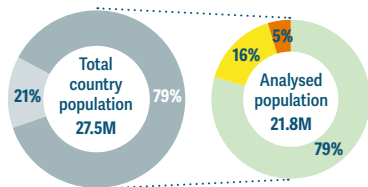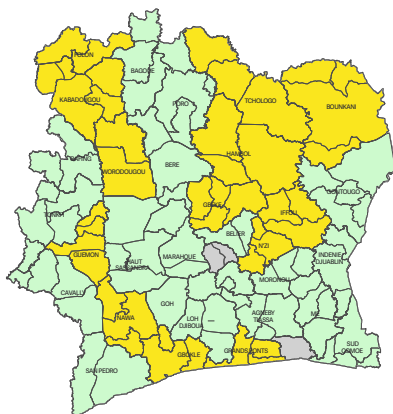# Côte d'Ivoire ❗

ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY | Côte d'Ivoire is classified as a major food crisis for the first time in GRFC history as the high cost of living hindered food access.

PEAK 2023 (JUNE–AUGUST)

1.0M people or **5% of the analysed population faced high levels of acute food insecurity.** No populations were estimated in Emergency (CH Phase 4).

Although Côte d'Ivoire was not included in the GRFC 2023, previous CH analyses showed that this is an increase of nearly 0.2 million compared with October–December 2022, mostly due to sustained food inflation.
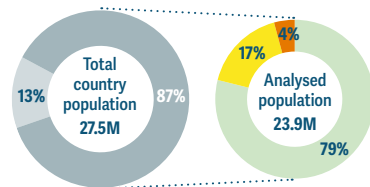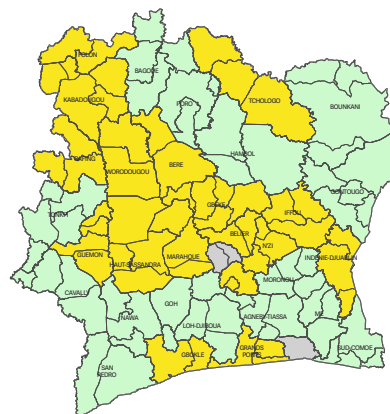
Total country population 27.5M — 79% / 21%

Analysed population 21.8M — 79% / 16% / 5%

Source: CH Côte d'Ivoire, March 2023.

PROJECTION 2024 (JUNE–AUGUST)

1.0M people or **4% of the analysed population projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity.** No populations were projected to be in Emergency (CH Phase 4).

A moderate improvement is anticipated based on higher food availability stemming from good harvests.

Total country population 27.5M — 87% / 13%

Analysed population 23.9M — 79% / 17% / 4%

Source: CH Côte d'Ivoire, November 2023.

DRIVERS OF THE CRISIS 2023–2024

Economic shocks Overall food availability was good in 2023, with rural households largely relying on food from their own production. Urban and rural markets were well supplied with national agricultural products and imports. However, eroded livelihoods and high living costs impeded access to staple foods (FAO, December 2023). Overall, prices of staple cereals increased in 2023 and were about 11 percent above the five-year average (PREGEC, November 2023). Despite being lower than in neighbouring countries, food inflation in Côte d'Ivoire consistently hovered around 6 percent throughout the year (WFP Economic Explorer, 2023).

Conflict/insecurity No major conflicts were reported as a driver of acute food insecurity in the country. However, as in other coastal countries such as Ghana, Togo and Benin, the security crisis of the Central Sahel has spilled over to northern areas of the country. About 40 000 refugees from the Central Sahel were registered in the country (IOM, February 2024).
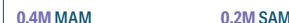
DISPLACEMENT

0.04M refugees and asylum-seekers by 2023

Source: UNHCR Nowcasted estimate, December 2023.

ACUTE MALNUTRITION

0.6M children under 5 years old with acute malnutrition in 2023

0.4M MAM   0.2M SAM

Source: UNICEF WCARO Database, 2023.

0.3M pregnant and breastfeeding women with acute malnutrition 2022
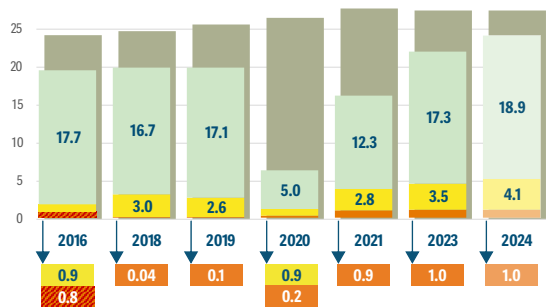
Source: UNICEF, 2022.

Recent malnutrition data are not available and concerns remain on the acute malnutrition situation as acute food insecurity levels have been on the rise since 2021.

Peak numbers of people (in millions) by phase of acute food insecurity, 2016–2024

2016	2018	2019	2020	2021	2023	2024
17.7	16.7	17.1	5.0	12.3	17.3	18.9
	3.0	2.6		2.8	3.5	4.1
0.9	0.04	0.1	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
0.8			0.2			

Source: CH Côte d'Ivoire.

History of the food crisis A lower-middle-income country, Côte d'Ivoire has been included in all GRFC editions except 2023 as it did not seek external aid for food in 2022. CH data were available every year except 2017. In 2016, high acute food insecurity resulted from civil unrest causing displacement and livelihood losses. Between 2018 and 2019, food security levels improved, but from 2020, acute food insecurity escalated again due to the impact of COVID-19, with the share of acutely food-insecure people rising from 0.3 percent in 2019 to 5 percent of the analysed population in 2023. The country is classified as a major food crisis for the first time in GRFC history in this edition, with more than 1 million people facing high levels of acute food insecurity.

Legend: 1 - None/Minimal | 2 - Stressed | 3 - Crisis | 4 - Emergency | 5 - Catastrophe/Famine | 3+ - Crisis or worse | Population analysed | Population not analysed | Total population