

KENYA NUTRITION SITUATION OVERVIEW, FEBRUARY 2024



Key highlights:

- ❖ Nutrition situation has improved across counties according to the food and nutrition security analysis conducted in February 2024.
- ❖ Improvement attributed to improving food security situation. However, malnutrition remains prevalent in arid counties due to the cumulative net effect of the failed previous seasons, poor infant feeding practices among other factors.
- ❖ Nutrition situation expected to continue improving albeit within the same classification phases.
- ❖ An estimated 847,932 children aged 6 to 59 months require management of acute malnutrition; a reduction compared to 945,610 reported in July 2023.
- ❖ Sustained response to address the high levels of malnutrition while simultaneously implementing drought recovery actions and flood preparedness measures is required.

Number requiring management of acute malnutrition

	Total number of children	847,932
	PLW	124,359

Situation overview

Integrated Phase Classification for Acute Malnutrition (IPC AMN) analysis conducted during the 2023 Short Rains Assessment report writing workshop held in February 2024 showed improved nutrition situation in most arid counties compared to the July 2023 analysis (Figure 1 & 2). The improvement is attributed to improved food security situation including increased milk availability and food stocks resulting from the good performance of the rains coupled with a robust drought and flood emergency response.

However, malnutrition remains prevalent in arid counties due to factors such as the cumulative net effect of the failed previous seasons which still linger as communities continue to recover from drought related impacts, poor child feeding practices, poor water, high disease burden and multiple recurrent shocks which slow down the positive effects of the 2023 rains seasons.

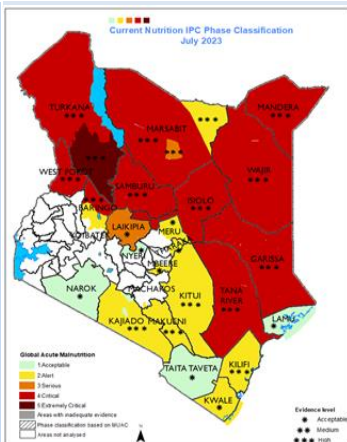


Figure 1. Nutrition Situation, July 2023

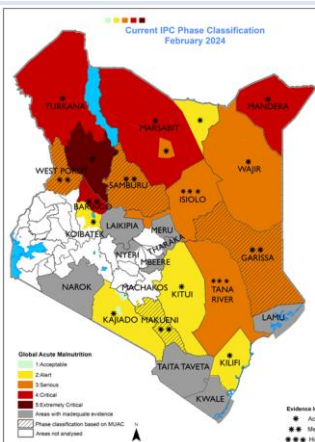


Figure 2. Current (SRA 2023) Nutrition Situation

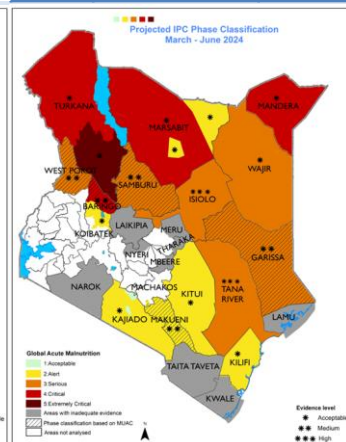


Figure 3. Projected Nutrition Situation

Turkana South has remained in the extremely critical phase (IPC AMN Phase 5; Global Acute Malnutrition - GAM by WHZ ≥ 30 percent) while Turkana Central, Turkana West, Turkana North, North Horr, Laisamis sub counties, Mandera and East Pokot in Baringo are in critical phase (IPC AMN Phase 4; GAM by WHZ 15 to 29.9 percent). Isiolo, Wajir, Garissa, Samburu, Tana River, Saku subcounty and West Pokot are in serious phase (IPC AMN Phase 3; GAM by WHZ 10 to 14.9 percent) while Makueni, Kitui, Kajiado, Kilifi Counties, Moyale, Baringo south and North sub counties are in alert phase (IPC AMN Phase 2; GAM by WHZ 5-9.9 percent). Over the projection period (March to June 2024) the nutrition situation is expected to improve with majority of the counties remaining within the same IPC AMN phases except for Saku in Marsabit County which is expected to improve from serious to alert phase (Figure 3).

Figure 4: Estimated Caseloads of Children 6-59 Months Requiring Management of Acute Malnutrition by County

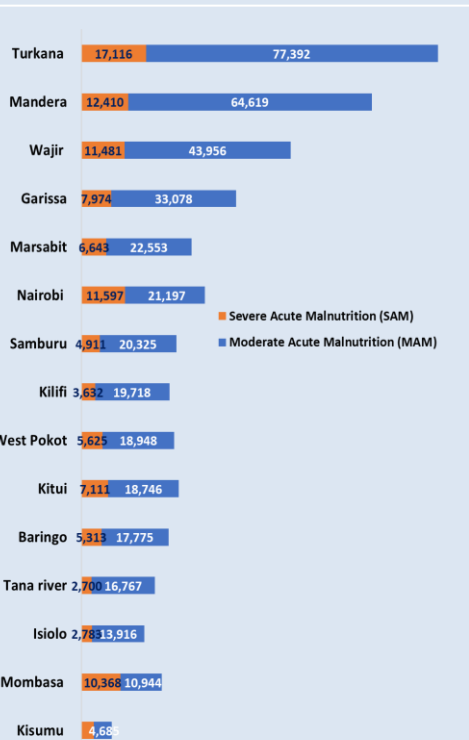


Table 1: Caseloads of Children 6-59 Months Requiring Management of Acute Malnutrition by Area

Area	GAM Children 6 to 59 m	SAM Children 6 to 59 m	MAM Children 6 to 59 m
ASAL	553,365	115,455	437,910
Urban	62,118	25,293	36,826
Non-ASAL	232,449	54,355	178,094
Total caseload	847,932	195,103	652,829

Key response actions

- Update contingency and response plans at national and county level with enhanced attention to recovery and preparedness for the projected heavy rains.
- Remapping and prioritization of integrated health & nutrition outreaches and mass screening in hotspot areas.
- Continued implementation of multisectoral interventions to address immediate needs with complementary recovery and resilience building actions.
- Scale up actions to address poor feeding practices and poor WASH.
- Sustained coordination, surveillance and monitoring of response action especially in areas where response is likely to be scaled down

Factors to monitor

- Effects of long rains on continuity of health and nutrition services given the projected heavy rains.
- Effect of scale down of outreaches on coverage of health and nutrition services in far flung areas.
- Nutrition situation across the country given still high levels of acute malnutrition in arid counties.
- Disease outbreaks, water sanitation and hygiene especially in areas that were affected by floods

GAM – Global Acute Malnutrition. MAM – Moderate Acute Malnutrition. SAM – Severe Acute Malnutrition. PLW – Pregnant and Lactating Women. WASH – Water Sanitation and Hygiene. IFAS- Iron Folic Acid Supplementation

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Estimated Caseloads and Targets of Children 6-59 months and Pregnant & Breastfeeding (Lactating) Women Requiring Management of Acute Malnutrition

Area	Global Acute Malnutrition 6 to 59 months		Moderate Acute Malnutrition 6 to 59 months		Severe Acute Malnutrition 6 to 59 months		Pregnant and Breastfeeding women	
	Total Caseload	Target	Total Caseload	Target	Total Caseload	Target	Total Caseload	Target
Baringo	23,088	12,872	17,775	8,887	5,313	3,985	5,112	5,112
Embu	3,834	2,207	2,677	1,338	1,158	868	48	48
Garissa	41,052	22,520	33,078	16,539	7,974	5,981	11,064	11,064
Isiolo	16,700	9,046	13,916	6,958	2,783	2,087	3,120	3,120
Kajiado	16,648	9,042	13,775	6,888	2,873	2,154	2,844	2,844
Kilifi	23,351	12,584	19,718	9,859	3,632	2,724	1,860	1,860
Kitui	25,857	14,706	18,746	9,373	7,111	5,333	3,924	3,924
Kwale	19,332	10,683	15,262	7,631	4,070	3,052	1,237	1,237
Laikipia	6,410	3,711	4,386	2,193	2,024	1,518	72	72
Lamu	1,984	1,168	1,282	641	703	527	36	36
Machakos	5,944	3,626	3,329	1,664	2,615	1,961	24	24
Makueni	17,401	10,030	12,084	6,042	5,317	3,988	5,364	5,364
Mandera	77,029	41,617	64,619	32,309	12,410	9,308	15,660	15,660
Marsabit	29,196	16,259	22,553	11,277	6,643	4,982	7,464	7,464
Meru	10,093	6,011	6,234	3,117	3,859	2,894	700	700
Narok	8,004	4,502	6,003	3,002	2,001	1,501	264	264
Nyeri	1,794	1,056	1,161	581	633	475	142	142
Samburu	25,235	13,845	20,325	10,162	4,911	3,683	8,028	8,028
Taita Taveta	4,423	2,629	2,752	1,376	1,671	1,253	177	177
Tana river	19,466	10,408	16,767	8,383	2,700	2,025	4,068	4,068
Tharaka Nithi	2,005	1,210	1,173	586	832	624	160	160
Turkana	94,508	51,533	77,392	38,696	17,116	12,837	25,140	25,140
Wajir	55,437	30,589	43,956	21,978	11,481	8,611	20,964	20,964
West Pokot	24,574	13,693	18,948	9,474	5,625	4,219	4,032	4,032
Total ASAL	553,365	305,546	437,910	218,955	115,455	86,591	121,503	121,503
Kisumu	8,013	4,838	4,685	2,342	3,328	2,496	192	192
Mombasa	21,312	13,248	10,944	5,472	10,368	7,776	312	312
Nairobi	32,794	19,296	21,197	10,598	11,597	8,698	1,560	1,560
Total urban	62,118	37,382	36,826	18,413	25,293	18,970	2,064	2,064
Total non- ASAL	232,449	129,813	178,094	89,047	54,355	40,766	792	792
GRAND TOTAL	847,932	472,742	652,829	326,415	195,103	146,327	124,359	124,359

ASAL: Arid and Semi Arid Areas. Non ASAL – all counties or areas that are not classified as urban or ASAL.



Estimated Number of Children Requiring Management of Acute Malnutrition

