

**Multiple Indicator Survey on Ageing (MISA):  
Findings from Malawi 2017 Survey**

**Presented by**

**Dr Jesman M.N. Chintsanya**

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# Introduction

- Projected population 16.8 million ( NSO, 2010)
- TFR 4.4 children per woman (MDHS 2015/16, 2017)
- Rapid population growth (2.8%) per annum (NSO, 2018)
- HIV prevalence has remained stable, 10% (NSO, 2017)
- Improvements in mortality, ART
- Proportion of persons aged 60+ will increase from 4.9% (2015) to 7.6% (2050), (United Nations, 2017).
- In absolute terms this equates to 0.85 million to 3.3 million persons

# Need for data and statistics on older persons

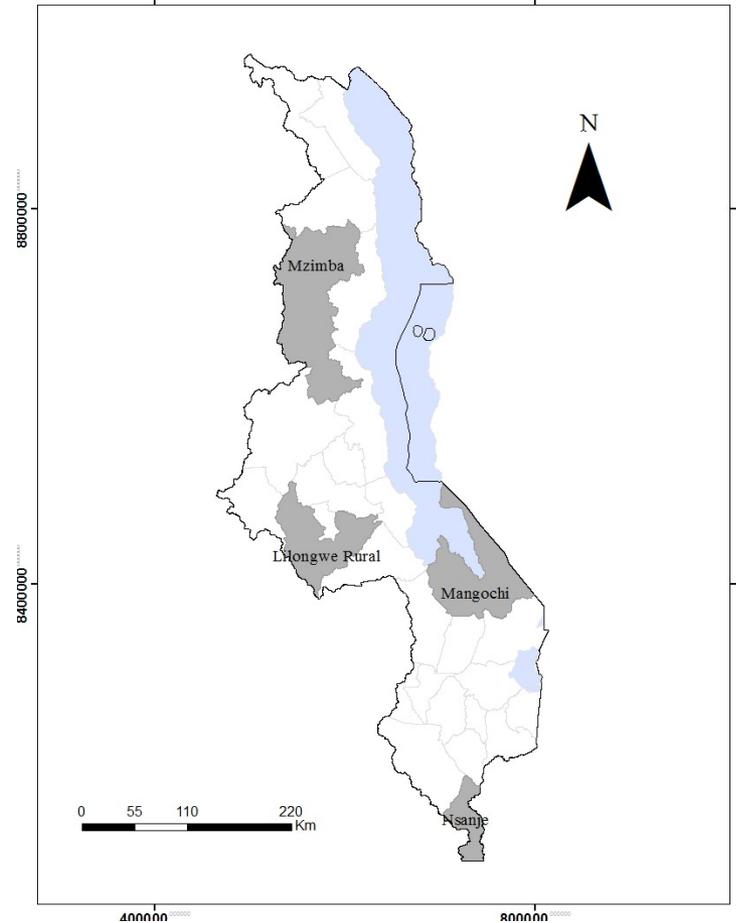
- The increase in proportion of older persons has both opportunities and challenges
- Opportunities: knowledge and skills which they can use to help families or communities deal with different challenges
- Challenges: Population of older persons steadily increases in the country, the social, economic and cultural challenges associated with ageing populations are likely to multiply

# Collaborators

- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division of Social Policy and Development in conjunction with Malawi Government,
- Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare (Department of Disability and Elderly Affairs),
- National Statistical Office
- University of Malawi

# Methodology

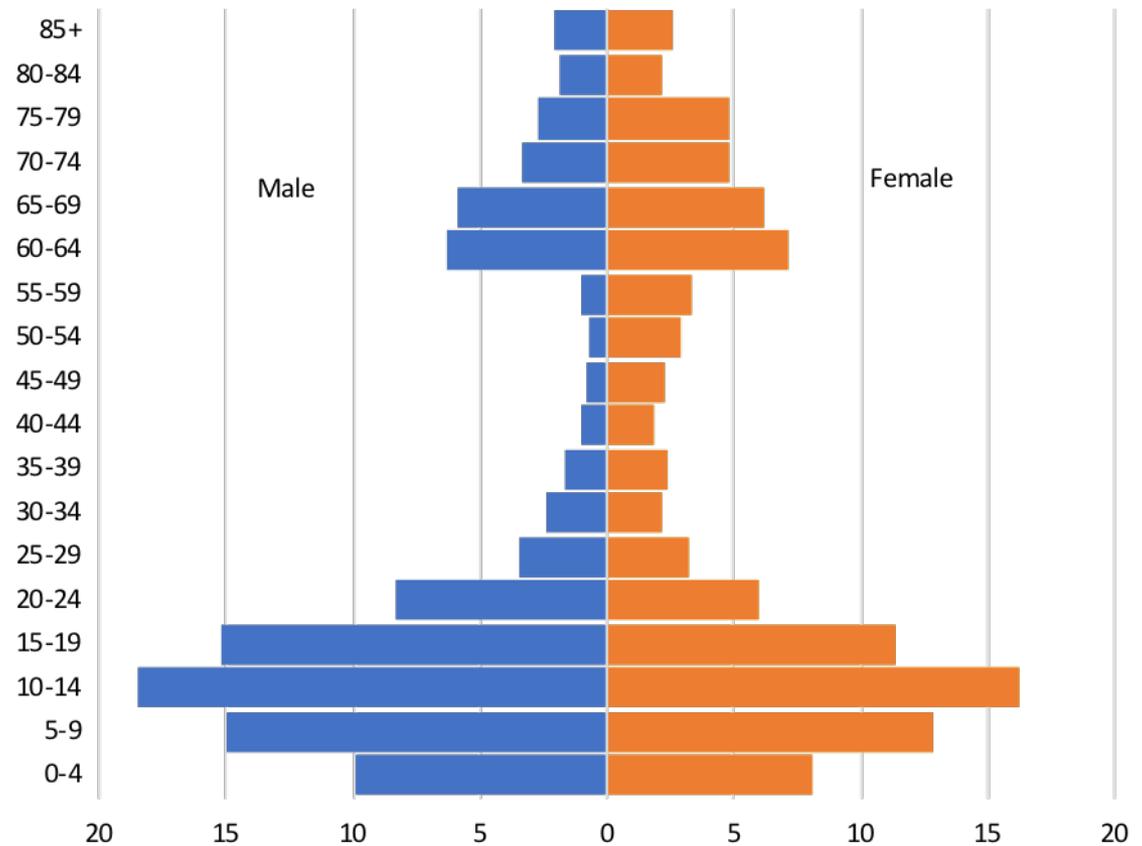
- Consisted of household and individual questionnaires
- 1886 Household interviews and 2238 individual interview
- Information captured using Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing platform
- Surveys in Malawi use the sampling frame from the 2008 Malawi Population and Housing Census (MPHC)
- Budget constrains - sample was representative at the district level.



Jesman Chintsanya, UNIMA (2017)

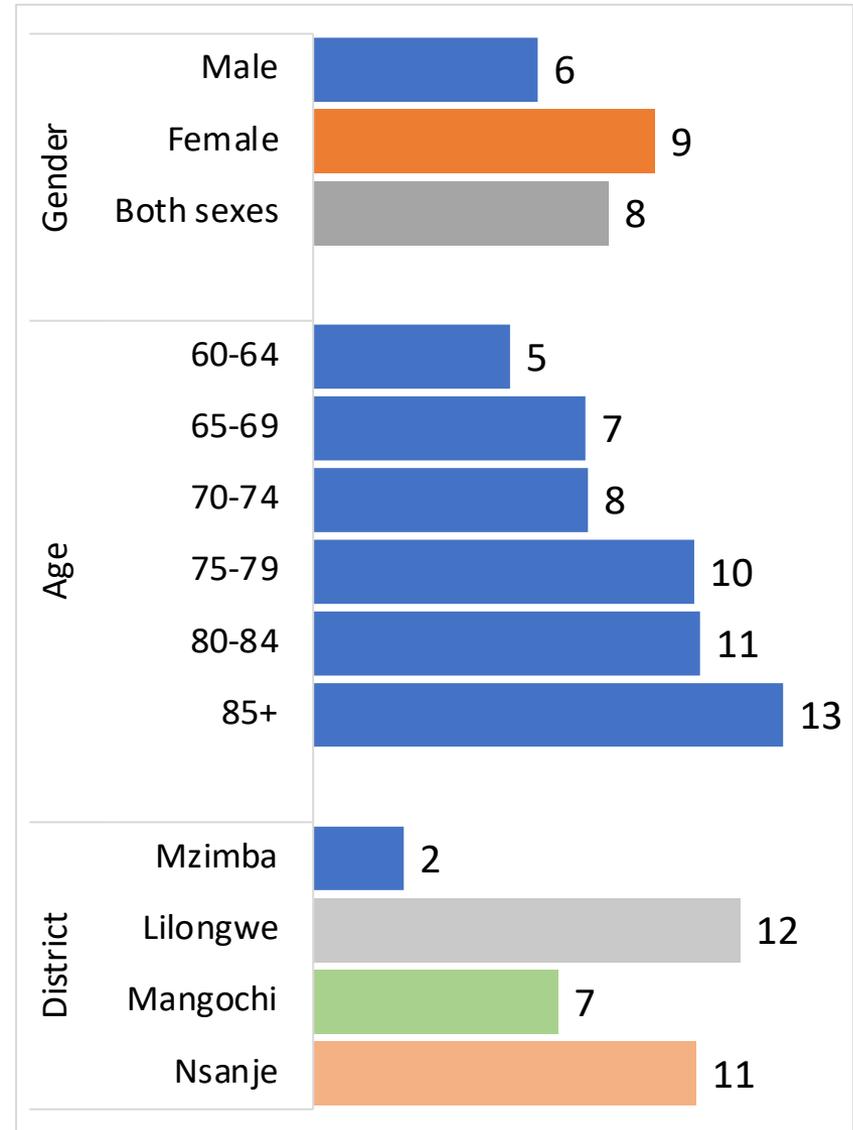
# Demographics: Age and sex distribution of OP

- 40% of the household population was under the age of 15 years
- 60 and over contributed to 25%

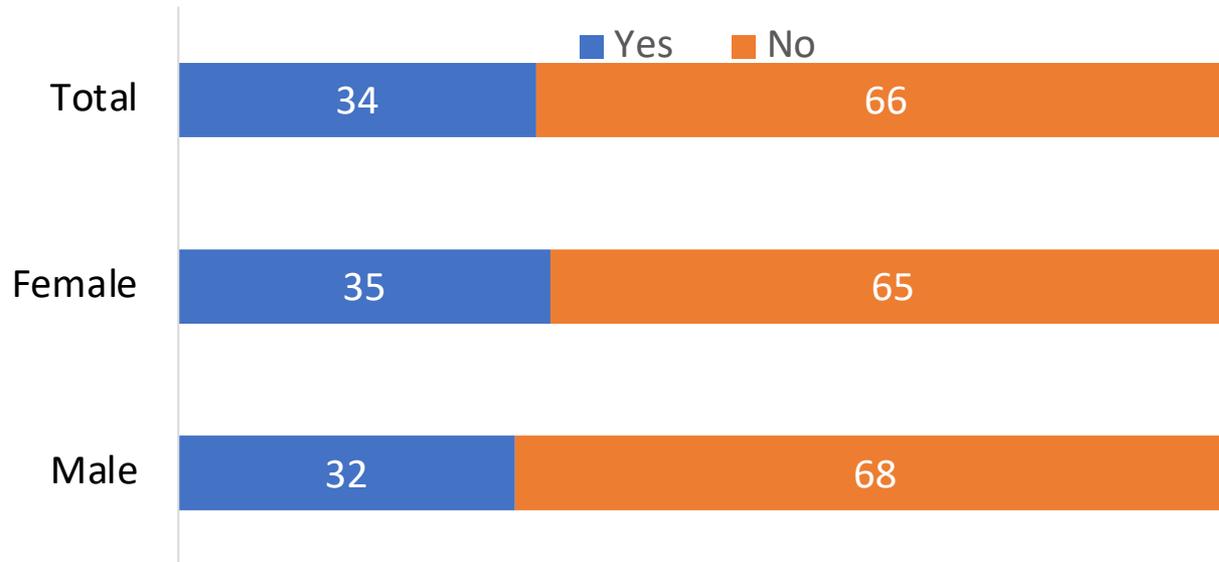


# Living arrangements

- Slightly more older women (9%) live alone compared to older men (6%)
- Proportion of OP living alone increases gradually as the age increases.
- Lilongwe has the highest proportion of OP living alone (migration?)

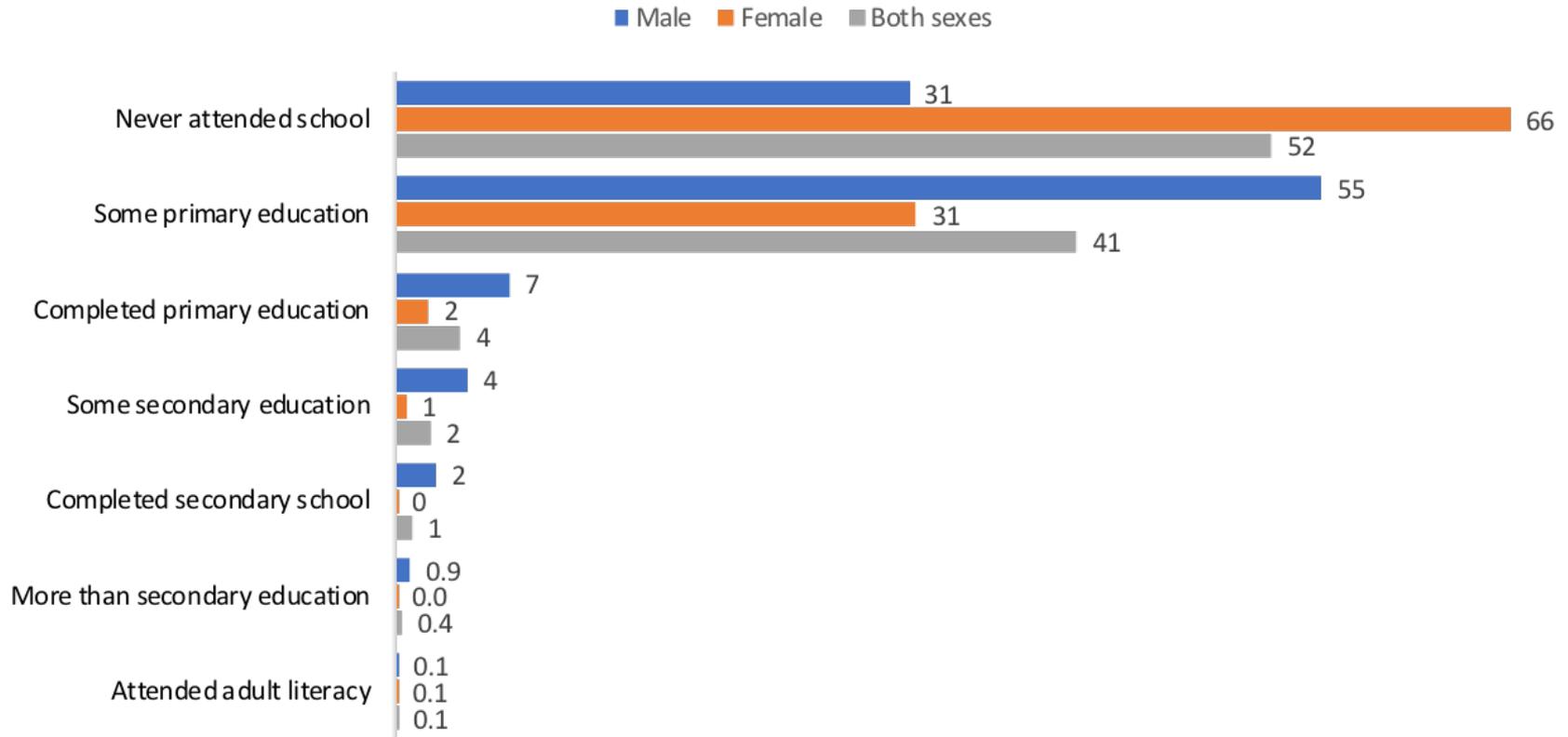


# Care for orphans



- Older persons were more likely to report that they live with minor age children whose parent is not present in the household
- 34% OP cared for orphans (children orphaned by AIDS)

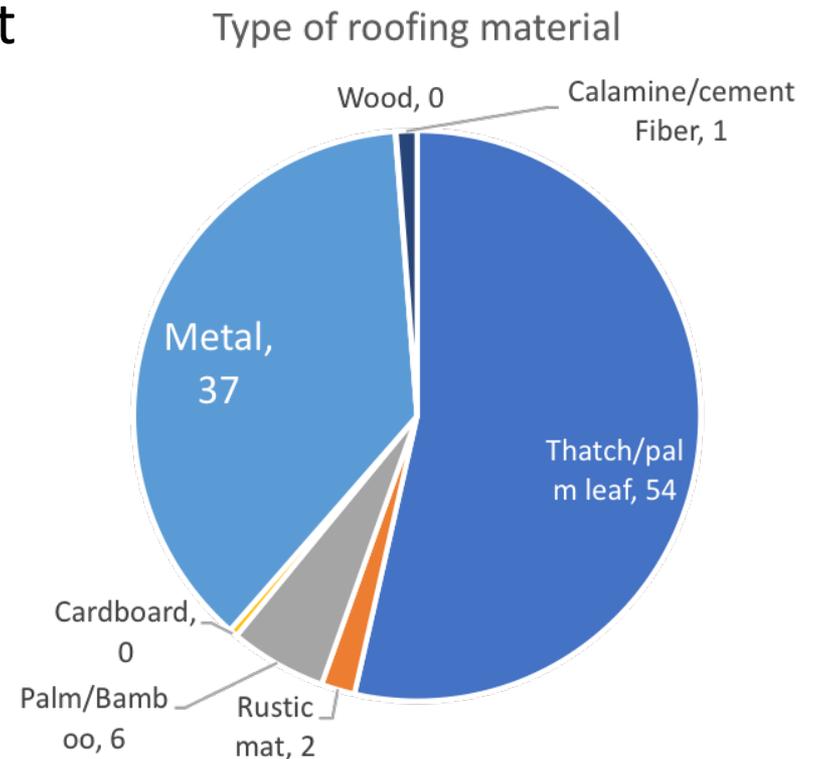
# Education



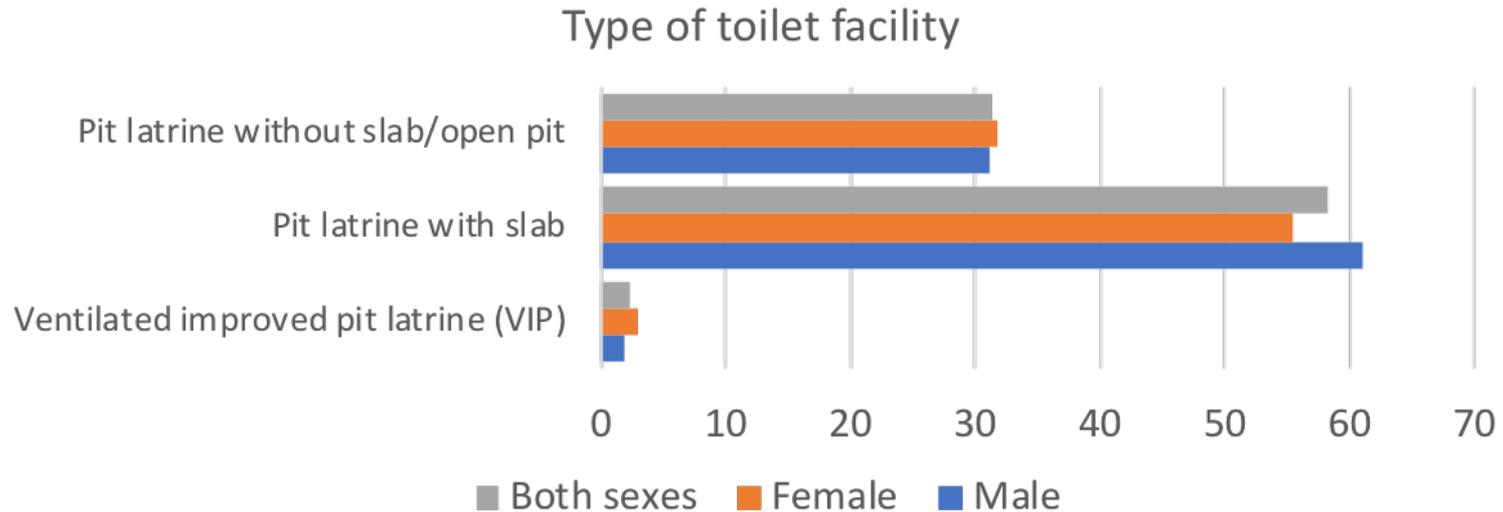
- Majority never had opportunity to attend school
- 52% never attended school
- Higher among Women (66%)
- 41% attended some primary education

# Living environment (type of roofing material)

- 54% of households reported that the roofs of their houses were made of thatch/palm leaf
- 37% of households had their roofs made of metal
- Traditional houses still dominate because more than half of the households reported using thatched roof.

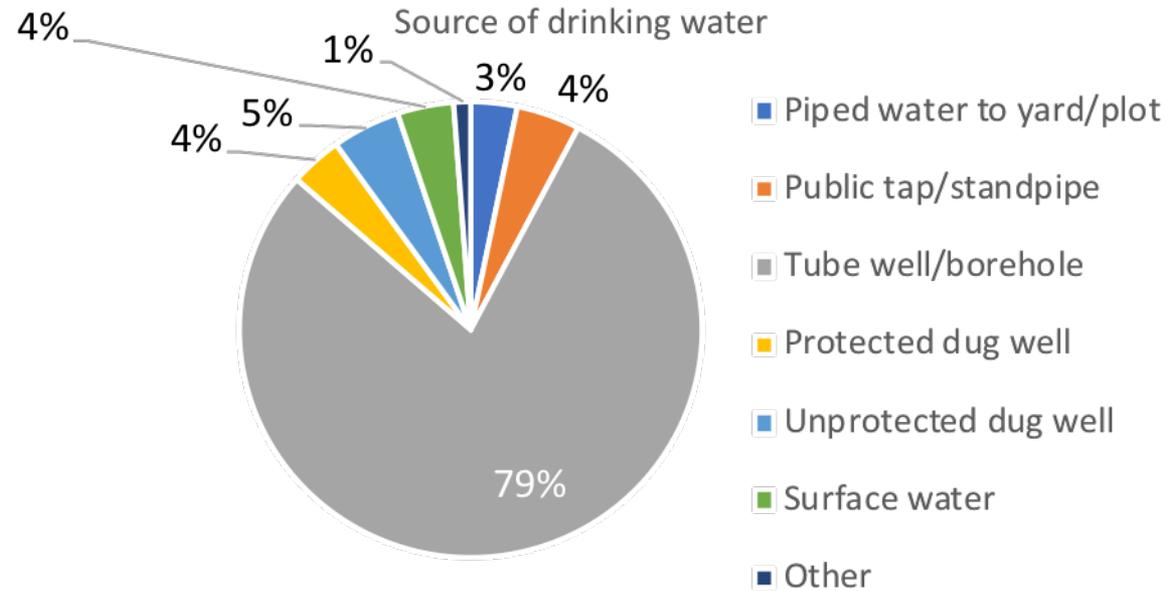


# Living environment (toilet facility)



- Non-existent of Flush/pour toilets
- 58% and 31% of older persons households use pit latrine with slab and pit latrine without slab/open, respectively.
- Most of the households have toilet facilities which are located outside their houses

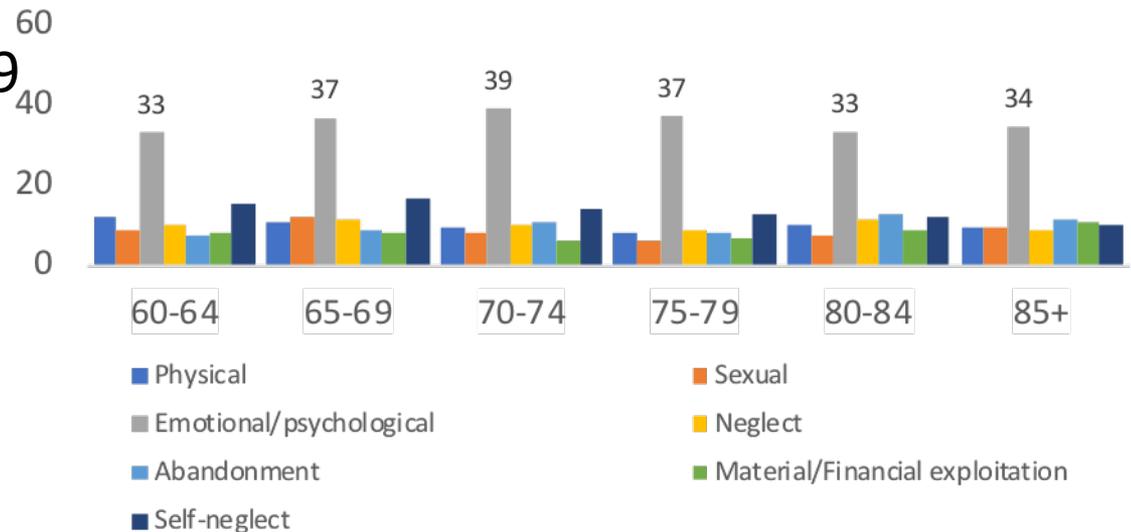
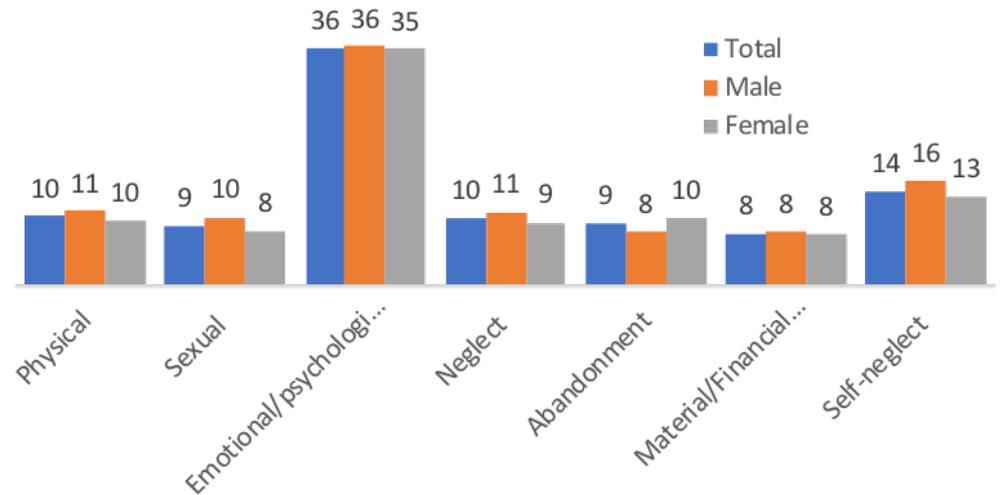
# Living environment (drinking water)



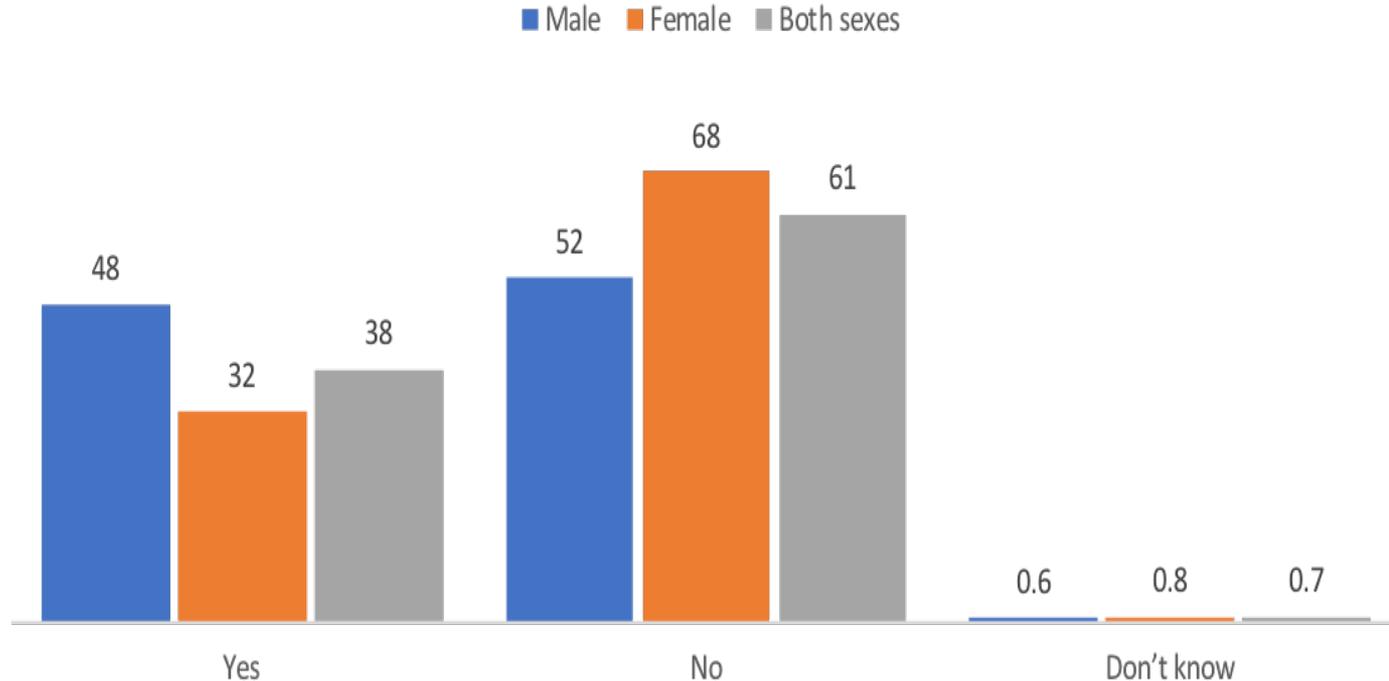
- Most older persons' households use tube well /borehole (79%).
- Those who use piped into dwelling, piped water into yard/plot and public tap/standpipe are less than five percent.

# Abuse of older persons

- Emotional/psychological abuse (36%) is the most pervasive form of abuse.
- People aged 70-79 years and aged 80 years or older experienced similar levels of overall mistreatment, double that of people aged 65-69 years

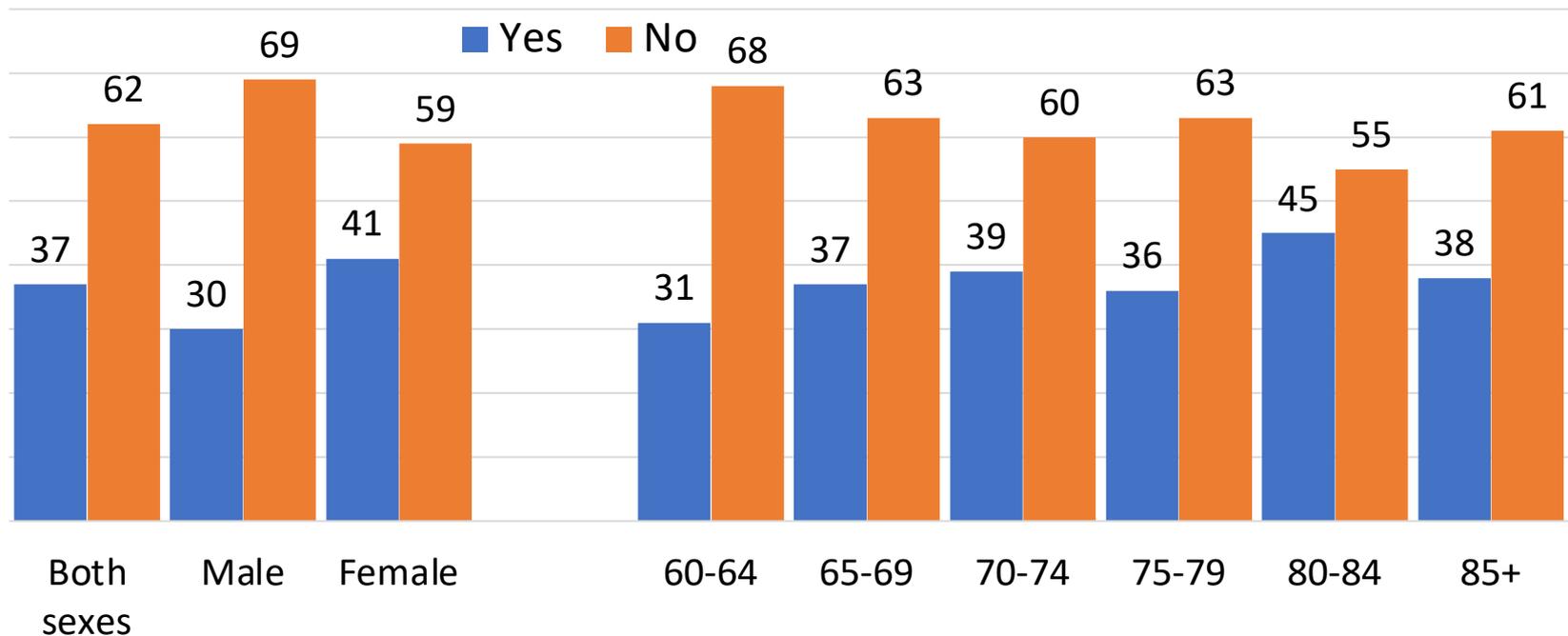


# Ever been tested for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS



- 38% of older persons have ever been tested for HIV
- More male (48%) than female (32%) older persons have ever been tested for HIV
- More male older persons are HIV positive compared to female
- 60-64 age group has the highest self-reported HIV positive

# Access to social protection

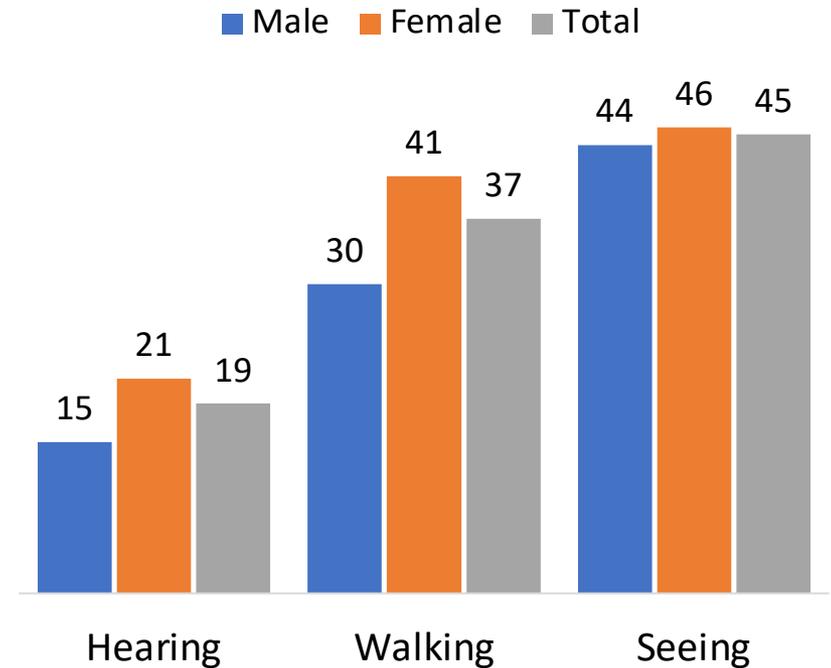


- Overall, 37 percent of older persons reported that they accessed and benefited from the Malawi Social Cash Transfer
- Only 5% pensionable scheme (privileged to have worked in the civil service)

# Health and Well-being

## Walking, Vision and hearing impairments

- Impaired vision could lead to older persons have trouble with visual and spatial abilities in the way of judging distance and depth.
- Sight (45%) is one of the most challenges affecting older persons in carrying activities of daily life.



# Conclusion

- All are entitled to live in an environment that enhances their capabilities.
- **Living environment:** poor access to safe drinking water
- **Health:** OP have elevated HIV risk factors.
- **OP abuse** remains pervasive in the society
- **Social Protection:** coverage remains low; only 37 percent of older persons are accessing the social benefits
- **Health and Well-being:** As older persons age, they have difficulties in carrying out activities of daily living because of a health or physical problem.