



Section Q: The Older and Vulnerable Population

Introduction

The 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census provided findings on the vulnerable populations who are considered to be a disadvantaged sub-segment of the community. The concept of vulnerability in the social sense is used to describe groups of people likely not to cope as well as others in the event of a threat. The term is defined in relation to specific threats that would impact in a negative way on the life of a person. Vulnerable people are those who would not be able to cope when problems or disaster arise.

The vulnerable groups considered in the 2019 census were: (a) older population (age 60+); (b) working children (age 5 - 17); (c) children in child-headed households (heads of households under age 18 years); (d) orphans; (e) intersex persons; (f) homeless people; and (g) stateless persons. This section provides maps showing the percentage distribution of the older population, working children, child-headed households, children in child-headed households, orphans and the homeless by county. The intersex and stateless populations, who consisted of less than one per cent of the total population, have been excluded because they were only found in a few counties during the census.



Definitions of Key Terms and Concepts

Child-headed household - A household whose head is a child (below age 18)

Homeless person - A person without a shelter that would fall within the scope of living quarters. Such persons carry their few possessions with them, sleeping in the streets, in doorways, on piers or in any other space, on a more or less random basis

Older person - A person age 60 years and above

Total orphans - Persons below age 18 years who have lost both parents in death

Vulnerability - Exposure to contingencies and stress and difficulty in coping with them

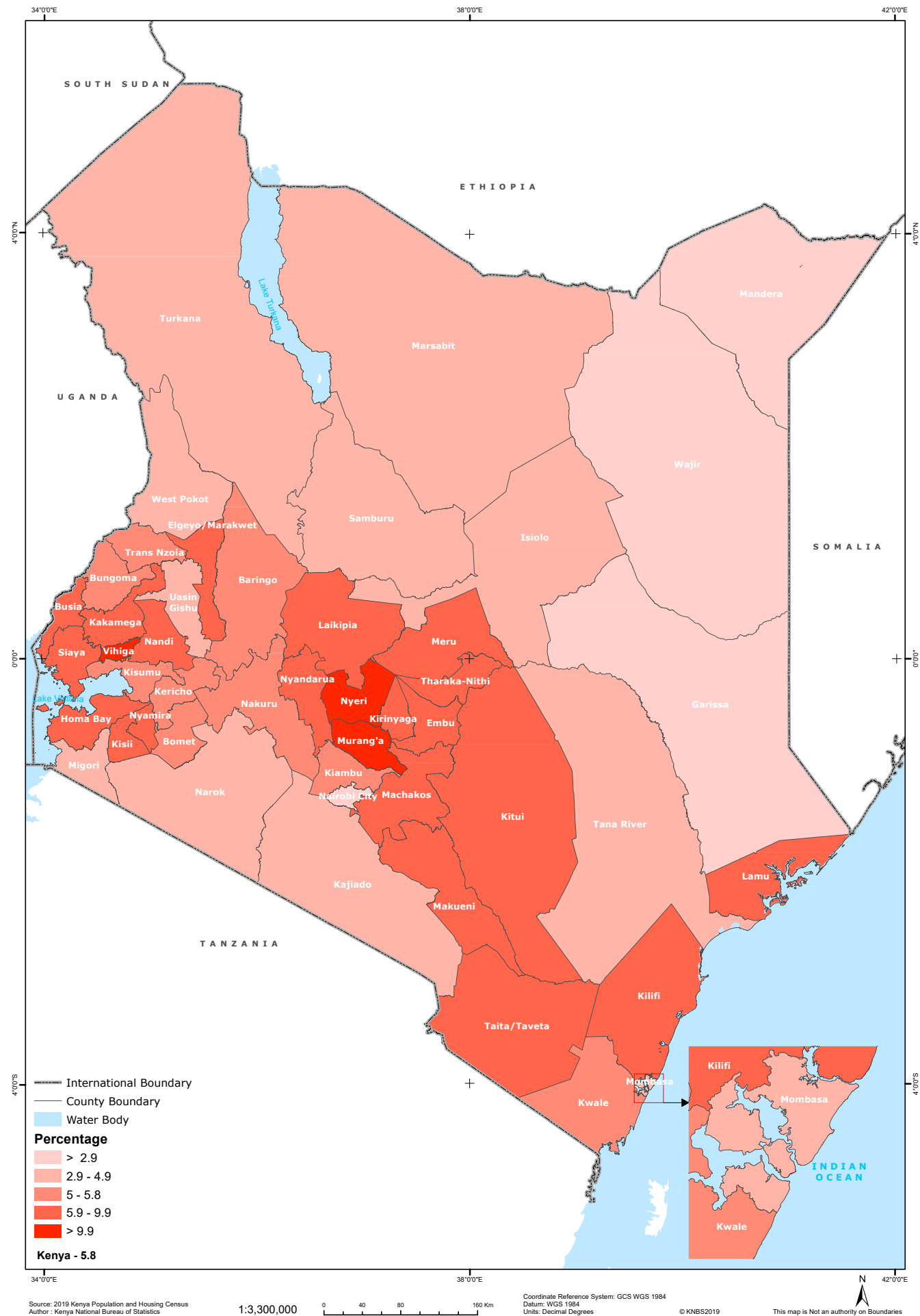
Working children - Children who are subjected to work that exceeds a minimum number of hours, depending on the age of the child and on the type of work

Q1: Percentage Distribution of the Older Population by County

The Kenyan Constitution defines the older population as those persons aged 60 years and above. Similarly, the UN defines older as a chronological age of 60 years or more. The older population has consistently increased proportionally to the general population over time. The percentage distribution of the older population to the total population is shown in Map Q.1. Counties

with a high proportion of the older population were Murang’a, Nyeri and Vihiga. These counties had more than 10.0 per cent of their respective total populations being older persons. Conversely, Garissa, Wajir, Mandera and Nairobi City counties had less than 3.0 per cent of their respective total populations being older persons.

Map Q 1. Percentage Distribution of Older Population by County

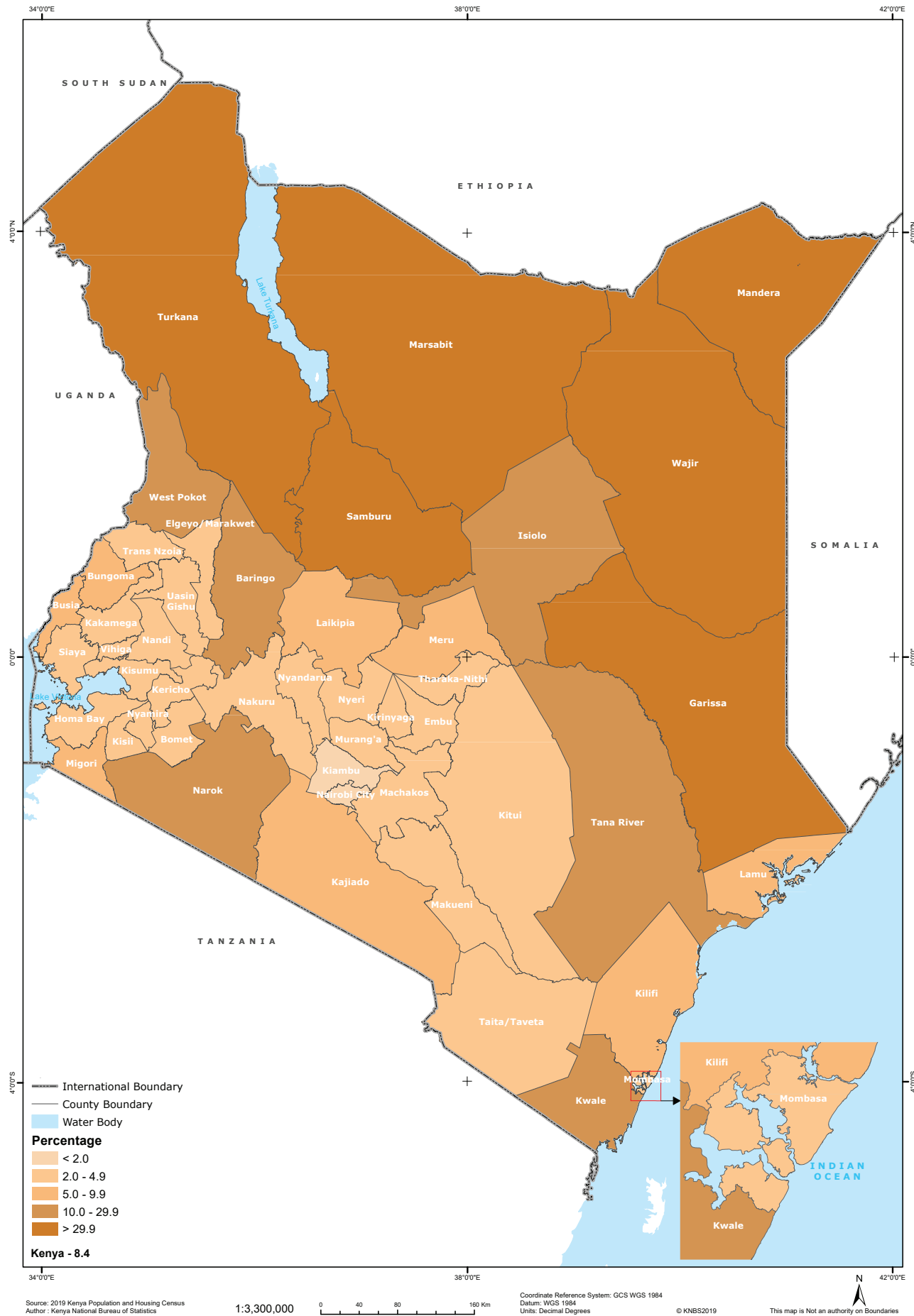


Q 2: Percentage Distribution of Working Children Age 5 - 17 Years by County

Working children refers to children who are subjected to work that exceeds a minimum number of hours, depending on the age of a child and on the type of work. However, not all working children are considered to be vulnerable. Any work that deprives children (any person under age 18) of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to their physical and/or mental development makes them vulnerable. Such work is mentally and/or morally dangerous to children and can interfere with their schooling.

The percentage distribution of working children age 5 - 17 years by county is shown in Map Q.2. The highest concentration of working children was in the arid and semi-arid counties of Garissa, Wajir and Mandera. Other counties with high proportions of working children were Samburu, Marsabit and Turkana. The proportion of working children in each of these counties was more than 30.0 per cent. Counties with the lowest proportion of working children, at less than 2.0 per cent each, were Kiambu and Nairobi City.

Map Q 2. Percentage Distribution of Working Children Age 5-17 years by County



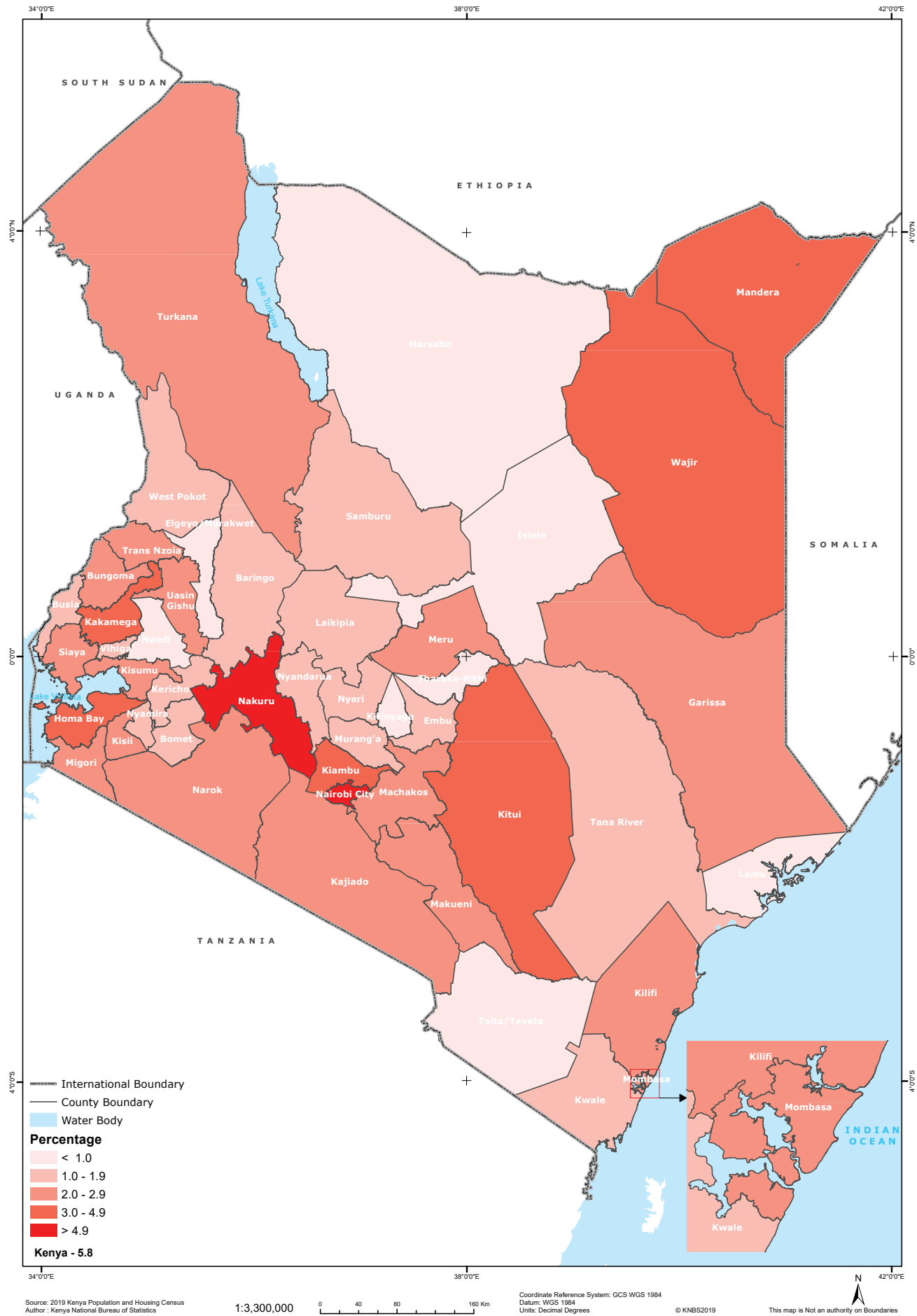
Q 3: Percentage Distribution of Child-Headed Households by County

A child-headed household is defined as a household run by persons younger than 18 years, who have lost both parents or whose parents, guardians or primary caregivers of the household are terminally ill, have died or have abandoned the children and no adult family member is available to provide care.

The percentage distribution of child-headed households is pre-

sented in Map Q.3A. Nairobi City and Nakuru counties had the highest concentration of child-headed households of more than 5.0 per cent each. Conversely, Isiolo, Nandi, Kirinyaga, Marsabit, Taita/ Taveta, Elgeyo/ Marakwet, Tharaka-Nithi and Lamu counties had the lowest concentration of child-headed households at less than 1.0 per cent each.

Map Q 3: Percentage Distribution of Child-Headed Households by County



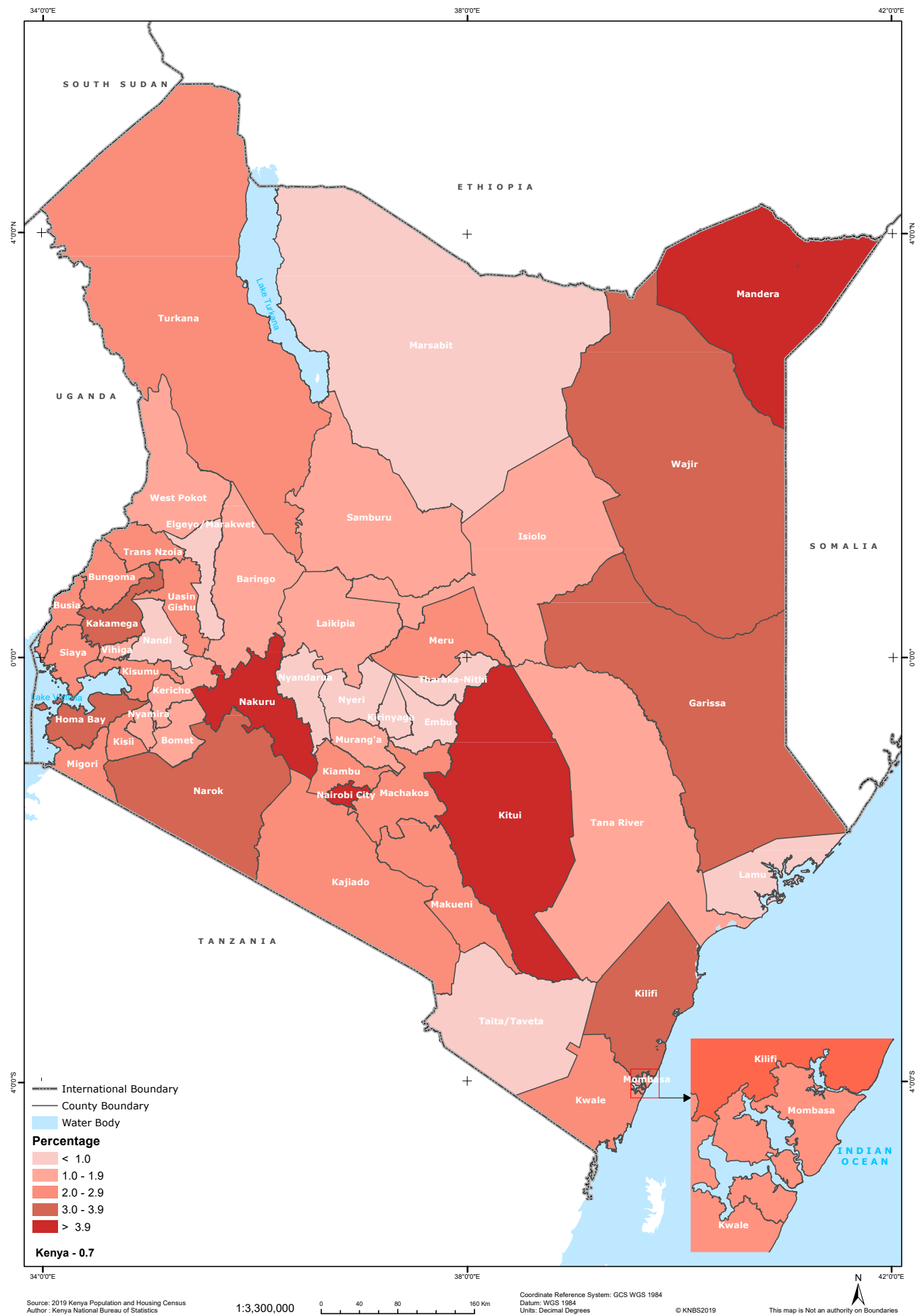


Q 4: Percentage Distribution of Children in Child-Headed Households by County

Map Q.4 presents the percentage distribution of children in child-headed households by county. The 2019 census results show that most of the counties with the highest concentration of child-headed households also had a high concentration of children in the child-headed households. Nairobi City, Mander, Kitui and Nakuru counties had the highest concentration of children in

child-headed households. These counties each had more than 4.0 per cent of children living in child-headed households. Conversely, Taita/Taveta, Kirinyaga, Nyeri, Nandi, Embu, Marsabit, Nyandarua, Tana River, Elgeyo/Marakwet, Tharaka-Nithi and Lamu counties had the lowest concentration of children living in child-headed households at below 1.0 per cent each.

Map Q.4: Percentage Distribution of Children in Child-Headed Households by County

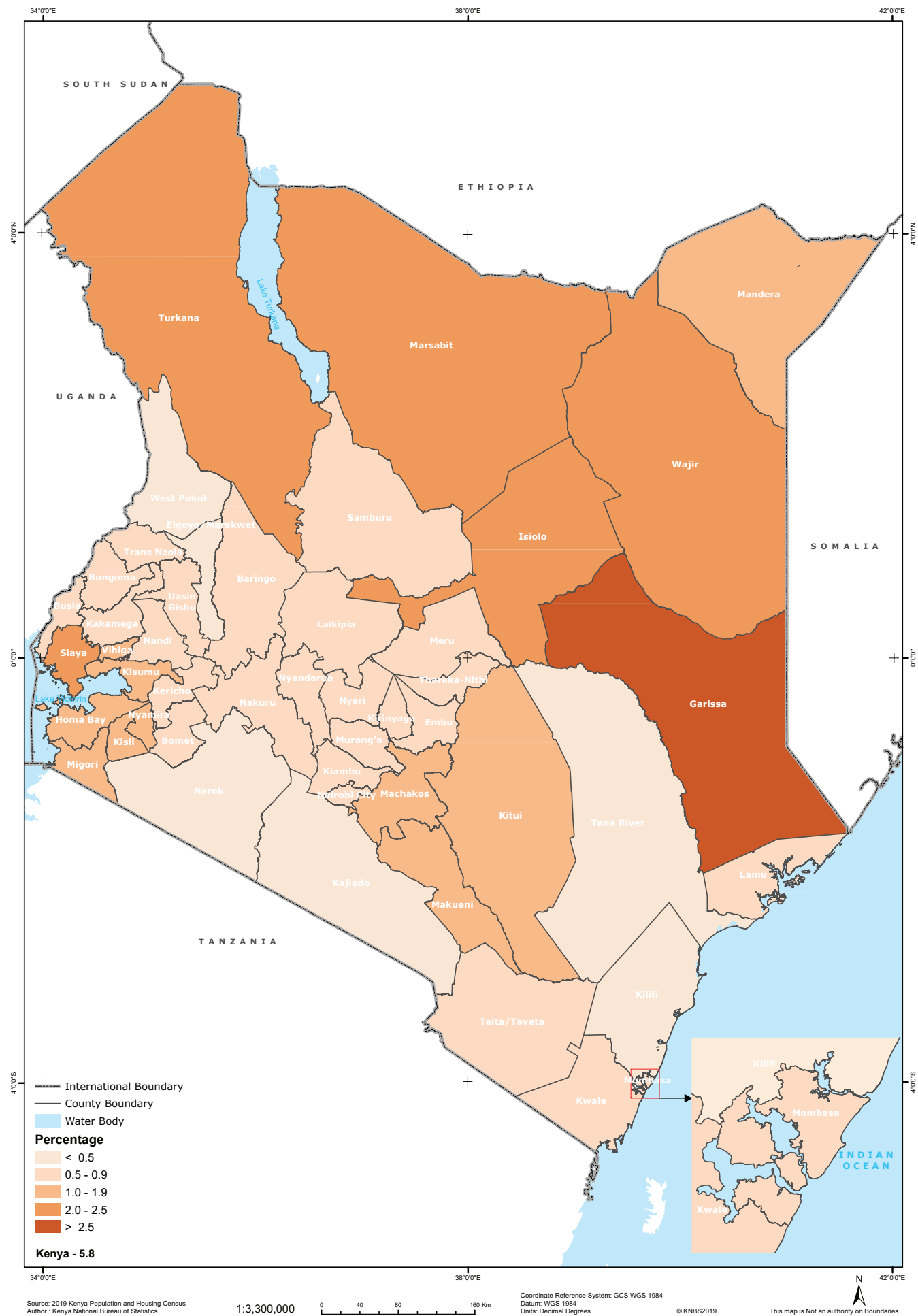


Q 5: Percentage Distribution of Orphans by County

In the 2019 KPHC, orphans were defined as children below the age of 18 years who had lost both parents in death. The percentage distribution of orphans by county is shown in Map Q.5. Garissa County had the highest proportion of children who are

orphans at more than 3.0 per cent. Conversely, Kilifi, Kajiado, Elgeyo/Marakwet, Narok, Tana River and West Pokot counties had the lowest proportions, at less than 0.5 per cent each, of children who were orphaned.

Map Q 5: Percentage Distribution of Orphans by County



Q 6: Percentage Distribution of Homeless Population by County

The United Nations defines homeless households as those without a shelter that would fall within the scope of living quarters. These households carry their few possessions with them, sleeping in the streets, in doorways or on piers, or in any other space, on a more or less random basis. In the 2019 KPHC, the proportion of the homeless was less than 1.0 per cent of the total population.

Map Q.6 presents the percentage distribution of the homeless population by county. Nairobi City County had the highest concentration of the homeless population. The county had more than 30 per cent of the homeless population. On the other hand, Isiolo County had less than 0.1 per cent of homeless population, this being the lowest in the country.

Map Q 6: Percentage Distribution of Homeless Population by County

