

Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

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Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Latest News

According to a new Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis more than half a million people in Gaza are trapped in famine, marked by widespread starvation, destitution and preventable deaths.

About Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

- It is **an independent body funded by Western countries** and widely recognised as the main global system for measuring the **severity of hunger crises**.
- It was set up to sound the alarm so that famine and mass starvation could be prevented and to help organisations respond.
- The IPC is **overseen by 19 major humanitarian organisations** and regional bodies. It typically partners with national governments to analyse data.
- It is an **innovative multi-stakeholder global initiative** aimed at enhancing food security and nutrition analysis to inform decisions.

How is Famine Determined?

- The IPC system charts acute food **insecurity on a five-phase scale**. Its most extreme warning is Phase 5, which has two levels, catastrophe and famine.
- If the IPC or one of its partners finds that at **least one area is in famine**, a famine review committee, led by up to six experts, is activated.
- For an area to be classified as in famine, at **least 20% of people must be suffering extreme food shortages**, with one in **three children acutely malnourished** and **two people** out of every **10,000 dying daily** from starvation or malnutrition and disease.
- The IPC says **it does not formally declare famine**, but provides analysis for governments and others to do so.
- The IPC relies on the **U.N. World Food Programme** and other relief organisations and government **agencies to provide data**.
- The protocols used by the IPC are **harmonized across the three individual scales** (IPC Acute Food Insecurity, IPC Chronic Food Insecurity, and IPC Acute Malnutrition).

Source: **IE**

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