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

ZimVAC is coordinated by the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) housed at SIRDC: 1574 Alpes Road, Hatcliffe Harare.
Tel: +263-4-883405, 860 320-9. www.fnc.org.zw

ZIMBABWE
Vulnerability
Assessment Committee

FOREWORD

The Food and Nutrition Council successfully carried out the 6th Urban Livelihoods Assessment (ULA) in January 2018. The Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) acts as a technical advisory committee, with representatives from Government, Development Partners, UN, NGOs and Academia to assist the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) in designing and implementing the national food and nutrition security information system.

This report covers and provides updates on pertinent urban household livelihoods issues such as demographics, housing, education, water, sanitation, energy, social protection, food consumption patterns, food and income sources, income levels, expenditure patterns, debts, coping strategies and food security. Our sincere hope is that this report will give both Government and Development Partners the much needed empirical evidence for planning, programming and decision making which in turn will result in targeted community interventions.

We want to express our profound gratitude to ZimVAC for successfully conducting this survey. In the same spirit the active role played by the food and nutrition security structures at both provincial and district levels is greatly appreciated.

George D. Kembo
Director Food and Nutrition Council

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- The ZimVAC acts as a technical advisory committee, with representatives from Government, Development Partners, UN, NGOs and Academia to assist FNC in designing and implementing the national food and nutrition security information system.
- ZimVAC was established in 2002 and 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 and nutrition security challenges with the vision of ensuring that every Zimbabwean is free from hunger and malnutrition.
- ZimVAC undertakes Urban Livelihoods Assessments to generate information to be used for policy formulation and programming by Government and its Development Partners.
- ZimVAC supports Government, particularly the FNC in:
  - Convening and coordinating stakeholders on national food and nutrition security issues in Zimbabwe
  - Charting a practical way forward for fulfilling legal and existing policy commitments in food and nutrition security
  - Advising Government on strategic directions in food and nutrition security
  - Undertaking a "watchdog role" and supporting and facilitating action to ensure commitments in food and nutrition are kept on track by different sectors through a number of core functions such as:
    - Undertaking food and nutrition assessments, analysis and research,
    - Promoting multi-sectoral and innovative approaches for addressing food and nutrition insecurity, and:
    - Supporting and building national capacity for food and nutrition security including at sub-national levels.
- To date, ZimVAC has conducted six urban livelihoods assessments since its inception, the 2018 Urban Livelihoods Assessment being the sixth urban assessment

- The Government's commitment to addressing food and nutrition security challenges amongst the Zimbabwean population is evident in the high prioritisation of food and nutrition security in the current national economic blue print; the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (ZIMASSET).

- The 2018 ULA took place when the economy was experiencing a renewed hope and confidence ushered in by the new political dispensation.

- The GDP growth forecast for 2017 was at 3.6% and is expected to increase to 4.4% in 2018 (MoF Macro-economics Frame work, 2018).

- 2018 has experienced the spill over effects on demand for Zimbabwean commodities and hence increased economic activity in the domestic economy (Monetary Policy Statement, 2018).

- The country has experienced a positive inflation rate trajectory with a move from a deflationary environment of -0.7% in January 2017 to an inflationary one of 3.5% in December 2017 (ZimSTAT, 2018).

- Besides the positives noted above, the economy has its own challenges such as the liquidity which is manifesting through a number of banks running out of cash and imposing stringent daily withdrawal limits.

- In addition to the economic challenges bedevilling the country, Zimbabwe was hit by a prolonged dry spell during the first half of the 2017/18 rainfall and agricultural season that resulted in severe moisture stress for most crops. In some parts of the country some early crops have been written-off. This is likely to reduce agriculture production across major crops, thereby negatively affecting the food and nutrition security situation in the country.

- The assessment aimed to update information on Zimbabwe's urban livelihoods, which was last updated in 2016, with a particular focus on urban households' food and nutrition security challenges.

- In the process, the assessment also identified constraints to improving community resilience and urban livelihoods including opportunities and pathways of addressing them.

Specific Objectives

- To determine the prevalence of food insecurity and its severity amongst urban households.

- To describe the socio-economic profiles of urban households in terms of demographics, access to basic services (education, health services and water and sanitation facilities), assets, income sources, incomes and expenditure patterns, food consumption patterns and coping strategies; and

- To identify shocks and challenges to food security in urban areas.

TECHNICAL SCOPE

The 2018 Urban Livelihoods Assessment collected and analysed information on the following thematic areas:

- Household demographics and housing characteristics

- Social protection

- Education

- Food consumption patterns and dietary diversity

- Income and expenditure patterns and levels

- Livelihoods coping Strategies

- Loans and debts

- Health and nutrition

- Water, sanitation and energy

- Food security situation

- Shocks and challenges

Assessment Methodology

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- The assessment design was informed by the multi-sectoral objectives generated by a multi-stakeholder consultation process.

- An appropriate survey design and protocol, informed by the survey objectives, was developed.

- The assessment used electronic android tablets as the primary data collection instrument.

- ZimVAC national supervisors (Provincial Nutritionists included) and enumerators were recruited from Government Ministries/departments, United Nations and Non-Governmental Organisations and underwent training in all aspects of the assessment (background, data collection tools, assessment sampling strategy and assessment supervision).

- The Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing coordinated the recruitment of enumerators and mobilisation of vehicles. Enumeration teams comprised of officers from Government and local NGOs. Each enumeration team had at least 4 enumerators who underwent a 3 day standardisation training.

- Primary data collection took place from 15 January to 10 February 2018.

- Data analysis and report writing ran from 12 February to 17 February 2018.

- Other relevant secondary data sources were used to contextualise the analysis and reporting.

- The sample design was such that key livelihood indicators, particularly food insecurity prevalence, could be reported at domain level (32 domains) with at least 95% confidence.

- The reporting domains were made up of cities, towns, service centres and growth points.

- Food insecurity prevalence, as the chosen key indicator for the survey, informed the sample design as well as the sample size.

- The 2012 ZimSTAT master sampling frame was used to draw 30 enumeration areas (EAs) for each domain using Probability Proportional to Population Size (PPS) method.

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

- A total of 5 783 households were interviewed

- NB: Harare, Bulawayo and Chitungwiza are reported as Domains and not Provinces

Province	Urban areas	Number of Interviewed Households
Bulawayo	Bulawayo	220
Manicaland	Mutare , Rusape, Chipinge	635
Mashonaland Central	Bindura, Mvurwi	443
Mashonaland East	Marondera, Goromonzi	116
Mashonaland West	Chinhoyi, Kadoma, Chegutu, Kariba, Norton, Karoi	1 035
Matabeleland North	Hwange, Victoria Falls	313
Matabeleland South	Gwanda , Beitbridge, Plumtree	531
Midlands	Gweru, Kwekwe, Redcliff, Zvishavane , Gokwe, Shurugwi,	1 217
Masvingo	Masvingo, Chiredzi,	432
Harare	Harare , Epworth, Chitungwiza	841
Total		5 783

Households	Total Households (2018) N=5 783	Proportion (%)	
		2016	2018
Male Headed	4 073	69	71
Female Headed	1 662	31	29
Child Headed	23	0.2	0.4
Elderly Headed	711	11.9	12.3
Presence of at least one orphan	1 561	13.9	24.1
Presence of chronically ill person	675	1	10.4
Presence of mentally/physically ill	262	1.7	4

- About 71% of the households were male headed whilst 29% were female headed.
- Child headed households were 0.4% in 2018, an increase from 0.2% in 2016.
- There was an increase in the proportion of households with at least one chronically ill person from 1% in 2016 to 10.4% in 2018.

CHILD HEADED HOUSEHOLDS
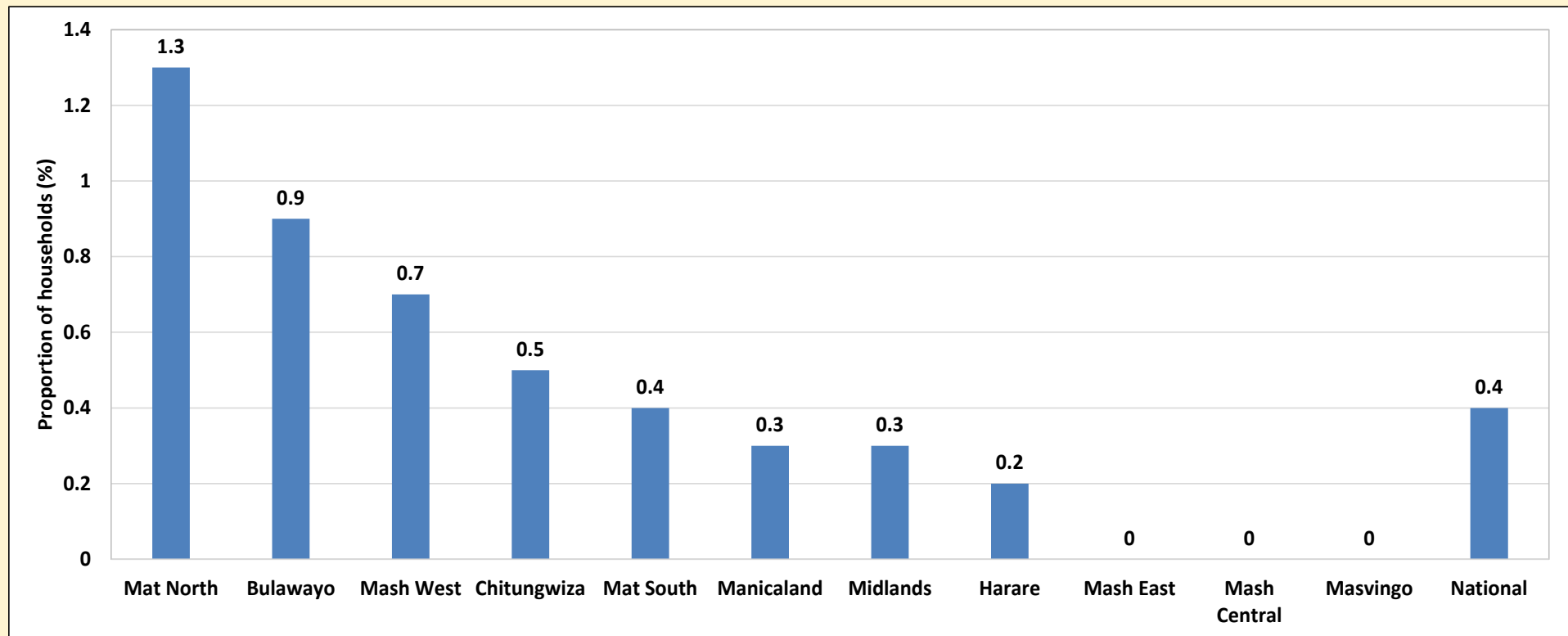
- Matabeleland North (1.3%) had the highest proportion of child headed households, followed by Bulawayo (0.9%).

Bar chart: Proportion of households (%)

Region	Proportion of households (%)
Bulawayo	22
Mash East	16
Harare	14
Manicaland	13
Midlands	13
Chitungwiza	13
Mash West	12
Mash Central	11
Mat South	10
Masvingo	9
Mat North	6
National	12

- Nationally, 12 % of the households were elderly headed.
- Bulawayo (22%) had the highest proportion of elderly headed households and Matabeleland North (6%) had the least.

HOUSEHOLDS WITH AT LEAST ONE ORPHAN
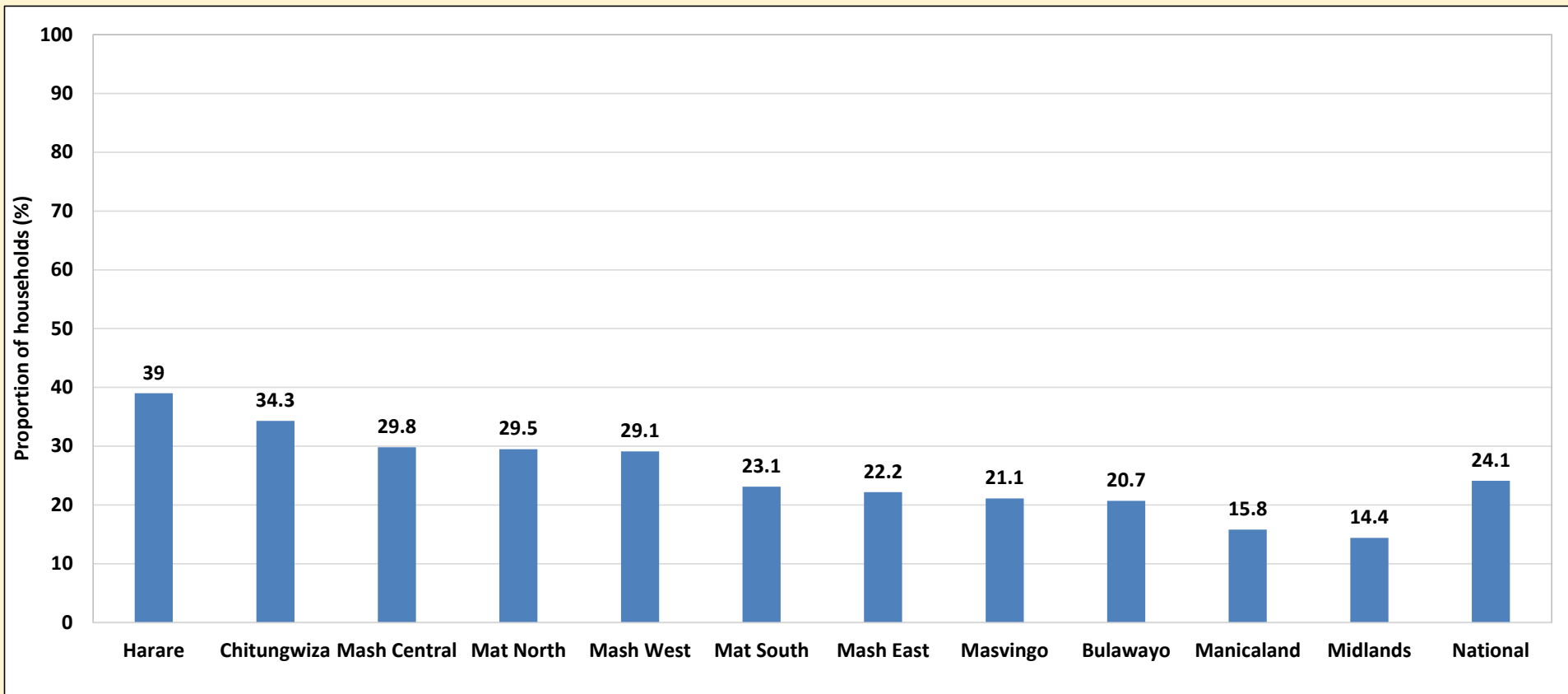
- About 24% of the households had at lease one orphan.
- Harare (39%) recorded the highest proportion of households with at least one orphan and Midlands (14.4%) recorded the least.

Bar chart: Proportion of households (%) with chronically ill members, 2016 and 2018, by region.

Region	2016	2018
Bulawayo	1.7	13.3
Mash East	2	12.7
Manicaland	0.8	11.4
Midlands	1.1	11.3
Harare	0.4	11.1
Mash West	0.6	10.8
Chitungwiza	0.9	10.3
Mat South	1.2	9.2
Mat North	0.5	7.8
Mash Central	0.9	7.2
Masvingo	1	7.2
National	1	10.4
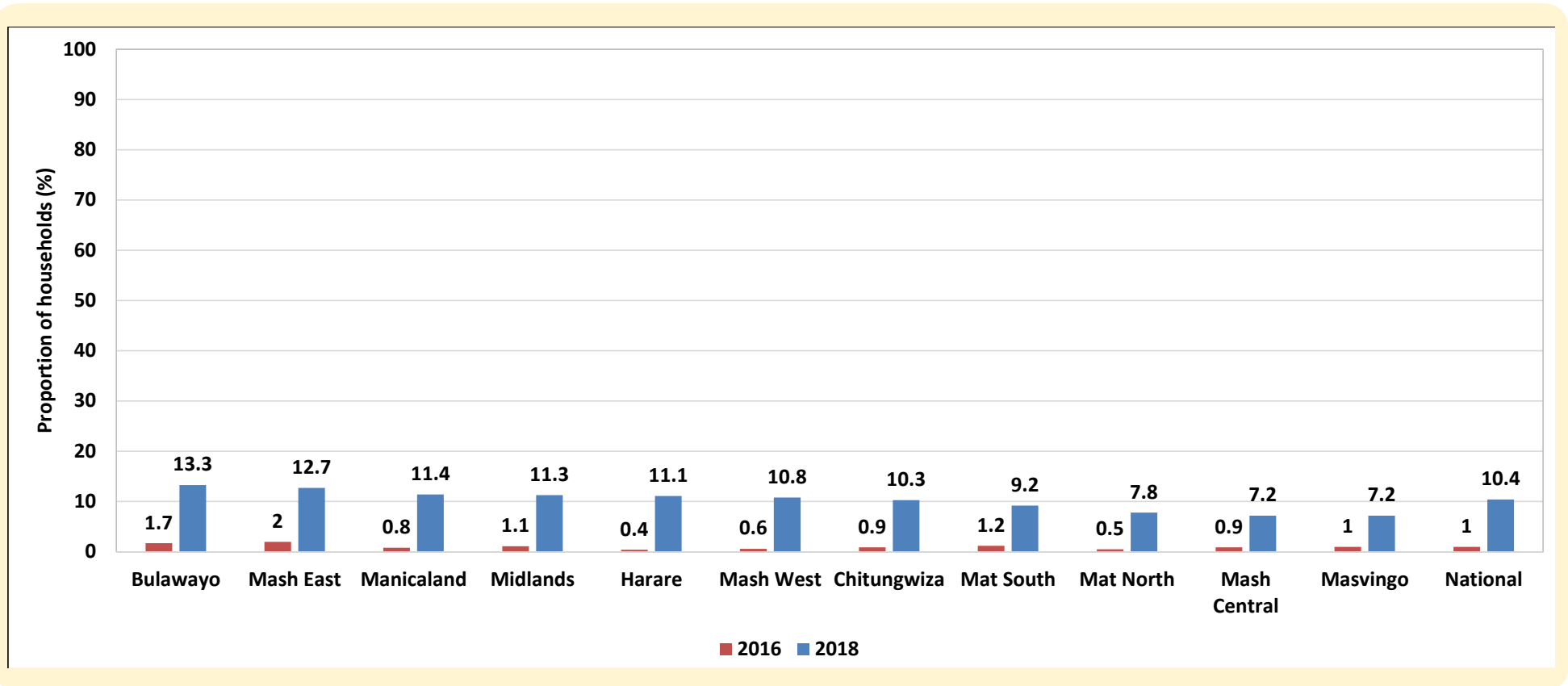
- Nationally, there was an increase in the proportion of households with a chronically ill member from 1% in 2016 to 10.4% in 2018.
- Bulawayo (13.3%) and Mashonaland East (12.7%) recorded the highest proportion of households with chronically ill members.

MENTAL/PHYSICAL CHALLENGES

Proportion of households (%) by region, 2016 and 2018:

Region	2016	2018
Chitungwiza	2.4	5.6
Manicaland	1.8	5.2
Mash East	1.9	4.8
Mash Central	1.5	4.4
Midlands	1.9	4
Mash West	1.4	4
Mat North	1.5	3.8
Bulawayo	1.6	3.7
Mat South	1.6	3.2
Masvingo	2.3	2.7
Harare	1.1	2.6
National	1.7	4
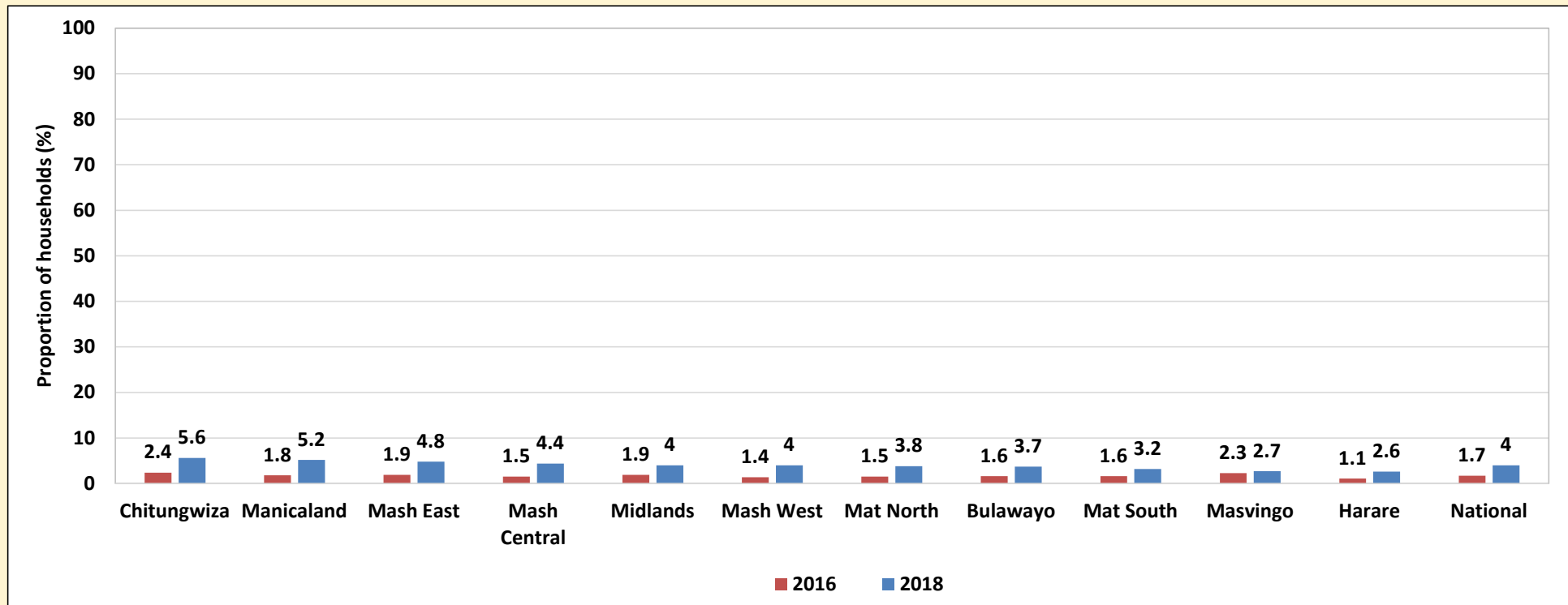
- Nationally, 4% of the households had mentally/physically challenged members.
- There was an increase in the proportion of households with mentally/physically challenged members comparing 2016 (1.7%) and 2018 (4%).
- Chitungwiza (5.6%) recorded the highest proportion of households with mentally/physically challenged members and the least was in Harare (2.6%).

	None %	Primary Level %	'O' level %	'A' level and above %
Masvingo	0.7	18.4	47.6	33.3
Bulawayo	0.9	33	39	27.1
Mash East	2.6	22.4	57.8	17.2
Manicaland	3.2	26.3	48.7	21.8
Mat South	3.3	24.3	48.9	23.5
Mash Central	3.9	19.3	57	19.8
Chitungwiza	4	16.7	62.6	16.7
Midlands	4.1	22.1	52.8	21
Mat North	4.2	25.9	48.2	21.7
Harare	5.3	18.6	56.4	19.7
Mash West	5.6	21.2	56.2	17
National	3.9	22.6	52.7	20.8

- About 52.7% of the household heads completed O' level as the highest level of education at national level and 3.9% had not completed any level of education.
- Chitungwiza (62.6%) recorded the highest proportion of household heads who had completed 'O' Level education.
- About 21% of the household heads had completed 'A' level and above.

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE HOUSEHOLD HEADS
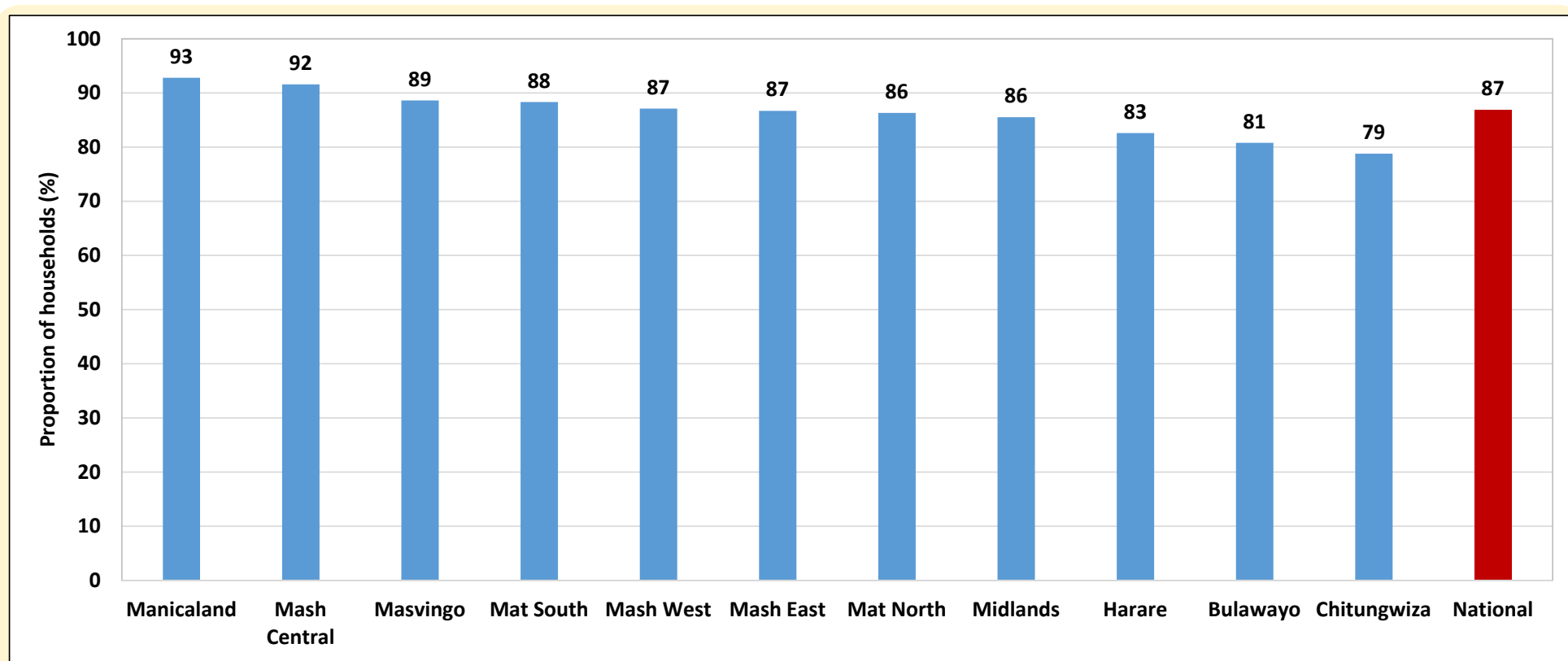
- Nationally, 87% of the household heads were economically active.
- Manicaland (93%) recorded the highest proportion of household heads who were economically active and Chitungwiza (79%) recorded the lowest.
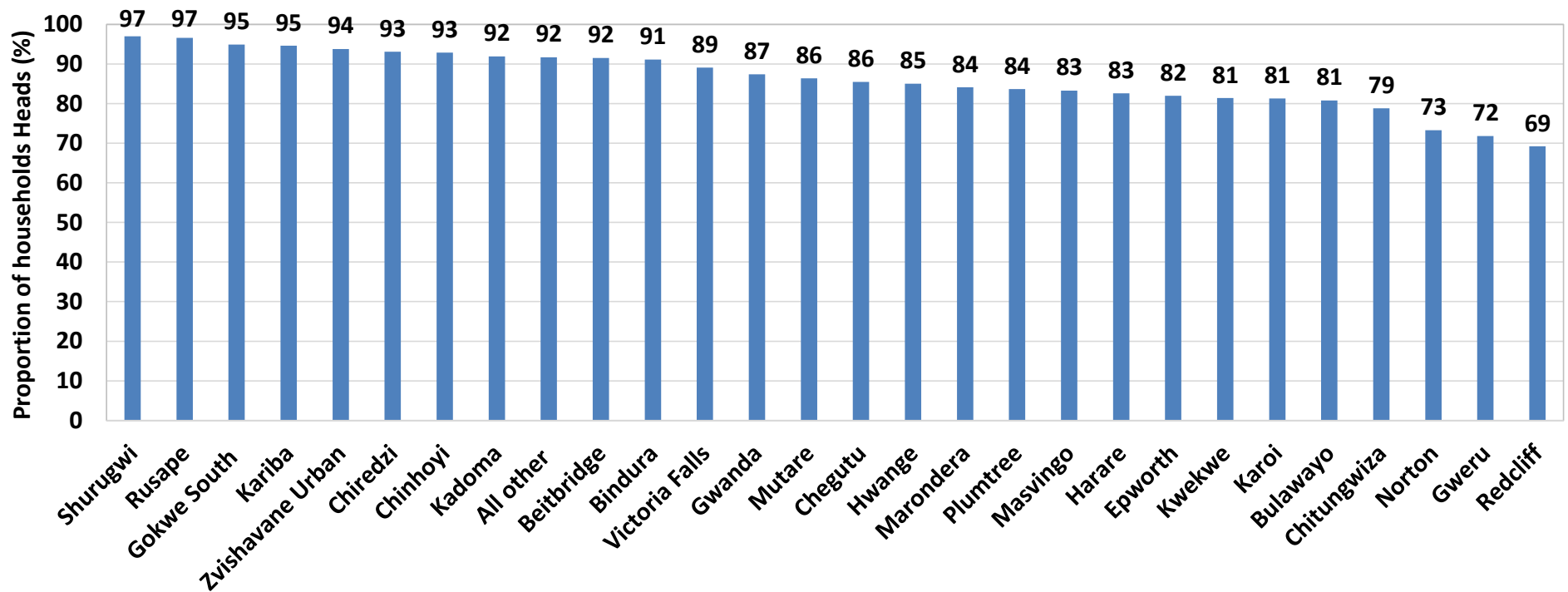
- Shurugwi and Rusape (97%) had the highest proportion of households with household heads who were economically active.
- Redcliffe (69%) had the lowest.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY BY AGE GROUP
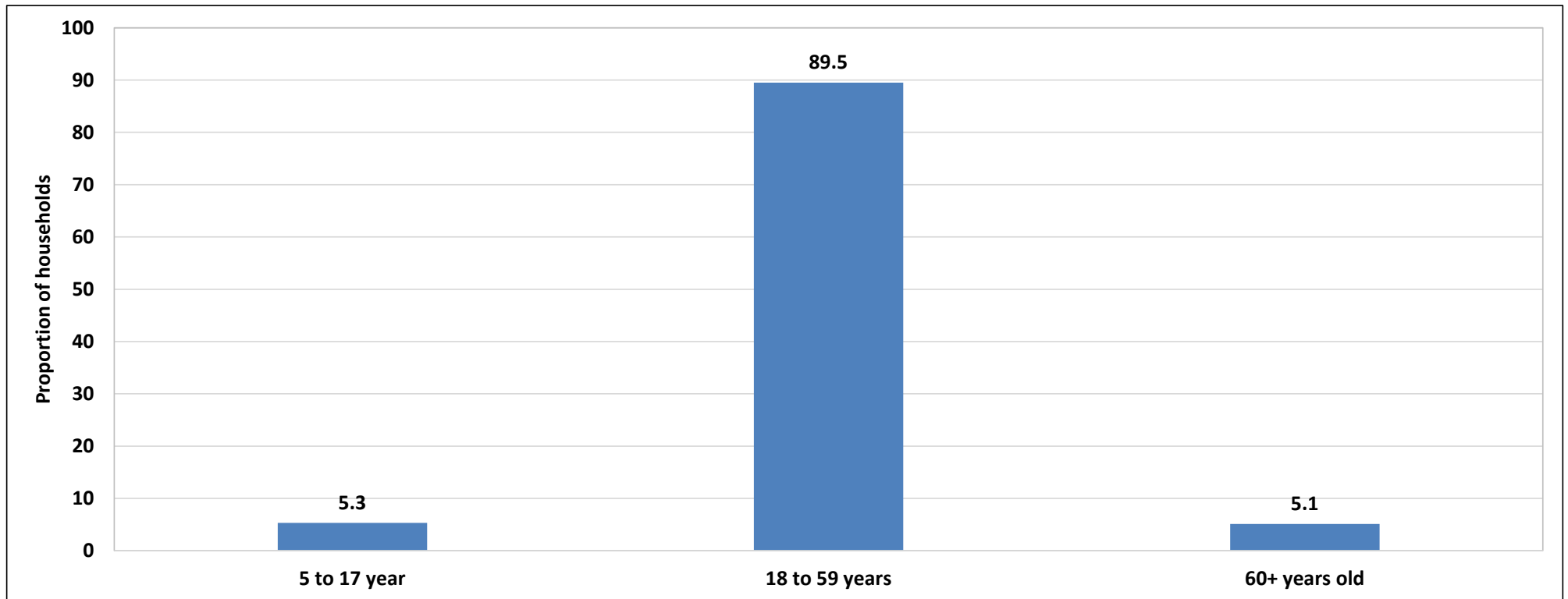
- At national level, 89.5% of household members in the 18 to 59 years age category were economically active.
- About 5.3% of the children aged 5 to 17 years were economically active.

Notes:

- **Rooms occupied:** Refers to enclosed areas within a dwelling which are used by a household for all year-round living. The number of rooms occupied for dwelling excludes bathrooms, toilets, vestibules and rooms used solely for business purposes. Partially divided rooms are considered to be separate rooms if they are considered as such by the respondent.
- **Dwelling:** A set of living quarters.
- **Bedrooms:** Refers to rooms in a private dwelling that are used for sleeping purposes. It also includes rooms designed for other uses during the day such as dining rooms and living rooms. Also included are rooms currently used as bedrooms, even if they were not originally built as bedrooms.

Province	Tenure Status of the Household				
	Owner/purchaser with title %	Owner/purchaser with no title %	Tenant/ lodger %	Tied accommodation %	Other %
Bulawayo	46	3	36	6	9
Manicaland	28	11	54	5	2
Mash Central	27	11	51	6	5
Mash East	34	12	48		6
Mash West	25	13	49	5	7
Mat North	22	4	33	14	26
Mat South	25	5	54	11	5
Midlands	26	10	51	10	3
Masvingo	20	7	62	6	5
Harare	20	28	41	4	7
National	25	12	49	7	6

- Nationally, 49% of households were tenants/lodgers.
- Of the 37% of urban households which owned dwellings, 25% had title deeds.
- The highest proportion of owners with title deeds was in Bulawayo (46%).
- Masvingo had the highest proportion of households that were tenants/lodgers (62%), followed by Manicaland and Matabeleland South (54%).
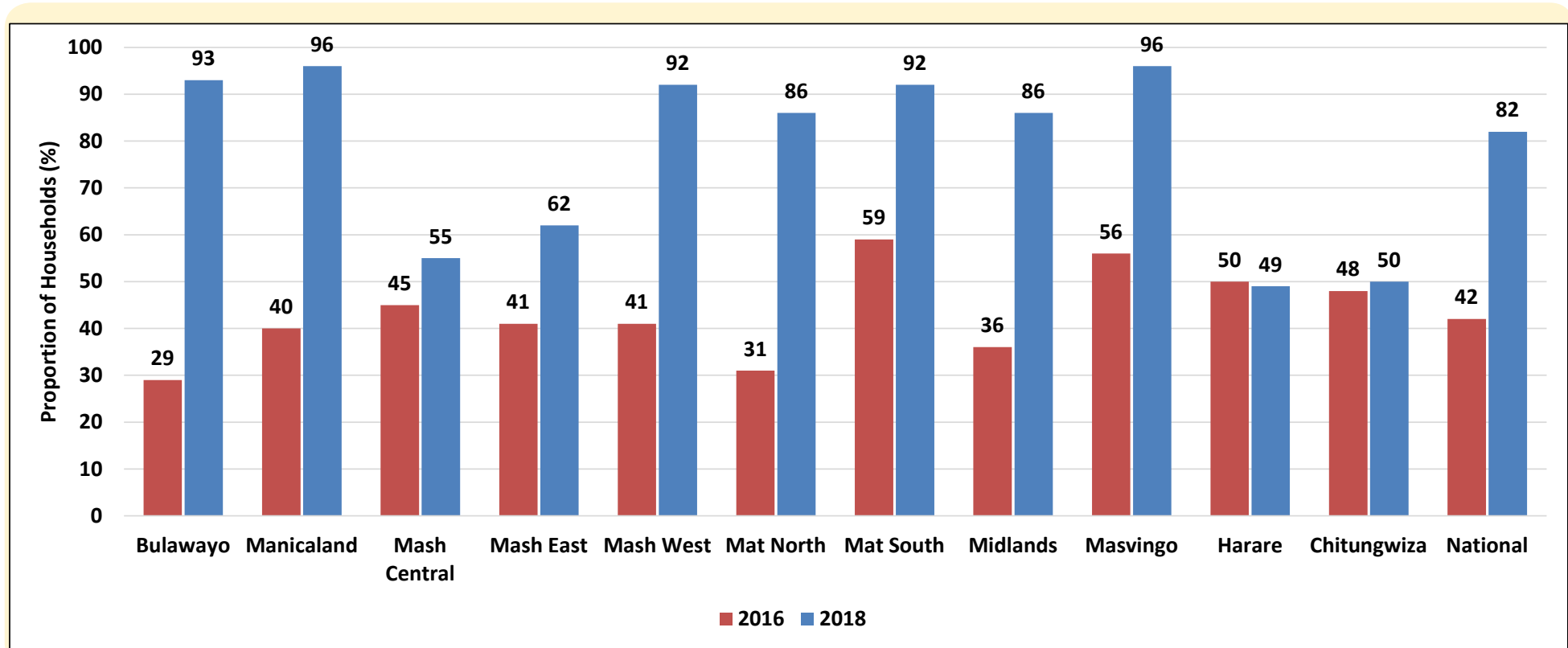
- The proportion of households sharing dwellings increased from 42% in 2016 to 82% in 2018 nationally.
- Bulawayo recorded the highest increase from 29% in 2016 to 93% in 2018.
- The average number of households per dwelling was 3.
- On average, the number of rooms used by urban households ranged from 3-4, with 2 of the rooms used as bedrooms.

Type of Dwellings by Province (Proportion of households %)

Province	Traditional	Mixed	Detached	Semi-detached	Flat/Town House	Other
Bulawayo			68.5	29.2	2.2	
Manicaland		0.3	50.5	18.7	28.3	
Mash Central	8.8	5.0	65.3	11.8	9.2	
Mash East		6.5	44.2	44.2	5.2	
Mash West		0.2	57.3	35.4	4.1	2.7
Mat North		1.0	49.5	40.5		0.5
Mat South		0.0	77.5	13.8	5.6	
Midlands			57.0	31.0	9.7	
Masvingo		0.8	51.4	17.4	18.2	4.6
Chitungwiza			85.3	13.8		
Harare		0.5	70.2	25.6	1.6	
National	1.1		59.5	26.1	9.4	

- About 60% of urban dwellings were detached houses, 26% semi-detached and 9% were flats or townhouses.
- Matabeleland South (77.5%) had the highest proportion of detached dwellings while Mashonaland East (44.2%) had the highest proportion of semi-detached dwellings
- The highest proportion of households using temporary dwellings (tents, plastic or wooden structures) was in Masvingo (4.6%) and Mashonaland West (2.7%).

	Type of fuel/energy used by households for cooking				
	Electricity %	Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) %	Kerosene/paraffin %	Wood %	Other %
Bulawayo	80.5	12.8	1.3	4.0	1.3
Manicaland	59.6	6.9	1.2	28.7	3.5
Mash Central	63.7	6.5	0.2	26.3	3.1
Mash East	48.8	24.8	0.8	19.2	6.4
Mash West	58.2	8.9	1.2	30.8	0.9
Mat North	79.9	1.2	0.3	12.7	5.6
Mat South	63.7	7.6	1.4	25.5	1.6
Midlands	59.7	4.0	0.9	34.1	1.3
Masvingo	73.6	1.7	0.6	21.3	2.5
Chitungwiza	65.3	27.5	5.0	2.3	0.0
Harare	40.7	25.8	8.2	19.8	5.6
National	60.1	9.2	2.0	25.9	2.7

- About 60.1% of urban households used electricity for cooking, 9.2% used Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG), while 25.9% used wood.
- Bulawayo (80.5%) had the highest proportion of households using electricity for cooking, while Harare had the least proportion (40.7%).
- The highest proportion of households using LPG was in Chitungwiza (27.5%) and Harare (25.8%).
- Midlands had the highest proportion of households using wood for cooking (34%).

- The proportion of urban households using electricity for cooking increased from 57% in 2016 to 60% in 2018.
- The proportion of households using LPG increased from 6% (2016) to 9% (2018) during the same period, while the proportion using wood decreased from 30% (2016) to 26% (2018).

- The majority of households across domains had local vendors as a source where they purchased electricity (83%).

Proportion of households (%) — stacked bar chart by district showing source of LPG gas purchase: Local vendors/shops, Distant vendors/sources, Other.

District	Local vendors/shops	Distant vendors/sources	Other
Bulawayo	97	0	
Chipinge	100		
Mutare	60	40	0
Rusape	88	8	4
Mvurwi	100	0	
Bindura	95	0	
Goromonzi	100	0	
Marondera	94	0	
Chinhoyi	100	0	
Kadoma	100	0	
Chegutu	100	0	
Kariba	100	0	
Norton	100	0	
Karoi	100	0	
Victoria Falls	50	0	
Gwanda	92	0	
Beitbridge	100	0	
Plumtree	95	5	
Gweru	100	0	
Kwekwe	57	14	
Redcliffe	100	0	
Zvishavane	80	20	
Shurugwi	83	13	
Gokwe South	100	0	
Masvingo	75	0	
Chiredzi	100	0	
Harare	100	0	
Chitungwiza	100	0	
Epworth	98	0	
Other Urban	75	0	
National	95	1	

Legend: ■ Local vendors/shops ■ Distant vendors/sources ■ Other

- Nationally, local vendors (95%) were the main source where households purchased LPG gas for cooking.

	Source of Energy for lighting					
	Electricity %	Solar %	Candle %	Kerosene/Paraffin %	LPG and Generator %	Wood/Saw dust %
Bulawayo	93.4	2.2	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Manicaland	83.4	4.3	5.5	1.7	1.1	4.0
Mash Central	85.3	5.1	4.7	0.5	2.0	2.5
Mash East	87.2	4.8	5.6	0.0	0.8	1.6
Mash West	88.1	3.4	4.6	0.7	0.5	2.9
Mat North	88.0	3.1	5.3	1.5	0.6	1.5
Mat South	75.0	7.4	11.9	0.4	0.0	5.4
Midlands	84.1	3.7	4.9	0.5	0.3	6.5
Masvingo	87.0	3.5	6.8	0.0	0.8	1.9
Harare	37.8	23.9	22.8	7.5	0.3	7.8
Chitungwiza	91.4	4.1	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
National	80.1	6.2	7.6	1.4	0.6	4.1

- Nationally, 80.1% of the households were using electricity for lighting.

Source of energy for lighting – electricity by district

Y-axis: Proportion of households (%)

Legend: Local vendors/shops, Distant vendors/sources, Other

District	Local vendors/shops	Distant vendors/sources	Other
Bulawayo	99.5	0.5	
Chipinge	99.0	1.0	
Mutare	69.1	17.0	
Rusape	54.0		32.4
Mvurwi	91.8	8.2	
Bindura	87.9	7.4	
Goromonzi	81.0		14.3
Marondera	89.8	5.7	
Chinhoyi	64.7		35.3
Kadoma	93.1	1.5	
Chegutu	94.4	3.4	
Kariba	93.5	5.9	
Norton	96.0	2.7	
Karoi	70.1		29.9
Hwange	38.1		50.3
Victoria Falls	92.2	4.4	
Gwanda	85.8	7.1	
Beitbridge	94.2	5.8	
Plumtree	86.7		10.6
Gweru	89.5		10.5
Kwekwe	88.1		9.3
Redcliffe	96.7	3.3	
Zvishavane	97.0	1.8	
Shurugwi	97.6	0.9	
Gokwe South	97.2	2.1	
Masvingo	88.2	8.8	
Chiredzi	49.8		49.8
Harare	87.0	12.2	
Chitungwiza	86.2	12.3	
Epworth	100.0	0.0	
Other Urban	77.4		18.3
National	85.1		12.1

- Nationally 85% of the households had local vendors as their main source of energy for lighting.
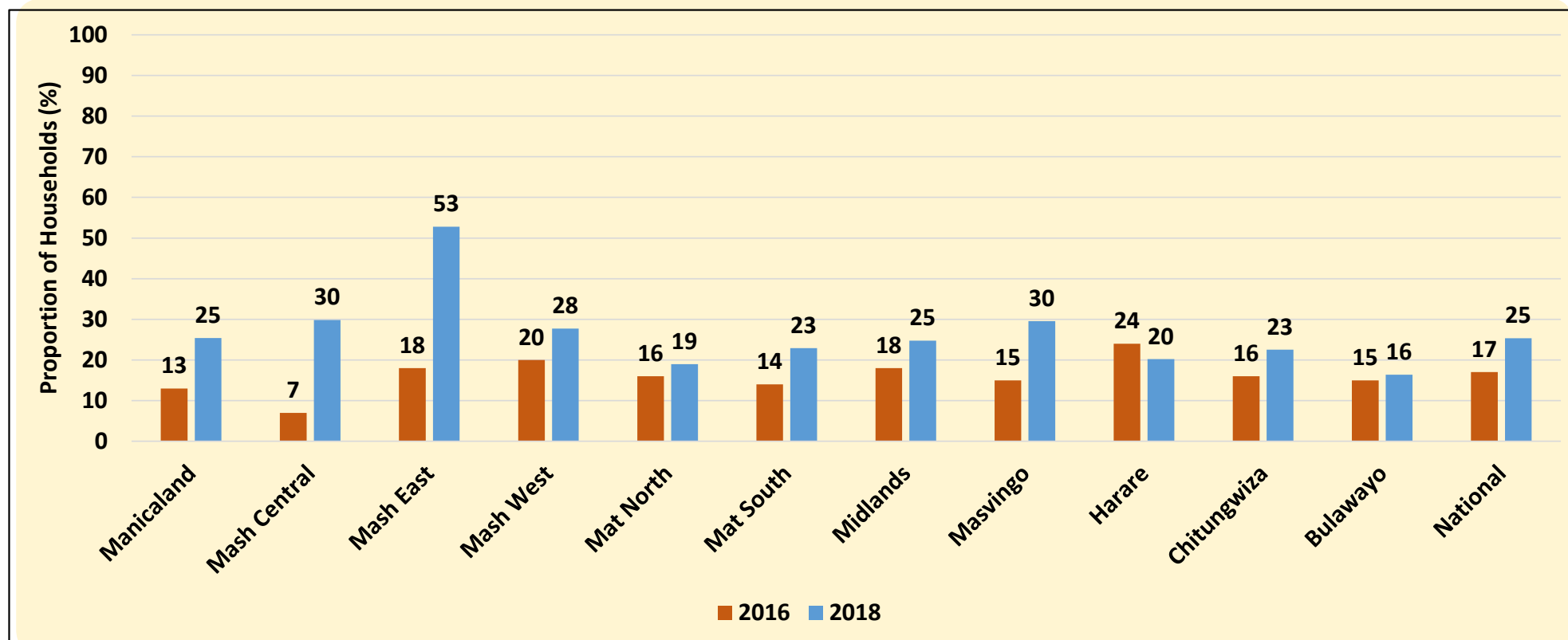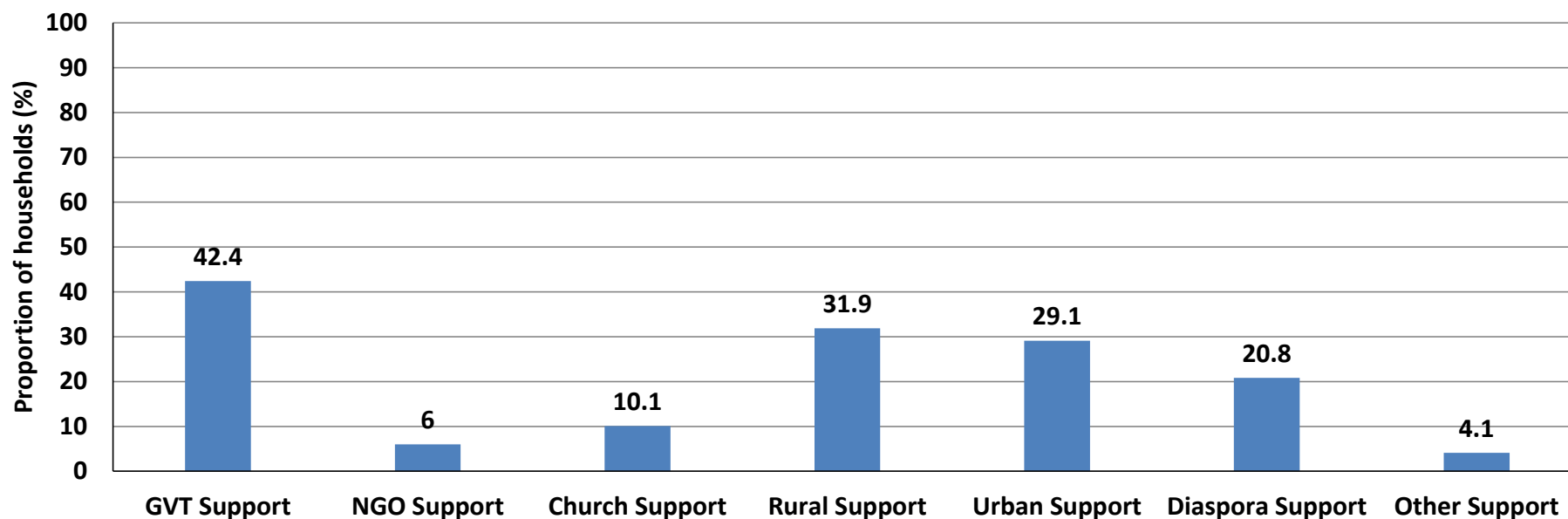
- Nationally, at least 25% of the households received one or more forms of support. This was an increase compared to 2016 (17%).
- Mashonaland East (53%) had the highest proportion of households which received at least one form of support.
- Bulawayo had the least proportion (16%).

Chart: Proportion of households (%) by source of support

Source	Proportion (%)
GVT Support	42.4
NGO Support	6
Church Support	10.1
Rural Support	31.9
Urban Support	29.1
Diaspora Support	20.8
Other Support	4.1

- Nationally, 42.4% of the households received assistance from Government followed by support from relatives in rural areas (31.9%).
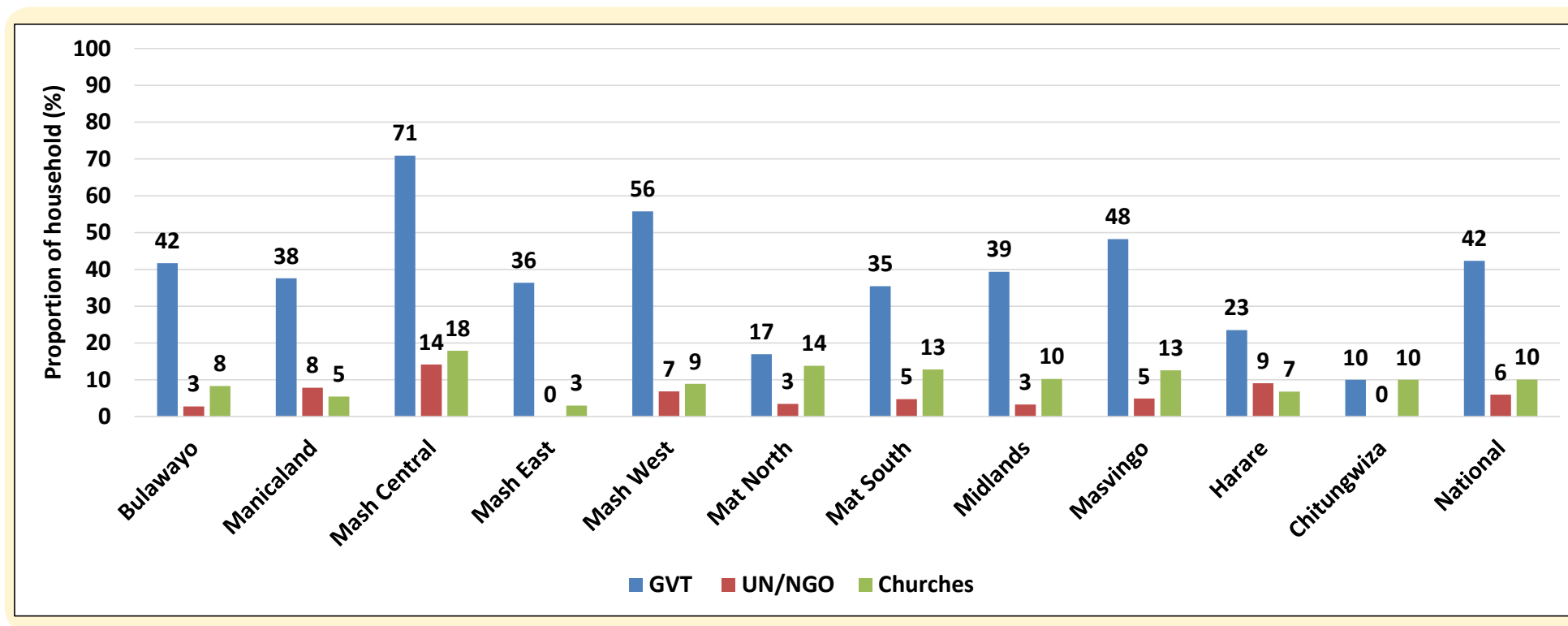
Province	Food Assistance %	Cash Assistance %	Livestock Assistance %	Crop Assistance %	WASH Assistance %
Bulawayo	81	35	8	11	16
Manicaland	65	42	7	27	7
Mash Central	51	28	6	63	10
Mash East	79	42	8	14	9
Mash West	71	35	1	27	6
Mat North	72	47	10	12	17
Mat South	75	44	4	14	15
Midlands	78	44	2	15	8
Masvingo	73	40	7	18	11
Harare	82	39	6	14	8
Chitungwiza	78	66	0	8	6
National	73	40	4	23	9

- Nationally food assistance (73%) was the main type of support received by households followed by cash support (40%).
- Mashonaland Central (63%) had the highest proportion of households that received crop support.
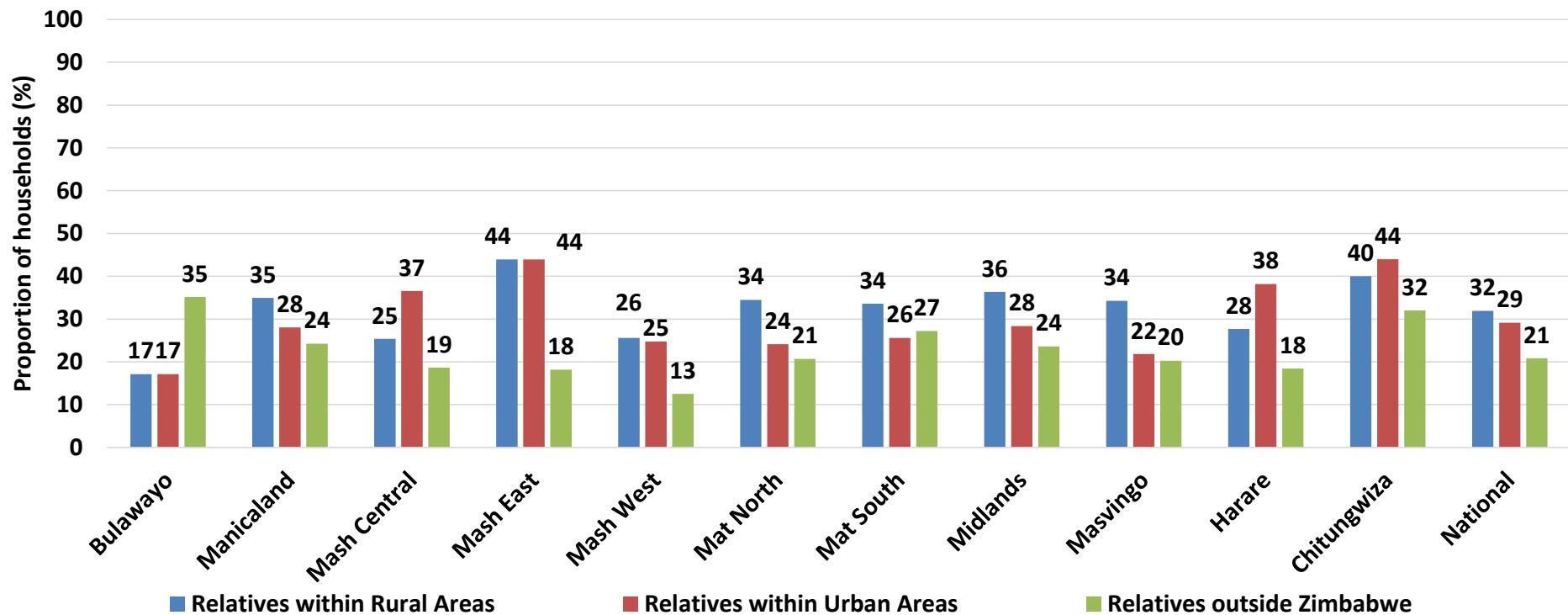
FOOD ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FROM INSTITUTIONS

Chart: Proportion of household (%) receiving food assistance by institution

Province	GVT	UN/NGO	Churches
Bulawayo	42	3	8
Manicaland	38	8	5
Mash Central	71	14	18
Mash East	36	0	3
Mash West	56	7	9
Mat North	17	3	14
Mat South	35	5	13
Midlands	39	3	10
Masvingo	48	5	13
Harare	23	9	7
Chitungwiza	10	0	10
National	42	6	10

- The proportion of households which received food assistance from Government was highest in Mashonaland Central (71%) followed by Mashonaland West (56%).
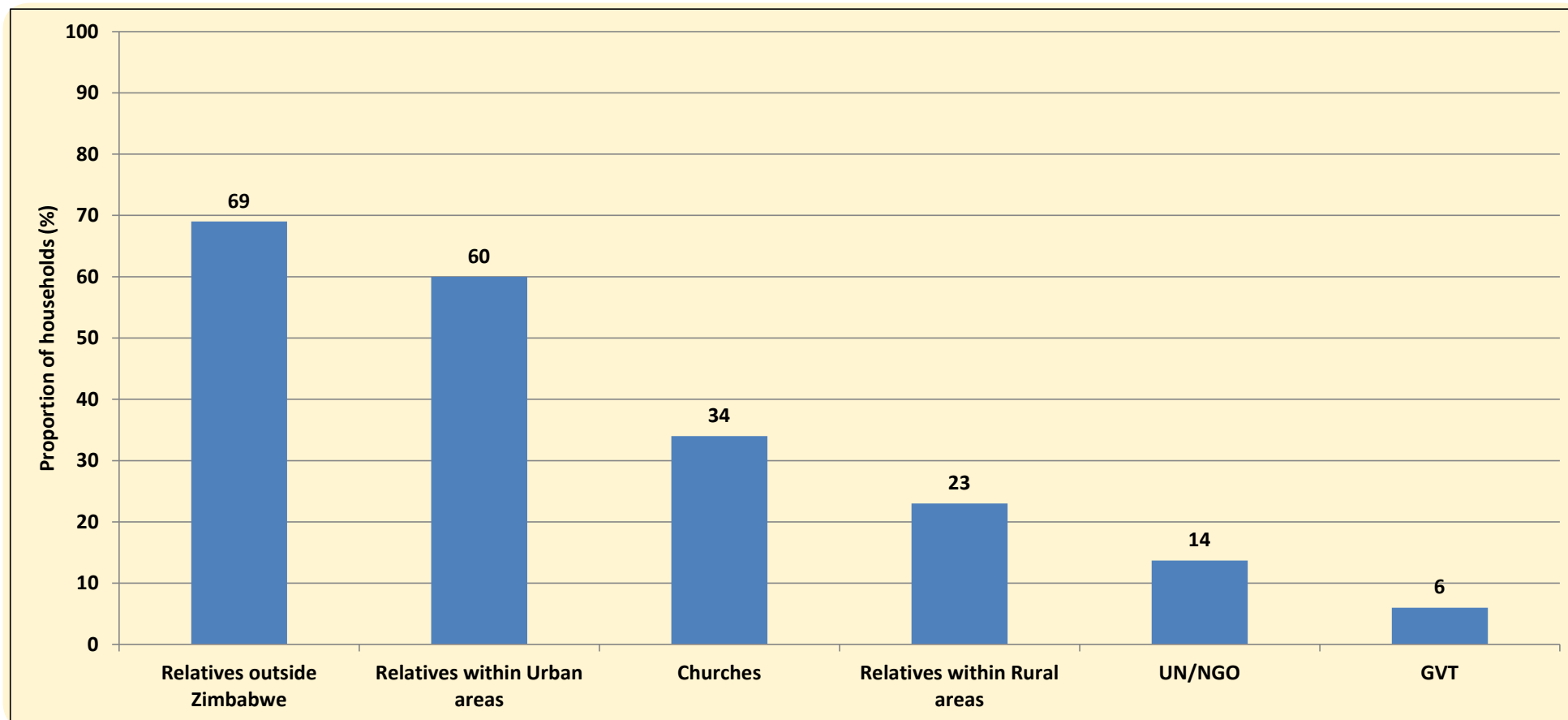
Proportion of households (%) by province:

Province	Relatives within Rural Areas	Relatives within Urban Areas	Relatives outside Zimbabwe
Bulawayo	17	17	35
Manicaland	35	28	24
Mash Central	25	37	19
Mash East	44	44	18
Mash West	26	25	13
Mat North	34	24	21
Mat South	34	26	27
Midlands	36	28	24
Masvingo	34	22	20
Harare	28	38	18
Chitungwiza	40	44	32
National	32	29	21

- Nationally, about 32% of households received assistance from relatives in the rural areas and 29% received from relatives in urban areas.
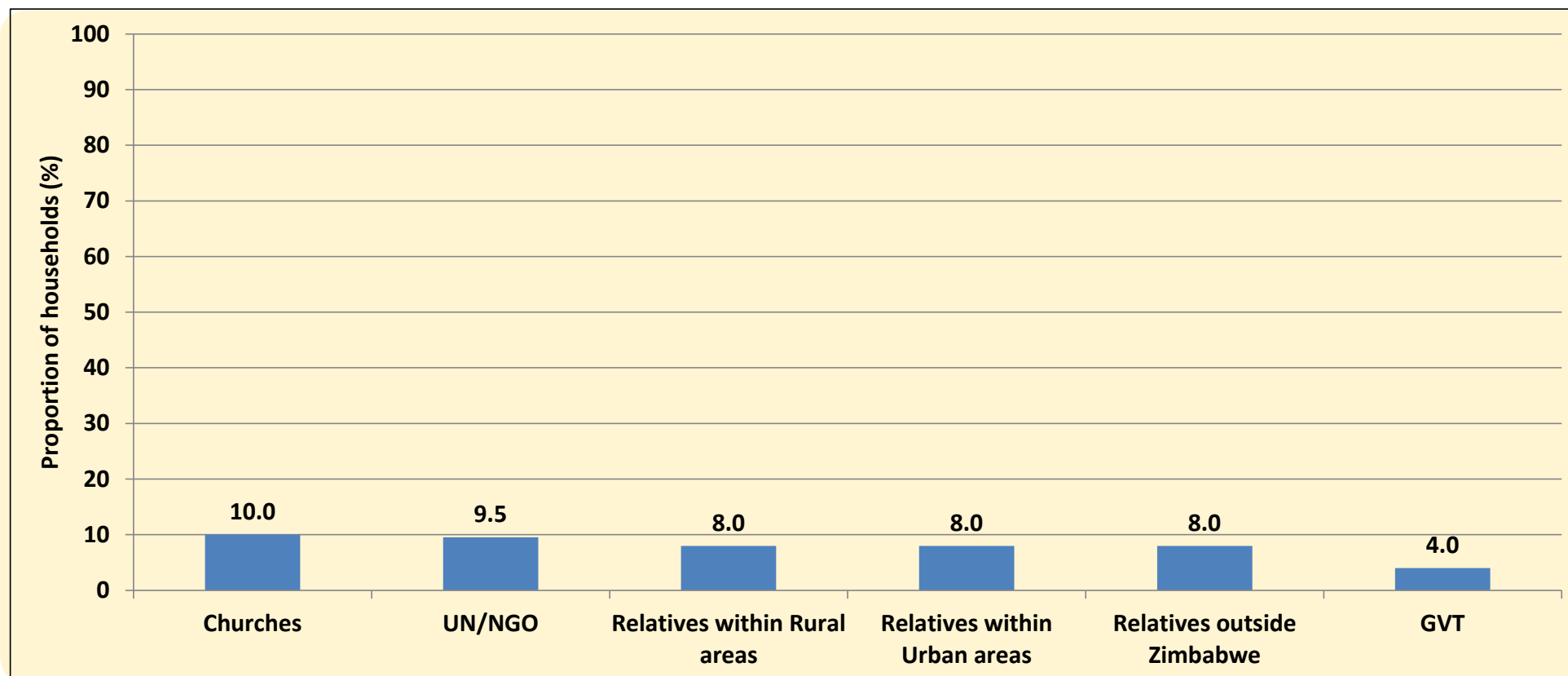- Generally the support from relatives was lower than 50%.

SOURCES OF CASH ASSISTANCE

- At least 69% of the households received cash assistance from relatives outside Zimbabwe, whilst 6% received the cash assistance from the Government.
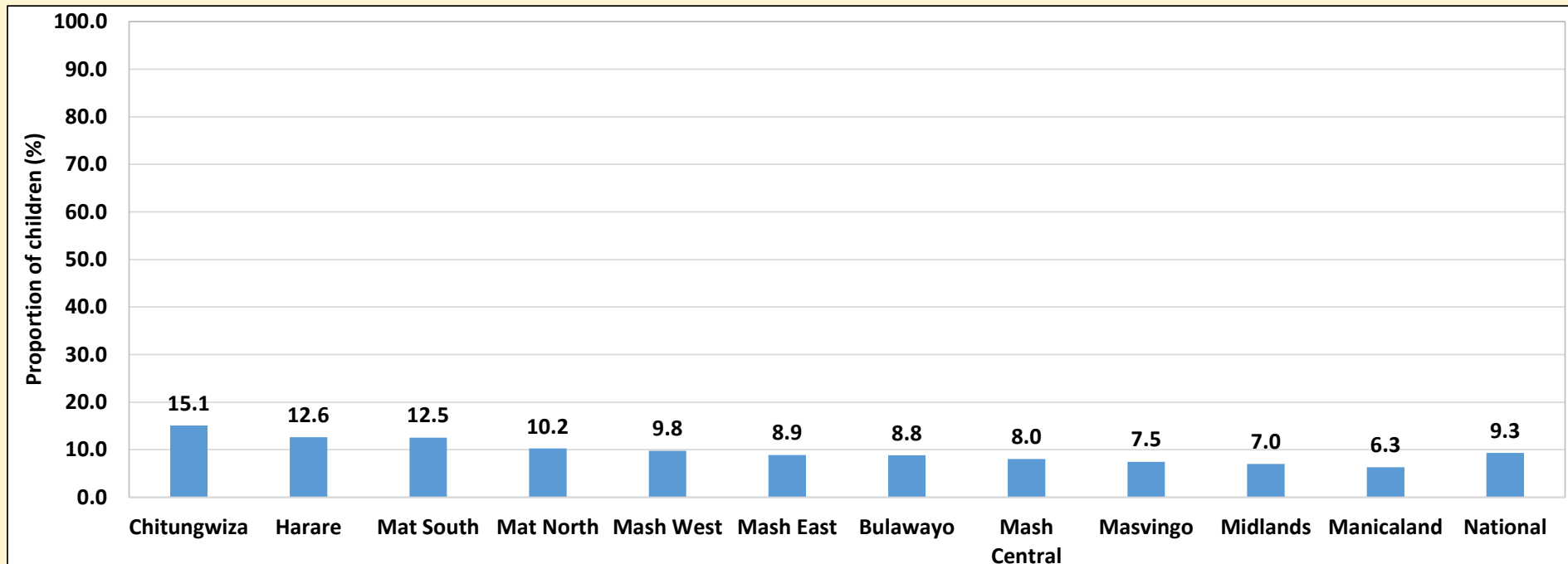
Proportion of households (%)

Category	Value
Churches	10.0
UN/NGO	9.5
Relatives within Rural areas	8.0
Relatives within Urban areas	8.0
Relatives outside Zimbabwe	8.0
GVT	4.0

- The proportion of households which received water, sanitation and hygiene support from all sources was 10% and below.
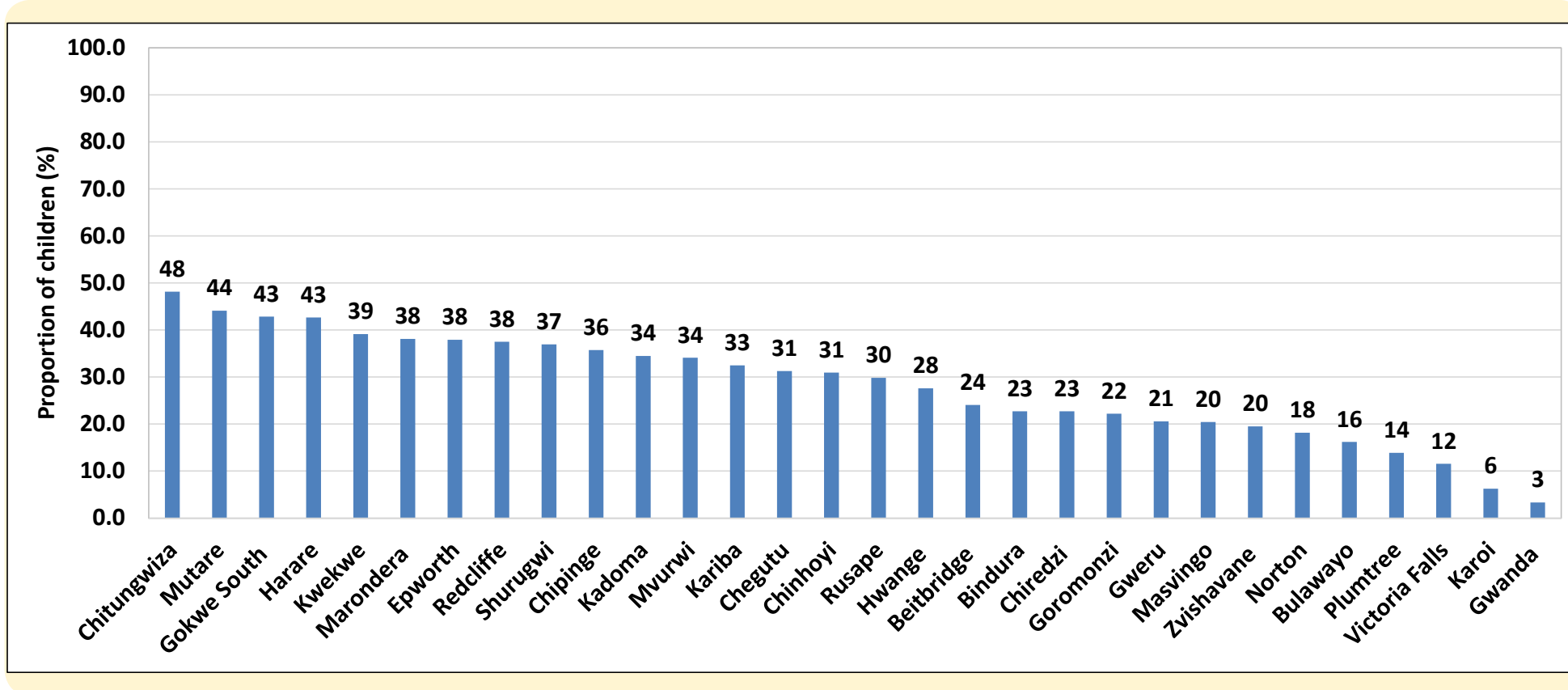
- There was a decrease in the proportion of children who were out of school, from 13% (2016) to about 9.3% in 2018.
- Manicaland (6.3%) had the lowest proportion of children who were not attending school.

Chart: Proportion of children (%) out of school by domain

Domain	Proportion (%)
Chitungwiza	48
Mutare	44
Gokwe South	43
Harare	43
Kwekwe	39
Marondera	38
Epworth	38
Redcliffe	38
Shurugwi	37
Chipinge	36
Kadoma	34
Mvurwi	34
Kariba	33
Chegutu	31
Chinhoyi	31
Rusape	30
Hwange	28
Beitbridge	24
Bindura	23
Chiredzi	23
Goromonzi	22
Gweru	21
Masvingo	20
Zvishavane	20
Norton	18
Bulawayo	16
Plumtree	14
Victoria Falls	12
Karoi	6
Gwanda	3

- The highest proportion of children out of school was in Chitungwiza (48%) followed by Mutare (44%).
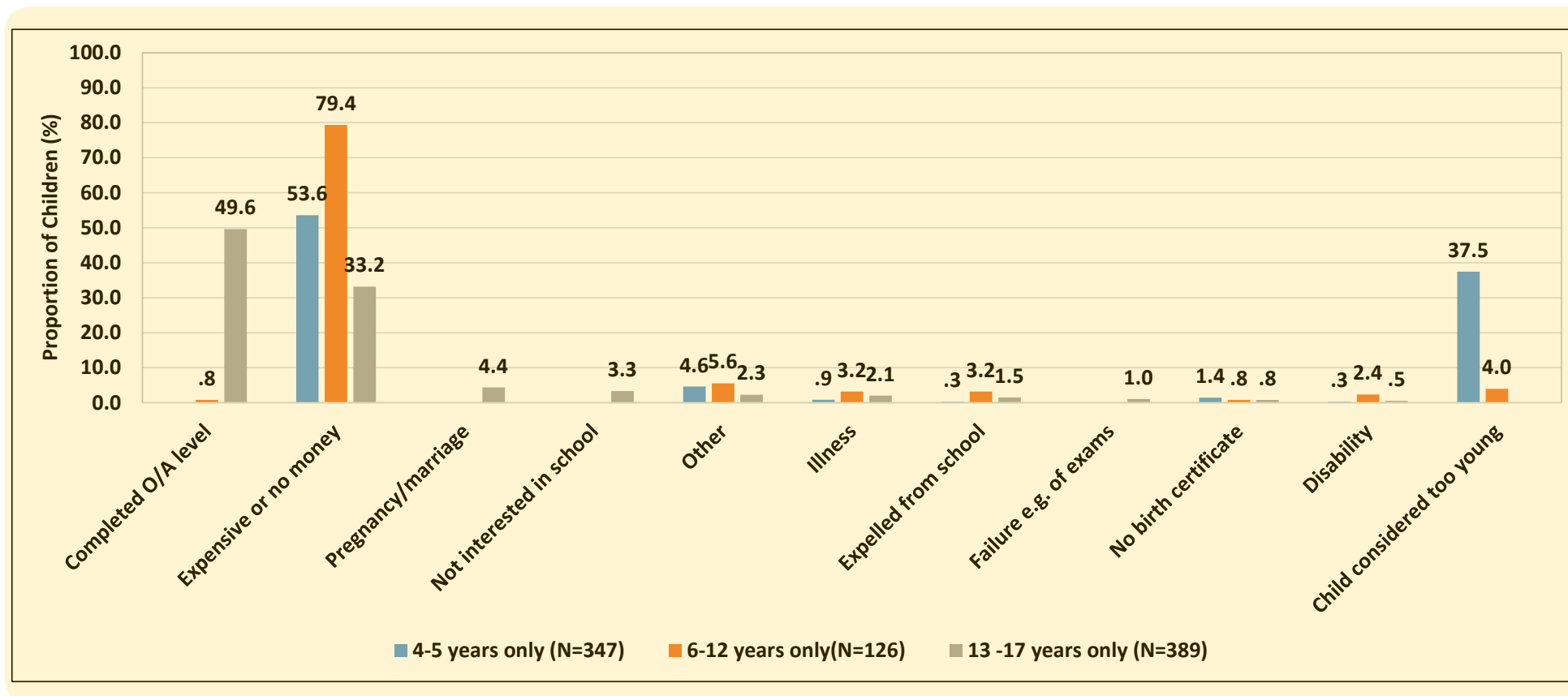- Gwanda (3%) had the lowest proportion of children out of school.
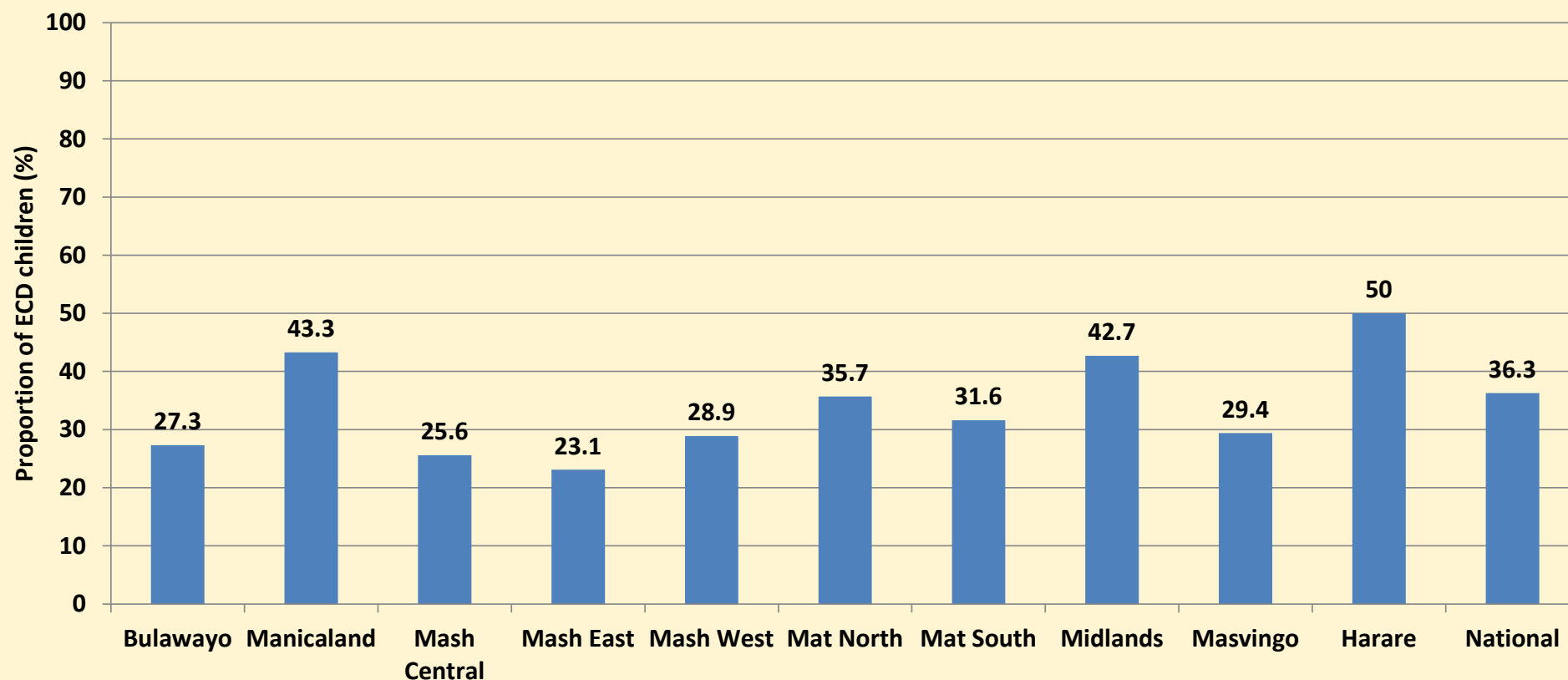
- Nationally, 36.3% of the Early Child Development (ECD) children were not attending school during the time of the survey.
- Harare (50%) recorded the highest proportion of ECD children who were not in school.
- Mashonaland East (23.1%) had the least proportion of ECD children who were not going to school.
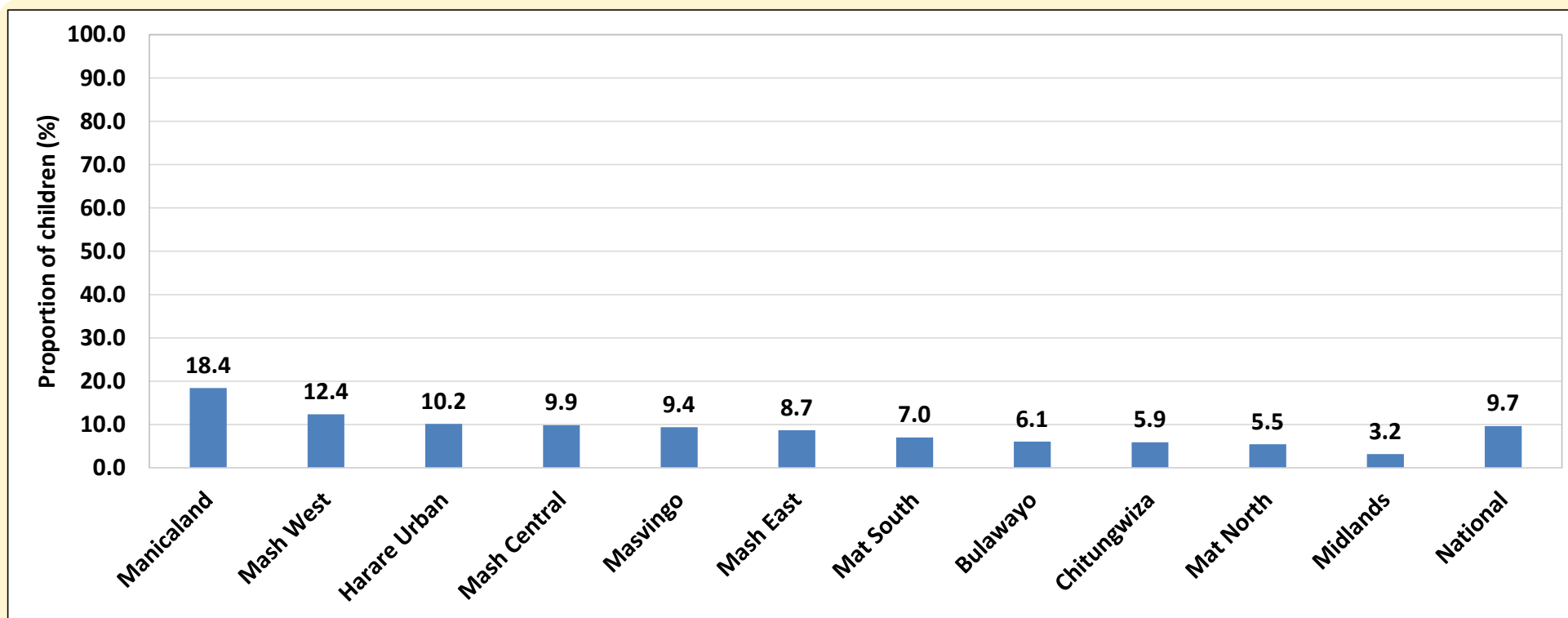
Chart: Proportion of Children (%) by reason for not attending school, by age category.

Legend:
- 4-5 years only (N=347)
- 6-12 years only (N=126)
- 13 -17 years only (N=389)

Reason	4-5 years	6-12 years	13-17 years
Completed O/A level		.8	49.6
Expensive or no money	53.6	79.4	33.2
Pregnancy/marriage			4.4
Not interested in school			3.3
Other	4.6	5.6	2.3
Illness	.9	3.2	2.1
Expelled from school	.3	3.2	1.5
Failure e.g. of exams			1.0
No birth certificate	1.4	.8	.8
Disability	.3	2.4	.5
Child considered too young	37.5	4.0	

- The major reasons why children aged 4-5 years were out of school were financial constraints (53.6%) and also that they were considered to be too young by their parents/guardians (37.5%).
- About 4.4% of children aged 13-17 years were out of school due to pregnancy/marriage.

Chart: Proportion of children (%) turned away due to non-payment of fees by region:
- Manicaland: 18.4
- Mash West: 12.4
- Harare Urban: 10.2
- Mash Central: 9.9
- Masvingo: 9.4
- Mash East: 8.7
- Mat South: 7.0
- Bulawayo: 6.1
- Chitungwiza: 5.9
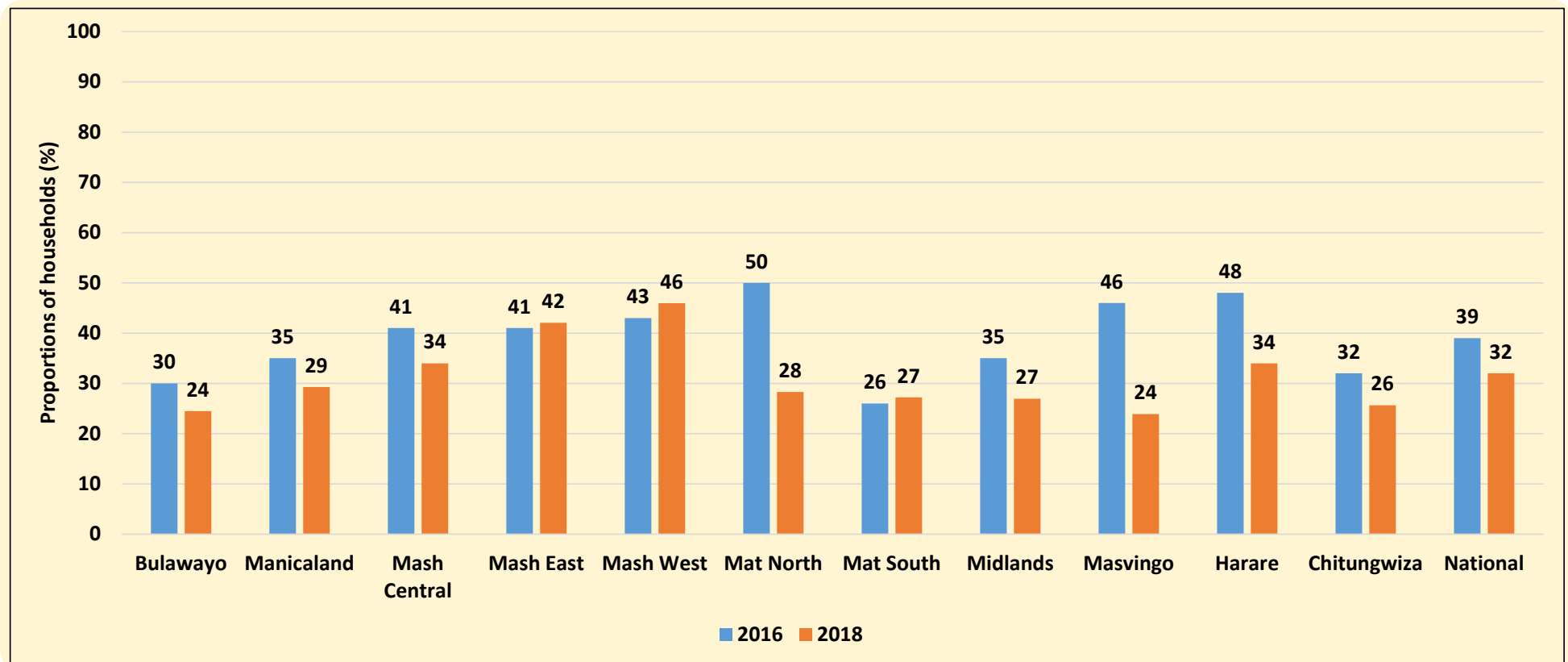- Mat North: 5.5
- Midlands: 3.2
- National: 9.7

- Nationally, 9.7% of the school going age children were turned away from school during the third term of 2017 due to non-payment of school fees.
- Manicaland (18.4%) followed by Mashonaland West (12.4%) had high proportions of children who were turned away from school.
- Midlands (3.2%) had the lowest proportion of children turned away.

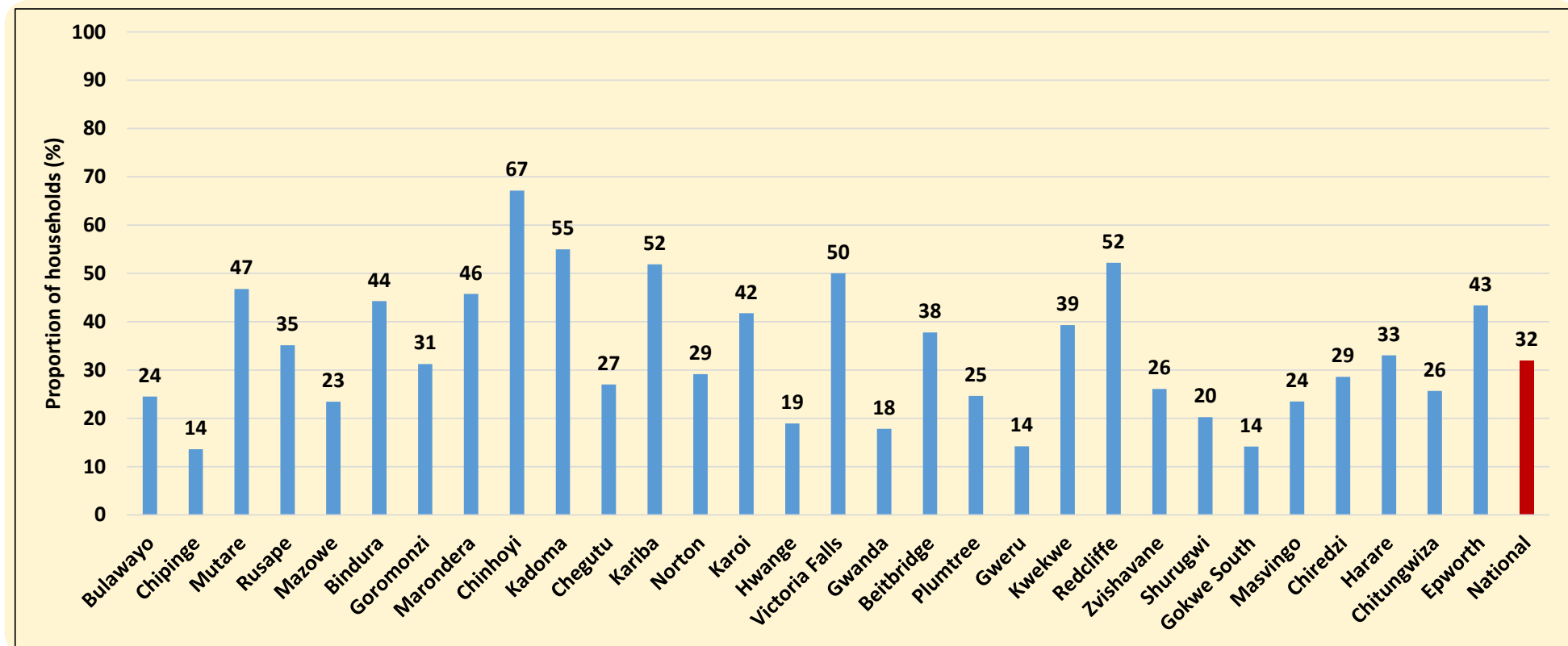- The proportion of households with outstanding debts decreased from 39% in 2016 to 32% in 2018.
- Mashonaland West (46%) had the highest proportion followed by Mashonaland East (42%).

- Chinhoyi (67%), Kadoma (55%), Kariba Urban (52%) and Redcliffe (52%) had the highest proportions of households with outstanding debts.
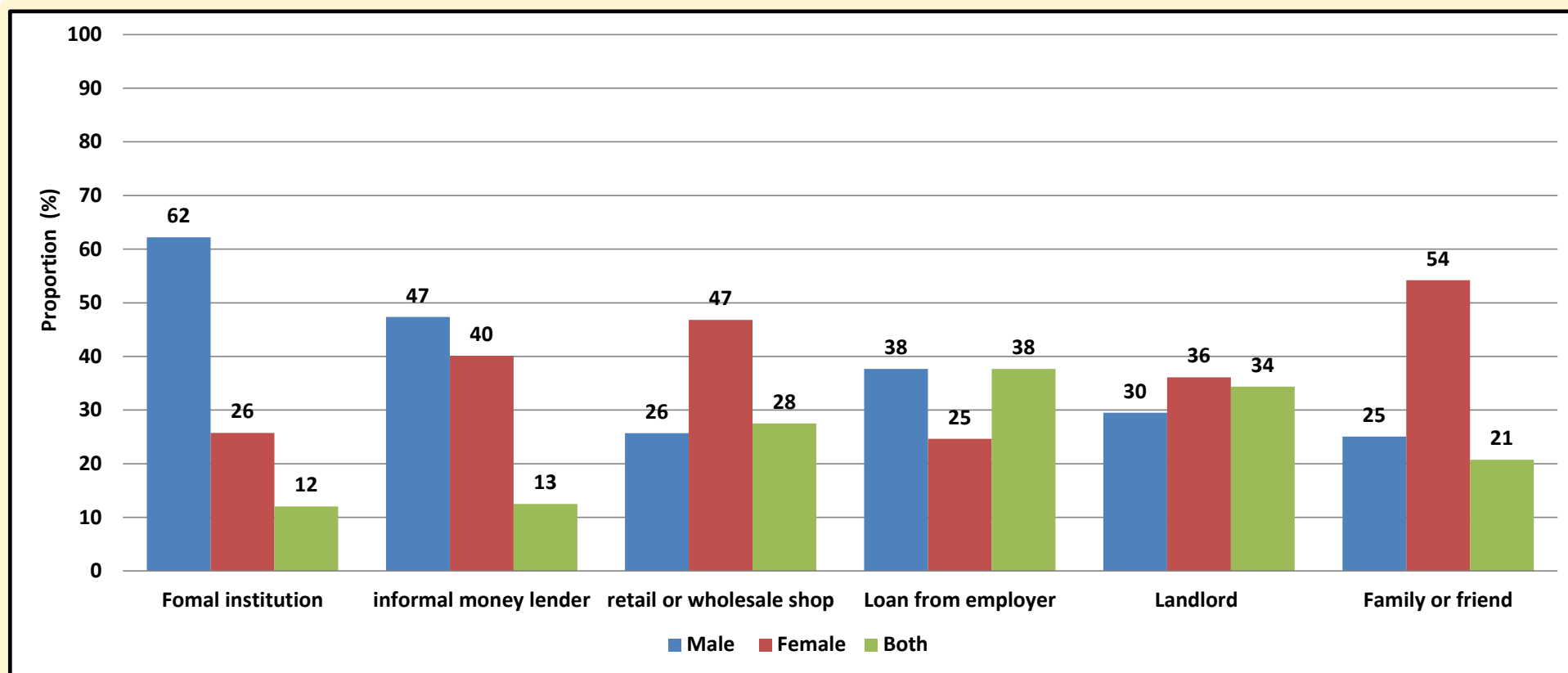
	Formal Financial Institutions (%)	Informal Financial Institutions (%)	Retail or wholesale shop (%)	Loan from employer (%)	Landlord (%)	Family or friend (%)
Bulawayo	15.7	5.9	3.8	2.0	12.0	22.2
Manicaland	20.1	11.0	8.8	4.5	15.4	25.1
Mash Central	23.0	10.5	5.2	2.0	14.6	21.9
Mash East	11.8	13.5	11.3	5.8	12.2	33.3
Mash West	15.5	6.0	4.9	2.0	8.7	24.8
Mat North	9.3	15.5	4.5	4.5	13.5	36.4
Mat South	19.5	7.0	4.7	4.7	18.1	19.4
Midlands	16.4	5.9	5.1	6.5	9.9	16.0
Masvingo	22.3	10.8	9.3	0.9	14.8	26.8
Harare	10.8	10.0	7.6	3.9	13.6	25.6
National	16.4	8.5	6.1	3.8	12.3	23.5

- Family / friends (23.5%), formal financial institutions (16.4%) and landlords (12.3%) were the main sources of loans/ debts.

Chart: Proportion (%) of loan/debt takers by source and sex (Male, Female, Both)

Source	Male	Female	Both
Fomal institution	62	26	12
informal money lender	47	40	13
retail or wholesale shop	26	47	28
Loan from employer	38	25	38
Landlord	30	36	34
Family or friend	25	54	21

- Males borrowed more from the formal institutions and informal money lenders.
- Females borrowed more from informal sources such as family or friends.
- The trend is similar to that of 2016.

	Electricity		Water rates		Rentals		School fees		Loans repayment		Health Institution	
	2016 USD	2018 USD	2016 USD	2018 USD	2016 USD	2018 USD	2016 USD	2018 USD	2016 USD	2018 USD	2016 USD	2018 USD
Bulawayo	532.84	449.20	382.54	387.50	162.06	210.00	246.70	310.64	341.46	0.00	348.00	531.00
Manicaland	250.50	183.32	239.18	402.83	141.88	186.52	196.89	239.84	753.53	595.37	341.74	511.33
Mash Cent	399.58	199.50	483.30	456.53	244.68	96.88	204.12	201.52	413.34	635.60	157.00	139.00
Mash East	474.58	868.33	282.84	611.54	93.88	122.14	159.90	203.67	497.99	226.40	305.09	40.00
Mash West	400.93	315.51	330.42	481.20	163.85	285.40	183.48	165.59	317.99	951.58	214.68	213.75
Mat North	494.55	217.50	467.21	728.55	375.13	165.42	306.37	257.30	350.57	96.67	157.30	81.17
Mat South	999.40	670.10	470.36	540.80	127.43	166.04	208.14	218.32	696.69	869.67	240.75	211.00
Midlands	392.26	459.07	303.67	444.61	239.71	222.54	208.32	228.42	534.51	543.52	121.60	71.18
Masvingo	68.33	118.07	163.08	324.64	155.79	211.96	193.42	187.67	844.53	393.78	194.17	215.71
Harare	900.63	993.68	468.75	530.31	194.20	116.51	240.44	178.32	763.33	695.25	331.87	199.28
National	628.54	498.04	353.01	477.76	194.30	199.23	207.46	203.65	533.30	642.65	249.36	219.70

- Nationally most households had water and rates arrears (50.2%) followed by school fees (43.5%), a decrease from the 2016 scenario which was 58.8% and 50.8% respectively.
- The highest arrears were reported for loans repayment (USD642.65) followed by electricity at an average of USD498.04.
- Mashonaland West had the highest average of loans repayment arrears at USD 951.58
- Harare (USD993.68) had the highest average of electricity arrears.

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF ARREARS BY DOMAIN

	Electricity USD	Water rates USD	Rentals USD
Bulawayo	449	388	210
Chipinge	18	124	61
Mutare	-	390	113
Rusape	287	505	299
Mazowe	152	185	72
Bindura	219	584	115
Goromonzi	2005	766	175
Marondera	300	572	83
Chinhoyi	384	482	285
Kadoma	125	513	315
Chegutu	472	711	280
Kariba	155	451	358
Norton	319	404	153
Karoi	303	312	133
Hwange	5	298	228

	Electricity USD	Water rates USD	Rentals USD
Victoria Falls	325	885	98
Gwanda	208	391	406
Beitbridge	843	766	100
Plumtree	803	361	109
Gweru	412	655	225
Kwekwe	56	382	134
Redcliffe	525	537	368
Zvishavane	287	336	113
Shurugwi	1200	298	238
Gokwe South	1700	204	280
Masvingo	10	518	661
Chiredzi	75	188	89
Harare	1158	644	120
Chitungwiza	771	406	159
Epworth	-	529	98
Other Urban	200	228	86

- Goromonzi (USD 2 005) had the highest average amount of arrears for electricity and Victoria Falls (USD 885) had the highest for water rates.
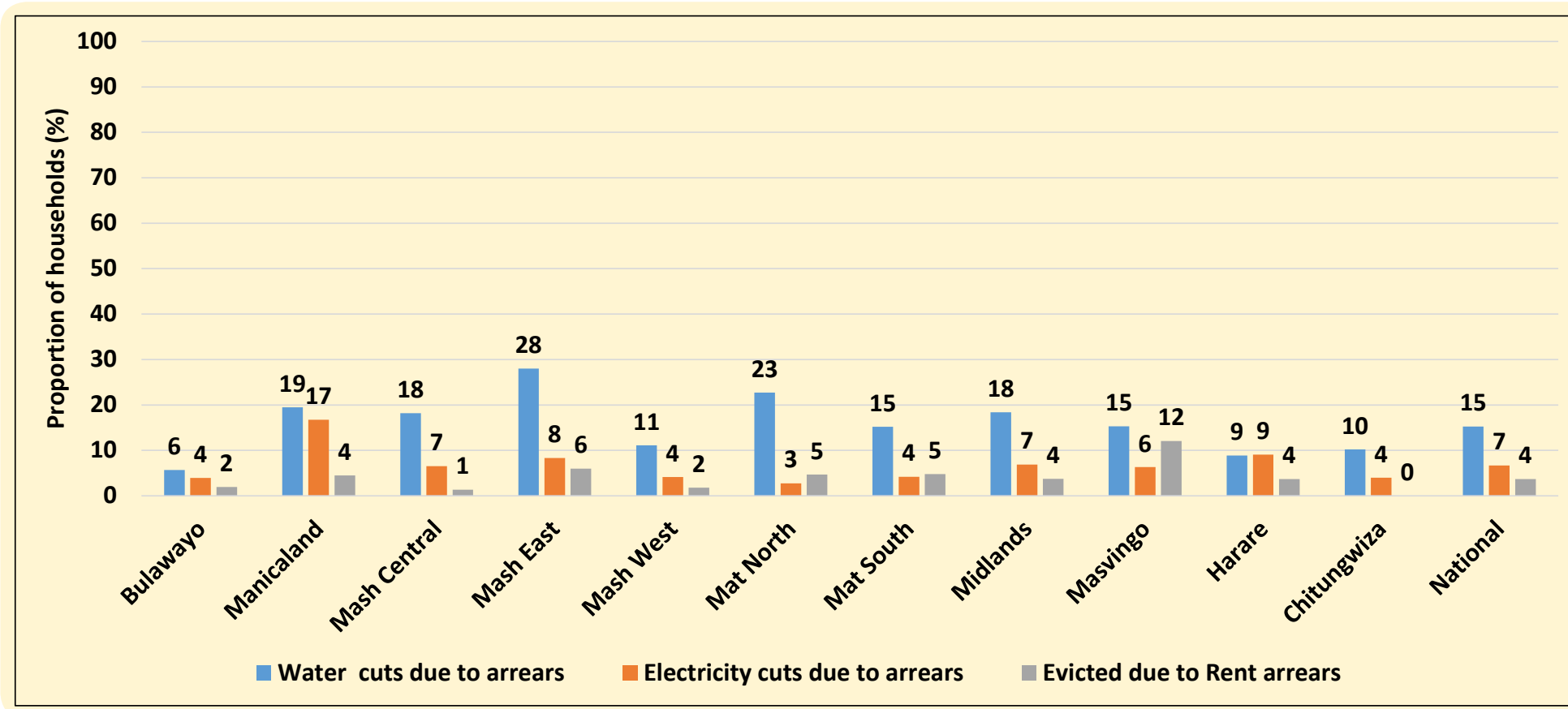
	School fees USD	Loans Repayment USD	Health Institution USD		School fees USD	Loans Repayment USD	Health Institution USD
Bulawayo	311	0	531	Victoria Falls	313	109	118
Chipinge	157	60		Gwanda	276	761	233
Mutare Urban	117	948	2000	Beitbridge	152	748	
Rusape	393	474	214	Plumtree	284	1307	
Mazowe	107	396	150	Gweru	233	470	
Bindura	251	723	136	Kwekwe	120	285	72
Goromonzi	203	210		Redcliffe	291	180	
Marondera	204	231	40	Zvishavane	196	300	63
Chinhoyi	152	1299	184	Shurugwi	319	1012	
Kadoma	176	766	50	Gokwe South	121	120	85
Chegutu	139	250	135	Masvingo	146	505	317
Kariba	229	1026	688	Chiredzi	201	208	157
Norton	135	300	57	Harare	175	1124	248
Karoi	115	170	30	Chitungwiza	256	160	400
Hwange	236	90	44	Epworth	159	66	119
				Other Urban	130	852	108

- The highest school fees arrears were recorded in Rusape (USD 393) and medical bills were highest in Mutare Urban (USD 2000)

Chart: Proportion of households (%) experiencing disruption of services due to arrears, by province.

Legend:
- Water cuts due to arrears
- Electricity cuts due to arrears
- Evicted due to Rent arrears

Province	Water cuts due to arrears	Electricity cuts due to arrears	Evicted due to Rent arrears
Bulawayo	6	4	2
Manicaland	19	17	4
Mash Central	18	7	1
Mash East	28	8	6
Mash West	11	4	2
Mat North	23	3	5
Mat South	15	4	5
Midlands	18	7	4
Masvingo	15	6	12
Harare	9	9	4
Chitungwiza	10	4	0
National	15	7	4

- The highest proportion of households that experienced water cuts was recorded in Mashonaland East (28%).
- Masvingo (12%) had the highest proportion of households that were evicted due to rent/bills arrears.

Notes:

- **Shocks** refers to acute events that can lead to income and non-income losses for households (UNDP, 2011). These are external short-term deviations from long-term trends that have substantial negative effects on people's current state of well-being, food and nutrition security, level of assets, livelihoods, or safety, or their ability to withstand future shocks (Zseleczky & Yosef, 2014).

- **Stressors** are long-term trends or pressures that undermine the stability of the urban livelihood system and increase vulnerability within it (Zseleczky & Yosef, 2014).

- Shocks and stressors can be natural, health related, social, political, economic and environmental.

- Nationally, the majority of households (65%) in urban areas experienced a shock/stressor with the highest proportion in Chinhoyi (92%) and the lowest in Bulawayo (20%).

Chart: Proportion of households (%) experiencing various shocks/stressors

Shock/Stressor	Proportion of households (%)
Cash shortages	64.1
High food prices	57.1
Sickness/health/funeral expenditures	31.0
Loss of employment	25.3
High fuel/transport costs	16.7
Death of household member/close relative	12.2
Disruption of water supply	12.1
High school fees	11.0
High debt burden	10.4
Reduced salary and pensions	8.4
High utility bills	8.1
Marital and other social disharmony	7.4
High rentals	5.6
Theft	5.1
Disruption of electrity supply	5.0
Chronic diseases	4.1
Burst sewer pipes	4.0
Other Shocks Other	3.7
Diarrheal diseases incidents	2.0
Malaria diseases incidents	1.1

- Economic related shocks/stressors, (cash shortages, 64.1% and high food prices, 57.1%) were the most reported.
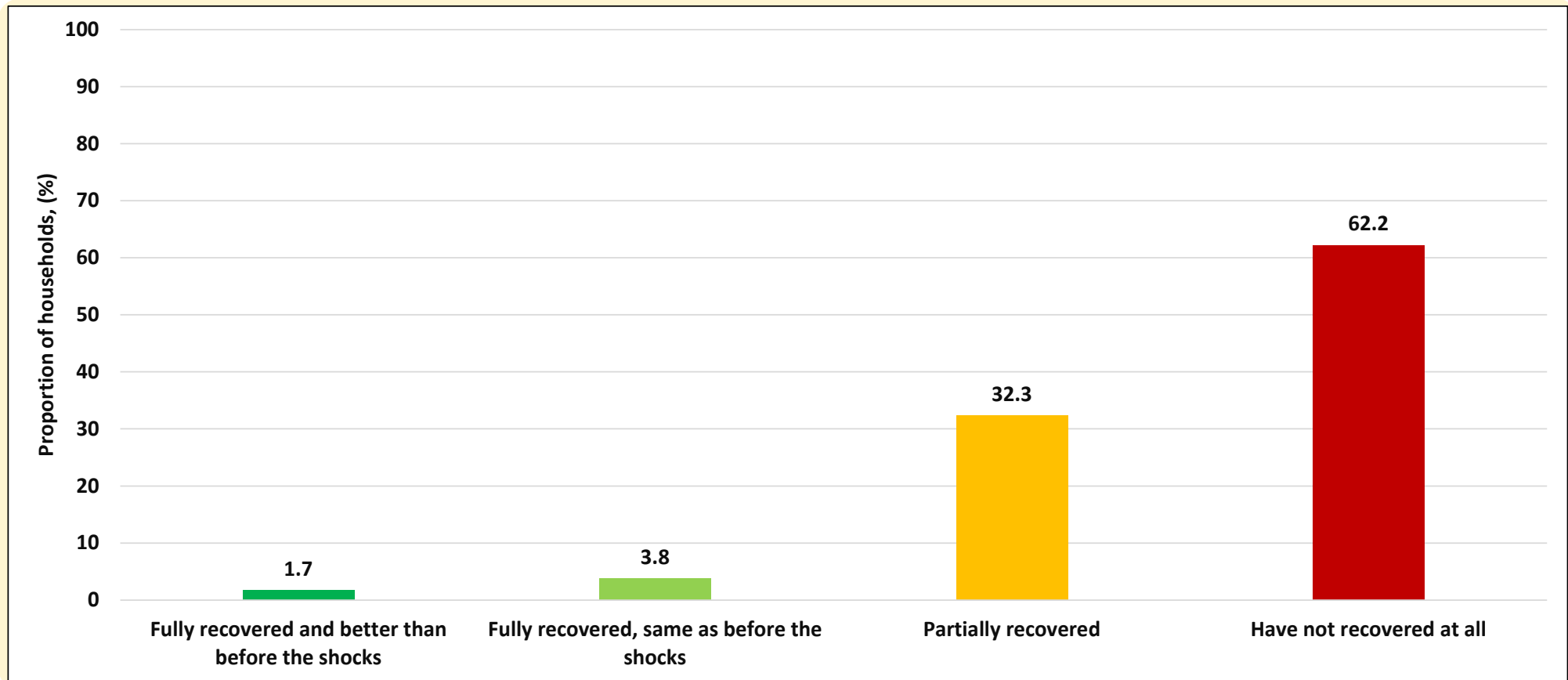
- The majority of the households did not recover at all from cash shortages.
- Of the households that reported experiencing cash shortages, 62.2% did not recover at all from the shock.
- Only 1.7% fully recovered and were better than before experiencing the shock.
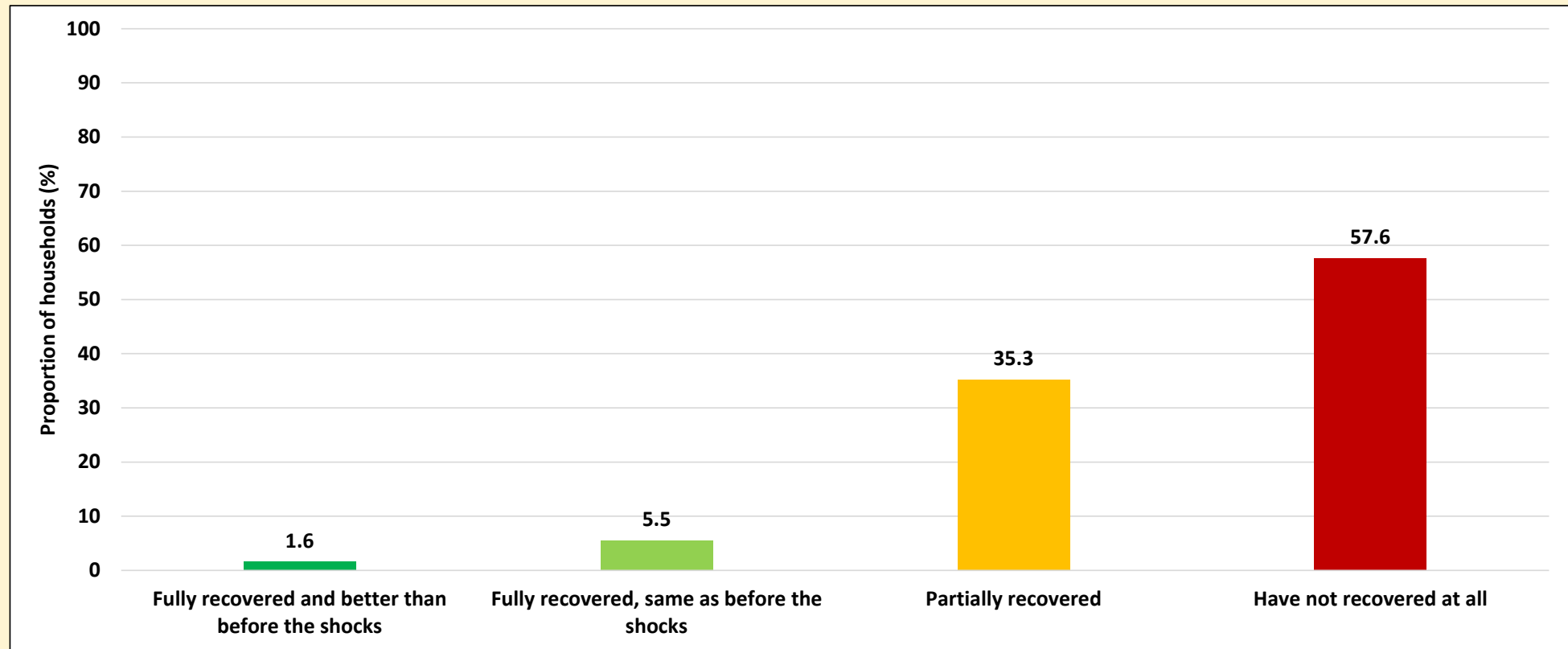
- About 58% of the households which reported high food prices as a shock did not recover at all while 35.3% partially recovered.
- The proportion of households that fully recovered and remained the same as before experiencing the shocks were 5.5%.

Chart: Proportion of households (%) by recovery status, comparing 2016 and 2018

Category	2016	2018
Fully recovered and better than before the shocks	8	6.1
Fully recovered, same as before the shocks	15	14.5
Partially recovered	37	41.6
Have not recovered at all	41	37.9
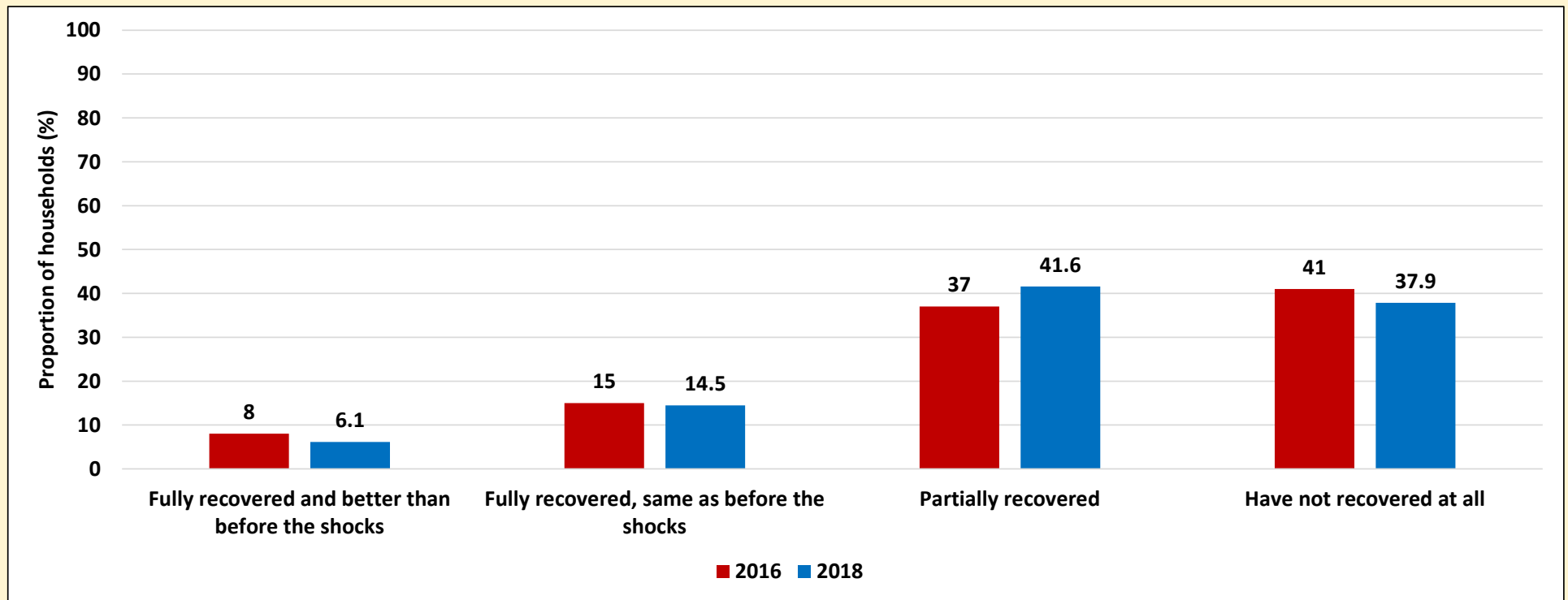
- About 37.9 % of the households that incurred health or funeral related expenditures did not recover at all while 41.6% partially recovered.

Chart: Proportion of households (%) by recovery status, 2016 and 2018

Category	2016	2018
Fully recovered and better than before the shocks	4	5.0
Fully recovered, same as before the shocks	6	6.5
Partially recovered	25	30.3
Have not recovered at all	65	58.2

- The majority of the households did not recover at all from the impact of loss of employment (58.2%) indicating that households were constrained.

Bar chart — Proportion of households (%):
- Fully recovered and better than before the shocks: 2.4
- Fully recovered, same as before the shocks: 8.8
- Partially recovered: 44.6
- Have not recovered at all: 44.2

- Of the households that reported high fuel prices/transport costs as a shock, about 44% did not recover at all.

Bar chart — Proportion of households (%)

Province	Same as before the shock (yellow)	Better than before the shock (green)	Worse than before the shock (red)
Bulawayo	91	1.1	7.9
Manicaland	47.1	26.6	26.3
Mash Central	46.3	20	33.7
Mash East	49.6	14	36.4
Mash West	56	9	35
Mat North	49.3	15.7	35
Mat South	63	9.2	27.8
Midlands	51.9	13.1	35
Masvingo	52.5	17.1	30.4
Harare	32.7	17	50.3
Chitungwiza	46.5	19.7	33.8
National	50.7	14.8	34.5

Legend:
- Ability to meet food and nonfood needs is the same as before the shock
- Ability to meet food and nonfood needs is better than before the shock
- Ability to meet food and nonfood needs is worse than before the shock

- About 34.5% of the households were left worse off and not able to meet their food and non food needs after experiencing the shocks while 50.7% were able to return to their normal level and 14.8% were better than before.

Proportion of households (%)

Income source	Orange	Blue
Salary/wages/earnings	27	39.9
Petty trade	17.1	10.8
Casual labour	10.3	10.2
Own business	5.3	8.9
Remittance/gift	8.9	7.1
Skilled trade/artisan	6.8	5.2
Rentals	5.4	3.7
Pension	4	3.5
Small scale mining/mineral sales	2.3	2.7
Food crop production/sales	1.7	2.1
Vegetable production/sales	2.6	1.8
Cross border trade	2.1	1.6
Livestock production/sales	2.2	0.7
Cash crop production	0.3	0.6
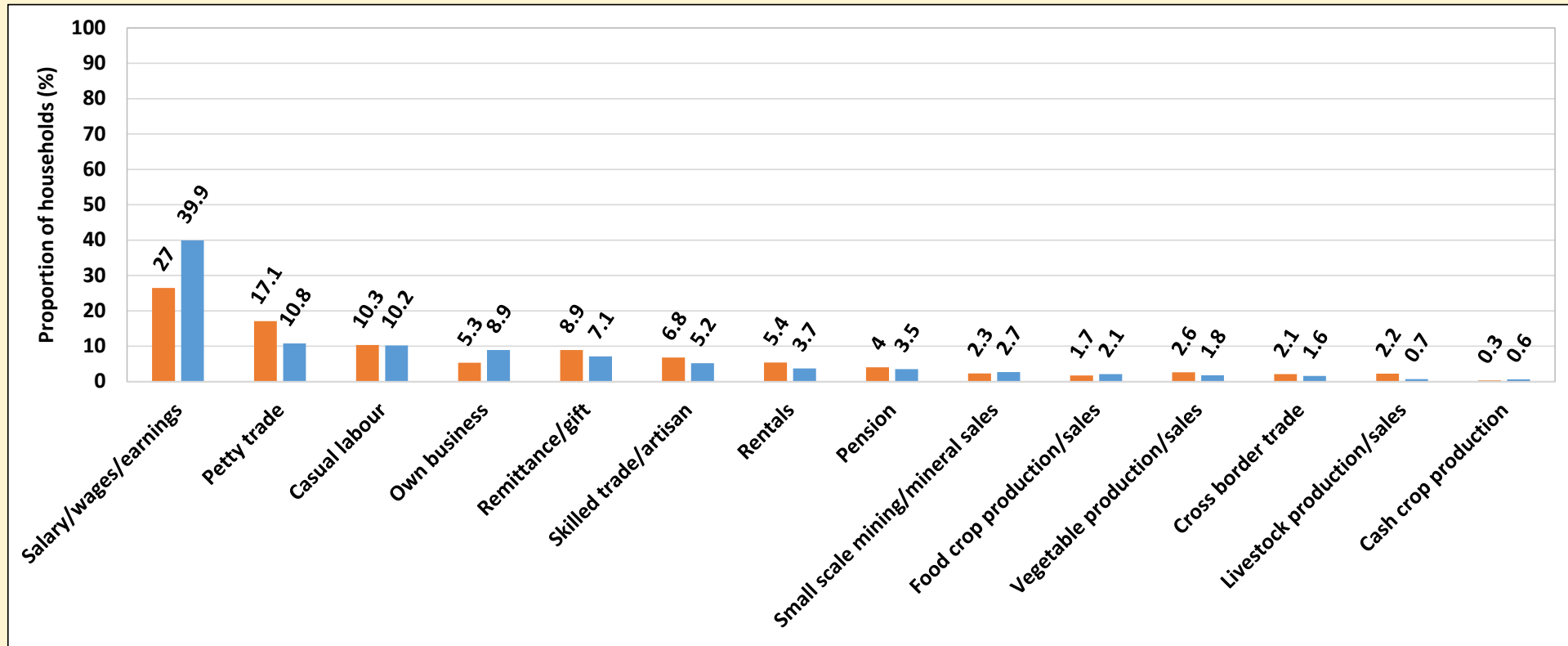
- Most households reported that salary and wages (39.9%) was the most important source of cash income while petty trade (10.8%) was second. The pattern is similar to the one reported in 2016.

- Fathers (50.4%) were contributing more to household income followed by mothers (27.5%)

AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME
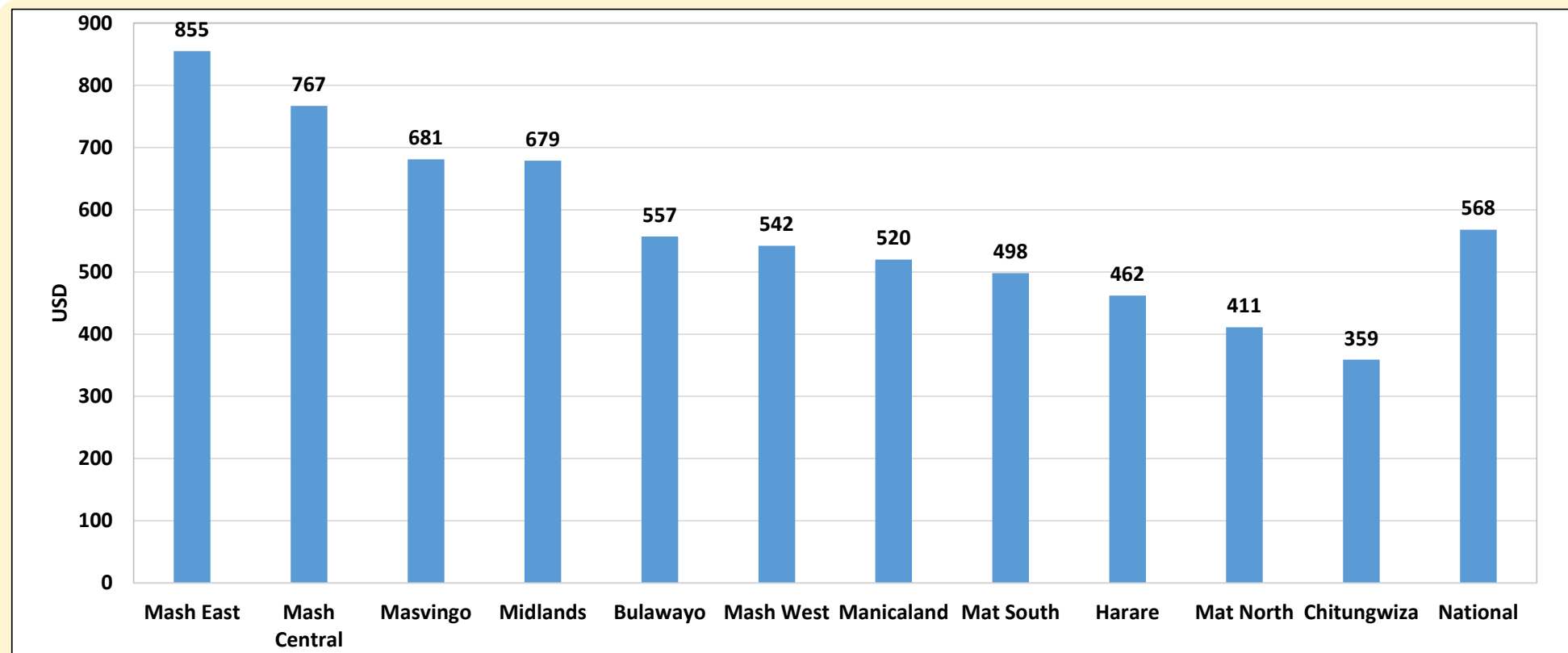
- The average monthly household income for December 2017 was estimated at USD568.
- Households in Mashonaland East had the highest average income of USD855 and those in Chitungwiza had the lowest income of USD359.00
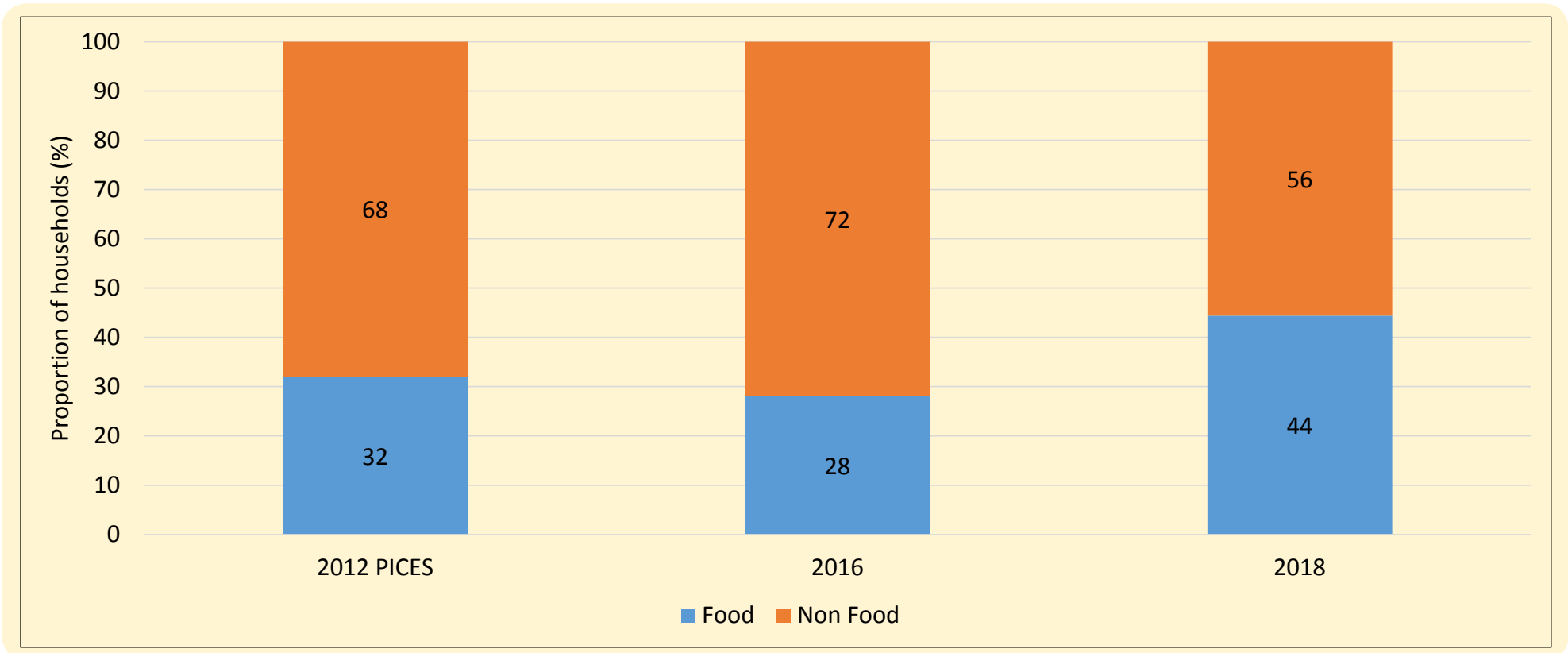
- Household food expenditure share increased from 28% (2016) to 44% in 2018, meaning households were now spending more on food items than before.

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD MONTHLY EXPENDITURE
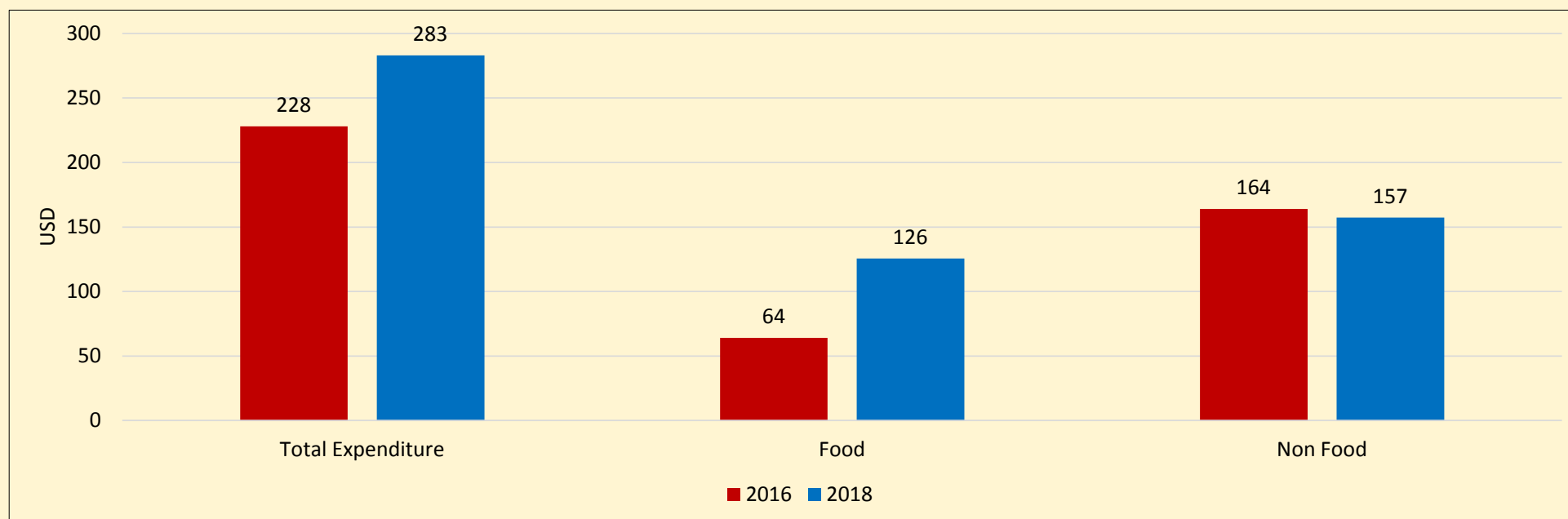
- The household average expenditure for the month of December 2017 was USD 283, which was below the December national Poverty Datum Line(USD556).
- The household average food expenditure was USD126 and was below the national Food Poverty Line of USD182.

Proportion of households (%) by province

Province	Value
Bulawayo	42
Manicaland	49
Mash Central	44
Mash East	34
Mash West	36
Mat North	37
Mat South	43
Midlands	49
Masvingo	41
Harare	51
Chitungwiza	49
National	44

- Nationally 44% of the households spent their incomes on non-food items.
- Mashonaland East had the lowest ratio of food expenditure (34%) while Harare (51%) had the highest.

Open Defecation	Defecation in fields, forests, bushes, bodies of water or other open spaces or disposal of human faeces with solid waste.
Unimproved sanitation facilities	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.
Improved sanitation facilities	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.
Improved water sources	Improved" drinking water sources are further defined by the quality of the water they produce, and are protected from fecal 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
Unimproved water sources	Unprotected dug well, unprotected spring, cart with small tank/drum, tanker truck, surface water (river, dam, lake, pond, stream, canal, irrigation channel), and bottled water are not considered improved sources.

MAIN DRINKING WATER SOURCES
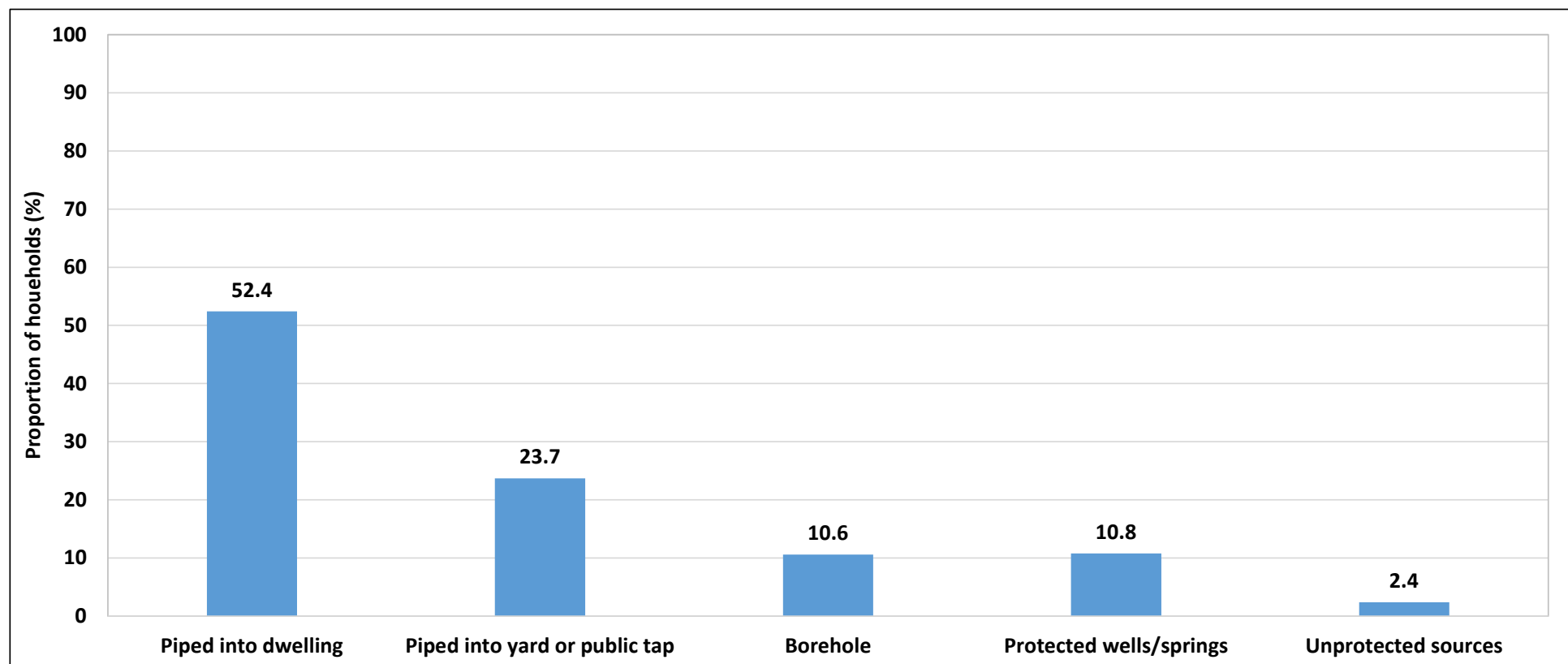
- The main drinking water source in about 52% of the households was water piped into dwelling.
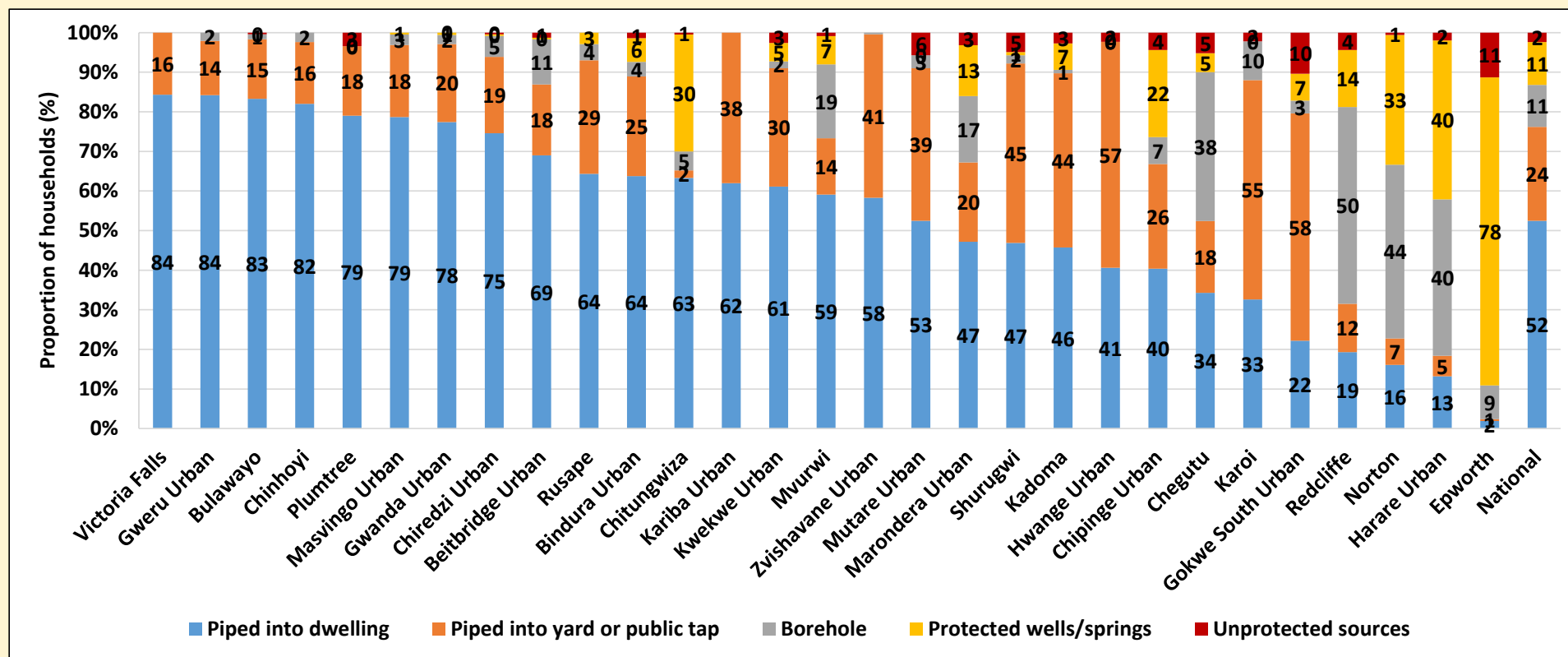
- Epworth (11%), Gokwe South (10%) and Mutare (6%) had the highest proportion of households whose main source of drinking water was an unprotected source.
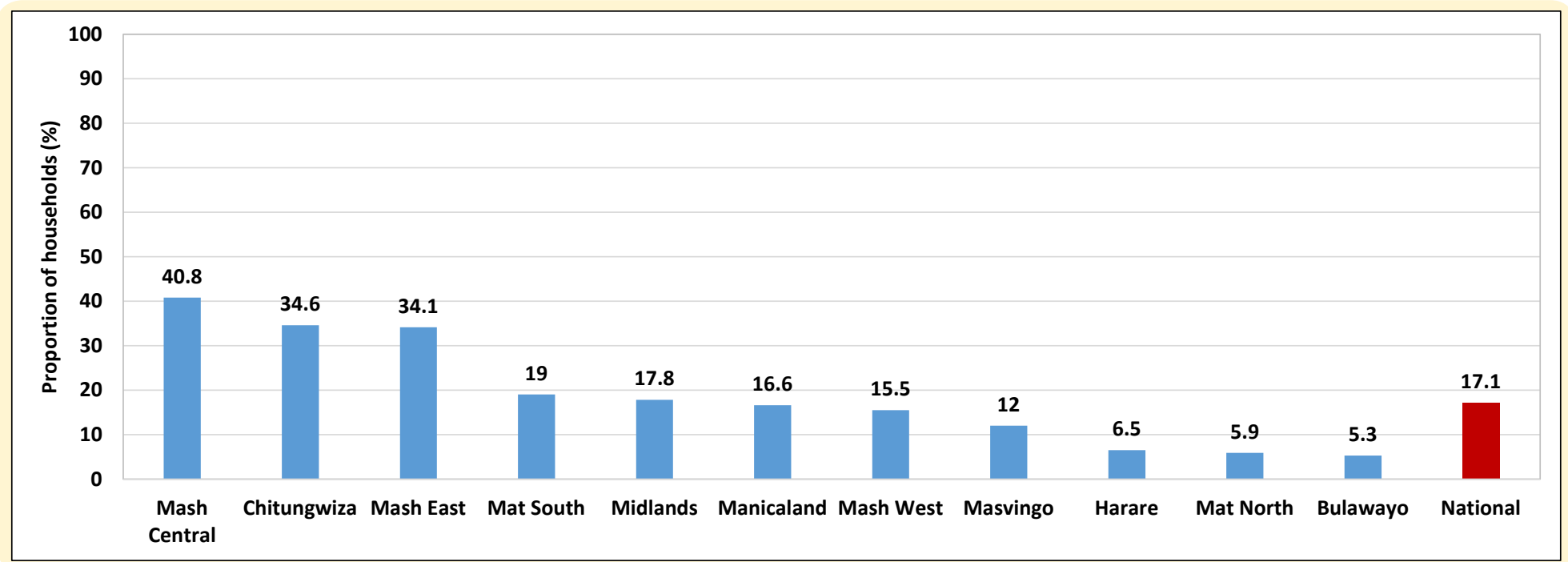
- Nationally, about 17% of the urban households did not have water from the main source on the day of the survey.
- Mashonaland Central (40.8%), had the highest proportion of urban households that did not have water from the main source on the day of the survey followed by Chitungwiza (34.6).

	%	
	Using Improved water source	With no water from the main source at the time of survey
Bulawayo	99.1	5.3
Mutare	94.3	19
Rusape	100	3.3
Bindura	98.6	68.3
Marondera	96.8	44
Chinhoyi	100	10.2
Kadoma	97.3	12.7
Chegutu	94.8	35.3
Kariba	100	0.6
Norton	98.9	7.5
Karoi	97.8	30.4
Hwange	97.7	6.4
Victoria Falls	100	0.9
Gwanda	100	21.8
Beitbridge	86.9	24.4
Plumtree	96.6	7.4
Gweru	100	13.2

	%	
	Using Improved water source	With no water from the main source at the time of survey
Redcliff	95	22.1
Zvishavane	100	19.1
Shurugwi	95.1	17.4
Gokwe South	84.6	9.6
Masvingo	100	5.7
Chiredzi	99.6	15
Harare	97.2	6.5
Chitungwiza	99	34.6
Epworth	88.7	2.8
Beitbridge	86.9	24.4
Plumtree	96.6	7.4
Kwekwe	97.4	18.5
National	96.9	17.1

Proportion of households (%)

Category	Value
Masvingo	2
Mat North	4
Mat South	4
Manicaland	5
Midlands	5
Mash East Province	10
Bulawayo	11
Mash Central	12
Mash West	12
Harare	16
National	8
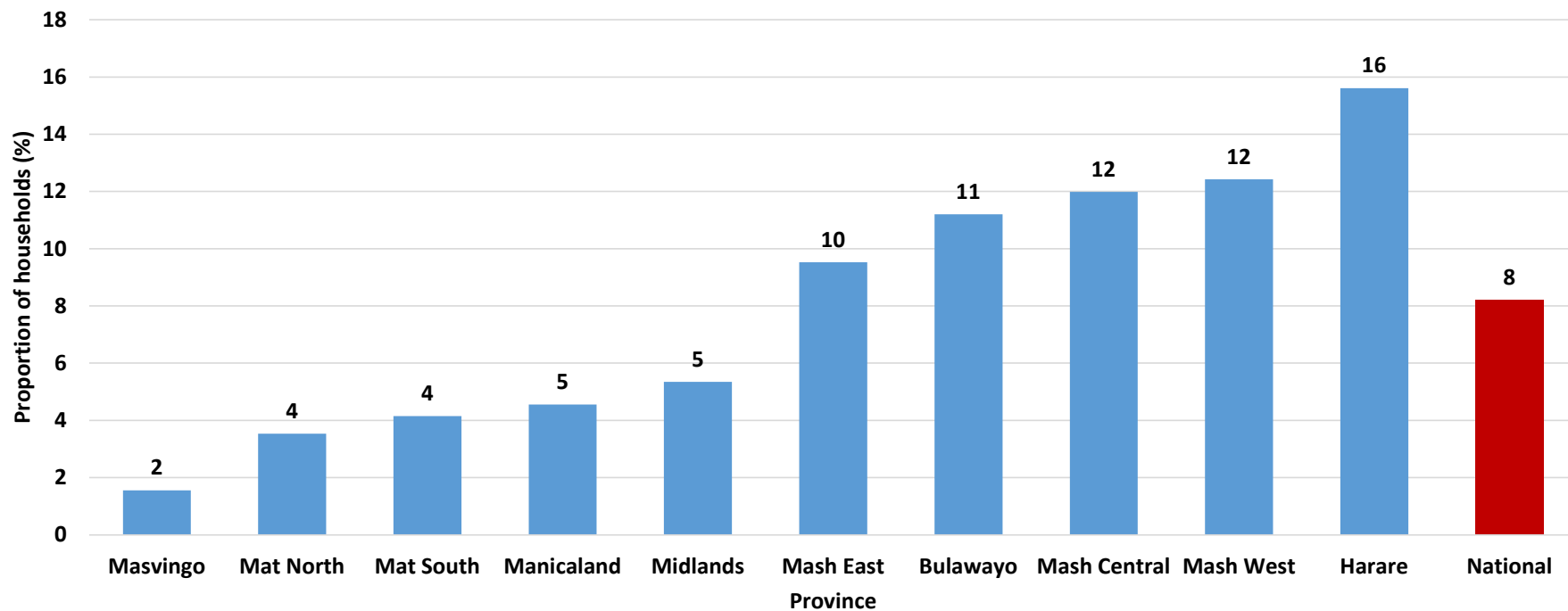
- Nationally, only 8% of households used recommended methods of treating drinking water.

Sanitation

ACCESS TO IMPROVED SANITATION FACILITIES
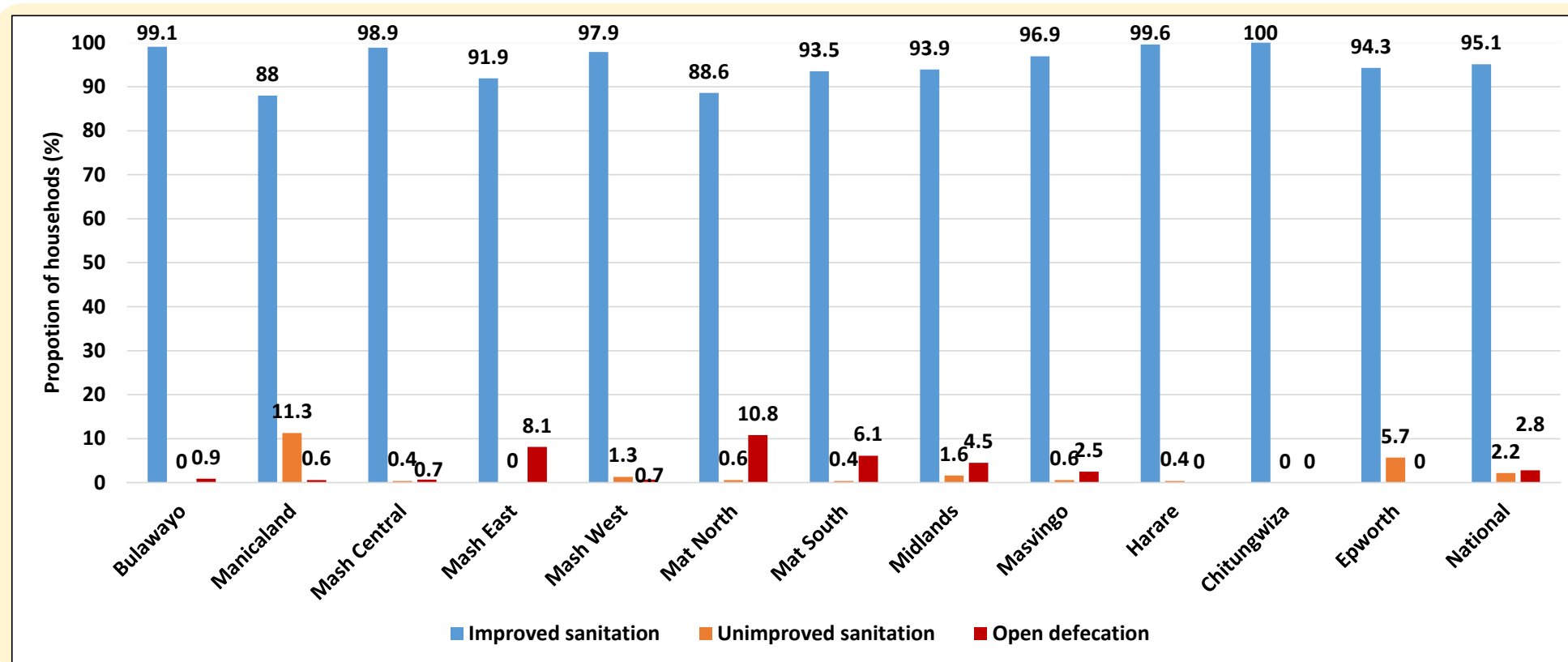
- Nationally, 95% of the households had access to improved sanitation facilities.
- Manicaland (11.3%) and Epworth (5.7%) had the highest proportion of households with unimproved sanitation
- Open defecation was highest in Matabeleland North (10.8%), an increase from 6% in 2016.

Domain	Households practising open defecation %	Domain	Households Practising open defecation %	Domain	Households Practising open defecation %
Bulawayo	0.9	Victoria Falls	7.8	Harare	0
Mutare	2.5	Gwanda	2.9	Chitungwiza	0
Rusape	0	Beitbridge	7	Epworth	0
Bindura	0	Plumtree	8.8	Karoi	0
Marondera	8.8	Gweru	0	Hwange	15
Chinhoyi	0.5	Kwekwe	4.3	Masvingo	3.6
Kadoma	2.2	Redcliff	0	Chiredzi	1.8
Chegutu	0.5	Zvishavane	7.4	Kariba	0
Norton	0.6	Shurugwi	9.8	Gokwe South	5.1
National	**2.8**				

- It is worrisome that some households were practising open defecation.

Food consumption score group	score	Description
Poor	0-21	**An expected consumption of staple 7 days, vegetables 5-6 days, sugar 3-4days, oil/fat 1 day a week, while animal proteins are totally absent**
Borderline	21.5-35	An expected consumption of staple 7 days, vegetables 6-7 days, sugar 3-4days, oil/fat 3 days, meat/fish/egg/pulses 1-2 days a week, while dairy products are totally absent
Acceptable	>35	As defined for the borderline group with more number of days a week eating meat, fish, egg, oil, and complemented by other foods such as pulses, fruits, milk

FOOD CONSUMPTION CATEGORIES

Chart: Proportion of households (%) by food consumption category, 2016 vs 2018

- Poor: 2016 = 1, 2018 = 10
- Borderline: 2016 = 12, 2018 = 9
- Acceptable: 2016 = 87, 2018 = 81

Legend: ■ 2016 ■ 2018
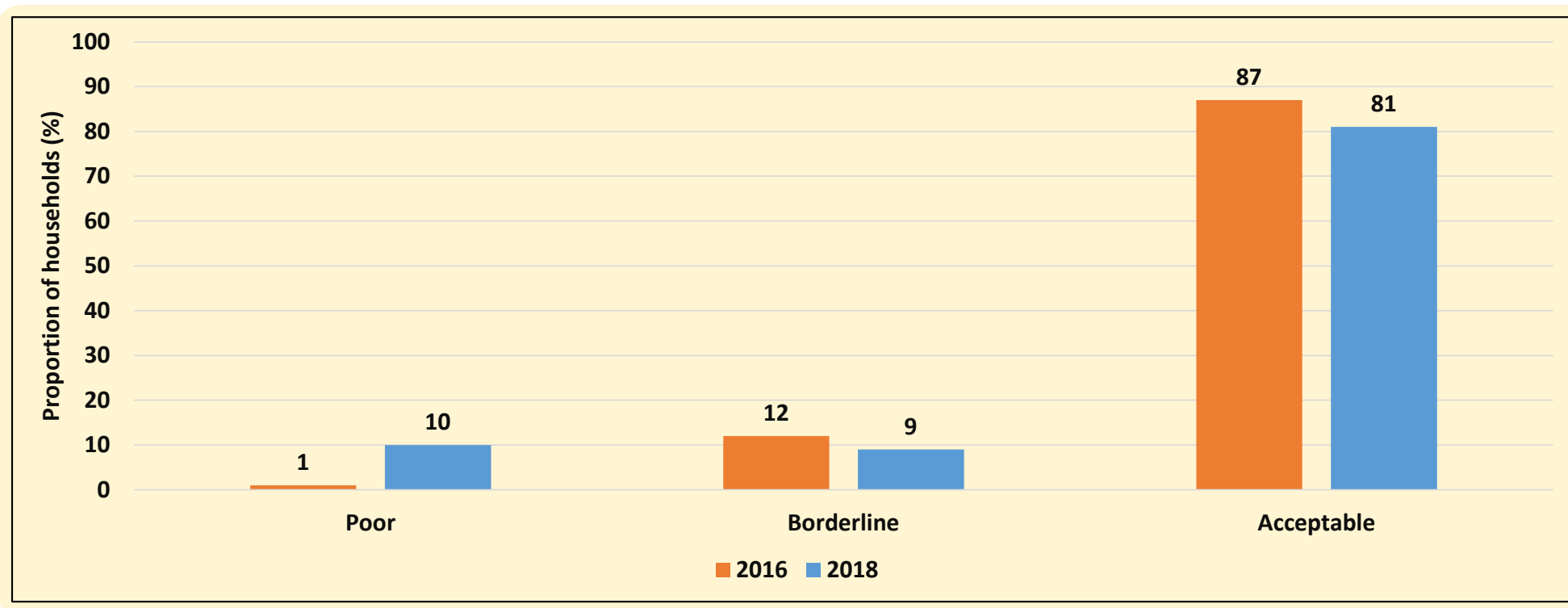
- The proportion of households consuming acceptable diets reduced from 87% in 2016 to 81% in 2018.
- The proportion consuming poor diets increased from 1% (2016) to 10% (2018).
- This is an indication of a worsening food consumption situation in the urban areas.
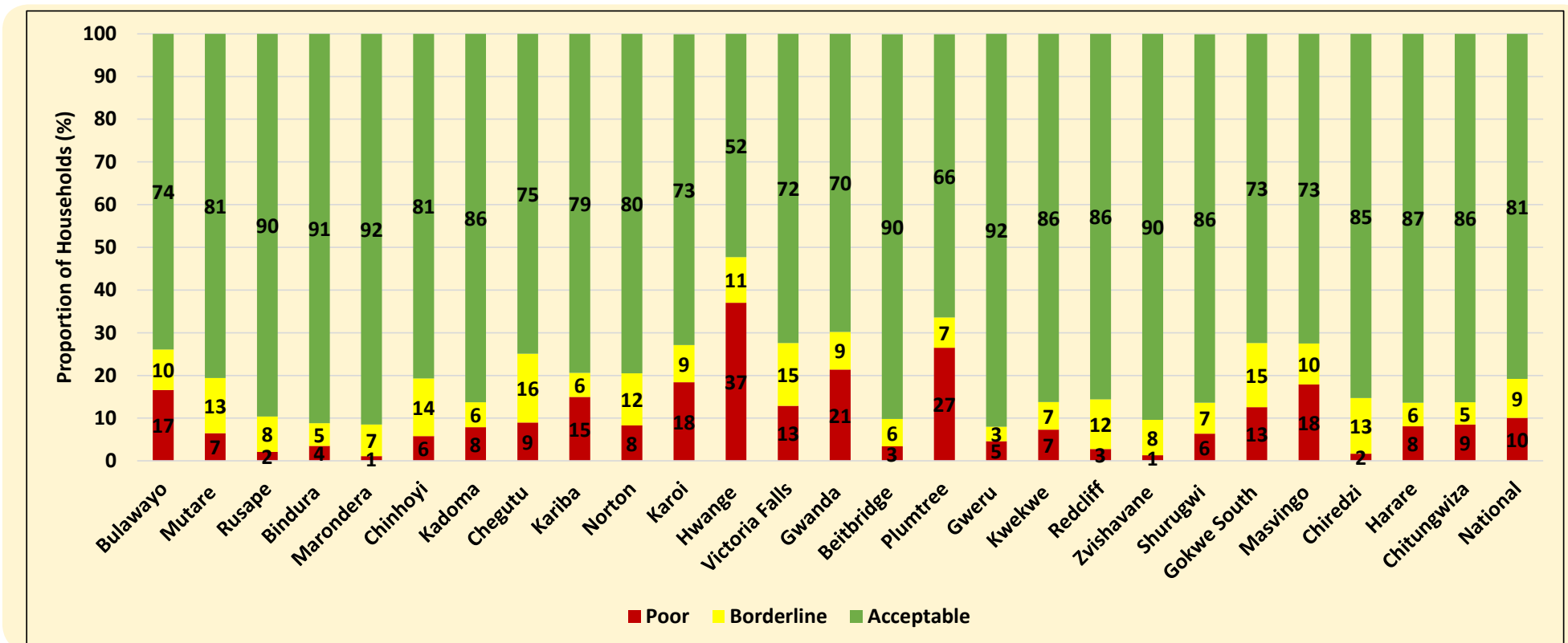
- Hwange (37%) and Plumtree (27%), had high proportions of households with poor food consumption scores whilst acceptable diets were mostly consumed in Marondera (92%).

Chart: Proportions of households(%) consuming iron rich foods by domain.

Legend: ■ Never consumed ■ Consumed sometimes ■ Consumed at least daily

Domain	Never consumed	Consumed sometimes	Consumed at least daily
Bulawayo	14	38	48
Mutare	12	48	40
Rusape	9	38	53
Bindura	7	43	50
Marondera	6	49	45
Chinhoyi	9	55	36
Kadoma	10	43	47
Chegutu	11	43	46
Kariba	4	48	49
Norton	6	42	52
Karoi	18	49	34
Hwange	37	29	33
Victoria Falls	10	47	43
Gwanda	25	27	48
Beitbridge Urban	6	31	63
Plumtree	29	40	31
Gweru	7	45	48
Kwekwe	9	40	50
Redcliff	13	43	44
Zvishavane	4	40	56
Shurugwi	5	33	62
Gokwe South	16	37	48
Masvingo	16	33	51
Chiredzi	6	46	49
Harare	12	41	47
Chitungwiza	8	32	60
Epworth	25	43	32
National	12	40	48

- Hwange urban (37%) and Plumtree (29%) had the highest proportion of households which never consumed iron rich foods over the 7 day recall period.
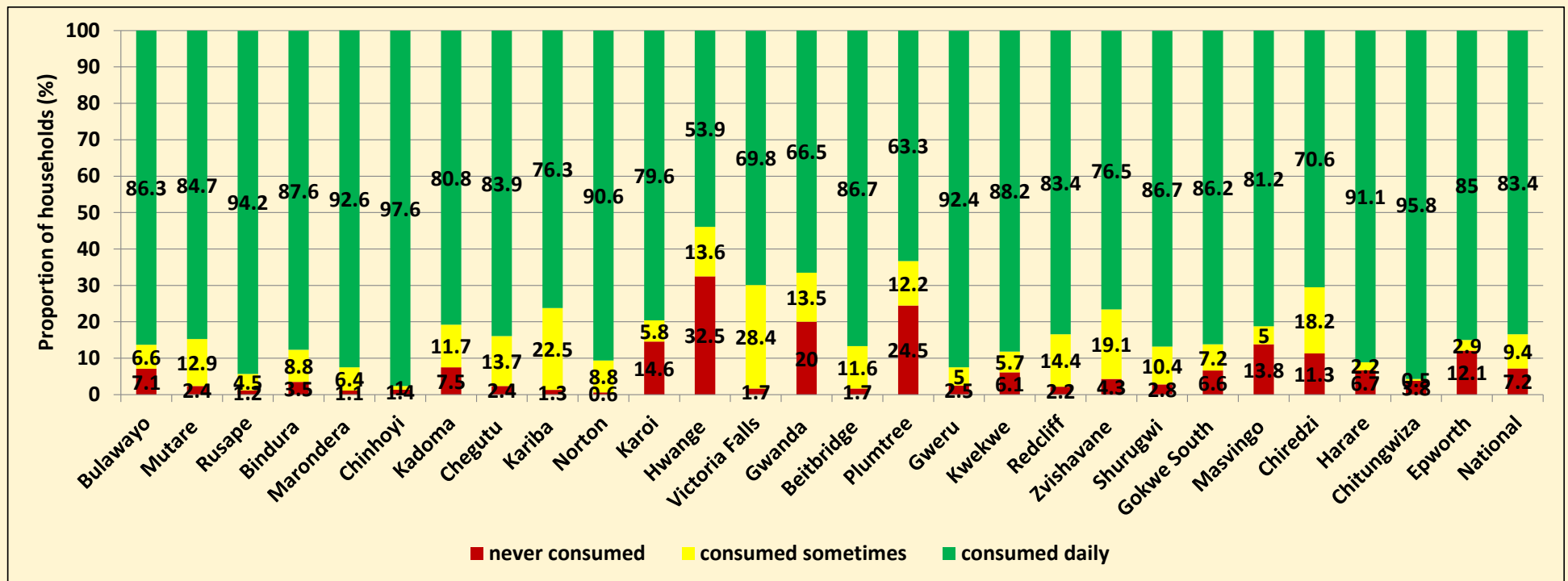
- Over 80% of urban households in the country were consuming vitamin A rich foods daily.
- Hwange (33%) and Plumtree (25%) had the highest proportion of households which never consumed vitamin A-rich foods over the 7 day recall period.

Bar chart titled "Proportion of households(%)" showing Mean score and Max across regions:

Region	Mean score	Max
Bulawayo	7	12
Manicaland	7	12
Mash Central	7	12
Mash East	7	12
Mash West	6	12
Mat North	6	12
Mat South	7	12
Midlands	6	12
Masvingo	6	12
Chitungwiza	7	12
Harare	7	12
National	7	12
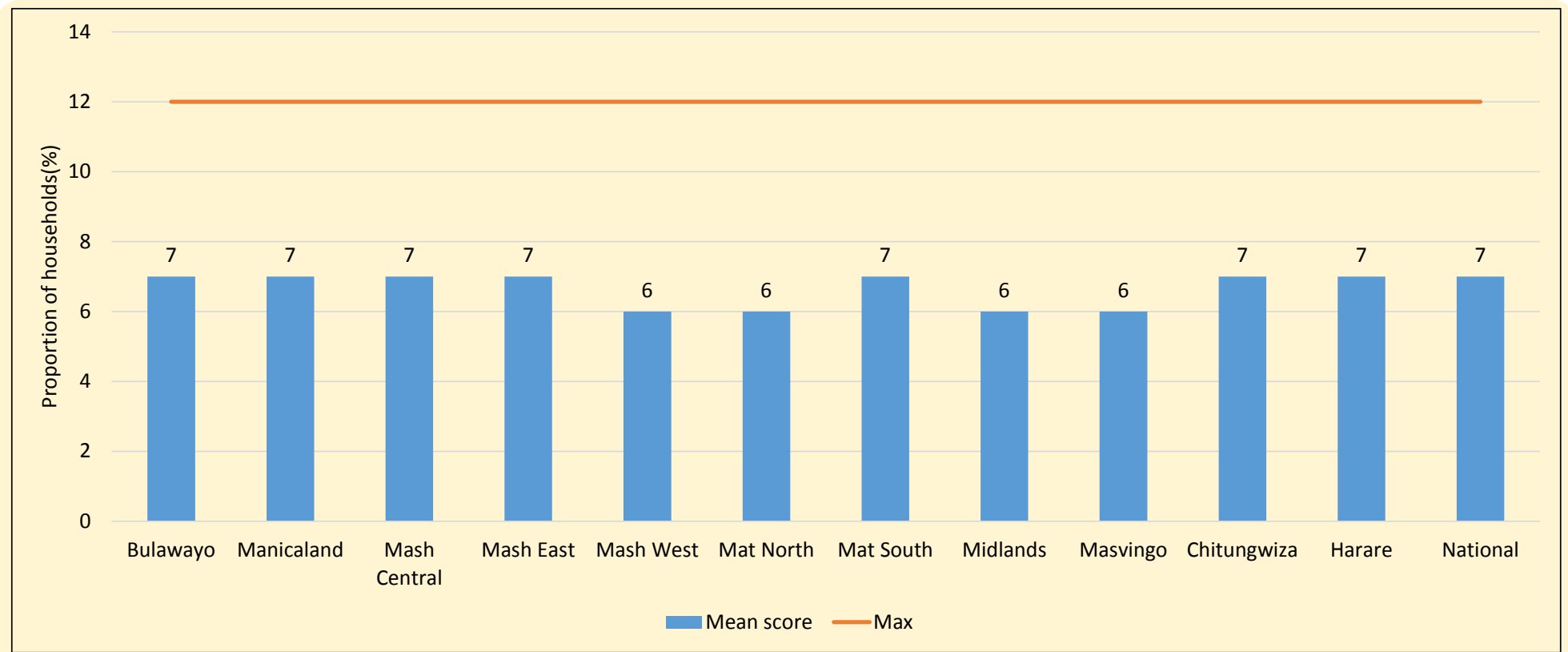
- The Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) was 7 out of a possible 12.
- Mashonaland West, Matabeleland North, Midlands and Masvingo had the lowest HDDS of 6.

- The average number of days urban households consumed cereals was 6 days, a drop from 7 reported in 2016.
- Beans, eggs and milk were consumed the least number of days (1 day), a decrease from an average of 2 days reported in 2016.

COPING STRATEGY INDEX
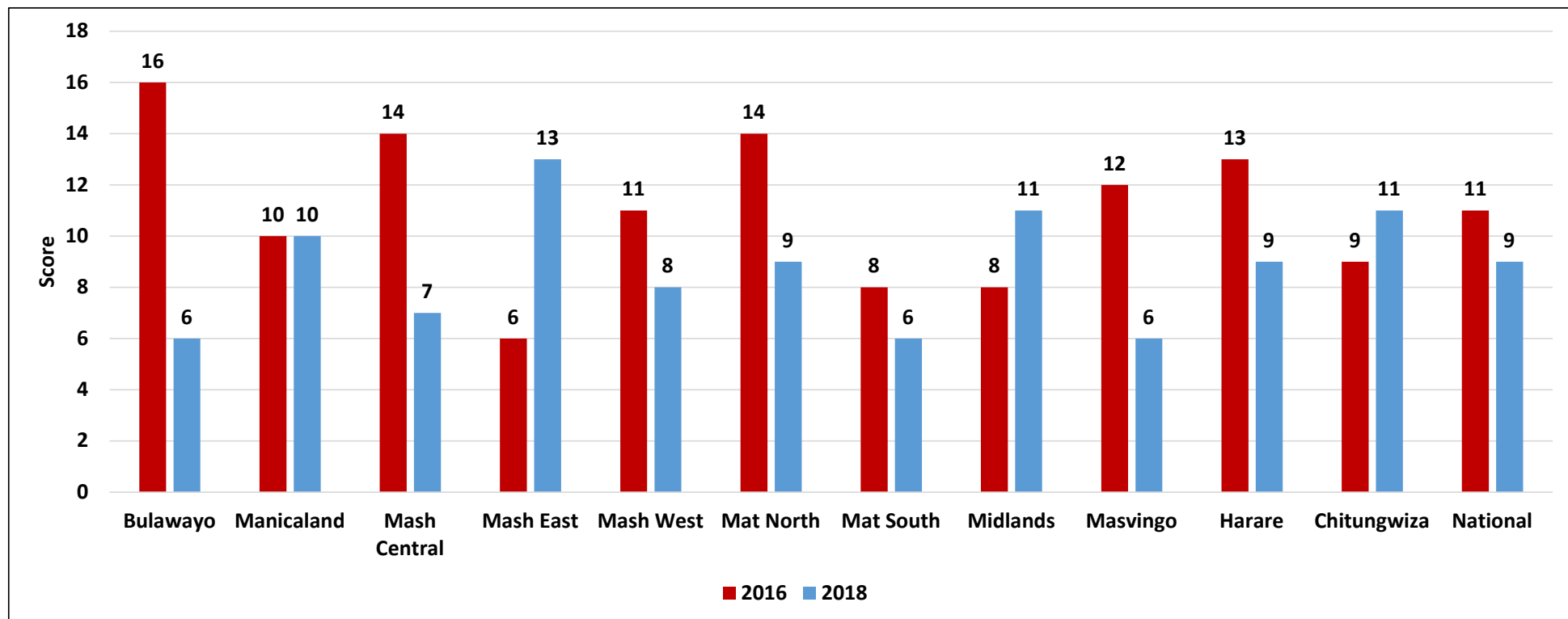
- The average national CSI decreased from 11 (2016) to 9.
- Mashonaland East had the highest CSI score of 13 whilst Masvingo, Matabeleland South and Bulawayo (6) coped less frequently and less severely.
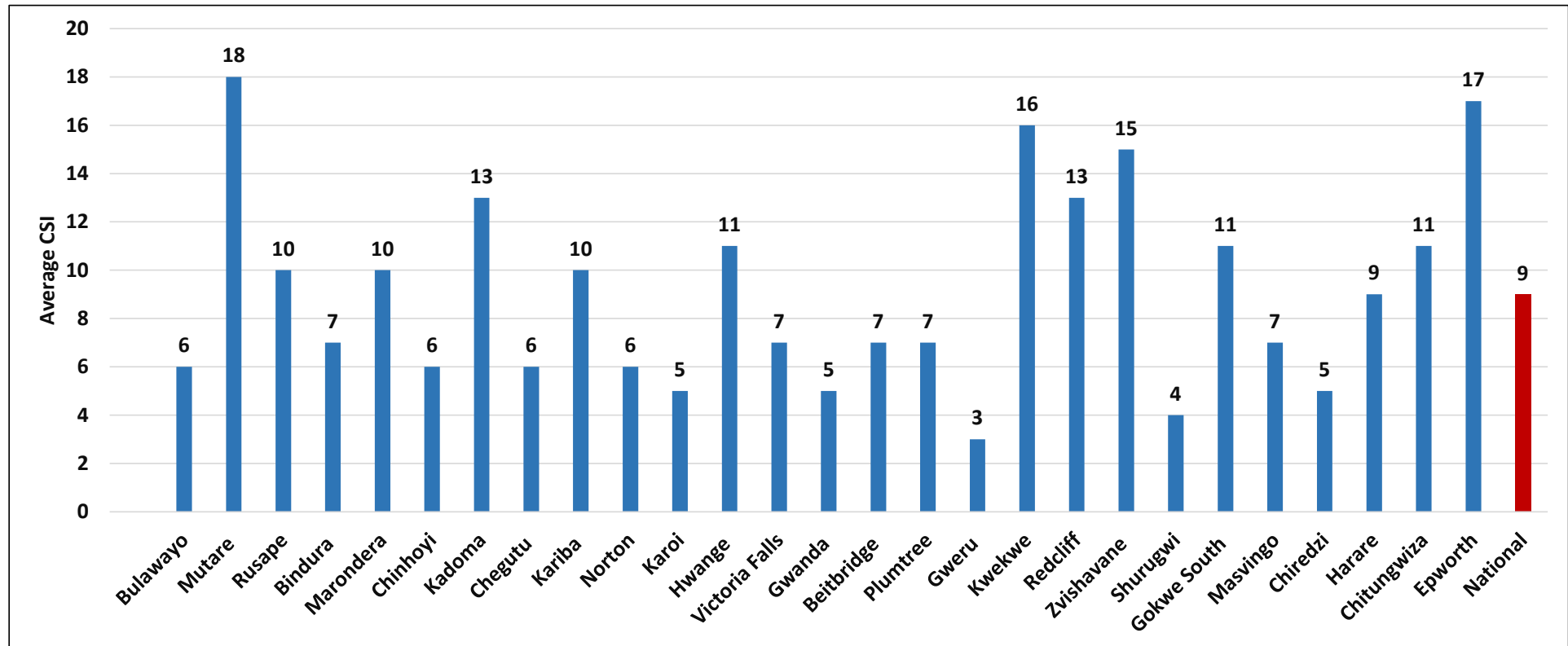
- Mutare had the highest CSI of 18 followed by Epworth which had 17. Households in both these areas engaged in extreme coping methods in order to access food in comparison to other areas.
- Gweru had the lowest CSI of 3.

HOUSEHOLD HUNGER SCALE
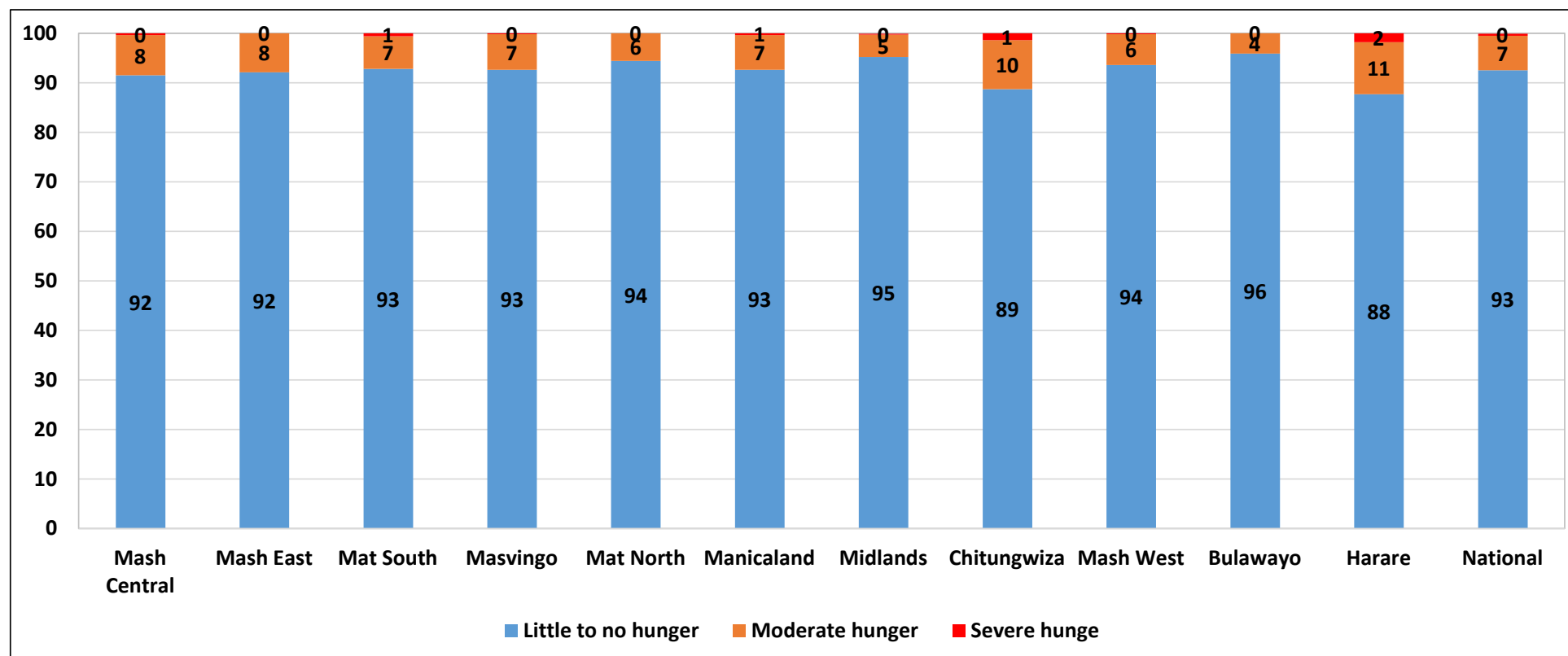
- Nationally, the majority of households (93%) faced little to no hunger whilst 7% faced some moderate hunger.
- Harare had 11% of households facing moderate hunger whilst 2% experienced severe hunger.
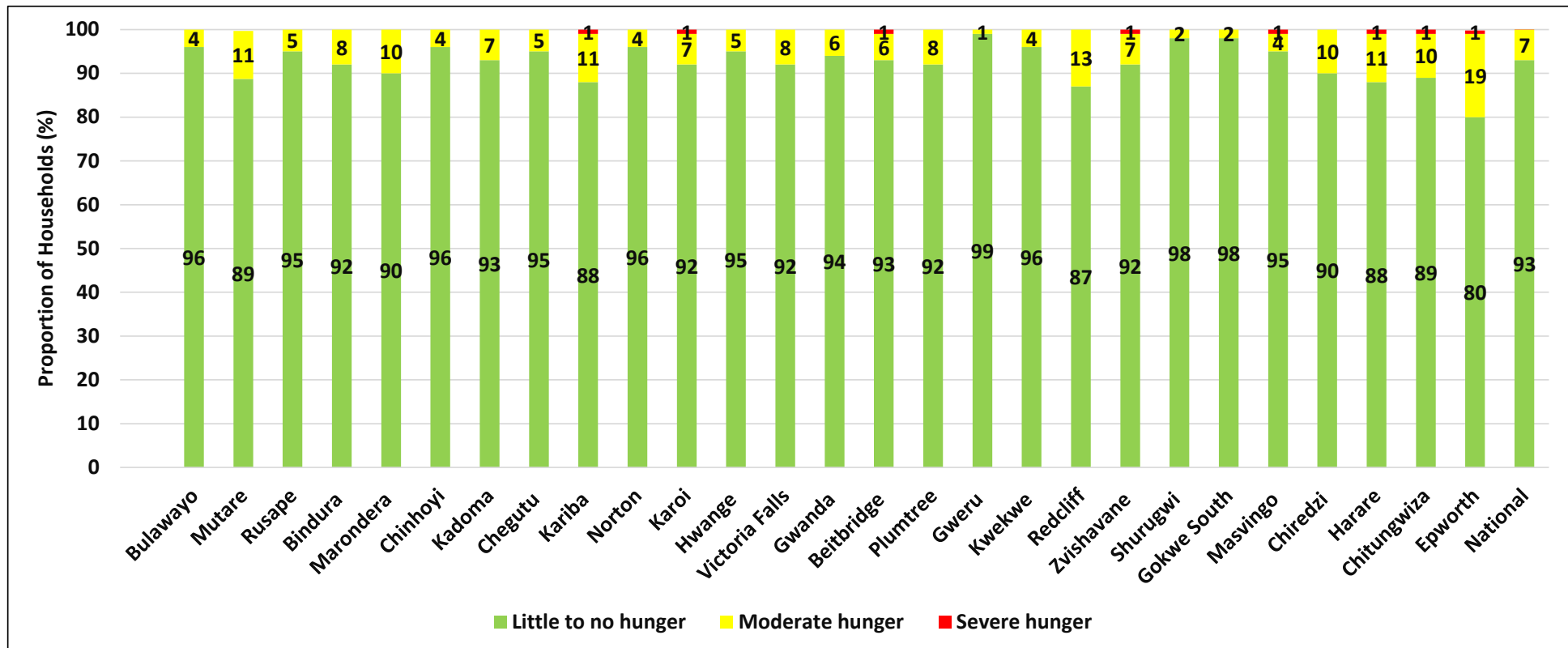
- Epworth had the highest proportion of households facing some moderate hunger (19%).

Livelihood Coping strategies

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

- Thirty percent of households employed at least one livelihood coping strategy.
- Epworth and Mutare (52%) had the highest proportions while Bulawayo and Gweru (13% and 9% respectively) had the least proportions.
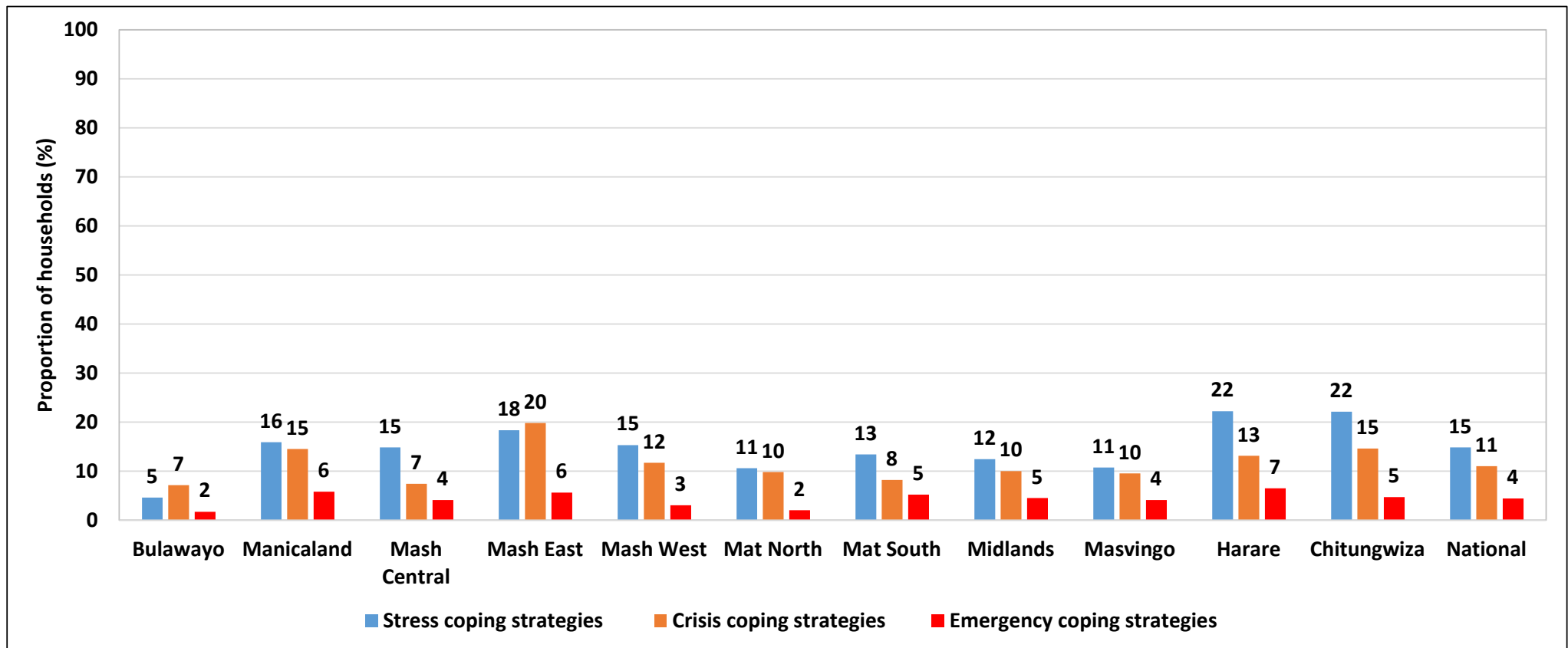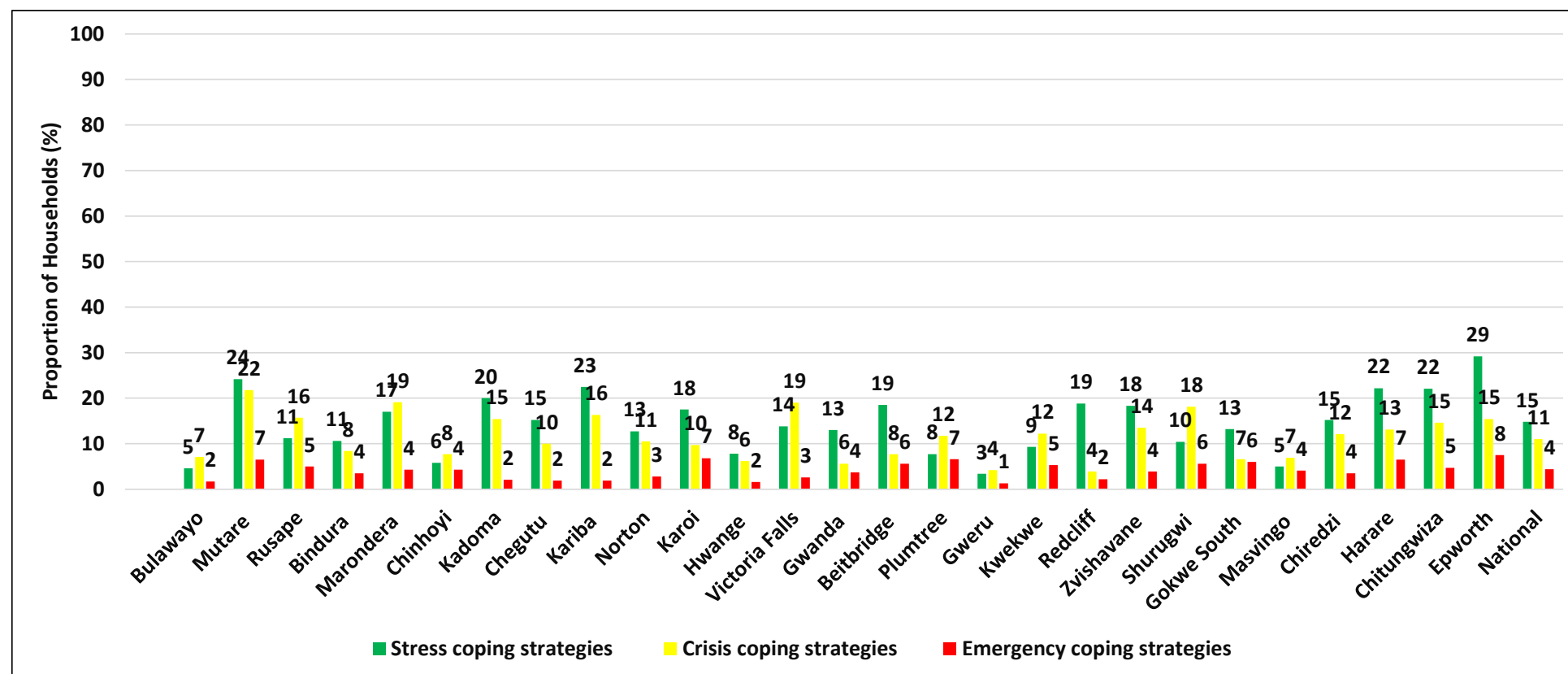
- Emergency livelihood strategies such as selling productive assets that are irreversible were mostly employed in Harare (7%), Manicaland and Mashonaland East (6%), whilst the least proportion of households doing the same was in Bulawayo (2%).
- Stress strategies such as borrowing money or spending savings were most reported in Harare (24%).

- Epworth (29%) had the highest proportion of households which engaged in stress coping strategies followed by Mutare (24%).
- Crisis coping was employed mostly in Mutare (22%) as well as Victoria falls (19%) and emergency coping was mostly employed in Epworth (8%}.

Food Security Situation

To determine the prevalence of food insecurity and its severity amongst households in the urban areas.

# Household Food Security Analytical Framework

Household food security status was determined using four parameters, viz:
- Food Poverty Line;
- Household monthly income;
- Household food consumption Score ; and
- Household Hunger Scale

A household was deemed food insecure when its monthly income was below the food poverty line, its food consumption score was poor or its household hunger scale was severe or moderate.
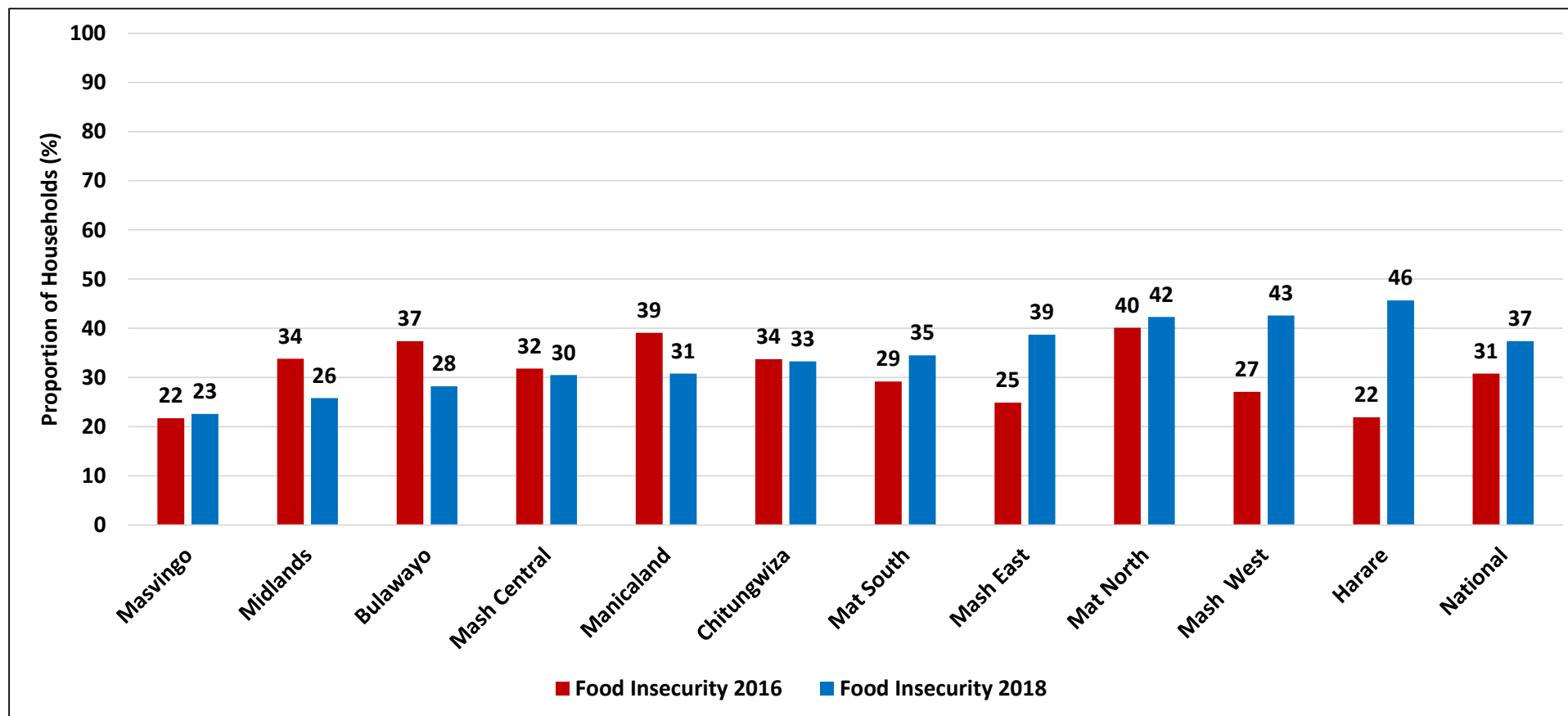
- The national urban food insecurity prevalence was 37% compared to 31% in 2016.
- Prevalence of food insecurity was highest in Harare (46%) and lowest in Masvingo province (23%).

Province	Population Food Insecure 2016	Population Food Insecure 2018
Masvingo	28,691	27,007
Midlands	130,080	100,743
Bulawayo	252,907	186,091
Mashonaland Central	20,630	16,726
Manicaland	101,755	75,736
Chitungwiza	124,140	120,021
Matabeleland South	23,171	25,712
Mashonaland East	38,678	20,297
Matabeleland North	24,310	30,334
Mashonaland West	96,119	148,156
Harare	322,205	762,519
National 2018	**1,163,000**	**1,513,342**

- A total of 1,5million people were food insecure compared to 1,1million in 2016.
- Harare (762 519) had the largest food insecure population, and Mashonaland Central had the least (16 726).
- Although Masvingo and Midlands had low prevalence (23% and 26%) of food insecurity, their food insecure populations were high (27 007 and 100 743 respectively.)
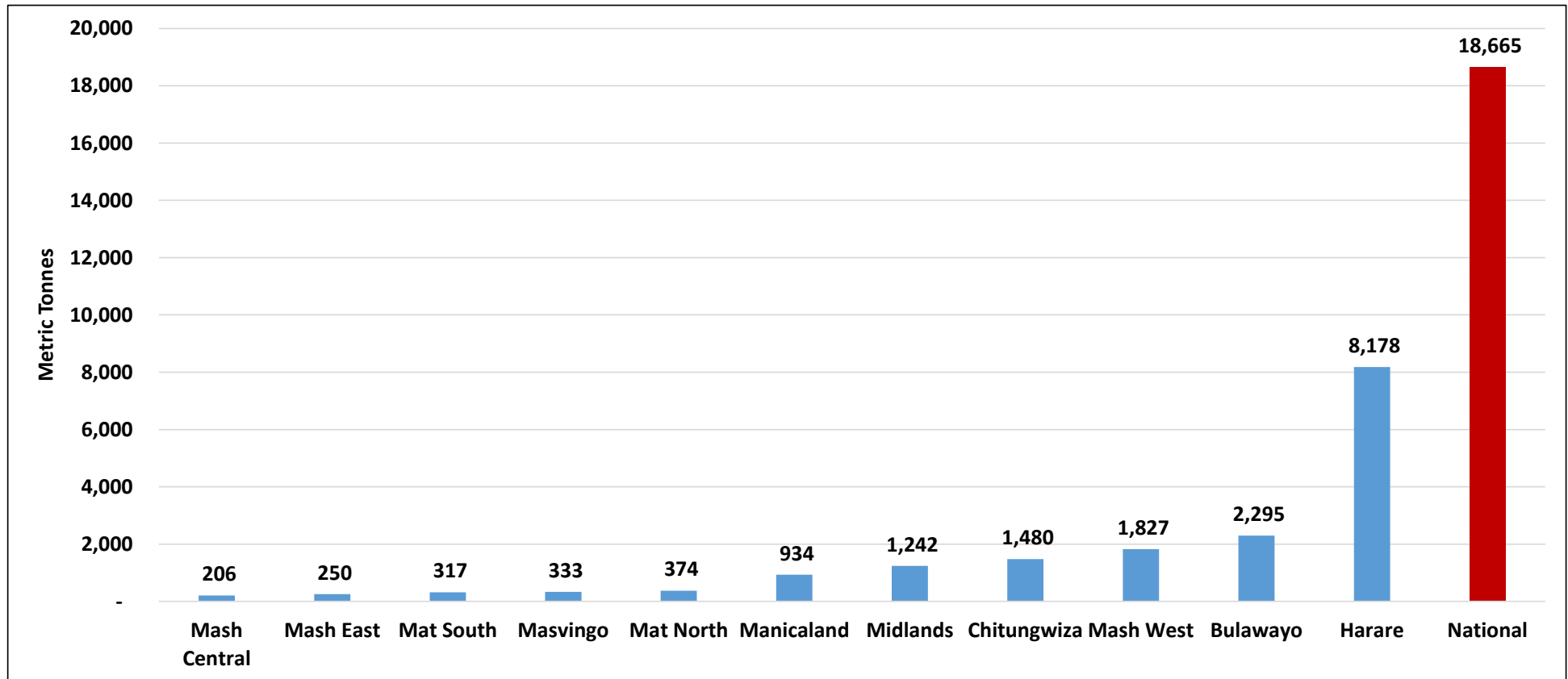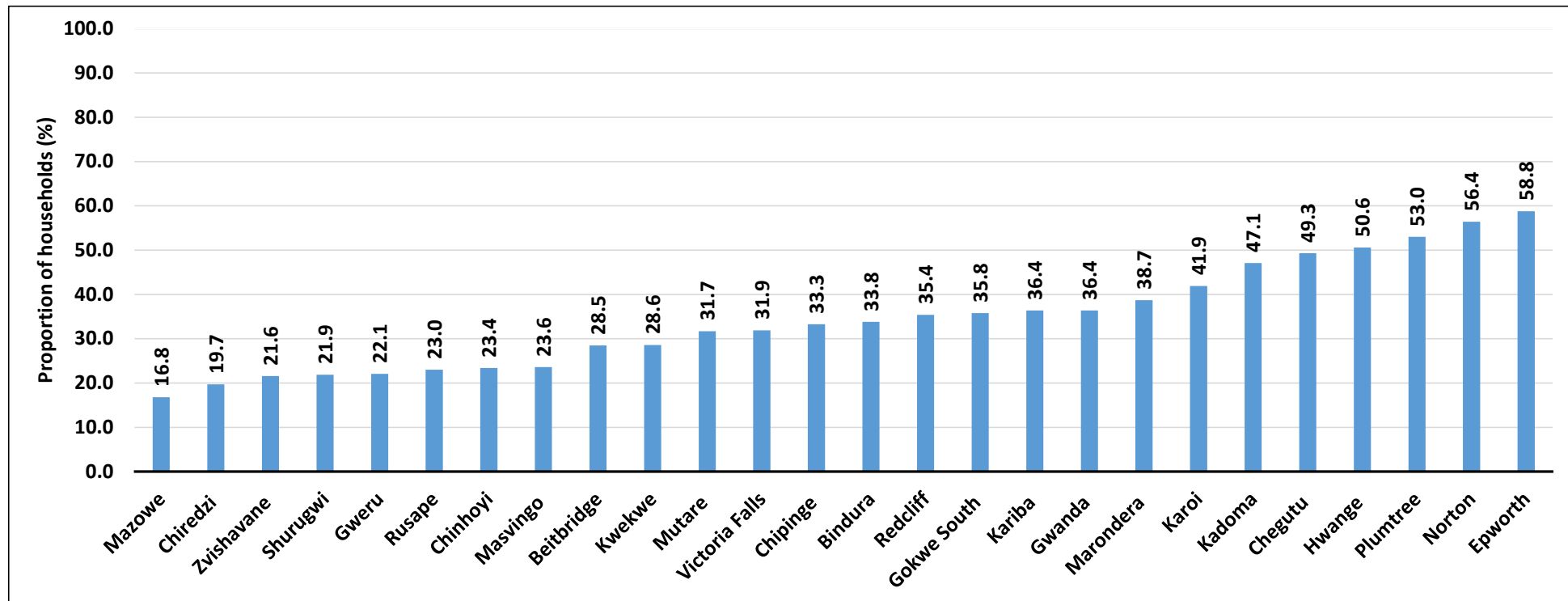
- Nationally, the total monthly cereal requirement was 18,665MT.
- Harare had the largest monthly cereal requirement (8, 178MT), while Mashonaland Central had the least monthly requirement at 206MT.

FOOD INSECURITY PREVALENCE BY DOMAIN

- Hwange, Plumtree, Norton and Epworth had over 50% prevalence of food insecurity.
- Chiredzi and Mazowe had food insecurity prevalence below 20%.

Domain	Food insecure Population
Mazowe	1,793
Chiredzi	6,058
Zvishavane	9,878
Shurugwi	4,850
Gweru	35,274
Rusape	7,053
Chinhoyi	18,446
Masvingo	20,949
Beitbridge	12,093
Kwekwe	29,176
Mutare	60,163
Victoria Falls	10,145
Chipinge	8,520
Bindura	14,933
Redcliff	12,859
Gokwe South	8,706
Kariba	9,739
Gwanda	7,414
Marondera	20,297
Karoi	12,124
Kadoma	44,056
Chegutu	25,229
Hwange	20,189
Plumtree	6,205
Norton	38,562
Epworth	99,456

- Mazowe (1,793) had the least food insecure population.
- Epworth (99,456) had the highest population which was food insecure.
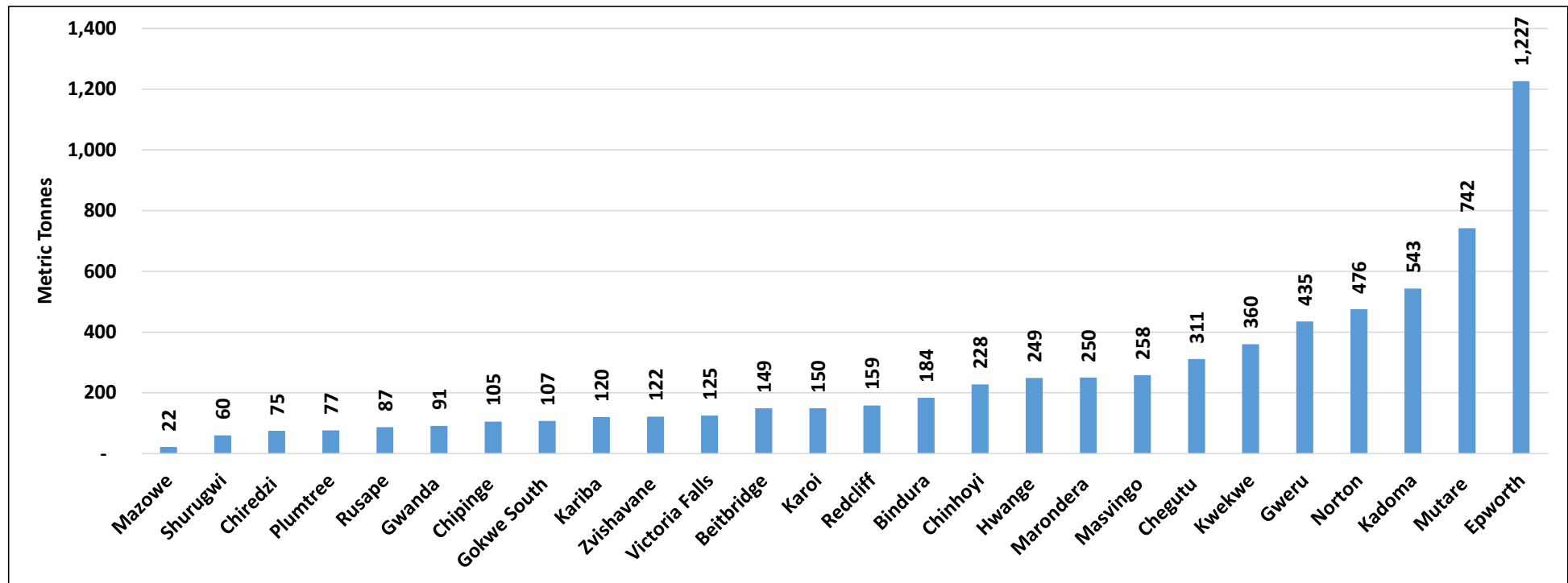
- The highest monthly cereal requirement was for Epworth (1,227MT), while Mazowe (22MT) had the least.

Demographic Characteristics		Food secure %	Food insecure %
Sex of household head	Male	71.7	28.3
	Female	68.2	31.8
Age category of household Head	Less than 18 years	30.4	69.6
	18 to 59 years	71	29
	Greater than 59 years	65.4	34.6
Marital Status	Married	71.6	28.4
	Living with partner	72.8	27.2
	Divorced/separated	68.7	31.3
	Widowed	63.7	36.3
	Never married/never lived with partner	78.5	21.5
Household head education level	None	52	48
	Primary level	59.8	40.2
	ZJC level	62	38
	O' level	70.1	29.9
	A' level	79.4	20.6
	Diploma/Certificate after primary	86.2	13.8
	Diploma/Certificate after secondary	89.7	10.3
	Graduate/Post-Graduate	86.3	13.7
Economically active	No	55.6	44.4
	Yes	73	27
Chronic member presence	Not present	66.2	33.8
	Present	66.8	33.2

Characteristics Of Food Insecure Households

- Food insecurity was high among the female headed households (31.8%) compared to male headed households (28.3%).
- Households of household heads aged less than 18 years had the highest prevalence of food insecurity (69.6%), followed by households of household heads greater than 59 years (34.6%) and the least prevalence (29%) was in the 18-59 years age category for household heads.
- Households with household heads that were widowed (36.3%) and divorced/separated (31.3%) had the highest food insecurity, while household heads that were never married (21.5%) had the least food insecurity prevalence.
- Food insecurity was highest (48%) in the households with household heads that did not have any educational qualifications while households with household heads with a diploma after secondary was the least (10.3%).
- The prevalence of food insecurity was high (44.4%) in households without an economically active household head compared to those with an economically active household head (27%).
- There was no significant difference in food insecurity prevalence in households with or without a chronically ill member.

1. Children continued to be turned away from school as reported by 9.7% of the households despite there being a policy that prohibits the practice. There is therefore need for policy reinforcement as well as monitoring to ensure that children exercise their right to education as enshrined in the constitution.

2. Considering that 36% of ECD age pupils were not in school at the time of the survey, the ministry of Primary and Secondary Education should be capacitated to conduct community outreaches to enlighten all parents on the ECD policy.

3. About 53% of the eligible schoolchildren were not in school due to high costs of education. In this regard, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare should prioritise timely and adequate resource allocation towards the BEAM programme.

4. Economic related shocks and challenges such as cash shortages (64%), high food prices (57%), and health and funeral expenses (31%), loss of employment (25%) and high fuel / transport costs (17%) were the major issues affecting urban communities. Ability of households to recover from these economic related shocks and challenges proved difficult compared to other shocks and challenges experienced so there is need for policies and programing to focus on ways to build communities and households' capacities to deal with economic challenges to ensure sustainable livelihoods and economic growth in the urban areas.

5. Given that the majority of the households' most important income source was salary and wages (39.9%), it is recommended that efforts should directed towards programmes that encourage diversification of income sources to spread risk and promote resilience building

6. Petty trade (11%) was reported as one of the important sources of income. An enabling environment should be availed for the households to practise petty trade fully with strategies that transform this into the diversified and formal sector enterprises.

7. There is need to implement robust income generating business programmes. In this regard the Ministry of Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) should educate and empower communities in entrepreneurial skills.

8. The majority of urban households are accessing safe water sources even though there are times when these households do not have water, thus supply is not always guaranteed. Urban local authorities should therefore prioritise provision of potable water to residents at all times as enshrined in Section 77 of the Zimbabwean Constitution; "Every person has a right to safe, clean and potable water.

9. Whilst most urban households have access to water services, open defaecation (2.8%) is still an issue in urban areas defeating the global healthy cities initiative/ approach. There is need to come up with policies specifically on urban and town planning in order to address such open defecation problems.

10. There was an increase in the proportion of households sharing dwelling units in urban areas from 42% (2016) to 82% (2018) hence there is need to invest in decent and affordable accommodation in urban areas. About 1.3% of households were still residing in temporary structures such as plastics, tents and wooden structures.

11. Electricity was the major source of energy used by 60% of the households in urban areas. However, 20% of these households reported that electricity was not always available. There is need to promote and upscale the use of renewable energy sources.

12. More than 50% of households in Epworth, Redcliffe and Gokwe South used wood as their source of fuel/energy. There is need for interventions to arrest the challenge of deforestation.

13. The proportion of households consuming poor diets increased from 1% (2016) to 10% (2018). Domains such as Hwange (37%), Plumtree (27%)

had the highest proportion of households with poor consumption score. This is an indication of worsening food consumption. There is need to craft coherent policies which promote dietary diversity in urban areas e.g urban agriculture versus urban councils by-laws.

14. The household dietary diversity decreased for most domains hence the low Food Consumption Score (FCS). There is need for development partners and churches to complement Government efforts by scaling up nutrition sensitive social safety nets.

15. The emergency livelihood coping strategies (4%) are a cause of concern as they continue to lead to asset depletion, which may lead to future vulnerabilities. Thus, resilience building programming by the multiple sectors is recommended.

16. It was noted with great concern that Hwange urban and Plumtree were consuming foods poor in protein, iron and vitamin A. There is need for a more robust package of interventions by the ministries responsible for health, agriculture, social welfare and local government to improve diversified diets for the affected communities.

17. Prevalence of urban food insecurity increased from 31% (2016) to 37% (2018) and was over 50% in domains such as Hwange (50.6%) Plumtree (53%) and Norton (56.4%) and Epworth (58.8%). Compared to 2016, prevalence of food insecurity in these domains remained high hence there is need for urgent attention to this matter to avoid a worsening situation.

18. There is need for an urgent holistic approach to safety nets interventions in urban areas. This is in light of the most food insecure domains showing a deteriorating picture in most of the assessed indicators.

19. Establishing a coordinated multi-sectoral structure to respond to the prevailing urban food insecurity is critical.

20. Since evidence shows that Government remains the main actor in providing social safety nets, there is need to avail more resources to the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare to enable timely interventions.

21. Given the high prevalence of food insecurity in urban areas, there is need for a robust school feeding programme.

- Household food consumption is a dynamic process and greatly influenced by several factors (including the household socio-economic profiles and demographics).
- Dietary diversity provides an indication regarding access to diversified foods of urban households in the country.
- Food access can be achieved in urban areas, but achieving a diversified diet could be a challenge especially in countries experiencing nutrition and economic transition.
- Food Consumption Score (FCS) measures food security by assessing consumption of foods by households.
- FCS is a composite score based on dietary diversity, food frequency and relative nutritional importance of food groups. The standard method of calculating FCS provides a good indication of nutrient intake by populations over a reference period of time through low cost methods.

- Households are categorised into poor, borderline and acceptable food composition scores. FCS can be validated with other food security indicators such as coping strategy index (CSI), asset index, % expenditure on food among others.
- Coping Strategy Index (CSI) is an indicator used to compare the hardship faced by households by measuring the frequency and severity of the behaviors they engage in when faced with food shortages. A higher score indicates a greater level of coping, and hence increased food insecurity.
- The Household Hunger Score (HHS) is a household food deprivation scale which focuses on the food quantity dimension of food access.
- The Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) indicates the number of food groups consumed by households out of a total of 12 food groups.

Name	Organisation	Email
George D. Kembo	Food and Nutrition Council	gkembo@fnc.org.zw
Alfa Ndlovu	Food and Nutrition Council	andlovu@fnc.org.zw
Alina Michalska	UNICEF ESARO	amichalska@unicef.org
Angela Kafembe	FEWSNET	akafembe@fews.net
Anna Chineka	UNICEF	achineka@unicef.org
Arnold Damba	ZIMSTAT	dambaanro@gmail.com
David Chigodo	Food and Nutrition Council	dchigodo@fnc.org.zw
Dexter Chagwena	Ministry of Health and Child Care	tungadex@gmail.com
Elizabeth Katuruza	Ministry of Health and Child Care	ekaturuza39@gmail.com
Herbert Zvirere	Food and Nutrition Council	hzvirere@fnc.org.zw
Kiyasi Murovi	Ministry of primary and Secondary Education	kmurovi@gmail.com
Kudzai Mudukuti	UNICEF	kmukudoka@unicef.org
Lloyd Chadzingwa	Food and Nutrition Council	lchadzingwa@fnc.org.zw
Mahlatini Honest	Ministry of Health and Child Care	hnstmahlatini@gmail.com
Mangwiro Innocent	Food and Nutrition Council	imangwiro@fnc.org.zw
Miriam Banda	Food and Nutrition Council	miriebanda@yahoo.co.uk
Mpande Ruramai	Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education	rurampande@gmail.com
Muzangwa Lydia	Ministry of Health and Child Care	mlydiakudzai@gmail.com

REPORT WRITING TEAM

Name	Organisation	Email
Nester Gumbo	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement	gumbonester@gmail.com
Njovo Handrea	Ministry of Health and Child Care	hnjovo@gmail.com
Nyasha Gwamanda	Ministry of Health and Child Care	nyagwa@gmail.com
Patience Hoto	FAO	patience.hoto@fao.org
Perpetual Nyadenga	Food and Nutrition Council	pnyadenga@fnc.org.zw
Rongai Machinga	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement	rmachinga@gmail.com
Rudo Sagomba	WFP	rudo.sagomba@wfp.org
Rutendo Nyahoda	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement	rruwisi@yahoo.com
Ruth Machaka	Ministry of Health and Child Care	rumachaka78@gmail.com
Ruth Wutete	Food and Nutrition Council	ruthwutete@gmail.com
Shamiso Chikobvu	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement	chikobvushamiso33@gmail.com
Siboniso Chigova	Food and Nutrition Council	schigova@fnc.org.zw
Tafara Ndumiyana	WFP	tafara.ndumiyana@wfp.org
Tanaka Jabangwe	Harare City	jabangwetana@gmail.com
Tasiyana Nyadzayo	Ministry of Health and Child Care	tknyadzayo@gmail.com
Tatenda Mudiwa	Food and Nutrition Council	tmudiwa@fnc.org.zw
Themba Maphosa	Ministry of Health and Child Care	tmaphosa09@gmail.com
Themba Nduna	USAID	tnduna@usaid.gov
Tinomutenda Makaudze	Food and Nutrition Council	tmakaudze@fnc.org.zw
Walter Chigumbu	Ministry of Health and Child Care	wchigumbu@yahoo.co.uk
Yvonne Mavhunga	Food and Nutrition Council	yvonnemavhunga@gmail.com
Zanele Moyo	Ministry of Health and Child Care	zanmoyo1@gmail.com

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