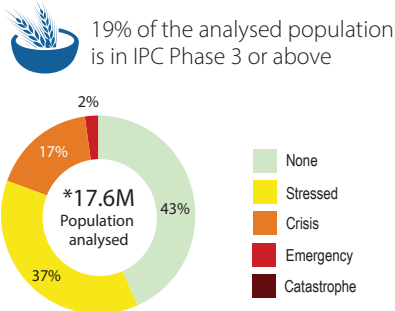


Current Situation Key Figures | March - May 2023



About 3.5 million people out of the 17.6 million people analysed experienced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Guatemala between March and May 2023



Overview

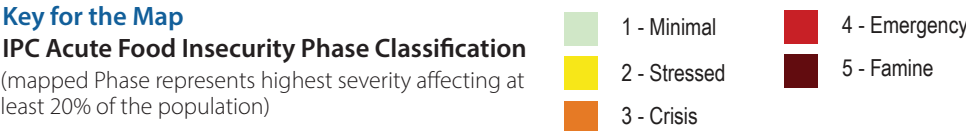
In the latest IPC Acute Food Insecurity analysis, the 17.6 million inhabitants of all 22 departments of Guatemala were analysed. Between March to May 2023, approximately 3.5 million people experienced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) and therefore require urgent actions. This figure is expected to increase to 4.3 million people in the first projected period of June to August 2023 when the lean season falls and decrease to 3.1 million people in the second projected period of September 2023 to February 2024 – the harvest season.

The most vulnerable populations are daily labourers and small basic grain farmers who exhausted their reserves between March to May 2023, as well as households that depend mainly on food purchases to meet their food needs. The increase in the prices of the basic food basket, as well as the prices of fertilisers, fuel and other services, coupled with limited income, increase the need to resort to stress, crisis or emergency coping strategies to meet household food needs. The strategies most commonly used by households are: selling productive assets, goods and animals, migrating, borrowing money, reducing health expenditures or using up their seed reserves. At the end of the March to May 2023 period, maize and beans stocks were lower than expected. However, consumption indicators were at an acceptable level.

In the first projected period of June to August 2023, the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) is expected to increase seasonably as we enter into the lean season. In this period, smallholder farmers will likely be forced to buy back at high cost the grains previously sold at a lower price during the post-harvest peak of supply. In addition, agricultural employment options in coffee, cardamom and other crops traditionally decrease at this time of year. This situation will have an impact on the increased use of livelihood coping strategies.

In the second projected period of September 2023 to February 2024, conditions are expected to improve with eight departments returning to IPC Phase 2, Stressed as a result of the maize and beans harvest in September and October; the income generated from daily wages for the coffee and cardamom harvest; seasonal migration for the sugar cane harvest on the south coast from October onwards; as well as the receipt of remittances for the end-of-year season. Despite these positive factors, vulnerable people will remain in Phase 3 or above. It is also likely that the second harvest of basic grains will not be as abundant as in previous years, due to the high probability of El Niño conditions.

CURRENT: Acute Food Insecurity Situation | March - May 2023



Key Drivers



High food prices

Although the prices of basic grains, fuels and fertilisers show a tendency to stabilise this year, they remain above the average of recent years. The cost of the basic food basket has also increased (higher than the official minimum wage), therefore, households' access to food consumption is affected, leading to an increase in the use of stress and crisis coping strategies, which may intensify even more in the first projection period.



Depletion of food reserves

Stocks of staple grains in smallholder households are being depleted, increasing the risk of food insecurity for the most vulnerable households. This is seen in both the current period as well as the first projection period, which coincides with the country's seasonal hunger period.

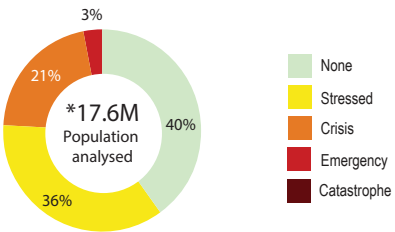
PROJECTION: Acute Food Insecurity | June - August 2023



Projection Key Figures | June - Aug 2023



About 4.3 million people (24% of the analysed population of 17.6 million) are likely to experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Guatemala between June and August 2023



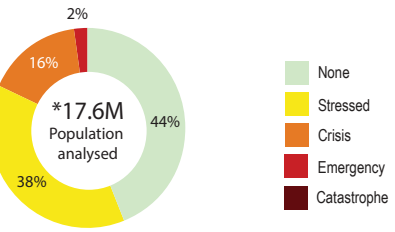
PROJECTION: Acute Food Insecurity | September 2023 - February 2024



Projection Key Figures | Sep 2023 - Feb 2024



About 3.1 million people (18% of the analysed population of 17.6 million) are likely to experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Guatemala between September 2023 and February 2024



IPC Analysis Partners

