

Caribbean Food Security & Livelihoods Survey

BARBADOS | JULY 2025



Overview

About the survey

Climate change and rising living costs are severely impacting food security and livelihoods in Barbados and across the Caribbean. Unpredictable weather, droughts, and storms disrupt food production and access, especially for vulnerable households reliant on farming and fishing. These climate-sensitive communities face increasing difficulty recovering from shocks and maintaining stable incomes and affordable food sources.

To monitor these evolving dynamics, the CARICOM Caribbean Food Security and Livelihoods Survey has been conducted over seven rounds since April 2020. The survey provides periodic snapshots of people's livelihoods, market access, and food security across the region. Its primary goal is to support evidence-based decision-making by governments and development partners, helping them respond to both immediate needs and long-term risks—particularly those linked to climate change and economic instability.

The eighth round of the survey, conducted between May and June 2025, focuses on Barbados and compares findings with previous rounds. This longitudinal approach helps identify trends and shifts in household resilience, food access, and livelihood stability. While regional patterns offer broad insights, national-level data from Barbados reveal unique local challenges that require tailored responses.

Although the survey provides valuable insights, it is important to note that the data are not nationally representative. The use of an online questionnaire restricts participation to individuals with internet access, potentially excluding voices from more remote or underserved communities.

Summary

Findings from Barbados highlight the continued vulnerability of households in the “well-below” and the “below” average perceived income categories. These groups face significant exposure to climate-related disruptions and economic shocks and often lack the resources to adapt effectively. Market access remains a concern, with inflation and supply chain issues further limiting food availability and affordability.

Main results from the Barbados surveys

	June 2025	April 2024	May 2023	Aug 2022	Feb 2022	June 2020	April 2020
LIVELIHOODS	Disrupted livelihoods	50%	45%	53%	55%	53%	81%
	Reduction/loss of income	57%	34%	29%	48%	55%	70%
MARKETS	Lack of market access	33%	31%	47%	50%	32%	59%
	Change in shopping behaviour	88%	79%	83%	89%	87%	87%
	Increase in food prices	93%	98%	99%	98%	91%	74%
FOOD SECURITY	Reduced food consumption	35%	32%	41%	41%	37%	35%
	Lack of food stock	23%	29%	26%	28%	25%	18%



Jun 2025

352

Respondents

77% Female | 23% Male

Apr 2024

347

Respondents

71% Female | 29% Male

May 2023

1113

Respondents

75% Female | 25% Male

Aug 2022

562

Respondents

72% Female | 28% Male

Feb 2022

995

Respondents

72% Female | 28% Male

Feb 2021

1507

Respondents

74% Female | 26% Male

Jun 2020

1198

Respondents

71% Female | 29% Male

Apr 2020

537

Respondents

72% Female | 28% Male



Socio-economic context and vulnerability

Barbados continues to experience moderate but persistent volatility in both general inflation and food price inflation, as the country remains highly vulnerable to external shocks. While global food prices have shown some signs of moderation, prices continue to rise although at a slower pace than was experienced in 2022.

According to FAO's food price index, in May 2025 global food prices increased by 5.4% over the previous 12 months, driven primarily by increases in the indices for dairy (21.6%), oils (19.1%) and meat (5.2%). In Barbados, over the same period, food prices increased by 2% while the general inflation rate was much lower at 0.5%.

Although less severe, even modest price increases continue to affect household purchasing power and food security, particularly among lower-income groups.

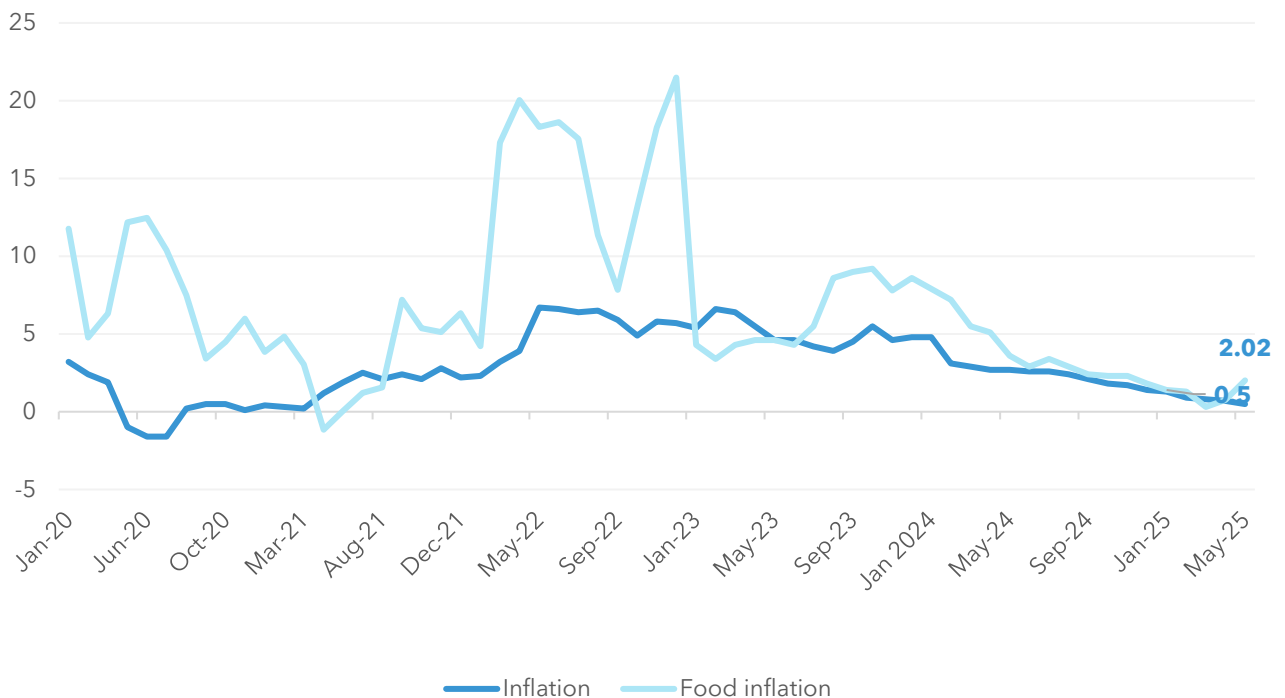
Barbados' food security challenges are compounded by its heavy reliance on imported foods. Two key indicators of food import dependency underscores this vulnerability.

First, the value of food imports as a percentage of total exports measures the country's ability to finance its food imports from export earnings. For Barbados, the value of food imports was 31% of total exports between 2020 and 2022, higher than the regional average for Latin America and the Caribbean of 20% (ECLAC, *International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2024*).

The second indicator is the cereal import dependency ratio, which measures the proportion of cereal consumption met through imports. For Barbados, the cereal import dependency was 100% between 2021 and 2023 (FAOStats, 2025). This complete reliance on imported cereal exposes the country to global supply chain disruptions, price volatility and geopolitical tensions.

Inflation in Barbados (Jan 2020 - May 2025; %)

Source: Barbados Statistical Service, FAOSTAT and Trading Economics





Natural hazards

Barbados is exposed to a wide range of natural hazards that pose a significant threat for climate sensitive livelihood activities and people's lives. The Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT) shows that there were 9 reported natural hazards in Barbados between 2000 - 2024. Primarily storms (7 out of 9), followed by drought (1) and earthquake (1).

The recorded events between 2000-2024 affected over 11,360 people in Barbados. Tropical storms accounted for all recorded disaster-related damages (USD 271 million). Tropical cyclone Emily in 1987 caused damages equivalent to USD 258 million alone (*EM-DAT, 2025*).

Hurricane Beryl caused significant damage to fisheries in 2024, among other impacts. According to ECLAC's estimates, the economic impact of Hurricane Beryl was moderate, estimated at approximately 193 million Barbados dollars (BBD) overall.

Three subsectors accounted for 84% of the overall impact; tourism, fisheries and agriculture, and environment. The productive sectors accounted for 66% of total damage, 50% of losses and 66% of additional costs (*ECLAC, Assessment of the effects and impacts of Hurricane Beryl on Barbados, 2025*).

The fisheries sector was severely impacted by strong swells, winds, heavy rainfall and flash flooding. The estimated economic impact of this disaster on the fisheries sector was around BBD 47 million in damage to fisheries assets, BBD 5.3 million in losses to fisheries economic flows and approximately BBD 3.9 million in additional costs (*ECLAC, 2025*).

In the aftermath of hurricane Beryl, WFP collaborated with the Government of Barbados to provide cash support to affected persons in the fisheries sector to support their recovery.





Markets

Thirty-four percent (34 percent) of respondents reported challenges accessing markets in the month prior to the survey, a slight increase from the previous survey round. Lack of money to spend continues to be overwhelmingly reported as the main factor limiting market access, cited by 97 percent of those unable to access markets. A quarter of respondents have changed how they shop by increasingly buying cheaper and less preferred foods (65 percent) and purchasing smaller quantities than usual (60 percent).

Respondents continue to report increased prices in commodities, especially food. Nearly all respondents (94 percent) reported an increase in food prices over the 3 months prior to the survey. Aside from food, the most significant price increases have been observed for housing (43 percent), electricity (33 percent), and gas (26 percent).

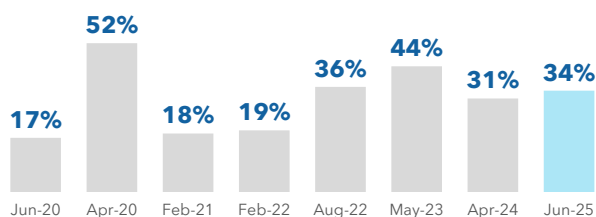
Lack of funds continue to be the overwhelming factor with nearly all (97 percent) respondents citing it as the main barrier to accessing markets.

Respondents from the “well-below average” and “below average income level were more likely to cite transportation challenges. Overall, the limitations were largely similar by sex of respondents, sex of head of households, locality, or households with disability.

In order to adapt to these disruptions, three-quarters (75 percent) of respondents from Barbados have changed how they shop. Sixty-seven percent (67 percent) are purchasing cheaper or less preferred foods. Over half of the respondents (52 percent) are reporting going to different stores when compared with results from May 2023 (38 percent). Those relying on informal daily/casual labour are more likely to adapt and compromise their shopping behaviour when compared to those with more stable income sources.

Respondents unable to access markets in the 30 days prior to the survey

Recall period was changed from 7 to 30 days in May 2023.

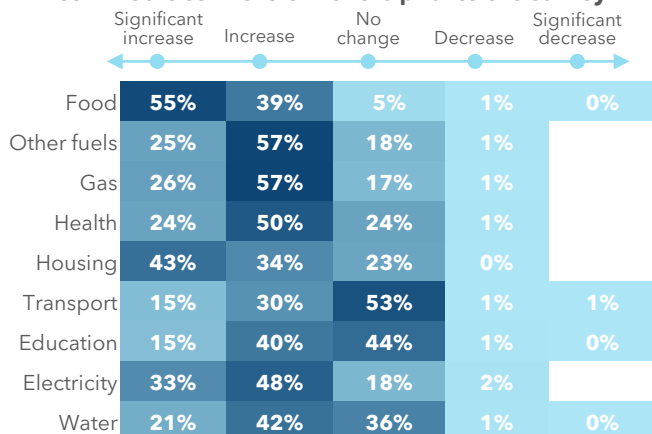


For those that faced a time when they could not access markets in the past 30 days, the main reasons were...

Multiple choices could be selected.

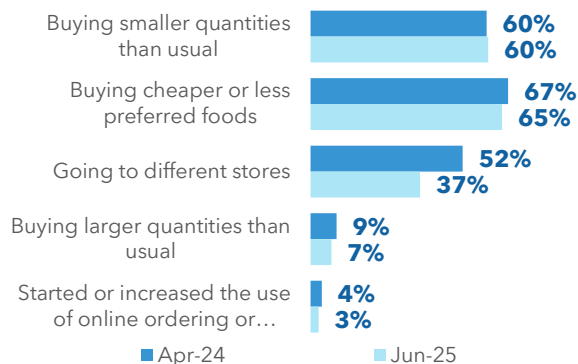


Respondents reporting a change in the costs of the commodities in the 3 months prior to the survey



Respondents who reported a change in their shopping habits in the past 3 months are...

Multiple choices could be selected.





Livelihoods

More than a third of respondents faced disruptions to their livelihoods in the 30 days prior to the survey. Unaffordability of livelihood inputs remains the main driver, cited by 53% of those affected by disruptions. Respondents with no income most frequently reported livelihood disruptions, followed by income from family and friends. Respondents involved in agriculture report high costs of inputs, especially for animal feed, labor, tools, and water.

Thirty-five percent (35 percent) of respondents experienced job loss or reduced salaries in their households in the 6 months prior to the survey.

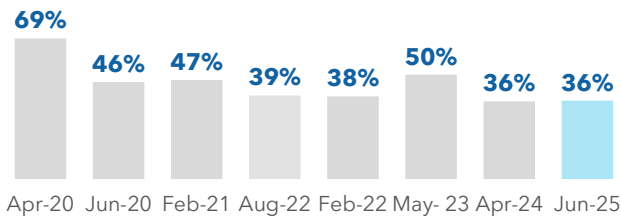
The proportion of those having to resort to secondary or alternative sources of income has remained relatively consistent since August 2022, suggesting the continuation of economic hardship and people turning to new ways of earning a living.

There were some marked differences in household income changes between the perceived income levels of the respondents.

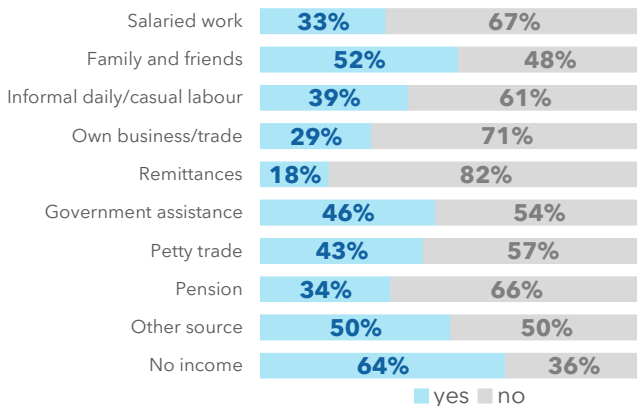
Households from “below” and “well below average” income levels were also more likely to suffer losses, whereas those from average level or above seem to have experienced less change or volatility within the previous 6 months before the survey. Households with one or more members with a disability or chronic illness were also more likely to experience job loss and or have to resort to an alternative source of income. Other groups more susceptible to negative household income changes include those with no formal education, those with no income, or those relying on government assistance. There were no major differences between the sex of the respondent or locality.

Respondents reporting that their ability to carry out livelihood activities was affected in the 30 days prior to the survey

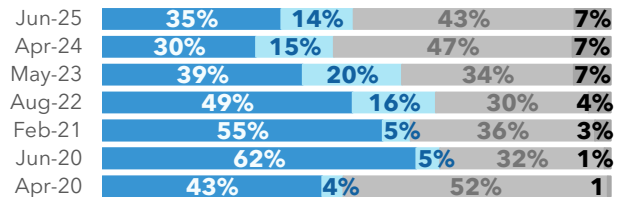
Recall period changed from 2 weeks to 30 days in the May 2023 survey round.



Respondents reporting that their ability to carry out livelihood activities was affected in the 30 days prior to the survey By income sources

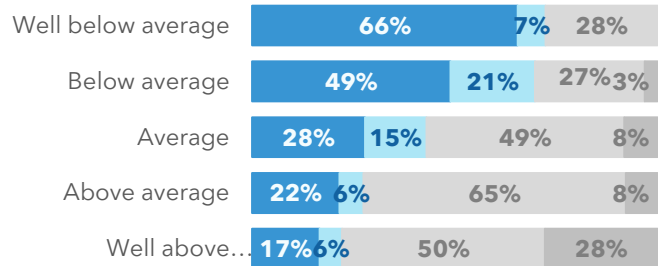


Has your household income changed in the 6 months prior to the survey?



- Loss of jobs or reduced salaries/revenues
- Resorted to secondary/alternative source of income
- No change
- Increased employment or salaries/revenues

Has your household income changed in the 6 months prior to the survey? By perceived income level



- Loss of jobs or reduced salaries/revenues
- Resorted to secondary/alternative source of income
- No change
- Increased employment or salaries/revenues



Coping Strategies

Respondents from Barbados are using potentially harmful coping strategies to address immediate needs.

Respondents may be compromising their well-being or future livelihoods by selling productive assets (17 percent), spending savings (61 percent), or reducing expenditures on health and education (45 percent).

Respondents who worked in agriculture and informal labour are more prone to divert to negative coping strategies to make ends meet when compared with those with regular income.

Households with below and well below average perceived income are also more frequently having to reduce non-essential expenditure and spending savings. Overall, coping strategies deployed are largely similar when comparing between sex, sex of head of household, locality, and income sources.



Food consumption

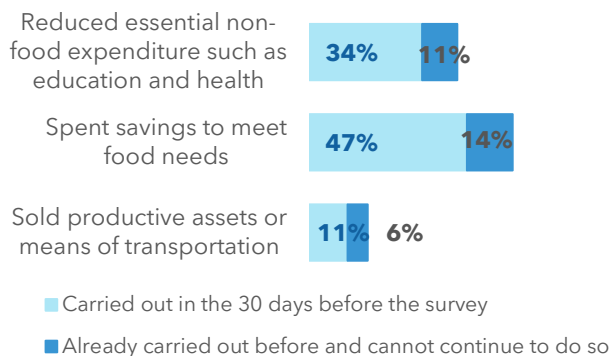
Over half of respondents are skipping meals, eating less preferred foods, or going an entire day without eating in the week leading up to the survey. These results are a slight increase from May 2023 (53 percent).

Alarmingly, just over a third (34 percent) of households that perceive well below average income level reported going a whole day without eating. Overall, almost 60 percent of households from well below or below average perceived income are having to skip meals or eat less than usual or go a whole day without eating.

Twenty-eight percent (28 percent) of respondents have no food stocks at home, while 36 percent reported having less than a week's worth of food supplies.

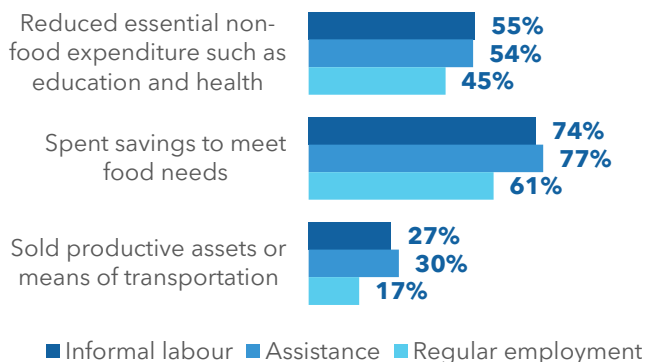
Households' coping strategies

Multiple choices could be selected.

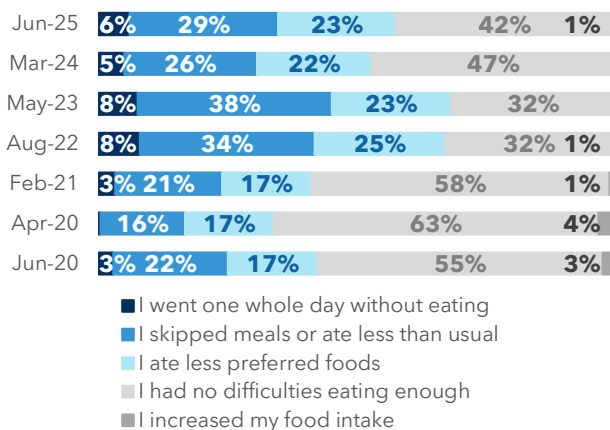


Households' coping strategies

By income source

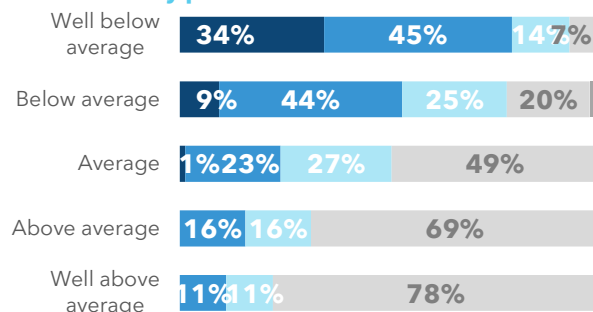


Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days?



Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days?

By perceived income level





Food Insecurity Prevalence

The rCARI, is an adapted remote version of the Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI). This approach was used to assess the overall level of food insecurity across the English-speaking Caribbean.

The Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) was developed by the World Food Programme as a standardized approach to assessing and reporting the level of food insecurity within a population. Under the CARI approach, each surveyed household is classified into one of four food security categories: food secure, marginally food secure, moderately food insecure, and severely food insecure. This classification is based on the household's current status of food security - using food consumption indicators - and its coping capacity -using indicators.

The rCARI assesses two dimensions: (1)the current status of households' food consumption (based on food consumption patterns over the previous week),and (2) the current coping capacity of households to meet future needs (assessed based on economic vulnerability and the adoption of livelihood coping strategies).

The composite score is comprised of 50 percent of the current food consumption domain, 25 percent of economic vulnerability domain, and 25 percent of the livelihood coping domain (see page 37 of the Food security and Livelihoods Regional Report for the CARI methodology).

**For more information on the CARI, see WFP's Technical Guidance Notes Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI)' (2015).*





Food Insecurity Prevalence

Using the rCARI methodology to determine the levels of food insecurity, it is estimated that in June 2025, 6 percent of the Barbados population are severely food insecure, and 32 percent are moderately food insecure, slightly lower than the regional average.

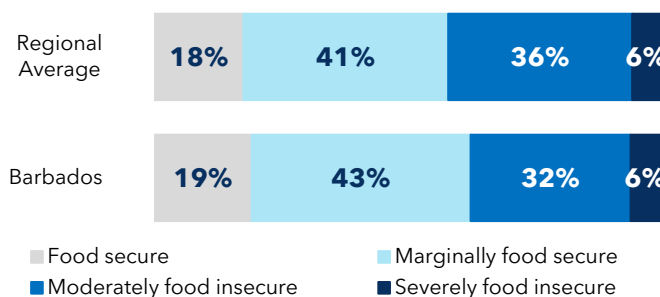
The results for Barbados indicate a heterogeneous food security situation, with a significant share of households experiencing different degrees of stress. While some households appear, food secure depending on their categories, there is other proportion under stress and a smaller but concerning portion facing crisis-level food insecurity.

Based on rCARI results Barbados's food security is fragile with underlying risks. The presence of stressed and crisis households signals the need for preventive action before external shocks escalate the situation.

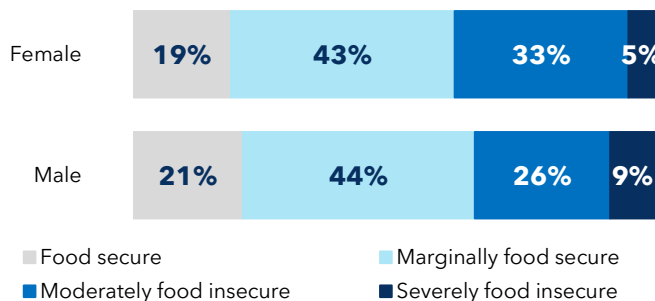
When comparing perceived income levels, households reporting much below average income makes up 34 percent of households who are severely food insecure. Severe or moderate food insecurity was also more prevalent amongst female respondents (33 percent compared to 26 percent of male respondents). But we note more severe food insecure in male respondents (9 percent compared to 6 percent for female)

Overall, 6 percent of all households with a disability/chronic illness suffered from severe food insecurity, and 41 percent suffer from moderate food insecurity. Households with a disability/chronic illness experience a higher prevalence rate of food insecurity when compared to households without disability or chronic illness.

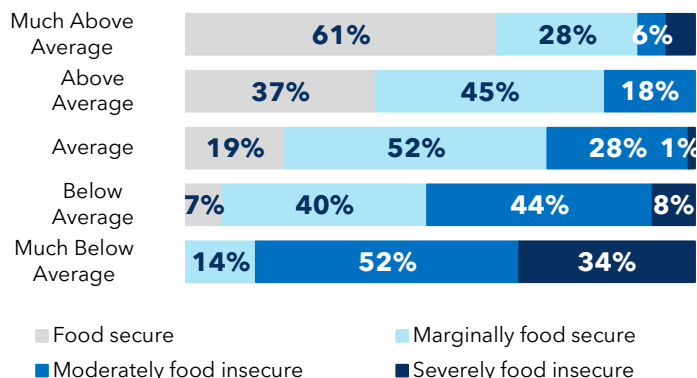
Prevalence rates of food insecurity based on the rCARI methodology - June 2025



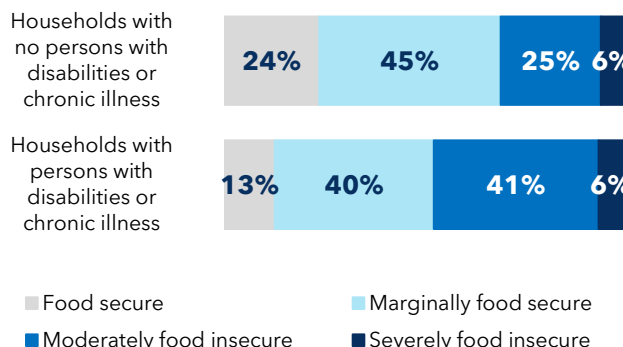
Prevalence rates of food insecurity based on the rCARI methodology - June 2025 By sex



Prevalence rates of food insecurity based on the rCARI methodology - June 2025 By perceived income level



Prevalence rates of food insecurity based on the rCARI methodology - June 2025 By households with a disability or person with chronic illness





Food Insecurity Experience (FIES)

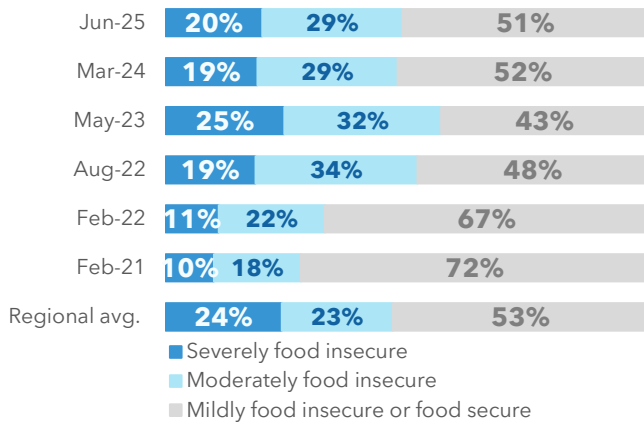
The Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), is an indicator used for the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero hunger (SDG 2), is a metric of severity of food insecurity at the household or individual level. It relies on people's self-reported food related behaviors and experiences associated with increasing difficulties in accessing food due to resource constraints.

Using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) methodology, it is estimated that 49 percent of the respondents in Barbados are food insecure. Out of these, 20 percent are estimated to be severely and 29 percent moderately food insecure. The prevalence of severe and moderate food insecurity in Barbados is similar to the regional survey average.

Nearly 90 percent respondents from Barbados who perceive themselves as having well below average household income experienced either severe or moderate level of food insecurity. Out of these households, 45 percent experienced severe food insecurity, while 35 percent experienced moderate food insecurity.

The negative food experience most often reported by respondents in Barbados was "eating only a few kinds of food" (65 percent), followed by being "unable to eat healthy and nutritious food" (57 percent). Alarming, 27 percent of respondents went a whole day without eating in the 30 days prior to the survey. Respondents below the ages of 60 and above 20 show a higher prevalence of negative food related experience while the poorest respondents appear to be the most affected across all individual negative food-related experiences.

Prevalence rates of food insecurity Based on FIES methodology.



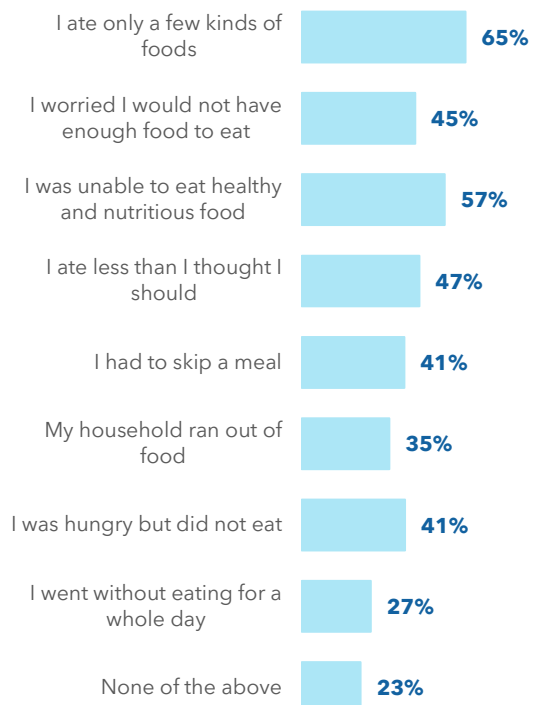
*For more information on the FIES, see FAO's [The Food Insecurity Experience Scale: Measuring food insecurity through people's experiences.](#)

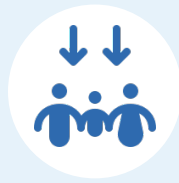
"I have to purchase less because prices are increasing" - female, 38

"Constant increases in food prices forced me to look for a different job as my spending power was rapidly decreasing." - female, 33

"Not being able to get enough foodstuff salaries are low." - female, 40

Was there a time in the past 30 days when you experienced the following?
Multiple choices could be selected.





Resilience capacity

The Resilience Capacity Score (RCS), developed by MLU, was applied as a composite indicator to assess perceived household resilience to natural hazards. This tool captures individuals' self-assessed ability to withstand, adapt to, and recover from hazard-related disruptions, emphasizing their capacity to mitigate long-term impacts.

The score is derived from responses to nine targeted statements reflecting key dimensions of resilience—such as preparedness, financial access, adaptive livelihoods, and social or institutional support. Participants rated their agreement on a Likert scale, enabling the aggregation of subjective perceptions into a single, comparable metric.

To evaluate household-level resilience to natural hazards, a structured perception-based survey was conducted using nine targeted questions designed to capture preparedness, adaptive capacity, and access to support systems. The questions were formulated to reflect key dimensions of resilience, including anticipatory action, recovery potential, livelihood flexibility, and social and institutional support.

Responses were aggregated to generate a composite resilience score, enabling comparative analysis across regions and demographic groups. This approach provides insight into perceived household capacity to manage and recover from hazard-related disruptions, informing targeted interventions and policy design.





Resilience capacity

A range of natural hazards has affected over a quarter of respondents in Barbados over the 12 months prior to the survey. The main reported hazards were tropical storms/hurricanes (12 percent) and heat waves (11 percent). Of respondents affected by natural hazards over the last year, 42 percent reported moderate, and 9 percent reported severe impacts on their livelihoods or income.

"Generally I have less of an ability to bounce back financially from any unforeseen or unplanned expense" - female, 35

"My home in bad need of repairs especially my roof which was lifted by Beryl" - female, 47

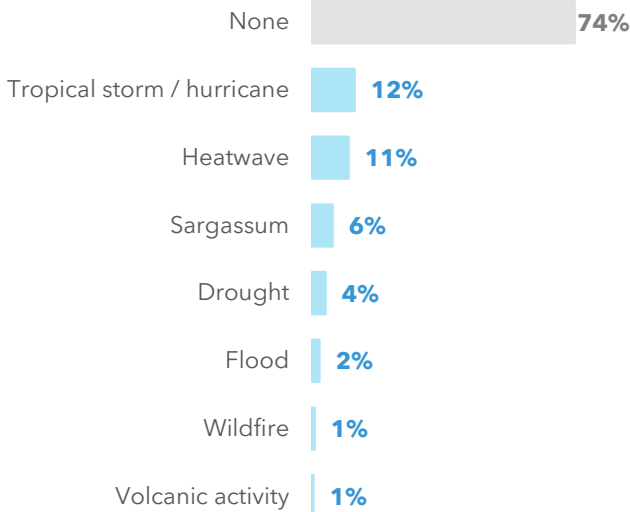
"Rising cost of rentals and depleted savings. Applied for a mortgage as it is cheaper than renting." - female, 67

Based on the RCS, 24 percent of respondents have low capacity to cope with, recover from, and adapt to natural hazards. Only 7 percent of respondents are highly resilient, while 68 percent of the respondents have medium resilience capacity.

Out of the nine resilience characteristics, respondents scored the worst on the financial (i.e., access to financial support) and transformative capacity (i.e., ability to change or adapt the household's primary income source if needed). On the other hand, respondents feel that they are better equipped with information capital by having access to early warning information to deal with natural disasters, and human capital, in that they learned lessons from past hardships.

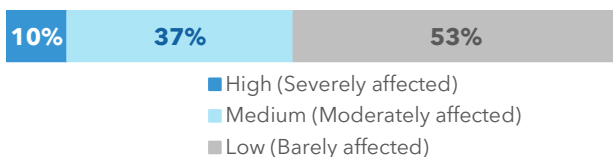
Natural hazards that affected respondents in the 12 months prior to the survey

Multiple choices could be selected.

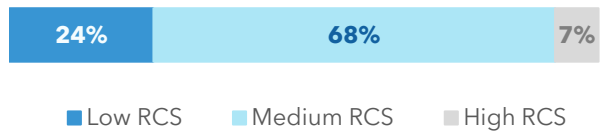


Level of impact on livelihoods or income

For respondents that were affected by natural hazards in the 12 months prior to the survey



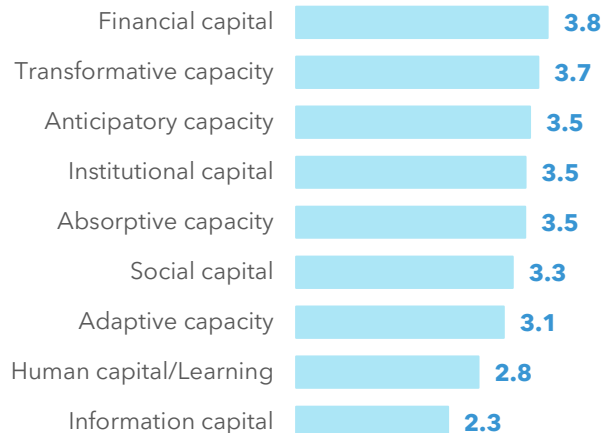
Overall resilience capacity



*The RCS is based on the Subjectively Evaluated Resilience Score (SERS) designed by L. Jones (2019) and WFP's Climate Resilience Capacity Score. For more information, see [Resilience Capacity Score](#) guidance.

Average score for the nine resilience capacity characteristics

Scores range from 1 (high resilience capacity) to 5 (low resilience capacity). Higher score means lower resilience capacity.





Worries and sentiments

Inability to meet essential needs (46 percent) and unemployment/income loss (37 percent) are the top concerns among respondents in Barbados, followed by decreasing savings (33 percent) and inability to cover food needs (32 percent), and illness (25 percent).

Sixteen percent (16 percent) of respondents reported receiving assistance from the government in the year prior to the June 2025 survey. This is slightly more than in April 2024, when nine percent (9 percent) had stated that they had received support during the last 12 months.

The majority of respondents (74 percent) expressed negative or very negative sentiments. Respondents were given the space to provide more nuanced insights on how they are coping and adapting. Out of the 352 respondents in Barbados, 98 responded to the open-ended question.



Main differences

Differences in results among respondents were most pronounced when comparing income levels. Based on regional survey findings, differences in results among respondents appear to be most pronounced when comparing income levels. Households that reported below or well below average incomes indicate the poorest results on all key metrics of well-being and are at risk of further falling behind economically. Younger respondents also appear to be experiencing greater challenges across the majority of metrics.

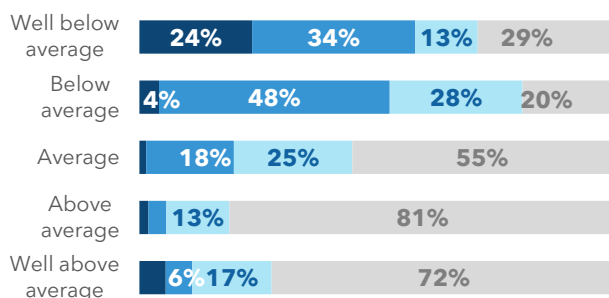
While disaggregated findings should be treated with caution due to the number of respondents from the country, the findings appear in line with regional survey trends.

Main worries expressed by respondents

Multiple choices could be selected. Answer options were adjusted in May 2023, adding new options and removing Covid-19 related options that are now displayed as "Other worries".

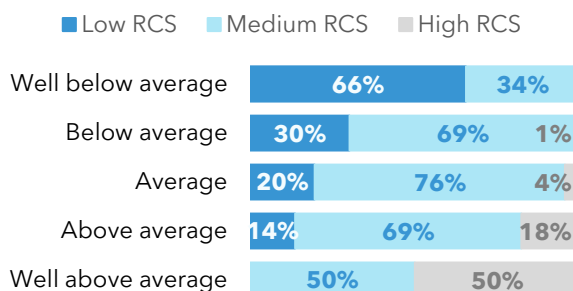
	Jun-25	Apr-24	May-23	Aug-22	Feb-22	Feb-21	Jun-20
Inability to cover essential needs	46%	41%	43%	47%	26%	26%	28%
Illness	25%	38%	28%	31%	56%	67%	51%
Unemployment / Income loss	37%	32%	38%	39%	34%	44%	55%
Decreasing savings	33%	33%	36%	27%	19%	16%	20%
Inability to cover food needs	32%	27%	32%	43%	19%	20%	19%
Inability to receive or repay loans	13%	15%	16%				
Violence/crime in the community	15%	10%	7%	18%	5%	7%	7%
Child/dependent care	12%	13%	14%	17%	15%	14%	15%
Natural hazards	20%	18%	13%				
Inadequate infrastructure	7%	8%	4%				
Inadequate housing	8%	5%	6%				
Disruption of public services (education, health)	2%	3%	2%	7%	22%	16%	14%
Other worries	1%	2%	1%	18%	45%	37%	0%
Violence/abuse in the household	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%
No access to services due to migration status	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%

Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days? By perceived income level



- I went one whole day without eating
- I skipped meals or ate less than usual
- I ate less preferred foods
- I had no difficulties eating enough

Overall resilience capacity By perceived income level



COMMON THEMES ON HOW RESPONDENTS IN BARBADOS ARE COPING AND ADAPTING

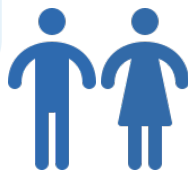


"Hard to take care of my family and had to take what people said to me, no water at the house for a year and some. Need a proper home for me and my boys"- female, 47

"Rising cost of living is a major challenge for all, having to cut back and find alternative methods. Trying to find affordable housing. Declined health care at major facilities, lack of working equipment and machines etc." - female, 42

"As a highly educated person securing adequate employment and pay has been a struggle. Being married to a foreign national who only received a Reside and Work permit today and having two older people in the home, one not yet receiving a pension and the other not yet qualified for one. We struggle! There is nothing else we can do." - female, 42

"Main challenge is the rising cost of living and increase of storms. And though the government helps people who houses have been damages it's the amount of time it takes for them to help"- female, 40



"Buy less, eat less, passive income streams, backyard gardening, surf fishing, rent my home move back to mother's home." - female, 40

"Things are getting to expensive every year things going up it's fight we'll have to go true I would be happy if things change just imagine having to struggle all your life. Don't want to rich but to have a good life." - male, 40

"As the prices of food and cleaning supplies continues to soar, I have reduced my spending by growing some food and finding cheaper alternatives at other locations (buying directly from farms/plantations other than markets and supermarkets." - female, 64

"Crime, the high cost of living, high water bills, hi gas bill at the pump, high electricity bill and everything in food has gone up in price." - male, 59

"Increase in water and electric bills and trying to pay off debts"- female, 31

"Cost of living too high have to work pay check to pay check sometimes I have to borrow money to get me through the month until pay date again. Bills and food stuff is more than my salary." - female, 40

Conclusion

While some indicators in Barbados show signs of stabilization, food insecurity and economic vulnerability remain deeply entrenched. The October 2025 survey results reveal that conditions have not significantly worsened since 2024, but meaningful improvement is still elusive. Households continue to face constrained market access, disrupted livelihoods, and rising costs—especially for food, housing, and utilities. These pressures are driving widespread reliance on negative coping strategies, including reduced spending on health and education, depletion of savings, and meal skipping.

The data points to persistent disparities, with households reporting well below average income, those with disabilities or chronic illness, and informal workers facing the greatest hardship. These groups are more likely to experience job loss, turn to secondary income sources, and report severe food insecurity. Nearly one in three households lack sufficient food stocks, and over half are compromising their consumption patterns to get by.

Livelihood disruptions remain widespread, with unaffordable inputs cited as the primary barrier—particularly among those engaged in agriculture and informal labour. These groups are more likely to resort to selling productive assets or reducing essential expenditures to meet immediate needs. While such strategies may offer short-term relief, they risk undermining long-term resilience and deepening cycles of vulnerability.

Exposure to climate-related hazards such as heatwaves and tropical storms continues to erode household stability. Based on the Resilience Capacity Score (RCS), only 7 percent of households are considered highly resilient, while 24 percent have low capacity to cope, recover, and adapt. Financial and transformative capacities—such as access to financial support and the ability to shift income sources—remain the weakest areas. These gaps highlight the need for targeted support to strengthen household adaptability and access to resources.

Respondents report relatively strong information and human capital, with many households receiving early warning information and learning from past hardships. These assets offer a foundation for building more responsive and inclusive systems that can better withstand future shocks.

The findings underscore the importance of continued investment in social protection, food systems, and climate resilience. Strengthening national programmes, improving access to affordable food, and supporting climate-resilient livelihoods will be critical to reducing food insecurity and enhancing household stability. Inclusive policy design must account for the disproportionate impact on vulnerable groups, including women, persons with disabilities, and those with limited financial means.

Accelerating initiatives such as the 25 percent by 2030 target to reduce food import dependence will be essential to easing price pressures and improving access to nutritious food. Continued investment in emergency preparedness and flexible response mechanisms will help protect households when disruptions occur.

Evidence must continue to guide these efforts. With eight rounds of data collection completed, the Caribbean Food Security and Livelihoods Survey provides a critical lens into household experiences and emerging trends. In Barbados, the launch of real-time monitoring systems and strengthened stakeholder coordination will be key to identifying stress early and responding effectively.

To reduce food insecurity and build resilient communities, coordinated, forward-looking solutions are needed—bringing together public institutions, the private sector, and communities. Strengthened collaboration, targeted investment, and inclusive approaches will be essential to ensuring that all households in Barbados can meet their most basic need: safe, affordable, and nutritious food.



Recommendations*

Accelerate progress under the **CARICOM 25 by 2030 agenda** by investing in **regional food production**, addressing bottlenecks to **intra-regional trade**, and scaling up **public and private sector investments** across the agri-food value chain.

Continue to strengthen the **productive capacities** of **smallholder farmers and fisherfolk** through improved access to **financing, climate-resilient technologies and practices**, and linkages to **institutional markets**.

Promote the participation of **youth and women** in **agriculture and food systems**

Strengthen **linkages between social protection, agriculture and disaster risk reduction** to promote inclusive recovery and resilience, including through improved **policy coordination** and **locally tailored programmes**.

Develop and scale **inclusive disaster risk financing tools**, including **risk-layered approaches**, to protect livelihoods and ensure timely support to people affected by hazards. Build on and expand experiences **linking financing to shock-responsive social protection**.

Continue to invest in **shock-responsive social protection systems** and link programme design and scale-up to **early warning systems** and to enable **early, targeted action** when shocks occur.

Leverage **public employment and social assistance programmes** to support **recovery and resilience-building**, particularly in vulnerable communities, by linking these schemes to **local disaster risk reduction** and **climate adaptation efforts**.

Institutionalize **anticipatory action** by linking **food security and climate indicators** to **pre-defined actions** that mitigate the impacts of shocks. Improve **inter-agency coordination** to enable **timely and effective responses**.

Expand efforts to promote **healthy diets** and increase **demand for local nutritious food**, including through **school feeding programmes, awareness campaigns**, and **policy incentives** that support **local production** and connect **farmers to institutional markets**.

Invest in a **comprehensive regional platform for food security monitoring** and analysis. Build on the real-time food security monitoring system, this survey series, and other data sources to produce and disseminate analytical products and **facilitate direct access to data** by governments.

*Recommendations are adapted from regional survey report



INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD

The dashboard contains additional country-level data and analysis beyond the present report on the Food Security and Livelihoods Survey. It may take a second to load. Scan the QR code to access it or follow this link:

<https://analytics.wfp.org/t/Public/views/CaribbeanFoodSecurityLivelihoodsSurvey/Overview>

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REPORTS

The website contains links to all current and past regional and country reports on the Food Security and Livelihoods Survey. Scan the QR code to access it or follow this link:

<https://www.wfp.org/publications/caribbean-covid-19-food-security-and-livelihoods-impact-survey>