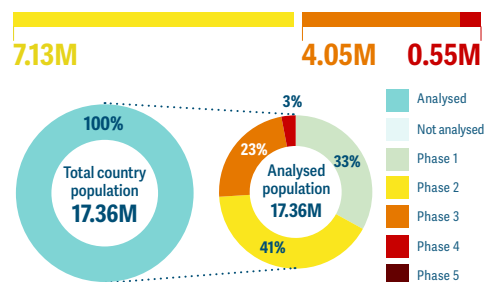


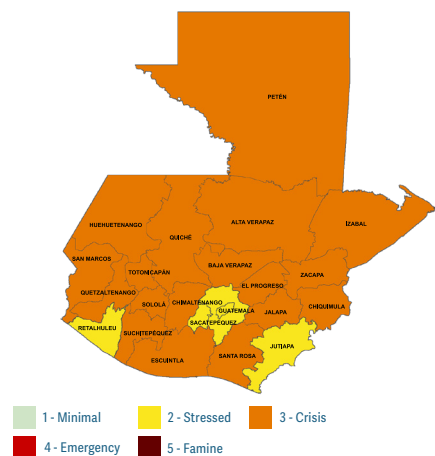
Guatemala

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PEAK 2022

4.60M people or **26%** of the analysed population in IPC Phase 3 or above, **June–September 2022**



IPC acute food insecurity situation, June–September 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: Guatemala IPC TWG, June 2022.

Food crisis overview

Worsening socioeconomic conditions compounded by the previous years' extreme weather events and rising global food, fuel and fertilizer prices pushed the number of people facing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) to 4.6 million in June–September 2022. This is the highest in the history of GRFC reporting. Although no department was classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), all but one had populations in this phase as vulnerable households have been unable to recover from overlapping economic and weather shocks since 2018.

Compared with the previous peak in November 2020–March 2021 (3.73 million people in IPC Phase 3 or above) (IPC, January 2021), the number of people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) increased by nearly 30 percent, signalling that the crisis became more severe.

The worst-affected departments with at least one-third of their populations in IPC Phase 3 or above were in the centre and north – Alta Verapaz, Huehuetenango, Izabal, Quiché, Petén and Totonicapán (IPC, June 2022).

Improvement projected for 2023

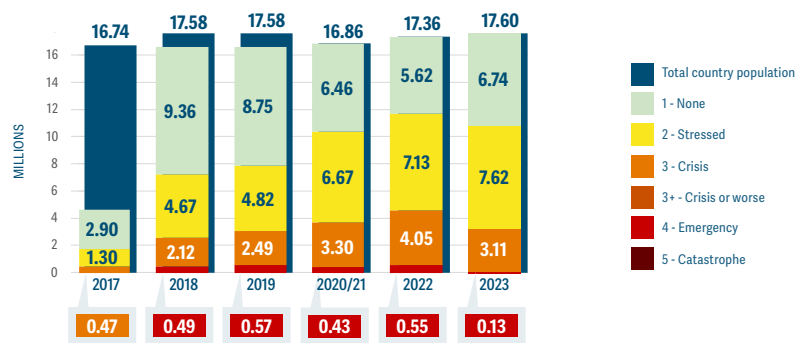
Seasonal improvements in acute food insecurity are expected in October 2022–February 2023 with the harvest of cash crops, such as sugar cane, cardamom and coffee, which will generate income opportunities for daily agricultural labourers (IPC, June 2022). However, these improvements are likely to be limited due to high household debt, low levels of food stocks and extended market reliance during a time of above-average prices (FEWS NET, October 2022).

Households in the north that were affected by tropical storms Julia and Lisa are expected to be more market-reliant from the resulting crop losses (FEWS NET, October 2022). A new IPC analysis is expected in the first half of 2023.

Acute food insecurity since 2016

Guatemala – an upper middle income country – has been included in the GRFC since its inception, and considered a major food crisis since 2019. From 2018, the number of people in IPC Phase 3 steadily increased and had nearly

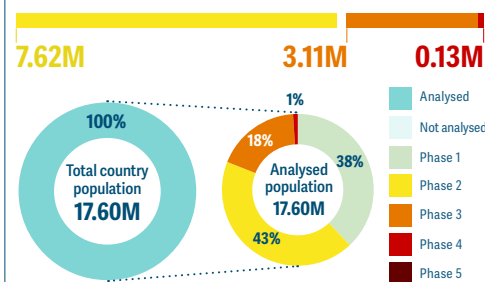
Numbers of people by phase of acute food insecurity, 2017–2023



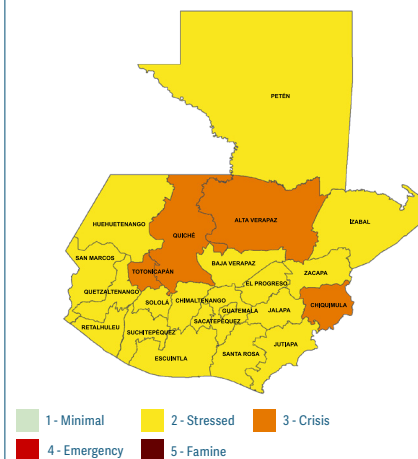
Source: Guatemala IPC TWG.

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PROJECTION 2023

3.24M people or **19%** of the analysed population in IPC Phase 3 or above, **October 2022–February 2023**



Projected IPC acute food insecurity situation, October 2022–February 2023



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

Source: Guatemala IPC TWG, June 2022.

doubled by 2022. Before 2020, acute food insecurity was localized in departments that were affected by climate-induced droughts – especially those in the eastern Dry Corridor, but the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, hurricanes Eta and Iota, and in 2022, the war in Ukraine, led to Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) conditions in nearly all of the country.

Between 2018 and 2022, the share of the population in IPC Phase 2 rose from 28 percent to 41 percent, indicating an increasing level of vulnerability to shock. The departments of Alta Verapaz and Chiquimula have been classified in Phase 3 for each year in the period.

Drivers of the crisis, 2022–23



Economic shocks Vulnerable households continued to suffer from the negative economic impacts of the 2018–19 droughts, COVID-19 containment measures, and hurricanes Eta and Iota in 2020 (FAO/WFP, September 2022) due to chronic infrastructure and social challenges (IMF, June 2022).

These multiple shocks have continued to constrain food access in 2022, especially for people in the Dry Corridor, by reducing crop production, food reserves and income opportunities, as well as access to markets, services and workplaces. Acute food insecurity outcomes worsened throughout the 2022 peak period due to high prices for staple foods.

High import prices put upward pressure on the domestic prices of fertilizer, food and fuel. Fertilizer prices rose 128 percent in March 2022 after the start of the war in Ukraine, as Guatemala is reliant on imports, which constrained domestic market availabilities and access (FAO-GIEWS, October 2022; FAO/WFP, September 2022).

Similarly, the price of fuel remained above the five-year average despite a subsidy provided by the government, which led to increased transportation costs (FEWS NET, October 2022).

The higher agricultural input costs contributed to rising food prices for consumers, with the annual food inflation rate estimated at 13.3 percent in August 2022 (FAO-GIEWS, October 2022). The price of white maize in September 2022 was more than 40 percent higher year-on-year and at near-record levels, following sustained increases since November 2021, while the price of black beans was 25 percent higher year-on-year in September 2022 (FAO-GIEWS, October 2022).



Weather extremes Erratic rainfall distribution caused periods of heavy rain and winds that resulted in flooding, landslides and localized damage in areas of staple grain crops, particularly in the northern part of the country (FEWS NET, October 2022).

Tropical storm Julia, in October 2022, brought a large amount of rainfall, provoking significant flooding in the localities of Petén, Izabal and Alta Verapaz (IFRC, 2022).