

WFP Afghanistan

Situation Report

29 April 2022



Bread+ being prepared for distribution to primary schools. © 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 **12.3 million** people thus far in April. WFP plans to reach **23 million** people in 2022.
- WFP provided emergency food assistance to 70 households affected by **flash floods** in Herat and Ghor provinces after extreme weather resulted in loss of life and property damage.

Situation Update

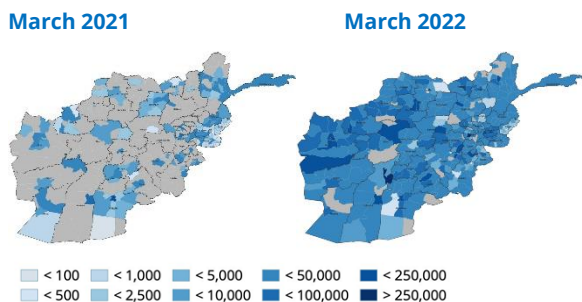
- **Humanitarian assistance is reaching more people with each passing month**, according to the latest [Food Security Update](#) (March 2022). One in five households (21 percent) reported receiving humanitarian food assistance in March – mostly from UN/NGOs – which is a notable increase from previous months. In some regions, assistance has reached as many as two in five households (43 percent in the western region).
- **Food assistance is driving down severe food insecurity in several regions** (Herat, Kabul, Northeast and Southeast). Comparatively, households that did not receive humanitarian assistance in these regions did not see improvements in severe food insecurity levels.
- **However, 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 increased food assistance, as well increased access to income and markets. However, the situation still remains far worse than it was prior to August 2021.
- **Results of the ongoing Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) assessment** are expected in the coming weeks. Currently, 22.8 million people in Afghanistan are acutely food insecure (IPC 3 and 4).

WFP Response

- **In April, WFP has reached 12.3 million people** so far with food, nutrition, and resilience support.
- **WFP is assessing the operational implications of Indonesia's palm oil export ban**, as Afghanistan awaits a 16,000 MT shipment of the commodity before August. The conflict in Ukraine is exacerbating global food price rises and supply chains delays, which is having a direct impact on WFP's Afghanistan operations.
- **WFP is closely monitoring the security situation in Afghanistan** amidst a recent increase in incidents of terrorism and armed conflict. WFP, in partnership with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA), conducted a vulnerability assessment in Khost and Kunar provinces following airstrikes in the region. A total of 18 households in need of humanitarian assistance were identified, 6 of which had already been receiving food assistance from WFP.
- **In March 2022, WFP reached almost ten times more beneficiaries than it did in March 2021** (see Figure 1). In March 2022, WFP assisted more than 12.8 million people with 116,140 MT of mixed food commodities and USD 33.1 million worth of cash-based assistance, compared to the 1.4 million people reached in March 2021.

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 27 April, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments.

Figure 1: Number of people reached in March 2021 and 2022



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP has assisted 11.9 million people with emergency food and nutrition support thus far in April.
- **Nutrition:** In April, WFP has assisted **973,491** children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) with nutritious foods to prevent cases of acute malnutrition, while treating **383,496** malnourished children and women. WFP currently supports 1,544 health centres and 385 mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNT) across the country. Support to MHNTs ensure continued and equitable access in hard-to-reach areas.
- **School feeding:** In April, WFP has distributed approximately 225.9 MT of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) to **280,300** primary school students, including **7,600** 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 175,000 people through food assistance for assets (FFA) and 51,500 through vocational skills training (VST). WFP has commenced a new VST project in Kabul, supporting 150 women through business management and beautician training.



Supply Chain and Logistics

- Between 19-24 April, WFP dispatched 33,853 MT of commodities. During the same period, 40,702 MT of food entered the country, bringing in-country food stocks to 106,305 MT. A further 123,943 MT of commodities are expected to arrive in May through local, regional, and international procurement channels.
- Indonesia has announced an export ban on palm oil. WFP is working to better understand the implications of this ban on Afghanistan's operation, as 16,000 MT of Indonesian palm oil was previously expected to arrive in country between June and August.
- WFP plans to preposition 150 MT of commodities ahead of the 2023 winter season, based on lessons learned from last year.



UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- UNHAS has conducted 1,082 flights in 2022 so far, transporting 6,893 passengers and 16 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

- WFP faces a net funding shortfall of **USD 587.64 million** to sustain operations over the next 6 months (May-October 2022).
- WFP requires USD 150 million to preposition stock in hard to reach areas ahead of the 2023 winter season.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).