

Highlights	Methodology	Food Consumption Score	reduced Coping Strategy Index	In the words of the respondents	Contacts
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Despite slight improvements in food consumption, lack of food access drives high levels of negative coping

Key points



Among surveyed households the levels of severe food insecurity seem to have declined as the percentage of households reporting “poor” food consumption decreased.



The use of negative coping strategies remains widespread especially among IDPs and the most vulnerable households.



Food availability improved in country however access remain an issue for many households.



Situation update

Fighting in Yemen continues to impact civilians and humanitarian access. Displacement also continues to increase, with over 120,000 people estimated to have been displaced from Taizz and Al Hudaydah governorates since December 2017. This new wave of displacement further adds up to the three million Yemenis who have already been forced to leave their homes, two million of whom remain displaced across the country. Many IDPs are in need of shelter, food, water, sanitation and access to health services and are particularly vulnerable to exploitation, indebtedness, and negative coping mechanism, such as begging, child labour, recruitment by armed groups and early marriage. In terms of food availability, in March 2018, a total of about 234,000 MT of food commodities was imported into Yemen (of which over 95 per cent is commercially imported). That amount together with the in-country available stock has led to some improvement in the availability of food commodities in the markets. Moreover, during the month of March, a total amount of 150,000 MT of fuel commodities (mostly petrol and diesel) was imported. However, the amount of imported fuel has not significantly improved the situation which has resulted in persistently poor supply of fuel commodities into local markets.

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In April 2018, mVAM conducted the 32nd round of household food security monitoring in Yemen via live telephone interviews. 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
2,421



Average age of respondents
40



Displacement status
68.8% Non-IDP
31.2% IDP

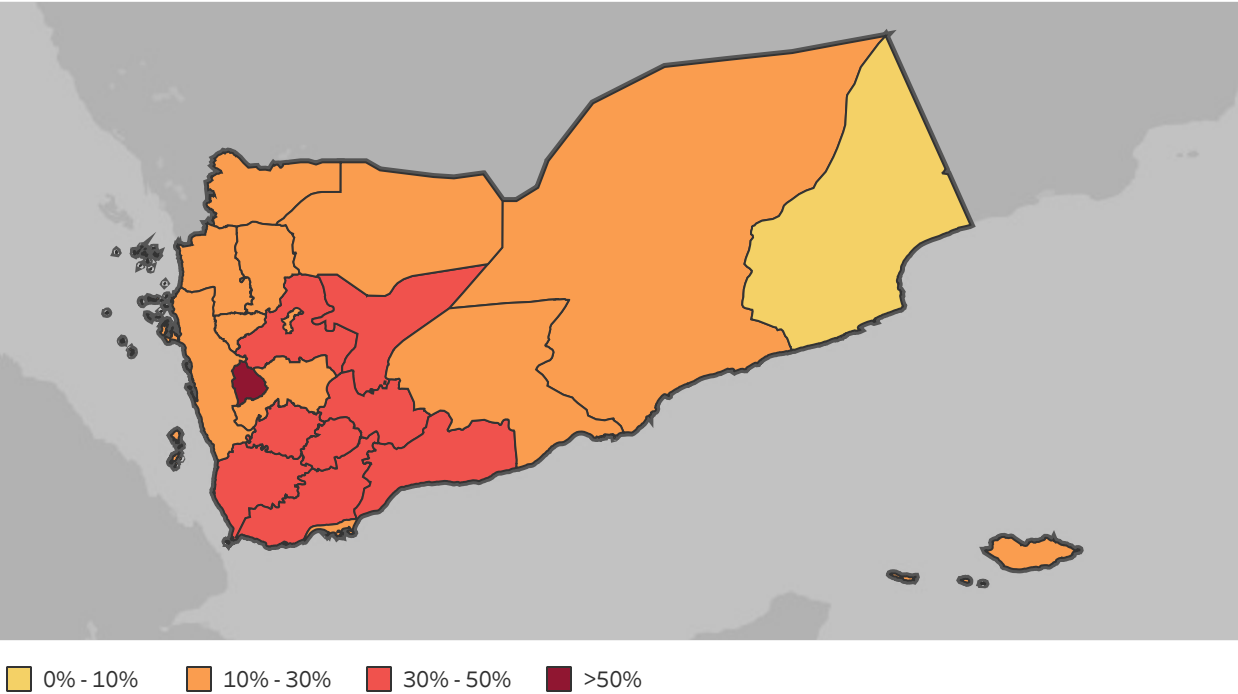


Gender Head of Household
2.9% Female
97.1% Male

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National food consumption improved

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

The national mean food consumption score (FCS) continued the slow but steady increase with a slight improvement in the FCS from March to April (Figure 1). Increased food consumption was observed across all surveyed households with differential food consumption behaviour. Households with the lowest mean FCS consumed more staples and vegetables. Households with the mean FCS in the mid-range increased their consumption of pulses and dairy products, while households with the highest mean FCS consumed more proteins. This is in line with wealthier households directing additional resources towards more expensive and better-quality foods. However still almost 30 percent of the surveyed households reported having an inadequate food. A similar trend has been noticed at the governorate level, with slight improvements in the mean FCS recorded in all the surveyed governorates with the exception of Abyan where the mean FCS decreased compared to March. In this governorate 45 percent of the surveyed respondents an inadequate food consumption. The rate of poor food consumption fell among both surveyed displaced and non-displaced households. Around 40 percent of the surveyed non-displaced households and 50 percent of the displaced households reported having received food assistance during the past month. The majority of these households reported that they don’t know the source of the food assistance while around 40 percent stated that the food assistance received was from WFP. Households who reported having received food assistance are showing a better food consumption and a less tendency to use negative coping strategies than those households who reported not having received food assistance.

Figure 1. Mean FCS, 2016-2017-2018

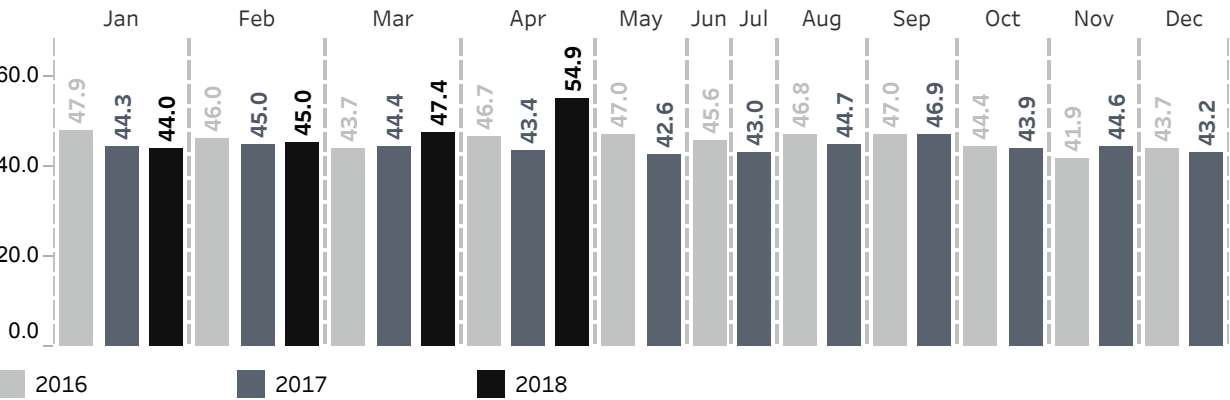


Figure 2: Percentage of households with poor or borderline food consumption (FC) in surveyed governorates, April 2018

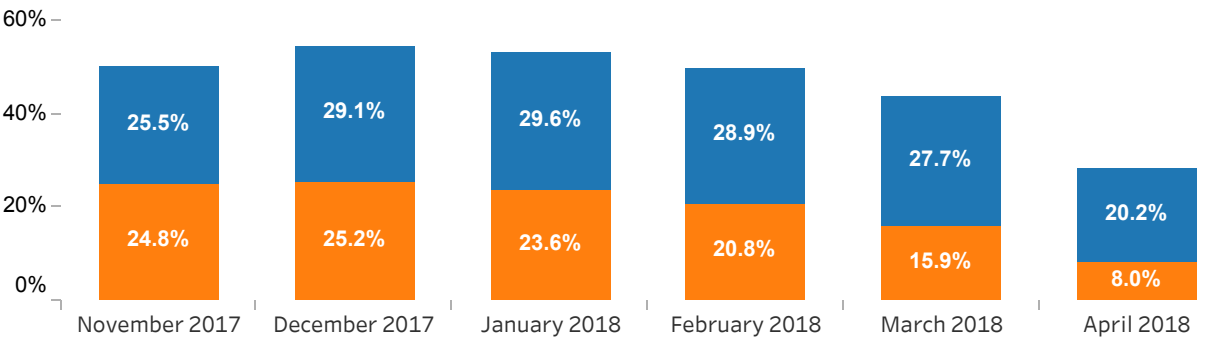


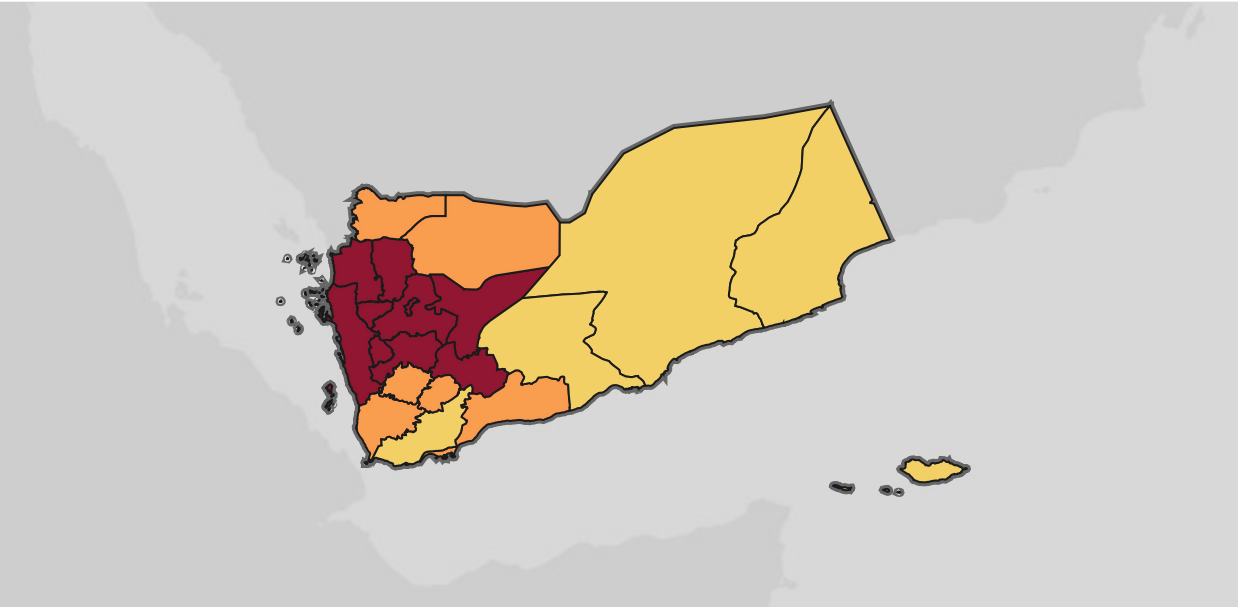
Figure 3. Households with poor and borderline Food Consumption by:



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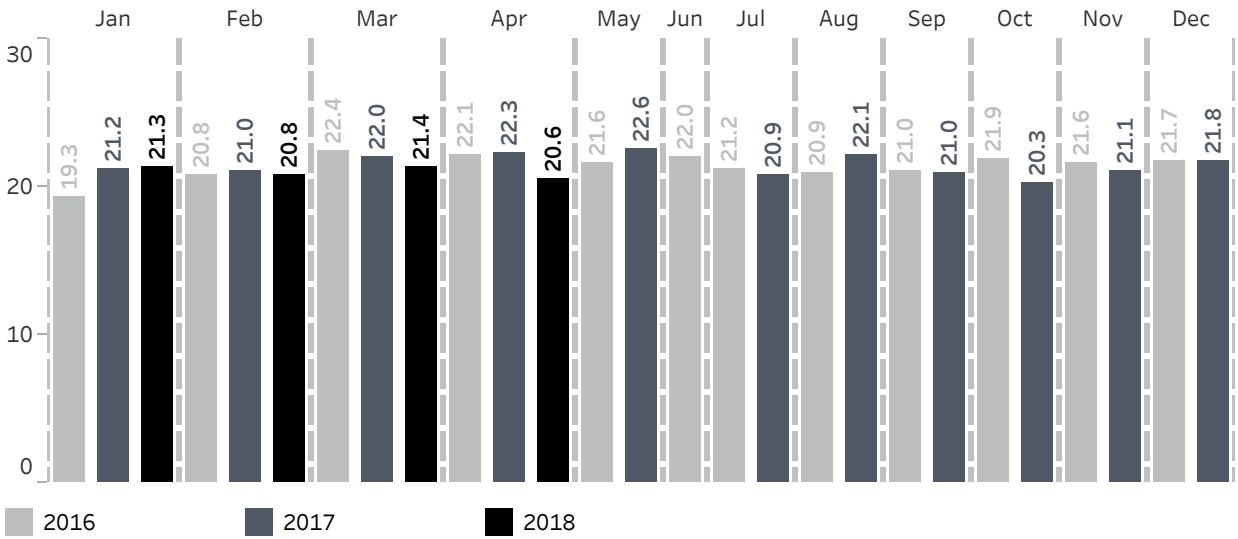
Negative coping levels remain high across governorates

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

The use of negative food-related coping behaviour remains high and widespread, 90 percent of all surveyed households are struggling to cope with a lack of food or money to buy food; national average rCSI is 20.6 (Figure 4).

At governorate level, no improvements were recorded in the use of food-based coping strategies. In Sana’a city, for the second consecutive month the mean rCSI was the highest in the country (24.8) and above the national mean. In Sa’adah less households reported reducing the number of meals eaten per day (from 66 percent in March to 51 percent in April) and buying a less preferred food. Displaced households are more likely to resort to food-based coping strategies than residents; the mean rCSI decreased for IDPs from 27.7 in March to 25.5 in April 2018. More than 80 percent of IDP households surveyed reported having to limit the size of their meal portions and to buy less expensive or less preferred food.

A third of the surveyed households reported relying on food assistance, gifts or borrowing food as their primary source of food. Among these households especially those who are relying on gift are reporting the lowest FCS (43) and extremely high levels of coping strategies (rCSI=36)

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

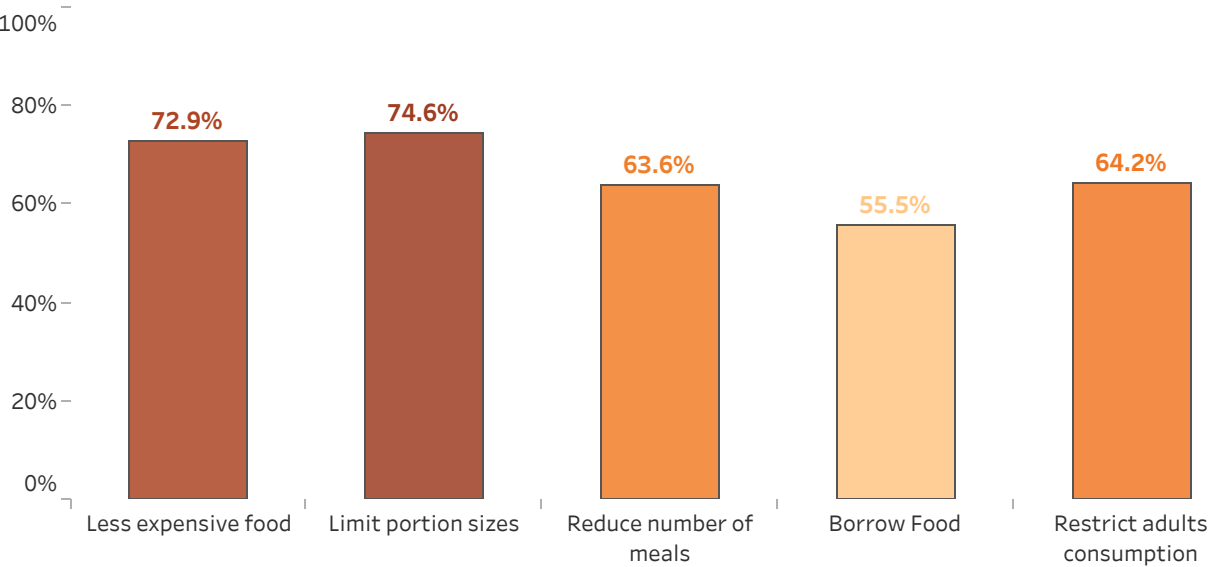
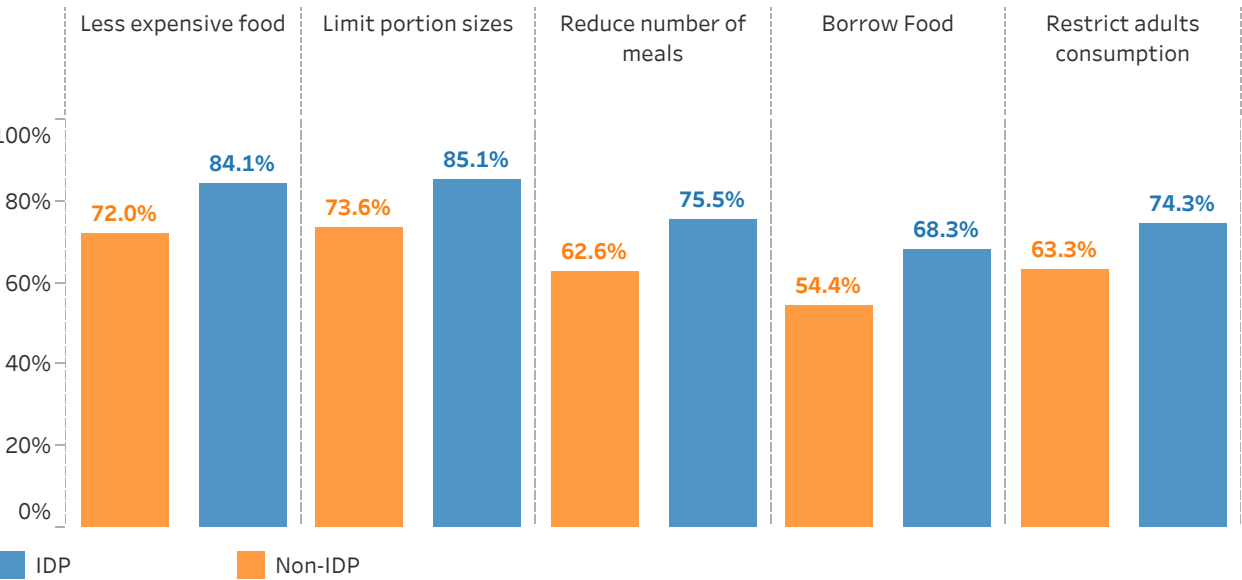


Figure 6. Household coping strategies by:

Displacement Status

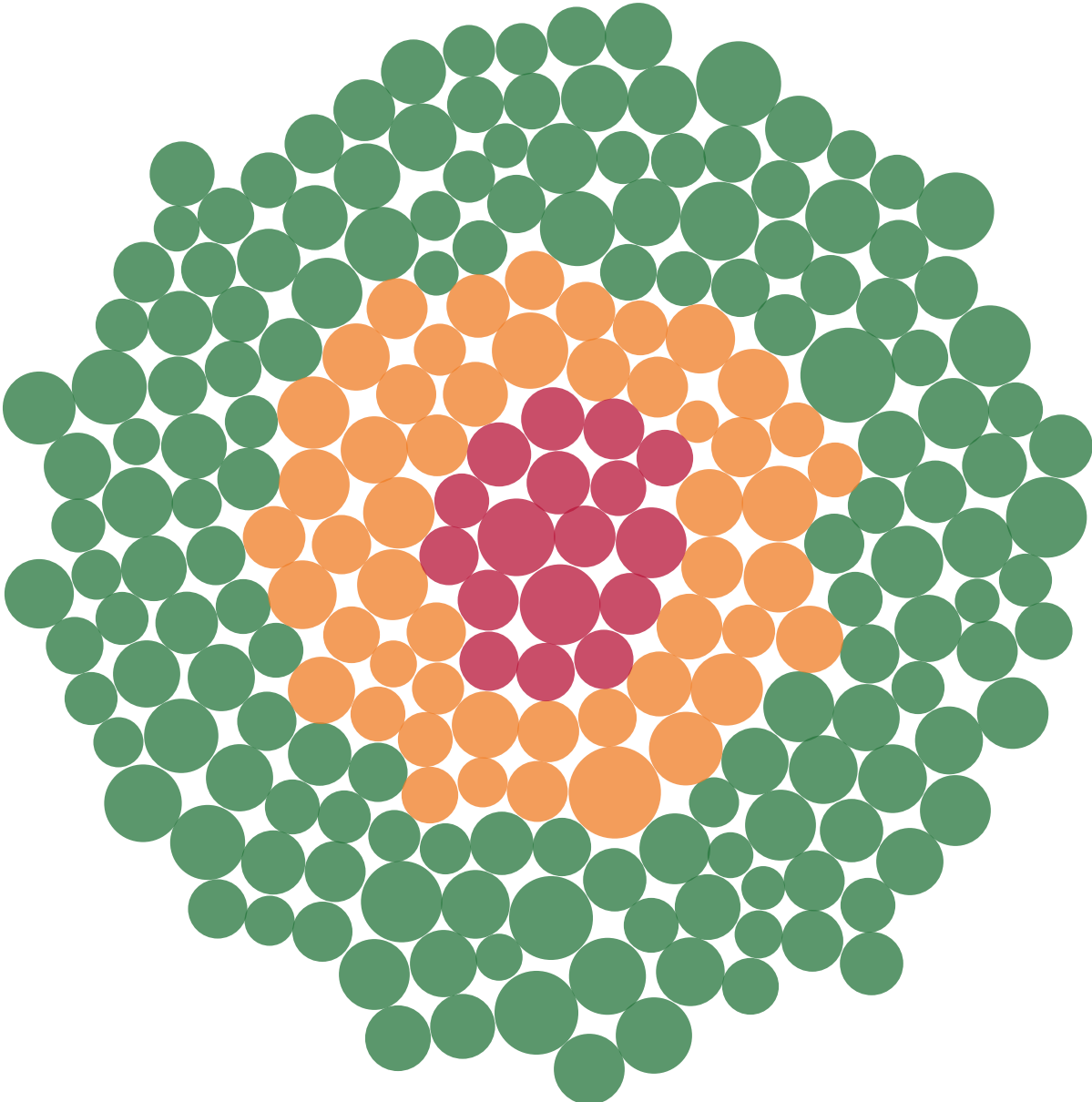


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Households reported high food and fuel prices due to shortages of these commodities

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 governorate

All

By keyword
(ex: water, food ..)

All

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