

K E N Y A

Economic classification:	Low Income economy	
Oil exporter or importer (net):	Importer	
Annual per capita income:	US\$419	year 1980
Annual per capita GNP	US\$420	year 1980
Average annual growth 1960-80	2.7 %	
Annual inflation rate 1970-80	11.0 %	
Annual inflation rate (current)	14.6 %	
Volume of imports	2.305 billion US\$	year 1980
Of which food	4 %	year 1980
Of which fuels	3.3 %	year 1980
Principal foreign exchange earning export:	Petroleum	
Debt service as % of GNP	21.5 %	year 1982
Debt service as % of exports	12.2 %	year 1981
Population	18 million	year 1983
Annual population growth	4.1 %	years 1980-2000
Annual Consumption:		
Flour	242,800 tonnes	year 1982

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Crop Situation and Outlook

The 1982 maize harvest was good enough to enable the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) to build up sizeable reserves. However, concern over lack of storage space led to exports through WFP of 150,000 tonnes of maize during 1983/84. The tardiness of 1983 long rains (March/May) resulted in delayed planting in many areas leading to a drop in production from 26.1M bags in 1982/83 to 24.2M bags during 1983/84. Several areas which are normally self-sufficient in maize, suffered a severe drought and became net importers. As a consequence the area under maize cultivation dropped from 1.5M hectares to 1.4M hectares. Despite the deficit in overall production, purchases made by the National Cereals and produce Board appeared to rise during 1983, possibly due to increased producer price levels.

Wheat production increased slightly during 1983 from 234,700 tonnes to 242,300 tonnes, although it failed to keep pace with the continued increase in demand and shortfalls were met through imports. Although efforts are being made to intensify production through expansion of acreage and increased producer prices, clearly population pressures will cause increasing fragmentation of land, providing a significant restraint on production.

The outlook for both wheat and maize for 1984/85 is extremely bleak. The failure of the 1984 long rains in the major food producing areas, has extended the drought situation. Although there appears to be adequate stocks of maize in the NCPB stores to last until the next harvest, the Government has already taken steps to import 1.5M tons of both maize and wheat, both commercially and on a concessional basis.