About 2.3 million people in Honduras are likely experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity through May 2023, due to high food prices and natural disasters, including floods and tropical storms. Between December 2022 and February 2023, which is when the postreina harvest has ended in most of the country, at least 2.3 million people (24% of the analyzed population) were in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse, thus requiring urgent actions with response objectives aimed at protecting livelihoods and reducing food consumption gaps. Almost 2 million people are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), and over 310,000 are in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) nationwide. Of the 20 areas analyzed (the 18 departments and the cities of Ocosito Central and San Pedro Sula), 17 were classified in Phase 3, except for the departments of Islas de la Bahía, El Paraiso and the city of San Pedro Sula, which were classified in Phase 2.

From March to May 2023, the situation is likely to remain almost stable at the national level, with a proportion of 24% of the population (2.3 million) in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), however, within the country in some departments, changes in severity, magnitude and classification are expected.

From June to August 2023, the situation shows a slight deterioration, with about 2.4 million people (25% in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above)). The result reflects varying dynamics within the country, which could be attributed to changes in the main livelihoods that have heterogeneous behaviors that do not necessarily coincide with the seasonality traditionally linked to agricultural production; this is more visible at present due to the economic recovery and possible "post-pandemic" effect of COVID-19.

**Key Drivers**

- **High cost of the basic food basket**
  - The food inflation rate throughout the year of 2022 has been the highest in the last decade, registering percentages that exceed 35% in the last six months of the year. Although by December 2022 it showed a reduction, it is still higher than the average of the decade.
- **Rising fuel and input prices**
  - Fuel and production input prices have remained above the average of the last five years, influenced by high transportation costs, as well as the impact of the conflict in the international economy.
- **Climate factors such as flooding**
  - Floods caused by recurrent tropical storms have put at risk areas of the country with high vulnerability, such as the north coast and the department of Gracias a Dios, where it caused total losses of infrastructure and crops, a situation that generates severe gaps in food consumption and strategies for coping with crises or emergencies.
- **Reduced income**
  - During the last quarter of 2022, at least 39% of households reported shocks or disruptions that limited their ability to generate income or produce food for self-consumption. Contracting the above with the increase in food prices, household purchasing power has been strongly affected.

**Trend Analysis: December 2021 - August 2023**

- **Projected Acute Food Insecurity Situation March - May 2023**
  - Over 2.3 million people are expected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between March and May 2023.
- **Projected Acute Food Insecurity Situation June - August 2023**
  - Over 2.4 million people are expected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between June and August 2023.