Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) 2013 Rural Livelihoods Assessment









Foreword

The Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC), as has become the tradition since 2002, conducted the Annual Rural Livelihoods Assessment (ARLA) number twelve. The assessment is part of a comprehensive information system that informs Government and its Development Partners on programming necessary for saving lives and strengthening rural livelihoods in Zimbabwe. ZimVAC is the central pillar around which the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) plans to build its strategy to fulfil commitment number 6 of the recently launched Government of Zimbabwe Food and Nutrition Security Policy.

The 2013 ARLA covers and provides updates on pertinent rural household livelihoods issues such as education, food and income sources, income levels, expenditure patterns, crop production, livestock production, child nutrition, water and sanitation, crop post-harvest management and issues associated with it. In addition to paying particular focus on and putting households at the centre of its analysis, the ARLA also collects and records rural communities' views on their livelihoods challenges as well as their development aspirations.

The ARLA recognises and draws from other national contemporary surveys that define the socio economic context of rural livelihoods. Most notable amongst these are Crop and Livestock Assessments, the Health and Demographic surveys, the National Census, the Poverty Assessment Surveys and national economic performance reviews.

We commit this report to you all for your use and reference in your invaluable work. We hope it will light your way as you search for lasting measures in addressing priority issues keeping many of our rural households vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity.

We want to express our profound gratitude to all our Development Partners, in the country and beyond, for their support throughout the survey. Financial support was received from FAO, WFP and SADC-RVAA. Without this support this ARLA would not have been the success it is. We also want to thank our staff at FNC for providing leadership, coordination and management to the whole survey.

It is our joint honour and pleasure to present this report. We hope it will improve short, medium and long term planning aimed at improving the quality of life amongst rural Zimbabweans.

DO Je

George Kembo
ZimVAC Chairperson

Dr. Robson Mafoti
Chief Executive Officer - SIRDC

2

Acknowledgements

SIRDC and FNC, on behalf of the Government of Zimbabwe, wish to express their sincere gratitude and appreciation to the following ZimVAC members for their technical, financial and material support and contributions to the 2013 Rural Livelihoods Assessment:

- Food And Nutrition Council
- Scientific and Industrial Research and Development Centre
- Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development
- Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development
- Ministry of Labour and Social Services
- Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency
- Ministry of Health and Child Welfare
- Ministry of Education, Arts, Sports and Culture
- Food and Agriculture Organization
- World Food Programme
- United States Agency for International Development
- Famine Early Warning Systems Network
- United Nations Office for the Coordination Of Humanitarian Affairs

- Promoting Recovery In Zimbabwe (PRIZE)
- ACF
- Practical Action
- Christian Care
- World Vision
- Care International
- BHASO
- SAT
- Save the Children Zimbabwe
- IRC
- PLAN
- GOAL
- Caritas
- ORAP
- FACT
- COMMTECH
- CTDT
- CADS

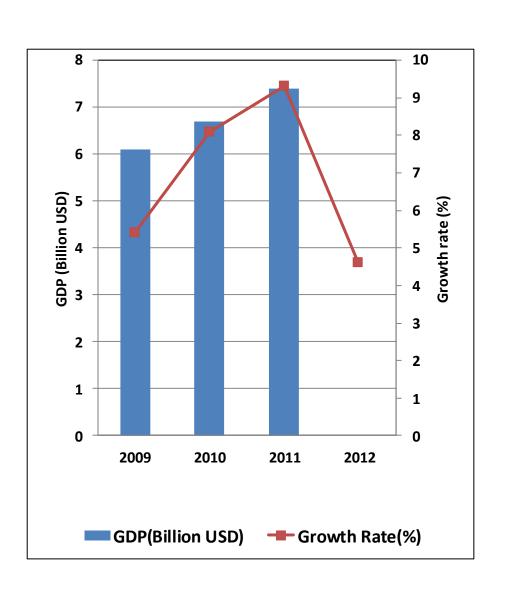
Table of Contents

•	Background and Introduction	5
•	Assessment purpose	10
•	Assessment Methodology	13
•	Sample Demographics	18
•	Education	24
•	Water and Sanitation	31
•	Household Income and Expenditure	37
•	Crop production	45
•	Small Grains	56
•	Post Harvest	64
•	Agriculture Commodities and Inputs Markets	73
•	Irrigation Schemes	81
•	Livestock	86
•	Household Consumption Patterns	101
•	Food Security Situation	117
•	Community Activities to Address Food and Nutrition Security Challenges	137
•	Community Livelihoods Challenges and Development Priorities	139
•	Conclusions and Recommendations	142
•	Annexes	152

Background and Introduction

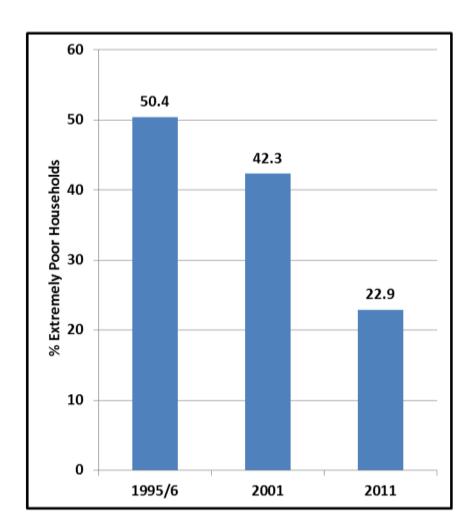
Background- Economic Overview

- The Zimbabwean economy continued to post real growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) since 2009.
- GDP rose from about USD6.1 billion in 2009 to USD 6.7 billion in 2010 and USD 7.4 billion in 2011 (Zimstat, 2013).
- The economic growth rate slowed down to about 4.6% in 2012 mainly due to subdued performance of the agricultural sector.
- The maintenance of the multi-currency policy and pursuit of other economic stabilisation and growth policies have ensured general macro-economic stability.
- Year on year inflation has averaged out at around 4 % since March 2010 (MoEP&IP, 2012).



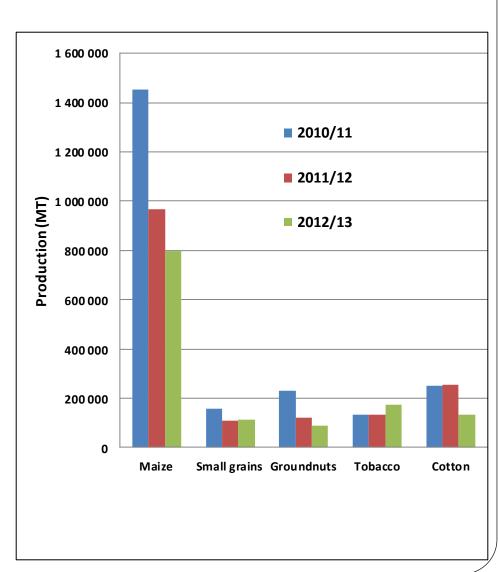
Background – Rural Poverty

- The 2011/12 Poverty Income and Consumption Survey (PICES) estimated the head count of poor rural households in Zimbabwe at 76% in 2011.
- The proportion of extremely poor rural households was 22.9%, this fell from 50.4% in 1995/6 and 42.3% in 2001(ZimStat, 2013).



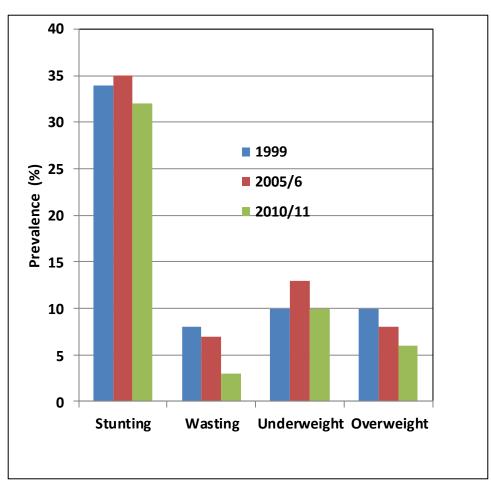
Background - Agriculture

- Agriculture is a key livelihoods activity for the majority of Zimbabwe's rural population.
- Mainly because of the poor rainfall season quality, production of major crops in 2012/13 fell compared to last season's harvest.
- The Ministry of Agriculture Mechanization and Irrigation Development estimates the country will face a harvest cereal deficit of about 870,000MT in the 2013/14 consumption year (MoAM&ID, 2013).
- Livestock (cattle, sheep and goats) were in a fair to good condition in April 2013.
- Grazing and water for livestock were generally adequate in most parts of the country save for the communal areas, where it was, as is normal, generally inadequate.



Background - Nutrition

- ZDHS nutrition data from surveys conducted between 1999 and 2010/11 shows that the prevalence of stunting and underweight increased slightly between 1999 and 2005/06 and decreased between 2005/06 and 2010/11.
- While the prevalence of underweight had a trend similar to that of stunting, wasting showed a consistent decline over the same period.



It is against the foregoing socio-economic background that the 2013 ARLA was conducted.

Background - Health

- While some progress has been made towards reducing the rate of under-five mortality to 84/1000 in 2010-11. This is far off the desired target of 34/1000 by year 2015.
- The infant mortality rate of 57/1000 in 2010-11 shows is also far off the 2015 target of 22/1000.
- The maternal mortality rate has increased from 612/100,000 in 2005-06 to 960/100,000 in 2010-11. The adolescent birth rate has increased from 96/1,000 in 2009 to 114.6/1,000 in 2010-11. The rate is higher in rural areas (120/1,000 girls) than in urban areas (70/1,000).
- HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years was 5.5%. The prevalence in women is much higher (7.8%) than in men (3.6%).
- Malaria incidence appear to have dropped from about 5.8% in 2009 to 2.5% in 2011. Case fatality rates for the disease was at 4.5% in 2011.

Assessment Purpose

Assessment Objectives

Broad Objective

 To assess the food and nutrition security for the rural population of Zimbabwe and update information on their key socio-economic profiles.

Specific Objectives

- To estimate the rural population that is likely to be food insecure in the 2013/14 consumption year, their geographic distribution and the severity of their food insecurity.
- To describe the socio-economic profiles of rural households in terms of such characteristics as their demographics, access to basic services (education, health services and safe water and sanitation facilities), assets, income sources, incomes and expenditure patterns, food consumption patterns and consumption coping strategies.
- To assess the availability and access to agricultural inputs and produce markets.
- To assess crop post-harvest practices and identify opportunities for addressing potential postharvest losses.
- To assess access to education, and safe water and sanitation facilities by rural households and identify challenges to optimum access of the services.
- To identify development priorities for rural communities in all rural provinces of the country.
- To assess the nutrition status of children 6-59 months in sampled households.

Technical Scope

The 2013 Rural Livelihoods Assessment collected and analysed information on the following areas:

- Household demographics
- Access to education
- Water and sanitation
- Food consumption patterns, food sources, household hunger scale, consumption coping strategies, and nutrition
- Income and expenditure patterns and levels
- Smallholder Agriculture (crop and livestock production, community gardens and irrigation)
- Production and consumption of small grains
- Post-harvest management by Smallholder Farmers
- Household food security
- Community livelihood challenges and development priorities

Assessment Methodology

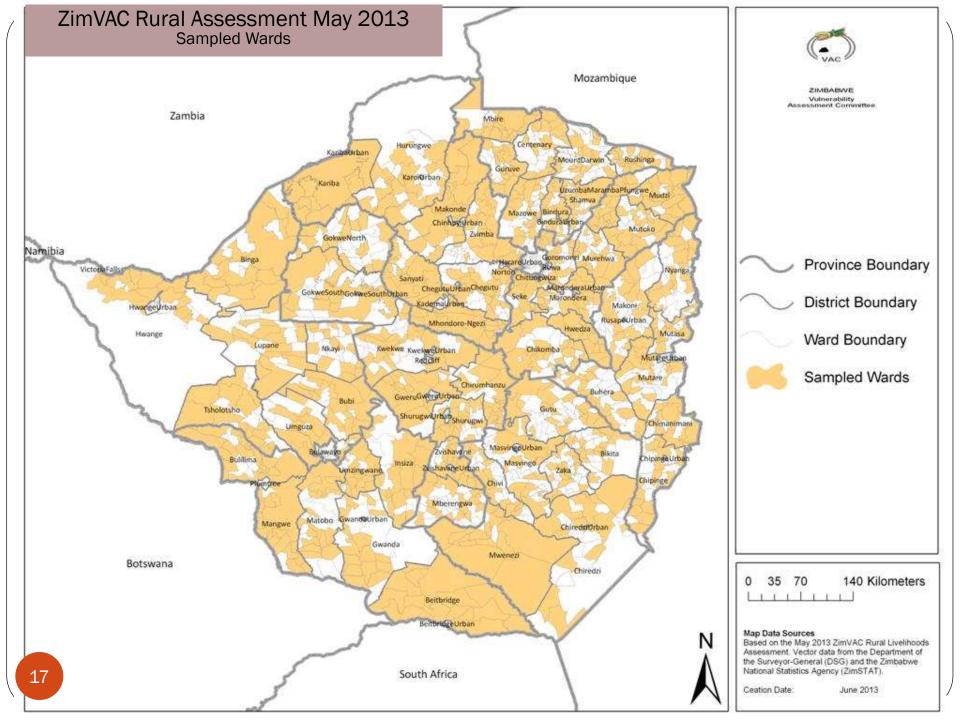
Assessment Methodology and Process

- The assessment design was informed by the multi-sector objectives generated by a multi-stakeholder consultation process.
- The technical team developed a community group interview summary form and a structured household questionnaire as the two primary data collection instruments.
- A team of assessment supervisors was recruited from the Government, United Nations and Non-Governmental Organisations who are members of ZimVAC. This underwent a training-of trainers training in all aspects of the assessment.
- Ministry of Local Government coordinated the recruitment of 8 provincial coordinators for the assessment and these in turn coordinated the recruitment of at least 4 district level enumerators in each of the 60 rural districts of Zimbabwe. Experience in data collection was used as one of the key enumerator selection criteria.
- Provincial coordinators mobilised vehicles used by district enumerators from various Government departments as well as relevant NGOs for data collection in the respective districts.
- A two day training in assessment data collection of district enumerators was conducted by the assessment supervisors during the period 29 April to 30 April 2013.
- Primary data collection took place from 2 May to 13 May 2013 supported by national level supervisors and provincial coordinators.
- The assessment made a concerted effort to raise awareness of not only the assessment but also broader ZimVAC activities amongst District Administrators and Rural District Council Chief Executive Officers.
- Centralized data entry took place from 6 May to 17 May 2013 in Harare. This was followed by an intensive process of checking the accuracy of data entry.
- Data analysis and report writing was done from 21 May to 6 June 2013 by the assessment technical team. Various secondary data was used to contextualise their analysis and reporting. The analysis and reporting was subjected to peer review and correction.

Primary Data Collection Sample

- •The sample was designed such that key assessment results were representative at district and provincial levels.
- •The sampled wards were derived by probability proportional to size (PPS), using the ZIMSTAT 2012 sampling frame.
- •At least one enumeration area was then randomly selected in each of the selected wards for enumeration.
- •A minimum of 15 wards were visited in each district.
- •In each EA, 12 households were systematically randomly selected and interviewed.
- •The final sample size for the survey was 10 797 households and 887 community key interviews.

Province	Number of Households Interviewed
Manicaland	1 262
Mashonaland Central	1 440
Mashonaland East	1 614
Mashonaland West	1 263
Matabeleland North	1 260
Matabeleland South	1 257
Midlands	1 440
Masvingo	1 261
Total	10 797



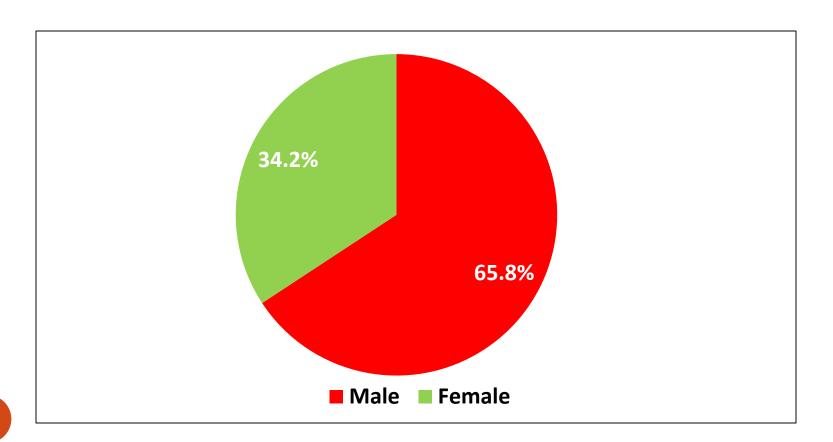
Data Entry, Cleaning and Analysis

- Primary data collected was entered using the Census and Survey Processing System (CSPro) and exported into the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).
- Most of the data cleaning and analysis was done using SPSS complemented by MS Excel and Geographic Information System (GIS) packages.

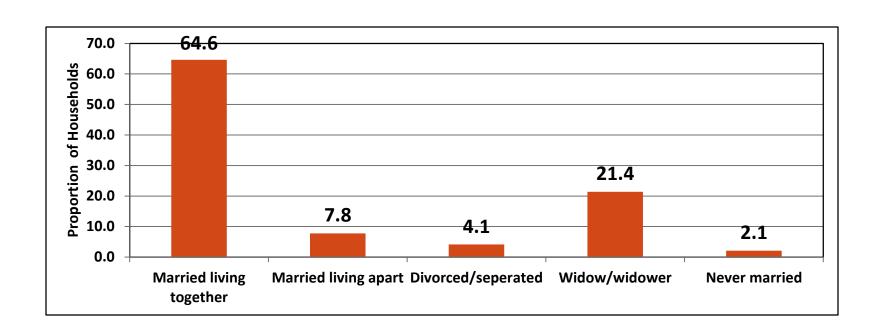
Sample Demographics

Sex and Age of the Household Head

- The sampled households had an average size of 5.4 and the mode of 5 persons in a household.
- Of the sampled households, 65.8% were male headed and 34.2% were female headed.
- The average age of the household head was 49.3 years.



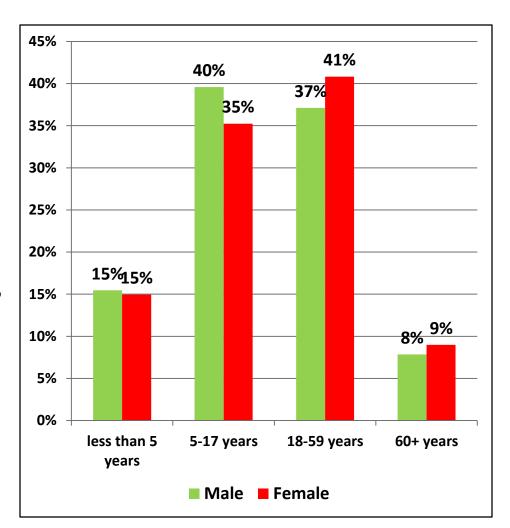
Marital Status of Household Head



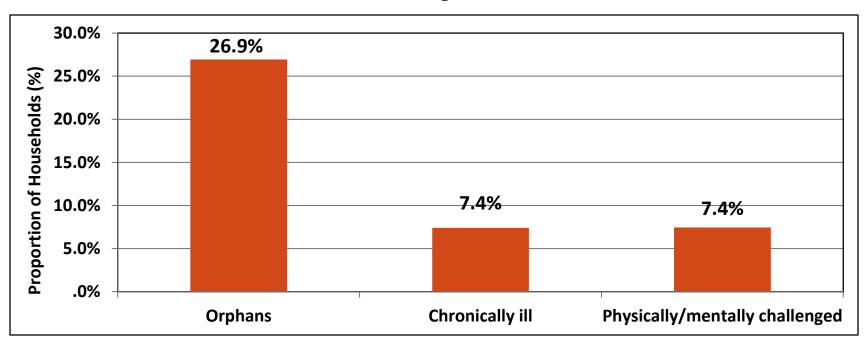
- The majority (65%) of the household heads were married and living with their spouses followed 21% who were widowed.
- About 30% of the households were elderly headed (60+ years) while 0.2% were child headed.
- This picture is consistent with findings from previous ZimVAC assessments.

Sample Distribution by Age and Household Size

- The majority of members of the households were aged 18-59 years.
- This suggests that the rural population is relatively young and this is similar to results from other comparable surveys.



Vulnerability Indicators



- Households with at least an orphan were 27% of the sample. This shows a decreasing trend given that it was 35% in 2010, 32% in 2011 and 30% in 2012.
- Of the sampled households, 7% were hosting a chronically ill member compared to 8% in 2012 and 8.4% in 2011.
- 7% were hosting a physically or mentally challenged member, a figure lower than 8% in 2012.
- About 35% of the sampled households reported to be hosting at least a member who was either chronically ill, physically/mentally challenged or an orphan.
- There is generally a decreasing trend on vulnerability attributes such as the presence of a chronically ill, physically or mentally challenged member or an orphan.

Dependency Ratio

 In this survey, household dependency ratio was computed as follows:

Number of economically inactive members/ Number of economically active members.

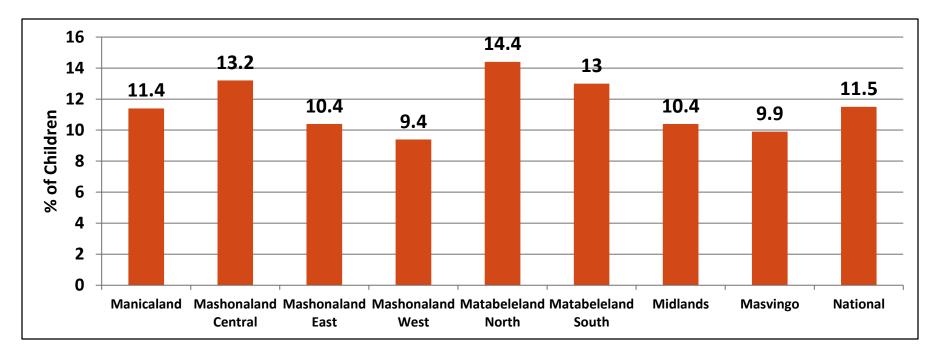
- The average household dependency ratio for the sampled households was 1.8 which is higher than that of 2012 (1.6).
- The highest dependency ratio was recorded for Matabeleland South (2.1) followed by Masvingo (2.0).

Province	Dependency Ratio
Mashonaland West	1.6
Mashonaland Central	1.6
Mashonaland East	1.7
Midlands	1.9
Matabeleland North	1.9
Manicaland	1.9
Masvingo	2.0
Matabeleland South	2.1
National	1.8

Education

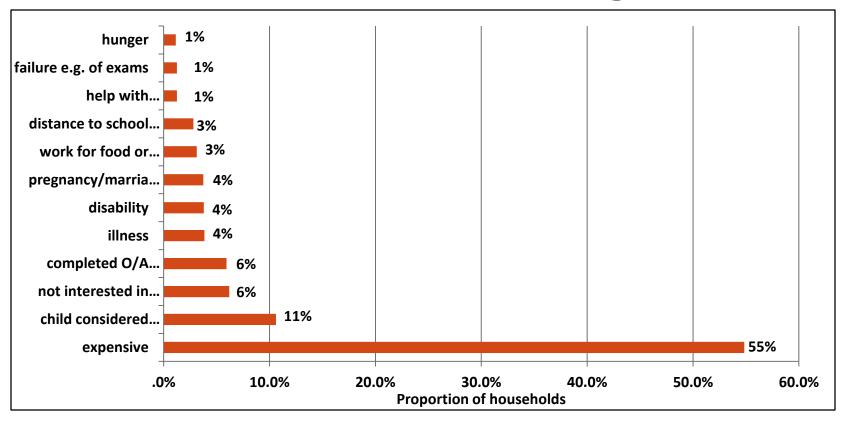
To describe the socio-economic profiles of rural households in terms of such characteristics as their access to education

Out Of School Children by Province



- The results showed that 12% of children of school going age (5-17 years) were not in school at the time of the assessment.
- Matebeleland North (14%), Mashonaland Central and Matabeleland South (13%) had the highest proportions of children of the school going age who were not going to school.
- Mashonaland West (9%) had the lowest proportion of children of school going age who were not in school at the time of the assessment.
 - These findings are similar to those from previous ZimVAC assessments.

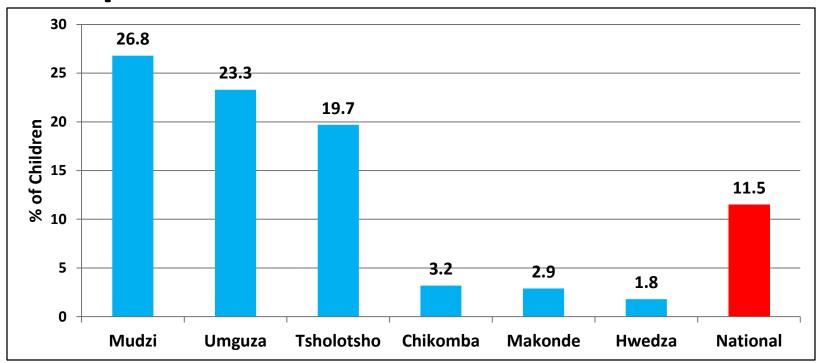
Reasons for Not Attending School



- The major reason why children were not in school was financial constraints (55%).
- About 11% of the children were not in school because they were considered too young, which implies that these children will start school at an older age.
- The percentage of households with children considered too young to go to school decreased significantly from 34% in 2012 to 11% in 2013. This might have been caused by the introduction of satellite schools and Zero Grades.

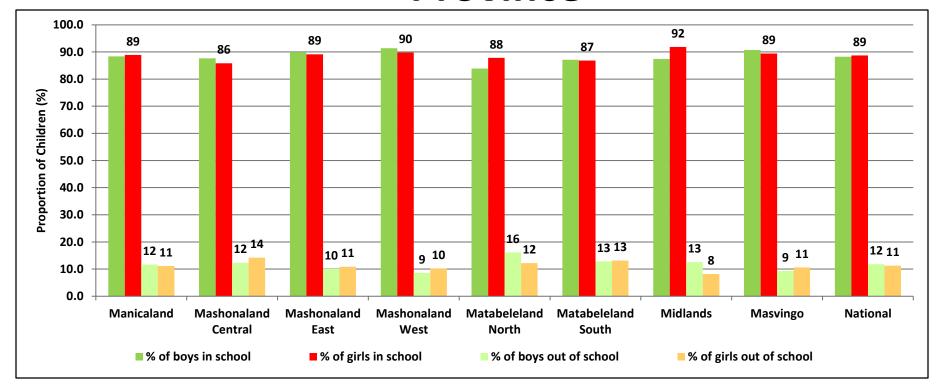
The reasons such as not interested in school/lazy and completed 0/A level (6%) were reported significantly.

Districts With the Highest and Lowest Proportions of Children Out of School



- The proportion of children of school going age who were not in school at the time of the assessment was highest in Mudzi (27%), followed by Umguza (23%) and Tsholotsho (20%).
- Mudzi had a significant increase of children who were out of school at the time of the assessment compared to the previous assessment.
- Chikomba (3%), Makonde (3%) and Hwedza (2%) had the lowest proportions of children of school going age who were out of school at the time of the assessment.

School Attendance by Gender by Province

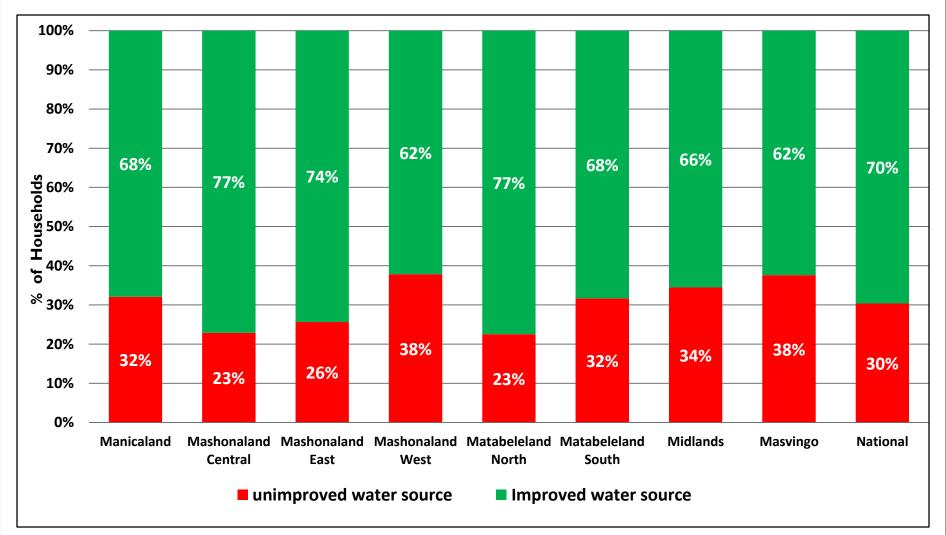


- Nationally, 12% boys and 11% girls of school going age were not attending school at the time of the assessment.
- Matabeleland North (16%) had the highest proportion of boys who were not in school at the time of the assessment, while Mashonaland Central (14%) recorded the highest proportion of girls who were not in school.
- The lowest proportion of boys who were not in school was recorded in Midlands (9%) with Mashonaland West (8%) recording the lowest proportion of girls who were not in school.

Water and Sanitation

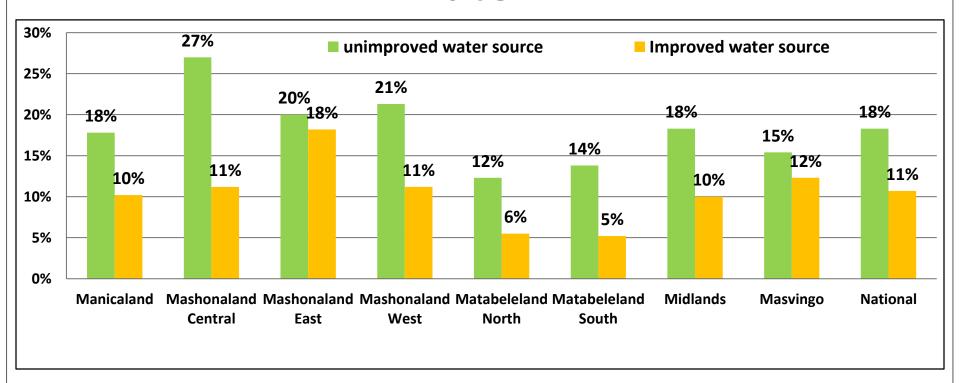
To record households' access to improved drinking-water sources and improved sanitation facilities

Household Sources of Water



- Nationally, 70% of the rural households in Zimbabwe used drinking water from improved sources. Coverage of improved drinking water sources was highest in Mashonaland Central, and Matabeleland North (77%).
- Mashonaland West and Masvingo (38%) had the highest proportion of households accessing water from unimproved sources.
- These results compare closely with those from the Zimvac 2011 rural livelihoods assessment.

Proportion of Households Treating their Water



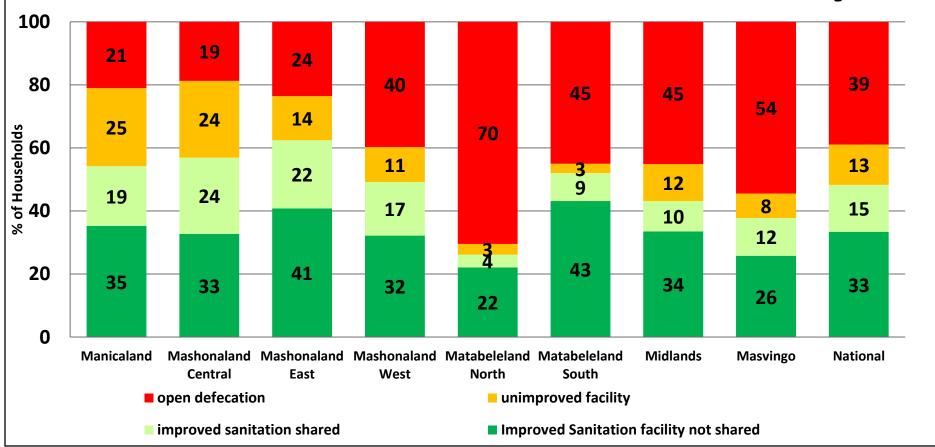
- The practice of water treatment continues to be generally low across all rural provinces. About 18% of households using unimproved water sources treated their drinking water. In 2011, 17% of the rural households reported treating water from unimproved water sources.
- Matabeleland North (12%) and Matabeleland South provinces (14%) had the least proportion of households treating their water from unimproved sources.
- Like the results from the Zimvac 2011 ARLA, Mashonaland Central (27%) and Mashonaland West (21%) had the highest proportion of households treating water from unimproved water sources.

Proportion of Households Treating Water from Main Source by Method and Province

Province	Boil	Add bleach or chlorine	Strain it with a cloth	Use water filter	Solar disinfection	Let stand and settle	Add water treatment tablet	Other
Manicaland	30%	12%				3%	54%	2%
Mashonaland Central	20%	19%	1%	3%	1%	1%	56%	
Mashonaland East	19%	39%	0%	0%			39%	2%
Mashonaland West	23%	15%	3%	1%	1%		53%	5%
Matabeleland North	62%	6%	2%	2%			18%	10%
Matabeleland South	59%	14%	4%	1%			22%	
Midlands	36%	17%	2%	1%			43%	2%
Masvingo	27%	18%	1%	5%		2%	48%	1%
National	30%		1%	2%	0%	1%	44%	2%

- Of those that treated water from their main drinking source, 44% used a water treatment tablet, 30% were boiling their water and 20% were adding bleach or chlorine to their water.
- Water boiling is most common in the two Matabeleland provinces. Adding bleach is most popular in Mashonaland East province and Use of a treatment tablet is most common in Manicaland, Mashonaland Central and Mashonaland West provinces.

% Households Sanitation Facility

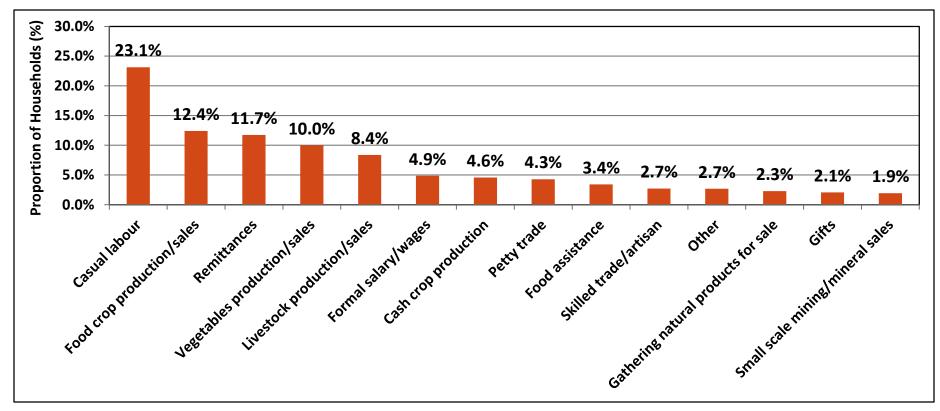


- Nationally, 48% of the sampled households were using improved sanitation facilities and 39% were practicing open defecation.
- Matabeleland North (70%) and Masvingo (54%) had the highest proportion of households practicing open defecation.
- The best provinces regarding access to improved sanitation facilities that are not shared were Matabeleland South (43%) and Mashonaland East (41%).

Household Income and Expenditure Patterns

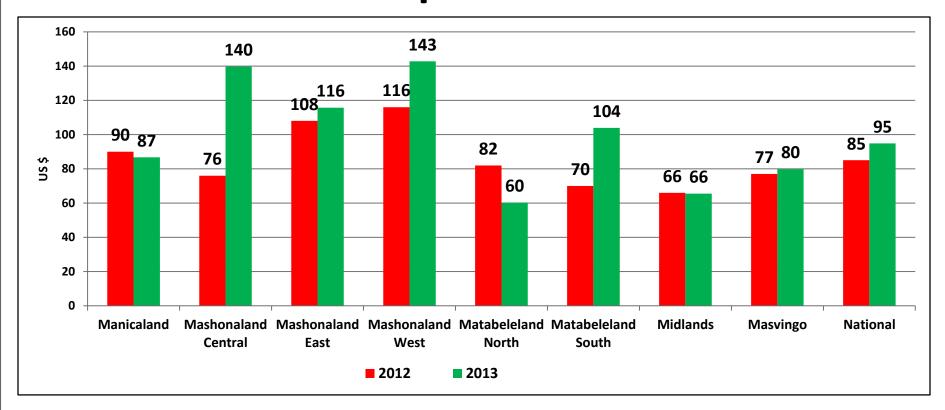
To describe the socio-economic profiles of rural households in terms of such characteristics as their income sources, income and expenditure patterns

Most Common Household Cash Income Sources used by Rural Households



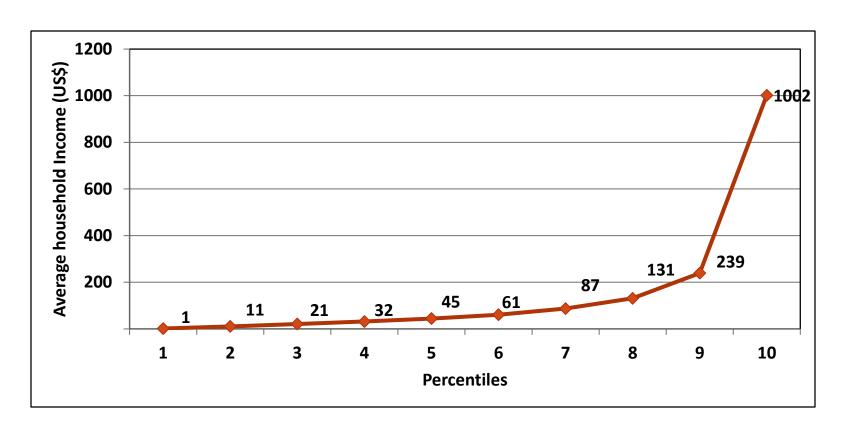
- The most common household cash income source reported was casual labour (23% of the sampled households).
- Food crop production/sales and remittances were second and third at about 12%.
- The least common cash income source was small scale mining at 2%.
- All Mashonaland and Midlands Provinces ranked food crop sales as the second most common income source.
- Remittances was ranked second in the two Matabeleland Provinces and in Masvingo Province
 - This trend is the same as that obtained last year

Average Household Income by Province April 2013



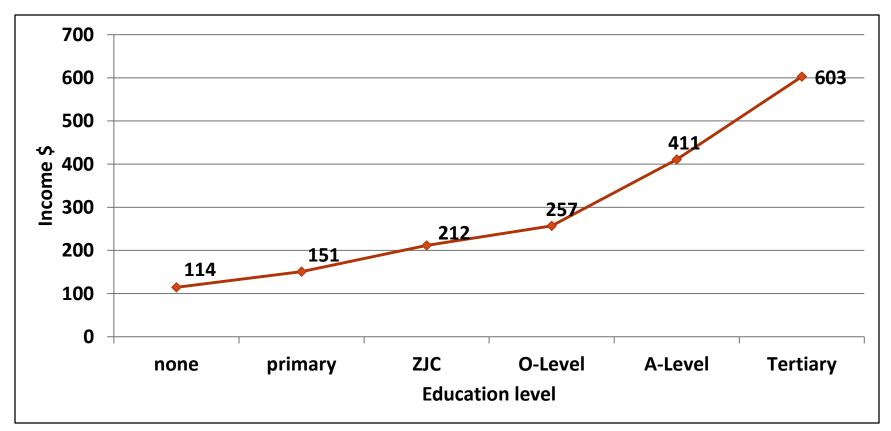
- The national average household income for April 2013 was US\$95, an increase of about 12% from the same time last year.
- The highest average household income was reported in Mashonaland West at US\$143, followed by Mashonaland Central at US\$140. This was mainly due to revenue from cash crops(mostly tobacco).
- The least amount of average income was reported in Matabeleland North at US\$60.
- Matabeleland North recorded a marked decrease in average household income compared to last year.

April 2013 Average Household Income Distribution



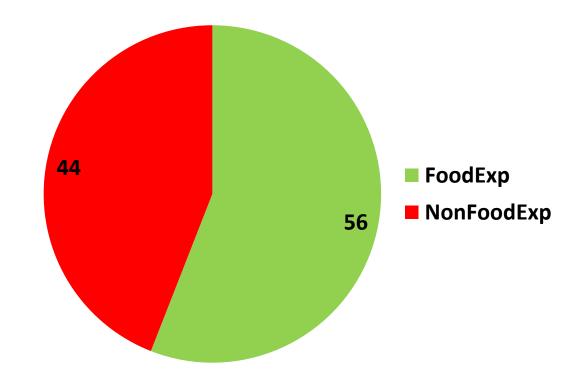
- 90% of the rural households earned less than US\$250 in April 2013. The bottom
 50% of these earned less than US\$50 and the bottom 20% earned less than US\$20.
- This distribution pattern was very similar across all provinces. Marked differences
 were noticeable in the average household income of the top 10% and this explains
 the differences in the provincial level average household incomes.

Educational Level of Household Head versus Income



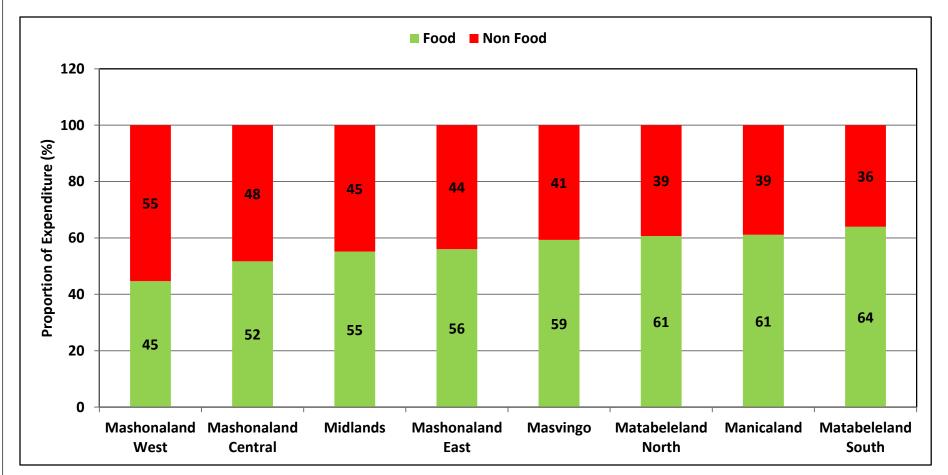
- Households with household heads with tertiary education reported the highest level of income while those without any level of education reported the least average income.
- Similar results were obtained by the 2010/2012 (Poverty, Income, Consumption and Expenditure Survey (PICES).

Ratio of Household Expenditure: Food & Non-Food Items for the Month of April 2013



- Food items constituted the greatest share of most rural households' expenditure at 56% compared to the share of non-food items at 44%.
- This is a typical expenditure pattern for poor households. Remember 76% of rural households were classified as poor by the PICES 2011.

Provincial Outlook: Expenditure on Food and Non Food Items

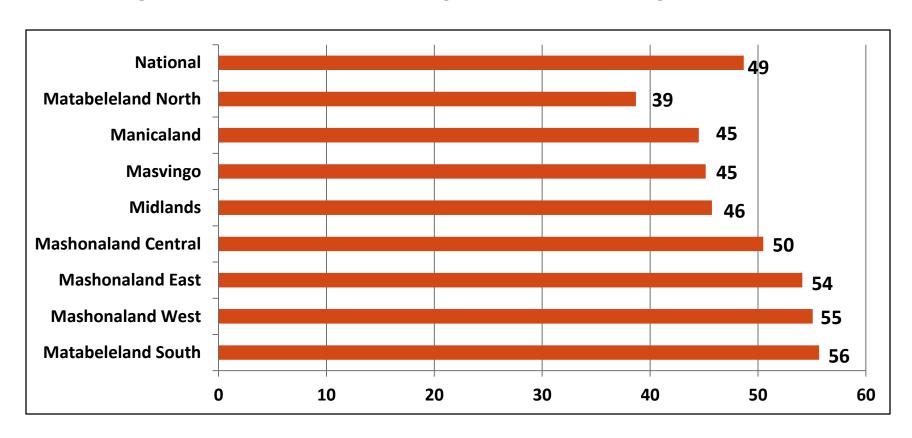


- Matabeleland South had the highest expenditure on food items (64%) followed by Matabeleland North and Manicaland both at 61%.
- Mashonaland West had the highest expenditure on non-food items at 55%.
 Generally, most households spent most of their income on food items (57%).

Provinces which reported high levels of own crop production had the least expenditure on food items. The converse is also true.



Average Household Monthly Expenditure for April 2013 by Province

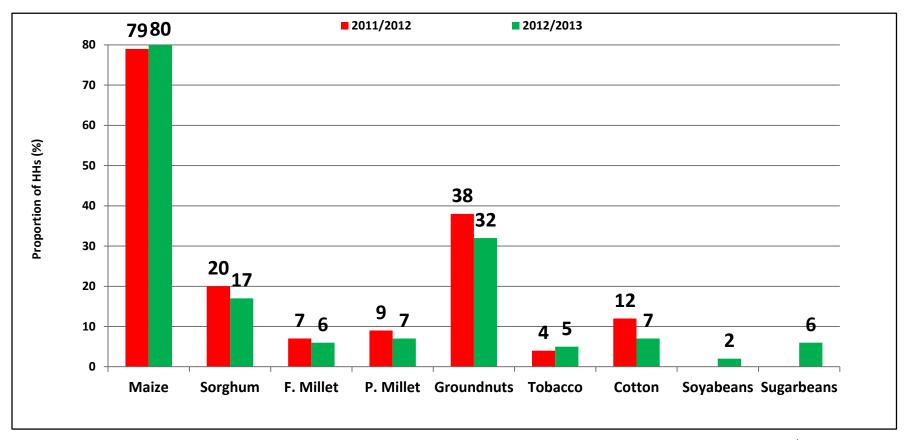


Matabeleland South had the highest expenditure in April 2013 (US\$56) while
 Matabeleland North had the lowest (US\$39).

Crop Production

To describe the socio-economic profiles of rural households in terms of such characteristics as their income sources and income levels

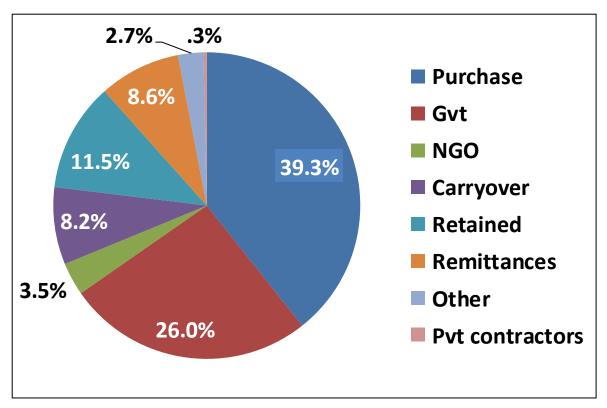
Proportion of Households Growing Crops



- The most common crop grown by the majority of households was maize (80%). This is comparable to the 2011/12 season (79%).
- Groundnuts came next with 32% of households planting the crop, 6% lower than last season.
- Fewer households planted small grains in the 2012/13 season compared to the previous season.
- An increase was recorded in households growing Tobacco, but there was a drop in those growing cotton.
- Besides rainfall and crop input related reasons, planted maize area decline in the Mashonaland Provinces (>30% of households growing the crop) could be attributed to a shift towards cash crops (mainly tobacco). Maize is increasingly becoming unviable as a cash crop.

Yet in Masvingo, southern Midlands, southern Manicaland, Matabeleland North and Matabeleland South, the reasons for decline are more to do with poor rainfall and access to crop inputs.

Sources of Maize Seed



- The main source of maize of seed planted by the sampled households was purchases (39%), followed by Government support (26%).
- About 4% of the households got the maize seed they planted from NGOs
- 12% of the households obtained their maize seed from retained seed. This is largely explained by financial constraints

Sources of Maize Seed by Province

Province	Purchase	Government	NGO	Carryover	Retained	Remittances	Other	Private Contractors
Manicaland	45%	15%	4%	3%	16%	14%	4%	1%
Mashonaland Central	37%	33%	2%	8%	10%	8%	2%	1%
Mashonaland East	45%	28%	2%	12%	5%	7%	0%	0%
Mashonaland West	41%	24%	2%	5%	13%	8%	5%	1%
Matabeleland North	24%	30%	5%	18%	16%	6%	1%	0%
Matabeleland South	28%	37%	5%	9%	11%	7%	2%	0%
Midlands	49%	21%	2%	6%	12%	9%	2%	0%
Masvingo	39%	22%	7%	5%	11%	11%	5%	0%
National	39%	26%	4%	8%	12%	9%	3%	0%

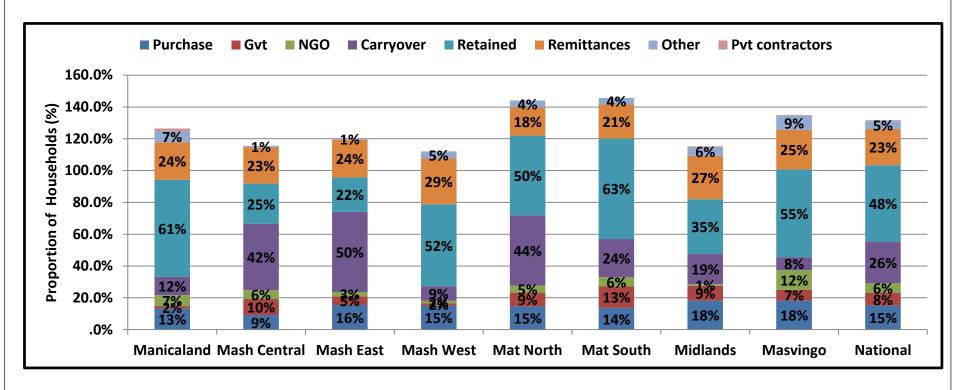
- Government maize seed support was most prominent in Matabeleland South (37%) and Mashonaland Central (33%).
- The highest proportion of households which used carryover maize seed were in Matabeleland North (18%) and Mashonaland East (12%).
- Between 12% and 16% of the households in Midlands, Mashonaland West, Manicaland and Matabeleland North used retained seed.
 - Remittances were highest in Manicaland(14%) and Masvingo(11%) provinces

Sources of Seed for Major Crops

Source of Seed	Sorghum	Finger Millet	Pearl Millet	Roots and Tubers	Cowpeas	Groundnuts	Roundnuts
Purchase	13.0%	11.7%	7.7%	17.1%	14.8%	20.2%	20.7%
Gvt	7.9%	4.5%	2.5%	3.0%	3.8%	3.1%	3.3%
NGO	5.5%	3.9%	3.1%	1.3%	4.0%	1.8%	1.4%
Carryover	19.4%	22.1%	19.3%	24.3%	21.4%	21.8%	20.6%
Retained	30.4%	38.3%	49.7%	38.1%	35.2%	39.2%	40.7%
Remittances	19.0%	16.3%	14.3%	14.5%	18.3%	11.8%	11.0%
Other	4.4%	3.1%	3.2%	1.7%	1.6%	2.0%	2.2%
Pvt contractors	.4%	.1%	.1%		.8%	.2%	.1%

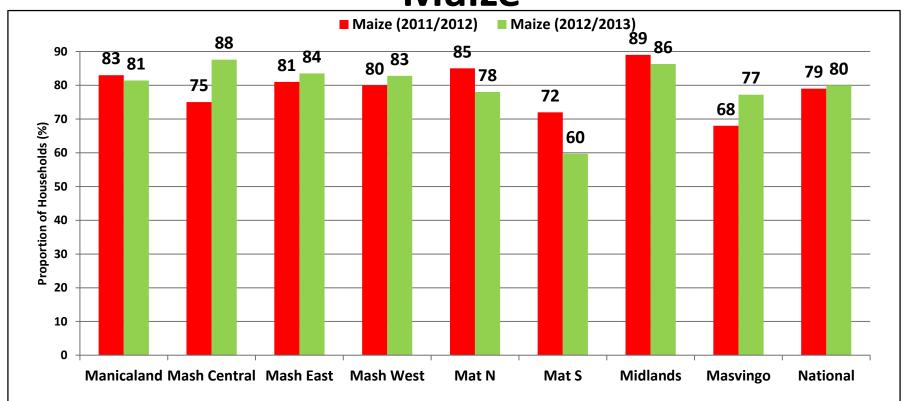
The main source of seed for small grains and pulses was retained seed
 This was followed by carry over for the cereal crops.

Sources of Small Grain Seed by Province



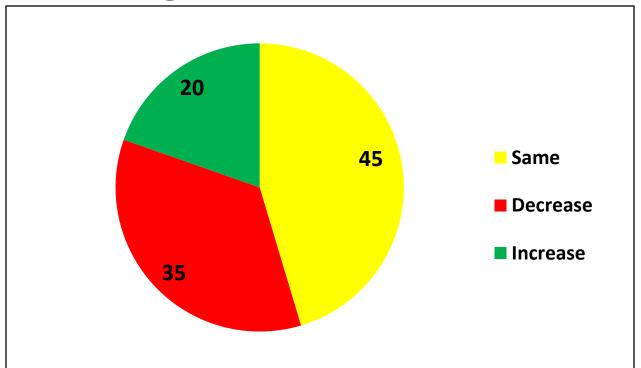
- The majority of households (48%) used retained small grain seed. 26% used carry over seed and 23% used seed obtained through remittances. Purchases were the main source of seed for 15% of the households. Households that obtained small grain seed from government and NGOs were 8% and 6% respectively.
- Manicaland had the highest proportion (61%) of households which used retained seed. Carryover seed was most prominent in Mashonaland East (50%), followed by Matabeleland North (44%) and Mashonaland Central (42%).
- Government support was most prevalent in Matabeleland South where 14% of the households were supported.
 NGO support was significant in Masvingo where 12% of the households had benefited.

Proportion of Households Which Planted Maize



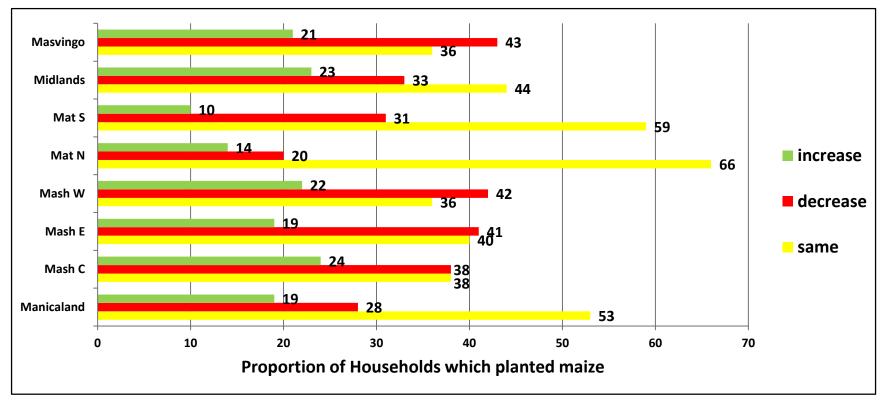
- Midlands, Manicaland and Mashonaland Provinces had the highest proportions (>80%) of households growing maize.
- Matabeleland South had the least proportion of households growing maize (60%), a drop from last season (72%).
- There was a relative increase in households producing maize in Masvingo Province despite an adverse rainfall season.

Change In Area under Maize



- The majority of households (45%) which planted maize in the 2012/13 season maintained area planted under maize the same as they had for the 2011/12 season. About 35% increased the area planted to maize and 20% of the households reduced.
- Of the 20% that reduced area planted to maize, the major reasons were high costs, late availability and unavailability of crop inputs (40%), late start and erratic rainfall (38%) and lack of draught power (7%).

Changes In Area Planted to Maize by Province



- The majority of households in Matabeleland North and South, Midlands and Manicaland provinces maintained area planted to maize.
- Masvingo had the highest proportion of households (43%) reducing area planted to maize, followed by Mashonaland West (42%), Mashonaland East (41%) and Mashonaland Central (38%).
- More than 20% of the households in Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland West,
 Midlands and Masvingo increased area planted to maize.

Average Household Cereal (kg) Production by Province

Province	Staple Cereals (kg)	Maize (kg)	Small Grains (kg)
Manicaland	254	227	28
Mashonaland Central	563	546	18
Mashonaland East	340	325	15
Mashonaland West	801	796	5
Matabeleland North	170	119	51
Matabeleland South	105	85	20
Midlands	281	265	16
Masvingo	231	180	51
National	346	321	25

- Average household cereal (maize and small grains) production was highest in Mashonaland West (801kg) followed by Mashonaland Central (563kg) and Mashonaland East (340kg). In these three provinces, maize production contributed most to household cereal production.
- The lowest average household cereal production was in Matabeleland South (105kg) followed by Matabeleland North (170kg).
- Average household small grains production was 25kg for all the sampled households. The lowest production was recorded in Mashonaland West (5kg) mainly because of the small areas allocated to the crop in the province rather than the potential of the crop in the province.

District Average Household Cereal Production

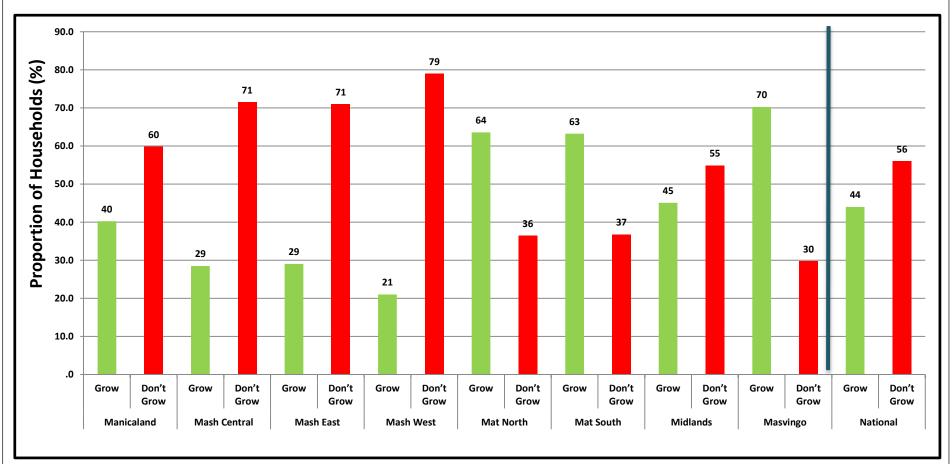
	Total		Small	District	Total		Small
District	Cereals(kg)	Maize(kg)	Grains(kg)		Cereals(kg)	Maize(kg)	Grains(kg)
Makonde	2019	2014	5	Buhera	112	63	50
Bindura	1138	1137	1	Umguza	110	104	6
Mazowe	1091	1090	1	Tsholotsho	104	32	72
Zvimba	1079	1078	1	Beitbridge	102	65	37
Chegutu	1012	1009	2	Zvishavane	96	75	21
Shamva	923	922	1	Matobo	64	48	16
Hurungwe	726	725	1	Chivi	47	28	18
Seke	589	587	1	Mangwe	45	15	30
Goromonzi	546	546	0	Gwanda	25	17	8

- Districts with the highest average household production were mainly in the Mashonaland provinces, the traditional maize growing regions.
- All 10 districts with the lowest average household maize production for 2012/13 are located in the droughtprone Natural Regions IV and V.
- Average household small grain production was highest in Mwenezi (105kg), followed by Chiredzi (98kg) and Hwange (87kg).
- Districts with the least average household small grain production were mainly in the Mashonaland Provinces despite the high potential due to good rains. The key reason is the predominant focus on maize as well as cash crops such as tobacco.

Crop Production with a Focus on Small Grains

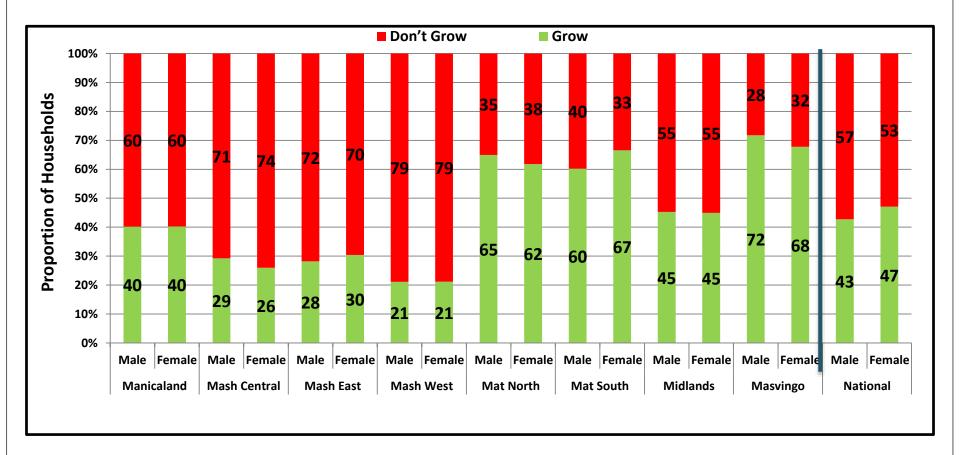
To assess small-grain production, consumption and identify opportunities to promote their production

Proportion of Households which Reported Growing Small Grains



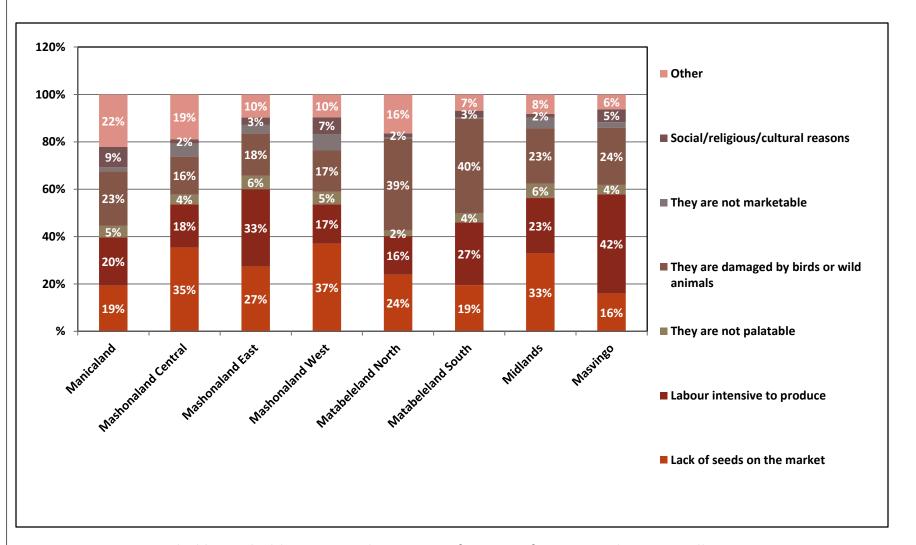
- While 44% of the interviewed households would normally grow small grains, in the 2012/13 agriculture season, 20% of the households grew sorghum, 7% grew finger millet and 9% grew pearl millet.
 - Masvingo (70%), Matabeleland South (63%) and Matabeleland North (64%) had the highest proportion of households which grew small grains while Mashonaland West (21%) had the lowest proportion of households which grew small grains. The pattern is consistent with the general extension message and the distribution of the dryer regions amongst the provinces.

Profile of Small Grain Producers



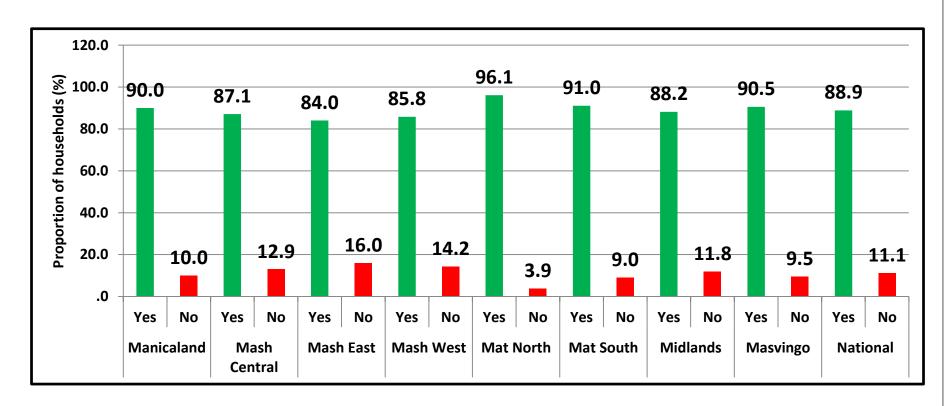
- Nationally, 47% of the female headed households grew small grains. 43% of the male headed households grew small grains.
- Across the provinces, the preference for growing small grains by male and female headed households was similar.

Reasons for not Growing Small Grains



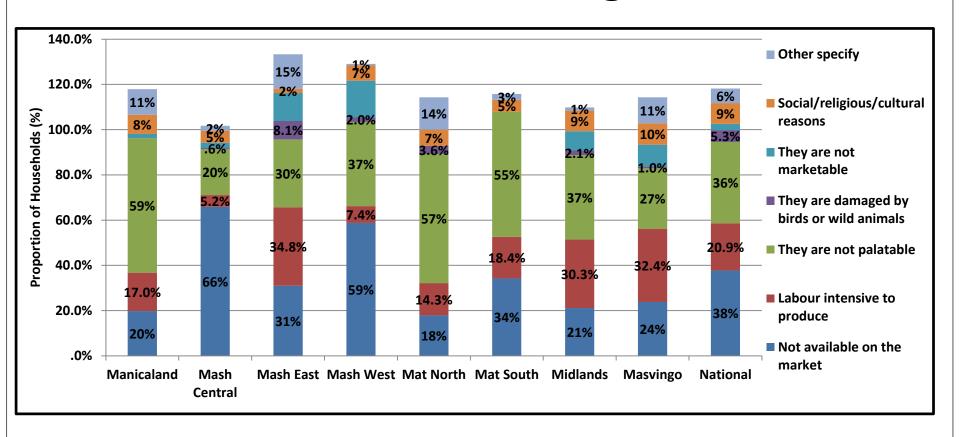
- Sampled households presented a variety of reasons for not producing small grains.
- The challenges were associated with limited seed availability on the market, palatability, labour intensity, quelea birds and wild life.

Proportion of Households Consuming Small Grains



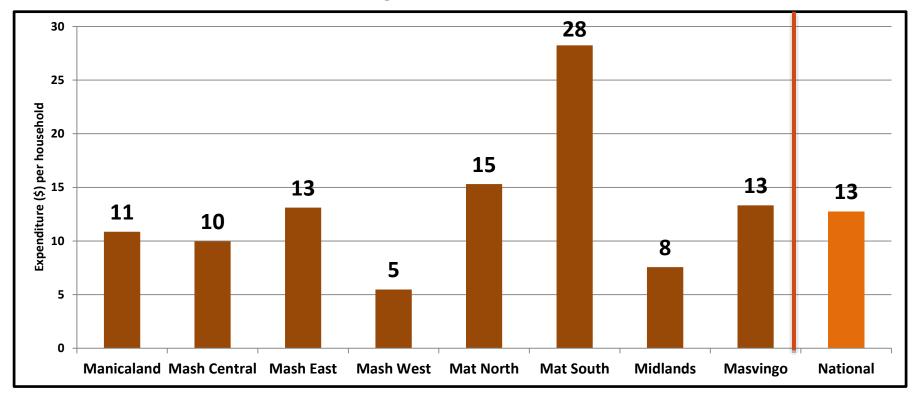
- Of the households interviewed, 88.9% consumed small grains.
- Matabeleland North (96%) had the highest proportion of households consuming small grains while Mashonaland East (84%) had the least.

Reasons for not Consuming Small Grains



- Reasons for not consuming small grains were varied, chief among them were their non availability on the market, that they were not palatable and involved a lot of labor to produce.
- Manicaland had the highest proportion of households which indicated that they
 did not consume small grains because of palatability issues.

Household Expenditure On Small Grains: April 2013

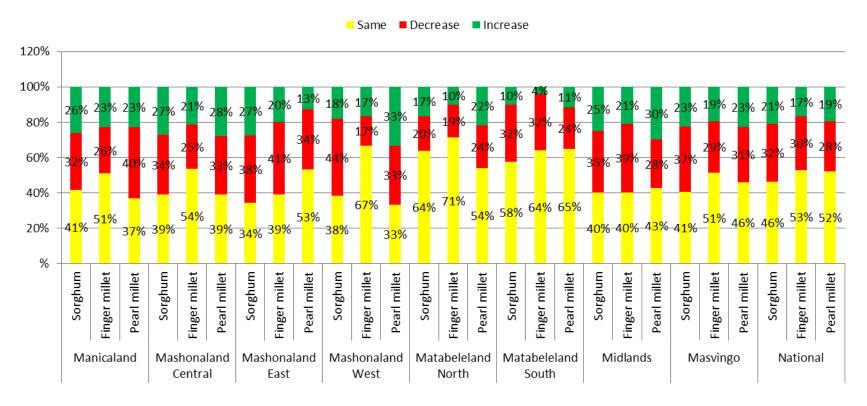


- About 34.9% of sampled households had an expenditure on small grains in April 2013. This expenditure averaged US\$13.
- Average household expenditure on small grains was highest in Matabeleland South (US\$28) followed by Matabeleland North (\$15), Masvingo and Mashonaland East (\$13).

Mashonaland West recorded the least expenditure on small grains (\$5).



Change in Area Under Small Grains

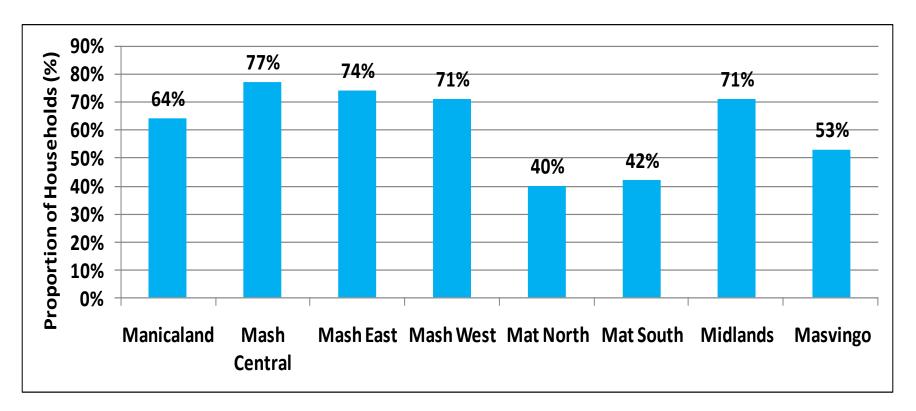


- While 28 to 32% of the households reported reducing the area planted to small grains this season, 46 to 53% of the interviewed households reported maintaining the area under small grains .
- Reasons associated with the reduction in the area planted to small grains included the shortage of draught power, shortage of seed, labor constraints, late start of the rains and threats from wildlife particularly in Matabeleland North.

Post Harvest

To assess crop post-harvest practices and identify opportunities for addressing potential post-harvest losses

Treatment of Maize Before Storage



- 62.4% of the surveyed households applied some form of treatment to their harvest before storage.
- Mashonaland Central had the greatest proportion (77%) of households treating their harvest and Matabeleland North and South had the least, 40% and 42% respectively.

Households with high maize production treated their maize grain before storage.

Common Treatment Methods Used By Households

Traditional

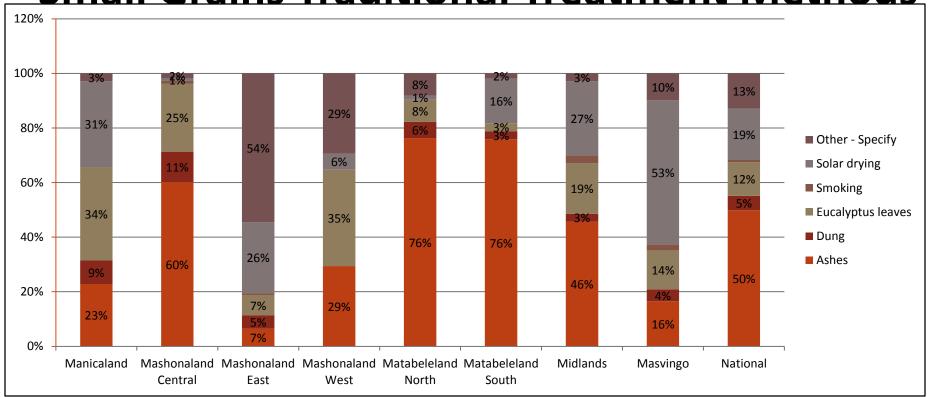
Chemical

Treatment	Proportion of Households (%)					
	Maize	Small Grains	Pulses	4		
Ashes	45.7	49.9	42.3	9		
Eucalyptus leaves	24.4	12.4	6.7	(
Solar drying	16.3	18.8	35.6			
Other - Specify	7.2	12.9	11.6			
Dung	5.8	5.2	3.4			
Smoking 4	0.7	0.8	0.4			

Treatment	Proportion of Households (%)				
	Maize	Small Grains	Pulses		
Actellic Chirindamatura dust	48.3	57.6	52.1		
Shumba	48.3	34.0	36.2		
Other	3.4	8.4	11.7		

- Chemical treatments were the most common methods used to treat cereals and pulses for storage.
- Application of ashes, eucalyptus leaves and solar drying were the most common traditional treatments applied on cereals and pulses before storage.

Small Grains Traditional Treatment Methods



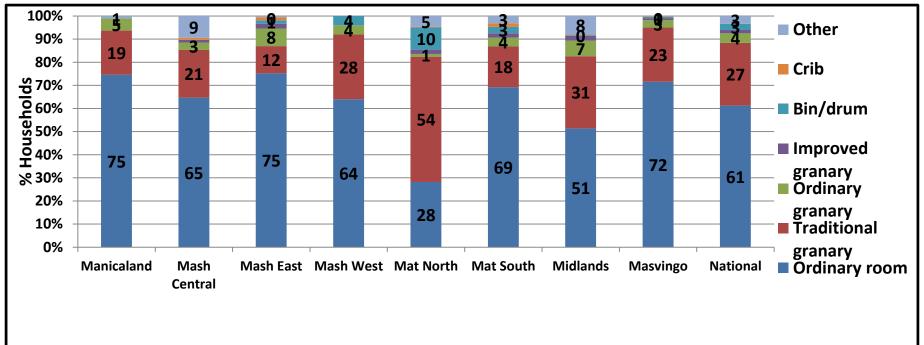
- The survey also investigated various traditional methods that are used to treat small grains before storage.
- The majority of the interviewed households indicated that they used ashes (50%), followed by solar drying (19%) and eucalyptus leaves (12%) to treat the small grains.
- The traditional practices varied from one province to another. The use of ashes for preservation of small grains was very prominent in Matabeleland North and Matabeleland South (76%) and very insignificant in Mashonaland East. Use of eucalyptus leaves was prominent in Mashonaland West (35%).
- In Mashonaland East, households identified use of chaff as an important traditional method for the treatment of small grains.

Storage Structures for Cereals and Legumes

Storage structure	Maize	Sorghum	Groundnuts	Round nuts	Beans
		and Millets		and Peas	
Ordinary Room	68.1%	60.8%	68.2%	69.8%	75.4%
Traditional granary	20.3%	27.0%	20.0%	18.7%	13.1%
Ordinary granary	4.8%	4.1%	4.8%	3.8%	4.0%
Improved granary	1.6%	1.4%	1.7%	1.6%	2.1%
Bin/drum	1.8%	2.6%	1.7%	1.9%	2.2%
Crib	1.0%	07%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%
Other	2.5%	3.4%	3.2%	3.9%	2.9%

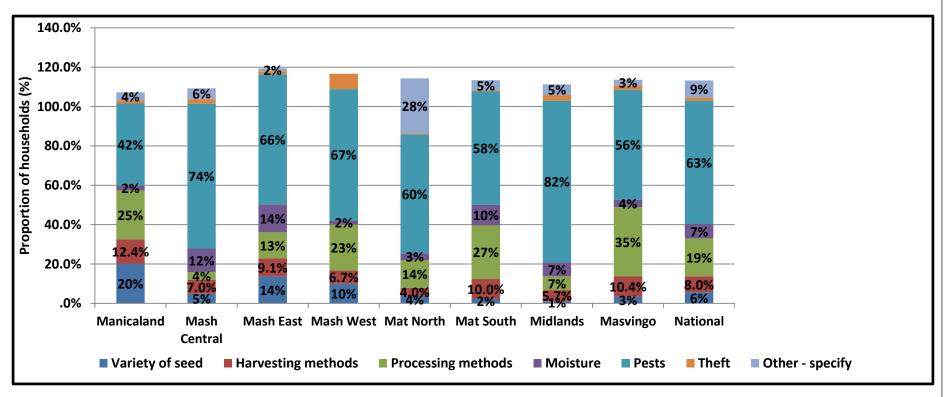
- Most households (> 60%) reported that they store their harvested crops, maize, Sorghum, millets, groundnuts, round nuts, peas and beans in an ordinary room.
- The second most common storage structure was a traditional granary.

Small Grains Storage Structures by Province



- Most of the interviewed households are at risk of losing their small grain produce due to lack of proper storage facilities for their small grains.
- Over 60% of interviewed households stored their small grains in ordinary rooms with only a third (30%) of the interviewed households reporting that they were using granaries as storage structures.
- Matabeleland North (56%) followed by Midlands (39%) and Mashonaland West (31%) had the highest proportion of interviewed households that had granaries for the storage of small grains.
- More effort needs to be made to encourage households to invest in proper storage facilities if post harvest losses are to be contained.

Cereal and Pulses Post Harvest Losses



- Nationally, pests (63%), processing methods (19%) and moisture (7%) are perceived to be the major causes of post harvest losses.
- Households in Midlands (82%), Mashonaland East (66%), and Mashonaland West (67%)
 identified pests as the major cause of post harvest losses.
- Processing methods were cited as a significant challenge in areas where small grains are produced in abundance like Masvingo, Matabeleland South and Manicaland.
 - In Matabeleland North, production of small grains is constrained by wild life which consume crops both in the field and during storage.

Methods of Measuring Moisture Content

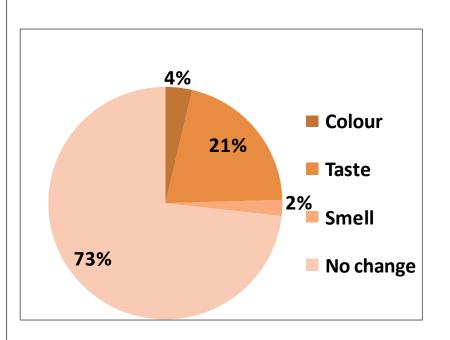
Method	Maize	Small grains	Pulses.
Visual	42.7%	48.3%	35.4%
Texture	8.6%	9.0%	4.5%
Reduction in weight	2.6%	3.6%	3.0%
Drying period	21.5%	25.3%	18.3%
Biting / chewing	19.3%	8.7%	10.1%
Shaking / sound	4.7%	4.2%	27.9%
No method	0.5%	1.1%	0.8%

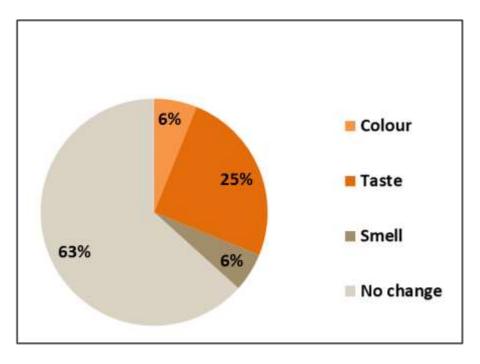
 The most common method employed by farmers for checking the moisture content of their crops before storage was visual, followed by the drying period in the sun for maize and small grains and shaking/ sound for pulses

Changes Observed in Stored Maize

Maize Changes after 0 - 3 months

Maize changes after 4 - 9 months





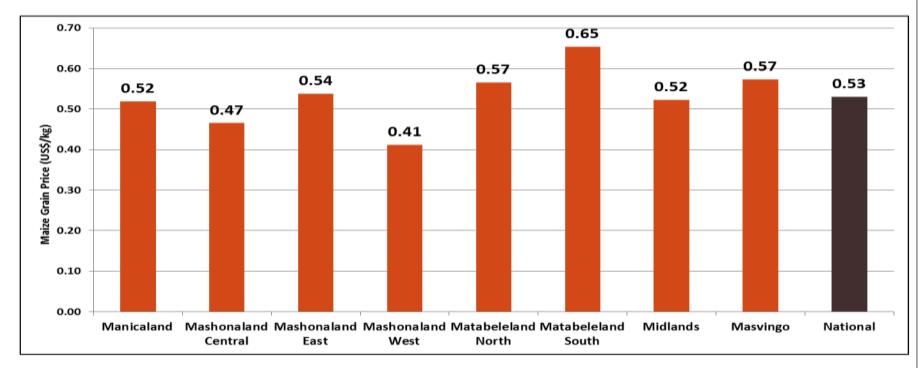
- The greatest proportion of households reported no changes to their stored maize harvest after 0 9 months.
- 25% however reported taste changes after 9 months, 21% of which were noticed in the first 3 months.
- Households reporting smell changes however increased from 2% after 3 months to 6% after 9 months. This could have been due to weevils or moulds.

Despite 63% of the households professing awareness of the health risks associated with consuming spoilt foods, they all consumed maize that had changed colour, taste or smell.

Agriculture Commodities and Inputs Markets

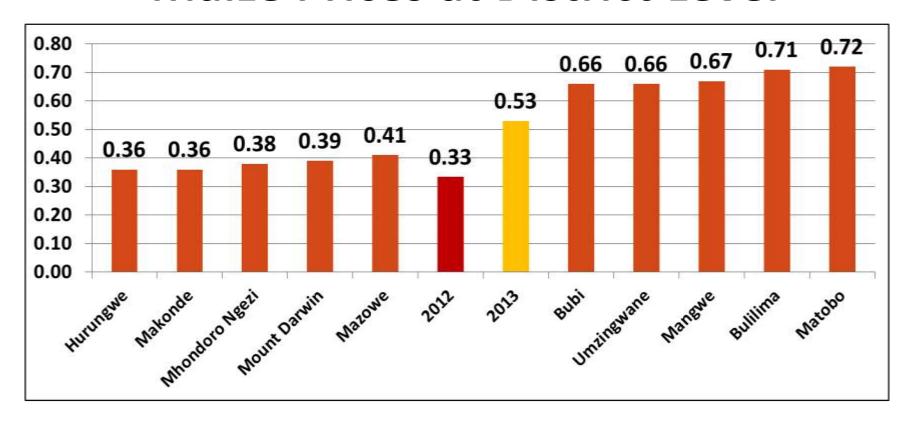
To identify and assess the functioning of current markets in rural districts of Zimbabwe

Maize Prices

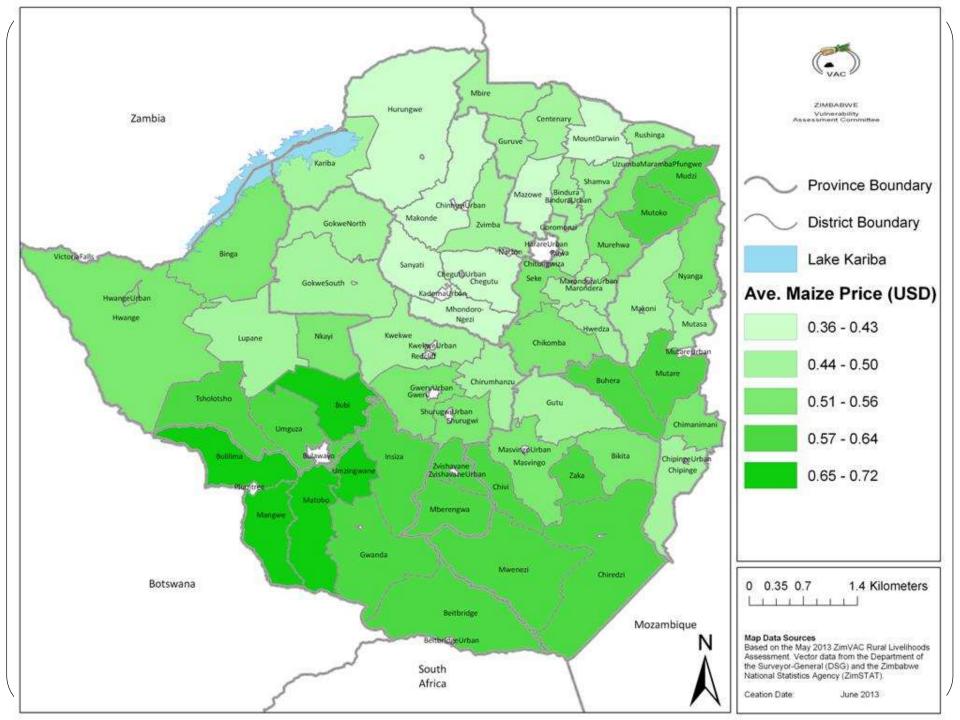


- The above prices show the average price of maize grain and maize meal and the national average maize price was found to be US\$0.53/kg in April 2013.
- Matabeleland South (US\$ 0.65/kg) followed by Matabeleland North and Masvingo (US\$ 0.57/kg) had the highest prices of maize.
- The lowest price was found in Mashonaland West (US\$0.41/kg).
- The majority of the Provinces were purchasing maize at prices higher than the recently announced Official Producer Price of \$310/tonne.

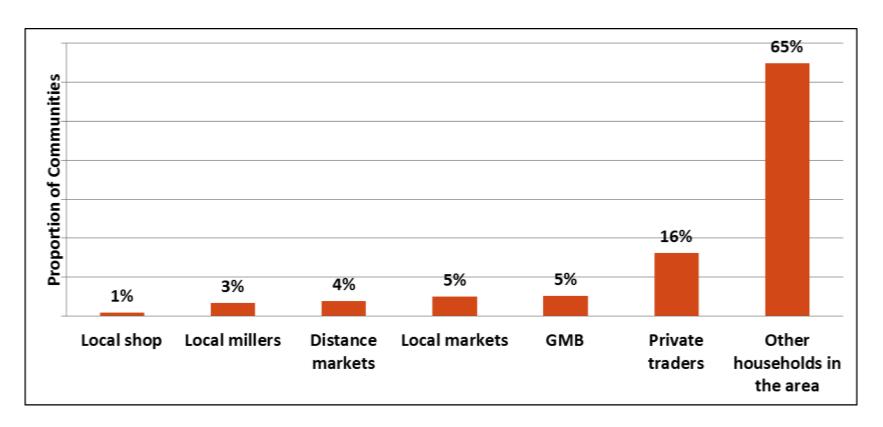
Maize Prices at District Level



- Hurungwe and Makonde (US\$0.36/kg) had the lowest maize prices in April 2013.
- The highest maize prices were recorded in Matobo (US\$0.72/kg) and Bulilima (US\$0.71/kg).
- This year's average maize price was higher than that of last year's.

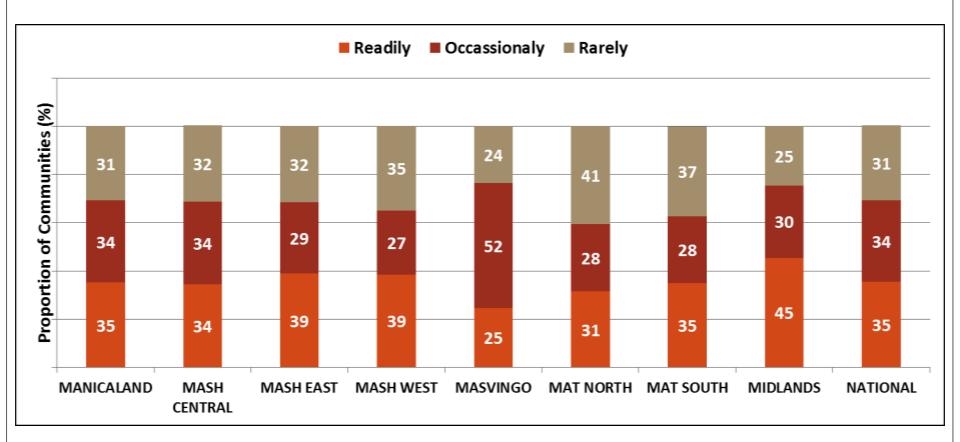


Types of Maize Markets



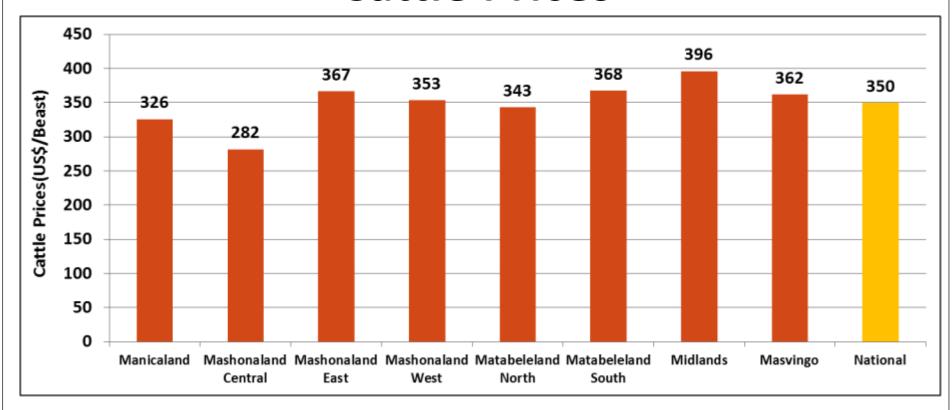
- Nationally, 65% of the communities highlighted that they purchased their maize grain from other households in the same area.
- This picture is the same when compared to the ZimVAC 2012 results

Maize Availability by Province



- Nationally, about 35% of the communities stated that maize grain was readily available.
- Midlands (45%), Mashonaland West and Mashonaland East (39%) had the largest proportion of communities reporting that maize grain was readily available.
- Matabeleland North and South had the highest proportion of communities reporting that maize grain was rarely available.

Cattle Prices

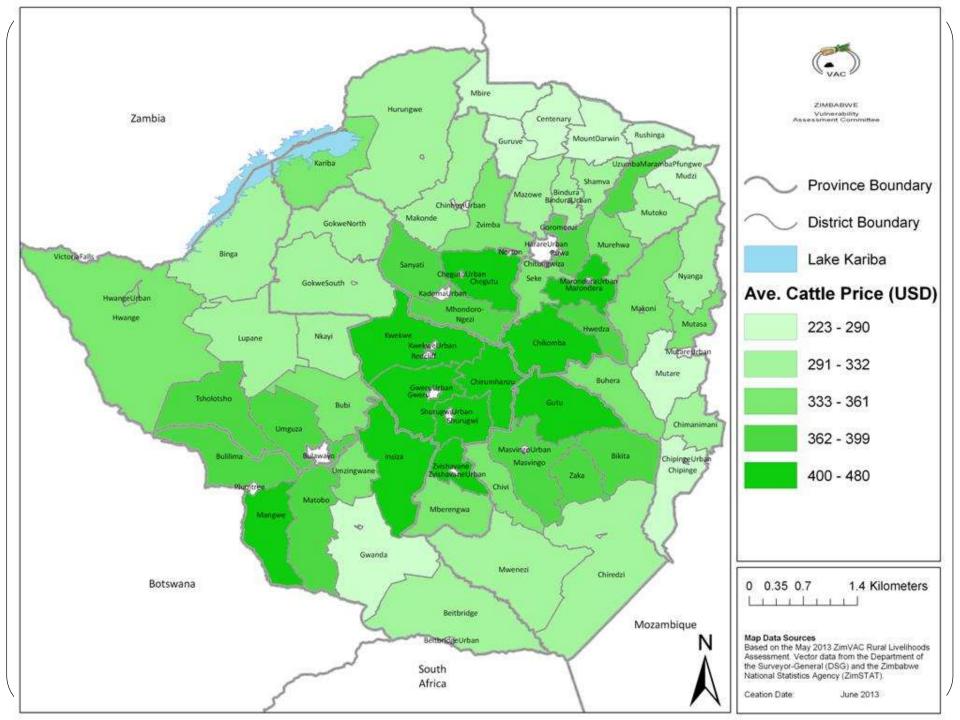


- The national average of US\$350 was higher than 2011/2012's average price of US\$334/beast.
- Average cattle prices ranged from US\$281 to US\$391 and were comparable to last year's which ranged from US\$200 - US\$450 per animal.
- Midlands, Matabeleland South and Mashonaland East had the highest cattle prices.

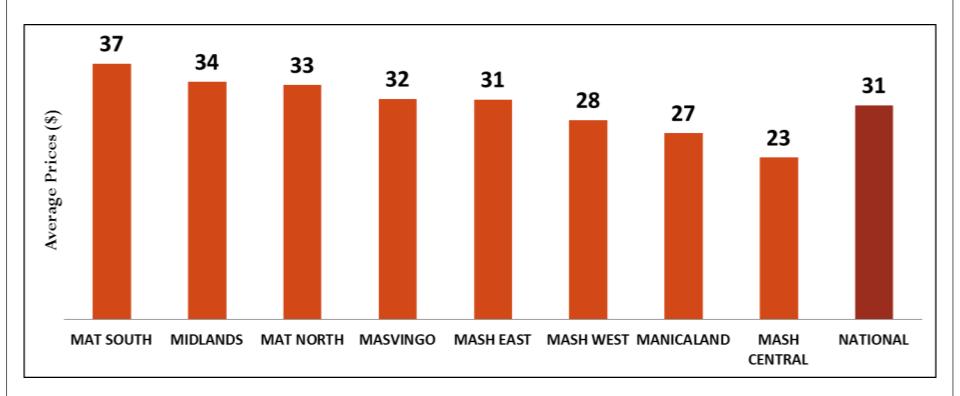
Cattle Prices by District

District	Price (US\$/Beast	District	Price (US\$/Beast)
Mbire	223	Chirumanzu	420
Muzarabani	230	Gweru	429
Mudzi	253	Chikomba	458
Rushinga	273	Shurugwi	458
Guruve	275	Zvishavane	480

 The highest cattle prices were found in Chikomba, Zvishavane and Shurugwi whilst the lowest prices were in Mbire.

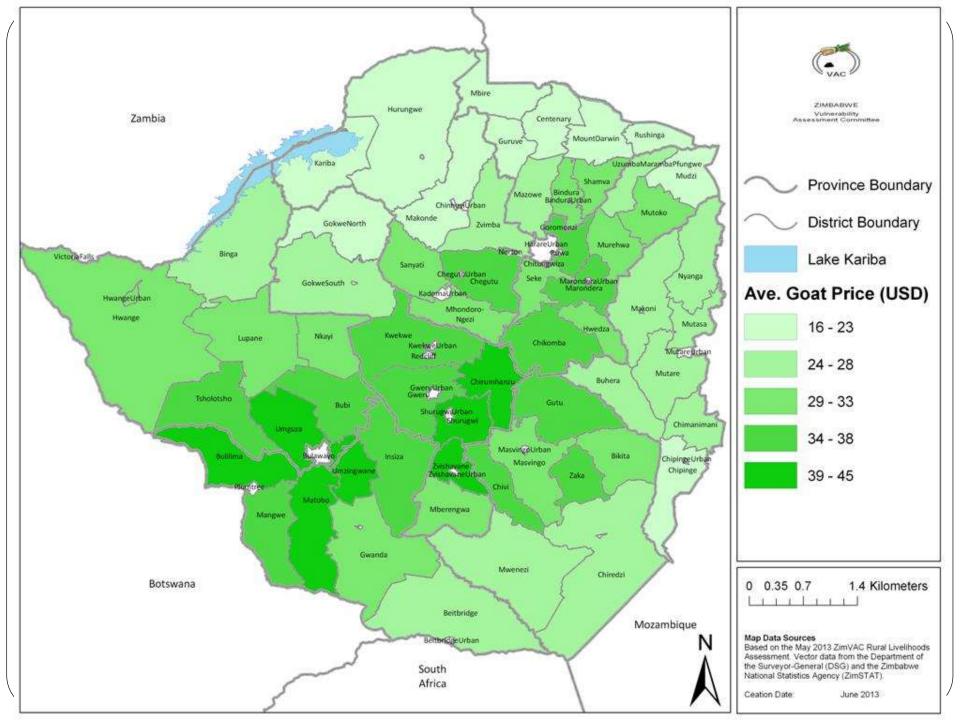


Goat Prices



- The national average of US\$31 was comparable with same time last year's average price of US\$30 per goat. Average goat prices ranged from US\$23 to US\$37.
- Matabeleland South, Midlands and Matabeleland North had the highest goat prices.
- The highest goat prices were found in Umzingwane and Shurugwi whilst the lowest price was in Mbire.
 - Goats were mostly traded within the local communities.





Irrigation Schemes

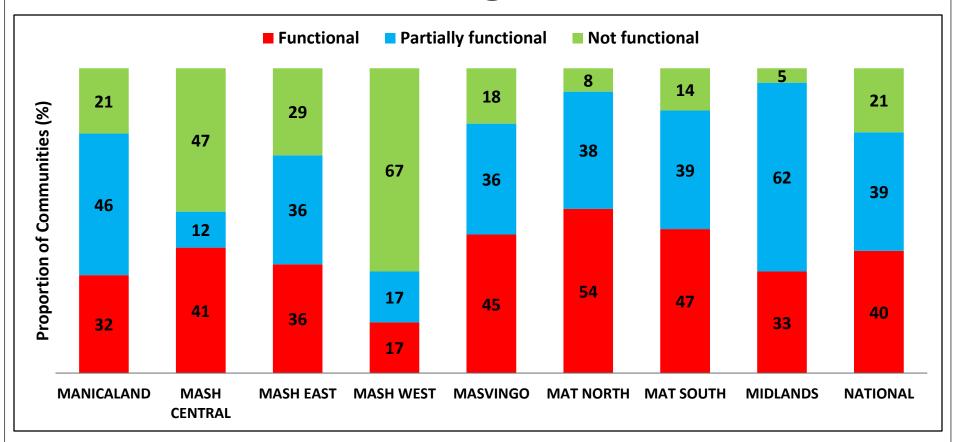
To assess rural households' access to irrigation

Availability of Irrigation Schemes

Province	Proportion (%) of Sampled Wards with Irrigation
Manicaland	27
Mashonaland Central	18
Mashonaland East	16
Mashonaland West	9
Masvingo	26
Matabeleland North	18
Matabeleland South	40
Midlands	19
National	22

- Of the sampled wards, only 22% had irrigation schemes.
- Matabeleland South (40%) and Manicaland Province(27%) had the highest percentage of wards with irrigation schemes.
- Mashonaland West(9%) had the least proportion of wards with irrigation schemes.

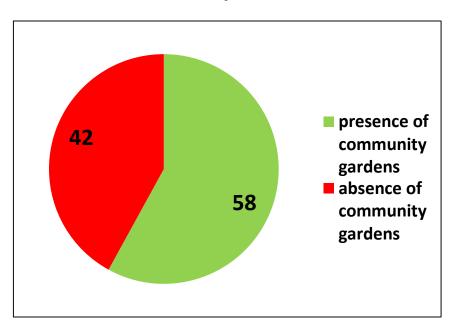
Condition of Irrigation Schemes



- Of the wards with irrigation schemes, 40% had functional, 39% partially functional and 21% had non functional schemes.
- Mashonaland West had the highest proportion (67%) of wards with non-functional irrigation schemes and Matabeleland North had the highest proportion (54%) of wards with functional irrigation schemes.
- Challenges associated with management of common infrastructure coupled with low financial viability accounts for most of the non-functionality of the irrigation schemes.

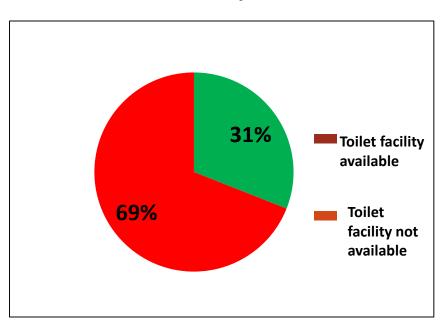
Community Gardens

Availability of Community Gardens



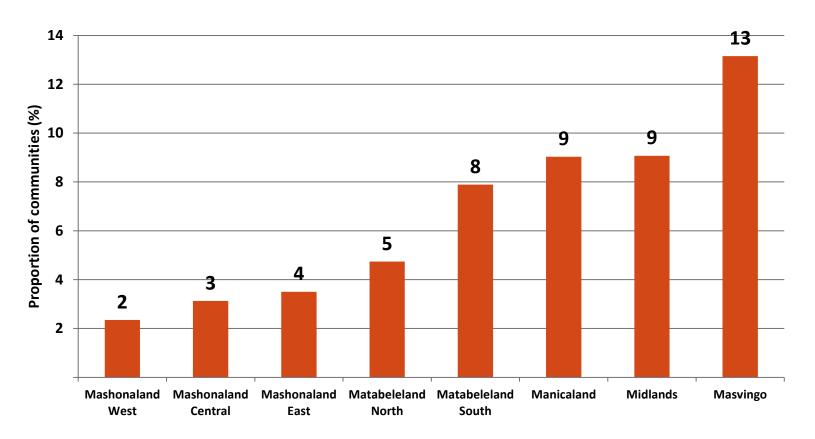
- 58% of the communities reported that there was at least a community garden in their ward.
- 42% of those communities with community gardens highlighted that they had a reliable water source.

Availability of Toilet Facilities in Community Gardens



 The majority of community gardens did not have toilet facilities.

Average Number of Community Gardens per Ward

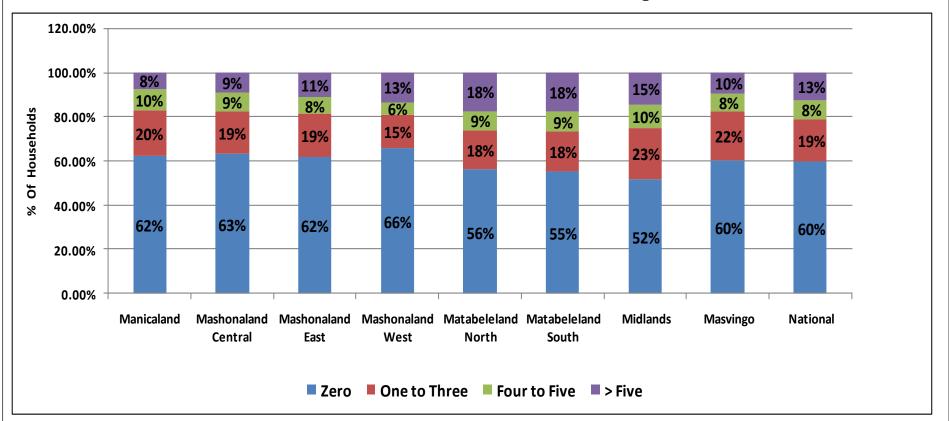


- Masvingo had the highest average number of gardens per ward (13).
- The highest number of community gardens were reported in Chivi with an average of 21 and Chirumanzu with 17.

Livestock

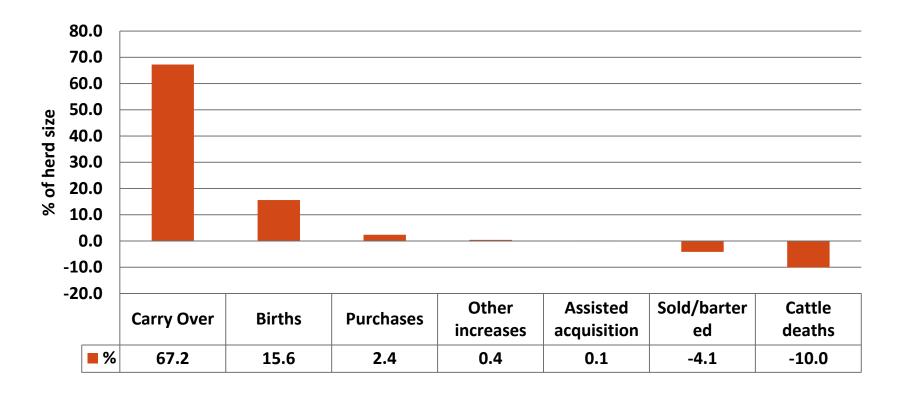
To describe the socio-economic profiles of rural households in terms of such characteristics as their assets, income sources and income levels

Cattle Ownership



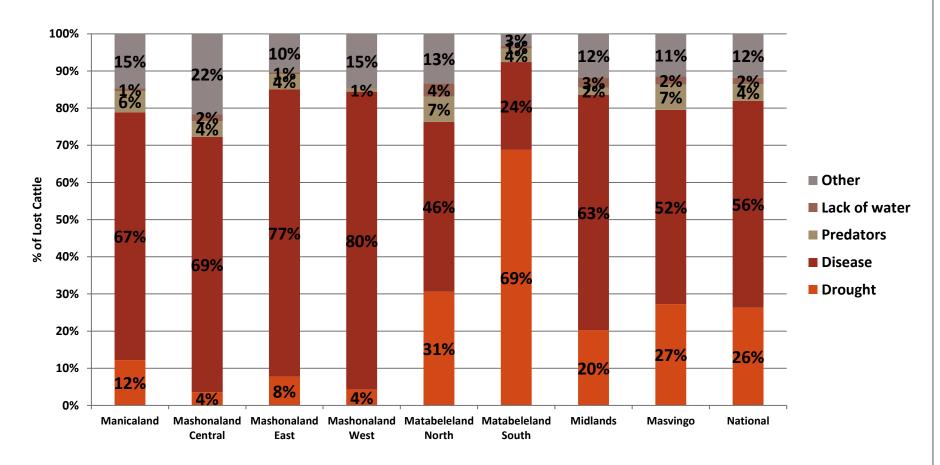
- Approximately 60% of the households did not own cattle which is comparable to 58% last consumption year and those who owned more than five (13%) decreased in comparison to last year(19%).
- There has been a general decrease in the percentage of households which own more than five beasts with significant decreases in Matabeleland South (11%) and Midlands (9%) whilst Mashonaland West saw a slight increase of 0.4%.
- Of those who owned any cattle, the majority owned one beast (48%) compared to 42% recorded last year.

Cattle Herd Dynamics



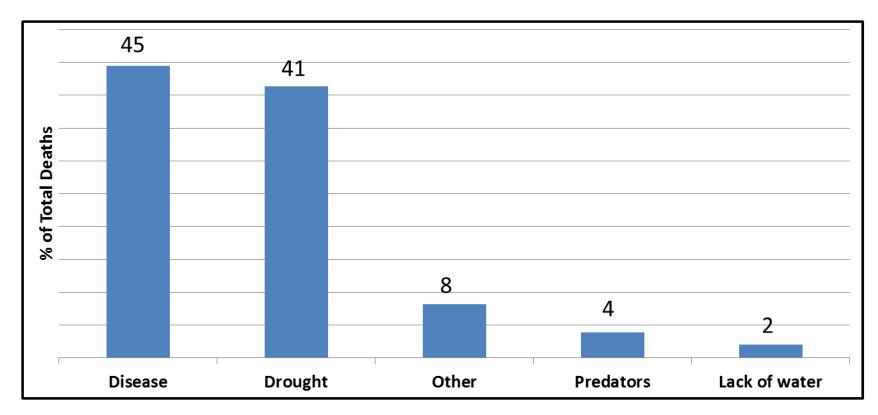
- The herd size was influenced by carryover (% of the current herd size that came from the last consumption year) from the previous season which accounted for approximately 67% of the herd size
- Cattle births (16%) were the main contributor to herd size increase in the last consumption year. Purchase added an additional 2%.
- Cattle deaths were estimated at 10% of the herd.
- Overall net change was 4% in the positive

Causes of Cattle Losses



- Of the households that reported losing cattle in the 2012/13 consumption year, 56% reported diseases as the main cause. In Matabeleland South, 69% of the households indicated cattle deaths were due to drought.
- Mashonaland Central had the highest losses from theft 22% (here denoted as other)
 compared to the national average of 12%.

Cause of Death by Herd Size



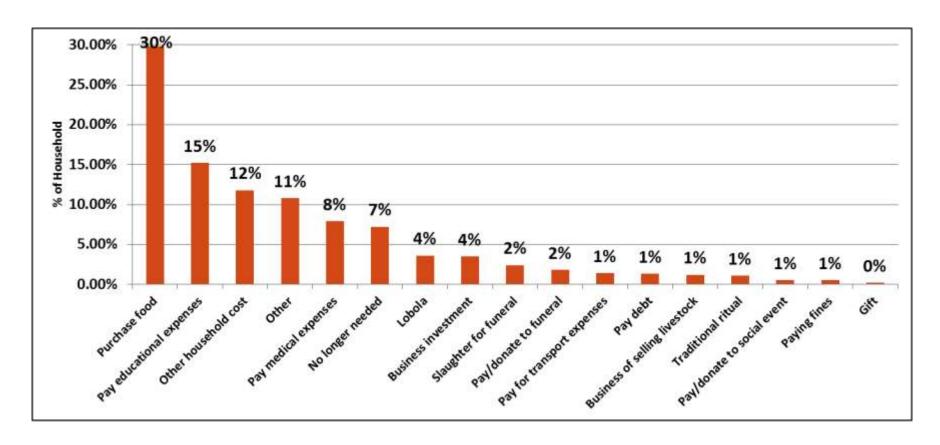
- Total losses due to death and theft where approximately 10% (3339) of the current herd size (34995)
 - 45% of the reported losses were due to diseases followed by 41% due to drought

Losses Due to Death and Theft

- The highest losses were recorded in Matabeleland South and Matabeleland North with approximately 29% and 23% total deaths and theft losses respectively.
- Midlands had losses of 11% followed by 9% in Mashonaland East and Masvingo.
- Mashonaland Central had 7% losses whilst the least losses were recorded in Manicaland and Mashonaland West 6%.

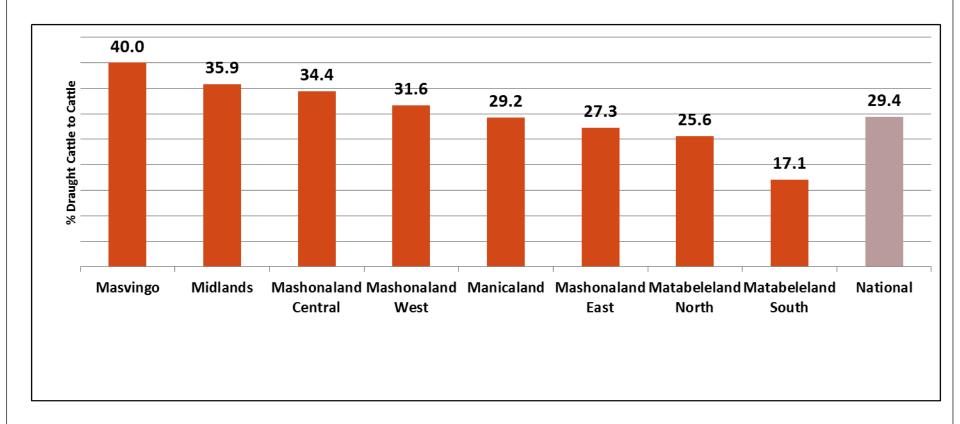
Province	% of Total Deaths Recorded	
Matabeleland South	29	
Matabeleland North	23	
Midlands	11	
Mashonaland East	9	
Masvingo	9	
Mashonaland Central	7	
Manicaland	6	
Mashonaland West	6	

Reasons for Selling Cattle



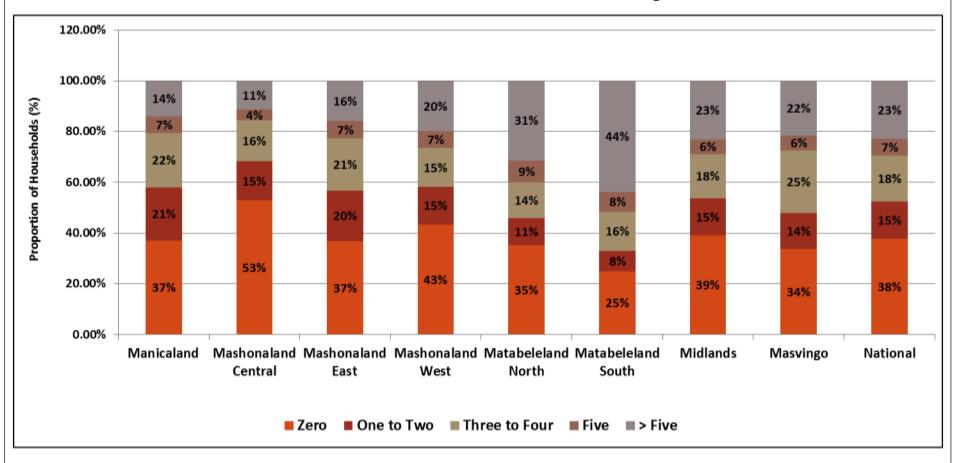
- 8% of the households reported selling at least 1 beast in the last consumption year.
- Most of the households were disposing the cattle to purchase food (30%) and this was highest in Matabeleland South (45%) and Masvingo (43%).
- Paying educational expenses was highest in Matabeleland North (17%) followed by Midlands (16%).

Draught Power to Cattle Ratio



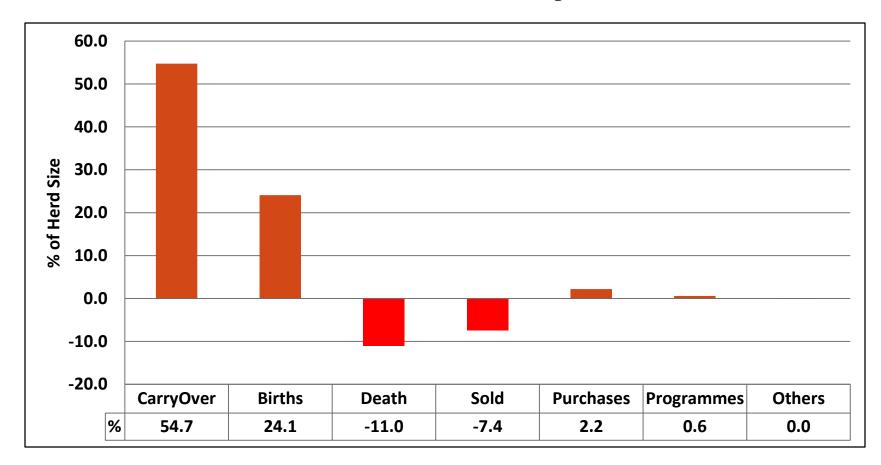
• Draught power index (*proportion of draught power to cattle herd size*) was at approximately 29% with the lowest being Matabeleland South (17%) and the highest being in Masvingo (40%)

Shoats Ownership



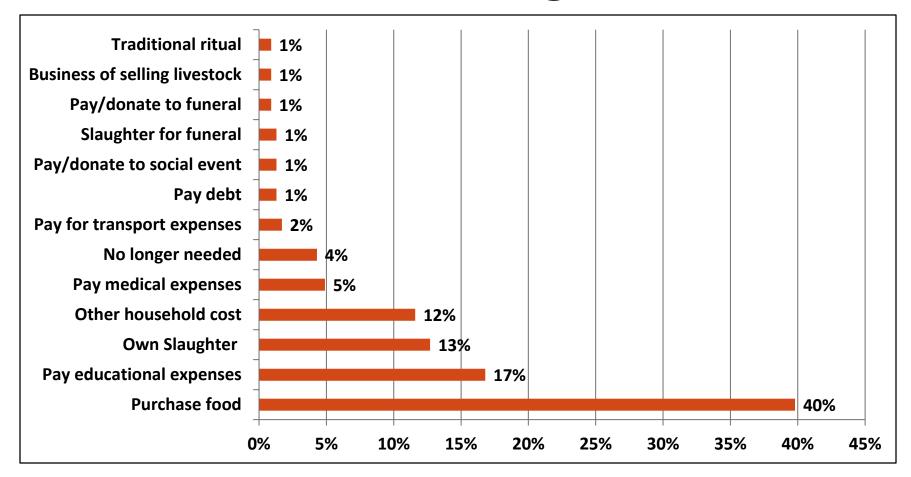
- In this survey, Shoats refers to goats and sheep.
- 38% of the households did not own any shoats whereas 23% owned more than five shoats. 39% owned between one and five shoats.
- Mashonaland Central province had the highest proportion (53%) of those who did not own any shoats and Matabeleland South had the highest proportion (44%) owning more than five shoats.
- Matabeleland South (75%) had the highest proportion owning at least one shoat followed by Masvingo (66%) and Mashonaland Central (47%) had the least.

Shoats Herd Size Dynamics



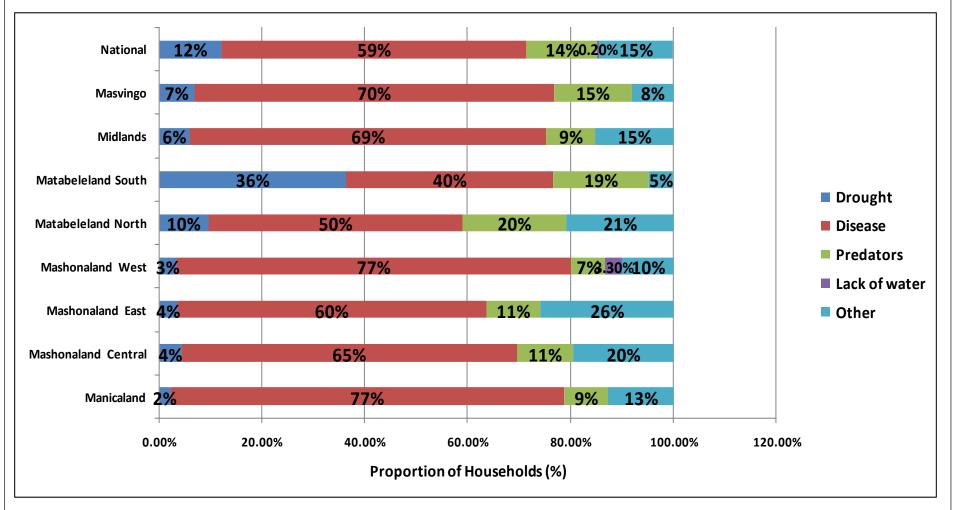
- Shoats experienced a net change of 9% increase.
- The increase was influenced mostly by births (24%).
- The current flock size was also made up of 55% of carry over from last year.

Reasons for Selling Shoats



- Most of the households were disposing shoats to purchase food (40%) and this was highest in Matabeleland South (63%) and Masvingo (49%).
- Paying educational expenses (17%) was highest in Mashonaland East (26%) followed by Masvingo (20%).

Reasons for Losses of Shoats

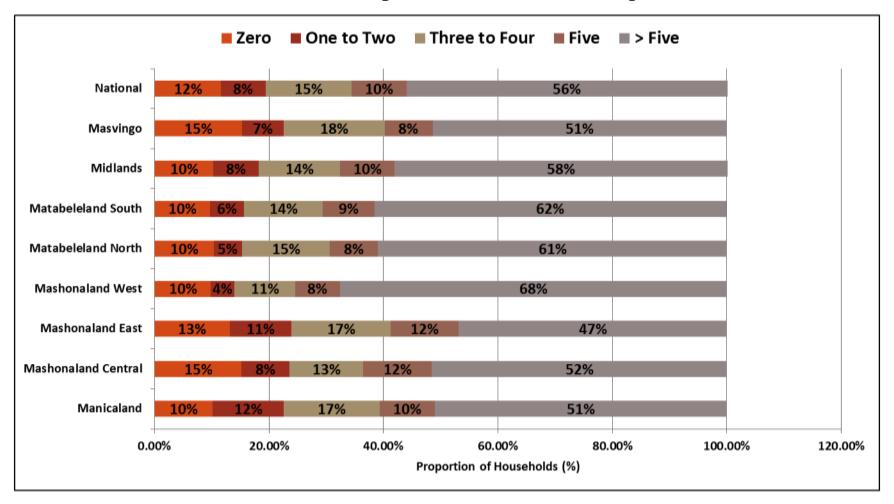


- Most of the households reported shoats losses due to deaths caused by diseases (59%) and this was highest in Manicaland (77%) and Mashonaland West (77%).
- The second most common cause of losses was theft (15%) which was highest in Mashonaland East (26%) and Matabeleland North (21%).

98

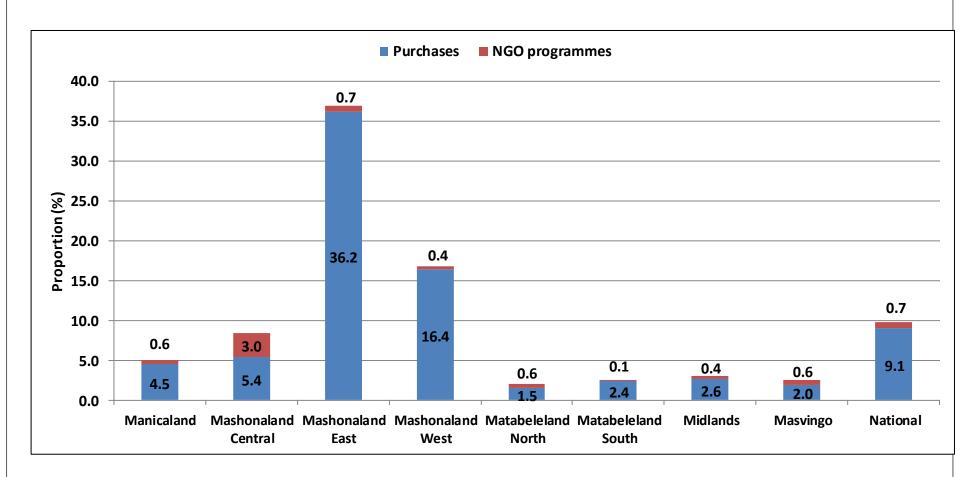
Losses of shoats due to drought were most common in Matabeleland South(36%)

Poultry Ownership



- The majority of the sampled households owned a bird or more (85%) which is higher than last year's 67%.
- 58% of the households had more than five birds which was an increase in comparison to last year's 36%.

Poultry Increases



- 9% of the current flock size was from purchases using own resources and this was highest in Mashonaland East (36%) and Mashonaland West (16%)
- Purchases from NGOs support programmes made approximately 1% of the flock size with the highest proportion of households being in Mashonaland Central (3%)

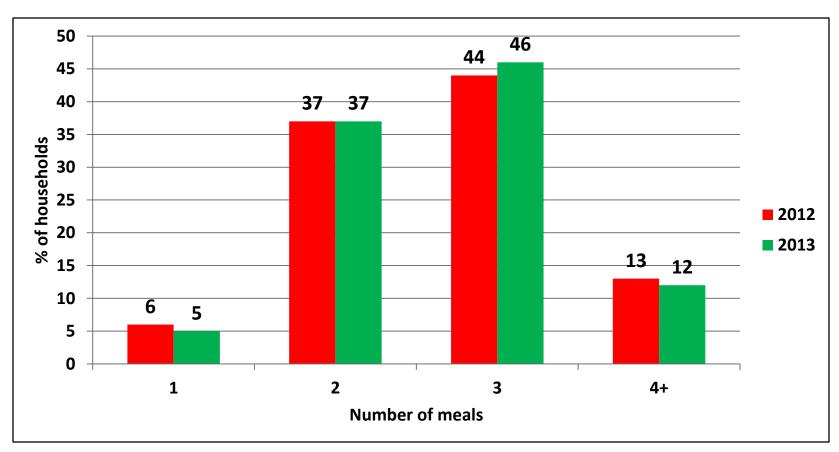
Donkeys and Pigs

- Approximately 6% of the households owned at least one pig.
- Of the 6%, 50% owned one to two pigs, 33% owned 3 to 5 pigs and 17% owned more than five pigs.
- Births were 36% and deaths were 14.4%.
- Main reason for sale was to purchase food.
- 16% of the households owned at least one donkey.
- Of those who owned donkeys and pigs, 56% owned one to three donkeys, 19% owned four donkeys and 25% owned more than four donkeys.
- Deaths were 13% of the herd size and 45% of the deaths were due to drought and 2.7% were due to diseases.

Household Consumption Patterns

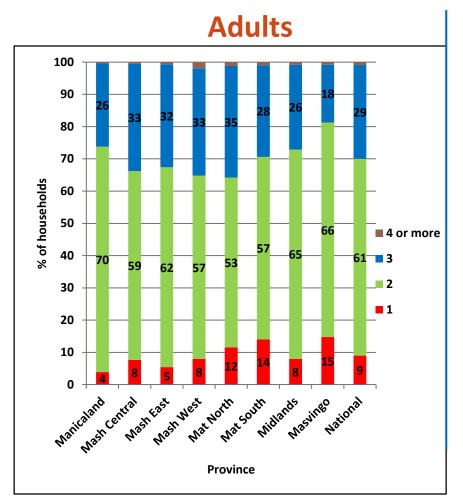
To describe the socio-economic profiles of rural households in terms of such characteristics as their food consumption patterns and consumption coping strategies

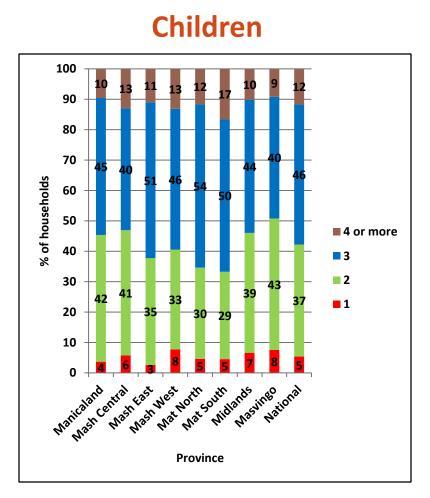
Number of Meals Consumed by Children



- About 42% of the children aged between 6 and 59 months had consumed less than three
 meals on the day prior to the assessment.
- This is worrying as they are unlikely to be consuming adequate nutrients necessary for their optimum growth and development.

Adult Number of Meals by Province



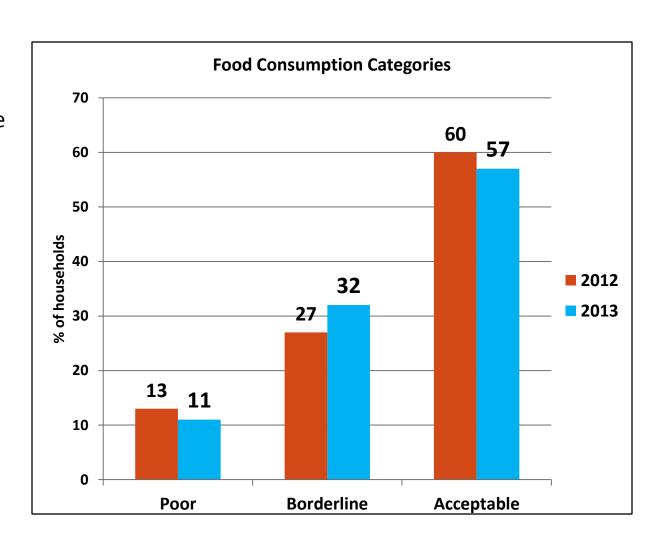


Masvingo and Matebeleland North had highest households with adults consuming one meal



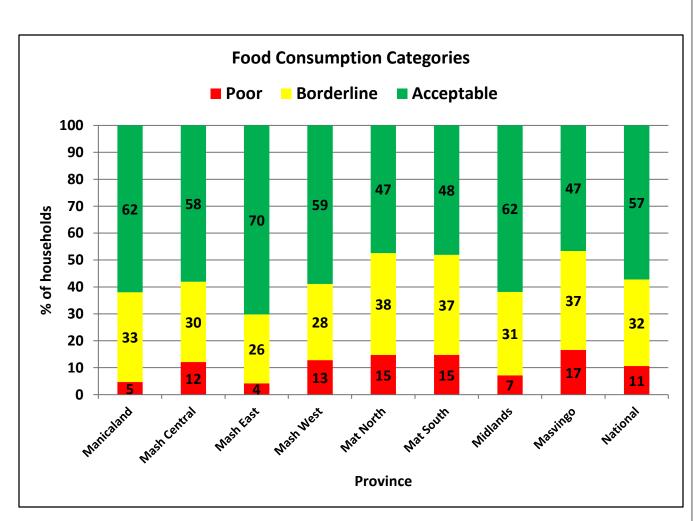
Household Dietary Diversity

Compared to the same time last year, there was an increase in the number of households with borderline dietary diversity and a decline in those with poor and acceptable dietary diversity.

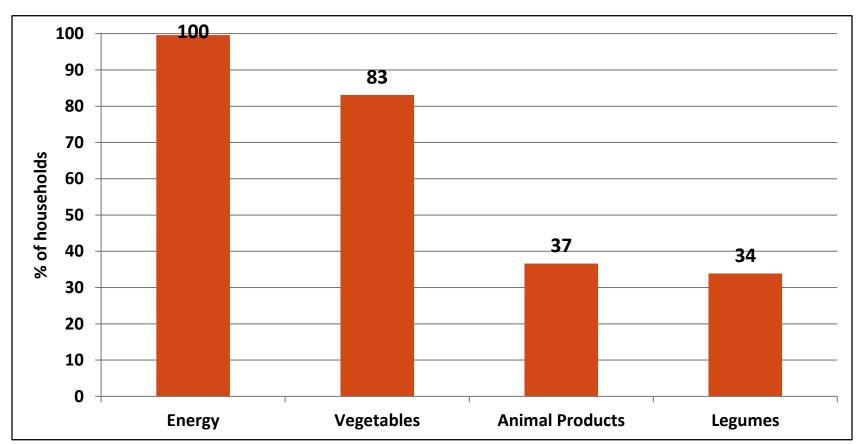


Household Dietary Diversity by Province

- Masvingo (17%),
 Matabeleland North
 (15%) and
 Matabeleland South
 (15%) had the
 highest proportion
 of households
 consuming a poor
 diet.
- Mashonaland East (70%) had the highest number of households with an acceptable diet.

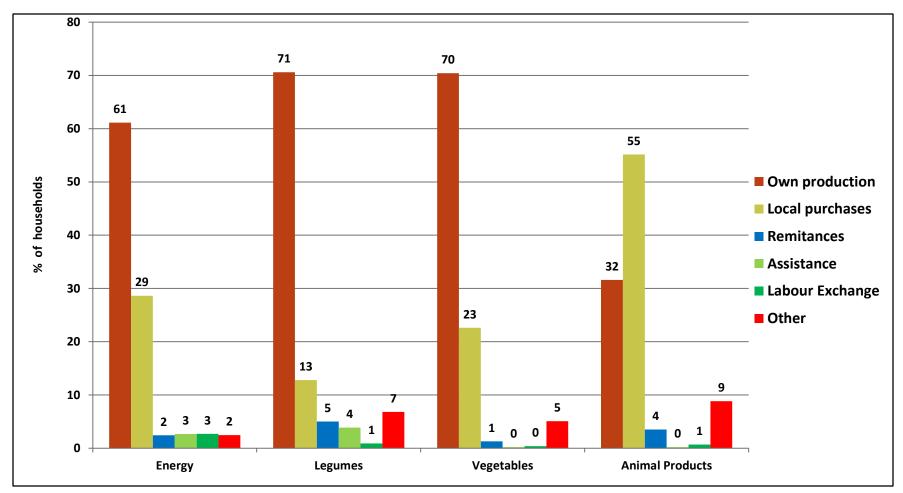


Food Groups Consumed by Households in May 2013



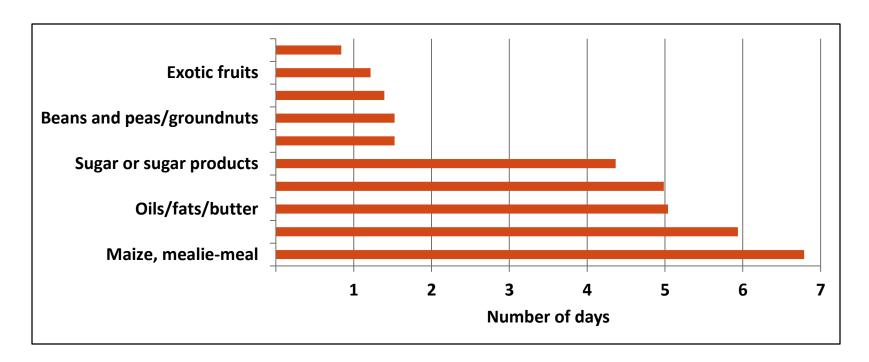
Almost all households were consuming energy rich foods whilst less than 40% were consuming protein rich foods.

Sources of Food Groups



Own production was the major source of food stuffs followed by purchases with the exception of meat products that were mostly purchased.

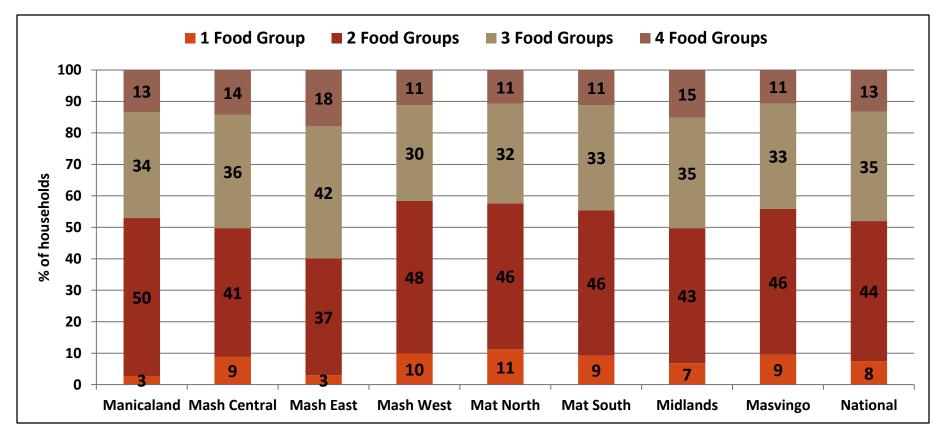
Average Number of Days Particular Foods were Consumed in the 7 Days Prior to the Survey



 Maize, vegetables and oils were consumed for more than five days in the week.

Household Dietary Diversity

Number of Food Types Consumed



 The majority of households were consuming two food groups, followed by three food groups. Less than 20% of the households consumed four food groups. The recommended number of food groups is four to give the nutrient and calorie requirements per day

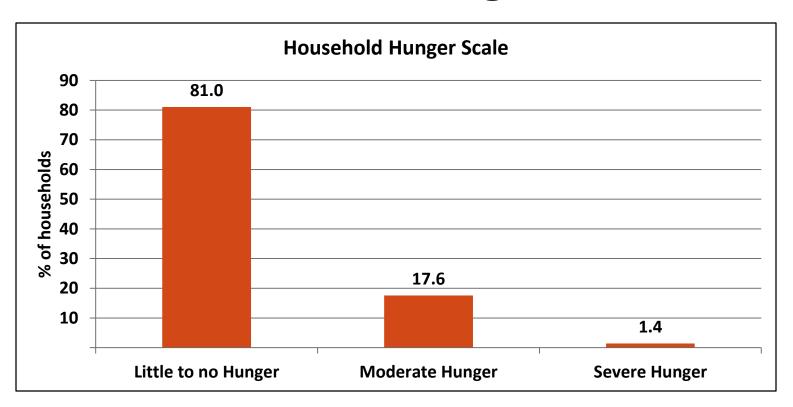
Household Hunger Score (HHS) Defined

- The HHS is a Simple tool composed of three questions about experiences common in households experiencing food deprivation:
- In the past [4 weeks/30 days]...
 - ...was there ever no food to eat of any kind in your household because of lack of resources to get food?
 - ...did you or any household member go to sleep at night hungry because there was not enough food?
 - ...did you or any household member go a whole day and night without eating anything at all because there was not enough food?

HHS – Definition Continued

- Responses to the three questions are scored as follows
 - No = 0
 - Rarely or Sometimes = 1
 - Often = 2
- For each household, the total scores from the three questions are added up and categorised as follows:
 - 0-1 = Little to no household hunger
 - 2-3 = Moderate household hunger
 - 4-6 = Severe household hunger

Household Hunger Scale

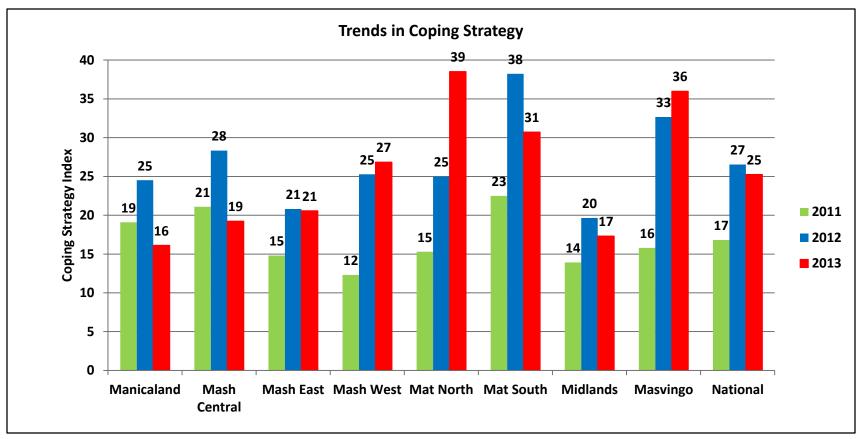


 Most of the households surveyed had no hunger problems with only a small proportion having severe hunger.

Household Consumption Coping Strategy Index (CSI) Defined

- A household is asked:
 - "how often it resorted to using each one of a set of 12 possible consumption coping strategies in the past 30days?"
- Responses to each of the food consumption coping strategies could be:
 - never (1), seldom (2), sometimes (3), often (4) and daily (5)
- The response codes are used to compute a household index, the CSI.
- The assessment presents average CSIs for the last three Aprils.

Household Consumption Coping Strategy Index (CSI)



- At national level, the CSI showed a marked increase from 2011, 2012 followed by a marginal decline in 2013.
- Matabeleland North and Masvingo showed an increase in 2013 compared to 2011 and 2012.

Food Security Situation

To determine the rural population that is likely to be food insecure in the 2013/14 consumption year, their geographic distribution and the severity of their food insecurity

Food Security Analytical Framework

- Food Security, at the individual, household, national, regional, and global levels [is achieved] when all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for a healthy and active life (FAO, 2001). The four dimensions of food security include:
 - Availability of food
 - Access to food
 - The safe and healthy utilization of food
 - The stability of food availability, access and utilization
- Household food security status was determined by measuring the household's potential access to enough food to give each member a minimum of 2100 kilocalories per day in the consumption period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

Food Security Analytical Framework Continued

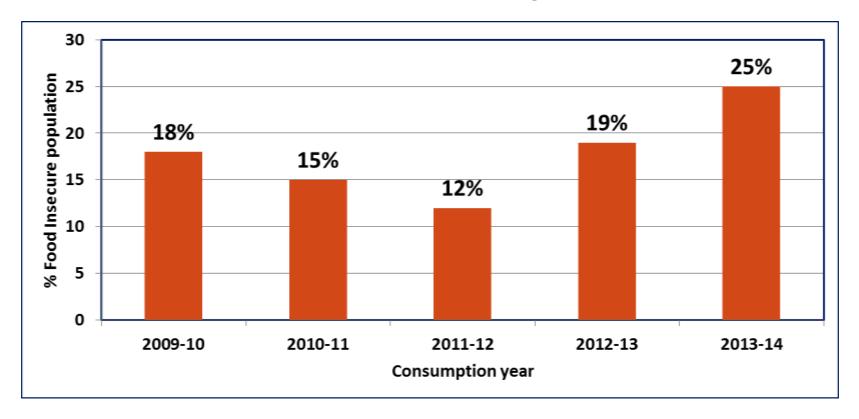
- Each of the surveyed households' potential access was computed by estimating the household's likely disposable income in the 2013/14 consumption year from the following possible income sources:
 - cereal stocks
 - own food crop production
 - potential income from own cash crop production
 - potential income from livestock
 - income from other sources such as gifts, remittances, casual labour, pensions and formal employment.
- Total energy that could be acquired by the household from the cheapest available energy source using its potential disposable income was then computed and compared to the household's minimum energy requirements.
- When the potential energy a household could acquire was greater than its minimum energy requirements, the household was deemed to be food secure. When the converse was true, the household was defined as food insecure.
- The severity of household food insecurity was computed by the margin with which its potential energy access is below its minimum energy requirements.



Main Assumptions Used in the Food Security Analytical Framework

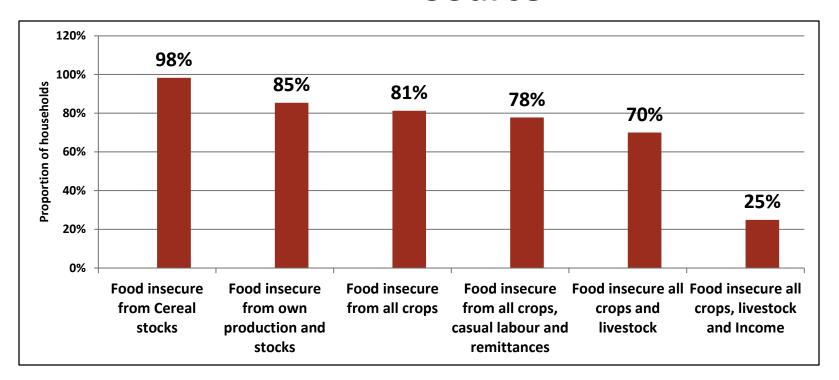
- Households' purchasing power will remain relatively stable from April 2013 through the end of March 2014, i.e. average household income levels are likely to track households' cost of living. This assumption is made on the premise that year on year inflation will average out at around 5% in the consumption year and the economy will grow by more than 5%.
- The national average livestock to maize terms of trade will remain relatively stable throughout the 2013/14 consumption year.
- Staple cereals in the form of maize, small grains (sorghum and millets) or mealie meal will be available on the market for cereal deficit households with the means to purchase to do so throughout the consumption year. This assumption is predicated on the Government maintaining the liberalised maize trade regime.
- The 2013/14 maize prices will average at around US\$0.53/kg nationally, US\$0.36/kg in the staple cereal surplus districts and US\$0.77/kg in the cereal deficit districts. Maize price monitoring by Agritex, FAO and WFP informed this assumption.
- National cotton, tobacco and soya bean producer prices will average out at US\$0.35/kg, S\$3.71/kg and US\$0.50/kg for the whole 2013/14 marketing season respectively.

Rural Food Insecurity Trends



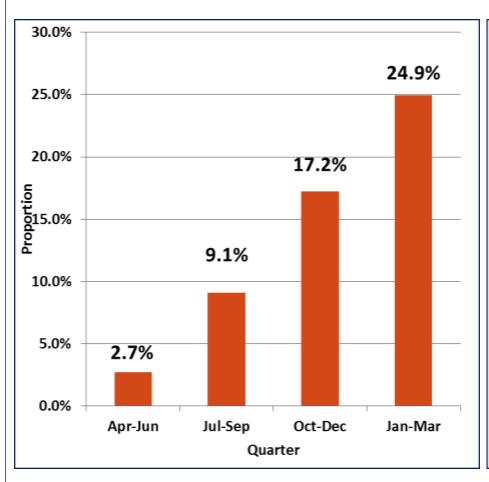
- The 2013/14 consumption year at peak was projected to have 25% of rural households food insecure. This is 6% (32% increase) higher compared to the previous consumption year.
- The proportion represents about 2,206,924 people at peak, not being able to meet their annual food requirements.
- The cumulative energy food deficit for the rural households is estimated at an equivalent of 177.000MT of maize.

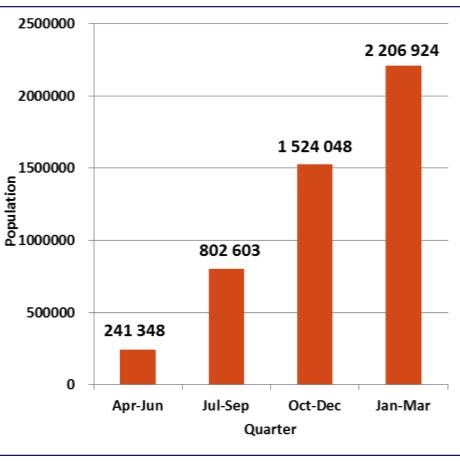
Food Insecurity Progression by Income Source



- About 2% of the rural households were food secure from only the cereal stocks they had as of 1 April 2013. Consideration of own food crop production reduced the prevalence of food insecure households to 85%.
- When income from cash crops is added the proportion of food insecure households drops to 81%. It further decreases to 78% after considering potential food from casual labour and remittances.
- Adding potential income from livestock reduces the proportion of food insecure households to 70% from where it falls
 to about 25% when income from other livelihoods activities (e.g. cash income from casual labour, cash receipts from
 remittances, formal and informal employment, petty trade, vegetable sales, rentals, draft power hire, sale of wild
 foods and other products, sale of cultivated crops) is considered.

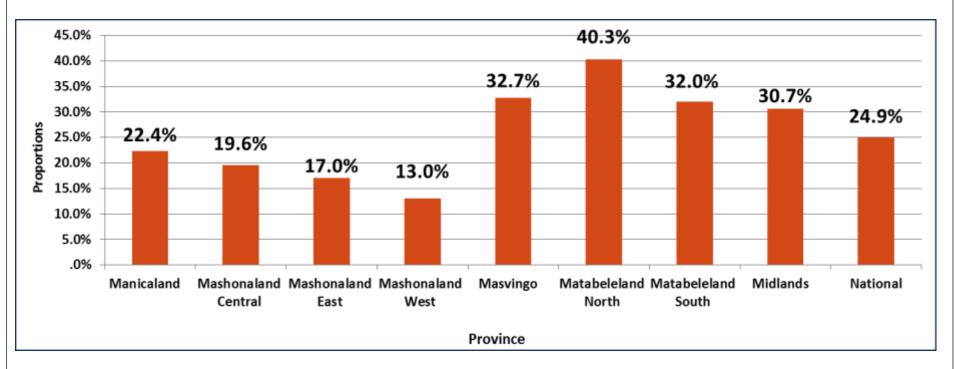
Food Insecurity Progression by Quarter



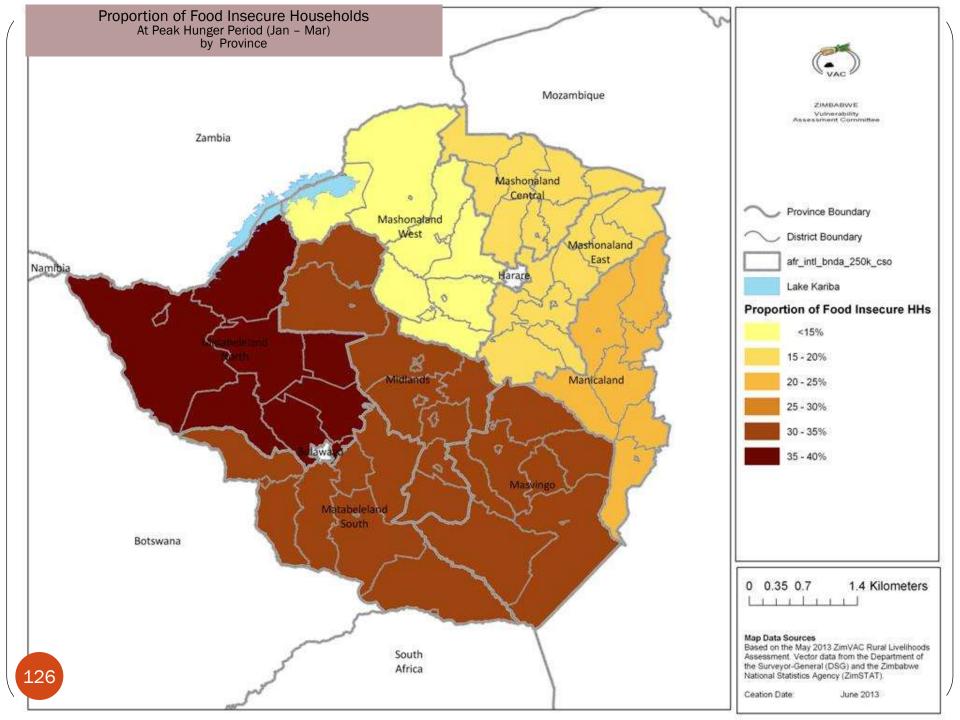


- During the first quarter of the 2013/14 consumption year, 241,348 people (2.7% of households) already had insufficient incomes to access adequate food. The levels are projected to increase to three times as much in the second quarter.
 - The third quarter will have 17.2% of the households projected to be food insecure, at the time households will be preparing and planting for the next consumption year.

Provincial Food Insecurity Picture



- Matabeleland North (40.3%), Masvingo (32.7%), Matabeleland South (32%) and Midlands (30.7%) were projected to have the highest proportions of food insecure households. These proportions in these four provinces are higher compared to the national average.
- This might be due to some parts of Masvingo, Midlands, Matabeleland North and Matabeleland South not receiving effective rains for planting by end of December 2012. Crops planted in October and November 2012 were affected by erratic rainfall.
- Higher maize grain and maize meal prices in these provinces also had a significant influence on this outcome.
 - Mashonaland West (13%) and Mashonaland East (17%) were projected to have the least proportion of food insecure households.



Household Food Insecurity Prevalence by Province: 2012/13 vs 2013/14

Province	% Food Insecurity 2012/13	% Food Insecurity 2013/14	Food Secure
Manicaland	15	22	338,893
Mashonaland Central	17	20	207,501
Mashonaland East	10	17	208,824
Mashonaland West	16	13	147,383
Masvingo	28	33	474,625
Matabeleland North	22	40	272,075
Matabeleland South	30	32	196,508
Midlands	17	31	361,114
National	19	25	2,206,924

- Generally, the prevalence of food insecurity increased in all provinces except in Mashonaland West province when the 2012/13 consumption year is compared to the current consumption year.
- The prevalence of food insecure households almost doubled in Matabeleland North and Midlands provinces.
- The highest population of food insecure population is estimate to be in Masvingo and the least food insecure populations is expected in Mashonaland West

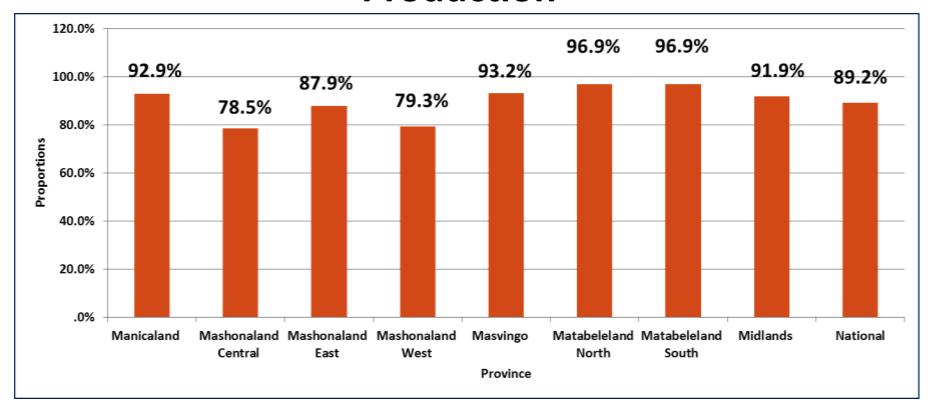


Food Insecurity Prevalence by District at Peak

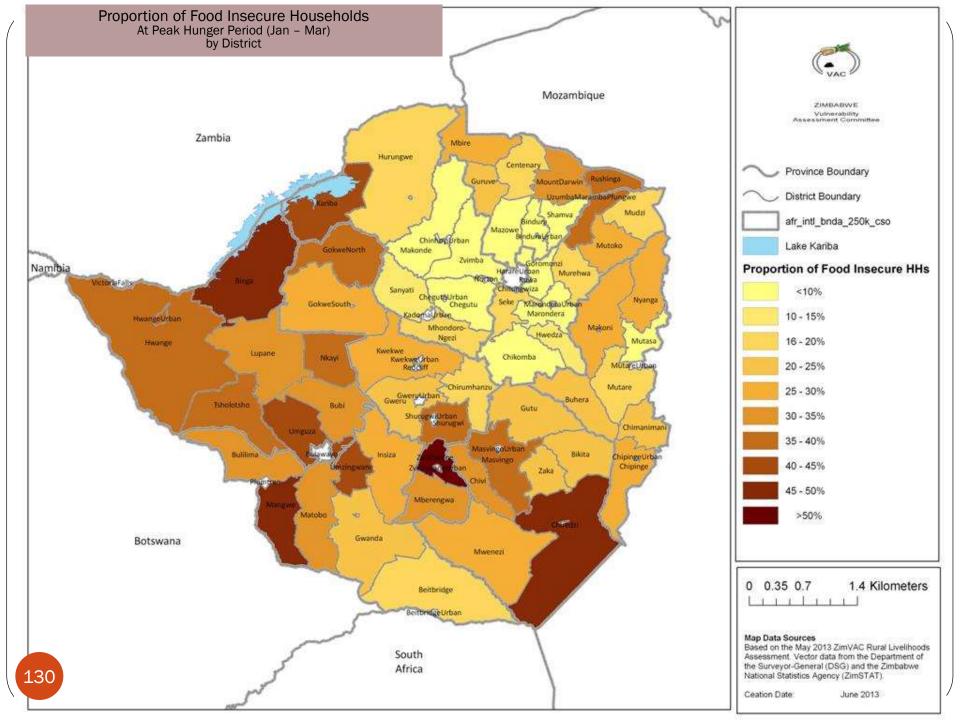
District	Food Insecure Households	District	Food Insecure Households
Zvishavane	51.7%	Goromonzi	10.2%
Binga	49.7%	Zvimba	10.0%
Mangwe	49.4%	Shamva	9.9%
Chiredzi	47.8%	Bindura	9.4%
Kariba	44.2%	Marondera	8.9%
Umguza	44.2%	Mutasa	8.9%
Umzingwane	44.1%	Chegutu	8.3%
Shurugwi	40.2%	Chikomba	8.3%
Rushinga	39.7%	Mazowe	6.7%
Hwange	39.4%	Makonde	5.0%

- The highest proportion of food insecure households are estimated to be in Zvishavane (52%), followed by Binga (50%). The least food insecurity prevalence is expected in Makonde (5%) and Mazowe (7%) districts.
- For complete details on food insecurity prevalence by district, refer to the annex.

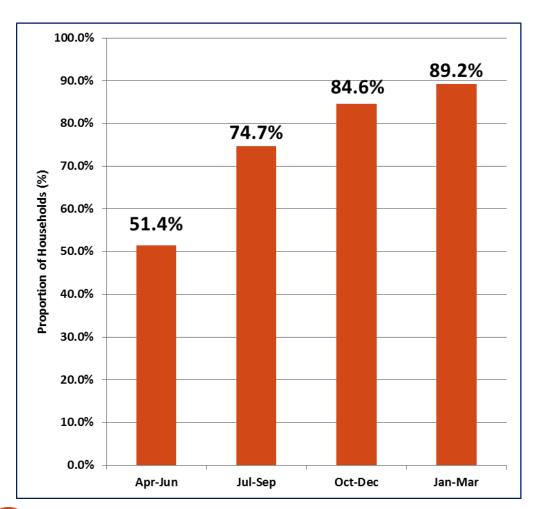
Food Insecurity Based on Own Food Crop Production



- When only food crop production was considered, 89.2% of households were projected to be unable to meet their annual food requirements for the 2013/14 consumption year.
- Matabeleland North and South provinces had the highest proportion of households projected to have inadequate food crop from production to last the consumption year.
- Mashonaland Central and West provinces had the highest proportions of households projected to have adequate food crop from production to cater for their household consumption during the consumption year.
 - When household food stocks are added to own food crop production, the proportion of food insecure households is estimated to be 85.4%.



Own Production Food Insecurity Progression

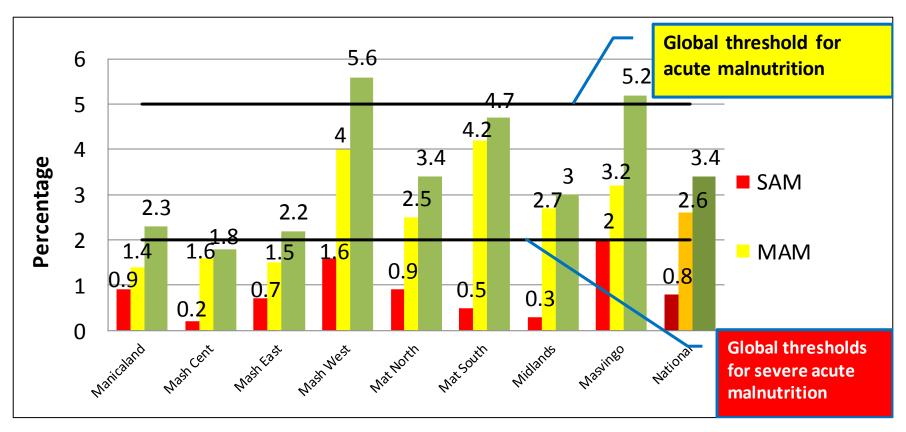


- The first quarter is projected to have 51.4% of households having inadequate food crop from production. This increases to 74.7% during the second quarter.
- During the third and fourth quarters, over 80% of rural households are projected to have exhausted their food crop production.
- Hence significant pressure is going to be put on the market to supply food.

Child Nutrition

To assess the relationship between household food insecurity and the nutritional status of children 6-59 months

Child (6 to 59 Months) Acute malnutrition

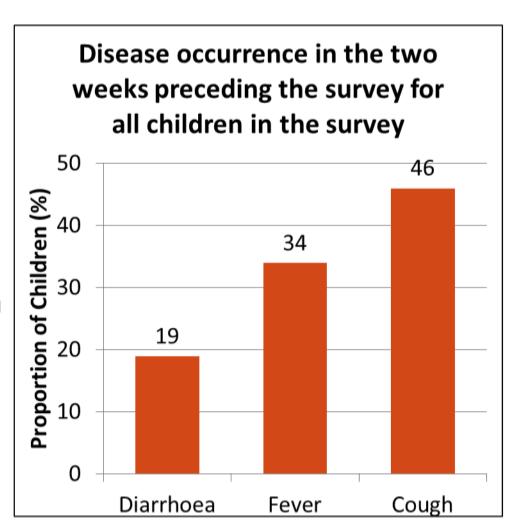


- Nationally 0.8% of the measured children between 6 and 59 months had severe acute malnutrition; 2.6% were moderately malnourished with a MUAC measurement of between 11.51 and 12.5cm.
- The national average for acute malnutrition was 3.4%. Mashonaland West had the highest proportion of children (5.6%) who had acute malnutrition whilst Mashonaland Central had the lowest proportion (1.8%).
- Masvingo had the highest prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (2.0%) of MUAC below 11.5cm; whilst Mashonaland Central
 had the lowest 0.2%.
- Global thresholds for emergency response for acute malnutrition and severe acute malnutrition are 5% and 2% respectively. Masvingo and Mashonaland West Provinces are therefore of public health concern.

Disease Incidence Amongst Children 6 -59 months

In the 2 weeks prior to the survey,

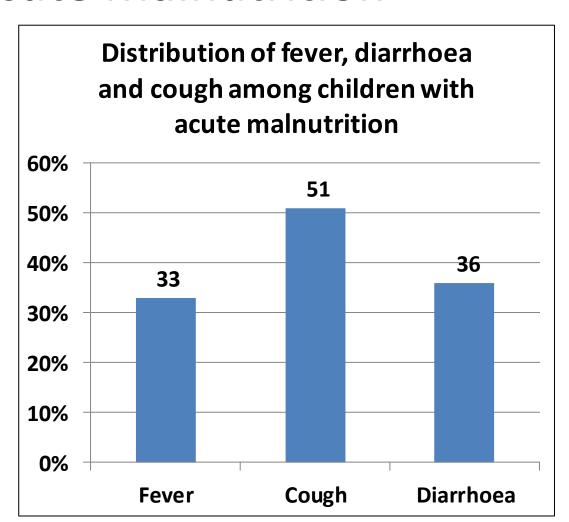
- 34% of children had experienced a fever,
- 19% had diarrhea and
- 46% had suffered from a cough.



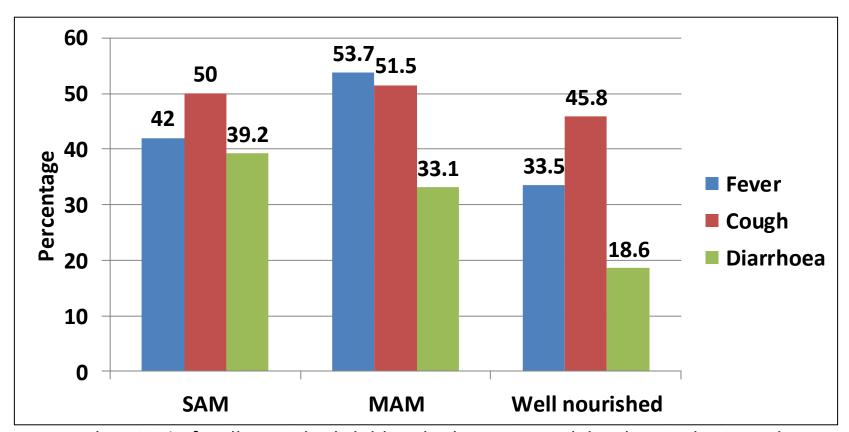
Disease Incidence Amongst Children with Acute Malnutrition

Of the 3.4% children with acute malnutrition,

- 51% had a cough,
- 36% had diarrhea and
- 33% had a fever.



Disease Prevalence Among Children Under Five versus Nutritional Status



- Less than 20% of well nourished children had experienced diarrhea in the 2 weeks prior to the survey, compared to 30 to 40% of children with acute malnutrition.
- There was also a higher prevalence of fever in children with acute malnutrition compared to well nourished children.
- Children with diarrhea appear to be more likely to be malnourished.

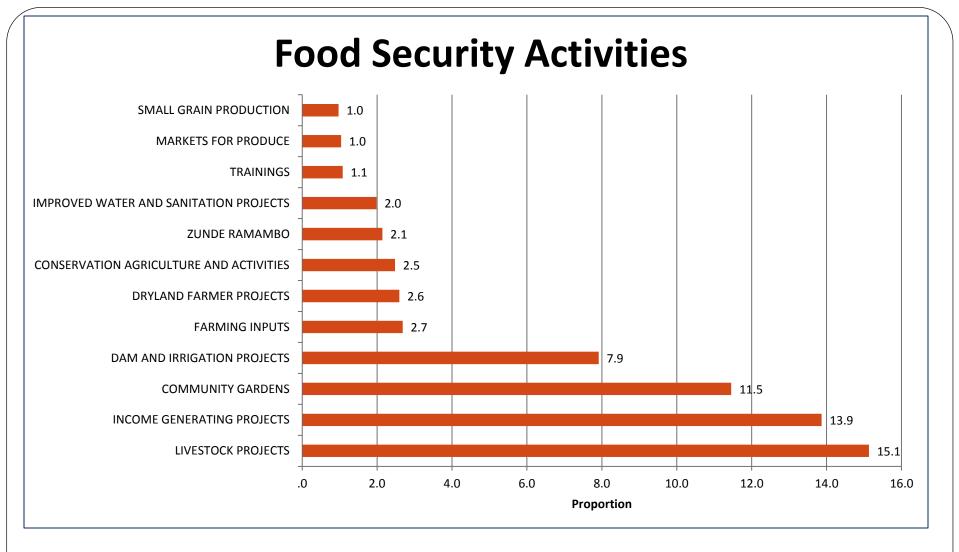
Characterization of Malnourished Children

Variable	P- value
Dependency ratio	0.708
More than 3 under 5 children in household	0.000*
Child suffered a Fever	0.000*
Child suffered a Cough	0.061*
Child suffered a Diarrhoea	0.000*
Unimproved sanitation facilities	0.757
Unimproved drinking water sources	0.796
Household Food security	0.012*

- There was a strong association between households with at least one child in the house having acute malnutrition and fever, diarrhoea and having more than 3 children under five years of age living in one household.
- Nutrition insecure households were significantly likely to be food insecure.
 - A weak association was also found with cough.

Community Activities to Address Food and Nutrition Security Challenges

To identify development priorities for rural communities in all rural provinces of the country.



- •Communities identified Livestock Projects (15.1%) as the key programme/ activity that they would be willing to engage in to address food and nutrition insecurity challenges.
- •This was followed by income generating projects (13.9%) and community gardens (11.5%)

Community Livelihoods Challenges and Development Priorities

To identify development priorities for rural communities in all rural provinces of the country.

Community Challenges OTHER (THEFT, POVERTY, ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES) **DRAUGHT POWER SHORTAGES** LAND SHORTAGES **COMMUNITY PROJECTS** WILD ANIMALS 1.5 LIVESTOCK DISEASES LACK OF CAPITAL 2.5 UNEMPLOYMENT 2.6 **FOOD INSECURITY** 4.0 **POOR MARKETS AND PRICES** 4.6 **POOR RAINFALL SEASON QUALITY** UNAVAILABILITY OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS 6.6 POOR WATER AND SANITATION 8.8 **INADEQUATE HEALTH FACILITIES** 8.8 POOR ACCESS TO EDUCATION 8.9 **PRODUCTION WATER SHORTAGES** 11.5 POOR ROADS, TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNIC 17.2 2.0 4.0 6.0 8.0 10.0 12.0 14.0 16.0 18.0 20.0 Proportion

- During the 2012/13 consumption year, poor roads, transport, infrastructure and communication (17.2%) and production water shortages (11.5%) were cited as the most common challenges faced by the sampled communities.
- This was followed by poor access to education (8.9%), inadequate health facilities (8.8%) and poor water and sanitation (8.8%).



Development Priorities COMMUNITY GARDENING LOANS 2.0 **VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTERS** 2.3 LIVESTOCK RESTOCKING, GRAZING 2.3 **MARKETS** AGRICULTURE INPUTS AND IMPLEMENTS **INCOME GENERATING PROJECTS** 4.5 **ELECTRIFICATION** 4.6 **EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE** 8.7 **HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT** 9.1 IRRIGATION, DAM CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION 14.0 IMPROVEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES 14.5 INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORT AND COMM 15.9 8.0 2.0 4.0 6.0 10.0 12.0 14.0 16.0 18.0 **Proportions**

- Infrastructure development, transport and communication (15.9%) was identified by sampled communities as the most important community development priority.
- This was followed by improvement of water and sanitation facilities (14.5%).

- About 3% of rural households are estimated to have insufficient means to meet their basic food requirements between April and June 2013. This proportion is projected to increase to 25% of the rural households in Zimbabwe by January 2014. Resources need to be urgently mobilized to address the immediate food insecurity problem while preparations to deal with the increased problem later in the consumption year are stepped up.
- Given that the highest prevalence of food insecurity was recorded in Masvingo, Matabeleland South and Matabeleland North, these provinces should be prioritized in interventions to improve household food and nutrition security.
- About 60% of the people will have to rely on the market to meet their food needs, it is therefore imperative to ensure that the markets have adequate food for those with sufficient incomes to purchase.

- The price of maize is a critical factor in determining household food access in the consumption year. Not only does this need to be monitored closely but it needs to be stabilized and at best lowered as far as possible to increase household access.
- The malnutrition levels in Mashonaland West and Masvingo Province require further assessment and action as they exceed national and global thresholds.
- About 70% of rural households use safe water sources. Not only is this lower than the national MDG target of 85%, but only 11% of households that use water from unsafe sources treat it before use. Furthermore, only 33% of the rural households had access to improved sanitation facilities. This situation encourage poor nutritional outcomes and requires urgent attention in broader national nutrition strategy.

- •It is worrying that 42 % of children under 5 were consuming 2 or fewer meals per day and therefore unlikely to access adequate nutrients necessary for their optimum growth. Therefore, nutrition programming for children should promote appropriate complementary feeding practices especially within the window of opportunity "6-23 months."
- •Generally, foods consumed by rural households are of low diversity and largely unbalanced with a clear dominance of carbohydrates at the expense of protein rich foods, hence there is need to advocate and promote for the consumption of a balanced diet.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Post harvest losses in cereals measured from physiological maturity to final consumption can range between 20 and 30% of weight loss. The advent of the large grain borer is known to result in even higher crop weight losses. It is worrying that the majority of households in the assessment continue using ordinary rooms to store their grain. This issue requires urgent attention as part of a comprehensive strategy to ensure household level food security.
- The low prevalence of functional irrigation schemes in rural communities shows the high dependency on rain fed cropping in rural Zimbabwe. This makes crop production highly vulnerable to climate variability. To address this challenge, irrigation rehabilitation and development is encouraged.
- Small grain producers are mostly depending on retained seed which is mainly distributed through an informal seed system that is not readily accessible by all farmers who may want to grow the crop. Encouragement of small grain production would therefore require addressing this challenge by promoting such strategies as community seed fairs.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- It is concerning to note that cattle and shoats off-take remains suppressed in the smallholder farming sector and the majority of cattle and shoats losses are due to diseases. These areas should be prioritized in a broader strategy to improve cattle and shoats productivity in this sector. In the drier areas of the country, there is need to put in place viable measures to mitigate livestock deaths due to drought.
- Initiatives by government and its development partners to address food and nutrition community challenges need to be informed by the priority challenges identified by the communities themselves. They can build on the ideas suggested by the communities to address food and nutrition security challenges as doing so increases success rates and sustainability of the interventions.

Appendices 1 Food Insecurity by District- Tables

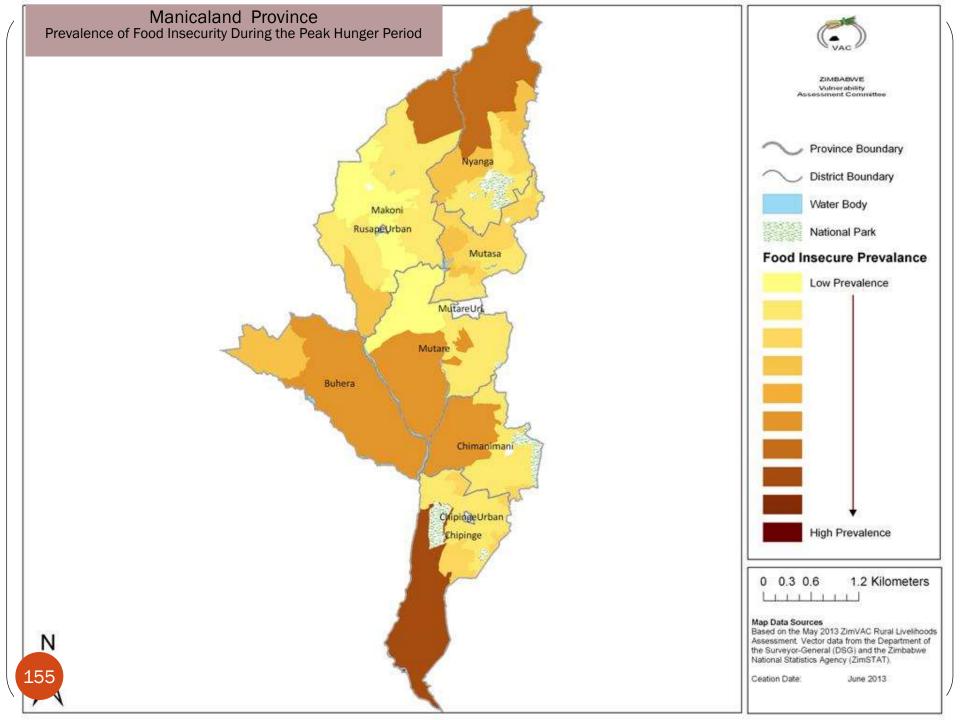
		Proportion of Households	
Province	District	Food insecure	Food Secure
Manicaland	Buhera	23.3%	76.7%
	Chimanimani	22.2%	77.8%
	Chipinge	28.9%	71.1%
	Makoni	26.9%	73.1%
	Mutare	16.1%	83.9%
	Mutasa	8.9%	91.1%
	Nyanga	26.1%	73.9%
Mashonaland Central	Bindura	9.4%	90.6%
	Muzarabani	16.0%	84.0%
	Guruve	23.3%	76.7%
	Mazowe	6.7%	93.3%
	Mount Darwin	34.4%	65.6%
	Rushinga	39.7%	60.3%
	Shamva	9.9%	90.1%
	Mbire	27.2%	72.8%

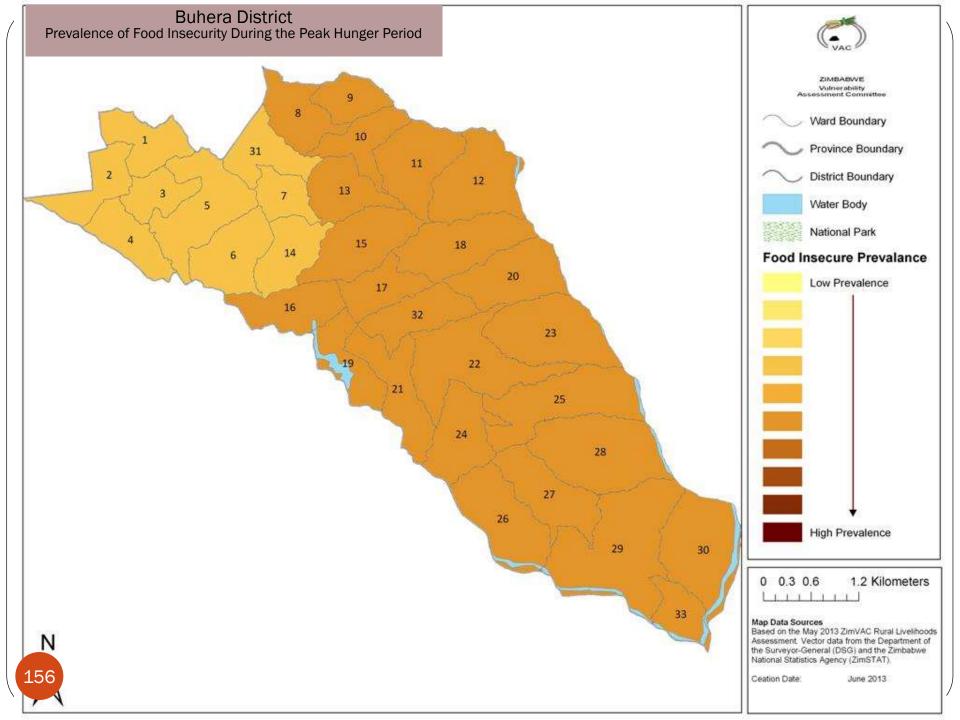
		Proportion of	Proportion of Households	
Province	District	Food insecure	Food Secure	
Mashonaland East	Chikomba	8.3%	91.7%	
	Goromonzi	10.2%	89.8%	
	Hwedza	12.3%	87.7%	
	Marondera	8.9%	91.1%	
	Mudzi	17.9%	82.1%	
	Murehwa	17.2%	82.8%	
	Mutoko	29.8%	70.2%	
	Seke	16.2%	83.8%	
	UMP	35.6%	64.4%	
Mashonaland West	Chegutu	8.3%	91.7%	
	Hurungwe	16.1%	83.9%	
	Mhondoro Ngezi	15.9%	84.1%	
	Kariba	44.2%	55.8%	
	Makonde	5.0%	95.0%	
	Zvimba	10.0%	90.0%	
	Sanyati	12.8%	87.2%	

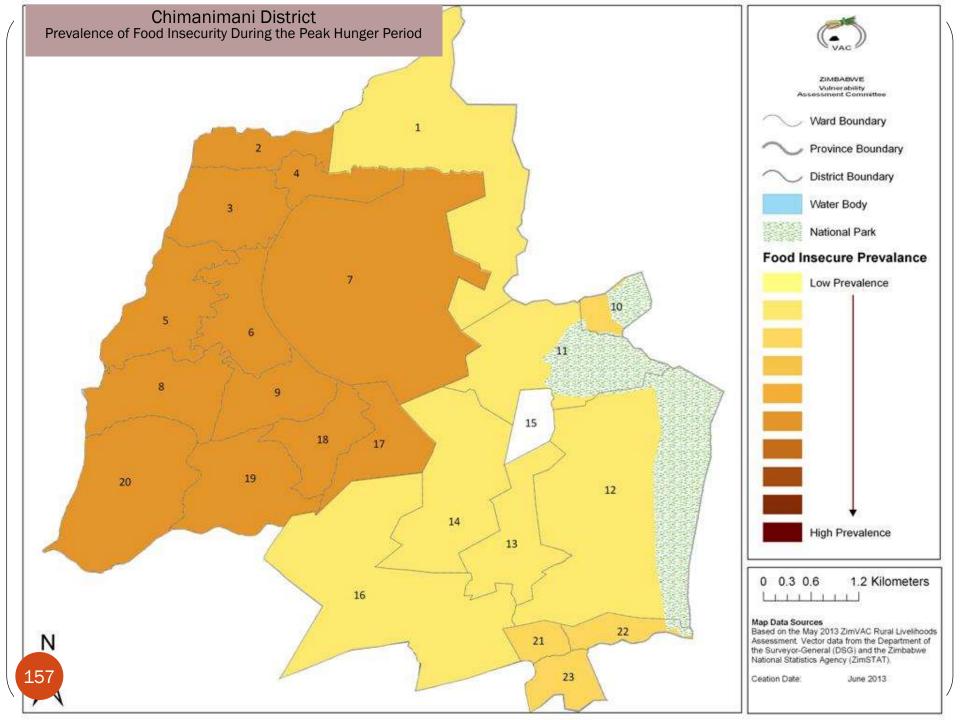
		Proportion of	Proportion of Households	
Province	District	Food insecure	Food Secure	
Matabeleland North	Binga	49.7%	50.3%	
	Bubi	35.2%	64.8%	
	Hwange	39.4%	60.6%	
	Lupane	30.6%	69.4%	
	Nkayi	38.9%	61.1%	
	Tsholotsho	38.7%	61.3%	
	Umguza	44.4%	55.6%	
Matabeleland South	Beitbridge	20.1%	79.9%	
	Bulilima	33.5%	66.5%	
	Mangwe	49.4%	50.6%	
	Gwanda	25.1%	74.9%	
	Insiza	30.2%	69.8%	
	Matobo	30.7%	69.3%	
	Umzingwane	43.9%	56.1%	

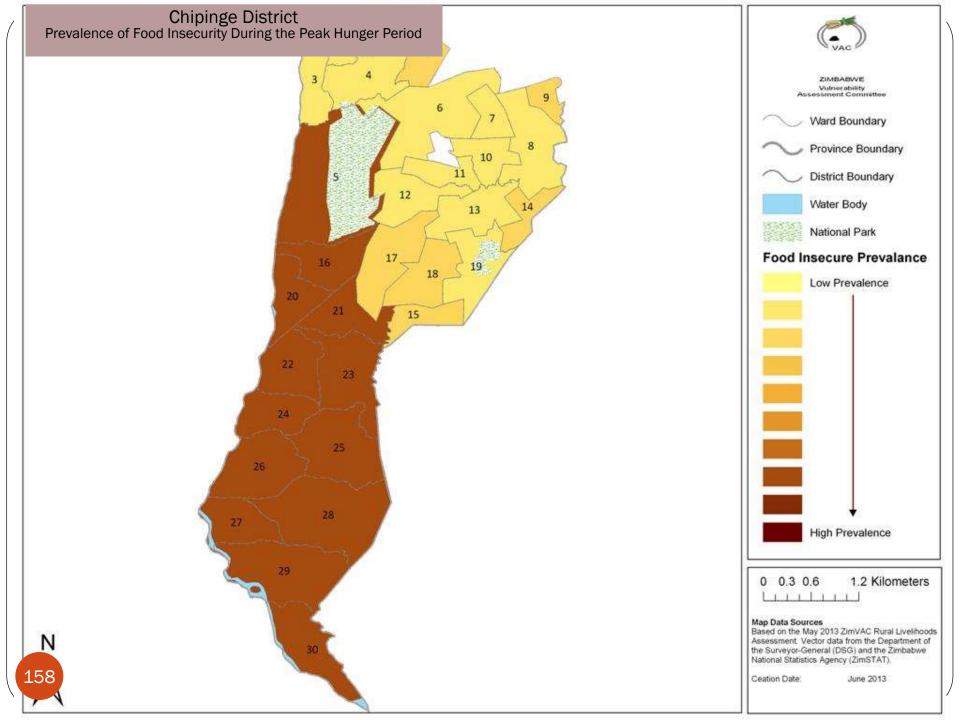
		Proportion of	Proportion of Households	
Province	District	Food insecure	Food Secure	
Midlands	Chirimanzu	18.3%	81.7%	
	Gokwe North	38.3%	61.7%	
	Gokwe South	26.1%	73.9%	
	Gweru	24.4%	75.6%	
	Kwekwe	28.3%	71.7%	
	Mberengwa	34.8%	65.2%	
	Shurugwi	40.2%	59.8%	
	Zvishavane	51.7%	48.3%	
Masvingo	Bikita	20.6%	79.4%	
	Chiredzi	47.8%	52.2%	
	Chivi	34.4%	65.6%	
	Gutu	23.3%	76.7%	
	Masvingo	36.5%	63.5%	
	Mwenezi	28.9%	71.1%	
	Zaka	21.7%	78.3%	

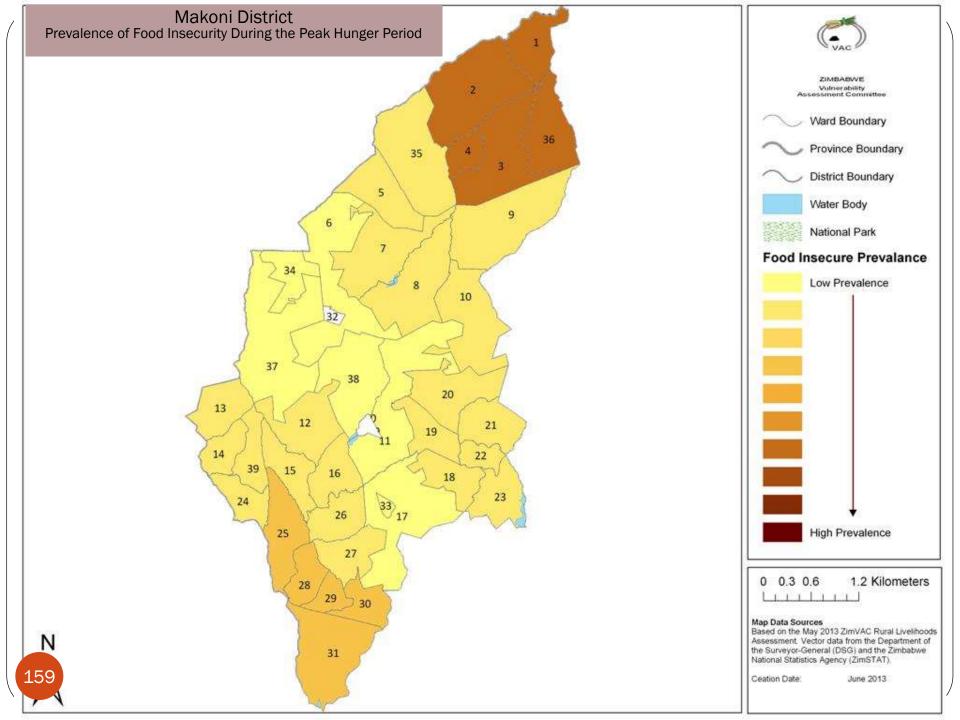
Appendix 2 Relative Food insecurity Maps by Province and District

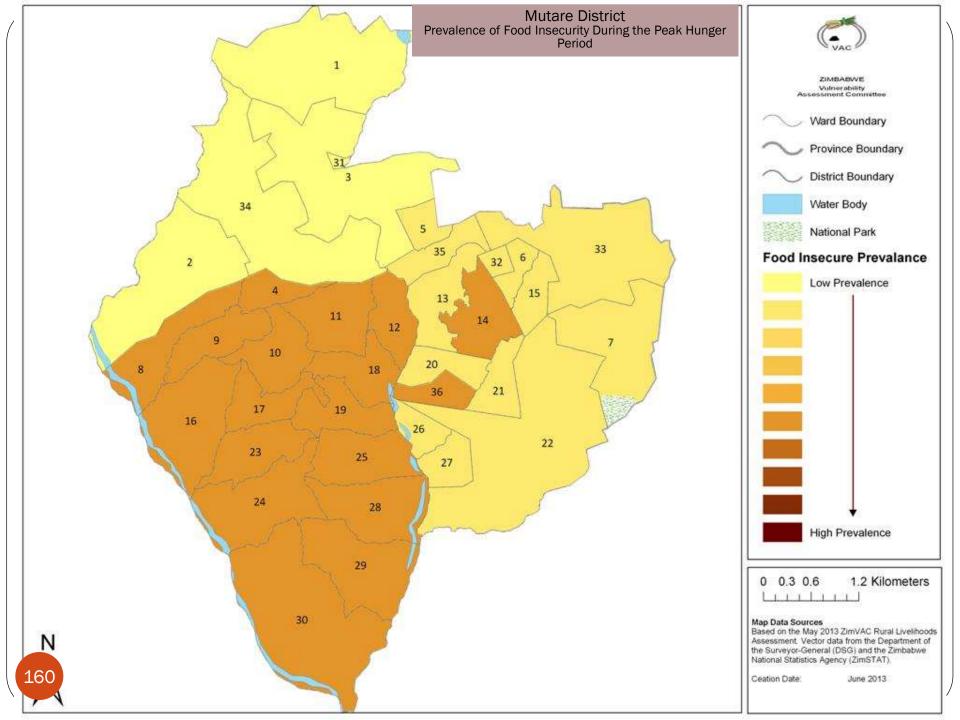


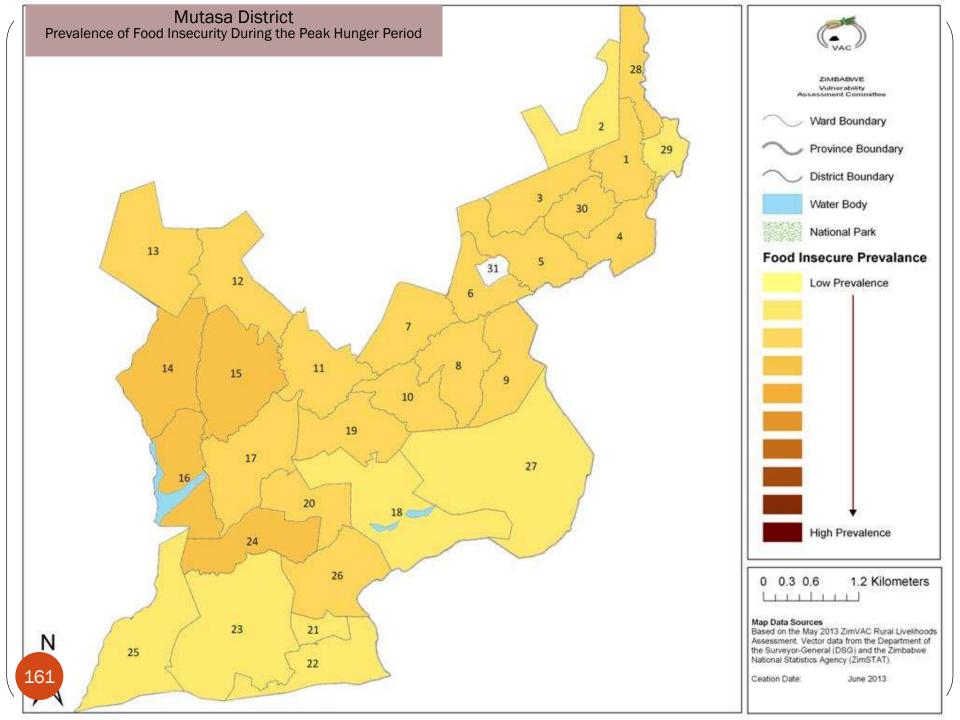


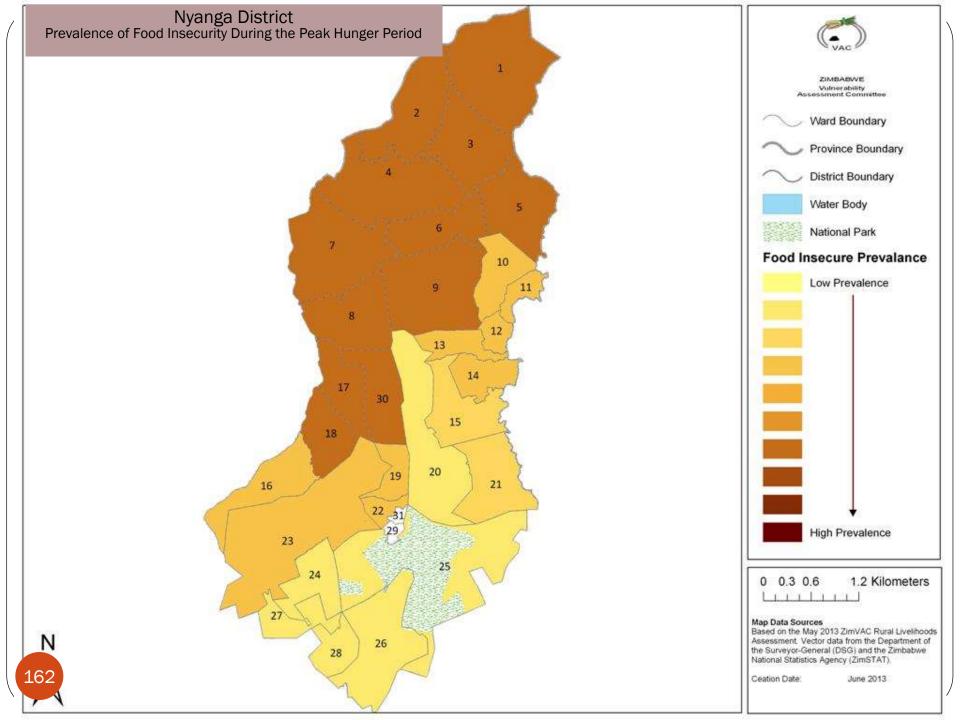


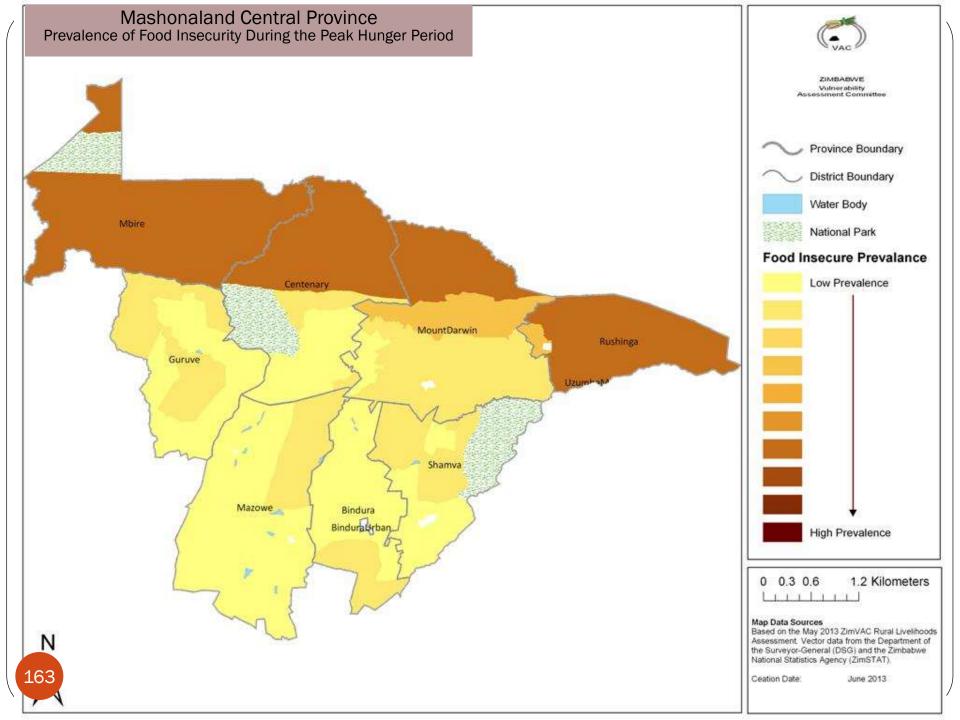


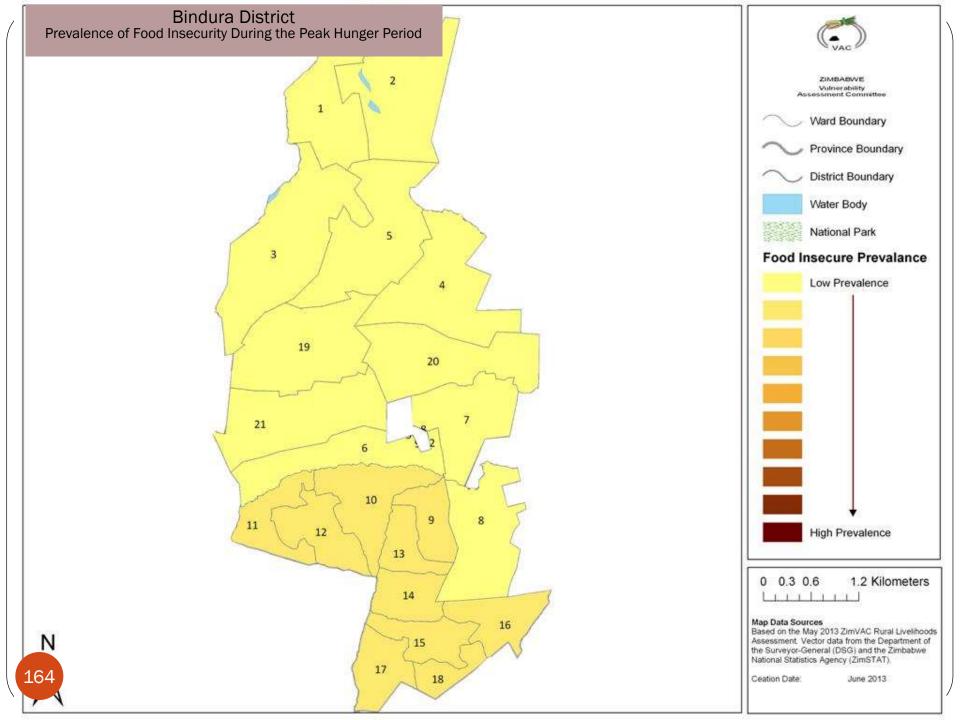


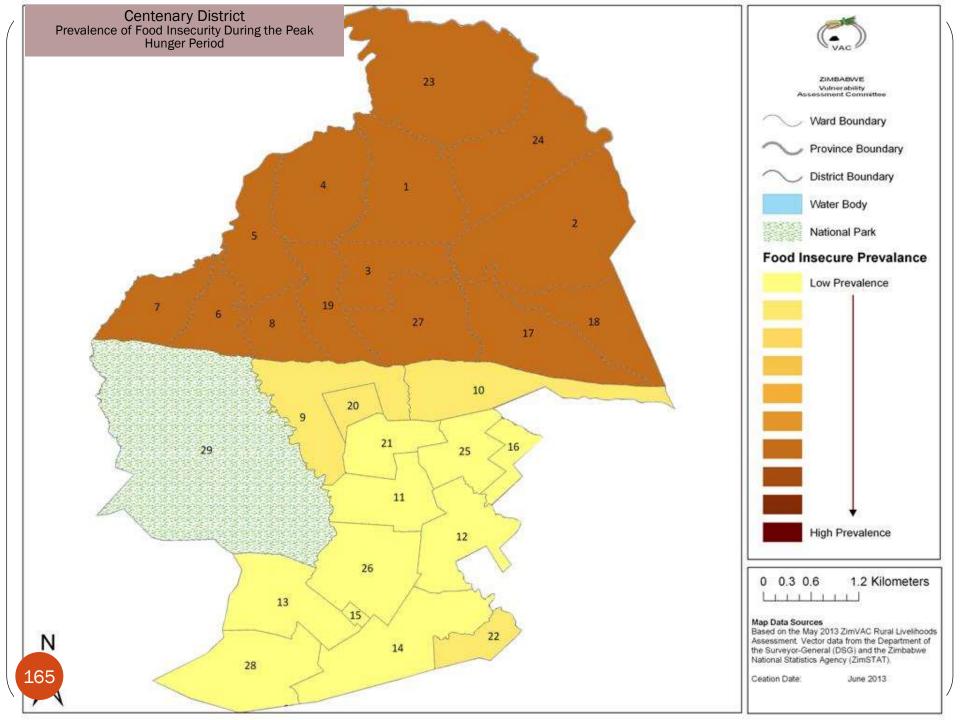


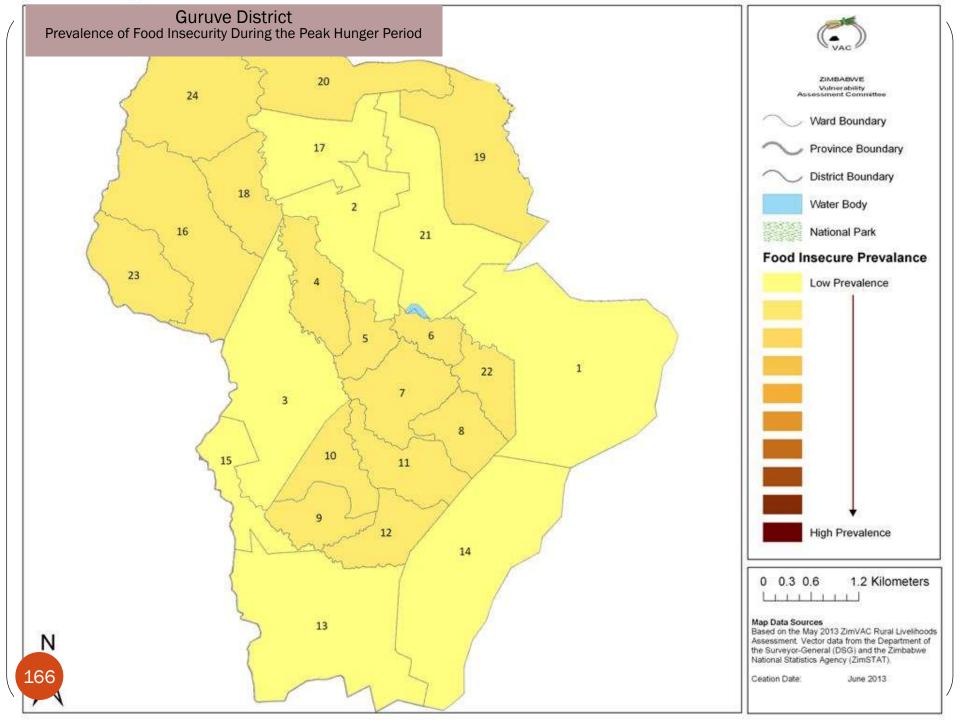


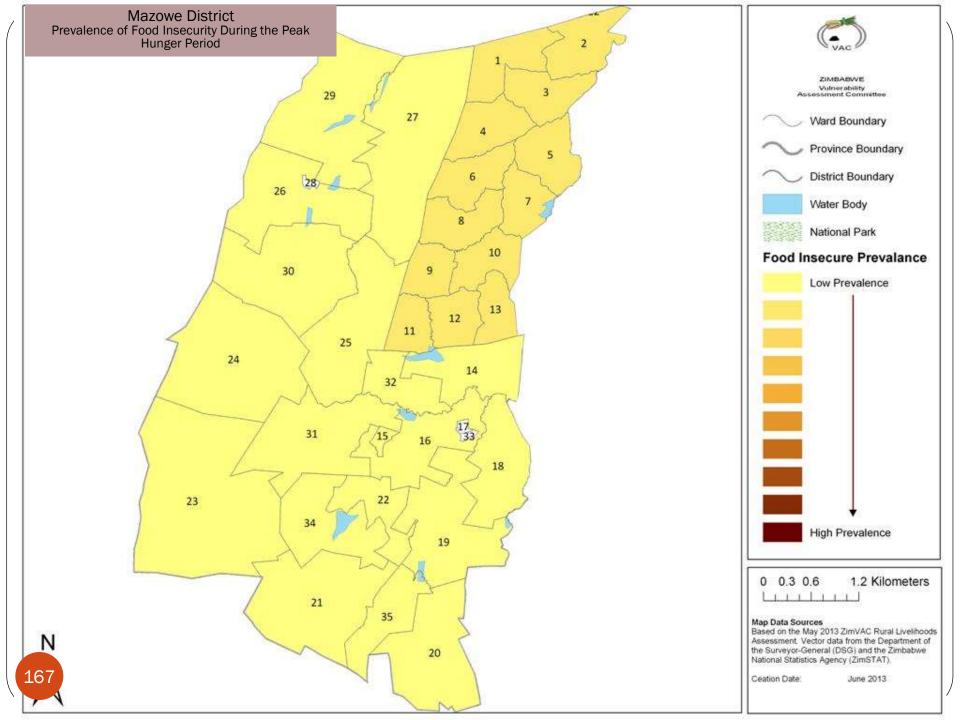


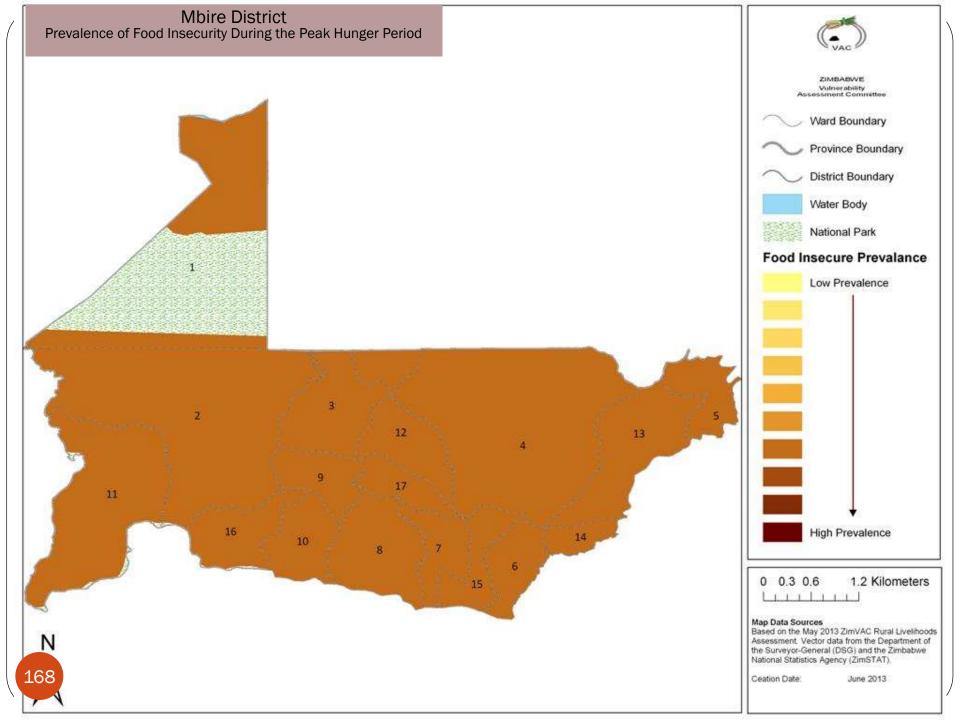


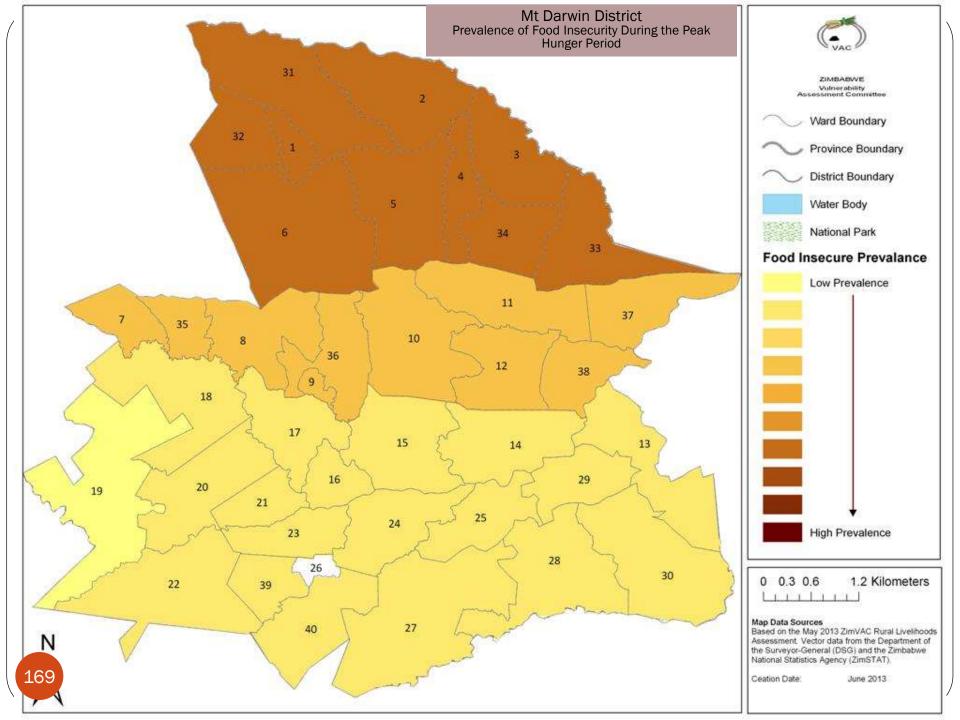


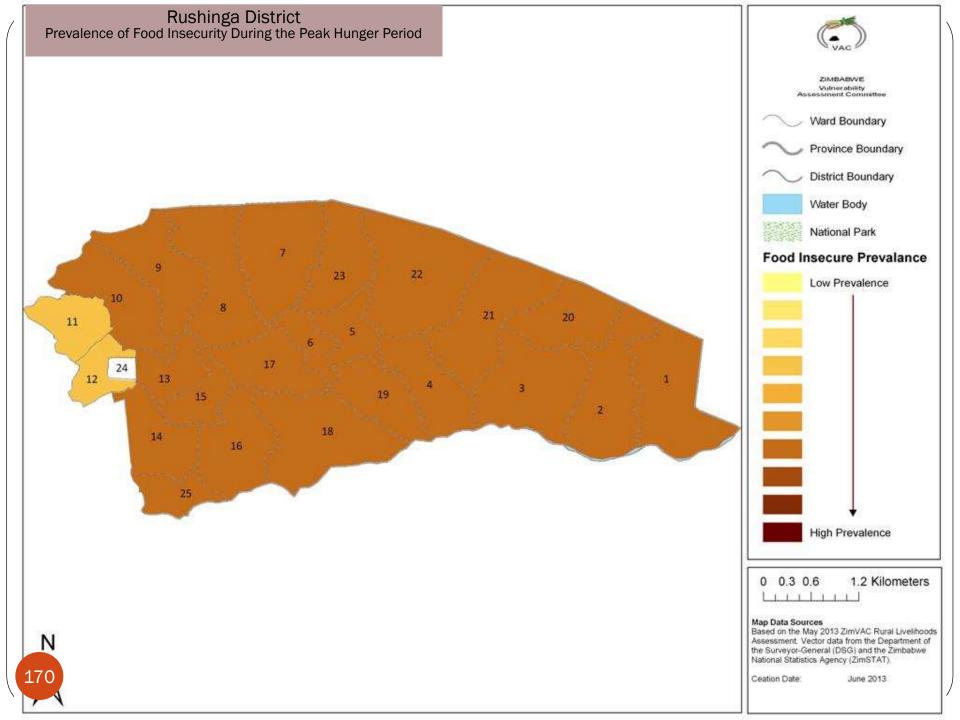


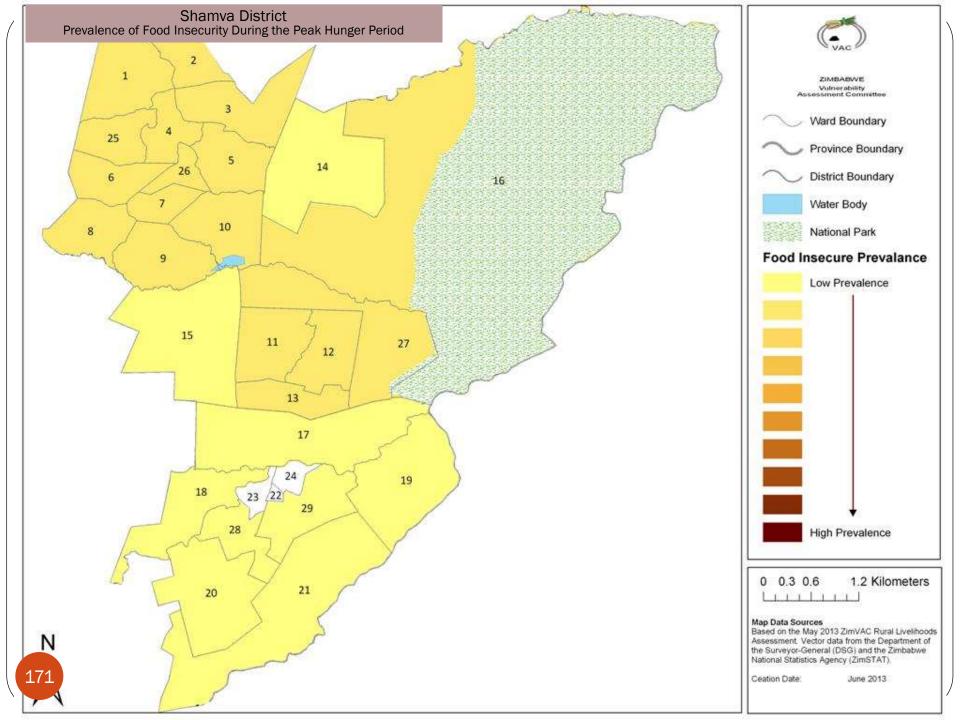


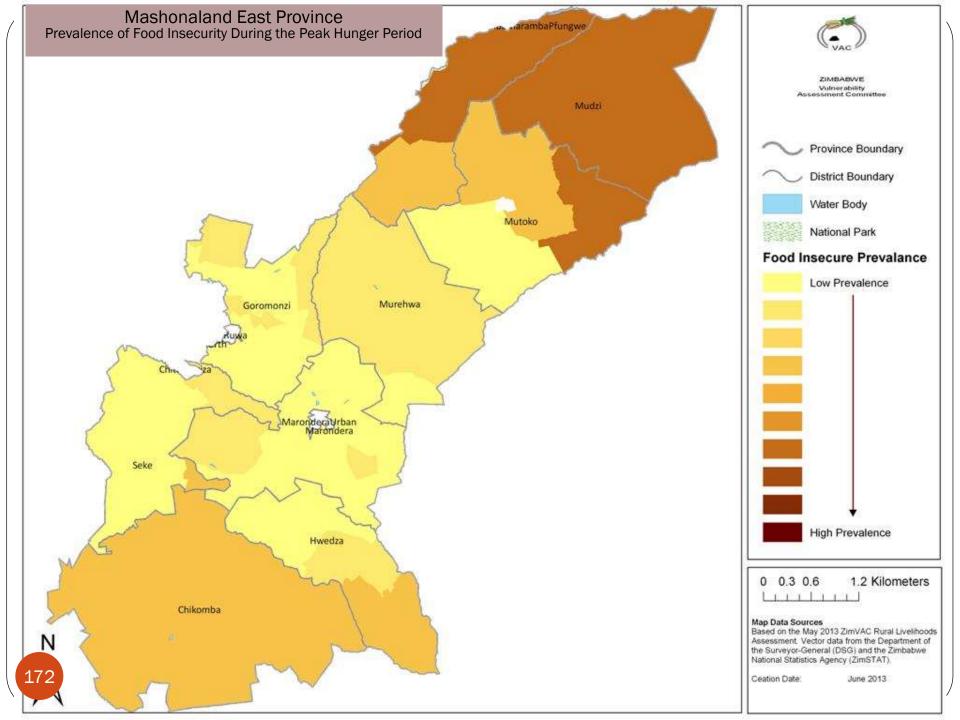


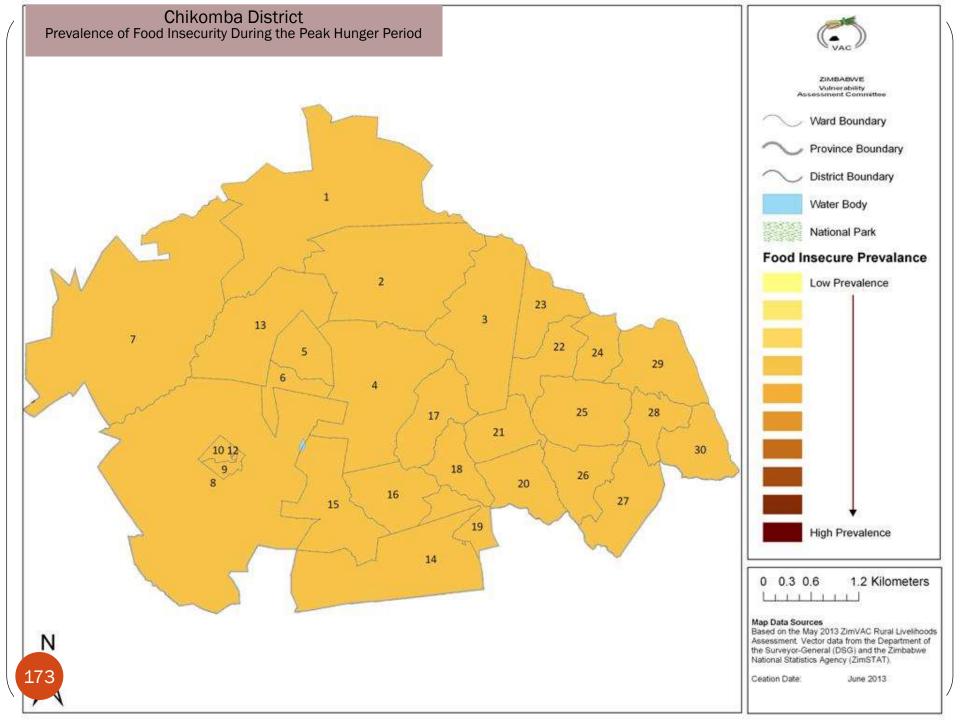


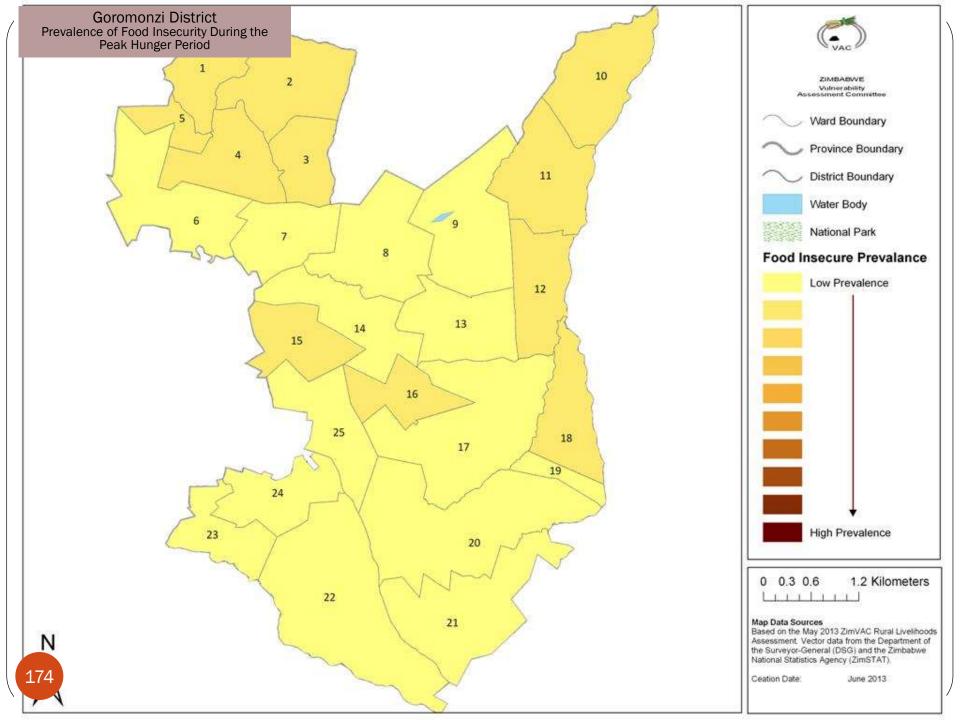


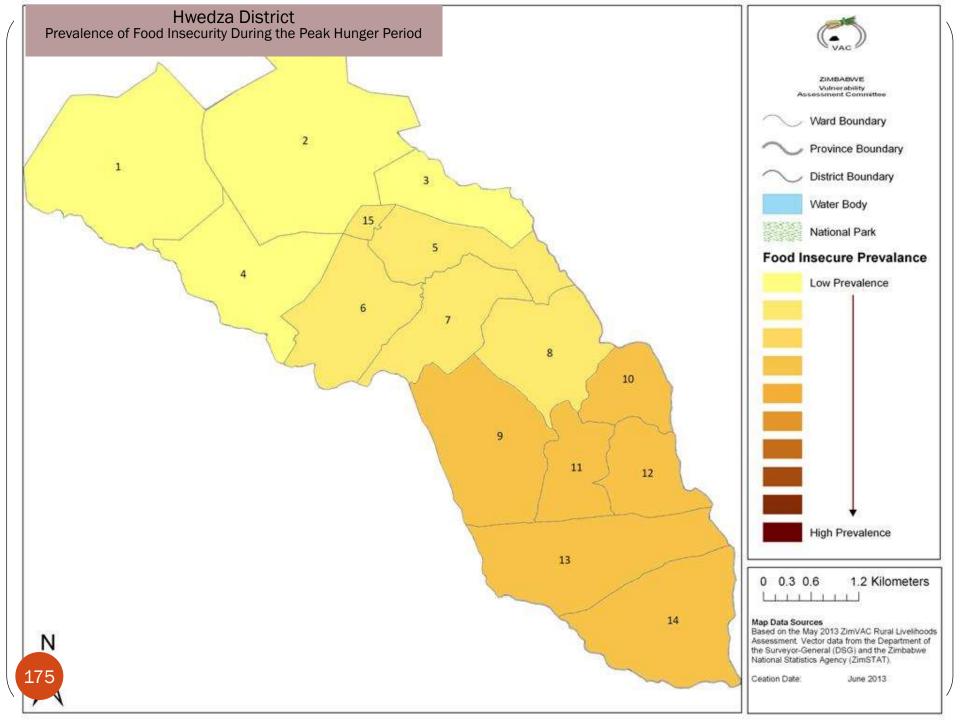


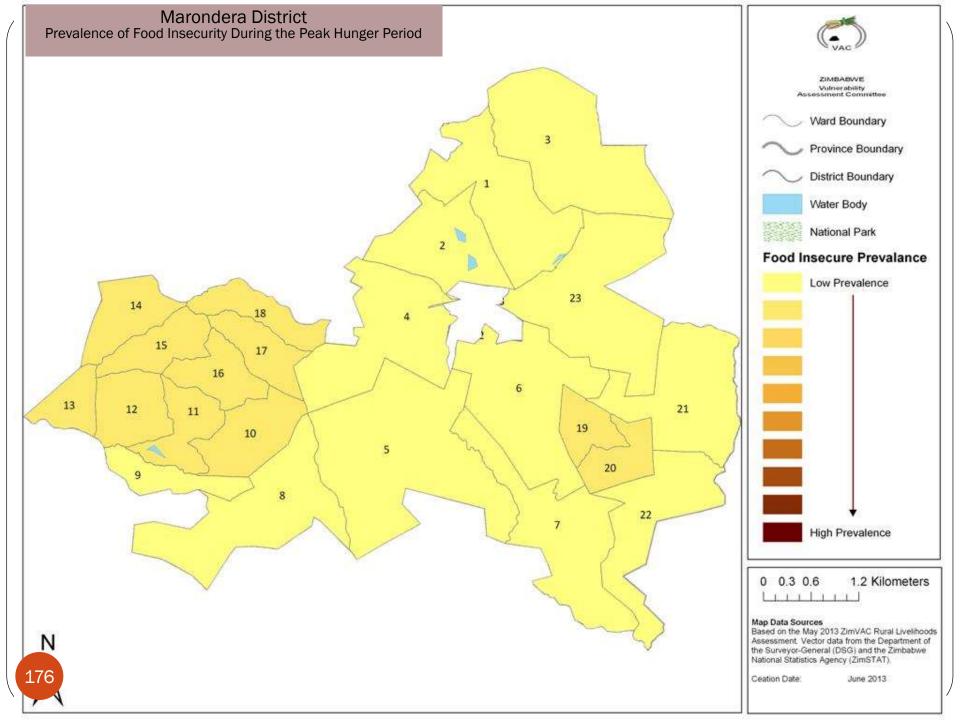


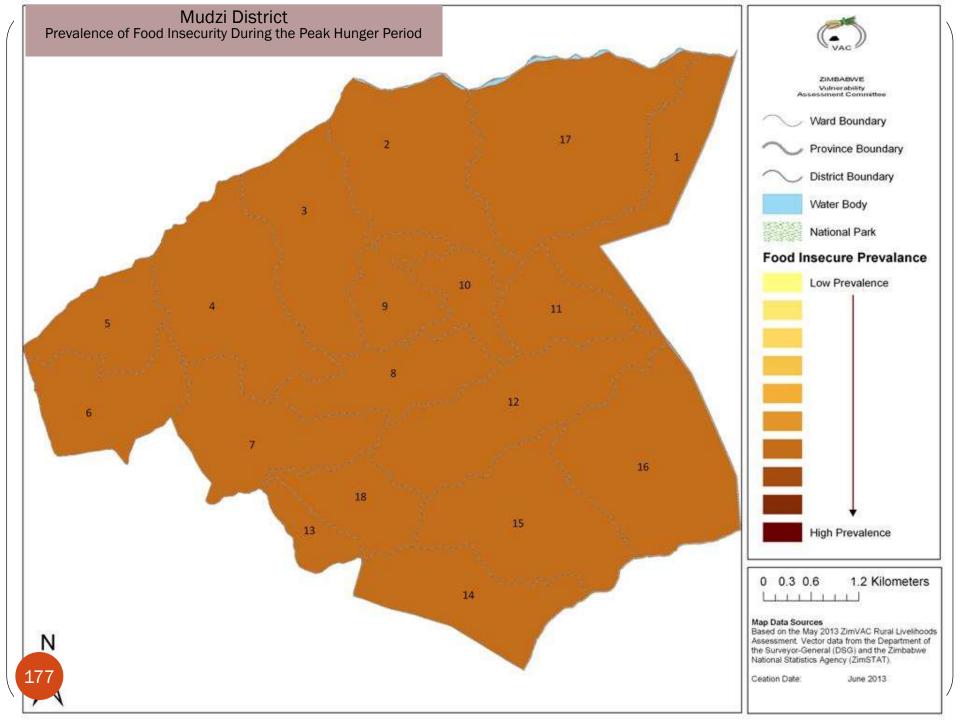


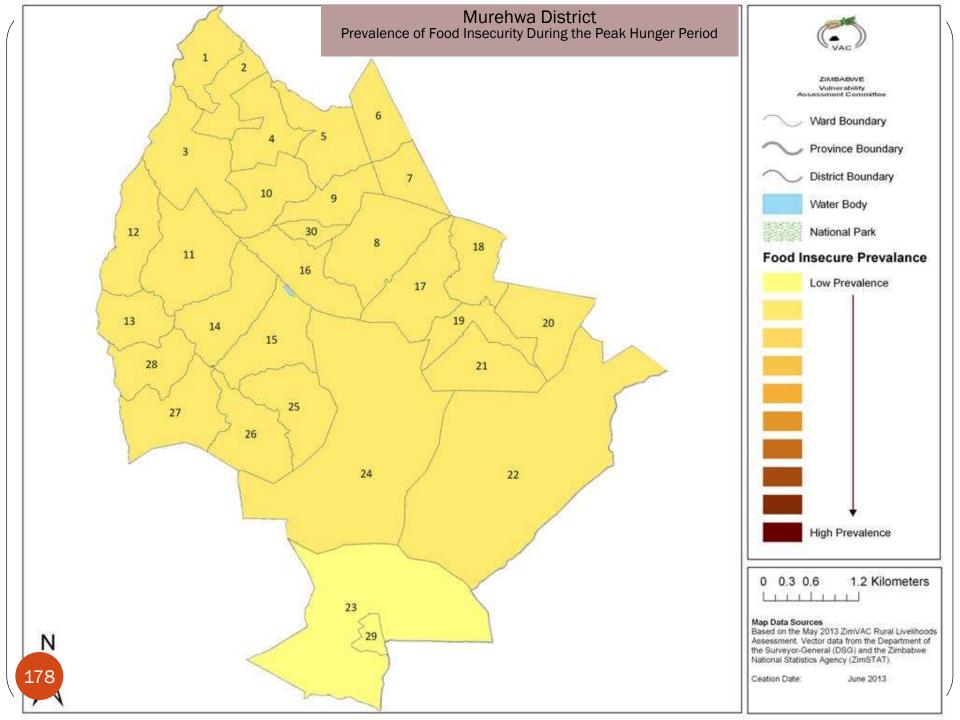


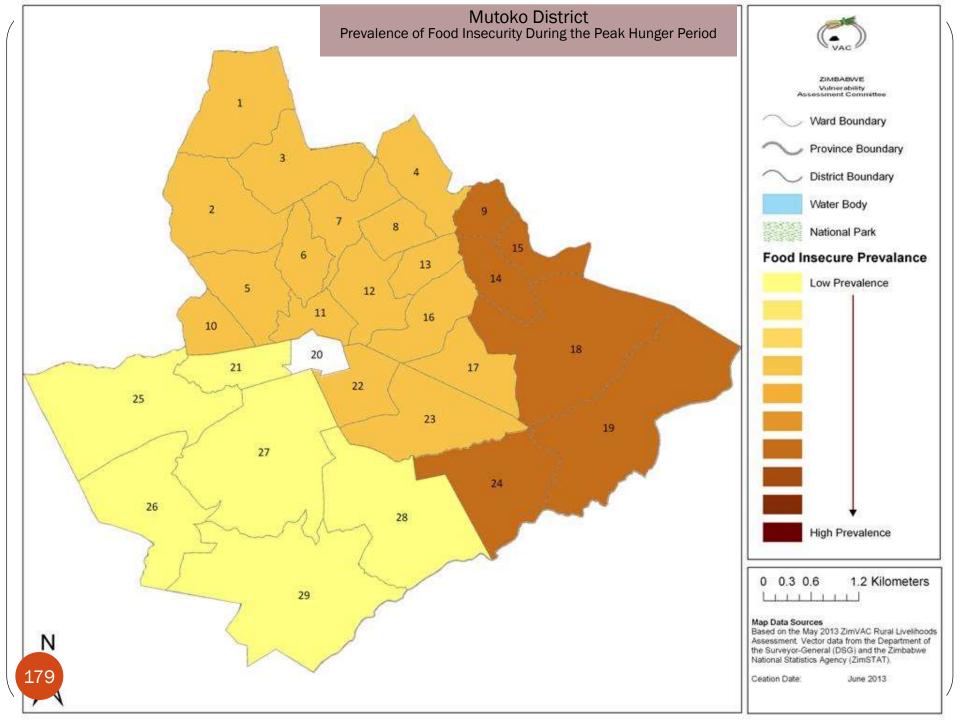


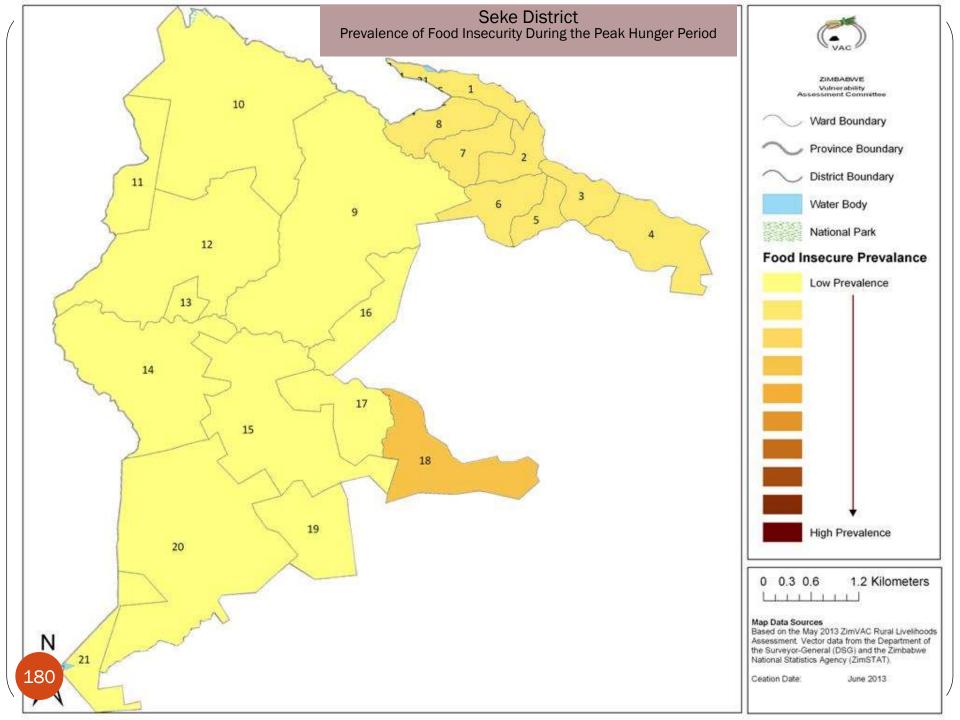


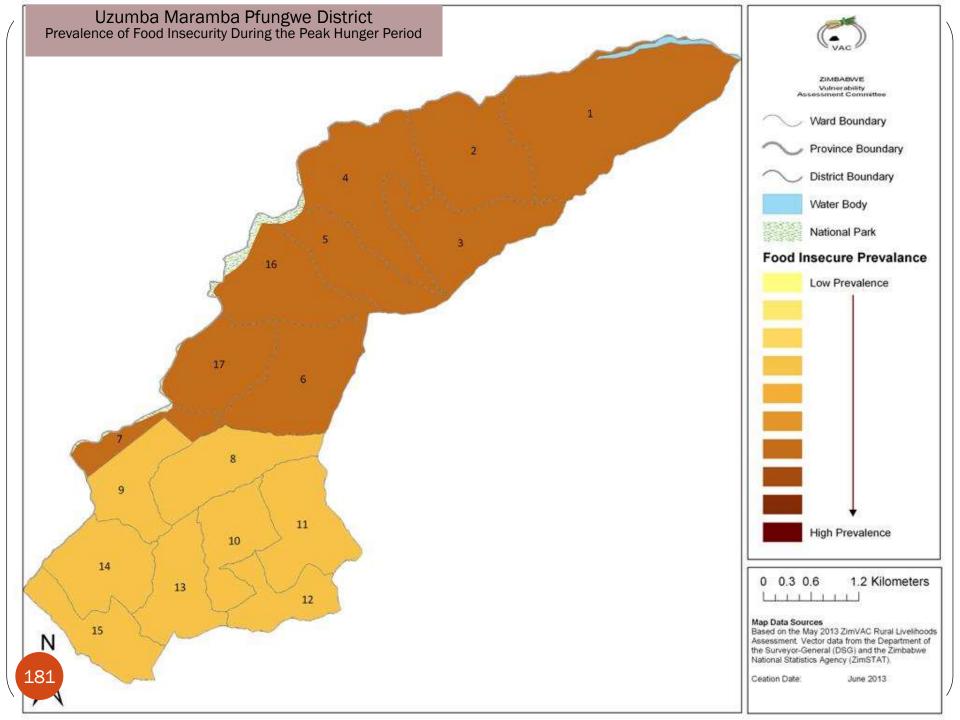


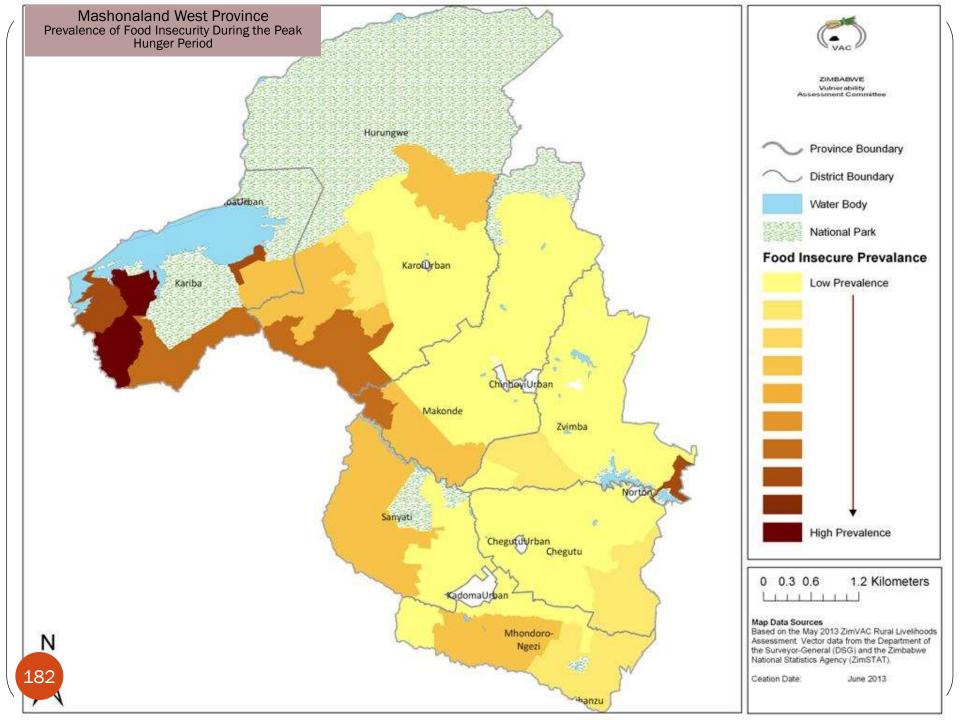


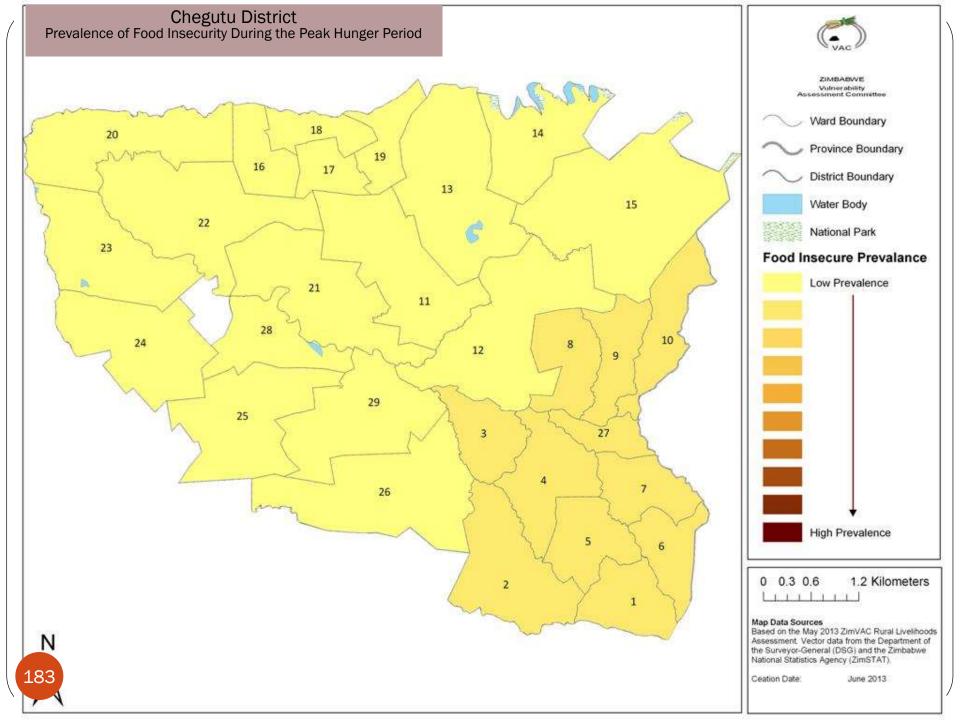


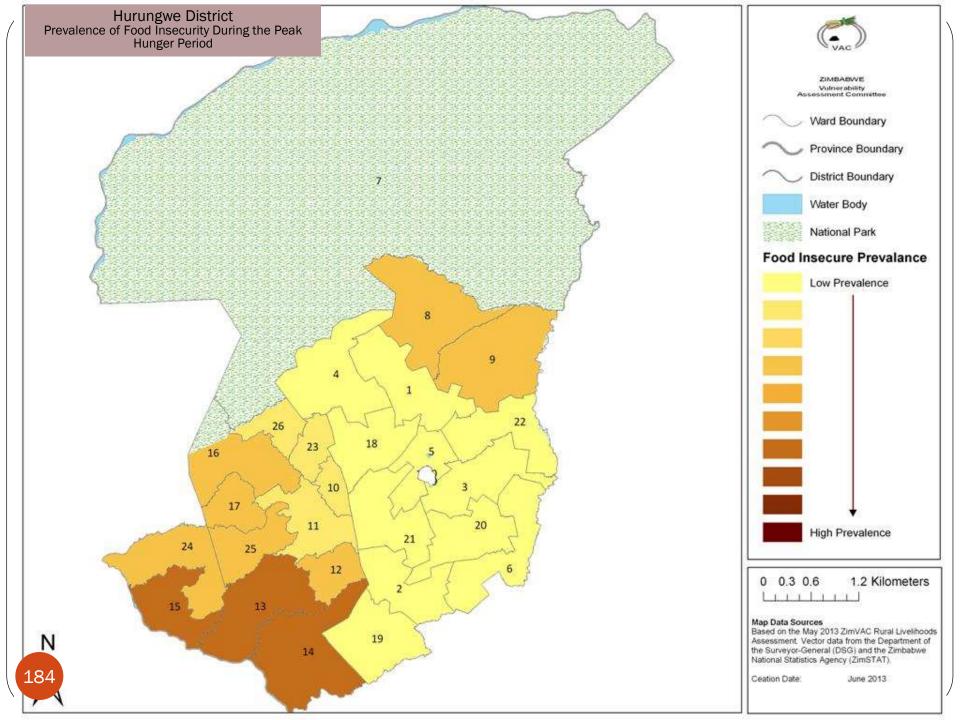


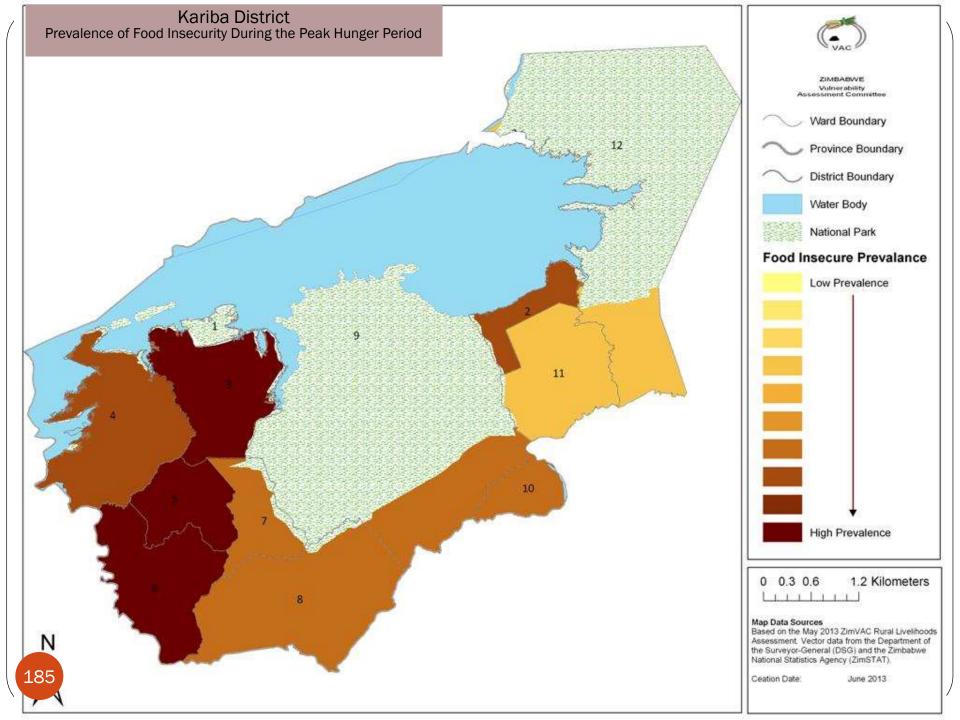


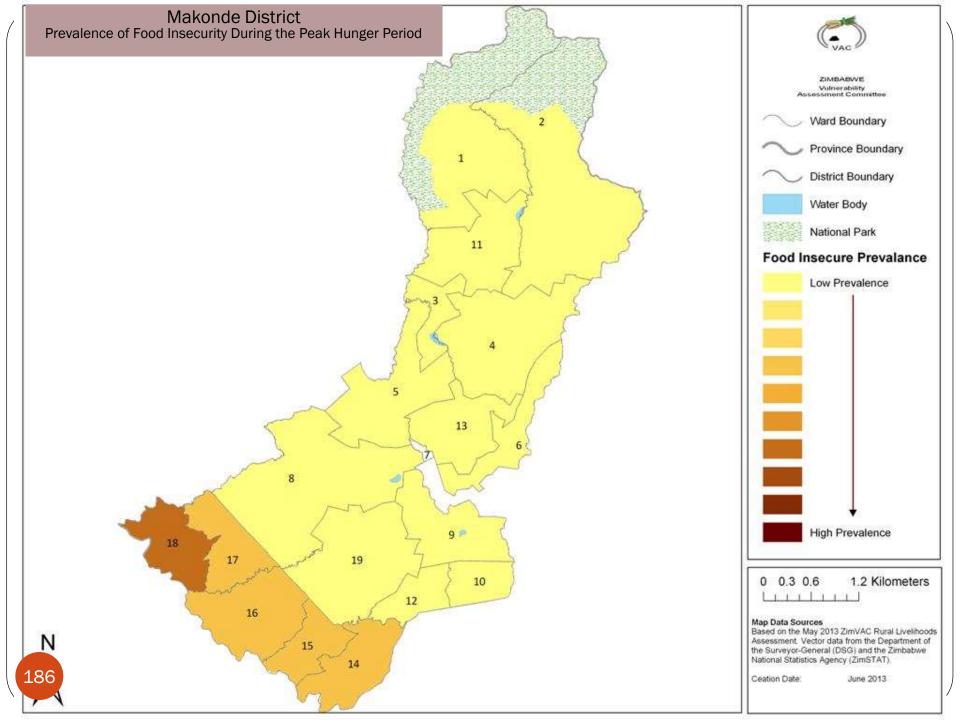


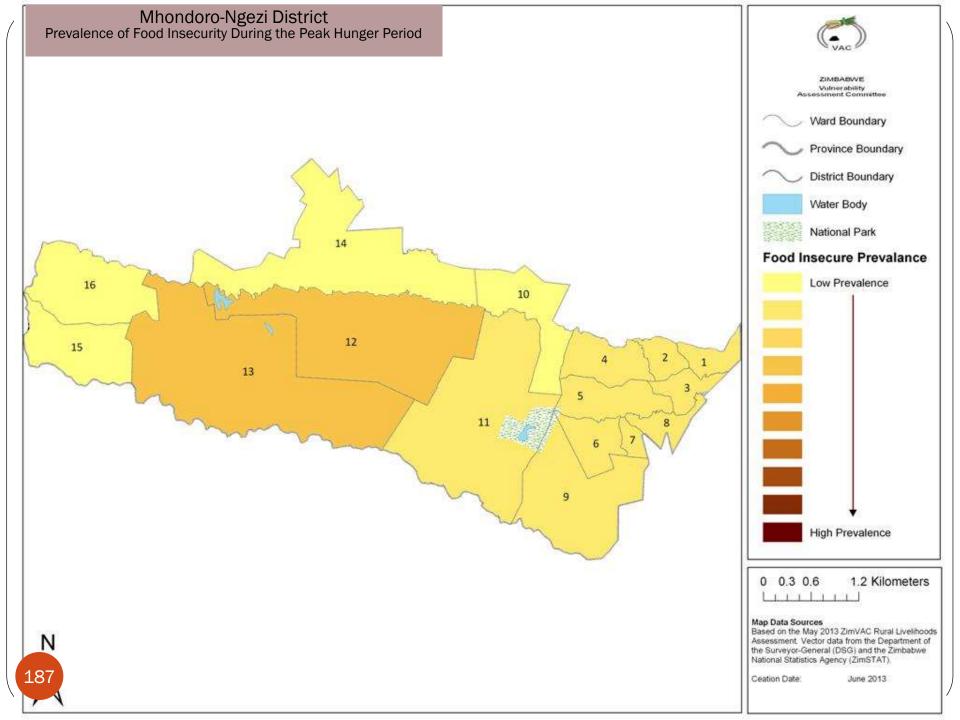


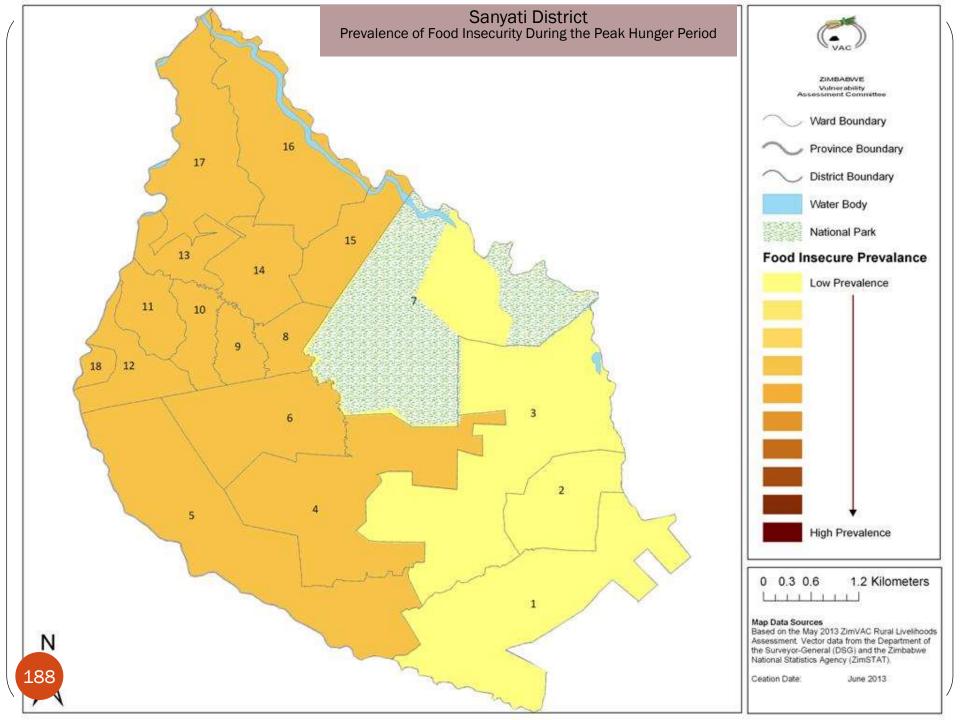


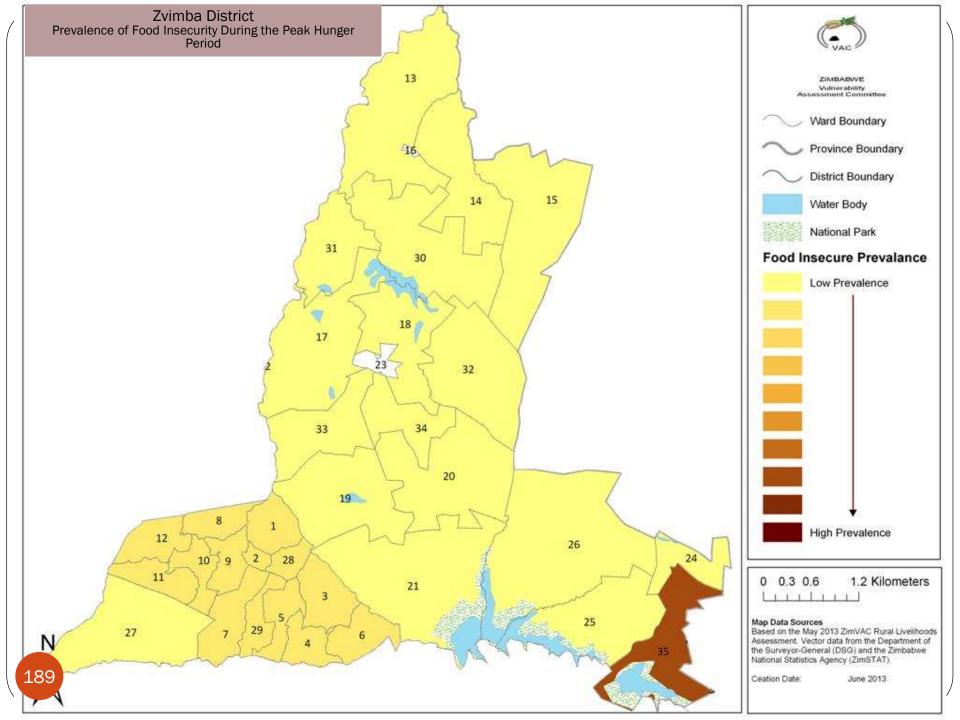


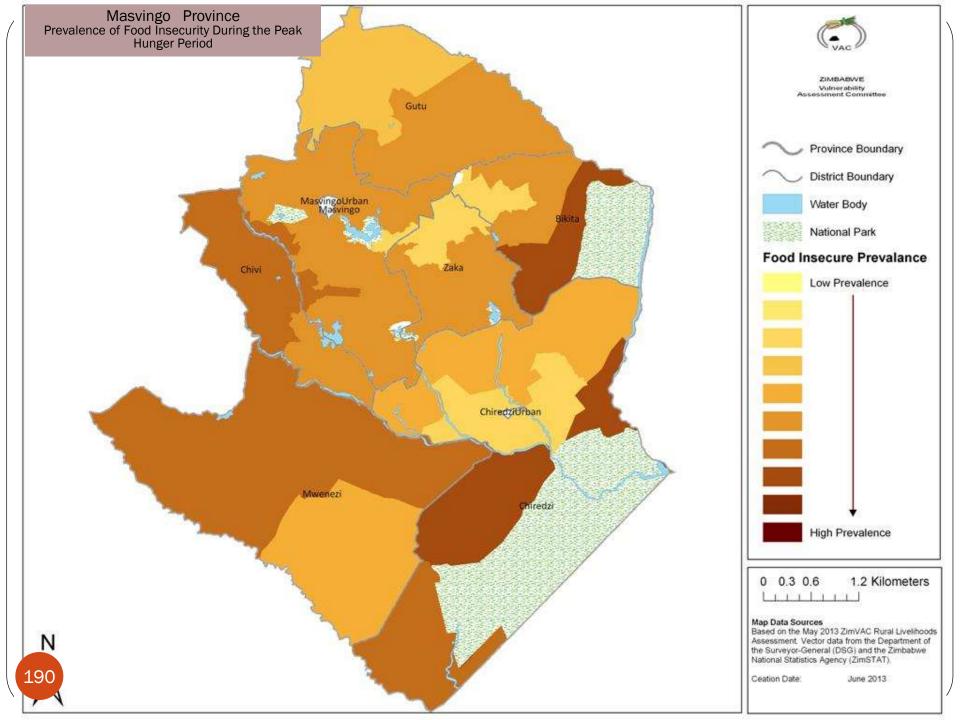


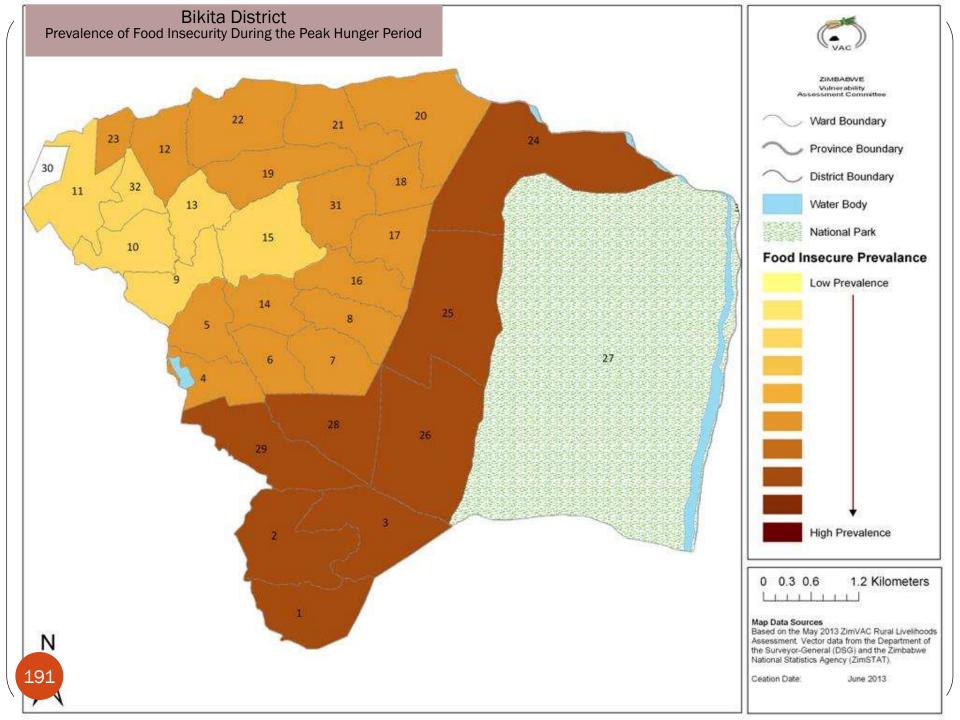


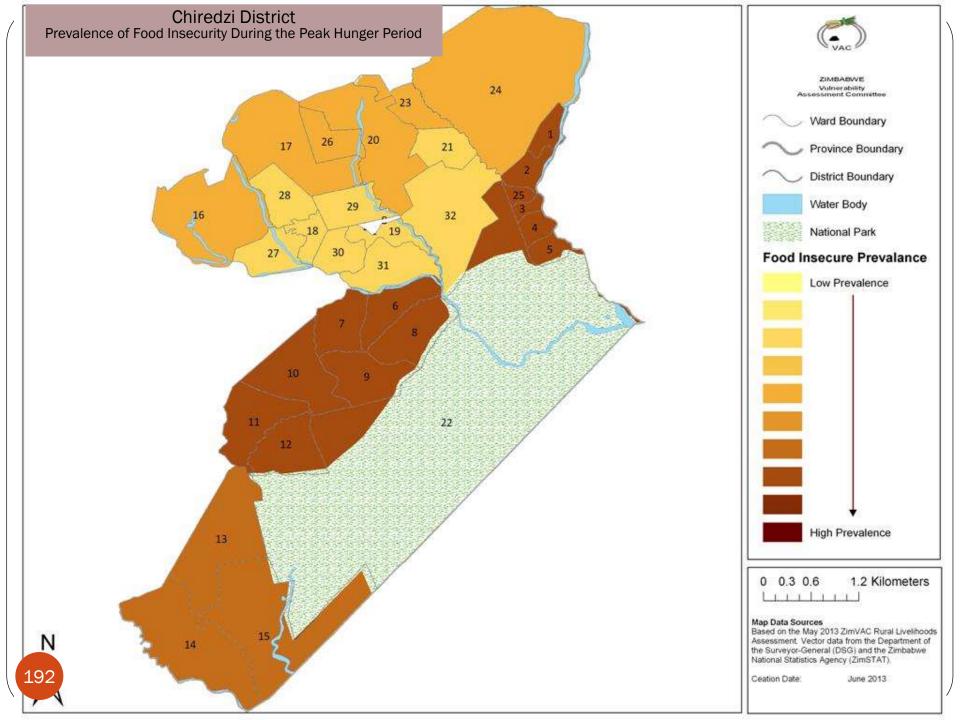


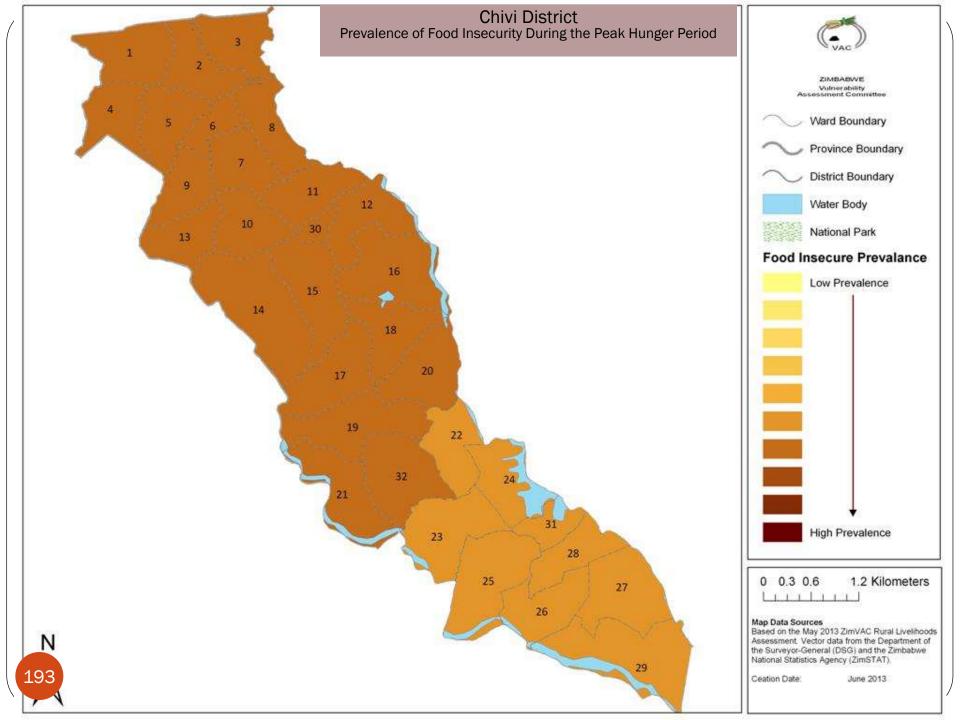


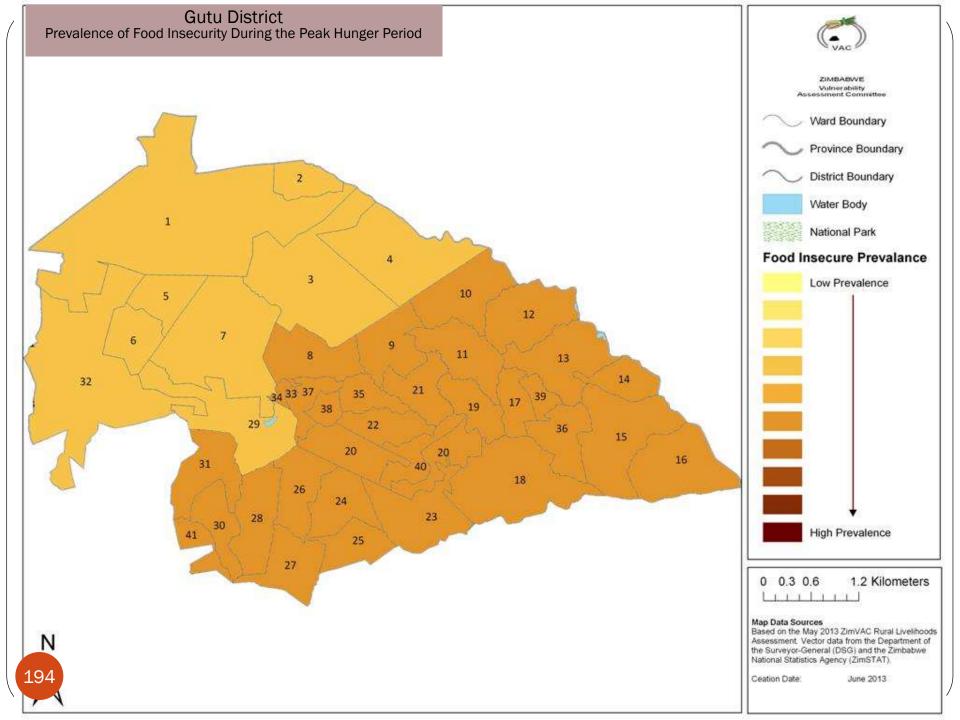


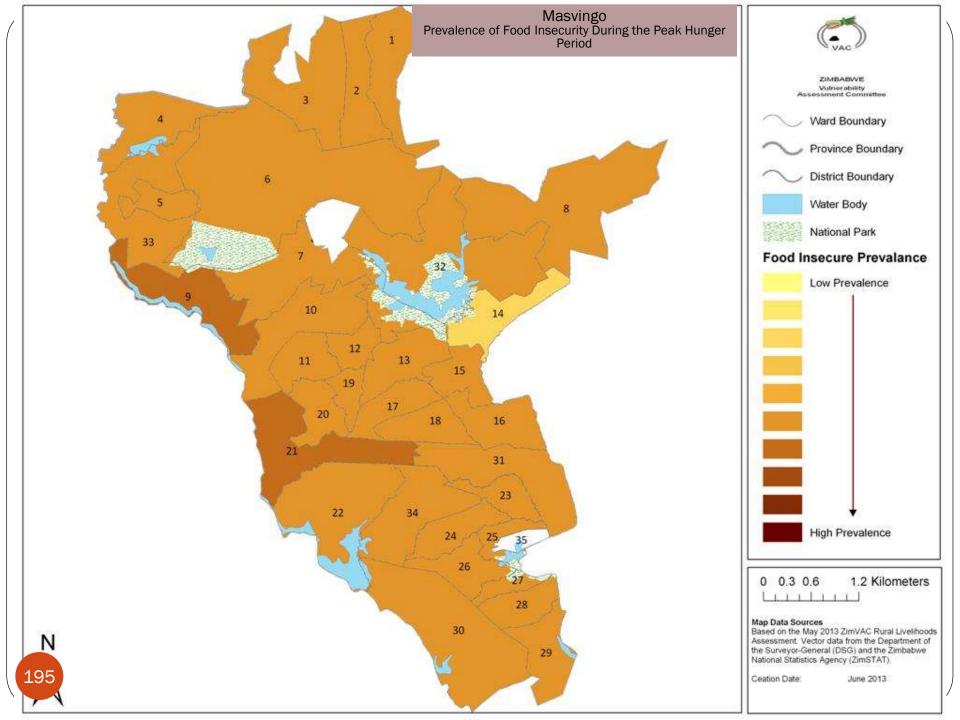


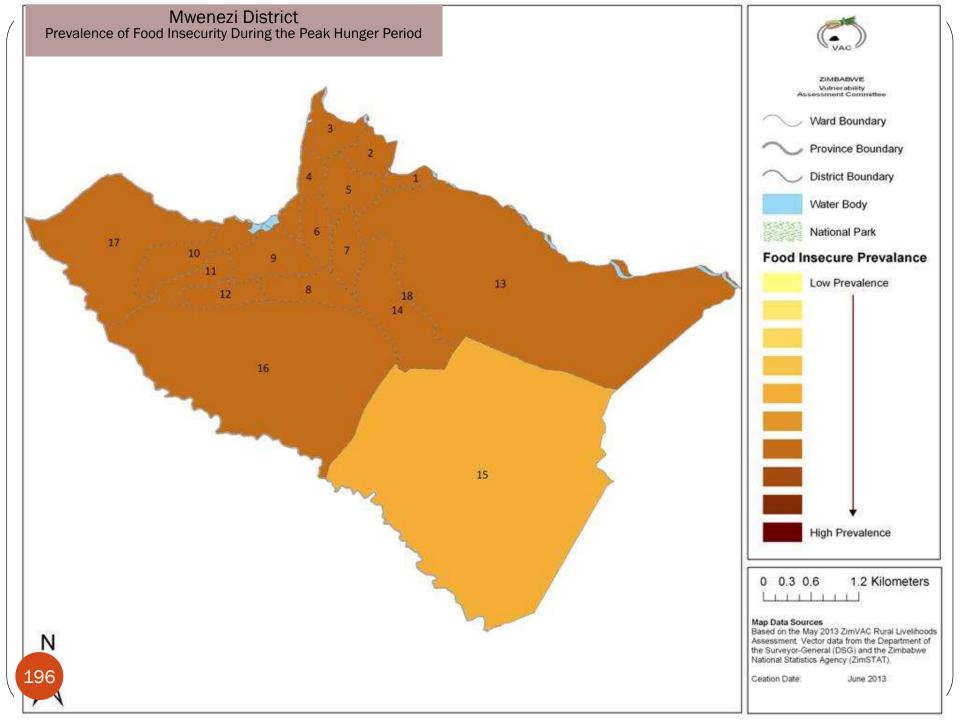


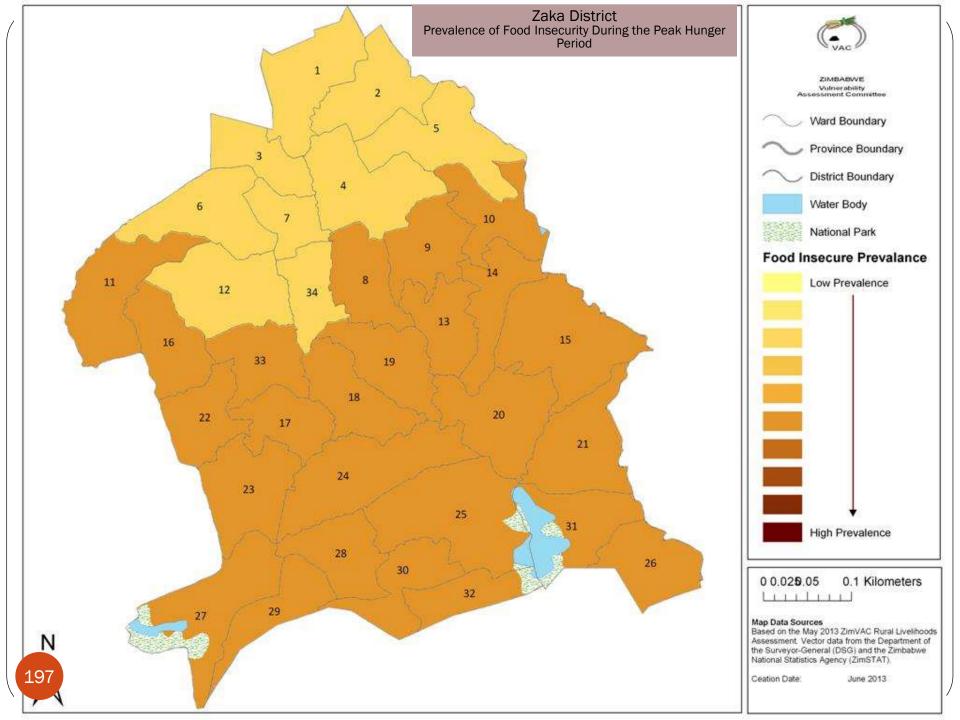


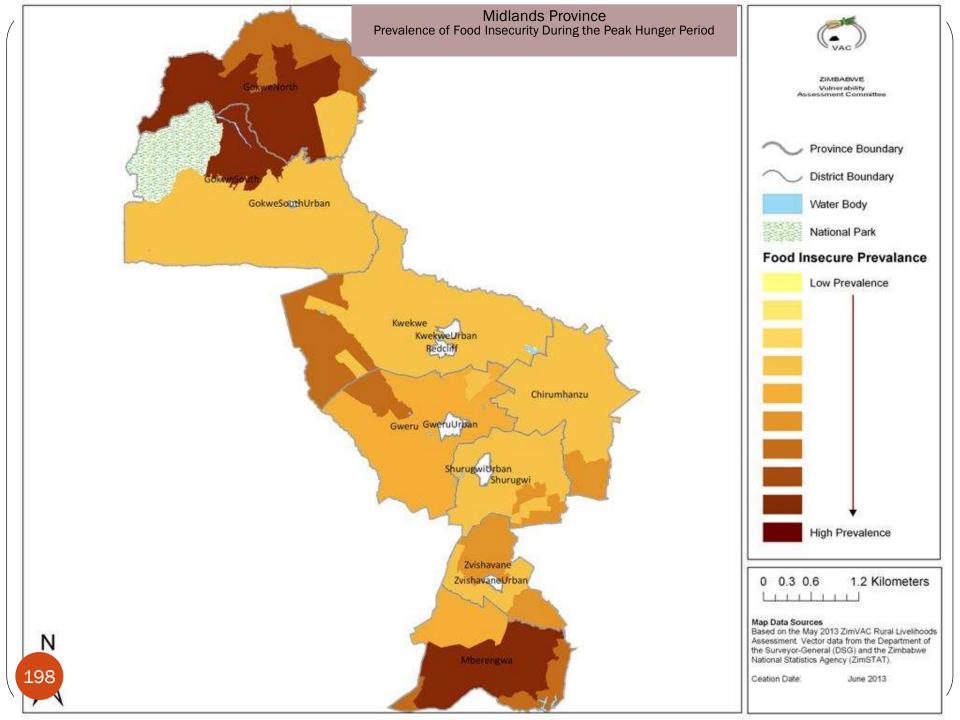


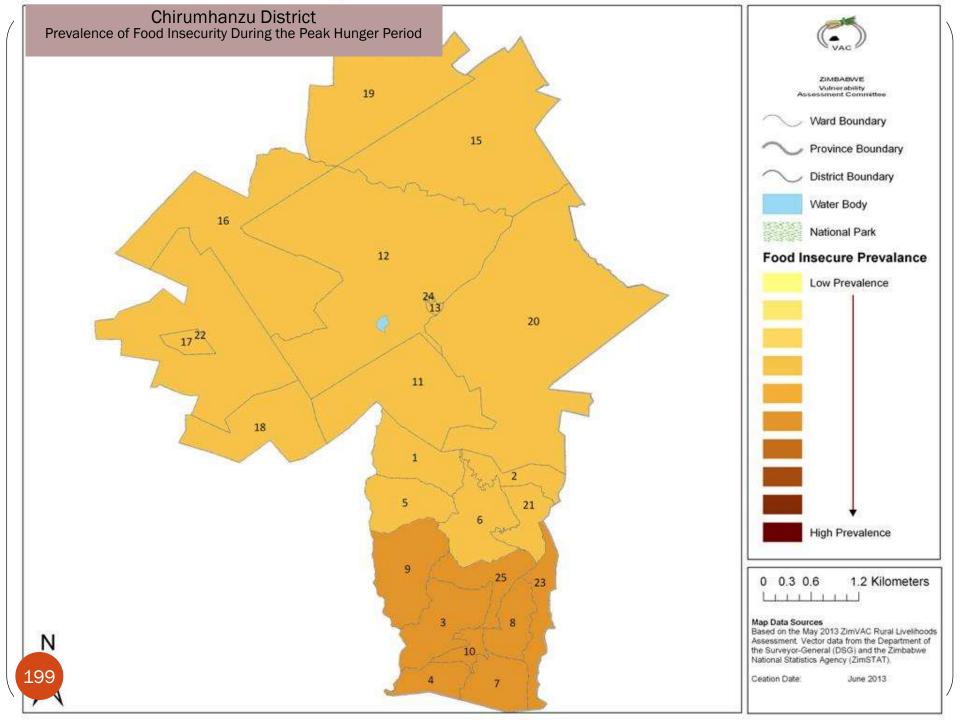


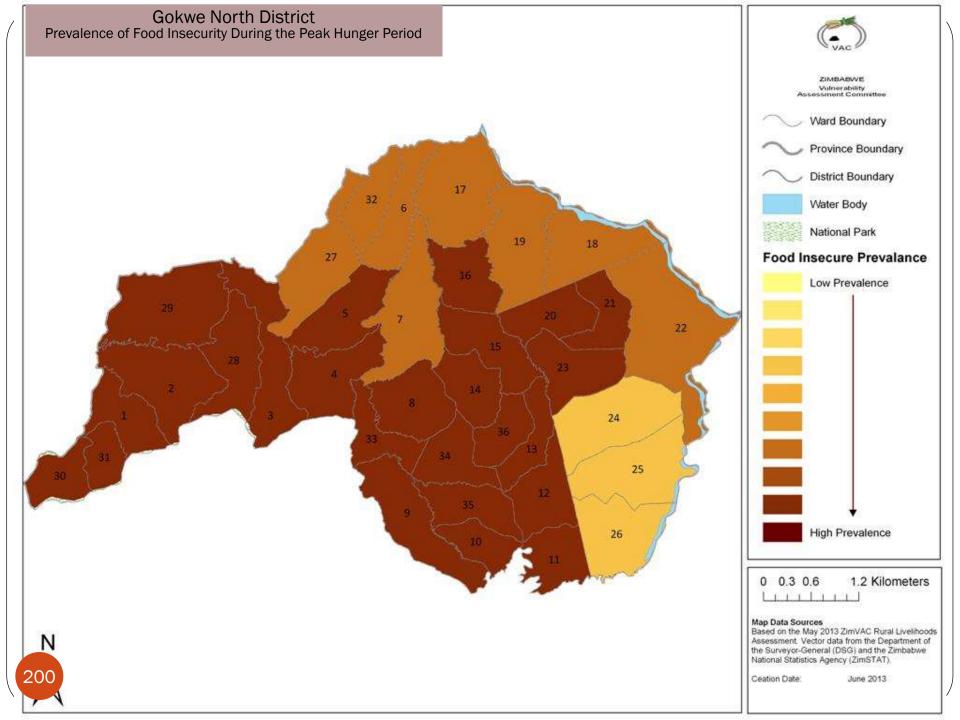


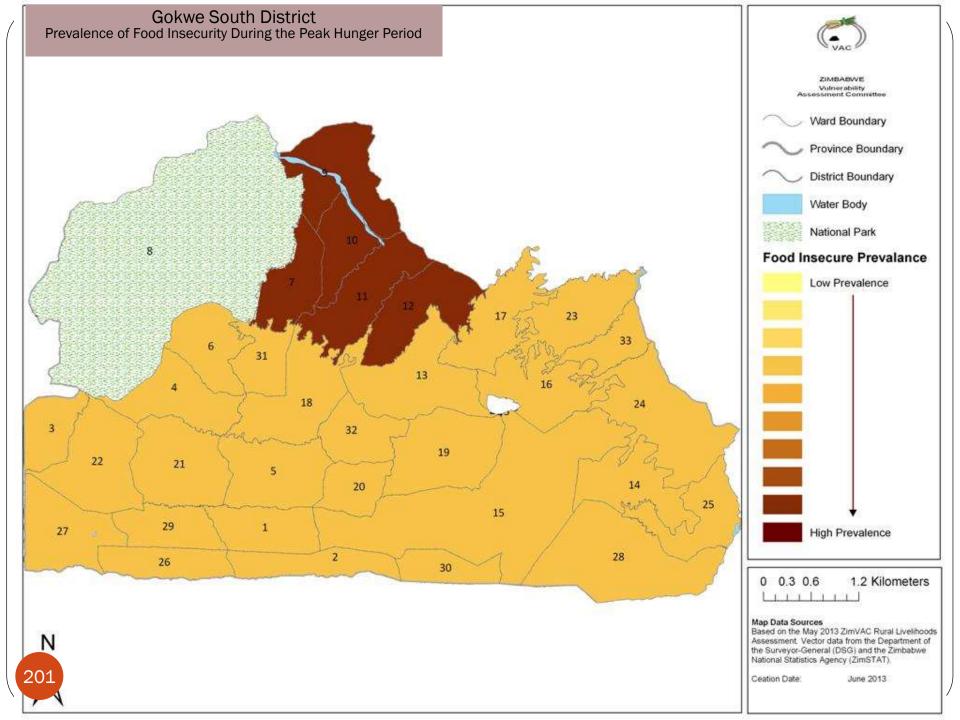


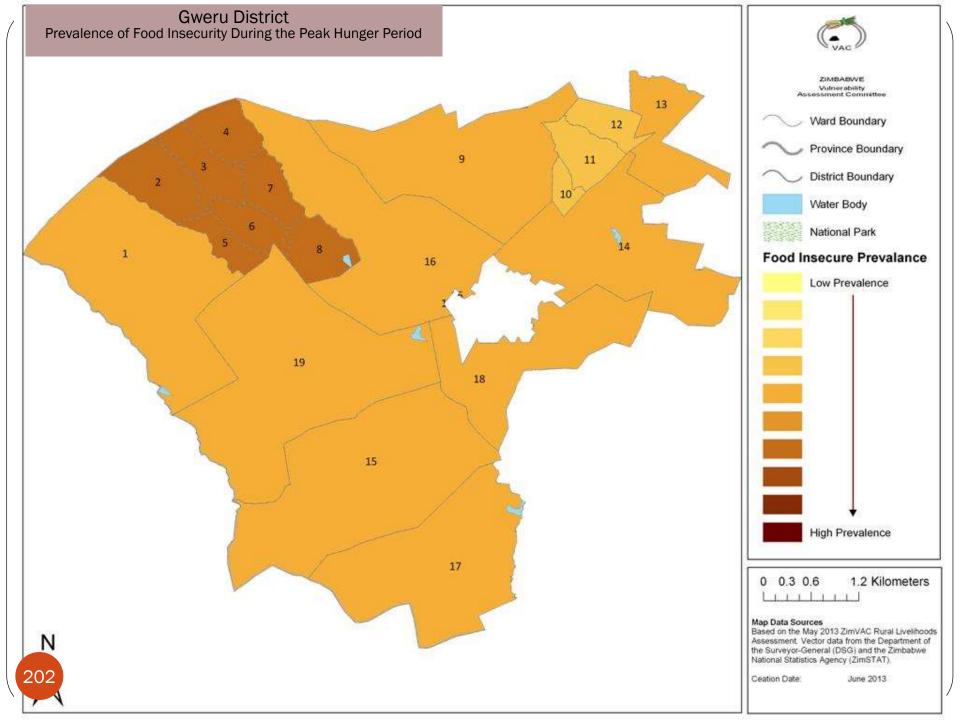


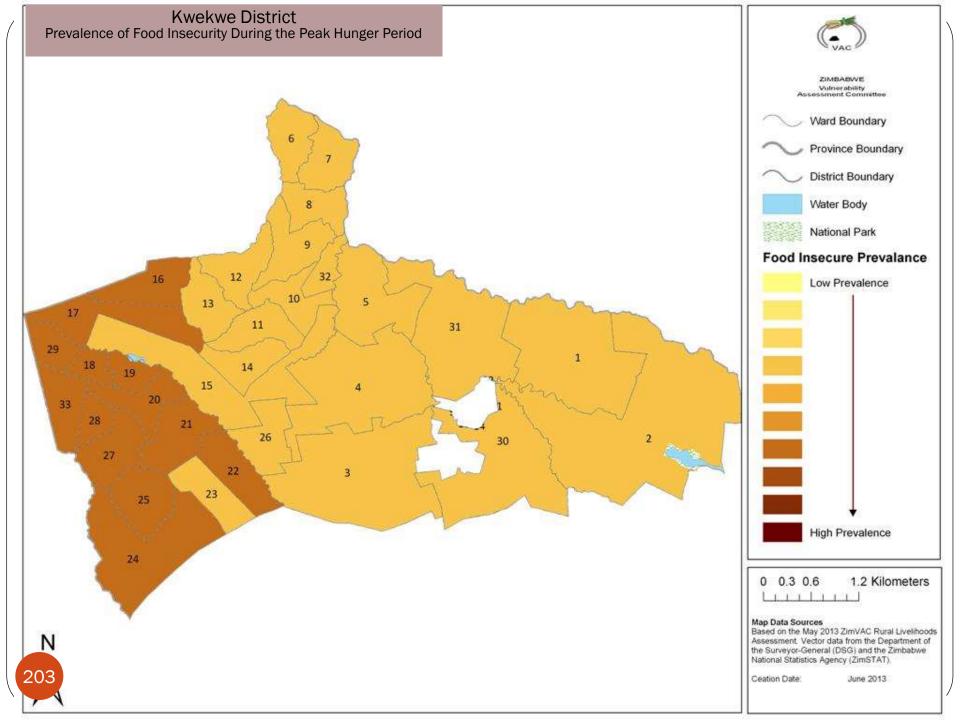


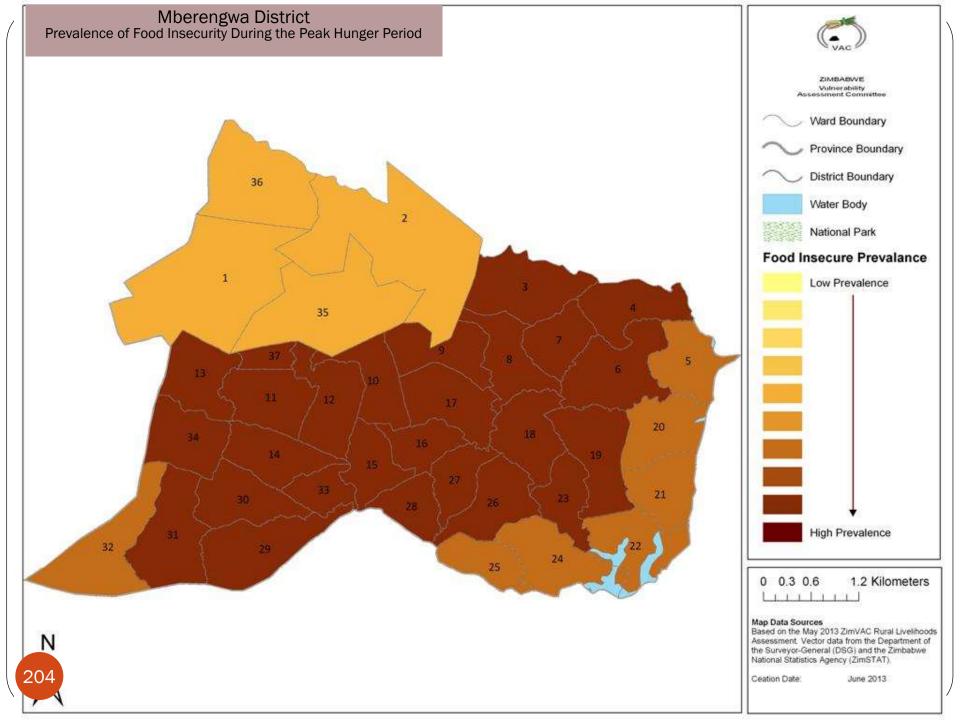


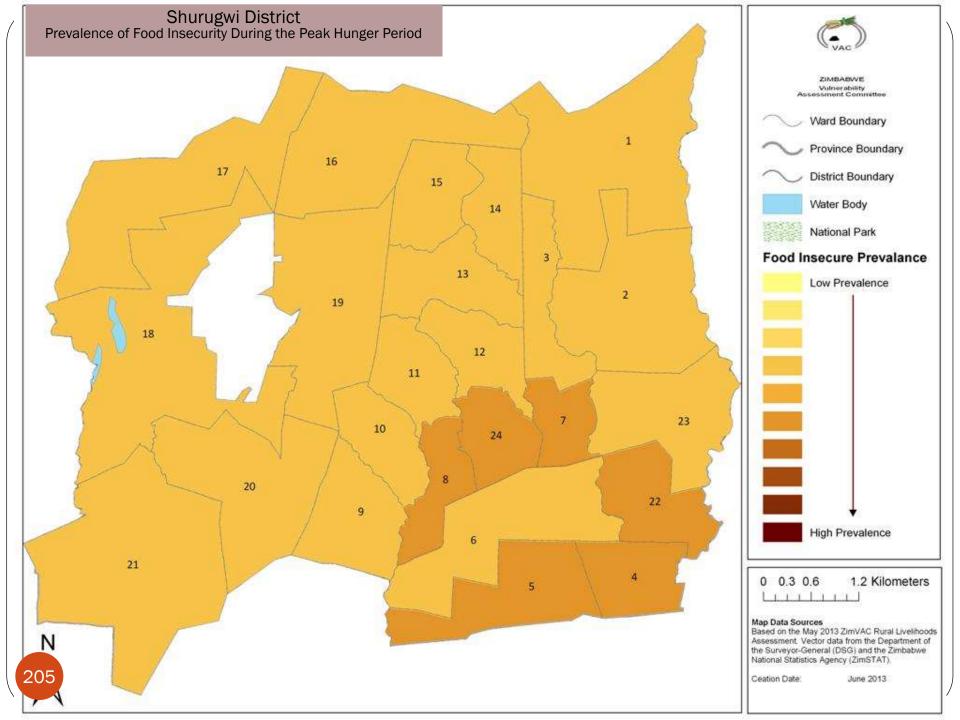


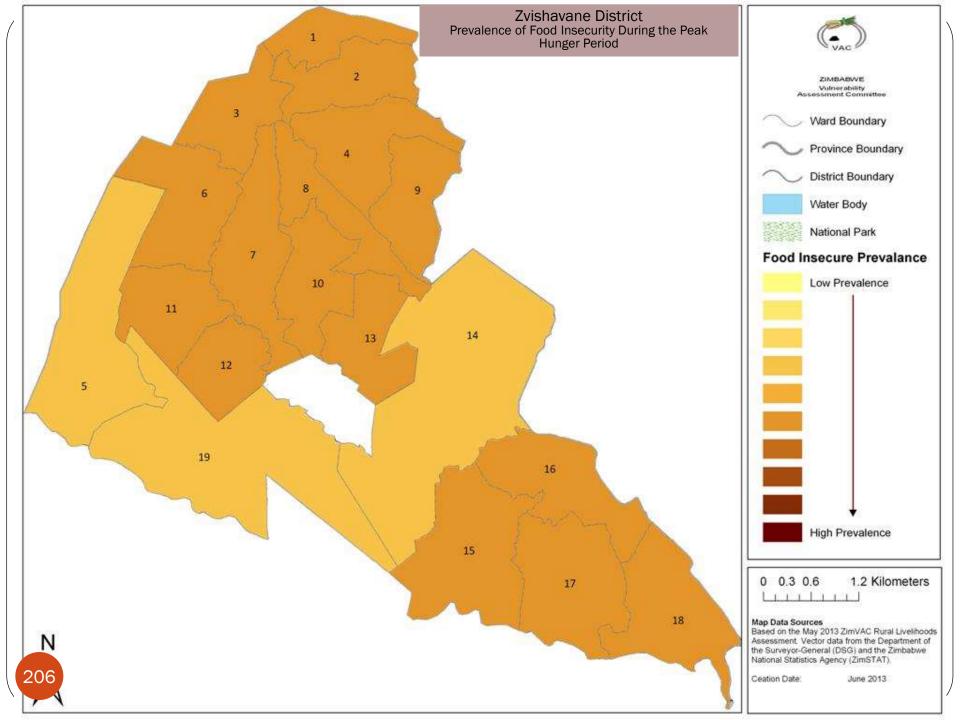


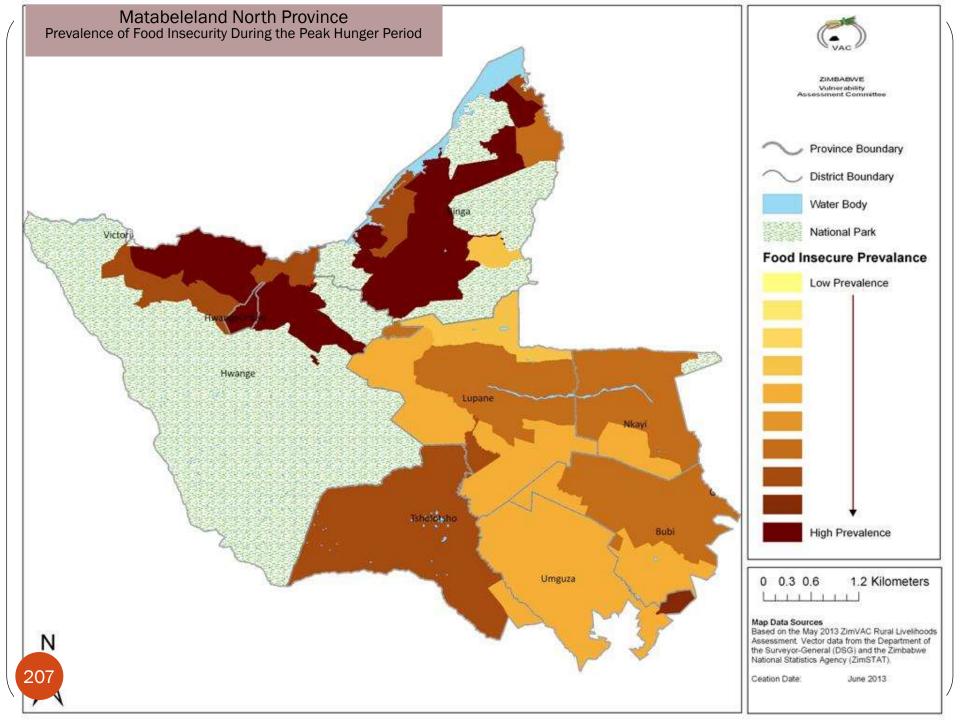


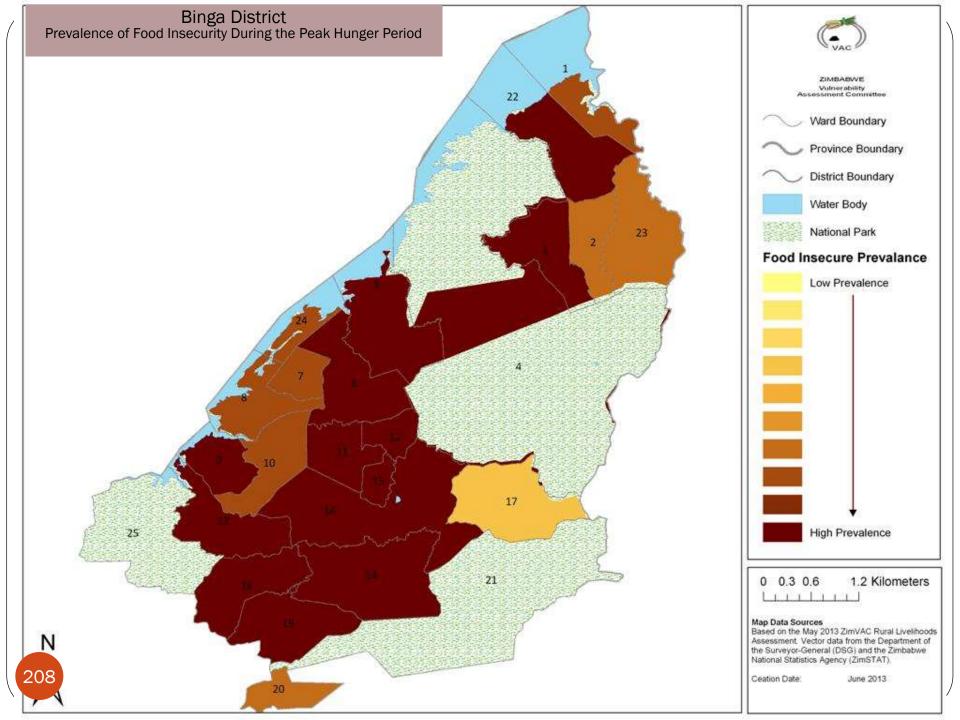


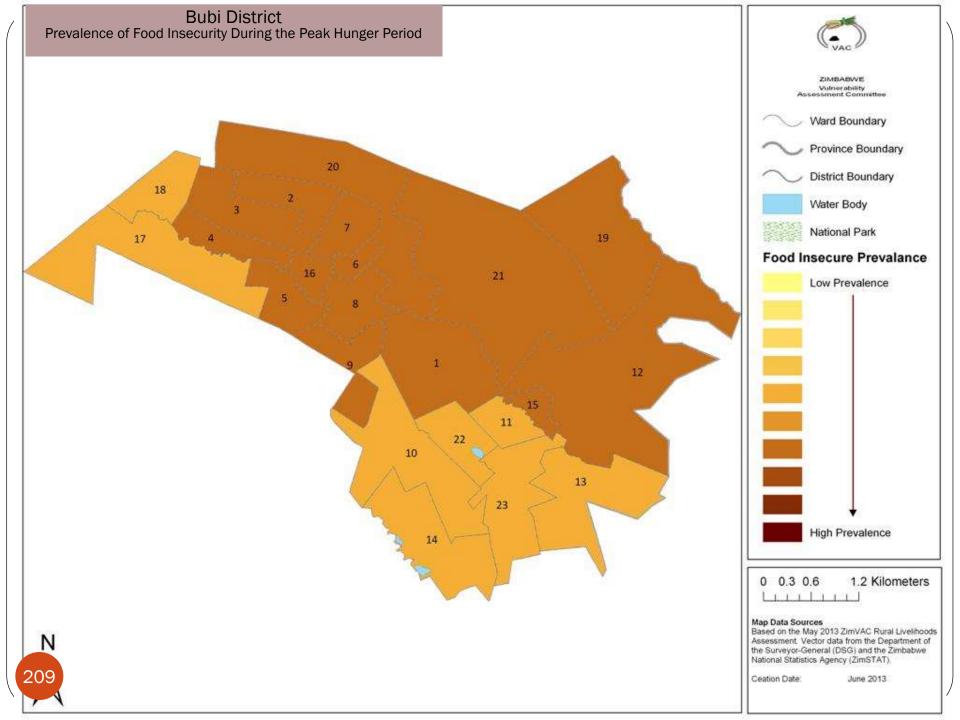


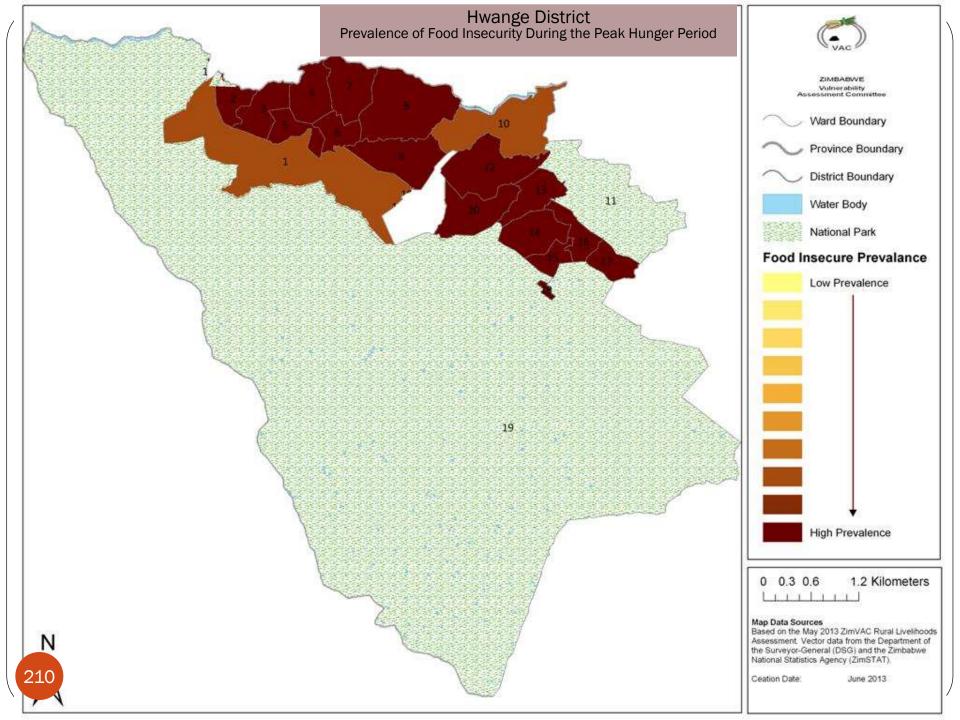


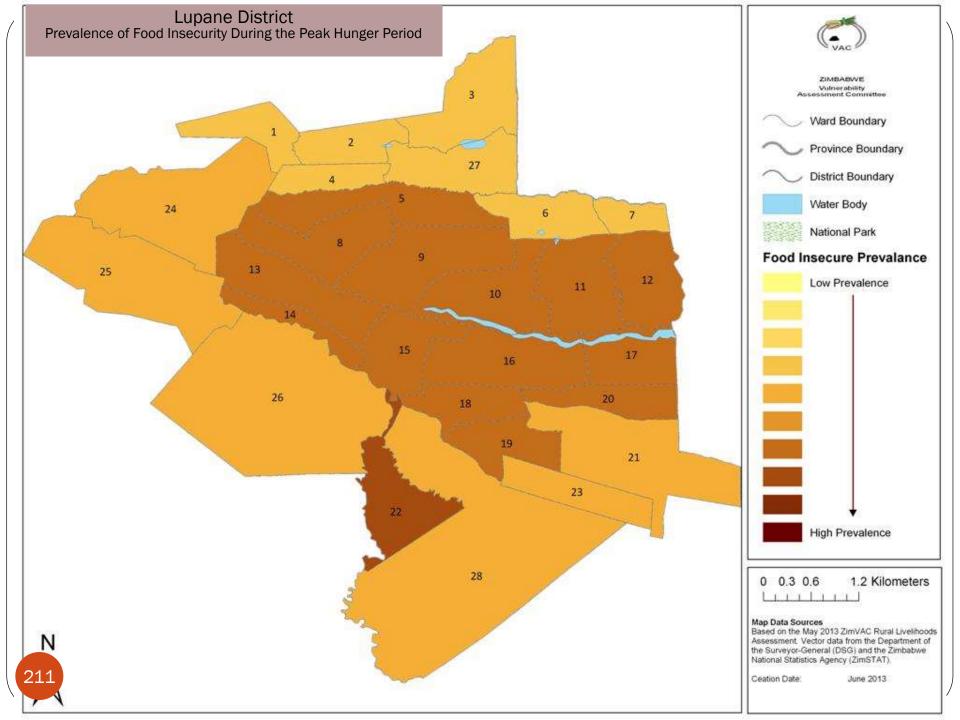


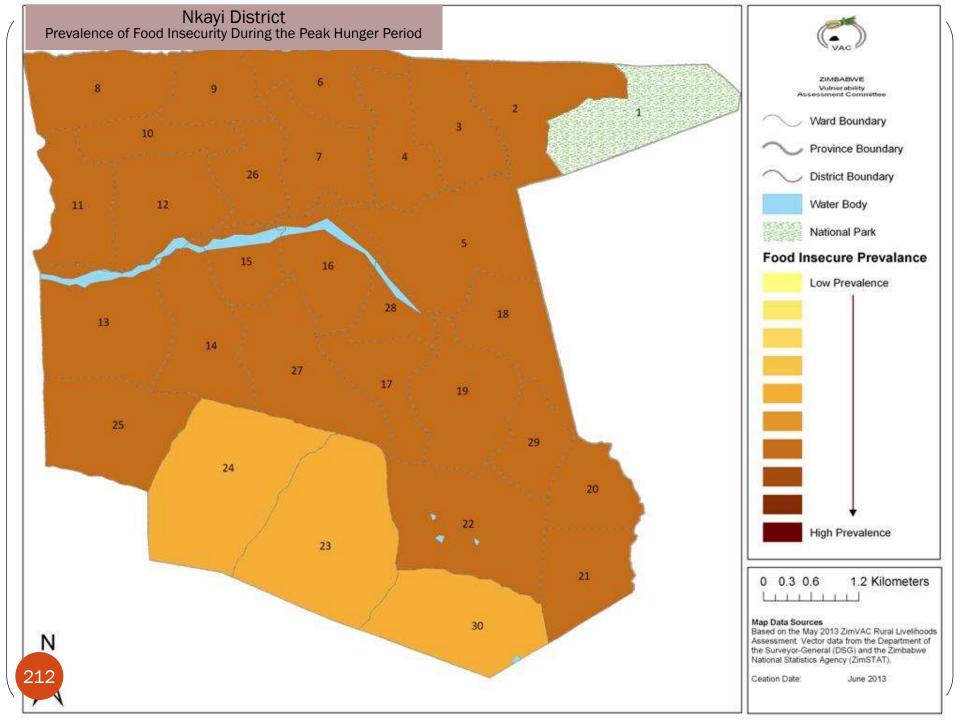


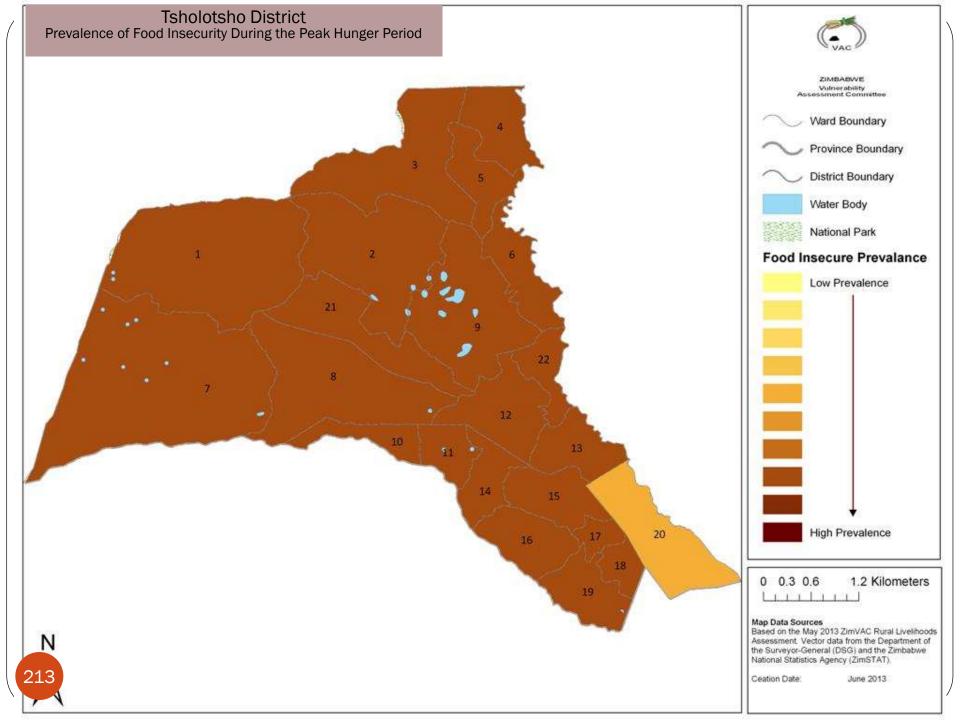


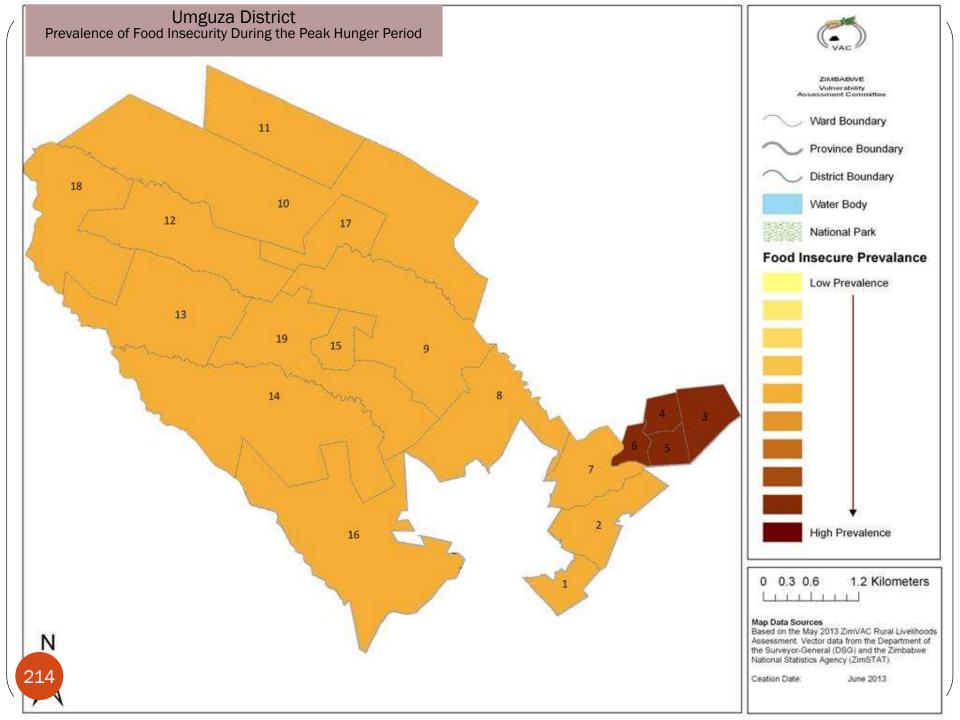


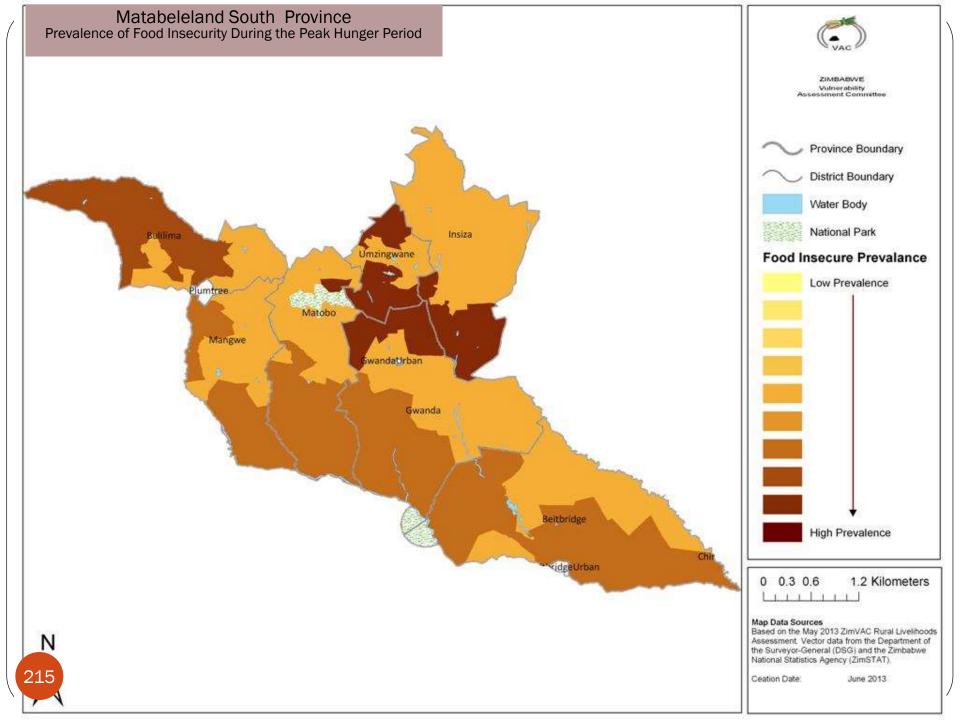


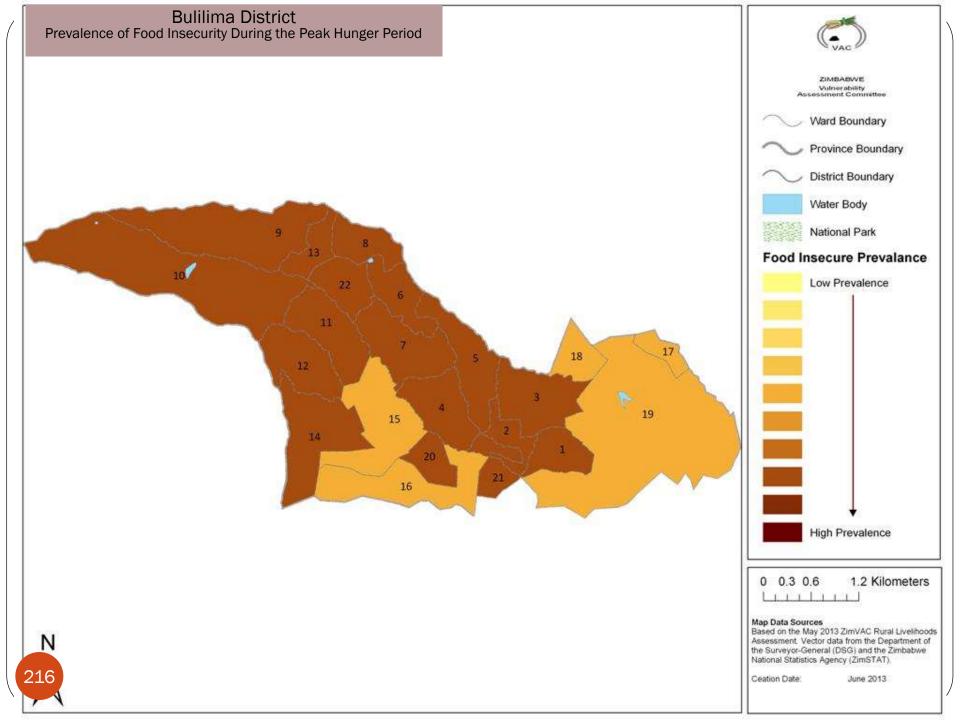


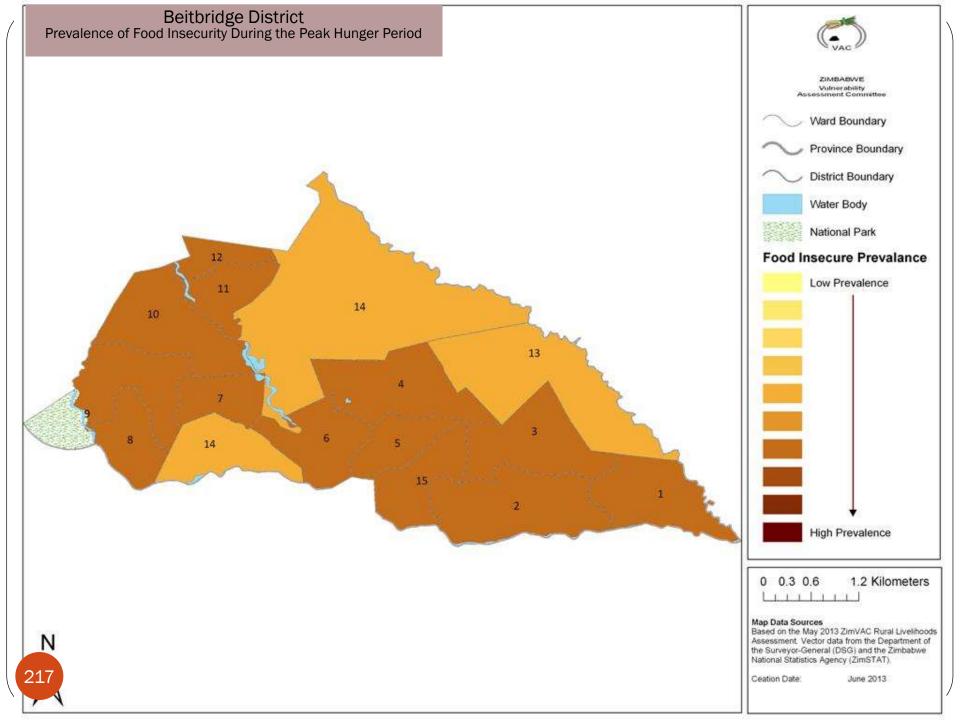


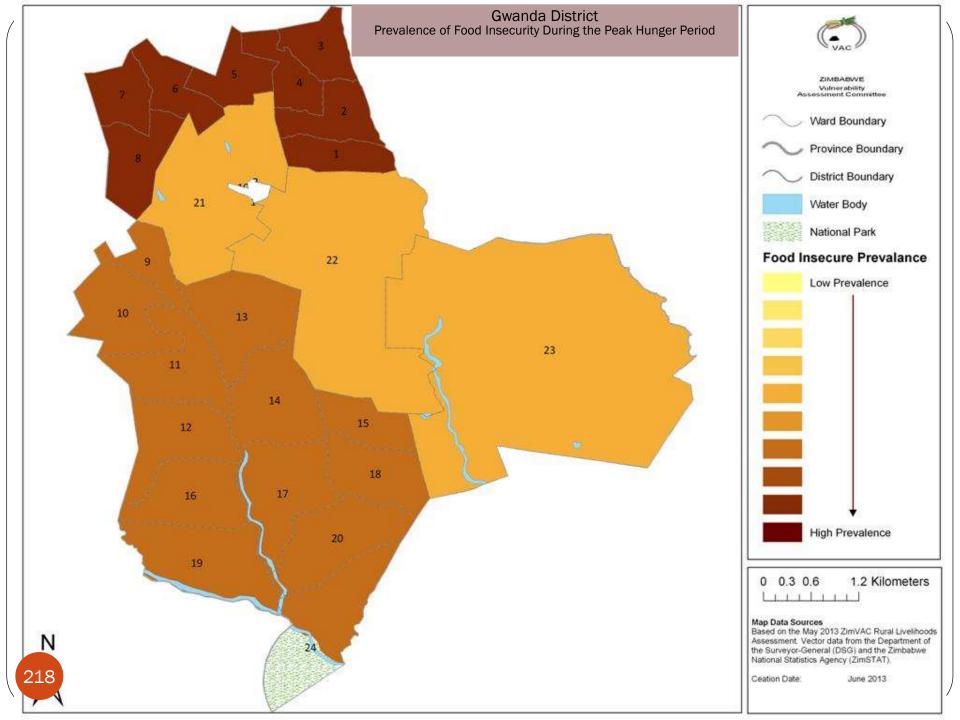


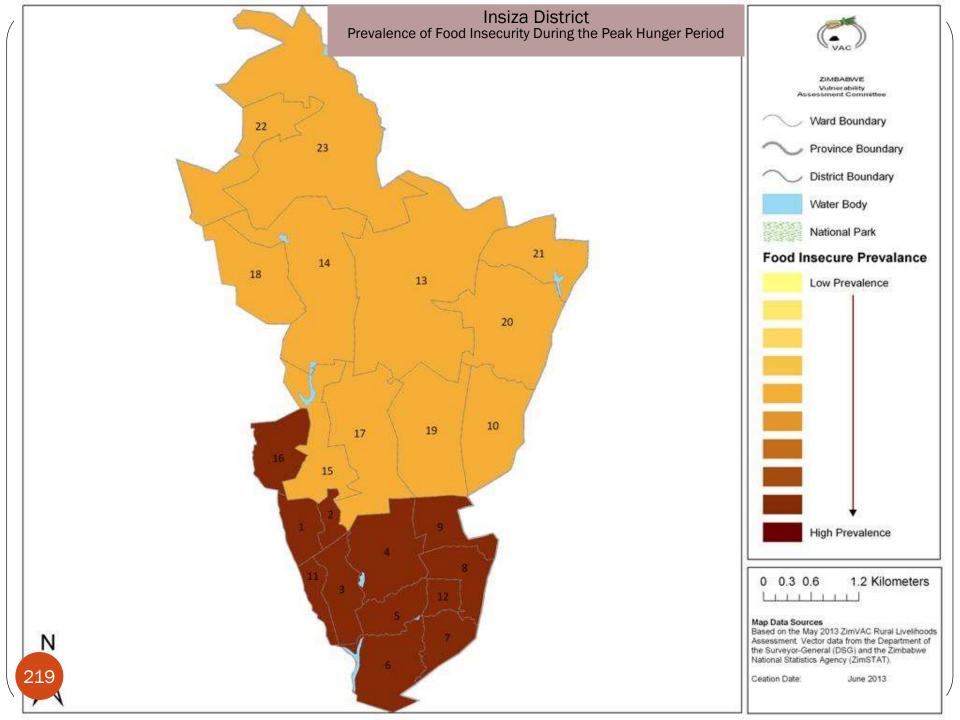


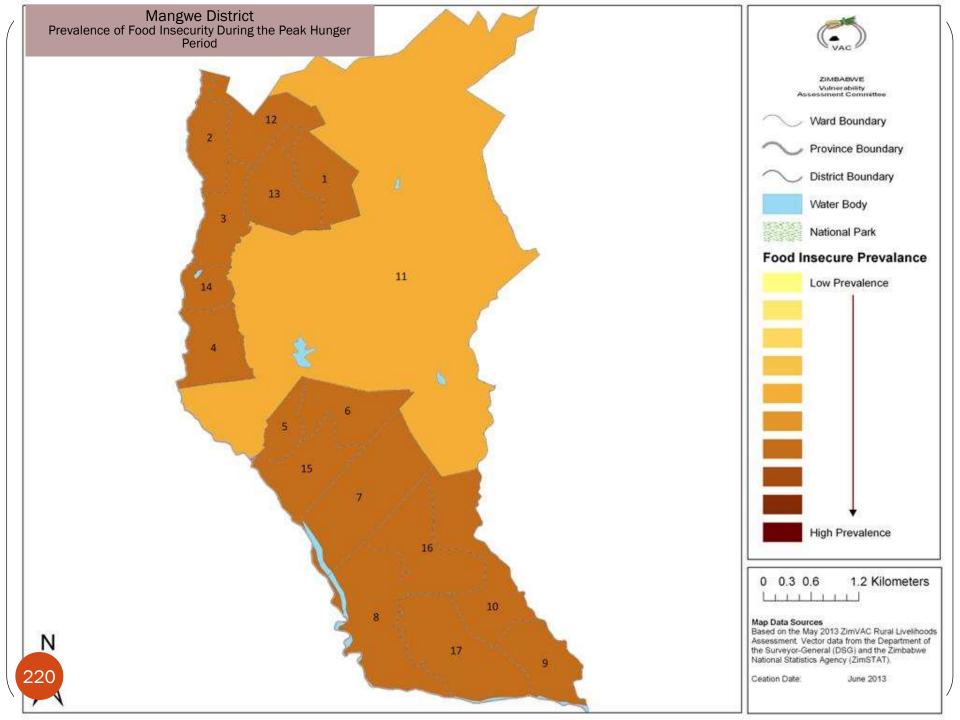


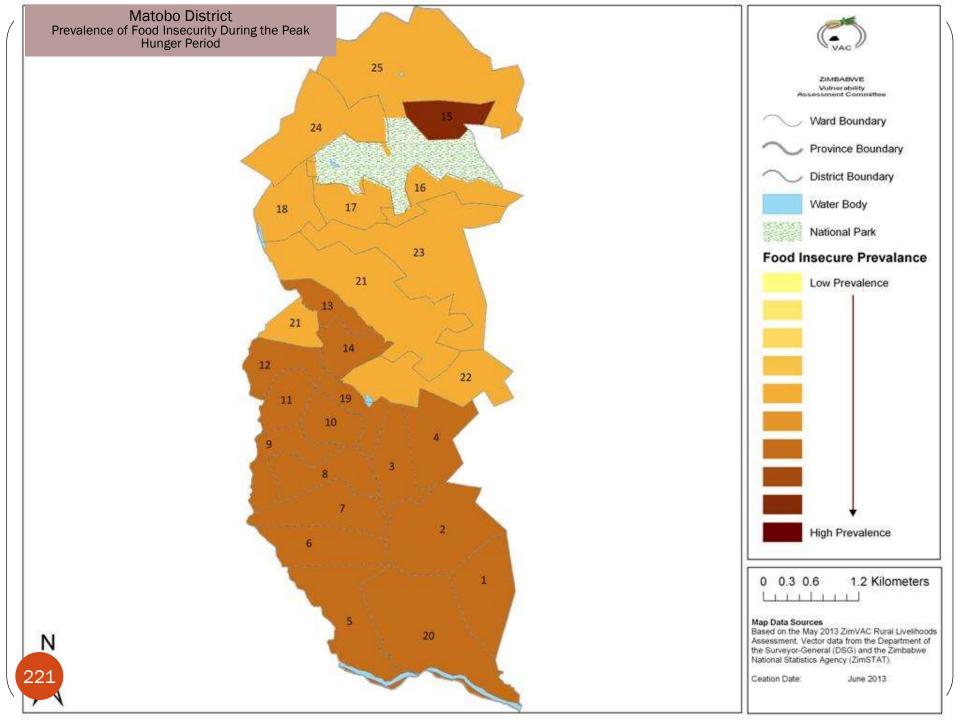




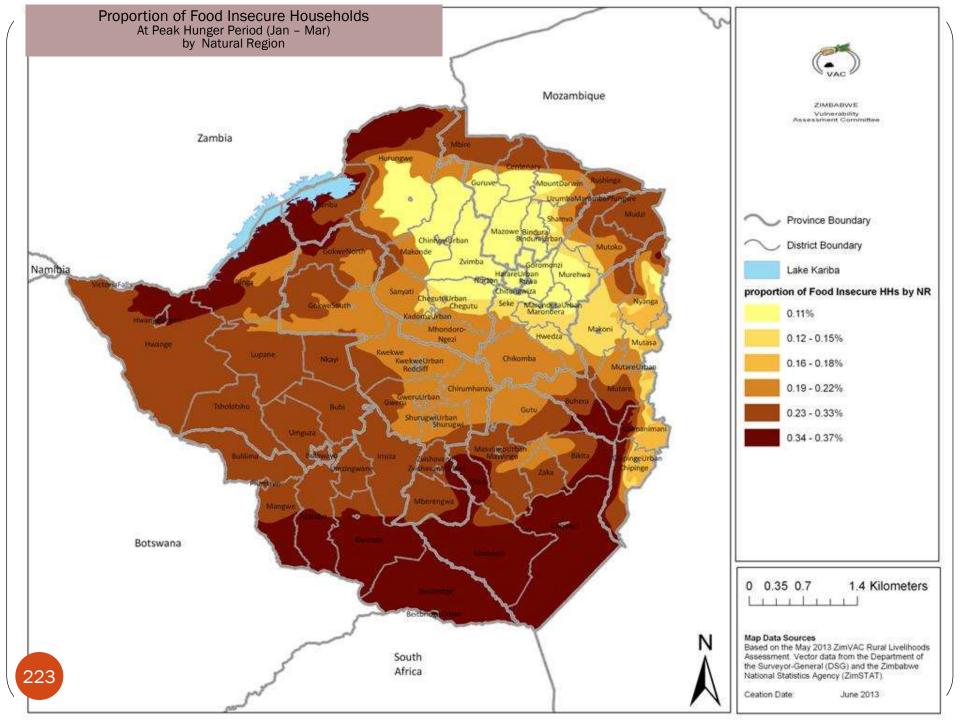








Proportion of Food Insecure Households At Peak Hunger Period (Jan – Mar) by Natural Region



The ZimVAC Technical Team For The Assessment

Partners	Government
Delilah Takawira	Ruth Machaka
	Sandra Mudzengere
Tiwonge Machiwenyika	Kudzai Mukudoka
	Mildred Mapani
Brighton Munatsi	Ruramai Mpande
	Herbert Zvirere
Daison Ngirazi	Arnold Damba
Yvonne Vhevha	Yvonne Mavhunga
Preachered Donga	Lloyd Chadzingwa
Brighton Nhau	
Thabisani Moyo	Tatenda Mafunga
Godfrey Kafera	Innocent Mangwiro
Gift Magaya	Tamburiro Pasipangodya
Justin Mupeiwa	Perpetual Nyadenga
Kudzayi Kariri	Admire Jongwe
Kudakwashe Chimanya	Nozizwe Chigonga

Coordination Team

- George D Kembo- Overall Coordination
- Yvonne Mavhunga-Technical Coordination
- Lameck Betera- Logistics Coordination
- Blessing Butaumocho- Technical Advisor