Agricultural production
- Expansion in the area of land used to cultivated food crops between 1960 and 2010: 12%
- Increase in world agricultural productivity during the same period: 150-200%
- Extent of total cultivated land (rainfed + irrigated) in 1961: 1.4 billion hectares
- Extent of total cultivated land (rainfed + irrigated) in 2006: 1.5 billion hectares
- Cultivated area where irrigation was practiced in 1961: 139 million hectares
- Cultivated area where irrigation was practiced in 2006: 301 million hectares
- Average number of hectares of cultivated area needed to feed one person in 1961: 0.45 ha
- Average number of hectares of cultivated area needed to feed one person in 2006: 0.22 ha

Land use
- Total world land area suitable for cropping: 4.4 billion hectares
- Percent of the total world cultivated area that is rainfed: 80% (1.2 billion ha)
- Total land area currently being cultivated: 1.6 billion hectares of which 20% (0.3 billion ha) is on marginally suitable lands
- Share of world land sources that are degraded: 25%
- Share that are moderately degraded: 8%
- Share that are improving: 10%
- In several regions, soil quality constraints affect more than half the cultivated land base, notably in sub-Saharan Africa, Southern America, Southeast Asia and Northern Europe.

Water use
- Percentage of all water withdrawn from aquifers, streams and lakes by agriculture: 70%
- Percent of total world crop production produced by rainfed agriculture systems: 60%
- Amount by which irrigation typically improves farm yields: Double
- Volume of rainfed cereal yields in the developing world, on average: 1.5 tonnes/hectare
- Volume of irrigated cereal yields in the developing world: 3.3t/ha
- Average number of crops per year on rainfed lands in Asia: 1
- Average number of crops per year on irrigated lands in Asia: 2
- Percentage of world population now living in water-scare regions: 40%
- Number of countries currently use more than 40 percent of their water resources for irrigation each year, a threshold that is considered critical: 11
- Number of countries that are withdrawing 20% of their water resources annual, indicating substantial pressure and impending water scarcity: 8
- Percent of renewable water resources currently used in Libya, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Egypt: %100+
- Percent of total renewable water resources currently used in South America: 1%

Global disparities
- Percentage of the world’s land area that is covered by low-income countries: 22%
- Cultivated land per capita in countries
  - Low income: 0.17 ha/per capita
  - Medium-income: 0.23 ha/per capita
  - High-income: 0.37 ha/per capita
- The average availability of cultivated land per capital in low-income countries is less than half that of high-income countries and the suitability of cultivated land for cropping is generally lower.
- High-income countries, as a group, cultivate more than twice the land area per capita (0.37 ha) than either middle income (0.23 ha) or low income (.017 ha) countries.