

Tables

Table 1. Prevalence of undernourishment and the distance from Millennium Development Goal¹ and World Food Summit² targets in developing countries

DEVELOPING WORLD Region/subregion/country	Total population		Number of people undernourished		Proportion of undernourished in total population		Ratio current/baseline prevalence of undernourished ³ Ratio for MDG ¹ target = 0.5	Ratio current/baseline number of undernourished ³ Ratio for WFS ² target = 0.5
	1990–92 (millions)	2000–02 (millions)	1990–92 (millions)	2000–02 (millions)	1990–92 (%)	2000–02		
DEVELOPING WORLD	4058.7	4796.7	823.8	814.6	20	17	0.8	1.0
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC*	2815.2	3256.1	569.2	519.0	20	16	0.8	0.9
East Asia	1241.5	1364.5	198.8	151.7	16	11	0.7	0.8
China	1175.7	1292.5	193.5	142.1	16	11	0.7	0.7
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	20.3	22.4	3.7	8.1	18	36	2.0	2.2
Mongolia	2.3	2.5	0.8	0.7	34	28	0.8	0.9
Rep. of Korea	43.3	47.1	0.8	0.7	–	–	0.9	0.9
Southeast Asia	444.2	522.8	78.4	65.5	18	13	0.7	0.8
Cambodia	10.1	13.5	4.3	4.4	43	33	0.8	1.0
Indonesia	185.2	214.3	16.4	12.6	9	6	0.7	0.8
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	4.2	5.4	1.2	1.2	29	22	0.8	1.0
Malaysia	18.3	23.5	0.5	0.6	3	–	0.9	1.1
Myanmar	41.2	48.2	4.0	2.8	10	6	0.6	0.7
Philippines	62.5	77.1	16.2	17.2	26	22	0.9	1.1
Thailand	55.1	61.6	15.2	12.2	28	20	0.7	0.8
Viet Nam	67.5	79.2	20.6	14.7	31	19	0.6	0.7
South Asia	1125.3	1363.3	291.3	301.1	26	22	0.9	1.0
Bangladesh	112.1	140.9	39.2	42.5	35	30	0.9	1.1
India	863.3	1033.3	215.8	221.1	25	21	0.9	1.0
Nepal	19.1	24.1	3.9	4.0	20	17	0.8	1.0
Pakistan	113.7	146.3	27.7	29.3	24	20	0.8	1.1
Sri Lanka	17.0	18.8	4.8	4.1	28	22	0.8	0.9
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	443.4	521.2	59.5	52.9	13	10	0.8	0.9
North America	84.8	100.5	4.6	5.2	5	5	1.0	1.1
Mexico	84.8	100.5	4.6	5.2	5	5	1.0	1.1
Central America	28.8	36.9	5.0	7.4	17	20	1.2	1.5
Costa Rica	3.2	4.0	0.2	0.2	6	4	0.7	0.9
El Salvador	5.2	6.3	0.6	0.7	12	11	0.9	1.1
Guatemala	9.0	11.7	1.4	2.8	16	24	1.5	2.0
Honduras	5.0	6.6	1.1	1.5	23	22	1.0	1.3
Nicaragua	3.9	5.2	1.2	1.4	30	27	0.9	1.2
Panama	2.5	3.0	0.5	0.8	21	26	1.3	1.5
Caribbean	28.5	31.7	7.8	6.7	27	21	0.8	0.9
Cuba	10.7	11.2	0.8	0.4	8	3	0.4	0.4
Dominican Rep.	7.2	8.5	1.9	2.1	27	25	0.9	1.1
Haiti	7.0	8.1	4.6	3.8	65	47	0.7	0.8
Jamaica	2.4	2.6	0.3	0.3	14	10	0.7	0.8
Trinidad and Tobago	1.2	1.3	0.2	0.2	13	12	0.9	1.0
South America	301.3	352.2	42.0	33.6	14	10	0.7	0.8
Argentina	33.0	37.5	0.7	0.6	–	–	0.8	0.9
Bolivia	6.8	8.5	1.9	1.8	28	21	0.8	0.9
Bolivarian Rep. of Venezuela	20.0	24.8	2.3	4.3	11	17	1.5	1.9
Brazil	151.2	174.0	18.5	15.6	12	9	0.7	0.8
Chile	13.3	15.4	1.1	0.6	8	4	0.5	0.6
Colombia	35.7	42.8	6.1	5.7	17	13	0.8	0.9
Ecuador	10.5	12.6	0.9	0.6	8	4	0.5	0.7
Guyana	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.1	21	9	0.5	0.5
Paraguay	4.3	5.6	0.8	0.8	18	14	0.8	1.0
Peru	22.2	26.4	9.3	3.4	42	13	0.3	0.4
Suriname	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	13	11	0.8	0.8
Uruguay	3.1	3.4	0.2	0.1	6	4	0.6	0.6

(continued)

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DEVELOPING WORLD Region/subregion/country	Total population		Number of people undernourished		Proportion of undernourished in total population		Ratio current/baseline prevalence of undernourished ³ Ratio for MDG ¹ target = 0.5	Ratio current/baseline number of undernourished ³ Ratio for WFS ² target = 0.5
	1990–92 (millions)	2000–02 (millions)	1990–92 (millions)	2000–02 (millions)	1990–92 (%)	2000–02		
NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA*	322.8	399.4	24.8	39.2	8	10	1.3	1.6
Near East*	202.5	255.0	19.4	33.1	10	13	1.4	1.7
Islamic Rep. of Iran	58.0	67.3	2.1	2.7	4	4	1.1	1.3
Jordan	3.4	5.2	0.1	0.4	4	7	1.9	2.9
Kuwait	2.1	2.3	0.5	0.1	23	5	0.2	0.3
Lebanon	2.8	3.5	0.1	0.1	–	3	1.2	1.5
Saudi Arabia	17.1	22.8	0.7	0.8	4	3	0.8	1.1
Syrian Arab Rep.	13.1	17.0	0.7	0.6	5	4	0.7	1.0
Turkey	58.7	69.3	1.0	1.8	–	3	1.6	1.9
United Arab Emirates	2.1	2.9	0.1	0.1	4	–	0.5	0.6
Yemen	12.5	18.7	4.2	6.7	34	36	1.1	1.6
North Africa	120.4	144.4	5.4	6.1	4	4	1.0	1.1
Algeria	25.6	30.8	1.3	1.7	5	5	1.0	1.2
Egypt	57.0	69.1	2.5	2.4	4	3	0.8	1.0
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	4.4	5.3	0.0	0.0	–	–	1.2	1.4
Morocco	25.0	29.6	1.5	2.0	6	7	1.1	1.3
Tunisia	8.4	9.6	0.1	0.1	–	–	0.9	1.0
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA*	477.3	620.0	170.4	203.5	36	33	0.9	1.2
Central Africa	63.4	82.0	22.7	45.2	36	55	1.5	2.0
Cameroon	12.0	15.4	4.0	3.9	33	25	0.8	1.0
Central African Rep.	3.0	3.8	1.5	1.6	50	43	0.9	1.1
Chad	6.0	8.1	3.5	2.7	58	34	0.6	0.8
Congo	2.6	3.5	1.4	1.3	54	37	0.7	1.0
Dem. Republic of the Congo	38.8	49.9	12.2	35.5	32	71	2.3	2.9
Gabon	1.0	1.3	0.1	0.1	10	6	0.7	0.8
East Africa*	167.8	217.7	76.4	86.2	46	40	0.9	1.1
Burundi	5.7	6.4	2.7	4.4	48	68	1.4	1.6
Eritrea**	na	3.9	na	2.8	na	73	na	na
Ethiopia**	na	67.3	na	31.3	na	46	na	na
Kenya	24.4	31.1	10.7	10.3	44	33	0.8	1.0
Rwanda	6.4	8.0	2.8	3.0	44	37	0.9	1.1
Sudan	25.5	32.2	8.0	8.5	32	27	0.8	1.1
Uganda	17.9	24.2	4.2	4.6	24	19	0.8	1.1
United Rep. of Tanzania	27.0	35.6	9.9	15.6	37	44	1.2	1.6
Southern Africa	71.0	90.1	34.1	35.7	48	40	0.8	1.1
Angola	9.6	12.8	5.6	5.1	58	40	0.7	0.9
Botswana	1.4	1.7	0.3	0.6	23	32	1.4	1.7
Lesotho	1.6	1.8	0.3	0.2	17	12	0.7	0.8
Madagascar	12.3	16.4	4.3	6.0	35	37	1.1	1.4
Malawi	9.6	11.6	4.8	3.8	50	33	0.7	0.8
Mauritius	1.1	1.2	0.1	0.1	6	6	0.9	1.0
Mozambique	13.9	18.2	9.2	8.5	66	47	0.7	0.9
Zimbabwe	10.7	12.7	4.9	5.6	45	44	1.0	1.1
Namibia	1.5	1.9	0.5	0.4	35	22	0.6	0.9
Swaziland	0.9	1.1	0.1	0.2	14	19	1.4	1.6
Zambia	8.4	10.6	4.0	5.2	48	49	1.0	1.3
WEST AFRICA	175.1	230.3	37.2	36.4	21	16	0.7	1.0
Benin	4.8	6.4	1.0	0.9	20	15	0.7	1.0
Burkina Faso	9.2	12.3	1.9	2.3	21	19	0.9	1.2
Côte d'Ivoire	12.9	16.1	2.3	2.2	18	14	0.8	1.0
Gambia	1.0	1.4	0.2	0.4	22	27	1.3	1.7

(continued)

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DEVELOPING WORLD Region/subregion/country	Total population		Number of people undernourished		Proportion of undernourished in total population		Ratio current/baseline prevalence of undernourished ³ Ratio for MDG ¹ target = 0.5	Ratio current/baseline number of undernourished ³ Ratio for WFS ² target = 0.5
	1990–92 (millions)	2000–02 (millions)	1990–92 (millions)	2000–02 (millions)	1990–92 (%)	2000–02 (%)		
Ghana	15.7	20.0	5.8	2.5	37	13	0.3	0.4
Guinea	6.4	8.2	2.5	2.1	39	26	0.7	0.9
Liberia	2.1	3.1	0.7	1.4	34	46	1.3	2.0
Mali	9.3	12.3	2.7	3.6	29	29	1.0	1.3
Mauritania	2.1	2.7	0.3	0.3	15	10	0.6	0.8
Niger	7.9	11.1	3.2	3.8	41	34	0.8	1.2
Nigeria	88.7	117.8	11.8	11.0	13	9	0.7	0.9
Senegal	7.5	9.6	1.8	2.3	23	24	1.0	1.3
Sierra Leone	4.1	4.6	1.9	2.3	46	50	1.1	1.2
Togo	3.5	4.7	1.2	1.2	33	26	0.8	1.0

NOTES

Countries revise their official statistics regularly for the past as well as the present. The same holds for population data of the United Nations. Whenever this happens, FAO revises its estimates of undernourishment accordingly. Therefore users are advised to refer to changes of estimates over time only within the same *The State of Food Insecurity in the World* publication and refrain from comparing the data published in editions for different years.

Table does not list countries for which there were insufficient data.

¹ Millennium Development Goal 1, target 2: halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

² World Food Summit goal: halve, between 1990–92 and 2015, the number of undernourished people.

³ Current refers to 2000–02 estimates and baseline refers to 1990–92 estimates.

* Although not listed separately, provisional estimates for Afghanistan, Iraq, Papua New Guinea and Somalia have been included in the relevant regional aggregates.

** Eritrea and Ethiopia were not separate entities in 1990–92, but estimates of the number and proportion of undernourished in the former People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia are included in regional and subregional aggregates for that period.

KEY

- proportion less than 2.5% undernourished
- na data not available
- 0.0 zero or less than half the unit shown

SOURCES

Total population: UN *Population Prospects*, 2002 revision.
Undernourishment: FAO estimates.

Table 2. Selected indicators of the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries, classified by category of prevalence of undernourishment

CATEGORY OF PREVALENCE OF UNDERNOURISHMENT in total population 2000-02	Proportion of population below US\$1 PPP per day MDG 1		Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age MDG 4		Net enrolment rate in primary education MDG 6		Ratio of girls to boys in primary education MDG 9		Under-five mortality rate (per 1 000 live births) MDG 13		Maternal mortality ratio (per 100 000 live births) MDG 16		Proportion of land area covered by forest MDG 25	
	1990	2004	1990	2004	1990	2002	1990	2002	1990	2003	1990	2000	1990	2000
Country	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]	[%]
LESS THAN 2.5% UNDERNOURISHED														
Argentina	2	3	na	5	94	na	1.04	1.00	28	20	100	82	14	13
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	na	na	na	5	96	na	0.94	1.00	42	16	220	97	0	0
Malaysia	2	2	25	12	94	93	1.00	1.00	21	7	80	41	66	59
Rep. of Korea	na	2	na	na	100	100	1.01	1.00	9	5	130	20	64	63
Tunisia	2	2	10	4	94	97	0.89	0.96	52	24	170	120	3	3
United Arab Emirates	na	na	na	7	99	83	0.97	0.97	14	8	26	54	3	4
2.5 TO 4% UNDERNOURISHED														
Chile	6	2	2	1	88	86	0.98	0.98	19	9	65	31	21	21
Costa Rica	5	2	3	5	87	90	0.99	0.98	17	10	55	43	42	39
Cuba	na	na	na	4	92	93	0.97	0.96	13	8	95	33	19	21
Ecuador	2	18	17	12	98	100	0.99	1.00	57	27	150	130	43	38
Egypt	4	3	10	9	84	91	0.83	0.95	104	39	170	84	0	0
Islamic Rep. of Iran	2	2	na	11	92	86	0.90	0.97	72	39	120	76	4	4
Lebanon	na	na	na	3	78	91	0.96	0.97	37	31	300	150	4	4
Saudi Arabia	na	na	na	14	59	54	0.86	0.96	44	26	130	23	1	1
Syrian Arab Rep.	na	na	12	7	92	98	0.90	0.95	44	18	180	160	3	3
Turkey	2	2	10	8	90	86	0.92	0.93	78	39	180	70	13	13
Uruguay	2	2	6	na	92	90	0.99	0.98	24	14	85	27	5	7
5 TO 9% UNDERNOURISHED														
Algeria	2	2	9	6	93	95	0.85	0.93	69	41	160	140	1	1
Brazil	14	8	7	6	86	97	0.94	0.95	60	35	220	260	67	64
Gabon	na	na	na	12	86	78*	0.98	0.99	92	91	500	420	85	85
Guyana	8	3	18	14	89	99	0.98	0.98	90	69	na	170	81	79
Indonesia	17	8	40	26	97	92	0.98	0.98	91	41	650	230	65	58
Jordan	2	2	6	4	94	92	1.01	1.01	40	28	150	41	1	1
Kuwait	na	na	11	2	49	83	0.95	1.00	16	9	29	5	0	0
Mauritius	na	na	24	15	95	97	1.00	1.01	25	18	120	24	8	8
Mexico	8	10	17	8	99	99	0.98	0.99	46	28	110	83	32	29
Morocco	2	2	12	9	57	90	0.69	0.90	85	39	610	220	7	7
Myanmar	na	na	32	35	98	84	0.95	1.01	130	107	580	360	60	52
Nigeria	66	70	35	29	60	67	0.78	0.81	235	198	1 000	800	19	15
10 TO 19% UNDERNOURISHED														
Benin	na	na	35	23	45	58*	0.50	0.72	185	154	990	850	30	24
Bolivarian Rep. of Venezuela	3	14	8	4	88	91	1.03	0.98	27	21	120	96	59	56
Burkina Faso	63	45	33	38	26	36	0.63	0.74	210	207	930	1 000	26	26
China	33**	17**	17**	10**	97**	na	0.93**	1.00**	49**	37**	95**	56**	16	18
Colombia	2	8	10	7	68	87	1.15	0.99	36	21	100	130	50	48
Côte d'Ivoire	10	11	12	21	46	61	0.71	0.80	157	192	810	690	31	22
El Salvador	21	31	15	10	73	90	1.01	0.95	60	36	300	150	9	6
Ghana	18	45	30	22	52	63	0.83	0.95	125	95	740	540	33	28
Jamaica	8	2	7	4	96	95	0.99	0.99	20	20	120	87	35	30
Lesotho	30	36	16	18	73	86	1.21	1.01	120	84	610	550	0	0
Mauritania	47	26	48	32	35	68	0.73	0.97	183	183	930	1 000	0	0
Nepal	na	39	na	48	81	70*	0.61	0.89	145	82	1 500	740	33	27
Paraguay	5	16	4	5	93	89	0.97	0.96	37	29	160	170	62	59
Peru	2	18	11	7	88	100	0.97	1.00	80	34	280	410	53	51
Suriname	na	na	na	13	78	97	1.00	0.98	48	39	na	110	90	90
Swaziland	8	na	na	10	77	75	0.98	0.93	110	153	560	370	27	30

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Tables

Table 2. Selected indicators of the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries, classified by category of prevalence of undernourishment

CATEGORY OF PREVALENCE OF UNDERNOURISHMENT in total population 2000-02	Proportion of population below US\$1 PPP per day MDG 1		Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age MDG 4		Net enrolment rate in primary education MDG 6		Ratio of girls to boys in primary education MDG 9		Under-five mortality rate (per 1 000 live births) MDG 13		Maternal mortality ratio (per 100 000 live births) MDG 16		Proportion of land area covered by forest MDG 25	
	1990	2004	1990	2004	1990	2002	1990	2002	1990	2003	1990	2000	1990	2000
Country	[%]		[%]		[%]		[%]		[%]		[%]		[%]	
Trinidad and Tobago	4	na	7	6	91	91	0.99	0.97	24	20	90	160	55	50
Uganda	88	85	23	23	53	na	0.80	0.98	160	140	1 200	880	26	21
Viet Nam	15	2	45	33	91	94*	0.93	0.93	53	23	160	130	29	30
20 TO 34% UNDERNOURISHED														
Bangladesh	36	36	66	52	71	84	0.86	1.04	144	69	850	380	9	10
Bolivia	6	14	11	8	91	95	0.91	0.99	120	66	650	420	50	49
Botswana	31	na	na	13	85	81	1.08	1.00	58	112	250	100	24	22
Cambodia	na	34	na	45	67	93	0.81	0.90	115	140	900	450	56	53
Cameroon	na	17	15	21	74	na	0.86	0.85	139	166	550	730	56	51
Chad	na	na	35	28	37	63	0.45	0.64	203	200	1 500	1 100	11	10
Dominican Rep.	4	2	10	5	58	96	1.02	1.02	65	35	110	150	28	28
Gambia	54	na	na	17	48	79	0.68	0.98	154	123	1 100	540	44	48
Guatemala	35	16	33	23	64	87	0.88	0.93	82	47	200	240	31	26
Guinea	na	na	na	23	26	65	0.47	0.77	240	160	1 600	740	30	28
Honduras	38	21	18	17	90	87*	1.05	1.02*	59	41	220	110	53	48
India	42	35	64	47	na	88	0.76	0.94	123	87	570	540	21	22
Kenya	34	23	23	20	74	66	0.95	0.94	97	123	650	1 000	32	30
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	8	26	44	40	63	85	0.79	0.87	163	91	650	650	57	54
Malawi	na	42	28	22	50	na	0.83	0.96	241	178	560	1 800	35	27
Mali	16	na	31	33	20	44	0.60	0.76	250	220	1 200	1 200	12	11
Mongolia	na	27	12	13	90	79	1.02	1.02	104	68	65	110	7	7
Namibia	35	na	26	24	83	78	1.09	1.01	86	65	370	300	11	10
Nicaragua	48	45	11	10	72	85	1.06	0.99	68	38	160	230	37	27
Niger	42	61	43	40	24	38	0.58	0.69	320	262	1 200	1 600	2	1
Pakistan	48	13	40	38	35	59*	na	0.71	130	103	340	500	4	3
Panama	12	7	6	7	92	100	0.96	0.97	34	24	55	160	46	39
Philippines	20	15	34	31	97	94	0.99	0.99	63	36	280	200	22	19
Senegal	45	22	22	23	47	58	0.73	0.92	148	137	1 200	690	35	32
Sri Lanka	4	8	37	29	90	na	0.96	0.99	32	15	140	92	35	30
Sudan	na	na	34	41	43	46*	0.77	0.87	120	93	660	590	30	26
Thailand	18	2	25	18	76	85	0.96	0.96	40	26	200	44	31	29
Togo	na	na	25	25	75	91	0.66	0.83	152	140	640	570	13	9
35% OR MORE UNDERNOURISHED														
Angola	na	na	20	31	58	61*	0.92	0.86*	260	260	1 500	1 700	57	56
Burundi	45	55	38	45	53	57	0.84	0.81	190	190	1 300	1 000	9	4
Central African Rep.	67	na	na	24	54	na	0.63	0.68	180	180	700	1 100	37	37
Congo	na	na	24	14	79	54	0.90	0.93	110	108	890	510	65	65
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	na	na	na	21	na	na	na	na	55	55	70	67	68	68
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	na	na	na	31	55	na	0.75	0.90*	205	205	870	990	62	60
Eritrea	na	na	41	40	16	45	0.94	0.81	147	85	1 400	630	14	13
Ethiopia	na	23	48	47	23	47	0.66	0.73	204	169	1 400	850	5	4
Haiti	na	na	27	17	22	na	0.94	na	150	118	1 000	680	6	3
Liberia	na	na	na	27	na	70*	na	0.73*	235	235	560	760	38	31
Madagascar	46	61	41	33	65	79	0.98	0.96	168	126	490	550	22	20
Mozambique	na	38	na	24	45	55	0.76	0.81	235	158	1 500	1 000	40	39
Rwanda	na	52	29	27	67	87	0.98	1.00	173	203	1 300	1 400	19	12
Sierra Leone	57	na	29	27	41	na	0.69	0.70*	302	284	1 800	2 000	20	15
United Rep. of Tanzania	49	na	29	29	50	69	0.98	0.97	163	165	770	1 500	45	44
Yemen	4	16	30	46	52	72	0.35	0.69	142	113	1 400	570	1	1
Zambia	65	64	25	28	79	68	0.91	0.93	180	182	940	750	53	42
Zimbabwe	33	56	12	13	86	80	0.99	0.98	80	126	570	1 100	57	49

(continued)

Table 2 . Selected indicators of the Millennium Development Goals in developing countries, classified by category of prevalence of undernourishment

NOTES

* Refers to a previous year.

** Figures refer only to Mainland China. Other figures include data for Mainland China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Macao Special Administrative Region of China and Taiwan Province of China.

Proportion of population below US\$1 purchasing power parity (PPP) per day (poverty headcount ratio at US\$1 a day [PPP]): The proportion of people below US\$1 a day is the percentage of the population with average consumption expenditures less than US\$1.08 a day measured in 1993 prices converted using PPP rates. As a result of revisions in PPP exchange rates, poverty rates cannot be compared with poverty rates reported previously for individual countries. All 2% headcount estimates indicate that actual values are less than or equal to 2% and should be treated with caution. Dates of the surveys vary. For each country, data were included for the year closest to 1990 from the decade 1985–94 and for the most recent year from the decade 1995–2004, with at least a period of five years between the surveys.

Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age: This is the proportion of children under the age of five whose weight is less than that of two standard deviations below the median weight-for-age for the international reference population aged 0 to 59 months, as adopted by the World Health Organization (WHO). It refers to moderately or severely underweight. Dates of the surveys vary. For each country, data were included for the year closest to 1990 from the decade 1985–94 and for the most recent year from the decade 1995–2004, with at least a period of five years between the surveys. Some surveys may refer to different age groups.

Net enrolment rate in primary education: Net enrolment ratio is the ratio of the number of children of official school age (as defined by the national education system) who are enrolled in school to the population of the corresponding official school age. Primary education provides children with basic reading, writing and mathematics skills along with an elementary understanding of such subjects as history, geography, natural science, social science, art and music.

Ratio of girls to boys in primary education: Primary education includes both public and private schools. The ratio of girls to boys is calculated as the gross enrolment ratio (GER) of girls divided by the GER of boys. GER refers to enrolment at a given level of education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population in the theoretical school-age group corresponding to this level of education.

Under-five mortality rate: probability that a newborn baby will die before reaching age five, assuming current age-specific mortality rates. Data are from different surveys and hence may reflect different methodologies.

Maternal mortality ratio (per 100 000 live births): Maternal death refers to the death of woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental causes. Data are from different surveys and hence may reflect different methodologies. The margin of uncertainty associated with the estimated maternal mortality ratios is very large, and the estimates should not, therefore, be used to monitor trends in the short term. In addition, cross-country comparisons should be treated with considerable circumspection because different strategies are used to derive the estimates for different countries, making it difficult to draw comparisons.

Proportion of land area covered by forest: Forest area is land under natural or planted stands of trees, whether productive or not.

KEY

na data not available

SOURCES

Data from the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) MDG online database have been complemented with more recent data from primary sources, where available.

Proportion of population below US\$1 purchasing power parity (PPP) per day: World Bank, *World Development Indicators 2005*.

Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) online database; WHO online database; World Bank, *World Development Indicators 2005*.

Net enrolment rate in primary education: 1990 data from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as cited in the UNSD MDG online database; most recent data from UNESCO online database.

Ratio of girls to boys in primary education: 1990 data from UNESCO, as cited in the UNSD MDG online database; most recent data from UNESCO online database. Some data are UNESCO Institute for Statistics or national estimates.

Under-five mortality rate: UNICEF online database.

Maternal mortality ratio (per 100 000 live births): 1990 data from WHO, UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund, as cited in the UNSD MDG online database; most recent data from UNICEF online database.

Proportion of land area covered by forest: FAO, *Global Forest Resources Assessment 2000*.

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The FIVIMS initiative and the Millennium Development Goals

In the Millennium Declaration, world leaders pledged "to spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty". The associated Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) established targets and indicators to measure progress towards the lofty vision of "freeing the entire human race from want".

Today, with only ten years remaining until the 2015 deadline for reaching the MDG targets, a great deal of attention has been focused on MDG 1, on the target of reducing by half the proportion of people struggling to survive on less than a dollar a day, on the goal of "making poverty history". But MDG 1 is not only about reducing income poverty. It also includes a commitment to reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, because freedom from hunger is a fundamental right of every human being.

When the MDGs were framed, the halving of extreme poverty and hunger were listed first and together. And rightfully so. Hunger is both one of the most painful symptoms and one of the most important causes of extreme poverty. Yet hunger is often all but ignored in discussions of MDG 1, just as it has, for far too long, been all but invisible on the development agenda.

As this edition of *The State of Food Insecurity in the World* clearly demonstrates, reducing hunger is perhaps the most critical element if we are to meet most of the other MDGs. Hunger undermines health, education, productivity and environmental sustainability. Hungry women give birth to hungry babies, with greatly increased risks of both maternal and infant mortality. Hungry children cannot learn. Hungry adults cannot work as hard or earn as much. Hungry people are more likely to catch infectious diseases and to suffer severe illness and death once they do. Hungry people need to use all the means at their disposal to survive, even if that means despoiling the natural resources upon which they depend.

We cannot allow this vicious cycle of deprivation to continue. If we want to eliminate extreme poverty and reach the other MDGs, we must first mobilize resources, energy and political commitment to make hunger history.

The Inter-Agency Working Group on Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping Systems (IAWG-FIVIMS) is dedicated to doing just that by providing the information needed to galvanize, target and monitor effective action to end hunger. The core mandates of our different member agencies cover all of the MDGs. In the IAWG-FIVIMS team we bring together all the elements of those mandates pertinent to the fight against hunger.

Based on a comprehensive, independent assessment of our activities, structures and processes, we are gearing up to be more relevant, more timely, and more effective. Learning from what we did well and, more importantly, what we did not, we are formulating a new business plan and revising our operating structure. The changes will serve not to alter but to reinforce our core mandate - to provide a framework for a wide range of national and international activities to gather, analyse and disseminate improved information that can be actively used to reduce hunger and achieve food security for all.

We recognize that the fight against hunger will be long and tough and that we must be prepared to meet the challenge. We believe that at the end of our business planning process we will be up to the task at hand.

**Lynn Brown (World Bank)
Chairperson, IAWG-FIVIMS**

IAWG-FIVIMS members include bilateral aid and technical agencies, United Nations and Bretton Woods agencies, international agricultural research organizations, international non-governmental organizations and regional organizations. More information about FIVIMS and its member agencies is available at www.fivims.net or by e-mailing FIVIMS-Secretariat@fao.org.



The State of Food Insecurity in the World

Only ten years now remain before the 2015 deadline by which world leaders have pledged to reduce hunger and extreme poverty by half and to make substantial gains in education, health, social equity, environmental sustainability and international solidarity. *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2005* examines progress towards the World Food Summit goals and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), focusing on the critical importance of reducing hunger, not only as the explicit target of MDG 1 but as an essential condition for reaching the other MDGs.

The report presents compelling evidence that hunger and malnutrition are major causes of the deprivation and suffering targeted by all of the other MDGs. Progress towards those targets has lagged, particularly in the countries and regions where efforts to reduce hunger have stalled.

The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2005 emphasizes that most, if not all, of the MDG targets can still be reached. But only if efforts are redoubled and refocused. And only by recognizing and acting on two key points: without rapid progress in reducing hunger, achieving all of the other MDGs will be difficult, if not impossible; and the fight to eliminate hunger and reach the other MDGs will be won or lost in the rural areas where the vast majority of the world's hungry people live.



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