



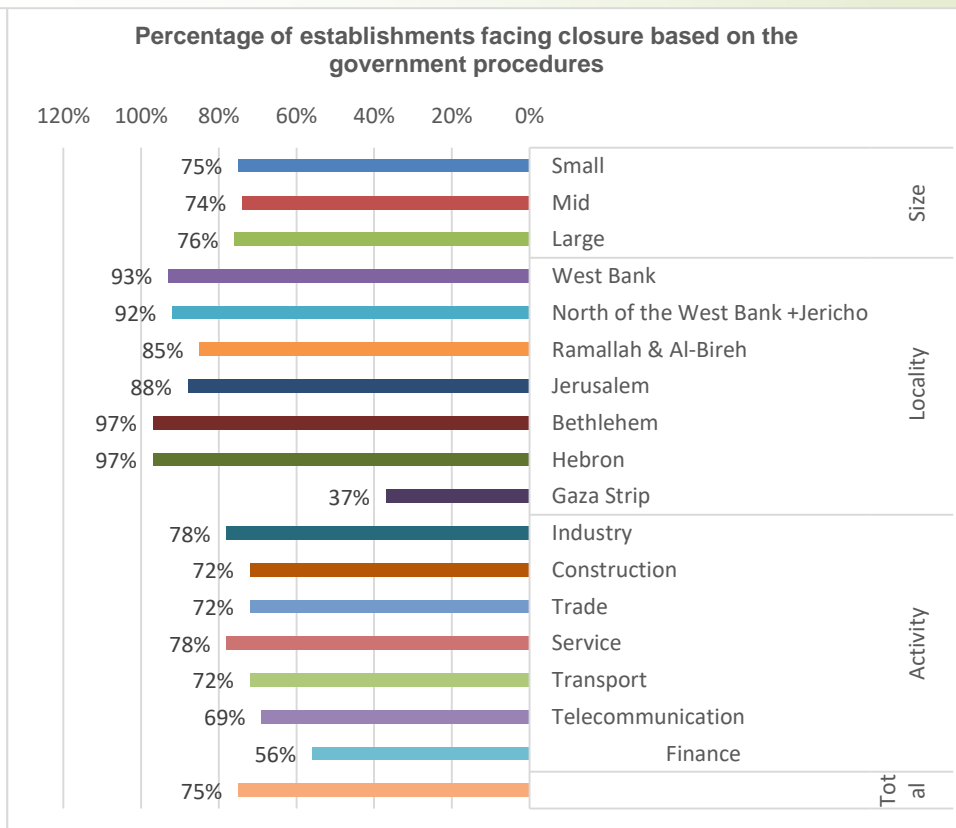
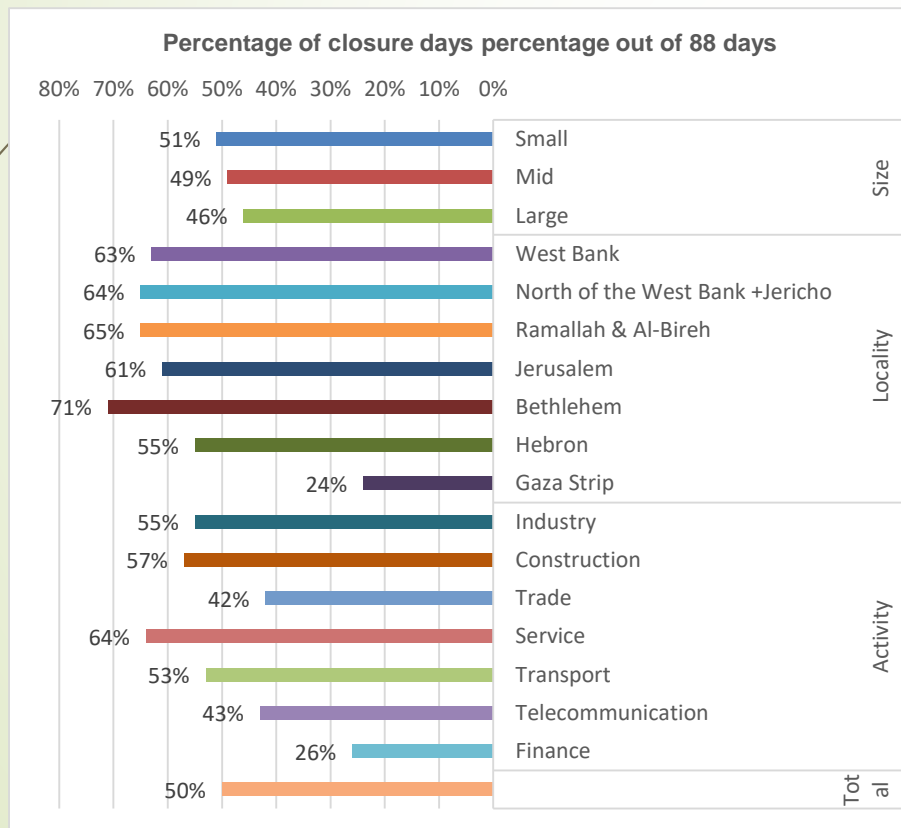
# **State of Palestine Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

## **COVID-19 Business Pulse Survey in Palestine, 2020**

### **Main Findings**

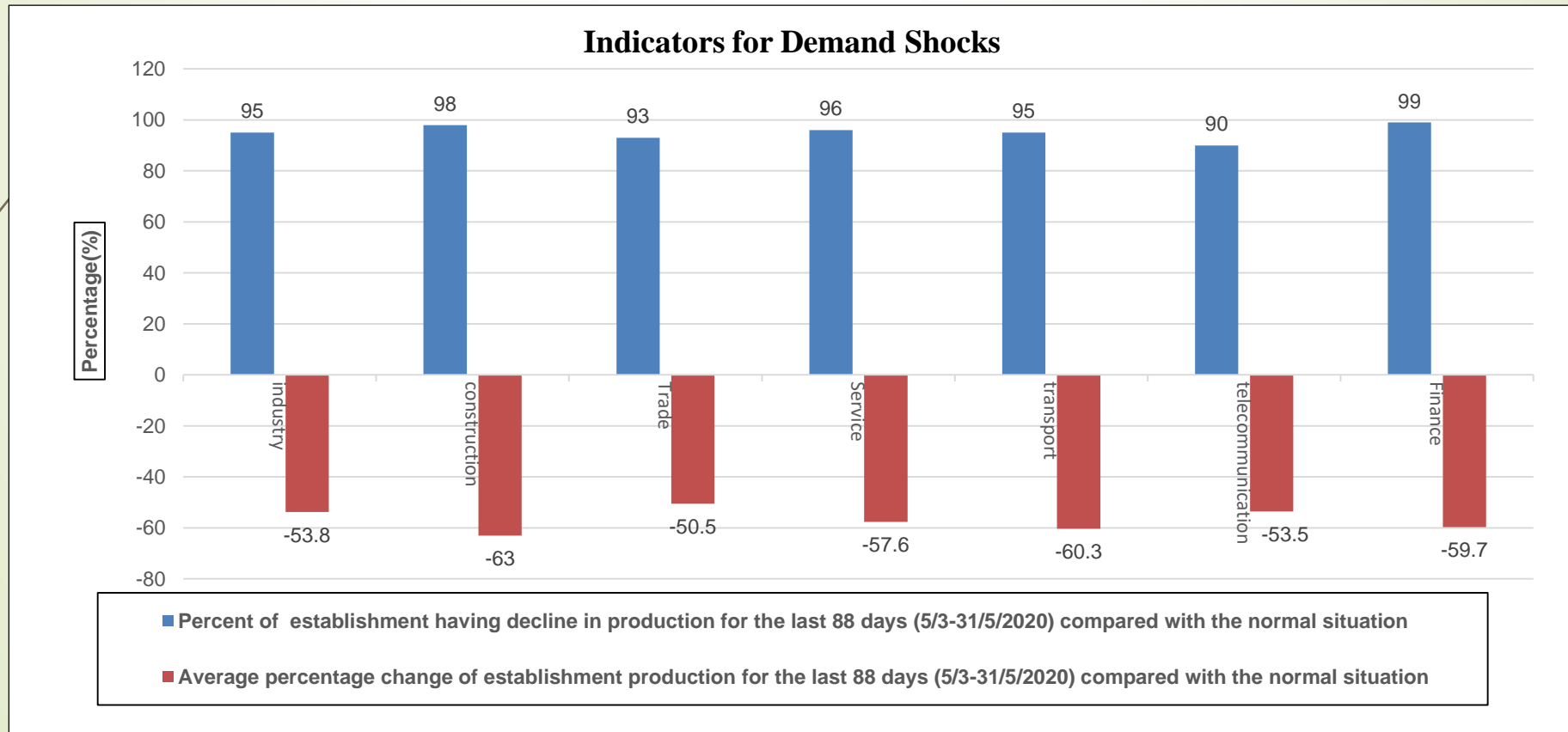
## 1. Lockdown and closure

- 75% of the establishments reported facing closure days as a result of the restrictions imposed by the government to face COVID-19 outbreak.
- The percentage of the closure days during the three months of lockdown out of 88 working days was (50%).



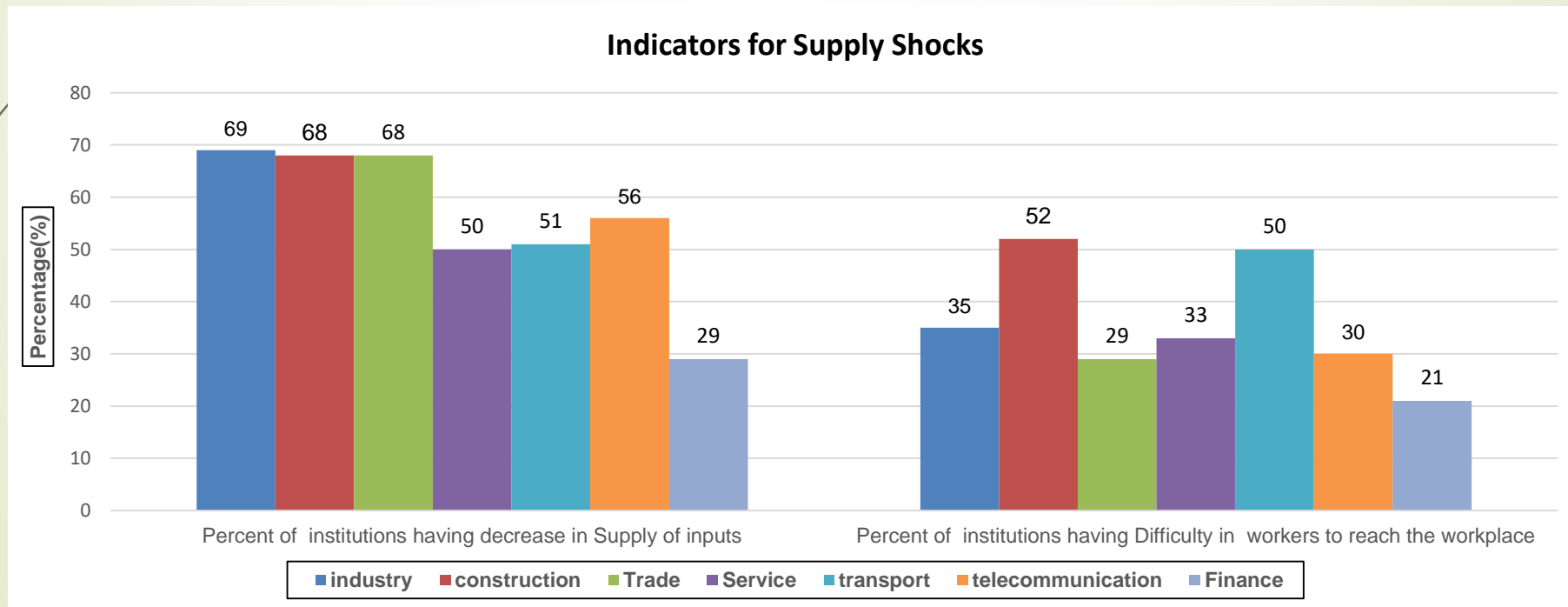
## 2. Demand Shocks (decreased in sales or productions)

Most of the establishments reported that sales/production have decreased during the three months of the lockdown by (94%), with an average sales/production by 53% compared with normal situation. Establishments working in construction had the highest decline of the average sales/production by (63%) compared with normal situation, followed by transport sector with a decline of (60%).



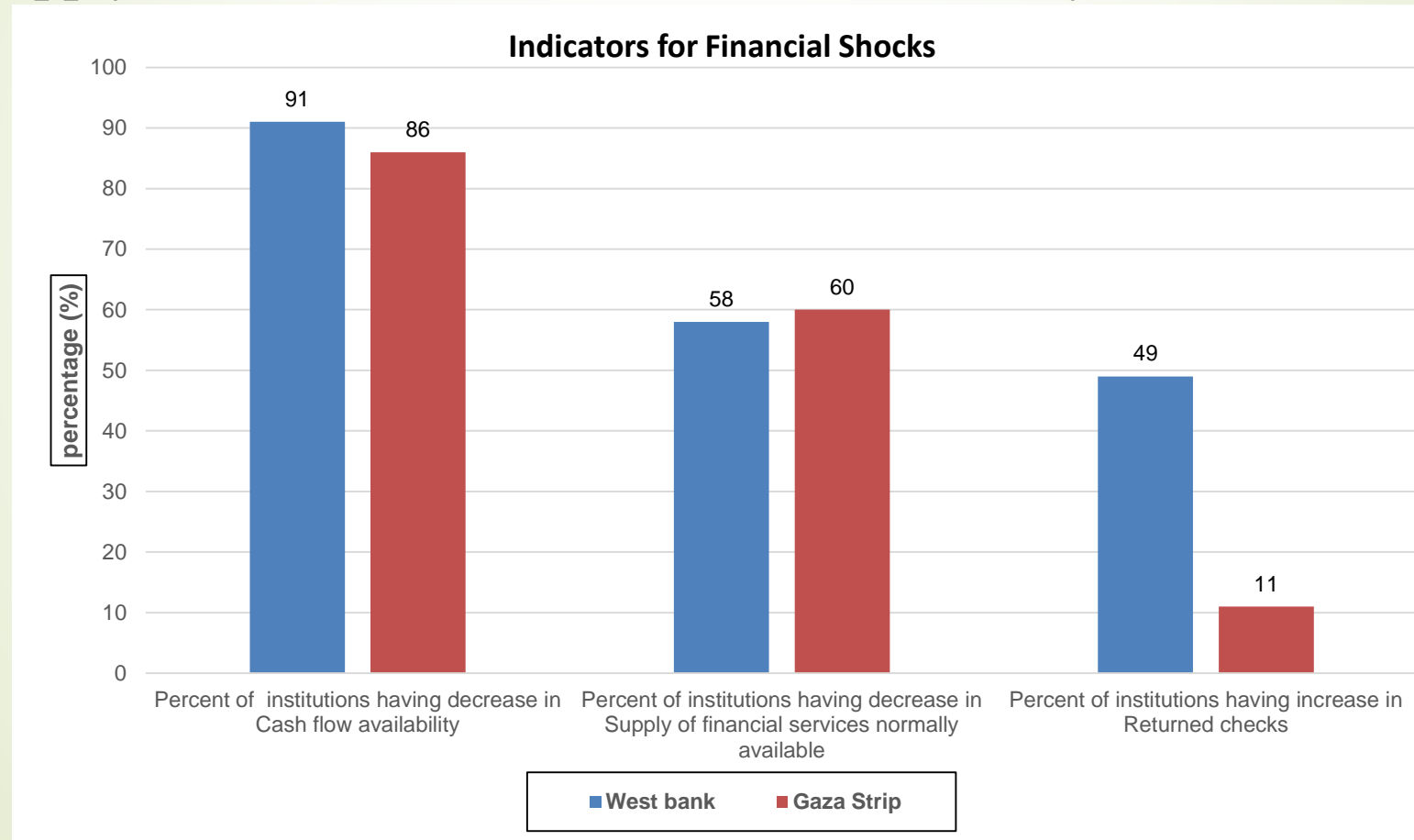
### 3. Supply Shocks (the inputs: raw material and employee)

62% of the establishments reported having difficulties in the supply of inputs, raw materials and materials purchased (68% in West Bank and 51% in Gaza Strip). The economic activities suffering the most from this difficulty are industry (69%), trade sector (68%) and construction sector (68%). Also 31% of the establishments reported having difficulties for employees in reaching their workplace (44% in West bank and 5% in Gaza Strip).



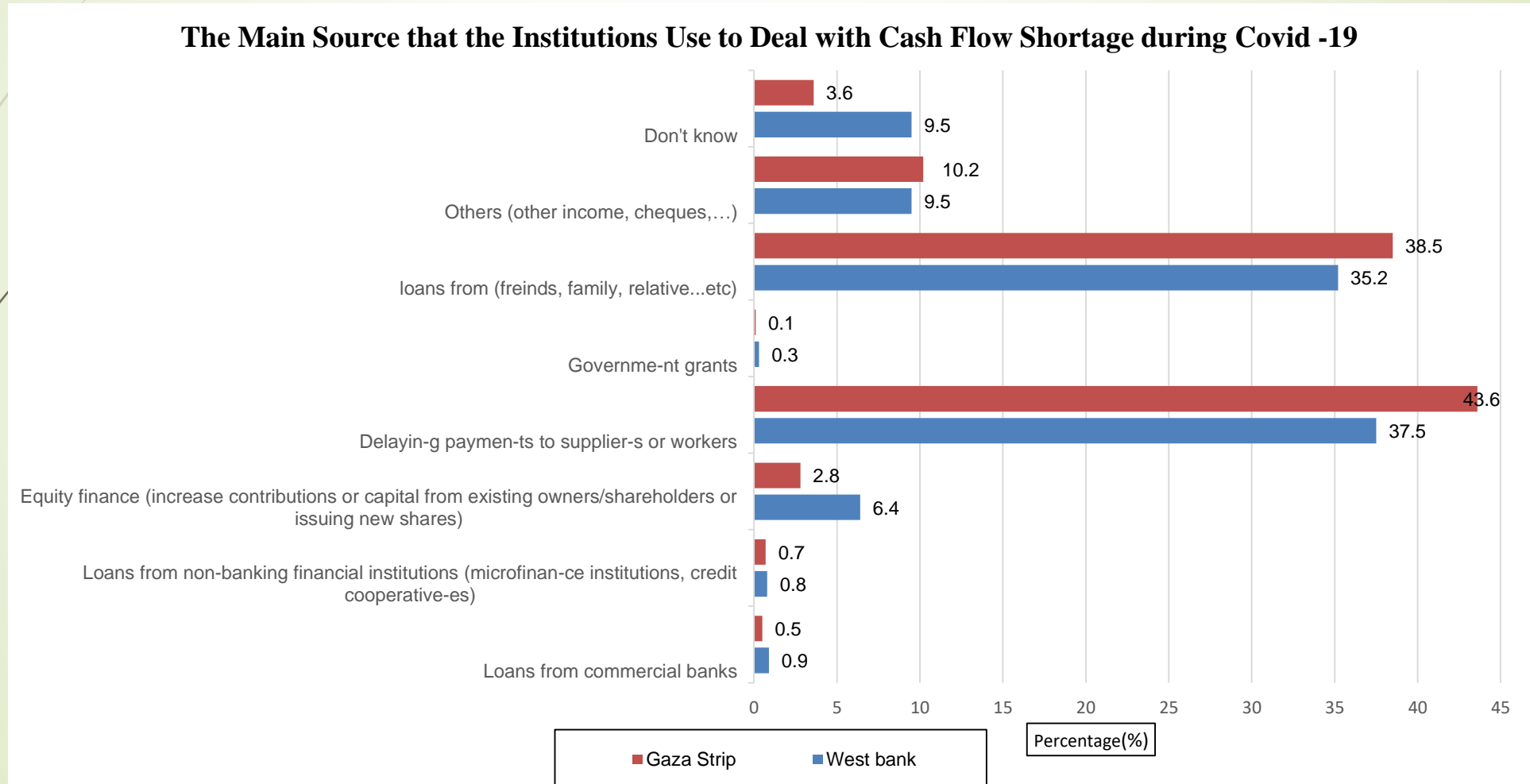
## 4. Financial Shocks

89% of the establishments faced a decline in the availability of cash flow. Meanwhile, 37% reported an increase in returned checks (49% in the West Bank and 11% in Gaza Strip), and 59% of the establishments reported having a difficulty in the supply of financial services which are normally available.



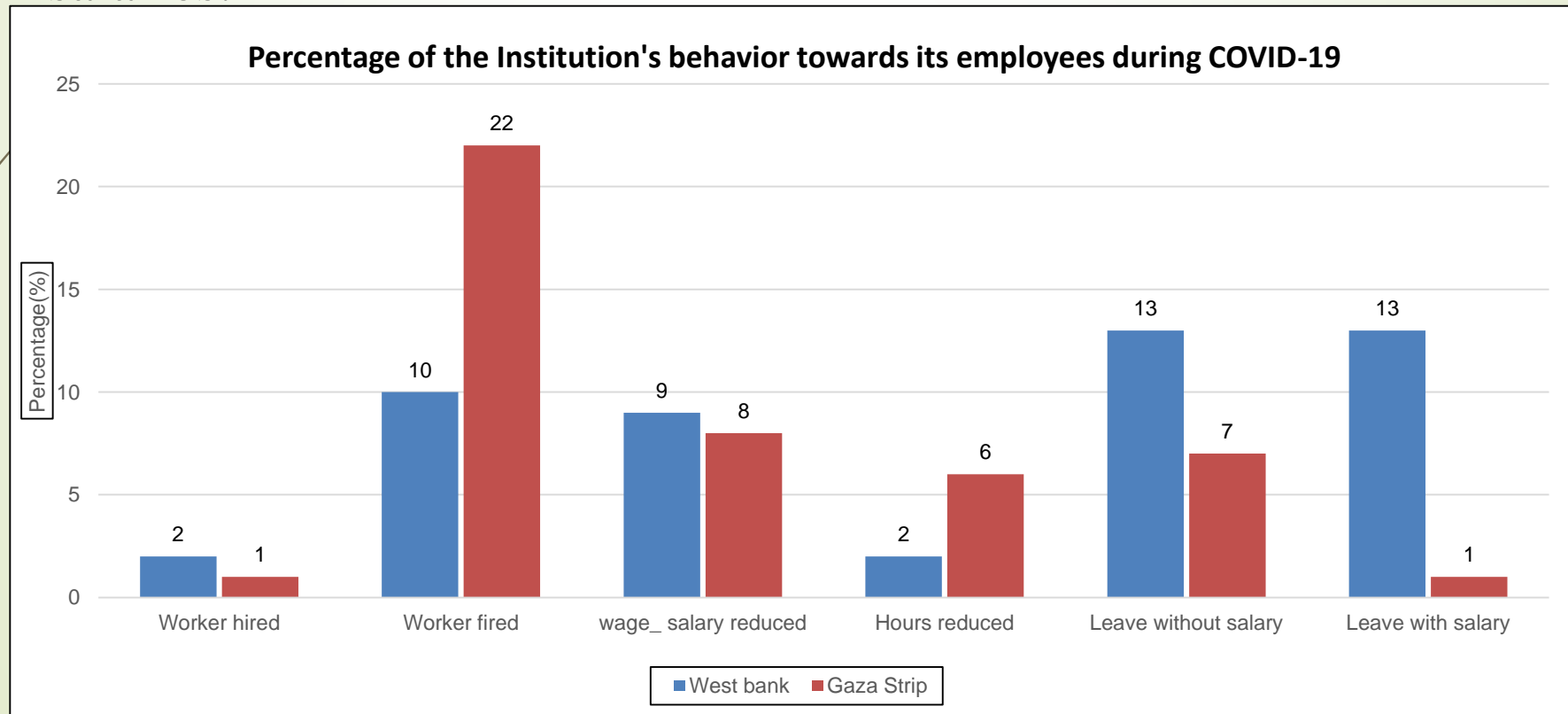
## 5. Financial Adjustment Mechanism

In order to deal with cash flow shortages, 39% of the establishments reported that they have delay payments to suppliers and/or employees, and 36% of them have loans from friends, family, relative...etc.



## 6. Impact on Employment

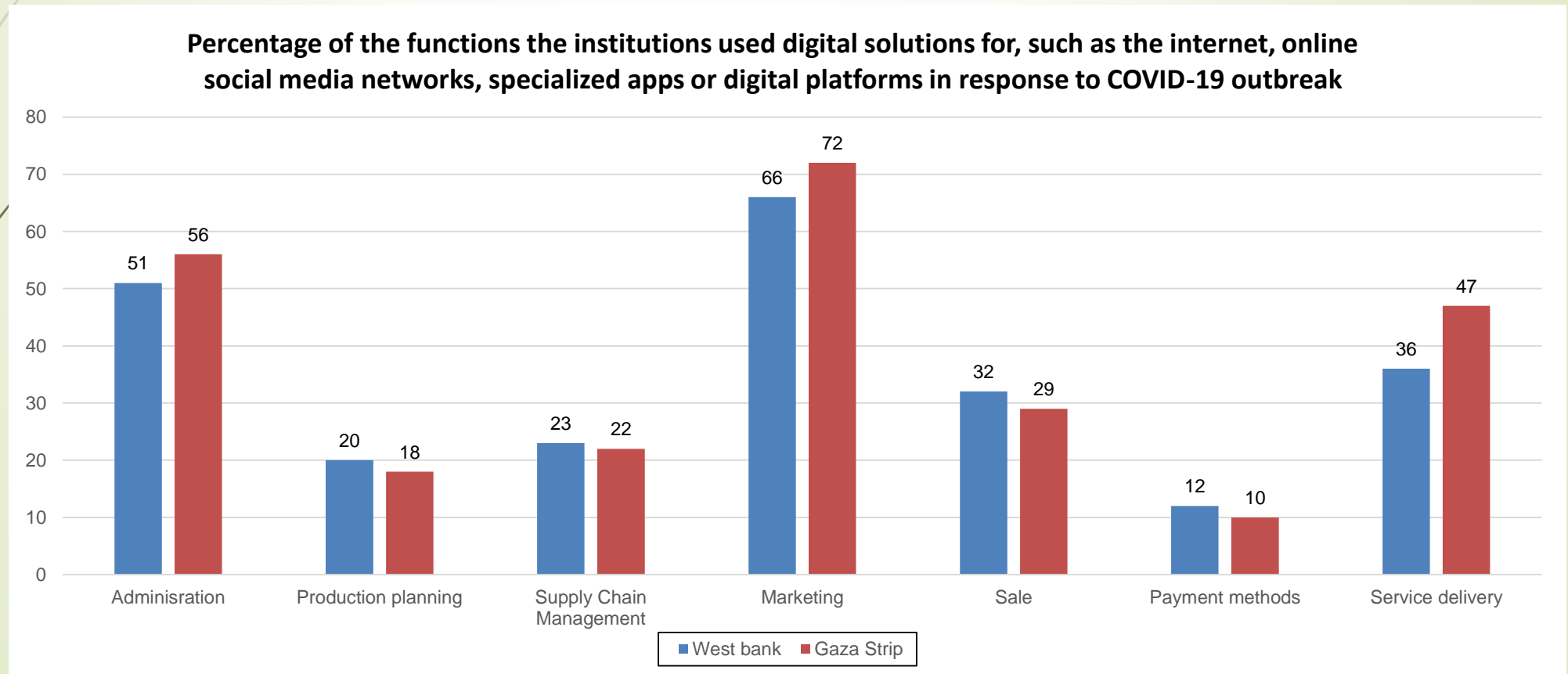
13% of the establishments have responded to this crisis by firing their employees. Whereas 8% of the establishments responded to such pandemic by reducing the salaries and wages of their employees. Meanwhile, 11% of the establishments responded to the crisis by asking their employees to stay home without giving them their salaries and 9% of the establishments let their employees to stay home with their salaries.





## 7. Use of Digital Solutions

13% of the establishments started using or have increased the use of internet, online social media networks, specialized apps or digital platforms in response to COVID-19 outbreak; whereas the main use of such digital solutions was for marketing with a percentage of 69%, 53% for business administration, and 40% for sale.





## 8. Needed Policies

69% of the establishments reported that the most needed policies to support their business to overcome the impact of COVID-19 crisis are utility subsidies (services: electricity, water, wastewater, internet, etc.). While 55% reported that exemptions or tax deductions, 51% for salary subsidies, and 49% for rental deferral as needed policies to support their business.

