

mVAM Nigeria Bulletin #6: January/February 2017

While food access has increased for some, the upcoming lean-season and increasing prices presents a dire situation.

Key Points

Methodology

Food Consumption

Coping

Prices

Free Responses

Key Points

In the last six months, the number of displaced households that are food insecure has decreased, while the number of food insecure households among residents has increased slightly.

Overall, the proportion of households with not enough food and money has decreased, but those in need are continuing to rely on desperate strategies in order to eat.

Prices for commodities have risen while manual labor wages have remained stagnant, resulting in further lowering of household purchasing power.

Improvements could be attributed to assistance and seasonality (post-harvest period). Household food stocks are expected to deplete as the lean-season approaches in April/May.



WFP/Vornic

Context

The effects of conflict have devastated livelihoods and food security in North-East Nigeria. Currently, 5.1 million people are estimated to be food insecure with 55,000 people estimated living in famine-like conditions. While the United Nations and partners have scaled up efforts to provide emergency food assistance, humanitarian access in many areas, especially in Borno State, remains a challenge. In the upcoming lean-season in April /May, already tenuous household food stocks may be exhausted. Without increased assistance and agricultural inputs ahead of the rains, households are likely to fall into even worsened conditions. In order to monitor food security conditions and inform humanitarian response, since January 2016 WFP and NEMA continue to remotely collect basic food security and market data in North-East Nigeria.

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blog: mvam.org

toolkit: <http://resources.vam.wfp.org/mVAM>



vam
food security analysis

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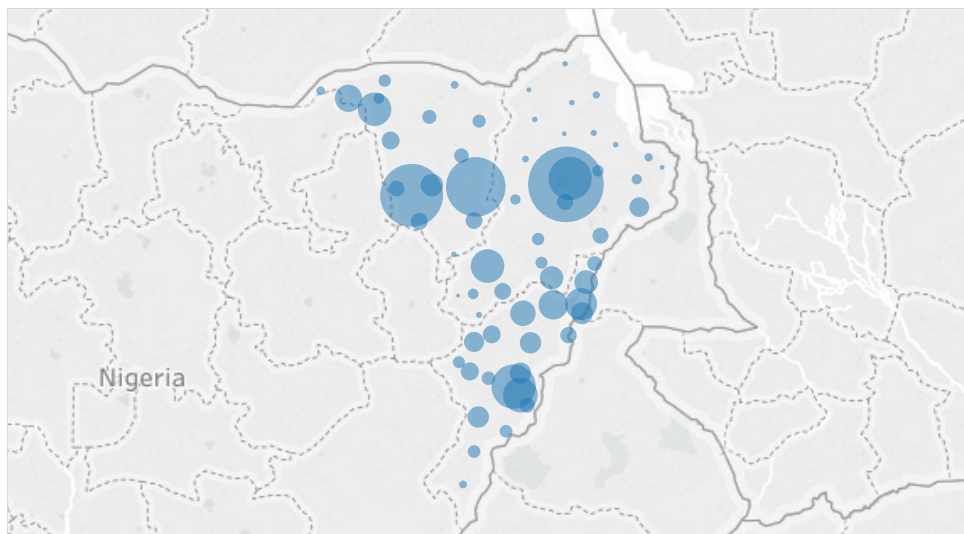
Key Points	Methodology	Food Consumption	Coping	Prices	Free Responses
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Data collection from January 9th to February 6th 2017 marked the fifth round of remote monitoring of household information in Nigeria using live calls. To estimate changes in food security measures and prices in the last six months, respondents from the June/July 2016 survey round (<http://bit.ly/2bhigi6>) were re-contacted. Of the original 6,107 respondents, 75% of respondents were successfully re-contacted. As the map and figures below illustrate, the composition of re-contacted respondents was similar to the respondents in June/July 2016. Additionally, to augment the sample, 976 respondents from January/February/March 2016 rounds (<http://bit.ly/1sYnVTK>) were also re-contacted. In this report, where time trends are presented, only respondents who completed surveys in June/July 2016 and January/February 2017 are used. All respondents in January/February 2017 are included when current estimates are given.

For the purpose of analysis, Local Government Areas (LGAs) have been aggregated into zones with similar security and livelihood characteristics. Results are not presented for three conflict afflicted zones in Borno and Yobe State without sufficient sample size. In this report, figures are viewable by residence status, sex of head of household and access to electricity (used as a proxy measure for poverty). Readers are cautioned against making inferences from geographic and demographic selections with small sample sizes and also to note that respondents reached via mobile phone are likely to be younger, more educated and more in urban areas than the larger population. Additional methodological information including the questionnaire is available online at <http://bit.ly/2mrrZHY>

Map of Responses by LGA by Survey Round

January/February 2017



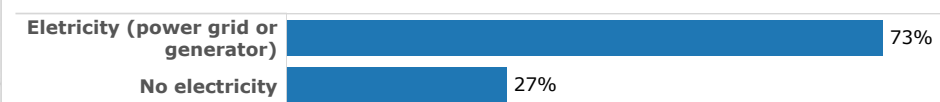
Residence Status by Survey Round

January/February 2017



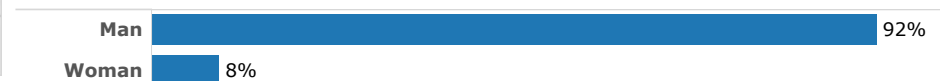
Access to Electricity by Survey Round

January/February 2017



Sex of Head of Household by Survey Round

June/July 2016



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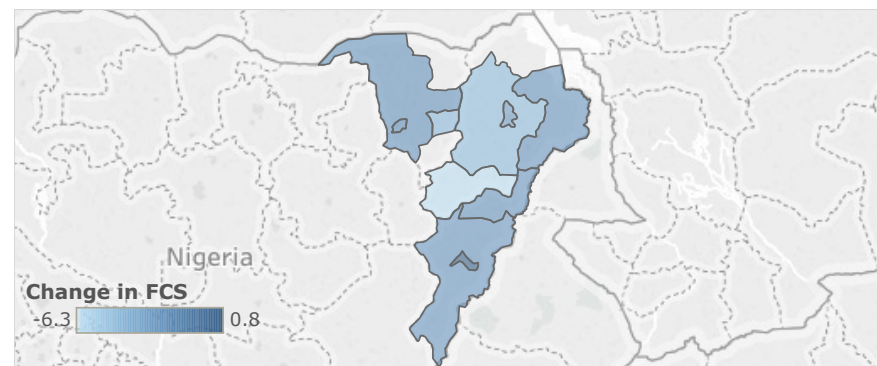
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Key Points	Methodology	Food Consumption	Coping	Prices	Free Responses
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Comparing results from the last survey round in the lean season (June/July 2016) to this round in the post-harvest period (January/February 2017), food consumption has improved modestly for displaced and returnee households, while it has worsened slightly for residents. These results could be indicative of targeted assistance efforts to displaced households while the resident population has been more exposed to and affected by restricted agricultural production and trade in the North-East.

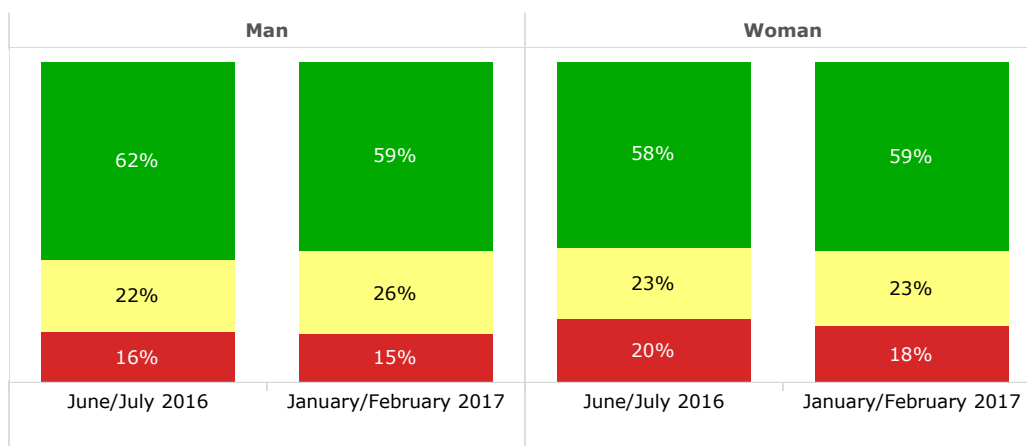
At present, food consumption is the poorest in Borno State where the conflict rages and many areas remain inaccessible. In the Maidiguri/Jere area, improvements in food consumption for displaced persons in the last six months have been modest. In Yobe, improvements in food consumption among displaced people are visible in Damaturu but are less pronounced in Potiskum. In Adamawa, where the situation has been relatively stable, improvements appear to be most substantial in the Yola North/South urban area and less so in the former conflict areas bordering Borno State.

**Average Change in Food Consumption Score by LGA Zone
June/July 2016 - January/February 2017**



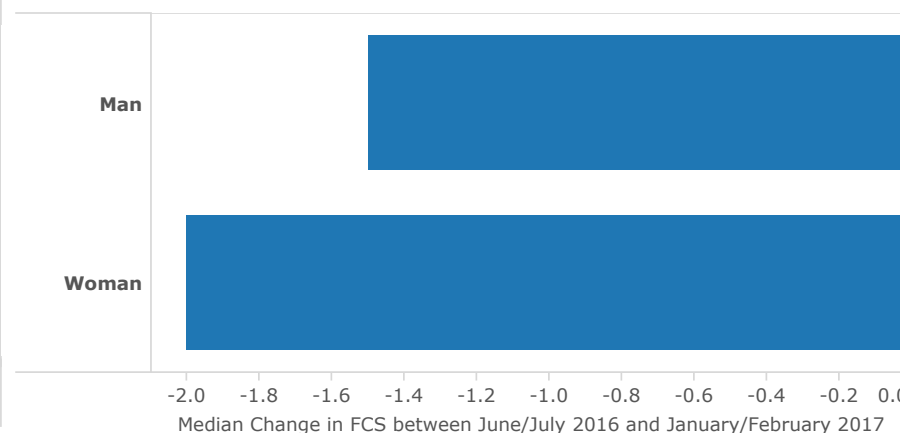
Food consumption groups by survey round and demographic groups

Sex of Head of Household



Average Change in Food consumption groups by demographic groups

Sex of Head of Household



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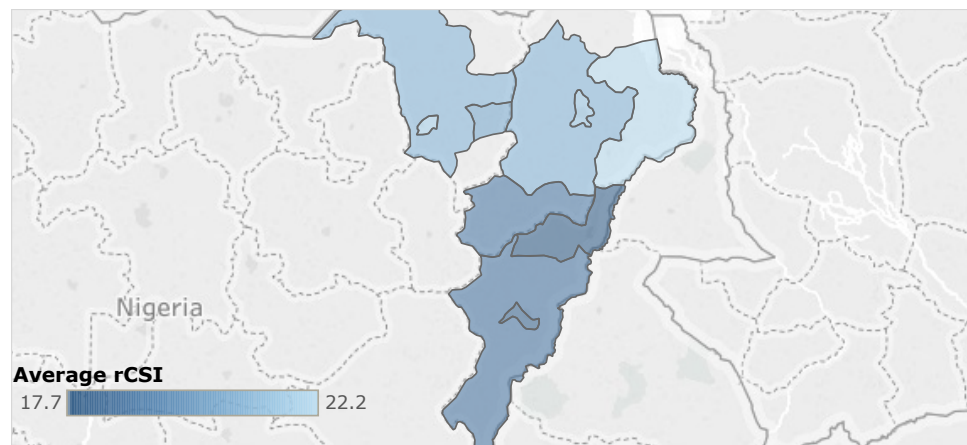
Key Points	Methodology	Food Consumption	Coping	Prices	Free Responses
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Overall, the proportion of households with not enough food or money to buy food has decreased in the last 6 months for all groups and in all geographic zones, with varying levels of improvement.

When families stated they did not have enough food or enough money to buy food, we asked them how many times in the past week they relied on two severe coping strategies: restricting consumption and borrowing/seeking help. Across nearly all groups and geographic areas, the average number of days families borrowed or restricted food stayed either the same or worsened.

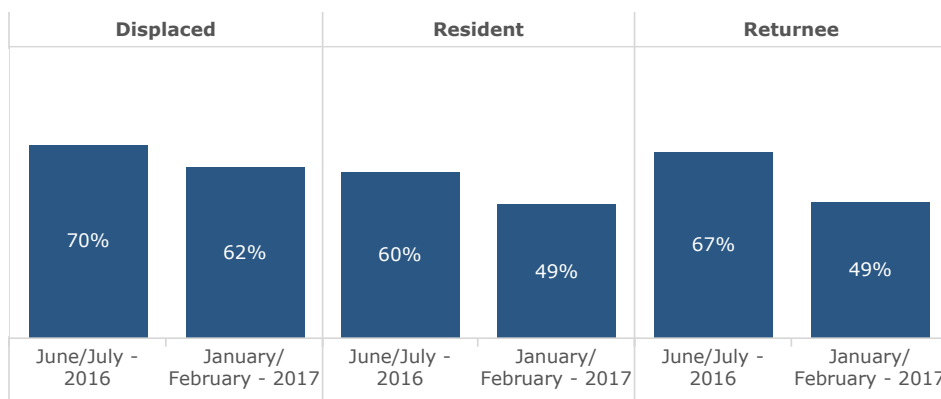
These results suggest that while access to food/money has increased for many households, those in need are still relying on desperate strategies in order to eat.

Average reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI) by LGA Zone January/February 2017



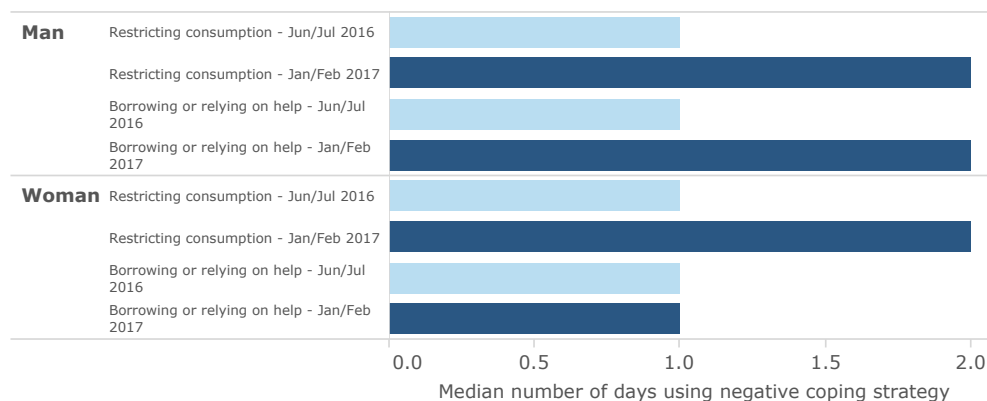
% households without enough food/money by demographic groups

Residence Status



Average change in coping strategies by demographic groups

Sex of Head of Household

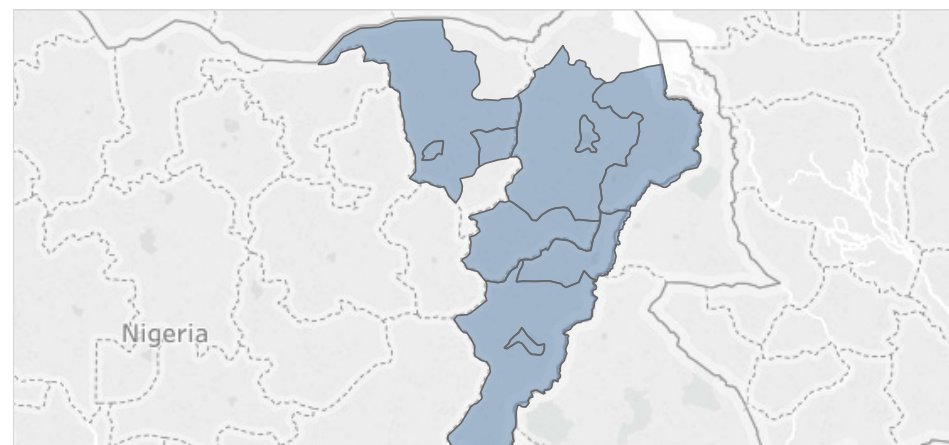


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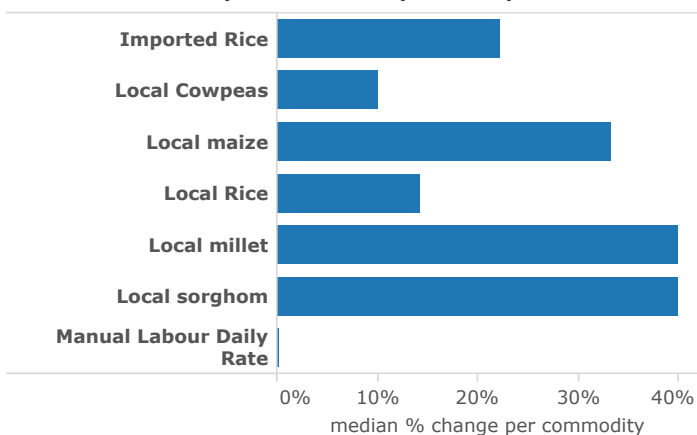
Map of LGA zones -select area to view figures by zone



Despite generally favorable harvests in the country, in the North East, limited agricultural production due to conflict, general effects of the Niara's depreciation and restricted trade have led to increased prices. Comparing prices over the last six months, average increases from 15% to 35% in commodities is observed. In the same period, manual labor wages have not increased resulting in significantly reduced purchasing power for households. In January/February 2017, terms of trade vary by commodity but are generally higher in urban centers of each State.

Across the three States, nearly 70 - 80% of respondents report access to markets. This most recent information corroborates previous WFP reports from key informants: <http://bit.ly/2moDIAW> and traders <http://bit.ly/2m6hC0d>, finding that despite increasing accessibility of markets, rising food prices are a significant challenge for many households.

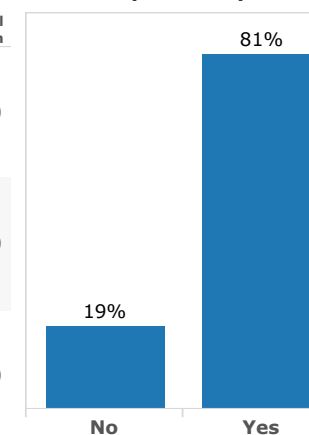
% price change per commodity
June/July 2016 to January/February 2017



Average (median) prices per commodity
January/February 2017

	Manual Labour	Local cowpeas	Imported Rice	Vegetable Oil	Local Maize	Local millet	Local Rice	Local Sorghom
Adama..	500	500	1,000	350	450	400	800	350
Borno	600	600	1,150	345	450	350	800	350
Yobe	725	600	1,050	300	400	375	800	350

Market Access
January/February 2017



all units for grains are 1 big mudu; vegetable oil measured in 0.75 Litres

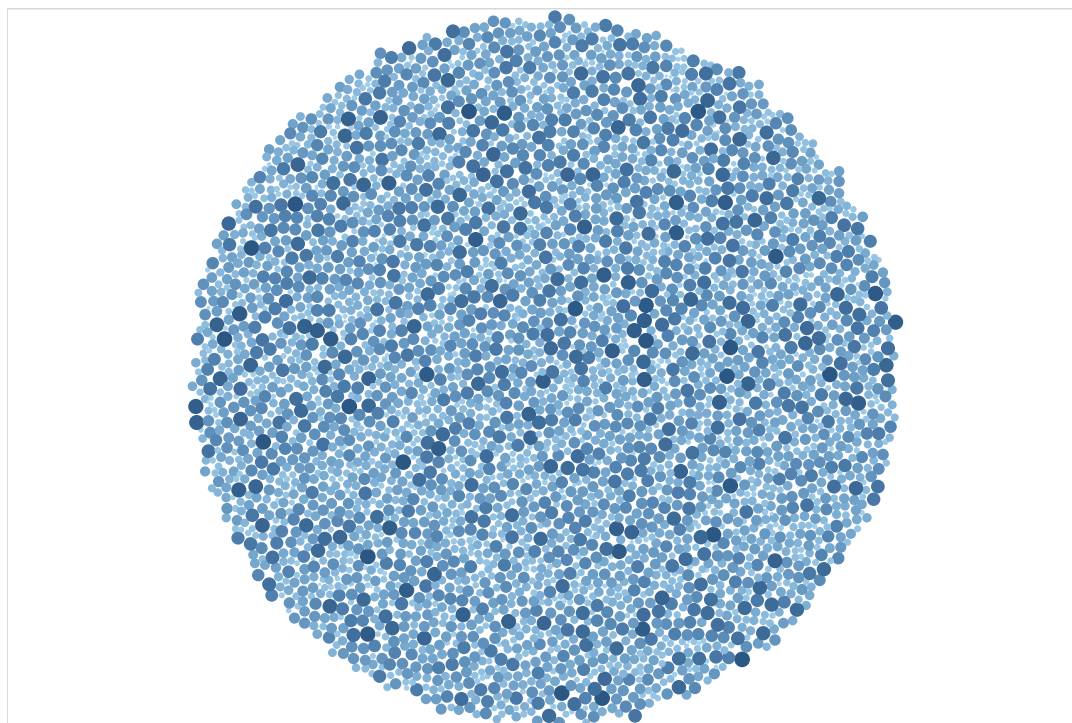
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This round, at the end of the questionnaire, we asked respondents "What do you suggest to improve the food situation in your community?" Typical responses included the need for price controls, fostering agriculture, job creation, addressing the security situation and delivering more food assistance. In the graphic below, individual responses are viewable by hovering over the circles. Responses can also be filtered by food consumption score, key word or by several socio-demographic variables.

Responses (*hover cursor over circles to view individual responses*)



Filter responses by keyword or phrase

Filter responses by residence status

All

Filter responses by sex of head of household

All

Filter responses by gender

All

Filter responses by access to electricity

All

Filter responses by Food Consumption Score - (higher score = improved food consumption)

All values