

# **COMMUNITY MONITORING PROGRAMME**



## **Quarterly Community Assessment of the Socio-economic Situation in Zimbabwe: Income and Employment**

**August 2005**

This report is the fifth of a series of quarterly monitoring of specific social and economic conditions at community level by the Community Monitoring Programme. It is the second round of monitoring on income and employment, the first being done in July 2004. Comments on this report are welcomed and can be sent to [fsmt2@mweb.co.zw](mailto:fsmt2@mweb.co.zw)

### **Background**

The Community Monitoring Programme aims to provide community based information to inform programmes aimed at socio-economic development and food security in Zimbabwe.

The Community Monitoring Programme is implemented through civil society organisations based within districts and through community-based monitors. Since 2002 the programme has been carrying out monthly situation assessments of economic and social welfare and food security to support community focussed responses to social and economic challenges and to inform civil society- state interactions on social and economic development. Quarterly monitoring is implemented every three months to examine in a more focussed way specific social and economic issues.

This fifth round of quarterly community based monitoring on **Economic and Employment conditions** was carried out in July/August 2005. It is compiled from **152 monitoring reports** from sentinel sites in **53 districts** from all provinces of Zimbabwe, with an average of **2.9 reports per district**.

The monitoring information is collected from sentinel wards within districts. Data presented is cross validated through two or more site reports on any indicator. Training, review by monitors and peer review is continuously implemented to improve both coverage and data quality. Queries and feedback on these reports is welcomed and should be directed to the Community Monitoring Programme at [fsmt2@mweb.co.zw](mailto:fsmt2@mweb.co.zw)

## Summary

This fifth round of quarterly community based monitoring in the Community Monitoring Programme was on Economic and Employment conditions. It was carried out in July/August 2005. It is compiled from 152 monitoring reports from sentinel sites in 53 districts from all provinces of Zimbabwe, with an average of 2.9 reports per district. It sought to find out how far community expectations on key areas of income and employment have been met and the constraints to and potentials for addressing these key issues.

The majority of people were noted to be in insecure forms of employment, a situation that is reported to have not changed significantly in the past year. Young people were generally reported to have more insecure employment and incomes. There was a reported decline in employment in the informal economy with loss of incomes. Monitor reports attributed this to Operation Murambatsvina.

Land was reported to be the most important resource for food production, together with labour, credit facilities and access to water, seed and fertilizer inputs. Constraints in access were reported across all, particularly land, labour, credit and water.

Income security from all forms of employment and production was reported to be low, although there was some improvement in reporting of households savings between July 2004 and August 2005.

Nationally 82% of sites reported that few people were working in decent working conditions, an increase over the reported levels in July 2004.

A quarter (25%) of sites nationally reported people not accessing safe drinking water, with a greater share reported to be accessing safe water in urban than in rural areas. Reported levels of safe water use have increased since the July 2004 round, but the distances traveled to access safe water are reported to have increased. The constraints reported were primarily supply side, with reported shortages of paraffin and firewood in rural areas and energy cuts in urban areas. Cost was not cited as a primary constraint.

Despite severe shortfalls in incomes and job security life was reported to be improving for some people. It was reported that life was getting better for landlords who are benefiting from huge increases in rentals due to rising demand for accommodation, particularly after operation Murambatsvina. Life was also reported to be improving for business people, civil servants, war vets, cotton farmers and women involved in cross border trading activities. These were the same groups as in July 2004 except that informal traders were reported to be doing better in July 2004 than in August 2005.

Few people were reported to know how public funds are used. Monitoring reports noted youth as facing problems in acquiring citizenship documents. Knowledge of trade unions and labour laws was low and reported levels have fallen since July

2004. A quarter of sites expressed dissatisfaction with the performance of trade unions

The findings of this round have shown that basic conditions of employment, income security and social wellbeing have not changed significantly in the past year. Across both rounds, July 2004 and August 2005, the majority of people are reported to be in insecure forms of employment, with constraints in access to production resources, and to basic social needs. As in the last round in July 2004, job loss has been much more common than job creation and youth continue to have worse access to employment.

The reported situation appears to have improved with respect to savings from income, access to energy for household use, and use of safe water sources.

Those earning incomes from rentals and business people selling commodities are reported to have experienced improved lives over the period.

The reported situation appears to have worsened with respect to earnings from informal employment, job loss, job turnover, work in decent working conditions, access to farm production inputs, food production for home consumption, costs of transport, school and clinic use and distances to access safe water.

Child headed households, widows without incomes, HIV/AIDS patients, the unemployed, former farm workers and people with low incomes are reported to have continued to experience deteriorating lives, while informal traders are reported to have changed from being a group with improving lives in July 2004 to a group with deteriorating lives in August 2005.

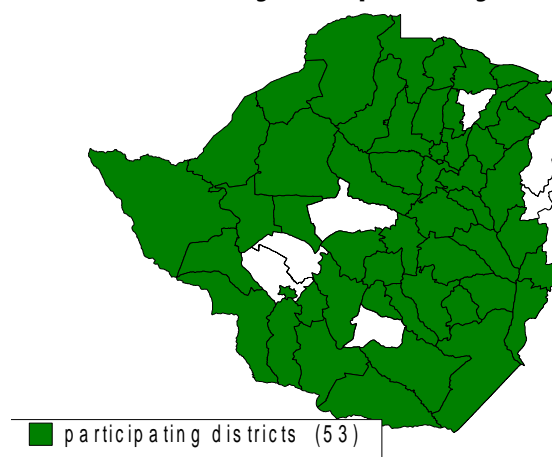
## Income and Employment: community expectations

Community level discussions carried out by civil society organizations in the Community Monitoring Programme have identified fundamental community expectations on key areas of income and employment. These include:

- Access to employment and job security
- Fair access to available national resources for production, including land
- Community participation in deciding on and implementing economic policies, supported by adequate information to make informed decisions
- Opportunities to earn an income that supports basic needs
- That the state will put in place policies that ensure that everyone has access to adequate food, water, sanitation, shelter and transport, and to access accountable and quality public services;
- Equitable and progressive taxation, with effective representation on use of taxes and public consultation and information on how taxes and public funds are spent in line with public priorities.
- Protection from slavery, forced labour, inhuman or degrading treatment.
- For all workers, in the formal and informal sectors, to have fair labour standards and decent working conditions, and to be protected against discrimination.
- For workers to be able to freely associate, assemble and participate in trade unions.

The quarterly monitoring on income and employment explored the extent to which such community expectations are being met. It covered the majority of districts in Zimbabwe (See Figure 1).

**Figure1. Districts covered by the quarterly monitoring. July/August 2005**



## Access to secure jobs and regular incomes

A major share of all sentinel sites (87%) reported that few people have secure jobs with regular incomes. These findings were similar to the results of the first round in July 2004 where 81% of sites noted that very few people were in secure employment with regular incomes. The majority of people are thus noted to be in insecure forms of employment and this situation has not changed significantly in the past year. .

Secure employment was more commonly reported in Manicaland and Mashonaland West and least in Mashonaland Central and Matabeleland South. Urban areas reported a slightly higher level of job security than rural . (See Table 1 below ).

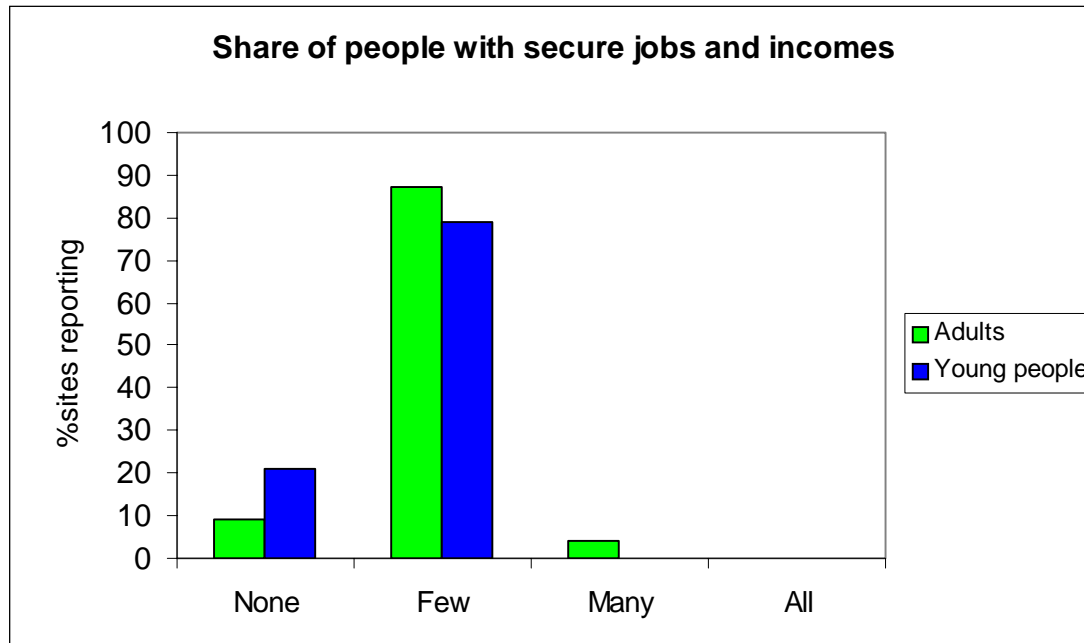
**Table 1: Reported share of people having secure jobs with regular incomes**

Province	Total sites	% sites reporting response share of people with secure jobs and regular income			
		None	Few	Many	All
Manicaland	8	0	88	12	0
Mashonaland East	29	10	86	0	0
Mashonaland Central	6	33	67	0	0
Mashonaland West	12	0	83	17	0
Midlands	15	7	93	0	0
Masvingo	12	8	92	0	0
Matabeleland North	9	11	89	0	0
Matabeleland South	7	14	86	0	0
Bulawayo	18	0	94	6	0
Harare	36	0	92	8	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	9	87	4	0

(\*) Non-response make up the balance

Young people were generally reported to have more insecure employment and incomes with over a fifth of sites (21%) reporting that no youths had secure jobs. This was similar to the finding of July 2004 (22% sites reporting no youths in secure jobs with regular incomes). Job insecurity for youth was generally reported to be worse in Mashonaland Central and Mashonaland East. The level of job insecurity for youth continues to be high with 79% of sites nationally reporting that very few youths have jobs ( See Table 2 and Figure 2). This compared with 66% of sites reporting this in July 2004.

**Figure 2: People with secure jobs and incomes**



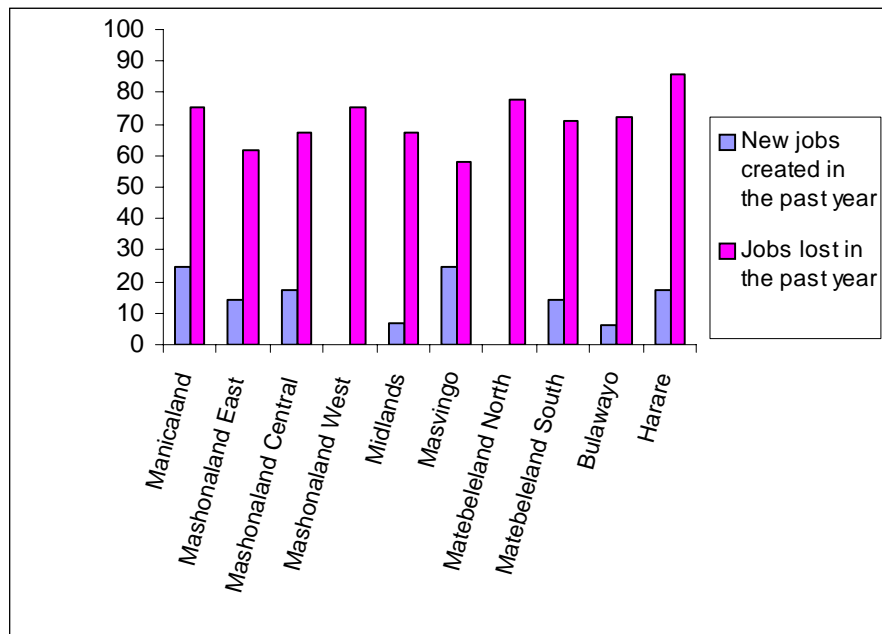
**Table 2: Share of youth reported to have jobs**

Province	Number of sites	% sites reporting response on youths having jobs			
		None	Few	Many	All
Manicaland	8	25	75	0	0
Mashonaland East	29	28	72	0	0
Mashonaland Central	6	33	67	0	0
Mashonaland West	12	17	83	0	0
Midlands	15	20	80	0	0
Masvingo	12	17	83	0	0
Matabeleland North	9	22	78	0	0
Matabeleland South	7	14	86	0	0
Bulawayo	18	22	78	0	0
Harare	36	11	89	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	21	79	0	0

(\*) Non-response make up the balance

There were reports from both large and small urban areas of household loss of informal sources of income during the period when informal stalls and small enterprises were removed or stopped during Operation Murambatsvina ('Restore Order'). This loss of income was reported by monitors to add to an already high level of insecure employment and incomes due to chronic job insecurity.

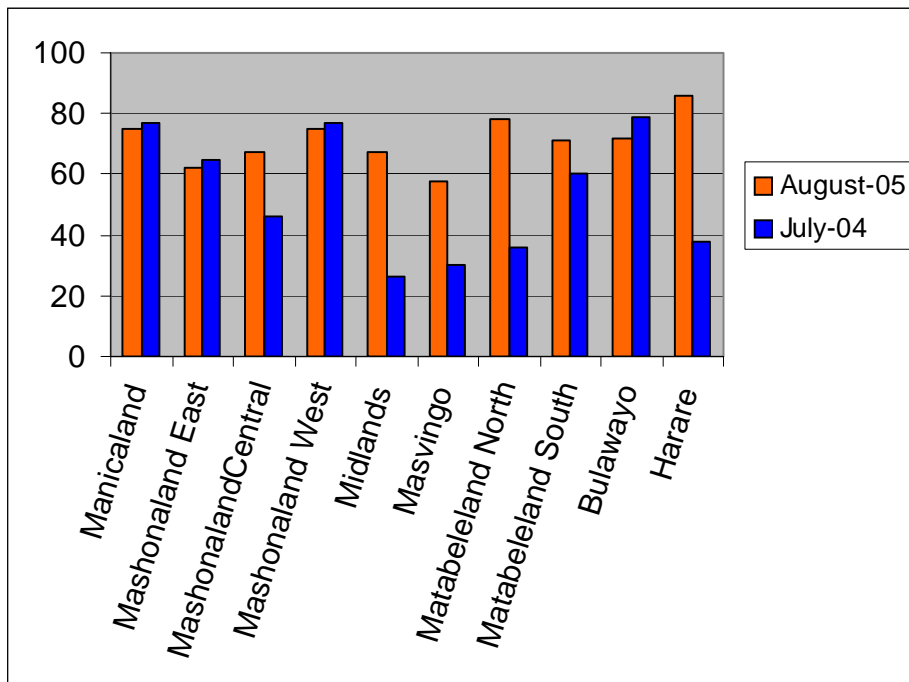
**Figure 3: Share of sites reporting job creation and job loss in the past year**



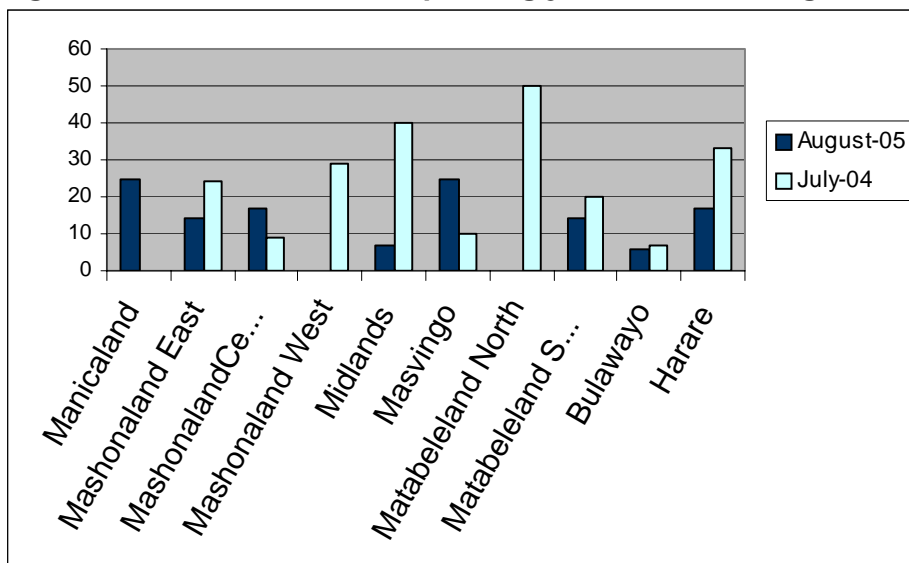
The reporting of job loss across sites outstripped the reporting of job creation in all provinces, with over 50% of sites in all provinces reporting job loss (See Figure 3). Few wards reported new jobs being created, mainly in Manicaland and Masvingo. Highest reporting of job loss came from Harare, Matabeleland North, Manicaland and Mashonaland West provinces.

Nationally 71% of wards reported job losses in the past year. This compared to 51% of sites reporting this in July 2004 and indicated an increase in reported job loss. Midlands, Masvingo, Matabeleland North and Harare showed an increase in reported job loss between the two rounds (see Figure 4). The job loss was primarily reported to be in the informal sector, whereas in July 2004 job loss was primarily reported to be in the formal sector. In the Community Monitoring programme Production and Incomes quarterly survey in October 2004, the informal economy was reported to be the most important source of household income in 49% of sites indicating that job loss in the informal economy represents a significant loss to household income. Reported job creation increased in Masvingo, Mashonaland Central and Manicaland between July 2004 and August 2005, but was reported to decrease in other provinces.

**Figure4: Share of sites reporting Job loss in August 2005 and July 2004**



**Figure 5 : Share of sites reporting jobs created August 2005 and July 2004**



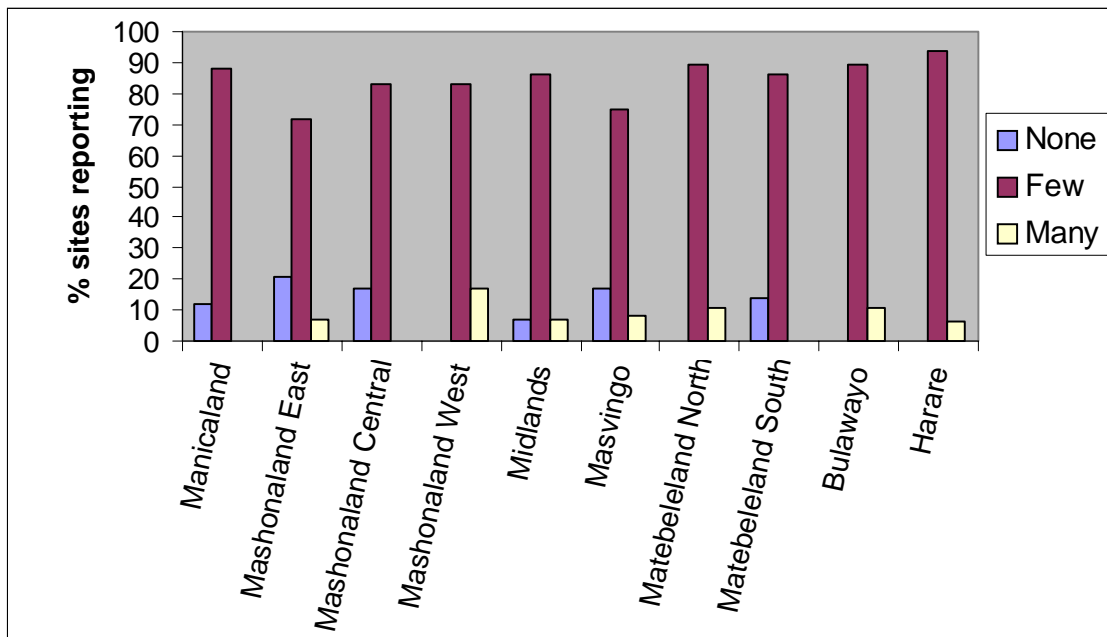
In 84% of sites nationally, monitors reported that few people were in jobs they had been in for more than a year (See Table 3 below). This indicates that even for those in employment there has been a relatively high turnover of jobs, This reported turnover is also an increase compared to the 63% of sites reporting this in July 2004.



**Table 3 : Jobs created and lost in the past year and jobs tenure**

Province	% sites reporting that in the past year		Share of people with jobs they have had for more than a year: % sites reporting			
	Jobs were created	Jobs were lost	None	Few	Many	All
Manicaland	25	75	12	88	0	0
Mashonaland East	14	62	21	72	7	0
Mashonaland Central	17	67	17	83	0	0
Mashonaland West	0	75	0	83	17	0
Midlands	7	67	7	86	7	0
Masvingo	25	58	17	75	8	0
Matabeleland North	0	78	0	89	11	0
Matabeleland South	14	71	14	86	0	0
Bulawayo	6	72	0	89	11	0
Harare	17	86	0	94	6	0
Total	13	71	9	84	7	0

**Figure 6: Sites reporting of jobs held for more than a year**



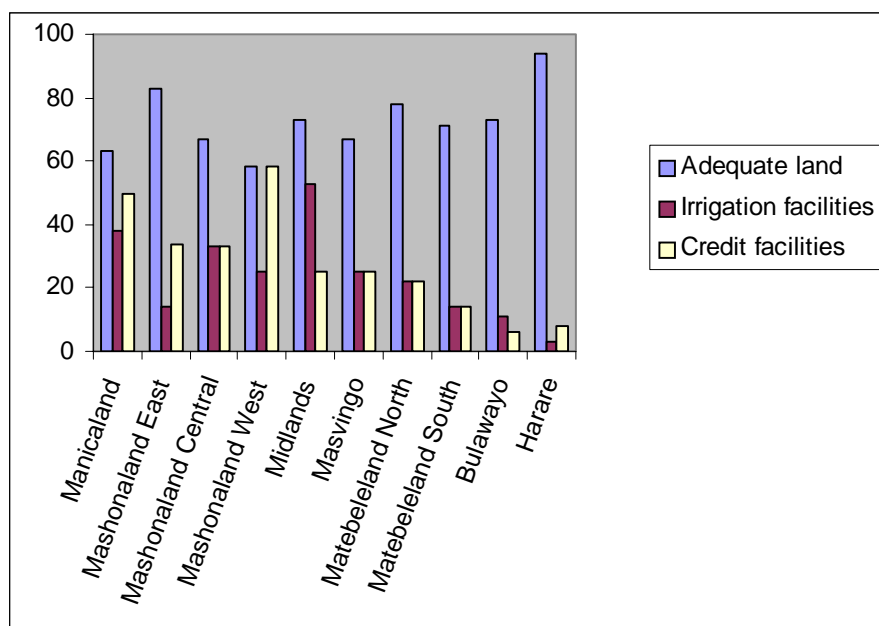
## Access to production resources

Community reports from food security monitoring in the Community Monitoring Programme have consistently indicated that food security at household level depends on the household's access to production inputs and incomes. In rural areas this refers primarily to land, seed, fertilizer and water.

Land is reported to be the most important resource for food production. In the August 2005 round nearly three quarters of sites (73%) reported that few households have access to adequate land. This compares to 57% reporting this in July 2004. Labour and credit facilities were also reported to be important factors affecting food production. A third (34%) of sites reported that few people were accessing adequate labour and less, (28%), reported that few households can access credit facilities for production. A minimum 40% of sites reported that no people were accessing each of these inputs labour, irrigation and credit facilities. About a quarter of sites (24%) noted that few people can access irrigation facilities and no site reported many people having access to irrigation. These shares were similar to those reported in July 2004 indicating that there has been little change in reported access to these inputs.

Land constraints were most commonly reported in Harare and Mashonaland East, while credit constraints were most commonly reported in Mashonaland West and Manicaland. Irrigation and water constraints were most commonly reported in Midlands and Manicaland (See Figure 7).

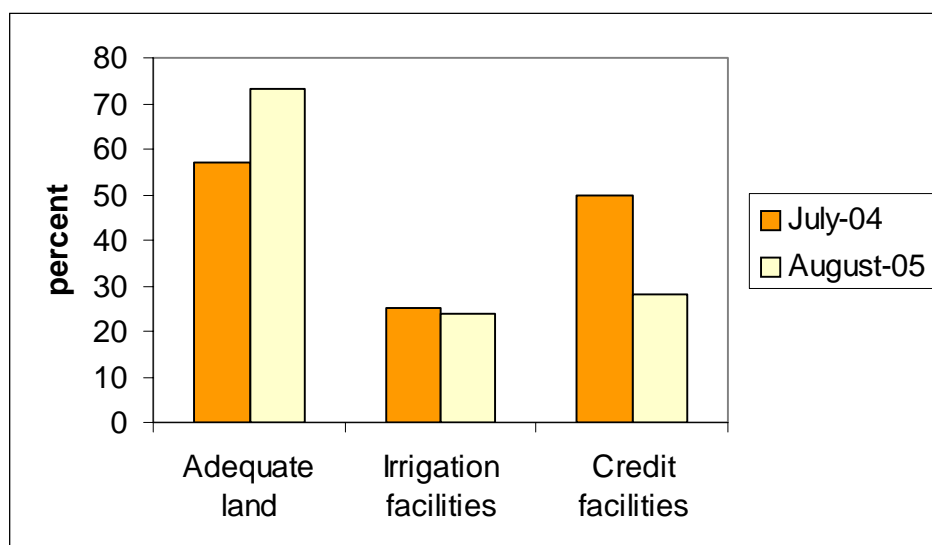
**Figure 7: Share of sites reporting that FEW people have access to resources for production shown**



**Table 4: Access to resources for production**

Province	% sites reporting few having access to:			
	Adequate land	Irrigation facilities	Credit facilities	Adequate labour
Manicaland	63	38	50	50
Mashonaland East	83	14	34	41
Mashonaland Central	67	33	33	33
Mashonaland West	58	25	58	42
Midlands	73	53	25	27
Masvingo	67	25	25	33
Matabeleland North	78	22	22	44
Matabeleland South	71	14	14	43
Bulawayo	73	11	6	17
Harare	94	3	8	14
Total	73	24	28	34

**Figure 8: Share of wards nationally reporting FEW people with access to selected farm inputs, July 2004 and August 2005**



Monitors reported that in only 1% of sites nationally were many or all households producing enough food for their needs. This compares with 12% reporting this in July 2004. In more than a third (36%) of sites, monitors reported that no household is managing to produce enough food for themselves. This compares with 14% of sites reporting this in July 2004. There does thus seem to have been a deterioration in the reported level of food production for own needs. (See table 5 below for August 2005 data).

**Table 5: Share of people reported to be producing enough food for their households**

Province	% sites reporting response on people producing enough food for their households			
	None	Few	Many	All
Manicaland	71	50	0	0
Mashonaland East	34	55	7	0
Mashonaland Central	33	67	0	0
Mashonaland West	8	33	0	0
Midlands	13	20	0	0
Masvingo	20	44	0	0
Matabeleland North	11	44	0	0
Matabeleland South	29	29	0	0
Bulawayo	56	56	0	0
Harare	81	23	0	0
Total	36	42	1	0

(\*) Non-response make up the balance

## Incomes to support basic needs

More than three quarters of sites (77%) nationally reported that very few people are earning enough to survive. The worst in income security was reported in Midlands, Bulawayo, Matabeleland North and Matabeleland South (See table 6 below). In July 2004 78% of sites reported that few people were earning incomes to provide for their basic needs, Matabeleland south and Matabeleland north were included in the provinces that had the least income security. This indicates little change in reported income security across the two rounds of reporting.

**Table 6: Share of people reported to be earning enough to survive**

Province	% sites reporting response on people earning enough to survive			
	None	Few	Many	All
Manicaland	57	43	0	0
Mashonaland East	31	69	0	0
Mashonaland Central	67	33	0	0
Mashonaland West	17	83	0	0
Midlands	0	100	0	0
Masvingo	25	75	0	0
Matabeleland North	22	78	0	0
Matabeleland South	25	75	0	0
Bulawayo	6	94	0	0
Harare	33	67	0	0
Total	23	77	0	0

(\*) Non-response make up the balance

In about a quarter of sites 24% nationally monitors reported that no households were reported to be able to earn enough to save for the future, and in 76% of sites few people were reported to be earning enough to save (See Table 7 below). This compares with 34% reporting no people and 53% reporting few people in July 2004. This reflects an improvement in the shares reporting no households having savings.

**Table 7: Share of people reported to be earning enough to save**

Province	% sites reporting response on people earning enough to save for the future			
	None	Few	Many	All
Manicaland	57	43	0	0
Mashonaland East	17	83	0	0
Mashonaland Central	33	67	0	0
Mashonaland West	25	75	0	0
Midlands	13	87	0	0
Masvingo	17	83	0	0
Matabeleland North	22	78	0	0
Matabeleland South	29	71	0	0
Bulawayo	17	83	0	0
Harare	14	86	0	0
Total	24	76	0	0

(\*) Non-response make up the balance

## Decent working conditions

Nationally 12% of sites reported that no people were working in decent working conditions, 82% reported few working in decent conditions and no sites reported many working in decent working conditions (See Table 8).

**Table 8: Share of people working in decent working conditions**

Province	% sites reporting response on people working in decent working conditions			
	None	Few	Many	All
Manicaland	25	75	0	0
Mashonaland East	7	83	10	0
Mashonaland Central	17	83	0	0
Mashonaland West	25	75	0	0
Midlands	13	87	0	0
Masvingo	12	88	0	0
Matabeleland North	11	78	11	0
Matabeleland South	14	86	0	0
Bulawayo	0	83	17	0
Harare	6	83	11	0
Total	13	82	5	0

(\*) Non-response make up the balance

This represents a shift in reporting on July 2004 findings where a higher share were reported many working in decent conditions (12%). The loss of jobs may have led to some loss in adequacy of working conditions as people have moved into more insecure forms of employment.

As was found in the first round people in urban areas are reported to work under better conditions than those in rural areas.

## Access to essential services

A quarter (25%) of sites nationally reported people not accessing safe drinking water, with a greater share reported to be accessing safe water in urban than in rural areas (See Table 9). Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West, Masvingo, Manicaland and Matabeleland South had lower reported access to safe water.

**Table 9: Access to safe drinking water**

Province	% sites reporting people with no access to safe water	Distance to safe water source			
		Within the home	Less than 1km	1 – 5 km	More than 5 km
Manicaland	25	13	25	62	0
Mashonaland East	59	1	14	66	19
Mashonaland Central	33	22	23	50	7
Mashonaland West	25	33	17	42	8
Midlands	13	13	7	69	11
Masvingo	25	8	8	71	13
Matabeleland North	11	11	22	56	11
Matabeleland South	29	14	14	44	28
Bulawayo	11	78	22	0	0
Harare	14	100	0	0	0
Total	25	29	15	46	10

(\*) Non-response make up the balance

These results showed an improvement compared to the July 2004 round, which recorded a relatively larger share of sites (40%) reporting that there were people in the wards who could not access safe water. It's not clear whether this improvement in access to safe water is due to an increase in safe water supplies or that people have just stopped using their usual water sources because they have dried up and now have to travel longer distances to bore holes. There is some indication that people are moving greater distances to access water as the share of sites reporting people moving more than 5km to access water has increased from 3% in July 2004 to 10% in August 05. Similarly the share accessing within the home or within 1km has fallen from 56% in July 2004 to 44% in August 2005.

More than a third of the sites (37%) reported households not accessing adequate energy. The constraints reported were primarily supply side, with reported shortages of paraffin and firewood in rural areas (See Table 10). In urban areas energy access was reported to be constrained by unreliable electricity due to power cuts. Cost was not cited as a primary constraint. (See Table 10 below). Reported access to energy supplies does appear to have improved since July 2004 when 52% of sites reported households not accessing adequate energy.

**Table 10: Access to fuel and energy**

Province	% sites reporting		
	People without adequate energy	Groups affected	Changes in energy supplies in the past 3 months
Manicaland	38	The elderly, people displaced by operation restore order.	Some families are living in the open where there is no fired wood no electricity. Those who can not afford the expensive electricity.
Mashonaland East	62	Most households, the elderly, those not able to fend for themselves	Paraffin difficult to get. Electricity not reliable people go for several hours without electricity.
Mashonaland Central	50	Ordinary people	Paraffin not available, no firewood
Mashonaland West	50	The ill, orphans	Electricity not reliable people are using firewood
Midlands	20	People in areas where there is no electricity	Shortage of paraffin
Masvingo	33	The poor, rural people	No paraffin, electricity tariffs very high
Matabeleland North	33	Ordinary residents, the elderly	Electricity load shedding
Matabeleland South	29		
Bulawayo	17	Most households	Electricity charges now too high, no paraffin
Harare	33	Majority of residents	No paraffin, electricity is in short supply
Total	37		

Several factors are reported to have led to increased cost pressures on households.

- ☑ Average local transport costs to the nearest service centre was reported to be Z\$22 400, which is an increase of over 360% on nominal prices compared to the Z\$ 6100 reported in July 2004.
- ☑ School fees in both rural and urban areas were reported to average about Z\$500 000 per term, a 735% increase compared to the average of \$68 000 found in July 2004.
- ☑ Clinic fees that averaged Z\$2 800 in July 2004 now cost the household an average Z\$46 000 per visit, an increase of over 1600% on nominal costs.

**Table 11: Transport, Clinic fees and Secondary school fees**

Province	Average Transport cost to the nearest centre Z\$	Average secondary school fees and levies Z\$	Average clinic consultation fees Z\$
Manicaland	17700	380000	14400
Mashonaland East	30100	348000	43400
Mashonaland Central	33000	382000	107000
Mashonaland West	16700	360000	13380
Midlands	15800	504000	32000
Masvingo	24300	438000	79000
Matabeleland North	24250	478000	33750
Matabeleland South	25000	272000	30000
Bulawayo	15000	850000	50500
Harare	22000	1000000	57500
Total	22400	501200	46093

## Improving or deteriorating lives

Despite severe shortfalls in incomes and job security life was reported to be improving for some people(See table 12). Reports noted that life was getting better for landlords who are benefiting from huge increases in rentals as demand for accommodation rose sharply after operation Murambatsvina. Life was also reported to be improving for business people, civil servants, War vets , cotton farmers and women involved in cross border trading activities. The same groups were reported in July 2004 to be experiencing improvements in their lives, except that greater report was made of petty traders experiencing improvements in 2004, while in 2005 it was noted that many of these had stopped trading because of Operation Murambatsvina.



**Table 12: People for whom life is reported to have improved**

<b>Province</b>	<b>People</b>	<b>Reported reasons</b>
Manicaland	Landlords, Shop owners	House owners now charge exorbitant rents. Business people charge very high prices.
Mashonaland East	Civil servants, maize farmers	Civil servants earn a salary, farmers who harvested maize have food
Mashonaland Central	Employed people	They can afford the prices of basic commodities
Mashonaland West	War vets	They get a salary and several privileges
Midlands	Cotton farmers	They got better cotton prices this year
Masvingo	Women in cross border trade	They get a substantial income from buying and selling basic goods
Matabeleland North	Teachers and nurses	They can afford food prices
Matabeleland South	The employed	They have an income
Bulawayo, Harare	House owners, business people	High rentals now charged after operation restore order. Business people earn huge profits from high prices.

Communities report ever increasing prices of basic commodities. The Community Monitoring programme research on the costs of health in July 2005 indicates that this has led to households dropping some essential items from their monthly consumption. (TARSC/CWGH / CMP (2005) The Cost Of Health, A Community Research Report, Harare, July 2005)

Sentinel site reports noted that people's lives generally have deteriorated in the period. The effects of Operation Murambatsvina on informal sector activities and on shelter was noted in thirty six (24% of reports) monitor reports as leading to loss of income sources and shelter. Informal traders, female headed households, child headed households, the unemployed people, HIV/AIDS patients, widows without an income and orphans were amongst people reported to have suffered the worst deterioration in conditions. Of these informal traders appear to have suffered the greatest reported decline since July 2004 as they were reported in that period to have been experiencing an improvement in their lives in that round.

**Table 13: People for whom life is reported to have got worse**

<b>Province</b>	<b>People</b>	<b>Reported reasons</b>
Manicaland	Informal traders, many households, female headed	Informal traders affected by operation Murambatsvina, economic difficulties affecting almost everyone

	households	
Mashonaland East	Most households, orphans	Food stocks running out, high basic commodity prices
Mashonaland Central	Informal traders, most people	Many people lost their sources of income because of operation restore order
Mashonaland West	TB patients, lodgers, the unemployed	No jobs, prices too high, accommodation very expensive now.
Midlands	All people, orphans, widows	Sources of income for many people destroyed, high prices affecting all people, food shortages
Masvingo	Widowed women, many households	No food, prices ever increasing, jobs lost because of Murambatsvina
Matabeleland North	The unemployed, many people	Houses and workplaces were destroyed. Food shortages surfacing
Matabeleland South	Rural and urban households,	No Money to buy food, Murambatsvina affected the whole province
Bulawayo, Harare	All people, informal traders, the unemployed, TB patients	affected by operation Murambatsvina. no petrol, high prices, maize meal shortages, no jobs, informal work stopped by Murambatsvina

The public sector is a major institutional mechanism for poverty alleviation, through public services and support to production. Reports indicated however that basic knowledge of public sector resources was relatively low (See table 14).

**Table 14: Community knowledge of public funds**

Province	% sites reporting people		
	Know where local govt gets its funding	Know how local govt spends its money	Meet with councilor on local govt spending
Manicaland	25	13	13
Mashonaland East	10	7	7
Mashonaland Central	33	17	17
Mashonaland West	25	8	8
Midlands	20	7	7
Masvingo	17	17	8
Matabeleland North	25	11	0
Matabeleland South	25	25	25
Bulawayo	44	39	22
Harare	64	56	0
Total	25	20	10

(\*) Non-response make up the balance

Only a quarter of sites reported people having knowledge of where local government gets its money from and 20% reported knowledge of how the money is spent. Much the same situation was reported in July 2004 when only 17% of sites noted that people knew how local government spent its money.

Community reports also noted that people are not aware of the decisions around the AIDS Levy Funds and its uses. Only 18% of the sites expressed knowledge of how the AIDS levy fund is used (See table 15 below). The first round of this research in July 2004 revealed that 17% of the sites reported people knowing how the AIDS levy is used. This shows that the situation is much the same as it was a year ago.

**Table 15: Knowledge on the AIDS levy fund**

Province	%Knowing how funds are used	Sites response on	
		Beneficiaries of the fund	Groups not benefiting from the fund
Manicaland	13	Orphans ,aids patients	The terminally ill.
Mashonaland East	7	AIDS patients and orphans	orphans and other affected people
Mashonaland Central	17		some orphans in the area.
Mashonaland West	8		those who are HIV positive.
Midlands	7	PLWA, AIDS orphans, school children	AIDS patients, AIDS orphans
Masvingo	33	Orphans, widows, patients	Most of the AIDS victims in the area
Matabeleland North	11	AIDS patients	Victims of AIDS who are disadvantaged people in the area
Matabeleland South	14	AIDS orphans, widows, PLWA	Patients and orphans
Bulawayo	22	Orphans, PLWA, widows	most of the AIDS victims in the city
Harare	44	Orphans, widows, PLWA	deserving cases not being assisted, orphans, people living with AIDS.
Total	18		

Monitoring reports noted people still facing problems in acquiring citizenship documents as 54% of sites noted that few youths have birth certificates and a

further 70% reported few youths having national IDs. (See Table 16 below). This is similar to the results of the quarterly survey in July 2004 when a similar share 71% of reporting sites noted few youths having national IDs. There has thus been little reported change in access to IDs over the period.

**Table 16: Access to Citizenship documents**

Province	% sites reporting FEW having access to		% sites with majority of adults having IDs
	Birth Certificates	Youth with IDs	
Manicaland	75	75	88
Mashonaland East	62	91	86
Mashonaland Central	50	83	67
Mashonaland West	58	92	83
Midlands	53	80	73
Masvingo	67	50	83
Matabeleland North	22	67	89
Matabeleland South	57	71	86
Bulawayo	61	56	89
Harare	36	33	94
Total	54	70	84

More than three quarters (76%) of sites noted people having knowledge of trade unions but only about 29% reported any knowledge of the labour laws. This shows a decrease when compared to findings in July 2004 when 84% of the sites reported people had heard of trade unions and 57% said that people knew about or the content of the labour law. The loss of formal jobs noted in 2004 may account in part for the declining knowledge of unions and labour laws as people are shifting to more insecure forms of employment.

The site reports also noted that trade unions are not giving people enough education. Some reports mentioned that trade unions are not known amongst workers, especially workers in rural areas. A quarter 25% expressed dissatisfaction with the operations of trade unions (See Tables 17 and 18 below). This reported level of dissatisfaction is similar to that found in July 2004 when 19% of the sites noted dissatisfaction with the performance of trade unions.

**Table 17: Knowledge of trade unions and labour law**

Province	No. sites	% sites reporting			
		People having heard of trade unions	People knowing the labour law	No people are union members	Few people are union members
Manicaland	8	75	50	25	75
Mashonaland East	29	76	14	36	59
Mashonaland Central	6	50	17	35	67
Mashonaland West	12	75	25	25	50
Midlands	15	67	27	13	53
Masvingo	12	80	33	25	60
Matabeleland North	9	70	22	22	58
Matabeleland South	7	81	14	14	44
Bulawayo	18	90	33	6	67
Harare	36	92	58	3	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>76</b>	29	25	57

**Table 18: Satisfaction with effectiveness of trade unions**

Province	% sites reporting response on satisfaction with trade unions			
	Very dissatisfied	Not satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Manicaland	13	25	13	0
Mashonaland East	55	17	3	0
Mashonaland Central	61	35	0	0
Mashonaland West	8	25	17	0
Midlands	13	33	8	0
Masvingo	17	33	8	0
Matabeleland North	22	11	0	0
Matabeleland South	14	29	0	0
Bulawayo	33	0	22	0
Harare	11	25	14	0
<b>Total</b>	25	23	9	0

The findings of this round have shown that basic conditions of employment, income security and social wellbeing have not changed significantly in the past year. Across both rounds, July 2004 and August 2005, the majority of people are reported to be in insecure forms of employment, with constraints in access to production resources, and to basic social needs. As in the last round in July 2004, job loss has been much more common than job creation and youth continue to have worse access to employment.

The reported situation appears to have improved with respect to savings from income, access to energy for household use, and use of safe water sources.

Those earning incomes from rentals and business people selling commodities are reported to have experienced improved lives over the period.

The reported situation appears to have worsened with respect to earnings from informal employment, job loss, job turnover, work in decent working conditions, access to farm production inputs, food production for home consumption, costs of transport, school and clinic use and distances to access safe water.

Child headed households, widows without incomes, HIV/AIDS patients, the unemployed, former farm workers and people with low incomes are reported to have continued to experience deteriorating lives, while informal traders are reported to have changed from being a group with improving lives in July 2004 to a group with deteriorating lives in August 2005.