


HONDURAS

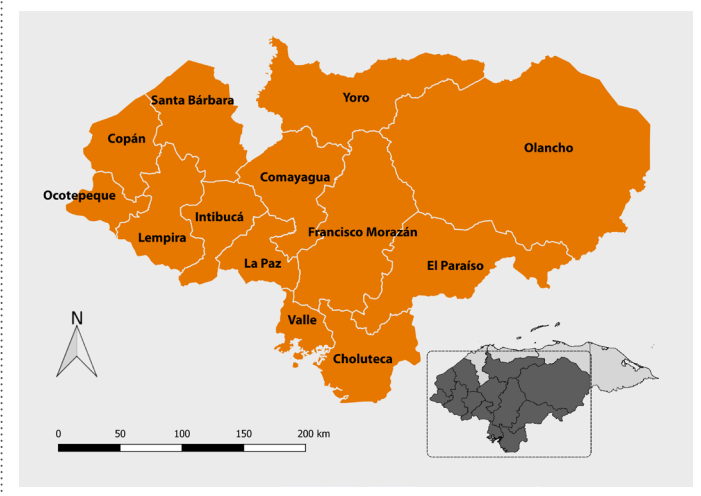
13 DEPARTMENTS

IPC ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY ANALYSIS PROJECTION UPDATE (JUNE-AUGUST 2020)

Published in July 2020

PROJECTION UPDATE JUNE - AUGUST 2020	
 <p>1.65M 32% of the analysed population</p> <p>People in high Acute Food Insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above)</p> <p>IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION</p>	<p>Phase 5 000,000 People in Catastrophe</p>
	<p>Phase 4 350,000 People in Emergency</p>
	<p>Phase 3 1,300,000 People in Crisis</p>
	<p>Phase 2 1,900,000 People in Stress</p>
	<p>Phase 1 1,600,000 People in food security</p>

PROJECTED SITUATION (JUNE-AUGUST 2020)



Key for the Map
IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification

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

Overview


The present analysis of acute food insecurity is an update of the projected analysis carried out in November 2019, which includes 13 of the 18 departments of Honduras: Choluteca, Comayagua, Copán, El Paraíso, Francisco Morazán (not including the Central District), Intibucá, La Paz, Lempira, Ocoatepeque, Olancho, Santa Bárbara, Valle and Yoro, analysing a total of 5.1 million inhabitants, equivalent to 53% of the total population of Honduras.


This update covers the period of 1 June to 31 August 2020, which corresponds to the lean season and first planting. According to the livelihood zones, most of these departments belong to the zone of basic subsistence and livestock grains, and coffee cultivation. Likewise, in other departments such as Copán, tourism, remittances and other non-agricultural sectors are also important.


In all departments, there was an increase in the population in Crisis (Phase 3) from 19% to 32% in all areas analysed with respect to the situation in November 2019. The 13 departments of Honduras have been classified in Crisis (Phase 3), which implies that households are not able to meet their food needs without depleting essential livelihood assets and without resorting to Crisis or Emergency coping strategies.

In 6 departments analysed (Choluteca, Comayagua, Copán, El Paraíso, Francisco Morazán and Lempira) 20 to 25% of households have a borderline and poor food consumption score. Likewise, in the departments analysed, as reported in November 2019, 24% of households were implementing Stress coping strategies, 21% Crisis coping strategies and 42% Emergency coping strategies. Therefore, in this period, it is very likely that there will be a higher percentage of households applying Crisis and Emergency strategies than in the previous analysis period; this is mainly due to the effects and conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, which have led to a gradual deterioration to the livelihoods of households. The economic revival in the different departments will extend beyond the projected period.

Key Drivers

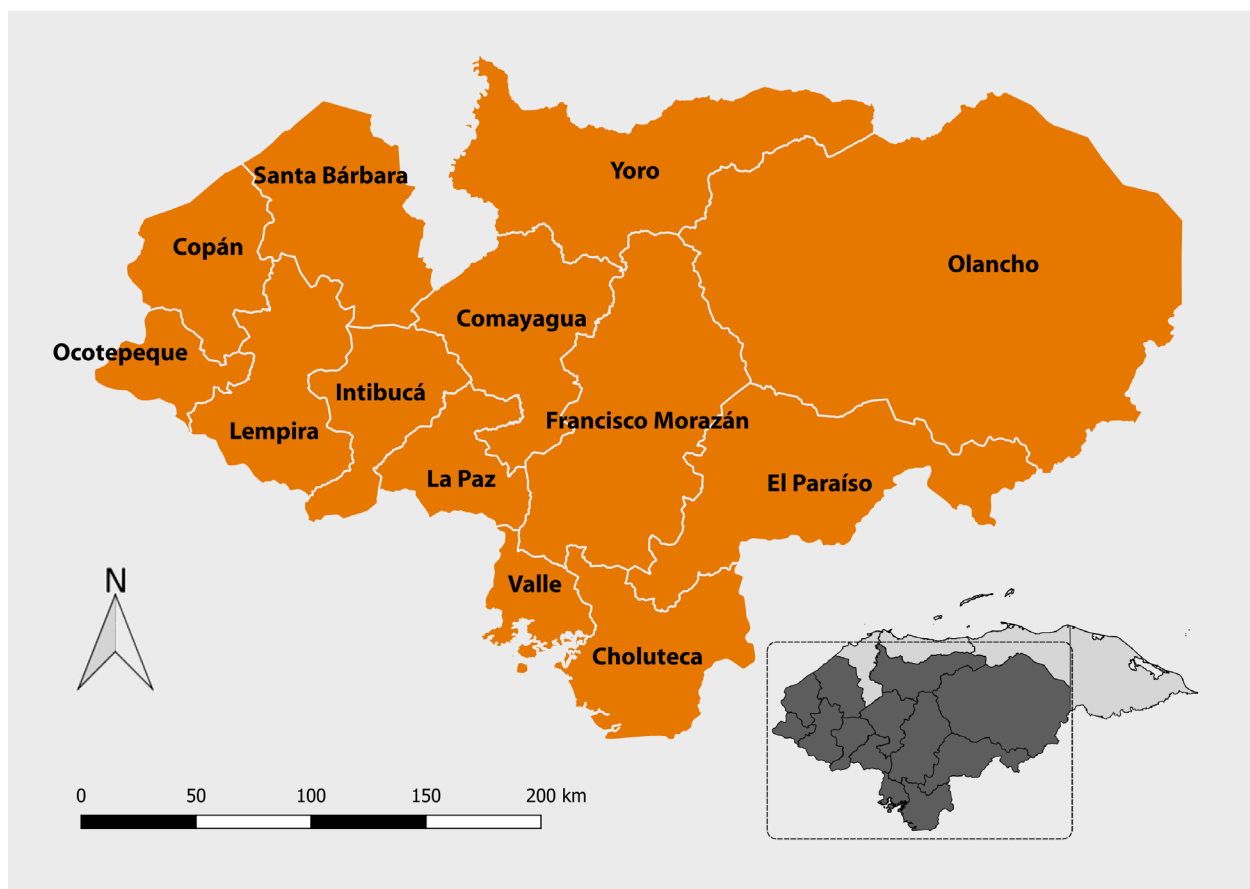
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COVID-19
The COVID-19 pandemic has led the Government of the Republic of Honduras to implement contingency measures such as: restriction in the mobilisation of people, products and transport, without directly affecting the agro-food chain, although indirectly with municipal and local measures, access to markets and cross-border trade has been limited; these have caused the loss of employment and low income in households in most of the departments analysed, both in the formal and informal sectors. In addition, families dependent on remittances, mainly from the United States and some European countries, have seen their family support decline as a result of job losses due to the pandemic.
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Limited reserves and rising food prices
By this lean season, the reserves of locally produced basic grains have been or will be depleted before August 2020. The situation is aggravated by the socio-economic crisis generated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding prevention, containment and mitigation measures, causing a rise in the cost of the basic food basket, mainly in essential consumption products such as: corn, beans and sorghum in some departments; which in turn has impacted the quantity and quality of the food consumed. Government and humanitarian food assistance April-May has helped to mitigate the limited access to food. However, the food assistance planned for the projected period cannot be considered significant in terms of beneficiaries and caloric contribution in any of the areas analysed.
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Loss of income
Due to low farm household incomes and limited access to inputs, farming areas will generally be reduced and affected in terms of yield, although rainfall forecasts are positive. There will therefore be a reduction in demand for labour during this period, and therefore there will also be loss of income.

CURRENT SITUATION MAP AND POPULATION TABLE (JUNE-AUGUST 2020)



Key for the Map

PC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification



Departament	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Area Phase	Phase 3+	
		#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%		#people	%
Choluteca	469,848	117,462	25	140,954	30	164,447	35	46,985	10	000,000	00	3	211,432	45
Comayagua	562,033	123,647	22	269,776	48	129,268	23	39,342	7	000,000	00	3	168,610	30
Copán	406,965	122,090	30	162,786	40	101,741	25	20,348	5	000,000	00	3	122,089	30
El Paraíso	448,119	156,842	35	134,436	30	112,030	25	44,812	10	000,000	00	3	156,842	35
Francisco Morazán	389,704	81,838	21	136,396	35	136,396	35	35,073	9	000,000	00	3	171,469	44
Intibucá	260,344	65,086	25	101,534	39	72,896	28	20,828	8	000,000	00	3	93,724	36
La Paz	220,892	53,014	24	88,357	40	68,477	31	11,045	5	000,000	00	3	79,522	36
Lempira	357,783	135,958	38	128,802	36	71,557	20	21,467	6	000,000	00	3	93,024	26
Ocotepeque	162,638	48,791	30	65,055	40	40,660	25	8,132	5	000,000	00	3	48,792	30
Olancho	570,847	171,254	30	256,881	45	114,169	20	28,542	5	000,000	00	3	142,711	25
Santa Bárbara	462,774	185,110	40	138,832	30	115,694	25	23,139	5	000,000	00	3	138,833	30
Valle	187,460	56,238	30	65,611	35	46,865	25	18,746	10	000,000	00	3	65,611	35
Yoro	622,006	279,903	45	186,602	30	124,401	20	31,100	5	000,000	00	3	155,501	25
Grand Total	5,121,413	1,597,232	30	1,876,023	37	1,298,600	25	349,559	7	000,000	00		1,648,159	32

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

Priority responses

- Manage and articulate the different programmes and projects for an immediate response that contributes to reducing consumption gaps and improving livelihoods of populations in Crisis and Emergency.
- Prepare a proposal for a response, as immediate as possible for nutritional reasons, to reduce consumption gaps between populations in Crisis and those in Emergency situations, in order to reduce their graveness and save lives.
- Evaluate scenarios and measures implemented according to the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the short and medium term, because it could worsen the threats and vulnerability in the analysed population.
- Present to SINAGER the need for a comprehensive medium-term strategy aimed at protecting the livelihoods of the population in Stress (Phase 2), Crisis (Phase 3) and Emergency (Phase 4), as a risk mitigation and prevention measure after the projected period when humanitarian assistance is significantly reduced.
- Monitor national and territorial plans for economic recovery 2020/2021 and include assessments of food and nutritional insecurity in vulnerable populations in urban, marginal urban and rural areas affected by the current pandemic, seeking opportunities for new projects and activities to generate work and income for the most vulnerable.
- UTSAN and the National Committee of the IPC prepares and presents to COTISAN and CONASAN, international organisations, local governments, associations and partners, the results of the analysis for their knowledge, and the respective decision making.
- Coordinate with the bodies established by the Government in the framework of the crisis (SINAGER and Special Tables), government institutions, civil society and humanitarian organisations, the monitoring of the situation of household income, food sources, activation of food assistance plans, climatic conditions, technical assistance and development of the first harvest, the health and nutrition situation, the evolution of COVID-19 and its effects in the areas of the most affected departments.
- Continue to strengthen the Food and Nutrition Security Information System (SISESAN), in order to make information available, prioritising indicators of food consumption, changes in livelihoods and nutritional status by September 2020, in order to support a forthcoming analysis.

Risk factors to monitor

Diseases:

- With the rainy season, cases of respiratory and diarrheal diseases (ARIs and EDA) may increase, as well as other vector-borne diseases (Dengue, Zika, etc.) and their possible impact and co-infection with COVID-19.
- Confinement is also a factor in the increase of: diseases such as TB, depression and domestic violence, all of which have an impact on Food and Nutritional Security.

Employment and income:

- Monitor the flow of remittances in households with the aim of reducing them.
- Monitor the measures for economic reactivation and possible reinforcement of social protection and confinement, as well as the temporary suspension of work, income generation, price evolution and physical access to food.

Climatic conditions:

- Hurricanes and depressions or tropical storms that could occur during the hurricane season, from early June to late November, according to forecasts by the Central American Climate Forum and recommendations by the FNS Applications Forum.

PROCESS AND METHODOLOGY

The analysis was carried out using the IPC approach, virtually, following a four-stage process: planning, preparation, analysis and summary. This modality allowed compliance with the IPC protocols (four functions) and ensured that the parameters of the analysis were applied throughout the process.

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

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Acute Food Insecurity Phase name and description

Phase 1 None/Minimal	Phase 2 Stress	Phase 3 Crisis	Phase 4 Emergency	Phase 5 Catastrophe/ Famine
Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income.	Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress-coping strategies.	Households either: • have food consumption gaps that are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition; or • are marginally able to meet minimum food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis-coping strategies.	Households either: • have large food consumption gaps that are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality; or • are able to mitigate large food consumption gaps but only by employing emergency livelihood strategies and asset liquidation	Households have an extreme lack of food and/or other basic needs even after full employment of coping strategies. Starvation, death, destitution and extremely critical acute malnutrition levels are evident. For famine classification, area needs to have extreme critical levels of acute malnutrition and mortality.)

This analysis has been developed under the direction of the Technical Unit for Food and Nutritional Security of Honduras (UTSAN). Technical and financial support was provided by the IPC Global Support Unit (GSU) and the Programme of Information Systems for Resilience in Food and Nutritional Security of the SICA Region (PROGRESAN-SICA).

Classification of food insecurity and malnutrition was 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.

Analysis partners and support organisations:

