ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY | Some areas saw improvements since late 2022, while the situation in others further deteriorated.

PEAK 2023 (MARCH–JUNE)

4.9M people or 49% of the analysed population faced high levels of acute food insecurity in the lean season. This includes 1.8 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

This is 0.2 million more people since the 2022 peak (September 2022–February 2023), but the 19 200 people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) no longer faced these conditions from March 2023 thanks to assistance and improved security.

Approximately 1.6 million people face Emergency (IPC Phase 4). This reflects the surge in armed gang violence in 2024 severely limiting movement of goods and people, and driving up food prices and internal displacement.

PROJECTION 2024 (MARCH–JUNE)

5M people or 50% of the analysed population are projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity.

Drivers of the crisis 2023–2024

Conflict/insecurity Gang violence in Port-au-Prince severely disrupted livelihoods and markets, pushing up prices, particularly in Cité Soleil where some people faced Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) from September 2022 to February 2023. IDPs, mainly in the Ouest department, experienced limited food access due to lost livelihoods, exerting additional pressure on host families and communities (IPC, October 2022).

Economic shocks The Haitian economy has been battered by multiple shocks since mid-2018. Even before COVID-19, the economy was contracting and facing significant fiscal imbalances (IPC, June 2022). Food inflation reached 53 percent in October 2022, driven by strong demand and high fuel prices. By October 2023, it stood at 21 percent with national currency appreciation, but remained high due to below-average crop production and persisting insecurity, constraining food access for poorer households (FEWS NET, November 2023; FAO, November 2023). Weather extremes Erratic rainfall resulted in deficits between March and June and localized flooding through June and November 2023. These weather conditions had a limited negative impact on the main cycle of maize. However, non-climate-related factors – such as the reduced availability of seeds, insecurity and high production costs – led to a contraction of planted area (FEWS NET, November 2023; FAO, November 2023; ASAP, 2023).

Impact in March 2024

- Population estimated at 11.7M
- 9% of the population are projected to face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) conditions
- National average of 49% of households cannot meet 50% of their caloric needs from their current food intake

ACUTE MALNUTRITION

0.2M MAM
0.1M SAM
0.5M pregnant and breastfeeding women with acute malnutrition in 2023

Drivers of acute malnutrition 2023–2024

Inadequate services Gang violence and insecurity affected access to basic health, nutrition and WASH services, particularly affecting women and children (UNICEF, December 2022). Many of the poorest families have no safe drinking water, soap or basic sanitation. Nearly 60 percent of rural households, rising to 80 percent in Cité Soleil, lacked access to sufficient drinking water (HNO, March 2023).

Inadequate practices Only 40 percent of children under 6 months are exclusively breastfed – considered Serious by UNICEF thresholds – and at 4–5 months, this percentage is much lower (15 percent) (SMART, 2021). Only 10 percent of children aged 6–23 months received the Minimum Acceptable Diet, considered Critical (HNO, 2021).