



# WFP Afghanistan Situation Report

29 December 2021

## In Numbers

**22.8 million** people – half of the population – will face acute food insecurity from November 2021,<sup>1</sup> including 8.7 million at risk of famine-like conditions

**3.2 million** children and 700,000 pregnant and lactating women currently at risk of acute malnutrition

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

## Highlights

- WFP aims to meet the food and nutrition needs of more than 23 million people in 2022.<sup>2</sup> To meet the task at hand, WFP estimates it would require US\$ 220 million per month.
- WFP has reached around 15 million people so far in 2021. Since August, WFP has reached more and more beneficiaries each month, including over 7 million in December so far.<sup>3</sup>
- WFP launched commodity vouchers on 18 December, supporting 300,000 people in Kabul and their local markets.

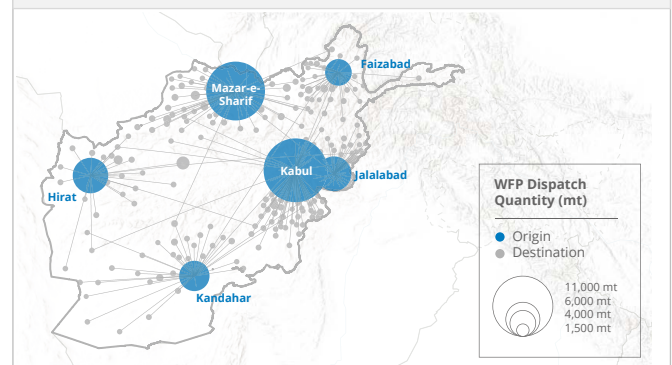
## Situation Update

- **While steps have been made to try to stabilize the economic crisis, the value of the Afghani against the US dollar remains at record lows.** Fuel and staple food items remain expensive — wheat flour and fuel are nearly 50 percent higher than in the last week of June 2021 ([WFP Market Monitor](#)). Food [reportedly](#) constitutes more than 82 per cent of average household income.
- **Acute malnutrition continues deteriorating:** In the face of inaction, more than half of all children under five (3.9 million), and over 800,000 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) could be at risk of suffering from acute malnutrition in 2022.
- **More than half of the population** face crisis (IPC Phase 3) or emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity, according to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) [report](#). This is the highest number of acutely food insecure people ever recorded in Afghanistan and is among the highest levels of acute food insecurity globally.
- **An alarming 98 percent of Afghans are facing insufficient food consumption**, according to WFP's latest [survey](#): 17 percentage points more than early August.
- **More than half of the population (55 percent) are resorting to drastic measures to feed their families**, such as buying smaller quantities of food, borrowing food, and eating less nutritious food. This is five times the number before 15 August.

## WFP Response

- WFP is scaling up its efforts to assist more than 23 million people in 2022. As the economic crisis worsens, WFP is adapting and ramping up cash-based transfers, particularly in urban areas, to help in sustaining the local economy and keeping markets functional.
- WFP has supported around 15 million beneficiaries so far in 2021— over 6 million more than in all of 2020. Since August, the number of beneficiaries reached by WFP each month has steadily increased, with over 7 million people reached so far in December.
- WFP's staff and partners deliver food and nutrition assistance to all 34 provinces to meet humanitarian needs, support women and girls, prevent and treat malnutrition, encourage school attendance, and boost community resilience.

WFP dispatches in December so far



1. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Acute Food Insecurity Analysis [report](#), November 2021 to March 2022 Projections

2. Planning figures for 2022 are being revised due to an ongoing planning exercise; they are subject to change and pending approval

3. Actual beneficiary numbers are as of late December, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments



## Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP has assisted around 13 million beneficiaries with unconditional resource transfers in 2021, including around 7 million so far in December. WFP launched commodity vouchers on 18 December, supporting 300,000 people in Kabul city and enabling more households to purchase food from local markets. These will further promote local market functionality, along with WFP's existing cash distributions and value vouchers.
- **School feeding:** In 2021, WFP has reached over 200,000 primary and secondary school children and plans to reach 1 million from 2022. In 28 of 34 provinces, all school grades are on a three-month winter break, while primary school for girls and boys continues in the remaining provinces.
- **Nutrition:** In 2021, WFP has assisted over half a million pregnant and lactating women and over 1 million children under five with malnutrition prevention and treatment activities. WFP is treating moderate acute malnutrition by integrating with mobile health and nutrition teams in the most remote locations of the country. WFP is scaling up its support to reach hundreds of thousands more beneficiaries in the coming months.
- **Internally Displaced Persons:** In 2021, WFP has assisted over 600,000 internally displaced persons (IDP).
- **COVID-19:** WFP has reached more than 900,000 people affected by the socio-economic impact of the pandemic in 2021.
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** WFP's food assistance for assets and vocational skills training (VST) activities continue across the country; WFP has reached over 200,000 beneficiaries in 2021, and will be scaling up its planned reach in 2022. WFP's resilience interventions in 2021 have resulted in 6,000 hectares of transformed land, nearly 140,000 planted trees, and the construction of irrigation canals, flood protection walls and check dams for water management.



## Supply Chain and Logistics

- In the past week (19-25 December), WFP dispatched 9,190 mt of food stocks to cooperating partners across 95 locations.

- With 170 trucks currently operational, WFP is increasing its fleet of trucks and trailers in the coming months to increase deliveries.



## UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 854 flights, transporting 4,641 passengers since flights resumed on 28 August for humanitarian workers and essential cargo. UNHAS has now reopened the airbridge between Kabul and Doha, conducting two successful round trips since mid-December.
- Deteriorating weather conditions and the absence of navigation aids are anticipated to disrupt flights in the coming weeks, particularly if the inadequacies in air traffic services are not addressed.
- UNHAS now reaches 22 of 34 provinces.
- Weekly flight schedules and route maps can be found on the [Humanitarian Booking Hub](#).

## Resourcing Update

- WFP has borrowed internally to expedite food deliveries and urgently requests that all pledges be confirmed to meet mounting needs.
- To meet increasing needs in 2022, WFP estimates it could require US\$ 220 million per month.
- Following 15 August, WFP appealed for urgent funds to meet needs until the end of 2021; it has now received over US\$ 420 million.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).

## WFP Stories

[\(Read more here\)](#)

