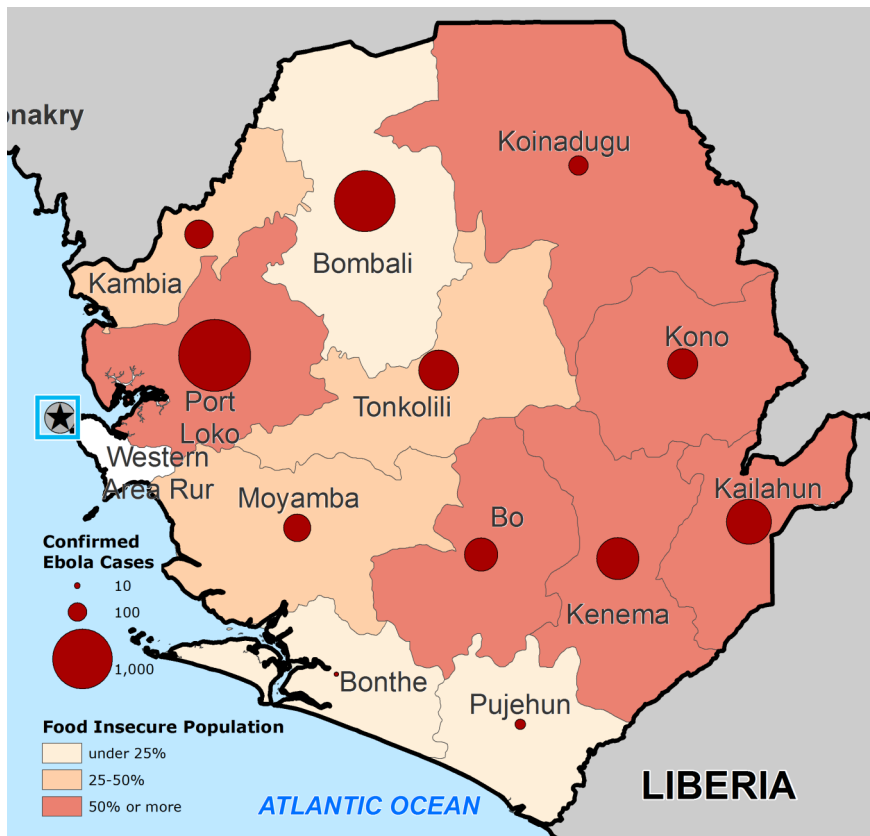




Sierra Leone

June 2015: Emergency Food Security Assessment



Food Security Classification

The national prevalence of food insecurity stands at 43 percent, of which 7 percent is severe food insecurity. The food security classification was calculated using the food consumption score, share of food expenditure and coping strategies. The most food insecure districts are located in the eastern part of the country (Kailahun: 74.4%; Kenema: 57.9%; and Bo: 57.4%) where market operations and economic activity remain very much at reduced levels due to Ebola measures put in place by the Government.

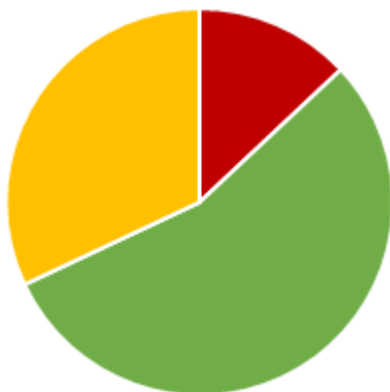
Food Consumption Score

Overall, 54.5 percent of interviewed household have an acceptable food consumption score, 32.4 percent have a borderline food consumption score and 13.2 percent have a poor food consumption score.

13%
Poor

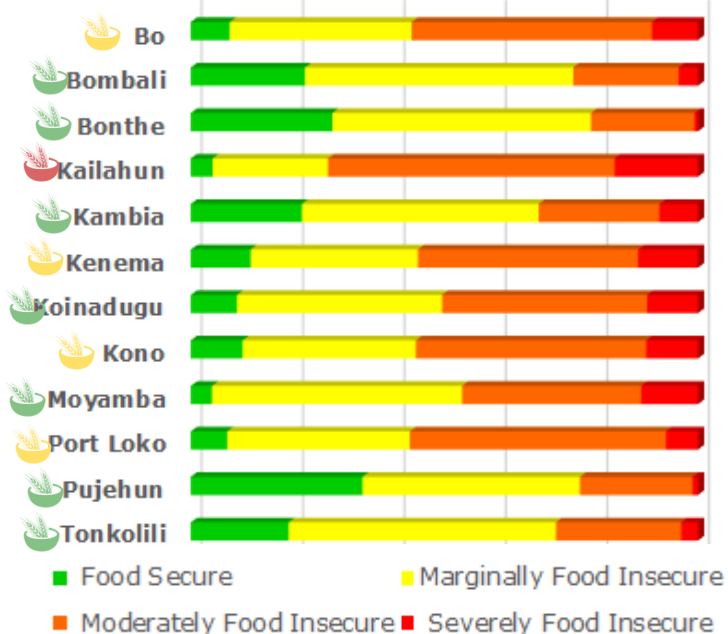
32%
Borderline

55%
Adequate



Food Security Status by District

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%



Almost half of the sampled HH do not have access to an adequate diet

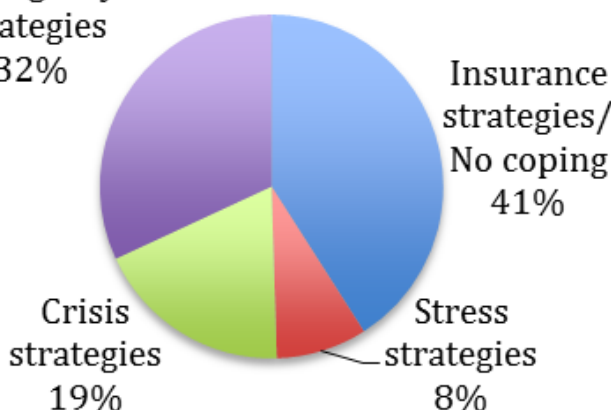
The districts with the highest percentages of households with poor food consumption scores are Kailahun (56.2%), Kenema (17.7%), Kono (16.7%), Port Loko (15.8%) and Bo (14.2%).

The average diet of households with a poor consumption score consisted primarily of cereals, vegetables and oil. These households basically consume practically no meat, pulses, fruits nor sugar. Households with a borderline food consumption score differentiated themselves by consuming meat and pulses on average 1 day out of the week. This is a stark difference between households with an acceptable food consumption score who consume meat on average 5 times a week, in addition to dairy, fruits and sugar.

Domain		Indicator	Food Secure (1)	Marginally Food Secure (2)	Moderately Food Insecure (3)	Severely Food Insecure (4)
Current Status	Food Consumption	Food Consumption Group	54.5		32.4	13.2
Coping Capacity	Economic Vulnerability	Food Expenditure Share	26	29	18.9	26.1
	Asset Depletion	Livelihood coping strategy categories	41	8.6	18.6	31.9
Food Security Index			14.8	41.9	36	7.3

*Households which didn't have to use livelihood-based coping strategies

Emergency strategies
32%



Coping Strategies

Overall, 41 percent of households indicated that they did not use any coping strategies, while 8 percent of households indicated that they used stress strategies (like borrowing money or selling household assets), 19 percent used crisis strategies (like selling productive assets) and a strikingly high 32 percent used emergency strategies (mostly begging). Coping levels were the highest in Kailahun district, known for its production and export of cash crops. Agricultural workers who are usually employed by wealthy land-owning households were left unwaged thus forcing many to sell off crucial assets thus deteriorating their food security situation whose consequences will be most likely seen during the lean season.

Rice Harvested

Every district has seen a significant decrease in rice production compared to the previous year's harvest. Agriculture is indeed the most affected sector by the Ebola crisis. On average, districts harvested 37 percent less rice this year, amounting to a decrease of 2,220 tons (2013 harvest: 5,995 mt and 2014 harvest: 3,775 mt). Moyamba is the district with the dubious honor of seeing the biggest percentage change, harvesting only 40 percent of what it harvested the previous year (194 mt in 2014 compared to 477 mt in 2013). Tonkolili is the district that saw the most significant drop in terms of tonnage, decreasing by 323 metric tons, followed by Koinadugu district (290 mt) and Moyamba district (283 mt).

Quantity of Rice Harvested in 2013 and 2014
By District

