Fifth Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment in Armenia,

December 2022 – January 2023

WFP

World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Foreword and acknowledgements

This report provides an analysis of the food security and vulnerability status of the Armenian resident population. This analysis uses household data collected during December 2022 and January 2023 among 4,274 households in the capital city and all the regions of Armenia.

The data collection was conducted by R-Insights research company via Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI).

WFP thanks R-Insights company for organizing the data collection among households in Yerevan and all the regions of Armenia in cooperation with WFP Armenia "Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM) team. WFP Armenia appreciates the work of interviewers and data inputters, who conducted accurate and timely work in the field. The analysis and the report were prepared by WFP Armenia.

Contents

1. Executive Summary

Food Security and Vulnerability Assessments (FSVA) track the food security situation in Armenia and were initiated following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the Nagorno Karabakh (NK) conflict. The fifth Food Security and Vulnerability assessment (FSVA5) was carried out in all regions of Armenia from December 2022 to January 2023. The objective of the assessment was to evaluate the food security levels in the light of anticipated increase of expenditures related to winterization. The assessment was conducted among 4,274 households through Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) in Yerevan and all the regions of Armenia. The sampling was representative at national and regional levels.

The results of the FSVA5 showed that 30 percent of households were food insecure in Armenia. An additional 44 percent of surveyed households was marginally food secure suggesting that more than half of the population are at risk of becoming food insecure in case of a new shock or prolonged crisis. Only 1 out of 5 households (20 percent) in Armenia were categorized as food secure. Compared to July 2022, food insecurity levels have significantly increased by 7 percentage points. The main drivers for this were increased adoption of coping strategies, as well as the disruption of income. Another factor that can have influenced food security levels is the food price inflation, negatively affecting people's purchasing power.

The food insecurity levels were significantly higher in rural (34 percent) and other urban areas (31 percent) compared to Yerevan (24 percent). **In regions the highest rate of food insecurity was seen in Gegharkunik (39 percent), Lori (39 percent), Shirak (36 percent) and Tavush (36 percent).** The lowest rates were revealed in Yerevan (24 percent), Armavir (27 percent) and Syunik (27 percent). The analysis of food security levels per demographic characteristics showed that female-headed households were more food insecure compared to male-headed. Household heads (HH head) having a lower level of education were more prone to food insecurity. Other factors found to negatively influence food security in Armenia include household size, number of children and composition of only elderly households.

The analysis showed that 75 percent of households in Armenia adopted livelihood coping strategies to access food within a month, while 1 out of 2 households (44 percent) adopted crisis or emergency livelihood coping strategies to access food. Livelihood coping strategies measure the longer-term household coping capacities. The most common coping strategies used were spending savings (48 percent), purchasing food on credit (30 percent), reducing non-food expenditure on health and education (29 percent), and borrowing money (23 percent). Adoption of emergency coping strategies was particularly high among households from rural areas (10 percent), whereas crisis coping was widely adopted in Yerevan and other urban areas (42 percent each). Coping strategies are mostly adopted by households with 4 and more children, with 6 and members, households dependents on state social transfers.

The Reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI) is an experience-based indicator measuring the behaviour of households over the past seven days when they did not have enough food or money to purchase food. **According to FSVA5 findings, it was observed that during winter, approximately half of the households (47 percent) applied 'Reduced Coping Strategies'.**

As per regions, rCSI pinpointed that Lori (21 percent), Gegharkunik (20 percent), Vayots Dzor (20 percent) and Shirak (19 percent) regions applied high coping strategies. This indicates that

these regions had to employ more extensive coping measures to maintain food security compared to other regions.

FSVA5 showed that 75 percent of households had a stock of staple food. Of the households which reported having staple food stocks, 43 percent mentioned that stocks would last for more than a month. Additionally, 26 percent reported a coping duration of up to seven days, 17 percent mentioned a period of 15 to 30 days, and 13 percent reported a coping duration of 8 to 14 days.

According to FSVA5 findings, it was revealed that 39 percent of the households faced challenges in accessing the market 7 days prior to the interviews. Regarding the barriers to accessing food, the findings indicate that 31 percent of respondents mentioned lack of financial resources as a hindrance accessing food. Additionally, 25 percent mentioned other barriers, 17 percent identified increased food prices, 15 percent reported winterization costs, and 12 percent cited health issues as limiting their access to food.

About 45 percent of households reported an income change, and among those 66 percent had a disruption of income. Compared to FSVA4, the proportion of households reporting less than 25 percent income reduction was higher in FSVA5 (from 28 percent to 34 percent). A slight increase was revealed among households indicating reduction by more than 25 percent and less than 49 percent, as well as by more than 50 percent by 2 percentage points compared to FSVA4.

The share of total household expenditure spent on food is an indicator of household food security. The share of monthly expenditures used on food constituted 31 percent.

In this assessment, the question related to debts was referring **to only informally borrowing money from people and shops excluding loans and credits from any financial institutions.** FSVA5 showed that 30 percent of households have informal debts. Based on this, the analysis found out that the most preferable source for borrowing for the households was from a shop (74 percent mentioned borrowing food on credit from the nearby shop), then asking for money from relatives and friends (31 percent). The main reason for informal borrowing by households is food purchases (67 percent).

One of the objectives was to evaluate food security in the light of anticipated increase of expenditures related to winterization. The analysis showed that approximately half of the households (48 percent) had to allocate less money for food to cover the costs of heating, including gas and electricity bills. Approximately one-third of the households (36 percent) reported saving money on food in preparation for New Year festivities. Moreover, 19 percent of households had to compromise their food expenses to purchase winter clothes and shoes, with rural areas (24 percent) and other urban areas (21 percent) showing a higher proportion of households engaging in this practice.

Based on the findings, the recommendations are prepared and presented below:

Recommendation 1: In the light of recurring shocks (both economic and co-variate) that the past years have impacted Armenia and its population, set up a national early warning system and sectoral national early action mechanisms.

Establishing robust early warning systems can help anticipate and prepare for potential shocks that may lead to increased food insecurity. By identifying vulnerable populations in advance, it becomes possible to take early action to prevent them from falling below the food security threshold.

Recommendation 2: *Identify the root causes of food security and design Government programs across different sectors that address food insecurity.*

While short-term support is essential, addressing the underlying causes of food insecurity is equally important. The government and its partners should focus on improving economic opportunities, enhancing access to education and healthcare, and reducing inequality. These measures can contribute to long-term solutions and sustainable reduction in food insecurity.

Recommendation 3: *Build households' resilience addressing debt dependency.*

Many households in Armenia are trapped in a cycle of debt both formal and informal debts, which exacerbates their vulnerability to food insecurity. It is recommended to adopt a comprehensive approach that combines social work, financial literacy and management, and behaviour change interventions to address debt dependency and empower households to break free from this cycle.

Recommendation 4: *Introduce vertical expansion of Government assistance programs to subsidize winterization costs.*

It is recommended that the government, in partnership with the WFP and other relevant partners, increases support for vulnerable households, particularly those who are struggling to afford enough food. This could include providing food assistance, cash transfers, or other forms of support that would help these households to meet their basic needs.

2. Background

Food Security and Vulnerability Assessments (FSVAs) in Armenia track food security in the country among local population and were initiated following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the Nagorno-Karabakh (NK) post-conflict situation. The NK conflict escalated outside Armenia in September-November 2020, which resulted in an inflow of displaced people to Armenia. The post-conflict situation and the ongoing crisis have affected local and regional food systems with substantial consequences on people's access to food.

In September 2022 the conflict escalated on the borders of Armenia, in particular in three regions: Gegharkunik, Syunik and Vayots Dzor. This caused internal displacement of households residing in bordering settlement.

Additionally, since 2020 Armenia faced an increase of Consumer Price Index, as well as food price inflation reaching 9.4 percent in January 2023 (compared to the same month of the previous year).

This assessment was conducted among local population in all the regions of Armenia. The FSVA findings inform Republic of Armenia (RA) Government and stakeholders about the food security levels in the country and are used to design emergency and development programs targeting food insecure populations in the country.

FSVA5 provides a baseline to WFP to compare food security among Armenian nationals with previous 4 assessments, conducted in July 2020, December 2020, April 2021 and June 2022. It aims at contributing to the evidence base for emergency response planning, targeting as well as prioritizing of actions for relevant stakeholders. Data collection and data cleaning for the fifth round of FSVA was conducted by the research company R-insights while the analysis and report writing was done by the Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM) unit within WFP Armenia.

3. Methodology

3.1. Research objective and questions

The overall objective of the study was to understand food insecurity rates in Armenia at household level in the light of emerging winterization needs and the anticipated increase of expenditures.

In other words, it was aimed to understand how growing winterization needs during winter season disrupt the dynamics of households' overall expenditures and influence their food security level. This assessment would also help to uncover the influence of seasonality on food security rates across the country.

The assessment answered the following questions:

- Which population groups are food and nutrition insecure (the share of affected population, geolocation, profiles of households affected)? For food insecurity and nutrition measurement WFP specific indicators were used for assessment.
- Which population groups are food-insecure now (how many are affected now, where are they located, how many will be affected in the future)?
- How have shocks impacted food availability in the country and households' accessibility to food?
- How has the economic vulnerability of households changed during the past year and how this change is reflected in their food security levels?
- How are households allocating their resources and prioritizing different and possibly new essential needs including winterization, food, hygiene, health, shelter, transport, etc.?
- Are the households prone to deploy coping mechanisms while meeting their food needs? If so, what are the most applied coping mechanisms?
- Have emerging winterization needs disrupted households' overall expenditures and impaired their food security?
- How has the financial situation changed in the households, as well as the monthly income and expenditure per capita?
- What is the level of indebtedness?

3.2. Data collection method and tool

The assessment was conducted remotely using computer assisted telephone-based interviewing (CATI), for harvesting data. Benefits of this system involved:

1. Designing/programming the questionnaire online by eliminating logical errors, minimizing data entry errors and cutting costs on data entry exercises.
2. Audio recording of 100 percent of the interviews (with respondents' prior consent) to enable total quality checks of interviews.
3. Generating a database of questionnaires in a real-time mode, i.e., each filled-in questionnaire is placed in a unified database on a central server immediately after completing for each interview.

4. Possibility to track interviewers in the field, tracking duration of interviews, executing online follow up to interview process etc.

The average interview duration for the FSVA5 assessment was 30 minutes which is approximately 15 minutes less than FSVA4 (45 minutes), and 4-6 minutes less than FSVA1, FSVA2, FSVA3 (FSVA1 and FSVA2 lasted 34 and 35 minutes respectively, and FSVA3 lasted 36 minutes on average).

The Food Security and Vulnerability assessment 5 (FSVA5)[1] was conducted among households in Armenia from December 2022 to January 2023, interviewing the member of the household who could best answer household food consumption and expenditure related questions.

Data collection process was suspended during New Year season to avoid accumulation of skewed data on food consumption and expenditures of interviewed households. The response rate within that time span was much lower than in usual though overall response rates have dramatically decreased and it has become much more difficult to implement the required number of successful interviews.

Research tool – the questionnaire, consisted of 7 sections: demographic information, household assets, food consumption and food sources, livelihood coping strategies, food and market accessibility, income sources and expenditures, main concerns of respondents. Data collection and cleaning was carried out by R-Insights with the technical support of WFP while the analysis of data was performed by the RAM unit within WFP Armenia.

3.3. Sample

The target group of the assessment was the adult population residing in Armenia for at least 10 months during the previous year. The sample was drawn using random dialling.

The survey used a nationally and regionally representative random sample (95 percent confidence interval, 1.5 percent margin of error for nationally representative and 5 percent margin of error for regionally representative random sample). The sample structure implied the following strata: capital city, other urban and rural settlements in regions. The sample size was 4,274 (see ANNEX 2). The data were weighted using regional and settlement type (urban/rural) proportions in the country.

---

[1] Food Security and Vulnerability assessment round 1 (FSVA 1) was conducted from June to July 2020

4. Key findings

4.1. Demographic information

The survey was conducted among adult residents of the Republic of Armenia, who had resided in the country for more than 10 months during the past 12 months. The average number of households interviewed in each region was 380, including Yerevan, which assures the representativeness of data at regional level. The data in this analysis was weighted to gain regional and national level representativeness. This analysis is based on the results of weighted data.

The proportion of the interviewed households from urban and rural settlements was 67 and 33 percent respectively.

Figure 1: Distribution of households by settlement type, percent
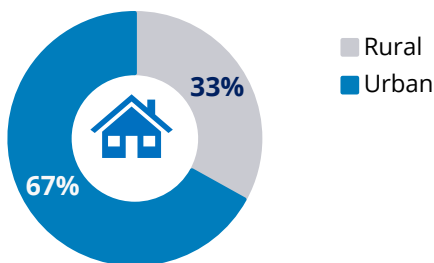
The interviews were conducted with the household member who was most aware about the household's food consumption, expenditures, diet choices and decisions and could provide accurate answers. Hence, the number of female respondents almost twice exceeded the number of males (69 percent and 31 percent respectively).

Figure 2: Sex of the respondent, percent
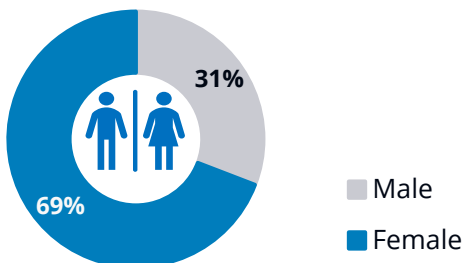
Meanwhile, among the interviewees, 62 percent indicated having a female head of household while 38 percent mentioned a male as their household head.

According to the accumulated data, 42.5 percent of the interviewed households had 5 and more members. The proportion of the households comprising of only one member was 8.6 percent, while households with 4 members counted to be 19.5 percent among all the interviewed ones. The average number of household members interviewed during the assessment was 4.2. Rural – urban distribution of households revealed the average number of rural and urban households being 4.8 and 3.9 members.

Figure 3: Number of household members, percent
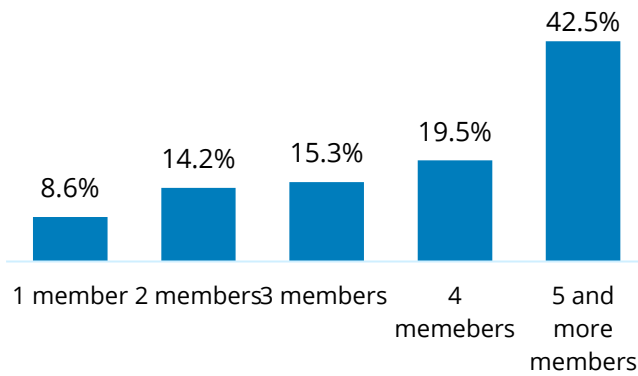
Figure 4: Average number of HH
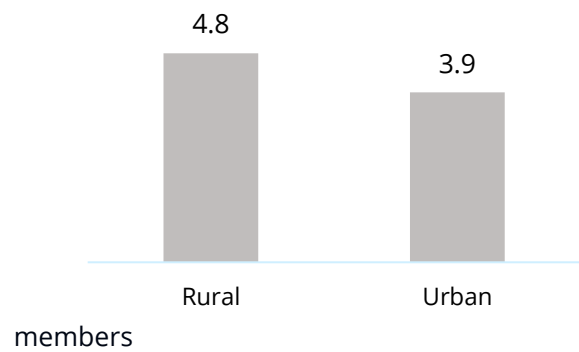
Most of the households (48 percent) being interviewed during the assessment reported having a pensioner in their family. 43 percent of the households in the 5th assessment had a member with chronic illness, and 25.6 percent had a disabled member. The proportion of FLSEBP beneficiaries in the 5th food security assessment was approximately 15 percent. Single parent families constituted 10.5 percent, while HHs with 3 and more children were almost 14 percent.

Figure 5: Household profiles, percent
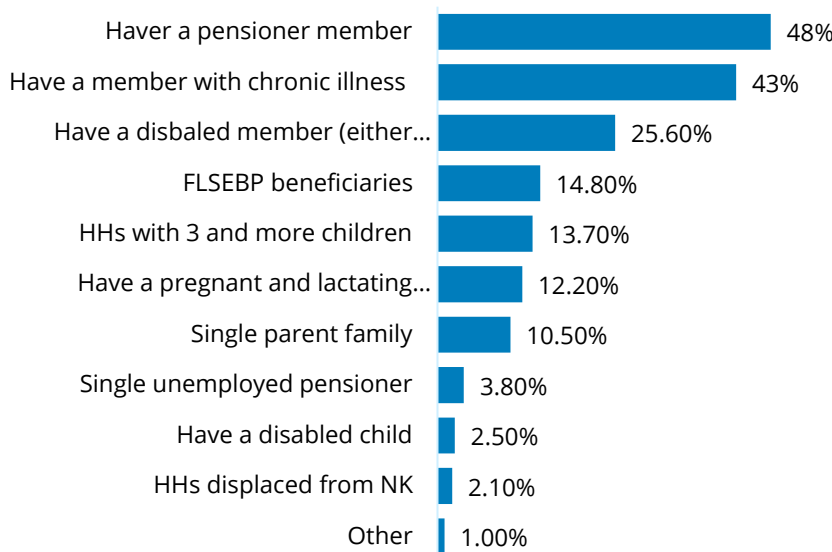
Salaried work with regular income was the main source of income among almost the half of the households participated in the 5th food security assessment. On the other hand, one fifth of the interviewed households turned to receive pensions, disability support or other type of state social support as the main income source to sustain their families. Specifically, pensions were the second biggest group of main income source dominating among 11 percent of the interviewed households. Informal daily/casual work was the main income source among 10.5 percent of households. Regular state social support program (FLSEBP) was a main income source among approximately 4 percent of the interviewed households.

Figure 6: Main income sources of the households, percent

Income source	Percent
Salaried work with regular income	49.8
Pension	11.4
Informal daily/casual labour	10.5
Horticulture/cattle breeding	6.4
Own business/trade	4.8
Regular state social support program (FLSEBP)	3.7
Disability support	3.3
Retail/selling on street	1.7
Remittances from relatives living abroad	1.1
Remittances/support from relatives living in Armenia	0.6
Assistance received from NGOs	0.3
Emergency state social support program	0.2
Other state assistance	0.1
Income from renting real estate/car/equipment	0.0

The proportion of households with children during the 5th assessment of food security was 57 percent, whereas the share of households having no children was 43 percent. Meanwhile almost the half of the interviewed households had 1-3 children. The proportion of the households having 4 and more children comprised 4 percent.

Figure 7: Households with children, percent HHs,

Figure 8: Number of children in

HHs with no children
HHs with children

57% 43%

43% 52% 4%

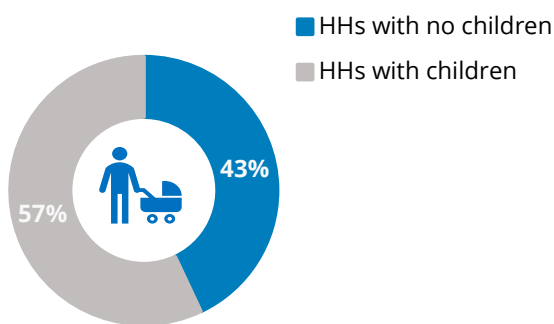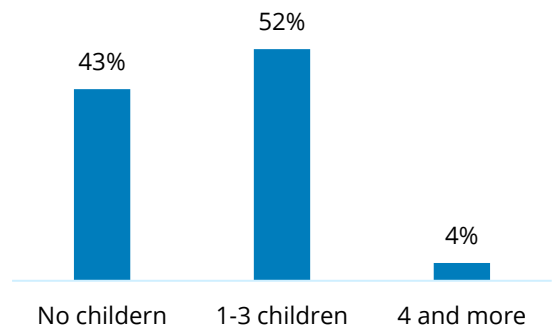No childern   1-3 children   4 and more

4.2 Comprehensive Food Security

The Consolidated approach for reporting indicators of food security (CARI) is a harmonized WFP method used to analyse primary data from a single household food security survey, and to classify individual households according to their level of food security. It can also be used to carry out vulnerability profiling of households and to identify targeting criteria for WFP programming.

The Food security indicator is an aggregated food security index to report on the population's comprehensive food security status. It combines different food security indicators into one and this composite indicator is used to determine the number of food-insecure people when data from regular assessments are not available due to access issues. It is to assess at a given point of time a) the status of households' food consumption (assessed based on food consumption patterns); and b) the coping capacity of households to meet future needs (assessed based on economic vulnerability and adoption of livelihood coping strategies).

The console combines three widely used food security indicators in addition to the household's main income source to determine the household's food security status (see annex 1):

a. The Food Consumption Score (FCS), a composite score based on the dietary diversity, food frequency, and relative nutritional importance of eight food groups that are consumed by the household during the seven days prior to the interview.

b. The Reduced Coping Strategy Index that combines the frequency and severity of coping strategies that households employ when they do not have enough food or lack resources to buy food.

c. Livelihood Coping Strategies that are coping behaviours that cause changes in income earning activities and affects the capacity of families to generate income in the future and to react to future shocks. Livelihood Coping Strategies are categorized as stress, crisis, or emergency strategies according to the severity of the strategy adopted.

The analysis shows that 26 percent of households are food secure, which means that they have acceptable food consumption score, don't adopt any coping mechanisms to have food and have stable economic situation.

The share of households categorized as marginally food secure has decreased from 57 percent in FSVA4 to 44 percent in FSVA5. These are households which are at risk of falling into food insecurity, as they have borderline food consumption score, adopt coping and have volatile economic conditions. This category reflects the changes in the county. During this winter a number of households fell into food insecurity and about the same number were categorized as food secure. This is an alarming finding, as almost half of the population are at risk of falling below the food security threshold in case of any individual or systematic shock.

Food insecurity levels increased to 30 percent out of which 28.7 percent of households were moderately food insecure and 1.3 percent were severely food insecure.

Compared to the previous FSVA (Jul 2022: FSVA4), food insecurity levels significantly increased by 7 percentage points *(Chi2 test, P value < 0.0001, df=1)*. This is the highest level of food insecurity seen since the first FSVA conducted in July 2020.

One of the objectives of this assessment was to understand how winter impacts the food security levels in the country. The hypothesis that food security levels disrupt in winter was proved. One of the main factors affecting food security in Armenia during winter months high level of economic instability, which can exacerbate food insecurity during the winter months. Many families in Armenia struggle to afford food throughout the year, and the added expenses of heating and winter clothing during the winter can make it even more difficult to make ends meet.

The disruption can be conditioned with different factors, such as food inflation, high coping mechanisms and security issues in the country.

Figure 10. Food security levels per 5 assessments, percent
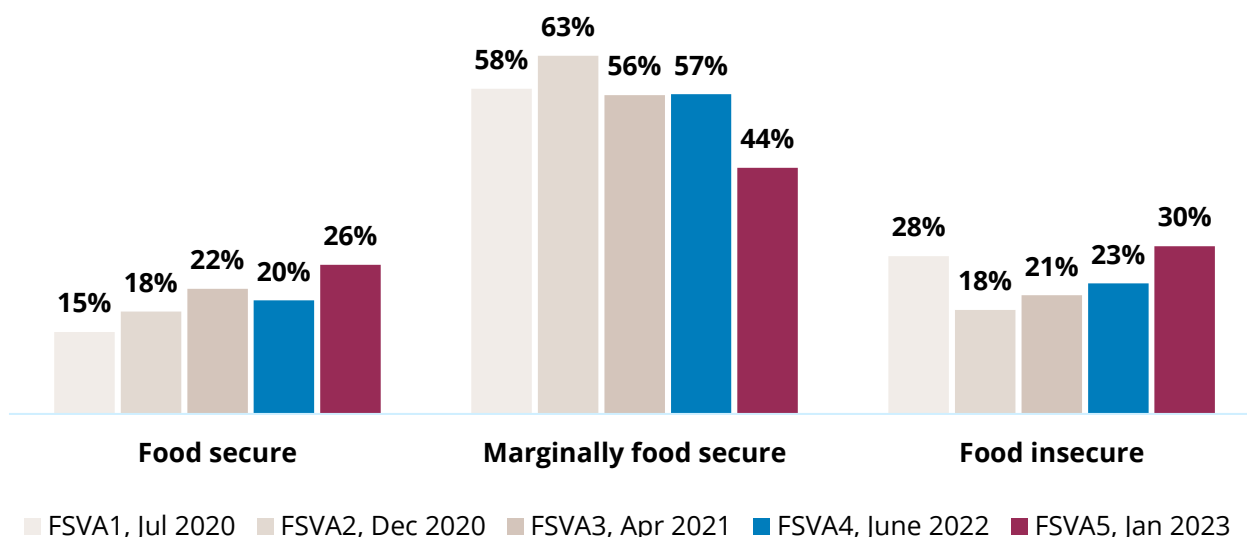
The analysis per location categories showed higher levels of food insecurity in other urban (33 percent) and rural (34 percent) areas compared to Yerevan (24 percent) in winter. There are different reasons for this. In rural areas, usually, the main livelihood source is agriculture. Thus, during winter, rural households face the challenge of not being able to cultivate land or grow fruits and vegetables both for their own consumption and as an income source. This brings income disruption and the adoption of coping strategies which are the components of food security indicator.

Figure 11: Comprehensive food security by settlement type, FSVA5, percent
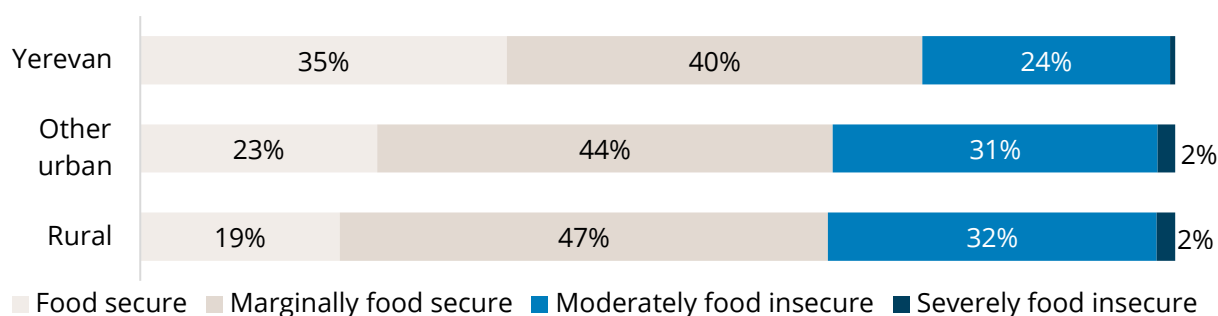
The regions with the highest rate of food insecurity were Gegharkunik (39 percent) and Lori (38 percent) regions.

In Shirak (36 percent), Tavush (36 percent) and Vayots Dzor (34 percent) the levels of food insecurity were also high compared to other regions. The lowest food insecurity levels were in Yerevan (24 percent), Armavir (27 percent) and Syunik (27 percent) regions.

Figure 12. Comprehensive food security levels by regions, percent

Region	Food secure	Marginally food secure	Food insecure
Gegarkunik	15%	46%	39%
Lori	18%	44%	38%
Shirak	18%	45%	36%
Tavush	20%	44%	36%
Vayots Dzor	20%	46%	34%
Aragatsotn	22%	45%	33%
Kotayk	27%	41%	32%
Ararat	26%	45%	30%
Armavir	22%	51%	27%
Syunik	22%	51%	27%
Yerevan	35%	40%	24%

Like previous assessments, the highest rates of food insecurity were in the northern regions, however starting from FSVA4 high food insecurity levels have changed in southern regions as well, in particular in Syunik and Vayots Dzor regions.
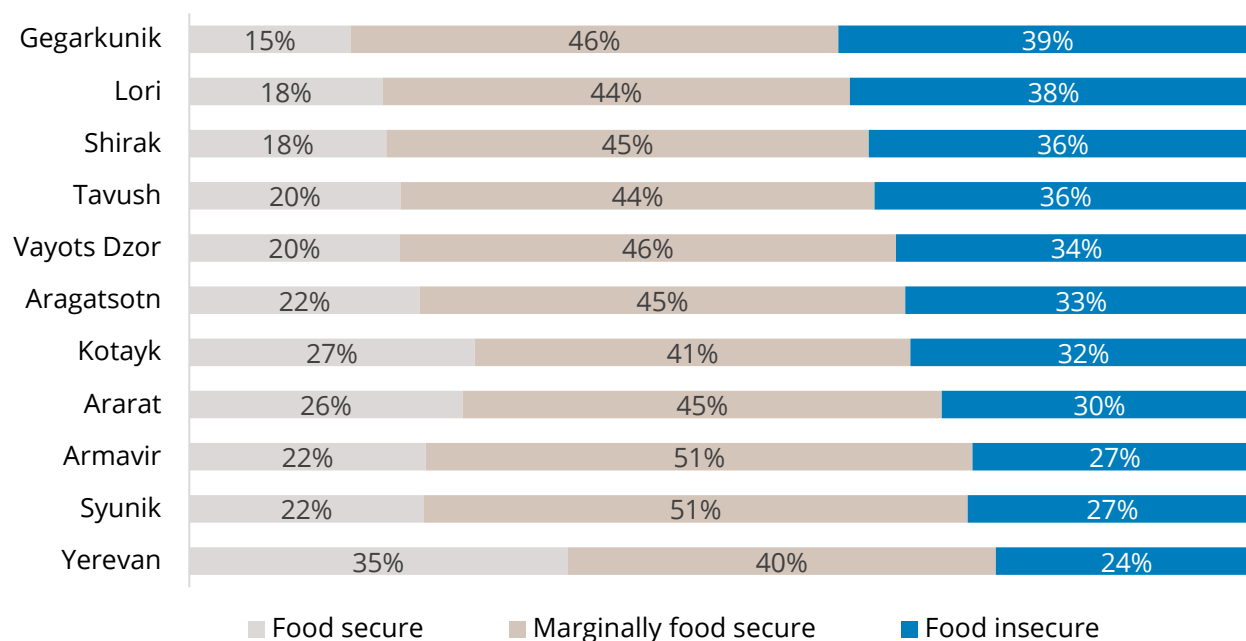
Food security in Armenia has been impacted by multiple factors, particularly in regions that share borders with Azerbaijan following the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in 2020. In addition, the communities bordering Gegharkunik, Syunik, and Vayots Dzor regions were adversely affected by military aggressions that occurred in September 2022, leading to disruptions in their livelihoods.

As seen in figure 12, the highest shares of marginally food secure households are in Syunik (51), Armavir (51 percent), Vayots Dzor (46 percent) and Gegharkunik (46 percent) regions. The lowest percentage of marginally food secure households is in Yerevan (40 percent).

Based on household profiles, households with a household head (HH head) above 60 years of age had a higher likelihood of experiencing food insecurity (33 percent) compared to those where the HH head was between the ages of 18-59 years old (29 percent). Gender was also found to be significantly associated with food security, with female-headed households experiencing more food insecurity (33 percent) compared to male-headed households (24 percent) (t-test, p-value=0.000). Educational level was also a significant factor, with households where the HH head had a higher level of education having lower levels of food insecurity (p-value=0.000). The number of children in the household was also correlated with food security levels, with households having three or more children under the age of 18 being more food

insecure (44 percent) compared to those with no children (24 percent), one child (28 percent), and two children (34 percent) (t-test, p-value=0.000). Households having a disabled member were found to be more food insecure.

Table 1: Food Security levels per household profiles

	Food secure	Marginally food secure	Food insecure
Sex of the household head			
Male	32%	44%	24%
Female	23%	44%	**33%**
Age of the household head			
18-59 years old	32%	44%	29%
60 years old and above	26%	48%	**33%**
Education of the household head			
Secondary education	18%	45%	**37%**
Incomplete high/vocational education	22%	44%	35%
Higher education	43%	39%	18%
Number of children			
No child	33%	44%	24%
1 child	28%	45%	28%
2 children	22%	44%	34%
3 and more children	15%	41%	**44%**
HHs consisting of only single pensioner			
Yes	19%	40%	**42%**
No	43%	40%	17%
Disabled child in the household			
Yes	10%	35%	**56%**
No	22%	44%	34%
Disabled adult in the household			
Yes	17%	42%	**42%**
No	30%	44%	26%
Displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh			
Yes	9%	42%	**50%**
No	27%	44%	30%

4.3. Household Food Consumption

The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is WFP's proxy for a household's access to food. The score is comprised of three levels: poor consumption, borderline consumption, and acceptable consumption[2]. This part of the report is devoted to the comprehensive analysis of food consumption by various social-demographic groups and changes over time by comparing the current survey's results (FSVA5) with the previous assessments.

---

[2] For more information on index visit FCS - Food Consumption Score Guidelines

The analysis of FCS in this assessment showed that 94 percent of the households had acceptable food consumption level. On the other hand, 5 percent fell into "borderline" whereas mere 1 percent was categorized into "poor" food consumption group. Within all 5 assessments "acceptable" category demonstrated an upward trend. Further analysis of acceptable FCS showed, however, that 41 percent out of 94 percent had adopted coping mechanisms.

Figure 15. Food consumption score per 5 assessments, percent

41% applied coping strategies

■ FSVA1, Jul 2020   ■ FSVA2, Dec 2020   ■ FSVA3, Apr 2021   ■ FSVA4, June 2022   ■ FSVA5, Jan 2023
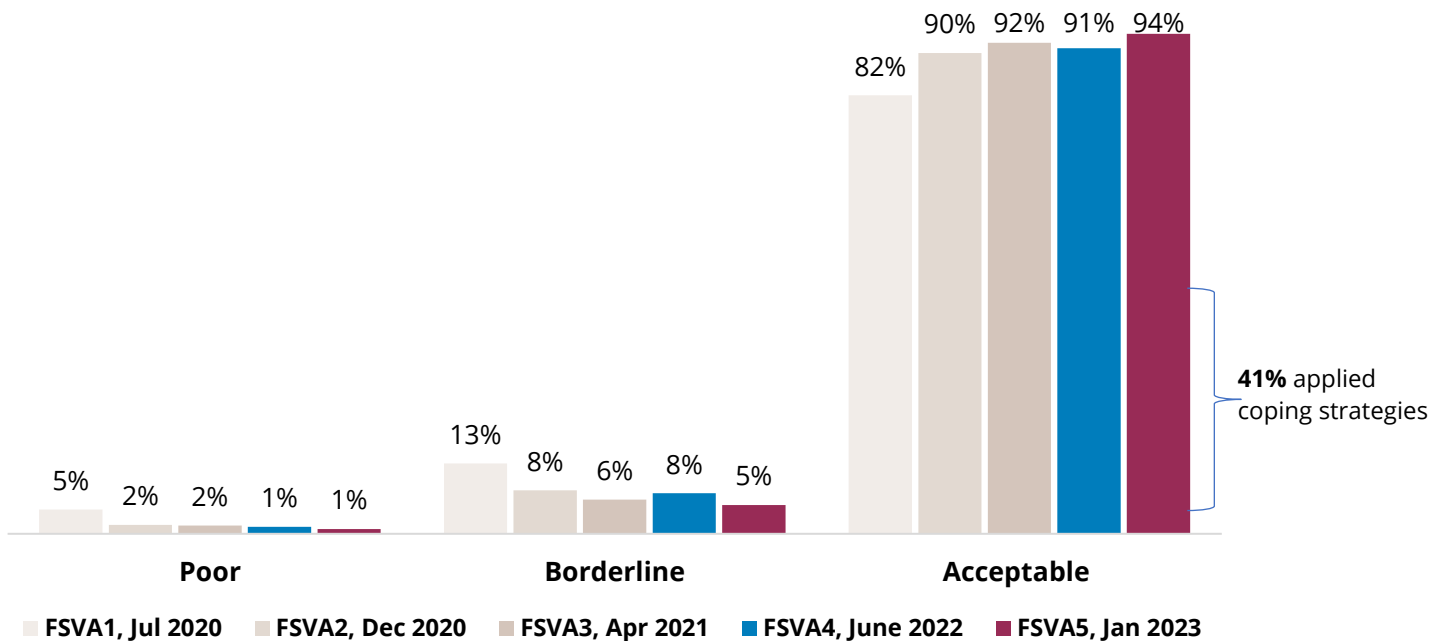
In FSVA5 the comparison of FCS per settlement type showed almost the same share of households having an acceptable FCS with a slight increase in Yerevan. In the previous assessment (FSVA4) the food consumption score was lower (87 percent) compared to FSVA5 (93 percent).

Further analysis showed that 46 percent of households having acceptable FCS adopted coping mechanisms in other urban and rural areas, while the percentage was comparatively lower in Yerevan (32 percent).

The percentage of borderline and poor FCS is not significantly different in Yerevan (95 percent), other urban and rural areas (93 percent respectively).

Figure 16. Food Consumption Score dynamics by settlement type, FSVA5, percent

■ Rural   ■ Other urban   ■ Yerevan
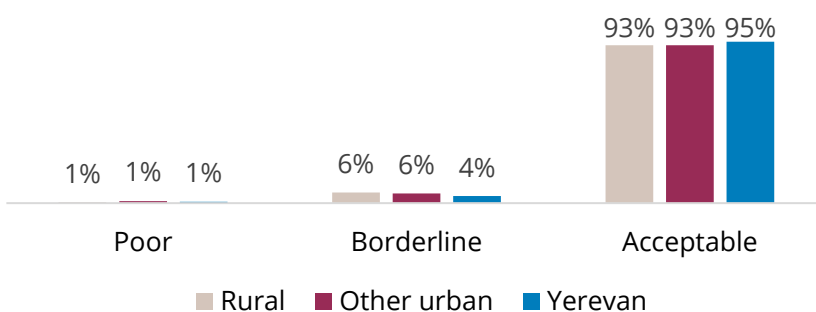
The highest rates of acceptable food consumption were seen in Yerevan (95 percent), Armavir (94 percent), Vayots Dzor (94 percent) and Syunik (94 percent).

In Gegharkunik, 54 percent out of 90 percent had to apply coping to have acceptable food consumption. The coping is high in Vayots Dzor and Shirak as well.

Figure 17. Food Consumption Score dynamics by regions, FSVA5, percent

Region	Acceptable	Acceptable and coping	Borderline	Poor
Yerevan	63%	33%	4%	1%
Armavir	54%	40%	5%	1%
Ararat	52%	41%	6%	1%
Aragatsotn	51%	42%	6%	1%
Kotayk	51%	42%	6%	1%
Syunik	46%	49%	5%	
Shirak	43%	50%	5%	1%
Vayots Dzor	42%	52%	6%	
Lori	42%	49%	7%	2%
Tavush	42%	48%	8%	2%
Gegarkunik	38%	54%	7%	

4.4. Household Food Consumption – Nutrition
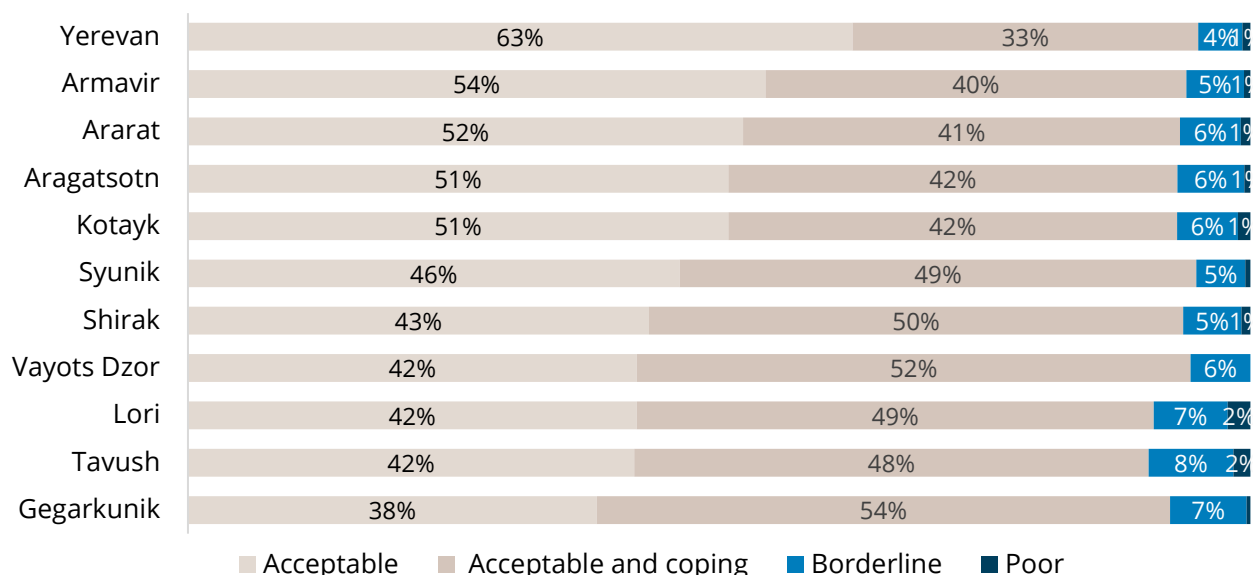
Sufficient energy and nutrient intake by individuals are the results of good care and feeding practices, food preparation, diversity of the diet and intra-household distribution of food. Combined with good biological utilization of food consumed, this determines the nutritional status of individuals[3]. Unhealthy dietary habits and lifestyles are a norm in Armenia, and severe regional disparities are seen in the prevalence of extreme poverty, undernourishment, food insecurity and malnutrition[4]. The situation has exacerbated due to recent shocks.

The Food Consumption Score Nutritional Quality Analysis (FCS-N) is a tool derived from the Food Consumption Score indicator, that looks at three main nutrients (**Vitamin A**, **Protein** and **Hem Iron**) of the food items consumed. The gathered data from this FCS-N module is essential for understanding nutritional health and well-being of households. The FCS is calculated by inspecting how often households consume food items from the different food groups during a 7-day reference period. In addition to this, the FCS-N module collects data on sources of the consumed foods acquired by households.

The following food sub-groups are considered while calculating the consumption of Protein, Vitamin A, and Heme – Iron.[5]

- **Vitamin A-rich foods**: Dairy, Organ meat, Eggs, Orange veg, Green veg, and orange fruits

---

[3] What is Food Security? There are Four Dimensions (worldbank.org)
[4] WFP. 2018. Armenia Cost of the Diet (https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000062242/download/).
[5] For more information on FCS-N calculation visit

- **Protein-rich foods**: Pulses, Dairy, Flesh meat, Organ meat, Fish and Eggs

- **Heme iron-rich foods**: Flesh meat, Organ meat and Fish.

The findings showed that 81 percent of households consumed Vitamin A-rich products 7 days in a week. Only 2 percent mentioned not consuming the commodities in this sub-group and 17 percent are consuming Vitamin A-rich food 1-6 days a week.

A high share of households reported consuming (86 percent) protein-rich food during the 7 days, 13 percent consumed between 1-6 days and 1 percent didn't consume protein-rich foods at all.

This high consumption of Vitamin A-rich and Protein-rich products may be explained by the consumption of eggs, which is a commonly used food in Armenia.

As to heme iron-rich food, 20 percent consumed it within the last 7 days, 66 percent within 1-6 days and 14 percent didn't consume at all.

Figure 18. Food Consumption Score – Nutrition
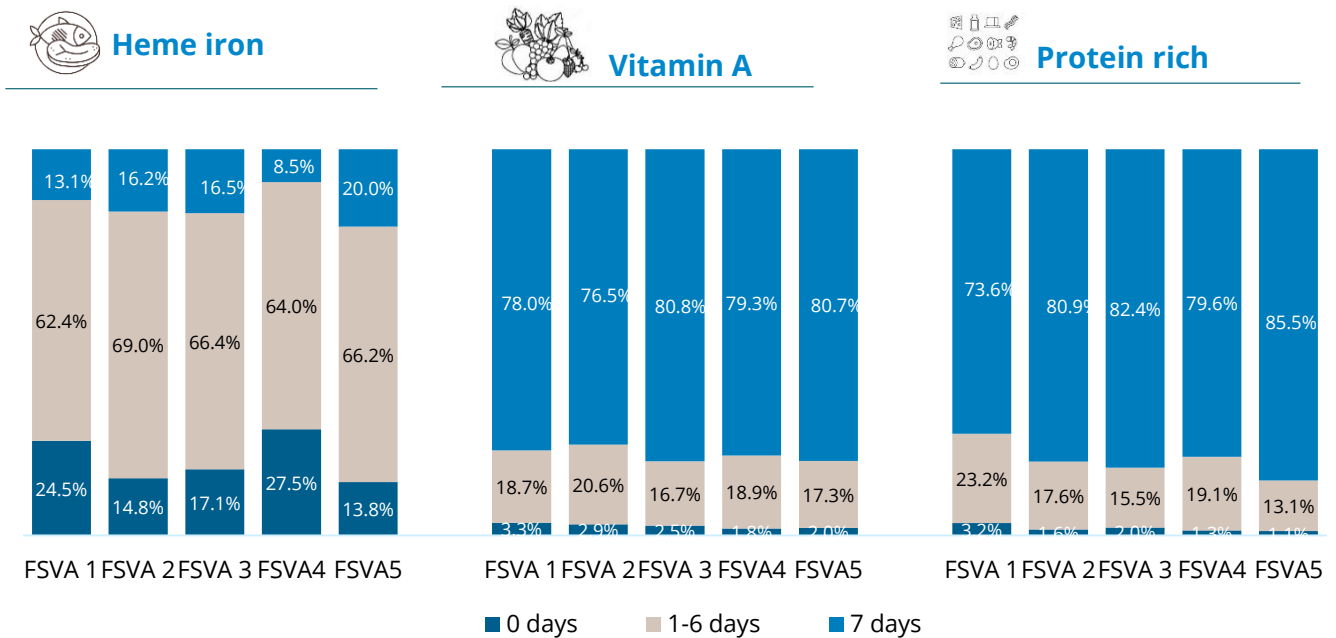
The comparison of intake of these three groups per assessments shows an improvement of heme iron-rich food. In other two groups, no significant changes were seen.

When analyzing the consumption per location types, it becomes clear that the poorest intake of three groups is reported in Lori and Tavush regions. Disaggregation per location types shows poorer consumption of three groups in rural areas compared to other urban areas and Yerevan.

4.5. Coping Mechanisms

Due to social-economic hardships, many households adopt various coping mechanisms to ameliorate their living conditions and overcome the challenges of different shocks.

4.5.1. Livelihood coping mechanisms

This assessment along with the FCS, measured Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI). To overcome socio-economic deprivations or severe hardships provoked by lack of resources to buy food, households often adopt various coping mechanisms to be able to tackle those predicaments. A livelihood-based coping strategy index is used to better understand the longer-term coping capacity of households in response to shocks. Each coping strategy is in a group of a certain severity[6], which is country or context specific. Each level of severity is described by three-four different strategies that households apply, based on their needs (overall, ten strategies).

- **Stress strategies** indicate a reduced ability to deal with future shocks as the result of a current reduction in resources or an increase in debts.
- **Crisis strategies** are often associated with the direct reduction of future productivity as it is connected to the reduction of expenses on health or education or selling of assets such as means of transportation.
- **Emergency strategies** affect future productivity as well but are more difficult to reverse or more dramatic in nature than crisis strategies as it they are associated with selling the house or land, the last female animals, working children who are under 15 years old, and similar severe actions[7].

The Livelihood Coping Strategy Index is calculated based on WFP methodology and is a result of a higher weighting given to some coping strategies compared to others. Coping strategies are ranked in the following order (descending in severity): emergency, crisis, stress coping strategies. The study of coping strategy dynamics enables us to create a better roadmap of the strategies implemented by various social groups.

In FSVA5, the proportion of households not adopting any coping strategies constituted 25 percent showing an increase compared to FSVA4 (23 percent). Overall, 75 percent of households had to adopt coping strategies to access food during a month. This is considered to be a concerning trend.

---

[6] The levels of severity are defined as none, stress, crisis or emergency

[7] Stress coping: Sold household assets/goods (radio, furniture, refrigerator, television, jewellery, etc.), spent savings, borrowed money, purchased food on credit or borrowed money.

Crisis coping: Reduced non-food expenses on health (including medicine) and education, s old productive assets or means of transport (sewing machine, wheelbarrow, bicycle, car, etc..), were dependent on food rations and/or support from neighbours and relatives as only food/income source.

Emergency: sold a house or land, sold last female animals, children (under 15 years old) were working to contribute to household income (e.g., casual labour)

The adoption of crisis coping strategies keeps being high (34 percent) throughout all assessments, showing that almost one third of households reduced non-food expenses within a month such as the education and health expenses. Compared to previous assessments the proportion of households adopting crisis coping has decreased.

Stress coping mechanism was adopted by 31 percent of households which didn't change significantly compared to FSVA4 (33 percent), entailing that households had to spend their savings, borrow money or purchase food on credit.

Emergency coping strategies' adoption significantly increased compared to FSVA4 by 5 percentage points, which means that a bigger share of households (10 percent) had to apply the severest strategies in winter like selling the house, land, last female animal and making children under 15 years old. The highest level of emergency coping was seen in FSVA2 again in winter right after the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh (14 percent).

Figure 19. Livelihood Coping Strategies, percent
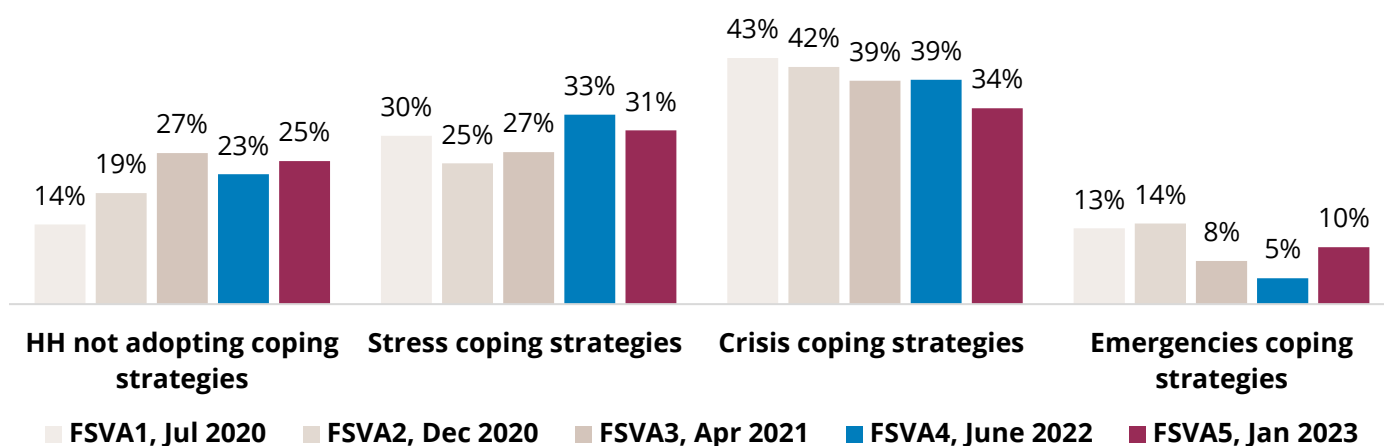
As seen in the table below, households most frequently spent savings (48 percent), purchased food on credit (30 percent) and reduced non-food expenses on health and education (29 percent). These coping strategies were widely adopted in FSVA4 as well, meanwhile an increase of spending savings was seen in FSVA5.

Table 1: Livelihood Coping Strategies per categories, percent

Classification	Strategy applied	FSVA4 (yes,%)	FSVA5 (yes, %)
Stress	Sold household assets/goods (furniture, refrigerator, TV, jewelry, etc.)	4%	4%
	Spent savings	40%	48%
	Borrowed money	28%	23%
	Purchased food on credit or borrowed money	37%	30%
Crisis	Reduced non-food expenses on health and education	33%	29%
	Sold productive assets or means of transport (sewing machine, wheelbarrow, car, etc.)	1%	2%
	Were dependent on food assistance and/or support from neighbors and relatives as only food/income source	14%	9%
Emergency	Sold house or land	0%	1%
	Sold last female animals	1%	5%
	Children (<15 years old) were working to contribute to household income	2%	1%

The analysis conducted on different settlement types revealed that the lowest percentage of households not adopting any coping strategies was found in rural areas (18 percent). Stress coping strategies were more commonly adopted in rural areas (33 percent) and other urban areas (32 percent) compared to Yerevan (27 percent). However, the adoption of crisis coping strategies was higher in other urban areas (38 percent) compared to both rural areas and Yerevan. Emergency coping, which represents the most severe strategy, was notably higher in rural areas (13 percent).

Table 2: Livelihood Coping Strategies per settlement type, percent

	Yerevan	Other urban	Rural
HH not adopting coping strategies	34%	23%	18%
Stress coping strategies	27%	32%	33%
Crisis coping strategies	30%	38%	36%
Emergencies coping strategies	9%	8%	13%

When examining the adoption of coping mechanisms in different regions, the lowest percentage of households not adopting coping strategies was observed in Gegharkunik (13 percent), Lori (17 percent), and Shirak (18 percent) regions. Stress coping strategies were widely adopted in Syunik (37 percent), Tavush (36 percent), and Shirak (35 percent) regions. In Kotayk, Armavir, and Vayots Dzor, a larger proportion of households reported adopting crisis coping strategies (39 percent, 38 percent, and 38 percent respectively). In terms of emergency coping, which represents the most severe coping strategy, it was predominantly adopted in Gegharkunik (15 percent), Lori (13 percent), and Vayots Dzor (13 percent) regions. The association between coping strategies and regions shows statistical significance (p-value < 0.005).

Figure 20. Livelihood Coping Strategies per regions, percent

HH not adopting coping strategies
Stress coping strategies
Crisis coping strategies
Emergencies coping strategies
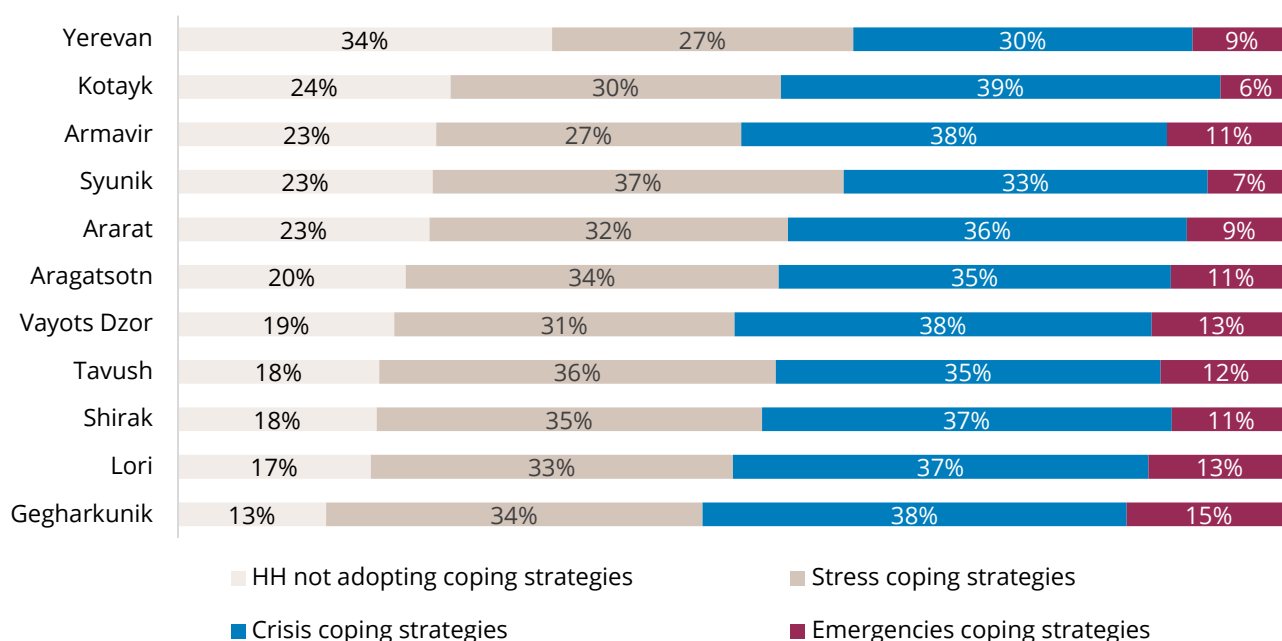
4.5.2. Reduced coping mechanisms

The Reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI) is a proxy indicator of household food insecurity. It considers both the frequency and severity of five pre-selected coping strategies that the household used seven days prior to the survey. It is a simplified version of the full Coping Strategies Index indicator. The rCSI is an experience-based indicator measuring the behaviour of households over the past seven days when they did not have enough food or money to purchase food.

rCSI is best used for monitoring purposes, and to identify changes in household behaviour especially in the early stages of a crisis. The index divides food insecurity into three levels: no coping, low coping and high coping categories. The higher the rCSI, the more severe the coping is applied by a household.

Figure 21. Reduced coping strategies in FSVA5

No coping   Low coping   High coping
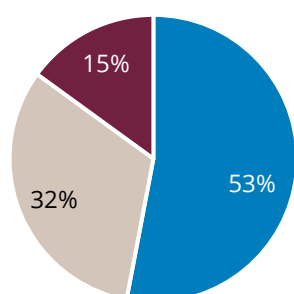
According to FSVA5 findings, it was observed that during winter, approximately half of the households (53 percent) do not engage in reduced coping strategies. When examining the data based on different settlement types, it was found that 67 percent of households in Yerevan reported no coping, compared to 48 percent in other urban areas and 47 percent in rural areas.

On the other hand, low coping strategies were applied by 32 percent of households, with 26 percent in Yerevan, 34 percent in other urban areas, and 36 percent in rural areas.

High coping is reported by 15 percent of households: 12 percent in Yerevan, 18 percent in other urban and 17 percent in rural areas.

As per regions, rCSI pinpointed that Lori (21 percent), Gegharkunik (20 percent), Vayots Dzor (20 percent) and Shirak (19 percent) regions applied high coping strategies. This indicates that these regions had to employ more extensive coping measures in order to maintain food security compared to other regions. On the other hand, Yerevan, Armavir, and Ararat regions had the highest percentage of households that did not adopt any coping strategies.

Figure 22. Reduced coping strategies by regions in FSVA4

Region	No coping	Low coping	High coping
Yerevan	63%	26%	12%
Armavir	55%	31%	13%
Ararat	53%	31%	17%
Kotayk	52%	31%	17%
Aragatsotn	51%	32%	17%
Syunik	47%	37%	16%
Vayots Dzor	44%	37%	20%
Shirak	44%	37%	19%
Tavush	43%	40%	17%
Lori	43%	37%	21%
Gegharkunik	39%	41%	20%
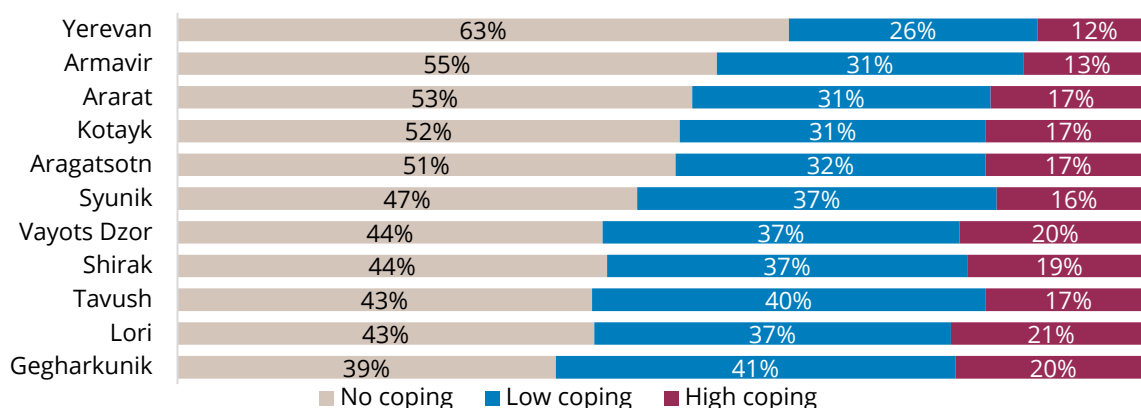
In the short term, coping mechanisms can help individuals and households manage immediate challenges and maintain a certain level of stability during times of crisis. However, from a long-term perspective, the adoption of coping mechanisms can perpetuate cycles of poverty and limit long-term economic stability.

4.6. Availability of Staple Food Stock and Market Accessibility

4.6.1. Availability of Staple Food Stock

In the assessment WFP intended to understand the availability of food stocks in households and the period during which the food stock will be available. The food stock is meant staple food, such as wheat flour, grains and legumes which can be stored for a while.

A significantly bigger proportion of households reported having a food stock (75 percent) compared to FSVA4 (38 percent). One of the assumptions of such an increase can be the preparedness for winterization.

Figure 23: Having a staple food stock, percent

How long will the food stock last?

75% of households have staple food stock

26% Up to 7 days

13% 8-14 days

17% 15-30 days
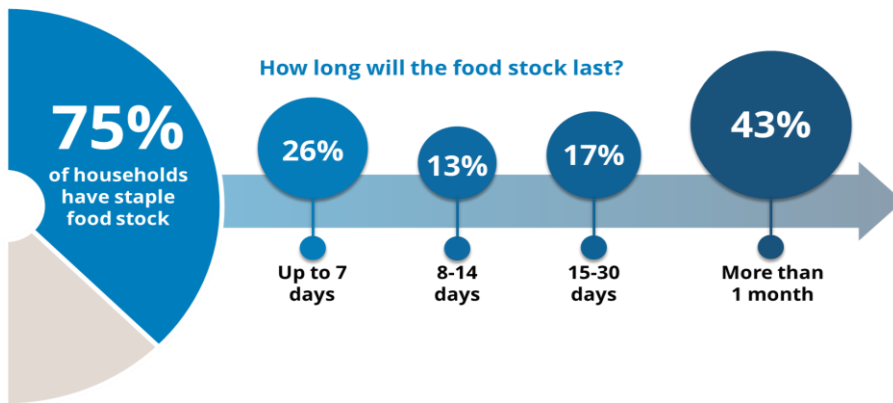
43% More than 1 month

As to the question on how long stocks will last, out of 75 percent, 43 percent mentioned that stocks will last for more than 1 month. Additionally, 26 percent reported a coping duration of up to seven days, 17 percent mentioned a period of 15 to 30 days, and 13 percent reported a coping duration of 8 to 14 days.

The highest share of households having a food stock were seen in rural areas (79 percent) compared to Yerevan (74 percent) and other urban areas (71 percent). There can be different explanations for this, such as the traditional food preservation in rural areas, or limited access to markets compared to urban areas. The analysis per region showed the lowest proportion of households having a food stock in Shirak (70 percent) and the highest in Vayots Dzor and Aragatsotn (81 percent).

Figure 24. Having a staple food stock, per food security levels, percent

83% 17% Food secure

78% 21% Marginally food secure

63% 37% Food insecure
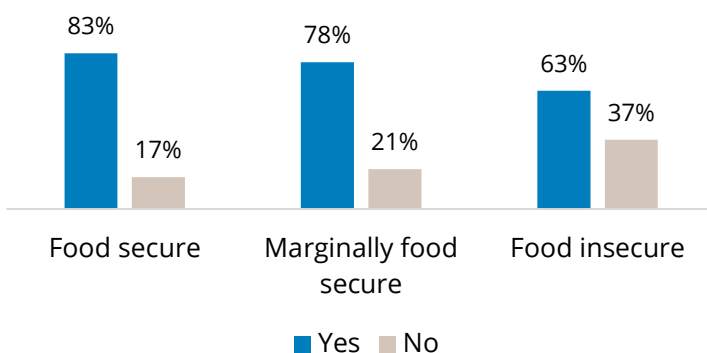
Yes No

When examining the data based on food security groups, it was found that a lower percentage of households in the food insecure category (63 percent) reported having food stocks compared to those in the food secure category (83 percent) and marginally food secure category (78 percent).

4.6.2. Market accessibility

The respondents were asked if they experienced difficulties in accessing markets during 7 days prior to the interviews. Interestingly, half of the respondents answered positively.

According to FSVA5 findings, 39 percent of households encountered challenges in accessing the market. The findings indicate that 31 percent of respondents cited lack of financial resources as a hindrance. Additionally, 25 percent mentioned other reasons as barriers, 17 percent identified increased food prices, 15 percent reported winterization costs as obstacles, and 12 percent cited health issues as factors limiting their access to food.

Figure 25. Households experienced difficulties to access the market, percent
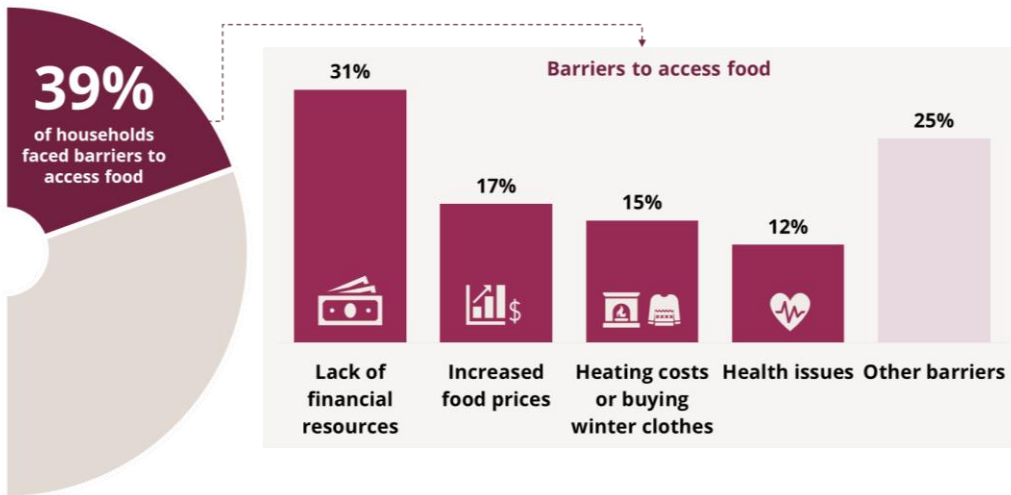
Among the different settlement types, a significantly higher proportion of households in rural areas (43 percent) reported difficulties in accessing the market compared to other urban areas (40 percent) and Yerevan (34 percent).

The share of households facing difficulties accessing the market differed from region to region. The highest proportion was seen in Gegharkunik (48 percent), Lori (47 percent) and Shirak (45 percent) regions, and the lowest in Kotayk and Yerevan (34 percent).

Households that had three or more children, were female-headed, and had a head of secondary education were found to be more likely to face barriers in accessing markets.

Figure 26. Households experiencing difficulties to access the market per food security groups, percent
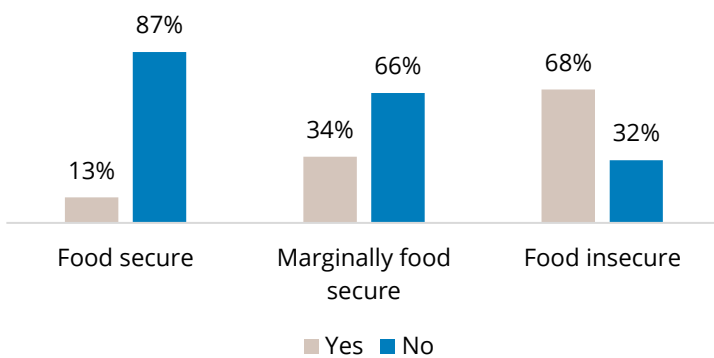
As seen in Figure 29, 68 percent of food insecure households reported facing difficulties to access markets, compared to 34 percent of marginally food secure and 13 percent of food secure households.

4.7.   Economic vulnerability and indebtedness of households

4.7.1. Income changes and income per capita

The respondents were asked a general question on the disruption of household income during the last year because of different factors. The analysis showed that a higher proportion of households reported a change of income in FSVA5 (45 percent) compared to FSVA4 (37 percent).

Figure 27: Has HH income changed during the last year, percent

Figure 28: Has HH income changed during the last year over 5 assessments, percent

FSVA3   FSVA4
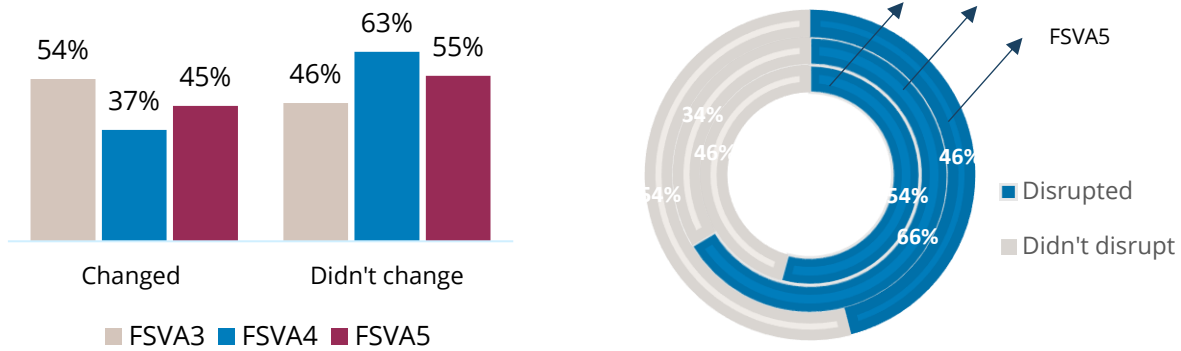
Income disruption was seen among a lower share of households (46 percent) which reported a change in income compared to the three previous FSVA assessments.

Compared to FSVA4, the proportion of households reporting reduced income by less than 25 percent was higher in FSVA5 from 28 percent to 34 percent, and among those reporting reduction by more than 25 percent and less than 49 percent. Meantime, a decrease was revealed among households indicating reduction by more than 50 percent by 8 percentage points.

Figure 29. Income reduction among HHs who mentioned income change, percent
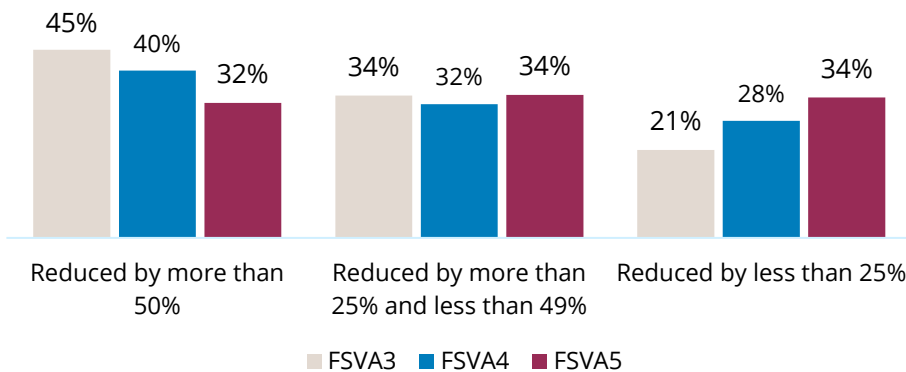
According to the data, a significant decrease in income was observed. Specifically, rural areas experienced the highest decrease, with a reported decrease of 51 percent compared to other urban areas (47 percent) and the city of Yerevan (41 percent). When considering regions, Gegharkunik and Shirak regions had the highest share of households reporting an income decrease, with 66 percent and 64 percent respectively. These figures highlight the challenges faced by rural communities and regions in terms of declining income.

Respondents were asked to mention the household monthly income from all the sources which was then analyzed per capita to show the income for each member of the household.

Figure 30. Income per capita (in AMD), percent

Less than AMD 24,000	24%
AMD 24,001-48,000	25%
AMD 48,001-120,000	36%
AMD 120,001-192,000	7%
AMD 192,001-384,000	6%
AMD 384,001-576,000	1%
More than AMD 576,001	1%
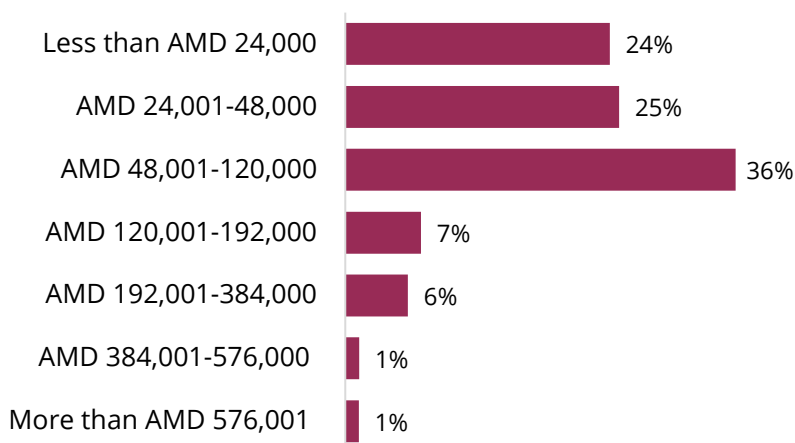
As seen in figure 30, 36 percent of households had AMD 48,001-120,000 income per household member, 25 percent had AMD 24,001- 48,000 and another 24 percent had less than AMD 24,000.

In rural settlements 41 percent of households had less than AMD 24,000 monthly income per household member, compared to other urban (22 percent) and Yerevan (7 percent).

In Yerevan and other urban areas, the highest proportion of households having monthly income per capita of AMD 48,001-120,000: 44 percent and 36 percent respectively.

As to regions, the highest share of households which reported having less than AMD 24,000 as monthly income per member was in Gegharkunik (48 percent), Shirak (39 percent) and Lori (38 percent). About half of respondents in Yerevan (44 percent) and Syunik (41 percent) had income per capita of AMD 48,001-120,000.

The analysis of food security levels per main income sources in the households shows the highest rates of food security among households having income from own business and trade, having a salaried wok and remittances from relatives living abroad.

The highest rates of food insecurity were seen among households receiving state social transfers, having income from renting properties and informal daily/casual labour.

Figure 31: Food security levels per main income sources of households, percent

	Food secure	Marginally food secure	Food insecure
Own business/trade	58%	38%	3%
Salaried work with regular income	35%	45%	20%
Horticulture/cattle breeding	28%	54%	18%
Retail/selling on street	23%	45%	32%
Remittances/support from relatives living in…	19%	52%	30%
Remittances from relatives living abroad	19%	48%	33%
Informal daily/casual labour	10%	45%	45%
Pension	10%	45%	45%
Assistance from NGOs	10%	40%	50%
Income from renting real estate/car/equipment	9%	57%	35%
Disability support	9%	25%	67%
Other state assistance	3%	23%	73%
Regular State social support program (eg….	2%	19%	79%
Emergency support		13%	88%

Based on income per household member, the highest food insecurity is among households where the income less than AMD 24,000 (57 percent) per member and AMD 24,001-48,000 (47 percent).

Figure 32: Food security levels per income per capita, percent

	Food secure	Marginally food secure	Moderately food insecure	Severely food insecure
Less than AMD 24,000	5%	38%	52%	5%
AMD 24,001-48,000	9%	45%	46%	1%
AMD 48,001-120,000	27%	50%	22%	
AMD 120,001-192,000	51%	44%	5%	
AMD 192,001-384,000	59%	35%	6%	
AMD 384,001-576,000	63%	25%	13%	
More than AMD 576,001	44%	44%	13%	
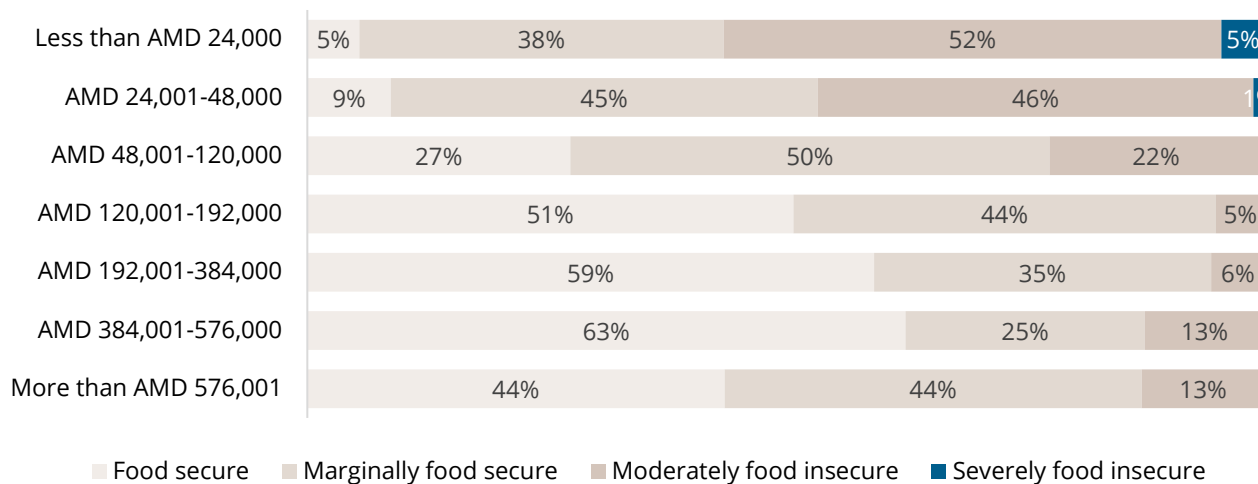
Considering household characteristics, the share of households having a lower income per capita were seen among female-headed households, households with 3 and more children, with household head with secondary and lower level of education and households with 5 and more members.

4.7.2. Expenditure per capita, food share of monthly expenditures

The assessment had the objective to understand the monthly expenditure per capita for food and non-food items.

The monthly expenditures per capita of about 38 percent of respondents was in the range of AMD 48,001-120,000AMD, 14 percent reported a range of AMD 24,001-48,000, 19 percent of AMD 120,001 – 192,000, 7 percent less than AMD 24,000 and 6 percent of AMD 192,000-384,000.

Figure 33. Expenditure per capita, percent

	percent
Less than AMD 24,000	25%
AMD 24,001-48,000	26%
AMD 48,001-120,000	32%
AMD 120,001-192,000	8%
AMD 192,001-384,000	5%
AMD 384,001-576,000	2%
More than AMD 576,001	2%
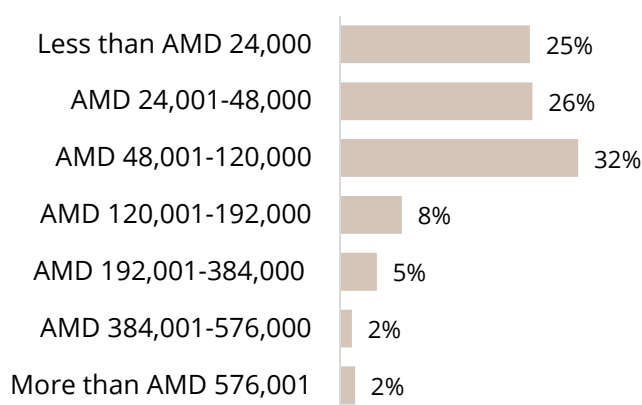
When analyzing the income and expenditure per capita, it becomes clear that expenditures exceeded income, suggesting a shortfall that was likely addressed through the implementation of coping mechanisms. These strategies may have included utilizing savings, borrowing money, or resorting to purchasing essential items, such as food, on credit. To bridge the gap between income and expenditure, individuals resorted to various measures to sustain their living standards and meet their financial obligations.

The monthly expenditure per capita was not notably different in Yerevan, other urban and rural areas, showing higher expenditure levels per capita compared to other urban and rural areas.

The highest shares of households reporting expenditure per capita less than AMD 24,000 were seen in northern regions of Armenia, namely Shirak (38 percent), Lori (37 percent), Gegharkunik (33 percent) and Tavush (29 percent).

As per the data, food secure (37 percent) and marginally food secure (35 percent) the highest share of respondents reported expenditure per capita in the range of AMD 48,001-120,000, whereas among food insecure households highest share was seen in the range of less than AMD 24,000-48,000 (39 percent).

Figure 34. Food security levels per expenditure per capita, percent

The analysis per household characteristics revealed very similar findings with the income per capita. Gender of HH head, education of HH head, household size and number of children were strongly associated (p value > 0.05) with the expenditure p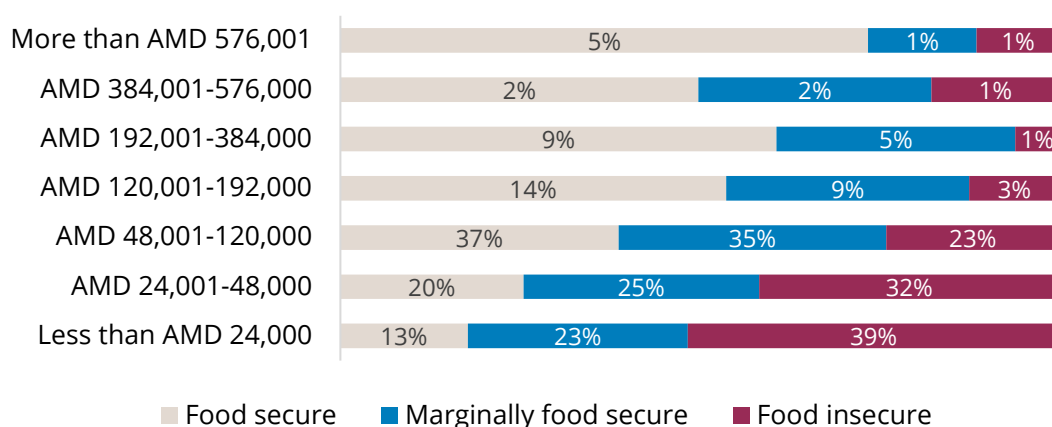er capita. The proportion of households having a lower expenditure per capita were seen among female-headed households, with household head with secondary and lower level of education and households with 3 and more children.

The share of total household expenditure spent on food is an indicator of household food security (FES). The food share of monthly expenditures constituted 31 percent.

The disaggregation per settlement types showed that the highest food share of monthly expenditures was in Yerevan (35 percent) compared to other urban (30 percent) and rural (27 percent) areas. One of the reasons can be that rural areas households produce food for their own consumption, baking bread, and making dairy products. Another reason can be the custom in rural areas to exchange goods (bartering). In Yerevan the higher percentage food share can be explained by higher food prices in urban areas compared to rural areas. FES is not significantly different per food security categories, varying between 30 and 31 percent.

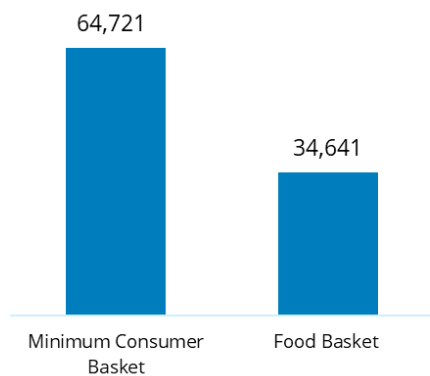### 4.7.3. Economic capacity to meet essential needs (ECMEN)

The economic capacity to meet essential needs (ECMEN) is a measuring the economic vulnerability of a population. It is defined as the percentage of households whose economic capacity is sufficient to meet their essential needs, based on the minimum consumer basket.

Households are considered to have the economic capacity to meet their essential needs if their per capita consumption expenditures exceed the minimum consumer basket.

According to WFP estimations, around 45 percent of the population in Armenia cannot meet the minimum consumer basket as that their monthly per capita expenditures are below monthly per capita minimum consumer basket defined in Armenia (AMD 64,721 based on prices of the 4th quarter of 2022).

Economic capacity of approximately 22 percent of the population in Armenia is estimated to be insufficient to meet the minimum basket defined as food basket in Armenia (AMD 34,641 based on prices of the 4th quarter of 2022).

Figure 35: Minimum Consumer basket and Food basket in Armenia, AMD

Figure 36: HHs with no capacity to meet Minimum consumer basket, %

Figure 37: HHs with no capacity to meet Food basket,

Source: Statistical Committee of RA, Socio-Economic Situation of RA, January-December 2022
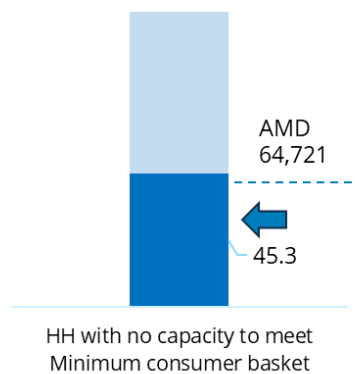
Source: VAM Resources: Economic Capacity to Meet Essential Needs
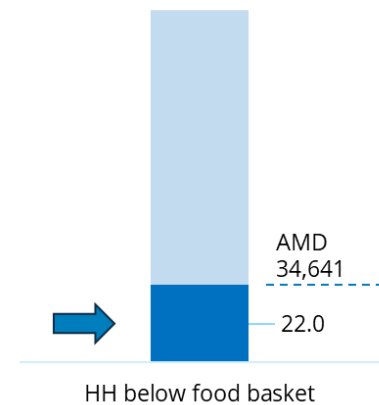
4.7.4. Indebtedness of households

One of the objectives of the assessment was to find out the level of indebtedness and the increased practice of borrowing funds as a coping strategy. For a household to meet its commitments requires substantial reduction of its expenditure or finding ways of increasing its income. One of the coping mechanisms to meet needs is borrowing money. The coping mechanism may vary depending on the need to be met.

In this assessment, the question related to debts was referring **to only informally borrowing money from people and shops excluding loans and credits from any financial institutions.**

According to the FSVA5 report, approximately 30 percent of households were found to have debts. The analysis showed that the majority of the households (74 percent) preferred to borrow from shops, particularly for food purchases. The second most common source of access additional funds was borrowing was from relatives and friends to which 31 percent of households mentioning this option. It is evident that the primary reason for acquiring informal debts among households was to meet their food needs.

Figure 38. Household has or doesn't have a debt, the sources and main reasons, percent

The analysis conducted on different settlement types revealed that rural areas had the highest proportion of households with informal debts (44 percent). In comparison, other urban areas accounted for 37 percent of households with debts, while Yerevan had the lowest percentage of informal debts at 14 percent. This disparity may be due to households in rural areas having greater access to purchasing food on credit from nearby small shops. This practice helps ensure the continued operation of these local shops. Additionally, borrowing money from neighbors and relatives is more prevalent in rural areas due to the stronger sense of community, greater familiarity, and higher levels of trust among community members. These factors make it easier for individuals in rural areas to seek financial assistance from their immediate social network when facing economic challenges.

The disaggregation per regions illustrated the highest proportion of informal indebtedness in Gegharkunik (55 percent), Vayots Dzor (54 percent), Tavush (48 percent) and Syunik (58 percent) and Tavush (45 percent) regions. These findings align with the observations made in FSVA4, indicating a persistent trend in these regions.

Further disaggregation indicated that the primary reason for incurring informal debts across all regions and settlement types was the purchase of food. This suggests that households were relying on borrowing to meet their basic food needs.

Figure 39. Household has or doesn't have a debt per Food security levels, percent
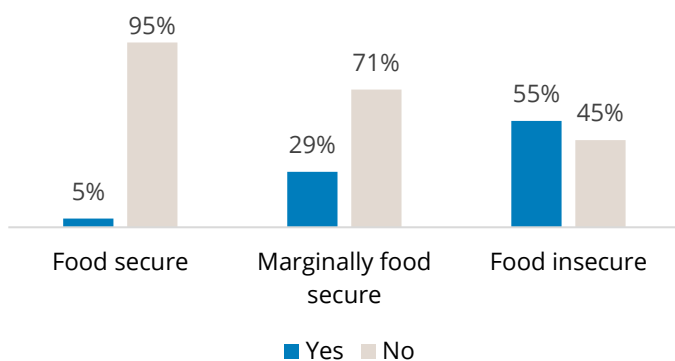
There is a significant difference in indebtedness levels among households depending on their food security status. Among households classified as food insecure, 55 percent were found to have informal debts. In contrast, among marginally food secure households, the percentage of debts was at 29 percent. Among food secure households, only a minimal 5 percent were found to have debts.

This finding shows a clear correlation between food insecurity and higher levels of indebtedness. It suggests that households experiencing food insecurity are more likely to resort to borrowing as a way to secure essential food items.

4.8.   Winterization and food security

Winterization and food security are closely interconnected, as the additional expenses caused by winter conditions can significantly impact the ability of households to maintain adequate food security.

One of the objectives of this assessment was to evaluate food security in the light of anticipated increase of expenditures related to winterization.

Approximately half of the households (48 percent) had to allocate less money for food to cover the costs of heating, including gas and electricity bills. 54 percent of these households were from other urban areas, 52 percent were from rural areas, and 39 percent were from Yerevan.

Approximately one-third of households (36 percent) reported saving money on food in preparation for the New Year festivities. Rural areas had a higher proportion of households engaging in this practice, accounting for 43 percent, compared to other urban areas and Yerevan.

19 percent of households had to decrease their food expenses to purchase winter clothes and shoes, with rural areas (24 percent) and other urban areas (21 percent) showing a higher proportion of households engaging in this trade-off.

Within rural areas specifically, 24 percent of households had to save money on food to buy fuel for heating purposes, while another 14 percent had to allocate less for food to purchase winter fodder for animals.

Figure 40. In the past month, did you have to save money on food to…, percen

			Yerevan	Other urban	Rural
.. cover the costs of heating the apartment: gas, electricity utility bills.	**48%**		39%	**54%**	52%
…get ready for New Year shopping.	**36%**		27%	38%	**43%**
…buy winter clothes and shoes.	**19%**		14%	21%	**24%**
…buy fuel for heating: wood, coal, diesel, etc.	**13%**		3%	12%	**24%**
…buy winter fodder for animals	**6%**		1%	4%	**14%**
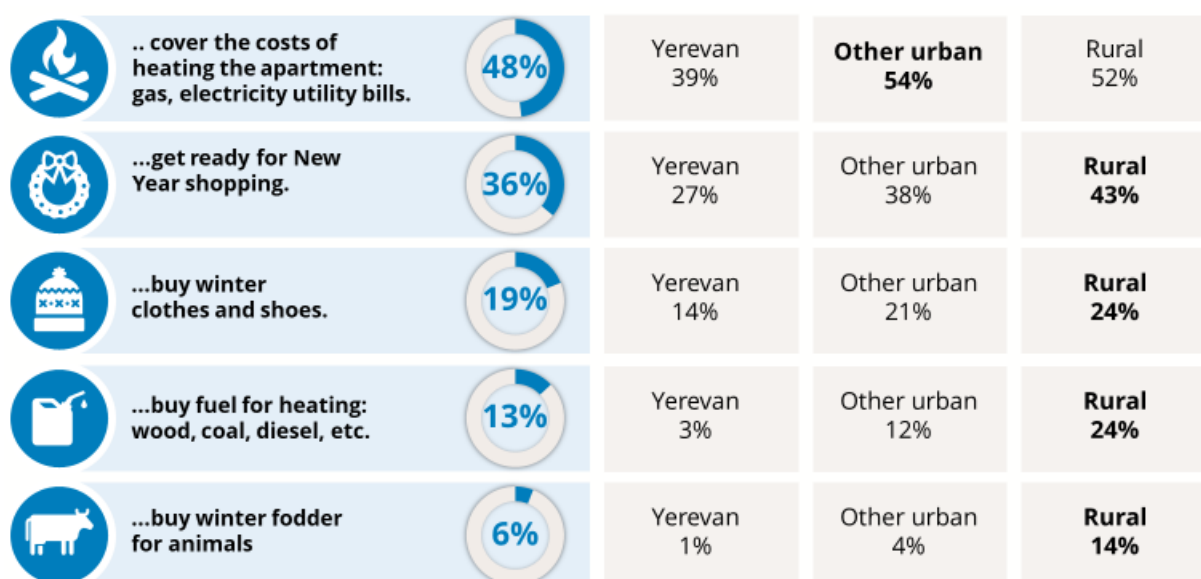
These findings underscore the various financial trade-offs that households, particularly in rural areas, must make during the winter season. Balancing heating costs, New Year shopping, winter clothing, and animal-related expenses often requires reducing food expenditures. This

highlights the economic challenges faced by households in managing multiple competing financial demands.

Among food insecure households, a significant proportion had to save money on food to cover winterization costs. Specifically, 75 percent of food insecure households had to allocate less for food to cover heating expenses, 48 percent to prepare for the New Year, 32 percent to purchase winter clothes and shoes, 21 percent for buying fuel for heating, and an additional 8 percent for acquiring winter fodder for animals.

Approximately half of marginally food secure households compromised their food expenses to cover heating costs. Furthermore, 39 percent of marginally food secure households saved money on food for New Year preparations, 19 percent for purchasing winter clothing and shoes, and an additional 13 percent for buying fuel for heating.

Food secure households also reported saving money on food to cover winter expenses, although the proportion was comparatively lower compared to the other food security groups.

Figure 41. In the past month, did you have to save money on food to… per food security groups, percent
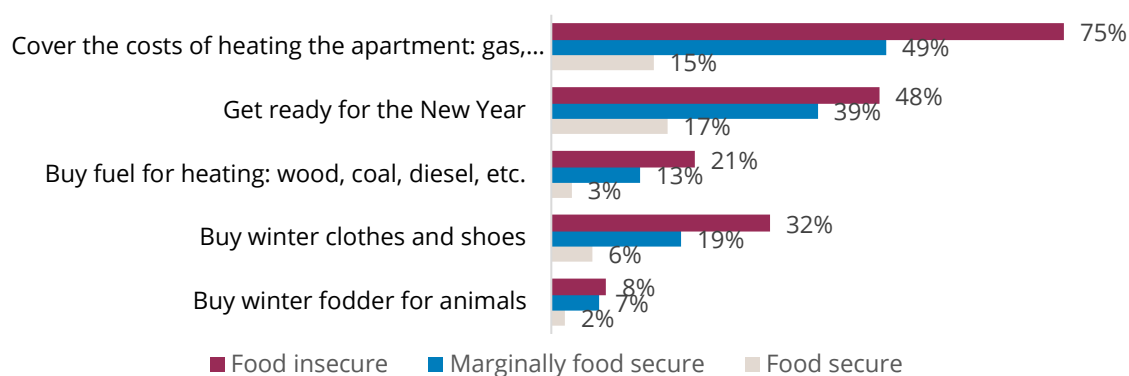
These findings highlight the heightened vulnerability of 'food insecure and marginally food secure' households during winter months, as they are more likely to face difficult choices between meeting heating needs and maintaining adequate food consumption. Addressing the specific challenges faced by these households, such as providing targeted assistance programs, improving access to affordable heating solutions, and promoting income-generating opportunities, is crucial to mitigate the impact of winterization on their food security and overall well-being.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

Fifth Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment (FSVA4) showed that the food insecurity level of households was 30 percent, which deteriorated by 7 percentage points compared to FSVA4.

The regions with the highest food insecurity levels were Gegharkunik (39 percent), Lori (38 percent), Shirak (36 percent) and Tavush (36 percent).

The adoption of coping strategies continues to stay high comprising 75 percent, out of which 44 percent of households adopt crisis and emergency coping. The most frequently adopted coping mechanisms include spending savings (48 percent), buying food on credit (30 percent), reduction of non-food expenses on health and education (29 percent), and borrowing money (23 percent). The previous and continued use of coping mechanisms might serve as a driver of sustained food insecurity, it is a short-term solution as resources will be depleted quickly.

Although, 94 percent of households had acceptable food consumption, 41 percent of them applied coping mechanisms to ensure an acceptable food consumption level.

The share of the total household expenditure spent on food is an indicator of household food security. The food share of the monthly expenditures constituted 31 percent.

In this assessment, the question related to debts referred to only informal borrowing of money from people and shops excluding loans and credits from any financial institutions. FSVA5 showed that 30 percent of households have such debts.

The analysis revealed that approximately half of the households (48 percent) had to allocate less money for food expenses to cover the costs of heating, including gas and electricity bills. Approximately one-third of households (36 percent) reported saving money on food in preparation for New Year shopping. Moreover, 19 percent of households had to compromise their food expenses to purchase winter clothes and shoes, with rural areas (24 percent) and other urban areas (21 percent) showing a higher proportion of households engaging in this trade-off.

Based on the findings, the following recommendations are developed:

Recommendation 1: *In the light of recurring shocks (both economic and co-variate) that occurred in Armenia, set up a national early warning system and sectoral national early action mechanisms.*

The FSVA analysis shows that more than half of Armenian households are at risk of becoming food insecure if a shock occurs or when they run out of coping options. It is recommended to establish robust early warning systems in Armenia to forecast shocks and prevent marginally food secure population from falling below the line of food security, as well as to inform programme and policy makers on the future needs of the Armenian population allowing a reaction prior to a situation becomes critical.

Recommendation 2: *Identify the root causes of food security and design Government programs across different sectors that address food insecurity*

While providing short-term support is important, it is also important to address the underlying causes of food insecurity. It is recommended to the Government and its partners to work to improve economic opportunities, increase access to education and health care, and reduce inequality, all of which can contribute to reducing food insecurity in the long term.

Recommendation 3: *Build households' resilience addressing debt dependency.*

FSVA45 showed an alarming figure of households' indebtedness, pointing that 1 in 4 households has a debt borrowed from shops and/or people. This is a vicious cycle, where households, in particular, the most vulnerable ones cannot break out of the poverty cycle. As the reasons for such behaviour are different, it is recommended to address debt dependency through complex approach of social work, financial literacy and management and behavior change interventions.

Recommendation 4: *Introduce vertical expansion of Government assistance programs to subsidize winterization costs*

It is recommended that the government, in partnership with WFP and other relevant partners, expands its vertical assistance for vulnerable households, particularly those who are struggling to afford enough food. This could include providing food assistance, cash transfers, or other forms of support that would help these households to meet their basic needs.

6. Annexes

6.1. rCARI console

rCARI console

Food security dimension	Indicator	Food secure	Marginally food secure	Moderately food Insecure	Severely food insecure
Food Consumption	Food Consumption score	Acceptable	Acceptable consumption	Borderline	Poor
	Food based coping strategies	No severe food coping mechanisms	Using severe food coping mechanisms	-	-
Economic vulnerability	Main income source and change in income	Regular employment (formal labour or self-employed) – no change/ no decrease	Regular employment but reduced income or informal labour/ remittances, no decrease	Informal labour /remittances but reduced income	No income, dependent on assistance or support or informal labour with complete loss of income
Livelihood coping	Livelihood based coping Strategy categories	Neutral	Stress strategies	Crisis strategies	Emergency strategies

6.2. Questionnaire

WFP FOOD SECURITY AND VULNERABILITY FOURTH ASSESSMENT

Introduction. Hello, my name is (……………), I am representing _____ company and I am approaching you on behalf of the **United Nations World Food Programme** (WFP). We are conducting a survey to understand food and market situation in Armenia. Your household has been selected randomly for the survey. The survey is anonymous, and the data is going to be analyzed in a generalized way. Personal data might be harvested during the survey as well, hence we ask for your consent to share it with us.

Q1. Could you please allocate 30 minutes to answer our questions?

      1. Yes ▢ **CONTINUE**   2. No ▢ **END**

Q2. Please indicate whether you participate in the process of deciding or preparing the household's diet, or are you well aware of all the mentioned processes. It is also important to be aware of the costs.

      1. Yes ▢ **CONTINUE**   2. No ▢ **END**

INTERVIEWER: IF THE ANSWER IS NO, ASK TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH A FAMILY MEMBER WHO CAN BEST ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATED TO HOUSEHOLD FOOD CONSUMPTION AND EXPENDITURES.

SECTION 1. PLACE OF RESIDENCE

Q3. Please specify the name of your place of residence. LITERALLY REGISTER THE NAME OF THE RESIDENCE

Q3.1 NAME OF THE VILLAGE	Q3.2 NAME OF THE CITY/TOWN

Q4. SELECT THE APPROPRIATE REGION, ONE ANSWER

1	Yerevan	7	Lori urban
2	Aragatsotn urban	17	Lori rural
12	Aragatsotn rural	8	Gegharkunik urban
3	Armavir urban	18	Gegharkunik urban
13	Armavir rural	9	Vayots Dzor urban
4	Ararat urban	19	Vayots Dzor rural
14	Ararat rural	10	Tavush urban
5	Kotayk urban	20	Tavush rural
15	Kotayk rural	11	Syunik urban
6	Shirak urban	21	Syunik rural
16	Shirak rural		

SECTION 2. DEMOGRAPHIC SECTION

Q5. Sex of the respondent (DON'T READ THE ANSWERS, IN CASE OF DIFFICULTIES TO ANSWER ASK THE NAME)
1. Male   2. Female

Q6. How old are you? (record the age of the respondent) |___| years old

COMPLETE IF RESPONDENT IS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

Q7. Are you the head of your household[8]?

1. Yes ☐ **Go to the Q8.2**   2. No ☐ **Go to the Q8**

Ask the question if Q7=2

Q8. Please mention the sex of the HH head
1. Male   2. Female

Q8.1 Please mention age of the HH head

1. 12-17 years old
2. 18-59 years old (adults)
3. 60 years old and above

Q8.2 Please mention marital status of the HH head
1. Single
2. Married
3. Divorced
4. Widow/Widower

Q9. What is the completed education level of the head of the HH? DON'T READ OUT THE RESPONSE OPTIONS, MENTION THE RELEVANT ANSWER IN THE TABLE BELOW, ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE (PROBE, IF THE ANSWER IS NOT CELAR) → INDICATE ALREADY COMPLETED THE EDUCATIONAL DEGREE

1. No elementary and not literate
2. No elementary, but literate
3. Elementary (1-4 grades)
4. Primary (5-9 grades)
5. Secondary (10-12 grades)
6. pre-vocational (crafts)
7. Secondary vocational (technical school, college)
8. Incomplete higher
9. Higher (Bachelor)
10. Postgraduate (Master/PhD)
98. Do not know **(DO NOT READ)**
99. Refuse to answer **(DO NOT READ)**

Q10.1 How many people are living in your household (including yourself)? Please, take into consideration only those members, who live in your HH 4 nights a week. Please, do not list those people, who live at your place as a guest. **BY SAYING GUEST, WE MEAN A PERSON, WHO HAVE BEEN LIVING AT YOUR PLACE NOT PERMANENTLY. Don't include as a HH member people who work abroad and students who are not at home permanently.**

|__|people

---

[8] "A household is a group of related or unrelated persons who live together in the same or adjoining dwellings, recognize one adult member as the head of the household, and have common facilities for cooking and eating together."

Q10.2 Now I will list age groups, please indicate how many males and females of each age group are living in your household. Also MARK students and expats. If there is no member of the given age group, enter 0

		Male	Female	Tag a person who is working abroad	Permanently Absent Student
1. Children - under 2 years old					
2. 2-4 years old					
3. 5-17 years old					
4. 18-59 years old (adults)					
5. 60 years old and above					

Q11. Does your Household fit with following profile? PLEASE ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS

		Profile	Yes	No	Ref. to answer
1.	ASK IF THERE ARE CHILDREN ANDER 18 YEARS IN THE HH	Single parent family	1	2	98
2.	ASK ALL	Have a pregnant and lactating woman	1	2	98
3.	ASK ALL	Have a member with chronic illness which affects quality of life	1	2	98
4.	ASK IF THERE ARE CHILDREN ANDER 18 YEARS IN THE HH	Have a disabled child	1	2	98
5.	ASK ALL	Have a disabled member (either officially or unofficially registered)	1	2	98
6.	ASK IF THERE IS ONLY 1 MEMBER IN THE HH	Single unemployed pensioner	1	2	98
7.	ASK ALL	Have a pensioner member	1	2	98
8.	ASK IF THERE ARE CHILDREN ANDER 18 YEARS IN THE HH	Households with 3 and more children under 18 years old	1	2	98
9.	ASK ALL	Households displaced from NK	1	2	98
10.	ASK ALL	IDP households (displaced after the conflict in September 2022)	1	2	98
11.	ASK ALL	FLSEBP beneficiary household	1	2	98
12.	ASK ALL	Other (specify)	1	2	98

SECTION 3. HOUSEHOLD ASSETS

Q12.1 Please describe the ownership of your housing.

1	Owned
2	Rented
3	Hosted (The owner of the house, who allowed to live in his house without rent, does not live with us)
4	Informal (hospitable, etc.) (We live together with the owner of the house in his house)

SECTION 4. FOOD CONSUMPTION AND FOOD SOURCES

Q13. How many meals did the adults (**18+**) in the household eat **yesterday:** guests living with you should also been considered?

NOTE 1 → We also include eating out

NOTE 2 → In case it was an unusual day (funerals, wedding, etc.) ask about the previous day.

1. Female			**2. Male**	

ASK Q14, IF THERE ARE FEMALE CHILDREN IN THE HOUSEHOLD («0» IS NOT MENTIONED IN Q11.2)

Q14. How many meals did the female children in this household eat **yesterday:** guests living with you should also been considered?

1. 2– < 5 years old children			**2. 5 – 17 years old children**	

ASK Q15, IF THERE ARE MALE CHILDREN IN THE HOUSEHOLD («0» IS NOT MENTIONED IN Q11.2)

Q15. How many meals did the male children in this household eat **yesterday:** guests living with you should also been considered?

1. 2– < 5 years old children			**2. 5 – 17 years old children**	

Q16. How many days over the last 7 days, did you or the members of your household eat the following food items? *(Use codes below, write 0 if not consumed in last 7 days)*.

Note 1 → **DO NOT mention in this part the foods that were not consumed in a large amount as the main component of the meal, but were consumed in small quantities, for example to impart flavor to the food, or only 1 small piece of the given food was consumed by 3-4 or more people.**

Note 2 → **Also, don't count food that your guests bought as a favor but that wasn't consumed by HH members**

Note 3 → **We also include eating out**

	Food name/group	Example	Number of days eaten in past 7 days
1.1	**Food made from grain**	**bread, lavash, rice, buckwheat, bulgur, millet, quinoa, rye, semolina, pasta (noodles, macaroni, vermicelli, pasta), porridge (oats, buckwheat, etc.) or other food made from grains**	|___|
1.2	**White roots, tubers and plants**	Potato	|___|

1.	Cereals and tubers	Rice, buckwheat, bread, lavash, potatoes, etc	|__|
2.	legumes / nuts	: beans, cowpeas, peanuts, lentils, nut, soy, pigeon pea and / or other nuts	|__|
3.	Milk and other dairy products	fresh milk / sour, yogurt, cheese, other dairy products (Exclude margarine / butter or small amounts of milk for tea / coffee)	|__|
4.		**Meat, fish and eggs:** goat, beef, chicken, pork, blood, fish, including canned tuna, escargot, and / or other seafood, eggs (meat and fish consumed in large quantities and not as a condiment)	|__|
4.2	Flesh meat	beef, pork, lamb, goat, rabbit, chicken, duck, other birds, insects	|__|
4.1	Organ meat	liver, kidney, heart and / or other organ meats	|__|
4.3	Fish/shellfish	fish, including canned tuna, escargot, and / or other seafood (fish in large quantities and not as a condiment)	|__|
4.4	Egg	Chicken, quail, duck eggs	|__|
5.	Vegetables	spinach, onion, tomatoes, carrots, peppers, green beans, lettuce, etc	|__|
5.1	Vitamin A rich vegetables, roots and tubers	carrot, red pepper, pumpkin, orange sweet potatoes,	|__|
5.2	Dark green leafy vegetables	spinach, broccoli, or other dark green leaves	|__|
5.3	Other vegetables	**Any other vegetables (tomatoes, cucumbers, etc.)**	|__|
6.	Fresh fruits	banana, apple, lemon, mango, papaya, apricot, peach, etc	|__|
6.1	Fresh fruits rich in vitamin A	mango, papaya, apricot, peach, sea buckthorn	|__|
6.2	Other fresh fruits	**Bananas, apples, berries, oranges and any other fruit**	
7.	Suger	sugar, honey, jam, cakes, candy, cookies, pastries, cakes and other sweet (sugary drinks)	|__|
8.	Fat	vegetable oil, palm oil, shea butter, margarine, other fats / oil	|__|
9.	Spices and else	Spices,tea, coffee / cocoa, salt, garlic, spices, yeast / baking powder, lanwin, tomato / sauce, meat or fish as a condiment, condiments including small amount of milk / tea coffee.	|__|

SECTION 5. LIVELIHOOD AND REDUCED COPING STRATEGIES

Q18. During the **last 7 days**, were there days (and, if so, how many) when your household had to employ one of the following strategies (to cope with a lack of food or money to buy it)?

		Frequency (number of days from 0 to 7)
1	Rely on less preferred and less expensive food	|___|
2	Borrow food or rely on help from relative(s) or friend(s)	|___|
3	Limit portion size at meals	|___|
4	Reduction in the quantities consumed by adults/mothers for young children	|___|
5	Reduce number of meals eaten in a day	|___|

Q19. During the past 30 days, did anyone in your household have to engage in any following behaviors due to a **lack of food or a lack of money to buy food?**
If the answer is no, but does not correspond to options 1 and 2, then the marking is not applicable

	1 = No, because I did not need to	**2 =** No, because I already sold those assets or have engaged in this activity within the last 12 months and cannot continue to do it	**3= Yes**	**4=Not applicable (DO NOT READ)**
1. Spent savings	1	2	3	4
2. Borrowed money	1	2	3	4
3.Purchased food on credit or borrowed money (Purchase on credit)	1	2	3	4
4. Reduced non-food expenses on health (including medicine) and education	1	2	3	4
5. Were dependent on food rations and/or support from neighbors and relatives as only food/income source	1	2	3	4
6. Sold household assets/goods (radio, furniture, refrigerator, television, jewelry, etc..)	1	2	3	4
7. Sold last female animals	1	2	3	4
8.Sold productive assets or means of transport (sewing machine, wheelbarrow, bicycle, car, etc..)	1	2	3	4
9. Children (under 15 years old) were working to contribute to household income (e.g. casual labour)	1	2	3	4
10. Sold house or land	1	2	3	4

SECTION 6. FOOD AND MARKET ACCESSABILITY SECTION

Q20. Does your household currently have a stock of staple foods (eg. wheat flour, rice, spelt) **ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE**

1. Yes	ASK Q20	2. No	GO TO Q21	1. Difficult to remember GO TO Q21

Q21. How long do you think the food stock would last? **ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE**

1.	Up to 7 days
2.	8-14 days
3.	15-30 days
4.	More than 1 month

Q22. In the past 7 days, has there been a time when you or your household members faced difficulties/barriers to access food? **ACCEPT ALL APPLICABLE OPTIONS. IF THE RESPONDENT SELECTS MORE THAN ONE OPTION, ASK HIM/HER TO CHOOSE THE MAIN REASON FROM THE SELECTED OPTIONS.**

1. Yes	ASK Q35	2. No	GO TO Q22

		Q35 Mark all the answers **(several answers are acceptable)**	Q35.1 Mention the most important reason **(only 1 answer)**
1.	Lack of financial resources		
2.	Increased food prices		
3.	Available resources were directed towards heating costs (utilities or firewood) or buying winter clothes or shoes for family members.		
4.	Absence of desired food items in shops nearby		
5.	Market\grocery store is too far		
6.	Movement restrictions, including the unavailability of transportation		
7.	The nearest shop is closed		
8.	Concerned about going out of the house due to disease outbreak		
9.	Movement restrictions, including concerns about security and safety		
10.	Due to health issues		
11.	Other (**REGISTER**)_____		

SECTION 7. INCOME SOURCES

Q23. Many HHs have several sources of income. I will read out some possible sources of income and ask you to indicate whether your HH has had a monetary income from these sources in the last 12 months. Please remember about the income of all your HH members. **PLEASE IN Q36.1 MENTION THE SECONDARY SOURCE OF YOUR HH INCOME, AND THAN IN Q36.2_2 MENTION THE PRIMARY SOURCES**

		36.1. SECONDARY SOURCES (several answers are acceptable)	36.2. PRIMARY SOURCE: (only 1 answer)
1.	Salaried work with regular income		
2.	Informal daily/casual labour		
3.	Own business/trade		
4.	Retail/selling on street		
5.	Horticulture/cattle breeding		
6.	Remittances received from a family member working abroad		
7.	Remittances/support from relatives living in Armenia		
8.	Remittances from relatives living abroad		
9.	Income from renting real estate/car/equipment		
10.	Regular State social support program (eg. Paros/FLSEB)		
11.	Emergency state social support program		
12.	Other state assistance		
13.	Pension		
14.	Disability support		
15.	Assistance received from NGOs		
16.	Other (**SPECIFY**)		

Q24. How much was your total household income last month? **DON'T READ OUT THE RESPONSE OPTIONS, WRITE DOWN THE AMOUNT MENTIONED BY THE RESPONDENT AND THEN CIRCLE IN THE RELEVANT RANGE. DO NOT CONSIDER GUESTS' INCOME.**
MUST WRITE IN NUMBERS, ONLY IN CASE OF DIFFICULTY SPECIFY THE RANGE
PLEASE WRITE DOWN HERE _____

1.	More than 576,001 AMD
2.	384,001-576,000 AMD
3.	192,001-384,000 AMD
4.	120,001-192,000 AMD
5.	48,001-120,000 AMD
6.	24,001-48,000 AMD
7.	Less than 24,000 AMD
8.	Do not know **(DO NOT READ)**
9.	Refuse to answer **(DO NOT READ)**

Q25. Please, let us know, how many people from your Household earned money during the last 12 months? Take into consideration all types of activities and positions (for example, pensioner) which bring monetary income to your family.
NOTE - we do not consider the social help
|＿|

Q26. Has your HH income changed in the last year? ONE RESPONSE

1. Yes	ASK Q27	2. No	GO TO Q28

Q27. To what extent has it impacted your salary? PLEASE mention the percentage.

1. Increased
2. 'Reduced by less than 25 percent
3. Reduced by more than 25 percent and less than 49 percent
4. Reduced by more than 50 percent

Expenditure

28. Did you purchase the following items during the **last 30 days** for domestic consumption? If none, write 0 and go to next item		Estimated expenditure during the **last 30 days (cash and credit in total)** **(local currency)**	In the **past 6 months** how much money have you spent on each of the following items or service? Use the following table, write 0 if no expenditure.		Estimated expenditure during the **last 6 months (cash and credit in total)** **(local currency)**
28.1	Food consumed at home		28.A.1	Non-food durable goods (e.g., furniture, phone, washing machine, etc) (if on credit, specify 6 months' payments)	
28.2	Alcohols at home		28.A.2	Health expenses (Drugs/pills, diagnostic expenses: test, X-ray, etc., health services including payments to doctors, ambulance, hospitalization, treatment, etc.)	
28.3	Tobacco at home				
28.4	Food consumed outside				
28.5	Alcohols consumed outside		28.A.5	Clothing, Shoes	
28.6	Soap & household items (non-food items)		28.A.6	Education, school and university fees (e.g., textbooks, parental activities, etc.)	
28.7	Public transportation (including taxi)		28.A.7	Professional courses (including trainings)	
28.8	Fuel for car		28.A.8	Debt repayment to shops	
28.9	Fuel for heating (wood, paraffin, etc.)		28.A.9	Dept repayment for real estate	
34.10	Utility bills: drinking water, electricity, gas (gasification and/or cylinder gas)		28.A.10	Dept repayment to relatives, friends and others	
			28.A.11	Celebrations / social events	
			28.A.12	Agricultural inputs (e.g., cattle, equipment, etc.)	
28.13	Communication (phone, internet, TV subscription)		28.A.13	Agricultural goods (e.g., seeds, fertilizers, etc.)	
28.14	House rent		28.A.14	Irrigation water	
28.15	Personal care and beauty		28.A.15	Savings	
			28.A.16	Buildings/house	

			Repair	
		28.A.17	Recreation, sports, Culture and leisure	
		28.A.18	Insurance and financial services (notary, legal services, other financial services, etc.)	
		28.A.19	Customs fees/payments for importing or exporting goods	
		28.A.20	Transactions related to a real estate	
		28.A.21	Other services	

Q29. In the past month, did you have to save money on food to... READ, ACCEPT ONE ANSWER

		1. YES	2. NO	99.DK (DO NOT READ)
1	cover the costs of heating the apartment: gas, electricity utility bills	1	2	99
2	buy fuel for heating: wood, coal, diesel, etc	1	2	99
3	buy winter clothes and shoes	1	2	99
4	buy winter fodder for animals	1	2	99
5	get ready for Christmas/Christmas shopping	1	2	99
6	For other purpose (SPECIFY)	1	2	99

Q30. Does the household have debt for food bought on credit from a shop or from a person?

1. Yes	**ASK Q30.1**	**2. No**	**GO TO Q31**

Q30.1 If yes, what is the amount of the dept? _____

Q30.2. If yes, from whom was the money borrowed?
1. Friends or relative
2. Colleagues
3. Neighbors
4. Shop
5. Other _____

Q30.3 What was the main reason for the dept?
1. To purchase food
2. To pay for the house/apartment rent
3. To pay utility bills for the apartment/house
4. Wood, coal, diesel, etc. to purchase heating fuel
5. To pay for the medical treatment
6. To renovate the house/repair the car
7. To pay educational costs
8. To buy winter clothes/shoes
9. To prepare for the New Year
10. Other (please specify) _____

SECTION 8.ADDITONAL

Q31.Currently, what are your main concerns ? **INTERVIEWER: DO NOT READ OUT THE RESPONSE OPTION, SELECT UP TO THREE RESPONSE OPTIONS THAT BEST FITS THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE RESPONDENT, OTHERWISE SELECT OTHER**

1	1st priority ___	1.	Shortage of food
2	2nd priority ___	2.	Increase in food prices
3	3rd priority ___	3.	Shortage of medicine
		4.	Disruption of medical service
		5.	Getting sick
		6.	Losing Job\Unemployment
		7.	Loss of livelihood source
		8.	Travel restrictions
		9.	Unstable financial conditions, less income
		10.	Having a house/apartment
		11.	Education of children
		12.	Clothing problem
		13.	Paying debts and credits
		14.	Improvement of housing conditions
		15.	Security and safety of the country
		16.	No concerns
		17.	Other (REGISTER) _____

Thank you very much!

UN World Food Programme

Address: 14 Petros Adamyan St, Yerevan 0010, Armenia

Contact persons: Zaruhi Ohanjanyan, Programme Policy officer zaruhi.ohanjanyan@wfp.org,

Sona Avakimyan, Programme Policy assistant, sona.avakimyan@wfp.org

Photos: WFP Armenia