YEMEN PARTIAL ANALYSIS: Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Snapshot | February - December 2020

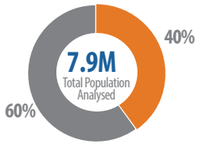
IPC Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security and Nutrition Decisions

Acute Food Insecurity July - December 2020

3.2M

3.2 million people in 133 districts of southern Yemen are estimated to be highly food insecure (IPC Phase 3 and above) in July-December 2020.* Compared to the February-April 2020 period, 1.2 million people more will become highly food insecure.

People facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above): 40% of the analysed population



1.3M

Yemen's conflict has forced over 1.3 million people residing in the 133 analysed districts to flee their homes in search of safety.**

Overview

Out of 7.9 million people in southern Yemen, 3.2 million are estimated to be highly food insecure (IPC Phase 3 and above) between July and December 2020. High food insecurity in the 133 analysed districts is driven by economic decline and active fighting, which restrict humanitarian and market access, and cause constant population displacements.

According to the IPC analysis findings, 16 districts are classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), while 103 of the 133 districts are classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). In terms of severity, the 16 worst affected districts in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) are located in eight governorates: Al Dhale'e (3), Marib (3), Al Bayda (2), Shabwah (2), Abyan (2), Taizz (2), Al Jawf (1) and Hadramaut (1). In terms of magnitude, the governorates with the highest numbers of people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse are in Taiz, with 590,000 people highly food insecure, Lahj (487,500), and Hadhramaut, (465,500). The number of highly food insecure people during the July - December 2020 period represents a 60 percent increase compared to two million people between February and April 2020 in the same locations, likely reversing the gains achieved through humanitarian food assistance over the past year.

The worsening situation is driven by the rapidly worsening economic situation and continued conflict, further exacerbated by COVID-19 restriction measures, and natural hazards. The combination of factors has significantly eroded the ability of households to cope with new and intensifying shocks. The erosion of households' purchasing power affects access to food and agricultural inputs, especially with an increased strain on remittances due to COVID-19 restrictions abroad. A high percentage of households are highly reliant on humanitarian food assistance to meet their daily food needs.

Key Drivers

Economic Decline

Yemen's economy has suffered a serious decline over the years with a 19 percent depreciation of the national currency since December 2019, at least a 20 percent drop in remittances, while fuel exports have also reduced by 18 percent in the last six months.

Conflict

Protracted conflict in Yemen, including new frontlines, continues to lead to population displacement, estimated at 1.3 M people in the analysed districts and expected to increase due to ongoing new conflict. Conflict continues to affect the ailing economy and complicates humanitarian delivery.

COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic is rapidly spreading in Yemen, exacerbating the country's economic problems. Effects of COVID-19 in Yemen and abroad have led to loss of income, a sharp drop in remittances reducing purchasing power, and increased food expenditure.

Natural Disasters

The devastating combination of natural disasters including flash floods, disease outbreaks, desert locusts, and Fall Armyworm infestations has pushed many households into desperation.

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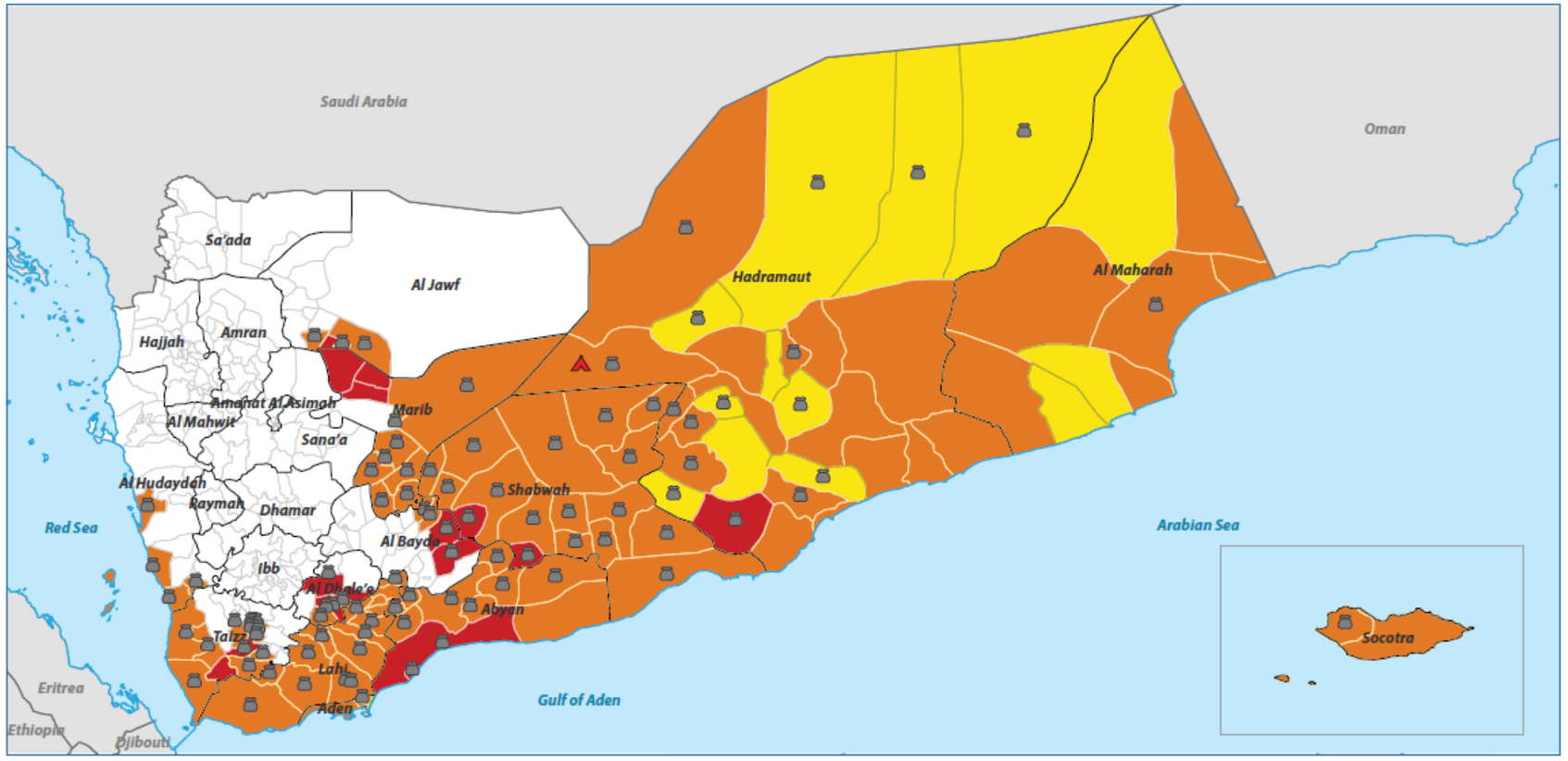
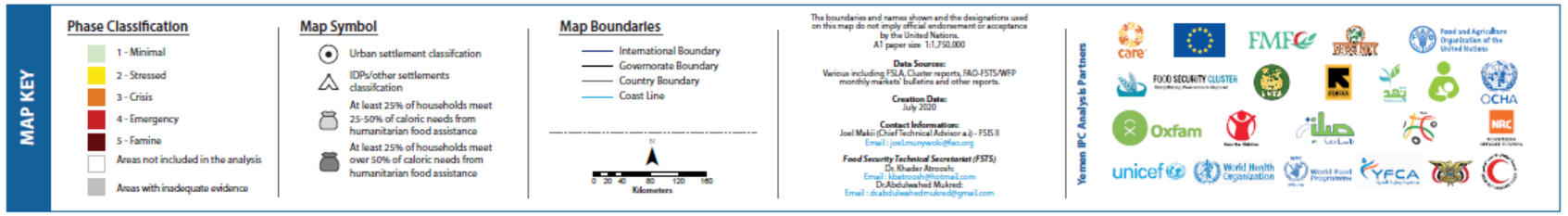
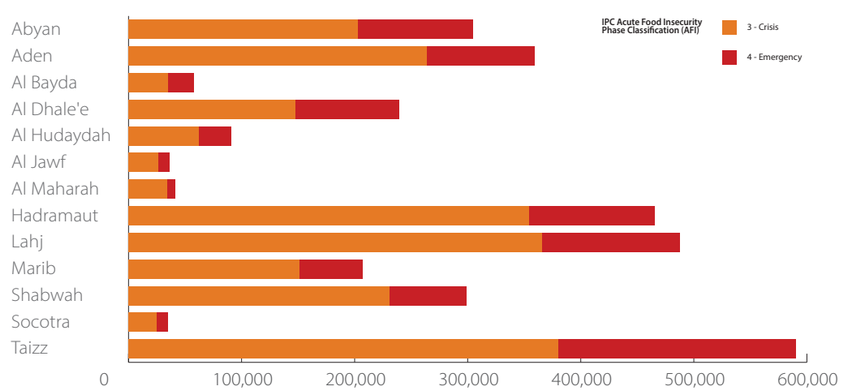




Population in IPC Phase 3 and 4 by governorate | July - December 2020



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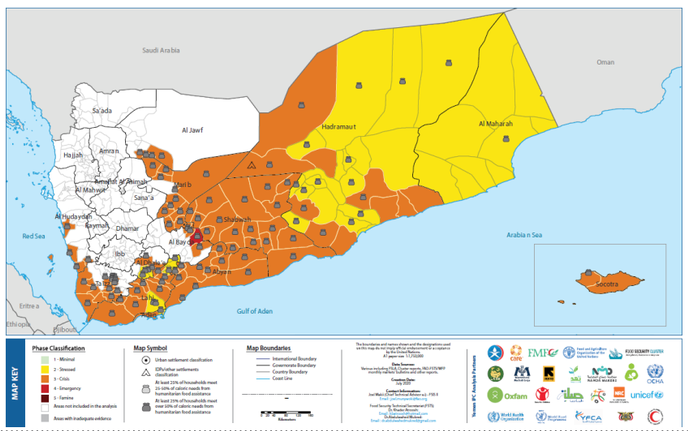
2M

2 million people were estimated to be in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3+) from February to April 2020, about 25 percent of the approximately 7.9 million people in the 133 districts of southern Yemen.



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*The population estimates are based on official figures provided by the Central Statistical Organization based on a projection for 2019. As such, the accuracy of the estimation of population in need of urgent action in 2020 might be affected by these estimates. **Displacement data is from UNOCHA Yemen. *Disclaimer: The information shown on this map does not imply official recognition or endorsement of any physical and political boundaries.*