



The Fiji Bureau of Statistics, in collaboration with UNICEF, finalized the implementation of the first MICS Plus in May 2024 (MICS Plus 2024-2025). MICS Plus generates data to understand the situation of households, families, and children and inform decision-makers and stakeholders accordingly. This snapshot summarizes the main results of the MICS Plus 2024-2025 first wave of calls from February 21 – May 05, 2024.



## Methodology

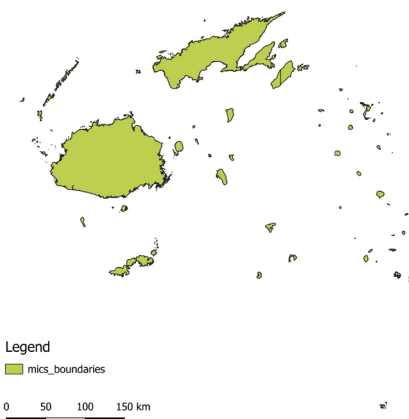
MICS Plus combines the power of representative, statistically robust household surveys with the ability to report in near real-time basis over an extended period, using CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing). Essentially, the mode of data collection is based on direct phone calls to respondents<sup>1</sup>, as opposed to traditional face-to-face interviews.

In essence, the MICS Plus methodology is based on:

- Selecting a probability sample of households from an up-to-date household sample frame that includes phone numbers of households/household members
- Interviewing the sample of households over an extended period via direct calls

The Fiji Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey was conducted in 2021 (MICS 2021) when consent and phone numbers for the MICS Plus survey were collected. The Fiji MICS 2021 was used as a sample frame for MICS Plus and the target sample size was 2,734 households.

**Fiji MICS 2021 boundaries**  
**The sample frame for Fiji MICS Plus**



MICS Plus uses a nationally representative sample. Urban and rural areas were defined as the major sample domains, and the sample was allocated as follows: 1,452 households were selected from urban areas and 1,282 from rural areas. The survey collects data from the same households in different waves of calls, building longitudinal data.

A model-based substitution approach was used to replace non-responding households during the first wave of MICS Plus to reach the targeted sample size and ensure representativeness. Weights were calculated using propensity score adjustments to ensure the representativeness of the findings and deal with any potential bias. The propensity scores model included all relevant household and individual variables available from the MICS 2021.

During the first wave of calls, households were asked about the characteristics of the household and household members, energy use, water and sanitation, early childhood development, and livelihood of the household.

<sup>1</sup> In each household, calls were conducted with a “knowledgeable adult household member” who was available at the time of the call. Since respondents were not selected randomly, data based on respondents’ own characteristics, opinions and behavioural patterns may not be representative of the adult population Fiji.



# Survey Implementation

## Response Rates

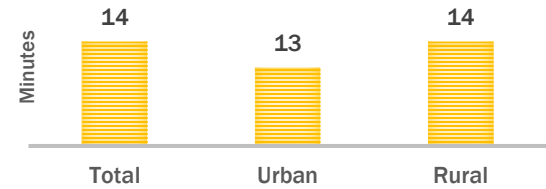
### Wave 1

(February 21 – May 05, 2024)

	Before Substitution	After Substitution
<b>Households sampled</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>2,734</b>
Interviewed	1,347	1,907
Refused	67	37
No eligible respondent	0	0
Phone number(s) does not belong to sampled household	132	69
Telephone number(s) inactive	260	119
Respondent busy/postponed	38	24
No response after repeated call attempts or phone(s) turned off	646	452
No phone number available for sampled household	243	126
Other	1	0
<b>Response rate (percent)</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>69.8</b>

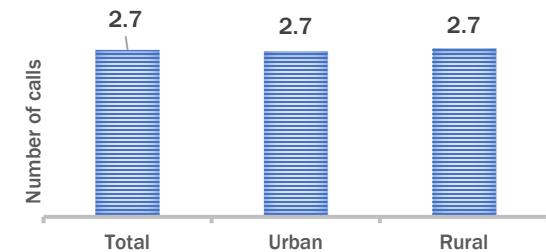
## Interview duration

Median duration of interviews by area of residence, Wave 1



## Average call attempts

Average number of call attempts for completed interviews, by area of residence, Wave 2

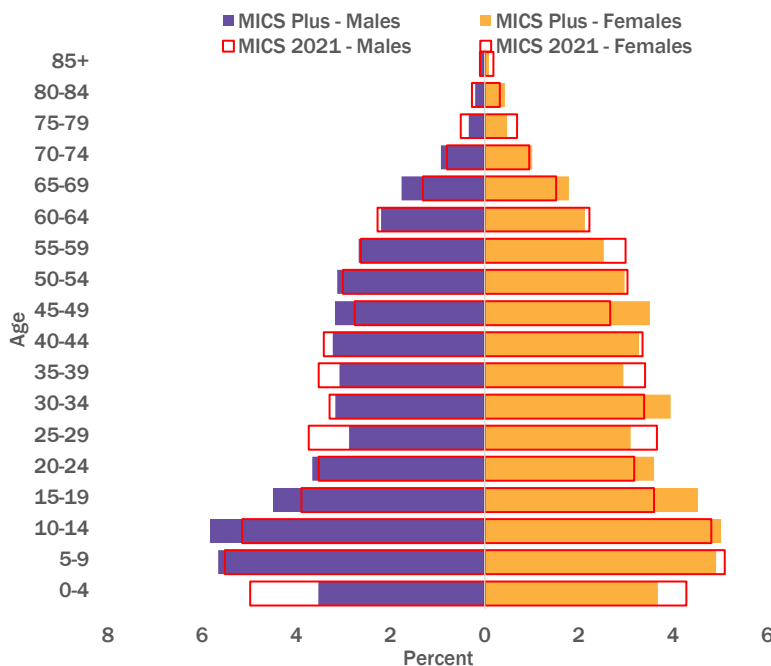


With the target sample size set at 2,734 households, the response rate in Wave 1 was 70 percent after substituting 1,387 households with the model-based substitution that utilizes the “Nearest Neighbour” feature based on the “Euclidian distance” approach. Subsequent waves targeted 2,509 households after excluding the following: households refused in Wave 1 without consent for the next wave, households where the phone number did not belong to the sampled household, and households for which phone numbers were not available.

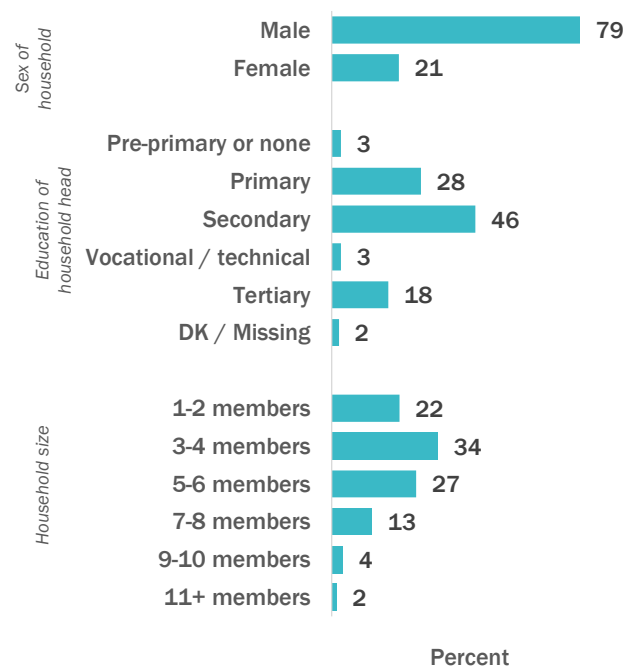


# Survey sample

## Age & Sex Distribution of Household Population



## Household Composition & Characteristics of the Head of Household

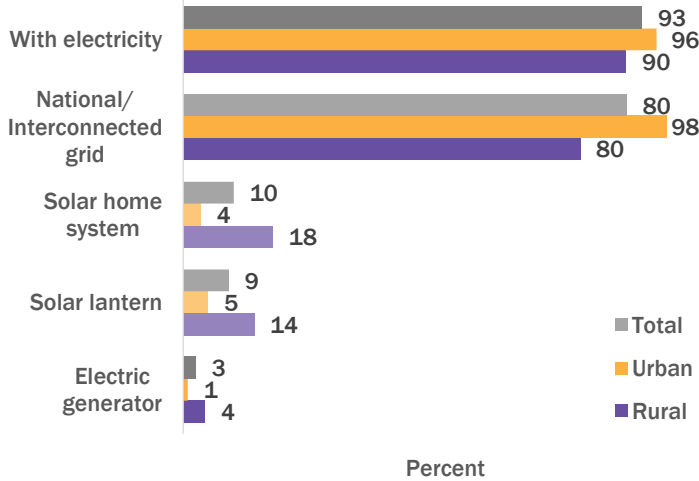




# Household characteristics

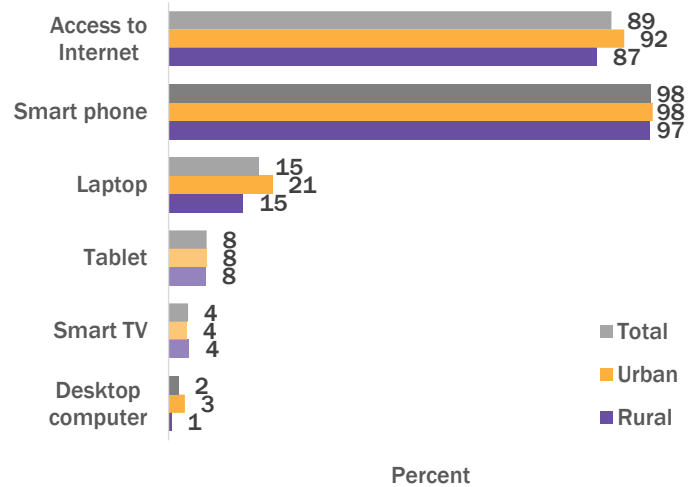
## Access to electricity

Percentage of households by electricity, sources and area of residence, Wave 1



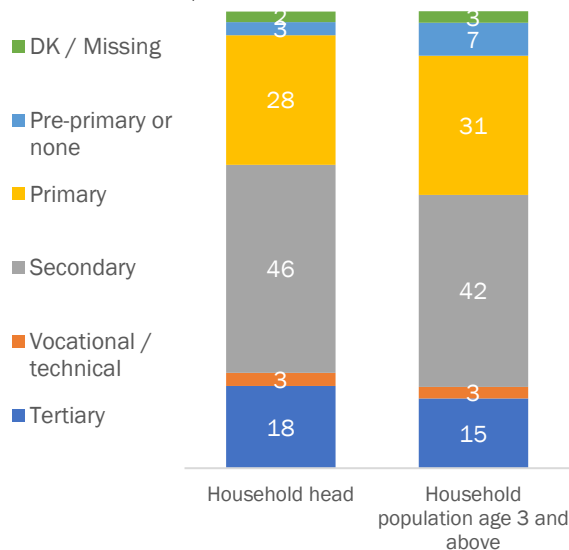
## Access to internet at home

Percentage of households by internet access, equipment used and area of residence, Wave 1

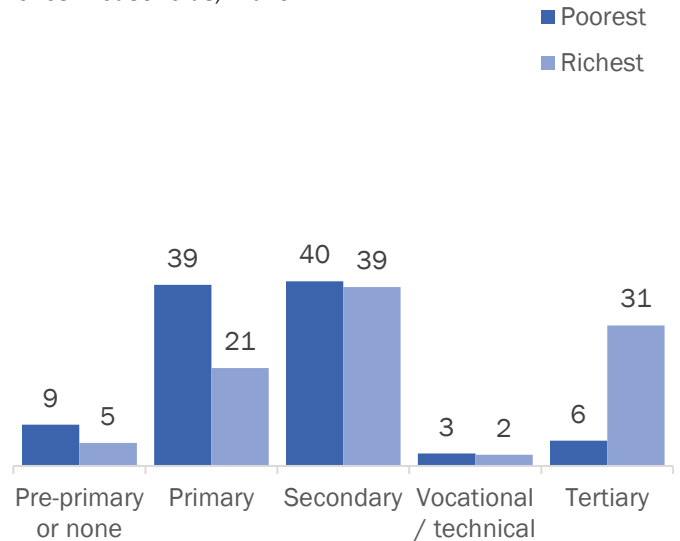


## Education of household head and household population age 3 years or above

Percent distribution of household heads and household members age 3 years or above by highest level of education attended, Wave 1

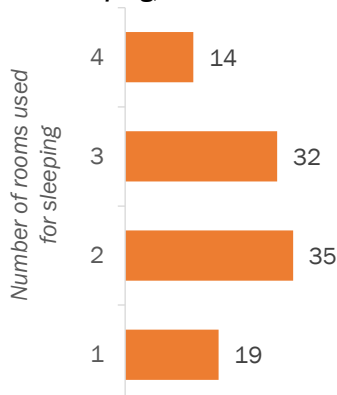


Percentages of household members age 3 years or above by highest level of education attended, in poorest and richest households, Wave 1



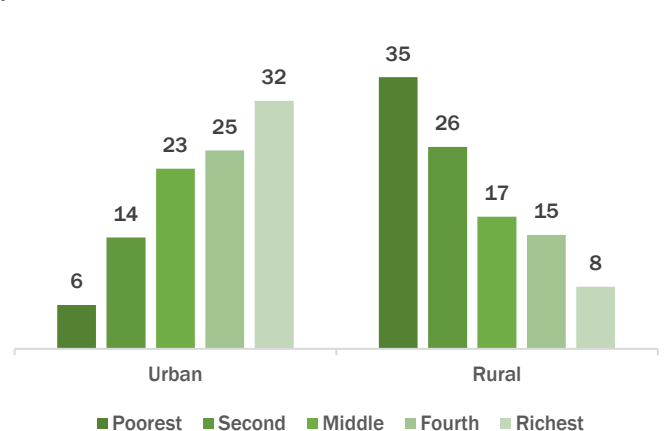
## Number of rooms used for sleeping

Percent distribution of households by number of rooms used for sleeping, Wave 1



## Wealth Index

Percent distribution of household population, by wealth index quintile and area of residence, Wave 1

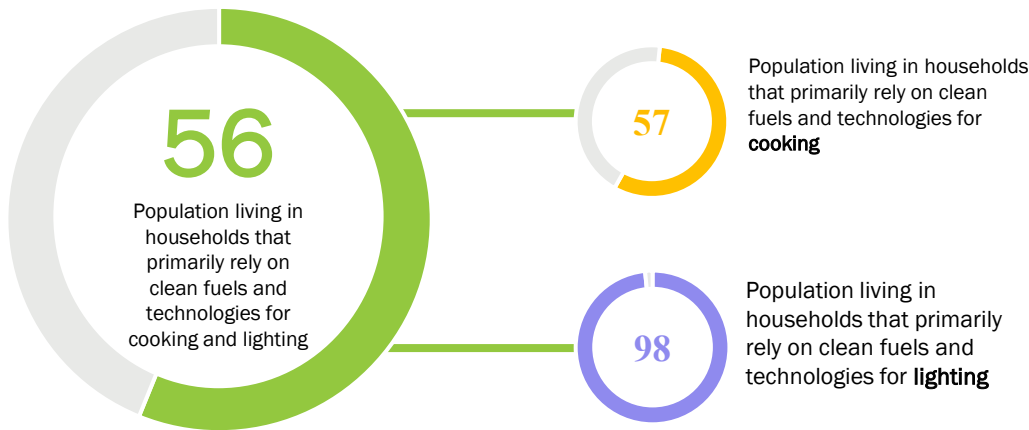




## ENERGY USE

### Primary reliance on clean fuels

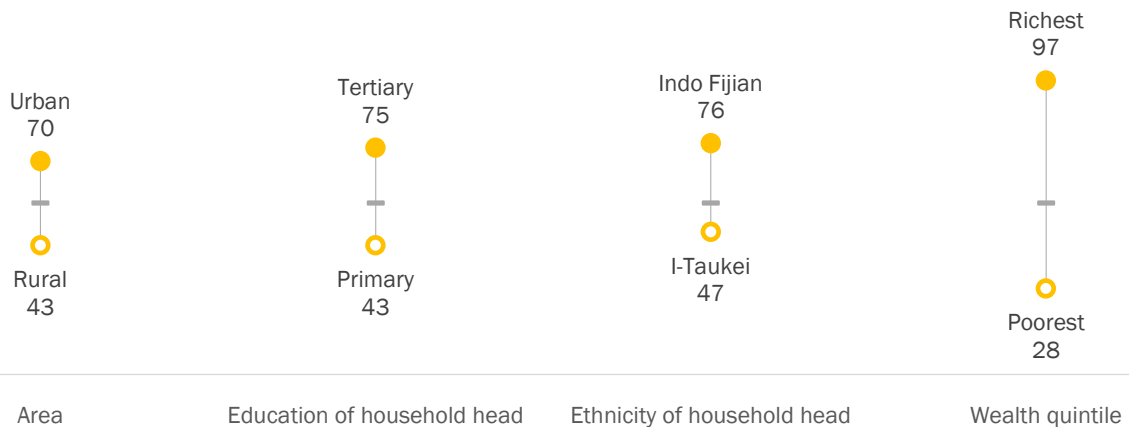
Percentage of household members living in households using clean fuels and technologies for cooking and lighting, Wave 1



*Households that use clean fuels and technology (SDG 7.1.2) for cooking are those mainly using electric stoves, solar cooker, biogas stove or LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas)/cooking gas stove; for lighting are those that mainly use electricity, solar lanterns, rechargeable or battery powered flashlights, torches or lanterns.*

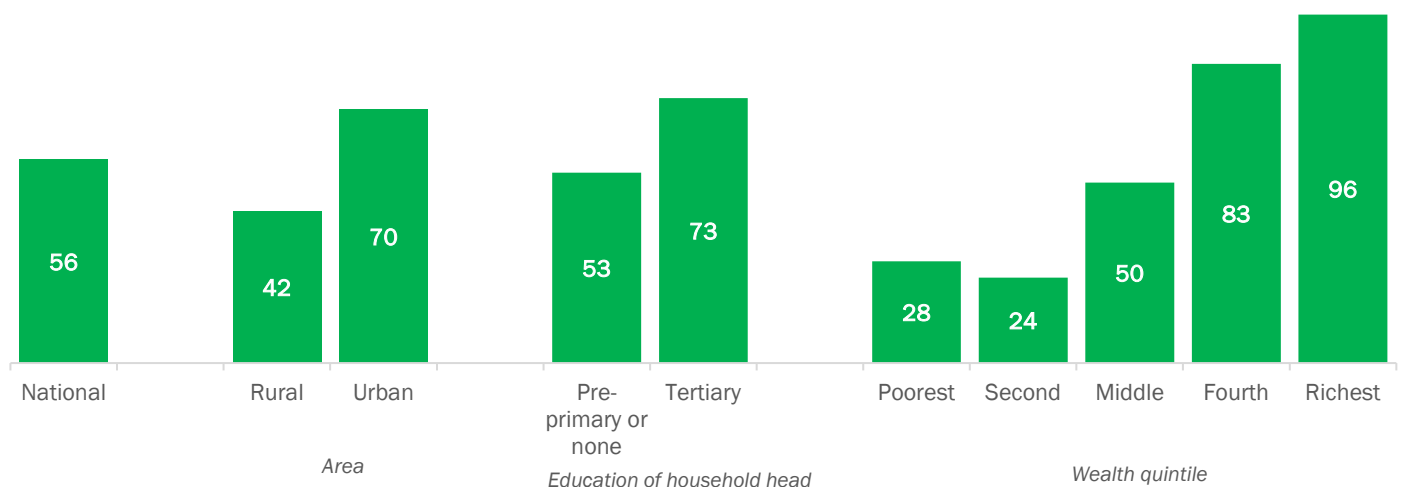
### Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking: equity

Percentage of household members living in households using clean fuels and technologies for cooking (in households that reported cooking), by background characteristics, Wave 1



### Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking and lighting

Percentage of household members living in households using clean fuels and technologies for cooking and lighting by selected characteristics, Wave 1

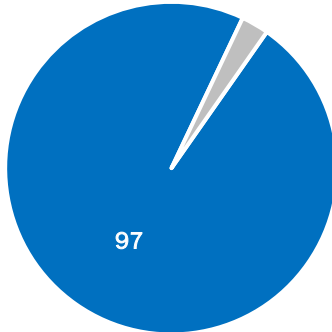




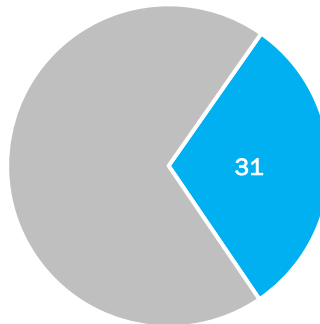
# WATER & SANITATION

## Use and availability of drinking water

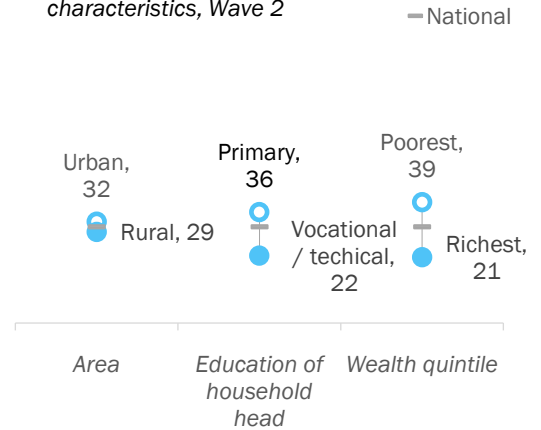
Percentage of household population using improved sources of drinking water, Wave 1



Percentage of household population who did not have sufficient drinking water when needed in the last 7 days, Wave 1

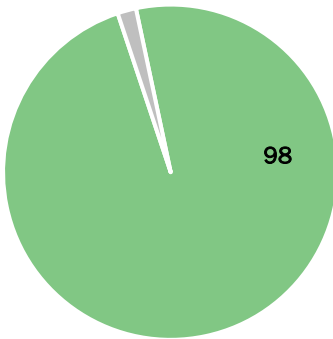


Percentage of household population who did not have sufficient drinking water when needed in the last 7 days, by background characteristics, Wave 2

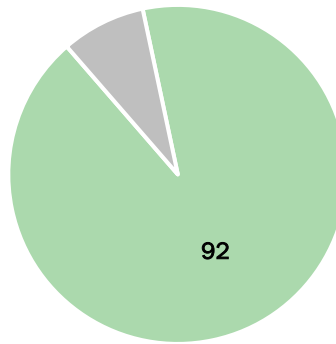


## Use of sanitation services

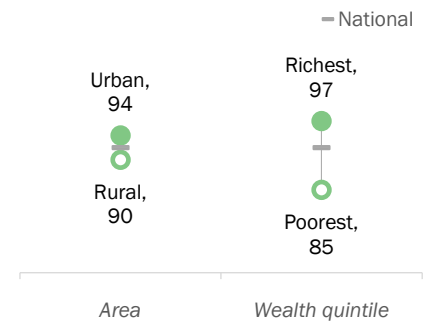
Percentage of household population using improved sanitation services, Wave 1



Percentage of household population using improved sanitation services that are not shared, Wave 1



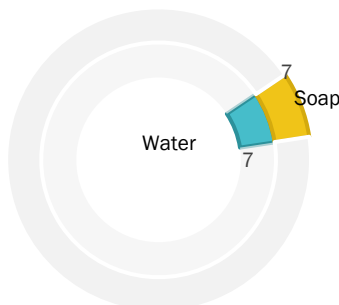
Percentage of household population using improved sanitation services that are not shared, by background characteristics, Wave 1



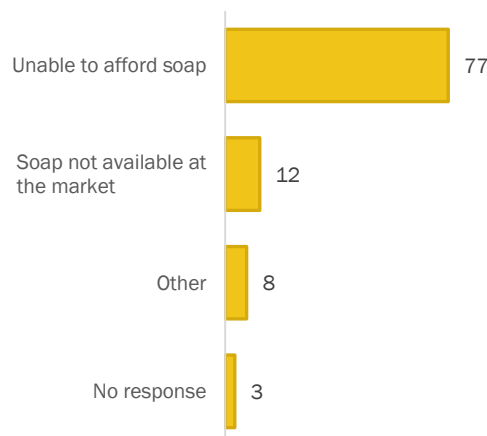
**Improved sanitation facilities** are those designed to hygienically separate excreta from human contact and include: flush/pour flush to piped sewer system, septic tanks or pit latrines; ventilated improved pit latrines, or pit latrines with slabs. **Limited sanitation services** refer to improved facilities shared with other households. **Unimproved sanitation facilities** include flush/pour flush to an open drain, pit latrines without a slab, and bucket latrines. **No service** refers to the practice of open defecation.

## Availability of water and soap for handwashing

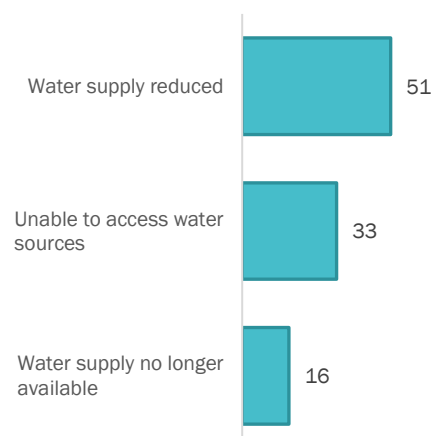
Percentage who did not have sufficient water and soap to wash hands when needed



Percentage who did not have sufficient soap to wash hands when needed, by reasons



Percentage who did not have sufficient water to wash hands when needed, by reasons

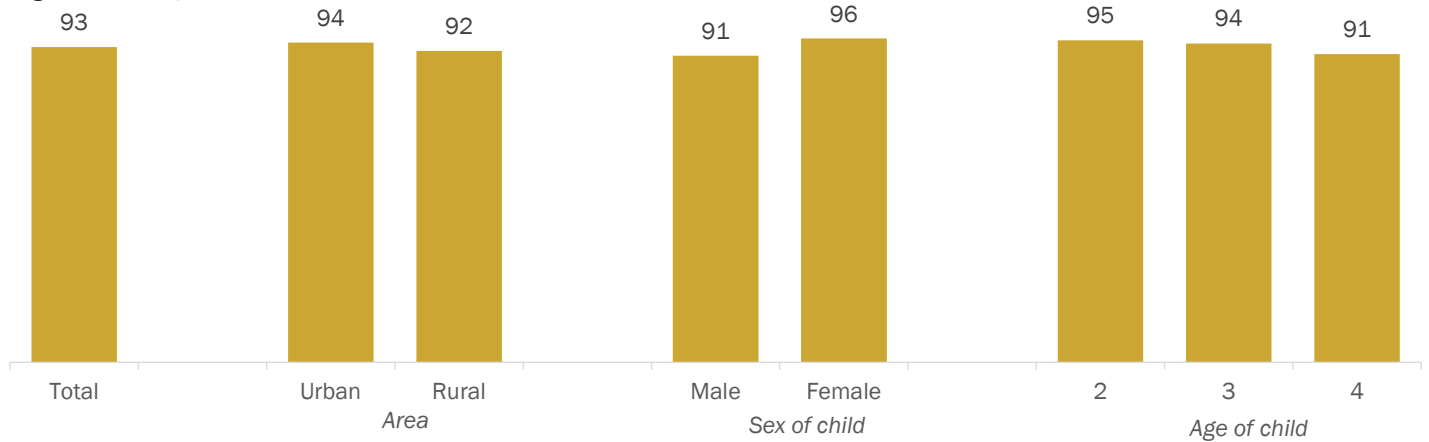




# Early Childhood Development (ECD)

## Support for learning: early stimulation

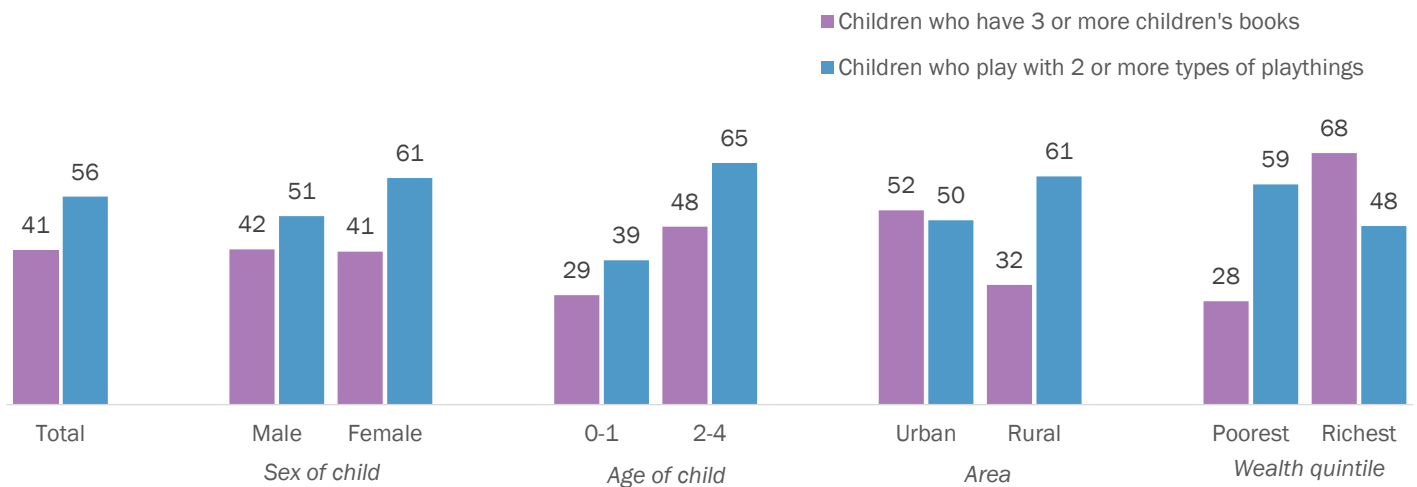
Percentage of children age 2-4 years with whom adult household members engaged in activities that promote learning and school readiness during the last 3 days, Wave 1



Note: Activities include: reading books to the child or looking at picture books with the child; telling stories to the child; singing songs to or with the child, including lullabies; taking the child outside the home; and playing with the child; and naming, counting or drawing things for or with the child

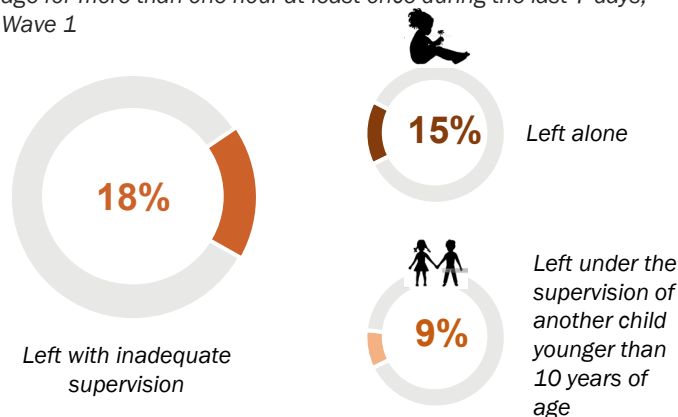
## Learning materials

Percentage of children age 0-4 years by the number of children's books present in the household, and by type and number of playthings that child plays with, Wave 1



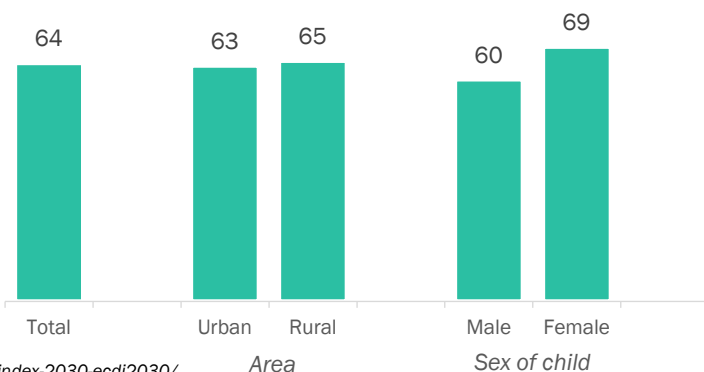
## Left with inadequate care

Percentage of children age 0-4 years who were left alone or under the supervision of another child younger than 10 years of age for more than one hour at least once during the last 7 days, Wave 1



## Early child development index<sup>1</sup>

Percentage of children age 2-4 years who have achieved the minimum number of milestones expected for their age group, Wave 1



<sup>1</sup> For the methodology, please see <https://data.unicef.org/resources/early-childhood-development-index-2030-ecdi2030/>.

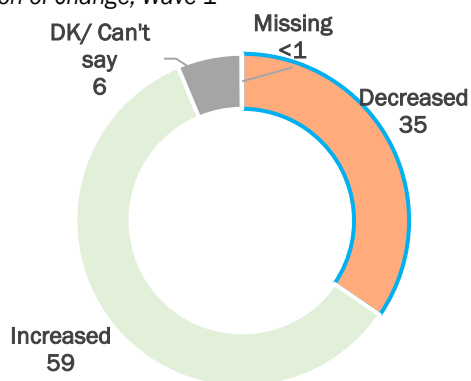
Please note that there are differences in the administration of this module compared to the described methodology and how it is used to collect data in MICS face-to-face surveys. The most important are related to the respondent (knowledgeable adult household member), and questions are asked for only one randomly selected child (not for all children age 2-4 in the household).



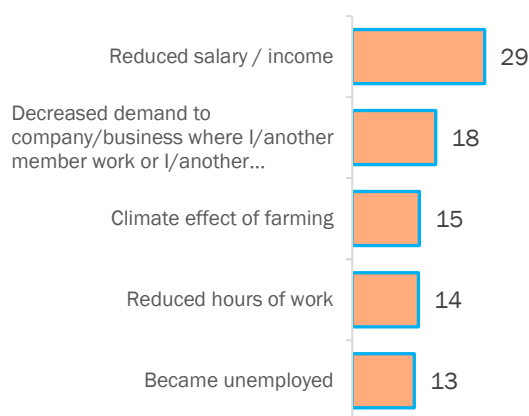
# LIVELIHOOD

## Change in household income

Percentage of households with change in average monthly income compared to the same period last year (February – May 2023), by direction of change, Wave 1

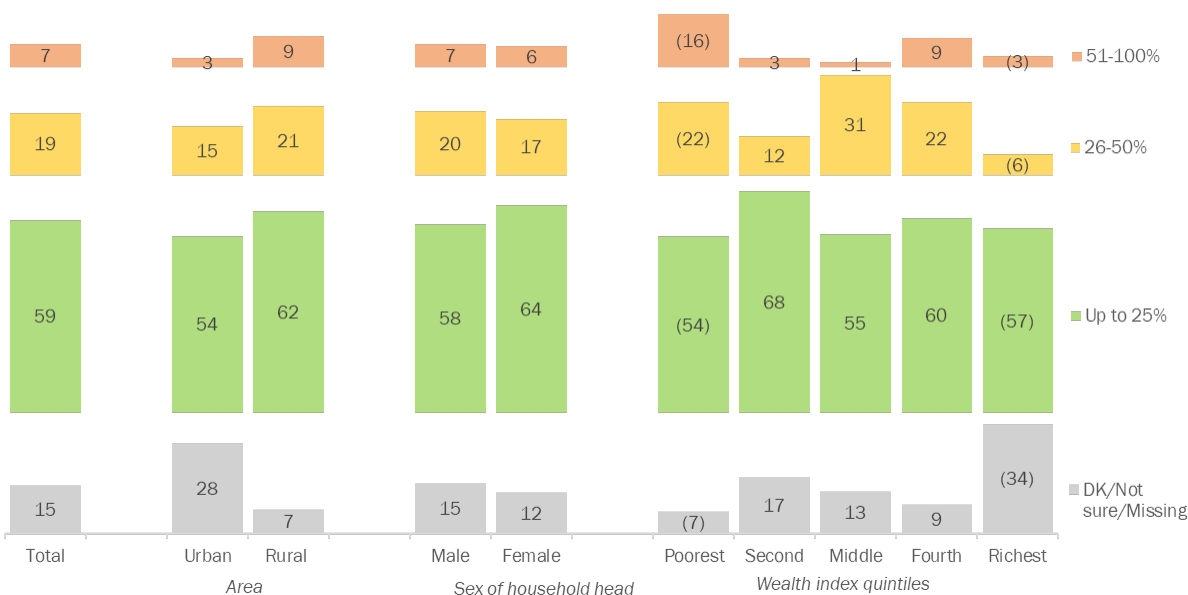


Percentage of households whose average monthly income decreased, by top five reasons for decline, Wave 1



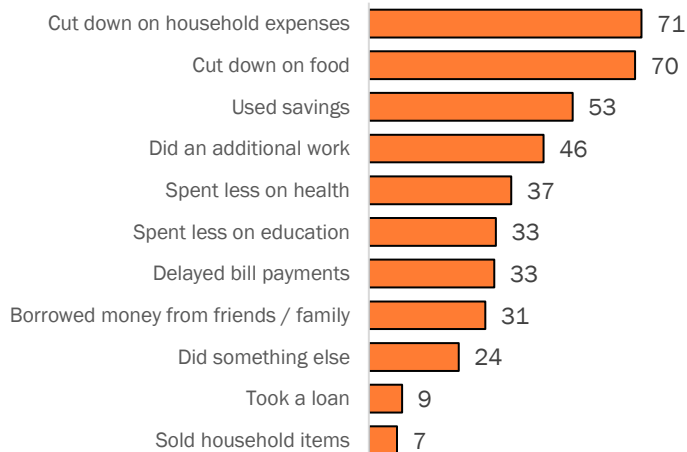
## Level of change in household income

Percent distribution of households with average monthly income declined by level of decline, by background characteristics, Wave 1



## Coping measures in dealing with income decline

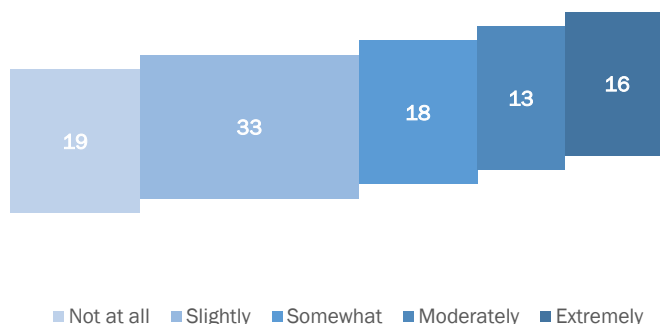
Percentage of households whose average monthly income declined compared to the period of February - May 2023, by coping measures for dealing with the reduction of income, Wave 1



Note: Multiple answers were allowed for coping measures

## Worry about household's finances

Percent distribution of respondents by how worried they are about household's finances in the next month, Wave 1

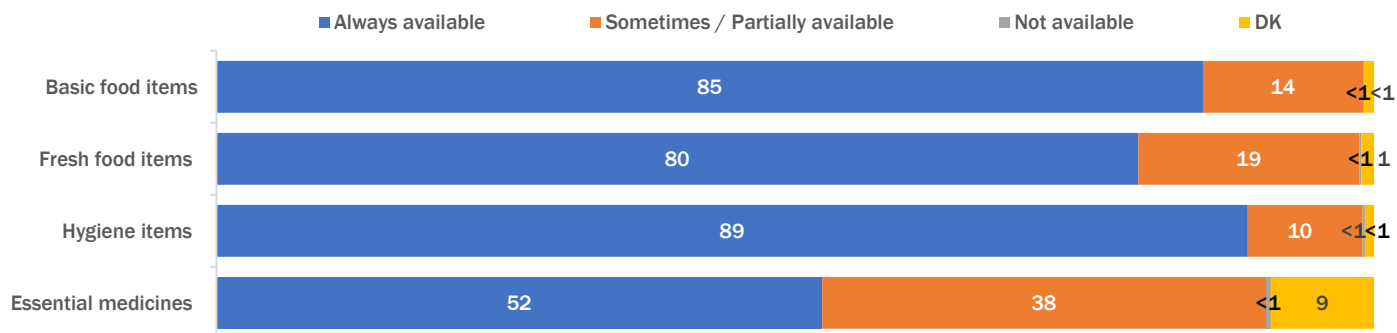




# LIVELIHOOD

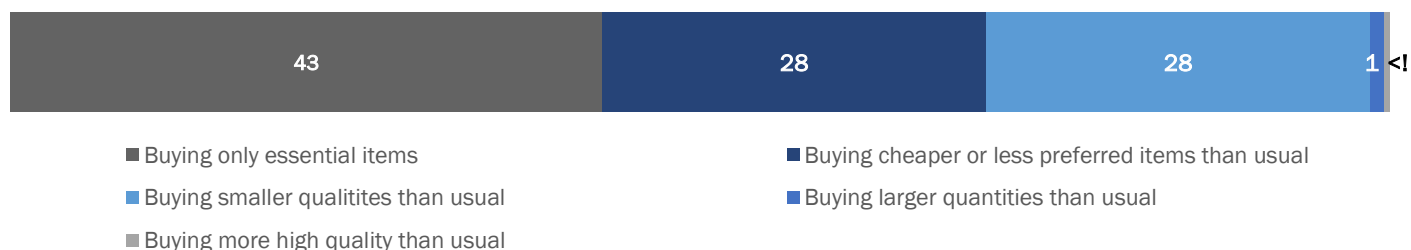
## Availability of livelihood items in the markets / grocery stores

Percent distribution of households by whether the livelihood items were available in the markets/stores or clinics / pharmacies that household usually goes to in the last 30 days, Wave 1



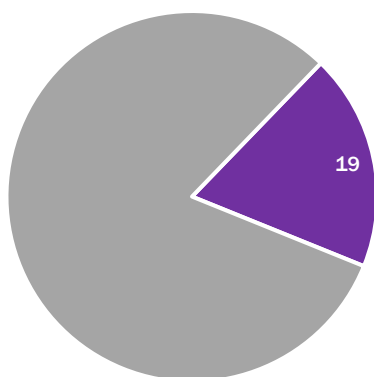
## Shopping habits

Percent distribution of households with a member who changed usual shopping habits, by main change in the usual shopping habits in the last 30 days, Wave 1

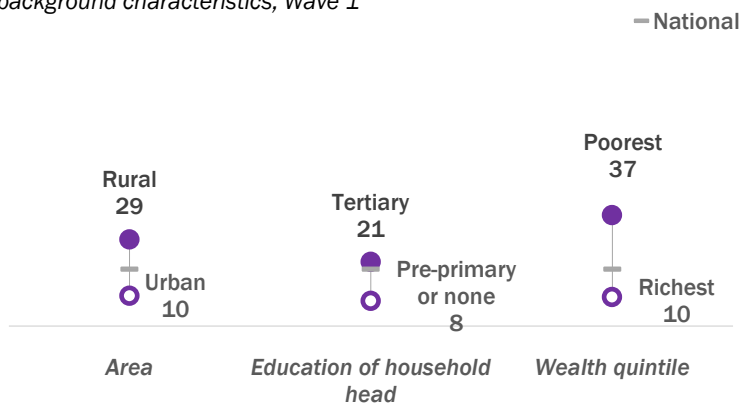


## Access to markets / grocery stores

Percentage with a household member who could not access the markets / grocery stores that household usually goes to in the last 30 days, Wave 1



Percentage with a household member who could not access the markets / grocery stores that household usually goes to in the last 30 days, by background characteristics, Wave 1



Further resources on the results of MICS Plus Fiji are available on:

UNICEF MICS Plus global web site  
<https://mics.unicef.org/mics-plus>

Fiji Bureau of Statistics web site  
<https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj>

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