

Highlights	Methodology	Food Consumption Score	reduced Coping Strategy Index	In the words of the respondents	Contacts
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Levels of household food insecurity remain high in conflict-affected governorates

Key points



Overall, households’ level of food consumption improved slightly in March, though more households are relying on food related coping strategies.



The use of negative coping strategies was most severe in Sana’a City and among displaced households.



Households are concerned about high food and fuel prices as severe shortages of fuel are affecting many areas across the country.



Situation update

Two years after the beginning of the conflict in Yemen, over 7,600 Yemenis have been killed, more than 42,000 have been injured and over 3 million have been displaced. Since the beginning of 2018, increased fighting in Taizz and Al Hudaydah governorates led to the displacement of more than 85,000 people between December 2017 and mid-March 2018. Many of the recently displaced are living with their relatives, in rental accommodation, or in spontaneous settlements, while others are moving towards Aden and southern governorates. Conflict has escalated in Sa’ada and Jawf governorates, highly impacting civilians, including women and children. According to the Protection Cluster, airstrikes, shelling and ground fighting have impacted homes, farms and civilian infrastructure and increased the risk of unexploded ordnances. According to local authorities, the ongoing fighting in Sa’ada and Al Jawf has triggered new displacement. The number of suspected cholera cases recorded has decreased or been stable in most governorates and the weekly proportion of severe cases has significantly reduced. As of 18 March, the cumulative total of reported suspected cases since April 2017 was 1,081,420 as were 2,267 associated deaths.

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In March 2018, mVAM conducted the 31th round of household food security monitoring in Yemen via live telephone interviews. Data were collected between 1 and 25 March. 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. Since 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. They are also weighted by 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**  
**2,422**



**Displacement status**  
**67.3% Non-IDP**  
**32.7% IDP**



**Average age of respondents**  
**40**



**Gender Head of Household**  
**3.0% Female**  
**97.0% Male**

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Map 1: % of households with Poor Food Consumption

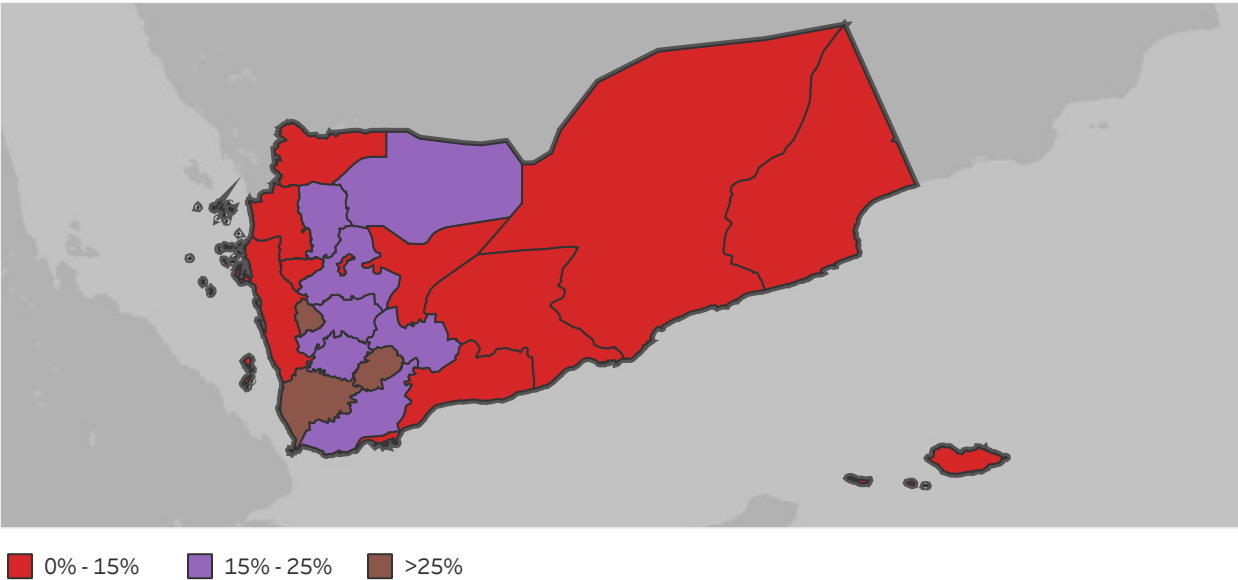
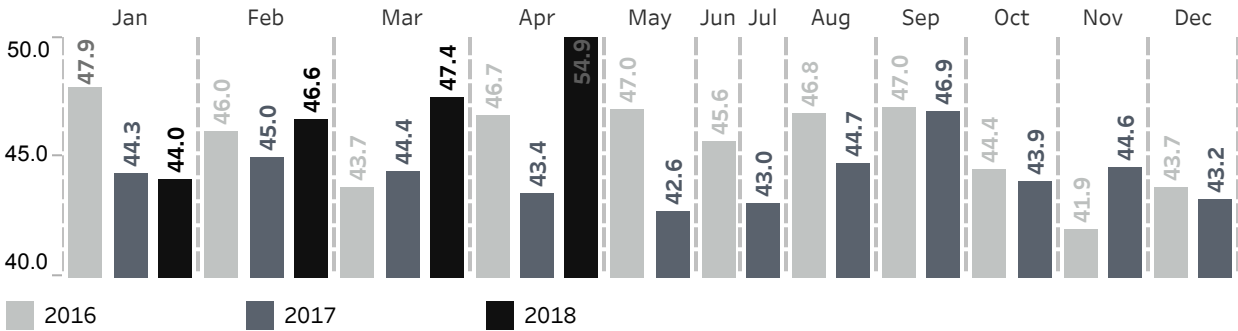


Figure 1. Mean FCS, 2016-2017-2018



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

The national mean food consumption score (FCS) increased slightly in March (47.4) compared with February (45.0) (Figure 1). The percentage of households who reported having a poor food consumption decreased from 21 percent in February to 16 percent in March. However, almost 50 percent of the surveyed households reported that the amount of food that they were able to purchase in March decreased compared to February.

At the governorate level, while there was a slight increase in the mean FCS noted in some governorates, in the conflict-affected governorates of Al Hudaydhah, Sana’a, Sa’ada and Taizz, no improvements were recorded with the latest reporting one of the lowest level of FCS in the country (41.3). Here, 27 percent of the surveyed households had a poor food consumption while almost a third had a borderline food consumption.

On the other hand, in Hajjah the mean FCS improved from 40.7 in February to 45.5 in March. At the same time, the share of households reporting inadequate food consumption decreased compared to February. The share of households with poor food consumption decreased from 25 percent to 14 percent and those with borderline from 27 percent to 12 percent).

The rate of poor food consumption fell among both surveyed displaced and non-displaced households. However, IDPs continued to report a much higher percentage of inadequate food consumption and very low diversified diet. On average staple foods are eaten six days a week, sugars and fats eaten 5 days a week and pulses consumed on average 3 days a week. Dairy and vegetables are consumed twice a week while animal protein and fruits are only rarely consumed.

Figure 2. Percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption, October 2017 - March 2018

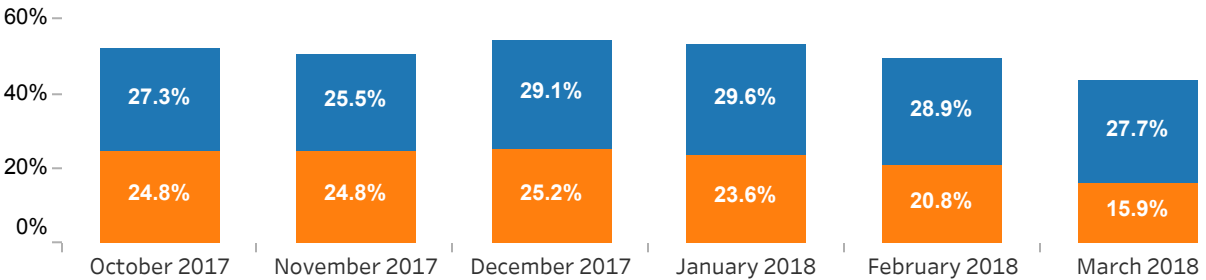


Figure 3. Households with poor and borderline Food Consumption by:

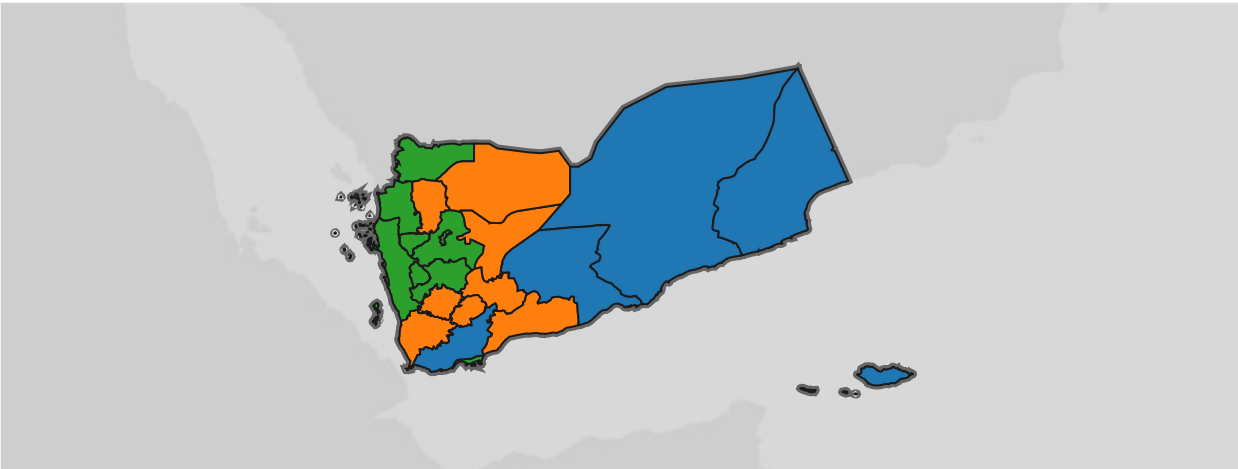
Displacement Status



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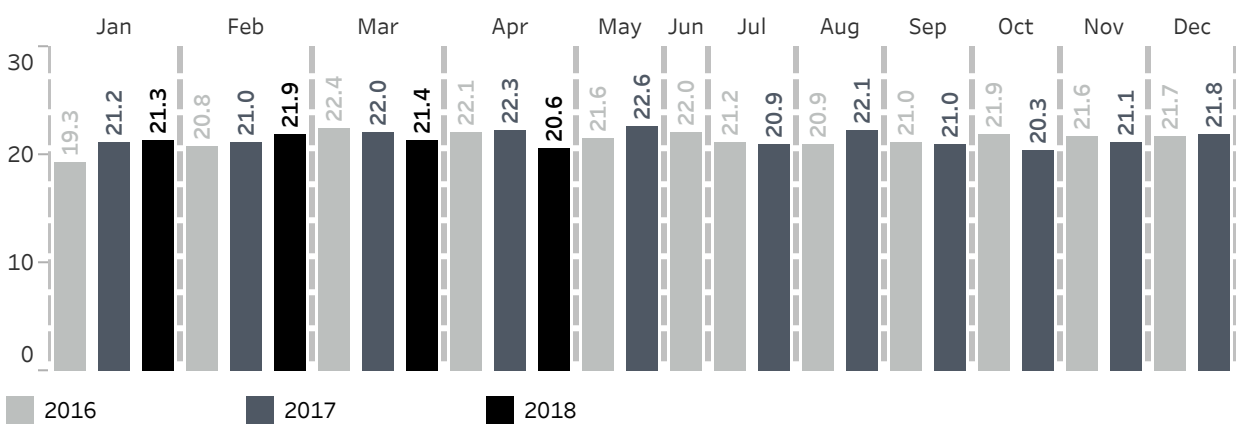
Negative coping levels are increasing

Map 3. rCSI by governorate, March 2018



0 - 15      15 - 20      >20

Figure 4. Mean rCSI, 2016-2017-2018



Click on one or more governorates on the map to get the correspondent figures 4 and 5

Although a slight improvement was recorded in March in the national mean FCS, negative food-related coping behaviour remained widespread. The mean reduced coping strategies index (rCSI) increased from 20.8 in February to 21.4 in March (Figure 3). The use of food-based coping strategies increased in Aden, Sa’dah and Sana’a City compared with February. In Sana’a city, more households reported having to borrow food or reduce the number of meals eaten per day and consequently the mean FCS in Sana’a City was the highest in the country (28.0) and well above the national mean. Displaced households are more likely to resort to food-based coping strategies than residents; The mean rCSI increased for IDPs in March reaching 27.7. More than 80 percent of IDP households surveyed reported having to restrict the consumption of adult members of their family so that small children can eat.

Figure 5: Percentage of households using negative coping strategies in March 2018

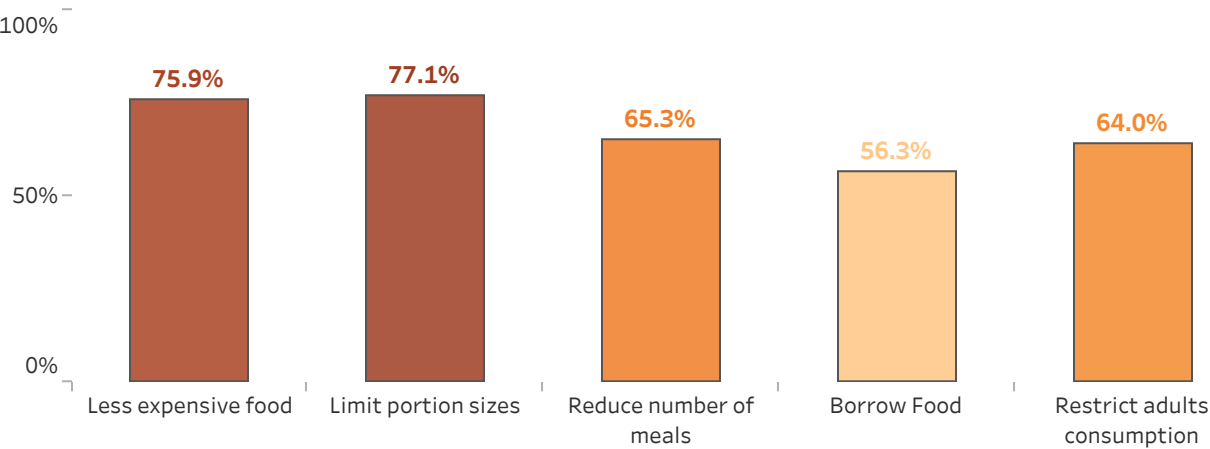
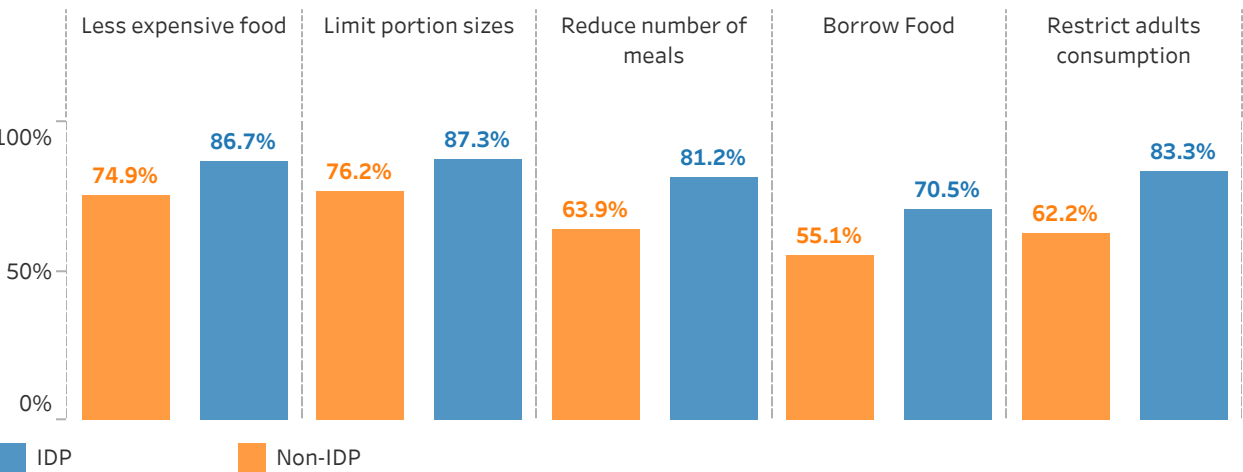


Figure 6. Household coping strategies by:

Displacement Status

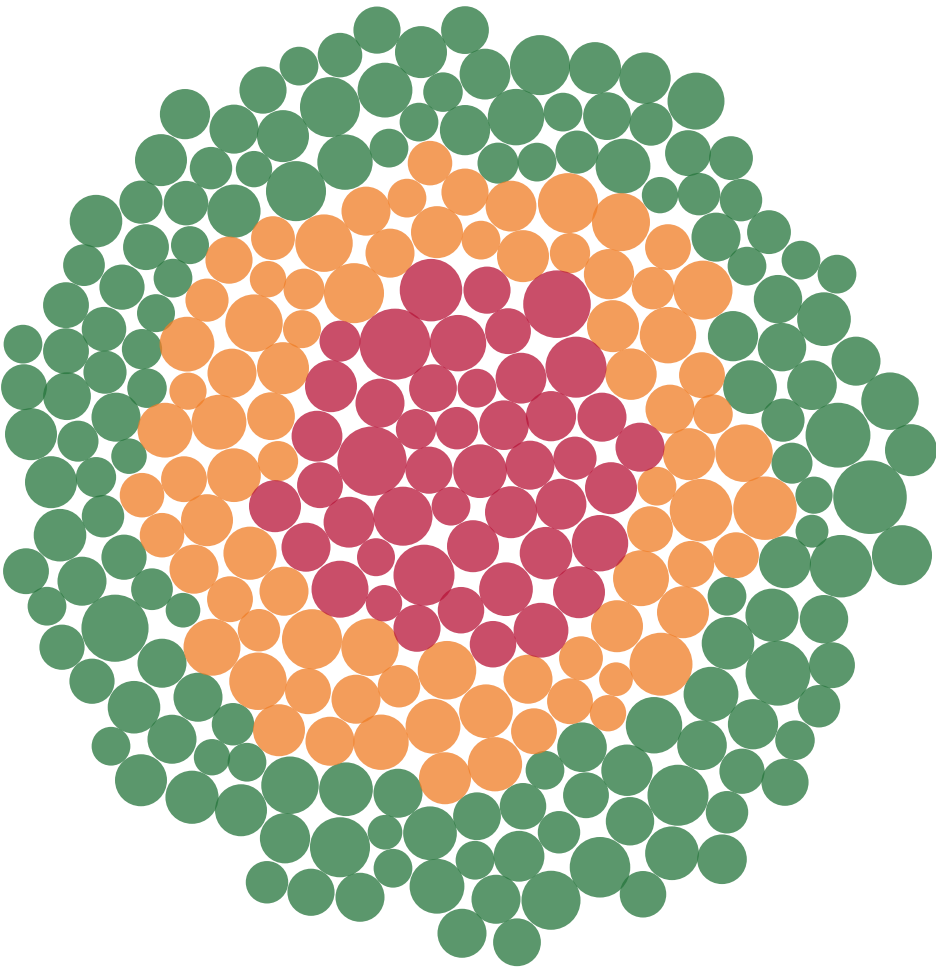


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Households reported high food and fuel prices due to shortages of these commodities

Households were asked to share their thoughts on the main issues affecting food security in their communities. In the graphic below, responses can be viewed 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 keywordAll  
(ex: water..

## YEMEN

mVAM Bulletin#31: March 2018

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### For further information

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#### RESOURCES

mVAM Monitoring web:

[http://vam.wfp.org/sites/mvam\\_monitoring/](http://vam.wfp.org/sites/mvam_monitoring/)

VAM Resource Centre

<http://resources.vam.wfp.org/mvam>

Blog

<http://mvam.org/>

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