

Highlights	Methodology	Food Consumption Score	reduced Coping Strategy Index	In the words of the respondents	Contacts
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Dietary diversity deteriorates despite the harvest



Food consumption and dietary diversity have deteriorated across Yemen after two months of stability



Reliance on negative coping mechanisms remain high, with almost 90 percent of households resorting to at least one negative coping strategy



Food assistance continues to be an important source of food, especially among internally displaced persons (IDPs)



WFP/Joe English

Situation update

The cholera outbreak continues in all of Yemen's governorates except Socotra, with 862,858 suspected cases and 2,177 deaths reported between 27 April and 26 October 2017. However, there has been a modest drop in the number of suspected cholera cases and deaths compared with previous weeks, and the overall trend appears to be stabilizing. Populations facing both food consumption gaps and cholera remain at the highest risk of increased mortality.

According to the latest Task Force on Population Movement (TFPM), 2,014,026 people have been displaced by conflict since March 2015, and 956,076 have returned to their homes. Most IDPs are facing protracted displacement, with an estimated 88.5 percent having been displaced for one year or more. This places a continuing burden on host families and the wider community, as well as on IDPs' capacity to pay rent.

Source 1: [WHO - Outbreak update , cholera in Yemen](#)



Source 2: [Yemen Task Force Population Movement, October 2017](#)

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In October 2017, mVAM conducted the 26th round of household food security monitoring in Yemen via live telephone interviews. Data were collected during the first two weeks of October. 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

2,472

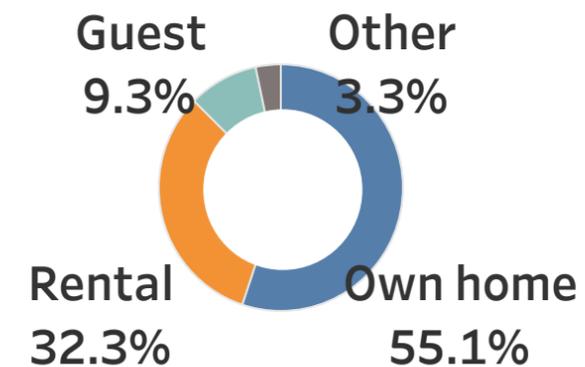


Average age of respondents

39



Residence Type



Displacement status

68.8% Non-IDP

31.2% IDP



Gender Head of Household

3.4% Female

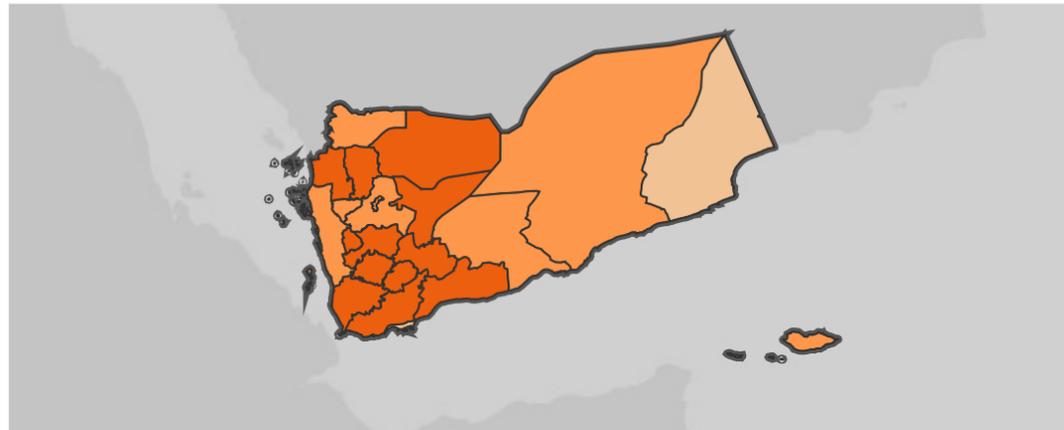
96.6% Male

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Food consumption and dietary diversity worsen nationwide

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



0% - 30% 30% - 55% 55% - 70%

The national mean food consumption score (FCS) fell from 46.9 in August to 43.9 in October, following two consecutive months of improvement. A similar trend was observed in 2016 when, after two months of stability, food security indicators deteriorated (Figure 1). Concurrently, the proportion of households with poor food consumption rose from 20 percent in September to 25 percent in October – indicating worsening food security across Yemen. Dietary diversity has also deteriorated, with lower household consumption of animal proteins, fruit and vegetables. Despite the harvest season, on average fruit is being consumed less than one day a week and vegetables just two days a week. At the governorate level, mean FCS has fallen markedly in Ad Dali, Al Bayda, Dhamar, Marib, Raymah and Taizz. The worst decline was observed in Al Bayda – from 48.2 in September to 39.2 in October – and in Taizz – from 44.1 in September to 37.1 in October. The lowest FCS in October was recorded in Raymah (34.7) and Taizz (37.1); these governorates also had the highest percentage of households borrowing food and relying on food assistance as their primary source of food. Food security has worsened for displaced and non-displaced households at the same rate. The prevalence of inadequate food consumption rose from 45 percent in September to 51 percent in October among non-displaced households, and from 57 percent in September to 64 percent in October among IDPs. The recent tightening on the blockade in Yemen and particularly the blockade of Al Hudaydah port could worsen the food security situation in the coming month.

Figure 1. Mean FCS, April - October 2017

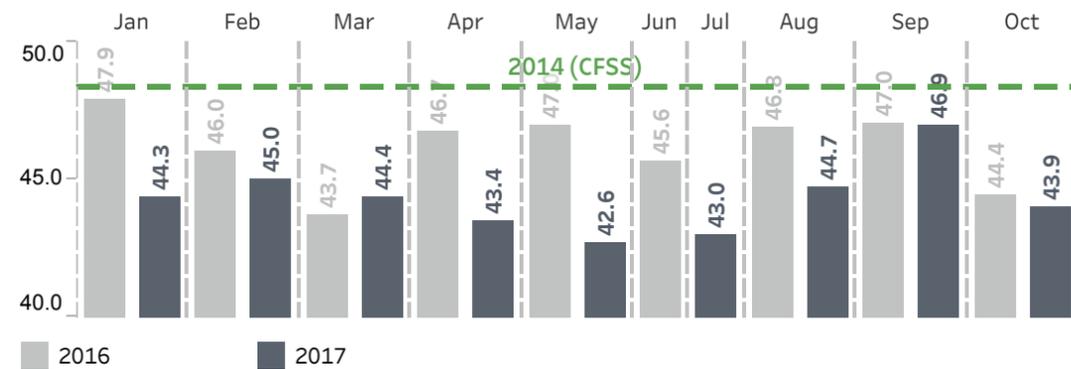


Figure 2. Percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption, April - October..

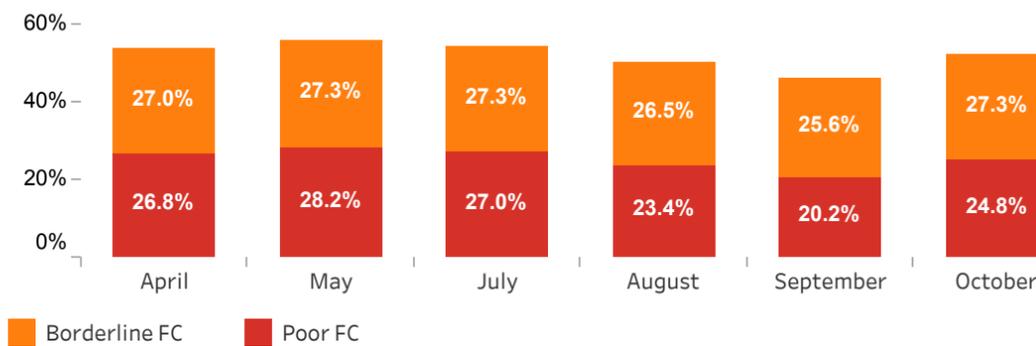


Figure 3. Households with poor and borderline Food Consumption by:

Displacement Status

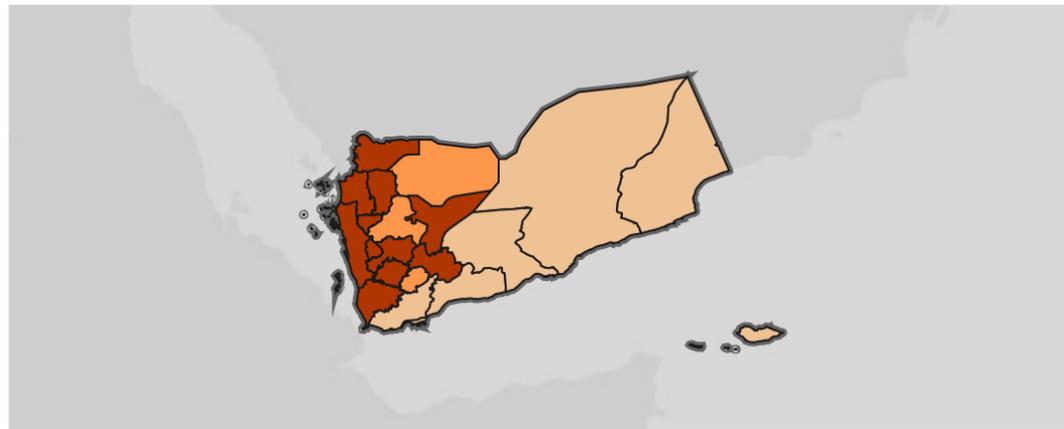


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Widespread use of consumption-based coping strategies

Map 3. rCSI by governorate, October 2017

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



0 - 15 15 - 20 >20

Negative food-related coping strategies continue to be widely used across Yemen, with 89 percent of households employing at least one of the five monitored strategies in October. National mean rCSI was marginally better in October (20.3) than September (21.0). This trend was mainly seen among surveyed households in Hajjah and Lahj governorates, where mean rCSI fell from 28.4 in September to 22.5 in October (Hajjah) and from 17.5 in September to 14.7 in October (Lahj). Lahj governorate recorded the highest percentage of households who reported food assistance as their primary food source in October (48 percent). Households reported relying less frequently on borrowing food (down 3 percent from September) but more on limiting portion sizes at mealtimes (up 5 percent) (see Figure 7). In October, the mean rCSI for IDPs (25.6) continued to be worse than the national average and higher than the mean rCSI of non-displaced households (19.8). IDPs also seem to be resorting more frequently to eating fewer meals a day and to restricting adult consumption so that small children can eat. A third of the surveyed population reported purchasing from the market or shops as their main source of food, a 5 percent drop from September. A further 25 percent of households reported working in exchange for food, and 21 percent cited food assistance as their primary source of food. Comparing displaced and non-displaced households, many IDPs (31 percent) reported food assistance as their primary food source, followed by work in exchange for food (26 percent), purchase from market (21 percent) and borrowing (15 percent). Non-displaced households relied more on purchasing (34 percent), followed by work (25 percent), food assistance (20 percent) and borrowing (12 percent).

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

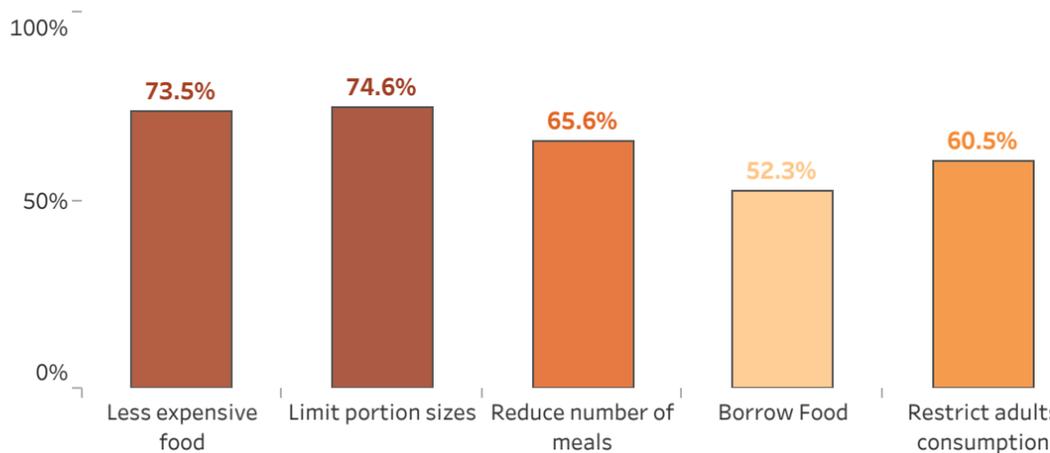


Figure 7. Household coping strategies by:

Displacement Status

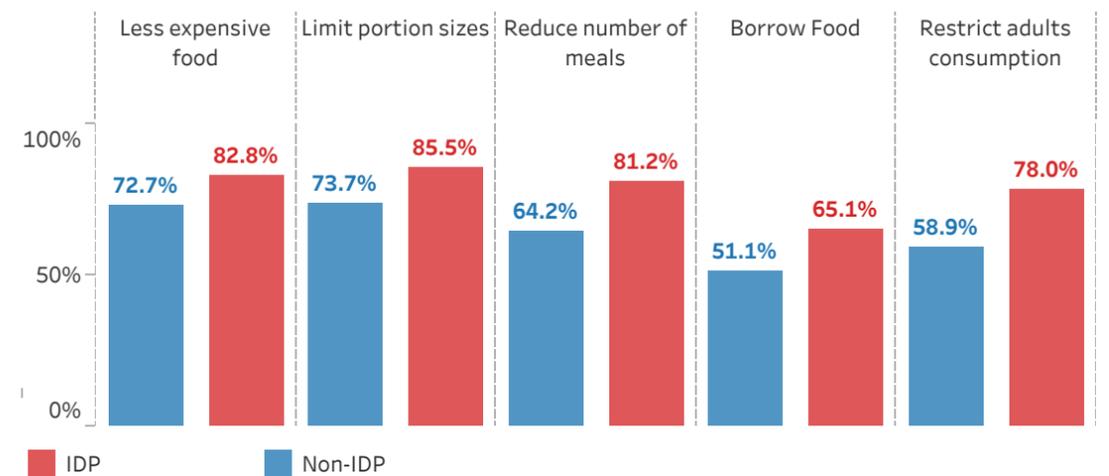
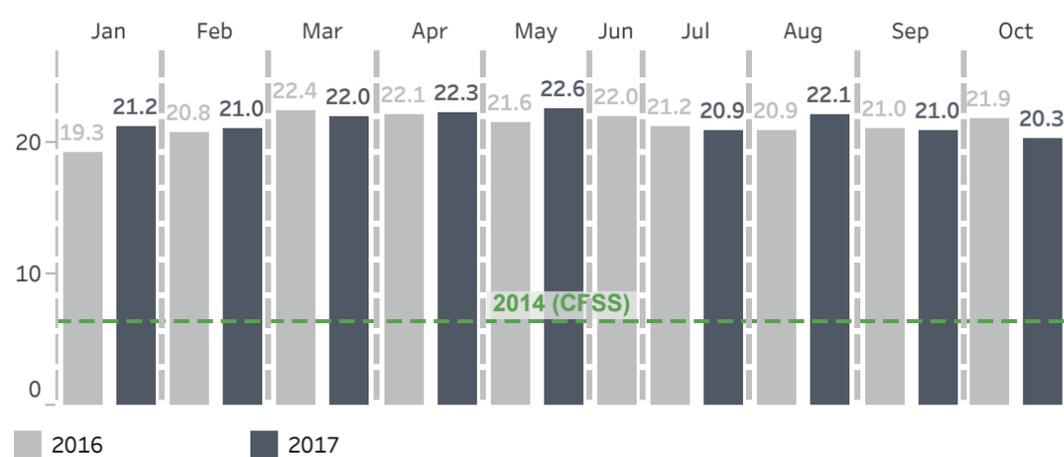


Figure 5: National mean rCSI in 2014 (pre-crisis), 2016 and 2017



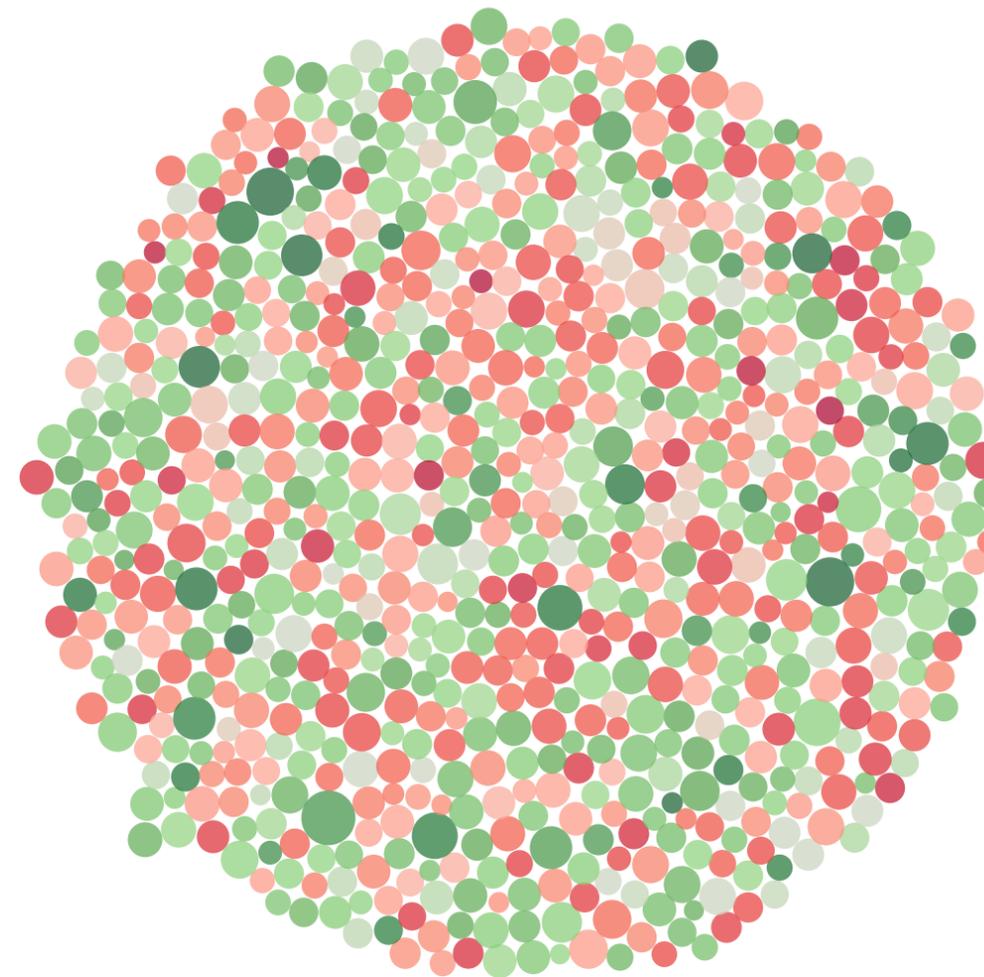
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Conflict and rising inflation continue to limit household income

Households were asked about the issues affecting food security in their communities. Displaced households mentioned a lack of food, limited access to income, a lack of shelter/housing, minimal access to assistance and a shortage of drinking water. Non-displaced households talked about high food prices, a lack of access to income and limited drinking water. According to the latest Yemen's Economic Outlook, the conflict has driven up inflation and put pressure on the exchange rate, undermining household income at a time when 40 percent of households report having lost their primary source of income.

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.

Source: [Yemen's Economic Outlook - October 2017](#)



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 icon again.



Filters

Gender of Head of Household



Displacement status



Received food assistance?



By governorate

All

By keyword All
(ex: water..

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mVAM Bulletin #26: October 2017

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For further information

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mVAM Monitoring web:

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