Chapter 3 | Major food crises in 2022 Malawi

Malawi

Acute food insecurity overview 2021

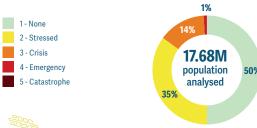


were in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in **January–March 2021**

2.51M people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3)

• 0.13M people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4)

15% of the population analysed was in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above)





6.27M people were in Stressed (IPC Phase 2)

The analysis covers **90%** of the country's total population of **19.7 million** people.

Source: IPC, January 2021.

National population

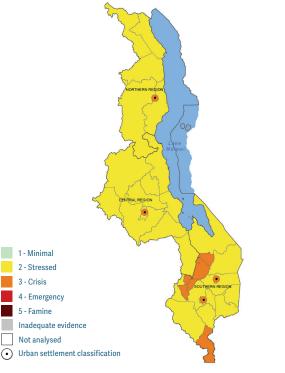


Source: WB 2020.

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IPC acute food insecurity situation, January–March 2021

Malawi's four main cities – Lilongwe, Blantyre, Mzuzu and Zomba – were all classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). All rural areas were in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) except for Balaka, Neno and Nsanje in the southern region, which were in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Source: Malawi IPC Technical Working Group, January 2021.

Acute food insecurity trends

Numbers have remained relatively stable since 2020. The total population in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) decreased from 2.6 million during the January–March 2021 lean season to 1.1 million from July–September 2021, before increasing to 1.4 million from November–December 2021.

In January–March 2021, over 610 400 people were in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in the four cities of Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Zomba, up from 517 300 in November–December 2020 (IPC, January 2021).

From 2018 onwards, the country on average registered approximately 1.5 million people (about 7 percent of the total rural population) in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), as well as 4–5 million people in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) (about 30 percent of the rural population). Food insecurity in Malawi is more pronounced in the southern region, which is prone to climatic shocks every year that often drive high numbers of people to be in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above).

FIG 3.29

Numbers of people in IPC Phase 2 or above, 2017–2022



Bars refer to comparable analysis periods covering rural areas only (see Technical Notes). Datasets from all analysis rounds between 2017 and 2022 are provided (see Appendix 1, table A10, page 252).

Source: Malawi IPC Technical Working Group.