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**Parliament**

**Research Department**



**[Binga North Constituency Profile]**

## Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction.....	3
2.0	Population.....	3
3.0	Education.....	5
3.1	Primary School .....	5
3.2	Secondary Schools.....	6
4.0	Health .....	6
5.0	Animal health .....	7
6.0	NGOs.....	8
7.0	Business centres.....	8
8.0	Water Points .....	9
9.0	Local Government .....	9
10	Conclusion .....	10
11	Recommendations.....	10
	Bibliography .....	11

## List of Figures

Figure 1: Population Distribution by Ward .....	3
Figure 2: Population and Registered Voter Distribution by ward .....	4
Figure 3: Primary School Enrolment by Ward.....	5
Figure 4: Secondary School Enrolment by Ward.....	6
Figure 5: Dip Tank Based Cattle Census by Ward .....	8
Figure 6: Water Point Distribution by Ward .....	9

## 1.0 Introduction

This is a new constituency created out of Binga Parliamentary seat and comprises of Chizarira, Siabuwa, Chete, Siansundu, Siantula, Mujere and Manjolo. Binga North Borders Zambezi River. This is a constituency where most of the grandparents participated in the massive construction of Kariba Dam project. Poverty levels in this constituency are high and the area is still under-developed, although there is the Chete Safari lodge is in the area. The people's main source of livelihood is farming, fishing, weaving and braiding for tourists which serves supplementary income. Infrastructure is poor, with very few schools and poor roads.

## 2.0 Population

From the 2002 Population Census, Binga North has a population of 55894 people comprised of 45% Males and 55% females. The population is not evenly distributed within the constituency as is depicted by the graph below.

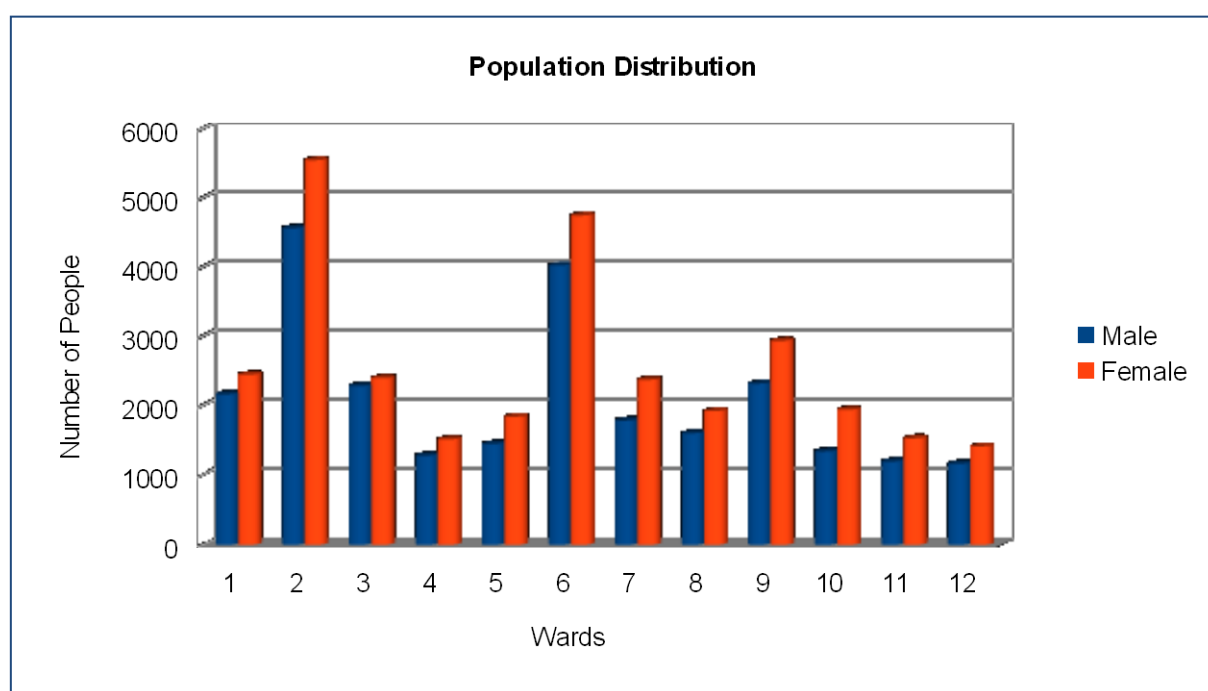


Figure 1: Population Distribution by Ward

From the graph, most people are concentrated in wards 2 and 6. ward 2 has 10 110 people or 18% and ward 6 houses 8774 , 16%, and 9 all other wards range between 5-8% of the population serve for ward 9 which has 9 % constituting 5264. All other wards have below 5000 people. The graph below shows the registered Voters.

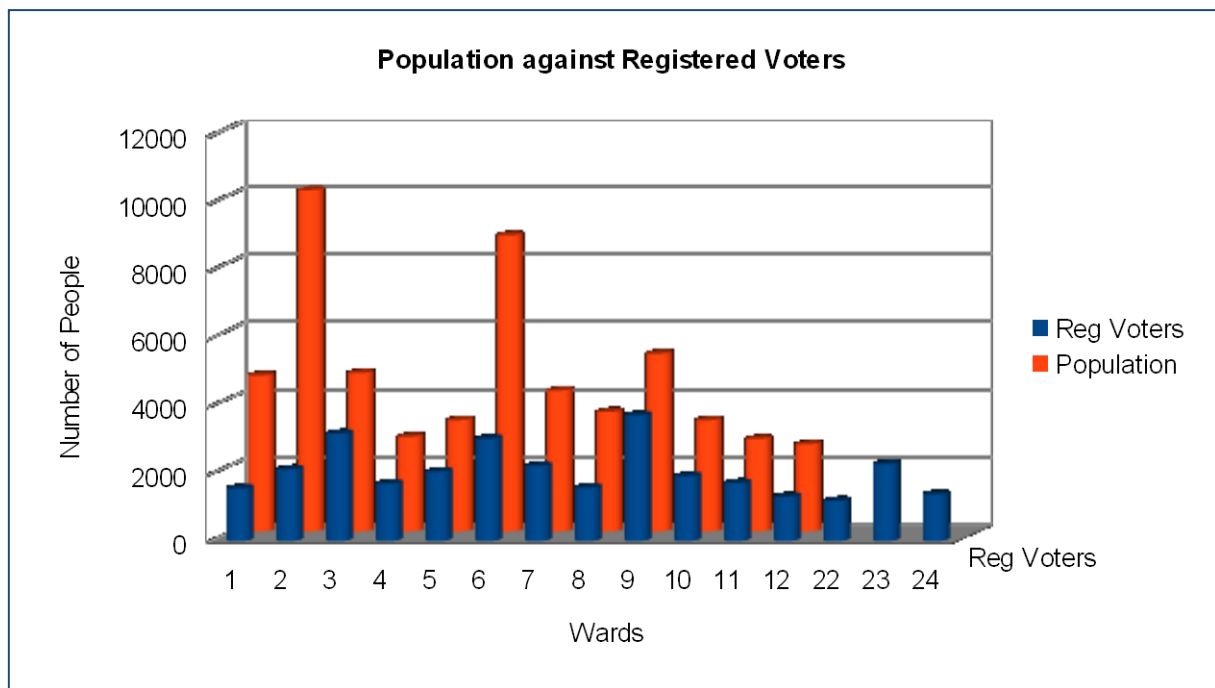


Figure 2: Population and Registered Voter Distribution by ward

Binga north is a politically active constituency. With 30 943 registered voter constituting 55% of the total population. Out of the registered voters, 19281 voted in 2008 elections representing a very high voter turnout of 62%. However, the voter distribution does not reflect the population distribution; most voters are found in wards 3, 6, and 9 with over 3000 registered voters. Ward 9 has the most voters with 3721 people and the least are found in ward 22 with just 1184 registered voters.

## 3.0 Education

### 3.1 Primary School

There are fifty six primary schools in the constituency owned by the rural district council. These schools have been established between 1949 and 1983. Enrolment varies from ward to ward, with ward 9 having the highest number of pupils. In this constituency, almost all the wards have more boys than girls are enrolled into school. The graph below represents enrolment by sex in all the wards.

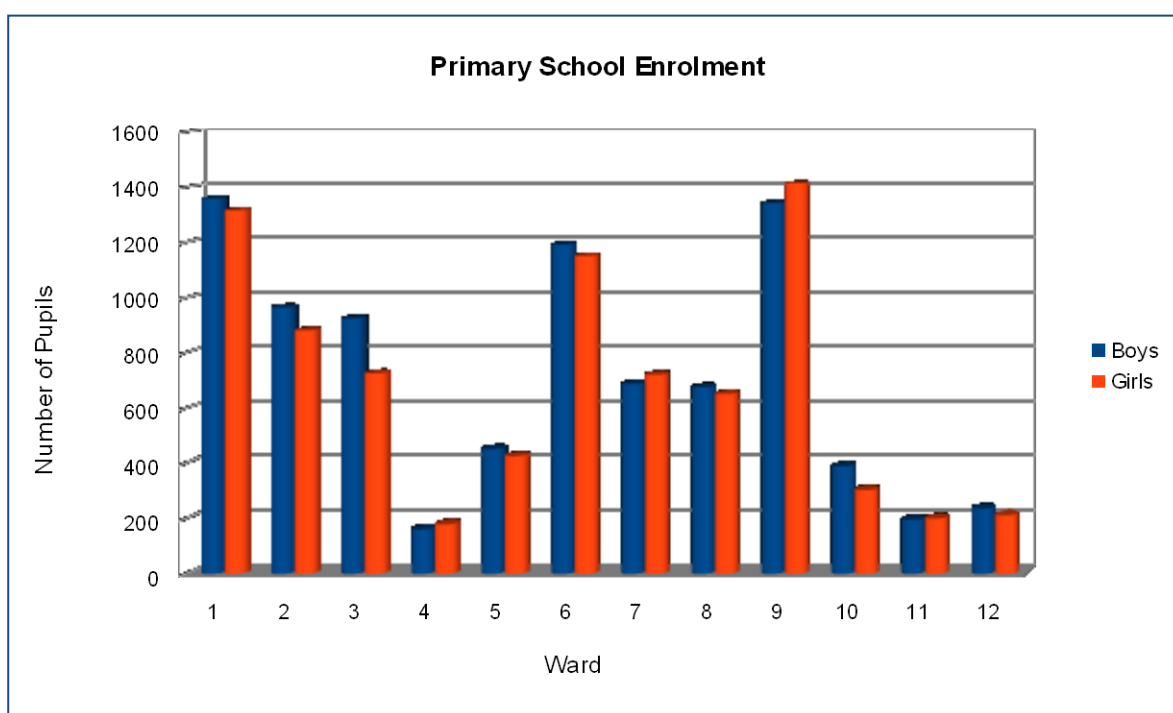


Figure 3: Primary School Enrolment by Ward

From the figure below, it shows that the ratio of teachers to pupils in each ward is too high. For instance the 2672 pupils and 64 teachers in ward one, means on average each teacher has to attend to 42 pupils. This ratio is higher than what is expected (1:38) in order to achieve goal number two of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

## 3.2 Secondary Schools

There are few secondary schools in the constituency, amounting to 11 in the whole constituency. The number of secondary schools falls far below the number of primary schools in the constituency. Of the 11 schools, 5 are satellite schools. There is no change in the enrolment trend from primary to secondary schools. At primary school there were more boys than girls and at secondary level there are more boys than girls. Siabuwa has the highest enrolment while Sinansengwe and Machesu have the lowest enrolment. However, generally enrolment is lower at secondary than primary level.

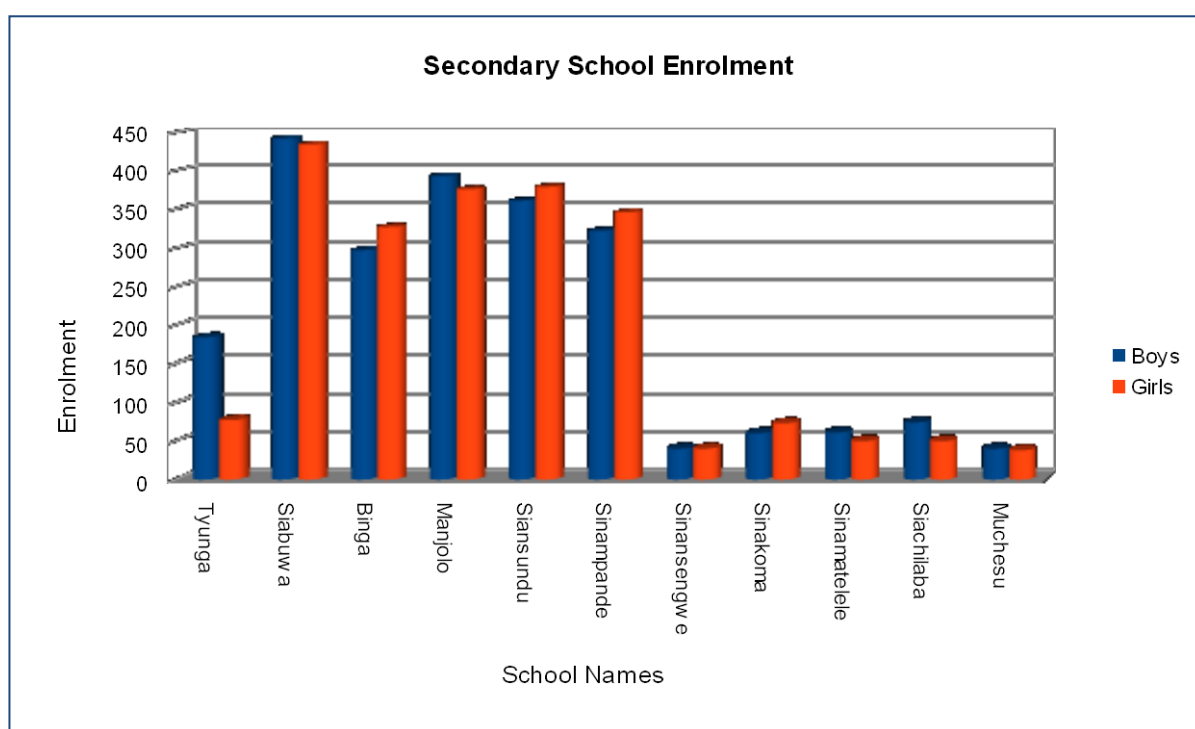


Figure 4: Secondary School Enrolment by Ward

## 4.0 Health

There are only eight health centres in the constituency of which two of them are in ward six and the other six are in wards 2, 4, 9, 12, 22 and 26. Of the eight health centres, five are government owned

and the other three are owned each by government, rural district council and the church. Binga district hospital located in ward 24 is the only hospital in the constituency, with the other three being rural health centres and the remaining four are clinics.

Though there are fewer health centres in the constituency, they are well serviced in terms of communication, accessibility, fencing and hospital equipment. However, electricity remains a challenge in this constituency since only Binga district hospital and Sinanzengwe are electrified, and the other centres use either solar energy or never. In terms of staffing, there are 4 doctors, 67 nurses and 25 nurse aides in the whole constituency.

## **5.0 Animal health**

There are only two animal health centres in this constituency; this is Kariangwe and Sianzundu with most diptanks under Sianzundu animal health centre. Out of the 14 dip-tanks in the constituency, 6 have holding pens only and 8 have tanks. The cattle census for the constituency sum up to 31 952, with Ward 7 having the highest number of animals. The graph below shows the total number of animals in each of the wards in Binga North constituency.

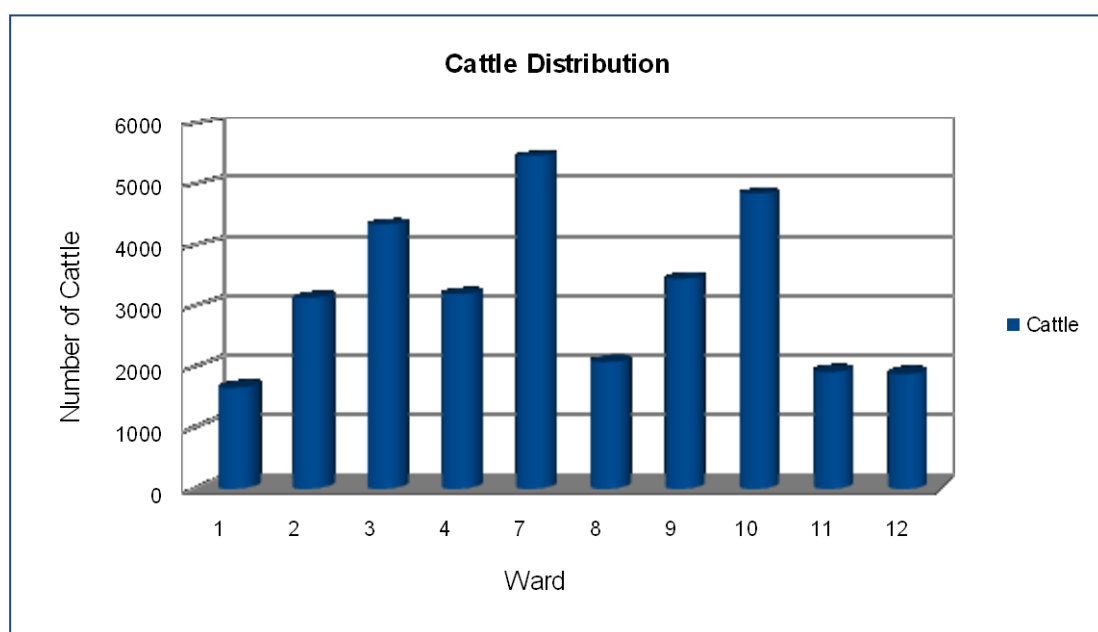


Figure 5: Dip Tank Based Cattle Census by Ward

## 6.0 NGOs

There are 25 NGOs operating in the constituency. The constituency is known to have very high poverty levels and more than half of the NGOs operating in this area are into poverty alleviation. Others are into HIV/Aids and health related issues, as well as some income generating programmes. These NGOs are mainly Ntengwe, Kulima, Save the Children, EU Micro projects, Binga trees trust, Binga Craft Centre, Heifer International, UNICEF, BAC, Ms Zimbabwe and CADEC.

## 7.0 Business centres

There are 73 business centres in Binga North Constituency. Of the 73 business centres, only one has a growth point status and 3 are rural service centres. These are the only centres with electricity. There are only four police stations, in wards 1, 7, 8 and 24. This means that people in this constituency have to travel long distances to reach the nearest police station. Banking service is very poor as there is only one bank in the whole constituency which is POSB. People have to travel from all the wards to the growth point to reach the nearest and the only bank. Other infrastructural services at the growth point include a Grain Marketing Board. This makes it very difficult for farmers to sell their crops as they have to travel long distances to sell their farm produce.



## 8.0 Water Points

There are 114 boreholes in the constituency of which 84 are functioning. Siansundu ward has 16 boreholes and of all the wards it has got the highest number of boreholes. Tyunga and Sikangangele wards have the least number of boreholes which is 3 in both wards. Sinakoma has 7 boreholes but none of them is working although on average there are 6 functioning boreholes in each ward. The graph below represents the number of boreholes in each ward.

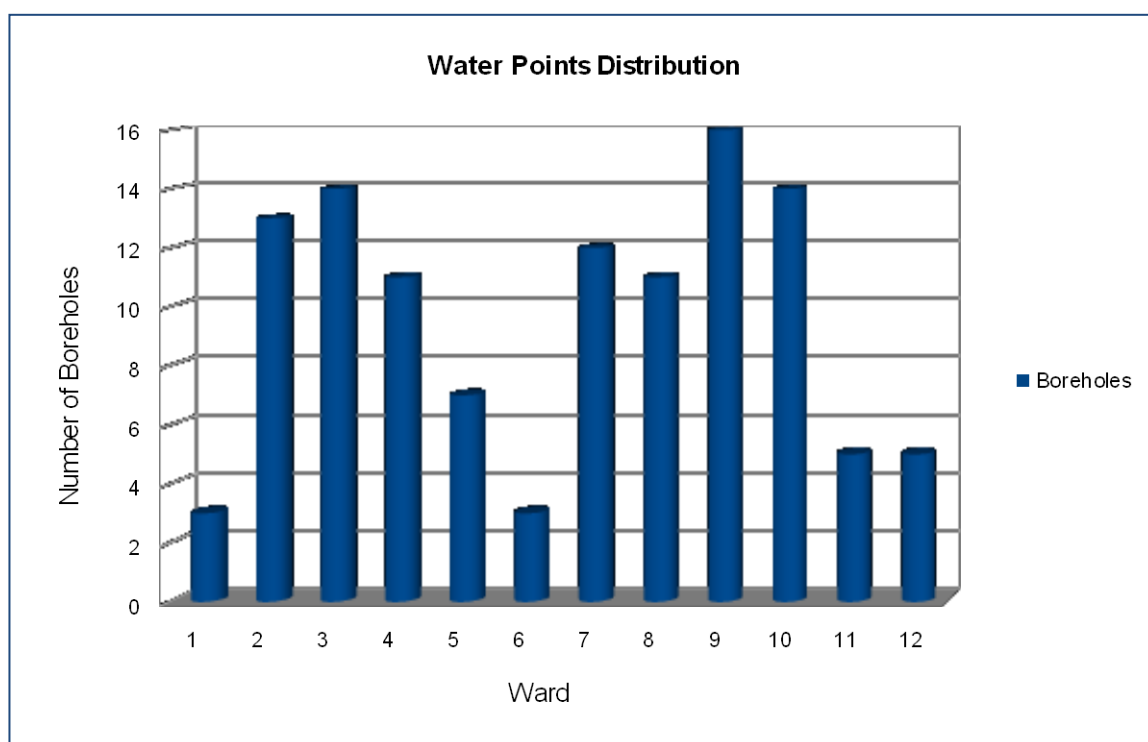


Figure 6: Water Point Distribution by Ward

In addition to the 114 boreholes, there are 227 deep wells. Ward 2 has got the highest number of deep wells, with 49. There is a common problem with wells in all the wards as most of them need slabs.

## 9.0 Local Government

There is gender imbalance in terms of local governance issues since there are only male councillors for the constituency wards. This shows that women's participation in politics is very low. Early

childhood learning is well promoted from early stages of childhood since almost all the wards have on average 3 pre-schools per ward.

## **10 Conclusion**

Generally, Binga North is a constituency with very high level of poverty as there are many poverty alleviation organizations operating in the area. Hence the need for economic investment in the area as well as lobbying to encourage women to participate in political life.

## **11 Recommendations**

- Greater emphasis should be put on infrastructure development in order to initiate and support developmental initiatives.
- School should be resources with class room block as there is an extreme case of hot seating

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