

Benefits of Slower Population Growth in Zomba District

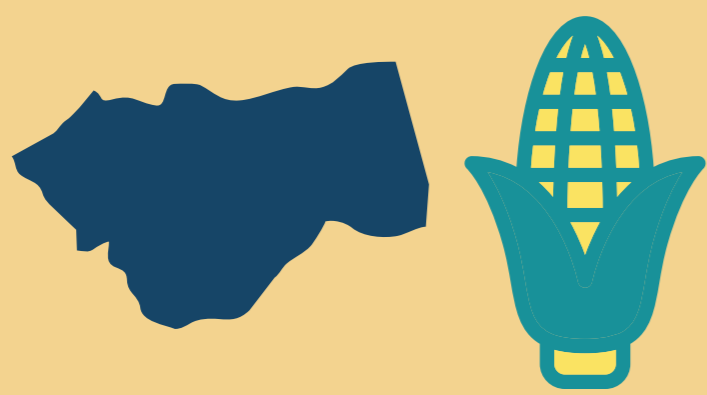


Rapid population growth is significantly affecting Malawi's ability to meet basic health, education, agriculture, and economic needs.

In **Zomba**, the population is expected to increase from approximately **863,884** in 2018 to **1,177,286** by 2030.

By 2030, slower population growth from lower fertility in Zomba could result in:

Reduced pressure on land and agriculture



17 less people per km² than if current population growth continues

A health care system with less human resource shortages



29 less community health workers would need to be hired

More resources for children's education



19 less primary schools would need to be built

An education system with less teacher shortages



295 less primary teachers would need to be hired

Couples in Zomba want smaller families...

4.1 number of children per woman



2.9 desired number of children



1 in 3 girls 15–19 years of age have begun childbearing



1 in 6 married women would like to avoid pregnancy but are not using family planning



Investing in family planning benefits families and development across all sectors.

Data from Malawi Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16 and RAPID projections for Zomba District. Developed with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development-funded Health Policy Plus project.