

Trends of politically motivated human rights violations (January-June 2013)



Introduction

Heal Zimbabwe Trust continue to track and record human rights violations in Zimbabwe's political hotspots through its weekly trends of political violence update. This issue is an analysis of violations that Heal Zimbabwe captured in the period from January to June 2013. The period under review witnessed varying developments in the political landscape in Zimbabwe with major highlights being the signing of a new constitution into law, the election date debate, SADC summits and rulings on Zimbabwe, harassment of civil society activists and organisations by the state, voter registration and more recently political party primary elections. Overt and covert violations were recorded in the last six months, assault, arson and abductions were the notable overt violations and were witnessed mainly in Midlands, Mashonaland East and Mashonaland Central. The covert cases of violence such as intimidation, harassment and forced attendance to meetings top the list of violations since all provinces recorded such cases. Masvingo province recorded the highest cases of intimidation while Mashonaland West was generally peaceful and recorded isolated cases of intimidation in Karoi district.

Many people in the rural areas are still witnessing a violation of their human rights regardless of the presence of institutions like JOMIC that thrive to promote peace and tolerance in communities. The uncertainty of election dates that characterised the first half of the year posed as a challenge to many communities as it created anxiety amongst them as elections generally to them are synonymous with violence. The report also show trends of institutionalised forms of violations by the police, army, traditional leaders and political parties. Victims of all forms of violence still lack confidence in state institutions which are meant to be symbols of security and unity. From the report, individual forms of violations were mostly committed by the youth. In light of the obtaining environment, there is still polarisation on political party lines and with the Election date now set for the 31st of July , Heal Zimbabwe launched a campaign calling all Zimbabweans to unite and Win Against Violent Elections (WAVE).

Areas Covered- Mashonaland Central- Shamva, Chaona, Mt Darwin, Guruve, Mbire, Mazoe, Chiweshe, Muzarabani, Bindura, **Manicaland-** Headlands, Chimanimani, Buhera, Mutare, **Mashonaland East-**Harare, Chitungwiza, Uzumba, Mutoko, Marondera, Murehwa, Mudzi, **Matebeleland-** Bulawayo, Beitbridge, Tsholotsho, Lupane, **Midlands-** Gokwe, Kwekwe, Kadoma, Gweru, **Masvingo-** Mwenenzi, Zaka, Gutu. **Mashonaland West-** Karoi.

A total of 38 districts from seven provinces were covered between the period- January- June 2013.

Area	Number of violations	Nature of human rights violations (cases)	Reported cases to the police	Name and positions of perpetrators
Manicaland Chimanimani	7	2 cases of Harassment, 3 cases of intimidation, 1 cases of disruption of a meeting, 1 case of disruption of the voter registration process.	1	ZANU PF supporters, Hon Samuel Undenge Member of Parliament (MP) for Chimanimani, war veterans- Dera and Jezenga, council officers.
Buhera	11	1 Abduction, 2 assault cases, 1 arrest, 2 harassment, 4 intimidation, 1 unfair distribution	5	ZANU PF supporters, Jefta Masikati and Mr Tekedai, soldier -Peter Nendanga, ZANU PF youths, Mr Ganzi and Mr Organ Nyahwo, ZANU

		of maize.		PF aspiring Member of Parliament, Mr Mandipaza, War veteran Zinzombe, Mr Alois Chamangwari a ZANU PF youth.
Mutare	2	2 cases of intra party violence- Assault		MDC T activists.
Makoni	4	1 Forced to attend ZANU PF meetings, 1 Intimidation, 1 abduction, 1 assault		Soldiers, Gladys Kadungura, Mako Chigudu, ZANU PF youth- Alexio Mapuranga, Bernad Chidemo and Phillip Nyakarombo.
Headlands	2	1 Disruption of rally, 1 arrest	1	Police, unnamed ZANU PF youth.
Masvingo - Chiredzi	7	1 arrest, 3 intimidation, 1 forced to attend political party meetings, 2 harassments.		ZANU PF supporters, Liveson Pikelele, members of the police, chief Tsovani, Chief Sengwe, Chief Gudo, soldier -Jeremiah Masiya.
Masvingo North	2	1 Forced to attend a political party meeting, 1 intimidation,		Chief Charumbira, Chief Mugabe.
Masvingo South	1	1 intimidation.		ZANU PF youth.
Chivi	9	2 Harassments, 4 intimidation, 1 assault, 2 barred from participating in the voter	4	Headman Willard Sandachera, ZANU PF supporters, Mr Guta, Edward Chinhoyi, former soldiers -Onward Verenga, Jameson Muzvidziwa,

		registration process		Machanja, ZANU PF youth, member of the CIO-Taru Mangezu.
Bikita	1	1 case of intimidation.		Some war veterans in the area.
Zimuto	1	1 Intimidation.		ZANU PF aspiring MP Jacob Chademana.
Mwenezi	4	3 Intimidation, 1 Harassment.	2	ZANU PF supporters, Ex soldier- Nyasha Maphosa, CIO members.
Zaka	4	Intimidation, disturbing the voter registration process, assault.	1	ZANU PF youth, War veteran Mr Chironhaho, ZANU PF supporter Mr Mutandwa, one traditional leader in the area.
Gutu	3	Intimidation, Harassment, assault.	3	ZANU PF supporters- Mrs Mhondiwa, Lux Mugutsa and Stan Mukotami.
Mashonaland Central- Shamva	3	2 Intimidation, 1 harassment.		ZANU PF youth.
Mazowe	2	1 Disruption of the voter registration process, 1 forced to attend a rally.	2	ZANU PF youth, ZANU PF supporters.
Bindura	2	1 house petrol bombed, 1 case of intimidation.	1	ZANU PF supporters, war veterans.
Mbire	1	1 case of harassment.	1	ZANU PF youth chairman Mr Nathan Muzeza.
Guruve	9	2 Harassment, 4 intimidation, 1	1	ZANU PF supporters, war veteran Mondo. ZANU

		unfair distribution of food aid, 2 forced to attend ZANU PF meetings.		PF Councillor Kafungura, Headman Faston Chimanikire, ZANU PF Ward secretary Tapfumaneyi Matibiri.
Muzarabani	8	4 Intimidation, 3 harassment, 1 malicious damage to property.	2	ZANU PF supporter Mr Musona, retired soldier Haminyari Kamusengezi, ZANU PF councillor Amon Mavedzenge and ZANU PF youth.
Chiweshe	2	1 Harassment, 1 intimidation.		Chief Negomo.
Chaona	2	1 Assault, 1 intimidation.	1	ZANU PF youth.
Mt Darwin	1	1 Disruption of a political meeting.		ZANU PF supporters.
Mashonaland East - Harare	2	2 cases of assault.	1	ZANU PF supporters, MDC youth Herbert Moyo.
Chitungwiza	4	1 Assault, 1 unwarranted arrest, 1 disruption of a political party meeting, 1 intimidation.	2	Members of the police, ZANU PF youth.
Mutoko	2	1 case of Intimidation, 1 harassment.		Soldiers Major Rogers Chinomona, Smart Gurure, and Tsungai.
Murehwa	2	1 case of unfair dismissal from work, 1 intimidation.	1	Member of the CIO Agatha Mudzinganyama, Hon David Parirenyatwa.
Uzumba	1	1 Disruption of the voter		Mr Chiwara a worker at the registrar's office.

		registration process.		
Mudzi	10	4 Intimidation, 3 harassment, 1 assault, 2 forced to attend political party meetings.	2	ZANU PF youth and supporters Mr Mutepaire and Mr Silumba. ZANU PF Councillor Alois Kambambaira and Kraal head Chatima.
Marondera	2	1 confiscation of property, 1 arrest.		Police, ZANU PF supporters.
Midlands-Gokwe	9	1 case of disturbing the smooth flow of the voter registration process, 4 intimidation, 1 politicisation of teaching posts, 1 assault, 1 abduction, 1 forced to attend a political party meeting.	2	ZANU PF supporters Mr Chimusoro, Mr Musinake, Ministry of Education officials, War veterans -Mr Gondo and Mr Nyoni.
Kwekwe	2	1 case of confiscation of shortwave radios, 1 unfair distribution of food aid.	1	Police, ZANU PF members, Pedsure Mazhara and Judith Madhakaba.
Kadoma	2	1 case of arrest, 1 case of disturbing the voter registration process.	2	ZANU PF supporter Regis Musapurwa and members of the police.
Gweru	1	1 assault	1	ZANU PF youth John Kadamanja.
Mashonaland West - Karoi	1	1 intimidation		ZANU PF youth.

Matebeleland South Beitbridge	2	1 assault, 1 intimidation.	1	Kembo Mohadi- Co- home affairs Minister and ZANU PF youth.
Matebeleland North Tsholotsho	1	1 intimidation.		War Veteran- Jabulani Sibanda and 5 other war veterans.
Bulawayo	6	2 arrests, 2 intimidation, 1 assault, 1 harassment.	3	Police, ZANU PF supporters, MDC supporters.

Nature of Human rights violations

The six month report attempts to show the trends of political violence that have been recorded by Heal Zimbabwe from January to June 2013.

The most common and worrying violation recorded every week was harassment of political foes or suspected political foes. The mid-year report shows that cases of harassment increased as the year was progressing. This can be attributed to the holding of harmonised elections end of July 2013. Also linked to the above trend is the issue of intimidation which was very common in a number of areas. Verbal threats were made at a number of rallies and these were meant to cow people into submission and deny them the opportunity to exercise their freedom of choice and assembly. The covert forms of political violence which are harassment and intimidation were in most cases perpetrated by ZANU PF supporters on other members of different political parties especially MDC T. Another emerging trend in the mid year report was that of assault, which was recorded across all the areas covered. Assault has always been used as a form of punishment on those that are deemed as "sell-outs" who support certain political parties. However, what is more striking is that cases of assault were also recorded during intra party conflicts emerging during the primary elections held in June. Notable case was the MDC inter- party violence that broke out in Chikanga- Danganvura during the MP

confirmation process and the primary elections. Another disturbing case of assault was when a Zimbabwe Independent journalist, Herbert Moyo was attacked by MDC youth at their Party's Headquarters on 7 June 2013. The attack came when the journalist attempted to cover a demonstration by some MDC party supporters at Harvest House. A case of abduction was also recorded in the period under review. Although HZT only recorded a single case, there are chances that this form of violence will increase as the country heads towards elections.

Another form of human rights violations that has become rampant in communities is the unfair distribution of food aid. In many areas that received sporadic rainfall, the food aid exercise is being used to further divide communities as traditional leaders are being accused of distributing the food in a partisan manner. Given the vulnerability of the rural populace, many are now being forced to buy ZANU PF cards in order for them to access the aid which is initially meant for all the needy regardless of political party affiliation. Disruption of political party meetings and forced attendance of people to rallies were also reported as violations that happened in communities. Also another trend worth mentioning in this period under review is that the members of the security sector have been singled out as being perpetrators of most of the violations that took place in rural communities. Members of the army have been accused of leading terror campaigns in communities and most of these are the ones under the Maguta operation who have been staying in the communities for the past six years. These soldiers forced villagers to attend their meetings where they threatened them with death if they do not vote for ZANU PF in the July 31 elections. Members of the police were also accused of conducting their duties in a partisan manner by failing to apprehend perpetrators of political violence who were mostly ZANU PF supporters. Also members of the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) have been mentioned in this report as having participated in a number of human rights violations.

Another emerging trend is that politicians especially aspiring candidates for MPs and councillors posts were instigating political violence. In June towards the primary elections, a number of politicians were found inciting violence and were also promoting hate speech. Confiscation of personal property was also reported as another type of violation that was experienced during the period under review. The police were at the forefront of confiscating people's personal property especially the shortwave radios. Another trend recorded was the partisan conduct of traditional leaders who continued to involve themselves into partisan politics. A number of Chiefs, headmen and village heads were reported to have forced villagers to attend political rallies as well as threatening people in their areas to subscribe to one political party. Another emerging trend was the systematic disruption of the voter registration process across the country. This was mainly orchestrated by ZANU PF youth who chased away potential voters demanding to see first a ZANU PF membership card before allowing the people into the registration office. Traditional leaders were also accused of denying proof of residents to Anti- ZANU PF supporters leading to many people failing to register.

Officials from the Registrar General’s office who were conducting the voter registration exercise were also accused of being very slow in discharging their duties leading to an average of only 15-20 people registering per each centre per day.

Another trend of human rights violations recorded is that the highest number of political violations was witnessed in Manicaland, with Buhera district topping the list, followed by Mashonaland Central, with Guruve and Muzarabani recording the highest number of violations as well as Masvingo with Chivi topping the list. What is worrying is that these same areas were hotbeds of political violence during the previous elections and it is HZT's hope that these areas exercise tolerance during the pending elections.

Below are some of the people who have been directly involved in human rights violations.

Name of perpetrators	Position held	Area	Injustices Committed
Hon Samuel Undenge	MP Chimanimani	Manicaland Chimanimani	Harassment.
Mr Dera	war veteran	Manicaland Chimanimani	Intimidation.
Mr Jezenga	war veteran	Manicaland	Intimidation.

		Chimanimani	
Mr Tekedai	ZANU PF supporter	Manicaland Buhera	Assault.
Peter Nendanga	Soldier	Manicaland Buhera	Intimidation.
Mr Ganzi	ZANU PF youth	Manicaland Buhera	Harassment.
Mr Organ Nyahwo	ZANU PF youth	Manicaland Buhera	Harassment.
Mr Mandipaza	ZANU PF aspiring Member of Parliament	Manicaland Buhera	Unfair distribution of maize.

Mr Zinzombe	War veteran	Manicaland Buhera	Intimidation.
Alois Chamangwari	ZANU PF youth	Manicaland Buhera	Abduction.
Gladys Kadungura	Soldier	Manicaland Makoni	Intimidation.
Mako Chigudu	Soldier	Manicaland Makoni	Forcing people to attend ZANU PF meetings.
Alexio Mapuranga	ZANU PF youth	Manicaland Makoni	Assault.
Bernad Chidemo	ZANU PF youth	Manicaland Makoni	Abduction.

Phillip Nyakarombo	ZANU PF youth	Manicaland Makoni	Intimidation.
Liveson Pikelele	ZANU PF supporter	Masvingo - Chiredzi	Intimidation.
Mr Tsovani	Chief	Masvingo - Chiredzi	Forcing people to attend political party meetings.
Chief Gudo	Chief	Masvingo - Chiredzi	Intimidation.
Jeremiah Masiya	Soldier	Masvingo- Chiredzi	Harassment.
Chief Charumbira	Chief	Masvingo - Chiredzi	Forcing people to attend ZANU PF meetings.
Chief Mugabe	Chief	Masvingo - North	Intimidation.

Willard Sandachera	Headman	Masvingo - Chivi	Intimidation.
Mr Guta	ZANU PF supporter	Masvingo – Chivi	Intimidation.
Edward Chinhoyi	ZANU PF supporter	Masvingo – Chivi	Intimidation.
Onward Verenga	Ex- soldier	Masvingo – Chivi	Harassment.
Jameson Muzvidziwa	Ex -soldier	Masvingo – Chivi	Assault.
Taru Mangezu.	Member of the Central Intelligence Office (CIO)	Masvingo - Chivi	Intimidation.
Jacob Chademana	ZANU PF aspiring MP	Masvingo - Chiredzi	Intimidation.

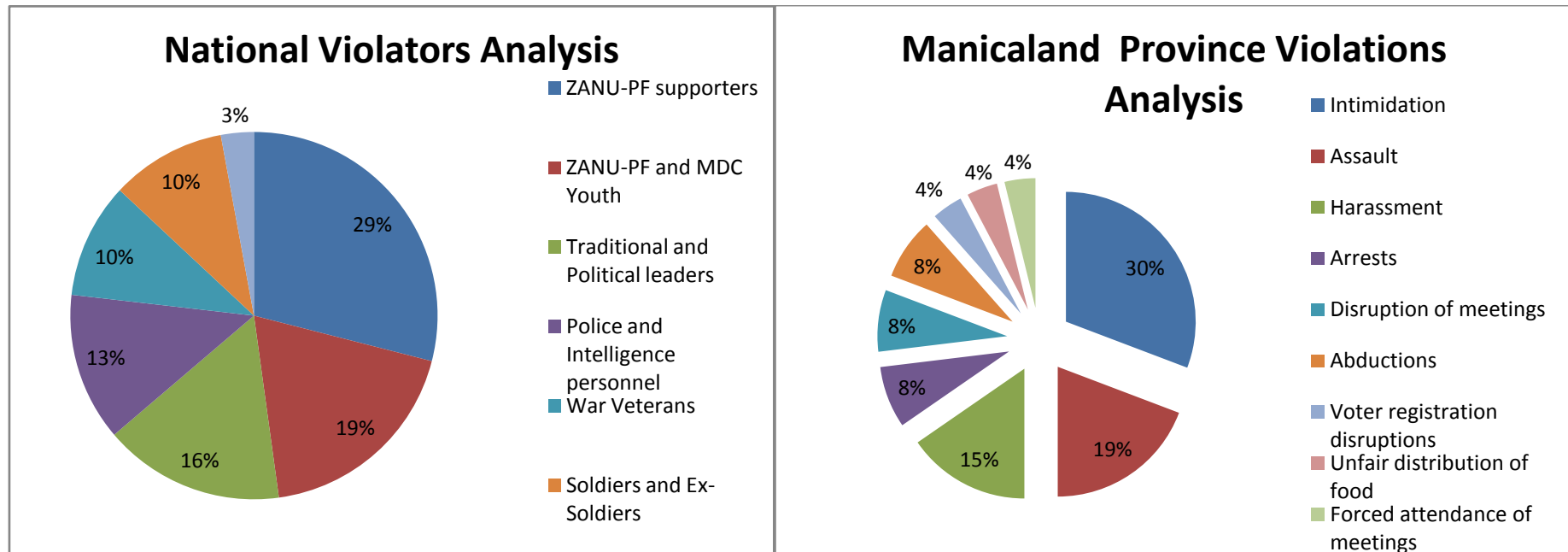
Nyasha Maphosa	Ex- soldier	Masvingo- Mwenezi	Intimidation.
Mr Chironhaho	War veteran	Masvingo- Zaka	Intimidation.
Mr Mutandwa	ZANU PF supporter	Masvingo- Zaka	Disrupting the voter registration process and assault.
Mrs Mhondiwa	ZANU PF supporter	Masvingo- Gutu	Intimidation.
Lux Mugutsa	ZANU PF supporter	Masvingo- Gutu	Harassment.
Stan Mukotami	ZANU PF supporter	Masvingo- Gutu	Assault.
Nathan Muzeza	ZANU PF youth Chairperson	Mashonaland Central- Mbire	Harassment.
Mr Mondo	War veteran.	Mashonaland Central- Guruve	Intimidation.

Mr Musona	ZANU PF supporter	Mashonaland Central- Muzarabani	Intimidation.
Hamunyari Kamusengezi	Ex- soldier	Mashonaland Central- Muzarabani	Harassment.
Amon Mavedzenge	ZANU PF Councillor	Mashonaland Central- Muzarabani	Intimidation.
Chief Negomo	Chief	Mashonaland Central- Chiweshe	Harassment.
Rogers Chinomona	Soldier	Mashonaland East - Mutoko	Intimidation.
Smart Gurure	Soldier	Mashonaland East - Mutoko	Harassment.
Agatha Mudzinganyama	A member of the Central Intelligence Office (CIO)	Mashonaland East- Murehwa	Dismissed an MDC official from work on political grounds.

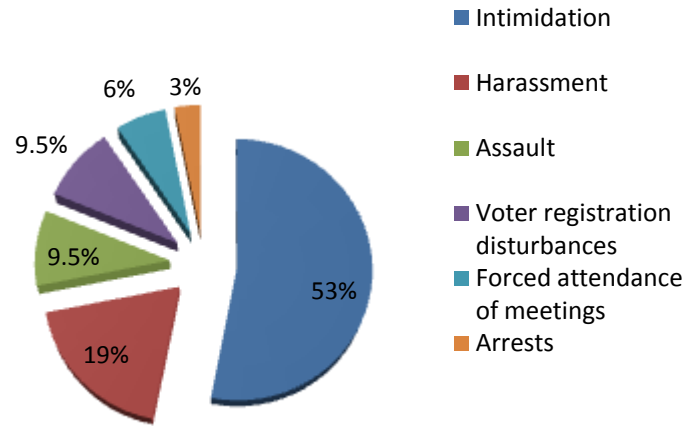
Hon David Parirenyatwa	Member of Parliament (MP)	Mashonaland East- Murehwa	Intimidation.
Mr Chiwara	An employee at the register's office	Mashonaland East- Uzumba	Disturbing the voter registration process.
Mr Mutepaire	ZANU PF supporter	Mashonaland East- Mudzi	Harassment.
Mr Silumba	ZANU PF supporter	Mashonaland East- Mudzi	Harassment.
Alois Kambambaira	Councillor	Mashonaland East- Mudzi	Assault.
Mr Chatima	Kraal head	Mashonaland East- Mudzi	Forced villagers to attend meetings.
Mr Chimusoro	ZANU PF supporter	Midlands- Gokwe	Intimidation.
Mr Musinake	ZANU PF supporter	Midlands- Gokwe	Abduction.

Mr Gondo	War veteran	Midlands- Gokwe	Intimidation.
Mr Nyoni	War veteran	Midlands- Gokwe	Forcing people to attend a ZANU PF meeting.
Pedsure Mazhara	ZANU PF supporter	Midlands- Kwekwe	Unfair distribution of food aid.
Judith Madhakaba	ZANU PF supporter	Midlands- Kwekwe	Unfair distribution of food aid.
Regis Musapurwa	ZANU PF supporter	Midlands- Kadoma	Disturbing the voter registration process.
John Kadamanja	ZANU PF youth.	Midlands- Gweru	Assault.
Kembo Mohadi.	Co- home affairs Minister.	Matebeleland South- Beitbridge	Assault.
Jabulani Sibanda.	War veteran	Matebeleland- Tsholotsho	Intimidation.

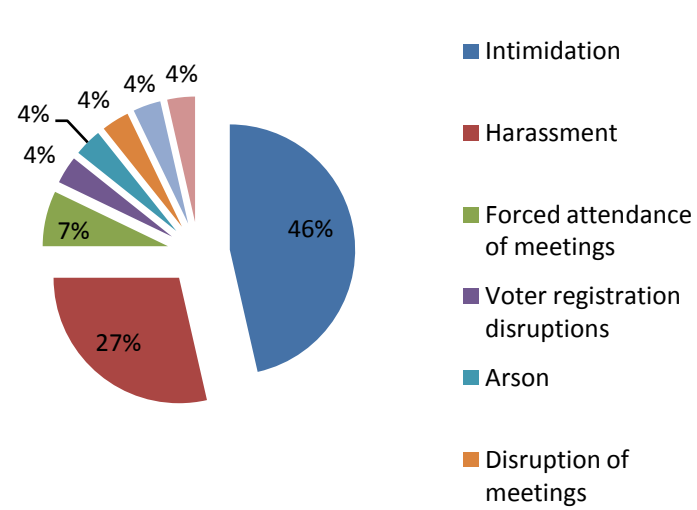
Human Rights Violations Analysis at National and Provincial Levels.

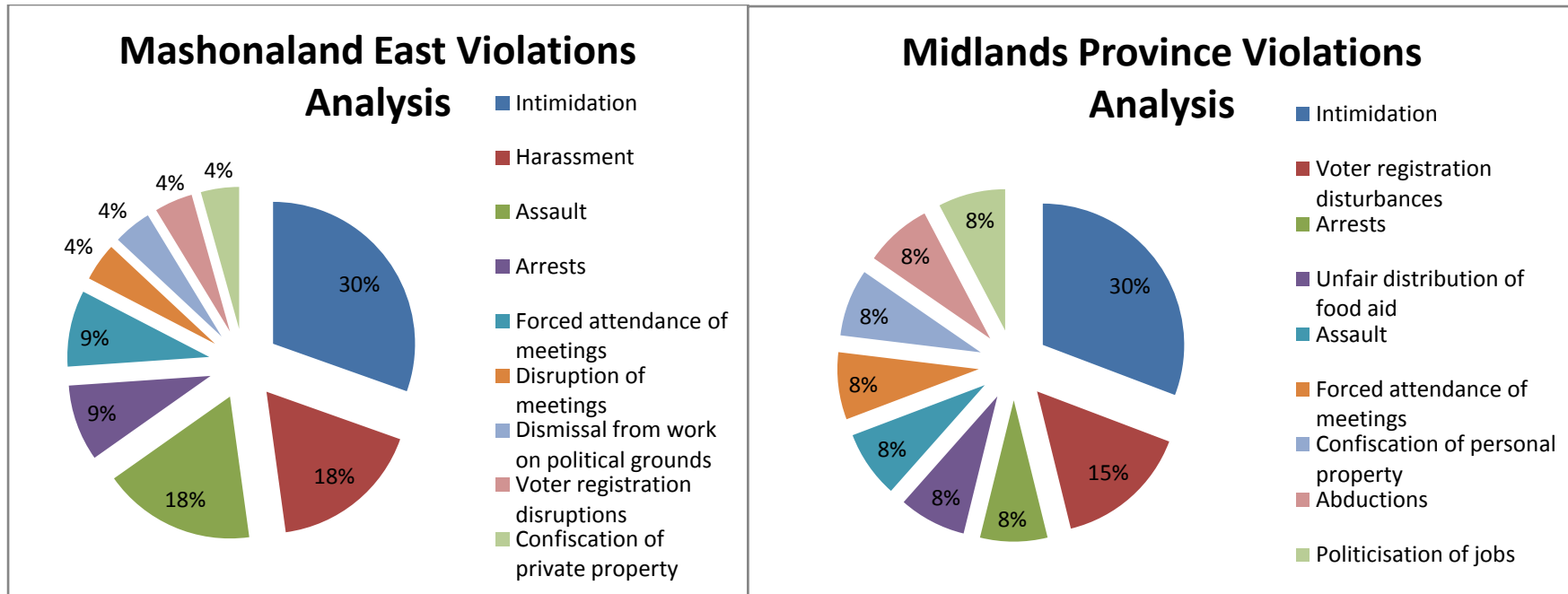


Masvingo Province Violations Analysis



Mashonaland Central Violations Analysis





The analysis' reveals that there are both covert and overt forms of violence in Zimbabwe. The overt violence tends to be physical in nature as revealed by the cases of assault, arson and abduction recorded in Midlands, Mashonaland East and Mashonaland Central. The covert cases of violence such as intimidation, harassment and forced attendance to meetings top the list of violations since all provinces recorded such cases. Masvingo province recorded the highest cases of intimidation while Mashonaland West province was generally peaceful and recorded only 1 case of intimidation in Karoi. The covert violations are not very easy to detect compared to the more overt ones. Though the two aforementioned forms seem different, it does not lessen the damage they cause because people still live in fear of the unknown and cannot freely exercise their right to vote. The reports also show trends of institutional forms of violations perpetrated by the police, soldiers, traditional and political leaders. This clearly calls for institutional reform so that communities regain confidence in state institutions meant to be symbols of security and unity.

Heal Zimbabwe- Violations Analysis

Legend

-  Project Area
-  inter_bdry
-  districtboundaries
-  Constifcation of Property
-  Murder
-  Intimidation
-  Unfair Distribution of food aid
-  Assaults
-  Arrests
-  Disruption of Meetings
-  Arson
-  Voter Registration violations
-  Harrassment
-  Abduction
-  Forced attendance of meetings

