The ten crises with the highest number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent in 2021

In ten food crises, around 134 million people were in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent in 2021 – nearly 70 percent of the global population in these three phases.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan and Ethiopia had the largest populations in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above). These three conflict-affected countries, plus Yemen, accounted for 43 percent of the global population in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), or some 83 million people. The ten largest food crises had around 33 million people in Emergency or worse (IPC/CH Phase 4 or above), representing 83 percent of the global number in Emergency and Catastrophe (IPC/CH Phases 4 and 5).

The majority of the global population in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) in 2021 were in three of these food crisis contexts – 401 000 people in Ethiopia; 108 000 in South Sudan; and 47 000 in Yemen. South Sudan faced ‘Famine Likely’ (IPC Phase 5) in localized areas, and both Ethiopia and South Sudan had areas at Risk of Famine in 2021.

In four countries – Afghanistan, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen – more than half of the analysed populations were in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent.

* These consolidated estimates combine two IPC analyses – the October 2020 analysis of Belg and Meher-dependent areas (covering January–June 2021) and the May 2021 update of conflict-affected areas of Tigray, Afar and Amhara (covering May–June 2021). The Government of Ethiopia has not endorsed the May 2021 analysis.

Source: FSIN, using IPC, CH and WFP data; GRFC 2022.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.