

About Yemen

Table of Contents:

Quick Facts	2
History	3
Why War?	3
Humanitarian Aid Crisis	4
Resources Used	6

Quick Facts

- Population: 35,219,853 people (growth rate of 1.78%)
- Mostly Arab; some Afro-Arab, and South Asian
- Mostly desert; hot and humid along west coast; temperate in western mountains affected by seasonal monsoon; extraordinarily hot, dry, harsh desert in east. (From CIA.gov)
- Some natural resources
 - petroleum, fish, rock salt,
 - marble
 - small deposits of coal
 - gold, lead, nickel
 - copper
 - fertile soil in west
- Mangoes / Guavas, potatoes, onions, milk, sorghum, spices, watermelons, chicken, tomatoes, grapes
- crude oil production and petroleum refining; small-scale production of cotton textiles, leather goods; food processing; handicrafts; aluminum products; cement; commercial ship repair; natural gas production
- Export partners: China (32%), Thailand (20%), India (12%), UAE (7%), Oman (5%)
- Import partners: China (26%), UAE (14%), India (10%), Oman (4%)
- Arabic, Mahri still fairly spoken in eastern Yemen
- Capital Sanaa
- Leader: Rashad Muhammad al-ALIMI
- Bicameral Parliament, people vote for a six year term
- Exchange Rate 1,114.29 : \$1
- Houthis are Shia (generally supported by Iran)

History

In 1990, after the cold war, the two previous governments united to create the *Republic of Yemen* with a new system of electing parliament. In 1994, war erupted between the remnants of the socialist party in the south and the new central government based in Sana'a. The central government won, controlling all of Yemen. By 1990 there were two camps within this neo-Zaydist movement. Azzan and Hussein al-Houthi. Of the two groups al-Houthi, who studied in Iran was strongly influenced by the revolutionary ideology of Iran. (USIP.org) "The Houthi movement adopted a more extreme interpretation of the traditional Zaydi doctrine. It championed strict religiosity and extreme, quasi-separatist ideas that reflected northern hegemonic aspirations, creating tensions with other Zaydi groups as well as the country's Sunni majority. Over time, the Houthis sought to distance themselves from other religious groups, both politically and in terms of religious thought. For example, the movement preached a more rigid interpretation of the Qu'ran and reintroduced the political theory of the Zaydi Imamate, which mandates a theocratic state ruled by a descendant of the Prophet. The Houthi movement's ideology can be seen as a fusion of different influences, including Zaydi principles, jihadist Salafi ideas and elements of the broader "Axis of Resistance" narrative that is associated with certain Iranian-influenced Shia groups in the region. This blend has led some observers to suggest that the Houthi movement has developed its own distinct sect, often referred to as 'Houthism.'"

Why War?

In 2010, the conflict came head to head with Houthi rebels (supported by the former president and Iran) and the official government of Yemen.

In 2014 the Houthis took over Sana'a. In response Saudi Arabia formed a coalition with Sunni powers (Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, UAE, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Sudan with support from the US) and made a series of air strikes against the Houthis in 2015. This led to all out war in Yemen until 2023. Technically there is a cease fire, although full peace is slow coming.

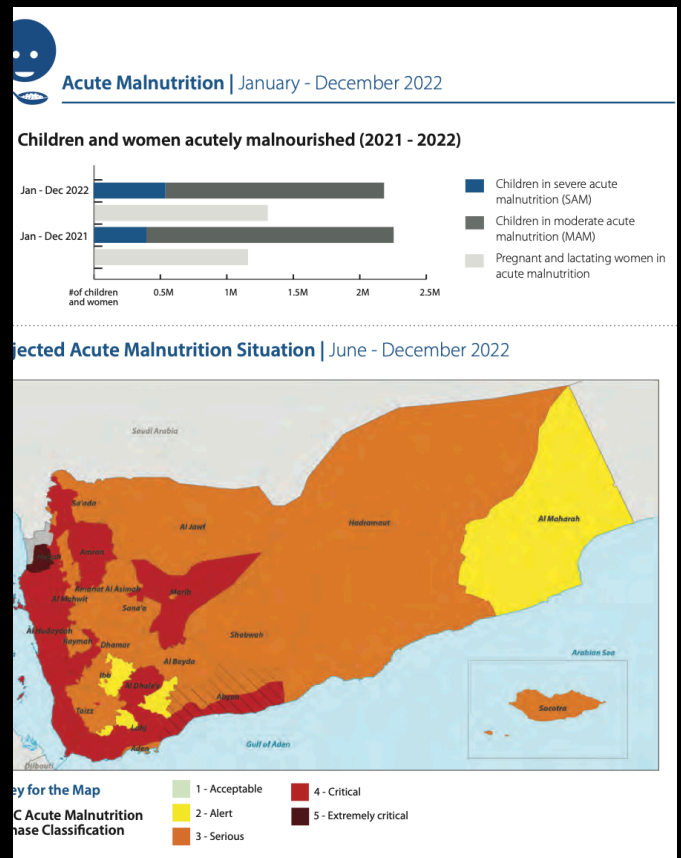
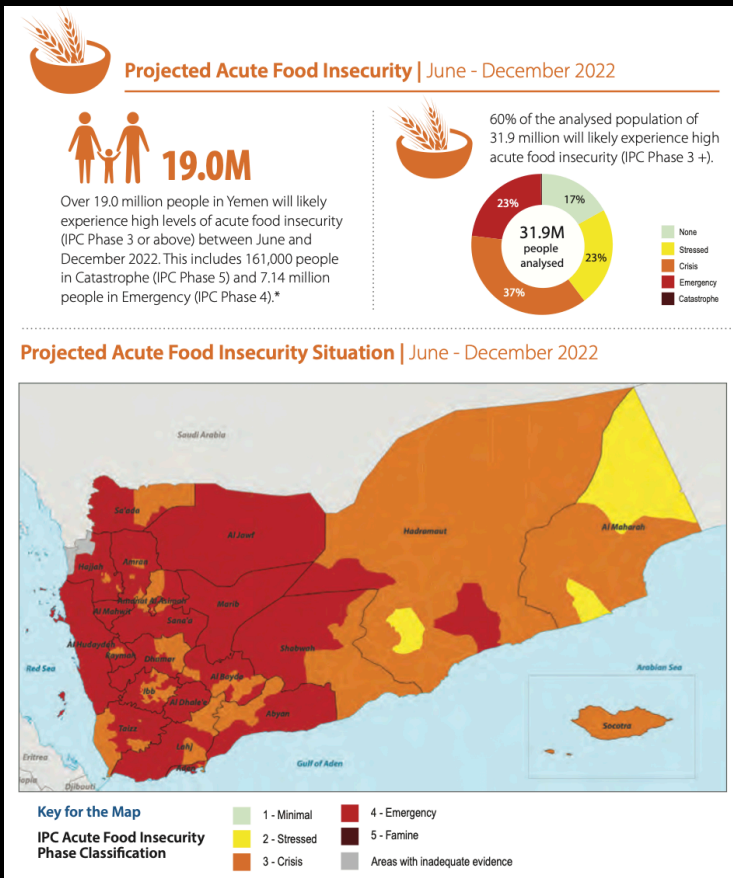
Humanitarian Aid Crisis

Every 10 minutes a child dies in Yemen. Every day more than one thousand children under age 5 die from causes like malnutrition and preventable diseases. (Compared to just 8 in Germany for example).

Many children to this day (2024) still hear gunshots every night, in December 2023 the UN stopped bringing in aid because of a funding shortage.

The Saudi led coalition (with US support) air strikes have led to the worlds worst humanitarian aid crisis.

The WFP only delivers aid when they can generally agree with local authorities and when they have funding. That's part of the problem.



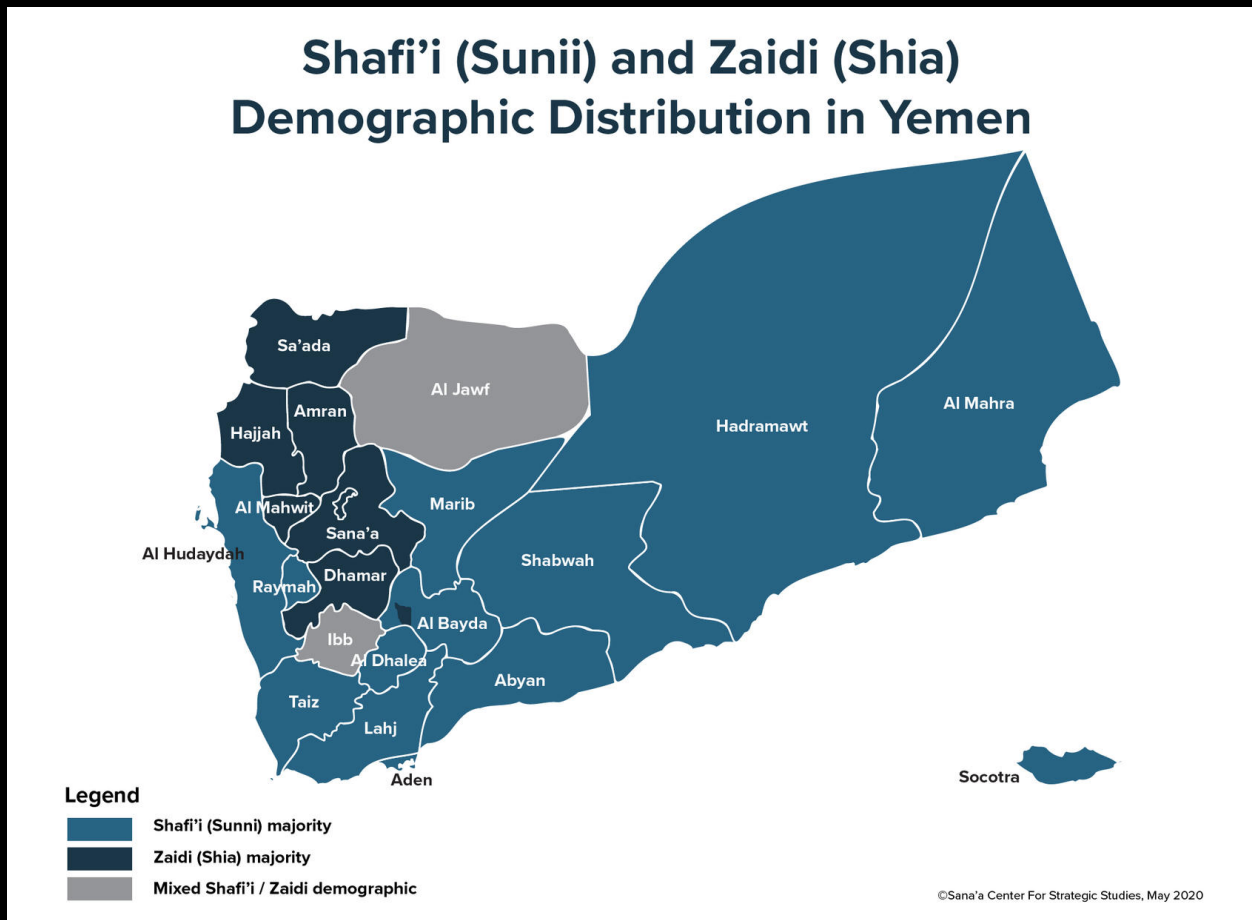
State of Christianity Right Now

Muslim: 99.1% (65% Sunni, 35% Shia)

Other: 0.9% (Jewish, Baha'i, Hindu, Christian, many are refugees or foreign residents), according to [USIP.org](https://www.usip.org/) there are 2,000 - 4,000 Christians in Yemen. According to other sources it could be up to 40,000, although many have fled because of war so it could be far fewer. Assuming there is 40,000 Christians (this includes Russian, Ethiopian Orthodox and Catholic), 85% of Yemenis do not know a Christian (even less in the north), According to Joshua Project aprox 7,000 evangelicals in the country. That means 97% of Yemeni's do not know a single evangelical. Growth rate is 5.1% (global is around 2%).

There are zero churches, virtually no Bibles, no Christian radio.

According to [USIP.org](https://www.usip.org/) the "Yemeni Constitution guarantees the freedom of belief in general." However, apostasy is a crime worth of the death penalty - so any Muslim who "declares a new faith" will be put to death (unless he repents within 30 days).



Resources Used

[Joshua Project Data](#) ↗

[USIP.org](#) ↗

[CIA.gov](#) ↗

[Yemen: The Third Frontier](#) ↗