Chapter 3 | Major food crises in 2022 Namibia

Acute food insecurity forecast, 2022

ቹ††Î 0.75M people

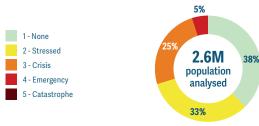
were forecast to be in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in **December 2021–March 2022**

••• 0.63M people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3)

• 0.12M people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4)

The analysis for late 2021 was also valid for early 2022 as it covered the lean season.

30% of the population analysed was forecast to be in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above)





0.84M people were forecast to be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2)



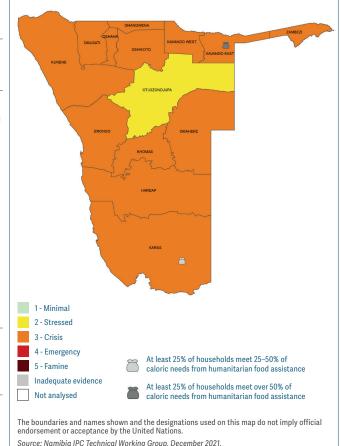
The analysis covers **100%** of the country's total population of **2.6 million** people.

Source: IPC, December 2021.

MAP 3.49

IPC acute food insecurity situation, December 2021–March 2022

The whole country, excluding Otjozondjupa, was classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). The population in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) reached 10 percent in Kavango East, Karas, Omaheke and Oshikoto.



While favourable rains should improve crop and livestock production, pockets of drought will persist in southern and northern areas, curtailing agricultural labour opportunities.

* Weather extremes

Normal to above-normal rainfall was expected in most of Namibia through to March 2022 with the exception of the western fringes, which were expected to receive normal to below-normal rains (SADC, September 2021).

Production prospects in 2022 are uncertain, as total precipitation amounts were lower than average in 2021 (FAO-GIEWS, March 2022). Parts of Kunene, Erongo, Omusati and Omaheke, which experienced seven consecutive years of drought, will continue to face a slow recovery from the effects of previous shocks in 2022, as livestock keepers continue to restock their herds following major losses incurred during 2019. In northern regions that border Angola, including Kunene, Kavango West and Kavango East, drought hotspots are expected to persist (IPC, December 2021).

Economic shocks, including COVID-19

Although forecasts point to GDP growth of 3.6 percent in 2022 (IMF, October 2021), early in the year, the COVID-19 pandemic continued incurring negative effects on the Namibian economy, leading to additional job, income and livelihood losses for vulnerable households that have no alternative employment options. Agricultural work opportunities and wages for poorer households continued to be adversely impacted by persistent drought conditions in affected areas (IPC, December 2021).

High international prices are likely to underpin increasing wheat and wheat product prices in import-dependent Namibia (FAO, February 2022). Informal cross border inflows are expected to recover slowly once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted in neighbouring countries (IPC, December 2021).