

WFP Afghanistan

Situation Report

15 April 2022



A WFP food distribution site in Herat province, where many people are unemployed and suffering from the economic fallout. © WFP/Sadeq Naseri

In Numbers

22.8 million people – half of the population – are projected to be acutely food insecure in 2022,¹ including 8.7 million at risk of famine-like conditions

4.7 million children, pregnant and lactating women at risk of acute malnutrition in 2022

All 34 provinces are facing crisis or emergency levels of acute food insecurity

Highlights

- WFP has assisted **4 million** people thus far in April. WFP plans to reach 18 million people this month and 23 million people in 2022.
- WFP distributions have partially resumed in Kandahar, after having been suspended since January 2022. WFP continues to advocate for the full resumption of activities in Kandahar, including the disbursement of cash-based assistance to nearly 168,000 people in need.

Situation Update

- **Humanitarian assistance is reaching more people with each passing month**, according to the latest [Food Security Update](#) (March 2022). One in five households (21 percent) reported receiving humanitarian food assistance in March – mostly from UN/NGOs – which is a notable increase from the previous months. In some regions, this assistance reached as many as two in five households (43 percent in West).
- **This assistance is driving down severe food insecurity in several regions** (Hirat, Kabul, Northeast and Southeast). Families which did not receive humanitarian assistance in these regions did not see improvements in severe food insecurity levels.
- **But this is not enough; the number of people facing insufficient food consumption remains alarmingly high.** Only 7 percent of people reported having enough to eat in March. This is a slight improvement of 2 percentage points on the previous month, likely driven by a rise in food assistance, as well as some easing on access to income and markets. However, the situation still remains far worse than in pre-15 August.
- **Results of the ongoing Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) assessment** are expected at the end of April. Currently, 23 million people are acutely food insecure (IPC 3 and 4).

WFP Response

- **In April, WFP has reached 4 million people** so far with food, nutrition, and resilience support, including 3.7 million people with emergency food and nutrition assistance.
- **A large number of people have reportedly been displaced in Baghlan** province due to a week-long armed clash between the de facto authorities and forces aligned with the National Resistance Front. WFP is assessing vulnerability in the area to determine the need for humanitarian assistance.
- **WFP is experiencing shortfalls of vegetable oil** this month due to delayed shipments from Turkey, following the country's recent export ban. WFP is working to procure additional quantities from alternative sources for the coming months.
- **WFP is enhancing milling capacity in Pakistan** to increase the procurement of wheat flour to Afghanistan. WFP currently supports four millers in Pakistan and plans to scale up to support a total of nine millers in the coming months. With this support, millers will be able to produce around 30,000 MT of wheat flour each month.

1. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Acute Food Insecurity Analysis [report](#), November 2021 to March 2022 Projections
2. Actual beneficiary and MT numbers are as of 13 April, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.



Supply Chain and Logistics

Between 03-10 April, WFP dispatched **29,273 MT** of mixed food commodities across the country. During the same period, 13,704 MT of food entered the country, bringing in-country food stocks to a total 95,780 MT. A further 138,878 MT of commodities is expected to arrive in April through local, regional, and international procurement channels.

- WFP continues to experience congestion at the Hairatan border due to a lack of available local transporters. WFP is enhancing mobile storage capacity near the border to better facilitate the flow of goods.
- Since November 2021, WFP has multiplied commodity voucher use across Afghanistan by 21 times, allowing more people to be assisted via market-based interventions.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 947 flights in 2022 so far, transporting 6,122 passengers and 14.3 MT of essential cargo.
- UNHAS currently offers flights to 20 domestic destinations and two on demand, as well as three airbridges that connect Kabul to Islamabad, Dushanbe and Doha.
- Weekly flight schedules and route maps can be found on the [Humanitarian Booking Hub](#).

Resourcing Update

- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).

Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP has assisted **3.7 million** people with emergency food and nutrition support thus far in April. Cumulatively, 312,000 MT of mixed food commodities has been distributed in 2022.
- **Nutrition:** In April, WFP has assisted **307,000** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating **166,000** malnourished children and women. WFP continues to support 158 Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams (MHNTs) across 24 provinces in Afghanistan to ensure access in hard-to-reach areas.
- **School feeding:** In April, WFP has distributed approximately 50 MT of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) to **38,000** primary school students, including 3,000 girls who also received take-home rations of fortified vegetable oil. WFP has had to temporarily suspend plans to disburse cash-based transfers to secondary level schoolgirls, as they remain banned from attending classes in most provinces across Afghanistan.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** Thus far in April, WFP has assisted 73,000 people through food assistance for assets (FFA) and 4,000 through vocational skills training (VST). WFP recently completed a VST project in Nangarhar, benefitting 200 people. WFP assists more than 70,000 people through VST across 17 provinces.