Chapter 3 | Major food crises in 2022 | The Niger

The Niger

Acute food insecurity overview 2021

2.56M people were in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) in October–December 2021

2.42M people in Crisis CH Phase 3

0.14M people in Emergency CH Phase 4

10% of the population analysed was in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above)

5.79M people were in Stressed (CH Phase 2)

The analysis covers 100% of the total population of 24.9 million people.

Source: CH, November 2021.

National population

83% Rural, 17% Urban


Acute food insecurity trends

Numbers have risen since 2020. At 2.56 million, the number of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) from October–December 2021 was nearly 30 percent higher than the 2020 peak (2 million in June–August) and almost 80 percent higher than the 2019 peak in October–December (1.4 million). The growing numbers of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity are the result of escalating conflict-related violence, internal displacement, high food prices and worse-than-usual climatic conditions in 2021, in addition to cyclical floods and droughts and the socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19 (FAO-GIEWS, November 2021).

The October–December 2021 figures are the highest estimated by the CH in the Niger, even surpassing those of June–August 2014, when 2.2 million people were in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) due to drought, flooding, violence, an influx of refugees, a cholera outbreak and high food prices during the lean season (OCHA, September 2014). It is also worth noting that in 2021, the number of Nigeriens in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) were highest during the post-harvest season rather than during the traditional June–August lean season (CH, November 2021).

CH acute food insecurity situation, October–December 2021

Twenty departments were classified in Crisis (CH Phase 3). The highest numbers of people in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) were in Tillabéri (0.9 million) and Tahoua (0.6 million). The prevalence was highest in Tillabéri (23 percent) and Diffa (20 percent).

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

Source: CH, November 2021.

Annex 1, table A12, page 254.

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