

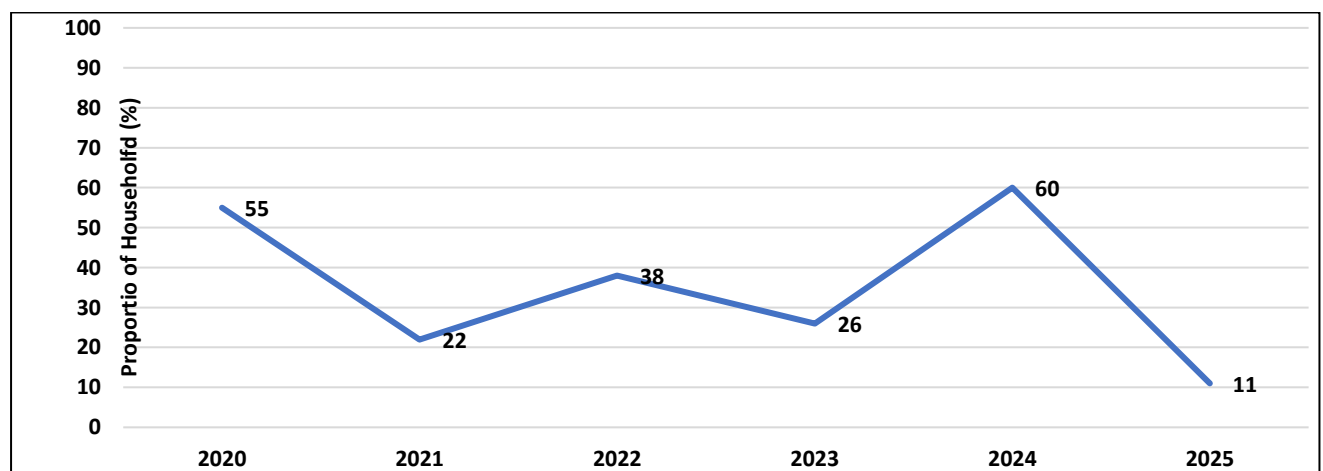


# Zimbabwe Livelihoods Assessment Committee (ZimLAC) 2025 Rural Livelihoods Assessment *Manicaland Province Factsheet*

The Zimbabwe Livelihoods Assessment Committee continues to undertake annual livelihoods assessments in fulfilment of Commitment 6 of the Food and Nutrition Security Policy. The overall purpose of the 2025 Rural Livelihoods Assessment was to provide an annual update on livelihoods in Zimbabwe’s rural areas to inform policy formulation and programming of appropriate interventions. This assessment was also guided by the need to demonstrate the impact of the National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1) and to provide the baseline for NDS2.

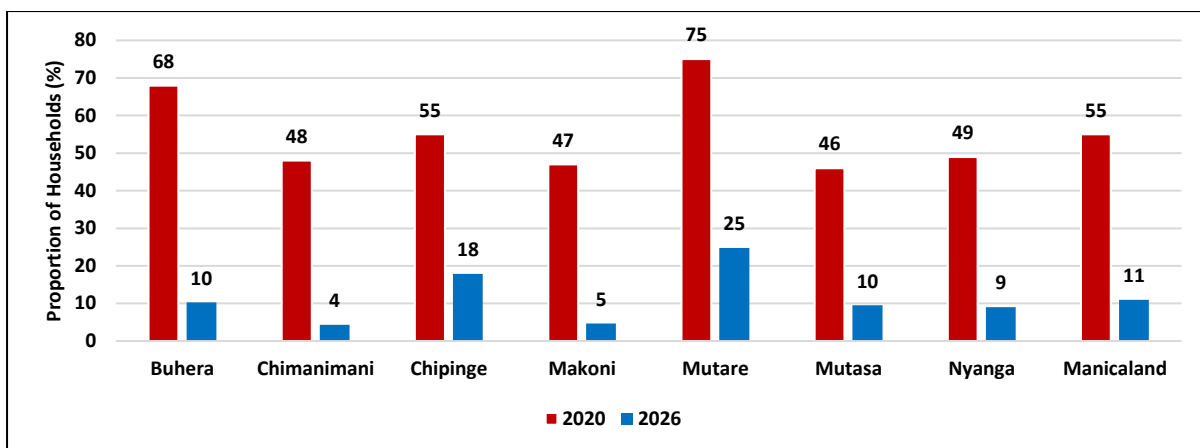
## 1. Cereal Insecurity

The cereal insecurity prevalence was projected to be 11% during the peak hunger period (January to March 2026) in the 2025/26 consumption year.



*Cereal Insecurity Trends: 2020 – 2025*

Cereal insecurity dropped from 55% in 2020 to 11% in 2025. During the peak hunger period (January–March 2026), Mutare (75%) and Buhera (68%) were projected to have the highest proportion of households facing cereal insecurity.



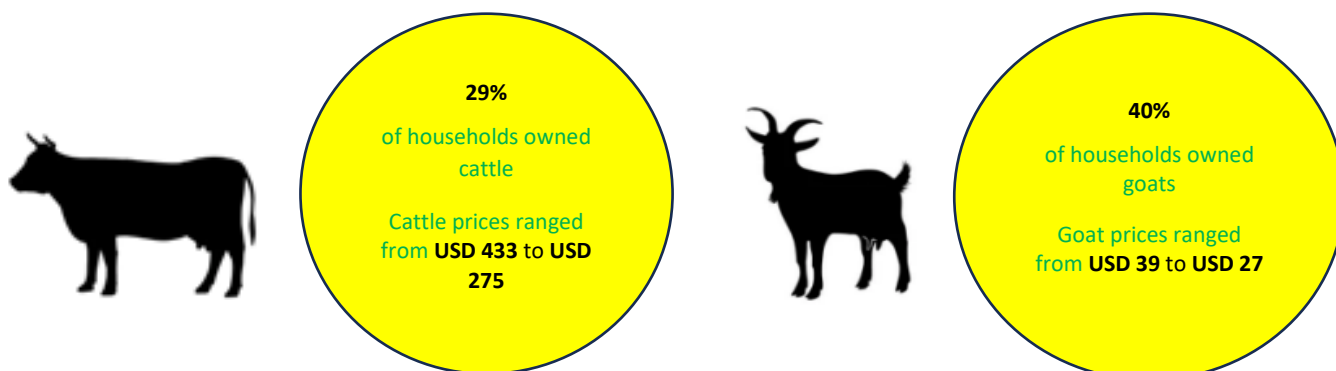
*Food Insecurity at Peak Hunger Period (January-March 2026)*

### Cereal Insecure Populations by Quarter

District	Jul – Sept 2025	Oct – Dec 2025	Jan – Mar 2026
Buhera	5,438	16,315	28,098
Chimanimani	2,552	5,614	6,635
Chipinge	19,017	40,569	67,192
Makoni	4,807	10,576	13,461
Mutare	30,372	48,596	75,931
Mutasa	2,012	10,058	18,775
Nyanga	2,430	5,346	13,122
Manicaland	66,628	137,074	223,213

Mutare (75,931) and Chipinge (67,192) were projected to have the highest population of cereal insecure people during the peak hunger period.

## 2. Livestock Production



### 3. Crop Production

During the 2025/6 agricultural season, 79.2% of households grew maize. The uptake of traditional grains is still low (18.9% grew sorghum, 6.1% Finger Millet and 11.6% Pearl Millet)

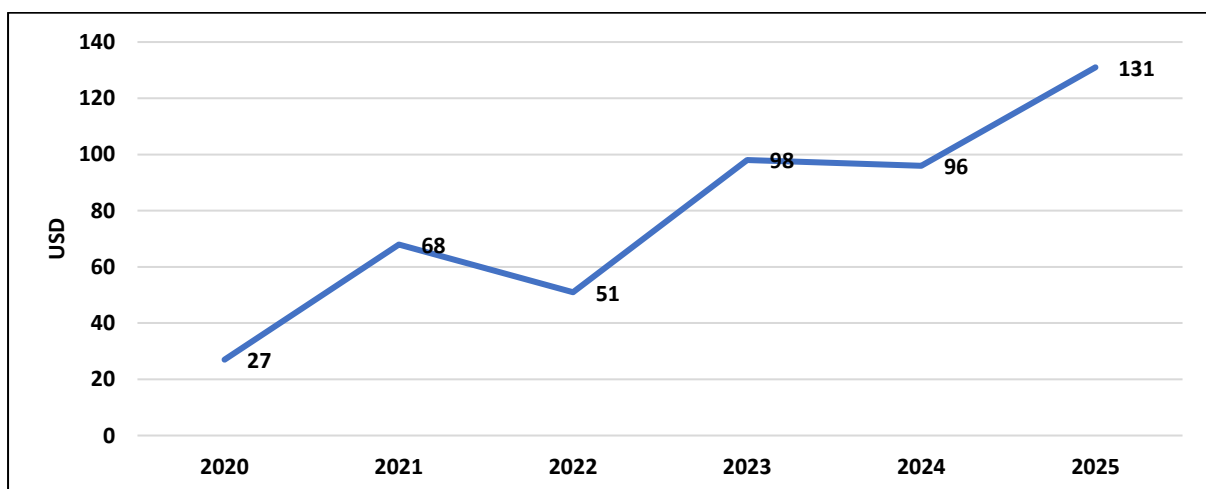
	Maize (%)	Sorghum (%)	Finger Millet (%)	Pearl Millet (%)	Tubers (%)	Cowpeas (%)	Groundnuts (%)	Round nuts (%)	Suga beans (%)	Soya beans (%)	Tobacco (%)	Cotton (%)
Buhera	51.0	43.0	10.7	42.7	19.0	36.3	44.3	45.3	2.3	0.3	0.0	0.3
Chimanimani	77.1	13.3	2.3	3.3	36.2	8.6	7.3	1.0	11.6	0.3	0.0	0.0
Chipinge	75.3	28.7	1.7	3.7	24.7	4.4	2.4	3.0	5.4	0.0	0.0	2.0
Makoni	90.3	4.7	3.7	1.0	27.0	10.3	14.3	7.0	9.7	0.3	12.0	0.0
Mutare	89.4	21.1	15.2	10.6	21.8	51.8	19.8	11.2	5.6	0.0	11.2	0.0
Mutasa	92.5	2.0	5.8	0.0	66.1	10.2	19.7	9.2	38.3	0.7	0.0	0.3
Nyanga	79.1	19.6	3.0	19.9	22.3	10.3	16.6	3.7	28.2	0.3	0.0	2.7
Manicaland	79.2	18.9	6.1	11.6	30.9	18.9	17.8	11	14.4	0.3	3.3	0.8

*Households Which Grew Crops*

### 4. Household Income

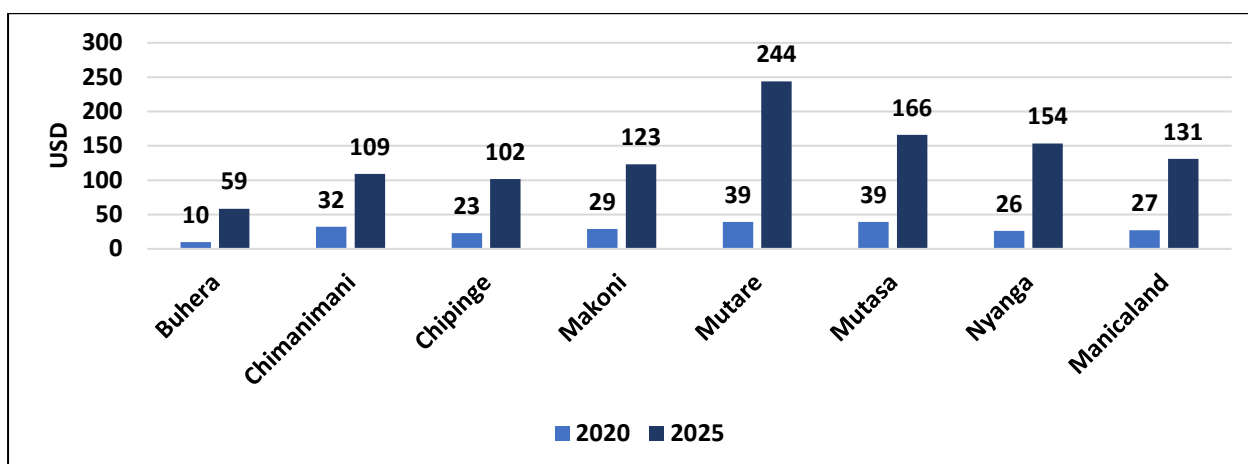
#### Income Trends

Compared to base year 2020, there has been a positive impact on the economy as evidenced by average household incomes increasing from USD 27 in 2020 to USD 131 in 2025.



*Income Trends: 2020-2025*

### Average Household Monthly Income (USD) for April 2025

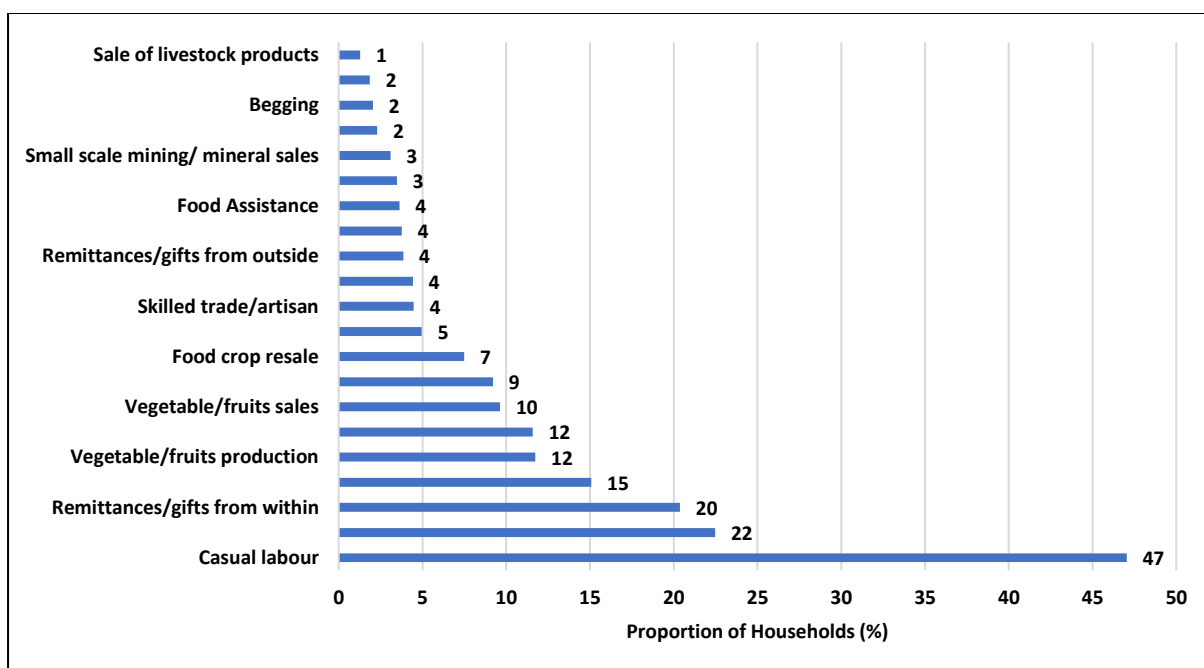


### Average Household Income

Mutare had the highest average household monthly income (USD244) for April 2025 while Buhera (USD59) had the lowest.

### Income Sources

Most households relied on casual labour (47%), food crop production (22%) and Remittances (20%).



### Households' Most Important Income Sources

## 5. Social Assistance

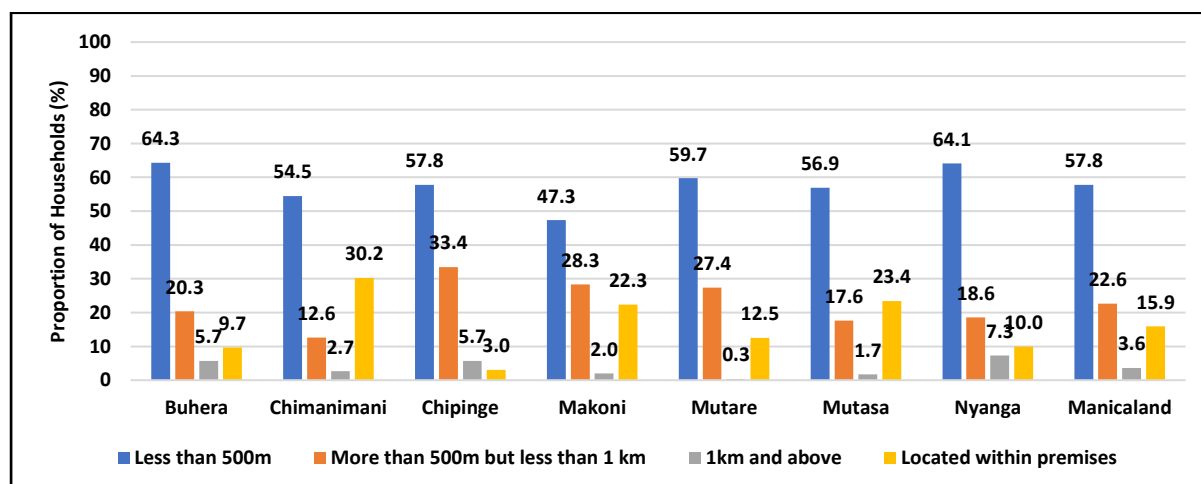
Province	Government Support (%)		UN/NGO Support (%)		Church Support (%)		Urban Relatives (%)		Rural Relatives (%)		Diaspora Relatives (%)		Mutual Groups Support (%)	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
Buhera	49	74.7	29	64.3	3	2.3	2	21.3	2	31.7	0	2.3	0	0.3
Chimanimani	31	53.8	4	2.3	1	0.3	3	18.6	4	19.3	1	4.0	1	0.7
Chipinge	27	59.8	1	14.2	0	2.4	0	8.4	0	16.6	0	4.7	0	0.3
Makoni	60	67.0	9	2.0	1	1.0	18	19.0	21	18.7	2	2.3	0	0.3
Mutare	40	78.9	3	8.9	2	1.7	5	19.8	3	23.1	2	3.0	1	0.7
Mutasa	36	76.9	2	4.1	1	3.1	0	13.9	0	23.4	0	6.8	1	0.7
Nyanga	47	76.4	4	2.7	0	0.3	7	26.6	4	30.6	5	6.3	1	0.0
Manicaland	41	70	7	14	1	2	5	18	5	23	2	4	0	0

*Sources of Support*

Government remains as the main source of support (70%), followed by rural relatives (23%) and urban relatives (18%).

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Approximately 57.8% of households reported accessing water within a distance of less than 500m. Nyanga (7.3%), Buhera (5.7%) and Chipinge (5.7%) had the highest proportion of households accessing water within a distance of 1km or more.

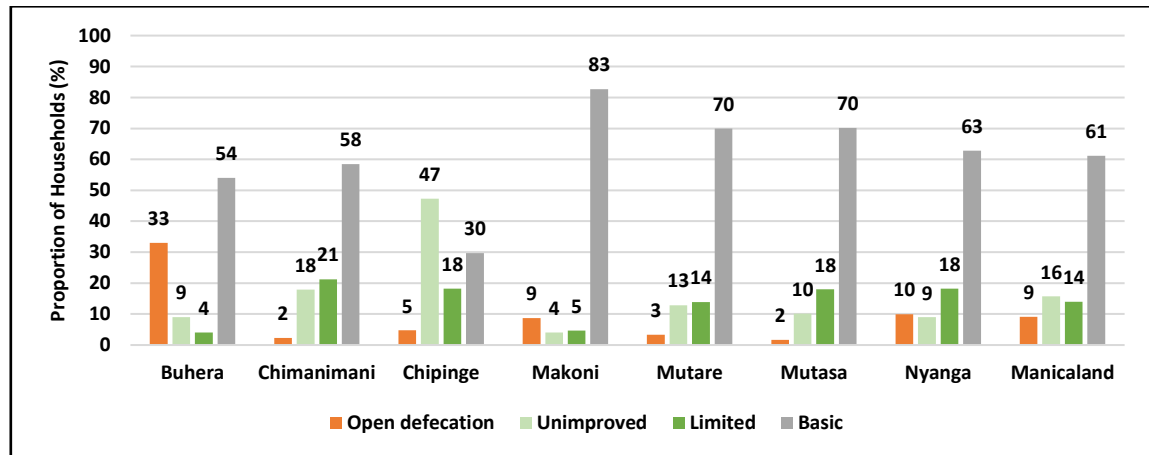


*Distance Travelled to Main Water Source*

## Household Sanitation Services

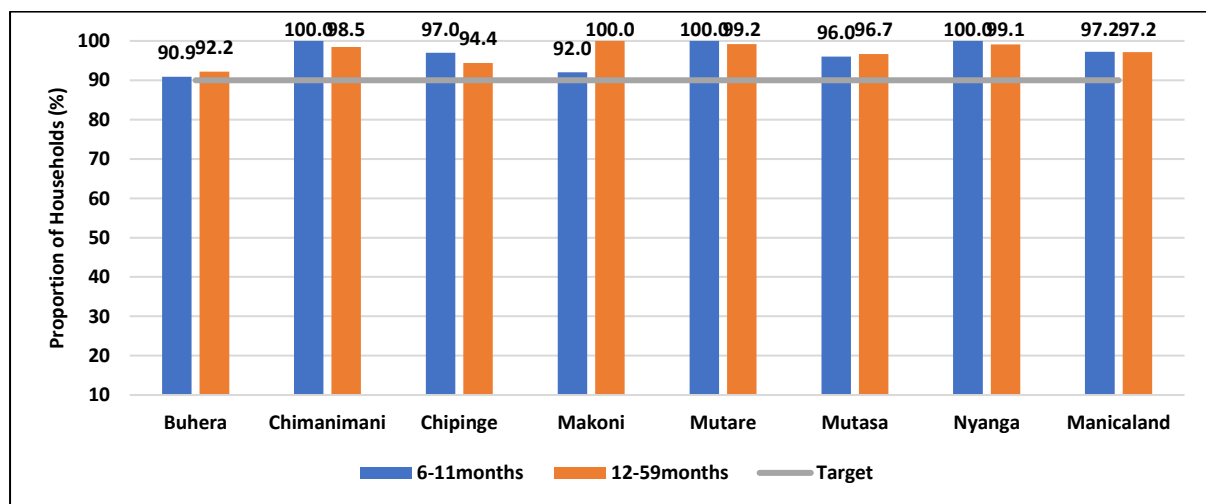
Most households were using basic sanitation (61%). However, Buhera (33%) had the highest proportion of households practising open defaecation.

*Sanitation Services*



## 6. Child Health

### Vitamin A Supplementation



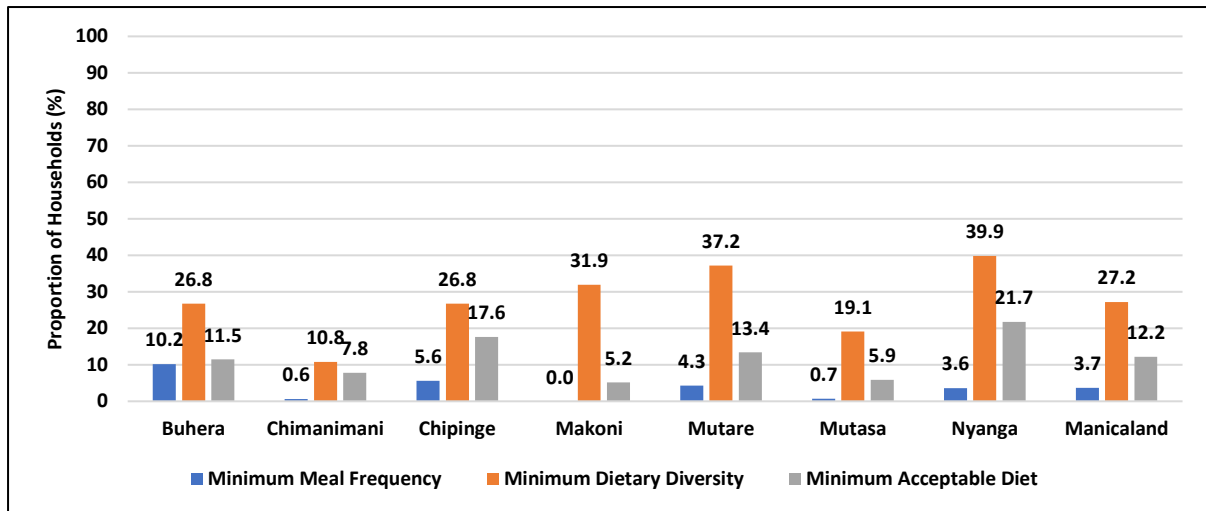
*Vitamin A Supplementation*

The proportion of children who received Vitamin A supplementation in Manicaland was 97.2% (6-11 months) and 97.2% (12-59 months).

## 7. Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices

### Infant and Young Child Feeding Diet Quality

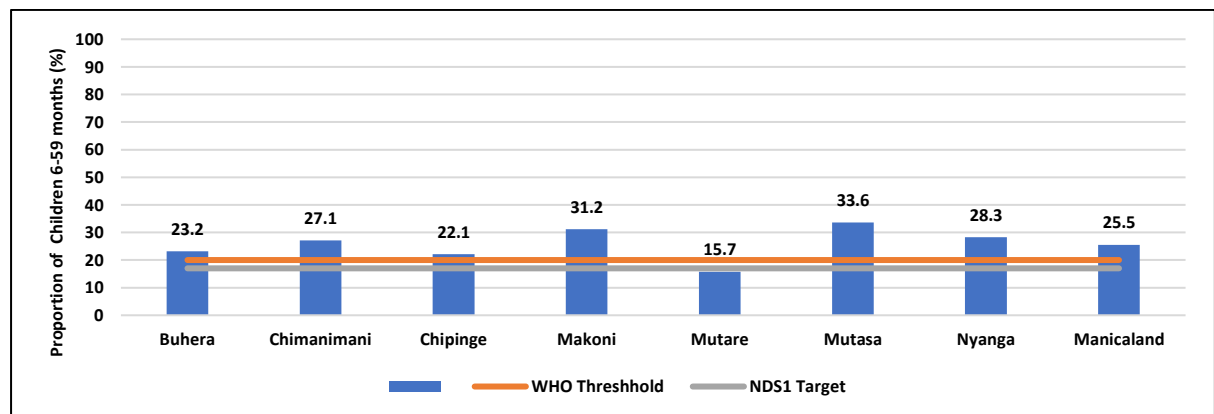
The proportion of children fed a Minimum Acceptable Diet was high in Nyanga (21.7%) while Makoni (5.2%) had the lowest.



*Infant and Young Child Feeding Diet Quality*

## 8. Child Nutrition Status

### Nutrition Status of Children 6-59 Months



*Nutrition Status of Children 6-59 Months*

All districts except Mutare (15.7%) recorded stunting levels above the WHO threshold of at least 20% classified as high (20-30%). Stunting levels were highest in Mutasa (33.6%) and Makoni (31.2%).

## Conclusions and Recommendations

Government and its Development Partners are recommended to continue implementing measures and strategies in the following areas:

- a) **Food Security:** At peak (January to March 2026), 11% of the rural households (approximately 223,213 individuals) will be cereal insecure. The Ministry responsible for Social Welfare is urged to consider programmes that address the cereal gap in the affected districts.
- b) **Nutrition Status:** The proportion of children that were stunted was 25.5% which remains high according to the WHO classification and the NDS1 set target of 17%. The Government should continue implementing multi-system approaches that address context specific drivers of stunting



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