

July 2022 — Lean Season Food Security Outlook

Key points



In July 28% of households in Nigeria have inadequate food consumption during the 2022 lean season. This marks a one percentage point increase compared to last year.



The northeastern and northwestern states show significantly higher levels of deprivation and vulnerability in terms of food consumption, coping and nonmonetary poverty.



In July around 64% of cultivating households have some food stocks remaining. However, only 13% have stocks that will last longer than a month. Stock levels have significantly reduced compared to the start of the lean season.

Context

As per the last Cadre Harmonise, about 19.5 million people are projected to be in crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity in Nigeria during the lean season, of which 1.2 million will be in emergency food insecurity. Prospect of localized below-average harvests, high food, fuel & fertilizer prices, macroeconomic challenges and insecurity are likely to further aggravate acute food-insecurity levels¹.

Covered states per region²

North Central Region:	Abuja, Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Nassarawa, Niger, Plateau
North East Region:	Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, Yobe
North West Region:	Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, Zamfara
South East Region:	Abia, Enugu
South South Region:	Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Edo
South West Region:	Lagos



Food Consumption

During the 2022 lean season 28% of households have inadequate food consumption in July (Fig. 1). This marks a one percentage points increase compared to July 2021. There has been a step increase particularly in June almost bringing the percentage of food insecure households to the same level as the peak of last year's lean season. While July marked a slight decrease compared to June—which can be partly contributed to Eid celebrations and increased meat consumption—the overall levels of food insecurity remain very high and therefore fragile, especially in light of the current global food crisis.

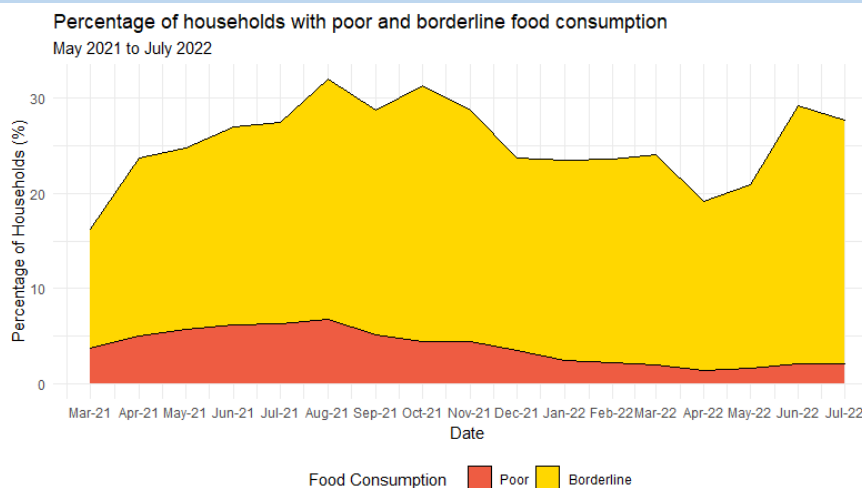
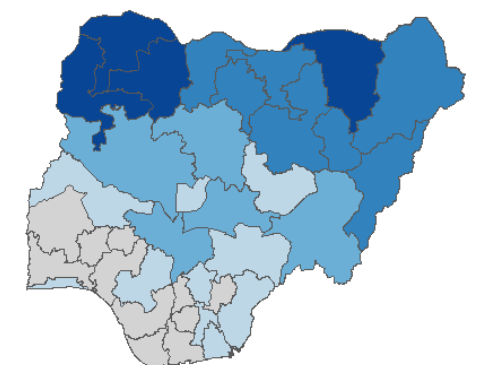


Fig. 1

source: WFP, mVAM 2022

Insufficient food consumption levels July 2022



% HHs insufficient FC

0.1 - 10.0	20.1 - 30.0	40.1 - 100.0
10.1 - 20.0	30.1 - 40.0	No Data

Fig. 2

source: WFP, mVAM 2022

¹WFP and FAO. 2022. Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to September 2022 Outlook. Rome.

²Please note that not all states in every region are covered. Region level results should be interpreted accordingly.

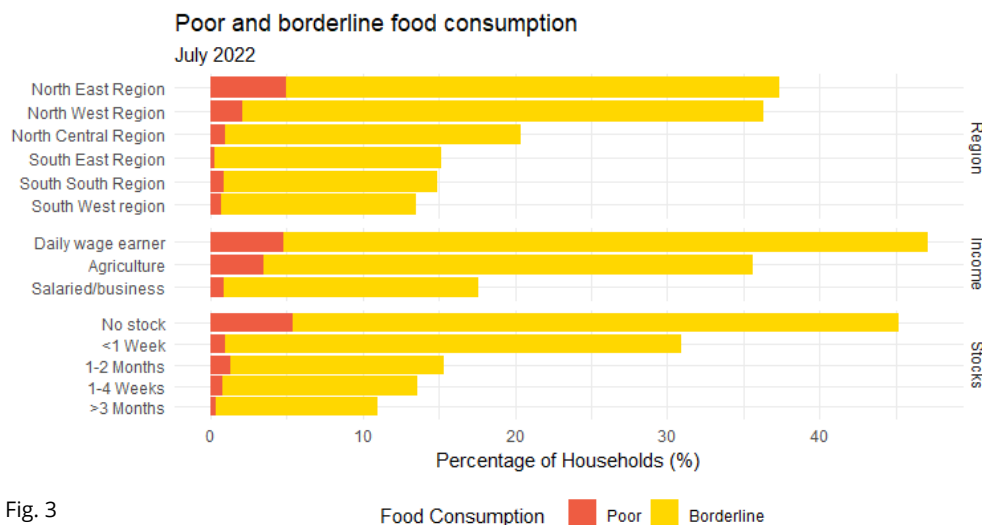


Fig. 3

source: WFP, mVAM 2022

The food needs are the highest in the northeastern and northwestern regions, where respectively 37% and 36% of households have poor or borderline food consumption (Fig. 3). Households with a precarious source of income such as daily wage workers equally show elevated levels of inadequate food consumption. There is also a strong correlation between food consumption and the level of stocks cultivating households have available, with well-stocked households having significantly better food consumption (Fig. 3).



Multidimensional deprivation

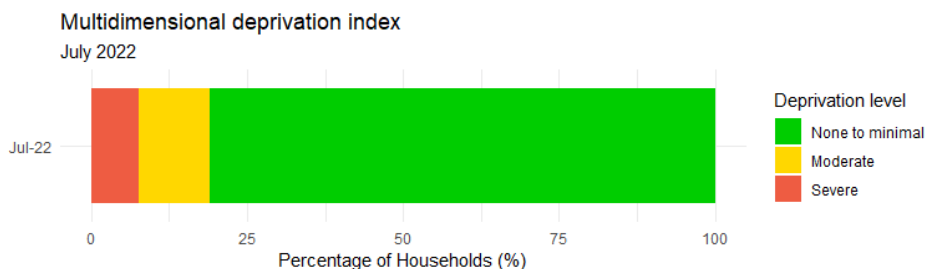


Fig. 5

source: WFP, mVAM 2022

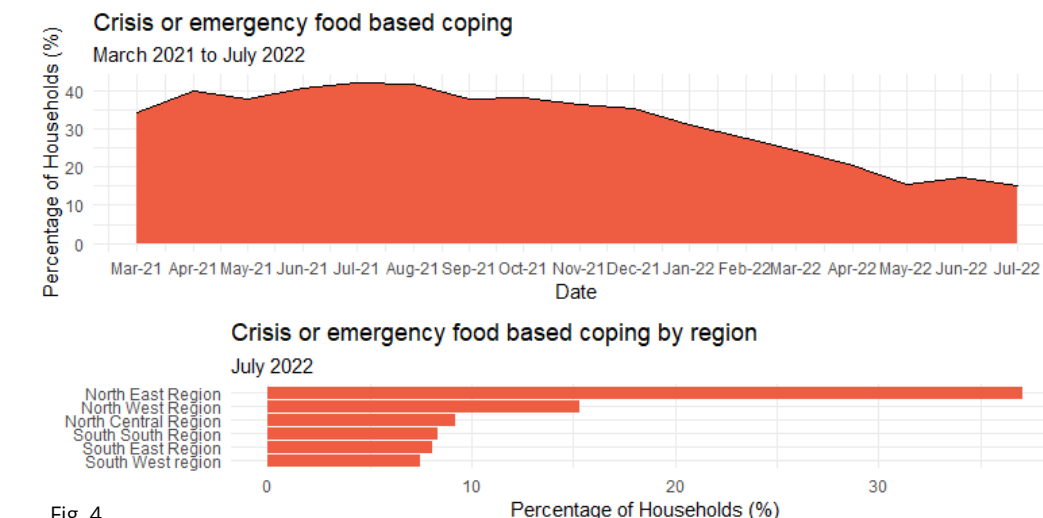


Fig. 4

source: WFP, mVAM 2022

The use of food-based coping strategies has significantly reduced in the post-harvest period (Fig. 4). Nevertheless, it is expected that coping will increase again in the coming months. Meaning that households will eat less preferable/ qualitative food, reduce meals eaten in a day etc. to cope with a lack of food or money to buy food. Again, the northeastern region shows the highest levels of food based coping with over 40% of households applying crisis or emergency strategies (Fig. 4).

The multidimensional deprivation index (MDDI) measures non-monetary poverty calculated at the household level, based on deprivations in the six essential needs dimensions: food, health, education, shelter, WASH and safety. Each dimension carries an equal weight in the total index.

In total, 19% of households are considered multidimensionally deprived, having an MDDI above the 1/3rd cut-off point (Fig. 5). Of all households, 8% are considered severely deprived (score above 0.66) and 11% are moderately deprived. (score between 0.33 and 0.5). The remaining 81% experience no or minimal multidimensional deprivation.

Again, the northeast region shows the highest level of multidimensional deprivation with over one in two households experiencing moderate or severe deprivation (Fig. 6). In terms of income activity, daily wage earners and agricultural households encounter elevated levels of multidimensional deprivation. Fig. 7 shows that the health, food, and shelter dimensions are of the largest concern for the northeast and northwest regions. Households in the northeast equally show high levels of safety deprivation.

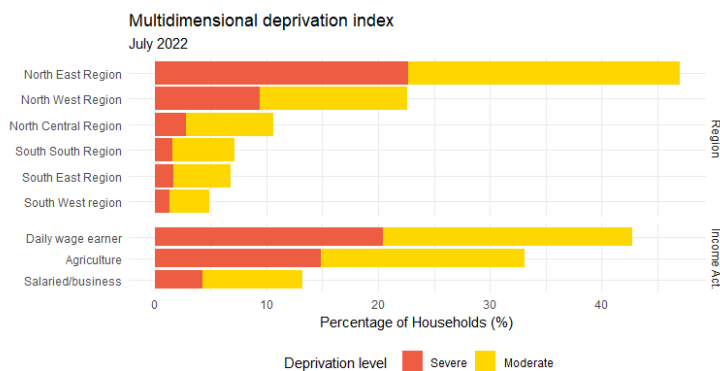


Fig. 6

source: WFP, mVAM 2022

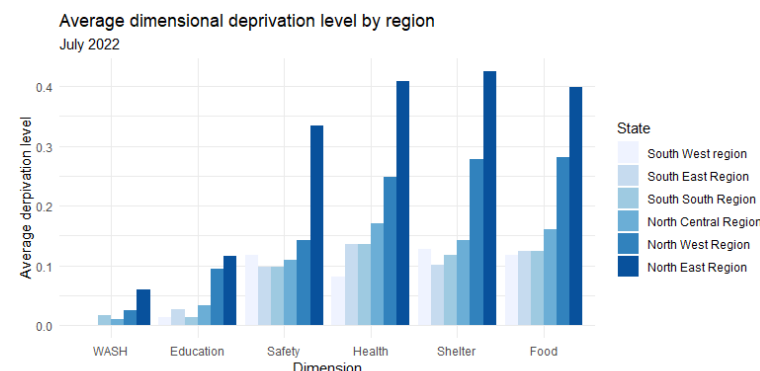


Fig. 7

source: WFP, mVAM 2022



Livelihoods, agriculture and stocks

In the southern regions and in the northcentral region an employee wage is the main source of income for most households (Fig. 8). Skilled labour, trade, and daily agricultural labour are other main income activities for more than 10% of households each. However, in the other northern regions a significant part of the households rely on agriculture and daily labour within the agricultural sector. Trade, skilled labour, petty trade and transport are other considerable income sources for households throughout the country.

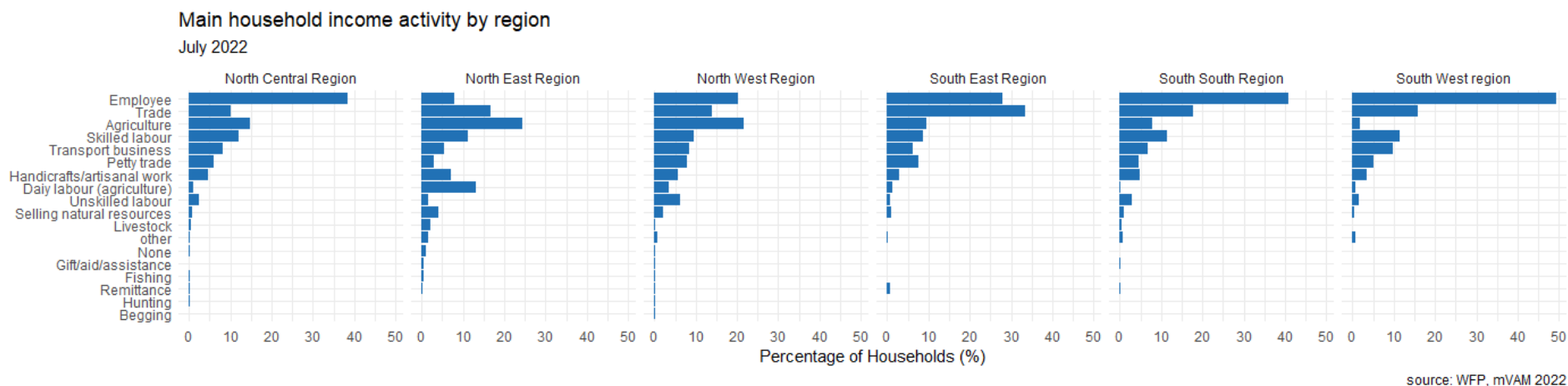


Fig. 8

source: WFP, mVAM 2022

In line with the main income activities, more than one in two households in the northern regions intend to cultivate during the next planting season (Fig. 9). For the South West region this intention lies significantly lower at around 20%.

While the majority of the cultivating households have remaining stock, more than 75% of it will be depleted within one month (Fig. 10). Stock levels have already reduced throughout the initial months of the lean season. Despite higher levels of agricultural activity in the North East region, a lower number of households have some type of stock available. However there are more households with durable stock that will last longer.

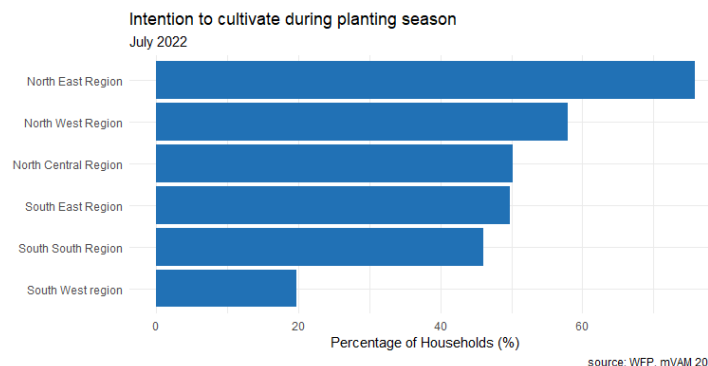


Fig. 9

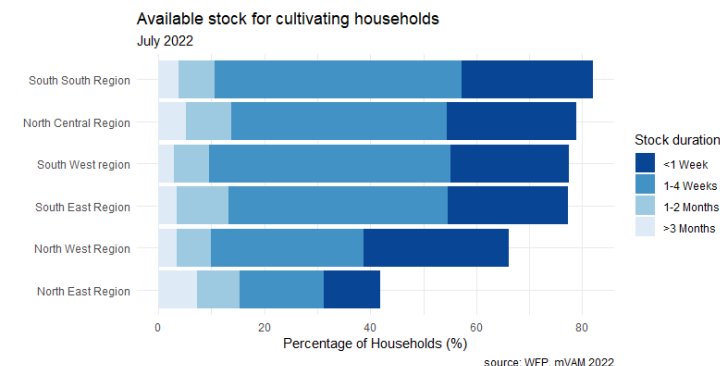


Fig. 10



Profiling —Vulnerability overlap

Vulnerability overlap by income activity July 2022



Fig. 11

Vulnerability overlap by sex head of household July 2022

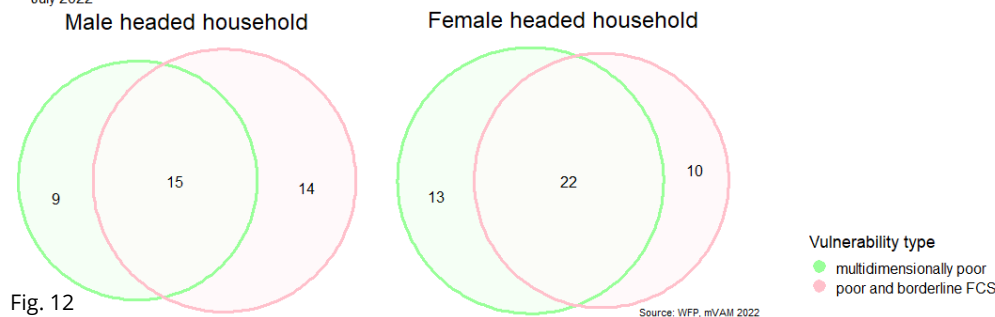


Fig. 12

There is a high overlap of types of vulnerability. For daily wage earners and agricultural households 29% and 22% respectively have insufficient food consumption and are multidimensionally deprived simultaneously, while for household with a salary/business this is 7% (Fig. 11). Around 61% of daily wage households experience at least one type of deprivation, for agricultural households this is 47% and for salaried/business households 23%.

Female headed households also experience higher levels of both inadequate food consumption and multidimensional deprivation at 22% (Fig. 12). For male headed households the overlap is significantly lower at 15%. The food insecurity and multidimensional deprivation occur individually for around 10% of the households regardless of the sex of the head of household.



For further information

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Data was collected through computer assisted telephone interviews. Please note that phone interviews are more prone to bias and should therefore be interpreted with care.

