



Crimes against women in South Africa, an analysis of the phenomenon of GBV and femicide

An overview of the prevalence of crimes against women in the country and the conditions that exacerbate GBV leading to femicide.

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Sustainable Development Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030

Target

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation



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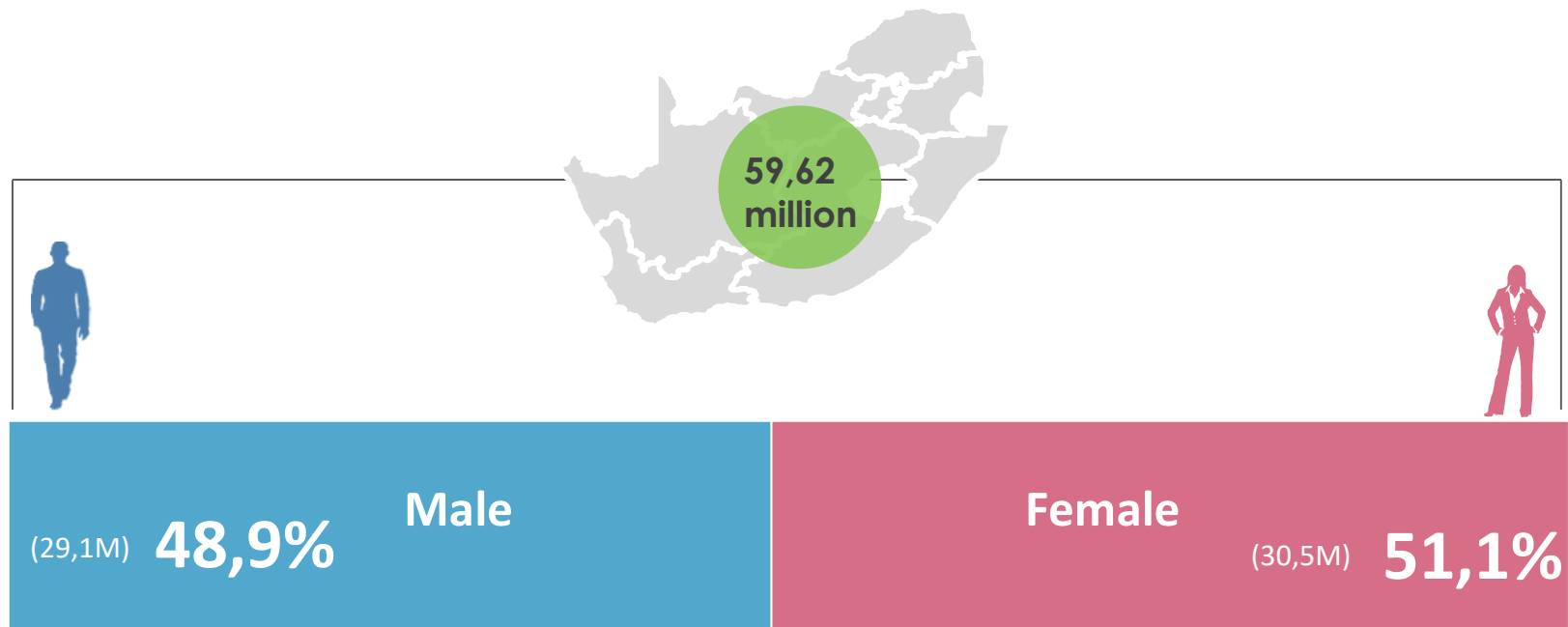
DEFINITIONS OF FEMICIDE

- ▶ Femicide is generally understood to involve *intentional murder of women* because they are women.
- ▶ Femicide is usually *perpetrated by men*, but sometimes female family members may be involved.
- ▶ Most cases of femicide are committed by *partners or ex-partners*, and involve ongoing abuse in the home, threats or intimidation, sexual violence or situations where *women have less power or fewer resources than their partner*.

Source: *Understanding and addressing violence against women*,
https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/77421/WHO_RHR_12.38_eng.pdf;jsessionid=3CB8AE9E80879B540E0A6DF5888BEF5F?sequence=1

Approximately 51,1% (30,5 million) of the population of South Africa is female.

South Africa's population, mid-2020



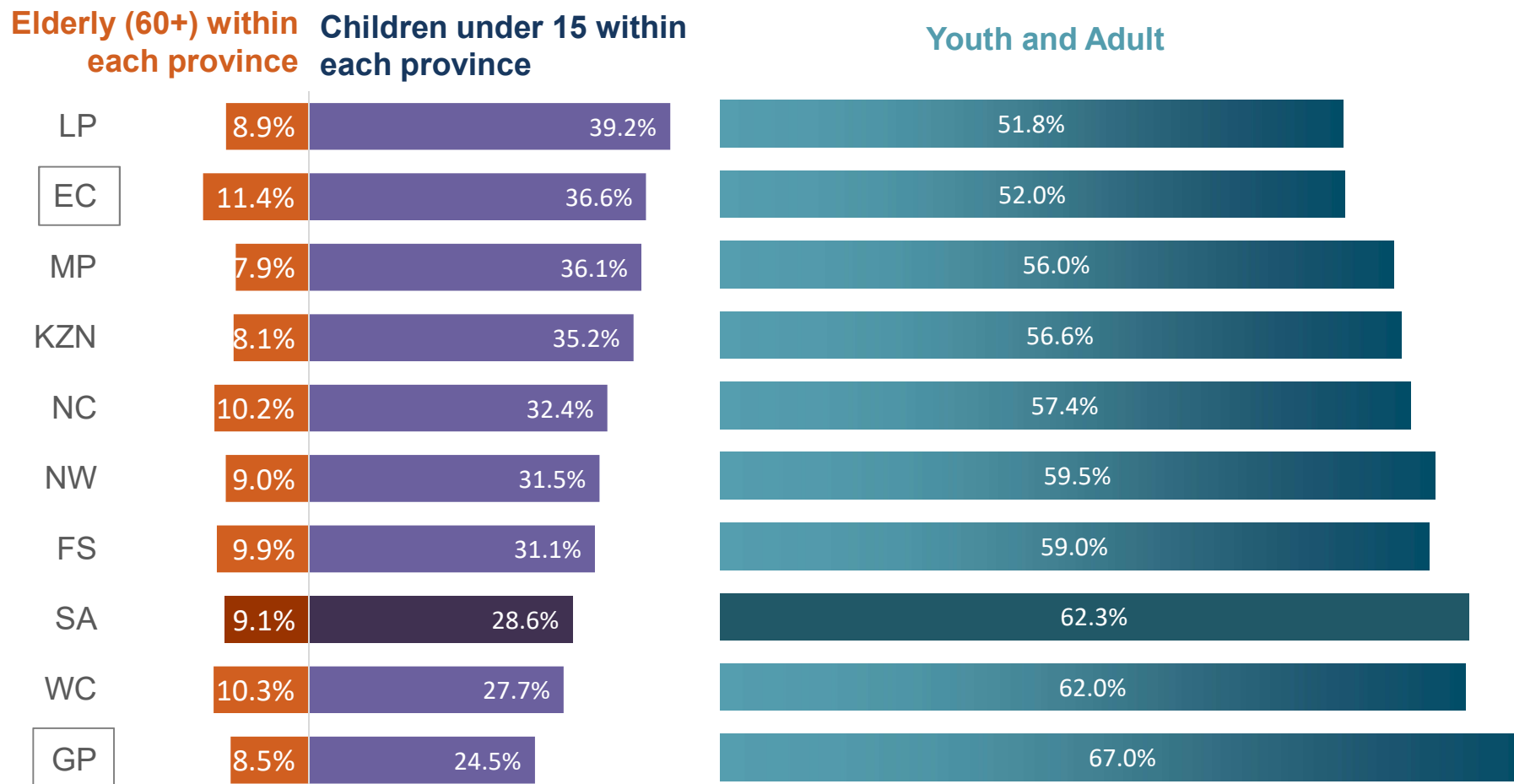
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EC has the highest proportion of elderly (60+) at 11,4% whilst Gauteng has the highest proportion of Youth and Adults (15-59)

Population by age category and province, 2020



Economic Vulnerability

SA Women have higher unemployment rates and higher levels of poverty



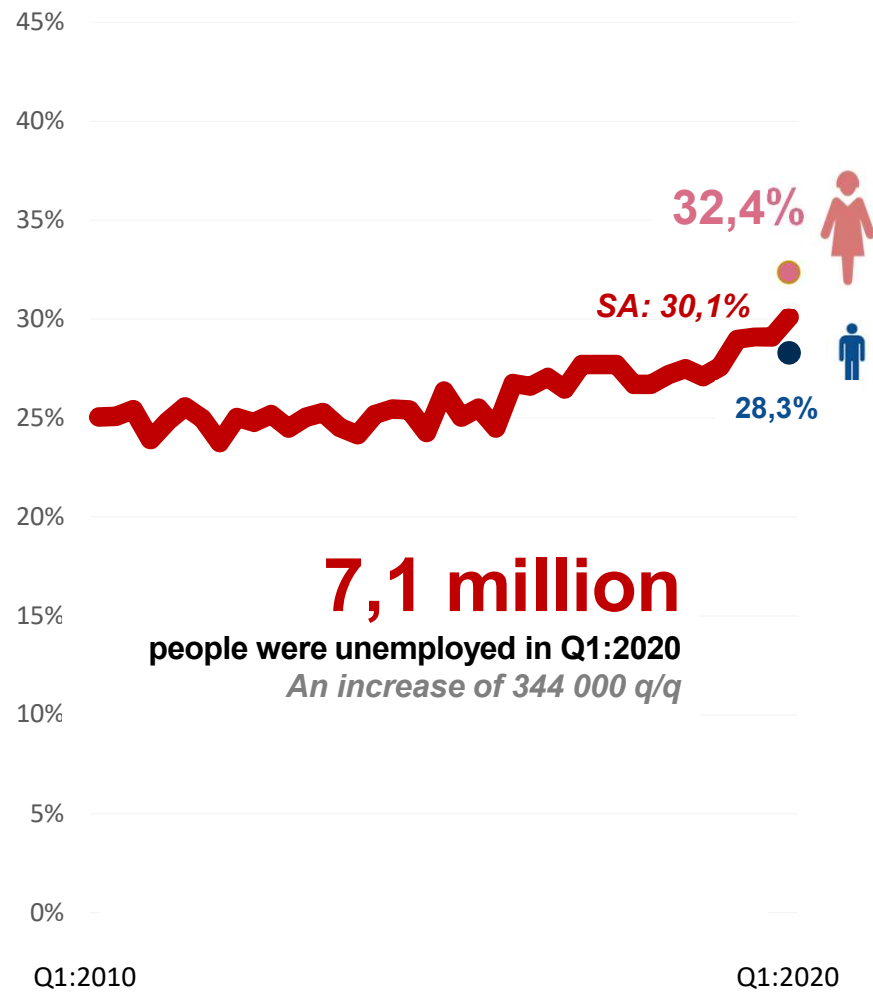
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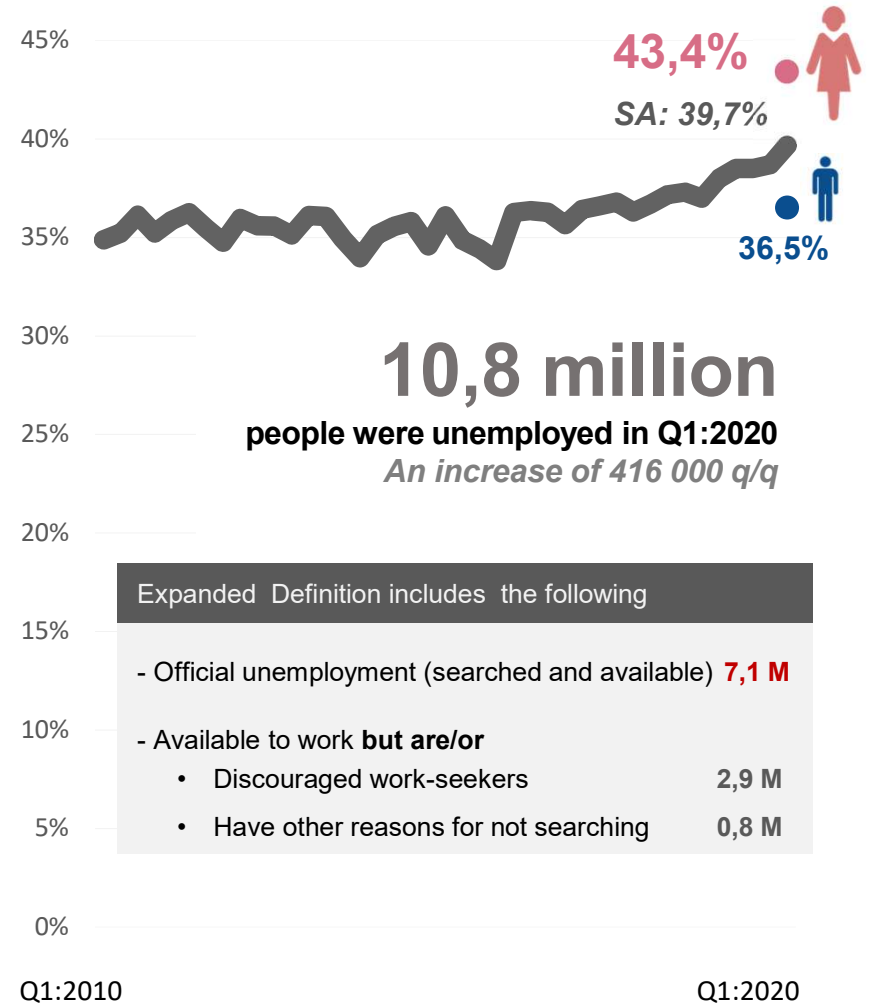
Official Unemployment Rate

30,1% (+1,0 % Point Change Q/Q)



Expanded Unemployment Rate

39,7% (+1,0 % Point Change Q/Q)



Expanded Definition includes the following

- Official unemployment (sought and available) **7,1 M**
- Available to work **but are/or**
 - Discouraged work-seekers **2,9 M**
 - Have other reasons for not searching **0,8 M**



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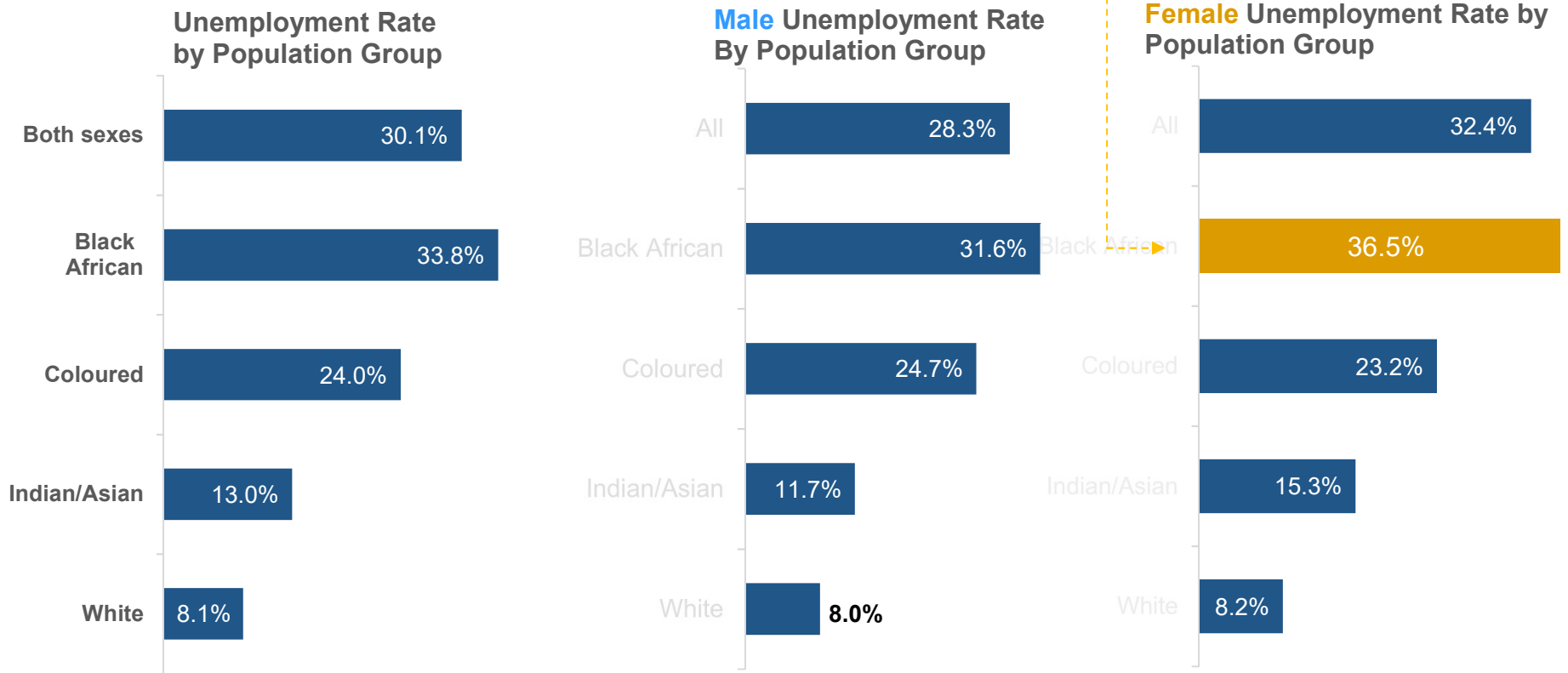
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Source: QLFS Q1 2020



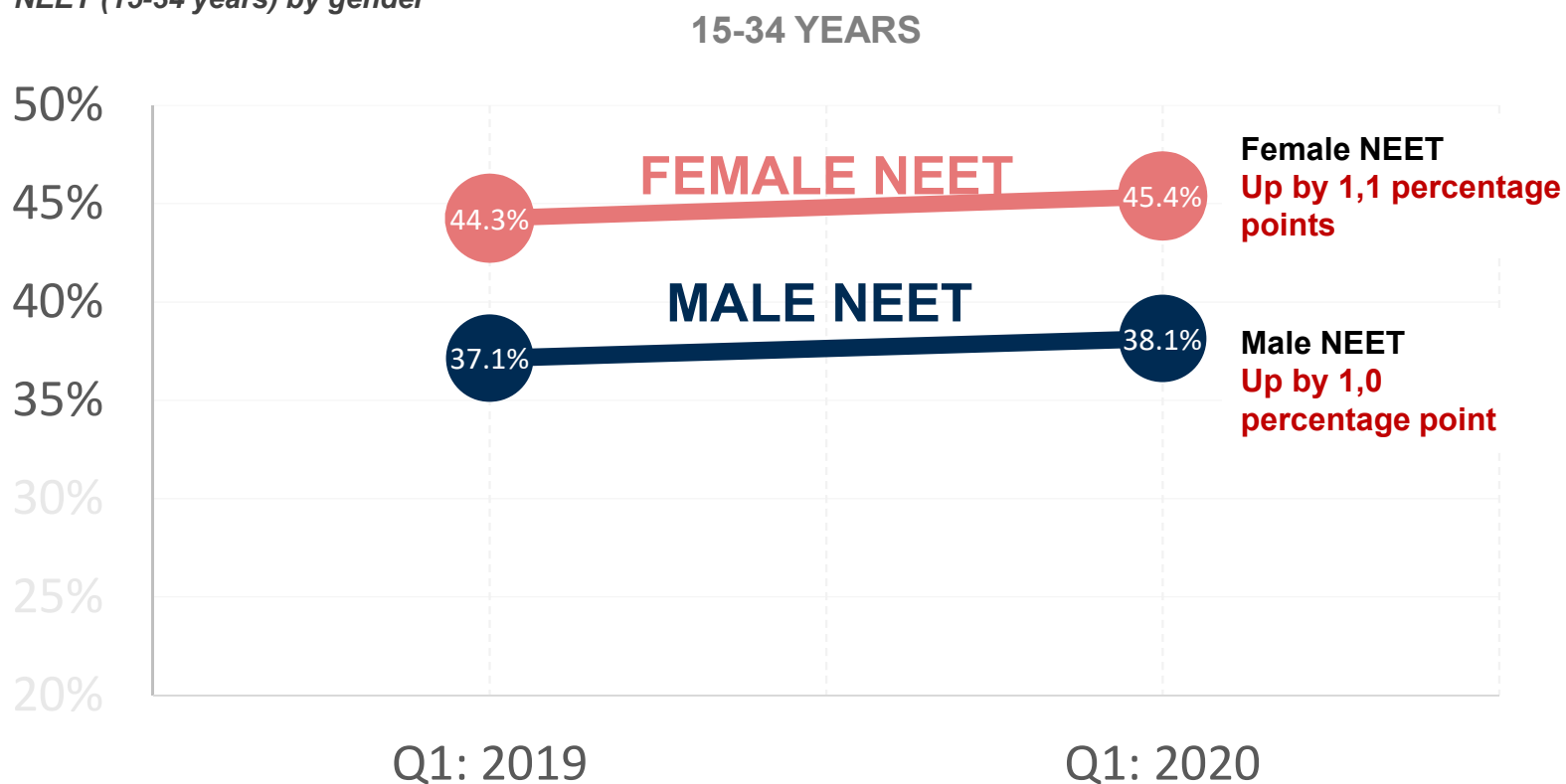
Black African women are the most vulnerable with an unemployment rate of over 30%.

OFFICIAL unemployment rate by population group and sex



In both Q1: 2019 and Q1: 2020, **more than four in every ten young females (15-34) were not in employment, education or training (NEET)**. Over 8,5 million (41,7%) out of 20,4 million young people aged 15-34 years were NEET.

NEET (15-34 years) by gender



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Upper-Bound Poverty Line

R1227



Threshold of relative deprivation below which people cannot afford the minimum desired lifestyle by most South Africans

Lower-Bound Poverty Line

R810



Austere threshold below which one has to choose between food and important non-food items

Food Poverty Line

R561



Threshold of absolute deprivation. The amount of money required to purchase the minimum required daily energy intake

*** Based on April 2019 prices**

Source: National Poverty Lines



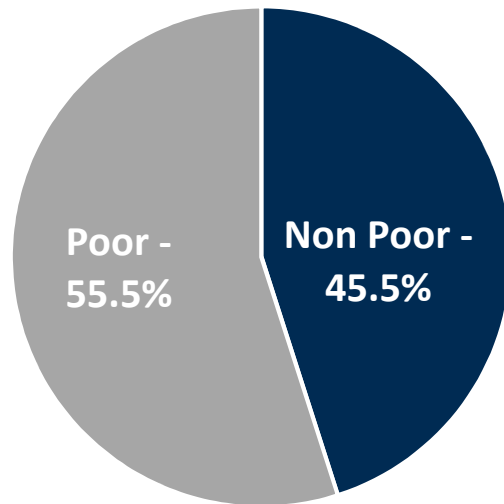
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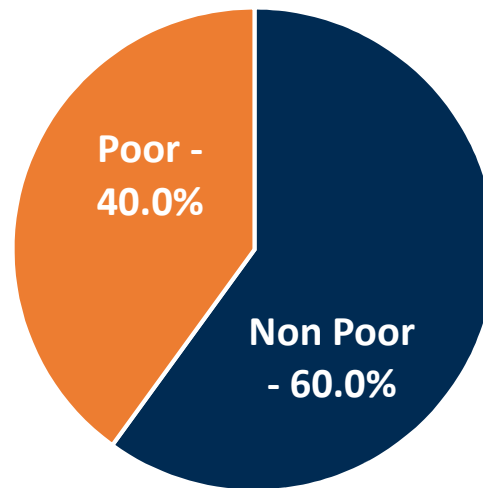
Money-metric Poverty headcounts in 2015

In 2015, more than **a quarter** of the population were living below the food poverty line



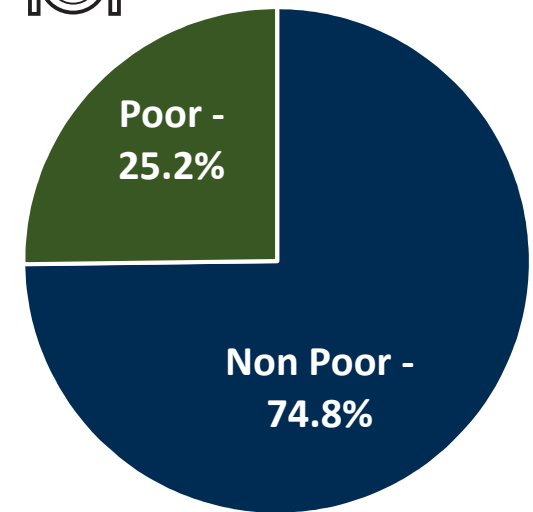
Upper-Bound Poverty Line

Provides an unambiguous threshold of relative deprivation below which people **cannot afford the minimum lifestyle desired by most South Africans**



Lower-Bound Poverty Line

Provides an austere threshold below which one has to **choose between food and important non-food items**



Food Poverty Line

Is the Rand value below which individuals are **unable to purchase or consume enough food** to supply them with minimum per-capita-per-day energy requirement for good health



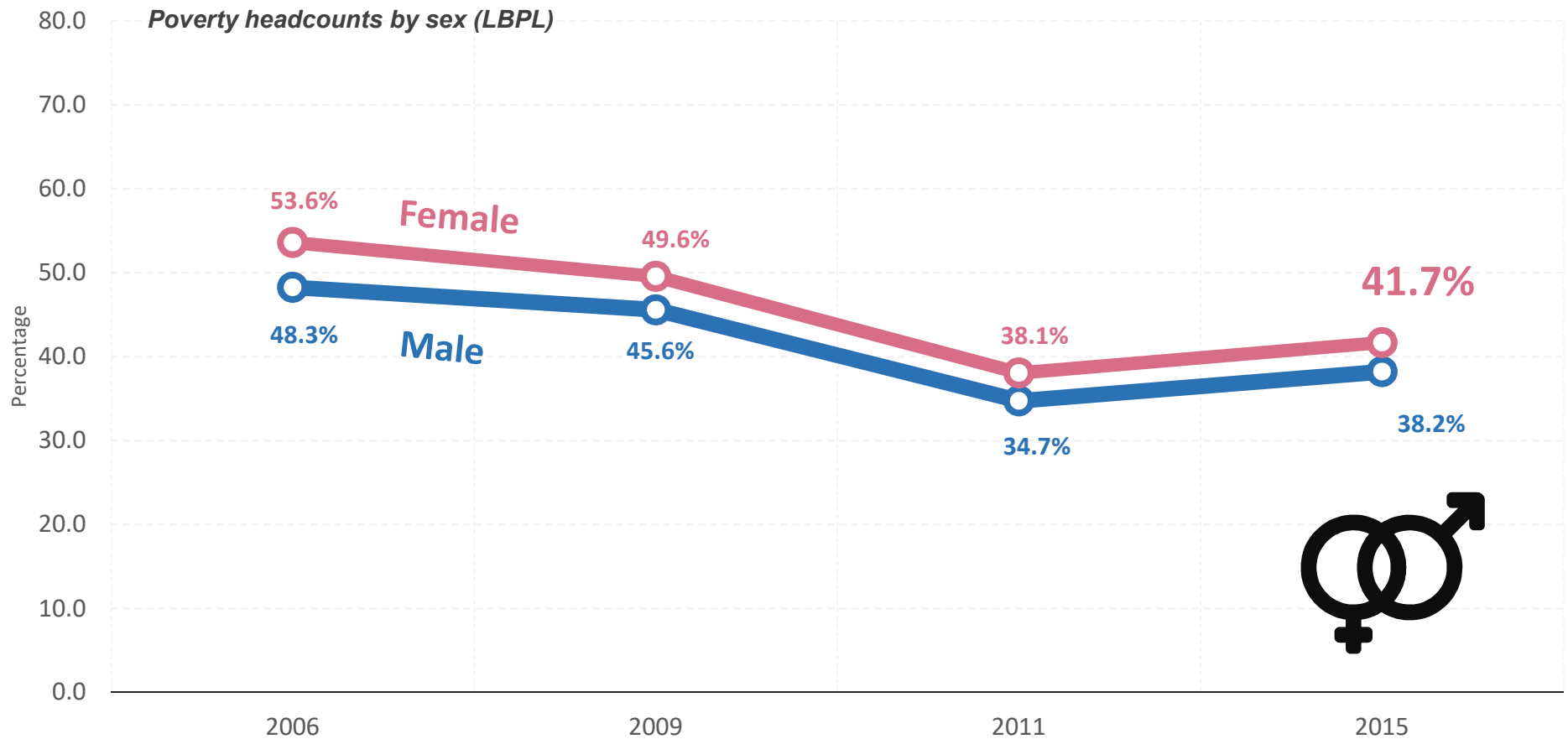
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Source: Living Conditions Survey



Females remain more disadvantaged than males consistently recording a higher headcount, gap and severity measures at each point in time; however, the difference between the sexes is narrowing.



Source: Living Conditions Survey 2015



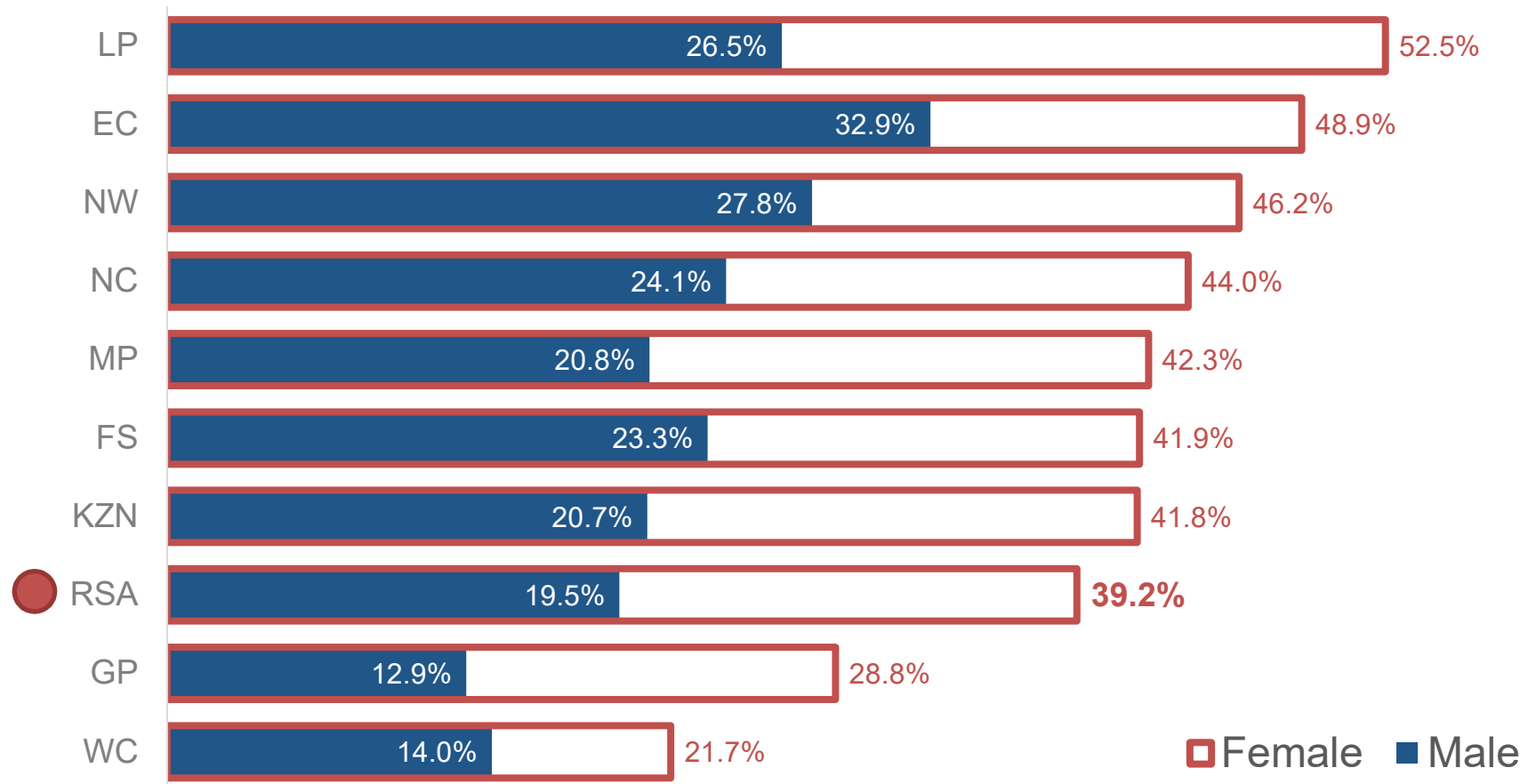
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39,2% of female-headed households in SA do not have an employed household member.

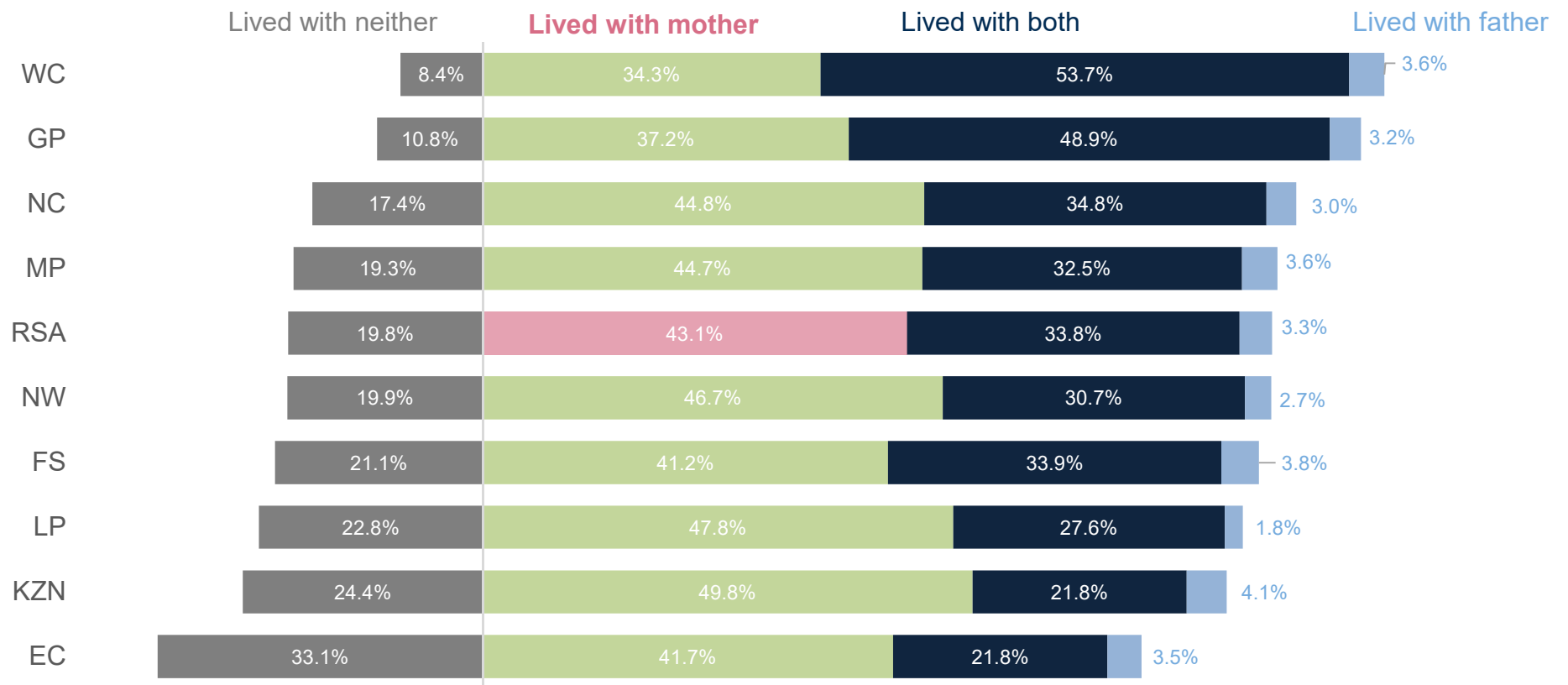
Households without and employed household member by sex of household head, 2018



Source: Marginal Groups Indicator Report 2018

Nationally, 43% of children lived with mothers only, while one third(33,8%) lived with both parents.

Percentage of children living arrangements, 2018



Source: GHS 2018

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Experience of violence



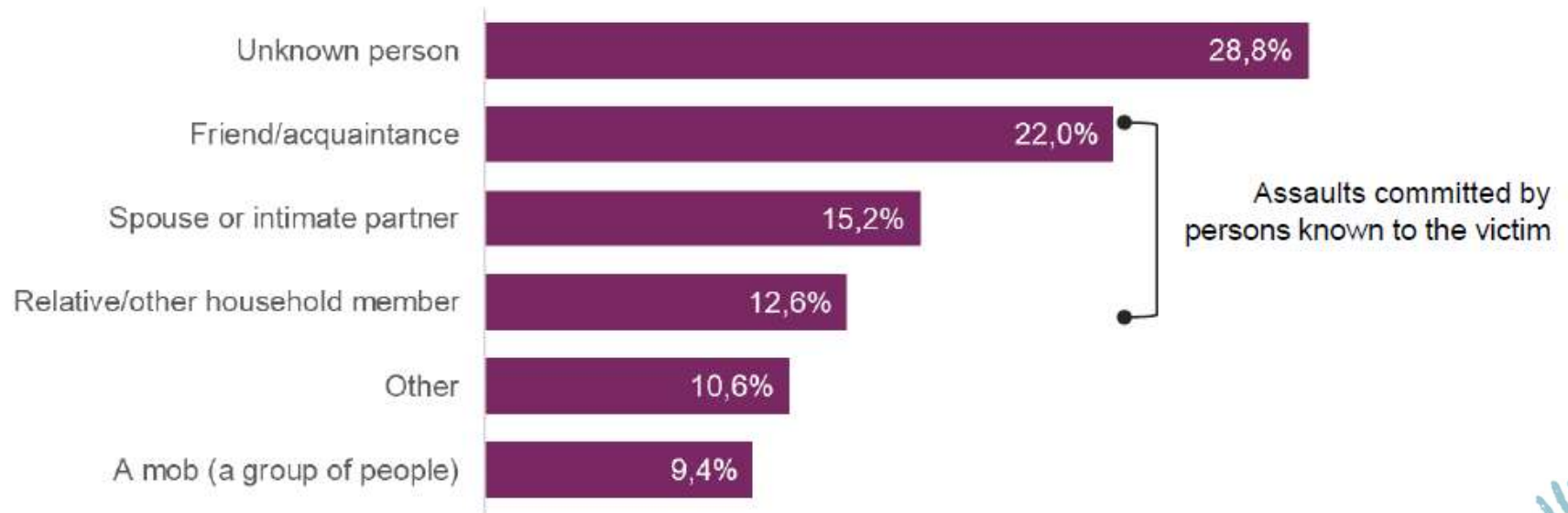
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Almost 50% of the assaults were committed by someone close such as a friend or acquaintance (22%), a spouse or intimate partner (15%), a relative or other household member (13%). About 29% of the assaults were committed by unknown persons.

Percentage of assaults committed by a specified perpetrator, 2018/19



Source: Governance, Public Safety and Justice Survey 2018/19



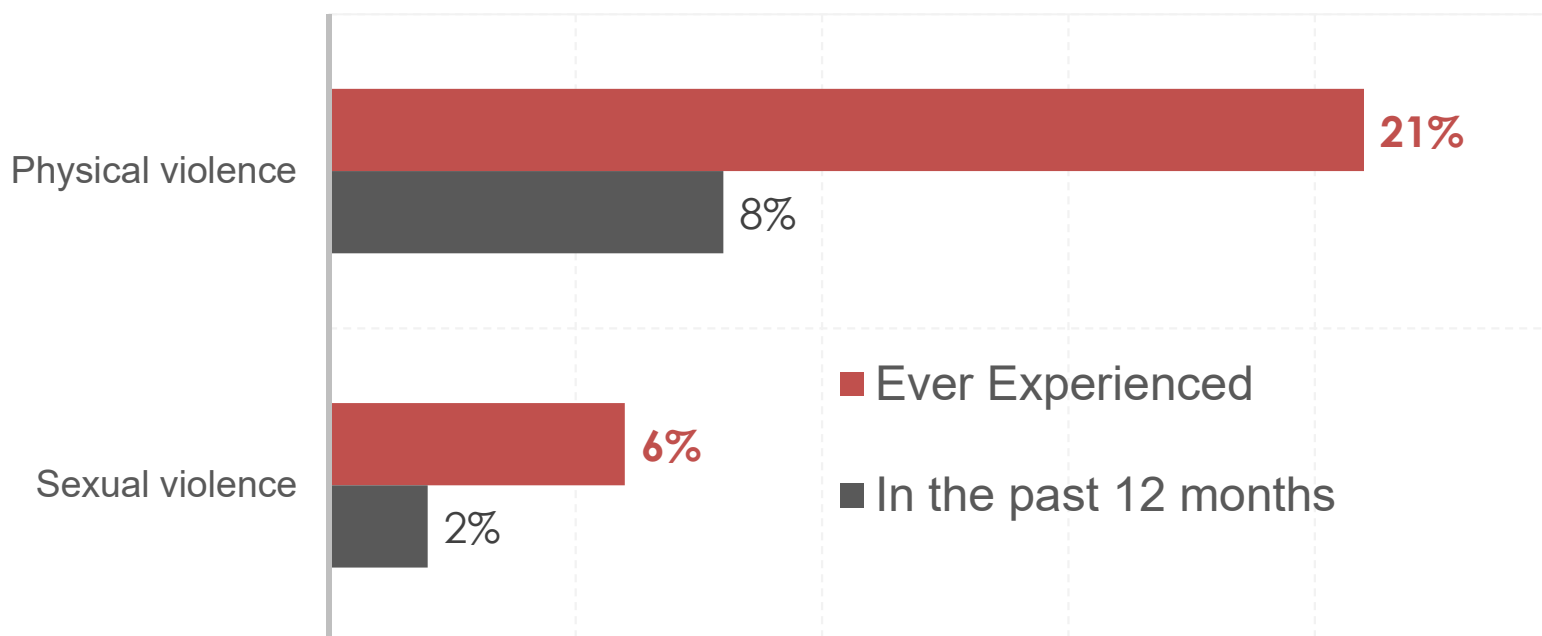
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One in five (21%) partnered women has experienced physical violence by a partner (*Ever Experienced*)

Experience of violence by any partner, women 18+ years



Source: SADHS 2016



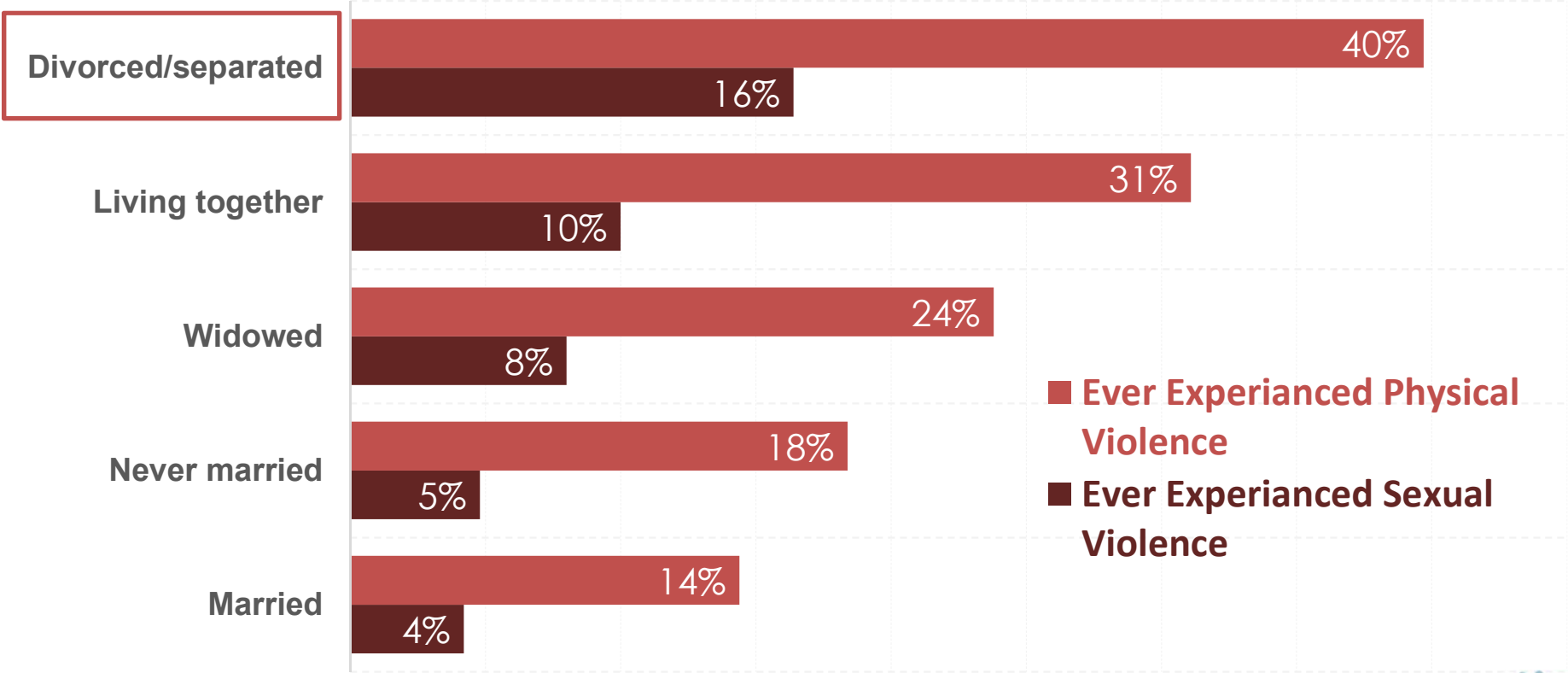
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Women who are **divorced or separated** were more likely than other women to have experienced physical violence or sexual violence *(Ever Experienced)*

Experience of Violence by Marital Status, women 18+ years



Source: SADHS 2016

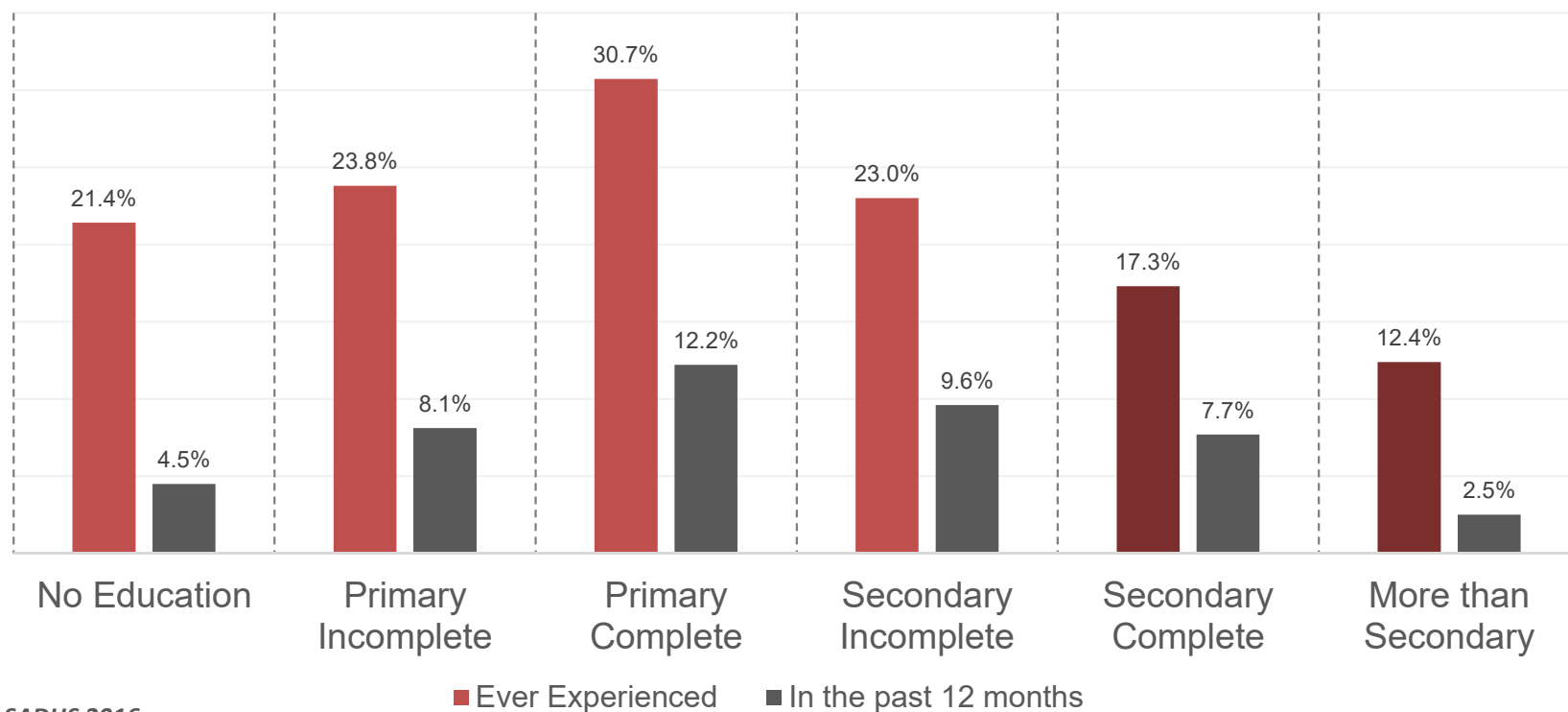


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The prevalence of physical violence was **greater among less- educated women** than those with secondary education or higher.

Experience of physical violence by any partner, women 18+ years by educational attainment



Source: SADHS 2016

■ Ever Experienced ■ In the past 12 months

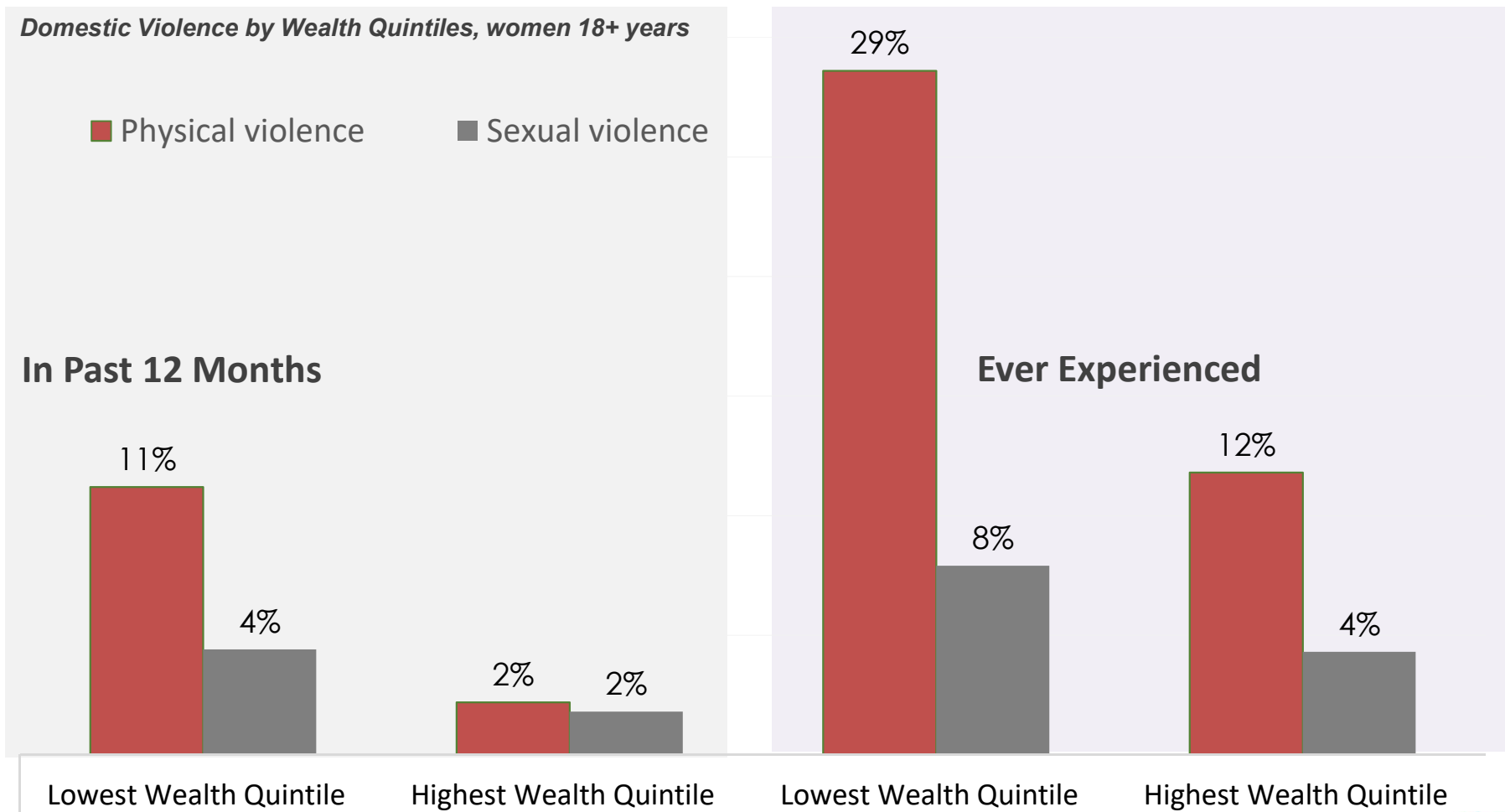


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The prevalence of physical and sexual violence decreased with the wealth quintile.



Source: SADHS 2016



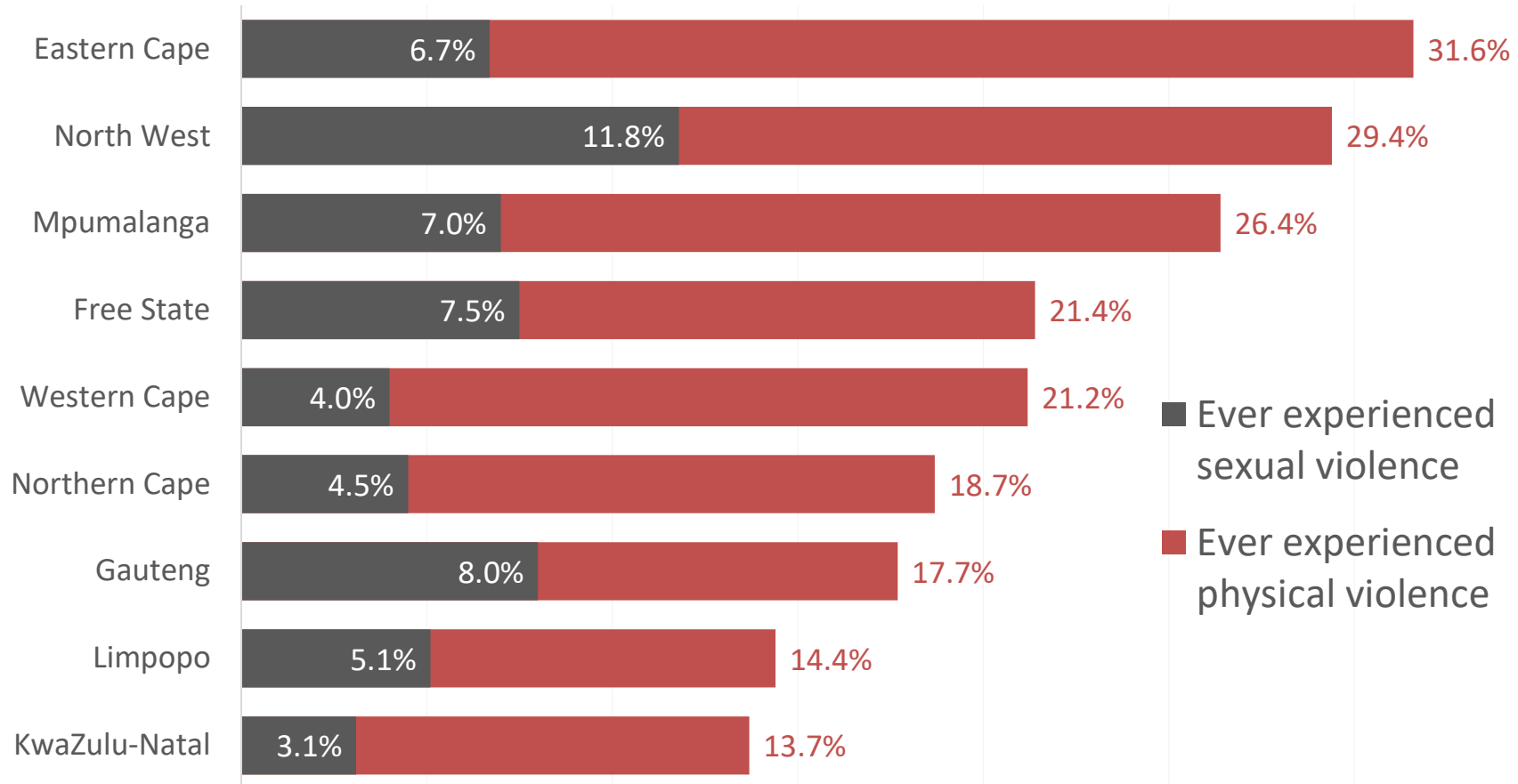
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Ever- experience of partner violence is highest in the EC for physical violence while NW had highest rates of sexual violence ever experienced

Experience of physical violence by any partner, women 18+ years by province



■ Ever experienced sexual violence
■ Ever experienced physical violence



A larger proportion of females felt unsafe walking **alone at night** in their neighbourhoods compared to males.

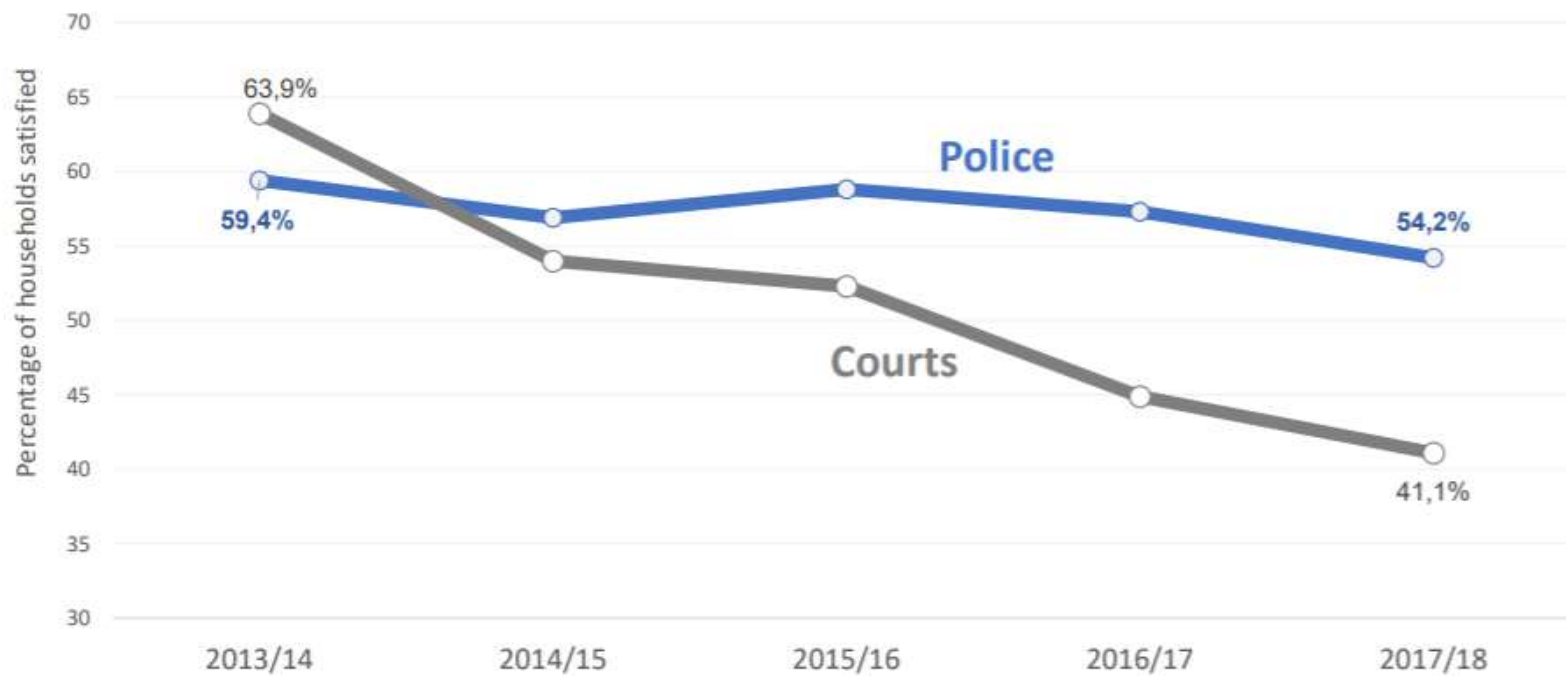
Feelings of safety when walking alone in areas of residence when it is dark, by gender



Source: Governance, Public Safety and Justice Survey 2018/19

WIDENING GULF IN HOUSEHOLDS SATISFACTION BETWEEN POLICE SERVICES AND HOW COURTS GENERALLY DEAL WITH PERPETRATORS OF CRIME

Percentage of households satisfied with the police or the courts



Source: VOCS 2017/18



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Thank You



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