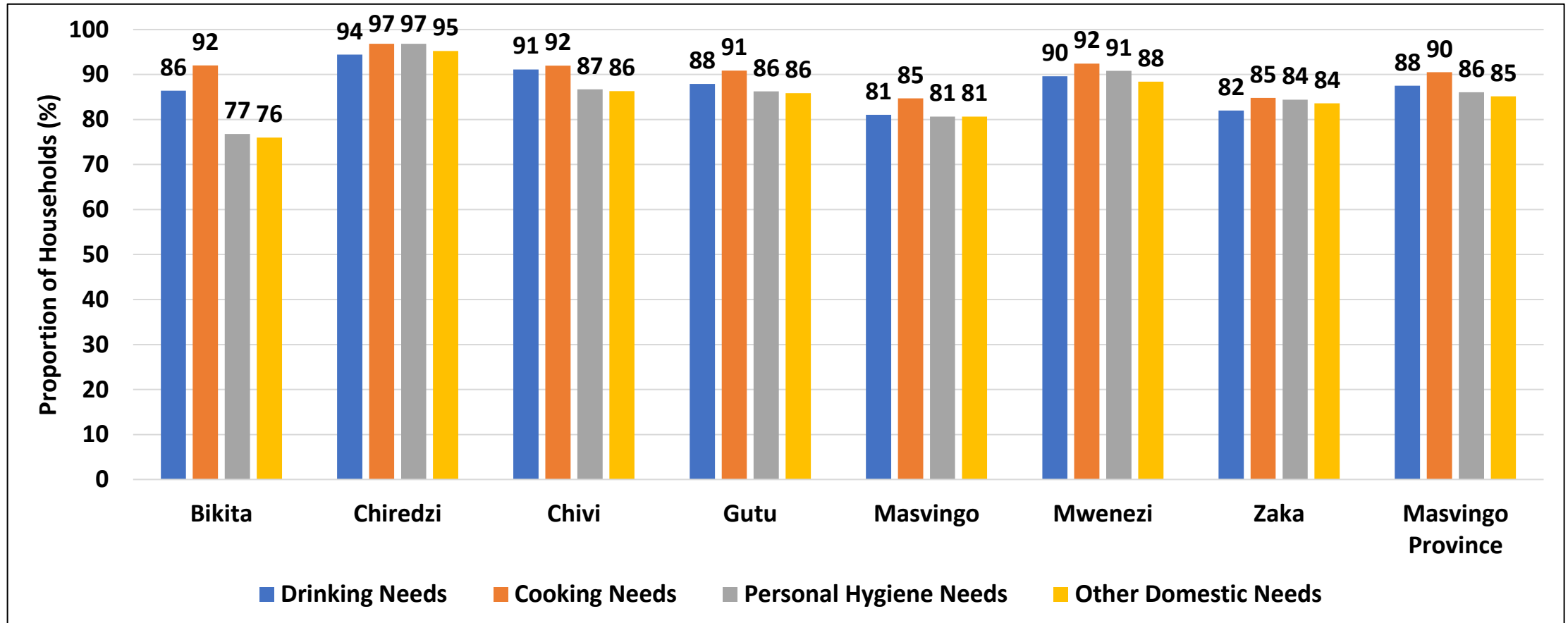


2022



- In Masvingo province 56% of households were accessing drinking water from basic water services. 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.
- There was a decrease from 58% recorded in 2021 to 56% in 2022.

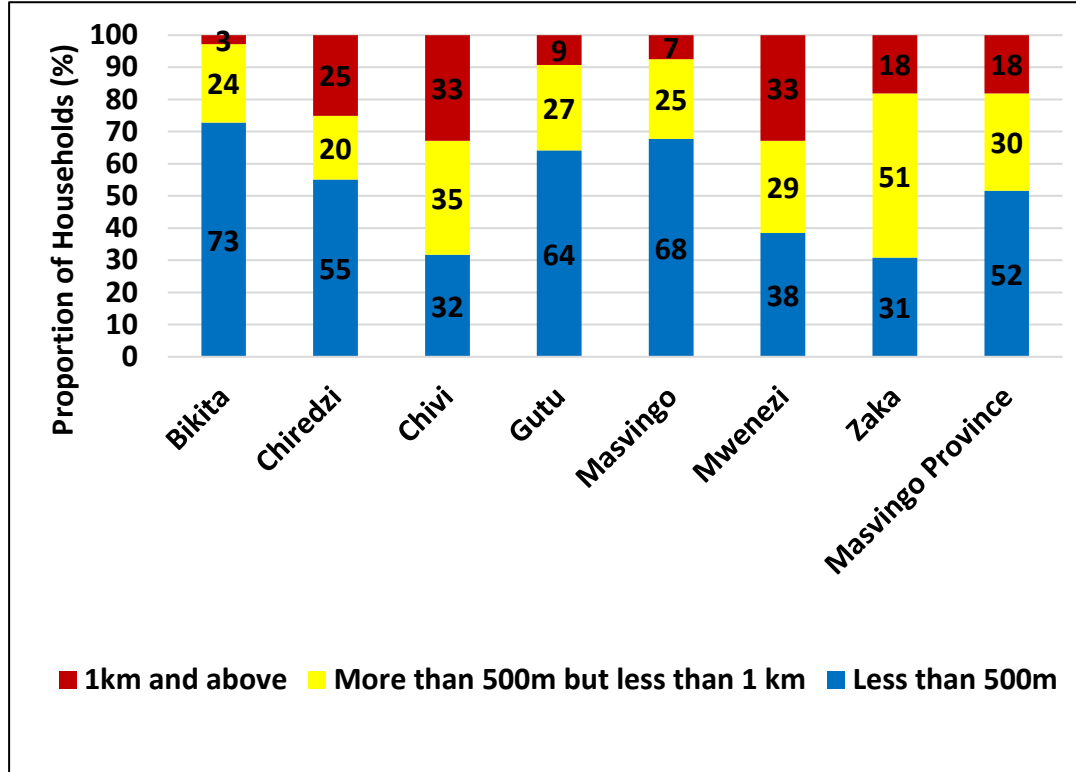
Access to Adequate Domestic Water



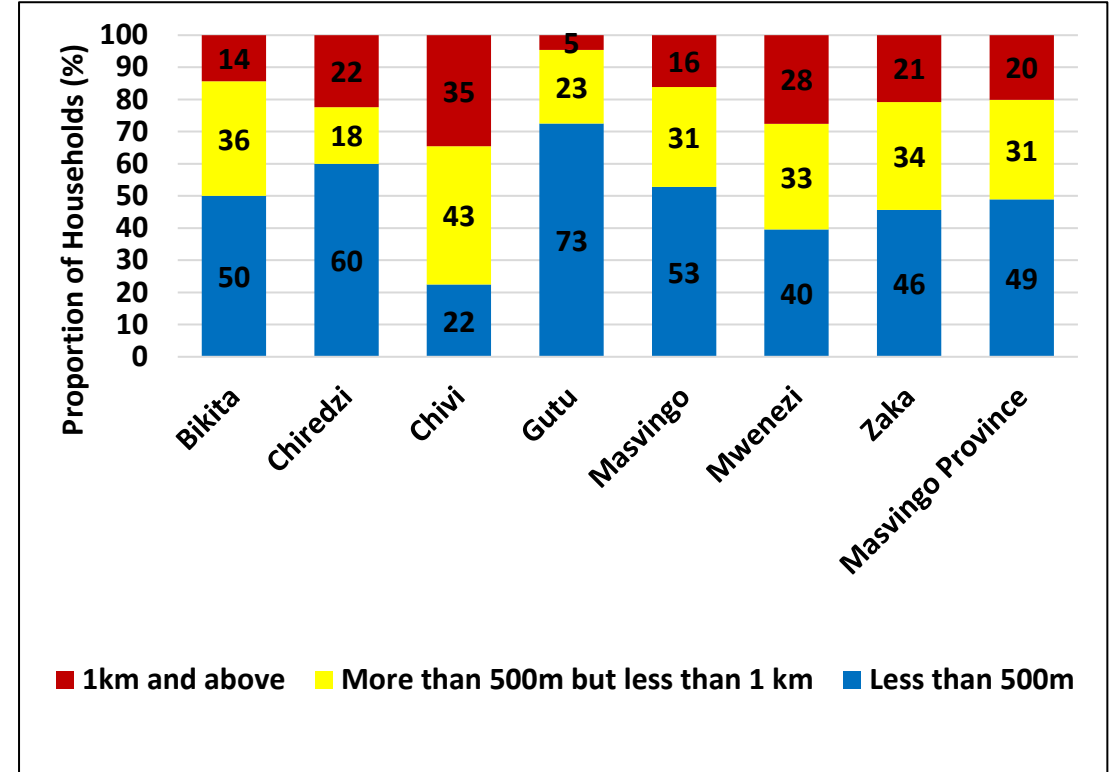
- At provincial level at least 85% of the households reported having adequate water for cooking, drinking, personal hygiene and other domestic needs.

Distance Travelled to Main Water Source

2021

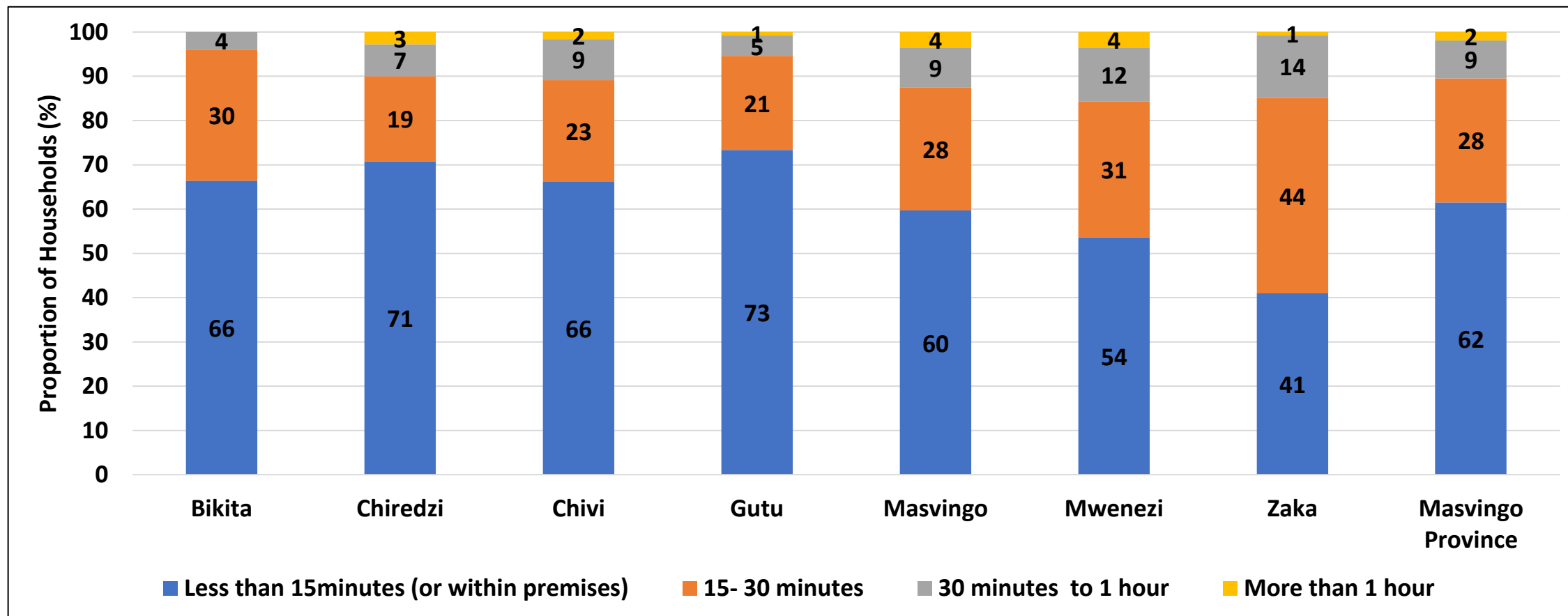


2022



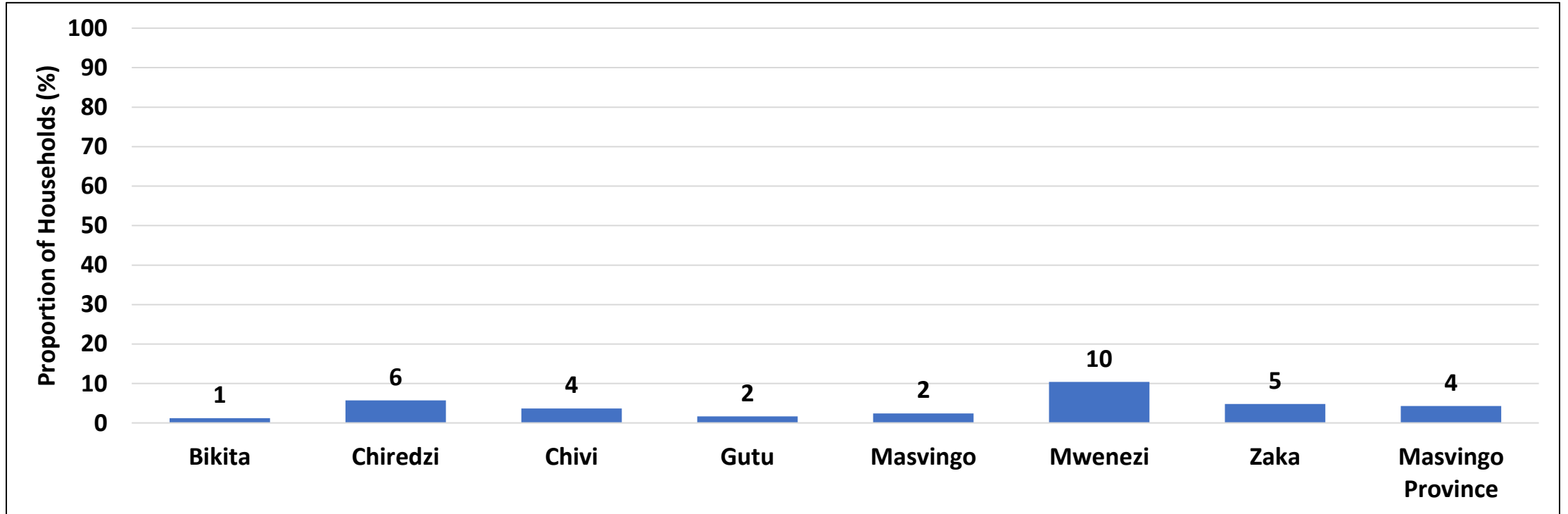
- At provincial level, 49% of the households travelled a distance of less than 500m to get to a water source.
- Compared 2021 and 2022, the proportion of households travelling less than 500m to the main water source decreased from 52% to 49% respectively.
- Chivi (35%) had the highest proportion of households travelling 1 km and above to get to a water source.

Time Spent at Water Source



- The proportion of households spending less than 15 minutes queuing at a water source or within premises was 62%.
- Masvingo district (4%) and Mwenezi (4%) had the highest proportion of households queuing for more than an hour at a water source.

Violence at Water Source



- Mwenezi had the highest proportion of households reporting violence at water source (10%).

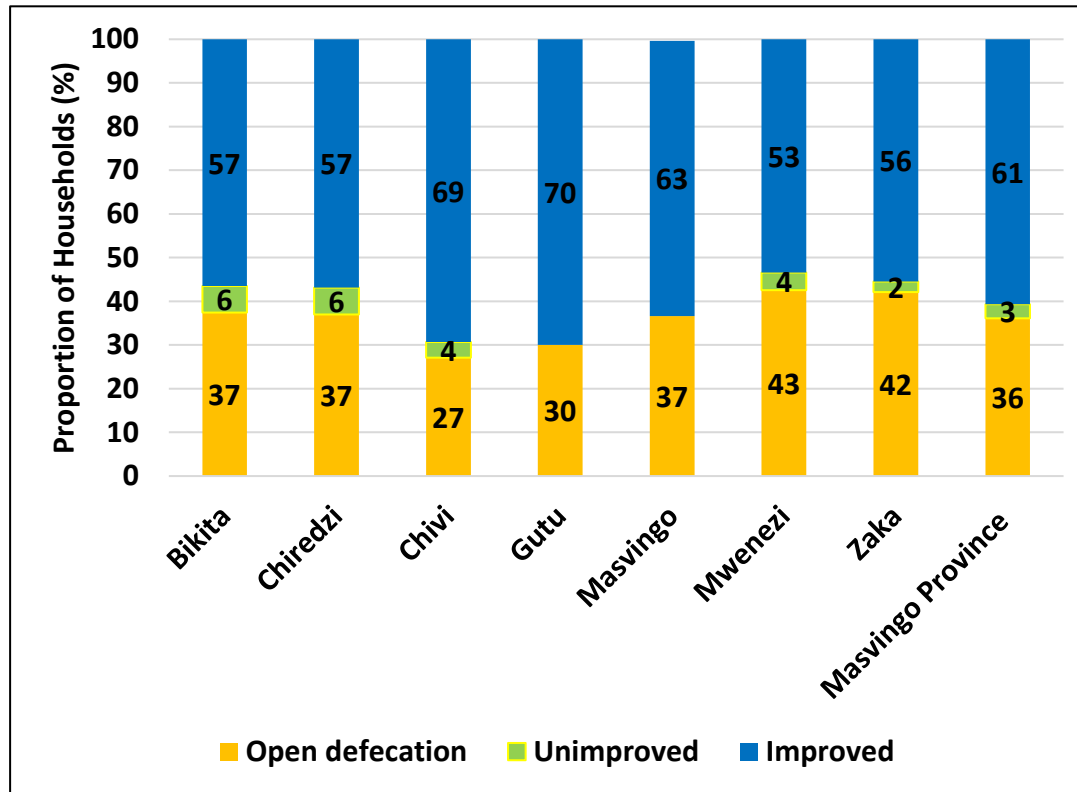
Sanitation and Hygiene

Ladder for Sanitation

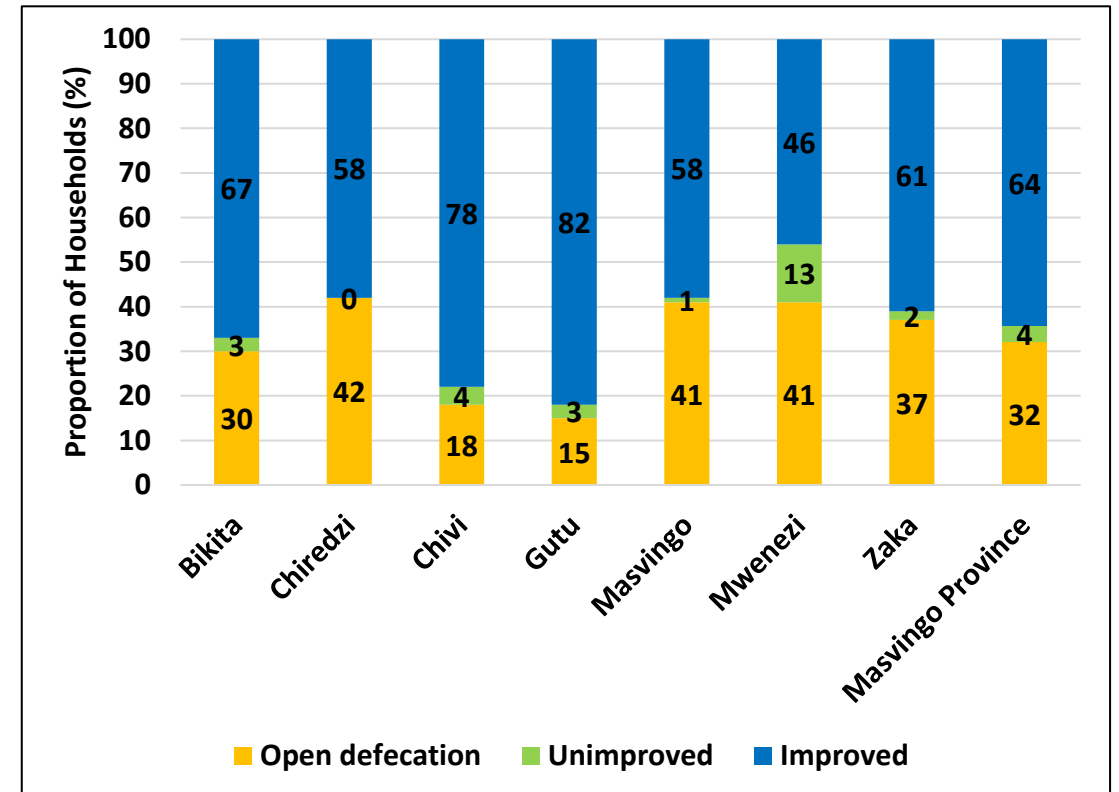
Service level	Definition
Safely Managed	Use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed of in situ or transported and treated offsite.
Basic Sanitation Facilities	Use of improved facilities which are not shared with other households.
Limited 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

2021



2022

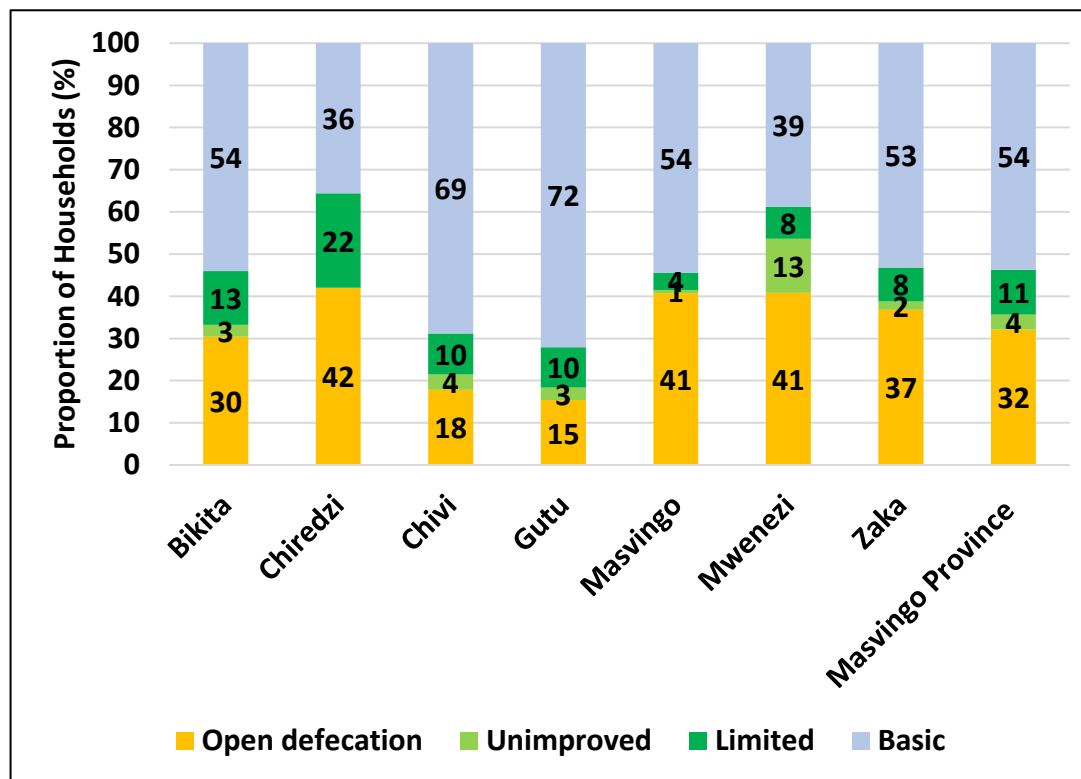
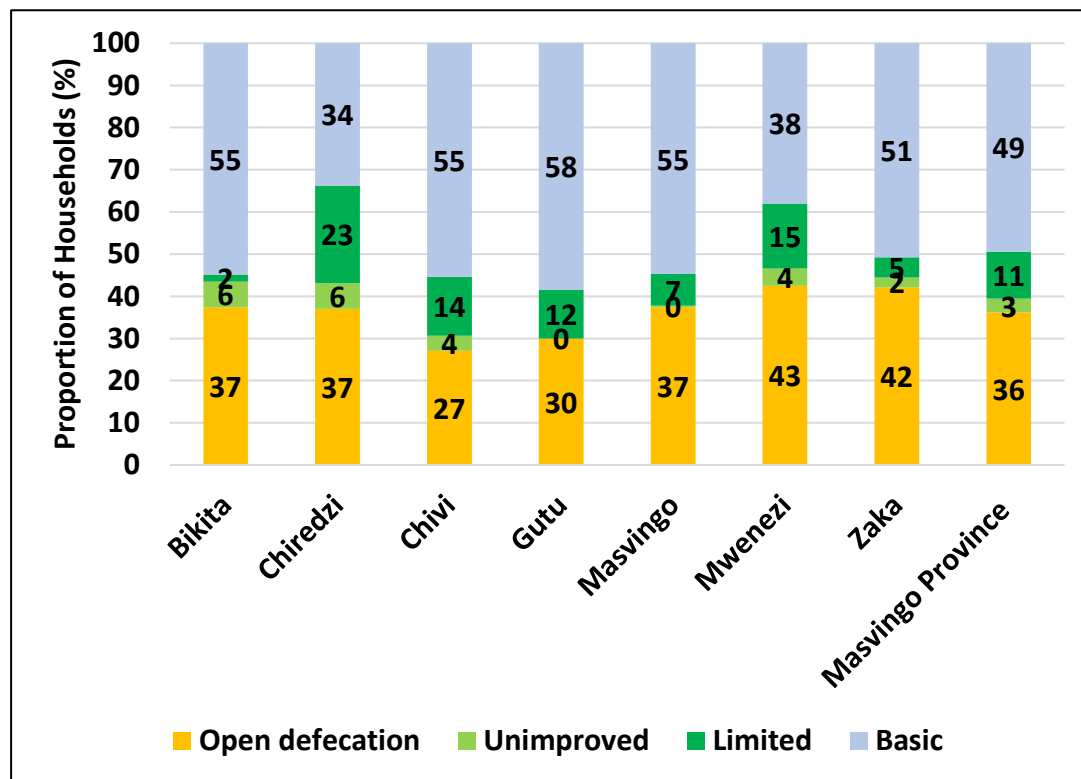


- In the province, 64% of households had access to improved sanitation facilities.
- The proportion of households with access to improved sanitation improved from 36% in 2021 to 32% in 2022.
- Chiredzi (42%), followed by Masvingo district(41%) and Mwenezi (41%) had the highest proportion of households practising open defecation.
- This trend was similar to the one recorded in 2021.

Household Sanitation Services

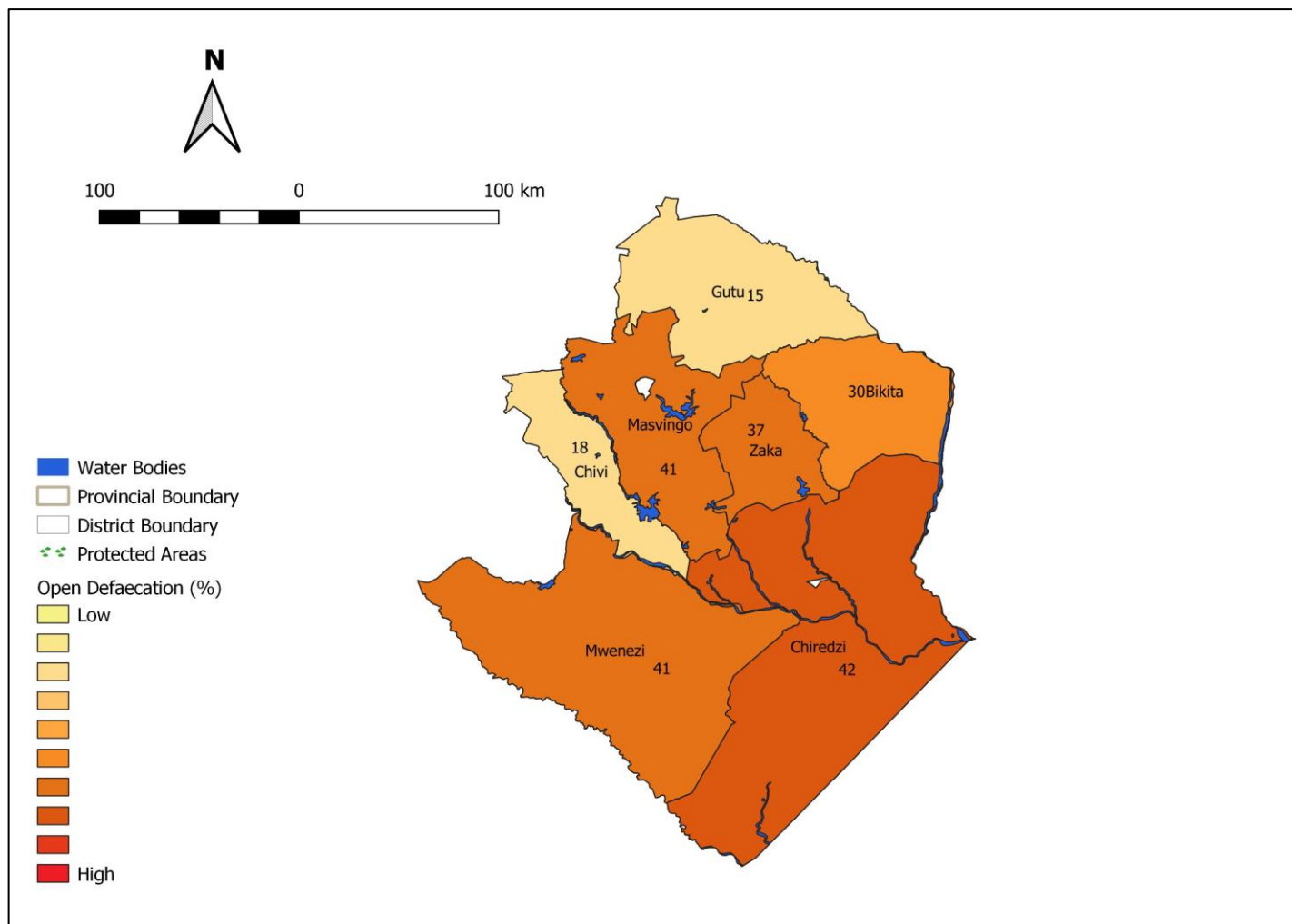
2021

2022



- The proportion of households with access to basic sanitation services in Masvingo province was 54%.
- Households with access to basic sanitation services in Masvingo province increased from 49% in 2021 to 54% in 2022.

Open Defecation by District



- Chiredzi (42%), followed by Masvingo district (41%) and Mwenezi (41%) had the highest proportion of households practising open defecation.
- Gutu (15%) had the least proportion of households practising open defecation.

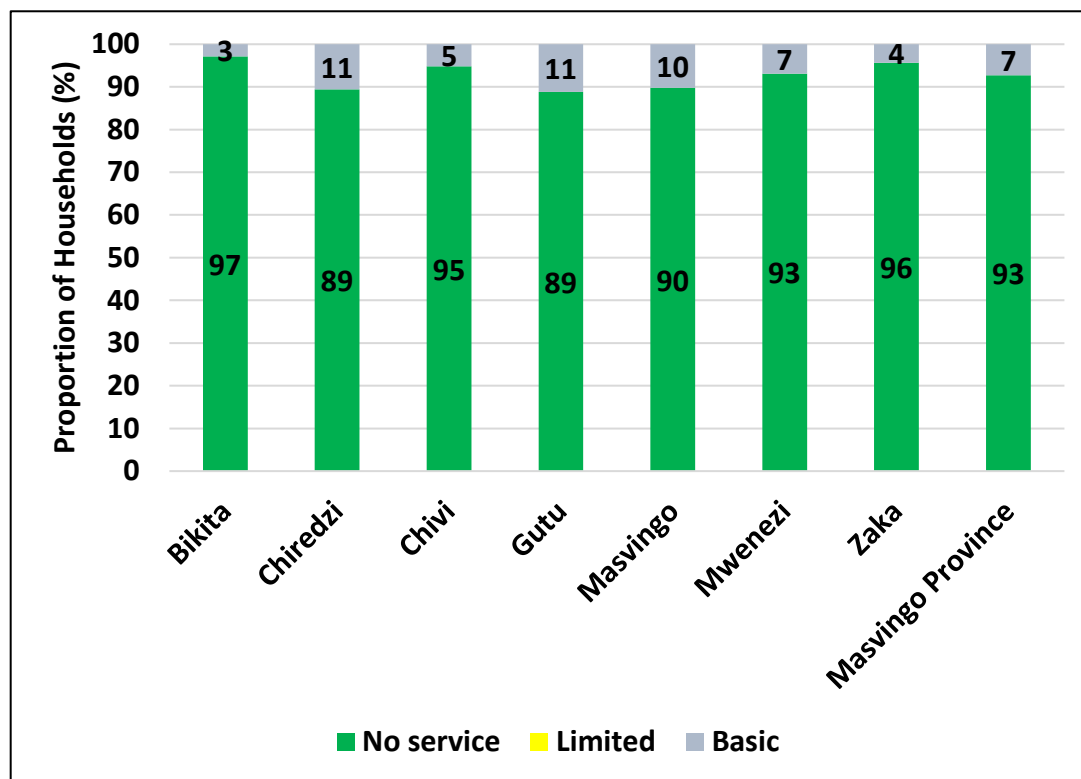
Ladder for Hygiene

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.

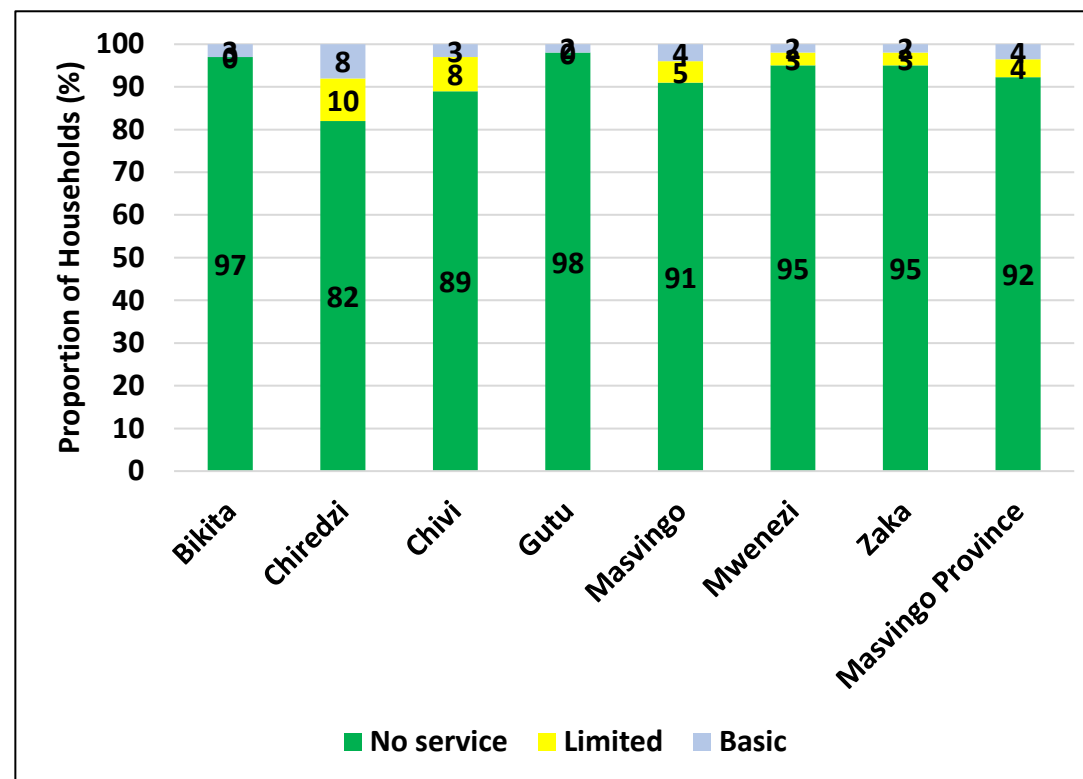
Note: handwashing facilities may be fixed or mobile and include a sink with tap water, buckets with taps, tippy taps, and jugs or basins designated for hand washing. Soap includes bar soap, liquid soap, powdered detergents and soapy water but does not include sand, soil, ash and other handwashing agents.

Access to Hand Washing Services

2021

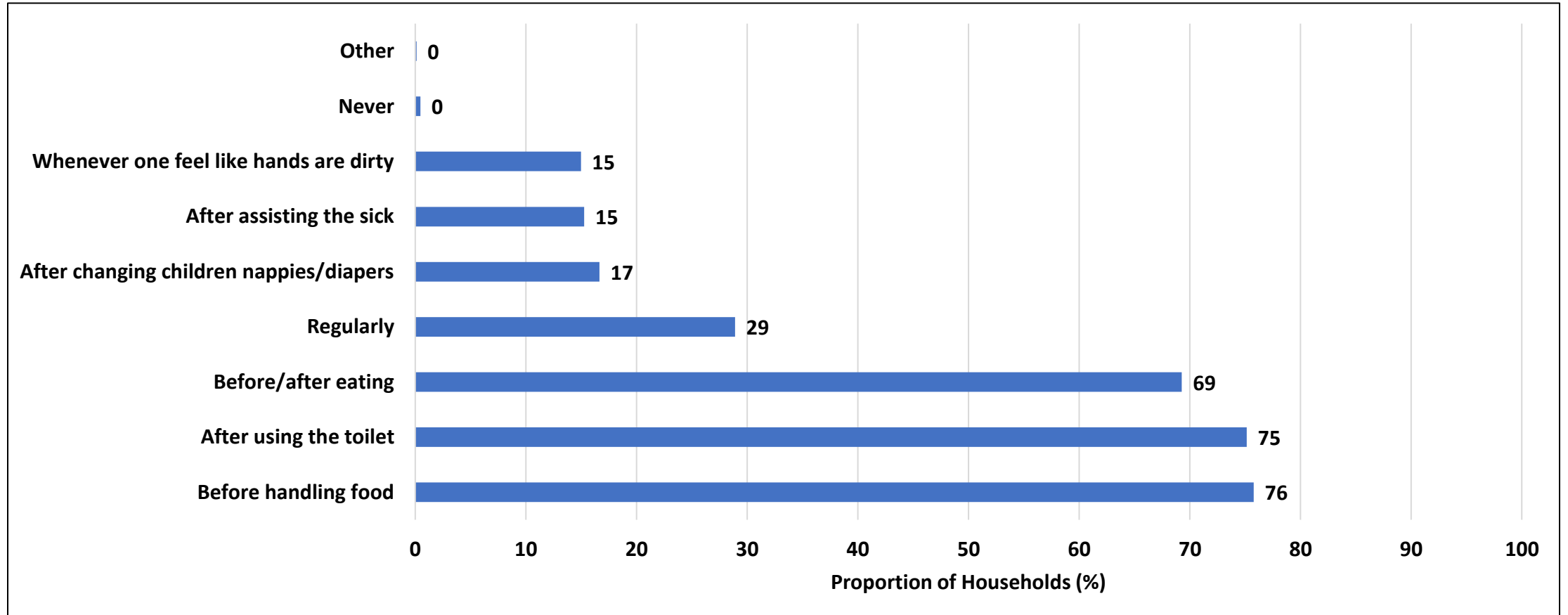


2022



- Access to handwashing facilities has shown no improvement over the past two years.
- There were generally no handwashing facilities across the province (92%).
- Chiredzi had the greatest proportion of households that had basic hand-washing facilities (8%).

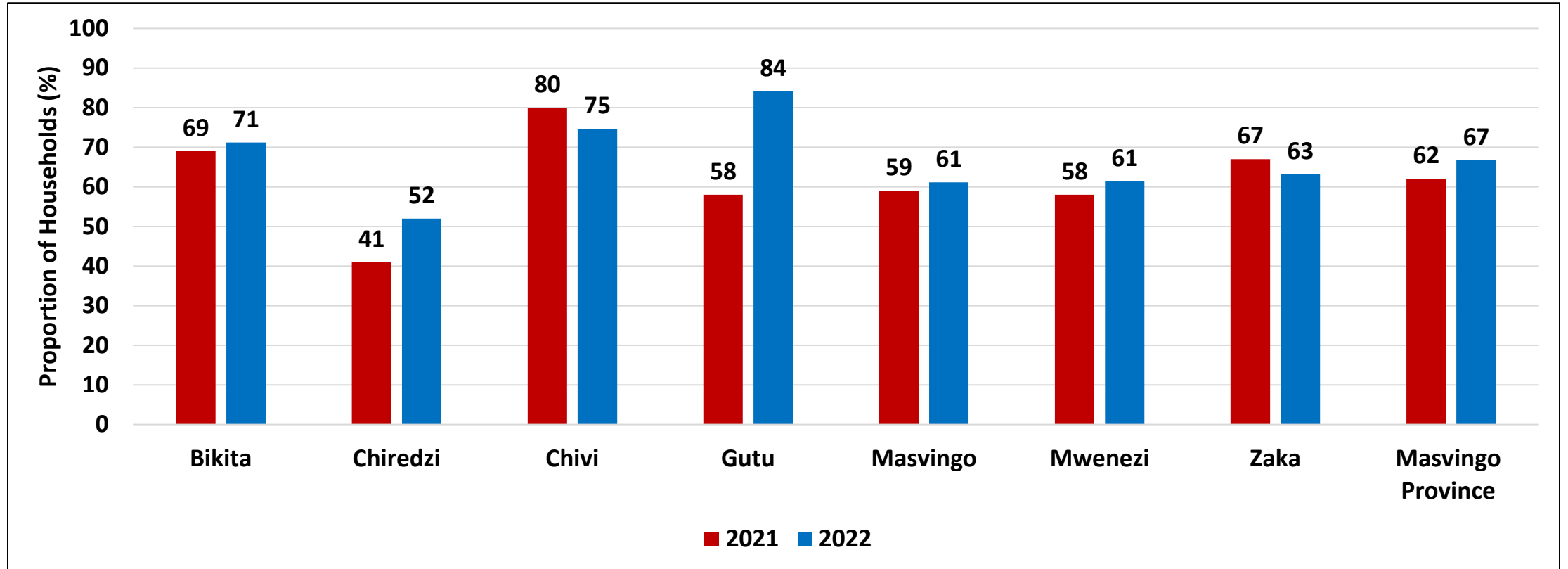
Handwashing at Critical Times



- The majority of household members mentioned that they washed their hands before handling food, after using the toilet and before eating.

Access to Information and Services

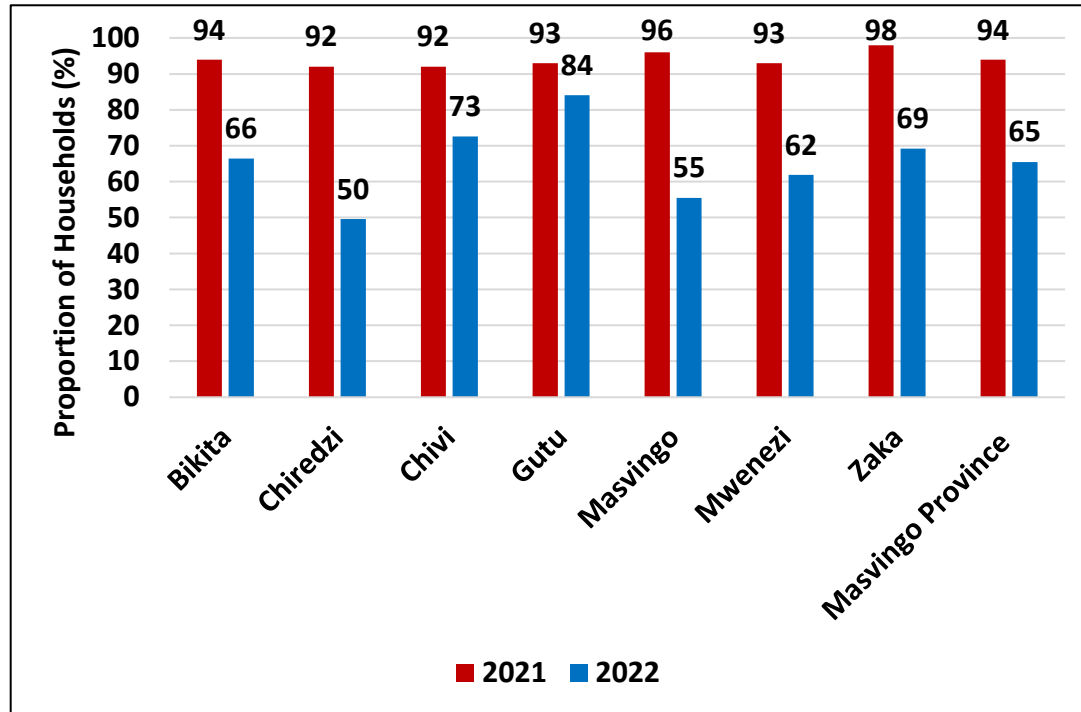
Household which Received Agricultural Extension Services



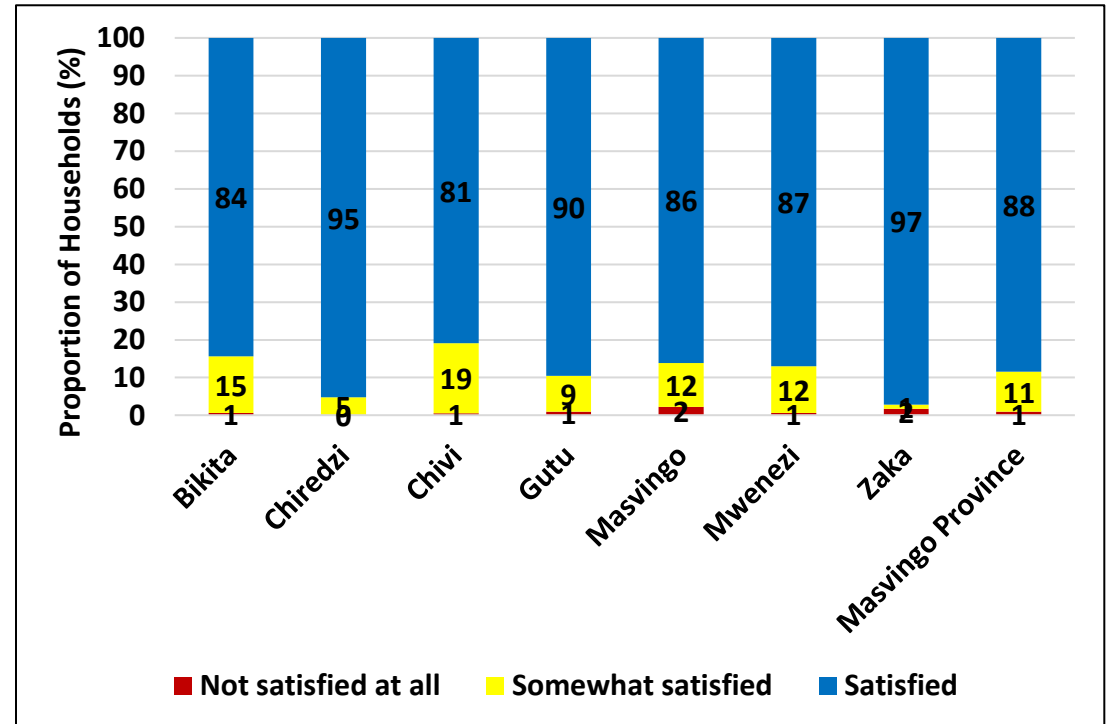
- The proportion of households which were reached with agricultural extension support in the province in 2022 was 67%.
- The proportion of households which received agricultural extension services increased from 62% in 2021 to 67% in 2022..
- Gutu (84%) had the highest proportion of households which received agricultural extension support with the least being Chiredzi district with 52%.

Households which Received Agricultural Training from Extension Officers and their satisfaction

Households that Received Training



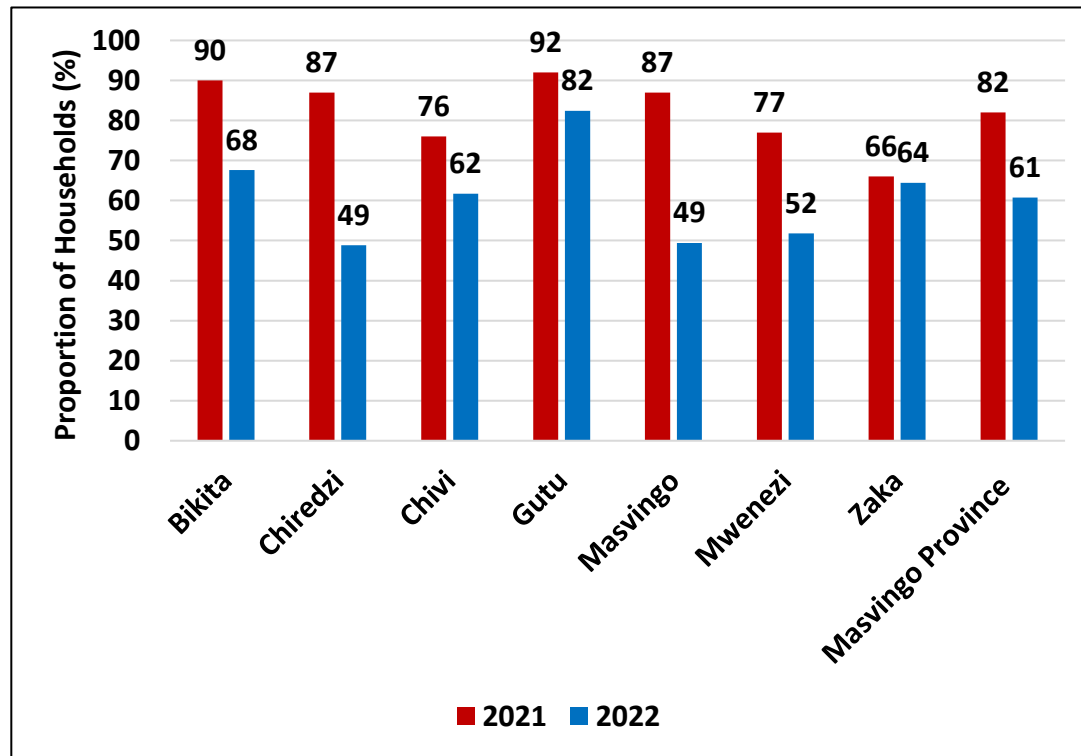
Satisfaction with Training (65%)



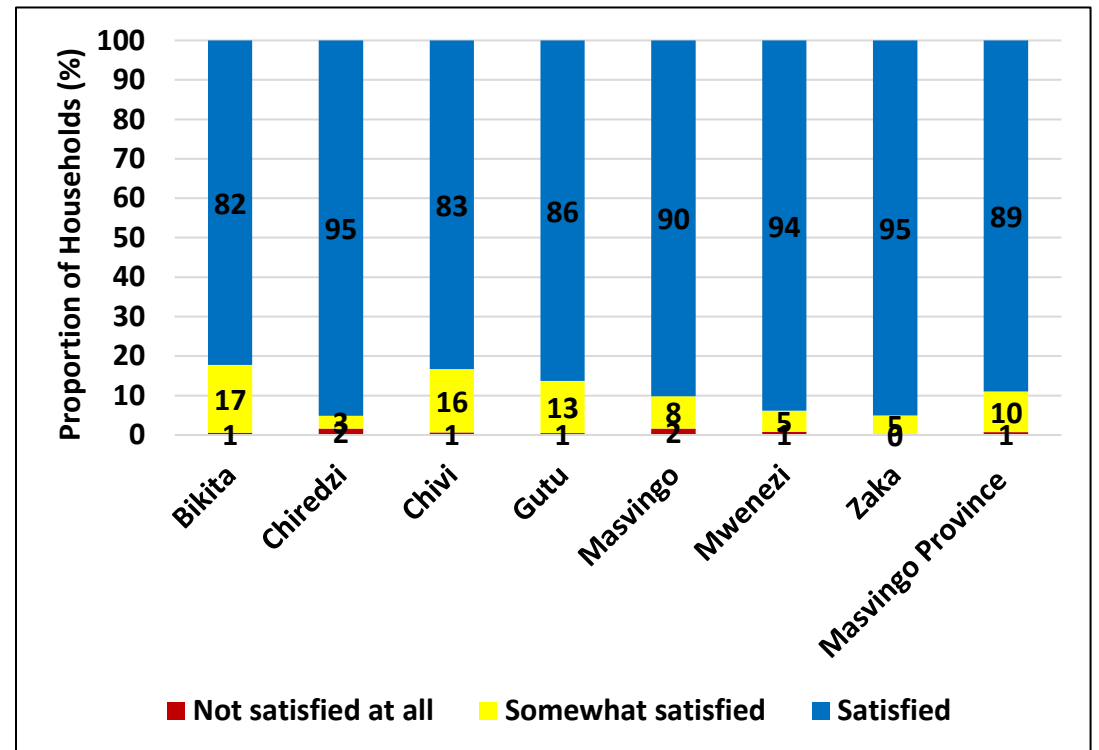
- The proportion of households that received agricultural training in Masvingo province was 65%.
- Agricultural training from extension officers declined from 94% recorded in 2021 to 65% in 2022.
- Of the 65% of households that received agricultural training 88% of them were satisfied with the training.

Households which Received Agriculture Extension Visits from Extension Officers and their Satisfaction

Households that Received Visits



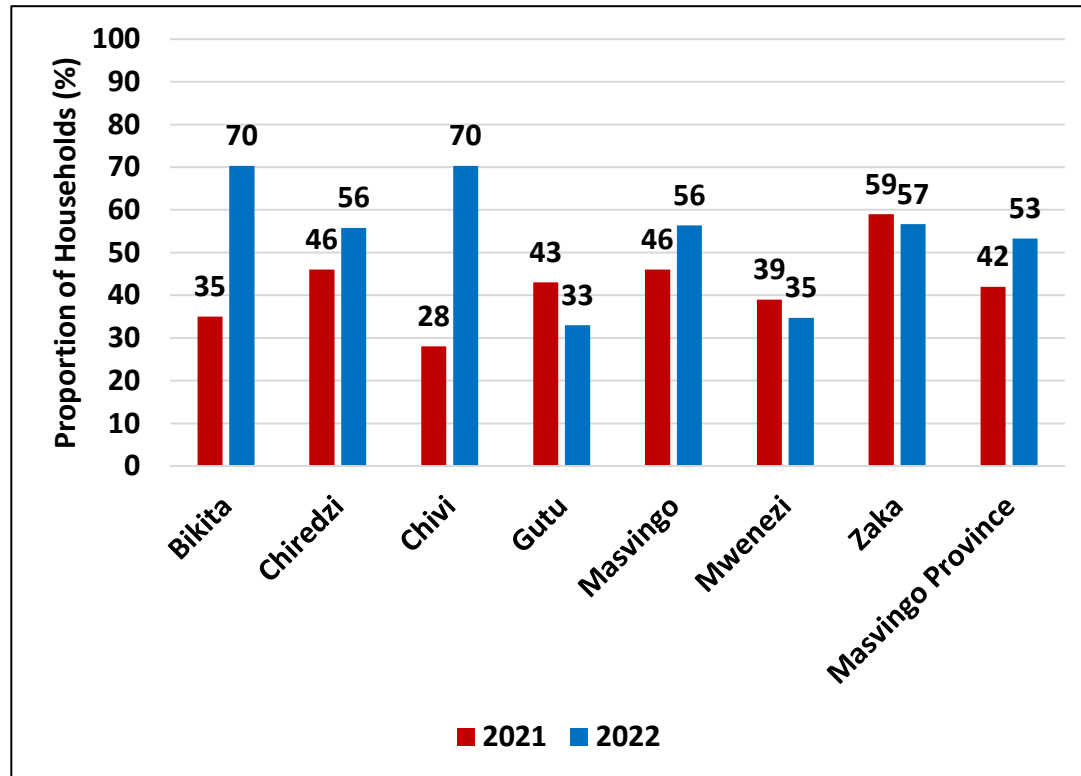
Satisfaction with Visits



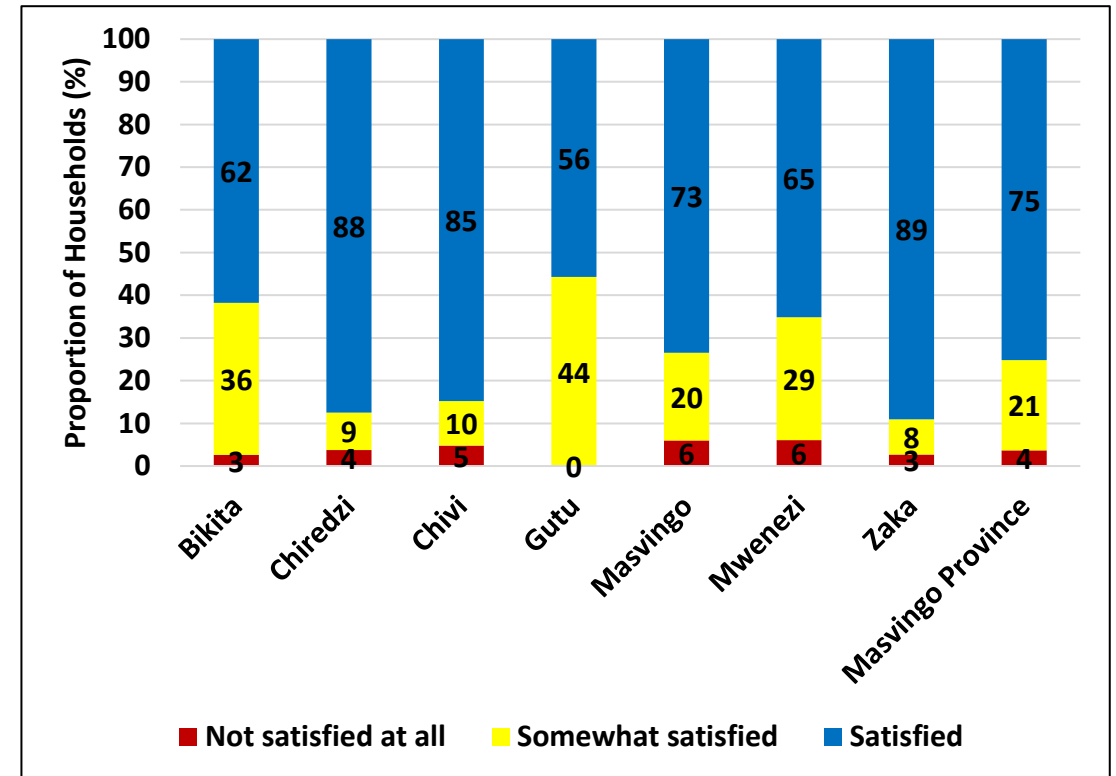
- Households that received extension visits from extension officers decreased from 82% recorded in 2021 to 61% in 2022.
- The majority of households (89%) were satisfied with the extension support visits they received.

Access to Animal Health Centres

Access to Animal Health Centres



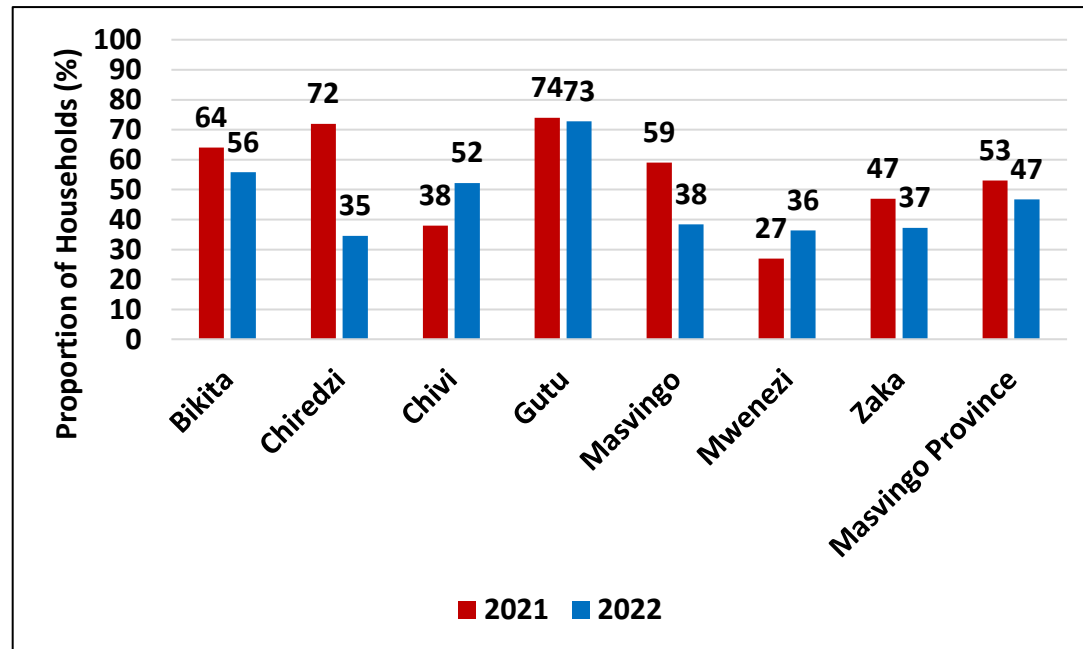
Satisfaction



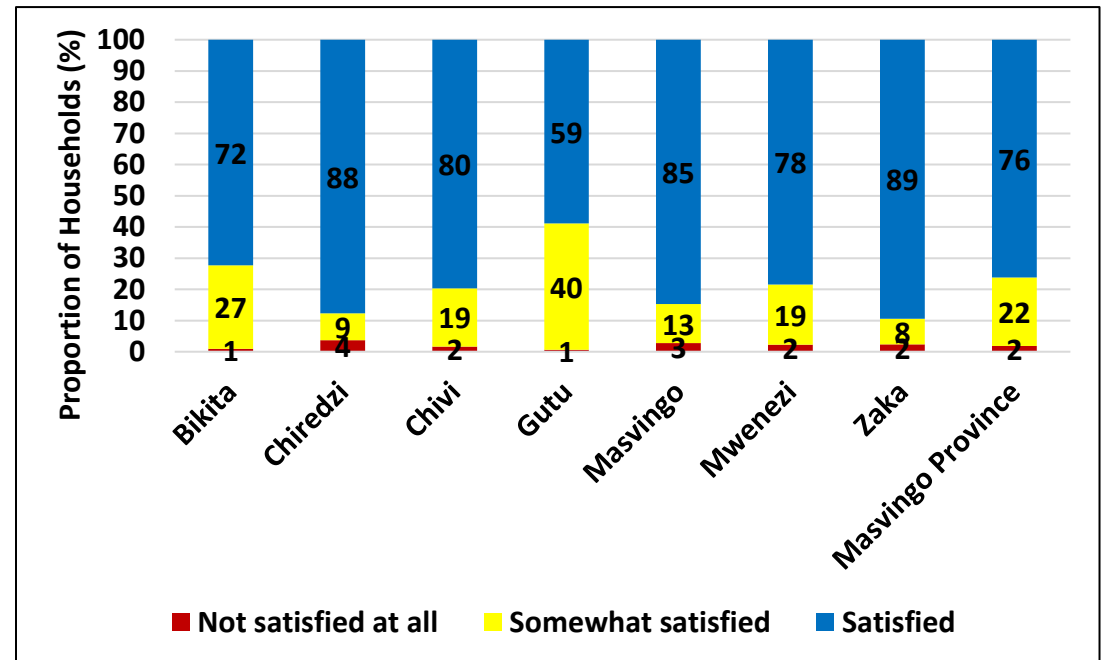
- Households' access to animal health centres increased from 42% recorded in 2021 to 53% in 2022.
- In Masvingo province 75% of households were satisfied with animal health services that they received.

Households which Received Extension Support on January Disease

Households that Received Extension on January Disease



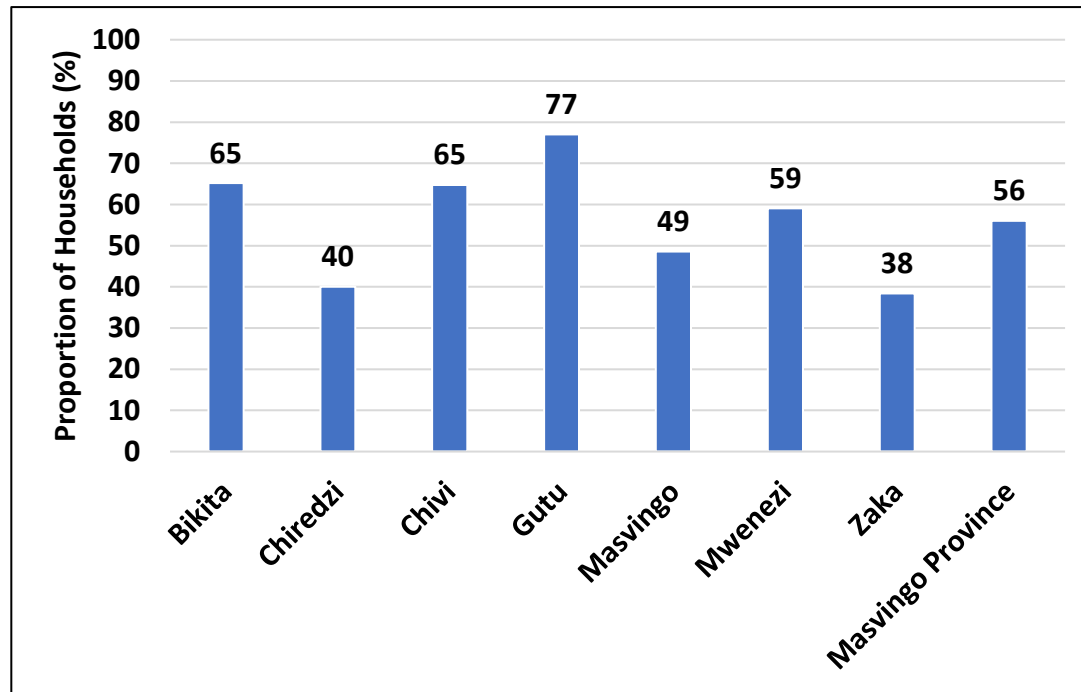
Satisfaction with Extension Support on January Disease



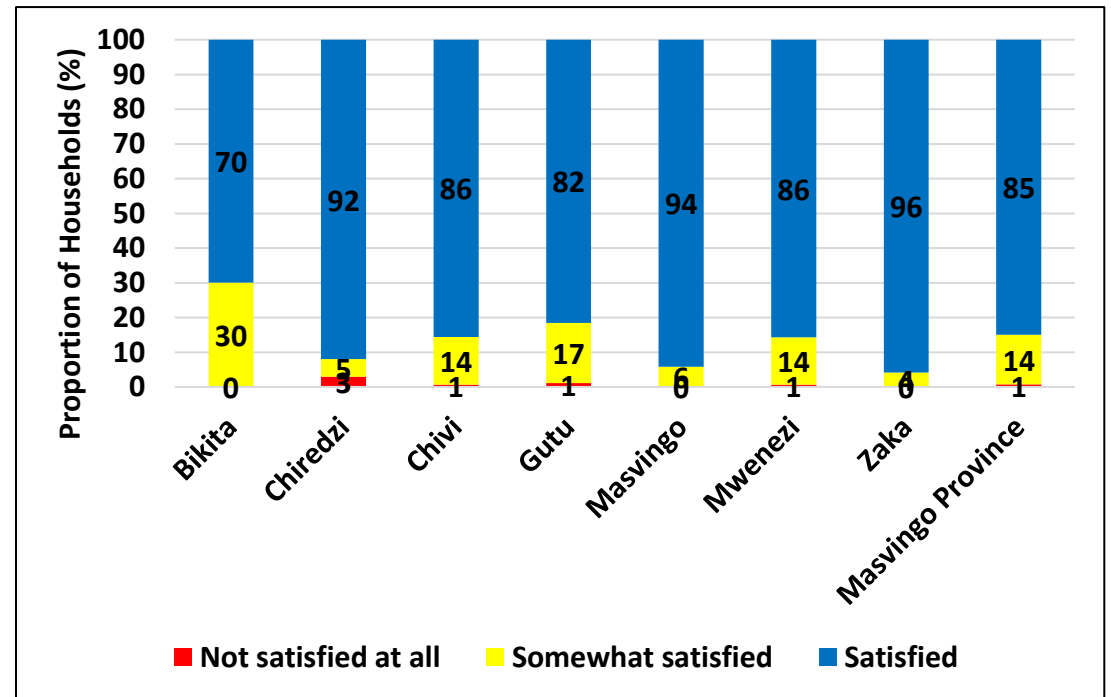
- Extension on January disease decreased from 53% recorded in 2021 to 47% in 2022.
- In Masvingo province 76% of households were satisfied with the extension support on January disease they received.

Households which Received Extension Support on Fall Army Worm

Households which Received Extension Support on Fall Army Worm



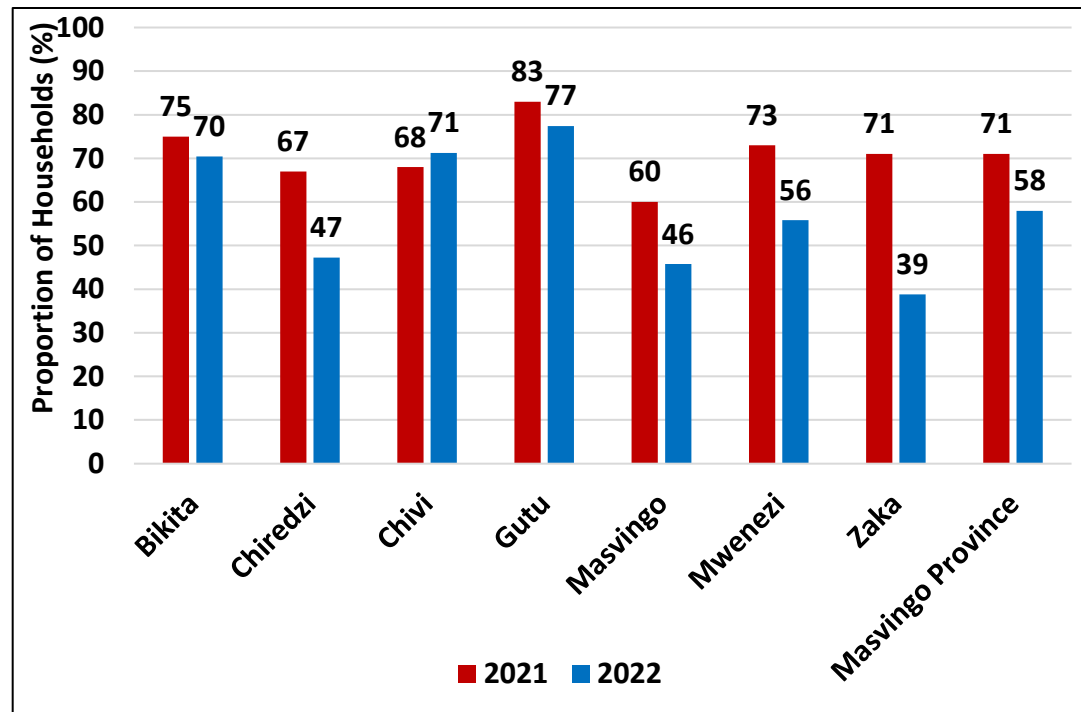
Satisfaction with Extension Support on Fall Army Worm Received



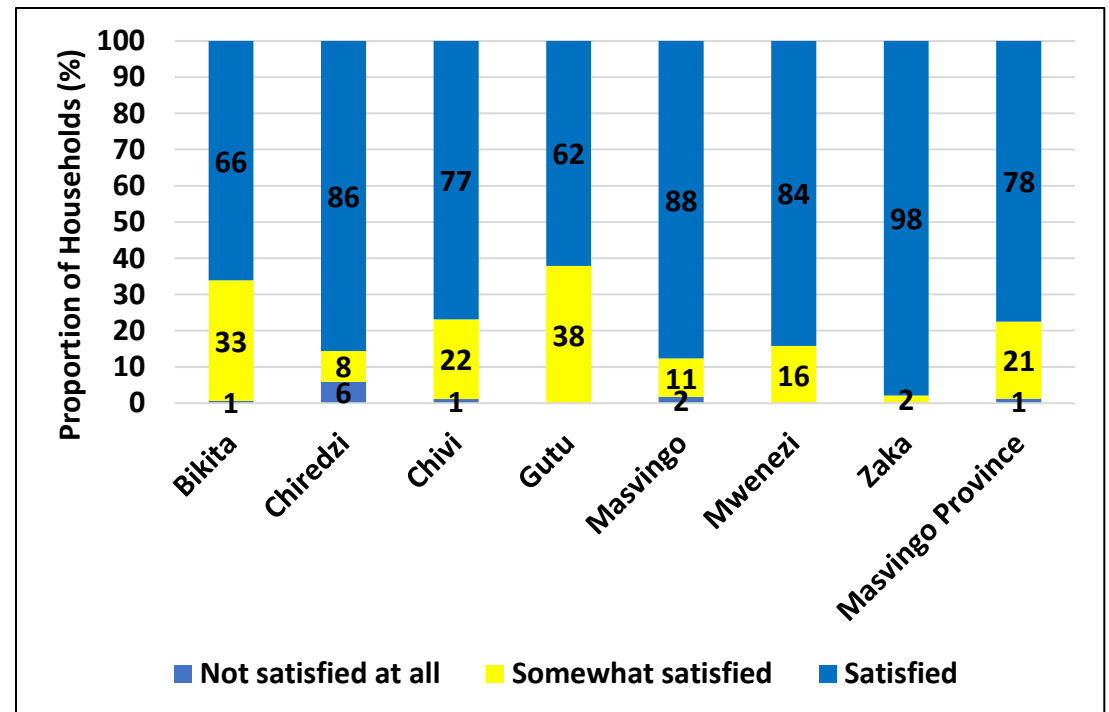
- The proportion of households that were reached with extension support on Fall Army Worm was 56%.
- Chivi (65%), Bikita (65%) and Gutu (77%) had the highest proportion of households reached.
- In Masvingo Province 85% of the households were satisfied with the extension support on Fall Army Worm that they received.

Households which Received Extension Support on Weather and Climate

Households that Received Extension Support on Weather and Climate



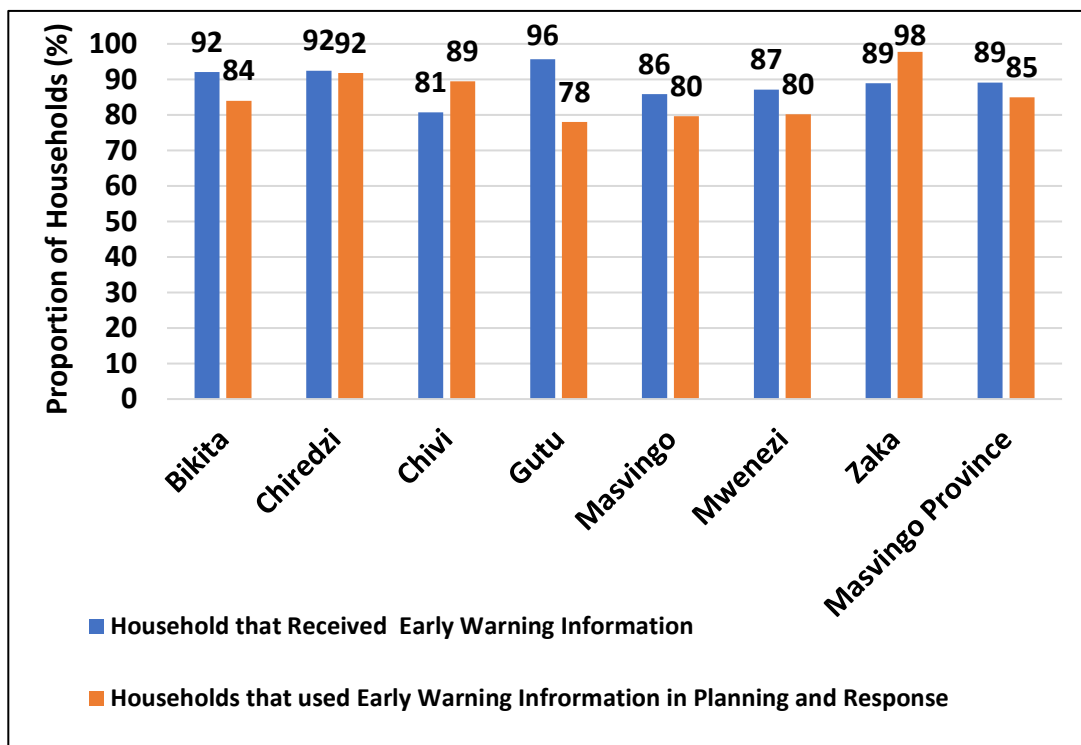
Satisfaction with Extension Support on Weather and Climate



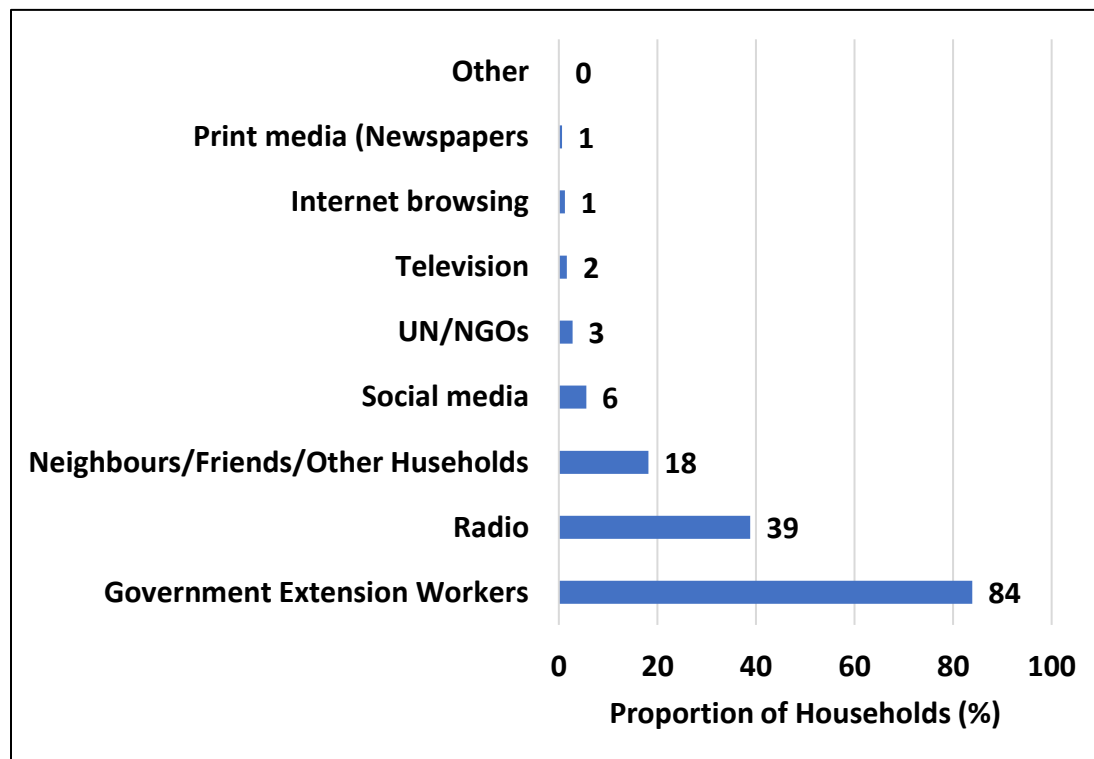
- Households that received extension support on weather and climate decreased from 71% achieved in 2021 to 58% in 2022.
- In Masvingo province 78% of households were satisfied with the extension support on weather and climate that they received.

Households which received Early Warning Information

Households which Received or Used Early Warning Information



Source of Information on Early Warning



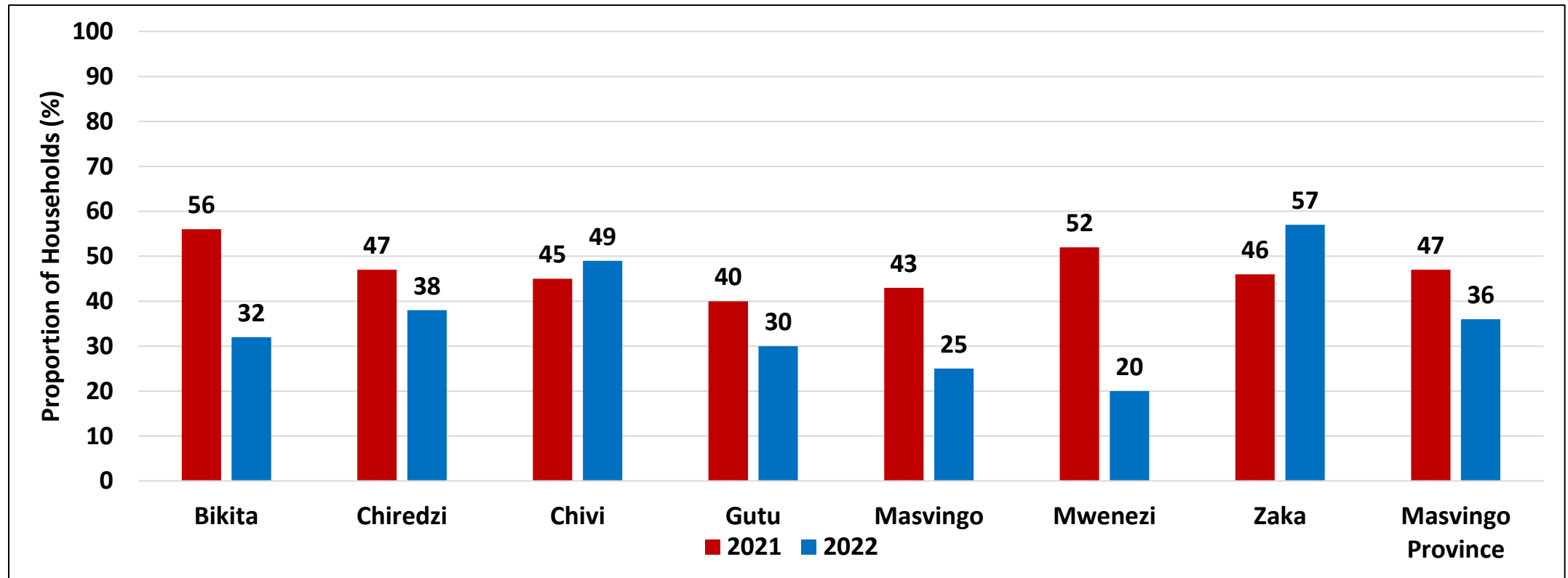
- At Provincial level 89% of the households reported to have received early warning information.
- Of the 89% of households that received early warning information, 85% managed to use the information for planning and response.
- The major source of early warning information was Government extension workers (84%).

Households which Received Information on Public Health Diseases

	Rabies (%)	Anthrax (%)	Cholera (%)	Typhoid (%)	Dysentery (%)	Salmonella (%)	Listeria (%)
Bikita	17	28	72	60	38	1	0
Chiredzi	54	32	76	21	17	0	0
Chivi	65	71	89	54	44	6	4
Gutu	44	79	77	44	35	11	11
Masvingo	71	74	81	53	17	8	4
Mwenezi	69	51	70	54	41	2	1
Zaka	54	24	80	37	8	1	0
Masvingo Province	51	54	78	47	29	5	3

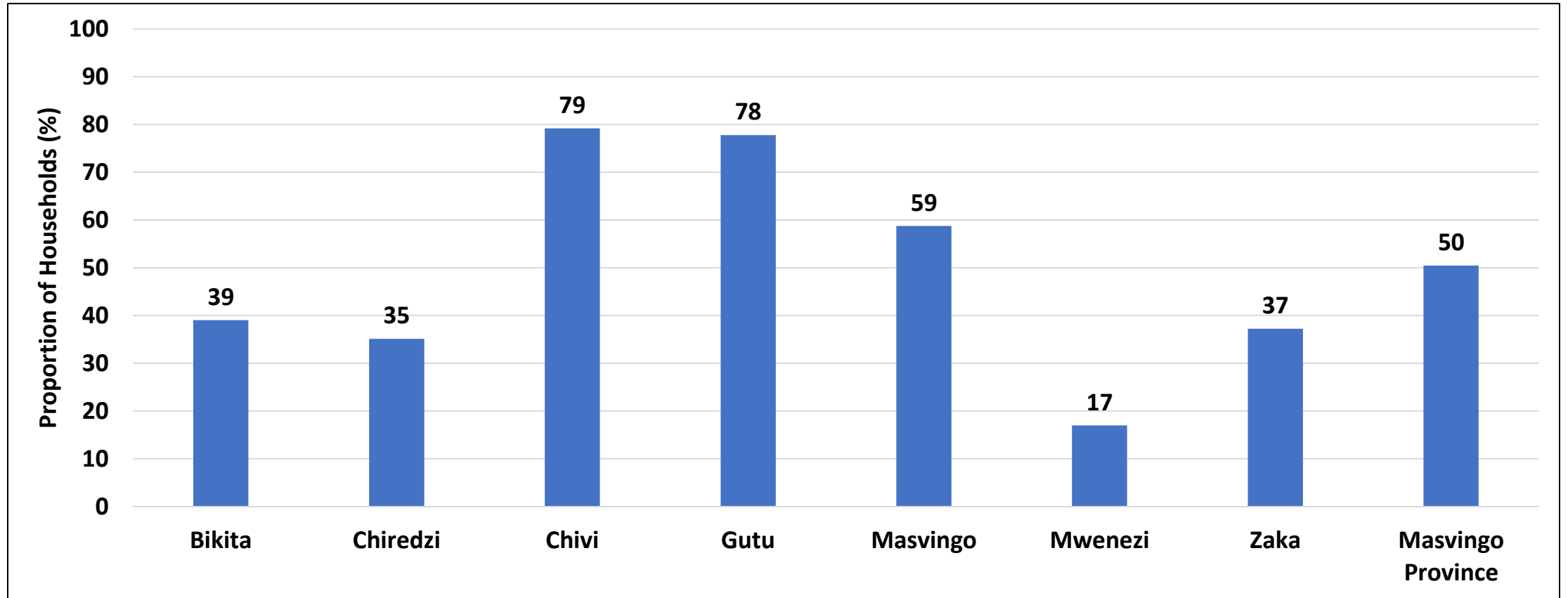
- About 78% of households in Masvingo province reported that they had received information on cholera.

Police Services Reachable within One Hour



- Only 36% of the households in Masvingo Province reported that they had police services reachable within one hour.
- The proportion of households with police services reachable within one hour decreased from 47% recorded in 2021 to 36% in 2022.

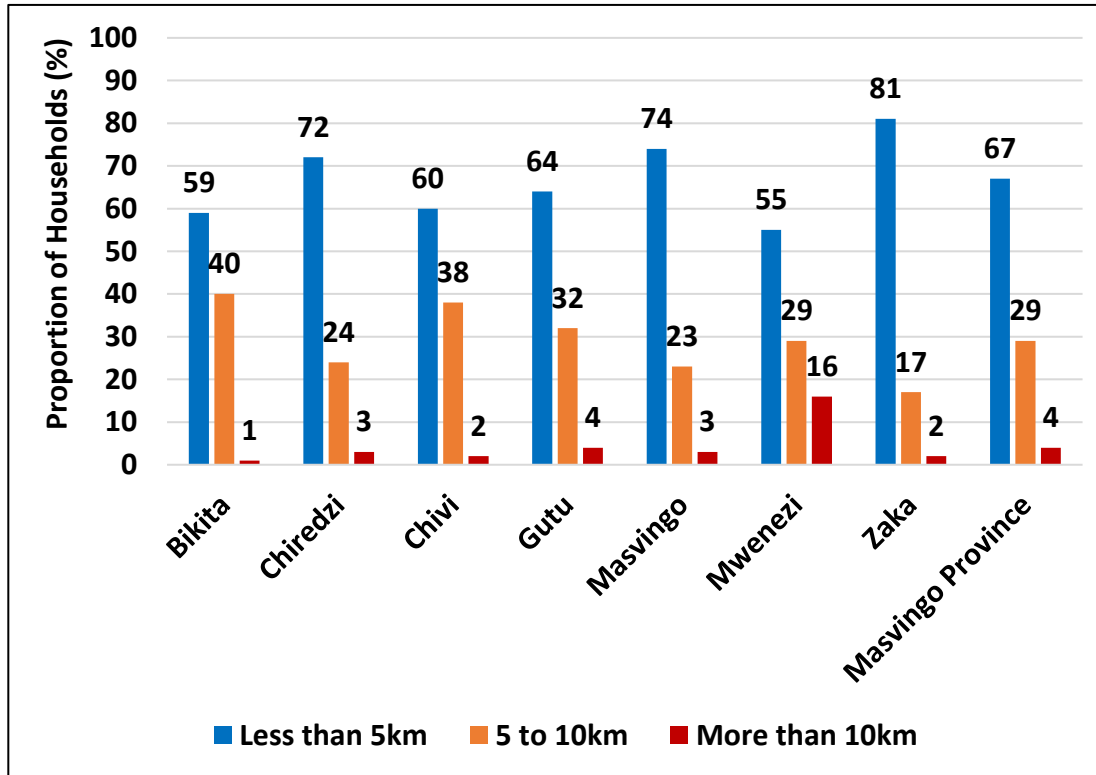
Access to Victim Friendly Services



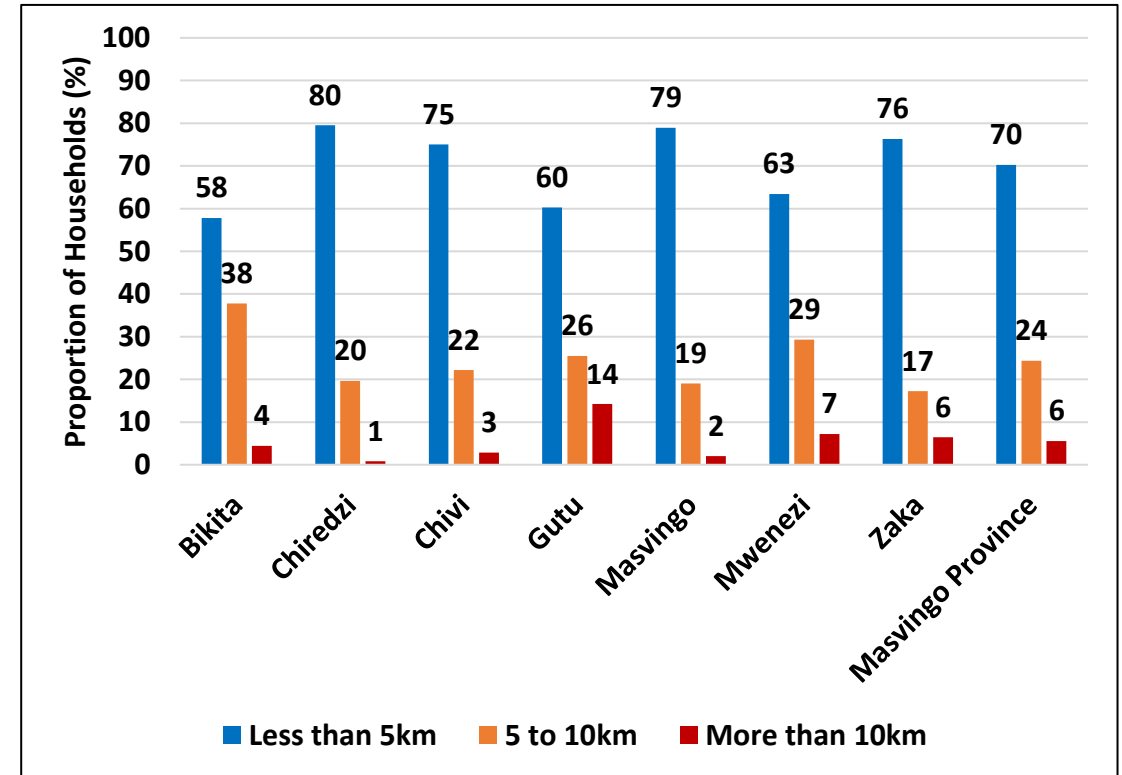
- Access to a victim friendly unit was reported by 50% of households in the province.

Approximate Distance of the Nearest Primary School

2021

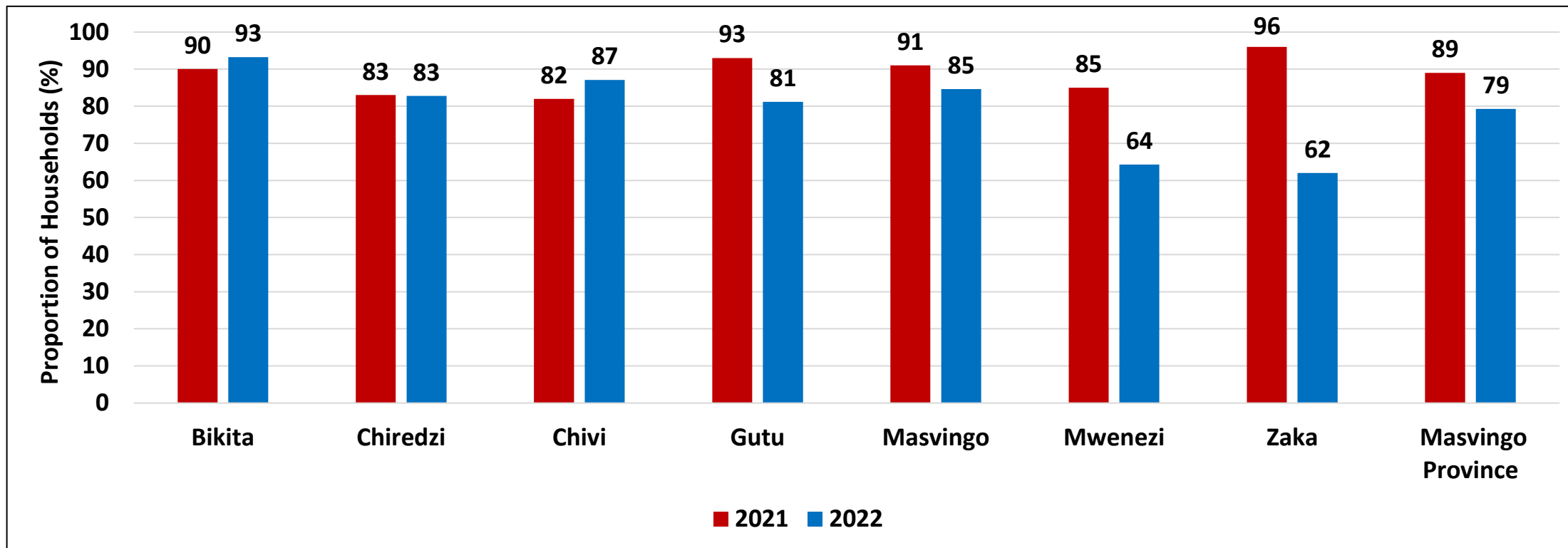


2022



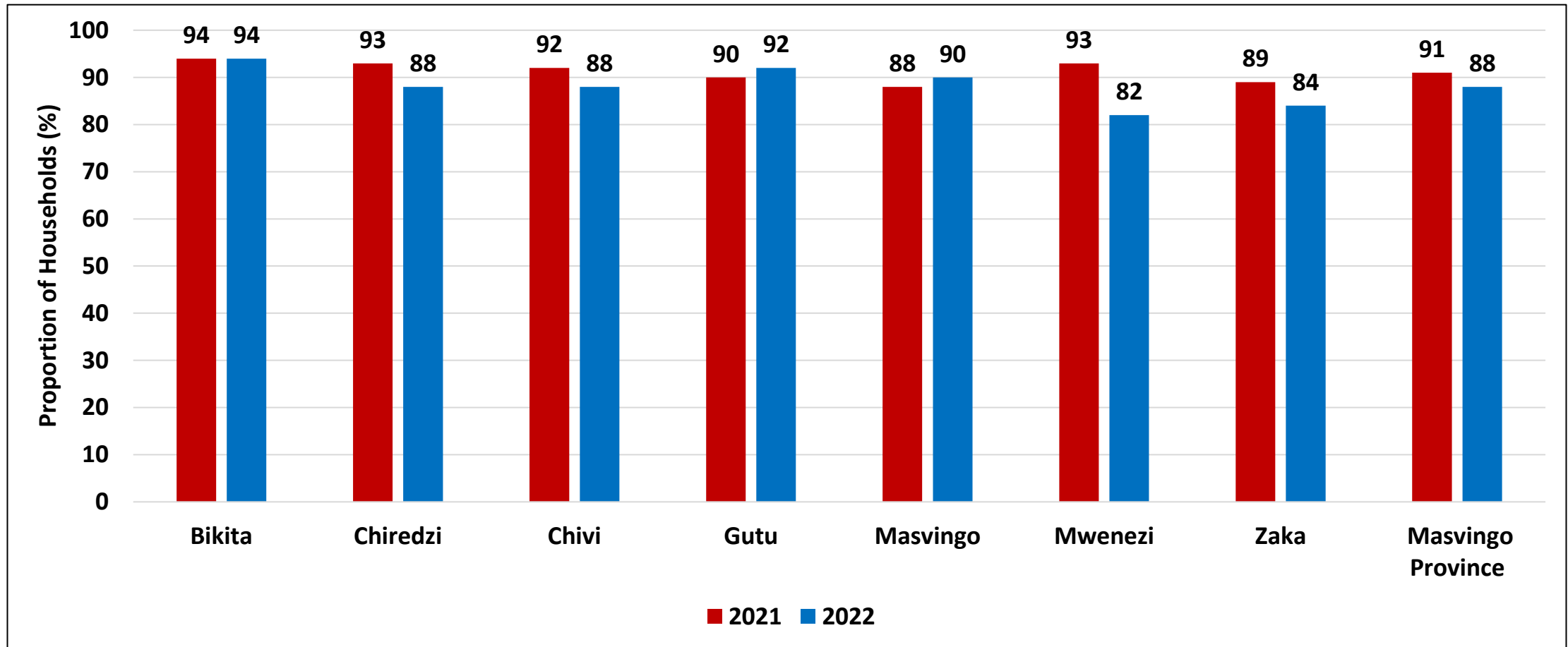
- Households that recorded distance to the nearest school of less than 5 kms increased from 67% in 2021 to 70% in 2022.
- At provincial level 6% of households reported travelling over 10km to access the nearest primary school.

Household Access to Health-Related Information



- Approximately 79% of households in the province had access to health-related information.
- Households with access to health related information decreased from 89% recorded in 2021 to 79% in 2022.

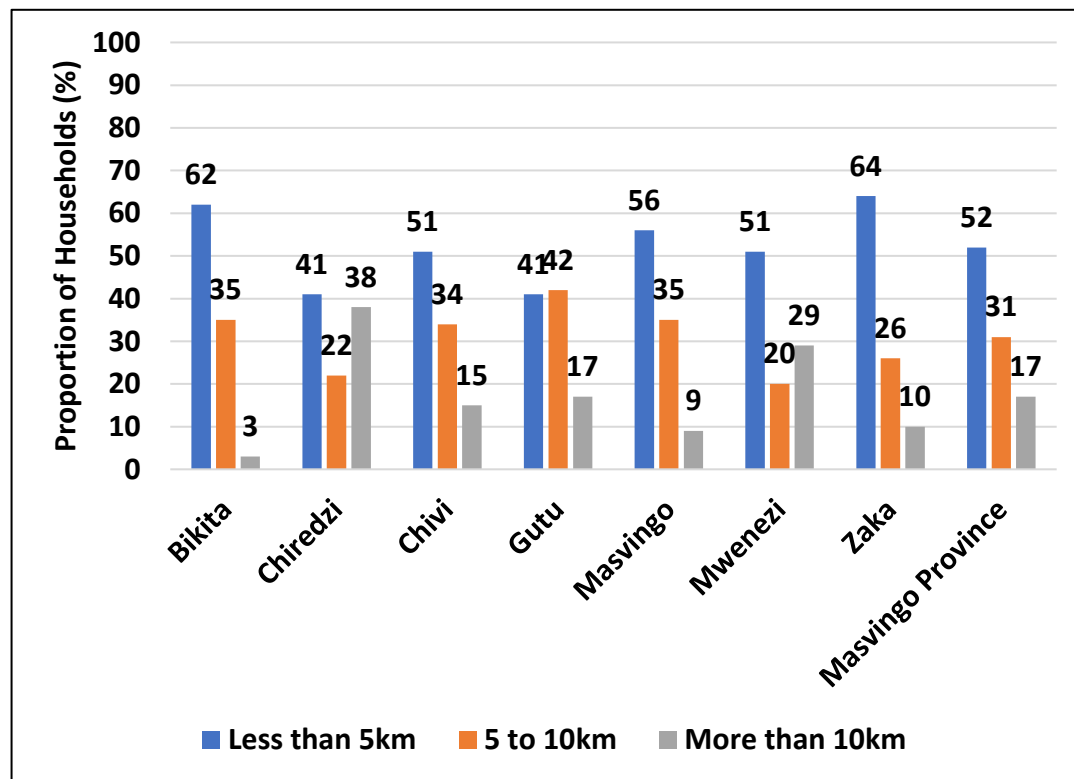
Access to the Services of a Village Health Worker



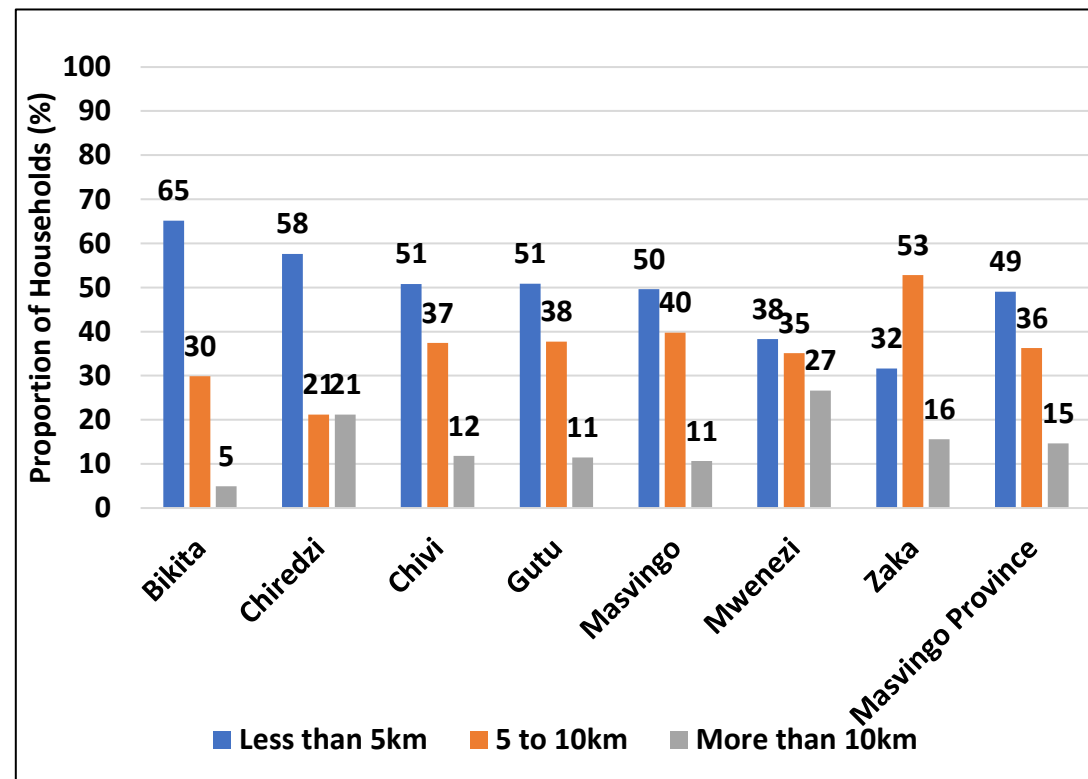
- About 88% of households in Masvingo Province reported that they had access to a Village Health Worker.
- Households with access to a Village Health Worker decreased from 91% in 2021 to 88% in 2022.

Approximate Distance to the Nearest Health Facility/Clinic

2021

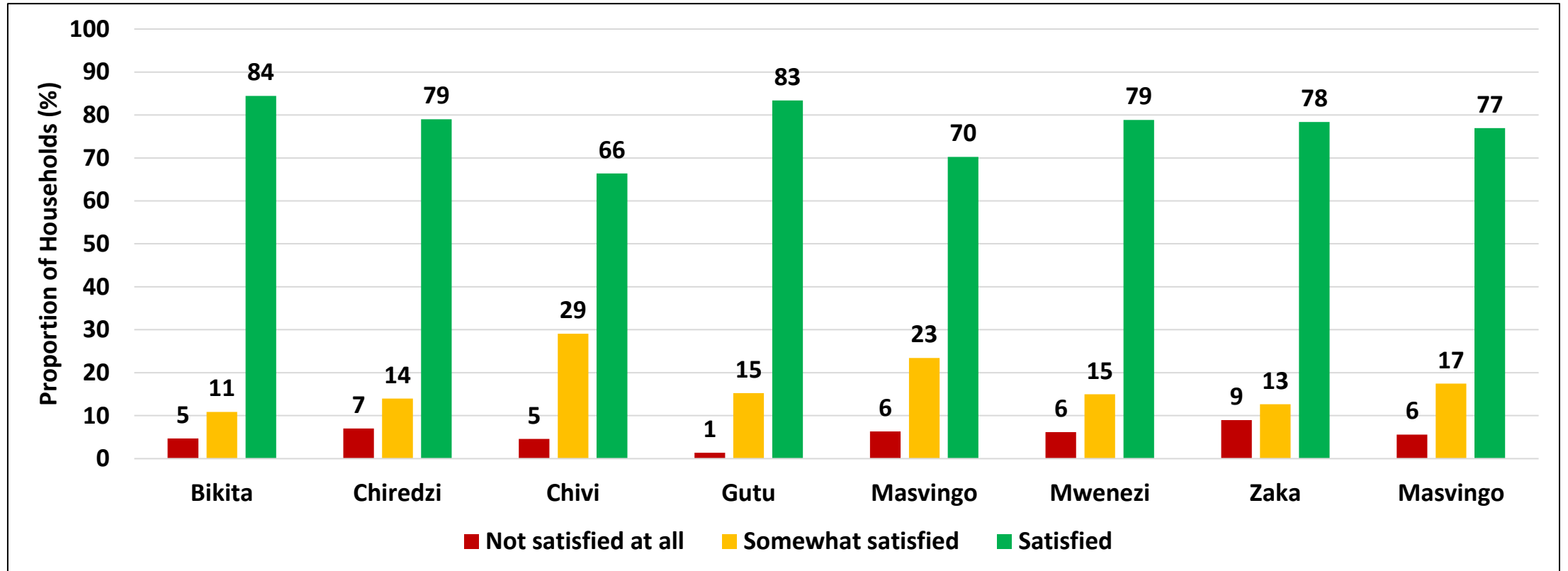


2022



- About 85% of the households reported to have access to a health facility within a distance of less than 10kms.
- Approximately 15% of the households reported travelling over 10km to access a health facility.

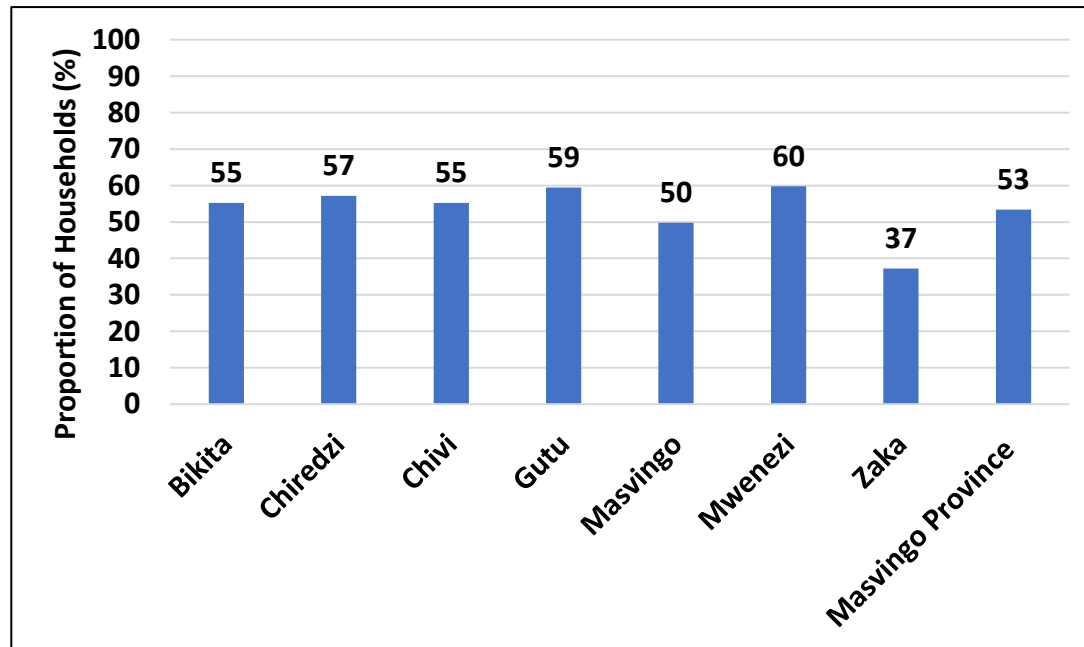
Satisfaction with Quality of Service Received from the Health Facility/Clinic Accessed



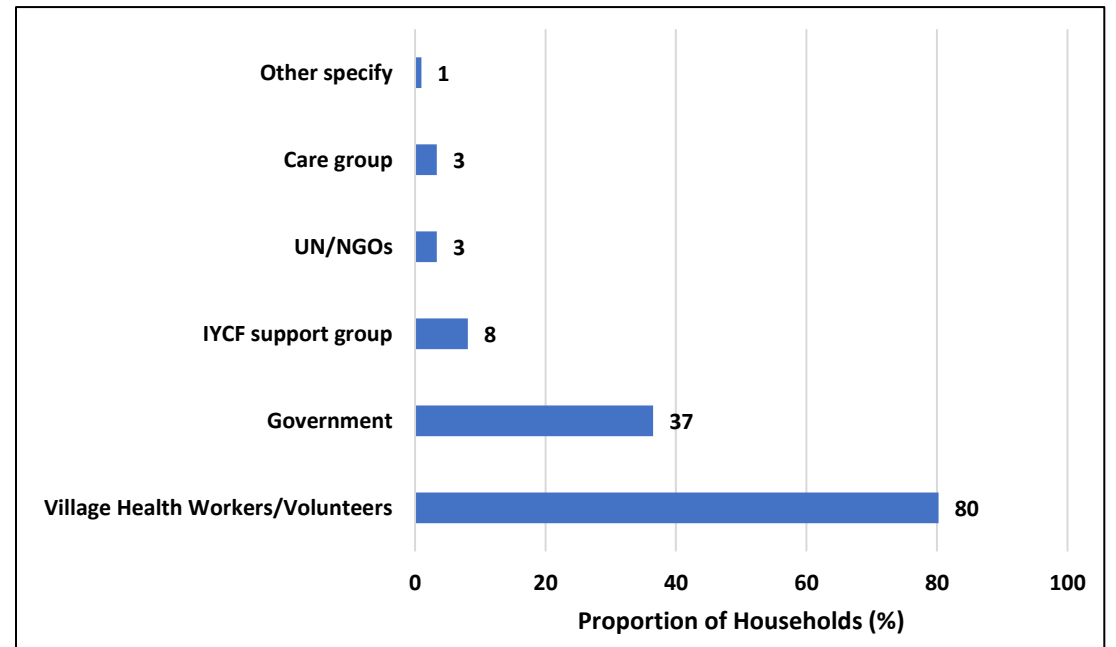
- At provincial level, 77% of the households that had accessed health facilities or clinics were satisfied by the service.

Households which Received Nutrition education and/or Training

Households which Received Nutrition Education or Training



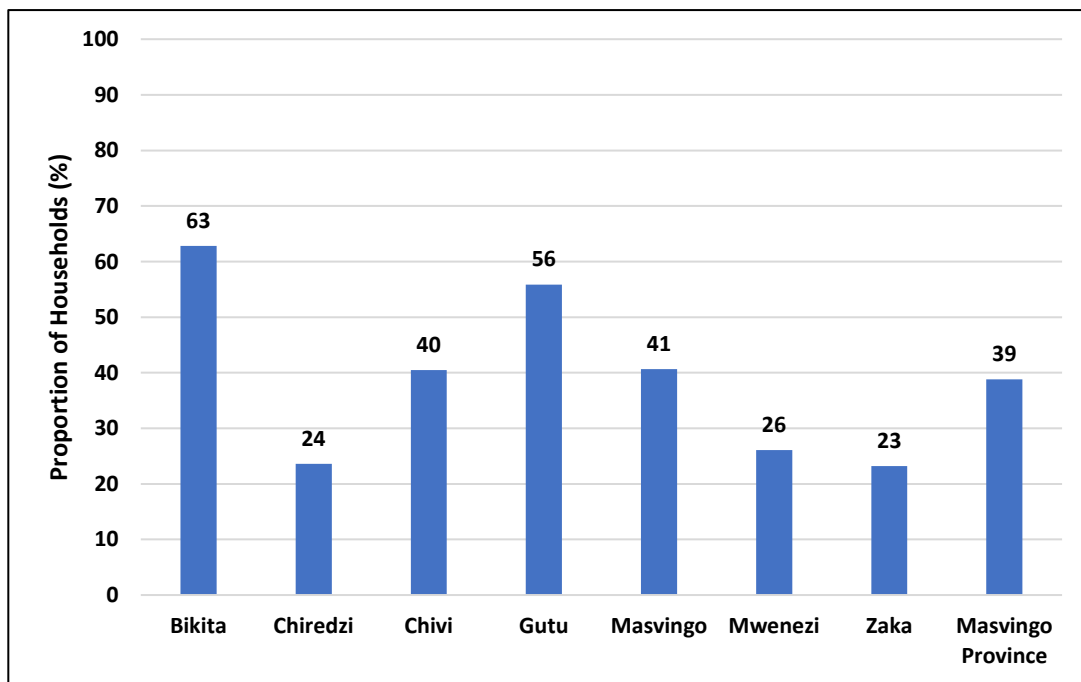
Sources of Information



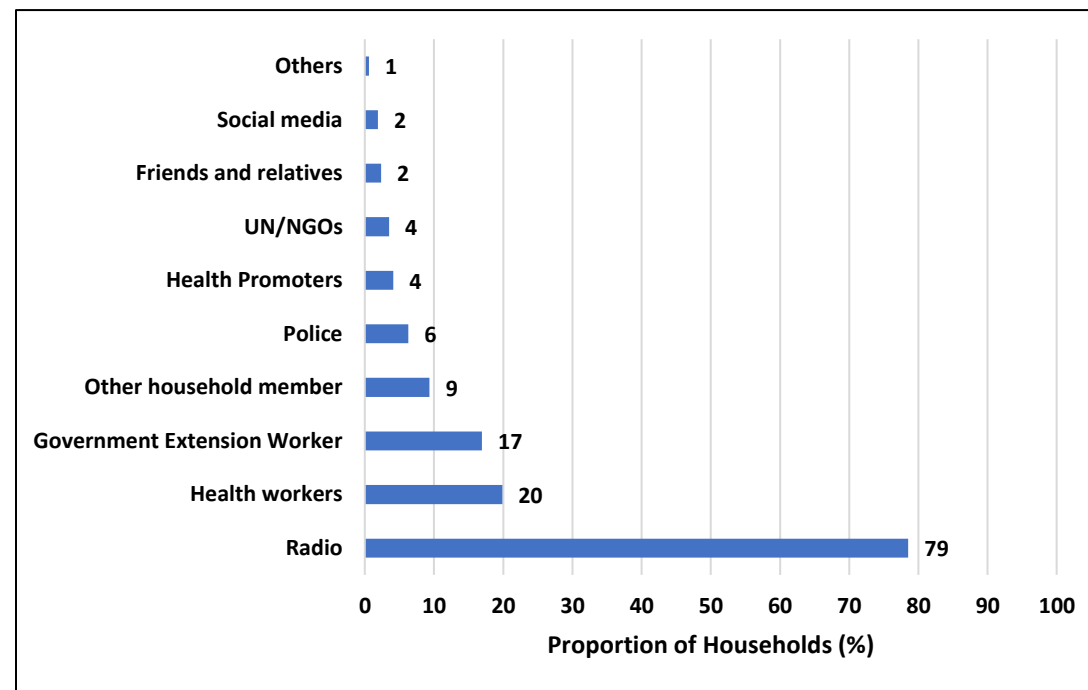
- The proportion of households that received nutrition education or training was 53%.
- The major source of nutrition information was village health workers or volunteers.

Access to Information on Services for Physical and Sexual Violence

Proportion of Households that had Access to Information on Physical and Sexual Violence



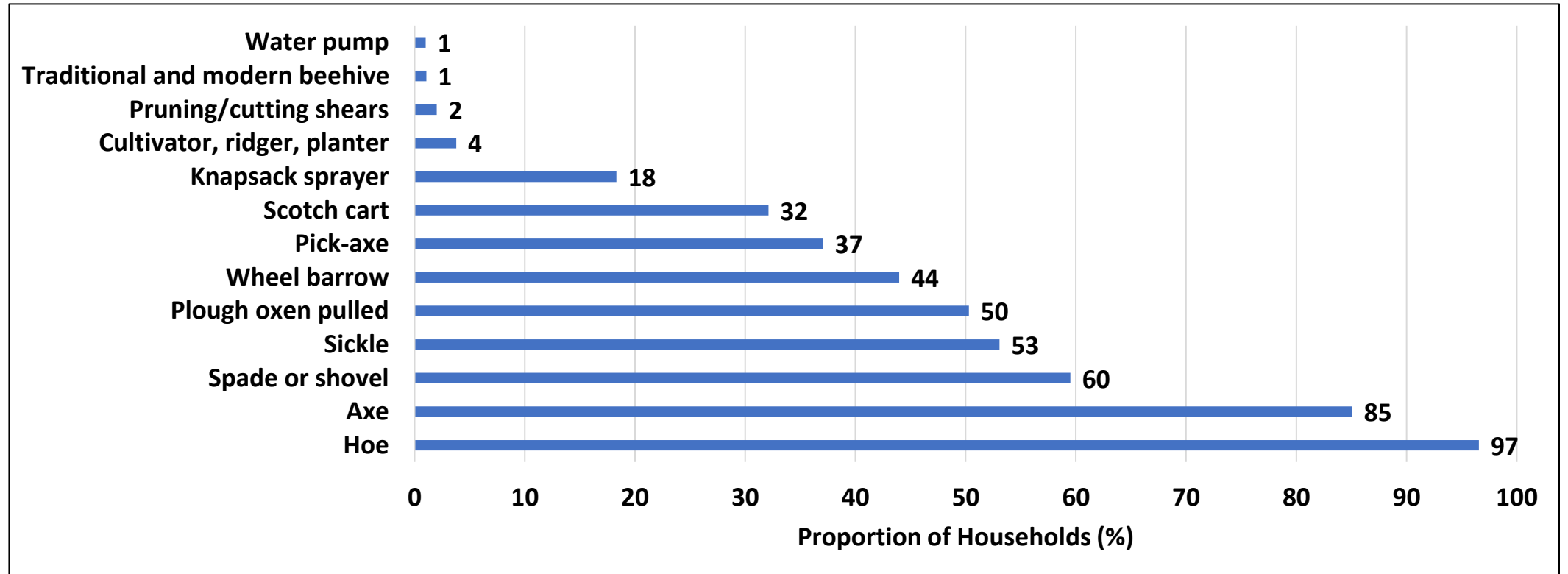
Sources of information on Physical and Sexual Violence



- In Masvingo province 39% of households had access to information on services for physical and sexual violence.
- The major source of information on physical and sexual violence was radio.

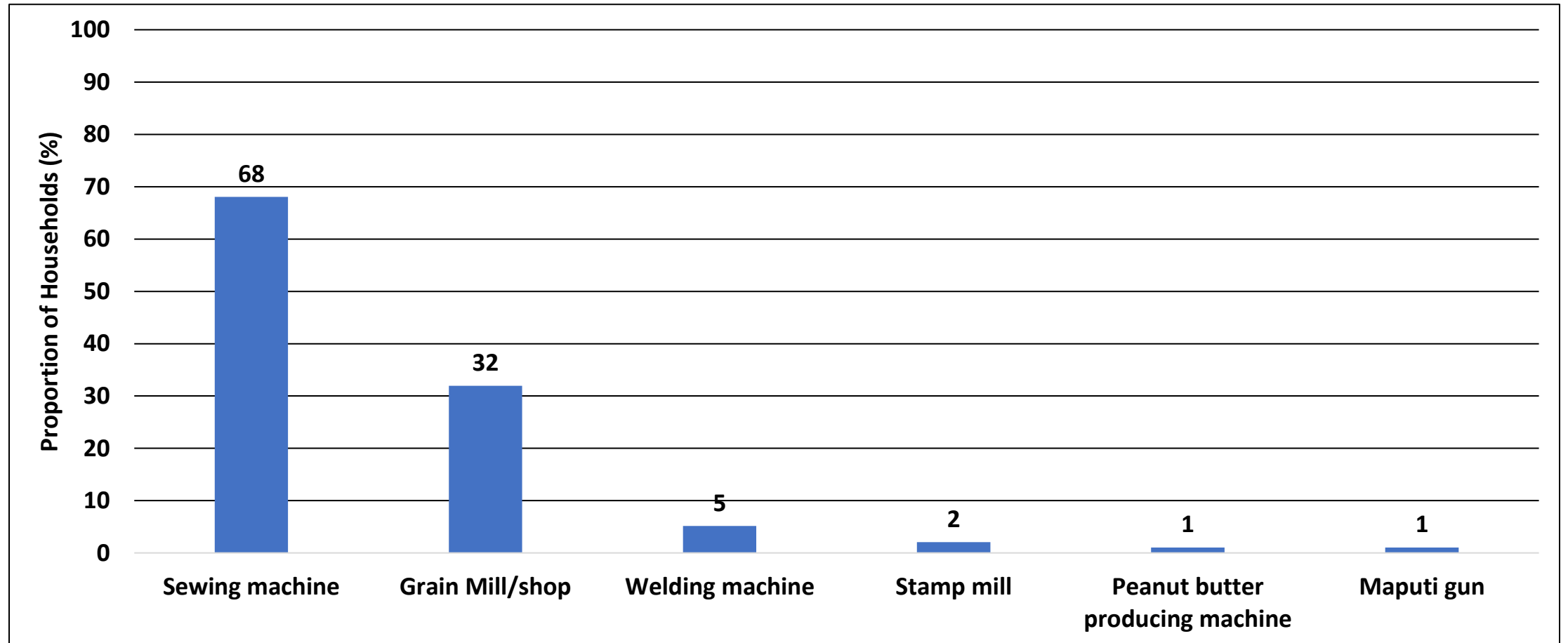
Assets

Ownership of Productive Assets



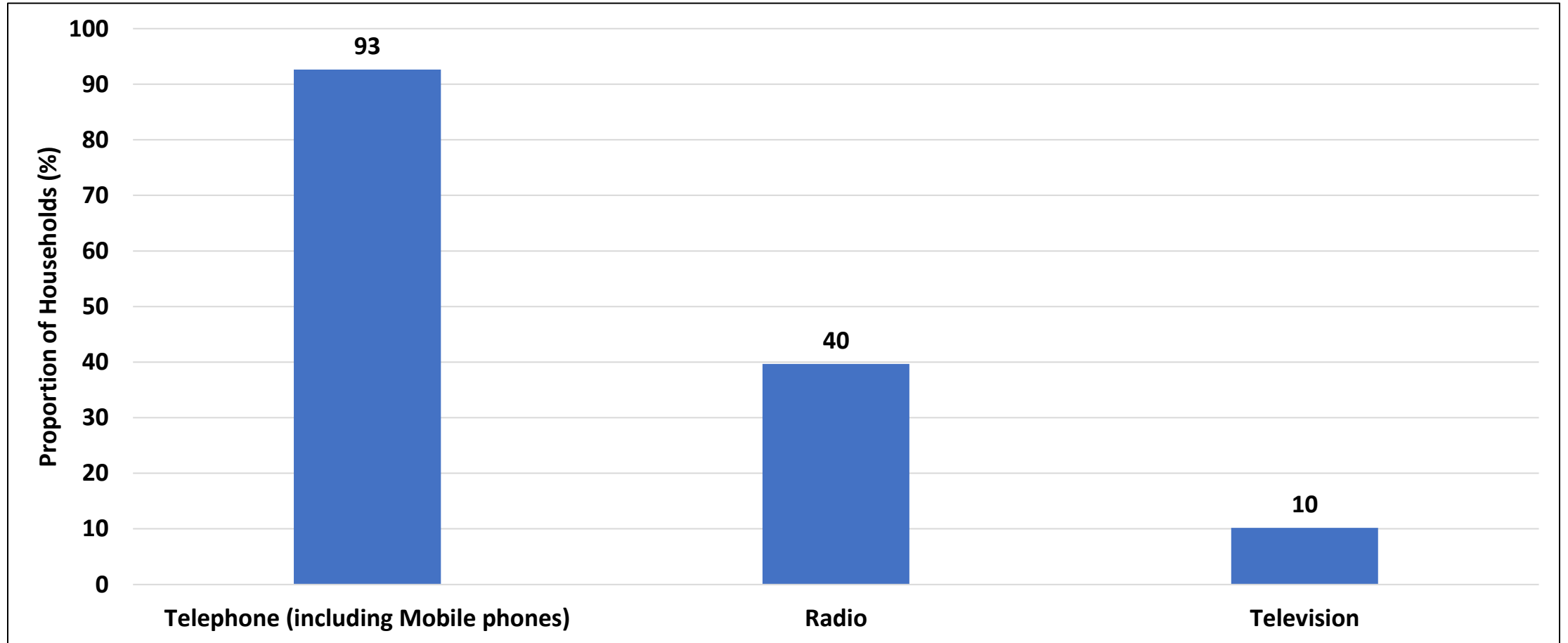
- Hoe (97%), an axe (85%) and a spade/shovel (60%) were the most common productive assets owned by households.

Ownership of Entrepreneur Assets



- Sewing machines (68%) were the most common entrepreneur assets owned by households

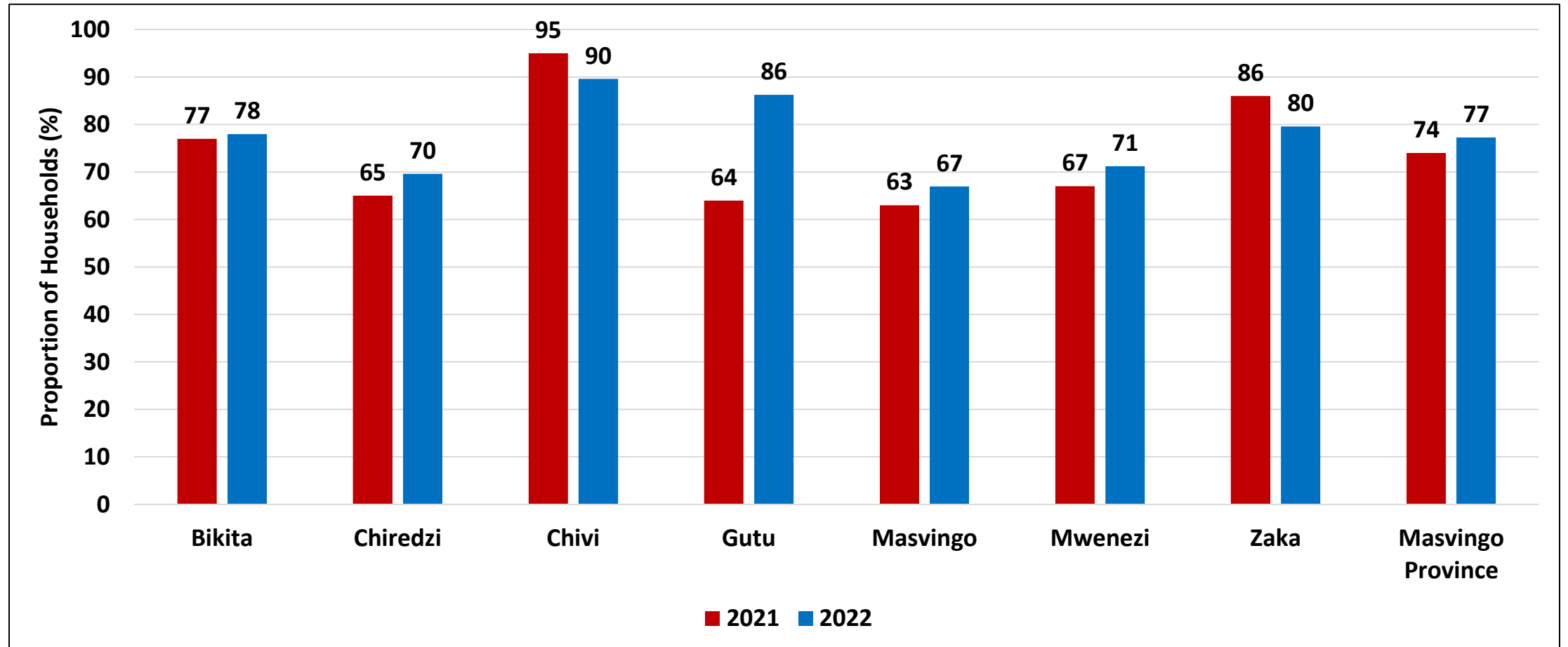
Ownership of ICT assets



- The highest proportion of households (93%) owned telephones.

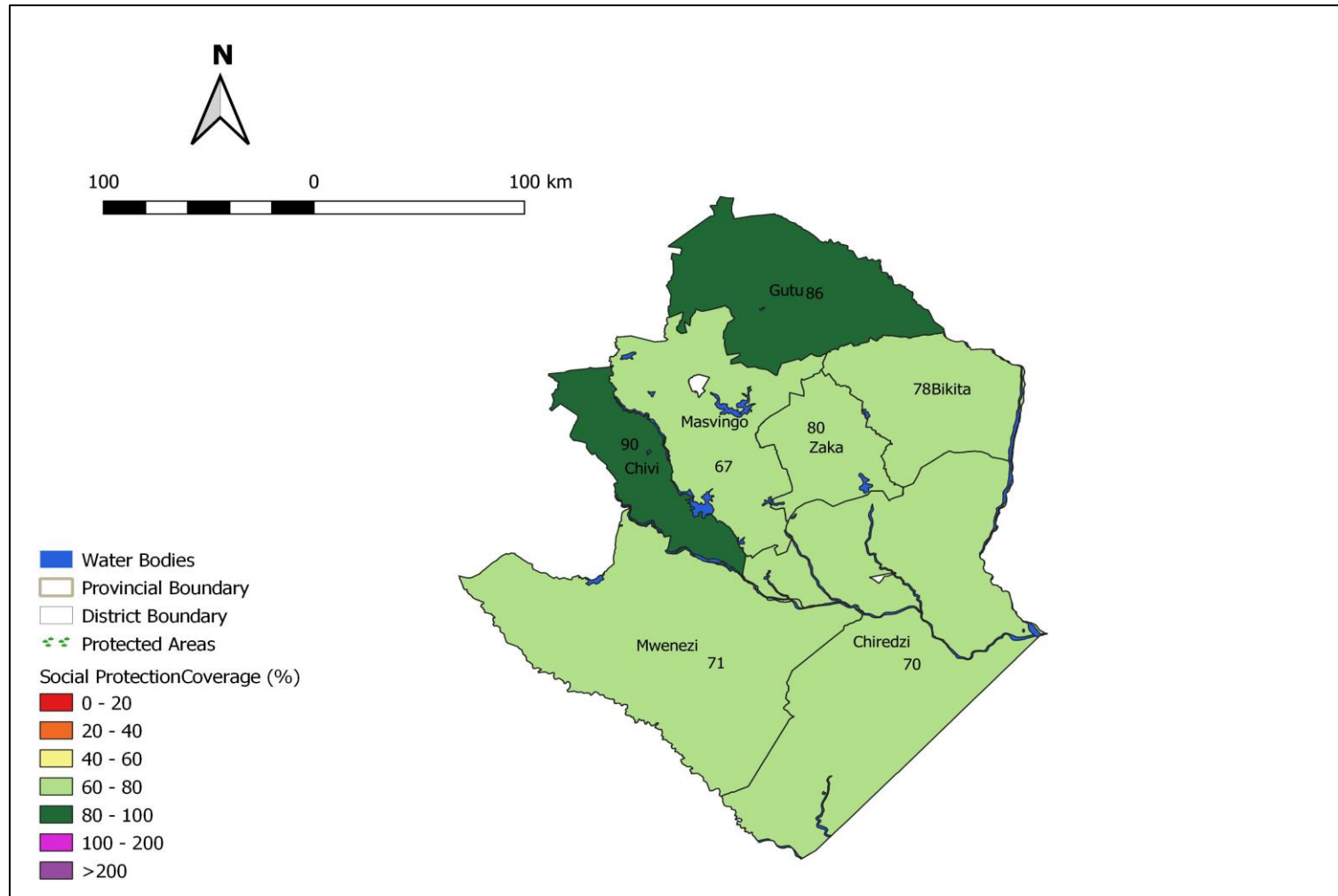
Social Protection

Households Which Received any Form of Support



- Chivi (90%) had the highest proportion of households receiving support from all the sources whilst Masvingo district (67%) had the lowest proportion of households receiving any form of support from all sources.
- At provincial level there was an increase in the proportion of households receiving any form of support from 74% to 77%.

Households Which Received any Form of Support



- All districts in the province received some social protection assistance.
- Chivi (90%) had the highest proportion of households that received social protection support.

Sources of Any Form of Support (77%)

	Government (%)		UN/NGO (%)		Church Support (%)		Rural Relatives (%)		Urban Relatives (%)		Diaspora (%)		Charitable Groups (%)	
District	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
Bikita	55	66	42	8	5	2	7	4	11	25	3	10	0	0
Chiredzi	44	47	31	9	5	1	7	32	7	24	8	16	3	0
Chivi	76	71	50	21	23	9	33	56	24	44	21	26	9	11
Gutu	50	80	5	5	4	4	10	8	23	20	4	11	1	1
Masvingo	40	57	24	10	2	0	4	2	13	13	7	7	1	0
Mwenezi	39	53	38	39	3	2	6	3	3	3.2	3	10	4	2
Zaka	58	69	33	13	9	4	32	7	38	25.6	19	15	3	4
Masvingo Province	52	63	32	15	7	3	14	16	17	22.3	9	13	3	3

- Government (63%) remains the main source of support offered to households in the province.
- Government support increased from 52% recorded in 2021 to 63% in 2022.

Forms of Support From Government (63%)

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 (%)
Bikita	37	1	61	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chiredzi	46	2	50	0	0	0	1	0	0
Chivi	32	5	48	0	8	1	0	0	6
Gutu	22		76	0	0	0	0	0	0
Masvingo	42	2	42		2		1	1	12
Mwenezi	9	1	70	1	0	1	1	0	18
Zaka	37	5	59	0	0	0	0	0	0
Masvingo Province	32	2	58	0	2	0	0	0	5

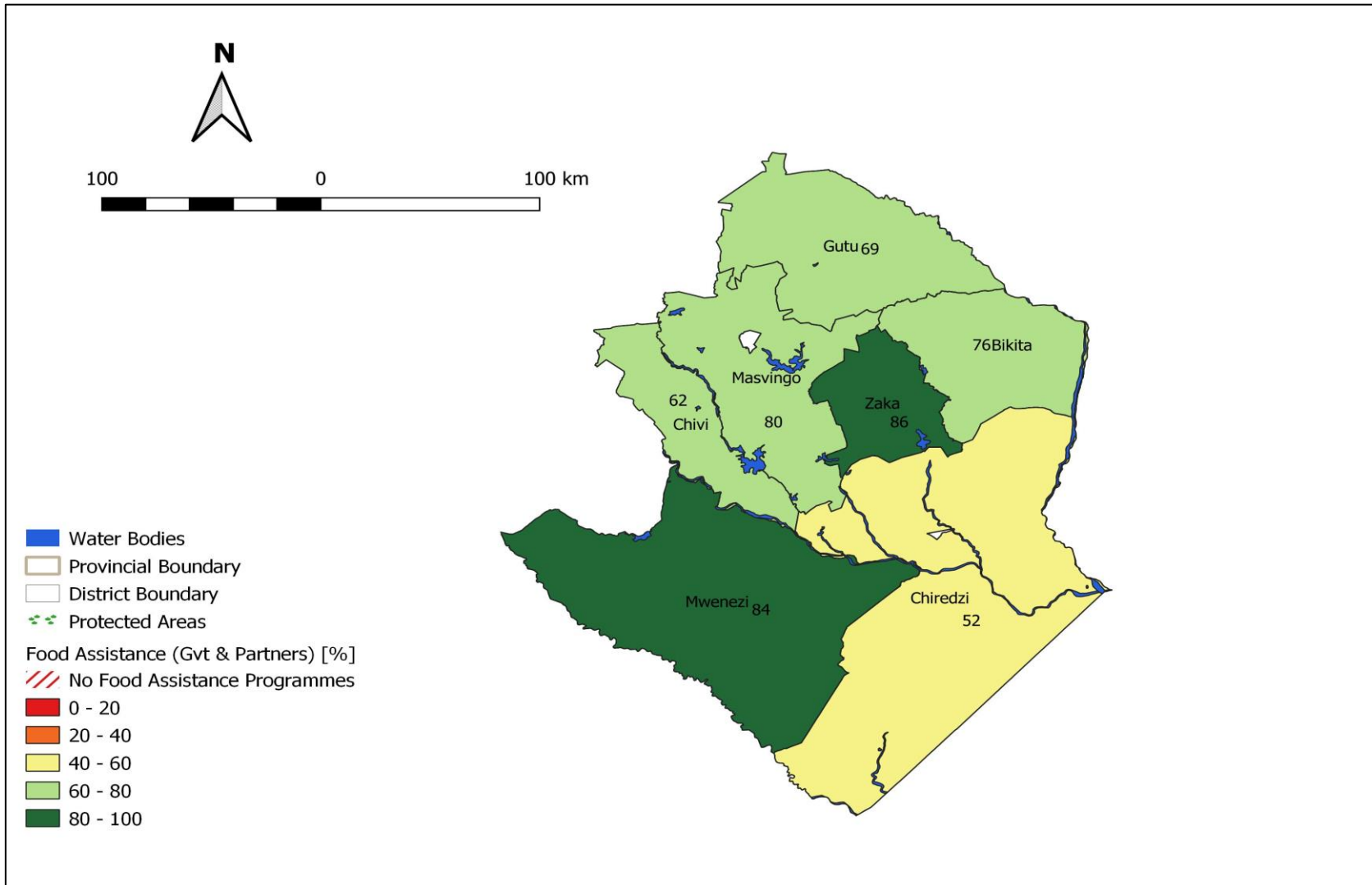
- Crop inputs (58%) and food (32%) were the major forms of support received from the Government in the province.
- Chiredzi had the highest proportion of households receiving food assistance (46%) with Mwenezi having the least (9%).
- The proportion of households receiving crop inputs was highest in Gutu (76%) and Masvingo had the least (42%).

Forms of Support from UN/NGOs (15%)

District	Food (%)	Cash (%)	Crop inputs (%)	Livestock support - large stock (pass on) (%)	Small livestock support (goats, chicken, fish, etc) (%)	Other livestock support (%)	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene inputs (%)	Covid-19 support (%)
Bikita	76	5	0	0	5	0	0	14
Chiredzi	52	9	4	0	0	0	30	4
Chivi	62	7	9	2	7	4	9	0
Gutu	69	15	8	0	0	0	8	0
Masvingo	80	7	3	0	0	3	3	3
Mwenezi	84	0	12	1	0	0	3	0
Zaka	86	6	3	0	0	0	6	0
Masvingo Province	76	5	8	1	2	1	7	2

- Food assistance remains the major form of support received from UN/NGOs across the districts in the province.
- Zaka district had the highest proportion of households receiving food assistance from UN/NGOs (86%) with Chiredzi having the least (52%).

Coverage of Food Assistance from NGO'S

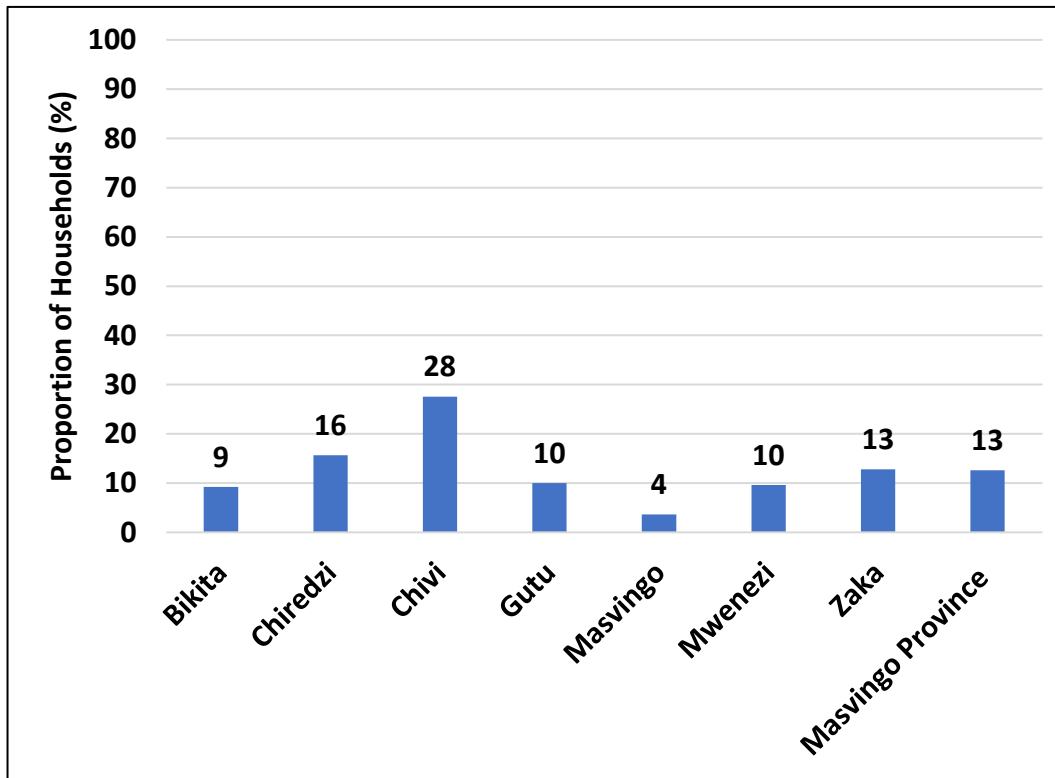


- All the districts in the province received food assistance.
- Zaka district had the highest proportion of households receiving food assistance (86%).

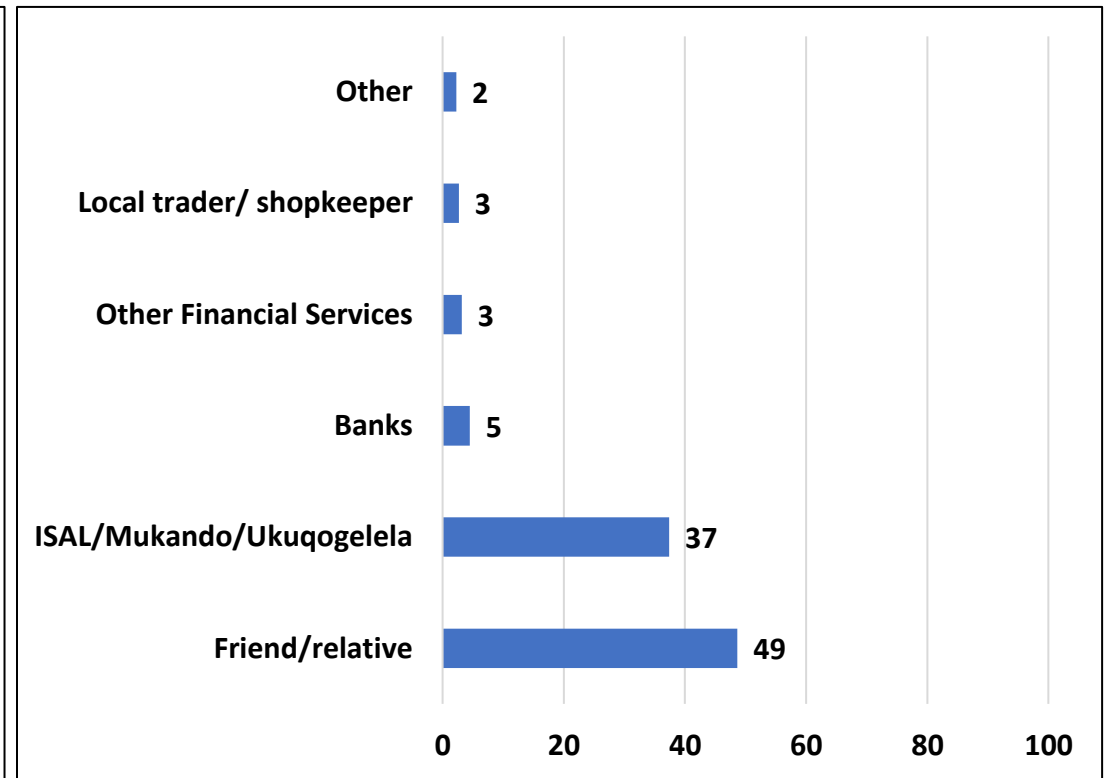
Loans

Access to loans

Households which Received Loans



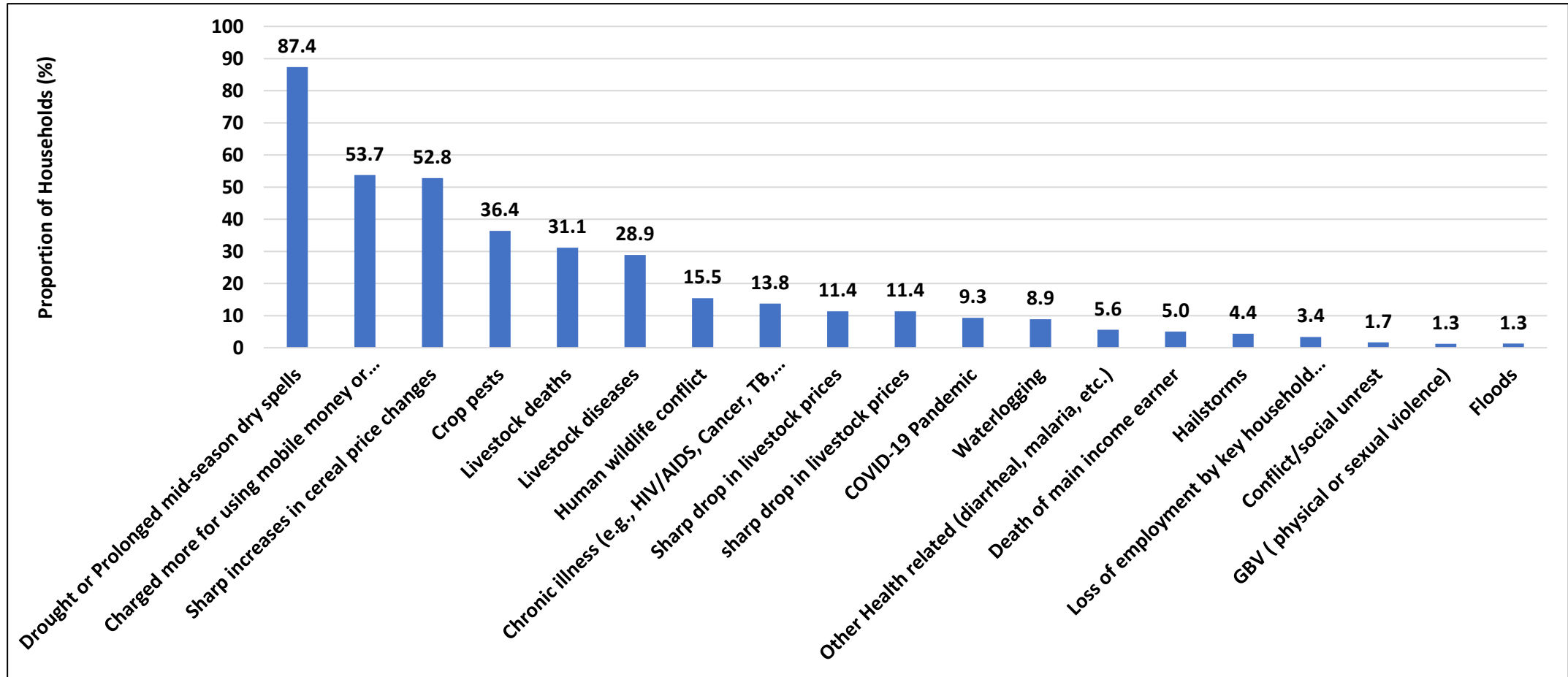
Sources of Loans



- Only 13% of households in Masvingo province received loans.
- Chivi (28%) had the highest proportion of households which received loans and Masvingo district (4%) had the least.
- Of the 13% of households that received loans, the majority of households reported that they received the loans from relatives or friends (49%).

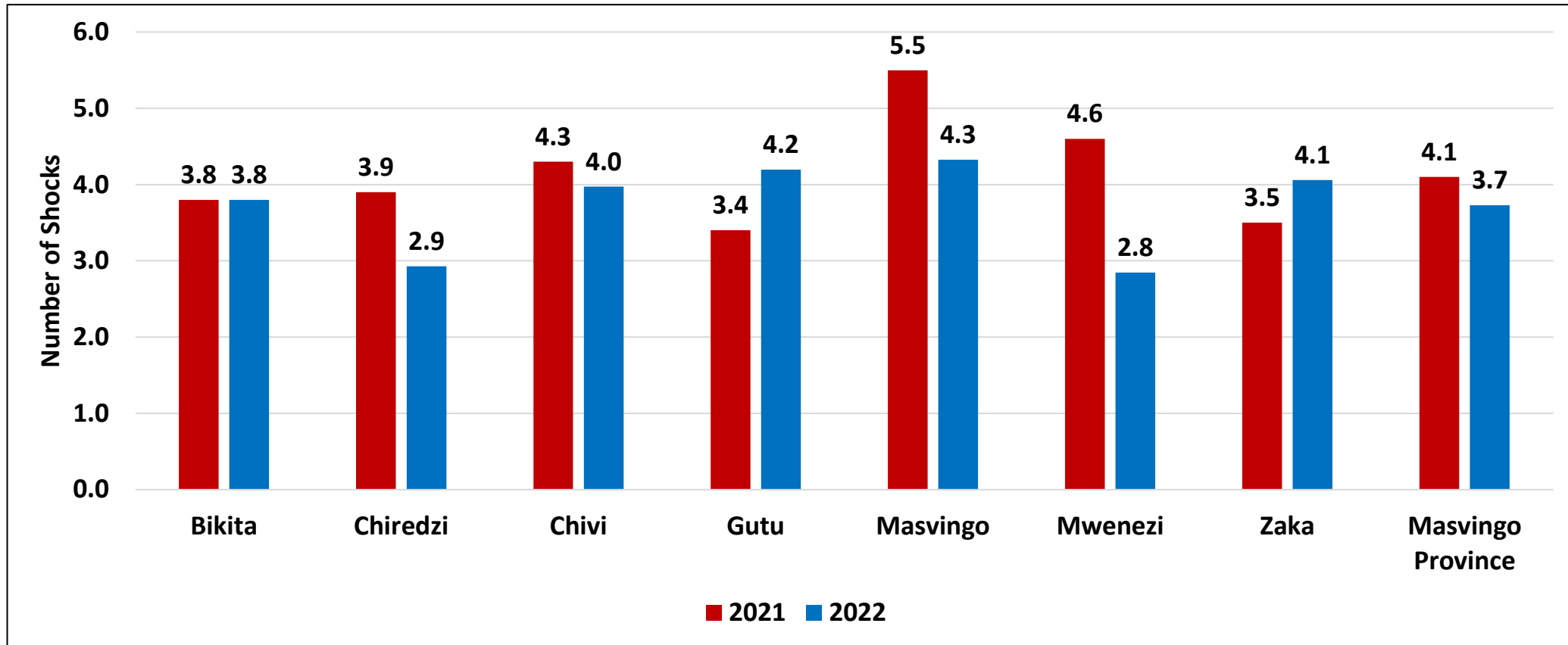
Shocks and Hazards

Proportion of Households Experiencing Shocks



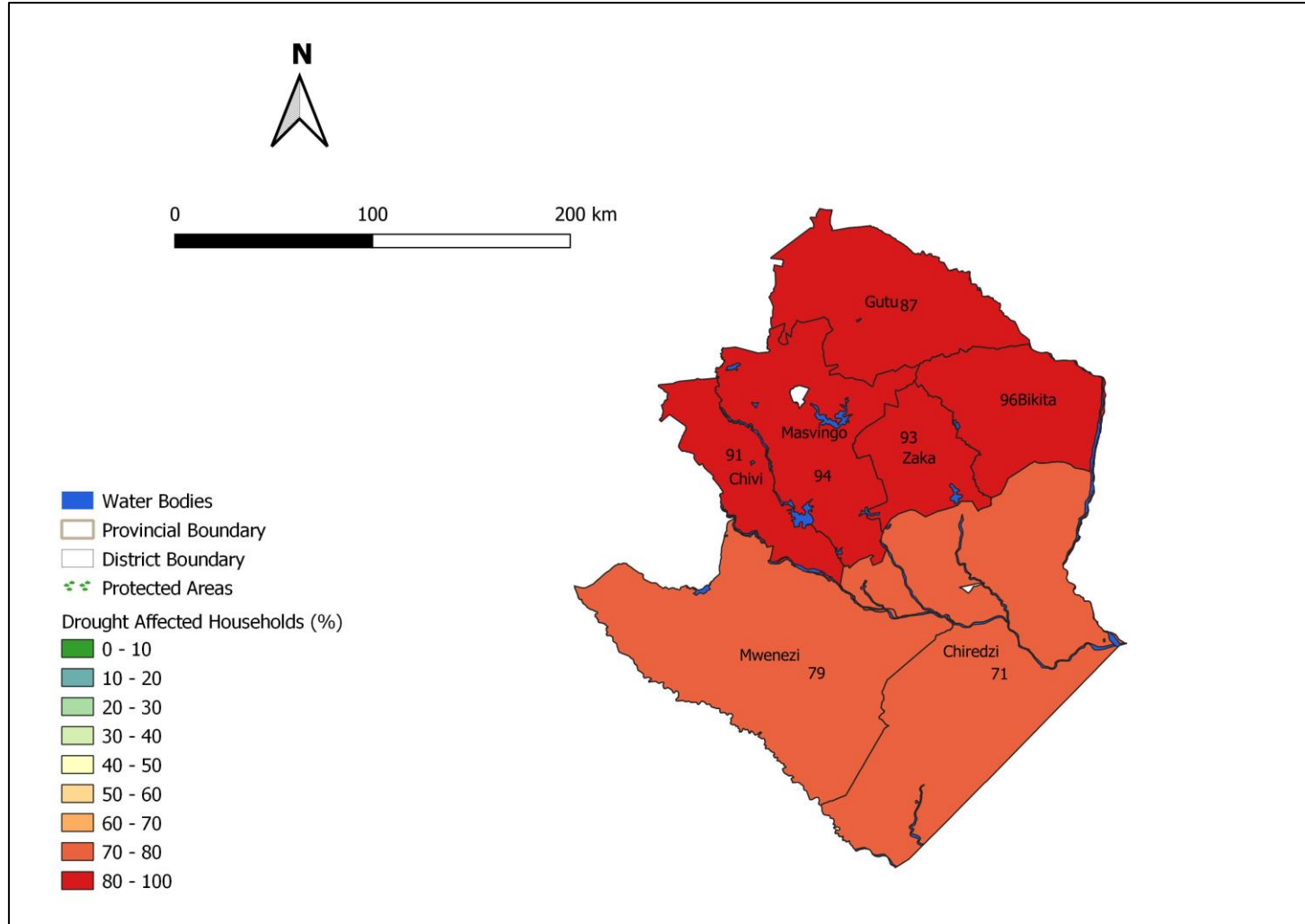
- Drought or prolonged mid season dry spells (87.4%), being charged more for using mobile money (53.7%) and sharp increases in prices (52.8%) were the most prevalent shocks experienced by households.

Number of Shocks Experienced by Households



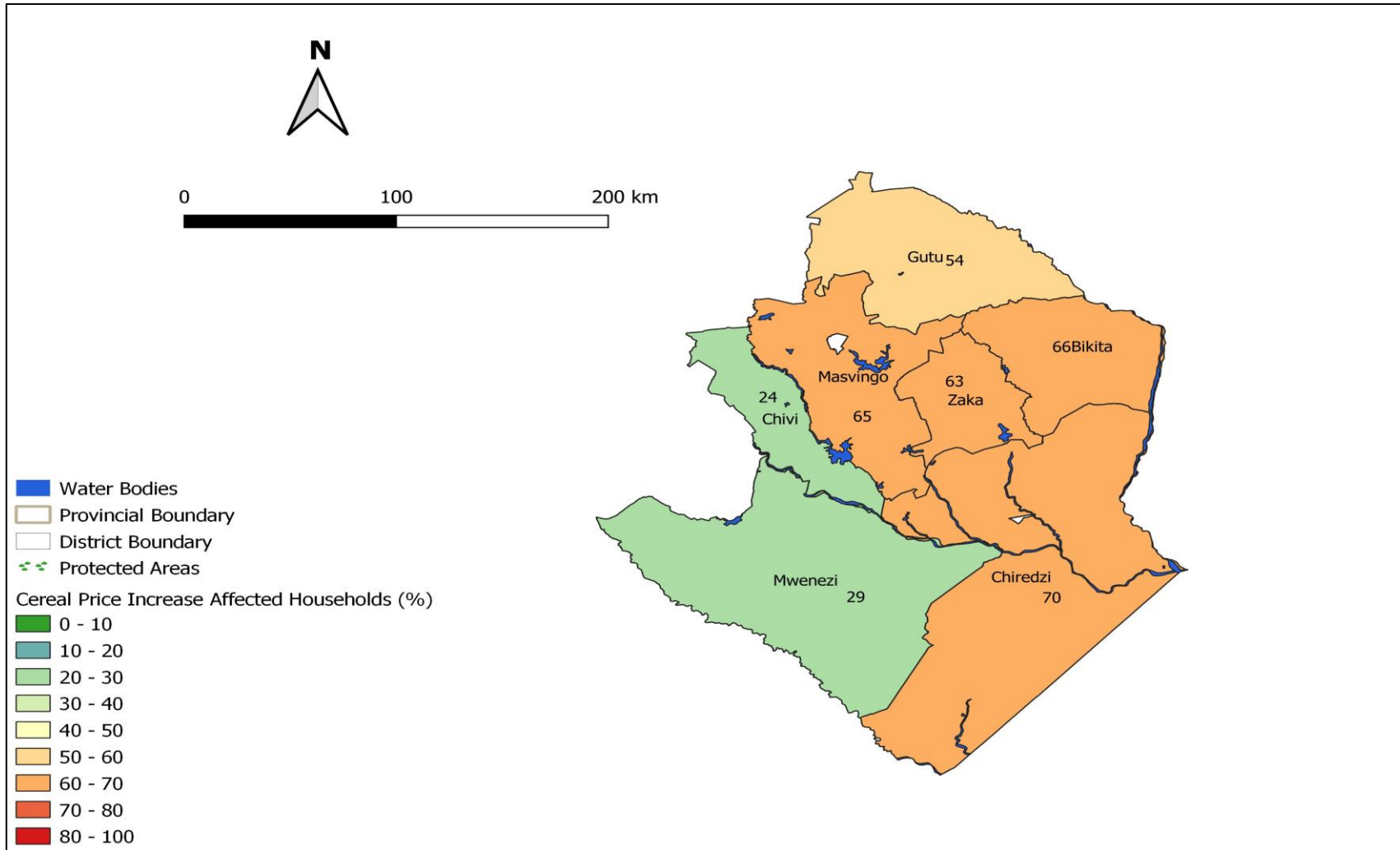
- There was a general increase in the number of shocks experienced by households for most districts except Gutu and Zaka.
- Masvingo (4.3), Gutu (4.2) and Zaka (4.1) had the highest average number of shocks experienced by households.

Households which Reported Drought



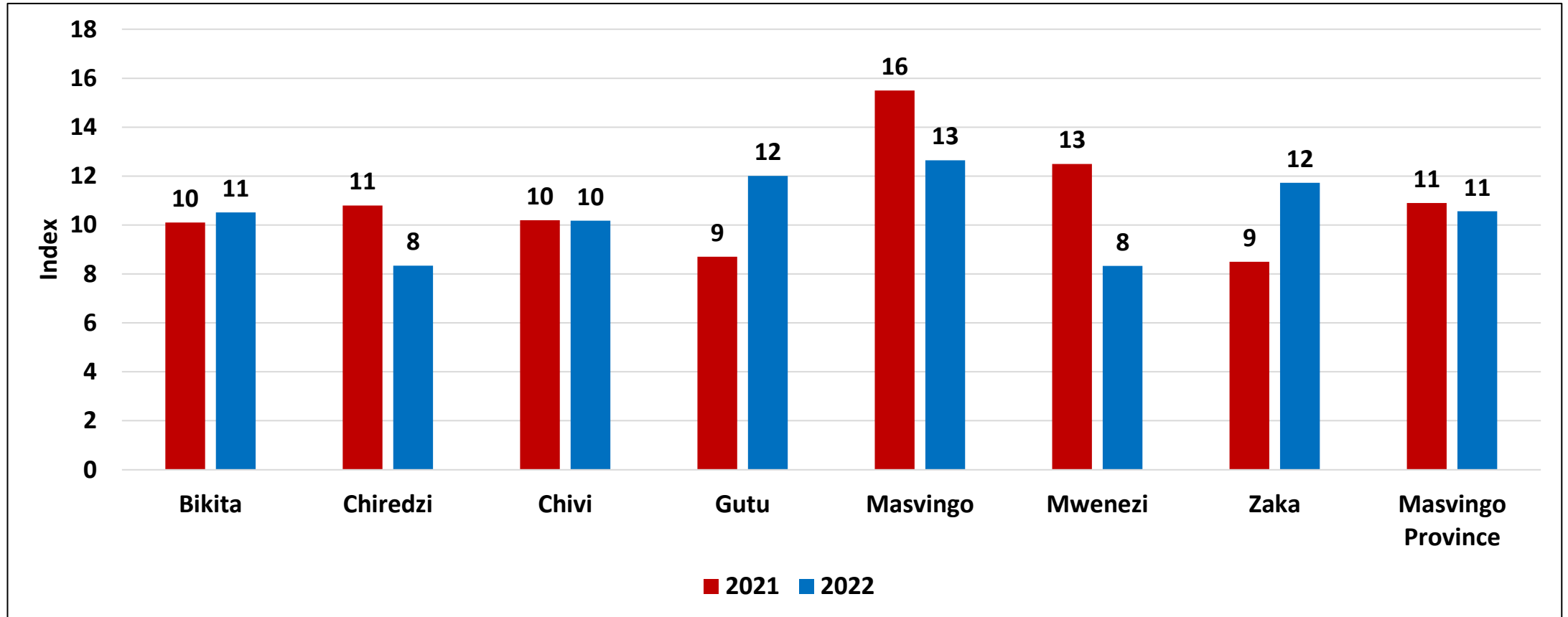
- The majority of districts had households which reported drought as a shock.
- Drought/ prolonged dry spells were reported by at least 87% of households in five districts namely Bikita, Chivi, Gutu, Zaka and Masvingo.

Households which Reported Sharp Cereal Price Increase



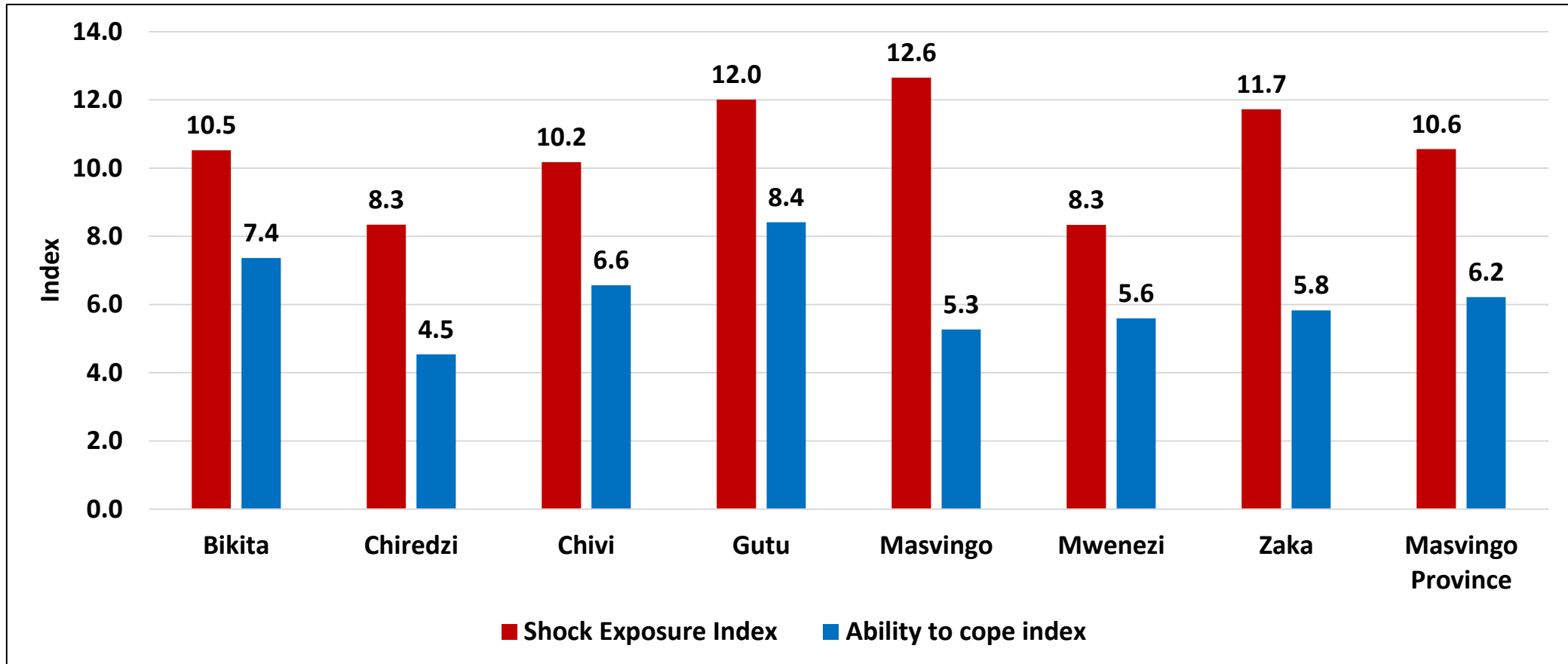
- Chiredzi (70%) had the highest proportion of households which reported cereal price increase followed by Bikita with 66%.

Average Shock Exposure Index



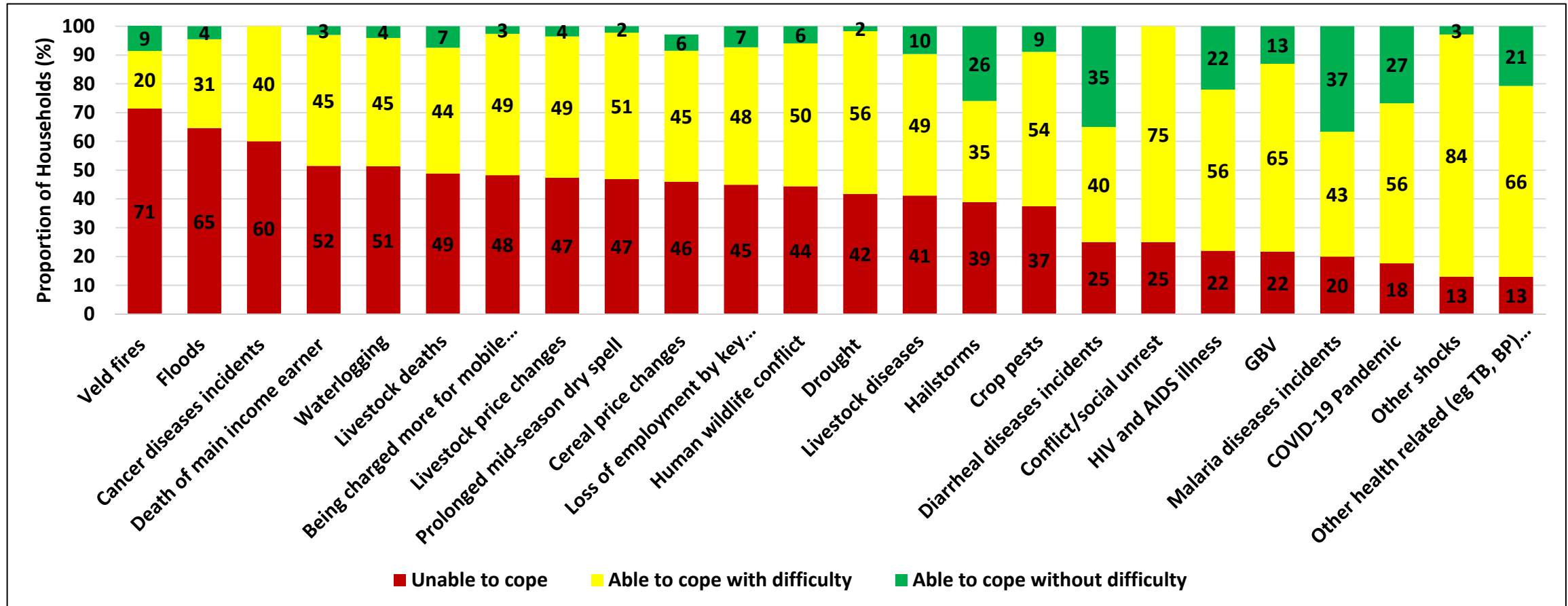
- Shock exposure index was calculated by multiplying shocks experienced and impact severity of the shock to the household.
- Masvingo district (13), Gutu (12) and Zaka (12) had the highest shock exposure index.
- Shock exposure index increased for all districts except for Chiredzi, Chivi, Mwenezi and Masvingo.

Comparison Between Shock Exposure and Ability to Cope



- Shock exposure was higher than the ability to cope across all districts meaning households were not able to cope with most shocks experienced.
- Households continue to be vulnerable to shocks and stressors and are not able to cope on their own.

Households' Perception of their Ability to Cope with Shocks



- Most households perceived inability to cope with economic, livelihoods and climatic-related shocks.

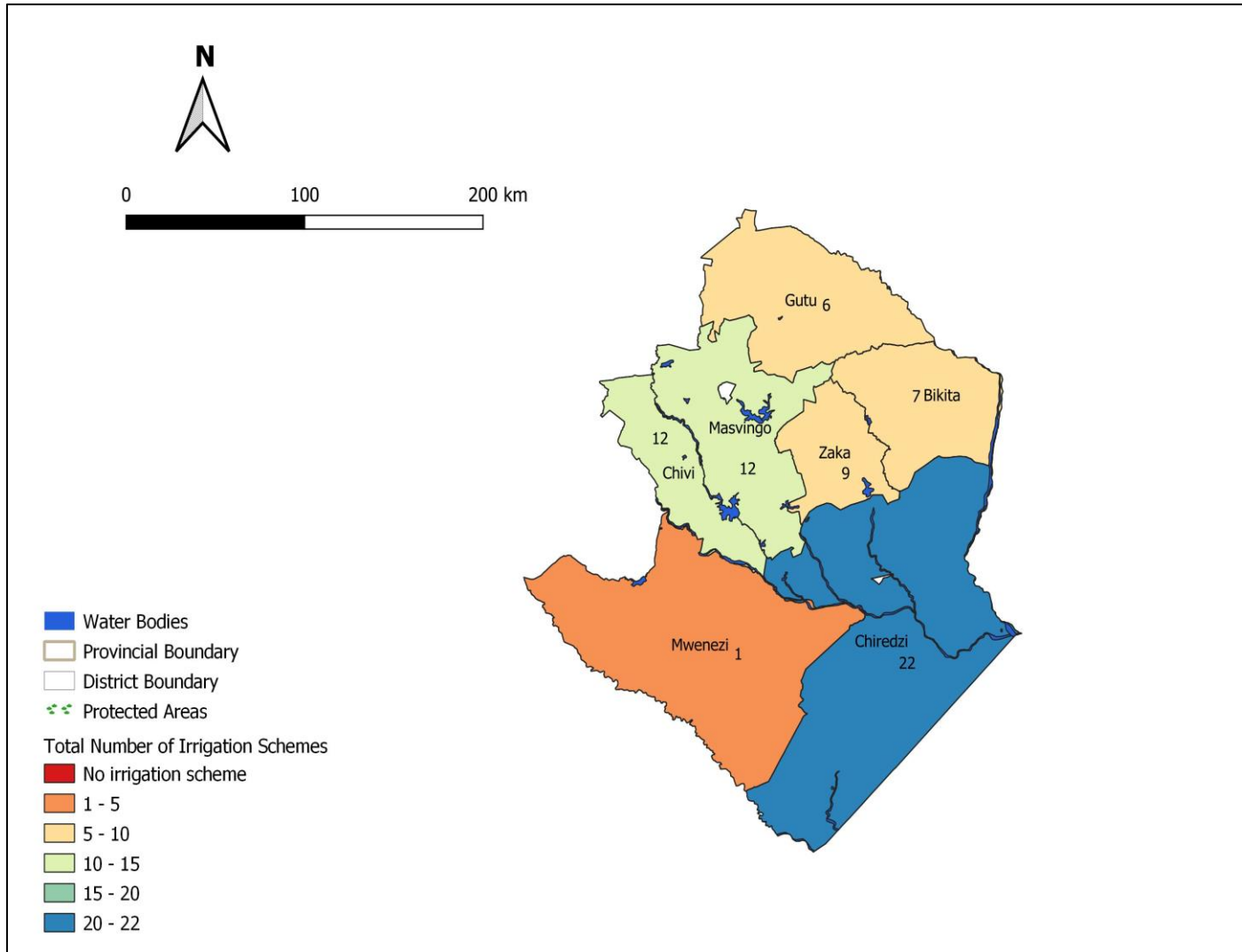
Infrastructure-Irrigation

Status of Irrigation Schemes

	Functional	Partially functional	Non functional	Total
Bikita	7	0	0	7
Chiredzi	17	5	0	22
Chivi	2	4	6	12
Gutu	3	1	2	6
Masvingo	10	2	0	12
Mwenezi	1	0	0	1
Zaka	5	0	4	9
Masvingo province	45	12	12	69

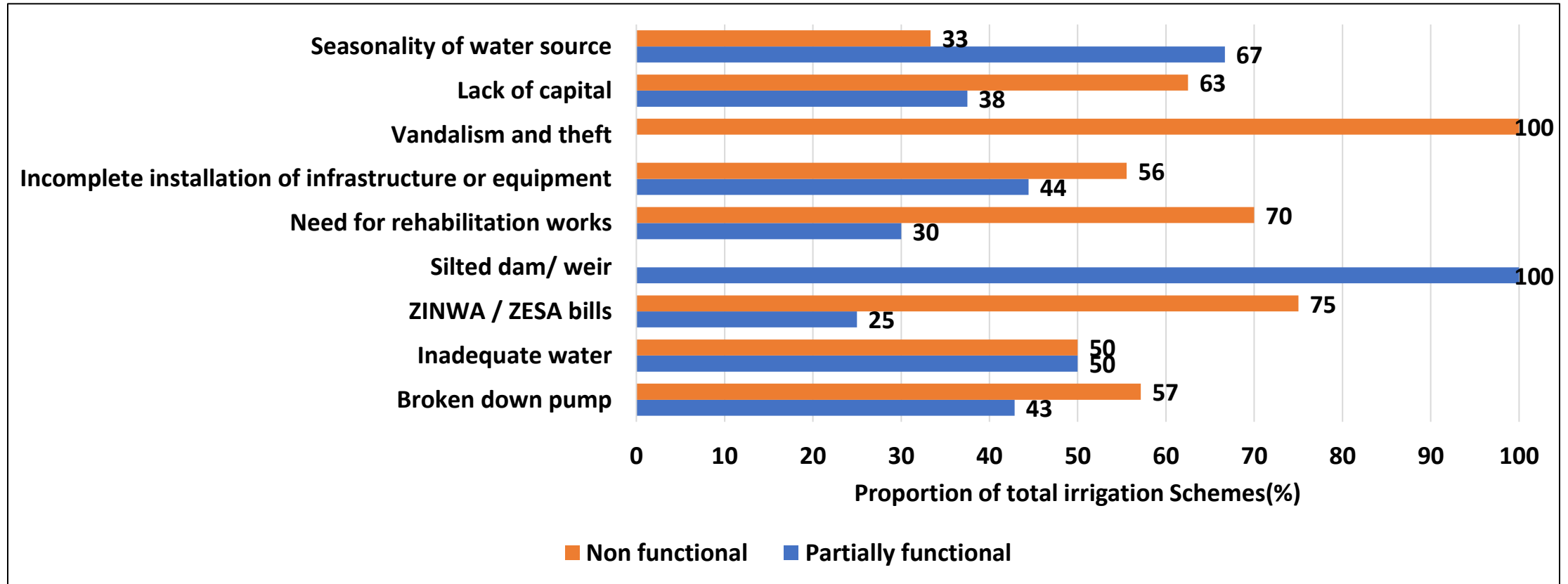
- Of the 69 irrigation schemes in the province 45 were functional
- Chiredzi (17) had the highest proportion of functional irrigation schemes

Total Irrigation Schemes



- In Masvingo province, the absolute number of established irrigation schemes was 69.
- The established irrigation schemes were highest in Chiredzi (22) followed by Masvingo district and Chivi both with (12).
- Mwenezi reported 1 irrigation scheme

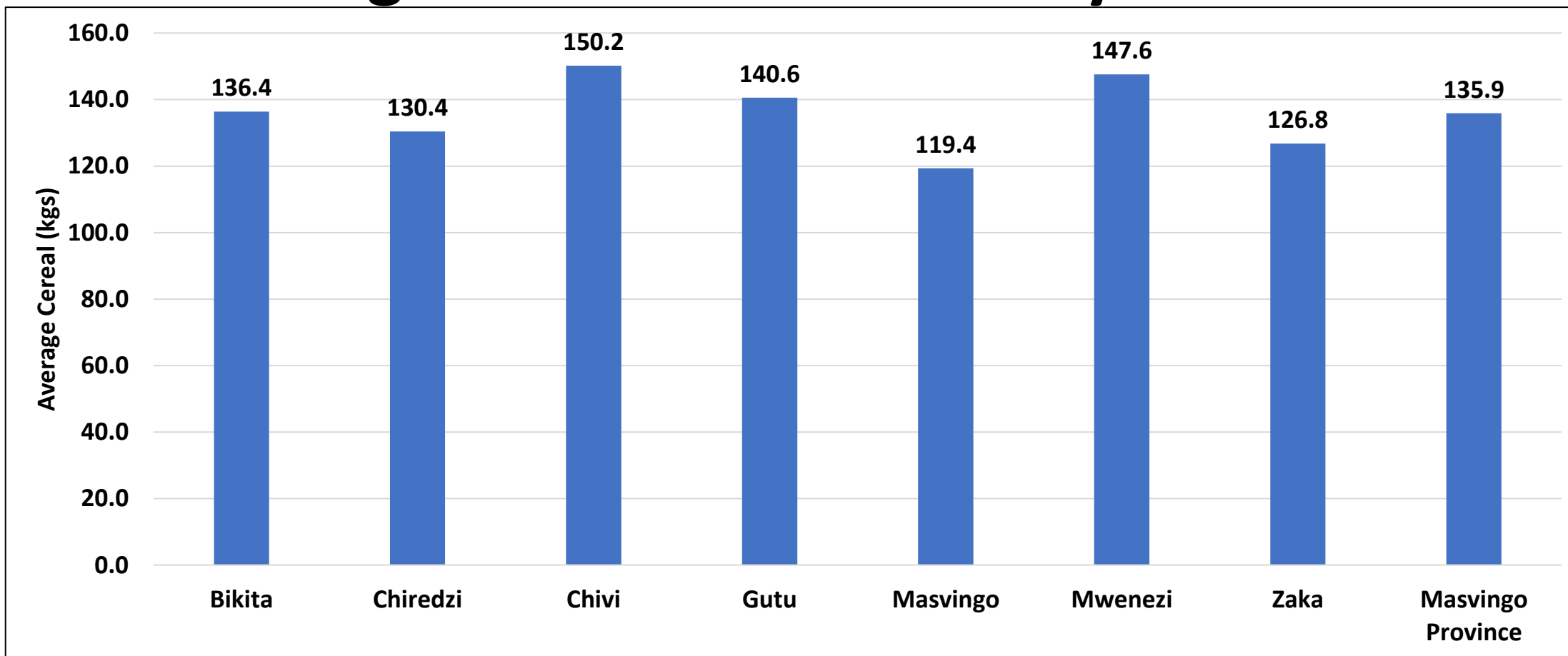
Reason for Non-Functionality of Irrigation Scheme



- Major reasons for non functionality of irrigation scheme were vandalism and theft (100%) at the scheme and ZINWA/ZESA bills (75%).

Agriculture Production

Average Cereal Production by District



- The average cereal production (maize, sorghum, finger millet and pearl millet) for Masvingo province was 135.9kgs.
- Average cereal produced was highest in Chivi (150.2kgs) and Mwenezi (147.6kgs) and lowest in Masvingo district (119.4).

Household Cereal Stocks as at 1 April 2022

District	Cereal Stocks (kgs)
Bikita	35.2
Chiredzi	80.1
Chivi	89.4
Gutu	107.2
Masvingo	74.5
Mwenezi	68.6
Zaka	77.6
Masvingo Province	75.9

- The average household cereal stocks as at 1 April 2022 for the province was 75.9kgs.
- Gutu (107.2kgs) had the highest average stocks whilst Bikita had the least (35.2kgs).

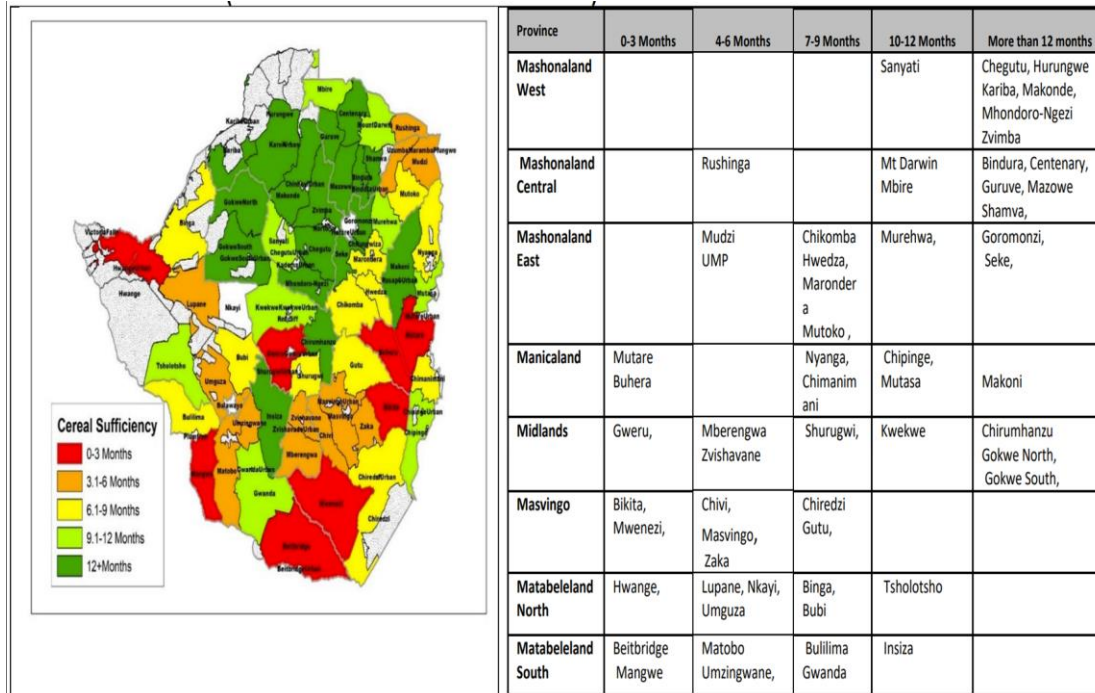
Maize from Casual Labour and Remittances

District	Casual labour (in kgs)		Remittances (in kgs)	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
Bikita	38.2	60.4	9.9	10.8
Chiredzi	6.7	62.9	0.0	9.7
Chivi	8.0	89.1	3.1	16.6
Gutu	34.0	64.5	0.0	41.3
Masvingo	18.9	40.7	0.2	3.9
Mwenezi	12.0	54.9	0.1	13.3
Zaka	20.9	13.9	2.4	1.5
Masvingo Province	18.7	55.2	1.4	13.7

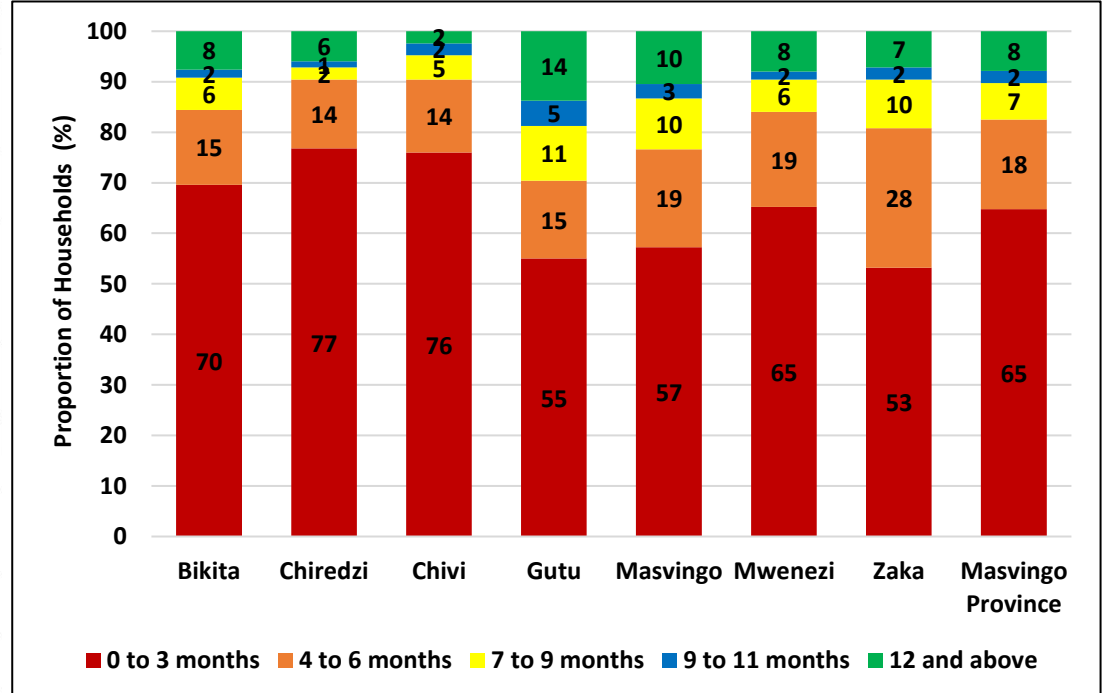
- On average households got 55.2kgs from casual labour and 13.7 kgs from remittances during the period 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022).

Comparison of Cereal Self Sufficiency from Current Production

Cereal (Maize and Traditional Grains) Sufficiency Second Round Crop and Livestock, 2022



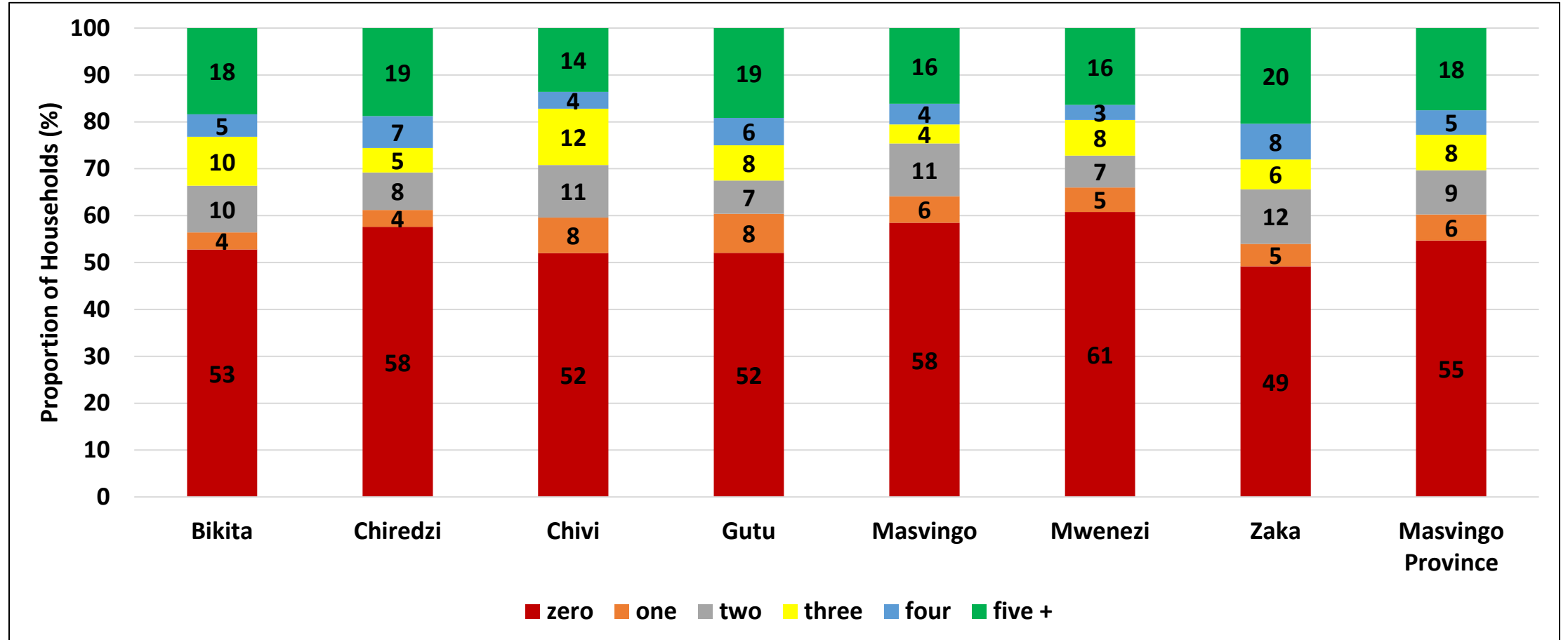
Cereal Insecurity ZimVAC 2022 RLA



- In Masvingo province (65%) the majority of households produced cereals sufficient for only 0 to 3 months.
- Chiredzi district (77%) had the highest proportion of households with cereal security within the 0 to 3 months.
- According to the Second-Round Crop and Livestock Assessment 2022, Bikita and Mwenezi were ranked within 0-3 months cereal sufficiency.

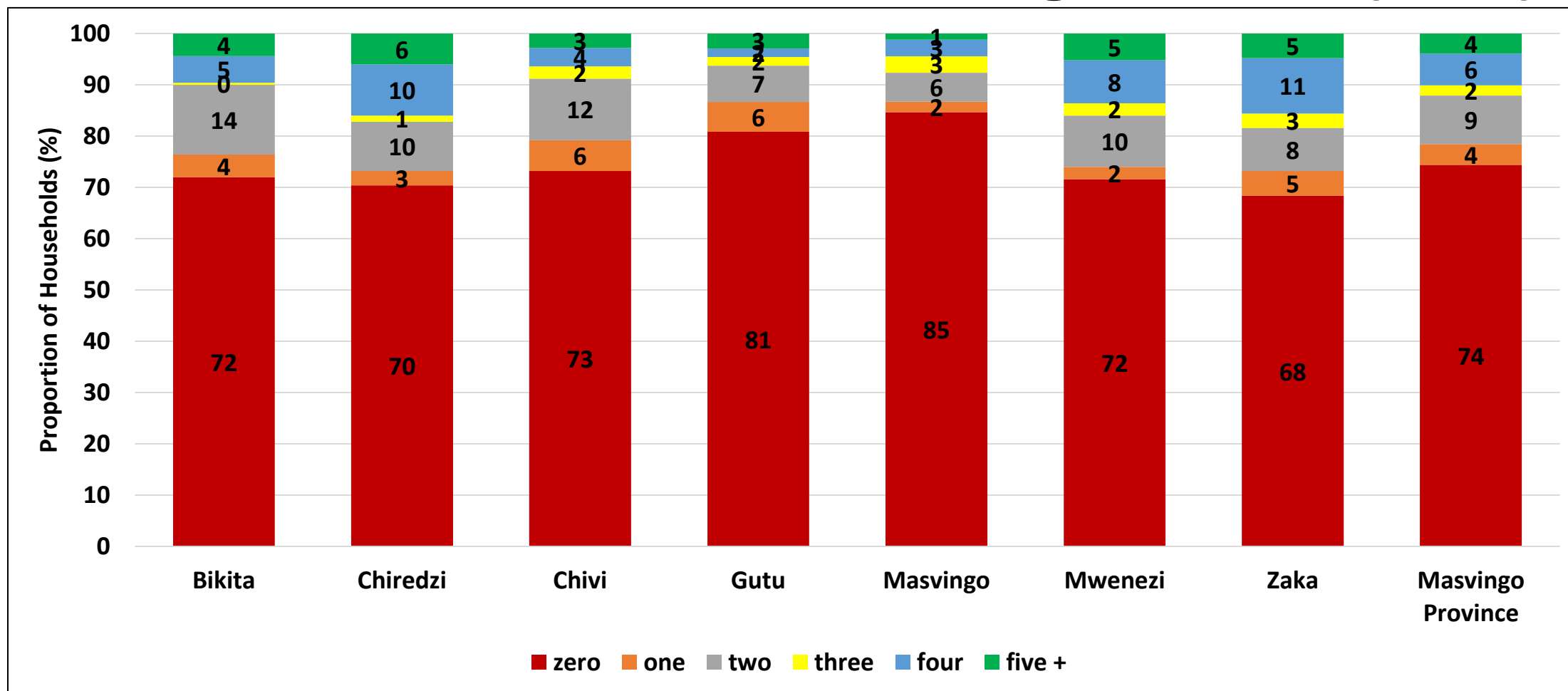
Livestock

Households which Owned Cattle



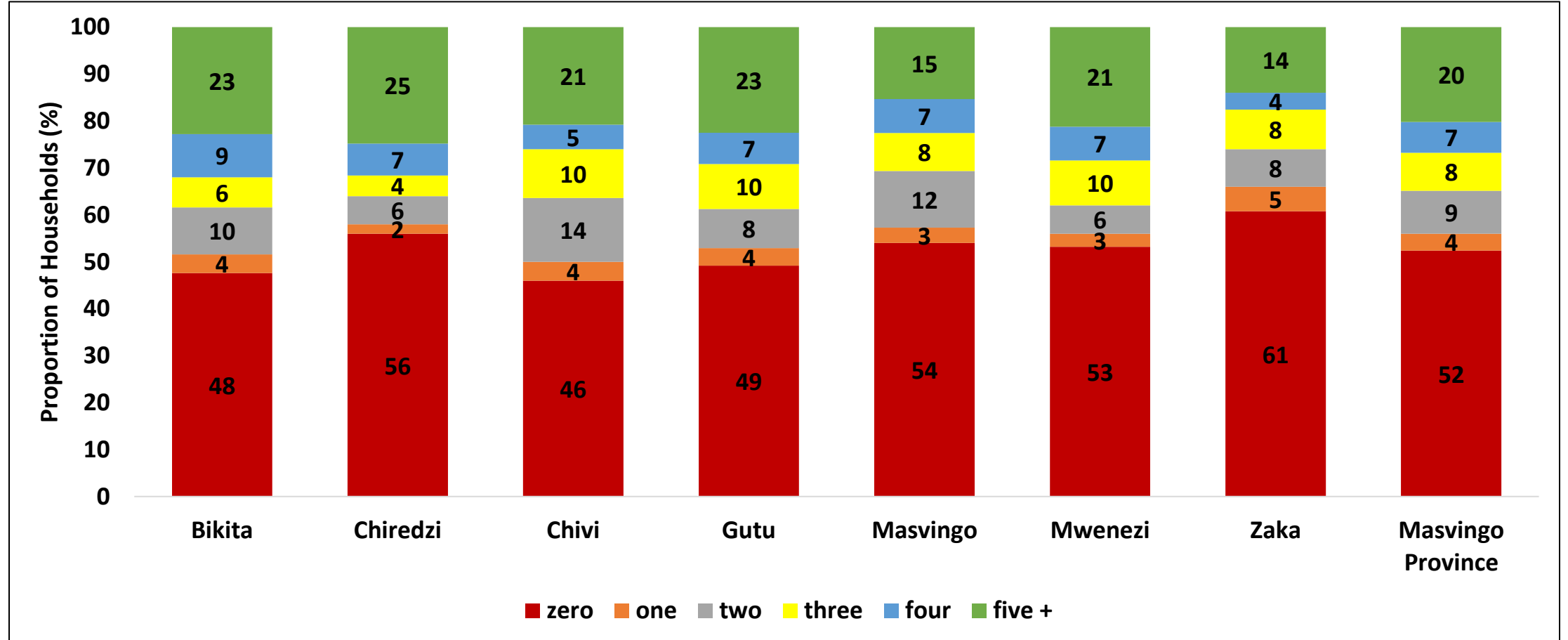
- The proportion of households that owned at least one cow was 45%.
- The highest proportion of households that owned cattle was in Zaka (51%) and the lowest was in Mwenezi (39%).

Households which Owned Draught Cattle (45%)



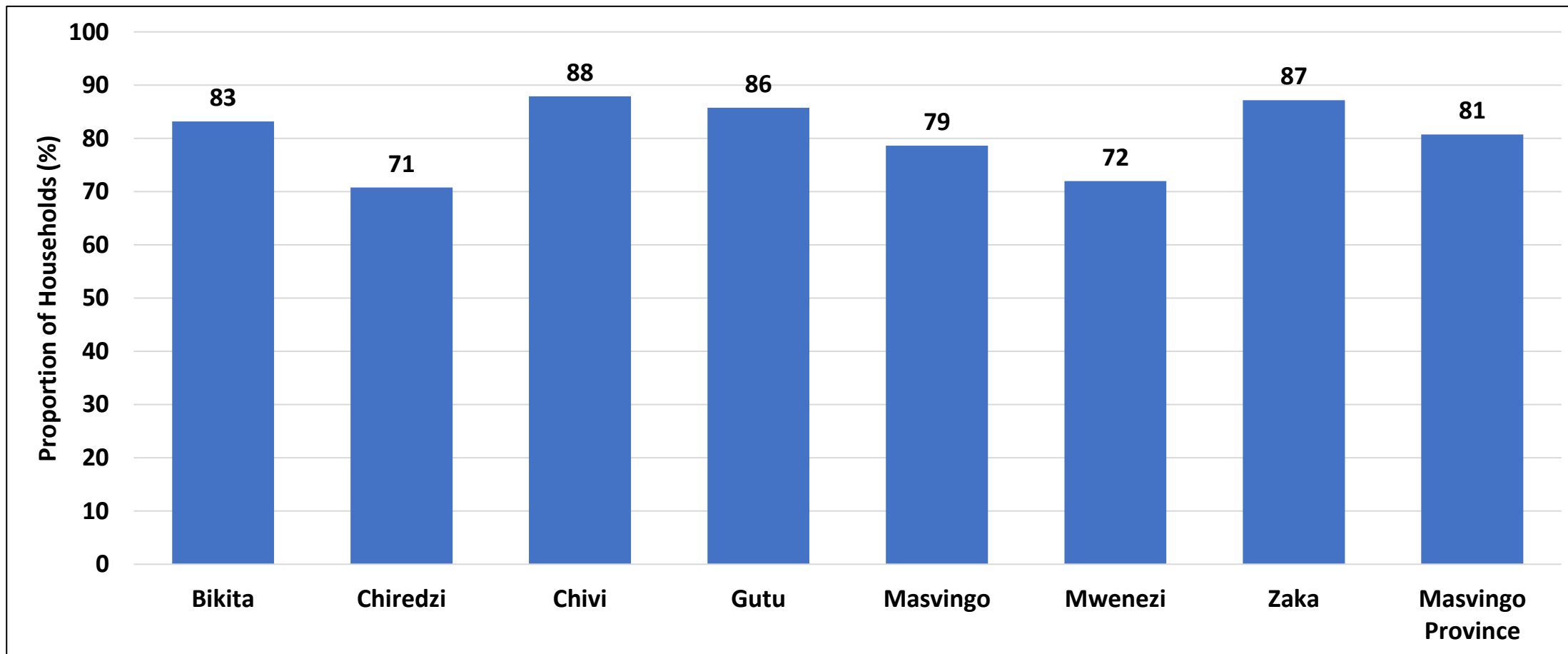
- Of the 45% households owning cattle, 26% owned draught cattle.
- Zaka had the highest proportion of households that owned draught cattle (32%).

Households which Owned Goats



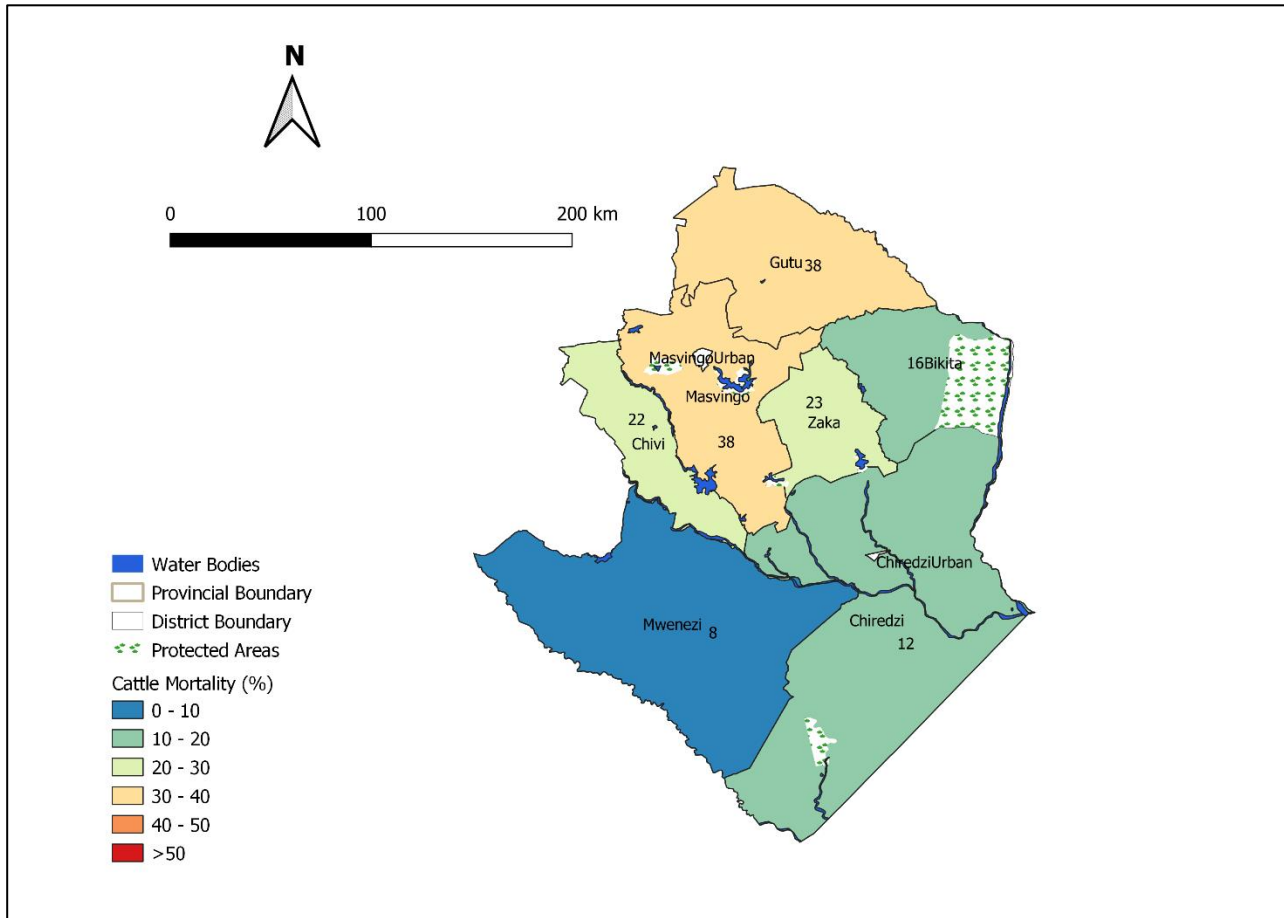
- The proportion of households that owned at least one goat in the province was 48%.
- Chivi district had the highest proportion of households that owned goats (54%).

Households which Owned Poultry



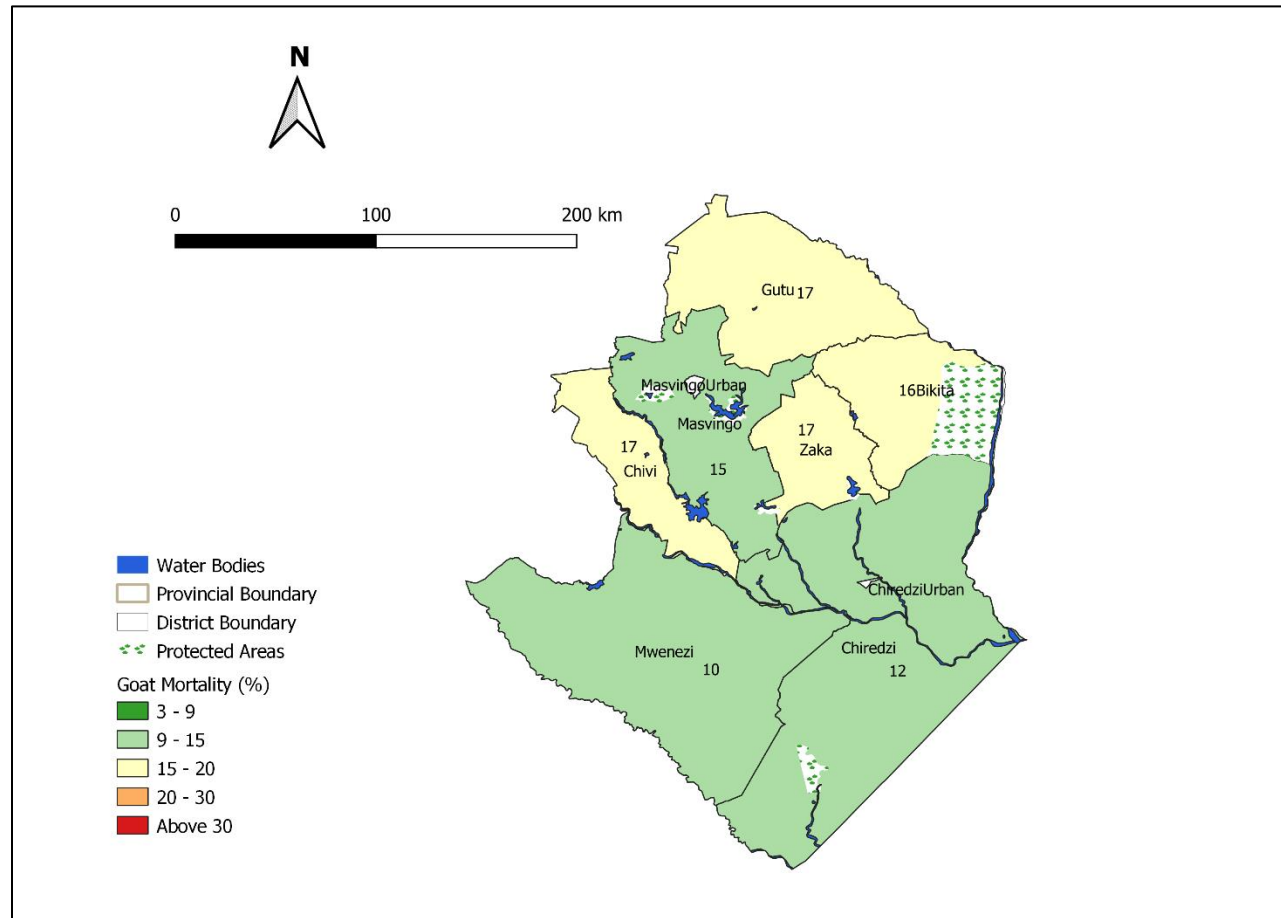
- The proportion of households that owned poultry in Masvingo province was 81%.
- Chivi had the highest proportion of households that owned poultry (88%) and Chiredzi had the least (71%).

Cattle Mortality Rate by District



- Gutu district and Masvingo district were among the 7 districts in the country which reported cattle mortality rates of over 30%.

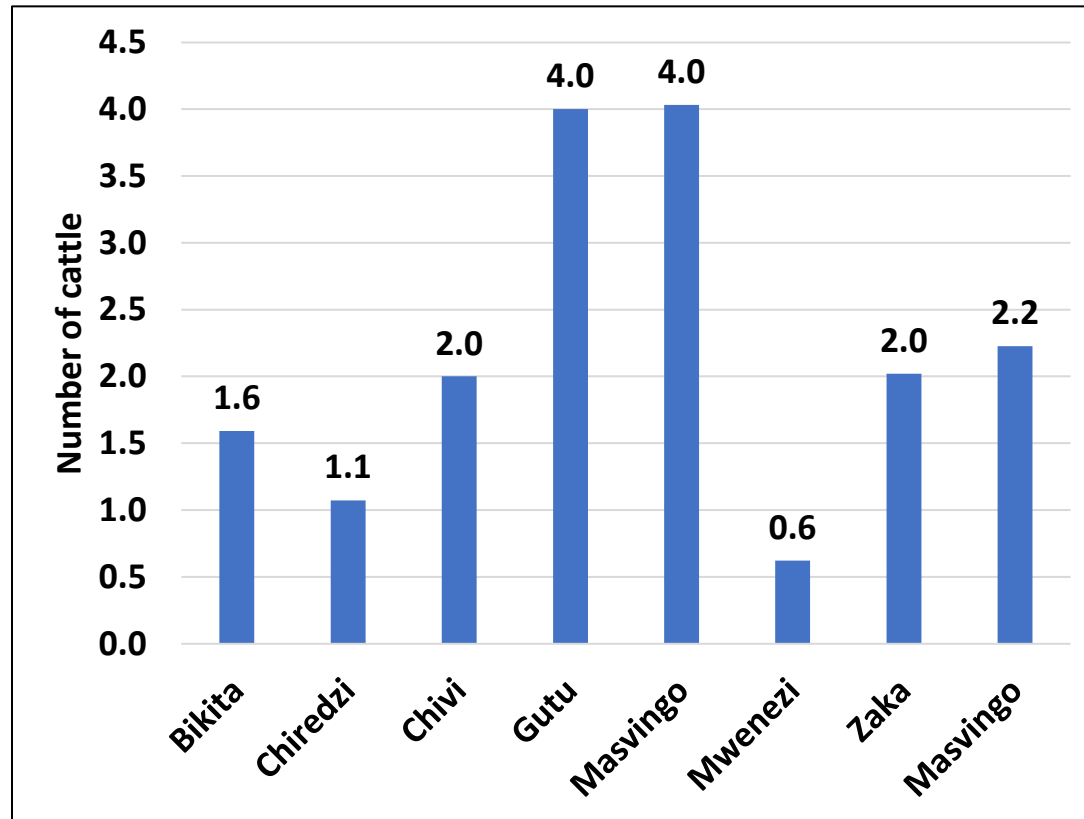
Goat Mortality Rate by District



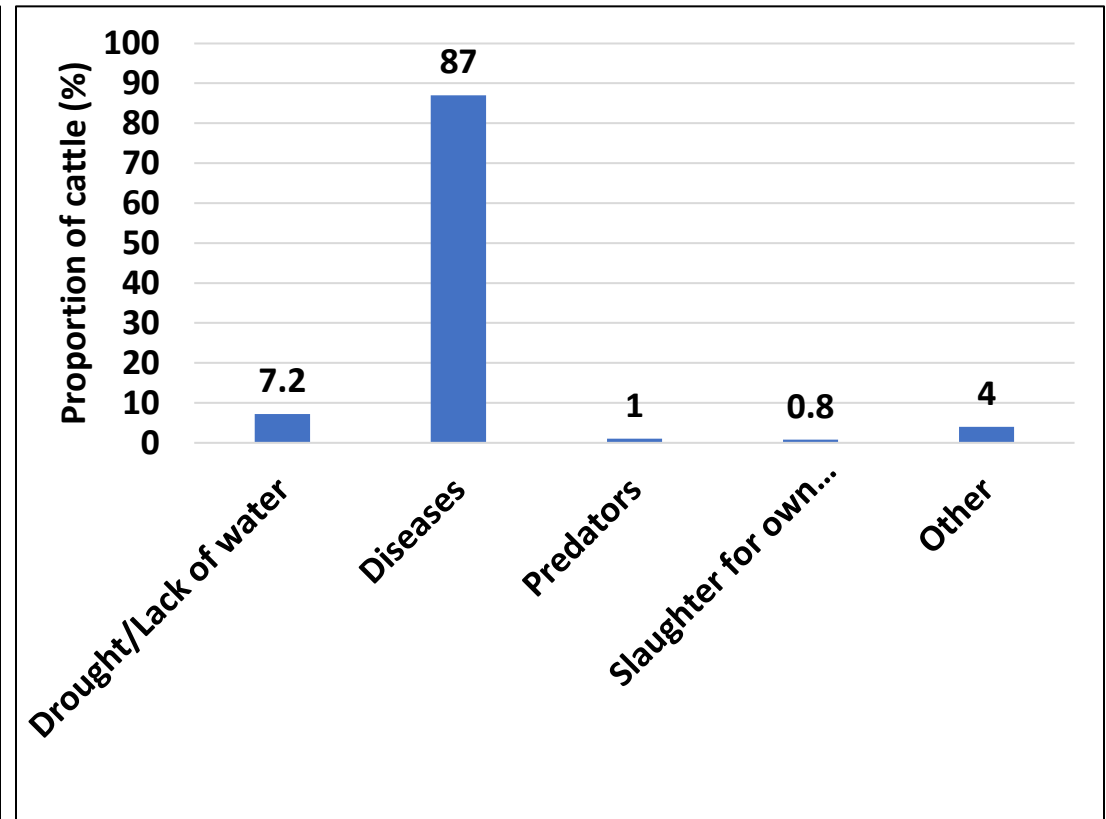
- Goat mortality for most districts was above 15% except for Chiredzi and Mwenezi.
- Chivi, Zaka and Gutu at 17% and Bikita 16% reported highest goat mortality rate in the province

Cattle Deaths and Causes

Households that Reported Cattle Deaths



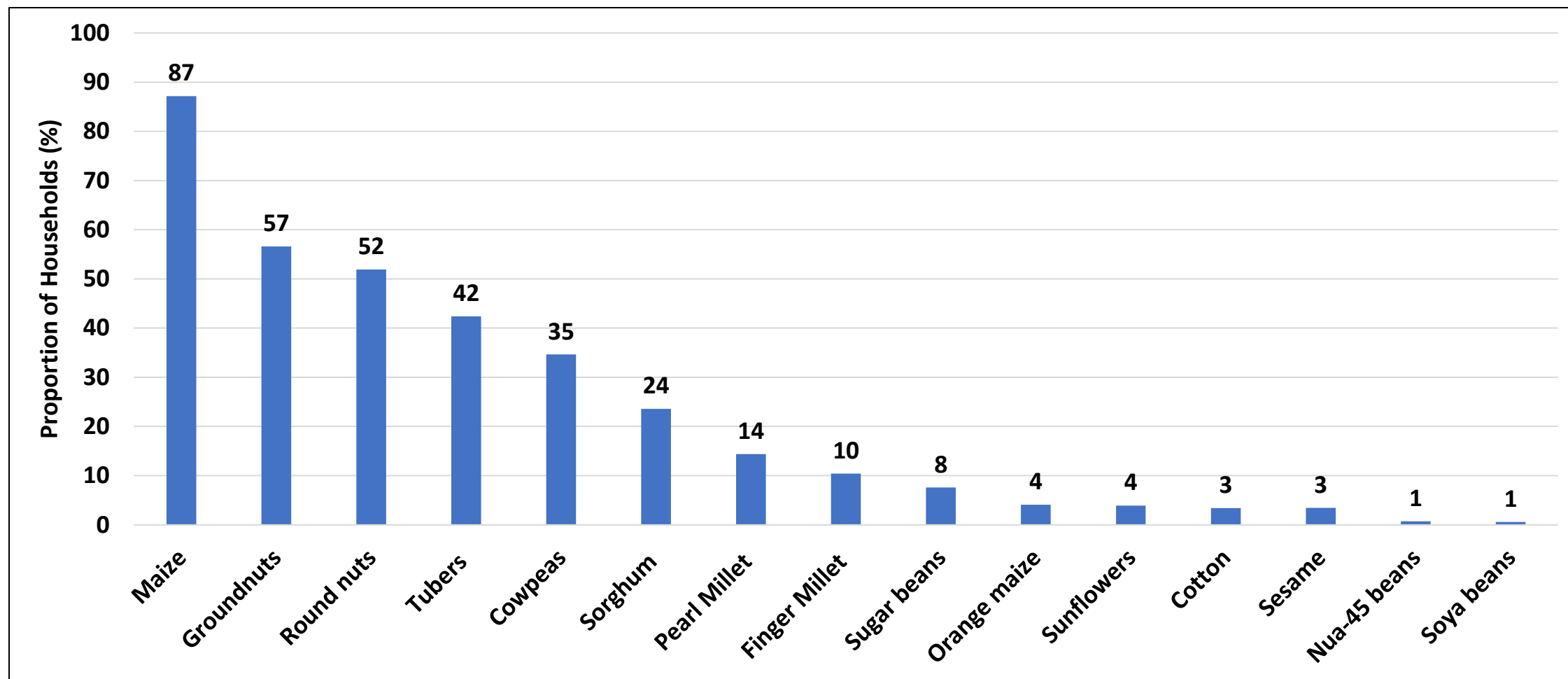
Causes of Deaths



- The highest average number of cattle deaths was reported in Gutu and Masvingo districts (4).
- Diseases (87%) were the major cause of cattle deaths in Masvingo province.

Crops

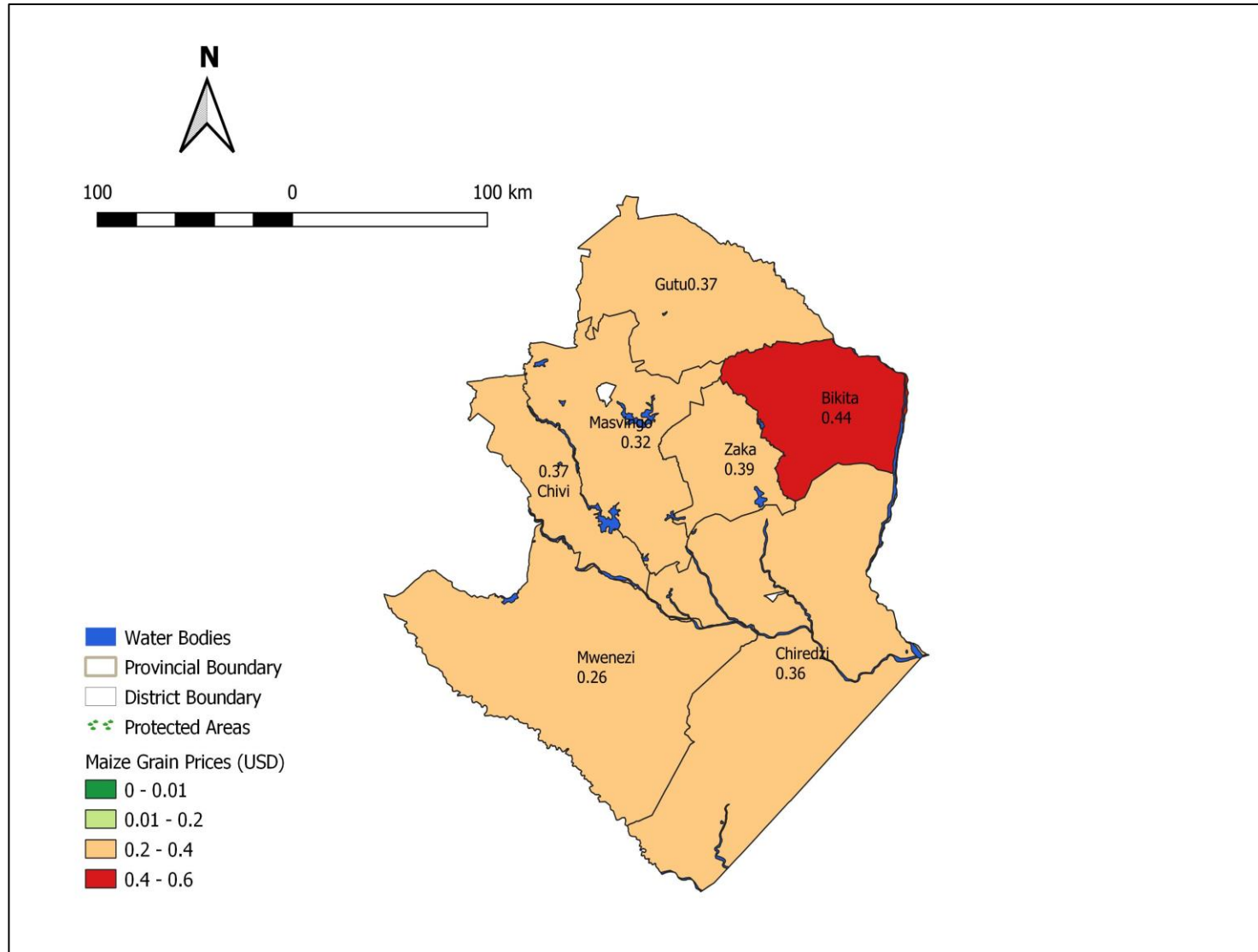
Households Which Grew Crops



- Maize (87%) was the most commonly grown crop in the province followed groundnuts (57%), roundnuts (52%) and tubers (42%)

Agricultural Produce Markets

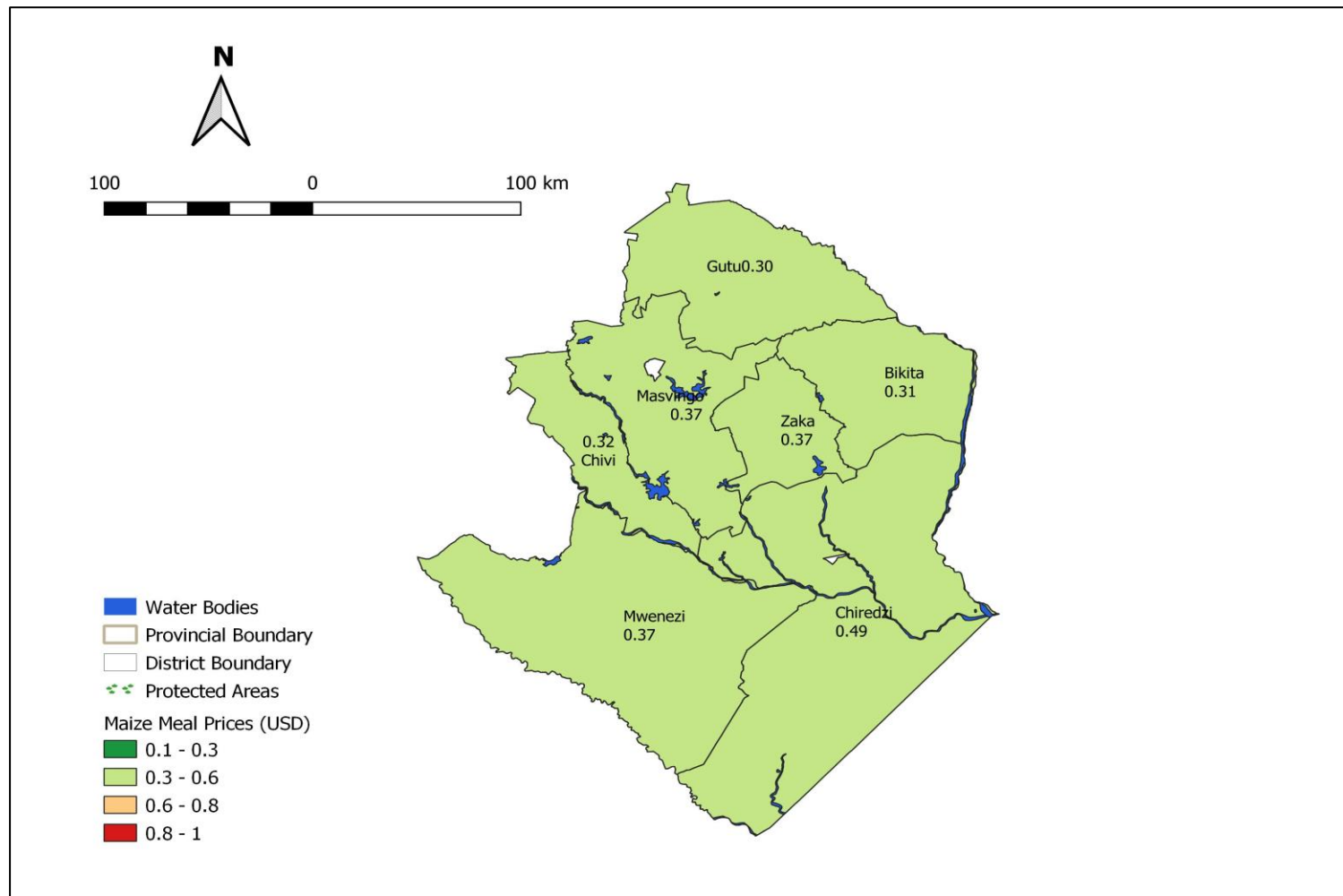
District Average Maize Grain Prices (USD)



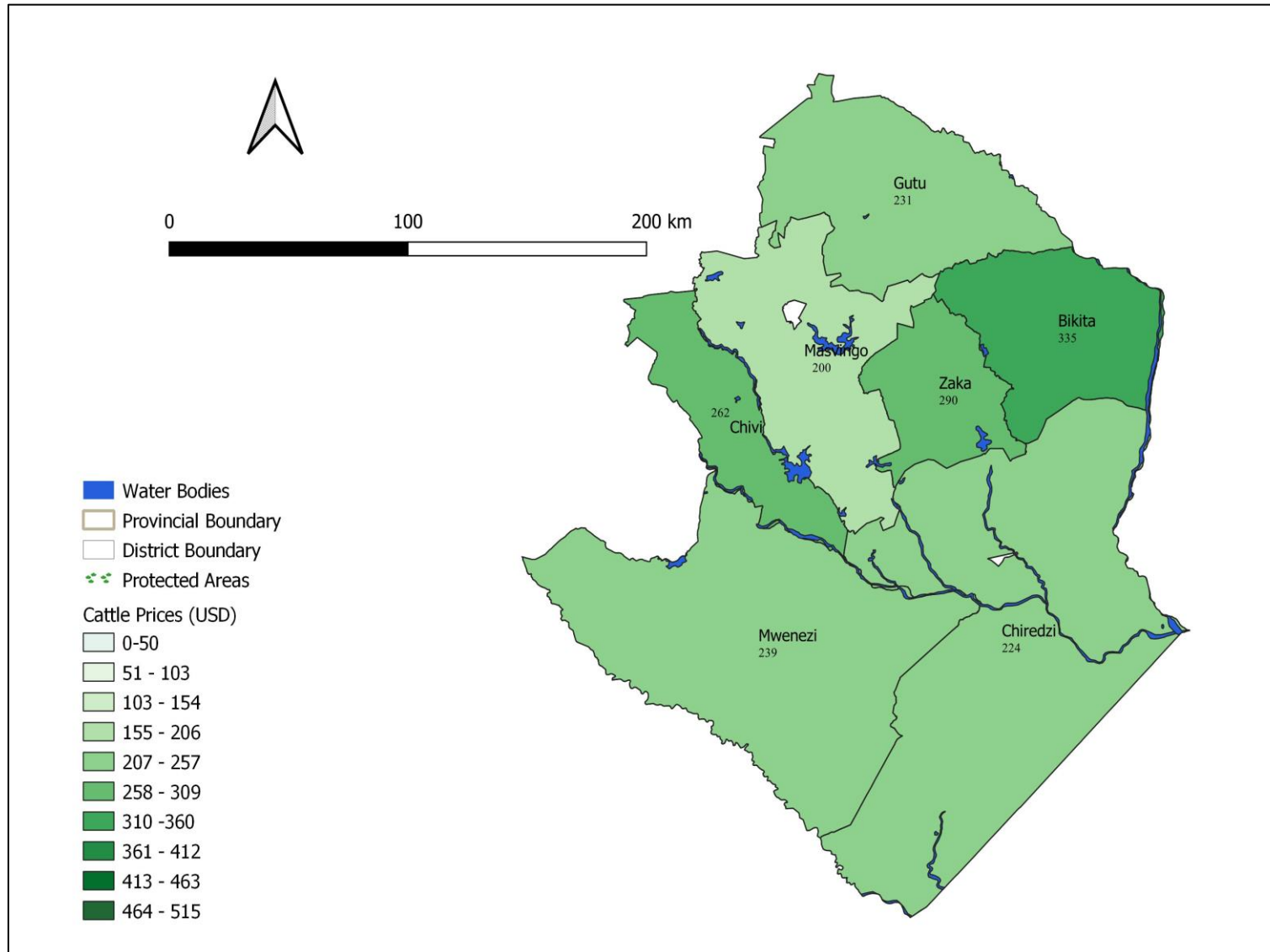
- Maize grain prices ranged from USD 0.26 to USD 0.44 per kg.
- The highest maize grain prices were reported in Bikita (USD 0.44) followed by Chivi and Gutu (USD 0.37) per kg.

District Maize Meal Prices (USD)

- Maize meal prices ranged from USD 0.30 to USD 0.49 per kg.
- The highest maize meal price was reported in Chiredzi District USD 0.49 per kg.
- The lowest price was reported in Gutu USD 0.30 per kg.

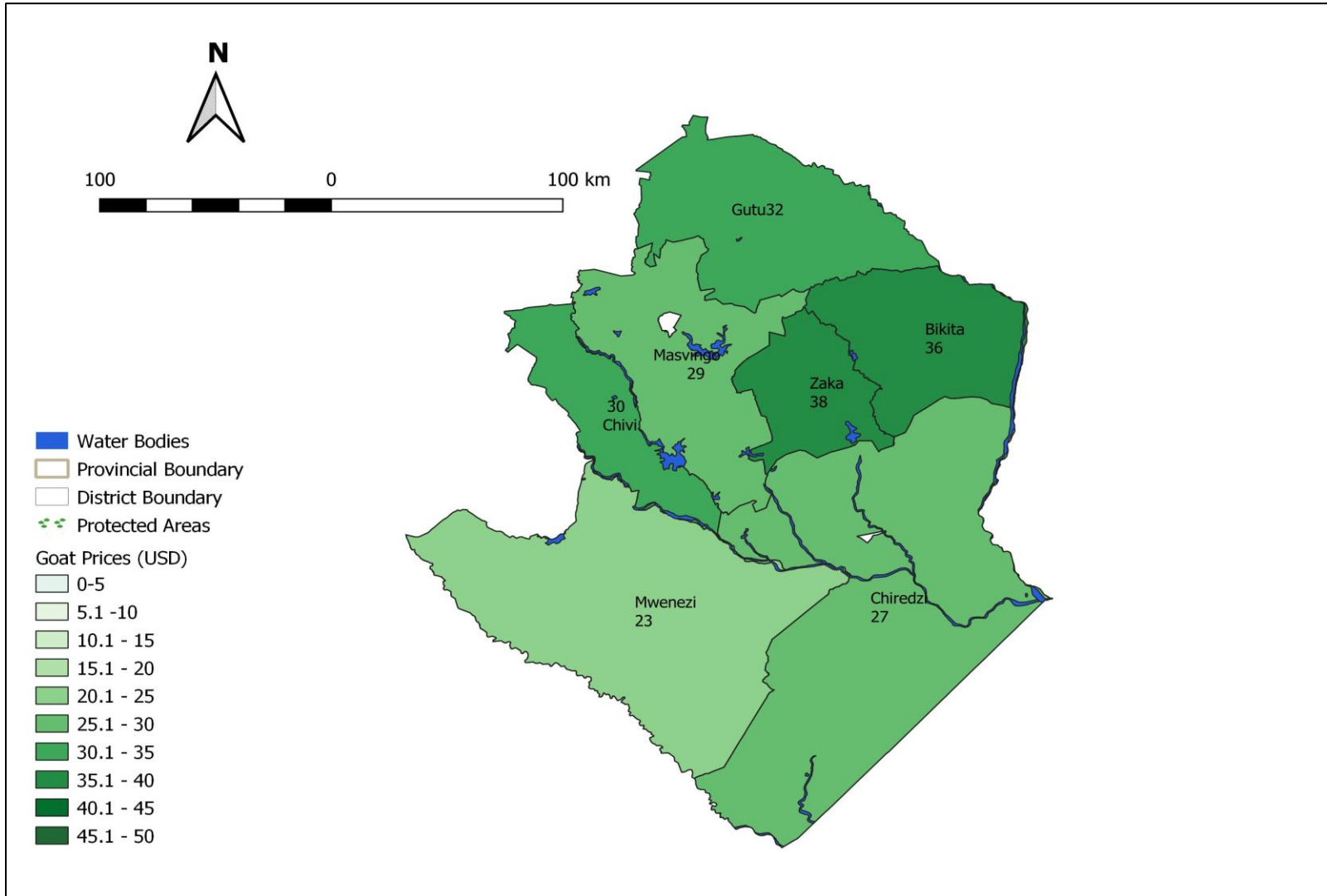


District Cattle Prices (USD)



- Cattle prices ranged from USD 200 to USD 335.
- The highest average cattle prices were reported in Bikita district (USD 335).
- The lowest prices were reported in Masvingo district (USD 200).

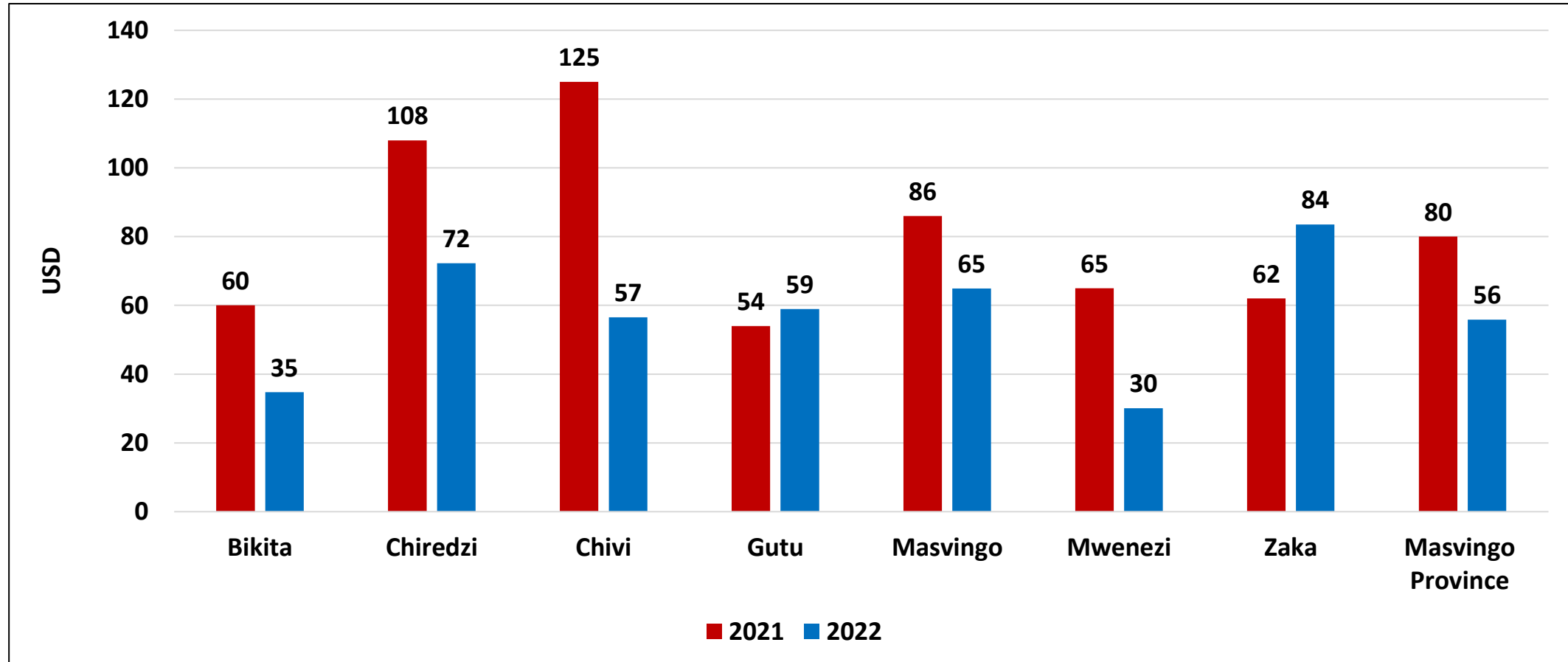
District Goat Prices (USD)



- Goat prices ranged from USD 23 to USD 38.
- The highest goat prices were reported in Zaka district (USD 38).
- The lowest goat prices were reported in Mwenezi district (USD 23).

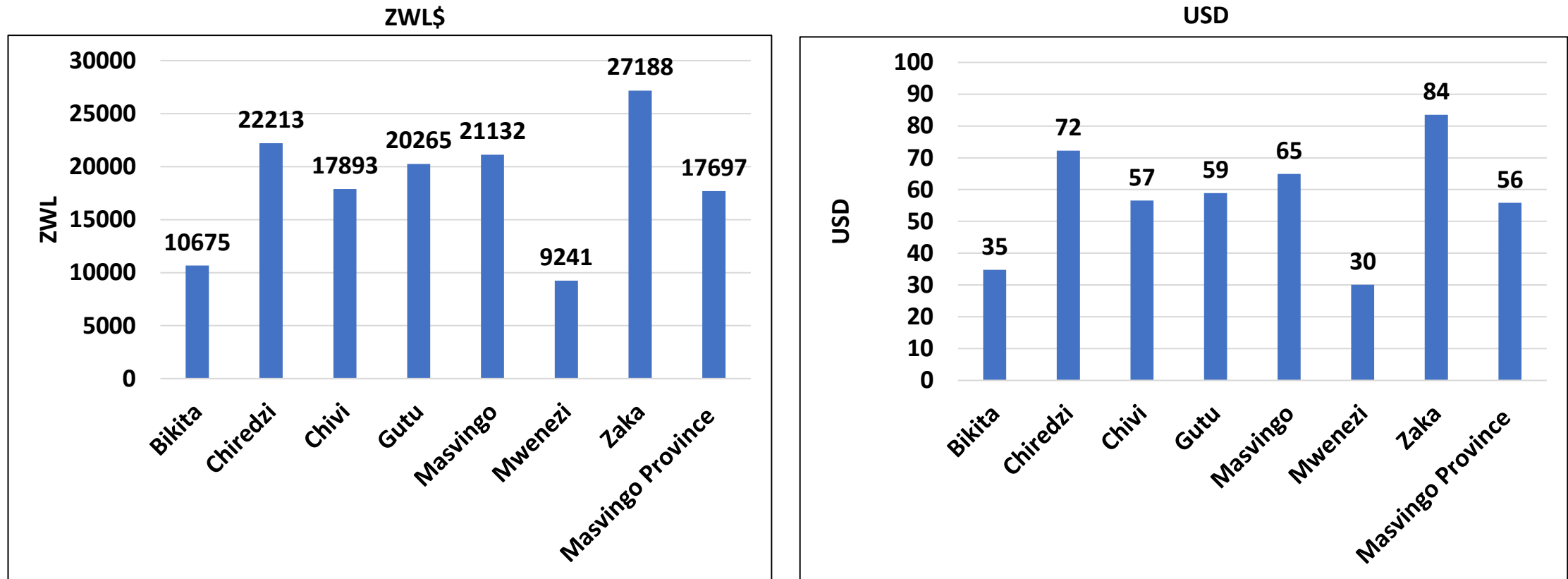
Income and Expenditure

Average Household Monthly Income (USD) for April 2022



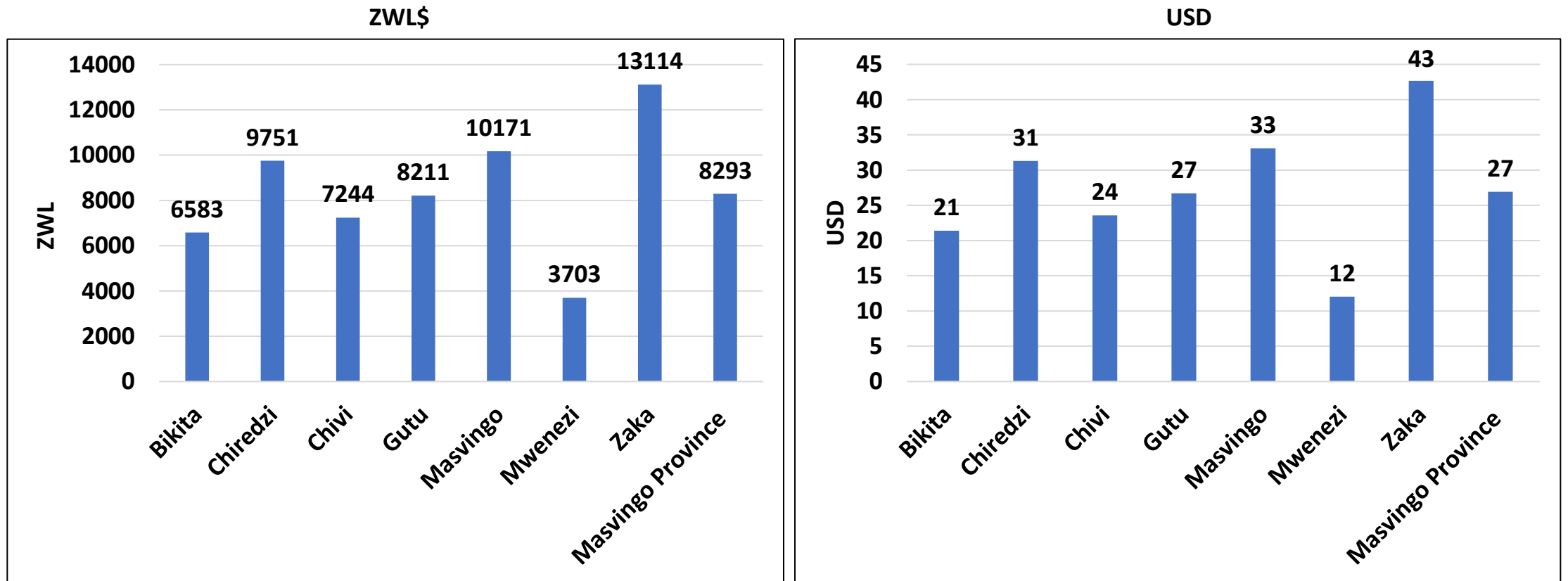
- The household average monthly income decreased from USD 80 in 2021 to USD 56 in 2022.
- Zaka (USD 84) had the highest monthly income whilst Mwenezi (USD 30) had the least.

Average Household Monthly Income for April 2022



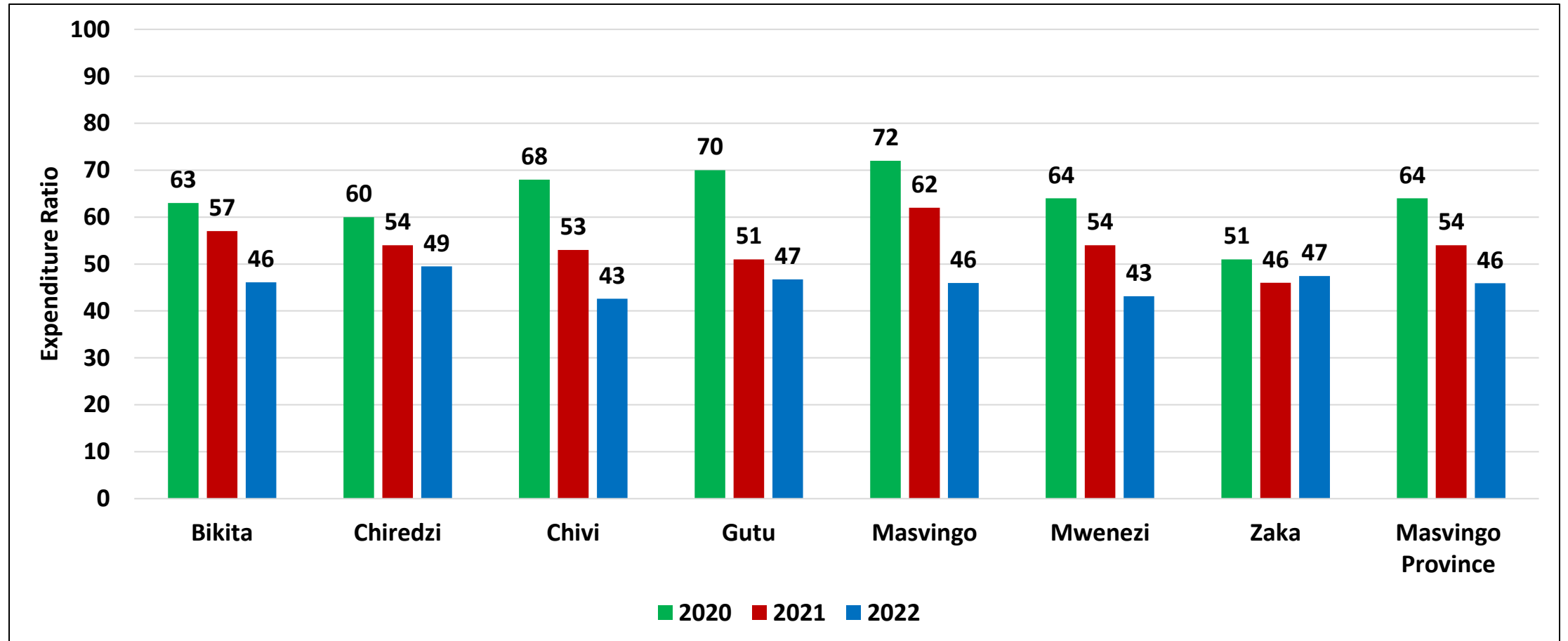
- The household average monthly income for April 2022 in the province was ZWL\$17 697.
- Zaka had the highest monthly income of ZWL\$27 188 and whilst Mwenezi had the least with (ZWL\$9241) .

Average Household Monthly Expenditure for April 2022



- The average monthly expenditure for April 2022 in the province was ZWL 8293.
- Zaka had the highest monthly expenditure of ZWL 13114 whilst Mwenezi had the least monthly expenditure of ZWL 3703.

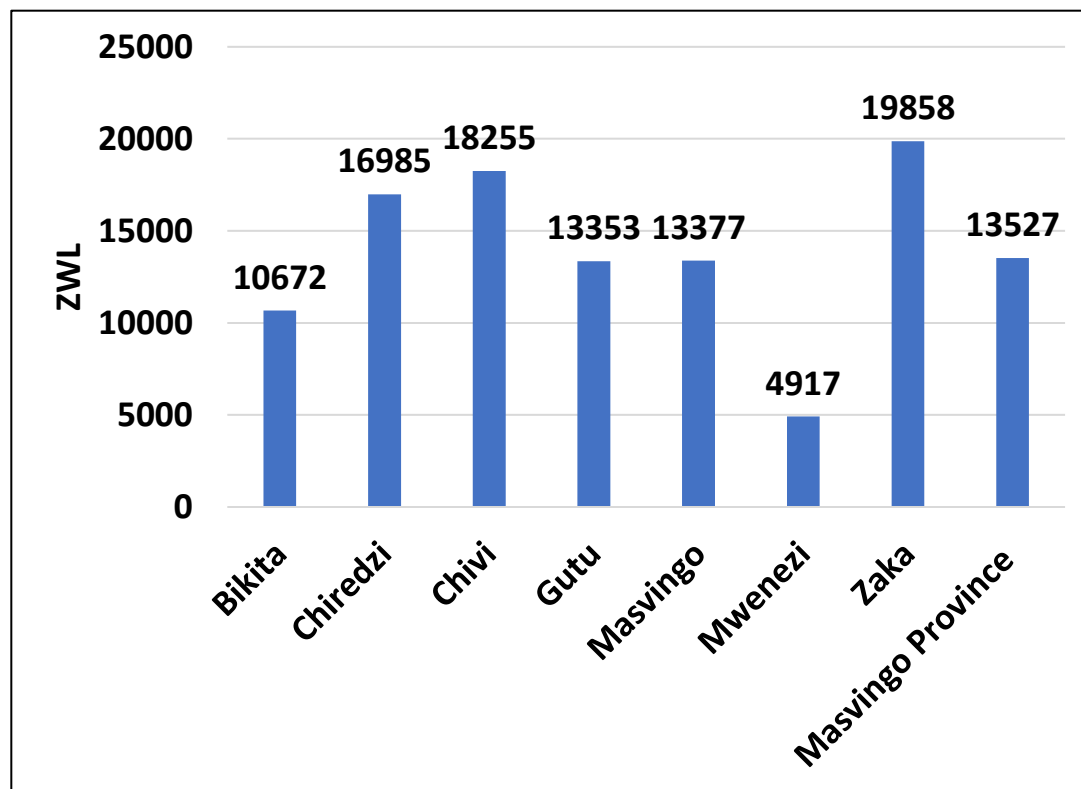
Food Expenditure Ratio



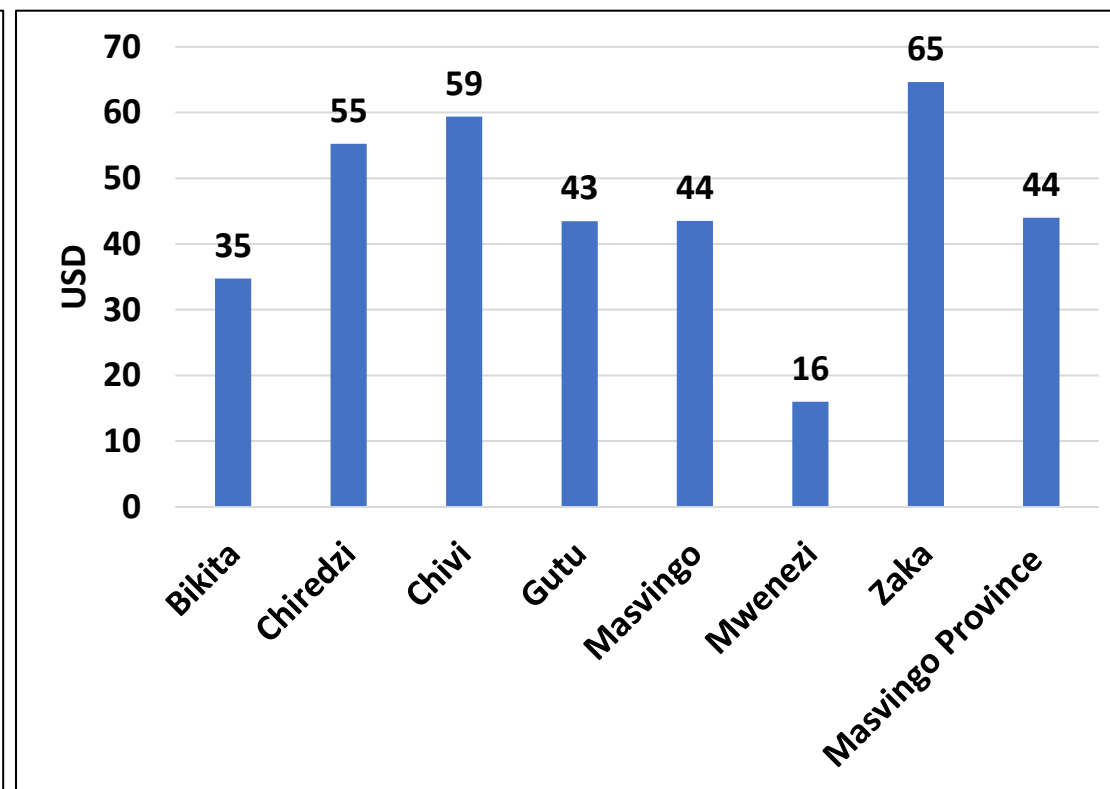
- Food expenditure ratio for the province was 46%.
- Chiredzi (49%) had the highest food expenditure ratio whilst Chivi (43%) and Mwenezi (43%) had the least.
- The proportion of money spent on food has continued to decline from 2020.

Average Household 6 Month Expenditure

ZWL



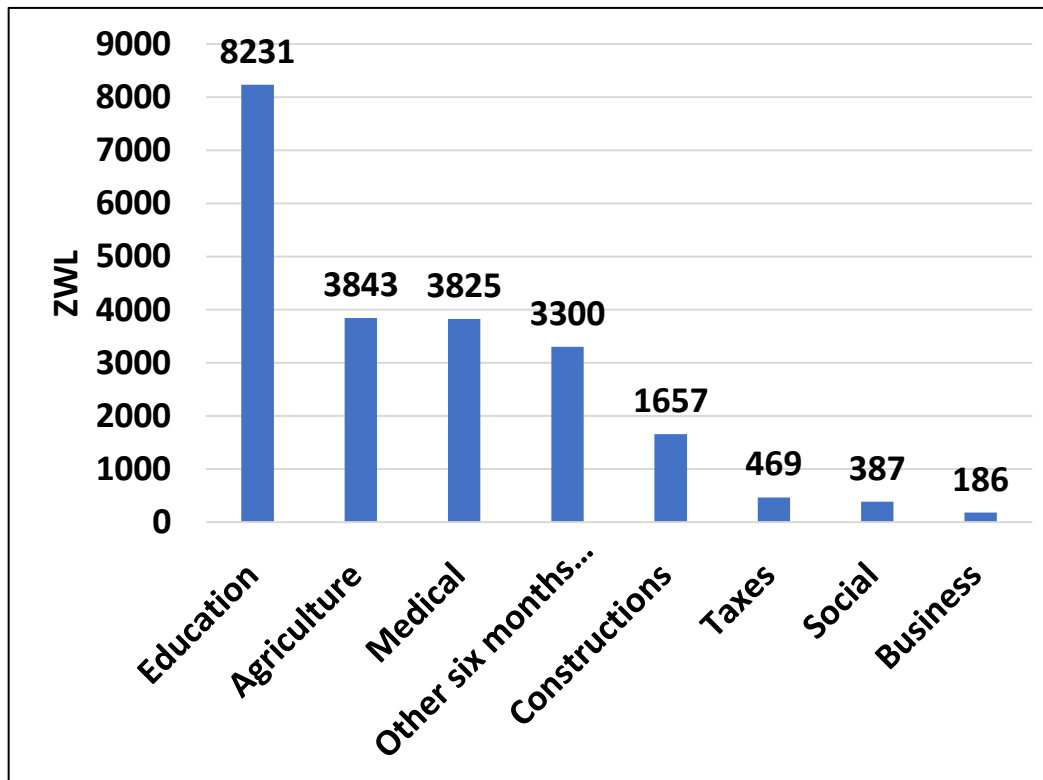
USD



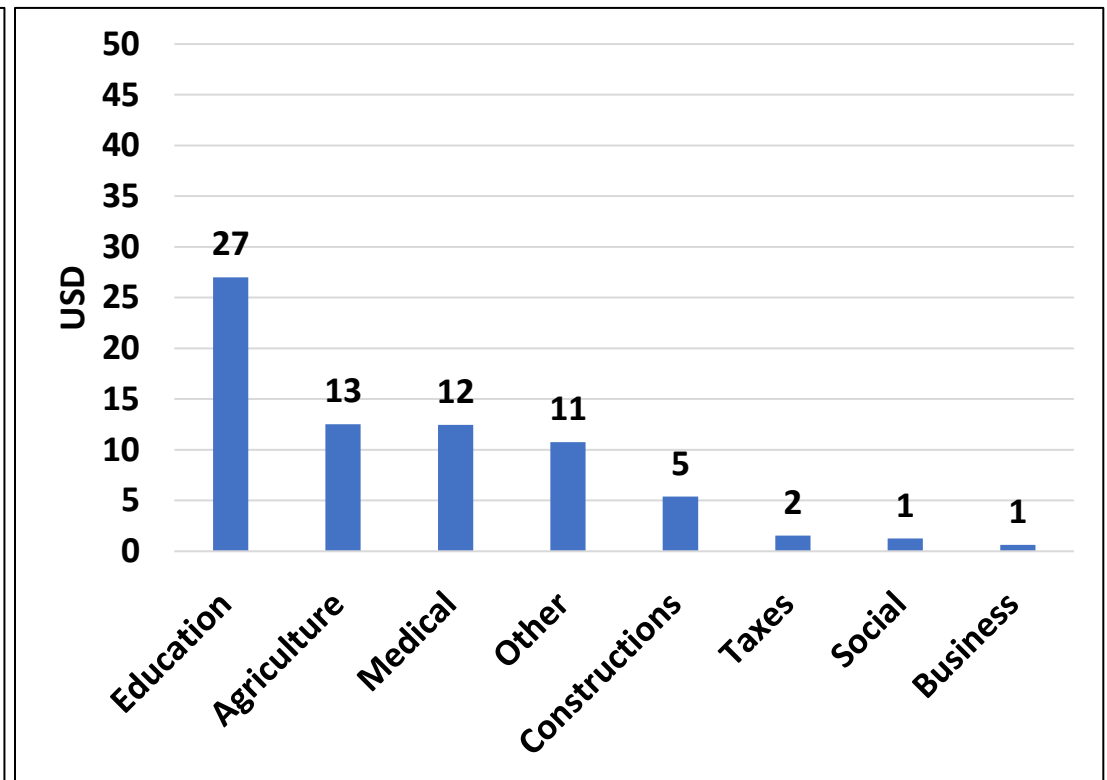
- The average household 6 month expenditure in the province was ZWL 13 527.
- Zaka has the highest 6 month expenditure of ZWL 19 858 whilst Mwenezi has the least 6 month expenditure of ZWL 4917.

Average Household 6 Month Expenditure on Specified Non Food Items

Expenditure (ZWL)



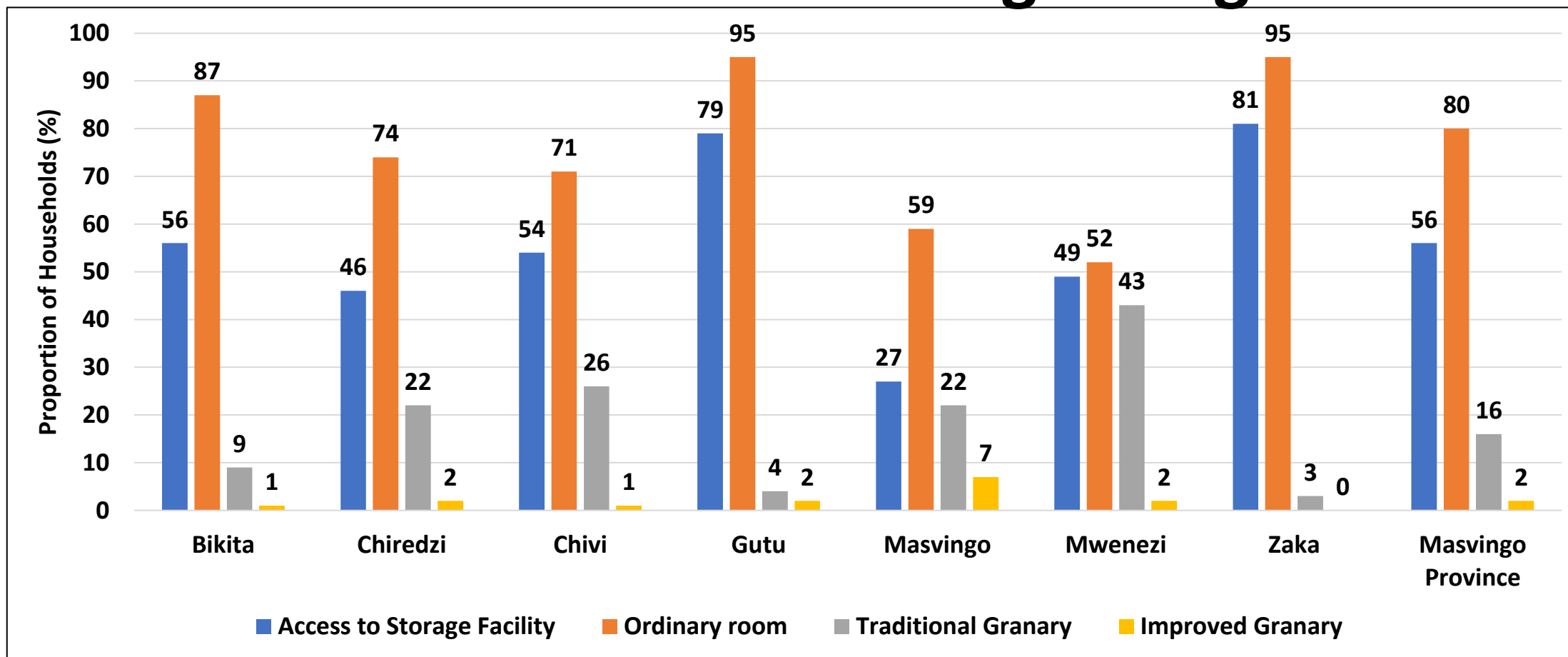
Expenditure (USD)



- The highest expenditure was on educational costs (ZWL 8231) and the least was on business (ZWL 186).

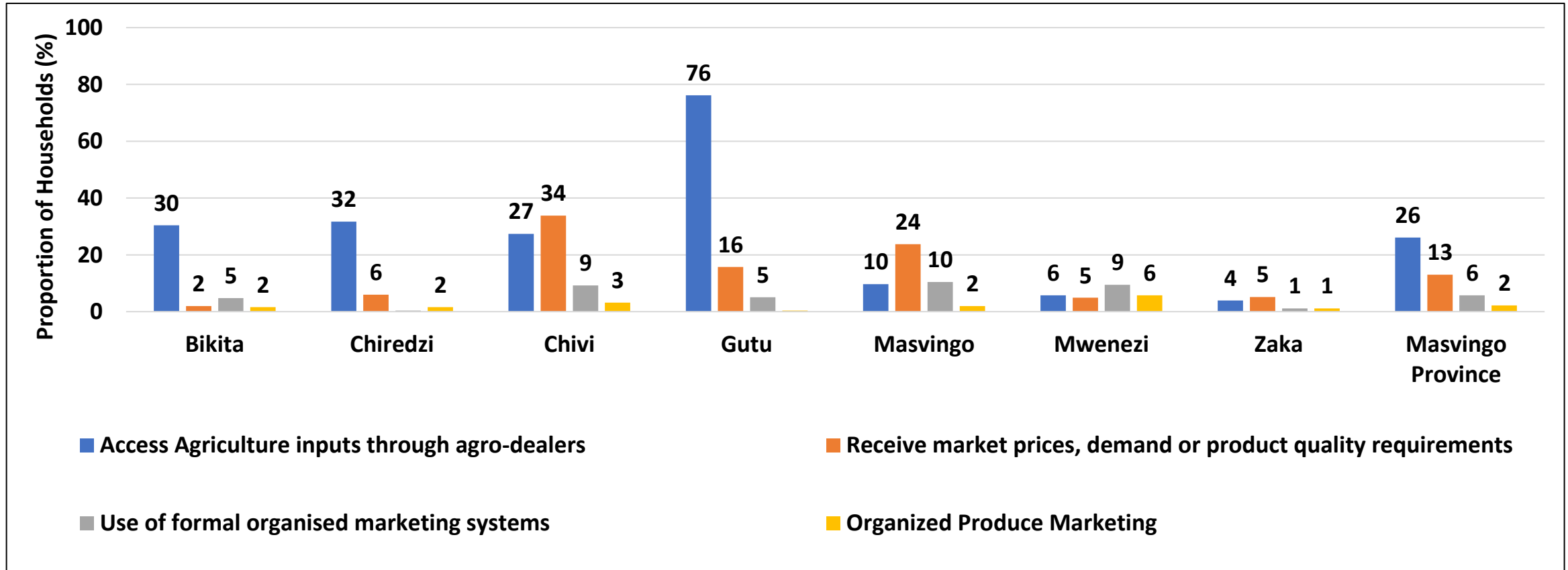
Value Chain Practices

Post-harvest handling storage



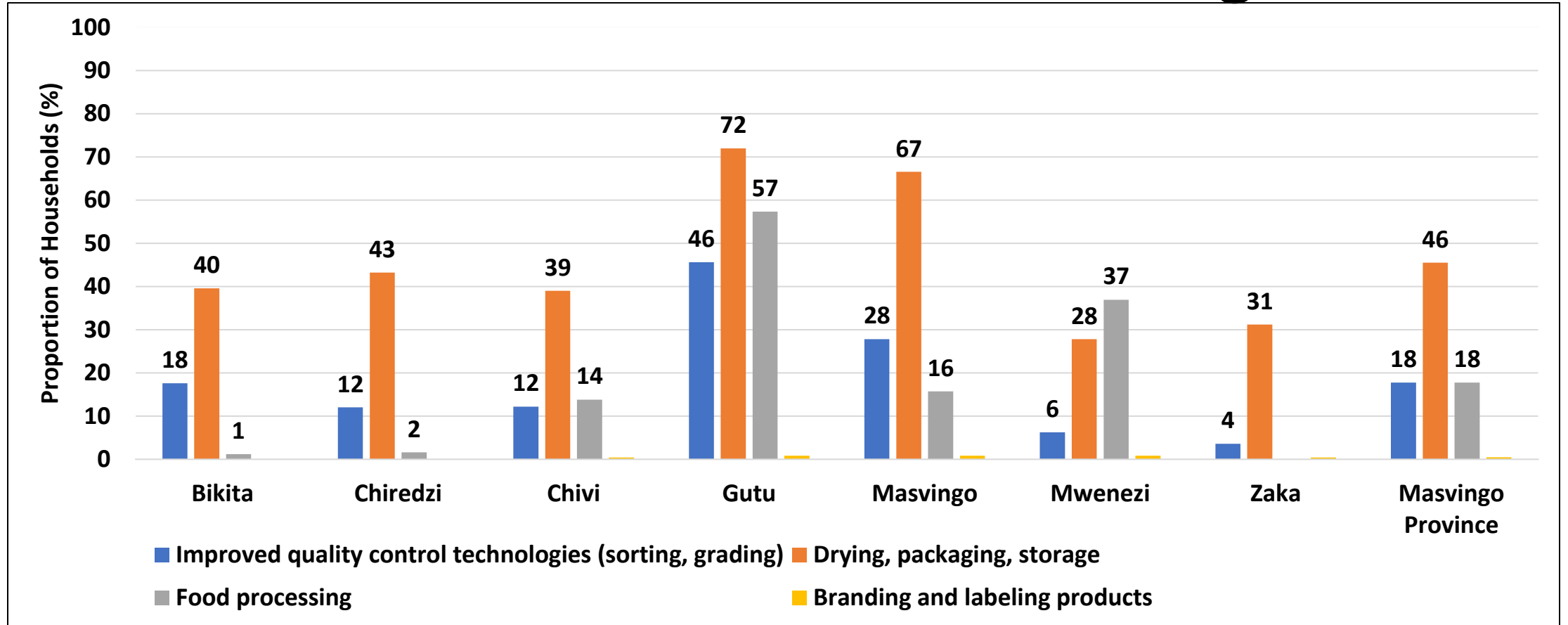
- About 56% of households in the province had access to some form of storage facility, with 80% of households using an ordinary room as a storage facility.
- On average, 16% of households used traditional granaries in Masvingo province.
- Generally, the use of improved granaries was still very low (2%) in the province.

Agriculture Marketing and Distribution



- On average, 26% of households accessed agriculture inputs through agrodealers, with 13% receiving market prices, product demand or product quality requirements.
- Only 6% of households made use of formal organized marketing systems and 2% used organized produce marketing.

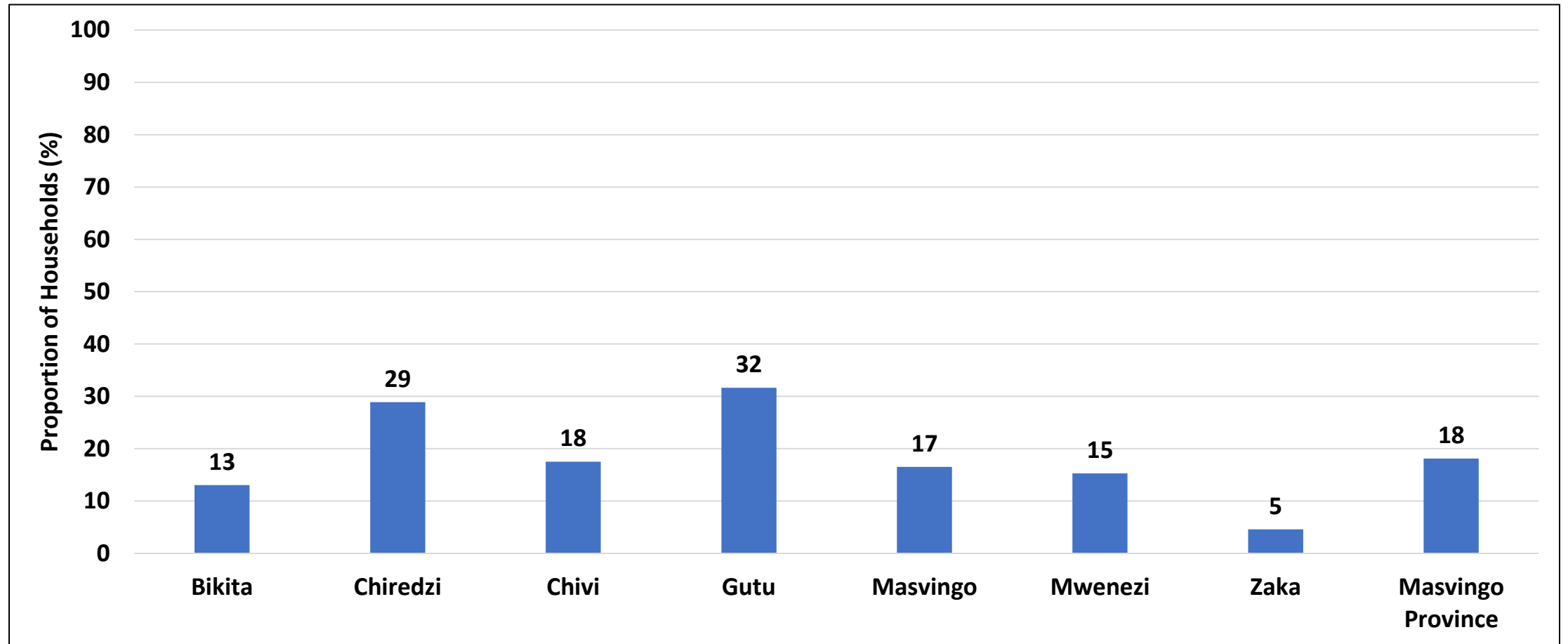
Value Addition and Processing



- On average, 46% of households practised drying, packaging and storage techniques and 18% practised both food processing and improved quality control technologies.

Climate Smart Agriculture

Use of Quality Certified Seed



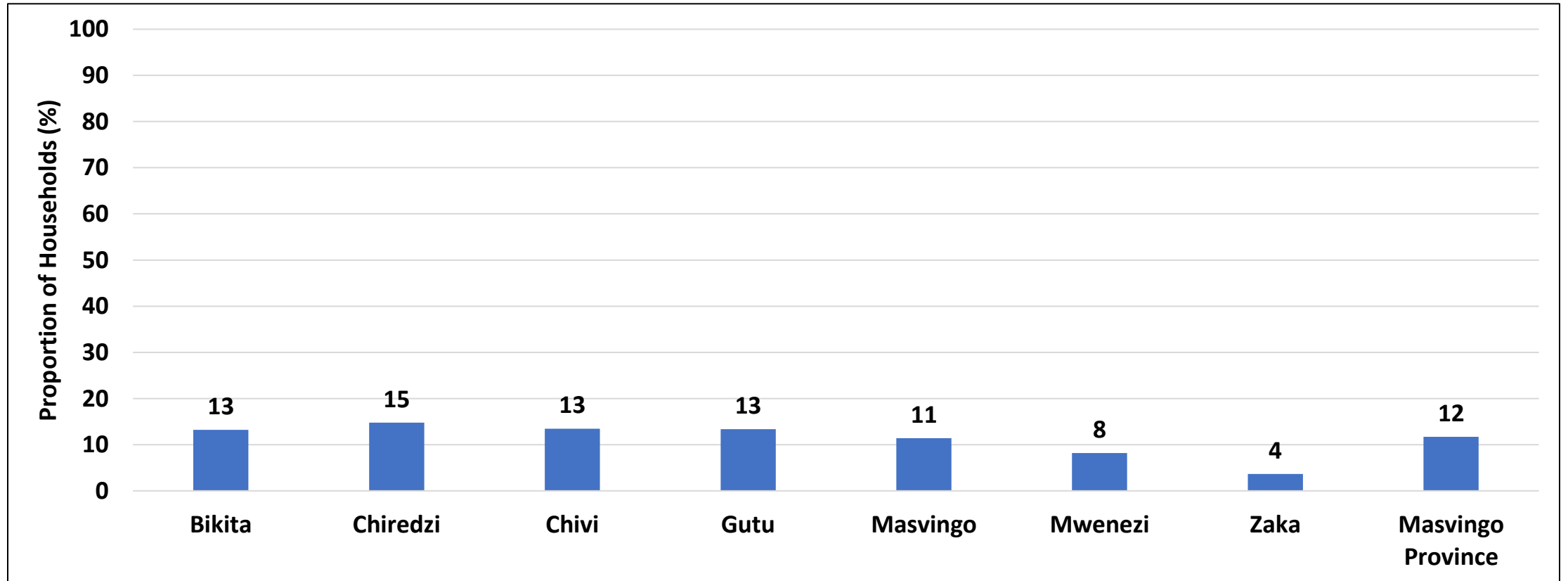
- The use of quality certified seed was reported by 18% of the sampled households in the province.
- Gutu district had the highest usage of certified seed at 32%.

Use of Community Seed Banks

District	Community Seed Banks (%)
Bikita	0
Chiredzi	0
Chivi	3
Gutu	5
Masvingo	0
Mwenezi	2
Zaka	0
Masvingo Province	1

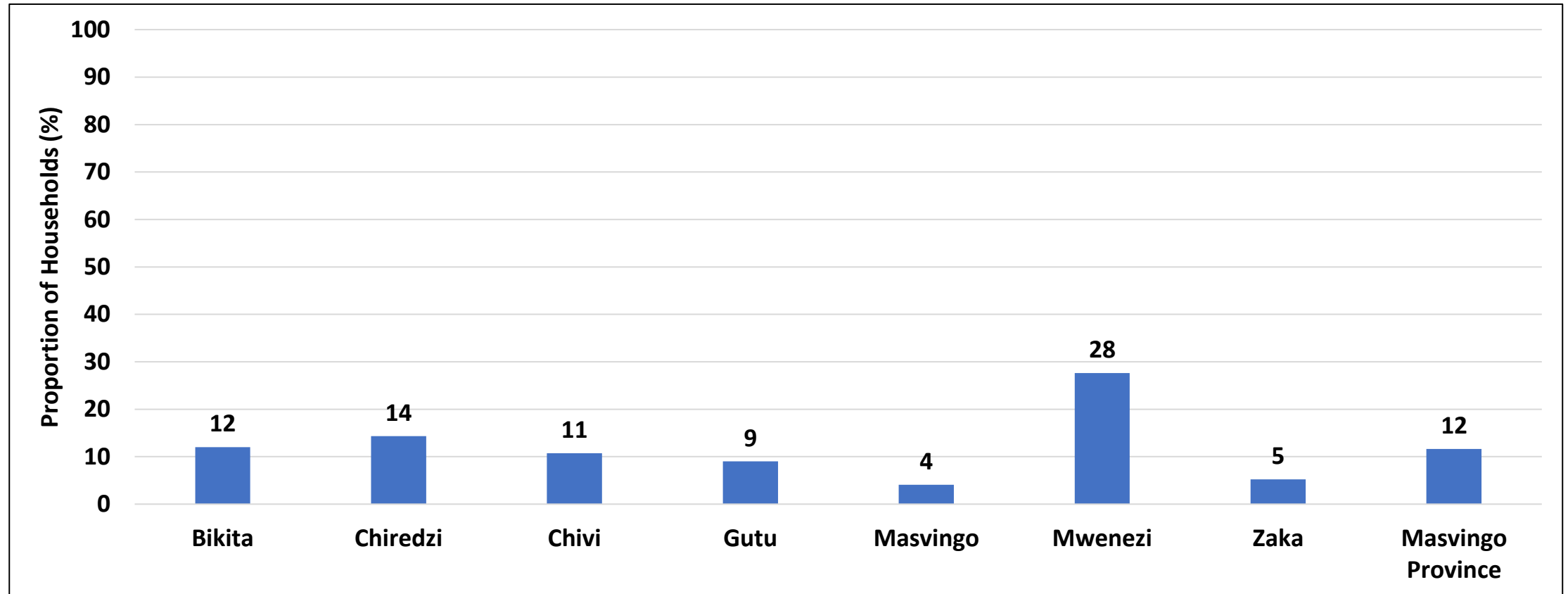
- The proportion of households using community seed banks was relatively low at 1% for the province with Gutu having the highest proportion of 5%.

Households which used Adapted Suitable Improved Seed



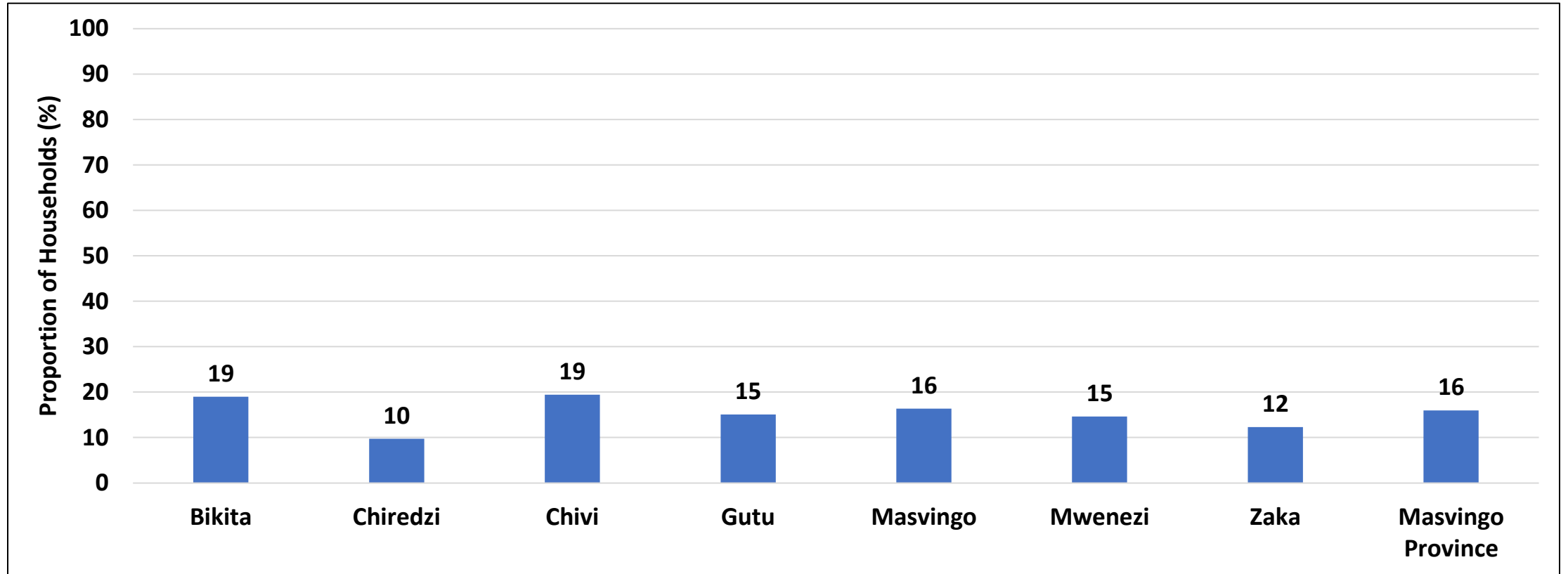
- At provincial level, 12% of the households used adapted suitable improved seed varieties.
- Chiredzi (15%) recorded the highest proportion of households using adapted suitable improved seed varieties whilst Zaka (4%) had the least.

Households Growing Traditional Grains



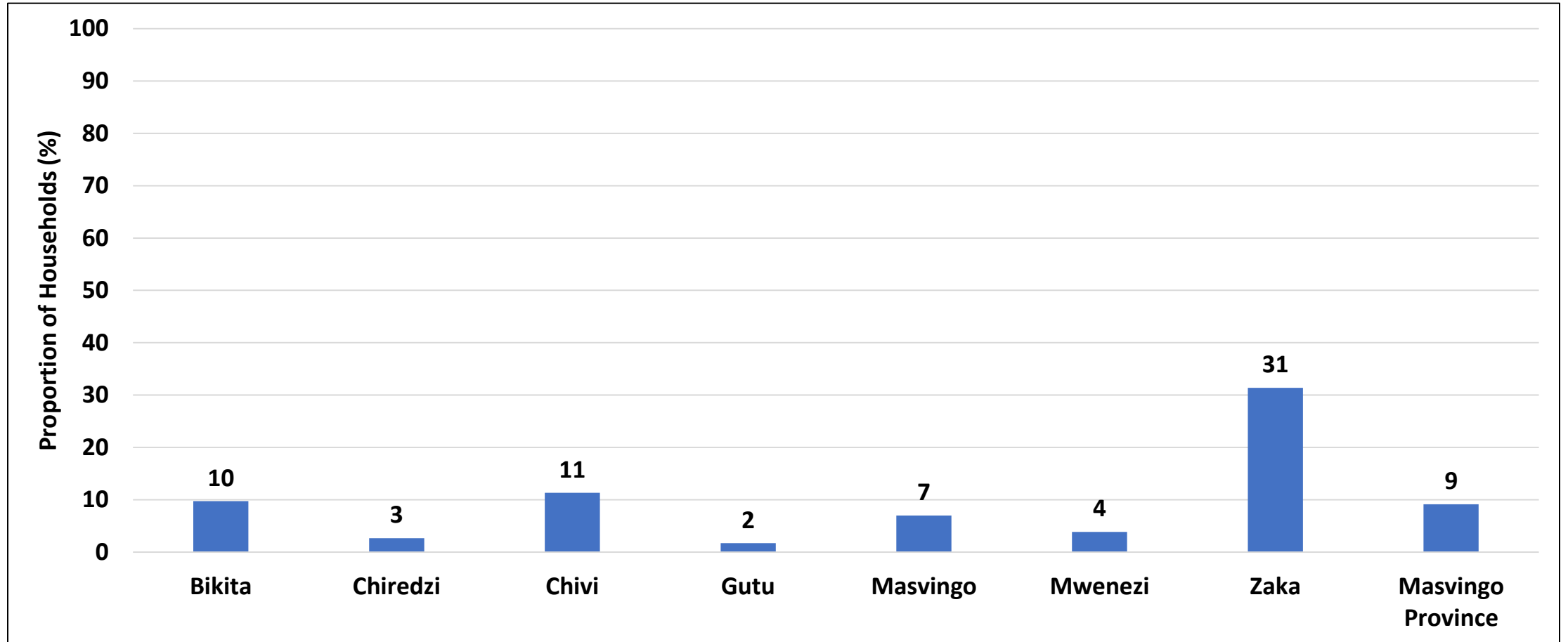
- About 12% of the households in the province grew traditional grains.
- Mwenezi (28%) had highest proportion of households growing traditional grains while Masvingo (4%) had the least.

Crop rotation



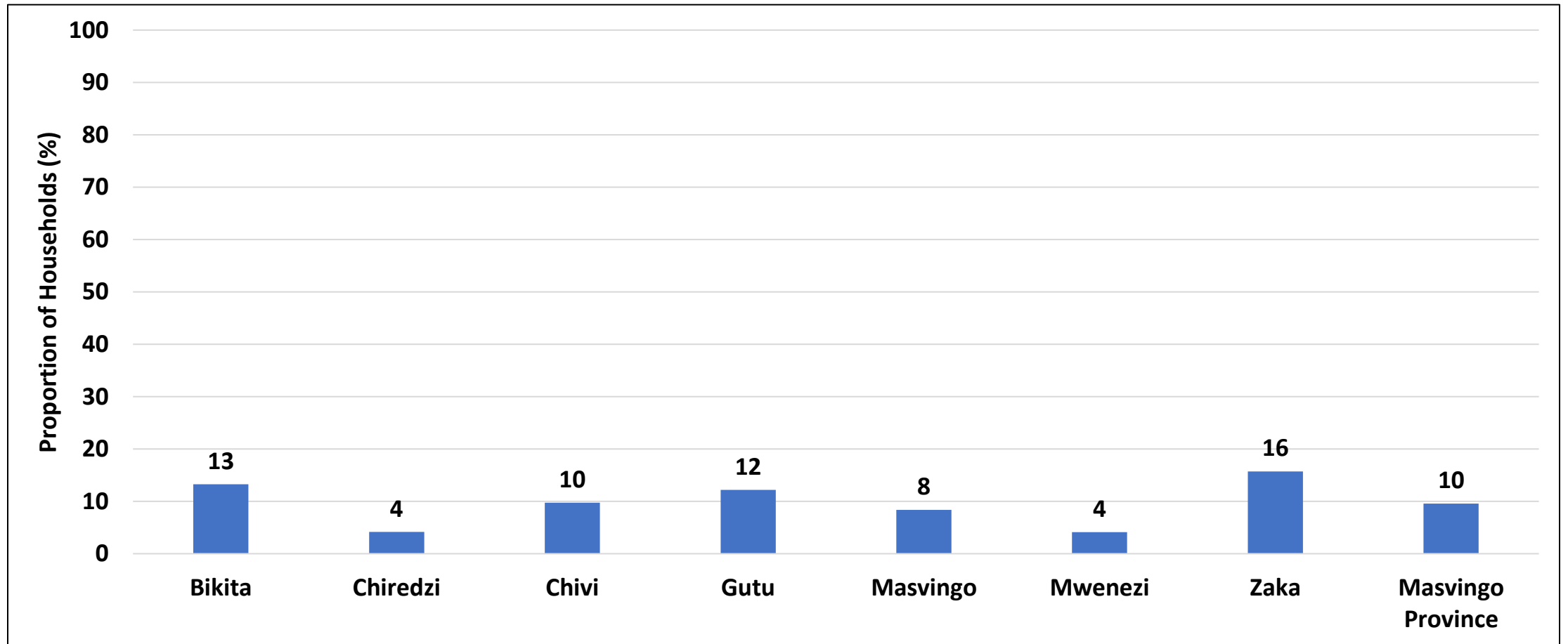
- Crop rotation was practised by 16% of the households across the province.
- Bikita and Chivi (19%) had the highest proportion of households practising crop rotation with the lowest being Chiredzi (10%).

Use of Compost



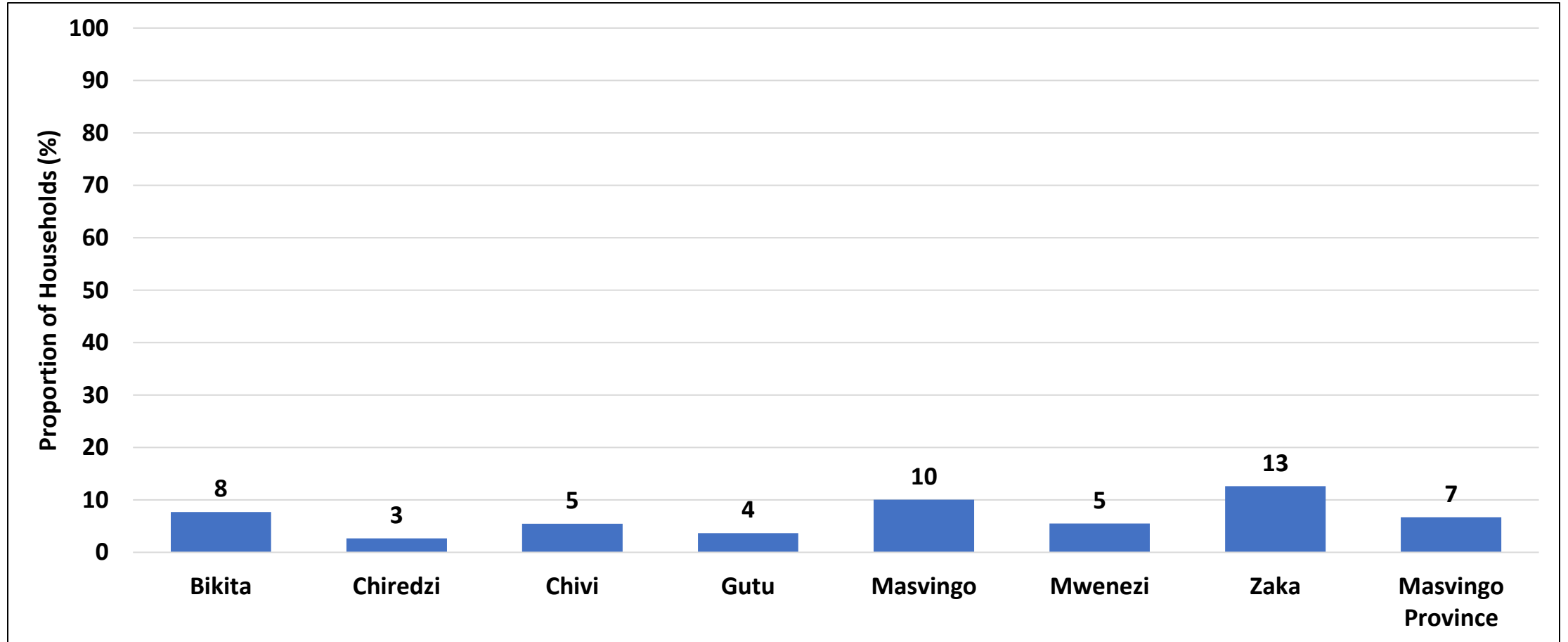
- About 9% of the households used compost across the province.
- The use of compost was highest in Zaka (31%) and lowest in Gutu (2%).

Intercropping Practice



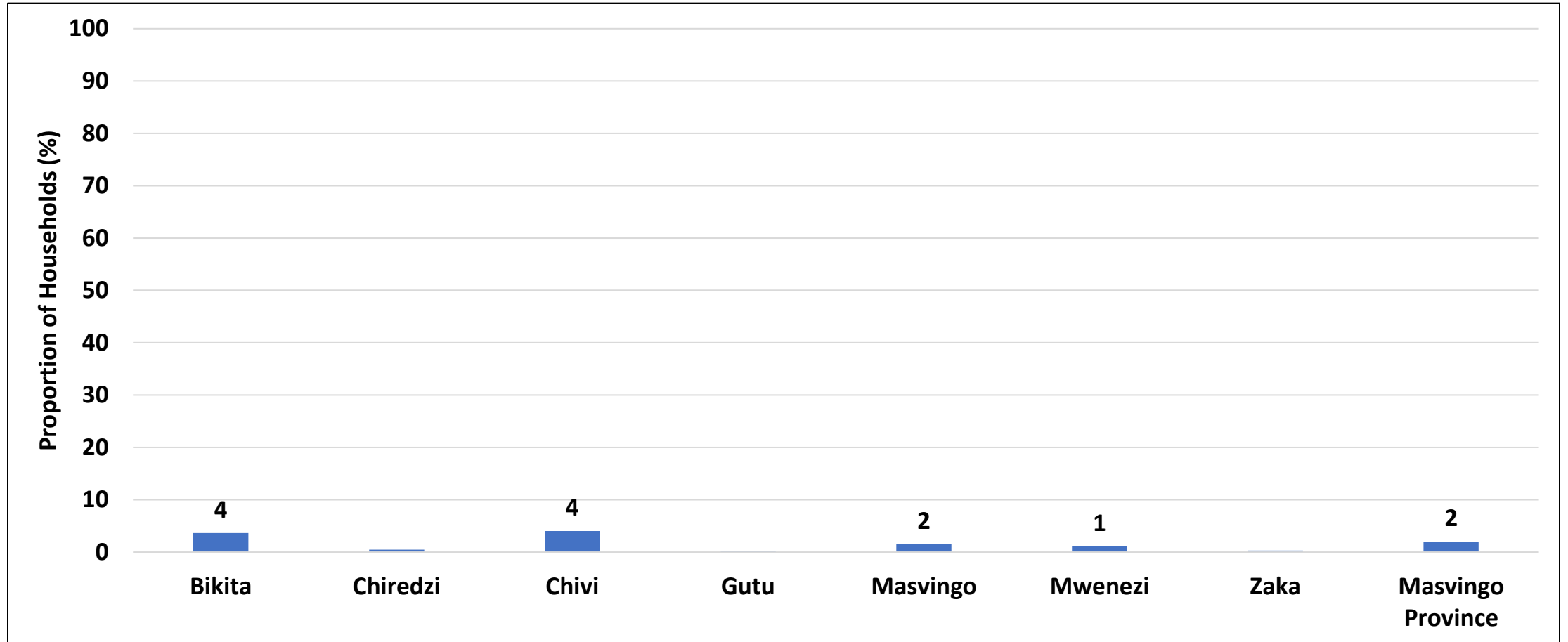
- Intercropping was practised by 10% of the households in the province.
- Zaka (16%) had the highest proportion of households practising intercropping while Chiredzi (4%) and Mwenezi (4%) had the least.

Mulching



- Only 7% of the households practised mulching in the province.
- Zaka (13%) had the highest proportion of households using mulch with the lowest being Chiredzi (3%).

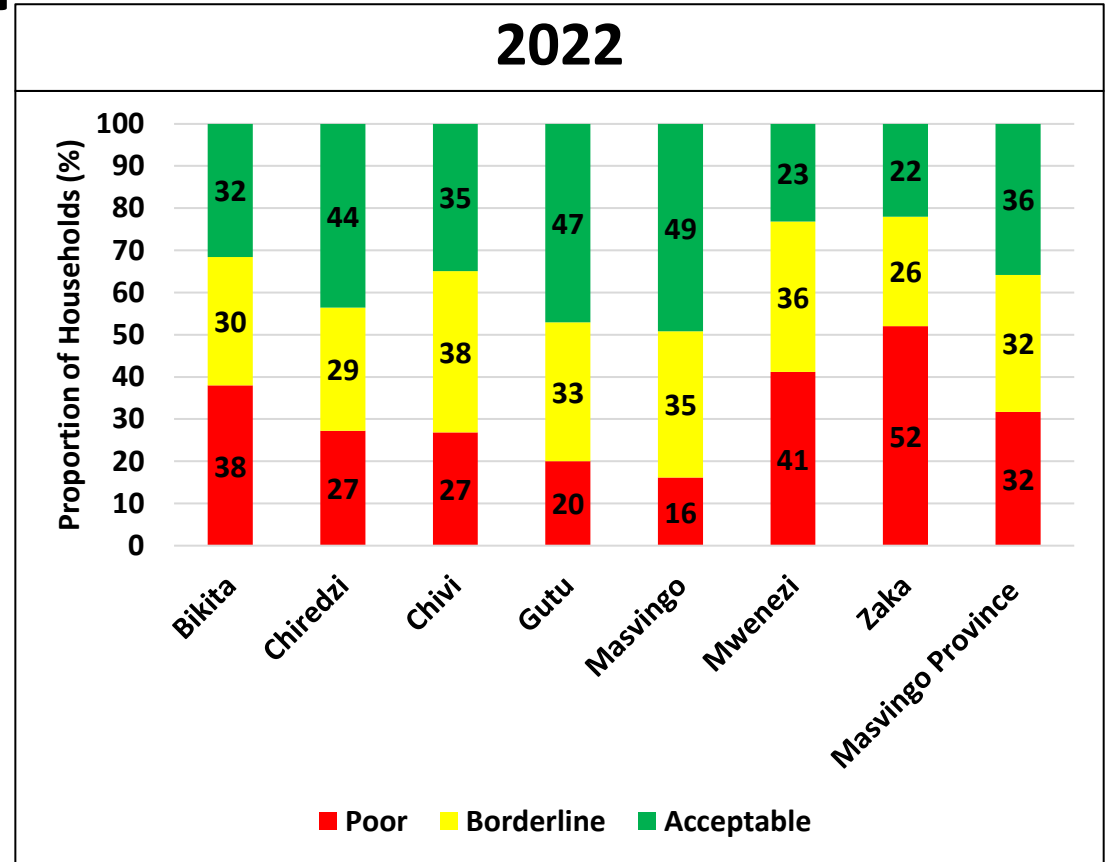
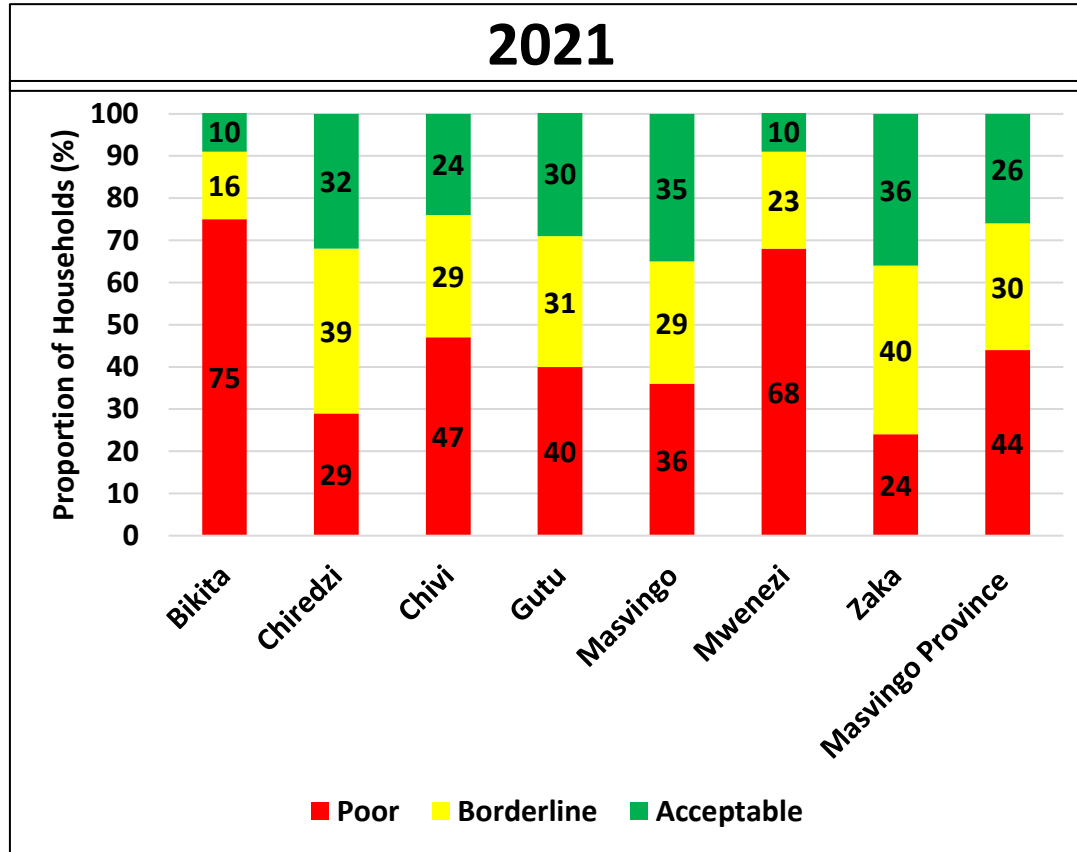
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)



- The use of integrated pest management practices was 2% in the province.

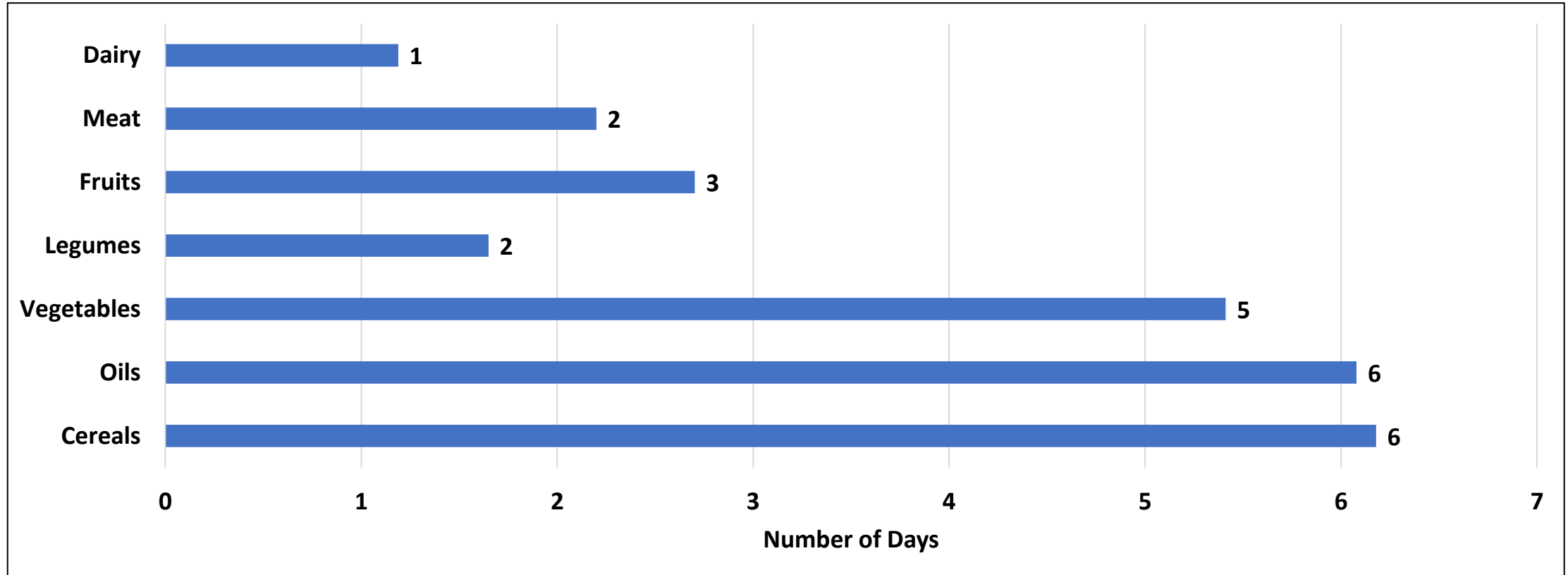
Food Consumption Patterns

Food Consumption Patterns



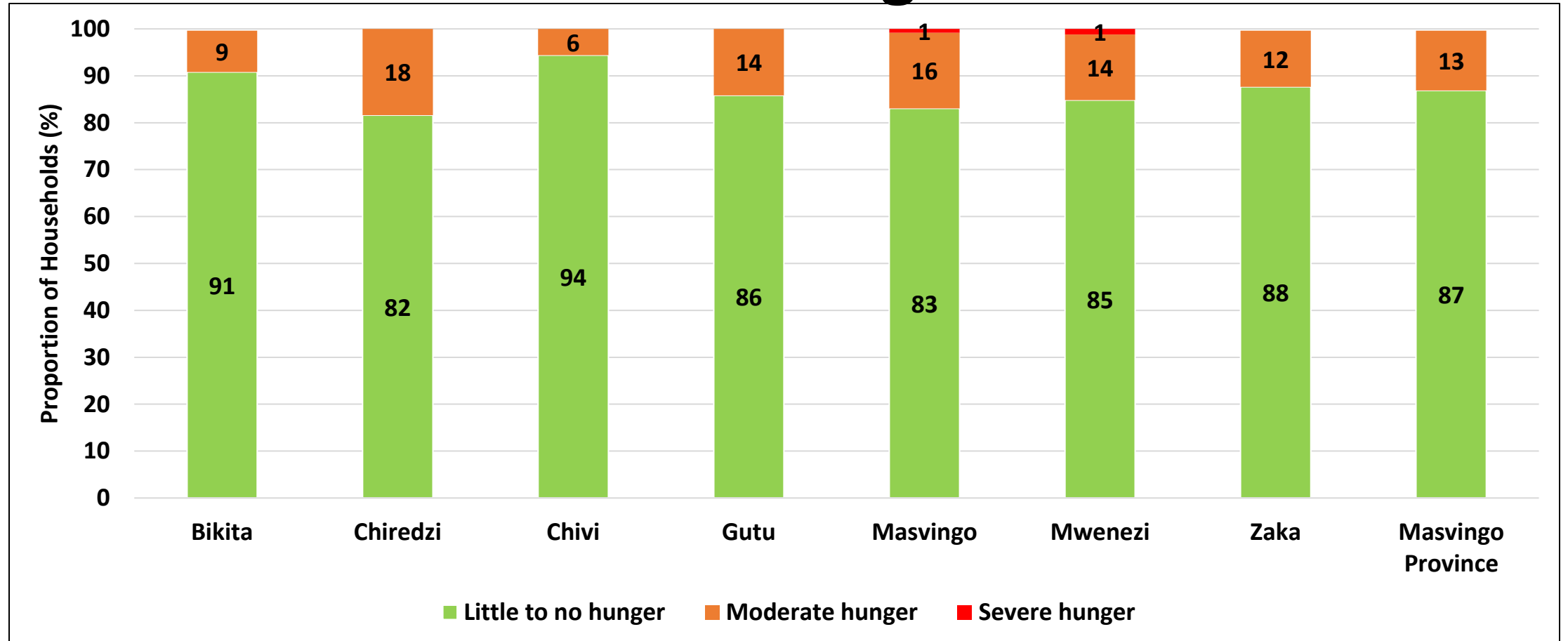
- In Masvingo province 36% of households consumed acceptable diets.
- Masvingo province recorded a decrease in the proportion of households consuming poor diets from 44% in 2021 to 32% in 2022.
- Masvingo district (49%) had the highest proportion of households with acceptable consumption patterns.
- Zaka (52%) had the highest proportion of households with poor consumption patterns.

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



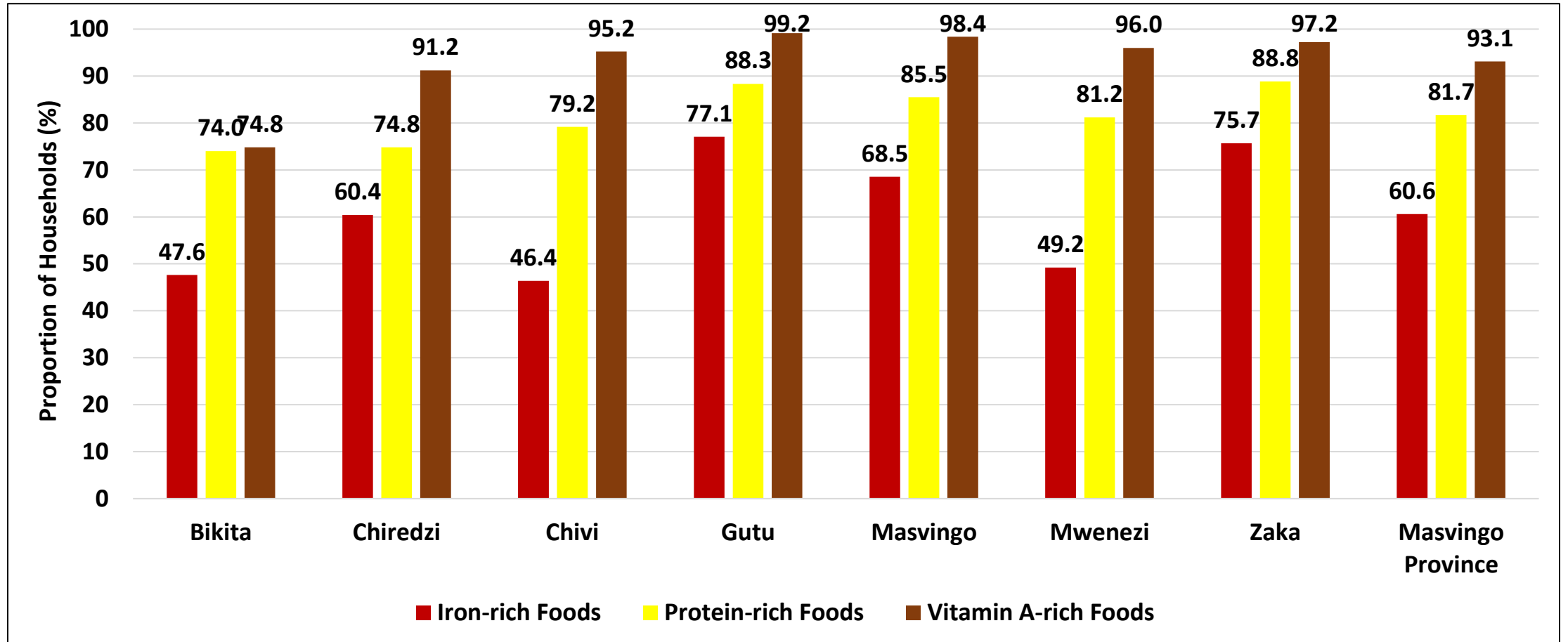
- Cereals (6 days), oils (6 days) and vegetables (5 days) were the most frequently consumed foods by household members 7 days preceding the survey.
- Dairy products (1 day) were the least consumed foods.

Household Hunger Score



- About 87% of households in the province reported to have experienced little to no hunger while 13% were facing moderate hunger.

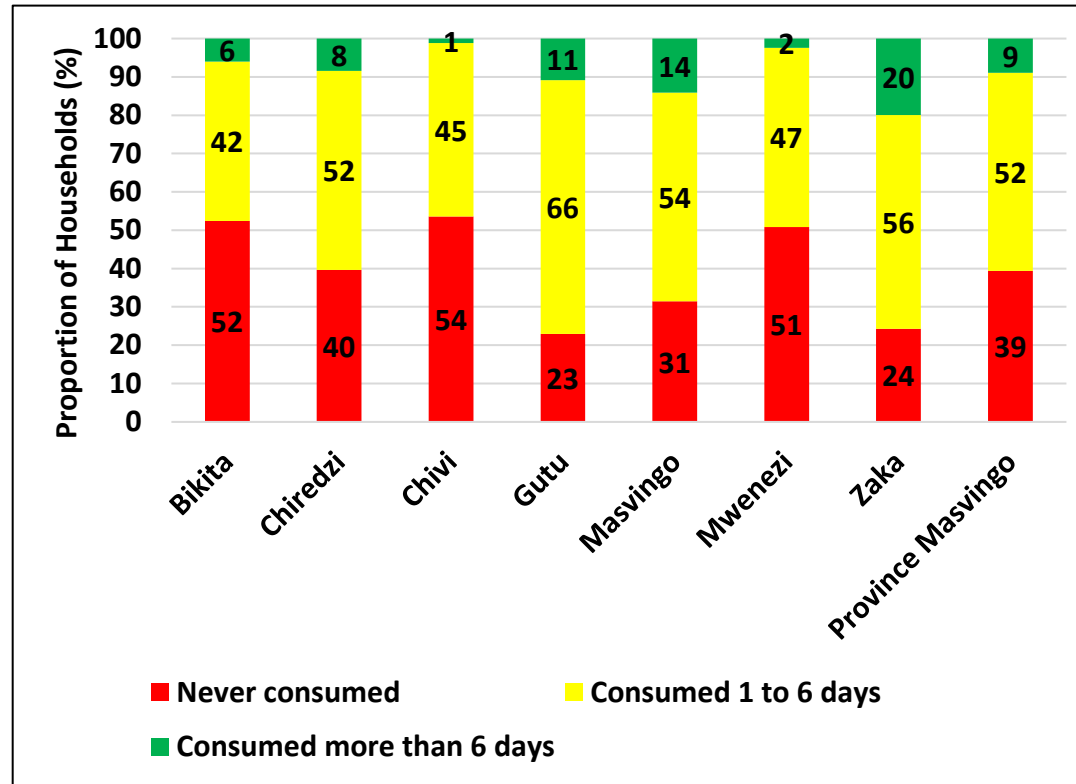
Household Consumption of Protein, Iron and Vitamin A Rich Foods



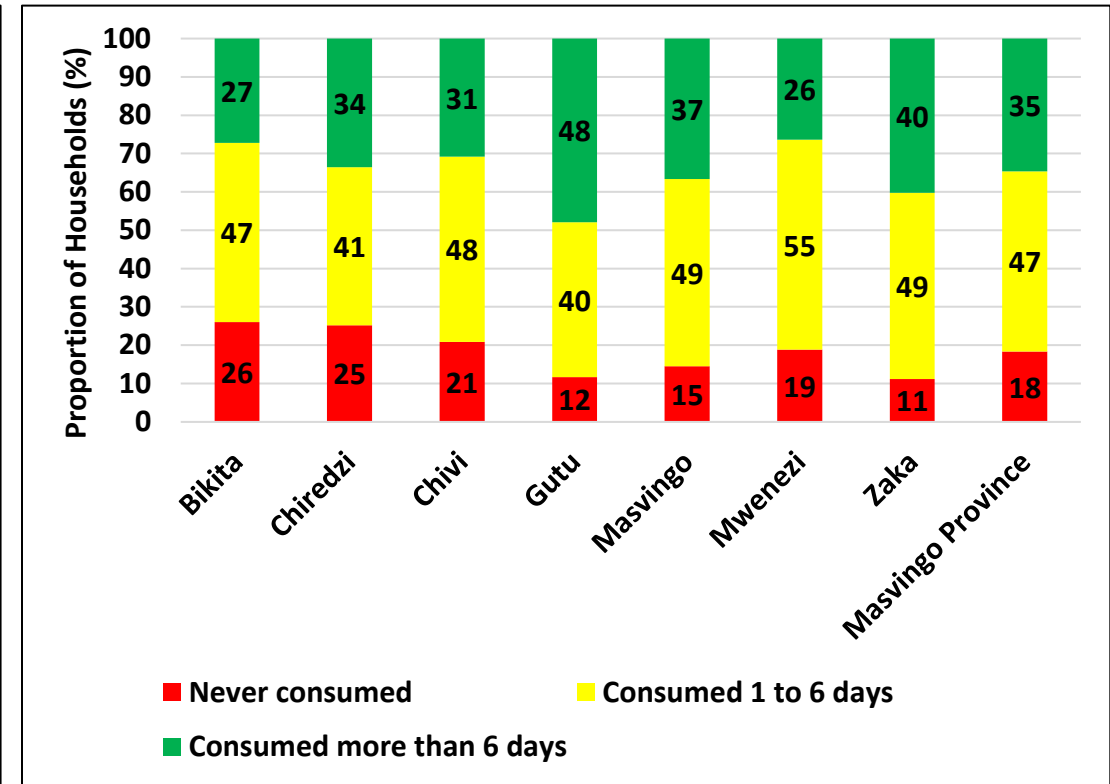
- In Masvingo province, 60.6% of the households consumed iron rich foods.
- Bikita had the lowest proportion of households consuming protein rich and vitamin A rich foods.

Households Consuming Iron-Rich and Protein-Rich Foods

Iron-Rich Foods

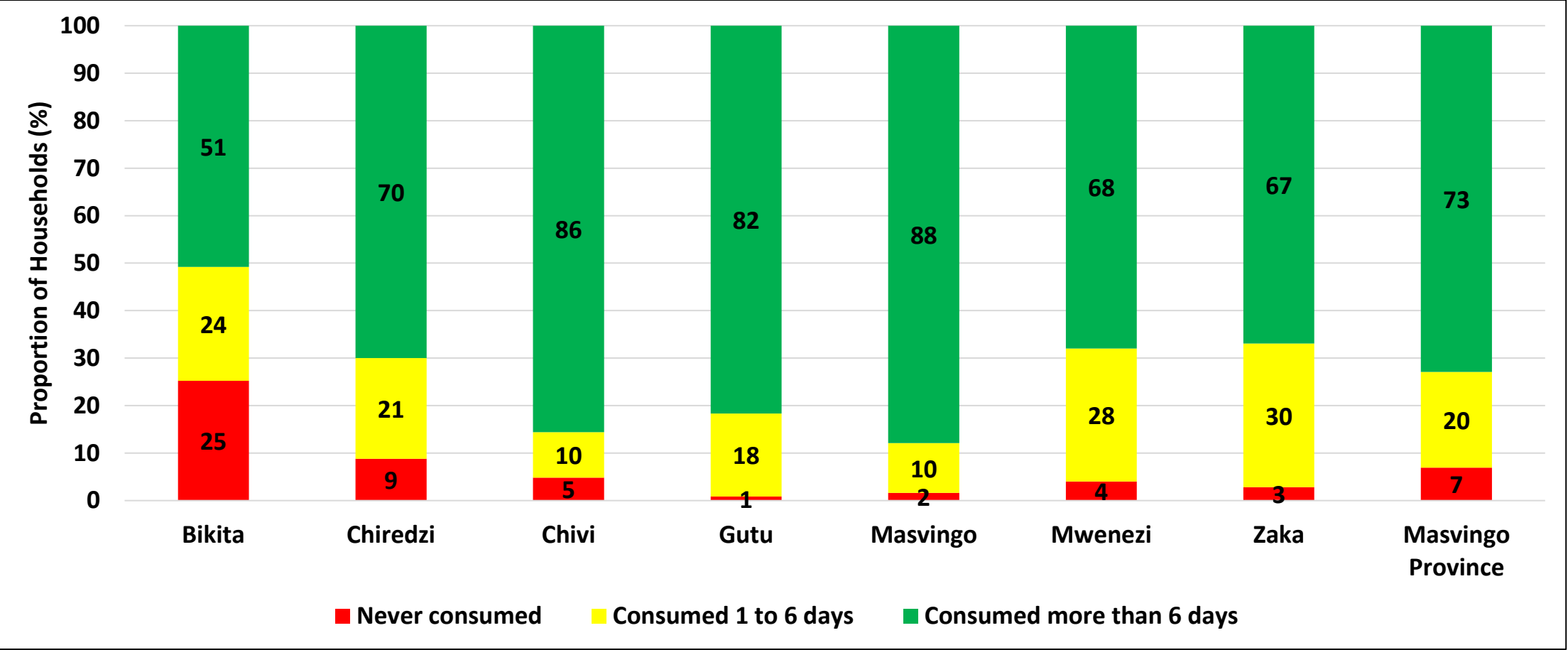


Protein-Rich Foods



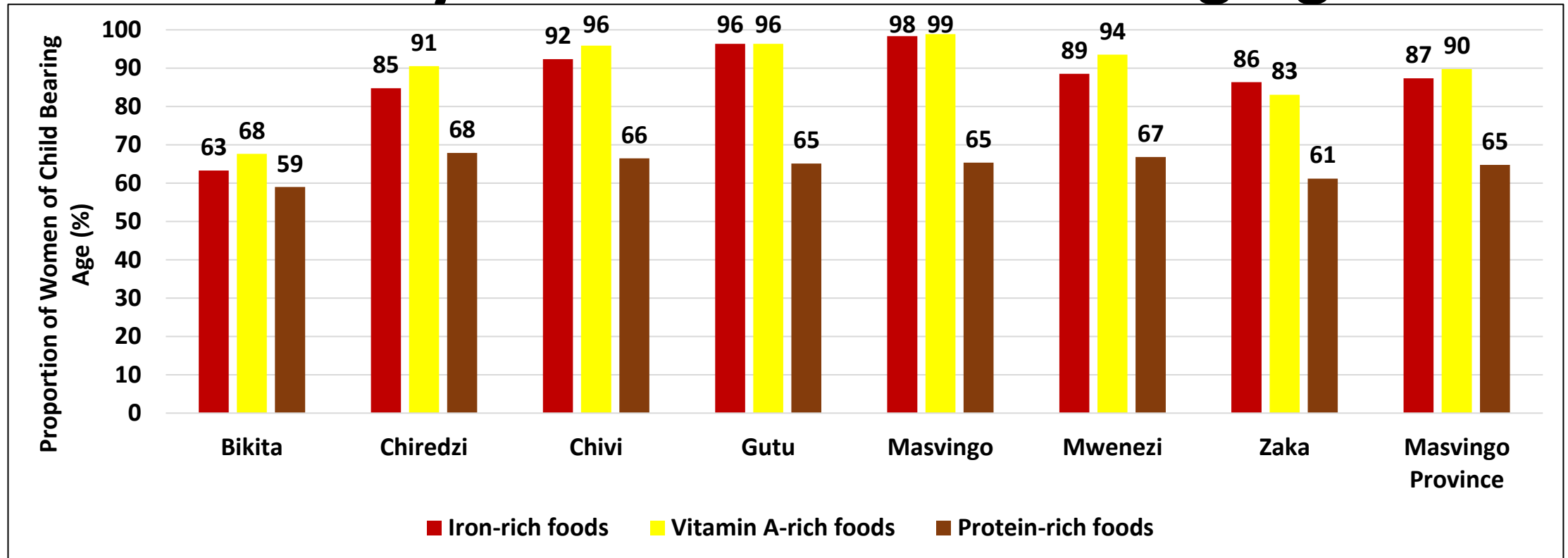
- In Masvingo province only 9% of the households consumed iron rich foods more than 6 days preceding the survey.
- Chivi (54%), Bikita (52%) and Mwenezi (51%) had more than half of the households having never consumed iron-rich foods in the seven days prior to the survey.

Households Consuming Vitamin A-Rich Foods



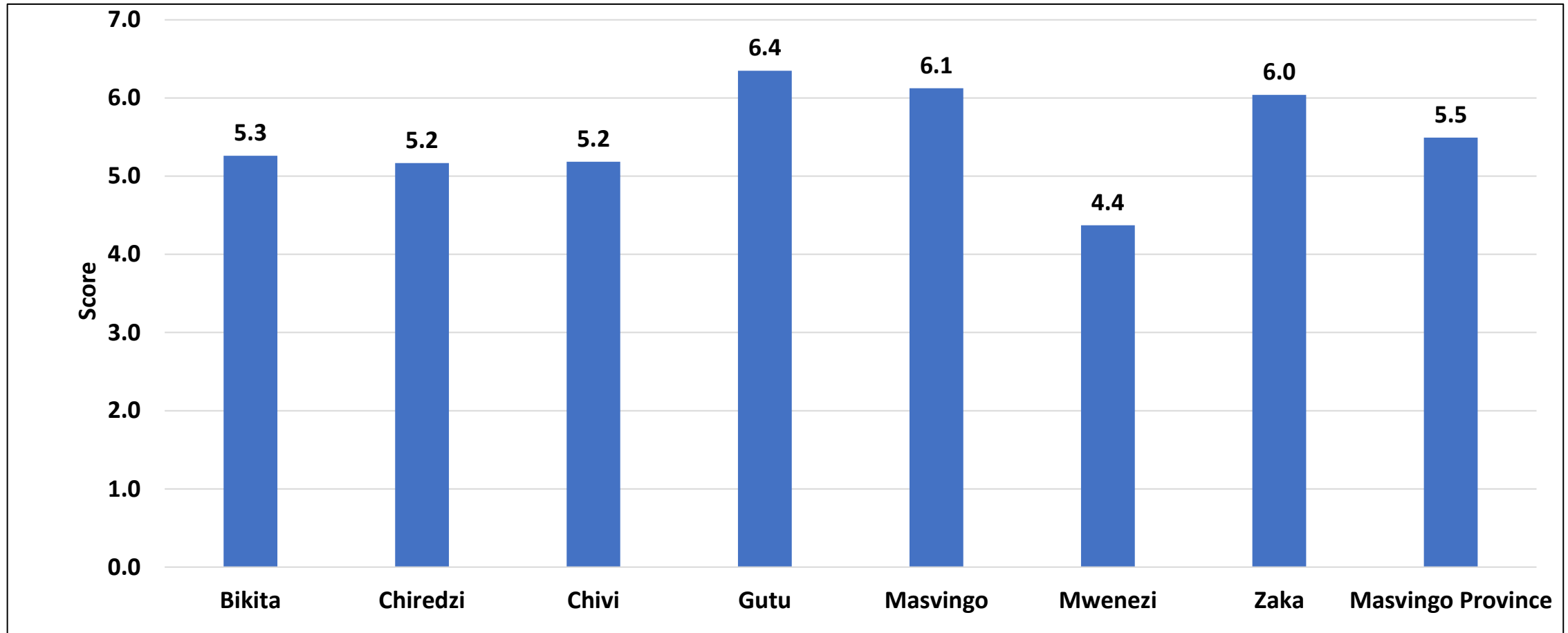
- In the province, 73% of households consumed Vitamin A rich foods more than 6 days preceding survey.
- Bikita 25% had the highest proportion of households that never consumed vitamin A rich foods in the seven days preceding the survey.

Consumption of Protein, Iron and Vitamin-A Rich Foods by Women of Child Bearing Age



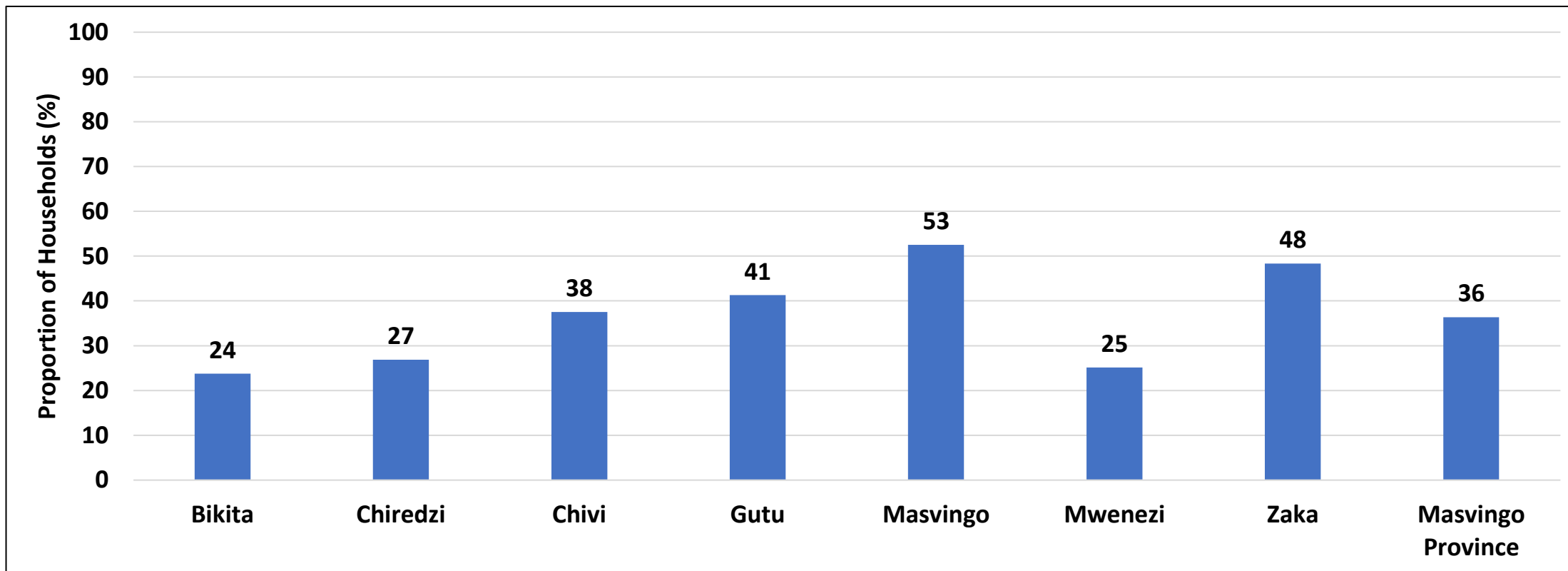
- Vitamin A rich foods (90%) were the most frequently consumed foods by women of child bearing age in Masvingo province.
- Masvingo district had the highest proportion of women of child bearing age consuming iron rich foods (98%) and Vitamin A rich foods (99%).
- Bikita had the lowest proportion of women of child bearing age consuming iron rich foods (63%) and Vitamin A rich foods (68%).
- Consumption of protein rich foods was highest in Chiredzi (68%) and lowest in Bikita (59%).

Household Dietary Diversity Score



- The dietary diversity score for Masvingo province was 5.5.
- Gutu district (6.4) had the highest dietary diversity score whilst Mwenezi district (4.4) had the least.

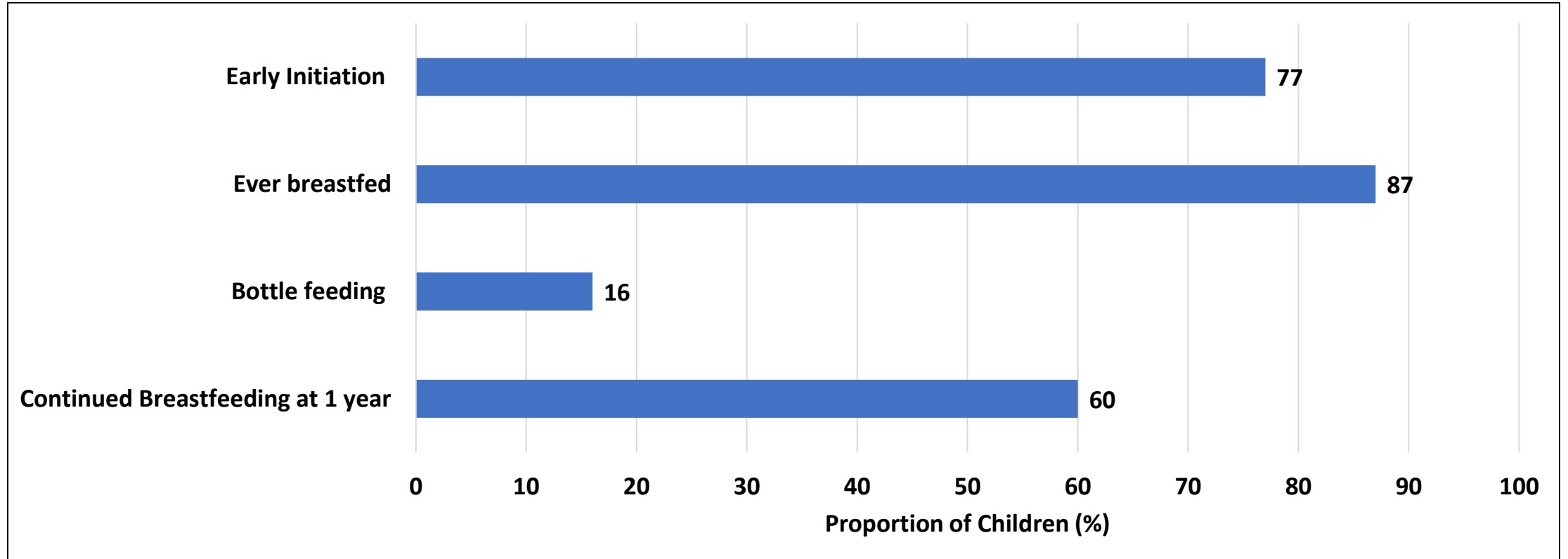
Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women of Child-Bearing Age



- About 36% of women of child bearing age consumed at least 5 food groups out of a possible 10 food groups.
- Masvingo district (53%) had the highest proportion of women of child bearing age who consumed at least 5 food groups, 24 hours before the survey whilst Bikita (24%) had the least.

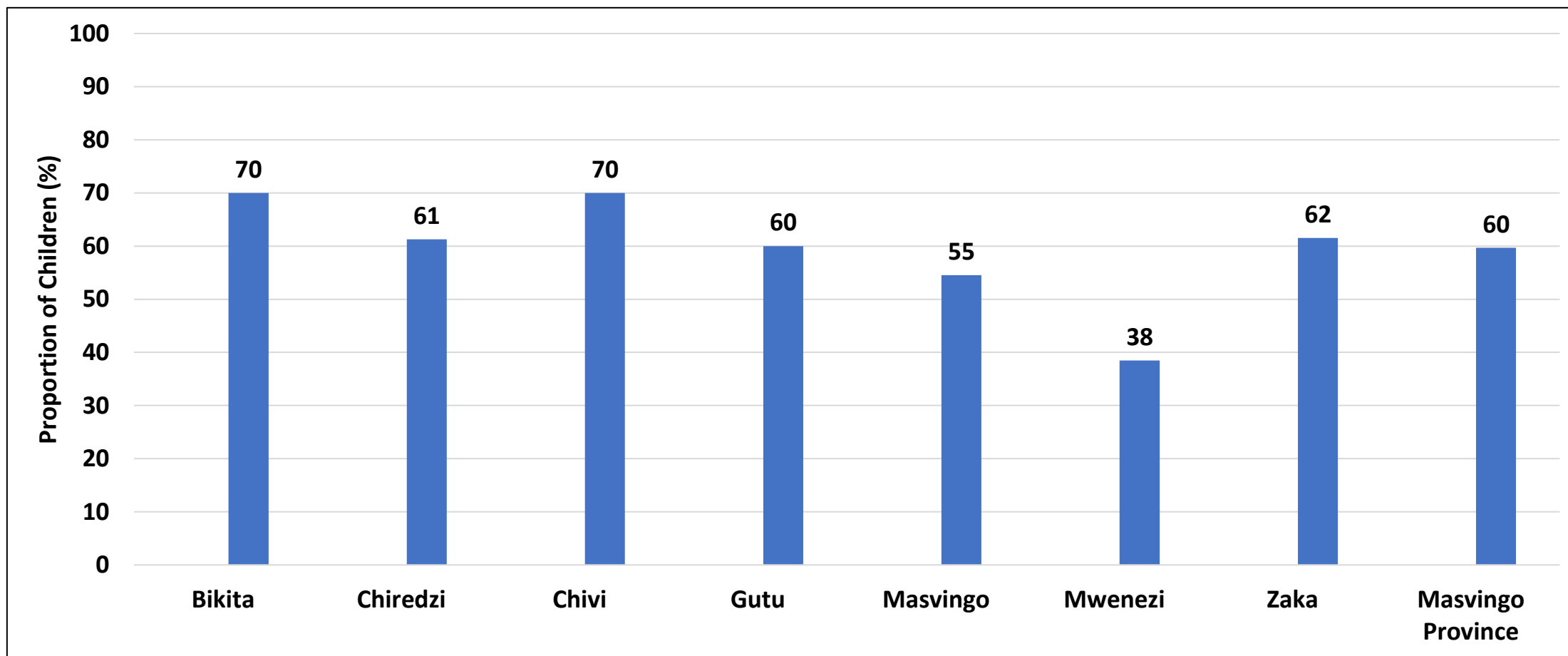
Child Nutrition Status

Breastfeeding Practices



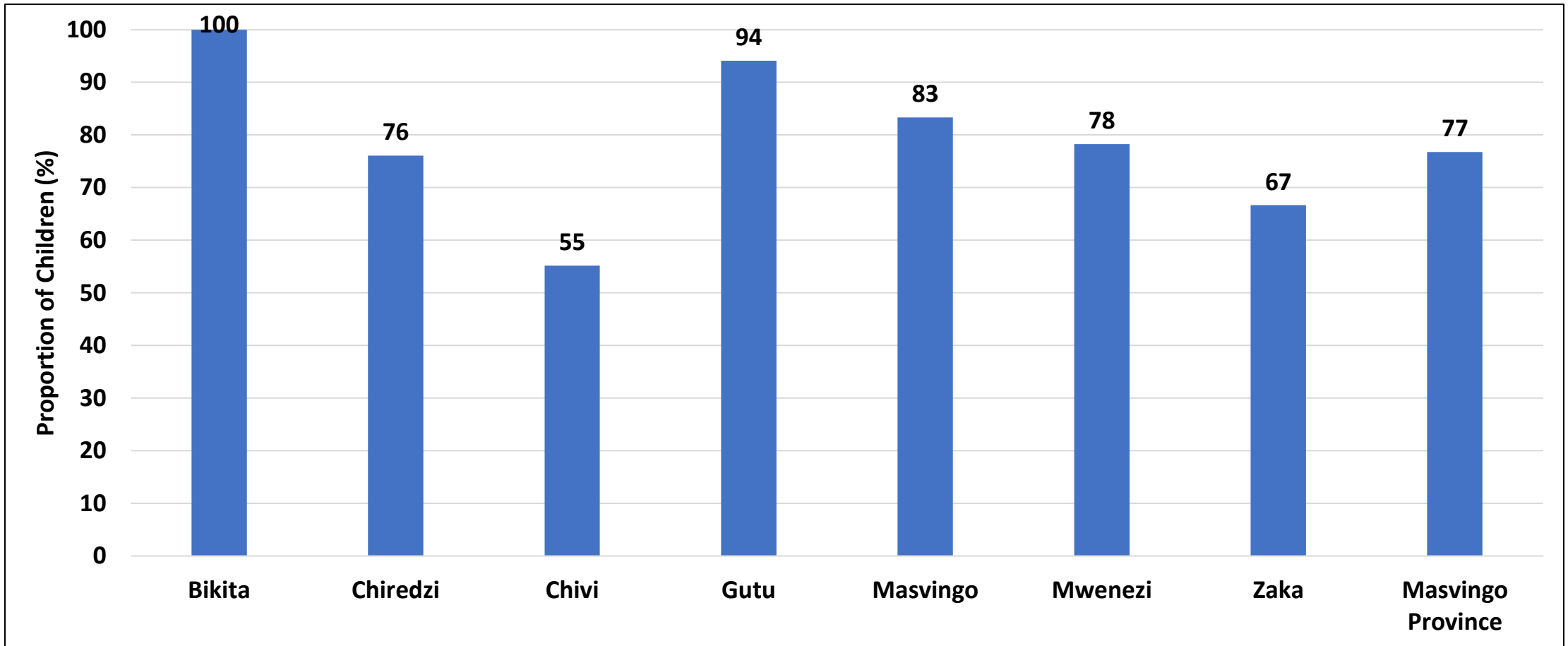
- The proportion of children who were ever breastfed was 87% and those who were initiated breastfeeding within an hour were 77%.
- Only 60% of the children were breastfed beyond 1 year. The recommended practice is for children to be breastfed up to 2 years or beyond.

Continued Breastfeeding Beyond 1 year



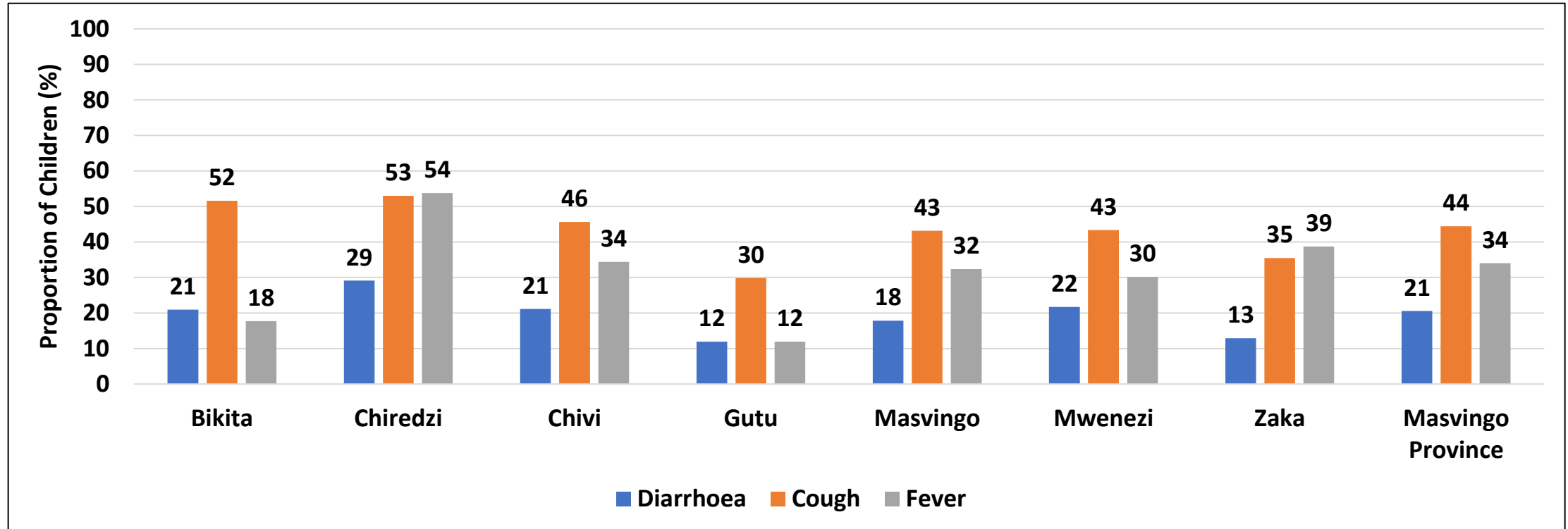
- Provincially, 60% of the children continued to be breastfed beyond 1 year.

Early Initiation of Breastfeeding



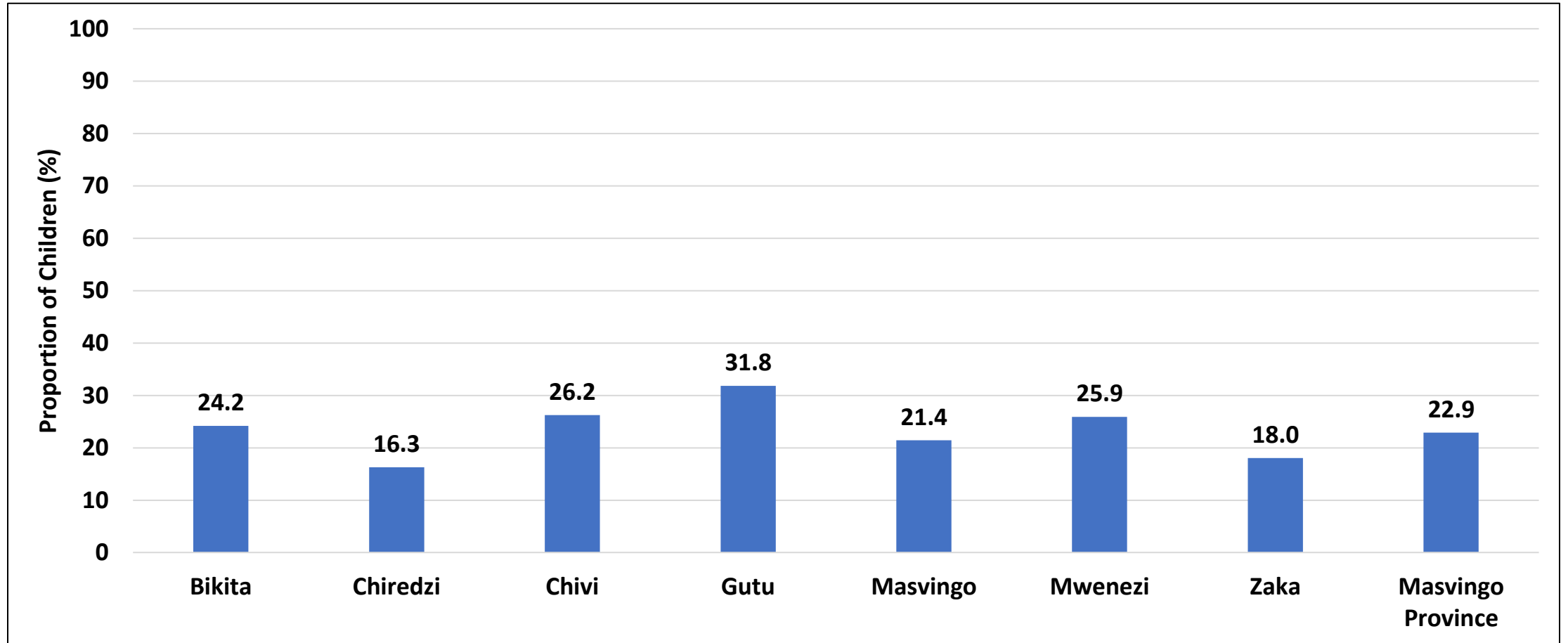
- Provincially, the proportion of children who were initiated breastfeeding within an hour, as per recommended practice was 77%.
- In Bikita district all sampled children had been initiated to the breast within 1 hour followed by Gutu district with 94%.

Prevalence of Illness Among Children Aged 0-59 Months



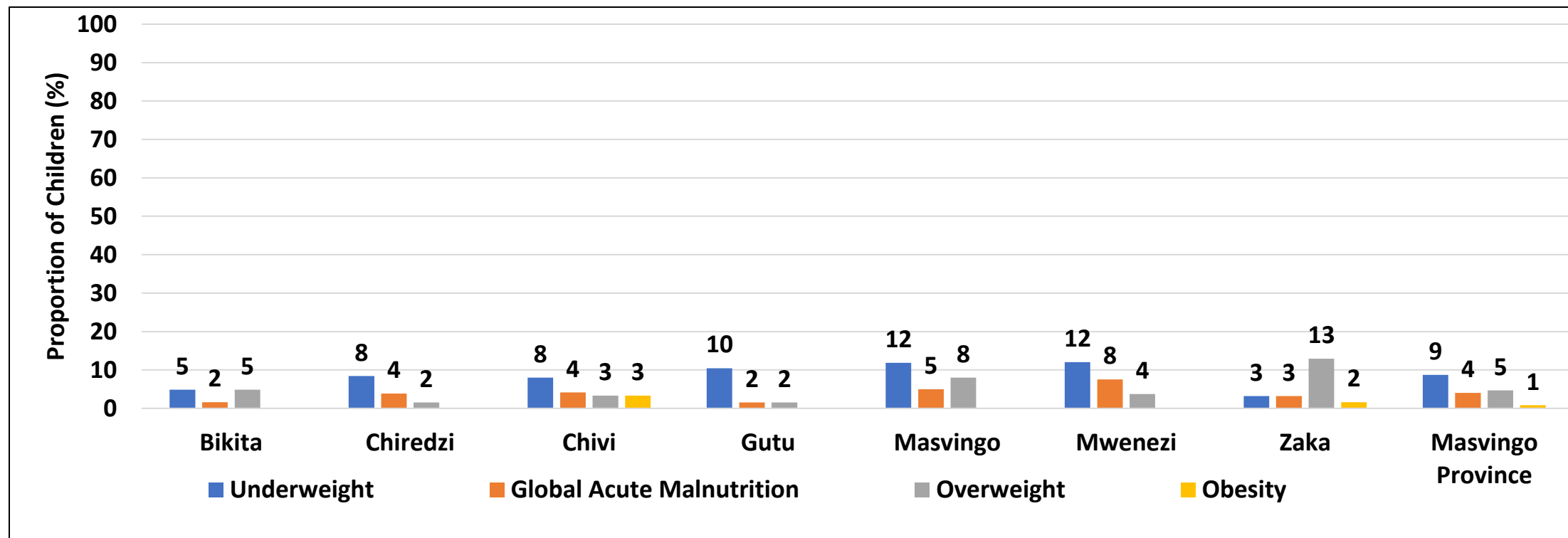
- The prevalence of illness in children was assessed as the presence of illness during the two weeks preceding the survey.
- For the province, cough (44%) was the most prevalent illness amongst children followed by fever (34%) and diarrhoea (21%).
- Chiredzi district had the highest proportion of children who were reported to have suffered from diarrhoea (29%), cough (53%) and fever (54%).

Stunting Prevalence by District



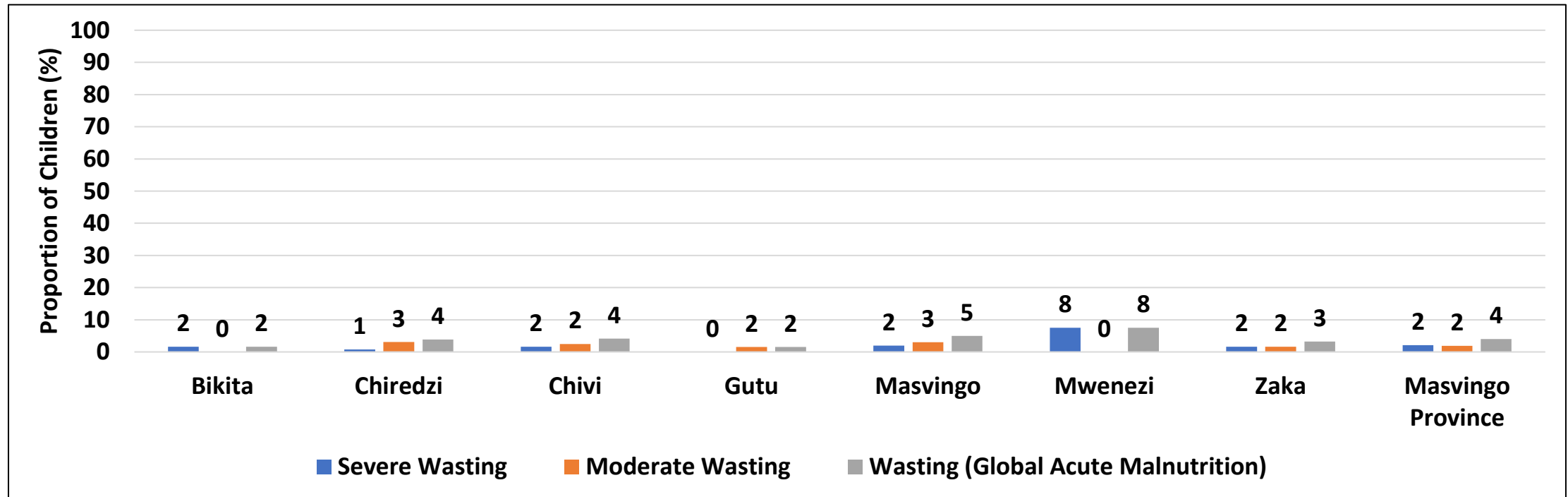
- In Masvingo province, the prevalence of stunting was 22.9% which was classified as high according to the WHO thresholds.
- Gutu (31.8%) had the highest stunting prevalence whilst the least was recorded in Chiredzi (16.3%).

Prevalence of Malnutrition Children 6-59 months



- The prevalence of global acute malnutrition was 4% for the province which is within the WHO acceptable category.
- Masvingo district (5%) and Mwenezi (8%) had a Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence higher than the WHO acceptable range of less than 5%.
- Masvingo and Mwenezi districts had the highest number of underweight children both at 12%.

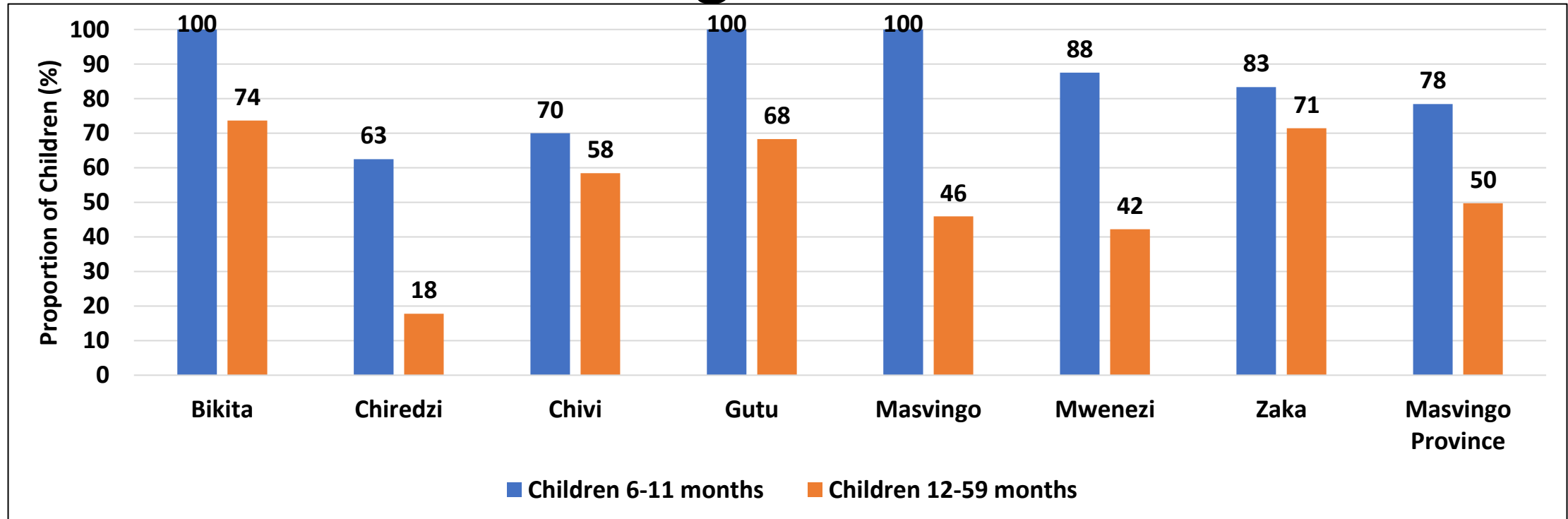
Prevalence of Wasting Children 6-59 Months



- The prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) in Masvingo province was 4%.
- Mwenezi and Masvingo districts had a global Acute Malnutrition of at least 5% which was above the WHO threshold of less than 5%.

Vitamin A Supplementation

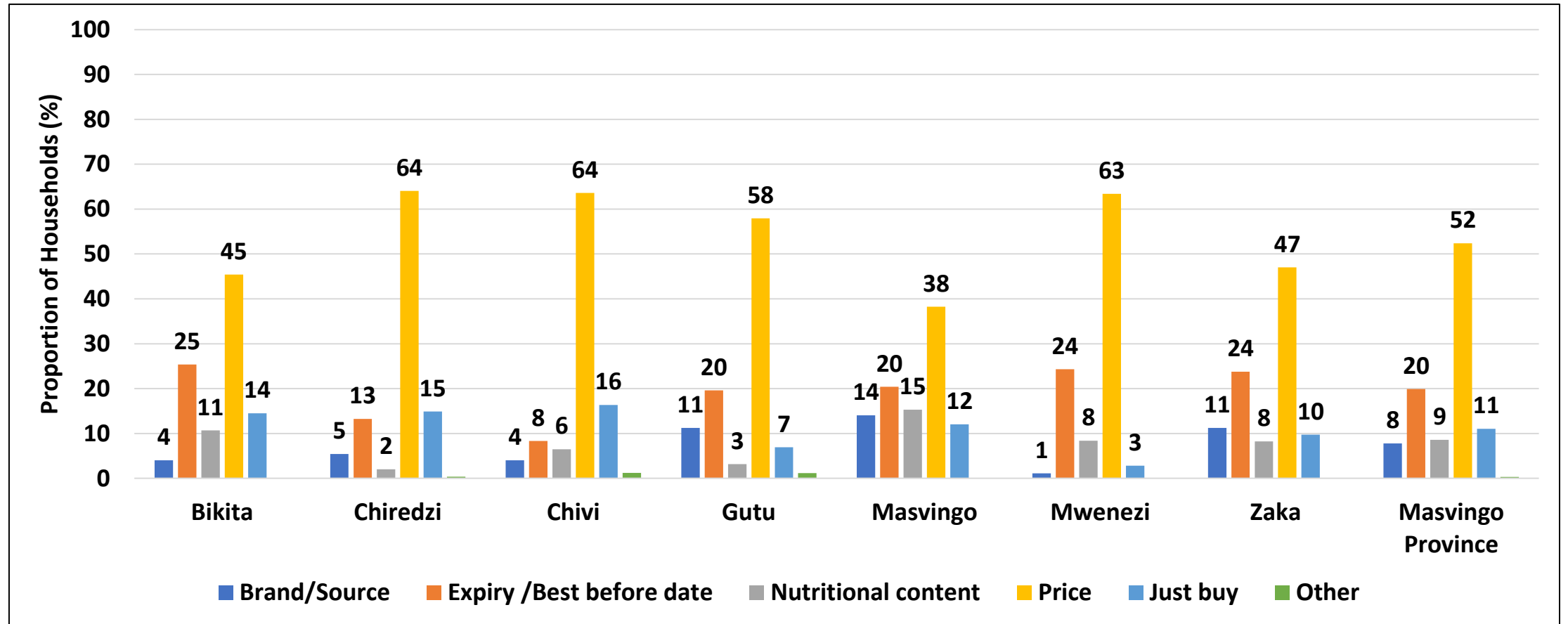
Age-Appropriate Vitamin A Supplementation for Children Aged 6-59 Months



- The proportion of children who received the recommended dose of Vitamin A in the past 12 months was 78% for 6-11 months age group and 50% for 12-59 months.
- Bikita (100%), Gutu (100%) and Masvingo (100%) districts surpassed the recommended target of 90% for children 6-11 months who received Vitamin A.

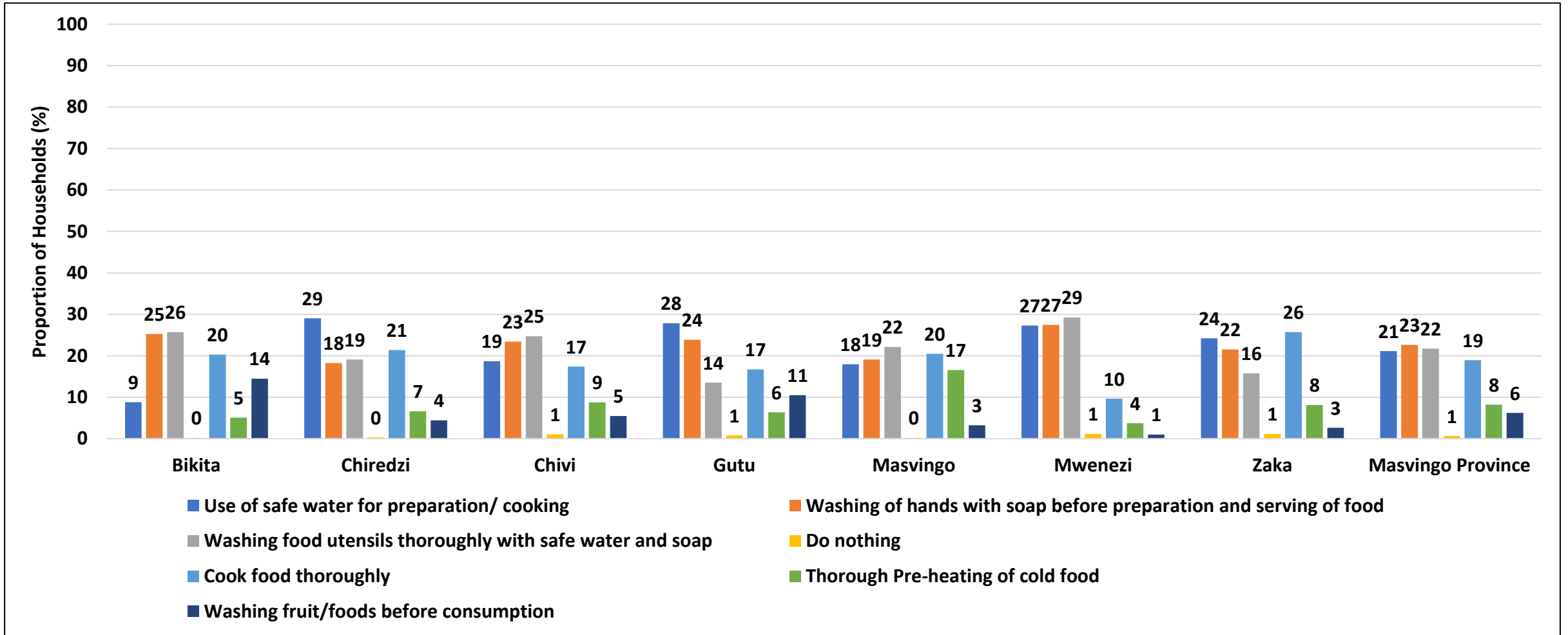
Food Safety

Household Considerations when Purchasing Food



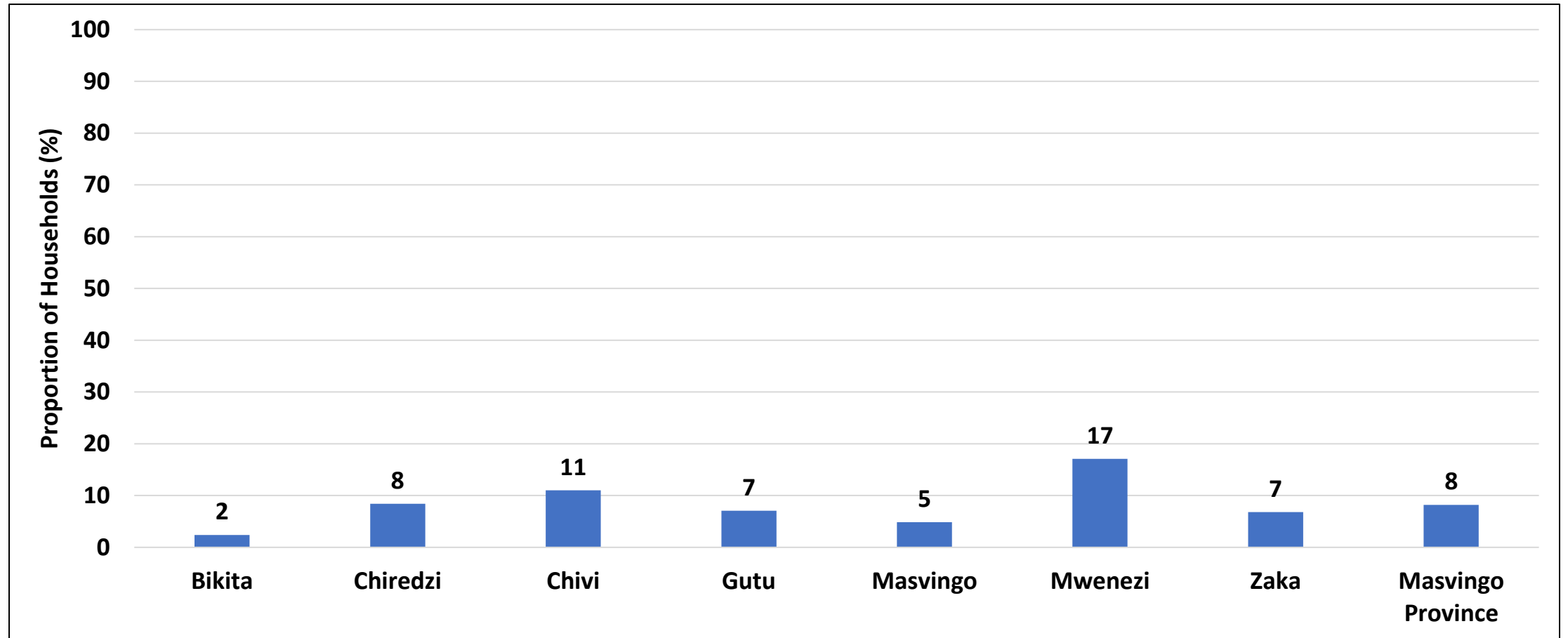
- In the province, 52% of households reported considering the price when purchasing food for their families.
- Masvingo district had the greatest proportion of households which considered nutritional content when purchasing food (15%), whilst Chiredzi had the least (2%).

Safe Preparation of Food



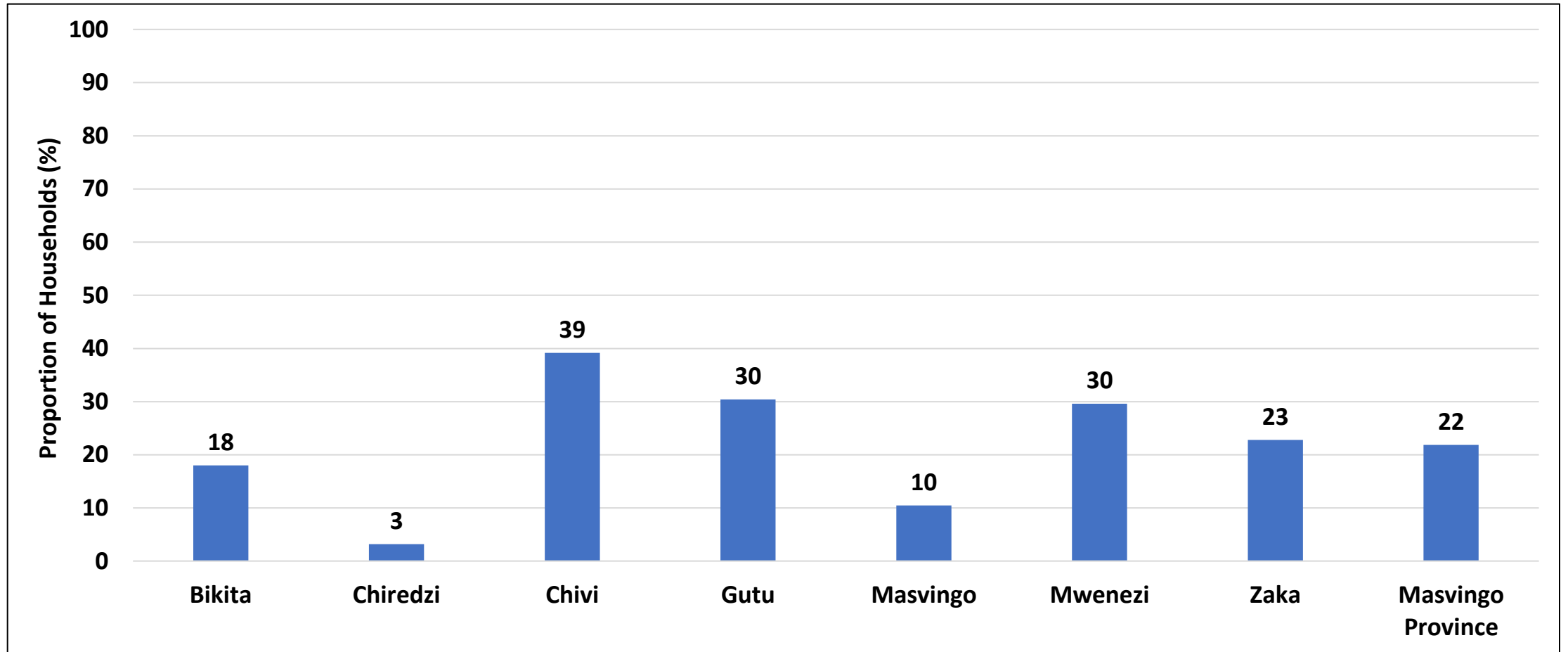
- About 23% of households reported that washing hands with soap before preparing and serving food was important in safe food preparation.
- Only 1% of households did nothing to ensure food safety during preparation of food.

Purchase of Expired or Spoiled Food



- At provincial level, 8% of households reported purchasing food which had expired due to its reduced price.
- Mwenezi (17%) had the greatest proportion of households which purchased expired food due to its reduced price.

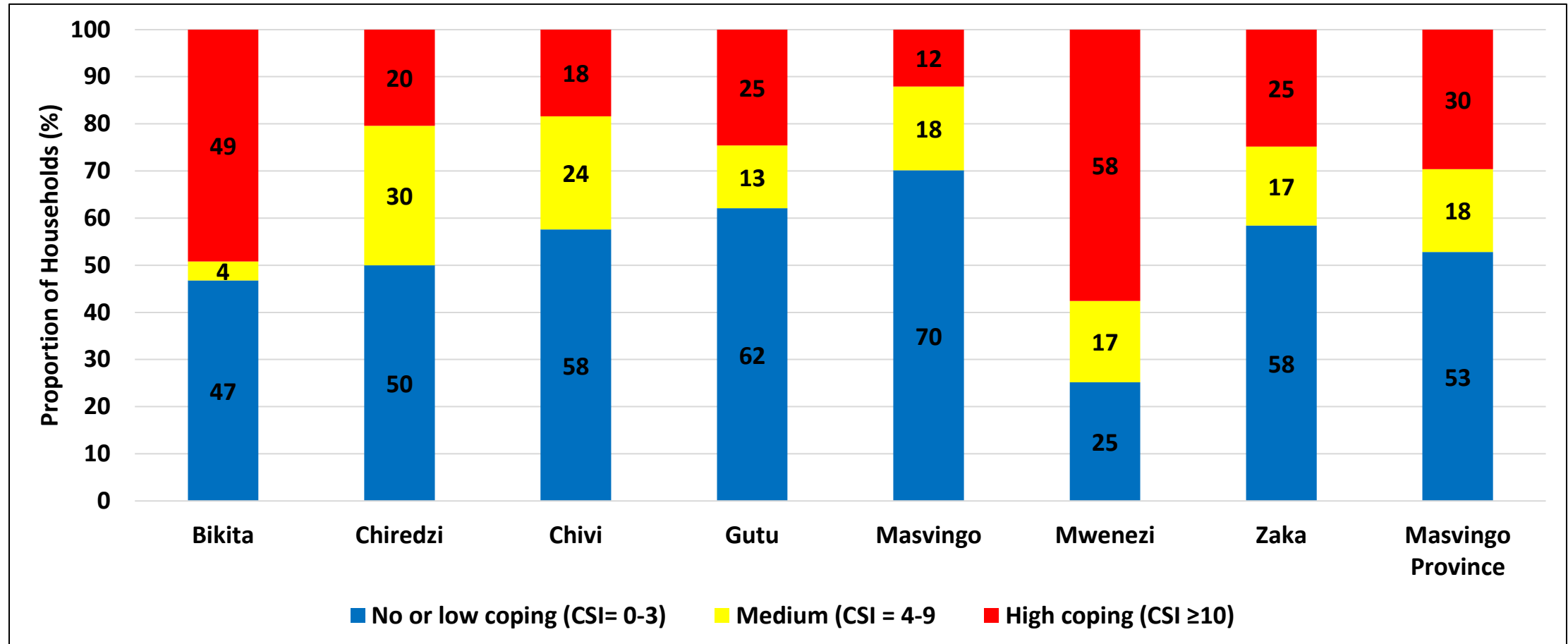
Information on Food Safety



- In the twelve months preceding the survey, only 22% of the households received information on food safety issues.
- Chivi had the greatest proportion of households which received information on food safety issues (39%).

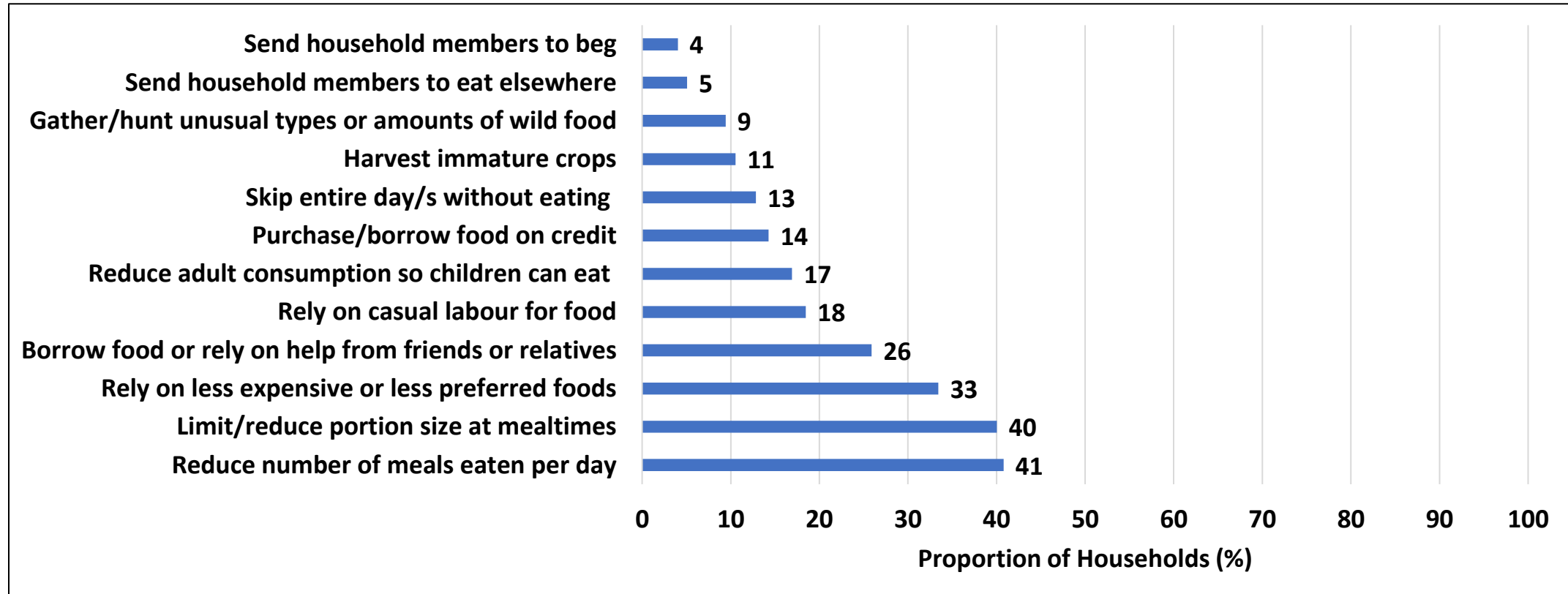
Household Consumption and Livelihoods Based Coping Strategies

Household Consumption Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)



- In Masvingo province, 48% of households were employing some form of consumption coping.
- Mwenezi (58%) had the highest proportion of households that employed high consumption coping strategies whilst Masvingo district (12%) had the least.

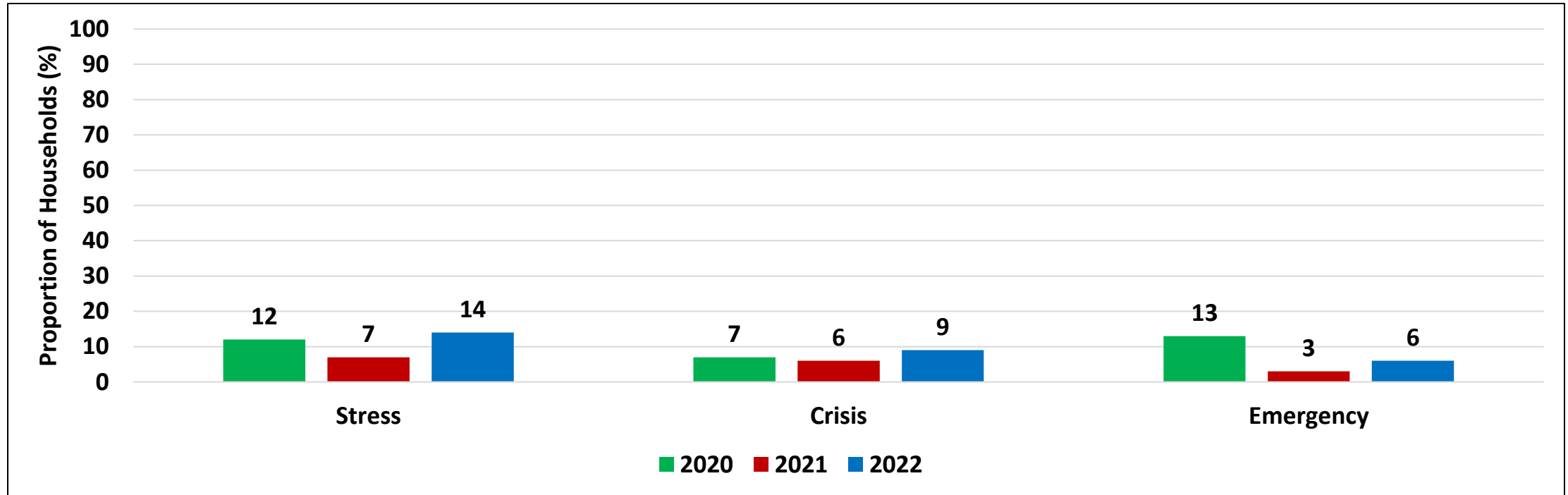
Household Consumption Coping Strategies (48%)



- Of those households which adopted coping strategies, the main consumption coping strategies included, reducing the number of meals eaten per day (41%), limiting or reducing portion size at mealtimes (40%) and relying on less expensive foods (33%).
- It is important to note that adoption of these negative strategies has a negative impact on the household nutrition outcomes.

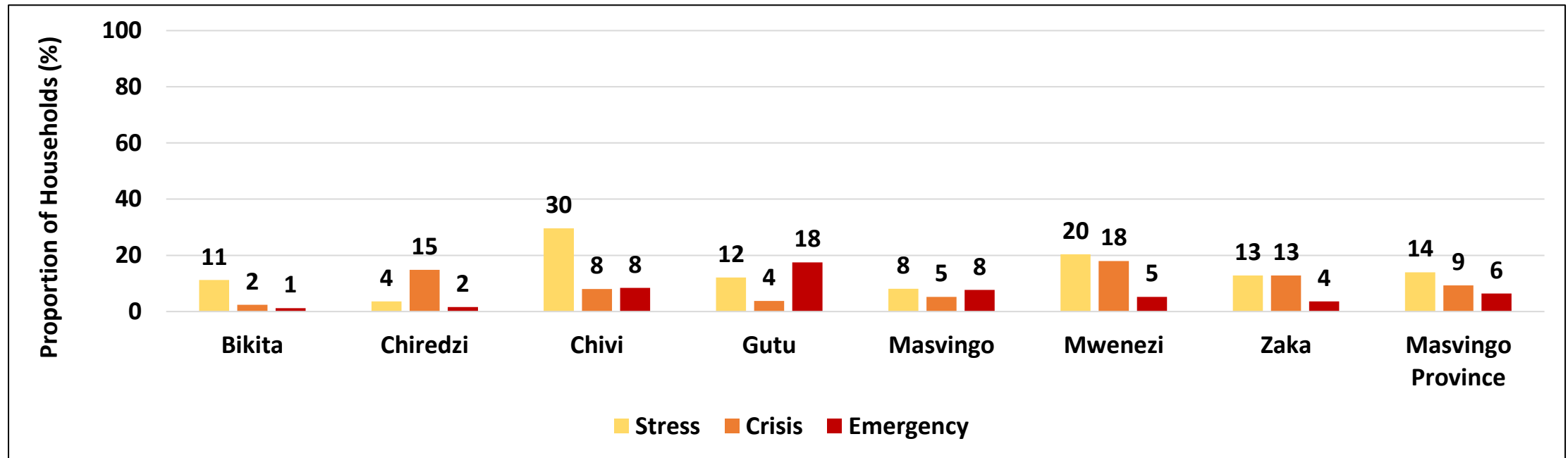
Households Livelihoods Coping Strategies

Households Engaging in Livelihoods Coping Strategies



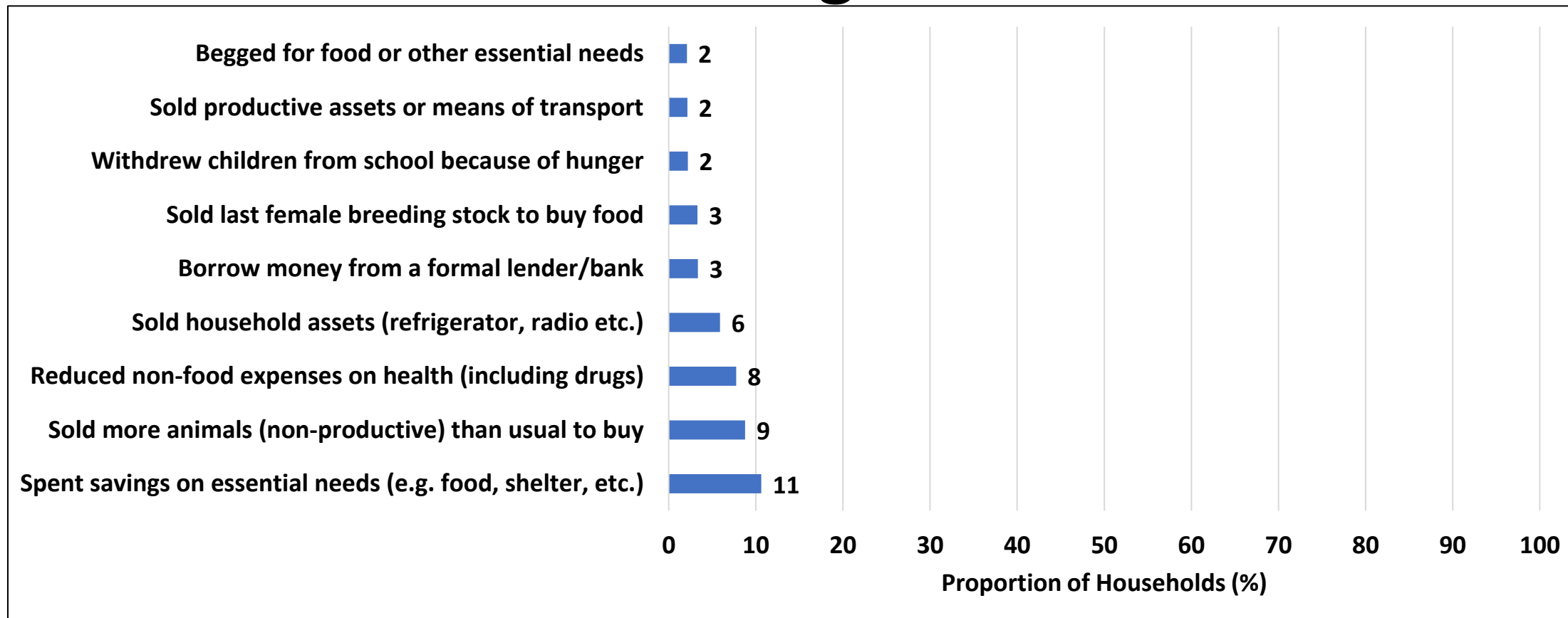
- The proportion of households that resorted to emergency coping mechanisms in Masvingo province increased from 3% in 2021 to 6% in 2022.
- The results showed a deterioration in livelihoods as noted by an increase in the proportion of households engaging in livelihoods based coping strategies over the past year.

Households Engaging in Livelihoods Coping Strategies by district



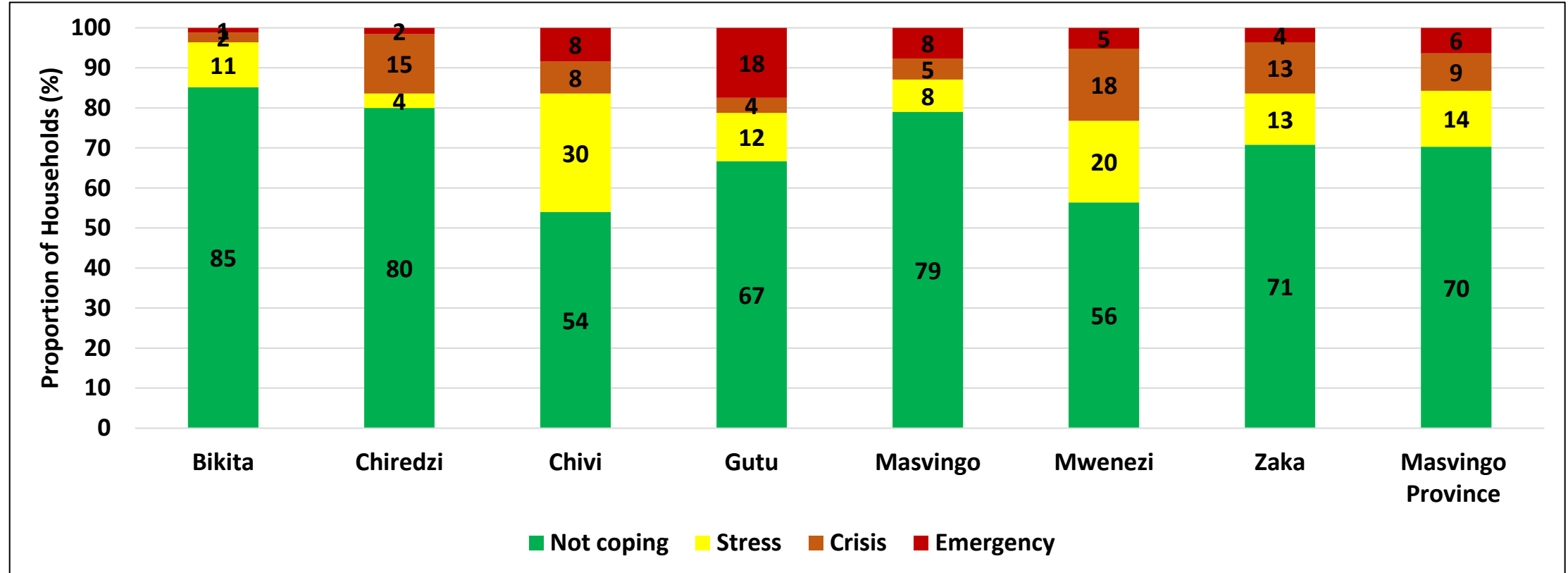
- Provincially, 6% of the households resorted to emergency coping mechanisms thereby undermining their future coping capacity.
- Gutu (18%) had the highest proportion of households that employed emergency coping and Bikita (1%) had the least.

Households Engaging in Livelihoods Coping Strategies



- The majority of households did not engage in any livelihoods coping strategies.
- However, attention should be given to households which engaged in selling more of the non-productive animals (9%), reduced non-food expenses on health (8%) and selling household assets (6%).

Households' Maximum Livelihoods Coping Strategies



- In Masvingo province 70% of the households did not engage in any livelihoods coping strategies to maintain their access to food and other basic goods and services.

Food Security

Food Security Dimensions

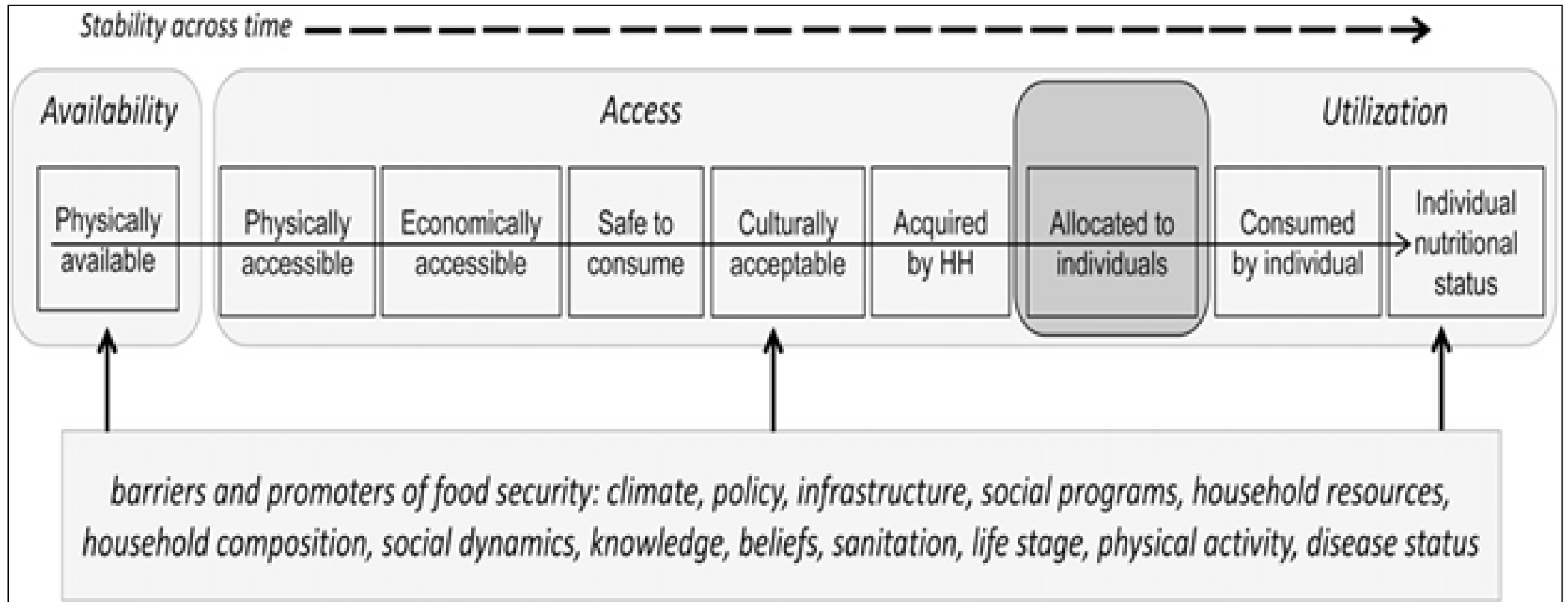


Figure 3: Dimensions of Food Security (Jones et al., 2013)

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

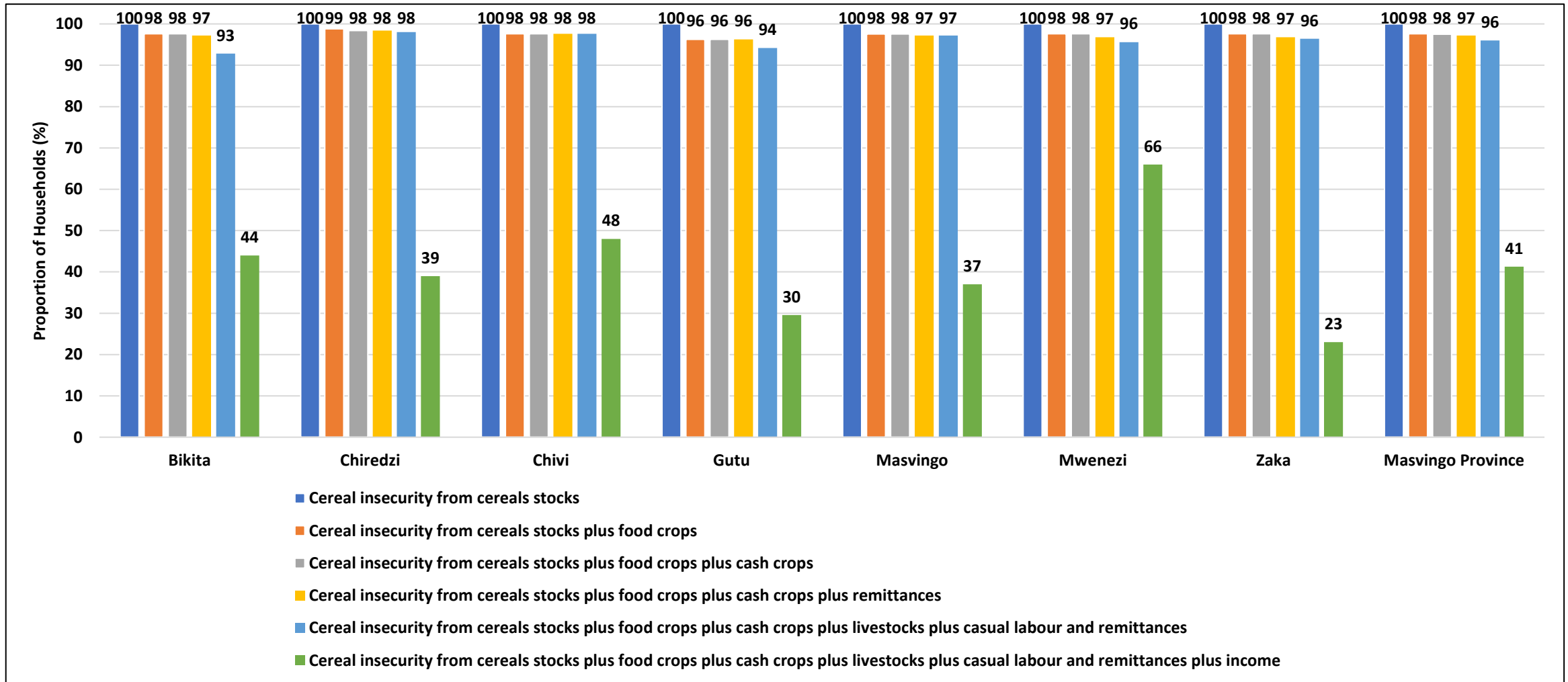
- Each of the surveyed households' potential to acquire minimum expenditure food basket (Figure 3) was computed by estimating the household's likely disposable income (both cash and non cash) in the 2022/23 consumption year from the following possible income sources;
 - Cereal stocks from the previous season;
 - Own food crop production from the 2022/23 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 Food Security Status

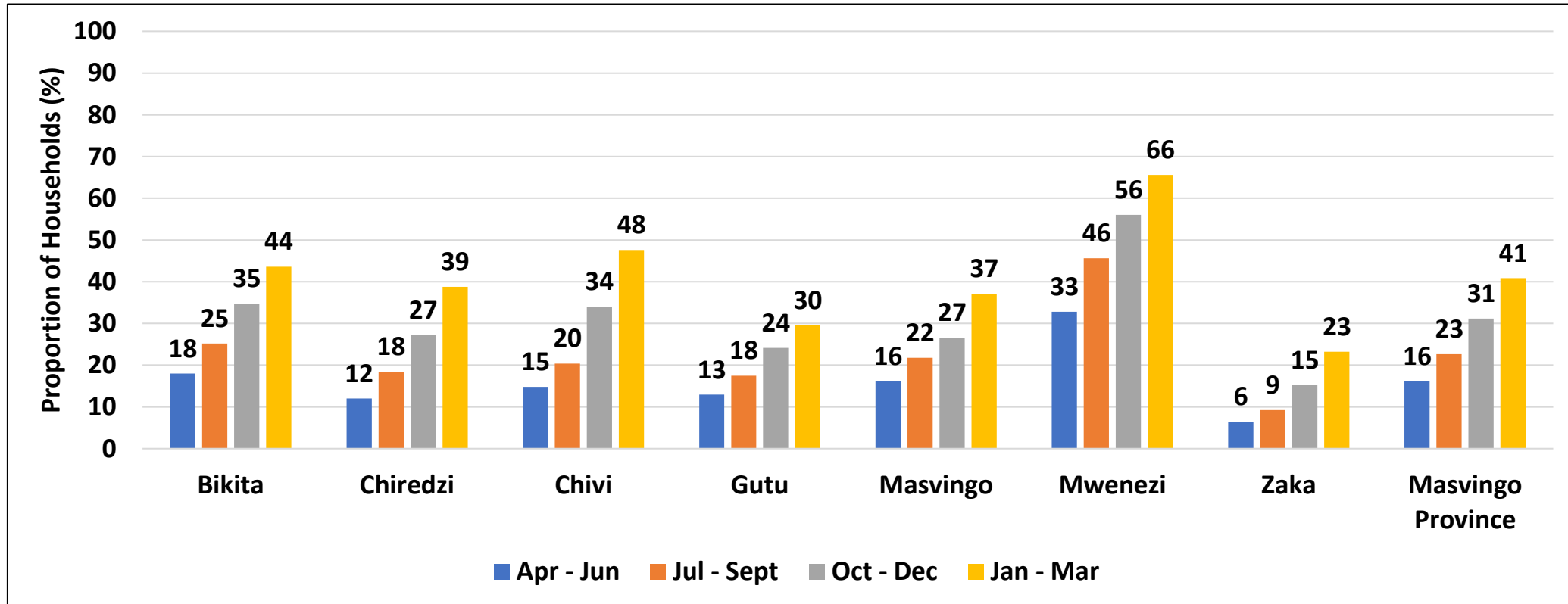
- The total minimum expenditure food basket that could be acquired by the household from the cheapest available sources using its potential disposable income was then computed and compared to the household's minimum expenditure food basket.
- When the total minimum expenditure food basket that a household could acquire was greater than its minimum expenditure food basket 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 total minimum expenditure food basket requirements.

Cereal Insecurity Progression by Income Source



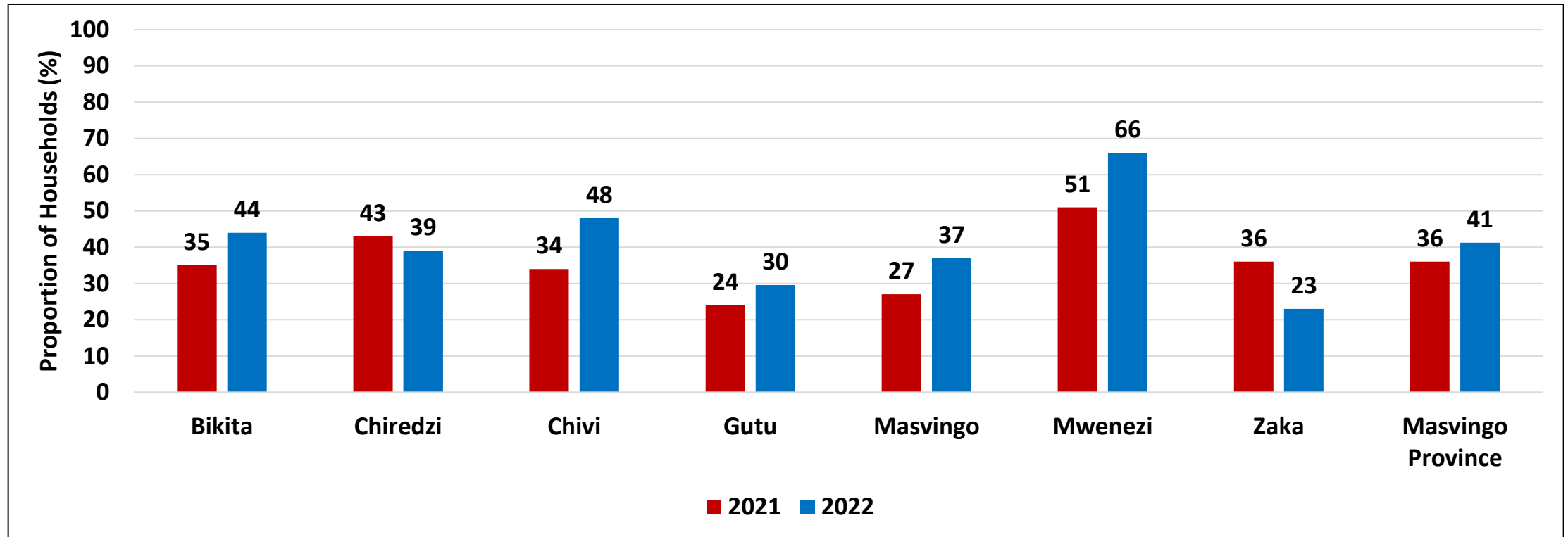
- After factoring in all the possible sources of household income into the food security model, 41% of households were projected to be cereal insecure during peak hunger period.

Cereal Insecurity Progression by Quarter



- About 41% of the households in Masvingo province will be cereal insecure during the peak hunger period.
- Mwenezi (66%) and Chivi (48%) will have the highest proportion of cereal insecure households during the peak hunger period.

Comparison of Cereal Insecurity 2021 and 2022



- The provincial cereal insecurity is projected to be higher from 36% projected in 2021 to 41% during the peak hunger period (January to March 2023).

Cereal Insecure Population and Cereal Requirements by Quarter

District	Food Insecure Population			Cereal Requirements (MT)		
	Jul - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Jul - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar
Bikita	46,097	63,658	79,755	1,706	2,355	2,951
Chiredzi	57,168	84,509	120,550	2,115	3,127	4,460
Chivi	38,166	63,609	89,053	1,412	2,354	3,295
Gutu	40,042	55,296	67,690	1,482	2,046	2,505
Masvingo	51,817	63,332	88,281	1,917	2,343	3,266
Mwenezi	85,796	105,364	123,426	3,174	3,898	4,567
Zaka	18,793	31,049	47,391	695	1,149	1,753
Masvingo Province	348,208	480,226	629,078	12,884	17,768	23,276

- During the peak hunger period (January to March 2023), around **629,078** people will be food insecure and approximately **23,276** MT of cereal will be required for the province.

Gender Based Violence

Forms of Gender Based Violence

	Physical Abuse (%)		Sexual Abuse (%)	
	Yes	Refused to answer	Yes	Refused to answer
Bikita	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chiredzi	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chivi	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gutu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Masvingo	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mwenezi	2.6	0.4	1.7	0.4
Zaka	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Masvingo Province	2.0	0.1	0.2	0.1

- In Masvingo province, 2.0% of the respondents reported having experienced physical abuse while 0.2% reported to have experienced sexual abuse.

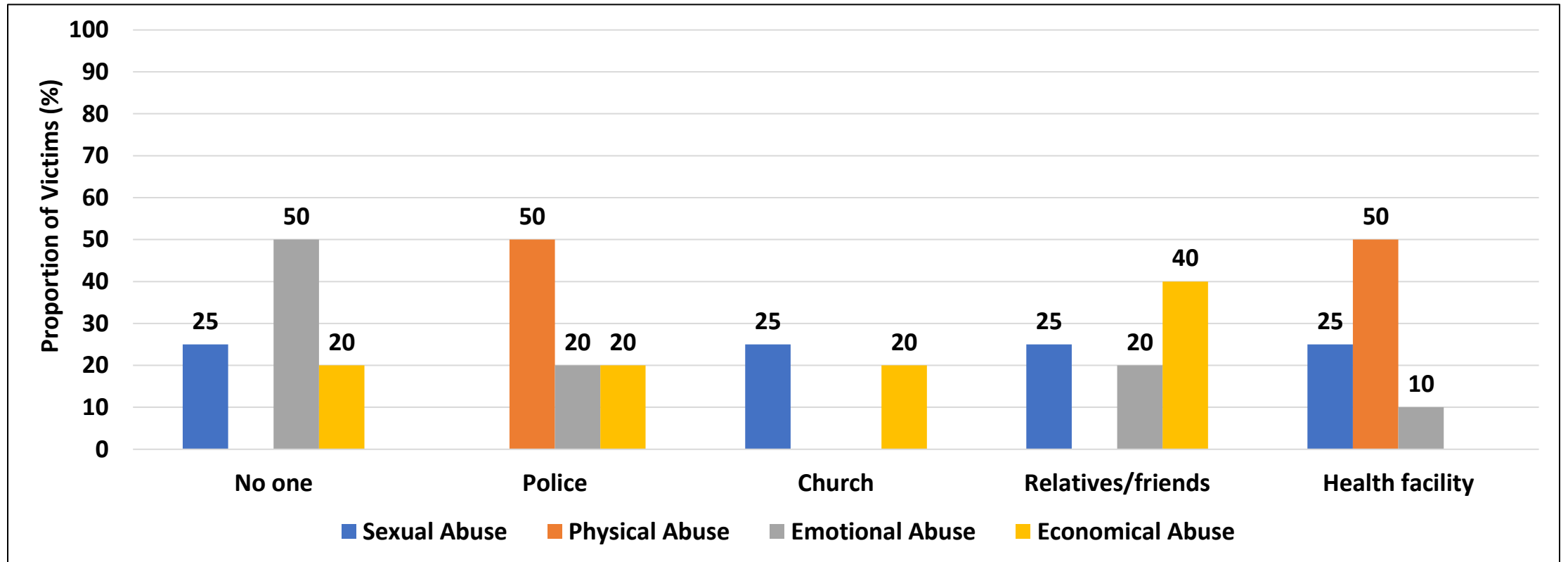
Spousal Violence

Incidence of Spousal Violence

	Sexual Abuse (%)			Physical abuse (%)		Emotional abuse (%)		Economic abuse (%)	
District	N	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Bikita	124	3.2	0	3.2	0	6.5	0	1.6	0
Chiredzi	192	0	0	1.2	2.7	14.8	6.3	4.9	2.7
Chivi	144	0	0	1.2	0	10.8	6.6	2.4	0.0
Gutu	177	0	0	0	0	1.6	1.7	3.2	0.9
Masvingo	161	1.1	0	0	0	4.3	0	2.1	1.5
Mwenezi	131	2.3	4.7	3.4	2.3	2.3	4.7	3.4	2.3
Zaka	161	0	0	1.0	0	12.7	3.4	4.9	0
Masvingo Province	1090	0.9	0.4	1.4	0.8	7.9	3.3	3.3	1.4

- There was high incidence of emotional abuse among spouses, 7.9% for males and 3.3% for females in Masvingo province.

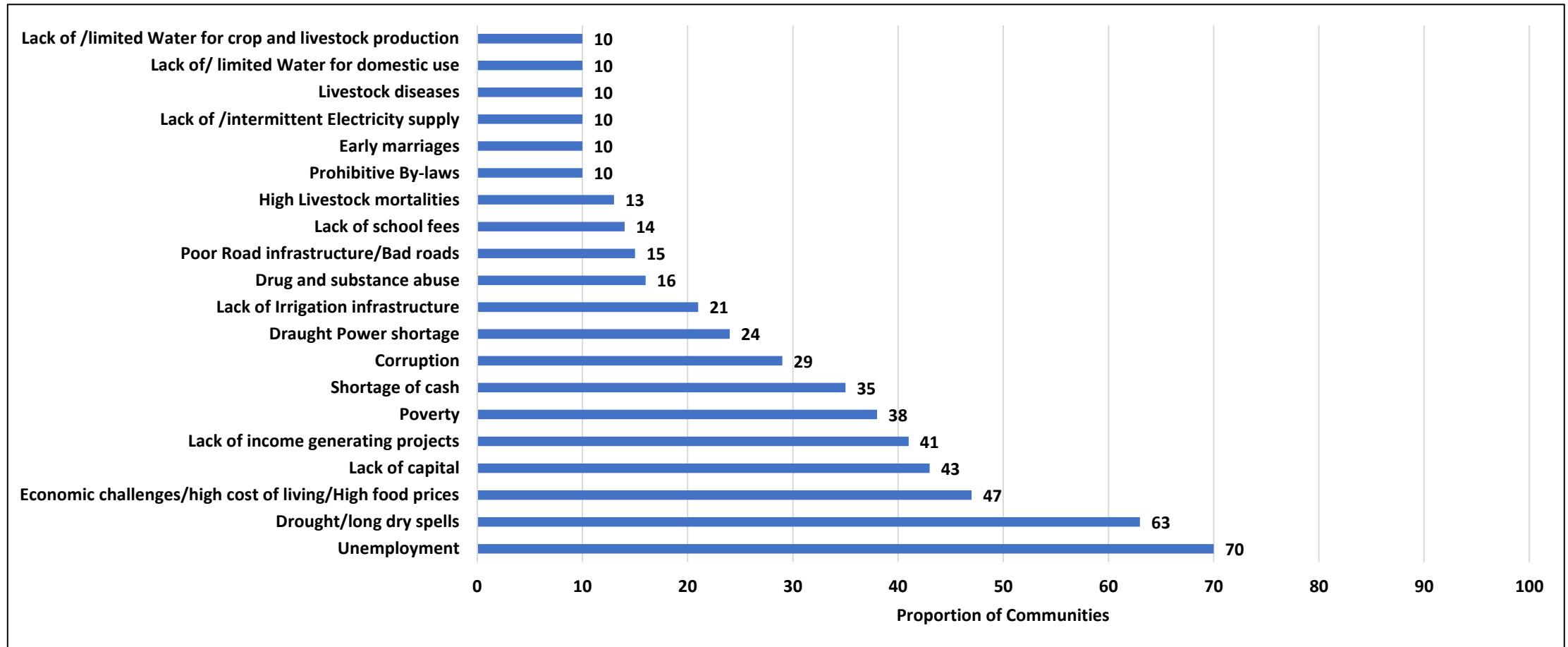
Reported Incidence of Spousal Violence



- In Masvingo province, 25% of the victims of sexual abuse did not report to anyone.
- Half of physical violence cases were reported to the police whilst 50% were reported to health facilities.

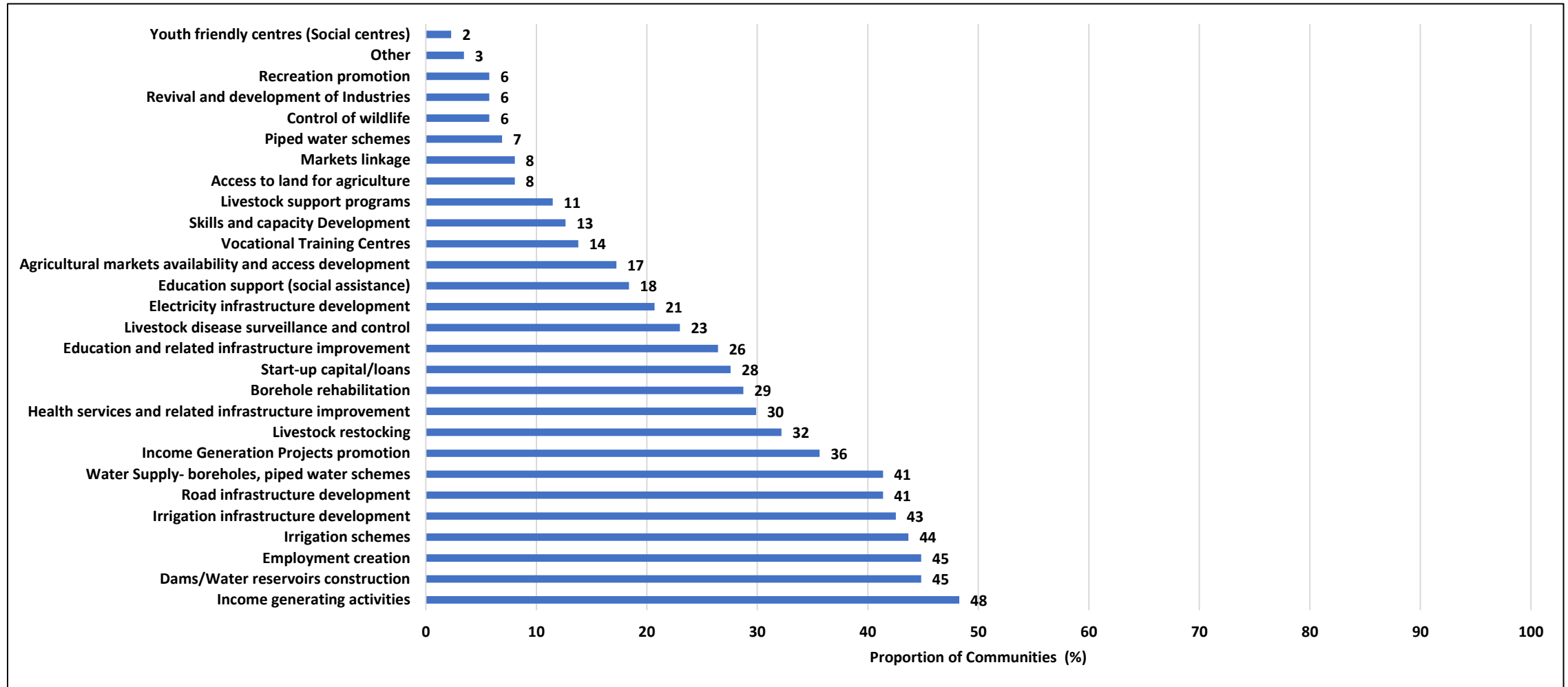
Development Issues

Development Challenges



- The commonly reported development challenges in the province were unemployment, drought and economic challenges at 70%, 63% and 47% respectively.

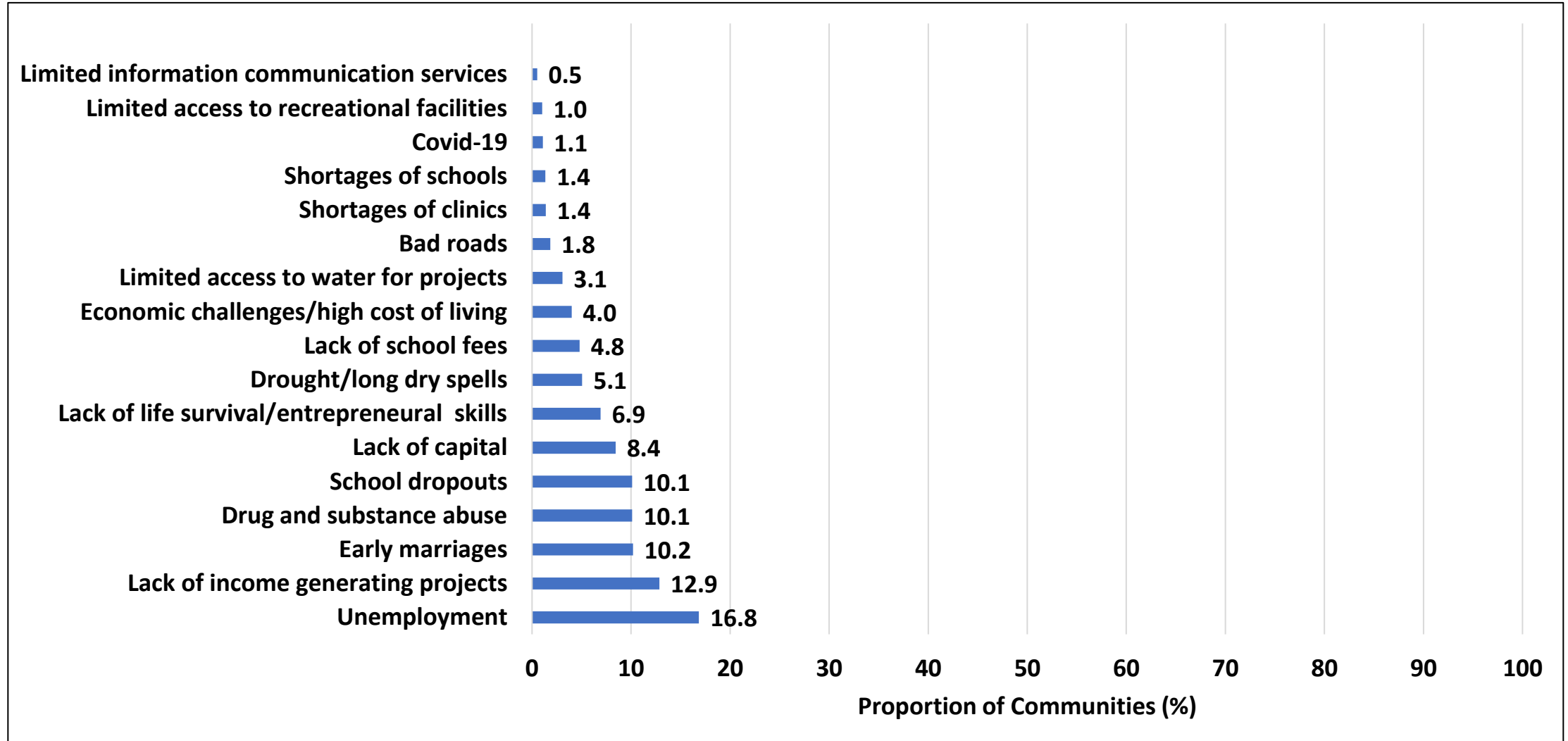
Development Priorities



- Income generating activities (48%), dam infrastructure (45%), employment creation (45%) and irrigation schemes (44%) were key development priorities for the province.
- Livestock disease surveillance and control was also a priority area, pointing to the need to pay attention to initiatives that promote healthy livestock.

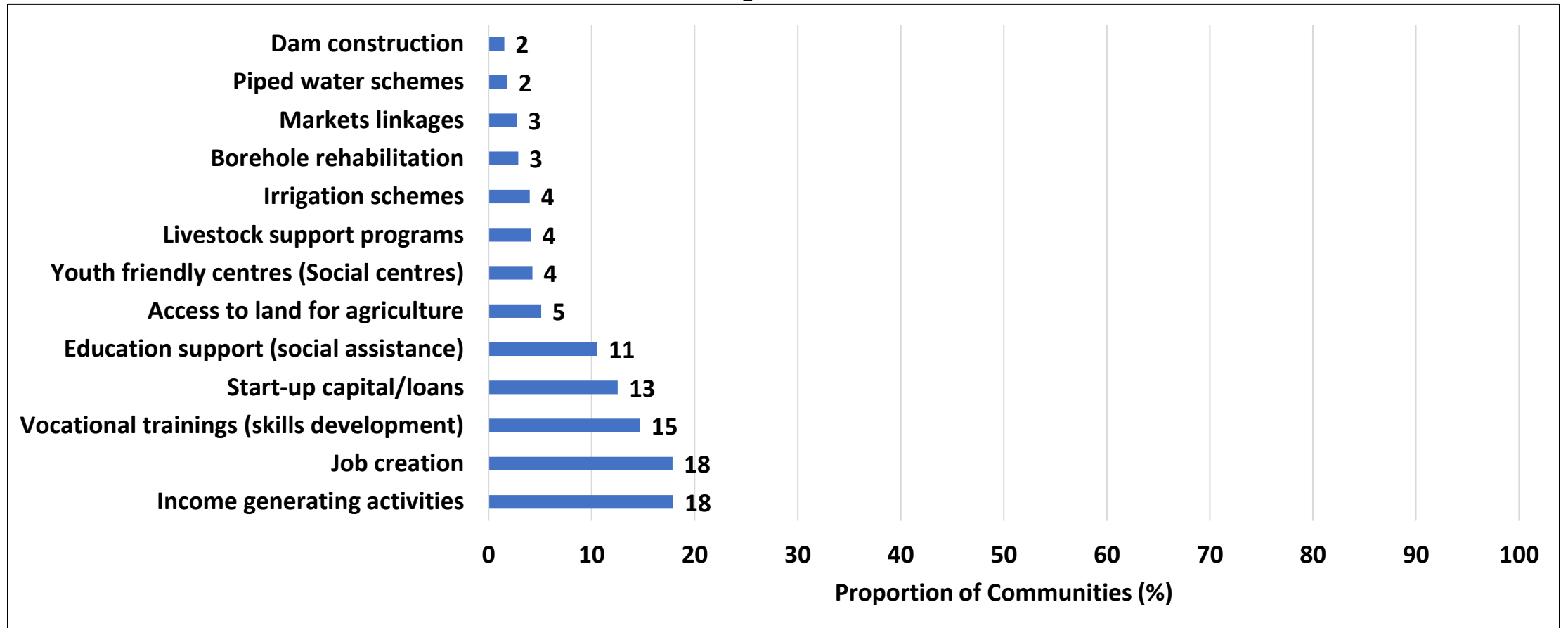
Youth

Youth Development Challenges



- The commonly reported development challenges amongst youths were unemployment at 16.8% and lack of income generating projects at 12.9%.
- School dropouts, drug and substance abuse and early marriages, at 10.2% and 10.1% respectively were also reported as challenges amongst youth.

Youth Development Priorities



- Income generating activities and job creation both at 18% were highlighted as the top most development priorities by youths followed by a need for vocational skills training at 15%.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Provincially 16% of households will be cereal insecure during the period April to June 2022 and 41% will be cereal insecure during the peak hunger period (January to March 2023). Hence there is need to institute measures that cushion the most vulnerable through targeted food assistance by the responsible ministry. The targeted food assistance should be coupled with initiatives that strengthen household resilience.
- Access to improved sanitation for the province was 64%. Chiredzi (42%) followed by Masvingo and Mwenezi (41%) had the highest proportion of households practising open defecation. Government and development partners need to scale-up interventions that increase the availability of latrines and their use since this poses a huge health risk.
- In the province the proportion of households using unimproved water sources was 31%. Masvingo and Zaka (38%) had the highest proportion of households using unimproved water sources. Government and development partners should prioritize the establishment and rehabilitation of water sources that are safe for cooking and drinking for communities using unimproved water sources since this poses a huge health risk.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- The provincial stunting prevalence for Masvingo was 22.9% and is categorized as high according to WHO. GAM (4%) was below the 5% WHO threshold for public health emergency. However, Mwenezi (8%) and Masvingo (5%) were within the medium range according to WHO cut off for public health emergency. There is need by the Ministry of Health and Child Care to scale up detection, prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition in the short and medium term whilst increasing coverage of nutrition sensitive programmes.
- At least 36% of the households reported accessing police services within an hour and 50% reported accessing victim friendly services. Furthermore approximately 15% of the households travel over 10km to access a health facility. There is need to improve access to Police and Health Facilities.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- The uptake of value chain practices was low in the province. On average, 26% accessed agriculture inputs through agrodealers, 13% received market prices, product demand or product quality requirements. Only 6% made use of organized marketing systems and 2% used organized marketing. This points towards the need by the Government and development partners to continue promoting good value chain practices for increased productivity and sustainable development.
- The commonly reported development challenges were unemployment at 16.8% and lack of income generating projects at 12.9%. School dropouts, drug and substance abuse and early marriages, are also key challenges all at 10.1% and 10.2% respectively. There is need for youth focused activities or initiatives to promote youth education, entrepreneurship and employment.
- There were high incidence of emotional abuse among spouses, 7.9% for males and 3.3% for females in Masvingo province. There is need for continued programming in GBV awareness and support services for victims and training for support workers.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- The commonly reported development challenges by the communities were unemployment (70%), economic challenges (high cost of living) (63%) and drought (47%). On the other hand, income generating activities (48%), construction of water reservoirs (45%), irrigation schemes (43%) and employment creation (43%) were the key development priorities for the province. Government and its partners should prioritize programming and initiatives in income generating activities, livestock production, dam infrastructure, irrigation schemes and employment creation.
- The majority of households in the province experienced economic and climatic related shocks and exposure to shocks is higher than the ability to cope. There is need to scale up resilience building initiatives to increase the capacity of households and communities to withstand the effects of shocks and stresses.

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District	Name	Surname	Responsibility	Organisation/ Ministry
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Mwenezi	Innocent	Mtimukulu	Anthropometrist	MoHCC
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