African Population and Health Research Center

Orphanhood and Schooling Outcomes Among the Urban Poor in Nairobi, Kenya

November 27, 2007

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Presentation Outline

- Background
- Study objectives
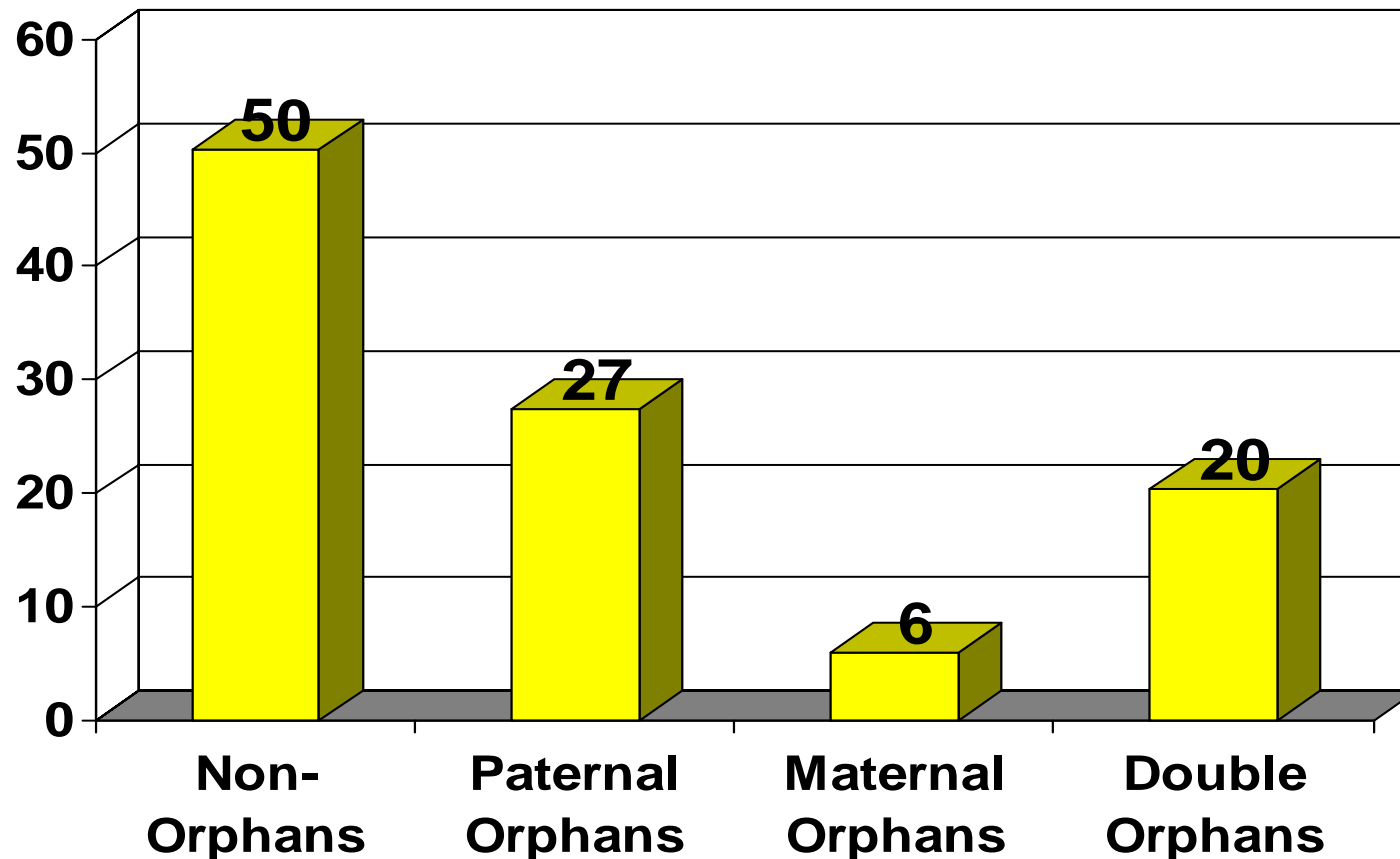- Data and methods
- Findings
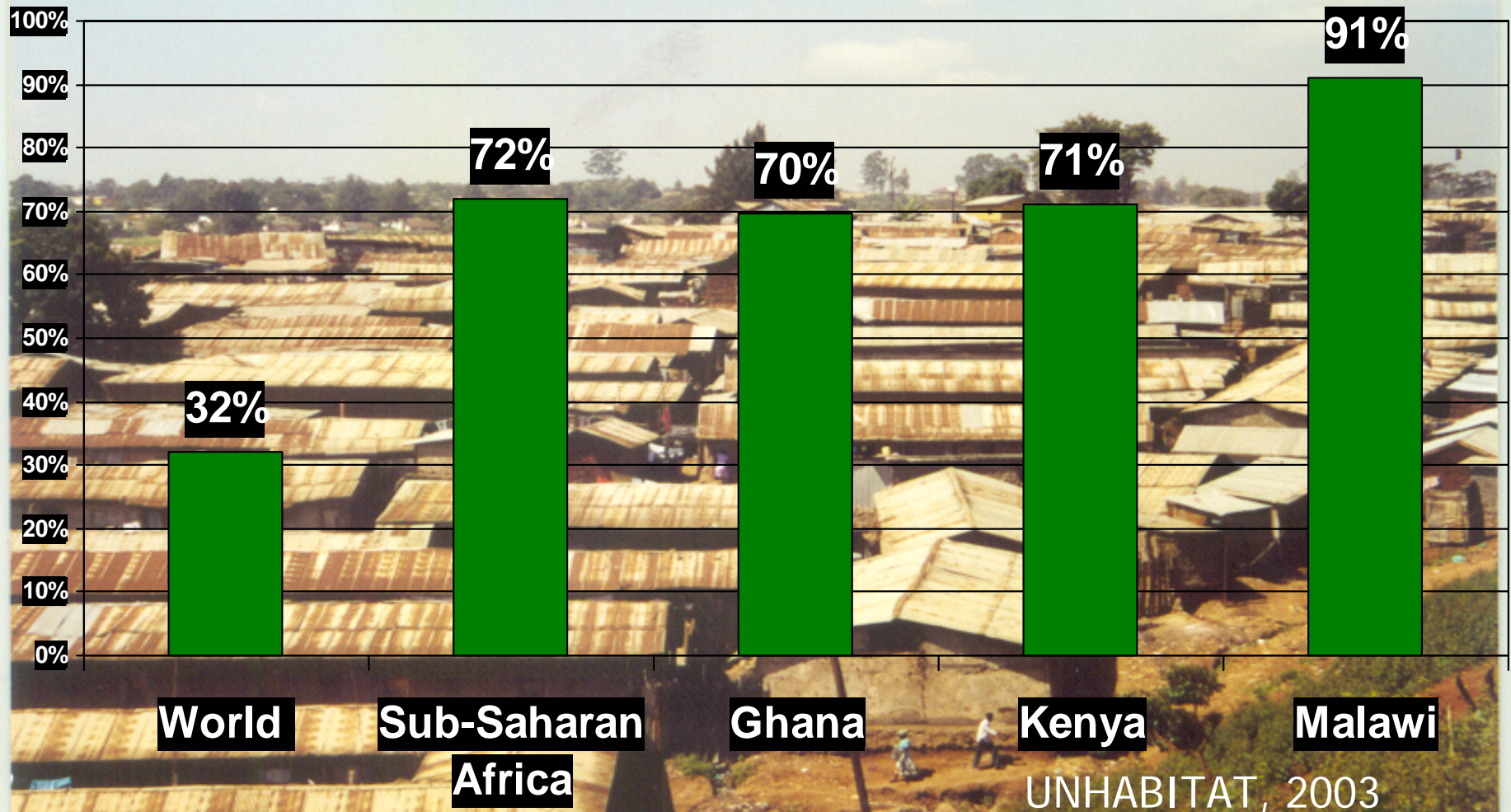- Implications

Orphans in Africa

- Children orphaned from all causes in sub-Saharan Africa was roughly 15 million at the end of 2006, and is expected to rise to 22 million by 2010 (UNICEF 2006).

- 31-77% of orphans in E&S Africa and 4-39% in the rest of Africa are AIDS orphans
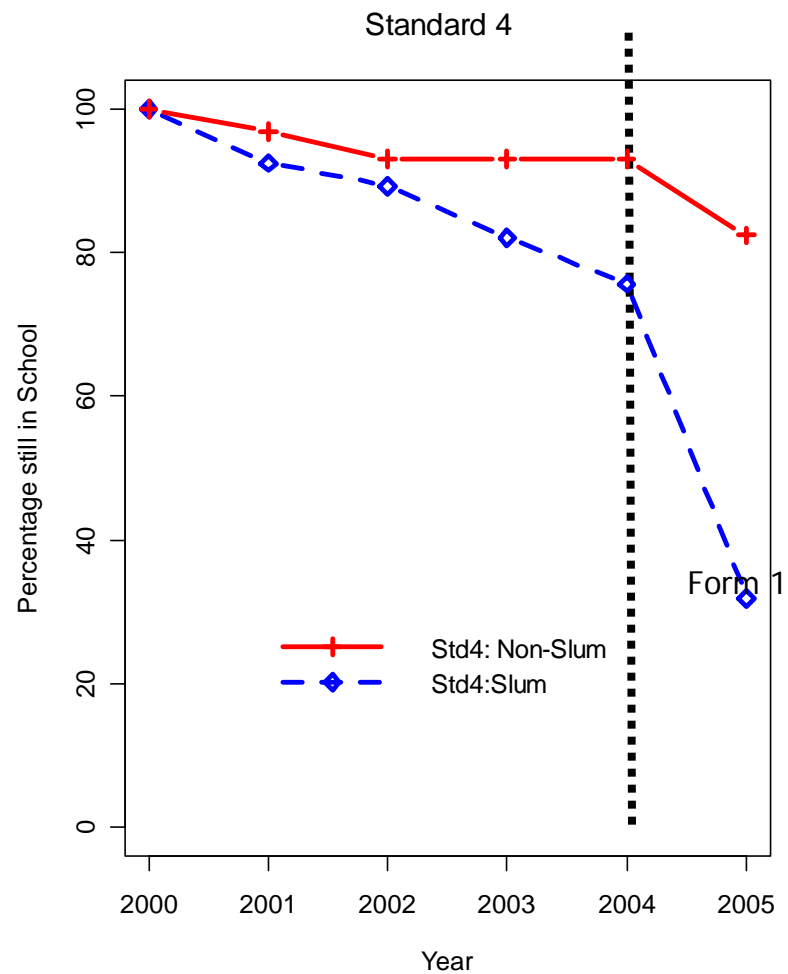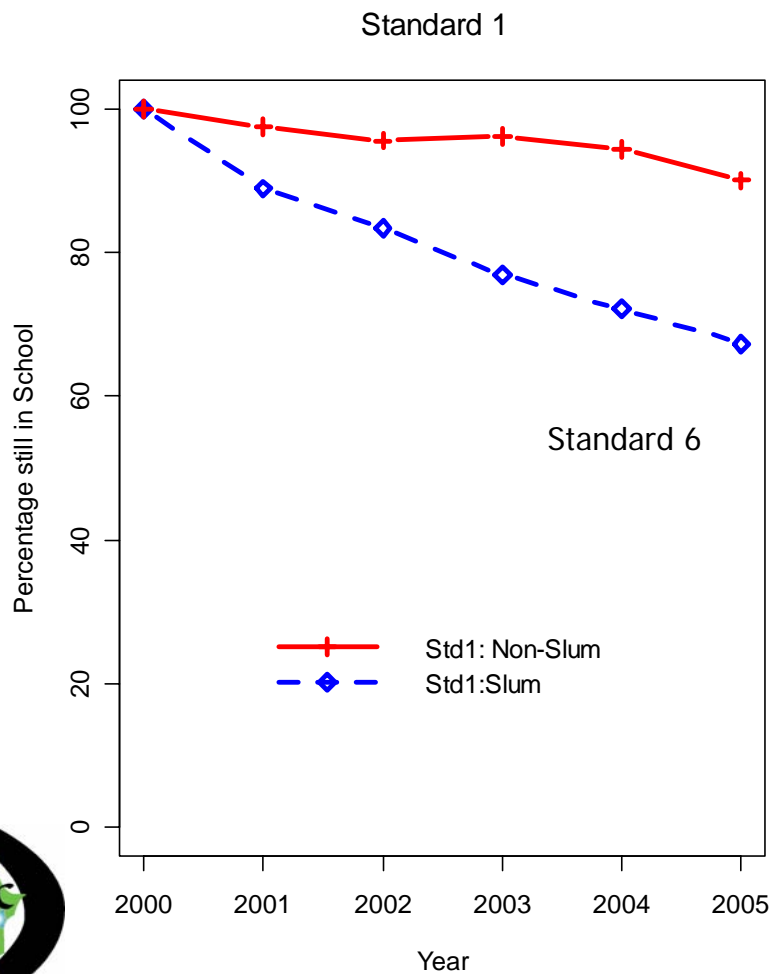
Percentage Distribution of children aged 6-14 by survival of parents, Nairobi slums
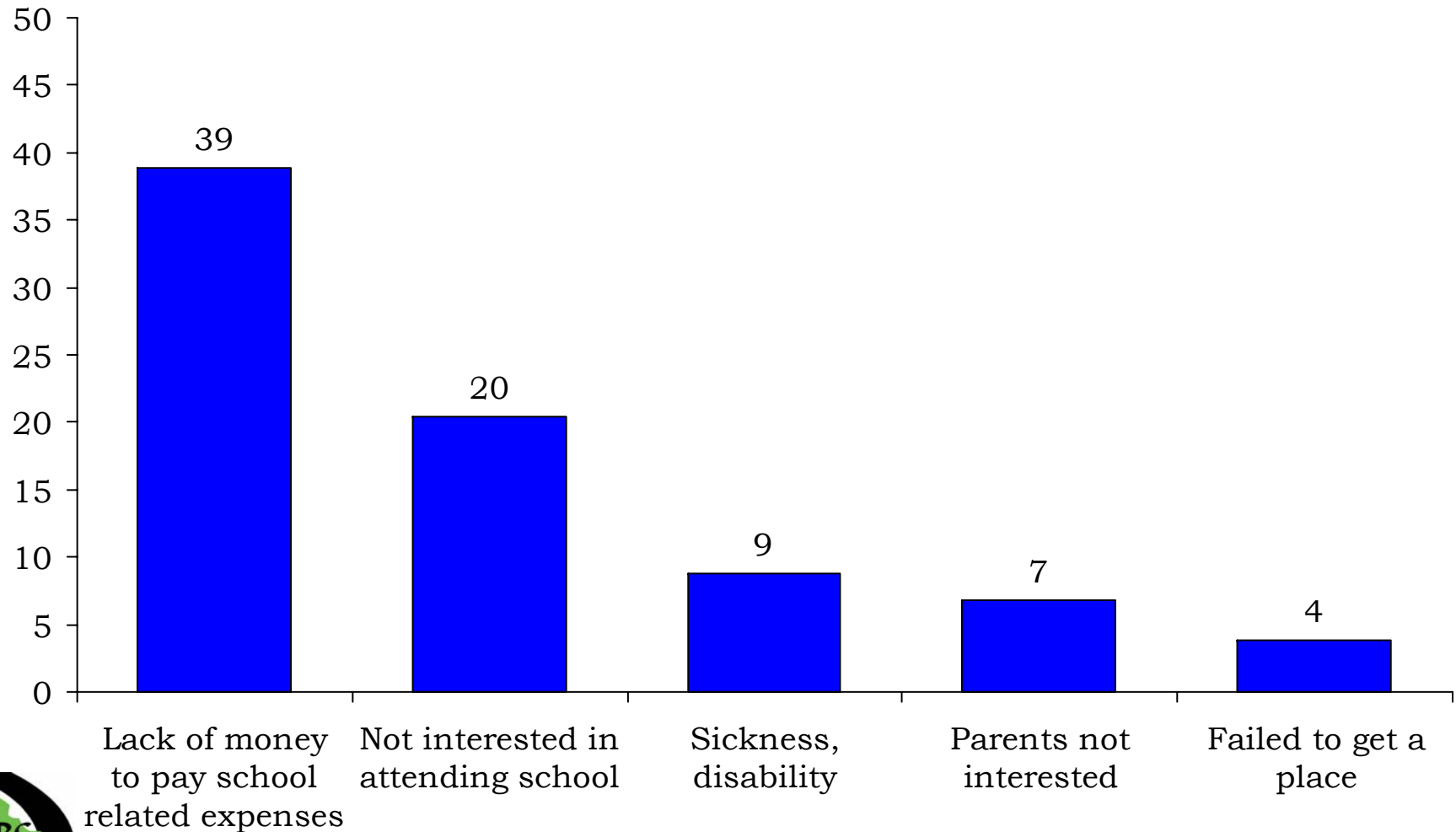

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The majority of urban residents in sub-Saharan Africa live in slums
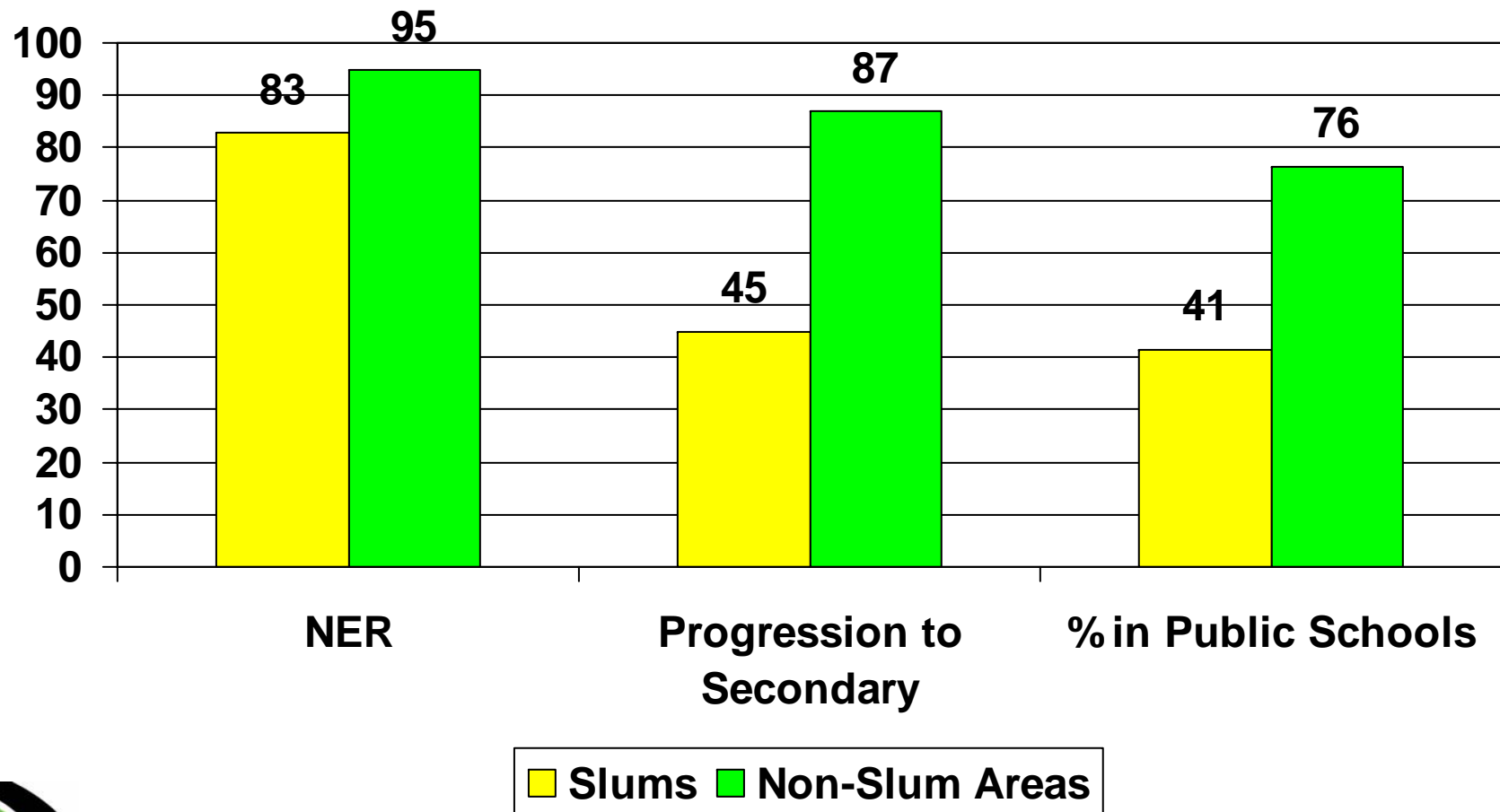

UNHABITAT, 2003

Progression and transition slum and non-slum (%)

5 major reasons 6-13 year olds in slum communities are out-of-school, 2005

Inequities in Schooling Outcomes: Slum Versus Non-slum Children

Bar chart comparing schooling outcomes between Slums (yellow) and Non-Slum Areas (green):
- NER: Slums 83, Non-Slum Areas 95
- Progression to Secondary: Slums 45, Non-Slum Areas 87
- % in Public Schools: Slums 41, Non-Slum Areas 76

Legend: ☐ Slums ☐ Non-Slum Areas

Rationale

- Orphanhood has been found to negatively affects schooling outcomes and, which affects later employment opportunities, etc

- Limited research done to examine slum children in general and orphans and other vulnerable children living in slums in particular

- Most research combines different types of orphans

Study Objectives

- Understand the context and living arrangements of orphans in informal settlements in Nairobi

- Determine whether schooling outcomes differ between non-orphans and different types of orphanhood (paternal, maternal, and double orphans).

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Data and methods

- Longitudinal Nairobi Urban Health and Demographic Surveillance System
  - Implemented in Korogocho and Viwandani slum settlements since 2002
  - Monitors about 60,000 people located in 22,000 households
  - Visits made to all households once every four months to record fertility, mortality, migration, vaccination, schooling outcomes, livelihoods, etc

- Education research Project
  - Three year study to understand school enrolment, dropout, and progression
  - Links between schooling outcomes and risky behaviours

- OVC Project
  - To determine strategies for identifying and targeting OVCs and their psychosocial behaviors in poor urban settlements
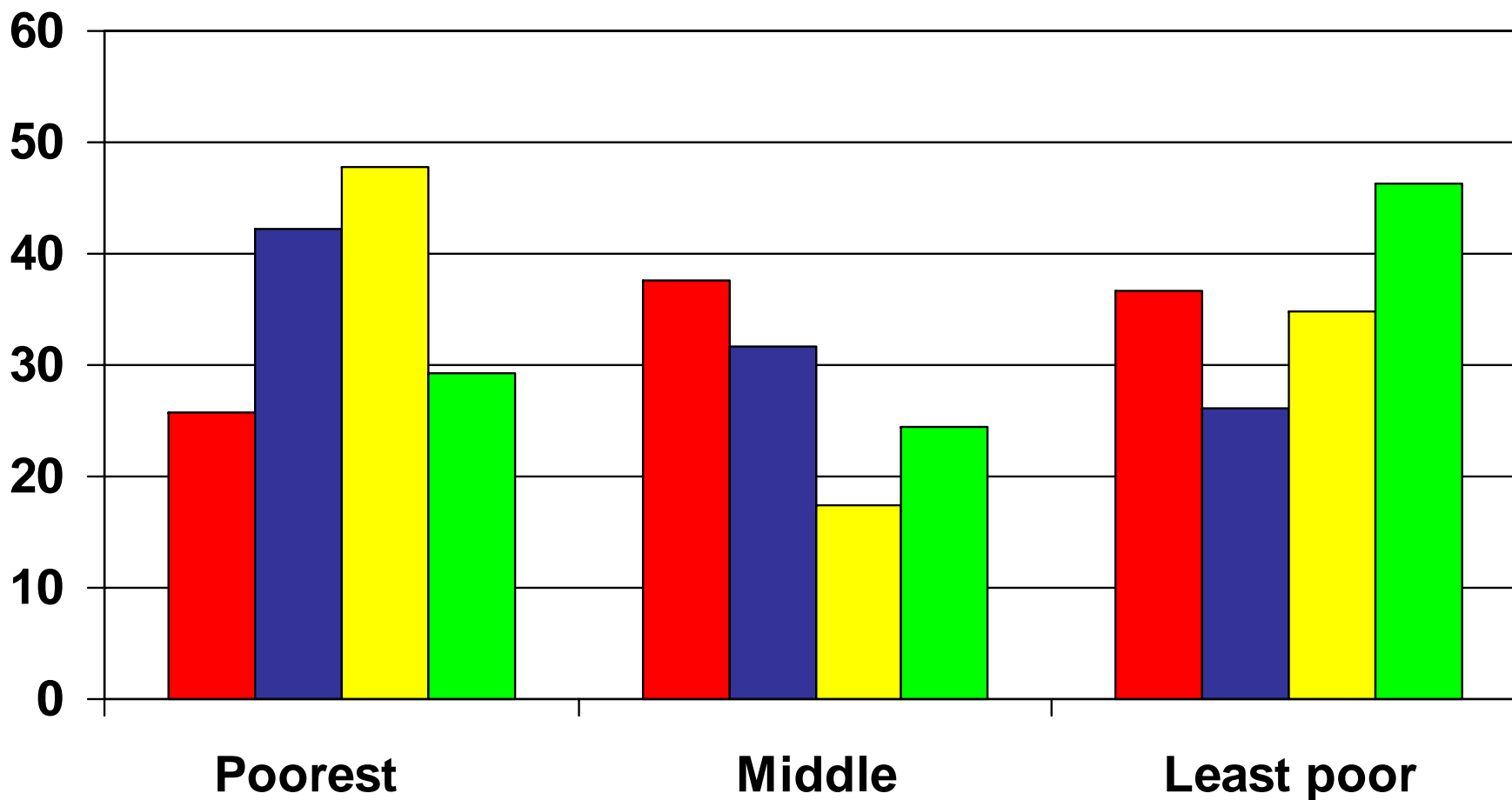
Key variables

- ## Schooling Outcomes
  - Enrolment

  - Repetition

  - Progression

- ## Control variables
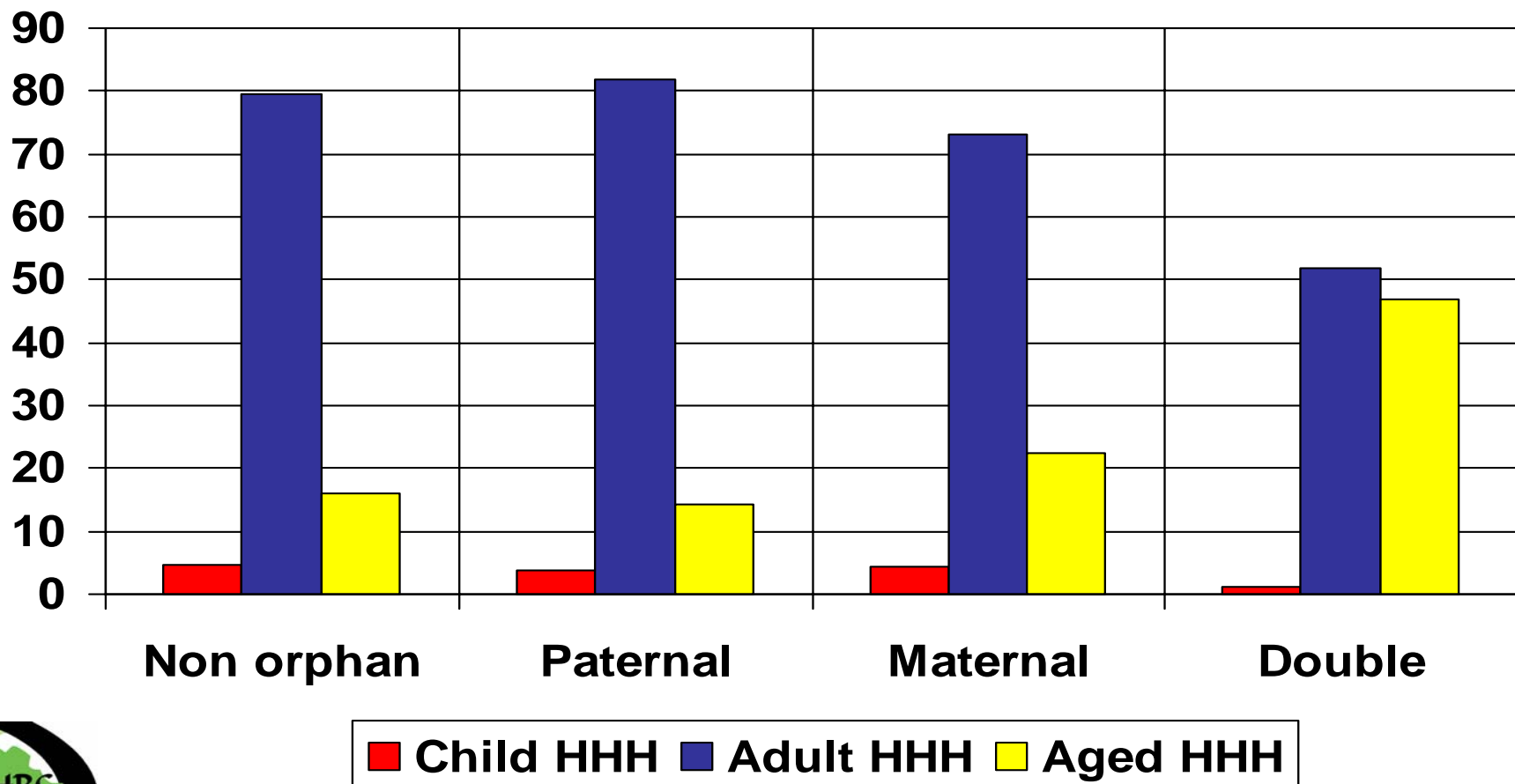 - Household wealth, child's sex and age, age, sex and level of education of household head

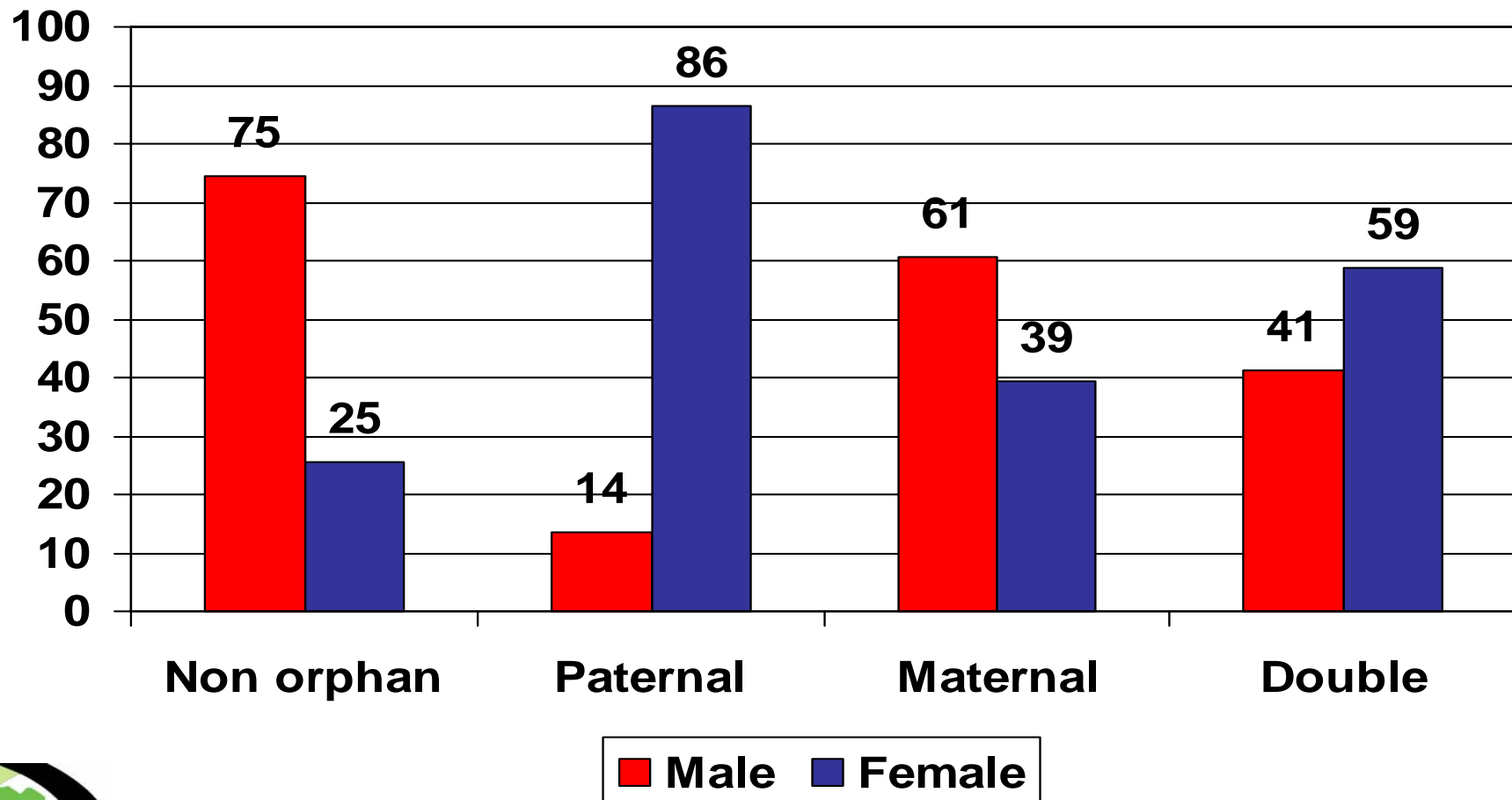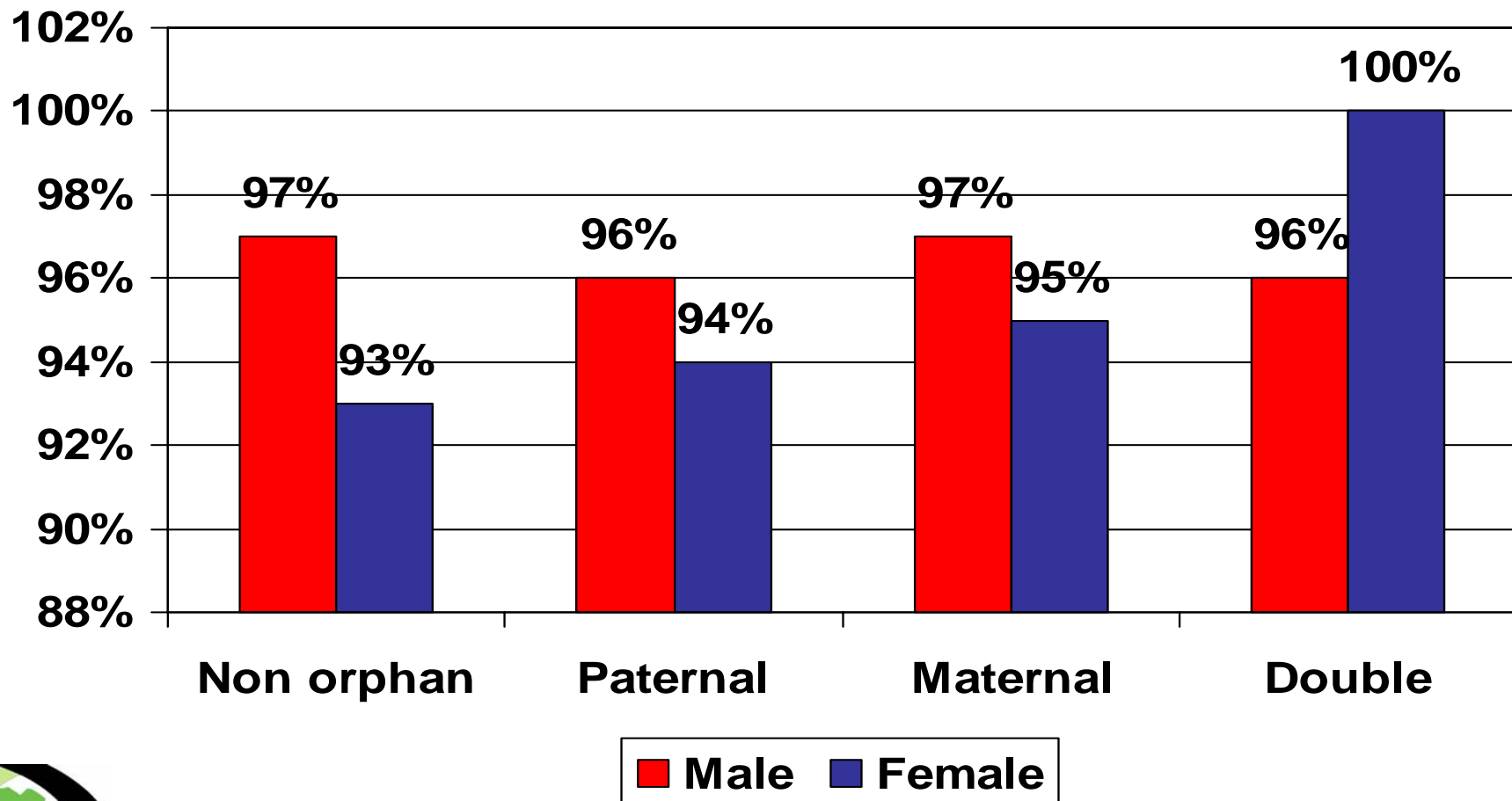# Distribution of children by orphanhood status and household poverty

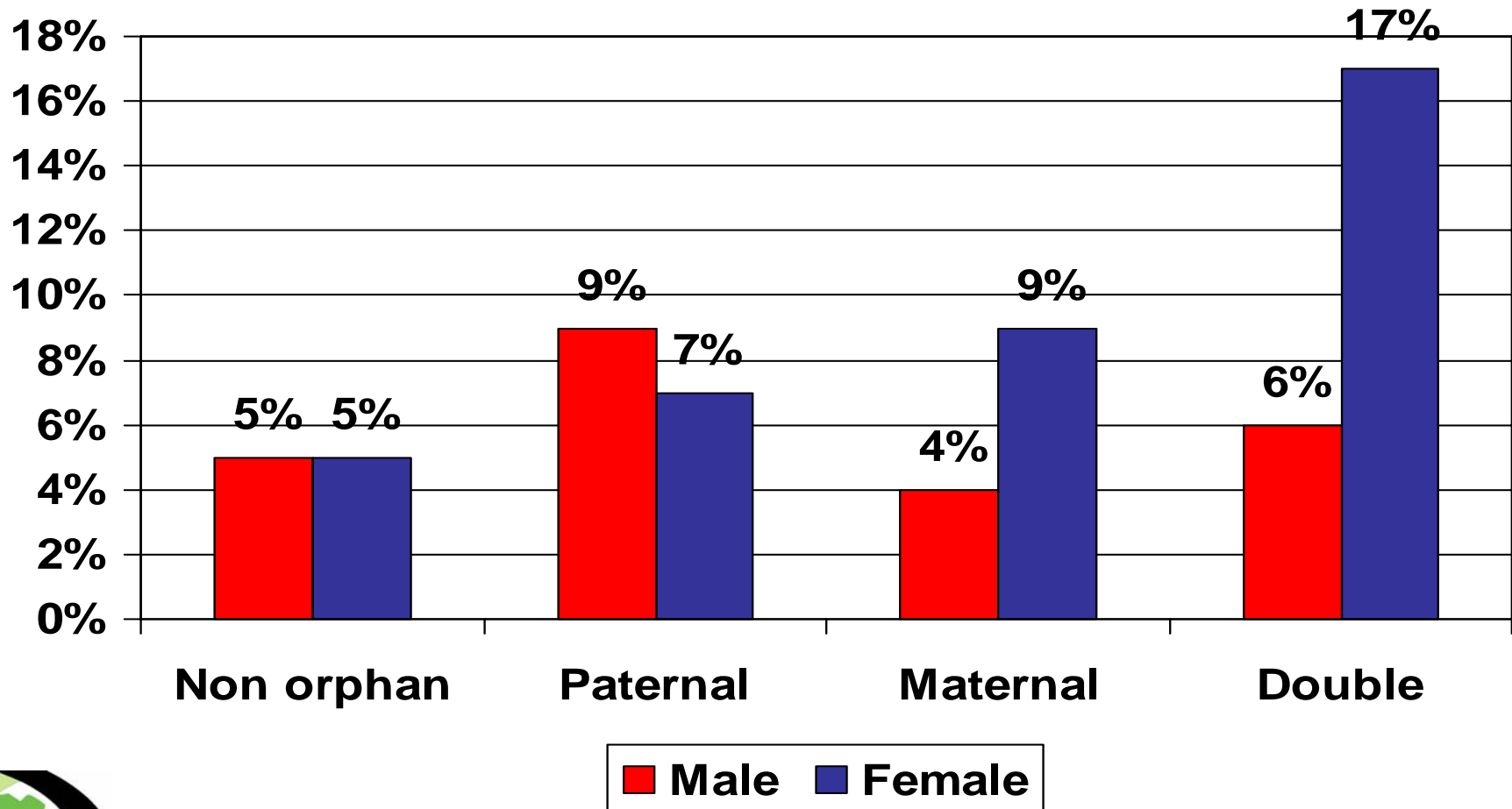# Distribution of children by orphanhood status and Age of Household Head

Distribution of children by orphanhood status and Sex of Household Head
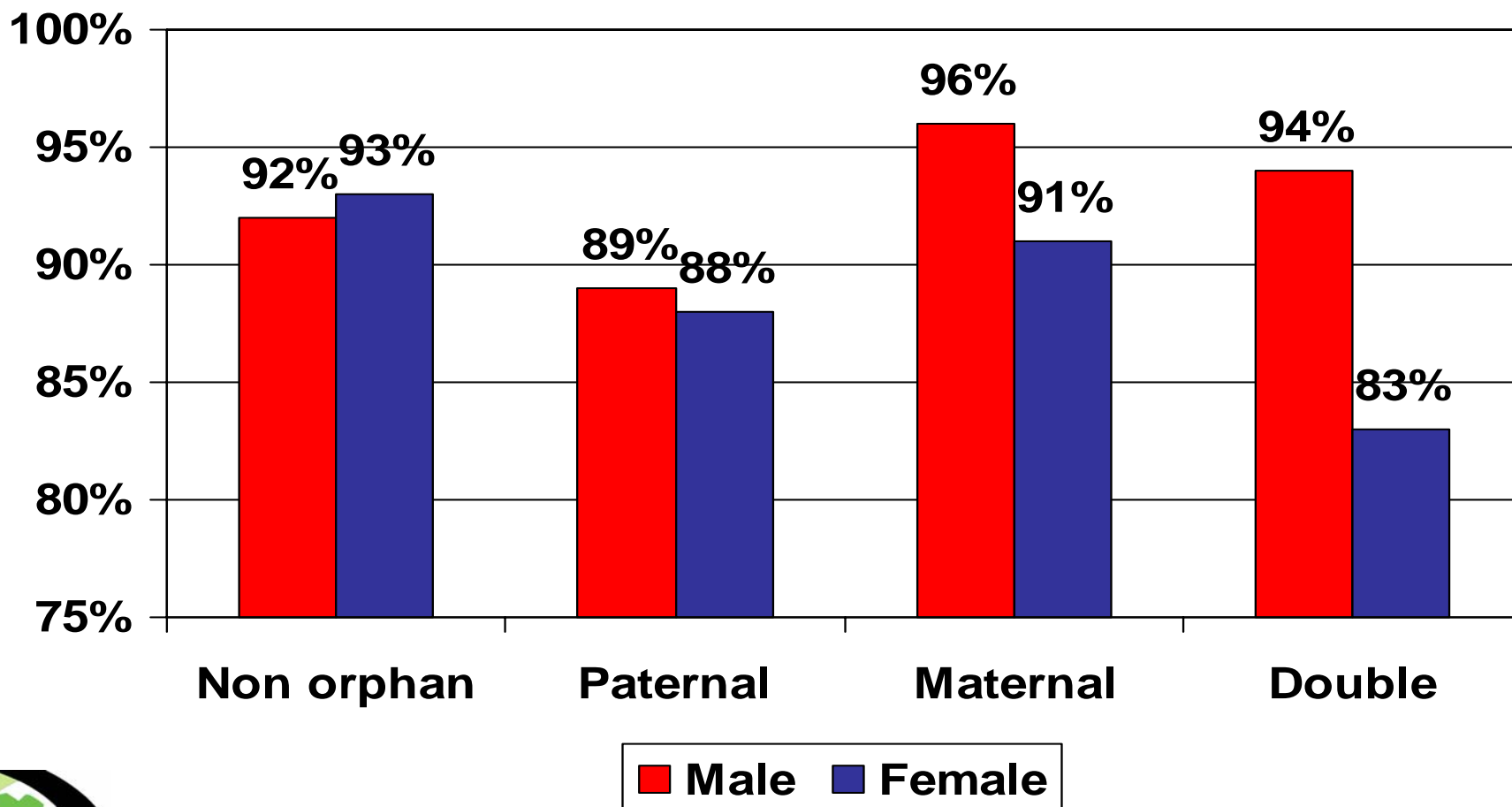
Enrolment rates by orphanhood status and Sex of child

Class repetition rates by orphanhood status and Sex of child

Class Progression rates by orphanhood status and Sex of child

Differences between orphans and non-orphans after controls

	Enrolment	Repetition	Progression
Orphan Vs Non-orphan	NS	Signif. (+ve)	NS
Orphan Type			
Non-Orphan vs P-Orphan	NS	Signif. (+ve)	NS
Non-Orphan vs M-Orphan	NS	NS	NS
Non-Orphan vs D-orphan	Signif. (+ve)	Signif (+ve)	Signif. (-ve)

Implications

- Programs are doing well for enrollment for the girl child, but focus on performance.

- Given growth of urban poverty and the poor school outcomes in slums, there is need to pay particular attention to slums-based children

  - E.g. More schooling facilities, quality of schooling, address lack of interest in schooling

Thank you