

National Drought Management Authority

KAJIADO COUNTY

DROUGHT MONITORING AND EARLY WARNING NOVEMBER 2020



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



NOVEMBER EW PHASE

Early Warning Phase Classification

Drought Status: NORMAL

Shughuli za kawaida

LIVELIHOOD ZONE	EW PHASE	TRENDS
PASTORAL	WEST - NORMAL	STABLE
	SOUTH - ALERT	IMPROVING
AGRO-PASTORAL	NORMAL	STABLE
MIXED FARMING	NORMAL	STABLE
COUNTY	NORMAL	STABLE

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- ✓ The onset of short rains was late with poor spatial and temporal distribution. Some parts of Kajiado West had not received rain.
- ✓ The County vegetation greenness reduced but still above normal.
- ✓ Forage condition was poor and improving in pastoral zones and good in mixed farming areas.

Production Indicators

- ✓ Livestock all species ranged from good to moderate while milk production improved but remained below the long term average. Low milk production was due to low livestock tropical unit.
- ✓ There was return migration of livestock in Kajiado South pastoral.

Access indicators

- ✓ The terms of trade were very good, above five-year average.
- ✓ The amount of milk consumed by households was similar to long term average for similar period of the year.
- ✓ Distances to water sources from grazing fields reduced and remained below the long term averages for similar month of the year while that of household was slightly above long term mean.

Utilization Indicators

- ✓ Proportion of under-five children at risk of malnutrition reduced and remained stable below long-term average.
- ✓ Households were obtaining food with less difficulty as indicated by low CSI.
- ✓ Households with no money to buy food opted for less preferred foods, borrowing or reducing food portions
- ✓ Most households, 80% were consuming required food varieties at required frequency.

Biophysical Indicators		Observed Value/Range	Normal Range/LTA
3-monthly VCI		63.75	>35
State of water	South Pastoral	Adequate	Adequate
	Mixed & Agro-Pastoral	Adequate	Adequate
Forage condition		Good to poor	Good
Production Indicators		Observed Value/Trend	Normal Range
Livestock body condition		Good to Moderate	Good
Household milk production per day		2.9 litres	>4 litres
Livestock Migration		None	None
Access Indicators		Observed Value	LTA
Terms of trade (kg of maize for a goat)		113.2	87.8
Household milk Consumption per day		2.6 litres	2.6 litres
Distance to water sources	Livestock	6.1 km	6.65 km
	Household	5.6 km	5.46 km
Utilization indicators		Value	LTA
MUAC (% <135 mm)		6.8	7.99
CSI		5.89	<10

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short rains harvest Short dry spell Reduced milk yields Increased HH food stock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long rains Planting/weeding High calving rate Milk yields increase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long rains harvest A long dry spell Land preparation Increased HH food stocks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short rains Planting weeding 								
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

Seasonal Calendar

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 Rainfall Performance

- The onset of 2020 short rains was late. The October-November rains started in the fourth week of October to first week of November as opposed to normal start between second and third week of October.
- However, the rainfall peaked in the first and second dekads of November with heavy downpours in Loitoktok, Isinya and Mashuruu while moderate downpours were experienced in most parts of the County including Kitengela, Namanga, Ibisil, Magadi (Figure 1).
- Other areas such as Kandirisi, Kimuka, Singiraini and Enkusero Keri had not received any rainfall during the month.

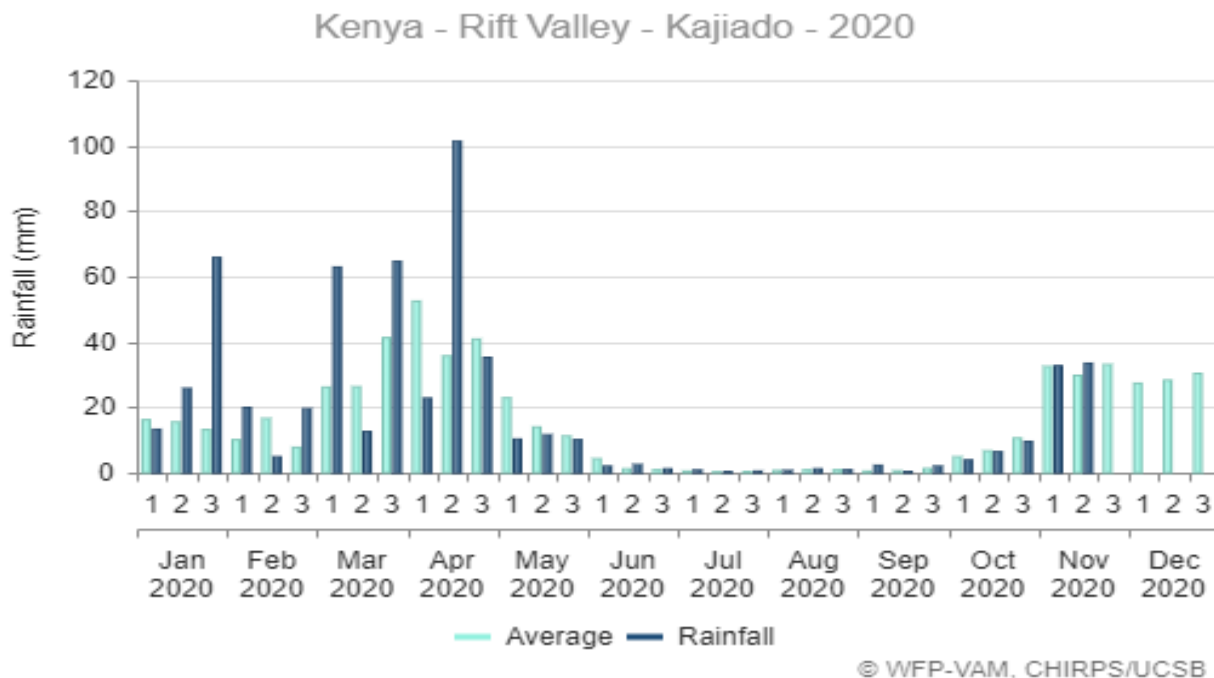


Figure 1: Rainfall performance; Kajiado, 2020

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 Vegetation Condition

- On average, the county had above normal vegetation index 63.75 in the month of November with Kajiado North being the only Sub-County at normal recording a vegetation condition index of 44.02.
- However, the County vegetation greenness declined from the previous months' record of 93.39 attributed to the delayed onset coupled with poor distribution (Figure 2).
- With rainfall expected to cease in December, the vegetation greenness could decline even further.

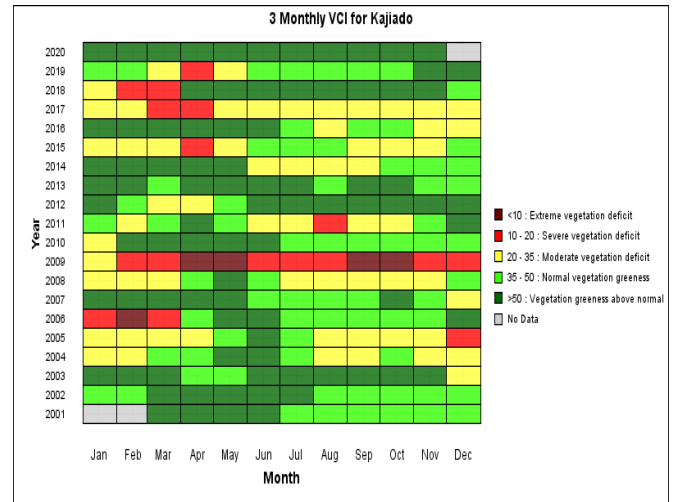


Figure 2: 3-monthly VCI matrix; Kajiado 2001-2020

2.2 Pasture and Browse Condition

- Regeneration of pasture across the county following the short rains was slow compared to what would be expected at this time during a normal year, pasture ranged from good to poor.
- Consequently, pasture was expected to improve in the month of December with varying conditions from good to fair across the County.
- Browse remained good across the County and would last for the next three months.

2.3 Water Sources

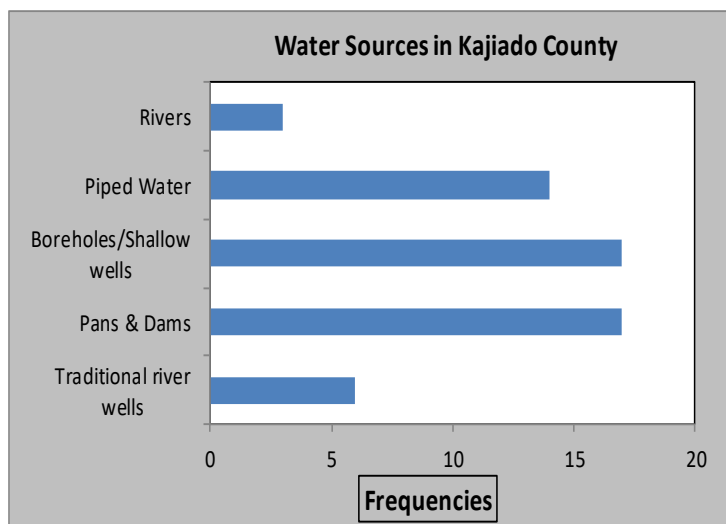


Figure 3: Water sources; Kajiado, November 2020

- Improvement was observed on the water situation during the month of November following an average 40% recharge of surface water sources.
- Main water sources remained Pans/Dams and Boreholes as reported by the 25 key informants interviewed (Figure 3).
- Piped water use increased mainly in Ewuaso and Mbirikani; these areas

received minimal to moderate rains with low surface water recharge. Notably, concentration of livestock at strategic boreholes was slowly easing in the County thus reducing pressure on them.

2.4 Households Water Access and Utilization

- In November, households were drawing water for domestic use mainly from boreholes, piped water, traditional river wells in addition to rain water harvesting and a few pans.
- The average return distance from the households to water points was about 5.6 km comparing well with the long term average of 5.5 km (Figure 4).
- Longer distances to water points were observed in Meto, parts of Ewuaso and Mbirikani of up to 8 km.

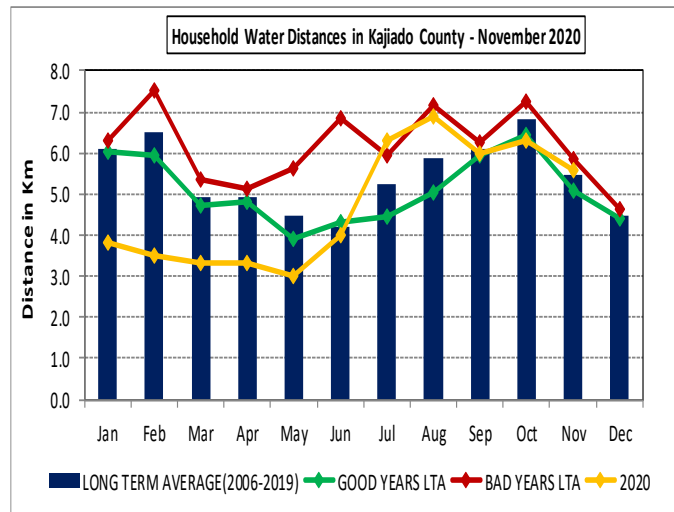


Figure 4: Average return distance from homesteads to water sources; Kajiado 2009 -2020

2.5 Livestock Access to Water

- Water access by livestock reduced by 7% in the month of November following short rains that recharged pans and dams.
- On average, the return distance from the grazing fields to water point in November was 6.1 km same as that of a good year. The previous two seasons had performed very well resulting in the sustained supply of water even for surface water sources, few of them had dried than normal (Figure 5).
- The current distance is 8% below the long term average of 6.65 km for similar period of the year.
- On average, Ewuaso, Mosiro and Mbirikani reported long distances of about 8 km covered by livestock from grazing fields to water points. These areas had little to no recharge of surface water sources due to poor rains received during the month.

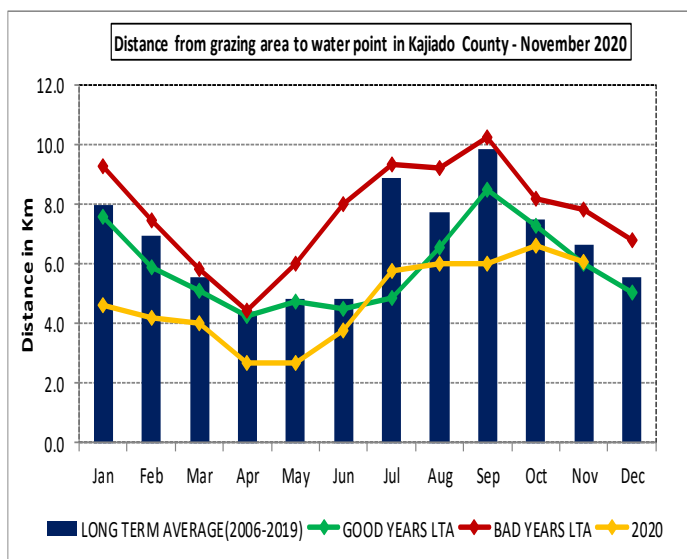


Figure 5: Average return distance from grazing fields to water sources; Kajiado, 2009-2020

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Livestock body condition for cattle ranged from good to moderate. The impact of November rains is yet to be felt in terms of livestock productivity especially in Rombo, Kuku, Mosiro and Mbirikani. Livestock body condition is expected to improve in the month of December due to regeneration of pasture and browse.

3.2 Livestock Mortalities

- No cases of unusual livestock mortalities were reported in the County during the month.

3.3 Livestock Diseases

- Cases of Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) and Contagious Bovine Plueropneumonia (CBPP) continued to be reported across the County. Kajiado West (Ewuaso) also reported Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) while Loodokilani reported Worms.

3.4 Livestock Migration

- No out migration was reported during the month. Slow return migration from Amboseli National Park and Chylu hills was observed in Injeka, Rombo and Kuku.

3.5 Milk Production

- Though household daily milk production improved to 2.9 litres from 2.5 litres in October, it remained 26% below the long term average for the month (Figure 6). The increase is attributed to reduced distances to water sources, sustained good body conditions and improved calving rates.
- On average, pastoral zone daily milk production per household was 4.1 litres and 2.0 litres in Agro-pastoral.

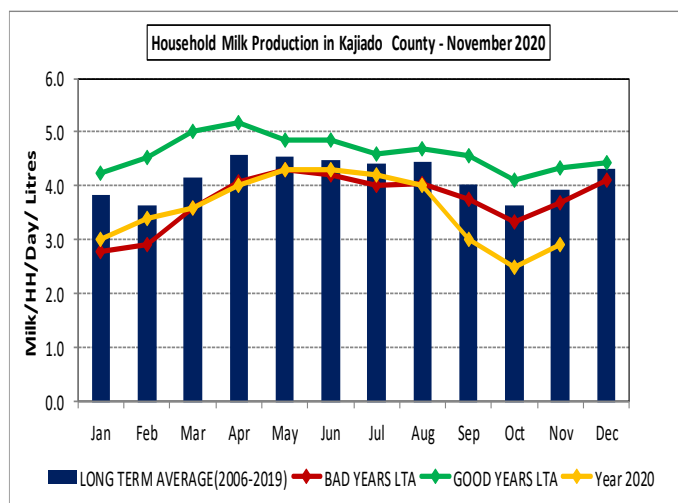


Figure 6: Milk production; Kajiado, 2006-2020

3.6 Crop Performance

- Crops are in good conditions both for rain-fed and irrigated. Rain-fed crops are on leaf stages for both maize and beans while irrigated maize crops ranged between milk and dough stages.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 Livestock Marketing

- All the major livestock and food commodities markets namely Shompole, Kiserian, Ilbisil, Kimana and Rombo are in normal operation's in all the livelihood zones during the period under review.

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- The average price of a mature bull in the County remained stable above the five-year short term average by 38% at Ksh.41, 500 in November (Figure 7). In October, the price was Ksh. 39,800.
- The favourable price is attributed to sustained good body condition and low supply at market.
- The highest price was reported in Kaputiei North at Ksh 65,000 while lower price of Ksh. 30,000 was reported in Ewuaso.
- Price of cattle is expected to remain stable in December due to improved pasture, water and demand as holiday seasons approaches.

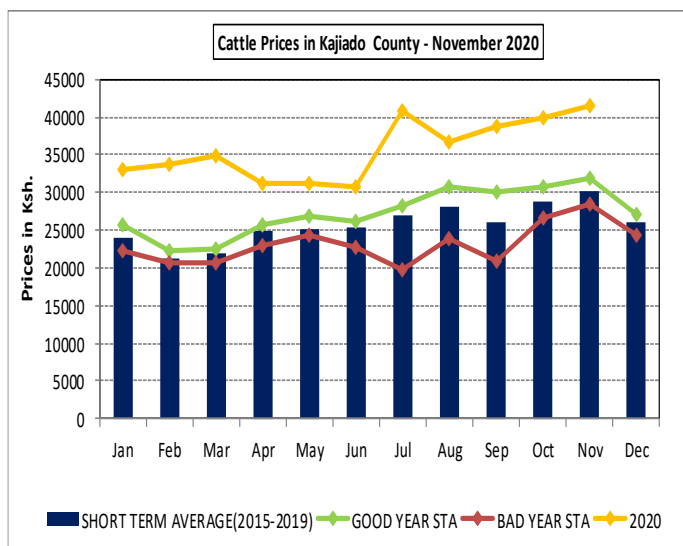


Figure 7: Cattle prices; Kajiado, 2015-2020

4.1.2 Goats Prices

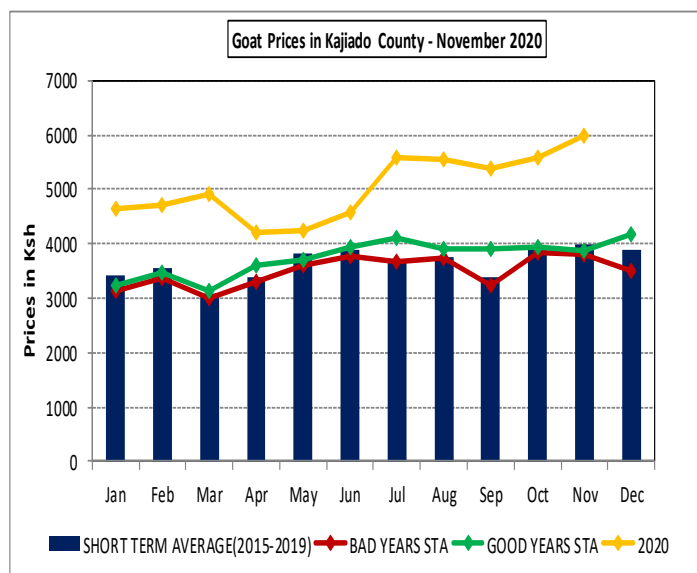


Figure 8: Goats' prices; Kajiado, 2015-2020

- The average market price for a medium sized goat is Ksh. 6,000 in the month of November, in October the price was Ksh. 5,600.
- The current price is 50% above the long term average of Ksh 3,997 for similar period of the year attributed to good body condition due to continued availability of browse and low supply at market (Figure 8).
- There was notable variation in prices of

goats across the County with lower price of Ksh. 5,000 sold in agro-pastoral, Dalalekutuk and higher price of Ksh. 8,000 sold in pastoral, Rombo.

- Goat prices is expected to remain stable due to available browse resulting in good body condition across all livelihood zones.

4.2 Prices of Cereals and Legumes

4.2.1 Maize Prices

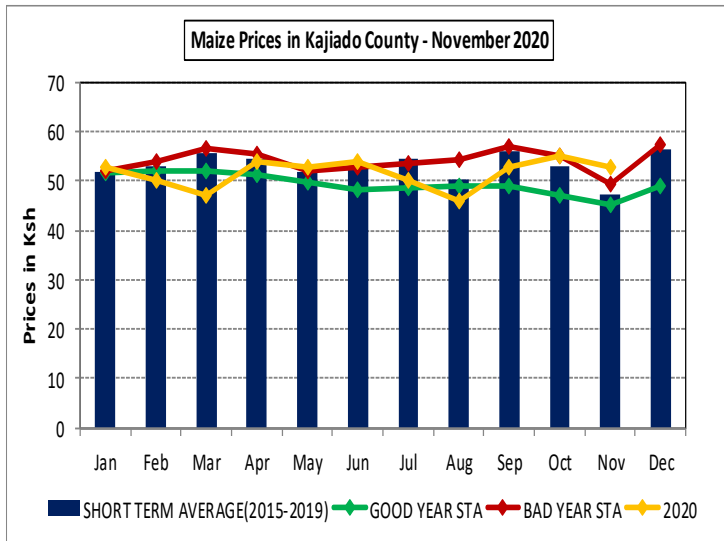


Figure 9: Average prices of Maize; Kajiado, 2015-2020

- In November, the average market price of maize declined to Ksh. 53 per kilogram from Ksh. 55 in October (Figure 9). The current price is 12% above the five-year average.
- The reduction in maize price is attributed to increased supply at market from Tanzanian traders and neighbouring Counties.
- In mixed farming areas of Loitoktok a kilogram of maize was selling at Ksh. 35 and Ksh. 60 in Pastoral of Ewuaso.

- Food prices are cheaper in southern part of the county which is adjacent to the mixed farming zone and is accessible by traders unlike pastoral West with poor road infrastructure.

4.2.2 Beans Prices

- Beans prices remained relatively high at 9% above the five term average for similar period of the year. In November, average market price of beans is Ksh. 100 and Ksh. 102 in October (Figure 10). The current beans price is similar to that of bad year average.
- The observed high price of beans is due to reduction in supply coupled with increased demand of the commodity.

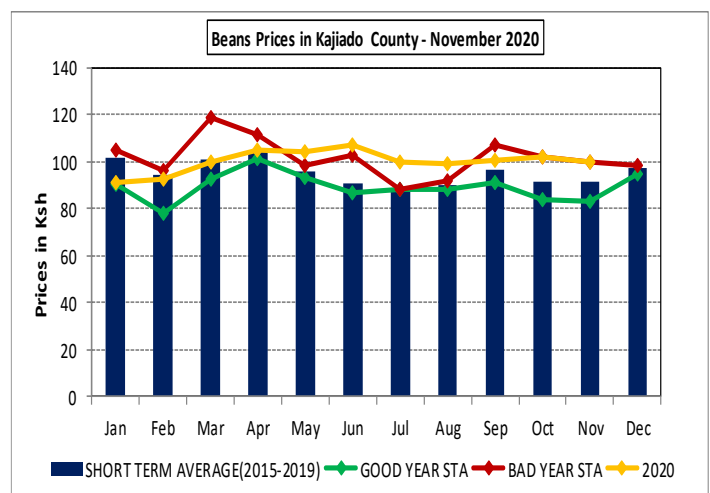


Figure 10: Average prices of beans; Kajiado, 2015-2020

- The retail price of beans ranged from Ksh.120 per kilogram in Ewuaso, pastoral west to Ksh.80 per kilogram in Loitoktok, mixed farming.

4.3 Prices of Milk

- Though milk production increased by 16%, the average farm gate price of milk remained at Ksh. 50 per litre with no significant livelihood variations attributed to decline in the tropical livestock unit at household level.
- Normal price of milk at this time of the year is Ksh. 35 per litre.

4.4.1 Terms of Trade

- Terms of trade (TOT) are favourable to livestock keepers as households could purchase 113 kilograms of maize with the sale of one medium-sized goat which is 29% above five-year average (Figure 11).
- The increase in ToTs is due to improvement in goat prices compared to slight reduction in maize price.
- Terms of Trade is expected to remain stable above five-year average in December due to expected corresponding improvement in goat prices during the month.

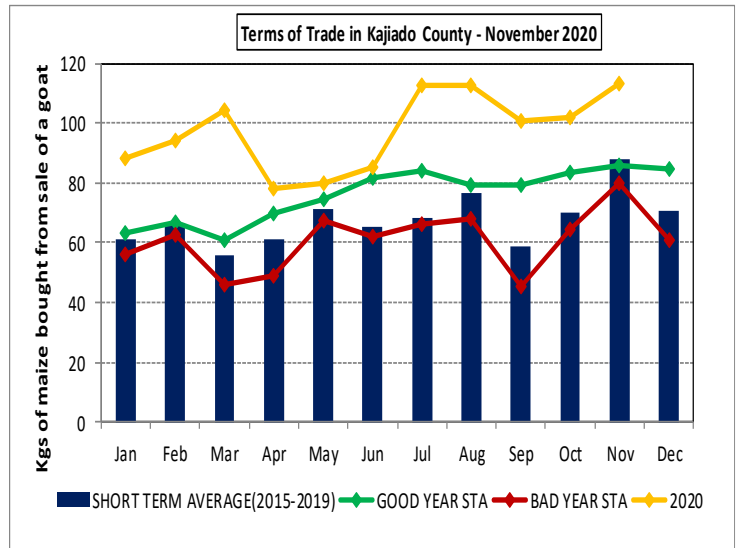


Figure 11: Trends in ToT; Kajiado 2015-2020

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS AND DISEASE

5.1 Milk Consumption

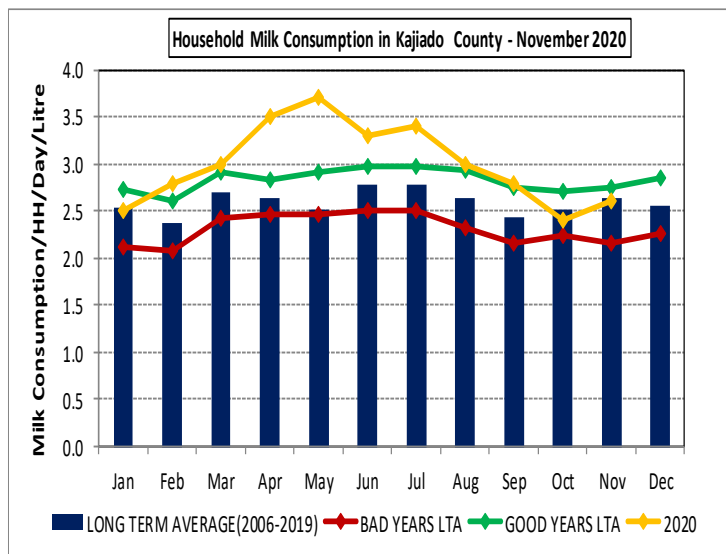


Figure 12: Trends in Milk Consumption; Kajiado 2006-2020

while in Agro-Pastoral livelihood zones the consumption was 2.6 litres.

- Milk consumption at household level increased slightly to 2.6 litres per day in the month of November comparing well with the long term average for similar period of the year (Figure 12).
- Increase in milk consumption is attributed to increased water availability and good body conditions which improved production.
- In pastoral livelihood zones, daily milk consumption was 3.0 litres

5.2 Food Consumption Score

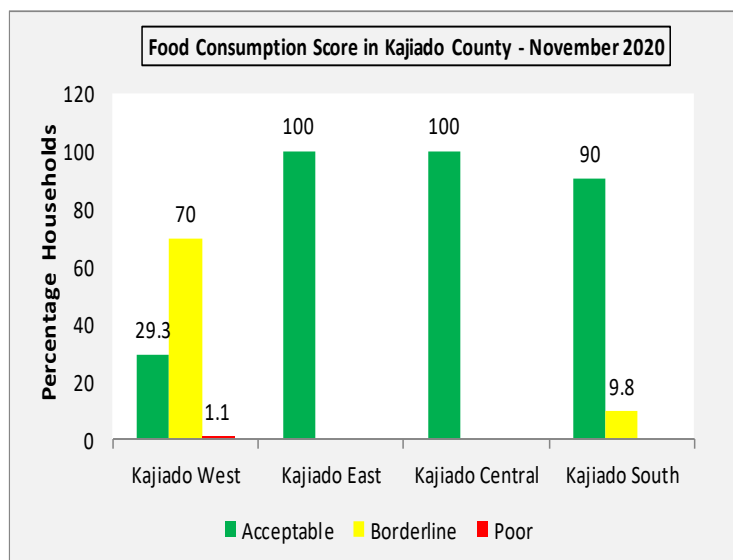


Figure 13: Food consumption score; Kajiado, November 2020

prices and reduced cereal prices thus increased access to food stuff at household level.

- On average 80% and 40% of the households fell within the acceptable and borderline food consumption score (FCS) categories respectively for November 2020 (Figure 13).
- In Kajiado West 1.1% fell under poor consumption score, implying that the households are not consuming a balanced diet and rarely consuming food rich in protein.
- The favourable FCS is attributed to improved milk production, livestock

5.3 Coping Strategies

- The average main coping strategy index (CSI) for the County has remained low and stable since January 2020, in November mean copying strategy index is 5.89.
- In the pastoral livelihood zone, CSI was 6.7 while in the agro-pastoral livelihood zone the CSI was low and stable at 2.9.
- Main coping mechanisms employed by households during the month were eating less preferred food, borrowing food, reducing the portions of food eaten.

5.4 Nutrition Status of Children aged 6-59 Months

- Since January 2020, the risk of malnutrition among the under-fives have remained below the long term average.
- In November, the proportion of children aged 6-59 months who are at risk of malnutrition is 6.8% (Figure 14). The long term average for November is 8%.
- The low risk of malnutrition is attributed to better household access to food due to favourable terms of trade and availability of milk consumption.
- Mosiro, Ewaso, Lenkism and Mbirikani wards as well as informal settlements remain hotspots areas for mulnutrition requiring close monitoring.

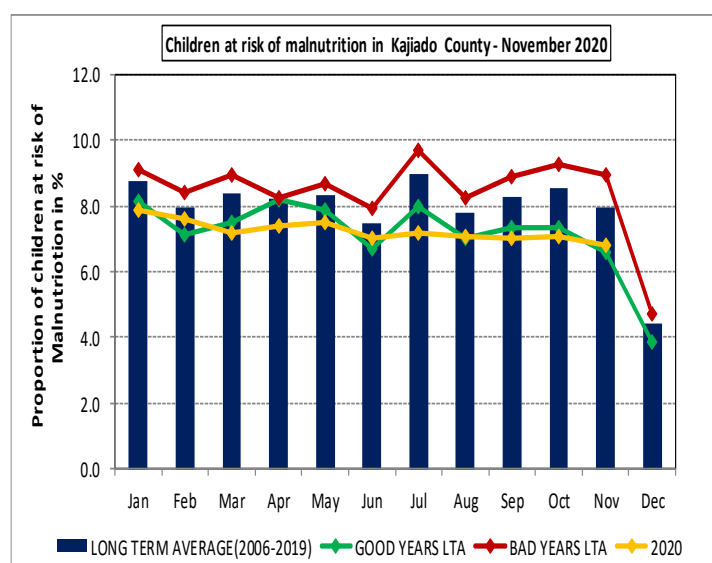


Figure 14: Risk of malnutrition for children aged 6-59 months; Kajiado, 2006-2020

5.5 Human Diseases

- The County continue to report positive cases of COVID -19 Virus.

6.0 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS, CURRENT INTERVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Food Security Prognosis

- The food security situation is currently stable with body condition of the livestock and pasture improving and remaining stable for the next two months.
- However, due to late onset and poor spatial and temporal distribution of the short rains, it is expected that the pasture regeneration will be below normal and so could crop production.
- Most of the water pans were not recharged to capacity hence the water sources will be available for household and for livestock use for a shorter duration.
- Malnutrition rates are expected to remain low below long term means due the extensive outreaches done by the health farcialities and favourable terms of trade which has improved food access at market.
- The food consumption score of households is also expected to improve due to diverse food stuff.

6.2 On going Interventions

- Water trucking in Kajiado South (Lenkism/Entonet, Mbirikani Wards) and Kajiado West (Magadi ward); *by County Government.*
- Construction of Olooichumari water pan; *by National Drought Management Authority in collaboration with County government of Kajiado and financial support from European Union.*
- Routine active and passive disease surveillance - *by County Government*

6.3 Recommendations for Action

- Community sensitization to adherence of COVID-19 safety measures; *by County government and partners.*
- Deworming, vaccination campaign against Contagious Bovine Plueropneumonia (CBPP), Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia(CCPP) and Lumpy Skin Disease - *Action by County Government (Veterinary services) in collaboration with National Drought Management Authority and partners.*
- Continuous Livestock and human disease surveillance - *Action: Veterinary services and Ministry of health respectively*
- Update/review ward contingency plans/action plans for timely response and building of community resilience- *Action by National Drought Management Authority and partners.*