

# WFP Afghanistan

## Situation Report

05 January 2022

### In Numbers

**22.8 million** people – half of the population – are projected to be acutely food insecure in 2022,<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 plans to reach 12 million people with food and nutrition support in January and aims to reach more than 23 million people in 2022.<sup>2</sup> It will require US\$ 220 million per month.
- WFP reached around 15 million people in 2021. WFP increased its assistance from 1 million people in August to 8 million in December 2021.<sup>3</sup>

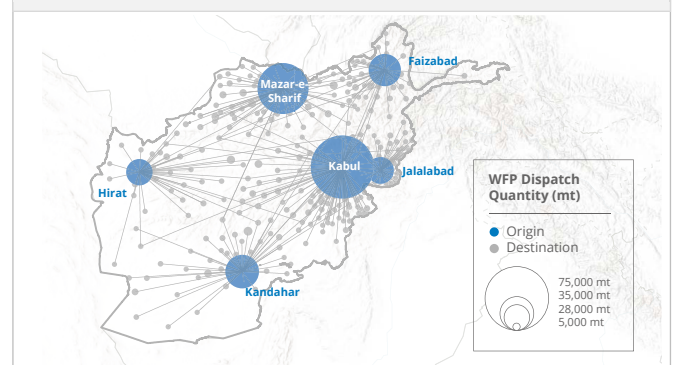
### Situation Update

- **In the past month, 57 percent of families have taken drastic measures to feed their families;** this is an increase from the previous month, and a five-fold increase from before 15 August. The past month also saw a slight increase in the proportion of people who reported not having enough to eat in the last two weeks (72 percent), according to WFP's latest [survey](#).
- **As of end-December, 95 percent of the population have insufficient food consumption.** While this represents a marginal improvement from the previous month, the situation remains far worse than before 15 August. The improvement is partly driven by increased consumption of dairy, protein and pulses, but there is variation across the country; in some provinces like Herat, food consumption has continued to deteriorate.
- **Afghanistan is approaching the peak of winter,** with snow and freezing temperatures affecting access to food and markets. Poor weather has already cancelled flights and blocked roads, including Salang Pass, a major gateway north of Kabul.
- **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.

### WFP Response

- WFP rounded out 2021 by reaching more beneficiaries in December than any previous month – from 1 million people in August to around 8 million in December, serving around 15 million people through the year.
- In 2022, WFP is scaling up its efforts to assist more than 23 million people. As the economic crisis worsens, WFP is adapting and expanding cash-based transfers, particularly in urban areas, to help sustain the local economy and keep markets functional.
- 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.

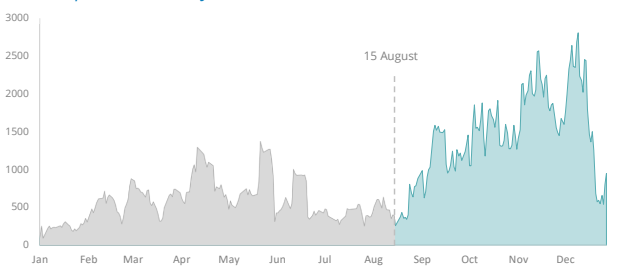
WFP dispatches in 2021



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 and mt numbers are as of early January, and are subject to change and further overlap adjustments

## WFP scaled up in the last months of 2021

(WFP dispatches, mt daily – seven day rolling average)



### Food and Nutrition Assistance

- **General Food Assistance:** WFP assisted around 13 million beneficiaries with unconditional resource transfers in 2021, including 8 million in December. WFP launched commodity vouchers on 18 December to enable 300,000 people in Kabul to purchase food from local markets. These will further promote local market functionality, along with WFP's existing cash distributions and value vouchers. By March, WFP anticipates reaching nearly 6 million people each month with cash- or voucher-based assistance.
- **School feeding:** In 2021, WFP reached over 250,000 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. However, WFP is still able to support schoolchildren and their families with food and cash assistance during this period.
- **Nutrition:** In 2021, WFP assisted over 600,000 pregnant and lactating women and over 1.2 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 assisted over 600,000 internally displaced persons (IDP).
- **Asset creation and livelihoods:** WFP's food assistance for assets and vocational skills training (VST) activities continue across the country; WFP reached over 250,000 beneficiaries in 2021, and will be scaling up its planned reach in 2022. WFP's

resilience interventions in 2021 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

- Throughout 2021, WFP dispatched nearly 290,000 mt of food stocks to cooperating partners – almost two thirds of this amount after 15 August.
- 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 909 flights, transporting 4,897 passengers since flights resumed on 28 August for humanitarian workers and essential cargo. In addition, the airbridge between Kabul and Doha reopened in mid-December for regular round trips.
- Deteriorating weather conditions have disrupted and cancelled flights, which is forecast to continue in the coming weeks.
- 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 requires 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\$ 514 million.
- Food, nutrition and UNHAS requirements were included in the [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) and [OCHA Flash Appeal for Afghanistan](#).

### WFP's Latest Food Security Update January 2022



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