2022

MBIRE District

Food and Nutrition Security Profile

World Food Programme

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Foreword

The Government of Zimbabwe aims to meet national targets under the National Development Strategy 1, Sustainable Development Goals, including Zero Hunger by 2030, with the support of the United Nations World Food Programme and other development partners. Evidence and knowledge are the starting point to ending hunger and improving nutrition. Hence policies and programmes need to be based on accurate and reliable data and information to make a difference in people's lives. In view of the above, the District Profiles were developed to provide evidence-based information for programming by the Government, UN, and development partners. This process was led and hosted by the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC), supported by WFP, and with the participation of Government Ministries and NGOs through a multi stakeholder consultative process.

The country has continued to experience climatic and economic shocks. While recurring droughts, erratic rainfall, and poor harvests have been the drivers of food insecurity in rural areas, economic challenges remain as one of the major drivers of food inaccessibility in urban areas. From, these existing challenges were further compounded by the effects of COVID-19 and the lockdown measures which were put in place to curb its spread. To understand the evolving changes, it was necessary to update all the 60 rural District Profiles to more accurately identify and address the humanitarian and programmatic needs in Zimbabwe. The 2016 District Profiles had reached their full life span of five years.

The District Profiles were compiled using other existing information products such as the ZimVAC Livelihoods Assessment Reports, national Integrated Context Analysis (ICA), the Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP), and community action plans, among other key reference documents. The district profiles provide ward-level analysis as well as insights for programmatic needs at sub-district level. These are developed as a public good to support Government, UN and developmental partners in the design, targeting and implementation of humanitarian, resilience and development programmes.

These risk profile provide a comprehensive sub district level overview focusing on infrastructure, water and sanitation, communication, livelihoods, poverty, climate, crops, livestock, markets, hazards and shocks, development indicators and priorities, food and nutrition security conditions, and recommendations.

It is my greatest hope that all stakeholders will find this updated information useful in further refining their programmes and targeting criteria for the development of Zimbabwe.

Acknowledgements

The Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) would like to appreciate the support provided by the World Food Programme who worked tirelessly to ensure the successful completion of the district profiles.

Special thanks go to the various Government line ministries and departments, UN agencies, donors, and NGOs for sharing of information, technical support, facilitation, and collaboration.

Sincere appreciation goes to the Provincial Coordinators, District Food and Nutrition Security Committee and District Drought Relief Committee members for participating in the drafting of the profiles and the valuable information provided.

Our sincere gratitude goes to WFP Zimbabwe and the Government of Zimbabwe for funding for the activity.

Acronyms & Abbreviations

AARDS	Agricultural Advisory Rural Development Services
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CA	Communal Area
CAMPFIRE	Community Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources
DDC	District development coordinators office
DDF	District Development Fund
DFID	Department for International Development
DOI	Department of Irrigation
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EMA	Environmental Management Authority
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GMB	Grain Marketing Board
Ha	Hectare
HH	Household
LSCA	Large-Scale Commercial Area
MDTC	Mwenezi Development Training Center
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development
MOHCC	Ministry of Health and Child Care
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NR	New Resettlement
RDC	Rural District Council
RWIMS	Rural Wash Information Management System
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SSCA	Small Scale Commercial Area
UNDP	United Nations Development Fund
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
WFP	World Food Programme
ZAR	South African Rand
ZimVAC	Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee

1. General Characteristics Of The District

1.1 General Characteristics Of The District

The whole of the district is communal land. More than 95% of the households in the districts depend on subsistence farming and livestock production. The district is in a low rainfall area and the rainfall distribution is erratic. Previously the district was infested with tsetse fly but after a successful controlling effort by the government only two wards are still not permitted to keep cattle even though the insects are no longer found in the areas. Draft power is inadequate in these two wards, and this contribute to poverty levels in the wards. Long dry spells experienced during the agricultural season results in poor yields as most crops are written off. Furthermore, food security is worsened by lack of knowledge on correct seed, lack of alternatives to improve soil fertility, scarcity of inputs, lack of linkages to markets and lack of a diversified agriculture. As a result, the community is faced with starvation and failure to improve their livelihoods. The situation leads to increased dependency on food aid hence donor syndrome.

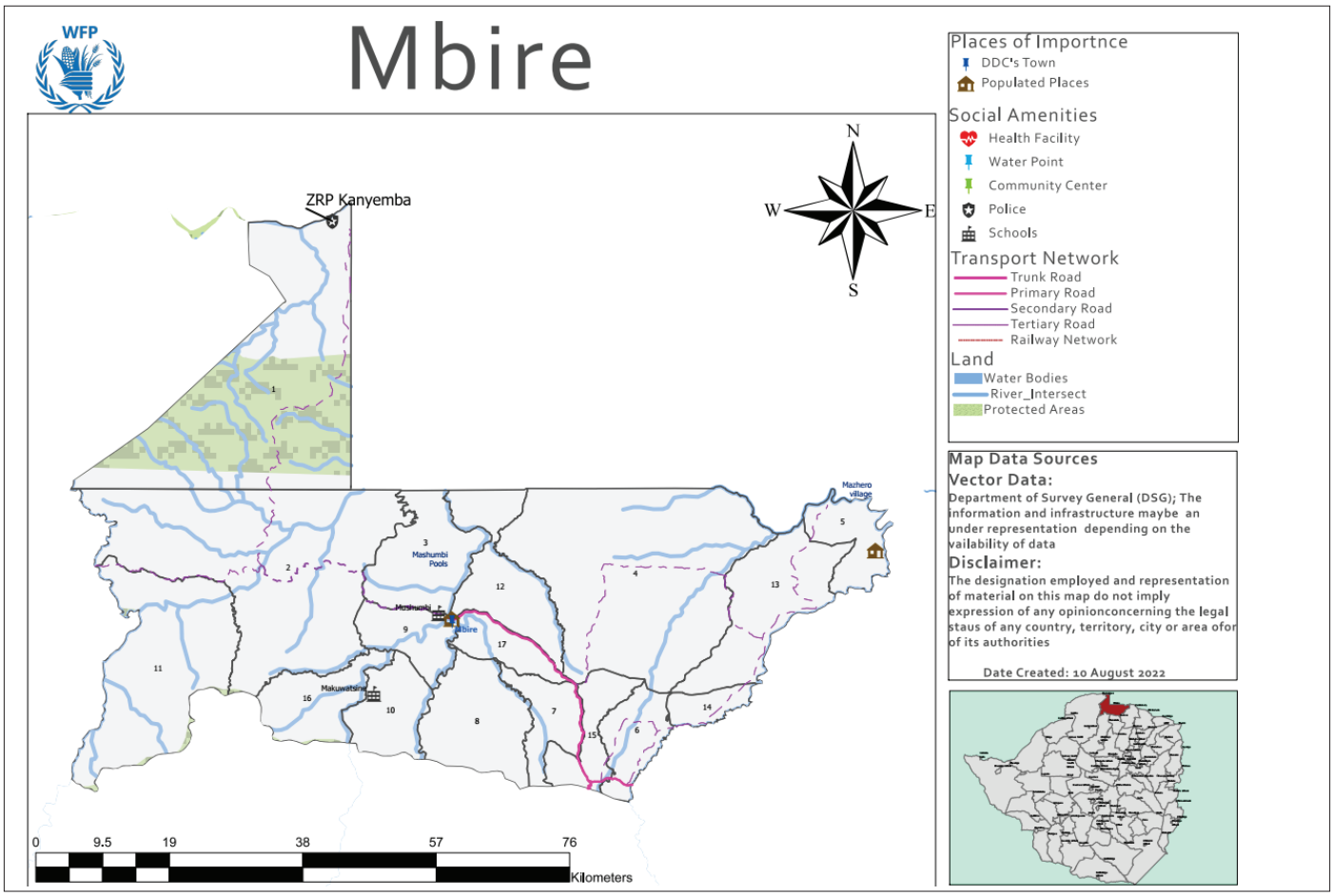

Figure 1: Mbire Rural District Map (Source: WFP)

1.2 Administrative Information

The District is located in Mashonaland Central Province, lies 250 km north of Harare towards Zambian/ Mozambique border. Its area is 4,695.87km2. Mbire boarders with Zambia's Luangwa district to the north, Mozambique's Tete province to the northeast, Muzarabani district to the east, Guruve district to the south and to the west Chewore safari area in Hurungwe district. The district Population is 83,724 (41,014 males and 42,710 females) giving a population density of 17.83.

Mbire Rural District is one of the most remote and underdeveloped districts in Zimbabwe, despite the abundant natural resources (wildlife) it is endowed with. A good indication of this underdevelopment is its poor road and communication infrastructure. The district was part of Guruve before it was given a district status in 2006. Mbire is among the poorest, worst drought affected and food insecure districts in Zimbabwe.

The district has one growth point, Mushumbi which is where most district government offices are located, and the others are in Mahuhwe. Other big business centres are Mahuwe, Chidodo and Chitsungo. There is a total of 142 functional grinding mills in the district and are evenly distributed across all wards.

Mbire district has four traditional chiefs namely, Chief Chapoto covering the northern part of the district bordering Zambia, Chief Chisunga covering the central part of the district beyond Manyame River bordering with Chief Chapoto to the north (ward 1). Chief Chitsungo covers the south western part of the district (wards, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 17) and Chief Matsiwo covering the eastern part of the district (wards 4, 5, 6, 13, 14 and 15). Mbire district has a total of four kraal headmen. The total number of village heads is 380.

1.2.1 Settlement Types

- 60% of Land is communal, 40% is unoccupied and 20% occupied.
- 20% is state land (safari area leased from government-5 year lease)-land is limited.
- 20% is for urban expansion-leased land (option to purchase) 15% of this land is available

Table 1: Settlement Types

Settlement Type	No of Wards 2016	No of Wards 2022
Urban	0	0
Growth point	2 (15, 9)	2 (15, 9)
Resettlement area	0	0
Communal	17 (1-17)	17 (1-17)
Estate Farms	1	1
Source: DDC 's Office		

1.2.2 Mbire Main Business Centers

Table 2: Main Business Centers

Ward	Businesss Center	Status of Center	Chief	Councillor
1	Chapoto	Business center	Chapoto	C Kachasu
2	Angwa	Business center	Chisunga	C Chimukoro
3	Madzomba	Business center	Chisunga	Mutematsaka
4	Gonono	Business center	Matsiwo	Gutu
5	Chidodo	Business center	Matsiwo	Muzeza
6	Kasuo	Business center	Matsiwo	Makuvatsine
7	Hambe	Business center	Chitsungo	Manjerwa
8	Karai	Business center	Chisungo	Mudhimbu
9	Mushumbi	Growth Point	Chitsungo	Musarurwa
10	Chitsungo	Business center	Chitsungo	Makuwerere
11	Masoka	Business center	Chisunga	Chaukura
12	Nyambudzi	Business center	Chitsungo	Chidongo
13	Sapa	Business center	Matsiwo	Kaviku
14	Masomo	Business center	Matsiwo	Derere
15	Mahuwe	Growth Pointh	Matsiwo	M Mumbamuchena
16	Monozi	Business center	Chitsungo	L Nyamushamba
17	Majongwe	Business center	Chitsungo	Zuze
Source: MRDC				

1.2.3 Police Services

The district has two Police stations (Mushumbi and Kanyemba), 1 police post at Mahuwe and 4 police bases (Angwa, Chitsungo, Chikafa and Chidodo).

1.2.4 Social Services

Mbire district has 17 Councillors representing 17 wards. There are 5 Social Welfare Officers, 15 Gender and 117 Youth Development officers in the district. The district has no magistrates and prosecutors officers, but a Circuit Court is conducted every Wednesday at Mahuwe Business Centre by a Magistrate and Prosecutor from Guruve.

1.3 Population Information

Table 3: 2021 Mbire District Population Projections By Ward

Ward	Ward Name	Number Of House holds	2012 Population	2016 Estimated Population	Proportion Of Population	2022 Estimated Population	2022 Number Of House holds	2022 Proportion Of Population (%)
1	Chapoto	687	3,190	3,494	4%	3773	952	4.5
2	Angwa	1,201	5,537	6,064	7%	5631	1299	6.7
3	Kanongo	1,351	6,139	6,724	7%	6464	1502	7.7
4	Gonono	1,594	7,113	7,790	9%	8049	1943	9.6
5	Musengezi	1,217	5,274	5,776	6%	5587	1344	6.7
6	Kasuo	906	4,124	4,517	5%	4486	1025	5.4
7	Hambe	573	2,567	2,811	3%	2238	529	2.7
8	Karai	1,757	8,351	9,146	10%	7251	1639	8.7
9	Mushumbi	1,121	4,982	5,456	6%	5167	1280	6.2
10	Chitsungo	1,488	6,919	7,578	8%	6119	1432	7.3
11	Masoka	333	1644	1,801	2%	1644	378	2
12	Chikafa	1,497	6,763	7,407	8%	6731	1661	8
13	Kasemberere	1,258	5,765	6,314	7%	6682	1529	8
14	Masomo	557	2,439	2,671	3%	2405	602	2.9
15	Mahuhwe	1,113	4,727	5,177	6%	5000	1303	6
16	Bwazi Monozi	626	3,010	3,297	4%	2786	604	3.3
17	Majongwe	829	3,836	4,201	5%	3711	893	4.4
		17,279	**82,380**	**90,224**	**100%**	**83724**	**19,915**	**100**

1.4 Vegetation Characteristics

The district is home to several tree species/subspecies with the Mopane and Acacia woodlands dominating much of the terrain. Dry forest/bush lands are dominant on old alluvial soils and gullies. Baobab trees are also found and are used for food (leaves used as vegetables and the fruit used to make porridge). Several grass species are also used as vegetables.

1.5 Land Degradation

- Land degradation is increasing at a larger scale due to the following reasons:
  1. Arable land does not have contour ridges
  2. Stream bank cultivation is uncontrollable throughout the district
  3. There is no gully reclamation in the district
  4. Climate change is causing flush floods in arable lands
  5. Deforestation
- The district is characterized by gullies which are more pronounced in Mushumbi.
- Stream bank cultivation is done along Angwa, Hunyani, Kadzie, Mwanzamutanda rivers and is a serious threat to the main livelihood source for households close to these rivers.

1.6 Development Indicators

1.6.1 Education Information

- There is no tertiary institution in the district at the moment.
- The district has 548 primary teachers and 265 secondary teachers

Table 4: Education Information

Ward	Primary	Secondary
1	1	1
2	4	1
3	3	1
4	4	1
5	2	2
6	2	1
7	2	1
8	2	2
9	2	3
10	2	1
11	1	1
12	4	2
13	2	2
14	2	1
15	1	1
16	1	1
17	1	0
Source: Min of Education (District).		

- All primary schools offer Early Childhood Education (ECD) facilities. There are 3 Resource Units which cater for the hearing impaired, visually impaired and mentally challenged. There are three A-Level secondary schools and of these none offer sciences subjects due to lack of appropriate facilities.
- According to 2012 census results, the literacy rate for Mbire district was 91%, which was a significant increase compared to previous years. The total enrolment of children in primary school is 20,331 versus a 1554 dropout and in secondary school 4660 are enrolled as at June 2015, with a 283 dropout rate. This indicates that a significant number of pupils are not progressing to secondary school. The major reasons for dropping out of school include lack of money for school fees, long distances to schools and early pregnancies and marriages.
- Most schools in the district are not electrified.

Challenges That Have Been Noted Across All The Schools Include:

- Shortages of classrooms
- Shortage of accommodation for teaching staff
- Shortage of furniture for pupils
- No science laboratories at all schools.
- Inadequate boreholes and water and sanitation facilities were also noted in 14 secondary and 20 primary schools while there were no suitable sanitation facilities for ECD pupils in 18 school.

1.6.2 Health Facilities By Type

Table 5: List Of Health Facilities

No	Name of Health Centre	Ward	Authority (e.g. Council, Government, Private)
1	Chapoto	1	Council
2	Angwa	2	Council
3	Mushumbi	9	Government Clinic
4	Chikafa	3	Council
5	Gonono	4	Council
6	Mahuhwe	10	Council
7	Chitsungo	10	Private
8	Chirunya	3	Government
9	Masoka	11	Government
10	Masomo	14	Government
11	Musengezi	13	Government
12	Nyambudzi	12	Government
13	Chidodo	5	Government
Source: DDC Mbire			

There are 12 government run clinics and 1 church hospital in the district. The district hospital has one functional Ambulance. There are 60 nurses, 15 Environmental Health Technicians, one Pharmacist and two Medical doctors in the district. 26 of the nurses are stationed at the hospital. Ward 3, 6, 7, 13, 16 and 17 had no health facilities located within the ward and in some cases this result in communities travelling long distances to access health facilities. There is need for construction of more health facilities to increase the accessibility of such services.

1.6.3 Health Challenges

- The high patient- clinic ration and sparse distribution of clinics points to the need for more clinics to cover these gaps and service more people while improving accessibility for a good number of the population.
- Chitsungo Hospital, Gonono, Masoka and Mahuwe Clinics have mobile telecommunications challenges that greatly affect communication
- All clinics are poorly furnished, they still need more beds for maternity and wards.

2. Other Development Indicators

2.1 Water and Sanitation Information

Table 6: Distribution Of Boreholes By Ward

Ward	Main Water Sources Per Ward 2016	Main Water Sources Per Ward 2022			Functional Boreholes	Non Functional Boreholes	Reasons The Non Functioning	Reasons For Improvements Deterioration To 2016
	B/H	B/H	Wells	P.W.S				Functional water points committees and swift action to rectify problems for all wards
1	23	23	13	4	20	3	No spares and transport.	Improved through upgrading of community wells and piped water schemes.
2	23	23	13	4	18	5	Lack of resources	There has been an increase of non-functional boreholes due to shortage of spares
3	14	14	27	1	13	1	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
4	16	16	17	3	13	3	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
5	17	17	21	2	17	-	All are functioning	No change

Table 6: Distribution Of Boreholes By Ward (Continued)

Ward	Main Water Sources Per Ward 2016	Main Water Sources Per Ward 2022			Functional Boreholes	Non Functional Boreholes	Reasons The Non Functioning	Reasons For Improvements Deterioration To 2016
	B/H	B/H	Wells	P.W.S				Functional water points committees and swift action to rectify problems for all wards
6	10	10	12	1	10	-	All are functioning	We improved through up grading of community wells and piped water schemes.
7	21	21	22	1	17	4	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
8	30	30	28	2	27	3	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
9	18	18	4	1	18	-	All are functioning	No change
10	23	23	19	2	20	3	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
11	7	7	2	-	3	4	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
12	19	19	21	2	17	2	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
13	6	6	21	1	12	1	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
14	10	10	5	-	9	1	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
15	19	19	26	3	19	-	All are functioning	No change
16	7	7	-	1	6	1	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs
17	14	14	30	1	12	2	Lack of resources	Unavailability of spares for borehole maintenance and repairs

Source: DDF Mbire

• Some households obtain water from unprotected sources. However, several organizations working in the district are working on addressing this challenge. Apart from boreholes there are also family and community owned wells.

2.2 Sanitation Facilities

Table 7: Sanitation Facilities

Ward	BVIPs
1 Chapoto	278
2 Angwa	431
3 Kanongo	446
4 Gonono	58
5 Musengezi	426
6 Kasuwo	144
7 Hambe	112
8 Chirunya	263
9 Mushumbi	307
10 Chitsungo	432
11 Masoka	211
12 Chikafa	500
13 Sapa	101
14 Masomo	90
15 Mahuwe	523
16	263
17	97
Total	**4682**
Source: Mbire DWSC	

• More than half of the households in Mbire district (73%) do not own any type of latrine, 20% have Blair toilets and 7 % have pit toilets. According to the Ministry of Health and Child Care, ward 2 has the highest number of people without toilets and ward 17 has the lowest. Wards 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 17 have critically inadequate sanitary and water facilities while ward 2, 3, 10 and 15 are the only ward with adequate sanitary facilities.

3. Transport And Communication

There is adequate road network in the district but poor maintenance is one of the challenges as they are maintained by local authorities and DDF. The mode of transport is a combination of ox-drawn carts, private transport, cycling since the terrain is relatively flat and Kombis. Econet and Netone are the main mobile network service providers in the district. Majority of the wards have access to mobile network services with the exception of ward 4, 16 and 10 which are difficult to communicate with.

Table 8: Mbire District Road Networks

Ward	Description
1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 16	Gravel roads which is in bad condition
2, 5, and 16	Inaccessible especially during the rainy season owing to the poor condition of the roads.
7, 8, 10, 13 and 17	Poor bridges which affects market accessibility
Source: DDF	

3.1 Sources Of Livelihood

- The district supports extensive sorghum, maize and cotton production and the main sources of incomes include the following:
- Crop production and sales from crops like cotton, groundnuts, sesame and sorghum. About 80% of the households depend on crop production.
- This is supplemented by local, seasonal casual employment and livestock sales (mainly goat/ chicken sales).
- Livestock production includes beef, goat and sheep (small scale), poultry – guinea fowls, indigenous birds and turkeys. Cattle are sourced by buyers who come as far as Masvingo and Mutare for breeding. Beef and chevon is delivered to abattoirs in province and Harare
- Vegetable production and sales also form a source of income for other households.
- There are many different types of wild foods including fruits, leaves and small animals that can be found at various times throughout the year. Some of these can be preserved and stored for consumption or sale later on.
- Apiculture also forms a source of income for wards 16, 17, 12, 4 and 3. Fishing and sale of fish contribute to

the livelihood of those who live close to rivers and dams. Fishing camps, game reserves, lodges and local shops provide the bulk of the formal employment a small minority of the population is formally employed within the various government departments.

- Remittances contribute to the livelihood for a number of households with households receiving money or food from within and outside the country

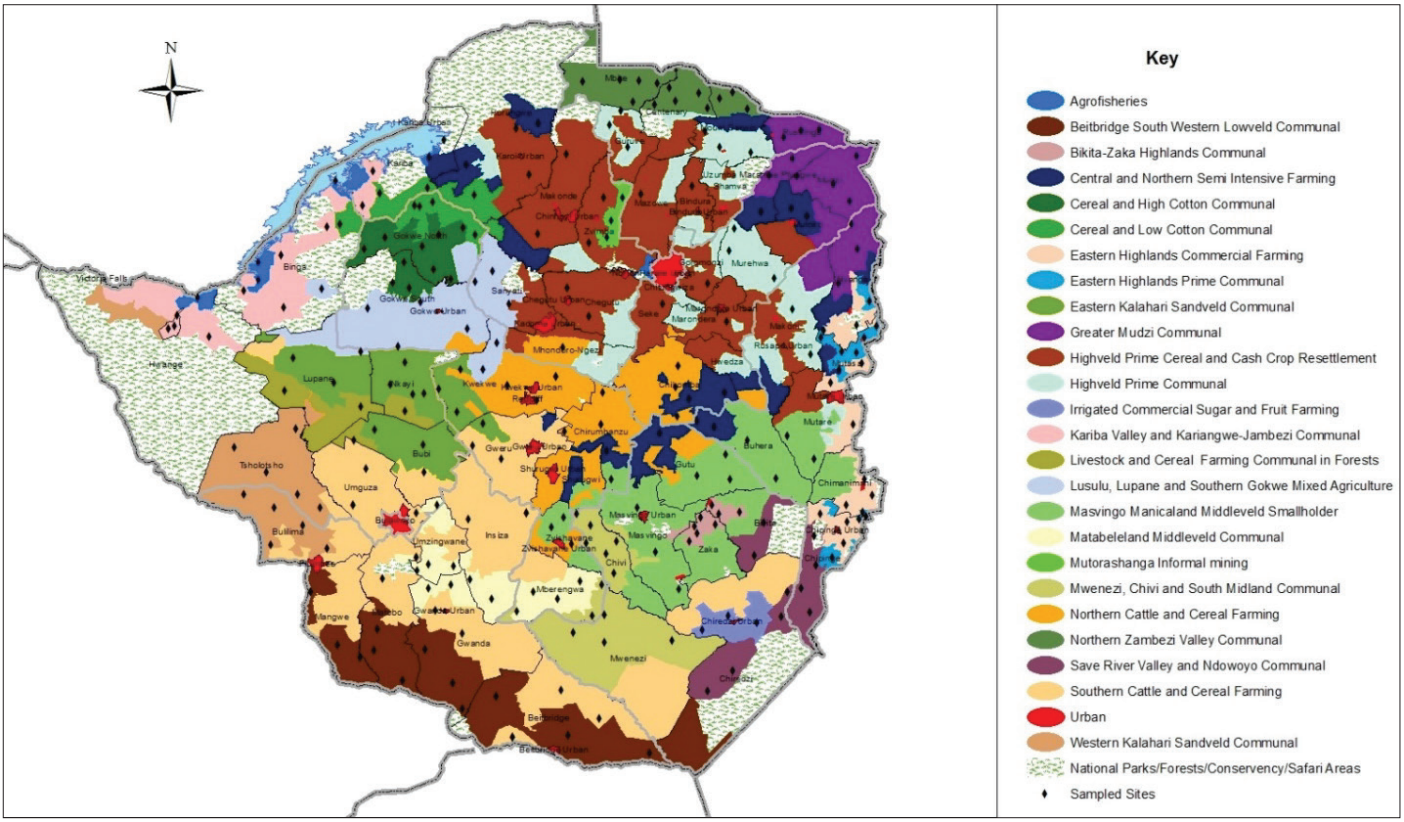

Figure 2: Sources Of Livelihood Map

Table 9: Summary Of Economic Zones

Economic Zones	Description	Wards
Cereal and High cotton communal	This zone has the greatest human population and a large portion of arable land. Majority of the population obtained their income from cotton production but since 2021 there was a change. GMB was established and majority of the farmers managed to sell their produce to GMB. Therefore, in this zone villagers are now producing more sorghum than cotton.	3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17
Cereal and High cotton communal	This zone has the greatest human population and a large portion of arable land. Majority of the population obtained their income from cotton production but since 2021 there was a change. GMB was established and majority of the farmers managed to sell their produce to GMB. Therefore, in this zone villagers are now producing more sorghum than cotton.	1, 2, 11 and 5
Cereal and low cotton communal	This zone is in the border area. The soils are sandy and not suitable for cotton production and is wild life infested. The wild life destroy cotton crop thus forcing community not to rely on crop production therefore diverting to buying goods and selling.	1, 2, 11, 3, 12 and 4
National Parks/ forest	This zone is reserved as a wildlife conservancy. It is reserved for wildlife and livestock production. The main economic activity in this zone is wildlife hunting and livestock rearing. The area is managed by Safari operators. Communities around the conservancy grow crops for consumption and cash crop purposes. They also benefit from Campfire activities.	1-17
Livestock and cereal farming	Livestock species thriving in the district are beef cows, goats Boer goat crosses and indigenous, sheep, pigs-Mukota and exotic breeds, chickens indigenous, turkeys and guinea fowls	1-17
Northern and Zambezi valley com-munal	Extensive small grain, groundnut and cotton production together with animal husbandry provide food and cash income. Maize, sorghum and pearl millet yields are typically poor. Local seasonal employment on better-off farmers' cotton fields helps generate needed income for the poor.	
Source: Mbire Rural District Council, AARDS		

4. Poverty Levels

Table 10: Poverty Levels

Ward No.	No. of Poor House holds	No. of Non Poor House-holds	Average HH Size	PO	Se P0	P1	Se_P1	P2	SE_P2	Gini Index	Se Gini Index
8	1,491	257	4.7	85.3%	0.0355	43.9%	0.0374	26.5%	0.0310	36.0%	0.0187
4	1,408	182	4.5	88.6%	0.0244	46.9%	0.0319	28.7%	0.0280	34.4%	0.0130
12	1,307	185	4.5	87.6%	0.0205	45.6%	0.0242	27.6%	0.0208	34.3%	0.0140
10	1,305	176	4.6	88.1%	0.0205	45.6%	0.0248	27.4%	0.0211	33.7%	0.0118
3	1,149	197	4.5	85.3%	0.0219	43.6%	0.0282	26.2%	0.0243	35.9%	0.0136
13	1,042	210	4.6	83.3%	0.0276	41.1%	0.0294	24.2%	0.0240	35.4%	0.0141
5	1,017	198	4.3	82.2%	0.0400	40.1%	0.0391	23.3%	0.0313	35.4%	0.0204
2	984	213	4.6	83.7%	0.0212	41.2%	0.0222	24.0%	0.0185	34.8%	0.0128
15	918	185	4.2	82.2%	0.0283	41.8%	0.0296	25.0%	0.0251	39.7%	0.0214
9	912	198	4.4	83.2%	0.0218	41.4%	0.0239	24.4%	0.0196	36.7%	0.0141
6	785	106	4.6	88.1%	0.0392	46.5%	0.0488	28.4%	0.0431	33.6%	0.0229
17	708	121	4.6	85.4%	0.0206	43.4%	0.0219	25.8%	0.0182	35.6%	0.0126
1	598	88	4.6	87.1%	0.0242	45.5%	0.0287	27.6%	0.0247	35.0%	0.0136
6	523	101	4.8	83.8%	0.0359	40.8%	0.0408	23.7%	0.0335	34.4%	0.0168
14	491	61	4.4	77.9%	0.0313	37.3%	0.0299	21.5%	0.0236	39.0%	0.0187
7	443	126	4.5	89.0%	0.0290	46.5%	0.0412	28.1%	0.0359	33.5%	0.0153
11	284	49	4.9	85.2%	0.0318	42.9%	0.0329	25.5%	0.0270	34.5%	0.0174
Total	**15,366**	**2,652**	**4.5**								

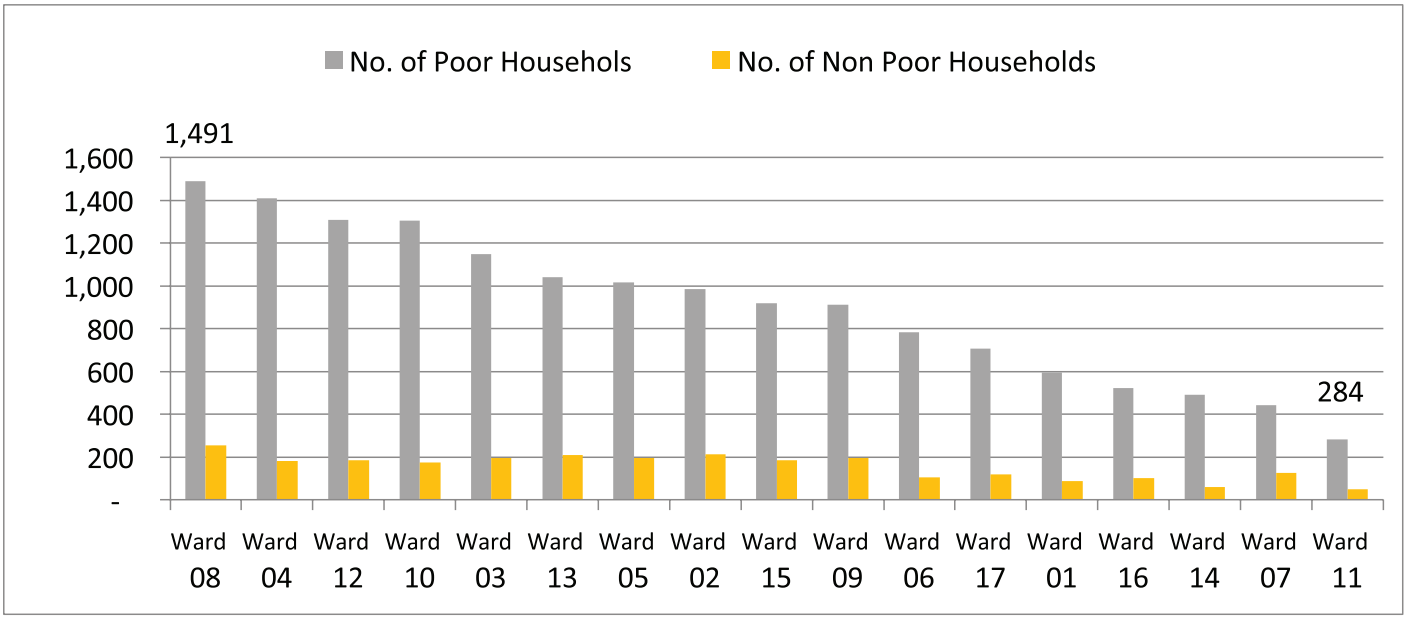

Figure 3: Poor and Non Poor Households (Source: FNC)

5. Agriculture information

5.1 Natural Regions And Climate

The whole of the district is in agro-ecological zone Va which is characterized by extensive farming and low rainfall (<650mm). The district generally experiences severe droughts and mid-season dry spells. The regions are suitable for livestock production, and this should be intensified by growing of fodder crops.

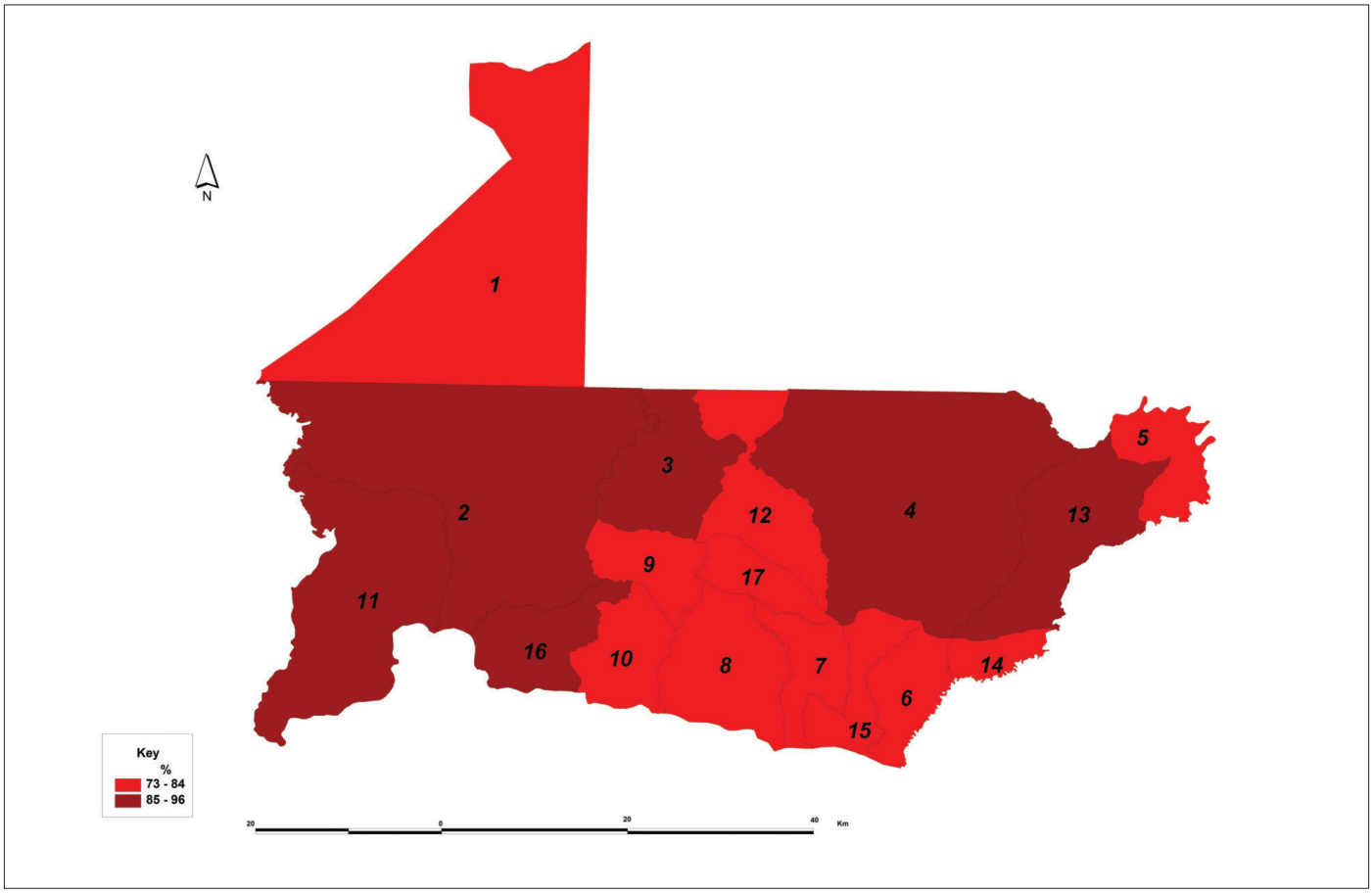

Figure 4: Mbire Agro-Ecological Regions (Source:WFP)

5.2 Mean Annual Rainfall

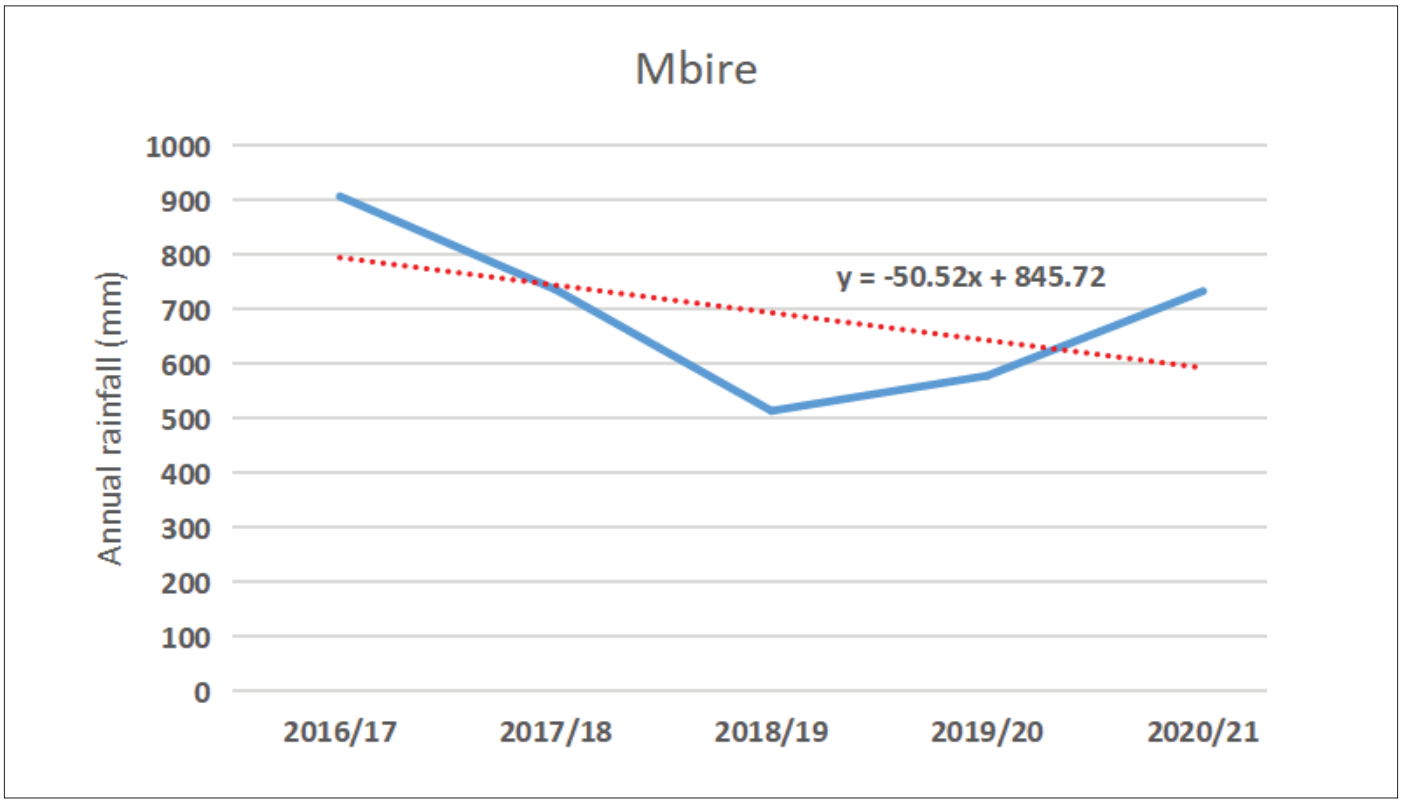

FIgure 4: Mbire Annual Rainfall (Source: AARDS Mbire)

The main rainy season of the district starts mid- December to mid-March (intercepted by 4 to 5 dry spells of which one dry spell can take 20 to 30 days). Taking into consideration the heat intensity in the valley, such an environment is very detrimental to cereal development. Cool winter season - mid-May to mid-August (mild day time T°C 20°C to 29°C) and the hot months of September to November. Mean annual rainfall is between 450 and 650 mm. From the annual rainfall graph shown above, since 2016/17 rainfall figures have been dropping to lowest level in 2018/2019 where rains received started to improve up to 2020/21. Data collected for that period is shown below:

Table 11: Rainfall Patterns

Specific Year Period	Mean Annual Rainfall
2016/17	741mm
2017/18	688mm
2018/19	781mm
2019/20	859mm
2020/21	865mm
2021/22	734mm
Source : AARDS	

NB: Figures above are above the average of the district. This is due to global warming induced rains which are accompanied by very hot dry spells.

5.3 Drought Prone Areas

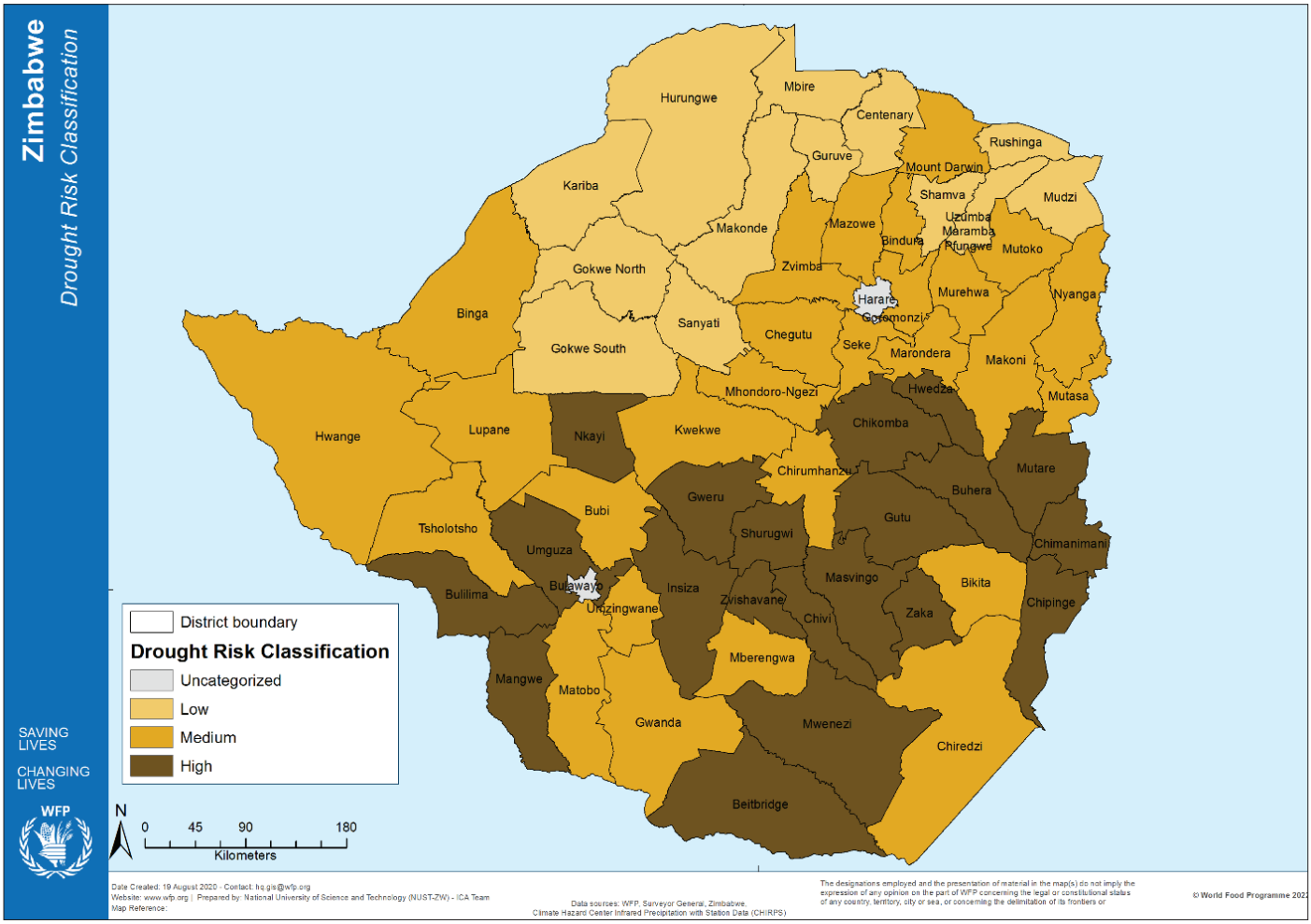

Figure 5: Drought Prone Areas (Source: WFP)

- There was no significant positive change from 2015/16 to 2019/20 in terms of droughts occurance. But in year 2020/21, cyclone Anna was experienced which brought some relief with good rains though accompaned by floods. There were few and short dry spells compared to other seasons which had long very hot dry spells. Crop yields for 2021/22 were adversly affected by a long dry spell which rendered most cereal crops right off.
- All wards are still prone to droughts in the district.
- Places of great concern include Sapa, Mahuhwe, Masoka, Musengezi, Chidodo, Angwa and Kanyemba.

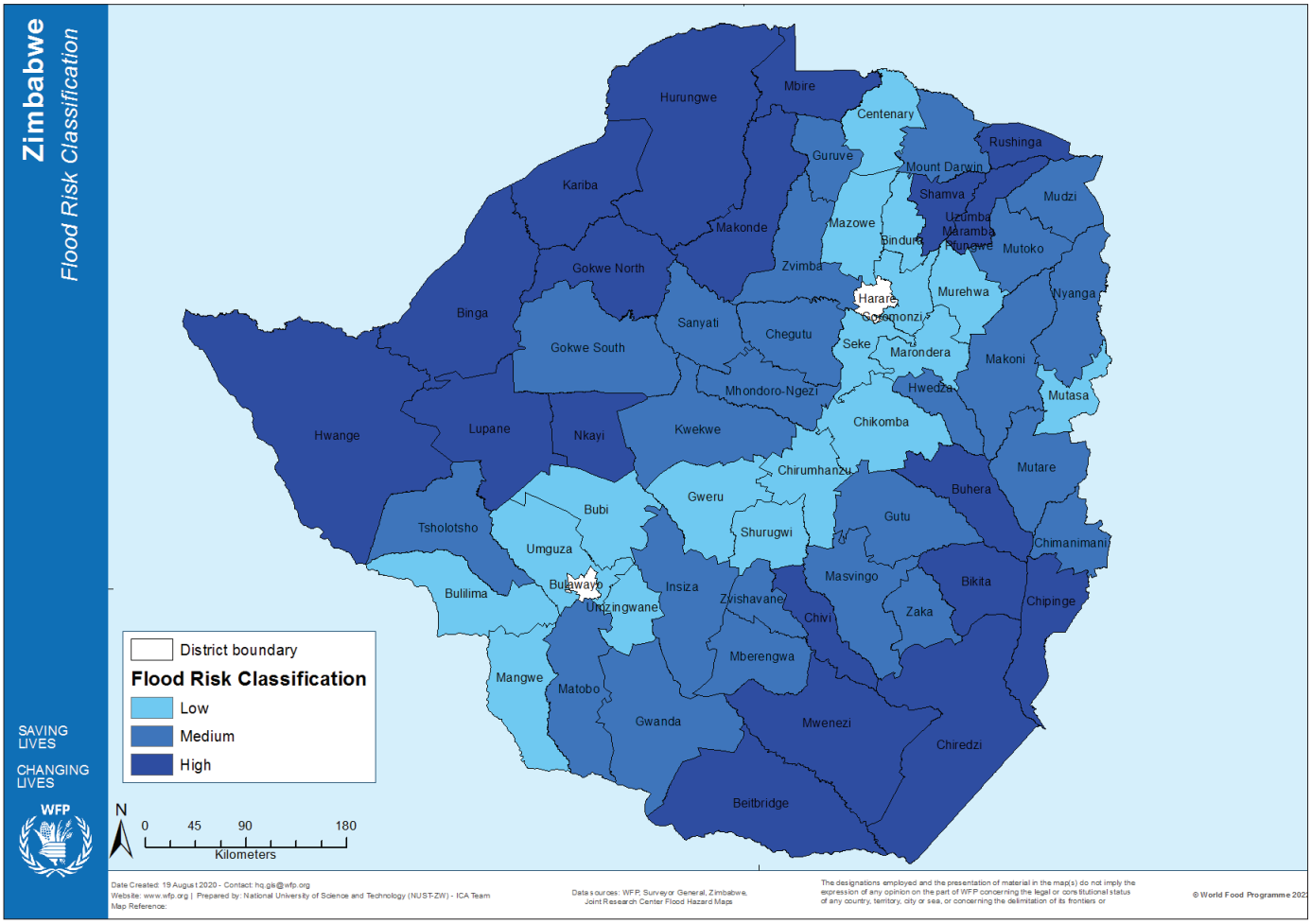

Figure 6: Flood Prone Areas (Source:WFP)

- Wards 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 are prone to floods as the settlements are along the rivers and are low lying.
- Of concern, also these areas are affected with floods; Musengezi, Chidodo, Kasemberere and Kanyemba

5.4 Hydro-Geological Conditions

- The district has no dams but has 6 major rivers as outlined below

Table 10: Hydrological Conditions

Name Of River	Water Availability	Wards Covered
Hunyani	Perennial	10, 16, 9, 12 and 3
Zambezi	Perennial	1
Musengezi	Perennial	13, 5 and 14
Angwa river	Seasonal	2 and 11
Kadzi	Seasonal	6 and 4
Dande river	Seasonal	8 and 17
Source: AARDS Mbire		

- Zambezi and Hunyani rivers are being used by ARDA farm for irrigation purposes.

5.5 Soil Type And pH

- The soils are not very much acidic as depicted by the levels of hydrogen in them. The soils are prone to leaching.
- pH ranging from 5.5 -8 is usually not a challenge to crop or pasture production.
- pH signifies presence of limestone presence in the soils.

Table 11: Soil Type And pH

Ward Number	Soil pH	Ward Name	Description Of Soil Type
1	6-6.4 (mildly acidic)	Chapoto	Sandy to sandy loam
2	5.5-5.9 (slightly acidic)	Angwa	Sandy to sandy loam
3	5.5-5.9 (slightly acidic)	Madzomba	Sandy to sandy loam
4	7-7.4 (slightly alkaline)	Gonono	Sandy to sandy loam
5	7-7.4 (slightly alkaline)	Chidodo	Sandy to sandy loam
6	5.5-5.9 (slightly acidic)	Kasuwo	Sandy to sandy loam
7	6-6.4 (mildly acidic)	Hambe	Sandy to sandy loam
8	6-6.4 (mildly acidic)	Chirunya	Sandy to sandy loam
9	6.5-6.9 (neutral)	Mushumbi	Sandy to sandy loam
10	6.5-6.9 (neutral)	Chitsungo	Sandy to sandy loam
11	6-6.4 (mildly acidic)	Masoka	Sandy to sandy loam
12	6-6.4 (mildly acidic)	Chikafa	Sandy to sandy loam
13	7-7.4 (slightly alkaline)	Sapa	Sandy to sandy loam
14	6.0-6.4 (mildly acidic)	Masomo	Sandy to sandy loam
15	6-6.4 (mildly acidic)	Mahuhwe	Sandy to sandy loam
16	6-6.4 (mildly acidic)	Monozi	Sandy to sandy loam
17	6.5-6.9 (neutral)	Majongwe	Sandy to sandy loam
Source: Chemistry and Soil Research Institute Zim			

6. Crop Information

6.1 Farming Sectors And Crops Grown

Table 12: Main Farming Sectors In The District

Farming Sector	Area (Ha)	Area (%)	Population (%)	Population (%)
Communal	404, 114	84	84	94
Commercial	808	2	2	2
State Land (Reserves)	67, 352	14	4	4
Total	**471, 466**	**100**	**90**	**100**
Source: AARDS Mbire				

6.2 Irrigation Schemes

Table 13: Distribution Of Irrigation Schemes By Ward

Ward	Name of Irrigation Schemes	Total Area (Hectares)	Status
15	Kadzi	17,5	Functional
9	ARDA	100	
Source: AARDS Mbire			

6.3 Irrigation Scheme Challenges
• Limited water supplies e.g. dams

6.4 District Challenges For The Crops
• Shortage of irrigation schemes in the district to address shortage of water for agriculture practices
• Drought occurrences
• Human and wild life conflict
• Pests
• lack of local formal markets with favorable and competitive prices
• Shortage of irrigation schemes

6.5 Crop Production Trends
• For the past 5 years, wards 7, 8, 10, 4, 17, 3, and 6 had good agriculture production.
• Wards 14, 15, 5, 13, 1, and 2 had poor agriculture production in the last 5 years.

Table 14: Cotton Production Trends

Cotton Farming Season	Yield Produced In Tonnes
2015/16	2 106.508
2016/17	10 238.929
2017/18	13 169.485
2018/19	5 081.036
Source AMA, 2022	

Cereal Production Trends (Sorghum)

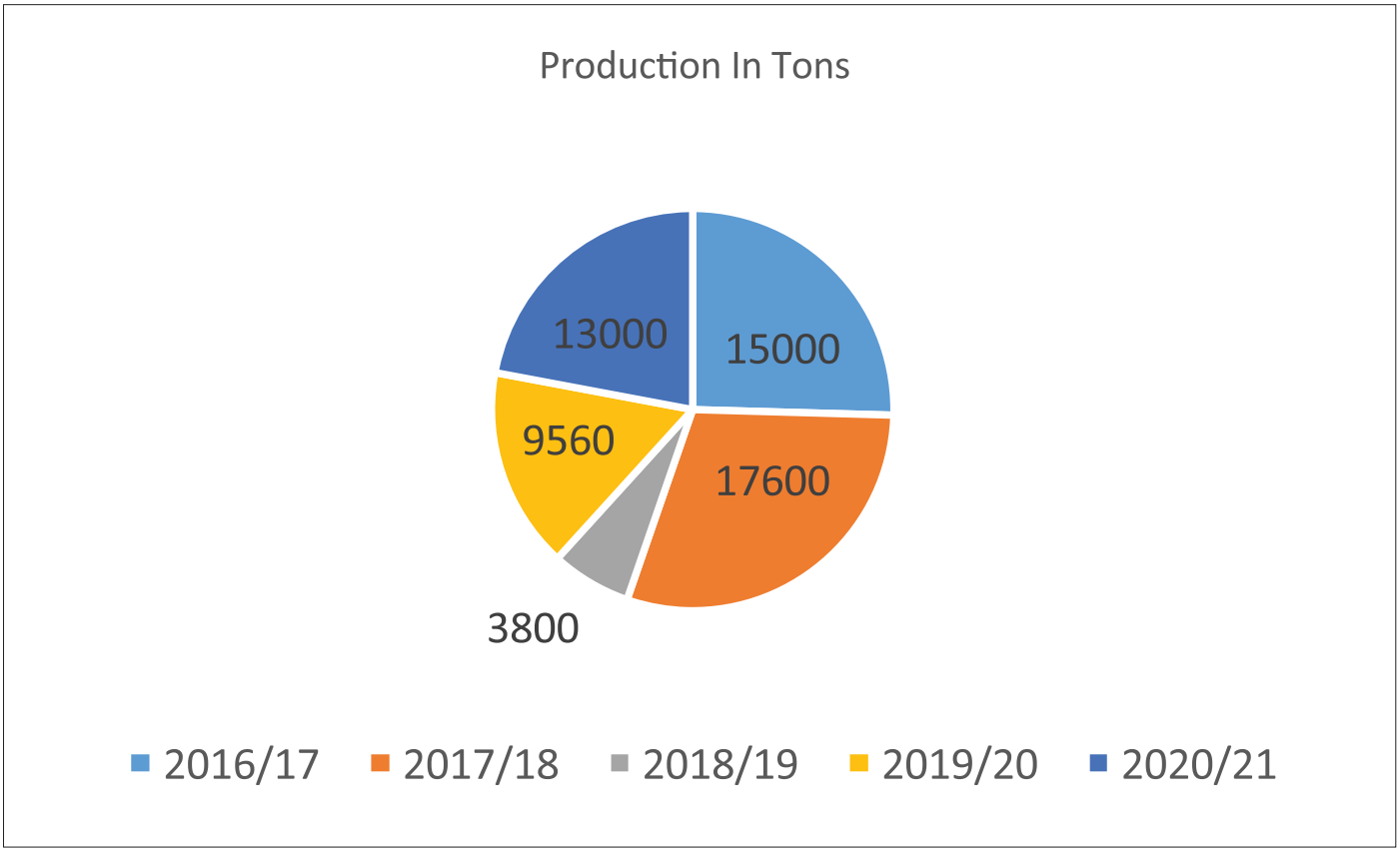

Figure 7: Cereal Production Trends (Sorghum) (Source: AARDS Mbire)

• Cereal production like any other crops is affected by amount of rain received, period of wet spell and length of dry spell.
• Highest production 2019/20 contributed to high rainfall received due to the cyclone.

Non-cereal cash crops produced/ward in order of importance
• Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 13, 14, 16, and 11 produce Cotton, groundnuts, cowpeas and flue –cured tobacco.
• Wards 6, 7, 12, 15, and 17 produce Cotton, cowpeas, groundnuts and Flue-cured Tobacco.
• Ward 10 produces cotton groundnuts, cowpeas and oriental tobacco and ward 8 produces cotton, groundnuts, cowpeas, sesame and Virginia tobacco.

7. Livestock

The district is endowed with four major livestock species that include cattle, goats, and sheep, poultry (Indigenous poultry, guinea fowl, and turkeys).

7.1 Main Types Of Livestock Ownership

Table 15: Livestock Holding Per Ward

Ward	Cattle Holding	Goats Holding	Sheep Holding	Chicken Holding
1	252	4872	252	5113
2	3192	5100	3192	7003
3	5735	9523	2989	10441
4	7877	19744	7653	12882
5	4539	5718	1053	6005
6	2236	4270	1056	3440
7	3936	4815	2806	4112
8	4629	8149	1037	9888
9	4113	4104	1905	4913
10	3176	3645	1163	12035
11	419	3311	44	4113
12	3468	6820	1123	4115
13	3860	4946	1042	6002
14	3777	8509	1565	7008
15	2060	4033	2016	3441
16	2005	2993	1170	3008
17	3887	4136	3230	6003
Source: AARDS				

7.2 Main Livestock Diseases

Table 16: Main Livestock Diseases

Livestock Disease	Wards Mostly Affected (Number And Name Of Wards Affected)
Rabies:	Nil
Newcastle disease:	All wards 1- 17
Anthrax	Ward 13 (Sapa) and ward 14 (Masomo)
Foot and Mouth:	Ward 4 (Gonono)
Lumpy skin	All wards 1- 17
Heart water	Ward 9 (Neshangwe, 10 Chitsungo, ward 14 Masomo)
Theileriosis	Nil
Foot rots	Wards 1-17
Source: DVS Mbire	

7.3 Dipping Facilities

Table 17: Dipping Facilities

Ward Number	Number Of Dipping Facilities	Number Of Spray Races	Number Of Plunge Dip Tanks	Number Of Spray Race Re-quiring Rehab	Number Of Dip Tanks Requiring Rehab
Mbire District	**32**	**4**	**28**	**3**	**10**
1	1	1	0	0	2
2	2	0	2	0	0
3	2	0	2	0	0
4	5	2	3	3	1
5	2	0	2	0	0
6	2	0	2	0	1
7	2	0	2	0	0
8	3	0	3	0	1
9	2	0	2	0	0
9	1		1 (for goats and sheep only)		0
10	1	0	0	0	1
11	0	1	0	0	0
12	1	0	1	0	0
13	2	0	2	0	0
14	2	0	2	0	0
15	1	0	0	0	0
16	0	0	1	0	1
17	2	0	2	0	0
Source: DVS Mbire					

7.4 Animal Health Centers

Table 18: Animal Health Centers

Number Of Functional Animal Health Centres	11
Number of Non-functional animal health centres	1
Number of Community Animal Health Workers/Paravets	10
Number of Community Animal Health Workers/Paravets	68
Source: DVS Mbire	

- Each animal health center covers 2 or more surrounding wards.
- Each ward has 4 PARAVETS who were trained by DVS.

7.5 District Livestock Holding Of Households

Table 19: Livestock Holding Capacities

	Number of Households	Who Own Cattle (%)	Who Own Goats (%)
All Households	22073	40	60
Farm Households	21630	40	60
Non-Farm Households	443	0	0
Source: AARDS			

7.6 Cattle Ownership

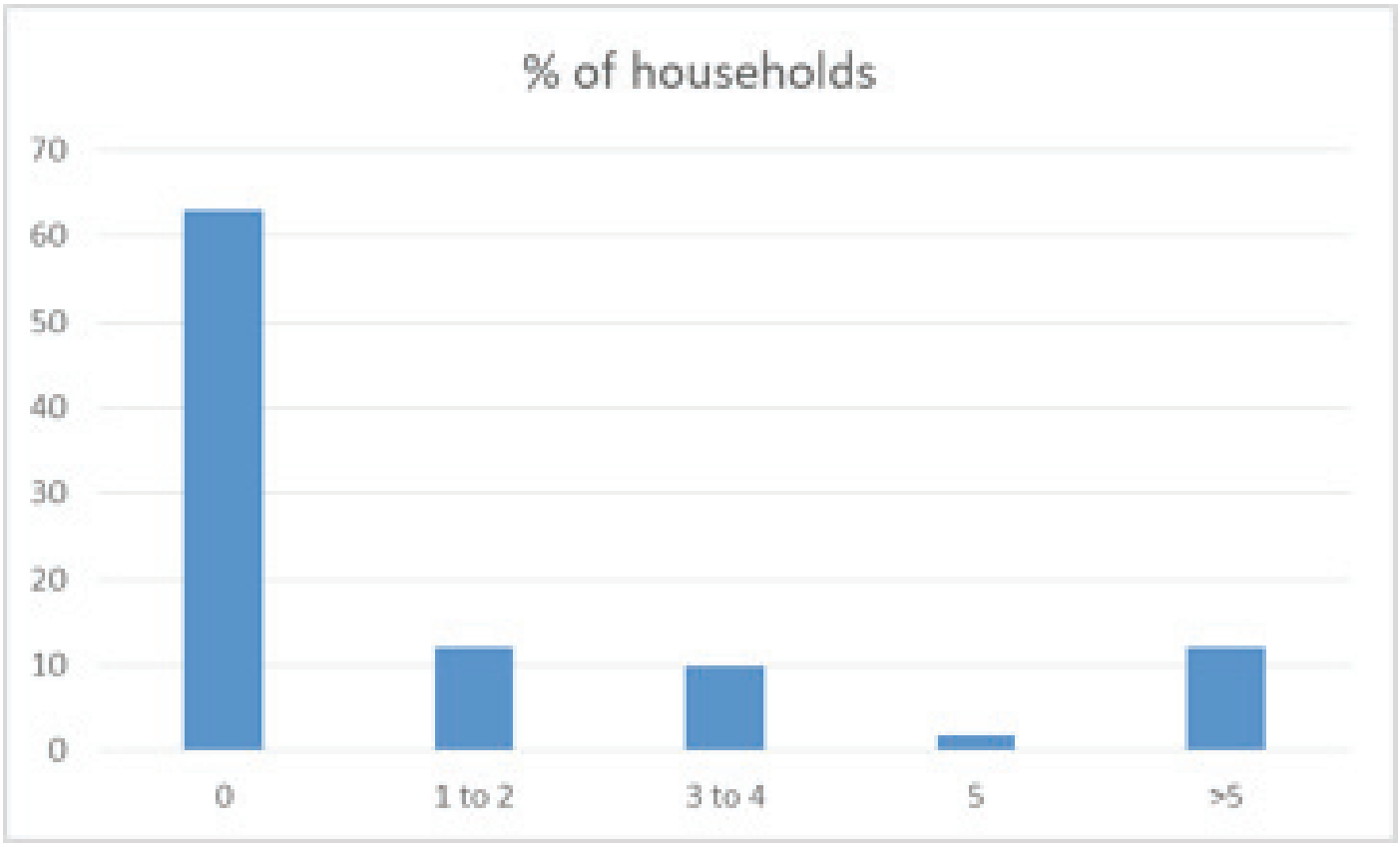

Figure 8: Cattle Ownership (Source: Agritex)

- Majority (63%) of the population does not own cattle in the district
- 14% of the population own 5 or more cattle
- 23% of the population own between 1-4 cattle

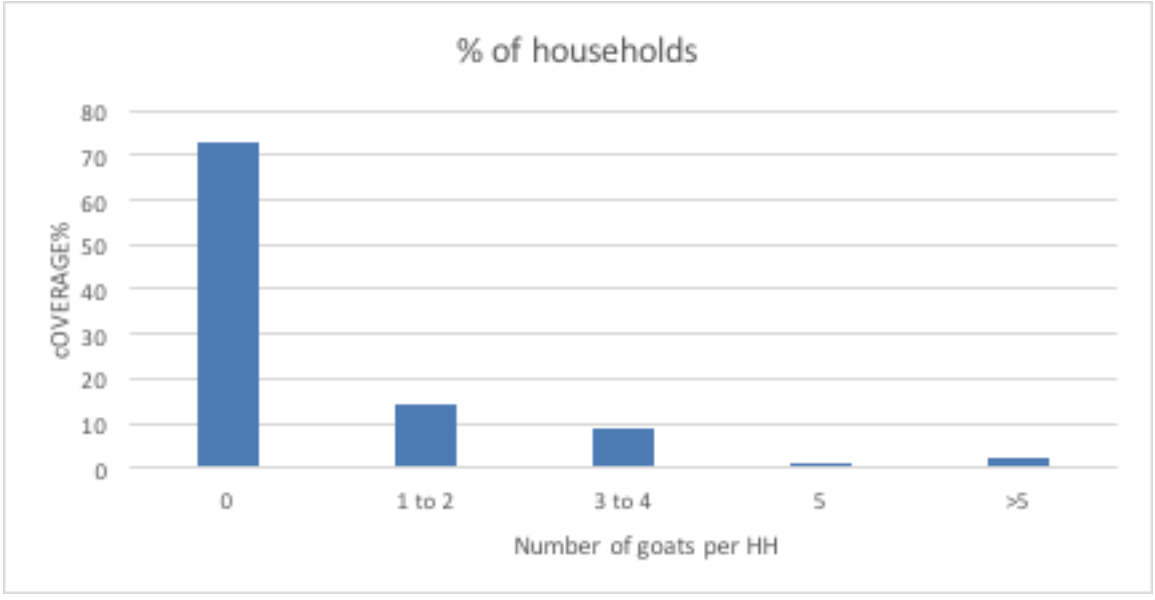

Figure 9: Households (Source: Agritex)

- 73% of the population does not own any goats.
- 24% of the population won between 1-5 goats.
- 2% of the population own more than 5 goats.

7.7 Other Livestock Establishments

Type of Establishment	Number of Establishments
Aquaculture (Capture fisheries) Zambezi River	1
Aquaculture (Ponds)	8
Apiculture	1000
Dairy Farms	Nil
Feedlots	5
Fodder production	250 ha
Source: AARDSMbire	

- Fish farming is slowly coming into the district but exposure to high ambient temperatures and replenishment of pond water is a challenge.
- Apiculture lacks proper management such as feeding and protection from predators (low production.)
- Feedlots are on the rise. Emphasis needs to be stressed on size of fatteners and cross breeding animals to improve meat to bone ratio
- Fodder especially leguminous crops have been greatly supported by partners and government through provision of seed. Expected hectarage is around 250ha of Velvet bean, Lablab and Sun hemp combined

7.8 Challenges Faced By Livestock Farmers

- Poverty deaths due to recurring droughts.
- Heat stress in dry season (October to December) coupled with poor watering of animals.
- Effects of global warming – proliferation of pests - ticks (heart water disease).
- Introduction of Anthrax by flush floods from neighboring district.
- FMD threats from neighboring Mozambique.
- Diseases infecting goats such as Lymphadenitis, eye infections in goats.
- Worm burden in livestock.
- Costs of accarides.
- Foot rot during the rainy season.
- Stock theft, farmers losing livestock due to theft.
- Lack of formal markets.
- New Castle Disease in poultry (from neighboring Mozambique)
- Poor fodder species – veld needs reinforcement to improve nutritive value of fodder

8. Markets

- Farmers send their livestock to Abattoirs in Harare mostly with very few consumed by local butcheries in all the wards.
- GMB is the dominating buyer for small grains.
- COTTCO and Southern Cotton Company are the buyers for cotton.
- The informal sector is the biggest market for all other food crops produced in the district.

8.1 Livestock Markets

Table 20: Livestock Markets

Livestock Type	Average Price 2016 (US$)	Average Price 2022 (US$)	Type of Market
Cattle	400	300	Abattoirs in Harare
Goats	35	35	Abattoirs in Harare
Sheep	50	50	Abattoirs in Harare
Pigs	90	90	Abattoirs in Harare
Indigenous poultry	5	5	Informed market Cuthouse
Source: AMA			

Mbire district is dominated by informal markets on both cattle and goats. The middlemen play a pivotal role in livestock markets but shortchange the farmers.

8.2 Crop Markets

Table 21: Main Markets For Crop Produce

Market Name	Ward Number	Commodity	Source Of Commodity	Availability
Cotton Company of Zimbabwe- Mahuwe	15	Cotton	Ward 15, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 5 and 4	Available
Cotton Company Of Zimbabwe –Mushumbi	9	Cotton	Ward 1, 2, 11, 3, 9, 10, 12 and 17	available
GMB Mahuwe	15	Small grains	Ward 15, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 5 and 4	Available
GMB Mushumbi	9	Small grains	Ward 1, 2, 11, 3, 9, 10, 12 and 17	Available
Source: Agritex				

Cotton production is on the downward trend due to poor and delayed payments, but Sesame is proving to be a cash crop for the marginalized farmers who sale their product in Mozambique. Olivine Zimbabwe once came to buy sesame but were paying in RTGs and farmers refused to sale their crop to them.

Ward	Maize Meal	Maize Grain	Beans	Other Small Grain	Rice	Maize Meal $/10kg	Maize Grain $/bucket	Beans $/500g	Other Small Grain $/bucket	Rice (per 2 kgs)
1-17	Jan-Dec	May- Jun	Not Available	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	$5	$5	$2	$5	$2.5
Source: AARDSMbire										

- In Wards like 4, 11, commodities like beans are not available.
- Rice is not available in ward 11.
- Generally for small grains, prizes rise after harvesting as the year progresses.

8.3 Labour Markets

- Farming in the district is nearly hundred percent subsistence as such the households make use of family members to carry out agricultural activities.

Table 23: Labour Markets

Labour Opportunity	Ward Offering This Opportunity	Wards Providing Labour	Proportion Of Households Accessing This Opportunity (%)
Communal farming sector	1-17	1-17	70
Government	1-17	1-17	4
NGOs and private sector	1-17	1-17	1
Artisans/ Skilled trade	1-17	1-17	7
Petty trading	1-17	1-17	17
Commercial farming sector	9	1	1
Source: DSW Mbire			

- Majority of the population in the district are in the communal farming sector
- Family labour is utilized communal agriculture production.

8.4 Market Seasonal Calendar

NB:

- In purple the months when high proportion of households depend on purchases for food after exhausting stocks from own production, during a typical consumption period
- In red the months when high proportion of households are facing hunger or food gaps during a typical consumption period

Table 24: Calendar Of Food Purchases-Typical Consumption Period

ITEM	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Food purchases												
Lean/Hungry Period												
Source: Social development, Agritex												

- Majority of the population get food products from purchases.
- From March to June households in the district escape the hunger period as they will be harvesting and relying more on own produced food commodities.

Table 24: Calendar Of Food Purchases-Drought Year

ITEM	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Food purchases												
Lean/Hungry Period												
Source: Social Development, Agritex												

- In a drought year, all the wards rely on food that is purchased.
- Generally, there is hunger throughout the year and households rely on social nets from both the Government and Local partners.

8.5 Market Challenges

- Wards like, Mahuhwe (15), Gonono (4), Chitsungo (10), Monozi (16) have mobile network challenges that negatively affects market communication.
- Poor road networks in all the wards affect market accessibility
- Transport costs to better markets is the greatest challenge resulting in promotion of middlemen who offer reduced offers for produce on sale.
- Local markets are not competitive in terms of better prices.

9. Common Hazards

- Drought
- Pests and disease outbreaks e.g. army-worm, Fall army worm ,anthrax, malaria and cholera
- Floods in the low lying and settlements along the river banks
- Veld fires in the game reserves areas
- Wildlife and human conflicts - domestic animals being eaten by wild animals and wildlife destroying crops.

Table 25: Periodic And Chronic Hazards

Hazards	Wards	Hazard Frequency	Socio-Economic Costs
Drought	1-17	Chronic	People are forced to sell their livestock at very low prices
Floods	2, 3, 7, 10, 16, 9, 12 and 13	Periodic	People are usually displaces and suffer agricultural losses.
Crop Pests and Diseases	1-17	Periodic	Poor yields resulting in unavailability of food
Human Wild life Conflict	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 11 and 15	Periodic	In some wards like Gonono (4), Mahuhwe (15) people are being killed by animals like elephants and crocodile
Malaria	1-17	Periodic	Loss of human life
Gullies	1-17	Chronic	They are a big threat to district infrastructure and land suitable for Agriculture
Cholera and Diarrheal	1-17	Periodic	Loss of human life
Livestock Diseases	1-17	Periodic	Loss of livestock
Veld fires	1-17	Periodic	Crop and livestock losses
Commodity price fluctuation	1-17	periodic	Reduction of buying poor of the local currency
HIV & AIDS	1-17	chronic	Loss of human life
Source: AGRITEX, DSW, Ministry of Health			

- Hazards affecting livestock production normally come from neighboring countries such as Mozambique, Zambia. These diseases include FMD and Newcastle.
- The district also has wildlife movements from neighboring countries which might also bring to nearby village's diseases e.g. buffalos.
- Cattle thieves also contribute to livestock movements resulting in the spread of diseases.
- Human and wildlife conflict is negatively impacting the agriculture production in the district
- The district is mostly affected by floods every year and occurrence of droughts is very common to all wards

10. District Development Priorities

Table 26: Ward Developmental Priorities

	Development Priority	Wards Targeted	Comment
1	Rehabilitation of roads	1-17	Due to recurrent floods, roads are being destroyed.
2	Irrigation Infrastructure development	1,3,9	There are proposed irrigation schemes for ARDA and the government, irrigation designs are underway .Draw card irrigation preparation in progress
3	School infrastructure Construction	2,511	These wards have no proper schools as pupils learn under trees
4	Investments into livestock production	All wards	There is need to improve livestock breeds e.g. goats, beef cattle by introducing superior genetics into the herd. Veldt needs reinforcement with leguminous plants and introducing better hay varieties into the veld which have higher nutritive values than the current local varieties.
5	To increase WASH coverage in the district	All wards	Improving water and sanitation issues

11.1 Food Insecurity trends

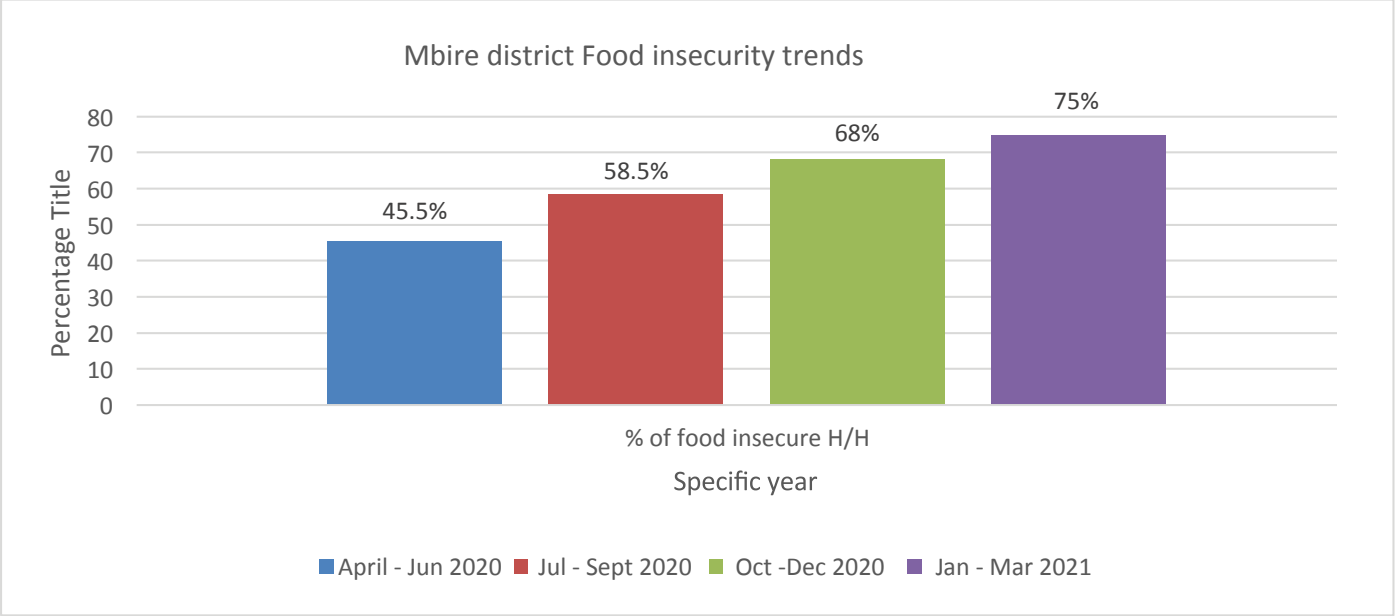

Figure 10: Mbire District Food Insecurity Trends (Source: ZIMVAC)

- The district is chronically food insecure as it has been receiving food assistance since 2006. Food insecurity for the district is always above the national average and the district is usually one of the most food insecure districts

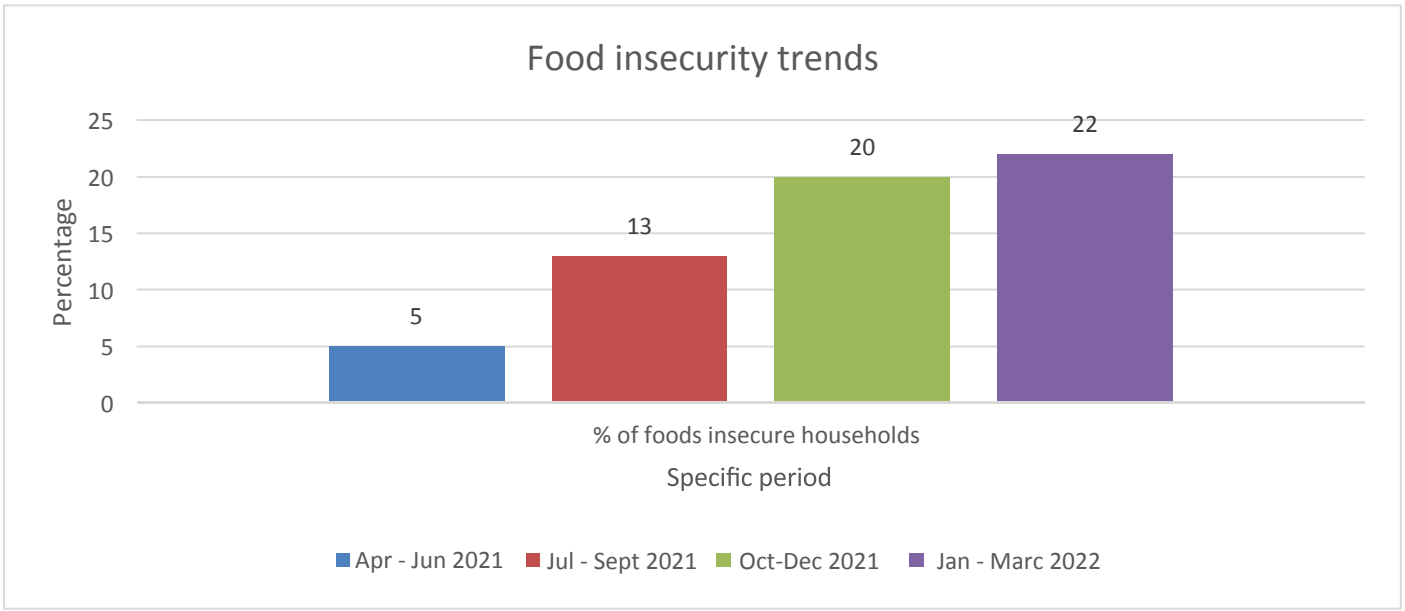

Figure 11: Food Insecurity Specific Period (Source: ZIMVAC 2020 & 2021)

- Food insecurity in Mbire decreased from 2020 to 2021. During the peak hunger period food insecurity decreased from 75% to 22% during the period under review while Mash Central Provincial Food Insecurity decreased from 58% to 19%. This decrease was caused by the increase in rainfall and Presidential Free Input Scheme (Pfumvudza).

11.2 Chronic and Transitory Food Insecure

Mbire has a 2016 estimated population of about 110 000 and according to the 2021 ZIMVAC Report, the breakdown of food insecure population as chronic and transitory is as shown below. Chronically food insecure population is estimated to be about 24130 and these are not able to meet their food requirements at any given moment without external assistance. 15 700 are estimated to transitorily food insecure and they are vulnerable to any shock and are also seasonaly food insecure. 18 500 are also considered to be food insecure after major shocks and are considered to be relatively resilient to minor shocks. About 41 700 are estimated to be resilient to shocks and are able to meet their food requirements at any given tiome througout the year.

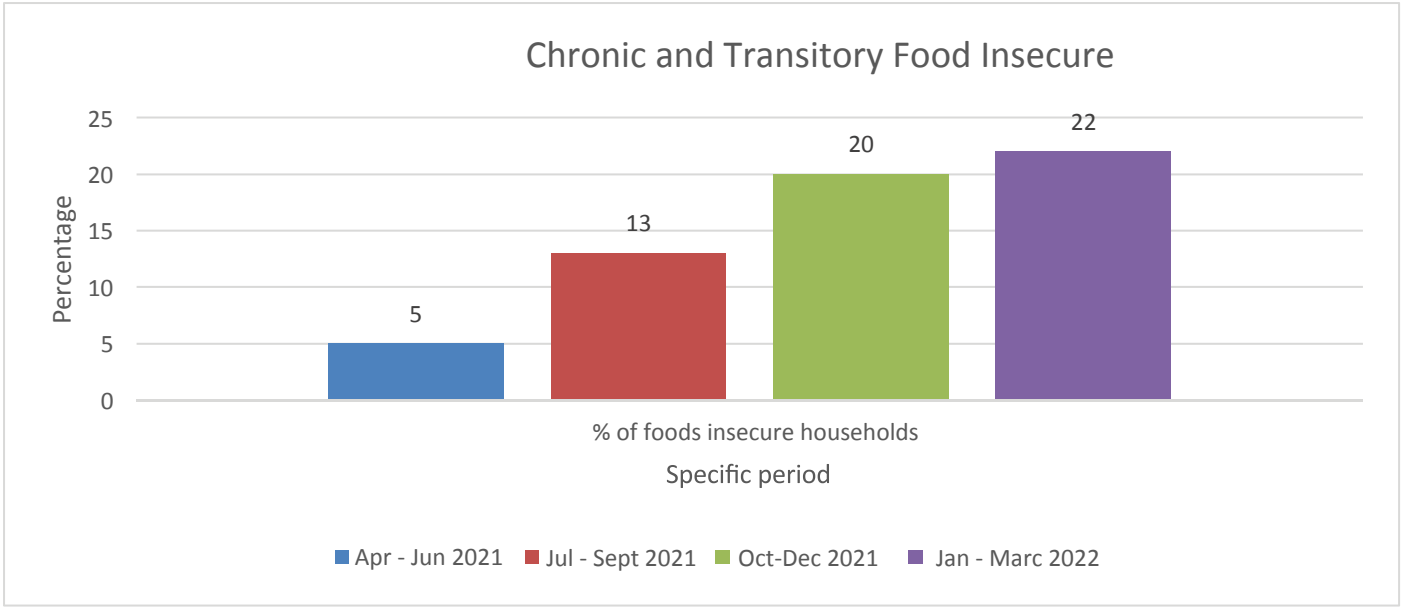

Figure 12: Chronic and Transitory Food Insecure (Souce: ZimVAC 2021)

Table 27: Food security status of the district

% Of Food Insecure H/H			Food Insecure Population			Cereal Requirements		
Jul-Sept	Oct- Dec	Jan-Marc	Jul- Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Marc	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-March
13	20	22	14219	21114	24130	526	781	893
Source: ZimVAC 2021								

11.3 Visible Vulnerabilities For The Poor Households

The following are the main visible vulnerabilities of poor households:

- Child and elderly headed households
- The chronically ill
- The widowed are the most affected by food insecurity due to lack of productivity within the households.
- Poor/food insecure households do not have livestock to fall back on in times of need and they usually depend on casual labour within and outside the district which perpetuate the food insecurity situation.
- Large families housing orphans

11.4 Coping Strategies

Besides receiving food relief from donors during the times of declared drought, the farmers have devised coping mechanisms to sustain their livelihoods. These include:

- mat-making
- beer brewing
- distress livestock sales
- gold panning
- Fishing and sale of fish from Mozambique.
- Communities near the game park have labour opportunities in the Campfire project.
- Some households travel to Guruve district to provide casual labour in tobacco and maize crop farms in exchange for cereals or cash. This is mainly done during the planting and harvesting period thereby affects these households'

11.5 Farming Activities.

- During desperate times consumption of potentially hazardous wild fruits, roots and tubers as coping strategy is high within the communities

Main Coping Strategies By Ward

Table 28: Food Security Copping Strategies

Ward	3 Most Common Coping Strategies		
	Coping Strategy 1	Coping Strategy 2	Coping Strategy 3
1	Reduction of meals	Consumption of manyanya tubers	Borrowing on credit
2	Consumption of manyanya tubers	Illegal salt mining	Travelling for long distances to Mozambique to buy bananas for sale
3	Travelling for long distances to Mozambique to buy bananas for sale	Reduction of meals	Distress sales of livestock at low prices
4	Distress sales of livestock at low prices	Reduction of meals	Early marriages
5	Harmful agricultural practices such as stream bank cultivation	Distress sales of livestock	Reduction of meals
6	Distress sales of livestock at low prices	Reduction of meals	
7	Skipping meals	Distress sales of livestock	Reduction of meals
8	Consumption of manyanya tubers	Dropping out of school to look for casual labour opportunities	Reduction of meals
9	Prostitution	Distress sales of livestock	Reduction of meals
10	Increased illegal gold panning	Increased stream bank cultivation	Reduction of meals
11	Consumption of manyanya tubers	increased temporary migration searching for employment	reduction of meals
12	Distress sales of livestock at low prices	Illegal sale of firewood	Reduction of meals
13	Distress sales of livestock at low prices	Dropping out of school to look for employment such as housemaids	Reduction of meals
14	Distress sales of livestock at low prices	Dropping out of school to look for employment such as housemaids	Reduction of meals
15	Distress sales of livestock at low prices	Illegal sale of firewood	Reduction of meals
16	Increased illegal gold panning	Increased stream bank cultivation	Reduction of meals
17	Distress sales of livestock at low prices	Reduction of meals	Illegal sale of firewood
Source: AARDS, DSW			

11.6 Seasonal Calendar

Land preparation starts soon after harvest for cotton to keep with the regulation requirements of the country. However, for other crops, preparation and early planting starts in November. Green leafy vegetable are produced throughout the year. During the dry season, vegetable production is mainly concentrated along the major rivers (Zambezi, Manyame, Musengezi and Mwazamutanda). Gold panning is normally done along Manyame River and is not active in February and March as a result of flooding. In a bad year, food purchases start in May mainly because the effects severe dry spells on crop production.

12. Poverty Ranking Of Wards

Table 29: Poverty Ranking Of Wards

Ward	Population	Production (Mt)					(Mt)			
		Maize	Sorghum	Pearl millet	Finger millet	Total Cereal	Requirement	Surplus/ Deficit	Poverty Levels	Ranking
1	3618	211	180	2	0	393	434	-41	Very High	3
2	5520	11	84		0	95	662	-568	Very High	1
3	6948	122	2261	1	0	2384	834	1551	Medium	17
4	8097	114	391		0	505	972	-467	Very High	2
5	6017	173	850	0	0	1023	722	301	Very High	5

12.1 Poverty Ranking Of Wards

Table 29: Poverty Ranking Of Wards (continued)

Ward	Population	Production (Mt)					(Mt)			
		Maize	Sorghum	Pearl millet	Finger millet	Total Cereal	Requirement	Surplus/ deficit	Poverty Levels	Ranking
6	4622	484	591		0	1075	555	521	High	9
7	2900	313	315		0	628	348	280	Medium	11
8	9555	640	541		0	1181	1147	35	Medium	10
9	5569	348	802	1	0	1151	668	483	Medium	13
10	7870	1756	579	26	0	2362	944	1417	Medium	16
11	1864	73	132	0	0	205	224	-18	Very High	4
12	7721	650	996	20	0	1666	927	739	Medium	15
13	6538	483	1681	3	0	2167	785	1382	High	7
14	2741	326	895		0	1221	329	892	High	8
15	5873	276	418		0	694	705	-11	Very High	6
16	3409	299	250		0	549	409	140	Medium	12
17	4338	176	782	2	0	960	521	439	Medium	14
Total	**93200**	**6454**	**11748**	**55**	**0**	**18258**	**11184**	**7074**		
Source: AARDS and Social Development										

12.2 Food Aid Trends

In most instances especially during the past years, the price of cotton has failed to sustain the farmers therefore the district has been dependent on food aid since 2002 to 2022. All wards during the times of declared drought have received food assistance.

12.3 Safety Net Food Aid Beneficiaries

In 2020 and 2021 WFP through ADRA implemented Food for Asset programme in wards 1 and 2 where 900 households participated that is 450 households in each ward. A weir dam was built in ward 2 and a garden and goat feedlot in ward 1. These households were given food monthly from October to March of the following year continuously. This was done for two years.

12.4 Aid By Social Welfare

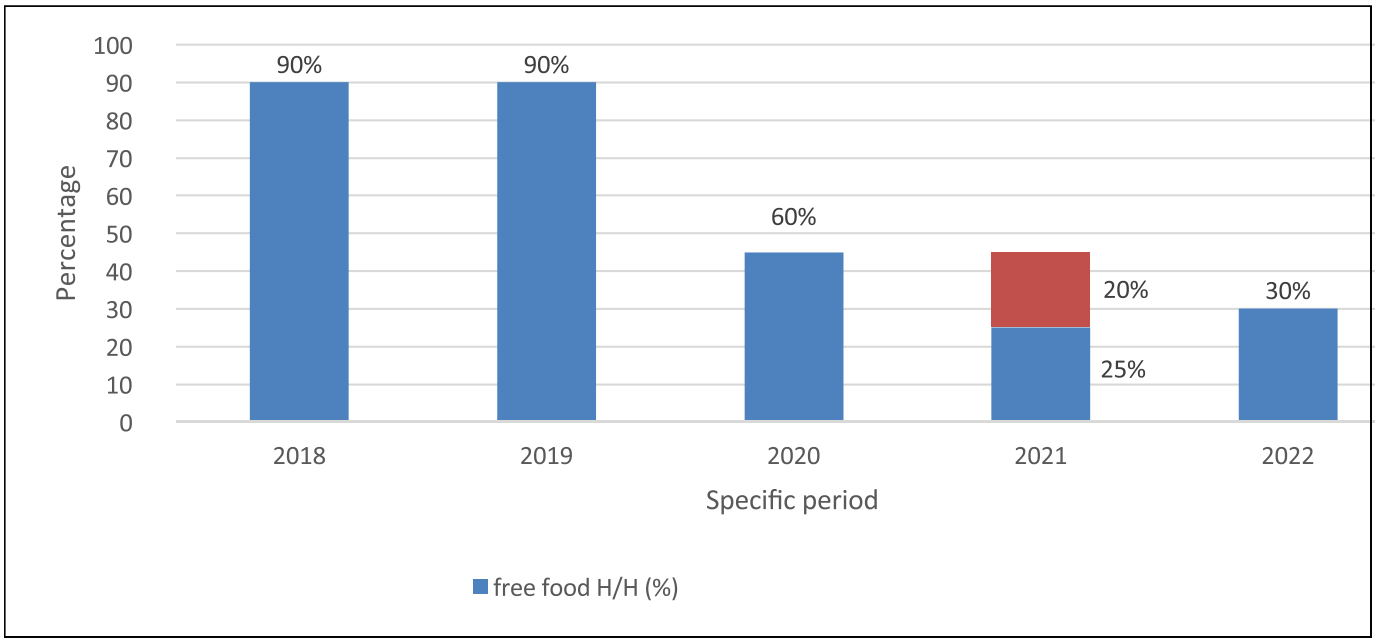

Figure 13: Aid By Social Welfare

13. Nutrition

13.1 Prevalence Of Malnutrition, Hiv And TB (District-Level)

Table 30: Prevalence Of Malnutrition, HIV and TB

Indicator	Prevalence (%)
Moderate Acute Malnutrition	3.2
Severe Acute Malnutrition	0.8
GAM	4%
Stunting	26
Overweight and obesity	2.2
Low Birth weight	11.9
Prevalence of HIV in women 15 -49 years	8
Prevalence of TB	34.1 per 100000 population
Source: NNS, DHIS-2, NNS (2018), ZimVAC (2020)	

- There has been an improvement in stunting rates from 28% in 2016 to 26% in 2020 according ' to ZimVAC (2020) and NNS (2018) reports.
- Of concern, is the rise in low-birth-weight resultant of poor maternal nutrition in the district?
- Moderate acute malnutrition for children under five is also on the rise
- Over the years from 2016, there has been a decrease in the prevalence of both HIV and TB in the district due to partner and government interventions for prevention, and management.
- Overweight and obesity also on the rise.

13.2 Feeding Practices In Children Under 2 Years Of Age

Table 31: Feeding Practices For Children Under 2 Years Of Age

Feeding Practice	Proportion Of Children Meeting Required Minimum (%)
Minimum Meal Frequency	71.1
Minimum Dietary Diversity	7.9
Minimum Acceptable Diet	2.6
Excusive Breastfeeding	76
Bottle Feeding	33.3
Source: ZimVAC, (2021)	

- Minimum acceptable diet and minimum dietary diversity is still low due to households facing economic challenges and experiencing climate change negative effects in crops and livestock production.

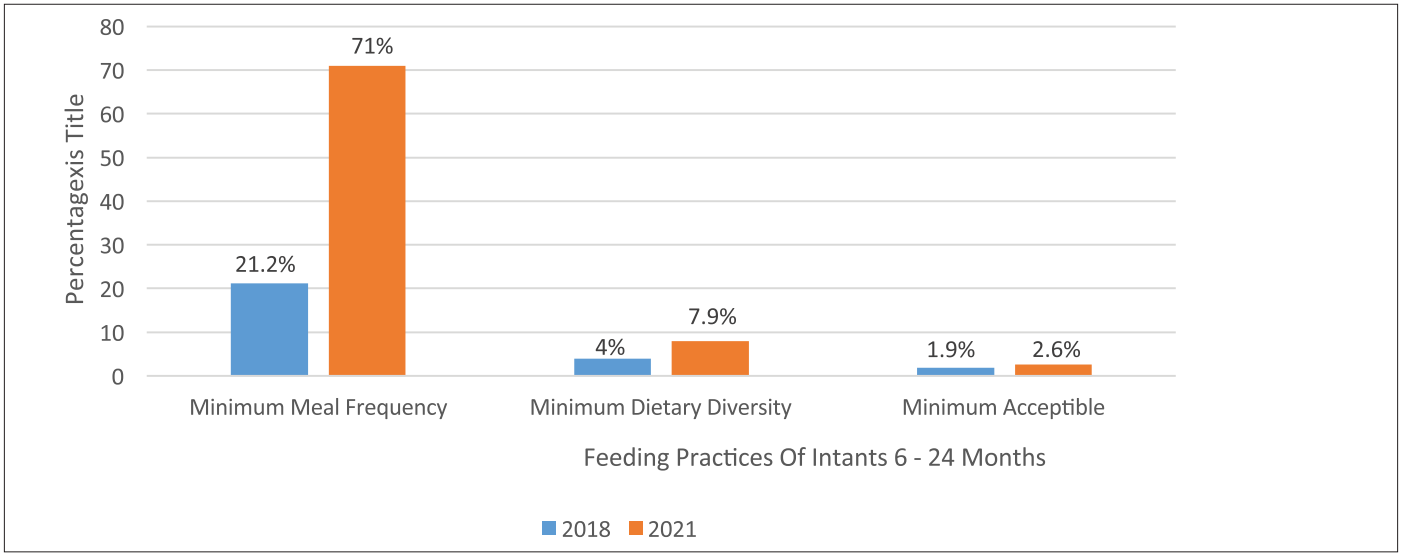

Figure 14: Minimum Acceptable Diet And Minimum Dietary Diversity (**Source: NNS (2018) and ZimVAC (2021)**

- There has been improvements in minimum meal frequency, dietary diversity and acceptable diet comparing to 2016.
- Despite the improvements, interventions addressing maternal and young child nutrition practices have over the past years decreased compared to 2016.
- Access to the recommended complementary food groups' remains a challenge as due to poverty.

13.3 Food Consumption Patterns By Women And Households

Table 32: Consumption Patterns Of Women Of Child Bearing Age

Indicator	Percentage (%)
Minimum Dietary Diversity - women	40
Iron rich foods	43.9
Vitamin A rich foods	14.9
Protein Rich Foods	48.4
Household Food Consumption Score	50 (Borderline)
Source: NNS, 2018, ZimVAC 2021	

- Food consumption patterns for women of childbearing age has improved much from 2016 as a result of nutrition sensitive interventions being implemented in some wards by both partners and the Government.
- Comparing ZimVAC 2020 and 2021, there has been an improvement in the consumption of iron, protein and vitamin A rich foods by women of child bearing age. This is mainly due to involvement of women in interventions like livestock production, community nutrition gardens and cooking demonstrations.

13.4 Top Ten Common Diseases In The District

Table 33: Top Ten Diseases In The District

Disease/Condition
1. Ari
2. Malaria
3. Hypertention
4. Diarrhoea
5. Injuries
6. Eye Conditions
7. Ear Condition
8. Asthma
9. Diabetes
10. Marasmic Kwashiokor
Source: DHIS-2

• The top common disease in the district is Acute Respiratory Infection.
• The top cause of mortality in the district is HIV/AIDS related illnesses.

13.5 Top 5 Causes Of Mortality

Table 34: Causes of mortality

Causes Of Mortality
1. HIV/AIDS Related Illness
2. Complicated Malaria
3. Malnutrition
4. Acute Diarrhoea
5. Neonetalbsepsis

13.6 Prevalence Of Mortality In Children And Women

Table 35: Prevalence of mortality in children and women

Feeding Practice	Percentage (%)
Infant Mortality	0.7
Child Mortality	0.8
Under-5 Mortality	1.1
Maternal Mortality Ratio	0.07
Source: DHIS-2	

14. Development Partner Profiling

Table 36: A Summary Of Ngos Operating In The District By Ward And Areas Of Focus

Organisation	Category (e.g. Food assistance, FFA, WASH etc.)	Area of intervention (more details on the activities undertaken by the NGO)	Wards of Operation	GOZ departments working with NGO	MoU Operational Period
Action Aid	Resilience Building	Food and nutrition security	1-17	Agritex, Health , Women affairs and Youth	2019-2022
CAMFED	Humanitarian	OVC, Girl child education Support (fees; Uniforms, exercise books, sanitary wear) Young empowerment Stake holder capacity building	1-17	Education, Agritex, Social Welfare, Women Affairs, MOHCC, Chiefs & ZRP	ongoing
LGDA	Resilience building	Capacity building for 150 women, Covid-19 response	1-17	Youth, Women affairs	2019-2022
ADRA	Health	Nutrition, WASH	1, 2, 3, 5 and 13	Agritex, Health, DDF	2019-2022
Help from Germany	Resilience building	Nutrition sensitive interventions	4, 3, 6, 9, 14, 15 and 17	Agritex, DDC	
NAZ	Nutrition Security	Nutrition specific interventions (care group model)	1-17	MoHCC	2022-2022
African wildlife foundation	Wildlife control	Human safety and wild life protection	1,2,4 and 11	Parks	ongoing
World Vision Zimbabwe	Humanitarian	Water & Sanitation, Education & Life skills, Health-RMCH & Nutrition, Child Protection, Emergency Relief, AP-15 years	1, 4, 5, 8, 15 and 17	Education, Health, DDF, Social Welfare, LA	2019-2022

15. Summary of Wards

Ward number	# of hhs	# of Health facility	Malnutrition (high, Medium, Low)		HIV/AIDS (high, Medium, Low)	People with Access to safe water	People with Access to	%Poverty level	No. of Poor hhs	No. of Non Poor hhs	Livelihood zone	Livelihood zone description	Agro-ecological zones	Sources of income	Coping strategies	Cereal production	Drought prone	Flood prone	Livestock ownership	% hh owning livestock	Average cattle, ownership	average goats ownership	average sheep ownership	average poultry ownership	Food Insecurity	ward priority
			Women	Children																						
1	837	1	Medium	Medium	Low	Low		87	598	88	All wards are in the Northern Zambezi valley communal livelihood zone	Zone located on boarder with Mozambique and Zambia. Substantive farming is dominant	Va	Crop and livestock sales. Casual labour, Remittances,	Stream bank cultivation. Reduction of meals, casual labour	Low	Yes	Yes	456	24%	5%	60%	1%	70%	3	Schools construction, road rehabilitation and health faci construction, Mobile phon networks
2	1464	1	high	high	Low	Low		84	984	213		Livestock & small grain sales	IV	Livestock sales, informal sector, trade Remittances,	Livestock sales				800	38%	15%	65%	10%	90%	1	
3	1647	0						85	1149	197				Casual labour Cotton & Groundnuts sales, Remittances,	Masau and livestock sales			No	900	49%	15%	45%	20%	80%	17	
4	1943	1	Medium	Medium	Medium			89	1408	182								Yes	1500	77%	80%	90%	3%	80%	2	Road rehabilitation, livesto empowerment, and schoo construction
5	1484	1	Low	Low	Low			82	1017	198				Casual labour Cotton, Livestock sales, informal sector, trade				Yes	1000	67%	60%	60%	15%	30%	5	
6	1104	0	High	High	Mediu	Mediu		88	785	106					Small grains, and livestock sales				600	49%	35%	54%	28%	15%	9	
7	698	0	high	high	Low	Low		89	443	126				Remittances, Small grains, livestock and Cotton sales	Masau and livestock sales				200	29%	40%	50%	18%	65%	11	Road rehabilitation, livesto empowerment, and schoo construction
8	2142	1	Medium	Medium	Low	Low		85	1491	257				Casual labour Remittances, Cotton & small grain sales	Horticultural gardens				1300	61%	64%	90%	3%	60%	10	Schools construction, roa rehabilitation and health faci construction
9	1366	1	high	high	Low	Low	Low	83	912	198			V	Remittances, Tobacco sales	Buying and selling	Moderate	Moderate		800	59%	35%	60%	10%	55%	13	Road rehabilitation, livesto empowerment, and schoo construction
10	1814	1						88	1305	176									900	50%	70%	64%	18%	78%	16	Schools construction, roa rehabilitation and health faci construction
11	406	1	Medium	Medium	Low	Low		85	284	49			IV	Crop, Livestock sales, informal sector, trade and Remittances,	Horticulture and buying and selling	High	No		90	22%	2%	50%	1%	10%	4	Road rehabilitation, livesto empowerment, and schoo construction
12	1825	1	High	High	Low	Low		88	1307	185									900	49%	50%	68%	15%	10%	15	Schools construction, roa rehabilitation and health faci construction
13	1533	0	Medium	Medium	Low	Low		83	1042	210		Crop sales, Livestock, cotton & small grain sales	V						800	52%	25%	37%	5%	23%	7	Road rehabilitation, livesto empowerment, and schoo construction
14	679	0	Low	Low	Low	Low		78	491	61		Crop sales							350	52%	38%	53%	21%	43%	8	Schools construction, roa rehabilitation and health faci construction
15	1357	1	Medium	Medium	Low	Low		82	918	185		Crop sales, Livestock, cotton & small grain sales							200	15%	30%	52%	17%	25%	6	Road rehabilitation, livesto empowerment, and schoo construction
16	763	0						84	523	101		Livestock, cotton & small grain sales					Mode		85	11%	11%	28%	10%	11%	12	
17	1010	0						85	708	121		Livestock & small grain sales	IV	Remittances, Cotton & small grain sales and livestock sales		Low	Yes		650	64%	46%	50%	10%	17%	14	Schools construction, road rehabilitation and health faci construction

District Team		
Charlse Srwerani	DA	Social development
George Nyarugwe	A\DDC	Local Government
Anesuishe Chimuka	DN	MoHCC
Nel Madhodha	DLO	AARDS

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MBIRE District

Food and Nutrition Security Profile

2022

WFP
World Food Programme