

National Drought Management Authority
KAJIADO COUNTY
DROUGHT MONITORING AND EARLY WARNING JUNE 2018



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



JUNE EW PHASE

Drought Status: NORMAL



Shughuli za kawaida

Early Warning Phase Classification

LIVELIHOOD ZONE	EW PHASE	TRENDS
PASTORAL	NORMAL	STABLE
AGRO-PASTORAL	NORMAL	STABLE
MIXED FARMING	NORMAL	STABLE
COUNTY	NORMAL	STABLE

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- ✓ Water is adequately available. Both surface and underground water sources were adequately recharged during the long rains season.
- ✓ The vegetation greenness was above the long term average for the month of June.

Production Indicators

- ✓ Livestock body condition was good and stable for all species; they are fat with smooth appearance.
- ✓ Household daily milk production was significantly below the long term average during this time of the year.

Access indicators

- ✓ The terms of trade were above the last three years average and expected to remain stable for the next three months.
- ✓ Milk consumption was low due to low production.

Utilization Indicators

- ✓ Most of the households were consuming acceptable diet.
- ✓ The risk of malnutrition for under-fives was above the long-term average with a declining trend.

Biophysical Indicators	Observed Value/Range	Normal Range/LTA
State of water	Adequate	Adequate
3-monthly VCI	91.32	35 – 50
Production Indicators	Observed Value/Trend	Normal Range
Cattle body condition	Good	Good
Household milk production per day	3 lt	5-6 lt
migration pattern	No migration	No migration
Access Indicators	Observed Value	Long Term Average
Terms of trade	72 kg of maize/goat	57 kg of maize/goat
Household milk Consumption per day	2 lt	3-4 lt
Distance to water source	Livestock	2.8 km
	Household	3.5 km
3.9 km		
Utilization indicators	Value	Long Term Average
MUAC (% <135 mm)	11.4%	9.8%

<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"> ▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ 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

- No rains were received in the county in June. This is normal for the county (Figure 1).
- The rainfall performance for the long rains was good; exceedingly above normal rainfall whose onset was early, even spatial distribution and normal cessation.
- Good rainfall performance during the long rains positively affected a number of other sectors.

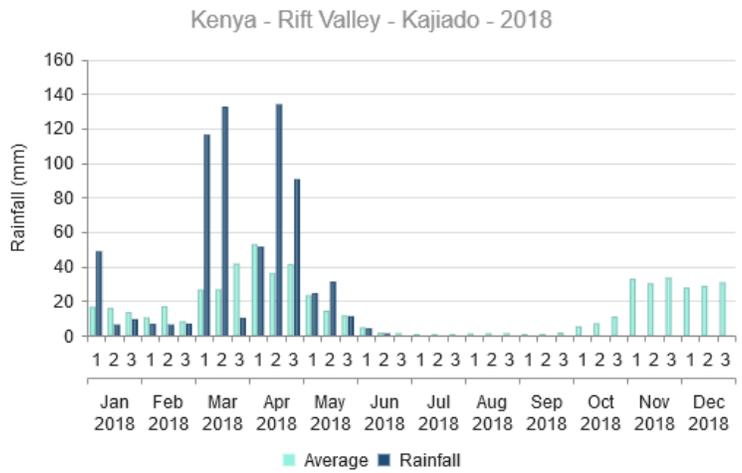


Figure 1: Rainfall performance; Kajiado County

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 Vegetation Condition

- The county vegetation greenness in June was above the long term average for similar period of the year (Figure 2).
- In June the vegetation condition index (VCI) was 91.32 and 82.78 in May. This indicates that the comparative vegetation greenness in June was higher than in May.
- The above normal vegetation greenness in the county since April was occasioned by unusually heavy rainfall that the county received during March-May period.
- All the sub-county had above normal vegetation greenness and was expected to remain so for the next two months.

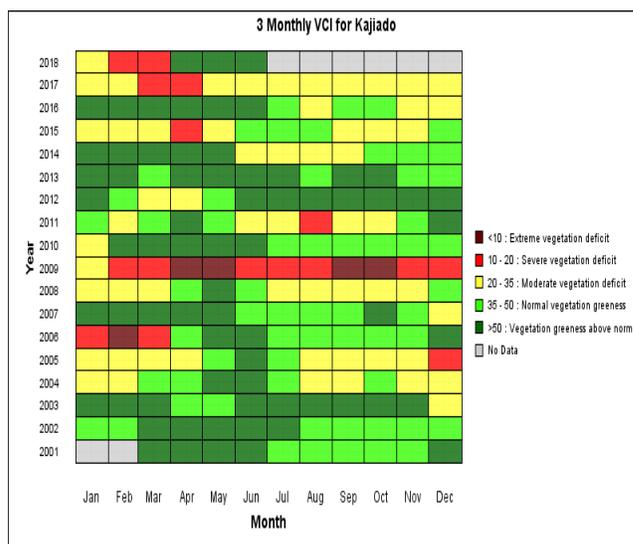


Figure 2: 3-monthly VCI Matrix; Kajiado, 2001 - 2018

2.2 Pasture and Browse Condition

- Pasture and browse was good in all parts of the county in June. Forage regenerated above normal in April following the rains and remained so during April-June period.
- The availability pasture and browse in all parts of the county, coupled with the current low tropical livestock units would make it last for at least the next three months.

2.3 Water Sources

- Majority (39.2%) of communities in the county reported pans as the main source of water in June (Figure 3).

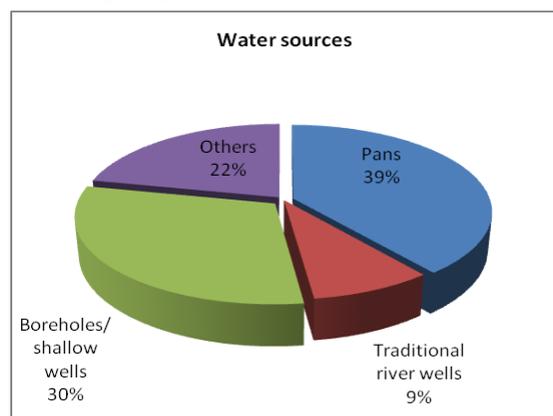


Figure 3: Water sources; Kajiado, June 2018

- Pans were still holding water after heavy rains that the county experienced during March-May period.
- Water from most of the pans was unsafe for human consumption.
- Other sources of water during the month were streams/rivers and piped water systems.

- Most pans were expected to hold water for the next one month.

2.4 Households Water Access and Utilization

- Water for domestic use was adequate in April-June period. In June, the return distance to water sources was 3.5 km and 3.2 km in May (Figure 4).
- The current distance is shorter than the long term average for the same period of the year.
- In mixed farming zones, households trekked around two kilometres to fetch water.
- It is important to note that the water quality especially from pans was low thus outbreaks of waterborne diseases were probable.

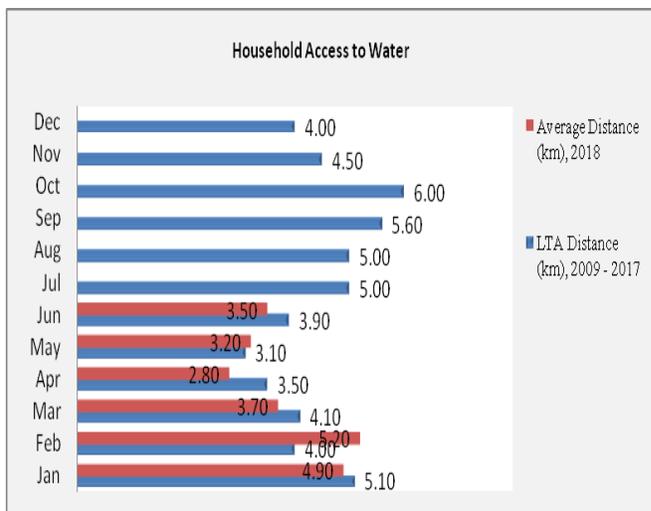


Figure 4: Average return distance from homesteads to water sources; Kajiado, 2009 - 2018

2.5 Livestock Access to Water

- The distance that livestock covered from grazing fields to watering points remained stable at less than 3 km since March (Figure 5) with no livelihood variation. This was after adequate recharge of pans during the rainy season. In June this distance was 2.8 km.
- Livestock were now being watered daily.
- Most of the pans can hold water for the next one month. Thus, the distance and watering frequency was expected to remain nearly the same for the next month.

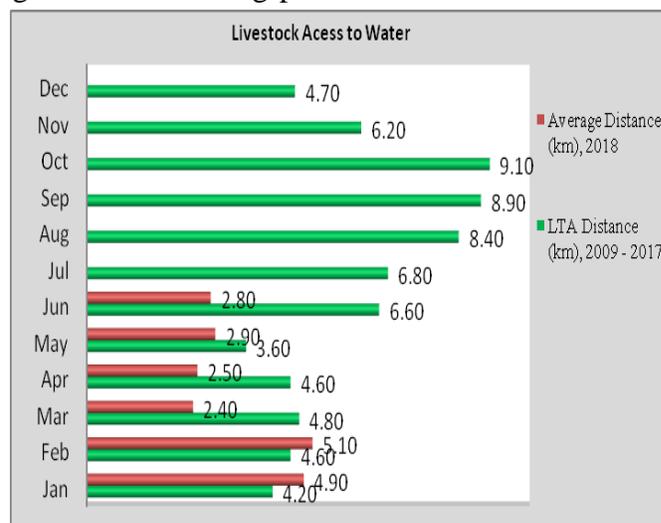


Figure 5: Average return distance from grazing fields to water sources; Kajiado, 2009 - 2018

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Livestock body condition was normal in May and June across livelihoods. There was slight improvement in June compared to May. In June most livestock were fat with good smooth appearance.
- Livestock body condition was expected to remain good for the next three months as pasture, browse and water was adequately available for them.

3.2 Livestock Diseases

- Cases of Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia(CCPP), Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and Blue Tongue continue to be reported across the county for more than a year now.

3.3 Livestock Mortalities

- There were no reports of unusual livestock mortalities during the month of June.

3.4 Livestock Migration

- There was no livestock migration in June. At similar month last year, cattle had already migrated to the neighbouring counties.
- Livestock were not expected to migrate outside the county within the next three months.

3.5 Milk Production

- There was a slight improvement in milk production in June compared to May. In June and May, the household milk production was three litres and two litres respectively.
- In a good year, the household milk production in June is five to six litres. Low milk production in April-June period this year was due to low calving and kidding coupled with low tropical livestock unit. Pastoralist lost more than half of their livestock during the 2015/2018 drought.

3.6 Rain-fed Crop Production

- By the end of June, about 60% of the area planted with beans had been harvested. Beans yield is projected to be normal for the season.
- Green maize was available from local farms. Maize yield was projected to be about 60% of the long term average due to the Fall Army Worm invasion.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 Livestock Marketing

- Shompole, Kiserian, Ilbisil, Kimana and Rombo are the main livestock markets in the county. In June these markets were in normal operation.

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- The prices of cattle continue to increase since March probably due to continuous improvement of their body condition. In June, the average market price of a mature bull was Ksh. 21,600 and Ksh. 20,800 in May (Figure 6).
- No significant livelihood variation in prices of cattle in that was observed in June.
- The current price is similar to the long term average for similar period.
- Prices of cattle were expected to stabilize for the next three months.

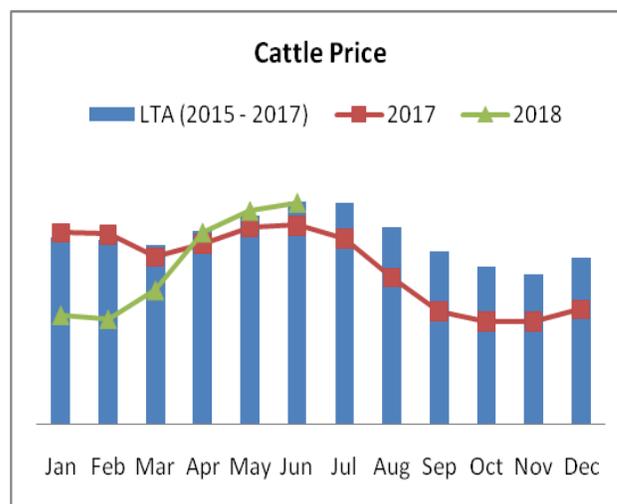


Figure 6: Trends in cattle price; Kajiado, 2015-2018

4.1.2 Goats Prices

- The average market price of a two-year-old goat increased slightly from Ksh. 3,190 in April to Ksh. 3,250 in June (Figure 7) with no significant livelihoods variations.
- Although body condition for goats is good and has stabilized, other factors such as increase demand may push their prices slightly higher and above normal for the next two months.

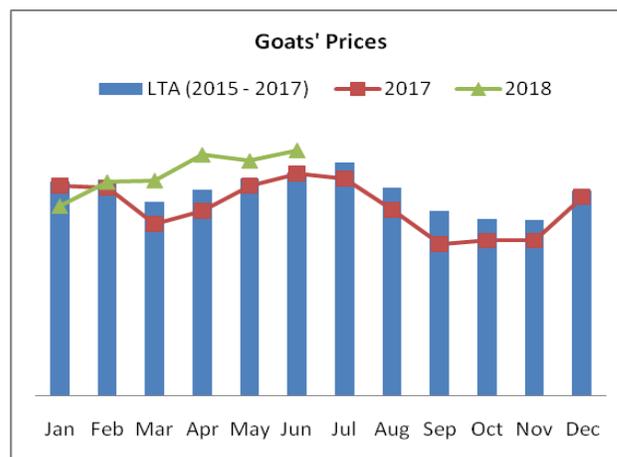


Figure 7: Average price of goats; Kajiado County, 2015-2018

4.2 Prices of Cereals and Legumes

4.2.1 Maize Prices

- The average retail price of maize ranged from Ksh. 35 per kilogram in Mixed farming areas of Loitokitok where green maize is available to Ksh. 50 per kilogram.

- The county average price of maize is Ksh. 45 per kilogram (Figure 8).
- The average price of maize is expected to stabilize below the long term average due to expected harvest of the crop within and outside the county.

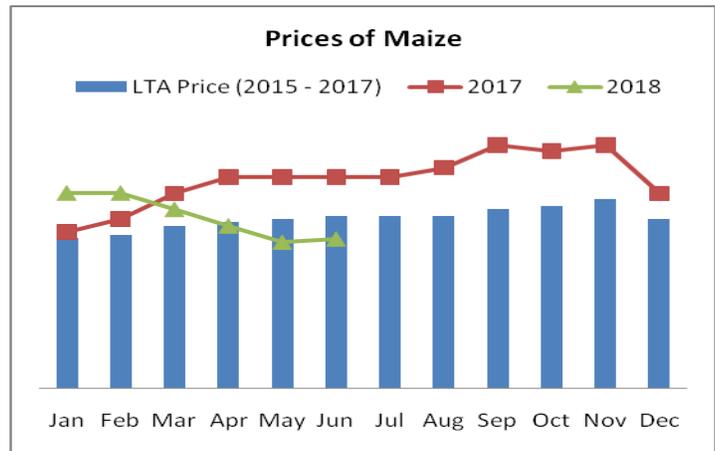


Figure 8: Average prices of maize; Kajiado 2015-2018

4.2.2 Beans Prices

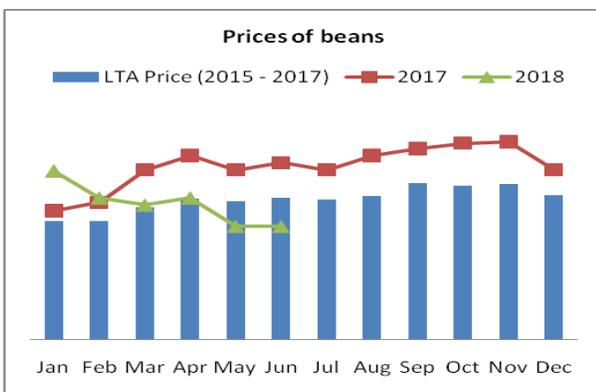


Figure 9: Average prices of beans; Kajiado, 2015 - 2018

- The retail price of beans ranged from Ksh.30 per kilogram in Mixed farming areas where the crop is being harvested to Ksh.100 per kilogram in Pastoral areas.
- The county average price of beans is Ksh.80 per kilogram (Figure 9) and was likely to stabilize at that price.
- The current average price is lower than that of the last three years.

4.3 Prices of Milk

- The average price of milk remains high at Ksh.50 per litre since May due to low production. In a good year, the average price of milk is Ksh.40 per litre.

4.4 Terms of Trade

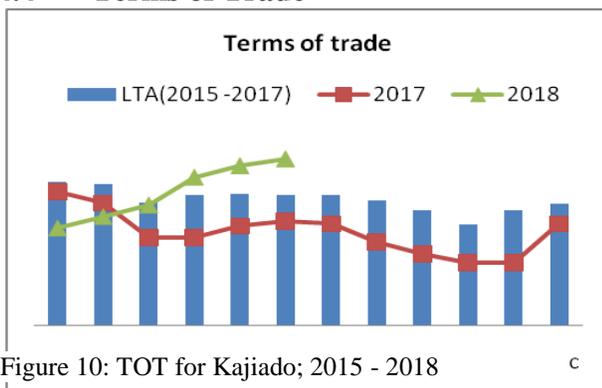


Figure 10: TOT for Kajiado; 2015 - 2018 c

- Increasing prices of goats against the stable prices of food stuffs resulted into improved terms of trade (TOT) from 69 kg of maize per goat in May to 72 kg of maize per goat in June (Figure 10).
- The long term average TOT is 57 kg of maize per goat. TOT was likely to stabilize above the long term average.

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS AND DISEASE

5.1 Milk Consumption

- The average household milk consumption in May and June was about two litres a day. The long term average milk consumption per household is about four litres a day.
- Currently, milk is being consumed by all members of the household.
- Milk production was low and consumption was also likely to remain low for the next two months.

5.2 Food Consumption Score

- Nearly half (47.3%) of the households in Kajiado west were neither consuming acceptable or poor diet (were at borderline) (Figure 11). Milk production and consumption in the sub-county is very low.
- Over all, most of the households in the county were now consuming acceptable diet.
- Dietary intake will probably improve further given that the crop yields within the county and the neighbouring counties were expected to be normal or near normal for the current long rains season

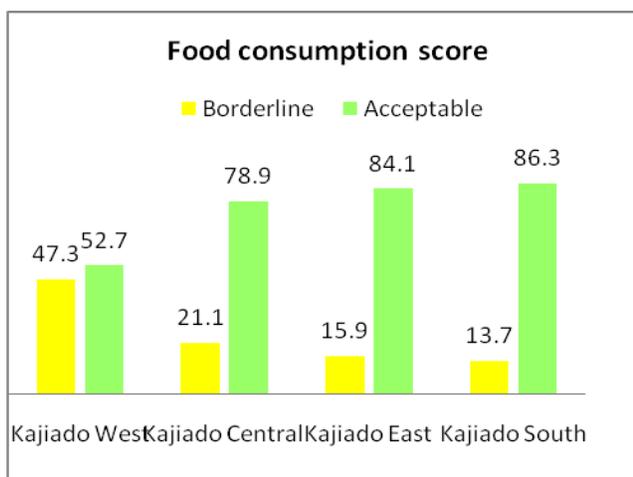


Figure 11: Food consumption score; Kajiado County, 2018

5.3 Coping Strategies

- Use of less expensive food was the main consumption based coping strategy for most of households especially in pastoral areas in June.
- The average strategy index for the county was 11 indicating normal coping strategies. In Mixed farming areas, coping strategy index was as low as 0.7.

5.4 Nutrition Status of Children aged 6-59 Months

- Improvement in dietary intake among the general population in the county resulted in reduction of

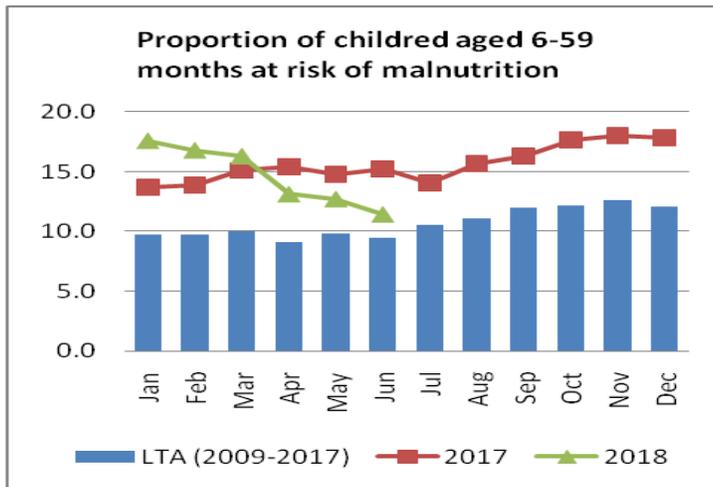


Figure 12: Risk of malnutrition for children aged 6-59 months; Kajiado, 2009 - 2018

risk of malnutrition among under-fives from 16.3% in March to 11.4% in June (Figure 12).

- The current risk of malnutrition is higher than the long term average of 9.5%
- The availability of food stuffs was likely to diversify dietary intake and further reduce the risk of malnutrition in the next one month.

5.5 Human Diseases

- Several incidences of fever were reported among the under-fives. There were also reports of unconfirmed cases of cholera in Meto.

6.0 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS, CURRENT INTERVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Food Security Prognosis

- The available pasture and browse across the county would probably last for the next three months given the low tropical livestock units among pastoralists. Water is also available.
- Except for milk, livestock productivity was likely to remain normal for the next three months.
- The yields for the long rains season will probably be normal or near normal. Foodstuffs were therefore likely to be available and affordable as well. Among other things, this will improve the dietary intake and subsequently the nutritional status of under-fives.
- The county was therefore likely to remain food secure for the next three to six months.

6.2 On going Interventions

- Human and livestock disease surveillance; by county government.
- Routine extension services; by the relevant departments.
- Development of wards contingency plans and updating the county contingency plan; by National Drought Management Authority.

6.3 Recommendations for Action

- Vaccination campaign against Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia(CCPP), Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and Blue. *Action by County Government (Veterinary services) in collaboration with National Drought Management Authority and partners.*
- Community dialogues to reflect on the recent drought and document the lessons learnt. *Action by National Drought Management Authority and other partners*
- Training of communities on various value addition and alternative livelihoods. *Action by National Drought Management Authority and other partners.*
- Repair of infrastructure including roads and boreholes that were damaged by the heavy rains. *Action by County Government.*