



Sources for sick child care in *Kenya*

One in a series of analyses by SHOPS Plus

July 2018





Purpose of this analysis

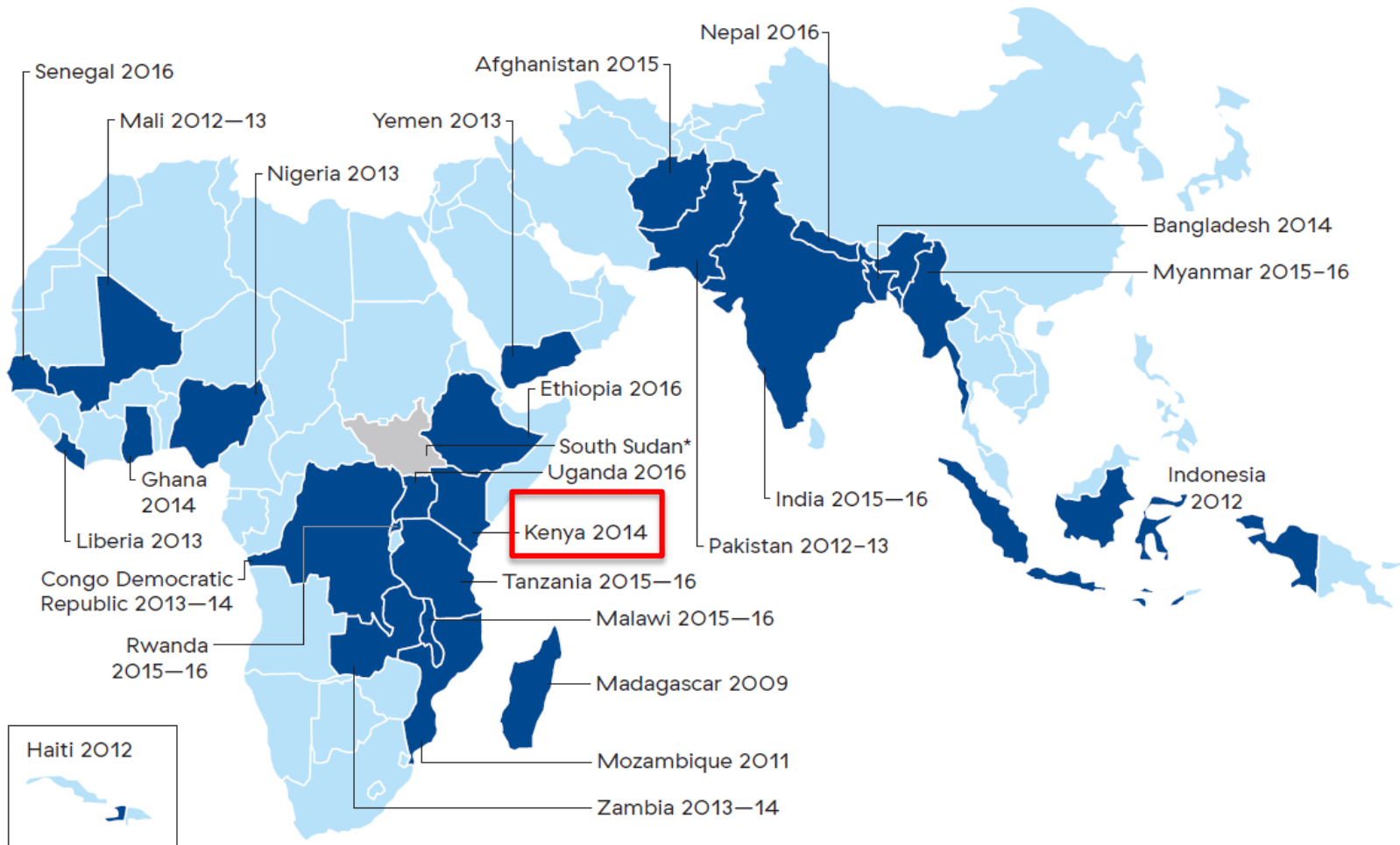
- Understand whether and where Kenyan caregivers seek advice and treatment for their sick children
- Examine differences in care-seeking patterns by illness and socioeconomic levels, and within public and private sectors
- Share data in a usable format
- **Inform policies and programs to prevent child deaths**





Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data analyzed from 24 priority countries

USAID priority countries analyzed using Demographic and Health Survey data



*No DHS data are available for South Sudan.



Kenya 2014 DHS data: Interviews with mothers of young children

Mothers of children five years old or younger were asked:



- Whether their children had experienced fever, symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI), or diarrhea in the past two weeks
 - If yes, asked whether they had sought advice or treatment from any source
 - If yes, asked where they had sought advice or treatment



This analysis will tell you:

1. What percentage of children in Kenya experience fever, ARI symptoms, and/or diarrhea?
2. What percentage of caregivers seek advice or treatment outside the home for children with these illnesses?
3. Among those who seek out-of-home care, what are the sources?
 - a) Public, private, other
 - b) Clinical vs. non-clinical
4. How do patterns of care-seeking vary by:
 - a) Illness: fever, ARI, diarrhea
 - b) Countries within the East and Southern Africa region
 - c) Wealth quintile: poorest and wealthiest Kenyans



How frequently do children in Kenya experience fever, ARI symptoms, and/or diarrhea?

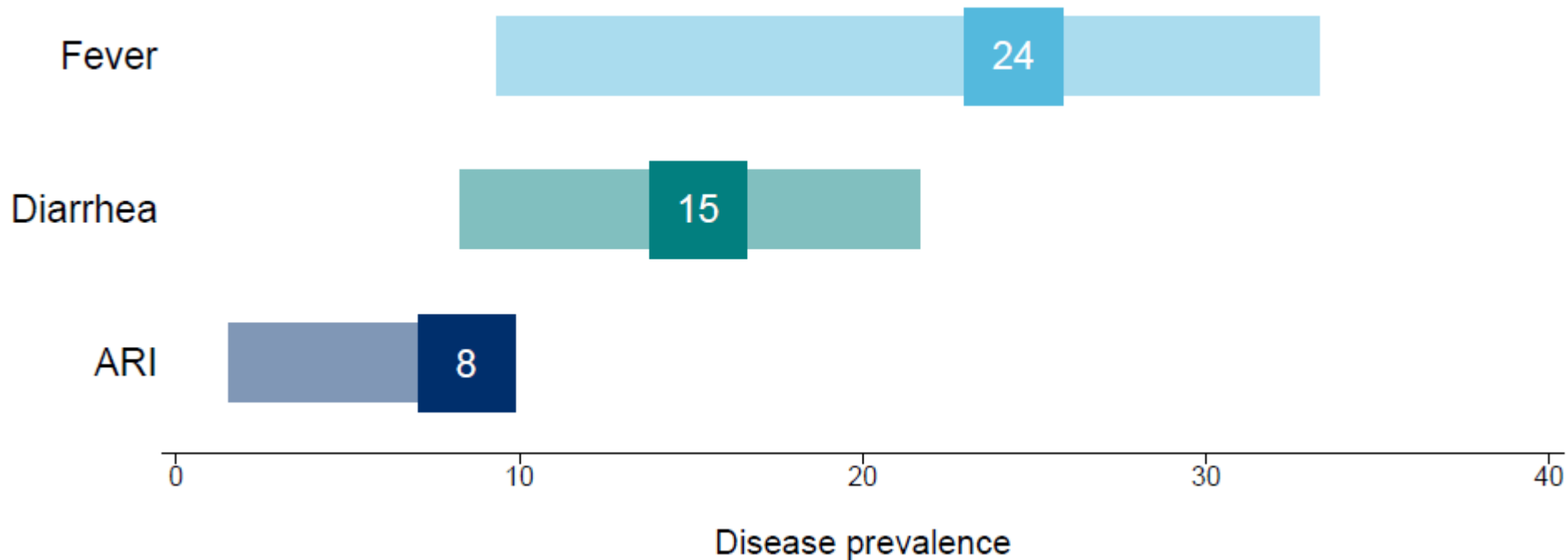




Kenya's childhood disease prevalence is mid-range among countries in East and Southern Africa

Bars show **range** across East and Southern African USAID priority countries; squares show **Kenya**

Illness prevalence: Kenya and East and Southern Africa





1 out of 3 children in Kenya experienced fever, ARI symptoms, and/or diarrhea in the last 2 weeks.



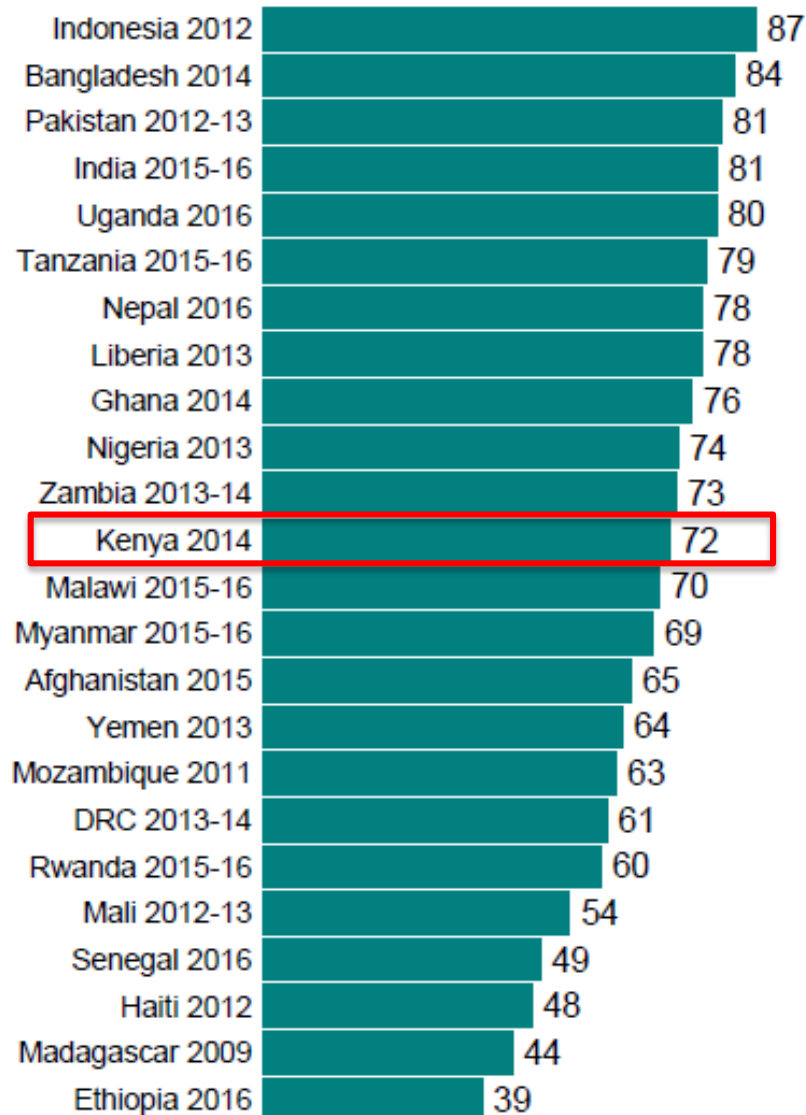


How frequently is out-of-home care sought for Kenyan children with these illnesses?





Kenya's care-seeking level is mid-range compared to in other USAID priority countries



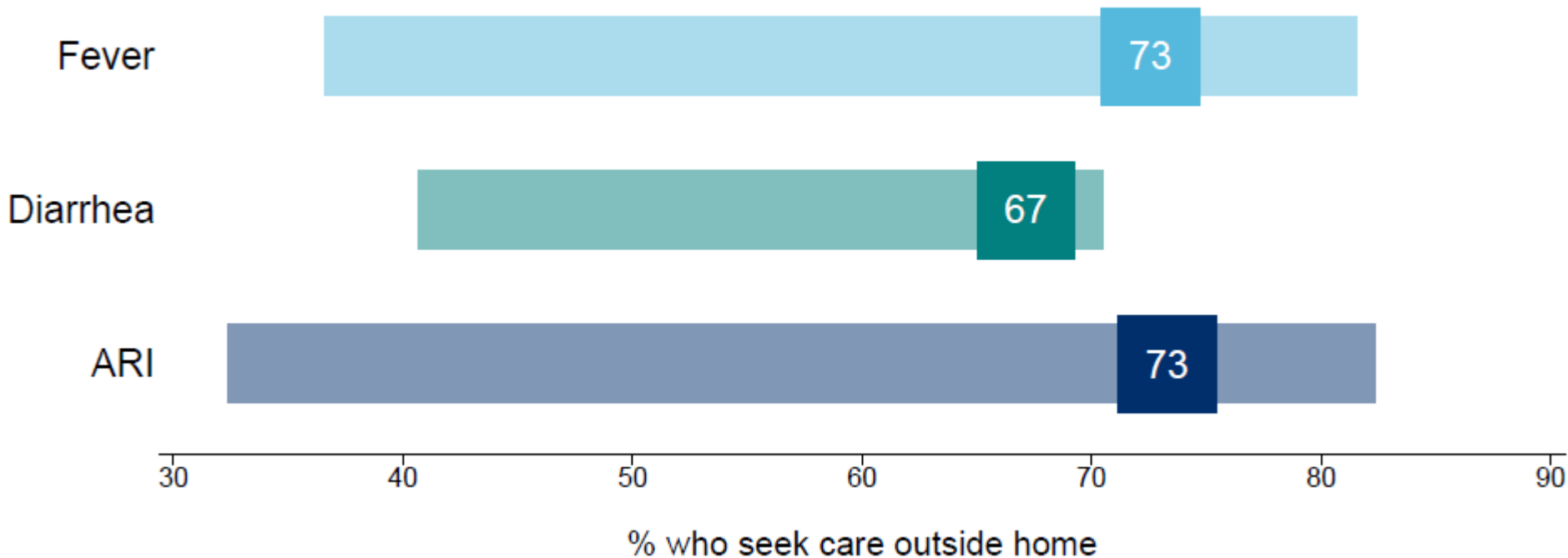
% of caregivers who seek treatment for children with any of the three illnesses in each of the 24 USAID priority countries analyzed



Kenya's care-seeking levels are among the highest in the region

Bars show **range** across East and Southern African USAID priority countries; squares show **Kenya**.

Caregivers who seek care outside the home: Kenya and East and Southern Africa





Among Kenyans who seek
out-of-home care, what are the
sources?

Public, private, other



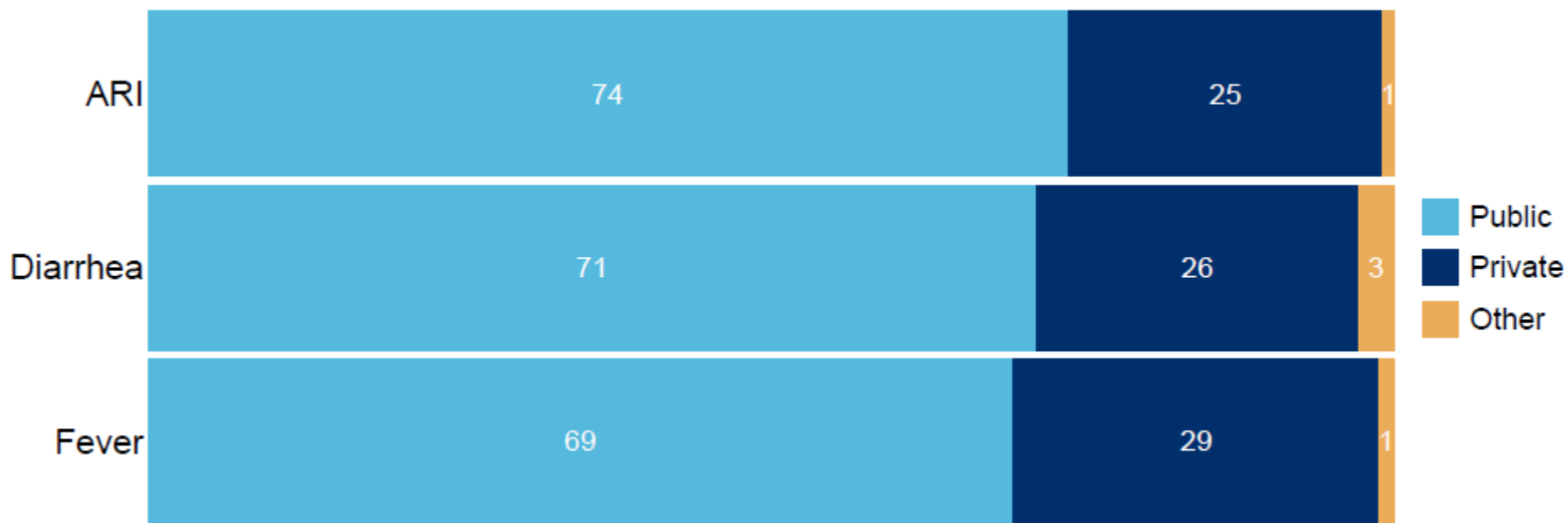


Sources of care

Public sector	Private sector	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Hospitals, health centers, mobile clinics, dispensaries· Community health workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Private clinics, hospitals, and doctors· Faith-based organizations· Pharmacies and shops	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Traditional practitioners, friends, and relatives



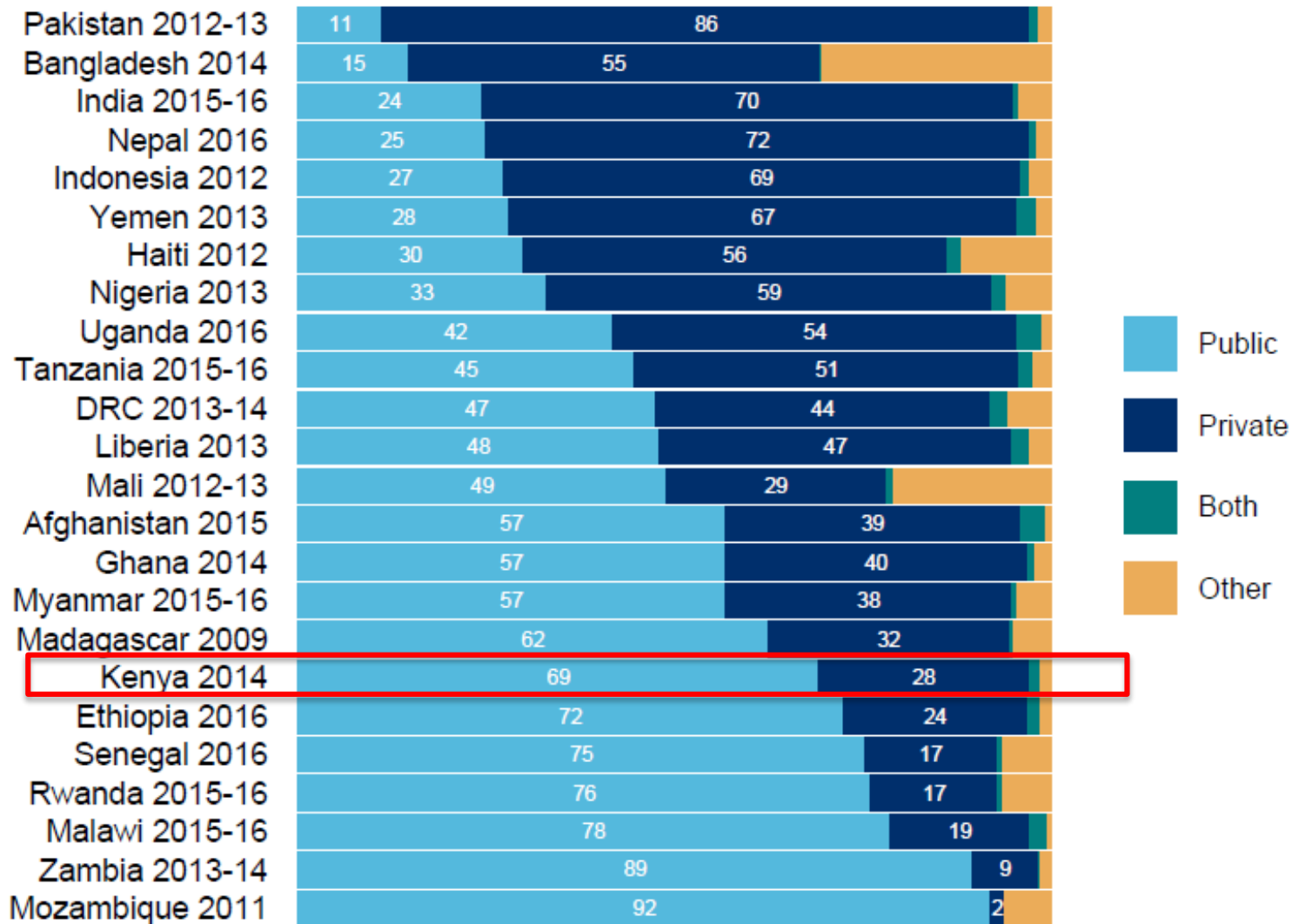
Across illnesses, the **public** sector is the dominant source of care in Kenya



Source among Kenyans who seek sick child care outside the home



As in other USAID priority countries in the region, Kenya's public sector is the primary source of care





Among caregivers who seek sick child care outside the home, **28%** seek treatment or advice from private sector sources and **69%** from public sector sources. An additional **2%** use other sources.



■ Public source ■ Private source ■ Both ■ Other



Sources of care: Clinical versus non-clinical





Sources of care: Clinical and non-clinical

	Public sector	Private sector
Clinical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Hospitals· Health centers· Mobile clinics· Dispensaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Private clinics, hospitals, doctors· Faith-based organizations
Non-clinical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Community health workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Pharmacies and shops



Almost all **public sector** clients go to clinical sources

Public sector:

99%

Clinical



1%

Non-clinical



Private sector:

57%

Clinical



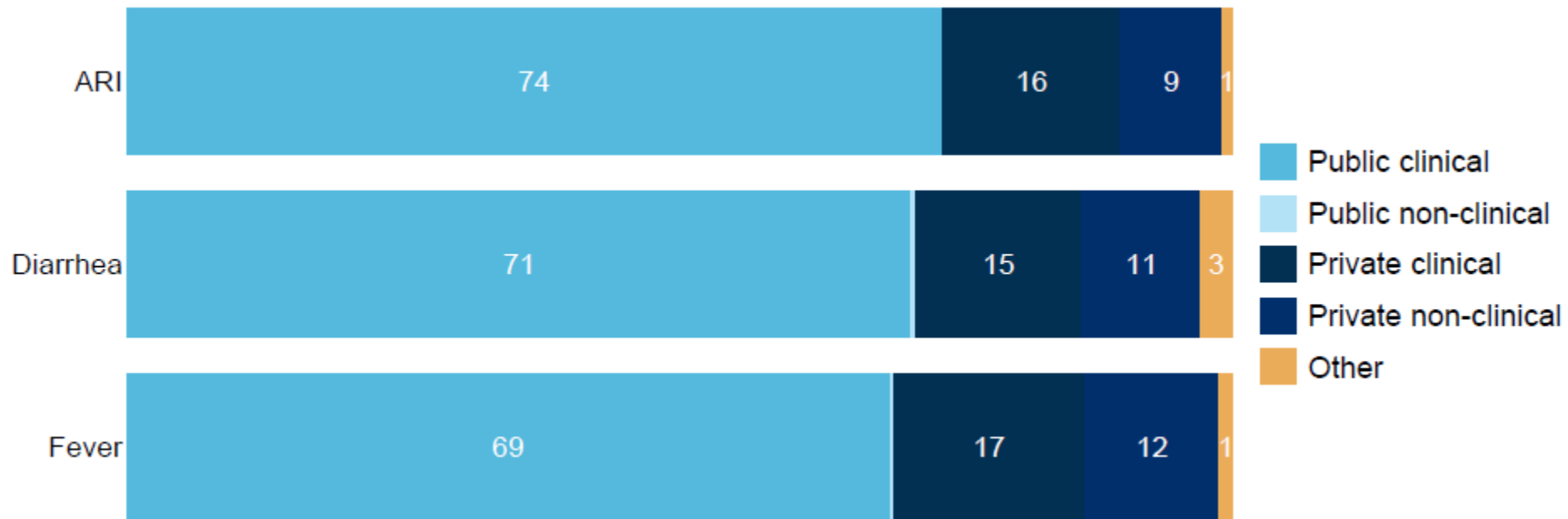
43%

Non-clinical





By illness: *Little variation* in clinical vs. non-clinical sources of care



Source among Kenyans who seek sick child care outside the home



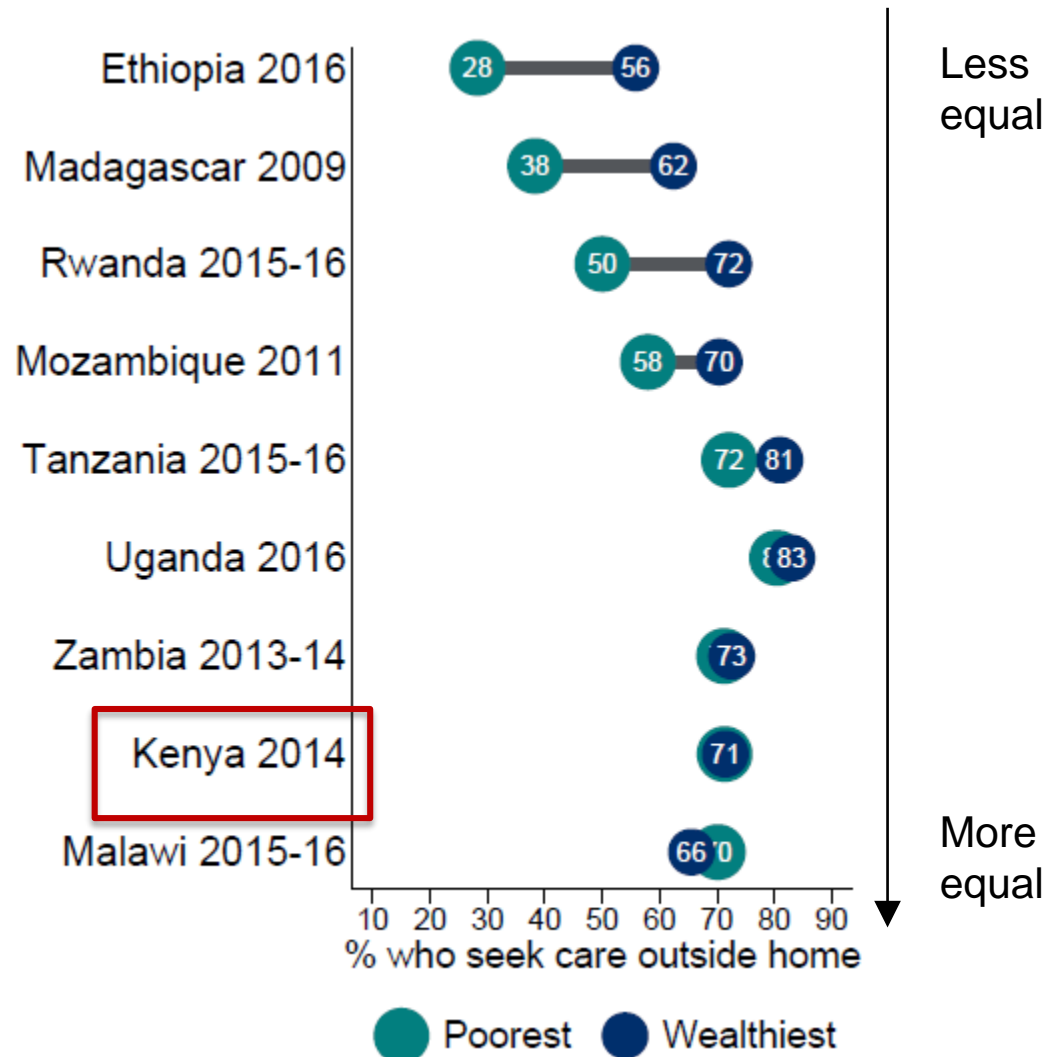
How do patterns of care-seeking vary between the poorest and wealthiest Kenyans?





Kenya's care-seeking levels are completely equitable across income

- Wealthiest
- Poorest





Care-seeking sources in Kenya vary substantially across **income levels**



Source among those who seek care outside the home

Q1 = poorest

Q5 = wealthiest



Public



Private



Both



Other

In Kenya, the public sector is dominant for the poorest families:

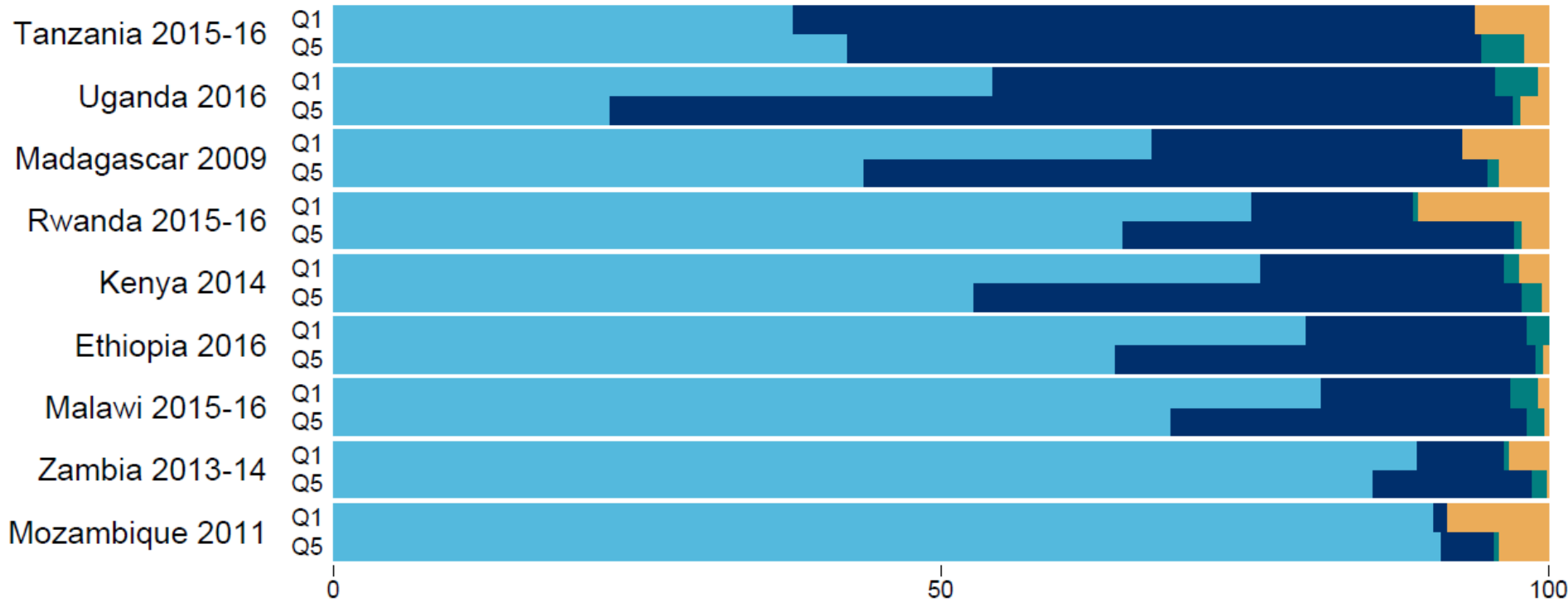
- 76% of poorest and 53% of wealthiest caregivers use the public sector

Private sector use is much higher among the wealthiest

- 20% of poorest and 45% of wealthiest caregivers use the private sector



In line with regional patterns, the public sector is dominant for Kenya's poorest, while the wealthiest use both public and private sectors



Source among those who seek care outside the home

Q1 = poorest
Q5 = wealthiest

Public Private Both Other



Summary

- **1 out of 3** children experienced a treatable illness in the past two weeks
- **72%** of caregivers seek treatment outside the home
 - Kenya has **no disparity** in care-seeking levels across income
- The **public sector** is the primary source of care
 - **69%** use the public sector
 - **28%** use the private sector
- Sources of care vary by income level
 - **76%** of the poorest and **53%** of the wealthiest use the public sector
 - **20%** of poorest and **45%** of wealthiest use private sources
- Clinical vs. non-clinical sources
 - Public sector: **99%** use clinical sources
 - Private sector: **57%** use clinical sources; **43%** use non-clinical sources



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Sustaining Health Outcomes through the Private Sector (SHOPS) Plus is USAID's flagship initiative in private sector health. The project seeks to harness the full potential of the private sector and catalyze public-private engagement to improve health outcomes in family planning, HIV, child health, and other health areas. SHOPS Plus supports the achievement of U.S. government priorities, including preventing child and maternal deaths, an AIDS-free generation, and Family Planning 2020.



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