



Living with Coronavirus

Kenyan citizens' opinions and experiences on the economic effects of COVID-19

Thursday, October 15, 2020
#SautiZaWananchi

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Data: *Sauti za Wananchi* mobile phone survey

Special panel round 2

17 August – 29 August.

3000 respondents

Mobile Phone



Africa's first nationally-representative mobile phone survey

Kenyan citizens' opinions and experiences on the economic effects of COVID-19



In this presentation...

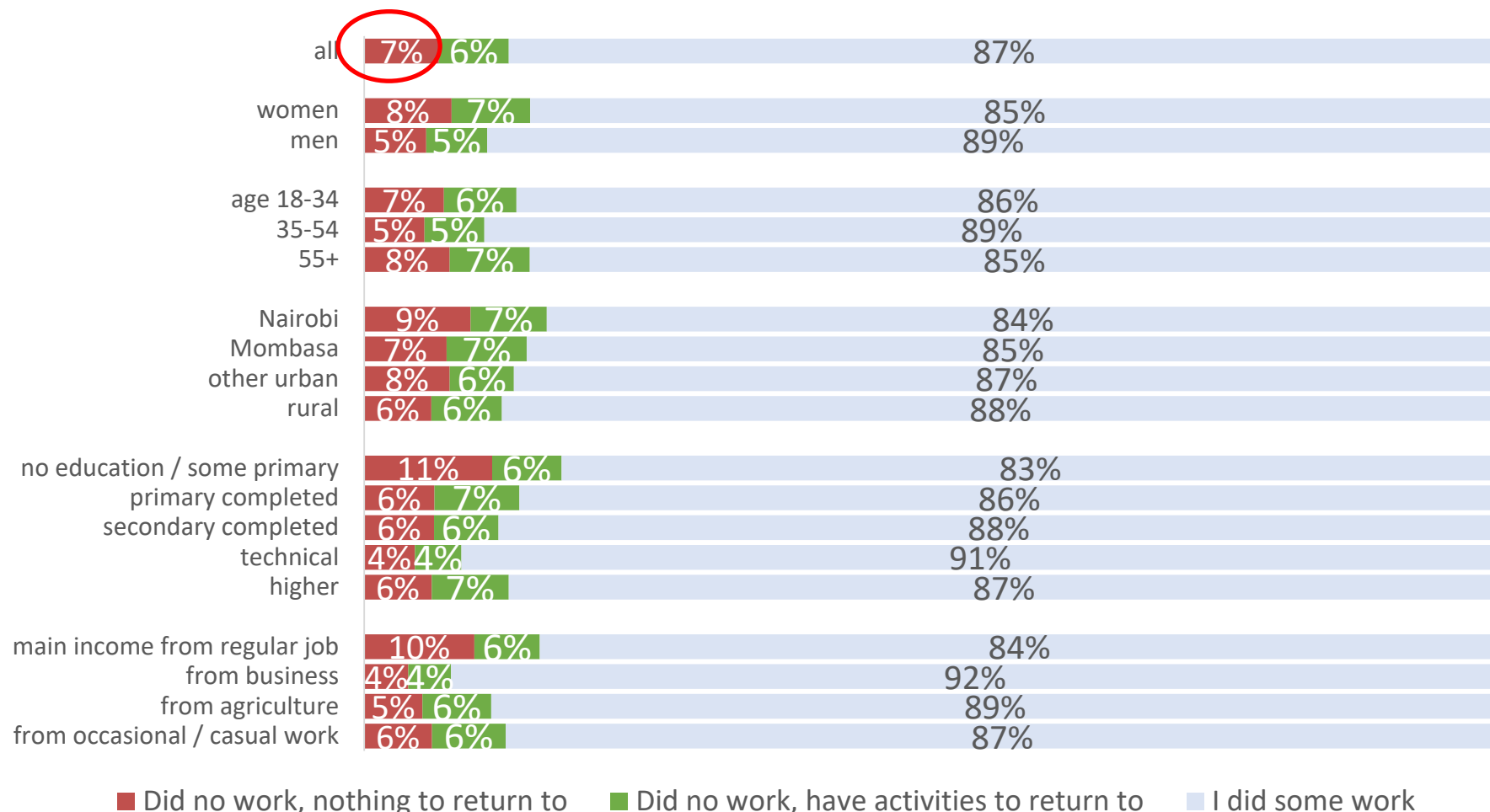
- **Vulnerability and resilience at the household level**
- **Food security under COVID-19**
- **Livelihoods under COVID-19**
- **The national economy**



**At the household level,
Kenyans are suffering**

1: Among citizens who did no work in the previous seven days, half have no work to return to

Figure 9: If you did no work in the past seven days, do you have some income generating activity that you will definitely return to?

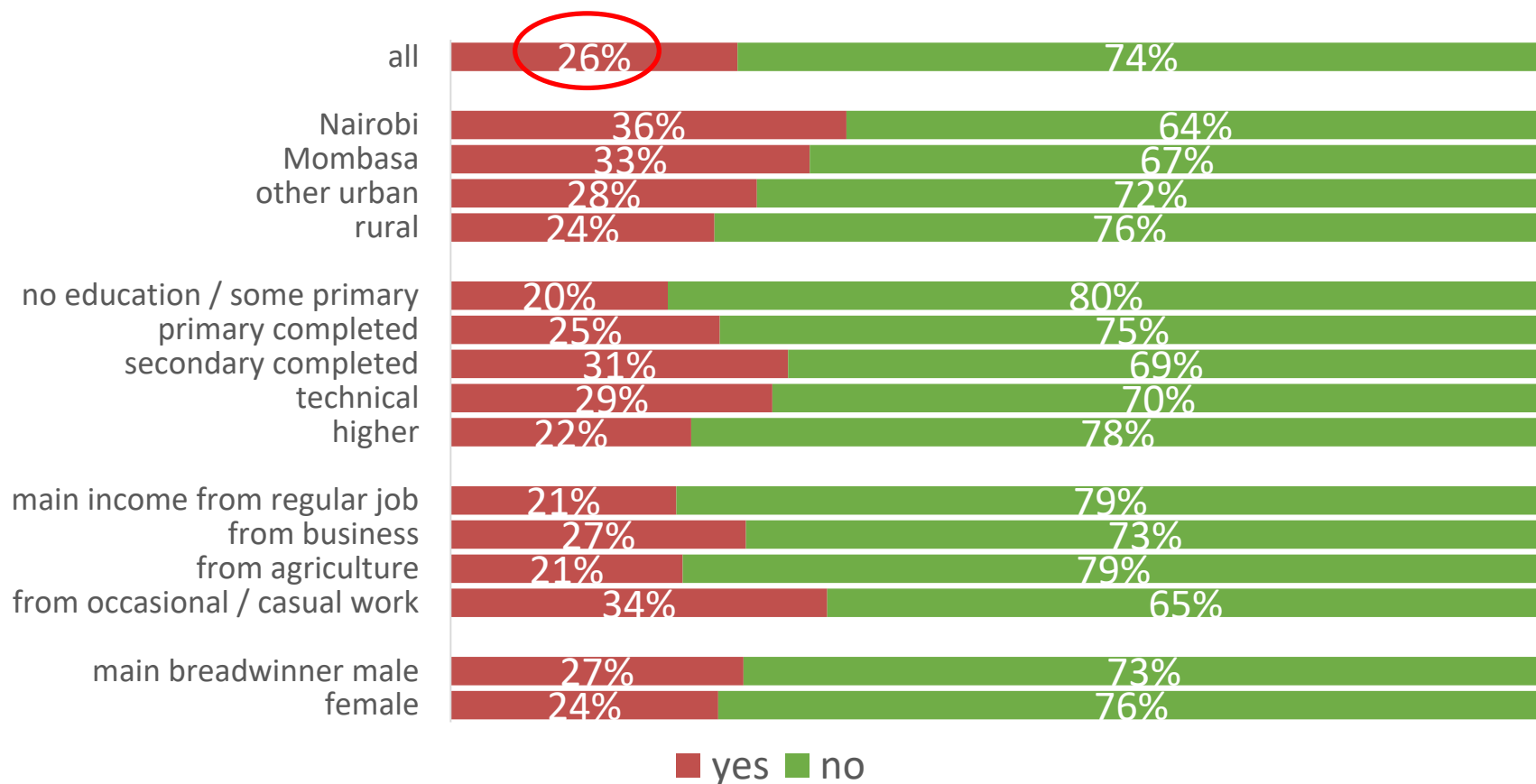


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

2: In 1 out of 4 households, the main breadwinner has lost his/her source of income in the past year

Figure 13: Has the main breadwinner of the household lost his/her source of income in the past year?

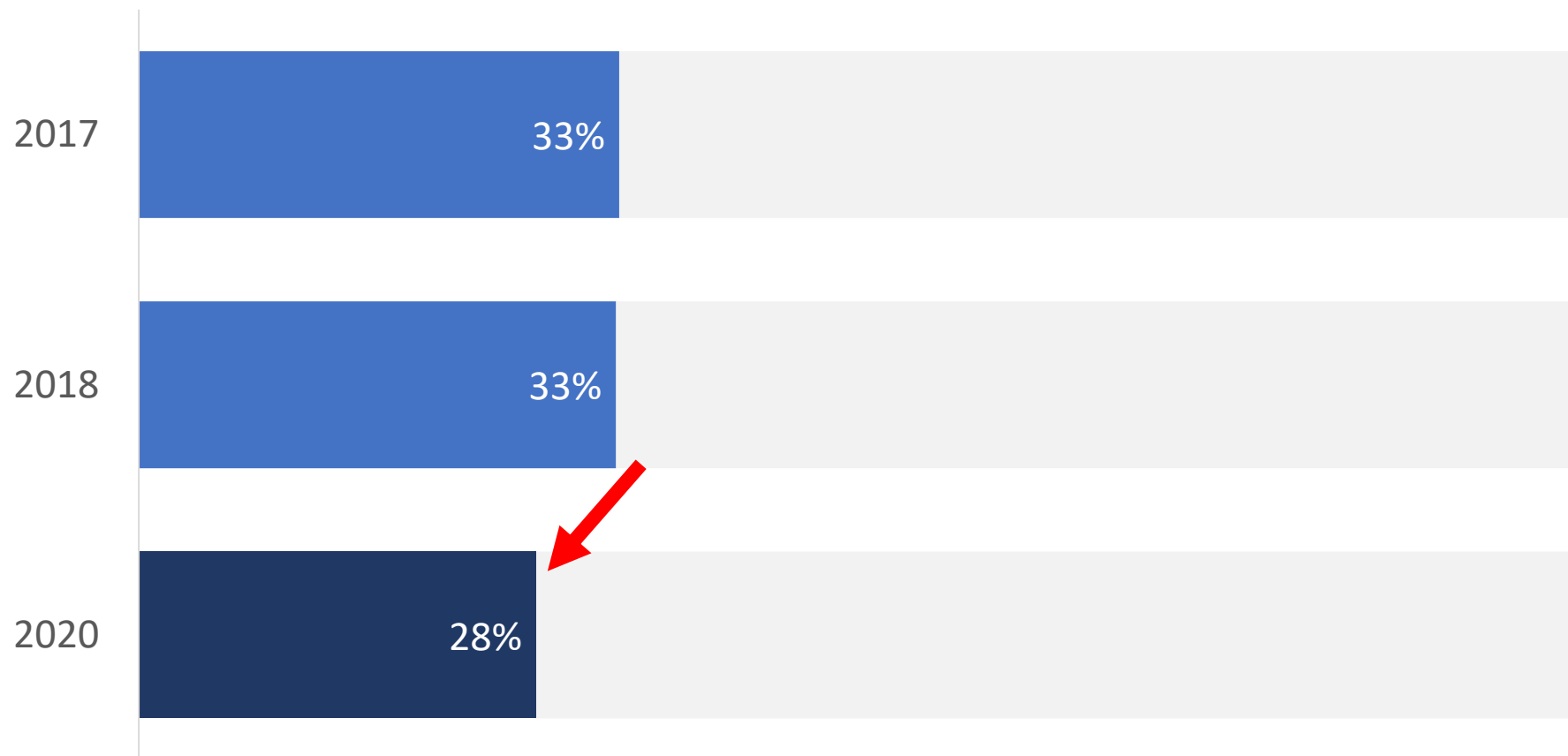


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

3: Fewer households now report that their income is sufficient to meet daily needs than in 2017 and 2018

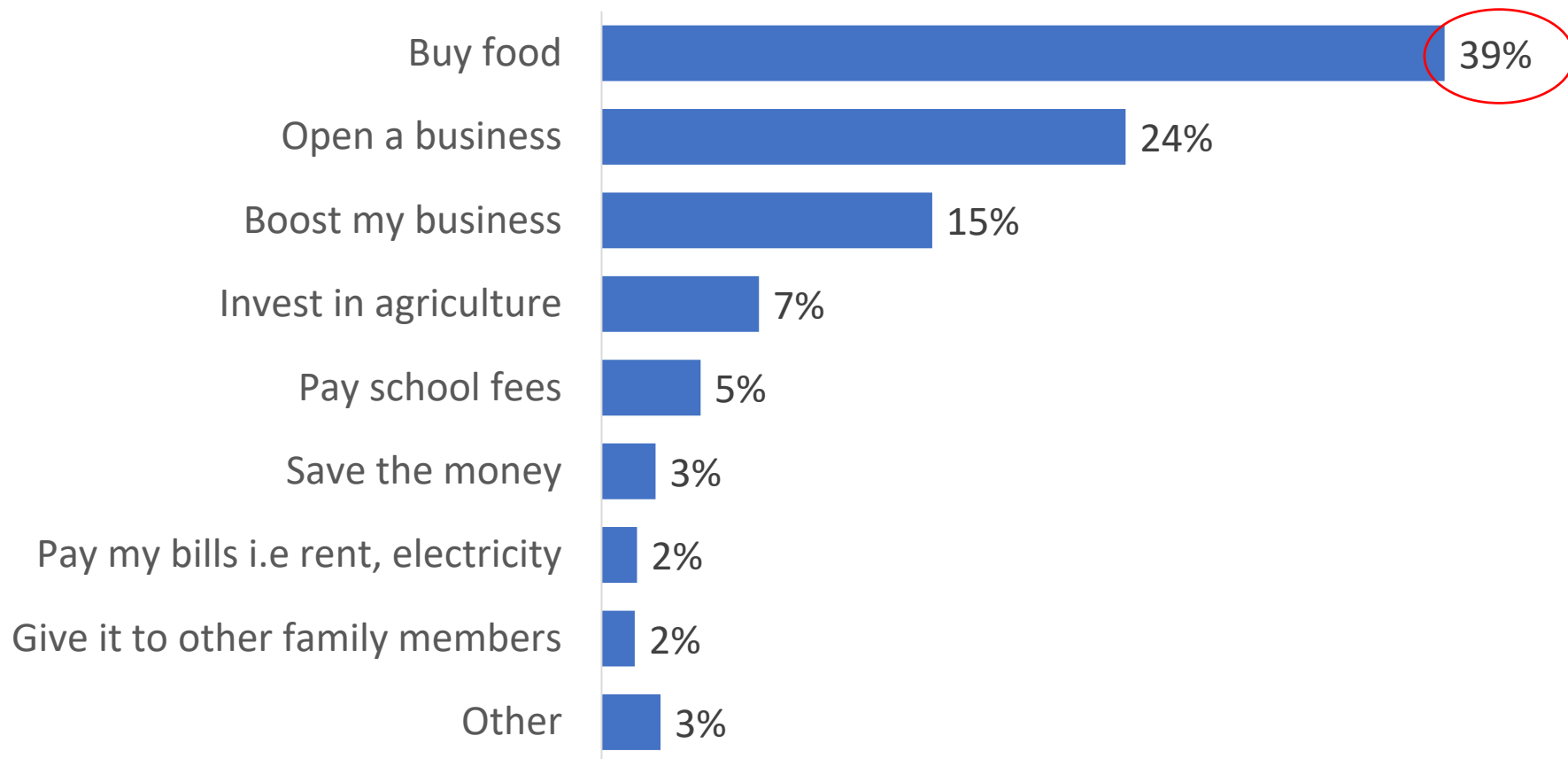
Figure 17: Is the income obtained by the household enough to cater for the household needs on daily basis? (% answering yes)



Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);
Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

4: 4 out of 10 citizens would spend unexpected income on essentials

Figure 19: If you were to receive KES 10,000 from the government, how would you mainly use it?



Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

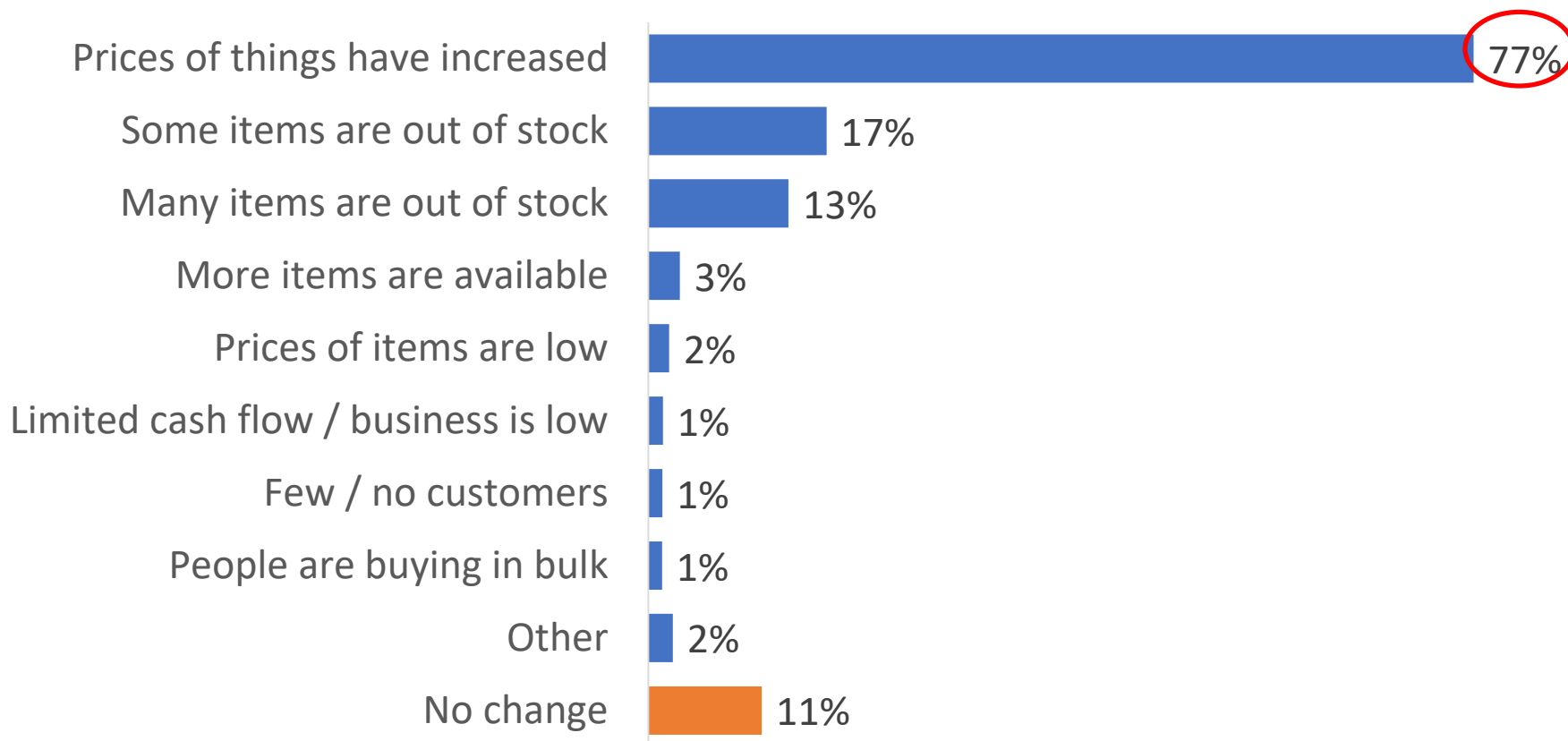
Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

**COVID-19 has impacted food security
like a bad harvest**



1: 3 out of 4 citizens report that food prices have increased this year

Figure 21: Compared to January 2020, what (if any) changes have you seen at stores/markets in your area for food and other necessities? (multiple responses permitted)

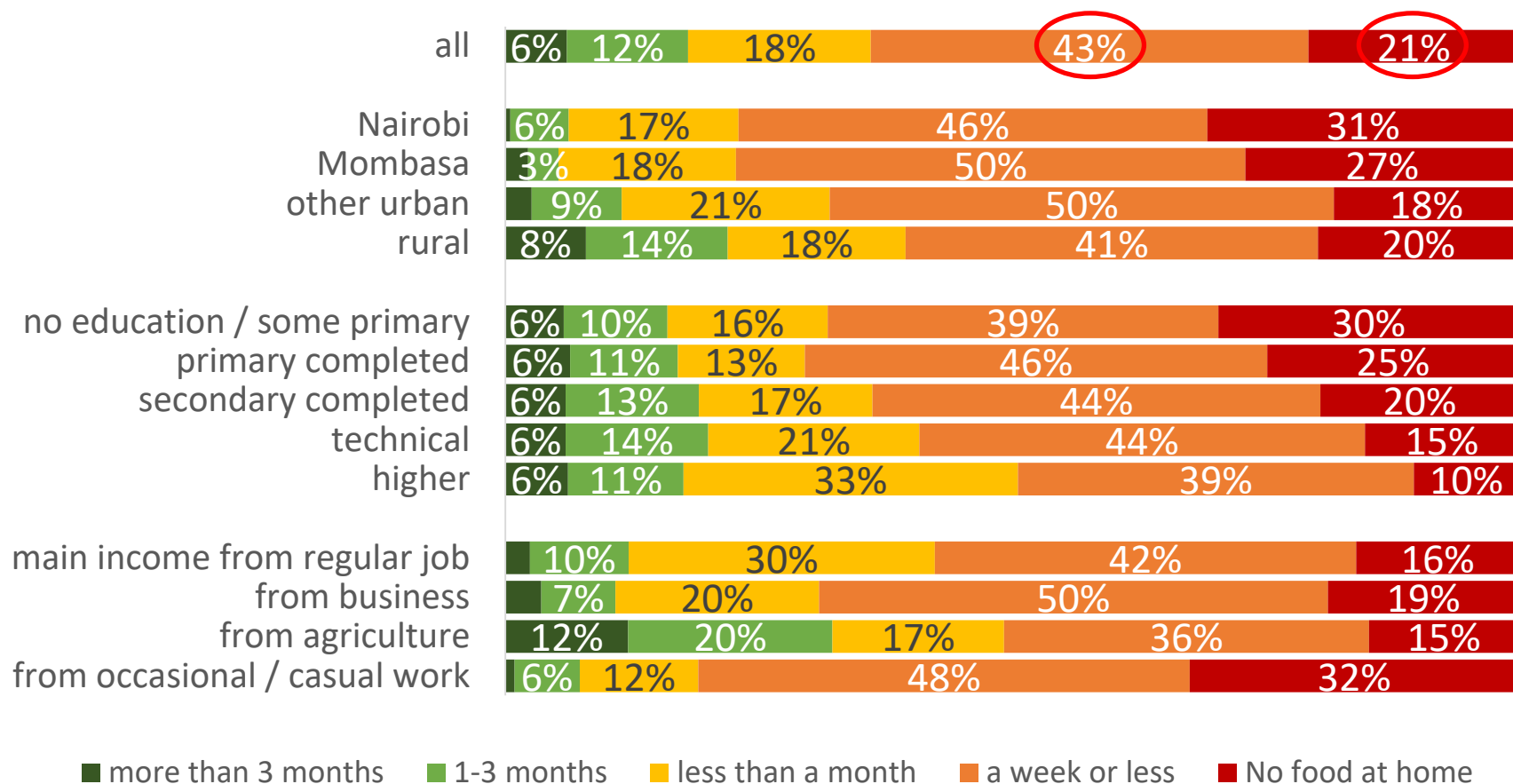


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

2: 2 out of 3 households have food stocks at home that would last a week or less

Figure 23: How long could the food currently available for consumption at your household last before it runs out?

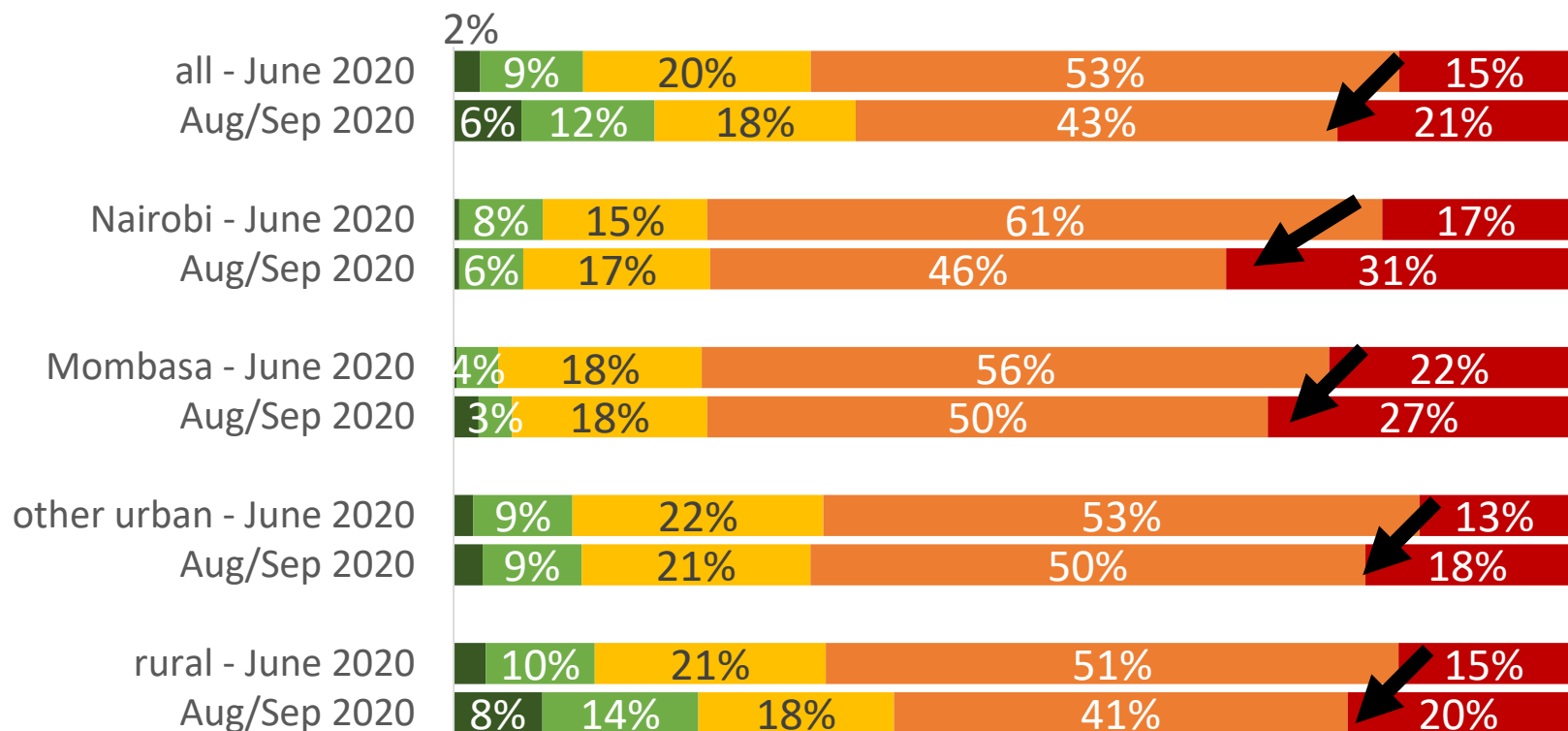


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

3: More households say they have no food at home compared to two months ago

Figure 23: How long could the food currently available for consumption at your household last before it runs out (over time)?



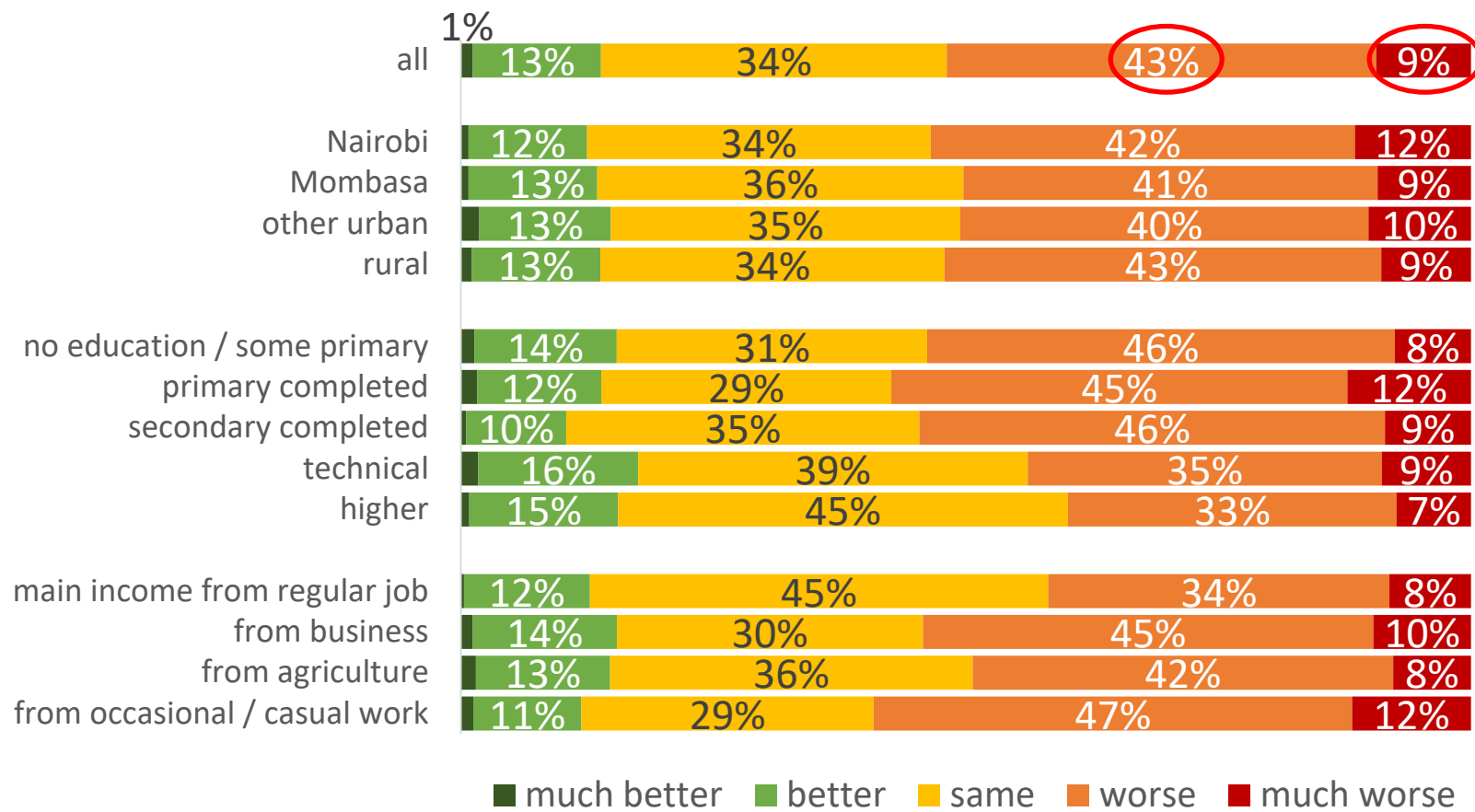
■ more than 3 months ■ 1-3 months ■ less than a month ■ a week or less ■ No food at home

Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

4: Half of households say their recent food intake has been worse than before

Figure 25: What do you think of the basic daily food intake situation in your household in the last one month compared to earlier?

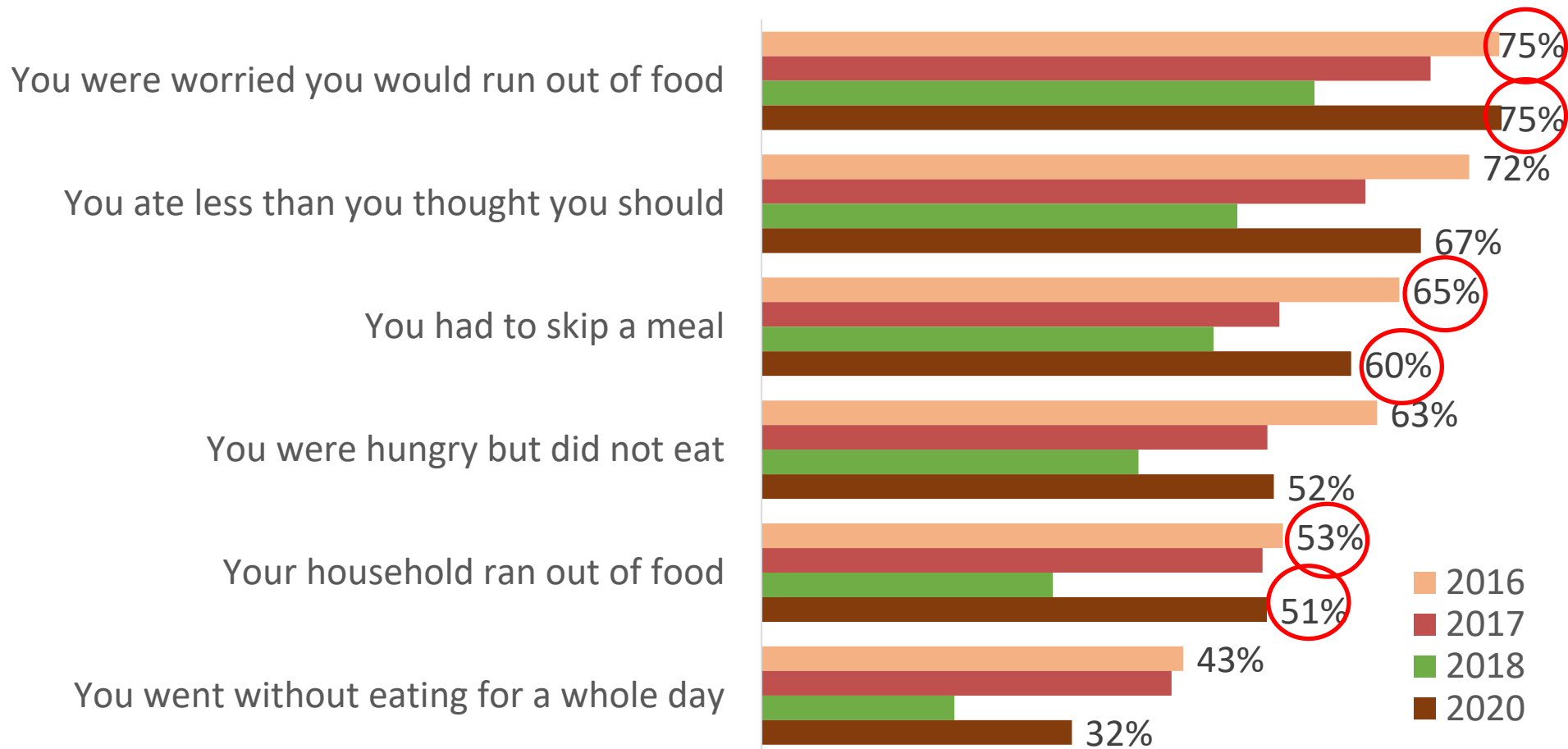


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

5: Signs of food stress in 2020 are at similar levels to years of poor harvests

Figure 27: Percentage of households that, due to a lack of money or other resources, did the following during the previous three months?



Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

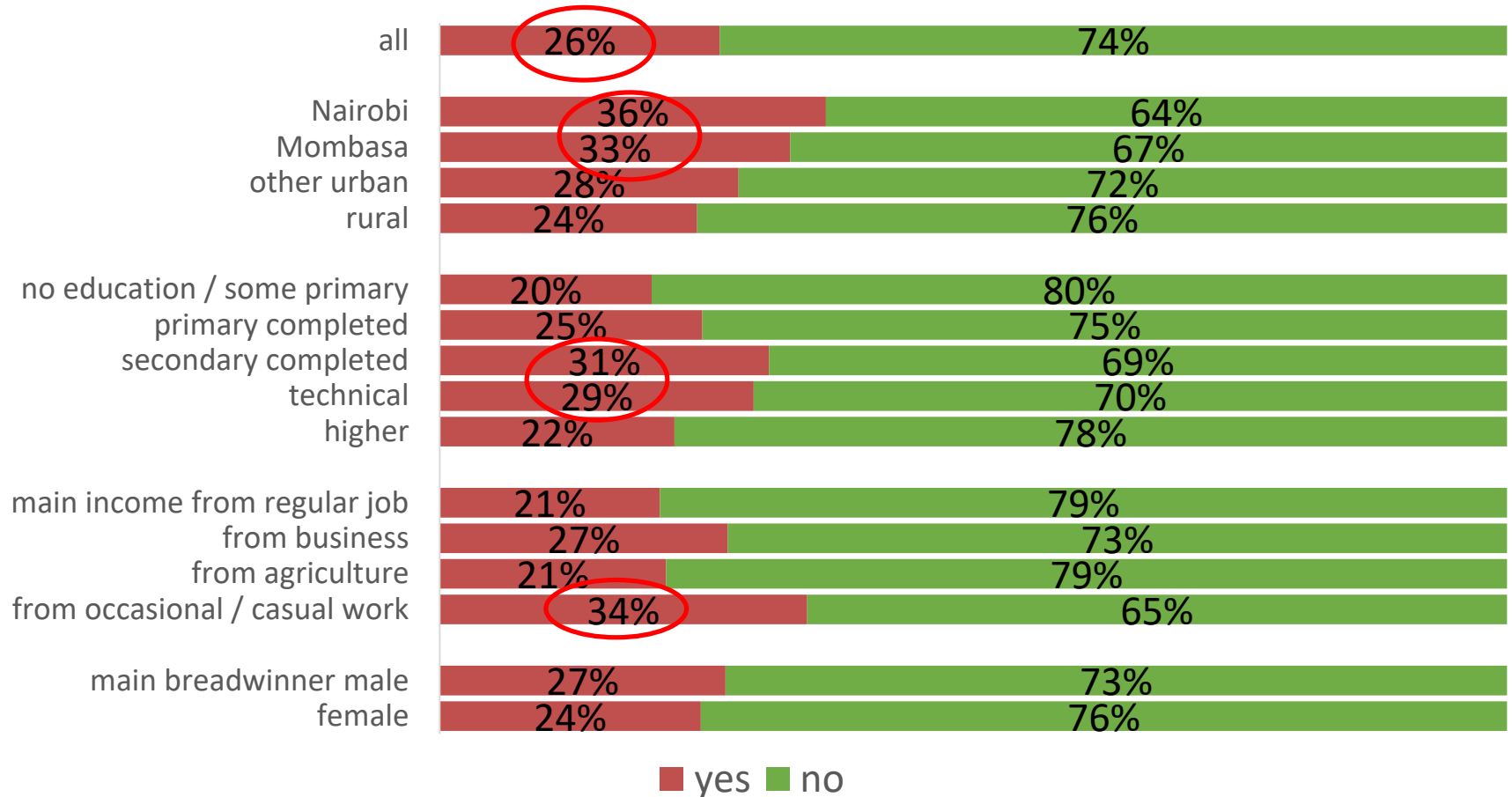
Base: all respondents (n=3,000)



Urban casual workers are more seriously affected

1: More likely to have lost their main income

Figure 13: Has the main breadwinner of the household lost his/her source of income in the past year?

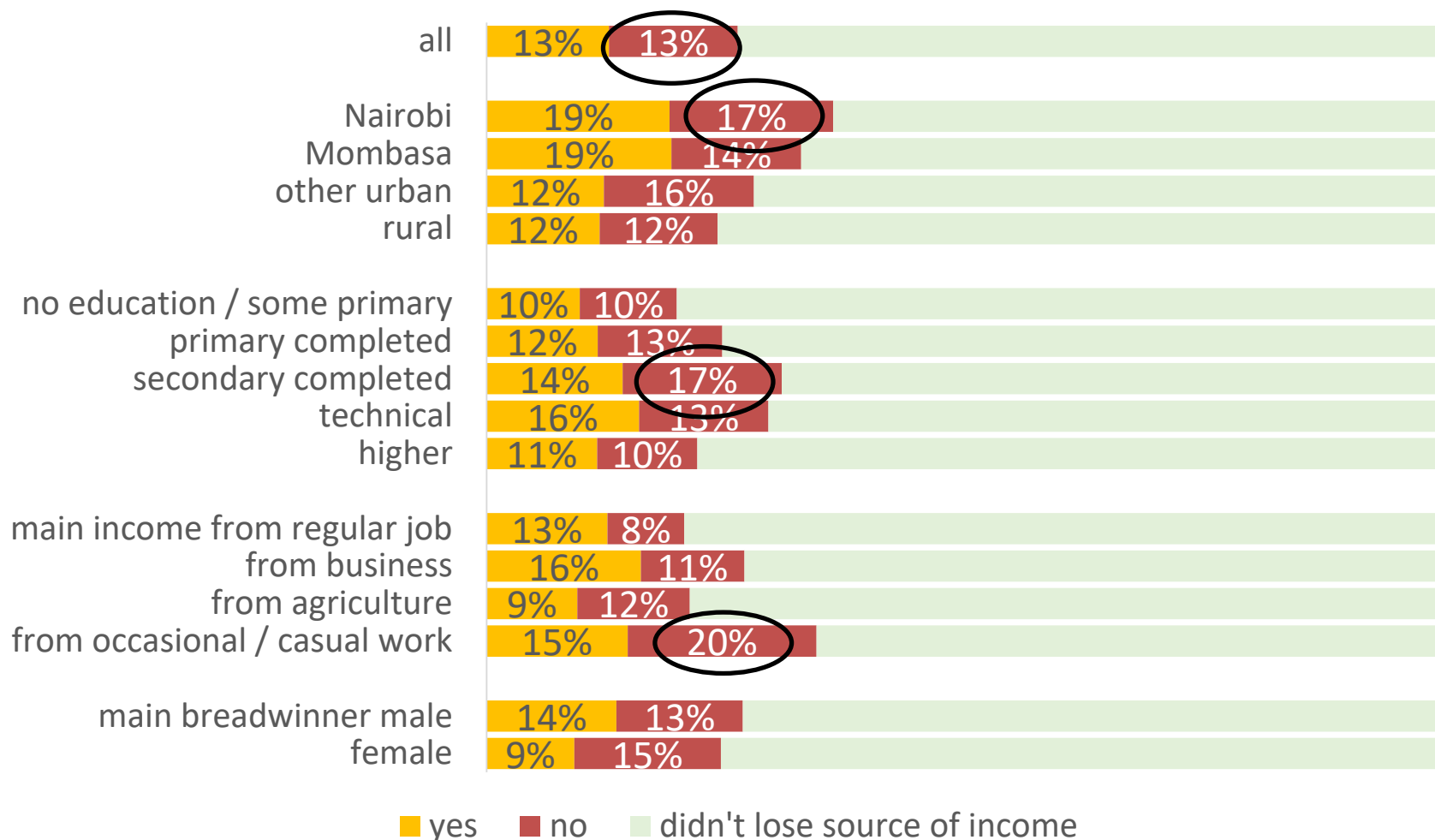


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

2: Less likely to have found a new source of income

Figure 14: Has the main breadwinner of the household been able to find another job/ source of income?

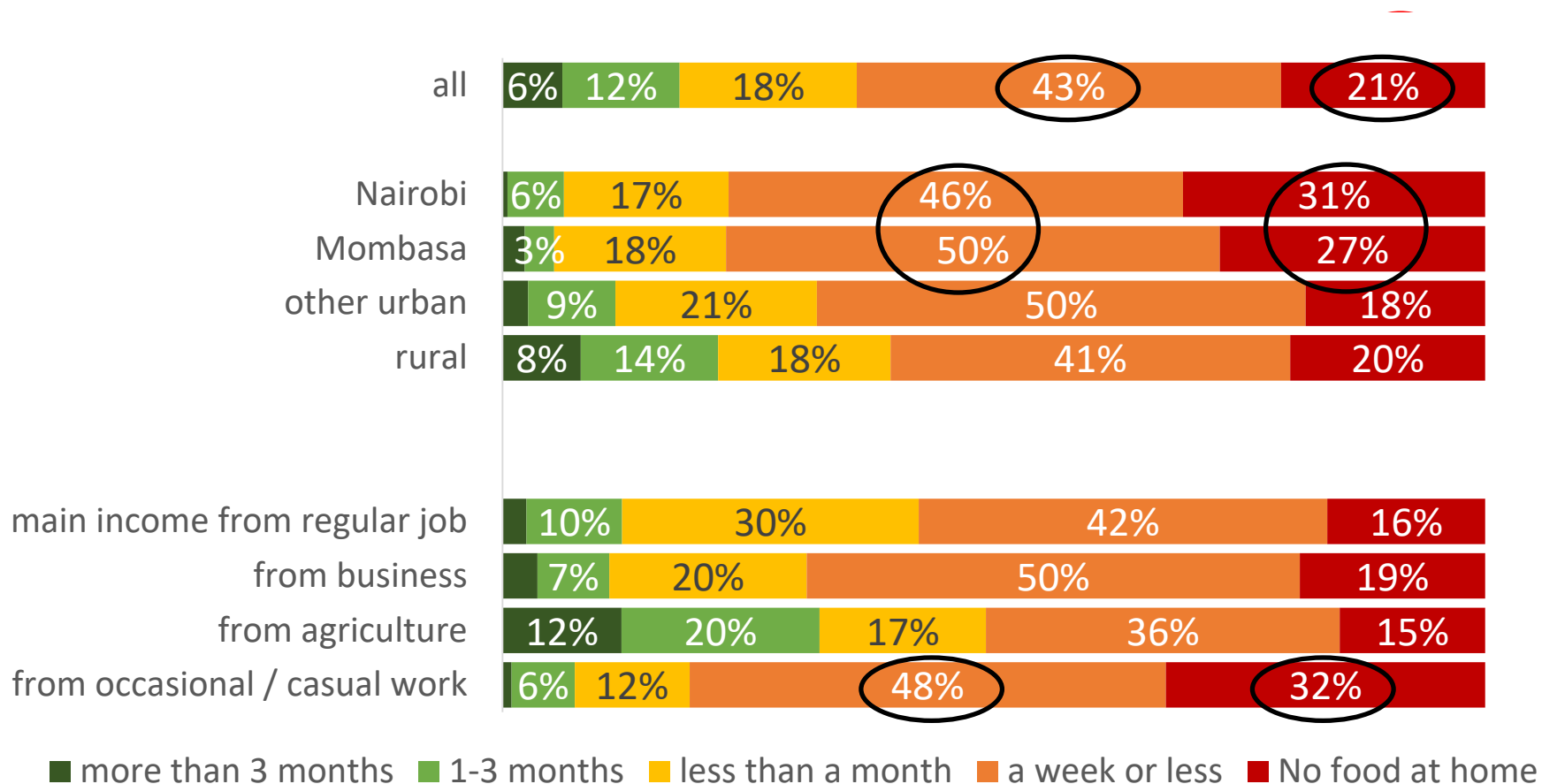


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

3: More likely to have food for a week or less at home

Figure 23: How long could the food currently available for consumption at your household last before it runs out?

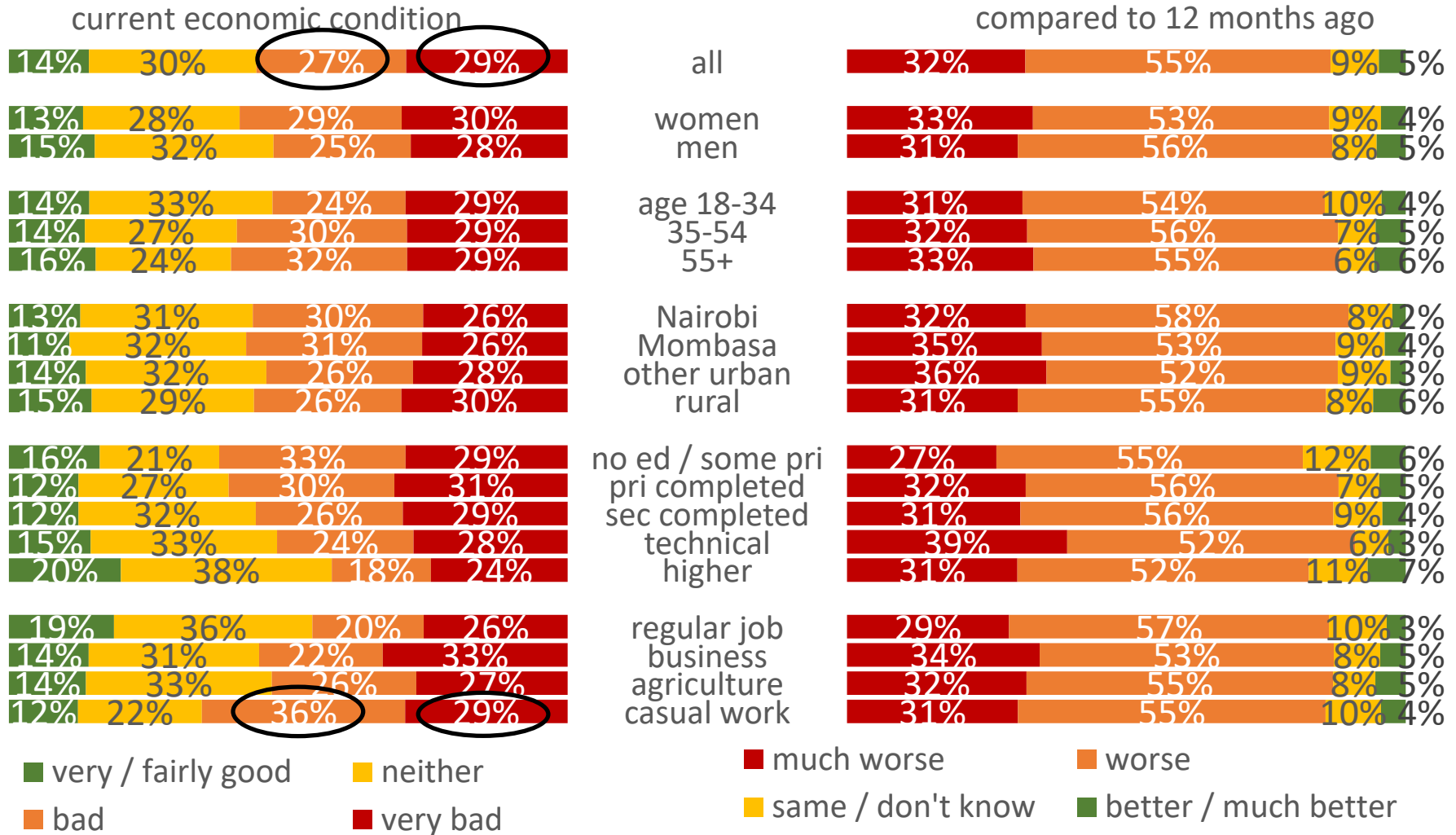


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

4: More likely to say their current economic condition is (very) bad

**Figure 34: How would you describe your own personal living conditions at present?
And compared to 12 months ago?**

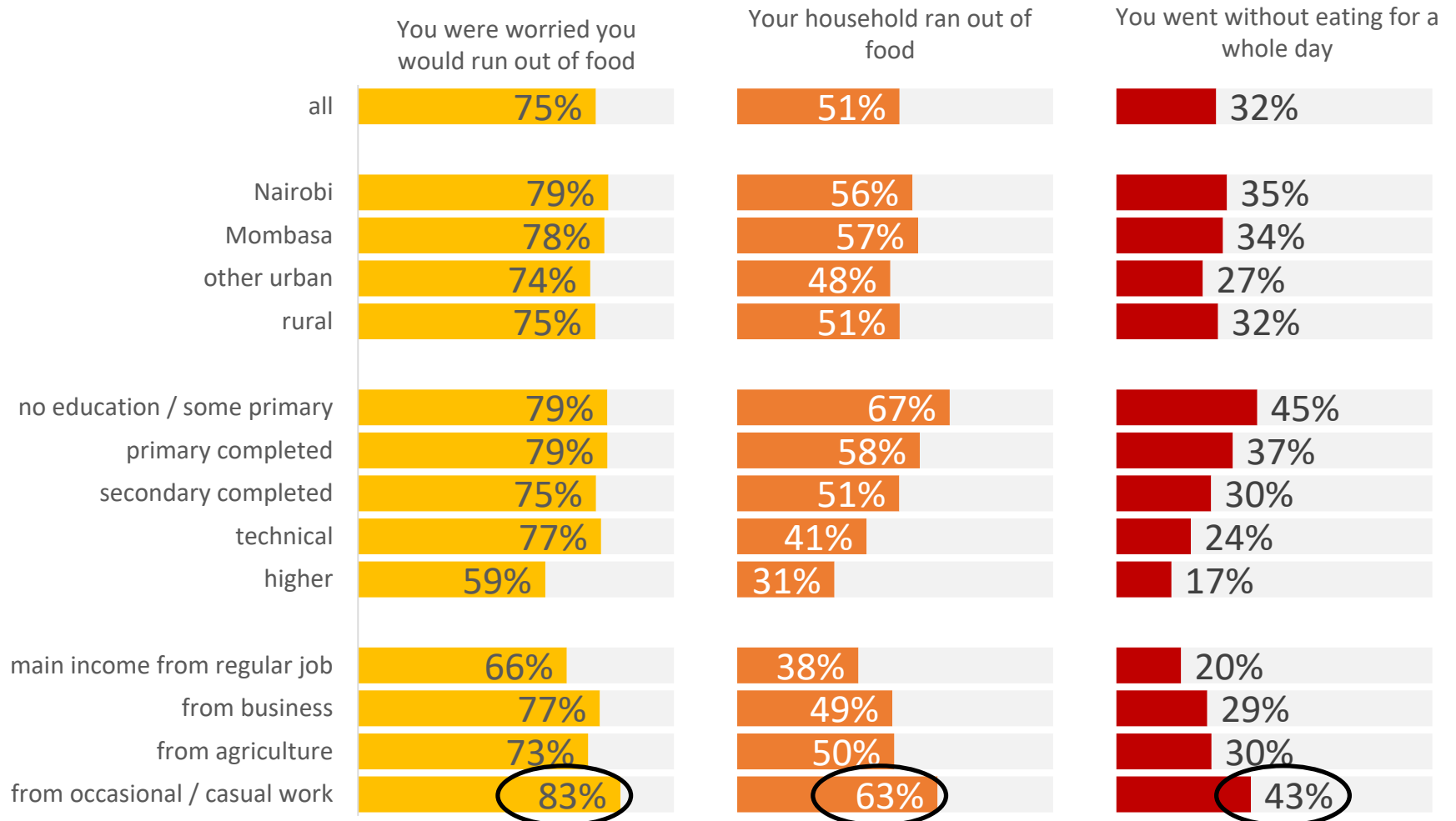


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

5: Show more signs of food stress

Figure 28: % households that, due to a lack of money or other resources, did the following during the previous three months?



Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

For large majorities, the national picture is bleak



1: 8 out of 10 citizens think the country his heading in the wrong direction, up from 7 out of 10 in 2018

Figure 29: What do you think of the overall current direction of the country?



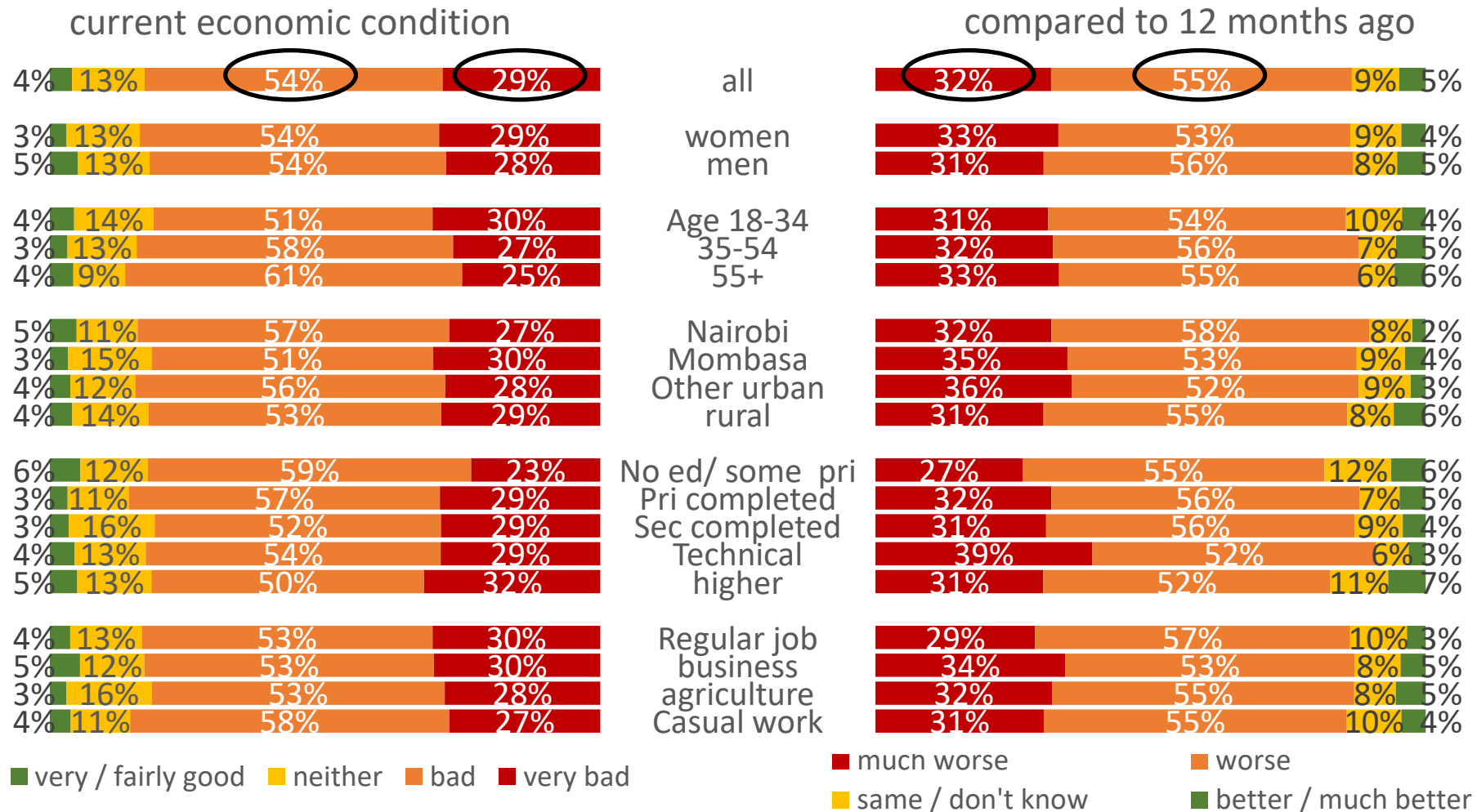
■ the right direction ■ don't know ■ the wrong direction

Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

2: Most citizens feel that the national economy is in a bad condition, worse than 12 months ago

**Figure 32: How would you describe the present economic condition of this country?
And compared to 12 months ago?**

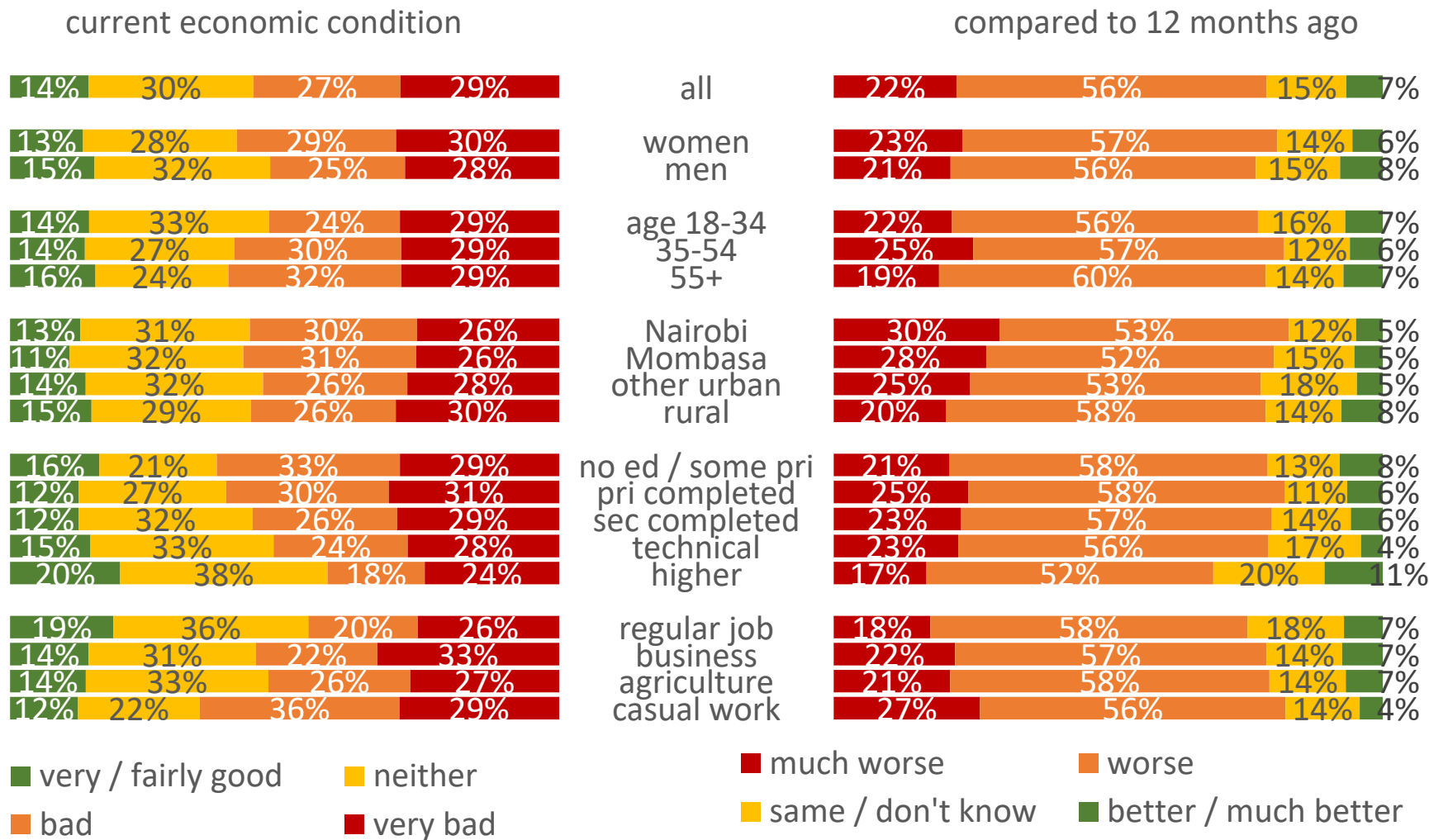


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

3: Most citizens say their own economic situation is bad, and worse than twelve months ago

Figure 34: How would you describe your own personal living conditions at present? And compared to 12 months ago?

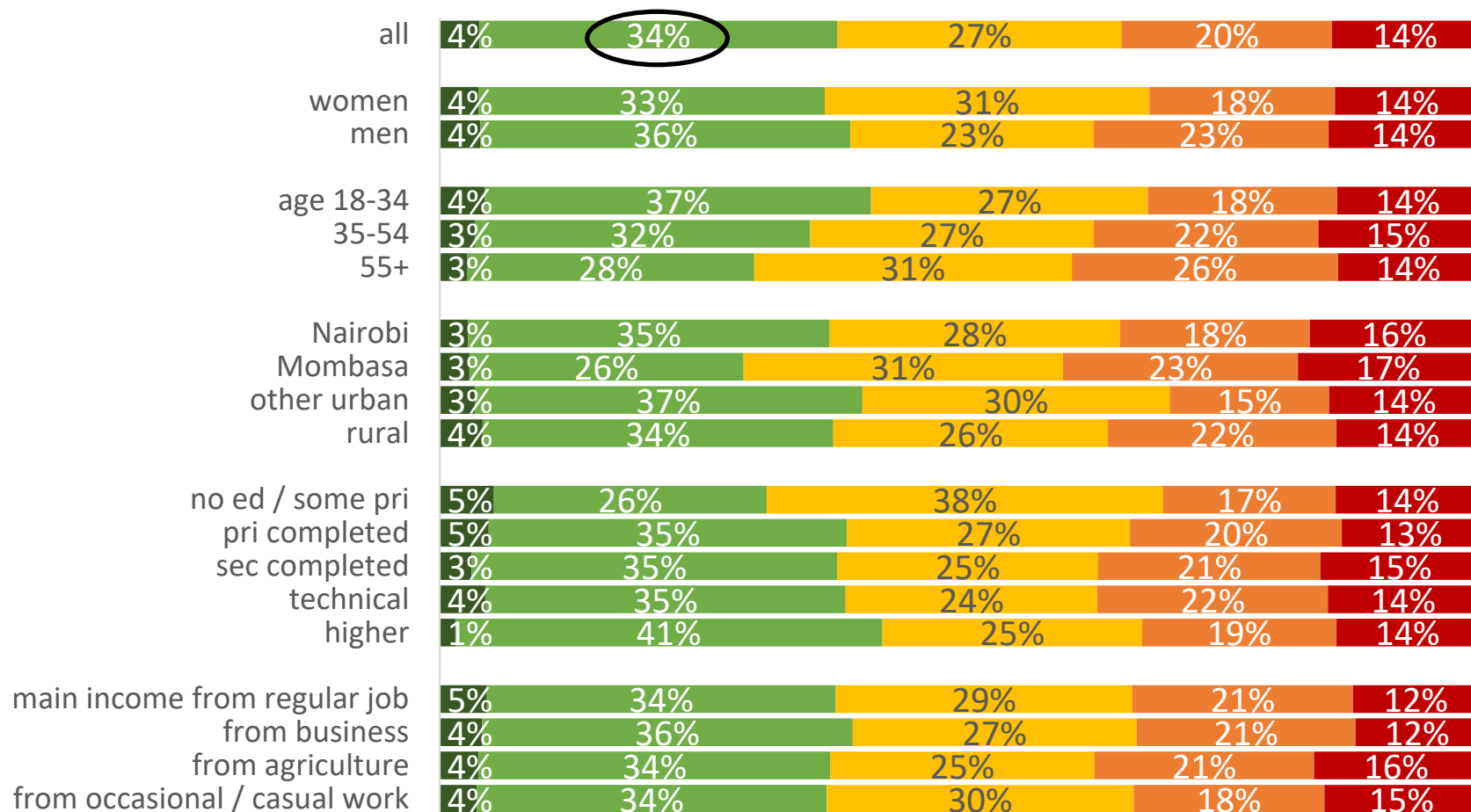


Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

4: Citizens are more positive about the future prospects for national economic conditions

Figure 36: Looking ahead, do you expect economic conditions in this country to be better or worse in 12 months' time?



■ Much better
 ■ Better
 ■ The same / don't know
 ■ Worse
 ■ Much worse

Source: Sauti za Wananchi special panel round 2 (17 Aug - 29 Aug, 2020);

Base: all respondents (n=3,000)

Conclusions...

- The pandemic **has seriously affected households** across the country.
- The impact of COVID-19 on **food security** can be considered equivalent to a year of **bad harvest**.
- **Urban casual workers** have been badly affected.
- But **two other groups have escaped the worse** impacts (those with higher levels of education and those with lower levels of education)
- Many more citizens say **both the national economy and their personal circumstances are bad** than those who say that these are good.
- Citizens are far **more positive about the prospects for the national economy** over the next twelve months than they are about the current state of the economy.

For more details

Visit www.twaweza.org/sauti for the full technical approach paper which provides a detailed overview of methodology.

Visit www.twaweza.org/sauti to download the raw data in excel or STATA.


Link up with us:

Twitter: @Twaweza_Ke

Facebook: Twaweza Kenya



Thank You!

A young person with dark skin is smiling, wearing a red t-shirt with the text 'SPEAK UP!' in white. They are holding a clear plastic cup with a brown smoothie and a white lid, along with several brown eggs. In the background, another person is partially visible, and there is a blue banner with some text that is partially obscured.

Q & A
Plenary discussions

SPEAK UP!