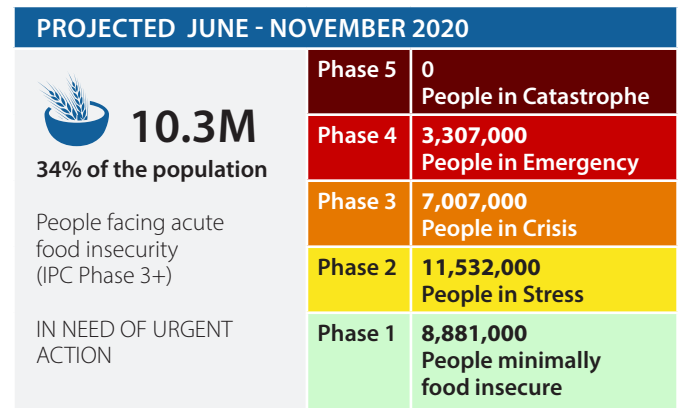
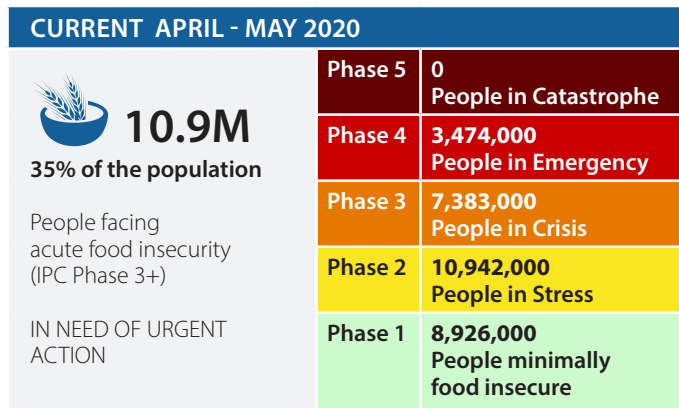




# AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan's food crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic with over 10 million acutely food insecure

**IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY ANALYSIS**  
April 2020 – November 2020  
Issued in May 2020



## Overview

Food security remains alarmingly high in Afghanistan with continuing conflict, widespread unemployment, and price hikes, all exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Around 10.9 million people (35% of the population analysed) are estimated to be in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or above in the current period (April-May 2020). These include around 7.38 million people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 3.47 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). In total, four analysis areas were classified in IPC Phase 4 (Badakhshan, Daykundi, Hirat Urban and Kandahar Urban).

After the harvest, it is likely the food insecurity situation will improve in rural areas, since households will have increased access to food from own production and prices may also decrease. Despite the overall reduction in people facing acute food insecurity, the number of people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in urban areas is expected to increase in the projection period.

In urban centers, the negative economic impacts of COVID-19 are likely to counteract the positive impacts of the harvest. The severity will be higher in areas where humanitarian access is limited. Although food is still available in nearly all markets, the prices of basic food commodities increased by 10 to 20%. The lockdown measures put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic significantly decreased daily labour opportunities, reducing household purchasing power and food access.

## Key Drivers



### High Food Prices

Unusually high food prices linked to border closures and panic buying, caused by COVID-19, further exacerbate food access of households already living below the poverty line. Food commodity prices have increased by 10 to 20%.



### Reduced Employment Opportunities

Households are facing an increasing stress on their financial access due to large-scale unemployment, which is expected to worsen as COVID-19 lockdown measures continue.



### Conflict

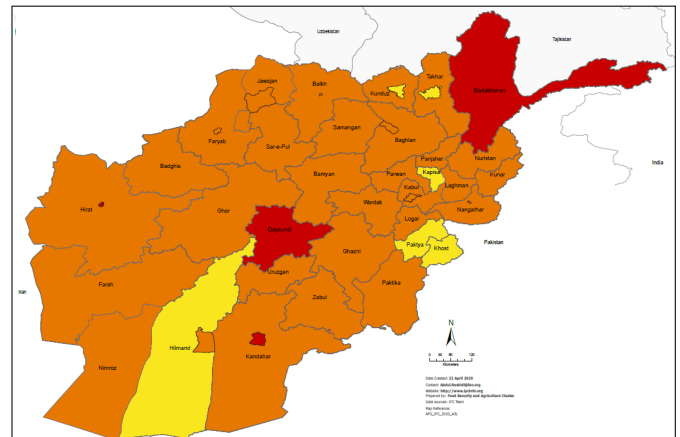
Ongoing conflict in many of the analyzed provinces has caused population displacements, affected people's livelihoods or caused them to lose their livelihoods completely. In 2020, there have been an estimated 65,000 newly internally displaced people (IDPs) as a result of conflict.



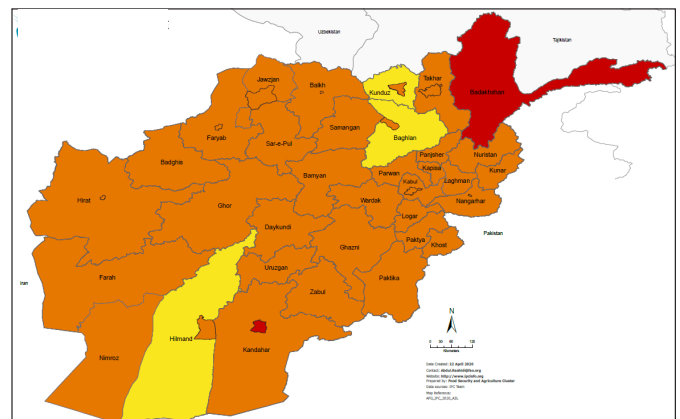
### COVID-19

As a consequence of the pandemic, complete or partial lockdown measures have been imposed in the country, the provinces of Hirat, Kabul, Kandahar, Hilmand, Farah, Badakhshan, Logar, Wardak, Ghazni, Khost, Paktya are in complete lockdown, whereas partial lock downs have been imposed on the entire or centers of other provinces, resulting in daily wage opportunities and small trader income to significantly decrease.

## Current Situation April - May 2020



## Projected Situation June - November 2020



### Key for the Map

**IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification**  
(mapped Phase represents highest severity affecting at least 20% of the population)

- 1 - Minimal
- 2 - Stress
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Famine

## SITUATION OVERVIEW AND KEY DRIVERS

### Current Situation Overview (April - May 2020)

In the current period, corresponding to the final period of the lean season and pre-harvest, 10.9 million (35% of the population) were estimated to be in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and Phase 4 (Emergency). This includes 3.5 million (11%) classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) nationwide and 7.4 million (24%) in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Of the 45 areas analysed, 4 areas were classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), (Badakshan and Daykundi, and Urban areas of Hirat and Kandahar), 35 areas in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), and 6 areas in Phase 2 (Stress).

In this period, and until the June harvest, most households have already depleted their food stocks from the previous harvest and are more reliant on markets for food purchase as they are not self-sufficient in production. Only 45% of households reported access to land. Among them, around 50% cultivated less than 1 acre. Across all areas only a very small proportion of households reported having cereal stocks from their own production that would last till the next harvest. These vulnerable conditions are further aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has seen a surge in food prices. Overall, an estimated 10-20% price increase has been observed compared with the same period last year. The COVID-19 related price rises are in addition to the already steadily accelerating year-on-year inflation. Along with reduction in income, an increase in debts was observed in recent assessments. Around 80% of households reported having debt and 56% stated the level of debt had increased compared to previous year. One out of four households (25%) have adopted Emergency livelihood coping strategies and nearly the same proportion of households (23%) have adopted Crisis livelihood coping strategies to mitigate their food consumption gaps.

Unemployment continues to be a major driving force for economic vulnerability in Afghanistan and a small proportion of households have access to productive or sustainable remunerative employment. A quarter of the labour force is unemployed, and 37% of employment is 'vulnerable' and insecure, comprising self-employment, day labour, or unpaid work. Around 60% of households (70% for urban households) reported that their income levels had decreased compared to the previous year, with the main cause being reduction in income activities. The partial or complete lockdowns in major towns have led to a further decrease in employment opportunities, leading to additional strain on the most vulnerable households and further limiting their purchasing power.

The impacts of COVID-19 are estimated to be less severe in rural areas as households may have access to food stocks from their own production and do not face the same restrictions imposed by the lockdowns. However, where rural markets are integrated with major urban markets, the lockdowns have seen disruption in supply to dependant rural markets, as observed in the Northern regions of Afghanistan, where the rural markets of Samangan, Jawzjan and Sar-e-pul are closely integrated with Mazar as the main market in the north. The extended lockdown in Mazar affected flow of food items to the dependant rural areas challenged food availability, especially in remote districts of these provinces.

Partial border closures with Pakistan and Iran have affected the main supply routes for critical items, notably, food. Recently, there have been sporadic openings to allow commercial vehicles to pass into Afghanistan. Kazakhstan, being an important supplier of wheat and wheat flour to Afghanistan, had also imposed restrictions that resulted in an abrupt price hike of wheat flour and oil. However, Kazakhstan has lifted the ban, after some time. The global impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have also seen the flow of remittances impacted, as many Afghans abroad faced unemployment and reduced incomes.

Moreover, these issues are compounded with years of conflict and instability that have caused livelihood disruption and displacements. Despite efforts at a peace deal, this has not yet translated into sustained reduction in violence on the ground. In the first quarter of 2020, an estimated 65,000 additional people have been displaced. Continued violence is now seen as a threat not, only to the immediate safety and well-being of community, but also to overall public health as it may hinder the diseases detection and the delivery of life-saving medical care. Returnees from Iran and Pakistan also continue to add stress to the livelihoods of households. Overall food insecurity is estimated to be higher in urban areas with the price hike and economic downturn caused by COVID-19.

In the months of April and May, the distribution of humanitarian food assistance in Afghanistan tends to be low and is generally targeted towards displaced populations and people affected by floods. As per the plans, 557,861 people will be assisted in April and 616,634 people will be assisted in May across all provinces. Although the IPC criteria for significant assistance to be mapped out was not met in any of the areas, the levels of assistance are relatively high in Badghis and Uruzgan.

Internal displacement is not only limited to new IDPs displaced in the first quarter of 2020, there are also IDPs from previous years who are unable to return to their places of origin mainly because of continued conflict, loss of livelihoods and lack of economic opportunities. More details are provided in the IDP section of this report.



## Projected Situation Overview (June - November 2020)

During the projection analysis period, from June to November 2020, the total population in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) is expected to decrease to 10.3 million (34% of the population), with 7,007,000 (23%) of the population in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 3,307,000 (11%) in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). The downward trend in food insecurity follows the expected seasonal patterns of harvest, even in likely consideration of the direct and indirect effects of COVID-19 on food security.

Similarly, the number of Phase 4 (Emergency) areas is expected to decrease to 2 from 4, as Daykundi and Hirat urban are classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) in the projection period. The number of areas classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) is expected to increase from 35 areas in the current analysis to 40 areas in the projection period, as more provinces will move to an IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) situation from IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and Phase 2 (Stress), depending on the extent of impacts of harvest and likely impact of COVID-19.

The overall number of people facing acute food insecurity is on the rise in urban settlements, and the upheaval set in motion by the COVID-19 pandemic will push even more families and communities into more vulnerable conditions in the projection period. Urban hubs such as Kabul, Hirat, Mazar, Nangarhar and Kandahar are already hard hit by the impact of COVID-19 on the economic accessibility to food. In these centres, a more pronounced increase in food insecure population is expected, compared to other areas analysed in the projection period. Lockdowns instituted to limit the exposure of residents to COVID-19 continue throughout the country, resulting in closures of these main cities. The overall situation suggests that these lockdowns will not be rescinded anytime soon. Skilled and unskilled wage labour, small businesses and remittances are among the main income sources for household, both in urban and rural areas, which are highly affected by the impacts of COVID-19 and will continue to be affected in the projection period. Purchasing power will be further reduced due to reduction in income, and as a consequence, households' financial access to food will be strained. Most returnees from Iran are coming back to Afghanistan due to reduced employment opportunities and due to COVID-19 related fears. Amid the economic crisis, the demand for foreign daily labourers reduced in Iran and Pakistan. People will face a complex situation of decreased remittance, low to no employment opportunities and more competition in the job market due to returnees from Iran and Pakistan.

As per FEWSNET's data, most of the country received average to above average precipitation. Only Balkh, Kunduz, Takhar and Badakhshan in the north and northeast experienced precipitation deficit. Wheat cultivation and production, especially in rain-fed areas, is directly dependent upon adequate and timely precipitation. Looking at the precipitation level and remote sensing data collected by FEWSNET, it is estimated that the harvest will be close to average this year. The harvest period, anticipated between June and August, will improve the food security situation not only by improving the availability of food, but also by increasing agriculture wage labour opportunities, especially in rural areas of the country. However, as per a rapid assessment conducted by MAIL and FAO, further yield reduction is anticipated due to outbreak of rust in 14 provinces (Kunduz, Samangan, Balkh, Sar-e-pul, Faryab, Baghlan, Uruzgan, Nimruz, Kandahar, Helmand, Farah, Kunar, Nangarhar, Hirat).

Based on population estimations of 2019, wheat demand in the country is calculated to be around 6 million metric tons. Considering the level of harvest this year and annual population growth rate, wheat deficit is expected to be around 1.5 million metric tons in 2020. Afghanistan is once again facing wheat deficit in a situation where the supply chain of wheat and wheat flour is expected to be disrupted due to measures put in place in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Although border crossings are open for commercial goods, Kazakhstan imposed quota on its wheat export to its neighbouring countries. It is anticipated that Afghanistan will not be able to import its full wheat and wheat flour requirements from Central Asian countries and the shortage in supply may slightly affect food prices in projection period.

Afghanistan is at a precarious moment with respect to the long-standing conflict. Although the government is negotiating the terms of a peace deal, the insurgent groups still continue to attack Afghan forces. Over two weeks in late March and early April, more than 500 attacks across nine provinces were reported, which were also among the worst hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. If a peace deal does not materialize, conflicts could increase in the projection period. This will likely trigger further internal displacement, and cause further food insecurity.

## HINDERED ECONOMIC ACCESS TO FOOD DUE TO COVID-19 IMPACT

For the first time, 11 major towns of selected provinces were also analyzed, to assess the specific vulnerabilities of urban households. Across the urban areas, around 2.48 million people (34%) are classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above, of which 834,000 people (11%) are classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). Of these 11 cities, two were classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), namely Hirat and Kandahar urban centres, and seven were classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), namely Mazar (in Balkh Province), Pul e Khumri (Baghlan), Kabul, Jalalabad (Nangarhar), Shibirghan (Jawzjan), Lashkargah (Hilmand) and Maimana (Faryab). Two towns were classified in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed), Kunduz, and Taluqan (Takhar). The number of food insecure people is expected to increase in the projected period (June to November 2020) to 2.72 million people, as the economic impacts of COVID-19 lockdown measures are expected to outweigh the positive impacts of the harvest season.

Overall, the urban areas of Afghanistan are expected to be more acutely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and in particular, by the widespread economic downturns caused by the lockdown and restriction measures on the macro-economic and productive sectors across major cities and towns. The most vulnerable groups will be particularly at risk. These groups include daily wage labourers (especially non-agriculture labour in urban areas), IDPs and returnees, people relying on remittances, service sector workers and small traders. In total, around 34% of the analyzed population relies on income sources that are directly exposed to the economic shocks caused by the lockdowns. Additionally, households in urban areas are more reliant on markets for food and, therefore, do not have sufficient stocks from their own agricultural production to cover consumption needs. The spike in market food prices had severe impacts on urban food insecurity. Moreover, 70% of urban households reported a decrease in income. Around two thirds of them attributed the reduction to decreasing employment opportunities. This proportion is expected to increase substantially if the ongoing lockdown measures will keep in place, which is considered the most likely scenario. Furthermore, the flow of urban to rural remittances as well as the cross-country transfers from Iran and other countries has been severely impacted by global lockdowns and large-scale unemployment due to COVID-19.

The most vulnerable urban centres in the current period are in Hirat and Kandahar, which are the hardest hit by the impacts of COVID-19. Hirat, in particular, is at the centre of the crisis, with an escalating flux of returnees from Iran fleeing the outbreak in the country. Moreover, with the heavy reliance on daily wage labour activities in Iran, young returnees have found those income earning opportunities reducing, forcing them to return to Afghanistan. Kabul city and Jalalabad city in Nangarhar province are also extremely vulnerable, not only the movement restriction but also the large influx of displaced populations that have moved to these areas to escape conflict and in search of better economic prospects. As the capital and centre with more employment opportunities and fewer sources of conflict, Kabul is a major hub for the displaced populations. Kunduz and Taluqan (Takhar province) show a slightly better food security situation, as both have flat lands with high agricultural production. The favourable precipitation last year boosted their local agricultural production, so both provinces have surplus wheat production. Good local production has positively impacted the overall situation not only in rural but also in the urban markets; therefore both areas are classified in IPC Phase 2 (Stress).

In the projection period, the impact of COVID-19 on financial access is expected to continue in urban areas. A considerable number of urban dwellers shall migrate to rural areas in response to decreased employment opportunities in urban regions, increasing food prices and higher probability of exposure to COVID-19. If export restrictions from Kazakhstan continue, there is an anticipation that price levels may spike again in the projection period. Additionally, if movement restrictions are not lifted and livelihoods are not back to normal by June 2020, there would be large food consumption gaps and adoption of significant Emergency coping strategies. For this reason, an update to this IPC acute food insecurity analysis is strongly recommended by the first week of June 2020, in case the COVID-19 pandemic is not under control by then, and in case movement restrictions are not lifted.

### Population table for the current period for the 11 major urban cities: April - May 2020

Urban centres	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
		#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
Pul e Khumri	206,125	41,225	20	72,144	35	72,144	35	20,613	10	000,000	00	3	92,756	45
Mazar	567,271	198,545	35	198,545	35	113,454	20	56,727	10	000,000	00	3	170,181	30
Maimana	136,456	40,937	30	54,582	40	27,291	20	13,646	10	000,000	00	3	40,937	30
Lashkargah	97,994	29,398	30	19,599	20	39,198	40	9,799	10	000,000	00	3	48,997	50
Hirat	632,206	158,052	25	126,441	20	221,272	35	126,441	20	000,000	00	4	347,713	55
Shiberghan	129,692	38,908	30	45,392	35	32,423	25	12,969	10	000,000	00	3	45,392	35
Kabul	4,297,482	1,718,993	40	1,289,245	30	859,496	20	429,748	10	000,000	00	3	1,289,245	30
Kandahar	506,794	101,359	20	152,038	30	152,038	30	101,359	20	000,000	00	4	253,397	50
Kunduz	294,608	117,843	40	132,574	45	29,461	10	14,730	5	000,000	00	2	44,191	15
Jalalabad	268,637	53,727	20	80,591	0	94,023	35	40,296	15	000,000	00	3	134,319	50
Taluqan	145,095	72,548	50	50,783	35	14,510	10	7,255	5	000,000	00	2	21,764	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,282,360</b>	<b>2,571,534</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2,221,934</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1,655,310</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>833,583</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>2,488,892</b>	<b>34</b>

### Population table for the projection period for the 11 major urban cities: June - November 2020

Urban centres	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
		#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
Pul e Khumri	206,125	51,531	25	41,225	20	82,450	40	30,919	15	000,000	00	3	113,369	55
Mazar	567,271	141,818	25	198,545	35	141,818	25	85,091	15	000,000	00	3	226,908	40
Maimana	136,456	34,114	25	47,760	35	40,937	30	13,646	10	000,000	00	3	54,582	40
Lashkargah	97,994	24,499	25	19,599	20	39,198	40	14,699	15	000,000	00	3	53,897	55
Hirat	632,206	252,882	40	189,662	30	126,441	20	63,221	10	000,000	00	3	189,662	30
Shiberghan	129,692	32,423	25	45,392	35	38,908	30	12,969	10	000,000	00	3	51,877	40
Kabul	4,297,482	1,289,245	30	1,504,119	35	859,496	20	644,622	15	000,000	00	3	1,504,119	35
Kandahar	506,794	101,359	20	126,699	25	177,378	35	101,359	20	000,000	00	4	278,737	55
Kunduz	294,608	88,382	30	117,843	40	73,652	25	14,730	5	000,000	00	3	88,382	30
Jalalabad	268,637	67,159	25	80,591	30	94,023	35	26,864	10	000,000	00	3	120,887	45
Taluqan	145,095	43,529	30	65,293	45	21,764	15	14,510	10	000,000	00	3	36,274	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,282,360</b>	<b>2,126,940</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2,436,727</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1,696,064</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1,022,629</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>2,718,693</b>	<b>37</b>

**Note:** These numbers are also included in provincial population tables in order to inform overall situation at provincial level.

## FOCUS ON INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE (IDPs)

**Note:** Although IDPs are included in the population estimates provided by the Flowminder tool (see annex), they have not been classified into different phases of IPC, so it was impossible to conduct a separate specific analysis of IDP food insecurity. Recognizing the impact of IDPs in urban areas on IPC phase classification and their level of food insecurity, the IPC Technical Working Group considers it important to provide a description of this group. The IPC TWG will do further efforts to verify availability of data specifically documenting the food security situation of IDPs and explore the opportunity to in future conduct a specific analysis.

Decades of war and violent conflict compounded by economic problems and natural disasters have pushed millions of individuals into displaced communities within and outside the country. Rural communities mainly migrated to nearby urban or semi-urban settlements where security is relatively better, and land is still affordable, though necessities are often unavailable.

Usually, because of the severity of the conflict, most of the livelihood assets of these vulnerable IDPs are either looted, killed or sold at very low prices. IDPs leave with almost nothing, and can result in human loss and physical disabilities. Most of the IDPs bring agriculture-based livelihoods skills to these urban areas where there is no market for their skills. Their arrival increases the pressure on the local job market, reducing wages and adding strain on infrastructure, ultimately fuelling tensions and conflict with the local population.

Conflict remained one of the main drivers of humanitarian needs in 2019 and in previous years. On average, half a million people leave their homes every year because of the conflict. Most of these IDPs (75%) are found in need of urgent humanitarian assistance as per the historical trend data from FSAC Afghanistan. Though there are various assessments and definitions of IDPs in Afghanistan, IDPs are mainly categorized under new, prolonged or protracted IDPs. According to the internal displacement monitoring centre (iDMC) there were 2,993,000 IDPs in Afghanistan in December 2019.

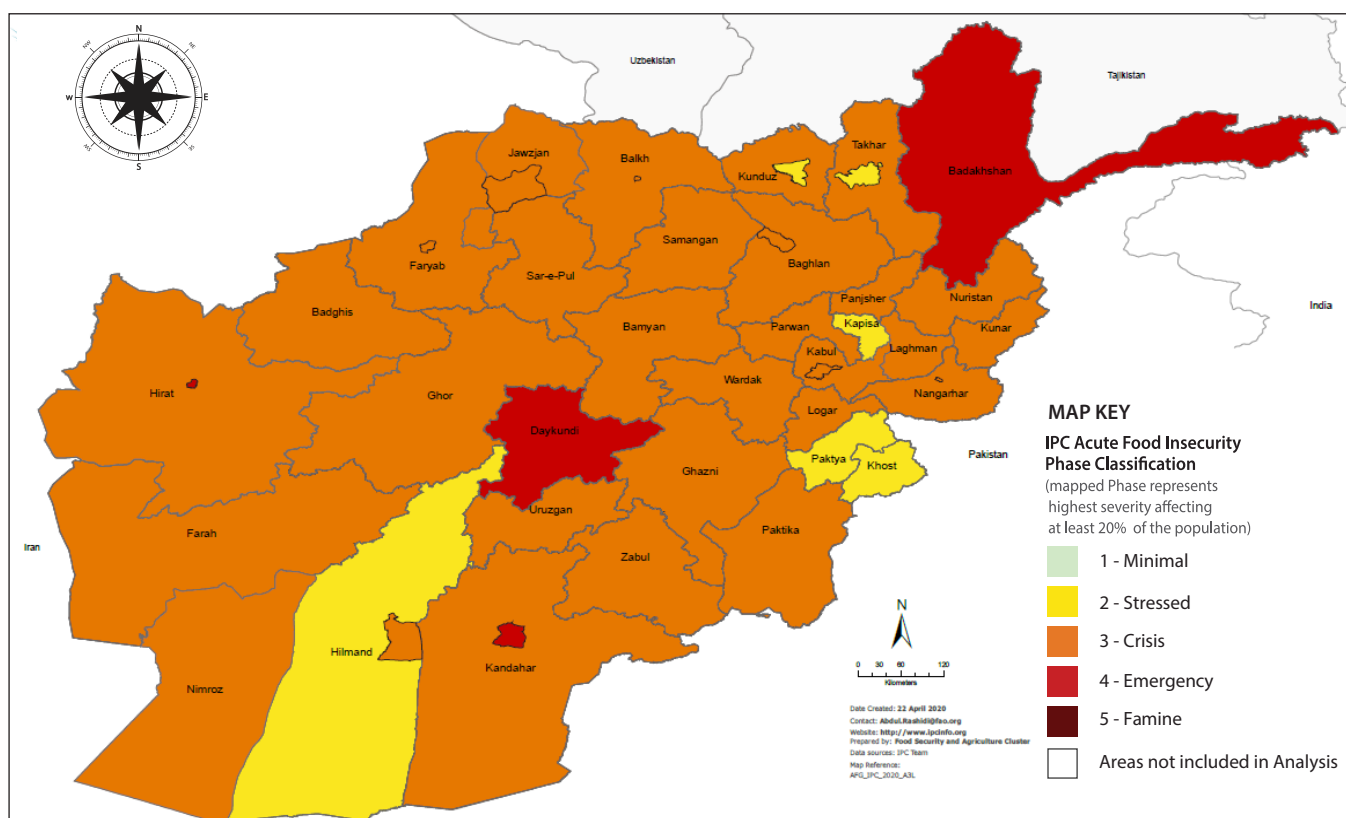
According to OCHA’s IDP tracking data, a total of 65,000 IDPs fled their homes from January to mid-April 2020.

Food security situation for displaced populations: Various assessments conducted on IDPs by IPC partners show worse food security scores on indicators compared to any other population’s category in Afghanistan. According to these assessments, more than 90% of the IDPs have an either poor or borderline food consumption score; none to one-week food stock maximum; very low level of income, far below the cost of a basic food basket; and a high level of debts. In 2019, REACH conducted an assessment with different vulnerable groups on the move, that included new and prolonged IDPs, returnees and refugees; these people on the move are mostly concentrated in 11 urban areas (Nangarhar, Hirat, Kabul, Faryab, Takhar, Kunduz, Kandahar, Hilmand, Balkh, Baghlan and Jawzjan) where urban analysis is conducted.

According to the findings of the assessment on the newly displaced in 2019, 76% of the IDPs have an either poor or borderline food consumption score, whereas surprisingly, in prolonged IDPs, this is even higher, with 79% IDPs having a poor or borderline food consumption score. Aligning the response with these numbers, the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster of Afghanistan aims to target 75% of the newly displaced IDPs with a multi sector response.

Recommendations: This report urges partners to continue supporting new IDPs as the most vulnerable group for the response. This report also urges partners to include prolonged IDPs in the response, as their situation is not very different from that of new IDPs, since they became more vulnerable because of the COVID-19 pandemic as they were relying on unsustainable sources of income. In many areas, these IDPs are unable to return to their places of origin, so appropriate measures should be taken to support them.

## CURRENT IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY SITUATION (APRIL - MAY 2020)



**Note:** Around 10.9 million people (35% population) are estimated to be facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or above in the current period (April-May 2020). These include around 7.38 million people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 3.47 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). A total of 4 analysis areas were classified in IPC Phase 4 (Badakhshan, Daykundi, Hirat Urban and Kandahar Urban).

### IPC population table for current period: April – May 2020

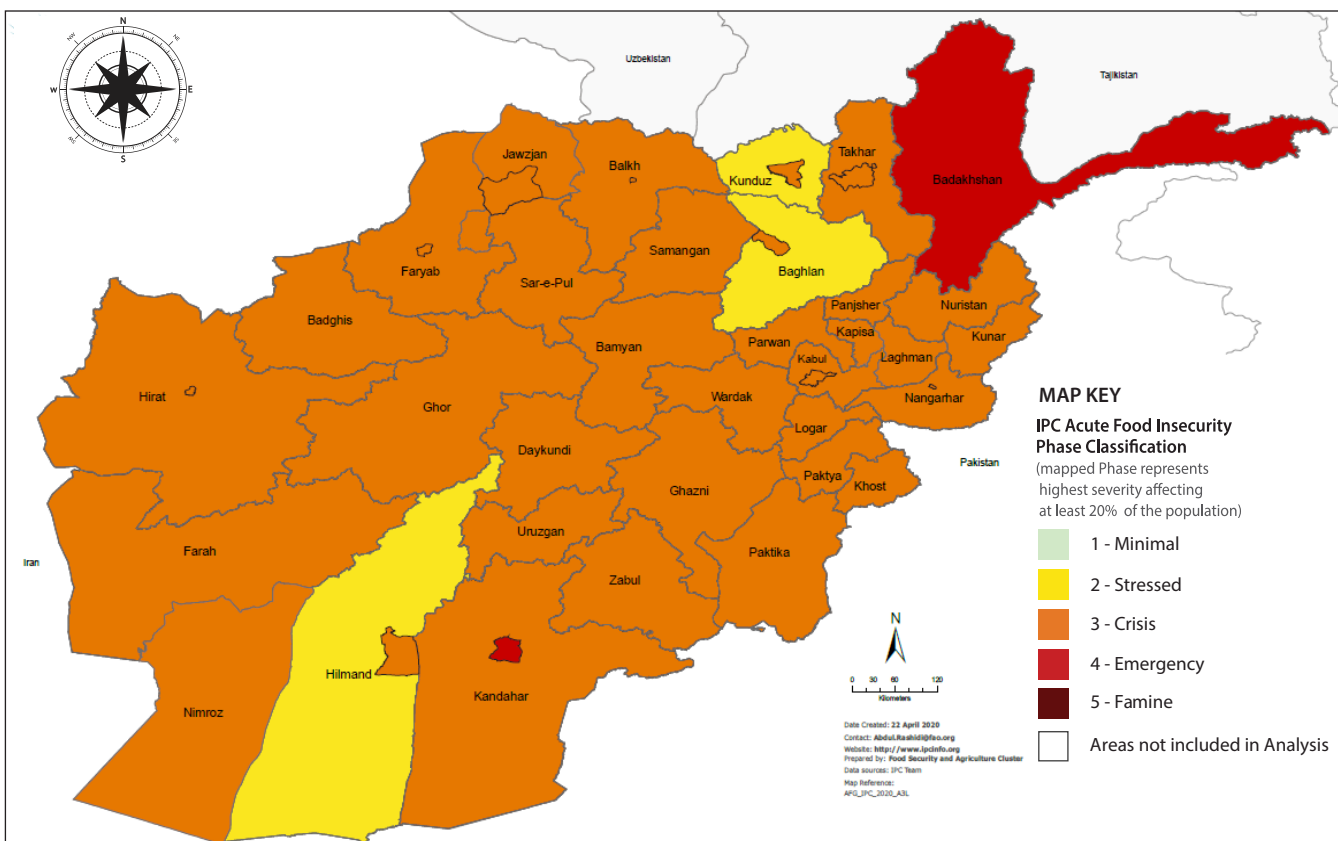
SN	Province	Community	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
				#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
1	Badakhshan	Total Province	1,035,658	155,349	15	310,697	30	258,915	25	310,697	30	000,000	00	4	569,612	55
2	Badghis	Total Province	540,009	54,001	10	216,004	40	189,003	35	81,001	15	000,000	00	3	270,005	50
3	Bamyan	Total Province	486,928	194,771	40	170,425	35	97,386	20	24,346	5	000,000	00	3	121,732	25
4	Daykundi	Total Province	507,610	76,142	15	203,044	40	126,903	25	101,522	20	000,000	00	4	228,425	45
5	Farah	Total Province	553,058	221,223	40	165,917	30	110,612	20	55,306	0	000,000	00	3	165,917	30
6	Ghazni	Total Province	1,338,597	401,579	30	535,439	40	267,719	20	133,860	10	000,000	00	3	401,579	30
7	Ghor	Total Province	751,254	187,814	25	262,939	35	225,376	30	75,125	10	000,000	00	3	300,502	40
8	Kapisa	Total Province	479,875	167,956	35	239,938	50	71,981	15	000,000	00	000,000	00	2	71,981	15
9	Khost	Total Province	625,473	250,189	40	281,463	45	62,547	10	31,274	5	000,000	00	2	93,821	15
10	Kunar	Total Province	490,690	147,207	30	171,742	35	98,138	20	73,604	15	000,000	00	3	171,742	35
11	Laghman	Total Province	484,952	145,486	30	193,981	40	121,238	25	24,248	5	000,000	00	3	145,486	30
12	Logar	Total Province	426,821	128,046	30	170,728	40	106,705	25	21,341	5	000,000	00	3	128,046	30
13	Nimroz	Total Province	180,200	36,040	20	45,050	25	72,080	40	27,030	15	000,000	00	3	99,110	55
14	Nuristan	Total Province	160,993	48,298	30	56,348	35	40,248	25	16,099	10	000,000	00	3	56,348	35
15	Paktika	Total Province	762,108	152,422	20	342,949	45	190,527	25	76,211	10	000,000	00	3	266,738	35
16	Paktya	Total Province	601,230	210,431	35	300,615	50	60,123	10	30,062	5	000,000	00	2	90,185	15
17	Panjsher	Total Province	167,000	66,800	40	66,800	40	25,050	15	8,350	5	000,000	00	3	33,400	20
18	Parwan	Total Province	724,561	217,368	30	289,824	40	144,912	20	72,456	10	000,000	00	3	217,368	30
19	Samangan	Total Province	422,859	105,715	25	105,715	25	148,001	35	63,429	15	000,000	00	3	211,430	50
20	Sari pul	Total Province	609,986	152,497	25	213,495	35	182,996	30	60,999	10	000,000	00	3	243,994	40
21	Uruzgan	Total Province	428,466	64,270	15	107,117	25	192,810	45	64,270	15	000,000	00	3	257,080	60
22	Wardak	Total Province	648,866	194,660	30	227,103	35	162,217	25	64,887	10	000,000	00	3	227,103	35
23	Zabul	Total Province	377,648	94,412	25	132,177	35	94,412	25	56,647	15	000,000	00	3	151,059	40



IPC population table for current period continued

24	Baghlan	Rural	789,689	197,422	25	355,360	45	197,422	25	39,484	5	000,000	00	3	236,907	30
		Pul e Khumri	206,125	41,225	20	72,144	35	72,144	35	20,613	10	000,000	00	3	92,756	45
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>995,814</b>	<b>238,647</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>427,504</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>269,566</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>60,097</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>329,663</b>	<b>33</b>
25	Balkh	Rural	908,378	317,932	35	317,932	35	181,676	20	90,838	10	000,000	00	3	272,513	30
		Mazar	567,271	198,545	35	198,545	35	113,454	20	56,727	10	000,000	00	3	170,181	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,475,649</b>	<b>516,477</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>516,477</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>295,130</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>147,565</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>442,695</b>	<b>30</b>
26	Faryab	Rural	952,772	285,832	30	238,193	25	285,832	30	142,916	15	000,000	00	3	428,747	45
		Maimana	136,456	40,937	30	54,582	40	27,291	20	13,646	10	000,000	00	3	40,937	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,089,228</b>	<b>326,768</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>292,775</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>313,123</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>156,561</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>469,684</b>	<b>43</b>
27	Hilmand	Rural	1,322,688	264,538	20	859,747	65	132,269	10	66,134	5	000,000	00	2	198,403	15
		Lashkargah	97,994	29,398	30	19,599	20	39,198	40	9,799	10	000,000	00	3	48,997	50
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,420,682</b>	<b>293,936</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>879,346</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>171,466</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>75,934</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>247,400</b>	<b>17</b>
28	Hirat	Rural	1,462,911	365,728	25	365,728	25	512,019	35	219,437	15	000,000	00	3	731,456	50
		Hirat	632,206	158,052	25	126,441	20	221,272	35	126,441	20	000,000	00	4	347,713	55
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>2,095,117</b>	<b>523,779</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>492,169</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>733,291</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>345,878</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,079,169</b>	<b>52</b>
29	Jawzjan	Rural	461,174	92,235	20	138,352	30	161,411	35	69,176	15	000,000	00	3	230,587	50
		Shibeerjan	129,692	38,908	30	45,392	35	32,423	25	12,969	10	000,000	00	3	45,392	35
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>590,866</b>	<b>131,142</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>183,744</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>193,834</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>82,145</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>275,979</b>	<b>47</b>
30	Kabul	Rural	732,368	183,092	25	256,329	35	183,092	25	109,855	15	000,000	00	3	292,947	40
		Kabul	4,297,482	1,718,993	40	1,289,245	30	859,496	20	429,748	10	000,000	00	3	1,289,245	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>5,029,850</b>	<b>1,902,085</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,545,573</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1,042,588</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>539,603</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,582,192</b>	<b>31</b>
31	Kandahar	Rural	861,242	172,248	20	301,435	35	301,435	5	86,124	10	000,000	00	3	387,559	45
		Kandahar	506,794	101,359	20	152,038	30	152,038	30	101,359	20	000,000	00	4	253,397	50
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,368,036</b>	<b>273,607</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>453,473</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>453,473</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>187,483</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>640,956</b>	<b>47</b>
32	Kunduz	Rural	819,068	327,627	40	286,674	35	163,814	20	40,953	5	000,000	00	3	204,767	25
		Kunduz	294,608	117,843	40	132,574	45	29,461	10	14,730	5	000,000	00	2	44,191	15
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,113,676</b>	<b>445,470</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>419,247</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>193,274</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>55,684</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>248,958</b>	<b>22</b>
33	Nangarhar	Rural	1,399,844	349,961	25	419,953	30	419,953	30	209,977	15	000,000	00	3	629,930	45
		Jalalabad	268,637	53,727	20	80,591	30	94,023	35	40,296	15	000,000	00	3	134,319	50
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,668,481</b>	<b>403,688</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>500,544</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>513,976</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>250,272</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>764,248</b>	<b>46</b>
34	Takhar	Rural	928,224	324,878	35	371,290	40	139,234	15	92,822	10	000,000	00	3	232,056	25
		Taluqan	145,095	72,548	50	50,783	35	14,510	10	7,255	5	000,000	00	2	21,764	15
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,073,319</b>	<b>397,426</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>422,073</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>153,743</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100,077</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>253,820</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>30,725,560</b>	<b>8,925,701</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10,942,434</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>7,383,363</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>3,474,062</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>10,857,425</b>	<b>35</b>

## PROJECTED IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY SITUATION (June - Nov2020)



**Note:** From June to November 2020, it is expected that 10.3 million (34% of the population) will face significant acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+), with 23% of the population in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and 11% in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

### IPC population table for projection period: June – November 2020

SN	Province	Community	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
				#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
1	Badakhshan	Total Province	1,035,658	155,349	15	310,697	30	310,697	30	258,915	25	000,000	00	4	569,612	55
2	Badghis	Total Province	540,009	81,001	15	216,004	40	189,003	35	54,001	10	000,000	00	3	243,004	45
3	Bamyan	Total Province	486,928	121,732	25	194,771	40	121,732	25	48,693	10	000,000	00	3	170,425	35
4	Daykundi	Total Province	507,610	101,522	20	228,425	45	126,903	25	50,761	10	000,000	00	3	177,664	35
5	Farah	Total Province	553,058	221,223	40	165,917	30	110,612	20	55,306	10	000,000	00	3	165,917	30
6	Ghazni	Total Province	1,338,597	200,790	15	535,439	40	401,579	30	200,790	15	000,000	00	3	602,369	45
7	Ghor	Total Province	751,254	262,939	35	338,064	45	150,251	20	000,000	00	000,000	00	3	150,251	20
8	Kapisa	Total Province	479,875	119,969	25	263,931	55	95,975	20	000,000	00	000,000	00	3	95,975	20
9	Khost	Total Province	625,473	187,642	30	250,189	40	125,095	20	62,547	10	000,000	00	3	187,642	30
10	Kunar	Total Province	490,690	171,742	35	196,276	40	73,604	15	49,069	10	000,000	00	3	122,673	25
11	Laghman	Total Province	484,952	169,733	35	193,981	40	96,990	20	24,248	5	000,000	00	3	121,238	25
12	Logar	Total Province	426,821	128,046	30	149,387	35	106,705	25	42,682	10	000,000	00	3	149,387	35
13	Nimroz	Total Province	180,200	72,080	40	36,040	20	54,060	30	18,020	10	000,000	00	3	72,080	40
14	Nuristan	Total Province	160,993	48,298	30	64,397	40	32,199	20	16,099	10	000,000	00	3	48,298	30
15	Paktika	Total Province	762,108	76,211	10	266,738	35	304,843	40	114,316	15	000,000	00	3	419,159	55
16	Paktya	Total Province	601,230	120,246	20	330,677	55	90,185	15	60,123	10	000,000	00	3	150,308	25
17	Panjsher	Total Province	167,000	58,450	35	66,800	40	33,400	20	8,350	5	000,000	00	3	41,750	25
18	Parwan	Total Province	724,561	217,368	30	289,824	40	144,912	20	72,456	10	000,000	00	3	217,368	30
19	Samangan	Total Province	422,859	105,715	25	148,001	35	126,858	30	42,286	10	000,000	00	3	169,144	40
20	Sari pul	Total Province	609,986	182,996	30	243,994	40	121,997	20	60,999	10	000,000	00	3	182,996	30
21	Uruzgan	Total Province	428,466	128,540	30	128,540	30	128,540	30	42,847	10	000,000	00	3	171,386	40
22	Wardak	Total Province	648,866	194,660	30	259,546	40	129,773	20	64,887	10	000,000	00	3	194,660	30
23	Zabul	Total Province	377,648	113,294	30	151,059	40	75,530	20	37,765	10	000,000	00	3	113,294	30





IPC population table for projection period continued

24	Baghlan	Rural	789,689	276,391	35	394,845	50	78,969	10	39,484	5	000,000	00	2	118,453	15
		Pul e Khumri	206,125	51,531	25	41,225	20	82,450	40	30,919	15	000,000	00	3	113,369	55
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>995,814</b>	<b>327,922</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>436,070</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>161,419</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>70,403</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>231,822</b>	<b>23</b>
25	Balkh	Rural	908,378	363,351	40	363,351	40	136,257	15	45,419	5	000,000	00	3	181,676	20
		Mazar	567,271	141,818	25	198,545	35	141,818	25	85,091	15	000,000	00	3	226,908	40
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,475,649</b>	<b>505,169</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>561,896</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>278,074</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>130,510</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>408,584</b>	<b>28</b>
26	Faryab	Rural	952,772	333,470	35	285,832	30	238,193	25	95,277	10	000,000	00	3	333,470	35
		Maimana	136,456	34,114	25	47,760	35	40,937	30	13,646	10	000,000	00	3	54,582	40
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,089,228</b>	<b>367,584</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>333,591</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>279,130</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>108,923</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>388,053</b>	<b>36</b>
27	Hilmand	Rural	1,322,688	396,806	30	727,478	55	132,269	10	66,134	5	000,000	00	3	198,403	15
		Lashkargah	97,994	24,499	25	19,599	20	39,198	40	14,699	15	000,000	00	2	53,897	55
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,420,682</b>	<b>421,305</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>747,077</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>171,466</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>80,834</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>252,300</b>	<b>18</b>
28	Hirat	Rural	1,462,911	585,164	40	292,582	20	438,873	30	146,291	10	000,000	00	3	585,164	40
		Hirat	632,206	252,882	40	189,662	30	126,441	20	63,221	10	000,000	00	3	189,662	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>2,095,117</b>	<b>838,047</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>482,244</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>565,315</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>209,512</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>774,826</b>	<b>37</b>
29	Jawzjan	Rural	461,174	115,294	25	184,470	40	115,294	25	46,117	10	000,000	00	3	161,411	35
		Shibeerjan	129,692	32,423	25	45,392	35	38,908	30	12,969	10	000,000	00	3	51,877	40
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>590,866</b>	<b>147,717</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>229,862</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>154,201</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>59,087</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>213,288</b>	<b>36</b>
30	Kabul	Rural	732,368	219,710	30	256,329	35	183,092	25	73,237	10	000,000	00	3	256,329	35
		Kabul	4,297,482	1,289,245	30	1,504,119	35	859,496	20	644,622	15	000,000	00	3	1,504,119	35
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>5,029,850</b>	<b>1,508,955</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,760,448</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1,042,588</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>717,859</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,760,448</b>	<b>35</b>
31	Kandahar	Rural	861,242	344,497	40	301,435	35	172,248	20	43,062	5	000,000	00	3	215,311	25
		Kandahar	506,794	101,359	20	126,699	25	177,378	35	101,359	20	000,000	00	4	278,737	55
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,368,036</b>	<b>445,856</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>428,133</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>349,626</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>144,421</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>494,047</b>	<b>36</b>
32	Kunduz	Rural	819,068	204,767	25	491,441	60	81,907	10	40,953	5	000,000	00	2	122,860	15
		Kunduz	294,608	88,382	30	117,843	40	73,652	25	14,730	5	000,000	00	3	88,382	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,113,676</b>	<b>293,149</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>609,284</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>155,559</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>55,684</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>211,243</b>	<b>19</b>
33	Nangarhar	Rural	1,399,844	349,961	25	489,945	35	349,961	25	209,977	15	000,000	00	3	559,938	40
		Jalalabad	268,637	67,159	25	80,591	30	94,023	35	26,864	10	000,000	00	3	120,887	45
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,668,481</b>	<b>417,120</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>570,537</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>443,984</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>236,840</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>680,824</b>	<b>41</b>
34	Takhar	Rural	928,224	324,878	35	278,467	30	232,056	25	92,822	10	000,000	00	3	324,878	35
		Taluqan	145,095	43,529	30	65,293	45	21,764	15	14,510	10	000,000	00	3	36,274	25
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,073,319</b>	<b>368,407</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>343,760</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>253,820</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>107,332</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>361,152</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>30,725,560</b>	<b>8,880,776</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>11,531,599</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7,006,624</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3,306,561</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>10,313,185</b>	<b>34</b>



## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

### Response Priorities

Food insecurity can further deteriorate both during the current and projected periods, due to possible economic impacts of COVID-19 on production and markets. The food insecurity situation can change from best to worst case scenario, that will require a very large scale response. Situation monitoring and further analysis are required to align the size of the response with the changing situation. To address the acute food insecurity needs of the affected families, the following actions are required to save lives and livelihoods:

- Immediate action is required to contain the high rate of asset depletion and food consumption gaps through food assistance for the population classified in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). The modality (cash or in-kind) of the food assistance should be considered based on proper market analysis, as prices of food commodities are significantly high and border closures can further disrupt economical food access.
- Livelihood assets creation programmes should be considered where possible, while providing cash or in-kind assistance to construct and rehabilitate water infrastructure for agriculture and livestock such as tube-wells, water channels and reservoirs for better conservation and management.
- Food assistance should be prioritised in urban areas, especially for those relying on daily wage labour and unsustainable sources of income. Humanitarian agencies should follow government guidelines and international practices during distribution in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Rural farmers will not be able to get labour opportunities, especially small and medium farmers, so they may consume all of their harvest during this challenging lockdown period. Around 74% of farmers reported a lack of seed for next cropping season. Timely provision of quality seeds will help farmers not only to cultivate but also increase the production for household consumption.
- The government must facilitate a smooth flow of food supply chain during the lockdown. Crop pest and disease monitoring and control should continue to avoid losses.
- Introduce livelihood diversification programmes for the people facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity, especially female-headed households and people with disabilities. Livestock support, poultry and kitchen gardening are potential activities to enhance food security, nutrition and income of vulnerable communities.
- Considering the regular occurrence of environmental shocks, stakeholders should also focus their attention and funding on programs to build resilience to disasters and reduce disaster risks. Afghanistan already entered in the flooding season, so measures should be taken to avoid loss of lives and livelihoods.
- The complex context of Afghanistan, including ethnically diverse people, rugged terrain and continuing civil unrest, needs to be considered when developing strategies for food and livelihood security programming.

### Situation Monitoring and Update of Activities

In the recent context of COVID-19 monitoring of the food security situation along with health issues is more important than ever. The following situations should be monitored:

- The recent lockdown in major urban centres of the country as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic significantly damaged the urban wage sector. Afghan urban communities are highly dependent on these opportunities, so measures should be taken to monitor the performance of the urban wage sector and its impact on food security of the urban poor.
- Afghanistan is highly dependent on the import of staple food; recent border closures significantly impacted food availability and prices in the country. Though we are at the beginning of the harvest, close monitoring of the harvest and borders are required to predict the food availability situation in the country.
- Food price monitoring should also continue in the major markets of the country and measures should be taken to expand food price monitoring, as most of the communities are relying on the purchase of food from local markets.
- Crop pest and diseases and livestock diseases should be monitored, as these can potentially impact crops and livestock in 14 provinces of the country as per the historical trends.
- Abnormal rainfall patterns which would increase the probability of natural hazards such as droughts and floods; on average, spring floods affect approximately 200,000 vulnerable people every year.
- The deterioration of the security situation in provinces, which triggers the displacement of rural population to cities during the current and projection analysis periods, including during spring, can increase the probability of conflict. On average, around 500,000 people migrate to secure areas every year because of conflict.
- The flow of returns remained highest during March and April 2020 in comparison with previous trends because of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially from Iran. High rate of return and decrease in remittances should be monitored, as these will affect food access and further saturate an already stressed urban labour market.

## PROCESS, METHODOLOGY AND LIMITATIONS

### Process and Methodology

Due to the current context of travel restrictions and containment, the Afghanistan IPC TWG, in collaboration with the IPC Global Support Unit, has adapted its usual approach of having an in-person country analysis, by leveraging existing technologies and tools, such as the web-based IPC Information Support System (ISS), and a large pool of experienced food security and nutrition analysts. Through this virtual analysis process, the IPC initiative is successful in ensuring that analyses conducted during this period capture the effects of COVID-19 on food insecurity and malnutrition.

The virtual IPC AFI analysis was conducted from the 6th to the 16th April 2020 assessing two periods: the current period (April to May 2020) was based on surveys and data collected from 2019-2020 that reflected existing factors that lead to food insecurity; and the projected period (June 2020 to November 2020) considering the current period contributing factors, outcome evidences with the projection assumptions factors. The analysis covered all 34 provinces of the country, for 23 provinces at provincial level and for the remaining 11 provinces, rural and major urban centres separately analysed making the total analysis units to 45. International technical experts were committed to providing remote technical support to the country team. A remote support team was formed within the IPC Global Support Unit (IPC GSU) that was on stand-by to support analysis co-leads throughout the analysis workshops. The data used in the analysis were organized according to the IPC analytical framework, which includes predefined food security contributing factors and outcome indicators. All data were collected from a wide range of sources, including reports from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, other government institutions at national and provincial levels, and international organizations

### Limitations of the analysis

This IPC AFI analysis was conducted virtually in the 2nd and 3rd week of April 2020 for the first time in Afghanistan; due to COVID-19 lockdown strict restrictions on movement. This contained some minor challenges such as weak internet connectivity and unstable electricity power for most of the areas. The virtual IPC AFI analysis was undertaken by core analysts with technical support of the national co-facilitators, international technical experts from IPC RSU and GSU and the context focal points in the provinces. The number of days allocated to the analysis increased to 9 from the usual 5 days to provide the analysts with the sufficient time to complete the analysis. MIS officers from MAIL were the only government staff who participated in the analysis process, since they are amongst those who are familiar with IPC protocols and the ISS online portal. Afghanistan population estimations based on NSIA estimates do not include the population of Kuchis /Nomads (1.5 million people) at the provincial level, therefore this group of people have not been considered in the phase classification of any certain area. Additional time allowed proper discussion on the phase classification to build technical consensus. It is important to note, that consensus was reached among all the stakeholders except FEWSNET. FEWSNET respectfully disagreed with the phase classifications of 5 and 23 areas for current and projection respectively, out of 45 analysis areas, as well as with the overall estimated population in Phase 3 and higher. FEWSNET advocated for the less severe situation by suggesting lower area classification and population estimates. with which the TWG disagreed.

<sup>1</sup>For more information on IPC in the COVID-19 context, please visit: <http://www.ipcinfo.org/ipcinfo-website/covid-19/en/>

### IPC Analysis Partners

### What is the IPC and IPC Acute Food Insecurity?

The IPC is a set of tools and procedures to classify the severity and characteristics of acute food and nutrition crises as well as chronic food insecurity based on international standards. The IPC consists of four mutually reinforcing functions, each with a set of specific protocols (tools and procedures). The core IPC parameters include consensus building, convergence of evidence, accountability, transparency and comparability. The IPC analysis aims at informing emergency response as well as medium and long-term food security policy and programming.

For the IPC, Acute Food Insecurity is defined as any manifestation of food insecurity found in a specified area at a specific point in time of a severity that threatens lives or livelihoods, or both, regardless of the causes, context or duration. It is highly susceptible to change and can occur and manifest in a population within a short amount of time, as a result of sudden changes or shocks that negatively impact on the determinants of food insecurity.

### Contact for further Information

#### Rashidi, Abdul Baies

National IPC Officer  
[abdul.rashidi@fao.org](mailto:abdul.rashidi@fao.org)

IPC Global Support Unit  
[www.ipcinfo.org](http://www.ipcinfo.org)

This analysis has been conducted under the direct patronage of the Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) and Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FASC) Afghanistan.

Classification of food insecurity and malnutrition conducted using the IPC protocols, which are developed and implemented worldwide by the IPC Global Partnership - Action Against Hunger, CARE, CILSS, EC-JRC, FAO, FEWSNET, Global Food Security Cluster, Global Nutrition Cluster, IGAD, Oxfam, PROGRESAN-SICA, SADC, Save the Children, UNICEF and WFP.





## Sources

Data sources used for the analysis included: 1) The Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS) 2019-2020 conducted by the World Food Programme (WFP). 2) The Agriculture Prospect Report (APR) and Food Price data – MAIL. 3) The SMART Surveys 2018, 2019 and 2020 from AAH, MoPH & UNICEF. 4) Population Estimation from the National Statistics Information Authority (NSIA) of Afghanistan. 5) ALCS, 2016-2017- NSIA. 6) Food Prices and Food Distribution reports from WFP. 7) Climate, Precipitation, NDVI, Food security outlooks – FEWSNET. 8) Refugee & IDP data from UNHCR, OCHA, FSAC and IOM. 9) Natural disaster affected population data from IOM and FSAC. 10) Precipitation, temperature, snow, landside, earthquake, avalanche and flood – iMMAP. 11) 2016 Land Cover Atlas from FAO. 12) The Whole of Afghanistan Assessment from REACH International. 13) Humanitarian Food Assistance (HFA) - FSAC 14) Multi hazard risk assessment and capacity report Analysis – ANDMA. 15) Lockdown Status – UNDSS. 16) COVID-19 outbreak – MoPH. 17) Data on humanitarian assistance delivered and planned from WFP and localized assessment conducted by I/NGOs.

## IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification

Since 2011, the National Statistics and Information Authority (NSIA) has been conducting a form of rolling census, the Socio-Demographic and Economic Survey (SDES), which includes enumeration for 50% of households (the survey has covered around 12 of the 34 provinces). The main challenge of this process was the lack of reliable current disaggregated population data at provincial and district level. For some of the provinces, including Helmand, Zabul, Daykundi and Paktika, the population is solely based on the 1979 census projections because no household listing data was available at the time of the population rebasing in 2004. As such, Afghanistan's official population estimates are significantly underestimated, and it is recommended that alternate estimates based upon household listing projections be used for programmatic purposes. Therefore, the Government requested the United Nations to assist the NSIA in estimating spatially disaggregated population data through a collaborative partnership of Government/UNFPA/Flowminder/World Pop to generate population counts disaggregated by age and sex at district level for the entire country.

Survey data (SDES and micro census), GIS data and Satellite imagery were among key sources of Flowminder population estimations. Statistical modelling was used to estimate population counts for areas with no population data. Flowminder population estimates have been submitted to the cabinet, endorsement is pending due to the current political situation. The IPC, being housed by MAIL, has been using NSIA population figures. However, development partners have been using Flowminder population in HNO/HRP etc. and requested the IPC to provide tables based on Flowminder population so that they can be used readily and to avoid confusion.

## Annex

### Current Flowminder population table (April - May 2020)

SN	Province	Community	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
				#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
1	Badakhshan	Total Province	1,377,475	206,621	15	413,243	30	344,369	25	413,243	30	000,000	00	4	757,611	55
2	Badghis	Total Province	739,519	73,952	10	295,808	40	258,832	35	110,928	15	000,000	00	3	369,760	50
3	Bamyan	Total Province	451,225	180,490	40	157,929	35	90,245	20	22,561	5	000,000	00	3	112,806	25
4	Daykundi	Total Province	798,614	119,792	15	319,446	40	199,654	25	159,723	20	000,000	00	4	359,376	45
5	Farah	Total Province	634,158	253,663	40	190,247	30	126,832	20	63,416	10	000,000	00	3	190,247	30
6	Ghazni	Total Province	1,216,297	364,889	30	486,519	40	243,259	20	121,630	10	000,000	00	3	364,889	30
7	Ghor	Total Province	952,967	238,242	25	333,538	35	285,890	30	95,297	10	000,000	00	3	381,187	40
8	Kapisa	Total Province	545,084	190,779	35	272,542	50	81,763	15	000,000	00	000,000	00	2	81,763	15
9	Khost	Total Province	1,008,567	403,427	40	453,855	45	100,857	10	50,428	5	000,000	00	2	151,285	15
10	Kunar	Total Province	1,043,958	313,187	30	365,385	35	208,792	20	156,594	15	000,000	00	3	365,385	35
11	Laghman	Total Province	797,625	239,288	30	319,050	40	199,406	25	39,881	5	000,000	00	3	239,288	30
12	Logar	Total Province	566,566	169,970	30	226,626	40	141,642	25	28,328	5	000,000	00	3	169,970	30
13	Nimroz	Total Province	327,746	65,549	20	81,937	25	131,098	40	49,162	15	000,000	00	3	180,260	55
14	Nuristan	Total Province	273,664	82,099	30	95,782	35	68,416	25	27,366	10	000,000	00	3	95,782	35
15	Paktika	Total Province	394,823	78,965	20	177,670	45	98,706	25	39,482	10	000,000	00	3	138,188	35
16	Paktya	Total Province	889,521	311,332	35	444,761	50	88,952	10	44,476	5	000,000	00	2	133,428	15
17	Panjsher	Total Province	219,052	87,621	40	87,621	40	32,858	15	10,953	5	000,000	00	3	43,810	20
18	Parwan	Total Province	771,257	231,377	30	308,503	40	154,251	20	77,126	10	000,000	00	3	231,377	30
19	Samangan	Total Province	483,020	120,755	25	120,755	25	169,057	35	72,453	15	000,000	00	3	241,510	50
20	Sari pul	Total Province	651,170	162,793	25	227,910	35	195,351	30	65,117	10	000,000	00	3	260,468	40
21	Uruzgan	Total Province	415,337	62,301	15	103,834	25	186,902	45	62,301	15	000,000	00	3	249,202	60
22	Wardak	Total Province	760,432	228,130	30	266,151	35	190,108	25	76,043	10	000,000	00	3	266,151	35
23	Zabul	Total Province	267,246	66,812	25	93,536	35	66,812	25	40,087	15	000,000	00	3	106,898	40



**Current Flowminder population table continued**

24	Baghlan	Rural	1,002,495	250,624	25	451,123	45	250,624	25	50,125	5	000,000	00	3	300,749	30
		Pul e Khumri	258,965	51,793	20	90,638	35	90,638	35	25,896	10	000,000	00	3	116,534	45
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,261,460</b>	<b>302,417</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>541,761</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>341,261</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>76,021</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>417,283</b>	<b>33</b>
25	Balkh	Rural	1,177,193	412,018	35	412,018	35	235,439	20	117,719	10	000,000	00	3	353,158	30
		Mazar	709,461	248,311	35	248,311	35	141,892	20	70,946	10	000,000	00	3	212,838	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,886,654</b>	<b>660,329</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>660,329</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>377,331</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>188,665</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>565,996</b>	<b>30</b>
26	Faryab	Rural	1,141,913	342,574	30	285,478	25	342,574	30	171,287	15	000,000	00	3	513,861	45
		Maimana	161,854	48,556	30	64,742	40	32,371	20	16,185	10	000,000	00	3	48,556	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,303,767</b>	<b>391,130</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>350,220</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>374,945</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>187,472</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>562,417</b>	<b>43</b>
27	Hilmand	Rural	2,070,960	414,192	20	1,346,124	65	207,096	10	103,548	5	000,000	00	2	310,644	15
		Lashkargah	132,814	39,844	30	26,563	20	53,126	40	13,281	10	000,000	00	3	66,407	50
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>2,203,774</b>	<b>454,036</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1,372,687</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>260,222</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>116,829</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>377,051</b>	<b>17</b>
28	Hirat	Rural	2,183,088	545,772	25	545,772	25	764,081	35	327,463	15	000,000	00	3	1,091,544	50
		Hirat	909,002	227,251	25	181,800	20	318,151	35	181,800	20	000,000	00	4	499,951	55
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>3,092,090</b>	<b>773,023</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>727,572</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1,082,232</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>509,264</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,591,495</b>	<b>51</b>
29	Jawzjan	Rural	459,960	91,992	20	137,988	30	160,986	35	68,994	15	000,000	00	3	229,980	50
		Shibeerjan	128,012	38,404	30	44,804	35	32,003	25	12,801	10	000,000	00	3	44,804	35
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>587,972</b>	<b>130,396</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>182,792</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>192,989</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>81,795</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>274,784</b>	<b>47</b>
30	Kabul	Rural	759,808	189,952	25	265,933	35	189,952	25	113,971	15	000,000	00	3	303,923	40
		Kabul	4,353,967	1,741,587	40	1,306,190	30	870,793	20	435,397	10	000,000	00	3	1,306,190	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>5,113,775</b>	<b>1,931,539</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,572,123</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1,060,745</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>549,368</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,610,113</b>	<b>31</b>
31	Kandahar	Rural	1,000,163	200,033	20	350,057	35	350,057	35	100,016	10	000,000	00	3	450,073	45
		Kandahar	564,955	112,991	20	169,487	30	169,487	30	112,991	20	000,000	00	4	282,478	50
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,565,118</b>	<b>313,024</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>519,544</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>519,544</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>213,007</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>732,551</b>	<b>47</b>
32	Kunduz	Rural	686,185	274,474	40	240,165	35	137,237	20	34,309	5	000,000	00	3	171,546	25
		Kunduz	239,694	95,877	40	107,862	45	23,969	10	11,985	5	000,000	00	2	35,954	15
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>925,879</b>	<b>370,352</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>348,027</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>161,206</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>46,294</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>207,500</b>	<b>22</b>
33	Nangarhar	Rural	2,282,082	570,520	25	684,624	30	684,624	30	342,312	15	000,000	00	3	1,026,937	45
		Jalalabad	420,651	84,130	20	126,195	30	147,228	35	63,098	15	000,000	00	3	210,326	50
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>2,702,733</b>	<b>654,651</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>810,820</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>831,852</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>405,410</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,237,262</b>	<b>46</b>
34	Takhar	Rural	1,216,444	425,755	35	486,577	40	182,467	15	121,644	10	000,000	00	3	304,111	25
		Taluqan	188,179	94,090	50	65,863	35	18,818	10	9,409	5	000,000	00	2	28,227	15
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,404,623</b>	<b>519,845</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>552,440</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>201,284</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>131,053</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>332,338</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>37,633,168</b>	<b>10,752,772</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>13,480,962</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>9,067,661</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4,331,773</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>13,399,434</b>	<b>36</b>



Projection Flowminder population table (June - November 2020)

SN	Province	Community	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
				#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
1	Badakhshan	Total Province	1,377,475	206,621	15	413,243	30	413,243	30	344,369	25	000,000	00	4	757,611	55
2	Badghis	Total Province	739,519	110,928	15	295,808	40	258,832	35	73,952	10	000,000	00	3	332,784	45
3	Bamyan	Total Province	451,225	112,806	25	180,490	40	112,806	25	45,123	10	000,000	00	3	157,929	35
4	Daykundi	Total Province	798,614	159,723	20	359,376	45	199,654	25	79,861	10	000,000	00	3	279,515	35
5	Farah	Total Province	634,158	253,663	40	190,247	30	126,832	20	63,416	10	000,000	00	3	190,247	30
6	Ghazni	Total Province	1,216,297	182,445	15	486,519	40	364,889	30	182,445	15	000,000	00	3	547,334	45
7	Ghor	Total Province	952,967	333,538	35	428,835	45	190,593	20	000,000	00	000,000	00	3	190,593	20
8	Kapisa	Total Province	545,084	136,271	25	299,796	55	109,017	20	000,000	00	000,000	00	3	109,017	20
9	Khost	Total Province	1,008,567	302,570	30	403,427	40	201,713	20	100,857	10	000,000	00	3	302,570	30
10	Kunar	Total Province	1,043,958	365,385	35	417,583	40	156,594	15	104,396	10	000,000	00	3	260,990	25
11	Laghman	Total Province	797,625	279,169	35	319,050	40	159,525	20	39,881	5	000,000	00	3	199,406	25
12	Logar	Total Province	566,566	169,970	30	198,298	35	141,642	25	56,657	10	000,000	00	3	198,298	35
13	Nimroz	Total Province	327,746	131,098	40	65,549	20	98,324	30	32,775	10	000,000	00	3	131,098	40
14	Nuristan	Total Province	273,664	82,099	30	109,466	40	54,733	20	27,366	10	000,000	00	3	82,099	30
15	Paktika	Total Province	394,823	39,482	10	138,188	35	157,929	40	59,223	15	000,000	00	3	217,153	55
16	Paktya	Total Province	889,521	177,904	20	489,237	55	133,428	15	88,952	10	000,000	00	3	222,380	25
17	Panjsher	Total Province	219,052	76,668	35	87,621	40	43,810	20	10,953	5	000,000	00	3	54,763	25
18	Parwan	Total Province	771,257	231,377	30	308,503	40	154,251	20	77,126	10	000,000	00	3	231,377	30
19	Samangan	Total Province	483,020	120,755	25	169,057	35	144,906	30	48,302	10	000,000	00	3	193,208	40
20	Sari pul	Total Province	651,170	195,351	30	260,468	40	130,234	20	65,117	10	000,000	00	3	195,351	30
21	Uruzgan	Total Province	415,337	124,601	30	124,601	30	124,601	30	41,534	10	000,000	00	3	166,135	40
22	Wardak	Total Province	760,432	228,130	30	304,173	40	152,086	20	76,043	10	000,000	00	3	228,130	30
23	Zabul	Total Province	267,246	80,174	30	106,898	40	53,449	20	26,725	10	000,000	00	3	80,174	30



**Projection Flowminder population table continued**

24	Baghlan	Rural	1,002,495	350,873	35	501,248	50	100,250	10	50,125	5	000,000	00	2	150,374	15
		Pul e Khumri	258,965	64,741	25	51,793	20	103,586	40	38,845	15	000,000	00	3	142,431	55
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,261,460</b>	<b>415,615</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>553,041</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>203,835</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>88,969</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>292,805</b>	<b>23</b>
25	Balkh	Rural	1,177,193	470,877	40	470,877	40	176,579	15	58,860	5	000,000	00	3	235,439	20
		Mazar	709,461	177,365	25	248,311	35	177,365	25	106,419	15	000,000	00	3	283,784	40
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,886,654</b>	<b>648,242</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>719,189</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>353,944</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>165,279</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>519,223</b>	<b>28</b>
26	Faryab	Rural	1,141,913	399,670	35	342,574	30	285,478	25	114,191	10	000,000	00	3	399,670	35
		Maimana	161,854	40,464	25	56,649	35	48,556	30	16,185	10	000,000	00	3	64,742	40
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,303,767</b>	<b>440,133</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>399,223</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>334,034</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>130,377</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>464,411</b>	<b>36</b>
27	Hilmand	Rural	2,070,960	621,288	30	1,139,028	55	207,096	10	103,548	5	000,000	00	2	310,644	15
		Lashkargah	132,814	33,203	25	26,563	20	53,126	40	19,922	15	000,000	00	3	73,048	55
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>2,203,774</b>	<b>654,492</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,165,591</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>260,222</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>123,470</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>383,692</b>	<b>17</b>
28	Hirat	Rural	2,183,088	873,235	40	436,618	20	654,926	30	218,309	10	000,000	00	3	873,235	40
		Hirat	909,002	363,601	40	272,701	30	181,800	20	90,900	10	000,000	00	3	272,701	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>3,092,090</b>	<b>1,236,836</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>709,318</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>836,727</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>309,209</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,145,936</b>	<b>37</b>
29	Jawzjan	Rural	459,960	114,990	25	183,984	40	114,990	25	45,996	10	000,000	00	3	160,986	35
		Shibeerjan	128,012	32,003	25	44,804	35	38,404	30	12,801	10	000,000	00	3	51,205	40
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>587,972</b>	<b>146,993</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>228,788</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>153,394</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>58,797</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>212,191</b>	<b>36</b>
30	Kabul	Rural	759,808	227,942	30	265,933	35	189,952	25	75,981	10	000,000	00	3	265,933	35
		Kabul	4,353,967	1,306,190	30	1,523,888	35	870,793	20	653,095	15	000,000	00	3	1,523,888	35
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>5,113,775</b>	<b>1,534,133</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,789,821</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1,060,745</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>729,076</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,789,821</b>	<b>35</b>
31	Kandahar	Rural	1,000,163	400,065	40	350,057	35	200,033	20	50,008	5	000,000	00	3	250,041	25
		Kandahar	564,955	112,991	20	141,239	25	197,734	35	112,991	20	000,000	00	4	310,725	55
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,565,118</b>	<b>513,056</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>491,296</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>397,767</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>162,999</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>560,766</b>	<b>36</b>
32	Kunduz	Rural	686,185	171,546	25	411,711	60	68,619	10	34,309	5	000,000	00	2	102,928	15
		Kunduz	239,694	71,908	30	95,877	40	59,923	25	11,985	5	000,000	00	3	71,908	30
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>925,879</b>	<b>243,454</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>507,589</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>128,542</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>46,294</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>174,836</b>	<b>19</b>
33	Nangarhar	Rural	2,282,082	570,520	25	798,729	35	570,520	25	342,312	15	000,000	00	3	912,833	40
		Jalalabad	420,651	105,163	25	126,195	30	147,228	35	42,065	10	000,000	00	3	189,293	45
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>2,702,733</b>	<b>675,683</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>924,924</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>717,748</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>384,377</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>1,102,126</b>	<b>41</b>
34	Takhar	Rural	1,216,444	425,755	35	364,933	30	304,111	25	121,644	10	000,000	00	3	425,755	35
		Taluqan	188,179	56,454	30	84,681	45	28,227	15	18,818	10	000,000	00	3	47,045	25
		<b>Total Province</b>	<b>1,404,623</b>	<b>482,209</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>449,614</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>332,338</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>140,462</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>472,800</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>37,633,168</b>	<b>11,091,575</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>14,094,825</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>8,462,387</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3,984,381</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>000,000</b>	<b>00</b>		<b>12,446,768</b>	<b>33</b>