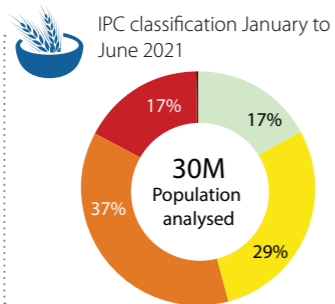


Key Figures (Projected Situation Jan - June 2021)



16.2 million people are expected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between January and June 2021. 47,000 of these people will likely be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).



Overall, there are more than 4 million IDPs in Yemen uprooted by conflict, facing comparatively high levels of acute food insecurity

Overview

From October to December 2020, 13.5 million people (45% of the analysed population) are facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), despite ongoing humanitarian food assistance (HFA). This includes 9.8 million people (33 percent) in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), 3.6 million (12 percent) in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and of greatest concern, approximately 16,500 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe).

Between January and June 2021, the number increases by nearly 3 million to 16.2 million people (54% of the total population analysed) likely to experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC phase 3 or above). Out of these, an estimated 11 million people will likely be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), 5 million in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and the number of those in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5), will likely increase to 47,000.

Food insecurity is more severe in areas with active fighting or bordering areas with limited access, and is particularly affecting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and marginalized groups. The caseload in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) is mainly found in Al Jawf, Hajjah and Amran. In Al Jawf and Hajjah, conflict, displacement and limited humanitarian access are the main drivers. While in Amran, highly vulnerable marginalized groups such as landless wage labourers and lack of access to public services such as water, sanitation and health are the primary causes. Overall, there are more than 4 million IDPs in Yemen who face comparatively worse food security outcomes. The projection assumes that all beneficiaries will receive 50% assistance in January - June, any further reductions (including the possibility of zero assistance) coupled with other shock could lead to heightened food insecurity levels, including further populations falling into IPC phase 5 (Catastrophe).

An emerging concern is the projected deterioration in the nutrition situation in at least 15 out of 19 zones of the country in the Aug to December 2020 period for which an ongoing IPC acute malnutrition analysis has been completed.

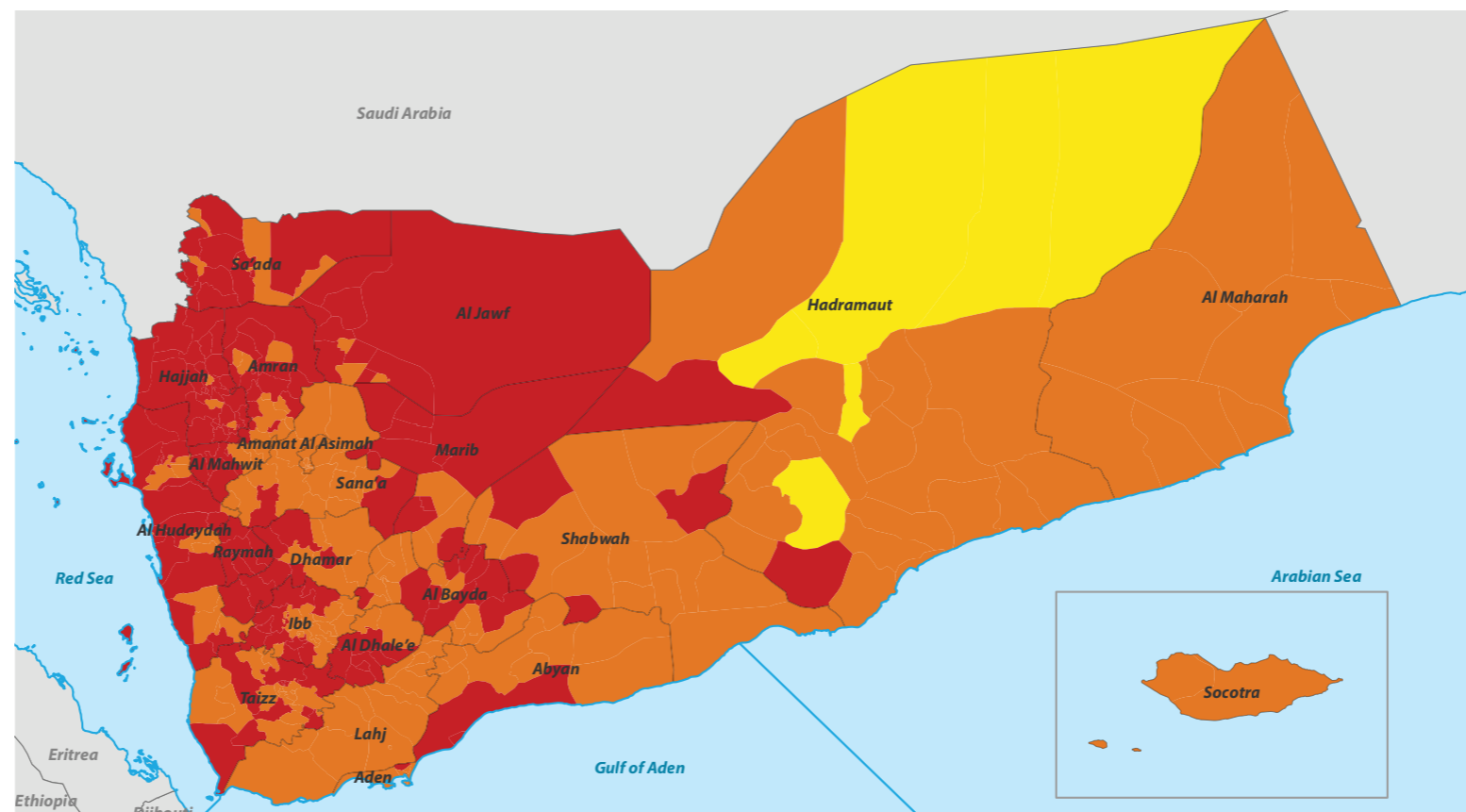
Key Drivers

Conflict
Conflict is the principal driver of food insecurity in Yemen leading to widespread displacement, humanitarian access constraints, disruption of public services, ports blockade and restrictions, fuel crisis and economic disruption. Without a permanent solution, it is unlikely that all other mitigation measures will have long-lasting effects.

Economic Shocks
High food prices, unaffordable minimum food basket and increasing depreciation of the Yemeni riyal against the US dollar has impacted nearly all households, as the country relies mainly on imports. As the cost of food becomes unreachable, many households adopt negative coping strategies to access food.

Reduced Foreign Reserves
Reduced direct foreign investments, a shortfall in humanitarian funding and a pause in remittances has led to a liquidity crisis and depreciation of the riyal to unprecedented levels. Reductions in humanitarian food assistance, due to funding shortfalls, has led to increased levels of vulnerability for the majority of the population, who rely on humanitarian assistance.

Projected Acute Food Insecurity | January - June 2021



MAP KEY
IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification

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

- 1 - Minimal
- 2 - Stressed
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Famine
- Areas not analysed

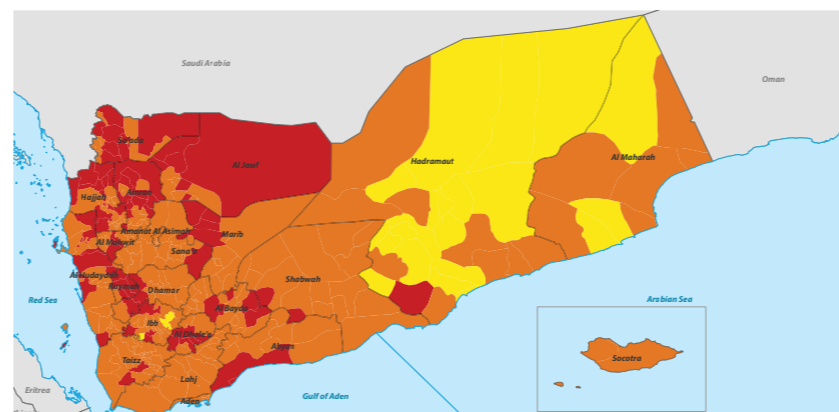
Humanitarian Food Assistance

13.5 million people are currently targeted for food assistance. In 258 out of 333 districts, more than 25 percent of the population receives food assistance. The food basket comprises 80 percent of households' caloric needs. However, the assistance provided is not sufficient to cover all needs, particularly in the northern governorates where beneficiaries have received reduced assistance since April 2020 with distributions every two months instead of monthly, due to limited funding and a challenging operating environment. The reduced food assistance has led to heightened household vulnerabilities, any further reductions or disruption would be catastrophic.

Current Acute Food Insecurity | October - December 2020



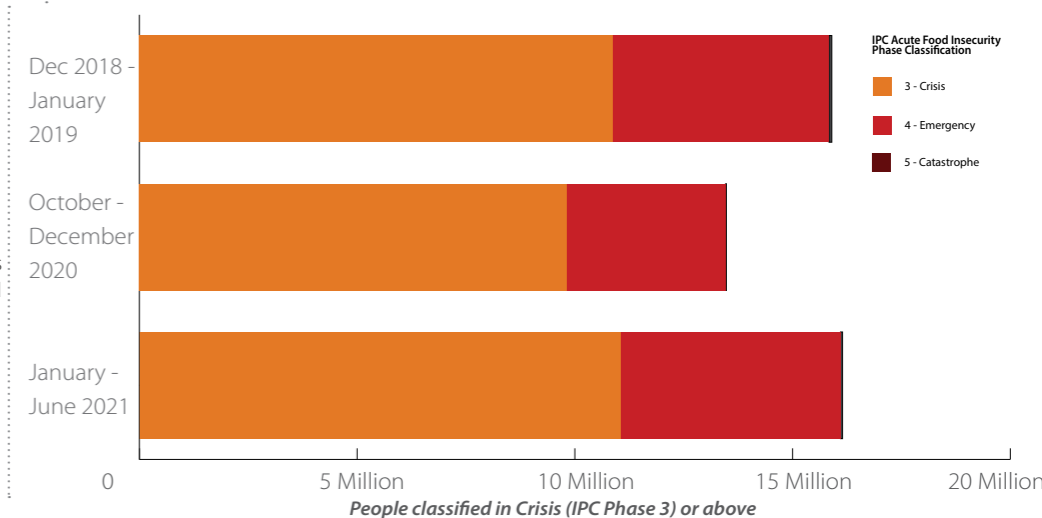
13.5 million people in Yemen are facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) through December 2020.* Out of these, 16,500 people are estimated to be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and over 3.6 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).



Trend Analysis

Food insecurity in Yemen shows an increasing trend compared to the extremely high levels observed in 2018/2019 with an increase of nearly 300,000 people in need of urgent humanitarian assistance in the first six months of 2021. In terms of severity (IPC Phase), the number of districts on Phase 4 are threefold those in 2018/19 (from 49 to 154). In 14 out of 22 total governorates analysed, the population classified in IPC Phase 3 and above increased compared to the 2018/19 period. Peaks of increased severity are observed in Al Jawf, Hajjah, Ibb, Raymah and Sa'ada governorates. The protracted dire situation risks compromising the already fragile livelihoods, especially when combined with increasingly negative coping mechanisms, reducing income opportunities and the impacts of COVID-19 on livelihoods. However, it is important to note that for most of 2019, the food security situation was stable as a result of generous contributions from donors who provided urgently needed resources to significantly scale-up food assistance and stabilise the economy, thus preventing a famine in early 2019.

Population in IPC Phase 3, 4 & 5 by Governorate | 2018 - 2021



Recommended Actions

De-escalation of Violence and Ceasefire
Urgent cessation of conflict to protect lives and livelihoods, immediate lifting of the ports blockade and restrictions to expedite the movement of goods and ease prices, and unrestricted humanitarian access to reach the most vulnerable households, including marginalized persons

Life-saving Humanitarian Assistance
Urgent funding of humanitarian assistance is required to scale-up of assistance to save lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable Yemenis in need.

Injection of Foreign Currency Reserves
To stabilise the exchange rate and bolster liquidity within the economy, an injection of foreign currency reserves is swiftly required. Famine was prevented two years ago when member states and donors provided urgently-needed resources, and we can do it again.

Livelihood Diversification
Scale up of livelihood diversification programmes for the populations in need of assistance to increase their already eroded resilience and stop them from slipping into worse conditions.

Publication date: December 3, 2020 *The population estimates are based on official figures provided by the Central Statistical Organization based on a projection for 2019. As such, the accuracy of the estimation of population in need of urgent action in 2020 might be affected by these estimates. **Displacement data is from UNOCHA Yemen. Disclaimer: The information shown on this map does not imply official recognition or endorsement of any physical and political boundaries.

