



Addressing Child Labor through Livelihood Promotion

An Impact Evaluation of DOLE's Livelihood Assistance to the Parents of Child Laborers

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Disclaimer

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Overview

- Program Background
- Research Design
- Beneficiary Characteristics
- Findings
- Key Takeaways and Policy Lessons



Why Evaluate KASAMA?

Kabuhayan Para sa Magulang ng Batang Manggagawa

- Most recent estimate: **2.1m child laborers** in the Philippines
 - Philippine National Development Plan includes child labor target
- **Sustainable livelihood promotion** a tool to combat child labor
 - KASAMA running since 2008, 10% of DILEEP budget
- But limited evidence globally on the impact of sustainable livelihood promotion on child labor
 - Through this study, DOLE is continuing its tradition of global leadership on child labor issues



Basic Components of KASAMA

Kabuhayan Para sa Magulang ng Batang Manggagawa

- Targets poor households with child laborers
- One-time productive asset worth PHP 10,000
 - Selected by beneficiary
 - Delivered by DOLE or contractor (e.g. LGU)
 - Slightly more than a month's consumption for the median household
- Entrepreneurship development training (1-2 days)
 - Day 1 – business plan, select asset
 - Day 2 – Finance and accounting
- Child labor orientation (1 day)



Types of Assets Distributed

70 percent to petty retail

Enterprise Type	Percent of Total
Rice and Food Vending	38
Sari Sari	31
Fishing	7
Livestock	2
Other Farming	2
Sewing and Tailoring	2
Welding & Carpentry	2
Other Tools & Equipment	14
NEC	2





WICKEN
VOR

30
biscuits
Milk flavor

choco
filled
crackers
SUPREME

30
biscuits

58
cheese balls

CROP YEAR
DATE OF MILLING
MOISTURE
CONTENT
SUPPLIER'S NAME
ANAM NORTH
INDONESIA

ABC
FOOD PRODUCTS
SPECIAL FLOUR
WHEAT FLOUR

ENERGY GUIDE

Research Design

Research Questions

RQ1: What is the causal impact of KASAMA on **how the household generates its livelihood?**

RQ2: What is the causal impact of KASAMA on **the household's standard of living?**

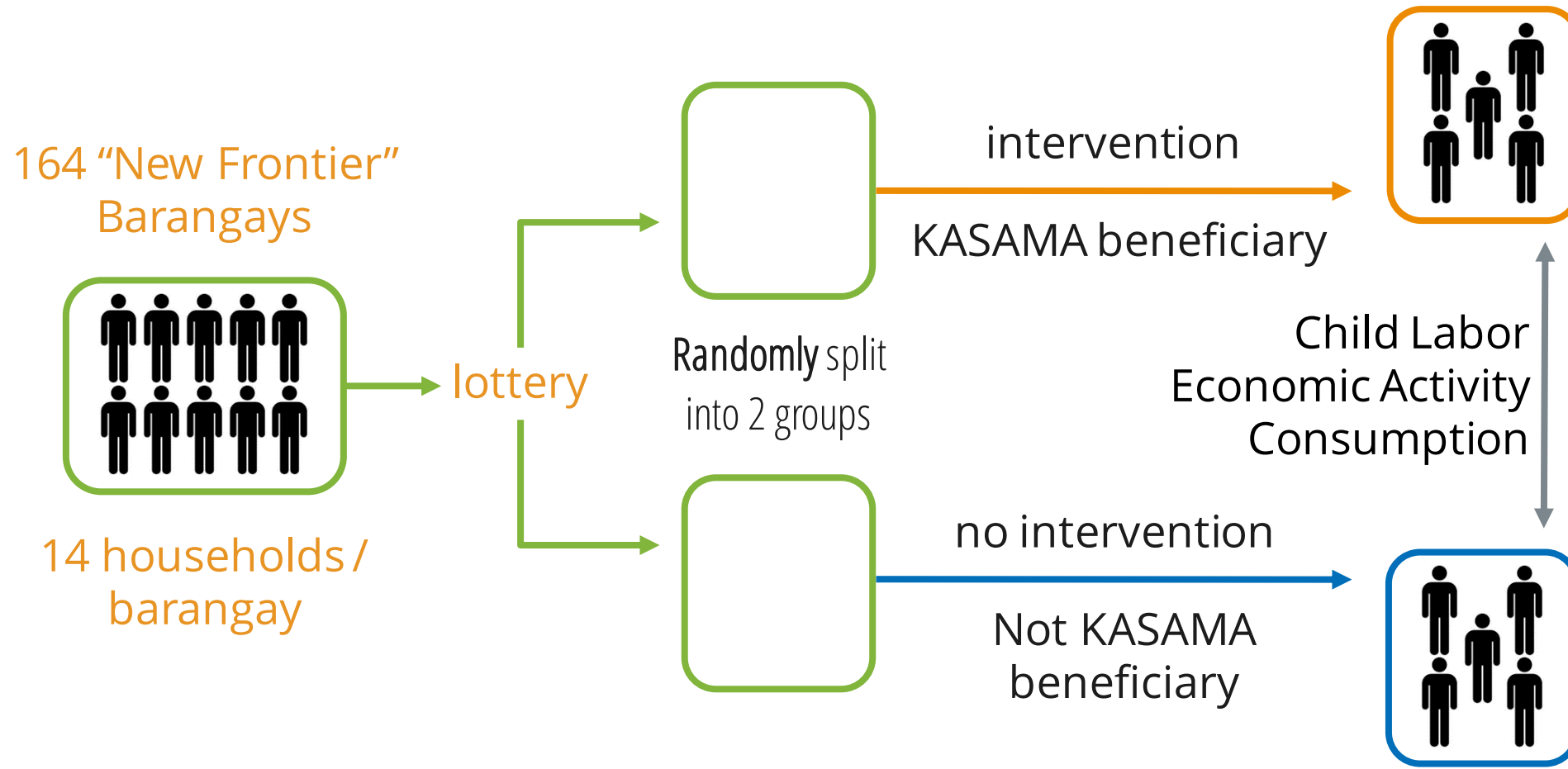
RQ3: What is the causal impact of KASAMA on **the prevalence of child labor amongst those already engaged?**

RQ4: What is the causal impact of KASAMA on **the entry into child labor?**



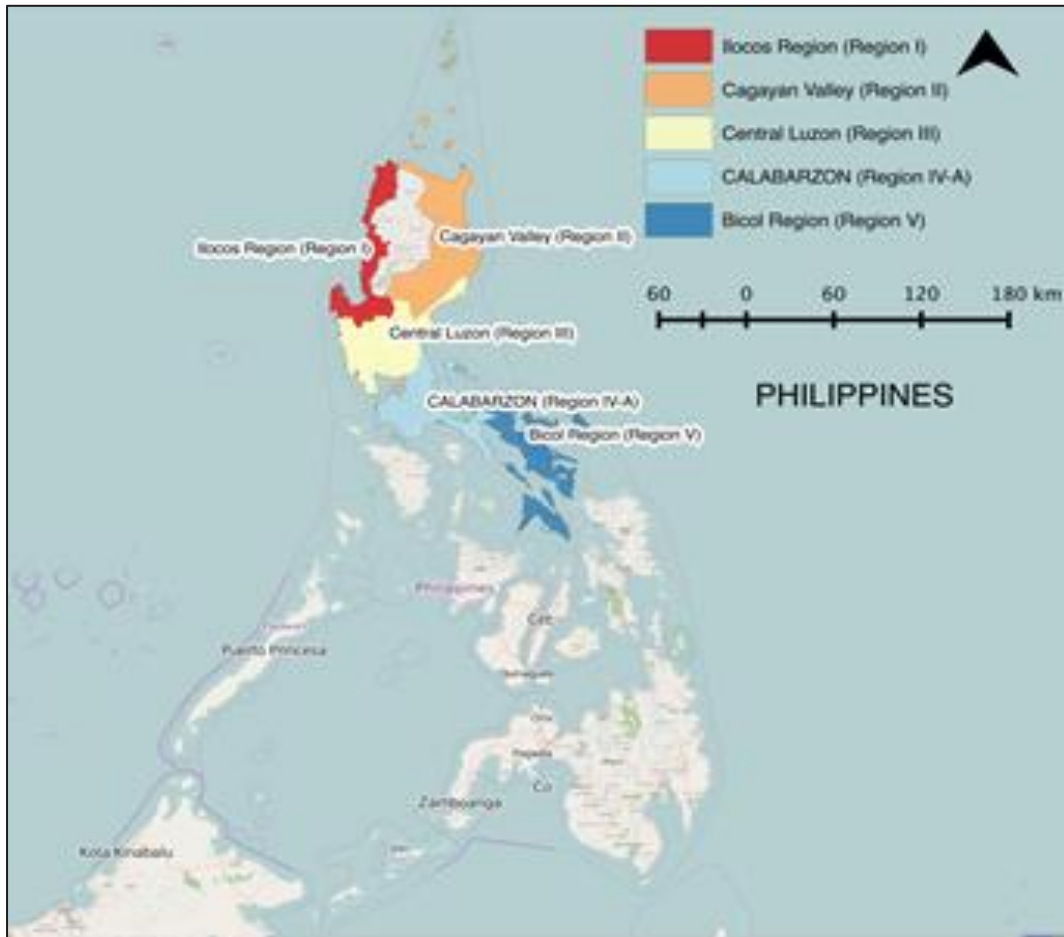
Research Design

Randomized Controlled Trial



Prevalence of Child Labor

Study Sample and Percentage Share of Child Laborers by Region



Region	Number of barangays	Number of households	Percentage Share of Country's Child Laborers
1	18	252	3.9
2	32	448	4.4
3	25	350	10.5
4A	34	476	8.3
5	55	770	10.4
Total	164	2,296	37.5



KASAMA Beneficiary Characteristics



KASAMA reaches its intended beneficiaries

Households are poor and have child laborers

Households drawn from the listahanan

DOLE succeeds in delivering KASAMA to targeted households

- 88 percent of listed households received benefits

The households are poor

- Living on PHP 70 per person per day

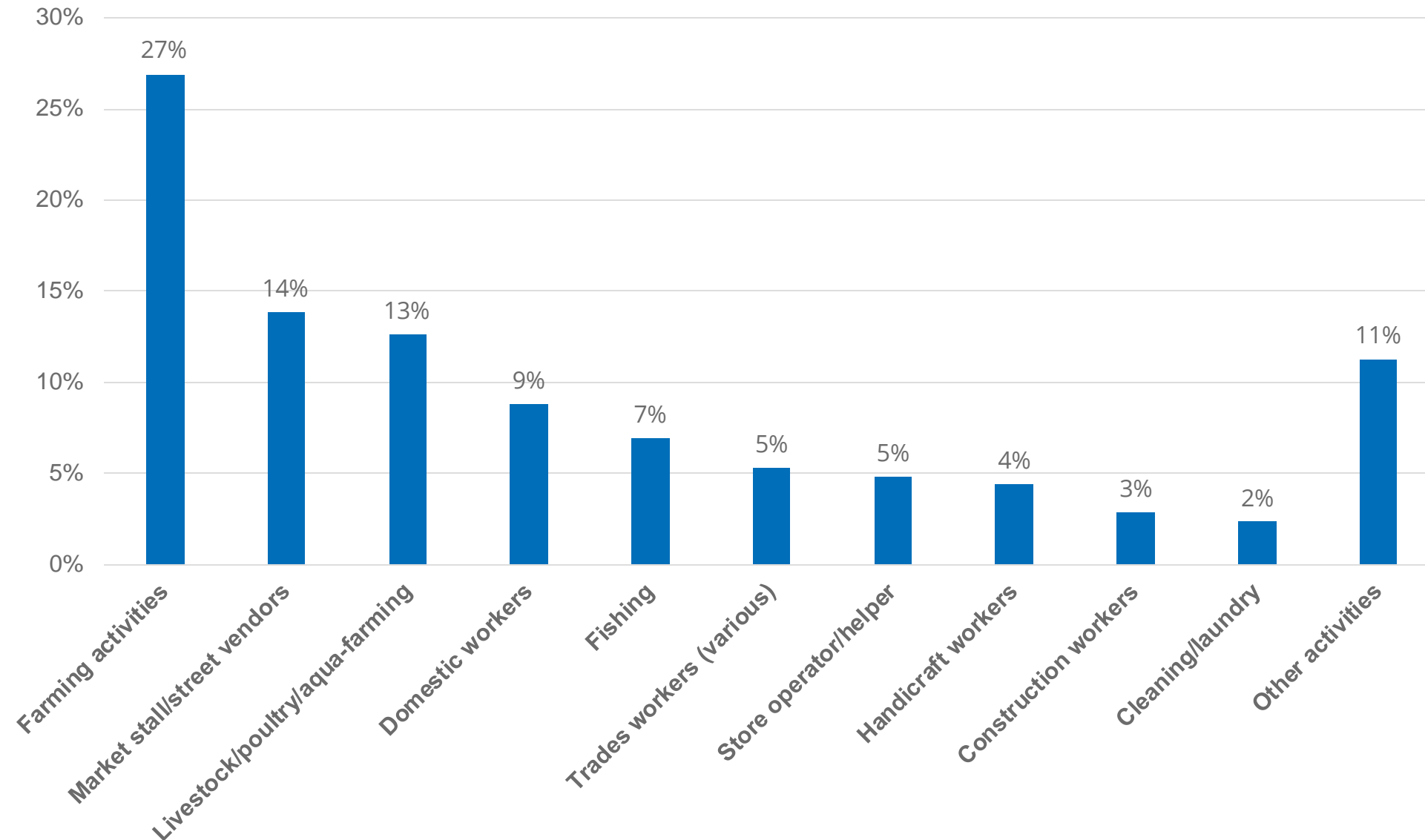
And have child labor present

- **84 percent** of households have child laborers.
- **Almost half** engaged in hazardous child labor in the past 12 months.



Activities of Child Laborers at Baseline

Children predominantly participate in farming activities and street vending



Impact Evaluation Findings



KASAMA Increases Economic Activity and Incomes

Non-farm enterprises ↑ 29%

New non-farm enterprises ↑ 61%

Family business income ↑ 11%

Farmland and livestock owned no change



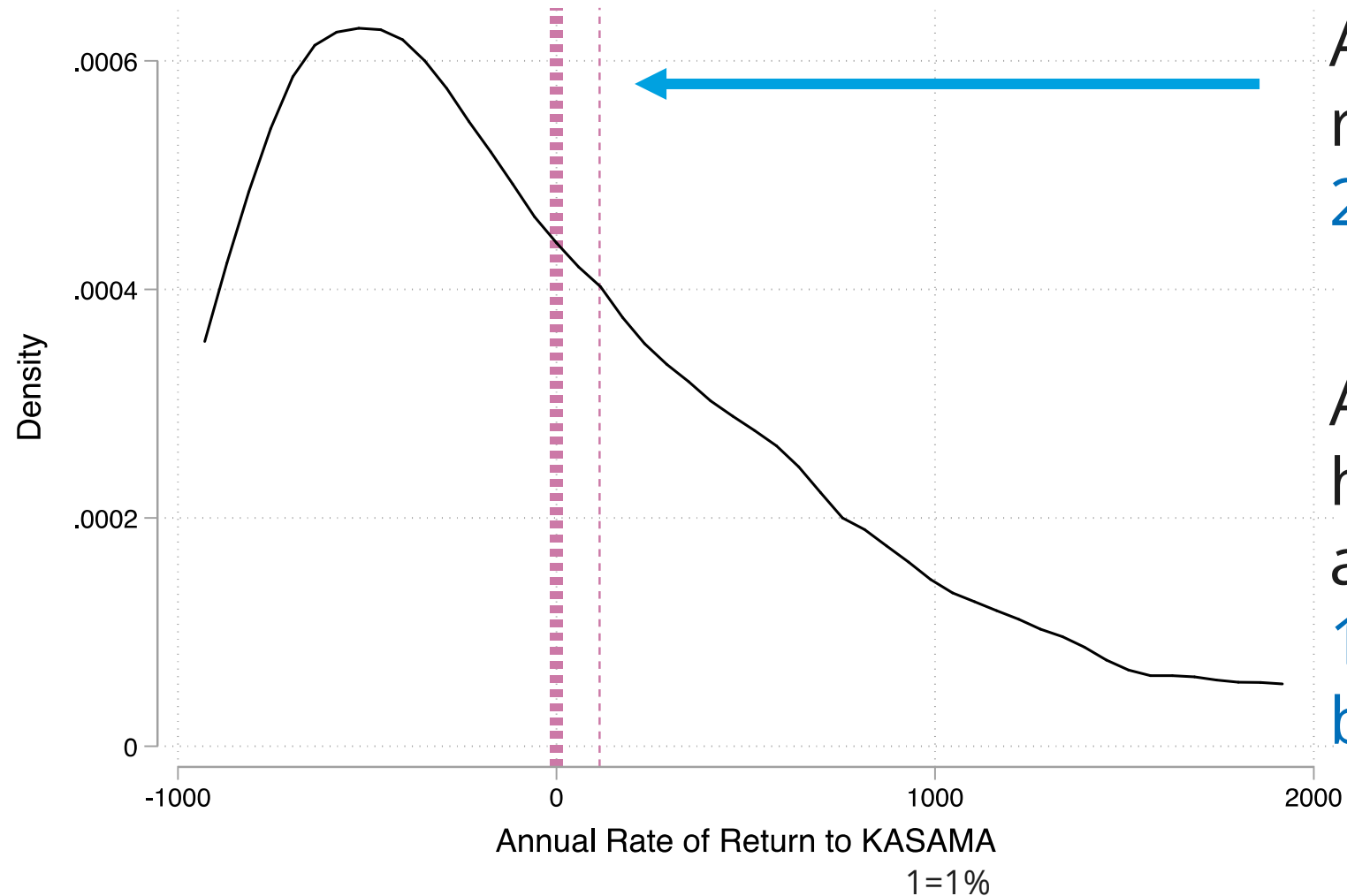
Livelihood Generation

RQ1: What is the causal impact of KASAMA on how the household generates its livelihood?



Rates of Return are Impressive

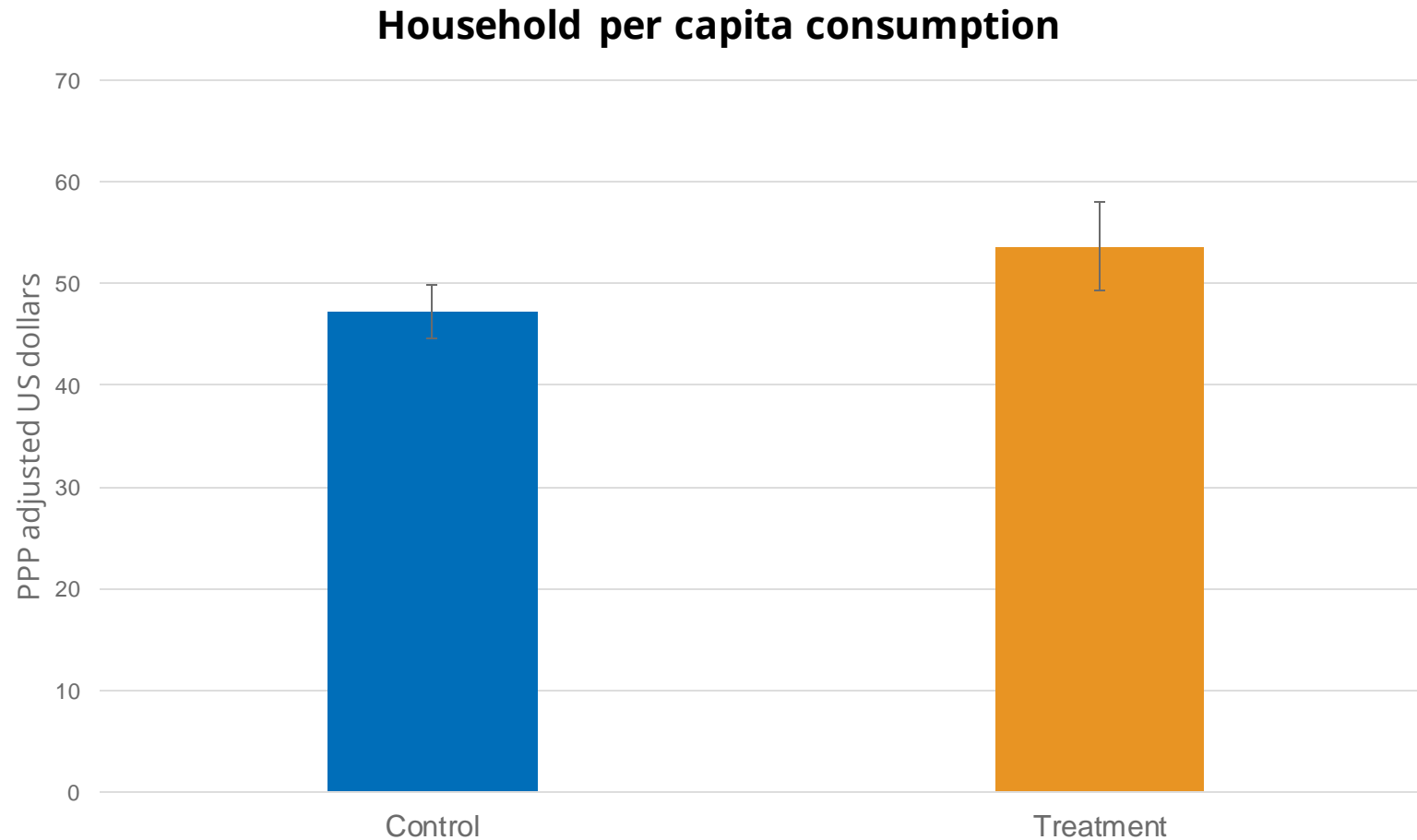
(For Some)



But more experienced entrepreneurs do better

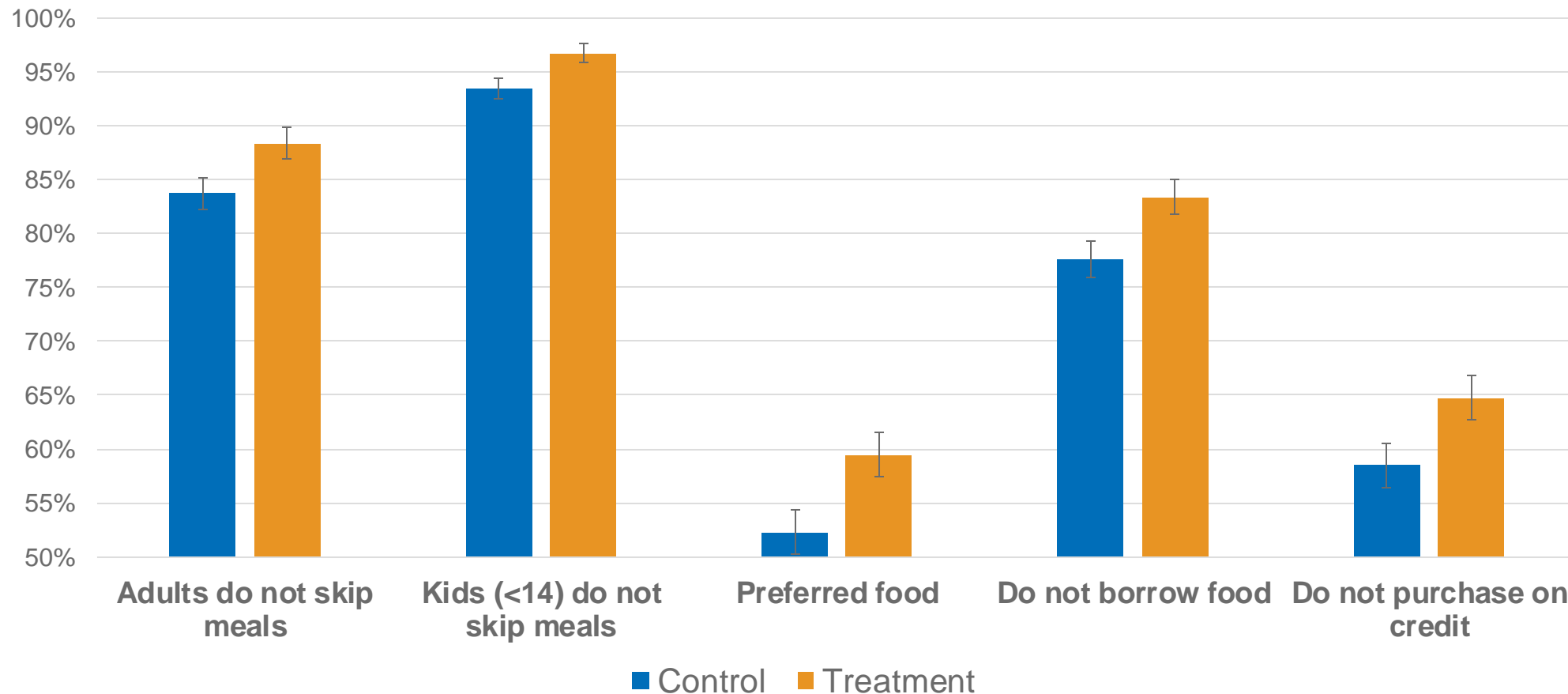


Per Capita Monthly Consumption Increases by 14%



KASAMA Increases Food Security

Skip less meals, eat more preferred foods, and rely less on others for food



Child Labor

RQ3: What is the causal impact of KASAMA on the prevalence of child labor amongst those already engaged?

RQ4: What is the causal impact of KASAMA on the entry into child labor?



Marginal Child Workers Enter the Labor Force

- On average, no impact on child labor
- But experience varies for different groups
- For children not in **child labor at baseline:**

Child employment in family-based economic activity

↑ 16%

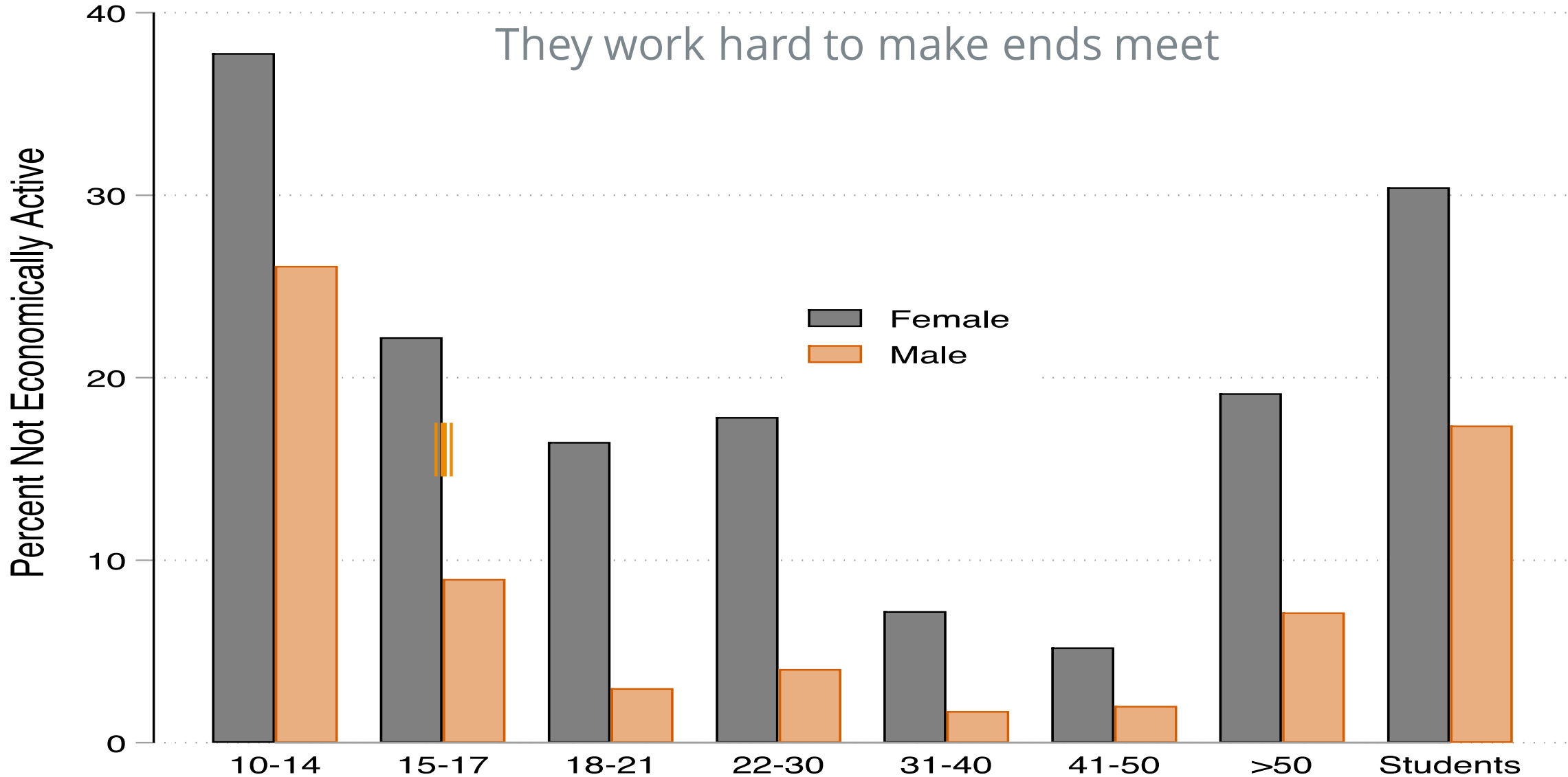
Adult employment in family-based economic activity

↑ 12%

↳ Mainly **women of child-bearing age and elderly women**



There is not a lot of surplus adult labor in these poor families



But Children Appear More Satisfied with their Lives

Improvements in child welfare

- Using an index that weights responses to life satisfaction questions, depression screener, and feelings about parents

Improvements in self assessed quality of live (+ 1/5 of a step)

- More "thriving" (+11%)
- Less "suffering" (-24%)



In Some Instances, Everyone Works More

Households already with a business (2/3 of households)

Experienced entrepreneurs earn higher rates of return on KASAMA

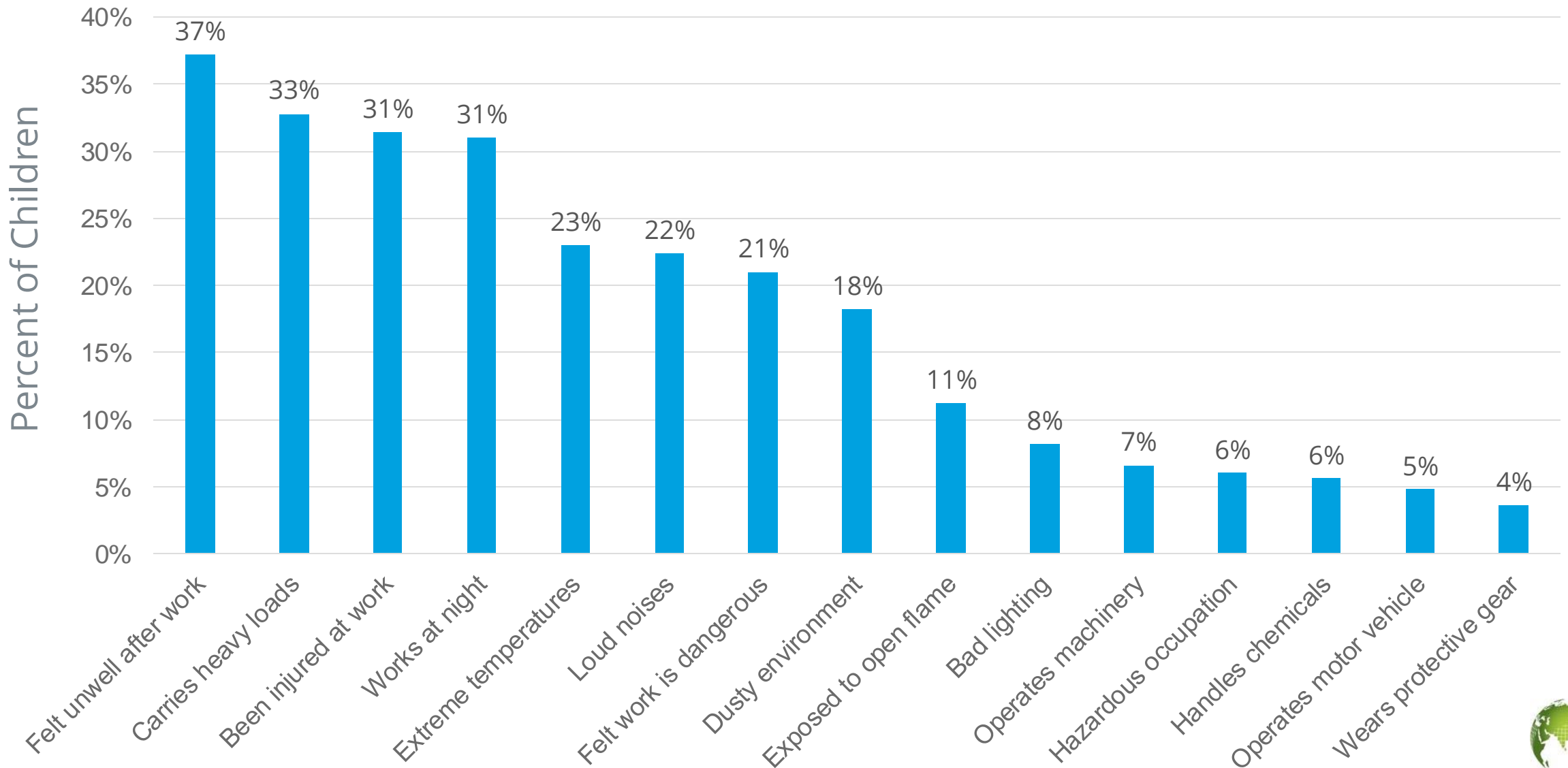
BUT, these households already work their family members more

- **Children in child labor at baseline:** work for **more hours** (+12%) and engage more outside the household (+33%)
- **Children not in child labor at baseline:** become child laborers (+32%) and increase in **hazardous child labor** (+48%)
- Child welfare improvements not evident



Why are These Activities Hazardous?

Children in hazardous child labor in households with non-farm enterprises at baseline



Takeaways & Policy Lessons



Key Takeaways

- 1 Lasting growth in household-based enterprises (after 15 months on average)
- 2 Improvements in consumption, food security, and child welfare in general
- 3 But marginal workers, including children, may start working
 - Highlights tension between helping families ameliorate their poverty through productive asset transfer and the goal of keeping children from working



Magnitudes

Beta*N/Take Up

1144 treated & recaptured households

- 961 report having received KASAMA benefits

By the endline survey, 15 months after benefit distribution on average

- KASAMA helped households create or save 476 enterprises
- KASAMA helped an additional 120 existing enterprises expand
- 2,256 children 12-17 in treated & recaptured homes at endline
 - An additional 75 children working (3% of sample)
 - 48 in hazardous child labor



Livelihood Outcomes

Those without Business Experience May Need More Assistance

Beneficiaries can benefit from [ongoing training and coaching](#)

- Most report business training piece of KASAMA not helpful
- Experienced entrepreneurs earned higher returns on KASAMA

DOLE and IPA are currently testing a more coaching-intensive approach ([Graduation of the Ultra-Poor Study](#))

- Results in December 2019



Child Labor Outcomes

Improving KASAMA

Questions, not answers

Subjects almost **never aware** that KASAMA is an anti-child labor program

- Most qualitative interviewees did not recall the **child labor orientation**

Scope for improvements in **child labor awareness**

- Synergies to be had with 4Ps child labor module in monthly discussion sessions

Today's findings are not informative about the impact of a radical change in the household's economic environment

- Some demand for completely new economic lives



Thank you

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