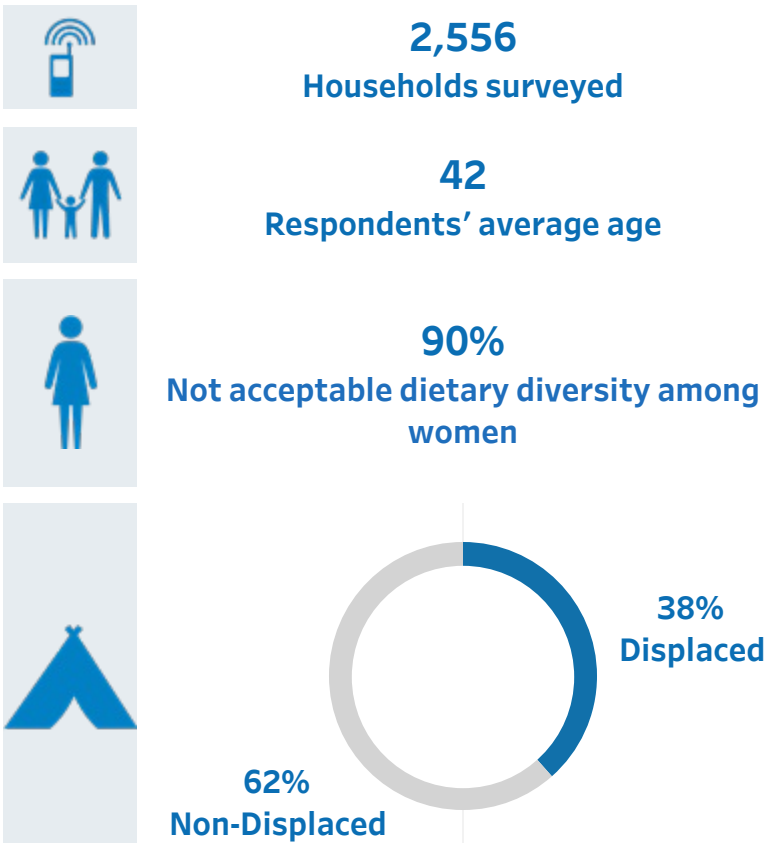


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Key Figures



Key Points

In line with the trend observed in previous years, food security indicators improved during Ramadan across Yemen.

Female headed-households are the most vulnerable group; the share of inadequate food consumption continues to increase.

Around 70 percent of households whose women did not have acceptable MDDW reported an acceptable food consumption score.

Food assistance to households in the past month contributed to their better food consumption and lower coping levels compared to households who did not receive it.

During the past three months, more than 40 percent of the respondents reached in multiple rounds reported having poor food access in at least one survey.

Situation Update

Five months after the UN brokered an agreement to demilitarise the Red Sea port city of Hudeydah, military forces loyal to the Huthi movement had withdrawn from the three main ports on Yemen's Red Sea coast.

However, fighting escalated in different parts of Yemen in recent weeks leading to spikes in displacement and civilian casualties. Hotspots included areas in Al Dhale'e and Taizz governorates in the south, and Hajjah in the northwest.

Airstrikes and shelling were reported in the border areas of Sa'ada, and there was an increase in violence in and around Sana'a Governorate.

On 5 May, a UN technical team led by the World Food Programme (WFP) gained access to the Red Sea Mills on the eastern outskirts of Hudeydah City as part of initial efforts to salvage a stock of 51,000 metric tons of wheat flour stored at the facility. The Mills have been inaccessible for the last eight months due to intense fighting.

In April, WFP provided general food assistance to 10.2 million people in 21 Yemeni governorates, 82 percent of the monthly target of 12.4 million people.

The acute fuel shortages experienced at the end of April in northern governorates appeared to subside. The long queues of vehicles at gas stations disappeared and fuel prices returned to the official rate. However, in Sa'ada, gas remains in short supply mainly. Cooking gas shortages are also reported in Hajjah and Sana'a.



mVAM Methodology for Yemen



vam
food security analysis



WORLD BANK GROUP



Women and Dietary Diversity

In May 2019, we interviewed 432 women with the MDD-W module. Also this month, overall more than 90 percent of the surveyed women did not reach the MDD-W and 75 percent consumed only three food groups during the day before the survey (Figure 1).

However, among those women who did not reach an acceptable diet an increase in the percentage of women consuming eggs, fruits and dairy products has been noticed in May, leading to a decrease in the share of women eating only two food groups a day by 12 percentage points when compared with April.

Around 70 percent of households whose women did not have acceptable MDDW reported an acceptable food consumption score.

Figure 1: Average number of food groups consumed by women

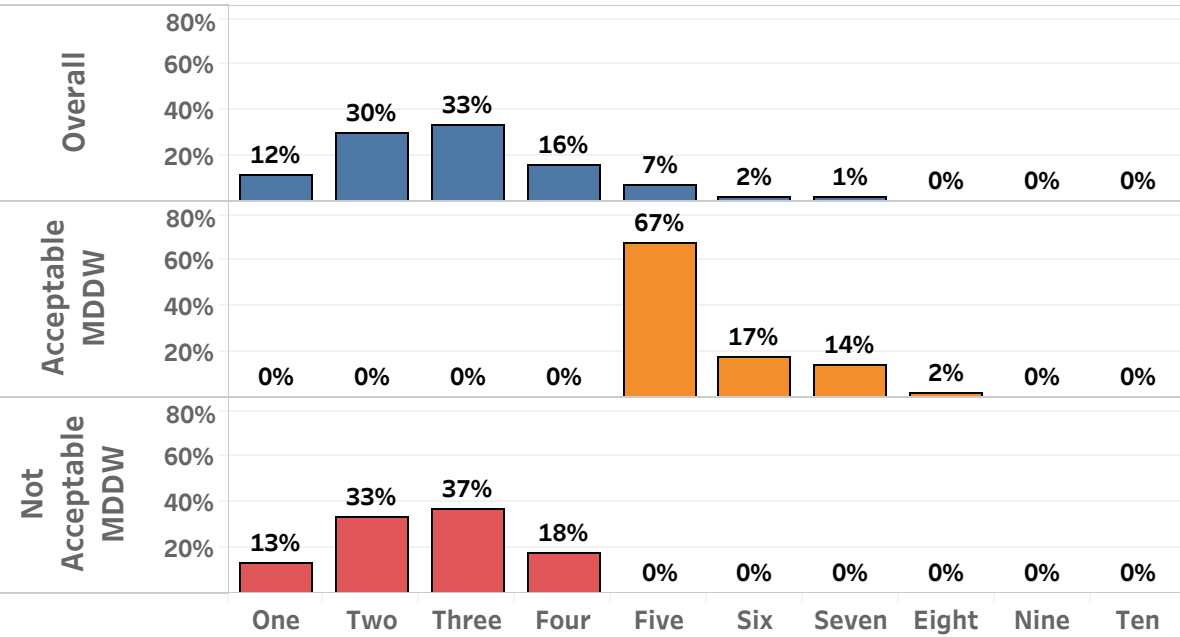
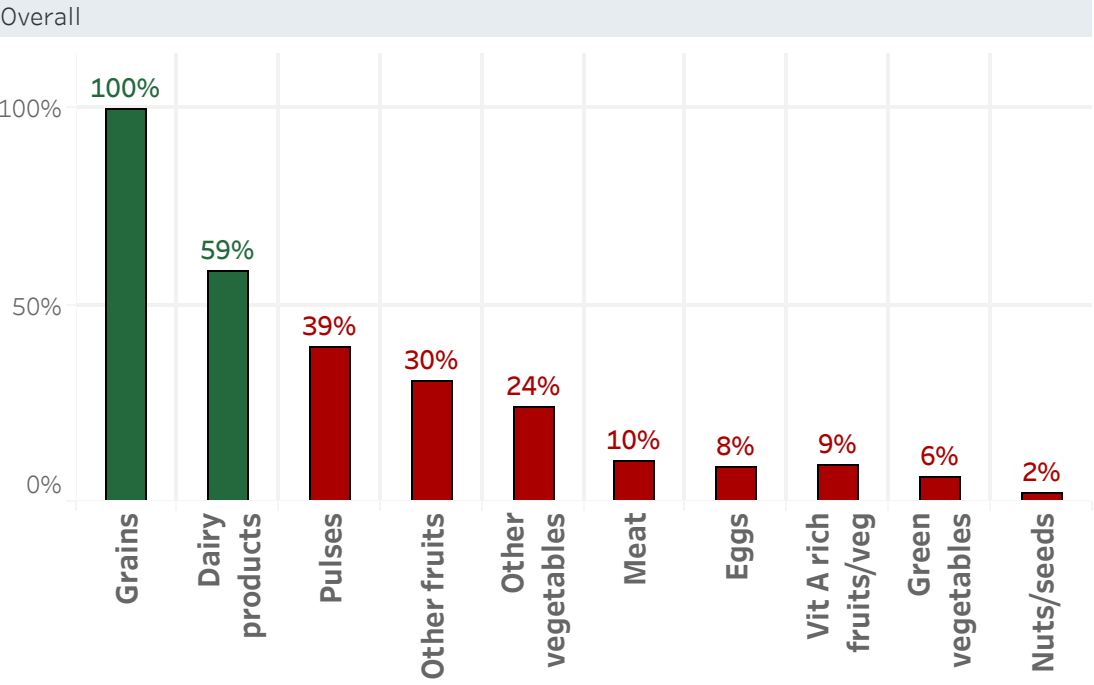


Figure 2: Percentage of households food consumption according to MDD-W

	Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
Acceptable MDDW	0%	0%	100%
Not Acceptable MDDW	9%	21%	70%

Figure 3: Percentage of women consuming MDD-W food groups

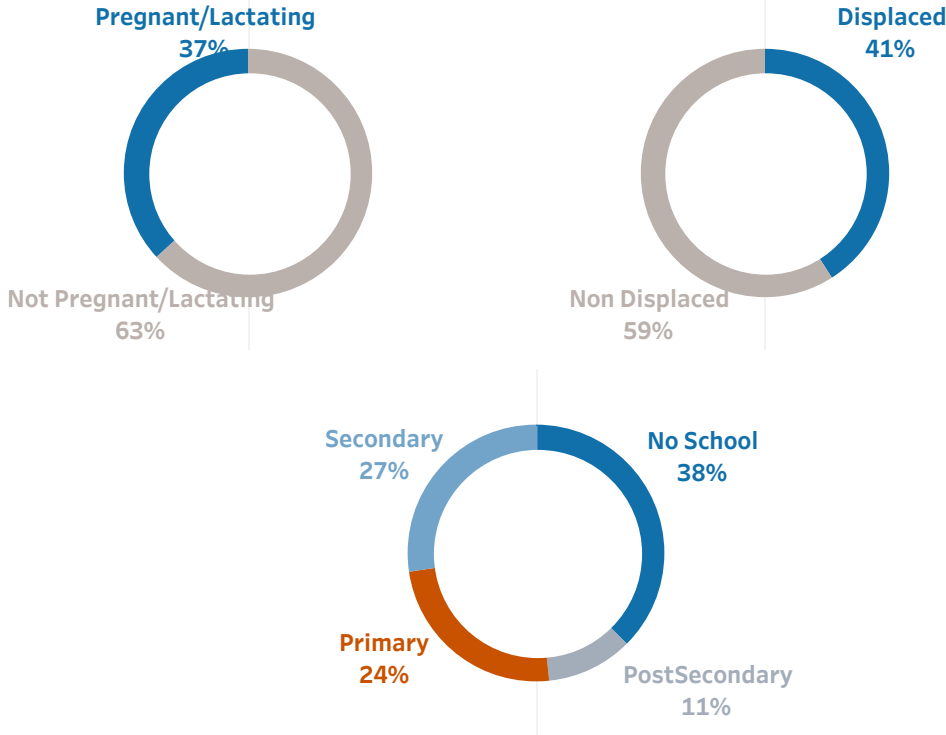


432
Women
respondants



32
Average age of
respondents

90%
Not Acceptable Dietary Diversity
(consumed less than 5 food groups)





Additional Deprivations and Multidimensional Poverty Analysis

Although there has been an improvement in food access and violence since last month, there has been very little change in the share of respondents who report at least one deprivation using the indicators defined in figure 4. The ranking of governorates by share of respondents facing multiple deprivations is essentially unchanged; only the share of respondents experiencing more than three deprivations is slightly changed downwards.

Many of the dimensions have not significantly varied over time. Figure 5 demonstrates that the shares facing deprivations in education and health have remained constant each survey- especially between April and May. Given this stability, any change that has occurred in the national averages between survey rounds has been primarily driven by changes in food access, displacement and violence.

As shown in figure 6, stability in access to health over the past three months is worse than for food access. Approximately 711 respondents reported having a serious enough illness requiring medical care in more than one interview, and approximately 50 percent of those 711 respondents reported to not receiving needed medical care in at least one round. This figure demonstrates that although only one-quarter of households have poor access to medical care in any one survey, around twice that share cannot access medical care over even a period as short as three months. Regarding food access, although the average share of respondents reporting poor food access in any individual survey is higher than the share reporting poor health access, the share of respondents reached in multiple rounds reporting to having poor food access in at least one survey is 41 percent.

Figure 4: Dimensions and indicators selected for the analysis

Dimensions (group)	Indicators1	Apr-19	May-19
Displacement	Displaced households	38%	38%
	Households host IDP's	33%	35%
Education	Any school-aged children not attending school	20%	20%
Health	Any member cannot receive needed medical care	29%	28%
Violence	Any violent incidents in the past month	44%	44%
Food Access	Households have inadequate food consumption score	37%	29%

Map 1: Share of respondents experiencing at least one deprivation

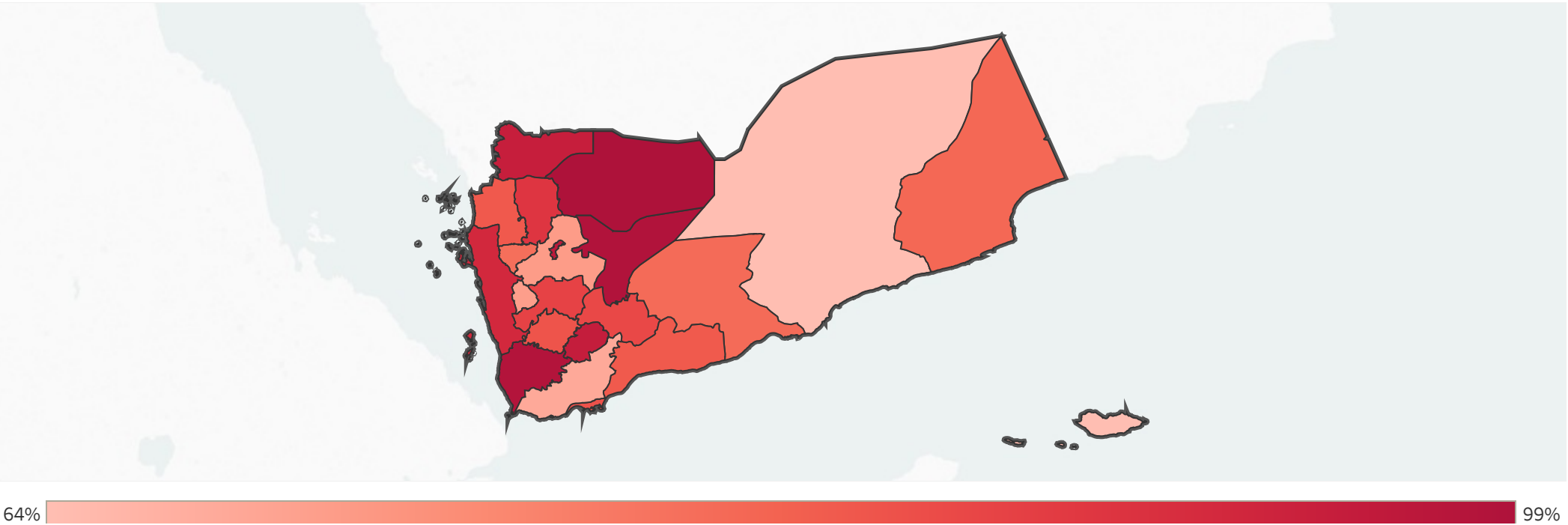


Figure 5: Deprivations shares by month

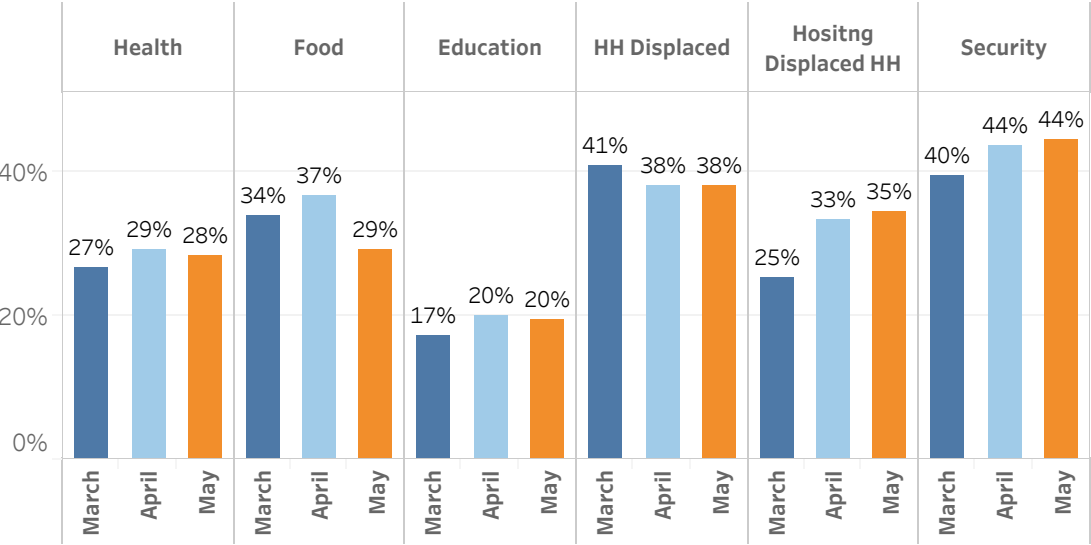
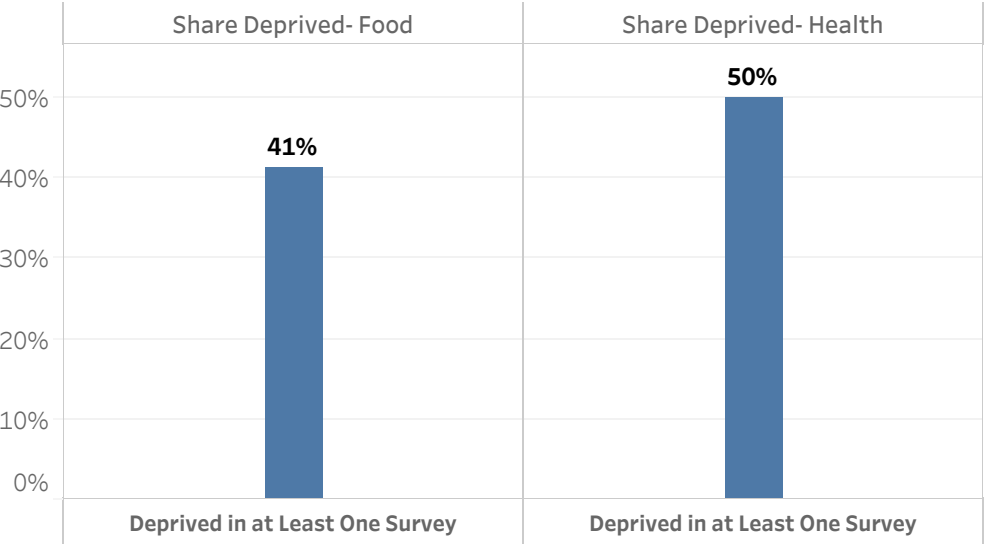


Figure 6: Share of deprivation in at least one survey (March - May 2019)





Violence and Food Consumption

Since the escalation of conflict in March of 2015, Yemen has undergone a profound transformation including an increase in violence, a disruption in supply chains, and a decline in the general economic climate that has left a large share of the population without the income to support their basic needs. These transformations have resulted in widespread food insecurity, where nearly half the population is severely food insecure.

There are several and different determinants of food insecurity but there is little concrete understanding of how each of these factors individually is contributing to the evolution of food security over time. A better understanding of how poor food access is related to conflict-related shocks- particularly violence and number of fatalities- is of critical importance and can help with the targeting of food assistance.

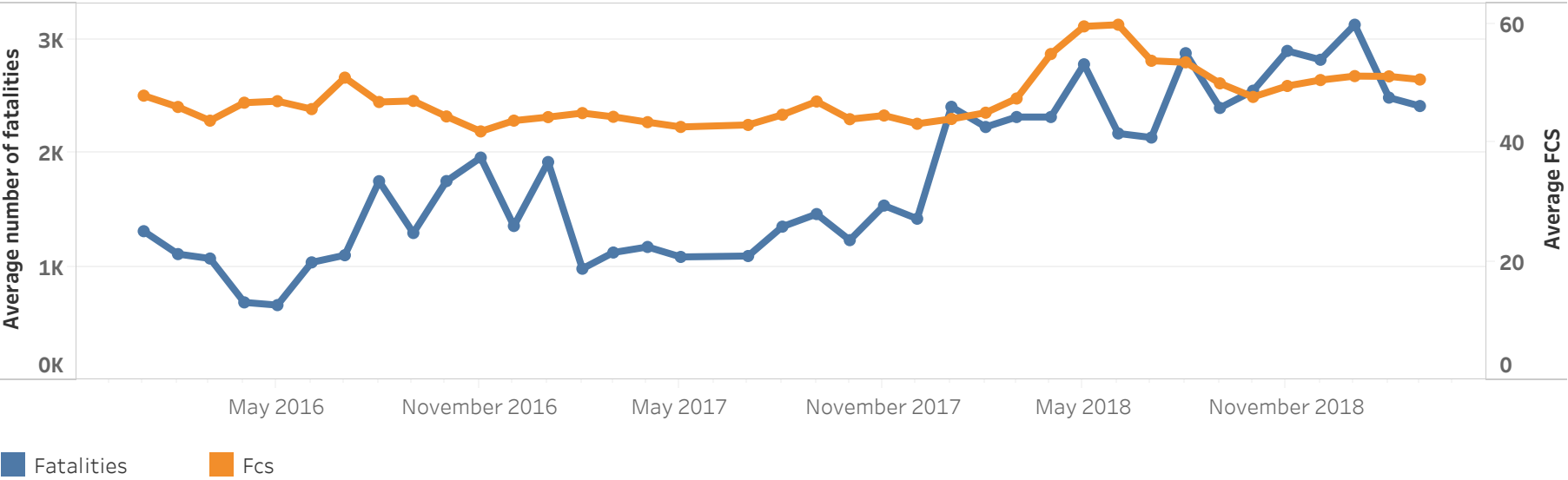
Figure 7 presents the national average Food Consumption Score (FCS) for each month of the survey and the number of fatalities in the country in each month as reported by the Armed Conflict Location and Event Database (ACLED). There seems to be little evidence that the worst food access corresponds to times of the most violence. Looking back over the entire course of the survey, this lack of relationship between violence and food access at the governorate level is not an artefact of the most recent survey and is evident in nearly every survey since 2015.

Average food consumption scores are similar across many of the governorates in the April survey (map 3). However, despite the similarity in food consumption in large parts of the country, there are significant differences in the levels of violence in each governorate (Map 2). In particular, there are governorates with little-to-no violence in the previous month that have some of the worst food access in the most current survey.

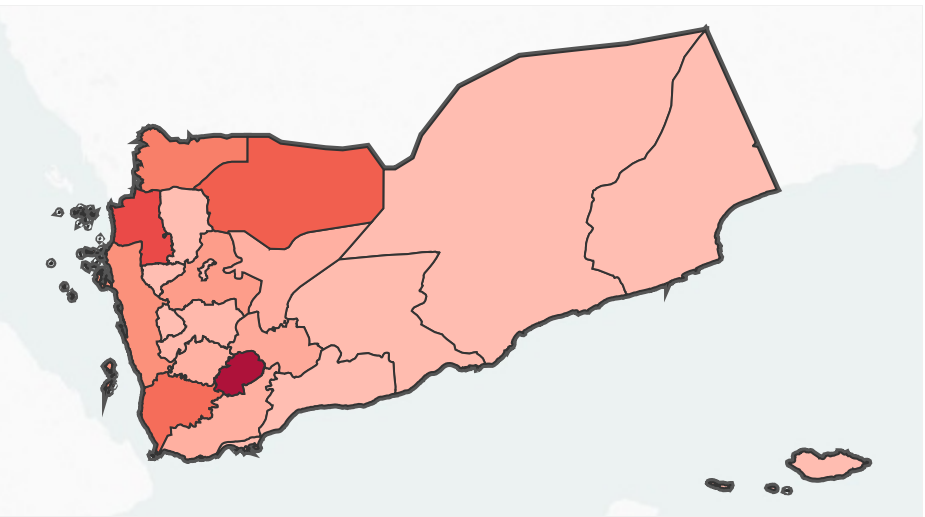
This is because poor food access is more strongly related to factors aside from violence- the disruption of supply chains, the poor economic climate, and a disruption to governance. Starting from September 2016, the payment of salaries for 1.2 million public sector employees was suspended amid a liquidity crisis and it partially resumed in early 2017. Due to the size of Yemen’s public sector, this has had catastrophic implications at a time when Yemen faces the worst humanitarian crisis in the world, in part because households cannot afford food. Where food is available, even in markets, people lack the cash to buy basic necessities, the prices of which have risen significantly. In April 2019, the food basket at national level costed 23 percent higher when compared to same month 2018 and the cost of cooking gas was 18 percent higher than in April 2018.

Although the aggregate patterns in violence and poor food access do not always match, it is possible that the regions most affected by violence actually are experiencing worsening food access that is not reflected in the average of the entire country. For example, Taizz has experienced the highest number of fatalities and is also reporting one of the lowest FCS across the country.

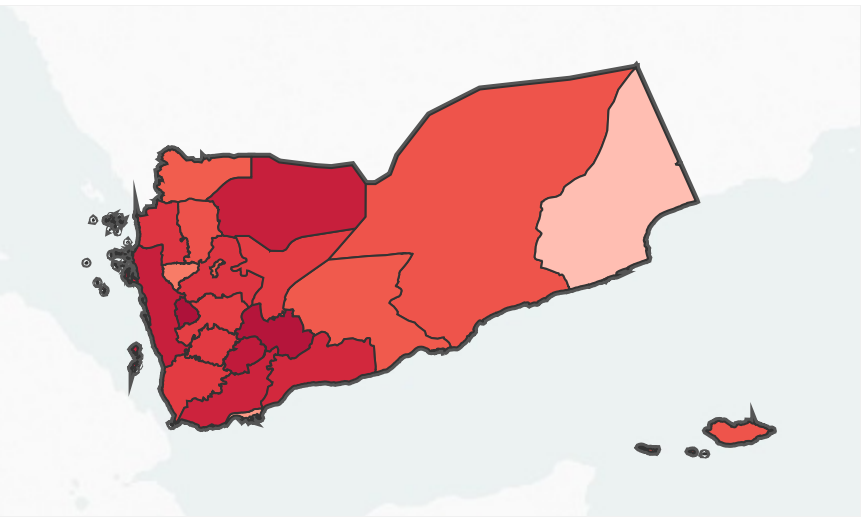
Figure 7: Aggregate trends in food access and number of fatalities over the course of the conflict



Map 2: Geographic distribution of violence- April 2019



Map 3 : Geographic distribution of food access- April 2019



Violence Data Sources:

ACLED

Uppsala

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Food Consumption

In May, the national mean FCS increased reaching the highest level in the past six months. This trend that has been observed also in previous years during the Ramadan when especially the poor and vulnerable households receive more assistance from the community and charity organization also in the form of food or livestock. The share of households with borderline food consumption decreased by 11 percentage points in May and stands at 30 percent.

The biggest improvement has been recorded in Hudeydah, Ad Dali, Hajjah, Sana'a and Raymah where the percentage of households having inadequate food consumption decreased on average by 20 percentage points.

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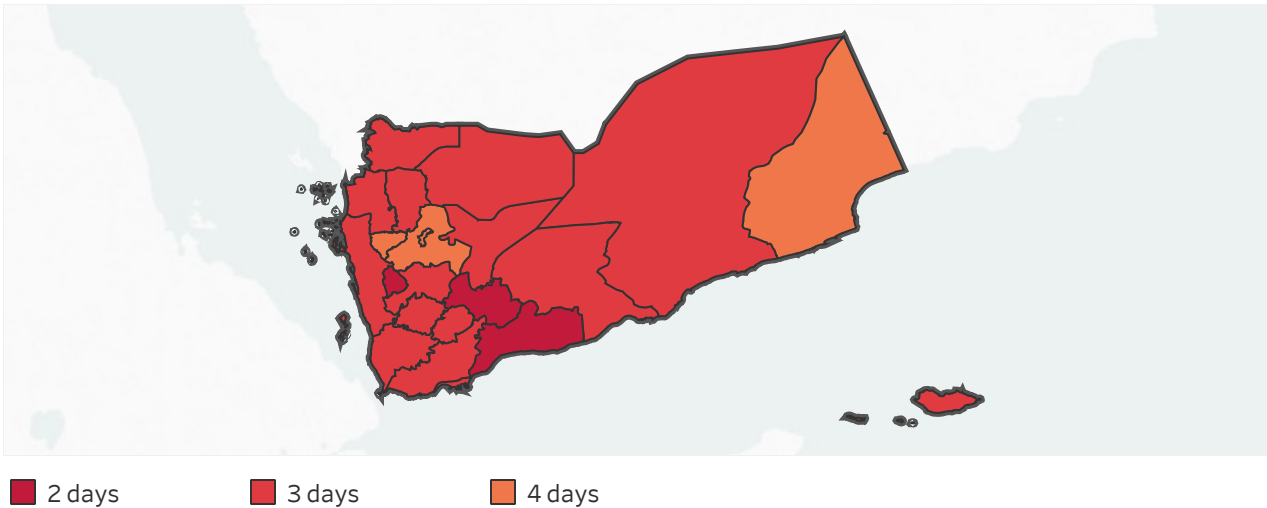
Food consumption improved also among displaced households as 33 percent reported a poor or borderline food consumption in May compared to 43 percent in April. An increase in the frequency of consumption of dairy products, proteins, fruits and vegetables has been observed in May, reflecting a more diverse diet. However, the increase especially in protein consumption has been recorded only among displaced households who reported an acceptable food consumption and diet.

Female headed-households are the most vulnerable group, reporting an increasing share of inadequate food consumption (35 percent): proteins and fruits are consumed only one time a week, while their diet consists mainly of sugar staples and fats.

The share of households receiving food assistance increased and thus their food consumption improved. Inadequate food consumption dropped from 41 percent in April to 30 percent in May.

Map 5: Average weekly consumption by governorate for

Dairy



Map 4 : Percentage of hosueholds by governorate with

Poor and Borderline Food Consumption

click on one or more governorates to get the correspondent figure 11 and figure 12

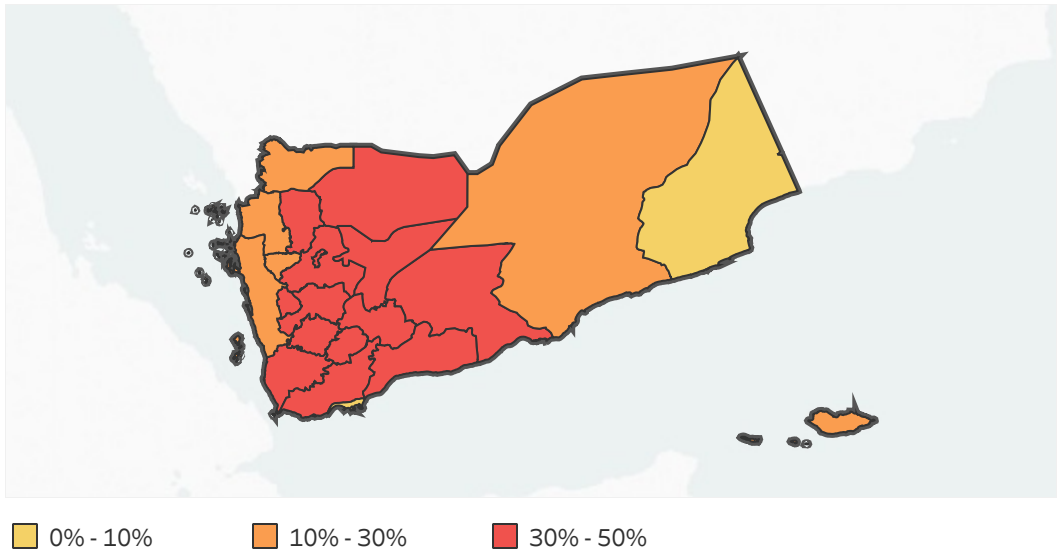


Figure 9: Percentage of households with inadequate food consumption (Dec 2018 - May 2019)

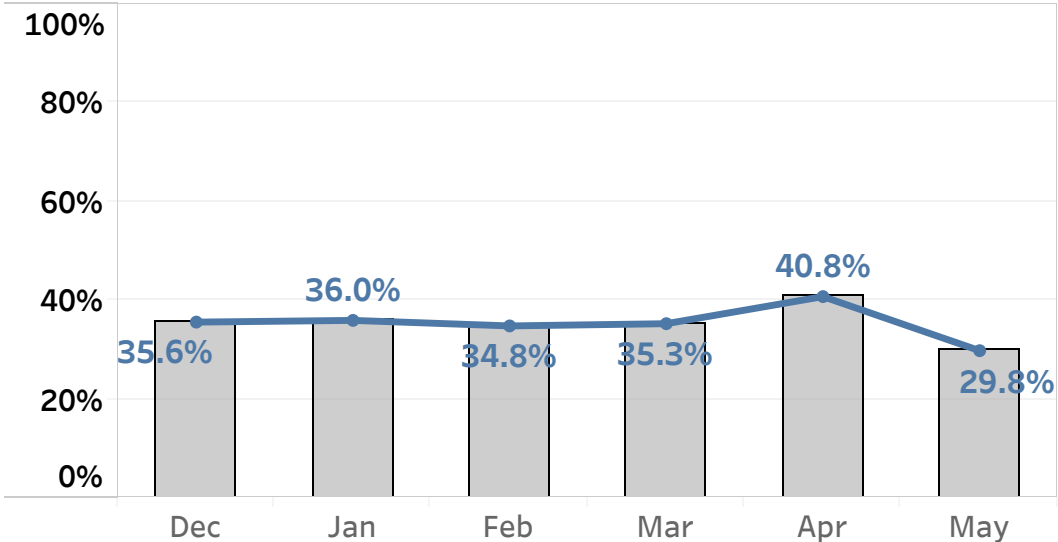


Figure 8: Percentage of households with no income source

for each food consumption group (May 2019)

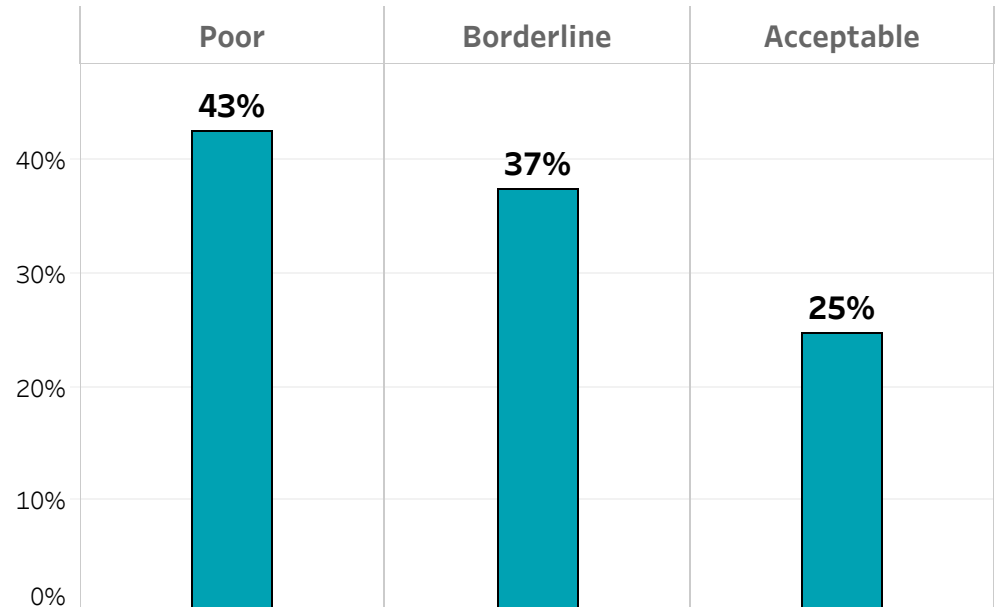
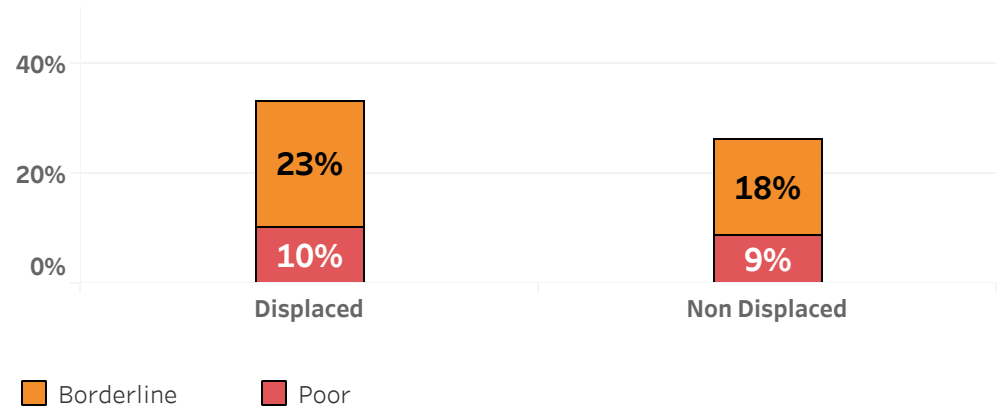


Figure 10: Percentage of households with inadequate food consumption (poor and borderline) according to

Displacement status



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Coping Strategies

In May, the national rCSI decreased from 21.6 in April to 20.5, however level of coping remains wide spread with 90 percent of the households relying at least to one coping strategy.

Among all the governorates in the country, the highest average rCSI reported in May was recorded once again in Hajjah (23.7) followed by Sana'a City (23.6). The overall use of coping strategies has decreased in Hudeydah and Ibb as households are specifically relying less frequently to restricting adults' consumption so that children can eat.

IDP households continue to apply coping strategies more often than non-IDP households, in particular buying less expensive and less preferred food or limiting portion sizes.

The increased levels of food assistance seem to have a positive impact on both households' food consumption and use of coping strategies. Overall, households who reported having received food assistance less than one month ago have the highest food consumption score and the lowest level of coping compared to those households who received assistance but more than one month ago.

Map 6 : Average of rCSI by governorate (May 2019)

Click on one or more governorates on the map to get the correspondent Figure 14

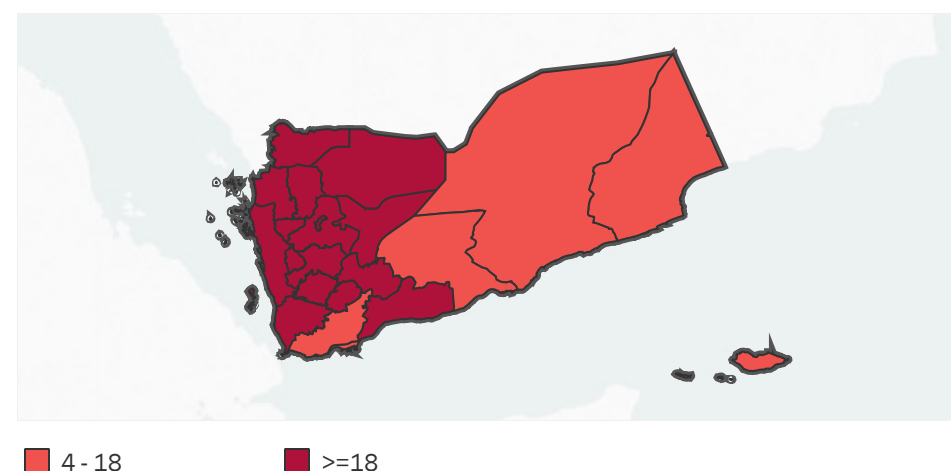


Figure 11: Percentage of households adopted food based coping strategy by displacement status

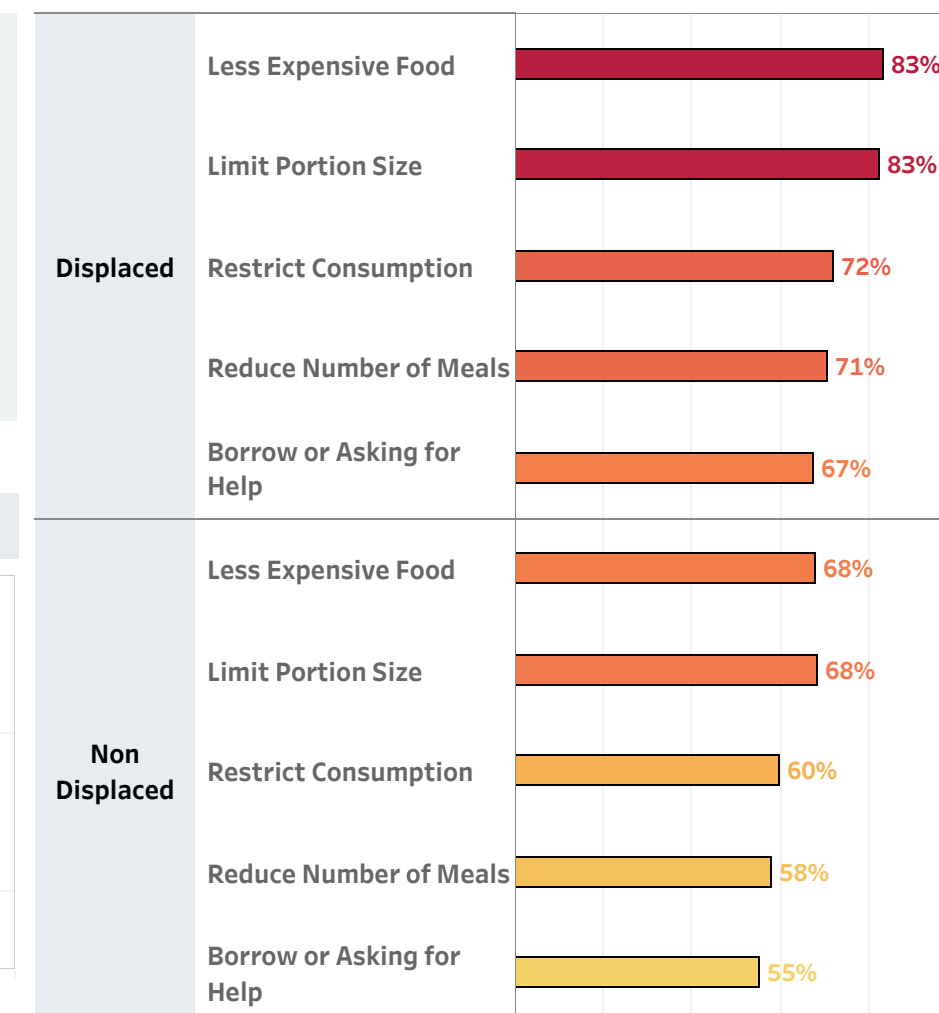


Figure 12: National average of rCSI and FCS according to last time food assistance received

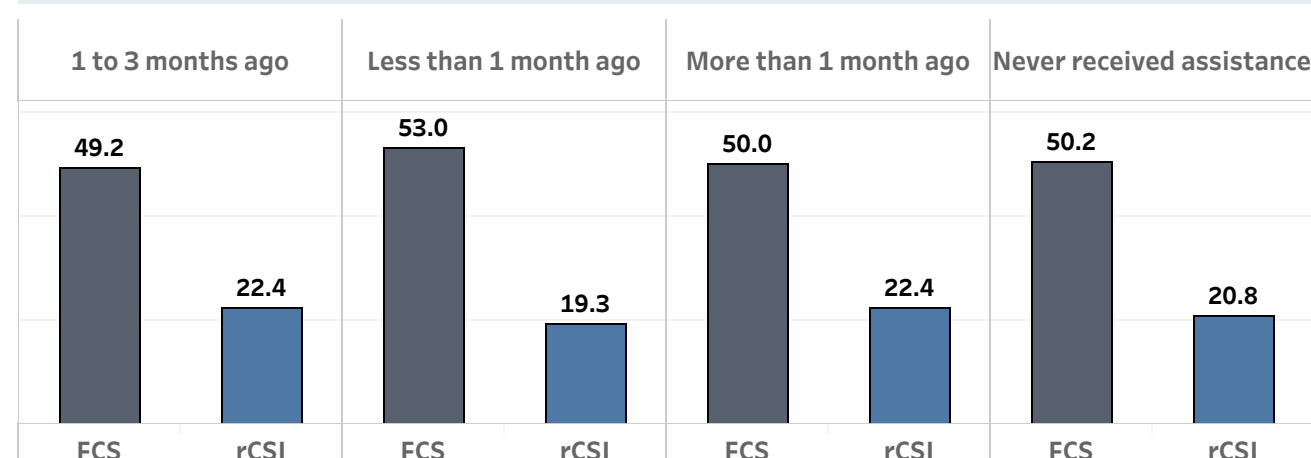
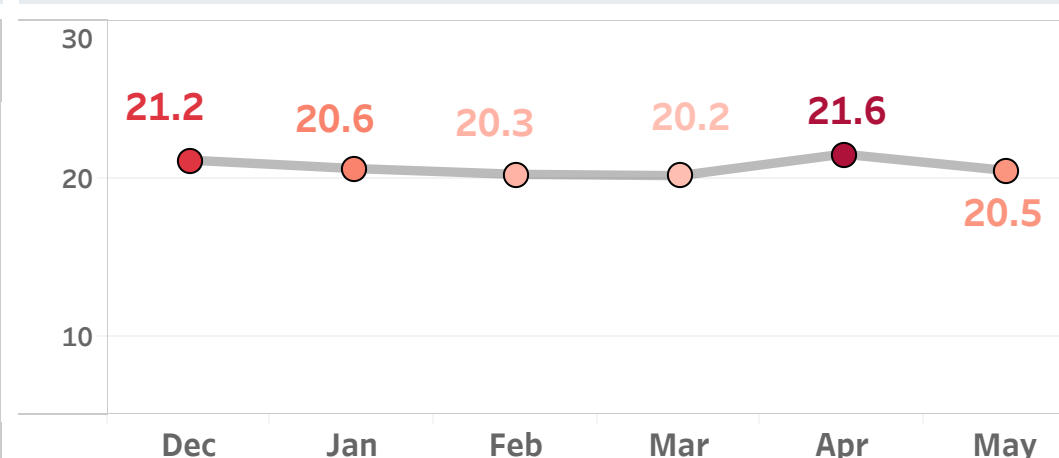


Figure 13: Average of rCSI (Dec 2018 - May 2019)



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