



Republic of Zambia

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT



DMMU



In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment Report

In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment Report 2025



Republic of Zambia

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT



D M M U

2025



Republic of Zambia



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FOREWORD



The Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU), in collaboration with members of the Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZVAC), conducts an in-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment every year after each rainy season. The ZVAC is a technical committee in charge of carrying out vulnerability and needs assessments (i.e., disaster-related assessments that inform disaster preparedness, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery), and its membership is drawn from different institutions, including government ministries and departments, the UN system, NGOs (local and international), and the private sector. To understand the impact of shocks (i.e., disasters/hazards) experienced during the 2024/2025 rainy season, an In-depth

Vulnerability and Needs Assessment (IDVNA) was conducted. The assessment made it easier to understand how the different communities were affected by the shocks they experienced. The goal of the 2024–2025 IDVNA was to determine the short-term requirements of shock-affected households and communities in order to rebuild livelihoods and return to regular life functioning. The assessment was carried out in 71 districts.

The 2024/2025 IDVNA report findings will help guide the government, as well as other institutions operating in the humanitarian sector, in the programming of humanitarian relief response and recovery to areas that were negatively impacted by the shocks experienced during the 2024/2025 rainy season. The results of this report will also help reduce the duplication of efforts and resource allocation in areas of response, as it will help improve coordination by addressing the 3Ws tool of humanitarian response (Who is doing What, and Where?) and informing policy related to resilience building of vulnerable communities in the affected districts. The assessment was successfully completed with the financial, material, technical, and logistical support from selected cooperating partners.

I want to thank the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats), the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC), Food and Agriculture Organization and other ZVAC members for their significant technical support in planning and conducting this study. Lastly, but not least, I want to thank our respondents for their invaluable participation throughout the years.



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ACRONYMS

BBB	Build Back Better
BOZ	Bank of Zambia
CARI	Consolidates Approach for Reporting Indicators
DMMU	Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EA	Enumeration Area
ENSO	El Niño-Southern Oscillation
EWS	Early Warning System
FCS	Food Consumption Score
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HA	Hectares
HDDS	Household Diet Diversity Score
HHS	Household Hunger Score
IDVNA	In Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Protocol
KM	Kilometers
MM	Millimeters
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MT	Metric Tonnes
NDP	National Development Plan
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
rCSI	Reduced Consumption Strategy Index
SCT	Social Cash Transfer
SST	Sea Surface Temperature
ZamStats	Zambia Statistics Agency
ZVAC	Zambia Vulnerability Needs Assessment Commitment

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024/2025 rainfall forecast projected that the neutral phase of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) would transition to a weak La Niña climate phenomenon, which is characterised by below-normal sea surface temperatures in the tropical eastern Pacific Ocean, resulting in normal rainfall over most parts of Zambia.

This forecast implied that the country would experience episodes of heavy rainfall and flooding in flood-prone areas. Onset of rain was expected in October in Western province, northern parts of Luapula and North-western provinces, while in other regions, rain was projected to set in by the end of November. Delayed onset was projected in the extreme north-eastern parts of the country, including Luangwa, Chirundu, Gwembe, and Sinazongwe districts by mid-December. The cessation of rain was projected to occur in March 2025 for the southern half of the country and by the end of April for parts of Eastern, northern parts of Luapula, and Northern provinces.

Therefore, an assessment was undertaken to establish the impacts of the 2024/2025 rainy season on communities and the economy, as well as the required actions for rehabilitation, recovery, and response. The 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment was designed with the objective of establishing the extent of the risks emanating from floods, prolonged dry spells, pest infestations and epidemics for the purpose of programming response and informing policy.

The Assessment covered seventy-one (71) districts in all ten 10 provinces and employed a combination of the Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) and the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification protocol (IPC) to analyse the data.

Results indicate that an estimated 9 million persons were assessed, with Southern province accounting for the highest percentage share of the total assessed population at 14.7 percent, while North-Western province accounted for the least assessed population at 6.6 percent.

The assessment revealed that the majority of households assessed in the 71 districts were male-headed (1,554,041), while the female-headed households were 714,008. The findings show that among male-headed households, the majority of the household heads were aged 35-64 years (59.2 percent). The young youths (aged 15 – 24 years) accounted for 7.1 percent, and the older (aged 65+ years) accounted for 7.9 percent. Among female-headed households, the majority of the household heads were aged 35-64 years, accounting for 57.1 percent. The older (aged 65+ years) accounted for 16.0 percent. The average household size for all households in the assessed districts was 4.5 persons per household.

Prolonged Dry Spells were the most dominant and widespread hazard, with a total average of 85.0 percent across all provinces. The hazard was particularly severe in Southern (98.8 percent), Eastern (96.8 percent), and Northern (93.9 percent) provinces.

Fall Armyworms were another major threat present in every province, with a national average of 38.2 percent. The hazard was especially prevalent in Northwestern (83.4 percent) and Eastern (54.5 percent) provinces, highlighting a consistent concern for agricultural production. Flash Floods were the third main hazard, affecting every province with a national average of 15.3 percent. The impact was particularly high in Lusaka (47.4 percent) and Copperbelt (34.0 percent) provinces, demonstrating a widespread and recurring issue across the country.

In terms of production, results indicate that the 2024/2025 agricultural season was characterized by high yields for most crops except for Irish potatoes and Cassava compared to the previous season. Maize production in the current agricultural season increased to 3,655,645.59 metric tonnes (Mt), representing a significant increase in production of 141.91 percent compared to 1,511,143.43 Mt in the 2023/2024 agricultural season.

Overall, the National Food Balance Sheet for the current agricultural season indicates that there are deficits in the major cereals and tubers, paddy rice at 55,138, wheat (preliminary) at 327,938 Mt, and cassava flour at 636,921 Mt, translating into possible import requirements. The deficit is attributed to the devastating effects of climatic hazards, such as prolonged dry spells, erratic or irregular rainfall, and a lack of adequate fertilizer. On the other hand, Maize recorded a surplus of 501,621 Mt.

As of June 2025, most households recorded increases in livestock population, such as Cattle (3.3 percent), Guinea Fowls (16.2 percent), Goats (11.2 percent), pigeons (4.1 percent), and chickens (3.5 percent). However, a decrease was recorded in the population of Sheep (17.3 percent), Oxen (6.4 percent), and Pigs (4.1 percent).

The assessment revealed that 72.9 percent of households accessed water from safe sources, slightly lower than last year, when 79.0 percent accessed safe water, while 26.6 percent of households used unsafe water sources. Among those accessing safe water, a larger share lived in rural areas (66.1 percent) compared to urban areas (33.9 percent). The main sources of safe water were boreholes (45.9 percent), protected wells (9.9 percent), and public taps (8.7 percent). For households using unsafe water, the most common sources were unprotected wells (15.9 percent) and rivers/lakes/streams/dams (10.7 percent). The least used source was water from kiosks and other vendors (0.3 percent).

With regards to Livelihood Coping Strategies, 37.2 percent of assessed households did not adopt any coping strategies, while 24.3 percent of households adopted stress coping strategies. The results further revealed that 11.8 percent adopted crisis coping strategies and 26.7 percent adopted emergency coping strategies. Northern Province registered the highest proportion of households adopting emergency coping strategies at 35 percent.

The results further revealed that of the assessed households, in the current period, no population was in emergency (IPC Phase 4 or worse). However, a population of 853,931 households representing 1,203,693 (11.9 percent) people were in crisis (IPC Phase 3 and above). In the projected period, about 2,064 households representing 9,907 (0.1 percent) people were in emergency (IPC Phase 4 or worse). Additionally, about 352,374 households representing 1,691,396 people were classified in IPC Phase 3 and above, representing 17 percent of the assessed population facing food insecurity. This indicates that the total number of households that are food insecure was 12 million in the current period and about 1.7 million in the projected period. The population in Phases 3 and 4 will require urgent humanitarian assistance to reduce food gaps, protect and restore livelihoods, and prevent acute malnutrition.

1. BACKGROUND

The 2024/2025 rainfall forecast indicated that the neutral phase of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) would transition to a weak La Niña climate phenomenon, which is characterised by below-normal sea surface temperatures in the tropical eastern Pacific Ocean resulting in normal rainfall over most parts of Zambia.

The forecast cautioned of episodes of heavy rainfall and flooding in flood prone areas and further highlighted that the onset of rain was expected in October in Western province, northern parts of Luapula and North-western provinces while in other regions the rain was projected to set by end of November. Delayed onset was projected in the extreme north-eastern parts of the country, including Luangwa, Chirundu, Gwembe and Sinazongwe districts by mid-December. The cessation of rain was projected to occur in March 2025 for the southern half of the country and by the end of April for parts of Eastern, northern parts of Luapula and Northern provinces.

Preliminary findings from the Rapid Assessments carried out in different regions of the country revealed that 88 districts were affected by dry spells, floods, and pest infestations across all ten provinces. During the 2023/2024 agriculture season, Zambia was hit by the worst drought the country had ever faced in 40 years which affected over 6.6 million people. The country received below-normal rainfall in most parts which led to the declaration of drought as a national disaster and emergency. The drought had adverse effects on key sectors such as agriculture, livestock and food security, education, health and water, sanitation and hygiene. It therefore became imperative to conduct the In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment to ascertain whether households had recovered from shocks experienced in the previous rainfall season.

The In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment was tailored towards ascertaining the transitory needs of communities hit by shocks in order to build back livelihoods and restore the functionality of life in the assessed areas. The Assessment equipped the National Development Plan (NDP) and the Vision 2030 with a broader goal of safeguarding the poor and vulnerable through enhanced Disaster Risk Management (DRM), strengthened Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and enhanced Early Warning Systems (EWS) for timely action and disaster preparedness for effective response. Goal number 1 of the Sustainable Development Goals is to “Eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere by 2030 and is a pivotal goal of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZVAC) stakeholders, which included the government, the UN system, non-governmental organizations, and technical agencies, conducted the assessment under the direction of the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU).

The concept of Build Back Better (BBB) in disaster recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction will be informed by information from the assessment and utilized for the programming of responses and informing policy related to resilience building in these vulnerable communities in the affected districts.

1.1 GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The goal of the assessment was to investigate and provide information on the extent of the risks emanating from floods, prolonged dry spells, pest infestations and epidemics for the purpose of programming response and informing policy.

1.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the assessment were to:

- Determine the typology and nature of the hazard that affected the livelihoods of the people;
- Determine the number of people, assets and areas affected;
- Establish the impact of the hazard on the livelihoods of the vulnerable communities; and
- Determine food and non – food relief requirements, if any.

1.3 RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT

Vulnerability in Zambia is characterized by a high incidence of poverty and exposure to several types of shocks mainly arising from hydro-meteorological hazards and their cascading effects such as epidemics and periodic incidences of macroeconomic instability. It is important to ascertain the extent of impact of various shocks on the population.

The In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment is a rigorous process used to appreciate the vulnerabilities and needs of people in regions affected by hazards. It assists in determining the extent of risk from various hazards and informs targeted responses for mitigation, preparedness, and recovery.

The 2024/2025 Zambia In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment, therefore, focused on prolonged dry spells, floods and other hazards which affected the country.

2.METHODOLOGY

2.1 STUDY DESIGN

The 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment (IDVNA) is an annual assessment that triangulates household sample surveys, focus group discussions and information from key informants. The household survey is an integral part of the assessment that is usually conducted in all 10 provinces, specifically in districts affected by disasters or hazards. The 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment employed a cross-sectional study that used a combination of Livelihood Zones and the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Protocol (IPC) which incorporated the Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) in estimating the extent of Food Insecurity in the country and vulnerability levels.

The In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment was conducted in three phases, namely:

- Problem analysis;
- Design of the Impact and Needs Assessment; and
- Analysis and compilation of the Report and development of the Recovery and Response Action Plan.

2.2 INTEGRATED CONTEXT ANALYSIS

The criteria for selecting the districts to be assessed utilized the Integrated Context Analysis with special focus on the following indicators:

Table 2.1: Integrated Context Analysis Indicators, Criteria and Variable Description		
Indicator	Criteria	Variable Description
Residual Moisture (WRSI)	The cut – off for selection was 20 mm for three dekads or more of the WRSI from November Dekad 1 through to March Dekad 3 of anything below mediocre.	Residual Moisture is less than 50percent (failure) and /or WRSI is between 50 – 60percent for dekads in November, 2024 to March, 2025 and mediocre.
Soil Moisture Index	Less than 10 – wilting; 10 – 50 – Stress; 50 – 90 – Satisfactory; 90 – 100 – Sufficient.	Less than 10 – wilting; 10 – 50 – Stress; 50 – 90 – Satisfactory; 90 – 100 – Sufficient.
Maize Production variance =)	Production Variance is either category 3 (severe) or Category 2 (Moderate)	1=Normal (<=20percent) 2=Moderate (21percent to 50percent) 3=Severe (>=51percent)
Extreme Poverty Incidence	Extreme Poverty Incidence is either Category 5 (75percent or greater) or Category 4 (61percent to 70percent)	Extreme Poverty 1=<=20percent 2=21percent to 40percent 3=41percent to 60percent 4=61percent to 70percent 5=>=70percent Moderate Poverty 1=<=10percent 2=11percent to 16percent 3=17percent to 20percent 4=21percent to 25percent 5=>=26percent
Frequency on Relief Pipeline (Last 10 years)	Category 4 (5 or more times appearing as food insecure) or Category 3 (3 to 4 Times)	Food Insecurity 1=District Never Appeared 2=District Appeared Two to Three Times 3=District Appeared three or four times 4=District Appeared Five times or more

2.3 PROBLEM ANALYSIS

The assessment determined the immediate causes, the underlying causes and the root causes of the identified problem during the problem analysis phase. This assisted in understanding the problem and was the bedrock for the design of the Assessment. The 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment was conducted using the following indicators.

Table 2.2: Indicators for 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment		
Sector	Pillar	Indicators
Hazard	Severity and Magnitude	Rainfall Performance Prolonged dry spells
Food Security and Nutrition	Availability	Production trends for the last two seasons (2023/2024 vs 2024/2025)
		Crop production
		Livestock (cattle and small ruminants)
		input Supply
		Carry Over Stocks
		Food Aid (Relief and Food Remittance)
	Access and Livelihood	Asset Ownership (Household Asset Scores) – Productive and non-productive
		Income Sources
		Food Sources (Own Production, Purchases, Remittance)
		Market assessment (Prices, Commodity Availability, Supply Chain)
		Labour Opportunities (Terms of Trade, migration)
		Protection (Social Cash Transfer, GBV)
		Coping strategies
	Utilization	Type of Water Sources accessed
		Type of Sanitary facilities accessed
		Nutrition (HDD, FCS)
		Disease Incidence (Human and Animal)
		Water Quality
		Distance to the water sources
		Nutrition (HDDS, FCS)
		Prevalence of undernourishment
		Prevalence of underweight children
		Global Hunger Index, which combines the two previous indices above

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	Availability	Percentage of households with improved water supply
		Percentage of households with improved sanitation
		Percentage of Households practicing hand-washing
		Water Quality
		Distance to the water sources
Human Health		Mortality caused by epidemic
		Child Mortality
Education		School Attendance (Absenteeism due to hazards)
Infrastructure		Assess wash-away culverts/ bridges
		Destroyed Kilometres of roads
		Destroyed houses
		Destroyed health centres
		Destroyed schools

2.4 MIXED METHODS WAS UTILIZED

The assessment utilized both quantitative and qualitative means of collecting data in determining the impacts of the hazards. Quantitative methods were employed to determine the numbers of the affected households, levels of loss and the requisite relief to ensure minimal disruption to livelihoods. Qualitative information was collected to triangulate the findings of the quantitative methods. Spatial data analysis was also employed in order to produce risk maps and seasonal risk profiles for selected districts.

2.5 QUANTITATIVE SURVEY METHODOLOGY

A two-stage stratified-cluster sampling method was employed for this survey. The survey covered a representative sample of about 10,650 households from the 71 districts spread across the ten (10) provinces of Zambia. The Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) for the survey were Enumeration Areas (EAs) drawn from the 2022 Census of Population and Housing frame. In each district, 15 EAs were selected and listed. In each of the selected EAs, 10 households were selected at random for interviews. A linear systematic random sampling system was used to select the 10 households.

2.6 SAMPLING FRAME

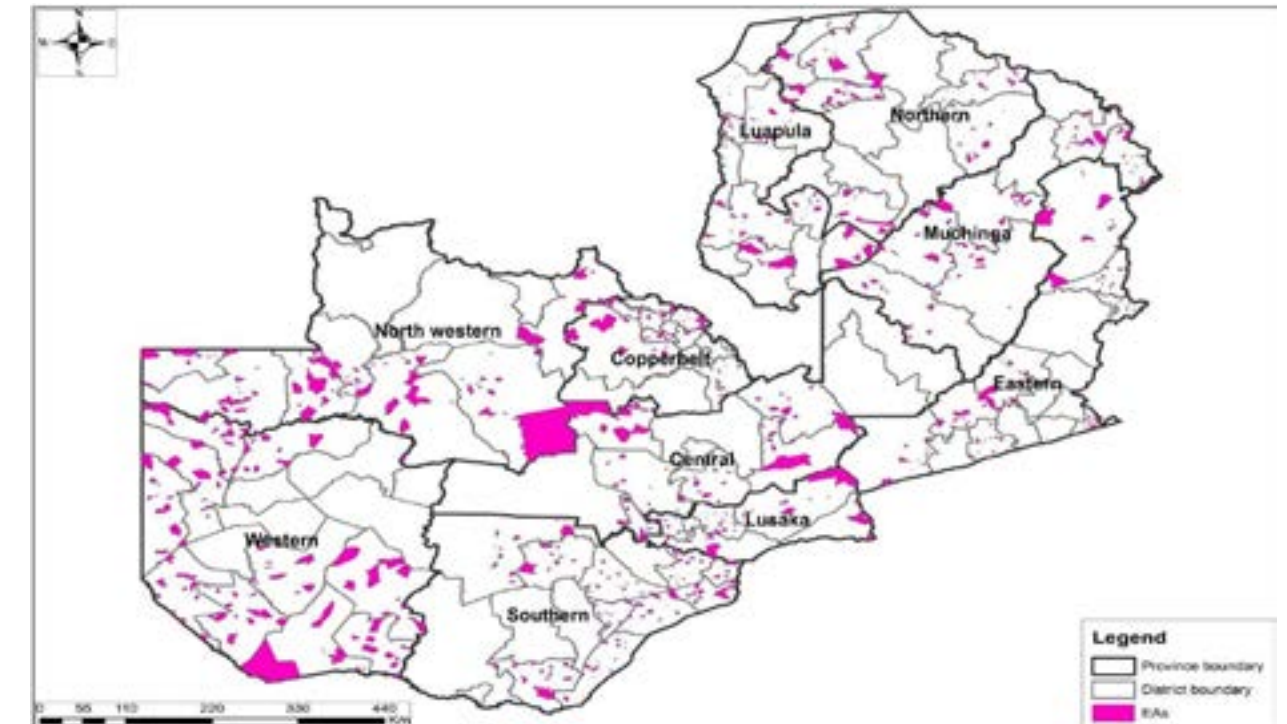
The sampling frame for the 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment was based on the 2022 census of population and housing. The country is administratively demarcated into 10 provinces. Each province in turn is subdivided into districts. In all, there are a total of 116 districts in Zambia. Each district is further subdivided into constituencies and wards. For statistical purposes, wards are subdivided into EAs. The EAs are geographical areas, classified as either rural or urban and are the PSUs on the 2022 Census Sampling Frame. The sampling frame contains information on the number of households and the population size for each EA. The demarcation was done through a mapping exercise before the census. The frame had a total of 36,770 EAs and 4,056,605 households. A listing of EAs in all 71 districts was the target population for the 2024/2025 IDVNA.

2.7 COVERAGE

The survey covered 71 districts spread across 10 provinces in Zambia that were affected by hydro meteorological hazards (prolonged dry spells and floods) and their cascading effects such as pests, and epidemics. Table 2.3 indicates the 71 districts which were assessed across the 10 provinces

Table 2.3: Districts Assessed across the 10 Provinces		
No.	Provinces	Selected Districts
1	Central	Chibombo, Chisamba, Mkushi, Luano, Ngabwe, Shibuyunji
2	Copperbelt	Lufwanyama, Chingola, Kalulushi, Masaiti, Mufulira
3	Eastern	Lundazi, Lusangazi, Mambwe, Nyimba, Chama, Chasefu, Vubwi, Sinda
4	Luapula	Mwense, Nchelenge, Chifunabuli, Kawambwa, Lunga, Mansa, Milenge, Mwansabombwe
5	Lusaka	Luangwa, Rufunsa, Kafue, Chilanga, Chongwe
6	Muchinga	Lavushimanda, Mpika, Kanchibiya, Shiwangandu, Isoka, Mafinga
7	Northern	Chilubi, Nsama, Kaputa, Mporokoso, Mungwi, Nsenga Hill
8	North Western	Chavuma, Kabompo, Kasempa, Manyinga, Mufumbwe, Zambezi, Mushindamo
9	Southern	Chikankata, Chirundu, Gwembe, Itezhi tezhi, Monze, Namwala, Pemba, Siavonga, Sinazongwe, Zimba
10	Western	Kalabo, Sioma, Lukulu, Mitete, Mulobezi, Sikongo, Mwandi, Senanga, Sesheke, Shangombo

Figure 2.1: Selected Enumeration Areas for the 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment



2.8 ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS

The tools which were employed in the survey included:

- Household Survey Questionnaires (CAPI);
- Listing form (CAPI);
- District Questionnaires (Form);
- Interviewers Instruction Manual;
- Tablets;
- Enumeration Area (EA) maps; and
- Maps With ME

2.9 SELECTION OF ENUMERATORS

"The 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment engaged enumerators comprising both experienced IDVNA data collectors and qualified individuals from the open market who met the selection requirements. Data collection utilized tablets loaded with CS-Entry as the main Computer Assisted Programme Interview (CAPI) programme.

2.10 OUTPUTS OF THE ASSESSMENT

The following were the intended outputs from the assessment:

- The 2024/2025 In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment Report;
- Response and Recovery Action Plan;
- Risk Maps/profiles for selected districts;
- Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) Summary Report; and
- The 2024/2025 Humanitarian Relief Implementation Plan.

3. CONTEXT/SITUATION ANALYSIS

3.1 THE ECONOMY

According to the 2024 Annual Economic Reports released by both the Bank of Zambia and the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Zambia's economy faced significant headwinds in 2024 amid global uncertainties and domestic challenges. Globally, economic growth slowed to 3 percent in 2024, down from 3.2 percent in 2023, as inflationary pressures, geopolitical tensions, and tightening financial conditions persisted. Despite this, some resilience was observed in both advanced and emerging economies, including Zambia, although vulnerabilities remained significant.

Domestically, Zambia recorded a real GDP growth rate of 4.6 percent in 2024, a deceleration from 5.4 percent in 2023. This slowdown reflects the compounded impact of climate-related shocks, particularly drought, reduced mining output, and persistent structural constraints. The sectors that contributed positively to growth in 2024 included transport and logistics, information and communications technology, financial services, and construction, as well as a modest recovery in the hospitality and education sectors. However, the agriculture and mining sectors—traditionally key contributors to Zambia's economy registered negative growth, with agriculture severely impacted by drought conditions during the 2023/2024 farming season and mining hampered by operational disruptions and subdued global copper prices.

The current account balance continued its downward trend, remaining in deficit in 2024, primarily due to declining copper export volumes and value, for the third consecutive year. The Kwacha remained under significant pressure throughout the year, with depreciation driven by reduced export earnings, increased import demand, and constrained foreign exchange inflows. This currency weakening, in turn, exerted upward inflation pressure, despite the tight monetary policy maintained by the Bank of Zambia and continued fiscal discipline by the Government of the Republic of Zambia.

As a result, inflation remained elevated, ending 2024 at 13.9 percent, up from 13.1 percent in December 2023 and well above the BoZ's medium-term target of 6–8 percent. Major contributors to inflation included the persistently weak Kwacha, increased prices for maize grain and mealie meal due to constrained domestic supply, higher fuel and electricity prices, and transportation costs. The cost of living for most Zambians continued to rise, especially for low-income households in both urban and rural areas.

The agriculture sector, which supports livelihoods for about 70 percent of the rural population, faced a major setback during the 2023/2024 farming season. Prolonged dry spells and inadequate rainfall led to reduced crop production, especially for staple foods such as maize, cassava, and sweet potatoes. The decline in agricultural output has worsened rural household income and increased food insecurity and food prices nationwide. Over 50 percent of the

population depends on smallholder agriculture for food and income, highlighting the urgent need for climate-resilient investments and targeted support.

By early 2025, food insecurity remains a critical issue, driven by climate-induced crop failures, rising food prices, and limited purchasing power among vulnerable groups. The outlook for 2025 emphasizes the need for urgent strategic planning, investment in climate-smart agriculture, and efforts to diversify the economy, not only to ensure food security but also to promote inclusive and sustainable growth.

3.2 FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

3.2.1 Crop Production

The 2024/2025 agricultural season faced several challenges, affecting crop production across various regions, despite all the provinces having done fairly well. Key factors included adverse weather conditions, pest infestations, and market dynamics. Tubers such as Irish Potatoes and Cassava experienced decreased yields due to a combination of factors, including Prolonged dry spells and pest infestation in some parts of the country.

The 2024/2025 agricultural season was characterized by high yields for most crops except for Irish potatoes and Cassava compared to the previous season. Despite the area planted for Maize grain experiencing a reduction in area planted by 1.67, percent expected production and yield had a significant increase. Other crops such as sorghum, rice, sunflower, groundnuts, soya beans, and cowpeas also had a significant change in both expected production and yield, as can be seen in Table 3.1 below.

At the national level, the total area planted of Maize (for grain) in the 2023/2024 agricultural season reduced from 2,209,160.39 Ha to 2,172,268.29 Ha in the 2024/2025 agricultural season, representing a 1.67 percent change. The area that was expected to be harvested in the previous season was 684,402 Ha, compared to 1,690,797.38 Ha in the 2024/2025 agricultural season, representing a significant percent change of 147.05 percent.

The total forecasted production of maize in the current agricultural season is 3,655,645.59 metric tonnes (Mt), representing a significant increase in production of 141.91 percent compared to 1,511,143.43 Mt in the 2023/2024 agricultural season. The average yield in the previous season was estimated at 0.68 metric tonnes per hectare (Mt/Ha) and 1.68 Mt/Ha projected in the 2024/2025 agricultural season, representing a significant increase of 146.02 percent.

The total area planted of Rice in the 2023/2024 agricultural season was 86,832 Ha compared to 37,789.29 Ha in the 2024/2025 agricultural season, representing a significant reduction of 56.48 percent. The area that was expected to be harvested in the previous season was 23,162 Ha compared to 32,223.89 Ha in the 2024/2025 agricultural season, representing a substantial increase of 39.12 percent. The total expected crop production in the previous season was 24,566 Mt compared to 39,457.11 Mt projected in the 2024/2025 agricultural season representing a substantial increase of 60.62 percent. The average yield in the current season increased by 269.07 percent (1.04 Mt/Ha) compared to the previous season's estimate at 0.28 Mt/Ha.

The General picture for most crops including Groundnuts, Sorghum, Millet, Soya beans, Sun Flower, Sweet potatoes, and Cowpeas are forecast to increase in production at 16.23 percent, 381.51 percent, 56.81 percent, 70.18 percent, 160.63 percent, 69.57 percent, and 464.37 percent, respectively. See details in Table 3.1. below.

Table 3.1: National level- Area Planted (Ha), Area to be Harvested (Ha), Expected Production (Mt), Yield (Mt/Ha), and Sales (Mt) by Crop: 2023/2024 Agricultural Season VS 2024/2025 Agricultural Season

Crop	Area Planted (Ha)			Expected Area Harvested (Ha)			Expected Production (Mt)			Expected Yield (Mt/Ha)		
	CFS2024	CFS2025	percent change	CFS2024	CFS2025	percent change	CFS2024	CFS2025	percent change	CFS2024	CFS2025	percent change
Maize	2,209,160.39	2,172,268.29	-1.67	684,402	1,690,797.38	147.05	1,511,143.43	3,655,645.59	141.91	0.68	1.68	146.02
Sorghum	42,371.53	54,891.18	29.55	4,524	27,759.09	513.54	2,864.90	13,794.80	381.51	0.07	0.25	271.69
Rice	86,832.28	37,789.29	-56.48	23,162	32,223.89	39.12	24,565.61	39,457.11	60.62	0.28	1.04	269.07
Millet	41,712.26	63,954.96	53.32	18,220	43,281.96	137.55	15,389.58	24,132.88	56.81	0.37	0.38	2.28
Sunflower	463,106.98	360,521.49	-22.15t	103,777	278,562.24	168.42	44,128.43	115,011.17	160.63	0.1	0.32	234.79
Groundnuts (Unshelled)	353,441.11	170,753.19	-51.69	129,357	147,366.54	13.92t	87,655.18	101,884.01	16.23	0.25	0.6	140.59
Soya beans	376,051.46	294,184.22	-21.77	157,796	257,997.48	63.5	169,699.71	288,793.17	70.18	0.45	0.98	117.54
Irish potatoes	2,400.64	2,041.91	-14.94	1,631	1,875.72	15.03	34,152.85	21,532.11	-36.95	14.23	10.55	-25.88
Mixed beans	85,673.95	80,391.18	-6.17t	69,668	70,010.26	0.49	38,937.43	38,381.99	-1.43	0.45	0.48	5.05
Bambara nuts	7,810.27	2,156.97	-72.38	2,897	1,746.33	-39.72	2,154.26	1,210.72	-43.8	0.28	0.56	103.5
Cow peas	42,793.21	32,724.80	-23.53	3,584	21,813.63	508.59	1,082.67	6,110.20	464.37	0.03	0.19	638
Sweet potatoes	49,199.74	56,140.53	14.11	29,784	50,224.16	68.63	83,542.38	141,664.89	69.57	1.7	2.52	48.61
Cassava	267,331.46	286,831	7.29	267,331	286,831	7.29	3,127,778.10	3,167,650	1.27	11.7	11.04	-5.61
Wheat	28,051.74	17,822.26	-36.47	28,052	17,812.26	-36.5	198,886.38	129,523.51	-34.88	7.09	7.27	2.5
Barley	1,261.03	259	-79.46	1,261	259	-79.46	8,153.61	2,016.00	-75.27	6.47	7.78	20.38

Source: Crop Forecast Survey - Ministry of Agriculture/ZamStats, 2025

3.2.2 Food Availability

The 2024/2025 agricultural marketing season's food availability situation indicates a significant decline in the production of cereals and tubers. The total maize expected to be produced including carry-over stocks accounts for 4,040,645 Mt maize available for consumption. These stocks are adequate for both human consumption and industrial use as can be seen in Table 3.2. The food balance sheet below shows that there are deficits on the major cereals and tubers, with Paddy Rice standing at 55,138 Mt, preliminary wheat at 327,938 Mt, and cassava flour at 636,921 Mt. The devastating effects of climatic hazards, such as prolonged dry spells and floods experienced in the 2024/2025 agricultural season, which reduced crop production, caused these deficits.

The total maize equivalent is estimated at 5.6 million metric tonnes, translating into a deficit of 465,871 metric tonnes of all cereals and tubers. The national (CEREALS AND TUBERS) Food Balance for Zambia for the 2024/2025 Agricultural Marketing Season shows that the country is food secure, as can be seen in Table 3.2. below.

Table 3.2: National (Cereals and Tubers) Food Balance for Zambia for the 2025/2026 Agricultural Marketing Season Based on the 2024/2025 MoA/ZAMSTATS Crop Forecasting Survey and MoA/ZAMSTATS/Private Sector Utilization Estimates (MT)									
	FBS Components		Maize	Paddy Rice	Wheat (Preliminary)	Sorghum & Millet	Sweet and Irish potatoes	Cassava flour	Total (maize equivalent)
A.	Availability: (i) Opening stocks (1st May 2025)	1/	384,999	649	59,273	2,335	0	0	446,310
	(ii) Total production (2024/25)	2/	3,655,646	39,457	129,524	37,928	163,197	791,913	4,644,995
	Total availability		4,040,645	40,106	188,796	40,263	163,197	791,913	5,091,305

B.	Requirements: (i) Staple food requirements: Human consumption	3/	2,029,886	91,772	509,979	33,784	155,037	1,341,752	3,948,346
	Strategic Reserve Stocks (net)	4/	500,000	0	0	0	0	0	500,000
	(ii) Industrial requirements: Stockfeed	5/	413,811	0	0	0	0	41,974	452,743
	Breweries	6/	151,538	0	0	4,000	0	5,513	160,535
	Grain retained for seed and other uses	7/	11,006	1,499	280	582	0	0	13,303
	(iii) Losses	8/	182,782	1,973	6,476	1,896	8,160	39,596	232,250
	(iv) Structural cross-border trade	9/	250,000						250,000
	Total requirements		3,539,024	95,243	516,734	40,263	163,197	1,428,834	5,557,177
C.	Surplus/deficit (A-B)	10/	501,621	-55,138	-327,938	0	0	-636,921	-465,871
D.	Potential Commercial imports / exports	11/	-501,621	55,138	327,938	0	0	0	0
E.	Food aid import requirements	12/	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

4. SOCIO DEMOGRAPHICS

4.1 Introduction

This section details the socio-demographics of the population targeted during the 2024/2025 In-depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment. It gives highlights on the assessed population size, composition and structure by district, province, population, and marital status of the household heads, and the dependency ratio.

4.2 POPULATION

Table 4.1 shows the number and percentage distribution of the population by sex and province. An estimate of 9 million persons were assessed in the 2024/2025 In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment. Southern Province accounted for the highest percentage share of the total assessed population at 14.7 percent while North-Western province accounted for the least assessed population at 6.6 percent. See for the detailed distribution by district in the Annex.

Province	Male (Percent)	Female (Percent)
Central	11.5	11.4
Copperbelt	10.3	10.5
Eastern	11.8	11.6
Luapula	12.1	12.6
Lusaka	10.6	10
Muchinga	6.6	6.9
Northern	8.2	7.6
North-western	6.3	7
Southern	14.9	14.5
Western	7.8	8

Figure 4.1. shows the percentage distribution of the population by age group categorized by sex. In terms of the population structure, the assessed districts were characterized with a young population with more than 50 percent of the population below the age of 35 years old. The population under 5 years old accounted for 9.8 percent, while those aged 65 years and above accounted for 3.3 percent.

Figure 4.1: Percentage Distribution of the Population by Age Group

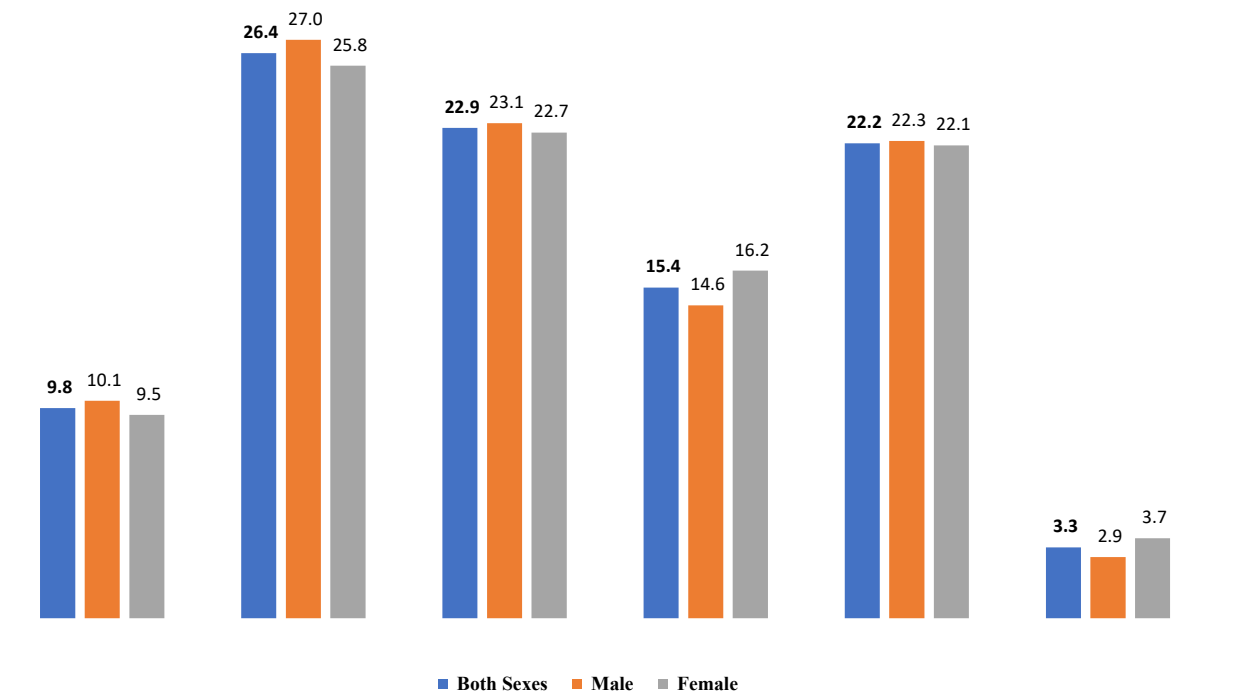
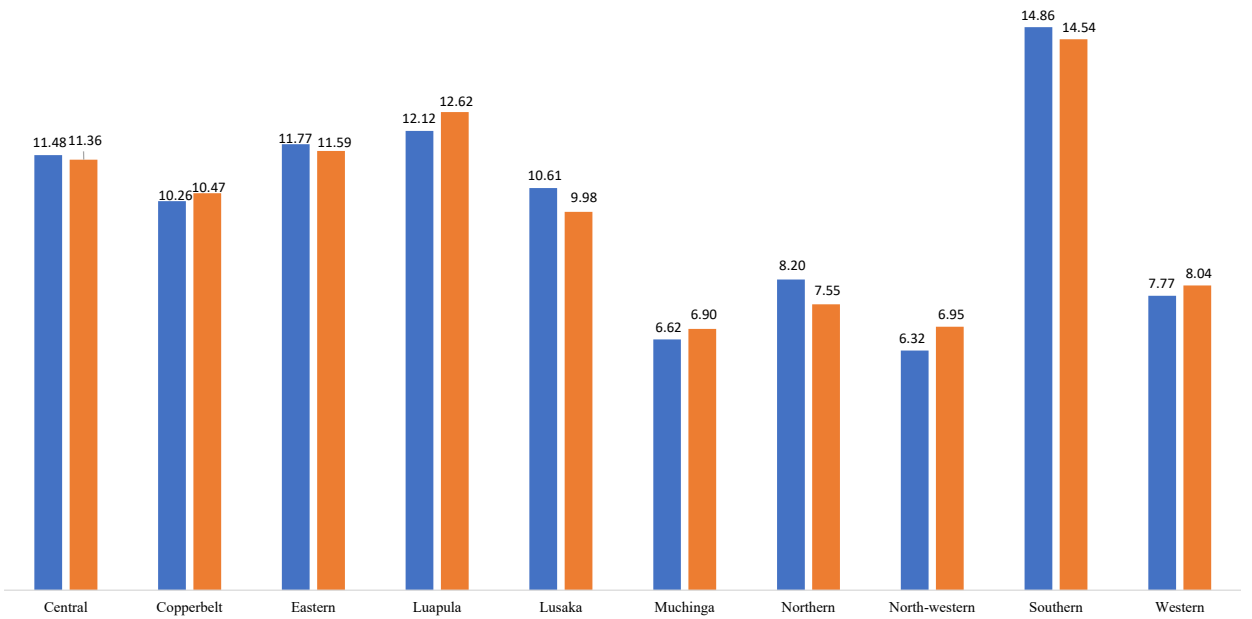


Figure 4.2. shows the percentage distribution of the population by sex and province. Of the total assessed population, on average more males were involved in the assessment with Southern Province recording the highest at 14.9 percent. Luapula and Southern provinces were the only provinces that recorded a higher female population at 12.7 percent and 14.5 percent, respectively.

Figure 4.2: Percentage Distribution of the Population by Sex and Province



4.3 HOUSEHOLDS AND HEADSHIP STATUS

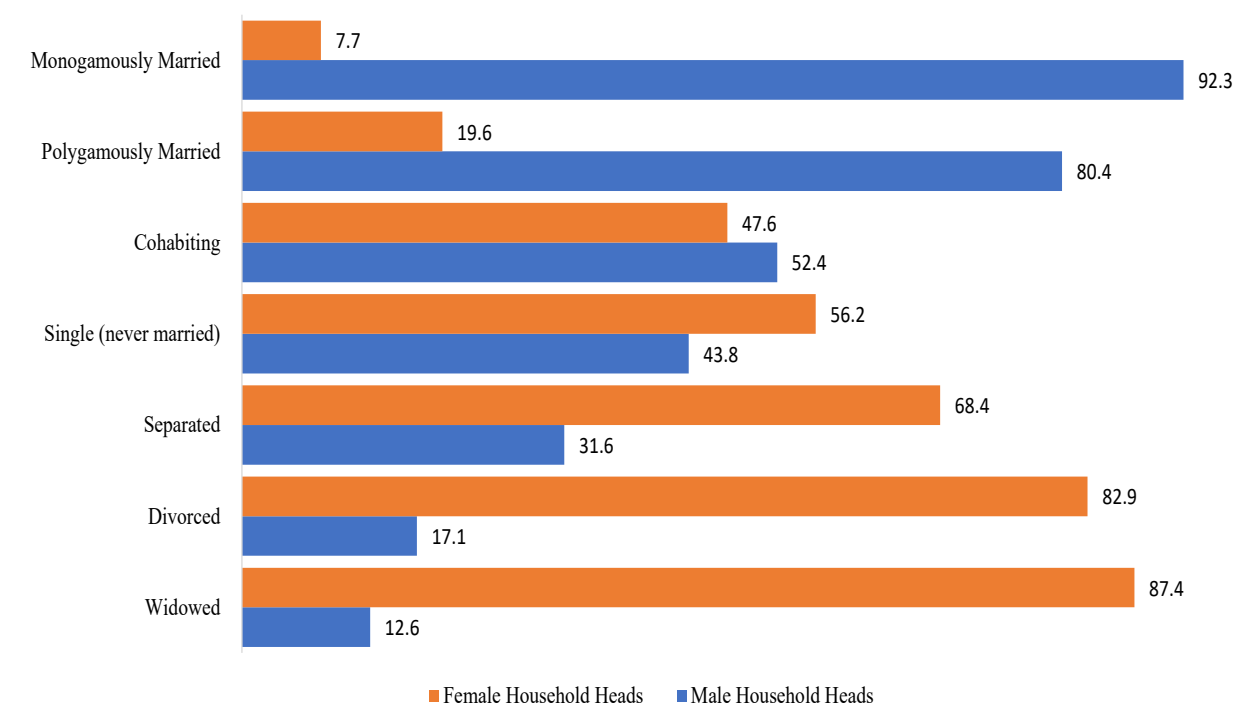
Table 4.2. shows the number and percentage distribution of households by province and headship status. The assessment revealed that the majority of the households that were assessed in the 71 districts were male headed (1,554,041) while the female headed households were 714,008. See for the detailed distribution by district in the Annex.

Province	Male (Percent)	Female (Percent)
Central	12	8.5
Copperbelt	10.1	8.3
Eastern	12.4	9
Luapula	11.9	9.8
Lusaka	11.3	14.1
Muchinga	6.8	4.3
Northern	8.6	9.4
NW	6.4	10.9
Southern	13.8	12.8
Western	6.8	12.9

4.4 MARITAL STATUS BY HOUSEHOLD HEADS

Figure 4.3 shows the percentage distribution of household heads by marital status and headship status. The findings show that among the widowed, the percentage of female headed households (FHH) was higher at 87.4 percent compared to male headed households at 12.6 percent. A similar pattern was observed among the divorced. On the other hand, among the monogamously and polygamously married households' heads, males were in a majority compared to the females.

Figure 4.3: Percentage Distribution of Household Heads by Marital Status and Headship Status



4.5 AGE DISTRIBUTION

Table 4.3 shows the percentage distribution of household heads by age group. The findings show that among male headed households the majority of the household heads were aged 35-64 years accounting for 59.2 percent. The young youths (aged 15 – 24 years) accounted for 7.1 percent and the older (aged 65+ years) accounted for 7.9 percent. Among female headed households the majority of the household heads were aged 35-64 years accounting for 57.1 percent. The older (aged 65+ years) accounted for 16.0 percent. See for the detailed distribution by district in the Annex.

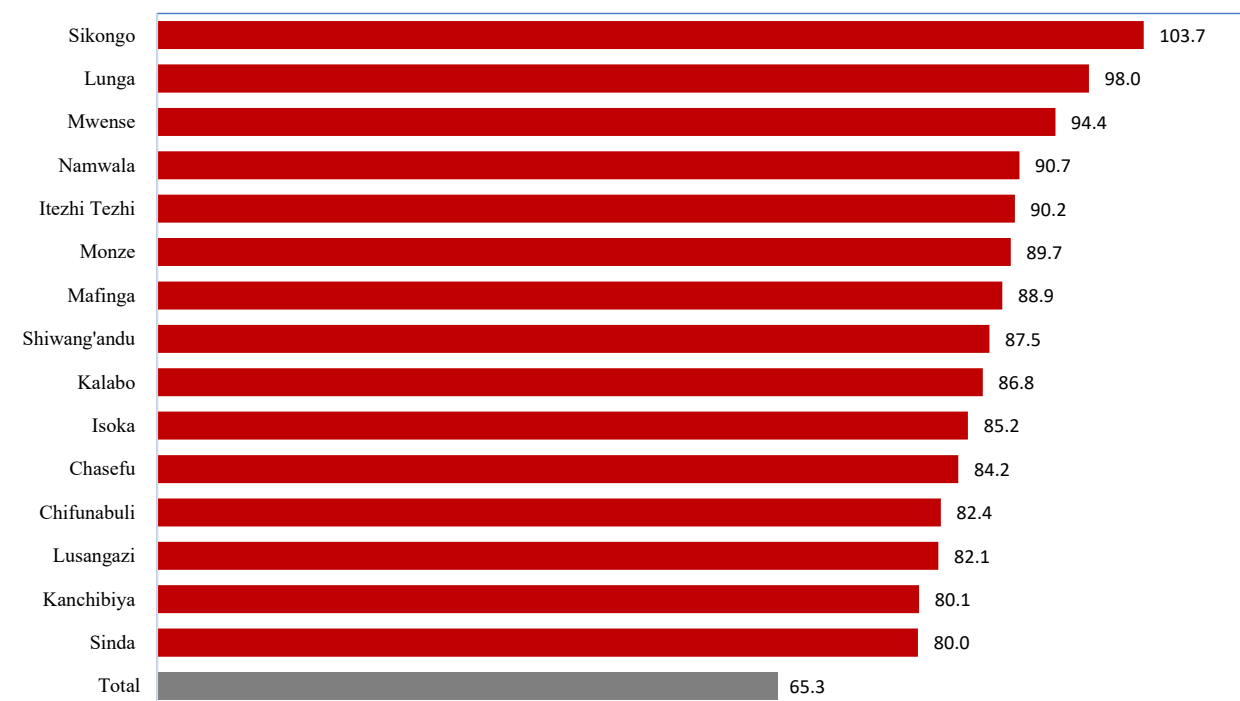
Age Group	Male Household Heads	Female Household Heads
5-14	0	0
15-24	7.1	6.9
25-34	25.8	20
35-64	59.2	57.1
65+	7.9	16

4.6 DEPENDENCY RATIO

The dependency ratio is defined as the average number of economically dependent population per 100 economically productive population, for a given country, territory, or geographic area, at a specific point in time. In demographic terms, economically dependent population is the sum of the population under 15 years of age plus the population 65 years and above. The economically productive population is defined as the population aged between 15 and 64 years.

Figure 4.4 show the dependency ratio for top 15 districts with the dependency ratio above the national average of 65.3 percent. The findings show that Sikongo District has the highest dependency ratio of 103.7 percent among the top 15 districts, whereas Sinda had the lowest dependency ratio of 80 percent. Overall, the dependency ratio for the top 15 districts is high ranging between 80 and 100 percent. See for the detailed distribution by district in the Annex.

Figure 4.4: Dependency Ratio by Top 15 Districts with Dependency Ratio above the National Average



4.7 AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

Figure 4.5 show the average household size by household headship status. The average household size for all households in the assessed districts was 4.5 persons per household. The average household size among male headed households is 4.7 persons per household compared to 4.1 persons among the female headed households. See for the detailed distribution by district in the Annex.

Figure 4.5: Average Household Size by Household Headship Status

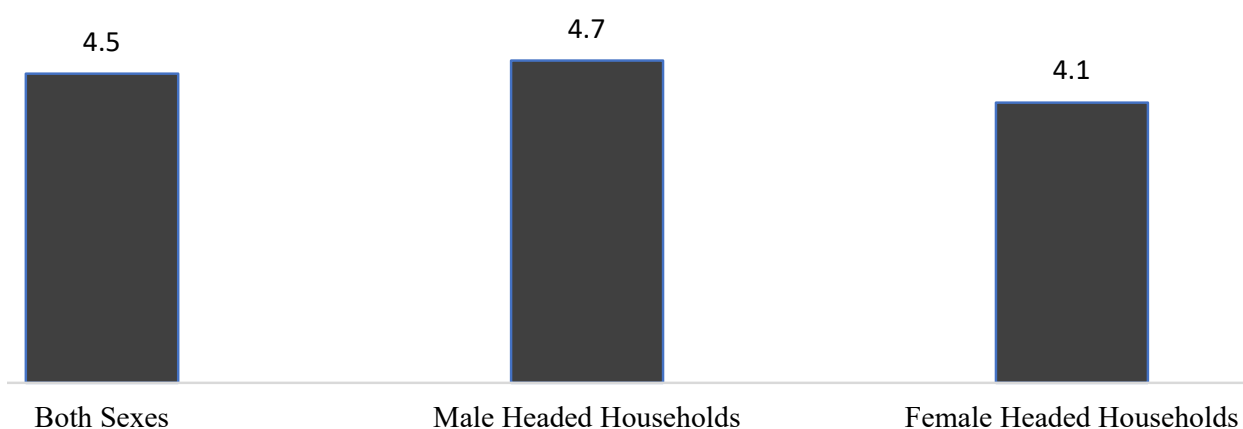
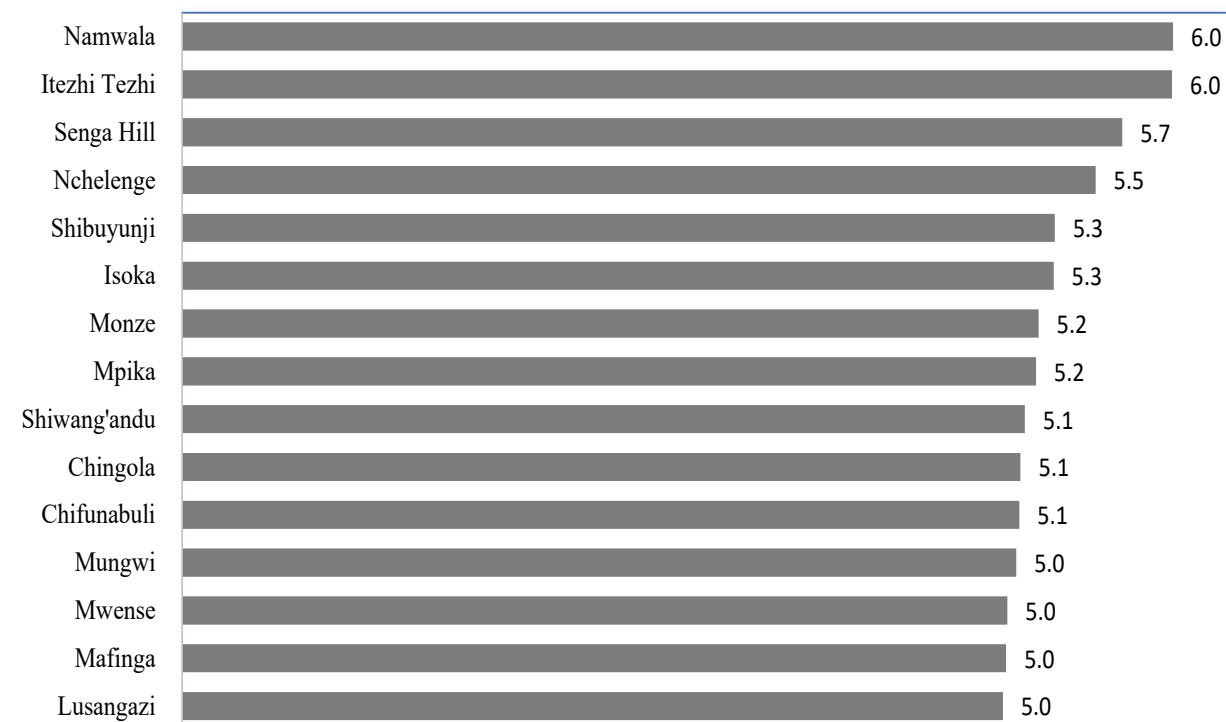


Figure 4.6 shows the average household size by top 15 districts. The districts with the highest average household size was Namwala and Itezhi Tezhi districts both at 6 persons per household. Kafue and Kasempa districts have the lowest average household size both at 5 persons per household.

Figure 4.6: Average Household Size by Top 15 Districts with an Average HH Size 5 and above Persons per Household



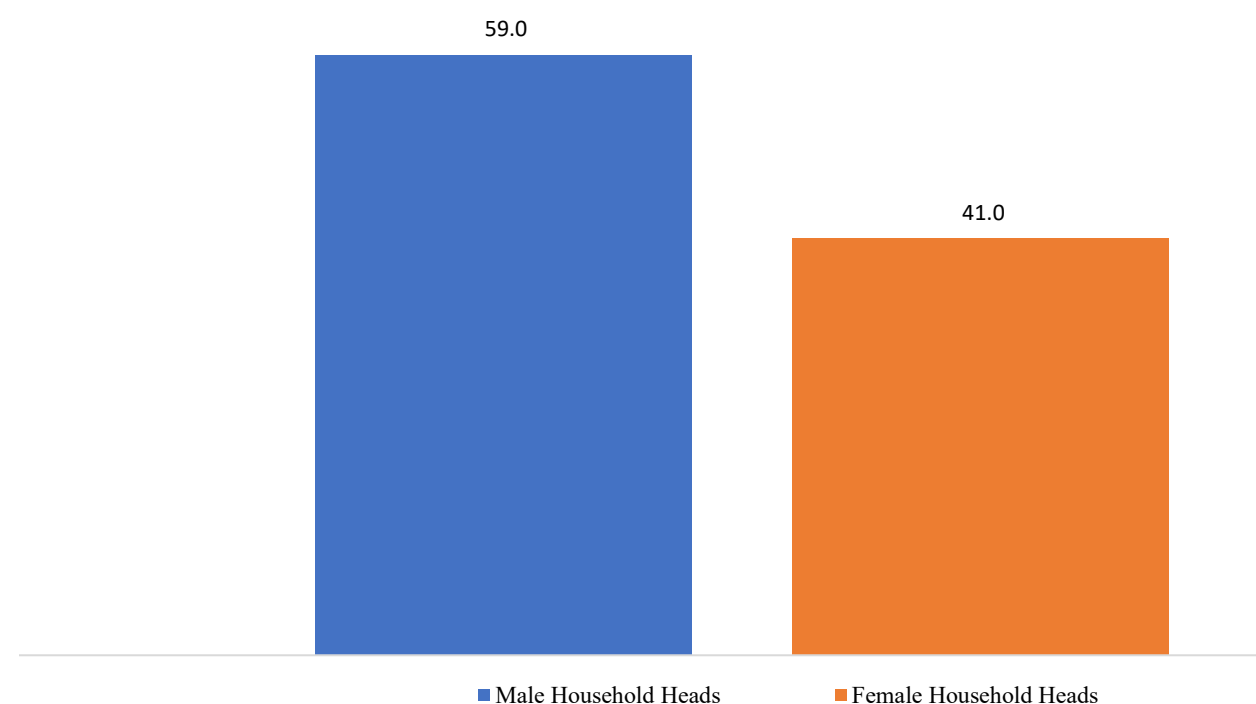
4.8 POPULATION LIVING WITH DISABILITY

Table 4.4 shows the number and percentage distribution of the population living with disability by sex. Luapula province has the highest percentage of males (19.0 percent) living with disability while Muchinga has the lowest percentage of males (5.1 percent) living with disabilities. On the other hand, Southern province has the highest percentage of females (12.6 percent) living with disabilities while Muchinga has the lowest (6.4 percent). At national level, there were more females 128,731 living with disability compared to the males 126,661. See for the detailed distribution by district in the Annex.

Province	Total (Percent)	Male (Percent)	Female (Percent)
Central	10.8	9.6	12
Copperbelt	7.9	7.9	7.9
Eastern	11.6	11.5	11.7
Luapula	15.6	19	12.2
Lusaka	12.3	12.1	12.4
Muchinga	5.7	5.1	6.4
Northern	8.7	7.7	9.7
North Western	6	5.3	6.7
Southern	13.1	13.7	12.6
Western	8.3	8.1	8.5

Figure 4.7 show the percentage distribution of household heads living with disability by headship status. Of the total household heads 124,897 living with disability, males accounted for 59.0 percent and females accounted for 41.0 percent.

Figure 4.7: Household Heads Living with Disability



5. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

5.1 SEASON PERFORMANCE 2024 – 2025

The 2024/2025 rainy season pattern was influenced by the weak La Niña phenomenon which is characterized by below-normal Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) in the tropical eastern Pacific Ocean. Typically, this condition results in normal rainfall over Zambia. Generally, the 2024/2025 season was normal over most parts of Zambia. However, some parts of the country had dry spells and some experienced floods during the season.

As of 31st March 2025, Mbala recorded the highest seasonal rainfall accumulation at 1756mm, followed by Misamfu with 1511mm. Several other stations also received over 1000mm, including Kasempa (1502mm), Kasama (1264mm), Kawambwa (1259mm), Mpulungu (1244mm), Isoka (1135mm), Chinsali (1130mm), Mansa Agro (1074mm), Mpika (1032mm), and Solwezi (1019mm). Meanwhile, Kafironda (957mm), Kabwe Met (953mm), Lusaka City Airport (943mm), Ndola (924mm), Chipata (909mm), Mt. Makulu (889mm), Kalabo (888mm), Kabompo (872mm), Msekera (868mm), Serenje (849mm), Petauke (832mm), Mansa Met (831mm), Simon Mwansa Kapwepwe International Airport (826mm), Kaoma (808mm), Chipepo (807mm), Mongu (791mm), Senanga (787mm), and Kenneth Kaunda International Airport (711mm) recorded slightly lower totals. The southern half of the country generally saw less rainfall, with stations recording between 399mm and 700mm.

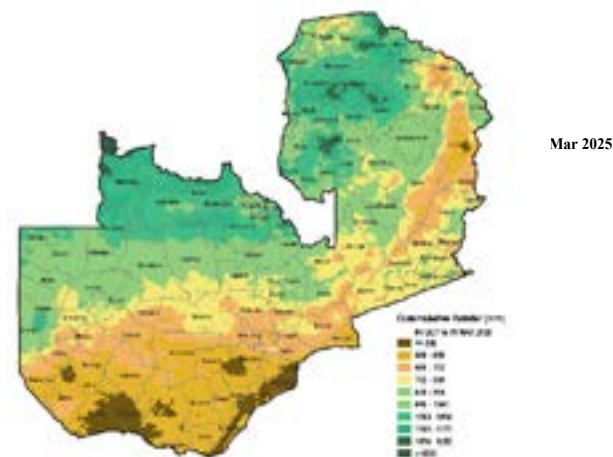
Livingstone recorded the lowest seasonal rainfall at just 399mm, followed by Choma (408mm), Sesheke (576mm), Kabwe Agro (608mm), Lundazi (648mm), and Mumbwa (694mm). These were among the driest areas during the season.

During the second dekad (11th – 20th) of March 2025, heavy rainfall was concentrated in northern and eastern Zambia, while the southern regions experienced significantly reduced rainfall, marking the end of the rainy season in that area. For the rest of the country, rainfall cessation was after March 31st, 2025.

Figure 5.1: Rainfall Departure from Normal 1st Oct to 31st Mar 2025



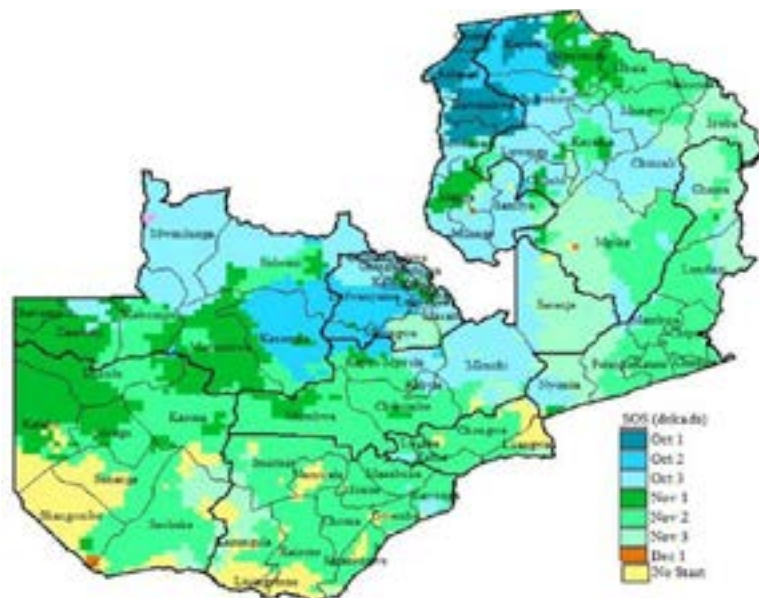
Figure 5.2: Cumulative Rainfall from 1st Oct 2024 to 31st Mar 2025



5.2 THE ONSET OF THE SEASON

The season was set in most parts of the country by 30th November 2024 except for a few areas include parts of Western, Southern and Lusaka Provinces, and few areas in Mkushi, Serenje and Mpika. A 30 days delayed onset of the 2024/2025 season was noted around Shang'ombo, parts of Livingstone, Kazungula, Luangwa, and Chongwe districts. Furthermore, few areas around Senanga, Kaoma, Sesheke, Itezhi tezhi, Namwala, Kazungula and Kalomo had their onset delayed by 40 days or more.

Figure 5.3: Cumulative Rainfall from 1st Oct 2024 to 31st Mar 2025



5.3 PERFORMANCE AND CUMULATIVE RAINFALL: 1ST OCTOBER TO 30TH NOVEMBER, 2024

As of 30th November 2024, the highest cumulative rainfall totals were recorded at the following meteorological stations: Kasempa (390 mm), Kawambwa (347 mm), Mbala (249 mm), Mpulungu (202 mm), Solwezi (177 mm), and Mansa (173 mm). The remaining stations reported seasonal accumulations below 170 mm, with the lowest rainfall recorded in: Lundazi (26 mm) and Sesheke (16 mm).

The cumulative rainfall departure from average as of 30th November, 2024 indicates that most areas over the eastern half of the country recorded normal to above average cumulative rainfall except for areas over the western half of the country indicate below average rainfall.

Figure 5.4: Rainfall Departure from the Normal 1st Oct to 30th Nov 2024

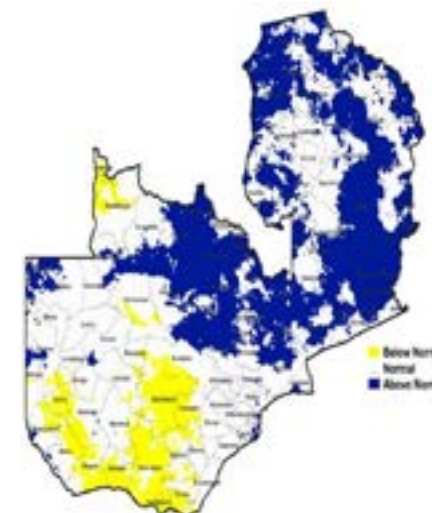
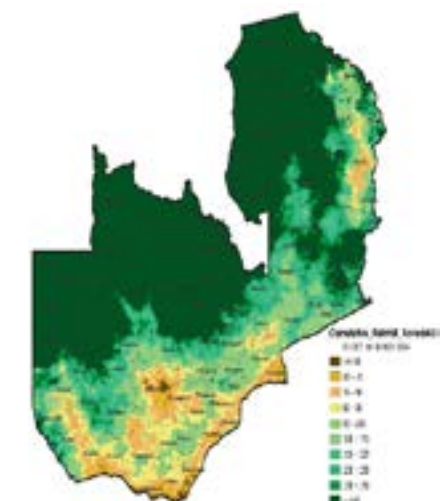


Figure 5.5: Cumulative Rainfall 1st Oct to 30th Nov 2024



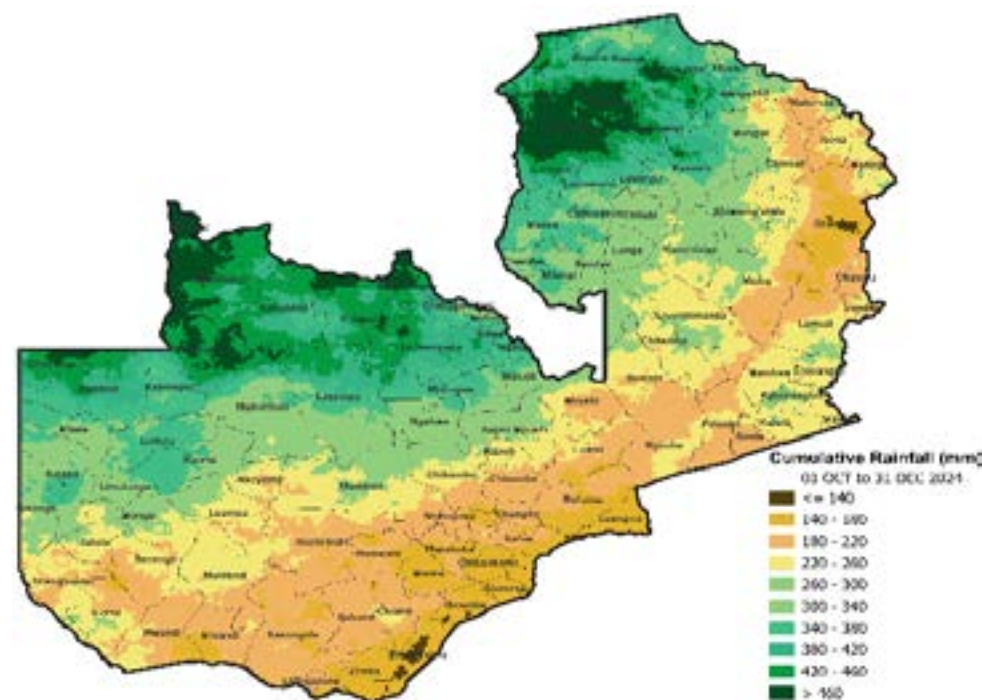
5.4 PERFORMANCE SINCE 1ST OCTOBER, 2024 TO 31ST DECEMBER, 2024

By the end of December 2024, the majority of Zambia had received normal or below-normal seasonal rainfall totals. However, localized areas in Northwestern, Copperbelt, Luapula, Northern, and Western Provinces reported above-average precipitation. In contrast, Southern, Lusaka, Central, Eastern, and Muchinga Provinces maintained below-normal to normal rainfall levels throughout the season up to that point.

The seasonal rainfall accumulation up to 31st December 2024 shows moderately lower precipitation across most meteorological stations in Zambia. The highest recorded cumulative totals were observed in Mbala (666mm), Zambezi (623mm), Ndola (554mm), and Kawambwa (541mm). The majority of remaining stations reported seasonal accumulations below 362mm, with the lowest figures recorded in Mkushi (54mm), Chipeco (101mm), Choma (119mm), Msekera (134mm), and Lundazi (139mm). Spatial analysis of rainfall distribution reveals that the northeastern and southern regions of the country experienced the most significant rainfall deficits since the beginning of the season.

The percentage deviation from seasonal rainfall averages reveals that most meteorological stations recorded below-average precipitation, with only a few exceptions showing above-normal rainfall. Stations with positive anomalies included Mbala (+80percent), Zambezi (+63percent), Kalabo (+36percent), Ndola (+33percent), Kawambwa (+18percent), Magoye (+12percent), and Senanga (+8percent). Conversely, significant negative deviations were observed, with Mkushi registering the most substantial deficit at -66percent, followed by Msekera and Chipeco (-58percent), Chipata (-56percent), Mwinilunga and Solwezi (-51percent), Petauke and Livingstone (-49percent), Isoka (-48percent), and Kabwe Agro (-46percent). The remaining stations all exhibited percentage deviations below -40percent of their typical seasonal rainfall totals.

Figure 5.6: Cumulative Rainfall 1st Oct to 31st Dec 2024



5.5 CUMULATIVE AND DEPARTURE RAINFALL: 1ST OCTOBER, 2024 – 31ST JANUARY, 2025

The 2024/2025 rainy season, as of 31st January 2025, was characterized by substantial rainfall across most of Zambia, with numerous meteorological stations recording accumulations exceeding 600 mm. From the observed totals, Kasempa recorded the highest cumulative rainfall at 1,260 mm, followed by Mbala (1,114 mm). Other notable stations included Misamfu (827 mm), Ndola (799 mm), Mpulungu (757 mm), Kawambwa (749 mm), Kasama (719 mm), Kabwe (701 mm), Kalabo (691 mm), Mt. Makulu (647 mm), Lusaka City (644 mm), Simon Mwansa Kapwepwe International Airport (636 mm), and Mansa (614 mm).

Conversely, several stations registered totals below 600 mm, with the lowest accumulations observed in Choma (281 mm) and Livingstone (301 mm).

The cumulative rainfall departure from average as of 31st January, 2025 indicates that most areas recorded normal (average) cumulative rainfall except for few stations recording above average rainfall. On the other hand, percentage departures for below average rainfall recorded indicate that Choma recorded the highest percentage departure of -41percent, Lundazi -29percent, Solwezi and Mansa -26percent each. The rest of the stations had percentage deficits falling within the normal range.

Figure 5.7: Rainfall Departure 1st Oct 2024 to 31st Jan 2025



Figure 5.8: Cumulative Rainfall 1st Oct 2024 to 31st Jan 2025

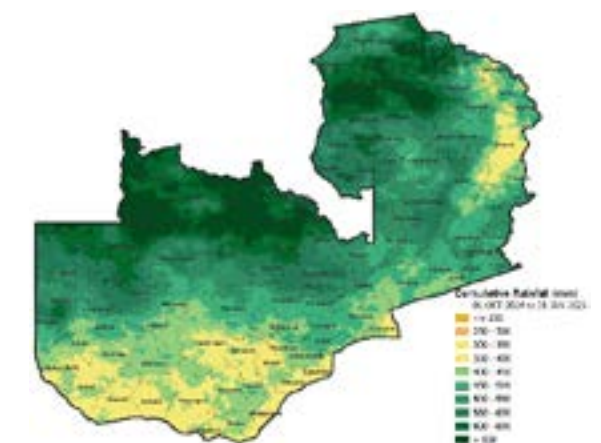


Table 5.1: Cumulative Rainfall: 1st July 2024 to 31st March, 2025								
Period: 21 – 31 March, 2025 Issue No: 11 Season: 2024/2025								
Station	Dekad Observations			Total Since 1st July 2024				
	Rainfall (mm)	Rain-days (>=1mm)	Normal Dekadal Rainfall (mm)	Cumulative Rainfall (mm)	Cumulative Rain-days	Normal Cumulative Rainfall (mm)	Rainfall Departure (mm)	Percentage Departure (percent)
North-Western Province								
Kasempa	3	1	57	1502	102	1009	493	49
Kabompo	0	0	51	872	86	924	-51	-6
Solwezi	40	3	77	1019	90	1182	-163	-14
Copperbelt Province								
Ndola	71	6	86	924	25	888	36	4
SMKIA	49	8	86	826	66	888	-62	-7
Kafironda	68	8	91	957	72	952	4	0
Luapula Province								
Kawambwa	118	10	89	1259	101	1085	173	16
Mansa	73	6	67	831	82	1054	-223	-21
Mansa Agro	90	7	67	1074	88	1054	20	2
Northern Province								
Mbala	123	6	78	1756	81	1048	708	68
Kasama	41	6	72	1264	81	1151	113	10
Misamfu	80	7	78	1511	91	1168	344	29
Mpulungu	45	6	78	1244	83	1048	195	19
Muchinga Province								
Mpika	2	1	53	1032	36	1118	-86	-8
Isoka	71	4	53	1135	83	1118	17	2
Chinsali	60	8	61	1130	95	1219	-89	-7
Eastern Province								
Msekera	89	6	49	868	66	937	-70	-7
Chipata	48	3	47	909	64	1043	-135	-13
Lundazi	12	2	49	648	52	795	-147	-18
Mfuwe	10	2	37	673	60	744	-71	-10
Petauke	48	3	43	832	55	892	-60	-7
Central Province								
Serenje	6	1	47	849	77	961	-113	-12
Mumbwa	14	1	0	694	50	820	-106	15
Kabwe Agro	0	0	31	608	64	832	-224	-27
Kabwe Met	0	0	31	953	68	832	121	15
Lusaka Province								
K.K.Int. Airport	0	0	24	711	61	761	-50	-7
Lusaka City	1	1	26	943	66	764	179	23
Mt Makulu	4	1	29	889	65	787	102	13
Southern Province								
Livingstone	0	0	25	399	49	602	-203	-34
Magoye	0	0	27	699	58	702	-2	0
Choma	0	0	27	408	47	733	-326	-44

Chipepo	0	0	20	807	50	770	37	5
Western Province								
Kalabo	22	3	39	888	82	728	161	22
Mongu	13	5	49	791	84	867	-76	-9
Kaoma	0	0	36	808	69	822	-14	-2
Senanga	22	3	34	787	81	662	125	19
Sesheke	0	0	30	576	55	576	0	0

5.7 HAZARDS EXPERIENCED AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

5.7.1 Three Main Hazards Experienced at Household Level by Provinces

Based on the summary table for all provinces, the three main hazards that most consistently and significantly affected people across Zambia were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. These three issues were present in every province, representing the most pervasive challenges facing the country as a whole.

Prolonged Dry Spells were the most dominant and widespread hazard, with a total average of 85.0 percent across all provinces. This issue was particularly severe in Southern (98.8 percent), Eastern (96.8 percent), and Northern (93.9 percent) provinces, indicating a widespread challenge for the country.

Fall Armyworms were another major threat present in every province. This agricultural pest had a significant impact, with a national average of 38.2 percent. The hazard was especially prevalent in Northwestern (83.4 percent) and Eastern (54.5 percent) provinces, highlighting a consistent concern for agricultural production.

Flash Floods were the third main hazard, affecting every province with a national average of 15.3 percent. The impact was particularly high in Lusaka (47.4 percent) and Copperbelt (34 percent) provinces, demonstrating a widespread and recurring issue across the country.

Prolonged Dry Spells were the most widespread (85 percent), affecting 1,073,632 households. Fall Armyworms (38.2 percent) and Flash Floods (15.3 percent) followed in prevalence. Locusts (6.5 percent) and Cassava Brown Streak Virus (14.9 percent) were significant but localized. Cholera (0.5 percent) and Riverine Floods (4.5 percent) had minimal national impact.

Climate-related hazards (dry spells, floods) were the most widespread. Agricultural pests (Fall Armyworms, Cassava Virus, Locusts) varied by region. Southern, Eastern, and Luapula provinces were heavily impacted by multiple hazards. North-Western Province faced unique challenges with Fall Armyworms as the top hazard.

5.7.1.1 Central Province

In Central Province, the main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells (88.2 percent), Fall Armyworms (45.1 percent), and Flash Floods (15.6 percent). Prolonged Dry Spells were particularly severe in Chisamba (98.2 percent), while Fall Armyworms had a very high impact in Shibuyunji (71.8 percent).

5.7.1.2 Copperbelt Province

The three main hazards in Copperbelt Province were Prolonged Dry Spells (63.6 percent), Fall Armyworms (47.3 percent), and Flash Floods (34.0 percent). Prolonged Dry Spells were a universal issue in Chingola (100 percent) and Masaiti (97.2 percent), while Fall Armyworms also had a severe impact in Masaiti (85.1 percent). Flash Floods were a significant threat in Mufulira (46 percent).

5.7.1.3 Eastern Province

Eastern Province was mainly affected by Prolonged Dry Spells (96.8 percent), Fall Armyworms (54.5 percent), and Flash Floods (5.9 percent). Prolonged Dry Spells were universal issue, affecting 100 percent of the population in both Chama and Chasefu. Fall Armyworms were also highly prevalent, with rates reaching 76.3 percent in Lundazi.

5.7.1.4 Luapula Province

In Luapula Province, the three main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells (89.9 percent), Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD) (44.6 percent), and Flash Floods (18.7 percent). Unlike other provinces, CBSD was a major threat, affecting a high percentage of the population in Chifunabuli (79.3 percent) and Kawambwa (64.9 percent), alongside widespread dry spells.

5.7.1.5 Lusaka Province

The main hazards in Lusaka Province were Flash Floods (47.4 percent), Prolonged Dry Spells (63.6 percent), and Fall Armyworms (22.7 percent). Flash Floods were a particularly severe issue in Kafue (80.5 percent) and Chilanga (57.6 percent), while Prolonged Dry Spells affected nearly everyone in Luangwa (98.1 percent) and Rufunsa (96.8 percent).

5.7.1.6 Muchinga Province

Muchinga Province was primarily affected by Prolonged Dry Spells (87.6 percent), Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD) (29.4 percent), and Fall Armyworms (23.8 percent). Dry spells were nearly universal, affecting 100.0 percent of the people in Isoka and 99.25 percent in Mafinga. CBSD was highly prevalent in Kanchibiya (75.8 percent) and Lavushimanda (58.4 percent).

5.7.1.7 Northern Province

In Northern Province, the main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells (93.9 percent), Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD) (42.7 percent), and Fall Armyworms (24 percent). Prolonged Dry Spells affected 100 percent of the population in Mporokoso. CBSD was also a major threat, with rates of 96.5 percent in Chilubi and 87.9 percent in Mporokoso.

5.7.1.8 North Western Province

Northwestern Province's main hazards were Fall Armyworms (83.4 percent), Flash Floods (23.8 percent), and Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD) (22.2 percent). Fall Armyworms were a dominant and widespread issue, affecting over 90 percent of the population in Kasempa, Chavuma, Mufumbwe, and Zambezi.

5.7.1.9 Southern Province

In Southern Province, the primary hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells (98.8 percent), Fall Armyworms (36.9 percent), and Flash Floods (6.8 percent). Dry spells affected nearly every resident, reaching 100 percent in Gwembe and Monze. Fall Armyworms were also a major threat, particularly in Itezhi Tezhi (78.6 percent).

5.7.1.10 Western Province

The three main hazards in Western Province were Prolonged Dry Spells (87.5 percent), Fall Armyworms (52.1 percent), and Locust (29 percent). Prolonged Dry Spells affected 100 percent of the population in Mwandi and Sesheke. Fall Armyworms were also widespread, with a high impact in Mulobezi (70.5 percent). Locusts, while not in every district, were a very significant threat in Sikongo (74 percent) and Shang'ombo (50.4 percent).

Table 5.2: Percentage Distribution of Main Hazards Households experienced by Province

Province	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverline Floods	Flash Floods	Fall Army worms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Central	88.2	3.4	15.6	45.1	2.8	3.2	3.9
Copperbelt	63.6	0.7	34	47.3	0	0.3	6.4
Eastern	96.8	2.4	5.9	54.5	0.2	0.1	5.1
Luapula	89.9	4.1	18.7	12.1	44.6	0.2	0.8
Lusaka	63.6	6.6	47.4	22.7	0.1	0.8	2.7
Muchinga	87.6	6.5	4.6	23.8	29.4	0.2	0.6
Northern	94.0	8.2	14	24.1	42.8	0	0.1
North Western	27.6	7.2	23.8	83.4	22.2	0	0
Southern	98.8	2.7	6.8	36.9	1.2	0.3	8.8
Western	87.5	3.9	11.4	52.1	1.5	0.4	29
Total	85.0	4.5	15.3	38.2	14.9	0.5	6.5

5.7.2 Three main hazards Households experienced by Districts

5.7.2.1 Central Province

In Central province districts the three main hazards experienced were; Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells: This was the most widespread and impactful hazard, with percentages ranging from 73.5 percent in Chibombo to 98.2 percent in Chisamba. Fall Armyworms: This hazard was a major concern in every district, with percentages ranging from 24 percent in Mkushi to a high of 71.8 percent in Shibuyunji. Flash Floods: This hazard was also present in every district, with percentages from 4.4 percent in Chibombo to 27.7 percent in Chisamba, indicating a consistent impact across the province.

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverine Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Chibombo	73.5	4.4	4.4	48.6	0.0	0.0	2.2
Chisamba	98.2	0.0	27.7	53.0	0.0	1.3	6.3
Luano	95.1	3.7	12.2	25.6	8.5	4.9	0.0
Mkushi	94.8	7.3	11.2	24.0	10.7	10.4	0.0
Ngabwe	88.9	2.8	12.5	37.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Shibuyunji	84.0	2.4	25.9	71.8	0.0	3.7	13.6

5.7.2.2 Copperbelt Province

Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods were the three most common hazards in Copperbelt Province. Prolonged Dry Spells had the most widespread and severe impact, affecting nearly all residents in Chingola (100 percent) and Masaiti (97.2 percent), and a quarter of the population in Kalulushi (25.1 percent). Fall Armyworms were also a major threat, particularly in Masaiti (85.1 percent) and Chingola (71.4 percent), while still affecting a notable portion of the population in all five (5) districts. Flash Floods were another consistent hazard across the province, with significant percentages reported in Mufulira (46 percent), Kalulushi (35.3 percent), and Masaiti (30.9 percent).

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverine Floods	Flash Floods	Fall Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBS)	Cholera	Locust
Chingola	100	0	7.1	71.4	0	7.1	0
Kalulushi	25.1	0	35.3	41.4	0	0	0
Lufwanyama	62.5	3.6	29.1	17.8	0	0	7.3
Masaiti	97.2	0	30.9	85.1	0	0	0
Mufulira	53.4	0	46.0	25.3	0	0	21.9

5.7.2.3 Eastern

In Eastern Province, Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods were the three most common hazards. Prolonged Dry Spells were the most severe, impacting nearly everyone in the region, with percentages reaching 100 percent in Chama and Chasefu. Fall Armyworms were also a major agricultural threat, consistently affecting a large portion of the population across all districts, particularly in Lundazi (76.26 percent) and Mambwe (69.92 percent). Flash Floods were the third hazard, present in every district, with the highest percentages in Vubwi (10.53 percent) and Mambwe (10.03 percent), though their overall impact was less widespread than the other two.

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverine Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Chama	100	5.1	7.6	41.5	0	0	0.9
Chasefu	100	0	5.9	41.2	0	0	0
Lundazi	95	0	0.8	76.3	1.5	0.8	20.4
Lusangazi	93.9	6.1	9.2	46.9	0	0	9.2
Mambwe	94.8	5.7	10	69.9	0	0	0
Nyimba	93.8	1.3	3.1	58.7	0	0	5.3
Sinda	98.6	0	3.4	43.8	0	0	1.3
Vubwi	96.2	0	10.5	54.5	0	0	0

5.7.2.4 Luapula

In Luapula Province, the three primary hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD), and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were the most prevalent, impacting over 77 percent of the population in every district, with peak severity in Kawambwa (98.56 percent). CBSD was also a widespread and significant issue, with high rates in Chifunabuli (79.3 percent) and Lunga (78.1 percent), and was present across the entire province. Flash Floods were the third main hazard, affecting all districts, with the highest impact noted in Mwansabombwe (32.7 percent), Nchelenge (29.9 percent), and Lunga (27.4 percent).

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverine Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Chifunabuli	90.3	0.9	3.4	1.7	79.3	0.9	6.8
Kawambwa	98.6	3.2	20.5	18.5	65	0	0
Lunga	82.2	20.6	27.4	4.1	78.1	0	0
Mansa	84.3	0.9	9.2	26.5	38.5	0	0
Milenge	77.8	1.2	8.6	29.6	44.4	1.2	1.2
Mwansabombwe	93.9	22.3	32.7	2.2	20.9	0	0
Mwense	94.9	5.1	18	2.6	17.1	0	0
Nchelenge	87.8	1.4	29.9	6.2	40.3	0	0

5.7.2.5 Lusaka Province

In Lusaka Province, the three most significant hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Flash Floods, and Fall Armyworms. Prolonged Dry Spells were the most widespread, affecting a large majority of residents, with peak percentages in Luangwa (98.1 percent) and Rufunsa (96.8 percent). Flash Floods also had a major impact across the province, with particularly high rates in Kafue (80.5 percent) and Chilanga (57.6 percent). Fall Armyworms were a third consistent threat, affecting all districts, with the highest prevalence noted in Rufunsa (45.5 percent) and Kafue (30 percent).

Table 5.7: Percentage Distribution of Households by Main Hazards experienced in Lusaka Province

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverine Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Chilanga	73.4	0.3	57.6	12.5	0.3	0	0
Chongwe	61.4	15.2	25.2	19.7	0	3.1	10.3
Kafue	31.3	7.1	80.5	30	0	0	0
Luangwa	98.1	13.3	7.6	17.1	0	1	1
Rufunsa	96.8	4.7	3	45.5	0	0	3

5.7.2.6 Muchinga Province

In Muchinga Province, Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods were the three most common hazards. Prolonged Dry Spells were the most widespread, affecting the majority of the population in all districts and reaching nearly 100 percent in Isoka, Mafinga, and Mpika. Fall Armyworms were another consistent threat, with significant percentages reported in Lavushimanda (45.7 percent), Kanchibiya (36.3 percent), and Mpika (33.6 percent). Flash Floods were also present in every district, though with lower percentages, with the highest impact in Kanchibiya (8.9 percent) and Shiwang'andu (6.5 percent).

Table 5.8: Percentage Distribution of Households by Main Hazards experienced in Muchinga Province

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverline Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Isoka	100	1.1	1.8	1.9	0	0	0
Kanchibiya	55.7	29.8	8.9	36.3	75.8	0.8	1.6
Lavushimanda	83.1	0.8	2.3	45.4	58.5	0	0
Mafinga	99.3	0.8	6	10.5	0	0	0
Mpika	98.3	0.9	1.7	33.6	13.9	0	0
Shiwang'andu	88.2	0	6.5	28	48.4	0	2.2

5.7.2.7 Northern Province

In Northern Province, the three most common hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD), and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were the most prevalent, impacting nearly all residents, with rates of 100 percent in Mporokoso and 99.5 percent in Chilubi. CBSD was also a widespread and severe threat, especially in Chilubi (96.5 percent) and Mporokoso (87.9 percent), and affected all districts. Flash Floods were the third consistent hazard, with a notable impact in Kaputa (40.7 percent) and Nsama (29.1 percent), and were present across the entire province.

Table 5.9: Percentage Distribution of Households by Main Hazards experienced in Northern Province

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverine Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Chilubi	99.5	0	1.5	32.2	96.5	0	0
Kaputa	84.6	26.2	40.7	48.1	9.7	0	0
Mporokoso	100	1.2	2.3	70.3	87.9	0	0
Mungwi	94.2	4.7	7	0	48.1	0	0
Nsama	95.5	19.1	29.1	50	6.4	0	0.9
Senga Hill	93.1	1	8.9	1	26.7	0	0

5.7.2.8 North-Western Province

In Northwestern Province, Fall Armyworms, Flash Floods, and Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD) were the three main hazards. Fall Armyworms were the most severe and widespread, affecting over 90 percent of the population in several districts including Kasempa (95.7 percent), Chavuma (92.6 percent), Mufumbwe (90.4 percent), and Zambezi (90.2 percent). Flash Floods were also a significant issue across all districts, with the highest impact in Mufumbwe (38.9 percent) and Chavuma (27.8 percent). Additionally, CBSD was a widespread threat, particularly prevalent in Kabompo (66.1 percent) and present in every district.

Table 5.10: Percentage Distribution of Households by Main Hazards experienced in North Western Province

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverine Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Chavuma	8.2	18	27.8	92.6	25.4	0	0
Kabompo	54.3	6.4	2.6	67.1	66.1	0	0
Kasempa	0	0	9.9	95.7	18.6	0	0
Manyinga	43.8	12	24.1	72.8	26.2	0	0
Mufumbwe	3.6	0.9	38.9	90.4	6.9	0	0
Mushindamo	75.3	0	22.2	65.5	1	0	0
Zambezi	22.2	14	27	90.2	27.1	0	0

5.7.2.9 Southern Province

In Southern Province, Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods were the three most common hazards. Prolonged Dry Spells were the most widespread, affecting almost every resident, with rates reaching 100 percent in Gwembe and Monze. Fall Armyworms were also a major threat present in every district, with significant impacts in Itezhi Tezhi (78.6 percent) and Namwala (55.4 percent). Flash Floods were the third main hazard, affecting many districts with notable percentages, particularly in Namwala (14.4 percent) and Itezhi Tezhi (13.6 percent).

Table 5.11: Percentage Distribution of Households by Main Hazards experienced in Southern Province

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverline Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Chikankata	98.4	1.6	3.9	24.2	0.8	0	0
Chirundu	98.4	0.8	1.6	12.7	0	0	11.9
Gwembe	100	7	9.9	31.3	0	0	1
Itezhi Tezhi	97.6	1.6	13.6	78.6	0	0	30.4
Monze	100	1.7	1.7	35.4	0	0	0
Namwala	97.4	1.9	14.4	55.4	0	1.7	29.2
Pemba	99.1	9.1	12.9	24.2	0	0	0
Siavonga	98.5	0	2.9	29.4	2.2	0.7	20.6
Sinazongwe	98	1.0	4.9	39.7	9.5	0	6.9
Zimba	99	0	0	25.7	0	0	2

5.7.2.10 Western Province

In Western Province, Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Locust were the three primary hazards. Prolonged Dry Spells were the most widespread, affecting over 69 percent of the population in all districts, and reaching 100 percent in Mwandu and Sesheke. Fall Armyworms were also a major threat across the province, with significant impacts in Mulobezi (70.5 percent), Sesheke (63.2 percent), and Senanga (62 percent). Locusts, while not present in every district, were a key recurring issue with very high percentages in Sikongo (74 percent), Shang'ombo (50.4 percent), and Sioma (30.1 percent).

Table 5.12: Percentage Distribution of Households by Main Hazards experienced in Western Province

District	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverline Floods	Flash Floods	F a l l Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD)	Cholera	Locust
Kalabo	81.3	4.9	32.6	44.5	2.1	1.0	28.5
Lukulu	79.3	6.3	8.8	33.8	2.7	0	2.7
Mitete	69.7	19.2	15.2	39.4	0	0	0
Mulobezi	93	0	0.8	70.5	0	0	9.2
Mwandu	100	0	1.1	61.7	0	0	10.7
Senanga	98.6	4.9	23.6	62	1.8	0	41.4
Sesheke	100	2.2	9.9	63.2	0	0	33
Shang'ombo	82.4	1.1	0	43.5	1.1	1.1	50.4
Sikongo	92.8	0	6.2	61.6	5.4	2.1	74
Sioma	78.5	2.2	1.1	53.8	0	0	30.1

5.7.3 Type of Hazards Experienced at Village Level

Based on the data for households at the village level, three main hazards consistently affected people across Zambia. The most widespread and dominant hazard was Prolonged Dry Spells, with a national average prevalence of 83.6 percent. This issue affected a large majority of the population in most provinces, particularly in Southern (98.5 percent) and Eastern (96.7 percent) provinces.

The second most prevalent hazard was Fall Armyworms, impacting 37.9 percent of households nationwide. This agricultural pest was a significant problem, with the highest prevalence in Northwestern (82.7 percent) and Western (52.2 percent) provinces.

The third main hazard was Flash Floods, affecting 15.8 percent of households across the country. The impact was highest in Lusaka (45.3 percent) and Copperbelt (38.2 percent) provinces.

Other hazards were more regional in nature. Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD) was a major threat in provinces like Luapula (45.8 percent) and Northern (42.7 percent), but was not present in all provinces. Similarly, Locusts were a significant problem in Western (25.17percent) and Southern (7.29percent) provinces.

5.7.3.1 Central Province

In Central Province, the three main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were the most severe and widespread, affecting over 94 percent of households in Chisamba, Luano, and Mkushi. Fall Armyworms also posed a significant threat, impacting 70.2 percent of households in Shibuyunji and 61.5 percent in Chisamba. Flash Floods were the third main hazard, with a notable impact in Shibuyunji (33.2 percent) and Chisamba (31.3 percent).

5.7.3.2 Copperbelt Province

The main hazards for households in Copperbelt Province were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells affected a majority of households, reaching 100.00percent in Chingola and 97.2 percent in Masaiti. Fall Armyworms were a severe threat, impacting 85.1 percent of households in Masaiti, while Flash Floods were a major issue in Mufulira (46 percent) and Kalulushi (35.3 percent).

5.7.3.3 Eastern Province

Eastern Province was primarily affected by Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were a near-universal problem, affecting 100 percent of households in Chama and Chasefu. Fall Armyworms were also highly prevalent, with rates reaching 76.3percent in Lundazi and 69.9 percent in Mambwe. Flash Floods were a consistent but lower-impact hazard, with the highest prevalence in Vubwi (10.5 percent).

5.7.3.4 Luapula Province

In Luapula Province, the three main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD), and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells affected over 90 percent of households in Kawambwa and Mwansabombwe. CBSD was a unique and severe threat in the province, with very high prevalence in Chifunabuli (79.3 percent) and Lunga (78.1 percent). Flash Floods were also a significant issue, with rates of 32.7 percent in Mwansabombwe and 29.9 percent in Nchelenge.

5.7.3.5 Lusaka Province

The main hazards in Lusaka Province were Prolonged Dry Spells, Flash Floods, and Fall Armyworms. Prolonged Dry Spells were widespread, affecting 98.1 percent of households in Luangwa and 96.8 percent in Rufunsa. Flash Floods were particularly severe, affecting 80.5 percent of households in Kafue and 57.6 percent in Chilanga. Fall Armyworms were a consistent problem, with the highest impact in Rufunsa (45.5 percent) and Kafue (30 percent).

5.7.3.6 Muchinga Province

Muchinga Province was mainly affected by Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD). Prolonged Dry Spells were a near-universal problem, affecting 100 percent of households in Isoka and 99.3 percent in Mafinga. Fall Armyworms were a significant threat, impacting 45.4 percent of households in Lavushimanda. CBSD was also a major hazard, with a very high prevalence in Kanchibiya (75.8 percent) and Lavushimanda (58.5 percent).

5.7.3.7 Northern Province

For households in Northern Province, the main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD), and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were a severe and widespread issue, affecting 100 percent of households in Mporokoso and 99.5 percent in Chilubi. CBSD was also a major threat with extremely high rates in Chilubi (96.5 percent) and Mporokoso (87.9 percent). Flash Floods were a consistent but lower-impact hazard, with the highest rate in Kaputa (40.7 percent).

5.7.3.8 North-Western Province

The main hazards for households in Northwestern Province were Fall Armyworms, Flash Floods, and Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD). Fall Armyworms were the most dominant hazard, affecting over 90 percent of households in Kasempa (95.7 percent), Chavuma

(92.6 percent), Mufumbwe (90.4 percent), and Zambezi (90.2 percent). Flash Floods were also a significant issue, particularly in Mufumbwe (38.9 percent). CBSD was a widespread threat, with the highest prevalence in Kabompo (66.1 percent).

5.7.3.9 Southern Province

Households in Southern Province were primarily affected by Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells had a near-universal impact, reaching 100 percent in Gwembe and Monze. Fall Armyworms were a major agricultural threat, with a high impact in Itzhi Tezhi (78.6 percent) and Namwala (55.4 percent). Flash Floods were a key recurring issue, with the highest rate in Namwala (14.4 percent).

5.7.3.10 Western Province

In Western Province, the three main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Locust. Prolonged Dry Spells were a severe and widespread issue, affecting 100 percent of households in Mwandi and Sesheke. Fall Armyworms were a major threat across the province, with a high impact in Mulobezi (70.5 percent). Locusts, while not present in every district, were a very severe issue where they occurred, with rates reaching 74 percent in Sikongo.

Table 5.13: Type of Hazards Experienced at Village Level by Province								
	Prolong Dry Spells	Riverline Floods	Flash Floods	Fall Armyworms	Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease [CBSD]	Cholera	Locust	Human/ Animal Conflicts
Province	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Central	86.8	1.9	19.8	43.7	3.20	2.4	7.7	0.8
Copperbelt	72	6.3	38.3	42.5	0	0	0.8	0.2
Eastern	96.7	2.6	7.3	51.7	0.2	0	3.8	16.5
Luapula	89.9	3.9	20.1	12.5	45.8	0.1	0.7	0.9
Lusaka	64.4	7.7	45.3	22.3	0	2.1	2.9	3.1
Muchinga	87.5	6.9	4.9	23.5	27.1	0	0.5	3.5
Northern	94.3	7.1	12.8	25.3	42.7	0.04	0.1	0.6
North Western	27.2	8.8	20.5	82.7	20.7	0.1	0.1	1.1
Southern	98.5	2.5	4.9	35.1	0.7	0.2	7.3	2.3
Western	85.5	3.5	9	52.2	1.5	0.1	25.2	20.8
Total	83.6	4.7	15.8	37.9	14.8	0.4	5.4	5.7

5.7.3.11 Type of Hazards Households Experienced by District

Based on the provided data for hazards experienced at the village level, here is a summary of the three main hazards for each province, highlighting the most affected districts:

5.7.3.11.1. Central Province

In Central Province, the three main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were most prevalent in Luano (94.7 percent), Chisamba (94.2 percent), and Mkushi (93.3 percent). Fall Armyworms most affected Shibuyunji (70.2 percent), Chisamba (61.6 percent), and Chibombo (49 percent). Flash Floods were most common in Shibuyunji (33.2 percent), Chisamba (31.3 percent), and Mkushi (21.6 percent).

5.7.3.11.2. Copperbelt Province

The main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were a major issue in Chingola (100 percent), Masaiti (97.2 percent), and Lufwanyama (62.5 percent). Fall Armyworms most affected Masaiti (85.1 percent), Chingola (71.4 percent), and Kalulushi (41.4 percent). Flash Floods were most prevalent in Mufulira (46 percent), Kalulushi (35.3 percent), and Masaiti (30.9 percent).

5.7.3.11.3. Eastern Province

The three main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were most prevalent in Chama (100 percent), Chasefu (100 percent), and Sinda (98.6 percent). Fall Armyworms most affected Lundazi (76.3 percent), Mambwe (69.9 percent), and Nyimba (58.7 percent). Flash Floods were most common in Vubwi (10.5 percent), Mambwe (10 percent), and Lusangazi (9.2 percent).

5.7.3.11.4. Luapula Province

The main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD), and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were most prevalent in Kawambwa (98.6 percent), Mwense (94.9 percent), and Mwansabombwe (93.9 percent). CBSD most affected Chifunabuli (79.3 percent), Lunga (78.1 percent), and Kawambwa (65 percent). Flash Floods were most common in Mwansabombwe (32.7 percent), Nchelenge (30 percent), and Lunga (27.4 percent).

5.7.3.11.5. Lusaka Province

The main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Flash Floods, and Fall Armyworms. Prolonged Dry Spells were most prevalent in Luangwa (98.1 percent), Rufunsa (96.8 percent), and Chilanga (73.4 percent). Flash Floods most affected Kafue (80.5 percent), Chilanga (57.6 percent), and Chongwe (25.18percent). Fall Armyworms were most common in Rufunsa (45.5 percent), Kafue (30 percent), and Chongwe (19.7 percent).

5.7.3.11.6. Muchinga Province

The main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD). Prolonged Dry Spells were most prevalent in Isoka (100 percent), Mafinga (99.3 percent), and Mpika (98.3 percent). Fall Armyworms most affected Lavushimanda (45.4 percent), Kanchibiya (36.3 percent), and Mpika (33.6 percent). CBSD was most common in Kanchibiya (75.8 percent), Lavushimanda (58.5 percent), and Shiwa'ng'andu (48.4 percent).

5.7.3.11.7. Northern Province

The main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD), and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were most prevalent in Mporokoso (100 percent), Chilubi (99.5 percent), and Nsama (95.5 percent). CBSD most affected Chilubi (96.5 percent), Mporokoso (87.86percent), and Mungwi (48.1 percent). Flash Floods were most common in Kaputa (40.7 percent), Nsama (29.1 percent), and Senga Hill (8.9 percent).

5.7.3.11.8. North-Western Province

The main hazards were Fall Armyworms, Flash Floods, and Cassava Brown Streak Virus Disease (CBSD). Fall Armyworms were most prevalent in Kasempa (95.7 percent), Chavuma (92.6 percent), and Mufumbwe (90.4 percent). Flash Floods most affected Mufumbwe (38.9 percent), Chavuma (27.8 percent), and Zambezi (27 percent). CBSD was most common in Kabompo (66.1 percent), Manyinga (26.2 percent), and Chavuma (25.4 percent).

5.7.3.11.9. Southern Province

The main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Flash Floods. Prolonged Dry Spells were most prevalent in Gwembe (100 percent), Monze (100 percent), and Pemba (99.1 percent). Fall Armyworms most affected Itezhi Tezhi (78.6 percent), Namwala (55.4 percent), and Sinazongwe (39.68percent). Flash Floods were most common in Namwala (14.4 percent), Itezhi Tezhi (13.6 percent), and Pemba (12.9 percent).

5.7.3.11.10. Western Province

The main hazards were Prolonged Dry Spells, Fall Armyworms, and Locust. Prolonged Dry Spells were most prevalent in Mwandi (100 percent), Sesheke (100 percent), and Senanga (98.6 percent). Fall Armyworms most affected Muloibezi (70.5 percent), Sesheke (63.2 percent), and Senanga (62 percent). Locust was most common in Sikongo (74 percent), Shang'ombo (50.4 percent), and Senanga (41.4 percent).

6. SECTORS

6.1 FOOD SECURITY, AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

Agriculture remains the backbone of Zambia's economy, contributing significantly to livelihoods, employment, and national food security. As the sector continues to evolve under the pressures of climate variability, market dynamics, and population growth, the need for timely, high-quality data has never been more critical.

This section provides a comprehensive overview of Zambia's agricultural landscape, focusing on crop performance, land access, and food security. It begins with an analysis of Area Planted and Area Expected to be Harvested, followed by Expected Production and Yield Rates (Mt/Ha) across major crops. The National Food Balance Sheet evaluates domestic supply against consumption needs, guiding strategic planning.

Land dynamics are explored through indicators on Land Availability and Cultivation, Access to Arable Land, and Access to Arable Land by Gender, highlighting equity and utilization gaps. The review of Land Tenure Status and Size of Arable Land sheds light on ownership patterns and farm typologies, informing policy on investment, mechanization, and inclusive growth.

6.2. Crop Production

6.2.1. Area Planted and Area Expected to be Harvested

In the 2024/2025 agricultural season, Zambia recorded some reductions in the total area planted across most major crops compared to the 2023/2024 agricultural season. Maize, the staple grain, reduced by 1.7 percent, from 2,209,160.39 hectares (Ha) to 2,172,268.29 Ha. Sorghum area planted was forecast at 42,371.53 Ha in the previous season compared to 54,891.18 Ha in the current agricultural season representing 29.6 percent increase, and Soya beans was recorded at 376,051.46 Ha in the previous season compared to 294,184.22 Ha in the current season representing 21.8 percent reduction.

The area expected to be harvested for the Maize crop was forecast at 684,402 Ha the 2023/2024 agricultural season compared to 1,690,797 Ha in the current season representing 147.1 percent increase. Harvested area expectations improved in the 2024/2025 agricultural season compared to the previous season for most crops except for Bambara nuts at 39.7 percent reduction, Wheat at 36.5 percent reduction, and Barley 79.5 percent reduction. Soybeans and cotton were recorded with increases in area expected to be harvest at 63.5 percent and 18.8 percent, respectively.

6.2.2. Expected Production and Yield Rate (Mt/Ha)

At country level, production volumes in the 2024/2025 agricultural season are projected to exceed those of the 2023/2024 agricultural season across nearly all crops. Maize was forecast at 3,655,645.59 metric tonnes in the current season compared to the previous season with a production of 1,511,143.43 Mt representing 141.9 percent increase. The crop forecast of 2023/2024 agricultural season estimated Rice production at 24,565.61 Mt countrywide compared to 39,457.11 Mt in the current season representing 60.6 percent increase, Groundnuts at 87,655.18 Mt compared to 101,884.01 Mt in the current season representing 16.2 percent increase and Soya beans at 169,699.71 Mt compared to 288,793.17 Mt in the current season representing 70.2 percent increase in production. Preliminary wheat harvest was forecast at 129,524 Mt compared to 198,886 Mt, sweet and Irish potatoes at 163,197 Mt compared to 117,695 Mt in the previous season, and that of cassava was estimated at 3,167,650 Mt compared to 3,127,778 Mt in the previous season.

With regards to yield, the national average yield for Maize in the previous season was estimated at 0.7 metric tonnes per hectare (Mt/Ha) compared to 1.68 Mt/Ha expected in the 2024/2025 agricultural season representing an increase in yield of 146 percent. Yield improvements were forecast across most crops in the 2024/2025 agricultural season except for Irish potatoes at 25.9 percent reduction, Tobacco Virginia and Tobacco Burley at 42.3 percent reduction and 21.3 percent reduction, respectively.

Table 6.1: Area planted (Ha), Area expected to be harvested (Ha), Expected production (Mt), Yield rate (Mt/Ha) by Crop, 2024/2025 agricultural season

Crop	Area Planted (Ha)		Expected Area Harvested (Ha)		Expected Production (Mt)		Expected Yield (MT/Ha)	
	CFS 2024	CFS 2025	CFS 2024	CFS 2025	CFS 2024	CFS 2025	CFS 2024	CFS 2025
Maize	2,209,160.39	2,172,268.29	684,402	1,690,797.38	1,511,143.43	3,655,645.59	141.9	1.7
Sorghum	42,371.53	54,891.18	4,524	27,759.09	2,864.90	13,794.80	381.5	0.1
Rice	86,832.28	37,789.29	23,162	32,223.89	24,565.61	39,457.11	60.6	0.3
Millet	41,712.26	63,954.96	18,220	43,281.96	15,389.58	24,132.88	56.8	0.4
Sunflower	463,106.98	360,521.49	103,777	278,562.24	44,128.43	115,011.17	160.6	0.1
Groundnuts (Unshelled)	353,441.11	170,753.19	129,357	147,366.54	87,655.18	101,884.01	16.2	0.3
Soya beans	376,051.46	294,184.22	157,796	257,997.48	169,699.71	288,793.17	70.2	0.5
Seed Cotton	32,369.84	17,810.30	10,367	12,312.87	9,071.67	6,641.98	-26.8	0.3
Irish potatoes	2,400.64	2,041.91	1,631	1,875.72	34,152.85	21,532.11	-37.0	14.2
T o b a c c o (Virginia)	10,213.97	16,325.56	8,073	15,259.99	14,190.37	13,077.66	-7.8	1.4
T o b a c c o (Burley)	6,225.70	9,485.23	4,764	9,005.11	6,577.66	7,888.89	19.9	1.1
Mixed beans	85,673.95	80,391.18	69,668	70,010.26	38,937.43	38,381.99	-1.4	0.5
Bambara nuts	7,810.27	2,156.97	2,897	1,746.33	2,154.26	1,210.72	-43.8	0.3
Cow peas	42,793.21	32,724.80	3,584	21,813.63	1,082.67	6,110.20	464.4	0.0
Sweet potatoes	49,199.74	56,140.53	29,784	50,224.16	83,542.38	141,664.89	69.6	1.7
Cassava	267,331.46	286,831	267,331	286,831	3,127,778.10	3,167,650	1.3	11.7
Wheat	28,051.74	17,822.26	28,052	17,812.26	198,886.38	129,523.51	-34.9	7.1
Barley	1,261.03	259.00	1,261	259.00	8,153.61	2,016.00	-75.3	6.5

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, 2025 CFS Results. Agricultural Marketing Season

Food Availability

6.3.1. National Food Balance Sheet

The National Food Balance Sheet shows a total of 3,539,024 Mt as national requirements for both human and industrial use for maize, paddy rice at 95,243 Mt, wheat at 516,734 Mt, sorghum and millet 40,263 Mt, both sweet and Irish potatoes at 163,197 Mt and cassava flour equivalent at 1,428,834 Mt.

The national Food Balance Sheet for the current agricultural season indicates that there are deficits in the major cereals and tubers, paddy rice at 55,138, wheat (preliminary) at 327,938 Mt, and cassava flour at 636,921 Mt translating into possible import requirements. On the other hand, Maize recorded a surplus of 501,621 Mt. The 2025 in-depth assessment revealed that crop deficits and low crop yields in the current agricultural season were largely caused by prolonged dry spells, erratic or irregular rainfall and a lack of adequate fertilizer at 49.1 percent, 15.5 percent, and 12.7 percent, respectively.

Table 6.2: National (cereals and tubers) Food Balance for Zambia for the 2025/2026 Agricultural Marketing Season Based on the 2024/2025 Crop Forecasting Survey and MoA/ZAMSTATS/Private Sector Utilization Estimates (MT)

FBS Components			Maize	P a d d y Rice	W h e a t (Preliminary)	Sorghum & Millet	S w e e t and Irish potatoes	Cassava flour	Total (m a i z e equivalent)
A.	Availability: (i) Opening stocks (1st May 2025)	1/	384,999	649	59,273	2,335	0	0	446,310
	(ii) Total production (2024/25)	2/	3,655,646	39,457	129,524	37,928	163,197	791,913	4,644,995
	Total availability		4,040,645	40,106	188,796	40,263	163,197	791,913	5,091,305
B.	Requirements: (i) Staple food requirements: H u m a n consumption	3/	2,029,886	91,772	509,979	33,784	155,037	1,341,752	3,948,346
	S t r a t e g i c Reserve Stocks (net)	4/	500,000	0	0	0	0	0	500,000
	(iii) Industrial requirements: Stockfeed	5/	413,811	0	0	0	0	41,974	452,743
	Breweries	6/	151,538	0	0	4,000	0	5,513	160,535
	Grain retained for seed and other uses	7/	11,006	1,499	280	582	0	0	13,303
	(iii) Losses	8/	182,782	1,973	6,476	1,896	8,160	39,596	232,250
	(iv) Structural cross-border trade	9/	250,000						250,000
	T o t a l requirements		3,539,024	95,243	516,734	40,263	163,197	1,428,834	5,557,177

C.	Surplus/deficit (A-B)	10/	501,621	-55,138	-327,938	0	0	-636,921	-465,871
D.	Potential Commercial imports/exports	11/	-501,621	55,138	327,938	0	0	0	0
E.	Food aid import requirements	12/	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Source: Ministry of Agriculture, 2025 CFS Results. Agricultural Marketing Season									

Based on the 2024/2025 MoA/ZAMSTATS Crop Forecasting Survey and MoA/ZAMSTATS/Private Sector Utilization Estimates (MT)

6.4. Land Availability and Cultivation

6.4.1. Access to Arable Land

Table 6.3. shows the provincial distribution of household heads' access to arable land during the 2024/2025 agricultural season. Muchinga province had the highest proportion of the population of households having access to arable land estimated at 86.8 percent and only 13.2 percent did not have access. Eastern province had the second highest proportion of households accessing arable land followed by Northern province estimated at 84.9 percent and 72 percent, respectively. Lusaka province had the lowest proportion of households having access to arable land at 21.3 percent and 78.8 percent did not have access.

Province	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Central	49.6	50.4
Copperbelt	44.8	55.2
Eastern	84.9	15.1
Luapula	72.0	28.0
Lusaka	21.3	78.8
Muchinga	86.8	13.2
Northern	72.7	27.3
North Western	59.9	40.1
Southern	67.4	32.6
Western	65.3	34.7
Total	61.0	39.0

6.4.2. Access to Arable Land by Gender

Table 6.4. shows the provincial distribution of head of households' access to arable land disaggregated by sex, during the 2024/2025 agricultural season. At national level, male headed households had more access to arable land at 63.3 percent compared to female headed households at 56.3 percent. Lusaka province had more female headed households having access to arable land at 23.2 percent compared to male headed households at 20.2 percent. Muchinga province had the highest proportion of male headed households having access to arable land at 89 percent, Eastern province with 85.2 percent, and Northern province with 74.7 percent. Eastern province had the highest female headed households having access to arable land estimated at 83.8 percent, Muchinga province at 79.2 percent, and Northern and Luapula at 68.8 percent and 67.3 percent, respectively.

Table 6.4: Access to arable land by province and sex, 2024/2025 agricultural season

Province	Male		Female	
	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Central	51.6	48.4	43.9	56.1
Copperbelt	45.3	54.7	43.7	56.3
Eastern	85.2	14.8	83.8	16.2
Luapula	73.8	26.2	67.3	32.7
Lusaka	20.2	79.9	23.2	76.8
Muchinga	89	11	79.2	20.8
Northern	74.7	25.3	68.8	31.2
North Western	64.4	35.6	54.2	45.9
Southern	69.8	30.2	61.8	38.2
Western	69	31	61	39
Total	63.3	36.8	56.3	43.7

6.4.3. Land Tenure Status of Households' Arable Land

Table 6.5. depicts the provincial distribution of household heads' land tenure status of their arable land. At national level, majority of the households indicated that their land had customary tenure rights estimated at 75.8 percent followed by those that do not have any title deed to their land at 6.8 percent. The statistics revealed that countrywide, the majority of households own customary tenure rights over the land they own or have access to. At provincial level, North Western province recorded 89.6 percent having customary tenure, Western province with 88.2 percent, Northern province with 88.1 percent and Southern province had 85.6 percent.

Table 6.5: Land tenure status of households' arable land, 2024/2025 agricultural season

Province	Titled land with a deed (Percent)	No title deed (Percent)	Customary (Percent)	Rented (Percent)	Chief certificate/Letter (Percent)	Land Record (Percent)	Other (Percent)
Central	3	4.6	77.4	10.8	2.6	0	1.6
Copperbelt	20.3	25.8	24.5	17.6	9.1	0.8	1.9
Eastern	1.2	7.9	83	6.3	0.6	0.2	0.9
Luapula	1.7	2.9	57.3	20.5	11.6	2.4	3.5
Lusaka	24.6	6.3	55.2	3.8	4.1	1.1	5
Muchinga	7.2	3.2	84	3.6	1.9	0.1	0
Northern	0.3	2.2	88.1	9	0.1	0	0.4
North Western	0.1	2.6	89.6	3	3.8	0	0.9
Southern	2.1	7.8	85.6	3.3	0.9	0.2	0.2
Western	0.4	8.8	88.2	1.3	1	0.3	0
Total	4.2	6.8	75.8	8.1	3.4	0.5	1.2

6.4.4. Size of Arable Land

Table 6.6. depicts the provincial distribution of the size of arable land utilized by households compared among two agricultural seasons i.e. 2023/2024 agricultural season and the 2024/2025 agricultural season. The results of the survey show that there were reductions in the sizes of arable land across the country in the current season compared to the previous season. At country level, the size of arable reduced to 3,246,244 Ha in the 2024/2025 agricultural season from 4,179,110 Ha in the 2023/2024 agricultural season representing 22.3 percent change. The highest reduction was recorded in Western province from 515,188 Ha to 298,429 Ha in the current season representing 42.1 percent change.

The total area cultivated in the 2024/2025 agricultural season was estimated at 2,186,029 Ha compared to 2,284,546 Ha in the previous season representing 4.3 percent change. Northwestern and Lusaka provinces recorded an increase in cultivated land with 156,307 Ha and 114,854 Ha in the current agricultural season compared to the previous season with 148,429 Ha and 98,464 Ha representing 5.3 percent change and 16.7 percent change, respectively.

Province	Arable land (Ha) 2024	Arable land (Ha) 2025	Percent Change Arable Land (2025 Vs 2024) (Percent)	Cultivated land (Ha) 2024	Cultivated land (Ha) 2025	Percent Change Cultivated Land (2025 Vs 2024) (Percent)
Central	662,175	468,369	-29.3	372,275	319,612	-14.15
Copperbelt	348,967	318,146	-8.8	142,105	123,749	-12.9
Eastern	424,050	374,071	-11.8	331,760	307,809	-7.2
Luapula	423,279	356,186	-15.9	144,904	128,571	-11.3
Lusaka	197,552	120,399	-39.1	98,464	114,854	16.7
Muchinga	268,566	226,140	-15.8	112,099	106,700	-4.8
Northern	424,012	316,284	-25.4	211,593	211,239	-0.2
North Western	274,060	169,984	-38.0	148,429	156,307	5.3
Southern	641,262	598,235	-6.7	475,914	474,794	-0.2
Western	515,188	298,429	-42.1	247,002	242,394	-1.9
Total	4,179,110	3,246,244	-22.3	2,284,546	2,186,029	-4.3

6.5. Livestock

6.5.1. Livestock Population Between June 2024 and June 2025

Table 6.7. shows livestock population between June 2024 to June 2025. Most livestock species saw a slight population increase in as of June 2025. Specifically, cattle rose by 3.3 percent from 1.8 million in 2024 to 1.9 million in June 2025. Guinea Fowls and Goats experience a significant increase of 16.2 percent and 11.2 percent respectively over the same period. Additionally, pigeons' numbers increased by 4.1 percent while chickens' population grew by 3.5%, with other livestock species population increasing by 2.3 percent. While there was an increase in some livestock, unfortunately, the following showed a decrease; Sheep 17.3 percent, Oxen -6.4 percent and Pigs -4.1 percent.

Table 6.8: Livestock population for June 2025 and June 2025

Type of Livestock	2024	2025	Percent Change
Cattle	1,842,312	1,904,840	3.3
Oxen	499,307	469,355	-6.4
Goats	1,876,388	2,112,754	11.2
Pigs	240,430	231,052	-4.1
Sheep	720,161	613,897	-17.3
Chickens	3,594,779	3,725,146	3.5
Guinea Fowls	2,244,313	2,677,759	16.2
Ducks	516,280	530,176	2.6
Pigeons	1,184,533	1,234,542	4.1
Others	427,967	437,979	2.3

6.5.2. Household Livestock Ownership (June 2024 and June 2025)

Table 6.9. shows households livestock ownership as of June 2024 and June 2025. According to the findings of the assessment, there was an increase in household livestock ownership. Specifically, Pigeon's ownership rose by 17.5 percent from nearly two hundred fifty thousand households in June 2024 to over three hundred thousand households by June 2025. Chicken and cattle household ownership increased by 7.1 percent and 3.4 percent respectively, while Guinea Fowls increased by 0.9 percent and Pig ownership grew by 0.8 percent. In-spite, the significant increase in household ownership of the above livestock, unfortunately, the assessment showed a decrease in the following: other livestock species 25.9 percent, Donkeys decreased by 4.6 percent and Sheep also declined by 3.6 percent.

Table 6.9: Household Livestock Ownership (June 2024 and June 2025)

Livestock type	Livestock Owned by the household now (June 2024)	Livestock Owned by the household last year same time (June 2025)	Change (Percent)
Cattle	1,842,312	1,904,840	3.4
Oxen	440,283	416,423	-5.4
Goats	1,929,857	2,159,506	11.9
Pigs	223,655	225,442	0.8
Sheep	71,419	68,823	-3.6%
Donkeys	13,695	13,064	-4.6%
Chickens	6,375,887	6,831,227	7.1%
Guinea Fowls	420,962	424,954	0.9%
Ducks	260,755	250,567	-3.9%
Pigeons	274,213	322,294	17.5%
Others	77,867	57,698	-25.9%

6.6. Capture and Aquaculture Production

6.6.1. Source of Fish Production

During the first half of 2025, overall fish production in Zambia increased slightly by 2.9 percent to 87,731 metric tonnes (MT) from 85,271 (MT) in the same period of 2024. Aquaculture production increased to 39,128 MT in 2025 from 38,031 MT in 2024, whilst capture fisheries production increased to 48,603 MT from 47,240 MT. The modest growth was attributed to continued support from cooperating partners and government initiatives such as enhanced enforcement patrols and improved quality of fingerlings as well as increased participation by aquaculture players. Observance of the closed fishing seasons and participatory management of protected fish breeding areas/reserves also contributed to the noted increase. Although the percentage increase is minimal, the fisheries subsector projects a steady and positive trend signalling effective management and growth potential (See Table 6.10).

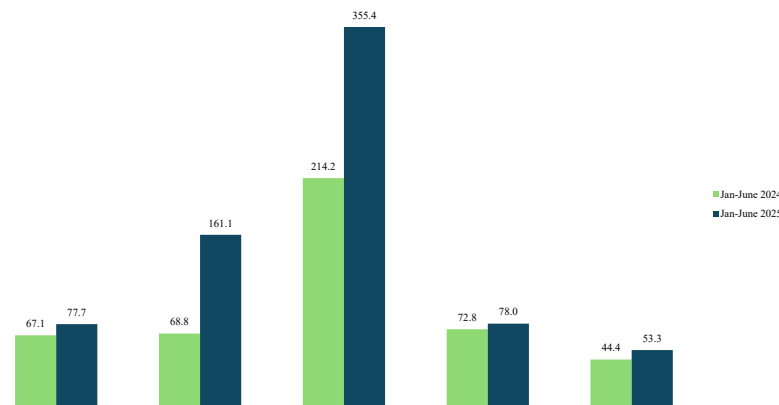
Source of Fish Production	Jan to June 2024 (MT)	Jan to June 2025 (MT)	Percentage change
Capture Fisheries (MT)	47,240	48,603	2.9
Aquaculture (MT)	38,031	39,128	2.9
Total	85,271	87,731	2.9

Source: Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Department of Fisheries 2025

6.6.2. Average fish product prices

During the first half of 2025, fish prices increased across all categories in comparison with the same period in 2024. The most significant price surge was observed in dry Kapenta, which increased to K355.40 from K214.2 per meda in 2024 representing 65.9 percent. Horse Mackerel rose to K53.30 per kilogram from K44.40 by 20.0 percent. These notable increases were attributed to reduced supply, increased demand and/or higher processing and transportation costs. (See Figure 6.1.)

Figure 6.1: Average Fish product prices



Source: Department of Fisheries 2025

6.7. Challenges faced in Livestock Production

Overall the costs of production remained high due to effects on international prices for selected inputs on some imported feed ingredients such as veterinary drugs, vitamins and mineral supplements.

6.7.1. Average prices of selected livestock products

The average prices for selected livestock products are shown in Table 6.11. Average prices for Broiler chicken was K137.90 in the first half of 2025 compared to K93.50 in 2024 during the same period. The increase in the prices was due to persistent price inflation.

Livestock Product	2025	2024
	ZMW (K)	ZMW (K)
Fresh milk (litres)	25.50	19.60
Broiler Chicken (each)	137.90	93.50
Eggs (tray)	71.70	57.10
Day old chicks - Broiler (each)	17.25	14.95
Beef Streak (kg)	113.35	80.55
Mixed cut (kg)	91.55	70.75
Pork (kg)	93.05	79.65

Source: Department of Fisheries and Livestock Marketing 2025

6.8. Access to Agricultural Inputs

Table 6.12. indicates a significant gap in access to agricultural inputs for the 2024/2025 agricultural season. Only 55.8 percent of households reported having acquired inputs, while 44.2 percent did not. This limited access is likely to have contributed to reduced agricultural productivity and may have negatively impacted both the quantity and quality of produce countrywide. North Western recorded the highest lack of access to agricultural inputs at 63.6 percent, followed by Luapula and Western province at 55.8 percent and 50.6 percent, respectively.

Province	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Central	52.6	47.4
Copperbelt	51.2	48.8
Eastern	56.8	43.3
Luapula	44.2	55.8
Lusaka	66.0	34.0
Muchinga	65.4	34.6
Northern	50.6	49.4
North Western	36.4	63.6
Southern	78.1	21.9
Western	49.5	50.6
Total	55.8	44.2

6.9. Households' Main Cereal Crop

Maize remains the dominant cereal staple across Zambia, with 88.5 percent of households cultivating it in all ten provinces. Cassava follows at 8.1 percent, while sorghum, rice, millet, and other cereals collectively account for less than 1.2 percent of household consumption.

Central province recorded the highest proportion of households relying on maize 99 percent, followed by Eastern 98.8 percent, Copperbelt 96.4 percent, North-Western 95 percent, and Southern 94.6 percent provinces. In contrast, Northern province reported 82 percent of households consuming maize.

Cassava consumption is concentrated in the northern regions, particularly in Luapula 37.1 percent, Northern 14.4 percent, and Muchinga 12.2 percent provinces. Rice consumption remains minimal nationwide, with Northern province registering the highest proportion at 3.2 percent.

Province	M a i z e (Percent)	S o r g h u m (Percent)	Rice (Percent)	C a s s a v a (Percent)	M i l l e t (Percent)	O t h e r s (Percent)
Central	99	0.1	0	0	0	1
Copperbelt	96.4	0	0	0	0	3.6
Eastern	98.8	0.2	0.2	0	0	0.8
Luapula	62.1	0	0.2	37.1	0.2	0.3
Lusaka	97.9	0	0	0	0.4	1.6
Muchinga	84.6	0.3	0	12.2	2.2	0.7
Northern	82	0	3.2	14.4	0.3	0.1
North Western	95	0	0.3	4.7	0	0.1
Southern	94.6	3.9	0	0	0.9	0.6
Western	84.9	2.7	0.7	2.5	8.8	0.4
Total	88.5	0.9	0.5	8.1	1.2	0.8

6.10. Households' Main Legume Crop

The assessment highlights groundnuts as the most widely cultivated legume crop, with 44.2 percent of households reporting it as their primary legume followed by those reporting Beans at 38.1 percent.

At the provincial level, Luapula province recorded the highest proportion of households growing groundnuts at 66.3 percent. Beans was the second most cultivated legume in Luapula province at 31.2 percent. In contrast, Lusaka province had the highest proportion of households growing beans, estimated at 81.6 percent, with only 10.5 percent cultivating groundnuts

Province	Beans (Percent)	G r o u n d n u t s (Percent)	Soya (Percent)	Beans (Percent)	C o w p e a s (Percent)	Others (Percent)
Central	21.8	30.1	46.2	0.8	1.1	
Copperbelt	52.1	45.2	2.8	0	0	
Eastern	8.2	56.2	25.9	2.4	7.3	
Luapula	31.2	66.3	0.2	2.2	0.2	
Lusaka	81.6	10.5	0	6.2	1.7	
Muchinga	59	36.4	1.5	1	2	
Northern	80	17.1	2.2	0	0.7	
North Western	43.5	52	2.3	0	2.2	
Southern	32.2	45.8	0.6	18.3	3.1	
Western	47.4	39.5	0.4	7.2	5.6	
Total	38.1	44.2	10.9	3.9	2.9	

6.11. Households' Main Tuber Crop

The 2024/2025 assessment indicates that sweet potatoes were the most cultivated tuber crop among households, accounting for 56 percent, followed by cassava at 43.4 percent.

Provincial-level data reveals distinct regional preferences. In Southern province, all surveyed households (100 percent) reported sweet potatoes as their main tuber crop. North-Western province showed a strong inclination toward cassava, with 81.3 percent of households cultivating it as their primary tuber. Muchinga province presented a balanced pattern, with 50.2 percent of households growing sweet potatoes and 48.6 percent cultivating cassava. In Northern province, cassava was the predominant tuber crop at 75.3 percent, while sweet potatoes accounted for 24.7 percent. These were the only tuber crops reported in the province.

Irish potatoes were the least cultivated tuber crop nationally, with only 0.4 percent of households growing them.

Province	Sweet Potatoes (Percent)	Irish Potatoes (Percent)	Cassava (Percent)	Others (Percent)
Central	98.5	1.3	0	0.2
Copperbelt	97.9	0	1.2	0.9
Eastern	93.7	0.5	5.2	0.6
Luapula	28.8	0	71.2	0
Lusaka	94.6	2.8	2.6	0
Muchinga	50.2	1.2	48.6	0
Northern	24.7	0	75.3	0
North Western	18.3	0	81.3	0.5
Southern	100	0	0	0
Western	31.1	0	68.1	0.8
Total	56	0.4	43.4	0.2

6.12. Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)

The rCSI helps in understanding how households adapt to food shortages. The rCSI results show that 24.8 percent of households were able to meet their essential food and non-food needs without engaging in unsustainable strategies (IPC phase 1). Furthermore, 46.2 percent of households were only able to meet their adequate food consumption needs by engaging in stress coping strategies (IPC phase 2) while 29 percent of households were marginally able to meet minimal food needs only through depleting essential livelihood assets or worse (IPC phase 3+). From the indicated results in table 6.16., Western and Southern provinces recorded the highest rCSI respectively, with North-Western, Lusaka, Luapula, Eastern, Copperbelt and Central provinces all recording a rCSI score above 40 percent. Muchinga Province recorded the lowest rCSI score at 20.7 percent.

Table 6.16: Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) by IPC Classification

Province	IPC Phase 1 (rCSI 0-3) (Percent)	IPC Phase 2 (rCSI 4-18) (Percent)	IPC Phase 3 + (rCSI >= 19) (Percent)
Central	33.9	48.1	18
Copperbelt	28.2	38.6	33.2
Eastern	29.2	43.8	27
Luapula	14.9	61.9	23.2
Lusaka	33	45.2	21.8
Muchinga	21.6	52.9	25.5
Northern	14.9	43.4	41.7
North Western	17.3	40.6	42.1
Southern	30.4	44.9	24.7
Western	15.1	42.1	42.8
Total	24.8	46.2	29

6.13. Livelihood Coping Strategies

Livelihood coping strategies are actions and adjustments households make to their livelihoods to cope with food insecurity or economic stress. These strategies are typically categorized based on their severity and potential impact on the household's long-term well-being and economic stability. Each strategy is associated with a level of severity (none, stress, crisis, or emergency). Overall, 37.2 percent of households did not adopt any coping strategies while 24.3 percent of assessed households adopted stress coping strategies. The data further revealed that 11.8 percent adopted crisis coping strategies and 26.7 percent adopted emergency coping strategies. Northern province registered the highest proportion of households adopting emergency coping strategies at 35.0 percent, indicated in table 6.17. below

Table 6.17: Households Livelihood Coping Strategies

Province	Households Livelihood Coping Strategies			
	HH not adopting coping strategies (Percent)	Stress coping strategies (Percent)	Crisis coping strategies (Percent)	Emergencies coping strategies (Percent)
Central	33.9	24.0	15.3	26.8
Copperbelt	34.1	19.5	16.8	29.6
Eastern	38.4	16.6	10.5	34.6
Luapula	30.5	30.5	18.5	20.5
Lusaka	32.5	28.5	11.1	27.9
Muchinga	37.6	40.3	9.1	13.0
Northern	33.8	17.7	13.6	35.0
North Western	57.0	13.2	5.7	24.1
Southern	33.4	33.5	8.7	24.4
Western	39.5	18.8	10.8	30.9
Total	37.2	24.3	11.8	26.7

6.14. Food Consumption Score (FCS)

The household Food Consumption Score (FCS) is used to measure household food security. It provides insights into dietary diversity, food frequency, and the relative nutritional value of foods consumed by a household over a 7-day reference period. To calculate FCS, each food group is multiplied by its respective weight, reflecting its nutritional contribution to the diet. Based on the results of FCS calculation, the population is split in three categories: poor (FCS<28), borderline (28<FCS<42) and acceptable (FCS>42) food consumption. High FCS increases the probability that a household's nutrient intake is adequate.

The 2025 assessment shows that 36.7 percent of households had a poor food consumption score classification as phase 3. While households with borderline food consumption score were registered at 32 percent. Households registering an acceptable food consumption score represented 31.2 percent. Lusaka and Muchinga provinces show lowest (poor) food consumption scores.

This was brought about due to limited financial resources that restricted the ability to purchase a variety of foods, particularly nutrient-dense items like fruits, vegetables, and animal products. Poor crop yields due to drought and limited livestock production equally exacerbated the situation.

Table 6.18: Food Consumption Score Categories			
Province	Food Consumption Score (FCS)		
	Phase 1 and 2 (Acceptable) (Percent)	Phase 3 (Bordeline) (Percent)	Phase 4 and Above (Poor) (Percent)
Central	37	29	34
Copperbelt	29.9	38	32.1
Eastern	24.5	34.2	41.3
Luapula	37	34	29
Lusaka	35	29.9	35
Muchinga	23.4	33.3	43.3
Northern	36.9	30.5	32.5
North Western	22.6	29	48.5
Southern	42.5	38.2	19.3
Western	30.8	28	41.2
Total	32.9	32.7	34.4

6.15. Household Hunger Scale

The Household Hunger Scale (HHS) measures the prevalence and severity of hunger within a household. It is a method for assessing food insecurity and hunger in a population. The HHS focuses on the experiences of households in terms of food access and hunger with a 30-day recall period.

The 2025 assessment reveals that 47.6 percent of households had a Phase 3 Household Hunger Scale (HHS). This means that more than half of the households in the 10 provinces were in crisis due to problems of food access experienced in the preceding 30 days. It is also worth noting however, that 36.8 percent of households were identified in Phase 1 of the HHS, which implies that they did not experience problems of food access in the preceding 30 days while only 2.7 percent of households were classified under IPC Phase 4. Western province recorded the highest HHS score under IPC Phase 4 while Central province recorded the highest HHS score under IPC Phase 1 at 51.6%.

Table 6.19: Household Hinger Scale Categories				
Province	Household Hunger Scale Categories (Version 3)			
	Phase 1 (Percent)	Phase 2 (Percent)	Phase 3 (Percent)	Phase 4 (Percent)
Central	51.6	13.3	33.5	1.6
Copperbelt	41.7	8.7	48.2	1.4
Eastern	44.5	14.3	37.6	3.6
Luapula	21	14.6	62.2	2.3
Lusaka	38.1	14.2	45.9	1.8
Muchinga	40.6	13.5	44.8	1.1
Northern	28.4	15.8	50.8	5
North Western	24.7	6.9	64.7	3.7
Southern	46.8	15	36.6	1.6
Western	23	9.6	61.2	6.2
Total	36.8	12.9	47.6	2.7

6.16. Household Dietary Diversity Score

The Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) serves as a proxy indicator of a household's economic ability to access a diverse range of foods. Based on self-reported data from households across the 10 provinces, the HDDS reveals significant disparities in dietary diversity. The data categorizes households into three groups based on the number of food groups consumed in the previous 24 hours: 5-12 food groups, 3-4 food groups, and 0-2 food groups. Notably, 56.4 percent of respondents reported consuming 5-12 food groups, indicating a relatively high dietary diversity. Conversely, 31 percent of households reported consuming 3-4 food groups, while 12.7 percent reported consuming 0-2 food groups, suggesting a limited dietary diversity. A provincial breakdown reveals that Western province has the highest percentage of households (29.5 percent) with a poor HDDS, falling under the 0-2 food groups category. This finding highlights the need for targeted interventions to improve food security and dietary diversity in vulnerable households, particularly in Western province.

Table 6.20: Household Dietary Diversity Score Categories			
Province	Household Dietary Diversity Score Categories		
	5-12 Food Groups (Percent)	3-4 Food Groups (Percent)	0-2 Food Groups (Percent)
Central	67	24.5	8.5
Copperbelt	63.6	27.7	8.7
Eastern	53.7	36.6	9.7
Luapula	63.3	29.8	6.9
Lusaka	60.1	21.2	18.7
Muchinga	46.9	34.7	18.5
Northern	59.5	29.9	10.6
North Western	42.3	39.4	18.3
Southern	58.6	36	5.4
Western	36.8	33.8	29.5
Total	56.4	31	12.7

6.17. Food Insecurity

6.17.1. Current analysis

The recent food security assessment shows varying results with reference to the Food Security classifications converged indicators guiding the interpretation of household's ability to meet their daily food needs. Key findings show Between June and September 2025, an estimated 1,181,498 people (12 percent of the population) are facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above which includes none facing critical levels, none are classified as IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) during the current period. Of the 71 districts analysed, 14 districts are classified in Phase 3 during the current period with the rest of the districts being classified as IPC Phase 2 (Stressed).

Out of the findings most households are observed to be experiencing borderline stress relating to food consumption. While some families are still managing to cope, the trend shows that the

population in IPC phase 3+ are doing so by cutting back on meals, reducing dietary diversity, or relying on coping mechanisms that are not sustainable. The situation is being driven by a mix of poor rainfall, reduced harvests, and elevated food prices considering the drought in the 2023/2024 season that continue to erode purchasing power, leaving households with little room to manage any food consumption gaps.

Table 6.21: Population Table for the Current Period: April – September 2025

Province	Population Analyzed (#)	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Phase 3 +	
		People (#)	Percent (%)	People (#)	Percent (%)	People (#)	Percent (%)	People (#)	Percent (%)	People (#)	Percent (%)	People (#)	Percent (%)
Central	1,133,818	388,363	34	646,887	57	98,570	9					98,570	9
Copperbelt	1,117,231	439,328	39	573,983	51	103,921	9					103,921	9
Eastern	1,214,980	459,194	39	591,791	51	163,996	9					163,996	13
Luapula	1,228,877	460,983	38	631,736	51	136,158	11					136,158	11
Lusaka	1,000,536	401,754	40	512,755	51	86,029	9					86,029	9
Muchinga	671,507	224,914	33	367,468	55	79,126	12					79,126	12
Northern	796,090	266,294	33	403,896	51	125,902	16					125,902	16
Northern Western	660,177	237,335	36	338,047	51	84,794	13					84,794	13
Southern	1,430,164	567,032	40	696,522	49	166,609	12					166,609	10
Western	820,535	229,968	28	431,980	53	158,588	19					158,588	19
National Total	10,073,915	3,675,165	36.5	5,195,065	51.6	1,203,693	11.9					1,203,693	11.9

At the district level, results show in Chibombo, for example, 287,000 people are stressed and nearly 48,000 are in crisis. Chisamba shows a similar pattern, with more than half the population just barely managing and a small but significant group already in crisis. Luano stands out as a hotspot, with around 15 percent of its population facing crisis levels of food insecurity. These pockets of distress are echoed across provinces. In Central Province, nearly two-thirds of the population is stressed and close to 100,000 people are already in crisis. The key drivers of these trends were largely driven by the last farming season was marked by long dry spells, erratic rains, and poor harvests across many districts. This left farming households with little carry-over stocks and forced them to depend heavily on markets. Prices of maize and other staples are well above average.

Projected period

Between October and September] 2025, an estimated 1,671,709 people (17 percent of the population) are facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) across 43 districts. This includes about 9,907 people facing critical levels (Phase 4) across 3 districts (Mitete, Shangombo, Sikongo). indicates that of the total 1.2 million people in the 82 districts assessed, majority of the communities are in IPC Phase 2 at 42%, followed by 30% in IPC Phase 1, and 28% in IPC Phase 3 classification.

Looking ahead, the situation is expected to worsen as the lean season deepens. In Chibombo, the share of people in crisis is projected to rise to 15 percent of the population, while in Chisamba it could reach 10 percent. Luano is projected to see one in five people in crisis, a sharp deterioration compared to current levels. At provincial level, Central is expected to see over 155,000 people in crisis, while Copperbelt could see more than 159,000. These shifts point to escalating needs in the months ahead, particularly in rural areas that are highly dependent on rainfed farming and where households have already run out of food stocks. As families become more reliant on the market, price increases are expected to push even more people into hunger and malnutrition.

In the projected period Phase 3 conditions are expected to dominate in parts of Central, Eastern, Luapula, and Much of Northern and Southern Provinces, where a combination of poor rainfall, limited harvests, and rising food prices has left households vulnerable. Many of these areas are predominantly rural and dependent on rainfed agriculture, meaning the cumulative impact of climatic shocks and input shortages will drive deeper food insecurity as the lean season progresses. Conversely, the areas that have dominant phase 2 classifications include pockets in Lusaka Province, parts of Western, and sections of Eastern and Southern indicate districts where food insecurity remains serious but not yet at crisis levels. These households may still be relying on small harvests, market purchases, or remittances to get by, but they remain highly exposed to further deterioration given the economic pressures and climatic uncertainties.

Table 6.22: Population Table for the Projected Period: Oct 2025 - March 2026

Province	District	D i s t r i c t Phase	Population Analyzed (#)	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5	
				People (#)	Percent [%]	People [#]	Percent [%]	People [#]	Percent [%]	People [#]	Percent [%]	People [#]	Percent [%]
Central	Chibombo	P2	479,380	143,814	30	263,659	55	71,907	15	-	-	-	-
	Chisamba	P2	182,718	73,087	40	91,359	50	18,272	10	-	-	-	-
	Luano	P3	75,973	26,591	35	34,188	45	15,195	20	-	-	-	-
	Mkushi	P2	237,475	94,990	40	118,738	50	23,748	10	-	-	-	-
	Ngabwe	P2	47,979	16,793	35	21,591	45	9,596	20	-	-	-	-
	Shibuyunji	P2	110,293	33,088	30	60,661	55	16,544	15	-	-	-	-
Copperbelt	Central Total		1,133,818	388,363	34	590,196	52	155,262	14	-	-	-	-
	Chingola	P2	341,322	119,463	35	187,727	55	34,132	10	-	-	-	-
	Kalulushi	P2	194,039	77,616	40	97,020	50	19,404	10	-	-	-	-
	Lufwanyama	P3	151,303	45,391	30	75,652	50	30,261	20	-	-	-	-
	Masaiti	P2	202,539	60,762	30	111,396	55	30,381	15	-	-	-	-
	Mufulira	P3	228,028	79,810	35	102,613	45	45,606	20	-	-	-	-
Eastern	Copperbelt Total		1,117,231	383,042	34	574,408	51	159,784	14	-	-	-	-
	Chama	P3	159,829	55,940	35	71,923	45	31,966	20	-	-	-	-
	Chasefu	P2	149,190	59,676	40	67,136	45	22,379	15	-	-	-	-
	Lundazi	P2	176,494	70,598	40	79,422	45	26,474	15	-	-	-	-
	Lusangazi	P3	125,422	37,627	30	56,440	45	31,356	25	-	-	-	-
	Mambwe	P3	135,906	54,362	40	54,362	40	27,181	20	-	-	-	-
	Nyimba	P2	164,750	65,900	40	74,138	45	24,713	15	-	-	-	-
	Sinda	P3	243,085	72,926	30	121,543	50	48,617	20	-	-	-	-
	Vubwi	P3	60,304	21,106	35	27,137	45	12,061	20	-	-	-	-
	Eastern Total		1,214,980	438,135	36	552,101	45	224,747	18	-	-	-	-
Luapula	Chifunabuli	P3	132,412	46,344	35	52,965	40	33,103	25	-	-	-	-
	Kawambwa	P2	140,826	49,289	35	70,413	50	21,124	15	-	-	-	-
	Lunga	P3	44,800	8,960	20	22,400	50	13,440	30	-	-	-	-
	Mansa	P2	374,212	149,685	40	187,106	50	37,421	10	-	-	-	-
	Milenge	P3	64,300	19,290	30	28,935	45	16,075	25	-	-	-	-
	Mwansabombwe	P3	66,972	23,440	35	30,137	45	13,394	20	-	-	-	-
	Mwense	P2	139,407	48,792	35	69,704	50	20,911	15	-	-	-	-

Nchelenge	P2	265,948	106,379	40	119,677	45	39,892	15	-	-	-	-	-
Luapula Total		1,228,877	452,179	37	581,337	47	195,360	16	-	-	-	-	-
Lusaka	Chitanga	P2	258,666	116,400	45	116,400	45	25,867	10	-	-	-	-
	Chongwe	P2	357,749	143,100	40	160,987	45	53,662	15	-	-	-	-
	Kafue	P2	249,712	99,885	40	124,856	50	24,971	10	-	-	-	-
	Luangwa	P3	40,923	14,323	35	18,415	45	8,185	20	-	-	-	-
	Rufunsa	P3	93,486	23,372	25	46,743	50	23,372	25	-	-	-	-
	Lusaka Total		1,000,536	397,080	40	467,401	47	136,057	14	-	-	-	-
Muchinga	Isoka	P3	124,660	31,165	25	68,563	55	24,932	20	-	-	-	-
	Kanchibiya	P3	105,853	26,463	25	58,219	55	21,171	20	-	-	-	-
	Lavushimanda	P2	63,388	22,186	35	31,694	50	9,508	15	-	-	-	-
	Mafinga	P2	116,541	40,789	35	58,271	50	17,481	15	-	-	-	-
	Mpika	P2	171,052	68,421	40	85,526	50	17,105	10	-	-	-	-
	Shiwang'andu	P3	90,013	31,505	35	40,506	45	18,003	20	-	-	-	-
	Muchinga Total		671,507	220,529	33	342,779	51	108,200	16	-	-	-	-
	Chilubi	P3	129,755	32,439	25	64,878	50	32,439	25	-	-	-	-
	Kaputa	P2	116,997	23,399	20	76,048	65	17,550	15	-	-	-	-
	Mporokoso	P3	72,311	25,309	35	32,540	45	14,462	20	-	-	-	-
Northern Western	Mungwi	P3	244,844	73,453	30	122,422	50	48,969	20	-	-	-	-
	Nsama	P3	88,440	26,532	30	44,220	50	17,688	20	-	-	-	-
	Senga Hill	P3	143,743	50,310	35	64,684	45	28,749	20	-	-	-	-
	Northern Total		796,090	231,442	29	404,792	51	159,857	20	-	-	-	-
	Chavuma	P3	62,549	21,892	35	28,147	45	12,510	20	-	-	-	-
	Kabompo	P3	75,128	22,538	30	37,564	50	15,026	20	-	-	-	-
	Kasempa	P3	126,827	38,048	30	63,414	50	25,365	20	-	-	-	-
	Manyinga	P3	85,534	21,384	25	47,044	55	17,107	20	-	-	-	-
	Mufumbwe	P3	111,882	33,565	30	50,347	45	27,971	25	-	-	-	-
	Mushindamo	P2	74,530	33,539	45	33,539	45	7,453	10	-	-	-	-
Southern	Zambezi	P2	123,727	43,304	35	68,050	55	12,373	10	-	-	-	-
	North Western Total		660,177	214,270	32	328,105	50	117,805	18	-	-	-	-
	Chikankata	P2	111,911	50,360	45	50,360	45	11,191	10	-	-	-	-
	Chirundu	P3	89,671	22,418	25	49,319	55	17,934	20	-	-	-	-

[illegible]

Conclusion

The results of the analysis confirm that food insecurity in the country remains a major concern, with a large share of the population classified in IPC Phase 2 (stressed) and significant caseloads already in IPC Phase 3 (crisis). At the national level, this is expected to include 1.7 million people during the projected period limiting the ability of people to meet their minimum food needs.

Nationally, the number of households in need of humanitarian support will rise, and food gaps are anticipated to widen unless urgent measures are put in place. This will coincide with heightened risks of malnutrition, especially among children, pregnant and lactating women, and other vulnerable groups. The analysis also highlights that cereal requirement particularly maize will be substantial in the coming months, alongside significant needs for pulses and vegetable oil, underscoring the scale of pipeline planning required.

The findings therefore call for a comprehensive response that addresses both immediate and long-term needs. Immediate priorities include the provision of life-saving food assistance to populations already in IPC Phase 3, together with targeted nutrition support and expanded access to water, sanitation, and health services. At the same time, investments in resilience must be scaled up. This includes support for climate-smart agricultural practices, adoption of drought-resistant crops, improved food storage and distribution systems, and measures to stabilize markets and cushion households from price shocks. Supporting alternative livelihoods and strengthening community-based disaster risk reduction will be essential in building long-term resilience. Without such dual action, the country risks entering a cycle of deepening food insecurity, rising malnutrition, and erosion of household coping capacities.

Recommendations

1. Immediate Humanitarian Assistance - Prioritize food distributions to populations already in IPC Phase 3 and those projected to deteriorate further, focusing on high-burden provinces such as Western, Eastern, Southern, Central, and Copperbelt, and hotspot districts like Luano where one in five people is projected to face crisis conditions. Ensure food assistance packages meet minimum dietary requirements by including cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil, while also integrating targeted nutrition interventions for children under five, pregnant and lactating women, and other vulnerable groups. Mobilize resources early to avoid pipeline breaks, given the large volumes of maize and other commodities required over the seven-month period.

2. Nutrition and Health Support - Scale up therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes to address acute malnutrition and prevent further deterioration, especially among children, women, and people with chronic illnesses. Strengthen health services in affected districts to provide treatment for malnutrition and related illnesses that are exacerbated by food insecurity. Integrate nutrition-sensitive messaging into food distribution and community outreach to promote adequate dietary diversity where possible.

3. Livelihood and Agricultural Support - Provide smallholder farmers with timely access to drought-tolerant seeds, fertilizer, and tools, alongside support for irrigation and pest control to reduce vulnerability in the upcoming season. Promote income-generating opportunities beyond farming — such as small-scale businesses, vocational training, and microfinance — to help households diversify livelihoods and reduce dependence on rainfed agriculture. Support farmer groups and cooperatives to enhance access to inputs, improve bargaining power, and strengthen linkages with markets.

4. Food Production and Storage - Invest in improved storage facilities such as community granaries to minimize post-harvest losses and stabilize food supplies. Encourage the adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices, including conservation farming, crop diversification, and soil fertility management, to improve resilience to erratic rainfall and prolonged drought.

5. Community Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction - Implement community-level measures to reduce vulnerability to climate shocks, such as strengthening early warning systems and building infrastructure to withstand drought and flooding. Expand education and awareness programmes on nutrition, food preparation, and sustainable agricultural practices to help households make the best use of available resources. Support social protection interventions, including cash transfers or food vouchers, in areas where markets are functional but access is constrained by high prices.

6. Policy and Coordination - Advocate for policy measures that address structural drivers of food insecurity, including market access barriers, high agricultural input costs, and land management challenges. Strengthen coordination between government, humanitarian agencies, and development partners to ensure efficient targeting of assistance and avoid duplication of efforts. Leverage international partnerships for additional funding, while ensuring alignment with national strategies to build longer-term resilience and reduce recurring humanitarian needs.

6.2 FOOD MARKETS, RELIEF AND STOCK

6.2.1 Introduction

Food security remains a critical challenge in Zambia, where disparities in market access, uneven relief distribution, and inadequate food reserves exacerbate hunger and malnutrition. Despite abundant agricultural potential, many households, especially in rural and marginalized communities, face persistent barriers to obtaining sufficient staple foods. These include distant markets, unaffordable prices, and climate-driven disruptions. Meanwhile, relief efforts often fall short, reaching only a fraction of those in need while failing to address systemic vulnerabilities. This section analyses the In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment results specifically focusing on gaps in food access with regards to food markets, relief, and stocks.

6.2.2 Food Markets

Table 6.20. revealed that there is food availability in the local markets. From the assessment, most districts reported high food availability with percentages often exceeding 80 percent or even 90 percent across all the provinces. Some districts, like Lunga and Milenge in Luapula Province, show significantly lower availability (34.3 percent and 21.1 percent, respectively). A few districts, such as Chavuma in Northwestern Province, reported availability below 70 percent. The highest province with food availability in the local market is Muchinga (95.9 percent), while the lowest is Northwestern (80.4 percent).

Table 6.20: Percentage Distribution of Households by Food availability Status on local markets		
Province	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Central	94.0	6.0
Copperbelt	93.3	6.7
Eastern	84.6	15.4
Luapula	84.9	15.1
Lusaka	88.6	11.4
Muchinga	95.9	4.1
Northern	92.8	7.2
North-western	80.4	19.6
Southern	83.0	17.0
Western	94.9	5.1

The findings revealed that the Copperbelt province leads with 65.1 percent of households having access to operational markets, likely due to urbanization and infrastructure development. Western and Muchinga provinces lag behind at 29.9 percent and 31 percent, respectively, reflecting rural isolation and underdevelopment.

Districts near cities such as Chingola and Kalulushi on the Copperbelt province reported high access to operational markets (>80 percent), while those in remote areas such as, Mitete in Western province and Kanchibiya in Muchinga province reported to have struggle in terms of accessing operational markets (<15 percent).

Chama and Chasefu districts are among the worst, with <10 percent access to operational markets. This suggests severe logistical challenges, possibly due to poor roads or sparse market distribution. Milenge district is dire, only 12.7 percent have access to operational markets, likely due to its remote location near Lake Bangweulu. Mitete and Sikongo districts reported 10.6 percent access to operational markets, the lowest in the country. Flooding in the Barotse Plains may have exacerbated this (See table 6.21).

Province	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Central	37.4	62.7
Copperbelt	65.1	34.9
Eastern	31.5	68.5
Luapula	39.2	60.8
Lusaka	48.3	51.7
Muchinga	31	69
Northern	36.4	63.6
North-western	43.1	56.9
Southern	59.2	40.8
Western	29.9	70.1

The results show that Across Zambia, 38.3 percent of households cite "markets are too far" as the top barrier to food access, followed by 20.3 percent struggling with high prices and 6.1 percent facing non-existent markets. The data exposes a fractured supply chain, where geography, infrastructure, and affordability collided.

Table 6.22. revealed that 58.2 percent of the assessed households in Eastern province reported distant to markets as the barrier, the highest in Zambia. 39.2 percent of the assessed households in Western province blame unaffordable prices, and 48.4 percent of assessed households in Luapula province face "other" issues (likely post-harvest losses or middlemen exploitation).

Table 6.22: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households by Reasons for insufficient food (main staples) availability on local markets

Province	Markets are too far (Percent)	Markets are none existent (Percent)	Cannot manage as prices are too high (Percent)
Central	42.9	5.9	14.5
Copperbelt	43.1	11.5	27.4
Eastern	58.2	0	25.1
Luapula	25.6	14.8	10.6
Lusaka	43.1	13.9	37.2
Muchinga	44.5	0	46.5
Northern	48.4	10	6.3
North Western	9.5	0.8	6
Southern	45.9	1	19.8
Western	15.8	6.5	39.2

The results revealed that 88.4 percent of assessed households nationwide reported sufficient staple food availability on local markets, but 11.6 percent of the assessed households faced shortages, affecting over 113,000 households.

Further, the results in table 6.23. show that Muchinga (95.9 percent) and Western (94.9 percent) provinces lead in terms of staple food availability on local markets, with near-universal access. Copperbelt (93.3 percent) and Central (93.9 percent) follow, benefiting from urban infrastructure. Northwestern (80.4 percent) and Eastern (84.6 percent) provinces lag behind in terms of staple food availability on local markets, with 1 in 5 households in Northwestern facing shortages.

Table 6.23: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households by status on sufficient food (main staples) availability on local markets

Province	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Central	93.9	6.04
Copperbelt	93.3	6.69
Eastern	84.6	15.4
Luapula	84.9	15.1
Lusaka	88.6	11.4
Muchinga	95.9	4.1
Northern	92.8	7.2
North Western	80.4	19.6
Southern	83	16.9
Western	94.9	5.1

6.2.3 Relief Food

The result in table 6.24. shows that the distribution of relief goods reveals a clear disparity between male-headed and female-headed households. Across all quantity categories, male-headed households consistently received a larger share of relief goods compared to female-headed households. In the lowest category of less than 20kgs, 75 percent of the households were male-headed while only 25 percent were female-headed, indicating that female-headed households were more likely to receive minimal support. In the 20–50kgs category, the gap narrowed slightly to 60 percent male-headed and 40 percent female-headed households, suggesting some improvement in allocation, but male-headed households still predominated.

For medium to higher quantities, ranging from 51kgs to over 200kgs, male-headed households continued to receive about two-thirds of the relief goods, with female-headed households consistently receiving around one-third. This pattern highlights a systemic inequity in relief distribution, where female-headed households often among the most vulnerable receive proportionally less support. The data underscores the need for more gender-sensitive allocation mechanisms to ensure that relief efforts adequately address the needs of all households, particularly those headed by women.

Table 6.24: Percentage of Distribution of Households by Quantity of Relief Receive/Earn Staple as Relief food from January 2025 to date

Quantity of Relief Good	Male Headed Households (Percent)	Female Headed Household (Percent)
Less than 20Kgs	75	25
20Kgs - 50Kgs	60	40
51kGS - 100Kgs	67	33
101Kgs - 200Kgs	66	34
Above 200Kgs	66	34

The results in table 6.25. revealed the distribution of relief and food support across different programme types shows notable differences in gender participation, reflecting both the targeting and nature of each programme. The Food for Work programme had a higher proportion of male beneficiaries, with 62 percent male and 38 percent female participation. This suggests that males are more likely to engage in work-based food programmes, potentially due to the physical demands or socio-cultural norms around labor. In contrast, Home Based Care overwhelmingly benefited females, with 79 percent female and only 21 percent male participation, reflecting the caregiving roles traditionally held by women in households and communities.

The ART (Antiretroviral Therapy) programme from clinics shows 100 percent male participation and no female representation in this dataset, which may indicate data limitations or a specific reporting anomaly, as HIV treatment programs typically serve both genders. General Food Distribution (Free Food) also favored males, with 67 percent male and 33 percent female beneficiaries, indicating that broad-based distribution may inadvertently benefit male-headed households more. Food Relief Distribution by DMMU had a slightly more balanced distribution, with 61 percent male and 39 percent female beneficiaries, though males still received the majority of aid.

Lastly, the “Others” category mirrored similar trends, with 69 percent male and 31 percent female participation. Overall, the data suggest that programmes requiring labor or public participation tend to favor males, whereas caregiving-focused programmes heavily involve females. This pattern underscores the importance of tailoring food and relief interventions to ensure equitable access and support for female-headed households and women who may face structural barriers to participation.

Table 6.25: Number and percentage of the type of programme household receive/earn staple as Relief food from January 2025 to date

Type Of Relief Food Programme	Male (Percent)	Female (Percent)
Food for work	62	38
Home Based Care	21	79
ART (from Clinics)	100	-
General Food Distribution (Free Food)	67	33
Food Relief Distribution by DMMU	61	39
Others	69	31

The results in table 6.26. revealed that only 1 percent (23,114 out of 2.27M) of school children received take-home rations, indicating a major gap in food assistance programs. Most districts such as Chibombo, Chingola, Mansa and Monze) reported 0 percent coverage, suggesting either lack of implementation or severe underreporting.

Males dominated in ration receipt where programs existed, in districts such as Luano, Mkushi and Lufwanyama, reported 100 percent male recipients in some cases with few exceptions, Chisamba and Ngabwe districts had 100 percent female recipients, possibly due to gender-targeted programs. Chifunabuli and Kawambwa districts had mixed distributions but still skewed toward males.

Masaiti district had the highest absolute number (7,450 children) receiving rations, but this was still only 19 percent of its total. Lufwanyama (427 children, 1.6 percent) and Mungwi districts (0 percent) showed uneven implementation even among neighbouring districts. Kawambwa (3,353 children, 11 percent) and Lunga districts (522 children, 5.3 percent) were among the few with moderate coverage.

Table 6.26: Percentage Distribution of Households with Basic/Primary School Children Receive Any Take-Home Ration at School in selected districts from January 2025 to June/July

District	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Masaiti	19	81
Kawambwa	11	89
Lunga	5	95
Lufwanyama	2	98

The results in table 6.27. revealed that only 0.8 percent (18,213 out of 2.27 million households) received HEPS, highlighting a critical gap in supplementary nutrition assistance. Most districts such as Chibombo, Chingola, Mansa, and Monze reported 0 percent coverage, suggesting limited program reach or implementation failures.

In districts where HEPS were distributed such as Luano, Mkushi, and Lusangazi, males were the primary recipients, often accounting for 100 percent of beneficiaries. Exception, Ngabwe district had 66.6 percent female recipients, indicating a rare female-focused distribution. Kanchibiya and Gwembe districts showed equal gender distribution, but these were outliers.

Mkushi district had the highest absolute number (1,473 households) receiving HEPS, but this was only 2.6 percent of its total households. Chilanga (2,406 households, 3.2 percent) and Shang'ombo districts (1,826 households, 7.9 percent) stood out for relatively higher coverage. Urban districts like Chilanga and Chongwe had sporadic coverage, while some rural areas such as Kalabo and Lukulu) had modest but meaningful distributions.

Table 6.27: Percentage Distribution of Households Receive Any HEPS As Relief Food - Supplementary Assistance in selected districts from January 2025 to Date

District	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Shangombo	8	92
Sioma	5	95
Lukulu	4	96
Chilanga	3	97
Lunga	3	97

6.2.4 Food stock Available

The assessment revealed that the provincial distribution of responses shows significant variation in access or participation, with some provinces performing far better than others. Muchinga (48.8 percent and Eastern (48.7 percent recorded the highest proportions of "Yes" responses, closely followed by Northern (43.7 percent, North Western (45.0 percent, and Luapula (40.9 percent, all of which had more than 40 percent of households responding positively. These provinces reflect relatively better levels of access or inclusion compared to others.

In contrast, Lusaka (17.7 percent and Western (21.6 percent reported the lowest positive responses, with over four-fifths of households in Lusaka and nearly four-fifths in Western Province indicating "No," pointing to significant exclusion or lack of access. Copperbelt (30 percent and Southern (35.6 percent also recorded below-average "Yes" responses, suggesting challenges in these regions as well. Central Province (39.6 percent fell close to the mid-range but still leaned towards a majority of "No" responses.

Overall, the data indicates uneven distribution or access across provinces, with Muchinga and Eastern performing relatively well, while Lusaka and Western lag considerably behind. This highlights the need for targeted interventions in low-performing provinces to address disparities and ensure more equitable coverage across the country. (See Table 6.28).

Table 6.28: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households with Staple Stock by Province

Province	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Central	39.6	60.4
Copperbelt	30.0	70.0
Eastern	48.7	51.3
Luapula	40.9	59.1
Lusaka	17.7	82.3
Muchinga	48.8	51.2
Northern	43.7	56.3
North Western	45.0	55.1
Southern	35.6	64.4
Western	21.6	78.4

Conclusion

The assessment of food markets, relief distribution, and household food stocks highlights a complex picture of availability, access, and equity in Zambia's food security landscape. While staple foods were generally available in local markets, access remained uneven, with remote and underdeveloped areas facing significant barriers such as distant markets, unaffordable prices, and poor infrastructure. Relief distribution, although present, was marked by gender disparities, with male-headed households consistently receiving larger shares of food assistance compared to female-headed households, despite the latter often being more vulnerable.

Programme-specific distributions further revealed systemic imbalances, as work-based relief favored men, while caregiving-related support was dominated by women. School feeding and supplementary nutrition initiatives such as HEPS were minimal in coverage, reaching less than 1 percent of the population, pointing to a critical gap in nutritional safety nets. Similarly, household food stocks varied considerably across provinces, with Muchinga and Eastern showing relatively stronger reserves, while Lusaka, Western, and Copperbelt lagged behind, reflecting both urban pressures and rural isolation. Overall, the findings underscore that while food availability is not the primary constraint, inequitable access, gender imbalances, weak relief coverage, and uneven household stocks remain pressing challenges that require targeted, inclusive, and better-coordinated interventions to strengthen national food security.

Recommendations

1. Strengthen equitable relief distribution by ensuring gender-sensitive targeting mechanisms so that female-headed households, often more vulnerable, receive fair shares of food assistance.
2. Expand nutrition-specific programmes such as school feeding and supplementary food (HEPS), which currently reach less than 1 percent of the population, to improve child nutrition and household food security.
3. Improve targeting of programme design to balance access, ensuring that labor-based food-for-work initiatives do not disproportionately exclude women, while home-based and caregiving-focused programmes are complemented with broader community support.
4. Address provincial disparities by prioritizing interventions in low-performing provinces such as Lusaka, Western, and Copperbelt, where household food stocks and positive access responses are significantly lower.
5. Enhance market access in remote and underdeveloped areas by improving rural infrastructure, reducing transport barriers, and supporting affordable pricing mechanisms.
6. Promote community participation and inclusion in planning and monitoring food relief programmes to ensure transparency, accountability, and responsiveness to local needs.
7. Strengthen coordination among stakeholders including government, DMMU, NGOs, and community structures to harmonize relief efforts, avoid duplication, and expand coverage to underserved populations.
8. Build household resilience through livelihood support initiatives, including climate-smart agriculture, small-scale irrigation, and income diversification, to reduce dependence on relief aid over time.

6.3 HEALTH

6.3.1. Introduction

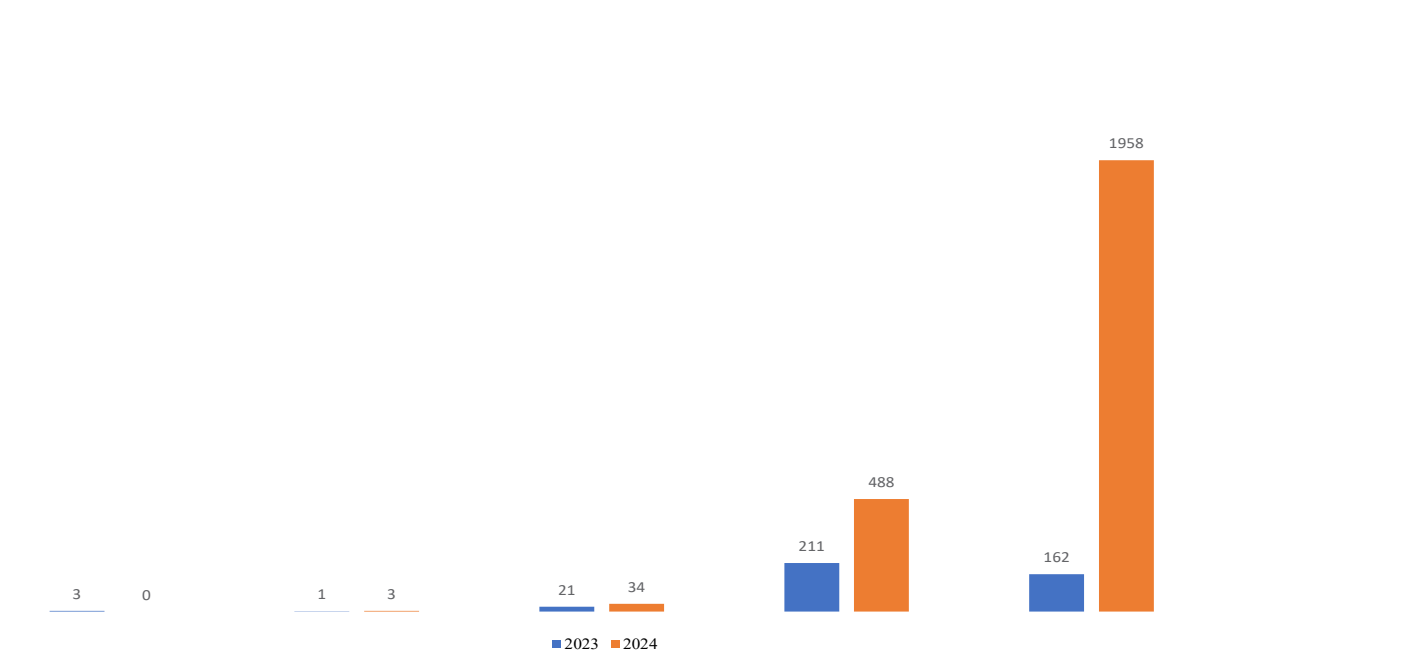
Climate change continues to drive numerous health emergencies and disasters, significantly escalating risks that threaten population well-being in Zambia. These include outbreaks of infectious diseases, food- and water-borne illnesses, and health system disruptions, with broad social, economic, and political consequences. Droughts, as slow-onset phenomena, often have less visible but profound impacts on health outcomes, making it critical to assess these effects for better preparedness, mitigation, adaptation, and response.

This section draws on variables from the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) and the District Health Information System version 2 (DHIS2) for 2024 and 2025, complemented by findings from the VAC assessment. Key areas of concern include outbreaks and epidemics (cholera, COVID-19, measles, typhoid, dysentery, polio, and anthrax), childhood illnesses (fever, diarrhoea, ARI/cough, and skin infections), sexual and reproductive health challenges, worsening of the existing disease burden (malaria, HIV and AIDS, STIs, TB), mental health impacts, and continuity of essential health services, including for non-communicable diseases. Currently, an estimated 4.95 million people are in crisis or worse due to the adverse effects of the 2024/25 rainfall season, with significant negative implications for public health.

6.3.2. Epidemics

In Zambia, natural disasters like droughts and floods have a significant impact on the occurrence of epidemics. Flooding has led to the contamination of water sources with pathogens, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases such as cholera and typhoid. The disruption of sanitation systems during floods further exacerbates this risk. Droughts has reduced the availability of clean water, forcing people to use unsafe water sources. This has led to outbreaks of diarrhea diseases and other waterborne infections. Epidemics following natural disasters has strained healthcare systems, making it difficult to provide adequate care and control the spread of diseases. Figure 6.2 indicates the total number of cases for drought induced disease epidemics and outbreaks by year, shows that in 2025, the number of cases for Cholera, Measles, Typhoid, and Anthrax were higher compared to 2025. In contrast, only 3 cases of polio were recorded in 2023, and none were recorded in 2024.

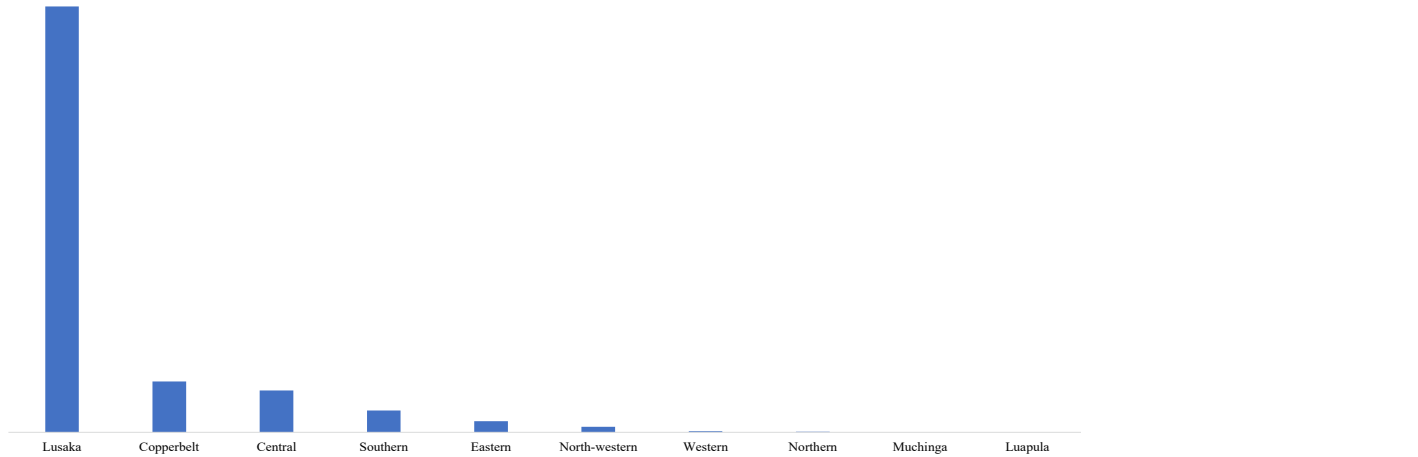
Figure 6.2: Drought induced Disease Epidemics and outbreaks by Year



Source: Weekly Epidemiological Bulletin (ZNPHI and Ministry of Health, 2024)

Figure 6.3 indicated that a total of 71 districts in all the ten provinces were affected by cholera outbreak. Lusaka province was the epidemic center of the outbreak with more 76.2 percent of all cases in six districts. The other provinces affected with more than 500 cases includes Copperbelt (9.1 percent) affecting ten districts and Central (7.5 percent) affecting eleven districts. The cholera outbreak was more pronounced in Lusaka due to overcrowding, erratic water supply and poor water quality. This was exacerbated by power outages that affected the operations of the utility companies thereby reducing the quantity of water supplied to households

Figure 6.3: Percentage Distribution of Cholera Cases by Province in 2025



Source: Weekly Epidemiological Bulletin (ZNPHI and Ministry of Health, 2024)

Table 6.29 show that as of 17th July 2024, a total of 23,382 cholera cases were reported across nine provinces of Zambia, with Lusaka Province emerging as the epicenter of the outbreak. Lusaka alone accounted for 17,809 cases, representing about 78 percent of all reported cases, despite only six districts being affected. The Copperbelt and Central provinces followed with 2,126 and 1,753 cases respectively, translating to 9.4 percent and 7.7 percent of the total caseload. Southern and Eastern provinces recorded 917 and 469 cases respectively, reflecting a moderate spread of the disease across a larger number of districts but with lower case density.

In contrast, North-Western, Western, Northern, Muchinga, and Luapula provinces reported relatively low case numbers, with Western recording 40, Northern 23, Muchinga 7, and Luapula only a single case. This distribution highlights the uneven severity of the outbreak, with urban and high-density areas like Lusaka being disproportionately affected, while several rural provinces experienced minimal transmission. The data suggests an urgent need for concentrated response efforts in Lusaka, alongside continued surveillance and preventive interventions in other provinces to prevent escalation.

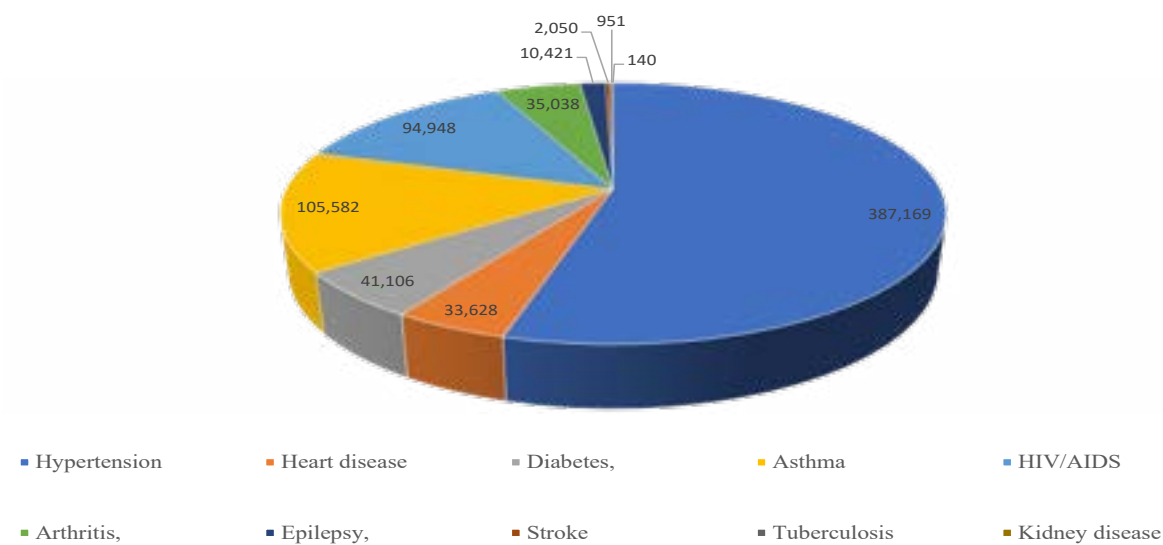
Table 6.29: Cholera Cases as of 17th July, 2024

Province	No. of Districts	No. of Cholera Cases
Lusaka	6	17809
Central	11	1753
Copperbelt	10	2126
Southern	14	917
Eastern	14	469
North-western	5	237
Western	4	40
Northern	3	23
Muchinga	4	7
Luapula	1	1

6.3.3. Chronic Illness

The findings in figure 6.4. indicate that hypertension (17.1 percent) is the most commonly reported chronic health condition amongst household members, followed by asthma (4.7 percent) and HIV infection/AIDS (4.2 percent). Conditions such as diabetes (1.8 percent), arthritis/chronic body pain (1.5 percent), and heart disease (1.5 percent) are less prevalent but still significant. Less common conditions include epilepsy (0.5 percent), stroke (0.1 percent), while tuberculosis and kidney disease did not record any cases. These results suggest a high burden of non-communicable diseases (particularly hypertension) and respiratory conditions in the surveyed households, with infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS still posing a notable concern

Figure 6.4: Number of Households with Members Diagnosed with Chronic Conditions by Type



Medication Status	Total	Rural (Total)	Rural Male-Headed	Rural Female-Headed	Urban (Total)	Urban Male-Headed	Urban Female-Headed	percent of Total	percent of Rural	percent of Urban
Total Cases	349,163	225,258	133,843	91,415	123,906	70,005	53,900	100	100	100
Not on Medication	80,951	60,996	40,844	20,152	19,955	12,950	7,005	23.2	27.1	16.1
On Medication	268,213	164,262	92,999	71,263	103,951	57,055	46,896	76.8	72.9	83.9

The findings reveal significant disparities in medication access among 349,163 individuals with selected health conditions. Of these, 23 percent are not on medication, while 77 percent are receiving treatment.

6.3.4. Individuals Not on Medication

Figure 6.31. Shows the reasons for not being on medication reveal both gendered patterns and systemic challenges in access to treatment. Among male-headed households, cost-related and structural barriers dominate, with 70 percent reporting that medication was too expensive, 79 percent citing lack of money for transport, and 71 percent avoiding treatment due to side effects. Men also reported higher failure rates in following instructions (77 percent) and were more likely to indicate disinterest in taking medication (66 percent). Strikingly, in cases of displacement and stock-outs at health facilities, 100 percent of the affected households were male-headed, highlighting the heightened vulnerability of such households when faced with systemic supply disruptions or mobility shocks.

On the other hand, female-headed households show a stronger representation in reasons linked to behavioral and access challenges. For example, 56.3 percent of female-headed households reported forgetting to take medication compared to 44 percent among male-headed households, while 60 percent of them cited failure to access health facilities for more drugs, exceeding their male counterparts (40 percent). Transport difficulties also weighed more heavily on women, with 43 percent citing lack of transport compared to 57 percent for men, and 42.4 percent reporting lost medication. Notably, female-headed households consistently appeared more vulnerable in categories that reflect weaker household resilience and barriers to continuity of care, such as forgetting, losing drugs, and inability to reach facilities.

Overall, the data shows that while male-headed households dominate in reporting structural and financial constraints, female-headed households disproportionately face challenges of continuity, access, and care adherence. The total number not on medication reflects this imbalance, with 66 percent of male-headed households compared to 33.5 percent of female-headed households. These findings highlight the need for gender-sensitive interventions that not only subsidize costs and address supply chain issues but also strengthen adherence support, community-based follow-ups, and transport facilitation particularly for female-headed households, who face more barriers in sustaining treatment access.

Table 6.31: Individuals Not on Medication and Underlying Reasons across Households, and headship		
Reason(s)	Male Headed Households	Female Headed Households
Medication too expensive so cannot afford	70	29.6
Forgot to take medication	44	56.3
Failed to follow the instructions for taking the medicines	77	22.6
Displacement	100	0
Lack of transport to go and collect the drugs	57	43
No money to pay for transport	79	20.6
Not interested in taking medication	66	33.9
To avoid side effects	71	29.3
There was/is stock-out at the health facility	100	0
Failure to access the health facility for more medication	40	60
Lost the medication	58	42.4
Other	58	41.5
Total number not on Medication	66	33.5

The findings in table 6.31. shows that 80,951 households are affected by individuals with health conditions who are not on medication. Most affected households are in rural areas (60,996) compared to urban areas (19,955), with male-headed households forming the majority. The main reasons for not taking medication include fear of side effects (16,610 people), lack of interest (17,834), the high cost of medication (9,561), and transport challenges (7,092). Other factors include stock-outs in health facilities and displacement, which are more pronounced in rural areas.

These results highlight the need for interventions to improve access and adherence to medication. Key actions include reducing financial barriers, strengthening supply chains, improving health education, and ensuring easier access to services. Additionally, addressing community perceptions and reluctance through engagement and sensitization is critical.

Conclusion

The analysis of health outcomes in the context of climate-related shocks in Zambia highlights a dual burden of infectious disease outbreaks and chronic illness challenges, compounded by systemic barriers to healthcare access. Epidemics such as cholera, typhoid, and anthrax have been intensified by floods and droughts, with Lusaka Province emerging as the epicenter of the 2024 cholera outbreak, accounting for nearly four-fifths of all cases due to high population density, erratic water supply, and weakened utility services. At the same time, the rising prevalence of chronic illnesses, particularly hypertension, asthma, and HIV/AIDS, underscores the growing importance of addressing both communicable and non-communicable diseases.

However, nearly a quarter of affected individuals remain without medication, disproportionately in rural and male-headed households, with cost, transport barriers, and stock-outs as the leading structural constraints. Female-headed households, while fewer in absolute numbers, face significant challenges in continuity of care, such as forgetting, losing, or failing to access medication. Overall, the findings reveal that health emergencies are exacerbated by climate change and structural inequalities, straining already fragile systems and leaving large segments of the population vulnerable. This calls for urgent, gender-sensitive, and equity-focused interventions that strengthen epidemic preparedness, address the chronic disease burden, and improve access to essential medicines and health services across both urban and rural areas.

Recommendations

1. Strengthen epidemic preparedness and response systems by enhancing surveillance, rapid response, and outbreak management capacity at national and district levels.
2. Prioritize cholera control in Lusaka and other high-risk provinces through investment in safe water supply, sanitation infrastructure, and reliable utility services.
3. Expand access to affordable medication by subsidizing essential drugs, reducing user fees, and implementing financial protection mechanisms for vulnerable households.
4. Improve supply chain management to prevent stock-outs in health facilities, especially in rural and hard-to-reach areas.
5. Enhance transport and access support by introducing community-based drug distribution, mobile health services, and transport vouchers for patients in remote areas.
6. Integrate gender-sensitive approaches into health programming to address the distinct challenges faced by female-headed households, such as adherence, continuity of care, and follow-up support.
7. Scale up health education and community engagement to improve adherence, reduce stigma, and address misconceptions or reluctance to take medication.
8. Strengthen management of chronic diseases by integrating NCD services into primary health care and improving screening, treatment, and long-term follow-up.
9. Address climate-linked health risks by mainstreaming climate change adaptation into the health sector, focusing on resilience to droughts, floods, and other disasters.
10. Foster cross-sector collaboration between health, water, energy, and disaster management actors to address the structural drivers of health emergencies.

6.4 NUTRITION

6.4.1. Introduction

This section of the 2024/25 VAC report highlights the nutrition situation in Zambia based on the current assessment. It reviews the impact of food insecurity on vulnerable groups, particularly children and pregnant women, and emphasizes the need for coordinated, multi-sectoral actions.

Analysis of Food Consumption Scores, Household Dietary Diversity Scores, and meal frequency has been used to identify areas and populations most at risk of malnutrition. The findings indicate significant disparities across districts, with some households resorting to negative coping strategies that further compromise nutrition.

These insights provide evidence for targeted interventions aimed at strengthening food security, improving dietary diversity, and ensuring that vulnerable households receive timely nutrition support during ongoing and future shocks.

Provincial averages were calculated for completeness; however, these should be interpreted with caution as they may not represent true provincial performance due to variations in the number of districts assessed per province therefore, district-level analysis provides a more accurate information of the findings.

6.4.2. Food Consumption Score by District

Analysis of district-level Food Consumption Score (FCS) data from the 2025 ZVAC assessment reveals significant variation in dietary adequacy across the country. Several districts exhibit alarming levels of poor food consumption, indicating a high proportion of households with inadequate dietary diversity and frequency.

The data on hotspot districts with poor Food Consumption Scores (FCS) highlights critical areas of food insecurity across Zambia. Shang'ombo stands out as the most affected district, with nearly 70 percent of households classified under poor FCS, indicating a severe food access and nutrition crisis. Other highly affected districts include Chilubi and Ngabwe, both with 64 percent of households in the poor category, followed closely by Mufumbwe (63.1 percent) and Kasempa (63 percent). Districts such as Lunga (59.3 percent), Sikongo (59.2 percent), and Mitete (56.7 percent) also reflect worrying levels of poor food consumption, suggesting widespread and persistent vulnerability.

While Chama (54.2 percent), Kabompo (52.9 percent), Shiwang'andu (52.7 percent), Chifunabuli (52 percent), and Sioma (51.3 percent) record slightly lower levels of poor FCS, the fact that more than half of households in these areas fall within the poor category signals a substantial challenge. Collectively, the figures indicate that in all these hotspot districts, the majority of households are unable to meet minimum dietary diversity and quality standards, underscoring the need for urgent food assistance, nutrition interventions, and resilience-building measures.

Table 6.32: Hotspot District with Poor Percentage of FCS at 50 percent or More			
Hotspot District with Poor FCS			
District	Acceptable (percent)	Borderline (percent)	Poor (percent)
Shang'ombo	12.1	18.6	69.3
Chilubi	13.2	22.8	64
Ngabwe	13.3	22.7	64
Mufumbwe	12.5	24.4	63.1
Kasempa	9.1	27.9	63
Lunga	7.3	33.3	59.3
Sikongo	10.2	30.6	59.2
Mitete	20	23.3	56.7
Chama	21.5	24.3	54.2
Kabompo	21.1	26.1	52.9
Shiwang'andu	22.7	24.7	52.7
Chifunabuli	12.7	35.3	52
Sioma	25.3	23.3	51.3

6.4.3. Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)

The HDDS findings shows wide inter-provincial disparities in household access to a diverse diet, a critical proxy for food and nutrition security. Western Province continues to have the weakest dietary diversity profile, with 29.5 percent of households consuming only 0–2 food groups and just 36.8 percent meeting the desirable 5–12 food groups' threshold. This pattern indicates that nearly one in three households in Western Province is consuming extremely monotonous diets, which significantly elevates the risk of micronutrient deficiencies and associated health problems.

The Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) analysis across provinces reveals significant disparities in dietary quality and access. Overall, 56.4 percent of households consumed between 5–12 food groups, 31.0 percent consumed 3–4 food groups, while 12.7 percent consumed only 0–2 food groups, indicating limited dietary diversity for a notable share of the population. Western Province stands out with the highest proportion of households (29.5 percent) consuming only 0–2 food groups, followed by Lusaka at 18.7 percent, North-Western at 18.3 percent, and Muchinga at 18.5 percent, highlighting concerning levels of poor dietary diversity. In contrast, Central Province performed relatively well, with 67.0 percent of households consuming 5–12 food groups and only 8.5 percent consuming 0–2 food groups. Similarly, Luapula (63.3 percent) and Copperbelt (63.6 percent) showed relatively higher dietary diversity with smaller proportions of households in the lowest category at 6.9 percent and 8.7 percent, respectively.

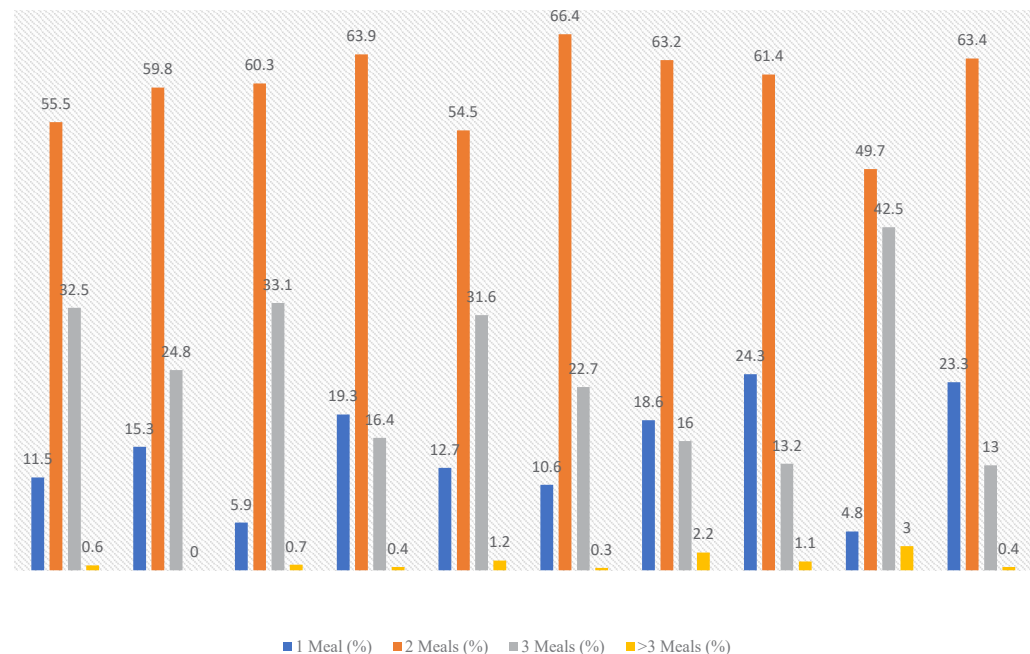
Southern Province also recorded a strong performance with 58.6 percent of households consuming 5–12 food groups and only 5.4 percent falling into the poorest category. However, provinces such as Eastern (9.7 percent in 0–2 groups, 36.6 percent in 3–4 groups), Northern (10.6 percent in 0–2 groups, 29.9 percent in 3–4 groups), and Muchinga reveal significant dietary challenges, as large proportion of households fall into the borderline or poor categories. These findings underscore the need for targeted nutrition and food security interventions in provinces like Western, Lusaka, North-Western, and Muchinga, where poor dietary diversity is most acute (See table 6.32.).

Province	Household Dietary Diversity Score Categories		
	5-12 Food Groups	3-4 Food Groups	0-2 Food Groups
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Central	67	24.5	8.5
Copperbelt	63.6	27.7	8.7
Eastern	53.7	36.6	9.7
Luapula	63.3	29.8	6.9
Lusaka	60.1	21.2	18.7
Muchinga	46.9	34.7	18.5
Northern	59.5	29.9	10.6
North Western	42.3	39.4	18.3
Southern	58.6	36	5.4
Western	36.8	33.8	29.5
Total	56.4	31	12.7

6.4.4. Meal Frequency

The analysis of household in figure 6.5 meal frequency across provinces reveals that most households in the assessed 71 districts typically consume two meals per day, although there are notable variations across provinces and districts. Provinces such as Muchinga (66.4 percent), Western (63.4 percent), Luapula (63.9 percent), and Northern (63.2percent) have the highest proportions of households consuming two meals daily, while Southern Province stands out for having the highest proportion of households consuming three meals per day (42.5 percent).

Figure 6.5: Percentage Distribution of Households’ Main Meal Frequency Per Day by Province



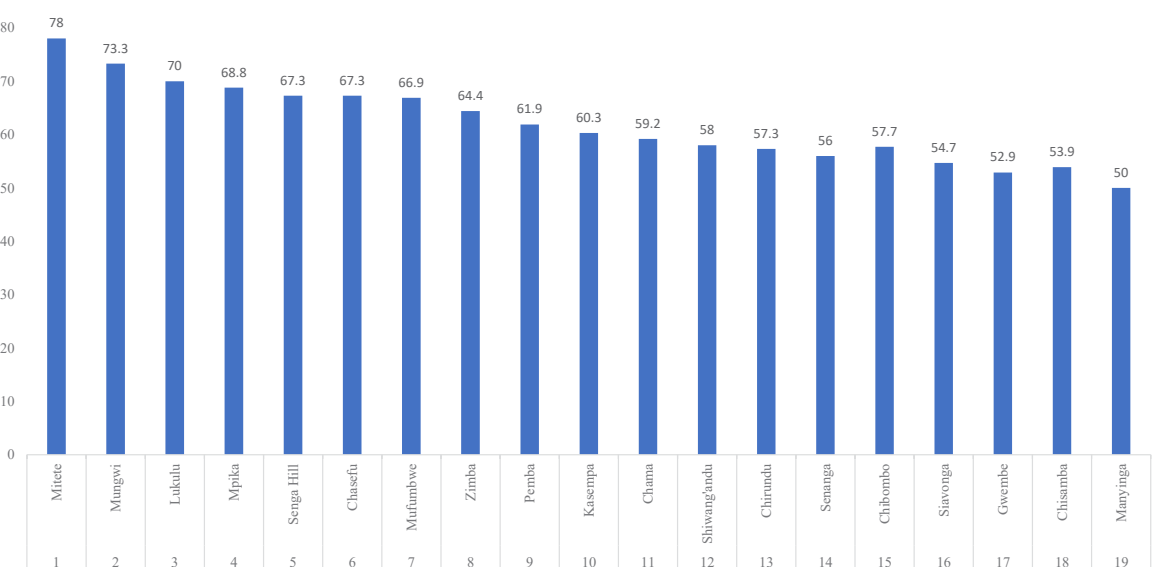
Despite this, a worrying trend emerges in several districts where a substantial proportion of households’ report consuming only one meal per day, a key indicator of food insecurity. Districts with the highest prevalence of one-meal-a-day households include Lunga (54.7percent), Chavuma (41.9 percent), Mufumbwe (41.9 percent), Mitete (36.0 percent), Kalabo (35.6 percent), Chifunabuli (34.7 percent), Chilubi (31.2 percent), and Ngabwe (26.7 percent). These patterns suggest that these areas are particularly vulnerable and may require urgent food and nutrition interventions. On the other hand, only a few districts, such as Kaputa, Pemba, and Chikankata, report a notable share of households consuming more than three meals per day, reflecting better food availability.

Overall, the findings point to significant disparities in household food access and highlight provinces such as Luapula, Western, North-Western, and Northern as having more pronounced food access challenges. District-level data provide critical detail for programme targeting, and for these specifics, reference should be made to table 6.5.

6.4.5. Unusual Number of Meals

The analysis in figure 6.6., of household perceptions on whether the current number of meals consumed is unusual for this time of year shows considerable variation across provinces and districts. Overall, a substantial share of households indicated that their meal frequency is unusual for this period, pointing to seasonal or shock-related challenges affecting food access. Provinces such as Muchinga, Northern, Southern, Western, and Eastern stand out, with more than half of the households in these areas reporting that their current meal patterns are unusual, an indication of potential strain on household food availability and affordability.

Figure 6.6: Percentage Distribution of Households with proportion of 50 percent or more “Unusual” Meal Frequency Compared to the Same Time Last Year by District



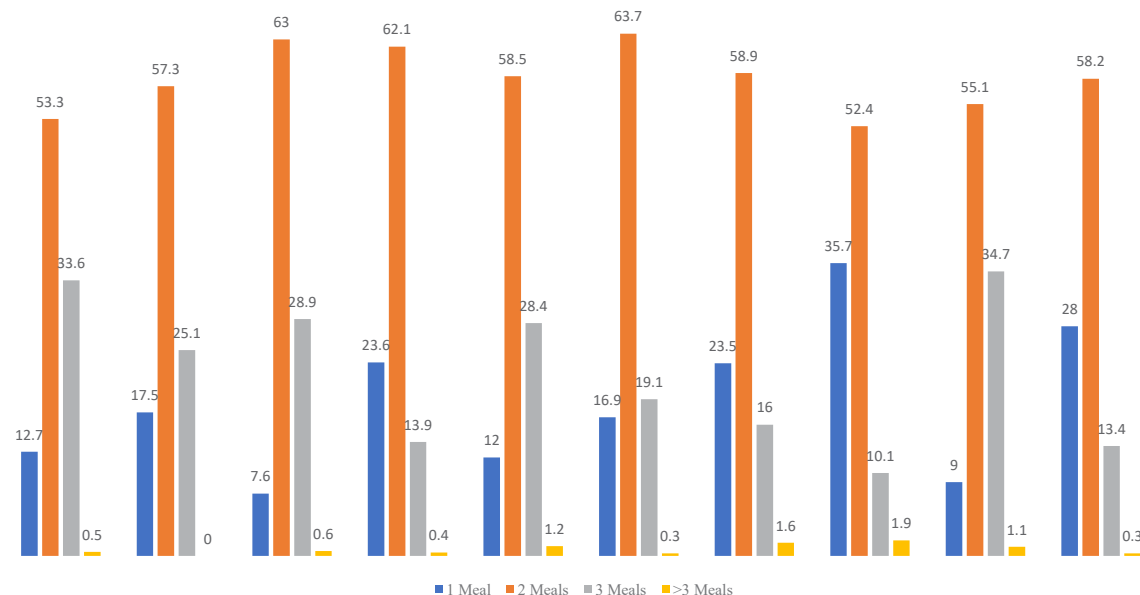
At district level, the pattern is even more pronounced. Several districts recorded 50 percent or more of households stating that their meal frequency is unusual. These include Mitete (78 percent), Mungwi (73.3 percent), Lukulu (70 percent), Mpika (68.8 percent), Senga Hill (67.3 percent), Chasefu (67.3 percent), Mufumbwe (66.9 percent),imba (64.4 percent), Pemba (61.9 percent), Kasempa (60.3 percent), Chama (59.2 percent), Shiwang'andu (58 percent), Chirundu (57.3 percent), Chibombo (57.7 percent), Senanga (56 percent), Siavonga (54.7 percent), Chisamba (53.9 percent), Gwembe (52.9 percent), and Manyinga (50 percent). The concentration of these districts in rural provinces highlights areas of heightened vulnerability.

In contrast, Lusaka (26.8 percent) and Copperbelt (35.3percent) provinces recorded relatively low proportions of households perceiving their current meal patterns as unusual, suggesting comparatively more stable food access in these areas. These results underscore the importance of addressing seasonal vulnerabilities through targeted interventions such as emergency food security support, diversification of livelihoods, and resilience-building measures.

6.4.6. Meal Frequency

The analysis of meal frequency findings in figure 6.7. across provinces for the 71 assessed districts reveals that most women consume two meals per day, with provincial averages ranging between 52 percent and 64 percent. However, a significant proportion of women in some provinces subsist on only one meal daily, notably in North Western (35.7 percent) and Western (28 percent) provinces. Luapula and Northern provinces also exhibit relatively high single-meal consumption, suggesting persistent food insecurity. Three meals per day is less common, and the intake of more than three meals per day is negligible across provinces. These findings underscore the need for targeted interventions to improve food availability, dietary diversity, and nutrition education, particularly in provinces with higher single-meal patterns.

Figure 6.7: Proportion of Female Headed Households by Number of Meals Consumed by Province

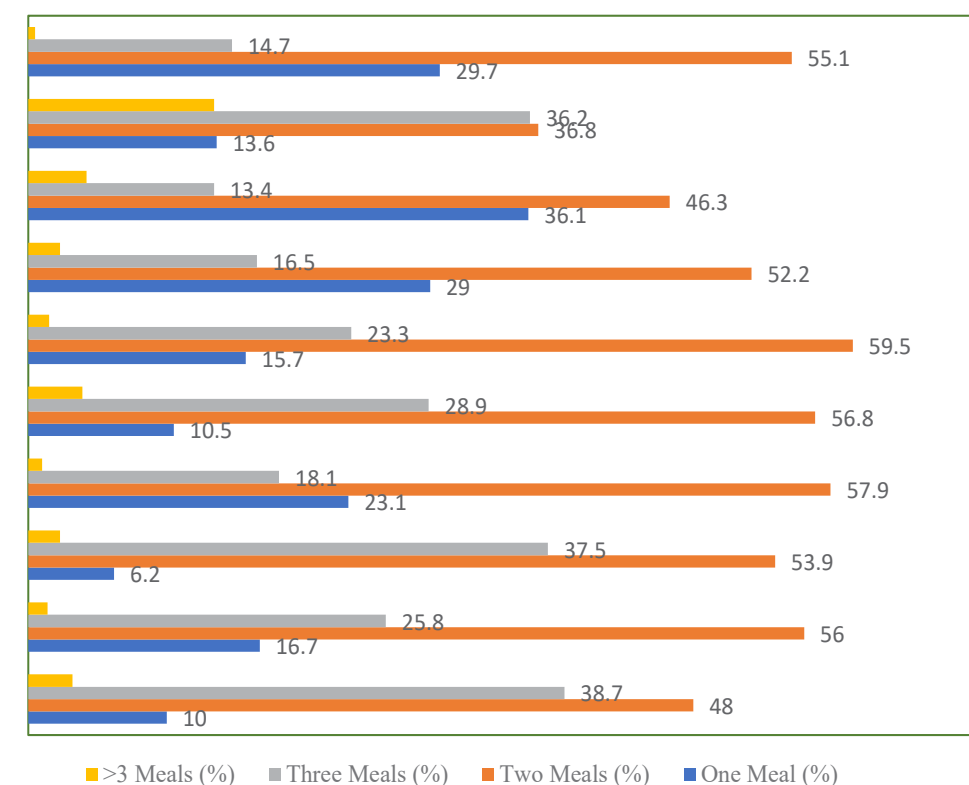


6.4.7. Under-Five Children Meal Frequency by Province

The analysis of meal frequency among under-five children by province in the assessed districts shows that across most provinces, the majority of children consumed two meals yesterday, with the highest proportions observed in Muchinga, Luapula, Lusaka, and Copperbelt provinces, all recording above 55 percent. Consumption of only one meal is notably high in North Western (36.1 percent), Western (29.7 percent), and Northern (29.0 percent) provinces, indicating possible food access in these areas. Three meals per day were reported most commonly in Central, Eastern, and Southern provinces, where around one-third of children met this level of meal frequency.

Having more than three meals a day remains rare in most provinces, except in Southern Province, where 13.4 percent of children consumed more than three meals, reflecting relatively better meal frequency in that area. These findings suggest that while most provinces maintain a pattern of two meals a day, there are regional disparities, with North Western, Western, and Northern provinces standing out as areas where low meal frequency is more pronounced and may require targeted interventions to improve food and nutrition security for under-five children (See table 6.8)

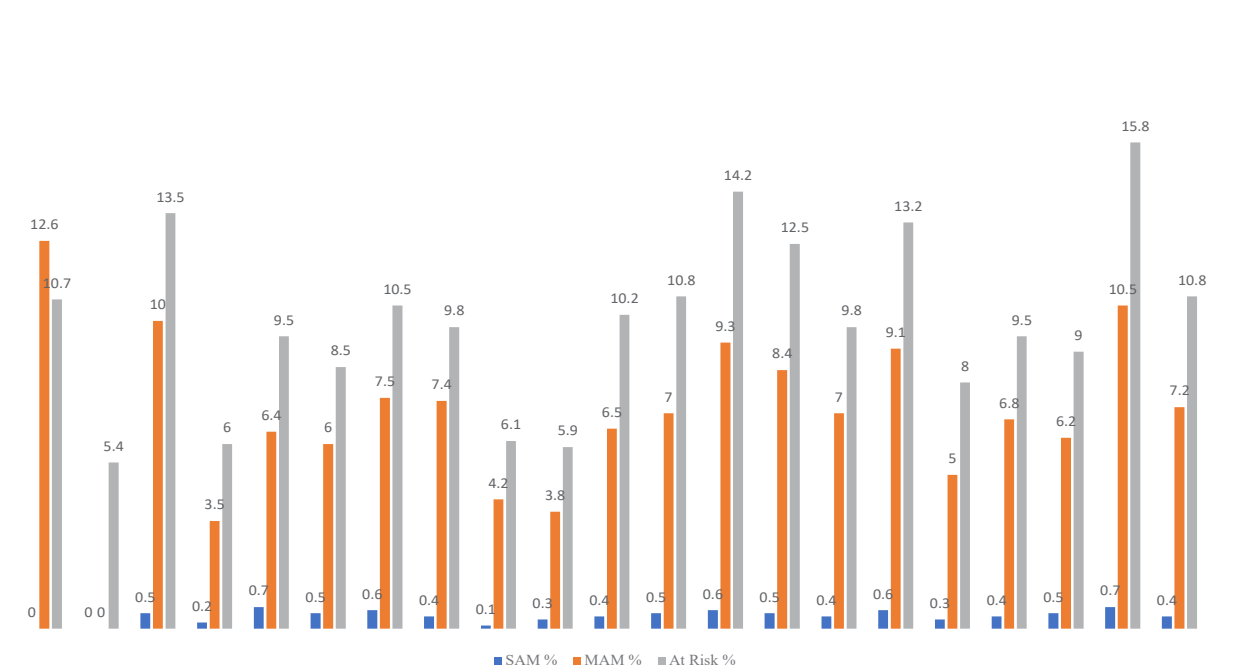
Figure 6.8: Proportion of Under Five Children by Number of Meals Consumed by Province



6.4.8. Nutritional Situation Analysis based on MUAC screening for Under-five Children (6-59 months) and Women of reproductive age (15-49yrs)

This section presents the results of Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening of children aged 6–59 months. MUAC is a rapid assessment tool used to determine the prevalence of acute malnutrition. The findings highlight the current nutritional status across provinces, identifying hotspot districts with higher levels of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and children at risk, and provide recommendations for targeted interventions to prevent further deterioration.

Table 6.9: MUAC Screening Results by District-Children 6-59 months



The MUAC assessment indicates that the overall nutritional status of children across 71 assessed districts remains relatively stable, with low levels of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) generally below 1percent. However, the presence of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and a significant proportion of children classified as “At Risk” highlights an underlying vulnerability in several districts. In MUAC screening, “At Risk” refers to children with a mid-upper arm circumference between 125 mm and less than 135 mm. These children are not currently malnourished but are vulnerable to sliding into moderate or severe malnutrition if no preventive action is taken. A number of Districts from Western, Northern, and Luapula provinces consistently show elevated levels of MAM (above 7 percent) and At Risk (above 10 percent), indicating localized nutritional stress that could escalate if preventive measures are not intensified.

While the proportion of children with acceptable MUAC measurements remains high (often above 80 percent), this masks serious disparities at the district level. Specific hotspot districts such as Shang’ombo, Chilubi, Ngabwe, Mufumbwe, and Luwingu exhibit a concerning combination of high MAM and high At-Risk prevalence, despite currently low SAM levels. These findings point to food insecurity, poor dietary diversity, and potentially inadequate infant and young child feeding practices in these areas. The data underscores the urgent need for targeted preventive and promotive nutrition interventions to prevent a deterioration of the nutrition situation, particularly in districts where more than 10 percent of children are at risk.

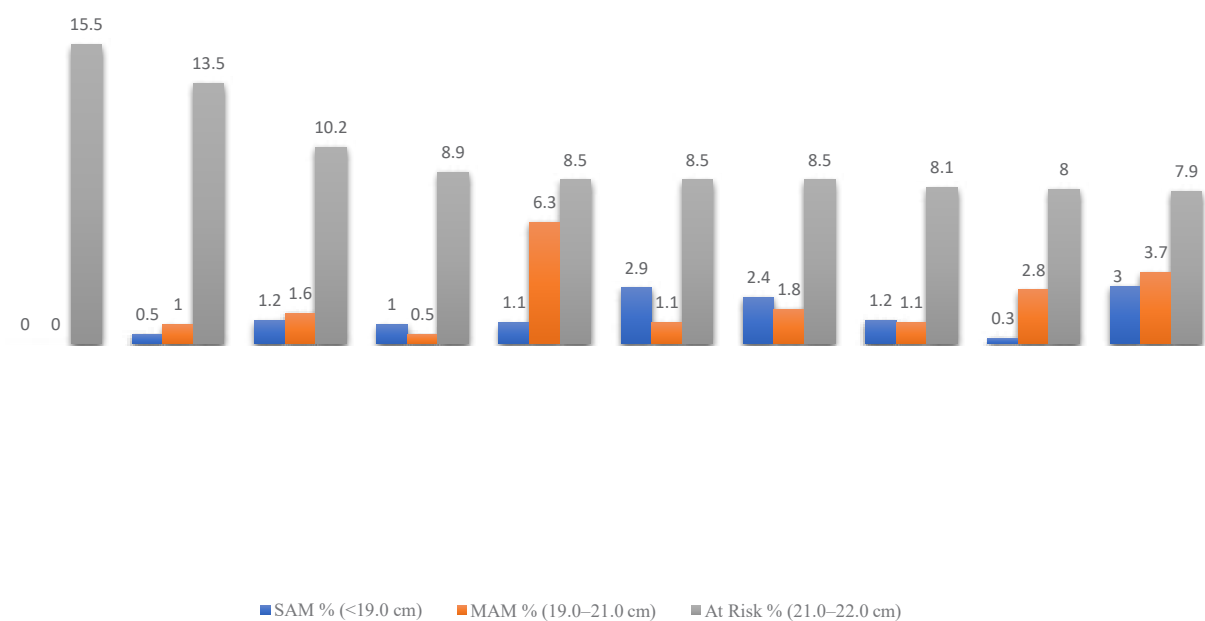
Table 6.34: Hotspot Districts (Based on High MAM + At Risk Levels)		
District	MAM percent	At Risk percent
Shang’ombo	>10	>15
Chilubi	>9	>14
Ngabwe	>10	>13
Mufumbwe	>9	>13
Luwingu	>8	>12

The findings identified Shang’ombo (Western), Chilubi and Luwingu (Northern), Ngabwe (Central), and Mufumbwe (North-Western) as hotspot districts. These areas have a combination of high Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and a large proportion of children “At Risk” (≥ 10 percent), indicating ongoing nutritional stress. While Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) levels remain low, these districts are vulnerable to deterioration without preventive interventions such as supplementary feeding, growth monitoring, and nutrition education.

6.4.9. MUAC Screening Results by District for WRA 15-49 years at High risk of MAM

The analysis of women’s MUAC data in 10 districts with the highest “at risk” proportions shows that Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM: 19.0–21.0 cm) is an emerging concern in these districts shown in figure 6.10. The prevalence of MAM varies, with the highest burden observed in Mufumbwe (6.3 percent), followed by Sioma (3.7 percent), Mufulira (2.8 percent), Lunga (1.8 percent), and Nchelenge (1.6 percent). These findings indicate that in addition to possible high vulnerability, a proportion of women are already experiencing moderate malnutrition, requiring immediate nutrition-specific interventions.

Figure 6.10: Proportion of Women Nutrition status (MUAC)in Districts with highest "At Risk levels" MAM



In districts such as Kasempa (15.5 percent at risk) and Sesheke (13.5 percent at risk), the levels of MAM remain relatively low (0 percent and 1 percent respectively), suggesting that preventive measures could still avert further deterioration. Conversely, Sioma and Mufumbwe present a dual challenge with high at-risk populations and concurrent moderate malnutrition, meaning interventions need to address both treatment and prevention.

Overall, the MAM distribution in these hotspot districts highlights a gradient of vulnerability ranging from districts with mainly latent risk (like Kasempa) to those already transitioning to active malnutrition (like Mufumbwe and Sioma). This underscores the urgency of targeted nutrition programmes and continuous surveillance in these high-risk zones.

Table 6.35: Cross-analysis of Food Access Indicators and Nutritional Outcomes					
Risk Category	Districts	FCS (Poor ≥50percent)	HDDS (0–2 food groups)	Meal Frequency (1 meal/day / unusual ≥50percent)	MAM / At Risk Findings
High Risk (Triple burden)	Shang’ombo, Chilubi, Ngabwe, Mufumbwe, Luwingu	Very poor (≥60percent)	Low diversity	>30percent 1 meal/day, unusual meal frequency >50percent	M A M >8–10percent; At Risk >12–15percent
Moderate Risk (Double burden)	Mitete, Lunga, Chama, Kasempa, Chifunabuli	40–50percent poor FCS	Moderate diversity	20–30percent 1 meal/day; unusual frequency 40–50percent	MAM 5–8percent; At Risk 8–12percent
Lower Risk (Single issue)	Pemba, Chikankata, Chibombo	<25percent poor FCS	Better diversity	2–3 meals/day; few reporting unusual frequency	Low MAM (<5percent); At Risk <8percent

The cross-analysis of Food Consumption Score (FCS), Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS), meal frequency, and MUAC findings shows a strong relationship between poor food access and malnutrition outcomes.

Districts classified as high risk, such as Shang’ombo, Chilubi, Ngabwe, Mufumbwe, and Luwingu, perform poorly across all three food access indicators. These districts have very high proportions of households with poor food consumption, low dietary diversity, and a large share of households consuming only one meal per day or reporting an unusual reduction in meal frequency.

Correspondingly, these same districts record the highest prevalence of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and children “At Risk,” with MAM levels above 8–10 percent and at-risk levels exceeding 12–15 percent. Moderate risk districts, including Mitete, Lunga, Chama, Kasempa, and Chifunabuli, face challenges on two of the three indicators most often poor food consumption and irregular meal patterns and show moderate levels of MAM and at-risk children. In contrast, districts in the lower risk category, such as those in Southern and parts of Central Province, generally show better access to diverse foods, stable meal patterns, and consequently lower levels of malnutrition. These patterns confirm that where dietary diversity and meal frequency are compromised, there is a corresponding increase in malnutrition prevalence, highlighting the need for integrated interventions that address food access and nutrition simultaneously.

6.4.10. Discussion of Results

The 2024/25 VAC nutrition assessment provides critical insights into the food and nutrition situation across Zambia and highlights the persistence of both chronic and emerging vulnerabilities. The analysis of Food Consumption Scores (FCS) demonstrates significant geographic disparities, with several districts showing alarmingly high proportions of households with poor dietary diversity and inadequate meal frequency. Districts such as Shang’ombo, Chilubi, Ngabwe, Mufumbwe, Kasempa, and Lunga are among those where over 50 percent of households have poor FCS, reflecting severe limitations in access to food and low diet quality. These findings indicate that a large proportion of households in these areas depend on limited and monotonous diets, placing them at risk of malnutrition and associated health complications. Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) results confirm that access to a diversified diet remains a major challenge in several provinces. Western Province stands out as the most food-insecure province, with 29.5 percent of households consuming only 0–2 food groups and just

36.8 percent achieving a diverse diet of 5–12 food groups. By contrast, Central, Lusaka, and Southern provinces performed better, with more than 58 percent of households reaching the 5–12 food group threshold. However, nationally, over 43 percent of households still consume fewer than five food groups, reflecting widespread inadequacies in diet diversity. These disparities underline the need for nutrition-sensitive interventions, particularly in rural and hard-to-reach areas.

Meal frequency patterns further reveal the scale of food access constraints. While two meals per day is the most common pattern in the 71 assessed districts, a significant proportion of households particularly in Lunga, Chavuma, Mufumbwe, Mitete, Kalabo, Chifunabuli, and Chilubi reported consuming only one meal per day. This pattern is a clear marker of heightened vulnerability. Moreover, many households reported that the number of meals currently consumed is unusual for this time of year, suggesting the effects of seasonal shocks, poor harvests, and rising food prices on household food security. Districts such as Mitete, Mungwi, Lukulu, Mpika, Senga Hill, and Chasefu recorded over 65 percent of households reporting unusual meal frequency, underscoring the scale of these challenges.

The nutritional vulnerability of women and young children is particularly concerning. For women, meal frequency is suboptimal across provinces, with a high proportion consuming only one or two meals a day. North-Western and Western provinces are especially affected, where more than a quarter of women reported eating just one meal in the previous day. For under-five children, similar trends are observed. While the majority of children consume two meals per day, provinces such as North-Western, Western, and Northern show relatively high proportions of children consuming only one meal per day, which increases the risk of malnutrition and impaired growth and development.

Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening data offers further insights into the current nutrition status. Although Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) levels remain generally low, the prevalence of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and children classified as “At Risk” is concerning. Districts such as Shang’ombo, Chilubi, Ngabwe, Mufumbwe, and Luwingu were identified as hotspots due to their combination of elevated MAM and “At Risk” prevalence. In these areas, more than 10 percent of children are vulnerable to sliding into acute malnutrition without preventive interventions. For women, Mufumbwe, Sioma, and Lunga recorded notable levels of MAM, while districts such as Kasempa and Sesheke show a high proportion of women “At Risk,” requiring targeted preventive and curative measures.

Taken together, these findings paint a picture of a fragile nutrition situation where limited dietary diversity, inadequate food access, and high vulnerability to seasonal and economic shocks continue to undermine household and individual nutrition security. The evidence highlights the urgent need for integrated, multi-sectoral responses focusing on prevention, early detection, and rapid response to malnutrition in hotspot districts to avert further deterioration.

6.4.1 Conclusion

The assessment highlights serious challenges to food and nutrition security in the assessed districts. While severe malnutrition remains generally low based on MUAC screening, the combination of widespread moderate malnutrition and high proportions of children and women classified as “At Risk” reveals a fragile situation that could worsen without timely interventions. The findings point to persistent gaps in dietary diversity, irregular meal frequency, and heavy reliance on negative coping strategies, especially in hotspot districts such as Shang’ombo, Chilubi, Ngabwe, Mufumbwe, and Luwingu.

These results underline that food and nutrition insecurity is unevenly distributed, with rural provinces and certain districts showing far greater vulnerability. To prevent a deterioration of the situation, there is an urgent need for integrated, multi-sectoral actions focused on improving household food access, strengthening nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions, and building resilience to shocks.

Recommendations

1. Scale-up targeted nutrition interventions - Implement supplementary feeding, growth monitoring, blanket feeding, and nutrition support programs in hotspot districts such as Shang’ombo, Chilubi, Ngabwe, Mufumbwe, and Luwingu.
2. Strengthen household food security and resilience - Expand social protection schemes, cash or food assistance programs, and promote livelihood diversification in districts with a high prevalence of one-meal-per-day households and unusual meal frequency patterns.
3. Enhance community-level nutrition education and early warning systems - Promote optimal infant and young child feeding practices and maternal nutrition education. Strengthen surveillance, early warning, and timely response systems to prevent worsening malnutrition.
4. Multi-sectoral collaboration - Ensure agriculture, health, education, and social protection programs are integrated to address both immediate and long-term determinants of malnutrition.

6.5 PROTECTION

6.5.1. Introduction

Poverty and vulnerability continue to pose substantial development challenges in Zambia. As outlined in the United Nations World Food Programme’s Zambia Country Strategic Plan (2023–2028), poverty remains disproportionately concentrated in rural areas. Zambia is currently ranked 153rd out of 193 countries on the Human Development Index, with a score of 0.569, reflecting persistent socio-economic disparities.

National poverty estimates indicate a concerning upward trend. In 2022, the poverty rate was projected at 60 percent, an increase from 54.4 percent in 2015. This implies that approximately six out of every ten Zambians were living below the poverty line. Rural poverty remains

particularly acute, affecting 78.8 percent of the rural population up from 76.6 percent in 2015. Urban poverty also recorded a notable rise, reaching 31.9 percent in 2022. These statistics underscore the critical need for comprehensive and targeted policy interventions to address poverty and inequality across both rural and urban settings.

A significant proportion of rural households rely on subsistence agriculture, characterized by traditional farming practices and limited access to markets, inputs, and essential services. This structural limitation constrains productivity and income generation, thereby exacerbating economic vulnerability. Such communities are particularly susceptible to external shocks, including climatic events (e.g., droughts and floods), pest infestations, public health emergencies, and market volatility.

Furthermore, widespread food insecurity and poor nutritional outcomes continue to undermine human capital development, perpetuating cycles of poverty across generations. In this context, social protection is recognized as a critical policy instrument for mitigating poverty and vulnerability. It encompasses a range of interventions designed to provide support during periods of illness, unemployment, injury, pregnancy, old age, and disability. These measures are essential for safeguarding access to healthcare and ensuring financial stability, particularly during times of crisis.

In response to these challenges, the Government of the Republic of Zambia has instituted a suite of social protection programmes aimed at improving the livelihoods of the poorest and most vulnerable segments of the population. The national social protection framework is anchored on three core pillars: social assistance, social security, and livelihood and empowerment initiatives. These components collectively contribute to enhancing resilience, promoting inclusive development, and advancing the country's broader socio-economic objectives.

6.5.2. Social Assistance

The Government of the Republic of Zambia, in collaboration with development partners, civil society organizations, and other key stakeholders, has continued to implement a range of social protection programmes in line with the provisions of the National Social Protection Policy (NSPP), 2025. These programmes are designed to address multidimensional poverty and vulnerability through targeted interventions aimed at specific categories of beneficiaries.

The interventions primarily consist of non-contributory transfers, which include cash and in-kind assistance, fee waivers, and subsidies. These measures are intended to alleviate poverty by enhancing household consumption, improving access to essential services, and promoting food and income security.

Beneficiaries of these programmes are typically individuals and households that lack the inherent capacity to participate in productive economic activities due to age, disability, chronic illness, or other structural constraints. This distinguishes them from those whose vulnerability

is attributable to circumstantial factors such as limited access to markets, inadequate financial capital, or insecure land tenure.

The overarching objective of these social protection measures is to strengthen food security, ensure access to basic goods and services, and facilitate investments in human capital—particularly in health, education, and nutrition. By doing so, the Government seeks to promote inclusive development and reduce intergenerational poverty.

Notable programmes under this framework include:

- Public Welfare Assistance Scheme (PWAS)
- Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCT)
- Nutrition and supplementary feeding initiatives, notably the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme
- Bursary and scholarship schemes
- Resettlement and rehabilitation initiatives targeting Persons with Disabilities and Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) (NSPP, 2014).

In addition to direct assistance, the Government administers livelihood and empowerment initiatives aimed at supporting households and community-based organizations that face challenges in generating stable and sufficient income to sustain their welfare. These programmes are designed to foster self-reliance and bolster community resilience, and include:

- Food Security Pack
- Women Empowerment Fund
- Functional Literacy and Skills Training
- Community Self-Help Initiatives
- Farmer Input Support Programme
- Constituency Development Fund (CDF)

Collectively, these initiatives play a pivotal role in enhancing the effectiveness and reach of social protection efforts at both district and sub-district levels

No.	Programme	Coverage as of July 2024	Districts	Caseloads
1	Social Cash Transfer Programme	10 Provinces	116	1,294,391
2	Public Welfare Assistance Programme	10 Provinces	116	136,789
3	School Feeding Programme	10 Provinces	70	2,178,012
4	Farmer Input Support Programme	10 Provinces	116	1,024,434
5	Food security Pack Programme (Rain-fed)	10 Provinces	116	200,000
6	Food security Pack Programme (Wetland)	10 Provinces	58	40,000
7	Girls Education (Keeping Girls in School)	10 Provinces	105	67,740
8	Women Livelihood (Supporting women's Livelihood)	10 provinces	81	139,351

Source: Ministry of Community Development and Social Services

6.5.3. Social Cash Transfer (SCT) Programme

The Social Cash Transfer (SCT) Programme is a component of the social assistance programmes that provide financial support to the poor and incapacitated households. Since its inception in 2003, Government has been implementing the SCT Program through the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS), and currently the programme has been scaled-up to all the 116 districts with National case load of 1,264,398 households.

Table 6.37 shows the distribution of household headship across provinces reveals that female-headed households dominate nationally, accounting for 75.2 percent compared to 24.8 percent for male-headed households. This trend is consistent across all provinces, though the proportions vary slightly. North-Western (79.5 percent), Western (78.8 percent), Luapula (76.5 percent), Southern (76 percent), and Muchinga (75.5 percent) record the highest shares of female-headed households, highlighting a strong presence of women as primary heads of households in these regions. Similarly, Lusaka (75.3 percent), Eastern (74.6 percent), and Northern (73.8 percent) also report high female representation, with males accounting for less than 27 percent in each.

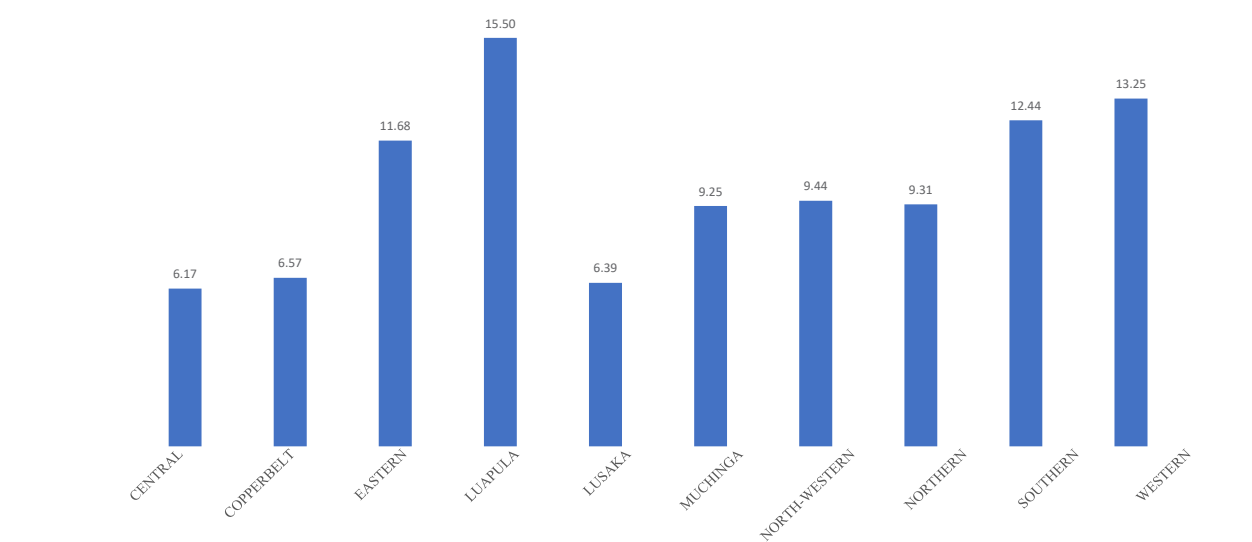
The provinces with relatively lower but still dominant female-headed households include Central (70.1 percent) and Copperbelt (64.4percent), where male-headed households account for 29.9 percent and 35.6 percent respectively, the latter being the highest male representation nationally. These figures underscore a clear national pattern where female-headed households outnumber male-headed households across all provinces, with implications for targeting social protection, relief distribution, and livelihood support, as female heads may face unique vulnerabilities despite their numerical dominance.

Table 6.37: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households on Social Cash Transfer by Province		
Province	Female Headed Households (Percent)	Male Headed Households (Percent)
Central	70.1	29.9
Copperbelt	64.4	35.6
Eastern	74.6	25.4
Luapula	76.5	23.5
Lusaka	75.3	24.7
Muchinga	75.5	24.5
North-Western	79.5	20.5
Northern	73.8	26.2
Southern	76.0	24.0
Western	78.8	21.2
Totals	75.2	24.8

Figure 6.11 shows that the distribution of households on the Social Cash Transfer (SCT) programme, indicates clear provincial disparities in coverage. The highest proportions are observed in Western (78.8 percent North-Western (79.5 percent and Luapula (76.5 percent where three-quarters or more of SCT households are recorded. These provinces are among the most rural and poverty-prone, reflecting the programme’s focus on vulnerable and marginalized groups. Similarly, Southern (76 percent Muchinga (75.5 percent Lusaka (75.3 percent Eastern (74.6 percent and Northern (73.8 percent) also report high levels of SCT coverage, each above 70 percent, highlighting a strong rural and climate vulnerability orientation.

By contrast, Copperbelt (64.4 percent) and Central (70.1 percent) provinces have the lowest representation of households on SCT, with 64.4 percent and 70.1 percent respectively. This is likely because these provinces are more urbanized, with greater access to markets, employment, and social services. At the national level, the SCT distribution shows that female-headed households dominate with 75.2 percent, compared to only 24.8 percent for male-headed households, underscoring the programme’s strong gender-sensitive targeting, as women are often disproportionately affected by poverty and household vulnerability. Overall, the figures demonstrate that SCT coverage is highest in rural and high-poverty provinces, while urban provinces like Copperbelt and Central lag behind. This reflects the programme’s role as a safety net for structurally vulnerable households, particularly those headed by women, but also signals a need to address urban poverty dynamics more effectively.

Figure 6.11: Percentage Distribution of Households on SCT by Province



Source: Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information System (ZISPIS), MCDSS-2025

6.5.4. Food Security Pack (FSP) Programme

The Food Security Pack (FSP) Programme is a key agricultural-based social protection initiative implemented by the Government of the Republic of Zambia. It targets vulnerable yet economically viable farming households, providing them with essential agricultural inputs to support Rainfed Cropping, Wetlands Cropping, and Alternative Livelihoods interventions. The overarching goal of the programme is to enhance agricultural productivity, improve household nutrition, increase income levels, and strengthen food security, thereby promoting self-reliance and sustainable livelihoods.

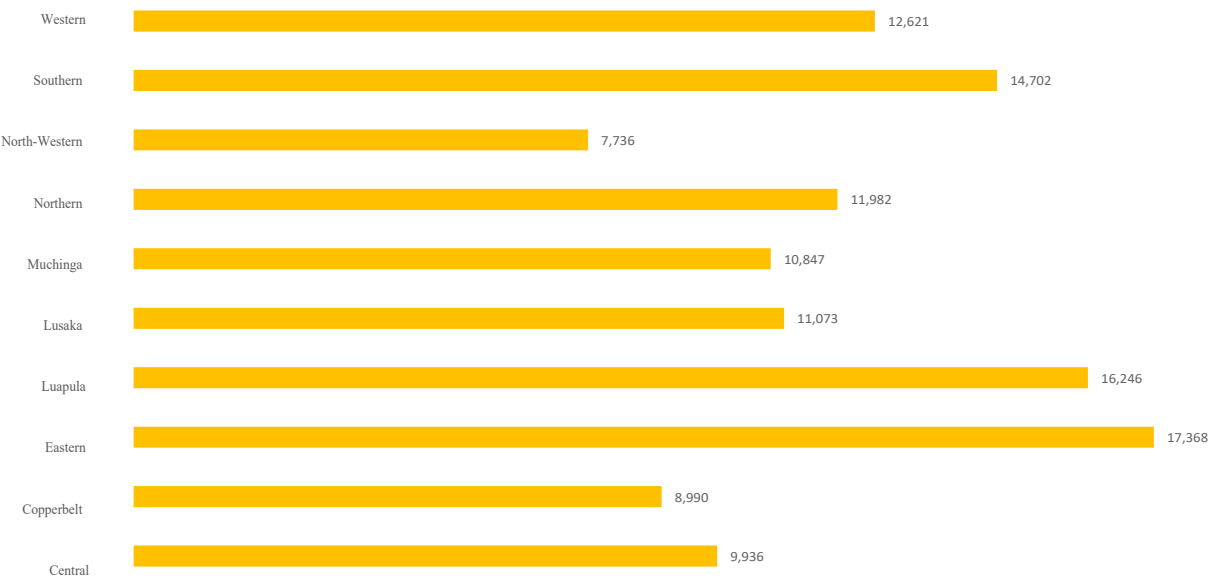
6.5.5. Rainfed Cropping

The Rainfed Cropping is a sub-programme of FSP which provide households with a pack of farming inputs. This initiative is being carried out to support 200,000 households in all the 116 districts of Zambia. Table 6.38 shows the number and percentage distribution of households on rainfed cropping by province in the 71 assessed districts. Of the total 121,501 households on the rainfed cropping programme in the 71 districts, majority 20.3 percent are in Eastern Province. North-Western Province accounted for the least at 6.4 percent.

Table 6.38: Number and Percentage Distribution of Rainfed FSP Caseloads by Province		
Rainfed FSP caseloads in the 71 assessed districts		
Province	Caseload	Percent
Central	9,936	8.2
Copperbelt	8,990	7.4
Eastern	17,368	14.3
Luapula	16,246	13.4
Lusaka	11,073	9.1
Muchinga	10,847	8.9
Northern	11,982	9.9
North-Western	7,736	6.4
Southern	14,702	12.1
Western	12,621	10.4
Total	121,501	100

Source: Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information System (ZISPIS), MCDSS-2025

Figure 6.12: Number Distribution of Rainfed FSP Caseloads by Province



Source: Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information System (ZISPIS), MCDSS-2025

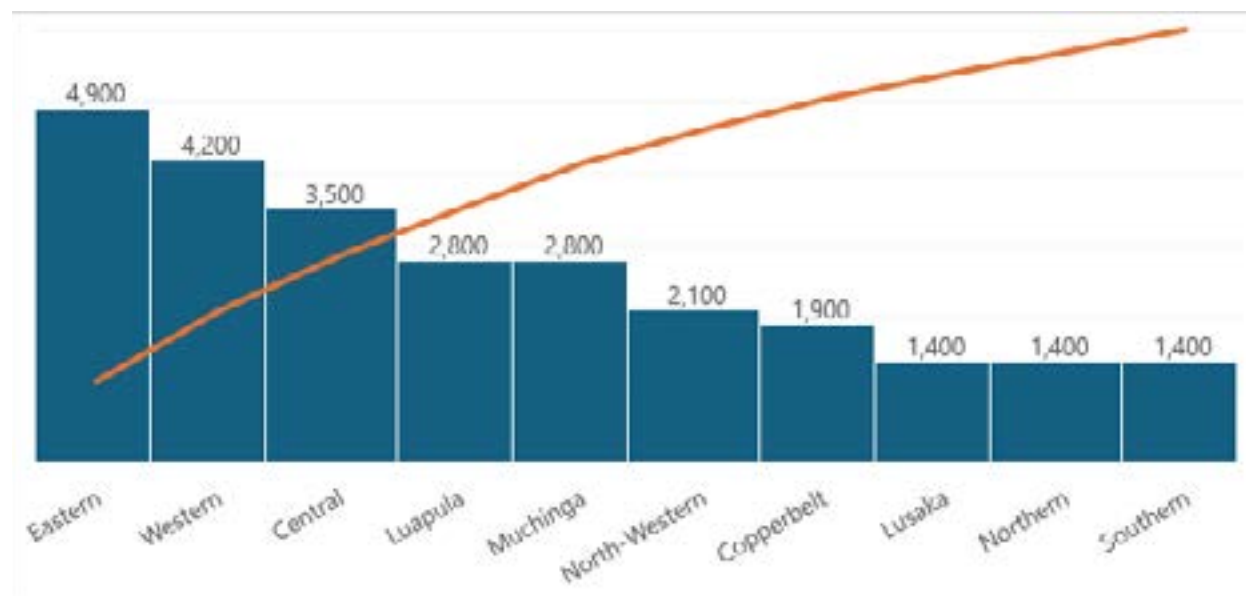
6.5.6. Wetlands Cropping

Under the Wetlands Cropping Sub-Programme, households are supported with a package of farming inputs to cultivate during the dry season relying on water from available sources such as streams or shallow wells. This intervention is implemented in 58 districts across all the 10 provinces supporting a total of 40,000 households. Out of the 71 districts assessed during the 2024/2025 IDVNA, 26 are implementing the Wetland Cropping with a total of 26,400 households. Table 6.39 shows the number and percentage distribution of households on wetlands cropping programme by province. Of the total 26,400 households on the wetlands cropping programme, majority 18.7 percent are in Eastern Province. Northern and Southern Provinces accounted for the least at 5.3 percent (See table 6.39.).

Table 6.39: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households on the Wetlands Cropping programme by Province		
Province	Caseload	Percentage
Central	3,500	13.3
Copperbelt	1,900	7.2
Eastern	4,900	18.6
Luapula	2, 800	10.6
Lusaka	1,400	5.3
Muchinga	2,800	10.6
Northern	1,400	5.3
North-Western	2,100	8.0
Southern	1,400	5.3
Western	4,200	15.9
Total	26,400	100.0

Source: Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information System (ZISPIS), MCDSS-2025

Figure 6.13: Wetland Caseloads by Province



Source: Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information System (ZISPIS), MCDSS, 2024

6.5.7. Farmer Input Support Program (FISP)

The 2025 In-depth Needs and Vulnerability Assessment was conducted in 71 out of the 116 districts across all 10 provinces of Zambia. While the assessment did not directly target beneficiaries of the Farmers Input Support Programme (FISP), the total FISP caseload within the assessed districts stands at 528,746 households out of the national total of 1,024,434.

Among the assessed districts, Southern Province had the highest number of FISP-registered households, with 97,075 representing 18.36 percent, followed by Eastern Province at 77,341 representing 14.63 percent. In contrast, much lower caseloads were recorded in Luapula and Western provinces, with 43,317 and 8,984 households representing 7.85 percent and 1.70 percent respectively.

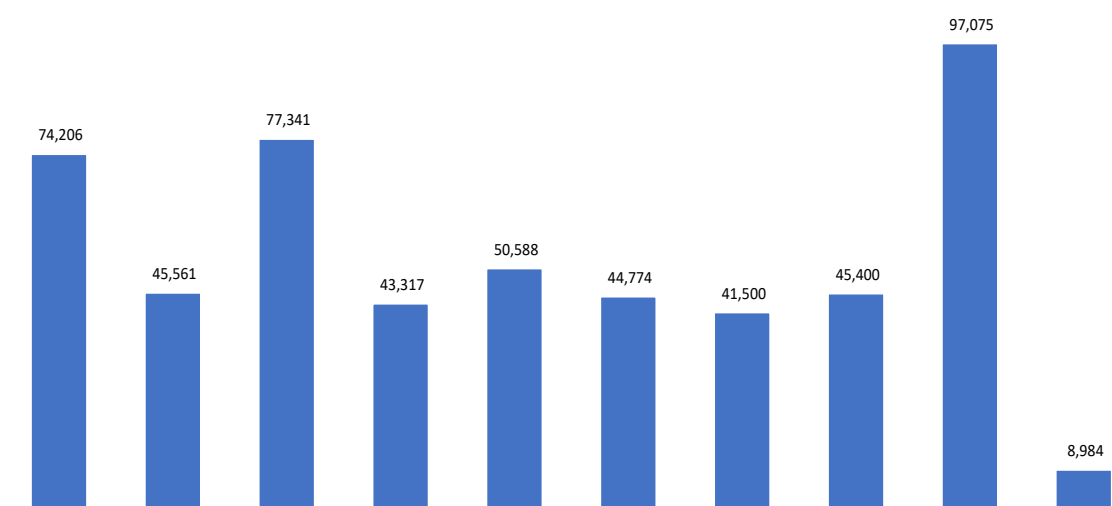
These figures provide useful context for understanding the distribution of FISP beneficiaries in the areas where the assessment was carried out, helping to inform future targeting and support efforts.

Table 6.40: Number and Percentage Distribution of Farmers on the Farmer Input Support Programme During the 2024/2025 Agriculture Season

Province	Caseloads	Percentage
Central	74,206	14
Copperbelt	45,561	9
Eastern	77,341	15
Luapula	43,317	8
Lusaka	50,588	10
Muchinga	44,774	8
Northern	41,500	8
North-Western	45,400	9
Southern	97,075	18
Western	8,984	2
Total	528,746	100

Source: Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information System (ZISPIS), MCDSS-2025

Figure 6.14: Number of Farmers on the FISP During the 2024/2025 Farming Season



Source: Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information System (ZISPIS), MCDSS-2025

6.5.8. Keeping Girls in School (KGS)

In 2025, Keeping Girls in School (KGS) Programme successfully supported 52,685 active beneficiaries. As of July, 2025, out of the 65 Districts implementing KGS, 45 of them were assessed during the 2024/2025 In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment. Table 6.41 shows the number and percentage distribution of learners on the keeping girls in school programme by province. The total KGS caseload in the 45 Districts that were assessed was 38,231 households as of July, 2025. North Western Province had the highest number of learners on KGS at 6,643 whereas Lusaka Province had the least number at 436 learners.

Table 6.41: Number and Percentage Distribution of Learners on the Keeping Girls in School Programme by Province

KGS Caseloads in 45 assessed Districts		
Home District	Caseload	Percentage
Central	1,589	4.2
Copperbelt	1,981	5.2
Eastern	2,322	6.1
North-Western	6,643	17.4
Luapula	4,836	12.7
Lusaka	436	1.1
Northern	6,169	16.1
Muchinga	1,907	5
Southern	4,848	12.7
Western	7,500	19.6
Total	38,231	100

Source: Ministry of Education; 2024

6.5.9. Home Grown School Meals (HGSM) Programme

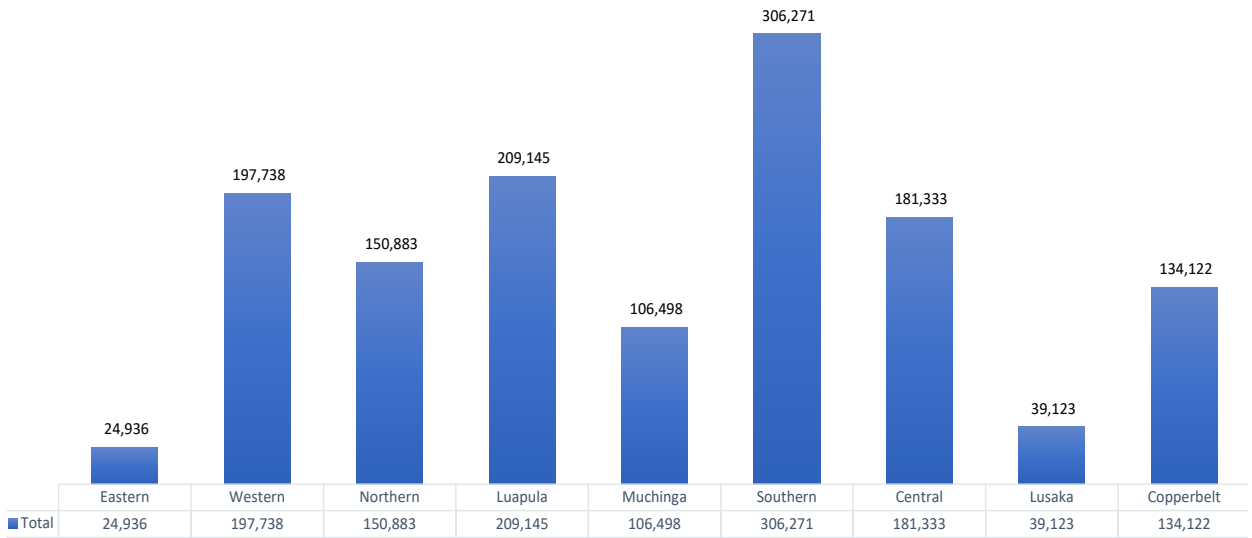
The Home-Grown School Meals (HGSM) programme in Zambia is one of the government’s key social protection programme. Table 6.42 shows the number and percentage distribution of learners on Home Grown School Meals (HGSM) Programme by Sex and Province. Of the 71 districts assessed during the 2025 IDVNA, 1,350.049 learners were on the home-grown school feeding programme. Southern Province had the greatest number of learners on the programme at 306,271 whereas Eastern Province had the least number at 24,936 learners.

Table 6.42: Number Distribution of learners Enrolled on Home Grown School Meals (HGSM) Programme by Sex and Province

Province	No. of Schools	Enrolment on HGSM in 50 out of 71 assessed districts			Percentage
		Male	Female	Total	
Eastern	109	12,187	12,734	24,936	1.9
Western	623	95,761	101,977	197,738	14.7
Northern	372	76,804	74,079	150,883	11.2
Luapula	337	103,951	105,194	209,145	15.5
Muchinga	212	53,949	52,549	106,498	8
Southern	645	150,954	155,317	306,271	22.7
Central	354	87,873	93,460	181,333	13.4
Lusaka	85	19,251	19,872	39,123	2.9
Copperbelt	298	66,668	67,454	134,122	9.9
Total				1,350,049	100

Source: Ministry of Education; 2024

Figure 6.15: HGSM by Province



Source: Ministry of Education; 2024

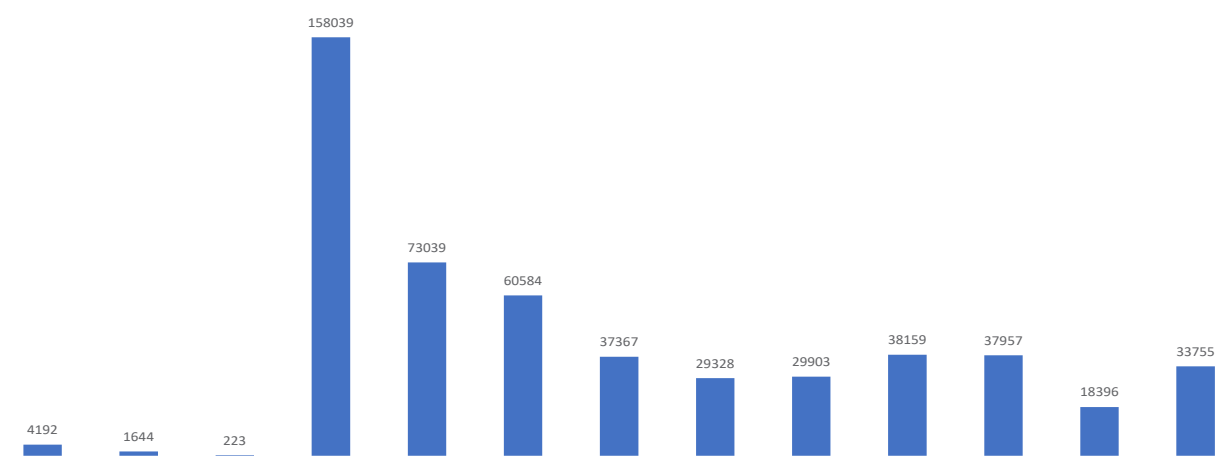
As a drought response in ensuring that the absenteeism levels in schools due to hunger are reduced, the Government of Zambia has funded the Emergency School Program in thirty-six districts that are not on the Home-Grown Feeding Program. As at July, 2025, the total number of beneficiaries in the 36 districts was 2,191,244. Table 6.43 shows the number and percentage distribution of learners on the Emergency Feeding Programme in the 13 districts assessed.

Of the 13 districts assessed during the 2025 IDVNA, 522586 learners were on the Emergency feeding programme. Kafue district had the greatest number of learners on the programme at 158,039 whereas Chasefu district had the least number at 223 learners.

Table 6.43: Emergency School Feeding Programme by District and Province

Province	District	Total	Percentages
Eastern	Lundazi	4,192	0.8
	Mambwe	1,644	0.3
	Chasefu	223	0.04
Lusaka	Kafue	158,039	30.2
	Chongwe	73,039	14
	Chilanga	60,584	11.6
Muchinga	Mafinga	37,367	7.1
North-Western	Chavuma	29328	5.6
	Kabompo	29903	5.7
Southern	Chikankata	38,159	7.3
	Pemba	37957	7.3
Western	Mitete	18,396	3.5
	Lukulu	33755	6.5
Total		522, 586	100

Figure 6.16: Emergency School Feeding Programme In 13 Of The 71 Assessed Districts



6.5.10. Gender and Sexual Based Violence

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) refers to any harmful act inflicted against a person’s will that stems from socially assigned gender roles and power imbalances between males and females. GBV against women is recognized globally as a life-threatening issue affecting both health and human rights. Although men can be victims, women are disproportionately affected, experiencing higher rates of sexual violence, more severe physical abuse, and heightened control from male partners.

As part of the 2024/2025 Integrated Data and Vulnerability Needs Assessment (IDVNA), an evaluation was conducted on the services available to address GBV across the country. Findings indicate that GBV leaves victims feeling powerless and hinders their ability to actively participate in social and economic development, impacting household income, productivity, and decision-making capacities.

Moreover, survivors of GBV often struggle to recover from social and economic disruptions such as floods, epidemics, and droughts, due to limited autonomy and access to resources. Given its influence on household stability, power dynamics, service accessibility, and control over assets, GBV is undeniably a critical issue within the realm of social protection.

Table 6.44 shows the number of households reporting physical violence in the last 12 months. Of the total 2,268,048 households in the 71 districts that were assessed, 90,244 representing 4 percent reported to have had experienced physical violence in the last 12 months prior to the

assessment. The rural areas had the highest proportion with 62,208 households having had experienced physical violence in the last 12 months prior to the assessment and the urban had lower proportions with 28,036 households experiencing physical violence in the last 12 months prior to the assessment. 2,177,804 representing 96 percent of the households reported to having not experienced physical violence in the last 12 months prior to the assessment. In the rural parts of the 71 assessed districts, where physical violence was experienced, 55,343 were male headed households while 6, 865 were female headed. On the other hand, in the urban areas of the 71 districts assessed where physical violence was experienced 21,137 were male headed while 6,899 were female headed.

Table 6.44: Prevalence of Physical Violence in the last 12 months		
Prevalence of Physical Violence in the last 12 months	Households	Percent
Total Households Assessed	2,268,048	100
• Experienced Physical Violence	90,244	4
• Not Experienced Physical Violence	2,177,804	96
Rural (Experienced)	62,208	2.7
• Male-headed	55,343	2.4
• Female-headed	6,865	0.3
Urban (Experienced)	28,036	1.2
• Male-headed	21,137	0.9
• Female-headed	6,899	0.3
Total Male-headed (Experienced)	76,480	3.4
Total Female-headed (Experienced)	13,764	0.6

Figure 6.17: Number of Households Reporting Physical violence

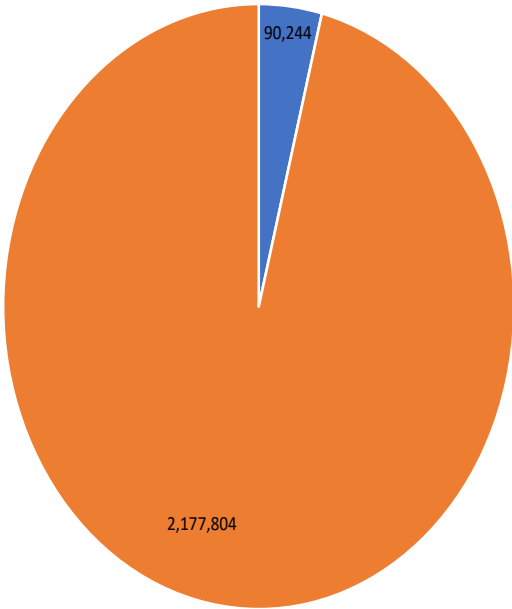


Figure 6.17. shows the number of households which experienced physical violence in the last 12 months against the number of households that did not from the 71 districts that were assessed during the IDVNA. It segregates the rural from the urban areas of the assessed districts.

Figure 6.18: Number of Households Reporting Physical Violence by Rural and Urban

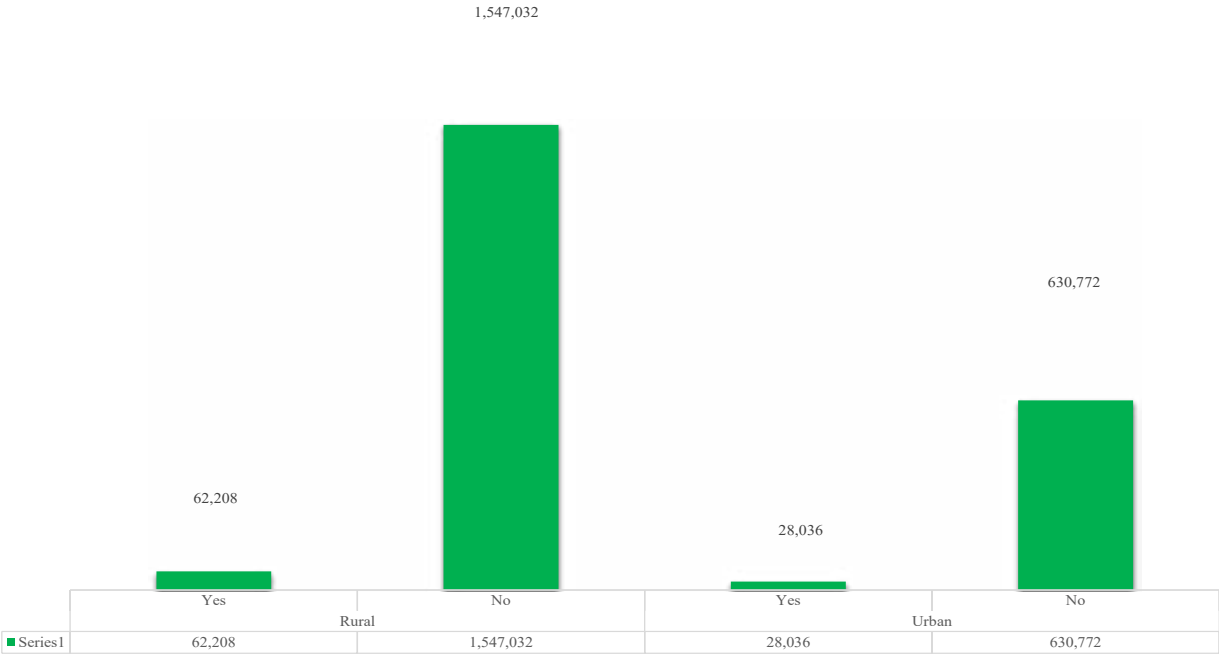
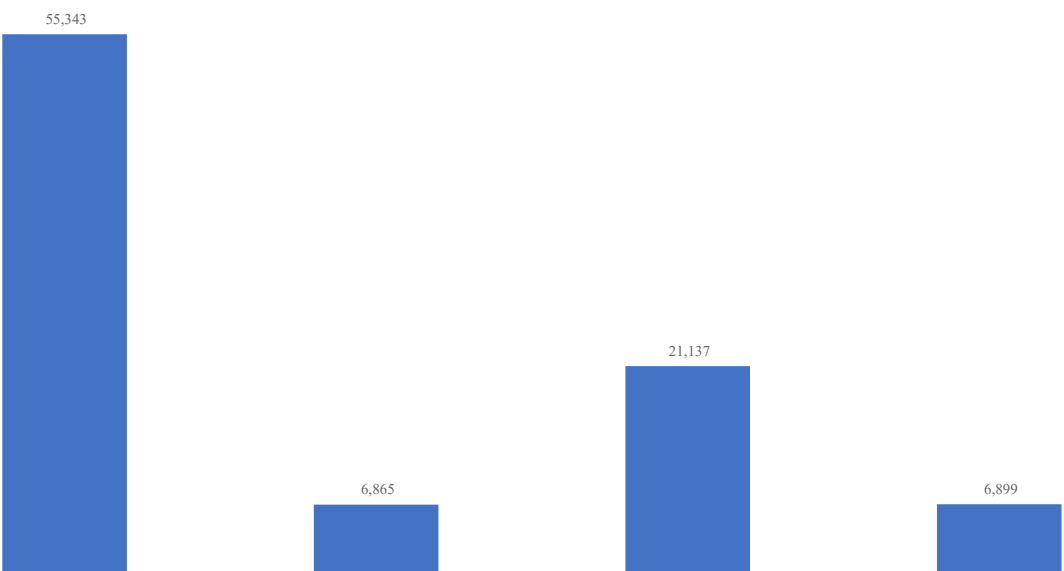


Figure 6.18. shows the number of households which experienced physical violence in the last 12 months in the urban and rural parts of the 71 districts that were assessed during the IDVNA. It also indicated the head of these households

Figure 6.19: Households That Experience Physical Violence by Headship Status Rural/Urban

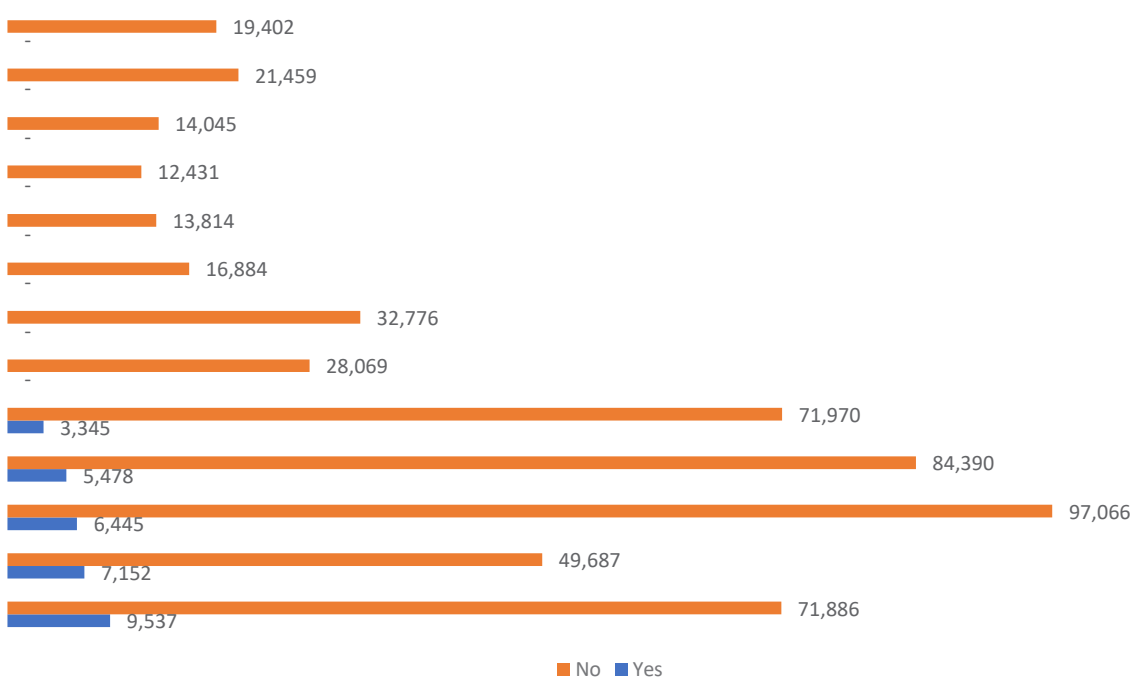


Out of the 71 districts assessed, the top five with the highest number of households reporting incidents of physical violence in the 12 months preceding the assessment were: Mansa with 9,537 households, Mkushi with 7,152, Chibombo with 6,445, Chongwe with 5,478, and Chilanga with 3,345 households. These figures highlight areas where household-level physical violence is more prevalent, underscoring the urgent need for strengthened protection systems, survivor support services, and community-based prevention efforts.

In contrast, eight districts;imba, Zambezi, Sikongo, Mulobezi, Mitete, Lavushimanda, Kabompo, and Chavuma, did not report any case of physical violence. While this may indicate genuinely low incidence rates, it could also reflect potential underreporting, especially in contexts where access to reporting mechanisms is limited or where stigma and fear inhibit disclosure.

The contrast between high and zero-reporting districts reinforces the need for targeted interventions in high-prevalence areas, alongside investments in awareness-raising, reporting systems, and community engagement in low-reporting districts to ensure that all cases of violence are recognized, reported, and addressed

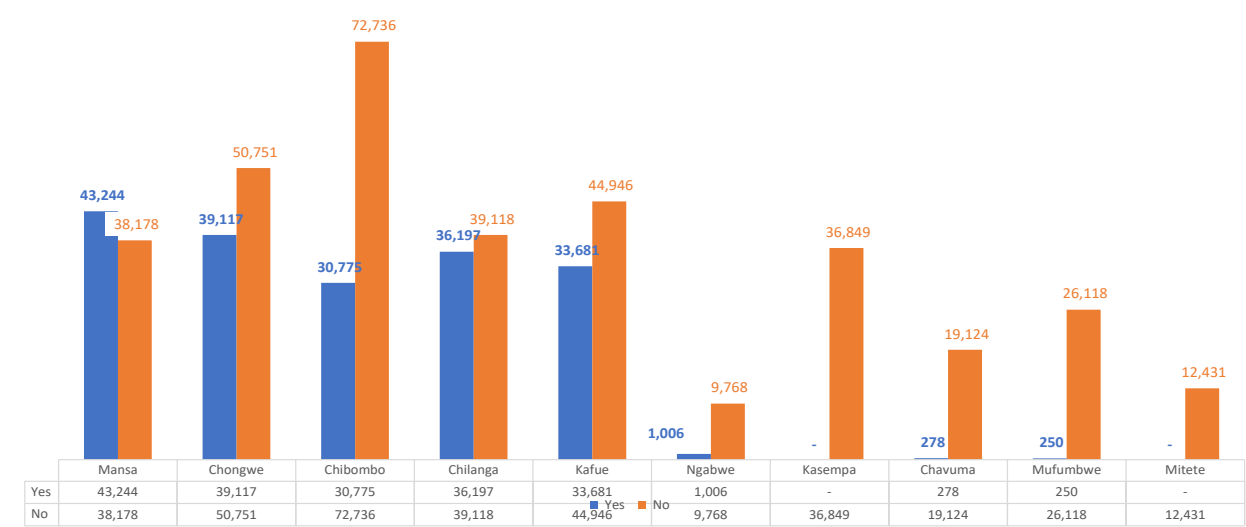
Figure 6.20: Physical Violence-Top 5 And Lowest 8 Districts



Access to GBV services and Access to Protection Services

An assessment of 71 districts in Zambia shows wide gaps in both awareness and access to legal or protection services. Access to GBV services was highest in Mansa (43,244), Chongwe (39,117), Chilanga (36,197), Kafue (33,681), and Chibombo (30,775), but lowest in Ngabwe (1,006), Chavuma (278), Mufumbwe (250), and none in Kasempa and Mitete 0 as shown in the graph below.

Figure 6.21: Household that accessed GBV services Vs Households that did not



Similarly, access and awareness to protection services was recorded highest in Mansa (54,281), Chongwe (49,817), Chibombo (35,273), Chilanga (34,626), and Kafue (32,009), while the lowest was in Ngabwe (934), Kasempa (786), Chavuma (278), Mufumbwe (250), and Mitete (0) as illustrated in the graph below:

Figure 6.22: Household That Were Aware of Legal and Protection Services Vs Households That Were Not

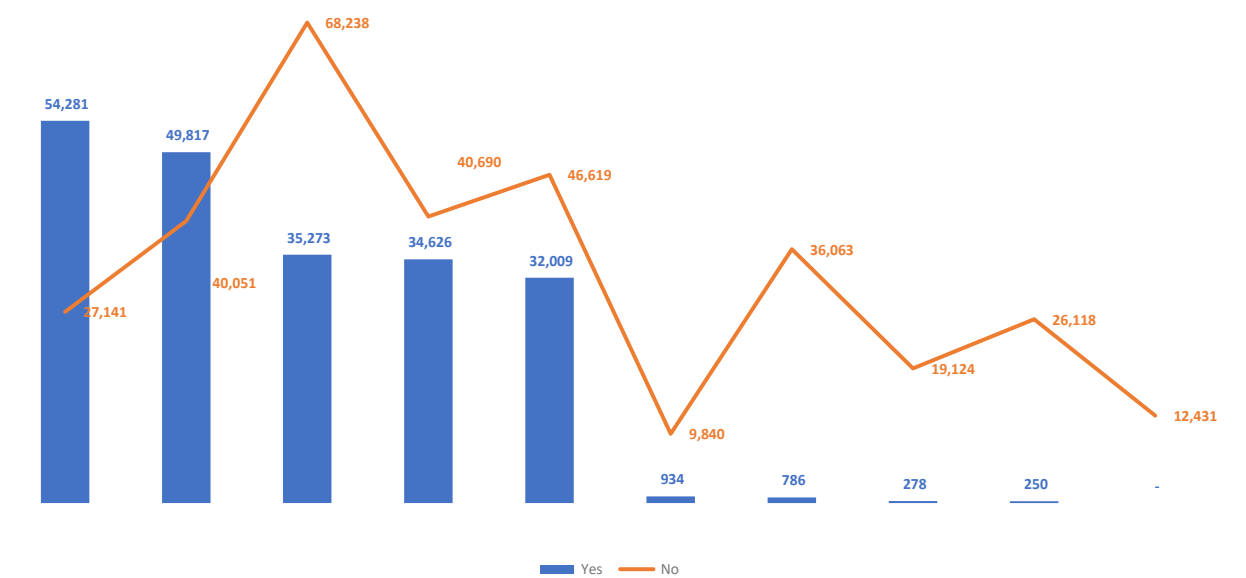


Table 6.45 below shows the number and percentage distribution of households reporting sexual violence in the last 12 months. Of the total households in the 71 districts that were assessed, 1 percent reported to had experienced sexual violence in the last 12 months prior to the assessment. The rural parts of the assessed districts reported more cases at 17,474 representing 77.69 percent as compared to the urban parts with 5,019 representing 22.31 percent of the cases.

Table 6.35: Cross-analysis of Food Access Indicators and Nutritional Outcomes					
Risk Category	Districts	FCS (Poor ≥50percent)	HDDS (0-2 food groups)	Meal Frequency (1 meal/day / unusual ≥50percent)	MAM / At Risk Findings
High Risk (Triple burden)	Shang’ombo, Chilubi, Ngabwe, Mufumbwe, Luwingu	Very poor (>60percent)	Low diversity	> 30 percent 1 meal/day, unusual meal frequency >50percent	M A M >8-10percent; At Risk >12-15percent
Moderate Risk (Double burden)	Mitete, Lunga, Chama, Kasempa, Chifunabuli	40-50percent poor FCS	Moderate diversity	20-30percent 1 meal/day; unusual frequency 40-50percent	MAM 5-8percent; At Risk 8-12percent
Lower Risk (Single issue)	Pemba, Chikankata, Chibombo	<25percent poor FCS	Better diversity	2-3 meals/day; few reporting unusual frequency	Low MAM (<5percent); At Risk <8percent

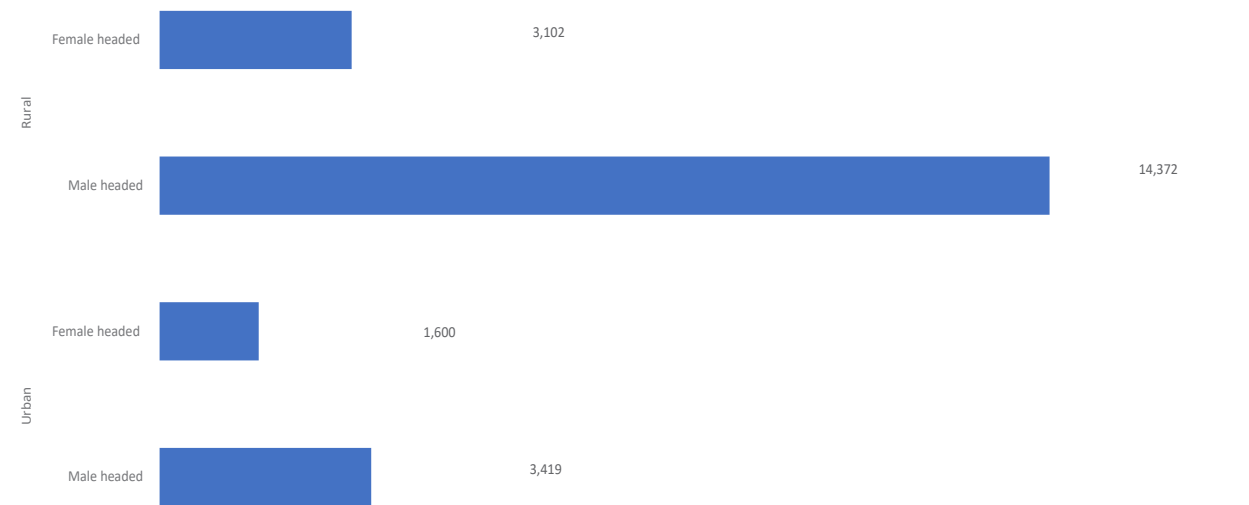
Figure 6.23 below shows the number of households which experienced sexual violence in the last 12 months against the number of households that did not from the 71 districts that were assessed during the IDVNA.

Figure 6.23: Number of Households Experiencing Sexual Violence



Figure 6.24 below shows the number of households which experienced sexual violence in the last 12 months in the urban and rural parts of the 71 districts that were assessed during the IDVNA. It also indicated the head of these households.

Figure 6.24: Number Distribution of Households Experiencing Sexual Violence By Household Headship and Rural Vs Urban



6.5.10.2.Reported Sexual Violence: Highest and Lowest Reporting Districts

The 2025 In-depth Needs and Vulnerability Assessment, covering 71 districts, revealed marked disparities in reported sexual violence. The highest numbers were recorded in Mansa (4,768 cases), Mkushi (2,287), Nchelenge (1,891), Mwense (1,394), and Sesheke (1,346), indicating a greater burden in parts of Luapula, Central, and Western Provinces. Conversely, Sikongo, Mwansabombwe, Lavushimanda, Ngabwe, and Lunga reported zero cases. While this may suggest low incidence, it could also reflect underreporting, limited access to reporting mechanisms, or cultural barriers to disclosure.

These findings underscore the need for targeted prevention and support services in high-burden districts, alongside strengthened surveillance and reporting systems in low-reporting areas to ensure equitable protection and response. The table below illustrates this information:

Table 6.46: Number Distribution of Households that Reported Sexual Violence by selected districts			
District	Yes	No	Total
	Number	Number	
Mansa	4,768	76,654	81,422
Mkushi	2,287	54,551	56,839
Nchelenge	1,891	45,950	47,841
Mwense	1,394	28,479	29,873
Sesheke	1,346	18,830	20,176
Sikongo	-	16,884	16,884
Mwansabombwe	-	14,733	14,733
Lavushimanda	-	14,045	14,045
Ngabwe	-	10,774	10,774
Lunga	-	9,782	9,782
Total	11,686	290,682	302,369

Conclusion

The findings from the 2024/2025 Integrated Data and Vulnerability Needs Assessment (IDVNA) highlight the critical role of social protection in addressing Zambia’s rising poverty and vulnerability. With poverty levels increasing from 54.4 percent in 2015 to 60 percent in 2022, and rural poverty remaining disproportionately high at 78.8 percent, the government’s multi-faceted social protection programmes have become indispensable safety nets for the most vulnerable households. The Social Cash Transfer (SCT) programme, which now covers over 1.26 million households, demonstrates significant gender-sensitive targeting, with female-headed households making up 75.2 percent of beneficiaries across all provinces. Similarly, other programmes such as the Food Security Pack, Farmer Input Support Programme, and Keeping Girls in School initiative address both immediate consumptions needs and long-term human capital development, with strong coverage in rural and high-poverty provinces.

However, disparities remain evident. Provinces such as Copperbelt and Central show relatively lower SCT coverage, reflecting the complexity of addressing urban poverty, while programmes like Rainfed and Wetlands Cropping indicate uneven caseload distributions across provinces. Additionally, school feeding initiatives particularly the Home-Grown School Meals and Emergency School Feeding Programmes play a vital role in reducing hunger-related absenteeism, especially during drought years, reaching millions of learners nationwide.

The assessment also underscores persistent gender and protection challenges. Gender-Based Violence (GBV) remains widespread, with 4 percent of households reporting physical violence and 1 percent reporting sexual violence in the past 12 months, disproportionately affecting rural and female-headed households. High reporting districts such as Mansa, Mkushi, and Nchelenge stand in stark contrast to zero-reporting districts like Sikongo and Ngabwe, suggesting both true disparities and significant underreporting driven by stigma, fear, and limited access to protection services.

In conclusion, while Zambia's social protection framework anchored on social assistance, social security, and livelihood empowerment has significantly expanded in coverage and impact, challenges of uneven access, urban poverty, and gender-based vulnerabilities persist. Strengthening programme integration, enhancing targeting in under-represented areas, scaling up livelihood empowerment interventions, and investing in GBV prevention and response systems will be critical to ensuring inclusive protection, resilience, and sustainable development for all vulnerable groups.

Recommendation

- Expand Social Protection Coverage - Increase outreach to underserved provinces, particularly urban areas like Copperbelt and Central, to address gaps in Social Cash Transfers and other programmes.
- Target Female-Headed and Vulnerable Households - Strengthen gender-sensitive approaches, ensuring female-headed households and other vulnerable groups receive adequate support.
- Improve Food Security Interventions - Scale up Rainfed and Wetlands FSP, FISP, and emergency school feeding programmes in high-poverty and drought-affected regions.
- Enhance Education Access - Expand Keeping Girls in School and Home-Grown School Meals programmes to reduce absenteeism, especially in rural districts.
- Strengthen GBV Prevention and Response - Increase awareness, reporting mechanisms, and access to protection services, particularly in districts with high or low reported cases.
- Support Livelihood and Economic Resilience - Bolster livelihood programs, skills training, and women empowerment initiatives to reduce household vulnerability to shocks.
- Improve Data and Monitoring - Regularly update social protection and GBV data to guide targeting, service delivery, and policy interventions.
- Community Engagement and Sensitization - Conduct awareness campaigns to promote adherence to interventions, mitigate risks, and enhance household resilience.
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6.7. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

6.6.1. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

This section highlights water, sanitation and hygiene information that was collected during the assessment. The indicators include sources of water for drinking, dry spell affecting water sources, treatment of drinking water, methods used to treat drinking water, reasons for households not treating water and main sanitation facilities used by households.

6.6.2. Sources of Water for Drinking

Table 6.47 shows the distribution of main sources of water for drinking among households. The 2025 IDVNA found that the predominant source of water for most sampled households was boreholes at 45.9 percent, followed by those using unprotected wells at 15.9 percent, directly from river/lake/streams at 10.7 percent, protected wells at 9.9 percent and public taps at 8.7 percent. The least source of water used by sampled households was that obtained from other vendors, which accounted for 0.2 percent. In total, 73 percent of households accessed water from safe sources, slightly lower than last year when 79 percent accessed safe water while 26.6 percent of sampled households used unsafe water from unimproved water sources

Table 6.47: Distribution of Main Sources of Water for Drinking among Sampled Households		
MAIN source of water for household for DRINKING	Sampled Households	Percent
Directly from River/ Lake/Stream/Dam	242,775	10.7
Unprotected Well	361,605	15.9
Protected Well (with a lid, Concrete lining, Raised above the ground and with an Apron and drain)	224,803	9.9
Borehole	1,040,014	45.9
Spring	9,008	0.4
Public Tap	197,833	8.7
Own Tap	124,396	5.5
Other Tap (e.g. From Nearby Building)	52,271	2.3
Water Kiosk	2,554	0.1
Bought from Other Vendor	3,488	0.2
Others	9,303	0.4

6.6.3. Sanitation Facility within 30 Metres from Water Sources

The assessment data showed that 38.5 percent of sampled households had water sources located within a 30-metre radius of a sanitation facility while 61.5 percent were located farther beyond 30 metres. Water sources located within 30 m of sanitation facilities significantly increase the risk of microbial contamination.

Table 6.48: Distribution of Sampled Households with Sanitation Facility within 30 metres from Water Sources

No. of Households		Percent
Yes	873,487	38.5
No	1,394,561	61.5
Total	2,268,048	100

6.6.4. Distance and Time to Water Sources

The assessment revealed that that 45.1 percent of the sampled households drew water located up to 500 metres from the house while 40.7 percent of households said their water source was located between 501m to 1km away from the house while 3.9 percent of households said their water was more than 3km away. The national recommended distance for point water sources is within 500m from dwelling houses. Long distances to water sources reduce quantity of water collected and affecting women and girls who bear most of the burden.

Table 6.49: Distribution of Distances to Water Sources for Sampled Households

Distance to Water Sources							
Water Source within 500 mtrs of the Household (Standard Distance)		Water Source between 501 mtrs to 1KM from the Household		Water Source between 1.1KM to 3KM from the Household		Water Source above 3KM from the Household	
No. of HHs	(percent)	No. of HHs	(percent)	No. of HHs	(percent)	No. of HHs	(percent)
1,022,358	45.1	923,072	40.7	234,226	10.3	88,263	3.9

6.6.5. Main Source of Water Available throughout the Year

Table 6.50 shows the distribution of main source of water available throughout the year for sampled households. The 2025 IDVNA revealed that out of the total number of sampled households that participated in the assessment, 74.7 percent of households reported having a reliable water source available throughout the year. Conversely, 25.3 percent of households reported that their main water source was not available year-round, making them vulnerable to seasonal shortages or disruptions. Regular water availability improves food utilization and overall health outcomes, as households can maintain consistent water for hygiene and food preparation.

Table 6.50: Distribution of Main Source of Water available throughout the Year.

Yes			No	
Total	No. of Households	Percent	No. of Households	Percent
2,268,048	1,693,837	74.7	574,211	25.3

6.6.6. Main Source of Water affected by Floods and Dry spells

The assessment sought to establish the percent of sampled households whose water sources were affected by the dry spells and floods. Table 6.51 shows that 37.3 percent of main water sources were affected by dry spells while 62.7 percent were not. On flooding impact, Table 6.51 showed that 16.2 percent of sampled households had their main source of water affected by the floods while 83.8 percent of households had their water sources not affected.

Tables 6.51: Percent and Distribution showing Sampled Households with Water Sources affected by Dry spells

No. of Households	Yes		No	
	No. of Households	Percent	No. of Households	Percent
2,268,048	845,016	37.3	1,423,032	62.7

Tables 6.52: Percent and Distribution showing Sampled Households with Water Sources affected by Floods

Total	Yes		No	
	No. of Households	Percent	No. of Households	Percent
2,268,048	366,883	16.2	1,901,166	83.8

6.6.7. Treatment of Drinking Water and Methods used

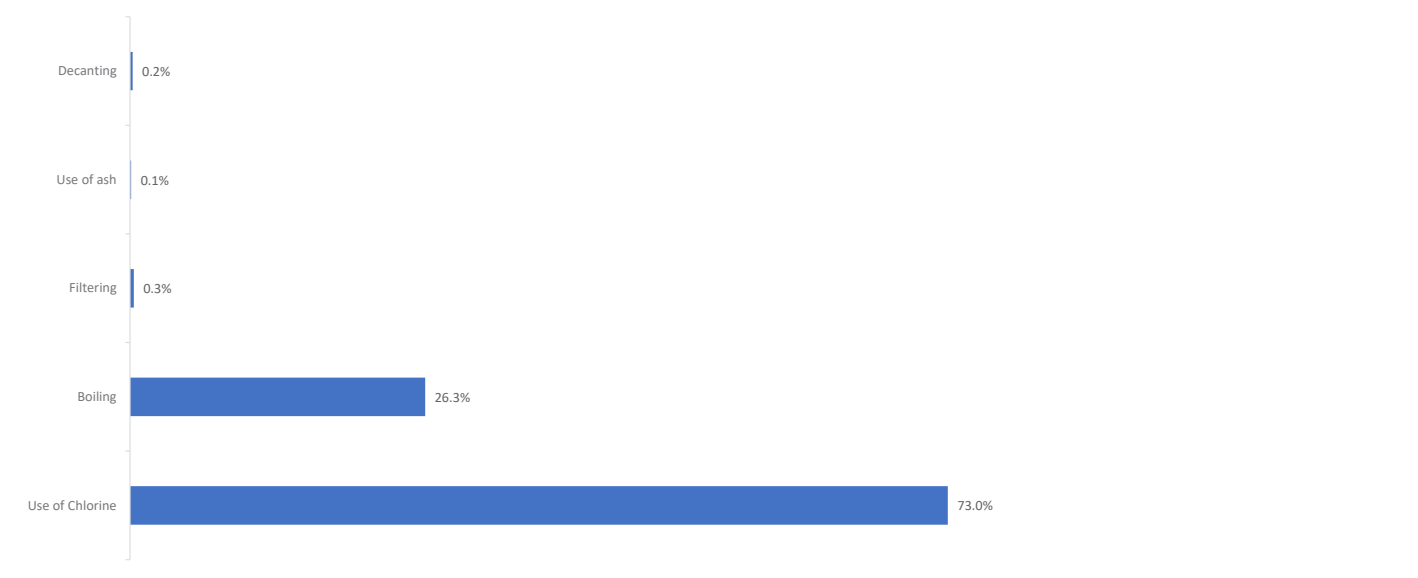
The 2025 IDVNA revealed that only 32.8 percent of sampled households treated their drinking water, leaving a staggering 67.2 percent of households without treating water for drinking potentially being exposed to waterborne diseases such as cholera and typhoid. This is shown on table 6.53 below.

Table 6.53: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households Treating Water for Drinking

Total		Yes		No	
households		Households	Percent	Households	Percent
2,268,048		744,560	32.8	1,523,488	67.2

In terms of water treatment method used, Figure 6.53 indicates that, of the households that treated their drinking water, use of chlorine was the most used method, adopted by 73 percent of households, followed by boiling at 26.3 percent, while other methods filtering, use of ash, and decanting were minimal, collectively accounting for less than 1 percent of sampled households.

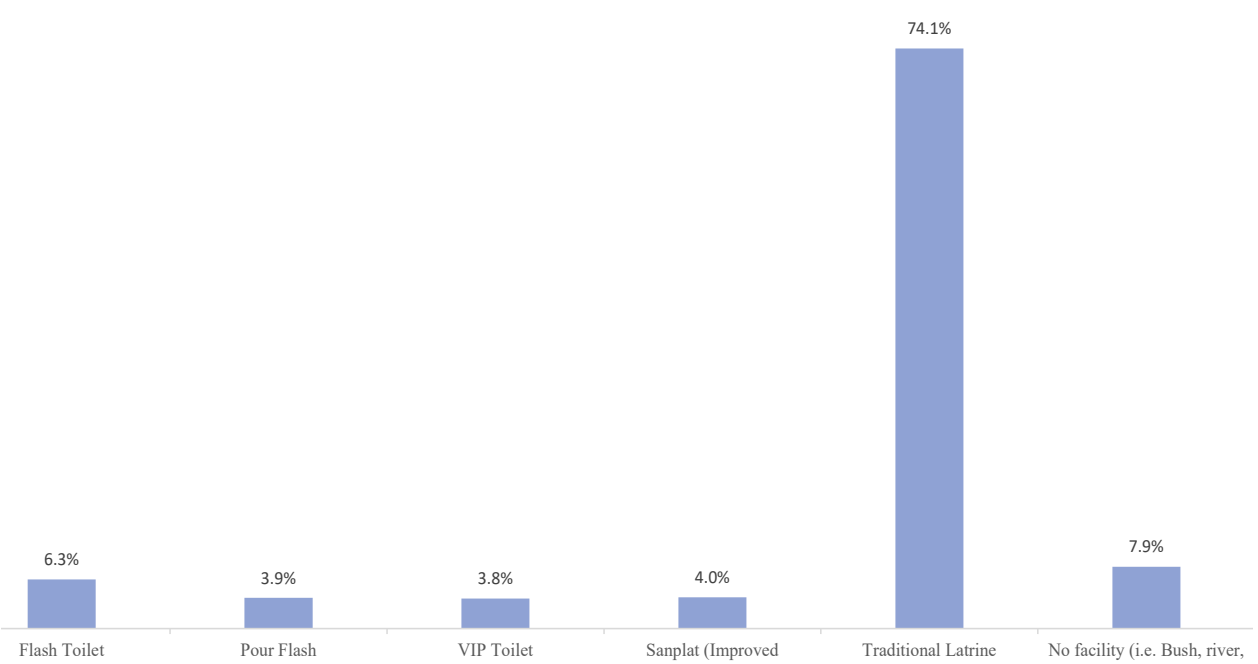
Figure 6.25: Percentage Distribution of Households Treating Drinking Water by method



6.6.8. Use of Improved Sanitation Facilities by Households

The 2025 IDVNA sought to establish the percentage distribution of households by main sanitation facility used. As indicated on figure 6.55 below, the assessment revealed that households that use Traditional latrines were the majority at 74.1 percent, while a combined total of 18.0 percent used Flash toilets, pour flash toilets, VIP toilets and Sanplat latrines. 7.9 percent had no facility. The data shows that households that had access to adequate or good sanitation stood at 18.0 percent of the sampled households. Poor sanitation is linked to transmission of diarrheal diseases such as cholera and dysentery, as well as typhoid and intestinal worm infections.

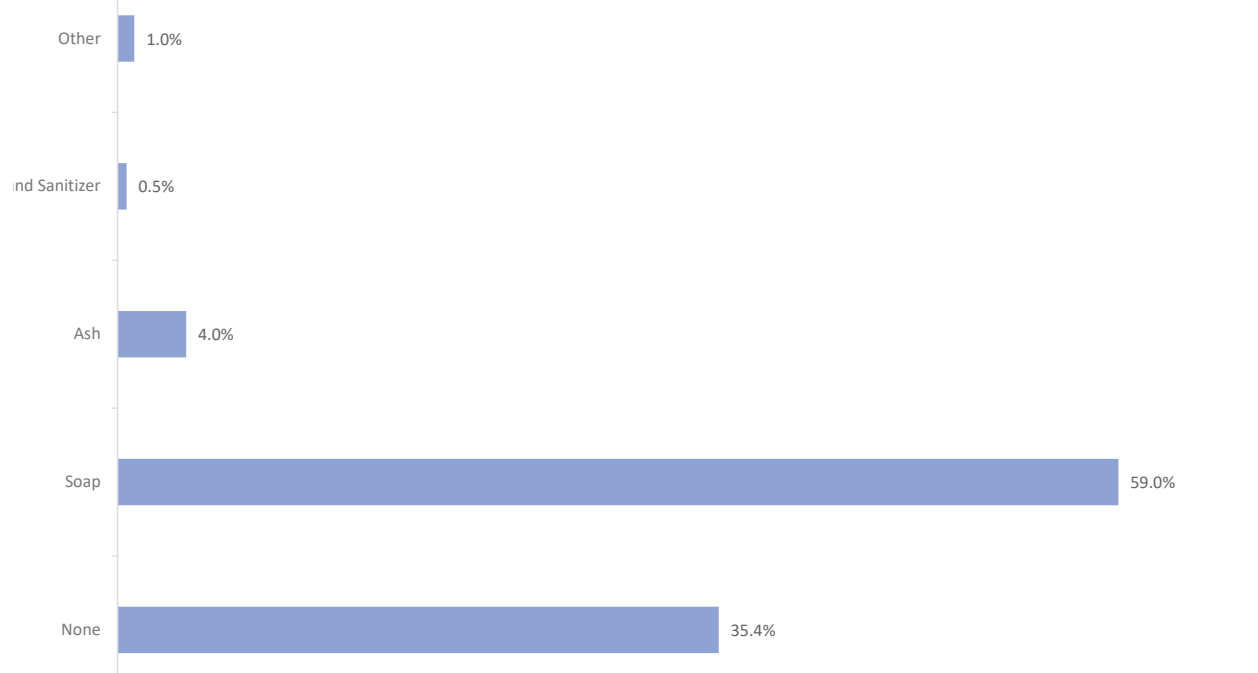
Figure 6.26: Percent Distribution of Households by Main Sanitation Facility Used



6.6.9. Households Handwashing or Sanitizing

According to the 2025 IDVNA, results show that 35.4 percent of the sampled households do not use any agent for washing or sanitizing, while 59 percent of households reported using Soap, 4 percent used Ash, 0.5 percent used Hand sanitizer and 1 percent used other methods. Handwashing is a crucial practice that significantly reduces the risk of illness and the spread of infections, protecting both individual and public health.

Figure 6.27: Percentage Distribution of Households by Hygiene Products used to Wash hands



Conclusion

While data show good access to safe water (73.0 percent), a significant portion of the population (nearly one in three), especially in rural and impoverished areas, still lacks reliable access to clean water. The data suggests that targeted interventions are needed to address both the urban-rural divide and the gender disparity in water access.

Improving the infrastructure for safe water, particularly in districts with high dependence on unsafe sources, is essential for reducing health risks and improving overall well-being. Low and declining levels of access to improved toilets (18.0 percent in 2025 compared to 34.3 percent in 2024) and lack of hand washing facilities underscores the urgent need to address the inequities in sanitation access in Zambia.

There is a clear need for targeted interventions that address both urban-rural divides and gender disparities, with a focus on improving infrastructure in rural areas and ensuring that female-headed households are supported in accessing safe and private sanitation facilities. Addressing these challenges will not only improve public health outcomes but will also have significant social and economic benefits, particularly for women and girls who are disproportionately affected by inadequate sanitation.

Recommendations

- Improving water levels - The shifts in water levels call for targeted water management interventions, including rainwater harvesting, borehole drilling, and community water monitoring, especially in districts showing signs of stress. Ensuring reliable water access is essential not only for daily survival but also for health, agriculture, and resilience in the face of climate change
- strengthen hygiene infrastructure and promote behavior change - in rural and disadvantaged communities there is need for targeted efforts to improve access to soap and water especially for female-headed and rural households. This can improve hygiene standards and reduce the risk of disease transmission.
- Targeted sanitation interventions - There is need to address both geographical and gender-based sanitation inequalities. Efforts must focus on expanding access to improved, private sanitation in rural areas, and on supporting female-headed households through inclusive planning.
-

6.8. EDUCATION

6.8.1. Introduction

In Zambia, Education is a fundamental driver of social and economic development, playing a pivotal role in reducing poverty, improving health outcomes, and fostering gender equality. In Zambia, access to education has expanded significantly in recent decades, yet persistent gender disparities continue to shape enrollment, retention, and attainment patterns. While national data indicates progress toward gender parity in school attendance with girls slightly outnumbering boys, a deeper analysis reveals regional imbalances and systemic barriers that hinder equitable educational opportunities.

This section examines Zambia's education landscape, focusing on gender disparities in school attendance and educational attainment across provinces and districts. It highlights key trends, including the overrepresentation of girls in enrollment in some regions and the alarming underrepresentation of women in higher education levels, where only 31 percent of educated household members are female. The analysis also explores the leading causes of school non-attendance, which disproportionately affect girls (e.g., early marriage, household responsibilities) and boys (e.g., economic labor, disengagement).

By identifying these disparities and their underlying causes, this report aims to inform targeted policy interventions that can bridge the gender gap, ensuring inclusive and equitable education for all Zambian children. The findings underscore the need for a multi-faceted approach, combining economic support, community engagement, and systemic reforms to dismantle barriers and foster sustainable educational progress.

Table 6.54: School Attendance for Individuals Aged 5 Years and Above disaggregated by Province and Gender (Born in 2020 or Earlier)

Province	Male (percent)	Female (percent)
Central	46	54
Copperbelt	47	53
Eastern	49	51
Luapula	48	52
Lusaka	49	51
Muchinga	47	53
Northern	50	50
North-Western	49	51
Southern	50	50
Western	48	52

The dataset in Table 6.54 of formal school attendance by province in Zambia reveals a generally balanced gender distribution with slight variations across regions. Nationally, 8,956,614 individuals aged 5 years and above are attending formal school, with 48 percent male and 52 percent female.

Central Province shows a clear female majority, with 54 percent, indicating strong female participation in education relative to males. This trend is also observed in Muchinga Province (53 percent female) and Western Province (52 percent female), suggesting that efforts toward improving girls' education may be yielding results in these areas. Copperbelt, Luapula, Lusaka, and North-Western Provinces exhibit modest female majorities, with female percentages ranging between 51 percent and 53 percent, reflecting near parity but still favoring girls in terms of enrollment. These regions may have more balanced educational access or programmes that slightly favor or better support female education.

Northern and Southern Provinces stand out for their perfect gender parity, with 50 percent male and 50 percent female attendance. This balance may indicate equal educational opportunities and cultural acceptance of schooling for both boys and girls in these regions. Importantly, no province records a male attendance rate higher than 51 percent, underscoring a national trend where female learners are either equal to or outnumber their male counterparts.

From the findings, Zambia's formal school attendance data by province reflects encouraging progress toward gender balance, with females slightly ahead nationally and in most provinces, and a few regions achieving exact parity.

6.8.2. School Attendance for Individuals Aged 5 Years and Above (Born in 2020 or Earlier)

Based on the dataset in table 6.55, capturing school attendance among individuals aged 5 years and above in Zambia (i.e., those born in 2020 or earlier), a total of 8,956,614 learners were reported to be attending school across the country. Nationally, females account for 52 percent (4,618,882) of the school-going population, while males account for 48 percent (4,337,731). This slight but consistent majority of female learners at the national level highlights a positive trend toward gender equity in education, potentially reflecting the success of national and international efforts to promote girls' access to schooling.

Table 6.55: School Attendance for Individuals Aged 5 Years and Above disaggregated by Province, District and Gender (Born in 2020 or Earlier)

Province	District	Male (Percent)	Female (Percent)
	Total	48	52
Central	Chibombo	46	54
	Chisamba	49	51
	Luano	50	50
	Mkushi	51	49
	Ngabwe	46	54
	Shibuyunji	49	51
	Total	48	52
Copperbelt	Chingola	46	54
	Kalulushi	45	55
	Lufwanyama	49	51
	Masaiti	51	49
	Mufulira	51	49
	Total	48	52
Eastern	Chama	50	50
	Chasefu	47	53
	Lundazi	50	50
	Lusangazi	48	52
	Mambwe	49	51
	Nyimba	49	51
	Sinda	50	50
	Vubwi	49	51
	Total	49	51
Luapula	Chifunabuli	49	51
	Kawambwa	47	53
	Lunga	46	54
	Mansa	48	52
	Milenge	46	54
	Mwansabombwe	47	53
	Mwense	47	53
	Nchelenge	48	52
	Total	47	53
Lusaka	Chilanga	50	50
	Chongwe	51	49
	Kafue	48	52
	Luangwa	48	52
	Rufunsa	48	52
	Total	49	51
Muchinga	Isoka	47	53
	Kanchibiya	49	51
	Lavushimanda	48	52
	Mafinga	48	52
	Mpika	48	52
	Shiwang'andu	44	56
	Total	47	53

Northern	Chilubi	47	53
	Kaputa	55	45
	Mporokoso	48	52
	Mungwi	50	50
	Nsama	55	45
	Senga Hill	50	50
	Total	51	49
North-Western	Chavuma	53	47
	Kabompo	47	53
	Kasempa	40	60
	Manyinga	49	51
	Mufumbwe	45	55
	Mushindamo	52	48
	Zambezi	46	54
	Total	47	53
Southern	Chikankata	47	53
	Chirundu	49	51
	Gwembe	50	50
	Itezhi Tezhi	47	53
	Monze	48	52
	Namwala	47	53
	Pemba	49	51
	Siavonga	46	54
	Sinazongwe	54	46
	Zimba	56	44
	Total	49	51
Western	Kalabo	46	54
	Lukulu	47	53
	Mitete	49	51
	Mulobezi	49	51
	Mwandi	49	51
	Senanga	53	47
	Sesheke	52	48
	Shang'ombo	44	56
	Sikongo	47	53
	Sioma	46	54
	Total	48	52

However, the district-level data reveals notable gender disparities in school attendance that vary significantly across regions. Several districts report female-majority attendance, where more than 52 percent of school-going children are girls. These include Kalulushi (55 percent), Chibombo (54 percent), Ngabwe (54 percent), Chingola (54 percent), Lunga (54 percent), Milenge (54percent), Mwansabombwe (53 percent), Mwense (53 percent), Chasefu (53percent), Kawambwa (53 percent), Zambezi (54 percent), Kalabo (54 percent), and Sioma (54 percent). This trend may point to improving conditions and increased advocacy for girls' education in these areas, as well as community sensitization and policy interventions targeted at narrowing historical gender gaps.

Conversely, male-dominated districts, where male attendance exceeds 52 percent, include Kaputa (55 percent), Nsama (55 percent), Zimba (56 percent), Senanga (53 percent), Sesheke (52 percent), Mushindamo (52 percent), and Chavuma (53 percent).

There are also districts with near-equal male and female attendance, reflecting encouraging signs of gender parity in education. These districts include Luano, Chama, Lundazi, Sinda, Chilanga, Mungwi, Senga Hill, and Gwembe, each showing a 50 percent–50 percent split between male and female learners. Such parity indicates balanced access to education, likely driven by effective local leadership, equal household support, and inclusive education strategies.

From the findings among all districts, Kasempa stands out with the widest gender gap in favor of females, where 60 percent of learners are female and only 40 percent are male. On the opposite end, Zimba presents the highest male dominance, with 56 percent male and 44 percent female school attendance, raising concerns over barriers that may be preventing girls from attending school in that locality.

6.8.3. Reasons for Non-Attendance in Zambian Schools (Children Aged 5+ Years)

The data in table 6.56, reveals critical insights into why 4,584,527 Zambian children (2,172,633 boys and 2,411,893 girls) are not attending formal school. Gender disparities are evident throughout the findings, with girls facing distinct challenges compared to boys.

Table 6.56: Reasons for Non-Attendance in Zambian Schools (Children Aged 5+ Years) disaggregated by Gender

Reasons for Non-Attendance	Male (percent)	Female (percent)
Illness	55	45
Work for food or money	70	30
Help with household work	24	76
Caring for ill or disabled household member	58	42
Caring for younger sibling	23	77
Not interested in school	55	45
Distance to school too far	42	58
No food at home	47	53
Child considered too young	54	46
Pregnancy/marriage	12	88
Expelled from school	70	30
Failure e.g. of exams	53	47
Due to a disability	44	56
School damaged by disaster incident (e.g. floods, strong winds etc.)	46	54
Other reasons	48	52

Economic factors constitute a major barrier, with 516,564 children (70 percent boys) missing school to work for food or money, while 396,784 children (76percent girls) are kept home for household chores. This stark contrast highlights how boys are more likely to enter the labor force, while girls bear the brunt of domestic responsibilities.

Academic disengagement affects both genders differently - 598,807 children report disinterest in school (55 percent boys), and 340,136 have failed exams (53 percent boys). These figures suggest boys may be more prone to academic discouragement or early workforce entry. Structural barriers disproportionately affect girls, with 183,156 children citing distance to school (58 percent girls) and 291,470 cases of pregnancy/marriage (88 percent girls). The alarming pregnancy/marriage statistic underscores how gender norms and early marriages severely limit girls' educational opportunities.

Caregiving obligations reveal another gender gap, while illness keeps 69,943 children home (55 percent boys), caring for siblings affects 9,430 children (77 percent girls). Disability affects 11,923 children (56 percent girls), indicating girls with disabilities face compounded challenges.

Other notable findings include 137,447 children deemed too young for school (54 percent boys) and 62,079 kept home due to food insecurity (nearly equal gender distribution). Only 13,074 cases cite school damage from disasters, showing infrastructure issues are relatively minor compared to socioeconomic factors.

These findings indicate that a clear picture of how Zambia's educational challenges are deeply intertwined with economic realities and cultural practices.

6.8.4. Household Education Levels in Zambia by Gender

The data in table 6.57, reveals significant gender disparities in educational attainment across Zambian households.

Table 6.57: Household Education Levels in Zambia disaggregated by Gender		
Highest Education Level Completed	Male percent	Female percent
None	52	48
Primary	65	35
Secondary	76	24
Tertiary	75	25

The data on the highest education level completed reveals significant gender disparities in educational attainment in Zambia. At the lowest level, among individuals with no formal education, males slightly outnumber females, accounting for 52 percent compared to 48 percent, indicating a relatively balanced distribution. However, at the primary education level, males constitute 65 percent while females make up only 35 percent, suggesting that more males complete primary education than females

The disparity becomes more pronounced at the secondary level, where 76 percent of completers are male and only 24 percent are female, highlighting substantial barriers for females in continuing education beyond primary school, possibly due to socio-cultural factors, early marriage, or household responsibilities. At the tertiary level, the imbalance persists, with males representing 75 percent of graduates compared to 25 percent females, reflecting ongoing gender gaps in access to higher education and opportunities for advanced learning. Overall, the data underscores the need for targeted interventions to improve female educational participation and retention across all levels.

6.8.5. Highest Education Level Completed by Province and Sex – Zambia

The provincial analysis of educational attainment in Zambia as shown in table 6.74, reveals persistent gender disparities, with male completion rates significantly higher than female rates across most regions.

Table 6.58: Highest Education Level Completed disaggregated by Province and Sex – Zambia		
	Male (percent)	Female (percent)
Central	75	25
Copperbelt	73	27
Eastern	75	25
Luapula	73	27
Lusaka	64	36
Muchinga	77	23
Northern	70	30
North-Western	64	36
Southern	71	29
Western	52	48

The data shows particularly severe gender gaps the provincial distribution of educational attainment by gender shows notable variations across Zambia. In most provinces, males dominate in completing education, with the highest proportions observed in Muchinga (77 percent), Central and Eastern (75 percent each), Copperbelt and Luapula (73 percent each), and Southern (71percent), reflecting persistent gender disparities. Females are less represented in these provinces, ranging from 23 percent in Muchinga to 29 percent in Southern.

Lusaka and North-Western provinces show relatively better female participation, with females accounting for 36 percent of educated individuals, while Western Province exhibits the most balanced distribution, with males at 52 percent and females close behind at 48 percent.

Overall, the data highlights persistent gender gaps in educational attainment, particularly in rural provinces, while urban and more accessible regions like Lusaka and Western show higher female representation, indicating regional disparities in access and completion rates.

The data in table 6.59, reveals a wide gender disparity in educational attainment across Zambia's districts, with males comprising 69 percent of educated individuals compared to just 31 percent females. This imbalance persists across most regions, though with significant variation in degree

Table 6.59: Highest Education Level Completed disaggregated by Province, District and Gender – Zambia

Province	District	Male (percent)	Female (percent)
	Total	69	31
Central	Chibombo	77	23
	Chisamba	78	22
	Luano	75	25
	Mkushi	72	28
	Ngabwe	66	34
	Shibuyunji	75	25
Copperbelt	Chingola	85	15
	Kalulushi	74	26
	Lufwanyama	70	30
	Masaiti	68	32
	Mufulira	58	42
Eastern	Chama	81	19
	Chasefu	83	17
	Lundazi	77	23
	Lusangazi	80	20
	Mambwe	67	33
	Nyimba	62	38
	Sinda	75	25
	Vubwi	78	22
Luapula	Chifunabuli	76	24
	Kawambwa	68	32
	Lunga	76	24
	Mansa	74	26
	Milenge	81	19
	Mwansabombwe	59	41
	Mwense	63	37
	Nchelenge	77	23
Lusaka	Chilanga	68	32
	Chongwe	62	38
	Kafue	57	43
	Luangwa	68	32
	Rufunsa	75	25

Muchinga	Isoka	75	25
	Kanchibiya	79	21
	Lavushimanda	75	25
	Mafinga	81	19
	Mpika	75	25
	Shiwang'andu	80	20
Northern	Chilubi	57	43
	Kaputa	79	21
	Mporokoso	64	36
	Mungwi	57	43
	Nsama	81	19
	Senga Hill	72	28
North-Western	Chavuma	62	38
	Kabompo	69	31
	Kasempa	38	62
	Manyinga	67	33
	Mufumbwe	48	52
	Mushindamo	71	29
	Zambezi	55	45
Southern	Chikankata	56	44
	Chirundu	65	35
	Gwembe	78	22
	Itezhi Tezhi	64	36
	Monze	65	35
	Namwala	67	33
	Pemba	68	32
	Siavonga	71	29
	Sinazongwe	81	19
	Zimba	89	11
Western	Kalabo	51	49
	Lukulu	47	53
	Mitete	57	43
	Mulobezi	72	28
	Mwandi	56	44
	Senanga	63	37
	Sesheke	54	46
	Shang'ombo	49	51
	Sikongo	43	57
	Sioma	52	48

The disaggregated data on the highest education level completed across Zambian provinces and districts reveals significant gender disparities in educational attainment, with males generally dominating nationally. Overall, males account for 69 percent of those who have completed the highest education level, compared to 31 percent for females.

At the provincial level, Central Province shows strong male dominance, with districts such as Chisamba (78 percent male, 22 percent female) and Chibombo (77 percent male, 23 percent female), while Ngabwe has the smallest gender gap in the province at 66 percent male and 34 percent female. Copperbelt Province also exhibits marked male dominance, particularly in Chingola (85 percent male, 15 percent female) and Kalulushi (74 percent male, 26 percent female), though Mufulira displays a narrower gap (58 percent male, 42 percent female). In Eastern Province, districts like Chasefu (83 percent male, 17 percent female) and Chama (81 percent male, 19 percent female) highlight substantial male advantage, whereas Nyimba shows a higher female representation (62 percent male, 38 percent female).

Luapula Province follows a similar pattern, with Milenge having the highest male share (81 percent male, 19 percent female), while Mwansabombwe (59 percent male, 41 percent female) and Mwense (63 percent male, 37 percent female) present the most balanced gender ratios. Lusaka Province demonstrates relatively higher female representation, with Kafue reporting 57 percent male and 43 percent female, and Chongwe at 62 percent male and 38 percent female. Muchinga shows districts like Mafinga (81 percent male, 19 percent female) and Shiwang'andu (80 percent male, 20 percent female) with strong male dominance.

In Northern Province, Nsama has the highest male representation (81 percent male, 19 percent female), while Chilubi and Mungwi report lower male proportions at 57 percent, with females representing 43 percent. North-Western Province shows considerable variability; Kasempa and Mufumbwe stand out with female dominance (62 percent female in Kasempa and 52 percent in Mufumbwe), whereas districts like Manyinga (67 percent male, 33 percent female) maintain male dominance. Southern Province exhibits wide disparities, withimba having the highest male share (89 percent male, 11 percent female) and Chikankata showing a more balanced ratio (56 percent male, 44 percent female).

Western Province presents the most gender-balanced outcomes, with several districts showing near parity or female dominance, such as Lukulu (47 percent male, 53 percent female) and Sikongo (43 percent male, 57 percent female), while Mulobezi records a higher male share at 72 percent.

Overall, the data indicates that educational attainment in Zambia remains predominantly male, particularly in rural and northern districts, while urbanized and certain western districts show improved gender balance, suggesting localized gains in female access to education. These figures highlight the need for targeted interventions to close gender gaps, especially in high male-dominant districts and rural areas.

6.8.6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the analysis reveals both progress and persistent challenges in achieving gender equity in school attendance and educational attainment. While school attendance shows near gender parity at the national level (52 percent female, 48 percent male), significant disparities emerge at the provincial and district levels, with some regions reporting extreme imbalances. Female learners dominate enrollment in many districts, likely due to targeted interventions promoting girls' education. However, male underrepresentation in certain areas (such as Kasempa with 60 percent female attendance) suggests emerging challenges for boys' retention.

Conversely, educational attainment remains heavily skewed toward males, with only 31 percent of educated household members being female. Provinces like Muchinga (77 percent male) and districts likeimba (89 percent male) highlight severe systemic barriers preventing girls from advancing beyond primary education. Economic pressures, cultural norms, early marriages, and caregiving responsibilities disproportionately affect girls, as evidenced by high dropout rates due to pregnancy (88 percent female) and household work (76 percent female).

6.8.7. Recommendations

- Maintain and enhance efforts to improve girl child's education in districts and provinces.
- Key line Ministries like the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, Gender Division, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning to address challenges are deeply intertwined with economic realities and cultural practices that prevent the enrollment and sustenance of learners in schools.
- Strengthen interventions that are driven by effective local leadership, equal household support, and inclusive education strategies. Especially for districts that have demonstrated low levels of educational attainment and increased number of limiting factors that can be addressed at the local level.
- The near-parity in some districts suggest that while initial access to education may be relatively equal, hence the need for Government through key line Ministries and partners to address systemic barriers that disproportionately prevent females from progressing beyond primary level.
- Need for the Ministry of Education to undertake focused research to understand the unique social and economic factors driving divergent outcomes in school attendance and performances as well as factors contributing to non/low attendance by learners.
- Government through the Ministries of Health and Education, in collaboration with key stakeholders to enhance reproductive health education in view of the high number of females dropping out of school because of pregnancy.

6.8.8. HOUSEHOLD SERVICE EXPENDITURE

The distribution of household service expenses for both essential and non-essential items is shown in this dataset. It highlights priorities and living situations by reflecting household spending habits. According to the data, the largest percentage of households (90.2 percent) reported spending money on domestic goods like soap, followed by transportation (35.7 percent) and health care (32.5 percent). On the other hand, fewer households reported spending money on tobacco, wine, and alcohol (14.4 percent) and livestock and agricultural inputs (9.7 percent). Budgeting, social service planning, and targeted interventions are all greatly aided by these patterns, which offer insight into households' basic needs and service priorities.

Table 6.60: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households by Service Expenditure		
Expenditure Item	No. of Households	Percent
Health expenditures	737,194	32.5
Education expenditures (School fees, uniforms)	572,360	25.2
House rent	334,275	14.7
Water	551,260	24.3
Alcohol, wine, tobacco	327,724	14.4
Soap and other household items	2,046,732	90.2
Transport	809,749	35.7
Electricity	360,261	15.9
Agricultural and livestock inputs (animal forage, livestock, seeds, fertilizers, tools, etc)	221,077	9.7
All the rest of expenditures (milling, labor, ceremonies, firewood, clothing, etc.)	1,329,599	58.6

From the data, it can further be deduced that the majority of households prioritised hygiene and basic consumables, as evidenced by the highest expenditure reach of 90.2 percent for soap and other household items. Additionally, 35.7 percent of households reported transportation expenses, demonstrating the significance of transportation in gaining access to services like markets, health care, and education. However, the expenses of education (25.2 percent) and health (32.5 percent) indicate that many households pay for these necessary services directly, which may have an impact on equity and access. A comparatively small percentage of households reported using electricity (15.9 percent) and water (24.3 percent), which can be largely attributed to the effects of the 2024 drought on the nation, particularly in some provinces that were negatively impacted.

This could be due to lack of access or unaffordability, especially in rural or low-income areas. Lastly, only 9.7 percent of households reported spending on agricultural and livestock inputs, despite Zambia's primary source of income being agriculture. Similar to the energy and water industries, the drought also had an impact on agriculture. In some provinces, the effects were more severe, and many households turned to coping mechanisms like selling their livestock to eat and not selling whatever little harvest they might have been able to save. ultimately having an impact on output. This inevitably will call for a multi-pronged approach to addressing the above-mentioned findings by key Government line Ministries and cooperating partners.

6.8.8.1. Household Food Expenditure

Household food expenditure trends for several food categories are shown in this table. It gives information about national consumption patterns, dietary preferences, and any nutritional gaps by reflecting the frequency and percentage of households buying particular food items. The information is essential for guiding agricultural initiatives, nutrition policy, and food security programs.

According to the table 6.61, 39.6 percent of households eat tubers like potatoes and cassava, whereas 61.5 percent of households eat grains like rice and maize. These are essential to the food security of households. Oil/fats (82.9 percent) and other food goods like sauces and salt (90.1 percent) are among the most regularly purchased, demonstrating widespread culinary use. Furthermore, a large proportion of households eat fish or kapenta (64 percent) and fresh fruits and vegetables (80.4 percent), indicating that some areas have access to nutrient-rich foods. Fewer households consume fresh meat (40.4 percent), eggs (33.7 percent), and milk/ milk products (22.1 percent), suggesting restricted access to high-protein animal sources, most likely because of availability or cost. The drought and floods that may have prevented some households in particular districts from engaging in income-generating activities further exacerbated this. Moderate consumption of bread/buns (37.4 percent) and sugar/honey (56.8 percent) is probably impacted by income levels and urban/rural disparities. As protein sources, pulses (40.2 percent) and groundnuts (28.3 percent) are also ingested; they are frequently easier to obtain than animal proteins

Table 6.61: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households by Food Expenditure		
Expenditure Food Item	No. of Households	Percent
Bread, Buns	847,413	37.4
Cereals (Sorghum, Millet, Maize, Wheat, Rice)	1,395,509	61.5
Tubers (Potatoes, Cassava)	899,278	39.6
Groundnuts	642,391	28.3
Milk/Milk Products	501,221	22.1
Oil/Fats	1,879,992	82.9
Sugar/Honey	1,287,247	56.8
Tomato/Onion	1,777,211	78.4
Fresh Meat/Chicken	915,619	40.4
Fish/Kapenta	1,452,646	64.0
Eggs	763,517	33.7
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	1,824,525	80.4
Pulses (Beans, Cow Peas)	911,218	40.2
Other foods (Condiments, spices, salt etc)	2,044,146	90.1

Findings also revealed that the majority of households eat tubers and grains, which may not fully satisfy nutritional needs even though they are filling. While a high intake of fish and vegetables suggests some degree of dietary diversity, a low intake of dairy and eggs can lead to nutritional deficits, particularly in young children. Fewer households were consuming expensive foods like meat, milk, and eggs, which suggests financial limitations. The reduced consumption of some goods (like bread) in rural compared to urban areas may be due to availability or cultural preferences. There is therefore a need to ensure that community leaders work with the Government to enhance knowledge on the benefits of certain foods and the need to ensure that food is balanced using foods that are affordable to all.

6.8.8.2. Household Investment Expenditure

The distribution of household investment-related expenses across different categories is seen in this table. It draws attention to how households divide their funds between short-term necessities and long-term goals including savings, health, education, and agriculture. It provided a comprehensive depiction of spending trends that can guide social protection programs, poverty reduction plans, and economic planning especially in situations where a large number of households live on a low income.

Table 6.62: Number and Percentage Distribution of Households by Investment Expenditure		
Expenditure Items	No. of Households	Percent
Construction/House Repairs	183,036	8.1
Medical expenses, Health Care (Traditional/Herbal Health Care)	953,601	42.0
Clothing, Shoes	1,153,202	50.8
Education, (School Fees/Uniforms, e.t.c.)	939,827	41.4
Debt Repayment	528,659	23.3
Celebrations/Social Events	225,946	10.0
Agriculture Inputs	464,963	20.5
Savings	211,920	9.3
All the rest of expenditures (milling, labor, ceremonies, firewood, , etc.)	1,454,546	64.1

It is clear from the table that miscellaneous expenses which include labour, fuel, ceremonies, and milling are the most commonly reported expense (64.1 percent). It illustrates how important regular expenses and customary commitments are to household budgeting. Basic personal maintenance was a significant ongoing expense, as seen by the fact that more than half of households (50.8 percent) reported spending money on clothes and shoes. Furthermore, a sizable percentage of households made investments in healthcare (42 percent) and education (41.4 percent), demonstrating the continuous financial strain to pay for necessary services out of pocket. A low ability for long-term financial planning or profitable investments, particularly in rural economies, is indicated by the fact that only 9.3 percent of households reported saving and only 20.5 percent invested in agricultural inputs.

Only 8.1 percent of households reported doing home repairs or construction, which may indicate that these investments are not frequently made or that there are financial obstacles to bettering one's home. Almost a quarter (23.3 percent) of households were spending money on debt repayment, which might be a result of borrowing because of low income or crop failure or illness brought on by the drought that negatively impacted crop production and animal husbandry in the impacted districts. This indicates that the government must implement a thorough recovery and resilience plan, particularly for certain industries like agriculture, water, and energy that, in Zambia's instance, contribute to the country's GDP.

Conclusion

It can therefore be concluded that Zambian households prioritise their urgent requirements for consumption and survival, with a large percentage of their budgets going towards health and education. On the other hand, low levels of productive investment and savings indicate limited upward mobility, financial vulnerability, and structural poverty. The information emphasizes how urgently measures that lower the cost of basic services, encourage equitable agricultural expansion, and increase household savings for long-term development are needed.

Recommendations

- Government through Ministry of Water and Sanitation and Energy respectively to increase access to clean water and electrical infrastructure, particularly in rural areas where household spending on these services was reported as low.
- Ministry of Infrastructure Development to invest more in rural road networks and public transport systems to lower transport costs, which have had an impact on access to healthcare and education as can be deduced from the above tables.
- The Office of the Vice President in collaboration with the National Food and Nutrition Commission, Ministry of Health, Agriculture and Media and Information to encourage local communities on the use of locally accessible protein sources, such as eggs, legumes, and groundnuts, and support programs to raise awareness of balanced diets.
- Ministry of Finance and National Planning to continue to encourage Ministries and Spending Agencies to adhere to the 2025 Budget Call circular on the need to streamline nutrition
- Government to launch financial literacy initiatives at the local level to encourage prudent borrowing and lessen the burden of long-term debt.
- For more sustainable household resilience, bundle basic services, savings, agricultural assistance, and food security into one package.

6.9. INFRASTRUCTURE

6.9.1 Introduction

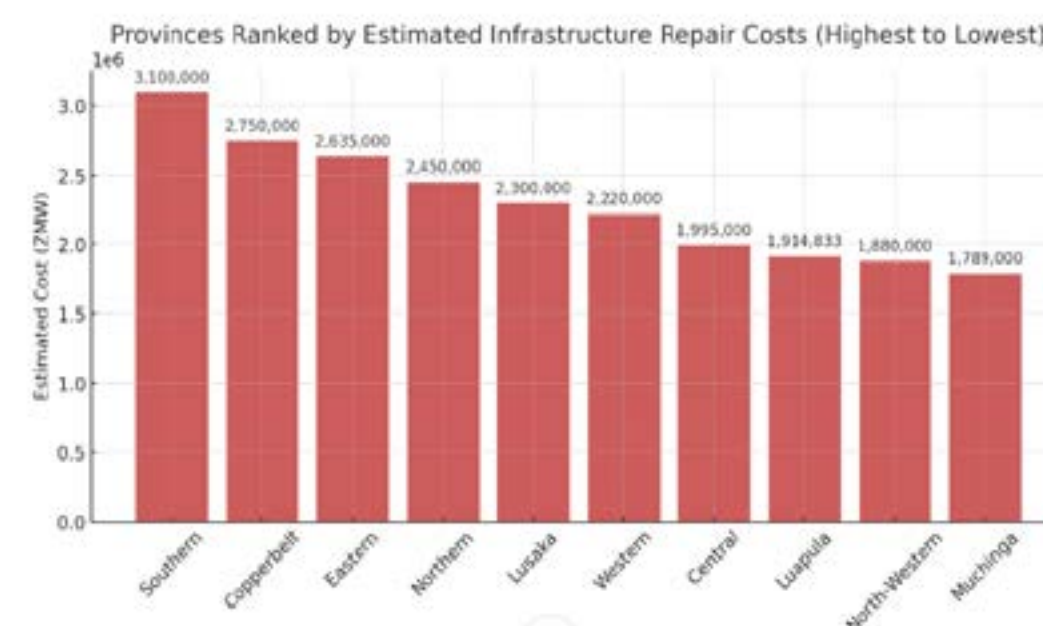
In the 2024/2025 rainy season, Zambia experienced widespread heavy rainfall and flooding, significantly impacting transportation infrastructure across all the ten provinces. The damage has been most severe in rural and riverine areas, where bridges and culverts serve as vital lifeline for communities. This section analyzes data on damaged bridges and roads, highlighting the frequency and estimated financial requirements for repair and reconstruction.

Southern Province ranks as the most affected, with an estimated cost of ZMW 3.1 million required to rehabilitate the Livingstone Bridge. Other provinces with substantial infrastructure damage include Copperbelt (ZMW 2.75 million), Eastern (ZMW 2.64 million), and Northern Province (ZMW 2.45 million). Even provinces with relatively lower estimated costs, such as Muchinga and North-Western, still face critical infrastructure risks, with repairs estimated at ZMW 1.7 million each.

The damage in road infrastructure does not only disrupt transportation but also hinder access to education, healthcare, and emergency services which in turn exacerbates vulnerabilities, especially among marginalized communities such as persons with disabilities, the elderly, and children.

This analysis seeks to inform decision-makers and development partners on prioritization and funding allocation for recovery efforts. It also highlights the importance of building climate-resilient infrastructure that can withstand future extreme weather events, ensuring no community is left behind.

Figure 6.28: Provinces Ranked by Estimated Infrastructure Repair Cost

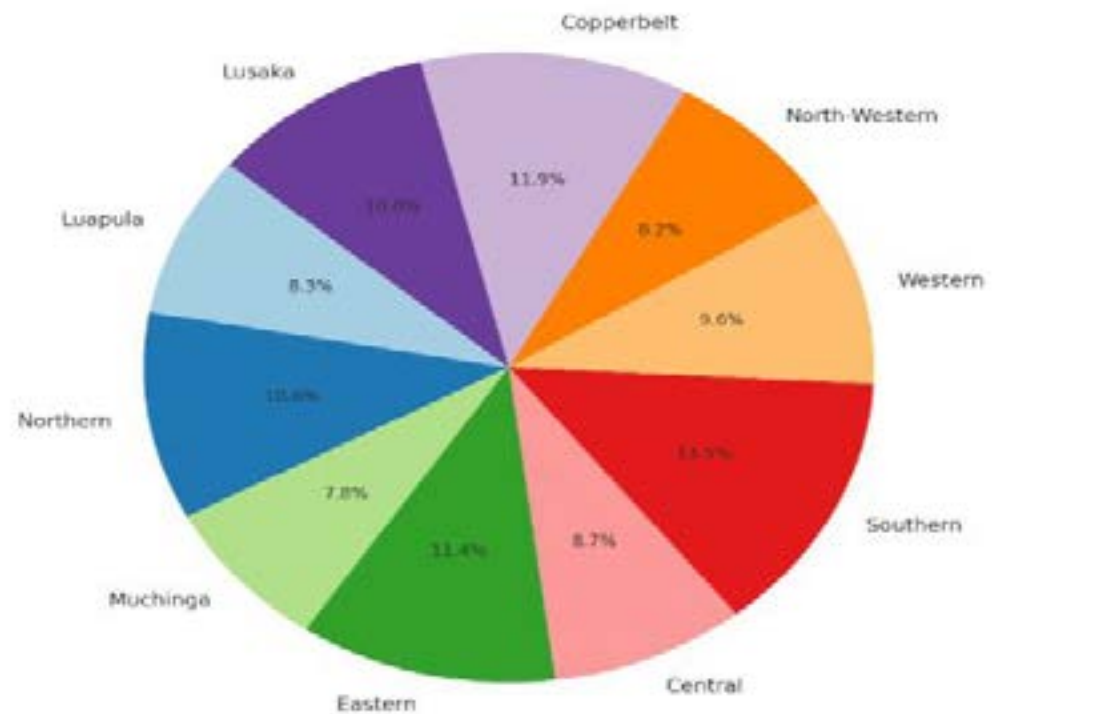


The graph above illustrates the financial implications of flood-related infrastructure damage across all the ten provinces in Zambia. Southern Province records the highest estimated repair cost at ZMW 3.1 million, primarily due to extensive damage to the Livingstone Bridge. This is followed by Copperbelt and Eastern Province, both with costs exceeding ZMW 2.6 million, highlighting the severity of damage in urban and riverine areas.

In contrast, Muchinga and North-Western provinces have relatively lower estimated costs, though the damages remain significant. Luapula Province, with the Mapula Culvert repair cost under ZMW 2 million, also ranks among the moderately affected areas.

These figures highlight the urgent need for targeted infrastructure rehabilitation and climate-resilient construction to mitigate future risks. The data provides a foundation for prioritizing resource allocation and recovery efforts across provinces.

Figure 6.29: Proportional Distribution of Estimated Repair Costs by Province Due to Flood-Damaged Bridges and Culverts



The pie chart illustrates how much each province contributes to the total national repair budget. Southern Province has the largest, accounting for approximately 13.5 percent of the total estimated costs, driven by the high-cost repairs of the Livingstone Bridge, Copperbelt stands at 11.9 percent, Eastern 11.4 percent, and Northern Province at 10.6 percent. Muchinga is one of the lowest at 7.8 percent, followed by North-Western at 8.2 percent and Luapula province at 8.3percent which also require significant funding

6.9.2. Provincial Repair Cost Rankings

The data from Table 6.63 shows that a total of 138 bridges and culverts were damaged across the country, requiring an estimated amount of ZMW 381.49 million for repair or reconstruction. Southern Province emerges as the most severely affected, accounting for 48 damaged structures (34.8% of the total) and the highest repair cost at ZMW 134.15 million, which represents more than one-third of the national requirement. Luapula Province follows closely in terms of cost, with 17 damaged structures requiring ZMW 70.68 million, reflecting the highest average cost per unit at approximately ZMW 4.16 million. Copperbelt and Central provinces are also significantly affected, with costs of ZMW 55.40 million and ZMW 33.75 million respectively, while Lusaka records a relatively smaller number of damages but a high per-unit repair cost at ZMW 3.16 million.

In contrast, provinces such as Northern, Eastern, North Western, Muchinga, and Western show lower overall costs and average unit values, suggesting that the damaged structures may be smaller or less complex. Overall, four provinces Southern, Luapula, Copperbelt, and Central account for more than three-quarters of the total budget, indicating the need for prioritization of resources towards these regions. The high per-unit costs in Luapula, Central, and Lusaka highlights the importance of resilient design standards in areas with more complex infrastructure, while Southern Province’s large share of damage underscores the need for preventive measures against widespread structural vulnerability.

Table 6.63: Provincial Repair Cost Rankings			
Province	Number of Damaged Bridges/Culverts	Estimated Cost for Reconstruction/Repair (Million)	
Central	9	33.75	
Copperbelt	21	55.40	
Eastern	8	17.99	
Luapula	17	70.68	
Lusaka	9	28.45	
Muchinga	1	1.79	
Northern	18	24.58	
North Western	6	13.70	
Southern	48	134.15	
Western	1	1.00	
Total	138	381.49	

Conclusion

The assessment of flood-related infrastructure damage across the country reveals a pressing need for urgent and targeted intervention. The total estimated repair costs reflect significant financial pressure on national and local governments, with provinces like Southern, Copperbelt, and Eastern bearing the heaviest burden. However, no province has been spared, highlighting the widespread vulnerability of Zambia's infrastructure to climate-induced disasters.

This analysis highlights the importance of not only restoring damaged roads and bridges but also building resilient, inclusiveness, and climate-smart infrastructure that can withstand future extreme weather events. Priority must be given to rural and underserved communities, where damaged transport routes severely restrict access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and markets.

To effectively mitigate future risks, a coordinated approach involving government ministries, cooperating partners, private sector stakeholders, and affected communities is essential. Investment in early warning systems, preventative maintenance, and equity focused planning would be key in safeguarding lives and livelihoods and ensuring that no province or community would be left behind.

Recommendations

To effectively respond to the current disaster and build long term resilience, the following actions are recommended:

1. Priority should be given to the most affected provinces, which include Southern, Copperbelt, and Eastern.
2. The national contingency fund should be mopped and used to support rapid response to climate-related infrastructure damage.
3. Rebuild the structures to standards that account for climate risks such as flooding and erosion.
4. Strengthen Early Warning and Preparedness Systems for the expansion of community level flood monitoring and risk communication systems.
5. Engage Stakeholders in an Inclusive Recovery Plan to ensure affected communities, especially vulnerable groups such as persons with disability, the elderly, children and the sick are involved in planning and that infrastructure is accessible to all.
6. Enhance Coordination to improve collaboration among national, provincial, and district authorities to ensure effective planning and accountability.

6.10. EARLY WARNING AND RISK COMMUNICATION

6.10.1. Introduction

In recent years, Zambia has become increasingly vulnerable to natural hazards driven by climate change. As a result, the implementation of an effective Early Warning System (EWS) has become a cornerstone of Disaster Risk Management (DRM). EWSs are critical tools that provide timely and actionable information on impending hazards, enabling governments and communities to take preventive or mitigative measures, ultimately reducing the risk of loss of life and property.

One of the key priorities for achieving sustainable development is ensuring universal access to early warning information, particularly for the most vulnerable.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction emphasizes preparedness and anticipatory action over traditional reactive approaches. It promotes a proactive vision by anticipating risks before they escalate into disasters, thereby empowering communities to prepare and respond more effectively.

In support of this vision, the United Nations Secretary-General launched the "Early Warning for All" initiative, which aims to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by an early warning system by 2027. This global target calls for urgent investment in multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS) and risk information, especially in underserved and high-risk areas. At the national level, this requires investing in people-centered early warning systems, strengthening risk communication, and ensuring that communities can understand and act on the warnings they receive. Achieving this goal will not only save lives but also enhance resilience and support long-term development efforts

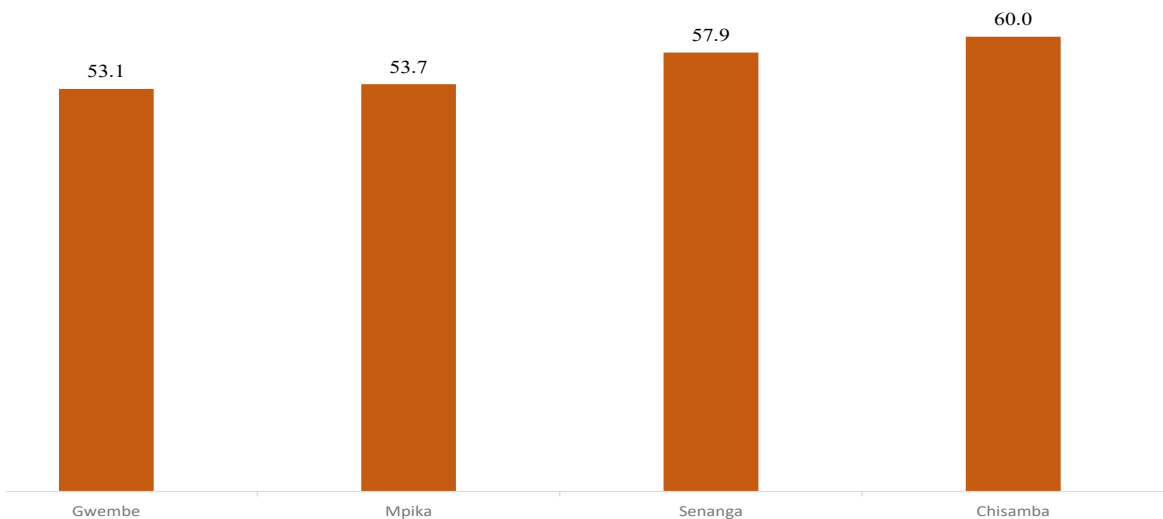
6.10.2. Early Warning Information

Table 6.64. illustrates the percentage distribution of households that either received or did not receive Early Warning information, disaggregated by province. Out of a total of 1,548,610 households impacted by hazards across the 71 assessed districts, 414,979 households, representing 26.8 percent reported receiving Early Warning information, while 73.2 percent did not. Of the households that received Early Warning information, 27.4 percent were male-headed, while 25.5 percent were female-headed. Among the provinces, Central Province recorded the highest proportion of households that received Early Warning information, accounting for 9.1 percent of the total.

Province	Yes (Percent)	No (Percent)
Central	39.2	60.9
Copperbelt	23.1	76.9
Eastern	29.9	70.1
Luapula	20.3	79.7
Lusaka	25.6	74.4
Muchinga	30.6	69.4
Northern	25.2	74.9
North Western	9.1	90.9
Southern	32.6	67.4
Western	27.9	72.1
Total	26.8	73.2

The figure 6.30 illustrates the proportion of households affected in Gwembe, Mpika, Senanga, and Chisamba. The results show that all four districts face notable challenges, with Chisamba recording the highest proportion at 60 percent, followed by Senanga at 57.9 percent. Mpika and Gwembe reported slightly lower but still significant levels at 53.7 percent and 53.1 percent, respectively. The findings suggest that more than half of households in these districts are affected, highlighting widespread vulnerabilities. The relatively higher figures in Senanga and Chisamba may point to deeper structural or environmental issues affecting service availability compared to Gwembe and Mpika. Overall, the data underscores the need for targeted interventions across all four districts, with a particular focus on Chisamba and Senanga where the situation appears more severe.

Figure 6.30: Top 4 Districts with more than 50 percent of households that received Early Warning Information



The figure 6.31 on the dissemination of early warning information shows significant variations across provinces. Central Province recorded the highest dissemination levels, with nearly 40 percent of households reporting access to early warning information, followed by Southern, Muchinga, and Eastern provinces, each with around 30 percent–33 percent. Western, Lusaka, and Northern provinces reported slightly lower levels, ranging between 25 percent–28 percent, while Copperbelt and Luapula had the least coverage at 23 percent and 20 percent, respectively. North Western Province was the lowest, with under 10 percent, indicating severe gaps in access to vital early warning systems.

Overall, the national total stands around 27 percent, showing that less than one-third of households have access to timely early warning information. This uneven distribution highlights a major communication gap, with households in provinces like Central better positioned to anticipate and respond to disasters, while those in North Western and Luapula remain particularly vulnerable due to limited access. Strengthening dissemination mechanisms in low-performing provinces is crucial to ensure equitable preparedness and reduce disaster risks nationwide.

Figure 6.31: Dissemination of early warning information by province

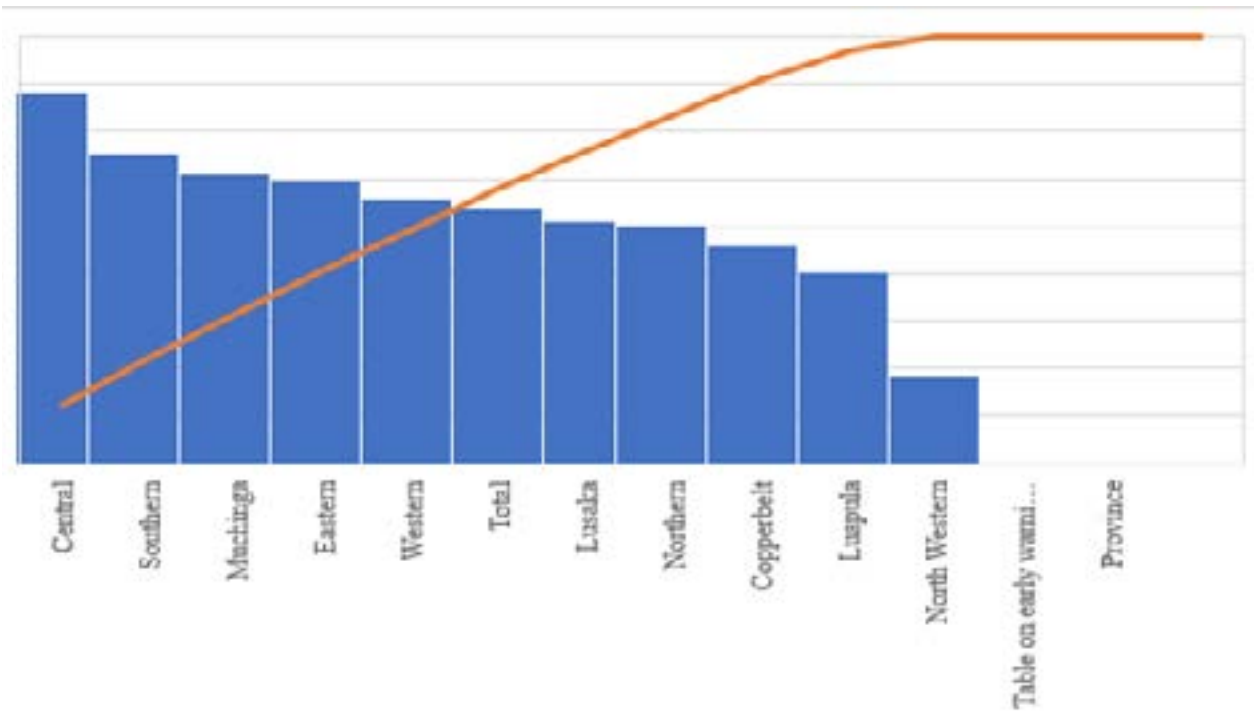


Table 6.65. illustrate that out of the total 1,548,637 households affected by hazards, only 26.8 percent received early warning information. When disaggregated by sex of household head, 27.4 percent of male-headed households received early warnings compared to 25.5 percent of female-headed households. Although male-headed households had slightly higher access, the gap is relatively small, suggesting that both categories face significant challenges in accessing timely early warning information. Overall, nearly three-quarters of households did not receive early warning messages, leaving them vulnerable to the impacts of hazards.

Table 6.65: Households That Received Early Warning Information by Household Headship Status			
	Total	Male Headed Households	Female Headed Households
Total Households Affected by Hazards	1,548,637	1,067,672	480,965
Received Early Warning Information	414,979	292,371	122,608
Percent	26.8	27.4	25.5

Figure 6.32: Percentage Distribution of Households by Source of Early Warning Information

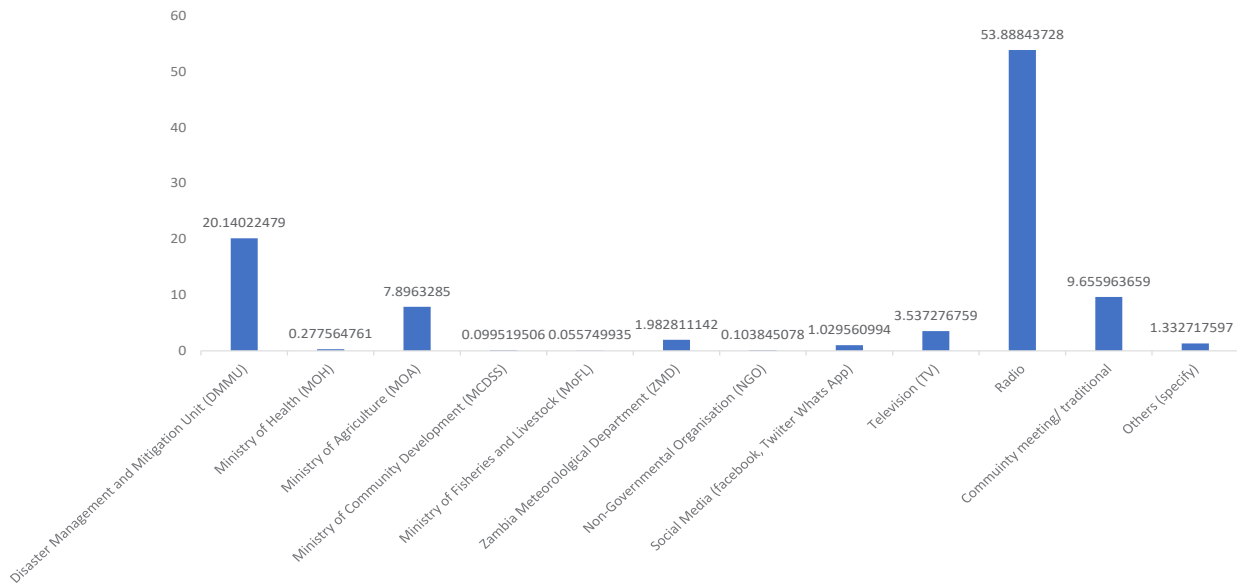


Figure 6.32 shows the percentage distribution of households by source of Early Warning information. The assessment revealed that 54 percent households received Early Warning information through the radio, making it the most commonly used source. Households that obtained information from the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) accounted for 20.1 percent, followed by 9.7 percent who received information through community meetings.

Additionally, 7.9 percent of households reported receiving Early Warning information from the Ministry of Agriculture. Other sources were also reported, though their share was minimal, although they played a critical role in reaching specific communities

6.10.3. Use of early warning information

Table 6.66 shows the percentage distribution of households based on their use of Early Warning information. The assessment revealed that 25.9 percent of households that received Early Warning information used it to adequately prepare for disasters, while 10 percent used the information to plant drought-tolerant crops, and 0.9 percent used it to relocate. However, the majority of households, that is 63.3 percent who received Early Warning information did not take any action in response to it.

Table 6.66: Use of early warning information				
Use of Early Warning Information	Total	Male	Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Number
Total	414,979	100	292,371	122,608
Relocated	3,682	0.9	2,330	1,352
Planted drought tolerant crops	41,330	10.0	31,351	9,979
Used the Information to prepare adequately for disasters	107,386	25.9	75,273	32,113
Didn't use the information	262,581	63.3	183,417	79,164

6.10.4. Conclusion

In conclusion, a significant reduction in the reception and use of early warning information has been observed among both male and female-headed households affected by hazards. Notably, Chingola District on the Copperbelt reported that none of the impacted households received early warning information, highlighting a critical gap in the current system. This underscores the urgent need for government and its partners to not only sustain but intensify efforts in the dissemination of early warning information. To meet the UN Secretary-General's 2027 target, to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by an early warning system, there must be a deliberate focus on strengthening communication channels, enhancing community engagement and improving the reliability and reach of early warning systems

Closing these gaps is essential for building community resilience and enabling timely, life-saving action. Achieving this requires coordinated, inclusive, and sustained action across all levels of government and society

7.1. HOUSING AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

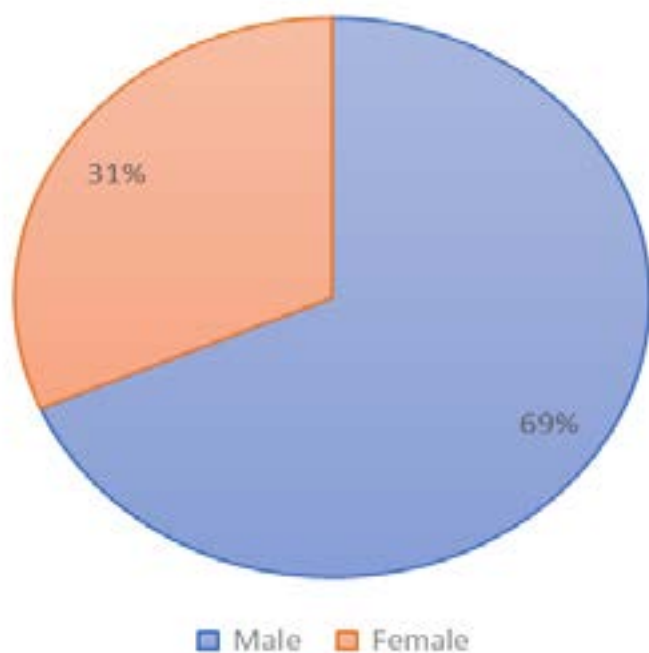
7.1.1. INTRODUCTION

The Zambia Vulnerability and In-depth Needs Assessment provides a comprehensive analysis of housing characteristics and structural types, which are critical factors influencing community resilience to hazards such as climate change, natural disasters, and economic shocks. The housing characteristics helps identify vulnerabilities and inform targeted interventions to enhance resilience. Collecting comprehensive data on housing characteristics is an essential part of the ZVAC, as it provides important insights into household living conditions, infrastructure standards, and resilience. By analyzing housing data, we are able to identify vulnerabilities related to shelter, such as overcrowding, poor construction standards, and inadequate access to basic services. This is significant to inform targeted interventions, resource allocation, and policy formulation to improve housing stability, safety, and overall well-being of vulnerable populations.

7.1.2. Type of house occupied by the Household

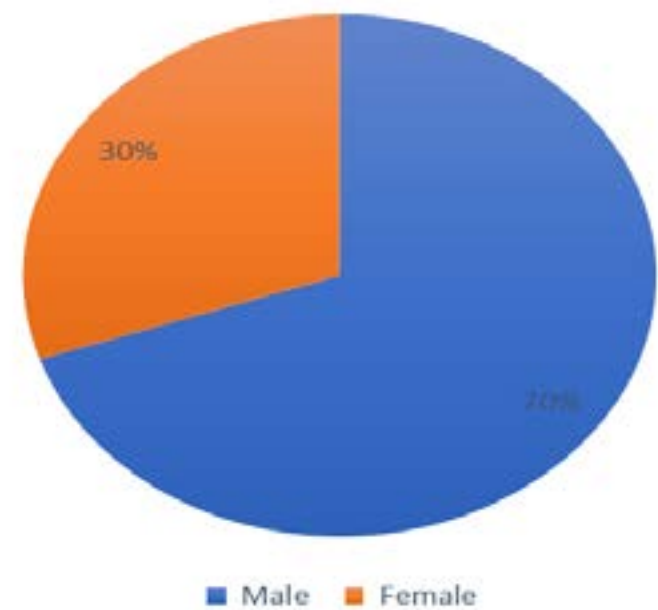
According to the 2024/2025 Zambia In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment, the total number of housing units (dwellings or structures) occupied by households assessed was 2,268,048. Among these, 69 percent were occupied by males and 31 percent by females.

Figure 7.1: Number of housing unit occupied by household by sex



In the rural population assessed, the total number of housing units was 1,609,240 with 70 percent occupied by males and 30 percent by females

Figure 7.2: Number of housing units occupied by household by sex in the rural population



In the urban population, the total housing units was 658,808 with 35 percent occupied by males and 65 percent by females

Figure 7.3: Number of housing units occupied by household by sex in the urban population

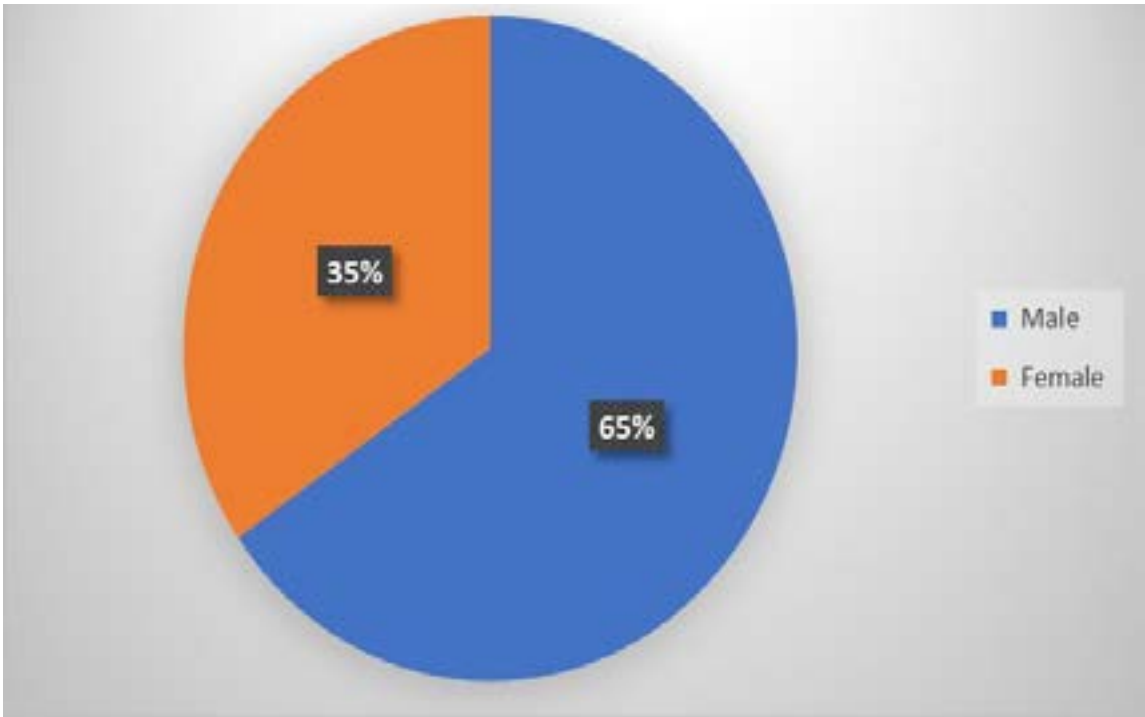


Table 7.1. shows the distribution of household occupancy by sex of the household head reveals notable gender differences across housing types. Male-headed households dominate most categories, particularly in mobile housing, commercial/institutional buildings, and incomplete non-residential buildings, where representation is 100 percent male. Male-headed households are also highly concentrated in standalone houses (70 percent), semi-detached houses (73.2 percent), and makeshift housing (74 percent), indicating that men are more likely to occupy both formal and informal housing units.

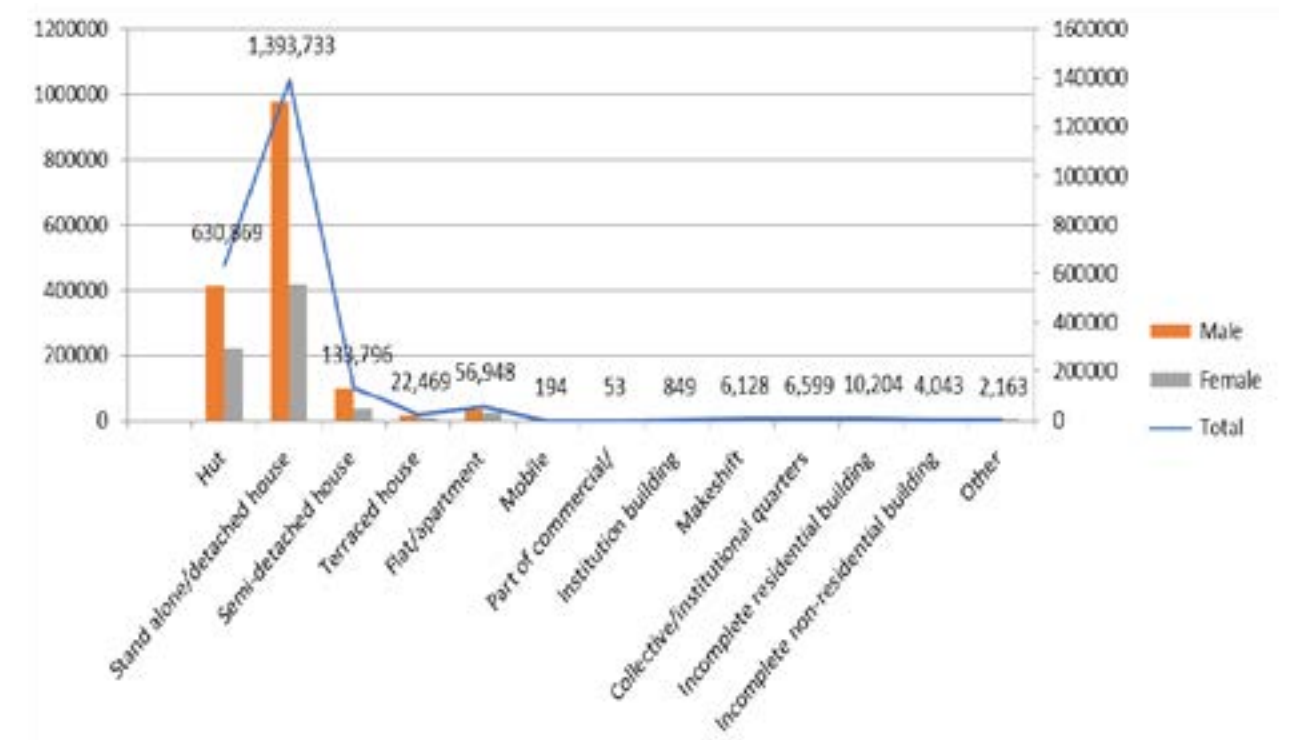
Female-headed households, while consistently underrepresented, are more visible in certain categories. They have the highest share in incomplete residential buildings (63 percent), suggesting vulnerability to insecure or substandard housing conditions. Women also represent a significant proportion in flats/apartments (41.7 percent), which may reflect urban residence patterns, and in other housing types (48.5 percent), where their share is nearly equal to men.

Overall, the data underscores that male-headed households dominate most housing categories, while female-headed households are disproportionately concentrated in incomplete residential buildings and flats/apartments, reflecting both housing insecurity and possible urban settlement trends. This distribution highlights the intersection of gender and housing vulnerability, with female-headed households more exposed to precarious living conditions.

Table 7.1: Type of household occupied by the Household categorized by sex

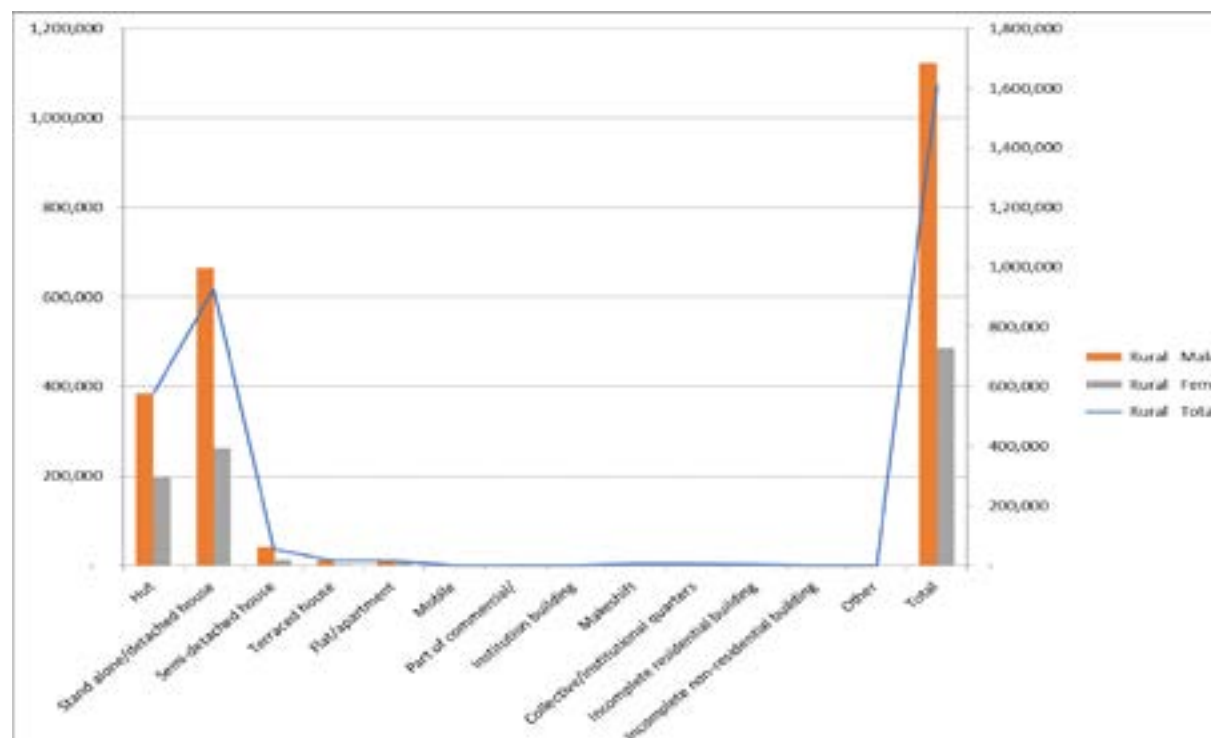
Housing Unit	Male (Percent)	Female (Percent)
Hut	65.3	34.7
Stand alone/detached house	70.0	30.0
Semi-detached house	73.2	26.8
Terraced house	71.9	28.1
Flat/apartment	58.3	41.7
Mobile	100.0	0.0
Part of commercial/	100.0	0.0
Institution building	100.0	0.0
Makeshift	74.0	26.0
Collective/institutional quarters	72.2	27.8
Incomplete residential building	37.0	63.0
Incomplete non-residential building	100.0	0.0
Other	51.6	48.5

Figure 7.4: Type of household occupied by the Household categorized by sex



In rural areas of Zambia, households predominantly own stand-alone or detached houses, accounting for approximately 926,614 units, which is the most common housing type among rural households. Hut dwellings are also prevalent, with about 580,133 households living in this type of shelter. Other housing units include makeshift structures (around 5,787), collective or institutional quarters (approximately 5,409), and incomplete residential buildings (about 2,660), indicating a diversity of housing conditions and levels of development. Overall, rural households primarily rely on traditional and standalone housing types, with a significant proportion living in huts and detached houses, reflecting both traditional building practices and varying levels of housing security and infrastructure development.

Fig 7.8: Type of material used for the roof by household for the rural population

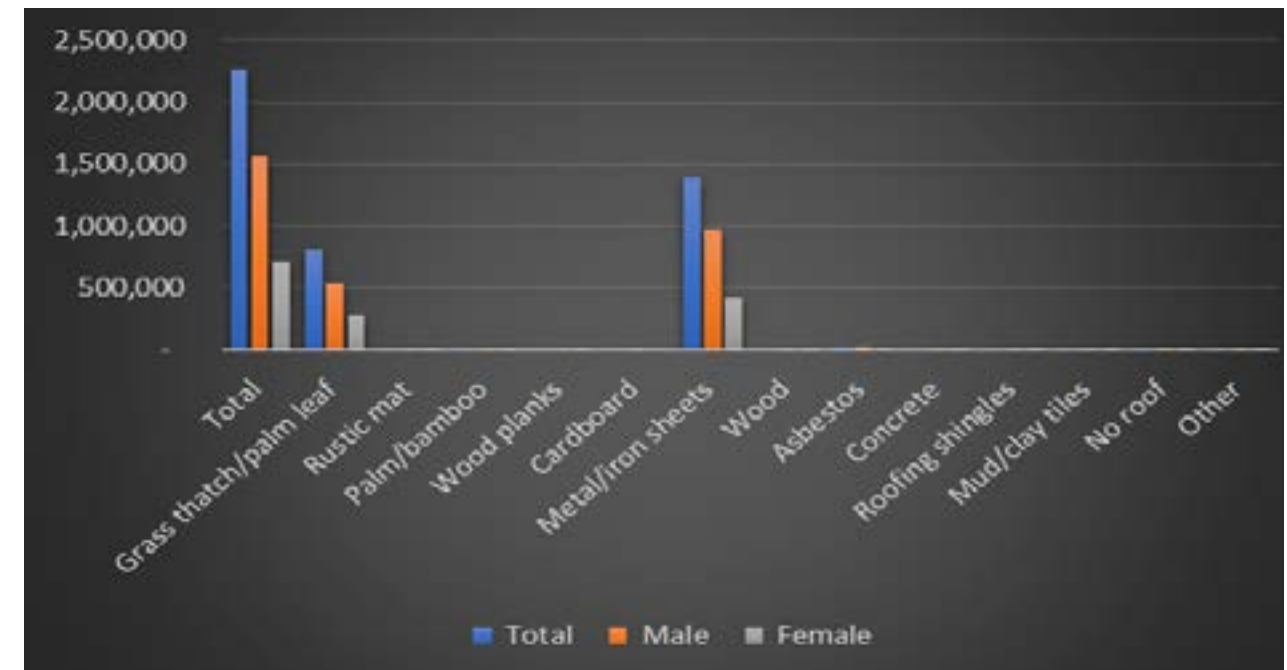


The urban households in Zambia predominantly occupy stand-alone or detached houses, accounting for 467,118 units, making it the most common housing type among both males (309,958) and females (157,160). Semi-detached houses are the second most prevalent, with 79,995 units, followed by terraced houses (7,499) and flats or apartments (41,698). Smaller proportions of households reside in huts (50,735), makeshift dwellings (341), and collective or institutional quarters (1,190), indicating a diverse housing landscape. Notably, institutional buildings and incomplete structures also serve as housing options, with 652 and 7,544 units respectively. Overall, the data reflects a predominance of traditional standalone housing in urban Zambia, with a smaller but significant presence of informal and institutional accommodations, highlighting varying levels of housing stability and infrastructure among the urban population.

7.1.3. Type of Material used for the roof by Household

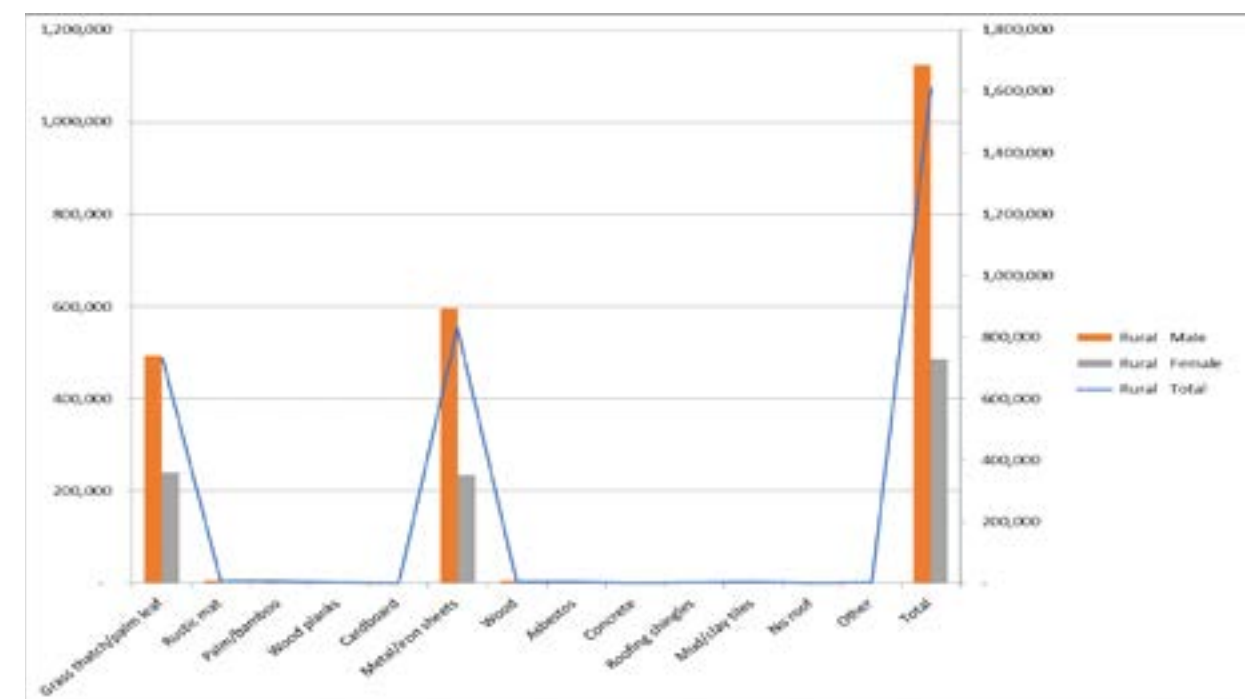
Metal/iron sheets are the most prevalent roofing material, used in 1,384,580 households. Grass thatch/palm leaf ranks second, with 805,622 households, indicating the continued use of traditional or locally available natural roofing materials. Other notable materials include wood planks (5,143 households) and wood (6,157 households), which are less common but likely utilized for structural components. Roofing shingles, mud/clay tiles, and asbestos are employed in smaller numbers, reflecting diverse construction practices.

Fig 7.7: Type of material used for the roof by Household



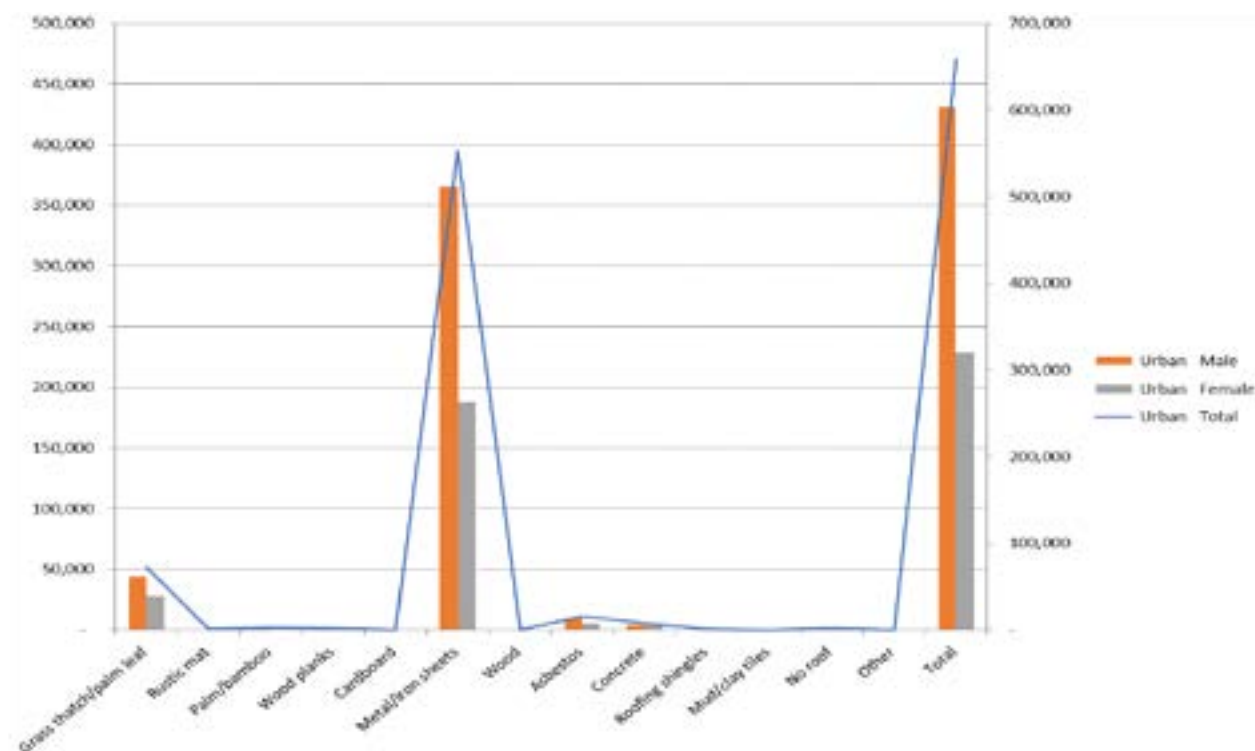
Less common or absent materials include cardboard, used in only 220 households possibly for temporary or makeshift structures and no roofs reported in 3,606 households, indicating incomplete or open structures. Additionally, other miscellaneous materials account for 3,595 households, suggesting a variety of less typical building materials.

Fig 7.8: Type of material used for the roof by household for the rural population



The vulnerability and needs assessment data indicate that rural households predominantly use natural and less durable roofing materials, with grass thatch/palm leaf being the most common (approximately 45.6 percent of households) and significant reliance also on metal/iron sheets (about 51.5 percent). Other materials such as asbestos, mud/clay tiles, and roofing shingles are used but to a lesser extent, while a small proportion of households have no roof at all (around 0.1 percent). The high prevalence of grass thatch and palm leaf roofs suggests considerable vulnerability to weather-related damage, which can compromise safety and shelter stability. The reliance on more durable materials like metal/iron sheets, which constitute over half of the roofing material, indicates some resilience, but the overall picture highlights a need for targeted interventions to improve roofing durability and reduce vulnerability in these rural communities.

Figure 7.9 Type of material used for the roof by household for the urban population



In the urban areas of Zambia, the predominant roofing material used for housing units is metal or iron sheets, accounting for approximately 83.7 percent of the total housing stock, with 553,276 units. This material is favored by both men and women, comprising about 65.9 percent of the total population's housing roofs. Other notable roofing materials include grass thatch or palm leaf (roughly 10.9 percent) and asbestos (around 2.4 percent), which are less common but still significant. The use of rustic mats, palm/bamboo, wood planks, cardboard, concrete, roofing shingles, mud/clay tiles, and other materials constitute smaller proportions of the housing stock. Notably, a small percentage of houses (about 0.3 percent) have no roof at all, indicating potential vulnerability. Overall, metal or iron sheets are the main material used for roofing in urban Zambia, reflecting their popularity, likely due to durability and availability.

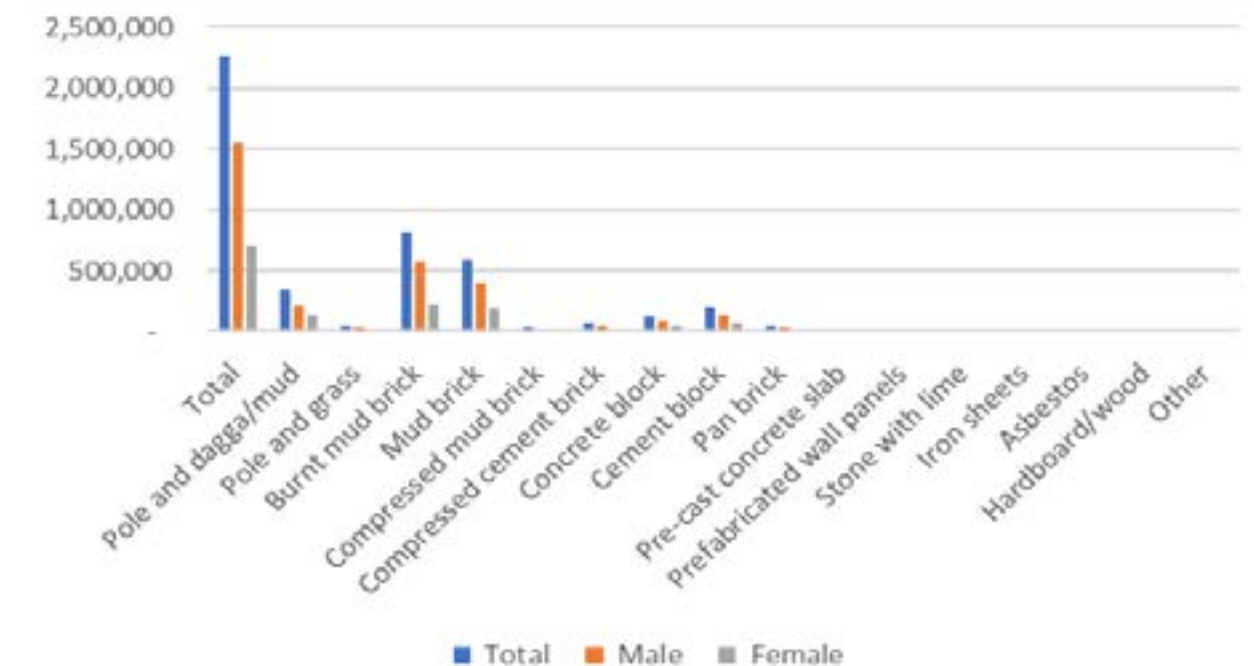
7.1.4. Main materials used to build walls of Housing units

Total households surveyed were 2,268,048. Male respondents stood at 1,554,041 and Female respondents were at 714,008. The most common wall construction types are Burnt mud brick, used by 811,925 households, mud brick used by 587,820 households, and Pole and dagga/mud used by 339,173 households.

Cement based blocks which include compressed cement brick, concrete block, and cement block collectively account for a significant portion of constructions. Specifically, compressed cement bricks are used by 69,199 households' concrete blocks by 116,582 households and cement blocks by 204,039 households. The total number of households using cement-based materials is approximately 389,820.

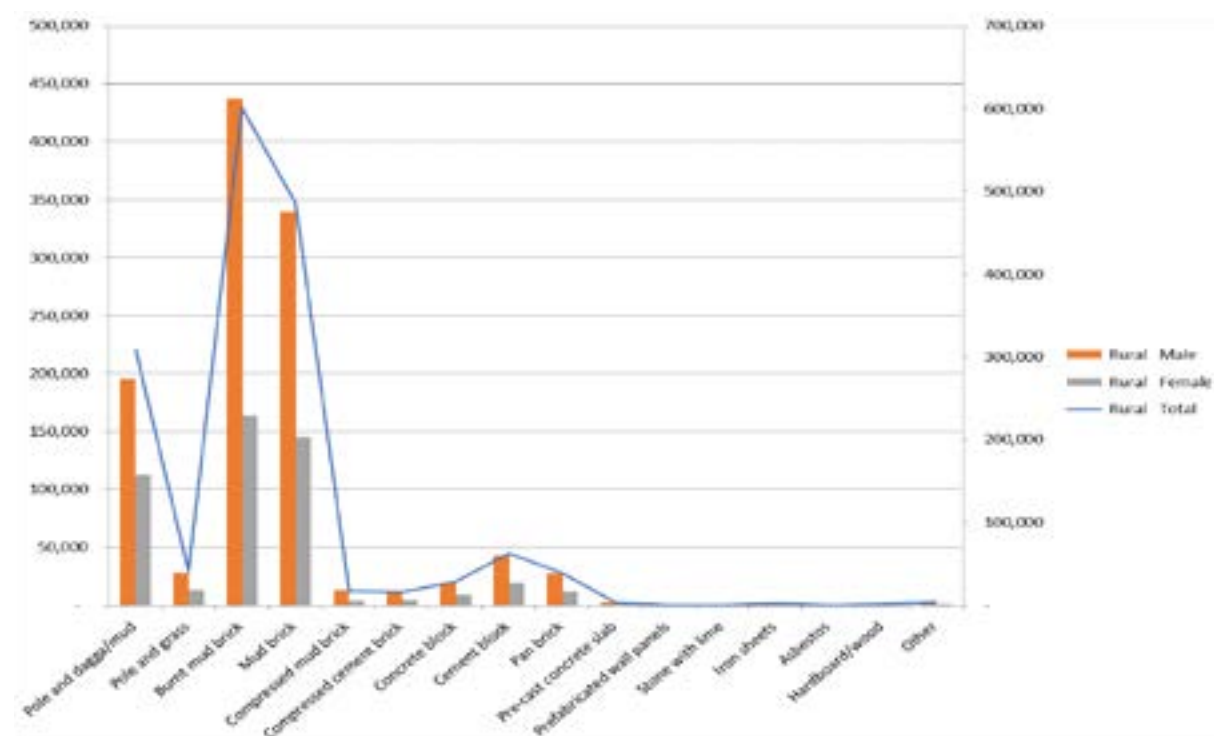
Alternative and other materials are used by 2,708 households, while asbestos is utilized in 237 households, indicating their niche or specific applications. Hardboard/wood is used by 1,178 households, and other miscellaneous materials are employed by 4,096 households, reflecting diversity in wall construction approaches, though on a relatively small scale.

Figure 7.13: Primary materials used for the floor of the Housing units



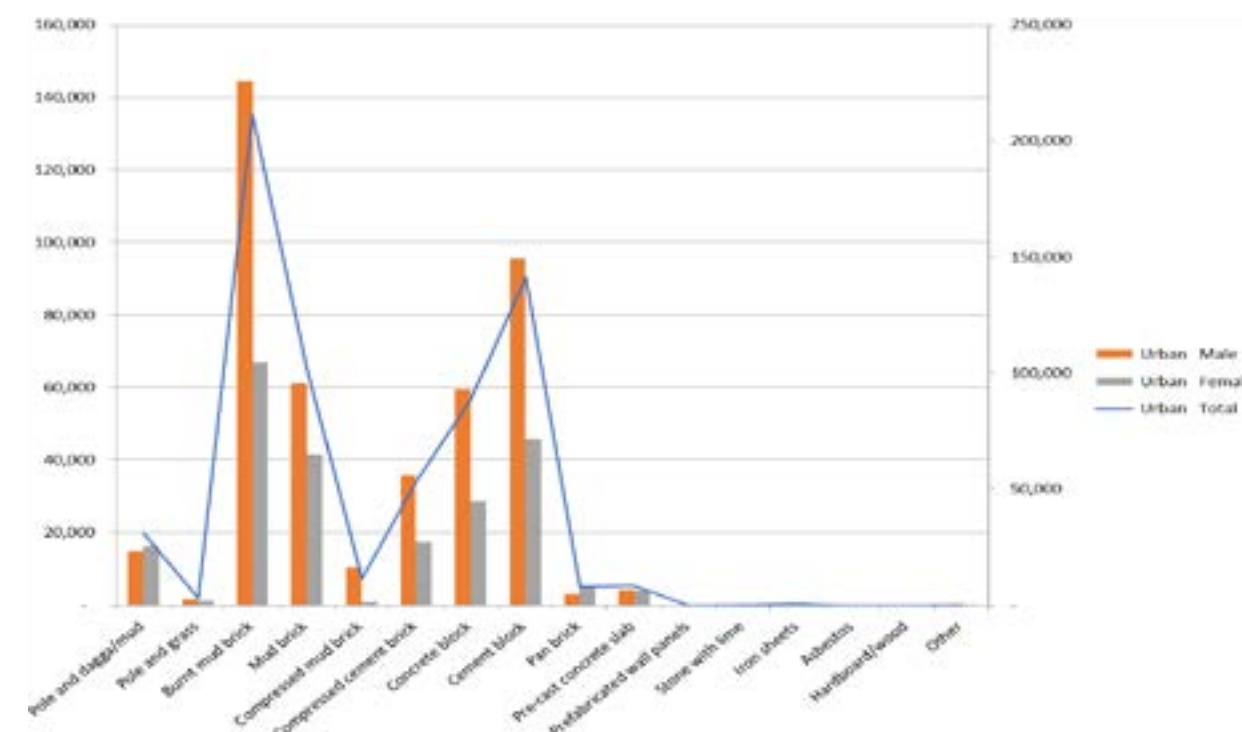
Across most materials, males report higher usage counts than females. Specifically, for burnt mud brick, males had 581,353, while females had 230,572. For mud brick, males recorded 400,557, compared to 187,264 for females.

Figure 7.11: Main materials used to build walls of Housing units for the rural population



The data from the Zambia Vulnerability and Needs Assessment indicates that the predominant wall materials in rural areas are primarily traditional and less durable options. Burnt mud brick (600,566) and mud brick (485,167) are the most common materials used, reflecting reliance on locally available, affordable, but less resilient construction methods. Pole and mud (307,956) and pole and grass (40,841) are also significant, highlighting the prevalence of natural, organic materials in rural housing. In contrast, more durable materials such as cement blocks (62,781), concrete blocks (28,448), and pre-cast concrete slabs (3,112) are less common, suggesting limited access or affordability. The use of iron sheets (2,349) and other manufactured materials like asbestos (237) and hardboard/wood (1,178) indicates some diversification in wall construction, but overall, traditional and locally sourced materials dominate the rural housing landscape.

Figure 7.12: Main materials used to build walls of Housing units for the urban population



The data from the Zambia Vulnerability and Needs Assessment indicates that among the urban population of 658,808 households, the predominant materials used for wall construction are burnt mud bricks (approximately 211,359 households), mud bricks (102,653), cement blocks (141,257), concrete blocks (88,133), and traditional pole and mud or grass structures (totaling around 34,145 households). Notably, burnt mud bricks and mud bricks are the most common, reflecting reliance on locally available and affordable materials. Cement-based materials, such as cement blocks (approximately 53,113 households) and concrete blocks (about 88,133), are also prevalent, indicating some adoption of more durable building materials.

The use of iron sheets for walling is minimal (359 households), and other materials like stone with lime, asbestos, hardboard, or prefabricated panels are either rarely used or absent. The distribution of these materials varies slightly between males and females, but overall, traditional and locally sourced materials dominate urban household wall construction in Zambia.

7.1.5. Primary materials used for the floor of the Housing units

The 2024/2025 Zambia Vulnerability In-Depth and Needs Assessment provided data on various building materials used, likely in the context of housing or infrastructure resilience.

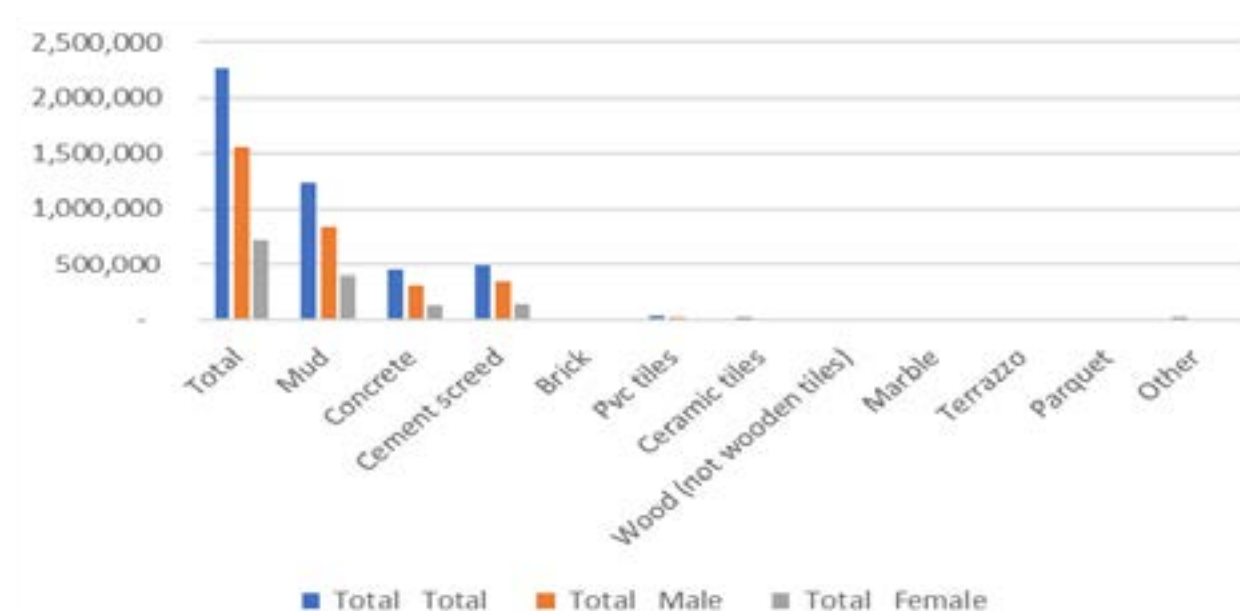
Mud is the most widely used material, accounting for approximately 54.7 percent of the total (1,241,936 out of 2,268,048). It is used by both males (840,173) and females (401,763), indicating its widespread adoption across communities. Concrete is used in about 19.9 percent of structures (450,419).

Cement, often used for flooring and surface finishing, accounts for approximately 21.8 percent (493,796). Brick usage is minimal (6,601), representing about 0.3 percent of the total, indicating limited use of fired bricks. Pvc tiles (29,805) and ceramic tiles (20,213) are used mainly for finishing, indicating some level of modern or aesthetic considerations. Wood (excluding wooden tiles) is used by 2,845 individuals, with no female usage reported, suggesting possible gender-specific roles or occupation-related use.

Marble and terrazzo are minimally used (221 and 2,093 respectively), likely for decorative or high-end finishes. The 'Other' category (19,910) indicates additional materials not specified, which could include various locally available or specialized materials.

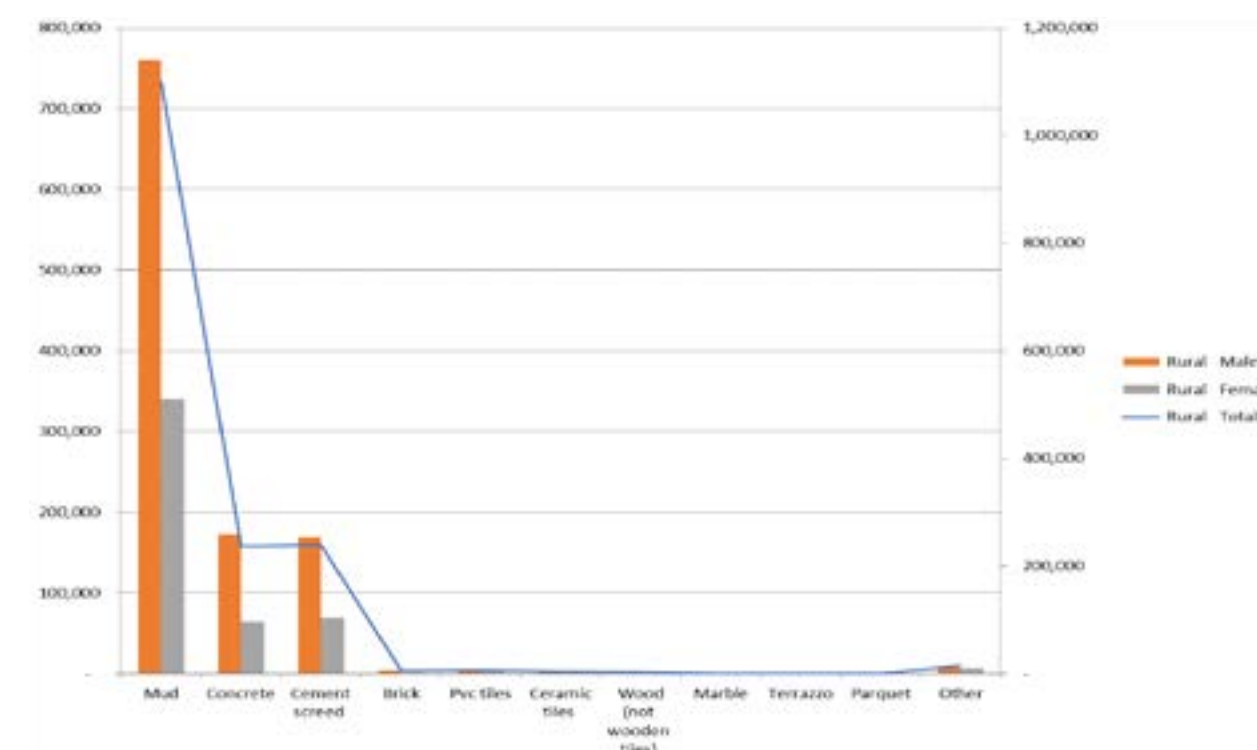
Males and females show similar patterns in material usage, with minor differences. For example, more male households use metal/iron sheets (962,426) compared to females (422,155), reflecting possibly higher male-headed households using this material. The number of households with no roof is higher among males (2,725) than females (881).

Figure 7.13: Primary materials used for the floor of the Housing units



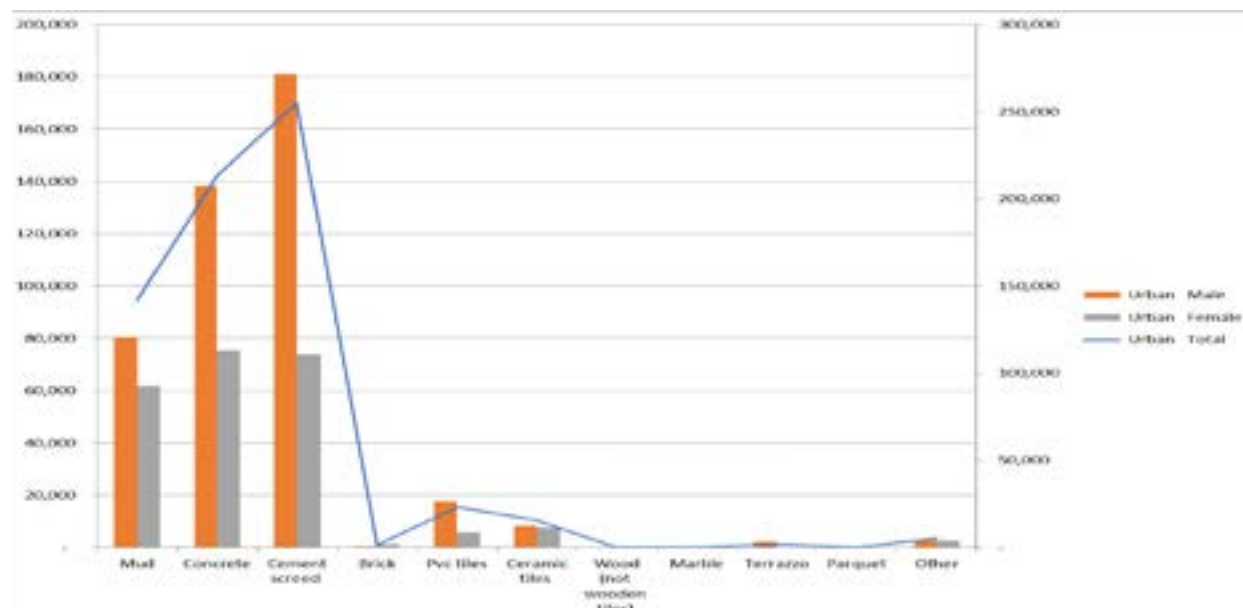
The most prevalent material is Burnt mud brick, with a total of 811,925 units, other notable materials include Mud brick (587,820 units), Pole and dagga/mud (339,173 units), and Cement block (204,039 units).

Figure 7.14: Primary materials used for the floor of the housing units for the rural population



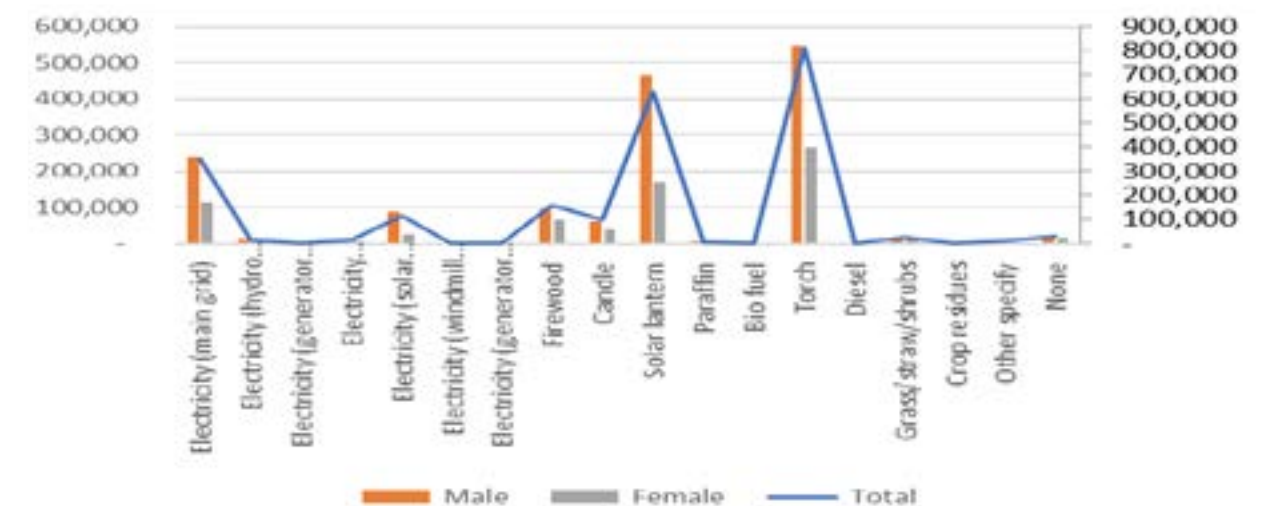
The data from the Zambia Vulnerability and Needs Assessment indicates that in rural areas, the majority of housing units have floors made of mud, accounting for approximately 68 percent (1,099,886 out of 1,609,240 total). This suggests a significant reliance on natural, locally available, and inexpensive materials for flooring. Other notable floor types include concrete (about 15percent), cement screed (around 15percent), and smaller proportions of brick, PVC tiles, ceramic tiles, wood, marble, terrazzo, parquet, and other materials. The prevalence of mud floors highlights a potential vulnerability in housing quality, as mud is less durable and may contribute to poor living conditions, especially in terms of hygiene and insulation. The distribution also points to limited access or affordability of more durable or modern flooring options in rural Zambia.

Figure 7.15: Primary materials used for the floor of the housing units for the urban population



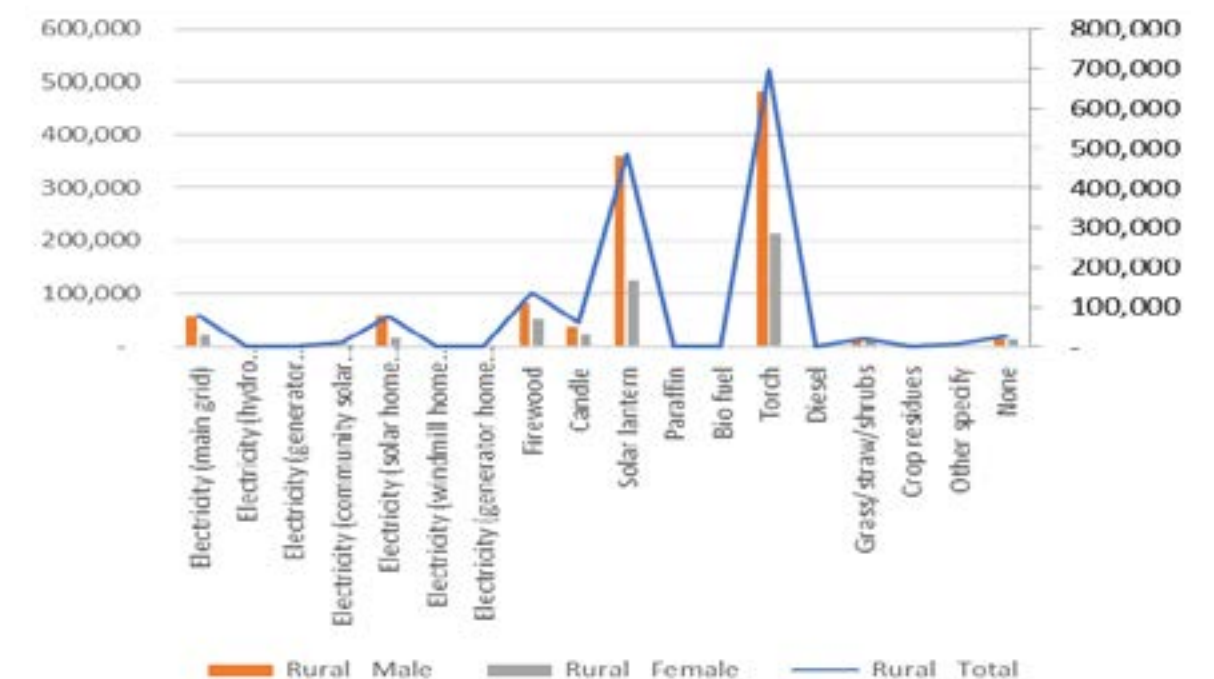
The data on the flooring materials used in urban housing units in Zambia reveals a diverse range of construction practices, with cement screed being the most prevalent, accounting for approximately 38.7 percent of the total urban housing units (255,117 units). Concrete floors are also significant, representing about 32.4 percent (213,703 units), indicating a preference for durable, modern materials. Mud floors, however, remain present in a notable minority, with 142,050 units (21.6 percent), which may be associated with lower-income households or traditional housing styles. Other finishes such as PVC tiles, ceramic tiles, and various decorative surfaces like terrazzo, contribute smaller proportions, reflecting varying levels of investment and material availability. The reliance on more durable materials like cement screed and concrete suggests a trend toward improved housing quality, yet the continued presence of mud floors highlights ongoing vulnerabilities related to housing resilience, health, and safety in urban Zambia.

Figure 7.16: Main source of energy for lighting for the Household



The data above presents the distribution of households (totaling 2,268,048) in two categories which are 1,554,041 and 714,008 respectively for two categories for males and females respectively, this indicates reliance on diverse energy sources, highlighting key areas for intervention at a national level.

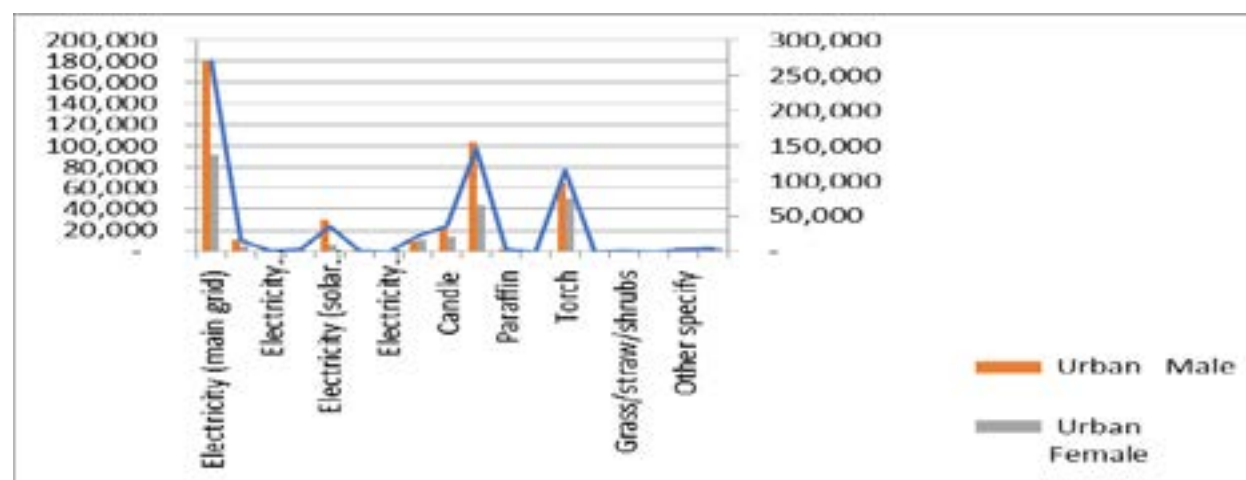
Figure 7.17: Main source of Energy for lighting for the household for the rural population



The data from the Zambia Vulnerability and Needs Assessment indicates that among rural households, the predominant source of lighting is torches, used by approximately 697,415 households, followed by solar lanterns (485,670 households) and candles (60,590 households). Traditional fuels like firewood and grass/straw/shrubs are also significant, with 135,110 and 21,364 households respectively relying on them. Electric lighting sources, such as the main grid, hydro community systems, and solar systems, remain limited, serving only a small fraction of households totaling 78,732 on the main grid, 2,646 through hydro community systems, and 10,859 via community solar systems.

Notably, a considerable number of households (27,234) still report no lighting source at all. The data underscores a heavy dependence on traditional and low-cost lighting options, highlighting the vulnerabilities related to energy access and the need for expanded sustainable electrification initiatives in rural Zambia.

Figure 7.18: Main source of energy for lighting for the Household for the urban population



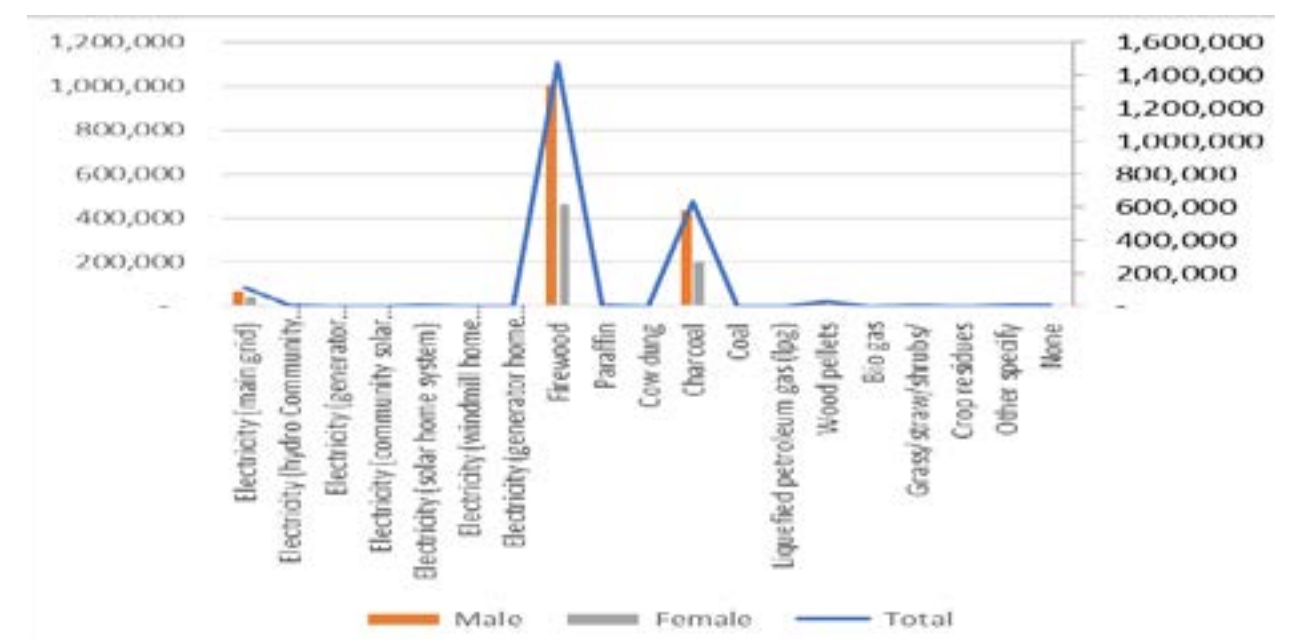
The data above in Zambia Vulnerability and Needs Assessment highlights a diverse array of energy sources used for household lighting in urban areas, with electricity from the main grid being the predominant source, accounting for 271,147 households, predominantly used by males (179,367) and females (91,780). Alternative electricity sources such as hydro community systems (14,568 households), solar home systems (36,029 households), and solar lanterns (146,779 households) also play significant roles, indicating a shift towards renewable and decentralized energy solutions.

Traditional fuels like firewood (20,917 households) and candles (36,222 households) remain prevalent, especially among females, while more modern options like torch lights (115,122 households) and paraffin (2,857 households) are also widely used. Notably, a small proportion of households rely on biofuels, grass, straw, shrubs, and other unspecified sources. Despite the high penetration of electricity, a notable number of households (4,793) report using no lighting source, underscoring ongoing energy access challenges in urban settings.

7.1.6. Main source of energy for cooking for the Household

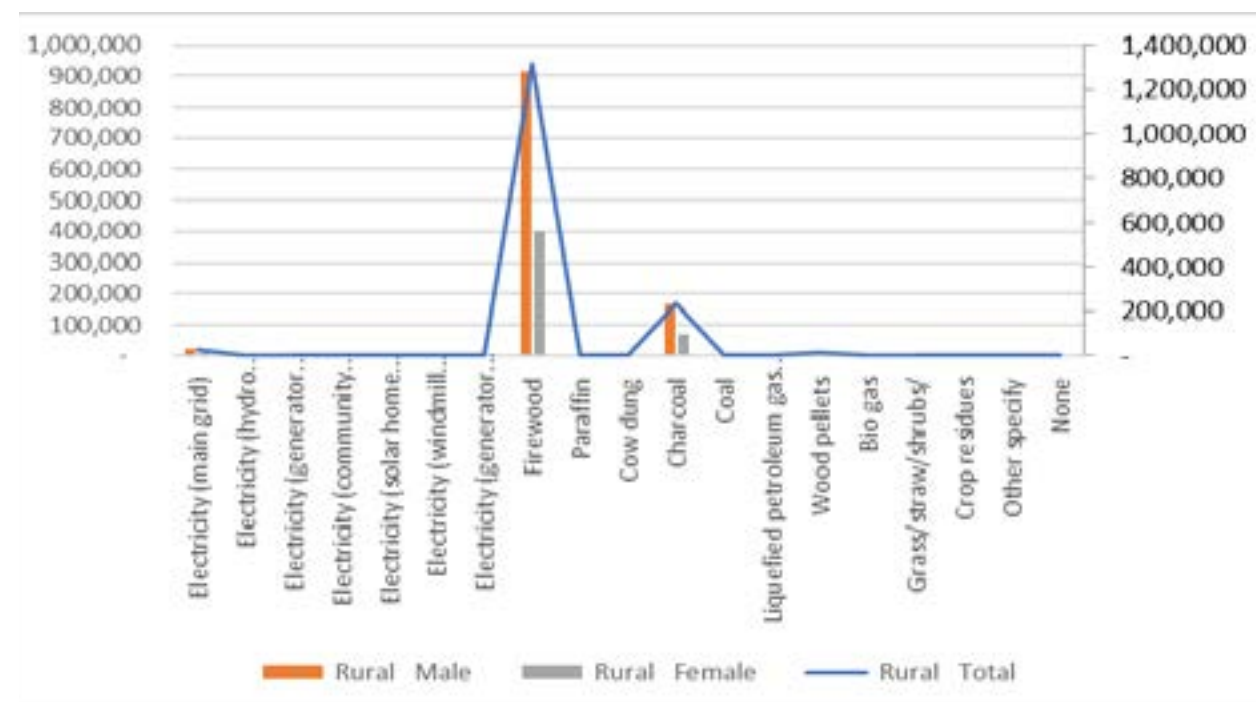
The 2024/2025 Zambia Vulnerability Needs Assessment reports a total population of approximately 2.27 million people, comprising 1.55 million males and 714,000 females. Access to electricity remains limited, with only 110,147 individuals connected, predominantly through the main grid (67,941 users; 42,206 males and 25,735 females), while community hydro systems serve 5,212 users (3,982 males; 1,230 females), and generator and solar systems have smaller user bases.

Figure 7.19: Main source of energy for cooking for the household



Notably, all users of community solar systems are male. Firewood is the primary fuel source, used by 1,473,839 individuals (1,009,186 males; 464,653 females), followed by charcoal (634,018 users; 439,221 males; 194,797 females). Other fuels such as paraffin (3,259 users) and biogas (255 users) are used by relatively few, alongside cow dung (823 users), coal (1,563 users), and various biomass sources like grass, straw, and crop residues. A significant portion of the population around 4,029 individuals report no access to these energy sources, highlighting ongoing energy access challenges.

Figure 7.20: Main source of energy for cooking for the Household in rural households

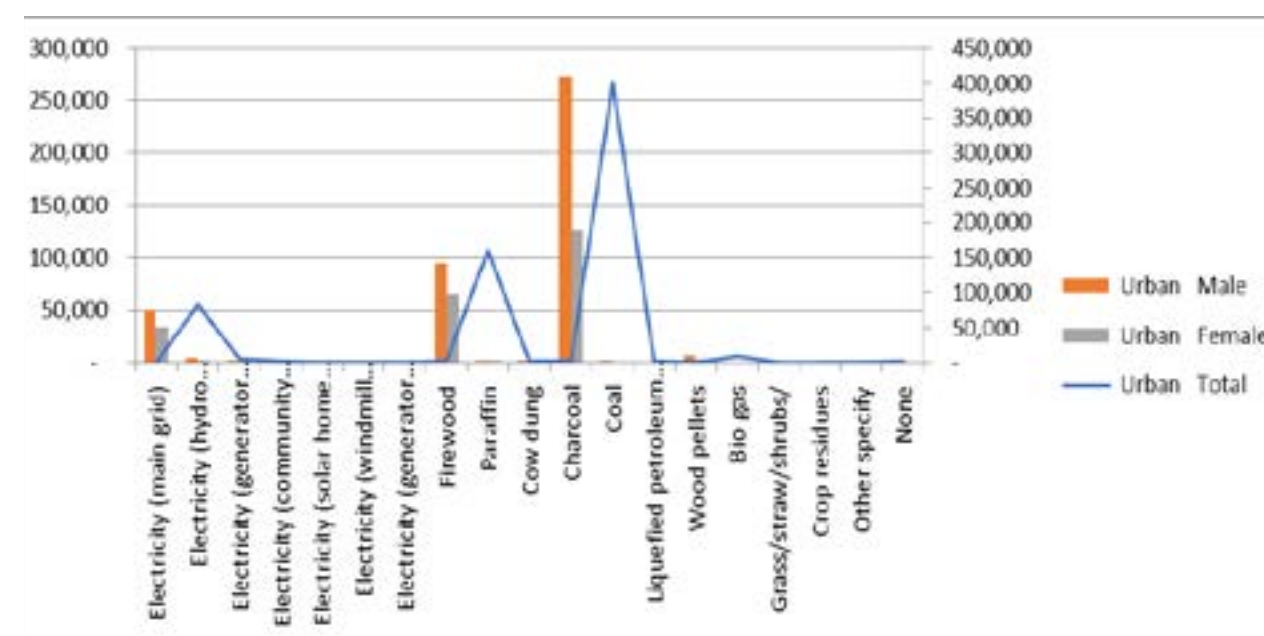


According to the Zambia Vulnerability and Needs Assessment data, the primary source of energy for household cooking in rural areas is firewood, accounting for the largest share with approximately 81.6 percent of households relying on it. Specifically, out of a total rural population of 1,609,240 households, about 914,666 households (roughly 56.8percent) depend on firewood for cooking. Charcoal is the next significant source, used by approximately 234,598 households (around 14.6percent). Other sources like paraffin, cow dung, and various forms of electricity are used by smaller proportions of households, with electricity-based options such as solar home systems and community solar systems being relatively limited in reach. The data clearly indicates that traditional biomass fuels, particularly firewood, remain the main and most accessible energy source for cooking among rural households in Zambia.

The data below indicates that among the urban population of 658,808 in Zambia, charcoal is the predominant energy source for cooking, used by approximately 399,420 individuals, with a higher prevalence among males (273,722) than females (125,698). Firewood is also significantly utilized by 159,391 people, while electricity (main grid) serves 83,493 residents, making it the second most common energy source, predominantly accessed via the main grid. Other electricity options such as hydro community systems, generator community systems, and generator home systems are minimally used, with no reported adoption of solar or wind-based systems.

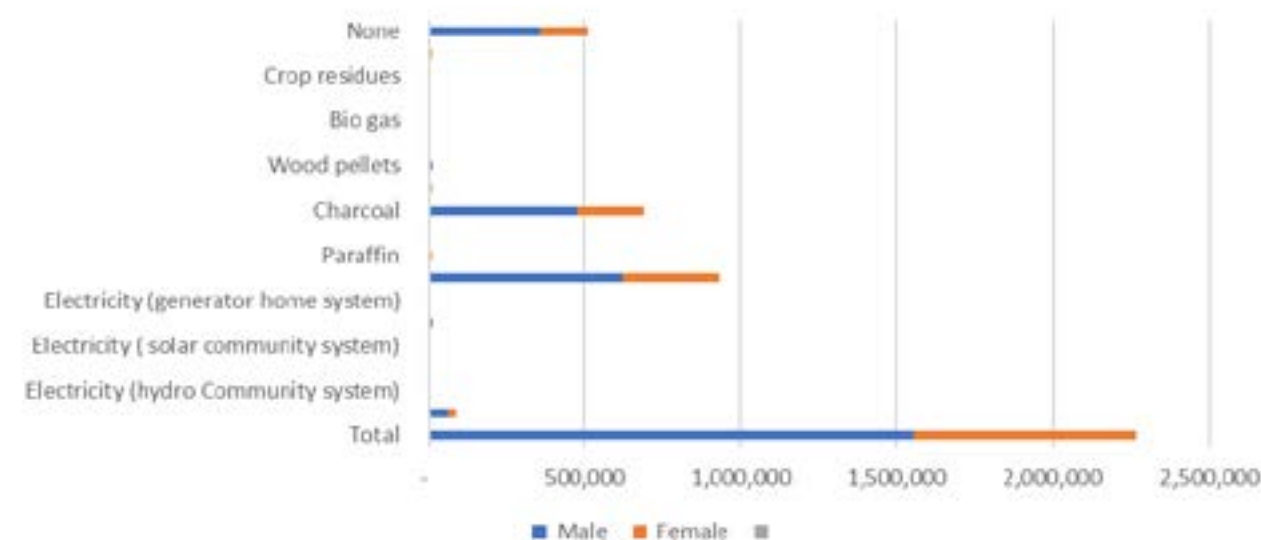
Alternative fuels like paraffin, cow dung, coal, and biomass-based options like wood pellets and other unspecified sources are used by smaller segments. Notably, 220 individuals report having no energy source for cooking. Overall, reliance on traditional biomass fuels like charcoal and firewood remains high, indicating limited access to modern, cleaner energy solutions among urban residents, thus highlighting significant vulnerabilities related to health, environmental impact, and energy accessibility in Zambia.

Figure 7.21: Main source of energy for cooking for the Household in urban households.



The 2024/2025 Zambia Vulnerability In-depth Needs Assessment provided a comprehensive overview of energy sources utilized by a population of 2,268,048 individuals, segmented by gender (males: 1,554,041; females: 714,008). The data indicates a notably higher male demographic within the dataset. A significant portion, approximately 514,552 respondents, report no energy source usage.

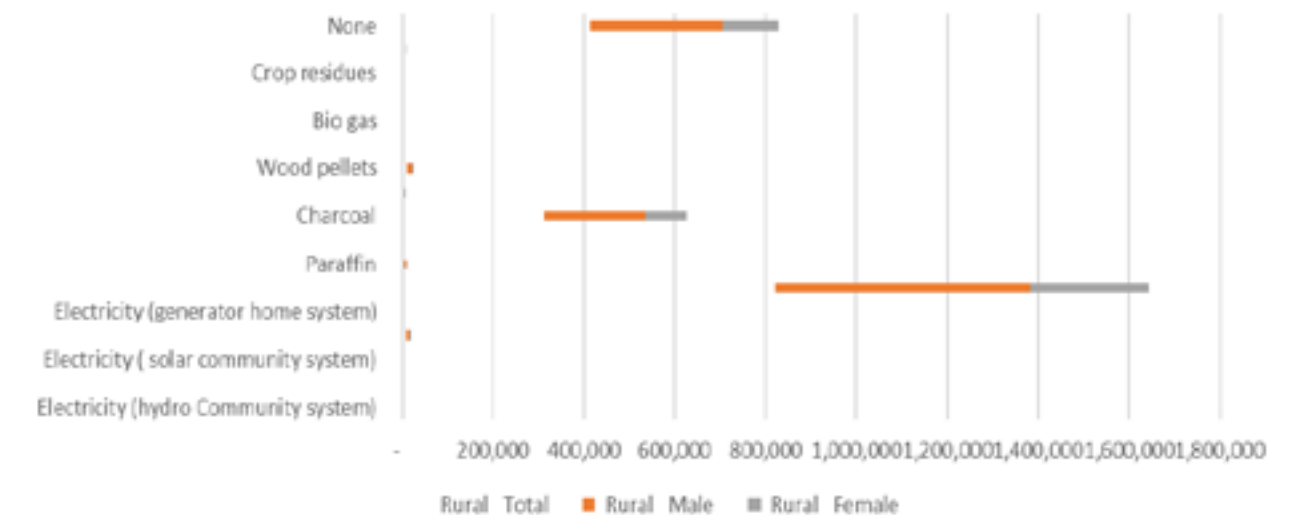
Figure 7.22: Main source of energy for Heating



Firewood is the most widely used energy source, with 933,794 users, making it the dominant energy source across the population. Charcoal usage is also substantial, with 687,270 users. Electricity access remains limited, with a total of 89,991 users; the main grid supplies electricity to 63,411 individuals, indicating that grid connectivity is not universally available. Community-based systems, such as hydro and generator setups, serve a minimal number of 2,086 users, reflecting limited access to communal energy solutions. Modest adoption of solar-based systems is observed, with 250 users for solar community systems and 9,357 users for solar home systems. Generator home systems are used by 1,089 individuals. Paraffin is used by 4,931 people. Other sources, including cow dung, biogas, gel fuel, crop residues, and miscellaneous options, are minimally used, each serving small segments of the population.

Gender analysis reveals that males generally have higher usage rates across most categories, especially for traditional fuels like firewood (males: 621,868; females: 311,925) and charcoal (males: 478,723; females: 208,548). Conversely, some biomass sources such as cow dung show slightly higher female usage (214 females and 171 males). Usage of newer, cleaner energy sources like solar home systems and generator systems appears relatively balanced between genders, with no significant disparities noted. This assessment highlights the reliance on traditional biomass fuels, limited access to modern energy sources, and gendered patterns in energy use, underscoring areas for targeted interventions to improve energy access and gender equity.

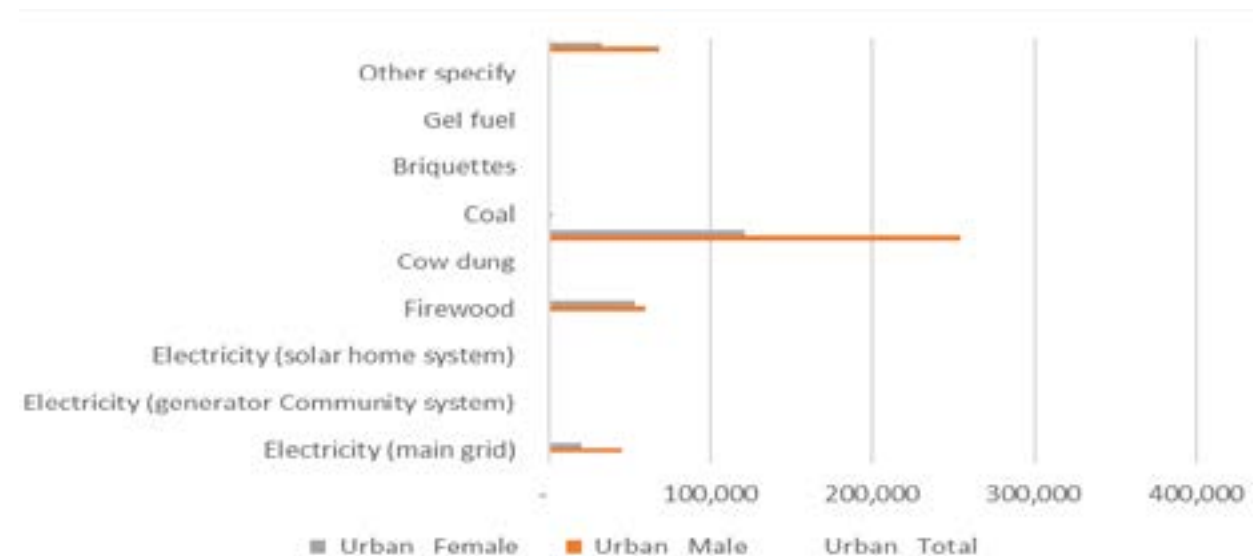
Figure 7.23: Main source of energy for Heating for the rural population



According to the Zambia In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment, firewood remains the predominant energy source for household heating for the rural population with 821,744 households relying on it, accounting for the majority among various fuels. This indicates a heavy dependence on traditional biomass, especially firewood, which is significantly higher than other energy sources such as electricity (totaling just over 25,000 households across all systems) and alternative fuels like charcoal, cow dung, and crop residues.

The reliance on firewood underscores limited access to modern and cleaner energy sources, reflecting infrastructural and economic challenges faced by rural households. The data highlights the critical need to improve access to sustainable and affordable energy solutions to reduce reliance on biomass and enhance household health and environmental outcomes.

Figure 7.24: Main source of energy for Heating for the urban population



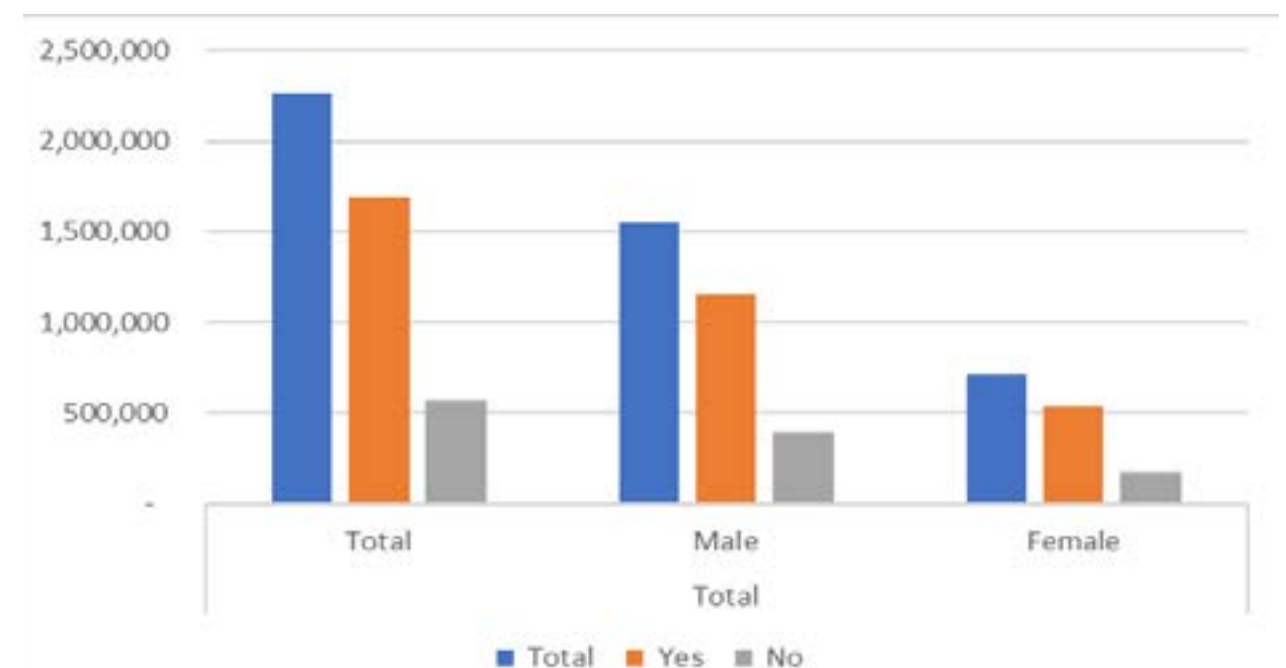
The data indicates that among the urban population, charcoal is the predominant main energy source for household heating, accounting for approximately 374,723 households, with a higher usage among males (254,020) than females (120,703). Firewood is also significant, used by 112,050 households, predominantly by males. Electricity from the main grid serves around 64,927 households, making it a notable modern energy source, with both males and females utilizing it, though males (44,667) use it more than females (20,261).

The use of solar home systems is relatively minimal, with only 538 households, primarily female users. Traditional fuels like paraffin are used by a small segment (284 households), while other sources like crop residues and various community or home-based electricity systems have limited uptake. Notably, a substantial portion of the urban population, 100,620 households, do not use any energy source for heating, highlighting a significant segment that potentially relies on alternative methods or has no heating needs. Overall, traditional biomass fuels such as charcoal and firewood dominate, with modern electricity sources playing a secondary role.

7.1.7. Housing unit owned by any member of the Household

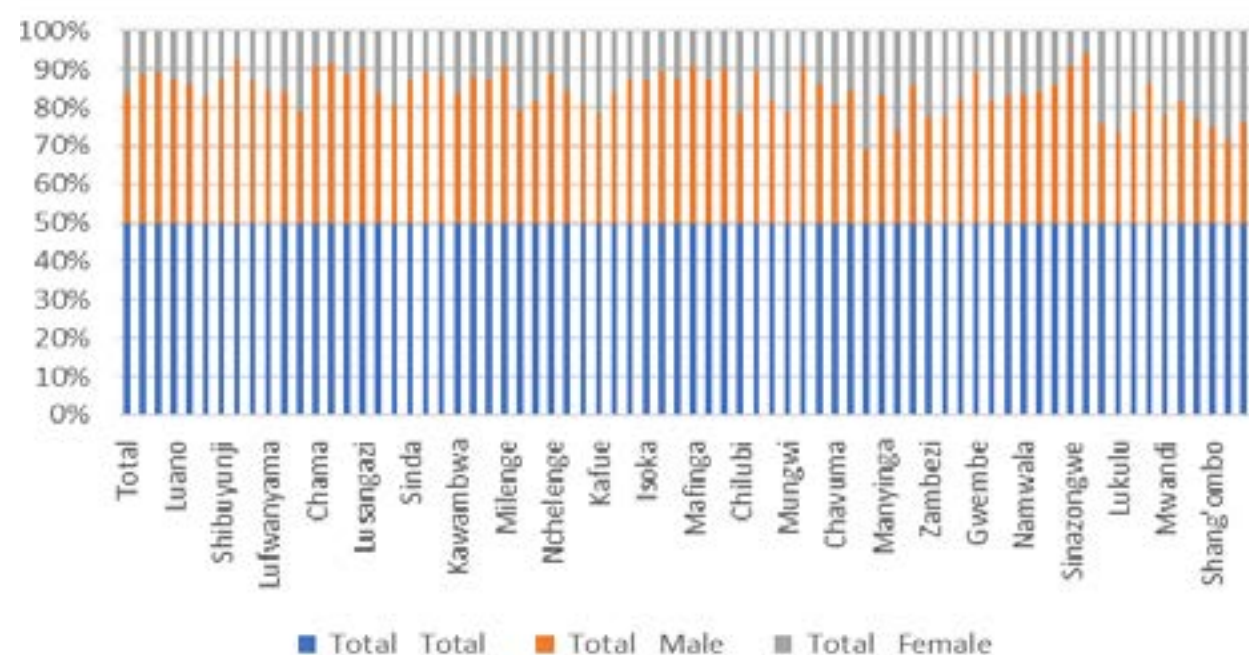
The data below indicates that out of a total household population of 2,268,048 individuals, approximately 74.7 percent (1,695,443) own a housing unit, with males constituting about 68.1 percent (1,157,301) and females about 31.9 percent (538,142). Conversely, 25.3 percent (572,605) do not own a housing unit, comprising roughly 69.2 percent (396,739) males and 30.8 percent (175,865) females.

Figure 7.25: Housing unit owned by any member of the Household



Overall, a higher proportion of males own housing compared to females, highlighting a gender disparity in housing ownership within the household population.

Figure 7.26: Housing unit owned by any member of the Household by district

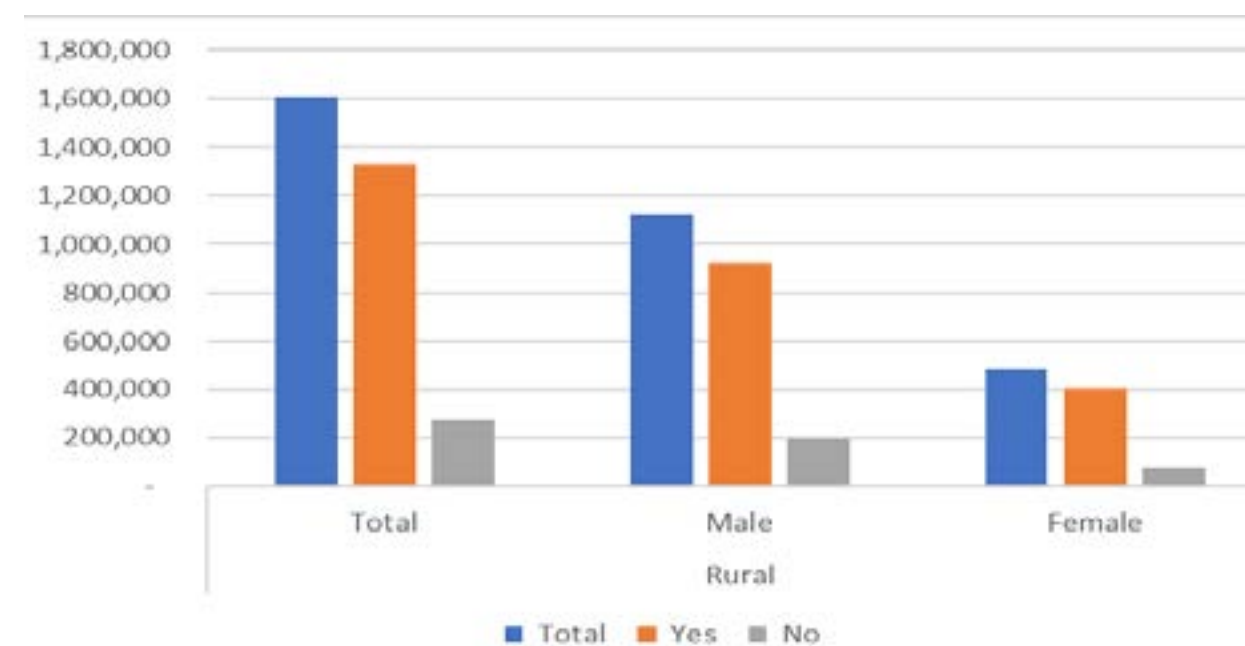


The data indicates that a total of 2,268,048 households own a housing unit across various districts, with a higher proportion of male household heads (1,554,041) compared to females (714,008). The district with the highest household ownership is Chilanga (75,315), followed by Chongwe (89,868) and Mansa (81,422). Notably, districts such as Kasempa and Lukulu have a relatively higher number of female-headed households (22,844 and 15,907, respectively), suggesting gender disparities in household ownership. Overall, the majority of households are male-headed, but certain districts exhibit a significant presence of female household owners, reflecting diverse household dynamics across regions.

7.1.9. Housing Unit Owned

The data indicates that in rural areas of Zambia, a total of 1,609,240 household members own a housing unit, comprising 1,123,338 males and 485,902 females. When examining specific subsets, there are 1,330,104 individuals with household ownership, including 922,114 males and 407,989 females, and a smaller group of 279,136 individuals, with 201,224 males and 77,912 females, suggesting variations in housing ownership across different segments. Overall, the data reflects a significant gender disparity in household ownership in rural Zambia, with males overwhelmingly more likely to own housing units than females, which could influence vulnerability and needs assessments related to housing security, access to resources, and gender equity in rural communities.

Figure 7.27: Housing Unit Owned by Any Member of The Household by Rural



Conclusion

The analysis of housing and household characteristics in Zambia, as presented in the 2024/2025 In-Depth Vulnerability and Needs Assessment, highlights significant disparities in housing conditions, access to resources, and energy usage across rural and urban populations, as well as between genders. Overall, male-headed households dominate most housing categories, ownership, and usage of construction materials, reflecting persistent gender inequalities in housing security. Rural households primarily occupy traditional stand-alone houses and huts, constructed with locally available materials such as mud bricks, burnt bricks, and pole-and-dagga walls, with mud and cement-based floors being predominant. Roofing materials in rural areas are largely grass thatch or metal sheets, indicating varying levels of resilience to weather-related hazards. In contrast, urban households tend to occupy stand-alone houses and semi-detached houses, with more frequent use of durable materials such as cement blocks, concrete, and metal roofing, reflecting better infrastructure and modern construction practices.

Energy access is also a notable concern, with rural populations heavily reliant on traditional biomass fuels such as firewood for cooking and heating, and torches or solar lanterns for lighting, whereas urban households show higher use of electricity from the main grid but continue to rely on charcoal, firewood, and alternative energy sources for cooking and heating.

The assessment underscores the vulnerability of households, particularly female-headed households, who are disproportionately represented in incomplete residential structures and flats/apartments, exposing them to insecure and substandard living conditions. Housing ownership remains skewed toward males, both in rural and urban areas, indicating gendered disparities in access to resources and decision-making power within households. Overall, the findings highlight the need for targeted interventions to improve housing quality, enhance access to durable construction materials, expand energy access, and address gender inequalities. Strengthening housing resilience, particularly in rural areas and among female-headed households, is critical for reducing vulnerability to natural hazards, improving safety and well-being, and promoting equitable socio-economic development across Zambia.

Recommendation

1. Improve housing quality and resilience: Promote the use of durable construction materials such as cement blocks, concrete, and metal roofing, particularly in rural areas where traditional materials like mud bricks and grass thatch dominate.
2. Address gender disparities in housing ownership - Implement policies and programs that support female-headed households to access land, credit, and resources for housing construction and ownership.
3. Enhance energy access - Expand access to affordable, sustainable, and modern energy sources for cooking, heating, and lighting, with a focus on rural households relying heavily on firewood, charcoal, and torches.
4. Support informal and incomplete housing structures - Develop targeted interventions to upgrade incomplete residential buildings and makeshift structures, reducing vulnerabilities associated with substandard housing.
5. Promote urban housing solutions - Encourage investment in affordable urban housing, including semi-detached houses, flats, and apartments, while ensuring adequate infrastructure and access to essential services.
6. Strengthen disaster and climate resilience - Integrate climate-smart and disaster-resilient construction practices in housing programs, particularly in regions prone to floods, droughts, or other natural hazards.
7. Encourage equitable access to utilities - Ensure all households, particularly female-headed and rural households, have equitable access to electricity, clean water, and sanitation facilities.
8. Raise awareness and capacity building - Provide training for households on safe construction practices, energy efficiency, and maintenance of durable housing materials.
9. Target interventions by region and housing type - Prioritize districts with high prevalence of vulnerable housing types (e.g., huts, makeshift dwellings, incomplete buildings) for development support and resources.
10. Monitor and evaluate housing programs - Establish a monitoring framework to track improvements in housing quality, energy access, and gender equity in ownership over time.

ANNEXES

Annex A: Number Distribution of the Population by Sex and District, 2024/2025 IDVNA

District	Total		
	Both Sexes	Male	Female
Total	9,931,321	4,827,745	5,103,576
Chibombo	479,382	228,044	251,338
Chisamba	182,717	89,269	93,449
Luano	75,973	38,093	37,880
Mkushi	237,475	121,776	115,699
Ngabwe	47,979	22,338	25,642
Shibuyunji	110,293	54,589	55,704
Chingola	341,322	157,974	183,347
Kalulushi	194,039	84,609	109,430
Lufwanyama	112,094	54,556	57,538
Masaiti	154,655	78,102	76,553
Mufulira	228,028	120,321	107,707
Chama	159,828	80,016	79,813
Chasefu	149,190	71,463	77,727
Lundazi	176,494	88,131	88,363
Lusangazi	125,421	61,002	64,419
Mambwe	135,906	66,606	69,301
Nyimba	164,750	79,297	85,453
Sinda	187,587	91,771	95,817
Vubwi	60,304	29,720	30,583
Chifunabuli	132,411	63,912	68,499
Kawambwa	140,826	66,201	74,625
Lunga	44,800	21,063	23,737
Mansa	374,212	180,044	194,168
Milenge	64,300	29,467	34,833
Mwansabombwe	66,972	32,102	34,870
Mwense	139,407	65,920	73,488
Nchelenge	265,948	126,225	139,723
Chilanga	258,665	128,335	130,331
Chongwe	357,749	189,235	168,513
Kafue	249,711	117,346	132,365
Luangwa	40,923	19,855	21,069
Rufunsa	114,785	57,504	57,280
Isoka	124,660	59,329	65,331
Kanchibiya	105,853	52,439	53,413
Lavushimanda	63,388	30,243	33,145
Mafinga	116,541	55,615	60,926
Mpika	171,053	82,369	88,684
Shiwang'andu	90,012	39,556	50,456
Chilubi	129,755	62,390	67,365

Kaputa	116,997	62,448	54,549
Mporokoso	72,311	34,122	38,189
Mungwi	244,844	122,854	121,990
Nsama	88,440	48,683	39,757
Senga Hill	128,427	65,182	63,246
Chavuma	62,549	32,519	30,030
Kabompo	75,128	34,956	40,172
Kasempa	126,827	51,082	75,746
Manyinga	85,534	41,218	44,316
Mufumbwe	111,883	50,608	61,275
Mushindamo	74,530	39,191	35,338
Zambezi	123,727	55,677	68,050
Chikankata	111,911	53,069	58,841
Chirundu	89,671	44,563	45,108
Gwembe	90,071	45,209	44,862
Itezhi Tezhi	148,116	71,445	76,671
Monze	304,072	144,236	159,836
Namwala	191,538	89,989	101,549
Pemba	143,743	70,004	73,739
Siavonga	75,081	34,113	40,968
Sinazongwe	180,827	95,865	84,961
Zimba	124,093	68,723	55,371
Kalabo	127,914	58,268	69,647
Lukulu	109,914	51,338	58,576
Mitete	45,247	22,209	23,038
Mulobezi	53,140	25,671	27,469
Mwandi	44,916	21,839	23,077
Senanga	93,486	49,811	43,675
Sesheke	83,107	43,521	39,586
Shang'ombo	84,753	36,989	47,764
Sikongo	68,144	31,735	36,409
Sioma	74,971	33,783	41,189

Annex B: Number Distribution of the Population by Age Groups and District, 2024/2025 IDVNA

District	Total	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-64	65+
Total	9,931,321	974,708	2,619,924	2,272,951	1,532,948	2,202,237	328,553
Chibombo	479,382	53,590	119,550	91,509	76,761	122,035	15,938
Chisamba	182,717	18,783	55,180	34,692	29,278	38,803	5,982
Luano	75,973	4,971	19,867	17,563	10,766	21,149	1,657
Mkushi	237,475	13,144	55,704	58,812	40,435	63,544	5,836
Ngabwe	47,979	5,531	13,216	9,553	8,188	10,127	1,365
Shibuyunji	110,293	9,778	32,529	26,394	14,806	22,180	4,606
Chingola	341,322	28,910	100,259	69,689	63,014	72,432	7,018
Kalulushi	194,039	20,553	44,006	43,771	32,696	47,757	5,256
Lufwanyama	112,094	13,136	24,654	26,630	15,982	29,095	2,597
Masaiti	154,655	9,304	43,220	29,293	27,518	39,578	5,742
Mufulira	228,028	17,693	58,090	61,061	31,851	48,351	10,983
Chama	159,828	21,329	42,488	38,501	20,440	30,672	6,399
Chasefu	149,190	21,810	39,676	28,539	22,738	29,699	6,729
Lundazi	176,494	15,169	49,164	44,176	25,654	35,959	6,371
Lusangazi	125,421	15,550	36,396	32,124	12,474	24,264	4,614
Mambwe	135,906	13,606	36,187	32,366	20,984	28,795	3,969
Nyimba	164,750	15,385	47,688	36,969	23,048	34,938	6,722
Sinda	187,587	24,784	51,850	39,899	27,395	36,931	6,728
Vubwi	60,304	6,904	15,740	14,394	8,664	13,013	1,588
Chifunabuli	132,411	14,616	40,412	28,970	19,238	24,391	4,785
Kawambwa	140,826	15,749	35,333	32,346	21,994	29,840	5,563
Lunga	44,800	8,282	12,651	8,804	6,717	7,108	1,239
Mansa	374,212	41,956	90,661	99,835	48,598	80,252	12,910
Milenge	64,300	7,458	17,280	15,279	8,822	13,369	2,092
Mwansabombwe	66,972	9,243	16,878	17,190	7,812	13,083	2,767
Mwense	139,407	20,513	41,026	30,271	13,343	28,081	6,174
Nchelenge	265,948	30,892	81,146	63,117	40,573	46,490	3,730
Chilanga	258,665	4,381	42,671	58,986	59,522	91,957	1,147
Chongwe	357,749	35,178	83,272	74,203	73,012	77,537	14,547
Kafue	249,711	8,978	36,655	63,459	58,422	69,073	13,123
Luangwa	40,923	2,856	12,567	8,658	6,448	8,812	1,583
Rufunsa	114,785	8,199	35,880	26,371	13,169	25,923	5,242
Isoka	124,660	14,492	38,470	29,501	12,124	25,669	4,402
Kanchibiya	105,853	14,287	29,710	24,028	12,663	22,080	3,085
Lavushimanda	63,388	4,682	16,666	14,326	8,989	16,011	2,715
Mafinga	116,541	15,622	36,556	24,370	14,685	22,652	2,656
Mpika	171,053	15,374	41,191	46,439	23,988	37,838	6,222
Shiwang'andu	90,012	9,675	28,167	17,268	13,471	17,268	4,164
Chilubi	129,755	15,269	36,851	31,501	13,489	28,882	3,763
Kaputa	116,997	10,974	25,154	31,334	23,054	24,250	2,231
Mporokoso	72,311	5,526	20,361	18,051	10,600	16,271	1,502
Mungwi	244,844	24,630	64,839	55,516	36,617	53,667	9,575
Nsama	88,440	5,193	18,337	24,341	15,254	22,556	2,759
Senga Hill	128,427	15,919	29,041	34,419	21,297	26,460	1,291
Chavuma	62,549	2,585	10,440	10,719	15,525	20,694	2,586

Kabompo	75,128	5,032	15,539	16,795	16,859	17,609	3,294
Kasempa	126,827	5,823	30,805	33,242	20,569	29,804	6,584
Manyinga	85,534	6,160	21,589	16,272	20,711	19,124	1,679
Mufumbwe	111,883	8,253	27,311	27,247	18,707	28,320	2,045
Mushindamo	74,530	6,945	20,388	16,191	12,446	15,503	3,058
Zambezi	123,727	6,951	27,188	28,083	23,755	34,472	3,278
Chikankata	111,911	12,987	31,745	25,653	13,147	24,050	4,329
Chirundu	89,671	7,330	23,175	23,400	11,934	20,016	3,816
Gwembe	90,071	8,694	26,372	24,275	9,826	17,968	2,936
Itezhi Tezhi	148,116	22,448	47,106	33,377	16,848	27,659	679
Monze	304,072	40,266	90,630	64,058	41,570	54,629	12,919
Namwala	191,538	28,877	59,097	42,108	23,105	35,247	3,103
Pemba	143,743	14,680	42,372	32,482	17,673	30,625	5,911
Siavonga	75,081	7,861	20,046	16,675	9,357	18,631	2,511
Sinazongwe	180,827	18,001	50,259	34,702	29,761	43,688	4,415
Zimba	124,093	11,097	33,683	25,132	19,820	31,469	2,893
Kalabo	127,914	10,108	42,827	32,104	16,357	20,015	6,504
Lukulu	109,914	9,865	26,274	30,000	19,035	21,611	3,129
Mitete	45,247	4,807	13,674	9,199	8,536	7,956	1,077
Mulobezi	53,140	5,014	14,431	13,140	9,285	9,416	1,853
Mwandi	44,916	3,379	11,687	10,896	6,788	9,187	2,979
Senanga	93,486	6,698	26,560	23,137	12,460	20,732	3,899
Sesheke	83,107	5,669	23,153	17,676	13,839	18,349	4,420
Shang'ombo	84,753	8,461	25,018	18,586	11,200	19,134	2,354
Sikongo	68,144	9,053	21,956	16,527	7,883	9,036	3,689
Sioma	74,971	7,796	19,360	16,761	9,355	18,451	3,248

Annex C: Number Distribution of the Persons Living with Disability by Sex and District, 2024/2025 IDVNA

District	Total		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	255,388	126,660	128,728
Chibombo	12,434	5,060	7,374
Chisamba	3,509	1,504	2,005
Luano	1,326	552	773
Mkushi	6,126	2,734	3,392
Ngabwe	2,298	1,365	934
Shibuyunji	1,962	979	983
Chingola	4,722	4,168	554
Kalulushi	1,682	471	1,211
Lufwanyama	1,922	1,068	854
Masaiti	4,371	1,132	3,239
Mufulira	7,463	3,117	4,346
Chama	6,636	3,081	3,555
Chasefu	4,872	2,088	2,784
Lundazi	869	-	869
Lusangazi	4,614	2,563	2,050
Mambwe	5,883	3,093	2,790
Nyimba	3,062	1,190	1,871
Sinda	2,779	1,799	980
Vubwi	794	690	104
Chifunabuli	5,516	3,695	1,821
Kawambwa	1,278	828	450
Lunga	2,282	1,174	1,109
Mansa	13,091	8,472	4,619
Milenge	3,001	1,637	1,364
Mwansabombwe	2,322	938	1,385
Mwense	4,979	2,191	2,788
Nchelenge	7,268	5,133	2,135
Chilanga	3,658	939	2,719
Chongwe	16,948	9,930	7,017
Kafue	7,677	3,364	4,313
Luangwa	834	572	262
Rufunsa	2,174	575	1,598
Isoka	1,185	271	914
Kanchibiya	1,136	649	487
Lavushimanda	843	281	562
Mafinga	1,562	937	625
Mpika	5,672	2,730	2,942
Shiwang'andu	4,286	1,592	2,694
Chilubi	6,824	2,981	3,843

Kaputa	964	964	-
Mporokoso	790	428	362
Mungwi	9,028	2,876	6,152
Nsama	1,460	811	649
Senga Hill	3,227	1,721	1,506
Chavuma	1,108	369	739
Kabompo	2,146	1,182	964
Kasempa	2,359	344	2,015
Manyinga	2,124	1,062	1,062
Mufumbwe	1,665	1,351	315
Mushindamo	2,645	790	1,855
Zambezi	3,278	1,592	1,686
Chikankata	4,008	1,764	2,245
Chirundu	1,936	1,372	564
Gwembe	1,977	1,221	756
Itezhi Tezhi	2,751	2,114	638
Monze	9,075	4,356	4,719
Namwala	3,028	850	2,178
Pemba	3,251	1,394	1,857
Siavonga	1,651	786	865
Sinazongwe	4,652	2,682	1,970
Zimba	1,234	809	425
Kalabo	4,116	1,982	2,134
Lukulu	2,855	1,664	1,191
Mitete	249	-	249
Mulobezi	743	283	460
Mwandi	1,214	483	732
Senanga	3,710	1,855	1,855
Sesheke	3,458	1,730	1,728
Shang'ombo	1,826	730	1,096
Sikongo	1,961	1,033	929
Sioma	1,039	520	520

Annex D: Number Distribution of Household Heads Living with Disability by Sex and District, 2024/2025 IDVNA

District	Total		
	Total	Male Household Heads	Female Household Heads
Total	124,897	72,131	52,765
Chibombo	6,747	4,498	2,249
Chisamba	368	301	67
Luano	773	331	442
Mkushi	4,285	2,366	1,919
Ngabwe	934	503	431
Shibuyunji	562	421	140
Chingola	2,400	2,242	158
Kalulushi	1,505	412	1,093
Lufwanyama	854	214	641
Masaiti	3,076	1,132	1,944
Mufulira	4,383	1,522	2,861
Chama	1,896	1,659	237
Chasefu	2,088	1,160	928
Lusangazi	854	513	342
Mambwe	2,675	1,597	1,078
Nyimba	509	255	255
Sinda	1,316	1,316	-
Vubwi	276	276	-
Chifunabuli	2,758	2,133	625
Kawambwa	377	189	189
Lunga	1,304	783	522
Mansa	5,354	4,034	1,320
Milenge	1,364	909	455
Mwansabombwe	1,295	670	625
Mwense	2,788	1,593	1,195
Nchelenge	2,702	2,161	540
Chilanga	2,719	522	2,198
Chongwe	6,761	5,222	1,539
Kafue	4,498	2,435	2,063
Luangwa	214	160	53
Rufunsa	783	192	591
Isoka	643	135	508
Kanchibiya	812	487	325
Lavushimanda	375	187	187
Mafinga	469	469	-
Mpika	3,035	1,465	1,570
Shiwang'andu	1,959	1,225	735
Chilubi	2,981	1,473	1,508
Kaputa	565	565	-

Mporokoso	573	428	145
Mungwi	4,577	1,302	3,276
Nsama	487	487	-
Senga Hill	1,291	1,291	-
Chavuma	923	277	647
Kabompo	1,679	1,058	621
Kasempa	1,794	344	1,449
Manyinga	1,284	951	333
Mufumbwe	722	722	-
Mushindamo	1,647	652	995
Zambezi	1,093	697	395
Chikankata	2,084	962	1,122
Chirundu	846	564	282
Gwembe	1,076	785	291
Itezhi Tezhi	638	478	159
Monze	5,082	2,541	2,541
Namwala	1,223	612	612
Pemba	1,660	864	796
Siavonga	944	550	393
Sinazongwe	2,600	1,970	629
Zimba	511	511	-
Kalabo	2,389	1,220	1,169
Lukulu	2,188	1,220	969
Mitete	83	-	83
Mulobezi	471	94	377
Mwandi	971	403	569
Senanga	1,609	927	681
Sesheke	2,786	1,346	1,440
Shang'ombo	730	365	365
Sikongo	1,159	526	633
Sioma	520	260	260

Annex E: Average Household Size by Headship Status and District, 2024/2025 IDVNA

District	Total	Male Household Heads	Female Household Heads
	Both Sexes		
Total	4.5	4.7	4.1
Namwala	6	6.4	5.3
Itezhi Tezhi	6	6.3	5.4
Senga Hill	5.7	5.8	5.3
Nchelenge	5.5	5.7	5
Shibuyunji	5.3	5.4	4.8
Isoka	5.3	5.5	4.5
Monze	5.2	5.4	4.6
Mpika	5.2	5.4	4.6
Shiwang'andu	5.1	5.2	4.5
Chingola	5.1	5.1	4.8
Chifunabuli	5.1	5.1	4.8
Mungwi	5	5.3	4.6
Mwense	5	5.3	4.5
Mafinga	5	5.1	4.3
Lusangazi	5	5	4.7
Mwansabombwe	4.9	5.1	4.7
Gwembe	4.9	5	4.4
Mambwe	4.8	5	4.4
Chikankata	4.8	5	4.5
Chilubi	4.8	5	4.4
Chisamba	4.8	4.7	5
Rufunsa	4.8	4.9	4.3
Chama	4.8	4.9	4.2
Siavonga	4.7	4.9	4.2
Milenge	4.7	5	3.4
Kawambwa	4.7	5.3	3.4
Nyimba	4.6	4.8	4.3
Mufulira	4.6	4.6	4.7
Senanga	4.6	4.9	4.1
Mansa	4.6	4.9	3.6
Sinazongwe	4.6	4.7	4
Zimba	4.6	4.7	3.8
Chibombo	4.6	4.7	4.1
Lunga	4.6	4.7	4.1
Lundazi	4.6	4.7	4
Kalulushi	4.5	4.6	4.2
Luano	4.5	4.6	4.2
Lavushimanda	4.5	4.6	4.1
Ngabwe	4.5	4.9	3.7
Kalabo	4.5	4.7	4.2
Luangwa	4.5	4.6	4.2
Kanchibiya	4.5	4.7	3.4
Chirundu	4.4	4.7	3.8
Sinda	4.4	4.6	3.6

Mporokoso	4.3	4.6	3.7
Chasefu	4.3	4.4	3.6
Mufumbwe	4.3	4.4	4.2
Pemba	4.2	4.3	4
Mkushi	4.2	4.2	4.3
Lufwanyama	4.2	4.3	4
Mushindamo	4.2	4.5	3.6
Sesheke	4.2	4.4	4
Zambezi	4.2	4.2	4.2
Vubwi	4.2	4.3	3.5
Manyinga	4.2	4.3	3.9
Chongwe	4.1	4.3	4
Sikongo	4.1	4.6	3.7
Masaiti	4	4.2	3.7
Chilanga	3.9	4	3.7
Sioma	3.9	4	3.8
Mulobezi	3.9	3.9	3.7
Mwandi	3.8	4.1	3.3
Lukulu	3.7	3.7	3.6
Shang'ombo	3.7	3.9	3.4
Mitete	3.7	3.8	3.5
Nsama	3.6	3.5	4
Chavuma	3.6	3.8	3.2
Kabompo	3.6	3.8	3.4
Kaputa	3.6	3.6	3.8
Kafue	3.4	3.3	3.8
Kasempa	3.4	3.4	3.3

Annex F: Number Distribution of Households Heads by Age Group and District, 2024/2025 IDVNA

District	Total	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-64	65+
Total	2,268,048	-	-	159,126	542,988	1,327,924	237,235
Chibombo	103,511	-	-	4,291	20,631	70,025	8,564
Chisamba	38,101	-	-	2,105	9,392	22,493	4,111
Luano	16,952	-	-	221	3,535	11,981	1,215
Mkushi	56,839	-	-	1,473	13,802	36,911	4,653
Ngabwe	10,774	-	-	646	2,658	6,321	1,149
Shibuyunji	20,945	-	-	1,260	5,172	11,162	3,350
Chingola	64,888	-	-	554	17,962	40,463	5,909
Kalulushi	38,095	-	-	236	6,938	26,019	4,903
Lufwanyama	27,484	-	-	1,832	5,835	17,709	2,108
Masaiti	38,846	-	-	1,295	7,606	25,335	4,610
Mufulira	46,756	-	-	3,117	6,563	26,422	10,654
Chama	33,262	-	-	3,089	9,022	17,122	4,029
Chasefu	34,803	-	-	3,016	10,441	17,402	3,712
Lundazi	39,954	-	-	4,864	9,379	21,947	3,764
Lusangazi	25,631	-	-	2,905	6,151	13,328	3,247
Mambwe	29,125	-	-	1,725	6,961	17,649	2,790
Nyimba	35,709	-	-	1,534	8,415	20,572	5,188
Sinda	44,317	-	-	4,278	12,462	22,985	4,593
Vubwi	14,498	-	-	1,588	4,591	7,145	1,174
Chifunabuli	26,522	-	-	1,509	7,070	14,770	3,173
Kawambwa	30,491	-	-	943	8,215	17,498	3,835
Lunga	9,782	-	-	783	3,587	4,434	978
Mansa	81,422	-	-	7,078	15,475	48,672	10,196
Milenge	13,642	-	-	1,000	3,274	7,821	1,546
Mwansabombwe	14,733	-	-	1,340	2,946	8,305	2,143
Mwense	29,873	-	-	4,182	4,979	16,131	4,581
Nchelenge	47,841	-	-	3,730	13,812	28,164	2,135
Chilanga	75,315	-	-	939	13,596	60,051	730
Chongwe	89,868	-	-	7,448	26,447	48,442	7,530
Kafue	78,627	-	-	7,863	17,212	44,555	8,997
Luangwa	9,465	-	-	476	2,321	5,871	797
Rufunsa	23,494	-	-	991	5,114	13,713	3,676
Isoka	23,366	-	-	1,693	3,894	14,426	3,353
Kanchibiya	24,353	-	-	2,598	6,007	13,313	2,435
Lavushimanda	14,045	-	-	468	2,154	9,457	1,966
Mafinga	23,433	-	-	1,718	6,874	12,810	2,031
Mpika	33,398	-	-	3,035	5,016	21,550	3,797
Shiwang'andu	18,370	-	-	245	5,144	10,165	2,817
Chilubi	28,225	-	-	3,253	5,271	17,173	2,528
Kaputa	31,941	-	-	2,231	12,610	15,036	2,064
Mporokoso	17,194	-	-	2,721	4,084	9,526	790
Mungwi	66,770	-	-	5,375	18,981	35,988	6,425
Nsama	24,341	-	-	1,947	6,166	14,118	1,947
Senga Hill	32,268	-	-	4,518	9,465	17,210	1,076

Chavuma	19,402	-	-	92	3,697	13,304	2,309
Kabompo	21,459	-	-	1,863	5,971	11,171	2,454
Kasempa	36,849	-	-	1,989	8,501	20,907	5,453
Manyinga	21,849	-	-	1,457	6,516	12,592	1,284
Mufumbwe	26,368	-	-	1,064	5,995	17,579	1,730
Mushindamo	17,531	-	-	688	4,950	9,797	2,096
Zambezi	32,776	-	-	395	6,056	23,745	2,580
Chikankata	24,210	-	-	1,443	5,451	14,269	3,046
Chirundu	21,990	-	-	2,199	4,924	11,615	3,252
Gwembe	18,316	-	-	2,006	3,779	10,060	2,471
Itezhi Tezhi	25,157	-	-	2,675	5,635	16,328	520
Monze	64,198	-	-	5,511	16,755	31,554	10,378
Namwala	32,666	-	-	2,208	9,039	19,510	1,909
Pemba	33,876	-	-	3,388	7,041	18,666	4,782
Siavonga	16,506	-	-	1,022	2,673	11,007	1,805
Sinazongwe	40,232	-	-	949	10,110	25,624	3,549
Zimba	28,069	-	-	1,021	6,337	18,627	1,871
Kalabo	28,956	-	-	2,389	8,077	13,817	4,674
Lukulu	29,920	-	-	4,126	9,478	13,769	2,547
Mitete	12,431	-	-	1,906	4,309	5,387	829
Mulobezi	13,814	-	-	2,125	4,398	5,994	1,298
Mwandi	12,083	-	-	643	3,302	5,562	2,577
Senanga	20,438	-	-	681	4,285	12,812	2,659
Sesheke	20,176	-	-	1,057	4,131	11,817	3,075
Shang'ombo	23,131	-	-	3,591	5,945	12,154	1,441
Sikongo	16,884	-	-	3,357	4,244	6,374	2,910
Sioma	19,490	-	-	1,169	4,158	11,694	2,469

Annex G: Number of Households by Headship Status and District

District	Both Sexes	Male Headed Households	Female Headed Households
Total	2,268,048	1,554,041	714,008
Chibombo	103,511	80,069	23,442
Chisamba	38,101	29,879	8,222
Luano	16,952	12,754	4,197
Mkushi	56,839	40,960	15,878
Ngabwe	10,774	7,111	3,663
Shibuyunji	20,945	15,769	5,176
Chingola	64,888	55,128	9,760
Kalulushi	38,095	28,349	9,746
Lufwanyama	27,484	19,274	8,210
Masaiti	38,846	26,546	12,300
Mufulira	46,756	27,263	19,493
Chama	33,262	26,847	6,415
Chasefu	34,803	29,003	5,801
Lundazi	39,954	30,688	9,266
Lusangazi	25,631	20,505	5,126
Mambwe	29,125	19,502	9,623
Nyimba	35,709	22,100	13,609
Sinda	44,317	33,157	11,160
Vubwi	14,498	11,357	3,141
Chifunabuli	26,522	20,177	6,345
Kawambwa	30,491	20,631	9,860
Lunga	9,782	7,434	2,348
Mansa	81,422	60,625	20,797
Milenge	13,642	11,005	2,637
Mwansabombwe	14,733	8,752	5,981
Mwense	29,873	18,920	10,953
Nchelenge	47,841	36,948	10,893
Chilanga	75,315	51,149	24,166
Chongwe	89,868	55,808	34,060
Kafue	78,627	44,889	33,738
Luangwa	9,465	6,417	3,048
Rufunsa	23,494	17,628	5,865
Isoka	23,366	17,472	5,894
Kanchibiya	24,353	19,157	5,195
Lavushimanda	14,045	10,580	3,464
Mafinga	23,433	19,059	4,374
Mpika	33,398	24,996	8,402
Shiwang'andu	18,370	14,696	3,674
Chilubi	28,225	16,074	12,152
Kaputa	31,941	25,124	6,816
Mporokoso	17,194	10,980	6,214

Mungwi	66,770	38,235	28,534
Nsama	24,341	19,635	4,706
Senga Hill	32,268	23,233	9,035
Chavuma	19,402	12,007	7,396
Kabompo	21,459	14,867	6,592
Kasempa	36,849	14,005	22,844
Manyinga	21,849	14,566	7,283
Mufumbwe	26,368	12,657	13,711
Mushindamo	17,531	12,515	5,016
Zambezi	32,776	18,074	14,703
Chikankata	24,210	13,468	10,742
Chirundu	21,990	14,303	7,687
Gwembe	18,316	14,362	3,954
Itezhi Tezhi	25,157	16,044	9,114
Monze	64,198	42,007	22,191
Namwala	32,666	21,763	10,903
Pemba	33,876	23,054	10,823
Siavonga	16,506	11,789	4,718
Sinazongwe	40,232	32,444	7,788
Zimba	28,069	24,752	3,318
Kalabo	28,956	14,885	14,071
Lukulu	29,920	14,014	15,907
Mitete	12,431	7,127	5,304
Mulobezi	13,814	9,985	3,829
Mwandi	12,083	6,749	5,334
Senanga	20,438	12,887	7,551
Sesheke	20,176	10,953	9,223
Shang'ombo	23,131	11,444	11,687
Sikongo	16,884	7,303	9,582
Sioma	19,490	10,135	9,355

Annex H: Percentage distribution of households' main meal frequency per day by district

		One (01) meal (percent)	Two (02) meals (percent)	Three (03) meals (percent)	More than three meals (>3) (percent)
Central	Chibombo	21.6	45.4	33.0	0.0
	Chisamba	5.9	65.7	28.4	0.0
	Luano	7.2	42.4	49.1	1.3
	Mkushi	4.2	48.5	45.9	1.4
	Ngabwe	26.7	59.3	13.3	0.7
	Shibuyunji	3.3	71.4	25.3	0.0
	Provincial average	11.5	55.5	32.5	0.6
Copperbelt	Chingola	7.8	56.5	35.7	0.0
	Kalulushi	12.4	54.2	33.4	0.0
	Lufwanyama	17.2	63.9	18.9	0.0
	Masaiti	22.5	67.7	9.8	0.0
	Mufulira	16.7	56.8	26.4	0.1
Provincial average		15.3	59.8	24.8	0.0
Eastern	Chama	7.1	59.9	32.3	0.7
	Chasefu	3.3	64.0	32.0	0.7
	Lundazi	4.6	62.5	31.7	1.2
	Lusangazi	10.0	66.7	22.7	0.7
	Mambwe	4.7	62.3	32.3	0.7
	Nyimba	3.1	65.5	31.4	0.0
	Sinda	9.3	47.1	42.9	0.7
	Vubwi	5.0	54.5	39.8	0.7
Provincial average		5.9	60.3	33.1	0.7
Luapula	Chifunabuli	34.7	61.4	3.9	0.0
	Kawambwa	6.9	62.8	29.5	0.9
	Lunga	54.7	42.7	2.7	0.0
	Mansa	2.4	66.4	31.2	0.0
	Milenge	6.0	75.3	18.0	0.7
	Mwansabombwe	20.0	67.9	11.2	0.9
	Mwense	20.7	64.0	15.3	0.0
	Nchelenge	9.4	70.6	19.4	0.6
Provincial average		19.3	63.9	16.4	0.4
Lusaka	Chilanga	22.4	36.5	41.0	0.1
	Chongwe	15.8	47.0	33.9	3.3
	Kafue	9.5	53.8	34.3	2.4
	Luangwa	10.1	69.2	20.7	0.0
	Rufunsa	5.9	66.0	28.1	0.0
Provincial average		12.7	54.5	31.6	1.2
Muchinga	Isoka	1.2	75.1	23.8	0.0
	Kanchibiya	22.7	62.0	15.3	0.0
	Lavushimanda	6.7	77.3	15.3	0.7
	Mafinga	6.7	78.0	15.3	0.0
	Mpika	5.9	49.1	44.9	0.0
	Shiwang'andu	20.7	56.7	21.3	1.3

Provincial average		10.6	66.4	22.7	0.3
Northern	Chilubi	31.2	64.2	1.6	3.1
	Kaputa	8.9	63.0	20.4	7.7
	Mporokoso	23.7	66.7	9.5	0.0
	Mungwi	23.6	50.0	25.8	0.6
	Nsama	13.3	77.3	8.0	1.3
	Senga Hill	10.7	58.0	30.7	0.7
Provincial average		18.6	63.2	16.0	2.2
North Western	Chavuma	41.9	43.8	9.5	4.8
	Kabompo	22.0	63.4	14.5	0.0
	Kasempa	21.1	73.1	5.8	0.0
	Manyinga	10.0	74.5	15.5	0.0
	Mufumbwe	41.9	49.1	9.1	0.0
	Mushindamo	6.1	74.1	19.8	0.0
	Zambezi	27.2	51.7	18.0	3.0
Provincial average		24.3	61.4	13.2	1.1
Southern	Chikankata	3.3	37.1	53.0	6.6
	Chirundu	3.4	55.0	39.1	2.5
	Gwembe	1.7	39.4	54.1	4.8
	Itezhi Tezhi	15.6	62.4	22.0	0.0
	Monze	2.7	33.4	58.0	5.9
	Namwala	4.5	45.7	49.1	0.7
	Pemba	0.8	38.4	52.8	8.1
	Siavonga	10.5	59.5	28.1	1.9
	Sinazongwe	5.7	58.1	36.2	0.0
	Zimba	0.0	67.7	32.3	0.0
Provincial Average		4.8	49.7	42.5	3.0
Western	Kalabo	35.6	59.6	3.3	1.4
	Lukulu	8.7	79.9	11.4	0.0
	Mitete	36.0	62.0	2.0	0.0
	Mulobezi	8.9	64.1	27.0	0.0
	Mwandi	12.0	66.4	20.2	1.4
	Senanga	12.1	77.8	10.1	0.0
	Sesheke	23.3	59.0	17.6	0.0
	Shang'ombo	30.4	56.8	12.8	0.0
	Sikongo	42.2	53.6	3.4	0.7
	Sioma	23.3	54.7	22.0	0.0
Provincial average		23.3	63.4	13.0	0.4

Annex I: Proportion of Household Indicating Unusual Meal Frequency This Time of The Year Compared to Same Time Last Year

Province	District	Yes	No
Central	Chibombo	57.7	42.3
	Chisamba	53.9	46.1
	Luano	33.9	66.1
	Mkushi	31.0	69.0
	Ngabwe	49.3	50.7
	Shibuyunji	46.0	54.0
Provincial average		45.3	54.7
Copperbelt	Chingola	33.7	66.3
	Kalulushi	29.7	70.3
	Lufwanyama	32.8	67.2
	Masaiti	40.4	59.6
	Mufulira	39.9	60.1
Provincial average		35.3	64.7
Eastern	Chama	59.2	40.8
	Chasefu	67.3	32.7
	Lundazi	40.4	59.6
	Lusangazi	54.7	45.3
	Mambwe	42.9	57.1
	Nyimba	42.4	57.6
	Sinda	45.2	54.8
	Vubwi	43.3	56.7
Provincial average		49.4	50.6
Luapula	Chifunabuli	24.7	75.3
	Kawambwa	45.4	54.6
	Lunga	32.7	67.3
	Mansa	41.4	58.6
	Milenge	41.3	58.7
	Mwansabombwe	28.8	71.2
	Mwense	33.3	66.7
	Nchelenge	47.6	52.4
Provincial average		36.9	63.1
Lusaka	Chilanga	23.5	76.5
	Chongwe	26.1	73.9
	Kafue	25.7	74.3
	Luangwa	37.5	62.5
	Rufunsa	21.1	78.9
Provincial average		26.8	73.2

Muchinga	Isoka	44.6	55.4
	Kanchibiya	48.0	52.0
	Lavushimanda	51.3	48.7
	Mafinga	44.0	56.0
	Mpika	68.8	31.2
	Shiwang'andu	58.0	42.0
Provincial average		52.5	47.5
Northern	Chilubi	55.4	44.6
	Kaputa	39.7	60.3
	Mporokoso	50.4	49.6
	Mungwi	73.3	26.7
	Nsama	32.0	68.0
	Senga Hill	67.3	32.7
Provincial average		53.0	47.0
North Western	Chavuma	29.5	70.5
	Kabompo	45.0	55.0
	Kasempa	60.3	39.7
	Manyinga	50.0	50.0
	Mufumbwe	66.9	33.1
	Mushindamo	46.5	53.5
	Zambezi	35.1	64.9
Provincial average		47.6	52.4
Southern	Chikankata	48.3	51.7
	Chirundu	57.3	42.7
	Gwembe	52.9	47.1
	Itezhi Tezhi	48.6	51.4
	Monze	45.3	54.7
	Namwala	42.9	57.1
	Pemba	61.9	38.1
	Siavonga	54.7	45.3
	Sinazongwe	48.4	51.6
	Zimba	64.4	35.6
Provincial average		52.5	47.5
Western	Kalabo	47.7	52.3
	Lukulu	70.0	30.0
	Mitete	78.0	22.0
	Mulobezi	34.9	65.1
	Mwandi	36.7	63.3
	Senanga	56.0	44.0
	Sesheke	53.3	46.7
	Shang'ombo	42.6	57.4
	Sikongo	46.6	53.4
	Sioma	43.3	56.7
Provincial average		50.9	49.1

ANNEX J: MUAC Screening Results by District-Children 6-59 months

District	SAM percent	MAM percent	At Risk percent	Acceptable percent
Chibombo	0	12.6	10.7	76.7
Chisamba	0	0	5.4	94.6
Ngabwe	0.5	10	13.5	76
Mpongwe	0.2	3.5	6	90.3
Katete	0.7	6.4	9.5	83.4
Chadiza	0.5	6	8.5	85
Samfya	0.6	7.5	10.5	81.4
Nchelenge	0.4	7.4	9.8	82.4
Chongwe	0.1	4.2	6.1	89.6
Rufunsa	0.3	3.8	5.9	90
Isoka	0.4	6.5	10.2	82.9
Nakonde	0.5	7	10.8	81.7
Chilubi	0.6	9.3	14.2	75.9
Luwingu	0.5	8.4	12.5	78.6
Kasama	0.4	7	9.8	82.8
Mufumbwe	0.6	9.1	13.2	77.1
Kabompo	0.3	5	8	86.7
Gwembe	0.4	6.8	9.5	83.3
Sinazongwe	0.5	6.2	9	84.3
Shang'ombo	0.7	10.5	15.8	73
Kalabo	0.4	7.2	10.8	81.6

ANNEX K: Distance to Water Sources

Province		Distance to Water Sources			
		Water Source within 500 mtrs of the Household (Standard Distance)	Water Source between 501 mtrs to 1KM from the Household	Water Source between 1.1KM to 3KM from the Household	Water Source above 3KM from the Household
	Percent (percent)	Percent (percent)	Percent (percent)	Percent (percent)	
Central	Chibombo	50.5	36.9	10.4	2.2
	Chisamba	46.1	29.4	20.6	3.9
	Luano	37.2	48.4	12.4	2.0
	Mkushi	29.4	57.3	7.2	6.1
	Ngabwe	31.3	47.3	17.3	4.0
	Shibuyunji	68.6	16.0	13.4	2.0
Copperbelt	Chingola	26.8	60.1	6.4	6.7
	Kalulushi	35.4	63.6	0.5	0.5
	Lufwanyama	22.7	52.5	15.5	9.3
	Masaiti	55.8	30.8	10.2	3.1
	Mufulira	33.2	62.9	3.6	0.3
Eastern	Chama	47.9	35.7	10.7	5.7
	Chasefu	68.0	24.0	6.0	2.0
	Lundazi	54.6	40.7	4.6	0.0
	Lusangazi	53.3	30.7	10.7	5.3
	Mambwe	52.8	38.0	9.2	0.0
	Nyimba	57.6	25.5	15.0	1.9
	Sinda	40.4	49.2	7.8	2.6
	Vubwi	42.4	54.0	3.6	0.0
Luapula	Chifunabuli	72.3	24.1	2.9	0.6
	Kawambwa	39.0	59.1	1.9	0.0
	Lunga	86.0	10.7	2.0	1.3
	Mansa	49.5	30.7	5.3	14.5
	Milenge	57.3	34.0	4.7	4.0
	Mwansabombwe	52.4	47.6	0.0	0.0
	Mwense	61.3	38.0	0.7	0.0
	Nchelenge	36.7	59.5	2.2	1.6
Lusaka	Chilanga	94.3	1.7	0.3	3.7
	Chongwe	79.1	13.7	3.6	3.6
	Kafue	73.9	10.4	15.0	0.7
	Luangwa	72.4	24.3	1.1	2.2
	Rufunsa	65.2	30.7	4.1	0.0
Muchinga	Isoka	23.2	65.1	11.7	0.0
	Kanchibiya	11.3	72.0	16.0	0.7
	Lavushimanda	2.0	92.7	5.3	0.0
	Mafinga	7.3	65.3	26.0	1.3
	Mpika	25.1	62.3	11.7	0.9
	Shiwang'andu	36.7	52.7	10.7	0.0
Northern	Chilubi	85.1	3.6	2.6	8.7
	Kaputa	17.6	37.8	28.0	16.6
	Mporokoso	85.4	13.4	0.4	0.8

North Western	Mungwi	57.6	29.2	9.6	3.5
	Nsama	26.0	42.7	22.7	8.7
	Senga Hill	51.3	34.0	11.3	3.3
	Chavuma	3.8	48.1	41.4	6.7
	Kabompo	19.9	62.9	12.6	4.6
	Kasempa	30.3	34.7	23.6	11.3
	Manyinga	32.3	56.2	8.9	2.5
	Mufumbwe	29.1	37.3	18.8	14.9
	Mushindamo	13.1	76.7	7.1	3.1
	Zambezi	18.6	45.1	29.7	6.7
Southern	Chikankata	11.3	78.8	9.3	0.7
	Chirundu	39.2	49.0	10.9	0.9
	Gwembe	48.7	40.8	4.6	5.9
	Itezhi Tezhi	39.7	36.3	21.4	2.5
	Monze	33.7	56.2	9.6	0.6
	Namwala	38.0	46.8	9.2	5.9
	Pemba	46.9	44.1	8.2	0.8
	Siavonga	20.0	57.2	21.9	1.0
	Sinazongwe	41.1	37.7	13.7	7.5
	Zimba	32.9	46.5	15.4	5.2
Western	Kalabo	78.1	11.9	8.1	1.9
	Lukulu	6.6	67.5	18.1	7.9
	Mitete	11.3	65.3	20.0	3.3
	Mulobezi	40.7	51.8	2.0	5.5
	Mwandi	35.5	47.2	13.2	4.0
	Senanga	27.4	58.1	13.9	0.6
	Sesheke	26.7	57.1	7.6	8.6
	Shang'ombo	25.5	52.2	16.8	5.5
	Sikongo	70.2	14.7	12.1	3.0
	Sioma	24.0	58.0	18.0	0.0



Annex L: Households That Received Early Warning Information by Headship Status

District	Total			Yes			No		
	Total	Male Headed Households	Female Headed Households	Total	Male Headed Households	Female Headed Households	Total	Male Headed Households	Female Headed Households
Total	1,548,637	1,067,672	480,965	414,979	292,371	122,608	1,133,658	775,302	358,357
Chibombo	28,242	22,057	6,185	5,622	4,498	1,124	22,619	17,559	5,060
Chisamba	29,010	23,462	5,549	17,413	14,237	3,175	11,597	9,224	2,373
Luano	12,533	9,772	2,761	4,418	3,977	442	8,115	5,795	2,320
Mkushi	27,550	18,244	9,306	11,382	8,570	2,812	16,168	9,674	6,494
Ngabwe	5,387	3,591	1,796	1,077	718	359	4,310	2,873	1,437
Shibuyunji	17,029	12,133	4,895	6,953	5,135	1,818	10,076	6,998	3,078
Chingola	6,647	4,643	2,005	-	-	-	6,647	4,643	2,005
Kalulushi	10,807	7,115	3,692	1,859	648	1,211	8,948	6,467	2,481
Lufwanyama	7,391	5,194	2,197	3,238	2,108	1,130	4,154	3,086	1,068
Masaiti	16,028	12,872	3,156	3,721	2,833	889	12,306	10,039	2,267
Mufulira	10,983	2,107	8,876	3,154	183	2,971	7,829	1,924	5,905
Chama	30,867	24,926	5,941	11,858	9,725	2,133	19,009	15,201	3,809
Chasefu	26,450	22,506	3,944	7,657	6,033	1,624	18,794	16,474	2,320
Lundazi	30,976	23,854	7,122	3,939	3,245	694	27,038	20,610	6,428
Lusangazi	17,942	14,524	3,417	5,981	4,784	1,196	11,961	9,740	2,221
Mambwe	26,449	18,107	8,342	7,365	5,452	1,914	19,084	12,655	6,429
Nyimba	22,195	14,538	7,657	5,875	3,915	1,961	16,320	10,623	5,697
Sinda	35,132	25,281	9,851	15,430	11,986	3,445	19,701	13,295	6,406
Vubwi	13,807	10,873	2,934	2,865	2,244	621	10,942	8,630	2,313
Chifunabuli	24,285	18,981	5,304	3,952	3,068	884	20,333	15,913	4,420
Kawambwa	28,804	19,657	9,147	2,410	2,033	377	26,394	17,624	8,770
Lunga	7,630	5,934	1,695	587	456	130	7,043	5,478	1,565
Mansa	43,861	33,740	10,122	21,127	15,625	5,503	22,734	18,115	4,619
Milenge	9,186	7,367	1,819	2,819	2,456	364	6,366	4,911	1,455
Mwansabombwe	13,527	8,127	5,401	2,544	1,696	848	10,983	6,430	4,553
Mwense	27,682	17,924	9,759	996	597	398	26,687	17,326	9,360
Nchelenge	41,515	32,731	8,784	5,377	4,052	1,325	36,138	28,678	7,459
Chilanga	38,499	26,573	11,927	3,241	2,928	313	35,259	23,645	11,614
Chongwe	42,268	28,325	13,943	19,677	12,578	7,100	22,591	15,747	6,843
Kafue	41,191	26,767	14,424	6,748	2,621	4,127	34,444	24,146	10,298
Luangwa	7,914	5,433	2,481	1,957	1,326	631	5,957	4,107	1,850
Rufunsa	15,791	11,891	3,900	5,626	4,459	1,167	10,165	7,432	2,733
Isoka	22,452	16,558	5,894	4,742	3,115	1,626	17,710	13,443	4,267
Kanchibiya	21,593	17,372	4,221	4,871	4,059	812	16,722	13,313	3,409
Lavushimanda	12,921	9,457	3,464	1,124	1,124	-	11,798	8,333	3,464
Mafinga	21,871	17,653	4,218	6,561	5,312	1,250	15,310	12,341	2,968
Mpika	20,628	15,658	4,970	11,086	9,059	2,028	9,542	6,600	2,942
Shiwang'andu	14,084	11,389	2,694	6,368	5,144	1,225	7,715	6,246	1,470
Chilubi	26,264	14,838	11,426	5,645	3,763	1,882	20,619	11,075	9,545
Kaputa	22,168	18,641	3,527	3,158	2,195	964	19,010	16,446	2,564
Mporokoso	16,838	10,980	5,858	3,228	2,793	434	13,611	8,186	5,424
Mungwi	56,336	33,029	23,306	22,699	13,775	8,924	33,637	19,254	14,382
Nsama	22,556	18,013	4,544	1,136	974	162	21,420	17,039	4,381
Senga Hill	26,675	19,576	7,099	7,099	5,163	1,936	19,576	14,413	5,163
Chavuma	17,552	10,989	6,563	831	553	278	16,721	10,435	6,285
Kabompo	14,952	11,162	3,790	4,386	3,080	1,306	10,566	8,082	2,484

Kasempa	16,904	6,928	9,976	1,891	1,105	786	15,013	5,823	9,190
Manyinga	12,876	9,073	3,803	678	678	-	12,197	8,395	3,803
Mufumbwe	23,379	10,926	12,453	786	472	315	22,593	10,455	12,138
Mushindamo	14,059	10,349	3,710	481	309	172	13,578	10,040	3,538
Zambezi	28,083	15,680	12,403	2,580	1,384	1,197	25,502	14,296	11,206
Chikankata	22,607	12,345	10,261	8,337	4,329	4,008	14,269	8,017	6,253
Chirundu	16,672	11,240	5,432	5,131	3,947	1,184	11,541	7,293	4,248
Gwembe	16,251	13,024	3,227	8,635	6,803	1,832	7,616	6,221	1,395
Itezhi Tezhi	21,235	13,604	7,630	5,191	2,911	2,280	16,044	10,693	5,350
Monze	46,305	30,342	15,963	10,741	6,822	3,919	35,564	23,520	12,044
Namwala	29,176	19,555	9,621	8,979	4,937	4,042	20,197	14,618	5,579
Pemba	32,679	21,925	10,754	7,381	4,857	2,524	25,298	17,067	8,231
Siavonga	14,145	10,214	3,931	2,750	2,200	550	11,395	8,014	3,381
Sinazongwe	29,535	25,594	3,941	14,040	11,523	2,517	15,495	14,071	1,424
Zimba	23,807	21,597	2,210	11,183	10,333	850	12,625	11,264	1,361
Kalabo	21,950	11,127	10,823	2,744	1,779	965	19,206	9,348	9,858
Lukulu	25,401	12,185	13,216	11,774	5,152	6,622	13,626	7,033	6,594
Mitete	10,110	5,801	4,309	2,983	1,575	1,409	7,127	4,226	2,900
Mulobezi	13,343	9,797	3,546	1,099	816	283	12,244	8,981	3,263
Mwandi	9,080	5,535	3,545	1,208	726	483	7,872	4,809	3,062
Senanga	18,179	12,131	6,048	10,531	7,872	2,659	7,648	4,259	3,389
Sesheke	18,733	10,087	8,646	9,129	4,419	4,710	9,604	5,668	3,936
Shang'ombo	20,229	10,429	9,800	2,902	1,319	1,583	17,327	9,110	8,217
Sikongo	14,098	5,825	8,273	253	253	-	13,845	5,572	8,273
Sioma	15,332	7,796	7,536	3,768	1,559	2,209	11,564	6,237	5,327

Annex M: Number of districts by Use of Early Warning Information

District	Total	Relocated	Planted drought torrelant crops	Used the Information to prepare adequately for disasters	Didn't use the information
Total	414,979	3,682	41,330	107,386	262,581
Chibombo	5,622	562	562	-	4,498
Chisamba	17,413	-	902	8,155	8,356
Luano	4,418	-	1,215	2,982	221
Mkushi	11,382	-	1,473	7,176	2,734
Ngabwe	1,077	-	72	431	575
Shibuyunji	6,953	-	-	2,797	4,156
Kalulushi	1,859	-	59	530	1,270
Lufwanyama	3,238	-	427	1,192	1,619
Masaiti	3,721	-	-	-	3,721
Mufulira	3,154	-	37	1,595	1,522
Chama	11,858	237	1,896	1,659	8,066
Chasefu	7,657	-	232	232	7,193
Lundazi	3,939	-	-	463	3,476
Lusangazi	5,981	171	-	2,563	3,247
Mambwe	7,365	-	216	2,129	5,020
Nyimba	5,875	-	598	3,488	1,789
Sinda	15,430	-	329	329	14,772
Vubwi	2,865	-	104	207	2,554
Chifunabuli	3,952	-	-	884	3,068
Kawambwa	2,410	-	-	-	2,410
Lunga	587	-	-	-	587
Mansa	21,127	-	330	4,034	16,763
Milenge	2,819	-	182	273	2,365
Mwansabombwe	2,544	-	-	357	2,187
Mwense	996	-	-	-	996
Nchelenge	5,377	540	-	270	4,566
Chilanga	3,241	-	-	209	3,032
Chongwe	19,677	-	257	1,539	17,882
Kafue	6,748	186	-	-	6,562
Luangwa	1,957	-	-	898	1,059
Rufunsa	5,626	-	384	1,374	3,868
Isoka	4,742	-	135	541	4,065
Kanchibiya	4,871	325	-	649	3,896
Lavushimanda	1,124	-	94	281	749
Mafinga	6,561	-	937	1,718	3,906
Mpika	11,086	610	4,758	1,723	3,996
Shiwang'andu	6,368	-	2,939	980	2,449
Chilubi	5,645	-	-	532	5,113
Kaputa	3,158	-	399	964	1,796
Mporokoso	3,228	-	145	646	2,437

Mungwi	22,699	-	-	525	22,174
Nsama	1,136	-	-	649	487
Senga Hill	7,099	-	-	215	6,884
Chavuma	831	-	92	-	739
Kabompo	4,386	-	248	810	3,328
Kasempa	1,891	-	-	786	1,105
Manyinga	678	-	-	111	567
Mufumbwe	786	-	-	157	629
Mushindamo	481	-	34	-	447
Zambezi	2,580	-	-	-	2,580
Chikankata	8,337	-	802	3,848	3,688
Chirundu	5,131	-	846	940	3,345
Gwembe	8,635	-	872	3,838	3,924
Itezhi Tezhi	5,191	-	1,116	1,518	2,557
Monze	10,741	-	726	5,082	4,933
Namwala	8,979	268	612	3,640	4,460
Pemba	7,381	-	-	5,313	2,068
Siavonga	2,750	-	1,256	472	1,022
Sinazongwe	14,040	-	3,868	3,703	6,468
Zimba	11,183	-	4,208	2,337	4,637
Kalabo	2,744	-	203	1,423	1,117
Lukulu	11,774	-	3,408	5,568	2,798
Mitete	2,983	-	1,243	1,657	83
Mulobezi	1,099	83	-	-	1,015
Mwandi	1,208	-	-	80	1,128
Senanga	10,531	123	681	5,129	4,597
Sesheke	9,129	577	769	4,804	2,979
Shang'ombo	2,902	-	365	588	1,948
Sikongo	253	-	-	-	253
Sioma	3,768	-	1,299	390	2,079

ANNEX N: Percentage Distribution of Households by Source of Early Warning Information

MAIN source of early warning information about the hazard (s)	Total		Male Headed Households	Female Headed Households
	Number	Percent	Number	Number
Total	414,979	100	292,371	122,608
Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU)	83,596	20.1	60,433	23,163
Ministry of Health (MOH)	1,152	0.3	870	282
Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)	32,775	7.9	21,690	11,085
Ministry of Community Development (MCDSS)	413	0.1	413	-
Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL)	231	0.1	231	-
Zambia Meteorological Department (ZMD)	8,230	2.0	6,518	1,712
N o n - G o v e r n m e n t a l Organisation (NGO)	431	0.1	237	194
Social Media (facebook, Twitter Whats App)	4,273	1.0	3,698	575
Television (TV)	14,682	3.5	8,872	5,810
Radio	223,676	53.9	161,678	61,998
Community meeting/traditional	40,079	9.7	24,562	15,517
Others (specify)	5,438	1.3	3,167	2,271



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