mVAM Bulletin #28: December 2017

Highlights Methodology Food Consumption reduced Coping In the words of the respondents Contacts

Food security worsens among households affected by the last wave of violence in Sana'a and the protracted conflict in Hajjah

Key points



Food insecurity remains high across Yemen, especially in Hajjah and among displaced households



The use of negative food-based coping strategies has increased in Sana'a City and Hajjah



More households reported borrowing food as their primary source of food in December



WFP/MENA

Situation update

The conflict in Yemen took a dramatic turn on 4 December with the killing of the ex-President Ali Abdullah Saleh amid fierce fighting in Sana'a. According to the International Committee of the Red Cross, 234 people were killed and 486 were injured in these governorates during the first two weeks of December. Airstrikes have also intensified and together with shelling and gunfire, they have damaged civilian houses and humanitarian assets. Prices have risen for key commodities such as fuel and cooking gas also due to the continue depreciation of the Yemeni Riyal causing further deterioration of the purchasing power. Since the blockade was lifted about 500,000 mt of food and fuel has been discharged in Hudaydah port by WFP.

Intense fighting continues along Yemen's Red Sea coast and is approaching densely populated urban areas. Initial reports estimate that more than 1,400 people have fled from Taizz and Al Hudaydah. According to the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview, food insecurity continues to rise in the midst of the prolonged conflict, with an unprecedented 17.8 million Yemenis (61 percent of the population) estimated to be food insecure. Around 8.4 million people are now estimated to be severely food insecure and at risk of starvation – a 24 percent increase in the severely food insecure population in 2017.

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In December 2017, mVAM conducted the 28th round of household food security monitoring in Yemen via live telephone interviews. Data were collected between 2 and 23 December. 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 2.434



Displacement status

68.3% Non-IDP 31.7% IDP



Gender Head of Household

3.2% Female 96.8% Male

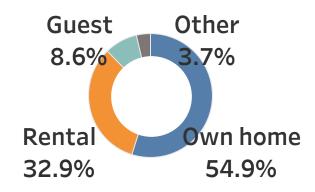


Average age of respondents

40



Residence Type



Highlights	Methodology	Food Consumption	reduced Coping	In the words of the	Contacts
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Food consumption worsens in Hajjah and Al Hudaydah

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

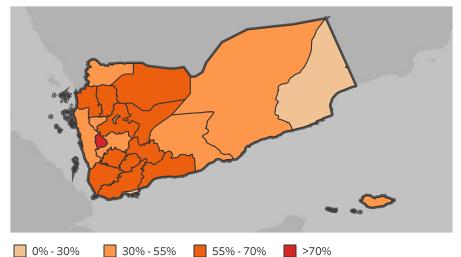
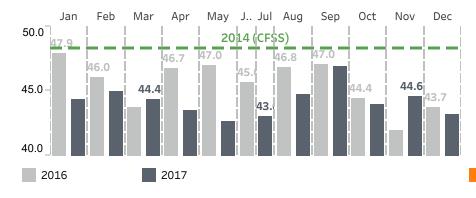


Figure 1. Mean FCS, 2017 vs. 2016 vs. 2014 (pre-crisis)



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

The national mean food consumption score (FCS) deteriorated between November (44.6) and December (43.2) (Figure 1). Concurrently, 54 percent of the surveyed population reported having inadequate food consumption.

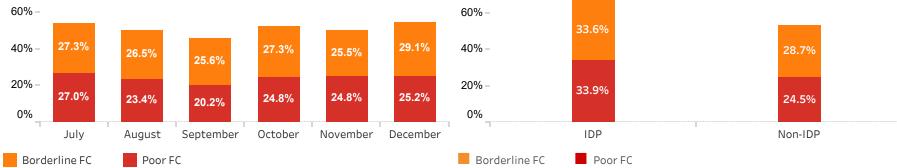
Mean FCS has fallen in governorates affected by current fighting and the blockade which reduced commercial business and caused loss of jobs: Al Hudaydah (with FCS dropping from 53 in November to 48.3 in December), Hajjah (FCS 44.4 in November and 39.5 in December) and Abyan (FCS 46.8 in November and 44.1 in December). In Hajjah, the share of surveyed households with poor and borderline food consumption rose from 48 percent in November to 62 percent in December.

Among displaced households, mean FCS fell from 40 in November to 37 in December; the number of households with inadequate food consumption rose by 8 percent over the same period.

Figure 2. Percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumpt.. Figure 3. Households with poor and borderline Food Consumption by:

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

Displacement Status



Highlights Methodology Food Consumption Score reduced Coping In the words of the respondents Contacts

Households increasingly reliant on negative coping strategies in Sana'a City and Hajjah

Map 3. rCSI by governorate, October 2017

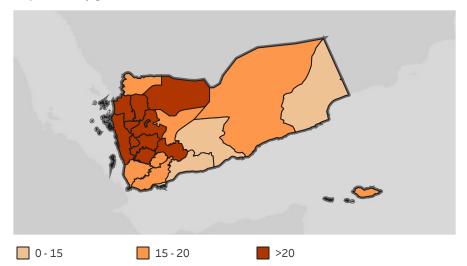
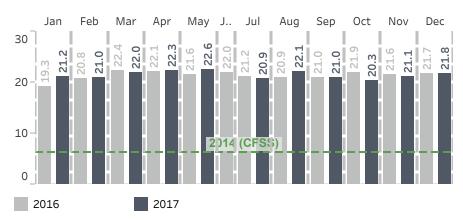


Figure 4. Mean rCSI, 2017 vs. 2016 vs. 2014 (pre-crisis)



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

The use of negative food-related negative coping strategies continued to be widespread across Yemen in December: the national mean reduced coping strategies index (rCSI) differed little between November (21.1) and December (21.8). The use of food-based strategies increased and was highest in Sana'a City (25.9) and Hajjah (27), where over 70 percent of the population are resorting to the most severe coping strategies of borrowing food and restricting adult consumption so small children can eat.

The mean rCSI for IDPs rose to 27.2 in December. This is higher than the national average (21.8) and higher than the mean rCSI of non-displaced households (21.3).

In December, more households reported borrowing food as their primary source of food (15 percent). In Sana'a City, the share of households who cited borrowing food as their primary source of food rose between November (19 percent) and December (29 percent). This is more than the share of households reliant on food assistance (8 percent) and those who are working in exchange for food (22 percent).

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

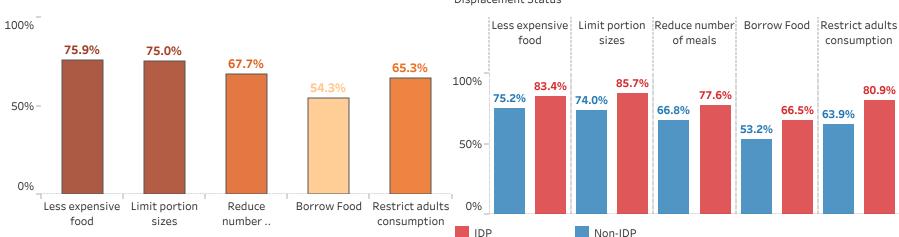


Figure 7. Household coping strategies by:

Displacement Status

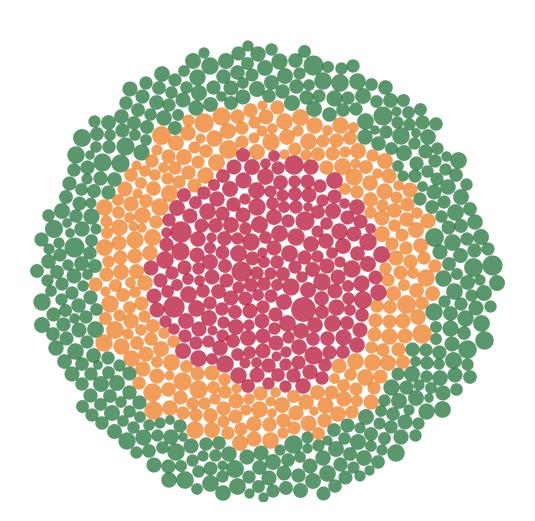
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Households concerned about prolonged unemployment

Households were asked to share their thoughts on the main issues affecting food security in their communities. The most recurrent terms in their replies reveal their concerns: shortages of money, lack of work opportunities, the impossibility of finding any source of income to support their families, and food and medical expenses. 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 icon again.



Filters

Gender of Head of Household





Displacement status





Received food assistance?



By govern.. All

By keywor.. All

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RESOURCES

mVAM Monitoring web:

http://vam.wfp.org/sites/mvam_monitoring/

VAM Resource Centre

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