

Table 1 Distribution of household characteristics by food security status of 497 households, rural Minia

Household characteristics	Total (n = 497)	Food secure (n = 151)	Food insecure ^a (n = 346)	t test P value
	Mean (SD) (range)	Mean (SD) (range)	Mean (SD) (range)	
Household size	5.96 (2.58) (3.0–28.0)	5.43 (1.76) (3.0–14.0)	6.19 (2.84) (3.0–28.0)	-3.03 0.003
No. of children /mother	2.97 (1.28) (1.0–8.0)	2.89 (1.16) (1.0–6.0)	3.01 (1.32) (1.0–8.0)	-0.998 0.319
Crowding index	2.1 (0.9) (0.33–6.0)	1.74 (0.71) (0.6–4.0)	2.32 (0.91) (0.33–6.0)	-6.844 < 0.001
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	χ² p value
Type of family				
Nuclear	373 (75.1%)	121 (80.1%)	252 (72.8%)	2.992
Extended	124 (24.9%)	30 (19.9%)	94 (27.2%)	0.084
Ration card possession	403 (81.1%)	125 (82.8%)	278 (80.3%)	0.406 0.524
Livestock possession	280 (56.3%)	92 (60.9%)	188 (54.3%)	1.857 0.173
Governmental support	68 (13.7%)	12 (7.9%)	56 (16.2%)	6.041 0.014
Household income				
Able to save money	174 (35%)	100 (66.3%)	74 (21.4%)	
Meet routine expenses and emergencies	184 (37%)	34 (22.5%)	150 (43.4%)	97.382
Just meet routine expenses	85 (17.1%)	15 (9.9%)	70 (20.2%)	< 0.001
In debt	54 (10.9%)	2 (1.3%)	52 (15%)	

^aCategory includes mildly, moderately and severely food insecure.
SD = standard deviation.