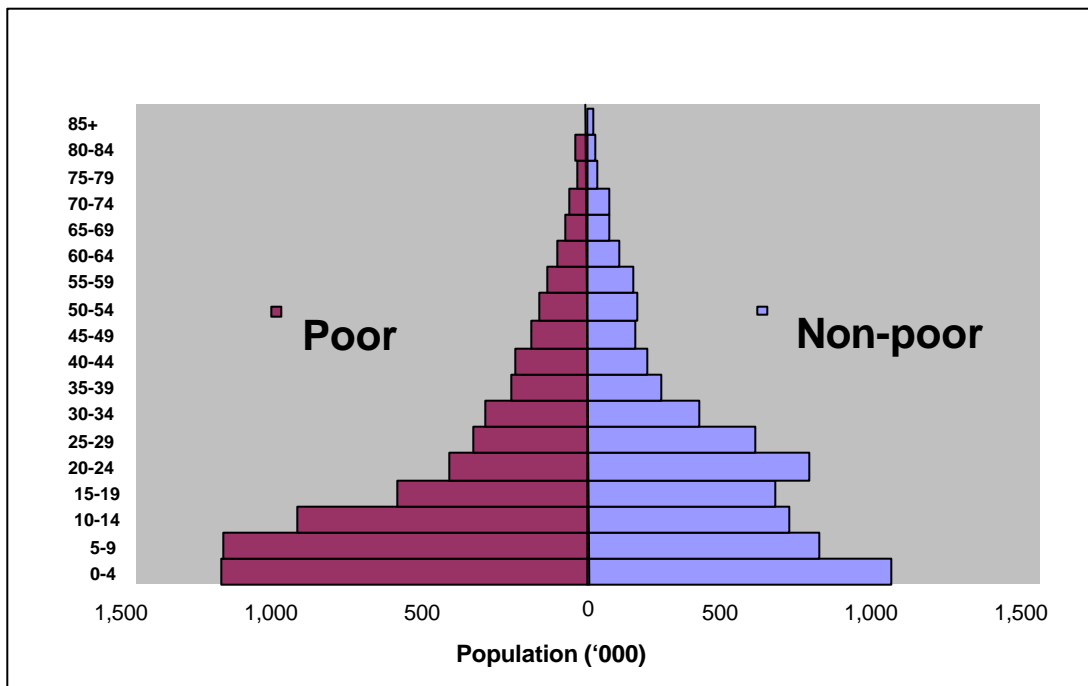


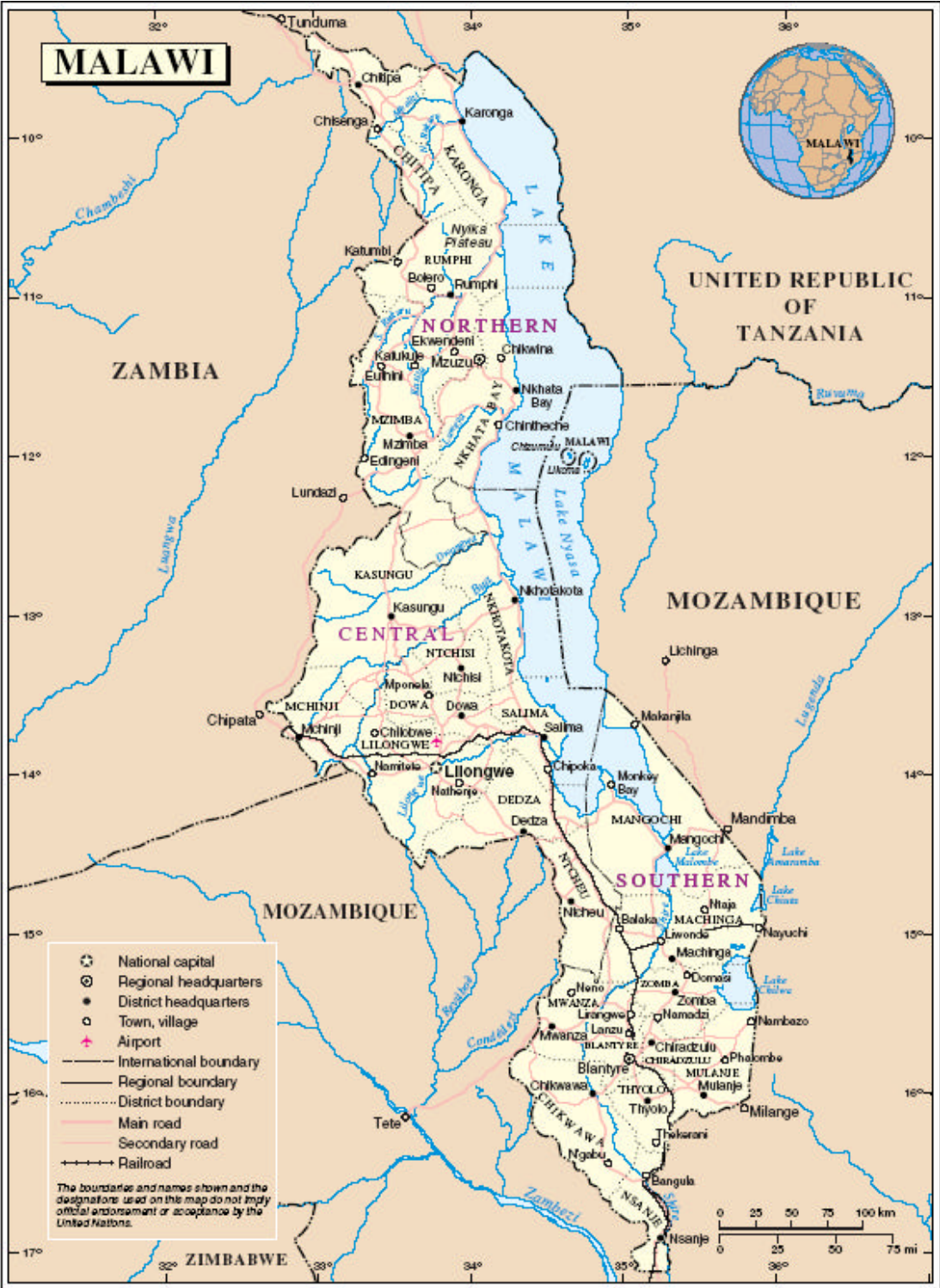


Republic of Malawi

**INTEGRATED HOUSEHOLD SURVEY  
2004-2005**



National Statistical Office  
P.O Box 333  
Zomba



Map No. 3858 Rev. 3 UNITED NATIONS  
January 2004

Department of Peacekeeping Operations  
Cartographic Section



# **Integrated Household Survey**

**2004-2005**

**Volume I**

**HOUSEHOLD SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS**

**October 2005**

**Additional information about the Malawi IHS2 may be obtained from;**

**National Statistical Office  
P.O Box 333  
Zomba  
email: [ih2@statistics.gov.mw](mailto:ih2@statistics.gov.mw)  
[enquiries@statistics.gov.mw](mailto:enquiries@statistics.gov.mw)  
website: [www.nso.malawi.net](http://www.nso.malawi.net)**

## **Preface**

The National Statistical Office in collaboration with the World Bank from March 2004 to April 2005 conducted the Second Malawi Integrated Household Survey (IHS2). This survey is conducted under the Integrated Household Surveys Programme. These surveys are designed to provide information on the various aspects of the socio-economic status of households in Malawi.

The primary objective of the survey is to provide up to date information for the monitoring of the country's poverty reduction strategy (MPRS) and related development goals such as Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The survey also provides information for setting benchmarks for the new development strategy, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS).

Specifically the survey collected information from households and communities pertaining to their demographic characteristics, education, health, nutrition, labor force and employment, income, expenditure, assets and household enterprises. The survey also collected information on community wide characteristics including availability of services and changes that might have affected the communities over the last five years.

I would like to acknowledge the support from a number of organisations and individuals during the whole survey operation. First I would like to thank the World Bank for the financial assistance and technical support during the whole survey operation. Secondly, I thank the support from the UK Department for International Development, (DFID) and NORAD through Statistics Norway. I also thank UNICEF for providing equipment for anthropometrical measurements. Finally, I thank staff of the National Statistical Office and the survey respondents for making the survey a success.

**Charles Machinjili**  
**COMMISSIONER OF STATISTICS**

## **Acknowledgements**

We would like to thank the World Bank staff team for providing the technical assistance for the project; the World Bank team comprised Kathleen Beegle, Diane Steele, Gero Carleto and was headed by Antonio Nucifora. Thanks are also due to Todd Benson from the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and Ellen Payongayong from Michigan University for their technical assistance during the survey preparatory stage. Thanks are also due to the Statistics Norway team, Geir Ovensen, Gunvor Moyo and Berit Otnes, for providing technical guidelines during the tabulations of this report, under the the Institutional Cooperation Project between National Statistical Office and Statistics Norway.

Special thanks are due to staff from the National Statistics Office who have made this survey a success. Particularly, Jameson Ndawala, head of economic statistics, Willie Kachaka, survey manager, Clement Mtengula, Shelton Kanyanda, Christopher Matemba, Alick Mphonda, Charles Chakanza, Catherine Chikumba, Angela Msosa, Tiope Mleme, Richard Kajombo and Simeon Yosefe. We also thank the survey staff that was involved in the fieldwork and data capturing. Finally, we are grateful to respondents who generously gave their time to respond to the survey questionnaires.

## **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

EA	Enumeration Area
IHS1	First Integrated Household Survey, 1998
IHS2	Second Integrated Household Survey, 2004
WMS	Welfare Monitoring Survey
CWIQ	Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire
ILO	International Labor Organization
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MEPD	Ministry of Economic Planning and Development
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
NSO	National Statistical Office
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
WHO	World Health Organization

# Table of contents

---

<b>Preface</b> .....	<b>ii</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>Abbreviations and Acronyms</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.0: Background .....	1
1.1: Objective of the survey .....	1
1.2: Sample design and coverage .....	2
1.3 Questionnaires .....	4
1.4. Organization of the survey .....	5
1.4.1 Training .....	5
1.4.2 Fieldwork .....	5
1.5 Data processing .....	5
1.6 Sample results .....	6
1.7 Organization of this report .....	6
<b>CHAPTER 2: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS</b> .....	<b>11</b>
2.0 Introduction .....	11
2.1 Age and sex distribution .....	11
2.2 Household composition .....	12
2.3 Households by age and sex of household head .....	14
2.4 Dependency ratio .....	15
2.5 Orphanhood .....	16
2.5 Migration .....	17
<b>CHAPTER 3: EDUCATION</b> .....	<b>19</b>
3.0 Introduction .....	19
3.1 Literacy status of household members .....	19
3.2 Proportion never attended school .....	21
3.3 Reasons for never attending school .....	22
3.4 Highest level of education completed by household heads .....	22
3.5 School attendance by type of school being attended .....	26
3.6 Primary school net enrolment ratio .....	27
3.7 Primary school gross enrolment ratio .....	29
3.8 Dropout rate .....	29
3.9 Reasons for dropping out .....	31

<b>CHAPTER 4: HEALTH .....</b>	<b>32</b>
4.0 Introduction.....	32
4.1.1 Incidence of sickness .....	32
4.1.2 Major types of illnesses.....	32
4.2 Incidence of chronic illness.....	34
4.3 Mortality .....	36
4.4.1 Women who gave birth.....	38
4.4.2 Assistance during delivery .....	38
4.5 Nutritional status of children .....	40
4.6 Nutritional and under five clinic programmes.....	42
4.7 Use of bed nets.....	44
<b>CHAPTER 5: EMPLOYMENT .....</b>	<b>46</b>
5.0 Introduction.....	46
5.1 Labour force participation , employment and unemployment.....	47
5.1.2 Youth employment .....	47
5.2 Occupation structure for wage earners.....	49
5.3 Industry structure for wage earners .....	52
5.4 Income generating tasks .....	55
5.5 Domestic tasks.....	58
5.6 Main economic activity and inactivity .....	60
5.6.1 Economic activity.....	60
5.6.2 In-activity .....	62
<b>CHAPTER 6: EXPENDITURE, INCOME AND ASSETS .....</b>	<b>64</b>
6.0 Introduction.....	64
6.1 Household expenditure .....	64
6.1.2 Household per capita expenditure .....	65
6.2 Classification of household expenditure by COICOP.....	67
6.3 Household expenditure by type.....	68
6.4 Annual household expenditure on food .....	70
6.5 Expenditure by item level.....	72
6.6.1: Household income .....	73
6.6.2: Household income by source.....	74
6.7 Household assets.....	76
6.7.1 Proportion of households owning some assets.....	76
<b>CHAPTER 7: HOUSING,INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT.....</b>	<b>79</b>
7.0 Introduction.....	79
7.1 Tenure .....	79
7.2 Type of structure .....	81
7.3 Room occupancy rate and overcrowding .....	83
7.4 Access to potable water.....	83
7.5 Source of fuels used for cooking .....	86



7.6 Source of fuels used for lighting .....	86
7.7 Access to electricity and phones .....	89
7.8 Access to proper sanitation .....	91
7.9 Use of disposal facilities.....	93
<b>CHAPTER 8: AGRICULTURE.....</b>	<b>95</b>
8.0 Introduction.....	95
8.1 Maize production .....	95
8.2 Other food crops.....	97
8.3 Dry season (Dimba) cultivation .....	99
8.4 Starter pack distribution 2001-2004.....	101
8.5 Agricultural extension .....	103
8.6 Tobacco production .....	105
8.7 Livestock production .....	107
<b>CHAPTER 9: LOANS AND CREDIT .....</b>	<b>109</b>
9.0 Introduction.....	109
9.1.1 Proportion of persons who received loans .....	109
9.1.2 Reason for obtaining loan.....	110
9.2.1 Sources of loans.....	112
9.3 Reasons for not applying for a loan.....	114
<b>CHAPTER 10: SAFETY AND SECURITY .....</b>	<b>116</b>
10.0 Introduction .....	116
10.1 Perceptions on safety .....	116
10.2 Level of crime and type of perpetrators .....	119
10.3 Reporting of crime and satisfaction with police.....	121
10.4 Reasons for not reporting a crime .....	122
10.5 Proportion of households broken into .....	124
10.6 Protective measures against crime: .....	126
<b>Chapter 11: WELFARE .....</b>	<b>128</b>
11.0 Introduction .....	128
11.1 Welfare in terms of basic needs.....	128
11.2 Changes in welfare compared to a year before the survey.....	130
11.3 Satisfaction with standard of living .....	132
11.4 Welfare in terms of changes of clothing .....	134
11.5 Recent shocks to the household.....	136
11.6 Response against shocks.....	137

<b>Chapter 12: POVERTY.....</b>	<b>138</b>
12.0 Introduction .....	138
12.1 Poverty Lines.....	138
12.3 Poverty and Location.....	139
12.4 Income Inequality in Malawi .....	146
12.5 Poverty and household characteristics .....	146
12.5.1 Poverty and gender of the household head .....	147
12.5.2 Poverty and age of household head .....	147
12.5.3 Poverty, household size and dependency ratio .....	148
12.5.4 Poverty and education of head.....	149
12.6 Poverty Comparisons: IHS1 & IHS2 .....	149
 <b>APPENDIX.....</b>	 <b>150</b>
<b>HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS QUESTIONNAIRE .....</b>	<b>150</b>

## List Of Tables

---

Table 1.1: Sample Selection.....	3
Table 1.2: Sample response rate .....	6
Table 1.3: Summary Of Key Indicators .....	9
Table 2.1 Percentage distribution of population by five-year age groups.....	12
Table 2.2 Mean household size and percentage distribution of households by household size .....	13
Table 2.3 Percentage distribution of households by age and sex of household head .....	14
Table 2.4 Dependency ratio by background characteristics, Malawi 2005 .....	15
Table 2.5 Proportion of orphans and percentage distributions of orphans who are aged 15 years and less	16
Table 2.6 Proportion of migrants by movement pattern of migration .....	18
Table 3.1 Literacy rate, proportion never attended school and reasons for never attending school .....	20
Table 3.2 Percentage distribution household heads by highest educational qualification acquired .....	23
Table 3.3 Percentage distribution of pupils attending school by type of school being attended .....	25
Table 3.4 Primary school net enrolment and gross enrolment rate by sex of pupil .....	28
Table 3.5 Dropout rate and reasons for dropping out .....	30
Table 4.1 Proportion of persons reporting illness/ injury and percentage distribution of the some selected diseases .....	33
Table 4.2 Proportion chronically ill and distribution of chronic illness reported .....	35
Table 4.3 Proportion of households that experienced death of a household member .....	37
Table 4.4 Proportion of women age 12-49 who gave birth and who assisted during delivery .....	39
Table 4.5 Prevalence of Stunting, Underweight and Wasting among children aged 6 to 59 months .....	41
Table 4.6 Proportion of children aged 6-59 months participating in a nutrition program or under-five clinic	43
Table 4.7 Proportion of households with at least a member sleeping under a bed net and proportion of households with children under the age of five who sleep under a bed net. ....	45
Table 5.1 Labor Force Participation Rate, Employment Rate, Unemployment Rate among males and females aged 15 years and above . ....	48
Table 5.2 Percentage distribution of persons aged 15 years and over in wage employment over the past 12 months by occupation .....	50
Table 5.3 Percentage distribution of persons aged 15 years and over in wage employment by type of industry .....	53
Table 5.4 Proportion of persons aged 15 years and above doing income generating activities past 7 days and average weekly hours worked among these persons .....	56

Table 5.5 Proportion of persons aged 15 years and over doing domestic tasks and average daily hours worked among these persons .....	59
Table 5.6 Percentage distribution of currently employed persons aged 15 years and over by type of employment .....	60
Table 5.7 Proportion of persons aged 15 years and over who were economically inactive and the percentage distribution by reasons for being economically inactive .....	62
Table 6.1 Mean and median annual household expenditure .....	66
Table 6.2 Real annual household expenditure by item category (COICOP groups), .....	67
Table 6.3 Percentage distribution of total annual household expenditure by type of expenditure .....	68
Table 6.4 Average annual household food expenditure by food type .....	71
Table 6.5 Average household expenditure by item (annual) .....	72
Table 6.6 Average annual household income by income source .....	75
Table 6.7 Proportion of households owning selected assets .....	76
Table 7.1 Distribution of households by type of housing tenure .....	80
Table 7.2 Percentage Distribution of households by type of construction materials .....	82
Table 7.3 Percentage Distribution of households by number of persons per room .....	84
Table 7.4 Proportion of households with access to safe water and percentage distribution of households by main source of drinking water .....	85
Table 7.5 Percentage Distribution of households by main source of fuels used for cooking .....	87
Table 7.6 Percentage Distribution of households by main source of fuels used for lighting .....	88
Table 7.7 Proportion of households with access to electricity within 100 metres and telephones .....	90
Table 7.8 Proportion of households with proper toilet sanitation and distribution of households by type of toilet facility being used .....	92
Table 7.9 Percentage distributions of households by kind of rubbish disposal used .....	94
Table 8.1 Proportion of agricultural households who cultivated maize .....	96
Table 8.2 Proportion of agricultural households who cultivated other –rain fed crops .....	98
Table 8.3 Proportion of agricultural households who cultivated a dimba garden and proportion who used any irrigation method .....	100
Table 8.4 Proportion of agricultural households who received starter pack (TIP) .....	102
Table 8.5 Proportion of agricultural households who got advice and who found its quality useful .....	104
Table 8.6 Proportion of agricultural households who cultivated tobacco .....	106
Table 8.7 Proportion of agricultural households who raised livestock in the last 12 months .....	108
Table 9.1 Proportion of persons who received a loan and percentage distribution of loans by reason for obtaining a loan .....	111
Table 9.2 Percentage distribution of loans by source of loan according .....	113

Table 9.3 Percentage distribution of persons who never applied for a loan by reason for not applying for a loan .....	115
Table 11 Proportion of people aged 10 years and over reporting feeling unsafe in own house and when walking alone in neighborhood and/or village .....	118
Table 10.2 Proportion of persons ever attacked during the past year by crime perpetrator .....	120
Table 10.3 Proportion of persons who reported a crime to police and the proportion of those who were satisfied with the action by the police .....	121
Table 10.4 Percentage distribution of reasons for not reporting a crime.....	123
Table 10.5 Proportion of households whose dwellings were broken into and percentage distribution of number of times the dwelling was broken into .....	125
Table 10.6 Percentage distribution of steps taken to protect households from crime .....	127
Table 11.1 Proportion of households reporting inadequate consumption of food, housing and health .....	129
Table 11.0.2 Percentage distribution of households by perception of current economic well-being compared to one year ago, .....	131
Table 11.3 Percentage distribution of households by satisfaction with their living standard .....	133
Table 11.4 Proportion of households where the head has at least two changes of clothes, sleeps on a bed or mattress, sleeps under a blanket and sheets in cold season .....	135
Table 11.5 Proportion of households severely affected by the following shocks during the past 5 years,..	136
Table 11.6 Proportion of households according to their response against shocks during the past 5 years,	137
Table 12.1 Poverty line in Malawi Kwacha per person per year.....	138
Table 12.2 Poverty headcount and percentage distribution of Malawi's poor by place of residence. ....	140
Table 12.3 Poverty headcount and percentage distribution of Malawi's poor by districts, . ....	142
Table 12.4 Poverty headcount and percentage distribution of Malawi's Ultra poor by districts, .....	144
Table 12.5 Household size and dependency ratio by wealth groups.....	148

## List of Figures

---

Figure 2.1: Population Pyramid .....	11
Figure 2.2: Migration Pattern .....	18
Figure 3.1: Proportion of literate persons and those who have never attended school .....	21
Figure 5.1: Occupation by sex.....	49
Figure 5.2: Employment by type of Industry.....	52
Figure 6.1: Average annual per capita expenditure by expenditure quintiles.....	65
Figure 7.1: Type of building material by per capita expenditure quintile .....	81
Figure 10.1: Safety perception of household members.....	117
Figure 12.1: Proportion of poor and ultra-poor persons in Malawi .....	139
Figure 12.2: Proportion of poor and ultra-poor persons by region .....	140
Figure 12.3: Per capita consumption expenditure by decile .....	146