

National Drought Management Authority

GARISSA COUNTY

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR APRIL 2018



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



APRIL EW PHASE



Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- Normal to above normal well distributed in time and space rainfall was received during the month
- The average greenness for the county as per the vegetation condition index for 3 months increased from 12.63 to 45.5, from severe vegetation deficit category to normal greenness
- 91.1% of households sampled reported good pasture while 8.9% reported fair pasture condition
- Water sources currently in use are boreholes, River Tana, Benane spring and water pans. Higher percentage of both livestock and household depend on water pans and natural depression.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- 91.1% of sampled households reported good livestock body condition, 8.5% reported fair body condition and 0.4% reported poor body condition.
- The terms of trade recorded at 41.7kg of maize per sale of goat and was not favourable to pastoralist.
- No livestock migration was reported
- The current average livestock return distances from grazing field to water sources was 5km.
- The malnutrition rate of children under five years mid at risk levels was 18.1%, moderately malnourished level was 0.9% while severely malnourished category reduced to 1.8.

Early Warning Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Normal	Improving
Pastoral cattle/sheep	Normal	Improving
Pastoral-all species	Normal	Improving
County	Normal	Improving
Biophysical Indicators	value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	Nil	80 -120
VCI-3Month	45.5	>35
Forage condition	Good	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	2-3	1
Milk Production	1.8	36litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	41.7	>66
Milk Consumption	1.4	36 litres
Return distance to water sources	5	<5 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	5	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status MUAC (% at High malnutrition)	5	<13.4
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)	5	<20
Food Consumption Score		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ migrations ▪ Land preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ High Calving Rate ▪ Milk Yields Increase ▪ Breeding period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long rains harvests ▪ A long dry spell ▪ Land preparation ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Kidding (Sept) ▪ Migrations ▪ Herd separations
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Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- The long rains season started on 1st Deckad of April and continued during the month of April.
- The performance was slightly above normal

1.2 AMOUNT OF RAINFALL AND SPARTIAL DISTRIBUTION

Heavy rainfall was received across the county. The rainfall was evenly distributed in time and space and is slightly above average.

2. IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1. 1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The average greenness for the county as per the vegetation condition index for 3 months increased from 12.63 to 45.5, from severe vegetation deficit category to normal greenness.
- The VCI improvement was attributed to the impact of the ongoing long rains season .
- Only Dadaab subcounty is in moderate vegetation deficit category of 33.51,
- Ijara and Fafi subcounties are in normal vegetation greenness,
- Township and Lagdera subcounties are in above normal greenness of 51.64 and 71.71 respectively.
- The margin of improvement was over 80% for most subcounties.

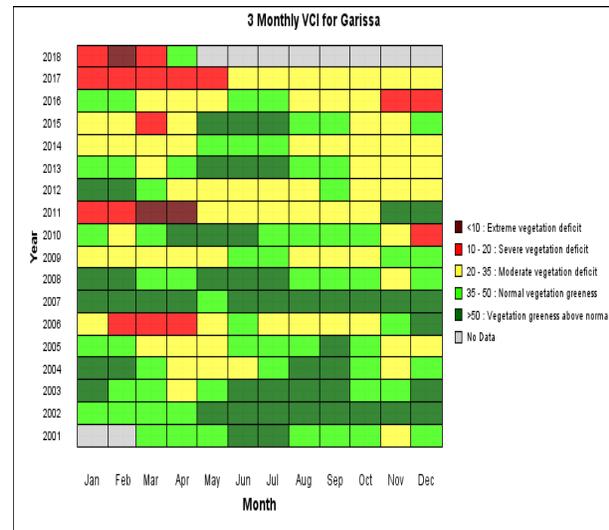
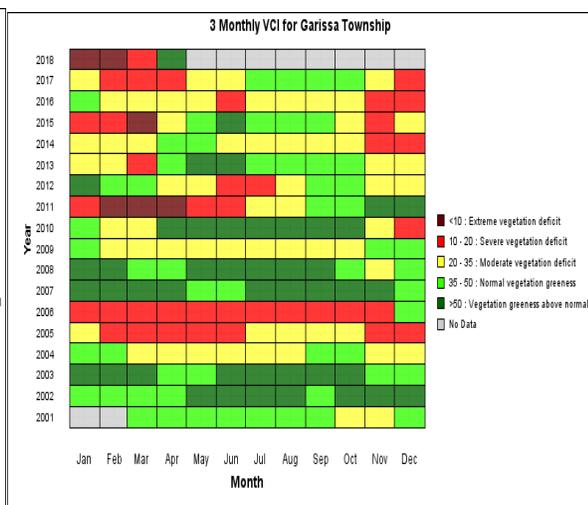
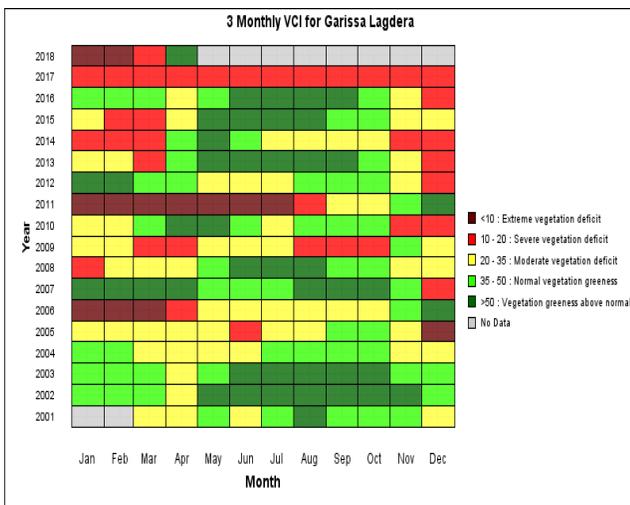


Figure1. Garissa county vegetation condition index



Figure, 2&3,: VCI Matrix for Lagdera and township sub counties, 2001 – 2018

2.2 Pasture

- 91.1% of sampled communities reported good pasture condition while 8.9 % reported fair pasture condition
- The quality and quantity of pasture condition highly improved when compared with previous month
- The improved pasture was attributed to ongoing long rains season that was received across the livelihood zones
- The pasture condition is anticipated to last for 5 months virtually in all the livelihood zones.

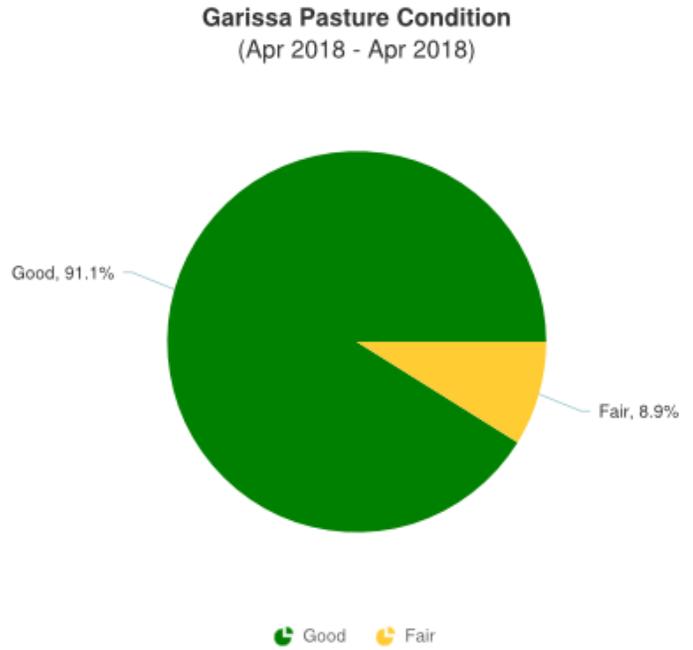


Figure 4. pasture condition

2.1.3 Browse

- 91.1 % of sampled communities reported good browse condition while 8.9 % reported fair browse condition.
- when compared with the previous month , the quantity and quality of browse in the month under review improved in all the livelihoods.
- The positive trend was due to the ongoing long rains season effect of the rains received in the month.
- The browse condition is expected to sustain the livestock farmers for 6 months in all the livelihood zones.

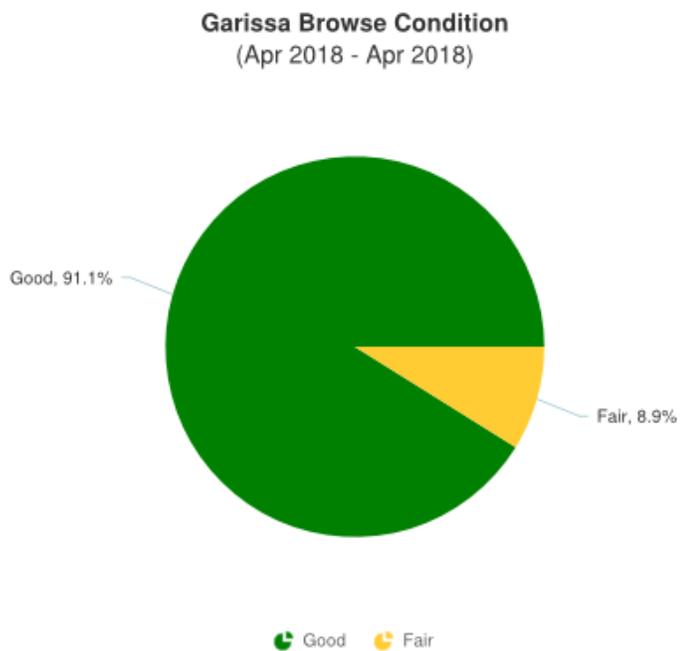


Figure 5. Browse condition

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

The current water sources are 44% water pans and dams ,22% River and 34% boreholes

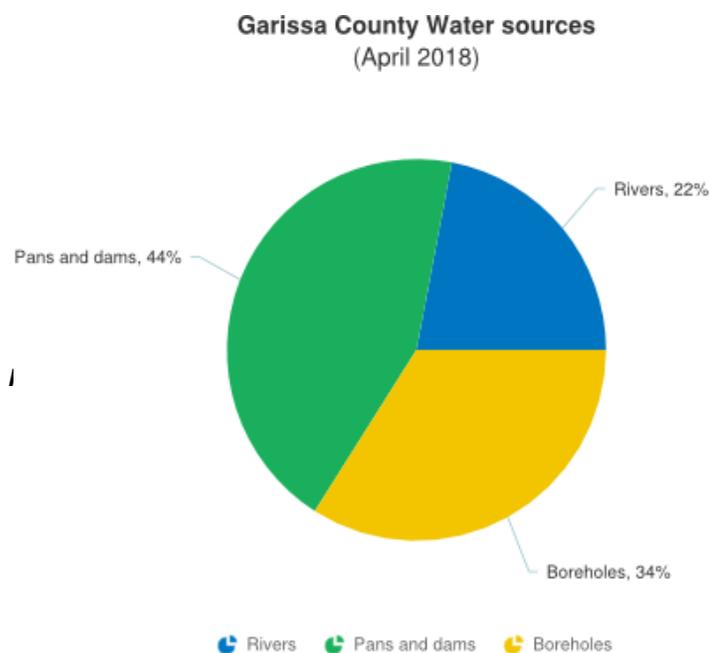


Figure 6. water sources

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

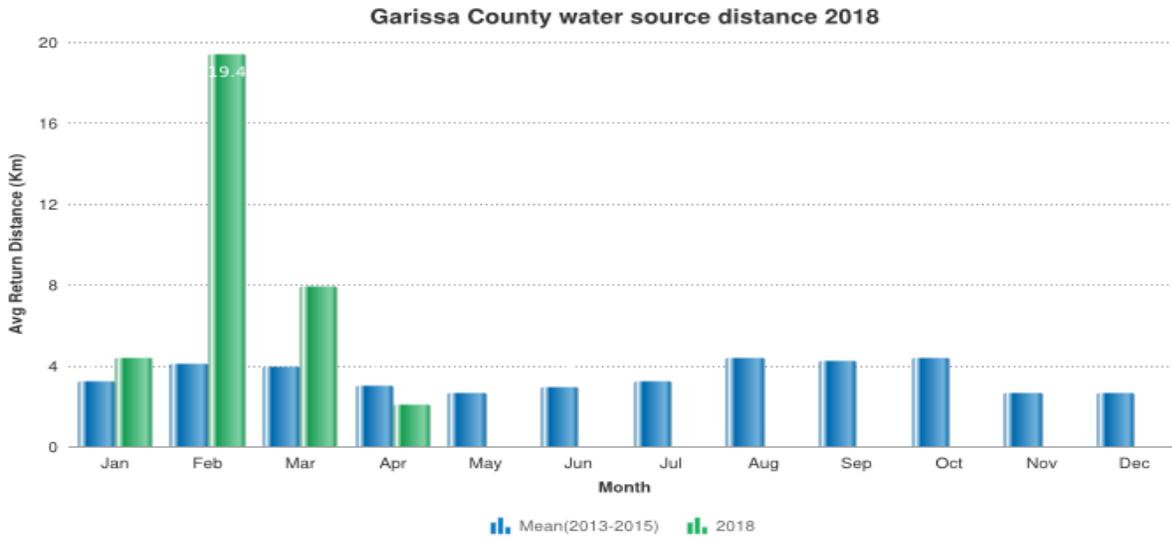


Figure 7: Distance to water sources march 2018

- The average return distances from household to water sources was 2km
- The current distance is below the long term average for the month
- The reducing distance was due to ongoing long rains season that impounded water to all water pans, natural depressions and seasonal rivers.
- Agro pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest trekking distance at 3 km while the pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the lowest distance at 1km.

2.2.3 Livestock access

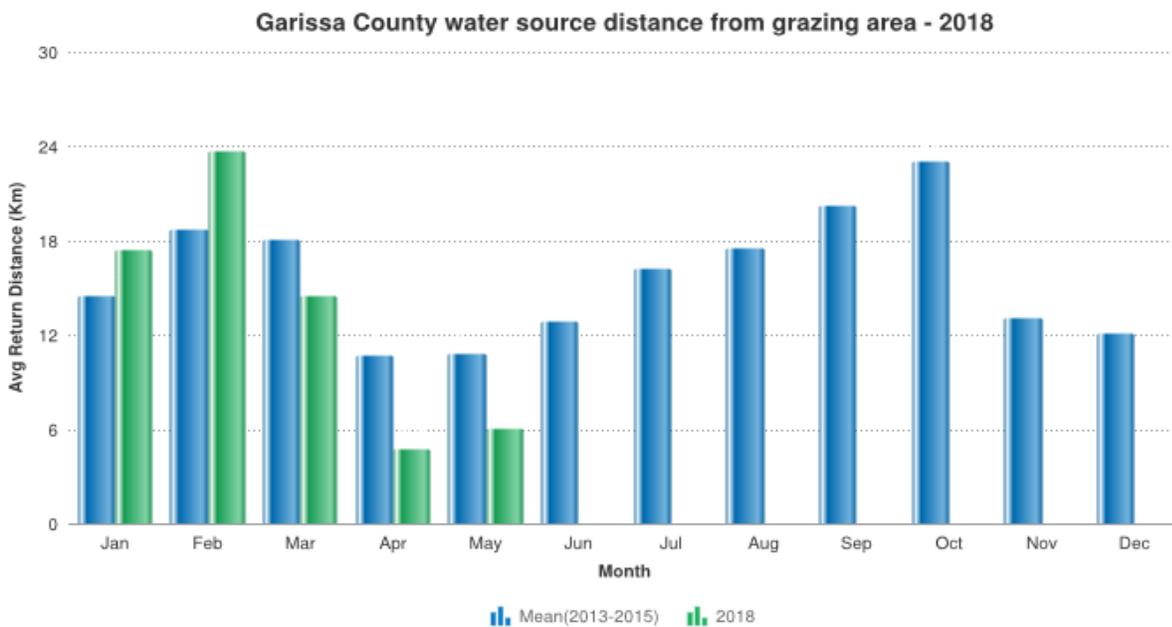


Figure 8: Garissa Livestock body condition march 2018

- The current average livestock return distances from grazing field to water sources was 5km
- When compared with previous month the return distance reduced by 65%
- The current distance is below the long term average recorded at 11km
- The watering interval for all livestock species is increased and is several within a day.
- Agro- Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest livestock trekking distance at 7km while Pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the lowest distance at 4km.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- 91.1% of sampled households reported good livestock body condition, 8.5% reported fair body condition and 0.4% reported poor body condition.
- The body condition of all species of livestock is scored 2-3 which indicated fair
- The livestock body condition improved when compared to previous month because of the impact of rains on forage condition

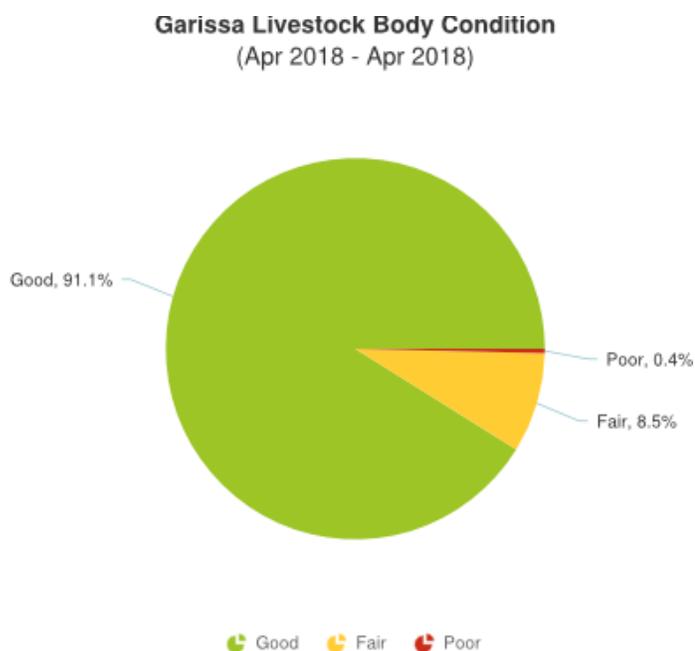


Figure.9. livestock body condition

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- There was no major outbreak of livestock diseases reported in the month under review. But there were reported cases of sheep and goat pox and contagious caprine pleuropneumonia across the livelihood zones.
- Livestock death due to diseases and predation was reported in all the livelihood zones.

3.1.3 Milk Production

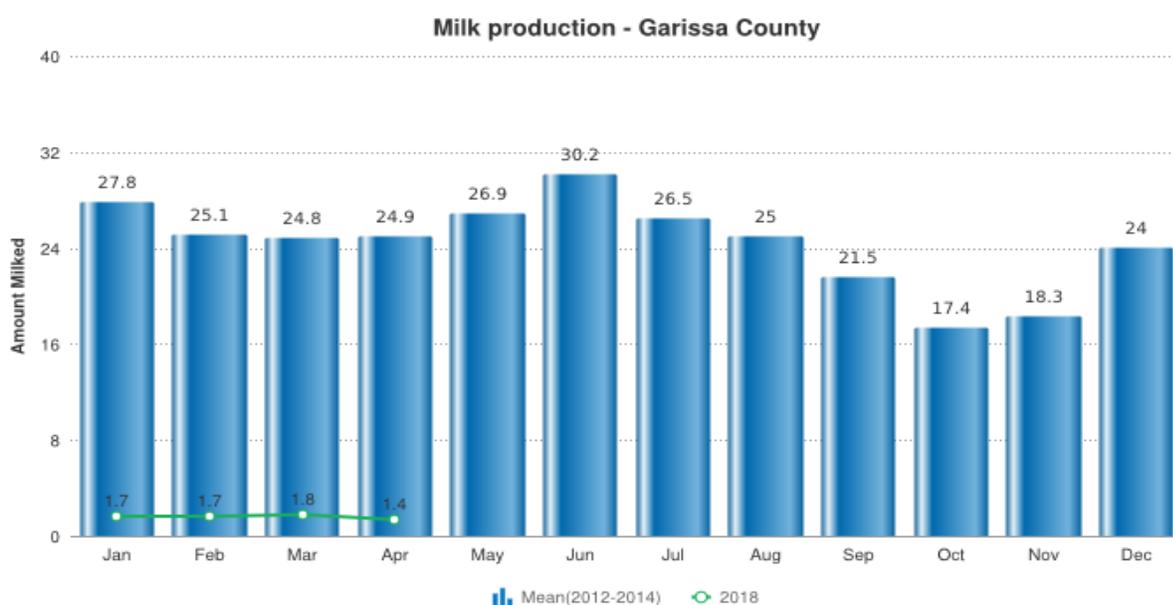


Figure 10: Trends of average milk production per households for Garissa County

- The average household milk production recorded during the month was 1.4litres
- When compared with the previous month the production level decreased by 23%.
- The trend is not normal for this period of the year; the negative trend is attributed to low calving rate due to the previous prolong drought and most herd still remain outside the homestead.
- The current milk production was below the long term average for the month (2013-2017)

- The production was the same across the livelihood zones.
- The market price of 750ml bottles is Ksh90 the same for previous month.

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

There were no crops planted in the month under review.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

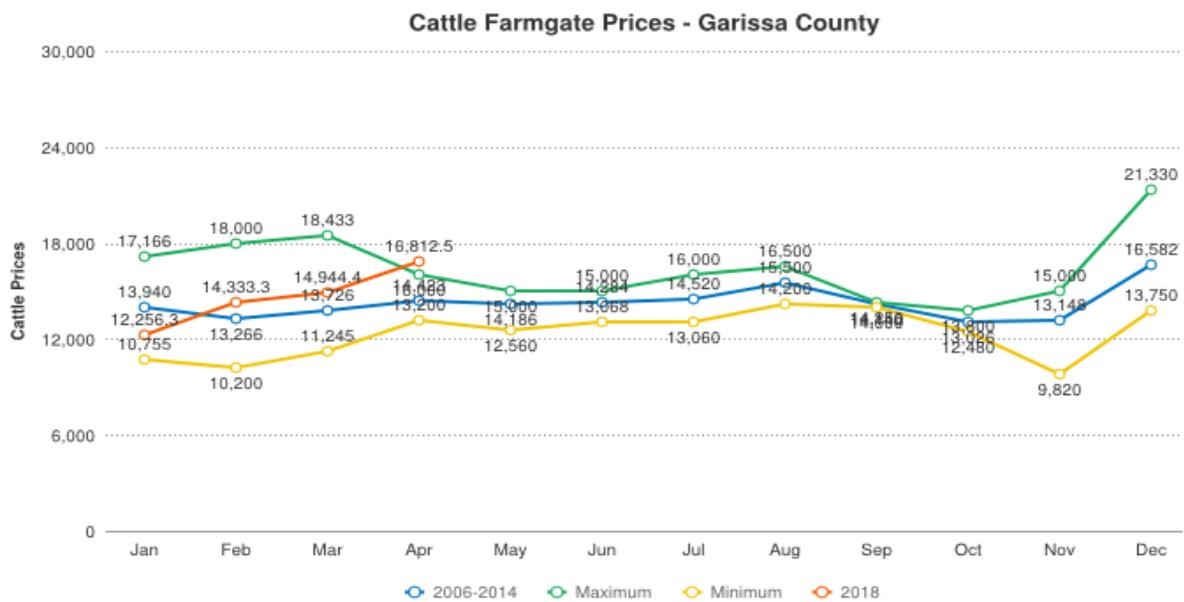


Figure 11: Trends of cattle prices for Garissa County

- The current average cattle price was ksh 16812
- When compared with previous month the price increased by 12% margin
- With the long term average, the current price is above the maximum price for the month.
- The continued increase in price was due to improving body condition and increased demand from traders due to opening up of other potential markets.
- pastoral livelihood zone has recorded the lowest price at Ksh 13,943 while pastoral all species livelihood zone fetched at Ksh 19,166.

4.1.2 Small Ruminants Prices (Goats)

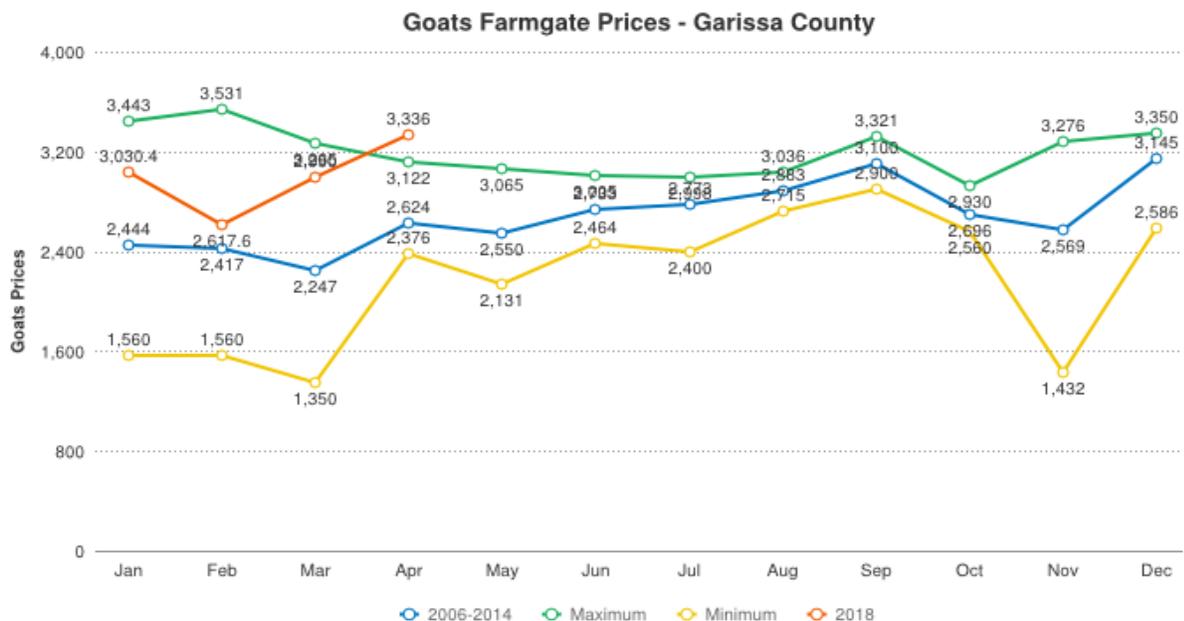


Figure 12: Trends of goat farm gate prices

- The average price of goats for the month was kshs3336
- Compared with the previous month the price increased by increased 3%.
- The increased price was attributed to improved body condition and low supply to the market due to limited access
- Agro pastoral livelihood zone had the highest Goat price at ksh 3800 while pastoral All species fetched the lowest price at ksh 2932
- The current price is above the long term average recorded at ksh 3122

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

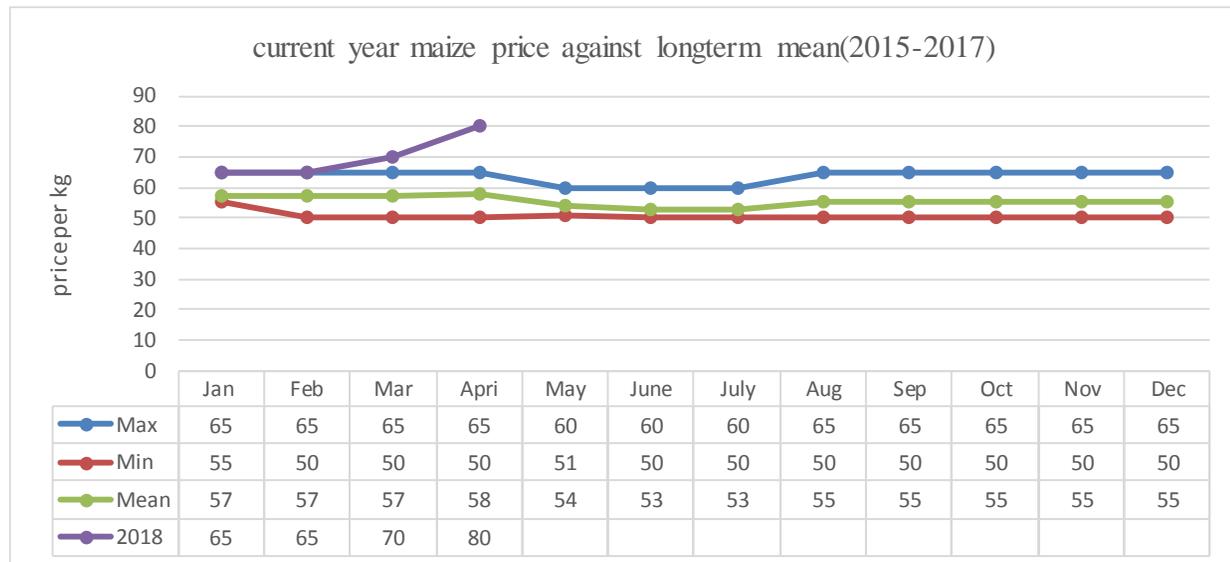


Figure 13: Trends of Maize prices for Garissa County, 2015-2017

- The average maize price for the month under review was kshs 80 per kg
- The price when compared with the previous month increased by 13%
- The current price is above the long term average recorded at ksh 58 and as well above the maximum price for the month.
- The pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest price of ksh 90 while the Agro Pastoral recorded the lowest price at ksh 70.

4.2.2 Sifted Maize Meal

- The average price for sifted maize remained is stable at ksh 100 per kg
- The current price when compared with the long term average is above the three years long term mean by 14% which is not favourable to pastoralist
- The average price recorded was the same across the livelihoods zone

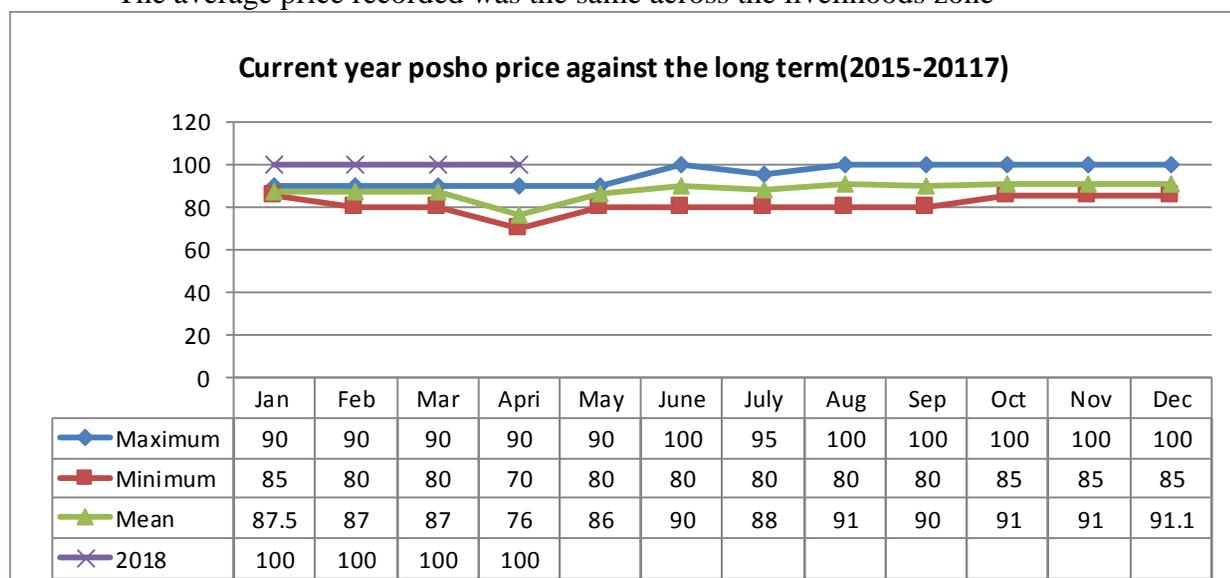


Figure 14: Trends of Sifted Maize Meal prices for Garissa County, 2015 -2017

4.2.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

- The current terms of trade for pastoralists is at 41.7 kg of maize per goat sold.
- The terms of trade is below the long term three-years average recorded at 56.25
- Agro pastoral All species livelihood zone has the highest term of trade at 56 while - Pastoral livelihood zone has the lowest terms of trade at 39kg of maize per goat sold
- The low terms of trade were due to high maize and other food commodities prices due to poor road infrastructure in the livelihood zones.

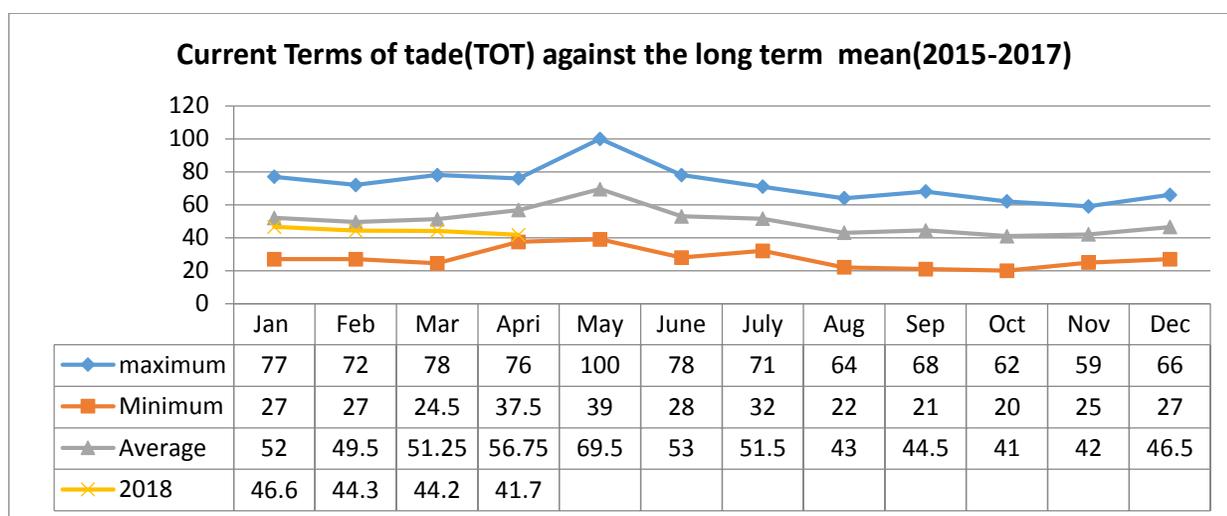


Figure 15: Trends of terms of trade for Garissa County, 2015-2017

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The proportion of households with poor food consumption score for the month was 7.4%, those with border line score 6.1% and with acceptable at 31.2%.
- Compared with the previous month the proportion of households in the poor food consumption score category reduced
- Ijara sub county has the highest proportions of households with poor food consumption at 23.3% while Lagdera sub county has no households in the poor category.
- The agro- pastoral all species livelihood zones have highest proportions of household with poor food consumption at 12% while Agro Pastoral livelihood zone has the lowest households with poor food consumption score at 2%.
- The charts below show the comparison of the food consumption score based on livelihood zones and by sub counties

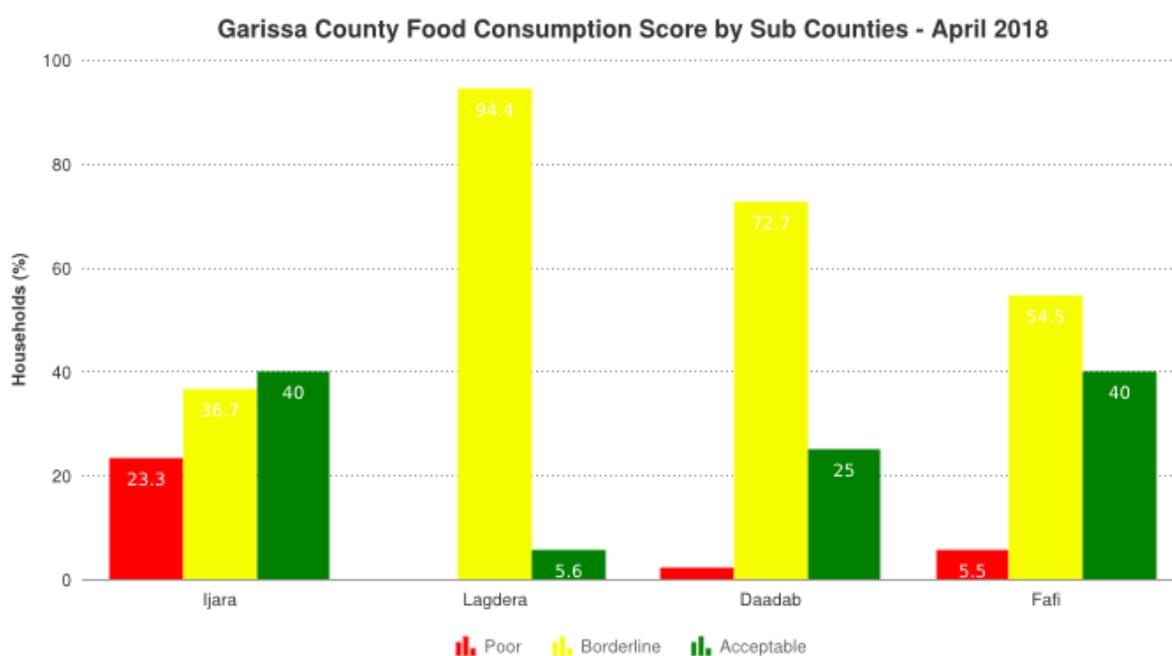


Figure 16: Garissa County food consumption score by sub county

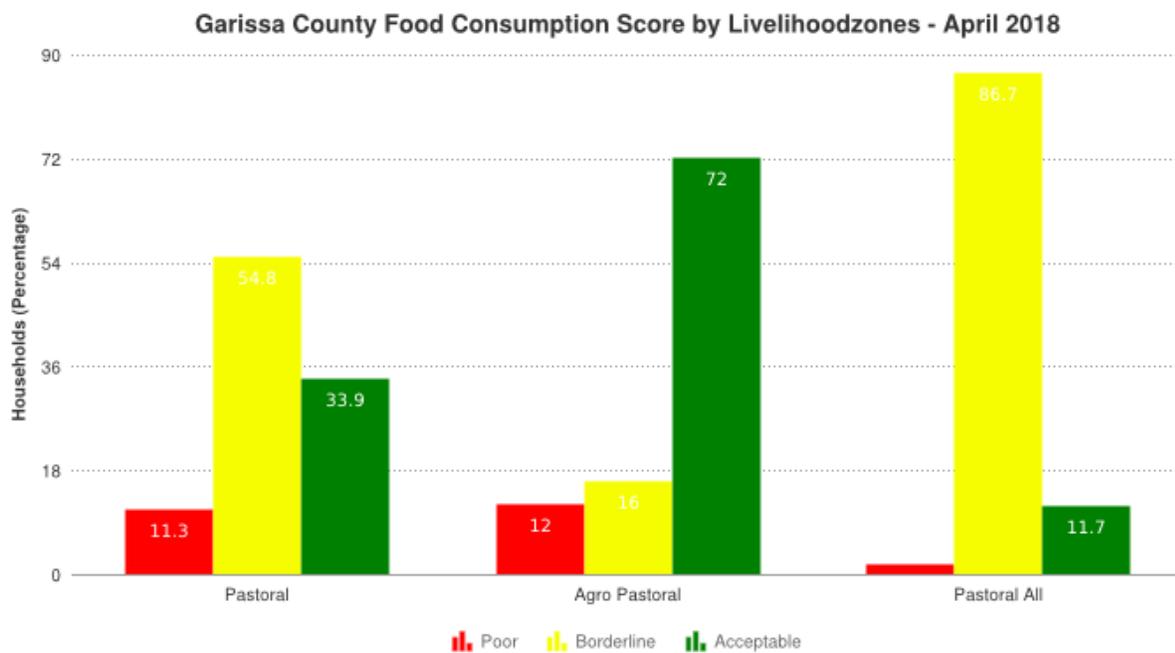


Figure 17: Garissa County food consumption score by livelihood

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The average milk consumption per household for the month was 1.4litres.
- The milk consumption indicated reduction of 12.5% when compared with previous month.
- The reducing trend was attributed to low lactation level from different livestock species and livestock herd being outside the homestead.
- The current milk consumption per household was below the long term average recorded at 19.9 litres
- Agro pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest milk consumption while Pastoral All species livelihood zone recorded the lowest milk consumption levels.

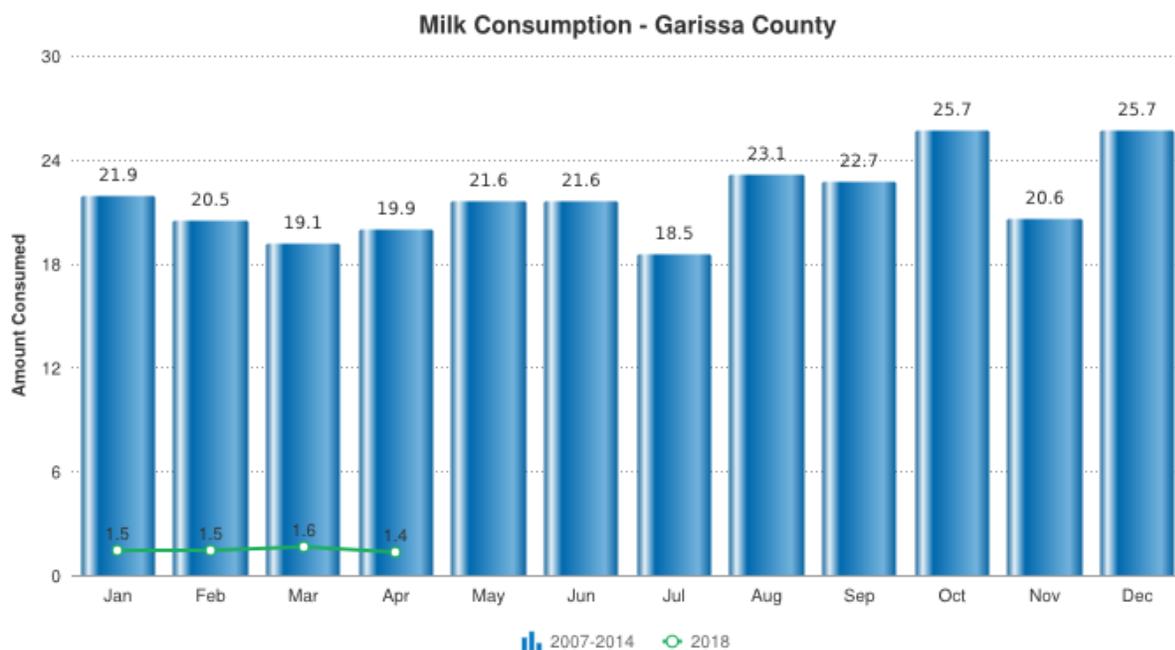


Figure 18: Trends of Milk consumption for Garissa County, 2013-2017

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The malnutrition rate of children under five years mid at risk levels was 18.1%, moderately malnourished level was 0.9% while severely malnourished category reduced to 1.8%.

- There were high children related illness that affected the health of children due to change of weather conditions from drought to heavy rains. The high malnutrition rates was also contributed by low intervention levels due to the poor road infrastructures.
- The current average malnutrition level was slightly below the long term average recorded at 16. %

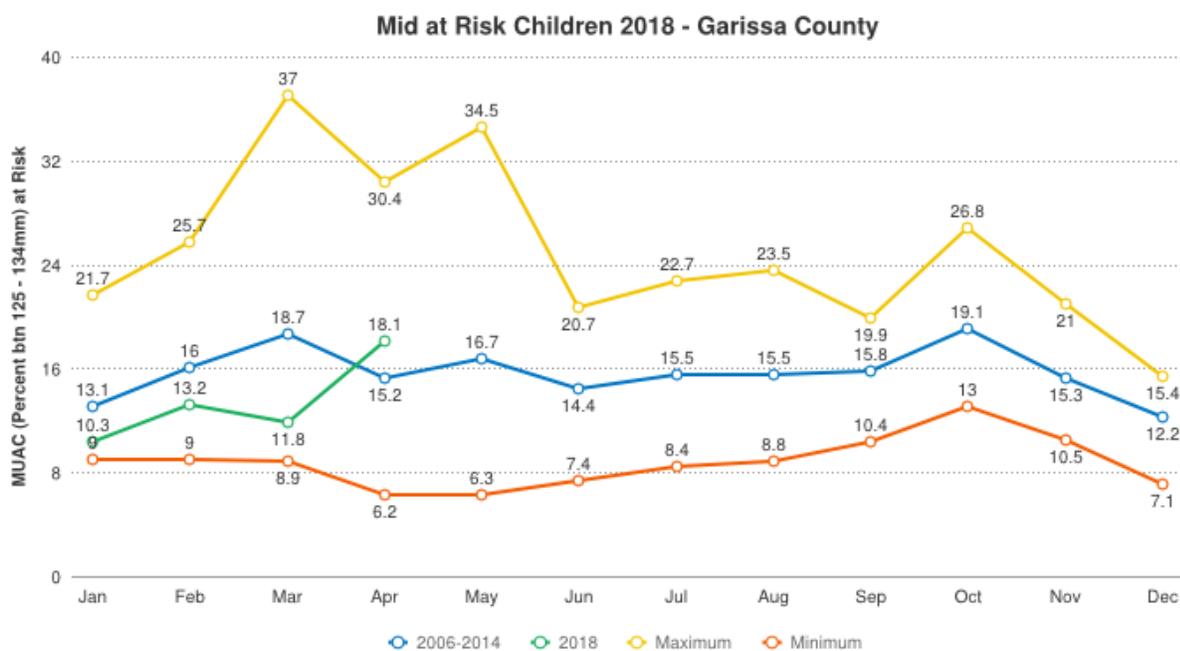


Figure 19: Trends in the proportion of US mid at risk of malnutrition in Garissa County, 2018

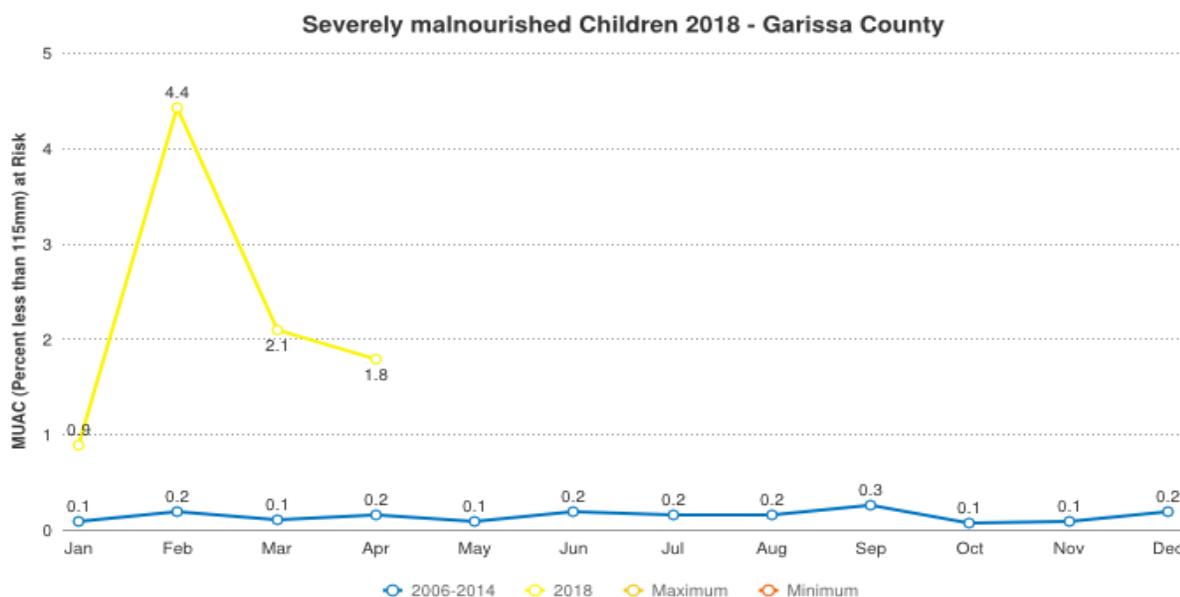


Figure 20: Trends in the proportion of US Severely malnourished children

5.3.2 Health

- There was no outbreak of human disease reported in the month under review
- However, cases of upper respiratory tract infection, diarrhoea skin infection, urinary tract infection and malaria were reported by the health facilities
- Due to the current flash floods the likely hood of water borne diseases are rising.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES INDEX

- The average coping strategies index was 5.0 in the month under review
- When compared with the previous month the index reduced from 10.82

- The pastoral livelihood zone has the highest index at 7.5 while Agro Pastoral livelihood zone recorded the lowest index at 1.9
- The graphs below indicate the mean coping strategy based on the livelihood zones.

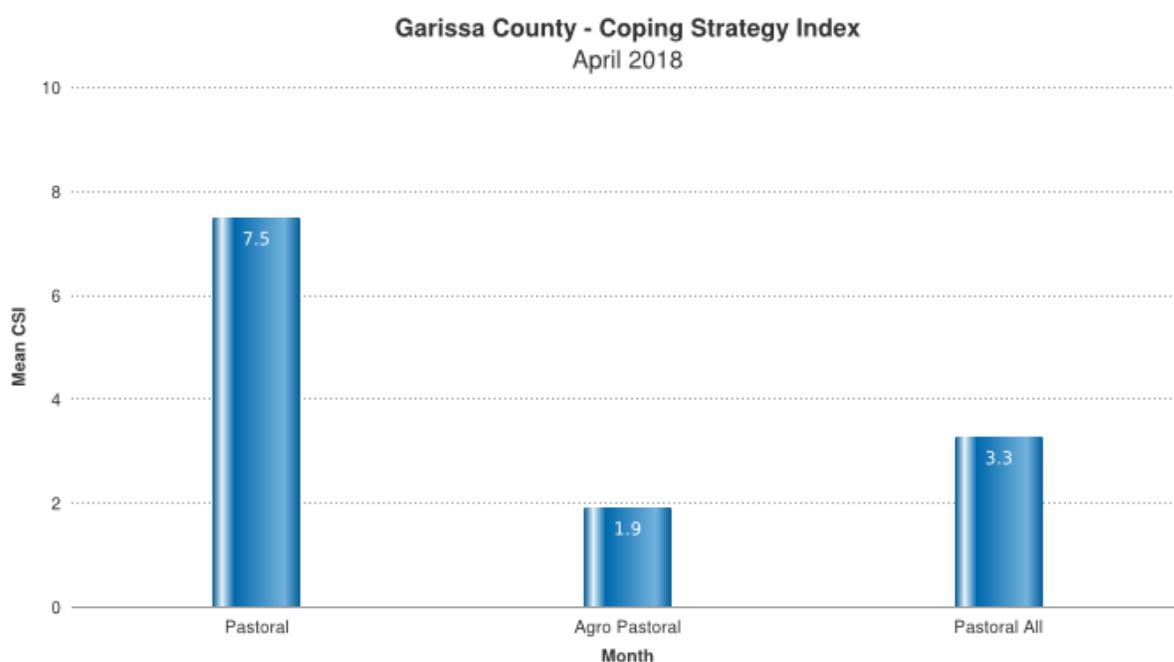


Figure 21: Trends in Coping strategy index

6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTION

Activity	Beneficiaries	Implementers
Distribution of household utensil to flood affected households	20400 persons	Krcs and partners
Management of acute malnutrition	26323 beneficiaries	MOH, Mercy USA, TDH, IRC
IYCN Interventions (EBF and Timely Intro of complementary Foods)	150715	MOH , UNICEF
Cash transfer for needy and poor households	3600	Krcs
Provision of beddings to the flood affected households	1000	County government
Cash transfer by for enhanced retention targeting Dadaab sub county .	300 pupils	WINDLE TRUST INTERNATIONAL KENYA

6.2 FOOD AID

- Supplementary feeding programme for the management of malnutrition in the health facilities targeting 2240 children and

7. EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

No conflict was reported during the month under review, however, threats of insecurity exist in the areas along the border with Somalia

7.2 Migration

- There was no livestock migration reported during the month as movement was restricted by the flash floods realised.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- The ongoing long rains season is expected to end in mid-May, with its good performance it is expected to continue improving on water situation in the county.
- The forage condition is expected to continue to improve until the end of the season and there after expected to sustain livestock production till the next season.
- The improving forage condition is expected to improve the livestock body condition hence anticipated market price increase in the next three months.
- The food security situation is expected to improve in the next three months.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provision of assorted nonfood items to displaced households along the flood affected zones.
- Provision of school meals to ECD centers that are within the schools
- Provision of water treatment chemicals and water storage tanks
- Livestock disease surveillance and vaccination against reported diseases
- Provision of food aid to households affected by floods
- Surveillance for epidemic prone diseases
- Hygiene and sanitation promotion
- Support to crop farmers on best crop practices
- Rehabilitation of road network destroyed by the flash floods