

# Ulaanbaatar: Rapid Assessment on Population, Migration and Needs

July 2022



Cover photo: DTM enumerator collecting data. © Z.Erdene

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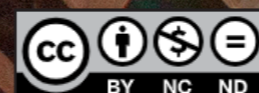
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# Introduction & Overview of findings

## Introduction

This study explores eight primary themes across Ulaanbaatar city: namely, population baseline figures, arrivals and departures (migration), employment, financial situation, challenges and security, services and infrastructure, parks and green areas, and children and education. Data is captured via key informant interviews with kheseq leaders, who have been chosen due to their in-depth knowledge of their communities, their resources and local contacts.

Previous IOM studies have found that a combination of complex factors, including land degradation and climate change, are altering traditional migration patterns in Mongolia. Increased frequency of droughts and dzuds, insufficient job opportunities, inadequate living conditions, and rural populations' livestock dependency has directly and reinforced increased levels of migration to urban areas and other aimags.

Understanding the nature of these migration patterns has been hindered by discrepancies between census data, registration data, and the reality of people living in and migrating between different locations across Mongolia.

## Overview of Findings

### Population Baseline Figures

At the time of the assessment (March 2022), there were 1,499,936 individuals living in Ulaanbaatar city, representing an average household size of 3.75 individuals. In total, 52 per cent of individuals were female and 48 per cent were male. Thirty-three per cent of the population registered as minors (11% aged 0-5, and 22% reported aged between 6-17), 61 per cent were adults between the ages of 18 and 65, and six per cent were elderly (over the age of 65). The top three most populated districts in Ulaanbaatar city were Bayanzurkh district (356,807 individuals), Songinokhairkhan district (335,554 individuals) and Bayangol district (238,067 individuals), which together constitute nearly two-thirds of the capital's population (62%).

Comparatively, registry data reports a total of 1,539,252 individuals living in Ulaanbaatar as of 2021, demonstrating a discrepancy of +2.6 percent, as compared to findings from this study. Discrepancies between reported population baseline figures and registry data figures were most significant in Sukhbaatar district (+13%), Bayanzurkh district (+7%), and Nalaikh (-7%).

## Arrivals and Departures

In 2021, districts across Ulaanbaatar city reported 119,914 arrivals and 86,428 departures. Overall, therefore, more individuals were found to be arriving at the capital city than departing. It is important to bear in mind that these figures include, and are in fact predominantly made up of, internal migration between districts. Findings on arrivals are very different to official statistics, which report the registration of only 25,695 individuals across districts in the capital city.

The top three districts reporting the highest number of arrivals were Bayanzurkh district (24 percent of total arrivals), Songinokhairkhan district (21 percent), and Khan-Uul (17 percent). The primary reasons for arrival were overwhelmingly family reasons, which was the case for the majority of arrivals in all districts apart from Bayangol district, where the majority arrived for educational reasons.

The top three districts reporting the highest number of departures were Songinokhairkhan district (25 percent), Sukhbaatar district (18 percent), and Chingeltei district (16 percent). As with arrivals, the predominant reason for departure in most districts was family reasons. However, the primary reason for departure for individuals from Bayanzurkh, Songinokhairkhan, and Sukhbaatar districts was to live in a newly built condominium.

## Socioeconomic situation; challenges; services and infrastructure; and education

Financial struggles were prevalent across all districts in Ulaanbaatar city. Overall, 270,079 individuals were perceived to be out of work, which is 30 percent of the working-age population. Of the estimated 639,498 individuals who were in work, the most significant sectors of employment were wholesale and retail trade (29 percent), followed by construction (24 percent). The private sector is the most important source of employment, accounting for over two thirds of the in-work population (68 percent).

Other important financial struggles that were uncovered over the course of this assessment were that of widespread income reduction or income loss. In eighteen percent of kheseqs across all districts, 50 percent of more the population witnessed a reduction in their income over the four weeks prior to data collection, and in 12 percent of districts, 50 percent or more of the population had reportedly lost all income over the four weeks prior to data collection. Furthermore, the most frequently reported challenge across the capital city was found to be insufficient income (47 percent), followed by unemployment (23 percent), and debt (13 percent).

Food insecurity, which is likely inextricably linked to financial struggles, was also found to be a very important challenge. In 40 percent of kheseqs across all districts, key informants reported that they were aware of families who were worried about not being able to have enough food to eat due to a lack of resources. In 31 percent of kheseqs, key informants reported that they were aware of families who had been forced to significantly reduce their food intake.

This report also outlines access to and problems with key services and infrastructure (water, food, electricity, housing, NFIs, healthcare, internet, and smartphones). In nine percent of kheseqs, key informants reported that 50 percent or more of the population did not have access to food. Only 38 percent of kheseqs reported that there were no local food problems, while 46 percent reported that price was a major problem.

Findings also explore educational attendance, issues around education, as well as more broad issues pertaining to young persons. Across Ulaanbaatar city, 30 percent of children aged between 0 and 5 do not attend kindergarden, while much lower three percent of children aged between 6 and 17 do not attend school. The primary issue related to accessing education was found to be distance (26 percent), while the primary general problem faced by children was a lack of clubs and sports centers (40 percent).



# Methodology

## Research Methodology

This report utilizes the mobility tracking (MT) methodology developed by the DTM unit of IOM.

Information is collected at the khesege level, which is the smallest administrative unit in Ulaanbaatar, via key informant interviews with khesege leaders. Khesege leaders were chosen as key informants due to their in-depth knowledge of their communities, as well as the resources and contacts in their possession. Khesege leaders were asked to fill out the survey tool, which was composed of eight parts – each pertaining to a separate section of this report. Khesege leaders filled in the data collection form on mobile phones or tablets utilizing Kobo toolbox. In order to ensure accurate and reliable data entry, khesege leaders were thoroughly trained on the survey tool prior to its implementation. Furthermore, the DTM team was available on standby to answer any questions or issues arising during the data collection process.

After the data entry process, the data was directly downloaded by the DTM team, who then conducted a number of quality assurance checks in the data monitoring stage to locate any potential data entry errors, discrepancies or duplicates. Where any data-related issues were found, the DTM team made follow-up calls to khesege leaders for clarification purposes. After all checks were completed, the DTM team moved on to the data analysis stage. All findings were closely analyzed at the khesege level, then findings were aggregated to the district and city-wide

level. It is therefore important to mention that any findings that are presented in this report at the district or city level is also available at the khesege level.

## Limitations

The adopted methodology relies on information provided by key informants and is intended to serve as one source of data for triangulation with other available sources.

The collected data represents the estimates and perceptions of key informants, which are often but not guaranteed to be reflective of the actual state of affairs. Therefore the data has limited external and internal validity due to the fact that the reliability of the data will vary in line with a number of factors, including the size of the observational unit (i.e. the size and population of the khesege) and the knowledge of the specific key informant, which might depend on the extent to which he or she is engaged with the community.

Additionally, the triangulation of results, which could otherwise serve as a useful counterbalance against biases, was limited by the usage of only one key informant per assessed location.

## Geographical Coverage and Key Informant Breakdown<sup>1</sup>

District	Number of Khesege	Total Population	Predominant Shelter Type	% of Female Key Informants
Bayanzurkh	395	356,807	Apartment	89%
Songinokhairkhan	355	335,554	Ger	96%
Bayangol	254	238,067	Apartment	89%
Khan-Uul	201	216,980	Mixed	90%
Chingeltei	195	149,879	Ger	95%
Sukhbaatar	179	126,321	Mixed	95%
Nalaikh	50	41,628	Ger	100%
Baganuur	34	30,124	Ger	97%
Bagakhangai	6	4,576	Mixed	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,499,936</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>92%</b>

## Definitions

**Baseline population figures:** All residents of the location at the time of the assessment, irrespective of place of origin, document status, registration status, age, or any other socio-demographic characteristic.

**Household:** A group of individuals living under the same roof, sharing expenses and food.

**Arrivals:** individuals who have arrived at a location with the intention of staying for at least four weeks, regardless of whether they arrived from another location within the same city or outside the city.

**Departures:** Individuals who have left a location and who do not intend to return for at least four weeks, regardless of whether they left to another location within the same city or outside the city.

**Non-food items (NFIs):** Items other than food, most frequently referring to mattresses, blankets, sheets, water containers, cooking utensils, hygiene kits, heaters, sleeping bags and winter clothes.

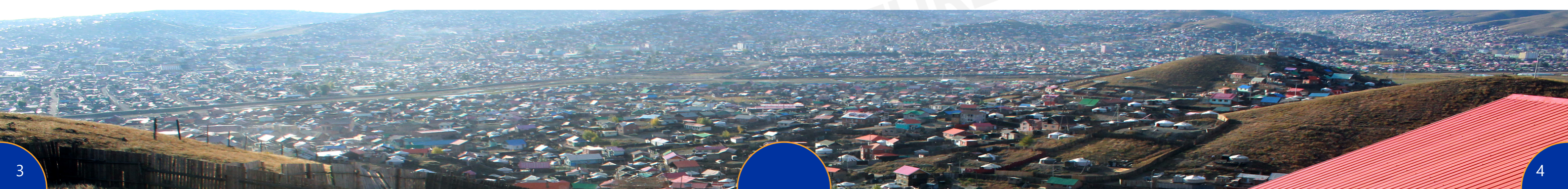
**Key informant:** An expert source of information, which in this case refers to the khesege leaders.

**Enumerator:** An individual who collects data. In this assessment the data collection is completed by the key informant, therefore the two terms overlap.

**In-work rate:** The rate of individuals in a geographical area that are reportedly working most days in a week, as observed by the key informant.

**Out-of-work rate:** The rate of individuals in a geographical area that are reportedly not working most days in a week, as observed by the key informant.

<sup>1</sup> Data on the predominant shelter type have been provided by the national statistics organisation. Data was provided at the khoroo level, which, for the purposes of this assessment, was aggregated to the district level by taking the shelter type of the majority of khoroo within each district. In the case where districts were composed of an equal number of ger and apartment khoroo, the district was labelled as mixed. In the case where districts were composed of an equal number of mixed and either apartment or ger khoroo, the district was labelled as either ger or khoroo.





# Data Analysis Улаанбаатар



# I. DATA ANALYSIS ULANBAATAAR

## I.1 Population Baseline and Demographic Overview



**397,015**  
Households



**1,499,936**  
Individuals



**52%**  
Females



**33%**  
Minors

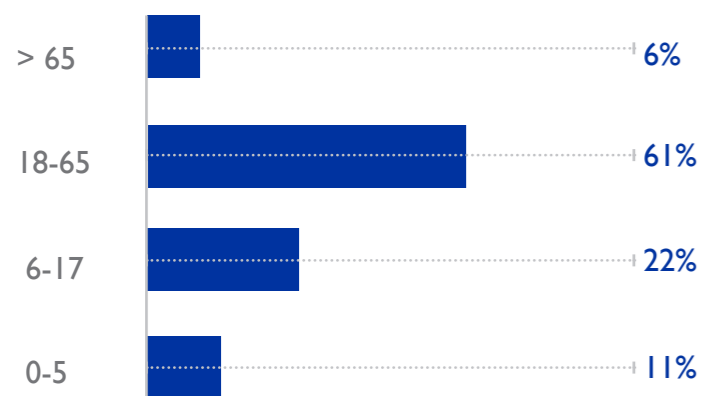


**23,570**  
Persons  
with medical  
conditions



**15,908**  
Pregnant  
women

Population pyramid (% of individuals)

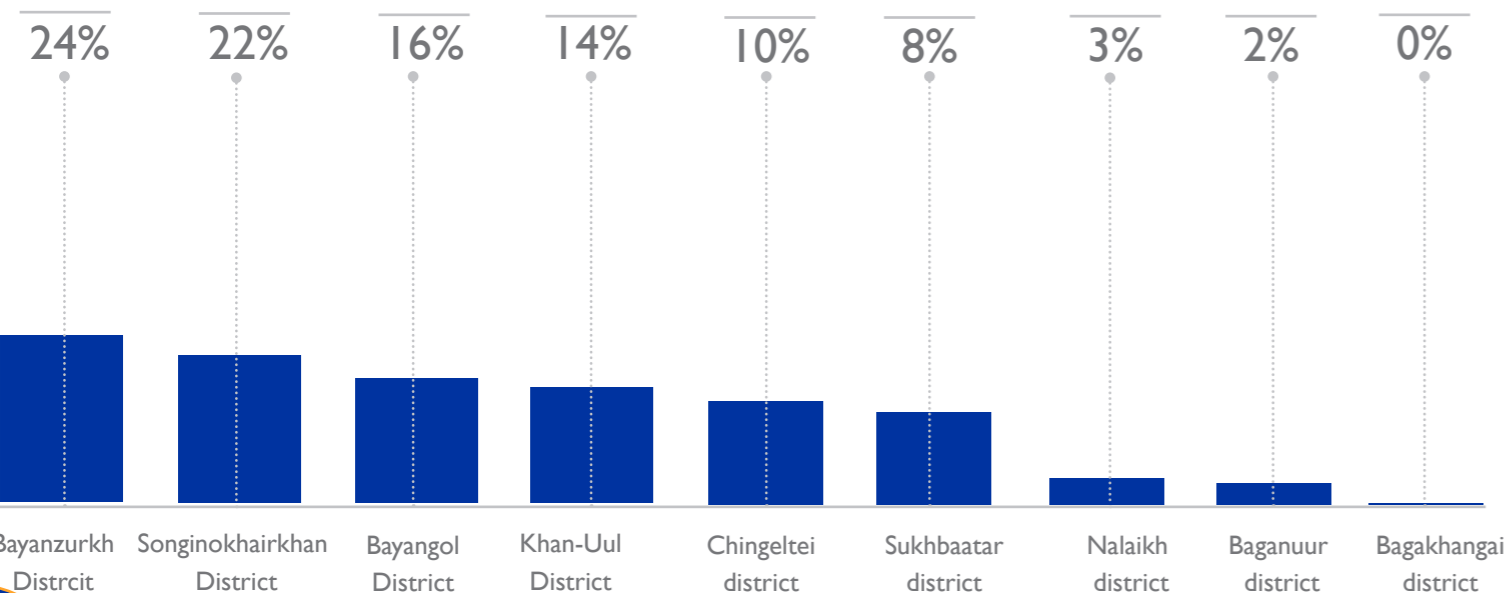


At the time of the assessment (March 2022), there were 1,499,936 individuals and 397,015 households living in Ulaanbaatar city. 48 per cent were males and 52 per cent were females. A significant 33 per cent of the population registered as minors: 11 per cent aged 0-5, and 22 per cent aged 6-17. Adults between the ages of 18 and 65 comprised 61 per cent of the population, while elderly persons (aged over 65 years) comprised 6 per cent.

Overall, 23,570 individuals were reported as having chronic diseases or serious medical conditions (1.6% of the population), and there were 15,908 women reported as being pregnant (2.0% of the female population).

The top three most populated districts across Ulaanbaatar city were Bayanzurkh (hosting 24% of the total population), Songinokhairkhan (22%), and Bayangol (16%). The three least populated districts were Bagakhangai (hosting less than 1% of the total population), Baganuur (2%), and Nalaikh (3%).

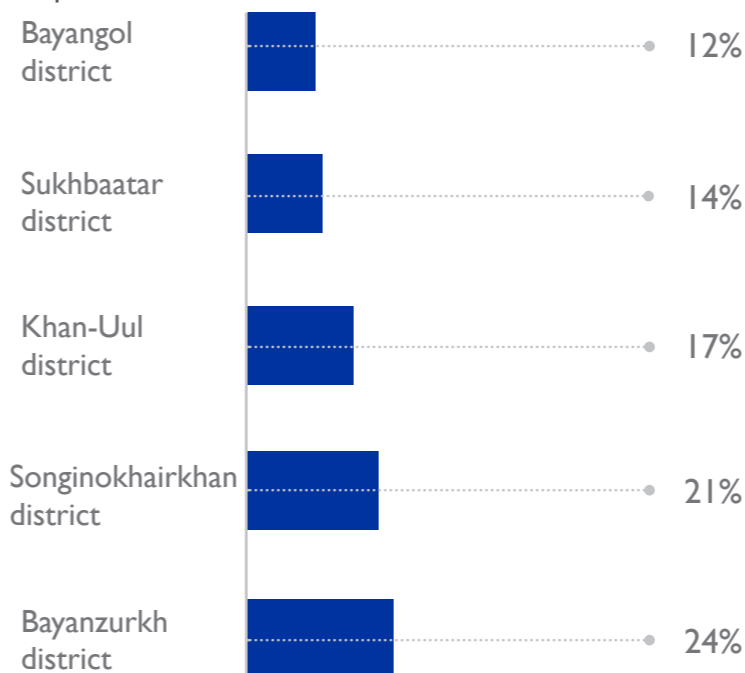
Population by district (% of total population)



## I.2 Arrivals<sup>2</sup>

A total of 40,230 households and 119,914 individuals arrived in Ulaanbaatar city in 2021. The highest proportion of arrivals were reported in Bayanzurkh district (24%), followed by Songinokhairkhan district (21%), and Khan-Uul (17%). Sukhbaatar district was the fourth-highest district level (absorbing 14% of arrivals in 2021), which is significant due to it hosting only 8 per cent of the total population. The primary reason for the majority of arrivals to all districts was due to family reasons, apart from in Bayangol district, where the primary reason was for educational purposes.

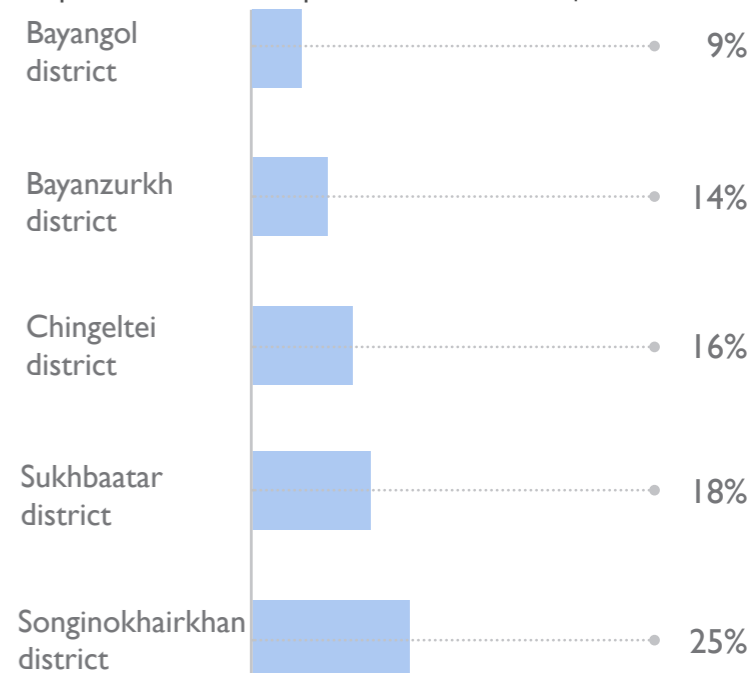
Top 5 districts of arrival (% of total arrivals)



## I.3 Departures

A total of 25,574 households and 86,428 individuals departed from Ulaanbaatar city in 2021. The highest proportion of departures were registered from Songinokhairkhan (25%), followed by Sukhbaatar (18%), and Chingeltei (16%). As was the case with arrivals, family reasons were the primary reason for departure for the majority of those across most districts. However, in the districts of Bayanzurkh, Songinokhairkhan (which reported the highest number of departures), Sukhbaatar (second-highest number of departures), the primary reason for departure was to live in a newly built condominium.

Top 5 districts of departure (% of total departures)



Primary reason for arrival and departure by district

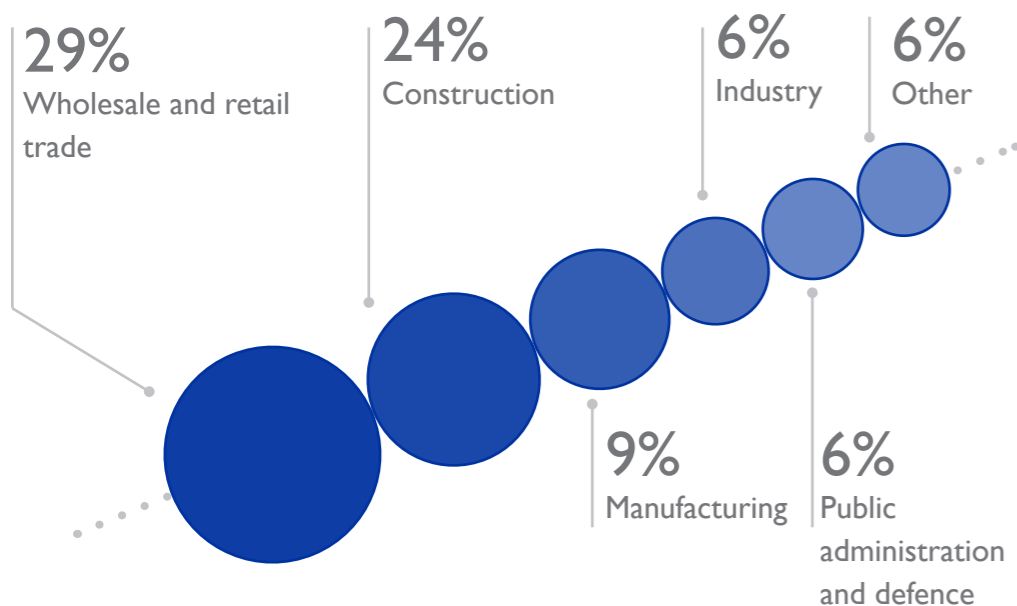
	● Reasons for arriving	● Reason for leaving
Overall	Family reasons	Family reasons
Bayanzurkh district	Family reasons	Family reasons
Bayangol district	Family reasons	Education
Bayanzurkh district	Family reasons	To live in newly built condominium
Sukhbaatar district	Family reasons	Family reasons
Sukhbaatar district	Family reasons	To live in newly built condominium
Songinokhairkhan district	Family reasons	Family reasons
Songinokhairkhan district	Family reasons	To live in newly built condominium
Chingeltei district	Family reasons	Family reasons
Khan-Uul district	Family reasons	Family reasons
Nalaikh district	Family reasons	Family reasons

<sup>2</sup> Arrivals refers to all individuals or households who arrived to a location in Ulaanbaatar city, regardless of whether they arrived from another location within the city or outside the city. Departures refers to all individuals or households who left a location in Ulaanbaatar city, regardless of whether they left to another location within the city or outside the city.

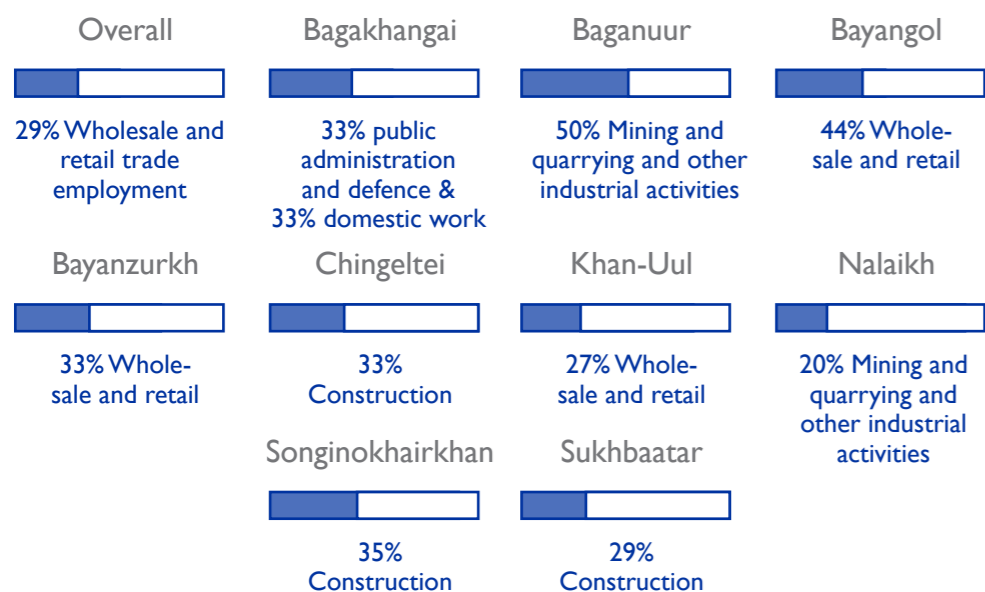
## 1.4 Employment Situation

The primary sector of employment across Ulaanbaatar city was wholesale and retail trade (29%), followed by construction (24%) and manufacturing (9%). The largest share of persons working in the wholesale and retail trade sector was found in Bayangol district (44%), which is the third-most populated district across the city (hosting 16% of the population). Mining, quarrying and other industrial activities the primary employment sector in only six per cent of kheseags; however, data shows that this type of employment is heavily concentrated in specific districts. Fifty per cent of kheseags in Baganuur and 20 per cent of kheseags in Nalaikh report that industrial activities comprise their main sector of employment. In Chingeltei, Songinokhairkhan, and Sukhbaatar districts, which together host 40 per cent of the city's population, construction is the most dominant sector of employment.

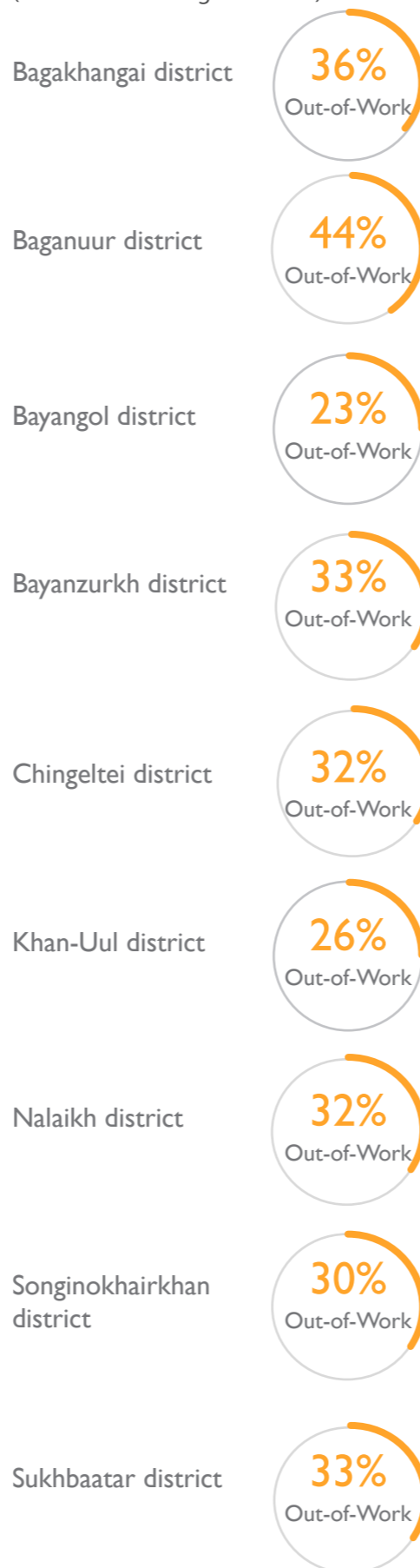
Primary sector of employment (% of kheseags)



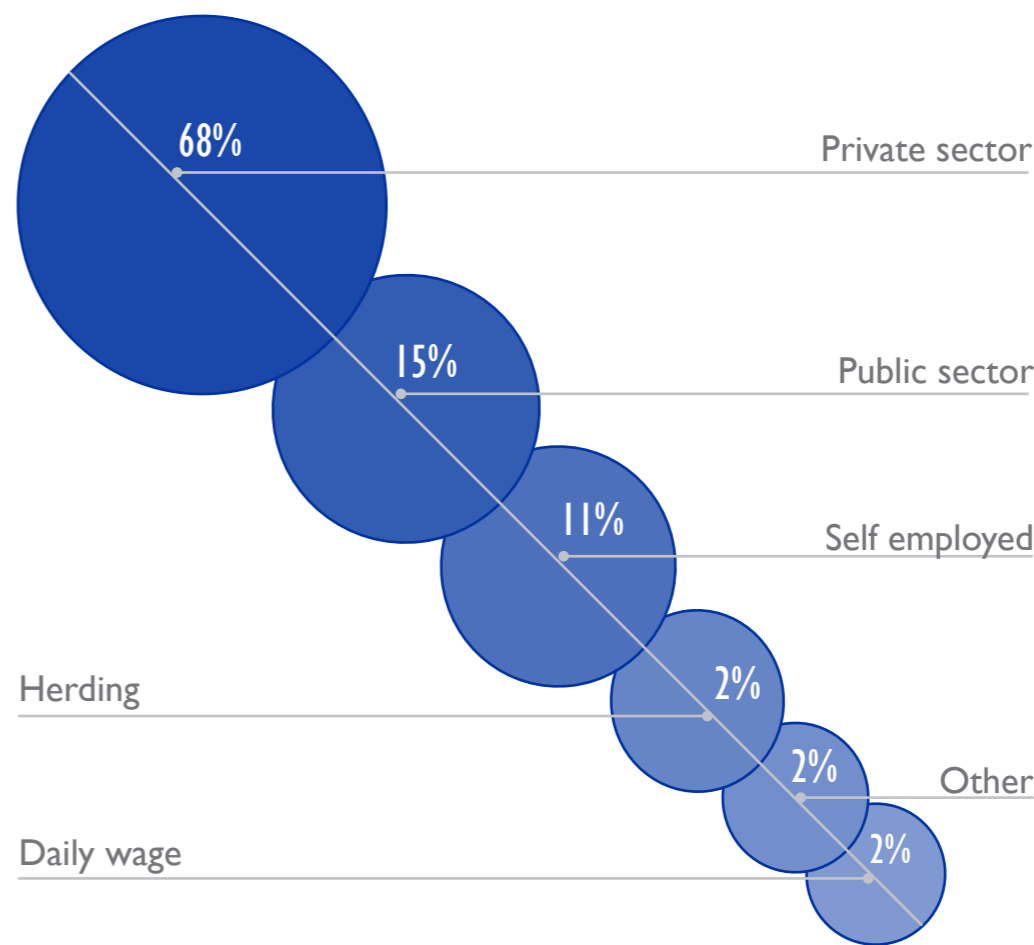
Main sector of employment by district (% of kheseags)



Out-of-Work rate by district (% of individuals aged 18 - 64)



Employment type (% of kheseags)



Employment type by district (% of kheseags)

District	Private sector	Public sector
Overall	68%	15%
Bagakhangai	67%	15%
Baganuur	56%	74%
Bayangol	63%	82%
Bayanzurkh	61%	52%
Chingeltei	75%	66%
Khan-Uul	61%	52%
Nalaikh	52%	66%
Songinokhairkhan	75%	66%
Sukhbaatar	66%	66%

Across Ulaanbaatar city, an estimated 270,079 individuals are out of employment, which is 30 per cent of the adult population. The out-of-work rate was highest in Baganuur district, where it stood at 44 per cent of the adult population (8,061 individuals); however, the largest population of out-of-work individuals is found in Bayanzurkh district (70,249 individuals), which is 33 per cent of the district's adult population and 26 per cent of all out-of-work individuals. It is important to consider whether this high out-of-work rate is perhaps connected to the type and homogeneity of available sectors of employment. In Baganuur district, a very considerable 50 per cent of kheseags report the most dominant employment sector to be mining, quarrying and other industrial activities. Bayanzurkh district reports a out-of-work rate of 33 per cent, which is particularly significant since it is the most populated district across the capital city (hosting 24% of the total population) and has also reported the highest proportion of arrivals across 2021 (also 24%).

The district with the lowest out-of-work rate is Bayangol, where 23 per cent of the adult population were reportedly out of work, leaving 77 per cent in-work. Bayangol district is the third-most populated district across Ulaanbaatar and the most dominant sector of employment is wholesale and retail trade. Khan-Uul district, which hosts 14 per cent of the capital city's population, reports a similarly relatively low out-of-work rate of 26 per cent, leaving 74 per cent in-work. The predominant sector of employment in Khan-Uul is also wholesale and retail trade.

Over two-thirds of kheseags across Ulaanbaatar report that the private sector is the most predominant employment modality (68%), followed by public sector work (15%) and self-employment (11%). The private sector is the most dominant employment modality across all districts apart from in Bagakhangai and Baganuur, where the public sector is more relevant, accounting for 67 per cent and 56 per cent (respectively) of employment modalities. These two districts also report the highest out-of-work rates, suggesting that a lack of private sector opportunities is perhaps connected to higher out-of-work rates.

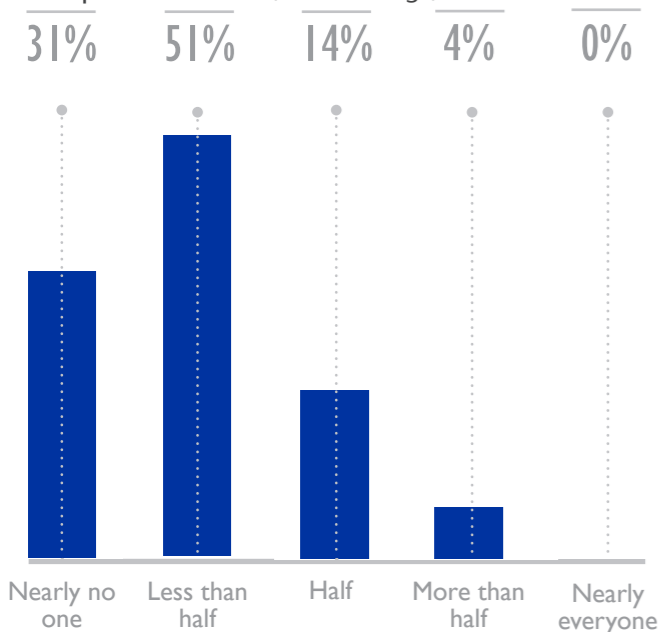
### 1.5 Financial situation

In this section, the financial situation is explored by looking at key informant observations on issues around income reduction and reductions in food expenditure.

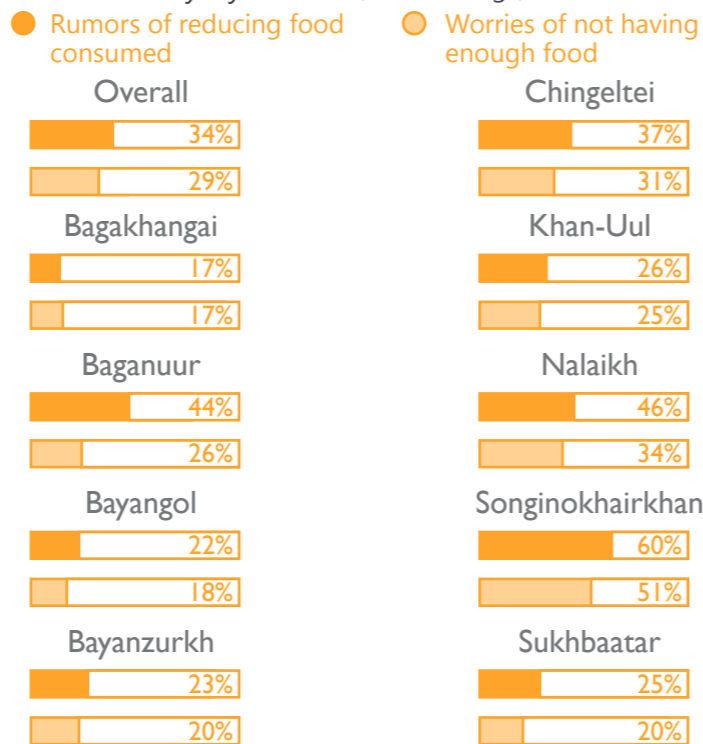
Overall, key informants in 34 per cent of kheseqs reported having heard rumours of households reducing food consumption in the four weeks prior to data collection. In total, this impacts 488,206 individuals. Key informants in 29 per cent of kheseqs reported having observed that households have worried about not having enough food in the four weeks prior to data collection. This affects a total of 405,698 individuals. Songinokhairkhan is the most affected district, where key informants in 51 per cent of kheseqs report reductions in food consumptions and key informants in 60 per cent of kheseqs report worries of not having enough food.

Food security issues are most critical in ger-regions as compared to apartment and mixed-regions. Over half (58%) of individuals affected by worries of not having enough food to eat live in ger-regions, as compared to 25 per cent in apartment regions and 17 per cent in mixed-regions. Similarly, 58 per cent of individuals affected by rumours of reductions in food consumption live in ger-regions.

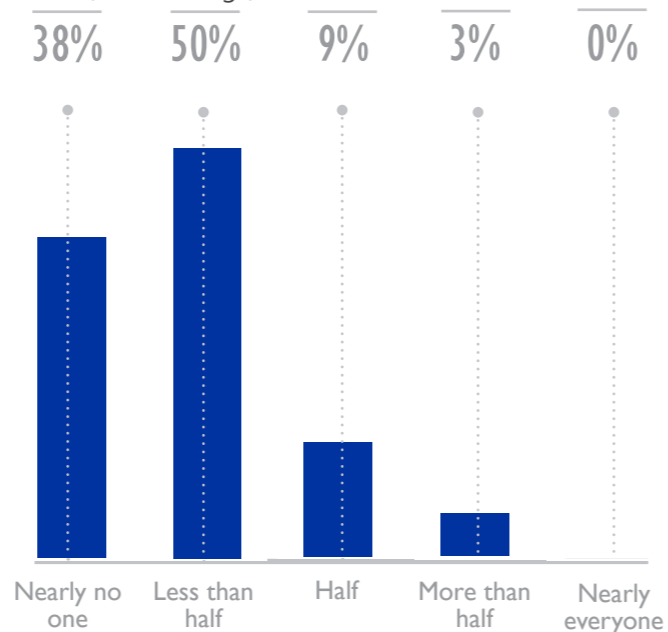
Share of people who had an income reduction over the past 4 weeks (% of kheseqs)



Food security by district (% of kheseqs)



Share of people who lost all income over the past 4 weeks (% of kheseqs)

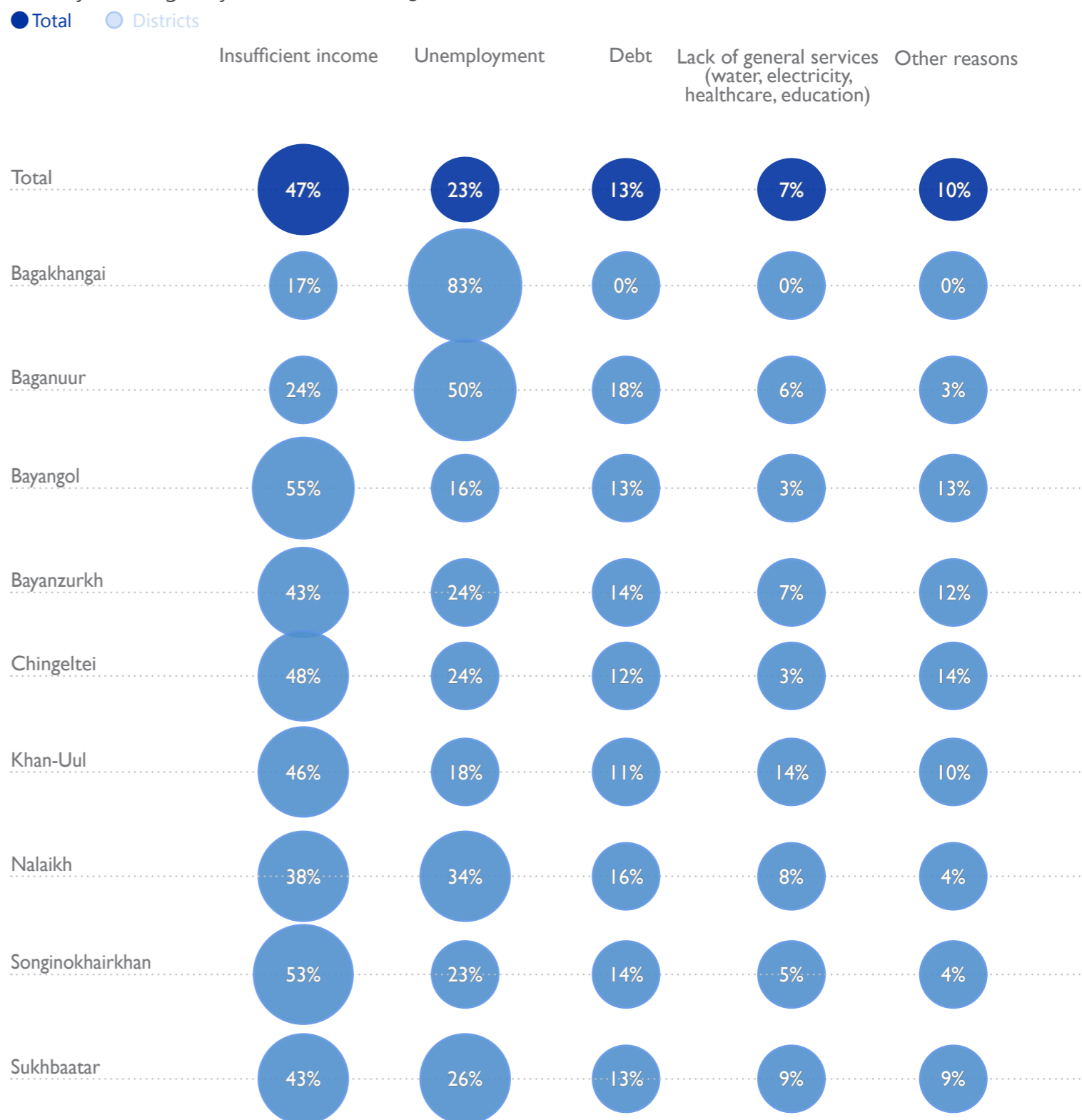


In 82 per cent of districts across the capital city, less than half or nearly no one was reported to have had an income reduction; while in 88 percent of districts, less than half or nearly no one was reported to have lost all income. In a more critical 18 per cent of districts, 50 per cent or more of the population were reported to have had an income reduction – affecting a total population of 265,145 individuals. In 12 per cent of districts, 50 per cent or more of the population were reported to have lost all income - affecting a total of 173,794 individuals. Again, conditions in Songinokhairkhan district were most severe, where rates of experiencing income reductions and loss of all income were most prevalent. Also, ger-regions had higher than average rates of reporting income reductions (26%) and total income loss (19%).

### 1.6 Challenges and security situation

The most pressing challenges across Ulaanbaatar city are those of financial and economic conditions. The most important challenge is insufficient income (as reported in 47% of kheseqs), followed by unemployment (23%), and debt (13%). Concerns over insufficient income are highest in Bayangol district (55 percent), while unemployment concerns are critically high in Bagakhangai district (83%) and debt challenges are most pressing in Baganuur district (18%).

Primary challenges by district (% of kheseqs)

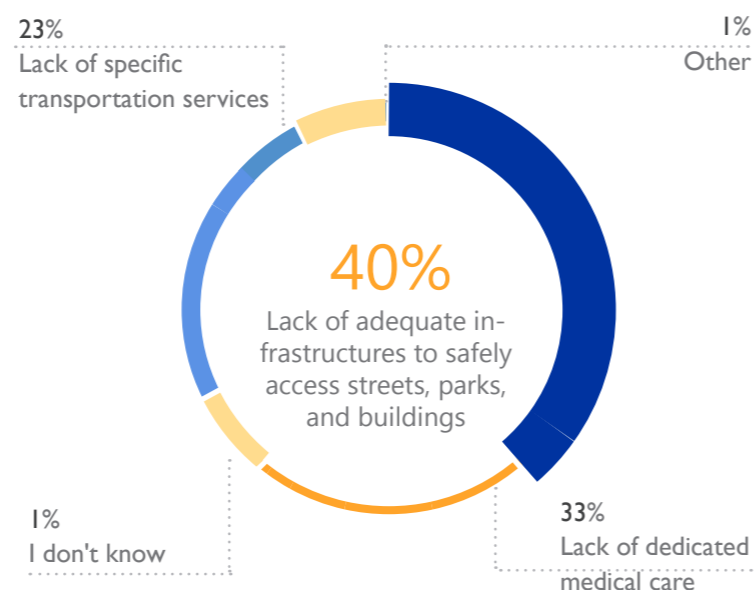




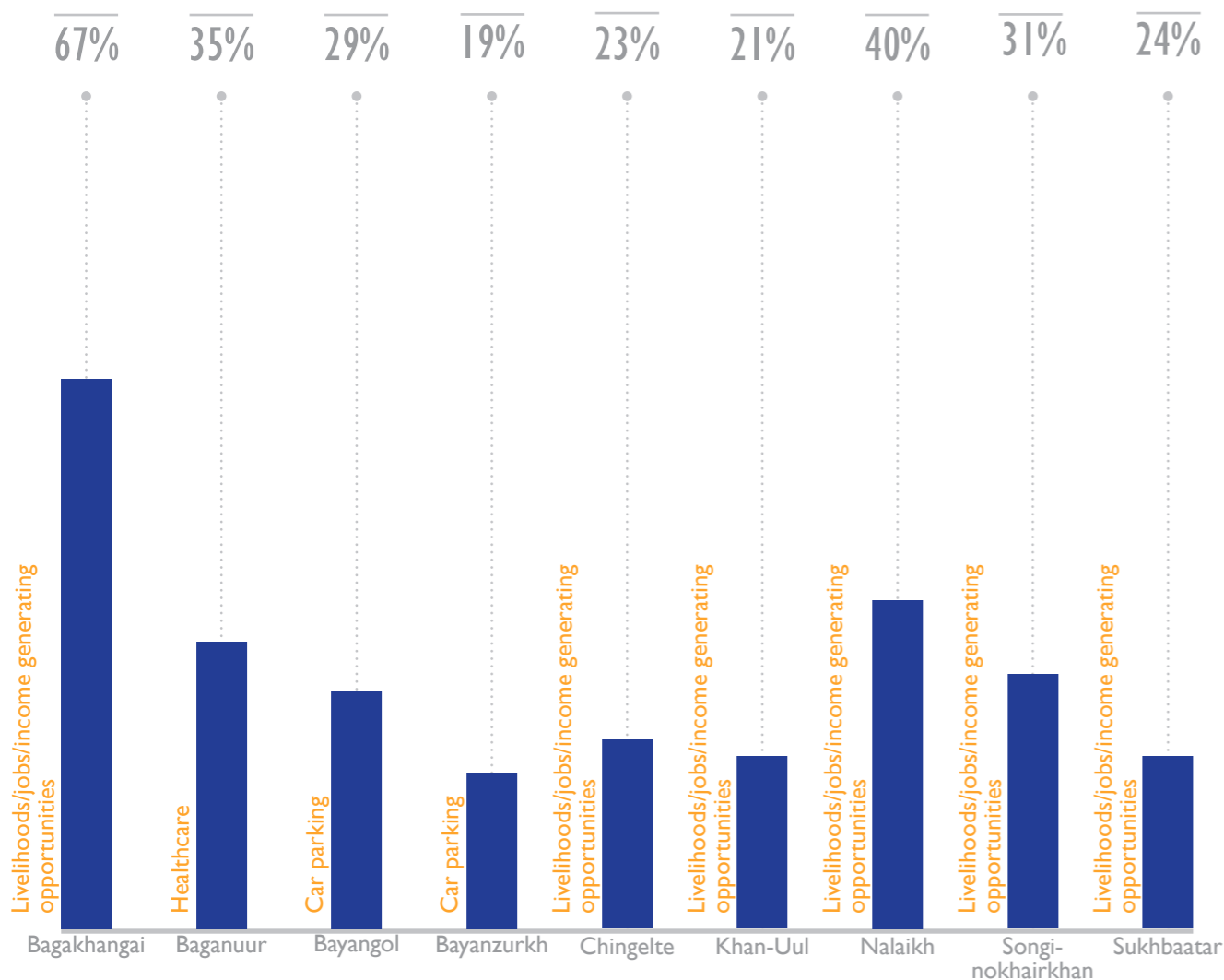
Across the capital city, the services which people had the most difficulty accessing were found to be livelihood opportunities (25%), car parking services (18%), healthcare (17%), and housing (11%). Accessing livelihood opportunities was found to be the primary focus of concern in all districts across Ulaanbaatar city, apart from in Baganuur (healthcare), Bayangol and Bayanzurkh (both car parking). Livelihood opportunities were found to be particularly difficult to access in Bagakhangai (67%), where a considerable 36 per cent of the working-age population were found to be out of employment.

The primary challenge for persons with disabilities are lack of adequate infrastructure in place to safely access streets, parks and buildings (40%), followed by a lack of dedicated medical care (33%), and a lack of transportation services.

Primary challenge for persons with disabilities (% of kheseqs)



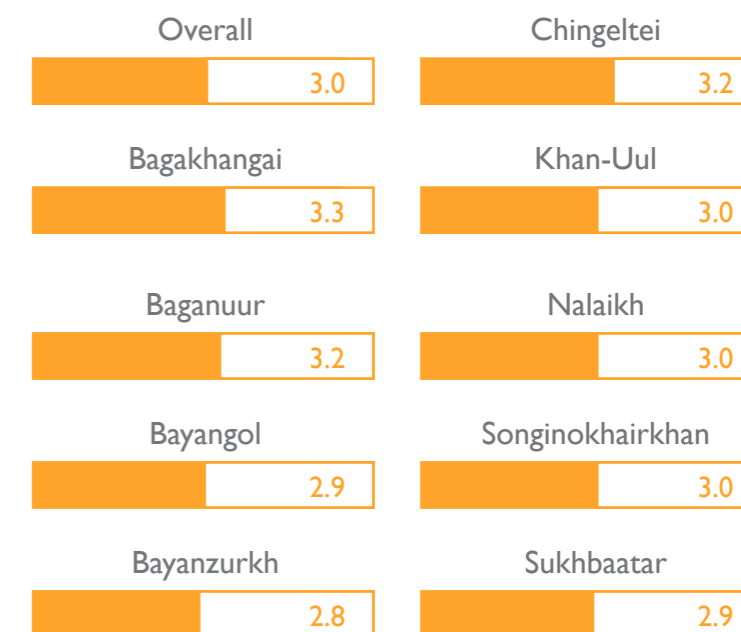
Service that people have difficulties accessing by district (% of kheseqs)



Key informants were asked to rate the security situations in their kheseqs on a scale from one to five, with one signifying very bad and five signifying very good. Across Ulaanbaatar city, the security situation was deemed to be average (scoring exactly 3.0). The security situation across all districts rounded to a score of 3, with relatively little variation. Key informants were also asked whether they had heard of security incidents having occurred in the four weeks prior to data collection, to which a total of 20 per cent reported the existence of security incidents and 80 per cent reported that no security incidents had occurred. Rates of security incidents were found to be highest in Songinokhairkhan (31%) and lowest in Bagakhangai (0%). These findings present a potential linkage between food insecurity and financial insecurity on the one hand and the occurrence of security incidents on the other. Songinokhairkhan, which reports the highest rates of security incidents also reports the highest rates of households who are food insecure and individuals who have experienced a reduction in income or a total loss of their income. Bagakhangai, on the other hand, which reports the lowest rate of security incidents, also reports the lowest rates of food insecure households and lower than average rates of individuals who have seen a reduction in their daily income.

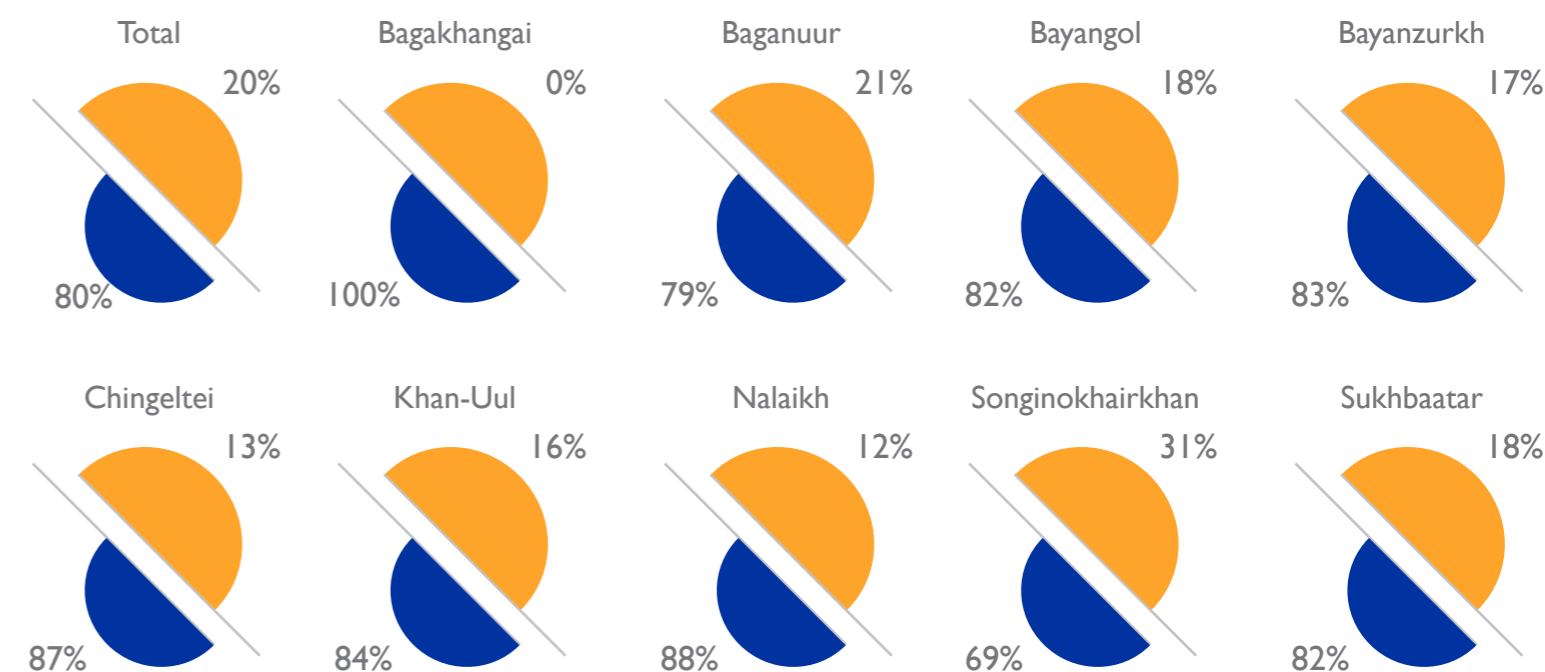
Security situation by district

Scoring: 1= very bad, 2= bad, 3= average, 4= good, 5= very good



Occurrence of security incidents (% of kheseqs)

● No security incident ● Security incident

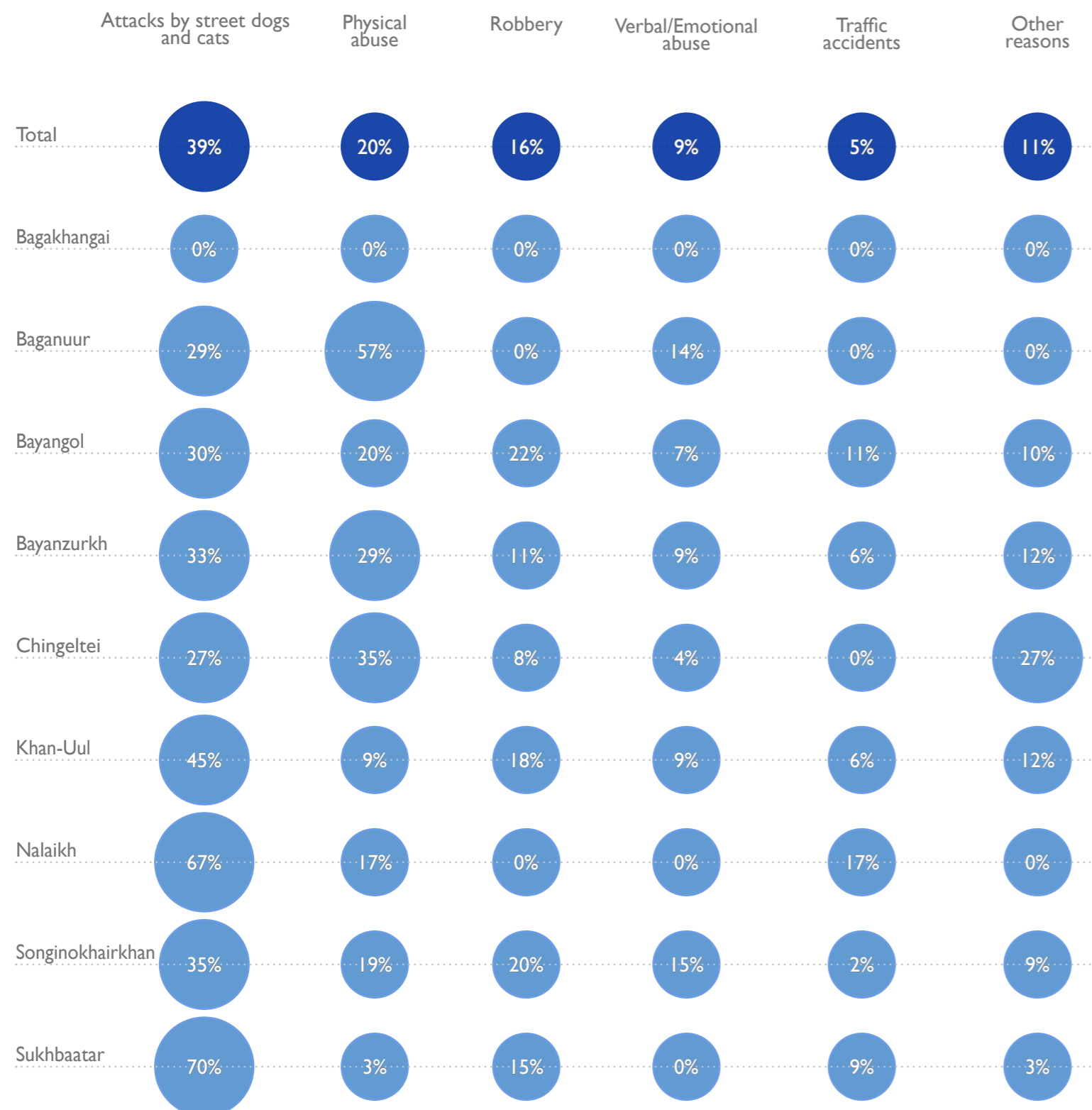


The most predominant form of security incidents that were experienced were attacks by street dogs and cats (39%), followed by physical abuse (20%) and robbery (16%). Physical abuse was most reported in Baganuur (57%), while robbery was most reported in Bayangol district (22%).

Occurrence of security incidents (% of khesegs)



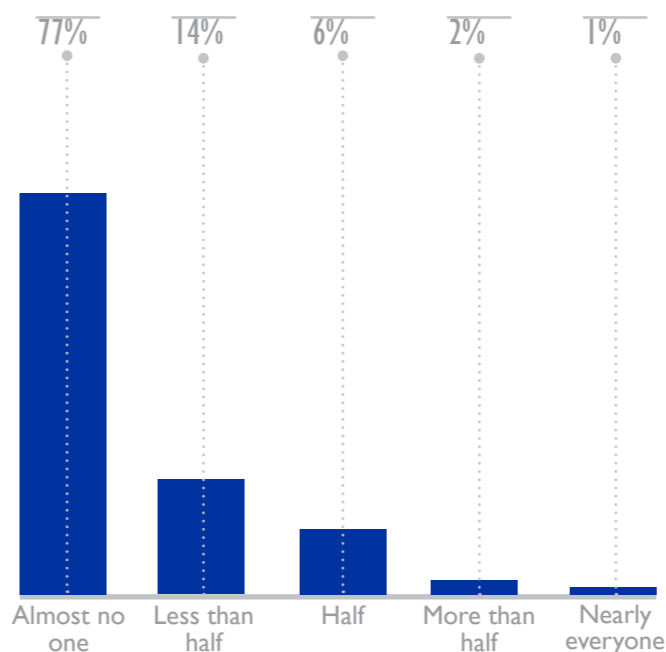
Primary security incident by district (% of khesegs)



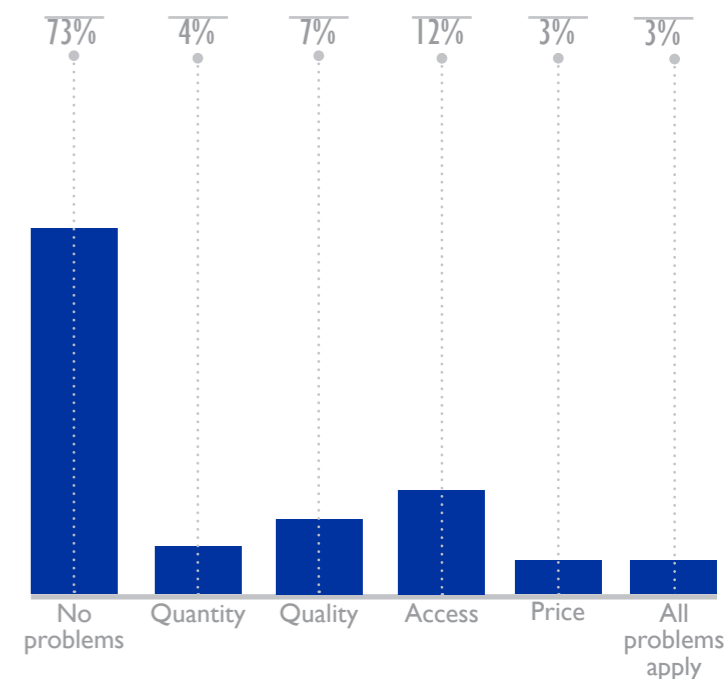
## I.7 Services and infrastructure

### WATER

Share of persons without access to water (% of khesegs)

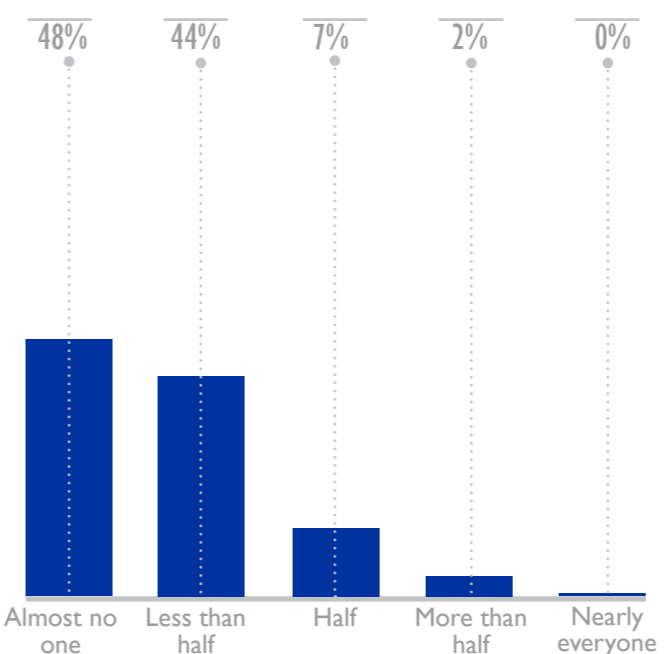


Primary problem linked to water (% of khesegs)

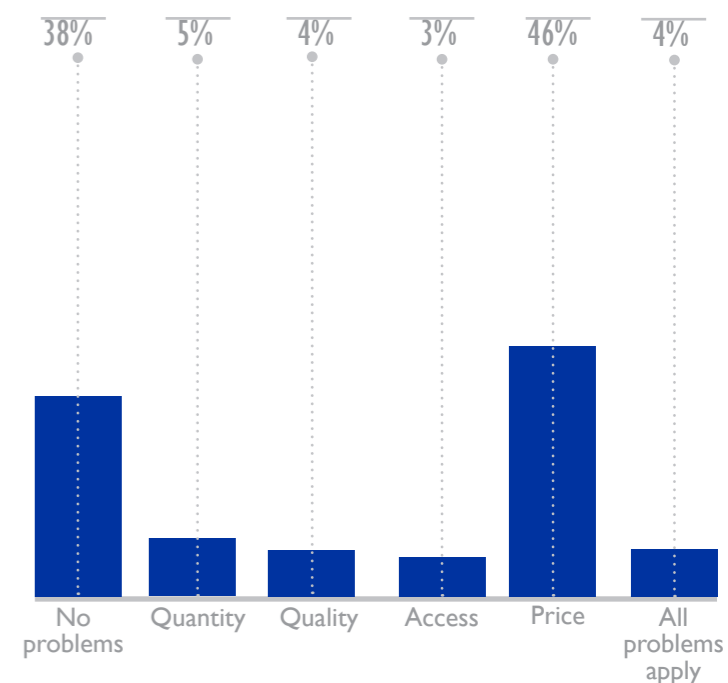


### FOOD

Share of persons without access to food (% of khesegs)

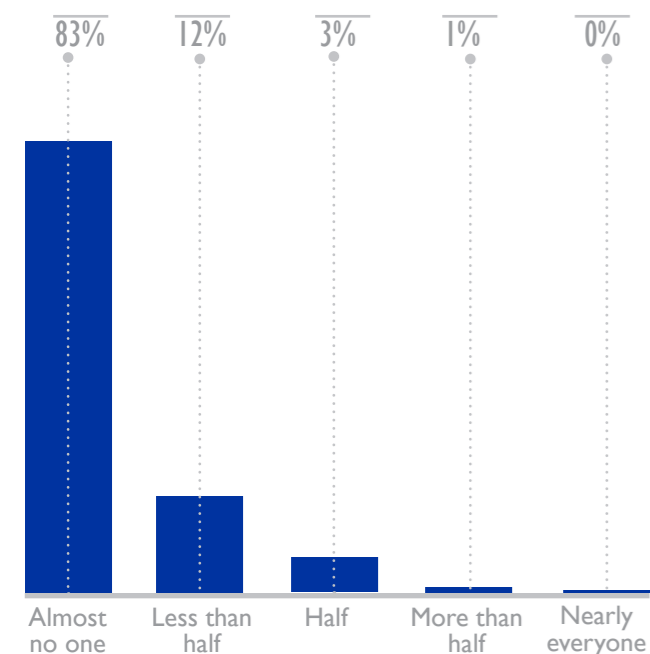


Primary problem linked to food (% of khesegs)

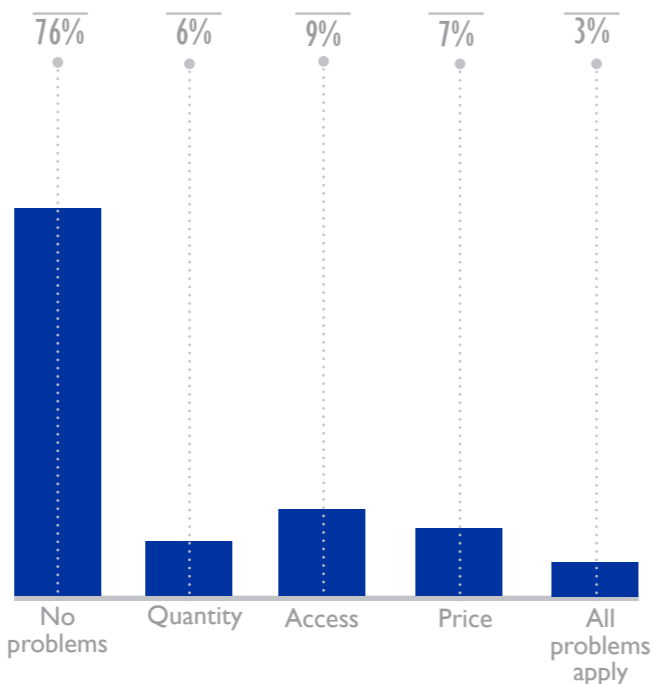


## ELECTRICITY

Share of persons without access to electricity (% of khesegs)

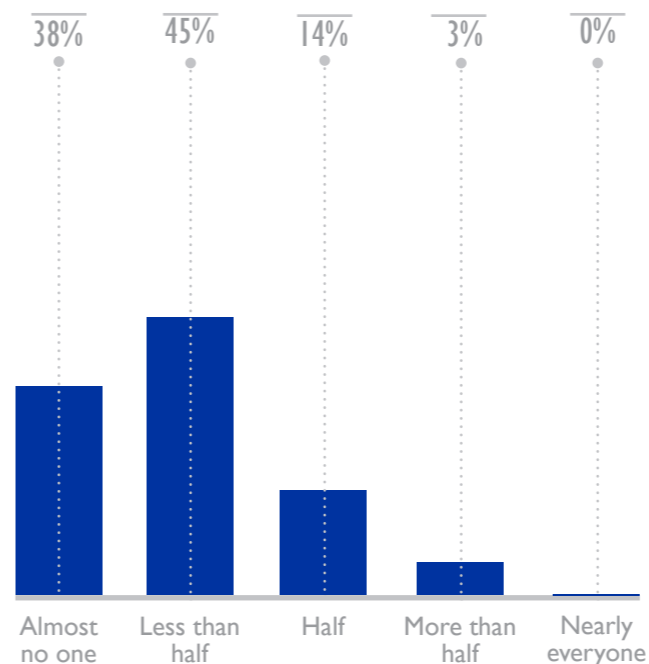


Primary problem linked to electricity (% of khesegs)

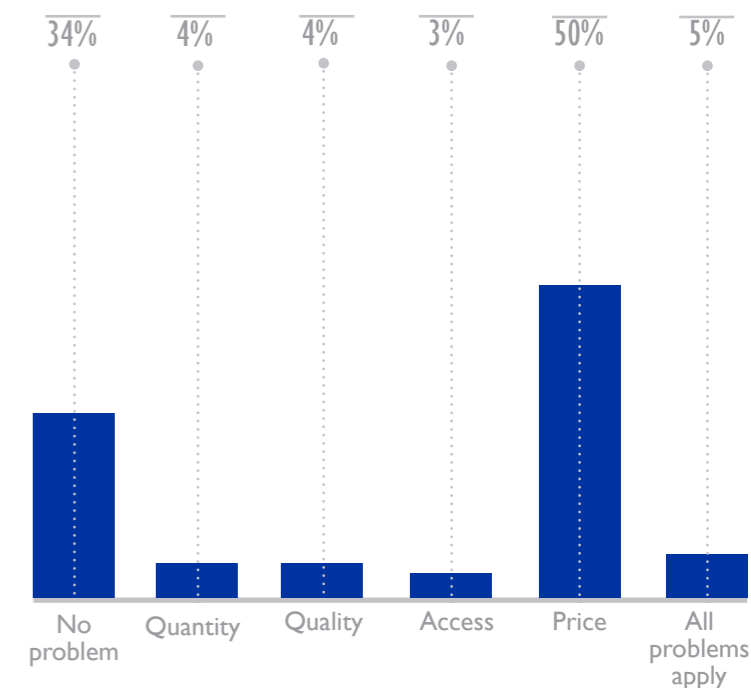


## NFIs

Share of persons without access to NFIs (% of khesegs)

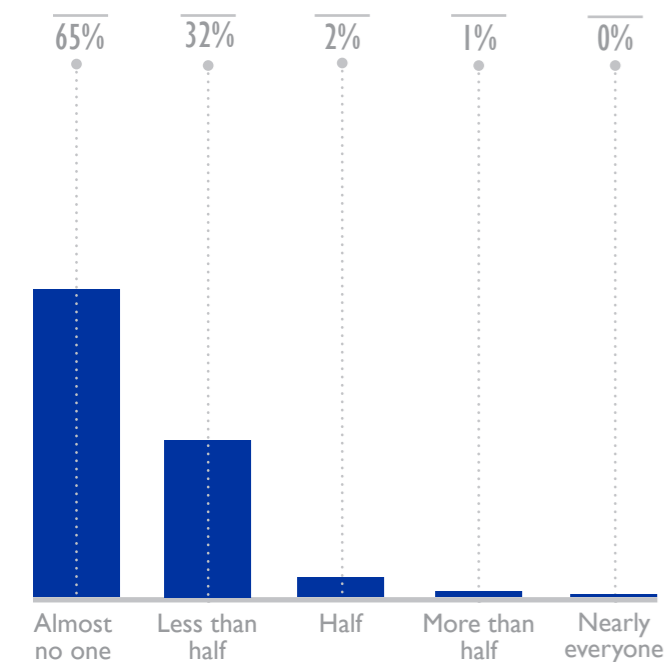


Primary problem linked to NFIs (% of khesegs)

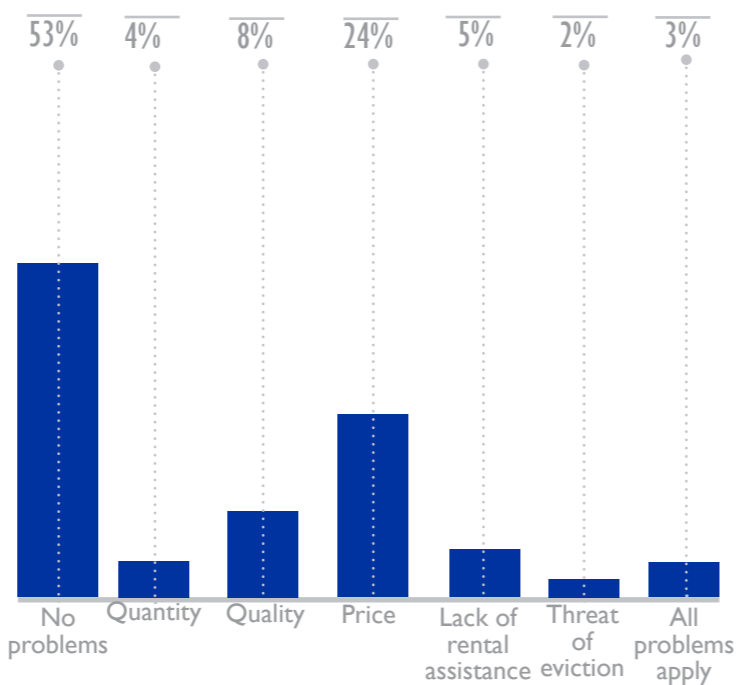


## HOUSING

Share of persons without access to housing (% of khesegs)

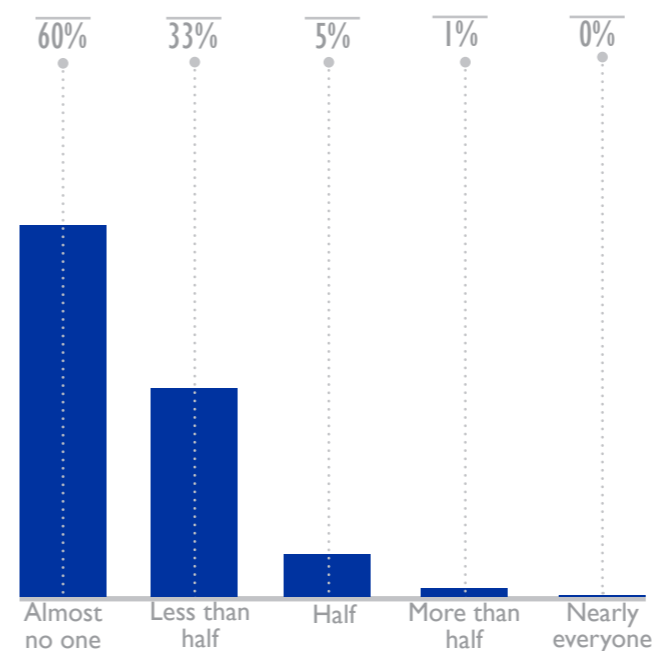


Primary problem linked to housing (% of khesegs)

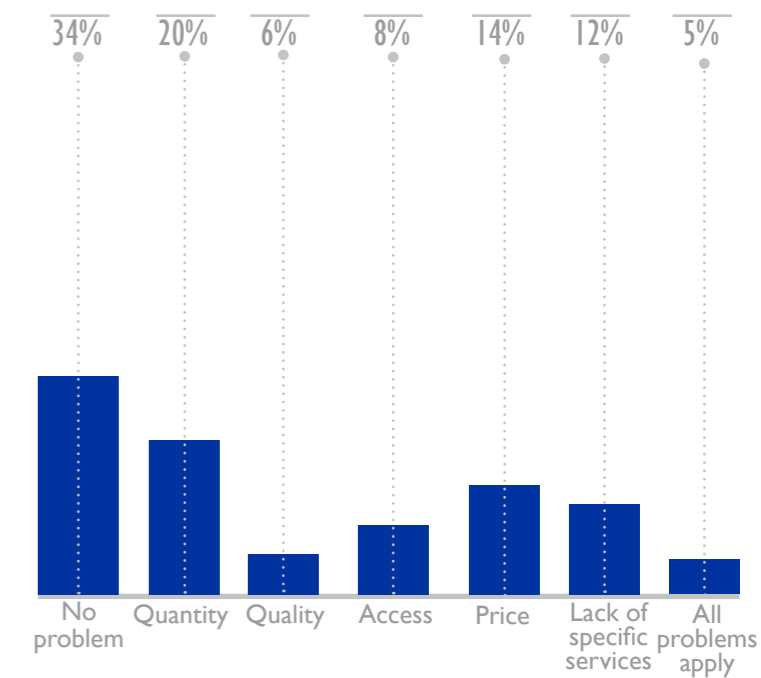


## HEALTHCARE

Share of persons without access to healthcare (% of khesegs)

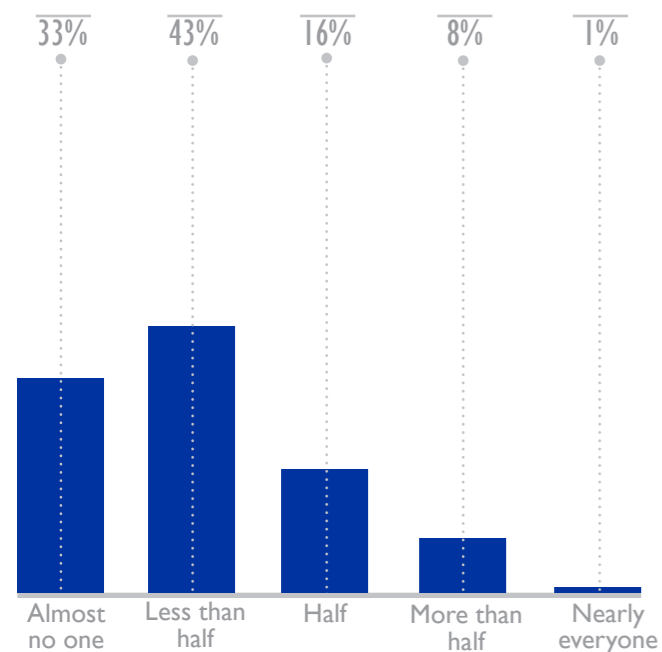


Primary problem linked to healthcare (% of khesegs)

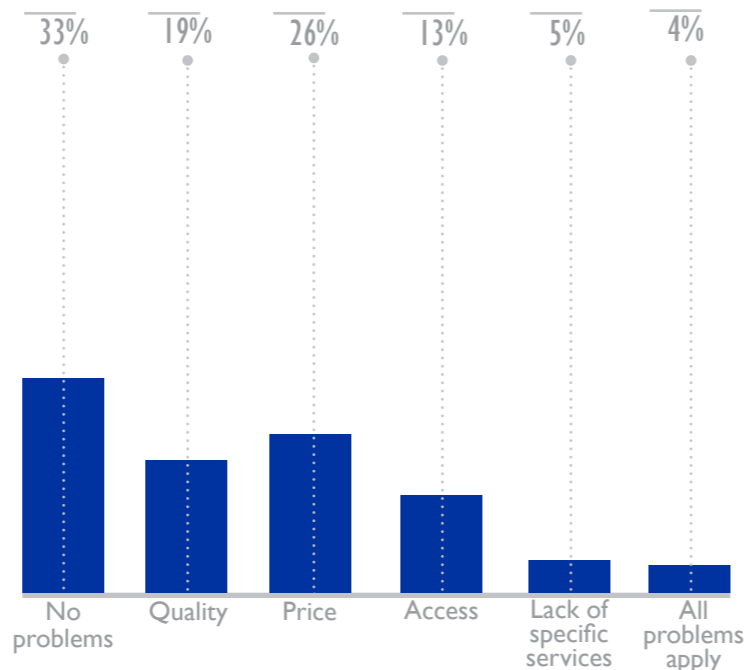


## INTERNET

Share of persons without access to internet (% of khesegs)



Primary problem linked to internet (% of khesegs)

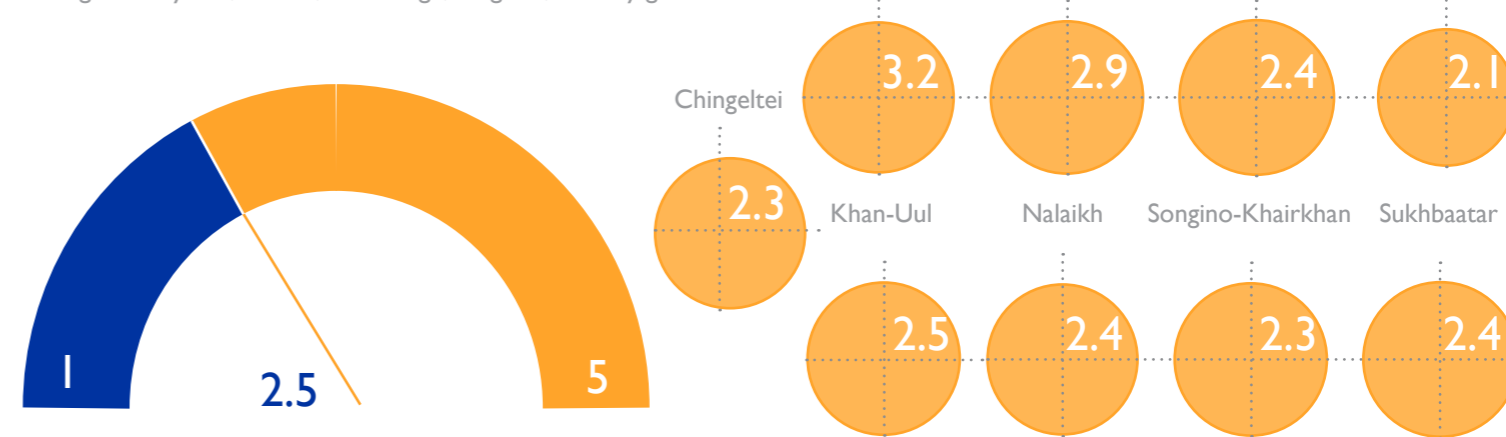


## 1.8 Parks and green areas

Key informants were asked to rate the quality of public, household and private parks and green areas in their khesegs on a scale from one to five, with one signifying very bad and five signifying very good. The quality of public parks and green areas was rated at 2.5 across Ulaanbaatar; the quality of households' private parks and green areas was rated slightly lower at 2.4; and the quality of private sector parks and green areas was rated at 2.3. The lowest score given to public, household and private parks and green areas was found in Bayanzurkh (2.1, 2.2, and 2.3, respectively).

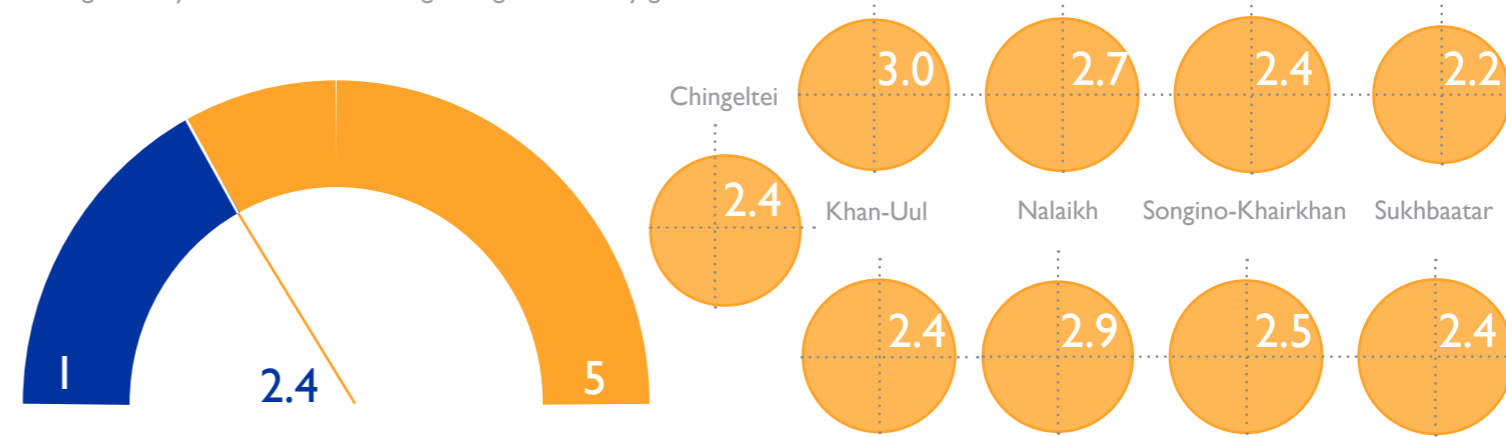
Quality of public parks and green areas

Scoring: 1= very bad, 2= bad, 3= average, 4= good, 5= very good



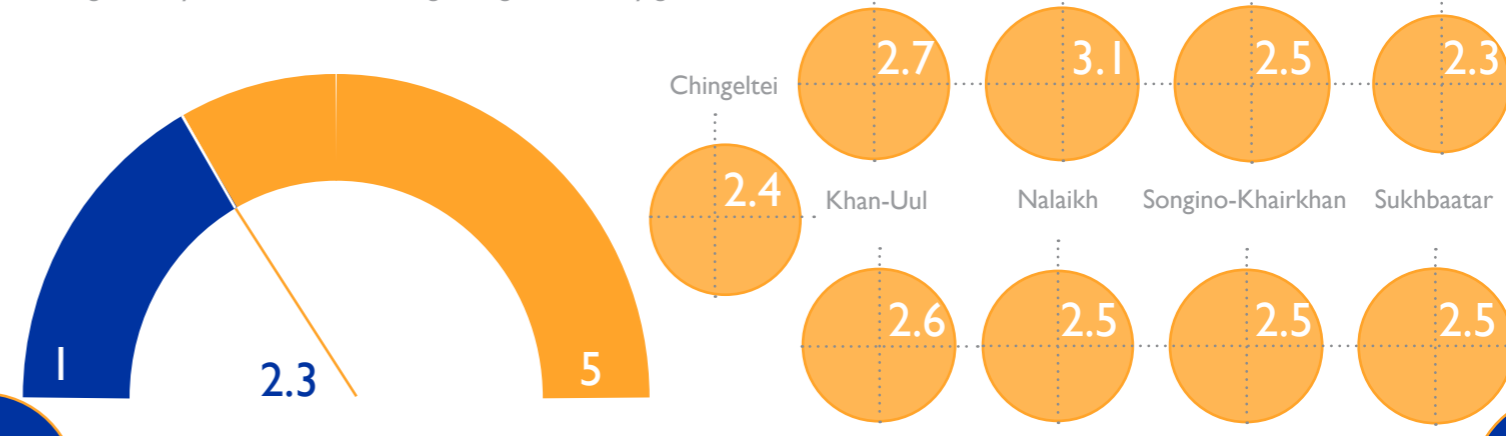
Quality of household private parks and green areas

Scoring: 1= very bad, 2= bad, 3= average, 4= good, 5= very good



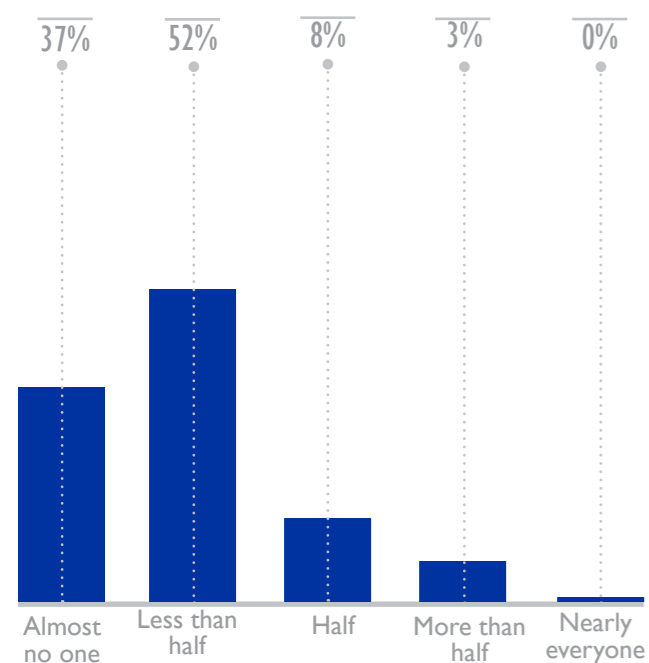
Quality of private sector parks and green areas

Scoring: 1= very bad, 2= bad, 3= average, 4= good, 5= very good

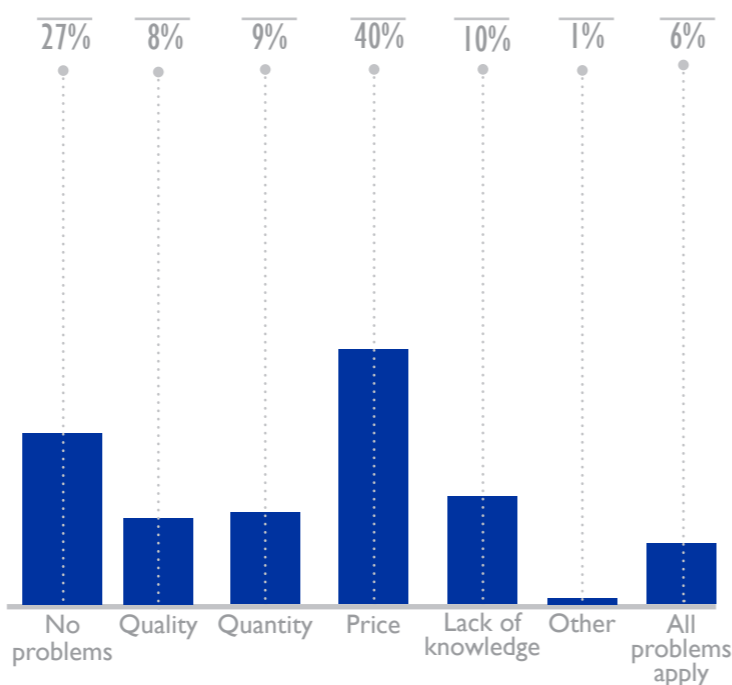


## SMARTPHONES

Share of persons without access to smartphones (% of khesegs)



Primary problem linked to smartphone (% of khesegs)

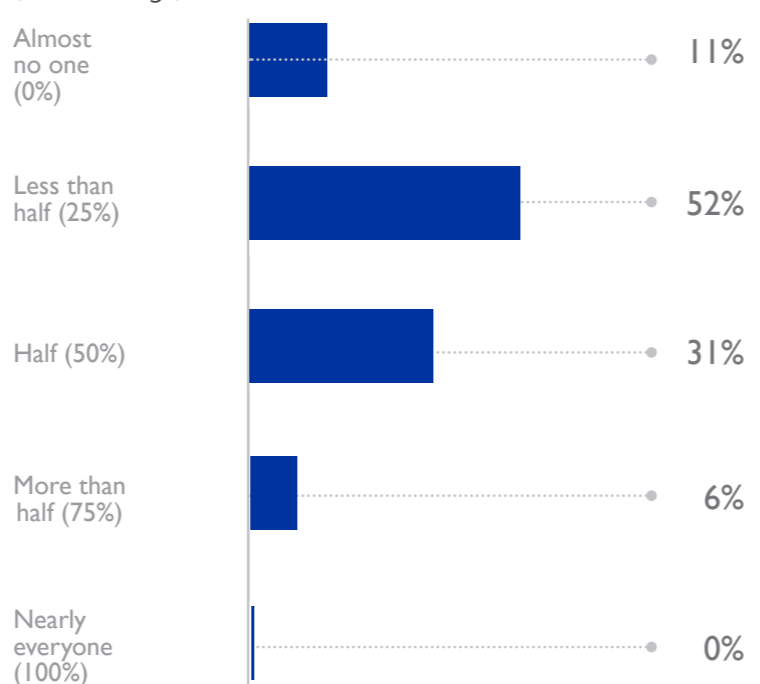


## 1.9 Transport and traffic

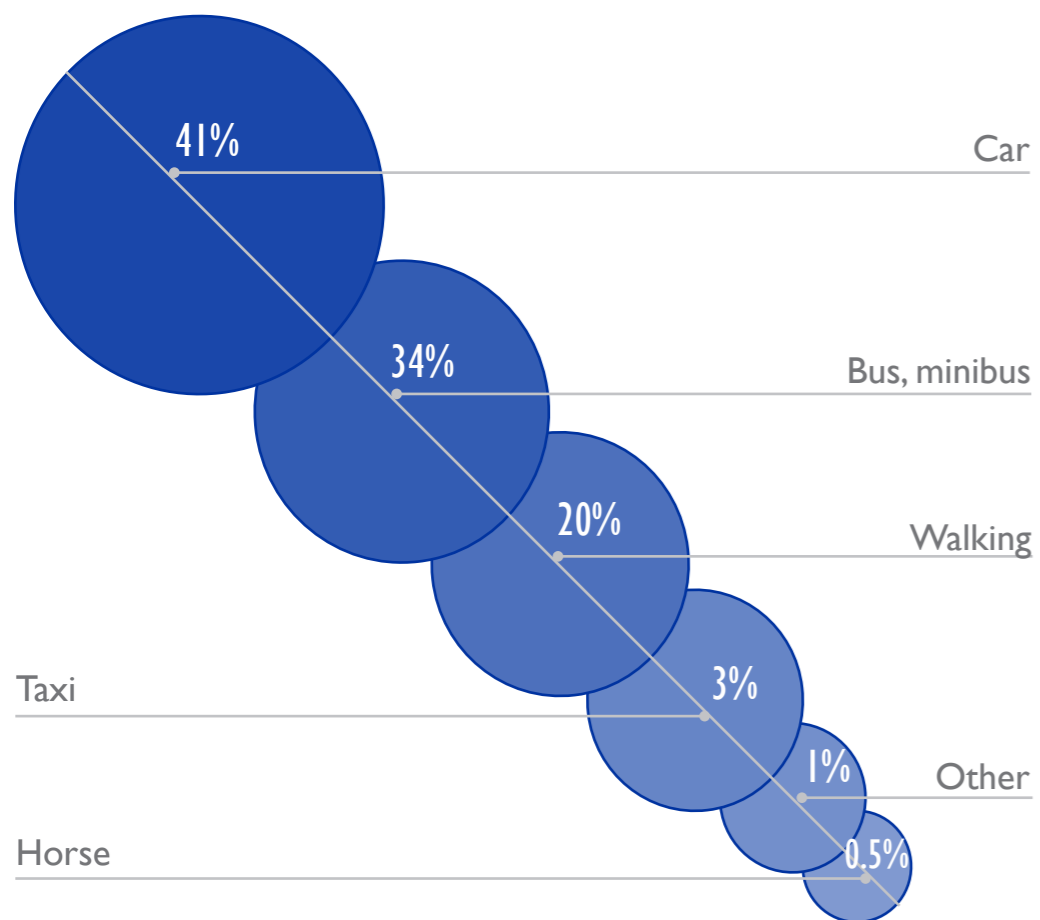
The predominant mode of transportation across Ulaanbaatar city was car (as reported in 41% of kheseqs), followed by bus or minibus (34%), and walking (20%). The primary mode of transportation in two of the three most populated districts (Bayanzurkh and Bayangol) is car – 48 per cent and 50 per cent, respectively; however, the primary mode of transportation in Songinokhairkhan (the second-most populated district) is bus or minibus (42%). Walking was reported to be the primary mode of transportation in Bagakhangai, accounting for a significant 67 per cent of kheseqs.

Key informants in 37 per cent of kheseqs reported that half or more of households did not own a personal vehicle. This rate was highest in Nalaikh district (where the most common form of transportation was reportedly taxi), within which 52 per cent of kheseqs reported that half or more of the population did not own a personal vehicle, and two per cent of kheseqs reported that nearly no one owned a personal vehicle.

Share of households without a personal vehicle (% of kheseqs)



Primary method of transportation (% of kheseqs)



Primary method of transportation by district (% of kheseqs)

Overall	Bagakhangai
41% Car	67% Walking
Baganuur	Bayangol
50% Car	50% Car
Bayanzurkh	Chingeltei
48% Car	52% Bus, minibus
Khan-Uul	Nalaikh
43% Car	32% Taxi
Songinokhairkhan	Sukhbaatar
42% Bus, minibus	50% Car

Across Ulaanbaatar the primary problems with regard to traffic were unavailability of parking spaces (as reported in 23% of kheseqs), followed by heavy traffic (17%), lack of public space for children (17%), broken roads (11%) and vehicles going too fast (8%). Unavailability of parking spaces was most reported in Bayangol (33%), Sukhbaatar (31%), and Nalaikh (30%), while heavy traffic was most reported in Bayangol, Bayanzurkh and Khan-Uul (22% in all).

Primary security problems by district (% of kheseqs)

	No parking	Heavy traffic	Lack of public space for children	Broken roads	Vehicles going too fast
Total	23%	17%	17%	11%	8%
Bagakhangai	0%	0%	17%	50%	0%
Baganuur	29%	0%	29%	18%	6%
Bayangol	33%	22%	17%	4%	4%
Bayanzurkh	20%	22%	13%	13%	7%
Chingeltei	23%	12%	19%	15%	8%
Khan-Uul	16%	22%	15%	9%	12%
Nalaikh	30%	2%	24%	24%	10%
Songinokhairkhan	16%	15%	19%	13%	11%
Sukhbaatar	31%	13%	14%	6%	9%

## I.10 Children and education

Across Ulaanbaatar city, 30 per cent of children aged between 0 and 5 were reportedly not attending kindergarten. A much lower three percent of children aged between 6 and 17 were reportedly not attending school. Rates of children not attending kindergarten were found to be highest in Nalaikh (36%), Bayangol (35%) and Bayanzurkh (33%). Bayanzurkh district, which hosts the highest number of children aged between 6 and 17 (77,346), also reports the highest rates of children not attending school (4%).

Key informants were also asked about the existence of problems with regard to education. In 39 per cent of khesegs, no educational problems were reported. The top two problems with regard to education were found to be distance to schools (26%) and low quantity of schools and classrooms (20%), which would lead to problems of overcrowding. Distance to schools was most reported as a problem in Sukhbaatar and Khan-Uul (both 32%), while the quantity of schools or classrooms was reported as a problem in Bayanzurkh (27%) – where the educational attendance was found to be lowest. Poor quality education was reported as a problem in only six per cent of khesegs across the whole of Ulaanbaatar city, but was found to be very pertinent in Bagankhangai, where it was reported as a problem in 50 per cent of khesegs.

Share of children not attending school (% of children)

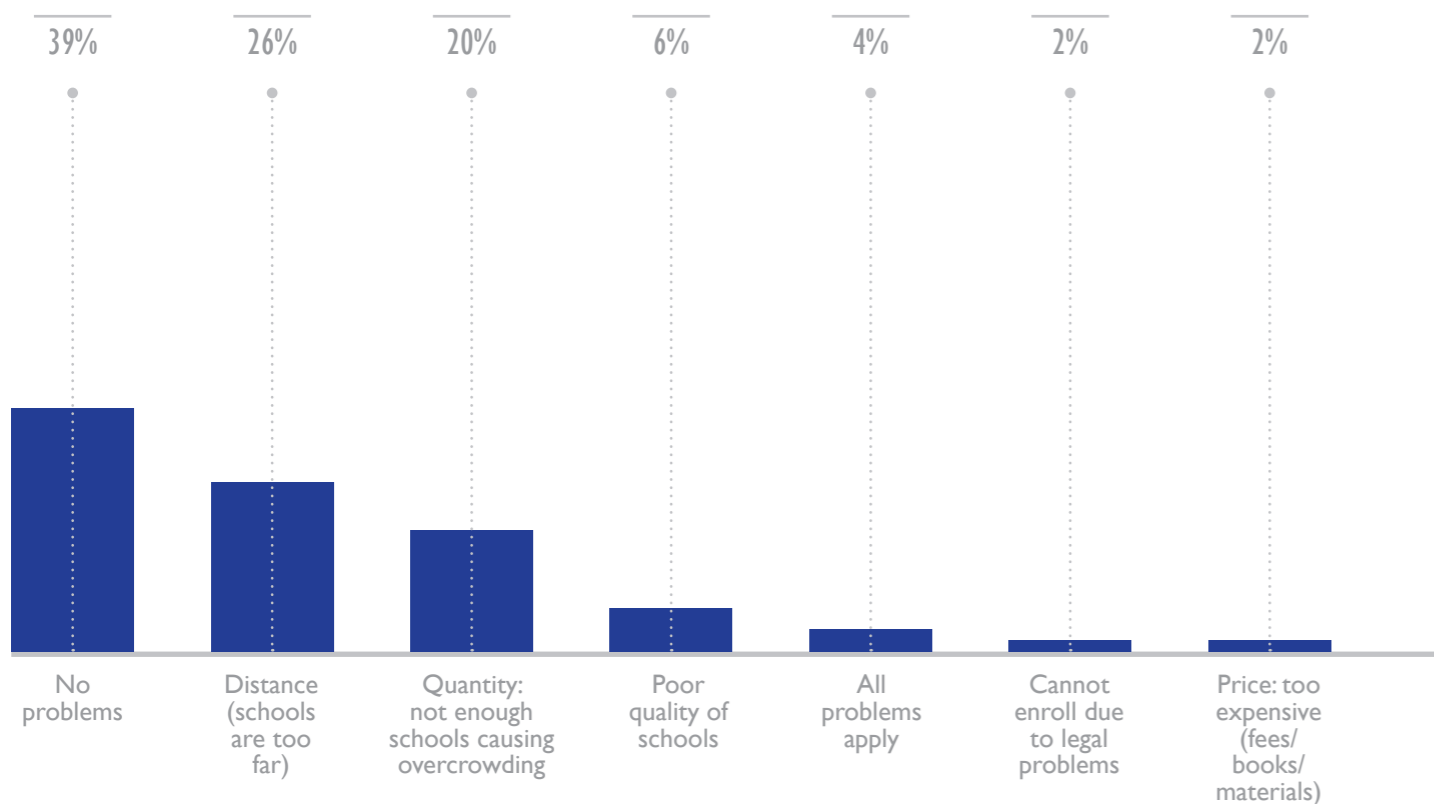
### Children aged 0 - 5 not going to school



### Children aged 6 to 17 not going to school

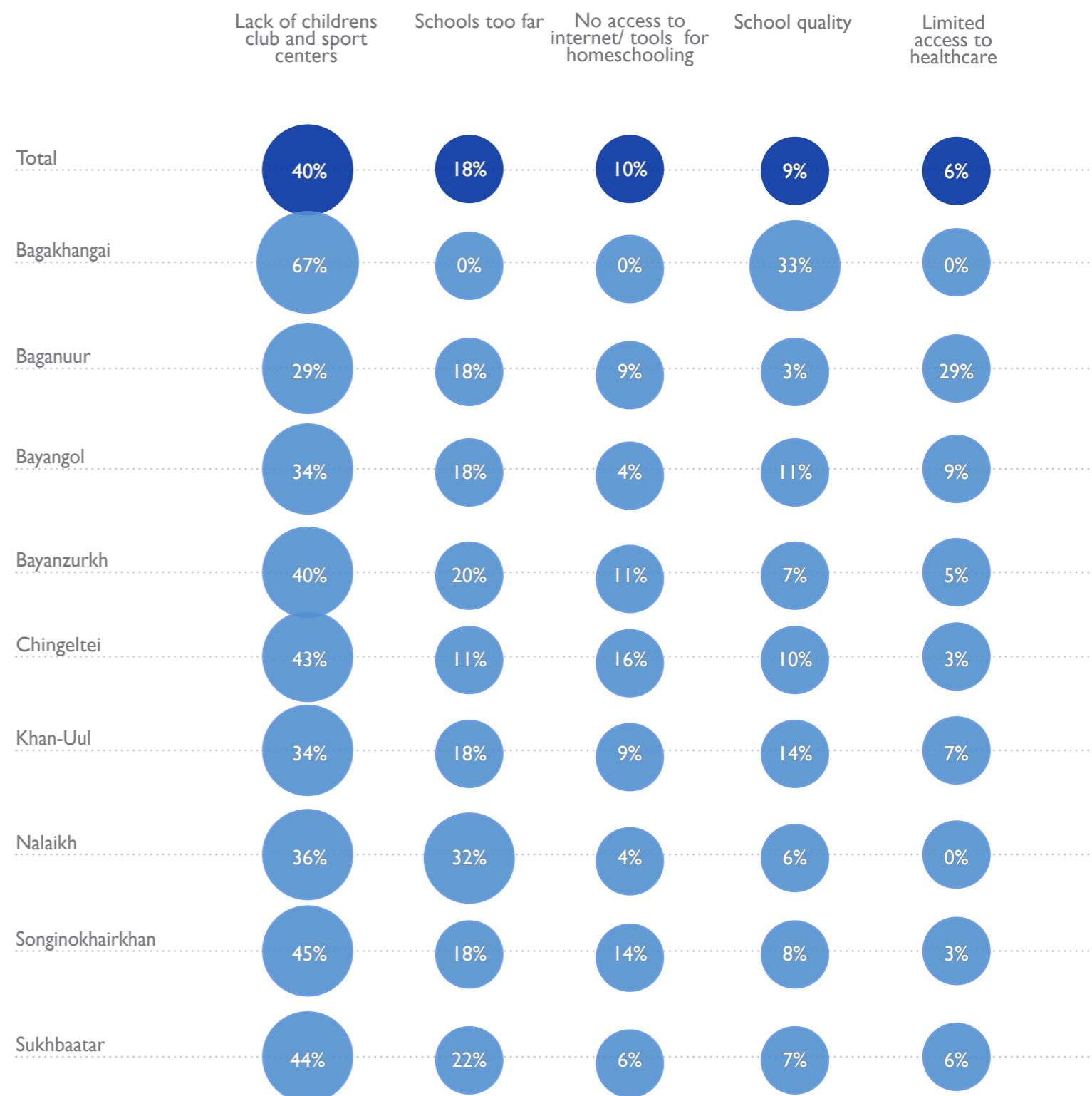


Primary problem linked to education (% of khesegs)



In order to explore the situation of children more broadly, key informants were also asked about the primary problems facing children in their khesegs. The most pressing issue across Ulaanbaatar was found to be a lack of children's clubs and sports centres (as reported in 40% of khesegs), followed by distance of schools (18%), and lack of access to internet or other tools for homeschooling (10%). The most important educational challenge for children in Nalaikh district – which reports the highest proportional percentage of children – was found to be a lack of children's clubs and sports centres.

Primary problem faced by children by district (% of khesegs)



# Conclusions & Recommendations

## Conclusions

The findings of this report place an emphasis on socioeconomic challenges, especially pertaining to individuals who are out of work, have poor income and face difficulties in finding job opportunities. Indeed, across the capital city, the service which people have the most difficulty accessing is that of livelihood opportunities, and the three most pressing challenges are insufficient income (47%), unemployment (23%), and debt (13%). Furthermore, 30 per cent of the working-age population are reportedly out of employment. These factors will likely have significant impacts on households' abilities to ensure food security.

Songinokhairkhan district reported the highest estimated level of individuals having had experienced an income reduction, as well as having lost all their income. This is likely to have a significant negative affect on food security – a finding that is confirmed by the data: a critically high 60 per cent of khesegs report rumours of inhabitants having had reduced food consumption and 51 per cent report that inhabitants are worried about not having enough food to eat.

Both food and income insecurity were found to be higher in ger-regions than in apartment or mixed-regions, which will likely have important negative implications in these regions, such as higher crime rates, poorer health, and less social cohesion.

Overall, three percent of children aged between 6 and 17 were reported as not attending school. The most important education-related problem was found to be distance to schools (26%), which likely contributes to the severe problems of traffic congestion across the city. A much higher 30 per cent of children aged between 0 and 5 were found to not be attending kindergarten, which will likely mean that parents, especially mothers, will be kept out of the labour force while they look after their children.

## Recommendations

- Support out-of-work individuals by stimulating local economies, particularly that of the private sector. It is especially advised to support the establishment and growth small and medium-sized businesses that lie outside of the industrial sector by providing financial incentives.
- Provide short-term targeted support to the most vulnerable households, for example by distributing food baskets, especially in ger-regions and other locations where income and food security is most critical.
- Build new kindergartens and out-of-school centers to ease parental burdens of unpaid labour, increase in-work rates, and stimulate public and private sector employment.
- Further explore and analyze the reasons behind large-scale income losses in districts such as Songinokhairkhan.
- Conduct a more detailed investigation on the potential linkage between distance from schools and traffic congestion problems.
- Further refine DTM data collection tool to separate intra and inter city movement and find the origin location of arrivals and the place of departure for departures.
- Further refine the DTM tool to get a better understanding of the reasons underlying movement by further clarifying 'family reasons' and providing a more comprehensive list of reasons for arrival and departures.



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This report is part of the outputs under the initiative "Understanding and managing internal migration in Mongolia", which is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and implemented by IOM. The objective of this project is to strengthen the evidence-based formulation and implementation by mainstreaming internal migration and development policy in Mongolia through the use of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). The report was designed by Vittorio Bruni, with support from Gereltogtokh Ganbat and Manaltsogzol Bolor-Erdene. Survey questions and designs were designed with key inputs from DTM team and Municipality of Ulaanbaatar. Survey data was collected and analysed using IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) tool, with technical guidance and support from IOM's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, and the Global DTM Support Team.