

# Hunger at the household level: A baseline study of food security in Madriz Province, Nicaragua



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## Introduction

- “Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life” (WFS, 1996). FAO,
- Nicaragua is the second poorest country in Latin America (IFAD, 2012).
- Currently, 20% of Nicaragua’s population is undernourished (FAO, 2013).
- Previous research suggests that Nicaragua, in recent years, has promoted a model of comprehensive care for rural and urban production, actions that have reduced the level of chronic malnutrition.
- UNICEF (2004) has classified Madriz province as having both high and very high vulnerability to food insecurity.

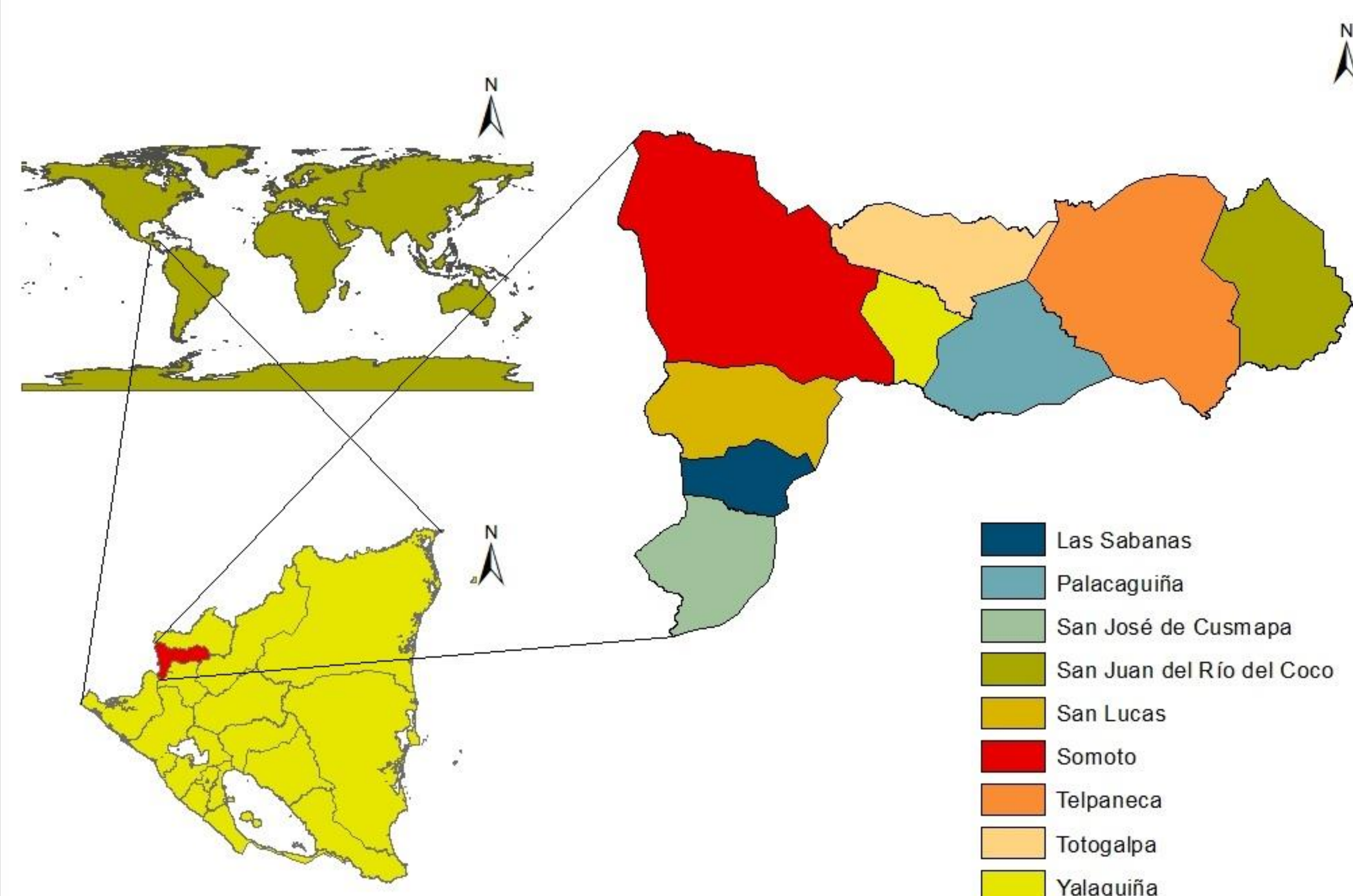
## Purpose

- To create a baseline for food security in 13 communities of the Madriz province in North-Central, Nicaragua.

## Methods

- The instrument used for data collection was surveys on household food security status, including dietary habits and food consumption, income, and food preparation customs.
- Descriptive analysis were performed using SPSS Statistics.

Department of Madriz, Nicaragua



## Results

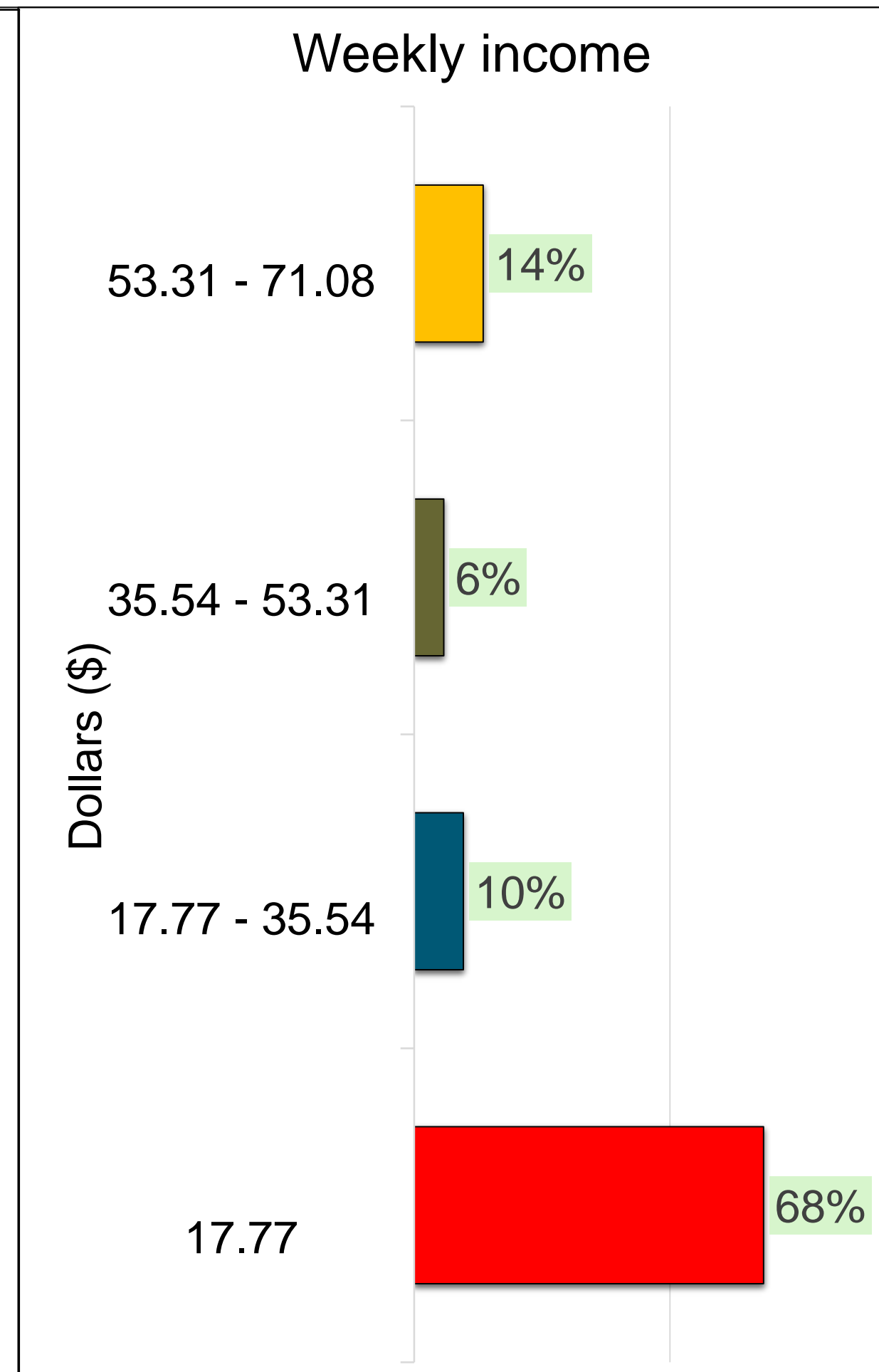
### Demographic information

	Female	Male	Total=N
N	75	83	158
Number of household members over 21	136	134	270
Number of household members under 21	127	128	255
Employment	43	88	131

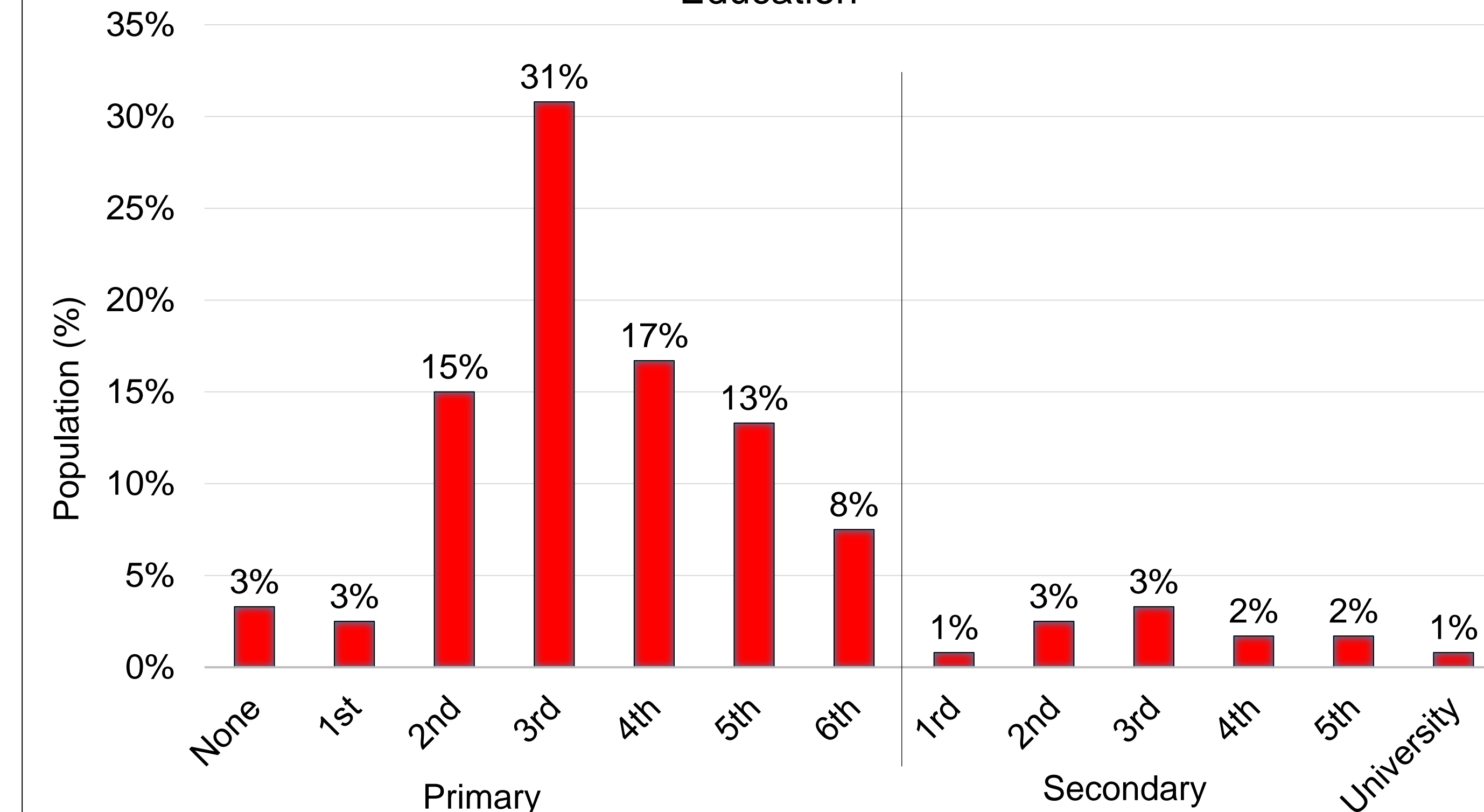
\*Data is presented at frequency.

### Weekly income, investment and education

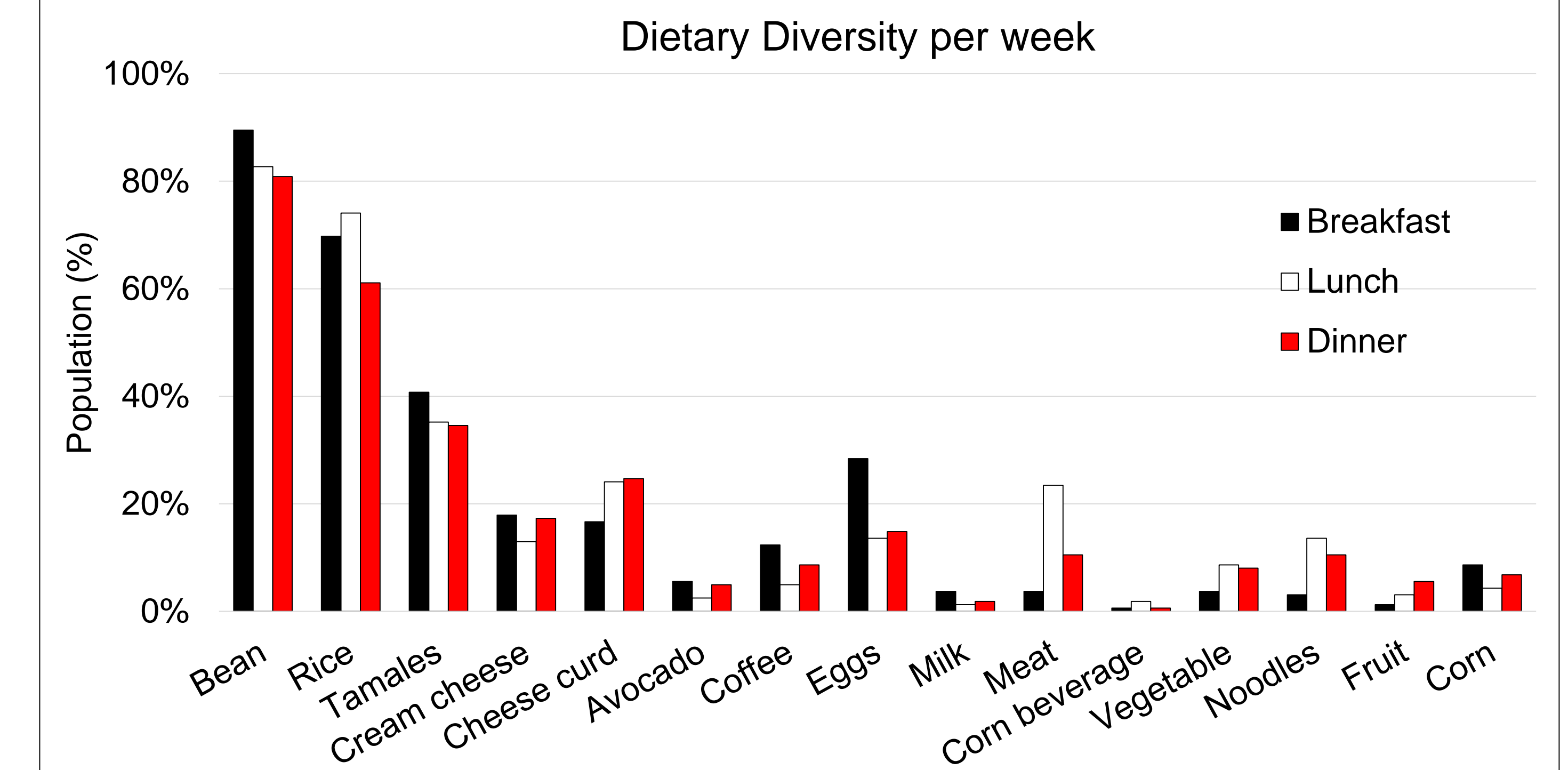
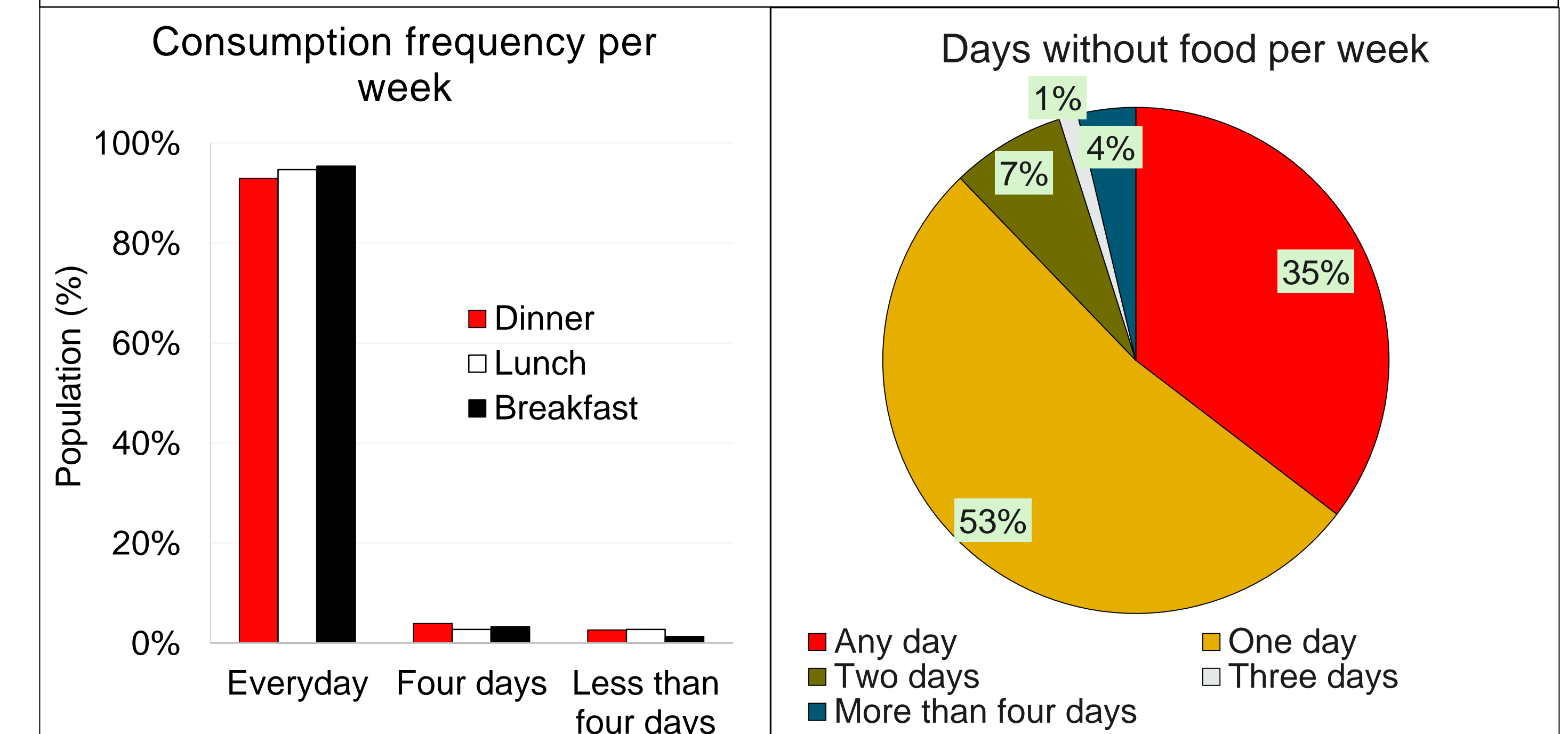
Product	Pounds	Dollars (\$)
Rice	7.80	2.88
Beans	6.40	3.63
Corn	21.0	3.71
Oil	1.50	1.96
Sugar	5.60	2.14
Salt	2.40	0.39
Coffee	3.00	2.02
Cheese	1.80	3.14
Beef	2.60	5.61
Pork	2.40	5.74
Chicken	4.20	3.79
Milk	4.20	1.44
Pasta	3.40	1.53
Flour	3.90	1.58
Fruit	12.1	1.95
Vegetables	4.60	2.17
Corn beverage	4.00	4.22
Milk powder	4.00	1.12
Cow's milk	4.10	1.73



### Education



### Food consumption pattern



## Conclusion

- Financially, men (88, 67%) are breadwinners. The most demanded product in the household is corn (21 pounds per week) and the most expensive product consumed is pork meat (5.74 dollars per week).
- Sixty eight percent of the population has a weekly income of 18 dollars and only 14% of the population has a weekly income between 53-71 dollars.
- Eighty nine percent of the population has only primary studies.
- The results show that 95% of the population consumes breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily. However, 53% of the population goes to bed hungry at least one day per week because of lack of food in the household.
- The principal diet of the population consists of beans, rice, and tamales. However, almost 30% of the population sometimes consumes cheese, egg, milk, meat, fruits, and vegetables.

## References

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