

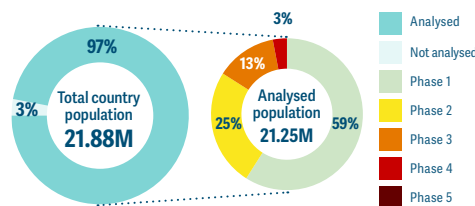
# Burkina Faso

## ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PEAK 2022

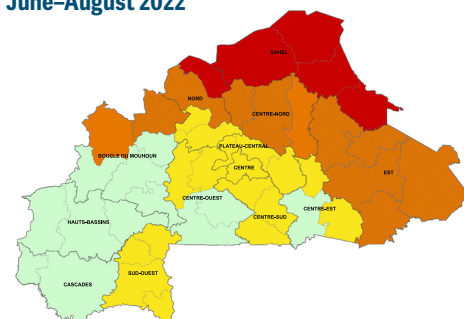
**3.45M** people or **16%** of the analysed population in CH Phase 3 or above, June–August 2022



Although no populations were in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) during June–August 2022, there were 1 817 people in this phase in October–December 2022 (CH, November 2022).



## CH acute food insecurity situation, June–August 2022



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

Source: Cadre Harmonisé, March 2022.

## Food crisis overview

During June–August 2022, the number of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) reached the highest in nine years of CH analyses due to the multi-faceted impacts of intensifying armed conflicts.

Around 3.45 million people faced CH Phase 3 or above, representing 16 percent of the country’s population, well above the 2.87 million people during the same period in 2021 (CH, March 2022).

More than 71 percent of them were in the Sahel, Est, Centre-Nord and Nord regions. Eleven provinces were classified in Crisis in these four regions while all four provinces in the Sahel, including IDP populations in Seno and one in the Nord (Loroum), were in Emergency (CH Phase 4) (CH, March 2022).

## A similar projection for 2023

During the June–August 2023 lean season, the situation is projected to persist at similar levels to the 2022 lean season with 3.53 million people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above), over 572 000 of them children under 5 years old. The number of people in Emergency (CH Phase 4) is expected to be marginally lower, and nearly 20 000 people are expected to move to Catastrophe (CH Phase 5) in the Sahel region. All four provinces in the Sahel and one in the Nord (Loroum) were again projected to be in Emergency (CH Phase 4). Twelve provinces across the Est, Centre-Nord, Nord, Boucle du Mouhoun and Centre-Est regions were expected to be in Crisis (CH Phase 3) (CH, November 2022).

## Drivers of the crisis, 2022–23

**Conflict/insecurity** Worsening armed conflicts in 2022, mostly in northern and eastern areas, hampered agricultural activities and caused large population displacements, limiting the area planted with cereal crops in the areas affected by insecurity (FAO-GIEWS, October 2022), and hindering

people’s access to their usual sources of food and income.

Despite generally conducive weather conditions, poor security led to localized production shortfalls compared with typical production in northern and eastern areas. In the Sahel, Est, Nord, Boucle du Mouhoun and Centre-Nord regions, several localities were cut off from the rest of the country and markets brought to a standstill by a total or partial blockade by armed groups. Populations in some areas only received supplies through national army convoys. Added to this was the sociopolitical instability marked by the occurrence of two coups d’etat in 2022 (CH, November 2022).



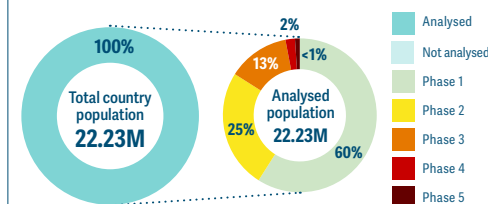
**Economic shocks** Food prices increased due to increased energy and transportation costs, strong demand on exports from neighbouring countries and tight market availability due to deteriorating security in conflict areas (FAO-GIEWS, October 2022). In northern and eastern areas, the high concentration of IDPs increased local demand for food, weighing on prices. Furthermore, the annual depreciation of the national currency against the US dollar in November 2022 increased the cost of imported foodstuffs. In order to contain upward price movements and secure national availabilities, an export ban on millet, maize, sorghum flours and cereal grains, implemented since 2021, remained in place (FAO, December 2022).

As of September 2022, sorghum prices were 80 percent higher than the previous year and millet 100 percent higher (FAO-GIEWS, October 2022). Prices declined in November across the country, reflecting the commercialization of recently harvested crops, but sorghum prices remained 35 percent higher year-on-year and millet 75 percent higher (FAO, December 2022).

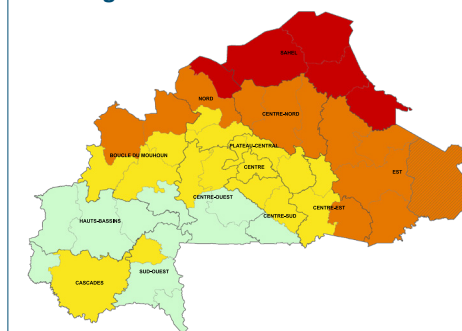
In the relatively calmer southern and western areas, income usually generated from labour in off-season production activities and preparation of crop fields could drop between February and May 2023 compared with normal due to the high cost of fertilizers and fall in income from cotton sales, which will limit the demand for

## ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PROJECTION 2023

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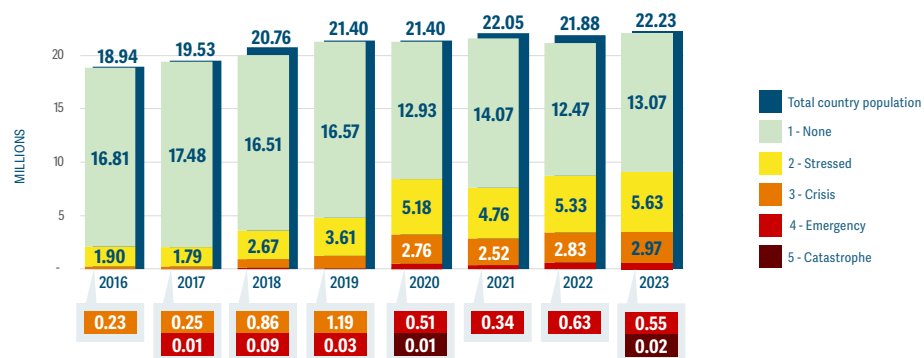
## Projected CH acute food insecurity situation, June–August 2023



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Source: Cadre Harmonisé, November 2022.

### Numbers of people by phase of acute food insecurity, 2016–2023



See Appendix 1, figure 2 for datasets from all analysis rounds between 2016 and 2023.

Source: Cadre Harmonisé.

labour. Prices will remain above their seasonal averages in early 2023 despite new harvests due to below-average market supplies of cereals, and rising household demand and institutional purchases (FEWS NET, December 2022).

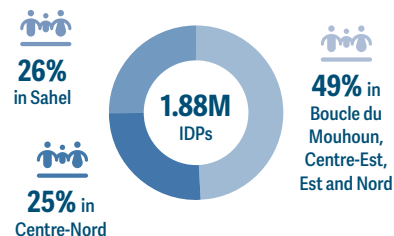
### Acute food insecurity since 2016

Burkina Faso has been selected as a food crisis for all seven editions of the GRFC and has been defined as a 'major' food crisis for the last four as the population in CH Phase 3 or above reached the threshold of at least 1 million. This was driven by a significant increase in conflict that led to the declaration of a state of emergency in December 2018 in 14 provinces in northern and eastern regions.

By 2019, it had become one of the world's fastest growing food crises with over 1.2 million people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) by October–December of that year. While this increase may have been influenced by a larger proportion of the population analysed, by June–August 2020, this had risen to 3.28 million people, including 11 400 in Catastrophe (CH Phase 5), over three times the number recorded during the June–August 2018 lean period (CH, July 2020). The acute food insecurity numbers reported in 2022 and 2023 are the highest on record as per the CH.

### DISPLACEMENT

#### IDPs hosted among local communities or in temporary reception sites, 2022



Source: Government of Burkina Faso, December 2022.

**IDPs** Since 2018, intensifying conflict across Burkina Faso has created a rapidly escalating internal displacement crisis with the number of IDPs increasing 40-fold in four years, from 47 000 to nearly 1.9 million people as of 31 December 2022. This represents more than 10 percent of the country's population and includes over 940 000 children (ECHO, February 2023).

Displaced people increasingly moved towards urban centres, contributing to the acceleration of urbanization (UNHCR, May 2022). About 17 000 IDPs in the Arbinda region in the northern Soum province were cut off from the rest of the country due to violence by armed groups (OCHA, December 2022). Confined to increasingly tighter spaces and unable to flee, these people were facing a major food crisis on their own (ICRC, May 2022).

Loss of assets, limited movement to access livelihoods, closure or slowed functioning of livestock markets and a decline in remittances from migrants due to the destruction of communication networks, have resulted in consumption gaps for poor host households and IDPs. Around 30 percent of poor host households and 50 percent of poor IDPs were estimated to have no source of income and relied on remittances or humanitarian aid. IDPs and poor host households try to generate income through the sale of water, firewood, fodder and gold mining (FEWS NET, December 2022).

These constraints have exposed these households to Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of acute food insecurity, particularly in Soum province and inaccessible areas north of Oudalan (FEWS NET, December 2022). The CH analysis covering 0.82 million IDPs found that 43 percent of them were in CH Phase 3 or above and 40 percent were in CH Phase 2 in June–August 2022 (CH, March 2022). In the June–August 2023 projection, four IDP settlements (Gourma, Komondjari, Seno and Soum) are expected to face CH Phase 4 while two other IDP settlements are projected in CH Phase 3. IDPs accounted for 487 000 people in CH Phase 3 and above, including 194 000 people in CH Phase 4 and 7 400 people in CH Phase 5 (CH, November 2022).

In 2022, the country experienced more measles outbreaks compared with 2021, mainly among displaced households (UNICEF, February 2023).

**Refugees** At the same time, the resurgence of violence in Mali's central strip has forced thousands of people to flee the country and settle in the northern region of Burkina Faso.

By 31 January 2023, 35 175 refugees and asylum seekers – a 40 percent increase in one year – have sought international protection mainly in the Sahel region, 99 percent of them from Mali (UNHCR, February 2023). Most of them live in the town of Dori (15 700 individuals or 45 percent) and in Hors Camp (10 672 individuals or 31 percent) (UNHCR, February 2023).

**NUTRITION**

**Number of children under 5 years old with wasting, August 2021–July 2022**



**0.16M pregnant and lactating women acutely malnourished, 2023**

Source: IPC, January 2022.

Through 2022, almost 700 000 children aged under 5 years were estimated to suffer from wasting. This represents an increase of 10 percent since October 2020–July 2021, including an 18 percent increase in the number of children with severe wasting. The number of wasted pregnant and lactating women increased even more sharply – by 25 percent (IPC, January 2022).

Out of the 45 provinces analysed, from August 2021 to July 2022, the five provinces in the Sahel (Seno, Soum, Oudalan, Yagha and Loroum) were categorized in Critical (IPC AMN Phase 4). The remaining 40 were classified in Serious (IPC AMN Phase 3) and Alert (IPC AMN Phase 2) (IPC, January 2022).

A later IPC analysis covered only 31 of the country's 45 provinces and six communes due to limited or no humanitarian access and insecurity, including in the Sahel. It estimated that nearly 393 500 children under the age of 5 will likely suffer from wasting from August 2022 to July 2023. Of these, nearly a quarter are expected to experience SAM (95 600). A further 80 000 pregnant and lactating women are expected to be acutely malnourished (IPC, January 2023).

While it is difficult to compare 2022 figures with the 2021 IPC AMN analysis due to the difference in geographical coverage, results depict a worse nutritional

situation. Of the 31 provinces analysed, four were classified in a Serious nutritional situation (IPC AMN Phase 3), and the rest in Alert (IPC AMN Phase 2) or Acceptable (IPC Phase 1). Of the six communes analysed, two were classified in Critical (IPC AMN Phase 4), and four in Serious (IPC AMN Phase 3). The situation was again expected to deteriorate in May–July 2023 (IPC, January 2023).

A national SMART survey conducted between September and October 2022, covering all regions except the Sahel and Est, found that the wasting prevalence exceeded the 'high' threshold of 10 percent in Ziro and Sanguié provinces in the Centre-Ouest region, Ouhritenga in the Plateau-Central, and Passoré in the Nord. The age groups with the highest prevalence of wasting were those aged 6–11 months (9.6 percent) and 12–23 months (8.5 percent). The prevalence of severe wasting reached 1.3 percent in Mouhoun province and 1.7 percent in Ziro (SMART 2022). There are concerns that the acute malnutrition situation in the regions that could not be surveyed is severe.

The Kourwéogo province in the Plateau-Central region has the highest stunting prevalence (37.7 percent), which is considered 'very high'. Out of the 31 surveyed provinces, 20 have 'high' stunting levels (>20 percent) (SMART 2022).

**Drivers of undernutrition**

**Inadequate maternal and child-feeding practices** Breastfeeding rates range from 69.6 percent in the Cascades region to 85.8 percent in the Centre-Est. At the provincial level, the highest rate was recorded in Passoré (93.9 percent) and the lowest in Nahouri (50.9 percent) (SMART 2022).

However, beyond weaning, child-feeding practices are concerning. The highest proportion of children aged 6–23 months having a minimum acceptable diet was in the Cascades (25.9 percent) and the lowest in the Centre (18.2 percent). At the provincial level, Nayala had the highest proportion (32.8 percent) and the lowest was recorded in Kouritenga (16.6 percent) and Mouhoun (17.0 percent) (SMART 2022).

More than half (52.5 percent) of women of reproductive age suffer from anaemia, which indicates a severe public

health problem, according to WHO thresholds. Anaemia levels are even higher among children under 5 years with nearly 77 percent affected (WHO, 2019).

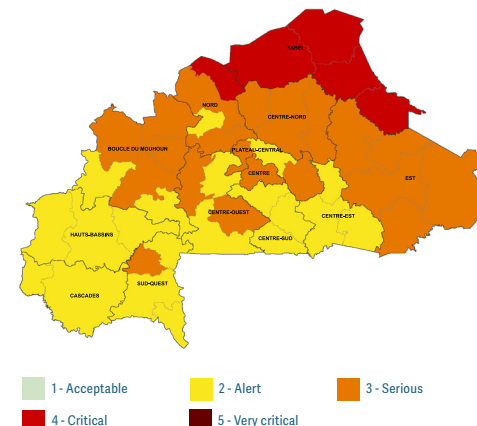
**Poor household environment** Low levels of access to drinking water and sanitation facilities, and poor hand-washing practices contribute to poor hygiene conditions and high prevalence of childhood illnesses, such as fever and diarrhoea (IPC AMN, January 2023).

**Limited access to health and nutrition services** The closure/dysfunction of more than 500 health structures in provinces with limited humanitarian access has reduced the population's access to basic care. The security situation is also leading to massive population displacement to accessible areas, putting pressure on healthcare provision (IPC AMN, January 2023).

**Food insecurity and lack of access to healthy diets** The IPC AMN analysis published in January 2022 reported high levels of both acute food insecurity and malnutrition in the Sahel, Nord, Centre-Nord, Est, Centre and parts of the Boucle du Mouhoun administrative regions. However, the high prevalence of wasting extends into provinces of the Sud-Ouest, Centre and Plateau-Central regions, although these seem less affected by acute food insecurity.

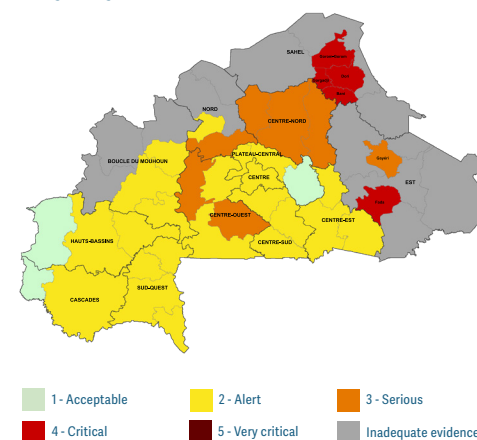
These southern areas were largely classified in Stressed (IPC AMN Phase 2) for wasting, while in Acceptable (IPC Phase 1) for acute food security, implying that other factors contribute to acute malnutrition besides lack of adequate food (IPC, January 2022).

**IPC acute malnutrition situation, May–July 2022**



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Source: Burkina Faso IPC TWG, January 2022.

**Projected IPC acute malnutrition situation, May–July 2023**



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