



Published on 24 December 2024

The content of this information product draws on the IPC analysis conducted by the Sudan IPC Technical Working Group (TWG) for the vast majority of areas across 15 states of Sudan, combined with the conclusions of the IPC Famine Review Committee (FRC) for around 25 units of analysis comprising different localities and population groups in North Darfur, South Darfur, and South and West Kordofan (Central and Western Nuba Mountains). For these areas, the IPC FRC conducted an extended analysis to ensure that additional contextual factors and all relevant information were fully taken into consideration. On the basis of this analysis, the FRC reached conclusions that differed from the Sudan IPC TWG's. As per standard IPC Famine Review processes, the FRC's findings are meant to be discussed with the country IPC TWG and incorporated in the final TWG analysis. However, in the present case, the Sudan IPC TWG leadership opted not to take the FRC's conclusions on Famine classification into account. The IPC has a responsibility to ensure the most complete, accurate and evidence-based analysis is available for decision makers in the global humanitarian arena. As such, the following report makes maximum use of both the analysis produced by the Sudan IPC TWG and the FRC. This combined analysis was approved by the IPC global Steering Committee to ensure adherence to the IPC's commitment to integrity and transparency.

Overview

Twenty months into the conflict, Sudan continues to slide into a widening Famine crisis characterized by widespread starvation and a significant surge in acute malnutrition. The IPC Famine Review Committee (FRC) has detected Famine in at least five areas and projects that five additional areas will face Famine between December 2024 and May 2025. Furthermore, there is a risk of Famine in seventeen additional areas. Half of the population (24.6 million people) is facing high levels of acute food insecurity. This marks an unprecedented deepening and widening of the food and nutrition crisis, driven by the devastating conflict, which has triggered unprecedented mass displacement, a collapsing economy, the breakdown of essential social services, and severe societal disruptions, combined with poor humanitarian access. Food insecurity and malnutrition have reached these unprecedented levels of severity despite the mitigating effects of the ongoing harvest season.

According to the FRC, Famine (IPC Phase 5) detected in August 2024 in Zamzam camp, North Darfur state, has persisted and expanded to Al Salam and Abu Shouk camps and the Western Nuba Mountains for the period October to November 2024. Between December 2024 and May 2025, Famine is projected to expand in North Darfur localities including Um Kadadah, Melit, El Fasher, At Tawisha, and Al Lait. There is a risk of Famine in the Central Nuba Mountains (including in Delami, Western Kadugli, Um Durein, and Al Buram localities), and in areas likely to experience high influxes of IDPs in North and South Darfur. These include Tawila, Nyala Janoub, Nyala Shimal, Beliel, Shattaya, As Sunta, Buram, and Kas in South Darfur, as well as Medani Al Kubra and Sharg Al Jazirah in Al Jazirah State, Mayo and Alingaz in Jebel – Awilia, Khartoum state and Al Firdous in East Darfur state.

Famine is the most extreme manifestation of human suffering, representing a catastrophic collapse of the systems and resources essential for survival. It is not merely a lack of food but a profound breakdown of health, livelihoods, and social structures, leaving entire communities in a state of desperation.

This latest IPC analysis that draws from the TWG analysis and the FRC findings provides an update of the previous projection published in June 2024 for the period October 2024 to February 2025. It shows that food insecurity is at worse levels than foreseen. Between December and May, 24.6 million people face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above). These results mark a stark increase of 3.5 million people compared to the number originally projected and correspond to over half of the population of Sudan. This includes about 15.9 million people (33 percent) classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), 8.1 million people (17 percent) in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency), and at least 638,000 people (1 percent) in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe).

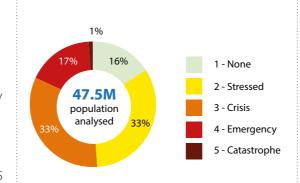
However, these findings show a slight improvement in terms of magnitude of acute food insecurity compared to the lean season (June - September 2024). In fact, above average rainfall has sustained agriculture activities where security conditions allowed farmers to access fields and agricultural inputs, thereby alleviating food insecurity. As a result, the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above during the lean season (estimated at 25.6 million) has decreased to 24.6 million in the post-harvest season (December – May). Nonetheless, not all populations benefited equally. In areas of high conflict intensity, the hostilities severely disrupted farming activities, resulting in farmers abandoning their crops, looting, and stock destruction. Displaced households, especially those living in settlements and public buildings, are unlikely to benefit significantly from the harvest.

The impact of conflict extends beyond food insecurity. It has severely disrupted access to basic services, including healthcare, clean water, and electricity. Health services are critically limited, with 70 percent of facilities being dysfunctional and unable to meet the needs of the population. This has resulted in increased disease incidence and acute malnutrition, compounded by food and water shortages. The situation is especially critical for populations trapped in areas where active conflict is ongoing, particularly in Al Jazirah, Greater Darfur, Khartoum, Greater Kordofan South Kordofan and Sennar. North Darfur and especially El Fasher locality have experienced intense conflict and continued ground operations, particularly since the escalation in April 2024 and continuing until now. Only a halt to the conflict, major improvements in humanitarian access and a significant scale-up and scale-out of life saving multi-sector humanitarian assistance can prevent an even greater catastrophe.

Projected Acute Food Insecurity situation December 2024 - May 2025



Approximately 24.6M people across Sudan will likely experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between December 2024 and May 2025. This includes 8.1 million people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and at least 638,000 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe).



Key drivers



Conflict and Insecurity: Intense conflict has pervaded all parts of the country and deeply embedded a complex food and nutrition crisis. Insecurity continues to escalate, spreading into new areas previously considered stable. Conflict exposes households to extreme food shocks, the collapse of market and financial systems, disrupted trade routes, and results in major access constraints for humanitarian assistance.



Displacement: Over 11.5 million people (25 percent of the population) across all 18 states of Sudan are now displaced. This has placed immense strain on both local populations and those already displaced, worsening humanitarian conditions.

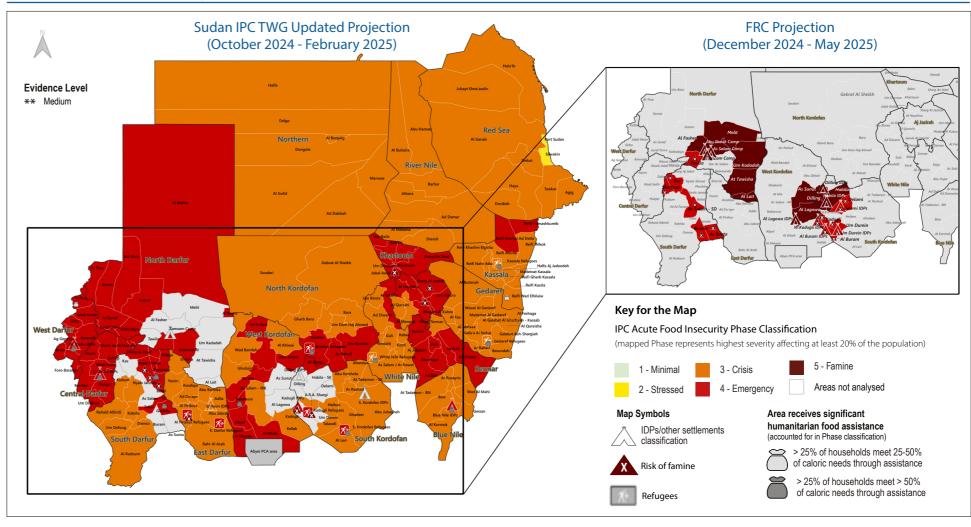


High food prices: The ongoing conflict, disruptions to supply chains, and challenges in agricultural production have led to a sustained increase in the price of essential commodities. Combined with declining terms of trade, this has resulted in a sharp drop in households' access to food and other essential goods.



Economic decline: The contraction in the economy persists, subject to large downside risks from prolonged conflict. As a result of conflict, the country is experiencing widespread macroeconomic changes including inflation and currency depreciation.

Projected Acute Food Insecurity map



Note: The risk of Famine in Jebel Awlia locality applies only to the hotspots of Mayo and Alingaz.





Evidence Level

** Medium

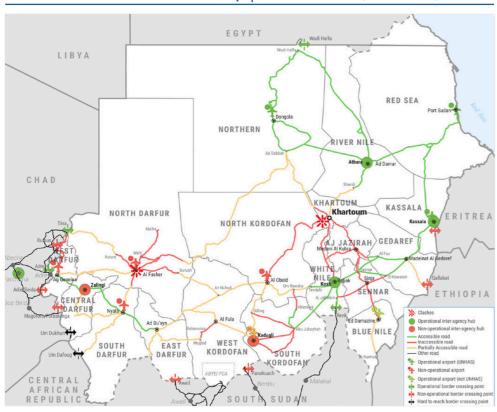
Impact of Conflict on Food Security

Since the outbreak of the fighting in Sudan in April 2023, the center, south, and west of the country have seen widespread conflict, violence against civilians, and mass displacement. The international efforts to secure a ceasefire have failed and active fighting is ongoing in Al Jazirah, Darfur, Khartoum, North Kordofan, South Kordofan and Sennar, driving significant displacement and pushing more people into food insecurity. Individuals and families are forced to move to other states in search of safety and resources, thereby contributing to an overall increase in food-insecure populations across the country.

The most affected groups are the newly displaced and the protracted IDPs and refugees, host communities and people stranded in areas affected by direct fighting. The large presence of IDPs also exacerbates civil unrest due to the limited resources available for an increasing demand of essential goods and services.

During the lean season, most households rely on markets for accessing food. Physical access has been significantly hampered by conflict. A recent proliferation of community checkpoints across many areas of Sudan has been reported and significant administrative obstacles to the movement humanitarian goods and personnel continue. In addition, markets have been directly targeted by bombing and shelling, particularly in El Fasher, Um Kadadah and Nyala.

Humanitarian Access Constraints Map | November 2024 (Source: OCHA)





After years of protracted crisis, Sudan plunged into a conflict of alarming scale in mid-April 2023 when fierce fighting between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) broke out initially in the capital Khartoum, but quickly expanded to other areas across the country.



Over 11.5 million people (25 percent of the population) across all 18 states of Sudan are now displaced. This has placed immense strain on both local populations and those already displaced, worsening humanitarian conditions.

FRC Conlusions

In the period October to November 2024, the FRC classified in Famine (IPC Phase 5) at least five areas for which reliable data exists: Zamzam, Abu Shouk and Al Salam camps in North Darfur and both residents and IDPs in the Western Nuba mountains. This is considering that acute malnutrition and mortality are expected to continue meeting or surpassing the threshold for IPC Phase 5 (Famine), taking into account the convergence of contributing factors for acute food insecurity. In the Western Nuba Mountains, the Food Consumption Score and the Household Hunger Score (from data collected in August) suggest a prevalence of population in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) at or above 20 percent. Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence was already over the IPC Phase 5 threshold in August. It is unlikely that seasonal mitigating factors have led to a drastic improvement.

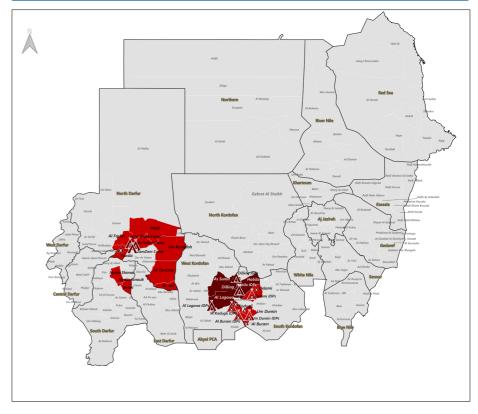
In the period December 2024 to May 2025, the FRC projects that Famine (IPC Phase 5) will persist in Zamzam, Abu Shouk and Al Salam camps and the Western Nuba mountains, and will expand to five additional localities in North Darfur: Um Kadadah, Melit, El Fasher, At Tawisha, Al Lait.

There is a risk of Famine in seventeen additional areas in the Central Nuba Mountains as well as in areas expected to experience significant influxes of IDPs in North and South Darfur, including Tawila, Nyala Janoub, Nyala Shimal, Beliel, Shattaya, As Sunta, Buram, and Kas in South Darfur, as well as in Medani Al Kubra and Sharg Al Jazirah in Al Jazirah State, Mayo and Alingaz in Jebel – Awilia, Khartoum state and Al Firdous in East Darfur state.

On the food security front, conditions are anticipated to worsen as food stocks will likely be exhausted ahead of the usual lean season. This lean season is expected to begin unusually early, well before May. Food access is likely to remain constrained if humanitarian food security assistance delivery continues at current levels, covering less than 10% of the population in the areas under review. Furthermore, the ongoing conflict is expected to further constrain food supply chains, while the purchasing power of IDPs is projected to decline further. In areas forecasted to experience Famine conditions, the healthcare system has largely collapsed and access to sanitation and hygiene services is critically undermined.

As an early lean season approaches, acute malnutrition levels are anticipated to exceed Famine thresholds, in even wider areas than currently anticipated. This will be driven by persistent food insecurity, increased exposure to infectious diseases, and severely limited access to healthcare and nutrition services. Mortality will continue to be elevated due to the direct and indirect effects of the conflict, while deaths due to starvation and disease will increase.

FRC Findings | October - November 2024



Key for the Map

IPC Acute Food Insecurity Phase Classification

(mapped Phase represents highest severity affecting at least 20% of the population)



Key assumptions

For the projection period, the overall assumption is that conditions in Sudan will remain dire and likely deteriorate in most areas.



Conflict: Conflict and organized violence are expected to continue. The siege of El Fasher town is likely to persist at least until early 2025, with intense fighting displacing populations. IDPs will primarily seek refuge in Zamzam and Shagara camps, as well as Tawila town, and localities in South and West Darfur. Sustained, intensified conflict is also expected to continue affecting several locations in Al Jazirah and Khartoum.



Displacement: Widespread displacement, both internally and across international borders, is expected to continue. Flows are expected to be especially large in heavily populated parts of the central and south-eastern states. The escalation of hostilities during the dry season in critical areas like Al Jazirah and Khartoum states will likely continue driving new displacements into neighbouring states, such as Gedaref through May 2025. Similarly, a high influx of IDPs is expected in North Darfur and South Darfur as a spillover of the El Fasher crisis.



Humanitarian access: Access to conflict-affected areas is expected to remain restricted, hampering the delivery of lifesaving humanitarian assistance to areas in North Darfur, West and South Kordofan, South Darfur, Al Jazirah and Khartoum. Administrative hurdles are expected to further delay aid efforts.



Macroeconomic crisis: The ongoing contraction in the economy is expected to continue in the near term and the economy will remain subject to large downside risks from prolonged conflict. The currency is expected to continue depreciating to 2900-3700 SDG/USD through May 2025, a decline of 380-515 percent compared to March 2023 (the pre-conflict period). This will contribute to further increases in the prices of imported and locally produced goods across the country and sustain extremely high inflation.





Recommended actions



End hostilities

Only a ceasefire can reduce the risk of Famine spreading further and contain the already high levels of acute food insecurity.



Restore safe and sustained humanitarian access

Priority must be placed on unhindered access routes into, and within, Greater Darfur and Greater Kordofan states. This includes: unhindered cross-border access; creating a safe airspace for the resumption of operations through the airports of El Fasher, Nyala and Kadugli; and ensuring a safe route-space for commercial and humanitarian convoys towards the most critical IDP/refugee settlements, and urban centres in Greater Darfur and Greater Kordofan states. Access must also be prioritized in other areas for which - at the moment - inadequate information exists to accurately assess whether famine is prevailing or not.



Provide immediate multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance

Priority must be placed on (i) areas and populations already in Famine, (ii) where Famine is projected to occur in the next five months, and (iii) where a risk of Famine exists. Essential humanitarian supplies, including food or cash, water, and basic services must be delivered to residents, newly displaced and protracted IDPs and refugees.



Scale-up nutrition interventions

Ensure treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition in emergency and recovery situations through integrated package of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive activities to improve immediate food security and nutritional status.



Restore productive systems and support livelihoods

Provide essential life-sustaining agricultural livelihood restoring and safeguarding support packages to vulnerable households according to the seasonal calendar of interventions.



Scale-up data collection efforts

Conduct food security and nutrition surveys in unassessed areas of greatest concern, including greater Khartoum and Al Jazirah; and areas already identified in Famine or at risk of Famine.

Famine Review process

This Famine Review builds on the previous review conducted in July 2024, during which the FRC found plausible that Famine (IPC Phase 5) was ongoing in Zamzam camp (North Darfur) and would likely persist through October 2024. However, the FRC was unable to make a determination regarding the expected conditions in Zamzam camp beyond October 2024.

Once activated, the FRC is considered active until available evidence confirms that the extreme severity depicted in the previous Famine Review no longer prevails. In line with their Terms of Reference, as a follow up to their previous review, the FRC proceeded with the review of the IPC projection update (covering Oct. 2024 – Feb. 2025) conducted by the Sudan IPC TWG in October - November 2024.

The FRC re-assessed the situation in Zamzam camp and expanded the geographical scope of its review to include areas where evidence had approached or surpassed Famine thresholds, as well as all areas where the Sudan IPC TWG had issued a risk of Famine statement. The

FRC also modified the analysis period, with an assessment of the situation in October - November 2024 and a projection period stretching from December 2024 to May 2025, taking into account the seasonality of acute food insecurity and malnutrition in Sudan.

The FRC conducted a thorough analysis of all available evidence, including evidence that had been accessible to the Sudan IPC TWG but was not incorporated into their analysis. Additional data sources analysed by the FRC included: data from Yale School of Public Health, MSF, HAC & SMOH (with NGOs), IFPRI, Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy, Multi-Sector Needs Assessment for IDPs and residents (June - July 2024) and SMART Surveys for IDPs and host communities in Nuba Mountains, South Kordofan (August - September 2024). This was supplemented by key informant interviews to gain deeper insights into the situation on the ground.

Risk factors to monitor

Conflict: Monitor the increases in the frequency, intensity, and/or scope of organized violence, including intensification among a range of armed actors – including through increased targeting of civilians based on social vulnerabilities in North and Central Darfur states.

Displacement and access: Continue monitoring all displacements and immobilization of populations and levels of humanitarian access.

Infrastructure and humanitarian assistance: Monitor the damage, destruction, or blockage of major infrastructure and functionality of supply corridors from neighboring countries and within Sudan. Monitor the pace of humanitarian assistance delivery to both residents and IDPs/refugees.

Prices and food availability: Monitor food availability in local markets in support of the expansion of cash-based programmes targeting markets with stable food availability. Monitor the depreciation of local currency, price shocks, market functionality and price trends.

Healthcare and diseases: Monitor the evolution of the cholera outbreak as well as malaria and other water-borne diseases. Monitor access to potable water at risk of contamination in displacement areas, in particular from local reservoirs into El Fasher. Monitor the functionality of healthcare, especially in areas with rising demand.

IPC Technical Working Group Process

Between 14 October and 26 November, the Sudan IPC TWG conducted an analysis to update the second projection period (covering October 2024 - February 2025) from their previous analysis published in June 2024. The projection update focused on 15 out of 18 states: East Darfur, North Darfur, West Darfur, Central Darfur, South Darfur, North Kordofan, West Kordofan, South Kordofan, Khartoum, Al Jazira, Kassala, Sennar, Northern, River Nile and Red Sea state. This selection was based on the severity of the impacts of the ongoing conflict and the likelihood of a deviation from the assumptions made in the previous IPC analysis.

Given the challenges associated with ongoing conflict and restricted movement, the IPC TWG conducted the analysis virtually. Experienced food security and nutrition experts, including from the IPC Global Support Unit, facilitated the analysis conducted by 35 technical experts from the following agencies: ACF, CARE, FEWS NET, FAO, Food Security Cluster, government line ministries, Nutrition Cluster, REACH, UNICEF, USAID and WFP.

The analysis team used a variety of data sources: humanitarian food assistance and market information from WFP; market price monitoring data from FEWS NET and the Food Security Technical Secretariat (FSTS); 27 SMART surveys recently conducted by nutrition partners; health and nutrition data from MSF and UNICEF; Nutrition Vulnerability Analysis from the Nutrition Cluster; rainfall/ENSO forecast and El-Nino and IOD impacts from the Food Security & Nutrition Working Group and Sudan Meteorological Authority; FSTS report on 2024 seasonal performance; agricultural conditions through remote sensing from the EU JRC, and localized assessments from REACH.

The evidence levels for this analysis are Medium (**)

IPC Phase 5 Explained

Catastrophe: IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) can only be classified at household level, not at area level. An area might have some households in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) linked to very high levels of acute food insecurity. However, an entire area can only be classified in IPC Phase 5 (Famine) if this high level of acute food insecurity is accompanied by certain levels of acute malnutrition and mortality.



Famine (IPC Phase 5) is the highest phase of the IPC Acute Food Insecurity scale, and is classified when an area has:



extreme lack of food

of children sufferin

children suffering from acute malnutrition



- **Famine with solid evidence:** An area is classified in Famine with solid evidence if there is clear and compelling evidence that the Famine thresholds for starvation, acute malnutrition and mortality have been reached.
- **Famine with reasonable evidence:** An area is classified in Famine with reasonable evidence if there is clear evidence that two of the three thresholds for starvation, acute malnutrition and mortality have been reached, and analysts reasonably assess from the broader evidence that the threshold from the third outcome has likely been reached.



What is risk of Famine?

For the IPC, risk of Famine...

- ... refers to a reasonable probability of an area going into Famine in the projected period. While this is not perceived necessarily as the most-likely scenario, it is a scenario that, generally speaking, has a realistic chance of occurring.
- ... complements the Famine projections of the most likely scenario by providing insights into potential Famine if prospects evolve in a worse manner than anticipated.
- ... differs from Famine projections because it focuses on a worst-case scenario that has a reasonable and realistic chance of happening.
- ... is a statement about the potential deterioration of the situation from what is expected. It is not a new classification, and it is not to be accompanied by population estimates.
- ... is an additional assessment that focuses on assessing if the area could realistically go into Famine during the projected period. Not all areas need to undergo assessment for risk of Famine.

For further information on how the IPC classifies Famine, please consult the IPC Famine Fact Sheet.





Population table for the current situation: October - November 2024

State	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Phase 3+	
		#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%	#people	%
Al Jazirah	5,439,140	347,691	6	1,404,637	26	2,086,050	38	1,550,420	29	50,343	1	3,686,812	68
Blue Nile	1,470,448	276,288	19	523,930	36	508,235	35	161,995	11	-	0	670,230	46
Central Darfur	1,998,753	281,518	14	642,907	32	656,283	33	418,046	21	-	0	1,074,329	54
East Darfur	1,772,902	264,432	15	655,585	37	668,629	38	184,035	10	221	0	852,885	48
Gedaref	3,146,052	962,981	31	1,258,170	40	864,064	27	60,837	2	-	0	924,901	29
Kassala	3,035,321	499,849	16	1,208,998	40	966,717	32	359,757	12	-	0	1,326,474	44
Khartoum	5,190,110	597,883	12	1,378,475	27	1,746,294	34	1,361,087	26	106,371	2	3,213,752	62
North Darfur	2,770,811	310,041	11	544,678	20	912,242	33	794,790	29	209,061	8	1,916,093	70
North Kordofan	2,300,592	402,611	18	946,039	41	604,482	26	347,460	15	-	0	951,942	41
Northern	1,430,815	242,666	17	496,135	35	572,207	40	119,808	8	-	0	692,014	48
Red Sea	1,809,643	589,781	33	725,547	40	421,921	23	72,394	4	-	0	494,315	27
River Nile	2,368,732	708,530	30	1,071,386	45	533,664	23	55,151	2	-	0	588,815	25
Sennar	2,676,891	206,369	8	780,974	29	1,176,973	44	512,575	19	-	0	1,689,548	63
South Darfur	3,661,757	503,911	14	1,022,698	28	1,295,188	35	807,556	22	32,403	1	2,135,148	58
South Kordofan	2,098,395	248,751	12	696,598	33	753,623	36	345,604	16	53,819	3	1,153,046	55
West Darfur	1,301,489	170,776	13	374,373	29	430,138	33	305,595	23	20,606	2	756,340	58
West Kordofan	1,823,319	213,489	12	650,945	36	610,649	33	296,030	16	52,206	3	958,885	52
White Nile	3,233,255	560,954	17	1,239,988	38	1,086,863	34	345,450	11	-	0	1,432,313	45
Grand Total	47,528,425	7,388,526	16	15,622,067	33	15,894,224	33	8,098,590	17	525,029	1	24,517,843	51

Population table for the projected situation: December 2024 - May 2025

State	Total population analysed	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Phase 3+	
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Al Jazirah	5,439,140	347,691	6	1,404,637	26	2,086,050	38	1,550,420	29	50,343	1	3,686,812	68
Blue Nile	1,470,448	276,288	19	523,930	36	508,235	35	161,995	11	-	0	670,230	46
Central Darfur	1,998,753	281,518	14	642,907	32	656,283	33	418,046	21	-	0	1,074,329	54
East Darfur	1,772,902	264,432	15	655,585	37	668,629	38	184,035	10	221	0	852,885	48
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North Darfur	2,770,811	197,837	7	544,678	20	912,242	33	794,790	29	321,266	12	2,028,297	74
North Kordofan	2,300,592	402,611	18	946,039	41	604,482	26	347,460	15	-	0	951,942	41
Northern	1,430,815	242,666	17	496,135	35	572,207	40	119,808	8	-	0	692,014	48
Red Sea	1,809,643	589,781	33	725,547	40	421,921	23	72,394	4	-	0	494,315	27
River Nile	2,368,732	708,530	30	1,071,386	45	533,664	23	55,151	2	-	0	588,815	25
Sennar	2,676,891	206,369	8	780,974	29	1,176,973	44	512,575	19	-	0	1,689,548	63
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White Nile	3,233,255	560,954	17	1,239,988	38	1,086,863	34	345,450	11	-	0	1,432,313	45
Grand Total	47,528,425	7,276,322	16	15,622,067	33	15,894,224	33	8,098,590	17	637,234	1	24,630,048	51

Note: Any discrepancy in the population figures from those provided by the Sudan IPC Technical Working Group is due to the increased population of Zamzam camp, which is now estimated to be around 500,000 people, compared to a previous estimate of 180,000 people.

Acute food insecurity phase name and description

IPC Phase 1 (None/Minimal): Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income.

IPC Phase 2 (Stressed): Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress-coping strategies.

IPC Phase 3 (Crisis): Households either have food consumption gaps that are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition; or are marginally able to meet minimum food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis-coping strategies.

IPC Phase 4 (Emergency): Households either have large food consumption gaps that are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality; or are able to mitigate large food consumption gaps but only by employing emergency livelihood strategies and asset liquidation.

IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe/ Famine): Households have an extreme lack of food and/or cannot meet other basic needs even after full employment of coping strategies. Starvation, death, destitution and extremely critical acute malnutrition levels are evident. For famine classification, area needs to have extreme critical levels of acute malnutrition and mortality.

What is the IPC Acute Food Insecurity Scale?

The IPC is a set of tools and procedures to classify the severity and characteristics of acute food and nutrition crises as well as chronic food insecurity based on international standards. The IPC consists of four mutually reinforcing functions, each with a set of specific protocols (tools and procedures). The core IPC parameters include consensus building, convergence of evidence, accountability, transparency and comparability. The IPC analysis aims at informing emergency response as well as medium and long-term food security policy and programming.

For the IPC, Acute Food Insecurity is defined as any manifestation of food insecurity found in a specified area at a specific point in time of a severity that threatens lives or livelihoods, or both, regardless of the causes, context or duration. It is highly susceptible to change and can occur and manifest in a population within a short amount of time, as a result of sudden changes or shocks that negatively impact on the determinants of food insecurity.

Publication date: 24 December 2024. Disclaimer: The information on the maps does not imply official recognition or endorsement of any physical and political boundaries. Feedback: ipc@fao.org.

Note: A population in Phase 3+ does not necessarily reflect the full population in need of urgent action. This is because some households may be in Phase 2 or even 1 but only because of receipt of assistance, and as a result they may be in need of continued action. IPC analyses produce estimates of populations by IPC Phase at area level. Marginal inconsistencies that may arise in the overall percentages of totals and grand totals are attributable to rounding.