



Malawi Government



Sixth Integrated Household Survey (IHS6)

2024-2025

National Findings Dissemination Workshop

Bingu International Conference Centre, LILONGWE

19th June 2026

Outline

1

**Background &
Objectives**

2

**Sample Design &
Coverage**

3

**Data Capture &
Processing**

4

**Selected Findings
Cross Section and
Panel**

Background

*Multi-topic surveys implemented
by the National Statistical Office
every three years*

IHS1

First Integrated Household Survey

November 1997 – October 1998

IHS2

Second Integrated Household Survey

March 2004 – February 2005

IHS3

Third Integrated Household Survey

March 2010 – March 2011

IHS4

Fourth Integrated Household Survey

April 2016 – March 2017

IHS5

Fifth Integrated Household Survey

April 2019 – March 2020

IHS6

Sixth Integrated Household Survey (Current)

2024 – 2025

Objectives

Sixth Integrated Household Survey (IHS6) • 2024–2025

1

Socio-Economic Indicators

Support evidence-based policy formulation and track progress towards Malawi 2063 goals and the Sustainable Development Goals.

2

Poverty Profile

Update the poverty profile for Malawi, including poverty incidence, poverty gap, and severity of poverty.

3

Household Expenditure

Estimate total household expenditure and consumption patterns to update the weights in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

4

Agricultural Indicators

Provide indicators on food security, land use, women's participation in agriculture, access to inputs, and crop and livestock production.

Sample Design and Coverage

Sixth Integrated Household Survey (IHS6) 2024–2025

1 Survey Period

Conducted from July 2024 to July 2025, covering a full 12-month cycle to capture seasonal variations

2 Sampling Frame

Based on enumeration areas (EAs) from the 2018 Population and Housing Census (PHC)

3 Sample Size

12,544 households sampled, representative at national, urban/rural, regional, and district levels

4 Response Rate

Achieved an exceptional 99.6% household response rate, ensuring robust and reliable data

IHS6 Questionnaire

Four survey instruments covering household, agriculture, fisheries, and community data

1 Household

Demographics, Education, Health, Labour and Time Use, Credit and Loans, Non-Farm Enterprises, Housing and Infrastructure, Subjective Welfare, Food Security, Anthropometry, Savings, and Tourism

2 Agriculture

Rainy/Dry Season Crops, Tree Crops, Livestock, Production and Sales, Garden and Plot Details, Seeds, Labour and Non-Labour Inputs

3 Fisheries

Labour and non-labour input use in fishing and fish trading activities

4 Community

Infrastructure, access to public services, economic activities, resource management, and governance

Data Capture and Processing

Technology-driven data collection using CAPI with real-time quality monitoring

1 CAPI Software

Implemented using World Bank Survey Solutions CAPI software, ensuring data quality and timely availability throughout the survey

2 Field Equipment

Each enumerator equipped with a GPS-enabled Samsung Galaxy A9 tablet; supervisors had laptops with wireless routers for data transmission to headquarters

3 Real-Time Monitoring

Real-time data availability enabled headquarters to continuously monitor fieldwork progress and run consistency checks throughout the survey period

4 Data Storage

All collected data securely housed on the NSO local server, maintaining data integrity and accessibility for analysis

SELECTED FINDINGS CROSS SECTION

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS



DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Household size

Malawi

4.2

Rural

4.2

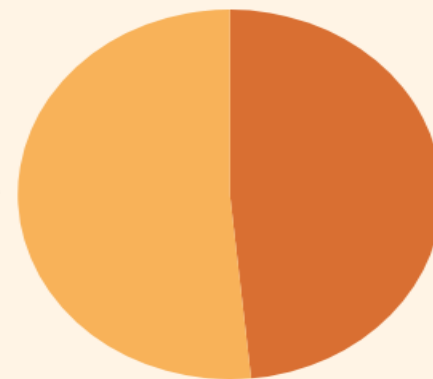
Urban

4.1

Population Distribution By Sex



Female
51.6%



Male
48.4%

Dependency Ratio

National

0.9

Rural

0.9

Urban

0.7

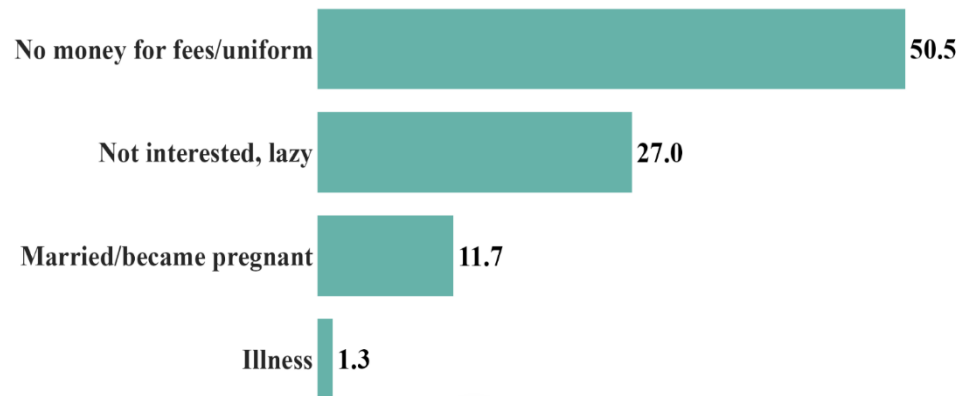
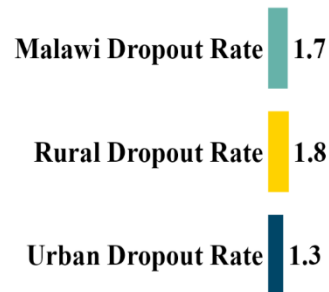
A photograph of a classroom scene. A female teacher with glasses and a floral shirt stands at the front, facing a class of students. Several students in the foreground and middle ground have their hands raised, indicating they want to answer a question or participate. The background features a large chalkboard with handwritten text and a flowchart. The text on the board includes 'Social', 'the constitution of the Republic of Malawi', 'Central government', 'Executive', 'Legislative', 'Judiciary', 'Local government', 'District Assembly', 'Tribal Assembly', and 'Village Assembly'. The word 'EDUCATION' is overlaid in large white capital letters across the center of the image.

EDUCATION

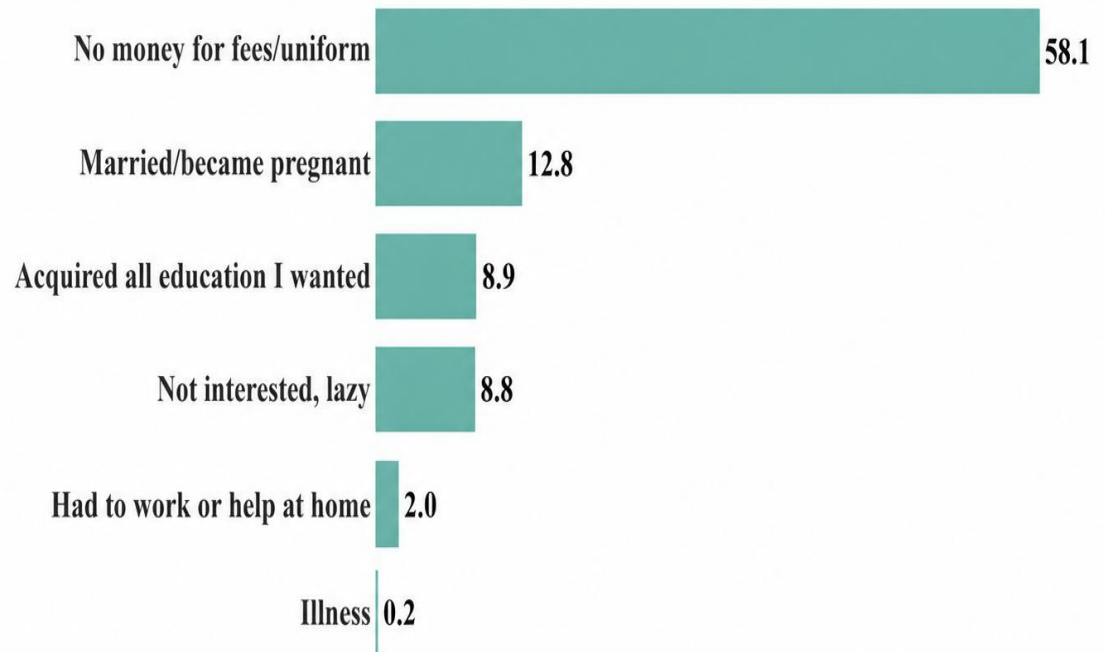
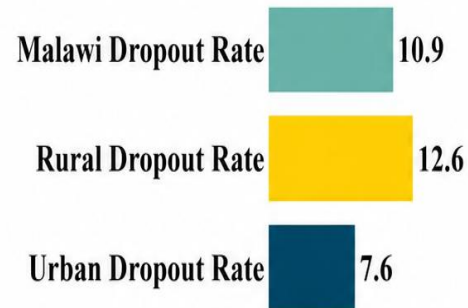
Literacy Rates for Population Aged 15 and Above

Background Characteristic	IHS6	IHS5
Malawi	79.3	75.5
SEX		
Female	74.9	65.5
Male	84.2	83.0
PLACE OF RESIDENCE		
Rural	76.1	72.1
Urban	93.7	91.8

Primary School Dropout Rate and Reasons



Secondary School Dropout Rate and Reasons



HEALTH

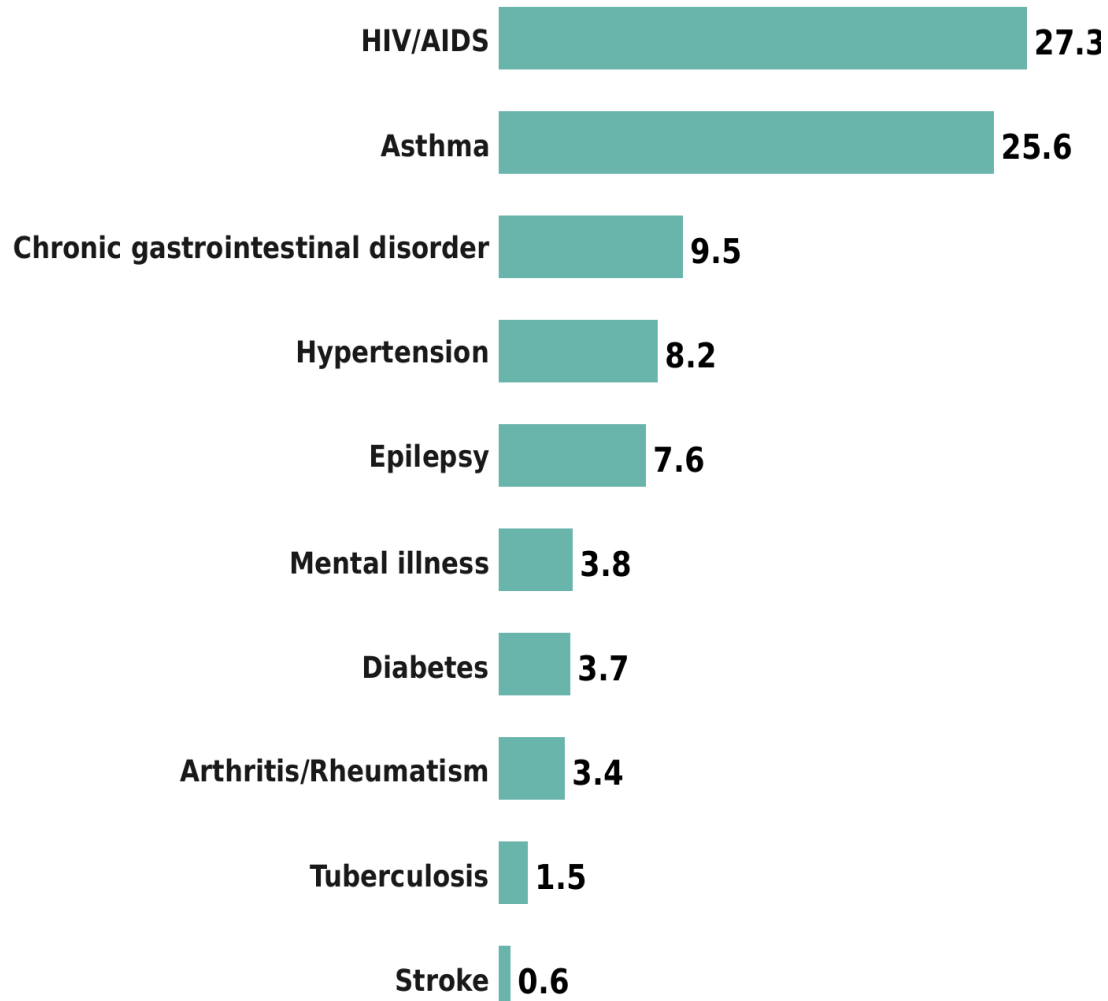


Chronic Illness Situation and the top ten Chronic illnesses

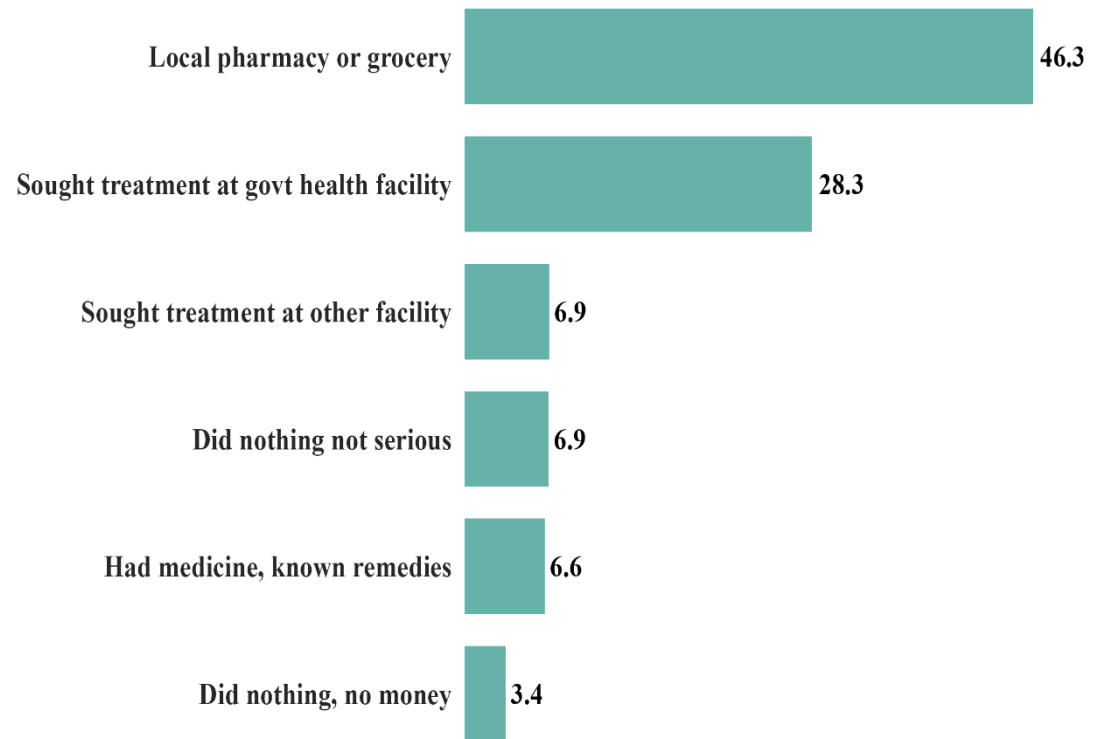
Proportion who are chronically ill



8.9



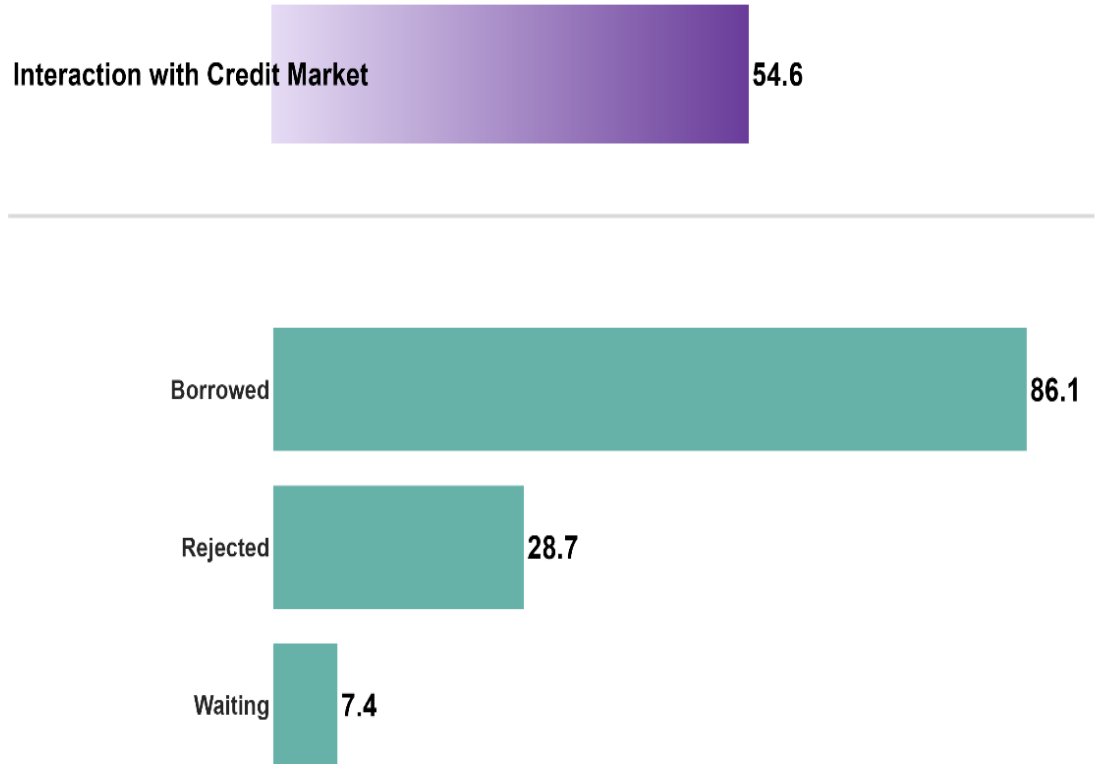
Action Taken in the Face of Illnesses



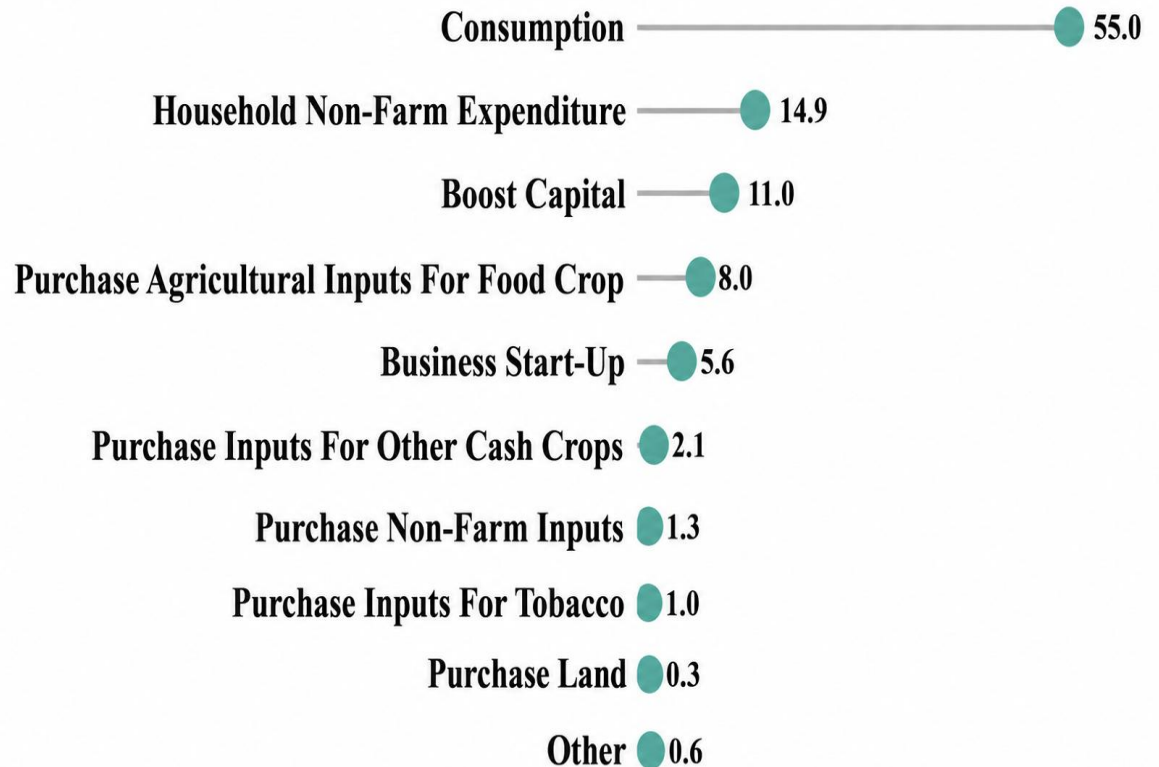


CREDIT AND LOANS

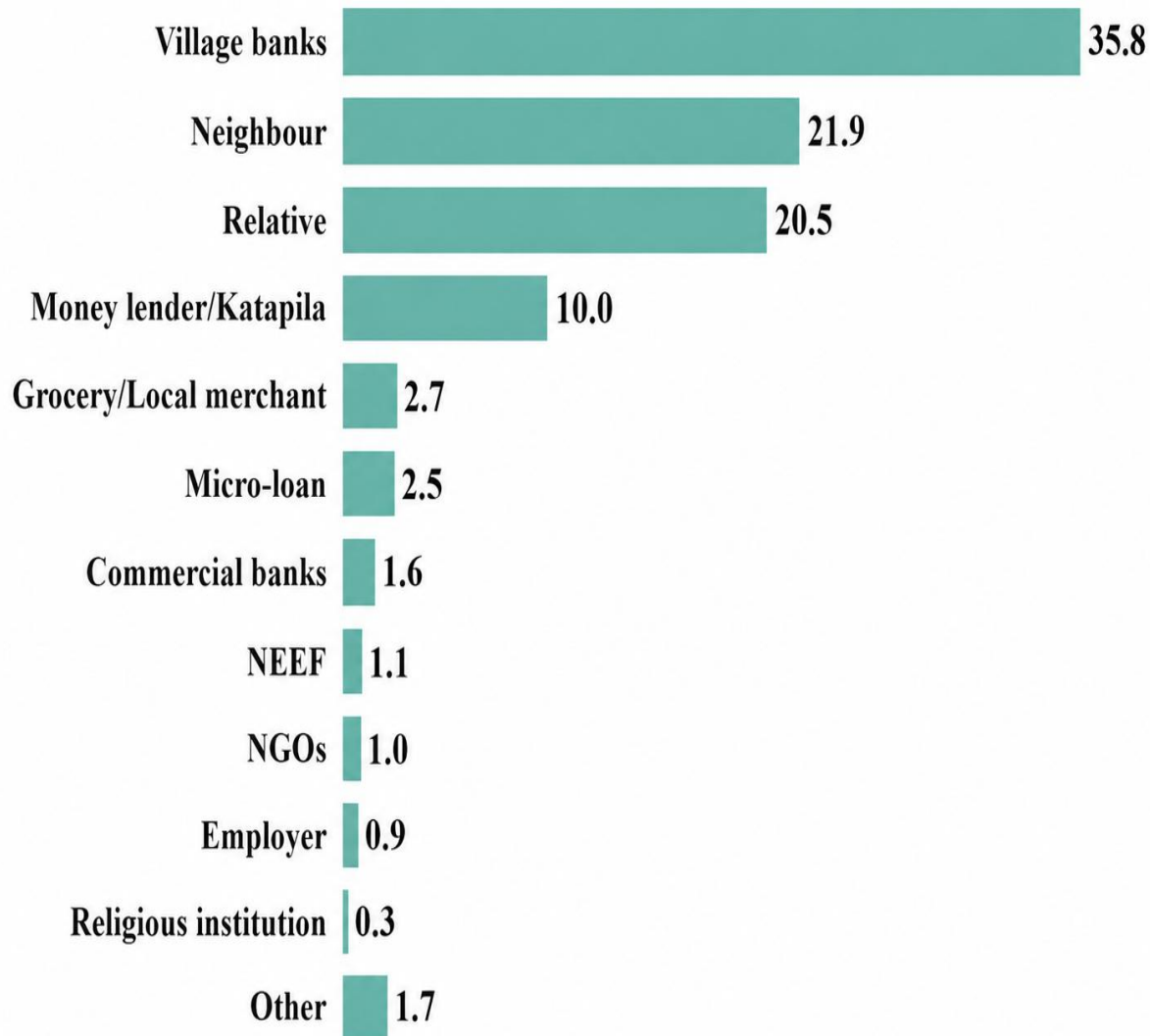
Interaction with Credit Market



Reasons for Obtaining Loans



Sources of Loans

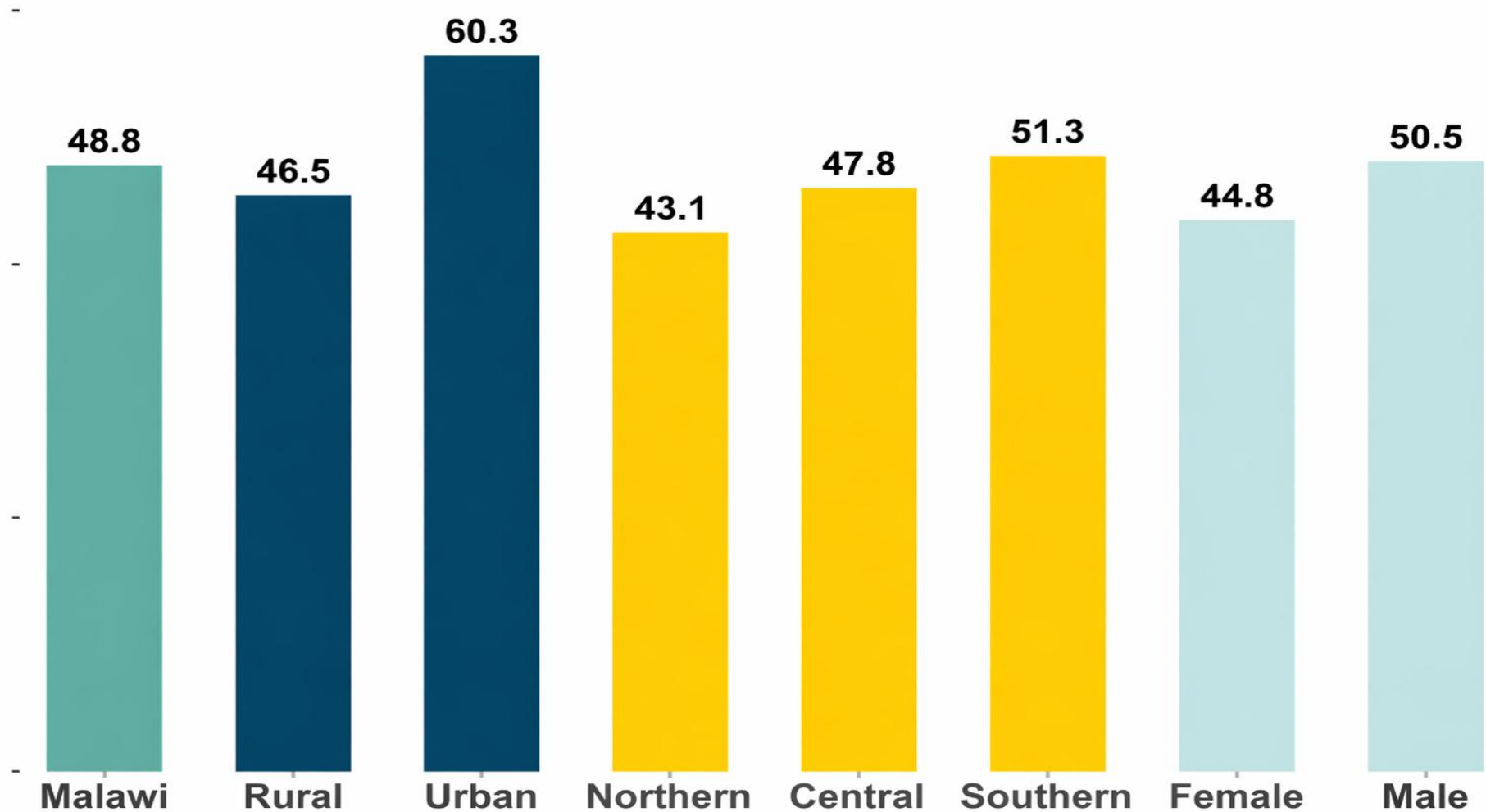




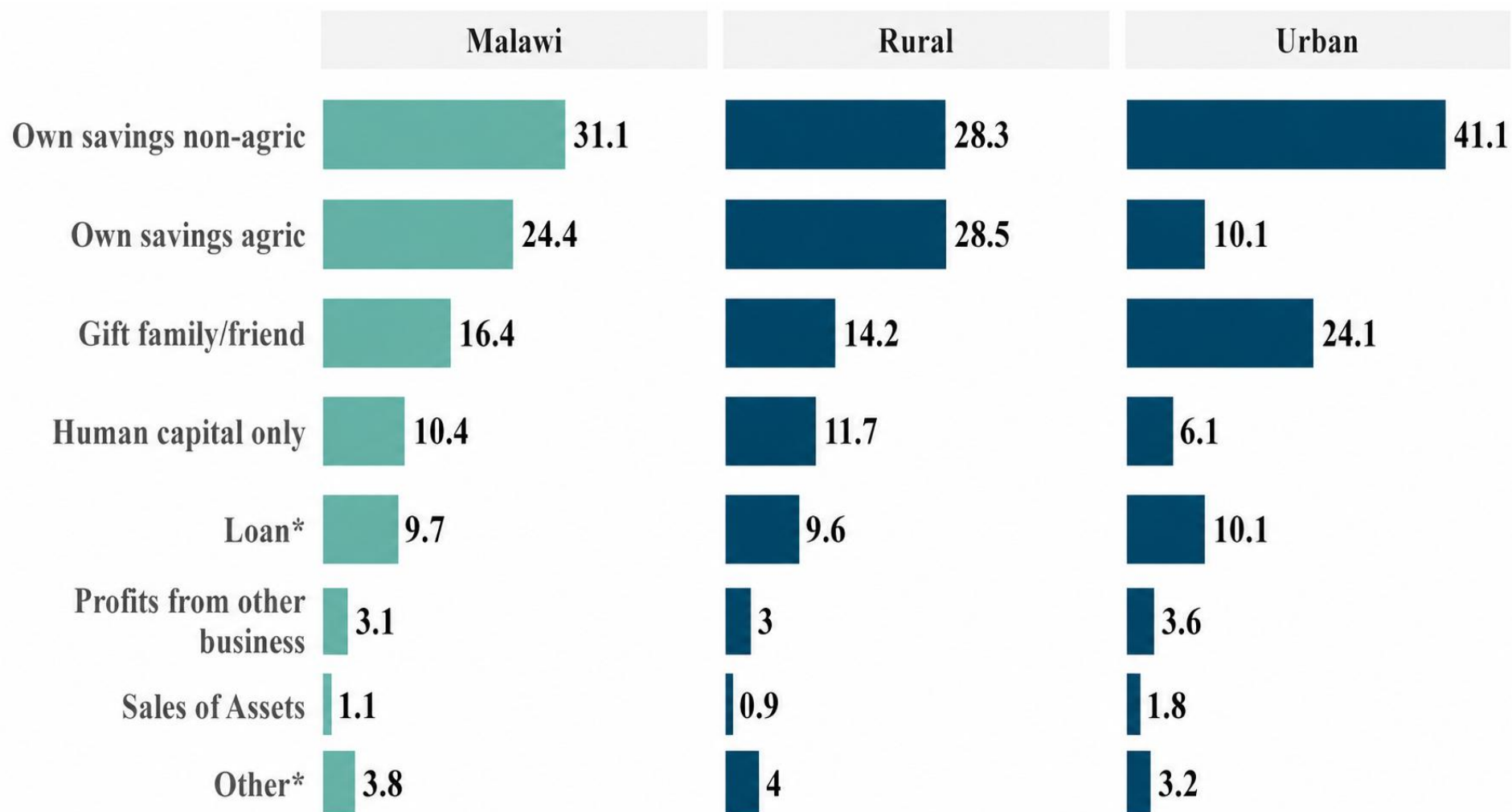
HOUSEHOLD ENTERPRISES



Percentage of Households Operating Non-farm Enterprises



Sources of Startup Capital for Non-Farm Enterprises

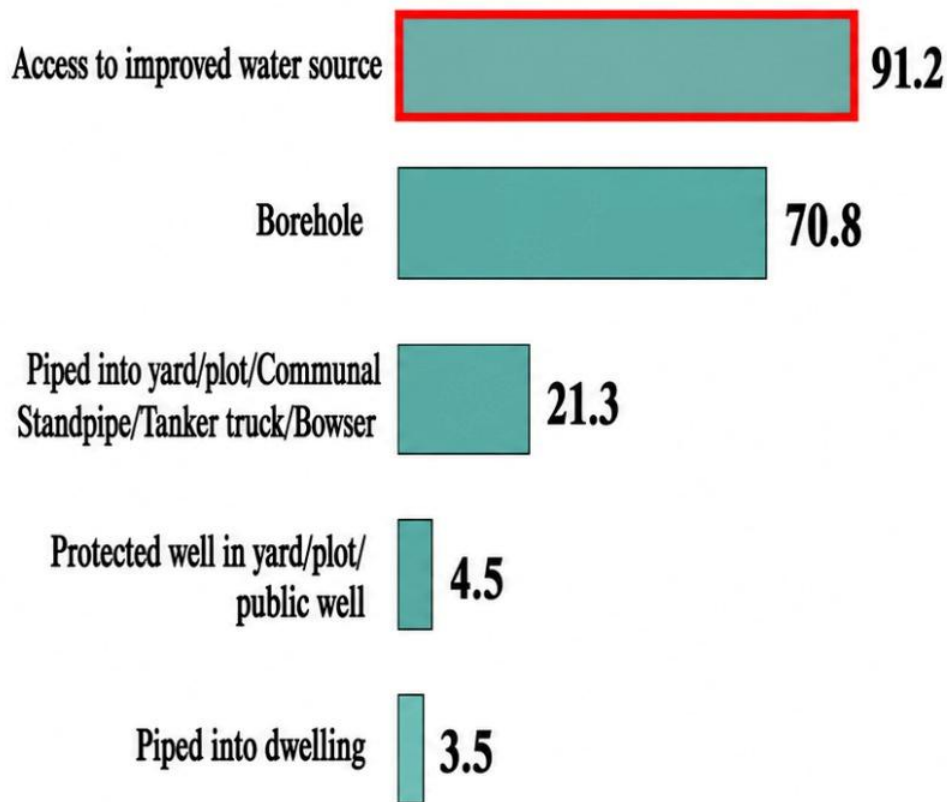


HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

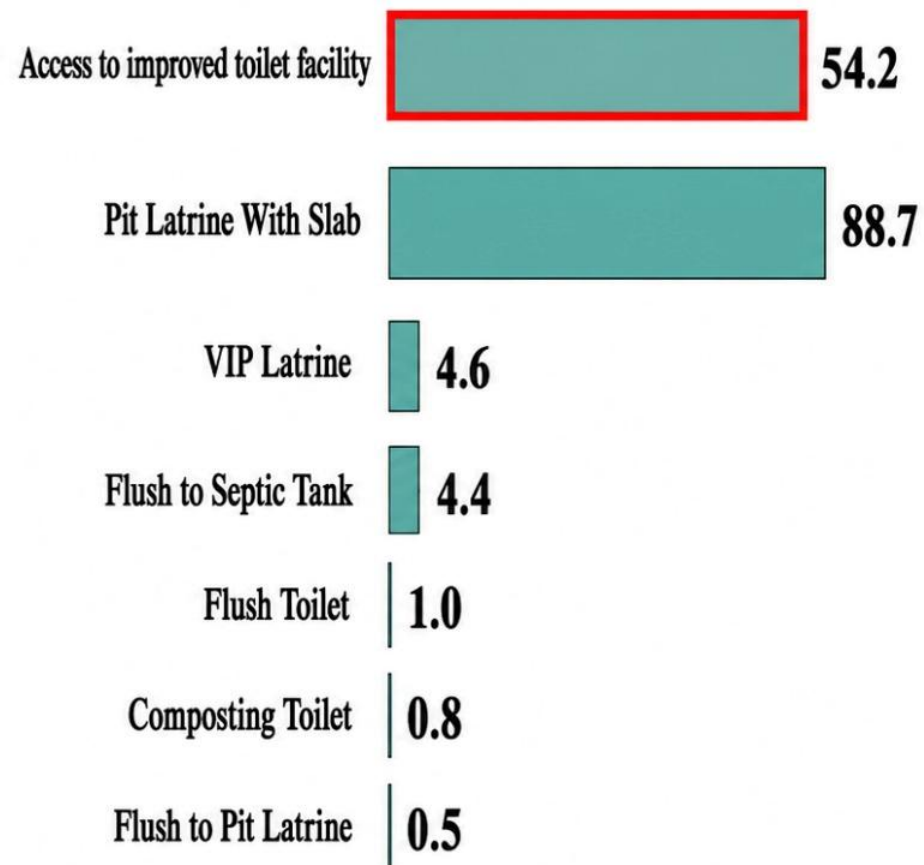


Access to Improved Water Source and Toilet Facility

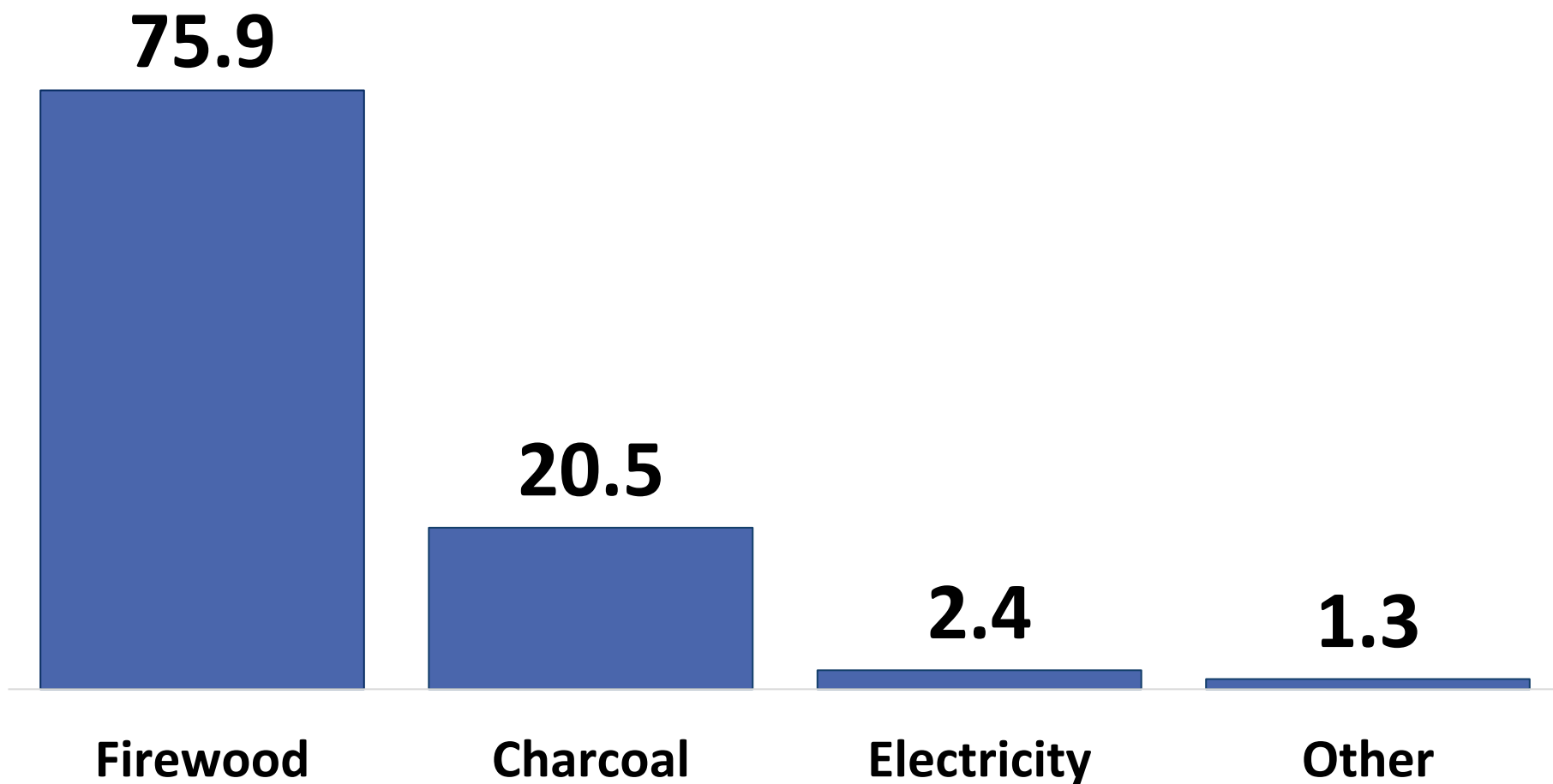
Access to Improved Water Source



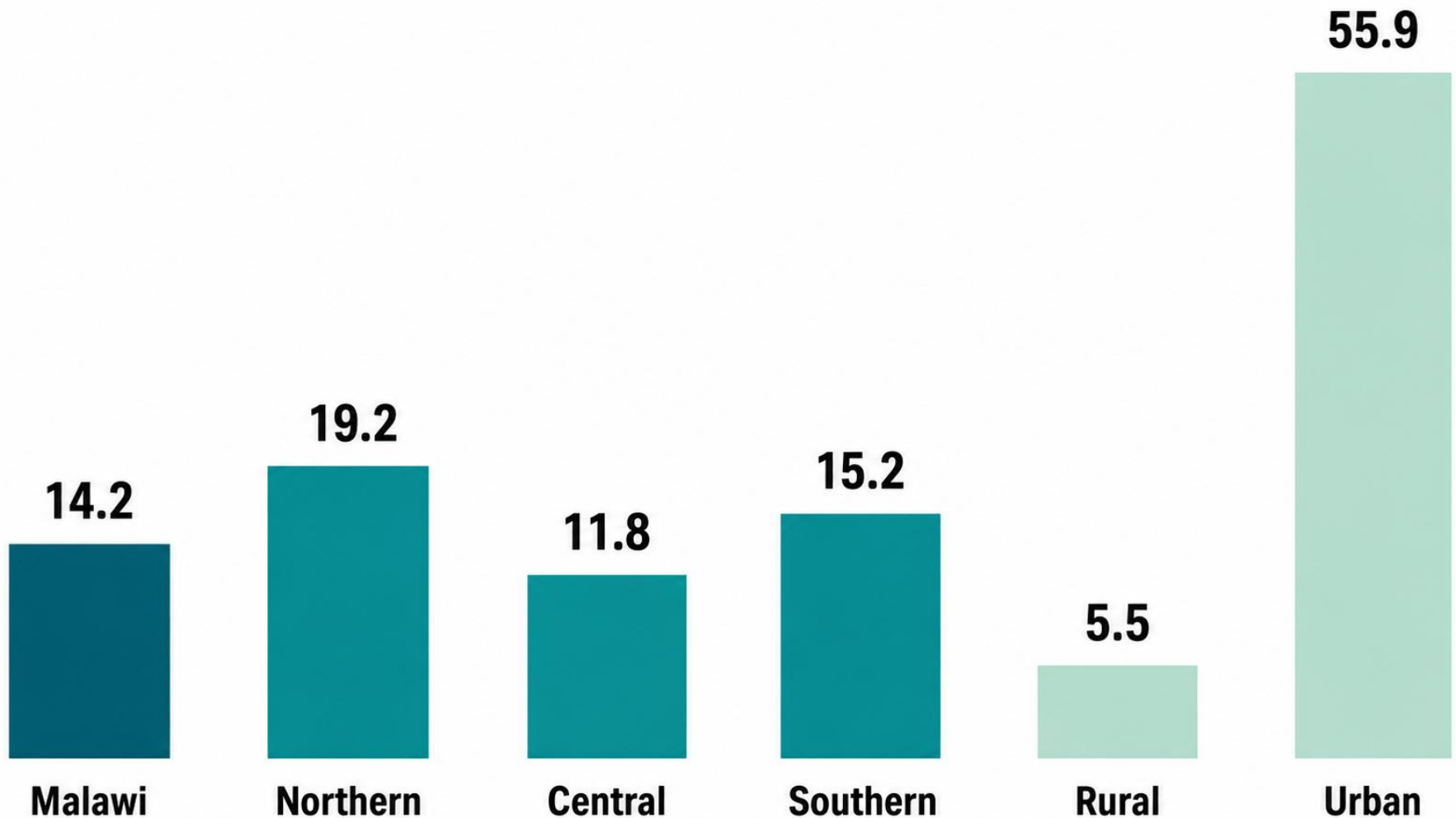
Access to Improved Toilet Facility



Main Fuels Used for Cooking By Households



Proportion of Households with Access to National Grid Electricity



AGRICULTURE



Agricultural Activities

Agricultural HH

85.7

Rainy Season

78.0

Dry Season

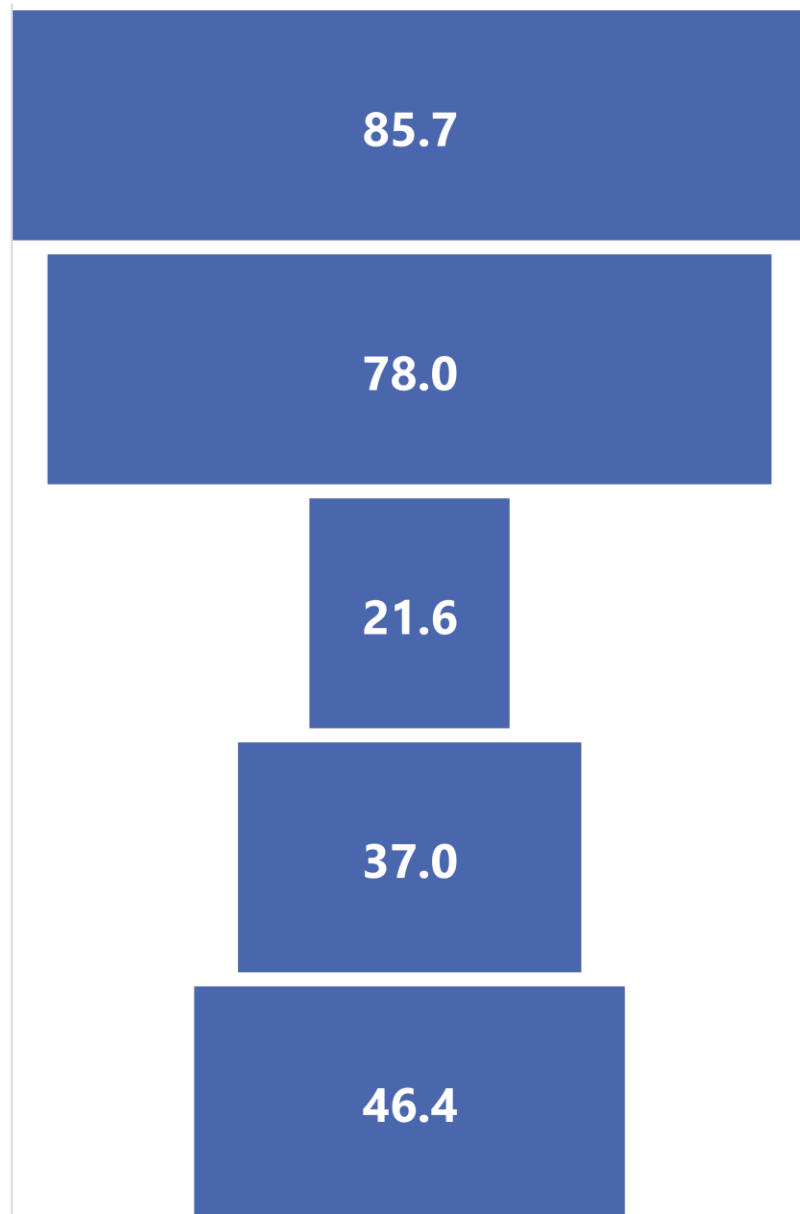
21.6

Trees Growing

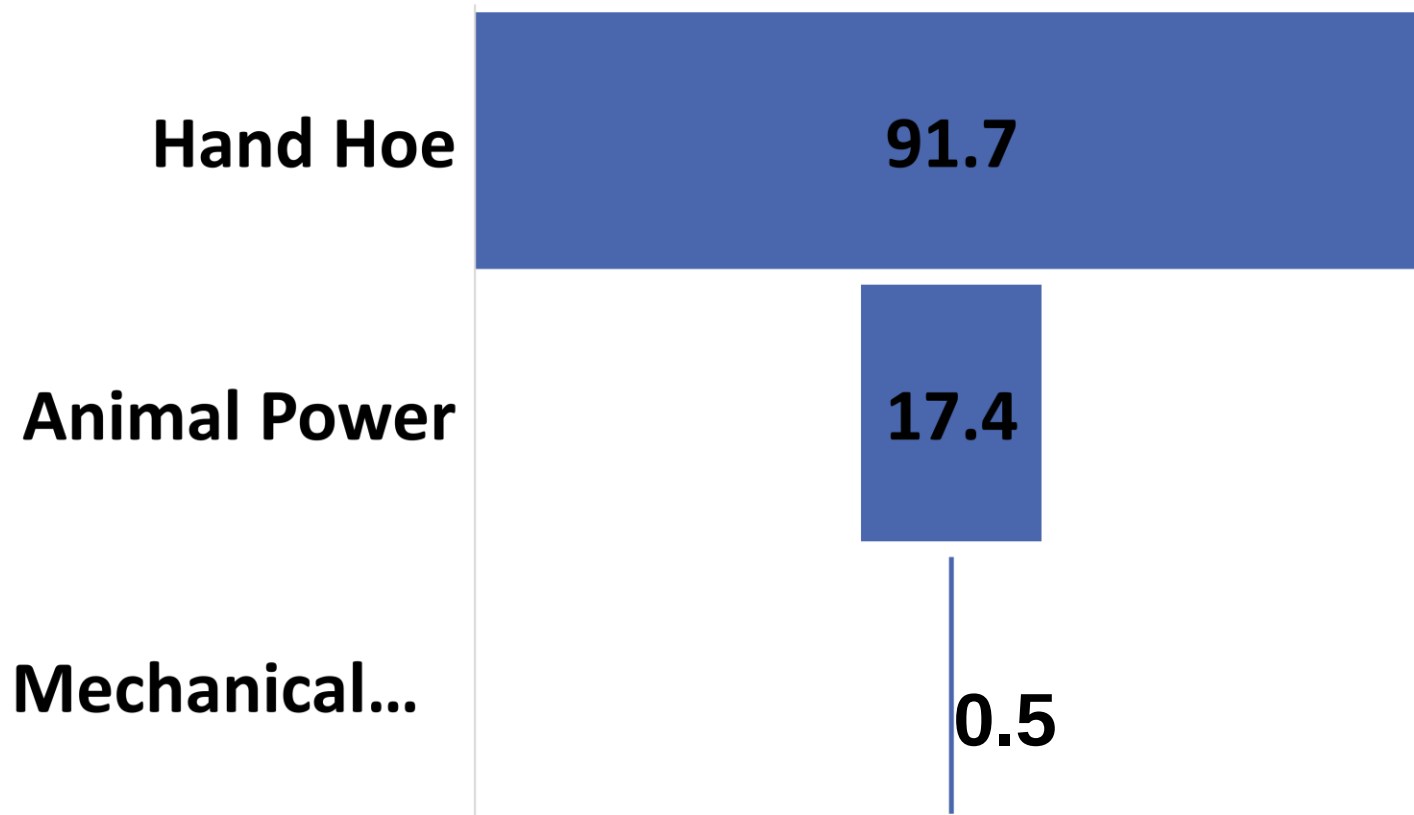
37.0

Livestock

46.4



Land Preparation Equipment

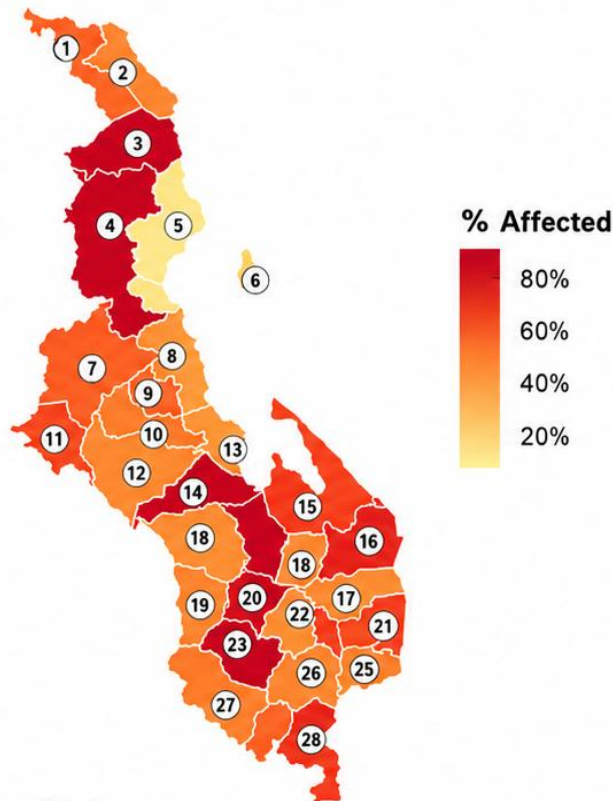


An aerial photograph of a village completely submerged in floodwater. Numerous small, rectangular houses with thatched roofs are scattered across the brown, murky water. Some houses have small porches or extensions. In the lower center, a small wooden boat with two people is visible. The surrounding landscape is flat and green, with some trees and patches of vegetation visible above the water level. The overall scene conveys a sense of displacement and hardship.

SHOCKS & SUBJECTIVE WELFARE

Prevalence of shocks Experienced in the five years prior to the Survey

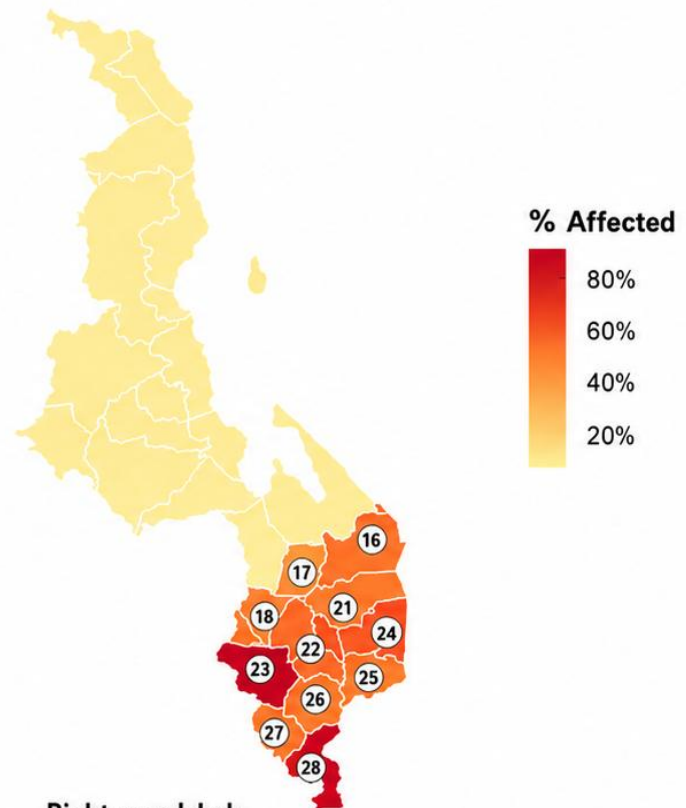
Unusually High Prices of Food



Left map labels

1 Chitipa	8 Nkhotakota	15 Ntcheu	22 Chiradzulu
2 Karonga	9 Ntchisi	16 Mangochi	23 Blantyre
3 Rumph	10 Dowa	17 Machinga	24 Phalombe
4 Mzimba	11 Mchinji	18 Balaka	25 Mulanje
5 Nkhata Bay	12 Lilongwe	19 Neno	26 Thyolo
6 Likoma	13 Salima	20 Mwanza	27 Chikwawa

Cyclone



Right map labels

16 Mangochi	23 Blantyre
17 Machinga	24 Phalombe
18 Balaka	25 Mulanje
21 Zomba	26 Thyolo
22 Chiradzulu	27 Chikwawa
	28 Nsanje

Likoma is district 6 and is shown on both maps.



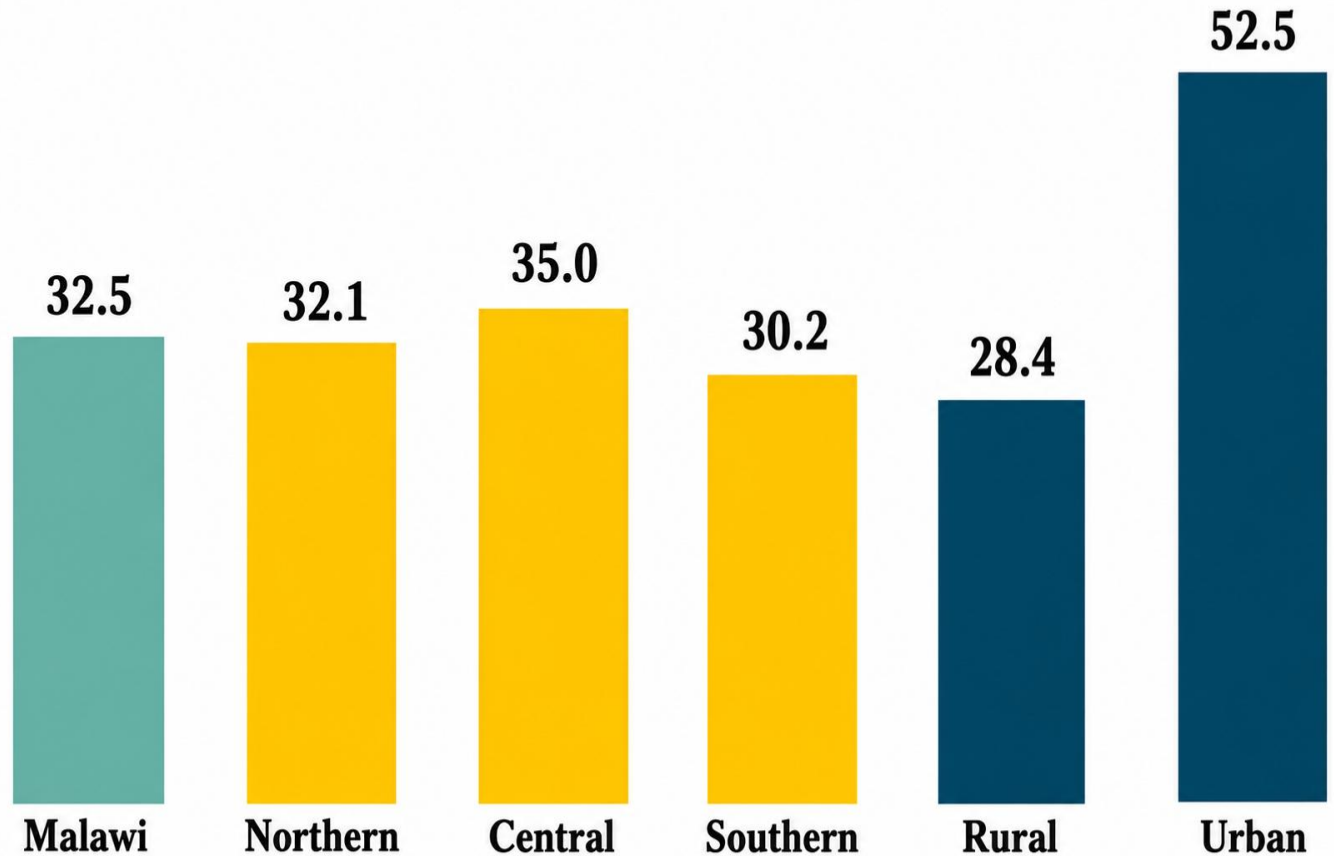
FOOD SECURITY

Proportion of Households that Meet a Balanced Diet

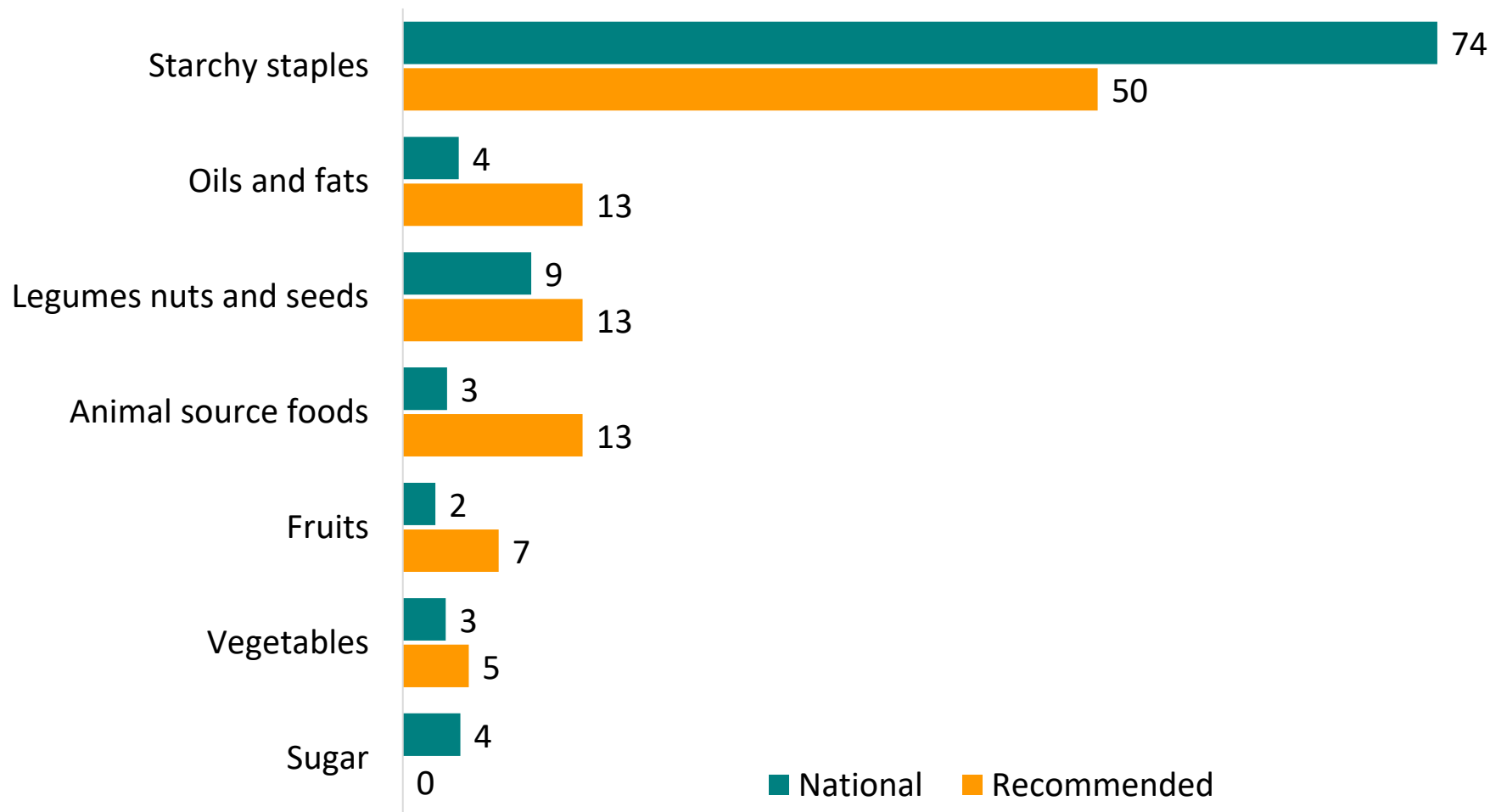
Balanced Diet:

A balanced diet is defined as one in which:

- 10–15 percent of from protein,
- 15–30 percent from fat, and
- 45–75 percent from carbohydrates

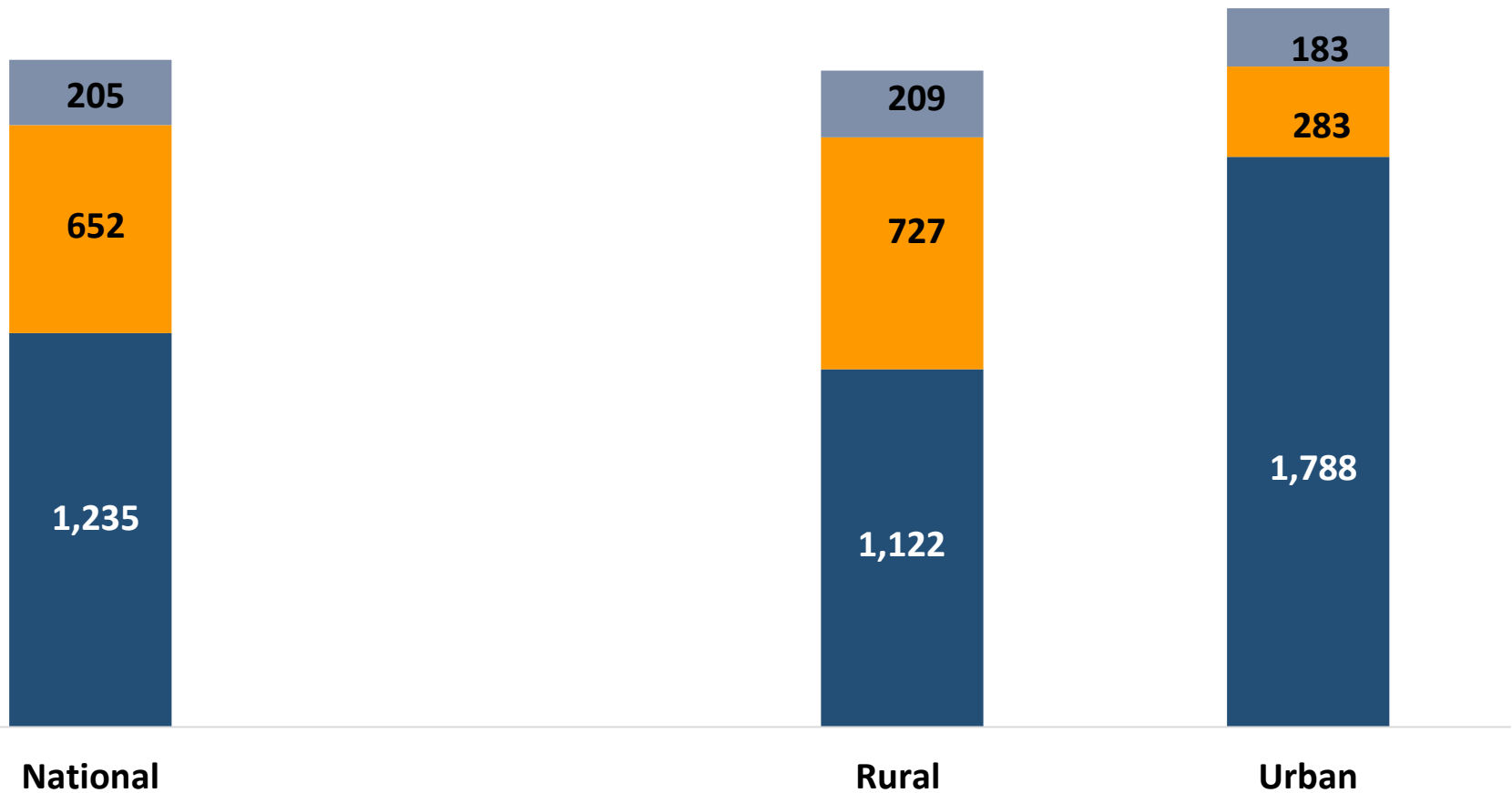


Recommended Against Observed Food groups Calorie Consumption (Percentages)



Total Calories and the Sources

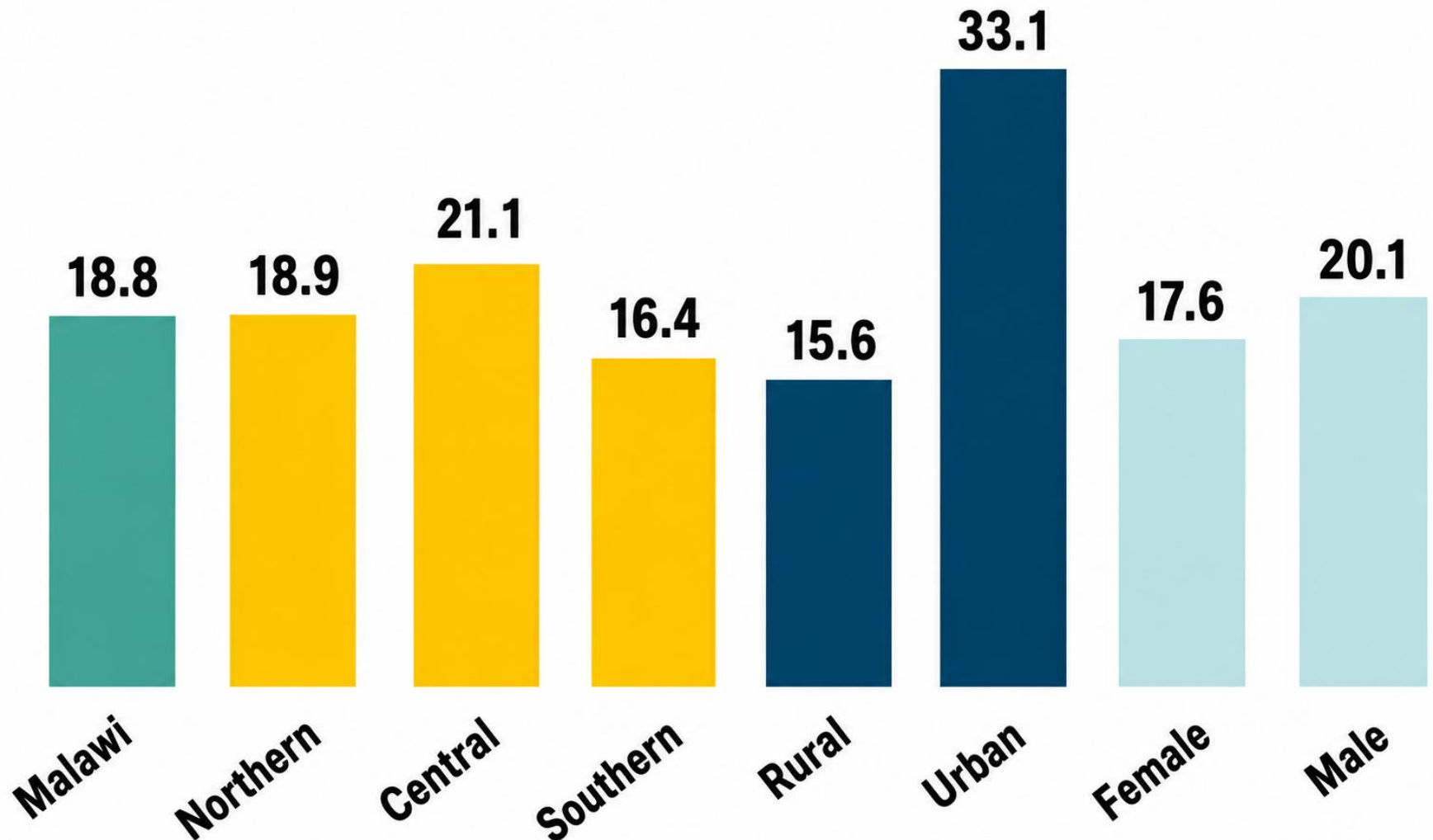
■ Purchase ■ Own Production ■ Gifts



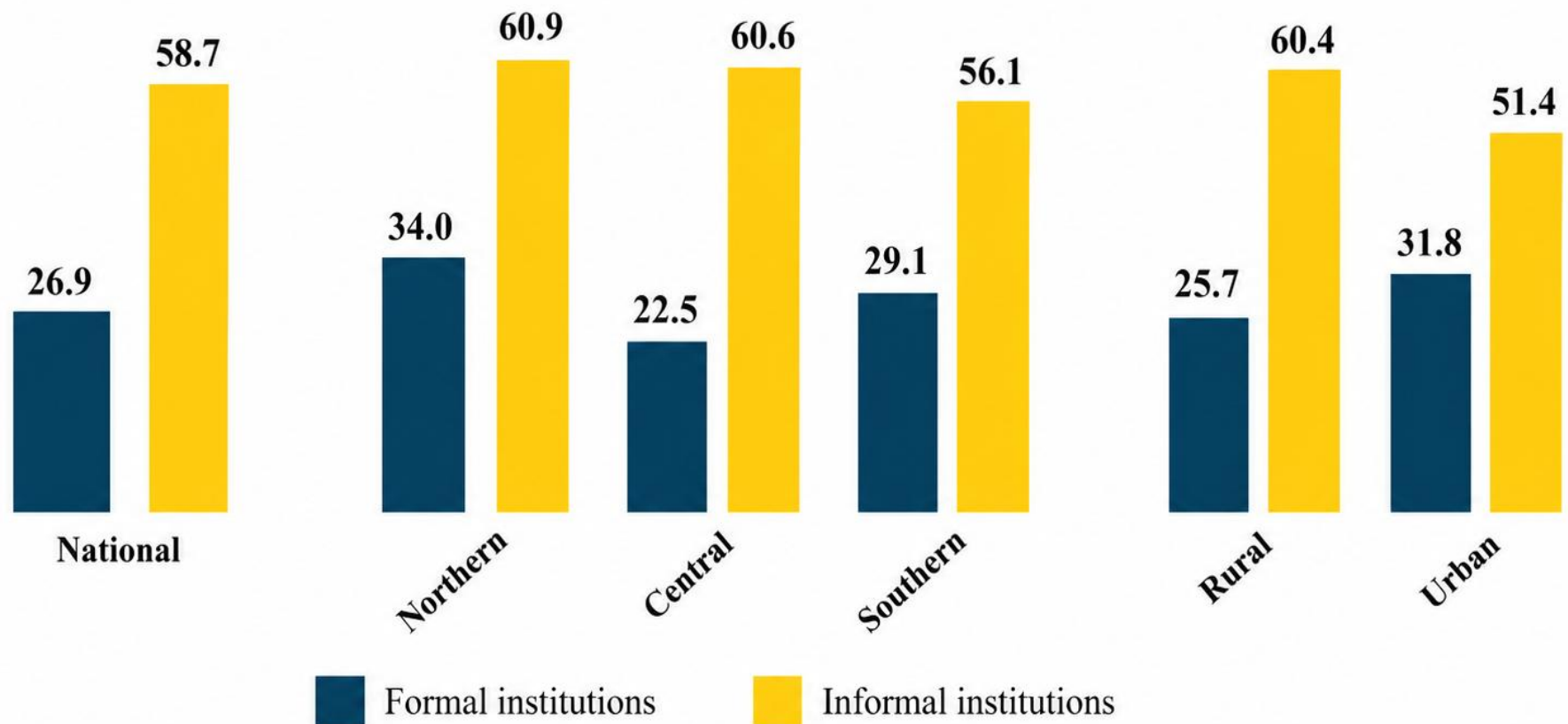
SAVINGS



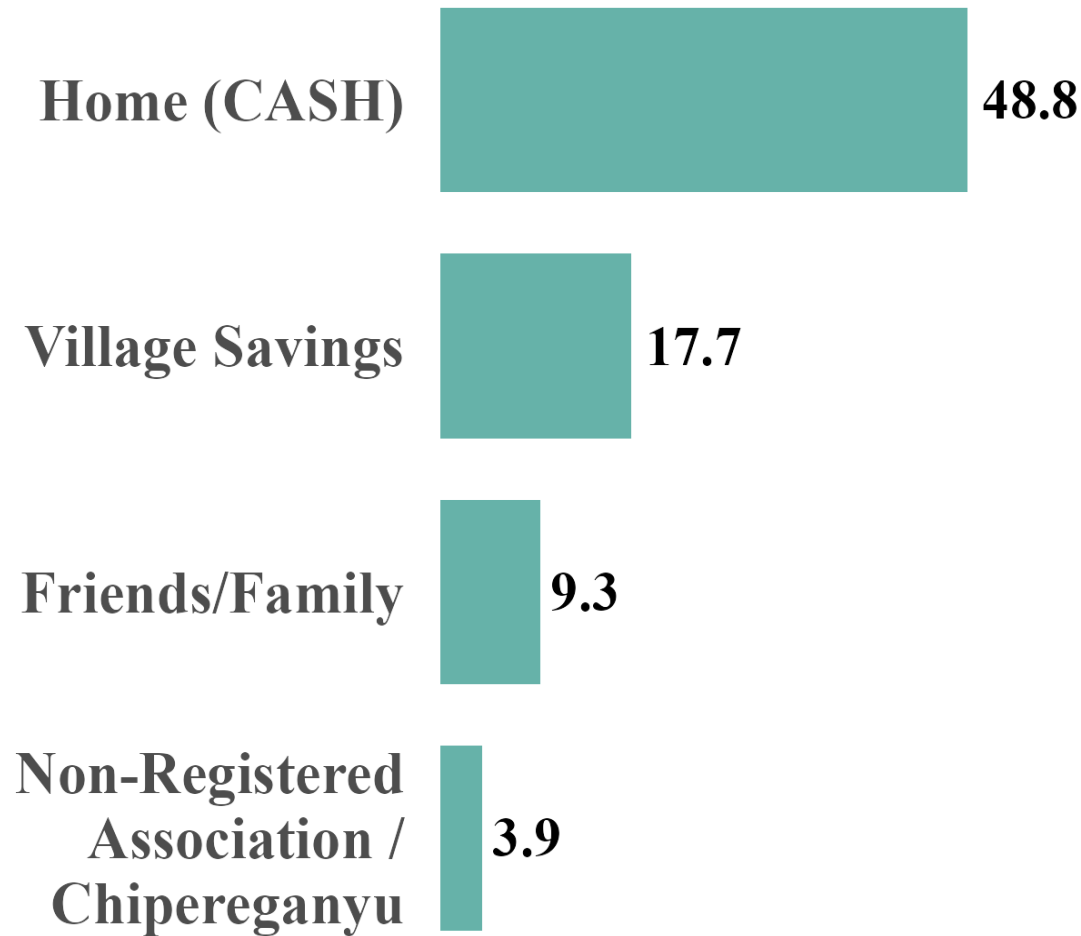
Proportion of Individuals Owning Financial Accounts



Proportion of Individuals Saving Using Formal and Informal Financial Institutions



Top Informal Saving Methods



Fifth Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS5) 2024

**Panel evidence on services, livelihoods and
resilience**

Panel Background

*Following the same households
reveals welfare change, not only
welfare levels.*

IHS3

IHPS baseline sample selected from the Third Integrated Household Survey

2010

IHPS2

Follow-up round expanded to 4,000 households with split-offs

2013

IHPS3

Half-sample panel continued with 2,508 households

2016

IHPS4

Tracking through household transitions; 3,178 households in final database

2019

IHPS5

Retained sample: 1,515 tracking-target households and 7,099 individuals

2024

REFRESH

Partial refresh: 815 new households and 3,575 individuals for future rounds

2024

Sample Design and Coverage

Fifth Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS5) 2024

1 Survey Period

Conducted from July 2024 to January 2025, aligned with the first half of IHS6 fieldwork.

2 Retained Sample

1,515 households from IHPS3 (2016) served as tracking targets, comprising 7,099 individuals.

3 Tracking Outcome

The retained panel expanded to 1,948 households; household-level attrition from 2019 was 11.6%.

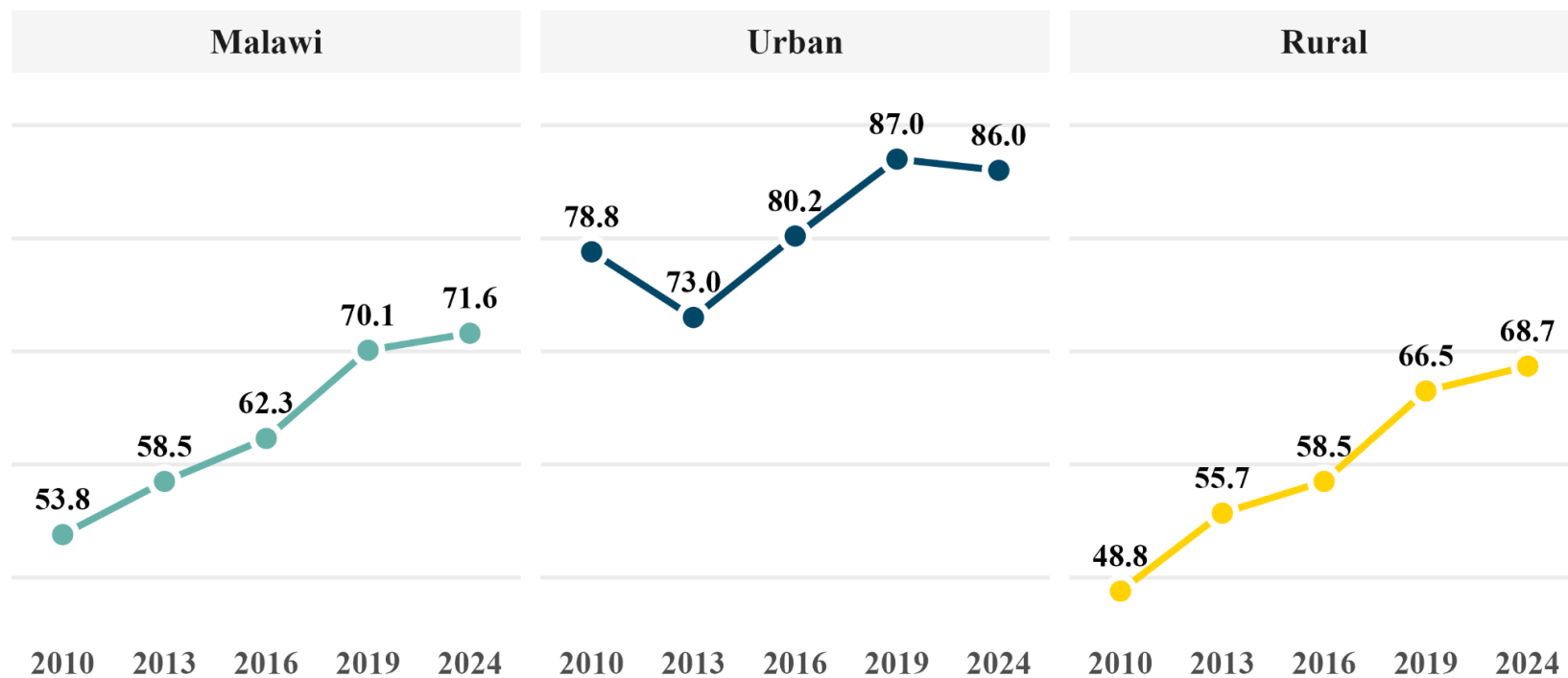
4 Refresh Sample

815 households and 3,575 individuals were added through the 2024 refresh sample for future panel rounds.

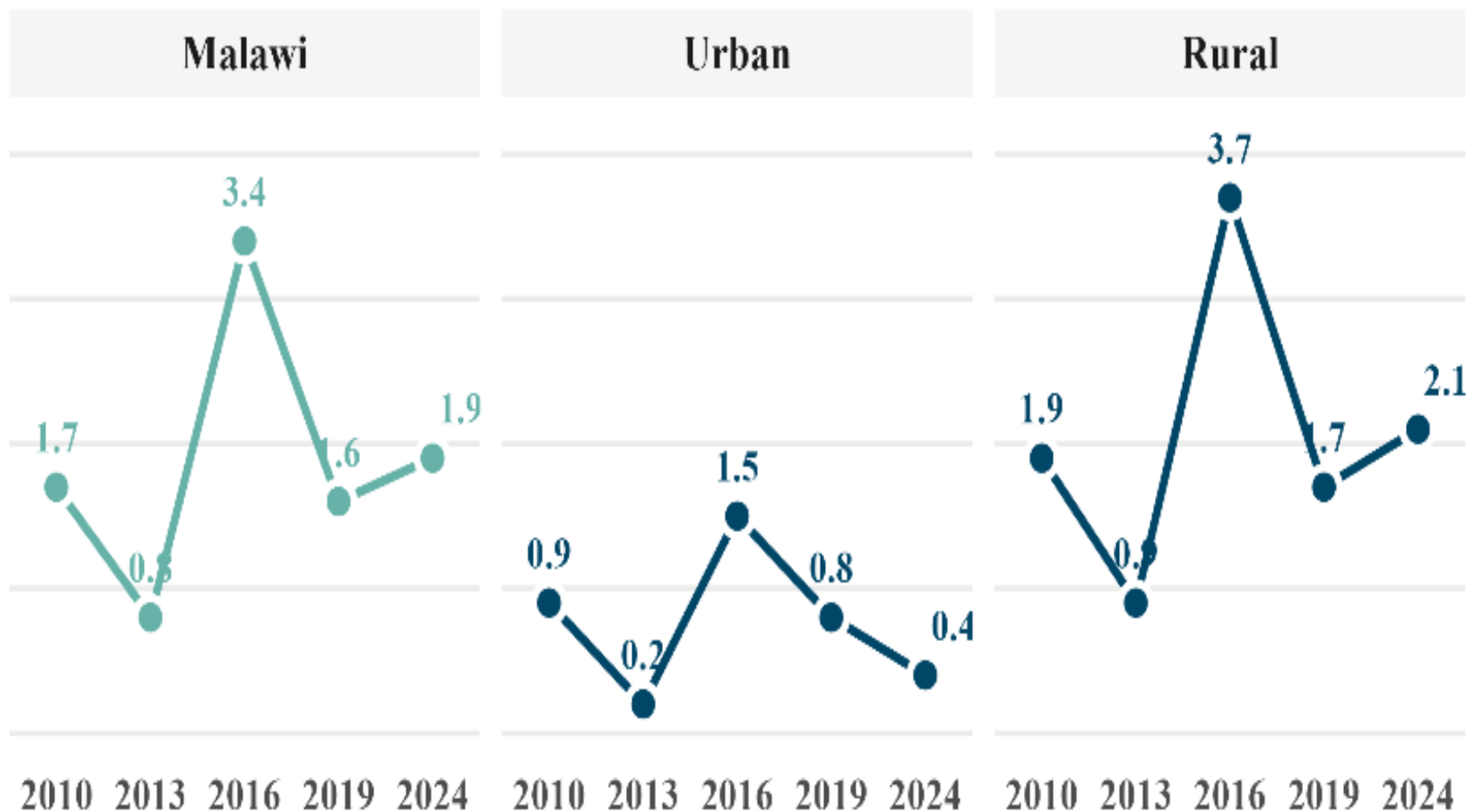
SELECTED FINDINGS

PANEL SURVEY

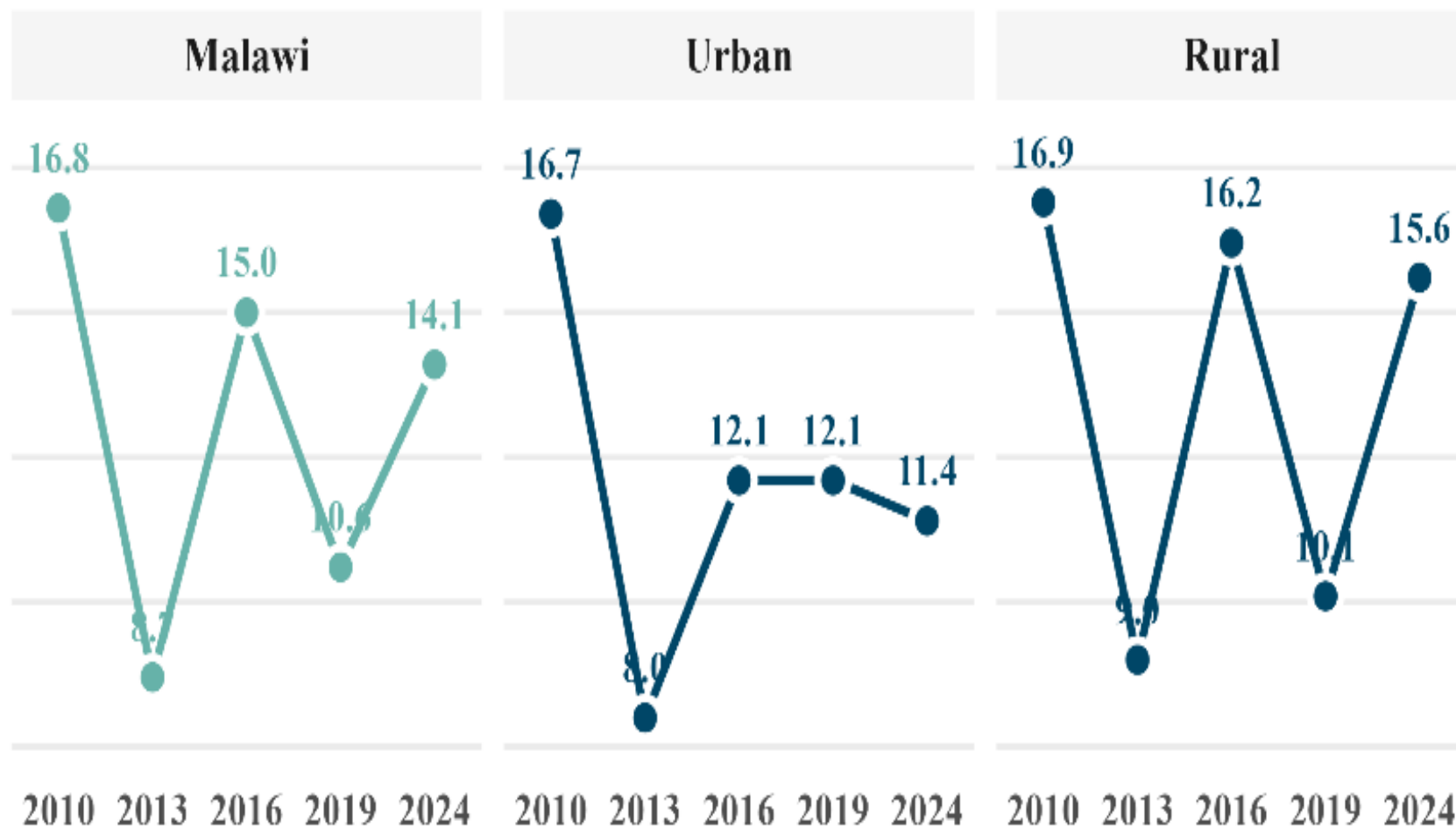
Literacy Rate



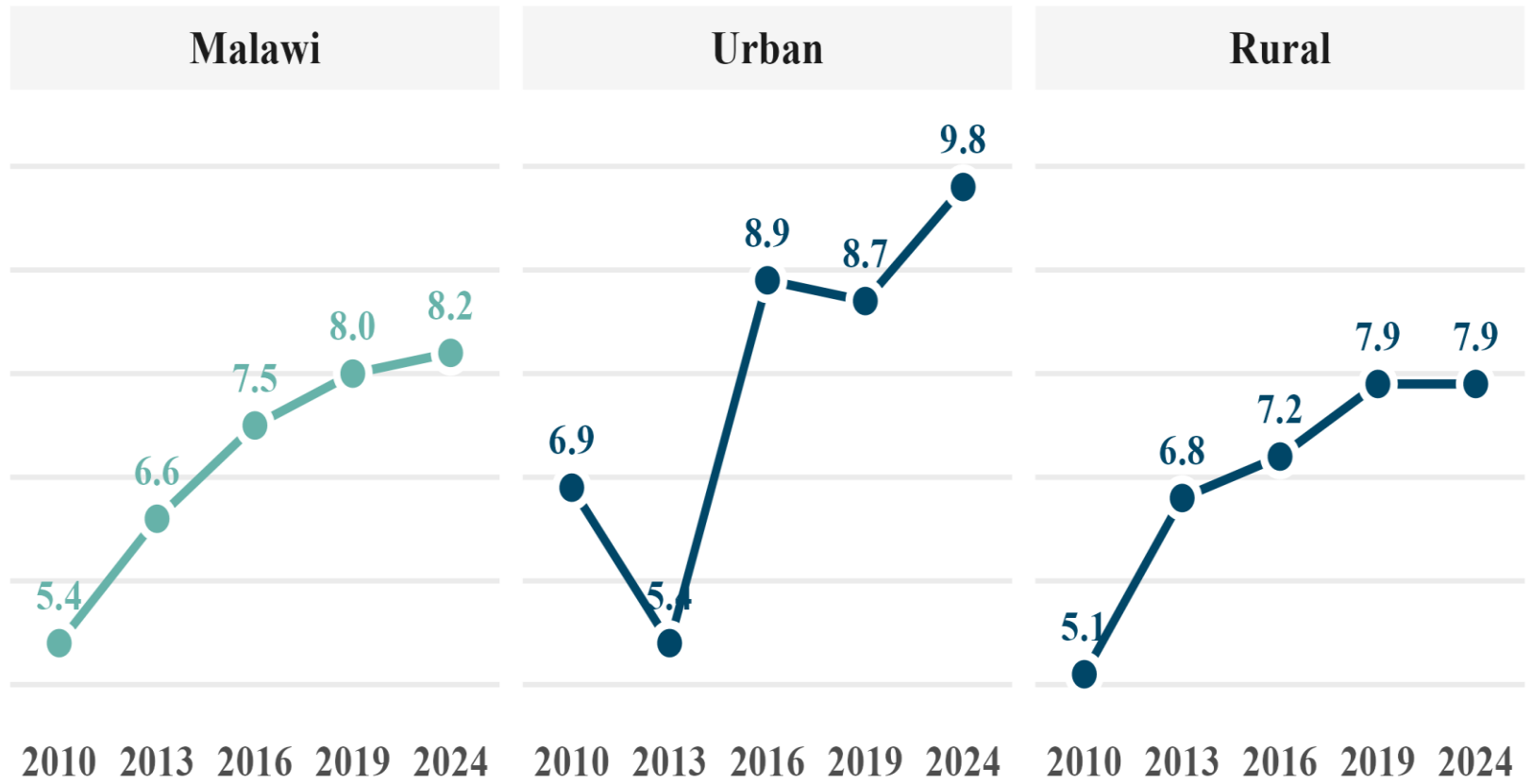
Primary School Dropout



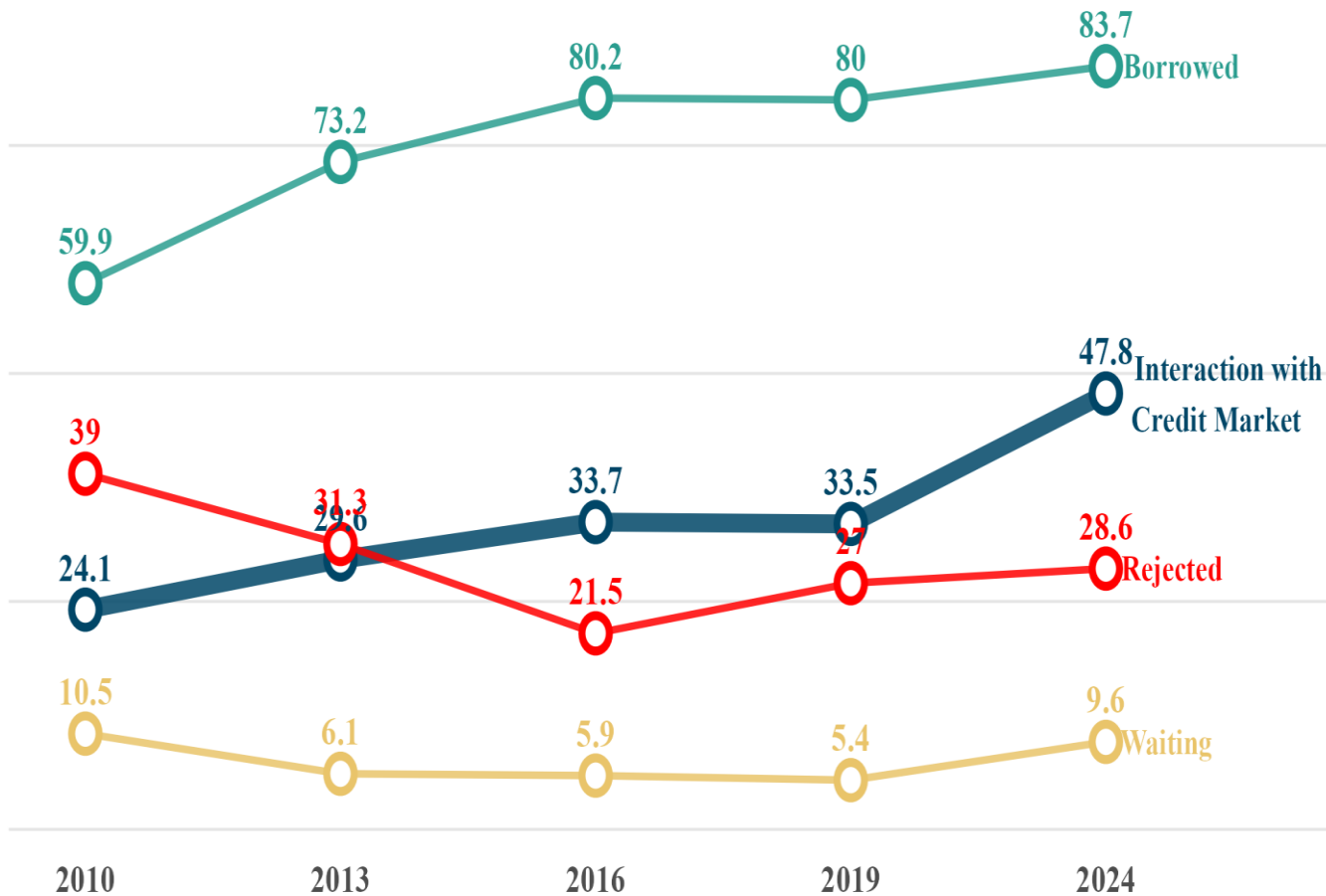
Secondary School Dropout



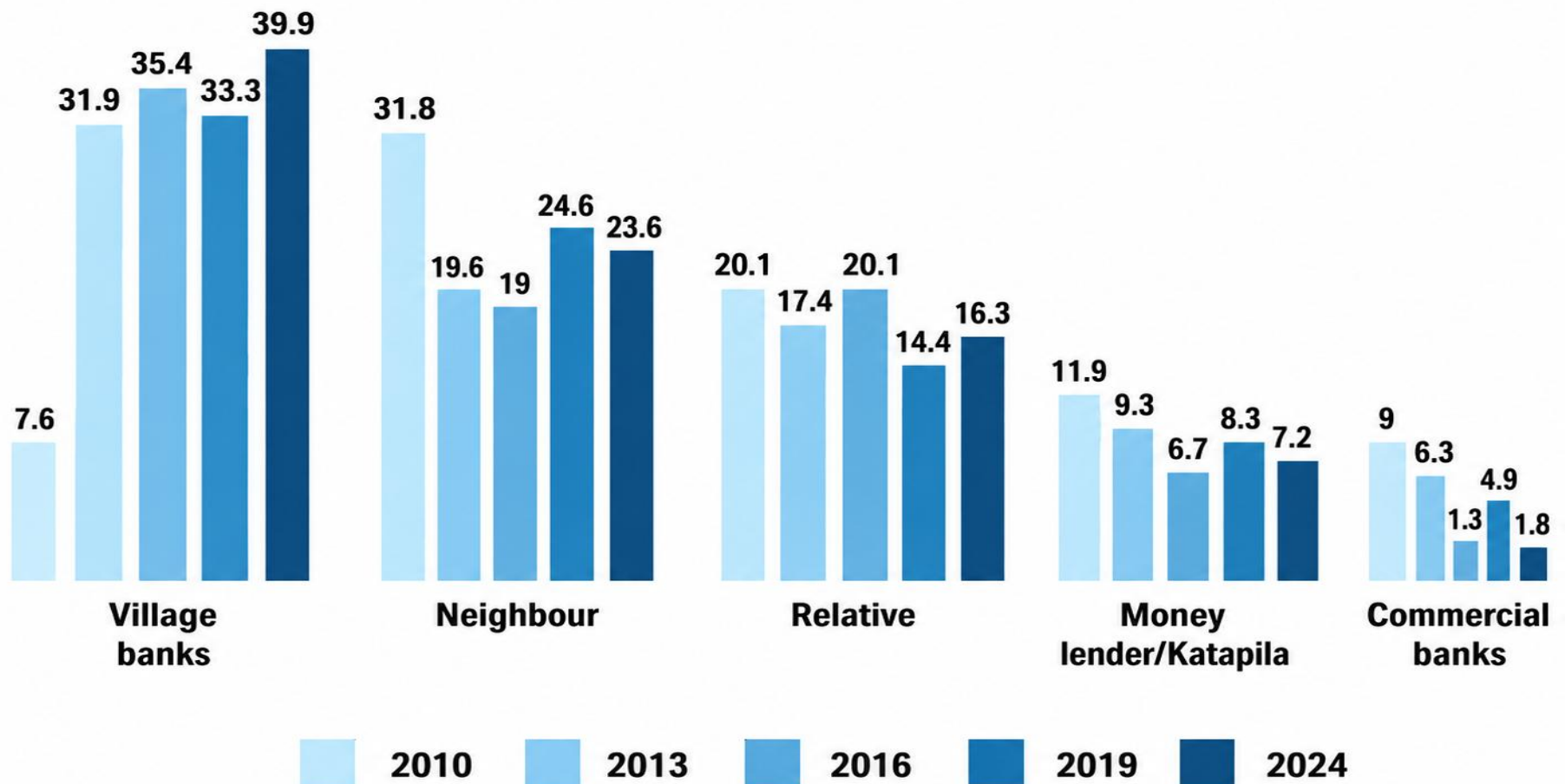
Chronic Illness Patterns Since 2010



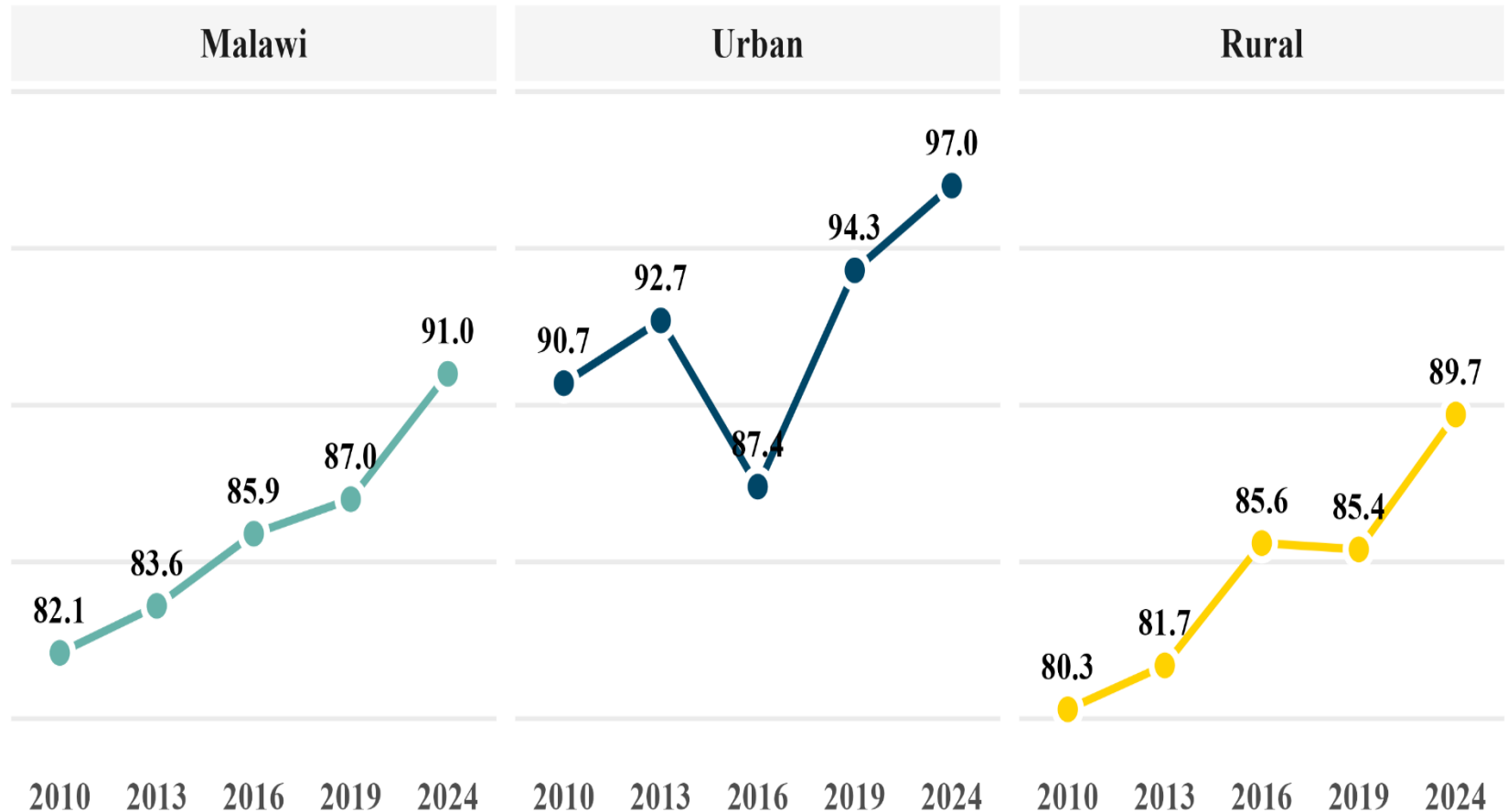
Credit Market Interaction



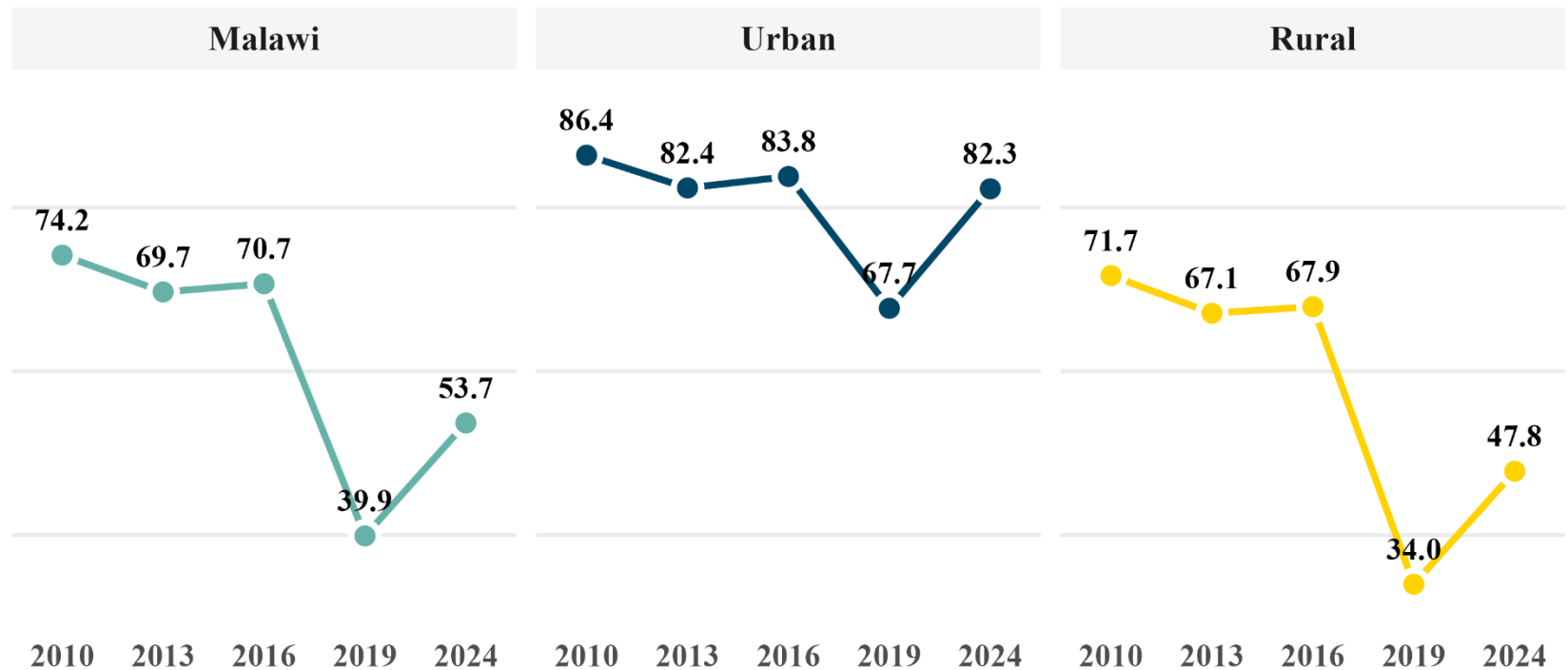
Main Sources of Loans Trajectory Since 2010



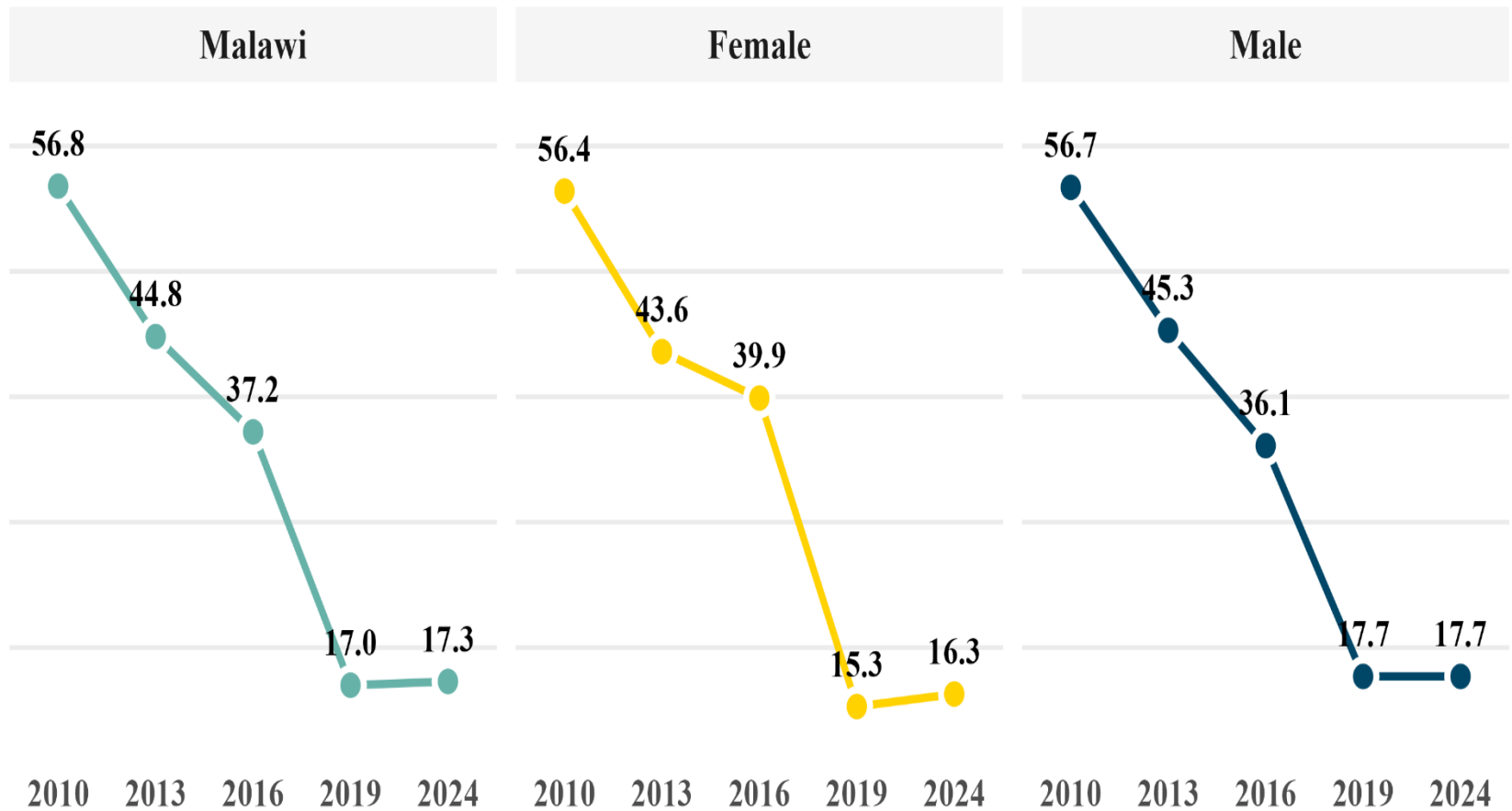
Water improvement across the waves



Access to Improved Toilet Facility Across the waves



FISP PROGRAM



THE END

THANK YOU

- **Contact:**
- **Commissioner of Statistics**
- **National Statistical Office**
- **Chimbiya Road, P.O. Box 333**
- **Zomba, Malawi.**
- **www.nsomalawi.mw**
- **inquiries@statistics.gov.mw**