



Economic conditions and lived poverty in Botswana

Findings from Afrobarometer Round 6 Surveys in Botswana

At a Glance



- **Economic Conditions**: Trend analysis on present living conditions of individual Batswana and future economic condition of the country are worsening.
- **Lived Poverty**: Taking 2003 as the reference period shows that the overall proportion of Batswana who have on “many times” or “always” gone without clean water, medicine and cash income is increasing
- **Important economic-related problems** faced by Batswana: Unemployment remains the number one economic-related problem (58%) identified by respondents. The proportion of those identifying wages, income and salaries as a problem doubles over the 2003-2014 period but poverty and destitution is on the decline.

What is Afrobarometer?



- An African-led, non-partisan survey research project that measures citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics.
- Started in 12 countries in 1999, expanded to 35 African countries in Round 5 (2011-2013).
- **Goal:** To give the public a voice in policymaking by providing high-quality public opinion data to policymakers, policy advocates, civil society organizations, academics, news media, donors and investors, and ordinary Africans.
- National Partners in each country conduct the survey. In **Botswana**, Afrobarometer Round 6 survey was conducted by **Star Awards (Pty) Ltd.**



Where Afrobarometer works



Methodology

- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
 - ❑ All respondents are *randomly* selected.
 - ❑ Sample is distributed across **regions/states/provinces** and urban/rural areas in proportion to their share in the national population.
 - ❑ Every adult citizen has an *equal* chance of being selected.
- Face-to-face interviews In the language of the respondent's choice.
- Standard questionnaire allows comparisons across countries and over time.
- Sample size in **Botswana** of **1,200** adult citizens yields a margin of error of **+/-3%** at a 95% confidence level.
- Fieldwork for Round 6 in **Botswana** was conducted between **28 June** and **13 July 2014**.



Enumerator Map



Survey Demographics



	Un-weighted	Weighted
Gender		
Male	50%	50%
Female	50%	50%
Location		
Urban	21%	20%
Semi-urban	43%	43%
Rural	36%	37%
Education		
No formal schooling	12%	13%
Primary	22%	21%
Secondary	47%	44%
Post secondary	19%	22%



Survey Demographics



Age	Un-weighted	Weighted
18 to 29	36%	36%
30 to 49	39%	40%
50 to 64	16%	16%
65+	9%	9%

Employment	Un-weighted	Weighted
No (not looking)	25%	25%
No (looking)	43%	44%
Yes, part time	8%	8%
Yes, full time	23%	24%





RESULTS





THE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF BATSWANA

Key Findings



- In 2014, 58% of respondents believed the country is going in the right direction. This has increased from 52% in 2012
- In 2003, 25% of Batswana perceived their present living conditions to be “fairly good” or “very good” compared to 20% in 2014, with 56% feeling that their living conditions are “fairly bad” to “very bad”.
- Those who perceive the country’s present economic conditions to be “fairly good” to “very good” is at 33% from 45% in 2003
- In contrast with 12 months ago, the country’s economic condition is seen as “better” or “much better” by 35% of the respondents
- A forecast of Botswana’s economic condition in next 12 months shows that in 2003, half of Batswana believed that it was “better” or “much better” increased to two-in three (66%) in 2008 and dropped to 45% in 2014.

Figure 1: Overall direction of the country

Would you say the country is going in the wrong direction or going in the right direction?

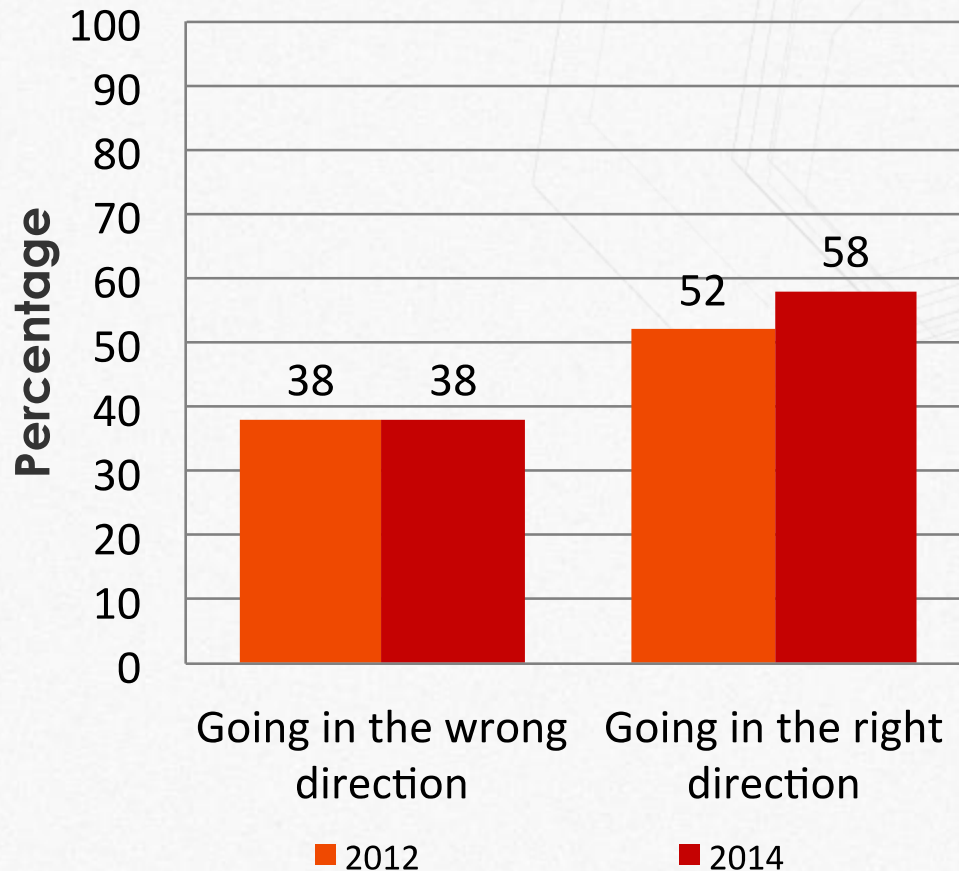


Figure 2: Personal present living conditions: 2003-2014

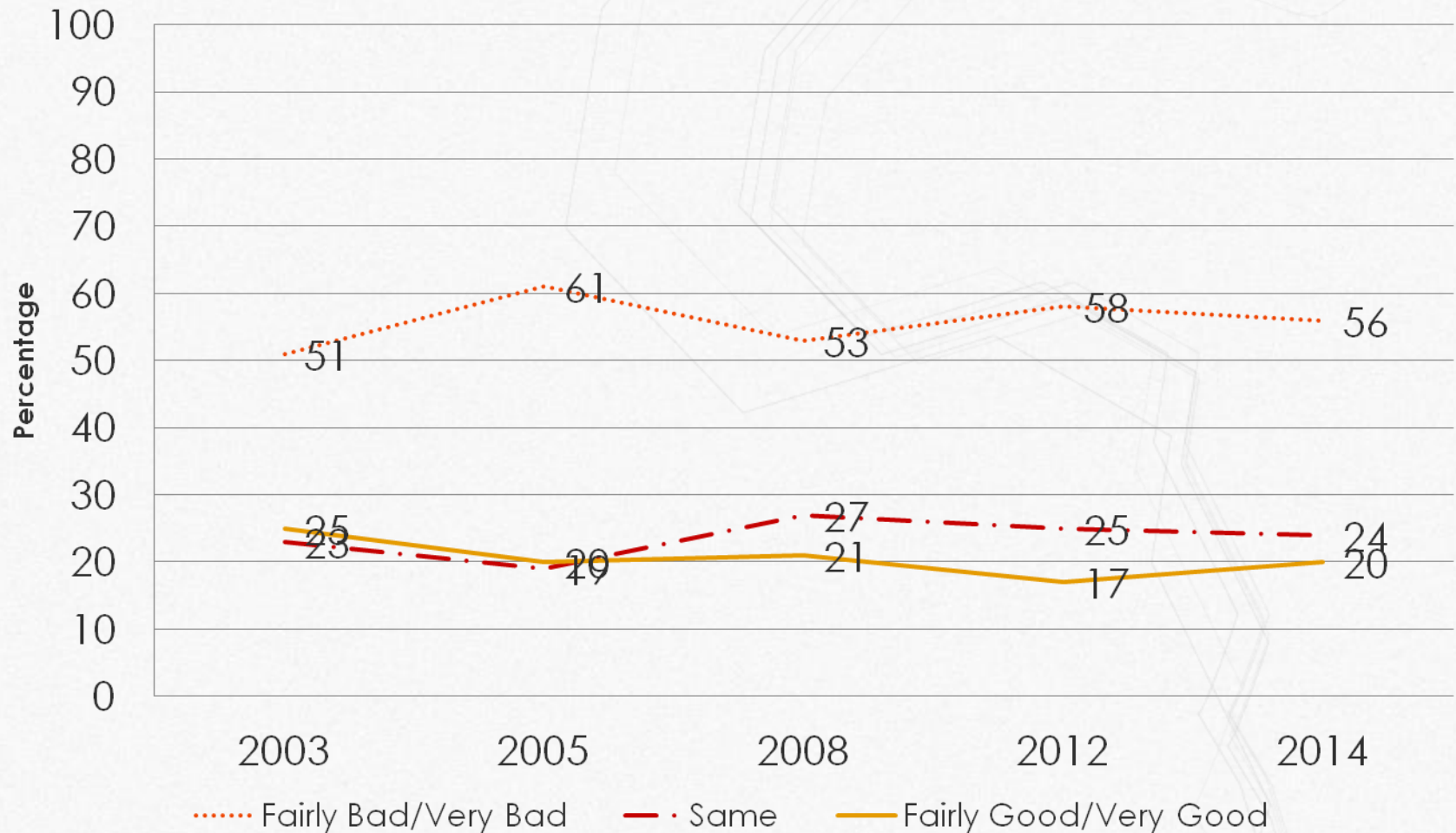


Figure 3: Country's present economic condition

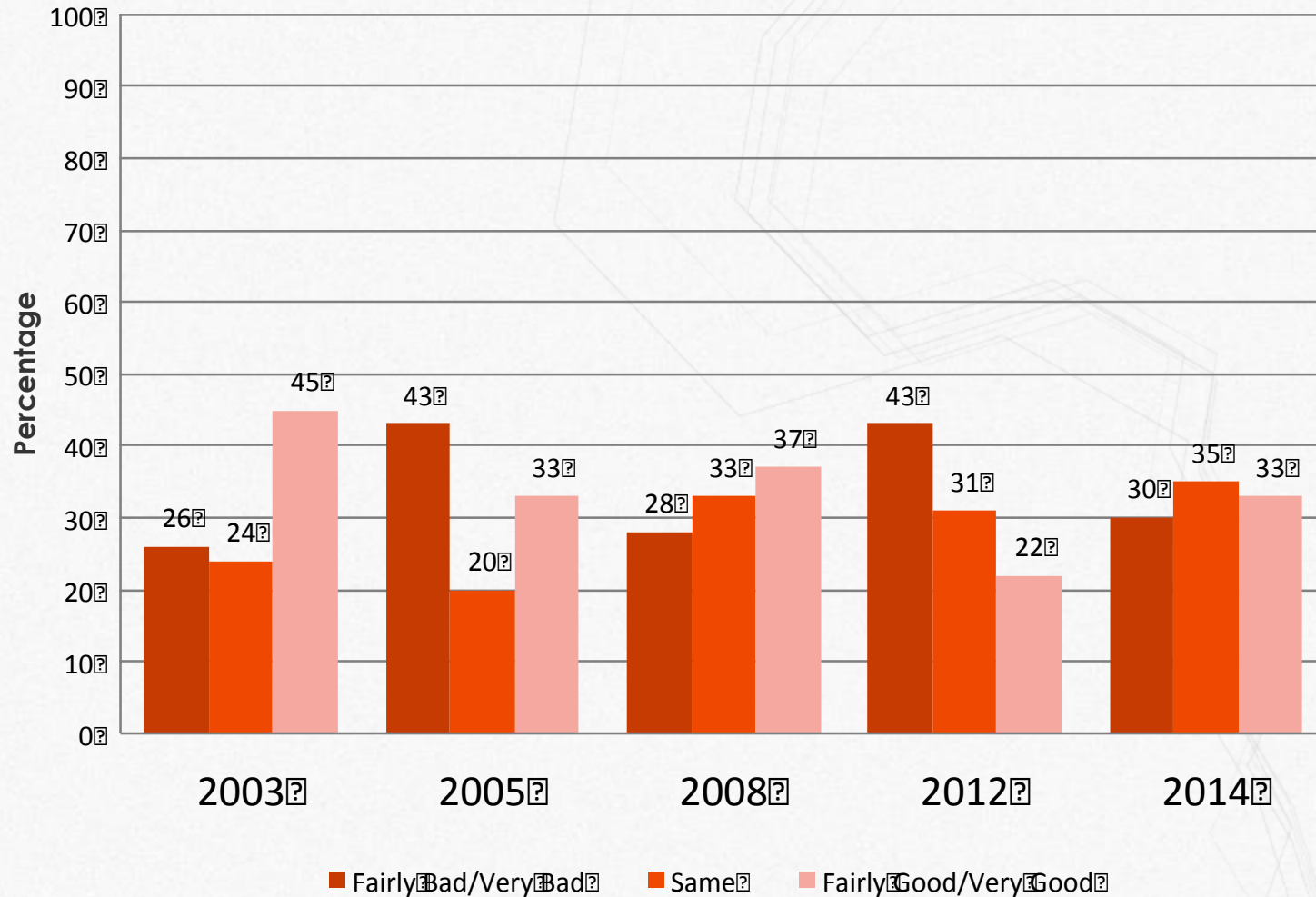


Figure 4: Country's economic conditions 12 months ago

Looking back, how do you rate economic conditions in the country compared to 12 months ago?

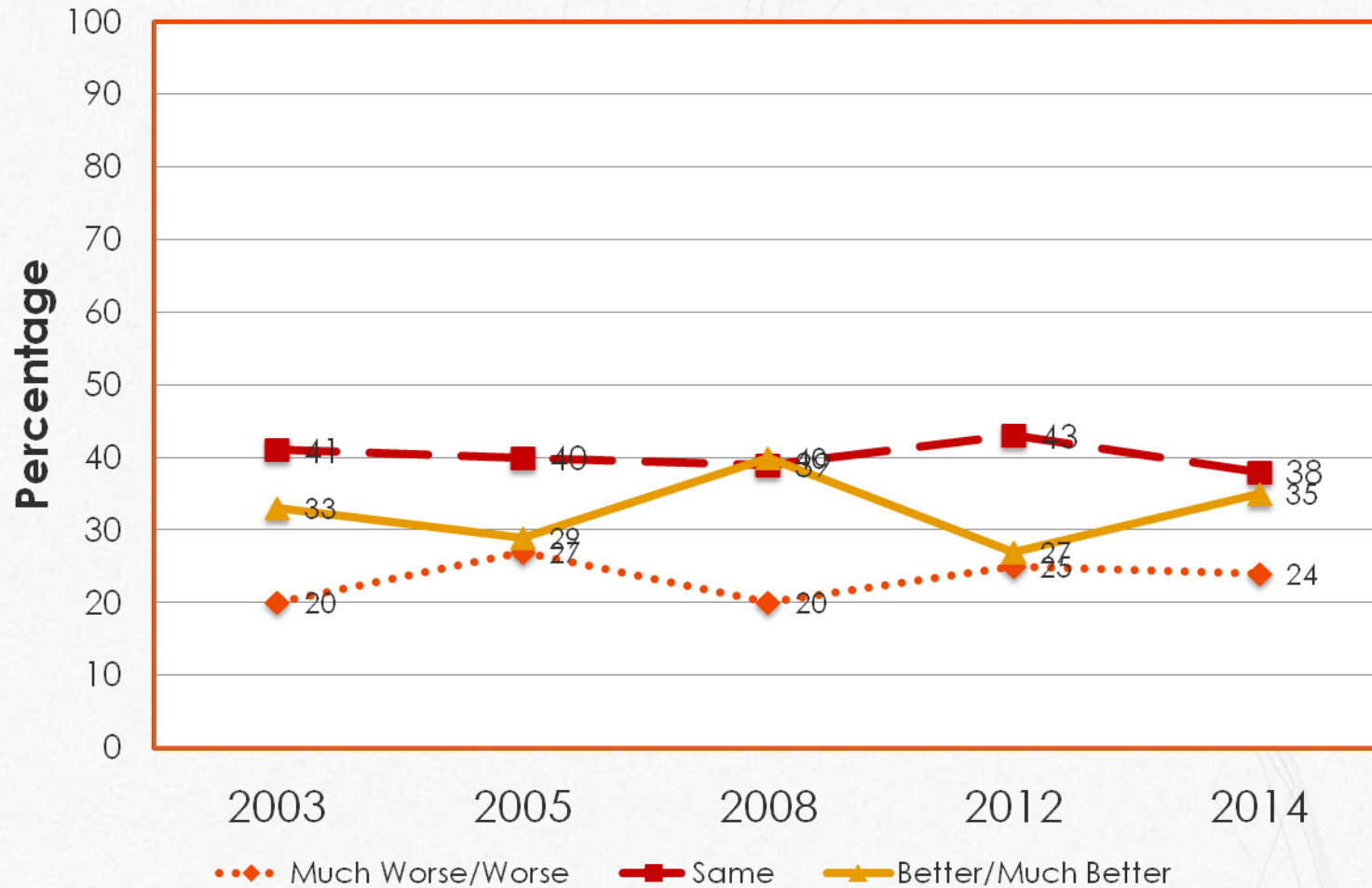
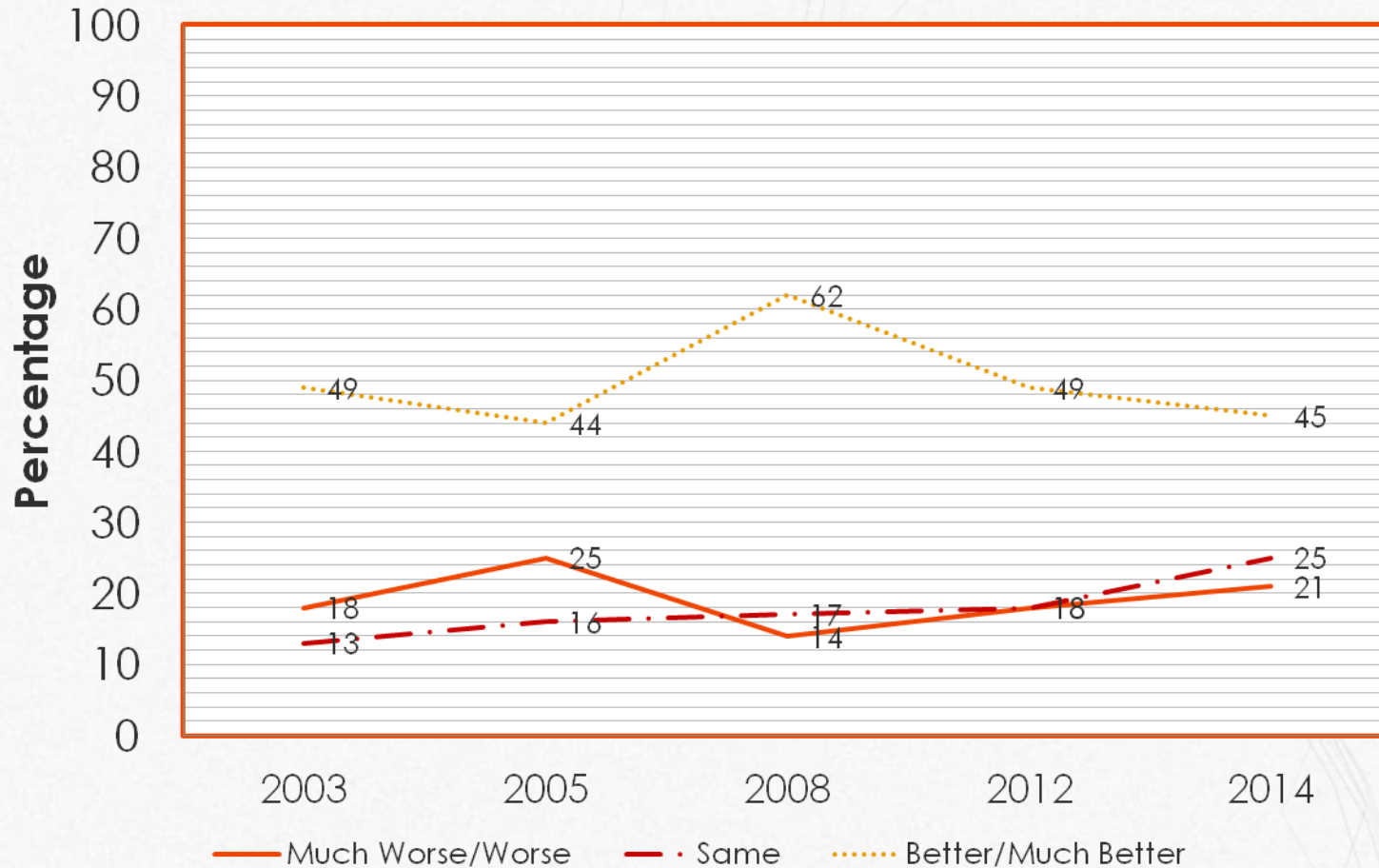


Figure 5: Economic conditions in the next 12 months

Looking ahead, do you expect economic conditions in this country to be better or worse in 12 months?

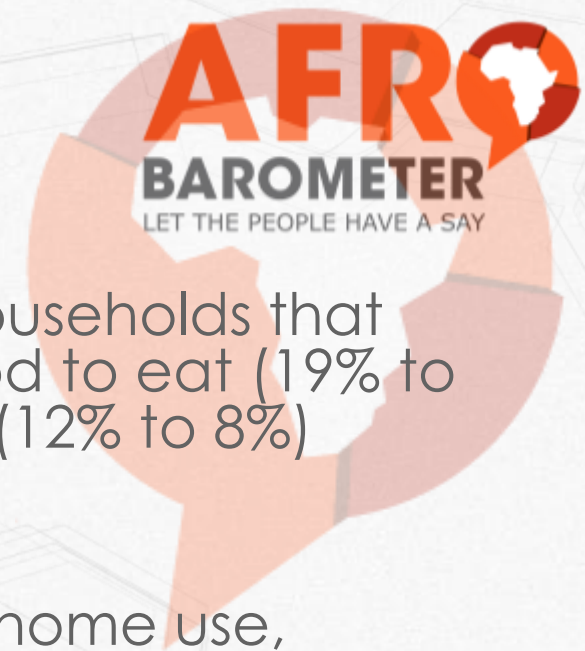




LIVED POVERTY MEASURED BY AVAILABILITY OF BASIC HOUSEHOLD NECESSITIES

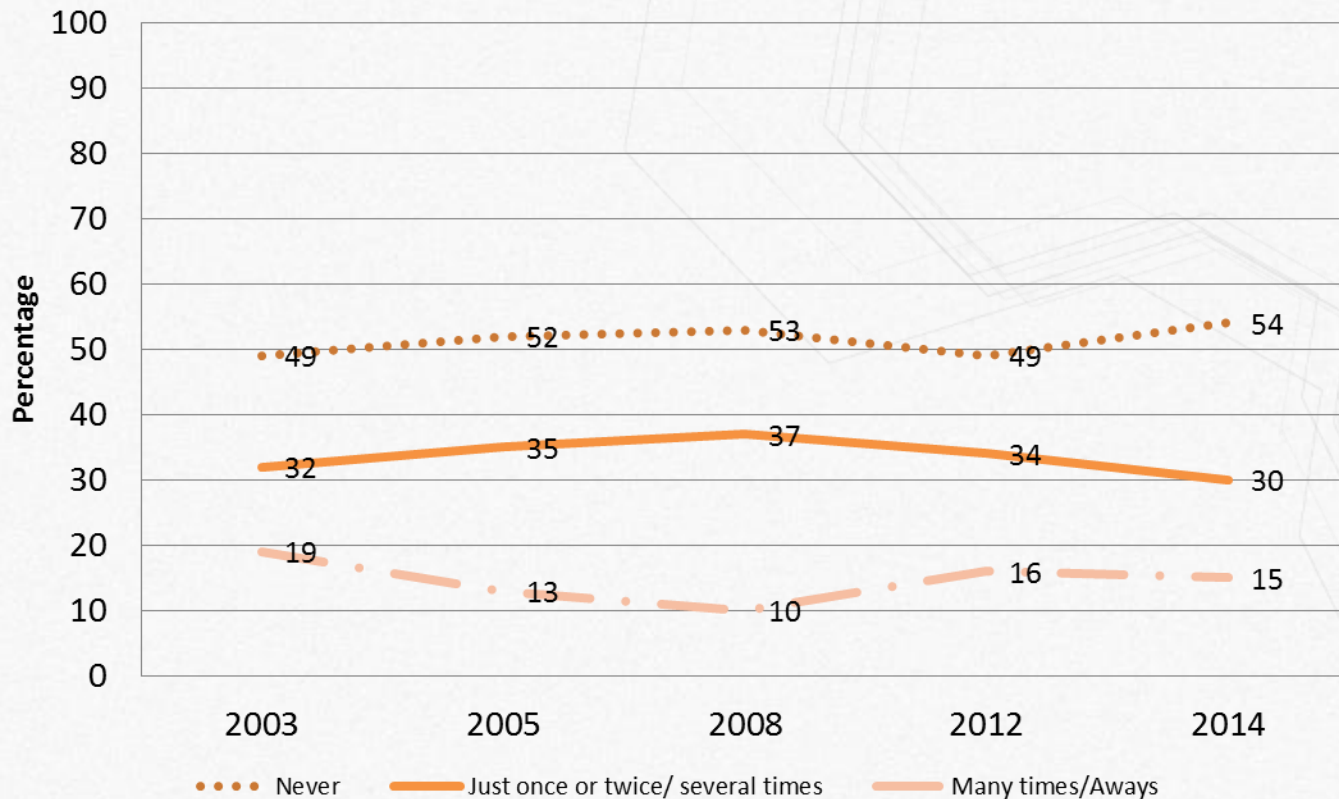
Key Findings

- There is a decline in the proportion of households that “many times” or “always” go without food to eat (19% to 15%) in 2003 and 2014, and fuel to cook (12% to 8%) respectively.
- For basic necessities like clean water for home use, medicine or medical care and a cash income the proportions of those going without “many times” or “always” is increasing.
- Going without food “many times” or “always” in rural areas is increasing drastically jumping from 15% in 2008 to 26% in 2014
- More than half (51%) of rural dwellers “many times” or “always” go without a cash income

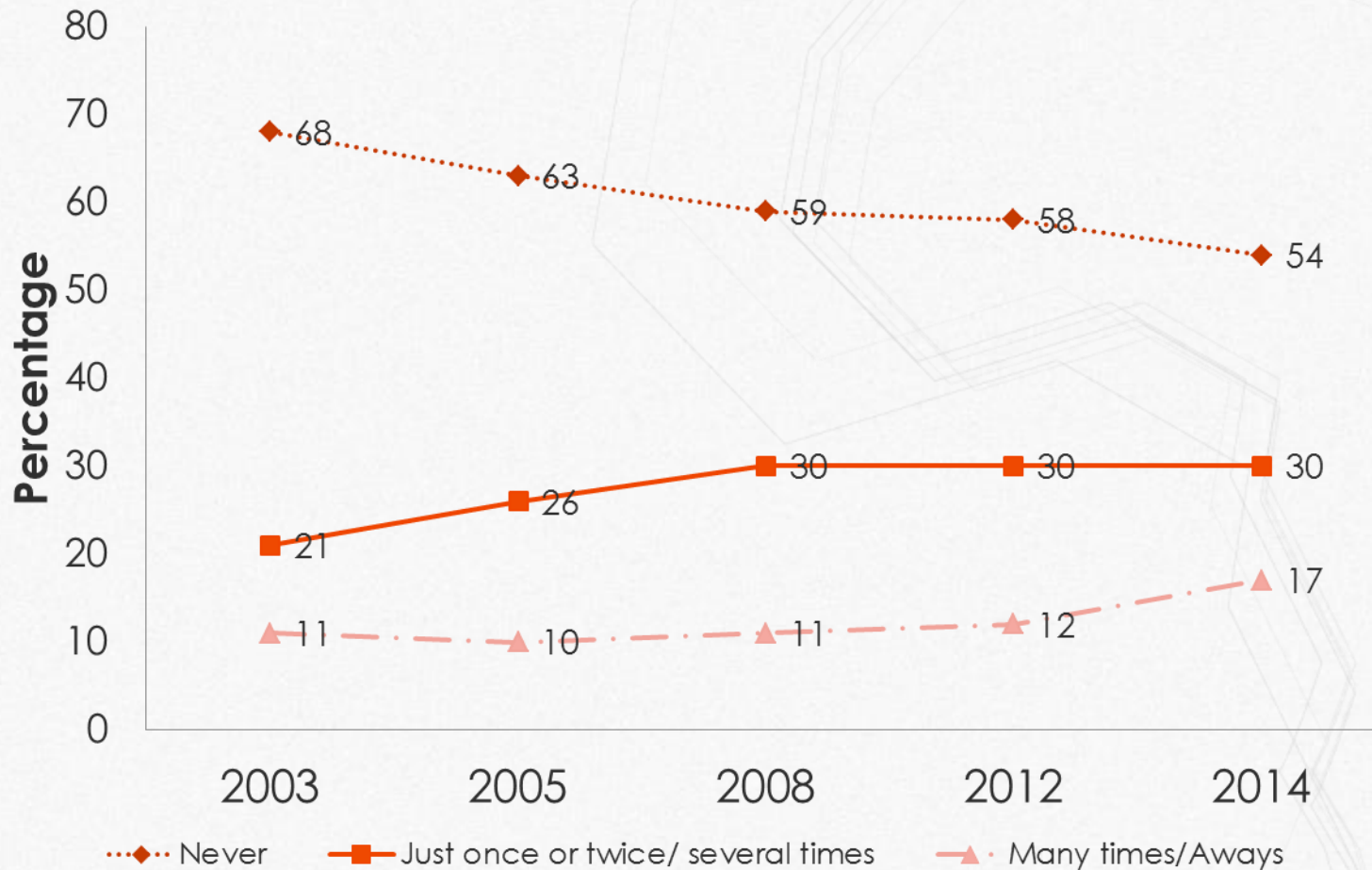


Gone without food to eat, 2003-2014

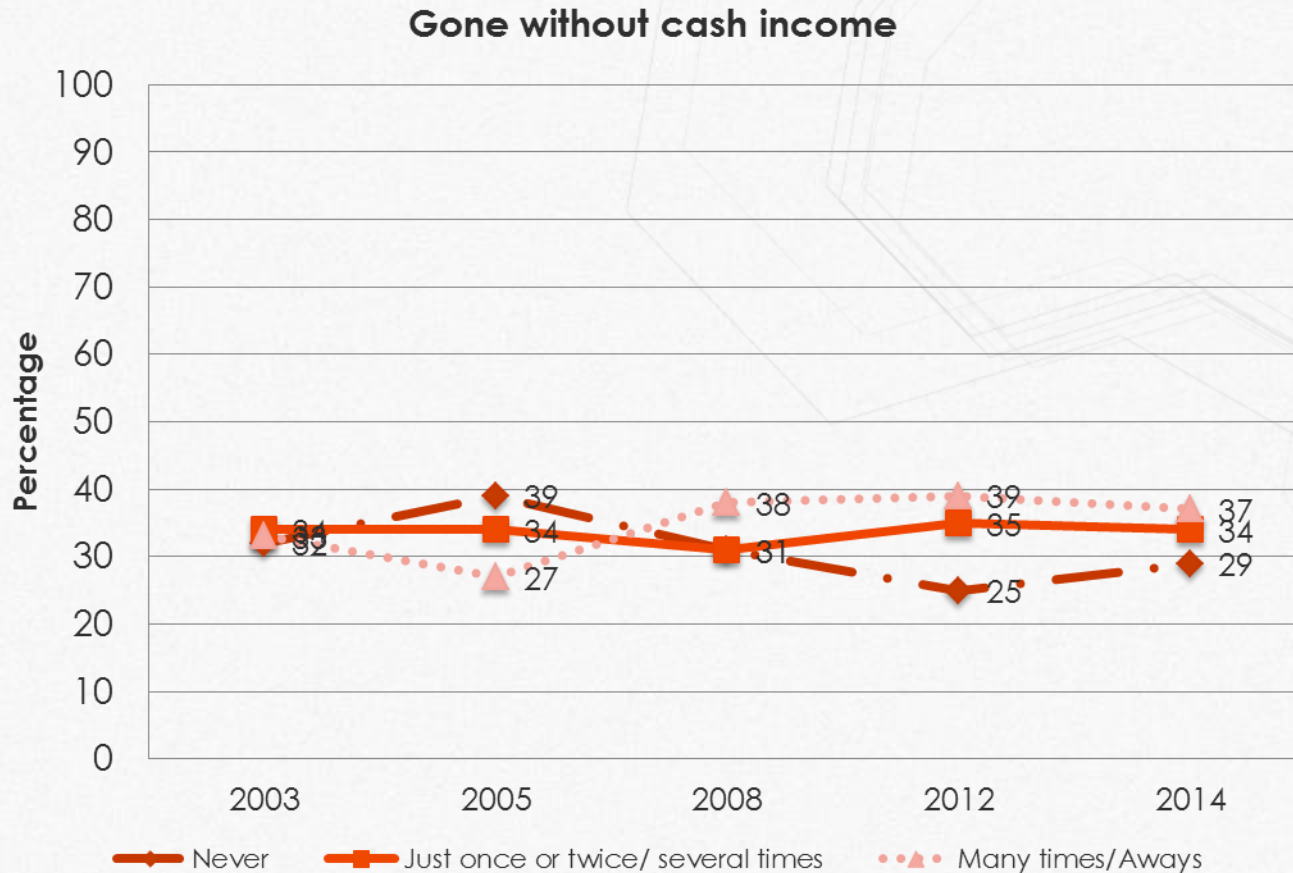
Over the past year, how often if ever, have you or anyone in your family: gone without enough food to eat?



Gone without enough clean water for home use, 2003-2014



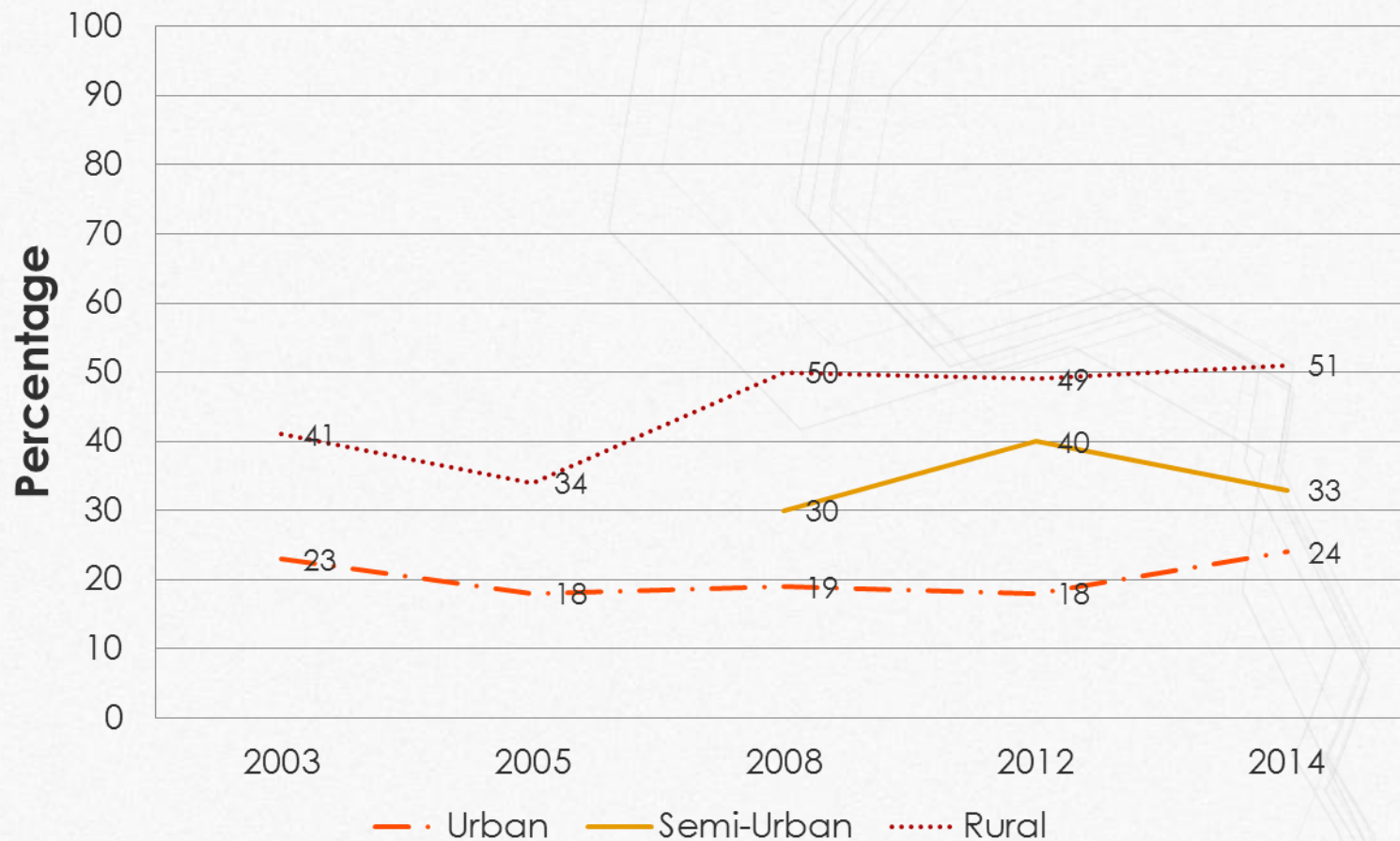
Gone without a cash income 2003-2014



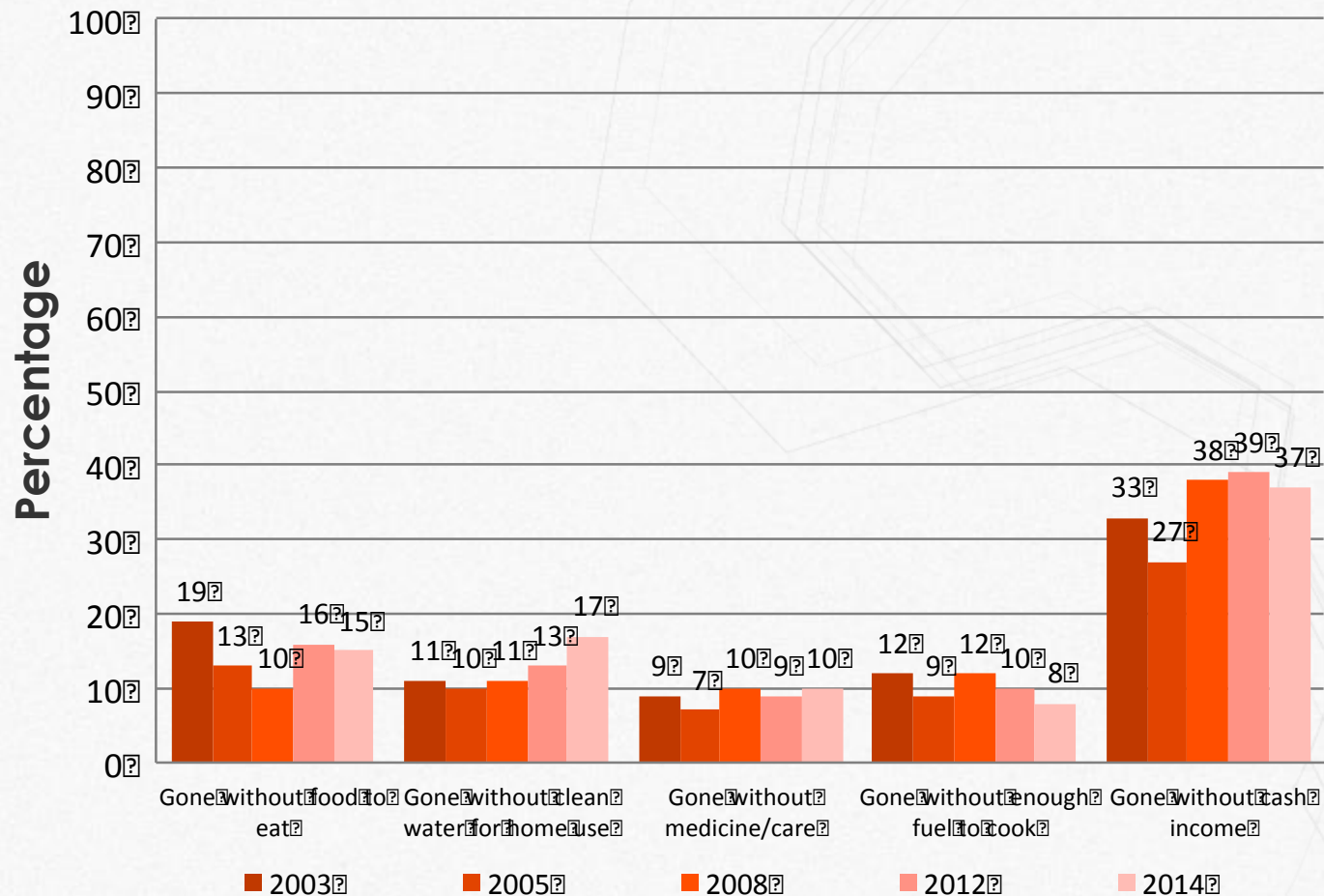
Gone without food (many times/always) by location - 2014



Gone without a cash income (many times/always) by location - 2014



Gone without basic necessities (many times/always) 2003 - 2014





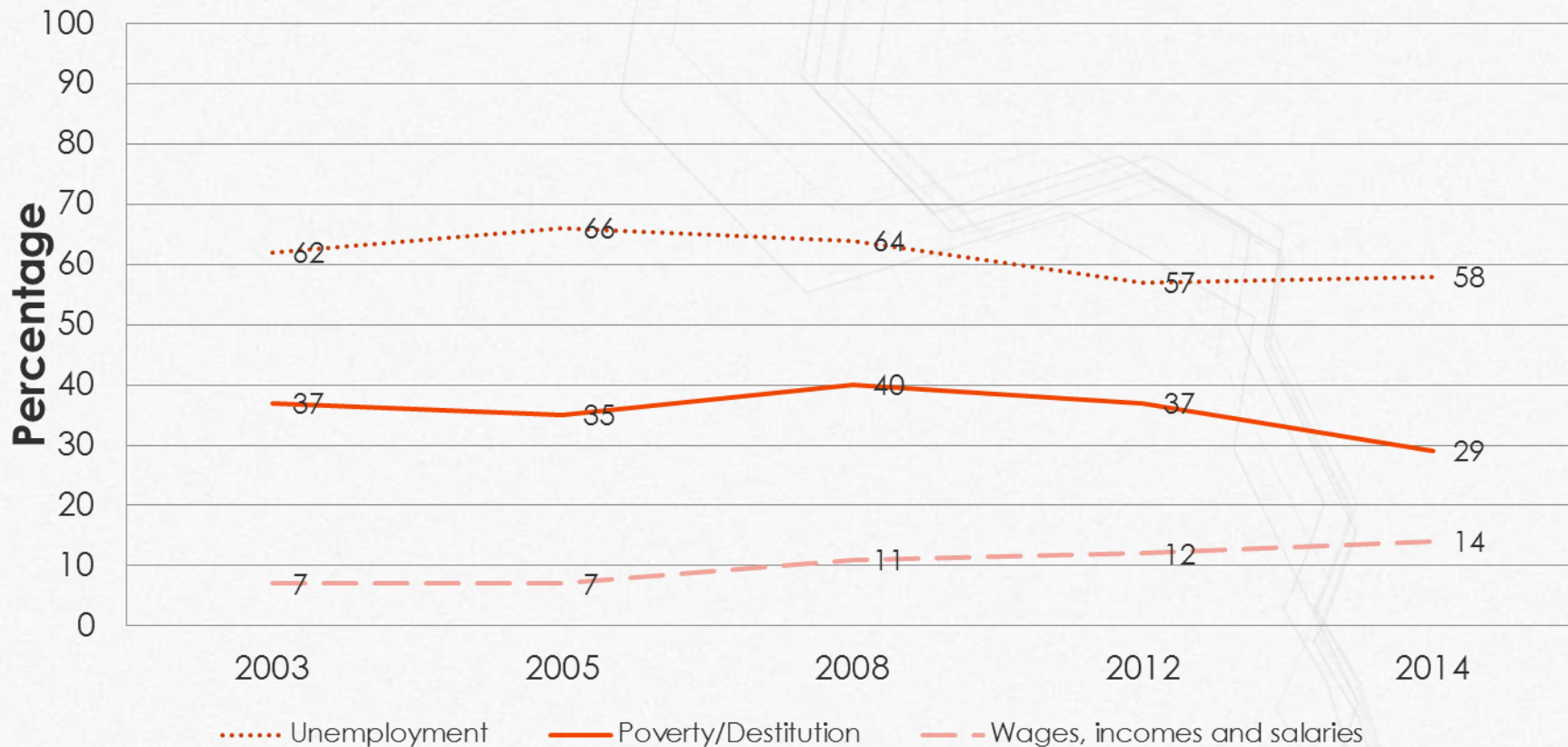
THREE IMPORTANT ECONOMIC RELATED PROBLEMS

Key Findings

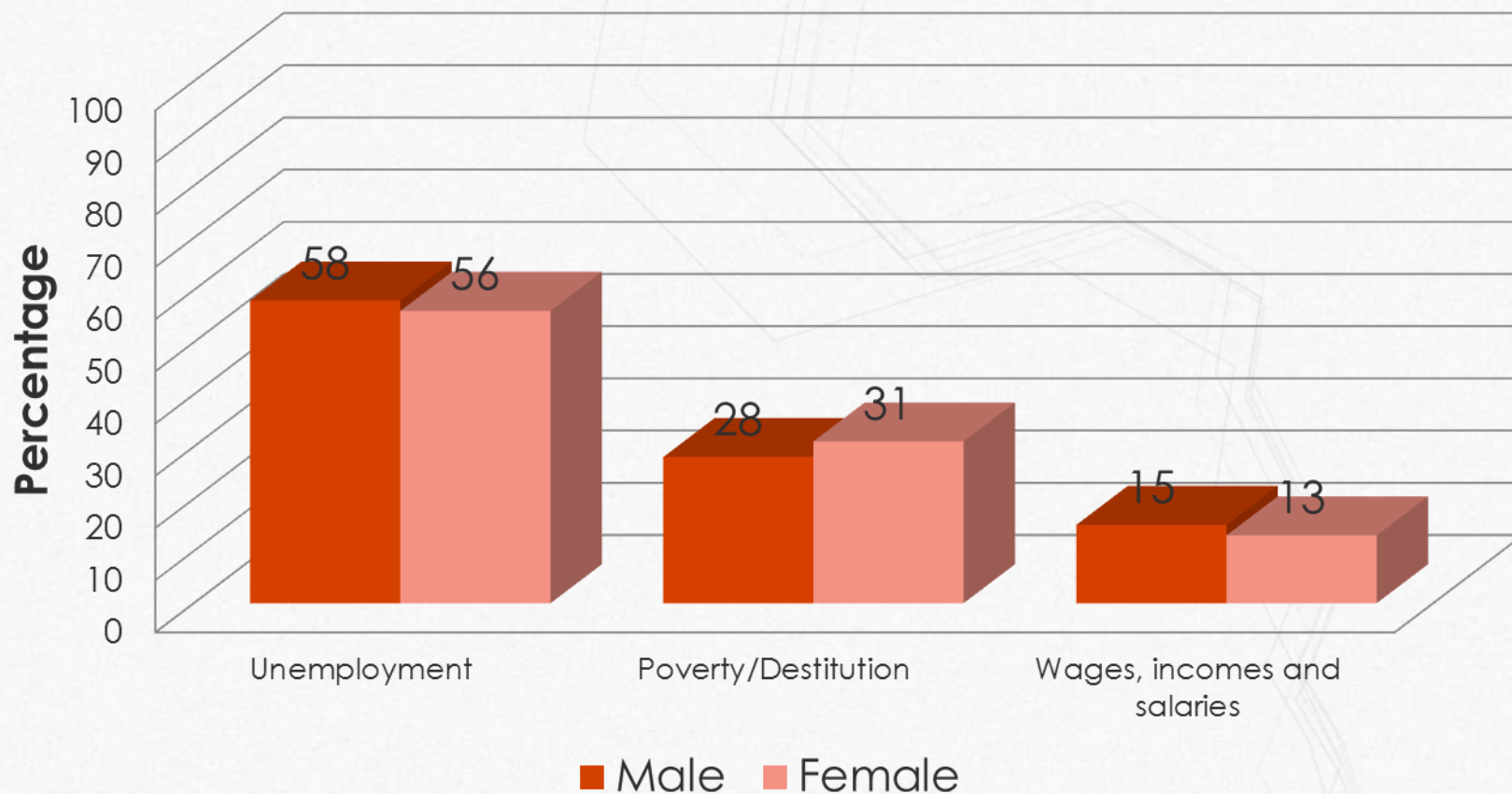
- Unemployment is identified by 58% of citizens as one of the three key problems affecting Botswana. It is identified mostly by urban dwellers at 65% followed by semi-urban dwellers at 58% and rural dwellers at 53%.
- The second most frequently identified problem is poverty and destitution stated by 29% of respondents. The highest proportion of respondents (35%) who identified poverty and destitution as a problem are rural dwellers.
- A slightly larger proportion of female (31%) than male (28%) identified this as a problem as well.
- The proportion of respondents identifying wages, income and salaries as a problem has grown over the years increasing from 7% in 2003 to 14% in 2014.

Three Important economic-related problems 2003-2014

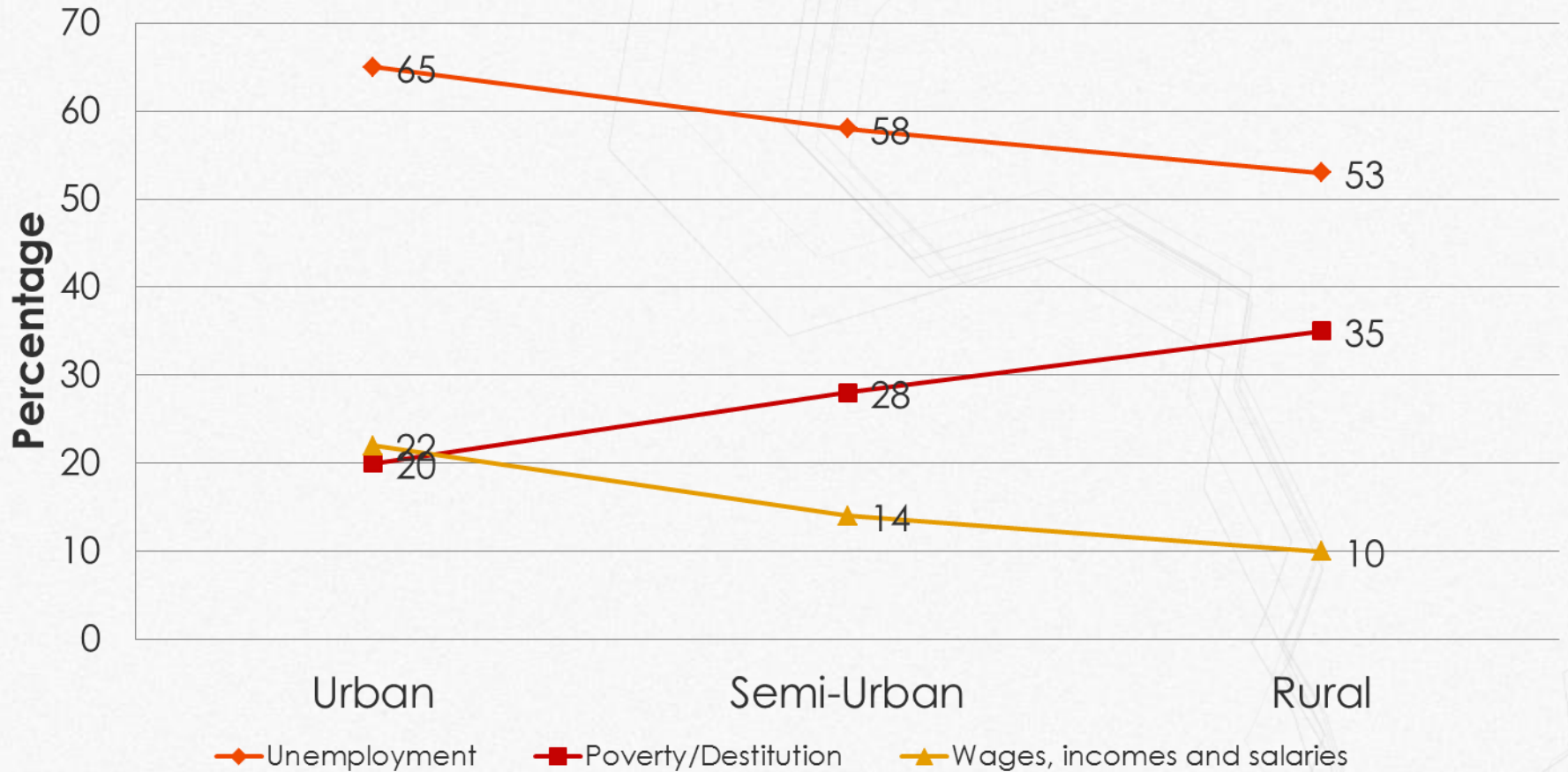
In your opinion what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address



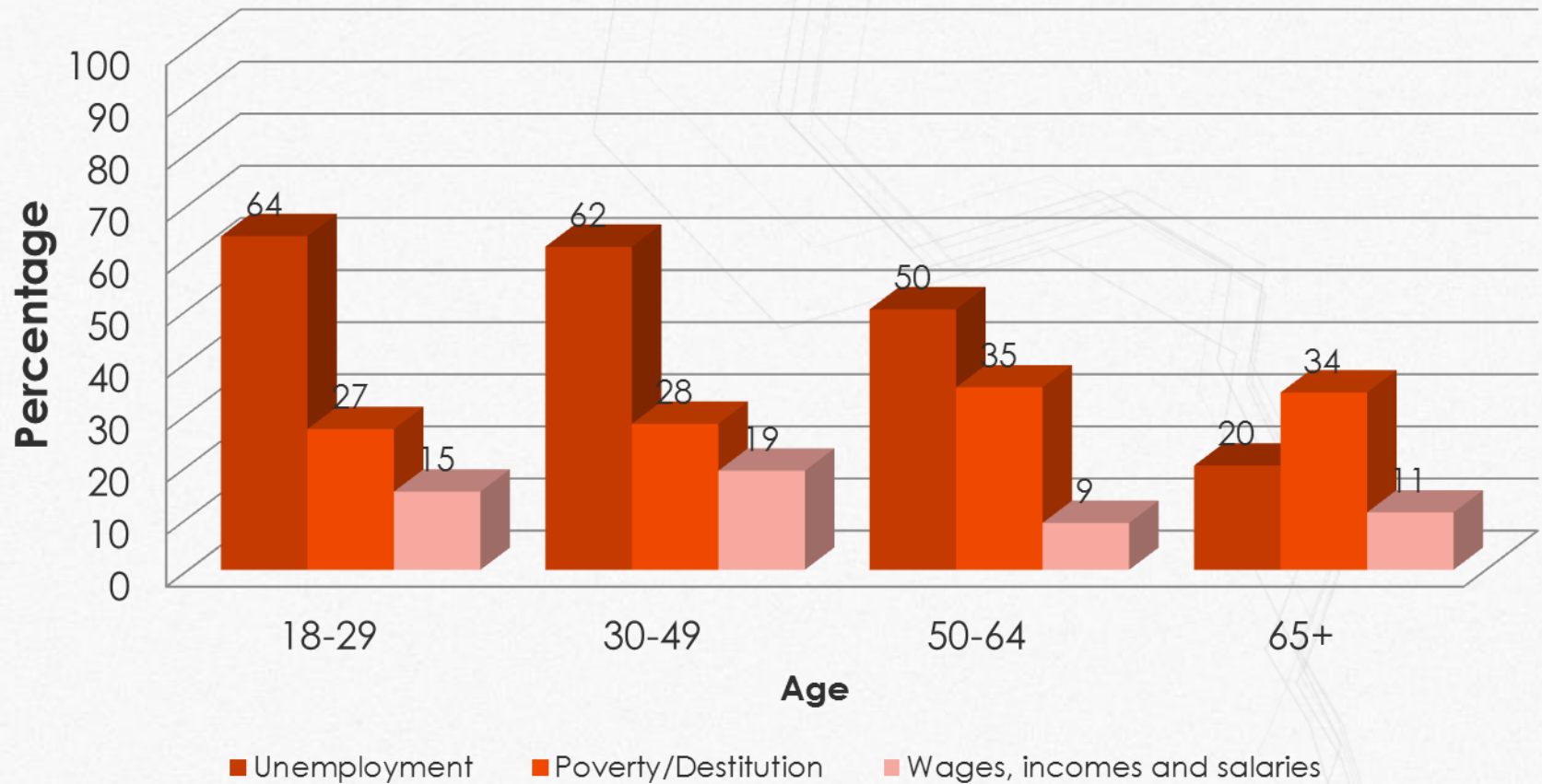
Three important economic-related problems by gender - 2014



Three important economic problems by location - 2014



Three important economic-related problems by age - 2014





Thank you