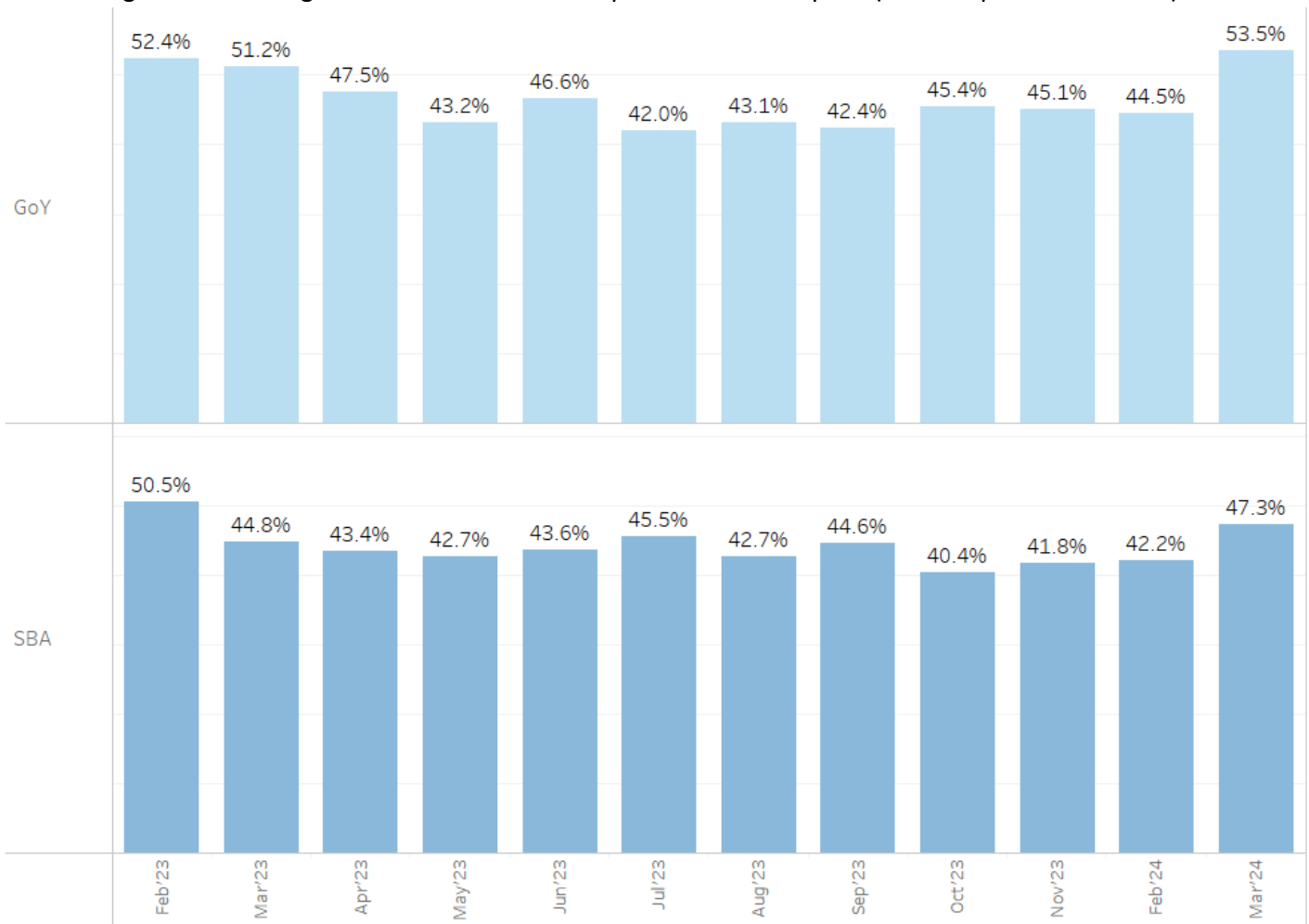# Key Highlights

Food insecurity worsened further in March, just before Ramadan

- Food insecurity deteriorated in March 2024 (Figure 1) just before the start of the Ramadan festivities with inadequate food consumption reaching unprecedented highs over the last one year. Although most food insecurity outcome indicators were worse in areas under the control of the Sana'a Based Authorities (SBA) during the reporting period, inadequate food consumption was higher in Government of Yemen (GoY) areas by an estimated 6 percent.

- The deterioration in household food insecurity was driven by multiple factors — the reduction in WFP's general food assistance in the SBA areas, the aftereffects of the Red Sea crisis, the weaker local currency in the GoY areas and to typical seasonal drivers. February-March is the post harvest season when household food stocks and income from agricultural sales are starting to decline. In addition, households reporting decrease/ loss in income was the highest in record, disproportionately more in SBA areas, which indicates an earlier than normal seasonal depletion.

- With the onset of Ramadan from the second week of March, food insecurity was expected to slow down because of increased flow of Zakat, sharing and remittances. However, due to the new financial sanctions, the likely reduced remittances are expected to suppress the gains from Ramadan festivities. Food insecurity is further expected to worsen during the post-Ramadan period, likely to peak during June – July 2024.

- Immediate and accelerated scale up of targeted emergency food and livelihood assistance is recommended in the areas/ governorates most in need.

Figure 1. Percentage of households with inadequate food consumption (FC Score poor + borderline)*

GoY: Feb'23 52.4%, Mar'23 51.2%, Apr'23 47.5%, May'23 43.2%, Jun'23 46.6%, Jul'23 42.0%, Aug'23 43.1%, Sep'23 42.4%, Oct'23 45.4%, Nov'23 45.1%, Feb'24 44.5%, Mar'24 53.5%

SBA: Feb'23 50.5%, Mar'23 44.8%, Apr'23 43.4%, May'23 42.7%, Jun'23 43.6%, Jul'23 45.5%, Aug'23 42.7%, Sep'23 44.6%, Oct'23 40.4%, Nov'23 41.8%, Feb'24 42.2%, Mar'24 47.3%

* Please be aware that the data for this round was gathered from February 27 to March 10, 2024, shortly before the Ramadan celebrations

- The prevalences of food insecurity in Al Bayda, Al Jawf, Hajjah, and Raymah governorates were considerably higher than the national average in at least four out of the five outcome indicators. Al Jawf and Hajjah have consistently been food insecure in nearly all the HFM monitoring rounds pointing to chronic issues. Moreover, the Hajjah (42%) and Al Jawf (33%) had substantial share of the population receiving humanitarian food assistance before the WFP pause in November 2023. Inadequate food consumption increased by more than 5 per cent month-on-month and above the twelve months' average in Al Dhale'e, Al Hudaydah, Hadramawt, Ibb, Lahj, and Taizz (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Percentage of households with inadequate Food Consumption by Governorates (FCS borderline + poor)

Legend: Feb-24 | Mar-24 | 12 months' national average (44.5%)
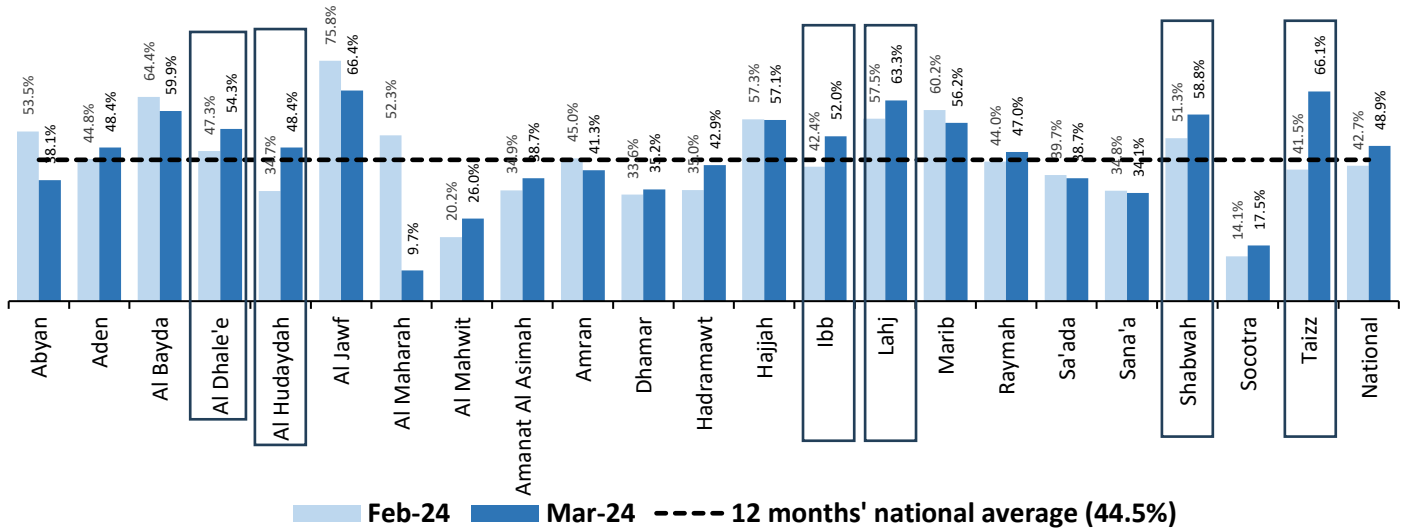
- The adoption of severe livelihood and/or food consumption coping strategies also increased in March 2024 compared to February 2024 (Figure 3 and 4). Households often resorting to severe food-based coping strategies was 2 percent and 1 percent higher in SBA and GoY controlled areas month-on-month, respectively. Similarly, crisis and emergency livelihood coping strategies were 8 percent and 4 percent higher in SBA and GoY areas, respectively, compared to the month before. Overall, adoption of severe coping strategies was higher in SBA areas than in GoY areas.

Figure 4. Livelihood and food-based coping strategies, GoY

Legend:
- Crisis livelihood coping strategy
- Emergency livelihood coping strategy
- Often resort to food based coping strategies (rCSI >=19)
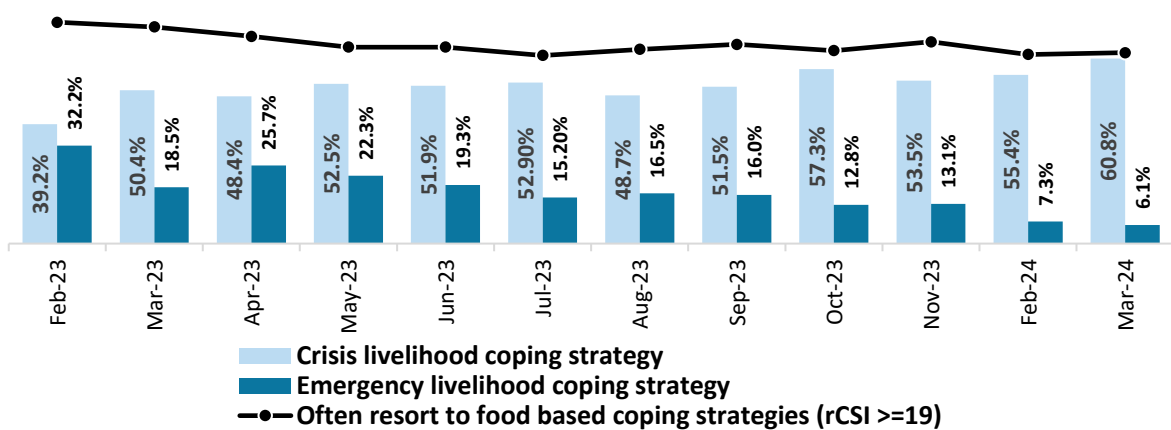
Figure 5. Livelihood and food-based coping strategies, SBA

Legend:
- Crisis livelihood coping strategy
- Emergency livelihood coping strategy
- Often resort to food based coping strategies (rCSI >=19)
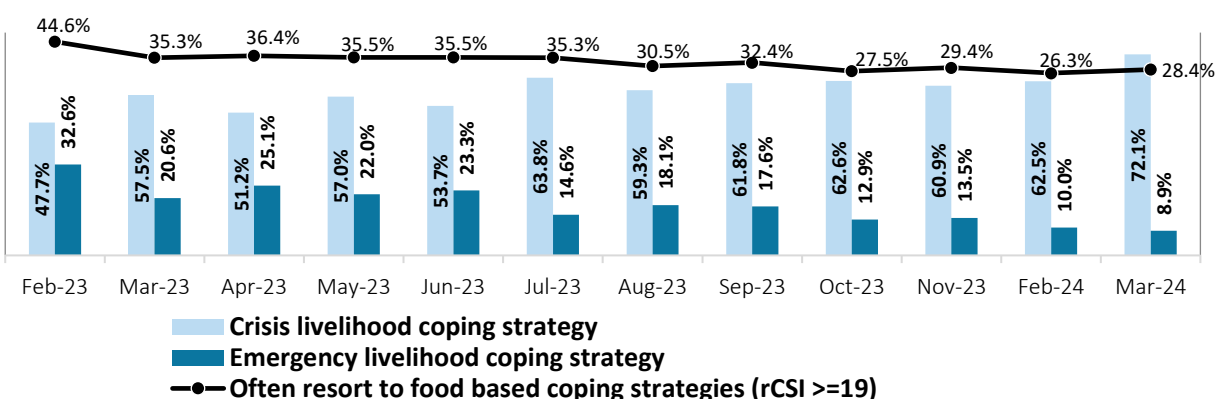
Figure 6. Food insecurity outcome indicators by governorates
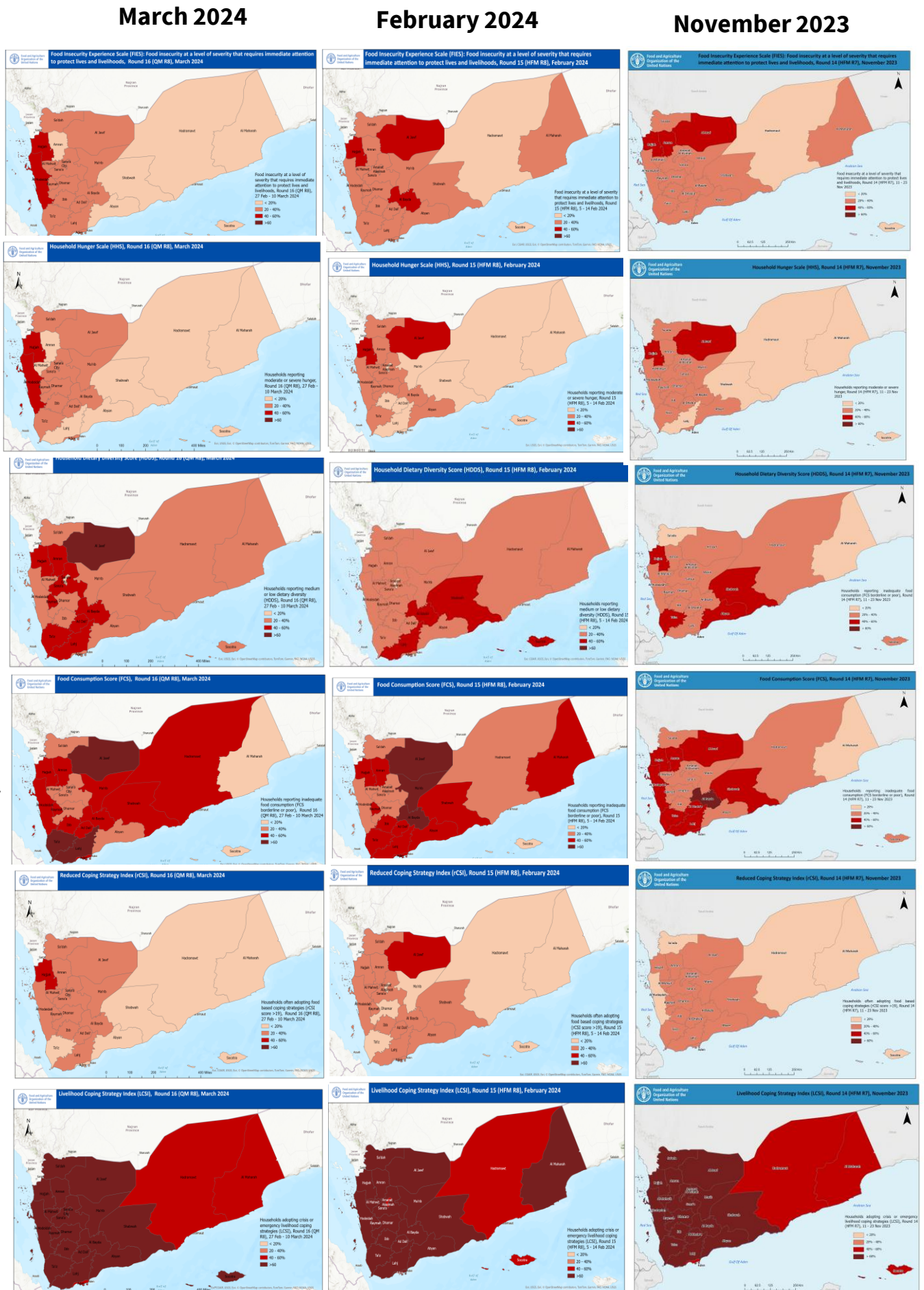
Figure 7. Food security by rural urban, GoY areas (27 Feb -10 March 2024)

	Rural	Sub-urban	Urban
Recent food insecurity (RFI) moderate+severe	61.6%	65.6%	57.9%
Food insecurity at a severity level that needs immediate attention to protect lives and livelihoods	20.3%	23.6%	21.4%
Hunger moderate+severe	18.8%	18.8%	17.2%
Dietary diversity medium+low	37.0%	32.1%	33.2%
Inadequate food consumption (FCG borderline+poor)	59.8%	46.1%	43.2%
Often resort to food-based coping strategies	23.2%	23.2%	18.2%
Livelihood coping strategy crisis+emergency	67.4%	62.8%	55.9%

Figure 8. Food security by rural urban, SBA areas (27 Feb -10 March 2024)

	Rural	Urban	Sub-urban
Recent food insecurity (RFI) moderate+severe	72.2%	63.4%	73.4%
Food insecurity at a severity level that needs immediate attention to protect lives and livelihoods	32.0%	26.2%	28.2%
Hunger moderate+severe	31.3%	24.1%	23.6%
Dietary diversity medium+low	42.7%	21.4%	28.7%
Inadequate food consumption (FCG borderline+poor)	49.7%	37.4%	51.7%
Often resort to food-based coping strategies	29.5%	21.4%	35.4%
Livelihood coping strategy crisis+emergency	82.2%	67.8%	75.7%

Figure 9. Food insecurity by livelihoods

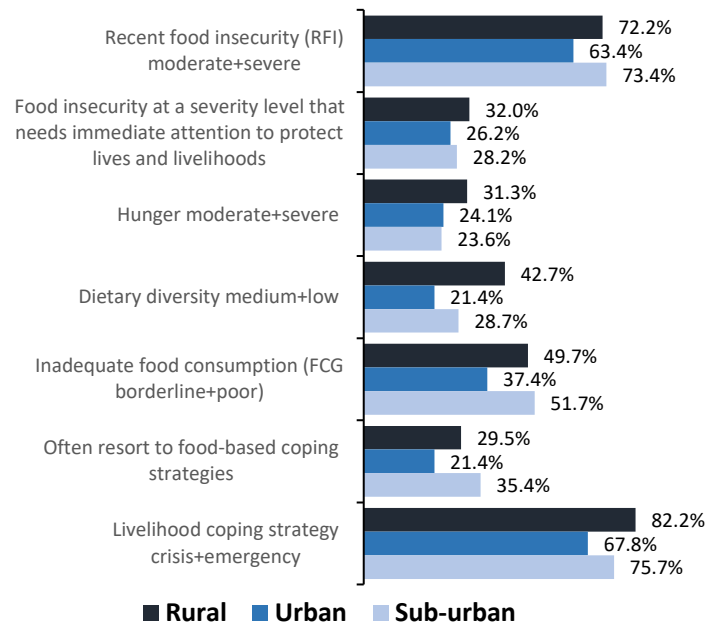| Food insecurity by main income sources, (27 Feb - 10 March 2024)		FIES, RFI severe or moderate	FIES, food insecurity at a severity level that needs immediate attention to protect lives and livelihoods	HHS Moderate or Severe	FCG Borderline or Poor	HDDS Medium or Lowest	rCSI Often/ [>=19]	LCSI Crisis or Emergency
Agricultuiral income source	Production and sale of staple crops and vegetables	55%	32%	31%	25%	31%	20%	81%
	Production and sale of cash crops (food and non-food)	57%	17%	22%	28%	27%	16%	77%
	Production and sale of livestock and livestock products	75%	26%	25%	45%	28%	18%	86%
	Production and sale of fish	58%	16%	7%	13%	18%	16%	79%
	Daily wage in agriculture sector	79%	36%	35%	58%	52%	38%	85%
	Other agricultural income (natural resources, honey/bee, agri trade excluding producers, stable employment in agri)	70%	33%	35%	44%	45%	41%	80%
Non-agricultural income source	Off farm daily wages	69%	31%	30%	53%	35%	28%	72%
	Non-agricultural employment (liberal profession,stable employment in non-ag sector, public employment)	63%	21%	17%	47%	32%	21%	69%
	Income not derived from work (charity,humanitarian aid,pension,welfare transfer,remittance,rent)	65%	26%	19%	46%	34%	22%	67%
	No income sources	69%	30%	30%	58%	37%	36%	86%

Methodology:

FAO Yemen conducted the eighth Quarterly monitoring survey with technical support from the DIEM team based in FAO headquarter. In total, sixteen rounds of surveys have been completed so far. This survey aimed to monitor key food insecurity outcomes, and shocks between IPC analysis to support decision-making. Data collection took place from 27 February – 10 March 2024, covering 2,500 households. At least 110 households were surveyed in each of the 22 governorates of Yemen. Data are, therefore, representative of the population of Yemen and at the governorate level. The survey was conducted via computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI), primarily using Random Digit Dialling (RDD).

Note: The estimated prevalence of food insecurity experienced by the households (FIES) is based on 30-days referenced Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) data and two separate sets of thresholds: 1) "Recent food insecurity (RFI) moderate or severe" is based on the thresholds that is defined in the context of the global SDG monitoring process; 2) 'Food insecurity at a severity level that needs immediate attention to protect lives and livelihoods" is based on the severity thresholds suggested in the IPC Manual version 3.1 as indicatives of "crisis" level (Phase 3) or worse."

Annex: Food security outcome indicators, Round 16/QM Round 8, 27 Feb - 10 March 2023

Governorates	FIES Scale, 30-days referenced, using the thresholds in the context of SDG process		FIES Scale, 30-days referenced, using the severity thresholds suggested in the IPC Manual version 3.1 as indicative of "crisis" level (Phase 3) or worse	Food Consumption Group (FCG)			Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)			Household Hunger Scale (HHS)			
	RFI moderate to severe	RFI Severe	Food insecurity at a severity level that needs immediate attention to protect lives and livelihoods	Acceptable	Borderline	Poor	High dietary diversity (5-12 FG)	Medium dietary diversity (3-4 FG)	Low dietary diversity (0-2 FG)	Little to no hunger (HHS score =0)	Slight hunger (HHS Score =1)	Moderate hunger HHS Score 2-3	Severe hunger (HHS > 4)
Abyan	55.4%	3.2%	18.0%	61.9%	24.7%	13.4%	70.9%	23.5%	5.7%	59.9%	21.3%	18.2%	0.5%
Aden	60.9%	3.7%	21.9%	51.6%	30.6%	17.8%	65.1%	27.1%	7.8%	55.1%	24.1%	18.8%	2.0%
Al Bayda	75.9%	10.7%	37.4%	40.0%	19.6%	40.3%	57.1%	38.1%	4.7%	43.8%	19.8%	32.3%	4.2%
Al Dhale'e	68.1%	6.2%	29.6%	45.7%	34.3%	20.0%	59.3%	35.9%	4.8%	45.8%	23.1%	25.0%	6.0%
Al Hudaydah	80.0%	7.1%	41.3%	51.7%	24.7%	23.7%	74.9%	23.7%	1.4%	27.7%	30.0%	42.2%	0.2%
Al Jawf	73.7%	7.5%	32.6%	33.5%	21.6%	44.8%	36.5%	48.2%	15.3%	45.7%	22.1%	30.4%	1.8%
Al Maharah	48.9%	0.9%	8.1%	90.3%	4.0%	5.7%	60.3%	39.0%	0.8%	68.0%	27.0%	4.1%	0.9%
Al Mahwit	68.0%	4.1%	22.4%	74.0%	15.0%	11.0%	69.7%	23.4%	6.9%	54.3%	26.1%	17.9%	1.6%
Amanat Al Asimah	69.2%	5.0%	26.3%	61.3%	32.6%	6.1%	83.3%	16.2%	0.5%	60.4%	17.8%	20.2%	1.6%
Amran	63.0%	4.5%	18.2%	58.7%	18.0%	23.3%	57.5%	41.2%	1.4%	62.9%	21.5%	11.8%	3.8%
Dhamar	66.6%	5.4%	30.2%	64.8%	19.6%	15.6%	64.5%	30.6%	4.8%	51.0%	21.4%	26.9%	0.7%
Hadramawt	51.0%	2.6%	13.2%	57.1%	19.6%	23.3%	69.6%	26.4%	4.0%	55.6%	34.4%	9.6%	0.4%
Hajjah	84.1%	10.9%	40.7%	42.9%	28.1%	29.0%	46.9%	44.0%	9.1%	30.1%	29.6%	37.1%	3.3%
Ibb	60.4%	4.6%	23.6%	48.0%	26.2%	25.8%	62.8%	32.5%	4.6%	55.4%	20.0%	21.0%	3.6%
Lahj	66.8%	5.3%	24.1%	36.7%	34.1%	29.2%	59.5%	32.6%	7.9%	52.0%	28.1%	18.7%	1.2%
Marib	64.4%	6.1%	24.8%	43.8%	31.9%	24.3%	67.6%	29.7%	2.7%	60.6%	19.2%	19.9%	0.4%
Raymah	71.5%	7.8%	35.1%	53.0%	18.4%	28.6%	49.1%	46.4%	4.5%	43.0%	25.2%	31.3%	0.4%
Sa'ada	67.6%	4.9%	24.7%	61.2%	13.3%	25.5%	66.5%	28.4%	5.1%	45.8%	32.9%	20.5%	0.9%
Sana'a	66.3%	6.7%	30.4%	65.8%	22.1%	12.0%	59.4%	36.1%	4.5%	43.8%	29.9%	23.1%	3.2%
Shabwah	60.5%	2.3%	19.9%	41.1%	22.9%	35.9%	61.5%	34.5%	4.0%	58.3%	28.3%	13.4%	0.0%
Socotra	40.4%	1.7%	10.2%	82.6%	9.4%	8.1%	69.3%	27.5%	3.1%	81.5%	11.8%	6.7%	0.0%
Taizz	67.4%	6.6%	25.6%	33.9%	35.8%	30.3%	59.9%	36.1%	4.0%	56.3%	19.8%	23.9%	0.0%
National	68.1%	6.0%	27.9%	51.1%	25.9%	23.0%	63.8%	31.8%	4.5%	49.6%	24.2%	24.5%	1.7%

Governorates	Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI)				Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)			Change in income is last 1 month compared to same period last year			Households experienced disasters or crisis that affected their ability to raise income or produce food for self-consumption		
	No coping strategy	Stress coping strategy	Crisis coping strategy	Emergency coping strategy	Never [rCSI score 0-3]	Rarely/Some times [rCSI score 4-18]	Often [rCSI score >=19]	Income increased	Same	Income decreased	Yes experienced shocks	Lost employment	Food prices much higher than usual
Abyan	5.0%	26.5%	60.6%	7.8%	32.5%	48.3%	19.2%	2.9%	46.8%	50.3%	42.0%	14.6%	24.4%
Aden	6.9%	33.1%	59.3%	0.6%	17.6%	65.7%	16.7%	8.4%	39.0%	52.6%	39.5%	17.5%	21.6%
Al Bayda	3.5%	15.6%	74.8%	6.1%	18.1%	48.1%	33.9%	3.0%	11.3%	85.7%	24.7%	30.6%	12.9%
Al Dhale'e	5.4%	25.3%	61.0%	8.2%	16.6%	53.8%	29.5%	1.6%	28.2%	70.2%	26.0%	18.4%	23.7%
Al Hudaydah	0.6%	12.4%	83.8%	3.2%	8.9%	58.9%	32.3%	1.8%	30.9%	67.3%	35.4%	24.0%	19.5%
Al Jawf	0.4%	15.6%	66.4%	17.6%	13.4%	59.1%	27.5%	4.3%	34.8%	61.0%	28.8%	31.0%	11.4%
Al Maharah	0.6%	50.6%	47.2%	1.6%	23.5%	72.6%	3.9%	18.1%	27.3%	54.6%	30.7%	25.1%	26.9%
Al Mahwit	1.3%	20.6%	69.1%	9.0%	14.5%	62.6%	22.9%	3.8%	33.8%	62.4%	28.7%	32.5%	19.3%
Amanat Al Asimah	4.0%	24.4%	67.7%	3.9%	16.8%	52.4%	30.8%	2.7%	30.0%	67.3%	29.2%	23.2%	15.4%
Amran	4.9%	26.1%	58.5%	10.5%	17.4%	59.5%	23.2%	5.4%	29.1%	65.5%	37.4%	26.9%	19.4%
Dhamar	2.9%	18.5%	65.8%	12.8%	19.8%	54.2%	26.0%	1.6%	25.3%	73.1%	33.3%	21.8%	16.7%
Hadramawt	4.5%	40.9%	44.9%	9.7%	20.3%	62.8%	16.8%	1.2%	26.7%	72.1%	38.7%	22.5%	42.3%
Hajjah	2.1%	4.9%	71.4%	21.7%	3.8%	54.9%	41.3%	1.2%	18.2%	80.7%	24.0%	31.1%	18.5%
Ibb	5.7%	20.2%	67.8%	6.3%	17.8%	51.9%	30.2%	1.4%	31.6%	67.0%	32.2%	33.8%	10.8%
Lahj	3.1%	19.7%	70.3%	6.9%	10.1%	60.6%	29.4%	5.4%	32.5%	62.1%	35.6%	21.7%	38.3%
Marib	2.2%	30.1%	62.5%	5.2%	28.8%	50.9%	20.3%	5.9%	26.0%	68.1%	34.1%	16.7%	17.8%
Raymah	1.0%	14.7%	75.0%	9.3%	10.2%	59.3%	30.5%	0.8%	21.8%	77.4%	28.0%	26.6%	16.3%
Sa'ada	0.6%	18.3%	67.7%	13.4%	18.3%	56.3%	25.4%	0.5%	32.9%	66.6%	30.9%	23.7%	21.7%
Sana'a	3.2%	16.4%	73.0%	7.4%	9.6%	66.6%	23.8%	3.5%	28.6%	67.9%	29.5%	25.8%	13.7%
Shabwah	3.7%	28.4%	63.6%	4.4%	17.1%	65.6%	17.4%	5.1%	28.4%	66.5%	40.3%	18.5%	24.0%
Socotra	10.9%	22.2%	50.1%	16.9%	49.6%	43.2%	7.2%	9.5%	50.3%	40.1%	65.1%	5.4%	20.2%
Taizz	5.9%	32.7%	58.3%	3.0%	13.7%	68.1%	18.3%	0.8%	26.3%	72.9%	31.6%	29.9%	14.4%
National	3.6%	21.8%	66.7%	7.9%	15.0%	58.3%	26.7%	2.5%	28.5%	69.0%	32.1%	26.0%	18.7%

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