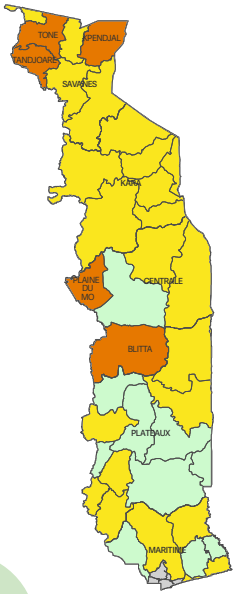
Togo

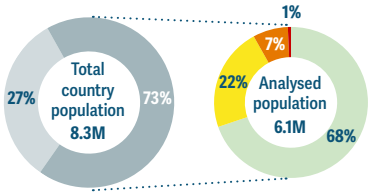
ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY | High food prices and rising conflict in the north drive acute food insecurity in Togo, despite slight improvements.

PEAK 2023 (JUNE–AUGUST)

0.5M people or 8% of the analysed population faced high levels of acute food insecurity. About 40 000 people were in Emergency (CH Phase 4).

This slight improvement since the October–December 2022 peak period reflects above-average crop production. However, compared with the previous year, populations in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) were more concentrated in conflict-affected northern areas.



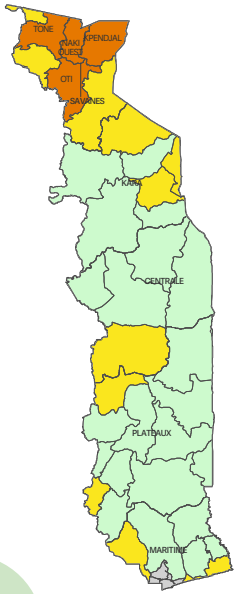


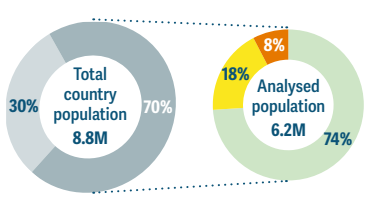
Source: CH Togo, December 2022.

PROJECTION 2024 (JUNE–AUGUST)

0.5M people or 8% of the analysed population projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity.

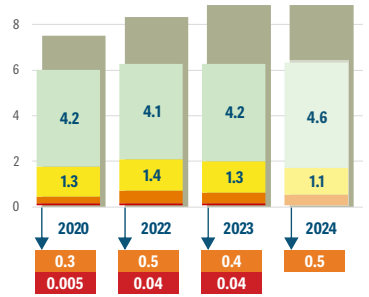
An anticipated further slight improvement, reflecting good crop production, particularly in southern areas, and a decline in the price of maize. However, concerns arise in northern Savanes region due to increasing insecurity. No populations were estimated in CH Phase 4.





Source: CH Togo, November 2023.

Peak numbers of people (in millions) by phase of acute food insecurity, 2020, 2022–2024



Source: CH Togo.

History of the food crisis A low-income country, Togo has been included in three editions of the GRFC. Post-COVID-19 economic shocks have been the key driver leading to higher levels of acute food insecurity, which peaked in 2022 at 0.6 million people or 9 percent of the analysed population, reflecting record high food prices. Despite improvements since 2022 and a further decrease in acute food insecurity projected for 2024, a worsening security situation in the north is very concerning.

1 - None/Minimal | 2 - Stressed | 3 - Crisis | 4 - Emergency | 5 - Catastrophe/Famine | Population analysed | Population not analysed | Total population

DRIVERS OF THE CRISIS 2023–2024

Economic shocks In 2023, the availability and prices of agricultural inputs, including fertilizers and pesticides, were impacted by international market disruptions and insecurity in the north of the country. In spite of measures to improve farmer's access to inputs, cereal retail prices remained high, with those of sorghum increasing up to 30 percent between May and August and those of maize remaining stable or slightly increasing. By the end of 2023, sorghum prices were 10 to 30 percent above the year-earlier levels while maize prices were near or below last year's levels (FAO, December 2023). Livestock prices remained stable compared with the five-year average, but unfavourable livestock/cereal terms of trade affected livelihoods of pastoralist households (CH Togo, November 2023).

Conflict/insecurity In 2023, approximately one-third of the people facing high levels of acute food insecurity resided in the Savanes region, where a state of emergency was extended until April 2024 due to violence from the Central Sahel (FAO, December 2023). This led to significant displacement, including nearly 19 000 refugees from Burkina Faso, heightening humanitarian needs in the north (UNHCR, 2023).

Non-state armed group attacks and suspended cross-border transhumance since 2021 restricted farmland access and livestock mobility, forcing extensive pastoralist displacement southward. This negatively affected staple crop production in this region, which accounts for about 20 percent of the national output of cereals and pulses (CH Togo, November 2023).

Weather extremes The country experienced short to medium duration dry spells in bimodal southern areas and unimodal northern areas during the main rainy season, affecting crop production in localized areas. Additionally, the minor rainy season in the south began earlier than usual, leading to flooding and affecting the city of Lomé. In spite of these conditions, crop production was above average at the national level (CH Togo, November 2023).

DISPLACEMENT

0.05M forcibly displaced people by 2023

0.02M IDPs

Source: IOM, July 2023.

0.03M refugees and asylum-seekers

Source: UNHCR Nowcasted estimate, December 2023.

ACUTE MALNUTRITION

0.1M children under 5 years old with acute malnutrition in 2023

0.1M MAM | 0.03M SAM

Source: WCARO Database, December 2023.