




Highlights	Methodology	Food Consumption Score	reduced Coping Strategy Index	In the words of the respondents	Contacts
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Conflict and cholera exacerbate food insecurity in Yemen

Key points

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Poor dietary diversity and high levels of negative food-based coping strategies continue to erode household food security.
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Displaced households are increasingly reliant on food assistance as their primary source of food.
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Respondents report major concerns over shortages of food and money and the spread of diseases.



WFP/MENA

Situation update

The volatile security situation and military operations continue to impact civilians in Yemen. According to the Protection Cluster, the number of reported airstrikes in the first half of 2017 exceeded the total for 2016, and the pace of reported armed clashes is also 56 percent higher per month this year compared to 2016. Taizz, Sa’ada, Hajjah, Sana’a, Al Jawf and Marib remain the areas most affected by military operations, clashes and airstrikes.

With more than 580,206 suspected cases and 2,028 deaths in less than four months, the cholera outbreak continues at an unprecedented scale. Although the rate of new cases has decreased in recent weeks, the situation continues to be alarming, especially amidst high levels of malnutrition and food insecurity.

According to the latest Task Force for Population Movement (July 2017), the number of people displaced by conflict has fallen by 8,436 (-0.12%) and the number of returnees has risen by 45,786 (+4.8%). The areas with the largest fall in IDP population were Taizz, Al Hudaydah, Al Bayda and Hajjah. Food was reported as the most pressing need among 75 percent of IDP locations and 51 percent of returnee locations. Other priorities were financial support (2 percent of IDPs and 25 percent of returnees) and access to income (8 percent of IDPs and 11 percent of returnees).

http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/protection_cluster_yemen_situation_update_august_2017.pdf

https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/annex3_tfpm_15th_report_dashboard_july2017.pdf



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In August 2017, mVAM conducted the 24th round of household food security monitoring in Yemen via live telephone interviews. The data were collected during the first two weeks of August. Responses are likely to be biased towards younger, somewhat better-off households who live in urban areas and have better access to electricity and phone-charging services. In March 2016, a question on the number of active mobile phone owners per household was introduced to the questionnaire to adjust for the fact that households with more phones are more likely to be selected. The findings of this report are weighted by the number of SIM cards held by households and the population estimates for IDPs and non-IDPs. The maps present a snapshot of household food consumption patterns at the time of data collection and do not represent the prevalence of food insecurity at population level (as is the case for IPC maps). Details on methodology and aggregate data tables are available online.



Households Surveyed
2,418



Displacement status
70.4% Non-IDP
29.6% IDP

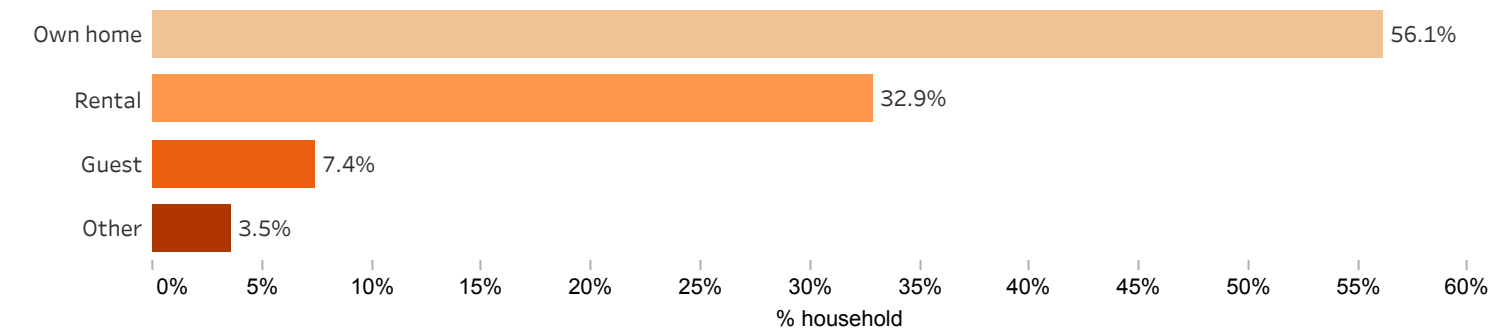


Gender Head of Household
3.3% Female
96.7% Male



Average age of respondents
39

Residence Type



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Food consumption improves but dietary diversity remains poor

Map 2: % of households with Poor or Borderline Food Consumption

Click on one or more governorates on the map to get the correspondent figures 1 and 2

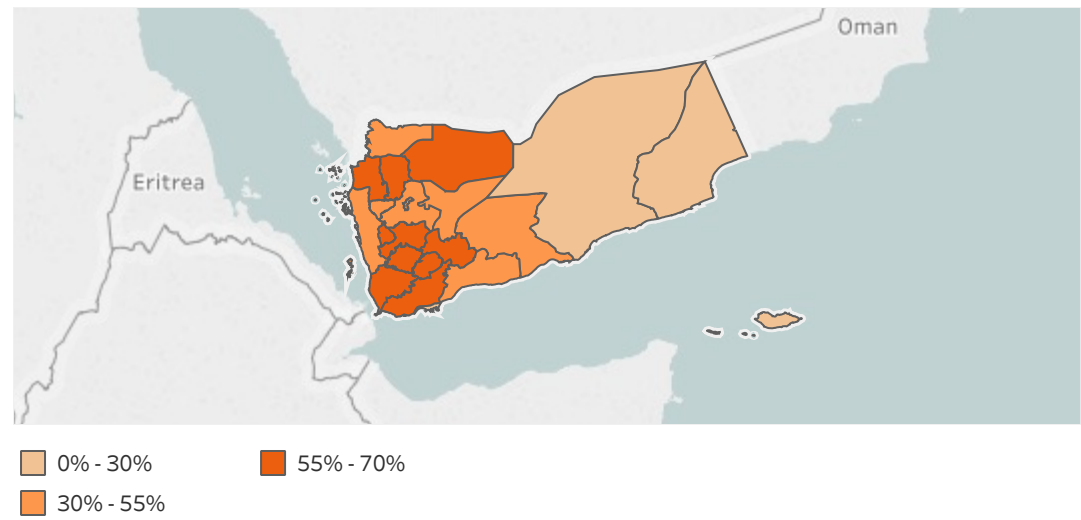
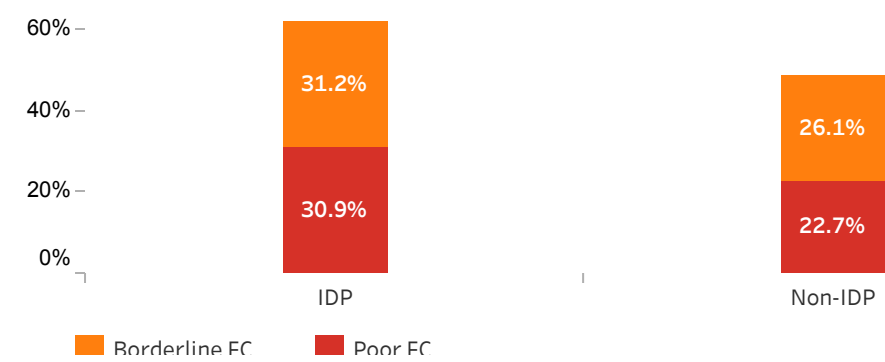


Figure 4. Households with poor and borderline Food Consumption by:

Displacement Status



Borderline FC Poor FC

The national mean food consumption score (FCS) slightly increased from 43 in July to 44.6 in August (Figure 1). This is mainly due to an increased consumption of pulses, dairy products and sugar. However, over half the surveyed households continue to have inadequate food consumption: 23 percent have poor FCS and 27 percent have borderline FCS. Food consumption varied considerably across the 21 surveyed governorates, with FCS ranging from over 60 in Al-Maharah and Aden to 38 in Lahj, Al Bayda, Al Jawf and Ad Dali and 34.7 in Raymah. In Ad Dali, the share of households with poor food consumption rose from 30 percent in July to 45 percent in August (Map 2); around 33 percent of surveyed households reported having received food assistance in August.

The situation improved slightly in Amran governorate, where the mean FCS rose from 35.7 in July to 41.8 in August (Map 2). The percentage of displaced households who reported poor food consumption fell from 34 percent in July to 31 percent in August (Figure 3). As in July, around 40 percent of IDP households reported receiving food assistance in August, confirming the positive effect of food assistance on household food consumption. However, their diet continues to consist mainly of staples and pulses, with animal proteins consumed only once a week.

Figure 1. Mean FCS, February - August 2017

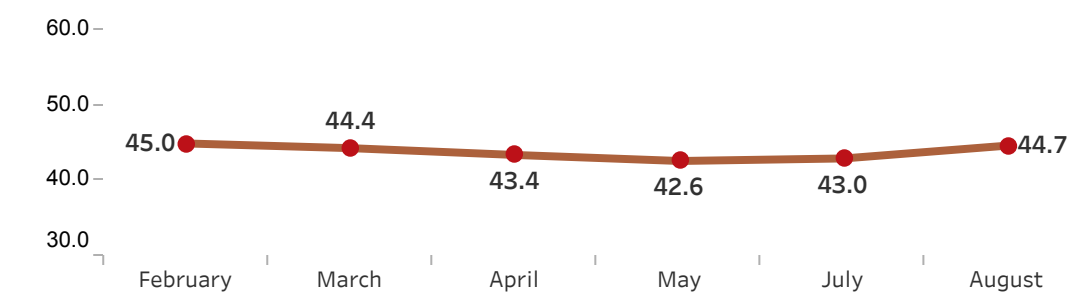
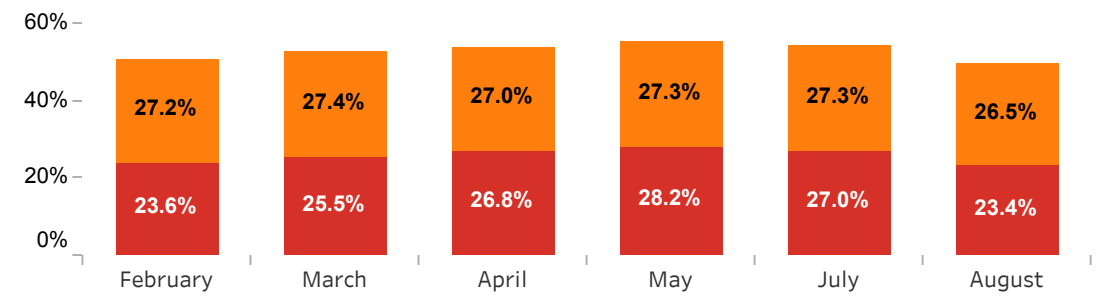


Figure 2. Percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption, February - A..



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Increased use of food-based coping strategies

Map 3. Mean rCSI by governorate, August 2017

Click on one or more governorates on the map to get the correspondent figures 5 and 6

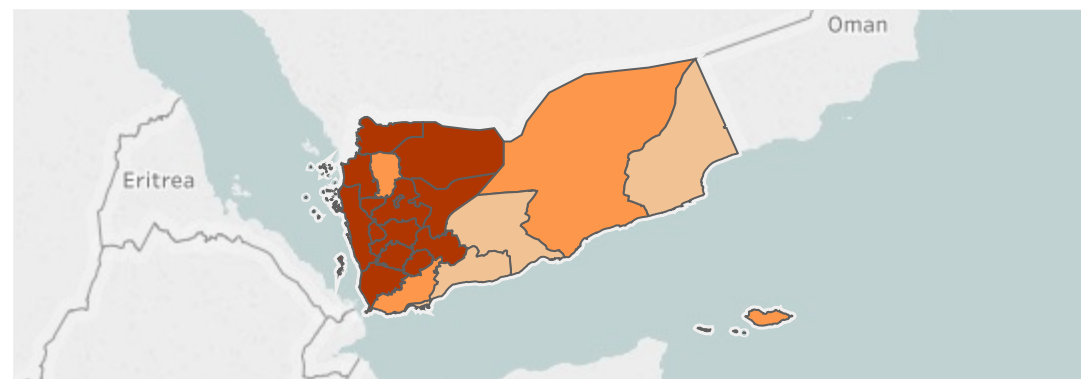
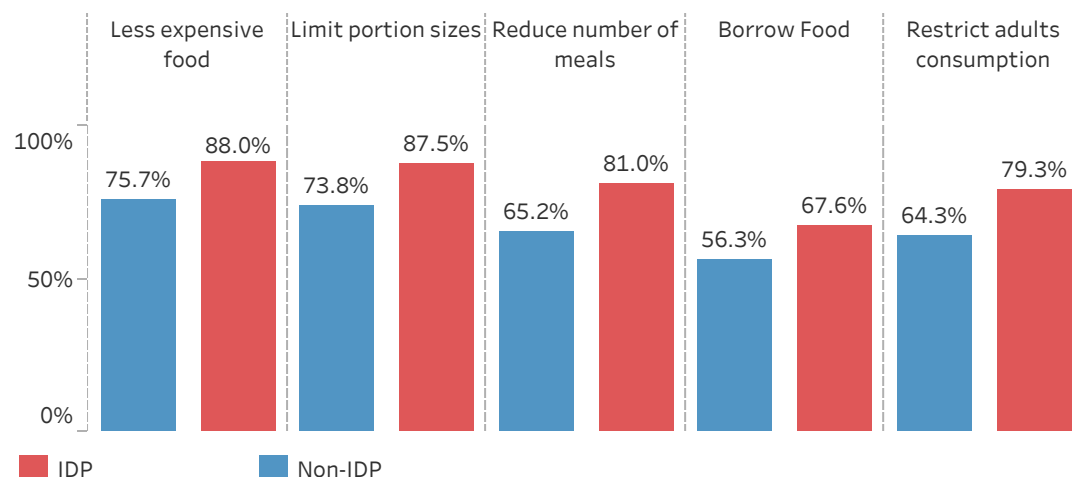


Figure 7. Household coping strategies by:
Displacement Status



The overall use of food-related coping strategies was slightly higher in August than in July, with the national mean reduced coping strategies index (rCSI) standing at 22.1 (Figure 5). There has been a rise in the share of households buying less expensive food, borrowing food or relying on help from friends and relatives, and restricting adult consumption so children can eat. Respondents are resorting more to negative coping in Dhamar, Hajjah and Al Mahwit than in the other governorates. The mean rCSI in these locations rose above 26, and more than 60 percent of the surveyed households reported a high rCSI (>20). As in previous rounds, displaced households are resorting more frequently to negative coping strategies than non-displaced households (Figure 7). The mean rCSI for IDPs in August was 26.9, compared with 21.7 for non-IDPs. However, in August there was a rise in the percentage of non-displaced households who reported borrowing food or relying on friends and relatives, and restricting adult consumption so children could eat.

Around 40 percent of respondents said they were purchasing their food from the market or shops. Another 20 percent reported food assistance as their primary source of food, followed by 19 percent who reported working in exchange for food. The governorates with the highest share of households reporting food assistance as their primary source of food were Lahj (41 percent), Sa’ada (34 percent) and Taizz (31 percent).

Displaced households are relying more on food assistance (30 percent), borrowing food (16 percent) and gifts (8 percent) as their primary source of food in comparison with non-IDPs, who are purchasing more (42 percent) and relying less on food assistance (20 percent).

Figure 5: Mean rCSI, February - August 2017

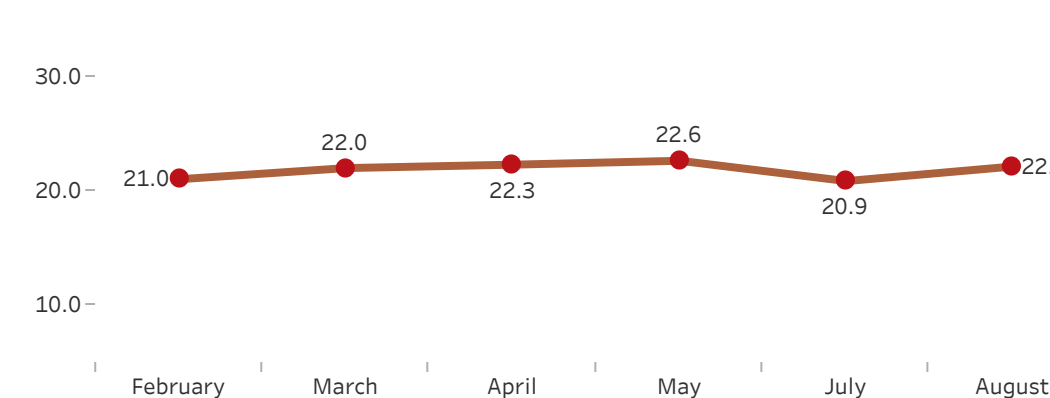
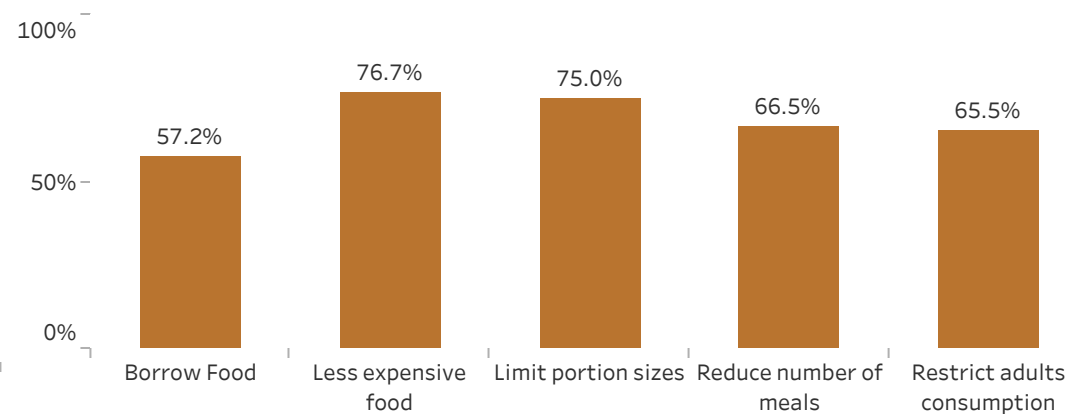


Figure 6: Percentage of households using negative coping strategies in August 2017

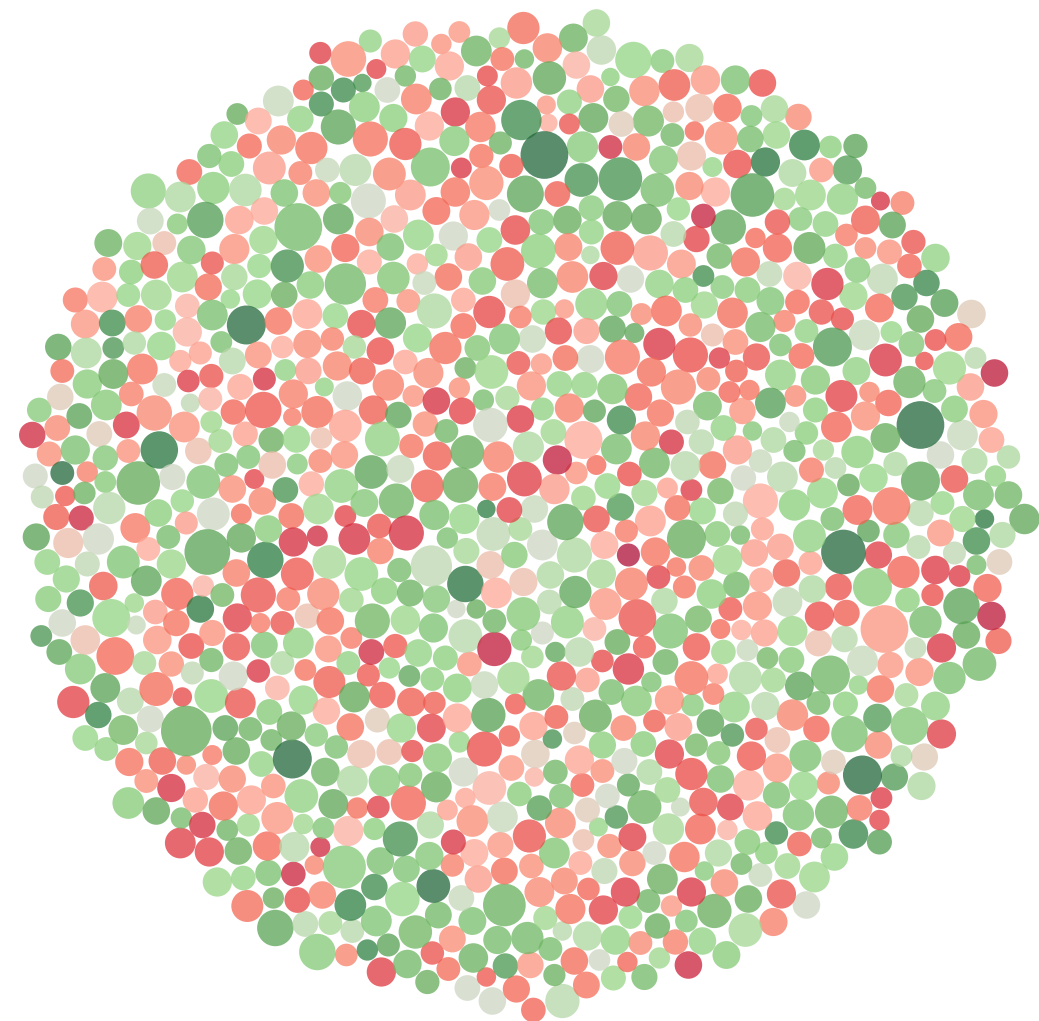


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Concerns persist over lack of food and income and the spread of diseases

At the end of the questionnaire, participants were asked to report the main food security problems faced by their households. Common concerns across the governorates were the lack of food, work and income. Most respondents requested financial assistance, and they do not have any source of income to support their families. The spread of diseases within families was widely reported, particularly linked to cholera and malnutrition. Lack of treatment and medicine and inexistent health services were reported as main challenges. Non-displaced households are mainly concerned about unemployment and lack of income opportunities; IDPs also mentioned problems related to paying rent and accommodation.

In the graphic below, responses are viewable by hovering over the circles. Responses can also be filtered by one or more of the following criteria: sex of the head of household, displacement status, food assistance received, governorate and/or keywords.



The colour of the bubble represents the Food Consumption Score (FCS); red bubbles represent poor and borderline respondents while green represent acceptable. The size represents the respondent’s age. To undo a filter, click on the ..



Filters

Gender of Head of Household



Displacement status



Received food assistance?



By governorate

All

By keyword^{All}
(ex: water..

Highlights

Methodology

Food Consumption
Score

reduced Coping
Strategy Index

In the words of the
respondents

Contacts

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