
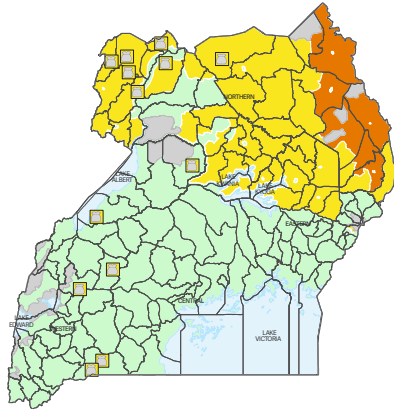


ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY | Food security improved overall, except in the Karamoja region where it is deteriorating.

PEAK 2023 (APRIL–JULY)


 **1.8M** or 4% of the total population faced high levels of acute food insecurity during the 2023 lean season.

This represents a 22% decrease from the previous year's peak of 2.3M (5% of the analysed population) from June to August 2022. People in northern and eastern Uganda experienced the worst outcomes, especially those in Karamoja, after erratic rainfall affected crop production and food prices.

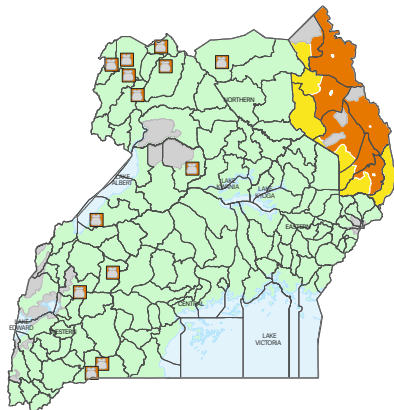


Source: FEWS NET, April 2023.

PROJECTION 2024 (JUNE)


 **Up to 2M** or 5% of the total population are expected to face high levels of acute food insecurity, which is a slight increase over the 2023 peak.

Improved weather conditions should increase food accessibility in northern and eastern areas, but Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will likely persist in Karamoja during the peak of the lean season and among refugees.



Source: FEWS NET, December 2023.

DRIVERS OF THE CRISIS 2023–2024

 **Weather extremes** Erratic and below-average March–June rains in bimodal areas throughout the country, except unimodal Karamoja region, led to a below-average first season harvest (FAO-GIEWS, July 2023). For many areas, this was the second year of below-average crop production, limiting households' capacity to cope with their depleted food stocks (FEWS NET, June 2023).

In Karamoja, several seasons of below-average rainfall affected livestock holdings and crop production. This resulted in high staple food prices during the March–July 2023 lean season, constraining household purchasing power at a time of higher market reliance due to depleted household food stocks (FEWS NET, June 2023).

 **Conflict/insecurity** The country's 1.6 million refugees and asylum-seekers in 2023 were reliant on humanitarian assistance (UNHCR). Livestock raiding in Karamoja and road ambushes hindered agricultural production and constrained livelihood opportunities (FEWS NET, June 2023).

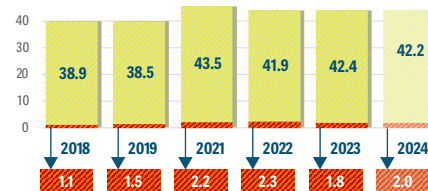
 **Economic shocks** Low staple food supply after consecutive poor harvests in bimodal areas in tandem with sustained export demand exerted upward pressure on staple food prices during the first half of the year (FAO-GIEWS, July 2023).

DISPLACEMENT

 **1.6M** refugees and asylum-seekers by 2023

Source: UNHCR Nowcasted estimate, December 2023.

Peak numbers of people (in millions) by phase of acute food insecurity, 2018–2024



Source: FEWS NET.

A protracted food crisis While year-on-year differences to the coverage areas and data sources challenge comparisons over time, Uganda has been selected as a major food crisis in seven out of eight editions of the GRFC based on having over 1 million people in IPC Phase 3 or above. Looking at the peak numbers from the same methodology, high acute food insecurity levels have remained above 1.8 million since 2021, indicating continued fragility. The more severe outcomes over the years have been in northeastern parts, particularly Karamoja.

ACUTE MALNUTRITION (Karamoja, and refugee and host districts)


0.2M children under 5 years old with acute malnutrition, 2023

0.16M MAM 0.04M SAM

Source: Uganda IPC TWG, June 2023 and September 2023.

0.02M pregnant and breastfeeding women with acute malnutrition in 2023




 Acute malnutrition levels increased in Karamoja, with Kaabong district in Critical (IPC AMN Phase 4). Two refugee settlements were classified in Serious (IPC AMN Phase 3) and six in Alert (IPC AMN Phase 2). Eleven out of 12 host districts were in Minimal (IPC AMN Phase 1).

DRIVERS OF ACUTE MALNUTRITION 2023–2024

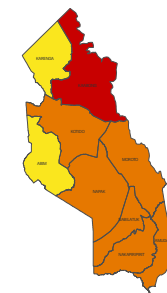
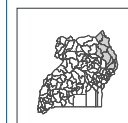
 **Inadequate practices** Time poverty, alcoholism and economic stress among Karamojong women underlie poor child-rearing practices. Only 2.9 percent of children aged 6–23 months in Karamoja, 11 percent in refugee settlements and 18 percent in host communities received a Minimum Acceptable Diet (IPC AMN, June and September 2023).

due to limited resources. Micronutrient deficiencies account for high levels of anaemia among children and women of reproductive age in Karamoja and in the 13 refugee settlements analysed, indicating a public health problem.

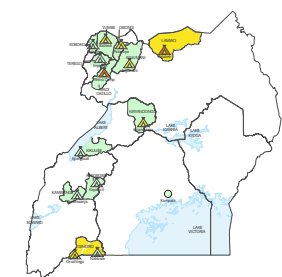
 **Lack of food** High acute food insecurity contributed to poor diets for children and women, particularly for populations in refugee settlements, as food assistance was significantly reduced

 **Inadequate services** Only 21 percent of households in Karamoja and 34 percent in refugee settlements access enough water for use and 12 percent have access to improved sanitation services. Diarrhoea and malaria outbreaks remain high risk factors (IPC AMN, June and September 2023).

KARAMOJA PEAK 2023 (MAY–SEPTEMBER)



REFUGEE AND HOST DISTRICTS PEAK 2023 (OCTOBER 2023–MARCH 2024)



Source: Uganda IPC TWG, June 2023.

