



Table 1. PREVALENCE OF UNDERNOURISHMENT in developing countries and countries in transition

DEVELOPING WORLD Region/subregion/country [undernourishment category]	Total population			Number of people undernourished			Proportion of undernourished in total population		
	1979-81	1990-92 millions	1998-2000	1979-81	1990-92 millions	1998-2000	1979-81	1990-92 %	1998-2000
DEVELOPING WORLD	3 240.2	4 050.0	4 638.9	920.0	818.5	798.8	28	20	17
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	2 303.5	2 812.1	3 162.5	727.3	567.3	508.1	32	20	16
EAST ASIA	1 060.9	1 241.1	1 342.4	307.7	198.2	128.4	29	16	10
China* [3]	998.9	1 169.5	1 264.6	303.8	193.0	119.1	30	16	9
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea [4]	17.2	20.3	22.1	3.0	3.7	7.5	18	18	34
Hong Kong SAR of China [1]	5.0	5.8	6.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	-
Mongolia [5]	1.7	2.3	2.5	0.3	0.8	1.0	16	34	42
Rep. of Korea [1]	38.1	43.3	46.4	0.5	0.8	0.7	-	-	-
OCEANIA	3.0	3.9	4.7	0.7	0.9	1.3	24	25	27
Papua New Guinea [4]	3.0	3.9	4.7	0.7	0.9	1.3	24	25	27
SOUTHEAST ASIA	354.8	444.8	509.4	88.4	76.5	63.5	25	17	12
Cambodia [5]	6.7	10.0	12.8	4.0	4.3	4.6	60	43	36
Indonesia [3]	150.3	185.6	209.3	36.6	16.7	12.3	24	9	6
Lao People's Dem. Rep. [4]	3.2	4.2	5.2	1.0	1.2	1.2	33	29	24
Malaysia [1]	13.8	18.3	21.8	0.5	0.6	0.4	4	3	-
Myanmar [3]	33.7	41.3	47.1	6.2	4.0	3.1	18	10	6
Philippines [4]	48.0	62.5	74.2	12.8	16.2	16.8	27	26	23
Thailand [3]	46.0	55.5	62.0	10.4	15.6	11.5	23	28	18
Viet Nam [3]	53.0	67.5	77.1	16.8	18.0	13.7	32	27	18
SOUTH ASIA	884.9	1 122.4	1 306.1	330.5	291.6	314.9	37	26	24
Bangladesh [5]	85.5	112.7	134.6	33.8	39.2	47.0	40	35	35
India [4]	689.0	861.3	992.7	261.5	215.6	233.3	38	25	24
Nepal [3]	14.6	18.6	22.5	7.1	3.5	4.3	49	19	19
Pakistan [3]	81.3	112.5	137.6	25.1	28.2	26.0	31	25	19
Sri Lanka [4]	14.6	17.2	18.7	3.0	5.0	4.3	21	29	23
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	355.9	442.2	504.4	45.9	58.8	54.8	13	13	11
NORTH AMERICA	67.6	84.8	97.4	3.0	4.3	5.2	4	5	5
Mexico [3]	67.6	84.8	97.4	3.0	4.3	5.2	4	5	5
CENTRAL AMERICA	22.1	28.7	35.2	4.5	4.8	7.1	20	17	20
Costa Rica [3]	2.3	3.1	3.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	8	6	5
El Salvador [3]	4.6	5.2	6.2	0.8	0.6	0.8	17	12	14
Guatemala [4]	6.8	9.0	11.1	1.2	1.2	2.8	18	14	25
Honduras [4]	3.6	5.0	6.3	1.1	1.1	1.3	31	23	21
Nicaragua [4]	2.9	3.9	4.9	0.8	1.2	1.5	26	30	29
Panama [3]	1.9	2.4	2.8	0.4	0.5	0.5	21	19	18
THE CARIBBEAN	24.1	28.5	31.3	4.7	7.4	7.9	20	26	25
Cuba [3]	9.7	10.7	11.2	0.4	0.5	1.5	4	5	13
Dominican Rep. [4]	5.7	7.2	8.2	1.4	1.9	2.1	25	27	26
Haiti [5]	5.5	7.0	8.0	2.6	4.5	4.0	48	64	50
Jamaica [3]	2.1	2.4	2.6	0.2	0.3	0.2	10	14	9
Trinidad and Tobago [3]	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	6	13	12
SOUTH AMERICA	242.2	300.1	340.6	33.8	42.3	34.6	14	14	10
Argentina [1]	28.1	33.0	36.6	0.3	0.7	0.4	-	-	-
Bolivia [4]	5.4	6.7	8.1	1.4	1.7	1.9	26	26	23
Brazil [3]	121.6	150.3	168.2	18.1	19.4	16.7	15	13	10
Chile [2]	11.1	13.3	15.0	0.7	1.1	0.6	7	8	4
Colombia [3]	28.4	35.7	41.4	6.1	6.1	5.6	22	17	13
Ecuador [3]	8.0	10.5	12.4	0.9	0.9	0.7	11	8	5
Guyana [3]	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	13	19	14
Paraguay [3]	3.1	4.3	5.4	0.4	0.8	0.7	13	18	14
Peru [3]	17.3	22.0	25.2	4.9	8.9	2.9	28	40	11
Suriname [3]	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	18	12	11
Uruguay [2]	2.9	3.1	3.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	3	6	3
Venezuela [4]	15.1	20.0	23.7	0.6	2.3	4.9	4	11	21

Tables

Table 1 *cont.* PREVALENCE OF UNDERNOURISHMENT in developing countries and countries in transition

DEVELOPING WORLD Region/subregion/country (undernourishment category)	Total population			Number of people undernourished			Proportion of undernourished in total population		
	1979-81	1990-92 millions	1998-2000	1979-81	1990-92 millions	1998-2000	1979-81	1990-92 %	1998-2000
NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	237.0	321.3	384.5	21.5	26.0	40.0	9	8	10
NEAR EAST	145.6	200.6	244.2	14.1	20.5	33.8	10	10	14
Afghanistan [5]	15.0	14.6	21.2	5.6	9.2	14.9	37	63	70
Iran, Islamic Rep. [3]	39.2	59.9	69.2	2.6	2.7	3.8	7	4	5
Iraq [4]	13.0	17.8	22.3	0.5	1.2	5.9	4	7	27
Jordan [3]	2.2	3.4	4.8	0.1	0.1	0.3	6	4	6
Kuwait [2]	1.4	2.1	1.8	0.1	0.5	0.1	4	22	4
Lebanon [2]	2.7	2.8	3.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	8	-	3
Saudi Arabia [2]	9.6	15.8	19.6	0.3	0.6	0.6	3	4	3
Syrian Arab Rep. [2]	8.7	12.8	15.8	0.3	0.6	0.5	3	5	3
Turkey [1]	44.7	57.2	65.7	1.2	1.0	1.6	3	-	-
United Arab Emirates [1]	1.0	2.1	2.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	-	3	-
Yemen [4]	8.2	12.2	17.6	3.2	4.4	5.9	39	36	33
NORTH AFRICA	91.4	120.7	140.3	7.4	5.5	6.2	8	5	4
Algeria [3]	18.7	25.4	29.8	1.7	1.3	1.7	9	5	6
Egypt [2]	43.8	57.4	66.7	3.6	2.6	2.5	8	5	4
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya [1]	3.0	4.4	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
Morocco [3]	19.4	25.1	29.3	1.9	1.5	2.0	10	6	7
Tunisia [1]	6.4	8.3	9.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	3	-	-
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	343.8	474.5	587.5	125.4	166.4	195.9	36	35	33
CENTRAL AFRICA	44.8	62.8	79.6	15.1	22.0	45.1	34	35	57
Cameroon [4]	8.7	11.9	14.6	2.0	3.8	3.6	22	32	25
Central African Rep. [5]	2.3	3.0	3.6	0.6	1.5	1.6	24	49	44
Chad [4]	4.5	6.0	7.6	3.1	3.5	2.5	68	58	32
Congo [4]	1.7	2.3	2.9	0.5	0.9	0.9	31	37	32
Dem. Rep. of the Congo [5]	26.9	38.5	49.6	8.9	12.3	36.4	33	32	73
Gabon [3]	0.7	1.0	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	13	11	8
EAST AFRICA	120.4	166.1	204.0	42.5	73.7	83.0	35	44	41
Burundi [5]	4.1	5.7	6.3	1.6	2.8	4.3	39	49	69
Eritrea [5]	na	na	3.5	na	na	2.0	na	na	58
Ethiopia [5]	na	na	61.4	na	na	27.1	na	na	44
Kenya [5]	16.4	24.3	30.0	4.0	11.5	13.2	24	47	44
Rwanda [5]	5.2	6.4	7.0	1.2	2.2	2.8	24	34	40
Somalia [5]	6.4	7.2	8.4	4.3	4.8	6.0	67	67	71
Sudan [4]	19.3	25.4	30.4	5.6	7.8	6.5	29	31	21
Uganda [4]	12.5	17.8	22.6	4.1	4.1	4.7	33	23	21
United Rep. of Tanzania [5]	18.8	27.0	34.3	5.2	9.8	16.2	28	36	47
SOUTHERN AFRICA	51.9	71.0	87.1	17.0	34.0	37.1	33	48	43
Angola [5]	7.1	9.9	12.8	2.6	6.0	6.3	37	61	50
Botswana [4]	0.9	1.3	1.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	30	17	25
Lesotho [4]	1.4	1.7	2.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	30	27	26
Madagascar [5]	9.1	12.3	15.5	1.8	4.3	6.2	20	35	40
Malawi [4]	6.2	9.6	11.0	1.6	4.8	3.7	26	49	33
Mauritius [3]	1.0	1.1	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	10	6	5
Mozambique [5]	11.8	14.1	17.9	6.5	9.7	9.8	55	69	55
Namibia [3]	1.0	1.4	1.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	20	15	9
Swaziland [3]	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	14	10	12
Zambia [5]	5.9	8.3	10.2	1.5	3.7	5.1	26	45	50
Zimbabwe [5]	7.1	10.5	12.4	1.9	4.5	4.7	26	43	38
WEST AFRICA	126.7	174.7	216.7	50.7	36.7	30.7	40	21	14
Benin [3]	3.5	4.8	6.1	1.3	0.9	0.8	37	19	13
Burkina Faso [4]	6.9	9.3	11.3	4.5	2.2	2.6	64	23	23
Côte d'Ivoire [3]	8.5	13.0	15.7	0.7	2.3	2.3	8	18	15
Gambia [4]	0.6	1.0	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	58	21	21
Ghana [3]	11.0	15.6	18.9	7.1	5.5	2.2	64	35	12
Guinea [4]	4.7	6.4	8.0	1.5	2.5	2.6	32	40	32



Table 1 *cont.* PREVALENCE OF UNDERNOURISHMENT in developing countries and countries in transition

DEVELOPING WORLD Region/subregion/country [undernourishment category]	Total population			Number of people undernourished			Proportion of undernourished in total population		
	1979-81	1990-92 millions	1998-2000	1979-81	1990-92 millions	1998-2000	1979-81	1990-92 %	1998-2000
Liberia [5]	1.9	2.1	2.7	0.4	0.7	1.0	22	33	39
Mali [4]	6.8	9.0	11.0	4.1	2.2	2.3	60	25	20
Mauritania [3]	1.6	2.0	2.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	35	14	12
Niger [5]	5.6	8.0	10.5	1.9	3.3	3.8	34	42	36
Nigeria [3]	64.3	88.5	110.9	25.2	11.9	7.3	39	13	7
Senegal [4]	5.5	7.5	9.2	1.3	1.7	2.3	23	23	25
Sierra Leone [5]	3.2	4.1	4.3	1.3	1.9	2.0	40	46	47
Togo [4]	2.5	3.5	4.4	0.7	1.0	1.0	26	28	23

COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION Region/subregion/country [undernourishment category]	Total population	Number of people undernourished	Proportion of undernourished in total population
	1998-2000 millions	1998-2000 millions	1998-2000 %

COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION	412.6	30.2	7
COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES	284.0	25.5	9
Armenia [5]	3.8	1.8	46
Azerbaijan [4]	8.0	1.9	23
Belarus [1]	10.2	0.2	-
Georgia [3]	5.3	0.9	16
Kazakhstan [3]	16.3	1.2	8
Kyrgyzstan [3]	4.8	0.4	8
Rep. of Moldova [3]	4.3	0.4	10
Russian Fed. [3]	146.2	7.2	5
Tajikistan [5]	6.0	3.9	64
Turkmenistan [3]	4.6	0.4	8
Ukraine [3]	50.0	2.6	5
Uzbekistan [3]	24.5	4.7	19
BALTIC STATES	7.5	0.3	3
Estonia [1]	1.4	0.0	-
Latvia [3]	2.4	0.1	5
Lithuania [2]	3.7	0.1	3
EASTERN EUROPE	121.0	4.5	4
Albania [3]	3.1	0.3	8
Bosnia and Herzegovina [3]	3.8	0.2	6
Bulgaria [3]	8.0	1.2	15
Croatia [3]	4.7	0.8	18
Czech Rep. [1]	10.3	0.2	-
Hungary [1]	10.0	0.1	-
TFYR Macedonia [2]	2.0	0.1	4
Poland [1]	38.6	0.3	-
Romania [1]	22.5	0.3	-
Slovakia [1]	5.4	0.1	-
Slovenia [1]	2.0	0.0	-
Yugoslavia, Fed. Rep. of ** [3]	10.6	0.8	8

NOTES:

Figures following country name refer to the prevalence categories (proportion of the population undernourished in 1998-2000):

- [1] <2.5% undernourished
- [2] 2.5-4% undernourished
- [3] 5-19% undernourished
- [4] 20-34% undernourished
- [5] 35% undernourished

KEY:

- na not available
- proportion less than 2.5% undernourished
- * includes Taiwan Province of China
- ** Serbia and Montenegro

Table does not include countries for which there were insufficient data
 SOURCES: Total population: *UN Population Prospects*, 2000 revision
 Undernourishment: FAO estimates

Tables

Table 2. FOOD AVAILABILITY, DIET DIVERSIFICATION, POVERTY, HEALTH, CHILD NUTRITIONAL STATUS in developing countries and countries in transition, classified by category of prevalence of undernourishment

CATEGORY OF PREVALENCE of undernourishment in total population 1998–2000; region and country	FOOD AVAILABILITY AND DIET DIVERSIFICATION		POVERTY	HEALTH		CHILD NUTRITIONAL STATUS
	Dietary energy supply (DES) 1998–2000	Share of non-starchy food in total DES 1998–2000	People living on less than US\$1 per day 1990s (last survey)	Life expectancy at birth 2000	Under-five mortality rate 2000	Underweight children under five years of age 1990–2000 (last survey)
LESS THAN 2.5% UNDERNOURISHED						
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC						
Hong Kong SAR of China	3 100	70	na	80	na	na
Malaysia	2 930	56	na	73	9	18
Rep. of Korea	3 060	49	-	73	5	na
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Argentina	3 180	66	na	74	21	na
NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA						
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	3 300	53	na	71	20	5
Tunisia	3 360	48	-	72	28	4
Turkey	3 390	47	2	70	45	8
United Arab Emirates	3 180	65	na	75	9	14
COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION						
Belarus	3 050	53	-	68	20	na
Czech Rep.	3 170	69	-	75	5	1
Estonia	3 250	53	-	71	21	na
Hungary	3 420	70	-	71	9	na
Poland	3 370	58	-	73	10	na
Romania	3 280	47	3	70	22	6
Slovakia	3 100	65	-	73	9	na
Slovenia	3 080	61	-	75	5	na
2.5 TO 4% UNDERNOURISHED						
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Chile	2 850	57	-	76	12	1
Uruguay	2 850	63	-	74	17	5
NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA						
Egypt	3 320	34	3	67	43	12
Kuwait	3 130	62	na	77	10	10
Lebanon	3 160	62	na	70	32	3
Saudi Arabia	2 840	51	na	73	29	14
Syrian Arab Rep.	3 050	52	na	70	29	13
COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION						
Lithuania	3 010	47	-	73	21	na
TFYR of Macedonia	2 960	58	na	73	26	6
5 TO 19% UNDERNOURISHED						
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC						
China*	3 030	39	19	70	40	10
Indonesia	2 900	29	8	66	48	26
Myanmar	2 820	24	na	56	110	36
Nepal	2 380	21	38	59	100	47
Pakistan	2 460	47	31	63	110	38
Thailand	2 480	49	-	69	29	19
Viet Nam	2 540	26	na	69	39	33
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Brazil	2 960	65	12	68	38	6
Colombia	2 570	60	20	72	30	7
Costa Rica	2 780	62	13	77	12	5
Cuba	2 560	60	na	76	9	4
Ecuador	2 680	62	20	70	32	15
El Salvador	2 460	46	21	70	40	12
Guyana	2 550	48	na	63	74	12

Key: * includes Taiwan Province of China for FAO estimates; ** Serbia and Montenegro; na not available; - proportion less than 2%.



Table 2 *cont.* FOOD AVAILABILITY, DIET DIVERSIFICATION, POVERTY, HEALTH, CHILD NUTRITIONAL STATUS in developing countries and countries in transition, classified by category of prevalence of undernourishment

CATEGORY OF PREVALENCE of undernourishment in total population 1998–2000; region and country	FOOD AVAILABILITY AND DIET DIVERSIFICATION		POVERTY	HEALTH		CHILD NUTRITIONAL STATUS
	Dietary energy supply (DES) 1998–2000	Share of non-starchy food in total DES 1998–2000	People living on less than US\$1 per day 1990s (last survey)	Life expectancy at birth 2000	Under-five mortality rate 2000	Underweight children under five years of age 1990–2000 (last survey)
Jamaica	2 680	59	3	75	20	4
Mexico	3 150	53	16	73	30	8
Panama	2 410	62	14	75	26	7
Paraguay	2 540	57	20	70	31	5
Peru	2 600	46	16	69	50	8
Suriname	2 630	57	na	70	33	na
Trinidad and Tobago	2 720	61	12	73	20	na
NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA						
Algeria	2 960	39	-	71	65	6
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	2 910	39	na	69	44	11
Jordan	2 720	47	-	72	34	5
Morocco	3 010	36	-	67	46	9
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA						
Benin	2 570	26	na	53	154	29
Côte d'Ivoire	2 590	33	12	46	173	21
Gabon	2 550	55	na	53	90	na
Ghana	2 650	28	45	57	102	25
Mauritania	2 660	45	29	52	183	23
Mauritius	2 970	54	na	72	20	16
Namibia	2 600	27	35	47	69	26
Nigeria	2 840	35	70	47	184	27
Swaziland	2 570	52	na	46	142	na
COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION						
Albania	2 750	52	na	74	31	14
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2 810	42	na	73	18	4
Bulgaria	2 640	63	-	72	16	na
Croatia	2 480	62	-	73	9	1
Georgia	2 440	38	-	73	29	3
Kazakhstan	2 720	41	-	65	75	4
Kyrgyzstan	2 830	34	na	67	63	11
Latvia	2 880	58	-	70	21	na
Rep. of Moldova	2 730	48	11	68	33	3
Russian Fed.	2 900	52	7	65	22	3
Turkmenistan	2 720	37	12	66	70	na
Ukraine	2 830	49	3	68	21	3
Uzbekistan	2 370	42	3	70	67	19
Yugoslavia, Fed. Rep. of **	2 750	68	na	72	20	2
20 TO 34% UNDERNOURISHED						
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC						
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	2 170	32	na	61	30	60
India	2 430	38	44	63	96	47
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	2 240	21	26	54	105	40
Papua New Guinea	2 180	44	na	59	112	na
Philippines	2 360	44	na	69	40	28
Sri Lanka	2 360	44	7	73	19	33
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Bolivia	2 210	51	14	63	80	10
Dominican Rep.	2 310	67	3	67	48	5
Guatemala	2 160	47	10	65	59	24
Honduras	2 390	54	24	66	40	25
Nicaragua	2 240	49	na	69	45	12

NOTES: The underweight refers to children below five years of age (0–59 months), except: 0–35 months Benin, Eritrea, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique, Nigeria, Togo and Uzbekistan; 0–71 months Chile, Congo, and Costa Rica; 6–59 months Dem. People's Rep. of Korea, Nepal and TFYR Macedonia; 3–35 months Bolivia and Mali; 12–71 months Croatia and Honduras; 3–59 months El Salvador and Guatemala; 6–35 months Afghanistan; 0–72 months China; 0–36 months Côte d'Ivoire; 0–48 months Guyana; 0–47 months Uganda.

Tables

Table 2 *cont.* FOOD AVAILABILITY, DIET DIVERSIFICATION, POVERTY, HEALTH, CHILD NUTRITIONAL STATUS in developing countries and countries in transition, classified by category of prevalence of undernourishment

CATEGORY OF PREVALENCE of undernourishment in total population 1998–2000; region and country	FOOD AVAILABILITY AND DIET DIVERSIFICATION		POVERTY	HEALTH		CHILD NUTRITIONAL STATUS
	Dietary energy supply (DES) 1998–2000	Share of non-starchy food in total DES 1998–2000	People living on less than US\$1 per day 1990s (last survey)	Life expectancy at birth 2000	Under-five mortality rate 2000	Underweight children under five years of age 1990–2000 (last survey)
Venezuela	2 280	60	23	73	23	5
NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA						
Iraq	2 150	34	na	61	130	16
Yemen	2 040	33	16	56	117	46
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA						
Botswana	2 240	50	na	39	101	13
Burkina Faso	2 320	25	61	44	198	34
Cameroon	2 270	41	33	50	154	21
Chad	2 180	40	na	48	198	28
Congo	2 170	36	na	51	108	14
Gambia	2 400	45	59	53	128	17
Guinea	2 240	41	na	46	175	23
Lesotho	2 300	19	43	44	133	16
Malawi	2 160	24	na	39	188	25
Mali	2 400	28	73	42	233	43
Senegal	2 260	40	26	52	139	18
Sudan	2 360	43	na	56	108	17
Togo	2 370	21	na	49	142	25
Uganda	2 330	56	na	42	127	26
COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION						
Azerbaijan	2 330	33	-	72	105	17
35% OR MORE UNDERNOURISHED						
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC						
Bangladesh	2 100	16	29	61	82	48
Cambodia	1 990	22	na	54	135	46
Mongolia	2 020	56	14	67	78	13
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN						
Haiti	2 040	46	na	53	125	28
NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA						
Afghanistan	1 630	27	na	43	257	48
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA						
Angola	1 890	33	na	47	295	na
Burundi	1 620	51	na	42	190	45
Central African Rep.	1 950	44	67	43	180	24
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1 590	23	na	46	207	34
Eritrea	1 710	22	na	52	114	44
Ethiopia	1 880	19	31	42	174	47
Kenya	1 960	41	27	47	120	23
Liberia	2 140	38	na	47	235	na
Madagascar	2 010	25	49	55	139	33
Mozambique	1 910	23	38	42	200	26
Niger	2 100	28	61	46	270	40
Rwanda	2 020	52	na	40	187	29
Sierra Leone	1 980	36	57	39	316	27
Somalia	1 600	65	na	48	225	26
United Rep. of Tanzania	1 920	30	20	44	165	29
Zambia	1 900	21	64	38	202	25
Zimbabwe	2 110	38	36	40	117	13
COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION						
Armenia	2 040	36	8	74	30	3
Tajikistan	1 790	31	na	69	73	na

SOURCES: Dietary energy supply (DES) and share of non-starchy food: FAO estimates; Poverty: *World Development Indicators 2002*, World Bank; Life expectancy at birth: World Development Indicators online database, World Bank, July 2002; Under-five mortality and child nutritional status: UNICEF online database, Sept. 2001.

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The State of Food Insecurity in the World

This fourth edition of *The State of Food Insecurity in the World* reports an alarming trend, documents its devastating impact and highlights some encouraging signs that the trend can be reversed.

The alarming trend is revealed by FAO's latest estimates of the number of hungry people around the world. These figures indicate that the number of undernourished people in developing countries has been reduced by just 2.5 million per year since the World Food Summit benchmark period of 1990–92. If progress continues at this sluggish pace until 2015, the total reduction will amount to less than 10 percent, far short of the 50 percent target set by the Summit in 1996.

The persistence of widespread hunger in a world of plenty has a devastating impact on human lives, national economies and global prospects for sustainable development. Articles in *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2002* chart the fatal connection between hunger and mortality, hunger's crippling effect on both family productivity and national prosperity, and the strategic connection between combating hunger and achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

The news is not all grim, however. The year 2002 has offered signs of growing awareness that action against hunger must be accelerated, especially by mobilizing resources for agricultural and rural development. The United Nations strategy for promoting the Millennium Development Goals has galvanized renewed commitment to combating hunger. Increased resources were pledged for development assistance at the Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, Mexico. The World Food Summit: *five years later* in Rome initiated a process of intergovernmental consultations to elaborate voluntary guidelines for the progressive realization of the right to food in the context of national food security. Moreover, it is expected that the Anti-Hunger Programme paper, presented by the FAO Secretariat during the World Food Summit: *five years later*, will stimulate consensus on and commitment of resources for a twin-track approach to reducing hunger – promoting sustainable agricultural and rural development, while enhancing access to food by the most needy. And most recently, the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg reignited both awareness and action for the interrelated goals of combating hunger and poverty and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.



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