FEWS NET
Famine Early Warning Systems Network

**Food Assistance Outlook Brief** **June 2024**

# FEWS NET's projected population in need (PIN) of urgent food assistance in December 2024*

Projected population in need in **December 2024** across FEWS NET monitored countries:

## 120-130 million

11% of the population

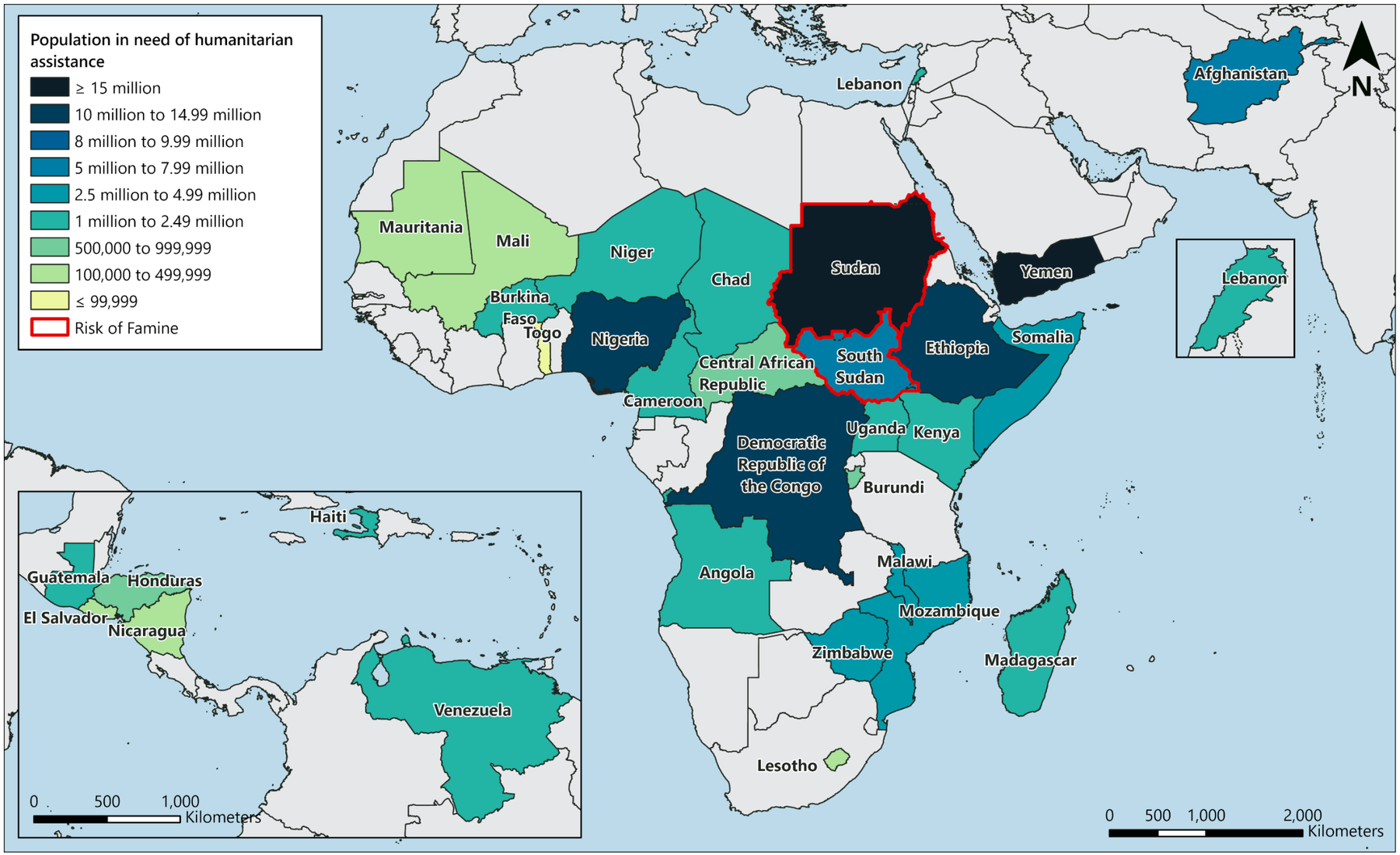
Total humanitarian food assistance needs across FEWS NET-monitored countries in December 2024 are projected to be:

## Higher than needs in December 2023

**Higher** than the five-year average

This brief summarizes FEWS NET's projection of the population in need of urgent food assistance and the severity of anticipated acute food insecurity in FEWS NET-monitored countries seven months into the future**.** The projected size of each country's population experiencing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and higher) is compared to last year and the recent five-year average, categorized as **Higher**, *Similar*, or **Lower**. Additional information is provided for countries with large food insecure populations, an expectation of high severity, or where other key issues warrant further context. Analytical confidence is lower in FEWS NET's remotely monitored countries, indicated by "RM." Visit www.fews.net for detailed country reports.

FEWS NET defines the total **PIN** of urgent humanitarian food assistance as the combined number of people facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity outcomes, regardless of whether they are receiving assistance, *plus* any populations in lower IPC Phases who would likely be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse in the absence of humanitarian food assistance. The IPC follows a different approach to estimate the PIN, which can be found here.




***For visual purposes, wider ranges are represented in the map above. For narrower ranges, refer to the table on page three.**

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## Key Messages

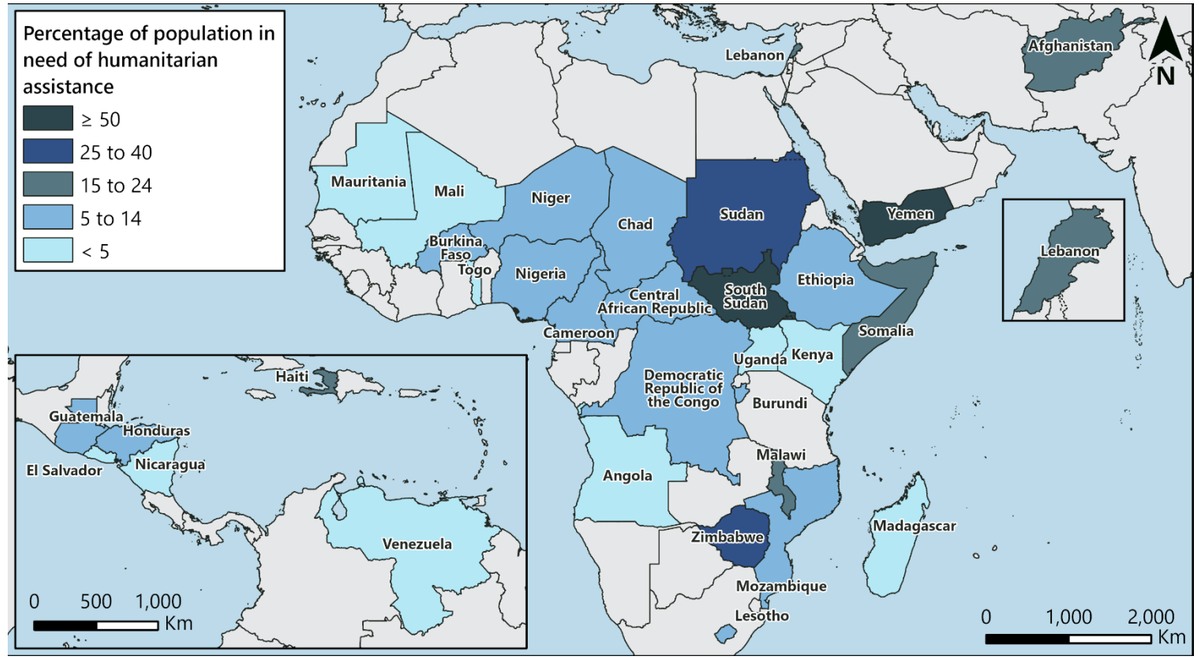
In December 2024, FEWS NET expects the number of people in need of humanitarian food assistance to be highest in the countries of **Yemen, Sudan,** the **Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria,** and **Ethiopia.**

When food assistance needs are expressed as a percent of the total population of each respective FEWS NET-monitored country, FEWS NET expects the share of the population that needs humanitarian food assistance to be highest in **South Sudan** and **Yemen,** where **over 50 percent** of each country's population will most likely need food assistance, followed by **Sudan** and **Zimbabwe,** where **over 25 percent** of the country's population will most likely need food assistance. In **Lebanon, Haiti, Afghanistan, Malawi,** and **Somalia, 15-24 percent** of the country's population will most likely need food assistance.

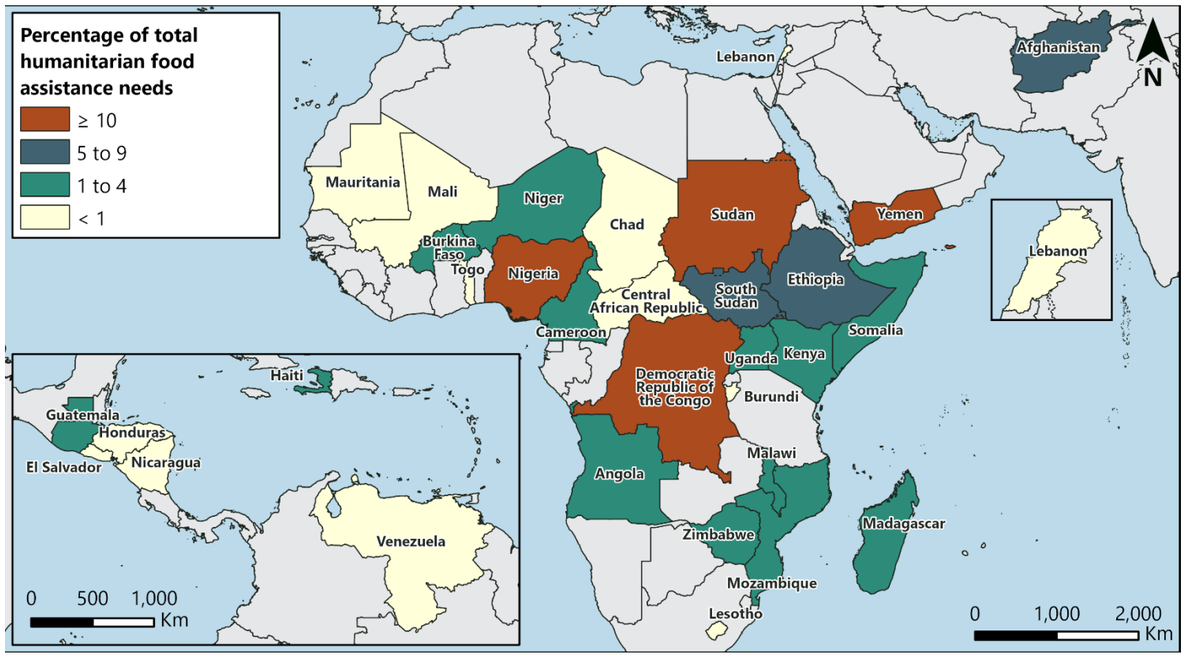
Out of the projected total 120-130 million people in need across FEWS NET-monitored countries, **Yemen, Sudan,** the **Democratic Republic of the Congo,** and **Nigeria** are each expected to contribute **over 10 percent** of total food assistance needs. **Ethiopia, South Sudan,** and **Afghanistan** are each expected to contribute **5-9 percent** of total food assistance needs.

In comparison to December of last year, FEWS NET expects the number of people in need of food assistance to be **higher** in **Sudan, Nigeria, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique, Haiti,** and **Angola**. In contrast, FEWS NET expects the number of people in need of food assistance to be **lower** in **Afghanistan, Somalia, Kenya, Burkina Faso,** and **Venezuela**. In all other countries, food assistance needs are expected to be similar to last year.

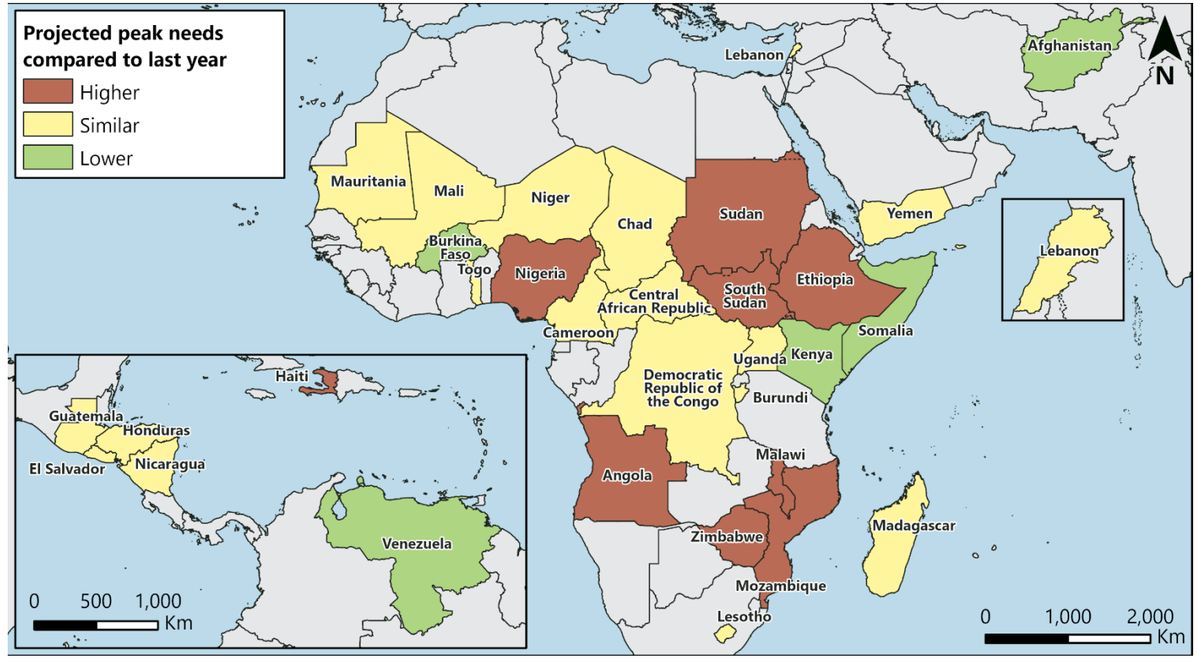
**Projected PIN in December 2024 as a percent of the total population in each FEWS NET-monitored country**




**Projected PIN in December 2024 as a percent of projected total humanitarian food assistance needs**




**Projected PIN in December 2024 compared to last year in each FEWS NET-monitored country**



| Countries by projected PIN, descending | CURRENT PIN in June 2024 | **PROJECTED PIN in December 2024** | Projected PIN in December 2024 as an approximate % of the pop. | Projected PIN in December 2024 compared to last year | Projected PIN in December 2024 compared to 5-yr avg. | Highest projected area-level IPC classification in December 2024 after accounting for planned and likely deliveries of humanitarian food assistance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Yemen** | 18.0-18.99 million | **17.0-17.99 million** | 50-55% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) |
| | | | Although the main harvest will be available in December, poor economic conditions will continue to significantly limit income-generating opportunities and result in widespread Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) will likely persist in some governorates controlled by the Sana'a-based authorities where humanitarian food assistance is paused. | | | |
| **Sudan** | 16.0-16.99 million | **15.0-15.99 million** | 30-35% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) & risk of Famine |
| | | | Food assistance needs are expected to remain high during Sudan's harvest period in December, with Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes expected to persist in severely conflict-affected areas in Greater Darfur, Khartoum, Greater Kordofan, and parts of the southeast. Before then, levels of acute food insecurity are expected to peak at the height of the lean season between July and September, when a growing number of households are expected to face Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5), especially those that are displaced or in hard-to-reach areas of Greater Darfur and Khartoum. FEWS NET is closely monitoring the risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in these areas, with particular concern for the ongoing siege of El Fasher and surrounding areas in North Darfur; if armed groups completely isolate areas, cut off the flow of food, or otherwise severely restrict the population's mobility to leave in search of food and income, then Famine (IPC Phase 5) would likely occur. | | | |
| **DRC** | 14.0-14.99 million | **14.0-14.99 million** | 10-15% | *Similar* | **Higher** | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| | | | Food assistance needs are expected to reach an annual peak in December, which coincides with the final weeks of the lean season (Season A) in the east where ongoing conflict is disrupting livelihoods and displacing populations. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Ituri, with worst-affected households in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). | | | |
| **Nigeria** | 15.0-15.99 million | **13.0-13.99 million** | 5-10% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) |
| | | | Needs will decline during the post-harvest period in late 2024. However, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) will likely persist in the north, where conflict and the national macroeconomic crisis are impeding crop production and income-generating opportunities. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is expected in areas of the NE and among some households in the NW, where the impacts of conflict are most severe. | | | |
| **Ethiopia** | 18.0-18.99 million | **11.0-11.99 million** | 5-10% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) |
| | | | The availability of the *meher* harvest in late 2024 is expected to alleviate food insecurity in northern, western, and central Ethiopia. However, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) are still anticipated in conflict- and drought-affected areas in northern Ethiopia where *meher* prospects and other livelihood options are limited by the short- and long-term impacts of conflict. In Tigray and northeastern Amhara, worse outcomes would be anticipated prior to the harvest if food aid and social support are not sustained at current levels, at a minimum. In the pastoral south and southeast, livestock births in late 2024 will support improvement to Crisis (IPC Phase 3). | | | |
| **South Sudan** | 7.0-7.99 million | **7.0-7.99 million** | 55-60% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) & risk of Famine |
| | | | In June, levels of acute food insecurity are worsening as the July/August peak of the lean season approaches, exacerbated by a high returnee burden, the early depletion of food stocks, ongoing disruptions to food assistance deliveries, and macroeconomic challenges. In December, the harvest will support a declining trend in needs, but needs will remain high given the anticipated impacts of severe floods during the main rainy season on crops, livestock, and wild foods. Widespread Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is likely. Famine (IPC Phase 5) would be anticipated in parts of north-central Unity and Upper Nile if floods and conflict converge to isolate households and restrict their mobility to search for food, particularly among returnees with low coping capacity. | | | |
| **Afghanistan** | 6.0-6.99 million | **6.0-6.99 million** | 15-20% | **Lower** | *Similar* | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| | | | On aggregate, the primary and secondary harvests are expected to be near-average and will restock local markets and replenish household stocks from now through December. Food prices are likely to decline in response to increased supply and decreased demand. As a result, food assistance needs are expected to decline year-on-year. However, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) will likely persist in highland areas where local harvests performed less favorably and households face difficulty recovering from prior drought amid limited labor income and atypically low remittances from Iran. | | | |
| **Zimbabwe** | 3.0-3.49 million | **4.0-4.99 million** | 30-35% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| | | | Multi-partner field assessments conducted in May have illuminated the scale of drought-induced crop losses, leading FEWS NET to revise its estimates of the current and projected population in need upward. In December, widespread Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected as the lean season progresses. Household food stocks will have been exhausted; low liquidity and high input prices for better off households will limit agricultural labor demand during the 2024/25 planting period; and high food prices and limited income will impact household purchasing capacity. | | | |
| **Malawi** | 2.5-2.99 million | **3.5-3.99 million** | 15-20% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| | | | Following multiple years of weather-related shocks and below-average harvests, poorer households have reduced coping capacity and are increasingly likely to employ unsustainable coping strategies or face food consumption gaps as the lean season deepens. By December, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected across southern Malawi. | | | |
| **Somalia** | 3.0-3.49 million | **3.0-3.49 million** | 15-20% | **Lower** | **Lower** | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) |
| | | | The impacts of anticipated La Niña rainfall deficits in late 2024 will be buffered by the above-average *gu* rains, which are supporting favorable livestock and crop production currently, with good livestock birth prospects anticipated during the *deyr*. Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) will likely be widespread, but Emergency (IPC Phase 4) will persist in some IDP sites. | | | |
| **Mozambique** | 1.5-1.99 million | **2.5-2.99 million** | 5-10% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| | | | In southern and central Mozambique, additional households are likely to deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) by December following well below-average 2024 harvests. In conflict-affected Cabo Delgado, Stressed! (IPC Phase 2!) outcomes are likely where humanitarian access is possible, while Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely elsewhere. | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Haiti** | 2.0-2.49 million | **2.0-2.49 million** | 15-20% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) |
| | | | In December, the fall harvest will provide food for households that engage in crop production. However, gang violence is likely to continue at elevated levels, disrupting market functionality, food supply, and income-generating activities, resulting in an increase in the total population in need compared to last year. Widespread Crisis (IPC Phase 3) will likely persist, while Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is expected in Cité Soleil; additionally, an increase in the number of households in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is likely in areas of Ouest and Nord-Ouest worst affected by gang violence. | | | |
| **Kenya** | 2.0-2.49 million | **1.5-1.99 million** | less than 5% | **Lower** | **Lower** | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |
| **Uganda** | 1.5-1.99 million | **1.5-1.99 million** | less than 5% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| **Niger** | 2.0-2.49 million | **1.5-1.99 million** | 5-10% | *Similar* | **Higher** | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| | | | In December, household access to food will improve with the main harvest. However, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected not only in Tillabéry and Tahoua but also Maradi and Diffa; new requirements for security escorts for humanitarian organizations working in conflict-affected areas are expected to raise costs and reduce the scale of food assistance deliveries. | | | |
| **Cameroon** | 1.5-1.99 million | **1.5-1.99 million** | 5-10% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| **Guatemala** | 2.0-2.49 million | **1.0-1.49 million** | 5-10% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| **Burkina Faso** | 2.0-2.49 million | **1.0-1.49 million** | 5-10% | **Lower** | *Similar* | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) |
| | | | Needs are expected to be seasonally low in December with improvements supported by the main harvest. However, households in the worst conflict-affected areas of northern Burkina Faso will already begin to deplete their marginal harvests; widespread Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected across the north, while areas of Sahel Region will likely be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). | | | |
| *Angola RM* | 750,000-999,999 | **1.0-1.49 million** | less than 5% | **Higher** | **Higher** | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| **Madagascar** | 1.0-1.49 million | **1.0-1.49 million** | 5-10% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| *Lebanon RM* | 1.0-1.49 million | **1.0-1.49 million** | 20-25% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| **Chad** | 1.5-1.99 million | **1.0-1.49 million** | 5-10% | *Similar* | **Higher** | Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) |
| *Venezuela RM* | 1.0-1.49 million | **1.0-1.49 million** | less than 5% | **Lower** | **Lower** | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |
| *Honduras RM* | 500,000-749,999 | **500,000-749,999** | 5-10% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |
| **Burundi** | 500,000-749,999 | **500,000-749,999** | less than 5% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |
| *CAR RM* | 500,000-749,999 | **500,000-749,999** | 5-10% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| **Mali** | 1.0-1.49 million | **250,000-499,999** | less than 5% | *Similar* | **Higher** | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) |
| | | | The impacts of conflict and insecurity on livelihoods in northern areas, especially in Mopti, Tombouctou, Gao, and Kidal, will drive Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes despite seasonally low needs in the post-harvest period. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected in Ménaka, where insecurity has disrupted market supply, trade flows, and humanitarian access. | | | |
| *Mauritania RM* | 250,000-499,999 | **100,000-249,999** | less than 5% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |
| *Lesotho RM* | 100,000-249,999 | **100,000-249,999** | 5-10% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |
| *El Salvador RM* | 100,000-249,999 | **100,000-249,999** | less than 5% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |
| *Nicaragua RM* | 100,000-249,999 | **100,000-249,999** | less than 5% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |
| *Togo RM* | 250,000-499,999 | **less than 100,000** | less than 5% | *Similar* | *Similar* | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) |

**IPC (Version 3.1) Acute Food Insecurity Reference Table for Area Classification**

| Minimal (IPC Phase 1) | Stressed (IPC Phase 2) | Crisis (IPC Phase 3) | Emergency (IPC Phase 4) | Famine (IPC Phase 5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income. | Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress-coping strategies. | Households either: Have food consumption gaps which are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition;<br>- or -<br>Are marginally able to meet minimum food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis-coping strategies. | Households either: Have large food consumption gaps which are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality;<br>- or -<br>Are able to mitigate large food consumption gaps but only by employing emergency livelihood strategies and asset liquidation. | Households have an extreme lack of food and/or other basic needs even after full employment of coping strategies. Starvation, death, destitution, and extremely critical acute malnutrition levels are evident. (For Famine Classification, area needs to have extreme critical levels of acute malnutrition and mortality.) |

! Indicates area would likely be at least one phase worse without current or planned humanitarian food assistance.

**Urgent Action Required**

*FEWS NET assesses and communicates a "risk of Famine" when there is one or more credible alternative scenarios in which Famine (IPC Phase 5) is likely to occur but is not the most likely acute food insecurity outcome. When multiple credible alternative scenarios exist that would likely lead to Famine, FEWS NET encourages communicating these scenarios when planning for and responding to food crises. Consult FEWS NET's reports to understand alternative scenarios; risk of Famine is not captured in regular food security mapping in order to maintain clarity about the most likely scenario. The IPC follows different guidance to assess a risk of Famine, which can be found here.*