

# 2011

**Parliament**

**Research Department**



**[Umguza Constituency Profile]**

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## 1.0 Introduction

Umguza constituency is found in Matabeleland North and is part of Umguza district. This is a new parliamentary constituency that was created out of the old Bubi-Umguza constituency. The new constituency comprises of Nyamandlovu and Sawmills areas with a population of 61 045 people spread out within 15 wards. The constituency falls within agricultural region 5; hence food insecurity is common in the area. The most suitable agricultural farming for the area is animal ranching. Poverty incidence was pegged at between 62 to 96% in 2003 according to the 2003 Poverty Assessment Study Survey. As a result most of the people especially the youth work in South Africa and in the process send remittances back home to assist their families or relatives.

## 2.0 Population Distribution

The constituency has 61 045 people, comprising of 32 755 males and 28 290 females. The constituency comprises of 16 067 households, with an average household size of 4 people. According to the 2008 ZEC Delimitation Report, the constituency has 31 712 registered voters, making up 53% of the total population. Each ward has an average of 2114 voters. The constituency has 53% males and 47% females which is uncharacteristic of the national gender distribution. Figure 1 below shows the gender distribution per ward. Ward 12 and 18 have the least number of people whilst ward 2 and 16 has the highest number of people especially males.

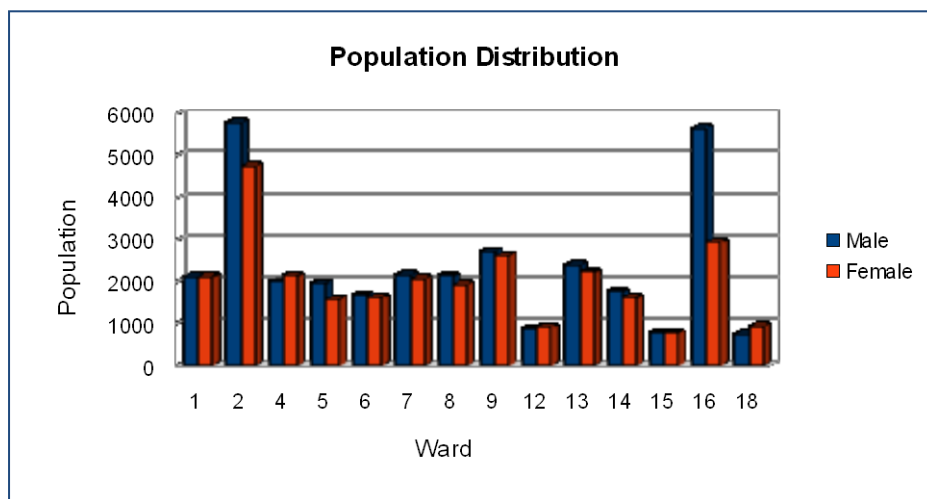


Figure 1: Population Distribution by Gender

### 3.0 Education

#### 3.1 Primary Schools

There are 33 primary schools in the constituency with a total of 7046 students. This is composed of 3 600 boys and 3 446 girls. The average teacher to pupil ratio is 1:30 which is slightly above the recommended of 1:28 by the United Nations. Almost 50% of the schools were built before independence, with the oldest school having been built in 1905. There are 2 private, 3 mission, 1 government and 27 council owned schools. The constituency has 230 teachers of which 219 are trained. None of the schools have double sessions, an indication that there is adequate infrastructure. Most of the schools except for Wards 1, 2 and 19 have at least one or more primary schools. On literacy levels, the 2002 census report indicates that Umguza district has 5 293 people between the ages of 3-24 years who have never been to school representing about 8,6% of the total population.

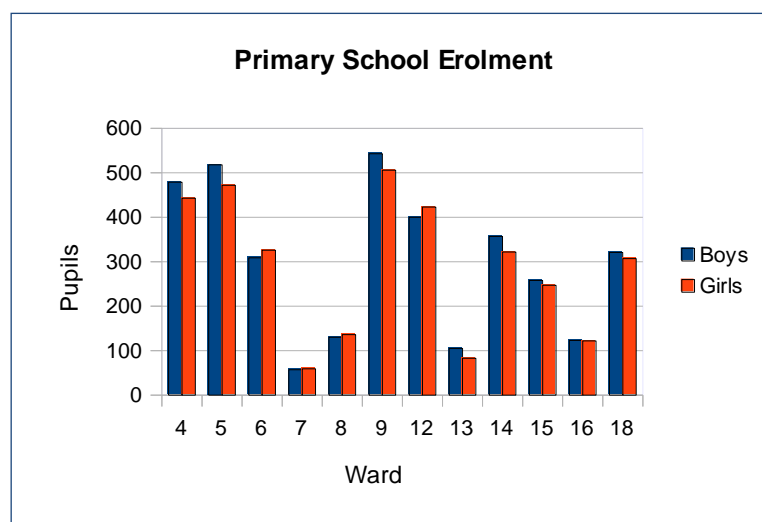


Figure 2: Enrolment by Gender

#### 3.2 Secondary Schools

There are 10 secondary schools in the constituency with a total enrolment of 5 760 students of which 57% are girls. There are 3 schools which were built before independence and 2 of the recently built schools have not yet been registered with the Ministry of Education. On ownership; 4 are mission, 1 is government and 5 are council owned. Three of the schools have boarding facilities. However, none of

the schools have A' level facilities. Out of the 169 teachers, 11 are not trained. The teacher to pupil ratio stands at 1:34 and is fairly reasonable.

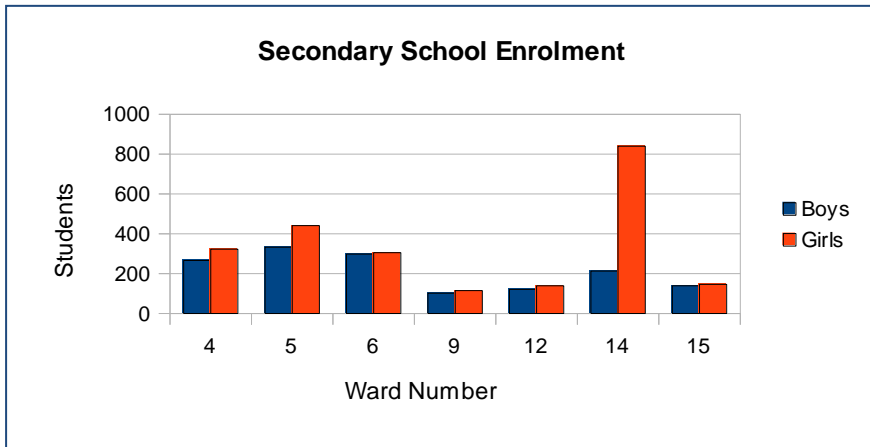


Figure 3: Enrolment by Gender

#### 4.0 Health

The constituency has 10 health facilities, including one district hospital, 3 clinics and the rest are rural health centres. Three of the clinics and one rural health centre are privately owned whilst the other 6 are shared equally between the government and RDC. Wards 2 and 14 have 2 health facilities each whilst the other wards 1, 4, 7, 14 and 19 have one each. However, there is no doctor in the constituency even at the district hospital, Nyamandlovu which is expected to have at least one doctor. There are 24 nurses distributed at the various health facilities with Nyamandlovu district hospital having the highest number of 12.

#### 5.0 Veterinary Services

There are 39 dip tanks and 2 animal health centres in the constituency, serving a total livestock census of 23 801. However, there are number of challenges in this sector with 15 dip tanks in need of roofing and 4 having inadequate water. The constituency also requires an additional 4 dip tanks and 2 dip kraals.

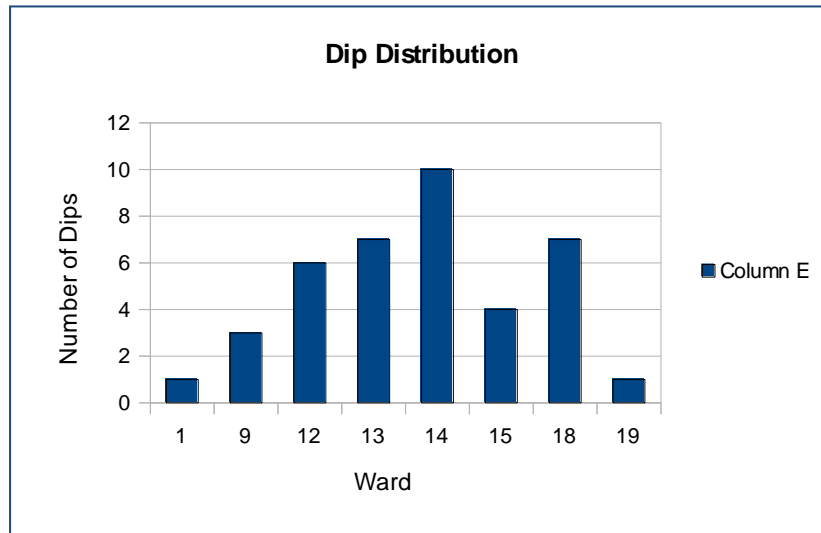


Figure 4: Dips Distribution by Ward

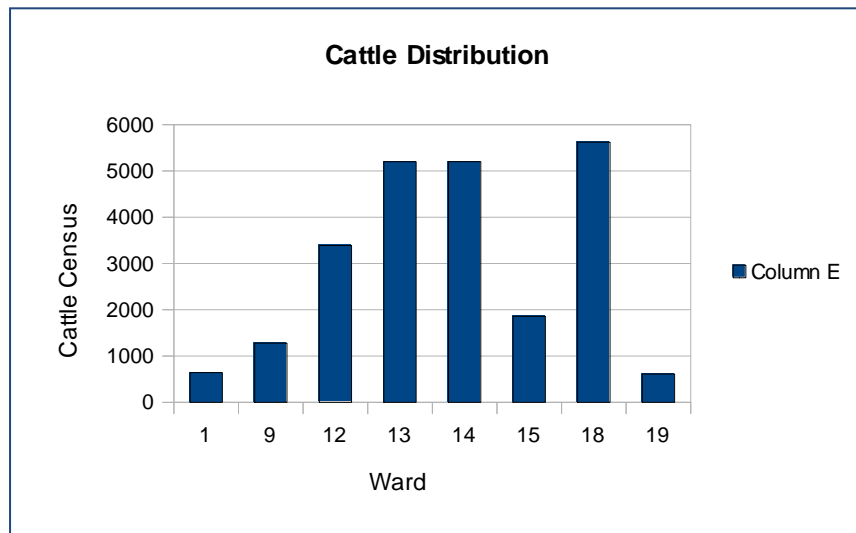


Figure 5: Cattle Census by Ward

Wards 13, 14 and 18 have the highest number of cattle, ranging above 5 000.

## 6.0 NGOs

There are about 16 NGOs operating in the constituency. Their areas of operation range from poverty alleviation, water and sanitation and health. These NGOs comprise of international as well as locally based organisations, such as World Vision and Orap. The NGOs are mainly concentrated in the areas

of poverty alleviation probably due to the fact that the area is a dry region and most of the people do not have harvest enough for consumption.

**Table 1: Umguza NGOs Distribution by Field of Operation**

<b>Field of Operation</b>	<b>NGO</b>
Health	PSI, MAC, Bekezela Home based care
Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs)	Arise and Shine, Mathabiswana Orphan Care,
Capacity Building and Leadership Training	Orap,
Gender Mainstreaming	Umguza Aids Foundation, Musasa Project
Supplementary Feeding	Orap
Water and Sanitation	German Agro Action
Agriculture	New Life,
Poverty Alleviation	WHO, WFP, World Vision, Catholic Relief Services, European Union

## 7.0 Business Centres

There are 12 business centres, of which 11 have been electrified. This is a positive development especially for the growth of SME's in the constituency. There is one bank and 2 post office facilities. Only, one business centre has a GMB and CMB depot, an indication that there is not much crop production in the constituency, due to the fact that it falls in the dry agro-region.

## 8.0 Water Points

There are 266 boreholes and 33 deep wells in the constituency. Out of 266 boreholes, only 80 are fully functioning, representing 70% of the total. This is a cause for concern taking into account the fact that this is an arid region and the people rely heavily on boreholes and deep wells as a source of water.

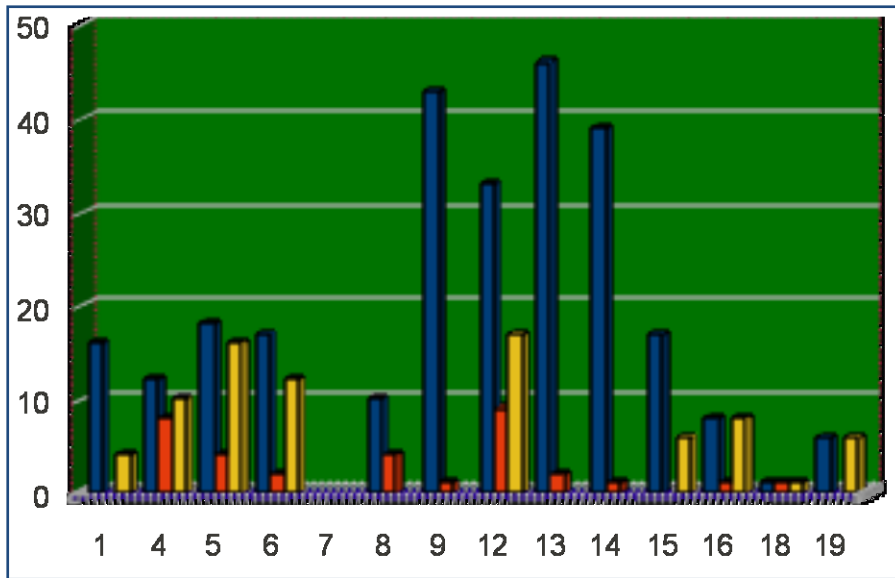


Figure 6: Boreholes by Ward

Table 2: Umguza Constituency Infrastructure by Ward

Ward	Councillor Gender	Crèche	Pry Sch	Sec Sch	Health Centre
1	M	1	2	1	1
2	F	1	4	2	2
4	M		3	1	1
5	M		3	2	
6	M		1	1	
7	M		2	0	1
8	F		4	1	
9	F		4	1	
12	M		2	1	
13	M		2	1	



14	M		4	2	2
15	M		1	1	1
16	F		5	1	1
18	M		2	0	
19	F		4		

## 9.0 Local Government

Umguza constituency is under Umguza district council and has 15 wards, represented by 15 councillors and one chief. There are only 5 female councillors in the constituency, hence the need to encourage more women to take up leadership positions in local government structures.

## 10 Conclusion

The constituency is a dry agro-region hence it is characterized by food insecurity. This is evidenced by a sizeable number of NGOs operating in the region whose main focus is on poverty alleviation.

## 11.0 Recommendations

- There is need to encourage more women to take up posts in local government structures.
- There is need to ensure that some of the secondary schools in the constituency have A' Level facilities.
- Doctors should be deployed to the district hospital in order to meet the health needs of the people in the constituency.
- Since animal ranching is the main source of agriculture in the constituency, there is need to construct the new dip tanks and to rehabilitate those in disrepair.

- There is need to electrify the outstanding business centre, for the promotion of SMEs in the ward.
- The Constituency is in an arid region, hence there is need to repair 70% of the boreholes that are not working for the benefit of the communities.

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