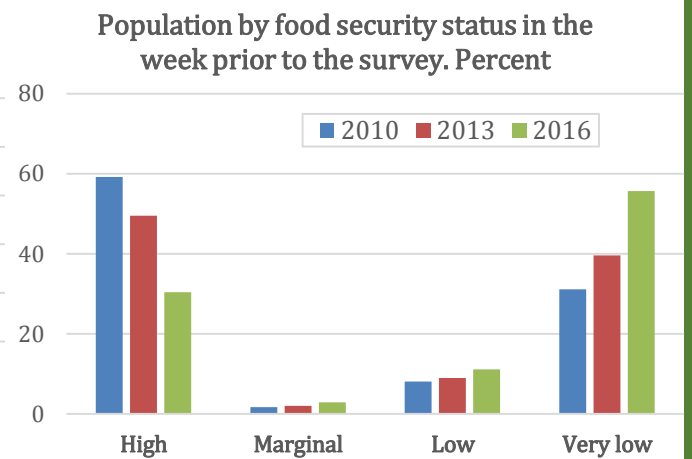
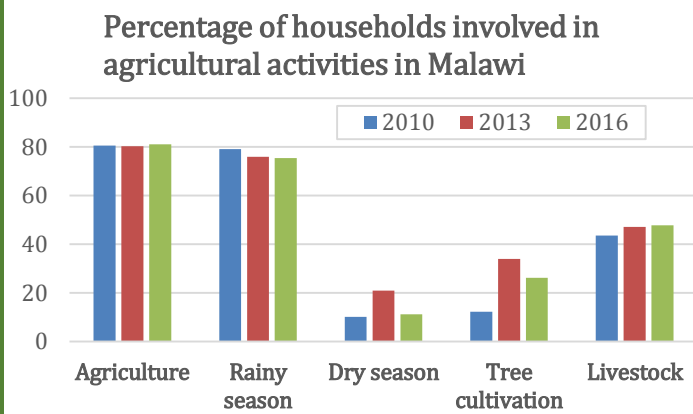




REPUBLIC OF MALAWI NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICE



INTEGRATED HOUSEHOLD PANEL SURVEY 2016

HOUSEHOLD SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS REPORT

DECEMBER 2017

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Foreword and Acknowledgements



This report presents findings from a series of the integrated household panel surveys conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO). Through the Integrated Household Program, the NSO conducted the 2016 Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS 2016). This is a follow-up survey to the same households interviewed in Integrated Household Survey (IHS3). The first integrated household survey type was conducted in 1990 and was referred to as the Household Expenditure and Small Scale Economic Activities (HESSEA). This was followed by the 1997/8 Integrated Household Survey which is commonly referred as IHS1. The second was conducted in 2004/5 and is referred as IHS2. The third was conducted in 2010/11 and is referred to as IHS3. The current survey was conducted over the period April 2016 to April 2017 and is being referred to as IHS4.

The main objective of the Integrated Household Panel Surveys is to provide and update information on various aspects of welfare and socio-economic status of the population of Malawi and are presented at various levels such as national; urban-rural and region as well as disaggregated by gender.

The Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS) is a multi-topic panel survey with a strong focus on agriculture that is implemented by the National Statistical Office (NSO) of Malawi. The first round of the panel comprises 3,247 households interviewed from March to October 2010 as part of the larger 2010/11 Integrated Household Survey (IHS3). The second round saw the panel sample grow to 4,000 households and the fieldwork took place between April and October 2013, with residual tracking operations taking place in November and December. The third round of the panel survey, the IHPS 2016, ran concurrently with the IHS4 main cross-section fieldwork. The IHS4 cross-section collected information from a sample of 12,480 households statistically designed to be representative at both national, district, urban and rural levels while the IHPS 2016 collected information from a sample of all households and split-off individuals stemming from 102 out of the 204 original baseline EAs representative at the national and urban/rural levels. The panel data allow for comparable measures of household food and nonfood consumption, caloric intake, dietary diversity, and objective and subjective measures of food security at the household-level in 2010 and 2013.

I would like to recognize the important role that members of staff from the National Statistical Office played in making this survey a success particularly, Jameson Ndawala (Deputy Commissioner of Statistics), Lizzie Chikoti (Assistant Commissioner of Statistics, Economics); Bright Mvula; Lameck Million; Imran Chiosa; Twikaleghe Mwalwanda; Sautso Wachepa; Glory Mshali; Dama Kaipa, Charles Chakanza; Charles Mbewe; Steve Pakundikana and Henderson Chilenje. Many thanks are also due to survey members who were involved in various stages of data collection and processing.

Finally, I would like to thank the Government of Malawi, the World Bank, Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) and respondents for supporting the implementation of the fourth Integrated Household Survey.

Mercy Kanyuka (Mrs.)

COMMISSIONER OF STATISTICS

Abbreviations

CAPI	Computer Assisted Personal Interviews
CHAM	Christian Hospital Association of Malawi
CPI	Consumer Price Index
EA	Enumeration Area
GER	Gross Enrolment Rate
GPS	Geographical Positioning System
HESSEA	Household Expenditure and Small Scale Economic Activities
ISA	Integrated Surveys on Agriculture
IHS1	First Integrated Household Survey, 1998
IHS2	Second Integrated Household Survey, 2005
IHS3	Third Integrated Household Survey, 2011
IHS4	Fourth Integrated Household Survey, 2016
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
LSMS	Living Standards Measurement Surveys
LSMS-ISA	Living Standards Measurement Surveys – Integrated Surveys on Agriculture
MCA	Millennium Challenge Account
MFEPD	Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
NER	Net Enrolment Rate
NSO	National Statistical Office
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
WB	World Bank

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1.0 Integrated Household Survey Background

The Integrated Household Survey (IHS) is one of the primary instruments implemented by the Government of Malawi through the National Statistical Office (NSO; www.nsomalawi.mw) roughly every 5 years to monitor and evaluate the changing conditions of Malawian households. The IHS data have, among other insights, provided benchmark poverty and vulnerability indicators to foster evidence-based policy formulation and monitor the progress of meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the goals listed as part of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS), and now the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The First Integrated Household Survey (IHS1) was implemented with technical assistance from the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the World Bank (WB). The IHS1 was conducted in Malawi from November 1997 through October 1998 and provided for a broad set of applications on policy issues regarding households' behavior and welfare, distribution of income, employment, health and education. The Second Integrated Household Survey (IHS2; <http://go.worldbank.org/JABABM36V0>) was implemented with technical assistance from the World Bank to compare the current situation with the situation in 1997-98, and to collect more detailed information on a number of topics. The IHS2 was fielded from March 2004 through February 2005.

The Third Integrated Household Survey (IHS3) expanded on the agricultural content of the IHS2 and was implemented from March 2010 to March 2011 under the umbrella of the World Bank Living Standards Measurement Study – Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) initiative, whose primary objective is to provide financial and technical support to governments in sub-Saharan Africa in the design and implementation of nationally-representative multi-topic panel household surveys with a strong focus on agriculture.

A sub-sample of IHS3 sample enumeration areas (EAs) (i.e. 204 EAs out of 768 EAs) was selected prior to the start of the IHS3 field work with the intention to (i) visit a total of 3,246 households in these EAs twice to reduce recall associated with different aspects of agricultural data collection and (ii) to track and resurvey these households in 2013 in accordance with the IHS3 fieldwork timeline and as part of the **Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS)**.¹ The LSMS-ISA initiative provided technical and financial assistance to the design and implementation of the IHPS, alongside DFID, Norway and Government of Malawi funding for the exercise. The IHPS main fieldwork took place during the period of April-October 2013, with residual tracking operations in November-December 2013.

¹ The IHPS sample does NOT have any links to the IHS2 sample. The IHPS serves as a baseline ONLY for the panel subsample. See the IHS3 basic information document for details on the sub-sampling and original spatial distribution of the panel EAs.

The Fourth Integrated Household Survey (IHS4) is the fourth full survey in this series and was fielded from April 2016 to April 2017 also under the World Bank LSMS-ISA umbrella. The third round of the panel survey, the IHPS 2016, ran concurrently with the IHS4 main cross-section fieldwork. The IHS4 cross-section collected information from a sample of 12,480 households statistically designed to be representative at both national, district, urban and rural levels while the IHPS 2016 collected information from a sample of all households and split-off individuals stemming from 102 out of the 204 original baseline EAs representative at the national and urban/rural levels.

1.1 Integrated Household Panel Survey

The panel study was integrated into the core IHS program to study trends in poverty, socioeconomic and agricultural characteristics over time through a longitudinal survey. At baseline, the IHPS sample was selected to be representative at the national-, regional-, urban/rural levels and for each of the following 6 strata: (i) Northern Region – Rural, (ii) Northern Region – Urban, (iii) Central Region – Rural, (iv) Central Region – Urban, (v) Southern Region – Rural, and (vi) Southern Region – Urban. The IHPS 2013 attempted to track all baseline households as well as individuals that moved away from the baseline dwellings between 2010 and 2013 as long as they were neither servants nor guests at the time of the IHS3; were projected to be at least 12 years of age and were known to be residing in mainland Malawi but excluding those in Likoma Island² and in institutions, including prisons, police compounds, and army barracks. Once a split-off individual was located, the new household that he/she formed/joined since 2010 was also brought into the IHPS sample. In view of the tracking rules, the final IHPS 2013 sample, therefore, included a total of 4,000 households that could be traced back to 3,104 baseline households.

Given the increasing numbers of households to be tracked and budget and resource constraints, the number of EAs for the IHPS 2016 was reduced to 102 out of 204 of the baseline EAs. Thus, the domains of analysis will be limited to the national, urban and rural areas. Although the results of the IHPS 2016 cannot be tabulated by region, the stratification of the IHS3 Panel Survey by region, urban and rural strata was still maintained with a proportional allocation of the sample across the regions, based on the distribution of the sampling frame from the 2008 Malawi Census. Table 1.1 shows the distribution of households in the sampling frame by region, urban and rural strata. The selection ensured that the IHPS 2016 had a sufficient sample size in the urban stratum to obtain reliable national estimates for the urban and rural domains. At the conclusion of the fieldwork, panel sampling weights were recalculated for the two previous rounds of survey data for this

² The exclusion of Likoma Island is rooted in the traditional exclusion of the district for IHS purposes, largely due to logistical considerations.

102 EA subsample³. The findings in this report come from the data collected in only these 102 EAs from 2010, 2013, and 2016⁴.

Table 1.1. Distribution of households in the sampling frame by region, urban and rural strata

PANEL	REGION	URBAN	RURAL	TOTAL
Panel A	North	3	3	6
	Centre	6	15	21
	South	6	18	24
	Sub-total	15	36	51
Panel B	North	3	3	6
	Centre	6	15	21
	South	6	18	24
	Sub-total	15	36	51

1.2 Success of Implementation

After the selection of the 102 EAs to be tracked in 2016, 1,990 households from IHPS 2013 were identified as targets with 10,035 total individuals and 7,146 eligible individuals. By the end of the 2016 tracking operation the panel sample grew to 2,508 households with 12,266 individuals. This represents an entire household shift, or a single person from a household splitting off and forming a new one. These 2,508 households stemmed from 1,908 of the 2013 households representing a household-level attrition rate of 4 percent. Of these households, 54 percent moved locations from their baseline location in 2010.

At the individual level, the calculation of the attrition rate is as follows. Baseline households contained 10,035 individuals in 2013, of whom 115 died between 2013 and 2016. Out of the remaining 9,920 individuals and irrespective of the tracking rules that were in place, the IHPS 2016 accounted for 8,939 baseline individuals, representing an **overall attrition rate of 10 percent at the individual level**. If one focuses only the individuals that were tracking-eligible in accordance with the aforementioned tracking rules and that were alive in 2013, the IHPS accounted for 6,407 individuals out of 7,055 tracking-eligible individuals, representing an attrition rate of 9 percent at the individual level.

³ The methodology used to calculate the IHPS panel weights (provided in the data as panelweight) is discussed in detail in “Weight calculations for panel surveys with sub-sampling and split-off tracking” (Himelein, 2013).

⁴ The previous panel report released in 2013 compared figures from the IHPS 2010 and the IHPS 2013 using the full204 panel EAs with sampling weights calculated in 2013 on the full round of data collection.

Table 1.2 gives an overview of the spatial distribution of the IHPS sample. Fifty-four percent of the 2,508 household sample was located within 1 kilometer of the baseline household location, where the distance measure is based on the baseline and follow up global positioning system (GPS) based dwelling locations. Sixteen percent was located between 1 to 10 kilometres from the baseline location and the remaining 17 percent was tracked in either 2013 or 2016 at a location that was greater than 10 kilometers from the baseline location. About 81 percent of the IHPS 2016 sample were residing in rural areas.

Table 1.2: IHPS 2016 Household Sample Spatial Distribution (percentage)

Total Household Sample	2,508
Household Distribution in terms of Distance from Baseline Location	
0-1 km	53.9
1-10 km	16.1
10+ km	17.4
Rural/Urban Location – 2016	
Urban	18.7
Rural	81.3

2.0 Introduction

Results from Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS) on demographic characteristics of the population are being presented in this chapter. The demographic characteristics examined here include age, sex, household size, dependency ratio, orphanage and migration. By definition, a household may be either a person living alone or a group of people, either related or unrelated, who live together as a single unit in the sense that they have common housekeeping arrangements (that is, they share or are supported by a common budget). A household head is defined as the person who makes economic decisions in the household. The results presented in this chapter are from the 2010, 2013 and 2016 survey rounds.

2.1 Age and sex distribution

The distribution of the population by age and sex is shown in Table 2.1. The table shows that males composed 49 percent of the population in 2010 and 48 percent in 2016. On the other hand, females composed 51 percent of the population in 2010 and 52 percent in 2016. The population in urban areas was 17 percent in 2010, 18 percent in 2013 and 19 percent in 2016. It is also noticeable that Malawi has a relatively large population falling in the younger age groups. For instance, the population aged 19 or less was 58 percent in 2010, 57 percent in 2013 and 56 percent in 2016. The population aged between 15 and 64 years (economic-active population) made up almost 49 percent in 2010, 50 percent in 2013 and 52 percent in 2016.

Table 2.1 Percentage of population by five-year age groups by sex of persons and place of residence

Age group	Sex						Place of Residence						Total		
	Male			Female			Urban			Rural			2010	2013	2016
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016			
Malawi	48.8	48.4	47.9	51.2	51.6	52.1	17.1	18.4	18.6	82.9	81.6	81.4	100.0	100.0	100.0
0-4	19.4	16.7	14.7	17.9	16.0	15.4	18.3	15.9	14.6	18.7	16.4	15.2	18.7	16.3	15.1
5-9	15.9	16.1	15.4	15.9	16.4	15.1	14.5	14.6	13.5	16.1	16.6	15.6	15.9	16.2	15.2
10-14	13.7	14.2	14.2	13.0	13.3	14.1	11.4	12.4	13.4	13.7	14.0	14.3	13.3	13.7	14.2
15-19	10.0	11.4	12.3	9.2	11.0	11.4	9.8	11.0	10.9	9.6	11.2	12.1	9.6	11.2	11.9
20-24	7.6	8.7	9.6	9.8	8.9	10.0	9.0	10.1	11.8	8.6	8.5	9.4	8.7	8.8	9.8
25-29	6.9	6.8	7.0	8.8	8.0	7.0	10.4	8.6	8.3	7.3	7.2	6.7	7.9	7.4	7.0
30-34	6.6	6.4	5.9	5.8	6.7	6.5	9.7	9.7	8.2	5.5	5.8	5.8	6.2	6.5	6.2
35-39	4.5	5.1	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.9	5.6	6.9	6.5	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.9	5.1
40-44	3.4	3.6	4.5	3.0	3.3	3.4	3.6	4.0	4.2	3.1	3.3	3.9	3.2	3.5	3.9
45-49	3.4	2.9	2.3	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.7	1.6	2.4	3.2	2.9	2.3	3.1	2.7	2.3
50-54	2.1	2.3	2.7	1.9	2.1	2.6	1.1	1.6	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.8	2.0	2.2	2.6
55-59	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.0	1.1	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7
60-64	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.4
65-69	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.5	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.3
70-74	1.1	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.8
75-79	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
80+	0.4	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.9

2.2 Household size

Table 2.2 displays the average household size of each round by background characteristics. The average household size in the country slightly increased from 4.7 persons in 2010 to 4.9 persons in 2013 and decreased to 4.8 persons in 2016. In all the three rounds, the average household sizes for rural areas were higher than the average household sizes for urban areas. Mean household size in urban areas increased slightly from round to round by 0.1 percentage point (from 4.6 persons in 2010 to 4.7 persons in 2013 and to 4.8 persons in 2016).

Male-headed households had a higher average household size for all the rounds. Average household size for female-headed households increased with each subsequent round (4.0 persons in 2010, 4.4 persons in 2013 and 4.5 percent in 2016) while in male-headed household, the mean household size increased between 2010 and 2013 and then decreased between 2013 and 2016 (4.9 persons in 2010, 5.1 persons in 2013 and 5.0 persons in 2016).

In terms of education level of household head, the average household size for those with no education was higher than those with primary, secondary and tertiary education in all the three rounds. Average household size for households whose heads had primary education increased from 4.4 persons in 2010 to 4.6 persons in 2016.

Across marital status of household head, average household size was higher in households whose head was married compared to households whose head was never married. Average household size for households whose heads were married increased from 5.0 persons in 2010 to 5.2 persons in 2013 and decreased to 5.1 persons in 2016. Mean household sizes for households whose head was never married remained the same between 2010 and 2013 (2.1 persons) but decreased from 2.1 persons in 2013 to 1.8 persons in 2016.

Table 2.2 Mean household size, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background characteristics	Household size		
	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	4.7	4.9	4.8
Place of residence			
Urban	4.6	4.7	4.8
Rural	4.7	4.9	4.8
Sex of household head			
Male	4.9	5.1	5.0
Female	4.0	4.4	4.5
Age of household head			
Up to 24	3.2	2.8	3.0
25-34	4.3	4.5	4.3
35-49	5.6	5.9	5.8
50-64	5.2	5.4	5.6
65+	3.7	4.3	3.9
Education level of household head			
None	4.8	5.0	4.9
Primary	4.4	4.4	4.6
Secondary	4.4	4.6	4.5
Tertiary	4.2	4.6	4.6
Marital Status of household head			
Never married	2.1	2.1	1.8
Married	5.0	5.2	5.1
Divorced/Separated	3.6	3.8	4.1
Widowed/Widower	3.9	4.3	4.2

2.3 Age Dependency ratio

The dependency ratio serves as an indicator of the potential effects of changes in age structures of the population for social and economic development. It relates the number of children (0-14 years old) and older persons (65 years or over) to the working-age population (15-64 years old).

Table 2.3 indicates that in Malawi the dependency ratio decreased slightly from 1.3 in 2010 to 1.2 in 2016. The dependency ratios of rural areas are higher than those in urban areas. In rural areas, the ratio decreased from 1.4 in 2010 to 1.2 in 2016 while in urban areas, the ratio also decreased from 1.1 in 2010 to 1.0 in 2016.

Female-headed households have a higher dependency ratio (1.8 in 2010 and 1.4 in 2016) compared to male-headed households (1.2 in 2010 and 1.1 in 2016). There are high dependency ratios in households whose heads are aged 25-34 (1.5 in 2010 and 1.4 in 2016) than in other household head age groups.

A pattern can also be observed between the dependency ratios and education level of the household head. The dependency ratios decreased with the level of education of the household head. Households whose heads have no education had a dependency ratio of 1.4 in 2010, 1.3 in 2013 and 1.2 in 2016 and households whose heads have tertiary education had a dependency ratio of 0.5 in 2010 and 1.0 in 2016. In terms, of marital status of household head, the dependency ratios were higher in households whose heads were either divorced/separated or widowed.

Table 2.3 Dependency ratio, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

	2010	2013	2016
Background characteristics			
Malawi	1.3	1.2	1.2
Place of residence			
Urban	1.1	1.0	1.0
Rural	1.4	1.3	1.2
Sex of household head			
Male	1.2	1.2	1.1
Female	1.8	1.5	1.4
Age of household head			
Up to 24	0.9	0.7	0.8
25-34	1.5	1.4	1.4
35-49	1.4	1.3	1.2
50-64	1.0	0.9	0.8
65+	1.7	1.6	1.3
Education level of household head			
None	1.4	1.3	1.2
Primary	1.1	1.0	1.2
Secondary	0.9	1.0	1.0
Tertiary	0.5	0.5	1.0
Marital status of household head			
Never married	0.6	0.4	0.2
Married	1.2	1.2	1.1
Divorced/Separated	2.0	1.7	1.6
Widow/Widower	1.7	1.3	1.2

2.4 Orphan-hood

An orphan is defined as a person aged 18 years or below who has lost at least one of the parents. Table 2.4 demonstrates the proportion of orphans according to background characteristics. The results point out that there was a decrease of the proportion of orphans who lost at least one of their parents, from 11 percent in 2010 to 10.6 percent in 2016. It also shows an increase for those who lost their father only, from 58 percent in 2010 to 60 percent in 2016. A decrease is similarly observed for children who lost both parents, from 22 percent in 2010 to 14 percent in 2016.

The proportion of orphans in rural areas is higher than that in urban areas. In urban areas, the proportion of orphans who lost both parents decreased from 29 percent in 2010 to 14 percent in 2016.

Across sex of the household head, the proportions of orphans are higher in female-headed households than in male-headed households. In female-headed households, the proportion of orphans decreased from 31 percent in 2010 to 20 percent in 2016. In male-headed households, the proportions of orphans who lost both parents decreased from 24 percent in 2010 to 14 percent in 2016.

Table 2.4 Proportion of orphans and percentage distributions of orphans who are aged less than 18 years by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background characteristics	Proportion of orphans			Type of orphan								
				Father died			Mother died			Both parents died		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	11.3	11.9	10.6	58.0	64.4	59.8	19.9	17.9	25.8	22.1	17.7	14.4
Place of residence												
Urban	10.6	9.9	10.4	54.6	58.2	65.0	16.3	27.9	21.4	29.1	13.9	13.6
Rural	11.4	12.3	10.6	58.6	65.4	58.7	20.5	16.2	26.7	20.8	18.4	14.6
Sex of household head												
Male	5.8	6.6	7.2	40.1	47.6	51.2	35.4	29.5	34.7	24.5	23.0	14.1
Female	30.9	29.2	20.0	69.8	76.9	68.5	9.7	9.3	16.8	20.5	13.8	14.7
Age of household head												
Up to 24	11.3	9.7	7.2	47.3	59.3	37.0	16.2	30.7	61.1	36.4	10.0	2.0
25-34	6.6	8.2	5.7	55.6	63.6	64.8	26.2	16.8	19.0	18.2	19.6	16.1
35-49	10.0	10.3	9.4	67.4	72.2	69.2	12.4	13.9	26.8	20.2	13.9	4.0
50-64	16.9	15.5	16.4	61.4	56.5	57.6	19.1	27.0	19.9	19.5	16.5	22.5
65+	23.4	26.4	20.3	37.4	60.7	38.6	33.4	12.2	33.9	29.2	27.1	27.5
Education level of household head												
None	11.6	12.6	10.8	58.5	65.2	59.6	19.0	16.8	25.9	22.5	18.0	14.5
Primary	11.7	10.3	7.9	57.6	65.7	38.1	19.1	17.2	46.6	23.2	17.1	15.3
Secondary	9.0	7.7	9.7	57.4	53.0	81.1	25.2	28.4	9.5	17.4	18.5	9.4

Tertiary	14.0	12.0	7.9	30.6	59.8	32.1	45.5	35.0	33.0	23.8	5.1	34.9
Marital status of household head												
Never married	11.3	11.7	10.4	43.2	49.3	56.5	28.6	26.8	29.4	28.2	23.9	14.1
Married	16.8	23.7	25.3	43.2	49.3	56.5	28.6	26.8	29.4	28.2	23.9	14.1
Divorced/Separated	11.8	16.9	38.1	24.9	59.8	66.2	24.2	15.8	14.8	50.9	24.4	19.0
Widow/Widower	4.5	16.9	38.1	75.0	81.9	62.2	12.5	9.4	24.6	12.4	8.7	13.1

2.5 Migration

The geographic movement of people across a specified boundary for the purpose of establishing a new residence is what is termed as migration. Data on migration within the country was captured in this panel study. A person is regarded as a migrant if he or she has moved in the last five years into the village or urban location where he or she is currently residing.

Table 2.5 shows an increase of the proportion of migrants in Malawi from 11 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016. The majority of the migrants moved from one rural area to another rural area and the proportion increased from 52 percent in 2010 to 64 percent in 2016. The next category of movements is from rural areas to urban areas and the proportion slightly decreased from 27 percent in 2010 to 24 percent in 2016. The proportion of migrants also decreased in movements from urban to rural areas and in movements from one urban area to another.

The table also shows an increase in the proportion of migrants with levels of education. The average proportion of migrants for those with no education rose slightly from 10 percent in 2010 to 11 percent in 2016 but for those with tertiary education, the proportion decreased from 39 percent in 2010 to 31 percent in 2016.

Table 2.5 Proportion of migrants by movement pattern of migration according to background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Proportion of Migrants			Movement Patterns of Migrants																	
				Rural to Rural			Rural to Urban			Urban to Rural			Urban to Urban			Outside Malawi to Rural			Outside Malawi to Urban		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	11.0	17.9	11.7	52.4	59.8	63.5	26.6	22.5	24.3	10.0	10.0	6.3	10.1	7.3	5.1	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sex of migrant																					
Male	11.0	18.0	12.0	54.2	60.4	65.5	26.4	22.6	22.3	10.2	9.8	6.5	7.8	6.6	4.6	1.2	0.6	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.2
Female	10.9	17.9	11.5	50.7	59.3	61.6	26.8	22.3	26.1	9.8	10.1	6.1	12.2	7.8	5.6	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Education level of migrant																					
None	9.6	16.4	10.7	58.4	65.6	72.2	24.4	19.0	20.2	4.4	7.7	3.6	11.5	7.5	3.3	1.3	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Primary	15.3	22.8	17.0	40.4	53.5	68.0	37.0	32.3	24.6	13.7	7.6	4.4	8.4	5.9	3.0	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Secondary	24.9	32.7	18.5	39.2	44.3	36.2	25.6	31.9	38.6	24.9	16.7	13.6	10.2	6.4	10.6	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.8
Tertiary	38.7	49.0	31.1	19.7	17.8	29.1	16.4	21.9	27.9	60.5	50.6	34.7	11.5	8.5	8.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	1.3	0.0
Marital Status of migrant																					
Never Married	9.5	15.8	9.6	57.7	63.9	68.2	22.2	19.7	21.1	10.5	9.0	5.5	8.4	6.8	4.4	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.2
Married	14.4	23.1	15.6	57.7	63.9	68.2	22.2	19.7	21.1	10.5	9.0	5.5	8.4	6.8	4.4	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.2
Divorced Separated	10.0	17.1	8.5	42.1	69.5	52.1	33.8	18.1	20.6	8.9	5.6	17.4	13.1	6.8	8.1	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.9
Widow/Widower	4.8	7.0	5.4	69.0	70.5	79.6	5.7	20.3	17.7	5.5	1.9	0.0	19.0	7.3	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0

2.6 Migration patterns and reasons for migrating

Figure 2.1 shows the percentage distribution of migration patterns by year. The figure portrays an increase in the proportion of migrants from one rural area to another between 2010 and 2016. However, for those that moved from rural to urban area, urban to rural area and urban to urban area, there was a decrease in the proportion of migrants. Between 2010 and 2016.

Figure 2.1 Percentage distribution of migration patterns by year

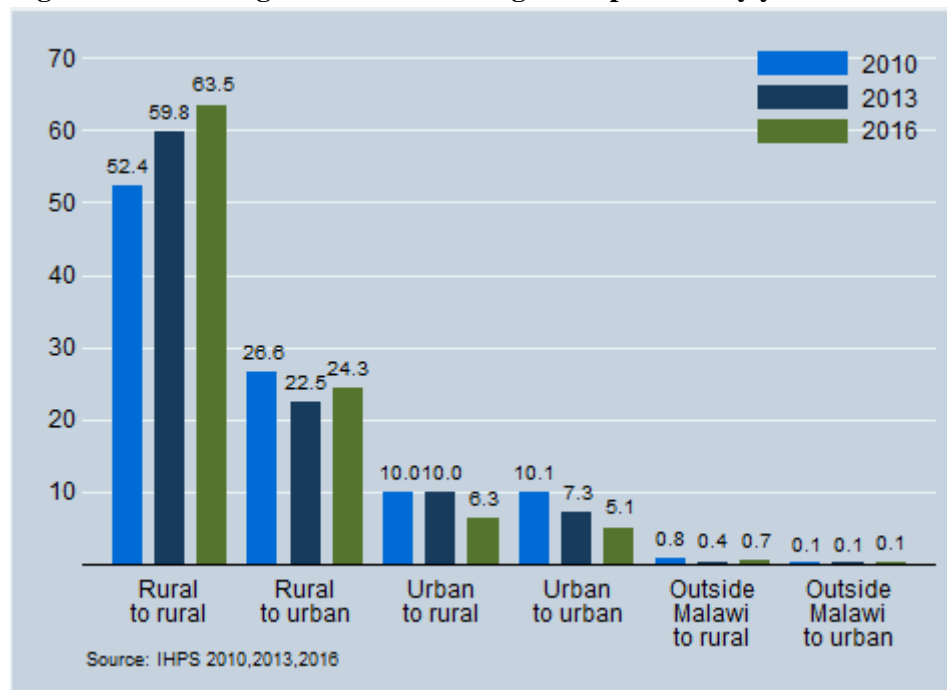
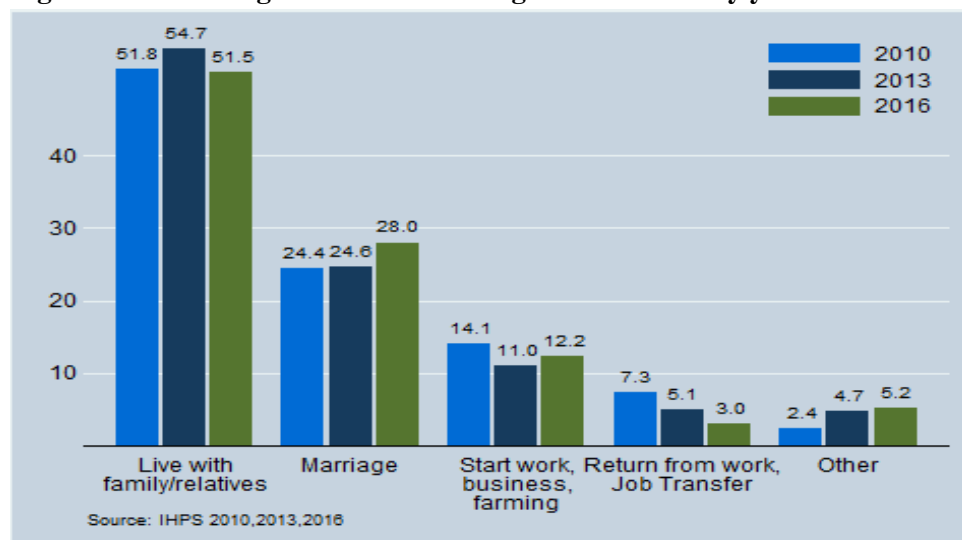


Figure 2.2 portrays the distribution of reasons for geographic movement of people across a specified boundary. It clearly illustrates that most migrants move from one location to another largely to live with family or relatives. Migration due to marriage came second and the figure shows an increase from 24 percent in 2010 to 28 percent in 2016. To Start work, to start a business or for farming constituted at least 14 percent of the reasons for migrating in 2010 and 12 percent in 2016.

Figure 2.2 Percentage distribution of migration reasons by year



3 EDUCATION

3.0 Introduction

In this chapter, statistics on literacy, highest education qualification, school enrolment, participation and drop-out rates are presented. The data in this chapter are compared between 2010, 2013 and 2016.

3.1 Literacy rate and school attendance of household members aged 15 years and above

In this survey, literacy is defined as the ability to read and write in any language. It is noted that the literacy rate has increased by 6 percentage points from 66 percent in 2010 to 72 percent in 2016 (Table 3.1a). Urban areas had higher literacy rates than rural areas in survey rounds. The literacy rate has remained within one percentage point in urban areas. However, rural areas show increased literacy rate by 8 percentage points from 2010 to 2016.

Table 3.1a Literacy rates of individuals aged 15 years and above by sex and place of residence, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Literacy Rate		
	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	65.6	70.3	71.8
Place of Residence			
Urban	89.5	86.7	89.2
Rural	60.3	67.0	67.9
Sex of Household Head			
Male	74.6	78.6	80.5
Female	57.3	62.7	63.9

In terms of sex, there is observable increase in literacy rate in both male and female-headed households. The literacy rate of household members in male-headed households increased from 75 percent in 2010 to 81 percent in 2016 while in female-headed households, the literacy rate of household members increased from 57 percent in 2010 to 64 percent in 2016.

Table 3.1b shows the proportion of household members who never attended school by background characteristics. The proportion of household members who never attended school reduced by 9 percentage points from 20 percent in 2010 to 11 percent in 2016. By place of residence, rural areas registered a drop of 11 percentage points from 23 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016 compared to a decrease of 4 percentage points in urban areas from 7 percent in 2010 to 3 percent in 2016. In terms of sex of the household head, female-headed households registered a drop of 11 percentage points from 23 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016 compared to a decrease of 7 percentage points from 13 percent in 2010 to 6 percent in 2016 in male-headed households.

Table 3.1b. Proportion of household members never attended school by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Never Attended		
	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	19.7	16.3	10.5
Place of Residence			
Urban	6.9	5.8	3.1
Rural	22.5	18.4	12.2
Sex of Household Head			
Male	12.8	10.9	6.1
Female	22.5	18.4	12.2

3.2 Highest education qualification of population aged 15 years and above

Highest education qualification is determined by any certificate of completion of a particular grade or cycle that a person has acquired. In terms of sex of household head, the proportion of those with no education qualification has dropped by 4 percentage points for male and 5 percentage points for female-headed households. It can be observed that the proportion of household members with no education in female-headed households reduced from 79 percent in 2010 to 74 percent in 2016. Likewise, the proportion of household members with no education in male-headed households decreased from 73 percent in 2010 to 69 percent in 2016. Similar trends can also be observed across household members with no education in urban and rural areas (Table 3.2).

Table 3.2 Proportion of population aged 15 and above by highest education qualification and background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Highest Educational Qualification														
	None			PSLE			JCE			MSCE			Tertiary		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	74.2	73.6	70.2	10.2	10.6	11.5	8.4	8.9	9.6	6.0	5.5	6.7	1.2	1.3	2.1
Place of Residence															
Urban	48.1	46.0	42.4	13.9	15.3	15.2	17.2	17.4	16.8	15.4	15.4	18.1	5.4	5.9	7.6
Rural	80.0	79.2	76.4	9.4	9.7	10.6	6.5	7.2	7.9	3.9	3.5	4.1	0.2	0.4	0.9
Sex of Household Head															
Male	73.1	72.0	68.9	10.4	11.7	11.8	9.0	9.1	10.0	6.3	5.9	7.0	1.2	1.4	2.4
Female	79.3	79.7	74.1	9.1	6.9	10.5	5.7	8.0	8.3	4.7	4.3	5.8	1.2	1.1	1.3

3.3 Types of primary schools attended by household members

Types of primary schools attended by household members in Malawi include public, private and religious. At the national level, the proportion of household members attending public school has increased from 84 percent in 2010 to 93 percent in 2016. The percentage distribution of individuals attending religious schools has dropped from 13 percent in 2010 to 4 percent in 2016. An increasing trend is seen for household

members attending private schools in urban areas from 10 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016 unlike constant trend for individuals in rural areas (Table 3.3).

Table 3.3 Proportion of household members by types of primary school currently attending, sex and place of residence, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Type of Primary School								
	Public			Private/other			Religious		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	84.0	91.2	92.8	3.0	3.0	3.4	13.0	5.8	3.8
Place of Residence									
Urban	85.6	86.6	84.2	9.9	9.5	11.6	4.5	3.8	4.1
Rural	83.7	91.9	94.4	1.7	1.9	1.9	14.6	6.2	3.7
Sex of Household Head									
Male	83.0	91.9	92.1	2.9	2.8	3.9	14.1	5.4	4.0
Female	87.6	88.7	94.9	3.2	3.8	1.8	9.2	7.4	3.3

3.4 Types of secondary schools attended by household members

Types of secondary schools attended by household members in Malawi include public, private and religious. At national level, the proportion of household members attending public schools declined from 86 percent in 2010 to 72 percent in 2016. On the other hand, the percentage distribution of household members attending private secondary schools increased from 7 percent in 2010 to 20 percent in 2016. The trend was the same in urban areas (Table 3.4).

Table 3.4 Proportion of household members by types of secondary schools currently attending, sex and place of residence, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Type of Secondary School								
	Public			Private			Religious		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	85.8	80.5	71.9	6.8	10.7	19.5	7.3	8.8	8.6
Place of Residence									
Urban	84.8	71.1	57.6	10.5	22.8	31.3	4.8	6.1	11.2
Rural	86.2	85.4	78.2	5.5	4.4	14.4	8.3	10.2	7.5
Sex of Household Head									
Male	86.1	79.9	71.7	4.9	12.2	18.7	9.0	7.9	9.6
Female	84.7	83.0	72.5	15.3	4.7	21.4	0.0	12.4	6.1

In terms of sex of the head of household, the proportion of household members among male-headed households attending public secondary schools has decreased from 86 percent in 2010 to 72 percent in 2016. In private secondary schools, proportion of individuals from male-headed households has increased from 5 percent in 2010 to 19 percent in 2016 (Table 3.4).

3.5 Primary net enrolment rate

Net enrolment rate refers to the number of pupils in the official school age group expressed as percentage of the total population in the age group. Primary net enrolment at national level has increased by 6 percentage points from 84 percent in 2010 to 90 percent in 2016. The survey results showed increased net enrolment rate of pupils in both male and female-headed households. Pupils in female-headed households had lower net enrolment rate than male-headed households. In terms of sex of pupils, net enrolment rate for female pupils increased from 85 percent in 2010 to 89 percent in 2016 while for male pupils the net enrolment rate increased from 83 percent in 2010 to 90 percent in 2016 (Table 3.5).

Table 3.5 Primary school net enrolment rate of pupils by sex and place of residence, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Primary School Net Enrolment rate								
	Total			Female			Male		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	83.8	87.9	89.7	84.5	87.9	89.3	83.1	87.8	90.2
Place of Residence									
Urban	90.2	92.0	91.5	86.8	91.8	90.9	93.3	92.1	92.2
Rural	82.7	87.1	89.4	84.1	87.2	89.0	81.2	87.1	89.8
Sex of Household Head									
Male	84.0	89.4	90.2	83.4	89.0	89.4	84.6	89.8	91.0
Female	83.0	82.9	88.3	87.8	84.1	89.1	77.7	81.6	87.3

3.6. Primary school gross enrolment rate

A measure of quality of education is gross enrolment rate. It is defined as the ratio between pupils in a level of education, regardless of age, and the corresponding eligible age group population to that level of education⁵. It measures the efficiency of the education system and depicts differences from net enrolment rate. Gross enrolment rates reflect over-age pupils, those repeating a year and late starters. Table 3.6 shows that primary school gross enrolment rate at national level increased from 120 percent in 2010 to 125 in 2013 and decreased to 124 in 2016. Across sex of pupils, male pupils' gross enrolment rate increased from 123 percent in 2010 to 1271 percent in 2016. Female pupils' gross enrolment rate increased from 117 percent in 2010 to 121 percent in 2016.

⁵ NSO. 2012. Malawi Compendium of Statistical Concepts and Definition. Zomba

Table 3.6. Primary school gross enrolment rate of pupils by sex and place of residence, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Primary School Gross Enrolment Rate								
	Total			Male			Female		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	119.7	124.9	123.8	122.9	130.5	126.9	116.7	119.6	120.8
Place of Residence									
Urban	128.7	124.4	124.9	133.5	130.3	129.5	123.9	118.6	120.6
Rural	116.9	125.1	123.5	119.4	130.6	126.2	114.5	119.9	120.9
Sex of Household Head									
Male	120.3	125.7	124.3	123.5	131.1	126.4	117.2	120.5	122.2
Female	117.5	122.1	122.3	120.3	128.3	128.9	115.1	116.5	117.1

3.7 Secondary school net enrolment rate

At national level net enrolment rate in secondary schools increased from 10 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016. The same increasing trend was observed in male and female pupils. Male pupils' net enrolment rate increased from 8 percent in 2010 to 10 percent in 2016 and female pupils' net enrolment rate increased from 12 percent in 2010 to 15 percent in 2016 (Table 3.7).

Table 3.7 Secondary school net enrolment rate of students by sex of students and place of residence, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Secondary School Net Enrolment rate								
	Total			Female			Male		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	9.9	10.7	12.1	11.9	11.2	14.5	7.9	10.2	9.9
Place of Residence									
Urban	16.4	34.7	31.0	21.6	43.0	33.4	11.5	29.4	28.8
Rural	8.5	7.0	8.6	9.9	7.6	11.0	7.1	6.4	6.3
Sex of Household Head									
Male	10.5	13.1	11.1	11.2	13.2	12.7	9.7	13.0	9.5
Female	8.0	3.9	14.6	14.5	4.7	18.7	2.9	3.1	10.8

Table 3.7 further reveals that urban areas showed higher secondary school net enrolment rates for both male and female pupils while rural areas show lower net enrolment rates. Female net enrolment rate in urban areas increased from 22 percent in 2010 to 33 percent in 2016 while for male pupils, there was an increasing trend from 12 percent in 2010 to 29 percent in 2016.

Secondary school net enrolment rate for female pupils in male-headed households increased from 11 percent in 2010 to 13 percent in 2016 while in female-headed households the net enrolment rate increased from 15 percent in 2010 to 19 percent in 2016. Secondary school net enrolment rate for male pupils in male-headed

households remained the same at 10 percent in 2010 and 2016 while in female-headed households the net enrolment rate increased from 3 percent in 2010 to 11 percent in 2016 (Table 3.7).

3.8 Secondary gross enrolment rate

Table 3.8 shows that gross enrolment rate among male students increased from 33 percent in 2010 to 46 percent in 2016 while for female pupils, it increased from 30 percent in 2010 to 37 percent in 2016. Female students had lower gross enrolment rates than male students. In urban areas, secondary school gross enrolment rate increased from 50 percent in 2010 to 87 percent in 2013 for male students and decreased to 77 percent in 2016. For female students residing in urban areas, gross enrolment rate jumped from 53 percent in 2010 to 94 percent in 2013 and went down to 75 percent in 2016.

Table 3.8 Secondary school gross enrolment rate by sex and place of residence, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Secondary School Gross Enrolment Rate								
	Total			Male			Female		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	31.6	39.1	41.5	32.8	41.2	45.8	30.3	37.1	37.4
Place of Residence									
Urban	51.5	90.0	75.6	50.0	86.6	76.7	52.9	93.5	74.5
Rural	23.2	23.3	30.2	26.0	26.3	35.8	20.2	20.4	24.8
Sex of Household Head									
Male	32.6	41.2	42.2	34.7	44.4	46.6	30.6	38.2	37.9
Female	27.8	32.8	39.8	26.6	32.2	43.7	29.2	33.3	36.0

3.9 School dropout rate

School drop-out rate is defined as the percentage of pupils enrolled in a given grade or cycle or a level of education in a given school year that were not enrolled in the following school-year. Table 3.9 shows school drop-out rates in primary schools. It is found that school drop-out rate in primary schools has declined from 2 percent in 2010 to 1 percent in 2013 and increased to 3 percent in 2016. The trend is the same for male and female-headed households. However, the drop-out rate in primary schools was slightly higher among female-headed households than among male-headed households.

Table 3.9 Dropout rates in primary schools by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Dropout Rate in Primary Schools		
	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	1.7	0.9	2.6
Place of Residence			
Urban	0.9	0.2	1.5
Rural	1.9	1.0	2.8
Sex of Household Head			
Male	1.3	0.6	2.1
Female	3.3	1.6	4.0

Table 3.10 shows drop-out rates in secondary schools by background characteristics between 2010 and 2016. Dropout rates in secondary schools declined from 18 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016. The survey results show higher dropout rates among secondary school pupils from female-headed household compared to male-headed households in 2010 and 2013 but by 2016 they are both at 12 percent.

Table 3.10 Dropout rates in Secondary schools by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Dropout Rate in Secondary Schools		
	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	17.5	8.7	12.0
Place of Residence			
Urban	16.6	8.0	12.0
Rural	18.0	9.1	12.1
Sex of Household Head			
Male	15.4	8.0	12.0
Female	24.4	11.7	12.1

4 HEALTH

4.0 Introduction

The survey collected data on health and health related issues for the individuals in the panel sample. The information collected covered the incidences of sickness or injury, and the action to relieve the sickness or injury. The module further looked at chronic illness, whether a person had a chronic illness and if so, who diagnosed that chronic illness. Furthermore, the module looked at the births that occurred 24 months prior to the survey. In case of a birth occurring, the module established the type of assistance that was given during delivery. The module also reports the findings on the proportions of those who were assisted by skilled health personnel during child delivery.

4.1 Incidence of sickness

Table 4.1 shows that 20 percent of the population interviewed in 2010 and 19 percent in 2013 reported an illness or injury in the 14 days preceding the survey. There was an increase in the proportion of those who reported an illness or injury to 32 percent in 2016.

In terms of residence, for all three years the results show that rural areas reported higher proportions of individuals who reported sickness or injury compared to urban areas. Although the results show a drop of those who reported an illness or injury in 2013 compared to 2010, there is generally an increase of those who suffered an illness or injury both in urban and rural areas in 2016. For example, in rural areas, the proportion of those who reported illness or injury increased from 20 percent to 34 percent in 2013 and 2016 respectively.

In terms of sex, the results show that more females reported on sickness or injury in 2010, 2013 and 2016 than the males. The results show that there was a drop from 19 percent in 2010 to 17 percent in 2013 but increased to 29 percent in 2016 for males that reported about a sickness or injury. The percentage remained the same for females in 2010 and 2013 but increased in 2016.

Across age groups, the results show that among the interviewed population high proportion suffered from sickness or injury in the age groups of 0-4, 5-9 and 50 years and above in 2010, 2013 and 2016. The results also show that in all these age groups there was a general increase in the proportion of those who suffered between 2013 and 2016.

There is a decrease in percentage of individuals that report illness or injury as the level of education increases as seen in the results for 2010, 2013 and 2016.

4.2 Major types of illnesses

The survey looked at the major illnesses that people suffered from in 2010, 2013 and 2016. The results presented in table 4.1 show that in all the three years, fever/malaria was the highest category of reported illness. Sore throat/flu was the second most reported illness in 2010, 2013 and 2016. The percentage reported for those that suffered from fever and malaria dropped from 47 percent in 2010 to 36 percent in 2013, the figure went up to 42 percent in 2016.

In terms of residence, the proportion of those that reported fever and malaria dropped from 53 percent in 2010 to 44 percent in 2016 in urban areas while in rural areas the proportion dropped from 45 percent in 2010 to 42 percent in 2016. The survey results further showed that the proportion of males reporting fever and malaria dropped from 45 in both 2010 to 43 in 2016 while for females, the proportion decreased from 47 percent in 2010 to 43 percent in 2016.

Across age groups, the results show that among the interviewed population the highest proportion that suffered from fever and malaria occurred in the age groups of 0-4 and 5-9 in the three reference years. Although the results show a decrease in proportion of those who suffered from fever/malaria in these age groups between 2010 and 2016 (54 percent in 2010 and 45 percent in 2013), the proportion went up in 2016 (48 percent).

There was an increase in percentage of individuals that reported fever and malaria as the level of education increases for all the three years.

Table 4.1 Proportion of persons reporting illness/injury in the past two weeks and percentage distribution of reported illnesses/injuries, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Proportion who suffered			Fever and Malaria			Sore throat			Headache			Stomach Ache			Diarrhea			Respiratory Infection			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	20.2	19.3	32.4	45.7	36.3	42.0	3.2	2.9	2.2	7.0	10.7	1.8	5.0	7.5	11.3	14.5	15.6	15.2	5.6	6.6	7.5	19.1	20.4	20.0
Residence																								
Urban	18.1	15.0	25.3	52.5	35.4	44.1	3.8	3.3	2.6	4.4	8.3	1.4	2.0	4.7	9.5	11.2	21.3	18.2	6.6	6.2	6.0	19.4	20.8	18.2
Rural	20.6	20.2	33.9	44.5	36.4	41.7	3.0	2.9	2.2	7.4	11.1	1.8	5.6	7.9	11.5	15.1	14.7	14.8	5.4	6.7	7.8	19.0	20.4	20.3
Sex																								
Male	19.2	17.3	29.3	44.8	36.4	42.7	3.8	2.8	2.4	7.5	10.4	1.5	4.2	7.0	10.0	13.6	16.8	15.7	5.9	6.2	6.7	20.2	20.6	21.0
Female	21.2	21.3	35.2	46.5	36.2	41.5	2.6	3.1	2.1	6.6	10.9	1.9	5.8	7.9	12.3	15.2	14.6	14.9	5.3	6.9	8.2	18.1	20.3	19.2
Age																								
0-4	29.8	22.9	39.2	54.2	45.3	47.6	7.6	9.3	6.0	5.9	13.9	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.6	11.6	15.5	22.5	4.6	2.9	5.4	14.7	11.7	15.6
5-9	19.9	17.6	33.8	53.6	45.5	51.0	1.6	1.3	1.1	5.7	13.5	0.5	2.8	5.5	11.3	14.3	11.0	12.4	7.7	5.2	8.5	14.3	18.1	15.1
10-14	15.0	11.8	28.9	44.1	31.7	43.9	1.2	0.1	2.0	5.8	12.2	0.5	8.4	10.2	14.5	17.7	19.9	10.7	4.6	9.0	8.0	18.3	16.9	20.4
15-19	12.0	12.4	28.2	47.6	30.5	40.9	1.6	3.9	1.2	2.8	9.7	2.0	14.3	16.1	16.5	15.6	9.8	14.4	3.7	9.8	9.4	14.4	20.3	15.7
20-24	16.0	12.8	25.8	36.3	40.2	47.4	0.4	1.2	1.4	2.3	8.5	2.3	5.8	15.4	15.7	22.8	4.3	9.8	9.7	6.8	8.7	22.7	23.5	14.7
25-29	19.1	18.2	30.6	46.7	36.9	40.6	3.9	0.7	2.5	4.4	10.0	3.6	6.4	4.7	10.9	12.2	20.8	14.0	5.0	7.8	9.4	21.4	19.0	19.0
30-34	19.1	22.2	27.8	45.1	28.0	38.3	0.5	0.1	0.9	4.4	9.1	0.7	4.7	12.3	12.7	19.4	26.0	20.6	5.7	6.9	9.0	20.2	17.7	17.9
35-39	14.3	22.7	28.8	38.8	39.2	39.8	8.5	2.5	1.6	7.7	7.2	0.0	12.1	4.8	20.0	12.3	18.9	11.3	4.7	8.0	6.6	15.9	19.5	20.6
40-44	15.5	20.5	32.5	32.0	38.8	34.0	0.0	1.7	2.6	17.9	11.9	5.4	7.4	8.7	7.6	12.0	10.0	11.6	17.2	1.3	13.8	13.6	27.6	24.9
45-49	18.4	27.2	36.5	41.6	34.5	36.7	0.8	0.0	0.1	12.6	8.9	6.0	4.6	7.7	11.7	11.8	13.9	20.2	13.0	12.4	1.7	15.6	22.6	23.7
50-54	25.0	26.8	31.3	33.2	26.8	30.2	0.0	0.7	3.1	22.5	11.4	6.1	1.9	10.1	13.7	12.3	21.8	18.6	3.0	1.4	1.6	27.0	27.8	26.7
55-59	19.3	39.7	44.6	15.1	21.9	29.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	22.5	10.1	1.6	7.9	6.7	6.5	19.9	16.1	32.3	0.0	11.9	7.4	34.6	32.9	23.2
60-64	32.7	29.2	44.2	35.8	16.4	36.9	0.0	5.4	4.3	13.1	5.3	0.0	7.2	11.7	11.5	13.2	21.3	10.5	0.0	13.4	2.7	30.7	26.4	34.1
65-69	19.8	40.3	44.4	42.9	36.2	35.1	0.0	11.7	1.1	5.7	6.6	4.0	8.5	3.6	10.4	15.8	10.6	13.9	0.0	5.4	2.4	27.1	26.1	33.0
70-74	34.2	32.5	39.9	24.8	38.9	27.9	0.0	0.0	4.1	9.2	8.3	3.8	5.6	1.4	14.4	13.8	17.6	14.1	0.0	0.0	1.5	46.5	33.8	34.1
75-79	35.7	48.8	48.1	26.0	15.3	25.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.2	15.4	1.8	0.0	19.4	5.4	22.5	10.7	25.7	0.0	0.0	1.0	32.3	39.2	40.4
80+	56.7	49.7	65.1	17.7	25.1	13.3	0.0	4.2	0.0	13.0	0.0	0.4	7.5	2.7	7.3	7.9	15.4	6.6	3.0	15.1	14.8	50.9	37.5	57.6
Marital Status																								
Never married	20.7	16.1	19.5	35.0	14.9	58.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	38.1	0.0	8.2	0.0	7.1	30.8	25.8	3.2	2.1	0.0	17.7	23.8	21.3	13.5
Married	19.7	18.5	31.4	46.0	36.4	41.3	3.7	3.5	2.4	7.2	10.3	2.0	4.8	7.9	11.6	14.6	15.0	16.2	5.4	6.2	7.6	18.3	20.6	18.8
Divorced/Separated	25.7	24.2	38.0	44.0	31.9	43.5	0.6	0.6	1.1	4.8	14.1	1.2	1.8	2.9	10.6	15.5	24.0	10.4	9.1	11.8	7.3	24.3	14.6	26.0
Widow/Widower	20.6	22.0	36.1	45.6	39.9	45.5	1.4	1.1	1.7	8.3	9.3	0.5	10.0	8.6	9.2	10.5	11.9	12.2	4.5	5.6	6.8	19.7	23.7	24.2
Education level of household head																								
None	20.5	19.5	32.9	43.8	36.5	42.0	3.3	2.8	2.3	7.4	10.4	1.8	5.3	8.1	11.5	14.1	14.3	14.7	6.2	7.1	7.5	19.9	20.7	20.1
Primary	21.3	25.6	33.3	48.0	35.1	39.1	3.3	4.9	1.6	5.3	2.7	1.9	4.3	7.9	11.9	18.7	22.6	18.6	2.3	6.0	9.1	18.1	20.8	17.8
Secondary	18.5	15.4	27.6	55.4	35.5	43.0	2.3	2.6	1.5	4.2	17.4	0.6	4.0	3.4	8.3	15.2	17.6	19.4	3.3	3.8	6.1	15.5	19.6	21.2
Tertiary	12.8	17.2	24.0	71.1	36.8	50.6	0.0	1.2	0.8	13.5	28.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	9.3	26.8	19.8	3.1	0.0	6.8	3.1	7.0	19.3

4.3 Action taken to relieve illness or injury

The survey collected information on the actions taken by respondents who reported being ill or injured in the past 14 days preceding the survey.

There was a drop in those that sought treatment at government facilities from 55 percent in 2010 to 48 percent in 2013 and dropped further to 40 percent in 2016. On the other hand, there was an increase from 20 percent to 27 percent of respondents that sought treatment at local pharmacy or grocery in 2010 and 2013 respectively. The increase was observed from 2013 to 2016. Six percent of the respondents did nothing as they felt that the sickness or injury was not serious both in 2010 and 2016.

In terms of residence, a higher proportion of urban respondents sought treatment at government health facilities than their rural counterparts in 2010, 2013 and 2016.

There is a higher proportion of females that sought treatment at government facilities than males in 2010 and 2013 unlike in 2016 where the proportion was the same.

Table 4.2 Actions taken to relieve illness or injury by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and

Background Characteristics	Did Nothing, not serious			Did Nothing, no money			Had medicine, known remedies			Sought treatment at gvt health facility			Sought treatment at other health facility			Local pharmacy or grocery			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	6.3	6.5	6.3	2.4	2.6	3.0	4.0	4.6	8.3	54.5	47.6	40.2	11.1	10.2	10.7	19.9	26.6	29.1	1.8	1.9	2.4
Residence																					
Urban	4.2	9.0	6.7	0.0	0.2	0.8	3.1	4.3	5.8	75.2	50.6	48.1	7.6	5.7	13.9	9.6	28.2	23.8	0.3	2.0	0.8
Rural	6.6	6.1	6.2	2.8	2.9	3.4	4.2	4.7	8.7	50.9	47.2	38.9	11.7	10.8	10.2	21.7	26.4	30.0	2.1	1.8	2.6
Sex of household head																					
Male	6.8	7.0	5.7	2.0	2.8	2.2	4.7	4.3	8.7	53.7	46.7	40.0	10.0	8.9	9.7	20.5	28.2	31.8	2.3	2.1	1.9
Female	5.8	6.1	6.7	2.8	2.5	3.7	3.4	4.8	7.9	55.2	48.4	40.4	12.1	11.2	11.6	19.3	25.4	27.0	1.4	1.6	2.7
Age of household head																					
15-24	16.3	1.2	7.8	0.0	1.3	3.3	1.8	4.7	8.3	53.8	69.2	38.2	9.8	6.8	13.4	16.3	14.1	28.7	2.0	2.8	0.3
25-34	5.5	7.7	6.9	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.8	3.6	6.2	63.1	46.1	42.0	7.8	9.1	11.2	16.5	29.7	28.7	2.8	1.9	2.1
35-49	5.2	5.8	5.7	1.2	1.1	2.2	5.5	6.0	8.7	50.4	47.8	40.3	14.5	12.3	10.4	22.1	24.9	29.8	1.1	2.0	2.9
50-64	4.4	6.0	6.3	1.5	3.6	4.7	3.3	3.1	8.7	55.7	46.0	37.7	13.0	9.7	11.5	21.2	29.9	30.1	0.8	1.7	1.1
65+	6.7	8.1	6.3	11.9	7.5	2.9	5.4	4.8	9.8	42.4	47.4	41.5	7.5	7.7	9.1	22.9	23.4	26.7	3.1	1.2	3.6
Marital Status																					
Never married	30.8	61.9	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.3	0.4	3.6	27.9	29.0	46.9	20.0	5.7	15.2	14.0	2.9	32.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Married	5.7	5.6	6.7	2.0	2.3	2.9	3.8	4.9	8.6	54.6	48.1	38.5	11.9	10.0	11.2	20.1	27.3	29.8	1.9	1.8	2.3
Divorced/Separated	9.7	9.0	3.6	1.0	2.4	3.7	6.9	1.4	6.3	68.5	42.2	42.6	0.4	13.1	7.6	10.0	28.4	34.7	3.4	3.4	1.4
Widow/Widower	4.5	7.0	5.7	7.5	4.8	3.3	2.9	5.5	7.4	42.8	49.8	50.4	13.9	9.4	9.8	28.5	22.4	20.2	0.0	1.1	3.2
Education level of household head																					
None	6.2	6.4	6.0	2.7	3.2	3.2	4.3	4.2	8.5	53.8	47.0	40.2	10.5	9.8	9.8	20.4	27.3	29.7	2.1	2.1	2.6
Primary	8.2	4.5	5.0	2.7	0.2	1.7	0.1	6.3	8.6	57.6	52.1	44.9	4.3	9.2	17.5	25.9	26.1	20.9	1.2	1.6	1.4
Secondary	6.0	7.0	12.1	0.0	0.1	1.3	4.6	6.6	6.3	57.3	52.2	36.0	19.3	12.5	14.3	12.5	21.6	29.8	0.4	0.0	0.3
Tertiary	0.9	20.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	5.7	0.0	1.7	0.7	60.6	29.1	42.0	14.3	22.7	26.1	24.2	26.4	23.8	0.0	0.0	0.0

4.4 Incidence of chronic illness

The section aims at gaining insight into the overall prevalence of chronic illnesses, the proportion of those chronically ill, and a better understanding of who diagnosed the chronic illness.

There is increase in the proportion of individuals who suffered from a chronic illness from 6 percent in 2010 to 7 percent in 2013 but this remained the same in 2016 at 7 percent as shown in Table 4.3. Asthma was the highest reported chronic illness that in 2010, 2013 and 2016. Although there was an increase in proportion among those that reported suffering from asthma from 21 percent in 2010 to 25 percent in 2013, the proportion that suffered decreased from 25 percent in 2013 to 20 percent in 2016. Malaria/fever and HIV/ AIDS are the other chronic illnesses that were reported in 2010, 2013 and 2016. There is also a decrease in the proportion among those who reported malaria/fever as a chronic illness from 8 percent in 2010 to 6 percent in 2013 and the proportion decreased further to 5 percent in 2016. There is an increase in proportion for those who reported to have suffered from TB or HIV/ AIDS from 6 percent in 2010 to 17 percent in 2013 and to 19 percent in 2016.

In terms of residence, there was a high proportion of those that reported on asthma chronic illness in urban areas than in rural areas. In general, there is also an increase in proportion among those that reported to have suffered from asthma for both urban and rural areas in 2013 as compared to those that reported in 2010 but there was a drop in 2016. Analyzing data by sex shows a high proportion of females who reported that they were chronically ill in 2010, 2013 and 2016. However, for the major chronic illness of Asthma, the proportion of males that suffered from this illness was higher than that of females for 2013 and 2016 while for 2010, the proportions for both sexes were the same.

Across age groups, the results generally show that there was high proportions of those who were aged 45 years and over who suffered from chronic illnesses for all the three years compared to those aged less than 45 years.

In terms of education, the results show that there was a low proportion of those with tertiary education who reported about chronic illnesses compared to other educational levels.

Table 4.3 Proportion of chronic illness and distribution of chronic illness reported by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Proportion who suffered			Chronic Malaria/ Fever			HIV/AIDS			Asthma			Arthritis/ Rheumatism			Epilepsy			Stomach disorder			Mental illness			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	5.6	6.7	7.0	8.2	5.5	4.8	5.7	16.6	18.8	20.9	25.1	20.4	13.0	9.7	1.9	9.8	5.4	5.2	7.6	8.4	8.4	2.2	2.9	3.1	32.7	26.4	37.4
Residence																											
Urban	6.9	5.5	8.4	11.2	3.6	1.8	6.4	18.0	19.9	26.9	30.4	26.2	3.4	9.0	3.2	3.9	2.7	1.3	8.6	7.8	10.3	3.9	0.1	0.3	35.5	28.5	37.0
Rural	5.4	6.9	6.7	7.4	5.9	5.7	5.5	16.3	18.5	19.3	24.2	18.7	15.6	9.8	1.5	11.3	5.9	6.3	7.3	8.5	7.8	1.8	3.4	3.8	31.9	26.0	37.6
Sex																											
Male	4.7	5.7	6.4	7.2	7.2	5.2	5.0	11.2	14.5	21.2	32.8	23.4	6.0	5.2	1.7	14.4	5.8	6.3	8.7	9.0	8.6	1.2	3.2	4.4	36.4	25.6	35.8
Female	6.5	7.6	7.6	8.8	4.4	4.5	6.1	20.4	22.2	20.7	19.6	17.9	17.9	12.8	2.1	6.6	5.2	4.3	6.8	8.0	8.2	3.0	2.6	2.0	30.1	26.9	38.7
Age																											
0-4	3.4	4.3	3.0	5.8	13.3	15.2	2.5	1.7	0.7	45.5	65.1	60.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.1	7.9	7.2	8.9	2.3	2.9	0.0	1.6	3.8	24.2	8.1	9.2
5-9	3.8	4.5	5.9	21.7	7.6	12.7	0.0	3.5	11.2	19.8	27.6	30.2	2.3	0.0	0.0	10.2	16.0	10.4	8.3	12.8	10.7	0.0	1.5	3.5	37.6	31.0	21.2
10-14	5.0	3.2	4.3	15.1	3.8	6.0	1.2	6.3	2.5	25.4	37.5	22.8	0.0	0.0	1.2	31.7	3.6	16.8	10.9	24.9	13.2	2.5	0.0	2.7	13.1	23.8	34.8
15-19	3.3	4.1	5.8	7.1	2.2	3.2	0.0	8.1	4.2	27.8	41.9	26.9	3.7	5.5	0.0	18.7	11.5	9.0	5.2	14.6	11.9	0.0	2.8	1.6	37.4	13.5	43.2
20-24	5.7	4.2	5.2	0.0	3.1	6.8	0.0	6.9	8.4	16.1	20.3	20.7	11.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	10.2	5.3	15.9	3.8	5.2	9.4	7.3	3.9	44.8	48.4	49.8
25-29	5.4	4.2	5.1	6.9	4.8	2.8	2.3	11.4	13.0	19.1	27.6	28.3	25.0	10.0	2.7	3.5	1.6	3.8	6.9	13.1	11.5	4.2	10.7	2.4	32.0	20.7	35.4
30-34	7.4	6.1	8.3	7.7	3.6	1.9	22.3	35.4	21.1	20.9	20.8	21.1	2.6	0.0	6.3	2.3	1.0	1.9	3.7	13.5	13.6	1.9	4.7	10.1	38.6	21.0	24.0
35-39	7.0	10.5	8.1	8.0	7.5	0.0	29.1	42.9	33.2	8.1	14.8	14.4	3.4	3.3	0.0	3.8	2.5	1.9	9.4	4.6	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	38.2	24.6	43.2
40-44	2.1	12.2	13.1	0.0	0.0	1.4	5.3	47.7	64.7	3.5	11.9	4.0	19.7	2.8	0.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	1.8	2.7	7.4	12.8	0.0	0.0	56.9	28.9	22.5
45-49	9.4	17.1	18.5	0.0	4.8	0.0	6.3	43.8	43.8	29.8	10.9	7.1	31.3	21.9	0.0	9.0	0.9	0.0	5.1	3.4	15.4	0.0	2.4	3.5	18.6	12.0	30.1
50-54	9.0	15.8	14.4	0.0	1.2	2.8	23.3	19.0	40.2	0.5	19.8	8.9	22.8	18.0	1.4	16.2	5.8	1.7	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.5	37.2	31.2	43.5
55-59	17.4	18.8	14.6	4.2	13.6	0.0	5.2	23.4	20.8	17.7	13.8	12.5	27.2	3.8	3.0	6.2	5.2	4.6	0.0	6.4	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	39.5	33.9	55.9
60-64	13.3	20.5	19.9	4.7	5.0	0.0	4.8	8.1	22.9	8.4	13.6	14.0	46.6	19.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	7.4	2.5	0.0	8.3	2.7	34.7	38.7	47.8
65-69	13.4	26.2	17.7	8.3	0.0	7.7	0.0	7.3	19.8	3.3	5.9	0.0	29.5	46.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.6	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	47.2	39.4	67.1
70-74	16.0	21.8	21.0	0.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.0	8.7	11.8	43.4	37.3	7.8	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	0.0	7.8	0.0	49.7	40.1	71.0
75-79	20.7	35.8	16.3	6.1	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.4	18.1	0.0	0.0	35.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.9	13.1	8.8	22.5	9.4	17.0	33.1	19.5	74.2
80+	28.0	27.0	28.2	16.1	11.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.6	11.3	5.4	35.6	24.3	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.6	8.2	9.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.1	44.5	72.2
Marital Status																											
Never married	7.5	6.2	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.2	15.9	29.0	7.6	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.4	0.0	13.1	0.0	0.0	10.3	0.0	3.3	3.6	57.7	76.9	43.9
Married	5.2	6.2	6.5	8.1	6.4	5.7	5.7	14.4	16.2	22.2	29.9	21.2	11.4	7.4	2.2	9.8	6.5	5.2	7.9	8.9	9.5	1.0	2.3	3.0	33.8	24.2	36.9
Divorced/Separated	8.4	7.3	8.1	5.3	0.7	4.1	4.7	25.8	29.0	25.8	13.8	17.5	12.2	15.5	1.7	0.0	0.7	5.6	9.7	16.4	5.1	11.5	3.5	2.6	30.9	23.6	34.6
Widow/Widower	7.4	9.7	10.4	12.3	4.5	0.9	5.5	22.7	25.1	9.3	8.3	18.7	25.3	18.0	0.7	17.4	2.9	4.8	4.3	1.6	4.6	1.3	5.3	3.4	24.8	36.7	41.8
Education level of household head																											
None	5.8	6.7	7.1	7.9	5.5	4.5	5.8	18.1	20.5	21.4	20.8	19.1	13.6	10.6	2.1	10.2	5.3	5.5	7.6	9.0	7.9	1.7	3.5	3.1	31.9	27.2	37.2
Primary	4.5	6.8	6.9	6.0	2.8	7.9	7.5	5.6	7.1	13.4	37.9	36.8	23.5	14.9	0.0	0.0	3.4	8.8	0.8	10.9	9.4	0.0	0.0	1.3	48.8	24.5	28.7
Secondary	5.6	6.6	7.1	11.6	7.1	7.8	4.2	13.7	8.4	19.1	43.0	18.1	5.5	2.5	1.4	11.8	5.6	0.6	10.7	4.8	13.8	6.7	0.7	3.6	30.3	22.5	46.4
Tertiary	3.7	6.8	4.9	0.0	6.1	0.0	0.0	14.1	7.2	45.1	38.0	60.1	10.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	44.5	25.2	28.5

4.5 Diagnosis of chronic illness

The section presents results on the distribution of health personnel who diagnosed chronic illnesses in 2010, 2013 and 2016.

Table 4.4 shows that there was a higher proportion of respondents who were diagnosed by medical workers at the hospital in 2010, 2013 and 2016 compared to other methods of diagnosis. The results further show that there was a decrease in the proportion of respondents who were diagnosed by medical workers at the hospital from 66 percent in 2010 to 64 percent in 2013 and the proportion went further down to 61 percent in 2016. The results also reveal that there was a reduction in the proportion of those who reported that they diagnosed themselves, dropping from 15 percent in 2010 to 11 percent in 2013 and to 8 percent in 2016.

In terms of residence, the results show that for all the three years, there was a higher proportion of household members in urban areas who reported to have been diagnosed by medical workers in hospitals than in rural areas.

The results also show that a higher proportion of females reported that they were diagnosed by medical workers at the hospital than males for all the three years.

In terms of education, it is observed that a higher proportion of respondents with higher education qualifications were diagnosed by medical workers at the hospitals than those with lower education for all the three years.

Table 4.4 Proportion of chronic illness and distribution of who diagnosed them by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Medical worker at hospital			Medical worker at health facility			Health Surveillance Assistant			Traditional healer			Self			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	66.1	63.9	60.5	3.9	13.0	21.3	0.5	0.1	0.3	1.8	1.8	2.8	15.2	11.2	8.4	12.5	10.0	6.8
Residence																		
Urban	85.1	83.2	61.7	0.0	2.1	20.4	0.0	0.2	0.1	1.2	1.5	3.8	10.3	9.5	8.2	3.4	3.5	5.9
Rural	61.1	60.8	60.2	4.9	14.7	21.5	0.6	0.1	0.3	2.0	1.9	2.5	16.5	11.4	8.5	14.9	11.0	7.0
Sex of household head																		
Male	63.5	64.6	59.9	5.4	13.5	22.7	1.1	0.0	0.0	3.3	1.6	1.2	10.2	8.7	7.3	16.6	11.5	9.0
Female	68.0	63.3	61.0	2.8	12.6	20.2	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.8	2.0	4.0	18.7	13.0	9.3	9.7	8.9	5.0
Age of household head																		
15-24	69.4	29.8	68.7	0.0	24.3	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.0	6.8	0.0	8.6	20.9	0.4	15.9	18.2	30.0
25-34	73.4	61.3	59.1	3.8	12.8	23.5	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.5	3.3	3.2	11.4	6.7	9.4	10.8	15.2	4.9
35-49	65.8	68.2	60.0	6.2	13.2	25.1	0.6	0.1	0.8	0.8	2.0	2.8	14.1	4.7	5.5	12.5	11.8	5.9
50-64	67.5	66.1	61.8	1.6	12.5	19.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	2.2	13.2	12.8	8.7	13.8	8.7	8.2
65+	50.0	58.5	60.0	3.2	11.8	18.1	1.7	0.0	0.1	2.1	1.5	3.5	30.3	27.7	12.2	12.7	0.6	6.1
Marital Status																		
Never married	100	68.2	54.9	0.0	0.0	45.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.5	0.0	0.0	10.3	0.0
Married	64.6	63.6	61.2	4.1	13.1	19.3	0.6	0.0	0.3	1.8	1.9	3.3	16.0	9.7	9.3	12.8	11.6	6.6
Divorced/Separated	82.0	56.5	52.8	1.5	21.9	38.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.2	0.1	13.3	3.9	12.6	6.9	4.9
Widow/Widower	57.5	69.4	62.6	5.0	7.6	18.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	2.2	25.5	16.8	7.5	12.1	3.7	8.8
Education level of household head																		
None	64.9	62.9	59.2	4.0	12.6	22.3	0.6	0.2	0.3	1.9	1.9	2.7	14.0	11.7	8.6	14.5	10.8	7.0
Primary	59.1	47.3	80.7	0.0	27.8	12.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.7	20.2	2.8	4.2	4.6	3.6
Secondary	76.3	78.4	60.1	2.7	8.8	14.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	2.1	2.6	6.4	15.0	3.4	11.8	3.9	6.7	7.6
Tertiary	73.8	82.9	78.0	23.0	0.0	22.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	17.1	0.0

4.6 Reproductive health

Information was collected on those who gave birth in the last 24 months prior to the survey, place of delivery and assistance given during delivery. The information collected will help in depicting some aspects of maternal health in Malawi. This is in line SDGs goal 3.1 which stipulates that countries should strive to reduce maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100 000 live births by 2030.

4.6.1 Place of delivery

The results shown in Table 4.5 reveal that of the women aged 12-49 years more than 85 percent delivered at the hospital in the 24 months preceding to the interview for all the three years. The proportion of women aged 12-49 years that delivered at the hospital went up from 87 in 2010 to 90 percent in 2013 and it went up further to 94 percent in 2016. On the other hand, there is a reduction in proportion of women who delivered at home from 12 percent in 2010 as compared to 10 percent in 2013 and went down further to 5 percent in 2016.

In terms of residence, the results showed that a higher proportion of women in urban areas delivered at the hospital (93 percent in 2010 and 95 percent in 2016) than those in rural areas (86 percent in 2010 and 94 percent in 2016) for all the three years.

The results showed that a higher proportion of women delivered at the hospital in male-headed households (88 percent in 2010 and 94 percent in 2016) compared to female-headed households (80 percent in 2010 and 95 percent in 2016) for all the three years.

The results also show that the proportion of women who delivered at the hospital increased as the level of education of the women increased between 2010 and 2016. For those with no education, the proportion of women who delivered at the hospital was 84 percent in 2010 and 94 percent in 2016 while those with tertiary education, the proportion was 100 percent for both 2010 and 2016.

Table 4.5 Proportion of women aged 12-49 by place of delivery with background characteristics, IHPS 2010 and 2013

Background Characteristics	Hospital			Home			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	86.9	89.9	94.3	12.1	9.8	5.3	1.0	0.3	0.4
Residence									
Urban	92.7	93.8	95.3	6.8	5.1	3.1	0.5	1.1	1.6
Rural	85.8	89.2	94.1	13.1	10.8	5.8	1.1	0.1	0.1
Sex of household head									
Male	88.3	89.9	94.0	10.7	9.8	5.6	1.0	0.3	0.4
Female	80.4	90.3	95.3	18.7	9.7	4.5	0.9	0.0	0.2
Age of household head									
15-24	86.9	81.8	91.9	13.1	18.2	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.6
25-34	88.2	88.7	92.5	10.8	11.1	7.5	1.1	0.2	0.0
35-49	84.1	92.1	96.1	14.2	7.4	3.2	1.7	0.5	0.8
50-64	89.1	93.5	94.4	10.9	6.5	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
65+	100.0	84.9	96.5	0.0	15.1	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Marital Status									
Never married	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Married	88.0	90.1	94.2	11.0	9.6	5.4	0.9	0.3	0.4
Divorced/Separated	70.0	80.0	93.0	27.8	20.0	7.0	2.3	0.0	0.0
Widow/Widower	90.0	95.0	97.9	10.0	5.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Education level of household head									
None	83.7	87.8	94.2	15.1	11.9	5.5	1.3	0.3	0.3
Primary	96.2	97.3	91.0	3.8	2.7	7.5	0.0	0.0	1.6
Secondary	98.9	97.1	97.6	1.1	2.9	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tertiary	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

4.6.2 Type of assistance during delivery

Table 4.6 indicates that during delivery the highest proportion of women were assisted by a nurse or midwife, followed by a doctor or clinician and then by a friend or relative for 2010, 2013 and 2016. There is an increase in the proportion of births that were attended by a nurse or midwife from 50 percent in 2010 to 60 percent in 2013 and it went up further to 69 percent in 2016.

In terms of residence, there is a higher proportion of births attended by a nurse or midwife in rural areas (50 percent in 2010 and 70 percent in 2016) than urban areas (49 percent in 2010 and 67 percent in 2016). On the contrary, a higher proportion of births were attended by a doctor or clinician in urban areas (43 percent in 2010 and 26 percent in 2016) than in rural areas (34 percent in 2010 and 24 percent in 2016).

The results also show that a higher proportion of births were attended by a nurse or midwife in male-headed households (51 percent in 2010 and 70 percent in 2016) compared to female-headed households (46 percent in 2010 and 68 percent in 2016). The same trend is also observed for births that were attended by a friend or relative.

Analyzing data by level of education, the results show that the proportion of births attended by a nurse or midwife for women with tertiary education increased from 72 percent in 2010 to 81 percent in 2016 and for women with no education the proportion of births attended by a nurse or midwife increased from 49 percent

in 2010 to 69 percent in 2016. The high proportion of births assisted by a friend or relative for women who had no education decreased from 10 percent in 2010 to 3 percent in 2016.

Table 4.6 Type assistance during delivery by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Nurse			Doctor/Clinician			Friend or relative			Traditional birth attendant			Patient attendant			No one		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	33.9	29.1	23.2	52.6	59.4	70.2	0.8	1.2	1.4	5.4	3.8	2.2	6.9	5.7	2.5	0.5	0.7	0.4
Residence																		
Urban	44.6	35.0	27.0	48.1	58.2	66.5	0.0	0.2	1.6	0.5	5.6	1.9	6.8	0.6	2.8	0.0	0.5	0.2
Rural	31.8	27.9	22.4	53.4	59.7	71.0	0.9	1.5	1.4	6.3	3.4	2.3	6.9	6.8	2.5	0.6	0.8	0.4
Sex of household head																		
Male	34.1	28.6	22.9	53.3	59.9	70.5	0.9	1.1	1.0	5.8	3.7	2.7	5.7	6.0	2.3	0.3	0.7	0.5
Female	32.9	31.1	24.3	48.9	57.2	68.9	0.0	2.0	2.8	3.3	4.4	0.6	12.8	4.6	3.2	2.0	0.8	0.2
Age of household head																		
15-24	37.1	22.0	20.0	48.9	55.6	69.3	1.0	2.8	5.3	4.2	11.1	3.4	8.9	7.1	2.0	0.0	1.4	0.0
25-34	40.7	27.9	25.8	46.6	59.2	65.4	0.9	1.6	1.7	5.6	2.9	2.4	5.8	7.6	3.9	0.5	0.8	0.8
35-49	26.1	28.0	22.3	57.7	63.6	73.2	0.7	0.5	0.9	7.1	3.6	1.5	7.3	3.8	1.8	1.1	0.4	0.2
50-64	21.7	38.7	19.6	68.7	51.5	74.5	0.0	2.0	0.3	1.4	5.4	3.8	8.2	1.1	1.8	0.0	1.2	0.0
65+	48.1	35.0	24.2	51.9	49.9	71.9	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	15.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Marital Status																		
Never married	54.0	57.3	0.0	46.0	42.7	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Married	34.3	27.7	23.3	52.9	61.1	70.4	0.9	1.0	1.0	5.5	3.5	2.6	6.0	6.0	2.4	0.4	0.7	0.4
Divorced/Separated	27.9	36.2	24.3	43.7	40.8	65.3	0.0	3.0	4.4	8.5	10.4	0.6	19.9	7.2	4.9	0.0	2.4	0.5
Widow/Widower	33.5	37.0	21.6	58.9	55.1	73.7	0.0	2.8	3.1	0.0	3.2	0.0	4.6	1.9	1.5	3.0	0.0	0.0
Education level of woman																		
None	31.5	28.2	24.0	51.5	57.9	69.1	1.0	1.6	1.5	6.4	4.2	2.2	8.8	7.4	2.8	0.7	0.8	0.5
Primary	46.8	27.1	17.9	49.4	69.7	74.9	0.0	0.5	0.0	3.3	2.7	3.8	0.5	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Secondary	39.8	36.1	19.8	59.1	60.3	74.7	0.0	0.0	3.1	1.1	2.8	2.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0
Tertiary	31.0	30.5	22.3	69.0	69.5	77.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

5 CREDIT AND LOANS

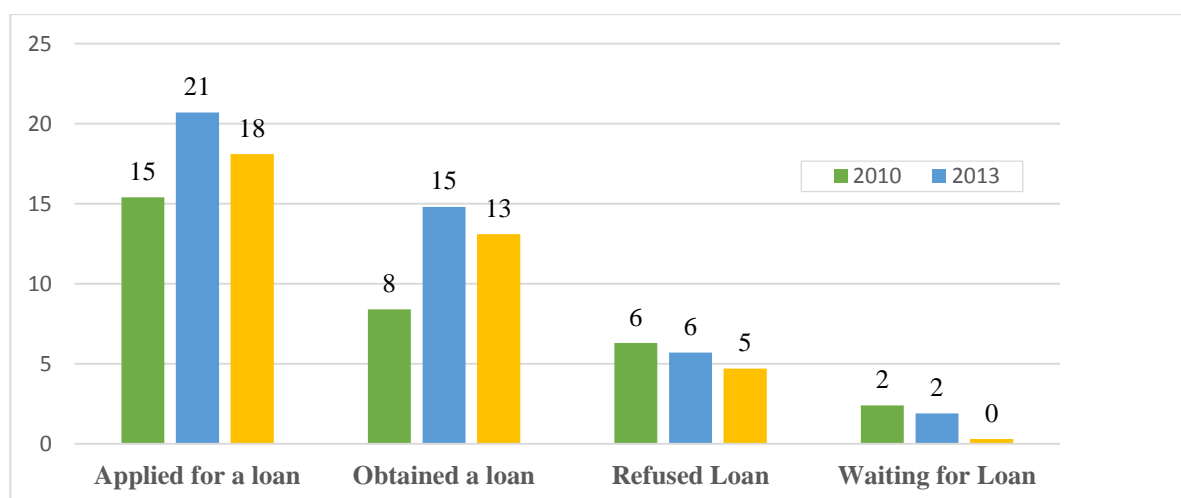
5.0 Introduction

Credit and loans are important sources of additional finance for households, either to relieve a household during a difficult period or enable it to expand its activities. The IHPS collected information from household members on access to credit and loans for business or farming purposes from either formal or informal sources. Formal loans include money borrowed from financial institutions with interest, security and conditions for payment well-laid out while informal loans refer to borrowing from friends, relatives, private money-lenders and communal groups without any formal agreement describing the terms of payment. This chapter highlights the proportion of persons who had access to loans and credit, the reasons for obtaining loans, the sources of loans and finally insights into the reasons for not borrowing.

5.1 Proportion of households that had some interaction with the credit market

Figure 5.1 shows that the proportion of those who applied for a loan increased from 15 percent in 2010 to 18 percent in 2016. Of those who applied for a loan, the proportion of those that obtained a loan also increased from 8 percent in 2010 to 13 percent in 2016. Figure 5.1 further reveals that there was a slight decline among household members that were turned down after applying for a loan from 6 percent in 2010 to 5 percent in 2016. There was also a decrease from those on a waiting list from 2 percent in 2010 to less than 1 percent in 2016.

Figure 5.1 Proportion of households that had some interaction with the credit market, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016



5.2 Proportion of households that obtained loans

The findings from the survey show that between 2010 and 2016, there was an increase in the proportion of households where at least one member obtained a loan or credit for business or farming purpose in the 12 months prior to the survey from 8 percent in 2010 to 14 percent in 2016. The findings in Table 5.1 further indicate that there was a higher proportion of borrowers in urban areas than those who accessed loans from rural areas across the three years. This is shown by an increase of loan recipients in urban areas from 11 percent in 2010 to 16 percent in 2016 against an increase from 8 percent in 2010 to 14 percent in 2016 in rural areas. In terms of age of the household head, it is observed that there was a continuous increase of loan beneficiaries for households whose heads are aged between 25 to 34 years registering 18 percent in 2016 up from 7 percent in 2010. The table also reveals that the lowest proportion of those who had access to credit and loans across the years were those households whose heads were aged 65 years and above recording 5 percent in 2016 up from 2 percent in 2010.

Table 5.1 Proportion of households where at least one member obtained a loan for business or farming purposes by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Proportion that borrowed			Business Start-Up			Purchased non-farm Inputs			Purchased Agricultural inputs for									Purchased Land			Other			
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	Food Crops			Other Cash Crops			Tobacco			2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	
										2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016							
Malawi	8.2	13.2	14.1	3.3	1.1	1.1	23.9	17.5	16.1	8.0	4.0	6.6	5.2	7.4	5.2	44.8	54.6	44.8	14.7	12.1	26.2	0.0	3.2	0.0	
Place of residence																									
Urban	10.8	17.4	15.8	4.4	1.7	1.5	3.8	14.0	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.3	74.2	66.9	58.0	17.6	14.6	33.7	0.0	1.2	0.0	
Rural	7.6	12.3	13.8	3.0	0.9	1.0	29.8	18.5	18.5	10.4	5.2	8.2	6.7	9.1	6.4	36.2	51.1	41.5	13.9	11.4	24.4	0.0	3.8	0.0	
Sex of household head																									
Male	8.7	12.7	14.9	4.1	1.6	0.8	23.9	19.7	15.9	9.8	5.6	8.7	5.3	5.7	6.2	40.9	51.4	46.2	16.0	13.5	22.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	
Female	6.4	14.6	12.3	0.0	0.0	2.0	23.8	11.9	16.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	11.7	2.1	62.2	62.7	40.2	9.3	8.7	39.2	0.0	4.9	0.0	
Age of the household head																									
15-24	8.9	10.7	8.2	1.4	8.5	0.0	31.2	12.5	23.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.4	53.2	65.3	31.1	18.2	11.7	0.0	7.6	0.0	
25-34	6.5	16.8	17.7	3.5	0.5	2.8	25.0	13.0	21.4	3.8	1.0	4.4	2.3	7.2	6.0	40.1	63.1	42.4	25.3	8.4	23.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	
35-49	11.3	15.9	18.4	3.6	1.6	0.5	21.6	16.1	14.6	8.0	6.2	2.5	8.0	8.8	5.9	52.6	48.4	44.3	6.1	17.4	32.2	0.0	1.5	0.0	
50-64	9.5	10.5	12.8	4.2	0.0	0.0	23.9	28.8	10.7	19.0	6.5	22.6	6.0	7.5	4.5	34.5	50.9	46.0	12.4	6.3	16.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	
65+	1.5	3.7	4.9	0.0	0.0	1.5	18.1	29.8	15.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	81.9	63.8	45.8	0.0	6.5	35.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Marital Status of the household head																									
Married	5.5	10.4	2.0	3.0	0.9	1.0	29.8	18.5	18.5	10.4	5.2	8.2	6.7	9.1	6.4	36.2	51.1	41.5	13.9	11.4	24.4	0.0	3.8	0.0	
Separated, divorced	8.6	13.1	15.6	4.1	1.5	0.9	24.3	19.8	16.2	9.8	5.4	8.0	5.2	5.8	5.7	39.9	50.0	46.3	16.7	15.0	22.9	0.0	2.4	0.0	
Widow or Widower	9.6	19.7	15.6	0.0	0.0	2.3	28.7	5.2	23.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	15.3	0.0	58.3	70.4	43.8	5.0	2.0	30.8	0.0	7.2	0.0	
Never married	4.1	8.8	6.6	0.0	0.0	1.2	13.8	21.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	9.2	85.4	59.7	28.1	0.8	6.7	61.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	
Education Status of the household head																									
None	5.5	10.4	2.0	2.3	0.4	1.2	28.4	15.4	15.5	8.5	4.8	6.9	6.0	8.9	5.5	43.1	53.5	43.5	11.7	13.4	27.4	0.0	3.5	0.0	
Primary	8.6	13.1	15.6	0.0	2.6	0.0	28.4	26.7	27.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	2.2	0.0	39.0	61.6	50.1	23.5	3.3	22.3	0.0	3.5	0.0	
Secondary	9.6	19.7	15.6	7.9	3.5	2.1	10.0	23.9	10.4	9.2	3.4	0.0	1.8	5.0	9.9	50.5	50.3	55.5	20.7	11.7	22.1	0.0	2.4	0.0	
Tertiary	4.1	8.8	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.7	0.0	0.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	66.9	90.5	46.5	33.1	9.5	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	

5.3 Purpose of loan

Looking at the reasons for which borrowers took out loans, business start-up remained the main reason for borrowing at 48 percent in both 2010 and 2016. Another notable reason as to why households took out loans was to purchase nonfarm inputs. This increased over time from 15 percent in 2010 to 24 percent in 2016. The proportion of households who obtained a loan to purchase a land for Agriculture decreased from 4 percent in 2010 to 1 percent in 2016.

By place of residence, the survey findings show that across the years, there was an increase for borrowers from both urban and rural areas whose main purpose for advancing a loan was to purchase non-farm inputs. This is depicted by the increase observed in 2016 of 35 percent from 18 percent in 2010 for the urban loan recipients and an increase from 14 percent in 2010 to 22 percent in 2016 in rural areas.

The table further shows that there was an increase in the proportion of loan recipients for purchasing nonagricultural inputs by sex of the household head across the three years. In male-headed households, the proportion increased from 16 percent in 2010 to 22 percent in 2016 while for female-headed households, it increased from 10 percent in 2010 to 33 percent in 2016.

5.4 Sources of loan

Table 5.2 shows that 41 percent of those who obtained a loan sought it from Village Banks in 2016 compared to almost none in 2010. There is a drop in the proportion of households who sought loans from neighbors across the three years from 17 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016.

It can also be observed that in urban areas there has been a decrease in the proportion of those who borrowed money from commercial banks from 43 percent in 2010 to 7 percent in 2016.

Table 5.2a Percentage distribution of sources of loans for businesses or farming purposes by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Sources of Loans																				
	Village Bank			Relative			Neighbour			NGO			Money lender/Katapila			Bank Commercial			SACCO		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	0.0	0.1	41.0	20.4	16.8	19.0	17.3	12.9	11.8	6.8	7.7	7.2	13.5	8.6	5.3	13.6	10.0	2.2	4.0	2.6	2.1
Place of residence																					
Urban	0.0	0.0	36.0	8.6	5.4	5.3	7.8	17.7	25.8	1.8	7.5	9.6	8.1	5.6	5.3	42.7	17.9	6.7	2.9	4.1	2.8
Rural	0.0	0.1	42.4	24.3	19.9	22.6	20.5	11.5	8.1	8.5	7.7	6.6	15.3	9.4	5.3	3.9	7.8	1.0	4.4	2.2	1.9
Sex of household head																					
Male	0.0	0.0	38.6	19.4	19.0	21.8	17.0	15.1	10.1	7.9	9.3	8.4	12.4	7.3	6.2	11.8	12.6	2.6	3.3	1.7	0.6
Female	0.0	0.4	48.4	24.7	11.0	10.5	19.0	7.0	16.9	1.7	3.3	3.8	18.3	12.0	2.5	22.0	3.3	0.9	7.5	5.1	6.6
Age of the household head																					
15-24	0.0	0.0	26.0	28.0	38.6	36.8	43.1	9.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	4.8	5.3	0.0	5.0	9.2	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
25-34	0.0	0.0	35.9	27.1	24.3	26.2	11.6	14.5	10.6	7.5	2.9	5.4	14.1	7.0	4.3	7.4	7.1	1.3	1.5	6.2	2.4
35-49	0.0	0.3	46.6	21.4	7.8	16.6	8.4	12.8	13.7	4.7	16.4	4.2	19.6	8.6	5.6	15.5	18.0	2.0	5.6	1.3	3.1
50-64	0.0	0.0	45.2	6.5	10.5	4.3	24.2	11.5	6.4	16.3	3.4	15.3	3.9	17.7	8.7	22.3	2.0	4.1	7.0	0.8	0.0
65+	0.0	0.0	38.1	0.0	19.7	15.3	43.1	15.4	13.5	0.0	0.0	16.7	17.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	1.8
Marital Status of the household head																					
Married	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	52.8	40.3	0.0	9.8	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	69.9	8.6	0.0	30.1	28.8	0.0
Separated, divorced	0.0	0.0	42.6	21.6	18.4	19.8	17.0	13.3	8.4	7.8	8.9	7.7	12.2	8.2	5.7	11.6	12.1	2.1	4.3	1.6	2.3
Widow or Widower	0.0	0.9	24.9	22.9	10.6	20.9	12.1	10.3	37.1	0.0	3.6	7.4	33.8	3.9	1.4	0.0	4.5	1.8	0.0	9.0	0.2
Never married	0.0	0.0	52.6	0.0	10.6	0.0	36.4	13.1	14.3	5.7	4.2	0.5	0.0	18.9	6.2	57.8	1.7	4.4	0.0	0.0	2.1
Education Status of the household head																					
None	0.0	0.2	44.3	22.0	17.5	17.5	21.1	13.7	10.8	6.4	5.7	7.4	13.5	10.4	4.7	9.7	6.6	1.7	3.3	2.6	2.3
Primary	0.0	0.0	30.3	31.0	23.2	29.8	6.7	16.5	11.5	5.7	7.1	3.2	0.0	4.3	8.6	6.3	5.3	3.8	5.8	0.0	0.0
Secondary	0.0	0.0	24.1	12.9	12.2	20.9	7.1	7.6	24.4	9.0	16.9	5.0	18.2	3.8	6.8	26.5	24.4	5.4	6.1	3.5	0.0
Tertiary	0.0	0.0	10.7	0.0	2.1	22.3	26.0	9.6	3.4	0.0	8.5	30.7	0.0	5.7	8.1	48.0	35.8	0.0	0.0	6.7	10.7

Table 5.2b Percentage distribution of sources of loans for businesses or farming purposes by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

	Grocery/Local merchant			Religious institutions			Employer			MARDEF			MRFC			Other		
Background characteristics	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	2.6	0.5	2.0	1.6	1.2	0.7	1.5	1.3	0.1	2.9	1.6	0.0	4.7	1.5	0.0	11.0	35.1	8.7
Place of residence																		
Urban	3.4	1.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.9	3.3	4.3	0.6	11.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	9.6	36.2	5.6
Rural	2.3	0.4	2.3	2.2	1.6	0.4	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	6.3	1.8	0.0	11.4	34.8	9.5
Sex of household head																		
Male	2.1	0.7	0.3	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.9	1.8	0.2	3.2	0.0	0.0	5.7	1.3	0.0	13.3	30.2	10.4
Female	5.1	0.0	6.9	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	6.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	48.2	3.5
Age of the household head																		
15-24	6.7	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	7.7	35.9	10.7
25-34	3.5	0.0	1.2	2.9	1.6	2.2	3.1	1.3	0.1	10.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	10.6	35.0	10.4
35-49	2.1	0.6	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.9	2.5	0.3	0.0	1.1	0.0	6.5	0.0	0.0	14.3	30.6	6.8
50-64	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	6.9	0.0	10.8	2.7	0.0	7.5	40.5	9.3
65+	0.0	0.0	1.8	39.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.1	0.0	0.0	52.7	7.8
Marital Status of the household head																		
Married	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	53.2
Separated, divorced	2.0	0.7	0.3	1.9	0.9	0.9	1.8	1.8	0.2	3.5	0.0	0.0	5.6	1.3	0.0	10.6	32.8	9.9
Widow or Widower	9.5	0.0	6.4	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.0	21.7	46.8	0.0
Never married	0.0	0.0	18.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	39.1	1.4
Education Status of the household head																		
None	3.7	0.0	2.2	2.3	1.7	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.0	3.7	2.3	0.0	5.4	1.3	0.0	7.7	37.2	8.0
Primary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	5.1	0.0	30.5	37.0	11.5
Secondary	0.0	3.4	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	3.5	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.1	24.7	11.9
Tertiary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.0	31.7	14.1

5.5 Reasons for not applying for a loan

In addition to the detailed information collected on loan recipients, the survey also investigated the reasons why some people never attempted to get a loan. During the survey period, there has been a decline in the proportion that never attempted to get a business loan from 81 percent in 2010 to 77 percent in 2016. Table 5.3 shows the percentage distribution of reasons for never attempting to apply for a loan. Among households that had no interaction at all with the credit market, the feeling that there is no need was the most frequently cited reason barring them from borrowing (36 percent) observed in 2016 from a relatively lower proportion in 2010 (24 percent)

Furthermore, inadequate collateral continued to hamper the ability for one to borrow. This is reflected in the about 8 percent of those who did not apply for a loan in 2016 compared to less than 3 percent in 2010.

Looking at the highest reported reason for not applying for a loan across socio- economic background, Table 5.3 reveals that there is a huge increase in the urban population who thought that there was no need to obtain a loan, 51 percent in 2016 against 39 percent in 2010.

Across sex of the household head, across the three years the findings further indicate that the proportion of households which did not apply for a loan because they believed they would be refused declined for both male and female-headed households. In 2016, in male-headed households the proportion dropped to 8 percent from 17 percent in 2010 whereby in female-headed households the proportion went down from 16 percent in 2010 to less than 6 percent in 2016.

Figure 5.2 Reason for not applying for a loan, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

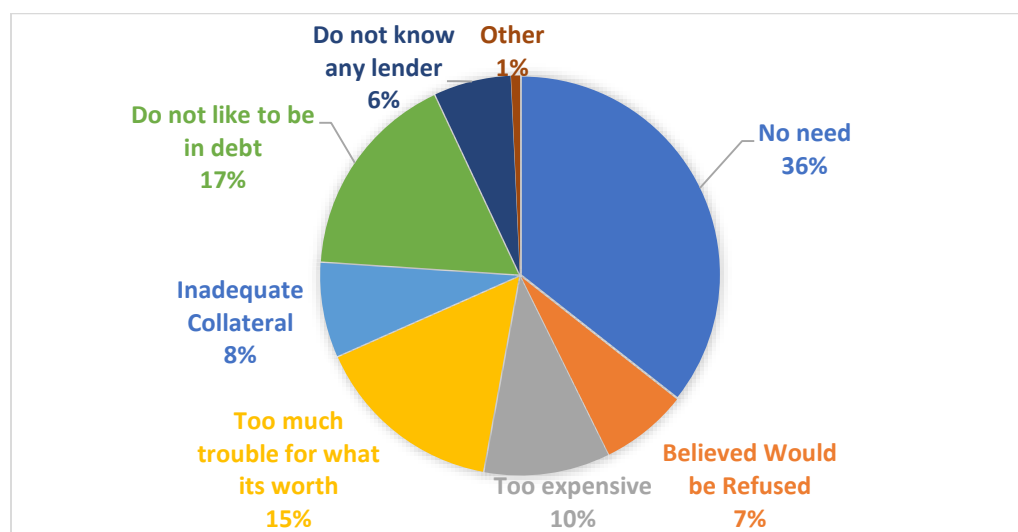


Table 5. 3 Proportion of persons who never applied for a loan and reason for not applying for a loan by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Proportions that never borrowed			No need			Believed would be refused			Too expensive			Too much for what's it's worth			Inadequate collateral			Do not like to be in debt			Do not know any lender			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	81.3	75.1	77.4	24.4	24.8	35.6	16.4	14.3	7.1	7.1	12.1	10.2	14.2	21.6	15.4	2.9	3.5	7.7	10.1	11.7	16.9	24.1	11.3	6.3	0.9	0.7	0.7
Place of residence																											
Urban	74.6	77.4	73.9	39.0	33.0	51.4	15.0	10.5	8.1	4.2	6.1	4.4	16.5	25.3	11.7	1.7	2.5	5.1	12.1	14.2	15.6	11.4	8.1	2.4	0.2	0.3	1.3
Rural	74.6	77.4	73.9	21.7	22.9	32.3	16.7	15.2	6.9	7.7	13.6	11.5	13.7	20.7	16.3	3.1	3.7	8.3	9.8	11.1	17.2	26.4	12.1	7.1	1.0	0.8	0.6
Sex of household head																											
Male	78.9	74.6	76.6	26.6	27.2	37.4	16.5	13.4	7.6	6.6	11.0	8.3	13.5	22.0	14.8	2.9	3.0	6.9	9.2	11.1	17.0	23.8	11.7	7.2	0.9	0.6	0.8
Female	88.6	76.5	79.7	18.5	17.5	30.9	16.1	16.8	5.8	8.6	15.5	15.1	16.0	20.2	17.0	2.7	5.0	9.7	12.6	13.6	16.9	24.7	10.3	4.0	0.8	1.1	0.6
Age of the household head																											
15-24	84.5	74.1	77.8	25.2	30.5	41.3	17.3	15.9	9.8	5.7	6.7	7.8	12.8	15.4	14.0	5.4	5.8	2.7	8.2	10.3	12.9	25.4	15.5	10.2	0.0	0.0	1.3
25-34	76.9	74.5	71.9	26.0	24.4	36.6	15.6	15.3	7.6	7.7	9.9	9.9	13.0	22.0	14.2	1.8	2.4	8.4	8.1	12.9	16.7	27.0	12.5	6.2	0.8	0.5	0.4
35-49	80.0	72.8	72.4	24.3	24.2	37.4	15.4	14.1	4.0	7.1	11.8	9.1	16.4	24.1	16.5	2.9	4.2	6.6	10.2	9.6	19.9	22.4	10.7	5.4	1.2	1.2	1.1
50-64	83.3	73.1	82.7	21.4	26.5	31.4	19.7	11.6	7.6	7.2	15.3	13.4	14.9	21.8	15.3	2.3	2.8	9.2	12.0	11.7	18.8	22.1	10.3	4.0	0.5	0.0	0.3
65+	89.8	85.7	87.4	24.3	21.2	33.4	15.4	14.5	8.8	7.1	16.9	10.1	12.0	19.0	16.2	3.9	3.5	9.3	13.3	14.5	13.5	22.6	8.8	7.8	1.5	1.6	0.8
Marital Status of the household head																											
Married	84.8	85.3	82.3	21.7	22.9	32.3	16.7	15.2	6.9	7.7	13.6	11.5	13.7	20.7	16.3	3.1	3.7	8.3	9.8	11.1	17.2	26.4	12.1	7.1	1.0	0.8	0.6
Separated, divorced	79.6	73.9	76.9	24.7	26.7	36.2	17.3	13.4	7.5	6.3	11.3	9.4	14.1	22.7	14.9	2.7	3.2	6.5	9.4	10.8	17.9	24.5	11.5	6.9	1.0	0.4	0.7
Widow or Widower	86.5	72.8	70.0	15.2	23.4	33.1	19.5	14.4	3.6	11.0	14.3	14.9	13.9	16.7	19.1	5.9	2.3	9.1	13.6	15.4	13.2	20.9	12.3	7.0	0.0	1.3	0.0
Never married	87.3	82.5	86.1	23.8	14.1	30.3	11.1	18.4	7.3	8.6	17.3	13.4	17.0	19.5	16.1	1.8	6.0	14.6	11.9	13.7	14.2	24.6	8.8	3.3	1.2	2.1	0.8
Education Status of the household head																											
None	84.8	85.3	82.3	20.3	22.0	32.4	17.1	16.1	7.7	7.2	13.3	10.8	14.7	21.7	16.5	3.4	3.4	7.9	9.8	11.3	17.3	26.4	11.5	6.5	0.9	0.7	0.9
Primary	79.6	73.9	76.9	32.7	32.8	55.8	18.0	13.8	1.4	10.4	8.6	8.2	18.2	21.0	5.6	1.6	4.7	5.4	5.1	11.6	19.4	13.9	7.6	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Secondary	86.5	72.8	70.0	43.0	31.0	53.3	11.0	5.3	4.9	5.3	7.7	6.5	8.9	23.2	9.8	0.3	3.2	6.2	14.7	15.3	14.0	15.6	12.7	5.4	1.3	1.6	0.0
Tertiary	87.3	82.5	86.1	57.3	61.5	58.3	12.7	5.3	3.0	0.9	7.1	2.5	5.2	9.6	13.6	0.9	3.6	8.4	12.5	7.5	8.9	10.6	5.4	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

6 HOUSEHOLD ENTERPRISES

6.0 Introduction

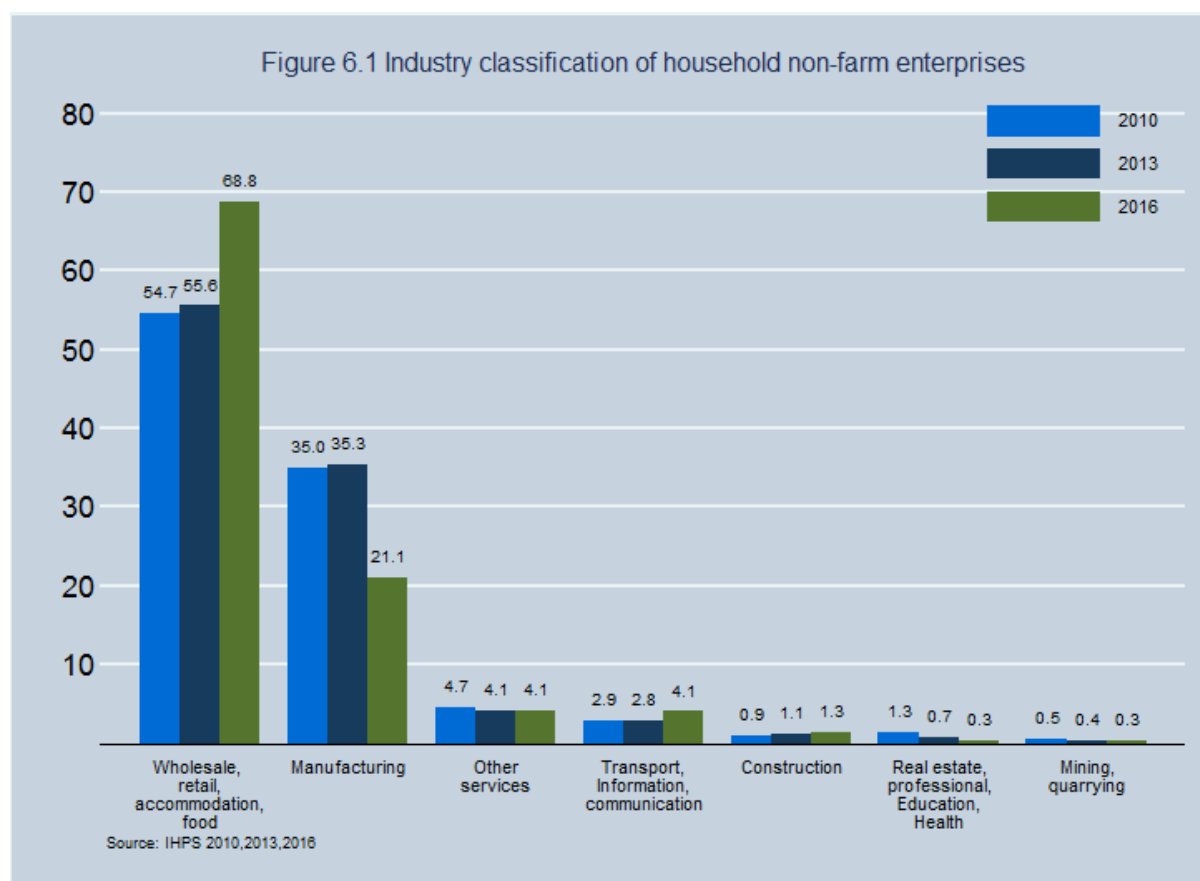
Household non-farm enterprises provide profit based income and off-farm employment to a significant proportion of households in the country. Information on the structure and the operational characteristics of household non-farm enterprises was collected in the survey. This chapter presents detailed information on production activities, type of ownership, principal sources of start-up capital, business place of operation, market for the products, industry distribution and financial performance. Results are compared for the periods of 2010, 2013 and 2016.

6.1 Proportion of households operating non-farm enterprises

The results of the surveys show that approximately 21 percent of households in Malawi operated non-farm enterprises in 2010, 33 percent in 2013 and 30 percent in 2016 (Table 6.1). In urban areas, there was an increase of 13 percentage points in the proportion of households engaged in non-farm enterprises between 2010 and 2013 and a decrease of 2 percentage points between 2013 and 2016. In rural areas, the proportion of household non-farm enterprises increased by 11 percentage points from 2010 to 2013 and decreased by 3 percentage points between 2013 and 2016. Considering sex of the household head, male-headed households are more likely to operate non-farm enterprises (23 percent in 2010 and 33 percent in 2016) than female-headed households (15 percent in 2010 and 21 percent in 2016).

Figure 6.1 shows the distribution of household non-farm enterprises by industry classification. The majority of household non-farm enterprises were in wholesale and retail trade and seconded by manufacturing businesses. Wholesale and retail trading enterprises increased between the periods of 2010 and 2016, from 55 percent in 2010 to 67 percent in 2016. Manufacturing enterprises decreased between 2010 and 2013, from 34 percent in 2010 to 22 percent in 2016. Households operated very few mining and quarrying businesses (less than 1 percent throughout the rounds).

Figure 6.1 Industry classification of household non-farm enterprises (percent)



6.2 Distribution of enterprises by industrial classification

Table 6.1 further shows the distribution of household non-farm enterprises by industry classification and background characteristics. The proportion of wholesale and retail trading enterprises in urban areas decreased from 76 percent in 2010 to 74 percent in 2016 while manufacturing businesses slightly increased from 11 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016. In rural areas, the proportion of wholesale and retail trading enterprises increased from 45 percent in 2010 to 64 percent in 2016 while manufacturing businesses decreased from 45 percent in 2010 to 26 percent in 2016.

In terms of sex of the household head, greater proportion of manufacturing activities were operated by female-headed households registering 42 percent in 2010 and 28 percent in 2016 as opposed to male-headed households registering 32 percent in 2010 and 20 percent in 2016. In 2016, operators of transport, information and communication businesses were more in female-headed households (6 percent) than in male-headed households (5 percent). In contrast, there were more operators of transport, information and communication businesses in male-headed households in 2010 (3 percent) than in female-headed households (2 percent).

Table 6.1 Proportion and distribution of households that operated non-farm enterprises by industry according to background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Proportion of households operating non- agricultural enterprises			Wholesale, retail trade			Manufacturing			Other service activities			Transportation and storage; Information and communication			Construction		Real estate, Professional activities, Education and Health			Mining and quarrying			
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	
Malawi	20.6	31.4	29.3	54.7	55.6	68.8	35.0	35.3	21.1	4.7	4.1	4.1	2.9	2.8	4.1	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.3	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3
Place of residence																								
Urban	35.9	49.0	46.4	75.3	70.8	75.5	12.5	17.2	11.3	6.6	8.4	6.8	3.1	1.2	4.4	0.6	1.2	0.8	1.7	1.0	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.1
Rural	17.4	27.7	25.5	44.8	49.4	66.0	45.8	42.6	25.2	3.7	2.3	2.9	2.8	3.5	3.9	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.4
Sex of household head																								
Male	22.1	32.9	32.3	56.3	57.1	69.9	32.3	34.1	19.1	5.3	4.3	5.0	3.1	2.6	4.3	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4
Female	15.9	26.8	21.5	47.2	49.8	64.3	47.6	40.1	28.8	1.5	3.2	0.7	2.0	3.9	2.9	0.0	1.1	3.2	1.7	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Age of household head																								
Up to 24	16.7	28.8	23.8	64.3	53.6	76.2	28.2	26.3	14.5	0.0	7.4	2.3	4.3	9.9	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
25-34	23.4	35.3	33.3	53.8	61.3	72.8	23.7	27.0	13.5	12.7	5.2	5.8	5.7	5.5	7.7	2.1	0.9	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.2
35-49	24.1	36.5	38.0	56.2	57.5	68.1	39.8	33.9	22.5	1.0	3.0	3.9	1.7	1.9	2.1	0.6	2.1	2.9	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.1
50-64	16.7	25.9	24.9	50.2	48.2	62.4	47.7	45.6	29.1	0.0	5.7	3.7	0.1	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	2.0	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.2
65+	13.3	19.3	14.5	48.1	39.8	70.4	47.8	56.8	22.8	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	3.4	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Education level of household head																								
None	18.2	28.2	28.0	49.6	51.4	68.2	39.1	38.0	22.3	5.2	4.7	3.9	3.1	3.5	3.9	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.5	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3
Primary	26.2	38.3	46.4	61.4	45.2	66.3	30.5	54.7	25.1	1.1	0.0	3.6	4.2	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	2.9	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Secondary	28.6	44.3	27.0	65.0	71.0	81.1	26.8	22.6	6.5	5.2	3.4	3.6	1.0	1.7	2.4	0.5	1.2	4.6	0.3	0.0	0.9	1.2	0.1	0.9
Tertiary	37.8	45.0	43.4	78.5	77.7	68.5	11.9	4.1	3.3	0.0	6.4	13.8	6.5	2.5	12.7	3.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	7.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.9
Marital status of household head																								
Married	19.0	33.1	35.4	78.8	89.7	84.1	10.7	3.1	5.8	0.0	7.3	2.6	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6
Separated, divorced	21.9	32.7	31.9	54.2	56.5	69.9	34.0	34.4	18.7	5.6	4.0	4.5	3.4	3.2	4.6	1.1	1.1	1.6	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.3
Widow or widower	10.8	30.9	24.3	62.2	58.1	63.2	37.8	37.4	31.3	0.0	1.0	3.1	0.0	3.3	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Never married	20.2	23.6	17.7	50.1	39.1	59.4	46.4	46.6	38.6	0.0	7.6	1.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	2.9	4.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0

6.3 Number of non-farm enterprises owned by households

The majority of households in the country owned only one enterprise (Figure 6.2). Seventy-seven percent of the households in 2010 had one non-farm enterprise and the proportion dropped to 60 percent in 2016. There was an increase of the proportion of households with two enterprises from 15 percent in 2010 to 22 percent in 2016. Similarly, there was also an increase in the proportion of households with three or more non-farm enterprises from 8 percent in 2010 to 18 percent in 2016.

Figure 6.2 Number of enterprises by households (percent)

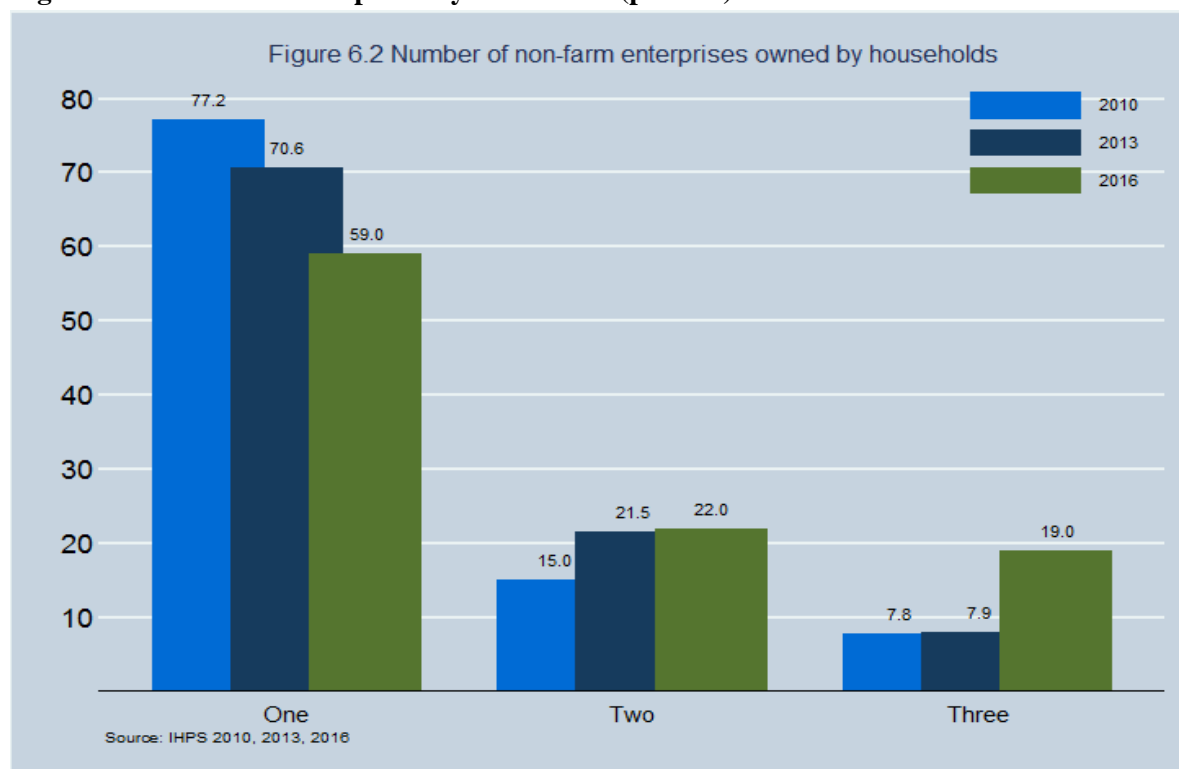


Table 6.2 further reveals that in urban areas, the proportion of households with one non-farm enterprise decreased from 72 percent in 2010 to 54 percent in 2016 while households with two non-farm enterprises increased from 23 percent in 2010 to 27 percent in 2016. In rural areas, households with one non-farm enterprises decreased from 80 percent in 2010 to 61 percent in 2016 while households with two enterprises increased from 11 percent in 2010 to 20 percent in 2016.

There are also more female-headed households with one enterprise than male-headed households. However, the proportion of female-headed households with one enterprise dropped from 92 percent in 2010 to 67 percent in 2016 while those with two enterprises rose from 4 percent in 2010 to 18 percent in 2016. Male-headed households with one enterprise decreased from 74 percent in 2010 to 57 percent in 2016 while those with two enterprises increased from 18 percent to 23 percent.

Table 6.2 Distribution of non-agricultural enterprises by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Number of non-farm enterprises owned by household								
	One			Two			Three or more		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	77.2	70.6	59.0	15.0	21.5	22.0	7.8	7.9	19.0
Place of residence									
Urban	71.8	71.4	54.2	23.3	17.0	26.6	4.9	11.5	19.1
Rural	79.7	70.3	61.0	11.1	23.3	20.1	9.2	6.4	18.9
Sex of household head									
Male	74.0	67.5	57.2	17.5	23.5	22.9	8.6	9.0	19.9
Female	91.8	83.0	66.5	3.7	13.5	18.2	4.5	3.5	15.3
Age of household head									
Up to 24	92.8	84.9	83.6	6.5	13.4	15.5	0.7	1.7	0.9
25-34	77.5	77.4	64.3	16.0	18.0	22.0	6.5	4.6	13.6
35-49	72.5	61.0	51.0	15.8	26.6	24.9	11.7	12.4	24.1
50-64	84.0	71.5	59.7	12.1	20.4	21.1	3.9	8.1	19.2
65+	68.8	85.0	73.8	21.4	15.0	11.4	9.8	0.0	14.8
Education level of household head									
None	80.1	72.4	56.9	14.5	22.8	24.1	5.5	4.8	19.0
Primary	82.3	75.4	74.8	5.2	9.8	5.5	12.5	14.7	19.7
Secondary	68.8	65.7	64.7	21.0	20.0	18.0	10.1	14.2	17.3
Tertiary	53.3	51.8	59.9	18.1	31.5	21.7	28.5	16.7	18.4
Marital status of household head									
Married	80.5	82.4	67.2	5.9	10.0	12.6	13.6	7.6	20.2
Separated, divorced	74.7	67.9	57.3	16.8	23.8	22.7	8.5	8.3	20.1
Widow or widower	95.3	87.6	69.7	2.2	9.5	16.6	2.5	2.9	13.7
Never married	87.6	75.7	63.5	8.4	14.7	23.1	4.0	9.6	13.4
Industry classification									
Wholesale and retail trade	70.9	69.0	58.6	20.2	23.4	23.0	8.9	7.6	18.4
Manufacturing	85.7	73.3	61.9	9.1	19.8	18.4	5.2	7.0	19.7
Other service activities	97.0	80.3	64.6	3.0	8.9	31.7	0.0	10.8	3.6
Transportation and storage;									
Information and communication	89.1	75.2	61.4	5.8	9.1	21.2	5.2	15.7	17.4
Construction	10.9	23.1	0.0	11.8	45.5	0.0	77.3	31.4	100.0
Real estate, Professional activities,									
Education and Health	75.2	100.0	58.1	20.3	0.0	10.0	4.4	0.0	31.9
Mining and quarrying	45.0	25.9	37.6	10.2	74.1	0.0	44.8	0.0	62.4

6.4 Source of start-up capital

Sources of start-up capital for household non-farm enterprises were examined in the survey and the distribution of sources of start-up capital for enterprises are presented in Table 6.3. The results show that the main source of capital for the enterprise was own savings from agriculture with 35 percent in 2010 and 32 percent in 2016. In 2010, about 25 percent of the enterprises sourced their start-up

capital from own-savings from non-agriculture compared to 33 percent in 2016. Significant increases were also observed for the sources of start-up capital from gifts and loans (2 percentage points increase for gifts and 4 percentage points increase for loans) between 2010 and 2016.

In urban areas, more than one third of the household non-farm enterprises source their start-up capital from own savings from non-agriculture (39 percent in 2010 and 43 percent in 2016). There were slight increases in enterprises whose source of start-up capital were gifts from family and friends (from 20 percent in 2010 to 24 percent in 2016) and loans from money lender, family and friends (from 10 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2016). In rural areas, there was a drop in proportion of household non-farm enterprises that sourced their start-up capital from own savings from agriculture, from 47 percent in 2010 to 40 percent in 2016. There was also an increase in the enterprises who sourced start-up capital from own savings from non-agriculture, from 18 percent in 2010 to 29 percent in 2016.

Among male-headed households, there were increases in the start-up capital sources of savings from non-agricultural (8 percentage points), gifts from family and friends (2 percentage points) and loans from money lender, family and friends (4 percentage points) between 2010 and 2016. Additionally, among female-headed households, slight increases were observed in the start-up capital sources of savings from non-agricultural (12 percentage points), gifts from family and friends (1 percentage point) and loans from money lender, family and friends (4 percentage points).

Table 6.3 Percentage distribution of non-farm enterprises by sort of start-up capital according to background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Own-savings from non- agriculture			Own-savings from agriculture			Gift from family/friends			Loan from money lender/family/friends			Proceeds from another business			Inherited/sale of assets/other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	25.0	27.9	33.2	35.1	33.9	31.8	12.3	15.9	13.8	8.8	10.3	12.7	4.9	4.3	5.6	13.9	7.7	2.9
Place of residence																		
Urban	39.4	36.7	43.1	11.2	15.6	11.5	19.9	27.1	24.4	9.6	10.6	12.0	12.1	6.0	7.4	7.8	3.9	1.6
Rural	18.2	24.3	29.1	46.6	41.3	40.3	8.7	11.4	9.3	8.4	10.2	13.0	1.4	3.6	4.9	16.8	9.2	3.5
Sex of household head																		
Male	27.1	28.1	34.5	35.3	34.5	31.5	12.2	16.8	13.8	7.5	8.8	11.8	5.3	4.8	5.1	12.6	7.0	3.2
Female	15.5	26.9	28.1	34.1	31.9	32.6	12.8	12.4	13.5	14.9	16.2	16.2	2.8	2.4	7.6	19.9	10.3	1.9
Age of household head																		
Up to 24	21.4	42.7	28.8	38.1	16.0	31.4	13.0	13.2	19.0	10.2	14.4	10.8	0.0	0.9	9.9	17.4	12.9	0.0
25-34	26.3	32.2	36.6	25.5	22.3	30.4	20.6	18.8	13.8	8.7	11.1	13.3	7.6	5.8	4.4	11.3	9.8	1.5
35-49	28.6	22.8	34.7	44.9	41.1	29.1	6.6	13.9	12.1	7.0	11.8	15.2	3.6	5.2	6.1	9.3	5.2	2.9
50-64	18.4	33.5	29.3	26.4	32.7	33.7	8.3	17.7	19.5	12.8	4.6	8.0	7.2	2.0	3.4	26.8	9.5	6.0
65+	17.6	18.4	26.1	42.9	53.8	45.9	9.1	11.6	8.5	9.5	10.4	8.2	0.0	0.0	8.9	20.9	5.8	2.3
Education level of household head																		
None	24.4	22.3	33.5	39.4	42.3	34.2	7.1	10.7	10.6	7.2	11.6	13.3	4.7	4.0	4.9	17.2	9.0	3.5
Primary	15.9	28.7	34.1	36.8	29.5	19.4	18.1	25.8	28.5	14.1	11.7	11.5	6.3	0.0	6.3	8.8	4.4	0.2
Secondary	29.9	43.4	37.8	24.7	12.0	25.7	22.8	26.0	20.6	11.0	5.8	8.1	4.6	7.1	7.8	7.0	5.7	0.0
Tertiary	33.5	47.8	11.2	5.0	0.7	13.8	40.9	37.4	44.6	14.8	7.2	10.8	5.7	5.2	19.6	0.0	1.6	0.0
Marital status of household head																		
Married	20.1	75.1	30.2	0.0	0.7	14.7	47.4	0.3	28.3	0.0	0.0	15.7	10.2	2.7	11.1	22.2	21.3	0.0
Separated, divorced	27.5	26.0	33.5	35.7	35.5	32.4	11.0	16.6	13.8	7.9	9.3	12.3	5.3	5.2	4.5	12.6	7.4	3.5
Widow or widower	10.7	36.1	33.8	53.4	26.9	31.9	11.7	9.1	9.2	6.5	19.0	14.5	0.0	1.0	10.3	17.6	7.8	0.3
Never married	12.5	27.8	30.5	28.6	32.7	29.6	16.5	19.2	14.9	18.4	12.4	14.6	2.8	0.0	10.1	21.3	7.9	0.3
Industry classification																		
Wholesale and retail trade	27.6	28.8	34.5	30.9	30.9	31.0	17.0	17.9	12.5	10.9	12.0	12.5	6.6	5.5	5.9	7.0	4.8	3.6

Manufacturing	20.7	23.4	33.6	43.3	39.3	29.7	6.5	14.4	15.8	6.3	9.0	15.2	0.6	2.6	4.6	22.7	11.3	1.1
Other service activities	41.3	46.5	40.6	10.4	14.4	21.2	5.2	12.7	22.9	11.2	12.7	15.1	20.3	5.0	0.3	11.6	8.8	0.0
Transportation and storage; Information and communication	5.0	16.3	11.9	72.7	57.2	57.2	12.8	7.3	13.9	3.7	0.0	0.5	5.8	2.5	11.5	0.0	16.6	5.0
Construction	11.8	74.3	10.9	45.2	14.0	48.6	10.9	6.7	18.3	0.0	0.0	18.4	0.0	2.1	3.8	32.1	2.9	0.0
Real estate, Professional activities, Education and Health	23.8	46.2	16.4	0.0	36.4	36.1	0.0	0.0	39.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2	76.2	17.4	0.0
Mining and quarrying	44.8	12.4	24.7	0.0	74.1	75.3	0.0	13.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	55.2	0.0	0.0

6.5 Business operating premises

Households with enterprises were required to supply information on where they operate their business (Figure 6.3). The survey results show that about 33 percent in 2010 and 34 percent in 2016 of household non-farm enterprises were operated at traditional market place, while 23 percent in 2010 and 20 percent in 2016 were operated outside the home. Further, 20 percent of the businesses in 2010 were operated at roadside or were mobile whereas in 2016, the proportion increased to 22 percent of the businesses were operated from the same location.

Figure 6.3 Percentage distribution of non-farm enterprises by place of operation

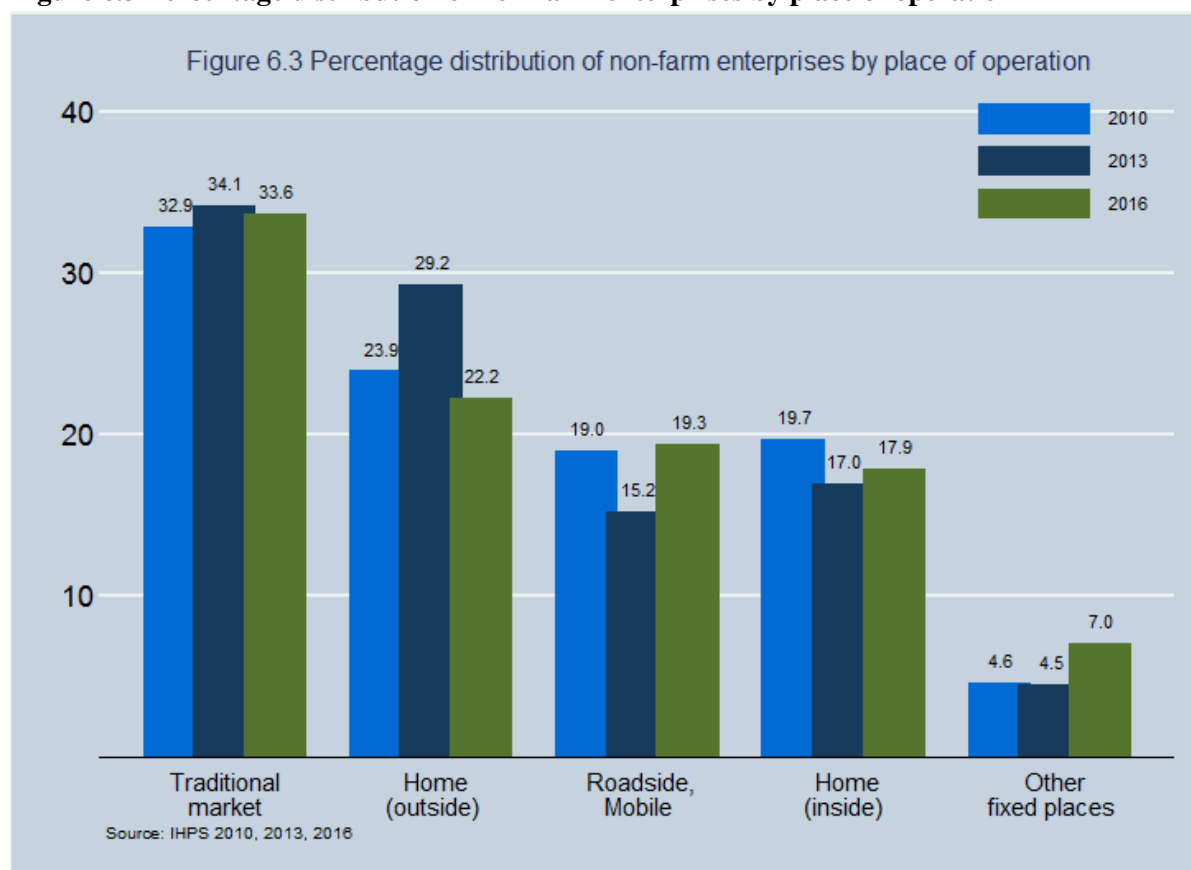


Table 6.4 shows that the distribution of places of business operation varies considerably according to the place of residence. In urban areas, businesses which operate inside residences represented 11 percent in 2010 and 14 percent in 2016 percent compared to 24 percent in 2010 and 20 percent in 2016 in rural areas. There was a decrease in proportion of businesses operated at traditional market in urban areas from 35 percent in 2010 to 33 percent in 2016 and an increase in rural areas from 32 percent in 2010 to 34 percent in 2016.

Distribution by sex of household head indicated an increase of businesses operated by the roadside/mobile in female-headed households from 13 percent in 2010 to 21 percent in 2016. In male-headed households, there was a decrease of business that operated outside the home from 20 percent in 2010 to 19 percent in 2016.

Table 6.4 Percentage distribution of non-farm enterprises by place of operation according to background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

	Place of operation														
	Traditional market			Home(outside			Roadside, mobile			Home(inside			Other fixed places		
	place			dwelling)						dwelling)					
Background Characteristics	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	32.9	34.1	33.6	23.9	29.2	22.2	19.0	15.2	19.3	19.7	17.0	17.9	4.6	4.5	7.0
Place of residence															
Urban	34.6	32.9	33.2	25.6	22.9	17.2	22.5	22.8	24.7	10.9	13.7	14.0	6.5	7.8	10.9
Rural	32.0	34.6	33.8	23.1	31.8	24.3	17.3	12.1	17.1	23.9	18.3	19.5	3.7	3.2	5.4
Sex of household head															
Male	33.1	33.0	34.4	23.2	30.5	21.5	20.4	17.2	18.8	18.5	15.3	17.7	4.9	4.1	7.6
Female	31.6	38.4	30.6	27.4	24.5	24.7	12.6	7.6	21.3	25.2	23.4	18.6	3.3	6.1	4.8
Age of household head															
Up to 24	34.2	49.4	39.7	14.0	20.8	14.5	43.2	22.9	26.2	7.9	3.7	18.3	0.7	3.2	1.3
25-34	32.7	34.5	39.6	22.0	29.6	16.8	25.1	14.7	25.3	14.8	13.6	13.2	5.4	7.6	5.1
35-49	33.7	35.3	34.5	21.8	28.7	23.9	15.0	18.9	16.7	23.1	13.6	16.9	6.4	3.6	8.0
50-64	37.7	29.4	24.4	32.0	26.5	23.0	5.5	11.9	17.2	22.4	28.7	25.4	2.4	3.4	10.0
65+	18.9	30.4	27.5	39.6	40.5	30.8	7.9	1.6	16.7	33.6	27.5	21.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
Education level of household head															
None	31.8	33.9	30.3	26.2	30.1	24.8	16.9	13.1	19.3	21.1	20.7	19.3	4.0	2.3	6.3
Primary	34.8	26.0	60.3	17.1	40.6	8.6	33.0	16.8	18.2	12.8	13.6	7.8	2.3	3.1	5.1
Secondary	40.2	39.2	31.0	17.3	20.9	12.0	19.6	22.3	21.5	14.6	6.1	17.1	8.4	11.5	18.4
Tertiary	8.6	29.8	51.2	33.1	31.0	11.2	19.7	13.6	18.6	37.2	12.9	10.3	1.3	12.7	8.7
Marital status of household head															
Married	25.3	2.5	14.2	33.9	2.7	21.8	7.0	34.0	41.1	33.8	7.7	4.4	0.0	53.1	18.4
Separated, divorced	32.2	33.2	34.2	22.7	31.4	21.5	20.6	16.4	19.5	19.5	14.9	17.9	5.0	4.0	6.9
Widow or widower	49.6	44.8	28.5	15.1	18.2	24.2	22.6	6.1	15.3	12.7	29.9	23.3	0.0	1.0	8.7
Never married	32.0	36.3	38.2	35.6	25.7	27.3	6.8	10.2	16.5	21.3	23.6	14.7	4.3	4.2	3.2
Industry classification															
Wholesale and retail trade	41.4	40.7	38.7	18.7	22.3	19.1	19.1	15.8	17.7	14.6	14.8	17.2	6.1	6.4	7.4
Manufacturing	25.7	24.6	22.3	36.2	43.2	34.4	9.6	7.1	16.3	25.7	23.0	24.0	2.9	2.1	3.0
Other service activities	15.4	48.5	37.6	11.2	13.3	25.8	34.1	30.7	18.2	38.2	4.3	13.2	1.1	3.3	5.2
Transportation and storage; Information and communication	10.5	30.6	18.5	0.9	14.5	2.5	80.6	52.9	64.9	4.1	0.0	7.8	3.9	2.0	6.4
Construction	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	45.5	100.0	97.8	24.9	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	29.7
Real estate, Professional activities,	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.6	49.5	0.0	19.4	0.0	0.0	58.6	50.5	29.7	4.4	0.0	70.3

Education and																
Health																
Mining and																
quarrying	45.0	6.5	7.8	44.8	74.1	16.9	10.2	13.5	12.9	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	62.4

6.6 Primary market of products and services

Respondents were asked to indicate the principal markets for their products or services of their non-farm enterprises. The results are presented in Table 6.5. Almost 84 percent in 2010 and 86 percent in 2016 of non-farm enterprises sell their products or services directly to final consumers. The remaining 16 percent in 2010 and 14 percent in 2016 of these enterprises sell to traders (9 percent in 2010 and 7 percent in 2016), other small businesses (3 percent in 2010 and 5 percent in 2016) and to other markets (4 percent in 2010 and 2 percent in 2016).

The proportion of enterprises selling to final consumers increased in rural areas from 82 percent in 2010 to 85 percent in 2016. In urban areas, the proportion of enterprises selling to other small businesses increased from 2 percent in 2010 to 3 percent in 2016.

In terms of sex of household head, the proportion of enterprises selling to final consumers increased in female-headed households from 85 percent in 2010 to 89 percent in 2016. In male-headed households, the proportion of businesses selling to other small businesses rose from 3 percent in 2010 to 4 percent in 2016.

Table 6.5 Percentage distribution of non-farm enterprises by market for their products or services according to background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Market for product or service											
	Final consumers			Traders			Other small businesses			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	84.4	88.2	85.6	8.7	7.8	7.3	2.6	2.6	4.9	4.3	1.4	2.2
Place of residence												
Urban	89.1	90.6	87.6	5.9	2.4	7.2	2.0	5.1	3.1	3.0	1.9	2.2
Rural	82.2	87.2	84.8	10.0	10.0	7.4	2.9	1.6	5.7	4.9	1.2	2.2
Sex of household head												
Male	84.3	87.4	84.7	9.4	8.5	8.1	2.8	2.7	4.4	3.6	1.5	2.7
Female	85.2	91.1	89.1	5.1	5.2	3.9	1.8	2.4	6.9	7.9	1.2	0.0
Age of household head												
Up to 24	95.0	86.9	90.5	4.3	6.5	5.5	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.7	6.6	0.8
25-34	83.7	87.7	86.9	9.8	8.0	8.6	2.3	3.7	3.4	4.2	0.6	1.1
35-49	82.1	85.8	84.1	7.9	8.8	6.6	3.9	3.0	5.8	6.0	2.4	3.5
50-64	93.1	91.8	83.6	6.9	7.4	9.0	0.0	0.8	6.2	0.0	0.0	1.2
65+	72.2	95.5	91.7	15.0	2.8	4.1	5.1	1.7	2.7	7.8	0.0	1.5
Education level of household head												
None	84.2	89.4	86.9	9.3	7.5	6.2	2.7	2.0	4.8	3.8	1.0	2.1
Primary	87.3	83.8	77.6	9.8	12.5	14.5	0.0	3.7	6.8	2.9	0.0	1.1
Secondary	88.4	86.3	86.3	5.7	7.2	6.1	2.9	3.1	4.6	3.1	3.5	3.1
Tertiary	62.8	87.6	77.6	9.8	2.2	13.6	6.0	8.4	2.7	21.4	1.8	6.1
Marital status of household head												
Married	100.0	96.3	80.9	0.0	0.0	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	6.4
Separated, divorced	84.2	88.0	85.4	9.6	7.9	7.6	2.6	2.5	4.5	3.5	1.6	2.5
Widow or widower	84.5	82.2	85.1	6.7	11.7	2.9	2.1	5.3	12.0	6.6	0.9	0.0
Never married	83.4	95.0	90.2	3.0	3.8	7.5	3.0	1.2	2.0	10.5	0.0	0.3
Industry classification												
Wholesale and retail trade	86.9	85.7	86.0	8.1	8.4	7.6	2.5	3.9	4.5	2.4	2.0	1.9
Manufacturing	85.4	91.9	92.0	9.6	7.1	4.4	3.2	0.9	3.0	1.8	0.0	0.5
Other service activities	85.1	92.4	70.8	5.2	0.7	15.4	0.0	2.5	9.9	9.7	4.4	3.9
Transportation and storage; Information and communication	50.7	85.4	77.8	13.4	14.6	10.7	3.3	0.0	3.2	32.6	0.0	8.3
Construction	51.0	84.3	51.2	0.0	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.8	49.0	5.5	0.0
Real estate, Professional activities, Education and Health	61.1	96.7	86.3	16.3	3.3	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.7	0.0	8.0
Mining and quarrying	100.0	88.1	32.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.9	67.9

6.7 Formal registration status of enterprises

A few household non-farm enterprises were officially registered (Table 6.6). Overall, only 109 percent in 2010 and 8 percent in 2016 of businesses reported to have been registered by any of the official registration bodies (Registrar of Companies, Malawi Revenue Authority or Local Assemblies). The level of difference in registered enterprises is noticeable in the urban/rural areas, where 14 percent in 2010 and 15 percent in 2016 of businesses in urban areas were registered compared to 8 percent in 2010 and 6 percent in 2016 of businesses in rural areas that were registered.

Examination by sex of the household head indicates that enterprises owned by male-headed households are more likely to be registered as reflected by 10 percent in 2010 and 9 percent in 2016 of registered enterprises in male-headed households compared to those owned by female-headed households at 7 percent in 2010 and 5 percent in 2016.

A higher proportion of household non-agricultural enterprises were officially registered with local assemblies (10 percent in 2010 and 6 percent in 2016). About 2 percent in 2010 and 4 percent in 2016 were registered with the Malawi Revenue Authority.

In urban areas, at least 2 percent in 2010 and 6 percent in 2016 of enterprises were registered with the Registrar of Companies compared to less than 1 percent in 2010 of rural based enterprises. There was an increase of enterprises in urban areas registered with the Malawi Revenue Authority from 5 percent in 2010 to 9 percent in 2016.

Household non-farm enterprise owners or managers were asked if they belonged to any registered business association. The findings show that the proportion of household enterprise owners or managers who belong to any registered business association is substantially low (3 percent in 2010, 2 percent in 2013 and 3 percent in 2016). In rural areas, 3 percent in 2010 and 2 percent in 2016 of entrepreneurs or managers belonged to any business associations compared to 4 percent in 2010 and 2016 in urban areas.

Table 6.6 Proportion of registered enterprises and owners by registration agencies according to background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Proportion of registered enterprises		Registration agencies									Proportion of enterprise owners or managers in a business association			
	2010	2013	Registrar of Companies			Malawi Revenue Authority			Local Assembly						
			2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	9.6	9.1	8.3	1.0	1.4	2.5	1.9	2.0	4.0	9.7	8.3	6.1	3.4	1.9	2.9
Place of residence															
Urban	13.7	12.1	14.6	2.3	3.3	6.3	5.2	2.4	9.2	13.1	10.1	10.8	4.1	3.3	4.2
Rural	7.7	7.9	5.7	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.3	1.8	1.8	8.1	7.6	4.1	3.0	1.4	2.4
Sex of household head															
Male	10.3	9.8	9.2	0.7	1.6	2.7	1.9	2.2	4.1	10.4	8.9	6.8	4.0	2.1	3.5
Female	6.6	6.6	4.9	2.3	0.6	1.4	2.0	1.0	3.3	6.6	6.3	3.1	0.2	1.3	0.7
Age of household head															
Up to 24	5.3	10.7	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	4.6	10.7	2.7	4.6	2.8	0.8
25-34	11.9	11.0	8.9	0.0	1.5	1.2	2.3	2.4	4.2	11.5	10.5	7.0	3.5	1.8	4.8
35-49	10.0	9.8	9.7	2.1	2.0	3.6	2.2	2.7	4.8	10.8	8.5	7.4	4.8	1.8	2.7
50-64	5.3	4.3	6.6	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.7	3.5	5.3	4.3	2.8	0.3	0.7	0.3
65+	10.3	7.9	5.7	3.1	1.2	2.2	3.1	0.0	1.7	10.3	6.7	4.7	0.0	5.1	5.0
Education level of household head															
None	8.1	6.6	6.4	0.3	0.2	1.7	0.4	0.6	3.0	8.1	6.5	4.6	3.2	1.9	2.7
Primary	9.7	3.2	13.4	0.0	1.8	2.8	0.0	0.0	5.1	9.7	3.2	11.0	1.5	0.0	3.8
Secondary	10.9	17.9	16.9	1.9	3.8	8.5	5.3	6.9	7.4	12.1	15.3	16.1	3.6	1.7	1.0
Tertiary	32.4	25.3	29.7	11.3	10.6	12.2	17.9	7.5	23.3	29.0	19.1	10.9	9.6	8.2	11.6
Marital status of household head															
Married	0.0	10.5	22.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.8	0.0	10.5	17.4	0.0	0.0	4.9
Separated, divorced or widow	10.1	9.5	8.2	0.4	1.3	2.4	1.6	2.3	3.4	10.3	8.8	6.1	3.9	2.0	3.4
widower	7.5	6.8	6.7	0.0	2.4	5.7	0.0	0.4	4.3	7.5	5.0	5.8	2.5	1.0	0.8
Never married	8.3	8.1	7.7	6.0	1.4	0.0	5.5	1.4	4.9	8.3	6.7	2.8	0.4	2.9	0.0
Industry classification															
Wholesale and retail trade	10.9	10.0	8.3	1.4	1.0	2.4	2.6	2.6	4.3	10.9	9.0	6.4	1.2	1.3	2.8
Manufacturing	4.5	5.7	2.4	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	5.3	5.1	1.3	3.7	1.1	0.0
Other service activities	15.1	10.1	15.8	0.0	2.3	4.9	1.2	0.0	1.7	15.1	10.1	12.6	0.0	4.4	0.4
Transportation and storage; Information and communication	34.1	36.9	33.4	2.7	8.8	6.3	8.7	15.5	18.2	30.0	36.9	19.6	45.1	9.2	20.3
Construction	10.9	10.0	8.3	1.4	1.0	2.4	2.6	2.6	4.3	10.9	9.0	6.4	1.2	1.3	2.8
Real estate, Professional activities,	4.5	5.7	2.4	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	5.3	5.1	1.3	3.7	1.1	0.0

6.8 Enterprises engaged in sales of forest based products

Table 6.7 shows that at the national level, forest based household non-farm enterprises are few and accounted for only 12 percent in 2010 and 8 percent in 2016 of all household enterprises. The proportion was higher in rural areas (12 percent in 2010 and 8 percent in 2016) compared to urban areas (12 percent in 2010 and 8 percent in 2016).

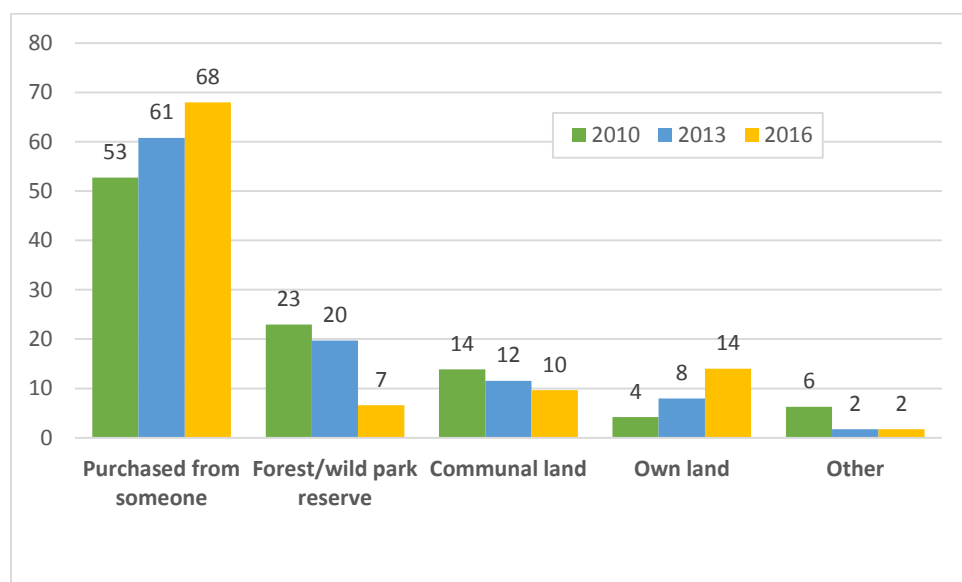
The proportion of enterprises selling gathered and processed forest products was higher in male-headed households (13 percent in 2010 and 9 percent in 2016) compared to female-headed households (8 percent in 2010 and 5 percent in 2016).

Table 6.7 Proportion of enterprises that sell forest based products according to background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Proportion of enterprises that sell forest based products		
	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	11.7	11.0	8.3
Place of residence			
Urban	11.7	9.8	7.9
Rural	11.8	11.5	8.4
Sex of household head			
Male	12.5	12.8	9.1
Female	8.3	4.3	4.9
Age of household head			
Up to 24	17.0	8.9	2.1
25-34	11.4	10.4	5.5
35-49	10.4	8.7	8.3
50-64	10.4	14.8	8.1
65+	16.7	18.1	19.1
Education level of household head			
None	11.6	12.5	8.7
Primary	14.2	12.2	8.6
Secondary	12.0	6.9	5.3
Tertiary	6.4	1.4	0.9
Marital status of household head			
Married	10.5	0.7	5
Separated, divorced	12	12.9	8.9
Widow or widower	5.2	4.4	5.5
Never married	14.4	7.6	13.2

Figure 6.4 shows that the highest source of forest based products at the national level is from other sellers (53 percent in 2010 and 68 percent in 2016). Forests and wild-park as a source of forest based products decreased from 23 percent in 2010 to 7 percent in 2016.

Figure 6.4 Percentage distribution of enterprises by source of forest-based products, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016



6.9 Expenses of operating household non-farm enterprises

The relative importance of the business expenses incurred by non-agricultural household enterprises is shown in Table 6.8. The two largest categories of costs were the purchasing of goods that are resold or transformed (inventory) and raw materials. Inventories accounted for nearly 43 percent in 2010 and 37 percent in 2016 of all costs while raw materials accounted for about 38 percent in 2010 and 42 percent in 2016. Transportation or freight accounted for 7 percent in 2010 and 11 percent in 2016 of the enterprises' total expenditure.

Significant differences are observed between rural and urban enterprises in terms of the relative cost burdens of purchasing raw materials and inventories. Raw materials account for about 20 percent of expenditures in 2010 and about 33 percent in 2016 in urban enterprises compared to about 47 percent in 2010 and 46 percent in 2016 for rural-based enterprises. On the other hand, inventories for urban-based businesses accounted for about 59 percent in 2010 and 43 percent in 2016 compared to 35 percent in 2010 and 34 in 2016 in rural areas.

Table 6.8 Average share of expenditure by type of expenditure according to background characteristics according to background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Raw materials			Inventory			Freight/Transport			Fuel, electricity, water			Insurance and other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	37.7	39.0	41.6	43.4	45.4	36.5	7.4	5.3	10.8	5.1	4.7	5.6	6.8	5.7	5.5
Place of residence															
Urban	19.6	26.1	32.6	59.0	61.3	43.2	7.7	5.8	11.9	4.8	2.8	8.6	9.3	4.3	3.8
Rural	46.8	44.4	45.7	35.3	38.8	33.5	7.3	5.1	10.3	5.2	5.6	4.2	5.5	6.2	6.3
Sex of household head															
Male	36.1	37.8	39.3	45.2	48.0	37.2	7.4	4.9	11.2	5.3	3.5	6.2	6.5	5.7	6.1
Female	45.1	43.5	50.8	35.2	35.4	33.7	7.7	6.8	9.0	4.0	9.4	3.2	8.0	5.5	3.3
Age of household head															
Up to 24	32.2	34.9	40.6	43.4	41.6	38.2	13.9	5.0	11.2	3.8	10.7	8.9	6.6	7.9	1.1
25-34	30.5	33.1	32.4	45.8	49.4	39.2	8.1	4.0	12.8	4.9	4.7	6.0	10.6	9.3	9.6
35-49	41.9	35.3	40.9	43.4	51.0	38.9	4.3	5.7	10.0	6.1	4.3	5.6	5.4	3.5	4.6
50-64	49.0	52.0	52.0	36.6	33.3	30.3	8.6	4.7	8.7	2.8	4.9	4.5	3.0	5.3	4.5
65+	38.6	57.1	53.4	43.2	26.6	26.0	10.5	10.1	12.9	6.5	3.8	5.0	1.2	2.4	2.8
Education level of household head															
None	41.7	41.2	44.4	39.2	42.7	34.5	7.0	5.3	10.5	5.3	4.8	5.3	7.5	6.0	5.3
Primary	33.3	55.1	31.5	45.0	32.1	44.5	9.4	4.6	10.9	3.3	3.2	2.9	9.0	5.2	10.2
Secondary	32.5	27.7	25.2	51.1	56.9	51.5	6.9	5.8	14.1	5.5	4.4	7.7	4.0	5.2	1.4
Tertiary	8.4	19.5	30.6	70.9	65.1	34.8	12.9	4.0	11.6	3.9	9.0	16.0	3.9	2.8	7.0
Marital status of household head															
Married	31.2	35.7	19.2	53.5	41.9	67.3	13.7	3.9	8.1	1.0	17.0	3.7	0.6	1.5	1.7
Separated, divorced	37.0	37.9	41.0	44.0	48.2	36.0	7.0	4.8	11.0	5.4	3.6	5.9	7.1	5.5	6.1
Widow or widower	39.6	41.6	50.8	44.5	40.3	25.7	6.1	6.1	11.9	1.8	9.0	6.6	8.0	4.1	5.1
Never married	44.2	47.0	45.6	35.3	26.2	43.0	9.9	8.7	8.3	5.4	8.4	2.1	5.2	9.9	1.0
Industry classification															
Wholesale and retail trade	14.7	17.4	33.7	69.8	72.2	44.8	9.8	6.0	14.0	1.4	1.5	3.0	4.6	2.9	4.6
Manufacturing	75.2	77.5	73.2	10.2	8.6	16.5	4.4	3.1	3.1	7.8	7.9	4.1	2.5	3.1	3.0
Other service activities	38.5	36.4	33.9	10.5	23.4	32.8	6.2	4.6	3.4	17.1	9.0	27.8	27.7	26.6	2.1
Transportation and storage; Information and communication	12.6	13.4	11.9	0.1	9.0	13.1	4.6	1.3	1.4	24.6	28.4	35.0	58.1	48.2	38.6
Construction	55.2	8.5	44.9	2.2	0.9	23.2	0.0	18.4	19.6	6.6	2.2	5.9	36.0	76.2	6.4

Real estate,															
Professional activities,															
Education and Health	71.0	43.7	56.8	0.0	9.3	0.0	1.8	43.7	23.8	27.2	0.0	12.3	0.0	3.3	7.2
Mining and quarrying	1.5	26.0	18.5	15.3	38.2	59.0	1.5	13.0	8.2	0.0	22.7	5.9	81.6	0.0	8.3

7 HOUSEHOLD ASSET OWNERSHIP

7.0 Introduction

The survey collected data on durable goods and household appliances and agricultural production assets in 2010, 2013 and 2016. According to this survey, durable goods and household appliances refer to appliances such as radio, mortar, bicycle, chair, bed, table, iron, clock, television and computer. Agricultural production assets refer to items used in agricultural production such as hand hoe, watering can, livestock kraal and ox-cart among others.

7.1 Proportion of households owning durable goods and appliances by sex and place of residence in Malawi

Tables 7.1a and 7.1b show proportion of households owning durable goods and appliances in Malawi. The main durable goods and appliances owned by most households in Malawi in 2010, 2013 and 2016 were radio, mortar, chair, bicycle, bed and table. The proportion of households owning a bicycle and bed increased between 2010 to 2016 while the proportion of households owning radio, mortar, chair and table reduced between 2010 and 2013. For example, the proportion of households owning a radio reduced from 47 percent in 2010 to 46 percent in 2013 and it went down further to 41 percent in 2016. On the other hand, ownership of bicycle increased from 38 percent in 2010 to 43 percent in 2013 and remained the same in 2016. The other items which show an increase in proportion of households who owned them across the three years are a TV and computer.

Analysing data by place of residence shows decline in ownership of a radio both in rural and urban areas for all the three years. For example, radio ownership in urban areas decreased from 55 percent in 2010 to 47 percent in 2016 while in rural areas radio ownership decreased from 25 percent in 2010 to 23 percent in 2016. On the other hand, ownership of a bed and TV increased both in rural and urban areas. Unlike in rural areas, ownership of a bicycle increased with a higher proportion in urban areas. The proportion of households owning a bicycle increased by 6 percent from 2010 to 2016 in urban areas compared to 4 percent in rural areas.

Further analysis by sex, results show that a higher proportion of male head-headed households owned a table, chair, radio and bicycle compared female-headed households for all the three years. However, the proportion of female-headed households who owned a mortar was higher than male-headed households in all the three years.

7.1.2 Proportion of households owning durable goods and appliances by age, education and marital status of the household head

Tables 7.1a and 7.1b further show the proportion of households who own household assets by age and education of household head. The proportion of households owning a mortar, bed, table and chair were high in households whose ages were above 35 years especially those in the age group of 50-64 years. In general, there was a decline in proportion of households who owned a mortar while there was an increase in proportion of households who owned a bed, table and chair.

In terms of education, proportion of households owning a mortar were high for those who had no education. On the other hand, households whose head had tertiary education had the highest proportion of those who owned a bed, table, chair, radio and computer compared to other education levels. Ownership of a bicycle was highest in households whose head had primary education.

Further analysis was made for proportion of households who own household assets by marital status of household head in 2010, 2013 and 2016. The proportion of ownership of a mortar was highest in households whose head was a widow. On the other hand, ownership of a bed and computer was highest in households whose head never married across the three years. The proportion of households who owned a table, chair, radio and bicycle were highest where the household head was married.

Table 7.1a Proportion of households owning durable goods and appliances by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Durable goods and appliances																	
	Mortar			Bed			Table			Chair			Air Conditioner			Radio		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	45.0	44.3	43.2	35.0	37.8	38.4	34.3	30.4	31.5	40.0	37.7	38.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	47.4	46.1	40.7
Residence																		
Urban	41.3	42.3	39.5	37.9	40.4	40.0	39.1	32.7	34.5	44.4	40.2	40.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	54.5	53.1	47.1
Rural	56.6	50.4	53.1	25.8	29.7	34.1	19.2	23.1	23.3	26.4	29.8	32.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	25.3	24.5	23.1
Sex of the household head																		
Male	41.3	42.3	39.5	37.9	40.4	40.0	39.1	32.7	34.5	44.4	40.2	40.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	54.5	53.1	47.1
Female	56.6	50.4	53.1	25.8	29.7	34.1	19.2	23.1	23.3	26.4	29.8	32.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	25.3	24.5	23.1
Age of the household head																		
Up to 24	15.6	11.0	13.9	20.4	23.5	22.3	17.5	11.7	19.3	24.3	25.7	26.1	0.0	0.7	0.0	43.1	46.6	35.1
25-34	29.8	25.4	25.0	33.4	35.1	33.1	33.3	24.3	25.9	38.8	31.7	34.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	47.3	44.0	38.9
35-49	50.9	47.9	46.3	37.1	41.6	43.9	38.0	34.6	39.2	47.0	43.7	42.6	1.1	0.3	0.3	53.5	51.5	46.6
50-64	66.4	71.7	63.2	39.6	43.1	43.4	44.9	42.6	38.5	45.8	46.8	44.7	0.3	0.3	0.0	51.3	48.0	43.9
65+	65.0	68.1	59.5	40.6	37.2	39.8	27.1	30.3	25.3	31.2	31.9	34.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.2	33.2	32.2
Education of the household head																		
None	47.1	45.1	45.4	26.7	30.4	34.3	27.1	26.2	29.0	34.1	34.4	37.0	0.5	0.3	0.0	43.0	40.0	39.5
Primary	39.6	39.5	24.6	45.3	48.9	44.1	45.7	29.5	37.6	47.6	41.2	38.9	0.0	0.8	0.0	55.8	64.6	49.5
Secondary	37.6	41.5	33.5	71.6	65.3	67.3	66.0	50.9	47.7	67.4	52.0	47.5	0.0	0.0	0.8	67.0	65.6	45.1
Tertiary	27.9	46.1	31.4	95.0	90.0	90.0	76.3	54.2	62.1	73.7	54.4	52.1	0.0	1.6	1.2	67.8	72.7	51.7
Marital Status of the household head																		
Never Married	30.8	22.2	12.5	56.2	58.8	53.7	29.1	12.8	26.6	38.0	29.8	36.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	43.1	32.9	34.3
Married	42.7	43.2	41.0	37.4	39.9	39.2	38.9	32.8	34.0	44.7	40.1	39.6	0.5	0.3	0.1	54.5	53.2	45.9
Divorced/Separated	47.4	38.3	43.5	13.1	22.5	25.6	12.8	15.4	17.2	18.2	26.4	29.8	0.0	0.6	0.0	17.8	25.2	25.1
Widow/Widower	61.3	60.4	63.6	34.6	33.9	41.8	22.2	29.9	28.7	27.7	32.7	36.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.6	19.9	21.0

Table 7.1b Proportion of households owning durable goods and appliances by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Durable goods and appliances																	
	CD Player			TV			Bicycle			Clock			Iron			Computer		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	9.3	13.7	10.0	8.5	11.3	13.3	37.8	43.0	42.9	12.1	10.9	10.0	13.8	19.1	17.4	1.0	1.4	2.3
Residence																		
Urban	10.9	15.6	11.8	9.8	13.2	15.5	43.7	48.4	50.2	13.8	12.5	11.4	15.5	21.1	18.9	1.1	1.5	2.9
Rural	4.3	7.6	5.1	4.5	5.5	7.3	19.2	26.0	22.9	6.8	6.1	6.1	8.3	13.0	13.1	0.6	1.1	0.7
Sex of the household head																		
Male	10.9	15.6	11.8	9.8	13.2	15.5	43.7	48.4	50.2	13.8	12.5	11.4	15.5	21.1	18.9	1.1	1.5	2.9
Female	4.3	7.6	5.1	4.5	5.5	7.3	19.2	26.0	22.9	6.8	6.1	6.1	8.3	13.0	13.1	0.6	1.1	0.7
Age of the household head																		
Up to 24	3.5	6.0	8.9	2.7	3.3	7.8	29.0	31.7	34.9	6.2	4.1	2.3	8.6	6.9	5.7	0.1	0.6	0.4
25-34	13.4	15.9	9.7	11.7	13.3	13.7	36.1	42.0	41.9	13.8	9.6	9.8	7.0	16.3	15.3	1.6	2.1	1.9
35-49	10.7	17.6	13.5	9.7	14.9	17.7	45.1	49.6	48.4	14.6	13.5	11.6	18.1	24.5	20.8	1.2	1.5	3.8
50-64	8.1	12.2	8.6	7.6	11.0	12.1	41.8	43.7	47.1	13.2	15.7	12.2	14.7	25.9	22.9	0.5	1.1	1.8
65+	1.8	5.2	5.9	3.8	2.8	8.8	25.6	34.9	34.2	5.4	5.2	9.0	7.0	10.9	14.5	0.1	0.6	1.8
Education of the household head																		
None	4.4	7.8	6.9	3.5	4.8	9.7	36.6	41.9	43.7	6.5	6.1	8.0	8.1	11.8	14.1	0.2	0.0	1.2
Primary	11.2	20.8	13.4	9.4	18.1	21.4	45.3	49.4	41.7	17.4	10.7	16.0	20.0	29.2	25.1	0.1	1.1	4.2
Secondary	28.5	34.3	32.6	29.5	32.6	38.1	40.7	45.0	35.5	35.1	29.7	22.4	37.2	45.9	37.8	4.2	4.1	8.3
Tertiary	80.3	64.7	43.8	80.8	78.4	51.6	41.0	40.3	36.8	73.3	64.5	32.2	69.4	78.3	59.9	15.1	34.1	24.9
Marital Status of the household head																		
Never Married	33.6	30.8	25.9	32.5	32.1	23.4	10.0	18.2	8.6	25.4	22.1	15.5	38.8	22.9	29.9	8.2	8.9	10.1
Married	10.3	15.4	10.9	9.4	12.6	14.6	44.6	48.9	49.6	13.1	12.0	10.5	15.2	20.8	18.1	0.9	1.3	2.4
Divorced/Separated	1.4	5.7	5.1	0.8	4.1	7.3	10.9	21.7	17.9	3.7	4.7	4.3	3.6	11.4	10.6	0.0	0.7	1.0
Widow/Widower	5.0	6.8	5.4	5.4	6.2	7.9	19.7	25.8	26.5	10.3	7.6	10.5	8.7	14.4	15.9	0.9	1.6	1.6

7.2. Proportion of households owning agricultural production assets by sex and place of residence in Malawi

The survey collected data on agricultural production assets owned by households. The major agricultural production assets owned by households in 2010, 2013 and 2016 were: a hoe, panga knife, axe, sickle and watering can. In general, ownership of these assets has decreased over time. For example, the percentage of households owning a hand hoe decreased from 96 percent in 2010 to 93 percent in 2013 and it went down further to 86 percent in 2016 (see Tables 7.2a and 7.2b). Similarly, ownership of watering can decreased from 26 percent in 2010 to 24 percent in 2013 and went down further to 22 percent in 2016. Ownership of kraal remained constant in 2010 and 2013 but declined slightly in 2016.

Analyzing data by place of residence, the results show that ownership of agricultural assets declined both in rural and urban areas over time. For a hoe and sickle, the decrease is more pronounced in urban areas compared to rural areas. For example, the proportion of households in urban areas owning a hoe decreased from 88 percent in 2010 to 57 percent in 2016 unlike in rural areas where the proportion decreased from 97 percent in 2010 to 93 percent in 2016.

Further analysis data by sex of the household head, the results show that there was a higher proportion of female head-headed households who owned a hand hoe than the male-headed households more especially in 2013 and 2016. However, the proportion of male-headed households who owned a slasher, panga knife, watering can and kraal was higher than female-headed households in all the three years.

7.2.2 Proportion of households owning durable goods and appliances by age, education and marital status of the household head.

Tables 7.2a and 7.2b further show proportion of households who own agricultural production assets by age and education of household head. The proportion of households owning a hand hoe, panga, kraal and axe were highest in households whose ages were above 50 years especially those in the age group of 50-64 years. In general, there was a decline in proportion of households who owned these items between 2010 and 2016. For example, ownership of a hand hoe declined from 86 percent in 2013 to 72 percent in 2016 in households whose head was less than 24 years old.

In terms of education, proportion of households owning a hand hoe, kraal and an axe were highest in households whose head had no education while those with tertiary education had the lowest proportions. Ownership of a kraal increased in households whose head had tertiary qualification between 2010 and 2016.

On the other hand, households whose head had tertiary education had the highest proportion of those who owned a panga compared to other education levels. Ownership of a watering can was highest in households whose head had primary education.

Further analysis by marital status results show that the proportion of population owning a hand hoe and an axe was higher in households whose head was either divorced/separated or widowed and lower in households whose head never married.

On the other hand, there was high proportion of households whose head was married that owned a panga knife, watering can and kraal compared to other marital status. Ownership of these items dropped in households whose head was widowed or never married.

Table 7.2a Proportion of households owning agricultural assets by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Agricultural Assets																	
	Hand Hoe			Slasher			Axe			Panga Knife			Sickle			Treadle pump		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	95.9	93.2	85.9	17.3	17.0	13.6	50.3	50.3	42.4	58.5	59.1	51.1	46.3	43.9	35.2	2.1	1.5	0.9
Residence																		
Urban	87.7	80.2	56.7	28.9	31.5	17.0	42.4	48.1	28.7	49.8	59.7	36.7	26.3	22.6	13.9	0.1	0.6	0.6
Rural	97.0	95.6	92.7	15.6	14.2	12.8	51.5	50.7	45.5	59.8	58.9	54.4	49.1	48.0	40.2	2.4	1.7	1.0
Sex of the household head																		
Male	95.9	92.6	86.0	20.1	20.1	16.0	53.7	53.3	44.2	64.4	64.3	57.5	48.3	45.5	35.9	2.6	1.7	1.2
Female	95.7	95.1	85.7	8.6	7.6	6.9	39.7	41.2	37.4	40.1	43.1	33.6	39.9	39.1	33.3	0.6	0.8	0.1
Age of the household head																		
Up to 24	94.4	85.5	72.1	10.3	5.7	4.7	32.9	23.5	17.1	47.4	28.6	32.6	35.2	23.7	20.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
25-34	94.4	89.2	81.5	14.8	12.7	9.2	35.1	35.6	28.7	54.8	54.1	47.1	37.1	40.0	33.0	0.8	1.3	0.1
35-49	96.0	94.3	86.9	23.5	20.4	16.0	57.4	53.7	44.7	64.3	65.1	53.5	49.4	45.4	34.3	3.8	1.4	0.8
50-64	98.2	97.9	95.5	19.0	23.4	20.3	63.3	65.6	62.2	62.7	67.8	62.9	55.9	50.4	46.2	3.1	2.3	2.4
65+	96.7	97.9	88.3	11.4	16.1	13.3	64.5	72.4	51.6	56.6	63.0	50.0	55.7	54.0	36.8	1.6	2.1	1.3
Education of the household head																		
None	96.0	95.0	89.4	16.1	13.7	13.3	50.1	49.2	44.1	58.2	59.5	52.4	49.1	47.3	38.2	1.9	1.4	0.9
Primary	99.4	93.9	72.2	13.9	23.0	10.3	46.4	49.5	39.9	53.1	56.7	48.9	40.7	42.1	21.1	2.4	3.3	0.0
Secondary	94.3	82.2	64.8	26.6	28.1	18.5	55.6	57.7	26.3	61.3	55.6	40.9	32.4	27.5	16.7	4.5	1.3	1.1
Tertiary	79.0	82.7	56.1	40.0	50.7	13.4	42.3	46.9	40.4	89.2	69.2	40.1	3.5	12.3	18.6	0.0	0.0	2.9
Marital status of the household head																		
Never married	84.0	72.8	35.8	25.0	35.6	8.7	24.9	54.2	14.2	51.3	34.7	18.4	53.5	19.3	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Married	95.7	93.3	87.3	19.5	19.0	14.5	53.5	52.0	43.9	63.9	63.5	56.5	48.6	45.3	36.9	2.7	1.7	1.2
Divorced/Separated	96.7	92.9	81.9	8.2	12.0	9.2	35.6	43.4	33.0	38.2	39.3	32.5	35.5	40.3	34.3	0.0	0.6	0.0
Widow/Widower	97.6	94.3	90.1	9.4	7.0	11.8	43.2	45.5	46.0	40.2	49.1	37.5	38.5	39.7	30.5	0.0	1.2	0.0

Table 7.2b Proportion of households owning agricultural assets by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Agricultural Assets														
	Treadle pump			Watering Can			Ox Cart			Livestock Kraal			Granary		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	2.1	1.5	0.9	25.5	23.5	21.5	1.0	1.4	1.2	13.0	13.4	12.2	15.7	9.6	8.8
Residence															
Urban	0.1	0.6	0.6	7.8	8.0	8.7	0.1	0.1	0.7	4.9	1.3	3.2	6.5	0.5	0.4
Rural	2.4	1.7	1.0	28.0	26.4	24.4	1.1	1.1	1.3	14.1	15.7	14.3	17.0	11.3	10.8
Sex of the household head															
Male	2.6	1.7	1.2	29.5	26.3	24.9	1.1	1.1	1.5	12.5	14.8	13.4	17.5	10.8	9.3
Female	0.6	0.8	0.1	13.2	14.9	12.3	0.7	0.7	0.3	14.4	9.2	9.1	10.1	6.0	7.5
Age of the household head															
Up to 24	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	14.1	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	3.0	4.2	12.8	5.2	3.7
25-34	0.8	1.3	0.1	22.1	20.3	19.7	0.4	0.4	1.0	6.7	9.1	8.2	12.2	8.1	5.4
35-49	3.8	1.4	0.8	30.5	25.2	23.8	1.2	1.2	1.0	15.0	14.5	13.3	13.3	8.7	7.5
50-64	3.1	2.3	2.4	28.6	30.2	25.9	1.3	1.3	2.0	21.4	21.0	18.5	20.7	14.3	15.1
65+	1.6	2.1	1.3	26.8	22.6	19.1	2.2	2.2	1.8	17.4	16.6	14.2	25.0	11.2	12.5
Education of the household head															
None	1.9	1.4	0.9	26.0	23.5	21.9	1.0	1.0	1.3	13.6	14.1	13.2	16.0	10.6	9.7
Primary	2.4	3.3	0.0	30.6	25.6	26.5	0.2	0.2	2.6	12.7	9.2	8.4	24.3	5.0	4.5
Secondary	4.5	1.3	1.1	19.6	21.1	14.7	1.3	1.3	0.0	9.1	12.5	4.7	9.0	6.8	3.6
Tertiary	0.0	0.0	2.9	11.0	24.6	18.6	3.0	3.0	0.0	3.9	9.5	12.7	3.0	0.0	0.0
Marital status of the household head															
Never married	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.7	10.9	5.6	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	5.4	1.5	0.0	8.9	0.0
Married	2.7	1.7	1.2	29.2	26.0	24.1	1.3	1.3	1.4	12.9	15.0	13.8	17.3	10.6	9.5
Divorced/Separated	0.0	0.6	0.0	12.3	16.6	12.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	10.2	8.8	3.9	13.4	4.9	4.6
Widow/Widower	0.0	1.2	0.0	12.4	14.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	17.0	8.0	11.6	8.4	7.0	9.7

8 HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

8.0 Introduction

Housing is essential for the well-being of mankind; however, the conditions of the house are of significant importance in understanding the sanitation status of a household. Poor housing and sanitary conditions are usually associated with poor health and poverty in general. In addition, the condition of a structure could be a proxy indicator of the welfare status of a household.

This chapter provides information on the type of construction materials used and housing tenure. Furthermore, it highlights some housing conditions such as type of household amenity, the main type of fuel used for lighting and cooking; cooking technology, type of toilet facility, access to improved sanitation and access to improved water.

8.1 Type of tenure of dwelling units

Table 8.1 shows a decreasing trend in the proportion of households that were living in owner-occupied dwellings from 73 percent in 2010 to 68 percent in 2016. It can also be observed that there is a declining trend in the proportion of owner occupied dwelling units in rural areas despite these rural areas having higher proportions of owner occupied dwelling units as compared to urban areas. The proportion of owner occupied dwelling units in rural areas reduced from 88 percent in 2010 and 84 percent in 2013 to 79 percent in 2016.

The proportion of households residing in rented houses is highly reported in urban areas as compared to rural areas in all the three rounds of the survey (55 percent in 2010 and 50 percent in both 2013 and 2016) as compared to the rural areas which reported 4 percent in 2010 and 7 percent in both 2013 and 2016.

Table 8.1 further shows an increasing trend in the proportion of households occupying free authorized dwelling units jumping from 5 percent in 2010 to 6 percent in 2013 to 10 percent in 2016.

Table. 8.1. Distribution of dwelling units by type of housing tenure by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Owned			Rented			Free, authorized			Employer provides			Free, not authorized			Being Purchased		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	73.2	72.5	68.1	19.2	18.9	18.0	4.8	5.9	9.8	2.5	2.3	2.0	0.2	0.2	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.8
Place of residence																		
Urban	37.9	41.7	37.5	54.9	50.4	49.9	3.8	5.8	9.0	2.7	1.8	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	1.9
Rural	87.8	84.4	79.2	4.4	6.7	6.5	5.2	6.0	10.1	2.4	2.5	2.2	0.1	0.2	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.4
Sex of household head																		
Male	71.3	70.8	66.1	21.8	20.9	20.4	3.9	5.2	9.1	2.8	2.7	2.2	0.2	0.3	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.9
Female	79.9	78.2	74.1	9.9	12.2	10.8	7.9	8.5	12.1	1.7	1.1	1.3	0.3	-	1.1	0.3	-	0.6
Age of household head																		
15-24	64.9	65.1	52.5	18.2	19.9	18.6	14.9	10.2	21.6	1.3	4.8	3.4	0.6	-	3.4	-	-	0.5
25-34	62.6	58.7	57.1	29.6	31.0	26.9	5.2	7.9	11.9	2.3	1.8	1.8	-	0.3	1.7	0.4	0.3	0.6
35-49	74.5	75.0	70.7	19.4	17.7	19.7	2.2	4.2	5.8	3.6	2.8	1.8	0.4	0.2	0.5	-	0.2	1.5
50-64	85.2	84.7	83.1	9.8	8.8	8.0	2.3	4.2	5.4	2.7	2.0	2.3	-	0.3	0.7	-	-	0.5
65+	90.3	91.6	72.7	2.9	2.5	11.0	5.7	4.9	12.9	1.1	1.0	1.6	-	-	1.4	-	-	0.5
Marital Status of household head																		
Never married	23.3	18.0	23.2	67.4	64.0	53.6	4.7	8.0	13.0	4.7	8.0	7.2	-	2.0	-	-	-	2.9
Married	73.2	73.1	68.4	19.9	19.1	18.6	4.2	5.0	8.9	2.5	2.4	1.9	0.2	0.2	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.9
Divorced/Separated	78.5	67.2	62.5	12.5	19.4	16.5	5.6	11.8	16.5	2.1	1.6	2.4	0.7	-	2.0	0.7	-	-
Widow/Widower	81.4	85.5	82.6	7.8	6.8	6.1	8.4	6.8	9.5	2.4	0.9	1.1	-	-	-	-	-	0.8
Education Level of household head																		
None	83.9	82.2	74.1	9.7	9.8	12.7	4.5	6.2	9.4	1.6	1.5	1.9	0.2	0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.6
Primary	65.0	66.0	60.4	27.6	21.4	26.4	5.7	8.2	9.7	0.8	3.8	2.1	0.8	-	0.7	-	0.6	0.7
Secondary	41.0	47.3	39.0	47.7	43.5	42.4	6.4	5.5	12.3	4.6	3.5	2.6	-	0.3	1.1	0.4	-	2.6
Tertiary	31.5	29.4	21.7	53.7	63.5	62.3	-	-	11.6	14.8	5.9	2.9	-	-	-	-	1.2	1.4

8.2 Construction materials for dwelling units

Table 8.2 reveals that there was a decrease in households that occupied permanent dwelling units from 36 percent in 2013 to 32 percent in 2016. An increasing trend can be seen in permanent dwelling units in urban households registering 61 percent in 2016 from 55 percent in 2013 and 50 percent in 2010. In rural areas, the proportion of households occupying permanent dwellings dropped from 28 percent in 2013 to 22 percent in 2016.

The table further shows that there was a decline in traditionally constructed dwelling units from 42 percent in 2010 and 36 percent in 2013 to 32 percent in 2016. The decline in traditionally constructed dwelling units can also be observed in both urban and rural areas with urban dwellings registering a decrease of 3 percentage points from 10 percent reported in 2013 to 7 percent in 2016 and decreased in rural areas by 5 percentage points from 46 percent reported in 2013 to 41 percent in 2016.

Increases can be seen when it comes to households occupying semi-permanent dwelling units where the proportion moved from 27 percent in 2010 to 35 percent in 2016. This increase is also notable in rural areas which registered an increase of 26 percent in 2013 to 36 percent in 2016. The proportion of households in urban areas occupying semi-permanent dwelling units reduced from 35 percent in 2013 to 33 percent in 2016.

Table. 8.2. Percentage distribution of dwelling units by type of construction materials for the main dwelling units by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Permanent			Semi-permanent			Traditional		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	30.9	35.8	32.6	26.9	28.4	35.3	42.2	35.8	32.1
Place of residence									
Urban	49.9	54.9	60.7	35.4	34.9	32.7	14.7	10.3	6.6
Rural	23.0	28.4	22.4	23.4	25.9	36.2	53.6	45.7	41.4
Sex of household head									
Male	31.9	36.2	33.9	27.6	29.2	34.9	40.5	34.5	31.3
Female	27.1	34.3	28.7	24.6	25.8	36.5	48.3	40.0	34.8
Age of household head									
15-24	14.9	18.7	20.6	22.7	24.7	25.5	62.3	56.6	53.9
25-34	27.8	33.8	31.9	29.2	28.3	33.4	43.0	37.9	34.7
35-49	35.4	38.0	34.6	26.7	31.5	39.0	37.8	30.5	26.4
50-64	39.8	42.7	33.8	27.3	25.7	39.9	33.0	31.6	26.3
65+	27.4	36.9	34.3	24.0	27.1	31.3	48.6	36.0	34.3
Marital Status of household head									
Never married	48.8	66.0	62.3	16.3	26.0	21.7	34.9	8.0	15.9
Married	31.6	35.3	32.4	27.4	28.9	35.4	41.0	35.7	32.2
Divorced/Separated	16.0	30.6	24.6	27.1	26.9	35.5	56.9	42.5	39.9
Widow/Widower	33.5	36.4	33.3	25.7	26.8	37.9	40.7	36.8	28.8
Education Level of household head									
None	22.6	26.3	26.8	26.9	29.1	36.9	50.5	44.6	36.3
Primary	32.5	40.9	44.4	27.6	28.3	30.6	39.8	30.8	25.0
Secondary	53.0	57.6	59.5	29.7	30.5	29.0	17.3	11.8	11.5
Tertiary	88.9	90.6	73.9	11.1	9.4	21.7	-	-	4.3

8.3 Number of rooms per person and overcrowding

A dwelling unit is considered to provide a sufficient living area for the household members if there are fewer than four people per habitable room (unstats.un.org/stgs). Table 8.3 provides information on the distribution of households by number of persons per room by background characteristics.

The table reveals that there is an improvement when it comes to overcrowding in 2016 as compared to 2013. The proportion of households with less than four persons per room increased from 80 percent in 2013 to 83 percent in 2016. A slightly higher increase in proportion of households with less than four persons per room can be observed in rural areas as compared to urban areas with rural areas registering 4 percent increase from 77 percent in 2013 to 81 percent in 2016 and urban areas registering a 2 percentage points increase from 87 percent in 2013 to 89 percent in 2016. The proportion of households with less than four people per room increased from 3.5 percent in 2013 to 8.7 percent in 2016 in households whose heads had tertiary education while for those with no education at all, the proportion reduced from 24 percent in 2013 to 18 percent in 2016.

Table 8. 3 Percentage Distribution of households by number of persons per room by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Number of persons per room											
	1			2			3			4 and more		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	22.1	13.9	20.3	40.6	36.9	38.9	23.8	29.2	24.0	13.5	19.9	16.8
Place of residence												
Urban	29.2	17.5	22.3	45.9	37.3	43.8	17.8	32.1	22.5	7.2	13.2	11.4
Rural	19.2	12.5	19.6	38.3	36.8	37.1	26.4	28.1	24.6	16.1	22.5	18.8
Sex of household head												
Male	19.2	11.9	18.4	41.8	36.0	38.9	25.3	31.4	25.6	13.7	20.7	17.2
Female	32.8	20.7	26.1	36.2	40.0	38.8	18.4	22.0	19.4	12.6	17.4	15.7
Age of household head												
15-24	31.5	26.1	28.4	41.6	37.6	45.6	16.8	30.3	20.1	10.1	6.1	5.9
25-34	17.5	11.0	17.2	46.6	38.1	43.6	24.0	29.2	21.3	11.9	21.6	17.9
35-49	15.4	7.3	13.0	38.2	33.6	35.7	30.1	35.0	29.8	16.2	24.0	21.5
50-64	26.0	15.3	18.8	37.4	41.5	40.2	20.6	23.4	23.5	16.0	19.8	17.4
65+	41.5	31.8	36.2	33.3	35.3	32.7	15.8	19.9	19.9	9.4	12.9	11.2
Marital Status of household head												
Never married	69.8	74.0	76.8	20.9	12.0	17.4	4.7	10.0	2.9	4.7	4.0	2.9
Married	16.2	8.5	14.5	43.3	37.8	40.6	26.0	32.5	26.8	14.5	21.2	18.1
Divorced/Separated	39.4	27.4	33.1	29.6	38.2	36.7	19.0	17.2	14.5	12.0	17.2	15.7
Widow/Widower	39.0	26.7	35.7	34.8	35.5	33.8	16.5	21.2	18.3	9.8	16.6	12.2
Education Level of household head												
None	19.5	12.6	19.2	37.4	34.6	38.0	26.4	29.2	24.5	16.7	23.6	18.3
Primary	26.2	12.0	16.7	32.8	44.9	43.1	31.1	31.6	24.3	9.8	11.4	16.0
Secondary	26.1	15.9	26.1	54.8	41.0	40.7	14.5	29.8	25.0	4.6	13.3	8.2
Tertiary	48.1	30.6	37.7	50.0	44.7	47.8	1.9	21.2	5.8	-	3.5	8.7

8.4 Access to safe drinking water

The importance of access to safe drinking water is underlined by the fact that it is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A household is considered to have access to safe drinking water if the source of water is piped into dwelling, piped into yard or plot, communal standpipe, protected well in yard or plot, protected public well, borehole only in rural areas, tanker truck or bowser and bottled water.

Table 8.4 shows that 87 percent of the households had access to improved water source in Malawi in 2016 as compared to 85 percent in 2013 and 83 percent in 2010. As regards to place of residence, the results show that the proportion of households with access to improved water source in rural areas has been increasing from 79 percent in 2010 and 82 percent in 2013 to 85 percent in 2016. On the contrary, proportion of households with access to improved water source has been decreasing in urban areas from 94 percent in 2010 and 93 percent in 2013 to 92 percent in 2016. It can be noted that the most common source of drinking water in Malawi is a borehole with 55 percent of the households accessing water from boreholes in 2016 which is an increase of 2 percentage points from 53 percent that was reported in 2013.

Table 8. 4 Proportion of households with access to improved water source and main source of drinking water by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Proportion of households with improved water source			Borehole			Piped into yard/plot/communal standpipe			Piped into dwelling			Protected well in yard/plot/public well			Open well in yard/plot/open public well			Spring/River/Stream/Dam/Pond/Lake/Rain water		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	83.2	85.0	86.7	51.8	53.0	55.0	23.1	23.0	22.5	5.3	4.8	5.8	3.0	4.2	3.1	10.8	10.7	7.7	5.5	3.6	4.8
Place of residence																					
Urban	94.1	93.2	91.8	13.3	8.6	8.6	61.5	63.0	61.9	16.2	15.3	18.4	3.2	6.3	2.9	3.6	4.0	5.4	0.8	0.7	0.5
Rural	78.7	81.9	84.9	67.7	70.2	72.1	7.2	7.7	8.3	0.8	0.7	1.3	3.0	3.4	3.2	13.8	13.3	8.5	7.4	4.7	6.4
Sex of household head																					
Male	82.3	84.5	86.5	49.3	50.7	52.8	24.6	24.9	24.4	5.3	4.9	6.1	3.2	4.0	3.2	11.2	11.2	7.8	6.1	3.7	4.7
Female	86.4	86.9	87.3	60.7	60.7	62.4	17.8	17.0	17.0	5.4	4.4	5.1	2.5	4.8	2.9	9.6	8.7	7.1	3.4	3.3	4.9
Age of household head																					
15-24	84.4	85.5	86.3	59.7	59.0	57.8	22.1	21.1	22.6	0.7	1.8	2.5	2.0	3.6	3.4	8.4	10.2	8.8	6.5	3.0	3.4
25-34	85.2	87.8	88.5	46.5	49.8	54.3	30.9	28.9	25.5	5.4	4.8	5.5	2.5	4.2	3.2	10.6	8.8	6.7	3.8	2.1	4.3
35-49	82.8	83.7	87.1	49.1	49.3	50.8	23.2	24.0	25.4	6.9	5.6	7.3	3.6	4.8	3.7	10.5	11.3	7.2	5.7	4.7	4.3
50-64	81.8	85.0	84.3	54.6	55.7	57.5	16.3	19.5	19.3	7.2	6.2	5.6	3.8	3.7	1.9	11.7	10.5	9.2	6.4	4.0	5.6
65+	79.4	80.3	85.8	64.0	64.5	61.5	10.9	10.3	15.9	1.7	2.0	5.4	2.9	3.5	3.0	13.1	14.8	7.9	7.4	4.9	6.3
Marital Status of household head																					
Never married	95.4	96.0	94.2	34.9	16.0	33.3	39.5	60.0	46.4	20.9	18.0	13.0	-	2.0	1.5	-	2.0	2.9	2.3	-	1.5
Married	82.6	84.2	86.3	50.8	52.7	55.0	23.7	23.0	22.4	5.0	4.2	5.5	3.1	4.2	3.4	11.0	11.5	8.0	6.0	3.8	4.9
Divorced/Separated	84.7	86.0	89.1	57.6	58.1	62.9	22.9	19.9	19.8	1.4	3.8	4.4	2.8	4.3	2.0	9.7	8.6	5.7	4.2	2.7	4.0
Widow/Widower	83.2	87.3	85.2	58.1	58.6	55.3	14.4	18.2	19.7	7.2	6.4	7.6	3.6	4.1	2.7	13.2	8.6	8.3	3.6	4.1	5.7
Education Level of household head																					
None	80.2	82.2	85.3	59.6	61.5	61.2	16.3	15.2	18.0	1.1	0.9	2.8	3.2	4.6	3.4	12.6	12.6	8.6	6.8	4.5	5.4
Primary	83.7	86.2	91.0	40.7	47.2	43.8	33.3	31.5	28.5	4.9	3.1	14.6	4.9	4.4	4.2	9.8	12.0	3.5	5.7	1.3	4.2
Secondary	92.6	93.1	93.3	32.9	32.3	26.8	47.4	49.0	51.3	10.6	8.7	13.8	1.8	3.2	1.5	5.7	4.3	3.7	0.7	1.7	1.5
Tertiary	96.3	95.3	91.3	7.4	8.2	15.9	18.5	31.8	30.4	68.5	55.3	44.9	1.9	-	-	1.9	2.4	4.4	1.9	1.2	1.5

8.5 Source of fuels used for cooking

Table 8.5 shows the proportion of households by main source of fuels for cooking by background characteristics. It also shows the proportion of households that use solid fuels which is an addition of various types of solid materials that are used as fuel to produce energy for cooking. The table reveals that there are no major differences in the use of solid fuels from the three rounds of the survey. The proportion of households using solid fuels moved from 95 percent in 2010 to 97 percent in 2016.

Despite firewood being the main source of cooking fuel, the results of the survey reveal that there was a decreasing trend in its use from 80 percent in 2010 to 76 percent in 2013 and dropped further to 70 percent in 2016. An increasing trend was observed in the use of charcoal as the main source of cooking fuel, rising from 15 percent in 2010 to 18 percent in 2013 and to 24 percent in 2016. Remarkable increase in the use of charcoal as a main source of cooking is observed in urban households where 68 percent of the households in 2016 reported that they were using charcoal compared to 51 percent in 2013 and 44 percent in 2010. The use of electricity as a main source of fuel for cooking decreased in all the three rounds of the survey from 5 percent in 2010 to 4 percent in 2013 and to 3 percent in 2016.

Table 8.5. Proportion of households by main source of fuel for cooking by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Solid fuels			Firewood			Charcoal			Crop residue/Saw dust			Electricity			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	95.3	95.7	96.6	80.2	76.3	70.1	14.7	18.4	24.3	0.4	1.1	2.2	4.6	4.1	3.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Place of residence																		
Urban	85.7	86.2	90.1	41.3	34.4	22.0	44.0	51.3	67.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	14.3	13.3	9.9	-	0.5	-
Rural	99.3	99.4	98.9	96.4	92.5	87.5	2.5	5.6	8.6	0.3	1.3	2.8	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.4
Sex of household head																		
Male	95.6	95.4	96.2	78.5	74.5	67.7	16.8	19.8	26.6	0.3	1.0	1.9	4.3	4.4	3.5	0.1	0.3	0.3
Female	94.4	96.9	97.6	86.4	82.3	77.3	7.3	13.3	17.3	0.6	1.3	3.0	5.6	3.1	2.2	-	-	0.2
Age of household head																		
15-24	100.0	96.4	99.0	83.1	77.1	74.5	16.2	18.7	23.0	0.6	0.6	1.5	-	3.6	1.0	-	-	-
25-34	93.3	94.5	96.4	70.8	68.0	63.7	22.1	26.2	30.2	0.4	0.3	2.4	6.7	5.0	3.5	-	0.5	0.2
35-49	94.1	94.9	95.6	80.2	75.5	65.7	13.7	18.1	28.3	0.2	1.2	1.6	5.9	5.0	4.2	-	0.2	0.3
50-64	97.0	97.5	96.7	87.1	83.1	79.3	9.5	12.4	15.5	0.4	2.0	1.9	3.0	2.5	2.6	-	-	0.7
65+	98.3	98.5	97.4	95.4	91.6	76.9	2.3	4.9	17.1	0.6	2.0	3.5	1.1	1.5	2.3	0.6	-	0.2
Marital Status of household head																		
Never married	79.1	76.0	88.4	37.2	26.0	30.4	41.9	50.0	56.5	-	-	1.4	20.9	22.0	11.6	-	2.0	-
Married	95.6	96.0	96.7	79.9	76.6	70.1	15.3	18.4	24.7	0.3	1.0	1.9	4.4	3.8	3.0	0.1	0.2	0.3
Divorced/Separated	97.9	96.8	97.2	84.7	79.6	72.6	11.8	16.7	20.2	1.4	0.5	4.4	2.1	3.2	2.8	-	-	-
Widow/Widower	95.2	97.3	97.0	89.8	82.6	78.0	5.4	12.3	16.7	-	2.3	2.3	4.8	2.7	2.7	-	-	0.4
Education level of household head																		
None	99.2	99.5	98.1	90.6	88.2	77.9	8.3	9.8	17.5	0.3	1.5	2.7	0.7	0.4	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.3
Primary	97.6	98.1	95.1	78.9	72.3	59.7	18.7	25.8	35.4	-	-	-	2.4	1.9	4.9	-	-	-
Secondary	90.1	91.4	94.1	50.9	45.8	32.0	38.5	45.2	61.7	0.7	0.3	0.4	9.9	8.1	5.9	-	0.6	-
Tertiary	33.3	47.1	63.8	14.8	11.8	10.1	18.5	35.3	53.6	-	-	-	66.7	51.8	34.8	-	1.2	1.4

8.6 Sources of fuel for lighting

Table 8.6 below shows that there was an increasing trend in the use of torches as a main source of lighting from 20 percent in 2010 to 60 percent in 2013 and to 67 percent in 2016. A notable increase can be observed from 2010 to 2013 where the proportion of households that use torches for lighting jumped by 40 percentage points from 20 percent to 60 percent. Considering the place of residence, it can be observed that the use of torches in the rural areas increased tremendously from 25 percent in 2010 to 81 percent in 2016.

It can further be observed that torches have replaced the use of paraffin as the main source of lighting. The use of paraffin as a main source of lighting by households dropped from 57 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2013 and to 2 percent in 2016. This reduction in use of paraffin is observed among households from rural as well as urban areas. However, electricity remained the main source of lighting for the urban areas. The proportion of households using electricity in urban areas for lighting increased from 32 percent in 2010 to 49 percent in 2016.

The proportion of households which used torches as a source of lighting in 2016 was high (69 percent) among female-headed households as compared to male-headed households at 66 percent. The proportion of female-headed households using torches increased from 14 percent in 2010 to 56 percent in 2013 and to 69 percent in 2016 while for male-headed households it rose from 22 percent in 2010 to 61 percent in 2013 and 66 percent in 2016.

Table 8. 6 Percentage distribution of households by main source of fuels used for lighting by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016.

Background characteristics	Battery Dry Cell (Torch)			Electricity			Candles			Firewood			Paraffin			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	20.1	59.9	66.6	11.4	14.1	17.2	5.6	9.0	7.5	3.3	3.2	3.9	56.7	11.5	1.9	2.8	2.3	2.9
Place of residence																		
Urban	7.2	19.6	25.9	32.4	40.4	48.7	13.5	23.8	21.1	0.4	1.3	0.6	46.1	14.4	1.9	0.4	0.5	1.6
Rural	25.4	75.5	81.3	2.7	3.9	5.8	2.4	3.2	2.6	4.5	4.0	5.1	61.1	10.4	1.9	3.8	3.0	3.4
Sex of household head																		
Male	21.9	61.1	65.9	11.6	15.1	19.2	6.5	9.8	7.3	2.1	2.2	3.4	55.6	10.0	1.7	2.4	1.8	2.5
Female	13.6	55.8	68.7	10.7	10.7	11.3	2.5	6.3	8.1	7.9	6.6	5.2	60.7	16.6	2.5	4.5	3.9	4.1
Age of household head																		
15-24	25.3	72.3	78.4	4.5	7.8	10.8	9.1	8.4	5.4	1.9	1.8	3.9	55.8	7.8	1.0	3.2	1.8	0.5
25-34	19.4	54.8	64.9	14.4	17.5	19.6	7.9	11.3	8.8	1.5	2.8	3.6	55.7	12.2	1.8	1.2	1.5	1.2
35-49	21.4	58.9	62.8	12.9	16.3	19.9	4.8	9.4	9.3	3.0	2.5	2.3	55.2	11.7	2.7	2.8	1.3	3.0
50-64	18.6	62.9	68.8	11.4	12.2	15.5	3.4	7.6	5.2	3.0	2.5	5.2	60.6	11.6	1.4	3.0	3.1	4.0
65+	16.0	62.9	68.5	4.6	5.4	13.3	1.7	3.5	5.4	11.4	9.4	5.8	58.9	11.9	1.6	7.4	6.9	5.4
Marital Status of household head																		
Never married	9.3	24.0	31.9	39.5	52.0	49.3	14.0	14.0	10.1	-	2.0	1.4	37.2	8.0	2.9	-	-	4.3
Married	22.2	62.9	68.6	11.2	13.8	17.1	5.6	9.0	6.9	2.1	2.3	3.4	56.3	10.4	1.8	2.5	1.6	2.2
Divorced/Separated	14.6	52.2	65.7	4.9	9.1	12.5	9.0	9.1	12.5	3.5	5.4	3.6	64.6	19.4	2.0	3.5	4.8	3.6
Widow/Widower	11.4	53.2	61.7	11.4	11.9	14.0	0.6	7.8	6.8	13.8	8.3	8.0	57.5	13.8	2.7	5.4	5.0	6.8
Education Level of household head																		
None	23.3	68.4	72.7	3.9	4.0	11.5	3.4	7.7	6.4	4.4	4.0	4.3	61.5	12.9	2.0	3.5	3.1	3.2
Primary	23.6	64.8	54.2	11.4	14.5	27.1	4.1	8.2	11.8	0.8	2.5	2.8	59.3	10.1	2.1	0.8	-	2.1
Secondary	8.8	35.8	39.8	29.3	36.9	41.6	15.5	16.0	13.0	0.4	1.5	2.2	44.9	9.6	1.5	1.1	0.3	1.9
Tertiary	1.9	9.4	18.8	79.6	84.7	69.6	5.6	4.7	10.1	1.9	-	-	9.3	1.2	-	1.9	-	1.4

8.7 Access to electricity and mobile phones

Table 8.7 reveals that the proportion of households with electricity in dwelling increased from 14 percent in 2013 to 17 percent in 2016. A remarkable improvement can be observed in households in urban areas which registered an increase of 10 percentage points from 2013 to 2016. Increases in dwelling units with electricity in dwellings have also been observed in male-headed households as compared to female-headed households from 2010 to 2016. The proportion of households with electricity in dwelling units in male-headed households increased from 12 percent in 2010 to 15 percent in 2013 and 20 percent in 2016 while in female-headed households the proportion remained at 11 percent from 2010 to 2016.

The table further shows that there was an improvement in 2016 where 61 percent of the households reported to have at least one mobile phone compared to 2010 where 52 percent of households reported to have at least one mobile phone. Rural households registered a huge increase in households with at least one mobile phone from 2010 to 2016 as compared to those in urban areas. The proportion of households with at least one mobile phone in rural areas increased from 32 percent in 2010 to 52 percent in 2016 while in urban areas it rose from 79 percent to 87 percent representing 20 percentage points and 8 percentage points increase respectively. The proportion of households with at least one mobile phone increased from 2013 to 2016 in households whose head had no education. The proportion increased from 40 percent in 2013 to 56 percent in 2016.

Table 8.7. Proportion of households with phones and electricity in dwelling by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016.

Background characteristics	Electricity in dwelling			Mobile Phones		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	11.4	14.1	17.4	45.8	52.3	61.0
Place of residence						
Urban	33.7	40.1	49.6	78.9	83.6	86.7
Rural	2.2	4.0	5.8	32.0	40.1	51.7
Sex of household head						
Male	11.6	15.1	19.5	50.2	56.5	65.3
Female	10.7	10.7	11.3	29.9	38.2	48.1
Age of household head						
15-24	4.5	7.2	10.8	36.4	36.7	51.5
25-34	14.8	17.4	19.9	53.9	59.8	64.4
35-49	13.3	16.4	20.1	51.1	58.4	67.6
50-64	10.2	12.1	15.3	43.2	50.8	61.3
65+	4.0	5.4	14.0	18.3	25.1	47.9
Marital Status of household head						
Never married	41.9	50.0	49.3	72.1	82.0	75.4
Married	11.2	13.8	17.3	49.6	56.2	64.1
Divorced/Separated	4.9	9.1	13.3	25.0	35.5	48.8
Widow/Widower	11.4	11.8	14.0	28.1	32.3	46.2
Education Level of household head						
None	3.4	4.1	11.5	32.9	39.7	56.0
Primary	13.0	15.1	27.1	56.1	65.4	72.2
Secondary	29.3	36.3	43.1	83.7	85.3	84.8
Tertiary	87.0	83.5	71.0	100.0	98.8	92.8

8.8 Access to proper sanitation

Quality of life of household members can be improved if members have access to proper sanitation as it facilitates in controlling hygiene related diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera and many others.

Table 8.8 below shows that the proportion of households with proper sanitation improved in 2016 by 2 percentage points from 71 percent in 2013 to 73 percent in 2016. Traditional toilet with roof was the common toilet facility used by most of the households in all the three rounds of the survey. The proportion of households that used traditional toilets decrease from 65 percent in 2010 to 64 percent in both 2013 and 2016. The proportion of households using VIP latrine improved from 2 percent in 2013 to 4 percent in 2016.

The proportion of households with no toilet facility decreased by 2 percentage points from 9 percent in 2013 to 7 percent in 2016. Interestingly, all households whose head had tertiary education reported to have at least a toilet facility in 2016 as compared to 2013 where it was reported that 1 percent of these households had no toilet facility.

Table 8.8. Proportion of households with improved sanitation and type of toilet facility being used by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016.

Background characteristics	Proportion of Households with improved sanitation			Traditional latrine with roof			Flush Toilet			VIP latrine			Latrine without roof			None			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	75.8	70.9	72.6	64.7	63.5	63.5	5.1	5.1	4.9	6.1	2.3	4.3	16.9	19.6	20.8	7.2	9.4	6.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Place of residence																					
Urban	89.3	81.8	85.8	64.4	62.2	60.7	15.4	15.5	15.3	9.5	4.1	9.7	9.7	15.1	12.6	1.1	3.1	1.5	-	-	0.1
Rural	70.3	66.6	67.8	64.8	63.9	64.5	0.8	1.1	1.1	4.6	1.5	2.3	19.9	21.4	23.8	9.8	11.9	8.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sex of household head																					
Male	78.9	72.5	74.4	67.6	64.7	64.3	4.9	5.2	5.2	6.4	2.7	5.0	15.7	20.0	19.8	5.4	7.4	5.8	-	0.1	0.1
Female	64.9	65.3	67.1	54.4	59.4	61.0	5.7	5.0	4.0	4.8	0.9	2.1	21.0	18.6	23.8	13.9	16.2	8.9	0.3	-	0.2
Age of household head																					
15-24	68.8	63.3	64.2	61.7	59.6	57.4	0.6	3.6	3.4	6.5	-	3.4	23.4	16.3	22.1	7.1	20.5	13.7	0.6	-	-
25-34	78.3	71.4	72.0	65.1	63.5	61.9	5.6	5.5	4.6	7.7	2.4	5.6	15.9	19.1	21.7	5.8	9.5	6.1	-	-	0.2
35-49	75.0	70.2	74.6	63.6	62.3	64.4	6.7	5.3	5.3	4.8	2.6	4.9	17.6	21.2	19.9	7.3	8.4	5.4	-	0.2	-
50-64	79.8	73.4	74.2	67.3	65.0	65.7	6.5	6.2	6.3	6.1	2.3	2.1	12.9	20.9	20.2	7.2	5.6	5.6	-	-	-
65+	70.9	72.9	72.1	65.7	67.5	64.9	0.6	3.0	3.7	4.6	2.5	3.5	17.7	16.7	20.8	11.4	10.3	6.8	-	-	0.2
Marital Status of household head																					
Never married	90.7	80.0	73.9	48.8	58.0	55.1	23.3	20.0	13.0	18.6	2.0	5.8	9.3	16.0	17.4	-	4.0	8.7	-	-	-
Married	77.9	71.8	73.8	67.0	64.8	64.7	4.5	4.6	4.4	6.4	2.4	4.7	16.5	20.3	20.7	5.5	7.8	5.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Divorced/Separated	66.4	62.9	66.5	62.2	57.5	59.3	1.4	3.2	3.6	2.8	2.2	3.6	18.9	18.3	21.4	14.7	18.8	12.1	-	-	-
Widow/Widower	64.1	68.6	69.2	53.3	60.5	60.8	7.8	6.8	7.2	3.0	1.4	1.1	19.8	17.3	21.7	16.2	14.1	8.7	-	-	0.4
Education Level of household head																					
None	70.5	65.8	69.8	64.9	63.3	64.8	0.9	1.2	2.3	4.7	1.3	2.7	20.3	22.6	22.6	9.2	11.5	7.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Primary	80.5	73.6	77.1	69.9	68.6	58.3	4.9	3.1	9.7	5.7	1.9	9.0	16.3	18.9	18.8	3.3	7.5	4.2	-	-	-
Secondary	91.2	83.9	85.5	70.3	68.6	61.0	10.6	10.1	11.5	10.2	5.2	13.0	6.4	12.1	12.3	2.5	4.0	2.2	-	-	-
Tertiary	100.0	95.3	94.2	18.5	35.3	44.9	66.7	52.9	43.5	14.8	7.1	5.8	-	3.5	5.8	-	1.2	-	-	-	-

8.9 Use of disposal facilities

Survey results from Table 8.9 shows that the most commonly used method of rubbish disposal for households in Malawi is rubbish pit of which 53 percent of households in 2016 reported to be using. This is an increase from 52 percent that was reported in 2010 and 50 percent reported in 2013. In urban areas, 58 percent of households were reported to have rubbish pit with 51 percent of rural households reporting rubbish pit as a method of rubbish disposal in 2016. A remarkable decrease in methods of rubbish disposal is observed in the use of public rubbish heap with 8 percent of the households reporting its use in 2016 as compared to 22 percent in 2013. Surprisingly there has been a rising trend in the proportion of households with no method of rubbish disposal from 2013 to 2016. A significant increase has been observed from 2013 to 2016 where 24 percent of the households reported to have no method of rubbish disposal in 2016 as compared to 14 percent in 2013. The proportions also rose significantly in rural areas where 30 percent of the households in 2016 were reported to have no any rubbish disposal method as compared to 16 percent in 2013. Another notable increase in proportion of households with no method of rubbish disposal can be observed in households whose head had no education where it was reported that 27 percent of them did not have any method of rubbish disposal in 2016 as compared to 16 percent in 2013.

Table 8.9. Percentage distribution of households by kind of rubbish disposal facility used by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016.

Background characteristics	Rubbish bin			Rubbish pit			Burning			Public rubbish heap			Other			None		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	6.6	5.3	7.1	52.4	50.3	52.7	6.4	7.9	7.0	19.9	21.9	8.0	1.4	1.1	1.4	13.3	13.6	23.8
Place of residence																		
Urban	16.2	15.5	16.3	56.6	54.9	58.3	3.4	3.2	4.6	15.4	19.6	8.8	0.8	0.5	2.2	7.6	6.3	9.6
Rural	2.6	1.4	3.8	50.6	48.5	50.6	7.6	9.7	7.9	21.8	22.7	7.7	1.7	1.3	1.1	15.7	16.4	28.9
Sex of household head																		
Male	7.0	5.7	7.5	54.2	51.5	54.9	5.8	7.4	6.3	19.6	20.9	7.9	1.4	1.2	1.5	12.0	13.1	21.9
Female	5.4	3.9	6.2	45.8	46.1	46.0	8.5	9.4	9.0	20.9	25.1	8.4	1.4	0.4	1.1	18.1	15.1	29.2
Age of household head																		
15-24	4.5	3.6	4.9	44.8	43.4	43.6	5.2	9.0	10.3	27.9	23.5	9.3	0.6	0.6	1.0	16.9	19.9	30.9
25-34	6.5	6.3	8.7	55.9	50.5	53.2	6.5	9.0	7.8	18.8	21.1	8.8	0.8	0.8	1.4	11.5	12.4	20.2
35-49	7.7	6.4	8.3	52.7	53.0	54.9	6.1	6.5	5.9	18.0	20.6	9.1	2.0	1.6	2.1	13.5	11.9	19.6
50-64	9.1	4.5	7.5	53.8	51.8	54.5	6.1	6.2	7.0	17.4	23.2	4.9	2.3	1.1	0.7	11.4	13.0	25.4
65+	1.7	2.0	3.3	45.7	43.8	50.2	8.0	10.8	6.3	25.1	24.6	7.2	1.1	0.5	0.9	18.3	18.2	32.0
Marital Status of household head																		
Never married	25.6	14.0	14.5	41.9	58.0	55.1	7.0	6.0	2.9	20.9	12.0	2.9	-	-	1.4	4.7	10.0	23.2
Married	6.3	5.1	7.0	54.0	51.3	54.4	5.8	7.8	7.0	19.4	21.4	8.1	1.4	1.2	1.6	13.1	13.2	22.0
Divorced/Separated	2.8	4.3	6.5	56.9	52.2	42.7	5.6	8.1	9.7	20.8	21.0	9.7	1.4	0.5	0.8	12.5	14.0	30.6
Widow/Widower	7.2	5.9	7.2	38.3	39.7	48.5	11.4	9.1	5.7	22.8	27.9	7.2	1.8	0.5	0.8	18.6	16.9	30.7
Education Level of household head																		
None	3.6	1.9	5.4	49.5	47.7	50.9	7.4	9.0	7.5	22.2	24.6	8.1	1.7	1.1	1.4	15.5	15.7	26.7
Primary	7.3	5.7	11.8	57.7	57.2	61.1	2.4	3.1	5.6	18.7	21.4	11.1	0.8	1.9	1.4	13.0	10.7	9.0
Secondary	11.7	11.8	12.6	62.5	56.8	59.1	4.2	6.3	5.2	14.1	15.6	7.1	0.4	0.9	1.5	7.1	8.6	14.5
Tertiary	42.6	35.3	26.1	48.1	52.9	60.9	3.7	5.9	4.3	3.7	2.4	1.4	1.9	-	1.4	-	3.5	5.8

9 SUBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF WELL-BEING

9.0 Introduction

Subjective well-being assessment encompasses cognitive evaluation of one's life. It explores key issues which positively and or negatively impact welfare.

Evaluative questions were asked to the respondents to make an assessment of their life to generate life-satisfaction scores.

This chapter outlines general welfare indicators of the household, measured by the household's perceptions of well-being in terms of adequacy or inadequacy of food consumption, education, health care, housing etc.

It also highlights issues on how the households perceive their economic status of welfare compared to most of their friends and most of their neighbours as well as how they consider themselves. The perceptions are in terms of clothes changes for the household head, whether they sleep on a bed and mattress, blankets etc. The chapter also discusses issues about what the households' heads use to cover themselves when they sleep during cold season as well as hot season. The chapter looks at all dimensions of welfare between 2010 and 2016.

9.1 Welfare in terms of food adequacy

Table 9.1 below shows the results of subjective assessment of food adequacy between 2010 and 2016. The survey has revealed that in 2010 and 2013 about 40 percent of households reported that their food consumption was inadequate. Households that reported food inadequacy increased from 40 percent in 2010 to 55 percent in 2016. The results further indicate that there has been a decrease of households reporting more than adequate food consumption from 7 percent in 2010 to 5 percent in 2016.

Thirty six percent of the households in urban area reported food inadequacies in 2016 compared to 31 percent in 2013 and 26 percent in 2010.

Table 9. 1 Proportion of households reporting inadequate consumption of food by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Food								
	Inadequate			Adequate			More than adequate		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	39.8	39.8	54.6	53.3	54.4	40.6	6.9	5.8	4.9
Place of residence									
Urban	25.6	30.7	36.0	66.0	64.5	57.2	8.4	4.9	6.7
Rural	42.8	41.9	58.8	50.6	52.0	36.7	6.6	6.0	4.5
Sex of household head									
Male	36.4	36.2	51.2	55.5	57.3	43.3	8.1	6.5	5.4
Female	50.1	50.8	63.5	46.7	45.4	33.0	3.2	3.8	3.5
Age of household head									
Up to 24	36.4	33.5	51.0	55.7	61.7	44.7	7.9	4.9	4.3
25-34	39.5	38.7	51.4	54.3	55.4	43.9	6.2	6.0	4.7
35-49	39.4	40.0	53.6	52.9	54.2	41.3	7.7	5.8	5.2
50-64	36.7	40.2	55.1	57.5	54.1	39.1	5.8	5.8	5.8
65+	49.1	46.8	62.4	43.7	47.0	33.7	7.2	6.2	3.9
Marital Status of household head									
Never married	22.6	29.5	44.7	70.3	56.8	45.7	7.1	13.6	9.6
Married	36.8	37.0	51.8	55.3	56.6	43.1	7.8	6.4	5.1
Divorced/Separated	51.1	47.9	66.5	46.2	47.5	30.1	2.6	4.6	3.4
Widow/Widower	52.6	52.4	64.3	43.1	45.6	32.1	4.2	2.0	3.6
Education Level of household head									
None	46.2	44.5	62.6	48.8	49.8	34.3	5.0	5.7	3.1
Primary	26.6	34.8	46.2	66.3	59.4	49.5	7.1	5.8	4.3
Secondary	19.8	25.1	33.1	65.9	70.1	57.3	14.3	4.8	9.6
Tertiary	3.0	17.1	14.4	75.2	66.1	63.9	21.8	16.8	21.7

9.2 Welfare in terms of housing adequacy

Survey results show that there has been no improvement on housing. Households which reported inadequacy in housing have increased from 44 percent to 54 percent between 2010 and 2016. In rural areas 58 percent reported inadequacy in housing in 2016 compared to 50 percent in 2013 and 48 percent in 2010. Urban areas registered an increase of households indicating housing inadequacy from about 29 percent in 2010 to 36 percent in 2016.

It is observed that there has been a significant increase in the proportion of households of a head with tertiary education that have inadequate housing from 2010 to 2016. Forty-one percent reported housing inadequacy in 2016 compared to 34 percent in 2010, a rise of 7 percentage points.

Table 9. 2 Proportion of households reporting inadequate housing by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013, and 2016

Background characteristics	Housing								
	Inadequate			Adequate			More than adequate		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	44.2	46.7	53.8	50.5	48.8	40.9	5.2	4.5	5.3
Place of residence									
Urban	28.5	31.2	35.5	64.5	63.8	55.6	7.1	5.0	8.9
Rural	47.6	50.4	58.0	47.6	45.2	37.5	4.9	4.4	4.5
Sex of household head									
Male	43.5	44.9	53.6	50.8	50.3	41.3	5.7	4.9	5.1
Female	46.3	52.4	54.1	49.9	44.1	39.9	3.8	3.4	6.0
Age of household head									
Up to 24	43.4	49.0	57.9	49.0	44.3	39.8	7.6	6.7	2.3
25-34	46.1	46.7	51.6	49.1	48.9	43.2	4.8	4.4	5.2
35-49	47.4	45.2	54.9	47.7	50.1	38.5	4.9	4.7	6.6
50-64	38.2	50.4	53.5	57.6	46.7	41.6	4.3	2.9	4.9
65+	40.6	43.0	52.8	52.8	51.8	41.9	6.7	5.2	5.3
Marital Status of household head									
Never married	28.1	41.0	38.5	67.9	45.2	50.4	4.0	13.8	11.1
Married	44.6	45.7	53.2	49.9	49.7	41.8	5.5	4.6	5.0
Divorced/Separated	49.7	53.5	65.7	45.1	41.9	30.2	5.3	4.7	4.1
Widow/Widower	39.1	48.4	49.6	57.5	49.2	43.1	3.4	2.4	7.3
Education Level of household head									
None	47.2	48.7	58.9	49.1	46.8	37.4	3.7	4.5	3.7
Primary	41.3	50.1	50.1	54.9	46.4	42.3	3.8	3.5	7.6
Secondary	33.9	39.2	41.1	52.9	56.4	50.2	13.1	4.4	8.8
Tertiary	10.8	21.0	20.5	74.5	67.4	62.6	14.7	11.6	17.0

9.3 Welfare in terms of healthcare adequacy

Survey results show that healthcare has deteriorated between 2010 and 2016. Thirty-two percent of the households had less access to healthcare in 2010, 37 percent in 2013 and 49 percent in 2016.

In rural areas 33 percent reported inadequacy in health care in 2010 against 39 percent in 2013 and 54 percent in 2016, while in urban areas it rose from 27 percent in 2010 to 31 percent in 2016.

Table 9. 3 Proportion of households reporting inadequate healthcare by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Healthcare					
	Inadequate			Adequate		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	31.6	36.6	49.3	68.4	63.4	50.7
Place of residence						
Urban	26.9	27.3	30.7	73.1	72.7	69.3
Rural	32.6	38.8	53.6	67.4	61.2	46.4
Sex of household head						
Male	32.3	36.4	48.4	67.7	63.6	51.6
Female	29.2	37.2	51.9	70.8	62.8	48.1
Age of household head						
Up to 24	28.4	28.8	45.0	71.6	71.2	55.0
25-34	32.2	34.9	48.3	67.8	65.1	51.7
35-49	34.2	37.1	48.0	65.8	62.9	52.0
50-64	25.1	37.0	48.1	74.9	63.0	51.9
65+	35.7	45.3	56.8	64.3	54.7	43.2
Marital Status of household head						
Never married	30.9	36.0	32.2	69.1	64.0	67.8
Married	32.8	35.9	48.3	67.2	64.1	51.7
Divorced/Separated	23.9	34.6	57.3	76.1	65.4	42.7
Widow/Widower	30.3	42.8	51.9	69.7	57.2	48.1
Education Level of household head						
None	32.2	37.2	55.2	67.8	62.8	44.8
Primary	30.8	45.0	43.0	69.2	55.0	57.0
Secondary	30.7	31.4	36.0	69.3	68.6	64.0
Tertiary	13.7	18.4	13.9	86.3	81.6	86.1

9.4 Perception of household current economic well-being

The survey examined the perception of economic wellbeing of the households. It employed The Cantril measure which required respondents to imagine a ladder where the bottom (0) is the worst possible life and the top (6) the best possible life and asked them to give an indication as to where they feel they are on this scale.

The results in Table 9.4 show that the proportion of households that assessed themselves to be very poor has been steadily decreasing from 33 percent in 2010 to 30 percent in 2013 and 29 percent in 2016. Households that were perceived very poor in rural areas dropped from 37 percent in 2010 to 33 percent in 2016.

Households headed by people with no education are more likely to be very poor (39 percent in 2010, and 36 percent in 2013 and 37 percent in 2016) than households headed by those with tertiary education. Among those with tertiary education, there was no very poor household in 2010, 2 percent in 2013 and 1 percent in 2016.

Table 9. 4 Proportion of households by perceived current economic well-being and background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Self-subjective assessment											
	Very Poor			Poor			Average			Rich		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	32.8	30.3	29.3	37.5	40.6	38.9	23.2	23.0	21.9	6.5	6.2	9.9
Place of residence												
Urban	12.8	17.1	11.6	42.2	37.3	30.4	34.4	34.1	39.0	10.6	11.5	19.0
Rural	37.1	33.4	33.3	36.4	41.4	40.9	20.8	20.3	18.0	5.7	4.9	7.8
Sex of household head												
Male	28.8	26.1	26.5	37.9	41.9	39.8	25.9	25.1	23.1	7.4	6.9	10.6
Female	45.4	43.4	36.7	36.1	36.3	36.6	14.7	16.4	18.7	3.7	3.9	8.0
Age of household head												
Up to 24	30.6	29.8	30.7	44.6	52.2	42.1	23.8	14.1	21.7	1.0	3.9	5.4
25-34	29.7	25.4	26.2	39.0	42.8	40.2	24.7	24.8	24.1	6.6	7.0	9.5
35-49	28.5	29.4	25.1	37.2	39.4	37.8	24.4	24.8	25.1	9.9	6.3	12.0
50-64	36.4	32.5	29.7	35.7	36.0	39.5	22.4	23.6	21.0	5.6	7.9	9.8
65+	49.0	42.9	40.2	30.1	35.4	36.7	16.9	19.1	14.0	4.0	2.6	9.1
Marital Status of household head												
Never married	23.6	19.2	21.8	32.7	16.6	29.8	33.8	46.7	33.7	9.8	17.5	14.7
Married	28.6	26.1	26.2	38.1	42.8	40.6	25.9	24.3	23.3	7.5	6.8	10.0
Divorced/Separated	54.3	44.7	39.5	35.2	35.6	35.8	9.8	16.0	17.9	0.8	3.8	6.8
Widow/Widower	45.4	46.7	42.4	35.6	33.9	32.5	14.5	16.8	14.0	4.6	2.5	11.1
Education Level of household head												
None	38.9	36.4	37.1	38.9	41.6	40.9	18.3	18.9	16.6	3.9	3.1	5.5
Primary	21.1	25.4	19.2	42.9	41.9	46.1	27.1	27.1	26.5	8.9	5.6	8.2
Secondary	12.2	9.7	8.8	30.6	39.3	31.7	44.4	35.8	37.3	12.7	15.2	22.1
Tertiary	-	2.4	1.0	3.4	15.4	7.6	38.5	40.2	45.2	58.1	42.0	46.3

Heads of households were asked to assess their neighbours' well-being in terms of poverty levels. Table 9.5 shows that neighbourhood households that were poorer are graduating towards being better off than in 2010. About 18 percent of the households in 2016 reported to be poorer compared to 20 percent in 2010.

The results further show that in rural areas, the proportion of households in this category decreased from 20 percent in 2010 to 17 percent in 2016 whereas urban areas registered a drop from 17 percent in 2013 to 21 percent in 2016.

The proportion of female heads of households that considered their neighbours to be poorer increased during this period from 15 percent in 2010 to 16 percent in 2016 while those reported by male heads of households decreased from 22 percent in 2010 to 19 percent in 2016.

Table 9. 5 Proportion of households by perceived neighbours current economic well-being and background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Most neighbours assessment								
	Poorer			Same			Richer		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	19.9	18.3	17.7	42.3	35.5	47.9	37.8	46.2	34.4
Place of residence									
Urban	21.1	17.4	20.7	43.3	34.8	42.7	35.7	47.7	36.6
Rural	19.7	18.5	17.0	42.1	35.6	49.1	38.2	45.9	33.9
Sex of household head									
Male	21.5	20.5	18.5	43.3	37.5	49.1	35.2	42.1	32.4
Female	15.1	11.7	15.5	39.4	29.3	44.5	45.6	59.1	40.0
Age of household head									
Up to 24	16.9	8.9	13.9	38.4	40.9	44.1	44.7	50.3	42.0
25-34	16.1	18.1	17.8	43.7	37.6	49.3	40.2	44.4	32.9
35-49	25.3	20.3	21.5	42.0	34.9	46.0	32.6	44.8	32.5
50-64	24.2	19.9	15.8	44.5	35.8	51.1	31.3	44.3	33.1
65+	12.6	18.8	14.5	39.7	26.1	47.9	47.7	55.1	37.6
Marital Status of household head									
Never married	20.8	12.5	14.8	37.8	49.7	52.8	41.4	37.8	32.3
Married	22.6	20.4	18.3	42.5	36.5	48.9	35.0	43.1	32.8
Divorced/Separated	2.9	13.6	15.2	47.9	28.7	40.2	49.1	57.7	44.6
Widow/Widower	16.8	9.2	16.1	37.2	32.6	46.9	46.0	58.2	37.0
Education Level of household head									
None	17.0	15.9	15.4	41.5	32.9	48.3	41.4	51.1	36.3
Primary	22.6	18.0	18.9	45.2	42.2	39.5	32.2	39.8	41.6
Secondary	31.3	28.9	23.8	43.1	39.5	49.4	25.6	31.6	26.7
Tertiary	38.8	25.6	28.8	59.5	57.5	56.2	1.7	17.0	15.0

9.6 Perception of economic wellbeing of household head's friends

Households' heads were asked to assess their close friends' well-being. The proportion that reported that their friends were poorer increased from about 13 percent in 2010 to almost 15 percent in 2016. The survey found out that most of the close friends were perceived richer (43 percent in 2010, 49 percent in 2013 and 35 percent in 2016).

Table 9. 6 Proportion of households by perceived friends current economic well-being and background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Most friends assessment								
	Poorer			Same			Richer		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	12.5	11.0	14.6	44.5	40.0	50.8	43.0	49.0	34.6
Place of residence									
Urban	11.3	10.5	14.7	44.6	45.2	49.5	44.2	44.3	35.7
Rural	12.8	11.1	14.6	44.5	38.8	51.1	42.8	50.1	34.4
Sex of household head									
Male	14.0	11.9	15.4	46.2	40.7	51.3	39.8	47.4	33.4
Female	7.9	8.3	12.6	39.2	37.9	49.4	52.8	53.8	38.0
Age of household head									
Up to 24	15.2	6.9	12.4	44.0	34.2	50.9	40.9	58.9	36.7
25-34	11.1	9.8	13.7	46.5	44.7	51.5	42.3	45.5	34.8
35-49	14.0	10.8	17.6	44.1	39.0	47.8	41.9	50.2	34.6
50-64	14.3	14.3	12.5	44.6	39.9	53.9	41.1	45.8	33.6
65+	7.2	12.7	13.8	40.2	35.5	51.9	52.6	51.7	34.4
Marital Status of household head									
Never married	9.9	10.6	11.1	45.2	55.1	58.2	44.8	34.3	30.6
Married	14.7	11.7	15.8	45.5	40.2	51.1	39.8	48.1	33.1
Divorced/Separated	4.9	5.4	11.6	45.4	41.8	42.2	49.7	52.8	46.2
Widow/Widower	4.3	10.9	9.8	36.4	35.6	55.1	59.2	53.5	35.1
Education Level of household head									
None	10.2	9.8	13.3	44.2	37.0	50.1	45.6	53.2	36.6
Primary	20.3	10.8	16.0	44.5	43.1	48.2	35.2	46.1	35.8
Secondary	18.6	15.5	18.1	44.7	48.3	52.0	36.7	36.2	29.9
Tertiary	21.9	19.6	18.3	58.1	65.3	66.5	20.0	15.2	15.1

9.7 Use of current income

Table 9.7 shows that 19 percent of the households in 2016, 23 percent in 2013, and 26 percent in 2010 do not have sufficient income levels to meet their needs and is supplemented by borrowing. The proportion is highest among households with no education (29 percent in 2010, 25 percent in 2013 and 23 percent in 2016) compared to those with tertiary education (about 1 percent in 2010, 3 percent in 2013 and 2 percent in 2016).

Households whose income allows them to build savings decreased from about 12 percent in 2010 to 7 percent in 2016. In urban areas, this proportion increased from about 20 percent in 2010 to 26 percent in 2013 and decreased to 16 percent in 2016. In rural areas households reporting sufficient income for saving dropped from 10 percent in 2010 to 5 percent in 2016.

Table 9. 7 Proportion of households by perceived adequacy of households' current income and background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Income allows to build savings			Income allows to save just a little			Income only just meets the expenses			Income not sufficient so need to use savings			Income really not sufficient so need to borrow		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	11.6	16.1	7.3	12.5	14.5	12.8	39.1	30.6	40.3	11.0	16.0	20.6	25.9	22.8	18.9
Place of residence															
Urban	19.6	26.3	16.2	15.2	16.7	20.9	39.8	28.9	41.6	12.0	10.6	11.6	13.4	17.4	9.7
Rural	9.9	13.7	5.3	11.9	14.0	11.0	38.9	31.0	40.0	10.7	17.2	22.7	13.4	17.4	9.7
Sex of household head															
Male	13.0	17.3	8.4	12.6	16.1	13.9	39.1	30.3	39.4	11.9	16.8	20.7	23.3	19.5	17.6
Female	7.2	12.7	4.3	11.9	9.7	10.1	38.9	31.3	42.7	8.0	13.2	20.3	34.0	33.0	22.6
Age of household head															
15-24	11.7	16.4	4.0	11.6	12.5	15.7	36.6	30.0	41.1	11.9	15.1	21.7	28.2	26.0	17.6
25-34	11.9	19.8	8.3	16.9	14.8	14.4	36.4	30.8	37.6	10.8	14.7	21.7	24.0	19.9	18.0
35-49	12.9	16.4	9.5	9.2	15.0	15.2	39.9	29.7	41.8	12.5	16.4	18.2	25.6	22.5	15.2
50-64	9.1	13.2	5.8	10.8	13.6	9.1	44.2	33.0	44.3	11.0	16.9	17.3	25.0	23.4	23.5
65+	10.8	10.3	5.2	12.7	15.5	8.5	38.9	29.0	36.8	6.4	17.4	26.5	31.1	28.0	23.0
Marital Status of household head															
Never married	19.8	32.8	11.3	29.2	28.5	21.1	39.8	21.4	38.2	-	3.8	13.7	11.2	13.5	15.7
Married	12.7	16.8	8.1	12.9	15.4	13.8	38.9	31.0	39.1	11.8	16.8	21.1	23.6	20.0	18.0
Divorced/Separated	3.5	17.6	3.9	9.8	10.8	9.3	34.1	27.5	45.5	10.2	11.6	19.3	42.4	32.5	22.0
Widow/Widower	9.2	8.2	4.6	9.2	9.9	8.4	44.7	31.7	44.3	7.6	16.0	20.1	29.3	34.1	22.8
Education Level of household head															
None	9.2	12.5	4.0	10.3	12.4	10.1	40.2	32.6	40.3	11.3	17.2	22.9	29.0	25.2	22.7
Primary	7.9	18.4	8.0	14.5	16.7	14.4	44.6	29.5	41.9	8.1	16.2	19.2	24.8	19.2	16.5
Secondary	21.5	25.8	13.9	22.7	20.7	20.0	32.3	24.7	43.4	10.4	12.0	14.6	13.2	16.9	8.1
Tertiary	53.4	56.1	38.6	12.1	24.2	30.1	17.1	16.3	24.6	16.8	-	4.6	0.6	3.4	2.2

9.8 Welfare in terms of sleeping materials used in cold season

The household heads were asked what they sleep under during cold season. Table 9.8 shows that most household heads sleep under blanket only during cold season (61 percent in 2010, 61 percent in 2013 and 64 percent in 2016). Proportion of those using blankets only has increased from 61 percent in 2010 to 64 percent in 2016.

Number of respondents who use blankets and sheets declined between 2010 and 2016 from 32 percent to 26 percent. In urban areas, there was a drop from 57 percent to about 47 percent while in rural areas the decline was from 21 in 2010 to 18 percent 2016.

Table 9.8 Proportion of households by type of material household head sleeps under during cold season by background characteristics, Malawi 2010-2016

Background characteristics	Blankets & sheets			Blankets only			Sheets only			Chitenje cloth			Nothing			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	31.5	32.7	25.9	61.2	60.8	64.3	2.7	2.2	4.3	3.9	3.3	4.1	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.5	1.3
Place of residence																		
Urban	57.3	49.0	47.4	40.2	45.2	45.8	2.1	2.9	3.8	0.2	0.9	0.3	-	0.4	-	0.2	1.6	2.7
Rural	20.8	26.4	18.1	69.9	66.9	71.0	3.0	2.0	4.6	5.4	4.3	5.5	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.3	-	0.8
Sex of household head																		
Male	33.4	34.0	26.9	61.3	61.3	65.3	2.5	2.0	3.7	2.1	1.6	2.6	0.4	0.6	-	0.2	0.5	1.5
Female	24.6	28.6	23.0	60.7	59.2	61.4	3.4	2.8	6.3	10.2	9.2	8.6	0.6	-	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.5
Age of household head																		
15-24	25.3	23.5	19.1	64.9	69.3	75.0	2.6	3.6	3.4	6.5	3.0	2.5	-	0.6	-	0.6	-	-
25-34	31.1	31.4	25.5	65.1	61.4	66.0	2.3	2.7	4.0	1.0	2.7	3.0	0.6	1.1	-	-	0.6	1.5
35-49	35.6	35.1	28.2	57.6	60.1	63.0	3.2	1.7	4.3	2.8	2.2	2.7	0.6	0.2	-	0.2	0.8	1.9
50-64	29.9	36.7	27.7	62.5	56.2	59.4	2.3	1.4	4.9	5.3	5.6	6.8	-	-	-	-	-	1.2
65+	28.6	30.0	23.7	54.9	62.6	64.2	3.4	2.5	4.9	11.4	4.9	6.6	0.6	-	0.2	1.1	-	0.5
Marital Status of household head																		
Never married	51.2	54.0	43.5	32.6	42.0	46.4	14.0	4.0	5.8	-	-	-	2.3	-	-	-	-	4.3
Married	32.4	33.0	25.9	62.7	62.0	66.5	2.1	2.1	3.6	2.3	1.9	2.5	0.3	0.5	-	0.2	0.5	1.4
Divorced/Separated	20.1	24.2	21.0	66.7	59.7	60.9	3.5	2.2	8.5	9.0	12.4	9.3	0.7	0.5	-	-	1.1	0.4
Widow/Widower	29.9	33.2	26.1	52.1	57.7	56.1	4.2	2.7	5.3	12.6	6.4	11.7	0.6	-	0.4	0.6	-	0.4
Education Level of household head																		
None	22.4	24.3	21.2	68.6	68.0	68.3	2.9	2.5	4.7	5.2	4.7	4.8	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.9
Primary	35.8	38.4	38.2	59.3	57.9	55.6	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.4	0.6	1.4	-	-	-	-	0.6	2.1
Secondary	57.6	51.0	43.9	40.3	45.2	48.3	1.8	1.4	3.0	-	-	1.1	0.4	0.9	-	-	1.4	3.7
Tertiary	79.6	85.9	66.7	16.7	11.8	29.0	3.7	-	2.9	-	-	-	-	1.2	-	-	1.2	1.4

9.9 Welfare in terms of types of sleeping materials

Between 2010 and 2016, 1 out of 3 of the households reported that the head sleeps on a bed and mattress (31 percent in 2010, 33 percent in 2013 and 2016).

There has been a slight improvement on households' heads sleeping on mattress and bed in both urban and rural localities from about 63 percent in 2010 to about 66 percent in 2016 in urban areas and from 18 percent in 2010 to about 22 percent in 2016.

The proportion of household heads with no education who sleep on bed and mattress has increased from 18 percent in 2010 to about 27 percent in 2016.

9.10 Welfare in terms of changes of clothing

Table 9.9 below shows that the proportion of the households where the head had at least three sets of clothes has increased from 72 percent in 2010 to 76 percent in 2016.

Urban areas recorded about 87 percent of household heads who had at least three sets of clothes in 2010 compared to 90 percent in 2013 and 91 percent in 2016.

In rural areas 69 percent had at least three sets of clothes in 2010 compared to 67 percent in 2013 and 72 percent in 2016.

Table 9.9 Proportion of households where the head has at least three clothes, sleeps on mattress on bed and background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Head had at least																							
	three changes			Bed and Mattress			Mat on bed			Bed only			Mattress on floor			Mat on floor			Cloth/Sack			Floor (Nothing else)		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	72.0	71.2	75.8	30.8	32.8	33.4	9.7	11.2	8.1	2.3	1.9	2.1	7.4	6.8	8.1	48.9	46.5	47.0	0.6	0.6	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Place of residence																								
Urban	87.2	89.7	90.9	62.5	64.1	66.4	8.0	9.5	8.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	7.4	4.9	9.0	20.8	20.0	15.0	0.2	0.2	0.3	-	0.2	0.3
Rural	68.8	66.8	72.3	17.7	20.7	21.5	10.4	11.9	8.0	2.8	2.2	2.6	7.4	7.5	7.8	60.5	56.8	58.6	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.3	0.1	0.2
Sex of household head																								
Male	73.4	73.5	77.2	33.3	34.5	35.8	10.3	12.1	8.7	2.2	1.9	1.9	7.7	7.0	8.2	45.8	43.9	44.7	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2
Female	67.6	64.1	72.0	22.0	27.1	26.2	7.6	8.3	6.2	2.5	1.7	2.7	6.2	6.1	7.9	59.6	55.2	54.1	1.4	1.1	2.7	0.6	0.2	0.2
Age of household head																								
15-24	72.4	74.3	76.6	16.2	15.2	19.6	7.1	10.3	2.9	1.3	-	3.4	10.4	6.1	13.7	64.3	67.9	59.3	-	0.6	1.0	-	-	-
25-34	75.2	72.9	80.3	32.2	32.5	29.8	9.0	10.9	7.1	2.7	1.9	3.0	8.4	9.0	9.9	47.0	44.4	48.8	0.4	1.1	0.9	0.2	-	0.5
35-49	73.9	77.0	77.1	33.9	37.6	39.4	10.5	11.5	8.6	1.2	1.6	1.4	7.7	6.2	7.5	45.5	42.5	42.4	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1
50-64	71.9	66.1	73.3	34.8	35.6	37.6	7.6	11.6	9.9	3.0	2.5	2.1	4.9	5.1	6.1	49.2	44.4	42.5	0.4	0.3	1.6	-	0.6	0.2
65+	58.8	56.1	68.8	24.6	28.1	30.2	14.9	11.3	9.1	4.0	3.0	1.4	4.6	5.4	5.9	49.7	52.2	51.8	1.7	-	1.6	0.6	-	-
Marital Status of household head																								
Never married	84.6	89.3	91.3	53.5	54.0	53.6	11.6	8.0	5.8	-	-	1.4	2.3	18.0	15.9	32.6	20.0	21.7	-	-	-	-	-	1.4
Married	73.8	73.2	77.2	32.4	34.2	34.5	10.4	11.6	8.2	2.3	1.8	2.0	7.8	6.6	8.0	46.5	45.2	46.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2
Divorced/Separated	66.0	69.3	74.9	12.5	22.0	21.8	5.6	6.5	7.3	2.8	2.7	2.8	9.7	6.5	9.3	68.8	59.7	56.0	0.7	1.6	2.8	-	0.5	-
Widow/Widower	63.2	57.0	64.1	29.3	27.3	30.7	7.8	13.2	8.3	2.4	1.8	2.3	3.0	5.9	5.7	53.9	50.9	50.4	2.4	0.9	2.3	1.2	-	0.4
Education Level of household head																								
None	66.1	65.1	70.9	18.0	20.3	26.8	10.9	12.3	8.3	2.5	2.2	2.2	8.4	7.8	8.1	59.0	56.6	53.2	0.8	0.6	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.2
Primary	85.5	78.9	80.1	38.2	42.1	47.2	8.1	12.6	7.6	4.1	1.3	3.5	9.8	2.5	10.4	39.8	41.5	30.6	-	-	0.7	-	-	-
Secondary	90.9	90.2	89.9	66.8	64.3	64.7	7.4	8.4	4.5	1.1	1.2	1.1	3.9	5.8	8.6	20.5	19.6	20.4	0.4	0.9	0.4	-	-	0.4
Tertiary	96.2	99.7	97.9	100.0	91.8	76.8	-	2.4	14.5	-	-	1.4	-	3.5	2.9	-	1.2	4.3	-	-	-	-	1.2	-

9.11 Response against shocks

Households vulnerable to shocks employ a variety of coping and adaptive mechanisms intended to mitigate or scale down hardships. Table 9.10 below outlines coping strategies employed by households faced with shocks.

Thirty-six percent of the households used own-savings as a coping mechanism in 2013 and 2016, compared to 21 percent in 2010. Prevalence is higher in urban areas at 53 percent, up from 38 percent in 2013 and 26 percent in 2010, relative to rural areas at 32 percent (36 percent in 2013, 21 percent in 2010). More male-headed households (37 percent up from 24 percent in 2010) have relied on own savings compared to female-headed households that reported own-saving as mitigation measure (33 percent up from 14 percent in 2010).

The table further shows that about 10 percent of the households affected by shocks relied on help from friends or relatives. This figure is fairly lower than that reported in 2013 (13 percent) but slightly high compared to 2010 (9 percent). The proportion is substantially high in female-headed households (16 percent in 2016, 18 percent in 2013 and 13 percent in 2010) compared to male-headed households (8 percent in 2016, 11 percent in 2013 and 7 percent in 2010).

Urban areas have registered an increase in the proportion of households who rely on help from relatives or friend from 6 percent in 2010 to about 12 percent in 2016.

Ten percent of households adjusted their food intake by reducing the quality, variety or desirability of their diet in 2016 (5 percent in 2010 and 11 percent in 2013). Prevalence is higher in rural areas at 11 percent, up from 5 percent in 2010 relative to urban areas at 8 percent (7 percent in 2013 and 2010).

Table 9.10 Proportion of households by mitigation measures for overcoming shocks by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Own-savings			Help from relatives/friends			Help from government, NGOs, etc.			Changed dietary patterns			More work		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	21.4	36.2	35.9	8.5	12.7	10.4	1.5	3.8	4.0	5.1	11.2	10.4	4.5	3.6	5.7
Place of residence															
Urban	26.1	38.1	52.6	6.1	14.2	11.7	1.3	1.2	0.4	7.4	6.7	7.7	2.1	3.9	2.5
Rural	20.5	35.7	31.6	8.9	12.3	10.1	1.5	4.5	4.9	4.6	12.3	11.1	4.9	3.6	6.5
Sex of household head															
Male	23.5	37.3	37.1	7.0	10.9	8.4	1.7	3.5	3.8	5.3	10.5	10.7	3.2	4.0	6.3
Female	14.3	32.8	32.6	13.4	17.9	16.3	0.7	4.8	4.3	4.5	13.4	9.5	8.6	2.4	4.0
Age of household head															
15-24	20.2	34.3	32.9	5.8	12.1	14.3	0.4	3.4	1.9	6.6	9.2	9.9	5.3	4.0	7.7
25-34	21.7	35.7	37.6	9.9	12.7	7.8	1.3	2.4	3.2	6.3	11.3	10.5	4.2	4.2	6.0
35-49	22.2	37.0	38.7	5.6	10.9	8.6	1.8	4.5	3.2	4.9	11.0	10.4	5.7	4.1	5.4
50-64	20.3	38.1	33.3	8.5	13.4	9.8	2.4	3.8	5.1	5.7	9.6	11.4	2.8	2.9	7.1
65+	21.2	33.4	32.6	15.2	16.8	16.3	0.7	6.0	6.2	-	15.5	9.5	3.3	1.8	3.4
Marital Status of household head															
Never married	23.3	31.8	41.5	10.0	19.6	15.3	3.3	4.7	-	13.3	5.6	9.7	-	3.7	8.5
Married	23.2	37.1	36.5	7.0	11.0	8.8	1.7	3.6	3.9	5.1	10.8	10.7	3.5	4.0	6.3
Divorced/Separated	11.8	33.1	35.0	13.1	17.4	12.4	-	4.4	4.2	6.8	13.2	9.1	12.2	3.2	3.6
Widow/Widower	16.7	33.2	31.8	14.0	18.5	19.3	0.8	4.8	4.9	2.3	13.1	9.5	5.3	1.4	3.0
Education Level of household head															
None	19.8	34.6	33.4	9.0	13.0	10.1	1.4	4.2	4.6	4.8	12.1	11.0	4.7	3.9	6.3
Primary	30.3	36.9	45.2	7.3	10.5	10.1	2.4	3.2	2.3	4.8	10.8	9.1	7.3	4.1	3.4
Secondary	26.5	41.5	47.5	5.5	12.7	14.0	1.5	2.9	0.3	6.8	8.5	7.5	2.2	2.6	2.7
Tertiary	20.0	50.3	59.3	10.0	9.5	9.0	-	1.7	-	3.3	2.8	5.5	-	1.1	2.8

9.12 Duration of benefits from social safety nets

Table 9.11 illustrates that the duration people have benefited from School Feeding Programme in Malawi is on average 8 months during 2010 – 2016 period. Distribution of Likuni Phala has not been steady, registering 5 months in 2010, 7 months in 2013 and 4 months in 2016. Supplementary feeding for malnourished children and mothers has remained at 3 months throughout the rounds.

People benefited from free maize programme for two months in 2010 and three months in 2013 and 2016. By place of residence, urban areas did not benefit from Supplementary Feeding Programme in all the rounds in contrast to rural areas where the programme was rolled on average for three months. The inputs for work programme reached urban beneficiaries for one month in 2013 only while rural households benefitted in all rounds, 2010-2016 for a period of one month.

Table 9.11 Duration in months of benefiting from a programme in the last 12 months by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Average number of months by programme																				
	Free Maize			Free Food other than maize			Food/cash for work			Inputs for work			School feeding			Free distribution of Likuni phala			Supplementary feeding		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	2	3	3	1	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	8	8	8	5	7	4	3	3	3
Place of residence																					
Urban	2	3	2	1	3	2	1	2	1	-	1	.	8	8	9	7	9	10	-	-	-
Rural	2	3	3	1	3	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	8	7	7	4	6	4	3	3	3
Sex of household head																					
Male	2	3	3	1	3	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	8	8	8	5	7	3	3	3	3
Female	3	3	4	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	7	3	-	6	-	-	4
Age of household head																					
15-24	1	2	3	1	2	4	2	1	2	-	1	1	6	7	7	-	8	3	-	-	-
25-34	2	3	3	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	8	7	8	2	9	5	2	-	3
35-49	1	3	3	1	3	4	3	2	2	1	1	1	8	8	8	9	5	4	3	3	-
50-64	4	3	4	1	3	3	1	1	2	-	1	1	8	8	8	4	8	4	-	-	4
65+	1	4	3	1	4	4	4	1	3	-	1	-	8	8	7	-	-	3	-	-	-
Marital Status of household head																					
Never married	-	4	3	-	4	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	9	2	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Married	2	3	3	1	3	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	8	8	8	5	6	4	3	3	3
Divorced/Separated	1	3	4	1	3	4	1	1	2	-	-	1	8	7	7	3	-	5	-	-	4
Widow/Widower	4	3	3	1	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	-	7	8	8	-	10	4	-	-	3
Education Level of household head																					
None	2	3	3	1	3	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	8	8	8	5	6	4	3	3	4
Primary	2	2	3	1	3	3	1	3	2	1	1	1	7	7	6	-	6	5	-	-	1
Secondary	2	3	2	1	4	2	2	5	1	-	1	1	8	8	8	2	9	1	-	-	-
Tertiary	-	1	3	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	9	9	9	-	-	4	-	-	-

10 FOOD SECURITY

10.0 Introduction

This chapter provides comprehensive information and a descriptive analysis about food security at the household level for 2010, 2013 and 2016. The surveys collected information on a variety of specific conditions, experiences and behaviors, characteristic of a wide range of severity of household food insecurity including its intermediate and underlying causes. Availability of food is of paramount importance in Malawi and it is widely accepted that lack of adequate food, whether chronic or transitory, is one of the principal indicators of poverty.

Food security exists when a person has permanent physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet his dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. The survey questions followed a progressive scale of severity extending from high to very low food security and placement on this scale is determined by the extent of how food deprivation is perceived, experienced and described by the respondents. The implemented scale classifies households into four categories, each representing a different degree of food severity: high food security, marginal food security, low food security and very low food security.

10.1 Definitions

High food security:—Households that did not experience any concern about accessing enough food and did not alter the quality, variety, and quantity or eating patterns.

Marginal food security—Households that have concerns about adequacy of the food supply but the quantity, the quality, the variety and the eating patterns were not disrupted.

Low food security— Households that might have been concerned about not having access to enough food, they reduced the quality and the variety of the food consumed but quantity of food intake and normal eating patterns were not disrupted.

Very low food security— Households experience multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake. They report reduction in food quality, variety, quantity and frequency of food consumed. Consumption by adults could have been restricted in order for small children to eat and could also depend on food assistance from relatives or friends.

10.2 Food security assessment

Table 10.1 indicates that there was a reduction in food security in 2016 as compared to 2013 and 2010 where 56 percent of the households reported that they experienced very low food security in 2016 relative to 38 percent in 2013 and 31 percent in 2010. Looking at rural urban differentials, it can be noted that the rural areas registered high proportion (58 percent) of households in 2016 with very low food security as compared with their urban counterparts at 38 percent. The situation has been worsening from 2010 and 2013 in rural areas where 33 and 39 percent and 20 and 34 percent in urban areas experienced very low food respectively.

It can also be revealed that there are rising trends in proportion of households with very low food security in both households that are male-headed and female-headed with female-headed households facing very low food security in all the three rounds of the survey as compared to male-headed households. The proportion of female-headed households with very low food security jumped from 32 percent in 2010 and 44 percent in 2013 to 64 percent in 2016 while for male-headed households rose from 30 percent in 2010 and 37 percent in 2013 to 51 percent in 2016.

While the proportions of the households with very high food security in all the categories of levels of education have been decreasing it can still be noted that those with tertiary education registered higher proportion (72 percent) of food security as compared to those with lower education levels.

Table 10. 1 Population by food security status in the week prior to the survey by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Food Security Status											
	High			Marginal			Low			Very low		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	59.9	51.0	31.3	1.5	1.9	3.0	8.0	8.6	11.4	30.5	38.4	54.4
Place of residence												
Urban	72.0	54.8	49.9	0.9	3.7	5.7	7.0	7.8	6.4	20.1	33.7	37.9
Rural	57.4	50.3	27.2	1.6	1.6	2.4	8.3	8.8	12.4	32.7	39.4	57.9
Sex of household head												
Male	61.5	52.9	34.3	1.5	2.5	3.3	7.0	8.1	11.8	30.1	36.5	50.6
Female	55.0	45.5	23.5	1.7	0.4	2.2	11.6	10.2	10.2	31.8	43.8	64.0
Age of household head												
15-24	58.6	52.6	37.3	1.7	0.4	3.3	9.5	11.4	9.5	30.3	35.6	49.9
25-34	60.8	49.8	28.8	0.8	1.6	2.8	7.3	7.9	14.2	31.1	40.7	54.1
35-49	58.5	52.5	32.8	0.8	2.5	2.8	6.0	7.7	10.7	34.7	37.3	53.7
50-64	61.0	49.9	33.6	3.7	0.6	4.0	9.3	10.2	9.6	26.0	39.2	52.8
65+	61.2	51.0	27.3	1.9	3.7	2.4	12.5	9.1	11.4	24.4	36.1	58.9
Marital Status of household head												
Never married	70.5	67.5	60.9	0.0	0.0	11.3	12.4	6.7	2.2	17.1	25.7	25.6
Married	61.8	52.7	32.6	1.5	2.5	3.1	6.9	8.1	12.2	29.8	36.7	52.1
Divorced/Separated	49.5	41.5	21.8	3.1	0.3	3.2	10.8	10.1	10.9	36.6	48.1	64.1
Widow/Widower	53.9	46.9	27.8	0.5	0.5	0.9	12.8	10.6	8.0	32.8	42.0	63.3
Education Level of household head												
None	57.0	48.2	25.2	1.7	1.2	2.5	8.7	8.3	11.4	32.6	42.4	60.8
Primary	63.7	48.0	31.1	0.4	7.1	4.5	6.2	5.6	9.5	29.6	39.3	54.8
Secondary	68.7	62.6	51.5	1.7	2.4	3.0	6.5	11.5	11.2	23.1	23.5	34.3
Tertiary	87.2	85.0	72.1	0.0	2.3	6.3	1.9	4.2	10.4	10.9	8.5	11.1

10.3 Food security and livelihood strategies

Households vulnerable to food insecurity employ a variety of coping and adaptive mechanisms intended to mitigate or scale down food hardships. This section highlights some of the coping strategies employed by households when faced with scarcity of food.

10.3.1 Rely on less expensive or less preferred food

The table 10.2 reveals an increasing trend in the proportion of households that relied on less preferred or less expensive food from 2010 to 2016 jumping from 30 percent to 55 percent. The proportion of households that relied on less preferred or less expensive food increased from 32 percent in 2010 to 59 percent in 2016 for rural areas while for urban areas it jumping from 22 percent in 2010 to 35 percent in 2016. The proportion was high (62 percent) in female-headed households in 2016 as compared to male-headed household at 51 percent.

10.3.2 Limiting portions at meal times

The table 10.2 also reveals that the population of households that reduced consumption at mealtimes by cutting the portion size of meals increased from 22 percent in 2010 to 41 percent in 2016. A remarkable increase is observed female-headed households where it jumped from 23 percent in 2010 to 48 percent in 2016 while for male-headed households it jumped from 22 percent in 2010 to 38 percent in 2016.

10.3.3 Reducing number of meals taken in a day

It can be observed from the table 10.2 below that the proportion of households that reduced the number of meals in a day increased from 18 percent in 2010 to 40 percent in 2016. The increase was significantly high in rural areas where it jumped from 19 percent in 2010 to 44 percent in 2016 while in urban areas it jumped from 14 percent in 2010 to 29 percent in 2016.

10.3.4 Restricting consumption by adults in order for small children to eat

The proportion of households that restricted consumption by adults in order for small children to eat rose from 9 percent in 2010 to 19 percent in 2016. The proportion increased from 8 percent in 2010 to 23 percent in 2016 in female-headed households as compared to male-headed households (10 percent in 2010 and 18 percent in 2016).

10.3.5 Borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative

The proportion of households that borrowed food or rely on help from friends and relatives to mitigate or scale down food hardships rose from 11 percent in 2010 to 23 percent in 2016. The proportion increased by 12 percent from 2010 to 2016 in rural households as compared to 9 percent in urban households.

Table 10. 2 Population households that were food insecure 7 days preceding to the survey by coping mechanisms by background characteristics, Malawi 2017

Background characteristics	Coping mechanisms														
	Relied on less preferred or less expensive foods			Limit portions			Reduced number of meals taken in a day			Restrict consumption by adults in order for small children to eat			Borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	30.1	38.2	54.5	21.8	29.5	40.5	17.7	23.2	40.2	9.3	12.2	19.4	11.4	19.2	23.0
Place of residence															
Urban	22.3	32.5	35.4	14.8	21.3	28.9	13.6	15.3	28.9	8.1	10.7	15.0	4.7	19.0	13.6
Rural	31.8	39.4	58.6	23.3	31.2	43.0	18.5	24.8	42.7	9.5	12.5	20.4	12.8	19.2	25.1
Sex of household head															
Male	28.0	35.0	51.4	21.6	27.0	37.6	16.5	20.8	38.3	9.6	11.2	18.2	10.4	17.9	20.6
Female	37.2	47.4	62.2	22.5	36.8	47.9	21.4	30.0	45.1	8.2	15.0	22.5	14.7	22.8	29.4
Age of household head															
15-24	29.1	37.7	53.2	18.7	31.3	38.0	17.4	15.1	36.3	4.8	11.1	13.6	14.5	14.6	28.9
25-34	28.1	38.1	56.2	22.7	28.9	39.9	15.6	23.2	42.7	9.5	12.4	21.7	11.9	23.0	24.4
35-49	33.2	36.9	51.9	26.1	30.4	41.0	21.0	24.4	36.3	12.2	13.2	22.5	13.4	17.8	24.0
50-64	28.3	41.4	52.6	18.3	30.6	40.1	16.4	24.3	41.1	8.6	11.6	18.6	7.7	18.6	15.7
65+	31.1	37.2	59.5	16.2	26.5	41.2	16.4	21.2	44.7	5.7	10.4	13.5	7.0	17.3	26.4
Marital Status of household head															
Never married	25.9	26.4	16.9	13.3	10.1	8.6	2.9	4.3	16.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	6.2	15.0	7.6
Married	27.9	35.9	53.6	21.4	27.5	38.9	17.0	21.4	40.0	9.6	12.3	19.6	10.9	18.1	20.9
Divorced/Separated	39.6	47.0	63.9	22.7	41.8	49.3	23.8	32.4	45.3	7.8	11.5	19.5	16.7	24.8	30.0
Widow/Widower	38.4	46.0	57.2	25.4	34.4	46.3	19.5	28.9	41.1	9.7	13.4	20.5	11.6	21.2	31.3
Education level of household head															
None	31.9	41.0	59.4	23.4	31.9	46.0	18.7	26.0	45.6	9.5	13.8	21.6	12.6	21.7	26.2
Primary	27.3	37.0	55.9	17.4	34.5	43.6	17.0	24.6	39.5	8.4	12.8	21.0	11.7	13.6	23.9
Secondary	25.8	29.5	37.9	18.1	19.2	21.0	14.8	11.7	23.2	9.3	5.6	12.1	6.4	12.7	12.3
Tertiary	6.3	6.2	17.9	10.9	5.0	6.6	4.3	6.8	7.8	4.3	5.0	0.9	1.6	3.7	1.5

10.4 Household food consumption profile

The section provides information on the number of meals consumed in a typical day by adult household members. In a country where consumption of three or more meals in a day is customary, household food rationing in the face of food shortages include reduction in the number of meals consumed by adults. Usually households give priority to children than adults in households with food insecurity by reducing number of meals taken by adults.

10.4.1 Frequency of meals consumed by adults

Table 10.3 reveals that the proportion of households in Malawi with adults taking three meals per day declined from 59 percent that was reported in 2013 to 53 percent in 2016. This has caused an increase in proportion of households with adults taking two meals from 39 percent in 2013 to 44 percent in 2016. Furthermore, the proportion of households with adults taking one meal per day increased from 1 percent in 2013 to 3 percent in 2016.

Remarkable differences are observed in rural areas where the proportion of households with adults taking two meals per day rose from 43 percent in 2013 to 50 percent in 2016 as compared to 2 percentage point decrease in urban areas from 18 percent in 2013 to 16 percent in 2016.

Table 10. 3 Percentage distribution of households by number of meals taken per day by adults by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Number of meals											
	1 meal			2 meals			3 meals			4 meals and more		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	1.4	1.3	2.6	40.8	38.5	43.8	57.2	59.3	52.5	0.7	0.9	1.0
Place of residence												
Urban	0.2	0.7	1.7	8.1	17.9	16.4	89.1	78.7	77.3	2.6	2.7	4.6
Rural	1.6	1.4	2.8	47.5	42.8	49.8	50.5	55.3	47.2	0.3	0.6	0.2
Sex of household head												
Male	1.2	1.4	2.2	38.1	36.5	40.6	59.8	61.0	56.1	0.8	1.0	1.1
Female	1.9	0.8	3.7	49.5	44.3	52.2	48.5	54.3	43.5	0.1	0.7	0.7
Age of household head												
15-24	0.7	0.0	2.1	45.7	37.2	37.3	52.5	62.8	60.5	1.1	0.0	0.1
25-34	1.6	0.7	1.8	30.4	35.6	40.4	67.5	62.7	56.7	0.4	1.0	1.2
35-49	1.8	0.4	2.1	39.9	35.4	36.1	57.7	62.8	60.0	0.6	1.4	1.8
50-64	1.6	1.9	2.3	47.8	43.8	50.3	49.1	53.4	47.3	1.5	0.9	0.1
65+	0.0	4.0	5.0	55.7	44.6	56.9	44.2	51.3	37.4	0.1	0.0	0.7
Marital Status of household head												
Never married	0.6	3.3	5.1	16.0	10.0	22.0	83.4	86.3	66.4	0.0	0.3	6.5
Married	1.3	1.2	2.2	39.1	36.9	41.0	58.9	61.0	55.8	0.8	0.9	1.1
Divorced/Separated	2.4	0.6	4.7	48.3	46.1	52.0	49.0	51.9	43.1	0.2	1.3	0.2
Widow/Widower	1.5	2.0	3.0	51.5	45.4	56.3	46.7	51.9	40.3	0.3	0.8	0.4
Education Level of household head												
None	1.8	1.5	3.1	49.7	46.1	53.4	48.2	52.2	43.4	0.3	0.2	0.1
Primary	0.0	0.8	2.2	25.0	24.9	28.4	74.9	72.9	69.0	0.2	1.3	0.4
Secondary	0.6	0.6	1.1	12.5	13.4	17.2	84.8	82.5	79.3	2.1	3.4	2.4
Tertiary	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.1	4.5	93.5	90.8	79.0	5.6	9.1	16.4

10.5 Underlying causes for households not having enough food 12 months prior to the survey

Many households that were hit by food deprivation in 2016 did so because of drought, floods, poor rains and waterlogging which is different from those that suffered in 2013 and 2010 where many households suffered from food deprivation because of lack of farm inputs.

Table 10.4 indicates that 38 percent of households suffered from incidences of food deprivation due to drought, poor rains, floods and water logging in 2016 relative to 20 percent in 2013 and 25 percent in 2010.

It can be observed that there are differences in the reasons for households to suffer from incidences of food deprivation between rural areas in 2016 with rural areas reporting higher proportion (40 percent) of its households suffering because of drought, poor rains, floods and water logging while 50 percent of the urban reported that they did so because of exorbitant food prices in the markets.

The proportion of households that suffered from incidences of food deprivation due to lack of farm inputs dropped from 42 percent in 2010 to 22 percent in 2016. The proportion dropped by 21 percentage points in rural areas from 2010 to 2016 while in urban areas it drop from by 6 percentage points from 2010 to 2013 and increased 1 percent to 2016 at 13 percent.

The proportion of households which reported exorbitant food prices in markets as an underlying cause of food deprivation increased from 13 percent in 2010 to 28 percent in 2013 and remained the same in 2016. Considering place of residence, it can be observed that the proportion rose from 46 percent from 2010 in urban areas to 57 percent in 2013 then dropped to 50 percent in 2016 while for the rural areas the proportion increased from 9 percent in 2010 to 26 percent in 2016.

Table 10. 4 Proportion of the population that experienced food shortage in the 12 months preceding the survey and causes of the situation by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background characteristics	Causes of food shortage																	
	Drought, poor rains, floods, water logging			Crop pest damage			Small land size			Lack of farm inputs			Food in the market was very expensive			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	25.2	20.2	38.1	2.3	2.5	0.8	11.0	7.9	5.6	41.5	33.7	22.0	12.5	27.5	27.8	7.6	8.2	5.7
Place of residence																		
Urban	12.5	5.5	15.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.8	3.6	4.1	18.4	11.5	12.8	46.3	57.3	50.2	20.8	22.1	17.3
Rural	26.4	22.0	40.4	2.5	2.8	0.8	11.9	8.4	5.8	43.8	36.4	22.9	9.1	23.9	25.6	6.3	6.5	4.5
Sex of household head																		
Male	23.6	20.4	38.6	2.4	2.7	1.1	9.8	7.6	4.5	40.9	33.7	21.5	14.9	27.7	28.6	8.4	7.9	5.8
Female	29.0	19.8	37.1	2.0	2.0	0.1	13.9	8.5	8.1	42.9	33.6	23.1	6.6	27.1	26.2	5.6	9.0	5.5
Age of household head																		
15-24	24.4	13.7	33.9	2.9	0.3	0.3	14.1	7.6	6.4	38.0	29.0	20.2	14.1	37.2	34.8	6.5	12.3	4.4
25-34	26.7	19.5	36.0	2.1	1.7	0.5	10.3	8.2	5.8	41.0	32.1	22.0	12.1	31.0	30.3	7.8	7.5	5.5
35-49	22.2	19.7	37.7	1.4	3.5	0.3	12.5	7.8	4.5	41.6	33.8	22.3	12.8	26.3	29.5	9.4	8.9	5.7
50-64	27.6	23.0	42.2	3.7	1.9	1.2	7.7	6.3	6.5	41.7	34.5	19.9	11.6	27.2	25.9	7.7	7.1	4.3
65+	27.0	20.5	37.5	2.6	2.9	1.4	9.9	9.6	6.1	44.8	36.3	24.3	12.0	22.1	23.1	3.7	8.6	7.6
Marital status of household head																		
Never married	39.7	7.4	18.7	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	30.9	23.9	29.6	27.5	34.8	25.9	0.0	33.9	17.0
Married	24.5	21.1	38.2	2.3	2.6	1.0	9.8	8.0	4.8	41.2	34.4	21.5	13.6	27.0	28.8	8.6	6.9	5.6
Divorced/Separated	24.0	19.8	38.2	1.7	2.7	0.2	15.9	6.8	6.6	46.7	25.3	24.3	4.3	33.1	25.3	7.4	12.4	5.4
Widow/Widower	29.2	16.7	38.8	2.6	1.8	0.0	13.9	9.0	8.6	38.6	37.8	22.2	13.4	24.9	25.2	2.3	9.8	5.2
Education level of household head																		
None	26.6	20.5	38.9	2.4	2.4	0.7	10.7	8.1	5.7	42.8	35.1	22.1	10.6	26.3	27.4	6.9	7.6	5.2
Primary	23.9	20.7	29.6	0.0	1.9	0.0	11.5	4.4	2.5	33.5	34.9	20.5	24.2	28.9	33.8	7.0	9.2	13.6
Secondary	11.4	16.8	30.4	2.9	4.2	0.4	13.6	6.9	7.4	34.6	20.2	23.5	22.8	41.0	28.5	14.7	10.9	9.7
Tertiary	100.0	20.0	24.7	0.0	0.0	14.5	0.0	11.8	1.6	0.0	5.8	2.4	0.0	27.7	52.5	0.0	34.7	4.3

11 AGRICULTURE

11.1 Participation in Agriculture

The panel households reported information on the production and post-harvest related matters (sales and storage) pertaining to the 2015/2016 rainy season, complete information on the 2016 dry (dimba) season, production and disposition of tree/permanent crops in the last 12 months, livestock ownership/management and production of livestock products as well as access to extension services.

Table 11.1 presents findings on those households that were involved in agricultural activities over the three rounds of IHS panel surveys. Household engagement in agricultural activities included those households that cultivated any crop during the reference rainy season or dry season, cultivated trees in the last 12 months prior to the survey and those that kept any livestock in the last 12 months. Results indicate that proportion of households engaged in agriculture we similar over the three years, with about 81 percent of households involved in agriculture during the IHPS 2016. The proportion of households involved in rainy season agriculture dropped from 79 percent in 2010 to 75 percent in 2016 while for households involved in dry season agriculture, the proportion increased by 1 percentage point from 10 percent in 2010 to 11 percent in 2016. The proportion of households that cultivated tree/permanent crops increased from 12 percent in 2010 to 34 percent in 2013 and dropped to 26 percent in 2016. The percentage of households owning livestock during the last 12 months preceding the survey increased from 44 percent in 2010 to 48 percent in 2016.

Table 11.1 Percentage distribution of household agricultural involvement by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Agriculture involvement			Rainy season			Dry season			Tree cultivation			Livestock farming		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	80.5	80.3	81.1	79.1	76.0	75.4	10.3	21.0	11.3	12.3	33.9	26.3	43.6	47.1	47.7
Place of Residence															
Urban	44.2	44.2	47.1	41.5	37.8	36.3	4.0	2.5	2.4	4.0	11.7	8.7	16.4	19.3	21.9
Rural	95.6	94.3	93.4	94.8	90.8	89.5	12.8	28.2	14.5	15.7	42.5	32.6	54.9	57.9	57.1
Sex of household head															
Male	79.0	79.0	79.8	77.5	74.7	73.7	10.5	21.5	11.6	12.1	32.8	25.5	44.9	49.0	49.3
Female	86.2	84.5	85.1	85.0	80.3	80.4	9.3	19.5	10.4	13.0	37.8	28.7	39.0	40.8	43.1
Age of household head															
15 - 24	84.4	72.3	72.5	81.8	68.7	66.7	6.5	16.4	9.8	12.3	18.1	13.7	31.8	31.3	36.8
25 -34	72.0	70.3	74.5	71.4	66.0	69.4	6.7	17.4	10.1	9.4	24.5	21.0	35.9	36.6	39.9
35 - 49	80.4	82.8	81.7	78.4	78.1	74.9	10.9	23.3	14.1	12.7	33.6	26.0	46.5	53.5	50.0
50 - 64	89.0	89.3	91.8	87.9	85.3	87.6	15.5	26.3	12.0	15.2	48.9	39.7	56.8	58.8	62.0
65 and above	90.3	94.1	83.6	88.6	89.7	77.5	14.3	19.7	7.7	15.4	50.7	27.4	48.6	51.7	46.6
Marital Status of the household head															
Never Married	25.6	18.0	31.9	25.6	16.0	26.1	4.7	0.0	2.9	4.7	8.0	8.7	4.7	4.0	7.2
Married	81.4	82.1	82.6	79.9	77.7	76.5	10.9	22.4	12.3	12.8	33.9	26.3	46.2	50.2	51.0
Divorced/Separated	81.9	75.3	78.2	81.3	70.4	75.2	7.6	17.8	6.9	9.7	33.3	27.6	32.6	38.7	36.6
Widowed	86.8	86.4	86.0	85.0	82.7	79.9	9.0	18.6	10.2	12.6	40.9	29.2	43.7	42.3	44.7
Education level of the household head															
None	87.1	88.1	87.1	86.3	84.8	81.9	11.5	25.1	12.2	14.2	40.0	29.2	47.2	52.7	52.2
Primary	79.7	76.7	72.2	78.0	69.2	64.6	11.4	16.4	6.9	10.6	31.4	20.8	48.0	47.2	38.9
Secondary	59.7	59.9	53.5	56.5	53.9	44.8	5.7	10.4	8.2	6.4	16.1	11.9	32.2	31.1	27.2
Tertiary	50.0	41.2	31.9	46.3	32.9	26.1	5.6	5.9	4.3	7.4	12.9	7.2	16.7	20.0	15.9

11.2 Cultivated area

On cultivated area, table 11.2 shows that there was a decline in the average cultivated area over the years from 7 in 2010 to 4 in 2016. By place of residence, the average cultivated area in urban areas increased from 8 in 2010 to 11 in 2016 while in rural areas the average cultivated area decreased from 7 in 2010 to 3 in 2016.

There was a drop of 3 percentage points in the average cultivated area in male-headed households from 8 in 2010 to 5 in 2016 while across the female-headed households, the average cultivated area dropped from by 2 percentage points from 6 in 2010 to 4 in 2016.

At national level, the proportion of agricultural households who cultivated between 0 and 1 acre piece of land increased from 33 percent in 2010 to 39 percent in 2016 while the proportion of agricultural households who cultivated 1-2 acres decreased from 34 percent in 2010 to 30 percent in 2016. Similar decreasing trend was also observed for the households who cultivated between 2-4 acres of land from 25 percent in 2010 to 23 percent in 2016.

In terms of place of residence, there was an increase in the proportion of households that cultivated 0-1 acre of land in urban areas from 54 percent in 2010 to 58 percent in 2016 while in rural areas, the proportion increased from 30 percent in 2010 to 36 percent in 2016. For households that cultivated between 1-2 acres of land, the proportion decreased by 4 percentage points between 2010 and 2016 in both urban and rural areas.

Across male-headed households, the proportion of households that cultivated 0-1 acre of land decreased from 31 percent in 2010 to 38 percent in 2016 while among female-headed households, the proportion was similar in 2010 and 2016 at 42 percent.

Table 11.2 Proportion of household land holdings, ownership & cultivation by background characteristics, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Average Cultivated			0-1			1-2			2-4			4-6			6+		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	7.2	6.3	4.4	33.4	35.7	38.9	33.6	34.2	30.0	25.3	22.2	22.5	5.1	5.2	5.1	2.7	2.6	3.4
Place of Residence																		
Urban	7.9	12.7	11.3	54.3	55.7	58.0	25.4	28.6	21.2	17.3	11.0	15.3	2.0	2.9	2.4	1.0	1.9	3.1
Rural	7.1	5.2	3.4	29.6	32.5	36.0	35.1	35.1	31.4	26.7	24.0	23.6	5.6	5.6	5.5	2.9	2.8	3.4
Sex of household head																		
Male	7.5	6.5	4.7	30.9	33.0	37.9	32.2	32.6	27.1	28.1	25.0	24.7	5.8	6.2	6.2	3.0	3.1	4.1
Female	6.2	5.5	3.8	41.5	44.0	41.8	38.2	39.1	38.0	15.9	13.6	16.5	2.7	2.2	2.2	1.7	1.1	1.6
Age of household head																		
15 - 24	5.9	5.5	6.7	57.5	54.4	66.7	26.0	32.5	21.3	14.2	10.5	9.9	0.8	2.6	0.7	1.6	0.0	1.4
25 -34	5.5	7.2	2.9	41.2	43.2	44.1	35.3	37.8	36.1	20.2	14.9	15.7	1.9	3.2	3.4	1.3	1.0	0.6
35 - 49	11.5	6.2	4.5	27.0	33.3	38.2	34.5	32.9	27.5	28.5	24.0	25.0	7.6	5.8	4.5	2.5	4.0	4.8
50 - 64	5.4	5.5	4.6	22.4	26.2	27.1	31.5	32.8	31.4	33.2	28.8	27.9	7.8	9.3	9.0	5.2	3.0	4.5
65 and above	3.9	6.0	5.3	27.7	29.7	34.7	36.8	33.0	28.1	26.5	30.2	26.9	5.8	3.3	6.0	3.2	3.8	4.2
Marital Status of the household head																		
Never Married	1.8	2.1	5.9	36.4	50.0	76.2	36.4	12.5	4.8	18.2	25.0	14.3	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	4.8
Married	7.5	6.4	4.6	31.4	33.7	37.4	32.4	33.3	28.7	27.5	24.0	24.3	5.7	6.0	5.9	3.0	3.0	3.7
Divorced/Separated	1.4	5.1	3.1	40.2	45.0	40.3	43.6	35.9	40.9	14.5	15.3	15.1	0.9	3.8	2.2	0.9	0.0	1.6
Widowed	10.1	6.5	4.3	41.3	41.8	44.9	34.3	39.6	32.2	18.9	15.4	17.3	3.5	1.6	2.8	2.1	1.6	2.8
Education level of the household head																		
None	7.7	5.8	4.1	31.5	34.5	38.0	33.9	34.4	30.7	26.2	23.4	22.9	5.6	5.2	5.1	2.9	2.6	3.3
Primary	7.9	6.2	6.0	41.1	30.0	47.3	32.6	42.7	25.8	20.0	20.9	19.4	5.3	6.4	3.2	1.1	0.0	4.3
Secondary	3.5	8.6	7.3	37.3	44.9	45.6	35.4	30.5	25.6	23.6	16.0	19.2	1.9	5.3	6.4	1.9	3.2	3.2
Tertiary	9.9	9.1	3.4	56.0	46.4	40.0	16.0	21.4	20.0	20.0	17.9	25.0	4.0	3.6	5.0	4.0	10.7	10.0

11.3 Household means of plot acquisition

During the series of IHPS, information was collected on how households acquired plots over time. The following were means on how households acquired plots: Inherited/allocated by a family member, rent short term, granted by local leaders, purchased, moved in with/without, bride price, leasehold, and farming as a tenant.

Survey results from the Table 11.3a and Table 11.3b below indicate that the highest proportion of plots were acquired through inheritance or allocated by a family member. The proportion of plots acquired through inheritance or allocated by a family member decreased from 77 percent in 2010 to 72 percent in 2016. Proportion of plots that were granted by local leaders increased from 8 percent in 2010 to 9 percent in 2016.

Across urban areas, proportion of plots that were acquired through rent increased from 5 percent in 2010 to 9 percent in 2016 while in rural areas the proportion of plots that were acquired through rent increased from 8 percent in 2010 to 9 percent in 2016.

Table 11.3 Proportion of plots by method of acquisition, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Inherited/Allocated by a family member			Rent short term			Granted by local leaders			Purchased			Moved in with/without		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	76.5	78.4	71.7	7.6	5.6	8.6	8.2	9.1	9.3	3.4	3.0	4.2	0.5	0.4	0.5
Place of residence															
Urban	62.4	64.3	46.0	5.3	3.9	8.7	15.3	8.4	15.6	4.5	10.0	15.9	2.5	3.3	1.1
Rural	77.7	79.8	73.7	7.8	5.8	8.6	7.6	9.2	8.8	3.3	2.3	3.2	0.3	0.1	0.4
Sex of household head															
Male	75.9	76.7	70.0	7.2	5.6	7.7	8.7	10.2	11.1	3.6	3.4	4.4	0.6	0.2	0.4
Female	78.8	84.6	76.4	9.1	5.8	11.3	6.2	5.3	4.0	2.7	1.3	3.5	0.0	1.0	0.6
Age of household head															
15 - 24	82.1	81.6	74.6	6.7	1.5	2.9	7.8	9.4	10.7	1.6	2.3	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
25 -34	79.9	80.2	76.6	3.7	3.7	3.6	9.0	11.3	11.0	3.0	1.6	3.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
35 - 49	75.7	75.0	71.5	5.2	5.9	7.1	9.5	11.0	10.8	5.0	4.0	4.7	0.6	0.3	0.4
50 - 64	73.0	79.8	68.7	12.7	7.5	10.8	7.0	6.0	8.5	1.6	3.3	4.7	0.0	1.2	0.8
65 and above	73.0	79.8	68.7	12.7	7.5	10.8	7.0	6.0	8.5	1.6	3.3	4.7	0.0	1.2	0.8
Education level of household head															
None	78.3	80.6	71.6	8.1	6.3	9.0	6.4	7.4	9.4	3.7	2.9	4.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
Primary	67.0	72.3	77.8	9.9	2.7	1.6	15.0	13.4	10.5	1.1	1.4	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.8
Secondary	70.3	69.3	67.7	2.0	2.2	8.5	16.1	19.2	7.0	2.3	3.6	4.1	1.4	0.0	0.0
Tertiary	44.0	48.5	73.8	0.0	11.6	0.0	42.2	19.2	4.7	3.7	10.2	5.9	2.0	0.4	0.0
Marital Status of household head															
Never Married	84.2	71.8	68.7	0.0	8.2	5.3	0.3	16.6	10.0	0.0	3.5	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Married	76.1	77.7	71.3	7.0	5.3	7.4	8.8	9.9	10.4	3.5	3.3	4.3	0.6	0.2	0.4
Divorced/Separated	79.8	85.1	79.2	11.5	5.5	8.7	5.4	4.8	5.9	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.4
Widowed	76.2	79.4	68.5	9.5	8.0	18.0	6.4	5.7	4.0	3.8	2.4	4.8	0.0	2.0	1.2

Table 11.3 (continued) Proportion of plots by method of acquisition, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	Bride Price			Leasehold			Farming as a tenant			Other		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	2.5	1.8	5.0
Place of residence												
Urban	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.5	8.9	9.4	12.2
Rural	0.6	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	1.9	1.1	4.4
Sex of household head												
Male	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.3	2.6	2.2	5.3
Female	0.7	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	2.1	0.4	3.9
Age of household head												
15 - 24	0.5	0.5	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	4.7	7.4
25 -34	0.6	1.6	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	3.1	1.1	5.1
35 - 49	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.3	2.2	1.5	4.9
50 - 64	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.3	2.1	1.5	5.6
65 and above	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	3.3	3.2	3.0
Education level of household head												
None	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.1	1.8	1.0	4.5
Primary	1.3	3.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	5.7	6.7	6.0
Secondary	0.4	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.7	6.1	4.1	12.0
Tertiary	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	2.7	9.7	10.2
Marital Status of household head												
Never Married	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.4	0.0	13.9
Married	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.2	2.5	2.1	5.3
Divorced/Separated	0.0	3.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.8	1.4	0.5	2.7
Widowed	1.1	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	2.3	1.3	3.6

11.4 Primary plot management

The agriculture module also gathered information on primary plot managers within the household members. Results from Table 11.5 shows an increase in plot management by female managers over the years. Proportion of plots managed by female managers increased from 28 percent in 2010 to 38 percent in 2016 while for male managers, the proportion decreased from 72 percent in 2010 to 62 percent in 2016.

Across urban areas, the proportion of male managers decreased from 74 percent in 2010 to 54 percent in 2016 while for female managers, the proportion increased from 27 percent in 2010 to 46 percent in 2016. In rural areas, the proportion of female managers increased from 28 percent in 2010 to 37 percent in 2016 while for male managers, the proportion decreased from 72 percent in 2010 to 37 percent in 2016.

In male-headed households, the proportion of female managers increased from 10 percent in 2010 to 20 percent in 2016 while in female-headed households, the proportion of male managers increased from 4 percent in 2010 to 5 percent in 2016.

Table 11.5 Proportion of primary plot management by gender, IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Background Characteristics	2010		2013		2016	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Malawi	72.4	27.6	70.0	30.0	62.3	37.7
Residence						
Urban	73.5	26.5	70.1	29.9	53.7	46.3
Rural	72.3	27.7	70.0	30.0	63.3	36.7
Sex of Household head						
Male	89.7	10.3	88.1	11.9	80.5	19.5
Female	4.3	95.7	1.7	98.3	4.6	95.4
Age of HH head						
15 - 24	78.1	21.9	78.1	21.9	74.0	26.0
25 - 34	78.3	21.7	72.9	27.1	69.4	30.6
35 - 49	75.4	24.6	74.4	25.6	61.1	38.9
50 - 64	61.7	38.3	64.5	35.5	59.4	40.6
65 and above	64.4	35.6	57.0	43.0	54.7	45.3
Marital Status						
Never Married	64.7	35.3	84.6	15.4	84.4	15.6
Married	86.2	13.8	83.6	16.4	73.7	26.3
Divorced/Separated	10.6	89.4	6.7	93.3	14.9	85.1
Widowed	9.1	90.9	9.7	90.3	12.1	87.9
Education HH head						
None	71.1	28.9	67.7	32.3	62.1	37.9
Primary	73.4	26.6	74.4	25.6	65.8	34.2
Secondary	78.7	21.3	84.7	15.3	59.7	40.3
Tertiary	89.2	10.8	60.0	40.0	81.1	18.9

11.5 Non-labour input use

Information on the use of non-labour inputs for cultivation was collected in all the three rounds. These inputs included; use of organic fertilizers, inorganic fertilizers, pesticides/herbicides and the use of irrigation.

Table 11.6 shows that there was an increase in the use of organic fertilizers from 11 percent in 2010 to 20 percent in 2016. Use of inorganic fertilizers decreased from 64 percent in 2010 to 61 percent in 2016. Proportion of plots that used pesticides/herbicides increased from 34 percent in 2010 to 37 percent in 2013 and then decreased to 34 percent in 2016. Proportion of plots of which no fertilizers were applied increased from 1 percent in 2010 to 4 percent in 2016.

Across rural areas, the proportion of plots that used organic fertilizer increased from 11 percent in 2010 to 20 percent in 2016 and those that applied inorganic fertilizer decreased from 63 percent in 2010 to 59 percent in 2016. In urban areas, the proportion of plots that used organic fertilizer increased from 12 percent in 2010 to 16 percent in 2016 and those that applied inorganic fertilizer decreased from 75 percent in 2010 to 72 percent in 2016.

In male-headed households, there was a decrease of plots that applied inorganic fertilizer from 65 percent in 2010 to 61 percent in 2016 while in female-headed households, the proportion also decreased from 61 percent in 2010 to 58 percent in 2016. The proportion of plots that used organic fertilizer in female-headed households increased from 10 percent in 2010 to 21 percent in 2016 while in male-headed households, the proportion increased from 11 percent in 2010 to 19 percent in 2016.

Table 11.6 Proportion of plots by various non-labour input use, Malawi

Background Characteristics	Organic fertiliser			Inorganic fertiliser			No fertilizers applied			Herbicides/ Pesticides			Irrigation		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	11.2	14.7	19.8	64.0	58.7	60.5	1.3	3.1	4.4	33.7	37.2	34.5	0.6	1.2	0.8
Place of Residence															
Urban	12.3	13.4	15.6	75.0	71.7	72.1	0.7	1.9	3.6	21.7	24.0	23.2	1.0	0.6	1.5
Rural	11.0	14.8	20.3	62.6	57.2	59.2	1.3	3.3	4.5	35.1	38.7	35.8	0.6	1.3	0.8
Sex of household head															
Male	11.4	13.3	19.4	64.9	58.6	61.3	1.5	3.5	5.4	32.8	37.6	34.0	0.7	1.1	0.9
Female	10.4	19.7	20.9	60.5	59.2	57.9	0.4	1.7	1.3	37.2	35.6	36.2	0.4	1.7	0.5
Age of household head															
15 - 24	13.9	11.5	21.6	66.7	60.4	64.9	1.5	3.6	4.1	30.3	37.0	28.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
25 -34	11.1	14.1	19.3	65.5	57.2	60.4	2.2	4.2	7.3	32.5	36.4	34.5	0.6	2.5	1.0
35 - 49	10.0	14.5	18.4	63.0	59.5	61.5	0.8	3.3	4.4	34.9	37.6	33.7	0.8	0.8	1.0
50 - 64	11.0	15.6	21.1	65.9	61.8	61.8	1.2	2.6	3.3	31.6	35.2	33.9	0.8	1.0	0.8
65 and above	13.3	16.2	20.8	58.8	52.9	55.3	0.3	1.1	2.2	38.3	41.1	39.3	0.3	0.8	0.6
Marital Status of the household head															
Never Married	15.8	15.4	7.7	68.4	76.9	50.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	31.6	23.1	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Married	11.6	13.3	19.3	64.6	58.8	61.5	1.4	3.5	4.8	33.0	37.4	33.7	0.6	0.9	0.8
Divorced/Separated	8.7	24.7	20.5	65.3	55.4	57.2	0.0	2.6	3.9	32.7	36.4	37.0	0.0	4.2	1.2
Widowed	9.6	17.8	24.1	57.0	59.9	56.2	1.2	1.0	1.8	40.6	36.6	37.4	1.2	1.6	0.5
Education level of the household head															
None	10.8	15.3	19.5	61.0	56.9	59.6	1.3	3.0	4.4	36.5	38.5	35.3	0.6	1.4	0.7
Primary	10.2	14.9	18.2	69.0	62.0	64.2	1.6	4.1	6.4	28.3	35.3	33.7	0.5	0.9	1.0
Secondary	14.5	12.4	24.4	78.8	65.8	67.2	1.0	3.4	3.4	19.9	31.4	26.9	1.0	0.6	2.0
Tertiary	8.3	1.7	28.6	83.3	73.2	77.1	0.0	1.7	0.0	16.7	26.8	17.1	0.0	0.0	5.6

11.6 Cropping pattern

The agricultural module also collected information on the type of cropping patterns practiced by the household within their plots during the reference growing season.

Table 11.7 shows a decline in the proportion of plots that were intercropped between 2013 and 2016 from 46 percent in 2010 to 44 percent in 2016. In urban areas, the proportion of plots intercropped increased from 22 percent in 2010 to 49 percent in 2016 while in rural areas, the proportion of plots intercropped decreased from 47 percent in 2010 to 45 percent in 2016. The proportion of plots intercropped in male-headed households increased from 43 percent in 2010 to 46 percent in 2013 and decreased to 42 percent in 2016.

Table 11.7 Proportion of intercropped plots and number of crops intercropped, IHPS 2010, 2013, 2016

Background Characteristics	Intercropping			Number of crops under intercropping														
				1			2			3			4			5		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Malawi	45.9	48.2	44.9	66.6	51.5	56.2	20.4	28.0	26.1	9.6	13.6	13.3	2.8	5.1	3.5	0.5	1.8	0.9
Residence																		
Urban	21.8	37.5	49.0	86.8	63.9	60.0	11.0	28.4	29.5	2.0	4.7	7.9	0.2	3.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.3
Rural	47.3	49.1	44.6	65.0	50.4	55.9	21.2	27.9	25.8	10.2	14.4	13.7	3.1	5.3	3.6	0.5	2.0	1.0
Sex of household head																		
Male	42.7	45.4	42.2	69.4	54.5	58.5	19.0	26.9	25.1	8.8	12.9	12.8	2.3	4.3	2.7	0.5	1.4	0.8
Female	57.2	58.2	52.8	56.6	40.6	49.3	25.4	31.8	29.0	12.5	16.2	14.8	4.9	7.9	5.7	0.3	3.3	1.2
Age of household head																		
15 - 24	50.1	51.2	46.3	59.5	48.8	56.1	20.7	28.5	24.5	14.7	14.8	14.7	4.5	5.6	4.2	0.5	2.3	0.6
25 -34	46.4	49.5	45.6	65.1	50.3	56.3	22.4	29.1	27.8	10.4	14.0	10.9	1.8	4.3	4.3	0.2	2.3	0.6
35 - 49	44.5	45.6	42.7	70.2	54.6	57.9	20.0	26.9	25.6	7.5	11.5	13.3	1.7	5.9	2.2	0.5	1.1	1.0
50 - 64	47.4	52.9	46.9	64.6	47.1	52.7	20.4	28.5	27.2	9.0	16.3	15.5	5.2	5.8	3.1	0.8	2.3	1.4
65 and above	43.3	43.1	44.6	68.4	54.2	57.7	17.0	27.4	23.6	10.6	13.1	13.0	3.2	3.1	5.2	0.5	2.0	0.5
Marital Status of household head																		
Never Married	69.1	17.8	13.8	69.9	73.8	84.7	22.2	26.2	11.0	7.9	0.0	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Married	43.5	46.5	43.5	68.7	53.5	57.2	19.3	27.7	25.5	9.3	12.8	13.3	2.2	4.6	3.2	0.5	1.4	0.8
Divorced/Separated	56.6	62.5	48.3	58.4	37.5	52.0	25.5	32.7	29.5	10.9	19.5	12.5	4.7	6.9	4.8	0.4	3.4	1.3
Widowed	54.5	51.6	53.7	56.3	45.8	50.9	25.3	26.3	28.1	11.0	15.9	14.5	6.5	8.0	4.9	0.5	3.8	1.6
Education level of household head																		
None	47.0	49.3	44.8	66.4	50.3	56.1	20.6	28.2	25.9	9.6	14.2	13.7	2.8	5.2	3.4	0.5	2.0	1.0
Primary	39.0	47.3	43.2	66.1	52.2	57.5	17.7	33.4	26.9	11.0	10.2	11.4	5.2	2.4	3.7	0.0	1.9	0.5
Secondary	43.0	42.7	48.5	67.6	57.7	56.6	20.8	22.7	28.5	9.2	11.7	8.5	1.8	7.3	6.0	0.5	0.6	0.4
Tertiary	16.9	30.3	37.6	83.1	69.4	65.4	16.9	30.6	22.2	0.0	0.0	12.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

11.7 Types of crops cultivated

Respondents were asked what crops were cultivated on a particular plot during the three rounds of IHPS. The IHPS rounds collected information on crops cultivated by the households during the second season of 2010, 2013 and 2016. Maize, Groundnuts, Pigeon peas, Beans, Soya beans, Rice and Tobacco were the major crops grown by most of the agricultural households in the country.

The highest proportion of households grew maize over the reference growing season (99 percent in 2010, 97 percent in 2013 and 96 percent in 2016). The cultivation of groundnuts decreased from 33 percent in 2010 to 22 percent in 2016. The proportion of households growing pigeon peas increased from 22 percent in 2010 to 26 percent in 2016. Tobacco growing decreased from 15 percent in 2010 to 10 percent in 2016.

Table 11.8 Households Reporting Cultivation of Crops (percent), IHPS 2010, 2013 and 2016

Crop Type	2010	2013	2016
Maize	98.8	96.9	95.8
Groundnuts	32.9	37.9	22.2
Pigeon peas	21.9	29.2	26.5
Soya beans	6.5	10.7	10.4
Beans	6.7	11.4	10.7
Rice	3.3	3.4	2.4
Tobacco	15.2	11.0	10.0

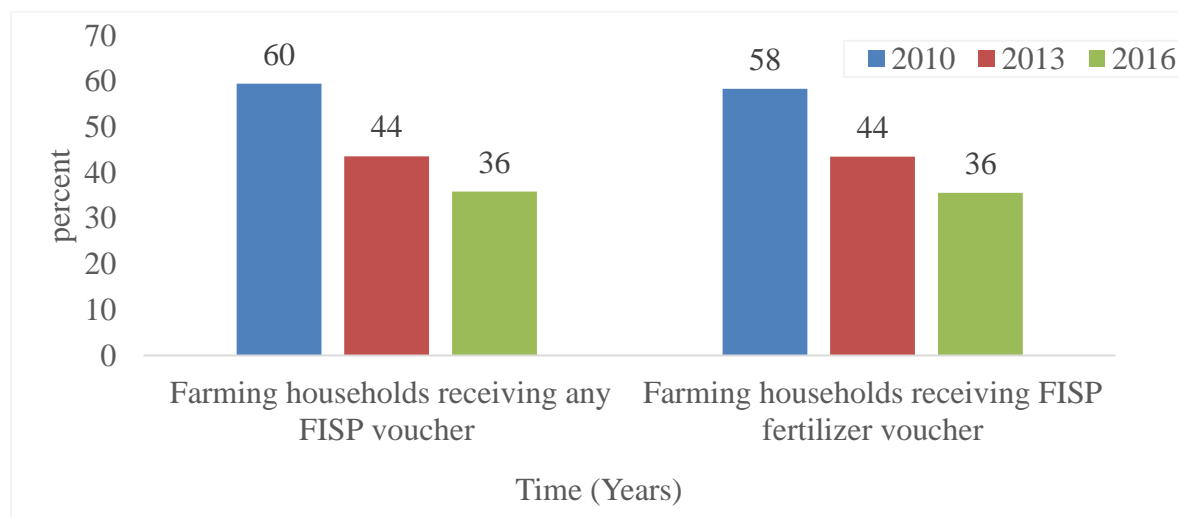
11.8 FISP Participation Dynamics in rural areas

Information on household participation in the Malawi Farm Input Subsidy Program (FISP) was also collected in all the three rounds of the IHPS.

Figure 11.1 shows patterns in the proportion of households on FISP participation. Results indicate a drop of 20 percentage points in the share of rural households that received any FISP voucher from 60 percent in 2010 to 44 percent in 2013 and dropped further to 36 percent in 2016.

In terms of rural households receiving FISP fertilizer voucher, there was a decrease of 22 percentage points from 58 percent in 2010 to 36 percent in 2016.

Figure 11.1 Percentage Share of Rural Households Participating in Farm Input Subsidy Programme (FISP)



11.9 Maize yield dynamics

Information on the average maize yield production (kg/ha) at plot level for the traditional as well as improved maize that was applied with fertilizer versus unfertilized and yield production by the cropping pattern used was solicited during IHPS. Table 11.10 shows a decrease in the overall average maize yield production for the traditional maize without fertilizer decreased from 925 kg/ha in 2010 to 769 kg/ha in 2016 while the average maize yield for the improved maize without fertilizer decreased from 1176 kg/ha in 2010 to 855kg/ha in 2016.

Overall average maize yield production for the traditional maize with fertilizer rose from 1295 kg/ha in 2010 to 1419 kg/ha in 2013 and decreased to 1131 in 2016 while the average maize yield for the improved maize with fertilizer rose from 1569 kg/ha in 2010 to 1904 kg/ha in 2013 and decreased to 1444 kg/ha in 2016.

On pure stand, the average maize yield production for the traditional maize without fertilizer declined from 967 kg/ha in 2010 to 844 kg/ha in 2013 and increased to 851 kg/ha in 2016 while the average maize yield for the improved maize without fertilizer decreased from 1475 kg/ha in 2010 to 1283 kg/ha in 2013 and decreased further to 990 kg/ha in 2016.

The average maize yield production for the traditional maize with fertilizer on pure stand decreased from 1298 kg/ha in 2010 to 851 kg/ha in 2016 while the average maize yield for the improved maize with fertilizer on pure stand decreased from 1796 kg/ha in 2010 to 1500 kg/ha in 2016.

For inter-cropped, the average maize yield production for the traditional maize without fertilizer increased from 857 kg/ha in 2010 to 1031 kg/ha in 2013 and decreased to 622 kg/ha in 2016 while the average maize yield for the improved maize without fertilizer for inter-cropped increased from 707 kg/ha in 2010 to 853 kg/ha in 2013 and decreased to 762 kg/ha in 2016.

The average maize yield production for the traditional maize with fertilizer for inter-cropped increased from 1026 kg/ha in 2010 to 1314 kg/ha in 2013 and decreased to 840 kg/ha in 2016 while the average maize yield for the improved maize with fertilizer for inter-cropped increased from 1200 kg/ha in 2010 to 1683 kg/ha in 2013 and decreased to 1056 kg/ha in 2016.

Table 11.9 Average maize yields according to fertilizer application, improved variety and crop stand (plot level)

Overall	Traditional			Improved		
	2010	2013	2016	2010	2013	2016
Without Fertilizer	925	962	769	1176	1053	855
With Fertilizer	1295	1419	1131	1569	1904	1444
Pure Stand						
Without Fertilizer	967	844	851	1475	1283	990
With Fertilizer	1298	1630	1276	1796	2255	1500
Inter-Cropped						
Without Fertilizer	857	1031	622	707	853	762
With Fertilizer	1026	1314	840	1200	1683	1056

Appendix

I. Data analysis Team



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