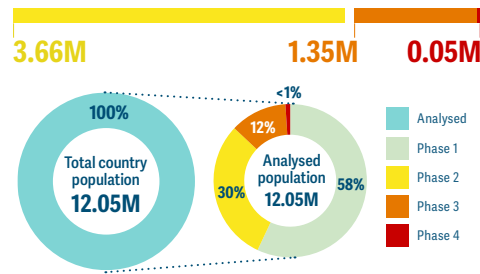


Burundi

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PEAK 2022

1.40M people or **12%** of the analysed population in IPC Phase 3 or above, **October–December 2022**



IPC acute food insecurity situation, October–December 2022



1 - Minimal, 2 - Stressed, 3 - Crisis, 4 - Emergency, 5 - Famine, Not analysed

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Source: Burundi IPC TWG, September 2022.

Food crisis overview

There was a 13 percent decrease in the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) between the 2021 peak of 1.61 million in April–May to 1.4 million in the October–December 2022 lean season (IPC, June 2021; IPC, September 2022).

The totality of people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of acute food insecurity were in the Imbo Plains. Seven of Burundi's eight livelihood zones were classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2). Twenty percent of the population in the Dépressions de l'Est was in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).

Drivers of the crisis, 2022–23

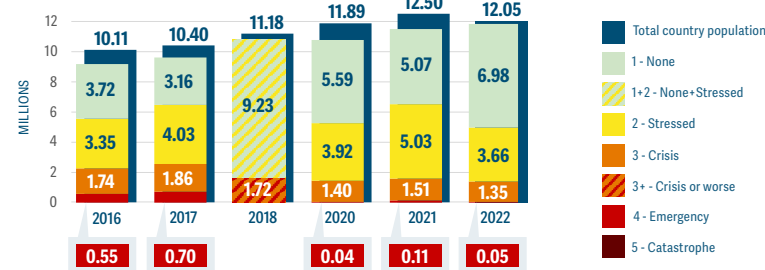
Weather extremes Agricultural labour opportunities during the September–November 2022 short rains planting season were hampered by La Niña-induced rain deficits, further curtailing household purchasing power at a time of higher market dependency (IPC, September 2022). The delayed onset of the season postponed planting of the 2023A season crops that account for about 35 percent of aggregate crop output (FAO-GIEWS, November 2022). While better-off households were able to replant maize

and beans in November, many poor smallholders planted root crops instead, reducing their dietary diversity and incomes from crop sales (FEWS NET, November 2022).

Economic shocks High transport costs linked to increased global fuel prices pushed up food prices from March 2022. By November – when household food stocks from the 2022B season were depleted – average maize prices were 37 percent higher year-on-year despite increased market availability from the above-average June/July harvest. Bean prices were 52 percent higher on a yearly basis (IPC, September 2022; WFP, December 2022; FAO-GIEWS, November 2022). Yields of the 2023A season crops are expected to be reduced due to low application of fertilizers, the prices of which have been increasing since 2021 and were further exacerbated by the effects of the war in Ukraine on global supply (FAO-GIEWS, November 2022). Costs related to COVID-19 testing necessary to cross borders continued to impede cross-border petty trade for poor and very poor households (FEWS NET, November 2022).

Livestock diseases Income for livestock farmers was reduced due to the ban on the movement, sale and slaughter of cattle, goats and sheep following the April 2022 outbreak of Rift Valley

Numbers of people by phase of acute food insecurity, 2016–2018 and 2020–2022



The 2019 analysis is not included as it was based on FEWS NET.

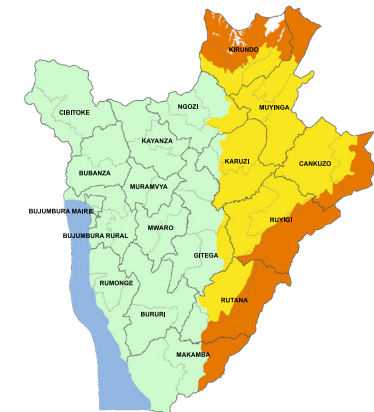
See Appendix 1, figure 3 for datasets from all analysis rounds between 2016 and 2023.

Source: FSIN.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PROJECTION 2023

0.5–0.75M people or **4–6%** of the analysed population in IPC Phase 3 or above equivalent, **February–May 2023**

Acute food insecurity situation, February–May 2023



1 - Minimal, 2 - Stressed, 3 - Crisis, 4 - Emergency, 5 - Famine, Not analysed

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Source: FEWS NET, March 2023.

fever. Households coped by selling food crops, resulting in an early depletion of stocks. A vaccination campaign from July resulted in a substantial decline in cases and resumption of slaughtering activities by September, but livestock markets were still not fully open in November and labour opportunities and incomes from livestock remained below average (FAO-GIEWS, November 2022).

Acute food insecurity since 2016

Burundi has consistently been classified as a major food crisis in the GRFC except in 2019 (GRFC 2020) when no IPC analyses were publicly available and FEWS NET estimated that 0.2 million people or 2 percent of the population were in IPC Phase 3 or above (FSIN).

The share of people in IPC Phase 3 or above during the peak period each year has been decreasing since April–May 2017 when 2.6 million people (26 percent of the population) were in these phases, including over 700 000 people in IPC Phase 4 largely due to political tensions, poor rainfall, high food prices and crop diseases (IPC, April 2017).

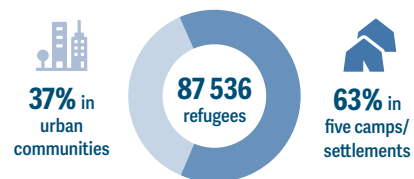
From 2017 to 2022, the IPC classifications show that the Dépressions du Nord, Dépressions de l'Est and Imbo have been the most food-insecure livelihood zones, following recurrent weather extremes (water deficits and floods) coupled with major shocks, including the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and war in Ukraine (IPC, September 2022).

DISPLACEMENT

Refugees As of January 2023, Burundi hosted around 87 500 refugees and asylum seekers, almost all of them from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Around one-third live in the capital city Bujumbura and two-thirds in five refugee settlements in the eastern part of the country, in Muyinga, Cankuzo and Ruyigi provinces. Kavumu settlement is the largest with 17 683 people.

All these refugees are hosted in already food-insecure areas and rely on assistance for basic food and nutrition (WFP, 2022). Some refugees sell part of their food rations to buy locally produced alcohol and try to work as agricultural labourers.

Refugees living in host communities or displacement sites



99% of refugees are from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1% from Rwanda.
Source: UNHCR, January 2023.

Returnees The political turmoil and violence after the 2015 elections triggered more than 400 000 cross-border movements between 2015 and 2017. Improvements in security and in the political and socioeconomic conditions from 2017 prompted over 200 000 Burundian refugees to return from the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, including 65 000 in 2021 and 16 621 in 2022. Despite efforts to help this group to repatriate, access to housing, land, employment and health services remains a major challenge. Over 70 percent of returnees are not satisfied with their level of food security and around 69 percent report eating only once a day. Around 54 percent of returnees in 2022 spent their repatriation cash allowance on buying land, but 69 percent of them were unable to cultivate it due to lack of seeds and farming tools. Around 60 percent found agricultural labouring work in the host community's fields, and 70 percent reported living on less than USD 0.5 per day on average (UNHCR, January 2023).

IDPs Between 2018 and 2022, weather extremes displaced 121 900 people, mainly in Bujumbura Rural, Ngozi and Bujumbura Mairie provinces. In 2022, the number of Burundians displaced by such events was the lowest in five years at 12 900, down from 35 700 in 2021 and 44 200 in 2020. As of October 2022, 75 300 people remained internally displaced (IOM, January 2023).

NUTRITION

Number of children under 5 years old with wasting, March 2022–February 2023



45 000 pregnant and lactating women acutely malnourished, 2023

Source: IPC, September 2022.

The doubling in the number of children identified as suffering from wasting from around 140 000 in 2021 to 283 000 in March 2022–February 2023 was most likely in part attributable to the increased IPC coverage, from 32 to 48 areas analysed. Of them, 25 were estimated to be in Alert (IPC AMN Phase 2) in March–May 2022 and 23 are projected to stay in this phase between October 2022 and February 2023 (IPC, September 2022).

According to the SMART 2022 survey, wasting prevalence at the national level was 'medium' by WHO thresholds (7.1 percent), but reached 'high' levels in Rutana district (10.9 percent) (SMART 2022).

In Burundi, more than half (55.8 percent) of children under 5 years are stunted, which is among the highest levels in Africa (SMART 2022).

Drivers of undernutrition

Inadequate maternal and child-feeding practices Although 85 percent of children under 6 months are exclusively breastfed (SMART 2022), poor weaning practices continue to be a risk. Inadequate individual food intake (quality/diversity and quantity/frequency) is observed in most districts analysed, particularly among children under 2 years of age. Around 96 percent of children aged 6–23 months do not receive a

IPC acute malnutrition situation, March–May 2022



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Source: Burundi IPC TWG, September 2022.

minimum acceptable diet (SMART 2022). Anaemia levels were considered a severe public health problem among children aged 6–59 months (58 percent) and a moderate public health problem among women of reproductive age (38.5 percent) (WHO, 2021).

High prevalence of infectious diseases Malaria and acute respiratory infections are major contributors to child wasting, especially during the rainy season. However, coverage of measles vaccination and vitamin A supplementation are satisfactory (above 80 percent) (IPC AMN, September 2022).

Food insecurity and lack of access to healthy diets Both the IPC acute food insecurity analysis conducted in April 2022 and the IPC acute malnutrition analysis conducted in June 2022 showed an improving situation in June–September 2022 (IPC AMN, September 2022).