Food insecure population trends have deteriorated in Eswatini in 2019 compared to 2018, with two out of the country’s four regions shifting from Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 2 or Stressed to Phase 3 or Crisis. Between June and September 2019, an estimated 205,000 people are already experiencing severe acute food insecurity and require humanitarian assistance. It is projected that between October 2019 and March 2020 about 232,373 people will face severe acute food insecurity (IPC phases 3 and 4), representing 25 per cent of the rural population. Contributing factors include outbreaks of both human and livestock diseases, and crop pest incidences. There is a deficit in cereal requirements of 71,000 metric tons, 31 per cent more than in the 2018/2019 season.

### Food Security Situation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IPC Food Insecurity Phase</th>
<th>Number of People (1,000)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: None or Minimal</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: Stressed</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: Crisis</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4: Emergency</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5: Catastrophe/Famine</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **232,373** severely food insecure people (25% of the population)
- October 2019 - March 2020

### Food Insecure Population Trends

- **2014/15**: 0.2M
- **2015/16**: 0.3M
- **2016/17**: 0.6M
- **2017/18**: 0.2M
- **2018/19**: 0.1M
- **2019/20**: 0.2M

### Nutrition Status

- **Wasting**: 2.77%
- **Stunting**: 26.3%
- **Overweight**: 9%
- **Underweight**: 5.48%

### Cereal Availability and Requirements

- **Availability (’000, MT)**
- **Requirements (’000, MT)**

### Regional Socio-Economic Context

- **Total population**: 1.09M (2017)
- **Rural population**: 0.83M (76.4% total population)
- **Life expectancy**: 58.3 yrs (2016)
- **Unemployment Rate**: 23.0% (2017)
- **Population Growth Rate**: 0.7% (2017)
- **Average GDP Growth**: 2.9% (2018 projection)
- **Human Development Index**: 0.588 (2017)
- **Under 5 Mortality Rate**: 53.9 per 1,000 live births
- **Adult Literacy**: 89.1% (2017)
- **Inflation**: 1.8% (May 2019)
- **HIV and AIDS**: 27.3% (2018)