

# Food Security Monitoring

## North Darfur, Sudan, May 2016

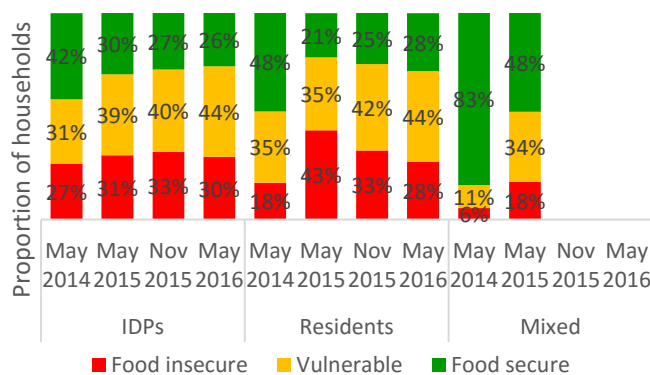


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food security analysis

### Summary

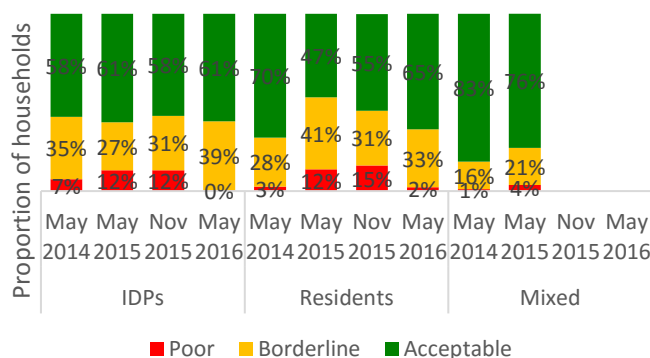
Food security held steady for IDPs and has slowly improved among residents in North Darfur over the past year, although almost a third of sampled households continued to be food insecure. Despite very weak purchasing power and increasing food prices resulting from below-average production in the previous agricultural season (2015/16), more than half of surveyed households had acceptable levels of food consumption. However, continuing price increases were expected to put a strain on households' ability to provide for themselves. The sample for mixed communities has not been collected for this round due to operational constraints.

### Food Security



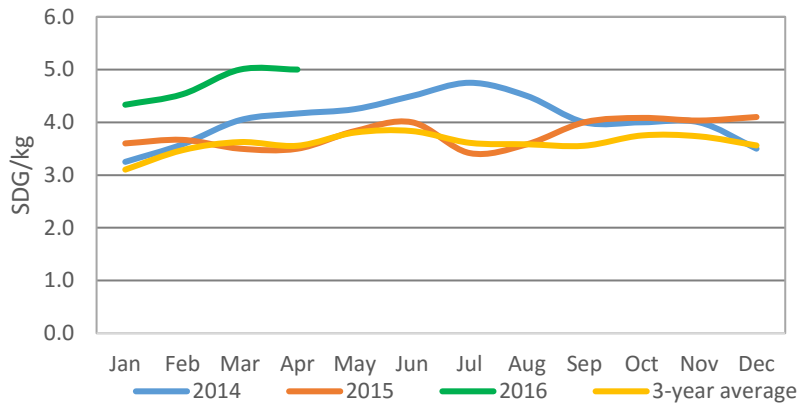
Food security among IDP households remained largely unchanged, holding steady at approximately 30 percent in the same period over the last two years. A steady improvement was seen among resident households, whose proportion of food insecure dropped by 15 percentage points since May 2015, coming down to a level similar to that of IDPs, but still not quite commensurate to their level of two years ago (May 2014).

### Household Food Consumption



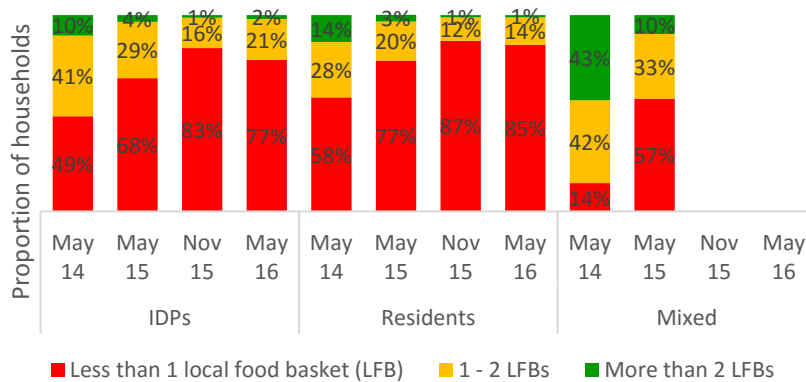
The food consumption of sampled IDP and resident households improved over previous rounds. It is noteworthy however that while the level of acceptable food consumption increased for residents, the decline in poor food consumption for IDPs translated more into a higher number of households with 'borderline' food consumption.

## Market Prices



Sorghum prices in El Fasher in May 2016 increased following a typical seasonal pattern for this time of the year. The sorghum price has been increasing for several months to a high level, over 40 percent above prices for the same time last year. Given the below-average production in the main 2015/16 season, this increase was expected to continue until the pre-harvest period.

## Purchasing Power



Household purchasing power held steady at very low levels for both IDPs and residents, continuing a long-term trend of deterioration. Over 80 percent of all households were unable to afford the local food basket, while only negligible numbers of households were able to afford more than 2 LFBs. Limited agricultural labour opportunities coupled with high food prices contributed to this negative trend in purchasing power.

## Methodology

WFP conducts continuous food security monitoring across Sudan. The household data collection for this round was conducted in May 2016 which constitutes the start of the lean season. Across Darfur, a total of 5,830 households across 101 sentinel sites were interviewed for this monitoring round.

## Food Security

Food security was determined, as per WFP Emergency Food Security Assessment standards, by cross-tabulating economic food access indicators with food consumption (see below).

## Purchasing Power

The price of a local food basket (LFB) was used as a benchmark against which to compare household total expenditure (a proxy for income), to determine the level of purchasing power. Purchasing power was determined by calculating how many baskets households could afford.

## Household Food Consumption

Food consumption data was collected and analyzed using standard WFP methodology: the variety and frequency of foods consumed over a 7-day period was recorded to calculate a food consumption score (FCS). Weights were based on the nutritional density of the foods. Using standard threshold, households were classified as having either poor, borderline or acceptable food consumption.

## Contact

For more information, please contact Anders Petersson, Head of Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping, WFP Sudan.

[anders.petersson@wfp.org](mailto:anders.petersson@wfp.org)