



GOGJALI — FOCUS ON MOSUL



vam
food security analysis

mVAM IRAQ - Flash Update #1

Phone Survey conducted 8-9 November 2016

Key points:



Most of the population is food secure despite a rise in food prices. Only a quarter (27 percent) of the surveyed households reported poor food consumption mainly consisting of staples to cope with the price escalation.



Households reported lack of employment and rise in food prices as their main concerns. Initial assistance (food or cash) should be backed with livelihood restoration and employment generation schemes.

WFP has distributed Immediate Relief Rations under the Rapid Response Mechanism to 5,000 households.

1697 Phone calls logged

114 Households interviewed



41 IDPs

66 Non-IDPs

7 Returnees



95% male

5% female

36 average age of respondents



8% camps

43% own home

36% rental

11% guest

2% unfinished building

ASSESSMENT BACKGROUND

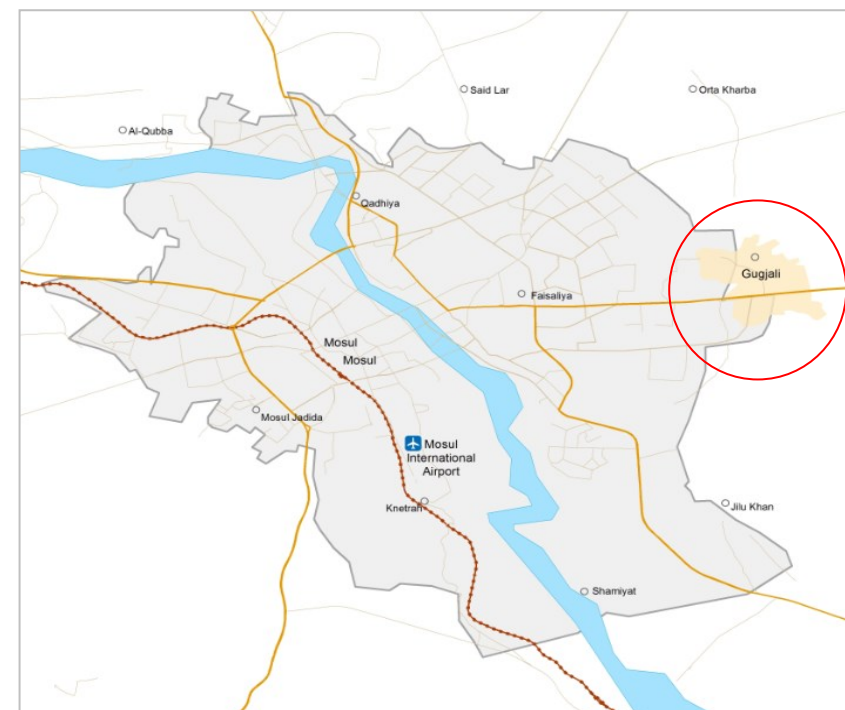
Due to the ongoing military operation in Mosul corridor, more than 50,000 people have already fled to government-held areas since the offensive was launched on October 17 (source: IOM-DTM). WFP is conducting rapid phone-based interviews to assess the food security situation. About 1700 phone calls were made resulting in 114 household food security interviews in Gogjali, a village located to the east of Mosul and part of Mosul district. Gogjali was liberated by the Iraqi Security forces on 1 November and had a pre-crisis population of around 15,000.

OVERALL FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

More than half the surveyed population reported being food secure while the remaining respondents reported price rise and shortage of food as main issues. It is important to note that almost a quarter (22 percent) of the respondents reported being unemployed suggesting a need for livelihood and resilience programming. Food aid and water were reported to be lacking or arriving in inadequate amounts. Immediate restoration of the PDS would offer an important safety net.

Some 73 percent of IDPs and 86 percent of residents (non-IDPs) said they buy food from markets, so high food prices and lack of food in the market will influence their food security. As the access routes for transporters remain clear, the supply side of the food chain will meet the demands of the Gogjali markets. For the interim while the markets respond, immediate rations through the Rapid Response Mechanism may be distributed to cover the gap.

Surveyed Location



Data show that over a quarter (27 percent) of the population have poor food consumption while about three quarters are able to meet their food needs.

The proportion of households with inadequate food consumption is higher for residents (non-IDPs) than IDPs, suggesting they are consuming a poorer diet. An estimated 48 percent of non-displaced have 'poor and borderline' food consumption compared with 41 percent of IDPs (Figure 1). This difference might be due to the fact that 27 percent of IDPs reported receiving assistance from Government and aid agencies while only 12 percent of residents said they received some kind of assistance.

IDPs in camps¹ and unfinished buildings show a higher level of vulnerability than IDPs staying as guests or IDPs who are renting a home (Figure 2). This suggests the possibility of area-based targeting for vulnerable households. Families living in camps and squatting in open spaces would be the first tier of a targeted assistance programme.

In terms of dietary diversity, staples are the main foods consumed by households. Vegetables and pulses were consumed only two days a week while proteins and fruit only one time a week. The fact that all groups consumed proteins, fruits and vegetables (albeit some with low frequency) supports the data that more than half the population is food secure.

Figure 3. Dietary diversity by respondent status and overall

	Fruits	Proteins	Veg	Pulses	Dairy	Staples
IDPs	1	2	2	5	1	6
Residents	1	1	2	2	3	5
Returnees	1	1	2	2	3	5
Overall	1	1	2	2	3	5

Figure 1. Households with inadequate consumption by respondent status

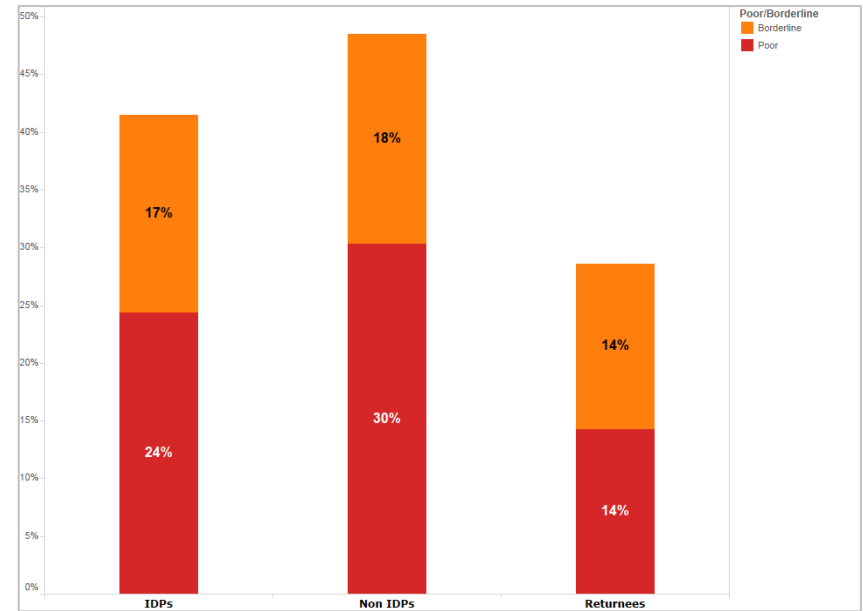
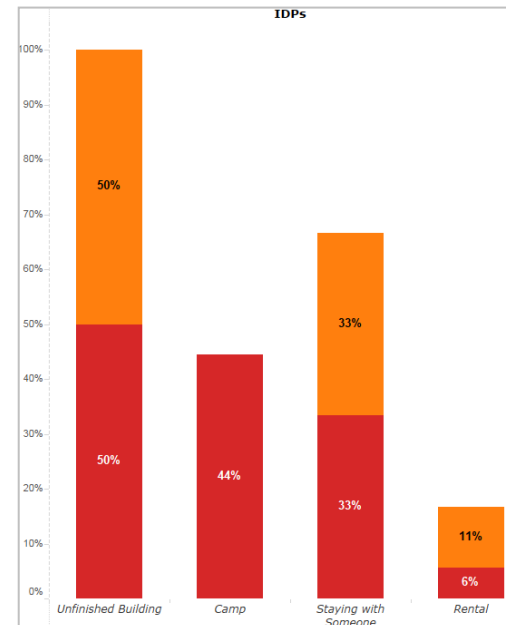


Figure 2. IDPs households with inadequate consumption by accommodation type



¹Families moving between Gogjali and the camps of Khazer and Hassan Sham.

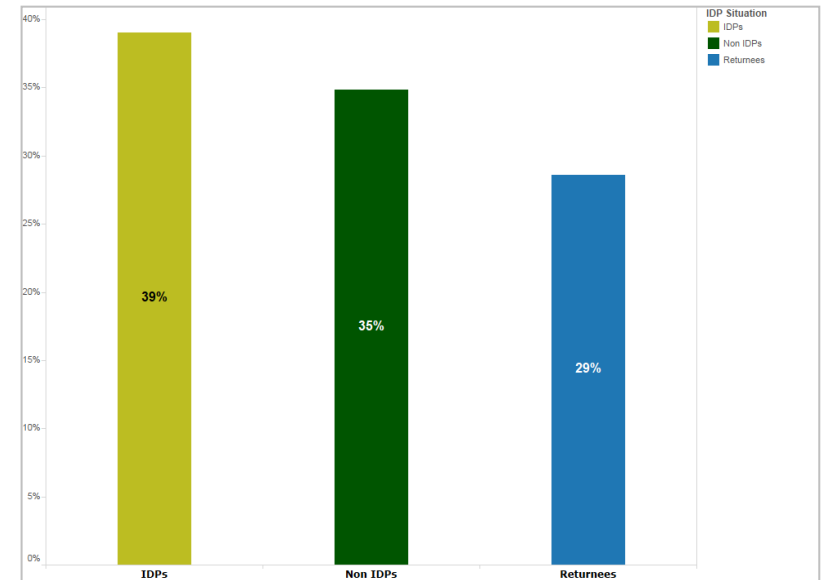
USE OF COPING STRATEGIES

Around a third (36 percent) of the population experienced a time over the last week when they did not have enough food or money to buy food, and that they resorted to food-related negative coping strategies.

More than a third (39 percent) of the surveyed IDP households reported adopting one or more food consumption based coping strategies. Strategies most commonly adopted involved modifying food intake habits, such as buying less preferred and less expensive food, reducing the number of meals eaten in a day and limiting the portion sizes.

IDPs reported more stress (adopting coping mechanisms) compared to non-IDPs and returnees (Figure 4). Food (or cash) assistance would be required to address the immediate needs and reduce this stress. As the markets respond with movement of commodities to these newly liberated areas, the prices are expected to stabilize. Programming is required to assist the high levels of unemployment (22 percent) through livelihood restoration and income generation schemes.

Figure 4. Percentage of households using negative coping by respondent status



PRIMARY FOOD SOURCES

Primary food source for households remain market with 81 percent of households reporting purchasing from markets as primary source of food. Price analyses of markets in areas liberated earlier in the year suggest an initial price hike followed by price stabilization or even reduction as the markets respond to the opening of access to these areas of demand. (See WFP Monthly Market Bulletin #1 August 2016 and #2 September 2016).

Market assessments in other areas (see WFP Rapid Market Assessment of Salah Al-Din) suggest markets are competitive and integrated allowing restoration of stocks and price stabilization as long as the road access remains secure. The main impediment to market functionality is the blockage of trade routes. As long as transport along the main roads leading to Gogjali is permitted, the food stocks will meet the demand.

There are some food assistance programmes active in the area. 12 percent of IDPs reported food assistance as their primary source of food while another 10 percent reported receiving gift (from family or friends) as their primary source of food (Figure 5). As accessibility to these areas improves detailed assessments with ground-truthing will be conducted.

Figure 5. Primary food sources by respondent status

