



Food Assistance Outlook Brief

APRIL 2023

Projected Food Assistance Needs for October 2023

This brief summarizes FEWS NET's most forward-looking analysis of projected emergency food assistance needs in FEWS NET coverage countries. The projected size of each country's acutely food insecure population (IPC Phase 3 and higher) is compared to last year and the recent five-year average and categorized as Higher (▲), Similar (▶), or Lower (▼). Countries where external emergency food assistance needs are anticipated are identified. Projected lean season months highlighted in red indicate either an early start or an extension to the typical lean season. Additional information is provided for countries with large food insecure populations, an expectation of high severity, or where other key issues warrant additional discussion. Analytical confidence is lower in remote monitoring countries, denoted by "RM." Visit www.fews.net for detailed country reports.

Country (In order of estimated food insecure population, OCT)	External needs in OCT.	OCT versus last year	OCT. versus 5-year avg.	Highest likely severity (area) in OCTOBER	Key upcoming lean season	
17.0-17.99 mill.	YEMEN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	Lowlands: Aug. - Sep. 2023 In October, the main cereal harvest will improve food availability in rural areas. However, the impacts of protracted conflict and poor economic conditions will continue to drive below-average income earning and above-average prices, with Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes expected in most areas amid reduced assistance. It should be noted that recent high-level talks provide hope for further positive steps in the peace process in the near future, though outcomes remain to be seen.
	NIGERIA	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	North: April - September 2023 The start of the main harvest in October is expected to improve food security for millions of households. However, conflict and poor economic conditions will continue to limit access to food and income across the North, where Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is expected to persist. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is likely in parts of the NE and among some households in the NW.
14.0-14.99 mil	ETHIOPIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency (!)	S/SE pastoral: Dec. - Apr. 2023 The <i>meher</i> harvest in October is expected to improve food availability and access and alleviate food insecurity among millions of households. However, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes will likely persist in southern and southeastern (S/SE) areas. Although the March to May <i>gu/genna</i> rains are somewhat favorable to date, pastoralists who suffered large livestock losses lack the ability to recover this key food and income source. The worst drought-affected areas, such as Borena, Dawa, Liban, and Afder zones, could face worse outcomes if humanitarian aid substantially declines or is not delivered.
13.0-13.99 mill.	DRC	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	NE/CE: August - December 2023 Crisis (IPC Phase 3) is anticipated in conflict-affected areas of the northeast. In North Kivu, the M23 rebellion is currently driving high levels of displacement and disrupting cultivation and other food and income sources. During the lean season in October, most households will depend on the market as the main source of food amid persistently high food prices.
9.0-9.99 mill.	SOUTH SUDAN	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	March - August 2023 Availability of food sources from the main harvest, livestock products, and wild foods will be at seasonal highs in October, contributing to a marginal reduction in need from last month. However, much of the population remains vulnerable to floods during the 2023 rainy season and volatile patterns of conflict, which are expected to result in large food and income deficits. Needs will remain highest in parts of northern Jonglei; PiBOR; and central Unity, where Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected. There is a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) if conflict or flooding isolates households from food and income sources.
7.0-7.99 million	SUDAN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	June - September 2023 The population in need will begin to decline in October with the arrival of the new harvest and seasonal reductions in food prices. However, needs will likely remain high among displaced and conflict-affected households in Greater Darfur, Greater Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Abyei; refugees from South Sudan and Ethiopia; and poor households in pastoral and agropastoral communities who have severely limited purchasing power. Emergency (IPC Phase 4) is expected in conflict-affected Abyei.
	SOMALIA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency (!) & risk of Famine	Cropping: March - June 2023 Millions of people remain destitute and/or displaced due to the loss of livelihoods after the five-season drought. Despite a somewhat more favorable forecast for the April-June rains, many households lack the means to recover a key food and income source, livestock. Emergency! (IPC Phase 4!) is likely in parts of the south, and multi-sectoral assistance remains crucial to preventing more extreme levels of acute food insecurity. There is a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in parts of Bay and Mogadishu if crop failure occurs and if food aid substantially declines or is not delivered.

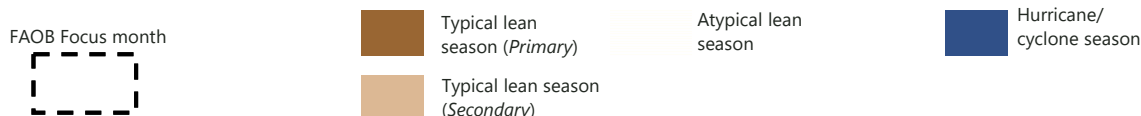
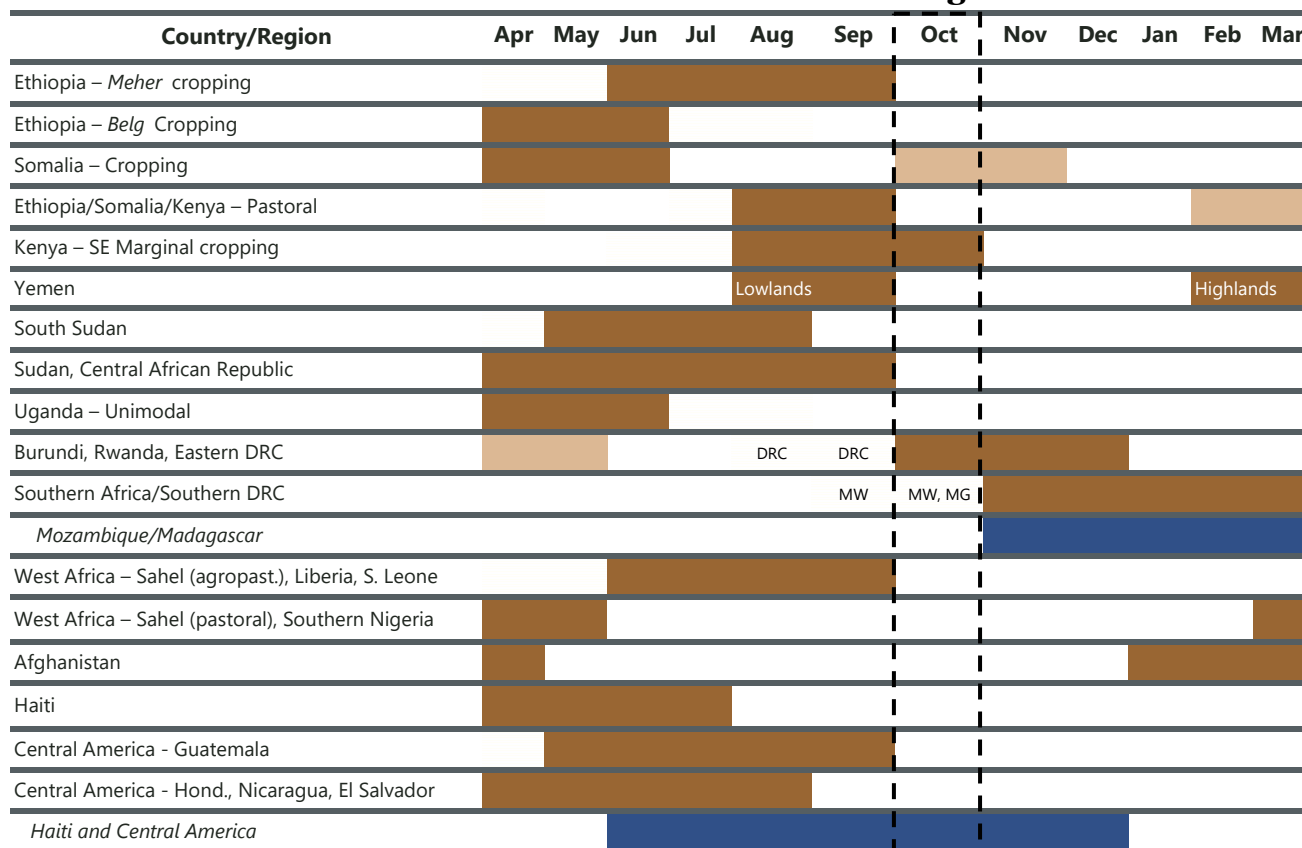


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6.0-6.99 million	AFGHANISTAN	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	November 2022 - April 2023
	<p>In October, the harvest in high-elevation areas will begin to improve household food availability and access, but will be below average. Household purchasing power is also expected to remain below normal due to suppressed income from labor and livestock, driven by poor economic conditions. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected.</p>					
	KENYA	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis (!)	June - September 2023
	<p>In October, Crisis! (IPC Phase 3!) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are likely following the pastoral dry season. Although the forecast for the March to May long rains is now somewhat more favorable, the cumulative impact of the five-season drought will keep livestock production and pastoral purchasing power low. Government safety nets and humanitarian aid will remain key to mitigating household food consumption gaps. Less severe outcomes are expected in marginal agricultural areas.□</p>					
2.0-2.49 million	ZIMBABWE	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Nov. 2023 - Feb. 2024
	<p>A prolonged dry spell in March lowered expectations for the 2023 harvest to near average. In October, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected as food stocks decline and households face difficulty purchasing sufficient food.</p>					
	MALAWI	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	September 2023 - March 2024
	<p>Cyclone Freddy severely damaged trade routes, market supply chains, and harvests in southern Malawi. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are now expected to persist even after the harvest due to scale of food and income losses.</p>					
1.5- 1.99 million	UGANDA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Karamoja: Jan. - Aug. 2023
	<p>In October, poor Karamojong households will continue benefiting from the main harvest. However, this is expected to be the fourth consecutive below-average harvest, and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will most likely persist.</p>					
	BURKINA FASO	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency & risk of Famine	Sahel: Mar. - Sep. 2023
	<p>While the main harvest is expected to alleviate food insecurity for many households in October, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes will likely persist in Soum, Oudalan, and Yagha provinces, where conflict continues to significantly disrupt and diminish household access to food and income sources. There is a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in Djibo commune of Soum if an increase in conflict further restricts already low levels of crop cultivation, humanitarian aid, and market supply deliveries.</p>					
	HAITI	Yes	▲	▲	PHASE 4: Emergency	March - June 2023
	<p>Gang violence, inflation, and poor rainfall are expected to continue to suppress household access to food and income. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will likely remain widespread, while Cité Soleil is expected to remain in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).</p>					
	MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	November 2023 - March 2024
	<p>By October, conflict-affected households in Cabo Delgado and poor households who lost crops due to dry spells and floods will likely be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) as they face difficulty purchasing sufficient food as their own-produced stocks decline.</p>					
1.0-1.49 million	CAMEROON	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Southern: March - May 2023
	GUATEMALA	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August 2023
	NIGER	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	Liptako Gourma: Mar. - Sep. 2023
	MADAGASCAR	Yes	▼	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2023 - March 2024
500,000-749,999	CHAD	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	April - September 2023
	<p>While needs will decrease with the harvest, they will be above average due to persisting high staple food prices.</p>					
	BURUNDI	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	October - December 2023
	Honduras (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	March - August 2023
	MALI	Yes	▶	▲	PHASE 3: Crisis	Liptako Gourma: Apr. - Sep. 2023
<p>The availability of crops and wild foods will seasonally increase in October, driving anticipated improvement from Emergency (IPC Phase 4) to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in conflict-affected Ménaka Region. However, some households in inaccessible areas on the border with Niger will likely remain in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).</p>						
	Angola (RM)	Yes	▼	▼	PHASE 3: Crisis	SW: Sept. 2023 - March 2024
	Central African Rep (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	South: April - June 2023
250,000-499,999	Mauritania (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	Pastoral: March - June 2023
100,000-249,999	Lesotho (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 3: Crisis	October 2023 - March 2024
	El Salvador (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	March - August 2023
	Rwanda (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 1: Minimal	October - December 2023
	Nicaragua (RM)	Yes	▶	▶	PHASE 2: Stressed	April - August 2023

Lean Seasons in FEWS NET Monitored Countries and Regions



IPC Acute food Insecurity Phase Descriptions (Area)

PHASE 1 Minimal	Households are able to meet basic food needs and afford essential non-food expenditures without engaging in atypical, unsustainable coping strategies.
PHASE 2 Stressed	For at least 1 in 5 households, food consumption is reduced but minimally adequate without having to engage in unsustainable coping strategies. However, these households are unable to afford some
PHASE 3 Crisis	At least 1 in 5 households face significant food consumption gaps with high or above usual acute malnutrition, or is marginally able to meet minimum food needs only with unsustainable coping
PHASE 4 Emergency	At least 1 in 5 households face extreme food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition or excess mortality, or faces extreme loss of livelihood assets that will likely lead to food
PHASE 5 Famine	At least 1 in 5 households have a near complete lack of food and/or other basic needs. Starvation, death, and destitution are evident.
!	Phase classification would likely be worse without current or programmed humanitarian assistance.

Estimated Acutely Food Insecure Populations

Country	Pop. in IPC Phase 2		Pop. in IPC Phase 3 or higher		Total Acutely food insecure population	
	#	% of pop.	#	% of pop.	#	% of pop.
Yemen	8.0-8.99 million	20-40%	17.0-17.99 million	40-60%	22.0-22.99 million	>60%
Nigeria	25.0-25.99 million	5-20%	14.0-14.99 million	5-20%	39.0-39.99 million	5-20%
Ethiopia	13.0-13.99 million	5-20%	13.0-13.99 million	5-20%	30.0-30.99 million	20-40%
DRC	13.0-13.99 million	5-20%	9.0-9.99 million	5-20%	22.0-22.99 million	20-40%
South Sudan	2.5-2.99 million	20-40%	7.0-7.99 million	>60%	10.0-10.99 million	>60%
Sudan	9.0-9.99 million	20-40%	7.0-7.99 million	5-20%	17.0-17.99 million	20-40%
Somalia	3.5-3.99 million	20-40%	7.0-7.99 million	40-60%	10.0-10.99 million	>60%
Afghanistan	15.0-15.99 million	40-60%	6.0-6.99 million	5-20%	22.0-22.99 million	>60%
Kenya	5.0-5.99 million	5-20%	6.0-6.99 million	5-20%	12.0-12.99 million	20-40%
Zimbabwe	3.5-3.99 million	20-40%	2.0-2.49 million	5-20%	5.0-5.99 million	40-60%
Malawi	3.0-3.49 million	5-20%	2.0-2.49 million	5-20%	5.0-5.99 million	20-40%
Uganda	2.0-2.49 million	<5%	1.5-1.99 million	<5%	3.5-3.99 million	5-20%
Burkina Faso	3.0-3.49 million	5-20%	1.5-1.99 million	5-20%	4.0-4.99 million	20-40%
Haiti	3.0-3.49 million	20-40%	1.5-1.99 million	5-20%	4.0-4.99 million	40-60%
Mozambique	5.0-5.99 million	5-20%	1.5-1.99 million	<5%	7.0-7.99 million	20-40%
Cameroon	5.0-5.99 million	20-40%	1.0-1.49 million	5-20%	6.0-6.99 million	20-40%
Guatemala	1.5-1.99 million	5-20%	1.0-1.49 million	5-20%	3.0-3.49 million	5-20%
Niger	2.5-2.99 million	5-20%	1.0-1.49 million	<5%	3.5-3.99 million	5-20%
Madagascar	3.0-3.49 million	5-20%	1.0-1.49 million	<5%	4.0-4.99 million	5-20%
Chad	1.0-1.49 million	5-20%	500,000-749,999	<5%	2.0-2.49 million	5-20%
Burundi	750,000-999,999	5-20%	500,000-749,999	5-20%	1.5-1.99 million	5-20%
Honduras RM	1.0-1.49 million	5-20%	500,000-749,999	5-20%	1.5-1.99 million	5-20%
Mali	1.0-1.49 million	5-20%	500,000-749,999	<5%	1.5-1.99 million	5-20%
Angola RM	1.0-1.49 million	<5%	500,000-749,999	<5%	1.5-1.99 million	5-20%
CAR RM	750,000-999,999	5-20%	250,000-499,999	5-20%	1.0-1.49 million	20-40%
Mauritania RM	250,000-499,999	5-20%	250,000-499,999	5-20%	500,000-749,999	5-20%
Lesotho RM	250,000-499,999	5-20%	100,000-249,999	5-20%	500,000-749,999	20-40%
El Salvador RM	750,000-999,999	5-20%	100,000-249,999	<5%	750,000-999,999	5-20%
Rwanda RM	100,000-249,999	<5%	100,000-249,999	<5%	250,000-499,999	<5%
Nicaragua RM	1.0-1.49 million	5-20%	100,000-249,999	<5%	1.0-1.49 million	20-40%