



# CROP PROSPECTS and FOOD SITUATION

Triannual Global Report

Countries/territories  
in need of external  
assistance for food

45

## COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES REQUIRING EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE FOR FOOD

FAO assesses that 45 countries, including 33 in Africa, nine in Asia, two in Latin America and the Caribbean, and one in Europe, are in need of external assistance for food. Persisting conflicts and civil insecurity remain the primary drivers of severe acute food insecurity, with populations in the Gaza Strip (Palestine) and the Sudan facing IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) levels of acute food insecurity, according to the latest [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#) analysis.

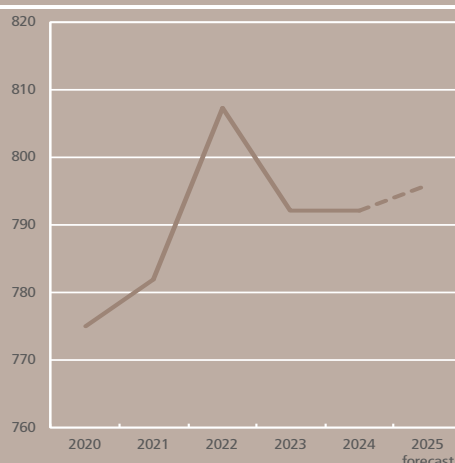
Asia	+1.9
Africa	-2.3
Central America and the Caribbean	-7.5
South America	+1.9
North America	-1.0
Europe	-7.3
Oceania	+16.0
World	-0.5

## Global cereal production 2024 over 2023

(yearly percentage change)

-0.5%

(million tonnes)



## Global wheat production 2025 over 2024

(yearly percentage change)

+1.0%

## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

**AFRICA** Prolonged dry weather conditions in North Africa are dampening 2025 production prospects, while favourable rainfall conditions in Southern Africa are benefiting crops, and 2025 cereal harvests are expected to rebound following steep declines in 2024. Good weather conditions supported above-average 2024 harvests in both East and West Africa, but conflict continues to disrupt agricultural activities and reduce yields in several countries. Planting of the 2025 crops is underway in both subregions.

**ASIA** In Far East Asia, the early outlook points to continued growth in wheat production in 2025, primarily driven by large plantings and good yield prospects in key producing countries, supported by favourable weather conditions. However, in Near East Asia, poor rainfall since late 2024 has weakened yield potentials and wheat production could drop to below-average levels.

### LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

In South America, mixed weather conditions and the risk of stunt disease outbreaks are containing the production outlook for 2025 maize, though aggregate production is still expected to remain above average, mainly due to an anticipated good outturn in Brazil. In Central America and the Caribbean, dry weather conditions have reduced cereal plantings and curbed production prospects in Mexico, whereas favourable weather elsewhere in the subregion is expected to boost yields.



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# COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES REQUIRING EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE FOR FOOD

Note: Situation as of February 2025

— Territories/boundaries\*\*

## AFRICA (33 countries)

- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Congo
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Djibouti
- Eritrea
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Guinea
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Libya
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Uganda
- United Republic of Tanzania
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

## ASIA (9 countries/territories)

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Lebanon
- Myanmar
- Pakistan
- Palestine
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Yemen

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (2 countries)

- Haiti
- Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

## EUROPE (1 country)

- Ukraine

\*\* See Terminology ([page 7](#))

Notes: Final boundary between the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

Source: FAO/GIEWS, 2025. *Crop Prospects and Food Situation – Triannual Global Report. No. 1*. [Cited 7 March 2025], modified to comply with the United Nations map No. 4651 Rev. 1, April 2023.

## AFRICA (33 COUNTRIES)

### EXCEPTIONAL SHORTFALL IN AGGREGATE FOOD PRODUCTION/SUPPLIES

#### Kenya

##### *Drought conditions*

- About 1.7 million people were estimated to be acutely food insecure between October 2024 and January 2025, due to the negative impact of a series of adverse weather events, including prolonged and severe drought between 2020 and 2023, and more recently a poor short rains season, on crop and livestock production.

#### Somalia

##### *Weather extremes, civil insecurity*

- About 4.4 million people are projected to face severe acute food insecurity between April and June 2025, reflecting a poor performance of the October-December *Deyr* rainy season and its negative impact on crop and livestock production.

#### Sudan

##### *Conflict, displacements, high food prices*

- About 24.6 million people (51 percent of the population) are estimated to face severe acute

food insecurity between December 2024 and May 2025, due to the conflict that broke out in mid-April 2023, paralyzing economic activities, causing large-scale displacements and sharply reducing crop production.

- Famine conditions (IPC Phase 5) have been detected in ten areas in North Darfur, West Kordofan and South Kordofan states. In addition, there is a risk of famine in 17 additional areas in North Darfur, East Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, Al Jazirah and Khartoum states.

#### Zambia

##### *Production decline, high food prices*

- According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)<sup>1</sup> analysis, about 5.8 million people are estimated to face IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above levels of acute food insecurity between October 2024 and March 2025, primarily driven by the impact of drought on agricultural production. This figure is the highest level on record and reflects the severity of the drought's impact on households' food supply and incomes.
- Food prices are also at elevated levels, including record high prices of maize, the main food staple, lowering the affordability of food and further constraining access for vulnerable households.

<sup>1</sup> Please see [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#) for further details.



## Zimbabwe

*Production decline, high food prices*

- A steep production downturn in 2024 due to widespread drought conditions has reduced farming households' self-produced food supply, constraining food availability.
- Along with the low harvests, households are also facing persistently high food prices, aggravating acute food insecurity.
- Although IPC projections are not available, according to FEWS NET analysis, up to 5 million people were estimated to be facing acute food insecurity between December 2024 and until at least March 2025, due to the drought's impact and high food prices.<sup>2</sup>

## WIDESPREAD LACK OF ACCESS

### Burundi

*Weather extremes, high food prices*

- About 1.2 million people were estimated to be facing IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) levels of acute food insecurity between January and March 2025. The main drivers are the protracted macroeconomic challenges, including currency depreciation that has contributed to pushing up food prices.

### Central African Republic

*Conflict, high food prices, weather extremes*

- According to the latest IPC analysis, the number of severely food insecure people (IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) is projected to reach 2.5 million between April and August 2025, including about 430 000 people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). The situation reflects the impact of the conflict and civil insecurity, as well as limited market access and rising food prices.
- As of September 2024, over 431 000 people were internally displaced as a result of civil insecurity and armed violence according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).<sup>3</sup>

### Chad

*Civil insecurity, flooding, refugee influx*

- According to the latest *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH) analysis,<sup>4</sup> about

2.88 million people were estimated to be experiencing severe acute food insecurity between October and December 2024, including approximately 457 300 Sudanese refugees, Chadian returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), with over 297 500 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency).

- Acute food insecurity conditions are particularly concerning in eastern areas, where the large majority of the 763 600 Sudanese refugees and 216 300 Chadian returnees that fled the Sudan since mid-April 2023 are located. Food access also remains constrained in areas affected by persisting insecurity, including Lac Region. As of February 2025, a total of 1.33 million refugees and asylum seekers are residing in the country.
- Severe flooding in 2024, which affected 1.9 million people, has aggravated acute food insecurity conditions across the country.

### Democratic Republic of the Congo

*Conflict*

- According to the latest IPC acute food insecurity report released in October 2024, 25.5 million people are projected to face IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above levels of acute food insecurity between January and June 2025. The recent escalation of the ongoing conflict in the Kivu Region, along with consequent population displacements and high staple food prices, are likely to further worsen the situation.
- As of December 2024, a total of 8.04 million IDPs due to the conflict. As of February 2025, an additional 500 000 IDPs have been estimated since January 2025 according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).<sup>5</sup>

### Djibouti

*Unfavourable weather, high food prices, reduced income-earning opportunities in the port*

- About 285 000 people were estimated to face acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) between July and

December 2024, reflecting the lingering impact of a prolonged and severe drought between late 2020 and early 2023, below-average rains in late 2023 and early 2024, high food prices and the negative impact on employment in port activities following disruptions in sea traffic via the Red Sea.

### Eritrea

*Macroeconomic challenges have increased the population's vulnerability to food insecurity*

### Ethiopia

*Weather extremes, conflict, high food prices*

- According to the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan,<sup>6</sup> about 15.8 million people were officially estimated to be facing severe acute food insecurity during the lean period between July and September 2024, mainly due to the lingering impact of a prolonged and severe drought between late 2020 and early 2023, floods in late 2023 and early 2024, conflict in northern areas and high food prices.

### Malawi

*Production decline, high food prices*

- An estimated 5.7 million people are facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above levels of acute food insecurity between October 2024 and March 2025. This figure is about 30 percent higher than the estimate in 2023/24 covering the same period.
- The increase in acute food insecurity is driven by the impact of the drought reduced 2024 harvest and persistently high food prices, with maize grain prices reaching new record highs at the start of 2025.

### Mauritania

*Refugee influx*

- According to the latest CH analysis, nearly 185 900 people were estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance between October and December 2024. This represents a slight improvement compared to the previous year, when about 232 700 people were estimated to need assistance.

<sup>2</sup> The [Global Report on Food Crises \(GRFC\) 2024 Mid-Year Update](#) of the GRFC 2024, provides the latest data on acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition as of August 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Please see <https://dtm.iom.int/central-african-republic> for further details.

<sup>4</sup> Please see [Cadre Harmonisé \(CH\)](#) for further details.

<sup>5</sup> UNHCR. 2025. [Eastern DRC Displacement Overview \(As of 25 February 2025\)](#). 26 February 2025.

<sup>6</sup> OCHA. 2024. [Ethiopia: Humanitarian Response Plan 2024 \(February 2024\)](#). 26 February 2024.



- Humanitarian needs remain high among Malian refugees and host communities in the region of Hodh Ech Chargui, which faces a sustained influx of new arrivals, putting a strain on already limited resources.
- Flooding in several regions affected about 12 000 people in 2024.
- As of December 2024, the country was hosting over 162 300 refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Mali.

## Niger

*Civil insecurity, flooding, macroeconomic challenges*

- According to the latest CH analysis, about 1.53 million people were estimated to be facing severe acute food insecurity between October and December 2024, including over 59 400 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency), which is well below the 2.32 million people that were estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in 2023, mostly reflecting the above-average cereal output harvested in 2024.
- Civil insecurity continued to disrupt livelihoods, in particular in the regions of Tillabéri, Diffa, Tahoua and Maradi, where, in addition, widespread flooding triggered additional internal displacement, exacerbating acute food insecurity among both displaced people and host households. As of January 2025, about 507 400 people were internally displaced in the country.
- Nationwide, flooding has affected 1.5 million people and combined with macroeconomic challenges, it has constrained food access for vulnerable households.
- As of January 2025, the country was hosting about 421 800 refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from Nigeria and Mali.

## Nigeria

*Conflict, macroeconomic crisis, high food prices, flooding*

- About 25.09 million people were estimated to face severe acute food insecurity between October and December 2024, including nearly 987 200 in CH Phase 4 (Emergency), which is well above the 18.56 million estimated to be severely acute food insecure in 2023.
- Worsening civil insecurity and conflicts in northern states, has disrupted

agricultural activities and markets, and led to the displacement of about 3.45 million people, as of January 2025, while humanitarian access remains severely constrained.

- Poor macroeconomic conditions, including high inflation rates and a weak national currency, are curtailing vulnerable households' economic access to food across the country.
- In 2024, flooding impacted 1.3 million people, mostly in northern regions, aggravating acute food insecurity in the affected areas.
- As of February 2025, nearly 106 100 refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Cameroon and the Niger, were residing in the country.

## South Sudan

*Economic downturn, floods, civil insecurity*

- Despite sustained humanitarian assistance, food insecurity still affects large segments of the population, mainly due to a deepening economic crisis resulting in soaring food prices.
- About 6.1 million people, 45 percent of the total population, are expected to face severe acute food insecurity between December 2024 and March 2025.
- About 31 000 returnees from the conflict affected Sudan are estimated to face IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) levels of acute food insecurity.

## SEVERE LOCALIZED FOOD INSECURITY

### Burkina Faso

*Conflict, high food prices*

- According to the latest CH analysis, over 2.73 million people were estimated to face severe acute food insecurity during the June to August 2024 lean season, including about 423 300 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency).
- Acute food insecurity is primarily underpinned by persisting conflict and, in particular, the use of siege tactics by non-state armed groups, which has severely disrupted livelihoods and markets, and constrained the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The widespread civil insecurity has resulted in the internal displacement of about 2.06 million people, as of March 2023. As of January 2025, an estimated 41 400 refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Mali, were residing in the country.

- High food prices are an additional factor aggravating acute food insecurity conditions, as well as flooding in 2024, which affected about 17 000 people in various localities.

## Cameroon

*Civil insecurity, high food prices*

- According to the October 2024 CH analysis, about 3 million people were estimated to be facing severe acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 [Crisis] and above), between October and December 2024, as a result of the effects of the conflict, sociopolitical unrest and high food prices, as well as floods that caused population displacements and agricultural damage and losses.
- In 2023, the number of internally displaced persons was more than 1 million due to attacks by non-state armed groups in Far North Region.

## Congo

*Refugee influx, floods*

- At the end of 2022, nearly 30 000 refugees from the Central African Republic and approximately 26 000 from the Democratic Republic of the Congo were residing in the country, mostly in Likouala and Plateaux departments. Host communities face pre-existing food shortages and limited livelihood opportunities, and refugees' food security relies heavily on ongoing humanitarian assistance.
- Flooding in late 2023 affected more than 300 000 people, mostly located in the eastern part of the country, where also an estimated 2 300 hectares of croplands (less than 1 percent of the national cropland area) were inundated, causing crop losses and damage.

## Eswatini

*High food prices*

- The latest IPC analysis indicates that 303 725 people are facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) between October 2024 and March 2025.
- This figure is up 7 percent year-on-year, primarily reflecting the impact of high food prices and a slowdown in economic growth, which has limited households' income-earning opportunities.
- The adverse effects of dry weather conditions on agricultural production in 2024 have also aggravated acute food insecurity conditions.



**Guinea**

*Macroeconomic challenges, high food prices, flooding*

- About 920 200 people were estimated to be severely acute food insecure between October and December 2024, a deterioration compared to conditions in 2023 when nearly 392 500 people were estimated to face severe acute food insecurity.
- Macroeconomic challenges, high food inflation and the impact of floods, which affected 176 000 people across the country in 2024, are the main drivers of acute food insecurity.
- As of January 2025, about 2 300 refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Sierra Leone, are residing in the country.

**Lesotho**

*High food prices, economic downturn*

- An estimated 335 000 people, according to the latest IPC analysis, are facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) levels of acute food insecurity at least until March 2025 (22 percent of the country's population).
- The figure is slightly higher than the previous year, driven by high food prices and a slow economic recovery that is impinging on households' economic capacity to access food. The adverse effects of dry weather conditions on agricultural production in 2024 also aggravated acute food insecurity.

**Liberia**

*Macroeconomic challenges, flooding*

- According to the latest CH analysis, nearly 531 300 people were estimated to face severe acute food insecurity during the June to August 2023 lean season period, including approximately 21 400 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency). Acute food insecurity is mainly associated with macroeconomic challenges.
- Flooding affected 51 000 people in 2024.
- As of January 2025, the country has been hosting about 1 900 refugees and asylum seekers.

**Libya**

*Localized conflict, economic and political instability, high food prices*

- According to the UNHCR,<sup>7</sup> as of mid-February 2025, about 240 000

Sudanese refugees have arrived in Libya since April 2023. The significant flow of Sudanese refugees is increasing the local demand for health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), cash, food and shelter.

**Madagascar**

*Weather extremes*

- An estimated 1.95 million people are facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) level of acute food insecurity between January and April 2025. This figure represents 18 percent of the analysed population, a reduction compared to the 22 percent estimated during the same period in 2024.
- The proportional decline reflects the positive impact of large-scale humanitarian assistance and a generally good cropping season, with national paddy production increasing to an above-average level in 2024. However, the impact of cyclones, which caused localized floods, have contributed to maintaining the high levels of acute food insecurity.

**Mali**

*Conflict, flooding, high food prices*

- According to the latest CH analysis, about 901 900 people were estimated to face severe acute food insecurity between October and December 2024, including over 19 200 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency). This number is higher than the previous year, when about 715 400 people were estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance.
- Acute food insecurity conditions are primarily underpinned by the impact of persisting conflict, mainly affecting northern and central areas, which has disrupted livelihoods and markets, while humanitarian access remains severely constrained. The conflict has also resulted in the internal displacement of about 378 400 people, as of September 2024.
- Floods, affecting 370 000 people in 2024, combined with high food prices, have aggravated acute food insecurity conditions across the country.
- As of January 2025, the country has been hosting approximately 135 900 refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Burkina Faso, the Niger and Mauritania.

**Mozambique**

*Reduced cereal production, insecurity in northern areas*

- Continued insecurity in the northern province of Cabo Delgado and the impact of the El Niño-associated drought conditions across the country are key factors driving acute food insecurity in 2024.
- An estimated 3.2 million people between October 2024 and March 2025, similar to the figure in 2023/24, are facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above levels of acute food insecurity.

**Namibia**

*Reduced cereal production, high food prices*

- The number of people facing acute food insecurity has risen steeply in 2024. The latest IPC analysis reveals that nearly 1.3 million people are facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above levels of acute food insecurity between October 2024 and March 2025.
- The impact of dry weather conditions on agricultural production in 2024 is the main factor underpinning the deterioration in acute food insecurity conditions.

**Senegal**

*Weather extremes, reduced agricultural production, flooding*

- According to the latest CH analysis, about 892 300 people were estimated to be facing severe acute food insecurity between October and December 2024, including approximately 58 200 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency). This is well above the 314 100 people estimated to be acutely food insecure during the same period of 2023. The deterioration is mostly due to the impact of prolonged dry spells and floods, with the latter affecting 103 000 people in 2024. Weather extremes were also key drivers of reduced agricultural production in 2024, which aggravated acute food insecurity.
- As of January 2025, about 13 200 refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Mauritania, have been residing in the country.

**Sierra Leone**

*High food prices, macroeconomic challenges*

- According to the latest CH analysis, about 660 700 people were estimated to be in

<sup>7</sup> UNHCR. 2025. [Sudan Situation: Sudanese Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Libya \(as of 9 Feb 2025\)](#). 10 February 2025.



need of humanitarian assistance between October and December 2024. This marks a substantial improvement compared to the same period in 2023, when about 1.17 million people were estimated to be severely acute food insecure, mostly supported by a substantial decline in food and non-food inflation. The generally good performance of the 2024 cropping season, with cereal production estimated at an above-average level, also contributed to improving the food security situation.

- Floods in 2024 affected a total of 24 000 people.

### Uganda

*Weather extremes, insecurity, high food prices*

- The latest IPC analysis, conducted in refugee-hosting districts, estimates that about 953 000 people (21 percent of the analysed population) are facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) between February and June 2025. These conditions reflect the adverse impact of weather shocks, high food prices, and crop and livestock diseases.
- The number of refugees and asylum seekers, mainly hosted in camps and relying on humanitarian assistance, was estimated at 1.81 million as of late January 2025, including about 981 000 from South Sudan and about 567 000 from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

### United Republic of Tanzania

*Localized shortfalls in staple food production, high food prices*

- The latest IPC analysis, conducted in 21 districts of mainland Tanzania, estimated that 379 000 people faced severe acute food insecurity between May and October 2024.
- The main driver was the shortfall in crop production in 2023, due to adverse weather conditions and outbreaks of pests and diseases.

## ASIA (9 COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES)

### WIDESPREAD LACK OF ACCESS

#### Democratic People's Republic of Korea

*Low food consumption levels and poor dietary diversity*

- Food insecurity conditions remain of concern in the forthcoming May–September lean period.

### Lebanon

*Conflict, protracted economic crisis*

- According to the latest IPC analysis, between December 2024 and March 2025, about 1.7 million people are likely to face IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), including Lebanese citizens, Syrian and Palestinian refugees. The acute food insecurity situation is driven by the compounded impacts of the conflict, the protracted economic crisis, large population displacements and limited humanitarian assistance.

### Palestine

*Conflict, economic collapse*

- Acute food insecurity remains a critical concern in the Gaza Strip despite the ceasefire announced in mid-January 2025. The prolonged conflict has caused extensive damage to agricultural land and infrastructure, leading to widespread population displacement and an economic collapse. According to the latest IPC analysis released in October 2024, between November 2024 and April 2025, approximately 2 million people, over 90 percent of the population, are expected to experience severe food insecurity. This includes 876 000 people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 345 000 in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe).

### Syrian Arab Republic

*Economic deterioration, conflict*

- An estimated 9.1 million people facing acute food insecurity and 5.4 million at risk of hunger, combined, represents about half the population. This crisis is driven by political transition, compounded by conflict-related damages, security constraints, and high food prices.

### Yemen

*Localized conflict, adverse weather, economic deterioration*

- Food insecurity remains severe, driven by localized conflict, a prolonged economic downturn, limited humanitarian assistance, and scarce livelihood opportunities. According to the latest IPC analysis, between October 2024 and February 2025,

approximately 4.6 million people are expected to experience IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or higher, including 1.1 million facing critical levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 4 [Emergency]).

## SEVERE LOCALIZED FOOD INSECURITY

### Afghanistan

*Economic slowdown, reduced livelihood opportunities*

- The latest IPC analysis indicates that 14.8 million people, 32 percent of the analysed population, are facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and Phase 4 (Emergency) levels of acute food insecurity between November 2024 to March 2025, corresponding to the peak of the lean period. An economic downturn, reduced livelihood opportunities and a cutback in humanitarian funding and assistance, are key factor underlying the acute food insecurity situation.
- Below-average precipitation, forecast during the wheat cropping season (March–May), could adversely impact 2025 wheat production, the country's main food staple, and further aggravate acute food insecurity conditions.

### Bangladesh

*Economic constraints, high inflation, weather extremes*

- According to the IPC analysis, about 23.6 million people were projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) from October to December 2024. Typhoon Yagi in late September 2024, affected agricultural production and caused large-scale displacements, loss of livelihoods and damage to housing and infrastructure. About 1 million forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals reside in the country, mainly in Cox's Bazar District.

### Myanmar

*Conflict, economic constraints, weather extremes, high prices of main food staple*

- According to the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan,<sup>8</sup> about 19.9 million people (28 percent of the population) are projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity in 2025, due to the impact of Typhoon Yagi, high food prices and the

<sup>8</sup> OCHA. 2024. [Myanmar Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025 \(December 2024\)](#). 13 December 2024.



ongoing conflict, which began in early 2021 and intensified since late 2023, causing large displacements. According to the latest figures (mid-February 2025) from UNHCR, the number of IDPs is estimated at about 3.5 million. Most of the IDPs are located in Rakhine, Chin, Kachin, Kayin and Shan states.

## Pakistan

*Economic constraints, weather extremes*

- According to the latest IPC analysis, about 10 million people are projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) between April and July 2025, mostly due to the negative impact of weather extremes, reduced livelihood opportunities and economic challenges.
- Below-average precipitation and warmer-than-average temperatures between October 2024 and February 2025, affected the wheat crop, the country's main food staple, in rainfed areas, and potential harvest reductions could aggravate acute food insecurity conditions of affected farmers.

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (2 COUNTRIES)

### WIDESPREAD LACK OF ACCESS

#### Haiti

*Civil insecurity, high food prices, natural disasters*

- An estimated 5.5 million people, nearly half of the analysed population, are projected to face severe acute food insecurity between March and June 2025, including about 5 600 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). The situation is the result of a persistent economic downturn, low domestic food production, elevated food prices, fuel shortages and natural disasters. Worsening civil insecurity, compounded by escalating gang violence, has hampered access to essential services and resulted in over 1 million IDPs.

#### Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

*Economic crisis*

- According to the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan,<sup>9</sup> about 2 million people are estimated to be in need of food

assistance in 2024. Although food inflation rates in 2024 were reported at some of the lowest levels in last ten years, access to food remains severely hampered for the most vulnerable households. As of December 2024, the number of refugees and migrants that left the country since the start of the crisis is estimated at 7.9 million.

## NORTH AMERICA, EUROPE AND OCEANIA (1 COUNTRY)

### WIDESPREAD LACK OF ACCESS

#### Ukraine

*Conflict*

- The country<sup>10</sup> continues to be a significant supplier of food commodities for the world. However, according to the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan,<sup>11</sup> at least 12.7 million people are estimated to be in need of multisectoral humanitarian assistance in 2025 due to the war. As of December 2024, about 3.6 million people were estimated to be displaced in the country as reported by IOM.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>9</sup> OCHA. 2024. [Venezuela: Extension of the Humanitarian Response Plan 2024-2025](#). 30 January 2024.

<sup>10</sup> Information provided by Ukraine excludes statistical data concerning the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol and the Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions. The information is presented without prejudice to relevant UN General Assembly and UN Security Council resolutions, which reaffirm the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

<sup>11</sup> OCHA. 2025. [Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025 \(January 2025\)](#). 16 January 2025.

<sup>12</sup> Please see <https://dtm.iom.int/ukraine> for further details.



## Terminology

**Countries/territories requiring external assistance for food** are expected to lack the resources to deal with reported critical problems of food insecurity. Food crises are nearly always due to a combination of factors but for the purpose of response planning, it is important to establish whether the nature of food crises is **predominantly** related to lack of food availability, limited access to food, or severe but localized problems. Accordingly, the list of countries requiring external assistance is organized into three broad, not mutually exclusive, categories:

Countries/territories facing an **exceptional shortfall in aggregate food production/supplies** as a result of crop failure, natural disasters, interruption of imports, disruption of distribution, excessive post-harvest losses, or other supply bottlenecks.

Countries/territories with **widespread lack of access**, where a majority of the population is considered to be unable to procure food from local markets, due to very low incomes, exceptionally high food prices, or the inability to circulate within the country/territory.

Countries/territories with **severe localized food insecurity** due to the influx of refugees, a concentration of internally displaced persons, or areas with combinations of crop failure and deep poverty.

### \* Unfavourable Production Prospects

Countries facing unfavourable crop production prospects are countries where current conditions indicate a high likelihood that cereal production would fall below the five-year average, as a result of a reduction of the area planted and/or yields due to adverse weather conditions, plant pests and diseases, conflicts and other negative factors. This list does not include countries where production declines are mainly

driven by deliberate/predetermined economic and/or policy decisions (see Regional Reviews):

[\*Africa \(page 12\)\*](#)

[\*Asia and Pacific Islands \(page 22\)\*](#)

[\*Latin American and the Caribbean \(page 30\)\*](#)

\*\* The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the **maps** do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.



# GLOBAL CEREAL OVERVIEW

## Early wheat production prospects for 2025 point to potential increase

Global cereal **production** for 2024 has been modestly revised upward in March compared to figure from February to 2 842 million tonnes, narrowing the gap to 2023 output, which still exceeds the 2024 level by over 14.4 million tonnes. The month-to-month adjustments to the 2024 output relate mainly to wheat, mostly reflecting recent official data pointing to a larger harvest in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for rice. Since February, FAO has upgraded its forecast of world rice production in 2024/25 by 3.6 million tonnes to a fresh peak of 543 million tonnes (milled basis). The revision largely reflects more buoyant crop prospects for India, where, following a record-breaking *Kharif* harvest, secondary crop plantings have progressed at a robust pace to date. Nevertheless, higher-than-previously-anticipated plantings of offseason crops have also boosted the production outlook for Cambodia and Myanmar. These increases in wheat and rice offset reductions made to the global coarse grain production forecast, primarily driven by a smaller-than-previously-expected barley harvest in the Russian Federation.<sup>13</sup>

The global cereal **utilization** forecast for 2024/25 has been reduced by 1.9 million tonnes in March on a monthly basis, but still indicates a 1 percent increase over the 2023/24 level, reaching 2 867 million tonnes. The world wheat utilization forecast for 2024/25 remains nearly unchanged as a decrease in food consumption is offset by an increase in other use, mostly in China (mainland). The forecast for 2024/25 global coarse grain utilization has been lowered by 3.2 million tonnes to 1 531 million tonnes, reflecting a 1 percent decrease from 2023/24. This reduction is due to a cut in maize feed use (primarily Indonesia) as well as other use of barley (in South Africa, Thailand, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). On the other hand, ample supplies are expected to facilitate world rice utilization to expand at an accelerated rate of 2.2 percent in 2024/25 to reach 539 million tonnes. This level would represent an all-time high and stands 1.7 million tonnes above February expectations.

Table 1. World cereal production

(million tonnes)

	2022	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024 over 2023 (%)
<b>Asia</b>	1 258.1	1 286.5	1 311.1	+1.9
Far East	1 155.6	1 176.3	1 198.5	+1.9
Near East	65.4	77.1	75.3	-2.4
South Caucasus and Central Asia	37.0	33.1	37.3	+12.6
<b>Africa</b>	202.6	202.1	197.6	-2.3
North Africa	31.0	31.2	31.0	-0.7
West Africa	69.3	67.8	69.4	+2.4
Central Africa	7.3	7.4	7.4	+1.2
East Africa	58.1	57.0	59.7	+4.8
Southern Africa	37.1	38.8	30.0	-22.6
<b>Central America and the Caribbean</b>	42.5	41.2	38.1	-7.5
<b>South America</b>	246.7	247.0	251.7	+1.9
<b>North America</b>	472.1	519.8	514.5	-1.0
<b>Europe</b>	526.0	517.0	479.5	-7.3
European Union <sup>1</sup>	270.5	271.8	259.7	-4.4
CIS in Europe	162.5	147.2	131.5	-10.7
<b>Oceania</b>	61.1	42.5	49.3	+16.0
<b>World</b>	2 809.1	2 856.1	2 841.8	-0.5
- wheat	807.3	792.1	792.2	+0.0
- coarse grains	1 475.4	1 528.3	1 505.4	-1.5
- rice (milled)	525.7	534.8	543.0	+1.5

Notes: Includes rice in milled terms. Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data.

Despite a recent upward revision of 2.7 million tonnes, global cereal **stocks** ending in 2025 are still expected to decline by 1.9 percent compared to opening levels to 869.3 million tonnes. The global cereal stocks-to-use ratio is expected to decrease from 30.9 percent in 2023/24 to 29.9 percent in 2024/25, still indicating a comfortable global supply situation. World wheat stocks are anticipated to decline by 1.6 percent to 312.8 million tonnes, despite an upward revision of 4.4 million tonnes this month, mostly due to higher imports in Egypt, increased production in the Islamic Republic of Iran and reduced exports from the Russian Federation. By contrast, global coarse grain inventories are further reduced by 3.7 million tonnes and are now forecast to be 4.8 percent below their opening levels. The downgrade is primarily due to lower imports in China (mainland) and reduced domestic

production in Indonesia and the Russian Federation. World rice stocks at the close of 2024/25 marketing seasons are forecast to expand by 3.1 percent year-on-year to a record high of 206 million tonnes. This level stands 2 million tonnes above February expectations, as upgrades to stock forecasts for Cambodia and, especially India, outweighed cutbacks to expected reserves namely in Myanmar.

The global cereal **trade** forecast for 2024/25 is pegged at 484.2 million tonnes, a slight increase of 0.7 million tonnes from the figure in February, but still indicating a 5.6 percent decline from previous season. World wheat trade in 2024/25 (July/June) has been revised down marginally by 0.4 million tonnes since the last report, now expected to be 6.4 percent below its level in 2023/24. This recent monthly revision mostly reflects a cut to the export forecast

<sup>13</sup> For further information on global food markets please see monthly [FAO World Food Situation](#) update and the latest [Food Outlook](#) report.



for the Russian Federation and a downgrade in Türkiye's imports. The forecast for global trade in coarse grains edges upwards fractionally (0.3 million tonnes), driven by higher maize trade prospects due to greater exports from Brazil and larger imports by Türkiye, but it is still projected to contract by 6.7 percent from 2023/24. Upgrades to import prospects for Bangladesh, Madagascar and various other countries have raised FAO's forecast of international trade in rice in 2025 (January–December) by 800 000 tonnes to 59.9 million tonnes, implying a 1.5 percent increase from 2024 and a fresh trade peak.

### Early outlook for 2025 crops

FAO's preliminary forecast for global wheat production in 2025 indicates a modest increase, with world output projected at 796 million tonnes, a near 1 percent rise year-on-year. This growth is largely driven by expected production gains in the European Union, following a decline in 2024. Estimates suggest an increase in sowings, primarily for soft wheat, with most of the expansion centered in France and Germany. The average wheat yield among European Union countries is also expected to rise year on year; however, developing dry conditions in the east and excessive rainfall in the west, particularly in France, may limit these gains. In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the winter wheat area is forecast to rebound after a 2024 reduction caused by overly wet conditions during the autumn planting period, leading to a modest production increase in 2025. In the United States of America, the total wheat area is expected to expand in 2025, driven by an increase in winter sowings and a likely rise in spring wheat acreage, potentially replacing some soybean plantings. Yields are projected to decline moderately year-on-year due to a greater portion of the winter wheat crop facing mild drought conditions compared to 2024. As a result, total wheat production is expected to decrease slightly, reaching 52.5 million tonnes. In Canada, early projections indicate an expansion in wheat plantings, supported by better soil moisture conditions and expectations of strong prices later in the year. Assuming a return to average yields, wheat production is forecast at 35 million tonnes, in line with 2024's output. In the Russian Federation, winter wheat

**Table 2. Wheat production: Leading producers**  
(million tonnes)

	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	2025 fcast
European Union <sup>1</sup>	130.5	133.7	120.0	134.0
China (mainland)	137.1	136.6	140.1	140.5
India	109.8	110.6	113.3	113.5
Russian Federation	88.3	92.8	82.4	80.0
United States of America	48.4	49.1	53.7	52.4
Canada	32.1	32.9	35.0	35.0
Australia	33.3	26.0	31.9	34.0
Ukraine	24.5	22.5	22.4	22.0
Pakistan	27.7	28.2	31.4	28.0
Türkiye	20.1	22.0	20.8	18.0
Argentina	17.3	15.9	18.5	19.5
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	14.3	16.6	16.8	12.4
Kazakhstan	14.1	12.1	15.8	15.0
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	12.9	14.0	11.1	12.4
Egypt	9.4	9.1	9.5	9.5
Other countries	69.8	70.1	69.6	69.8
<b>World</b>	<b>789.7</b>	<b>792.1</b>	<b>792.2</b>	<b>796.0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Data for the European Union prior to the year 2020 includes the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

acreage has declined for a third consecutive year. Combined with low soil moisture levels and thin snow cover, which raises the risk of frost damage, production is forecast to fall by 2 percent year-on-year to 80 million tonnes. Ukraine's 2025 wheat area remains below average due to the ongoing war, which continues to restrict field access, strain finances, and damage infrastructure, reducing profitability of the sector. Rainfall deficits have further weakened yield prospects, and production is projected to decline moderately year-on-year. In India, wheat plantings have reached a record level in 2025, supported by strong price incentives and government subsidies for agricultural inputs. Yields, however, are forecast to decline slightly, keeping production unchanged year-on-year at 113 million tonnes. In China (mainland), mid-February field assessments indicate favourable wheat crop conditions. The crop has recently broken dormancy in northern regions, while in eastern and central parts, it is progressing through the tillering and jointing stages. Production is expected to remain stable year-on-year and above the five-year average at 140 million tonnes. In Pakistan, wheat production is projected to decline to a near-average level in 2025, primarily due to lower yields. This reflects dry conditions that affected rainfed wheat crops and caused irrigation water shortages in northern regions.

In Near East Asia, primarily Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Türkiye, rainfall deficits since late 2024 have curbed plantings and lowered yield expectations. Consequently, in both countries, wheat production is projected to fall in 2025, possibly slipping below the five-year average. In North Africa, total cereal production is anticipated to remain below average in 2025, as poor early-season rainfall delayed plantings and lowered yield potential, particularly in rainfed areas.

South of the equator, a surge in domestic maize prices in Brazil during late 2024 encouraged increased maize plantings for the main season, following below-average sowings of the minor maize crop, which is currently being harvested. Assuming normal weather patterns until the harvest period that starts in June, production expectations remain positive for 2025. In Argentina, dry conditions during sowing and early growth stages have limited yield potential. Coupled with reduced plantings due to concerns over stunt disease (*spiroplasma*) outbreaks, maize production is projected to be below average in 2025. In South Africa, overall maize production is forecast to increase in 2025, supported by expanded white maize acreage, driven by record prices, and a likely rebound in yields following drought-induced declines in 2024.



# LOW-INCOME FOOD-DEFICIT COUNTRIES' FOOD SITUATION OVERVIEW

## Conflicts continue to impair production prospects in several LIFDCs in 2025

Among the low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs),<sup>14</sup> harvesting of the 2025 cereal crop is expected to start from April in Far East Asia and Southern Africa, while plantings will soon begin in Central Africa, East Africa and West Africa.

In *Southern Africa*, following steep production declines in 2024, harvest expectations are more favourable in 2025. This outlook is largely linked to generally beneficial rainfall since January, the mid-point of the main cropping season, which is expected to lead to an upturn in crop yields in 2025. However, rainfall deficits at the start of the season delayed plantings and potentially shortened the growth duration of crops, notably in Madagascar, and this may limit production gains in 2025. In *East Africa*, land preparation for the main season crops is underway, and weather forecasts point to below-average rainfall for most of the subregion, raising some concerns about main season crop production in 2025. Additionally, localized conflicts in Ethiopia and earlier dry conditions in the United Republic of Tanzania have disrupted agricultural activities for the 2025 crops. By contrast, in Rwanda and Burundi, cereal outputs from the minor, and early harvested, 2025A season (there are three cropping seasons per year) were above-average due to favourable weather. In *West Africa*, sowing of the 2025 cereal crops will begin in March, and near-average rainfall amounts are forecast across most cropping zones, supporting an early favourable production outlook in most countries. However, persisting conflicts in several countries are likely to hamper agricultural activities, while in some parts of coastal countries, rainfall is foreseen to be lower-than-average.

In *Far East Asian* and *Near East Asian* countries, generally favourable weather conditions are fostering overall good

**Table 3. Basic facts of low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs) cereal situation**

(million tonnes, rice in milled basis)

	5-year average	2023/24 est.	2024/25 f'cast	Change: 2024/25 over 2023/24 (%)
<b>Cereal production<sup>I</sup></b>	<b>143.6</b>	<b>146.7</b>	<b>148.3</b>	<b>+1.1</b>
<b>Utilization</b>	<b>186.7</b>	<b>194.7</b>	<b>198.9</b>	<b>+2.2</b>
Food use	143.2	152.3	156.5	+2.7
Per caput cereal food use (kg per year)	141.2	142.9	143.2	+0.2
<b>End of season stocks<sup>II</sup></b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>-2.0</b>

<sup>I</sup> Data refer to calendar year of the first year shown.

<sup>II</sup> May not equal the difference between supply and utilization because of differences in individual country marketing years.

**Table 4. Cereal production of LIFDCs**

(million tonnes)

	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024 over 2023 (%)
<b>Africa (34 countries)</b>	<b>109.6</b>	<b>112.2</b>	<b>113.7</b>	<b>+1.4</b>
East Africa	57.2	57.0	59.7	+4.8
Southern Africa	11.8	12.5	10.3	-17.9
West Africa	33.5	35.3	36.3	+2.9
Central Africa	7.0	7.3	7.4	+1.3
<b>Asia (8 countries)</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Central Asia	10.4	11.0	10.8	-2.0
Far East	18.3	18.1	19.0	+5.1
Near East	4.4	4.5	3.8	-16.1
<b>Central America and the Caribbean (2 countries)</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>+2.6</b>
<b>LIFDCs (44 countries)</b>	<b>143.6</b>	<b>146.7</b>	<b>148.3</b>	<b>+1.1</b>

Notes: Includes rice in milled terms. Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

production prospects in 2025, but the persisting difficult socioeconomic circumstances in Afghanistan and the Syrian Arab Republic continue to constrain farmers' capacity to access sufficient inputs. In *Central Asian* countries, reduced rainfall amounts at the start of the season and forecasts indicating a continuation of low precipitation in the spring months are negatively affecting production prospects of the 2025 winter wheat crop.

## Cereal production increases in 2024, underpinned by larger outturns in African LIFDCs

FAO's forecast for aggregate cereal production (including rice in milled terms) of LIFDCs in 2024 stands at 148.3 million tonnes, 3 percent above the five-year average.

The modest increase in 2024 is mostly attributed to good outputs in *East African*

<sup>14</sup> Please see <https://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/lifdc/en/> for further details.



**Table 5. Cereal imports of LIFDCs**  
(thousand tonnes)

	5-year average	2023/24 or 2024	2024/25 or 2025
	Actual imports	Import estimate	Import requirement <sup>1</sup>
<b>Africa (34 countries)</b>	<b>28 798</b>	<b>30 892</b>	<b>33 231</b>
East Africa	13 644	15 142	15 456
Southern Africa	3 337	3 479	4 770
West Africa	9 091	9 393	9 964
Central Africa	2 726	2 878	3 042
<b>Asia (8 countries)</b>	<b>18 276</b>	<b>18 565</b>	<b>18 867</b>
Central Asia	5 321	5 437	5 495
Far East	5 532	5 933	6 073
Near East	7 426	7 195	7 300
<b>Central America and the Caribbean (2 countries)</b>	<b>1 516</b>	<b>1 718</b>	<b>1 627</b>
<b>LIFDCs (44 countries)</b>	<b>48 592</b>	<b>51 174</b>	<b>53 726</b>

Note: Totals computed from unrounded data.

<sup>1</sup> The import requirement is the difference between utilization (food, feed, other uses, exports plus closing stocks) and domestic availability (production plus opening stocks).

and *West African* countries, largely on account of conducive weather conditions that boosted yields. In *East Africa*, there was a notable upturn in production in the United Republic of Tanzania, while in *West Africa* production increases in Sahelian countries were relatively steeper than in coastal countries. In *Southern Africa*, drought conditions, associated with the 2023/24 El Niño event, led to a sharp downturn in production across all countries.

There was a minor increase in aggregate cereal production *Far East Asian*, while outputs declined in the *Near East Asia* countries, notably in the Syrian Arab Republic due to high temperatures and prohibitively high prices of agricultural inputs that limited farmers' ability to purchase essential inputs, contributing to low yields. Harvests increased moderately in *Central Asia*, with conducive weather underpinning average to above-average

yields. In *Central America and the Caribbean*, weather shocks and persisting civil insecurity in Haiti are two key reasons underlying estimates of a below-average output in 2024.

### Import needs up, mainly due to declines in production caused by drought and conflict

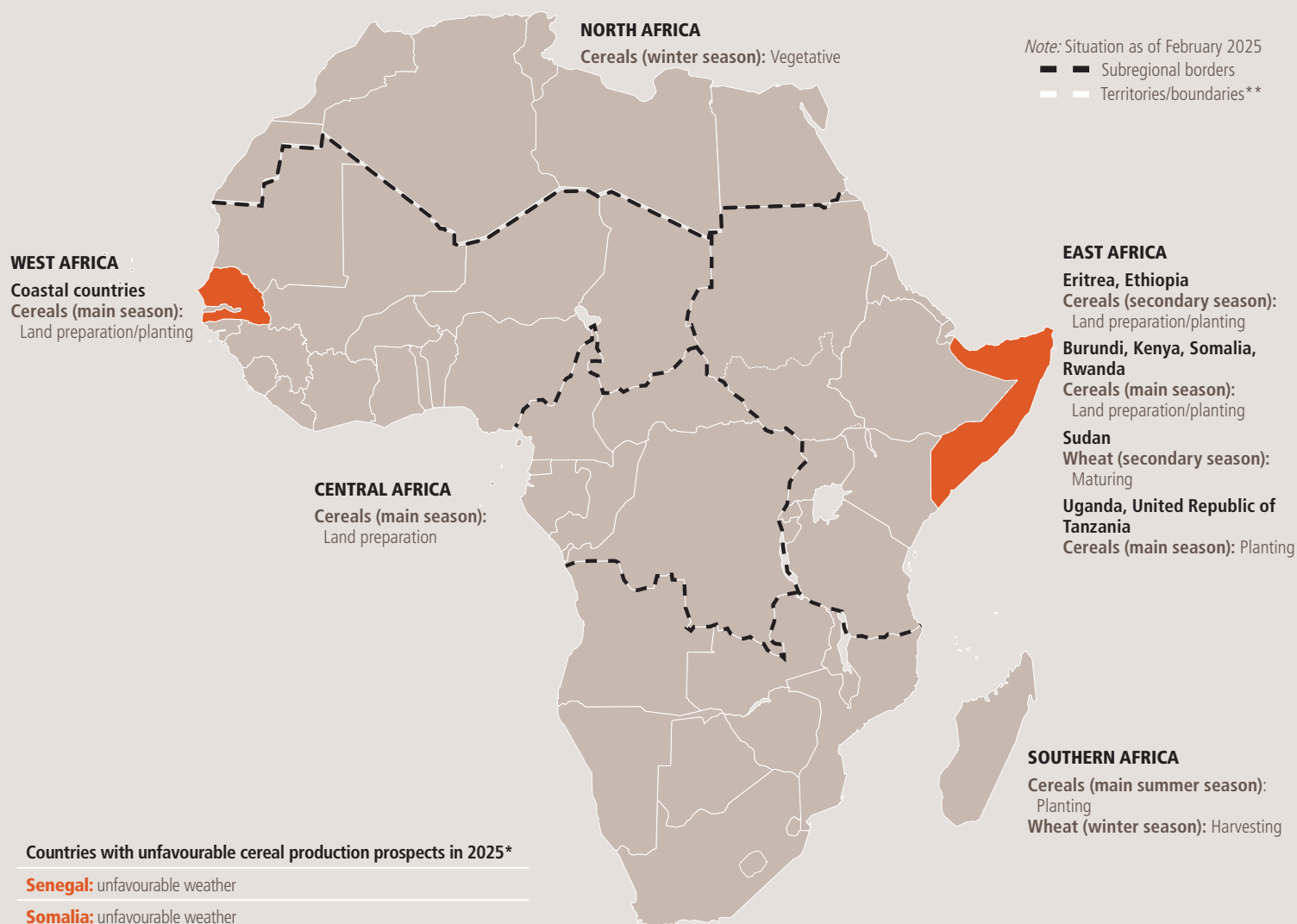
The total cereal import requirement for LIFDCs in the 2024/25 marketing year is forecast at 53.7 million tonnes, approximately 5.1 million tonnes (11 percent) above the five-year average. The increase in import needs is mainly concentrated in *East Africa* and *Southern Africa*.

In *Southern Africa*, import requirements are estimated at 4.8 million tonnes, significantly above the five-year average, primarily due to drought-induced production shortfalls, and also slightly higher than earlier estimates, as countries are bolstering domestic supplies amid some uncertainty over 2025 production. In *East Africa*, Sudan's rising import needs, stemming from conflict-driven agricultural losses in 2023, are a key driver of increased regional import demand. Elsewhere, import requirements are estimated close to average levels and relatively stable year-on-year.



# REGIONAL REVIEWS

## AFRICA



\*\* See Terminology (page 7)

Notes: Final boundary between the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

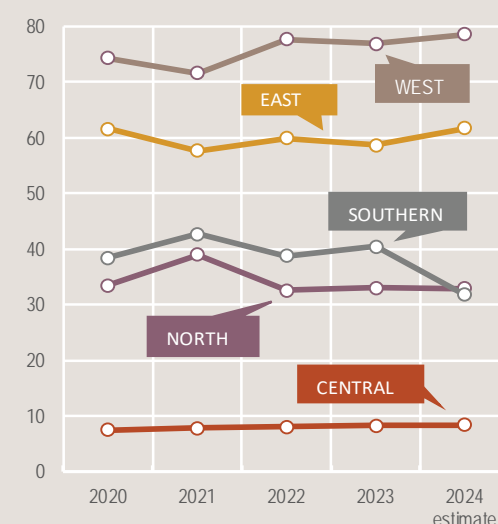
Source: FAO/GIEWS, 2025. *Crop Prospects and Food Situation – Triannual Global Report. No. 1* [Cited 7 March 2025], modified to comply with the United Nations map No. 4045 Rev. 9, December 2022.

### Production overview

Total cereal production in Africa is forecast at 213.2 million tonnes (including rice in paddy terms) in 2024, moderately below the five-average average mainly due to drought-induced output declines in Southern Africa and North Africa. These declines offset production increases in East Africa and West Africa, though conflicts continue to hinder agricultural growth in some countries in both subregions.

Harvesting of the 2025 cereal crops is expected to begin from April onwards in Southern Africa, where a return to average rainfall is boosting production recovery prospects, while prolonged dryness in North Africa is impairing yield expectations for 2025 crops, and curbed planted areas. Planting of the 2025 crops in West Africa, East Africa and Central Africa will start from March.

**Cereal production**  
(million tonnes)





NORTH AFRICA



Dry weather conditions expected to hamper cereal production in 2025

Aggregate cereal production is anticipated at a below-average level in 2025. This outlook reflects poor precipitation at the start of the season, which delayed plantings and has impaired yield prospects, especially in areas where crops are mainly rainfed.

In **Morocco**, below-average cumulative rainfall amounts in November and December 2024 hindered land preparation. This marks the second consecutive year of early-season drought conditions in the country, further challenging farmers with limited planting opportunities and persisting high input costs. Similarly, in **Algeria**, precipitation amounts have been below average since the beginning of the winter cropping season that started in late 2024, with some improvements in parts in January 2025. By contrast, in **Tunisia**, above-average cumulative precipitation from November 2024 to January 2025 in key crop producing regions of Beja, Bizert and Jendouba, improved land preparation and are likely to benefit yield prospects. In **Libya**, some areas received low rainfall, whilst elsewhere heavy floods in December 2024 damaged infrastructure. In **Egypt**, as most of the crops are irrigated, yields remain relatively constant year-to-year. Overall production

prospects for 2025 cereal crops will largely depend on the extent of the planted area, the effectiveness of government policies to support farmers and the level of input costs.

Below-average cereal production in 2024

Subregional 2024 cereal production is estimated at 32.9 million tonnes, 6.2 percent below the five-year average. This decline is largely driven by a sharp drop in **Morocco's** output, which is estimated at 3.2 million tonnes, about 43 percent below the average due to dry weather conditions and high temperatures. By contrast, cereal production for 2024 in **Tunisia** is estimated at 1.5 million tonnes, nearly three times the drought-affected 2023 harvest. The significant rebound is attributed to abundant rainfall throughout the season. In **Egypt**, 2024 cereal production is estimated at a near-average level of 23.5 million tonnes, supported by adequate supply of irrigation water and favourable weather conditions.

Subregional import requirements for the 2024/25 marketing year (July/June) are expected to be over 54 million tonnes, about 13 percent above the average. This is largely due to a significant increase in import needs in **Morocco**, following the poor 2024 production.

Food inflation rates at elevated levels in 2024 and early 2025

In most countries, annual food inflation rates remained elevated during the last months of 2024 and the beginning of 2025. In **Egypt**, since peaking at 70 percent in September 2023, there has been a period of food disinflation through January 2025. But at 20 percent, food inflation rates

remain high due to the regional economic crisis, national currency devaluation and food subsidy cuts. In **Morocco**, food inflation is estimated at about 1 percent in December 2024, having gradually decreased from an all-time high of 21 percent in February 2023. The government's regular wheat import subsidy, effective from 1 January to 30 April 2025, aims to stabilize prices of soft wheat, limiting inflationary pressure and increasing stock availability for bread production. In **Algeria**, food inflation was 4 percent in December 2024, down from 2023's rate of 10 percent. In **Tunisia**, food inflation eased slightly in January 2025, reaching around 7 percent, down from 10 percent in the same month last year. In **Libya**, the annual food inflation rate in December 2024 was 3.5 percent, a slight increase from 2023's level of 3 percent.

Increased cross-border displacements driven by the conflict in the Sudan

As of December 2024, over 877 000 refugees were registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)<sup>15</sup> in **Egypt**, mostly people fleeing from conflict-affected areas in the Sudan. This figure is nearly twice the number of the previous year. Poor livelihoods and challenges for many refugees to enter the labour market, limit their access to public services and healthcare.

According to the UNHCR,<sup>16</sup> as of mid-February 2025, about 240 000 Sudanese refugees have arrived in **Libya** since April 2023. The significant flow of Sudanese refugees is increasing the local demand for health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), cash, food and shelter.

Table 6. North Africa cereal production (million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
North Africa	17.6	16.4	16.3	11.6	10.7	10.5	5.8	5.9	6.1	35.0	33.0	32.9	-0.4
Algeria	2.9	2.5	3.0	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	3.5	4.1	+18.7
Egypt	9.2	9.1	9.5	8.5	8.1	8.2	5.8	5.8	6.1	23.5	23.1	23.8	+3.3
Morocco	4.2	4.2	2.5	1.4	1.4	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	5.7	5.6	3.2	-43.0
Tunisia	1.1	0.5	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.6	1.5	+151.2

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

<sup>15</sup> UNHCR. 2025. [UNHCR Egypt Fact Sheet - December 2024](#). 9 January 2025.  
<sup>16</sup> UNHCR. 2025. [Sudan Situation: Sudanese Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Libya \(as of 9 Feb 2025\)](#). 10 February 2025.



## WEST AFRICA



### Favourable rainfall outlook for 2025 crops, but conflicts continue to weigh on production prospects

Near-average rainfall amounts are forecast across most of the subregion between March and May 2025, supporting an early favourable outlook of the 2025 main cropping season. However, in several countries, persisting conflicts are likely to hamper agricultural activities.

Land preparation for the 2025 main season cereal crops is underway in southern bimodal rainfall areas of countries along the Gulf of Guinea and planting operations are likely to start in March 2025. In the Sahel, planting of the 2025 cereal crops is expected to begin in May 2025. Weather forecasts for the March–May period point to a high likelihood of near-average precipitation over most cropland areas, which is expected to create favourable conditions for the establishment and early development of cereal crops. However, in parts of **Sierra Leone**, central and northern **Liberia** and southern **Côte d'Ivoire**, **Ghana** and **Nigeria**, below-average precipitation amounts are forecast. Furthermore, the persisting conflicts and civil insecurity in the regions of Liptako-Gourma (overlapping

**Burkina Faso**, **Mali** and **the Niger**), Lake Chad and northern **Nigeria** are expected to continue to undermine farmers' productive capacities in 2025.

### Aggregate cereal production in 2024 estimated at an above-average level

The subregion's aggregate cereal production in 2024 is estimated at 78.6 million tonnes, slightly above the 2023 level and about 5 percent above the five-year average, reflecting generally favourable weather conditions in key cropping areas. In addition, in several countries, enhanced government support, including the timely provision of agricultural inputs and credit, as well as improved access to mechanization services, enabled farmers to expand the area planted and boosted yields.

In most countries of the subregion, cereal production in 2024 is estimated at an above-average level, although widespread flooding between June and November 2024 caused serious damage to crops, particularly in the Sahel, and conflicts continued to disrupt agricultural activities. Slightly below-average cereal outputs were estimated in **Nigeria** and **Chad**, due to prolonged dry spells, floods, high prices of agricultural inputs and farmers' limited access to fields due to conflicts. Estimates point to a below-average harvest in **Senegal**, mostly due to severe flooding in areas along the Senegal and Gambia rivers, which resulted in substantial crop losses.

### Prices of coarse grains higher on a yearly basis in several countries

Despite seasonal declines between September 2024 and January 2025, prices of coarse grains remained higher year-on-year in several countries due to

strong local demand, high transport costs and weak national currencies, as well as reduced imports, conflict-related market disruptions and localized production shortfalls in 2024.

In **Burkina Faso**, prices of sorghum fell by 10 to 30 percent between October 2024 and January 2025, while prices of millet followed mixed trends. On a yearly basis, prices of coarse grains were up to 25 percent higher in most markets, reflecting strong domestic demand and reduced imports from Ghana and Benin. In addition, conflict-related market disruptions also contributed to pushing up prices in Burkina Faso as well as in **Mali**, where prices of sorghum and millet were up to 25 and 40 percent, respectively, higher than a year earlier, despite steep declines between October 2024 and January 2025. Elevated transport costs, strong domestic demand and localized cereal production shortfalls in 2024 further pressured prices upward in Mali. In **the Niger**, prices of millet and sorghum were near or below their year-earlier values in January 2025, mostly due to the above-average 2024 cereal output. In **Senegal**, prices of millet, maize and sorghum declined by about 15 percent between September and December 2024, putting them at lower year-on-year levels.

In **Nigeria**, the annual food inflation rate was stable but elevated in December 2024 at about 40 percent, following three consecutive months of increases. The high food prices reflect the weakness of the national currency, high transport costs, a reduced cereal output in 2024 and conflict-related market disruptions. In **Benin**, prices of sorghum and maize remained stable or declined by up to 10 and 20 percent, respectively, between September

Table 7. West Africa cereal production

(million tonnes)

	Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals <sup>1</sup>			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
West Africa	52.5	52.3	53.7	22.1	24.5	24.6	74.7	76.9	78.6	+2.2
Burkina Faso	4.6	4.6	5.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	5.0	5.1	5.8	+13.6
Chad	2.5	2.4	2.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	2.8	2.6	2.7	+0.9
Ghana	3.8	4.3	4.5	1.2	1.5	1.3	4.9	5.8	5.8	-0.0
Mali	7.0	6.9	7.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	9.9	10.0	11.0	+10.6
Niger	5.0	4.9	5.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	5.1	5.0	5.6	+11.9
Nigeria	20.9	19.1	19.2	8.5	8.9	9.2	29.5	28.1	28.5	+1.4

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

<sup>1</sup> Total cereals includes wheat, coarse grains and rice (paddy).



and December 2024. On a yearly basis, prices of sorghum were lower, while prices of maize were almost unchanged. In **Togo**, prices of maize were mostly stable during the same period but remained 10–30 percent above their year-earlier levels, reflecting high transport costs, as well as localized shortfalls in cereal production in 2024. Prices of sorghum showed mixed trends in the last months of 2024 and by December were lower on a yearly basis.

### Critical levels of severe acute food insecurity in the last quarter of 2024

About 35.24 million people (9 percent of the analysed population)<sup>17</sup> were estimated to face severe acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) in the subregion between October and December 2024, according to the November 2024 CH analyses. This marks a deterioration compared to the same period in 2023, when about 31.73 million people (8 percent of the analysed population) were estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. The worsening situation is largely because of persisting conflicts, civil insecurity and macroeconomic challenges, while

widespread flooding in 2024 further aggravated conditions. However, the actual number of people experiencing severe acute food insecurity in the last quarter of 2024 is expected to be higher than what is reported above, reflecting the absence of CH analyses for that period in **Burkina Faso** and **Ghana**; no analysis were carried out for the October–December period in **Liberia** in either 2023 or 2024.

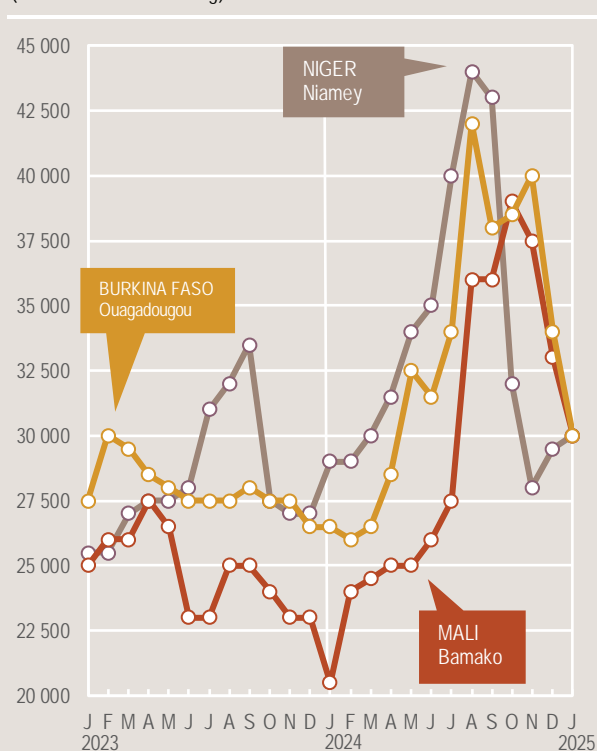
In **Nigeria**, nearly 25.1 million people were estimated to face severe acute food insecurity between October and December 2024, including about 987 000 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency). In 2024, the number of violent events increased significantly compared to the previous year. The North-East, North-West and North-Central zones remained the most affected, where the conflict caused the internal displacement of about 3.4 million people and severely constrained the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Acute food insecurity has been exacerbated by flooding, which has disrupted the livelihoods of about 1.3 million people, mostly in northern regions, while the persisting macroeconomic crisis has affected

vulnerable households across the country. In **Chad**, nearly 2.9 million people were estimated to be facing severe acute food insecurity, including about 457 300 Sudanese refugees, Chadian returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), with over 297 500 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency). Returnees and refugees are mostly hosted in Ouaddaï, Wadi Fira, Sila and Ennedi Est regions, where sustained pressure on local livelihoods and food stocks has increased humanitarian needs, while funding shortfalls have constrained humanitarian assistance. Concerns also exist regarding the food security situation of households in conflict-affected areas, particularly in Lac Region, and for about 1.9 million

people affected by floods across the country. In **the Niger**, about 1.5 million people were estimated to face severe acute food insecurity, including over 59 400 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency). Attacks by non-state armed groups (NSAGs) in Tillabéri, Diffa, Tahoua and Maradi regions continued to severely disrupt livelihoods, with frequent cases of abandonment of agricultural fields. Additionally, the number of IDPs in the country rose significantly in 2024, partly caused by the recent floods that affected about 1.5 million people. Macroeconomic challenges have constrained access to food nationwide. In **Mali**, about 901 900 people were estimated to be severely acute food insecure, including over 19 200 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency), reflecting persisting conflict in northern and eastern regions. In Ménaka Region, over 30 percent of the local population was estimated to face severe acute food insecurity and several localities remained inaccessible due to the conflict situation. Across the country, floods affected 370 000 people and high food prices have worsened access to food. According to the latest available CH analysis, in **Burkina Faso**, about 2.7 million people were estimated to be severely acute food insecure during the June to August 2024 lean season period, including over 423 300 people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency). Despite a year-on-year decline in the number of violent events in 2024, conflict remained the key driver of acute food insecurity, severely disrupting livelihoods and food markets, especially in communes besieged by NSAGs. Furthermore, high food prices constrained access to food across the country, while flooding affected about 17 000 people in various localities.

According to early projections of the November 2024 CH analyses, about 47.7 million people are expected to be severely acute food insecure in the subregion during the 2025 June to August lean season, including nearly 2.72 million people in CH Phase 4 (Emergency) and about 2 600 people in CH Phase 5 (Catastrophe) in the Ménaka region of Mali. Updated CH projections for this period, along with estimates for the March–May 2025 period, are expected to be released in April 2025.

Millet prices in selected West African markets  
(CFA franc BCEAO/100 kg)



<sup>17</sup> The aggregate figures from the November 2024 CH analyses mentioned in this report include food security data from a separate analysis conducted among Sudanese refugees, Chadian returnees and IDPs in Chad.



CENTRAL AFRICA



Conflicts, displacements and high input prices continuing to affect agricultural production

Sowing of the 2025 secondary season maize crop is underway, with overall favourable weather conditions across most of the subregion since December 2024. The main harvest is expected in the second quarter of 2025, with weather forecasts between March and June pointing to near-average rainfall, bolstering yield prospects in areas not affected by conflict.

An increase in the intensity of the conflict and a rise in the number of displaced persons in the Kivu Region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo from late January 2025, are expected to negatively impact the country’s food security and cereal production, particularly the 2025 secondary season maize crop. While some planting may have been completed before the escalation of the violence, the conflict is likely to disrupt ongoing agricultural activities, such as farmers’ access to inputs and markets. In addition, insecurity is expected to hinder domestic food trade between Kivu to other regions, worsening market stability and food availability. In the Central African Republic and

the southwest regions of Cameroon, persistent insecurity is also anticipated to continue affecting agricultural activities, limiting farmers’ ability to cultivate and access markets.

Elevated prices of fertilizers and improved seed varieties, both largely imported, are constraining farmers’ access to agricultural inputs. This results in low application rates, negatively impacting yields and curbing plantings.

Prices of imported food remain at high levels

Domestic prices of imported food products, such as rice, wheat flour and vegetable oil, remained high during the last quarter of 2024. On average, rice prices were nearly 20 percent higher than a year earlier in Cameroon, reflecting elevated international market prices and weak national currencies. Additionally, floods between September and October 2024 reduced local production and contributed to the surge in commodity prices.

Over 31 million people acutely food insecure in early 2025

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the ongoing conflict in Kivu Region continues to drive large-scale displacement and affect agricultural production and markets, worsening already critical levels of acute food insecurity

Over 31 million people are estimated to be facing severe acute food insecurity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cameroon and the Central African Republic, representing about one-quarter of the aggregate population.

Ongoing conflicts and persistent insecurity, mostly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, continue to cause population displacements and widespread disruption of agricultural and market activities, negatively affecting food availability and access. The high food prices and transport costs, coupled with limited employment opportunities, have significantly reduced households’ purchasing power, especially in urban areas, where most households rely on markets to access food.

In total, about 25.5 million people (22 percent of the analysed population) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are projected to face IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or worse levels of acute food insecurity between January and June 2025, including 3.3 million people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). However, given the recent escalation of the conflict in Kivu Region, with new population displacements and high prices of staple food, acute food insecurity levels are likely to worsen.

In Cameroon, about 3 million people (over 10 percent of the total population) were estimated to be facing severe acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 [Crisis] or above) between October and December 2024. This mainly results from persistent armed violence in Far North, Northwest and Southwest regions as well as flooding in Far North that caused population displacements.

In the Central African Republic, 2.5 million people (about 45 percent of the total population) are forecast to be in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and above between April and August 2025, with over 430 000 people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency).

Table 8. Central Africa cereal production (million tonnes)

	Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals <sup>1</sup>			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
Central Africa	5.9	6.0	6.1	2.0	2.2	2.3	7.8	8.2	8.3	+1.2
Cameroon	3.4	3.5	3.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	3.7	3.8	3.9	+1.8
Central African Republic	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	+4.3
Democratic Republic of the Congo	2.3	2.3	2.3	1.6	1.8	1.8	3.9	4.1	4.1	+0.5

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.  
<sup>1</sup>Total cereals includes wheat, coarse grains and rice (paddy).



EAST AFRICA



Poor October-December rains affect crops and livestock in Somalia, eastern Kenya and southern Ethiopia

The subregion’s aggregate cereal production is estimated at 61.7 million tonnes in 2024, 5 percent above the five-year average, mainly a result of above-average main season harvests gathered in mid-2024, with an exceptionally large cereal outturn in the United Republic of Tanzania. For second season crops, with the bulk of crops harvested in early 2025, production outcomes are mixed reflecting an erratic spatial distribution of rains.

Outputs from the 2024 secondary season crops are expected at well below-average levels in **Somalia** and in **Kenya**, where total cumulative rainfall amounts were up to about 60 percent below the average, causing reduced plantings, widespread germination failures and crop wilting. By

contrast, in bimodal rainfall areas covering most of **Uganda** and northeastern and coastal parts of **the United Republic of Tanzania**, cumulative rainfall amounts between October and December 2024 were average to above average and benefited vegetation condition and yields. In **the Sudan**, harvesting of sorghum and millet was completed in January 2025, while the minor irrigated wheat crop is about to be harvested. Cereal production is expected to be higher than in the previous year, mainly on account of a better performance of the June-September 2024 rainy season, which boosted yields. In **South Sudan**, harvesting of 2024 cereal crops was also completed by January. According to preliminary findings of the 2024 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM),<sup>18</sup> cereal production in 2024 is estimated well above the average level, due to an increase in plantings, reflecting the gradual improvement of the security situation and a good performance of seasonal rains, which had a favourable impact on yields. Despite widespread floods, damage to crops was limited, as floods occurred late in the cropping season, from July onwards, when crops were less vulnerable to water excess.

The October–December rains were below average also over several pastoral areas of southern **Ethiopia**, central and northern **Somalia** and northern and eastern **Kenya**, with the most significant rainfall deficits recorded in central Somalia, where they

hampered the regeneration of pasture and water resources, with negative consequence on livestock body conditions.

**Land preparation for 2025 main season cereal crops is underway**  
According to the latest seasonal weather forecast by the Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF),<sup>19</sup> below-average rainfall amounts are expected between March and May 2025 over most of the subregion, with above-average rainfall amounts forecast only over **the United Republic of Tanzania** and eastern **Uganda**. This weather outlook is denting production prospects of the 2025 main season crops in several countries and given the scale and severity of the acute food insecurity situation in **Somalia**, southern **Ethiopia** and northeastern **Kenya**, a further potential shock raises the risk of worsening an already serious food insecurity situation.

Land preparation of the 2025 main season cereal crops is underway in the major growing areas of Central, Rift Valley and Western provinces of **Kenya** (*long-rains* season), in southern and central **Somalia** (*Gu* season) and in bimodal rainfall areas of southern **South Sudan** and **Uganda**. In **Ethiopia**, planting of the secondary *Belg* season crops is currently underway in eastern Amhara, eastern Oromia, southern Tigray and northeastern regions, and northeastern areas of the former

Table 9. East Africa cereal production  
(million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Total cereals <sup>1</sup>			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
East Africa	6.7	6.6	6.7	47.3	47.3	49.3	59.0	58.7	61.7	+5.2
Ethiopia <sup>11</sup>	5.6	5.8	5.8	23.1	22.8	22.9	29.0	28.9	29.0	+0.4
Kenya	0.4	0.3	0.3	4.0	4.7	4.4	4.5	5.2	5.0	-4.4
Uganda	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4	5.2	5.3	4.7	5.5	5.6	+1.4
United Republic of Tanzania	0.1	0.1	0.1	7.8	8.3	9.3	11.8	12.0	13.9	+15.9

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

<sup>1</sup> Total cereals include wheat, coarse grains and rice (paddy).

<sup>11</sup> Official production estimates for Ethiopia by the Ethiopian Statistics Service from 2020 onwards do not include Tigray Region.

<sup>18</sup> FAO. 2024. [Special Report – 2023 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission \(CFSAM\) to the Republic of South Sudan](#). 16 May 2024. CFSAMs Special Reports, 02/2024. Rome.

<sup>19</sup> ICPAC. 2025. [Statement from the 69th Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum \(GHACOF69\)](#).



northeastern SNNP Region. In some areas of Amhara and Oromia regions, clashes between armed groups are causing localized disruption in planting operations. In central and southern unimodal rainfall areas of **the United Republic of Tanzania**, where the major *Msimu* harvest will be gathered between May and July 2025, below-average rains in November and December 2024 affected crop planting and establishment in several western and southern key-cropping areas. In these same areas, although above-average precipitation was received in January 2025, vegetation conditions as of early February were still below average. The performance of seasonal rains during the remainder of the growing season will be crucial. In **Rwanda** and **Burundi**, harvesting of the 2025A season crops concluded in January and crop outputs are estimated at above-average levels. The good outturns are primarily the result of above-average rainfall during the *short-rains* season after a slow initial start of seasonal precipitation.

Prices of coarse grains at exceptionally high levels in the Sudan and South Sudan

In **the Sudan** and **South Sudan**, cereal prices continue to be at exceptionally high levels, underpinned by the ongoing conflict in the Sudan and by severe macroeconomic

difficulties, including currency weakness, in both countries. Prices are also above their year-earlier levels in **Somalia** due to a tight supply situation, while in **Kenya**, **Uganda** and in **the United Republic of Tanzania**, maize prices, despite increasing in recent months, are still lower year-on-year due to adequate domestic availability.

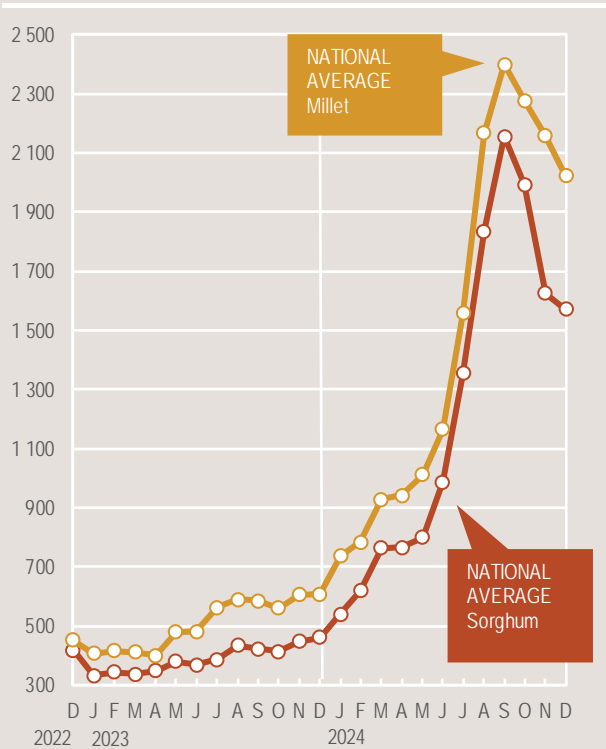
In **the Sudan**, prices of domestically-produced millet and sorghum declined by about 10 and 20 percent, respectively, between October and December 2024, as newly-harvested 2024 crops increased market availability. Despite the recent declines, prices are at elevated levels due to the impact of the ongoing conflict, which resulted in trade disruptions causing reduced market availability, and in December 2024, prices of millet and sorghum were about five times their pre-conflict levels in March 2023. In **South Sudan's** capital, Juba, prices of maize and sorghum remained firm between August and December 2024 at near-record to record levels. Against a backdrop of severe macroeconomic challenges, prices are underpinned by a sharp depreciation of the national currency since early 2024, mainly due to a substantial reduction of oil exports caused by damages to the pipelines passing through the Sudan. In **Kenya**, wholesale prices of maize seasonally increased between 15 and 55 percent from September 2024 and January 2025, but

remained 10-20 percent lower year-on-year due to adequate domestic availability. In **Somalia**, prices of locally-produced sorghum and maize increased by 10–35 percent between October and December 2024, following seasonal patterns. Prices in December 2024 were up to 30 percent above their year-earlier levels, due to a tight supply situation. In **Uganda**, the national average price of maize seasonally increased by about 15 percent between September and November 2024, and levelled off in December as the second harvest increased market availability. Prices in December 2024 were slightly below their year-earlier levels, mainly due to adequate carryover stocks. In **the United Republic of Tanzania**, the national average price of maize unseasonally increased by about 20 percent between June and December 2024, mainly due to sustained export demand from Southern African countries, where cereal 2024 outputs were sharply reduced by drought. However, despite the recent increases, prices remained 15 percent lower on a yearly basis, due to ample domestic availability.

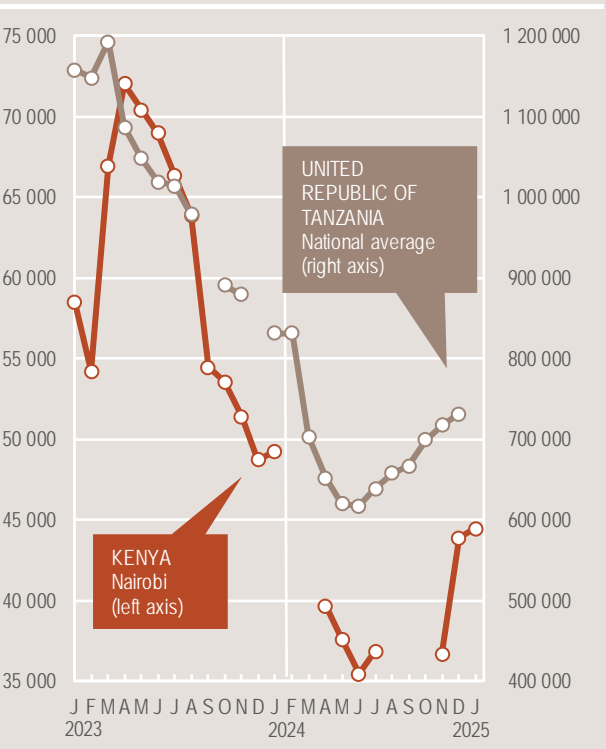
Famine reported in several areas of the Sudan due to the ongoing conflict

High levels and prevalence of acute food insecurity are reported in most countries of the subregion. **The Sudan** and

Retail prices of maize and sorghum in the Sudan (Sudanese pound/kg)



Wholesale prices of maize in selected East African markets (Kenya shilling/tonne) (Tanzanian shilling/tonne)



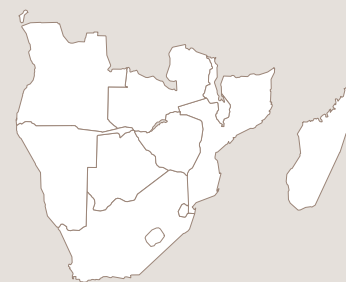


**South Sudan** are of particular concern, as severe acute food insecurity affects about half of the population.

In **the Sudan**, the ongoing conflict has severely disrupted livelihoods, paralysed economic activities and triggered large-scale population displacements. According to the latest IPC analysis, about 24.6 million people, more than half of the population, are projected to face IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or worse levels of acute food insecurity between December 2024 and May 2025. This figure includes about 8.1 million people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 637 000 people facing IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) levels of acute food insecurity. Famine conditions (IPC Phase 5 [Catastrophe]) have been detected in ten areas in North Darfur, West Kordofan and South Kordofan states. In addition, there is a risk of famine in 17 additional areas in North Darfur, East Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, Al Jazirah and Khartoum states. In **South Sudan**, approximately 6.1 million people, about 45 percent of the total population, are estimated to face severe acute food insecurity between December 2024 and March 2025. This figure, which includes almost 31 000 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe) among returnees from the Sudan spread across the country, is 5 percent higher than the in same period of the previous year, mainly due to a deepening economic crisis resulting in soaring food prices. In **Ethiopia**, according to the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan,<sup>20</sup> about 15.8 million people were estimated to need emergency food assistance during the lean period between July and September 2024.

The difficult food security situation was mainly the result of the lingering impact of past droughts in northern areas as well as floods and intercommunal conflict which caused large-scale displacement and disruption of livelihoods across the country. The food security situation has generally improved since September 2024 as newly-harvested main *Meher* crops increased domestic food availability. However, in southern and southeastern pastoral areas, an increase of levels and prevalence of food insecurity is reported in early 2025 as the poor October–December rains constrained the regeneration of rangeland resources, with a negative impact on livestock body condition and on the availability of livestock products during the January–February 2025 dry season. In arid and semi-arid lands of **Kenya**, covering about 80 percent of the country, 1.7 million (about 11 percent of the population) were estimated to be acutely food insecure between October 2024 and January 2025, about 13 percent above the same period of the previous year, mainly due to the poor performance of the 2024 October–December rainy season in pastoral and marginal agriculture areas. For similar reasons, in **Somalia**, 4.4 million people (23 percent of the analysed population) are projected to face severe acute food insecurity between April and June 2025, about 30 percent higher year-on-year. The worsening of the food security situation is due to a faster-than-normal depletion of household food stocks and of rangeland resources following a poor performance of the October–December *Deyr* rainy season and its negative impact on crop and livestock production.

## SOUTHERN AFRICA



### Cereal production to rebound in 2025, despite early season dryness

Early-season dry weather conditions delayed plantings and impeded early growth of the 2025 cereal crops in several countries. However, rainfall improved from January 2025 across the subregion and, with favourable conditions expected to continue, yields are foreseen to rebound from the drought-reduced levels of 2024. Nonetheless, the lingering impact of early-season dryness and high temperatures are containing yield expectations, keeping 2025 cereal production expectations at near-average levels in 2025.

In **South Africa**, the largest cereal producer in the subregion, after a drought-reduced harvest in 2024, cereal production in 2025 is expected to recover to near-average levels. Farmers expanded the area planted with white maize, driven by record-high prices, but the area with yellow maize has declined. Maize yields are forecast to return to average levels, assuming favourable weather conditions continue until the harvest period starting in May 2025. In **Malawi**, **Zambia** and

**Table 10. Southern Africa cereal production**

(million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
<b>Southern Africa</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>38.1</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>-21.5</b>
excl. South Africa	0.5	0.8	0.8	14.7	15.5	10.3	4.8	5.2	5.3	20.0	21.5	16.4	-23.7
Madagascar	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.3	4.4	4.8	5.0	4.7	5.1	5.2	+2.8
Malawi	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	3.7	3.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	4.1	3.8	3.4	-11.1
Mozambique	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.2	1.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.4	2.4	2.1	-13.6
South Africa	2.0	2.1	2.0	16.0	17.0	13.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.1	19.0	15.4	-19.1
Zambia	0.2	0.3	0.2	3.1	3.3	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.0	3.3	3.7	1.9	-48.8
Zimbabwe	0.3	0.5	0.5	1.9	2.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	2.8	1.3	-53.4

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

<sup>20</sup> OCHA. 2024. [Ethiopia: Humanitarian Response Plan 2024 \(February 2024\)](#). 26 February 2024.



**Zimbabwe**, low rainfall in November and December 2024, during the optimal planting period, negatively impacted plantings and early crop development in key cereal-producing regions. In **Zimbabwe**, poor early rains have reportedly led farmers to shift cultivation towards sorghum and millet, reducing plantings of maize which is generally more sensitive to water deficits. Although rainfall levels improved from January 2025 onwards, cereal crops are not expected to fully recover from the negative effects on yields of the early-season dryness and production in 2025 is likely to remain at average to below-average levels. Localized outbreaks of Fall Army worm have also been reported in Malawi and are impairing yield prospects in heavily infested areas. In **Angola**, dry weather conditions since November 2024 persisted through January 2025 in central cereal-producing areas, curbing maize production prospects. However, in southern provinces, where millet and sorghum are primary crops, seasonal rains have been favourable, boosting 2025 production. **Madagascar** has been particularly affected by dry conditions in 2024/25, especially in eastern areas. Higher-than-average temperatures have worsened the impact of reduced rainfall, delaying plantings by several weeks. As a result, paddy production, the country's primary cereal crop, is expected to decline to a near-average level in 2025.

In **Mozambique**, weather conditions have generally been beneficial for the 2025 cereal crop. However, the ongoing conflict in northern Cabo Delgado province has disrupted access to agricultural inputs and, in some cases, farmland, thereby impairing 2025 production prospects. Crop conditions in **Botswana**, **Eswatini**, **Lesotho** and **Namibia** point to average harvests in 2025.

**Escalating import needs, amid tight export availabilities in 2024/25**

The record-breaking El Niño drought has sharply increased maize import needs for 2024/25 (generally May/April) while tightening export supplies, necessitating imports from outside the subregion at levels last seen after the 2015/16 El Niño event.

Subregional maize import requirements are estimated at 3.8 million tonnes in 2024/25, more than double the five-year average. The largest share of this increase is attributed to Zambia, which has shifted from a net exporter to a net importer of maize. Other countries with sizeable increases in maize import needs include Angola, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Wheat and rice imports are expected to remain at near-average levels in 2024/25.

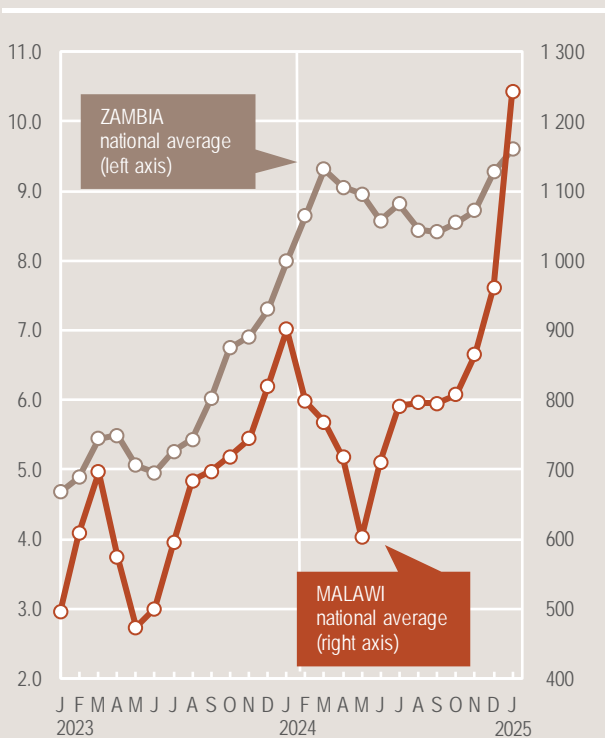
maize had been imported from outside of the subregion. Small quantities of white maize, less widely produced than yellow maize worldwide, were imported from the United States of America to South Africa, bolstering domestic supply, amid strong export demand for white maize from neighbouring countries.

**Maize prices hit record highs in early 2025**

Nominal prices of maize continued to climb in 2025, reaching new record highs. The steep price increases have been driven mainly by tight domestic supplies and, in some countries, by inflationary pressure due to exchange rate depreciations.

In **South Africa**, wholesale prices of white and yellow maize grain continued the 2024 increasing trend into early 2025, reaching new record highs in January. However, improved weather conditions from late January bolstered production prospects of the 2025 maize crop and triggered a precipitous decline in prices in early February. They still, however, remained well above year-earlier values, reflecting the effects of the reduced domestic harvest in 2024 and strong regional export demand. In **Botswana**, **Eswatini**, **Lesotho** and **Namibia**, maize meal prices were higher year-on-year at the end of 2024 (latest available data). This reflects the still elevated maize prices in South Africa, the countries' main trading partner, as well as the low domestic production in 2024. If the recent decline in maize prices in South Africa continues, the upward pressure on maize meal prices in these countries is expected to ease. In **Malawi** and **Zambia**, maize grain prices reached new record highs in January 2025, with a sharp 30 percent month-on-month increase registered in Malawi, one of the steepest in the last decade. This price surge was primarily driven by the severe El Niño-induced production losses, while currency depreciation has fuelled general inflationary pressures, raising costs along the agrifood supply chains. In **Zimbabwe**, currency instability and the drought-reduced 2024 harvest have been key drivers of food price inflation throughout 2024. By January 2025, the blended monthly food inflation rate (combining price changes for products denominated in national currency and United States dollar terms) rose to 13 percent from an average of 8 percent in the last quarter of 2024.

Maize grain prices in selected Southern African markets  
(Zambian kwacha/kg) (Malawi kwacha/kg)



Maize exports from the subregion are estimated at a below-average level in 2024/25. South Africa is the only source of maize given the significant shortfalls in production in other key exporting countries, primarily Zambia. As of December 2024, South Africa had exported about 2.3 million tonnes of maize, of which 65 percent is white maize (used as food), with Zimbabwe being the primary recipient. To bridge the subregional maize supply gap, imports are being sourced from Argentina and Brazil, with small volumes also from Poland, Ukraine and India, mainly shipped to Angolan and South African ports. By December 2024, over 0.5 million tonnes of yellow



### **Drought and high food prices worsen acute food insecurity at the start of 2025**

According to results from the latest IPC analyses, the El Niño-induced drought in 2024 has led to a sharp increase in acute food insecurity in 2024/25. Reduced agricultural production has tightened food availability, especially for rural households depending on agriculture for their livelihoods. Additionally, high food prices are eroding households' purchasing power, constraining their access to food.

In **Zambia**, an estimated 5.8 million people are projected to face IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or higher levels of acute food insecurity between October 2024 and March 2025, the highest number on record, reflecting

the severe drought conditions in 2024. In **Namibia**, about 1.25 million people are expected to experience acute food insecurity during the same period, nearly double the previous year's figure and the highest on record. Acute food insecurity numbers have also increased in **Eswatini**, **Lesotho** and **Malawi**, though they remain below the peak levels experienced during the 2016 El Niño event. In **Madagascar**, slightly less than 2 million people are facing IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) levels of acute food insecurity between January and April 2025. This figure represents 18 percent of the analysed population, a reduction compared to the 22 percent estimated during the same period in 2024. The moderate improvement is underpinned by significant humanitarian

and development interventions in the south and southeast, where food insecurity rates have been persistently high in previous years. While an IPC analysis for **Zimbabwe** is unavailable, indications suggest a steep rise in levels of acute food insecurity due to the negative impact of weather shocks on crop production and persistently high food prices.

If crop production improves in 2025 and food prices ease in response, food security conditions could stabilize and potentially decrease later in the year. However, in areas still experiencing adverse weather conditions, such as **Madagascar**, and in conflict-affected regions in **Mozambique**, high levels of acute food insecurity are expected to persist.



# REGIONAL REVIEWS

## ASIA AND PACIFIC ISLANDS



### Countries with unfavourable cereal production prospects in 2025\*

**Myanmar:** unfavourable weather conditions, limited access to agricultural inputs, conflict

\*/\*\* See Terminology ([page 7](#))

Notes: Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

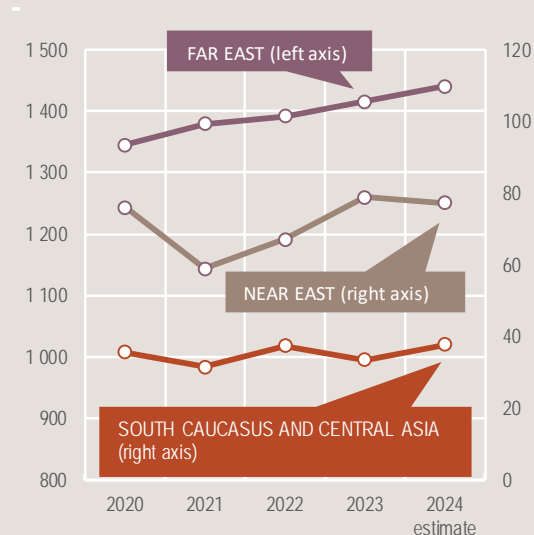
Source: FAO/GIEWS, 2025. *Crop Prospects and Food Situation – Triannual Global Report. No. 1.* [Cited 7 March 2025], modified to comply with the United Nations map No. 4651 Rev. 1, April 2023.

### Production overview

Cereal production continued to grow in Asia in 2024, with the output pegged at 1 556 million tonnes (including rice in paddy terms), 5 percent up on the five-year average. Larger cereal harvests in Far East Asian countries underpin most of the growth in 2024, although below-average harvests were estimated in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Timor-Leste, due to unfavourable weather conditions. Aggregate cereal production in Near East Asia remained almost stable year-on-year in 2024, while Kazakhstan's bumper wheat crop lifted Central Asia's overall output.

Harvesting of the 2025 wheat crop is anticipated to begin in April 2025, with a bumper crop expected in Far East Asia, supported by increased plantings and favourable weather that is boosting yield prospects. Persistent dryness in Near East Asia is limiting yield potential in the leading producers.

### Cereal production (million tonnes)





FAR EAST



Favourable production prospects for 2025 wheat crops

Production prospects for the 2025 wheat crops are favourable across the subregion, but below-average precipitation and limited irrigation water supply have affected crops in parts of India, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Harvesting of the mostly irrigated 2025 winter wheat crops is expected to take place between April and June, and production prospects in most countries are generally favourable. The subregion’s total area planted is estimated to be above the five-year average, driven by strong domestic demand for wheat-based products and government incentive measures in some countries. In **India**, the area planted with wheat is officially estimated at record 32.4 million hectares, supported by government incentives, including a minimum support price for the wheat crop and subsidies to purchase agricultural inputs. Weather conditions

were overall conducive for crop production, except in parts of the important wheat producing states of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, where below-average precipitation amounts between November 2024 and January 2025 affected crops. In **China (mainland)**, field assessments from mid-February 2025 indicated favourable growing conditions for the wheat crop, which has recently broken dormancy in northern parts of the country, while it is already at tillering to jointing stages in the eastern and central parts. In **Pakistan**, despite well below-average cumulative precipitation amounts between October 2024 and January 2025, remote-sensing vegetation conditions in the main wheat cropping areas were above-average in early February 2025 owing to sufficient supply of irrigation water. However, dry weather conditions affected wheat crops in rainfed areas, which account for about 20 percent of the total plantings, and in some minor irrigated areas in northern parts of the country due to shortage of irrigation water resulting from the low rainfall amounts. In **Afghanistan**, after a slow start of seasonal rains, average precipitation amounts from January to mid-February 2025 are expected to improve soil moisture reserves for winter wheat crops which are expected to break dormancy and resume growth in mid-March. However, rainfall deficits persisted in some northern producing areas, impairing crop development.

Cereal output in 2024 forecast at above-average level

The 2024 subregional aggregate cereal output is forecast at above average 1 441 million tonnes (rice in paddy equivalent), reflecting bumper harvests of main season crops in the leading producers and favorable prospects for secondary crops, which are expected to be harvested in the first half of 2025. These increases are expected to more than offset foreseen below-average harvests in **Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar** and **Timor-Leste**, where crops have been affected by unfavourable weather conditions.

Production of paddy, the major staple crop in the subregion, is forecast at above average 724 million tonnes, on expectations of bumper outputs in **Cambodia, India, Pakistan, Thailand** as well as in **Bangladesh**, where, despite severe flood-related crop losses in eastern parts of the country, bumper yields supported a near-record production. In **Viet Nam, China (mainland), the Philippines** and **Sri Lanka**, paddy production is forecast near average. Below-average outputs are expected in **Indonesia, Malaysia** and **Timor-Leste** as crops were affected by El Niño-related dryness as well as in **Myanmar**, where yields were constrained by limited access to inputs and the negative effects of the Typhoon Yagi last September. In **Nepal**, the paddy output

Table 11. Far East cereal production  
(million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
Far East	279.3	284.7	294.7	393.3	415.1	421.9	698.3	716.0	724.1	1 370.9	1 415.8	1 440.7	+1.8
Afghanistan	4.4	4.3	5.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	5.4	5.3	6.0	+14.1
Bangladesh	1.1	1.2	1.2	4.1	4.6	5.2	57.2	60.6	60.2	62.4	66.3	66.5	+0.3
Cambodia	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.5	1.4	11.7	12.9	14.0	12.7	14.4	15.4	+7.3
China (mainland)	135.8	136.6	140.1	281.8	298.6	304.5	209.9	206.6	207.5	627.5	641.8	652.2	+1.6
India	107.9	110.6	113.3	52.9	57.2	57.7	193.9	206.7	214.2	354.6	374.4	385.2	+2.9
Japan	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	10.4	10.1	10.2	11.8	11.5	11.5	-0.2
Myanmar	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.4	2.4	2.4	27.4	28.7	27.7	30.0	31.2	30.1	-3.5
Nepal	2.1	2.1	2.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	5.5	5.7	6.0	10.9	11.1	11.3	+1.6
Pakistan	26.3	28.2	31.4	9.9	10.3	10.0	12.7	14.8	15.2	48.9	53.3	56.6	+6.2
Philippines	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2	8.4	8.3	19.6	19.6	19.7	27.8	28.0	28.0	+0.0
Republic of Korea	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	5.0	4.9	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.0	-3.2
Sri Lanka	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.9	4.8	4.9	+2.4
Thailand	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	5.1	5.2	32.0	33.0	33.4	36.9	38.2	38.5	+1.0
Viet Nam	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	4.4	4.4	43.3	43.5	43.5	47.8	47.9	47.9	-0.1

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.



in 2024 is forecast at a level close to the five-year average. According to the recent FAO Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM)<sup>21</sup> floods, which occurred between June and September 2024, caused localized crop losses.

Production of coarse grains, mostly maize, is forecast at 422 million tonnes, about 7 percent above the five-year average, driven by large plantings owing to strong demand by the feed industry. Bumper maize outputs are forecast in the subregion's main producing countries, including **Bangladesh, China (mainland), India, the Philippines** and **Thailand**. By contrast, below-average outputs are expected in **Viet Nam** and **Pakistan**, due to reduced sowings as farmers opted to cultivate more profitable vegetables and cash crops, and in **Timor-Leste, Malaysia** and **Indonesia**, where dry weather conditions reduced yields in key maize producing areas. The subregional 2024 wheat harvest, completed last June, is estimated at a record high of 295 million tonnes.

### Cereal exports forecast above the five-year average in 2024/25

In the 2024/25 trade year, subregional cereal exports, mostly rice, are forecast at an above-average level of 59 million tonnes (rice in milled terms) largely reflecting an anticipated increase in rice exports by India, while cereal imports are forecast at an average level.

Exports of rice are forecast at 50.3 million tonnes in the 2025 calendar year. The total subregional cereal import requirements in the 2024/25 marketing year are forecast at an average 167.5 million tonnes. Coarse grain imports are forecast at below average 85.1 million tonnes, due to the low demand from **China (mainland)**, where increasing local needs are expected to be covered by ample carryover stocks from high imports in 2023/24 and the above-average 2024 domestic production. Rice imports are forecast at 17.6 million tonnes in the calendar year 2025, while wheat imports are forecast at an average level of 60.3 million tonnes.

### Domestic rice prices above year-earlier levels in most countries

Between November 2024 and January 2025, domestic prices of rice were stable or declined, but remained at high levels, while prices of wheat showed mixed trends and were lower year-on-year, except in India where they reached record level.

Despite some seasonal declines in recent months,

domestic prices of rice remained at high levels in January 2025 in **Indonesia, Nepal** and **Timor-Leste**, driven by strong domestic demand and below-average 2024 outputs. In **the Philippines**, domestic rice prices remained at elevated levels throughout 2024 and early 2025, prompting the government to declare a food security emergency on rice on 3 February 2025. The declaration

Rice retail prices in selected Far East countries  
(Philippine peso/kg) (Indian rupee/kg)

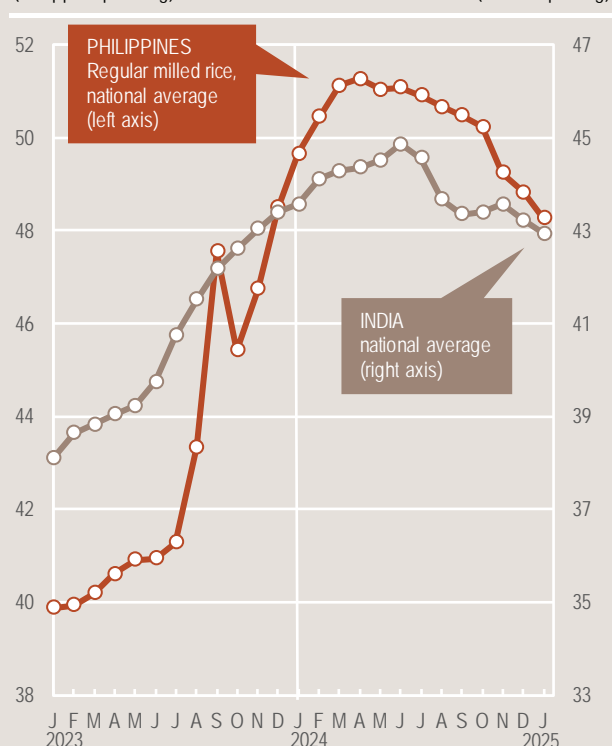


Table 12. Far East cereal production and anticipated trade in 2024/25

(thousand tonnes)

	5-year average (2019/20 to 2023/24)	2023/24	2024/25	Change: 2024/25 over 2023/24 (%)	Change: 2024/25 over 5- year average
<b>Coarse grains</b>					
Exports	5 739	5 136	5 928	+15.4	+3.3
Imports	93 220	103 273	94 387	-8.6	+1.3
Production	397 753	422 813	426 517	+0.9	+7.2
<b>Rice (milled)</b>					
Exports	43 691	43 682	46 222	+5.8	+5.8
Imports	16 949	17 723	16 075	-9.3	-5.2
Production	464 884	476 605	477 927	+0.3	+2.8
<b>Wheat</b>					
Exports	4 730	1 799	2 025	+12.6	-57.2
Imports	62 324	70 431	63 209	-10.3	+1.4
Production	279 311	284 656	294 761	+3.5	+5.5

Notes: Marketing year July/June for most countries. Rice trade figures are for the second year shown.

<sup>21</sup> FAO. 2025. [2024 FAO Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission \(CFSAM\) to the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal](#). 18 March 2025.



will allow the release of public buffer stocks into markets to help ease supply pressure and lower rice prices. In **Myanmar**, retail prices of rice were generally stable between November 2024 and January 2025, at levels about 20 percent higher year-on-year, mainly due to the below-average 2024 main paddy output, high agricultural input and transport costs, and conflict-related market disruptions. In **Thailand** and **Viet Nam**, domestic prices of rice declined for the fourth consecutive month in January 2025 and were significantly lower year-on-year, owing to ample market availability from the 2024 bumper harvests and competition for export markets.

In the wheat producing countries of **Bangladesh, China (mainland)** and **Pakistan**, prices of wheat declined between November 2024 and January 2025 reflecting adequate market availability from the above-average 2024 harvests, while in importing countries, namely **Bhutan, Indonesia, the Philippines** and **Sri Lanka**, prices decreased in line with international trends. In **India**, domestic price of wheat and wheat flour increased since November 2024 and, as of January 2025, they were at record levels, reflecting the strong domestic demand.

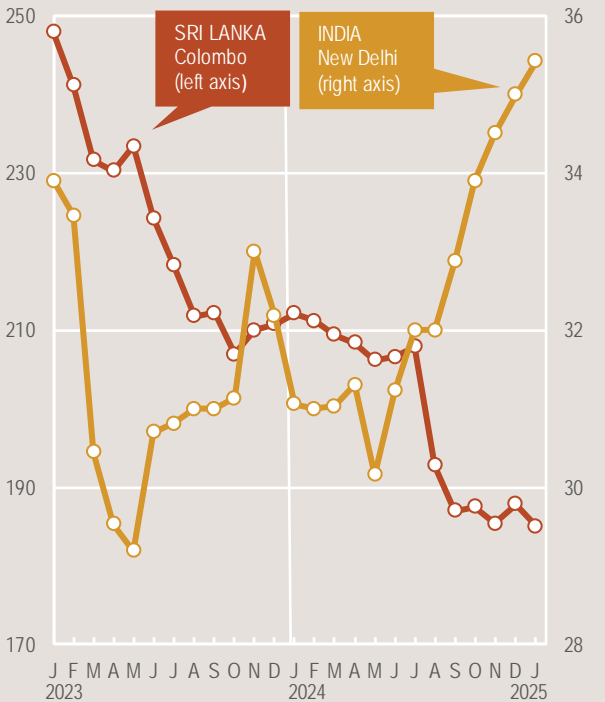
Large number of people in several countries are acutely food insecure

High domestic food prices and macroeconomic challenges, which limit income-earning opportunities for households, have worsened acute food insecurity in Bangladesh and Myanmar, where conflict has further aggravated conditions. In contrast, acute food insecurity has improved slightly in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

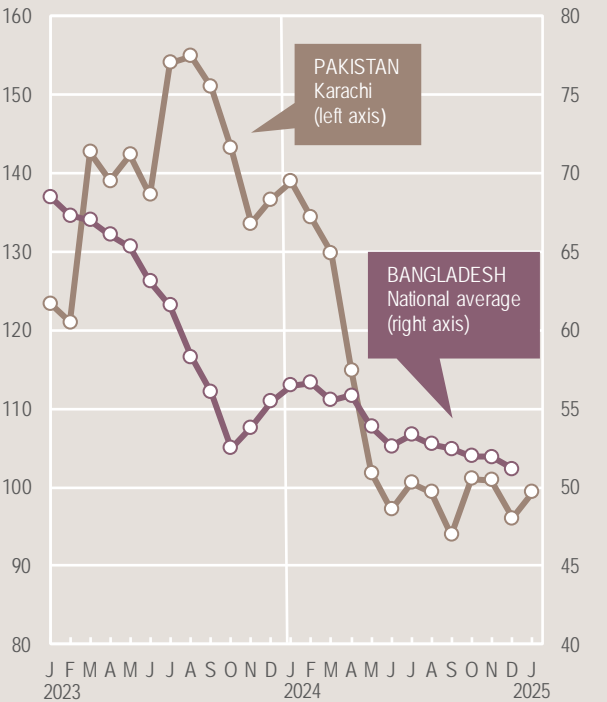
In **Bangladesh**, according to the latest IPC analysis, about 23.6 million people (26 percent of the population) faced high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) from November to December 2024, up from 16.5 million people in the April–October 2024 period. The increase was driven by the negative effects of floods and the impacts from Cyclone Remal, which affected about 19 million people. Persistent high food inflation rates are also eroding the purchasing power of vulnerable households, further aggravating food insecurity conditions. In **Myanmar**, according to the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan,<sup>22</sup> about 15.2 million people (28 percent of the population) are projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity in 2025, up from 13.3 million people in 2024, due to the impact of the Typhoon Yagi,

high food prices and the ongoing conflict, which began in early 2021 and intensified from late 2023, causing large population displacements. As of mid-February 2025, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) was estimated at a record 3.5 million and about 1 million Forcibly Displaced Myanmar National people reside in Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh, relying heavily on humanitarian assistance to fulfil their basic needs. In **Afghanistan**, about 14.8 million people are projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity from November 2024 to March 2025, the peak of the lean season. This number is a slight improvement compared to the previous year's high level, largely due to the year-on-year increase in cereal production that bolstered households' food availability and income earning opportunities. In **Pakistan**, about 10 million people are projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity between April and July 2025. This is lower than the 11 million people estimated to be facing acute food insecurity between November 2024 and March 2025, on account of increased household wheat stocks after the record 2024 output, low domestic wheat prices and the onset of the 2025 wheat harvest. In the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**, food insecurity conditions remain of concern for the forthcoming May–September lean period.

Wheat flour retail prices in selected Far East countries  
 (Sri Lanka rupee/kg) (Indian rupee/kg)



Wheat flour retail prices in selected Far East countries  
 (Pakistan rupee/kg) (Taka/kg)



<sup>22</sup> OCHA. 2024. Myanmar Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025 (December 2024). 13 December 2024.



## NEAR EAST



### Low precipitation curbs 2025 cereal production prospects

Rainfall across the subregion has been poor since the start of the season and dry weather conditions are forecast to continue, dampening 2025 yield prospects. In irrigated areas, supplemental water has provided some relief, but it remains insufficient to fully offset soil moisture deficits. Overall, subregional cereal production is forecast at a below-average level in 2025.

Planting of the 2025 winter cereal crops was completed in January 2025. In **Türkiye**, based on earth observation data, rainfall in December 2024 and January 2025 across the Anatolia Region, a key producing area, has been well below average, reducing soil moisture levels. If dry conditions persist during the spring season between March and May, as is forecasted, yields are expected to fall. In **the Islamic Republic of Iran**, rainfall between November 2024 and January 2025 has largely been below the average, particularly affecting rainfed crops in Golestan and Hamedan

regions. Similarly, in **Iraq**, dry spells delayed planting of the 2025 cereal crops. Ongoing dry weather conditions are anticipated to further hinder yield prospects. Furthermore, in countries facing severe socioeconomic challenges due to conflicts, such as **Palestine, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic** and **Yemen**, farmers' access to essential inputs remains constrained considering that they are largely imported. In these countries, low rainfall amounts, coupled with damages to infrastructures and protracted economic crises, raise uncertainty for the agricultural sector in 2025. The latest geospatial assessment carried out by FAO and the United Nations Satellite Centre (UNOSAT)<sup>23</sup> between October and December 2024 in the Gaza Strip, indicate that approximately 75 percent of crop fields and olive orchards have been damaged or destroyed, and over two-thirds of agricultural wells are no longer operational, severely disrupting irrigation systems.

### Above-average cereal production in 2024 lowers import requirements

Cereal production in 2024 is estimated at 77.2 million tonnes, around 10 percent above the five-year average, primarily due to favourable weather conditions in key producing areas that boosted crop yields.

In **Türkiye**, according to latest official estimates, the 2024 cereal output is estimated at about 39 million tonnes, around 6 percent above the five-year

average. In **the Islamic Republic of Iran**, the 2024 cereal harvest is estimated at 26 million tonnes, driven by an area expansion and good yields, supported by favourable rainfall, governmental assistance through subsidized inputs, low interest rate loans and technical training during sowing and harvesting times. In **Iraq**, cereal production is estimated at 6 million tonnes, about 5 percent above the average, benefiting from adequate rainfall amounts and improved access to mechanization services through government subsidies. By contrast, 2024 production in **the Syrian Arab Republic** is estimated at a below-average level of 3.4 million tonnes. High temperatures and limited access to farming inputs due to prohibitively high prices contributed to reducing yields in the country. In **Lebanon**, according to the findings of the latest FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM),<sup>24</sup> cereal production is estimated at 120 000 tonnes in 2024, about 34 percent below the five-year average, largely a consequence of adverse weather conditions.

Reflecting large domestic cereal harvests that reduced import needs, aggregate subregional imports in the 2024/25 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at a below-average level of 65 million tonnes. However, economic crises are affecting national import capacities, and along with weak currencies that are raising import costs, pose challenges for importing countries.

Table 13. Near East cereal production

(million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
Near East	41.3	46.8	46.6	24.0	27.5	25.3	5.1	4.4	5.3	70.4	78.7	77.2	-1.9
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	13.6	16.6	16.8	4.1	4.7	5.1	3.8	3.5	4.2	21.5	24.8	26.1	+5.0
Iraq	4.4	4.2	5.2	1.3	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.2	5.9	5.0	6.2	+25.0
Türkiye	19.8	22.0	20.8	16.1	19.3	17.2	1.0	0.9	1.0	36.9	42.2	38.9	-7.8

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

<sup>23</sup> FAO, UNITAR and UNOSAT. 2024. [Damage to cropland categories to the conflict in the Gaza Strip as of 31st of December 2024](#). January 2025.

<sup>24</sup> FAO. 2024. [Special Report – 2024 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission \(CFSAM\) to the Lebanese Republic](#). November 2024.



Conflicts and economic downturn intensify acute food insecurity

Acute food insecurity remains a serious concern as conflicts disrupt food supply chains and displace populations, while economic downturns limit livelihood opportunities and restrict access to food.

In **Palestine**, despite the ceasefire announced in mid-January 2025, dire conditions persist in the Gaza Strip. According to the latest IPC analysis, about 2 million people, about 90 percent of the total population, are estimated to be facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 [Crisis] and above) between November 2024 and March 2025, including 876 000 people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and, most concerning, 345 000 people in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). In **Lebanon**, food insecurity is expected to worsen in 2025. Between December 2024 and March 2025, about 1.7 million people are likely to face IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or worse, including 970 000 Lebanese residents, 594 000 Syrian refugees and 89 000 Palestinian refugees. Despite the ceasefire announced in late November 2024, the

economic downturn, low humanitarian food assistance and damages to infrastructures present serious challenges for vulnerable populations, particularly internally displaced people that are slowly returning to their homes. In **the Syrian Arab Republic**, 3 million people are severely food insecure, in addition to the 12.4 million who are food insecure or at risk of falling into food insecurity. In December 2024, the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) increased by 23 percent year-on-year, reflecting the depreciation of the Syrian pound and the soaring inflation rate. The combination of rising food and fuel costs, conflict-driven displacements and damaged infrastructure, heightens concern over acute food insecurity. In **Yemen**, disrupted agricultural activities, high food prices, especially in the south, low food assistance in the north and widespread livelihood challenges continue to drive the high levels of food insecurity in 2025. According to the latest IPC analysis from October 2024 to February 2025, about 4.6 million people are projected to face severe acute food insecurity conditions, including 1.1 million people in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency).

SOUTH CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA



Forecasts of above-average rains boost 2025 production expectations

The subregional 2025 cereal production is forecast at an above-average level. This is based on expectations of continued beneficial rains until April 2025, which would also improve water availability for irrigation for spring cereal crops, to be planted next May.

Planting of the 2025 winter cereals, to be harvested between June and September 2025, finalized in

Table 14. South Caucasus and Central Asia cereal production  
(million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Total cereals <sup>1</sup>			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
South Caucasus and Central Asia	24.2	23.3	26.9	8.9	9.0	9.6	34.2	33.5	37.6	+12.4
Armenia	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	-3.2
Azerbaijan	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	3.3	3.2	3.2	-0.3
Georgia	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	+3.8
Kazakhstan	13.2	12.1	15.8	4.7	4.6	5.3	18.4	17.2	21.6	+25.4
Kyrgyzstan	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.8	1.7	1.8	+5.6
Tajikistan	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	+6.0
Turkmenistan	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.3	1.3	1.3	-0.0
Uzbekistan	6.2	6.5	6.3	0.9	1.1	0.9	7.4	7.9	7.5	-5.2

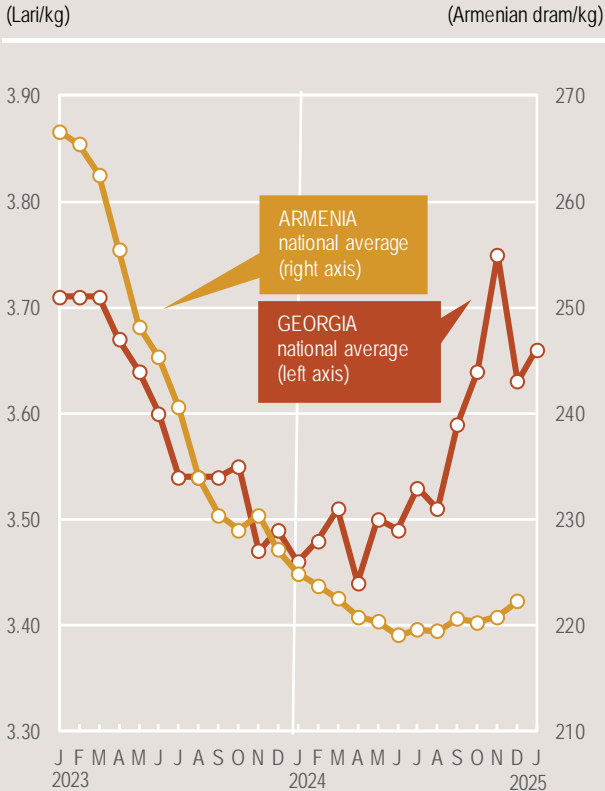
Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

<sup>1</sup> Total cereals includes wheat, coarse grains and rice (paddy).



November 2024 and the total area planted is estimated to be near the five-year

Retail wheat flour prices in selected South Caucasus and Central Asia countries



average. In **Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan** and **Uzbekistan**, cumulative precipitation between September 2024 and February 2025 were near average, and weather forecasts point to a high probability that conducive rains will continue until April 2025. As a result, 2025 yield prospects are favourable, while the expected rains are likely to improve water availability in reservoirs used for irrigation during the summer months for the 2025 spring cereal crops (June to September 2025).

Above-average wheat production estimated in 2024

The aggregate 2024 subregional cereal output is estimated at an above-average level of 37.6 million tonnes. Production of wheat, which accounts for more than

70 percent of the total cereal output, is estimated at 27 million tonnes, higher than the five-year average, mainly due to bumper outputs in **Kazakhstan** and **Kyrgyzstan** following abundant precipitation amounts. The estimate of the 2024 subregional coarse grain output stands at a near-average level of 9 million tonnes.

Domestic prices of wheat flour remained stable

Wheat flour prices remained stable between October 2024 and January 2025, supported by ample supplies.

In **Kazakhstan**, average retail prices of wheat flour remained stable between October 2024 and January 2025, but about 7 percent lower year-on-year, amid weak local demand. In Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, prices of wheat flour remained stable between November 2024 and January 2025. In **Armenia**, average retail prices of wheat flour were slightly below the previous year's level, supported by large import volumes in 2024 that boosted domestic availability, while in **Azerbaijan** and **Georgia**, prices of wheat flour slightly increased compared to their year-earlier values.



## PACIFIC ISLANDS

### Mixed weather conditions at the start of the 2025 agricultural season

The 2025 agricultural season in the Pacific is marked by mixed climatic conditions, with ongoing planting of staple crops like taro, yam, cassava and sweet potatoes, and main harvesting expected to begin in May 2025. Between November 2024 and February 2025, rainfall distribution varied significantly, with some regions experiencing above-normal precipitation while others faced drier conditions, impacting agricultural productivity.

From February to April, **Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, Fiji, Tonga** and **Niue** are expected to receive above-normal rainfall, benefiting root crops such as taro, yam, and cassava. However, excessive rainfall could lead

to flooding, causing crop damage and planting delays. Meanwhile, **Kiribati, Tuvalu** and **the Cook Islands** are likely to experience below-normal rainfall, heightening concerns over water shortages and reduced yields, particularly for rainfed agriculture.

A heightened cyclone risk is anticipated in the South Pacific, particularly between **New Caledonia** and **Tonga**, until March. Cyclones pose significant threats to coastal and inland farming due to strong winds, heavy rainfall, and saltwater intrusion, which can damage crops and disrupt food production. Additionally, above-normal sea surface temperatures in the western Pacific may contribute to heat stress on crops and livestock, particularly in regions already prone to drought.

While some regions may benefit from favorable growing conditions, the combination of cyclone risks, variable rainfall, and temperature extremes underscores the need

for proactive climate adaptation measures to protect food security across the Pacific.

### Mixed price trends across the subregion

Root crop prices in the Pacific showed diverging trends in early 2025, with declining taro and cassava prices in **Samoa** and **Fiji**, while root crop costs in **Tonga** remain elevated.

In **Samoa**, taro prices are expected to decline steadily in the first half of 2025 on account of improved supply, following a volatile 2024. Similarly, in **Fiji**, cassava prices, which peaked in late 2024, are expected to ease through mid-2025, reflecting better supply conditions.

In contrast, **Tonga's** root crop prices continue to rise, with talo-futuna, talo-tonga, manioke, and kumala all experiencing upward pressure due to supply constraints and strong market demand. Yams remain particularly volatile, with prices of late yams fluctuating sharply, signaling market instability.



# REGIONAL REVIEWS

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



\*/\*\* See Terminology (page 7).

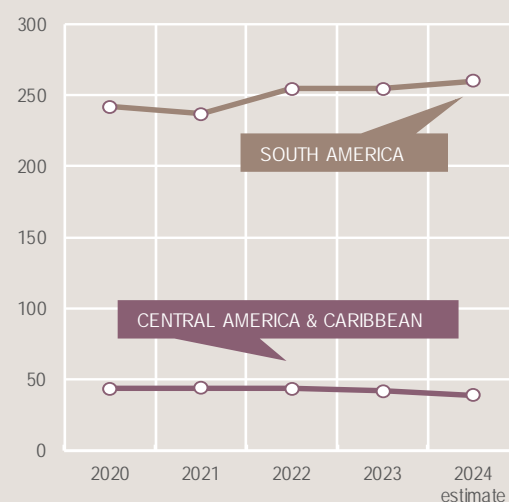
Source: FAO/GIEWS, 2025. *Crop Prospects and Food Situation – Triannual Global Report. No. 1.* [Cited 7 March 2025], modified to comply with the United Nations map No. 4651 Rev. 1, April 2023.

### Production overview

Total 2024 cereal output in Latin America and the Caribbean is forecast at a record level of 298.9 million tonnes, led by strong harvests in Argentina and Brazil, despite lower maize production in Brazil due to weak prices. In Central America and the Caribbean, dry-weather conditions resulted in a reduced cereal output in Mexico, dragging down the aggregate subregional output.

Regarding the 2025 cereal crops, Brazil's maize area is expected to remain above average, but dry weather forecasts for March–May could impact yields. While in Argentina, risk of crop losses associated with outbreaks of stunt disease has contributed to a pullback in maize plantings and this has contained overall production expectations. In Central America, early indications point to a record-low wheat area, due to persisting dryness.

### Cereal production (million tonnes)





CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Wheat and maize plantings in 2025 estimated at record-low level

In **Mexico**, planting operations of the 2025 main wheat crop, primarily irrigated, was completed in February. Prolonged dry weather conditions in key producing northwestern regions caused water scarcity in reservoirs for irrigation, forcing farmers to reduce sowings or implement more costlier irrigation strategies that raised production costs. As a result, the planted area is estimated at a record-low level. Weather forecasts point to average to below-average rainfall amounts in the April–June 2025 period in the main cropping regions, including the main wheat producing state of Sonora, further dampening production prospects.

Planting operations of the minor season maize crop in **Mexico** are underway and will conclude in March 2025. The sown area is anticipated to remain below average, contracting for the third consecutive year due to severe dry weather conditions in

northwestern key cropping regions. The planted area in the main producing Sinaloa State is forecast to drop by more than 80 percent, due to the scarcity of water supply for irrigation. Weather forecasts for the second quarter of 2025 point to average to below-average precipitation amounts in the main producing central regions. These forecasts raise concerns about yield prospects of the minor season maize crop and planting operations of the main season crop that are expected to start in April. Elsewhere, abundant rainfall amounts are forecast in the March–May 2025 period across northern **El Salvador**, **Guatemala**, eastern **Honduras** and **Nicaragua**, auguring well for yields. However, in case of excessive rainfall amounts, planting operations in the subregion could be hampered, due to soil saturation or floodings.

Maize production dips below the five-year average in 2024

Harvesting of the 2024 minor maize season crops concluded in February and aggregate maize production is estimated at 28.2 million tonnes, 10 percent below the average.

In **Mexico**, the largest cereal producer in the subregion, maize production declined for the third consecutive year to 23.7 million tonnes in 2024, about 12 percent below the five-year average. Severe dry weather conditions in the key producing regions during the planting period, combined with falling international maize prices in the first

half of 2024, discouraged farmers’ sowing intentions and curbed yields.

Elsewhere in the subregion, maize outturns in 2024 are estimated at near-average levels. Although there were periods of torrential rains that caused crop losses, notably in northern **Honduras** and **Nicaragua**, overall, above-average precipitation amounts were generally favourable for crop development in **El Salvador** and northern **Guatemala**.

In **Haiti**, harvesting of the third maize season crop is expected to finalize in March and production expectations are low. Satellite imagery depicts poor vegetation conditions in the main producing central departments, following low precipitation amounts in January 2025, that coincided with the crop germination and early development stages. In aggregate, including harvests from the first two seasons, cereal production in 2024 is expected to contract year-on-year and remain below the five-year average, reflecting land abandonment and high production costs, amid worsening insecurity conditions. In **the Dominican Republic**, aggregate 2024 paddy outturn is anticipated at a near-average 946 000 tonnes. This reflects the impact of reduced yields and crop losses caused by torrential rains that more than offset an increase in sown area. By contrast, production of maize, which is mainly cultivated in southern areas, is estimated at an above-average level of 88 000 tonnes, driven by large sowings and conducive weather conditions.

Table 15. Central America and the Caribbean cereal production  
(million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
Central America and the Caribbean	3.3	3.5	2.7	37.3	36.2	33.8	2.6	2.3	2.5	43.2	42.0	39.0	-7.2
El Salvador	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	+1.5
Guatemala	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	2.2	2.1	-2.3
Honduras	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.8	-4.9
Mexico	3.3	3.5	2.7	32.5	31.4	29.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	36.1	35.1	32.0	-8.8
Nicaragua	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.9	+4.7

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.



Above-average cereal import needs in 2024/25

Subregional cereal imports for the 2024/25 marketing year (September/August) are forecast at 44.8 million tonnes, about 14 percent above the five-year average and slightly below the record-high level of the previous marketing year. Following two consecutive seasons of droughts, severe maize production shortfalls in **Mexico** in 2023 and 2024 pushed up import requirements to meet the domestic demand of yellow maize by the feed industry. Maize imports in Mexico are forecast to reach 23.5 million tonnes, about 25 percent above the average.

Prices of white maize and black beans declined in the second half of 2024

Wholesale prices of white maize in **Honduras, El Salvador** and **Guatemala** declined seasonally between August 2024 and January 2025, and were lower than

a year earlier. In **Mexico**, prices of maize fell in Mexico City and in Puebla from October 2024 to January 2025, in line with seasonal trends, but increased in Guadalajara, reflecting concerns over the effects of drought conditions on crop yields.

Prices of red beans strengthened in January 2025 in **Honduras, Nicaragua** and **El Salvador**, amid heavy rains in November and December 2024 that impaired production prospects of the minor *Postrera* crop. However, prices still remained lower year-on-year. In **Guatemala** and in **Mexico**, wholesale prices of black beans declined in the second half of 2024, mainly due to large import volumes.

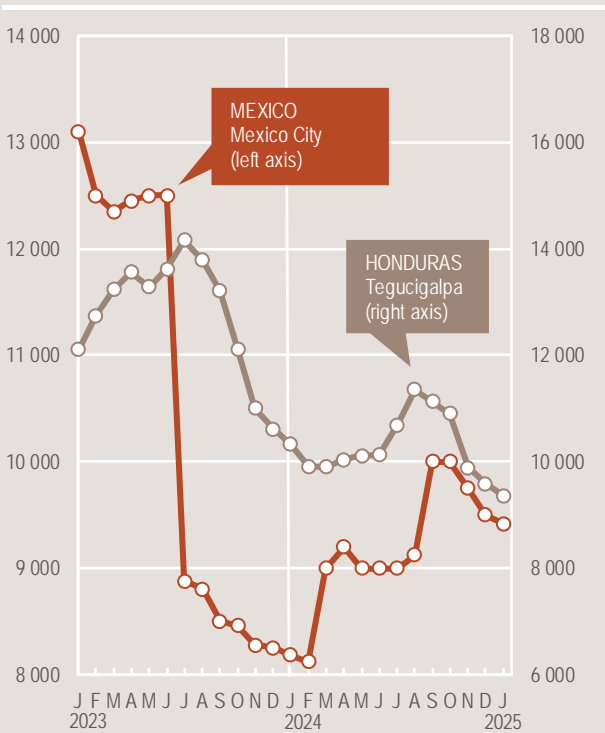
Widespread acute food insecurity in Haiti

Armed gang violence, economic hardship and climate shocks are driving the humanitarian crisis in **Haiti**, preventing the population to meet their basic

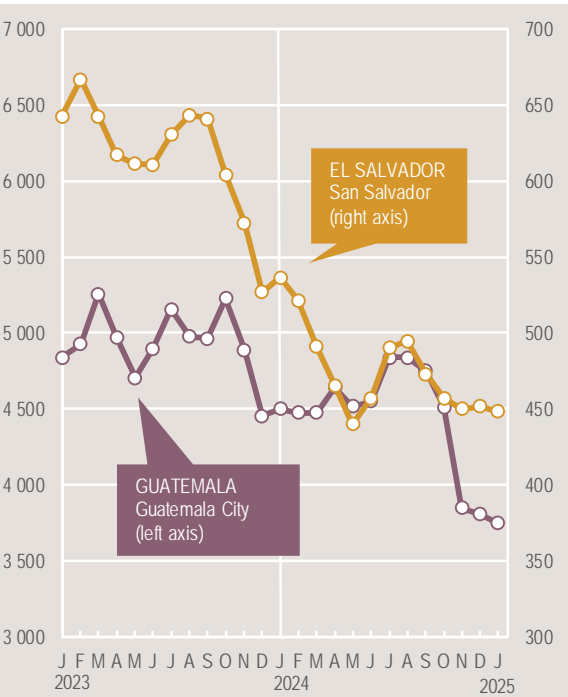
needs, including access to food and health services. According to the latest IPC analysis, 5.5 million people, half the population, are projected to face acute food insecurity between March and June 2025, including just over 5 600 people classified in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). This is a 12 percent increase compared to the previous year's level. As of January 2025, over 1 million people were estimated to be internally displaced, primarily from the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, three times more than 12 months before.

In **Guatemala**, with the start of the lean season in the second trimester of 2025, about 2.8 million of people are projected to face acute food insecurity, corresponding to about 16 percent of the total population. The poor acute food insecurity conditions are primarily due to adverse weather conditions that resulted in food supply shortfalls.

Wholesale white maize prices in selected Central America countries  
(Mexican peso/tonne) (Honduran lempira/tonne)



Wholesale white maize prices in selected Central America countries  
(Quetzal/tonne) (United States dollar/tonne)





## SOUTH AMERICA



### Dry weather conditions hamper 2025 maize plantings

The 2025 main maize season crop is at development stage, amid average to below-average rainfall across the subregion. In **Brazil**, harvesting of the first minor season maize crop is ongoing and production is forecast at a level 10 percent below the five-year average. A reduction in plantings largely underlies these expectations, as farmers opted to plant more profitable soybean crops at the expense of maize. Sowing operations of the 2025 main maize season, accounting for about 80 percent of the annual production, are underway and the area is estimated to be 5 percent above the average, as farmers responded positively to a surge in domestic prices during the second half of 2024. Weather forecasts point to likely average rainfall amounts in key producing areas in the second quarter of 2025, which is bolstering yield expectations.

For the third consecutive year, maize plantings declined in **Chile**, due to concerns over crop profitability and production in 2025 is forecast at a record-low level. In **Argentina**, previous outbreaks of stunt disease (*spiroplasma*) in 2024, transmitted by leafhoppers, dissuaded farmers from planting maize for the 2025 cropping

season, and resultantly the maize area is estimated to be 15 percent down from the five-year average and the lowest acreage since 2019. Dry spells at sowing and early development stages constrained crop yield potentials, and combined with the low plantings, maize production is forecast at a below-average level in 2025. In **Uruguay**, maize production in 2025 is anticipated to exceed the average, underpinned by large plantings. In **Paraguay**, despite the yearly increase in the planted area, dry weather conditions are hampering the ongoing sowing operations of the main *Zafriña* season in the key producing southeastern regions. High costs of production in **the Plurinational State of Bolivia**, combined with soil moisture deficits at planting time, are expected to instigate a reduction in the planted area and curb yields. In **Peru** and **Ecuador**, unfavourable hot and dry weather conditions, primarily in coastal areas, are affecting the main maize season crop, which will be harvested in April 2025. Weather forecasts for the March–May 2025 period point to above-average precipitation amounts in **Colombia** and in **the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**, which are likely to create conducive conditions for minor maize crops, currently at a development stage.

Harvesting of 2025 paddy crops is expected to start in March and aggregate production is forecast at a level above the five-year average, driven by expectations of good outputs in the leading producers, Brazil and Peru. In **Uruguay**, supported by higher year-on-year rice prices, the 2025 planted area is estimated at a record-high level, likely leading to an above-average outturn. By contrast, low rice prices in **Colombia** and **Ecuador**, where sowing operations in coastal areas were also delayed by dry spells. In **Peru**, the planted area is estimated to be slightly above the average and adequate precipitation in northern regions favoured

early crop development. In **Brazil**, following the floods that affected crops in key producing southern states, rice prices surged in the second half of 2024 and encouraged farmers to expand plantings in 2025. As a result, paddy production in 2025, to be harvested from March, is forecast at an above-average level of 11.8 million tonnes.

### Regional exports decline year-on-year due to low exportable maize surplus in Brazil

Aggregate cereal exports in the 2024/25 marketing year (March/February) are anticipated at the a near-average level of 98 million tonnes, 5 percent below the average volume attained in 2023/24. The reduction is primarily due to a low exportable maize surplus in Brazil, reflecting a reduced harvest as well as high domestic demand, while the appreciation of Brazilian real since the beginning of 2025 has lessened the competitiveness of Brazilian maize on the international market.

Rice exports are forecast about 10 percent below the previous five-year average, in line with the low harvests in Brazil and Uruguay. Subregional exports of wheat are forecast at an above-average level of 15.2 million tonnes, rebounding from two consecutive years of low exports.

### Prices of yellow maize higher year-on-year in most countries

Wholesale prices of Argentinian wheat and maize rose in December 2024 and January 2025 to reach higher year-on-year levels, driven by a low supply from the 2023 drought-stricken harvest and the devaluation of the Argentine peso in 2024. Prices of maize were lower year-on-year in **Ecuador** and **Paraguay** amid improved market availabilities, while maize prices rebounded **Brazil** and **Colombia** in 2024 following lows in 2023.

Table 16. South America cereal production  
(million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
South America	29.0	27.8	30.2	190.3	201.9	203.4	24.6	24.2	25.4	244.9	254.8	259.9	+2.0
Argentina	17.6	15.9	18.5	62.9	48.9	65.5	1.3	1.2	1.3	81.8	65.9	85.3	+29.3
Brazil	7.5	8.1	7.9	111.4	138.1	121.7	10.8	10.0	10.6	129.7	156.2	140.2	-10.3
Chile	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.8	2.6	2.4	-5.5
Colombia	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.6	1.5	2.9	3.0	3.1	4.4	4.6	4.6	-0.8
Peru	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.8	1.9	1.9	3.4	3.4	3.5	5.4	5.4	5.6	+2.8

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

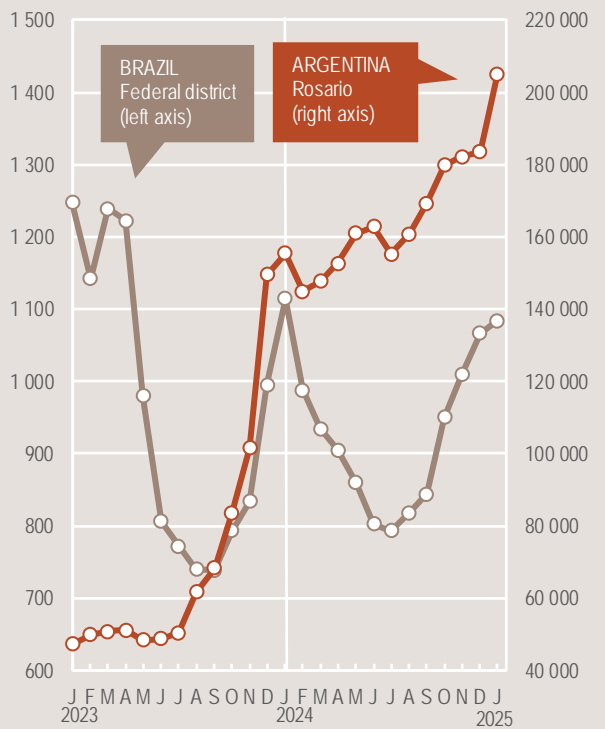


In **Colombia** and **Ecuador**, the main wheat importing countries of the subregion, prices of wheat flour were stable or declined

between December 2024 and January 2025, and were about 20 percent lower year-on-year, reflecting large import volumes,

amid weaker international prices, bolstering domestic supplies. Wheat prices in the main producing Rio Grande do Sul state of **Brazil** started to decline from July 2024, in line with international trends and continued to decrease seasonally with the start of the harvest in September, reaching comparable year-on-year levels in January 2025.

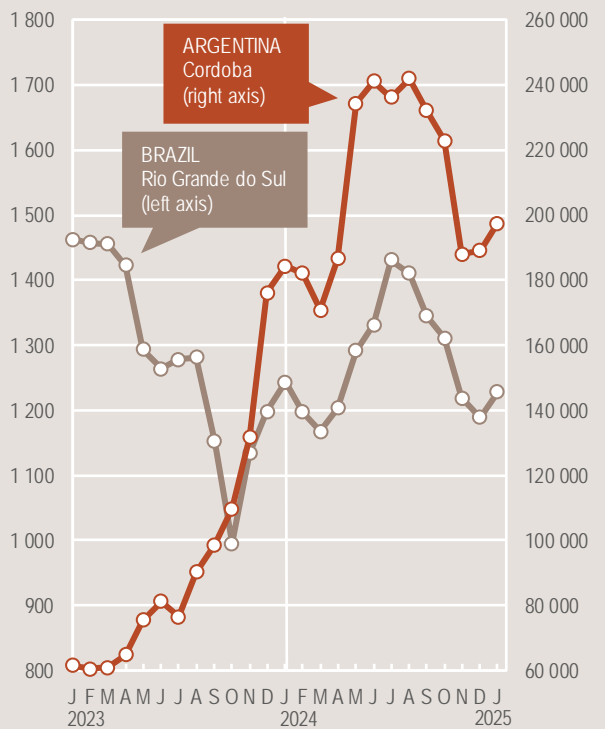
Wholesale maize prices in selected countries in South America  
(Brazilian real/tonne) (Argentine peso/tonne)



Needs for food assistance remain high in Venezuela

According to the latest Humanitarian Response Plan,<sup>25</sup> about 2 million people were estimated to be in need of food assistance in **the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela** in 2024. The number of migrants and refugees that fled the country since the start of the crisis in 2024 was estimated at 7.9 million people in November 2024. In the second half of 2024, the outflows of migrants and refugees slowed down compared to previous years, mainly due to a decline in inflation rates that improved households' purchasing power, easing access to food. According to the latest IPC analysis, about 2.7 million people in **Ecuador** are estimated to face acute food insecurity levels in the September 2024 to March 2025 period, accounting for about 15 percent of the population. This figure includes 2.53 million people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and 198 400 in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). High food prices and low employment rates, amid escalating internal gang violence, are the key drivers.

Wholesale wheat prices in selected countries in South America  
(Brazilian real/tonne) (Argentine peso/tonne)



Wholesale rice prices in selected countries in South America  
(Brazilian real/tonne) (Colombian peso/tonne)



<sup>25</sup> Please see <https://www.unocha.org/venezuela> for further details.



# REGIONAL REVIEWS

## NORTH AMERICA, EUROPE AND OCEANIA

Note: Situation as of February 2025  
Territories/boundaries\*\*



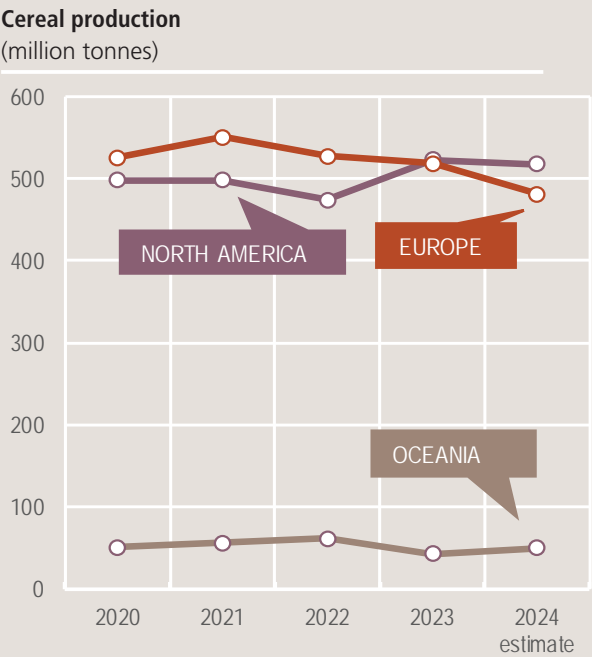
\*\* See Terminology (page 7).  
Source: FAO/GIEWS, 2025. Crop Prospects and Food Situation – Triannual Global Report. No. 1. [Cited 7 March 2025], modified to comply with the United Nations map No. 4651 Rev. 1, April 2023.

### Production overview

In the United States of America, the wheat area is projected to expand modestly in 2025, but yields may decline due to mild drought affecting a larger portion of the crop compared to 2024, keeping production slightly below last year but still above average. Maize production is expected to increase driven by an expansion in planted area and favourable weather that is seen to support good yields. In Canada, wheat plantings are forecast to rise, which is foreseen to help maintain production at last year’s above-average level, despite an expected decline in yields.

In the European Union, wheat production is expected to rebound, supported by increased plantings and a likely upturn in yields, though dry conditions in the east and heavy rainfall in the west may limit crop productivity gains. In the Russian Federation, unfavourable weather has weakened the wheat production outlook, while in Ukraine, the ongoing war and adverse weather continue to constrain production prospects.

In Australia, wheat production in 2024 is estimated at an above-average level, supported by good yields.





## NORTH AMERICA

**Wheat to remain above average, with early favourable outlook for maize in 2025**

In the **United States of America**, the total wheat area is projected to expand in 2025, driven by an increase in winter sowings and a likely rise in spring acreage, potentially replacing some soybean plantings. However, yields are expected to decline moderately year-on-year due to a greater portion of the winter wheat crop facing mild drought conditions compared to 2024. As a result, the 2025 total wheat production is anticipated at an above-average level of

52.5 million tonnes, slightly less than the previous year.

Planting of the coarse grain crops is expected to start in April and preliminary forecasts indicate an increase in maize production to an above-average level of 396 million tonnes in 2025. This outlook is mostly underpinned by large plantings due to good price prospects for maize compared to soybean, while generally good weather forecasts are expected to further bolster yields.

In **Canada**, the bulk of the 2025 wheat crop is planted between May and June. Early production expectations indicate an expansion in plantings, supported by better soil moisture conditions and expectations of remunerative prices. Assuming a return to average yields, wheat production is forecast at above average 35 million tonnes, in line with the 2024 output.

## EUROPE

**Large sowings foreseen to push up wheat production in the European Union in 2025**

In the **European Union**, planting of the 2025 minor spring wheat crop is underway, while the major winter wheat crop was planted late last year. Estimates suggest an increase in sowings, primarily for soft wheat, with most of the expansion centered in **France** and **Germany**. Although the average wheat yield among European Union countries is also expected to rise year-on-year, developing dry weather conditions in the east and excessive rainfall in the west, particularly in **France**, may

Table 17. North America, Europe and Oceania cereal production

(million tonnes)

	Wheat			Coarse grains			Rice (paddy)			Total cereals			
	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	5-year average	2023	2024 est.	Change: 2024/2023 (%)
<b>North America</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>405.9</b>	<b>430.8</b>	<b>418.8</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>494.7</b>	<b>522.8</b>	<b>517.5</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
Canada	31.7	32.9	35.0	28.4	27.6	27.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	60.1	60.5	62.6	+3.4
United States of America	48.2	49.1	53.7	377.6	403.2	391.2	8.9	9.9	10.1	434.7	462.2	454.9	-1.6
<b>Europe</b>	<b>269.1</b>	<b>271.7</b>	<b>244.3</b>	<b>260.5</b>	<b>243.3</b>	<b>232.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>533.2</b>	<b>518.2</b>	<b>480.9</b>	<b>-7.2</b>
Belarus	2.6	2.4	2.6	5.0	4.9	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5	7.3	7.6	+5.0
European Union <sup>i</sup>	137.7	133.7	120.0	150.4	136.7	138.1	2.6	2.2	2.6	290.7	272.6	260.7	-4.4
Russian Federation <sup>ii</sup>	86.7	92.8	82.4	43.3	43.2	38.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	131.1	137.1	121.5	-11.3
Serbia	3.1	3.4	2.9	7.1	7.3	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.2	10.8	9.0	-16.4
Ukraine <sup>iii</sup>	25.7	22.5	22.4	42.5	38.2	32.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	68.2	60.7	54.7	-9.9
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>+16.0</b>
Australia	29.8	26.0	31.9	16.6	15.2	15.9	0.3	0.5	0.6	46.8	41.7	48.5	+16.2

Notes: Totals and percentage changes are computed from unrounded data. The five-year average refers to the 2019–2023 period.

<sup>i</sup> Data for the European Union from the year 2020 (including the 2020/21 marketing year) excludes the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

<sup>ii</sup> Information provided by the Russian Federation includes statistical data for the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation and is presented without prejudice to relevant UN General Assembly and UN Security Council resolutions, including UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 and UN Security Council resolution 2202 (2015) of 17 February 2015, which reaffirm the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

<sup>iii</sup> Information provided by Ukraine excludes statistical data concerning the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol and certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. The information is presented without prejudice to relevant UN General Assembly and UN Security Council resolutions, including UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 and UN Security Council resolution 2202 (2015) of 17 February 2015, which reaffirm the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

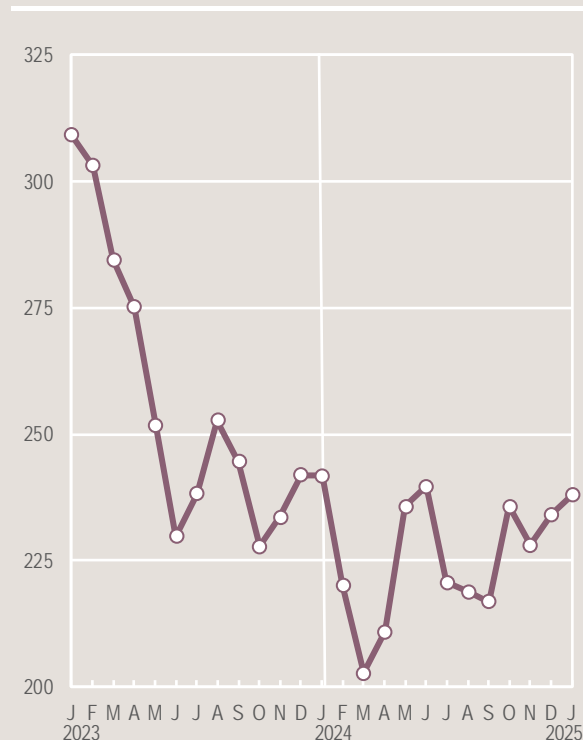


limit the expected gains. Overall, wheat production is pegged at 134 million tonnes in 2025. Planting of the 2025 maize crop is underway, and early indications point to potential small pullback in the area, on account of competition from oil seed crops. Although expected drier-than-average conditions in parts of France may affect crop development, the overall weather outlook supports a potential upturn in the average yield.

### Reduced 2025 wheat production in the Russian Federation and Ukraine

The subregional cereal output in 2025 is forecast to decrease compared to the five-year average, driven by unfavourable crop conditions and reduced plantings.

Wheat export prices in the Russian Federation  
(United States dollar/tonne)



The 2025 wheat area in **Ukraine**<sup>26</sup> is estimated to be above the previous year's level, but remains well below the five-year average, as the ongoing war continues to hamper farmers' access to fields. In addition, the conflict has led to severe financial constraints and infrastructure damage, further limiting the profitability of wheat production.

In **the Russian Federation**, 2025 winter wheat production is forecast below the five-year average, mainly due to a significant reduction in planted area and unfavourable weather conditions, including dry spells in southern and central producing regions. In the Republic of Moldova and Belarus, weather conditions since the planting period, which was also completed in

November 2024, have been mostly beneficial for crops.

### Ukraine cereal production estimated at a below-average level in 2024

In **Ukraine**, cereal production in 2024 is estimated at a below-average level, due to the impact of the war, which continued to severely hamper crop production and marketing activities. In **the Russian Federation**, wheat production is estimated at 82 million tonnes, below the five-year average due to poor weather conditions that reduced yields. In **Belarus** and **the Republic of Moldova**, 2024 cereal outturns slightly increased compared to the previous year's level to near average levels.

### Low cereal exports forecast in 2024/25 in Ukraine

Exports of maize and wheat from **Ukraine** in the 2024/25 marketing year (July/June) are forecast at 21 million and 16.2 million tonnes, respectively, well below the five-year average, reflecting the extensive damage to domestic transport and storage infrastructures caused by the war. In **the Russian Federation**, supported by ample stocks, total cereal exports in 2024/25 are forecast at an above-average level of 51 million tonnes, including 45 million tonnes of wheat.

### Ukraine export prices of wheat increased year-on-year

Export prices of milling wheat from **the Russian Federation** increased between October 2024 and January 2025 but were down by 2 percent year-on-year. In **Ukraine**, export prices of milling wheat increased slightly month-on-month in January, as a consequence of strong demand and limited supply from agricultural producers, and were 18 percent higher compared the year-earlier level. In **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus** and **the Republic of Moldova**, national average retail prices of wheat flour remained stable between October 2024 and January 2025.

### About 12.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in Ukraine

According to the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP), the strategic framework developed by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)<sup>27</sup> to address critical humanitarian needs, about 12.7 million people are estimated to be in need of multisectoral humanitarian assistance in 2025 in Ukraine. As of December 2024, about 3.6 million people were estimated to be displaced in the country as reported by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).<sup>28</sup>

<sup>26</sup> Information provided by Ukraine excludes statistical data concerning the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol and the Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions. The information is presented without prejudice to relevant UN General Assembly and UN Security Council resolutions, which reaffirm the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

<sup>27</sup> OCHA. 2025. [Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025 \(January 2025\)](https://www.unocha.org/ukraine/2025-humanitarian-needs-and-response-plan). 16 January 2025.

<sup>28</sup> Please see <https://dtm.iom.int/ukraine> for further details.



OCEANIA



Upturn in wheat and barley production in 2024, as good rainfall returned following a dry 2023

Harvesting of the 2024 winter wheat and barley crops recently concluded.

Wheat production is estimated at 31.8 million tonnes, above average and well above the previous year’s reduced outturn. The increase largely reflects bumper outputs in **New South Wales** and Western **Australia**, reflecting conducive weather conditions, which more than offset the low outputs harvested in South Australia and Victoria due to persistent dry-weather conditions that led to moisture stress. Barley production also rose in 2024, but remained below the five-year average.



# STATISTICAL APPENDIX

Table A1. Global cereal supply and demand indicators

	5-year average (2019/20 – 2023/24)	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>Ratio of world stocks to utilization (%)</b>						
Wheat	38.3	37.1	37.5	40.0	39.9	38.8
Coarse grains	24.0	23.5	24.8	23.5	24.0	22.5
Rice	36.9	36.9	36.9	36.7	37.1	37.8
Total cereals	30.4	29.8	30.7	30.6	30.9	29.9
<b>Ratio of major cereal exporters' supplies to market requirements (%)<sup>i</sup></b>						
	117.0	115.2	114.7	117.3	119.5	115.3
<b>Ratio of major exporters' stocks to their total disappearance (%)<sup>ii</sup></b>						
Wheat	18.2	15.3	16.9	22.5	20.5	18.5
Coarse grains	12.7	11.5	13.2	12.6	11.7	10.5
Rice	27.8	27.7	26.9	28.5	31.0	29.8
Total cereals	19.5	18.2	19.0	21.2	21.1	19.6
	Average growth rate 2014–2023	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Annual growth in world cereal production (%)</b>						
	1.0	2.2	1.4	0.0	1.7	-0.5
<b>Annual growth in cereal production in the LIFDCs (%)</b>						
	1.5	4.8	-6.0	3.8	1.8	1.1
		2022	2023	2024	2025*	Change 2025* over 2024*
<b>Selected cereal price indices<sup>iii</sup></b>						
Wheat		164.9	127.3	107.2	103.5	-7.2%
Maize		169.5	134.4	109.4	120.0	10.6%
Rice		108.8	132.0	133.1	113.6	-19.8%

Notes: Utilization is defined as the sum of food use, feed and other uses. Cereals refer to wheat, coarse grains and rice; grains refer to wheat and coarse grains (barley, maize, millet, sorghum and cereals NES).

<sup>i</sup> Major wheat exporters are: Argentina, Australia, Canada, the European Union, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America. Major coarse grains exporters are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, the European Union, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America. Major rice exporters are: India, Pakistan, Thailand, the United States of America and Viet Nam.

<sup>ii</sup> Disappearance is defined as domestic utilization plus exports for any given season.

<sup>iii</sup> Price indices: The wheat price index is constructed based on the International Grains Council (IGC) wheat price index, rebased to 2014–2016 = 100; The coarse grains price index is constructed based on the IGC price indices for maize and barley and one sorghum export quotation, rebased to 2014–2016 = 100. For rice, data refers to the FAO All Rice Price Index, 2014–2016 = 100, which is based on 21 rice export quotations.

\*January–February average.



Table A2. World cereal stocks

(million tonnes)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 est.	2025 f'cast
<b>TOTAL CEREALS</b>	<b>833.9</b>	<b>831.8</b>	<b>852.2</b>	<b>868.8</b>	<b>885.8</b>	<b>869.3</b>
<b>Wheat</b>	<b>285.1</b>	<b>287.5</b>	<b>290.7</b>	<b>318.7</b>	<b>317.8</b>	<b>312.8</b>
held by:						
- main exporters <sup>1</sup>	63.3	60.9	65.8	90.0	83.9	74.5
- others	221.8	226.6	224.9	228.7	233.9	238.3
<b>Coarse grains</b>	<b>361.1</b>	<b>350.4</b>	<b>366.9</b>	<b>356.3</b>	<b>368.2</b>	<b>350.5</b>
held by:						
- main exporters <sup>1</sup>	122.8	100.4	114.8	107.0	103.4	91.6
- others	238.3	250.0	252.1	249.3	264.8	258.9
<b>Rice (milled basis)</b>	<b>187.6</b>	<b>193.8</b>	<b>194.5</b>	<b>193.8</b>	<b>199.7</b>	<b>206.0</b>
held by:						
- main exporters <sup>1</sup>	43.8	50.9	52.8	56.4	62.7	63.8
- others	143.8	142.9	141.7	137.4	137.0	142.2
<b>Developed countries</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Australia	4.2	5.4	8.0	10.1	5.7	7.0
Canada	9.5	9.7	8.0	9.5	8.6	7.8
European Union <sup>11</sup>	41.7	36.1	43.0	45.9	40.6	35.8
Japan	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.6	6.1	6.3
Russian Federation	13.6	17.6	18.1	40.1	39.2	31.4
South Africa	2.7	4.1	4.8	4.8	4.9	2.7
Ukraine	5.6	5.9	23.6	12.5	6.6	4.5
United States of America	83.0	58.4	57.1	53.6	68.1	65.1
<b>Developing countries</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Asia</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
China (mainland)	389.0	392.0	394.1	396.8	412.6	418.3
India	62.7	67.9	64.2	63.8	69.7	70.8
Indonesia	9.6	7.0	7.1	5.8	8.0	8.4
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	4.9	6.0	8.1	9.5	11.9	13.2
Pakistan	2.0	4.6	6.0	5.2	6.2	5.9
Philippines	4.5	4.4	4.2	3.3	3.6	3.9
Republic of Korea	4.6	4.5	5.1	4.8	4.9	4.3
Syrian Arab Republic	3.7	4.1	3.1	1.7	1.4	0.9
Türkiye	10.1	10.5	9.2	12.9	11.4	7.1
<b>Africa</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Algeria	6.7	6.3	5.0	5.3	5.5	5.8
Egypt	6.3	6.0	5.9	4.6	4.1	5.1
Ethiopia	7.1	7.1	6.8	6.6	5.9	5.7
Morocco	5.8	3.6	5.7	4.0	4.8	4.4
Nigeria	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.5
Tunisia	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.7	1.0
<b>Central America and the Caribbean</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Mexico	7.4	6.9	8.0	8.2	10.7	9.5
<b>South America</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Argentina	12.7	11.0	8.4	12.4	8.2	8.0
Brazil	17.2	17.9	15.2	10.5	8.6	6.4

Notes: Based on official and unofficial estimates. Totals computed from unrounded data. Stocks data are based on an aggregate of carryovers at the end of national crop years and do not represent world stock levels at any point in time.

<sup>1</sup> Major wheat exporters are: Argentina, Australia, Canada, the European Union, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America; major coarse grains exporters are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, the European Union, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America; major rice exporters are: India, Pakistan, Thailand, the United States of America and Viet Nam.

<sup>11</sup> Data for the European Union from the year 2020 (including the 2020/21 marketing year) excludes the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.



Table A3. Selected international prices of wheat and coarse grains

(USD/tonne)

	Wheat			Maize		Sorghum
	US No.2 Hard Red Winter Ord. Protein <sup>I</sup>	US Soft Red Winter No.2 <sup>II</sup>	Argentina Trigo Pan <sup>III</sup>	US No.2 Yellow <sup>I</sup>	Argentina <sup>III</sup>	US Gulf
Annual (July/June)						
2010/11	316	289	311	254	260	258
2011/12	300	256	264	281	269	286
2012/13	348	310	336	311	278	304
2013/14	318	265	335	217	219	244
2014/15	266	221	246	173	177	247
2015/16	211	194	208	166	170	192
2016/17	197	170	190	156	172	172
2017/18	230	188	203	159	165	190
2018/19	232	210	233	166	166	183
2019/20	220	219	231	163	163	190
2020/21	269	254	263	220	225	308
2021/22	399	343	348	288	275	279
2022/23	389	305	385	299	289	343
2023/24	293	240	273	205	210	256
Monthly						
2023 - February	395	308	364	298	313	363
2023 - March	370	283	349	285	299	343
2023 - April	378	278	345	291	285	342
2023 - May	365	248	366	267	253	307
2023 - June	346	260	358	268	238	292
2023 - July	344	257	336	238	227	277
2023 - August	318	235	322	209	221	243
2023 - September	315	231	313	224	237	247
2023 - October	297	238	302	224	243	268
2023 - Nov ember	283	241	251	208	213	271
2023 - December	290	257	248	204	217	269
2024 - January	284	248	245	197	208	255
2024 - February	277	242	221	184	184	239
2024 - March	274	220	222	191	190	252
2024 - April	273	223	245	191	195	251
2024 - May	291	256	287	197	198	253
2024 - June	267	230	288	191	192	247
2024 - July	260	211	273	177	183	236
2024 - August	249	206	270	168	185	243
2024 - September	270	227	258	184	193	239
2024 - October	265	232	233	191	209	236
2024 - Nov ember	255	229	225	201	209	233
2024 - December	254	229	232	206	213	227
2025 - January	254	231	229	215	225	239
2025 - February	264	244	238	221	230	243

<sup>I</sup> Delivered United States of America f.o.b. Gulf.<sup>II</sup> Delivered United States of America Gulf.<sup>III</sup> Up River f.o.b.



Table A4a. Estimated cereal import requirements of low-income food-deficit countries in 2023/24 or 2024

(thousand tonnes)

		2022/23 or 2023	2023/24 or 2024
	Marketing year	Total imports	Total imports
<b>AFRICA</b>		<b>29 463.1</b>	<b>30 891.7</b>
<b>East Africa</b>		<b>14 036.1</b>	<b>15 141.9</b>
Burundi	Jan/Dec	191.9	188.0
Comoros	Jan/Dec	77.0	80.0
Eritrea	Jan/Dec	470.0	480.0
Ethiopia	Jan/Dec	1 955.0	2 220.0
Kenya	Oct/Sept	4 616.6	4 025.9
Rwanda	Jan/Dec	382.5	280.0
Somalia	Aug/Jul	1 195.0	1 075.0
South Sudan	Nov/Oct	730.0	690.0
Sudan	Nov/Oct	2 690.0	4 185.0
Uganda	Jan/Dec	668.0	608.0
United Republic of Tanzania	Jun/May	1 060.0	1 310.0
<b>Southern Africa</b>		<b>3 256.9</b>	<b>3 478.8</b>
Lesotho	Apr/Mar	200.9	175.4
Madagascar	Apr/Mar	1 078.5	534.2
Malawi	Apr/Mar	107.2	144.2
Mozambique	Apr/Mar	1 345.9	1 576.0
Zimbabwe	Apr/Mar	524.4	1 049.1
<b>West Africa</b>		<b>9 613.8</b>	<b>9 393.0</b>
<b>Coastal Countries</b>		<b>3 717.2</b>	<b>3 046.0</b>
Benin	Jan/Dec	769.0	411.0
Guinea	Jan/Dec	1 260.5	1 391.5
Liberia	Jan/Dec	707.2	391.0
Sierra Leone	Jan/Dec	505.0	581.0
Togo	Jan/Dec	475.5	271.5
<b>Sahelian Countries</b>		<b>5 896.6</b>	<b>6 347.0</b>
Burkina Faso	Nov/Oct	1 123.0	1 139.0
Chad	Nov/Oct	217.6	256.0
Gambia	Nov/Oct	402.0	409.0
Guinea-Bissau	Nov/Oct	123.0	205.0
Mali	Nov/Oct	681.0	636.0
Mauritania	Nov/Oct	490.0	499.0
Niger	Nov/Oct	369.0	432.0
Senegal	Nov/Oct	2 491.0	2 771.0
<b>Central Africa</b>		<b>2 556.3</b>	<b>2 877.9</b>
Cameroon	Jan/Dec	1 330.0	1 705.0
Central African Republic	Jan/Dec	75.0	77.0
Congo	Jan/Dec	383.0	304.0
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Jan/Dec	745.2	770.0
Sao Tome and Principe	Jan/Dec	23.1	21.9

Notes: The low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs) group includes net food deficit countries with annual per caput income below the level used by the World Bank to determine eligibility for International Development Association (IDA) assistance (i.e. USD 2 045 in 2021); for full details see <http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/lifdc>



Table A4b. Estimated cereal import requirements of low-income food-deficit countries in 2023/24 or 2024

(thousand tonnes)

		2022/23 or 2023	2023/24 or 2024
	Marketing year	Total imports	Total imports
<b>ASIA</b>		<b>19 645.6</b>	<b>18 564.5</b>
<b>Central Asia</b>		<b>5 828.2</b>	<b>5 436.7</b>
Kyrgyzstan	Jul/Jun	377.2	516.7
Tajikistan	Jul/Jun	1 144.0	1 241.0
Uzbekistan	Jul/Jun	4 307.0	3 679.0
<b>Far East</b>		<b>5 907.5</b>	<b>5 932.8</b>
Afghanistan	Jul/Jun	4 104.0	4 204.0
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Nov/Oct	*	*
Nepal	Jul/Jun	915.5	1 020.8
<b>Near East</b>		<b>7 910.0</b>	<b>7 195.0</b>
Syrian Arab Republic	Jul/Jun	2 782.0	2 720.0
Yemen	Jan/Dec	4 675.0	4 745.0
<b>CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>		<b>1 497.9</b>	<b>1 718.2</b>
Haiti	Jul/Jun	772.9	857.0
Nicaragua	Jul/Jun	725.0	861.2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>50 606.6</b>	<b>51 174.3</b>

Notes: The low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs) group includes net food deficit countries with annual per caput income below the level used by the World Bank to determine eligibility for International Development Association (IDA) assistance (i.e. USD 2 045 in 2021); for full details see <http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/lifdc>

\* Estimates not available.



Table A5. Estimated cereal import requirements of low-income food-deficit countries in 2024/25

(thousand tonnes)

		2023/24	2024/25
	Marketing year	Total imports	Total import requirements
<b>AFRICA</b>		<b>30 891.7</b>	<b>33 231.2</b>
<b>East Africa</b>		<b>15 141.9</b>	<b>15 455.5</b>
Kenya	Oct/Sept	4 025.9	4 230.0
Somalia	Aug/Jul	1 075.0	1 210.0
South Sudan	Nov/Oct	690.0	680.0
Sudan	Nov/Oct	4 185.0	3 900.0
United Republic of Tanzania	Jun/May	1 310.0	1 145.0
<b>Southern Africa</b>		<b>3 478.8</b>	<b>4 769.7</b>
Lesotho	Apr/Mar	175.4	236.1
Madagascar	Apr/Mar	534.2	691.0
Malawi	Apr/Mar	144.2	485.5
Mozambique	Apr/Mar	1 576.0	1 975.0
Zimbabwe	Apr/Mar	1 049.1	1 382.1
<b>West Africa</b>		<b>9 393.0</b>	<b>9 964.0</b>
Burkina Faso	Nov/Oct	1 139.0	1 113.0
Chad	Nov/Oct	256.0	274.0
Gambia	Nov/Oct	409.0	384.0
Guinea-Bissau	Nov/Oct	205.0	144.0
Mali	Nov/Oct	636.0	716.0
Mauritania	Nov/Oct	499.0	562.0
Niger	Nov/Oct	432.0	499.0
Senegal	Nov/Oct	2 771.0	2 831.0
<b>ASIA</b>		<b>18 564.5</b>	<b>18 867.4</b>
<b>Central Asia</b>		<b>5 436.7</b>	<b>5 494.6</b>
Kyrgyzstan	Jul/Jun	516.7	586.6
Tajikistan	Jul/Jun	1 241.0	1 241.0
Uzbekistan	Jul/Jun	3 679.0	3 667.0
<b>Far East</b>		<b>5 932.8</b>	<b>6 072.8</b>
Afghanistan	Jul/Jun	4 204.0	3 574.0
Nepal	Jul/Jun	1 020.8	1 695.8
<b>Near East</b>		<b>7 195.0</b>	<b>7 300.0</b>
Syrian Arab Republic	Jul/Jun	2 305.0	2 560.0
<b>CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>		<b>1 718.2</b>	<b>1 627.0</b>
Haiti	Jul/Jun	857.0	877.0
Nicaragua	Jul/Jun	861.2	750.0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>51 174.3</b>	<b>53 725.6</b>

Notes: Countries included in this table are only those that have entered the new marketing year. The low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs) group includes net food deficit countries with annual per caput income below the level used by the World Bank to determine eligibility for IDA assistance (i.e. USD 2 045 in 2021); for full details see <http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/lifdc>



## GIEWS - Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture

GIEWS continuously monitors crop prospects and food security situation at global, regional, national and subnational levels and warns of impending food difficulties and emergencies. Established in the wake of the world food crisis of the early 1970's, GIEWS maintains a unique database on all aspects of food supply and demand for every country of the world. GIEWS regularly provides policy makers and the international community with up-to-date information so that timely interventions can be planned and suffering avoided.

**Crop Prospects and Food Situation** is published by the Markets and Trade Division of FAO under the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS). It is published three times a year and focuses on developments affecting the food situation of developing countries and low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs) in particular. The report provides a review of the food situation by geographic region, a section dedicated to the LIFDCs and a list of countries requiring external assistance for food. It also includes a global Cereal supply and demand overview to complement the biannual analysis in the **Food Outlook** publication. **Crop Prospects and Food Situation** is available in English, French and Spanish in electronic format.

The data used to create the charts and tables are taken from the following sources:

The **FAO/GIEWS Country Cereal Balance System (CCBS)**. The CCBS is a unique database created and continuously kept up to date by the GIEWS and Basic Foodstuffs teams of the Markets and Trade Division, with data since 1980. It contains annual supply and utilization balances for the main cereals produced and consumed for over 220 countries/areas, from which (sub) regional and global aggregates are drawn. For more information see the note on the GIEWS website at: <https://www.fao.org/giews/data-tools/en/>

The **FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Tool**. The FPMA database includes monthly retail and/or wholesale price series of major foods consumed in almost 100 countries and weekly/monthly prices for over 80 internationally traded foodstuffs and feedstuffs. Visit the Tool at the following link: <https://fpma.fao.org/>

This report is based on information available as of **February 2025**.

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**Crop Prospects and Food Situation** and other GIEWS reports are available online at: [www.fao.org/giews/](http://www.fao.org/giews/).

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