

# Protection Monitoring in Kenya: Garissa & Turkana Counties (Dadaab, Kakuma & Kalobeyei)

## PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT *December 2023*

### About PMRT:

The Protection Monitoring Risks and Trends (PMRT) by DRC Kenya gathers primary and secondary data from an indicative sample of at-risk communities in Kenya to provide a community-centric understanding of local protection dynamics, and an analysis of protection incidents and trends. The focus is on areas in northwest and northeast Kenya (Dadaab, Kakuma & Kalobeyei) where rights violations and protection information gaps remain prevalent.

This document draws from both public and non-public humanitarian sources. It is not exhaustive and may not represent the views of its authors or funders. The information, assessment, and analysis provided are intended solely for humanitarian purposes and should not be cited elsewhere.

PMRT  
Kenya

Protection  
Monitoring  
Risks and  
Trends

 DANISH  
REFUGEE  
COUNCIL

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# **List of Acronyms**

<b>CCPT</b>	<b>Community Protection and Peace building teams</b>
<b>CPIMS+)</b>	<b>Child Protection Information Management System</b>
	<b>Primero</b>
<b>DRC</b>	<b>Danish Refugee Council</b>
<b>GBV</b>	<b>Gender Based Violence</b>
<b>GVBIMS</b>	<b>Gender-Based Violence Incident Monitoring System</b>
<b>POCs</b>	<b>Persons of Concern</b>
<b>PWD</b>	<b>People with Disability</b>
<b>UNHCR</b>	<b>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</b>

## Key Needs:

The following needs have been identified in Dadaab, Kakuma, and Kalobeyei refugee camps.

- Improved lighting within the camp to address some of the protection, safety, and security risks.
- Targeted interventions for children with disabilities girl/adolescent mothers, child returnees, and children with mental health issues as they face significant child protection risks.
- Participation and inclusion of people with disabilities, minority and marginalized groups including LGBTQIA+ persons in community meetings and events.
- The primary information needs on sustainable sources of income, cash, and water, access to health and legal services, medicine, shelter, and education for children.

## Key Findings:

### Protection, Safety and Security

Individuals with mental health issues, returnees, unregistered refugees, and asylum-seekers are vulnerable to protection, safety, and security concerns. The most reported protection concerns include restrictions on freedom of movement, forced labour and exploitation, forced family separation, intimidation and threats, coercion/extortion, discrimination/stigmatization.

### Liberty and freedom of movement

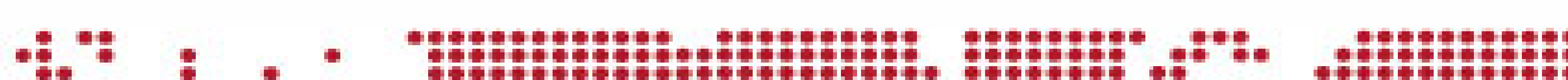
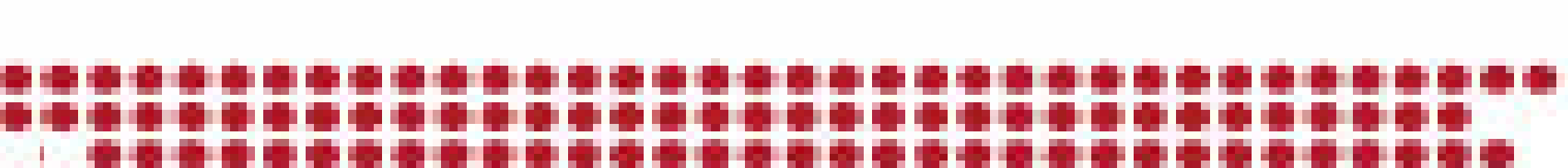
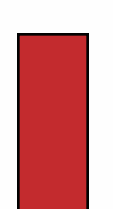
Refugees arrive and return to the camps due to lack of peace in their home countries. Movement within the camp is mainly focused on markets, distribution centres, registration facilities, health canters, and water taps. Reasons for leaving include repatriation, resettlement, safety concerns, lack of services, unemployment, and climate hazards. Marginalized groups face limited participation and abuse.

### Civil status documentation

Several barriers prevent refugees from accessing civil status documentation including, arbitrary costs or bribes, lack of trust, discrimination, denial of access to justice or legal remedies, and financial costs.

### Basic Economic and Social Needs

The primary needs of refugees include sustainable sources of income cash, and water. Additionally, they require access to health services, medicine, shelter, education for children, and information about available services. However, several barriers need to be addressed to their access to these services. For instance, violence or conflict during delivery and information on basic services, health and mental healing services, livelihood opportunities, and legal assistance.



## **Education and Livelihoods**

The lack of special needs schools, qualified and trained teachers, and disability-friendly facilities leaves PWDs vulnerable to harassment and exploitation.

## **Land and Property**

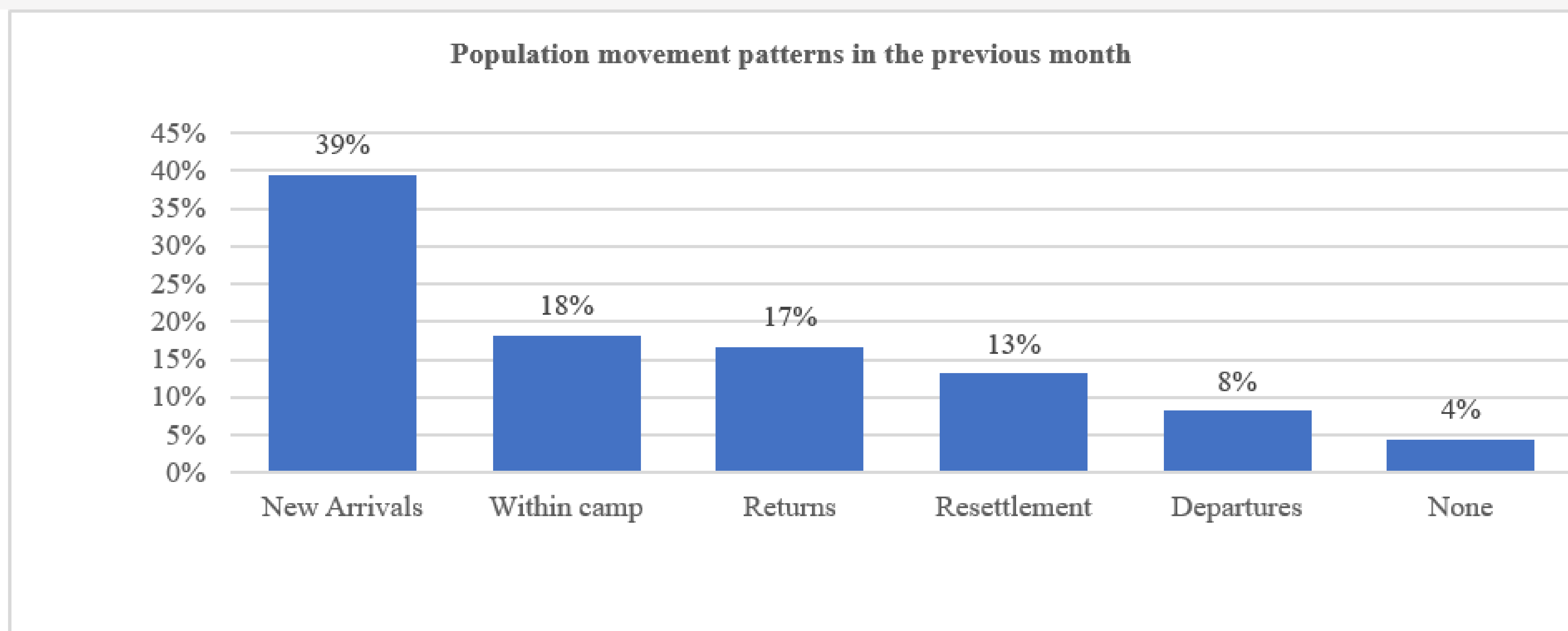
The lack of access to decent shelter and land ownership makes it difficult for refugees to have access to and control over productive resources.

## **Non-Discrimination and Equality**

People with disabilities and minority groups face discrimination that limits their opportunities and participation in community life. Lack of assistive devices hinders their mobility and productivity.

# Dadaab Refugee Camp

## Population Movements:



The data shows that 39% of the refugees in the camp are new arrivals, while 18% are moving within the camp and 17% are returning. Further, 13% of the refugees are being resettled and 8% are leaving the camp. The new arrivals and returnees are due to people fleeing their countries of origin, while the movements within the camp are mainly in areas such as markets, food and non-food item distribution centres, registration facilities, health facilities, and around water taps. Departures are a result of voluntary repatriation, permanent resettlement, safety and security concerns, lack of access to basic services, unemployment, seeking specialized services such as medical care, and climate-related hazards such as droughts and floods.

## Protection risks, safety & security:

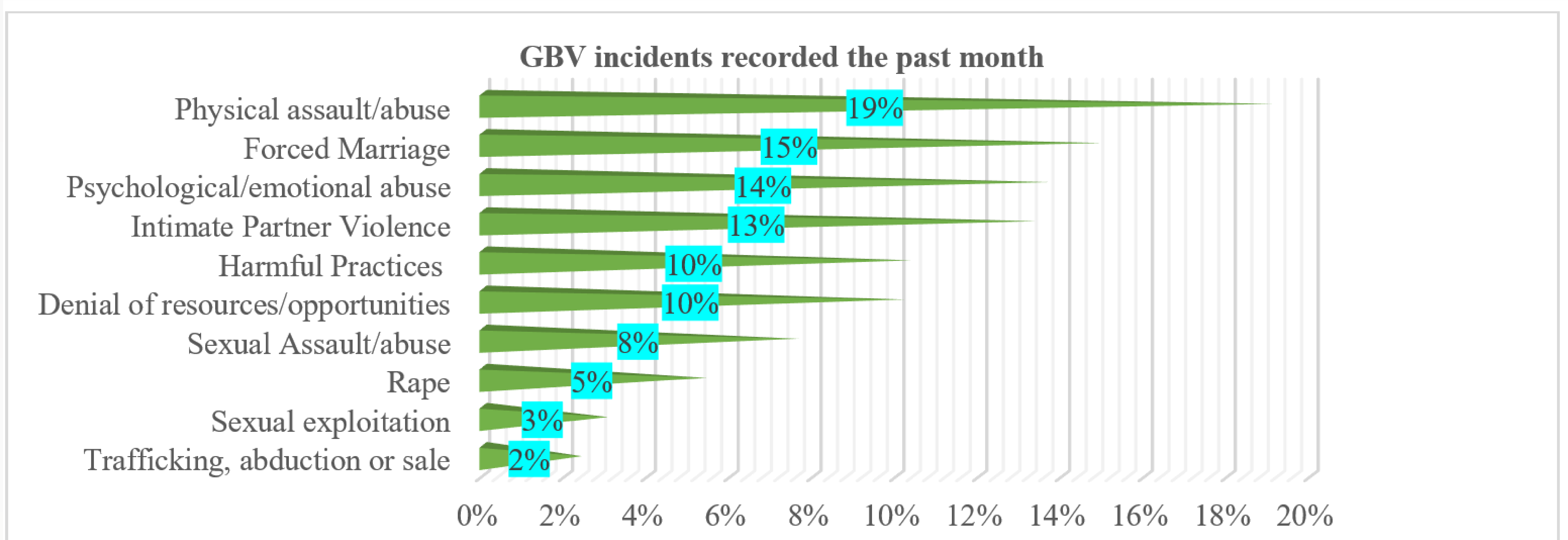
63% of forcibly displaced and stateless persons (FDSPs) expressed concerns regarding protection risks, safety, and security in the camps. A third (33%) of respondents reported feeling very unsafe due to the increased protection risks, safety, and security concerns. 38% of females and 27% male report feeling very unsafe. Women and girls' older persons, PWD, persons with chronic illnesses, minority/marginalized groups, boys, LGBTQI+ persons, and men are the most vulnerable groups.

Based on the finding 13.8% of respondents reported incidents of physical assault or abuse (not GBV-related). Other protection concerns include restrictions on freedom of movement, forced labour and exploitation, forced family separation, intimidation and threats, coercion/extortion, discrimination/stigmatization, abduction/kidnapping/enforced disappearance, inter/intra-communal conflicts between host and refugee communities, destruction of property, arbitrary or unlawful arrest or detention, and attacks on civilians or civilian objects.

The majority of the survivors of protection and safety incidents are individuals with mental health issues, returnees, unregistered refugees, and asylum-seekers. Protection incidents occur outside the camp, mainly while collecting firewood, streets or blocks, market areas, people’s homes, roads during travel to/from home, water points/tap stands, and latrines/WASH facilities. Protection and safety concerns are reported to community leaders, community-based protection structures, camp management structures, and incentive and national agency staff, the most trusted channels for reporting incidents.

# Gender Based Violence:

The findings indicate that physical assault/abuse 19%, forced marriage 15%, psychological/emotional abuse 14%, and intimate partner violence 13% are the most forms of GBV happening in the community. Other reported forms of GBV include harmful practices, denial of resources, sexual assault/abuse, rape, sexual exploitation, trafficking, abduction or sale. Young women (18-25 yrs.), adolescent girls (12-17 yrs.), and adult women (26-59 yrs.) are at risk of protection risks, safety, and security concerns. Female-headed households, persons with mental health issues, UASC, and pregnant/lactating children are the vulnerable groups. GBV incidents are mostly reported outside the camps and within the home. These incidents are reported to community leaders, community-based protection structures, camp management structures, and agencies' national and field incentive staff.





## Child Protection:

Children are at risk of psychological/emotional abuse 18.2%, school drop-out 12%, and child labor/exploitation and child marriage both at 11.4% respectively. Adolescent girls aged 12-17 and adolescent boys aged 12-17 are most vulnerable to child protection risks. Children with disabilities girl/adolescent mothers, child returnees, and children with mental health issues face significant child protection risks.

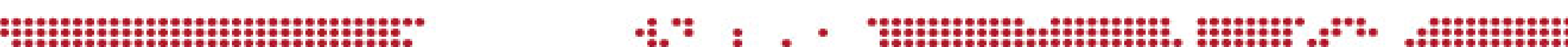
No	Child incidents in the last month	Frequency	Percentage
1	Psychological/emotional Abuse	33	18.2%
2	Out of school/drop-out	22	12.0%
3	Child labor and/or exploitation	21	11.4%
4	Child marriage	21	11.4%
5	Adolescent/child pregnancy	18	9.9%
6	Children living on the streets	15	8.2%
7	Violence, Neglect, and/or abuse against children	11	6.0%
8	Substance abuse amongst children and youth	9	5.1%
9	Child trafficking, abduction/sale	8	4.5%
10	Harmful practices against children	8	4.5%
11	UASC/family separation	6	3.4%
12	Children and youth in conflict with the law	5	2.9%
13	Detention of children	5	2.5%
<b>Totals</b>		<b>182</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **Persons with particular requirements:**

Persons living with disabilities, persons living with chronic/serious illness, older persons, LGBTQIA+ persons, and persons from minority or marginalized groups have limited access to services and opportunities due to discrimination, limited participation in community activities such as community meetings and events, face mobility challenges, neglect, and abuse. Moreover, the scarcity of special needs schools, qualified, trained teachers for persons with disabilities, and lack of disability-friendly facilities exposes PWDs to harassment and exploitation.

## **Access to rights and services:**

Many refugees identify health services (54%), accessible and clean water sources (25%), and education for children (21%) as their primary needs. Apart from these, refugees also require information about housing and shelter, available essential services, livelihood opportunities, land, legal assistance, health, and mental health services. However, there are several barriers that prevent refugees from accessing these services, such as arbitrary costs or bribes, lack of trust, discrimination, denial of access to justice or legal remedies, and financial costs. Additionally, movement-related information, registration procedures, and administrative procedures are also important information that refugees need.



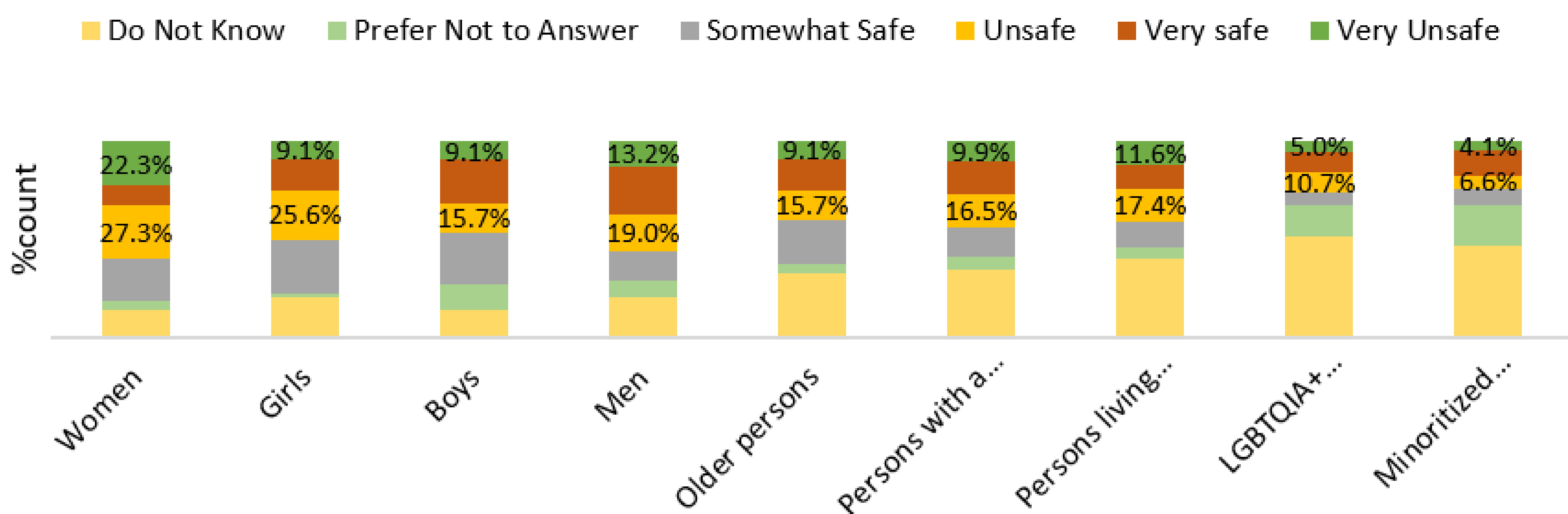
# Kakuma Refugee Camp

## Population Movements:

According to the respondents, there has been a 36% movement within the camp. Additionally, there is an 8% resettlement and 4% new arrivals. New arrivals are due to displacement from their country of origin, safety concerns, and lack of a secure home to protect their children. Other contributing factors include the absence of peace and a lack of safe and accessible water.

## Protection risks, safety and security:

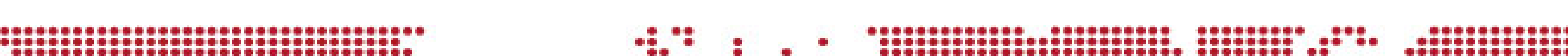
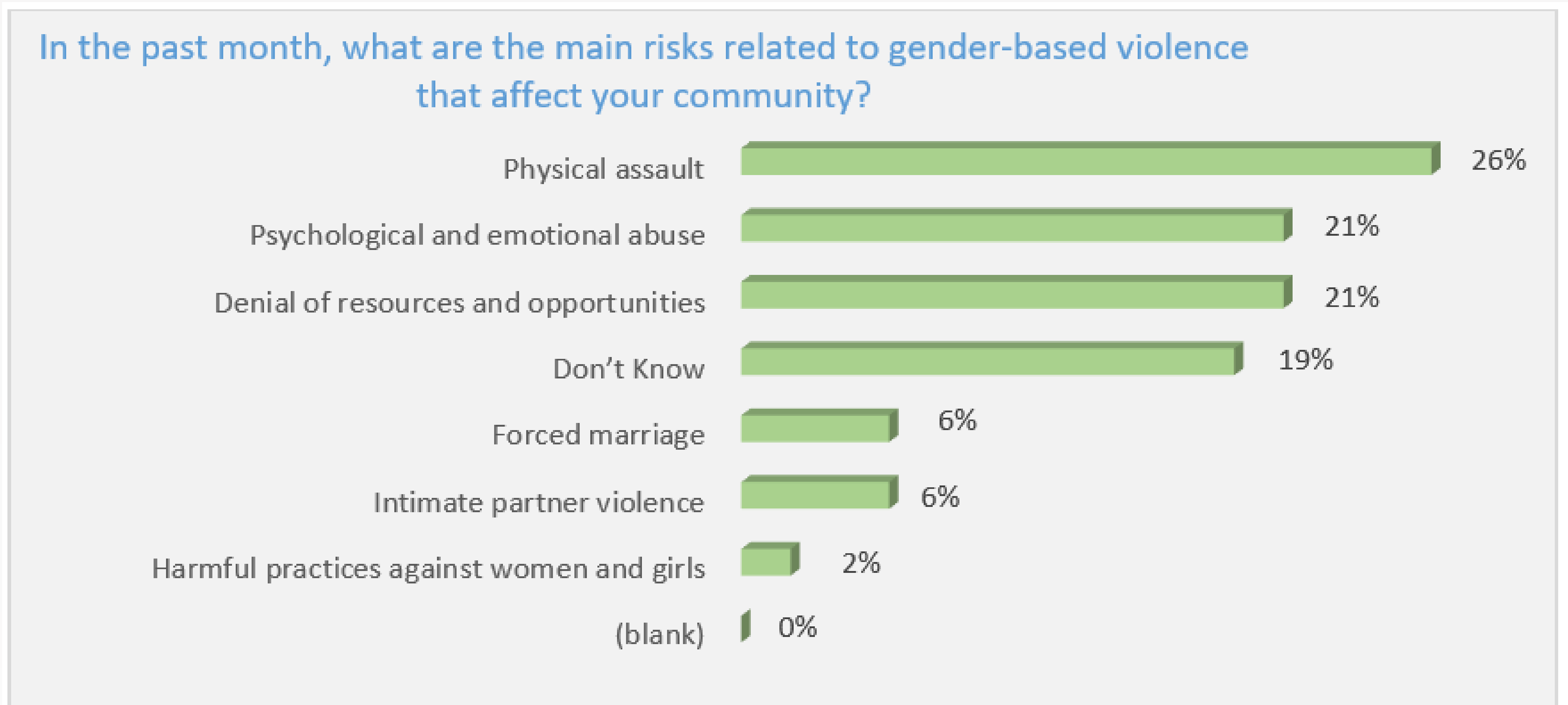
How would you describe the safety of your location in the last month for the following groups?



The findings indicate that general feeling of insecurity is mainly reported by women 22.3%, PWDs 11.6%, men 13.2%, and both girls and boys 9.1% feeling very unsafe. Other groups, including LGBTQIA+ persons, minorities and marginalized groups, report significant safety concerns. Some of the protection and safety concerns include theft/looting (27%), psychological and physical abuse 21%, intimidation 19%, harassment 15%, and forced labor (14%). Other protection risks include attacks on civilians/civilian objects, destruction of property, abduction/kidnapping/enforced disappearance, discrimination/stigmatization of LGBTQIA+ persons, and forced family separation. Adult women (aged 18-25), including PWD, minority or marginalized groups, unregistered refugees and asylum-seekers, and returnees are the specific group who are the most at risk. Protection and safety incidents occur in streets, blocks, people's homes, temporary and seasonal rivers, and market areas. These incidents are reported to community leaders, incentive workers, police, local authorities, humanitarian actors, and UN agency personnel.

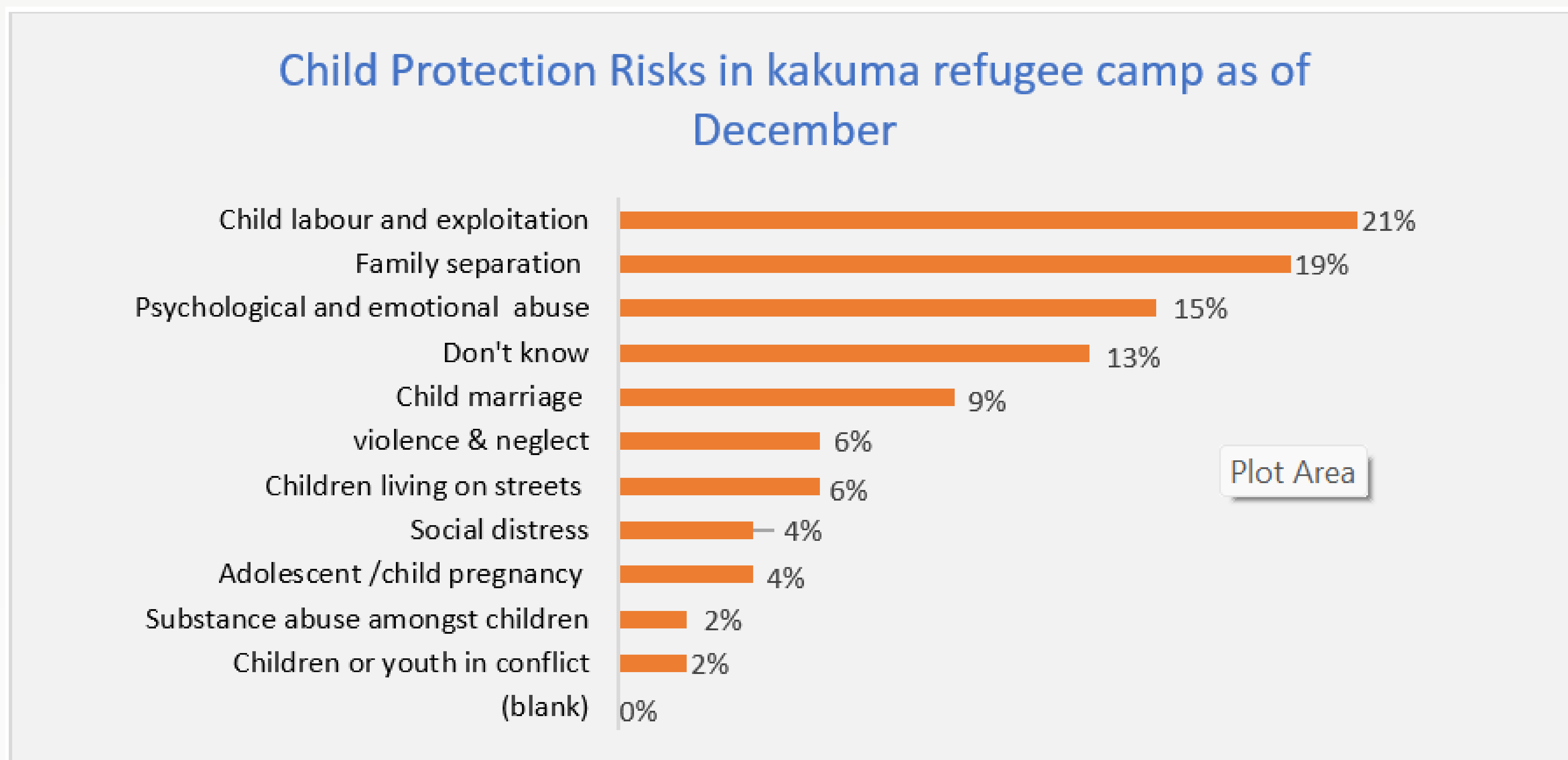
# Gender based violence:

Physical assault 26%, psychological and emotional abuse 19%, and denial of resources and opportunities 21% are the main risks related to GBV. Other risks include forced marriage, intimate partner violence (IPV), and harmful practices against women and girls. 19% are not aware of risks related to gender-based violence. GBV incidents mainly occur at people's homes and outside the camp. Women and girls are mostly affected due to their gendered roles in firewood and water collection. These incidents are reported to community leaders, local authorities, camp management structures, and the police.



# Child Protection:

Children are at risk of child labour and exploitation 21%, family separation 19%, psychological and emotional abuse 15%. Other child protection risks include child marriage, children living on the streets, social distress, adolescent/child pregnancy, and among others. Adolescent boys (12-17 years old) and adolescent girls (12-17 years old) are most vulnerable to child protection risks. Other affected groups include girls/teenage mothers, children with disabilities, unaccompanied/separated children, and children living with mental health issues. Child protection concerns mainly occur in people's homes, street blocks, and child-friendly spaces. Community leaders, police, camp management and local authorities receive reports on child protection concerns.



## Persons with particular needs:

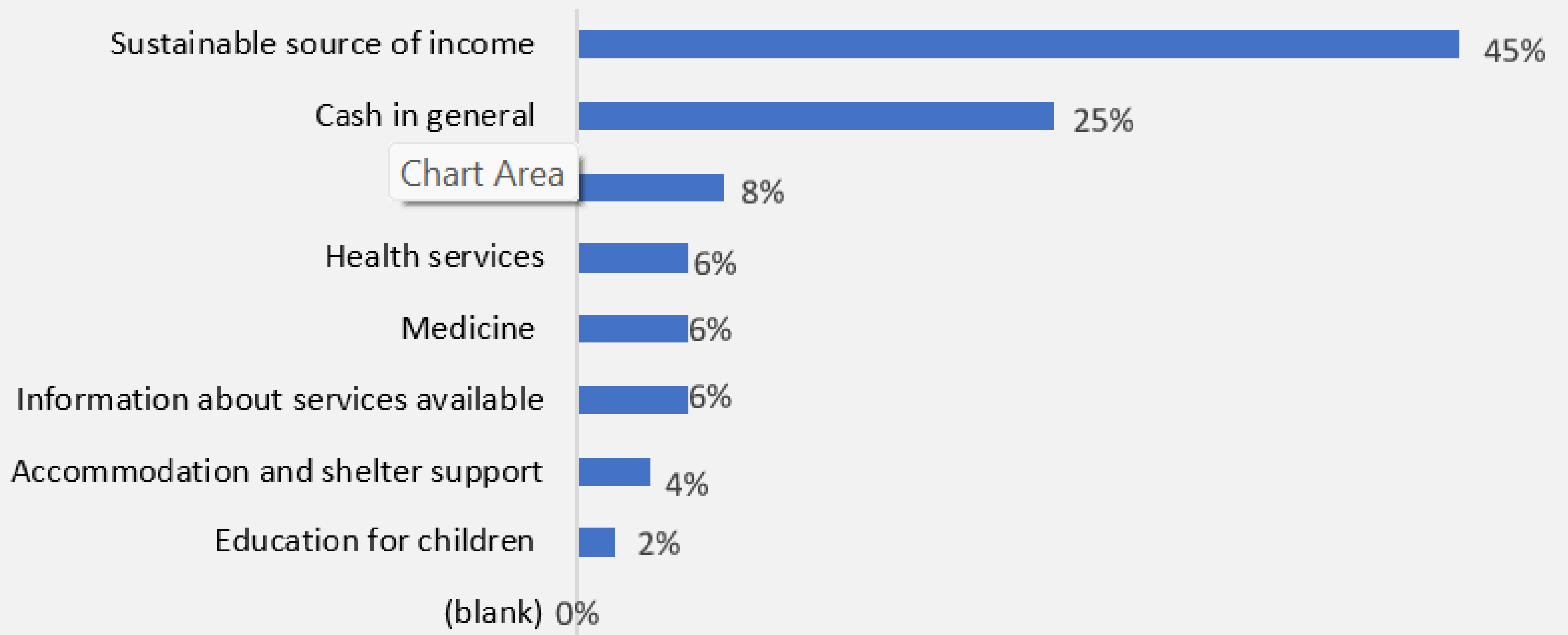
Persons with specific needs identify as older persons, Persons with Disabilities (PWD), members of the LGBTQIA+ community, people living with chronic illnesses, and minority/marginalized groups. These individuals often experience limited access to services and opportunities due to discrimination and restricted participation in community activities such as community meetings and events. They may also face mobility challenges, neglect, and abuse.

## Access to rights and services:

The primary information needs of refugees in Kakuma are sustainable sources of income (45%), cash (25%), and water (8%). Additionally, they require access to health services, medicine, shelter, education for children, and information about available services. However, several barriers need to be addressed to their access to these services. For instance, refugees often lack access to services, may face denial or unequal access to humanitarian aid, and may experience violence or conflict during delivery.

Information needs are also crucial, with refugees requiring information on basic services, health and mental healing services, livelihood opportunities, and legal assistance. To access these services, refugees need legal remedies, awareness of service delivery, trust, accountability, and protection against discrimination, bias, arbitrary costs, and language barriers. Due to the lack of access to adequate and meaningful services, refugees often seek support and assistance from community members, family, friends, and local authorities. Other coping strategies include borrowing or incurring debt and contacting humanitarian actors, such as NGOs and UN agencies.

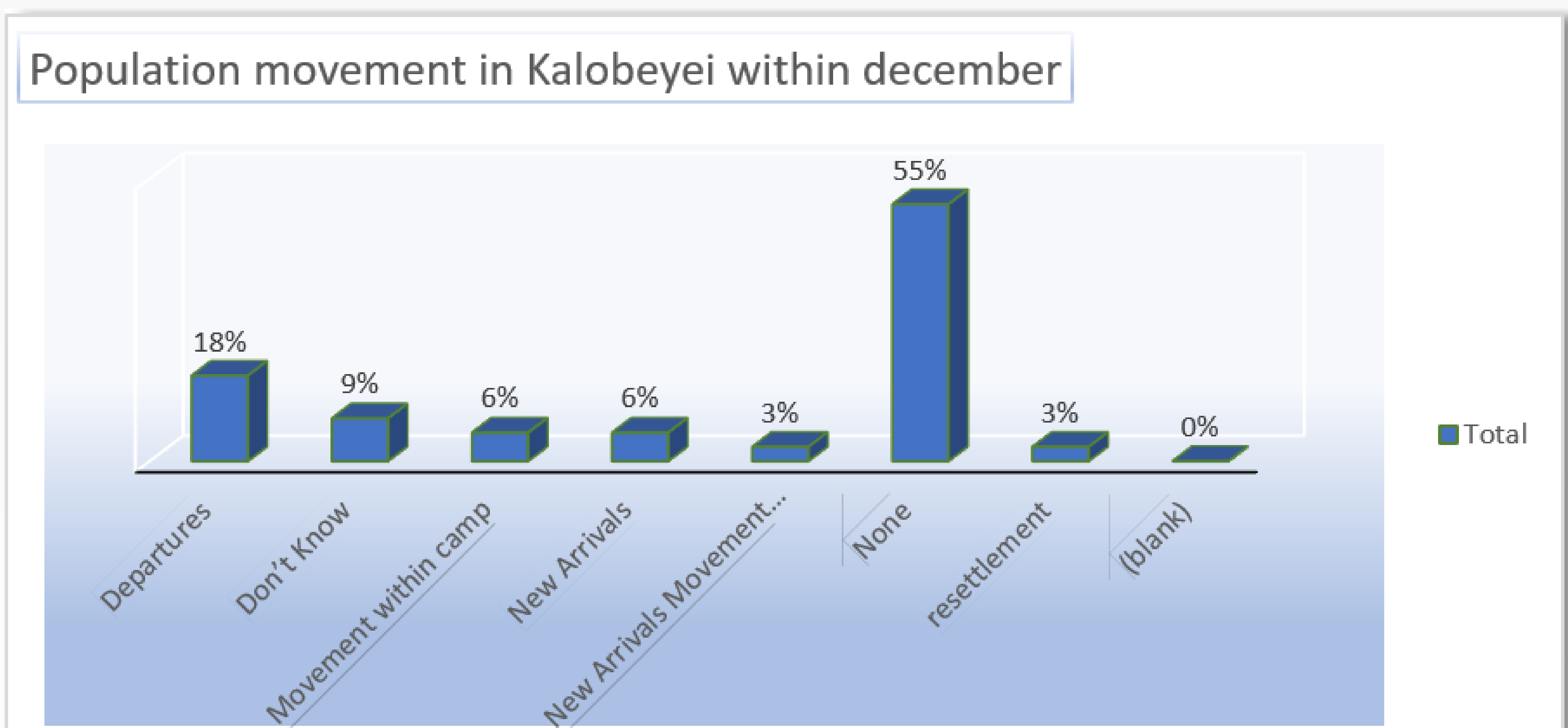
### In the past month, what are the three primary needs that people in your community have?



# Kalobeyei Refugee Camp

## Population Movements:

According to the findings, Kalobeyei refugee camp experienced a high number of departures (18%) as compared to movement within the camp (6%) and new arrivals (6%). However, (55%) of respondents are not aware of population movement in the camp. The reported cases of new arrivals or returns are due to displacement from their country of origin. During the reporting period, there were no voluntary repatriations. The refugees who left the camp did so due to a lack of access to essential services, employment opportunities, and safety and security concerns. Other associated factors included flooding, drought, attacks by unknown gunmen, food insecurity, absence of lighting within the camp, lack of adequate shelter, and a lack of basic amenities like water.



## Protection risks, safety and security:

Findings indicate that 26% of respondents are unaware of safety risks. Most reported safety risks include theft/looting, psychological and emotional risks, non-GBV related, and intimidation. Adolescent girls (12-17), adult women (26-59), persons with disabilities and persons living with mental health issues are most vulnerable to safety concerns. Protection and safety risks occur in community centers, roads/streets, and schools. Community leaders, police/local authorities, and community-based protection structures receive protection and safety incidents. Strategies adopted to minimize these risks include the communities avoiding or minimizing movements at certain times, minimizing movements to unsafe locations, and moving in groups.

## Gender based violence:

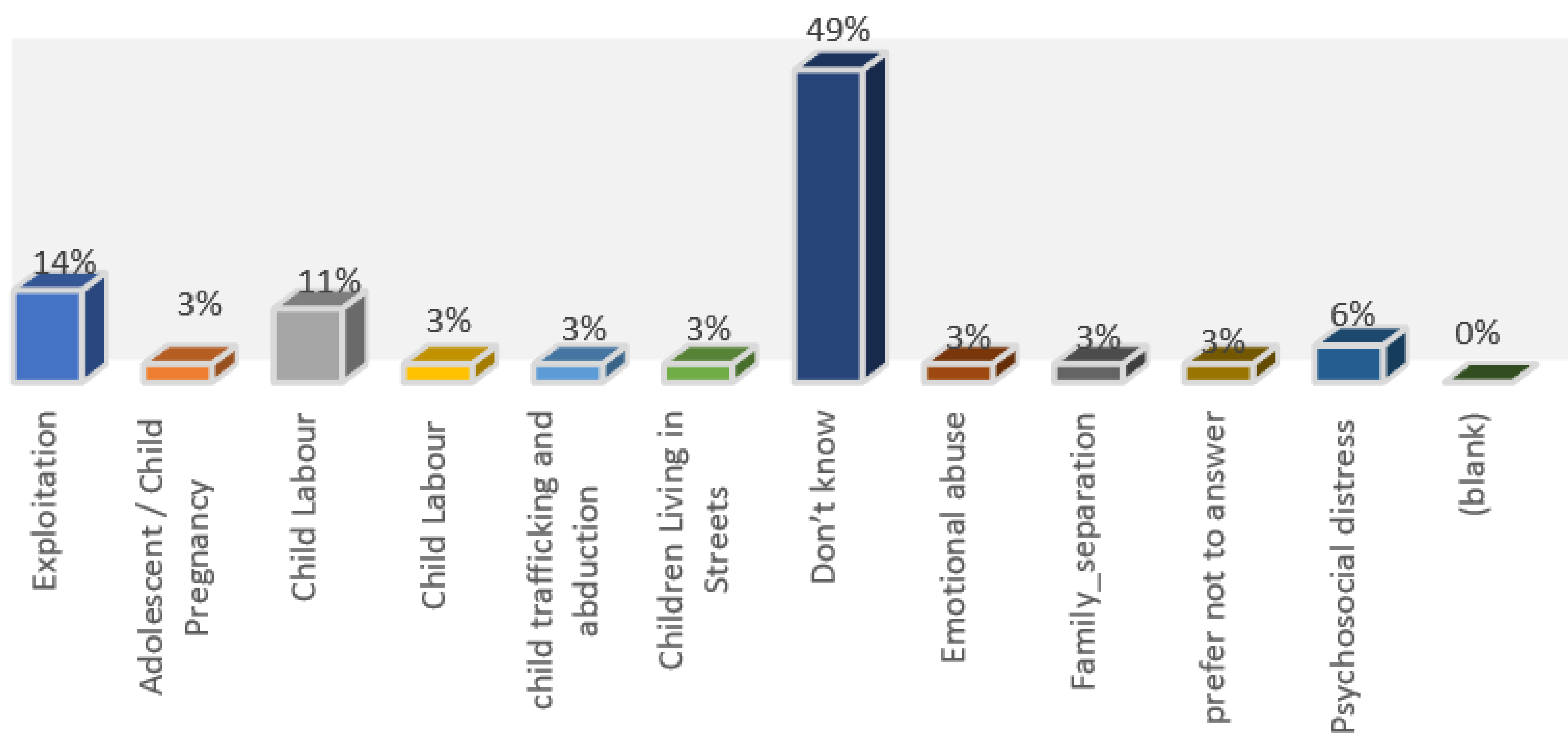
Concerning the prevalence of GBV, 29% of respondents indicate a lack of knowledge of different forms of GBV, and 34% are unaware of any type of GBV risk prevalent in the communities. The most common forms of gender-based violence include psychological/Emotional Abuse 23%, Physical Assault/Abuse 9%, intimate partner violence 3%, and trafficking and abduction or sale 3%. The most at-risk groups are adolescent girls (12-17), young women (18-25), and adult women (26-59). Other groups include PWD, minority or marginalized groups, and LGBTQIA+ Persons. GBV incidents mainly occur outside the camp and on temporary or seasonal rivers. Women and girls are vulnerable to GBV risks during firewood and water collection. GBV incidents also occur on street blocks, water points/tap stands, and roads to and from home. Community-based protection structures, community leaders, NGO staff, incentive workers, and local authorities receive reports on GBV incidents.

## Child Protection:

The most reported child protection risks include exploitation 14% and child labor 3%. Other risks related to child protection are adolescent/child pregnancy, child trafficking and abduction, and children living on the streets.

Adolescent girls (12-17), children with disability, children without Documentation / Birth Certificates, children living with mental health issues (3%), and children identifying as LGBTQIA+ are most at risk. Child protection concerns happen outside the camp during water and firewood collection, at water points/tap stands, reception centers, and police points. Community-based protection, police, UN/NGO staff, community leaders, and teachers receive child protection concerns.

Child protection risks in Kalobeyei settlement



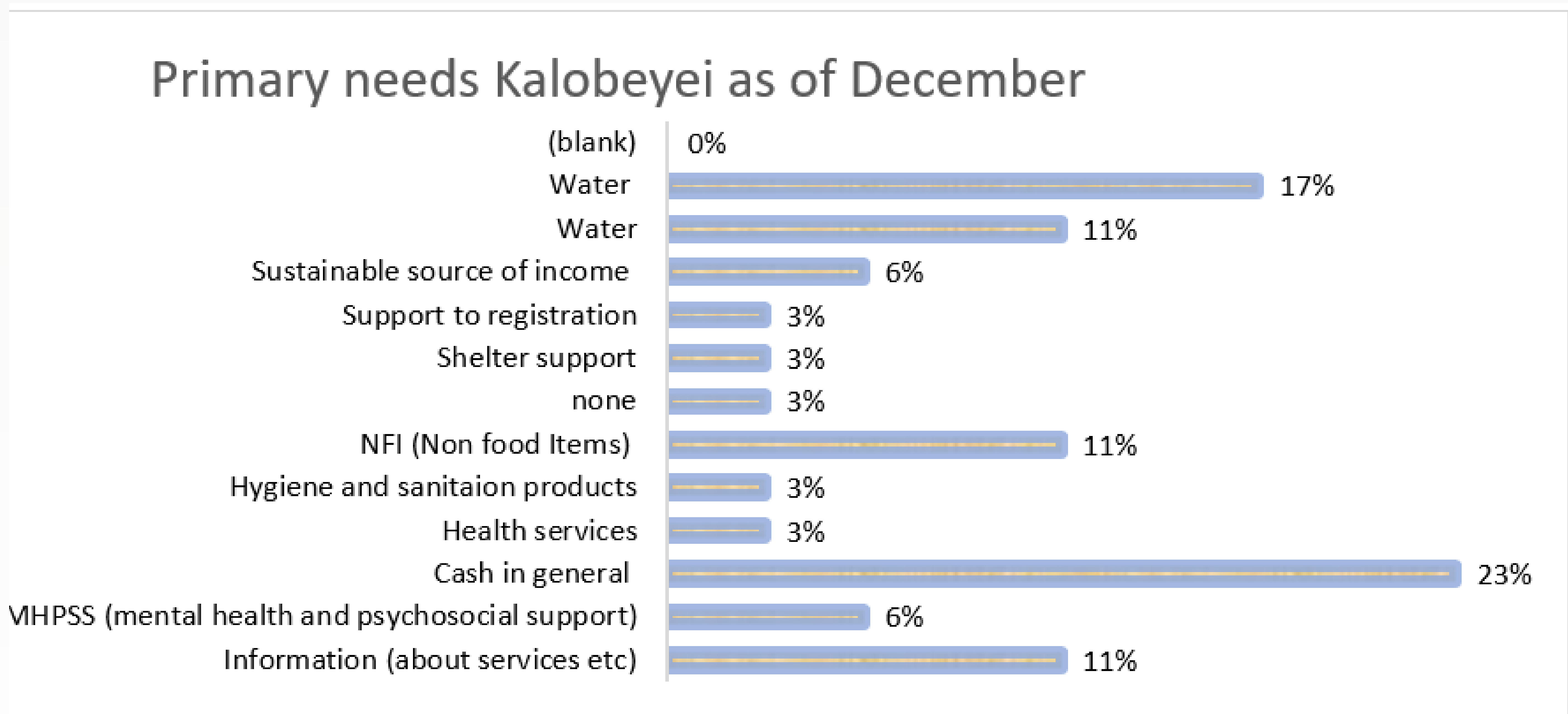


## Persons with particular needs:

Persons with specific needs identify as older adults, persons with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, people living with chronic illnesses, and minority/marginalized groups. These individuals often face discrimination and limited mobility. Due to their mobility challenges, they have limited access to services and opportunities, and their participation in community activities and events is often restricted. They may also experience neglect and abuse.

## Access to rights and Services:

The primary information needs of refugees in Kalobeyei are cash (23%), water (17%), non-food items (11%), and sustainable sources of income (6%). However, the refugees lack adequate access to essential services due to several reasons, including fear or distrust in local authorities, arbitrary costs and bribes, lack of accessibility, and financial costs. The long queues, high demand for services, distance to facilities, and lack of information make it challenging for refugees to access services. Moreover, the refugees face information gaps regarding available essential services, mental and health services, education for children, livelihood opportunities, and registration and administrative procedures. To cope with these challenges, refugees' resort to borrowing money or goods, selling personal belongings, child labor, and seeking support from humanitarian actors, community members, and families.



# Recommendations for Dadaab Refugee Camp:

## General Protection

- Strengthen community-based protection strategies to improve safety and security measures for vulnerable groups.
- Collaborative efforts with community-based protection structures in strengthening protection risk mitigation measures

## Gender-Based Violence

- Targeting individuals at risk of GBV and working with those responsible to prevent GBV risks.

### Child Protection

- Collaborate with child protection actors to strengthen child protection measures within the camp.

# Recommendations for Kakuma and Kalobeyei Refugee Camps:

## General protection

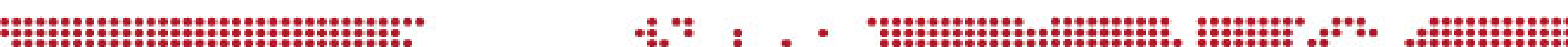
- DRC to strengthen community-based structures and coordination efforts to address protection, safety and security concerns within the camp including the development of community-safety plans. This include improved street lighting and community policing.
- Engage local authorities including police and informal justice systems in protection capacity building initiatives and interventions.
- Advocate for the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ persons, minority and marginalized groups in community meetings and events.
- Coordinate with legal actors/partners to ensure unregistered refugees and asylum-seekers have access to essential services and protection.
- Improve on information needs of refugees through information dissemination on livelihood opportunities, basic services, education, and healthcare. Implement strategies to improve information accessibility, including translating materials into different languages and age-appropriate formats.
- Strengthen DRC's Kenya feedback and complaint mechanisms for refugees.

## Gender-based Violence

- DRC to strengthen the capacity of different stakeholders in GBV prevention and response. These include youths, local leaders, faith/religious leaders, among others.
- DRC to support awareness campaigns on GBV prevention, livelihood support services, and legal remedies.

## Child Protection

- Strengthen child protection initiatives conducted within child friendly spaces.
- Advocate for improved child protection services to enhance access to civil documentation, such as birth certificates.



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