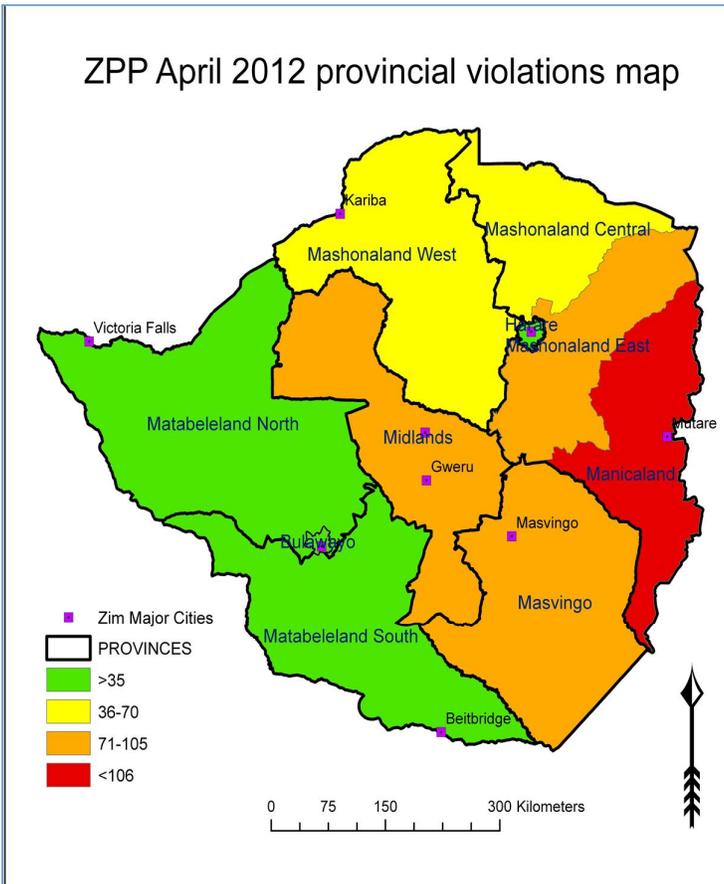


ZPP Monthly

ZPP April 2012 provincial violations map



BACKGROUND & FORMATION

The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) was conceived shortly after 2000 by a group of faith-based and human rights organisations working or interested in human rights and peace-building initiatives, and was to become a vehicle for civic interventions in a time of political crisis. In particular, ZPP sought to monitor and document incidents of politically motivated human rights violations. Today, ZPP's member organizations include, Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC), Catholic Commission for Justice & Peace in Zimbabwe (CCJPZ), Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe (EFZ) Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN), Counselling Services Unit (CSU), Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust (ZIMCET), Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR), Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZIMRIGHTS), Civic Education Network Trust (CIVNET), Women's Coalition and the Habakkuk Trust.

The ZPP is a non-partisan organisation that reports on politically motivated human rights violations without any bias. The information that we publish is verified through a thorough verification process within ZPP.

VISION

Sustainable Justice, Freedom, Peace and Development in Zimbabwe, for All

MISSION

To work for sustainable Peace through Monitoring, Documentation, Research & Publications, and Community Peace Building Interventions ~ through & with our Members & Partners

Information Department
Zimbabwe Peace Project
24/05/2012

METHODOLOGY

This report is based on reports from ZPP long-term community based human rights monitors who observe, monitor and record cases of human rights violations in the constituencies they reside. ZPP deploys a total of 420 community-based primary peace monitors (two per each of the 210 electoral constituencies of Zimbabwe). These community-based monitors reside in the constituencies they monitor. The ZPP reports are published in retrospect.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Politically motivated human rights violations continued on the upward trend as the talk of holding elections this year gathered momentum. Since the beginning of the year ZPP has been witnessing a steady increase in politically motivated human rights violations across the country. The elections mantra was also laced up with controversies around the constitution making process with Zanu PF officials trashing the first draft produced by COPAC.

The month also saw some government officials suggesting that by-elections, which have been stalled because of the GPA agreements, should be held this year. ZPP also reported a murder case of an MDC-T activist in the Midlands Province by suspected two Zanu supporters in Gokwe Gumunyu. One of the perpetrators allegedly struck the victim to death with an axe and tried to conceal the evidence by burning the corpse in a burning hut. The two suspects were arrested and detained for two nights at Mutora Police Base in Gokwe. However the suspects were released without being charged.

There was a steady rise in the number of violations recorded since the beginning of the year. There were 524 incidents during the month under review up from the 475 recorded the month of March.

However, compared to the same period as illustrated in figure 1; the levels seen so far are still low compared to the previous years. The increase could be attributed to the magnified talk of elections and the chaotic Zanu PF restructuring exercise.

An analysis of the violations trends during the month of April over the past five years reveals that the month has always had more incidents compared to the other months. The highest number of violations during the month of March was witnessed in 2008 with 4 380 cases. This was the period when the Zimbabwe Election Commission ZEC had concealed the presidential results from the March 31 harmonized elections and the period leading to the sham June 27 Presidential election run-off.

Politically motivated human rights violations in March 2009 eased a bit to 1490 cases and continued on a downward trend in April 2010 to 959 as the Zanu PF anti-sanction petition campaign gathered momentum.

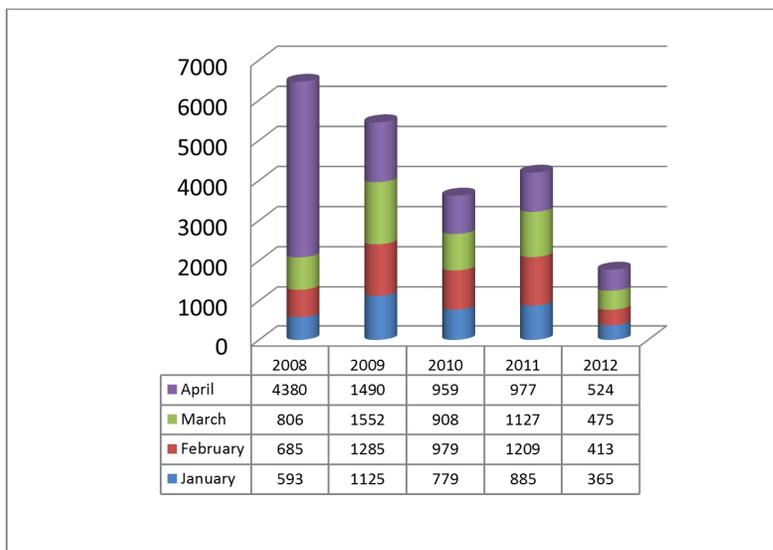


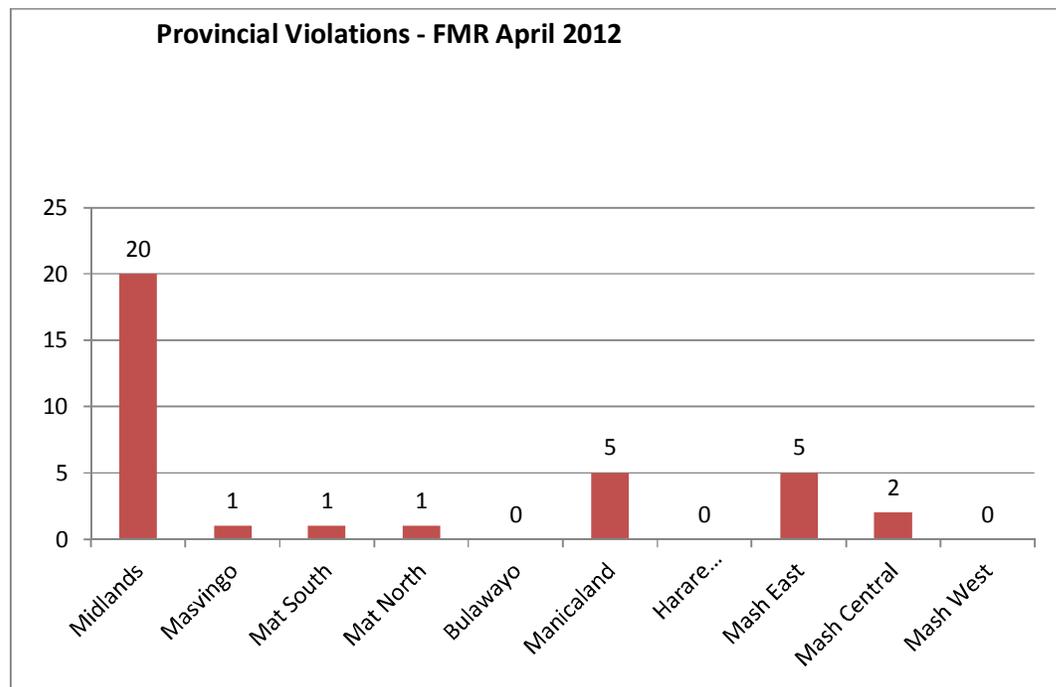
Figure 1: Trends of PMV for April 2008 - April 2012

Cases of politically motivated violence remain high and the atmosphere has remained volatile in the Midlands, Manicaland and Masvingo provinces with a significant rise in Mashonaland East Province. Although incidents of the politicization of food aid remain very low, the situation on the ground shows that people's rights will be violated as they seek food aid as a result of a poor food security situation.

FOOD & OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED VIOLATIONS

Politicization of food and other forms of aid continue to be encountered in some of the country's provinces of Zimbabwe. A total of 35 cases related to partisan distribution of food and other forms of aid were recorded in the period under review. This showed a decline in the number of violations compared to the 78 cases witnessed during the month of March.

Trends and patterns keep pointing to political parties mostly ZANU PF followed by MDC-T, war veterans and traditional leaders persisting in the manipulation of distribution of food and other forms of aid processes, using the commodities as a bait to lure support of their respective groupings ahead of the proposed elections. The government subsidized food loans and food handouts continue to be abused by Zanu PF politicians since the distribution is being done through the Grain Marketing Board (GMB).

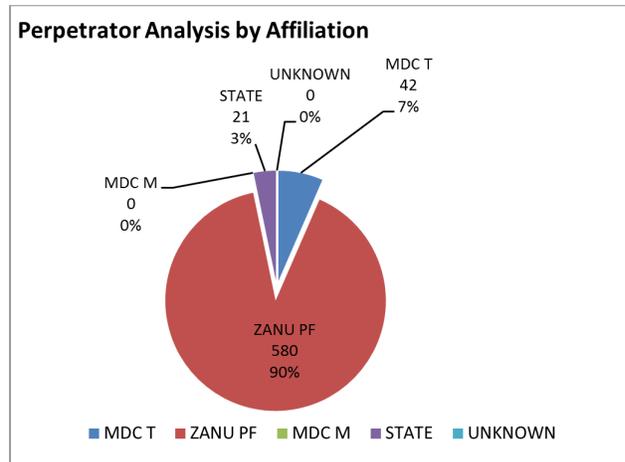
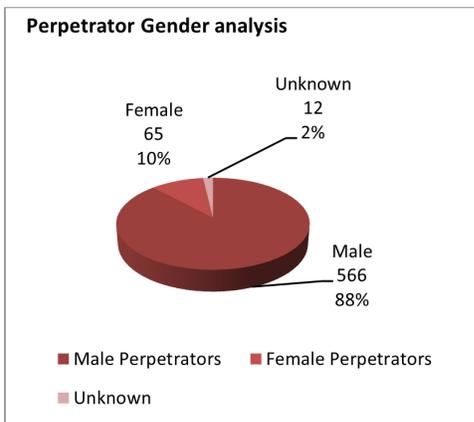
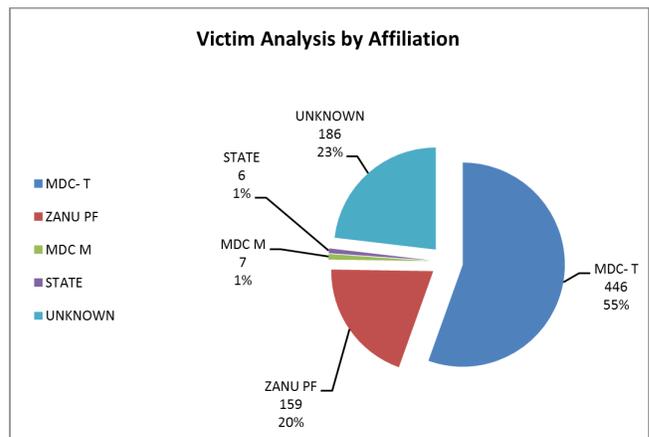
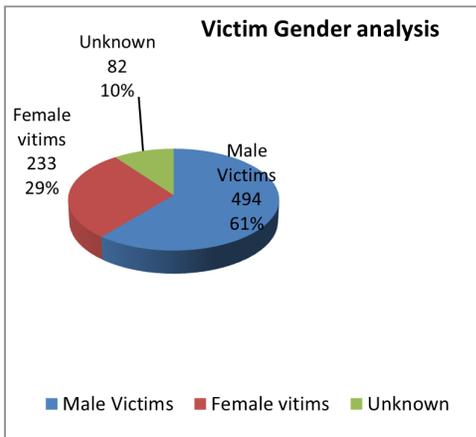


INCIDENCES OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLATIONS

PROVINCE	TYPE OF VIOLATIONS	COUNTS	MAJOR SOURCES OF CONFLICT
Manicaland	Assault	27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The province witnessed the highest number of violations during the month under review as a direct result of the ongoing infighting within Zanu PF. The DCC elections were the major source of conflict within the province and were eventually declared null and void after reports of massive rigging and vote buying. ➤ War veterans and Zanu PF youths allegedly force marched villagers to attend Independence day celebrations in Chimanimani.
	Harassment/intimidation	96	
	Discrimination	13	
	Theft/looting	6	
	Total Counts	142	
Midlands	Murder	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The province witnessed a politically motivated murder case in Gokwe Gumunyu of an MDC-T activist by two suspected Zanu PF supporters. The two suspects were arrested by police and were only detained at Mutora Police Base for two days before being released. The ZPP verified and confirmed the murder case. ➤ While the majority of the incidents were of harassment and intimidation, the province also witnessed a rape in Gokwe. There were also 20 cases of assault ➤ The highest numbers of violations were concentrated in Mberengwa, Kwekwe and Gokwe South districts.
	Rape	1	
	Harassment/intimidation	69	
	Assault	20	
	Theft/looting	2	
	MDP	1	
	Total Counts	94	
Mash East	Harassment/intimidation	57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The recorded politically motivated human rights violations in the province were around the Independence Day celebrations aspiring Zanu PF the major perpetrators. ➤ Mudzi North MP Newton Kachepa was recorded as one of the MPs who instigated violence during the celebrations. ➤ Three men from Chikomba Central constituency were assaulted on April 4, 2012 for allegedly refusing to pay US\$2 towards the Independence Day celebrations. One of the victim is a teacher from Zinatsa High School.
	Assault	12	
	Discrimination	4	
	Total counts	73	
Mash Central	Harassment/intimidation	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Intra-party fighting within Zanu PF has continued to be recorded in the province as politicians fight to win the ticket to represent the party in the upcoming elections. One notable incident was recorded in Mbire constituency where former MP David Butau is fighting to dislodge incumbent MP Paul Mazikana. ➤ Forced meeting were also recorded in Muzarabani North constituency where villagers were forced to attend Zanu PF organised Independence Day celebrations
	Assault	3	
	Discrimination	4	
	Total Counts	47	
Mash West	Assault	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ As was the case from the other provinces, the Independence Day celebrations were the major source of conflict in Mashonaland West. ➤ A terror base was reportedly set up in Sanyati by Zanu PF youths close to Kasiriri Shopping Centre. The police moved swiftly to destroy the base and allowed for the holding of an MDC-T rally in the area. ➤ The province also witnessed the existence of the military personnel who continuously harass villagers in Kadoma for belonged to the MDC-T
	Discrimination	4	
	Harassment/Intimidation	36	
	Unlawful Detention	1	
	Torture	1	
	Total Counts	46	

Masvingo	Harassment/Intimidation	62	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The political environment in the province remains tense as Governor Titus Maluleke's illegal ban on NGOs continues to be implemented by state security agents. ➤ An abduction case was recorded in Zaka West when the MDC-T organising secretary was kidnapped and heavily assaulted by Zanu PF supporters. The victim was later taken to Chiredzi and as ironically charged for robbery and has since appeared in court. ➤ The major perpetrators of violence in the province have been recorded as Zanu PF supporters and officials.
	Assault	6	
	Theft/Looting	1	
	Displacement	12	
	Total Counts	81	
Harare	Assault	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the month people were again forced to attend Independence celebrations at the National Sports Stadium as they were free buses to ferry people to the venue. ➤ People are being threatened with unspecified action or what happened during 2008 presidential elections if they fail to attend the Zanu PF meetings ➤ Zanu PF supporters led by District co-coordinating Committee members, allegedly forced Epworth residents of ward 5 to attend Zanu PF meeting where they were forced to accept leadership positions in ongoing Zanu PF restructuring exercise.
	Harassment/Intimidation	16	
	Theft/ Looting	1	
	Displacement	1	
	Total Counts	26	
Mat North	Discrimination	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The province witnessed politically motivated human rights violations around the distribution of food and other forms of aid. ➤ Hwange Central MP Brian Tshuma was barred from conducting a constitution update meeting by the Officer commanding Hwange Police Station. ➤ 15 members of the MDC-N who were on a membership recruitment drive in Tsholotsho were picked up by the Zimbabwe Republic Police for violating provisions of POSA. A National Youth Development Trust (NYDT) programs officer was unlawfully detained overnight in Lupane for convening a meeting without police clearance.
	Assault	1	
	Harassment/Intimidation	5	
	Unlawful Detention	1	
	Total Counts	9	
Bulawayo	Assault	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ About four suspected MDC-T youths allegedly assaulted an Zanu PF supporter in Luveve 5. The incident happened on the eve of the Independence day where the victim was kicked all over his body before he was rescued from the assault by revellers from Kldza's Sports Bar.
	Total Counts	1	
Mat South	Assault	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The political environment in the province remained calm during the month under review as the majority of the reported cases were of harassment and discrimination linked to food and other forms of aid distributions ➤ Police officers from Gwanda reportedly demanded to know the ZPP's mandate as well as an MOU with the government on the operations of the organisation. The officers threatened to come back again.
	Theft/looting	1	
	Discrimination	1	
	Harassment/Intimidation	2	
	Total Counts	5	
	OVERALL TOTAL	524	

VICTIM/PERPETRATOR ANALYSIS BY GENDER AND AFFILIATION



This Report was produced and circulated by the Zimbabwe Peace Project, P. O. Box BE 427, Belvedere, Harare Tel: (04) 2930180, 2930182 and email: zppinfo@gmail.com,

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