

# Caribbean Food Security & Livelihoods Survey

SAINT LUCIA | JULY 2025



# Overview

## About the survey

Climate change and rising living costs are severely impacting food security and livelihoods in Saint Lucia 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 seventh round of the survey, conducted between May and June 2025, focuses on Saint Lucia 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 St. Lucia 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

Survey results from St. Lucia underscores the persistent fragility of households in the “well-below” and “below” average perceived income brackets. These populations are highly exposed to climate-related hazards and economic shocks yet possess limited means to adapt or recover. Escalating market prices, driven by inflation and ongoing supply chain disruptions, continue to erode food availability and affordability, further straining already vulnerable communities.

### Main results from the Saint Lucia surveys

	Jun 2025	Apr 2024	May 2023	Aug 2022	Feb 2022	Feb 2021	Jun 2020		
<b>LIVELIHOODS</b>	Disrupted livelihoods	45%	45%	59%	56%	50%	63%	61%	80%
	Reduction/loss of income	35%	35%	40%	50%	59%	72%	79%	53%
<b>MARKETS</b>	Lack of market access	40%	36%	49%	46%	27%	21%	28%	76%
	Change in shopping behaviour	85%	87%	91%	92%	86%	90%	93%	88%
	Increase in food prices	97%	98%	98%	99%	94%	88%	92%	46%
<b>FOOD SECURITY</b>	Reduced food consumption	39%	37%	42%	44%	27%	33%	39%	23%
	Lack of food stock	29%	29%	33%	33%	25%	17%	18%	2%



**June 2025**

**428**

Respondents

75% Female | 25% Male

**Apr 2024**

**544**

Respondents

71% Female | 29% Male

**May 2023**

**938**

Respondents

74% Female | 26% Male

**Aug 2022**

**599**

Respondents

72% Female | 28% Male

**Feb 2022**

**322**

Respondents

74% Female | 26% Male

**Feb 2021**

**165**

Respondents

83% Female | 17% Male

**Jun 2020**

**301**

Respondents

78% Female | 22% Male

**Apr 2020**

**244**

Respondents

72% Female | 28% Male



## Socio-economic context and vulnerability

Saint Lucia has experienced a gradual easing of inflationary pressures since 2023, following a period of moderate but persistent volatility. While global food prices have shown some signs of moderation, prices continued 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 percent over the previous 12 months, driven primarily by increases in the indices for dairy (21.6 percent), oils (19.1 percent) and meat (5.2 percent). Locally, in Saint Lucia, inflation has been steadily declining since 2023. In March 2024, food inflation was 2.4 percent compared to the previous 12 months, while general inflation was 0.6 percent.

Although data for 2025 is not yet available, the downward trend observed through early 2024 suggests a period of relative price stability. Nevertheless, even modest price increases continue to affect household purchasing power and food security, particularly among lower-income groups.

Saint Lucia's 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 Saint Lucia, the value of food imports was 24 percent of total exports between 2020 and 2022, slightly higher than the regional average for Latin America and the Caribbean of 20 percent (*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 Saint Lucia, the cereal import dependency was 100 percent between 2021 and 2023 (*FAO Stats, 2025*). This complete reliance on imported cereal exposes the country to global supply chain disruptions, price volatility and geopolitical tensions.

### Inflation in Saint Lucia (Jan 2020 - Mar 2024; %)

Source: FAOSTAT and St. Lucia Central Statistics Office





## Natural Hazards

Saint Lucia is highly vulnerable to a range of natural hazards, including storms, flooding, landslides, droughts, earthquakes, volcanic activity, and the broader impacts of climate change. Flooding, both from localized events and major storms, poses a persistent threat, particularly to low-lying coastal communities already facing socioeconomic challenges.

Disaster events have historically undermined fiscal stability and community well-being. In December 2013, extreme rainfall caused widespread damage to agriculture, transportation, water systems, and housing, resulting in USD 99.88 million in losses, equivalent to 8.3 percent of GDP. The event displaced over 550 people, affected nearly 20,000, and claimed six lives (*USAID, Saint Lucia Resilience Profile, 2021*).

Saint Lucia's mountainous terrain also presents a high risk of landslides, which can isolate communities and damage critical infrastructure. Major landslides have led to loss of life, displacement, and biodiversity loss, while complicating efforts to build resilient roads, bridges, and water systems.

Climate-related hazards such as floods, droughts, and pests (e.g., Black Sigatoka disease) have also led to crop failures and livestock losses. These impacts threaten food security, farm incomes, and rural livelihoods (*St. Lucia's 3<sup>rd</sup> National Communication to the UNFCCC, 2017*).





## Markets

**Challenges to accessing markets were reported by four-tenths of respondents** in the month prior to the survey. This exhibits a 4 percent increase in market unavailability from the previous survey round.

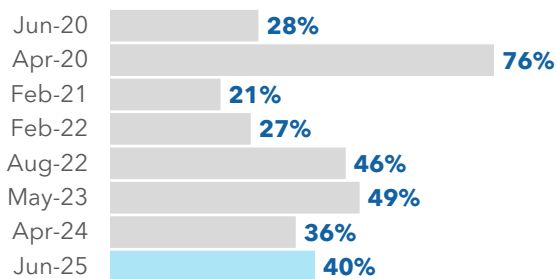
**Respondents continue to report increased prices in commodities, especially food.** Nearly all (98 percent) of respondents reported an increase in food prices over the three months prior to the survey. Significant price increases were also observed for housing (53 percent), health (39 percent), education (37 percent), and electricity (34 percent).

**Lack of funds continue to be the overwhelming factor with almost all (94 percent) of those facing challenges citing it as the main barrier to accessing markets.**

**In order to adapt to these disruptions, the majority of respondents (85 percent) have changed how they shop.** 65 percent of respondents are purchasing cheaper or less preferred foods. Over two-thirds of respondents are buying smaller quantities than usual. 43 percent of respondents are going to different stores. These behaviours are largely similar to what was reported in March 2024.

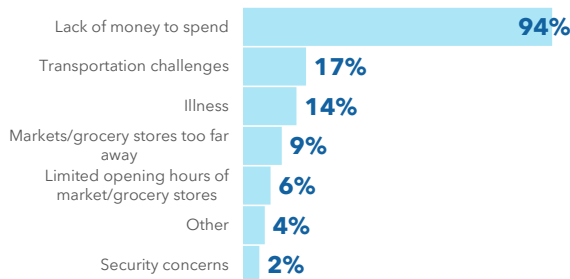
### Respondents unable to access markets in the 30 days prior to the survey

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

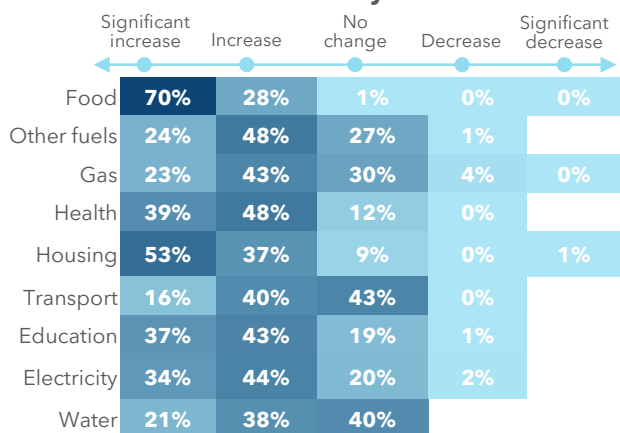


### For those that faced a time when they could not access markets in the past 30 days, the main reasons were...

Multiple choices could be selected.

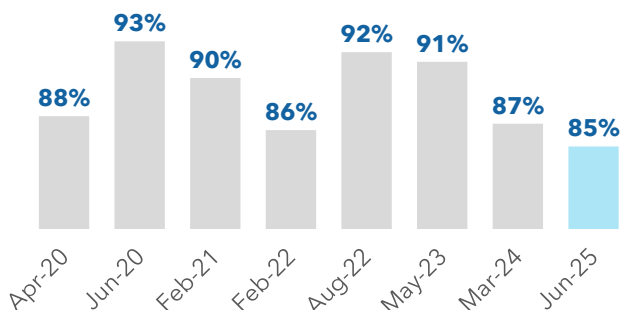


### Respondents reporting a change in the costs of the commodities in the 3 months prior to the survey



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

Recall period was changed from before COVID-19 to 3 months in May 2023.





## Livelihoods

**More than four out of ten respondents from Saint Lucia continue to experience disruptions to their livelihood activities in the 30 days before the survey.** Households with incomes well below average income (55 percent) report facing more disruptions when compared to those who perceive above average income (36 percent). Households relying on family and friends and informal daily/casual labor, with no formal education, with disabilities, and with mixed households were also more likely to be affected. There were no major differences between the sexes of the respondents on disruptions.

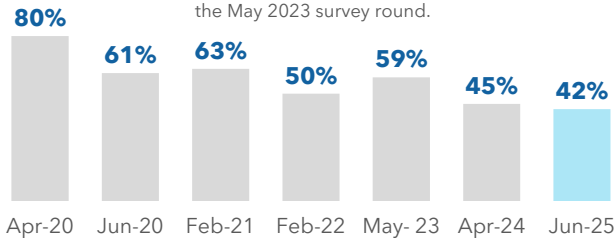
**Unaffordability of livelihood inputs remains the main driver across most respondents,** cited by 56 percent of those affected by disruptions. Respondents involved in agriculture and fishing report high costs of inputs, especially for tools/machinery, arable land, and labor.

**Over one-third (37 percent) of respondents experienced job loss or reduced salaries in their households** in the six months before the survey, which is similar to what was reported in March 2024 (35 percent).

**There were some marked differences in household income changes between the perceived income levels, income sources, and income sector of the respondents.** Households from "below" and "well below average" income levels (46 percent and 64 percent respectively) were more likely to suffer losses. Those reliant on family and friends (56 percent), informal daily/casual labor (52 percent), and petty trade (50 percent) for income were also more likely to experience job loss or reduced salaries. Households working in retail trade (62 percent) and manufacturing and construction (69 percent) were the most likely to experience job loss or reduced salaries.

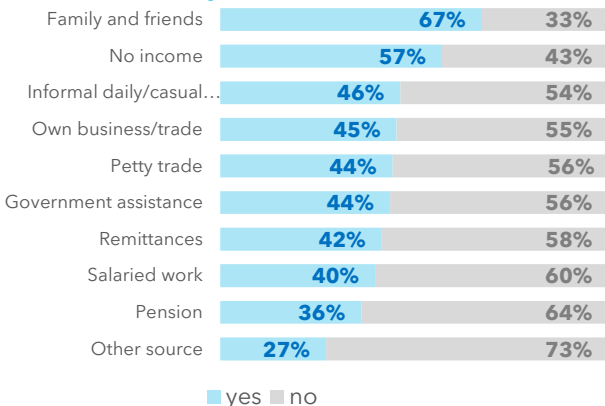
### Respondents reporting that their ability to carry out livelihood activities was affected in the 30 days prior to the survey

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



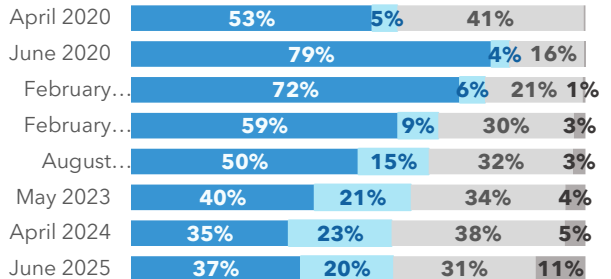
### Respondents reporting that their ability to carry out livelihood activities was affected in the 30 days prior to the survey

By income sources



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

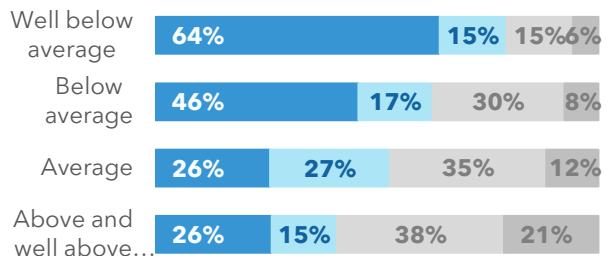
Recall period changed from "since Covid-19" to "in the 6 months prior to the survey" in May 2023 survey round



- 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





## Coping Strategies

**Respondents from Saint Lucia are employing various coping strategies to address immediate needs.** Respondents may be compromising their well-being or future livelihoods, spending savings (61 percent), reducing expenditures on health and education (41 percent), or selling productive assets (15 percent).

Households in rural locations are reporting slightly higher frequencies of having to reduce essential non-food expenditures, spending savings, and selling productive assets or means of transportation to make ends meet when compared with other households (58 percent, 73 percent and 21 percent respectively). Respondents in the “below average” and “well below average” income level are also at the raw end of the spectrum, as having to spend savings and to sell productive assets or means of transportation to make ends meet (83 percent and 23 percent respectively).



## Food consumption

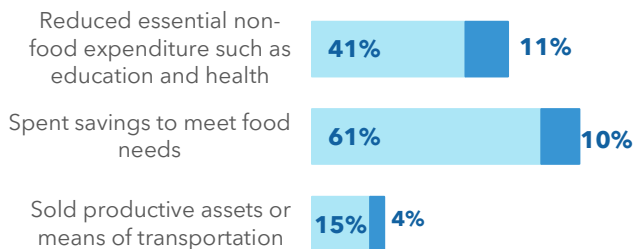
**Food consumption patterns have shown very slight improvements.** Two-thirds of respondents (64 percent) are skipping meals, eating less preferred foods, or going an entire day without eating in the week leading up to the survey. These results show slight improvements from May 2023 (68 percent).

The majority of respondents (73 percent) from “well below average” perceived income households are resorting to negative food consumption patterns described above at a higher frequency when compared with households with average and above income levels.

Almost thirty percent of respondents have no food stocks at home, while 41 percent reported having less than a week’s worth of food stocks. This is similar to the results from March 2024.

### Households' coping strategies

Multiple choices could be selected.

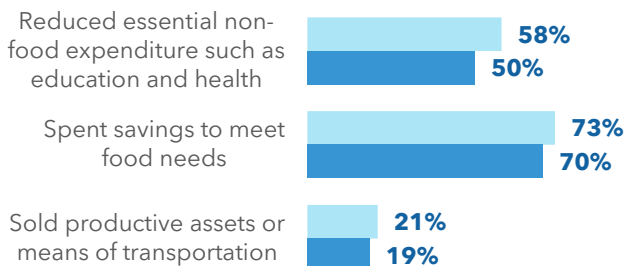


- Carried out in the 30 days before the survey
- Already carried out before and cannot continue to do so

### Households' coping strategies in the 30 days prior to the survey

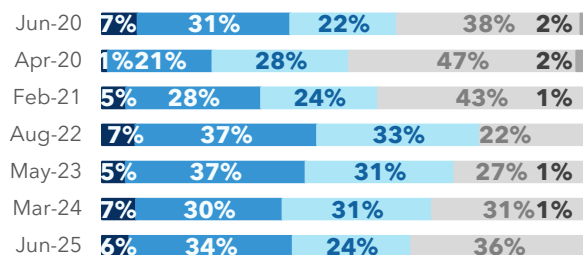
Multiple choices could be selected.

#### By urban/rural location



- Village or rural area
- City or town

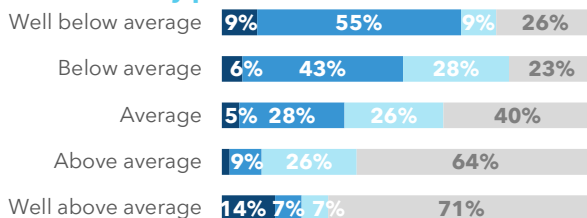
### Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days?



- 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

### 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



## 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 Saint Lucia population are severely food insecure, and 39 percent are moderately food insecure, slightly higher than the regional average.

The results for Saint Lucia 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 a non-negligible proportion under stress and a smaller but concerning portion facing crisis-level food insecurity.

Based on rCARI results Saint Lucia'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.

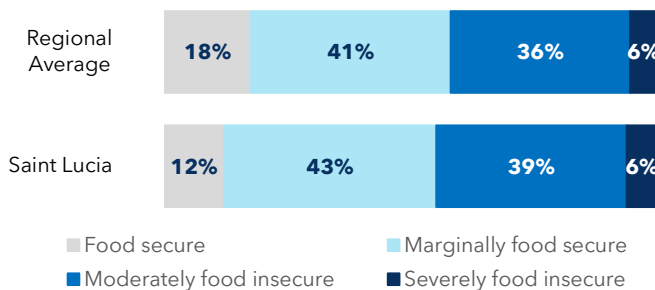
When comparing by income levels, households reporting much below average income makes up 72 percent of households who are food insecure.

In comparison, just 28 percent of respondents describing their household income as much above average are estimated to be food insecure.

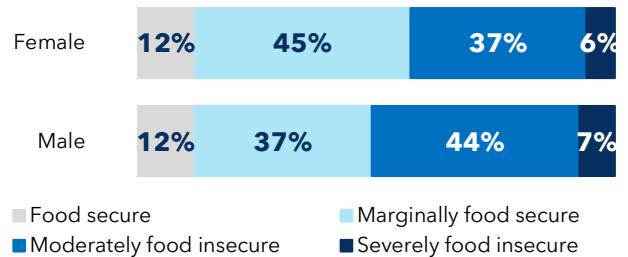
Moderate and severe food insecurity were also slightly higher among households where at least one member has a disability or chronic illness (53 percent) relative to those households where no member has a disability or chronic illness (38 percent).

Food insecurity levels were consistent between female and male respondents, with no significant differences observed. However, slightly higher food insecurity levels were observed among male headed households (51 compared to 43 percent of female headed households).

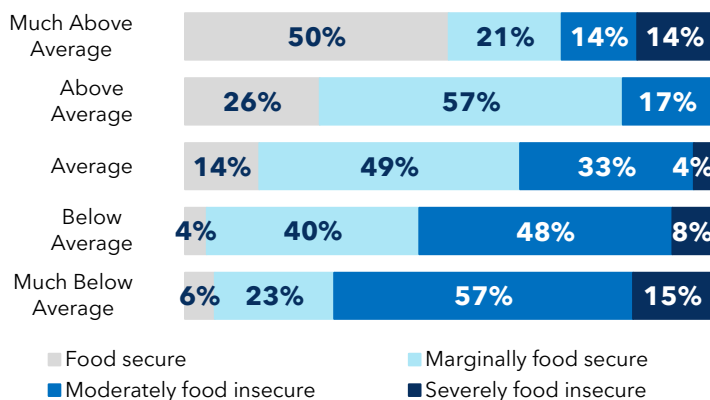
Prevalence rates of food insecurity based on the rCARI methodology - June 2025



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

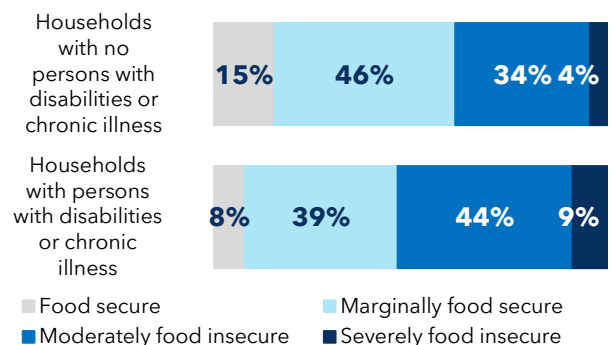


Prevalence rates of food insecurity based on the rCARI methodology - June 2025 By perceived income level



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)

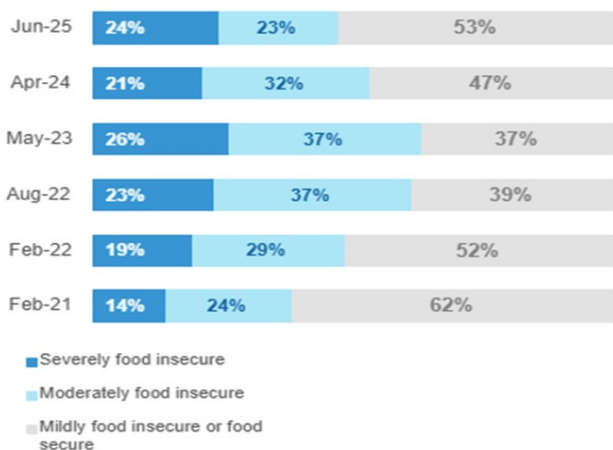
The Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), is an indicator used for the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero hunger (SDG 2), is a metric of severity of food insecurity at the household or individual level. It relies on people's self-reported food related behaviors and experiences associated with increasing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

**Using the FIES methodology, it is estimated that 57 percent of the respondents in Saint Lucia are experiencing food insecurity.** Out of these, 25 percent are estimated to be severely and 32 percent moderately food insecure. The prevalence of severe and moderate food insecurity in Saint Lucia is somewhat consistent with the regional survey average.

The negative food experience most often reported by respondents in Saint Lucia was "eating only a few kinds of food" (71 percent), followed by being "unable to eat healthy and nutritious food" (61 percent). Alarming, almost half of respondents (54 percent) skipped meals or ate less than usual. Lower income respondents appear to be performing the worst across all individual negative food-related experiences

While the indicators should be analysed collectively as a scale and individual statements should only be looked at as reference, there were some differences between sex of respondents, whereby female respondents were more likely to reduce the kinds of foods consumed, more frequently reported to inability to eat healthy and nutritious foods and more worried about not having enough food to buy cheaper or less preferred foods.

Prevalence rates of food insecurity  
Based on FIES methodology.

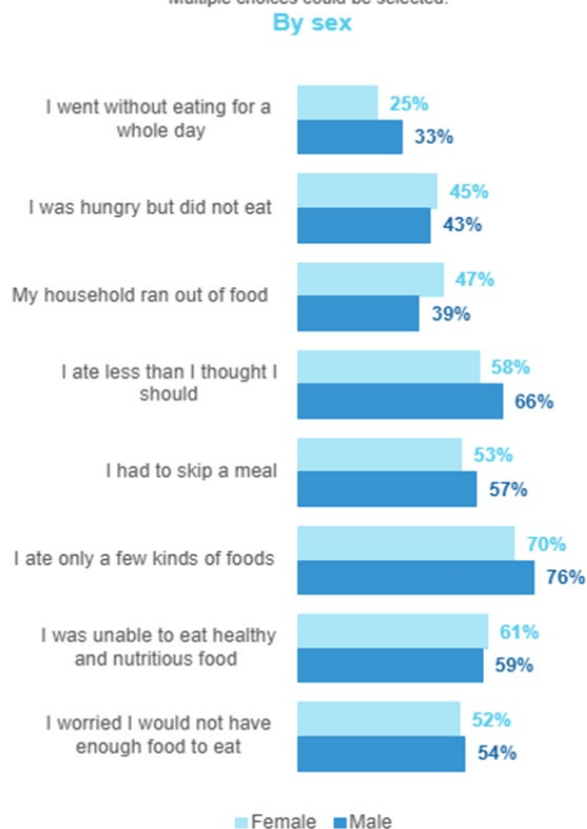


\*For more information on the FIES, see FAO's [The Food Insecurity Experience Scale: Measuring food insecurity through people's experiences](#).

"Couldn't get a job or save money, just did lil jobs around the place and stack up on some food... Ate less, bought less food"- male, 26

"Food sources became more difficult to access funding down. We converted part of our house to rental Airbnb. This has helped and next week will start to grow some of our own crops like in the past COVID time."- male, 53

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 have affected nearly a third of respondents in Saint Lucia over the 12 months prior to the survey.** The main reported hazards were hurricanes (13 percent), heat waves (12 percent), and drought (12 percent). Of respondents affected by natural hazards over the last year, 52 percent reported moderate, and 15 percent reported severe impacts on their livelihoods or income.

**Based on the RCS, 28 percent of respondents have low capacity to cope with, recover from, and adapt to natural hazards.** Only 9 percent of respondents are highly resilient, while 63 percent of the respondents have medium resilience capacity. Those ages 25 to 40, up to secondary education, and well below average income groups appear to have the lowest overall resilience capacity.

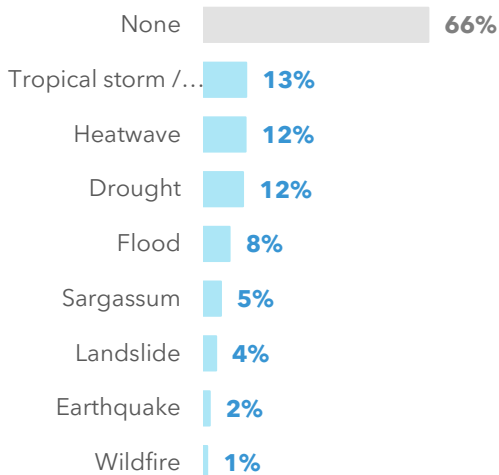
Out of the nine resilience characteristics, respondents scored the worst on the information capital (i.e., access to early warning information to deal with natural disasters) and human capacity (i.e., learned lessons from past hardships). On the other hand, respondents feel that they are better equipped with financial capital, accessing financial support and institutional capital, support from government and/or other institutions.

*"An increase in the price of food/grocery items had me to cut out many items to continue maintaining my basic needs." - male, 44*

*"I am struggling to survive on a minimum wage salary. Started planting seamoss to sell to make ends meet. However, there has been a drop in the price of seamoss leading to the price being very unstable and unavailability of markets to sell." - female, 45*

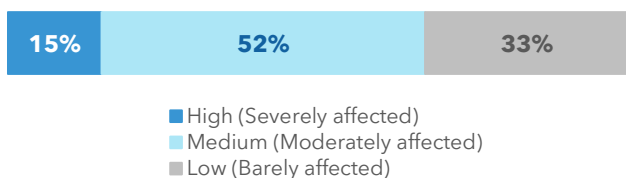
### Natural hazards that affected respondents in the 12 months prior to the survey

Multiple choices could be selected.

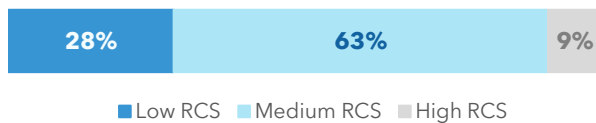


### Level of impact on livelihoods or income

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

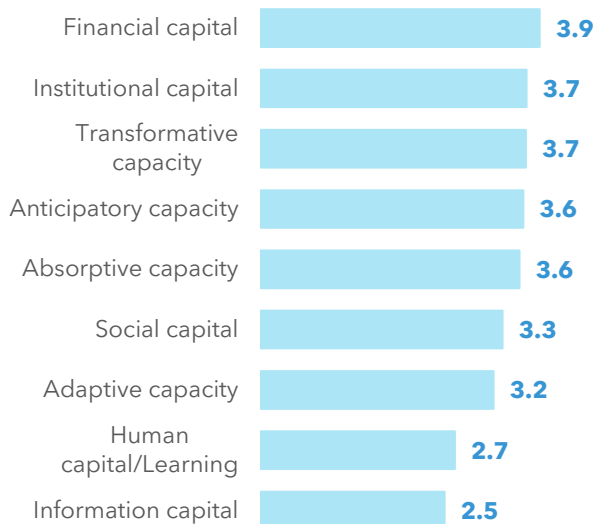


### Overall resilience capacity



### 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 (45 percent) and illness (45 percent) are equally the top concerns amongst respondents in Saint Lucia**, followed by unemployment/ income loss (38 percent) and decreasing savings (29 percent) then inability to cover food needs (28 percent).

**Four percent of respondents reported receiving assistance from the government** in the year prior to the April 2024 survey mainly as social security, vouchers and other forms.

**Almost three-quarters of respondents 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 544 participants in Saint Lucia, 185 responded to the open-ended question



## Main differences

**Differences in results among respondents were 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.

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. The results suggest that women may be facing greater challenges compared to men. Younger respondents also appear to be experiencing greater challenges across the majority of metrics.

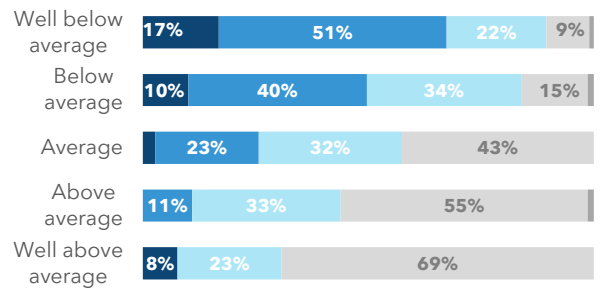
### Main worries expressed by respondents

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".

	25-Jun	24-Apr	May-23	Aug-22	Feb-22	Feb-21	Jun-20
Inability to cover essential needs	45%	51%	48%	48%	31%	37%	45%
Illness	45%	41%	36%	34%	46%	65%	46%
Unemployment / Income loss	38%	38%	35%	44%	38%	52%	63%
Decreasing savings	29%	36%	33%	27%	18%	16%	21%
Inability to cover food needs	28%	28%	31%	44%	24%	25%	37%
Inability to receive or repay loans	11%	14%	15%				
Violence/crime in the community	12%	16%	13%	15%	13%	8%	8%
Child/dependent care	14%	13%	12%	14%	14%	14%	15%
Natural hazards	23%	12%	12%				
Inadequate infrastructure	6%	9%	6%				
Inadequate housing	5%	4%	5%				
Disruption of public services (education, health)	4%	3%	2%	7%	19%	13%	9%
Other worries	1%	1%	2%	14%	35%	27%	0%
Violence/abuse in the household	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%
No access to services due to migration status	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%	3%

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

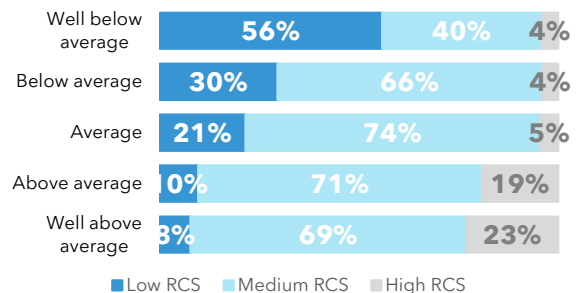
#### By perceived income level



- 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
- I increased my food intake

### Overall resilience capacity

#### By perceived income level



## COMMON THEMES ON HOW RESPONDENTS IN Saint Lucia ARE COPING AND ADAPTING



"Me and my family have been passing from house to house because we can't keep up with the rent and other things sometimes nothing to give the children to eat once we were living by the beach still the situation is not good we can barely feed "- female, 38

"The supply chain crisis, if not resolved in the immediate future will impact daily living in adverse and consequential ways"- male, 71

"Partner Loss of Job, selling of vehicle to gain income, not being able to save anything after getting paid, bills and rent fee, and taking care of kids takes everything. Unable to save to build a home or buy land. "- female, 37



"With the increase of cooking gas and oil we've stocked up on these things, coals and other food and non necessities in case of power cuts, floods, disconnections during bad weather. Vehicle purchase eases the stress of public transport in bad weather but is an additional expense.. trying to finish school and sustain a household on a minimum wage is impossible and everyone needs an additional source of income to be comfortable and have needs met "- female, 25

"My utility bills are extremely high and in most cases I have to cut down on purchasing groceries in order to meet the payments."- female, 56

"Having to skip bill payments in order to keep meals on the table, Having to disconnect internet connection to keep the lights on, and buying less food items while trying to have bus fare for converting to and from work daily. "- female, 35

"Try to do all whatever I can for my lady an family to make it "- male, 41

"Cost of living went up, salaries remained the same. Our quality of life decreased, and is unable to enjoy the things we used to. Adjusting to live below our means."- female, 33

"Increased rent and utilities meant having to cut other personal costs to afford. No celebrations, no eating out, no "fun" activities outside the household because everything costs money which is scarce right now."- female, 35

## CONCLUSION

While inflationary pressures have eased since 2023, food insecurity remains a pressing concern in Saint Lucia. The latest Food Security and Livelihoods Survey shows that, despite relative price stability compared to 2022, households continue to struggle with rising costs and limited purchasing power. Conditions have not deteriorated sharply, but neither has there been meaningful improvement. An estimated 45 percent of the population is moderately or severely food insecure, underscoring the fragility of the current situation.

Income shocks continue to drive vulnerability. Over one-third of households experienced job loss or reduced salaries in the past six months, consistent with March 2024 levels. Losses were most prevalent among households with below or well below average income, and among those reliant on petty trade, casual labor, or family support. Rural households reported higher frequencies of reducing essential non-food expenditures, spending savings, and selling assets, highlighting geographic disparities.

Food consumption patterns show only marginal improvement compared to 2023. Disparities are evident across income levels and household characteristics. Households reporting much below average income make up 76 percent of those who are food insecure, compared to just 28 percent among households with much above average income. Food insecurity was also higher among households with members living with disabilities or chronic illness. Gender differences were less pronounced, though male-headed households reported slightly higher food insecurity. Female respondents were more likely to reduce the diversity of foods consumed and report difficulty accessing nutritious food.

Saint Lucia's food security challenges are compounded by structural vulnerabilities. Food imports accounted for 24 percent of total exports between 2020 and 2022, above the regional average, while cereal import dependency remains complete at 100 percent. These dependencies, combined with persistent income shocks and livelihood disruptions, underscore the fragility of household food security.

Regional initiatives to reduce import dependence, expand intra-regional trade, and accelerate the 25% by 2030 target remain critical. Continued investment in emergency preparedness and flexible response systems will be essential to protect households when disruptions occur.

Evidence and data must continue to guide these efforts. With multiple survey rounds completed and methodologies such as rCARI and FIES providing detailed insights, policymakers have a clearer picture of household vulnerabilities and coping strategies. The launch of real-time monitoring systems across the Caribbean offers an opportunity for earlier detection of stress and more timely interventions.

To reduce food insecurity and build resilient food systems in Saint Lucia, coordinated, forward-looking solutions are needed. Public institutions, the private sector, and communities must work together to strengthen collaboration, target investment, and adopt inclusive approaches. Only through sustained action can households be protected from future shocks and ensure that everyone in Saint Lucia has reliable access to 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>

#### **CARICOM**

##### **Caribbean Community Secretariat**

Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown

PO Box 10827, Guyana

Website: [www.caricom.org](http://www.caricom.org)

#### **World Food Programme**

##### **Caribbean Multi-Country Office**

UN House, Marine Gardens

Christ Church, Barbados

Website: [www.wfp.org/countries/caribbean](http://www.wfp.org/countries/caribbean)

Email: [wfp.caribbean@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.caribbean@wfp.org)



#### **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>