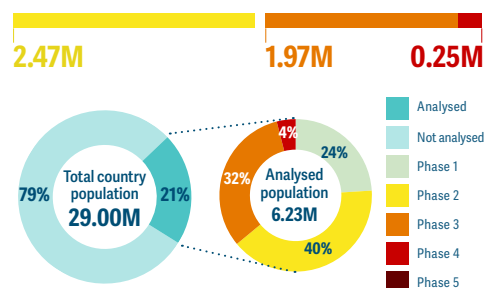


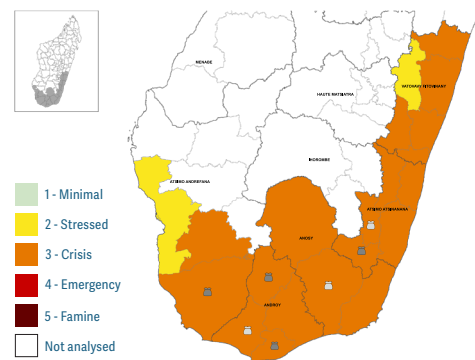
Madagascar (Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est)

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY PEAK 2022/2023

2.23M people or **36%** of the analysed population in IPC Phase 3 or above, November 2022–March 2023



IPC acute food insecurity situation, November 2022–March 2023



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

Source: Madagascar IPC TWG, January 2023.

Food crisis overview

During the November 2022–March 2023 lean season, 36 percent of the analysed population in Madagascar's Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est were in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), almost the same share as the 2021 peak in November–December when the Grand Sud was gripped by devastating drought.

Compared with the analysis for the November–December 2021 peak, the analysed population increased from 16 percent to 21 percent, and the total country population increased by over 1 million.

The situation in the Grand Sud alone eased from 1.47 million people in IPC Phase 3 or above in 2021 to 1.35 million in 2022. The number of people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) decreased from 405 000 to 157 000. No populations faced Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in 2022, compared with 14 000 in April–September 2021 (IPC, July 2021).

This improvement is due to favourable weather for crop production, sustained humanitarian food assistance and agricultural input distributions (IPC, January 2023). Still,

of the 21 districts analysed in November 2022–March 2023, 19 were classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to the slow recovery from five consecutive below-average harvests in both regions, and the impact of cyclones in the Grand Sud-Est. In four districts of the Grand Sud and Befotaka in the Grand Sud-Est, 50–65 percent of the population was in IPC Phase 3 or above. In terms of severity, the most-affected districts were Ikongo and Bekily, with 15 percent of their populations in IPC Phase 4 (IPC, January 2023).

The IPC projections were made before tropical storm Cheneso hit in mid-January 2023, bringing flooding that affected 55 000 people (DG ECHO, January 2023).

Slight improvement projected for 2023

The number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above is projected to decrease from March 2023 to 1.54 million, or 25 percent of the analysed population in the post-harvest period until July 2023. In August–October 2023, 1.01 million people (30 percent of the analysed population) in the Grand Sud are projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC, January 2023).

Acute food insecurity since 2016

Madagascar has been included as a 'major' food crisis in all seven editions of the GRFC. The analyses have always focused on the Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est, which are most affected by drought and tropical cyclones, limiting coverage to 7–21 percent of the country population.

Drivers of the crisis, 2022–23

Weather extremes In January 2022, tropical storm Ana affected 1.1 million people in seven provinces in the Grand Sud-Est. It flooded 168 670 hectares of cropland during the peak growing season for rice, maize, potatoes and sorghum and displaced 72 000 people (FAO, January 2022).

Cyclones Emnati and Batsirai in February 2022 brought heavy rains and wind that flooded or damaged more than 88 000 hectares of subsistence agricultural land, almost half of it in the Vatovavy region. The rains brought little long-term relief to farmers, and after the cyclones passed, the drought resumed (FAO-GIEWS, July 2022).

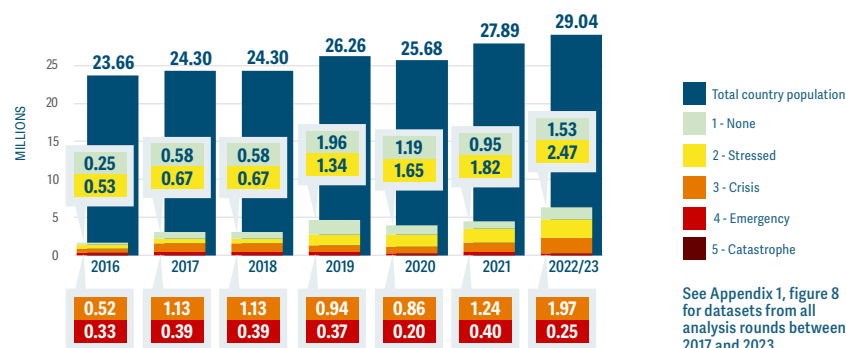
A year later, in February 2023, cyclone Freddy affected almost 300 000 people (DG ECHO Daily Map, 15 March 2023).

Annual food production losses are estimated at USD 61 million for the 2021/22 season, with rice and cassava accounting for 90 percent of these losses (FAO, June 2022). In the Sud-Est, the negative impact on cash crops curtailed employment opportunities and household income for the rest of the year, especially in Nosy Varika and Vohipeno (FEWS NET, August 2022).

Following at least five consecutive years of low harvests (2016–2021), drought conditions in the Grand Sud kept cereal production at average to below five-year average levels in 2022 (FAO-GIEWS, July 2022).

Nationally, the maize harvest was an estimated 8.4 percent below the five-year average (FAO-GIEWS, December 2022).

Numbers of people by phase of acute food insecurity, 2016–2023



See Appendix 1, figure 8 for datasets from all analysis rounds between 2017 and 2023.

Source: Madagascar IPC TWG.

Economic shocks In response to rising global prices of fertilizer and energy, the Madagascar Government raised fuel prices by an average of 34 percent (WB, 2022), which contributed to higher agricultural production costs. This may diminish areas planted, yields, agricultural labour opportunities and incomes. Food prices rose in 2022, largely owing to higher import costs following the increases in global food and energy prices (FAO-GIEWS, December 2022).

NUTRITION IN THE GRAND SUD AND GRAND SUD-EST

Number of children under 5 years old with wasting, May 2022–April 2023



There were 355 000 children with wasting in the Grand Sud, of whom 39 000 were severely wasted, and 139 000 in Grand Sud-Est, of whom 53 000 were severely wasted.

Source: IPC TWG, October 2022.

Nearly 479 000 children under 5 years were expected to suffer from wasting – with 92 000 of them severely wasted – in the analysed areas of the Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est from May 2022–April 2023.

The majority of them were in the Grand Sud (355 000), where the prevalence was ‘medium’ at 7.7 percent. In the Grand Sud-Est, a SMART survey carried out in July 2022 estimated a ‘medium’ prevalence of 8.7 percent suffering from wasting, but a high prevalence of severe wasting at 2.5 percent, which translated into 139 000 severely wasted children (IPC, October 2022).

Out of the 53 000 severely wasted children in Grand Sud, the highest prevalence was found in Bekily and Ampanihy districts. Of the 39 000 severely wasted children in Grand Sud-Est, Nosy Varika and Befotaka districts had the highest prevalence (IPC, October 2022).

In ten districts of the Grand Sud, the number of wasted children has decreased since 2021, when in May it reached 501 500, with 111 000 severely wasted, due to the consequences of severe drought (GRFC, April 2022). A seasonal deterioration in child wasting levels in the Grand Sud and Grand Sud-Est was expected from the onset of the lean season in October 2022, peaking in January–April 2023 when 14 districts were projected to be in IPC AMN Phase 3 and the remaining seven in IPC AMN Phase 2. The lean season projection is based on assumed rising cases of water-related diseases, rising food prices, and the 2022/23 October–April cyclone season cutting off food, medical and nutritional inputs, and complicating access to income sources and healthcare (IPC, October 2022).

Stunting is a major public health concern in Madagascar. It is the fifth worst-affected country in the world, with 39.8 percent of all children under 5 (around 2 million children) suffering from stunting nationally, principally in rural areas. In the central region of Vakinankaratra, the prevalence reached 51.9 percent (INSTAT, August 2022).

Drivers of undernutrition

Food insecurity and lack of access to healthy diets Acute food insecurity was identified as a major contributory factor to child wasting in the majority of analysed districts, with the exception of Betroka, Taolagnaro, Vangaindrano and Ifanadiana (IPC AMN, October 2022).

Inadequate maternal and child-feeding practices The prevalence of 6–23 month-old children consuming a Minimum Acceptable Diet is considered Serious/Severe (IFE Core Group, 2021) at 20 percent (INSTAT, August 2022), and was also considered a major contributor to acute malnutrition in all 21 districts analysed (IPC AMN, October 2022).

Nationally, only 54.4 percent of infants under 6 months are exclusively breastfed (INSTAT, August 2022). Low rates of exclusive breastfeeding are identified as major contributors to wasting in children in all areas analysed in the IPC AMN except the Fitovinany and Atsimo Andrefana regions, and Tsihombe and Manakara districts (IPC AMN, October 2022).

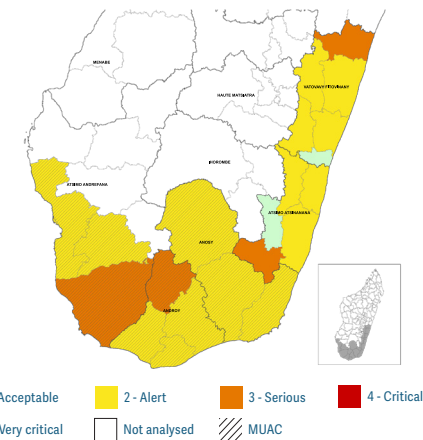
Nationally, nearly half (45.9 percent) of children aged 6–59 months were suffering from anaemia, which, due to its long-term implications, is classified by WHO as a severe public health concern. Around 26 percent of women of reproductive age were anaemic, indicating a moderate public health problem – but it was slightly higher for pregnant (34.1 percent) and breastfeeding women (30.3 percent) (INSTAT, August 2022).

High prevalence of infectious diseases Morbidity, usually related to malaria, diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections, is considered a major contributor to undernutrition, although it is less a factor in the IPC AMN-analysed regions of Androy and Anosy in the Grand Sud. Poor health services are considered a major determinant except in the Fitovinany region, and in the Mananjary and Ifanadiana districts in the Vatovavy region in the Grand Sud-Est (IPC, October 2022).

Poor household environment Only 21 percent of the national population are able to access drinking water from an improved source (INSTAT, August 2022).

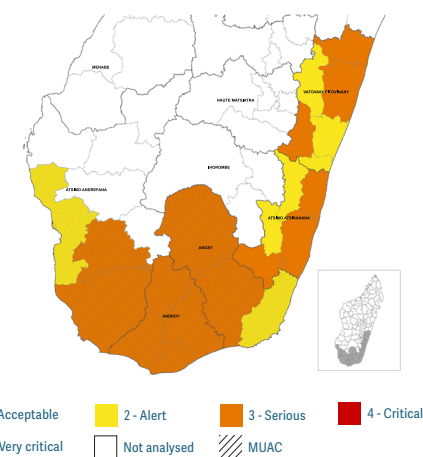
Access to improved water and sanitation sources is a major problem in the districts of the Vatovavy region and the interior districts of the Sud-Est (Befotaka, Midongy, Vondrozo) (IPC, October 2022).

IPC acute malnutrition situation, October–December 2022



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Projected IPC acute malnutrition situation, January–April 2023



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