

Palestine Poverty Monitor

PPM

March 2006- May2007



Near East Consulting

Introduction

-) NEC monitors the poverty situation on a monthly basis;
-) The Poverty Monitor is based on phone surveys with Palestinian over the age of 18;
-) NEC's poverty profile is based according to a number of independent variables;
-) The results are examined over time to see how the poverty level is changing and whether it is becoming prolonged;
-) The monthly monitor of the poverty situation may help in projecting how the situation will evolve in the short near future;
-) Hopefully, the changes and the trends in the poverty level will help address and evaluate the various policy interventions carried out by policy makers and various assistance providers and other stakeholders in addition to the impact of the Israeli measures and other political developments on the evolution and/or management of the poverty conditions;
-) The poverty monitor, in addition to the other issues that NEC is also monitoring (political, security, social, economic, peace, PLC, party, international organizations, and media issues) will also help in providing indicators as to how the situation is evolving and what types of interventions need to be examined, what are the priorities of the various sectors of society, and how to deal with the limited resources that Palestinians have;
-) The results will be posted on-line to enable users tailor their own analysis according to a number of explanatory (independent) variables;
-) The monthly surveys, polls, and analysis of NEC are INDEPENDENT and are not sponsored or funded by any internal or external source but from the private funds of the company.



Methodology

-) The poverty is constructed according to the household income and household structure as reported by the respondents.
-) Below poverty is based on around 2000NIS per month for a family of 2 adults and 4 children; and the hardship cases is based on approximately 1000 NIS for a similar household;
-) NEC also examines subjective poverty and coping strategies once every three months to provide more explanations as to how the trend is moving.
-) In addition, NEC is in the process of monitoring household health (already started monitoring the stress and depression prevalence among Palestinian adults) so will be the impact of the role of women as heads of the household, impact of education, and other issues of pertinence to Palestinian developmental efforts.
-) The information on poverty will be analysed according to a number of explaining variables: Region and place of residence, education, age, gender, political affiliation, employment, refugee status, assistance, etc.



The independent variables

The explaining variables

It is the hope of Near East Consulting to explain the evolution of poverty according to a number of variables, including some of the following:

-) Gender
-) Age
-) Education
-) Employment
-) Type of employment
-) Sector of employment
-) Refugee status
-) Factional trust
-) Assistance received
-) Area of residence
-) Place of residence
-) Number of dependents
-) Number of breadwinners
-) Household health/disabilities
-) Income sources

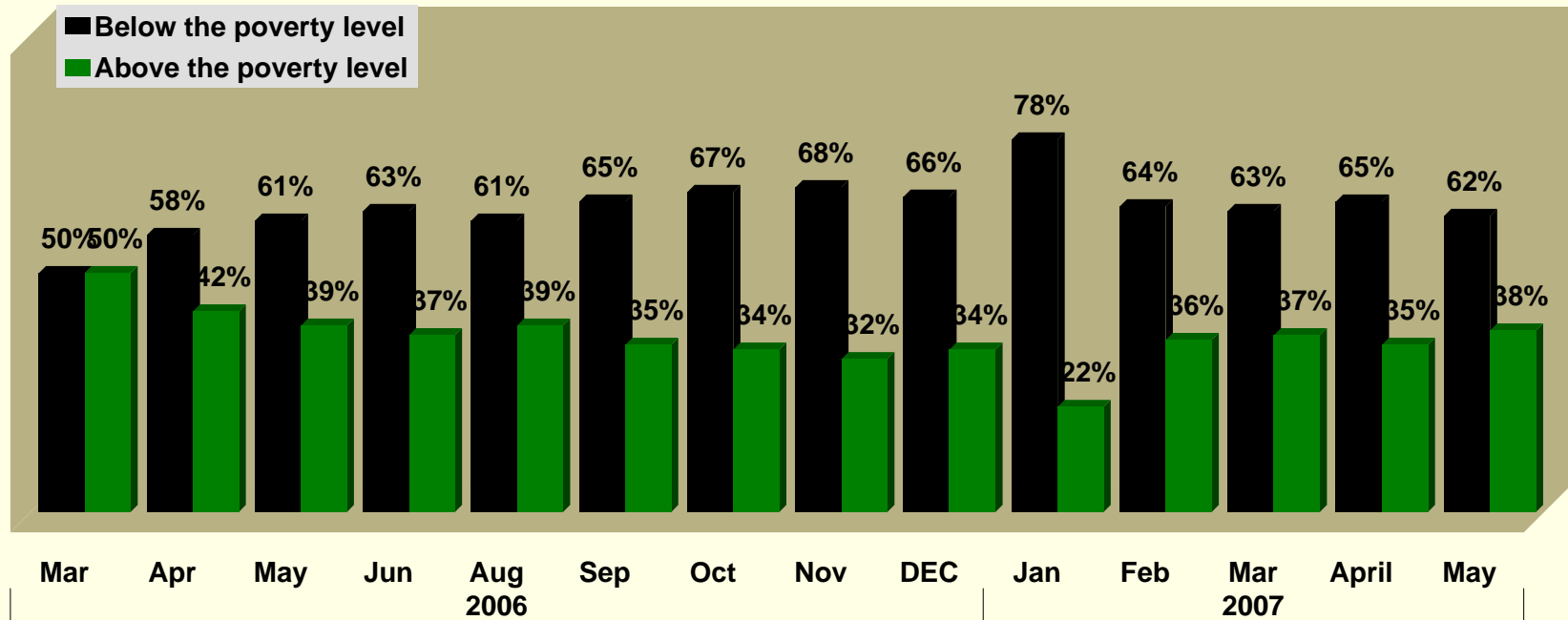


Poverty conditions

- 6 Evolution of poverty
- 6 Evolution of poverty (inc. hardship cases)
- 6 Evolution of extreme poverty (hardship cases)
- 6 Evolution of poverty according to refugee status
- 6 Poverty according to refugee status
- 6 Evolution of poverty according to region of residence
- 6 The poverty rate according to region of residence (inc. hardship cases)
- 6 The poverty rate according to region of residence
- 6 Evolution of extreme poverty according to region
- 6 Evolution of poverty according to area of residence
- 6 Evolution of extreme poverty according to area of residence
- 6 Poverty according to age groups
- 6 Evolution of extreme poverty according to age distribution
- 6 Poverty according to employment status
- 6 Poverty according to the educational level
- 6 Evolution of poverty according to faction
- 6 Evolution of extreme poverty according to faction

Evolution of poverty

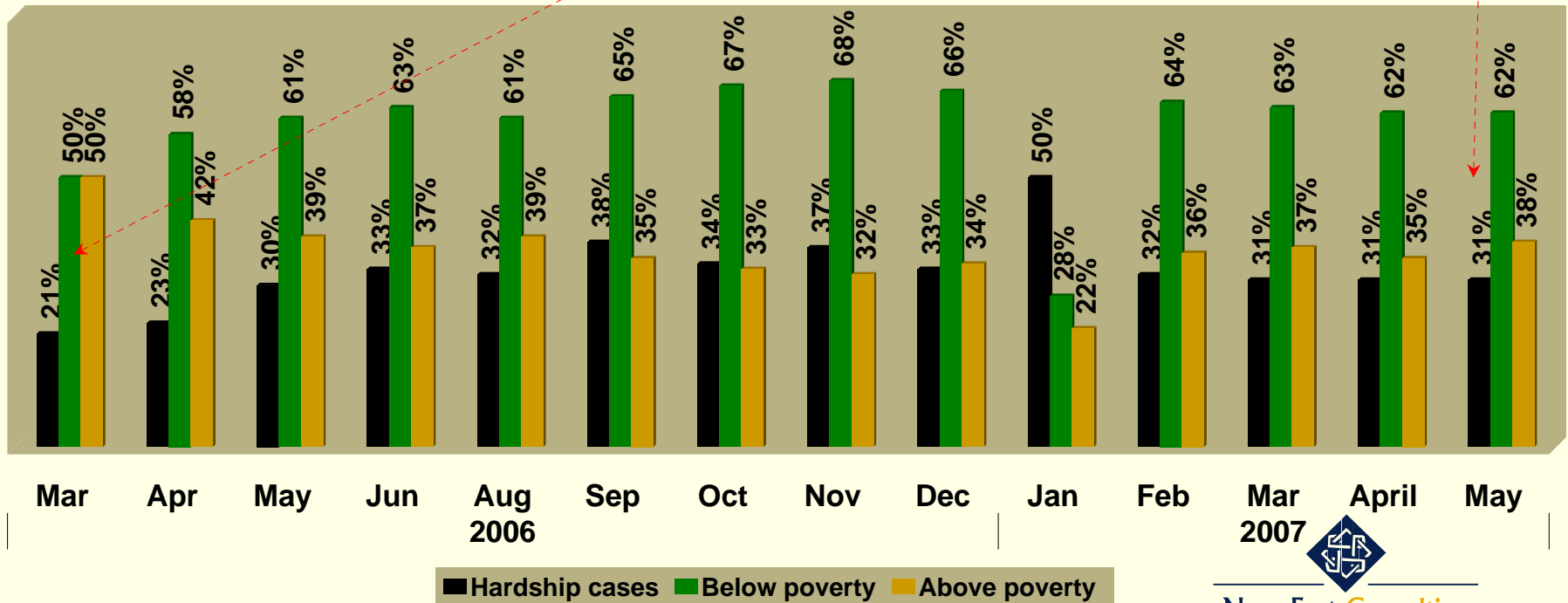
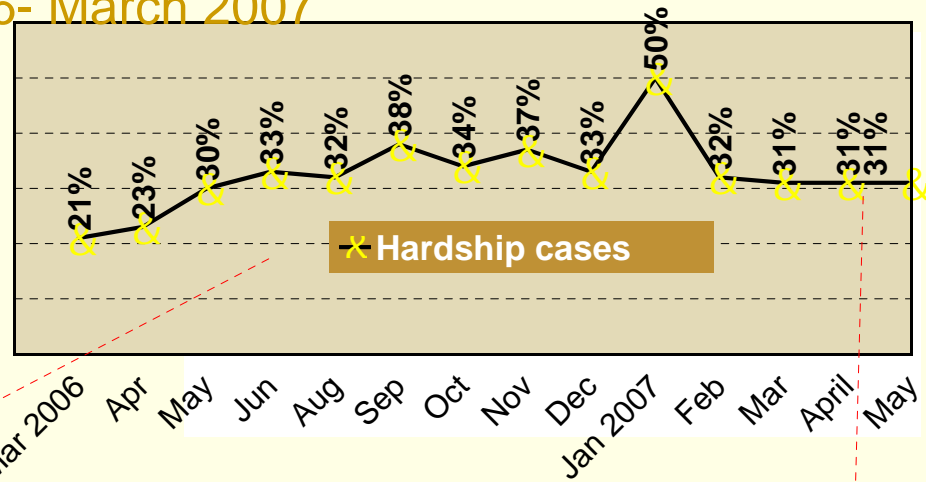
March 2006- March 2007



Evolution of Poverty

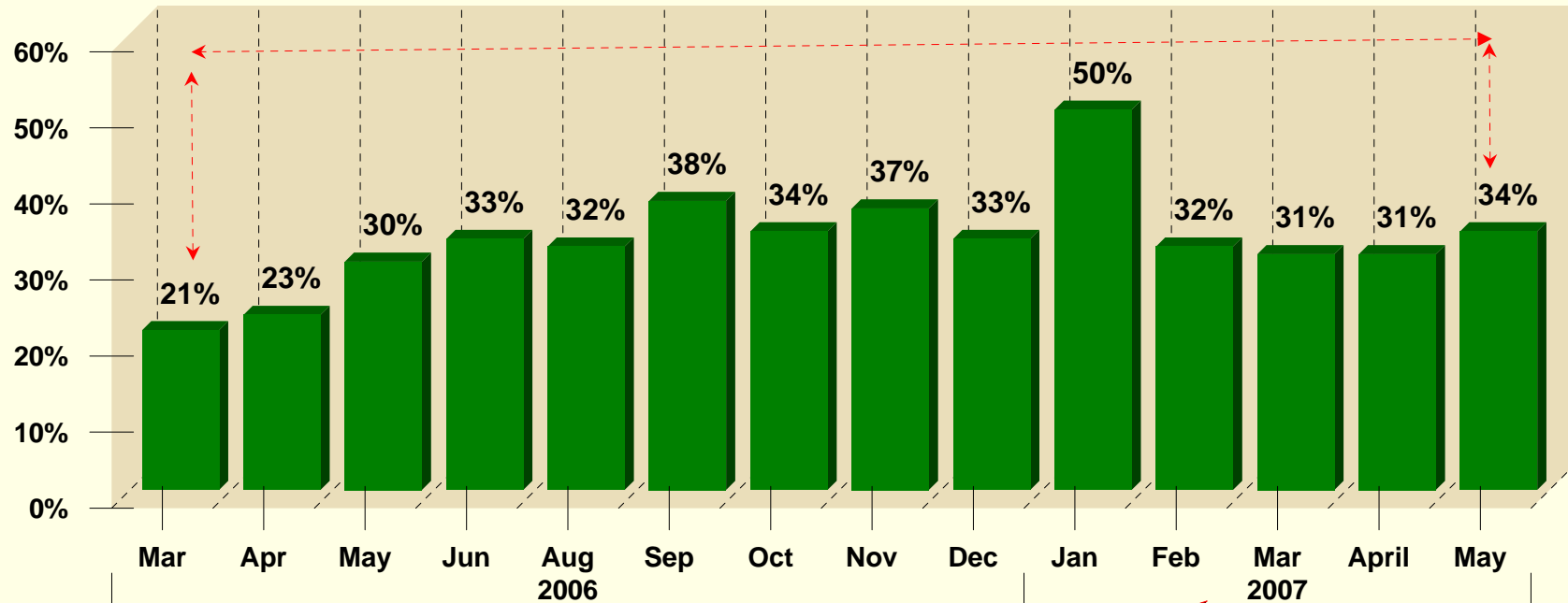
March 2006- March 2007

The increase in poverty has been increasing on a monthly basis, especially in the category of hardship cases (extreme poverty), the highest increase so far has been in Jan 2007 where 50% of respondents live in hardship.



Evolution of extreme poverty (hardship cases)

March 2006 - March 2007



A 10% increase in the number of hardship cases in a period of 12 months. The number of respondents living in extreme poverty increased by 29% from March 2006 where it stands at 50% in Jan 2007. The situation seems to have eased up after a significant percentage of public employees returned back to work and after the national unity government was formed

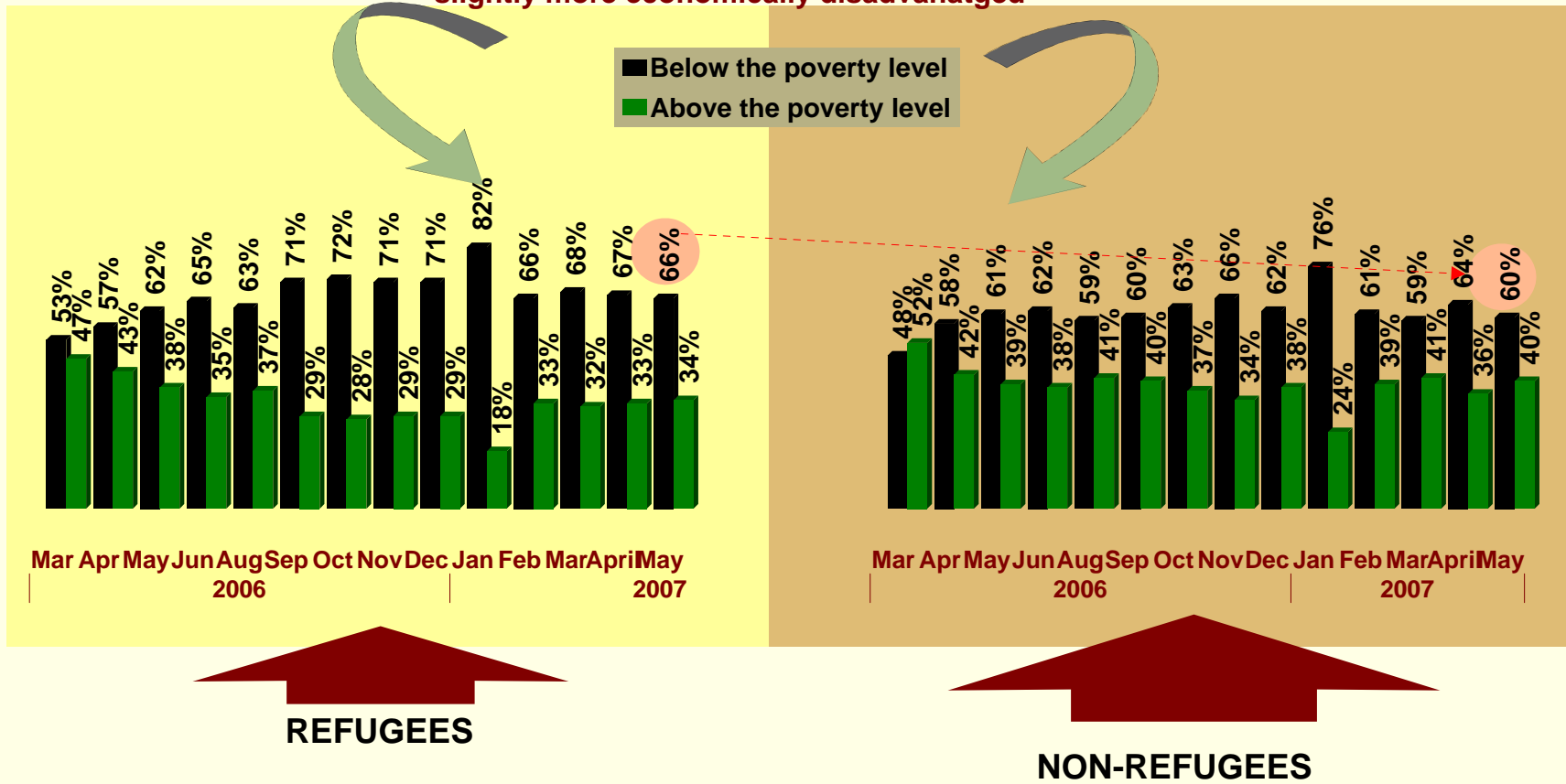


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Evolution of poverty according to refugee status

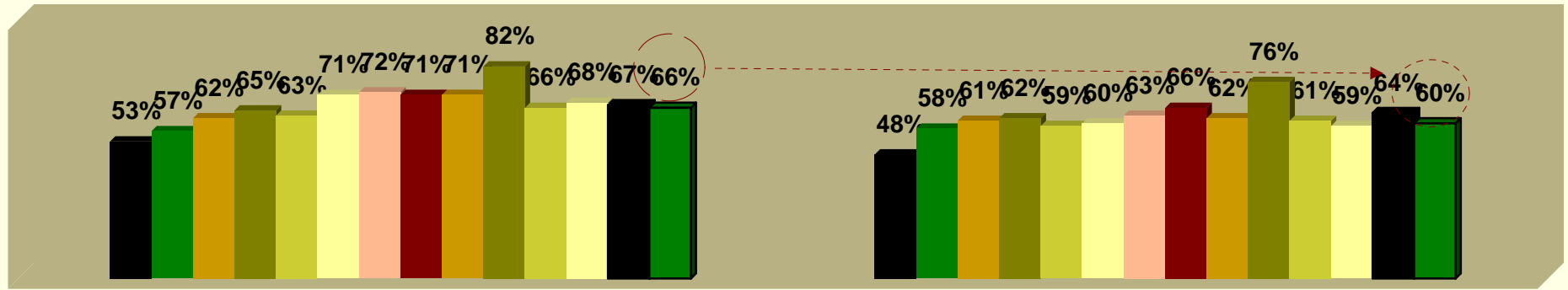
March 2006- March 2007

Increase in poverty did not discriminate between Palestinians of refugee origin and non-refugees although refugees are slightly more economically disadvantaged



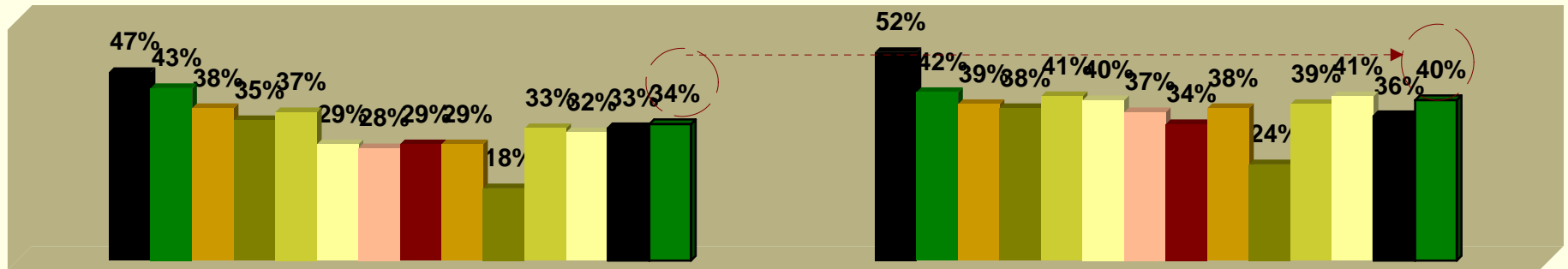
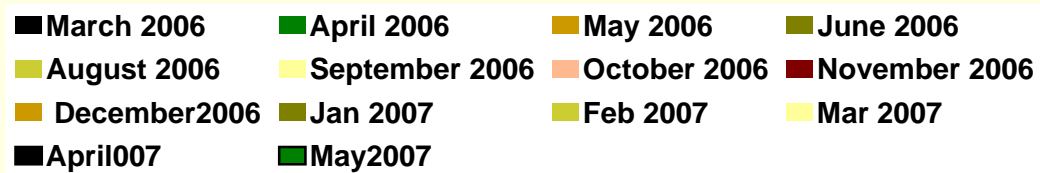
Poverty according to refugee status

March 2006 - March 2007



Refugees below the poverty level

Non-refugees below the poverty level



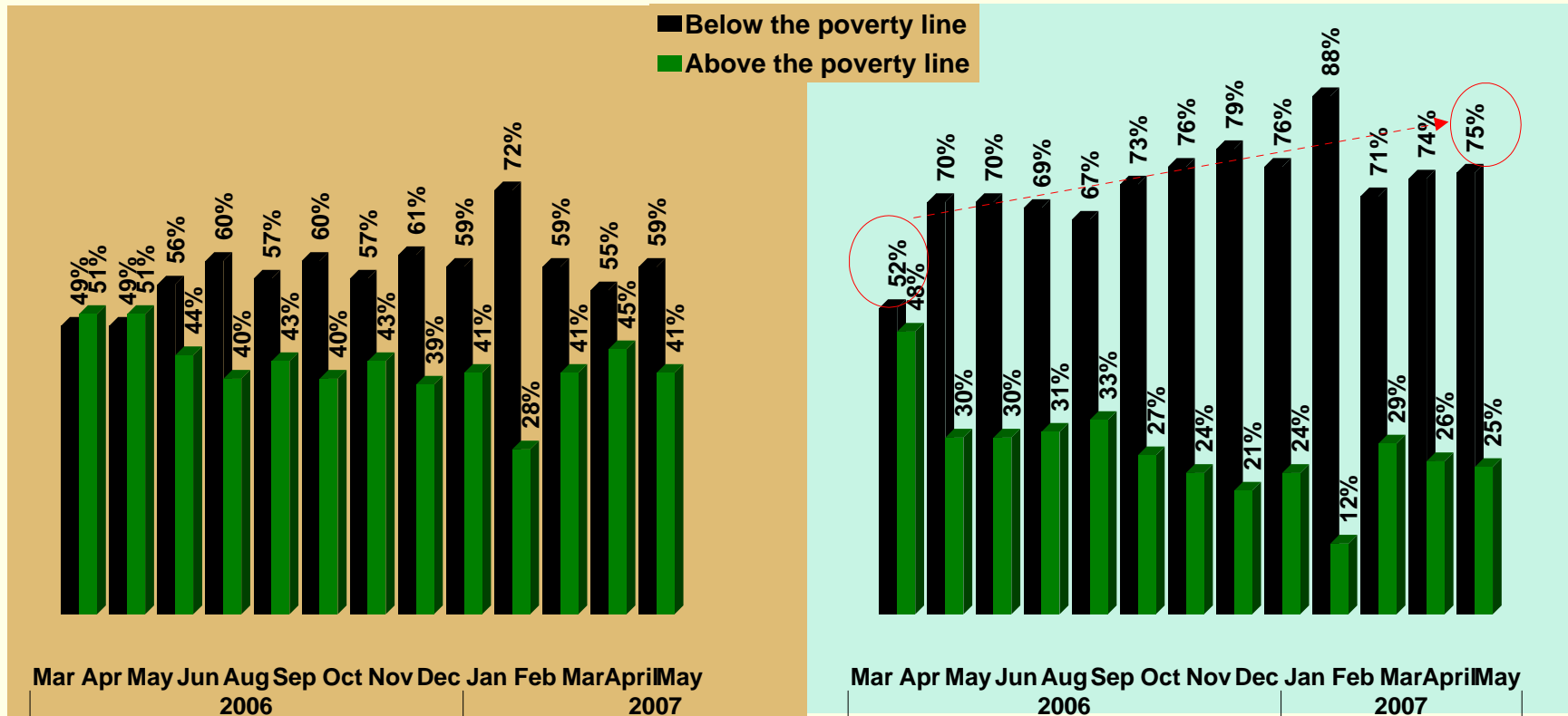
Refugees above the poverty level

Non-refugees above the poverty level



Evolution of poverty according to region of residence

March 2006 - March 2007



WEST BANK

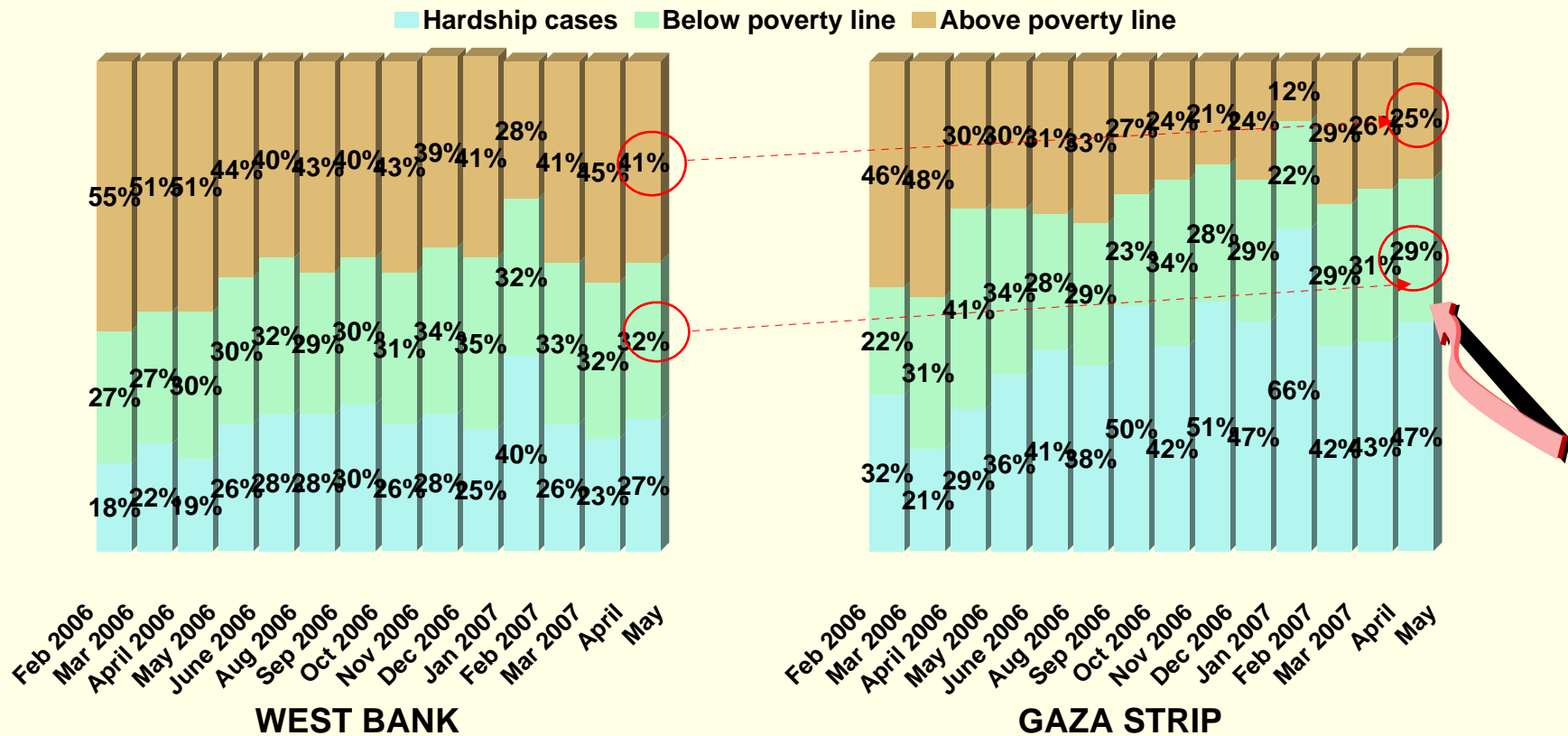
GAZA STRIP



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The poverty rate according to region of residence

March 2006- March 2007



Proportion of those living above poverty level in the West Bank is significantly higher than in the Gaza Strip.

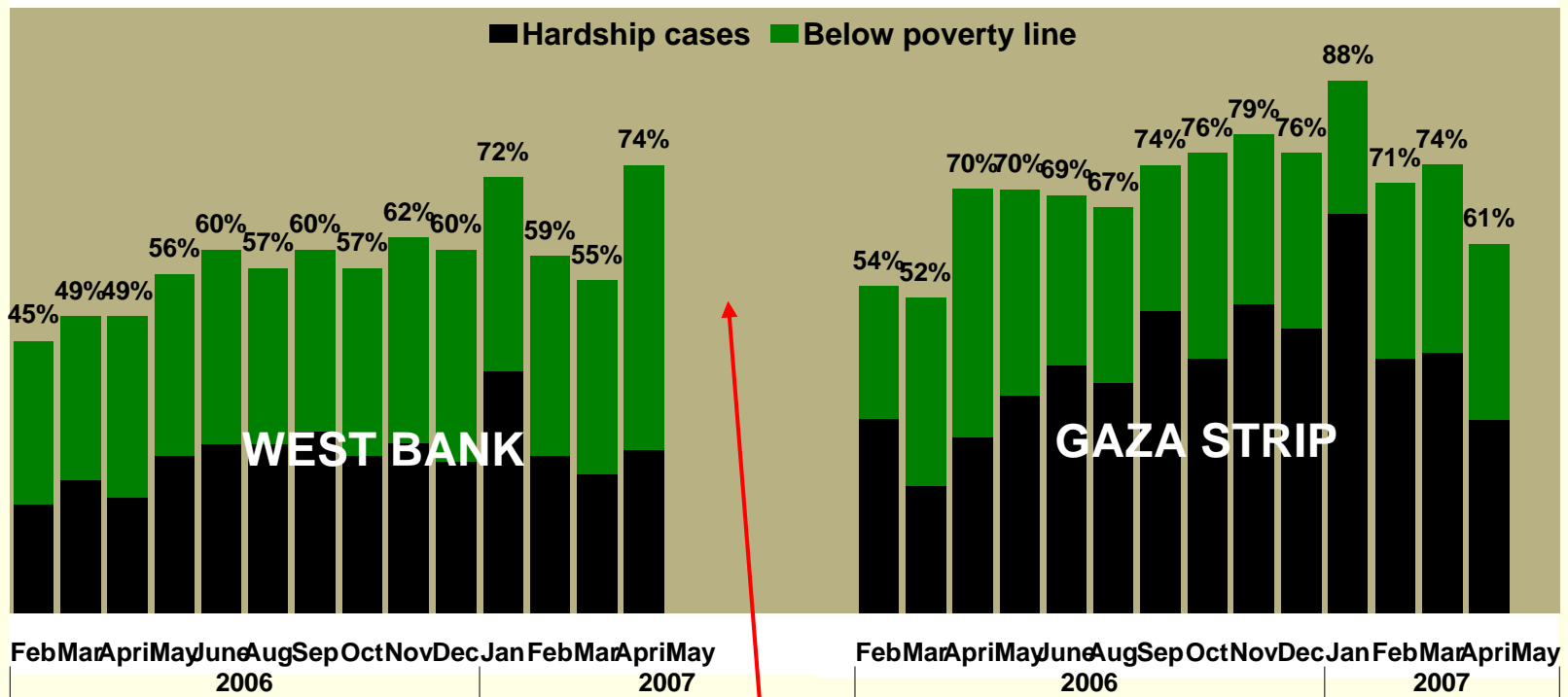
Almost 3/4ths of the households in Gaza live under extreme poverty conditions



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The poverty rate according to region of residence

March 2006 -March 2007

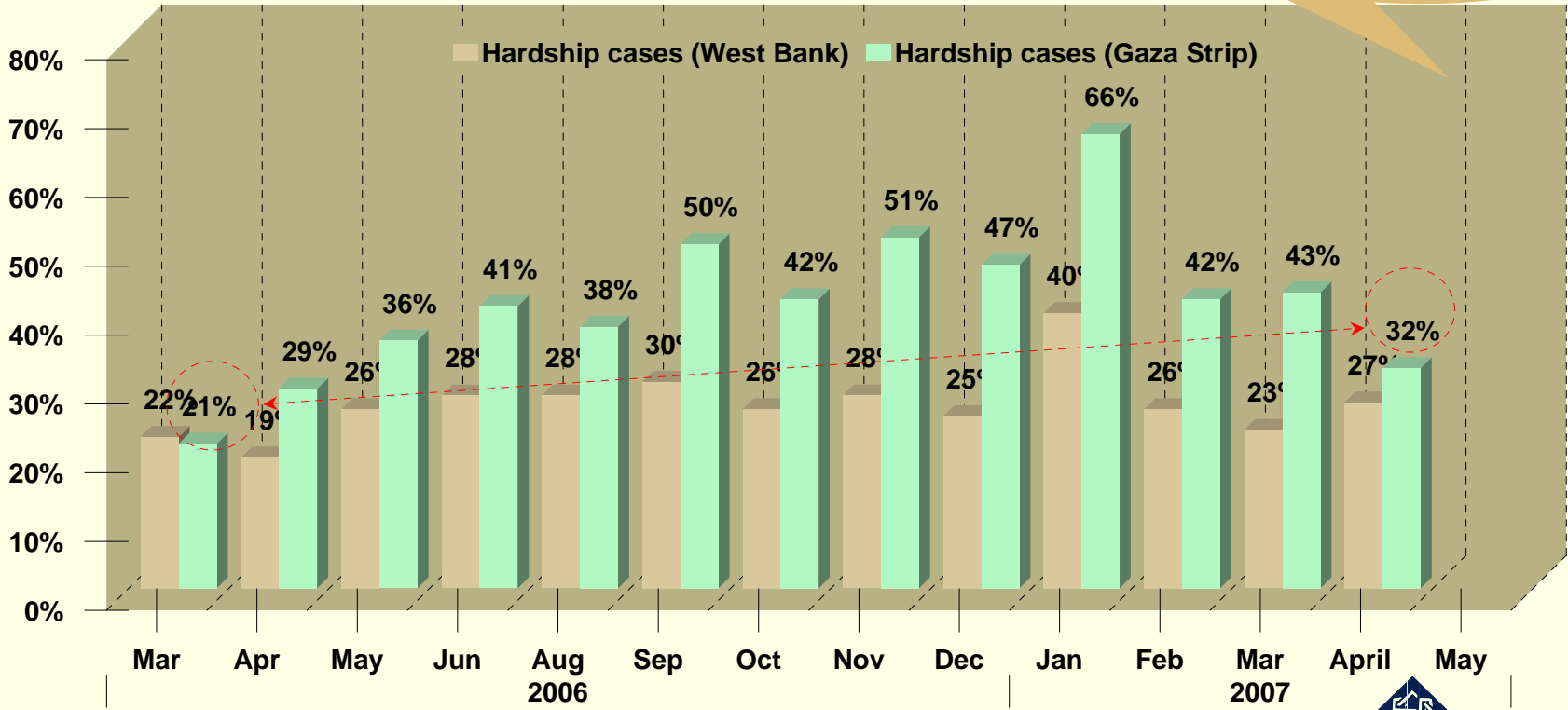


Both together comprise the "below the poverty line" category

Evolution of extreme poverty according to region

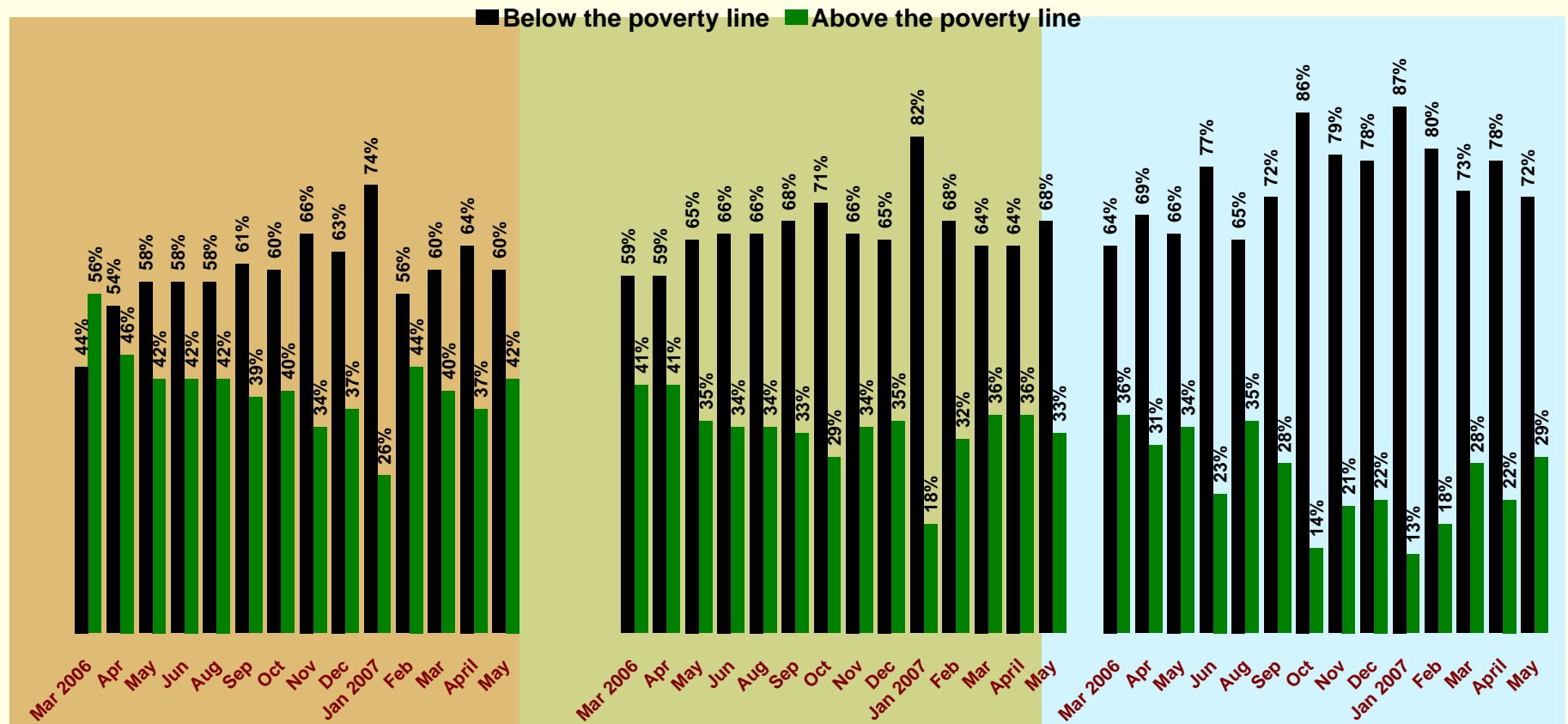
March 2006 - March 2007

The number of households that are determined as falling in hardship cases category has more than doubled in the Gaza Strip since March 2006



Evolution of poverty according to area of residence

March 2006- March 2007



CITY

VILLAGE

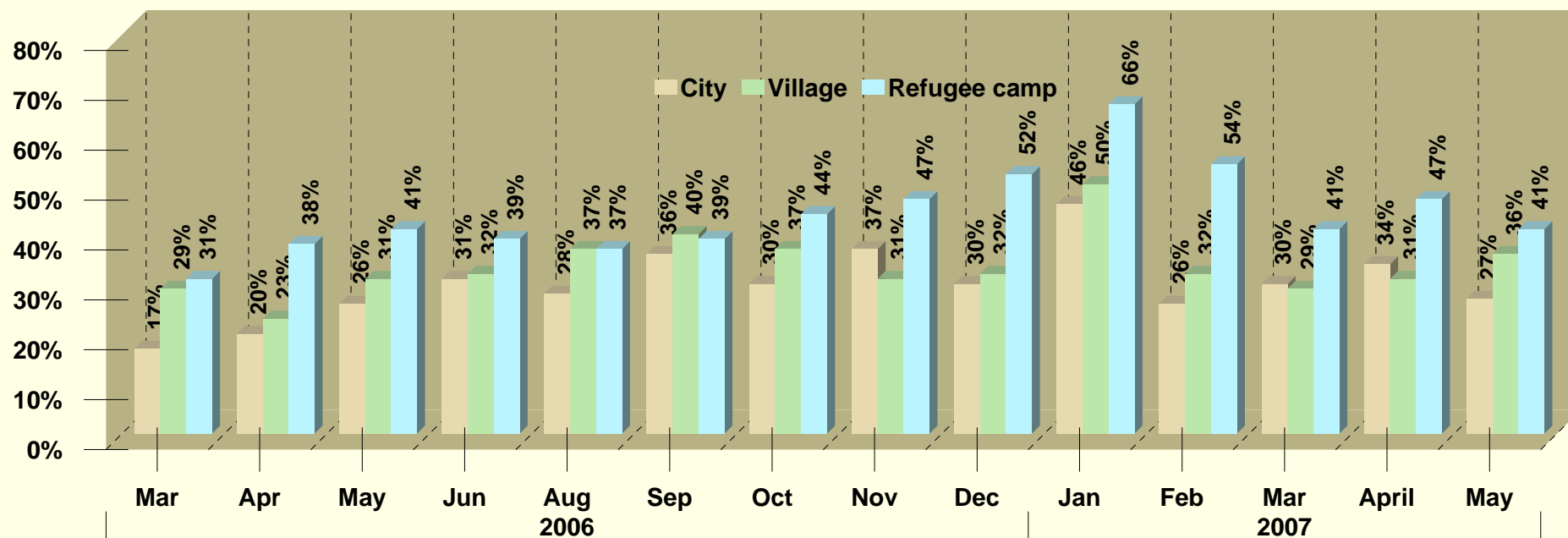
REFUGEE CAMP



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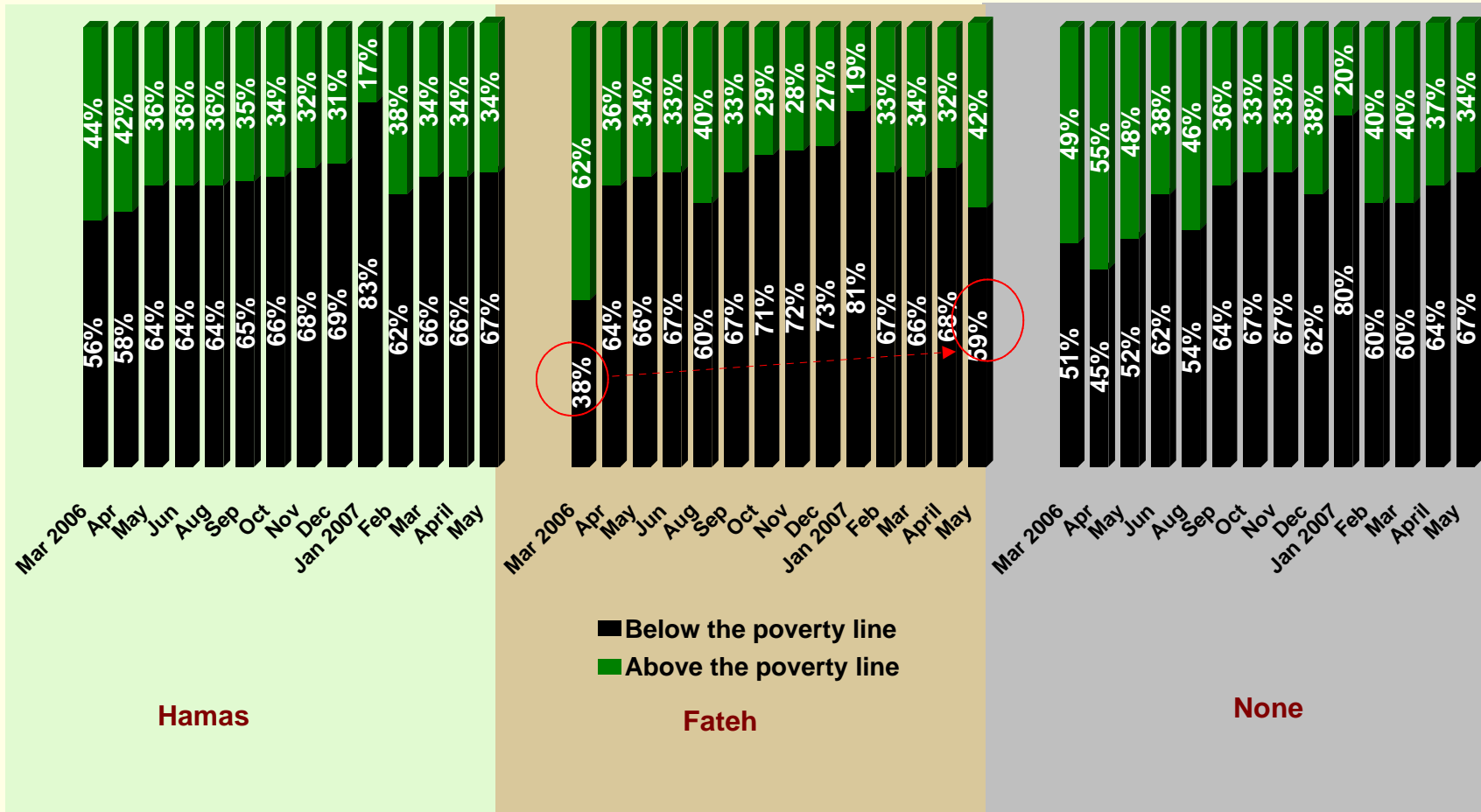
Evolution of extreme poverty according to area of residence

March 2006- March 2007



Evolution of poverty according to faction

March 2006- March 2007



Evolution of extreme poverty according to faction

March 2006- March 2007

