

Highlights	Methodology	Food Consumption Score	reduced Coping Strategy Index	In the words of the respondents	Contacts
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Overall food security situation remains severe however households receiving humanitarian assistance show a better food consumption levels compared to those not receiving.

Key points



The food consumption score decreased in Hudaydah and Lahj.



Ad Dali, Raymah and Lahj are the governorates with the highest levels of poor consumption.



The use of coping strategies remains very high and more households are relying on borrowing food or relying on help from friends and relatives.



Situation update

The 2018 Yemen Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, released on 07 December, shows a significant deterioration of food security across the country. According to IPC, overall 15.9 million people in Yemen face severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase3 and above). This number would be more than 20 million, or two thirds of the population of Yemen, without humanitarian assistance. Areas with active fighting, which are less accessible for humanitarian assistance, are most affected, in particular Hajjah, Al Hudaydah, Sa’ada and Taizz governorates. People most affected by food insecurity are IDPs and host families – overall, there are over 3 million IDPs in Yemen. Armed conflict remains the main driver of worsening food security. The food security crisis is further exacerbated by the liquidity crisis, disrupted livelihoods and high levels of unemployment. Overall, food prices continue to be extremely high, however in December prices of essential food commodities decreased following the rise in exchange rate of the local currency value against foreign currencies in particular to US dollar. Food gaps are only marginally mitigated by humanitarian assistance which is not adequate to reverse the deterioration of the situation.

On 13 December 2018, the Security Council adopted the resolution 2451 (2018) unanimously and endorsed the so-called Stockholm Agreements reached by the Government and the Houthis on the mutual redeployment of forces from Al Hudaydah and its ports, as well as a mechanism for activating prisoner exchange and a statement of understanding on the city of Taizz. As a priority, the Council insisted that the parties fully respect the ceasefire in Al Hudaydah governorate, which came into force on 18 December, and complete force redeployment by 21 January. The UN, including WFP, will play a leading role in the management of Al Hudaydah port.

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In December 2018, mVAM conducted the 40th round of household food security monitoring in Yemen via live telephone interviews. Data were collected between 1st and 30th 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. 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 are available online.



Households Surveyed
3,174



Average age of respondents
40



Displacement status
66.4% Non-IDP
33.6% IDP



Gender Head of Household
2.7% Female
97.3% Male

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Levels of poor food consumption alarming in Ad Dali, Raymah and Lahj

Map 1: % of households with Poor or Borderline Food Consumption

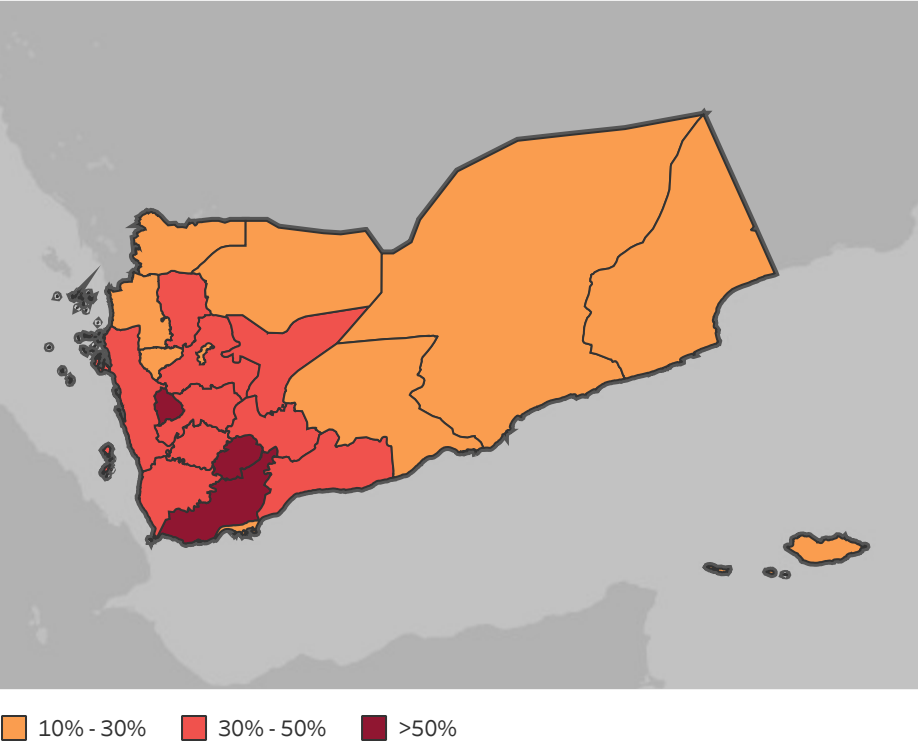
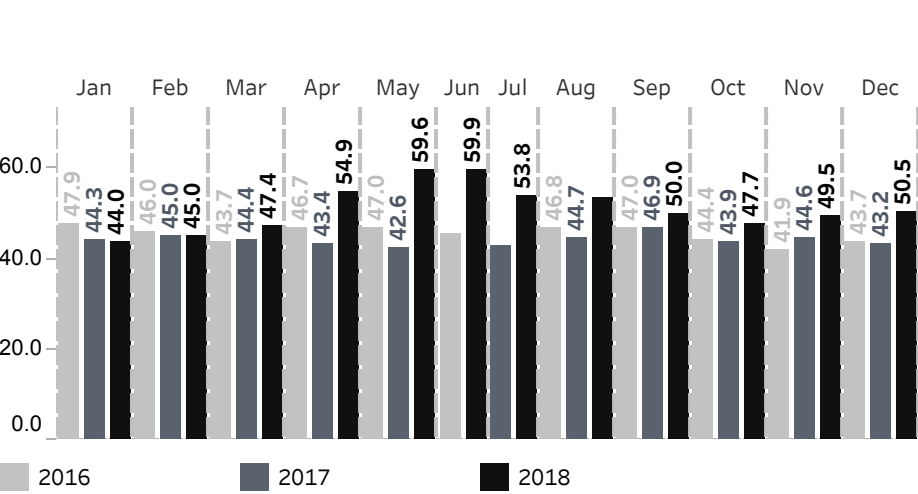


Figure 1: Mean FCS, 2016-2017-2018



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

According to mVAM data, the national mean food consumption score (FCS) didn't show any signs of improvement during the last quarter of 2018 reaching in December 50.5 (Figure 1). In December a slight decrease in the share of households reporting an inadequate diet was recorded in comparison with November (42 percent), with a total of 36 percent of the surveyed households having poor (12 percent) and borderline (24 percent) food consumption (Figure 2).

In December, 43 percent of the surveyed households reported receiving food assistance of which 40 percent reported receiving food assistance from WFP. The average food consumption score among households that received food assistance increased to 51.2 in December from 50.6 in November, while for households that had not received food assistance it remained slightly lower at 50.0.

At governorate level, the average Food Consumption Score (FCS) decreased in Al Hudeydah from 56.6 in November to 53.7 in December and in Lahj from 46.2 in November to 43.3 in December.

The lowest FCS was recorded in Ad Dali (42.6), Raymah (43) and Lahj (43.3), where more than 50 percent of the surveyed households were found to have an inadequate food consumption, and more than a quarter reported poor food consumption.

According to the displacement status, displaced households continue to report a worse food consumption in comparison to resident households. Overall more than 40 percent of the surveyed IDP households had inadequate diets (12 percent poor and 29 percent borderline food consumption) while among the households that have not been forced to leave their homes, 35 percent had inadequate diets (12 percent poor and 24 percent borderline food consumption) (Figure 3).

Figure 2. Percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption, July 2018 - December 2018

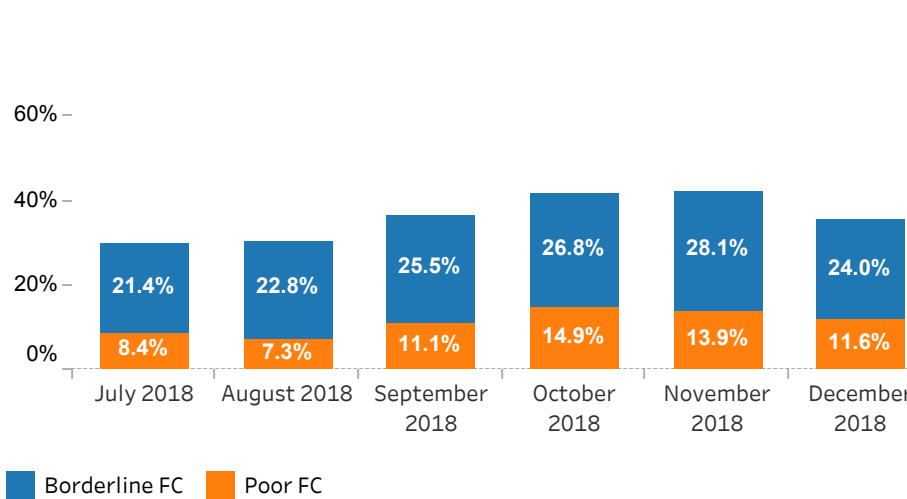
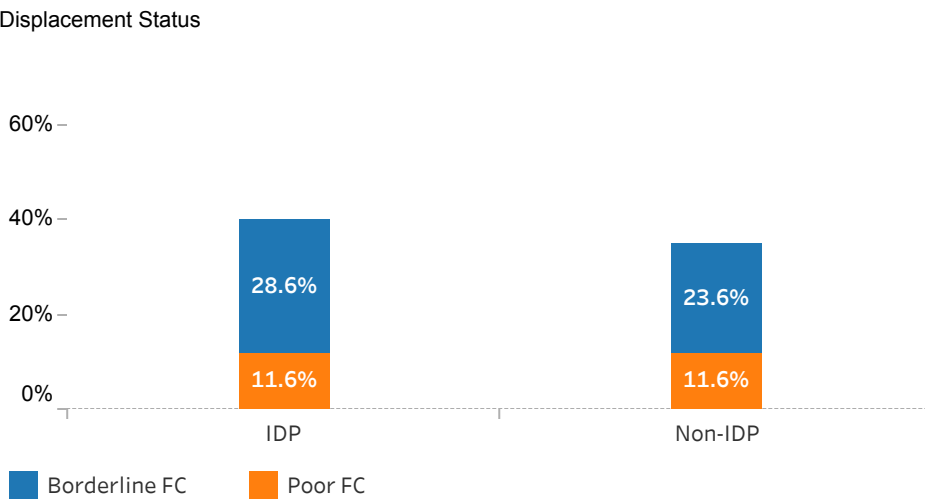


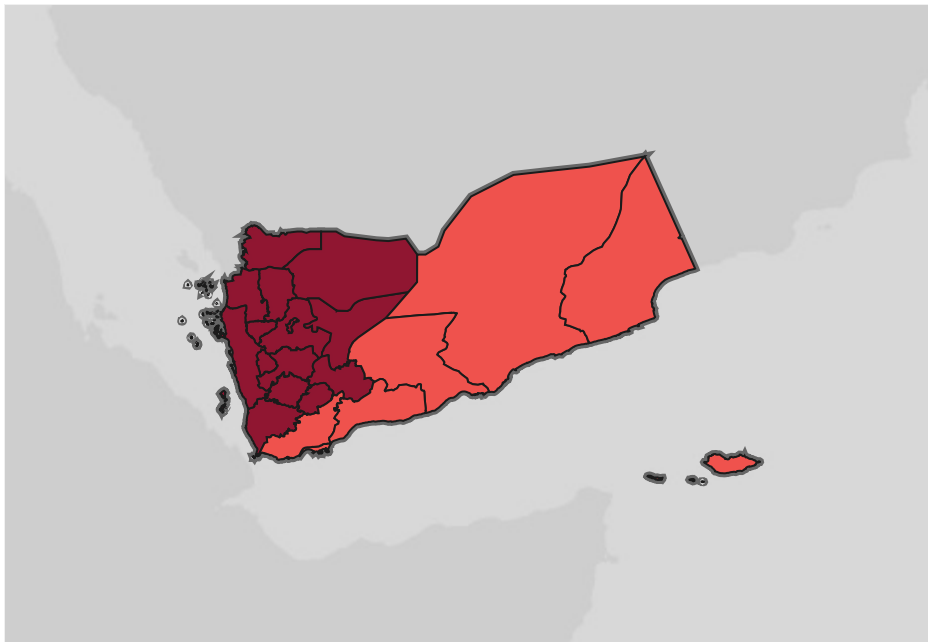
Figure 3: Households with poor and borderline Food Consumption by:



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Use of severe food-based coping strategies increased in Al Mahwit and Hajjah

Map 2: rCSI by governorate, December 2018



4 - 18 >=19

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

The precarious food security situation led households across the country to resort to a number of coping strategies. Some 90 percent of households were found to be adopting at least one food-based coping strategy in the one-week period prior to the survey. During the reporting period, the national mean rCSI remained on the same level as in November (21.2) (Figure 4). Common strategies adopted by households included limiting or reducing portion size at meals (67 percent), relying on less preferred or less expensive food (76 percent), reducing the number of meals eaten in a day (67 percent), borrowing food or relying on help from friends/relatives (58 percent), and restricting adult’s consumption so that children can eat (67 percent). At governorate level, the highest average rCSI reported in December was in Al Mahwit (24.8) and in Hajjah (24.6) where households are resorting to the most severe coping strategies like borrowing food or relying on help from friends/relatives (62 percent in Al Mahwit and 69 percent in Hajjah), and restricting adult’s consumption so that children can eat (79 percent in Al Mahwit and 73 percent in Hajjah). In December 2018, displaced households continue to rely on coping strategies more that non-displaced households. The share of displaced households borrowing food or relying on help from friends and relatives increased from 65 percent in November to 70 percent in December.

Figure 4: Mean rCSI, 2016-2017-2018

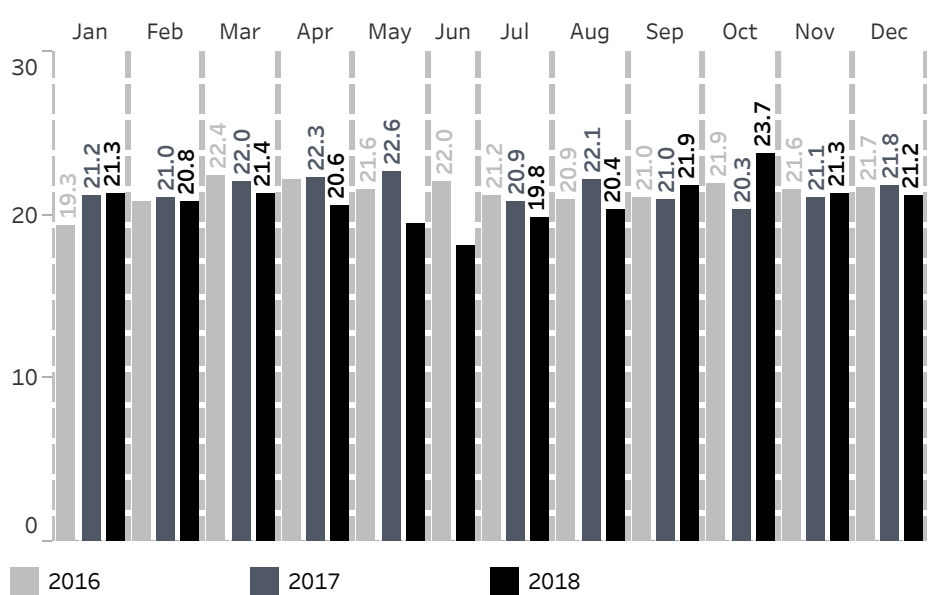


Figure 5: Percentage of households using negative coping strategies in December..

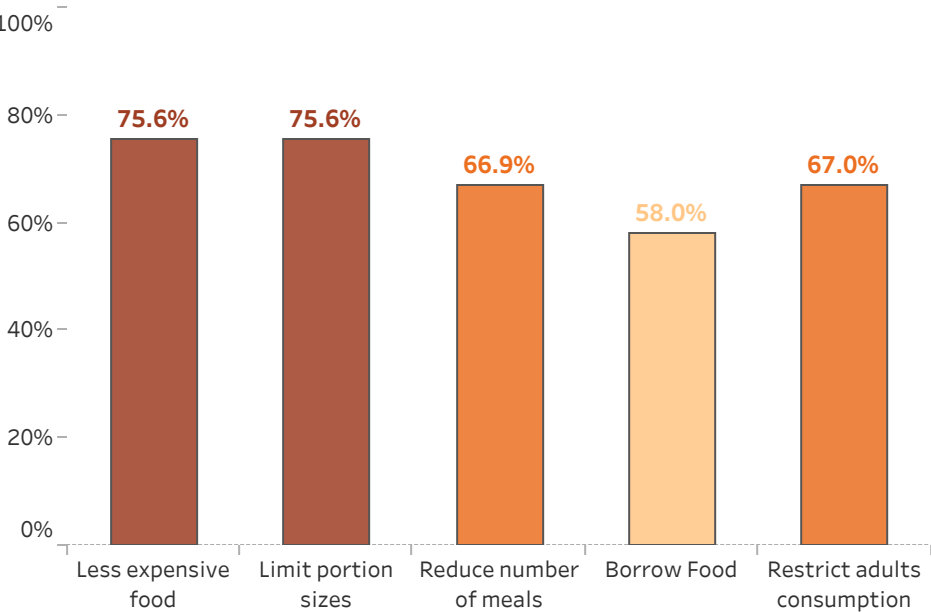
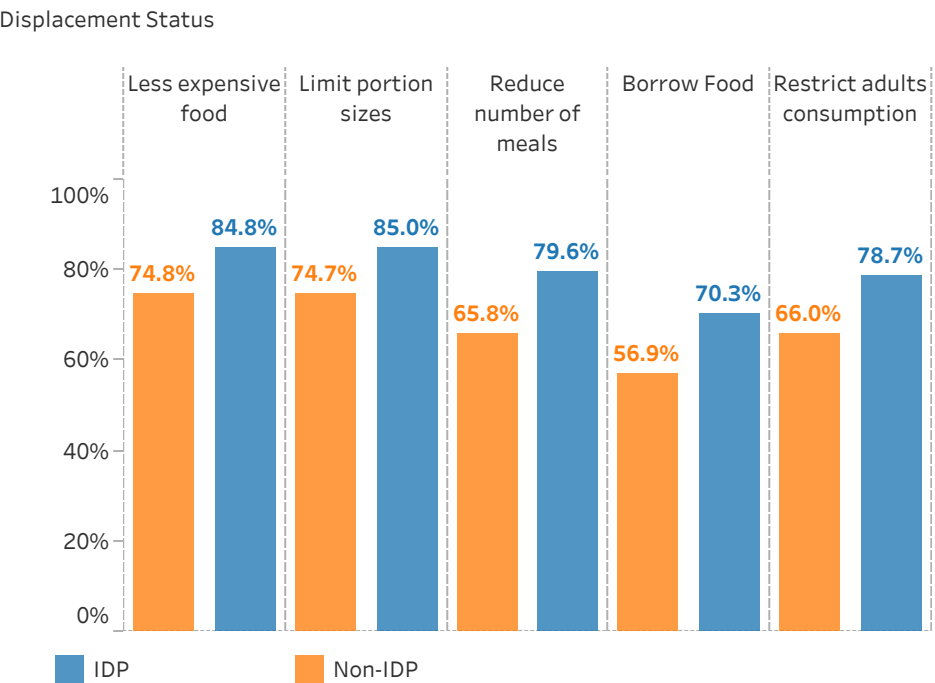


Figure 6: Percentage of households using negative coping strategies by:



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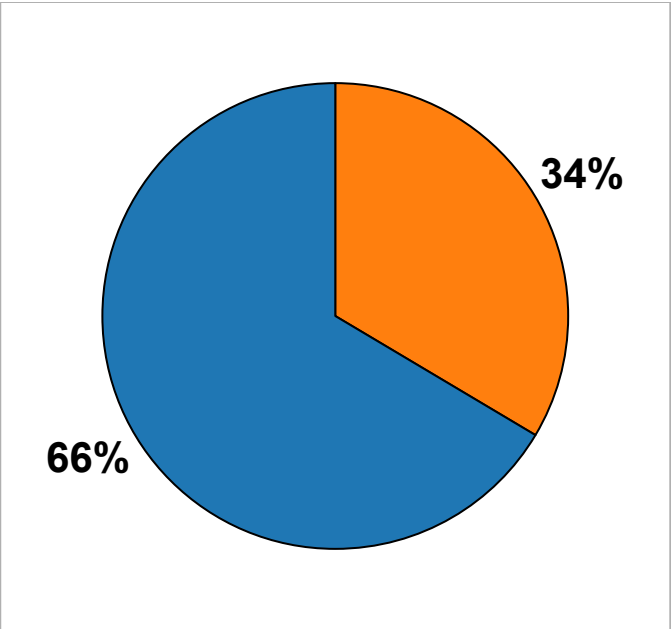
In the words of the respondents

Households were asked to share their thoughts on the main issues affecting the food security situation in their communities. In the graphic below, the main topics mentioned by households are viewable by hovering over the governorates. Responses can also be filtered by displacement status.

"The food situation is very poor because of lack of money as there is no income source"
Displaced male head of household –Al Hudaydha.

"Malnutrition, unemployment, frequent displacements, non-payment of salaries, monopoly of traders for goods, and siege are main problems that we have in Yemen."
Non-displaced male head of household –Raymah.

"The food situation is bad because of the high prices and lack of basic supplies for living"
Displaced female head of household- Sana'a City.



IDP

- Displaced
- Non displaced



Highlights

Methodology

Food Consumption
Score

reduced Coping
Strategy Index

In the words of the
respondents

Contacts

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RESOURCES

mVAM Monitoring web:

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

VAM Resource Centre

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

Blog

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Toolkit:

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