

Overview

According to the latest IPC analysis, nearly half of the population in the Government-controlled areas in Yemen – approximately 4.95 million people – are facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) during the current period (May to August 2025). Alarmingly, over 1.5 million people (15 percent of the analysed population) are in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), while another 3.4 million (34 percent of the analysed population) are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). The food security situation is rapidly worsening compared to last year. All 118 analysed districts are now classified in Crisis or worse, including 41 districts currently classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). This reflects an increase of 29 districts in Phase 4 from the last projection analysis ending in February 2025.

Acute food insecurity is escalating for the internally displaced population (IDPs), marginalised, urban poor as well for low-income households in rural areas due to the combined impact of ongoing economic decline, rising food and fuel costs, currency depreciation, significant cuts in humanitarian aid, active conflict, anticipated floods in July 2025, and a delayed planting season. Prior to May 2025, Humanitarian Food Security Assistance (HFSA) reached approximately 3.6 million people. In May 2025, this number dropped to 2.8 million people and no HFSA is expected to be available from July 2025 onwards. These compounding crises are worsening an already precarious situation after a decade of civil war that devastated the economy, displaced millions, and disrupted markets and livelihoods. Continuous price hikes are severely limiting food access, with the cost of the minimum food basket projected to increase by 26 percent by August 2025 compared to the same month last year. This occurs against a backdrop of further economic deterioration expected through early 2026, characterised by the contraction of GDP and real income due to the depreciation of the Yemeni Rial, halted oil exports, limited funding, and rising inflation. Reduced off-farm and agricultural labor opportunities, coupled with the diminished value of public sector salaries due to inflation, are further straining household budgets. The near collapse of basic public services such as education, healthcare, and electricity adds to this pressure. Critically, the reduction in emergency food aid and livelihood support following donor funding cuts put an end to a vital safety net that had been preventing alarming levels of acute food insecurity, particularly for vulnerable segments of the population.

The food security situation in Government-controlled areas is projected to worsen further from September 2025 to February 2026. An estimated 53 percent of the population (5.38 million people) is expected to face IPC Phase 3 or worse conditions, marking an increase of 420,000 people compared to the May to August 2025 period. Furthermore, seven additional districts are predicted to deteriorate into Emergency (IPC Phase 4), bringing the total to 48 out of 118 analysed districts in Phase 4. This alarming deterioration is anticipated due to the expected further reduction in humanitarian food assistance, the intensification of the macro-economic crisis, and the continued upward trajectory of currency collapse and food prices reaching unprecedented levels. Given the volatility of the context and the concerns over the malnutrition situation in southern Yemen, in the eventuality of an intensification of conflict and lower-than-expected HFSA levels in the current period, portions of population already in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) could slide into IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe).

To avert a rapid deterioration into the highest phases of acute food insecurity, HFSA must be scaled up immediately. This entails reversing assistance termination orders, but also securing additional funding to sustain critical life-saving assistance. Simultaneously, there is an urgent need to improve resource efficiency by prioritising food aid for the most vulnerable and integrating it with existing social protection programmes.



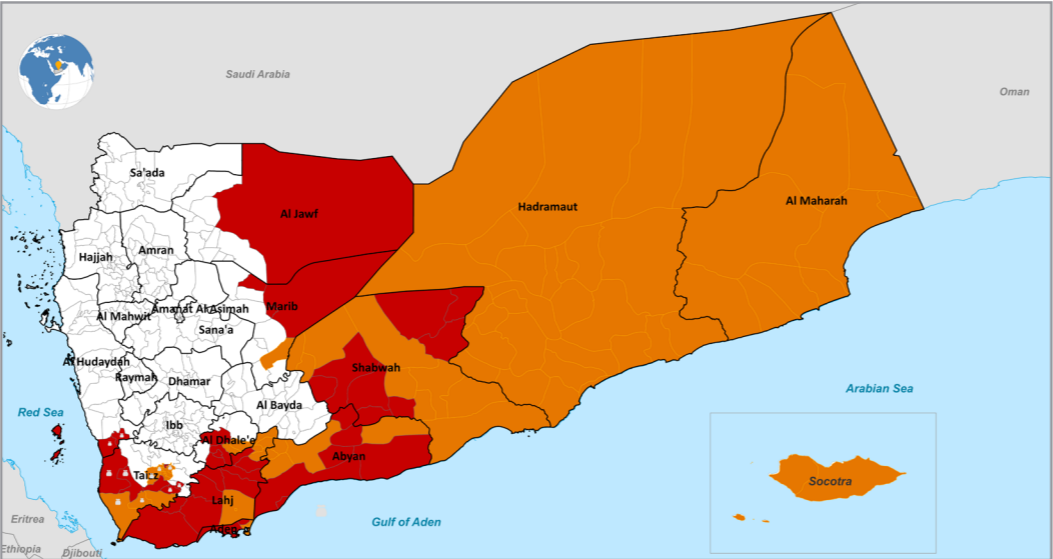
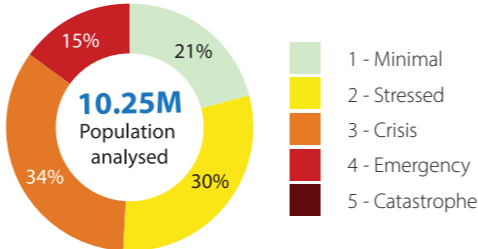
Current Acute Food Insecurity | May - August 2025



4.95M

Between May and August 2025, approximately 4.95 million people are likely to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), with nearly 1.5 million in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

49 percent of the population is in IPC Phase 3 or above.



Map Key
IPC Acute Food Insecurity
Phase Classification

mapped Phase represents highest severity affecting at least 20% of the population



Area not analysed
Map Symbols
Areas receive significant humanitarian food assistance (Accounted for in phase classification)
>25% of households meet 25-50% of caloric needs through assistance

Evidence Level
** Medium

Key Drivers



Economic decline

The 2022 blockade of oil exports triggered a loss of foreign exchange earnings and a depletion of foreign currency reserves. This, combined with reduced remittances, foreign investments, and aid, caused the Yemeni Rial to collapse and the economy to enter recession. Household incomes significantly decreased, food prices surged, and the stagnant economy severely eroded purchasing power.



Conflict

Despite a substantial decline since April 2022, localised conflicts persist in frontline districts and continue to cause displacements, disrupt free movement of populations and hinder engagement in economic activities including markets and humanitarian aid access.



Climatic shocks

Delayed and insufficient rainfall in April 2025 caused late planting and poor germination, likely resulting in significant crop losses and below-normal harvests. Additionally, there is a heightened risk of flash floods in July and the spread of crop and livestock pests and diseases.



Insufficient humanitarian assistance as mitigating factor

While crucial for mitigating the impact of these drivers on acute food insecurity, HFSA in Government of Yemen controlled areas has been severely curtailed following major donor funding cuts in early 2025. The extremely low coverage, size and frequency of humanitarian food aid are widening the consumption gaps for approximately 3.6 million people who previously depended on it.



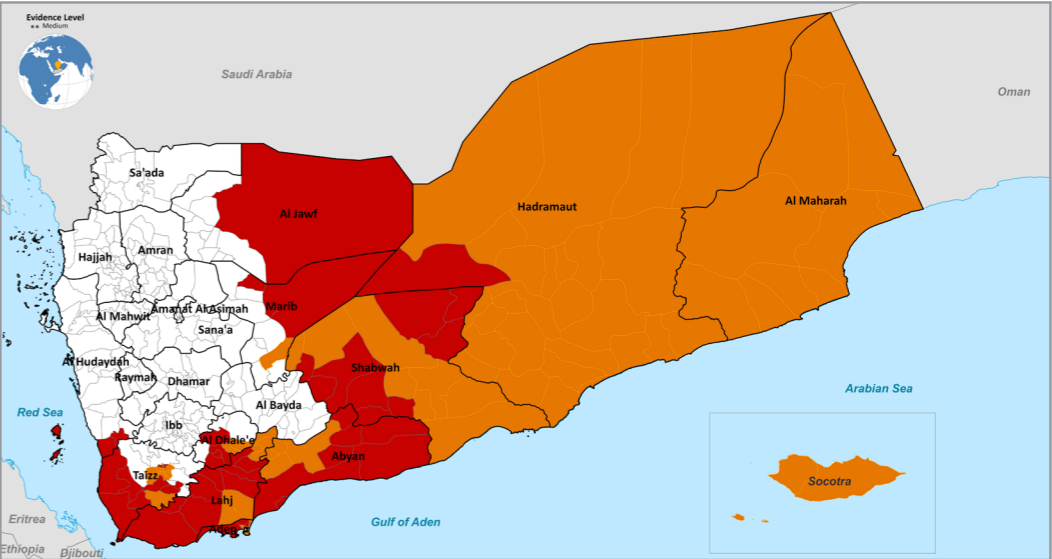
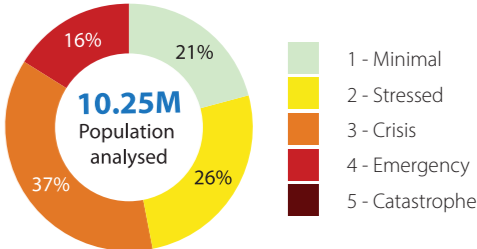
Projection Acute Food Insecurity | September 2025 - February 2026



5.38M

Food security is projected to worsen between September 2025 and February 2026, with an estimated 5.38 million people expected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), with nearly 1.6 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

53 percent of the population is in IPC Phase 3 or above.



Map Key
IPC Acute Food Insecurity
Phase Classification

mapped Phase represents highest severity affecting at least 20% of the population



Area not analysed
Evidence Level
** Medium

Recommended Actions



Macro-economic stability

Coordinated efforts by the government and partners are crucial to stabilise the economy. Measures include controlling inflation and restarting negotiations to allow oil and gas exports.



Humanitarian food and livelihood assistance

HFSA needs to be scaled up immediately. This entails reversing assistance termination orders, but also securing additional funding to sustain critical life-saving assistance. Populations with the greatest needs should be targeted and prioritised, leveraging collaborative and integrated programmes in partnership with the relevant clusters and social protection schemes (such as nutrition and multi-purpose cash). Enhanced food security monitoring and early warning systems should inform emergency preparedness efforts aimed at mitigating the impact of climate, conflict, and economic shocks.



Lasting peace

The government should prioritise achieving sustainable peace, including de-escalating tensions in frontline districts. An end to the conflict is a prerequisite for durable solutions.