HONDURAS: IPC Acute Food Insecurity Snapshot | December 2023 - August 2024

IPC — Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security and Nutrition Decisions

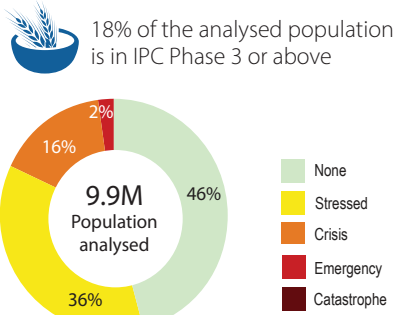20 YEARS informing decisions

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Current Situation Key Figures | December 2023 - February 2024

1.8M

About 1.8 million people out of the 9.9 million people analysed experienced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Honduras between December 2023 and February 2024.

18% of the analysed population is in IPC Phase 3 or above

9.9M Population analysed
- None 46%
- Stressed 36%
- Crisis 16%
- Emergency 2%
- Catastrophe

Overview

About 1.8 million people (18 percent of the population analysed) experienced high levels of acute food insecurity, classified in IPC Phase 3 or above (Crisis or worse) between December 2023 and February 2024, including approximately 174,000 people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 1.6 million people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Urgent action is needed to protect lives and reduce food consumption gaps.

Of the 19 areas analysed (18 departments and the central district), six were classified in Phase 3, including Gracias a Dios, Lempira, Yoro, Choluteca, La Paz and Santa Bárbara. The remaining departments were classified in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed). The departments with the highest levels of food insecurity were Gracias a Dios (48 percent), Lempira and Yoro (both 28 percent), while areas with the highest levels of food insecurity were Cortés (including El Progreso) with around 340,000 people, Central District (201,000 people) and Yoro (128,000 people).

Low income, coupled with high food prices is putting pressure on the poorest households – reducing their purchasing power and driving food insecurity. Additionally, the unemployment rate in the country is high, with 57.3 percent of the workforce unemployed or underemployed (due to insufficient work time or income).

Although humanitarian food aid has been provided by the state and aid agencies to the most affected populations, it still falls short of the minimum 25 percent of food energy required by IPC protocols to be considered sufficient.

In the first projected period (March to May 2024), the situation remains similar to the current period, with a slight increase in the population classified in IPC Phase 3 or above (1.8 million). The six departments classified in Phase 3 for this period are expected to maintain the same classification, with the exception of Santa Bárbara, which will move to Phase 2, and Intibucá, which will move to Phase 3. Although in most areas the classification does not change, the proportion of the population in IPC phase 3 or above tends to increase.

The situation is expected to deteriorate in the second projection period (June to August 2024) in line with the seasonal hunger period. Nearly 1.9 million people (19 percent of the population analysed) are projected to be in IPC Phase 3 or above, including 226,000 people in Phase 4. In addition to the six departments classified in Phase 3 in the first projection, the departments of Olancho, El Paraíso and Valle will also likely move to Phase 3.

CURRENT: Acute Food Insecurity Situation | December 2023 - February 2024

Evidence Level
*** High
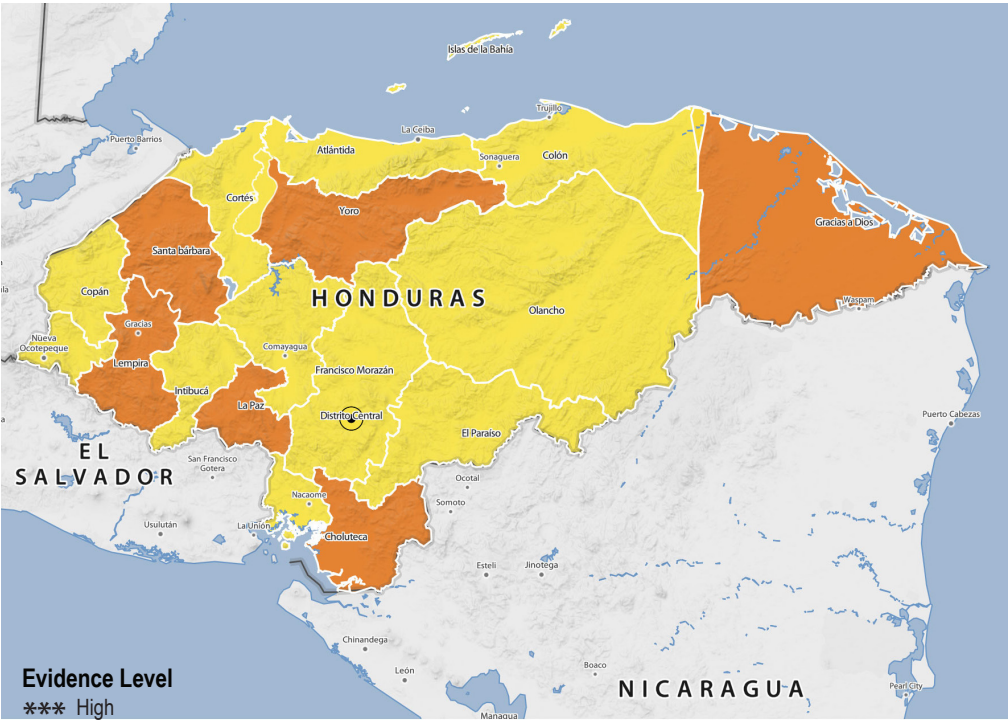
Key for the Map

IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification
(mapped Phase represents highest severity affecting at least 20% of the population)

- 1 - None
- 2 - Stressed
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Catastrophe

Key Drivers

Low income
About 50 percent of households report a reduction in earning capacity during the period October to December 2023.

High food prices
Although food inflation has declined, the cost of the basic food basket remains high, affecting the purchasing power of a significant proportion of households.
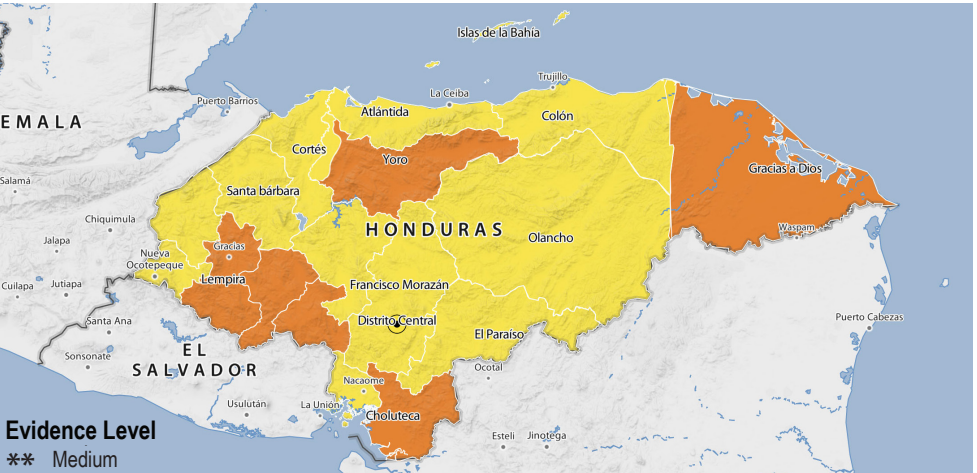
Unemployment
The unemployment rate in the country was around 8 percent in 2023, a rate that has been consistent since 2021. Around 57.3 percent of the labour force is inactive (unemployed or underemployed).

PROJECTION: Acute Food Insecurity | March - May 2024

Evidence Level
** Medium
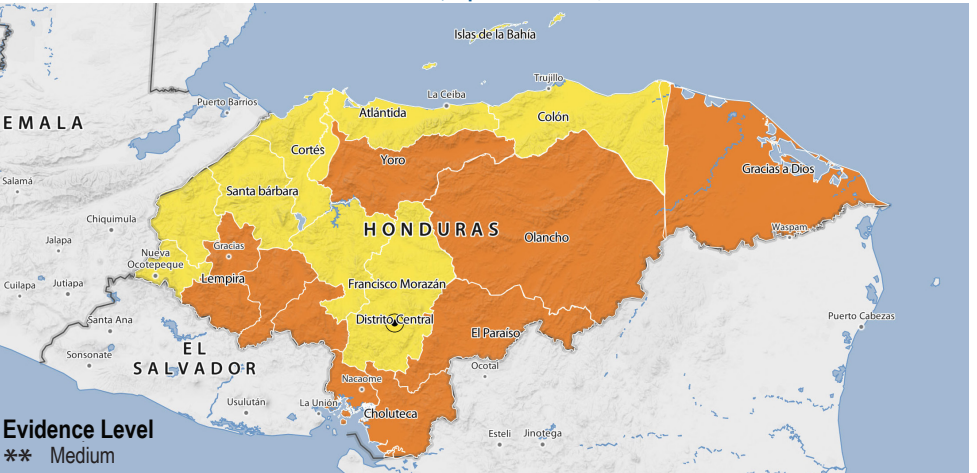
Projection Key Figures | March - May 2024

1.8M

About 1.8 million people out of the 9.9 million people analysed experienced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Honduras between March and May 2024.

9.9M Population analysed
- None 46%
- Stressed 36%
- Crisis 16%
- Emergency 2%
- Catastrophe
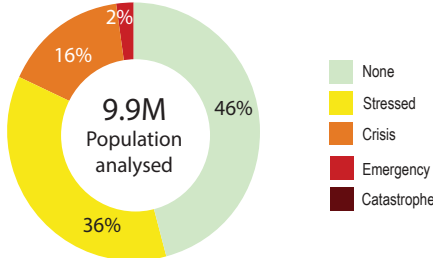
PROJECTION: Acute Food Insecurity | June - August 2024

Evidence Level
** Medium

Projection Key Figures | June - August 2024

1.9M

About 1.9 million people out of the 9.9 million people analysed experienced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Honduras between June and August 2024.

9.9M Population analysed
- None 45%
- Stressed 35%
- Crisis 17%
- Emergency 2%
- Catastrophe

IPC Analysis Partners

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