

Lesotho

Acute food insecurity overview 2021

0.58M people

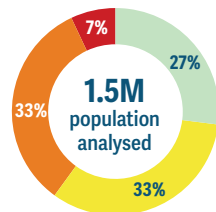
were in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in October 2020–March 2021

0.48M people in Crisis (IPC Phase 3)

0.1M people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4)

40% of the population analysed was in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above)

- 1 - None
- 2 - Stressed
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Catastrophe



0.53M people were in Stressed (IPC Phase 2)

The analysis covers all rural areas, comprising **73%** of the country's total population of **2.0 million** people.

Source: IPC, August 2020.

National population



Source: WB 2020.

MAP 3.35

IPC acute food insecurity situation, October 2020–March 2021

During the January–March 2021 lean season, all ten analysed areas were classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). In three of them – Mafeteng, Maseru and Mohale's Hoek – 10 percent of the population was in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).



- 1 - Minimal
- 2 - Stressed
- 3 - Crisis
- 4 - Emergency
- 5 - Famine
- Inadequate evidence
- Not analysed
- Urban settlement classification

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

Source: Lesotho IPC Technical Working Group, August 2020.

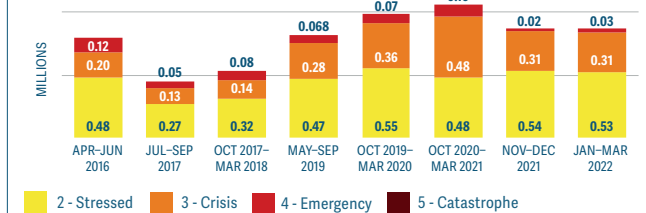
Acute food insecurity trends

▶ Numbers have remained stable since the 2020 peak. The same analysis was used for the 2020 and 2021 peak, however compared to the 2019/2020 lean season, the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) during the January–March 2021 lean season was 34 percent higher, reflecting the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and consecutive below-average agricultural seasons (IPC, August 2020). It represented the highest number in the six-year history of the GRFC.

The number of people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) reached 100 000 in January–March 2021, the highest since November 2016–March 2017 when the country suffered severe rainfall deficits and high food prices (IPC, August 2020 and May 2016). The situation improved in the post-harvest period in 2021 with about 179 000 people (12 percent of the analysed population) in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) from July–September 2021, when all ten analysed rural districts were classified in Stressed (IPC Phase 2). With the onset of the lean season from October 2021, the number was expected to rise to around 328 000 people (22 percent of the analysed population) with seven districts in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) during November–December 2021 (IPC, January 2022).

FIG 3.27

Numbers of people in IPC Phase 2 or above, 2016–2022



Bars refer to selected analyses that are comparable (see Technical Notes). Datasets from all analysis rounds between 2016 and 2022 are provided (see Appendix 1, table A8, page 250).

Source: Lesotho IPC Technical Working Group.