

Highlights	Methodology	Food Consumption Score	reduced Coping Strategy Index	In the words of the respondents
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Bulletin #21: April 2017

## Food security indicators are poor in Hajjah as access to food assistance decreases

### Key points



Food consumption deteriorates in Al Hudaydah for the second consecutive month.



More non-displaced households are using negative coping strategies particularly in Hajjah and in Sa'dah.



More respondents are concerned about rising unemployment and the lack of opportunity to generate income to support their families.



### Situation update

As heavy fighting continues along Yemen's western coast, more than 48,000 people have reportedly been displaced from Taizz governorate – mainly from the districts of Al Mukha and Dhubab – in the past six weeks alone. Nearly all the IDPs are sheltering in more secure areas of Taizz or Al Hudaydah. Humanitarian partners are concerned that 200,000 to 500,000 people could be displaced if fighting reaches Al Hudaydah, where many districts already host considerable numbers of IDPs who could suffer secondary displacement to neighbouring governorates. The Humanitarian Country Team in Yemen released a statement on 4 April emphasizing the critical importance of the port of Al Hudaydah as the primary entry point for commercial and humanitarian imports to the country. In the meantime, there are major concerns of potential disruption of operations at Al Hudaydah port if clashes reach the governorate.

OCHA Humanitarian Bulletin 22, 14 April 2017 [http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/humanitarian\\_bulletin\\_issue\\_22\\_-\\_14\\_april\\_2017.pdf](http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/humanitarian_bulletin_issue_22_-_14_april_2017.pdf)

OCHA, statement on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team in Yemen on the critical importance to maintain Al Hudaydah port open, 4 April 2017 [http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/hct\\_statement\\_on\\_the\\_critical\\_importance\\_to\\_maintain\\_al\\_hudaydah\\_port\\_open.pdf](http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/hct_statement_on_the_critical_importance_to_maintain_al_hudaydah_port_open.pdf)

# YEMEN

mVAM Bulletin #21: April 2017

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In April 2017, mVAM conducted the 21st round of household food security monitoring in Yemen, using live telephone interviews. The data were collected during the first two weeks of April. Responses are likely to be biased towards younger, somewhat better-off households who live in urban areas and have better access to electricity and phone-charging services. In March 2016, a question on the number of active mobile phone owners per household was introduced to the questionnaire to adjust for the fact that households with more phones are more likely to be selected. The findings in this report are weighted by the number of SIM cards held by households and the population estimates for IDPs and non-IDPs. In particular, the maps present a snapshot situation of households' food consumption patterns at the time of the data collection and do not represent the prevalence of food insecurity at population level (as in the case of the IPC maps). Details on methodology and aggregate data tables are available online.



**2,429 Households Surveyed**



## Displacement status

**33.6% IDP**  
**66.4% Non-IDP**



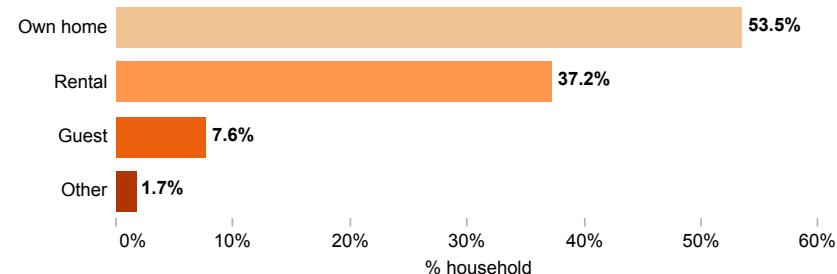
## Gender Head of Household

**4.7% Female**  
**95.3% Male**



**39 Average age of respondents**

## Residence Type



[http://vam.wfp.org/sites/mvam\\_monitoring/read\\_me\\_yemen.pdf](http://vam.wfp.org/sites/mvam_monitoring/read_me_yemen.pdf)

Highlights

Methodology

**Food  
Consumption  
Score**

reduced Coping  
Strategy Index

In the words of  
the respondents

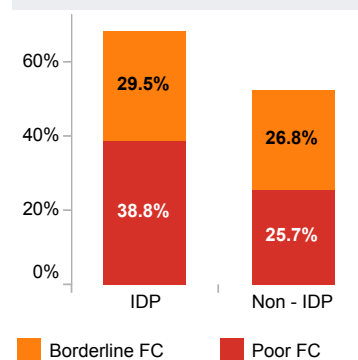
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### Food consumption deteriorates in Al Hudaydah and Hajjah

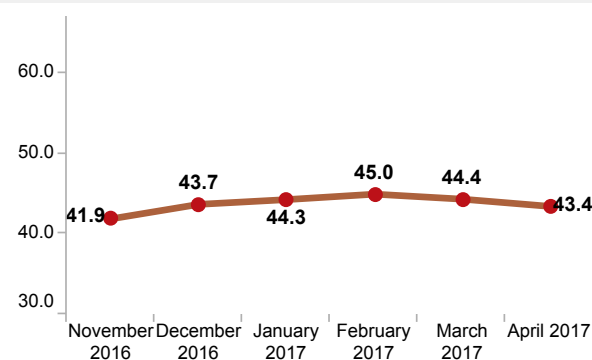
In April, the national mean food consumption score (FCS) saw a marginal deterioration for the second consecutive month (Figure 1). Mean FCS fell slightly in Al Hudaydah for the second consecutive month from 52.2 in February to 48.7 in April. Similarly in neighbouring Hajjah mean FCS continued to fall in April, reaching one of the lowest scores of all governorates (36.4). Low FCS was also recorded in Al Bayda (38.4) and Raymah (36.1). Poor food consumption rates among IDPs continue to rise, reaching 38.8 percent in April; poor food consumption prevalence among the non-displaced population stands at 25.7 percent (Figure 3). In general, IDPs are eating significantly less protein, vegetables, dairy products and fats than the non-displaced households.

**Figure 3: Households with poor and borderline Food Consumption by**

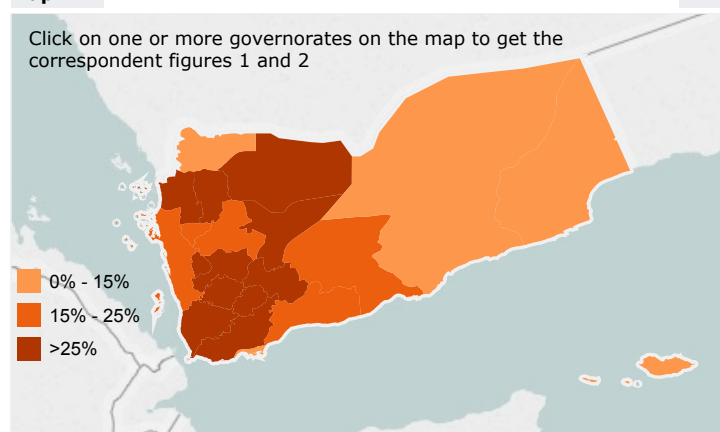
Displacement Status



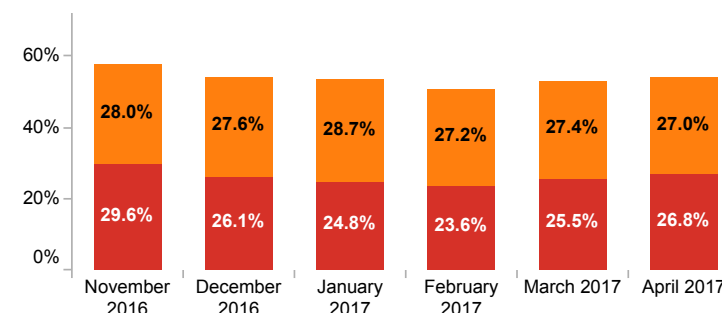
**Figure 1. Mean FCS, November–April 2017**



**Map 1:** % of households with Poor Food Consumption



**Figure 2. Percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption, November–April 2017**



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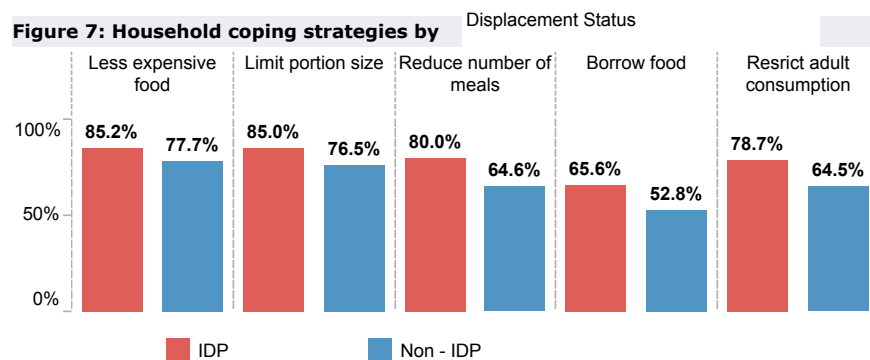
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### Use of negative food-based coping strategies increases in Sa'dah

The overall use of negative food-related coping strategies remained at very high levels in April. Currently, the national mean reduced coping strategies index (rCSI) is 22.3 (Figure 5), the highest in the last six months. Sixteen of Yemen's 22 governorates are classified as adopting high levels of negative coping, with just five resorting to medium levels of negative coping. Hajjah governorate recorded the highest mean rCSI in April (26.9). The mean rCSI in Sa'dah rose from 21.8 in March to 23.5 in April.

As in previous months, IDP households have been resorting to negative coping strategies more frequently than non-displaced households (Figure 7). Even so, the April mean rCSI for non-IDPs increased as more households were limiting portion sizes, eating fewer meals a day and restricting adult consumption so children could eat.

In April, reported access to food assistance fell, with just 15 percent of all respondents receiving food assistance within the last month. A significant percentage of households in Al Bayda, Amran, Dhamar, Hajjah and Raymah reported poorer access in April than in March. In Hajjah, only 1 percent of respondents said they had received food assistance in April in comparison with 28 percent in March.

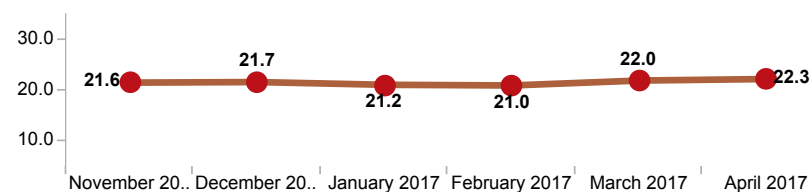


### Map 3: rCSI by governorate, April 2017

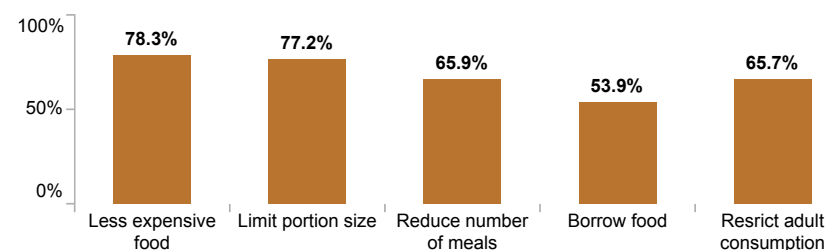
Click on one or more governorates on the map to get the correspondent figures 5 and 6



**Figure 5: Mean rCSI, November–April 2017**



**Figure 6: Percentage of households using negative coping strategies in April 2017**

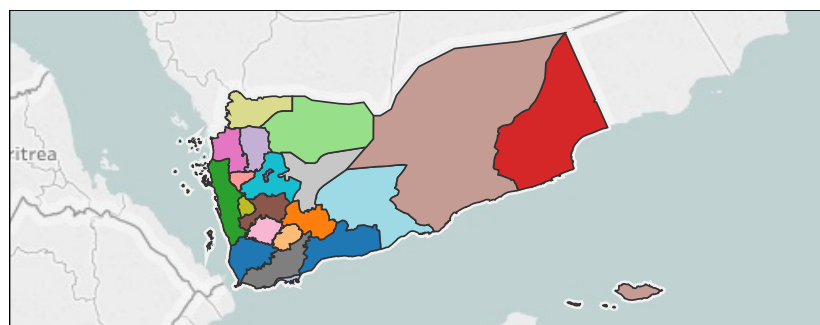


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### Concerns over worsening levels of unemployment and lack of income

Households reported shortages of money and food as their main challenges in April. Providing assistance to people in need is extremely challenging due to the ongoing fighting; this could worsen the already dramatic food security situation in the coming months. Lack of electricity and water was also commonly reported. Half of Yemen's population lacks clean water, sanitation and hygiene services, which is increasing the risk of infectious diseases. Female respondents confirmed that illnesses such as diarrhoea are spreading very easily because most houses do not have proper sanitation. For more than six months, health facilities – as all public sector services – have received irregular financial support to cover operational costs and staff salaries. Consequently, households are having difficulty accessing safe water, adequate shelter, income and health services. The unemployment rate has risen in an unprecedented way especially among young graduates: findings of the pre-crisis Workforce Survey 2013-2014 indicated that 44.8% of the young people were neither in education nor at work. Although, there are no most recent data available, it is assumed that labour market situation has dramatically worsened. Recently, the liquidity crisis has deepened the decline in aggregate demand and economic activity, thereby worsening the already-high unemployment problem. Many male respondents complained about the lack of job opportunities and the consequent lack of income to support their families. Respondents are increasingly reporting rising poverty and hunger in their communities: people are selling their assets, sharing accommodation and even begging in the markets in order to buy food.



Map 4: Respondents' comments by governorate, April 2017



### For further information

Arif Husain  
Jean-Martin Bauer  
Endalkachew Alamnew

arif.husain@wfp.org  
jean-martin.bauer@wfp.org  
endalkachew.alamnew@wfp.org

Website: [http://vam.wfp.org/sites/mvam\\_monitoring/](http://vam.wfp.org/sites/mvam_monitoring/)

Blog: [mvam.org](http://mvam.org)

Toolkit: <http://resources.vam.wfp.org/mVAM>



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